Powershell

Testing, Loops, Modules, More WMI COMP2101 Fall 2017

Testing - if

- To test things, we can use the if statement
- We have one or more expressions to evaluate inside parentheses
- Multiple expressions can be used and prioritized with additional parentheses
- We have a script block to execute inside braces
- We can extend the test using elseif and else
- about if

if Example

```
if ($gob -eq $smacked) {
  "Gob was smacked"
}
elseif ($LiberalSeats -gt $PCSeats) {
  "Cons are mad, bro"
}
else {
  "No gobs smacked and cons are not happy"
}
```

about_comparison_operators

Testing - Switch

- Switch is used for testing if you are executing one or more script blocks out of a group of script blocks based on a value or collection of values
- If you are testing a collection, matching script blocks are executed separately for each object in the collection
- break (terminate the switch) and continue (jump to the end of the script block) are available in the script blocks

Switch Example

```
switch ($myvar) {
  0 { "myvar had a zero in it";continue }
  32 { "myvar had a 32 in it"; continue }
  "rad" { "myvar was like, totally rad";continue }
  $yourvar { "Cool! myvar had the same guts as yourvar!";continue }
  {($_ -is [datetime]) -and ($_.dayofweek -lt $yourvar.dayofweek)} { "Rats. myvar's
  someproperty was less than yourvar's someproperty. You win.";continue }
  default { "I dunno about you, but myvar had something in it I didn't expect and it freaked
  me out" }
```

about switch

Working With Bitfields Switch Example

- When you are working with complex objects, data is sometimes encoded into bitfields
- This example demonstrates testing bit values to produce human readable output

ft -AutoSize

Looping On A Condition

- While and Until can be used to repeat a script block based on the result of an expression
- Putting Do at the start of a script block and While or Until after the end of it causes the script block to be run once before the condition is evaluated
- Until cannot be used without Do, but While can

```
while ($var -It 5) {$var++; $var}

do {$var++;$var} while ($var -It 5)

do {$var--;$var} until ($var --It 1)
```

While Examples

```
while ($intf_speed -It $minToMakeMeHappy) { change-providers }
while (! $forgiven) { buy-flowers }
do {
 $annoyed = read-host -prompt "Are you annoyed yet [y/N]?"
} while ( $annoyed -notlike "y*" )
$chocolates = 6
while ($chocolates -gt 0) {
 "Yum!"; $chocolates--
 sleep 2
```

For/Foreach

- foreach is used to execute a script once for each object in a collection
- for is used when you have an initial command, a test, and a loop command to perform
 - The initial command executes
 - → The test is performed and if it is true
 - The script block executes
 - The loop command executes

For/Foreach Examples

Foreach Example

```
$totalcapacity = 0
get-wmiobject -class win32_physicalmemory |
foreach {
          new-object -TypeName psobject -Property @{
                 Manufacturer = $_.manufacturer
                 "Speed(MHz)" = $_.speed
                 "Size(MB)" = $_.capacity/1mb
                 Bank = $_.banklabel
                 Slot = $ .devicelocator
         $totalcapacity += $_.capacity/1mb
ft -auto Manufacturer, "Size(MB)", "Speed(MHz)", Bank, Slot
"Total RAM: $\fotalcapacity\MB"
```

Working Over The Network

- Powershell can run cmdlets over the network, executing them on remote hosts
- The remote host must enable remote access
- The -ComputerName parameter is used to specify the remote computer to execute the cmdlet on
- Alternately, you can use psexec to remotely execute simple commands on remote machines
- See https://4sysops.com/archives/psexec-vs-the-powershell-remoting-cmdlets-invoke-command-and-enter-psession/ for more information

Finding Related WMI Objects

- WMI objects have a GetRelated() method
- You can use it to find other WMI class objects for the same device or resource as the one you already have
- You can then use new-object or similar cmdlets to build objects that use properties and methods from both of the WMI objects

Modules

- A module is at the minimum a collection of functions stored in a file with a .psm1 extension
- If you put the module file in \$env:HOMEPATH/Documents/WindowsPowerShell/Modules/ModuleFileNameWithoutExtension/ (\$PSModulePath), it will be automatically imported
- get-module -listavailable can be used to show modules not yet imported
- get-command -module modulename can be used to see what commands are in a module
- remove-module modulename can be used to remove a module from memory (e.g. you update the module file and want it to be imported again)
- Beware of name conflicts when creating modules, use common verbs whenever possible
- See https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd878340(v=vs.85).aspx for more information on creating modules

Lecture Videos

- There are lecture videos for this presentation on my youtube channel
- I have put together a playlist for you to view them in more or less the order the topics appear in the presentation slides
- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?
 list=PLIptG-28ZUJVG3k6Dkneqtq4gOdV4Qzlb