

# Shell Scripting and Regular Expressions

CS 35L

Slide Set 2.1

Spring 2020 - Section 7

# Lab setup - *Locale* for Assignment 2

- Please set your Locale:
  - export LC\_ALL='C'
- Important because we want the 'sort' shell command to be ASCII character complainant
  - Otherwise your output for 'sort' is unknown and not deterministic, and your assignment results will not be as expected

# Regular Expressions



# Linux Pipes and Filters

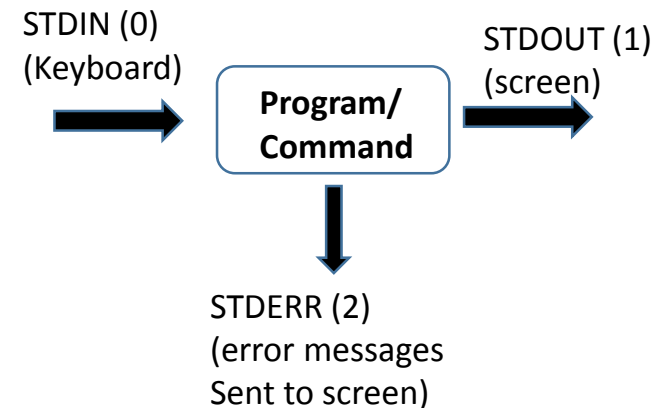
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- A **pipe** allows a chain of commands where the output of one command becomes the input of another. The symbol “|” denotes a pipe
  - Ex: `cat filename`           # displays the full text of a file
  - `cat filename | less`   # pipes the output into the less command, which in turn displays the first page of the text.
- A filter takes the output of a command, performs some processing (filtering) then gives an output. Examples are grep and sort
  - Ex: `cat filename | grep -v 'a' | sort`
    - # Takes the output of filename and pipes it into grep.
    - # Applies a filter to extract all lines that do not contain the lowercase a
    - # Applies another filter to sort the output alphabetically.

# Linux Redirection

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- In Linux, everything is a file and each file has a file descriptor (FD).
- When you execute a program/command on a terminal, 3 files are open:
  - Standard Input (STDIN) with FD = 0
  - Standard Output (STDOUT) with FD = 1
  - Standard Error (STDERR) with FD = 2
- Redirection: When executing a command we can redirect the STDIN, STDOUT and STDERR
- Redirection can be IN (<) or OUT (> or >>)
  - # >> will append to the file if it exists



# Examples Redirection (1)

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- `ls -l > myfile` # redirects the output from the screen to myfile
- `ls doc1 doc2 > myfile` # if doc2 does not exist, this will generate an error

doc1

ls: cannot access 'doc2': No such file or directory 'doc2'

# The screen output (doc1) is redirected to myfile, however the error message is still displayed on the screen

## Examples Redirection (2)

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- `ls doc1 doc2 > myfile 2> error.log`
  - # This will redirect the screen output (doc1) to myfile
  - and will redirect the error message to error.log;
  - # `2>` means redirect STDERR (2 is the FD of STDERR)
- `ls doc1 doc2 > myfile 2>&1`
  - # redirect the screen output (doc1) and the error message to myfile
  - # `&1` means STDOUT; `2>&1` redirect the error to the screen which is being redirected to myfile



# Regular Expressions

- Notation that lets you search for text that fits a particular criterion, such as “starts with the letter a” (pattern matching)
- Comes in two main flavors (in linux):
  - Basic Regular Expressions (BRE)
  - Extended Regular Expressions (ERE)
- Try <http://regex101.com> to test your regex
- Simple regex tutorial:  
[https://www.icewarp.com/support/online\\_help/203030104.htm](https://www.icewarp.com/support/online_help/203030104.htm)

# Examples

Expression	Matches
<b>tolstoy</b>	The seven letters tolstoy, anywhere on a line
<b>^tolstoy</b>	The seven letters tolstoy, at the beginning of a line
<b>tolstoy\$</b>	The seven letters tolstoy, at the end of a line
<b>^tolstoy\$</b>	A line containing exactly the seven letters tolstoy, and nothing else
<b>[Tt]olstoy</b>	Either the seven letters Tolstoy, or the seven letters tolstoy, anywhere on a line
<b>tol.toy</b>	The three letters tol, any character, and the three letters toy, anywhere on a line
<b>tol.*toy</b>	The three letters tol, any sequence of zero or more characters, and the three letters toy, anywhere on a line (e.g., tolstoy, tolstoy, tolWHOtoy, and so on)

# Examples Regular Expressions

- Match a string that has abc
  - abc (abc, habc, abcdefg, etc.)
- Match a string that has ab followed by one or more c
  - abc+ (abc, abcc, abccc, etc.)
- Match a string that has ab followed by zero or more c
  - abc\* (ab, abc, abccc, etc.)
- Match a string that starts with letter a
  - ^a (apple, android, avatar, etc.)
- Match a string that has ab followed by zero or more characters then cd
  - ab.\*cd (abcd, abacd, abbzzcd, abbzzcdefg, etc)

# Examples Regular Expressions

- Match a string that has one a or b c
  - `[abc]` (a, fang, cocoon, etc.)
- Match a string that has one alphabet character followed by 12 (range is dependent on locale)
  - `[a-zA-Z]12` (d12, P12, 45A123, etc.)
- Match a string that doesn't have alphabet characters or a dot or a hyphen or an underscore
  - `[^-. _a-zA-Z]` (1, joe23, file#2, etc.)
- Match a string starting at the beginning of the line with a length more than 14 characters
  - `^.{15,}` (IdontKnowWhatToType, etc.)
- Match a string with one pattern **or** another
  - `ba|fa` (banana, fanana, etc)

# Regular expressions

Character	BRE / ERE	Meaning in a pattern
\	Both	Usually, turn off the special meaning of the following character. Occasionally, enable a special meaning for the following character, such as for <code>\(...\)</code> and <code>\{...\}</code> .
.	Both	Match any single character except NUL. Individual programs may also disallow matching newline.
*	Both	Match any number (or none) of the single character that immediately precedes it. For EREs, the preceding character can instead be a regular expression. For example, since <code>.</code> (dot) means any character, <code>.*</code> means "match any number of any character." For BREs, <code>*</code> is not special if it's the first character of a regular expression.
^	Both	Match the following regular expression at the beginning of the line or string. BRE: special only at the beginning of a regular expression. ERE: special everywhere.

# Regular Expressions (cont'd)

\$	Both	Match the preceding regular expression at the end of the line or string. BRE: special only at the end of a regular expression. ERE: special everywhere.
[...]	Both	Termed a bracket expression, this matches any one of the enclosed characters. A hyphen (-) indicates a range of consecutive characters. (Caution: ranges are locale-sensitive, and thus not portable.) A circumflex (^) as the first character in the brackets reverses the sense: it matches any one character not in the list. A hyphen or close bracket (]) as the first character is treated as a member of the list. All other metacharacters are treated as members of the list (i.e., literally). Bracket expressions may contain collating symbols, equivalence classes, and character classes (described shortly).
\{n,m\}	BRE	Termed an <i>interval expression</i> , this matches a range of occurrences of the single character that immediately precedes it. \{n\} matches exactly n occurrences, \{n,\} matches at least n occurrences, and \{n,m\} matches any number of occurrences between n and m. n and m must be between 0 and RE_DUP_MAX (minimum value: 255), inclusive.
\( \)	BRE	Save the pattern enclosed between \( and \) in a special <i>holding space</i> . Up to nine subpatterns can be saved on a single pattern. The text matched by the subpatterns can be reused later in the same pattern, by the escape sequences \1 to \9. For example, \(\b\).*\1 matches two occurrences of ab, with any number of characters in between.

# Regular Expressions (cont'd)

<code>\n</code>	BRE	Replay the nth subpattern enclosed in <code>\(</code> and <code>\)</code> into the pattern at this point. n is a number from 1 to 9, with 1 starting on the left.
<code>{n,m}</code>	ERE	Just like the BRE <code>\{n,m\}</code> earlier, but without the backslashes in front of the braces.
<code>+</code>	ERE	Match one or more instances of the preceding regular expression.
<code>?</code>	ERE	Match zero or one instances of the preceding regular expression.
<code> </code>	ERE	Match the regular expression specified before or after.
<code>( )</code>	ERE	Apply a match to the enclosed group of regular expressions.

# POSIX Bracket Expressions

<b>Class</b>	<b>Matching characters</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Matching characters</b>
<code>[:alnum:]</code>	Alphanumeric characters	<code>[:lower:]</code>	Lowercase characters
<code>[:alpha:]</code>	Alphabetic characters	<code>[:print:]</code>	Printable characters
<code>[:blank:]</code>	Space and tab characters	<code>[:punct:]</code>	Punctuation characters
<code>[:cntrl:]</code>	Control characters	<code>[:space:]</code>	Whitespace characters
<code>[:digit:]</code>	Numeric characters	<code>[:upper:]</code>	Uppercase characters
<code>[:graph:]</code>	Nonspace characters	<code>[:xdigit:]</code>	Hexadecimal digits



# Backreferences

- Match whatever an earlier part of the regular expression matched
  - Enclose a subexpression with `\(` and `\)`.
  - There may be up to 9 enclosed subexpressions and may be nested
  - Use `\digit`, where `digit` is a number between 1 and 9, in a later part of the same pattern.

## Pattern

`\(ab\) \(cd\) [def]* \2 \1`

`\(why\) .* \1`

## Matches

abcdcdab, abcdeeeecdab,  
abcdddeeffcdab, ...

A line with two occurrences of why

# Matching Multiple Characters with One Expression

*	Match zero or more of the preceding character
$\{n\}$	Exactly n occurrences of the preceding regular expression
$\{n,\}$	At least n occurrences of the preceding regular expression
$\{n,m\}$	Between n and m occurrences of the preceding regular expression

# Anchoring text matches

Pattern	Text matched (in bold) / Reason match fails
ABC	Characters 4, 5, and 6, in the middle: abc <b>ABC</b> defDEF
<b>^</b> ABC	Match is restricted to beginning of string
def	Characters 7, 8, and 9, in the middle: abcABC <b>def</b> DEF
def <b>\$</b>	Match is restricted to end of string
<b>[[:upper:]]\{3\}</b>	Characters 4, 5, and 6, in the middle: abc <b>ABC</b> defDEF
<b>[[:upper:]]\{3\}\$</b>	Characters 10, 11, and 12, at the end: abcDEFdef <b>DEF</b>
<b>^[[:alpha:]]\{3\}</b>	Characters 1, 2, and 3, at the beginning: <b>abc</b> ABCdefDEF

# Operator Precedence (High to Low)

Operator	Meaning
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[. .] [= =] [: :]	Bracket symbols for character collation
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<i>\metacharacter</i>	Escaped metacharacters
-----------------------	------------------------

[]	Bracket expressions
----	---------------------

\( \) \digit	Subexpressions and backreferences
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* \{ \}	Repetition of the preceding single-character regular expression
---------	-----------------------------------------------------------------

no symbol	Concatenation
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^ \$	Anchors
------	---------

# Sorting words

- Investigate the 'sort' command
- `man sort`
- `sort -u` (unique, no duplicates)
- `sort -d` (dictionary sort)
- `sort -f` (ignore case)

# tr command (translate)

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- Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters from standard input, writing to standard output.
- `tr [OPTION] set1 [set2]`

EX1:

➤ `echo abcd123 | tr -d [:digit:]` → `abcd`

EX2:

➤ `tr a-z A-Z`

➤ Input: `abtfy` → output `ABTFY`

EX3:

➤ `tr -s '\n' ' ' < file.txt`

➤ translate all <new line> into spaces and squeeze the spaces

# tr command (translate)

---

EX4:

➤ `tr abc def`

EX5:

➤ `tr 'a-zA-Z' 'A[$*]Z'`

EX6:

➤ `tr -cs 'A-Za-z' '[\n*]'`

# “grep” command

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- **grep** - searches the named input files for lines containing a match to a given pattern
  - `grep <pattern> <file>`
  - `grep` uses basic regular expressions
  - `grep -E` uses extended regular expressions
  - `grep -F` matches fixed strings (not a regular expression)



# Searching for Text

- grep: Uses basic regular expressions (BRE)
- egrep: Grep that uses extended regular expressions (ERE)
  - grep -E
  - Egrep
- Fgrep: grep matching fixed strings instead of BRE or ERE.
  - grep -F
  - fgrep

# grep -F

\$ **who**

*Who is*

*logged on*

```
tolstoy tty1 Feb 26 10:53
tolstoy pts/0 Feb 29 10:59
tolstoy pts/1 Feb 29 10:59
tolstoy pts/2 Feb 29 11:00
tolstoy pts/3 Feb 29 11:00
tolstoy pts/4 Feb 29 11:00
austen pts/5 Feb 29 15:39 (mansfield-park.example.com)
austen pts/6 Feb 29 15:39 (mansfield-park.example.com)
```

\$ **who | grep -F austen**  
*on?*

*Where is austen logged*

```
austen pts/5 Feb 29 15:39 (mansfield-park.example.com)
austen pts/6 Feb 29 15:39 (mansfield-park.example.com)
```

# “grep” command

---

- `ls -a . | grep -E '^[^a-zA-Z]'` # list files that start with a non ASCII letter
- `grep -E '<td>.+</td>' $@` # find all lines in passed file arguments (\$@) that have characters in between tags

# sed (stream editor)

- Now you can extract, but what if you want to replace parts of text?
- Use sed!

```
sed 's/regExpr/replText/'
```

# sed (stream editor)

- sed 's/[abc]123/john' file # replace first instance of regexp to john
- sed 's/hi/lol/2' file # replace 2<sup>nd</sup> instance of hi to lol
- sed 's/hi/lol/g' file # replace all instances of hi to lol
- sed -E 's/\?|<u>//g' file # remove all instances of '?' or <u>
- sed '1~2d' file # delete every other line (skip 2), starting from line 1

# The Shell and OS

# The Shell and OS

- The shell is the user's interface to the OS
- From it you run programs.
- Common shells
  - bash, zsh, csh, sh, tcsh
- Allow more complex functionality than interacting with OS directly
  - Tab complete, easy redirection

# Scripting Languages Versus Compiled Languages

- **Compiled Languages**
  - Ex: C/C++, Swift
  - Programs are translated from their original source code into object code that is executed by hardware
  - Efficient
  - Work at low level, dealing with bytes, integers, floating points, etc
  - Not portable
- **Scripting languages (Interpreted Languages)**
  - Ex: Bash, Python, Javascript
  - Interpreted by program
  - Interpreter reads script code “line by line”, translates it into internal form, and execute programs
  - Portable and easier to develop (bad performance!)



# Scripting Languages Versus Compiled Languages

- In between languages
  - Ex: Java
- Compiled to bytecode, which is then interpreted by Java Virtual Machine
- Sometimes chunks of bytecode get further compiled during runtime for better performance by Just-In-Time compiler.

# Idea

- Build a script that searches for a name
  - i.e. `$who | grep userWeAreLookingFor`
- Check if `userWeAreLookingFor` is logged in
- Let's create it!
  - create a file called `finduser`

# finduser

Script:

```
#!/bin/bash
# finduser --- see named by first argument is
# logged in
who | grep $1
```

Run it:

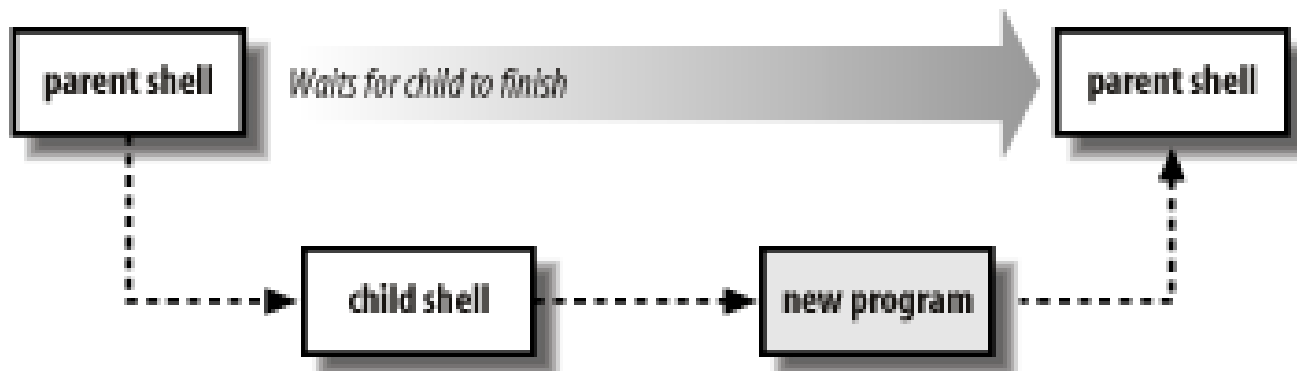
```
$ chmod +x finduser
```

*Make it executable*

```
$ ./finduser littenek
```

# The #! First Line

- A shell script is just a file with shell commands.
- When the shell runs a program (e.g finduser), it asks the kernel to start a new “child process” and run the given program in that process.
- First line is used to state which “child shell” to use:
  - #! /bin/csh -f
  - #! /bin/awk -f
  - #! /bin/sh
  - #! /bin/env bash



# Variables

- Start with a letter or underscore and may contain any number of following letters, digits, or underscores
- Declared using = (no space)
  - `Var='helloworld'`
- Referenced with \$
  - `echo $Var` (`${Var}` preferred to avoid ambiguity e.g. `$ab` vs `${a}b` )
- `X=`pwd``
  - Back ticks executes `pwd` command and stores output in variable `X`

# Variables

- Command substitution: Assign the output of a command to a variable: `$(command)`
- E.g. `x=$(pwd)`
- E.g. `y="Working directory is $(pwd)"`
- Command substitution can be nested `$(... $(...))`

# Variables

- Please see: <https://www.tldp.org/LDP/abs/html/variables.html>
- C-style Arithmetic Operations/Comparisons (only if digits stored)
- `((a++))`
- `((a = 23))`
- `((b = a * 2))`
- <https://www.tldp.org/LDP/abs/html/dblparens.html>

# Adding Variables to script files

```
#!/bin/bash
STRING="HELLO WORLD"      #assign variable
echo $STRING              #prints  
                           the value
```



# Accessing Shell Script Arguments

- Positional parameters represent a shell script's command line arguments
- For historical reasons, enclose the number in braces if greater than 9

```
#!/bin/bash
#test script
echo first arg is $1
echo tenth arg is ${10}
echo all args is $@

> ./argtest 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
```

# Single vs Double Quotes

- Single quotes preserve the literal value of each character within the single quotes
- Double quotes allow for parameter substitution
- E.g `echo "$(pwd)"` → `/path/to/working/dir`
- E.g `echo '$(pwd)'` → `$(pwd)`