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SHELL

- The main Unix-user interface
 - Command language**
 - Command interpreter
 - Programming language**
 - Concepts of variable, constant, expression, control structures and subprogram

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Shell commands interpreters

cat /etc/shells # contains shells on a Linux system
cat /etc/passwd # where the default shell is set

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How does the Shell work?

```
While (session is not closed)
    Display prompt;
    Read command line;
    If ( command line ends with '&' ) then
        Create a process that executes the command
        Do not wait for its execution to complete
    Else
        Create a process that executes the command
        Wait for its execution to complete
    End If
End While
```

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The grammar of shell

command:

```
basicCommand
(
    commandList
)
{
    commandList
}
if commandList then commandList [ elif commandList then commandList ]*
[ else commandList ]? fi
case word in [ word [ | word ]* ] commandList ;;)+ esac
for name do commandList done
for name in [word]+ do commandList done
```

[P] once at most
[P]+ at least once
[P]? 0 or more times
word - sequence of characters not including blanks (space or tab)
name - sequence of characters that starts with a letter and continues with letters, digits or _ (underscore)

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The grammar of shell (cont.)

element:

```
word
name=word
>word
<word
>>word
<<word
>digit
<&digit
<&-
```

[P]+ at least once
word - sequence of characters not including blanks (space or tab)
name - sequence of characters that starts with a letter and continues with letters, digits or _ (underscore)
digit - one of the 10 decimal digits (0,...,9)

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Basic Command. Examples

```
ls
ls > a
name=ion
echo $name

ls sol so2 # sol exists as directory; so2 does not exist
ls sol so2 > outfile # redirects the directory sol content to the outfile
ls sol so2 > outfile # same as above
ls sol so2 >> outfile # redirects error-output (so2 does not exist) in
outfile

ls sol so2 > file >&1 # writes both std output and err in file
ls sol so2 &> file # equivalent to ""
ls sol so2 >> file >&2
# Exactly as in the examples above we can use >>, which appends to the end of
the file. while > overwrites.
```

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Basic Command. Examples (cont.)

```
grep curc < file
grep curc $c file

- Example of working with file descriptors:

echo 1234567890 > File # writes the string of digits in the File file
exec 3<> File # opens File and assigns descriptor 3 to it
# can be checked with ls -l /proc/self/fd (or /dev/fd)
read -n 4 <3 # reads 4 characters
echo -n . >3 # writes "." at that position (-n - no new line)
exec 3d+ # closes fd 3 (deletes the /proc/self/fd/3 symbolic link)
cat File # ==> 1234.67890
```

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The grammar of shell (cont.)

commandList:

```
pipeLinking [ separator pipeLinking ]* [ terminator ]?
```

pipeLinking: command [| command]*

separator: &&
||
terminator

terminator: ;
&

[P] once at most
[P]+ 0 or more times

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Succession of commands

Op	Ex	Explanation
&&	c1 && c2	c2 is executed only if c1 ends with success
	c1 c2	c2 is executed only if c1 ends with failure
;	c1;c2;c3	c1, c2 and c3 are sequentially executed
&	c1 & c2	c1 will be executed in the background and c2 in the foreground

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Compound command

Type	Explanation
(list)	list is executed in a subshell environment
{ list; }	list is executed in the current shell environment
(aritmExpr)	aritmExpr is arithmetically evaluated
[[condExpr]]	Returns a status of 0 or 1 depending on the evaluation of the conditional expression condExpr.

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Compound command. Examples

```
ls sol so2 >&1 {sort # redirects the standard output and error to
# the standard input of sort command

pwd; (cd ../pwd); pwd
pwd; { cd ../pwd; }; pwd # the context between {} is inherited

{ echo yes; echo no; } > f1 # 1. redirecting a grouped command

false &&{
# comment1
# ...
}

# 2. commenting on a code sequence

# 3. connecting a group of commands in a pipe
ps -u root | cut -c1-5; echo begin; ps -u root | cut -c1-5
ps -u root || { cut -c1-5; echo begin; ps -u root; } | cut -c1-5
```

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Example of a shell file

```
compiling $ chmod 755 compiling
#!/bin/sh $ ./compiling
for fis in *.c
do
    vi $fis $ sh compiling
    gcc $fis
done
```

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Comment

- comments all the characters after it

#! - placed at the beginning of the line is an exception, in which case the shell interprets the rest of the line as a shell command and executes it. For example. #!/bin/sh

Avoidances

\ - avoiding the following character

... - avoiding characters from ... except '

... - avoiding characters in ... except '\$' \ '

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Substitution mechanisms

Capturing the command output	Substitution of variable value
'command'	\$name
Define a variable	\${name}
	\${name=word}
name=word	\${name:=word}
	\${name+=word}
	\${name?word}

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Substitution mechanisms. Examples

```
echo The current path is 'pwd'
fruit=Peary; echo Who ate the $fruit? # ==> Who ate the Pear?
echo The name $fruitson is an Irish name. # ==> The name is an Irish name.
echo The name $fruitson is an ... # ==> The name Pearson is an ...

name=Maria # variable NAME does not exist
echo "${name=Ana} | ${NAME=Ion}" # ==> Maria | Ion
echo "${name} | ${NAME}" # ==> Maria |
echo "${name=Ana} | ${NAME=Ion}" # ==> Maria | Ion
echo "${name} | ${NAME}" # ==> Maria | Ion
echo "${name=Ana} | ${NAME=Ion}" # ==> Ana |
echo "${name} | ${NAME}" # ==> Maria |
echo "${name?Ana} | ${NAME?Ion}" # ==> -bash: NAME: Ion
echo "${name} | ${NAME}" # ==> Maria |
```

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Predefined SHELL variables

HOSTNAME	machine name (linux.scs.ubbcluj.ro)
HOME	user's host directory (/home/scs/an2/gr321/snmr0123)
PATH	searchable paths of executable files
LOGNAME	the name under which the user opened his work session (snmr0123)
SHELL	the type of command interpreter that is used (/bin/bash)
TERM	the type of terminal that is used (xterm)
printenv	# lists predefined variables

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Predefined SHELL variables (cont.)

MAIL	the file containing the user's e-mail (/var/spool/mail/snmr0123)
IFS	shell separators for words
PS1	the main Unix prompt (/u@v \W/\$)
PS2	the Unix secondary prompt (>)

```
echo $PS1
PS1=>
PS1='pwd' \>
PS1={\\u@\\h \\W}\\$ # the last character is space
```

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Command line

```
>> command arg1 arg2 ... arg9 arg10 ...argn

^ ^ ^ ^
$0 $1 $2 $9
```

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Other shell variables

\$#	returns the number of command arguments
\$*	indicates all the arguments, viewed as a single string
\$@	indicates all arguments as a sequence of strings
\$-	indicates the argument that contains the options
\$?	returns the return code of the previous command
\$_	the PID of the last process launched in the background
\$\$	indicates the PID of the parent process

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Examples

```
> echo $0 # command name
-bash
> echo $? # return code of the previous command
0
> ls notExist
ls: cannot access notExist: No such file or directory
> echo $? # return code of the previous command
2
> echo $$ # the PID of the parent process
1361
> ls -ls & echo $_ # the pid of the last process launched in the background
[1] 2084
2084
```

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Useful commands in shell context

```
shift [n]
read [-p prompt] list_of_names
sleep n
exit n
cut [-b list | -c list | -f list [-d delim]? ] [file]
echo text
test
```

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Useful commands in shell context. Examples

```
> read ana ion
george maria
> echo "ana: $ana" ion: "$ion"
ana: george ion: maria
> read -p "Enter an integer: " n
Enter an integer: 4
> echo $n
4

> sleep 5; echo yes # will display after 5 sec
yes
> cut -d: -f5 /etc/passwd # displays field 5 by considering : as field delimiter
```

test command

test *expr*

or

[*expr*]

Evaluates the expression value and returns exit status 0 or 1.

test command. Comparisons of integers

```
[ int1 -eq int2 ]      # int1 = int2
[ int1 -ge int2 ]      # int1 >= int2
[ int1 -gt int2 ]      # int1 > int2
[ int1 -le int2 ]      # int1 <= int2
[ int1 -lt int2 ]      # int1 < int2
[ int1 -ne int2 ]      # int1 != int2
```

test command. File comparisons

```
[ file1 -ot file2 ]    # file1 older than file2
[ file1 -nt file2 ]    # file1 newer than file2

# considering the change time
```

test command. File tests

```
[ -d file ]            # if file is a directory.
[ -e file ]            # if file exists.
[ -f file ]            # if file exists and is a regular file.
[ -L file ]            # if file is a symbolic link.
[ -r file ]            # if file is a readable file.
[ -w file ]            # if file is a writeable file.
[ -x file ]            # if file is an executable file.
```

test command. String comparisons

```
[ -z string ]          # if string is empty string.
[ -n string ]          # if string is non-empty string.

[ string1 = string2 ]  # if string1 is the same as string2.
[ string1 != string2 ] # if string1 is not the same as string2.
```

test command. Composing test expressions

```
[ !E ]                # denial of expression E.
[ E1 -a E2 ]          # AND composition of the E1 and E2 expressions.
[ E1 -o E2 ]          # OR composition of the E1 and E2 expressions.
```

```
» [ 3 -lt 4 -a 3 -gt 2 ]
» echo $?
0
» test -f infoCura
» echo $?
0
» test -f info
» echo $?
1
» [ -d $HOME ]
» echo $?
0
» test -z $PATH
» echo $?
1
```

test command. Examples

The End