SHELL SCRIPTING

The basic concept of a shell script is a list of commands, which are listed in the order of execution. A good shell script will have comments, preceded by **#** sign, describing the steps.

There are conditional tests, such as value A is greater than value B, loops allowing us to go through massive amounts of data, files to read and store data, and variables to read and store data, and the script may include functions.

We are going to write many scripts in the next sections. It would be a simple text file in which we would put all our commands and several other required constructs that tell the shell environment what to do and when to do it.

Shell scripts and functions are both interpreted. This means they are not compiled.

A shell script is a [computer program](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_program) designed to be run by the [Unix shell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unix_shell), a [command-line interpreter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Command-line_interpreter).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shell_script#cite_note-1) The various dialects of shell scripts are considered to be [scripting languages](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scripting_language). Typical operations performed by shell scripts include file manipulation, program execution, and printing text.

Usually shells are interactive that mean, they accept command as input from users and execute them. However some time we want to execute a bunch of commands routinely, so we have type in all commands each time in terminal.  
As shell can also take commands as input from file we can write these commands in a file and can execute them in shell to avoid this repetitive work. These files are called **Shell Scripts** or **Shell Programs**. Shell scripts are similar to the **batch file** in MS-DOS. Each shell script is saved with **.sh** file extension