CSC 2500: Unix Programming Lab

Lab 05 – Writing Shell Scripts

# General Instructions

Using your book and previous lecture material, fill out this assignment sheet. **Use red text to signify your answers.** This assignment corresponds with chapters 8-9 of your textbook. You should utilize online resources to answer these questions as well.

# Submission Instructions

To submit, **change the name in the header** and save this document as a PDF. Attach your PDF document and the 2 shell scripts to the iLearn dropbox.

# Lab Questions

1. Write a shell script called cptobak that copies the file named by its first argument to a file with the same name with the filename extension of .bak. Thus, if you call the script with the argument first (and a file named first exists in the working directory), after the script runs you would have two files: first and first.bak.
2. Answer/Do the following:
   1. The PATH (Sobell, page 318) keyword variable specifies the directories in the order bash should search them when it searches for a script or program you run from the command line. What is the value of your PATH variable?

$echo $PATH

/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin

* 1. Append the absolute pathname of the bin directory that is a subdirectory of your home directory to the PATH variable. What does this change allow you to do more easily?

$PATH=$PATH:/home/max/bin

$ echo $PATH

It allows you to run scripts in that directory by typing a simple filename

1. The date (Sobell, page 62) utility displays the date and time. Write and execute a shell script called mine that displays the date and time, the name of your home directory, and the value of your PATH variable.
2. Answer/Do the following:
   1. Create an alias that translates the command ls into ls –l.

Alias ls=’ls -l’

* 1. Give a ls command that does not use the alias.

\ls

* 1. Remove the alias.

Unalias -a

1. Where would you define an alias so that it is available each time you log in?

.bash\_aliases