

# Unix Shells

Slides adapted from Prof. Andrzej (AJ) Bieszczad

## Utility : nohup command

- **The Bash, Bourne and Korn shells** automatically terminate background processes when you log out, whereas the C shell allows them to continue.
- **The nohup utility** make a background process immune to this effect in **Bash, Bourne or Korn shell**.
- This utility is ideal for ensuring that background processes are not terminated when your login shell is exited.
- The standard output and error channels of command are automatically redirected to a file called **"nohup.out"**.

- Executing a command using **nohup**

Logout, and then log back in again

The command is not visible in the output of a regular **ps**.

To include a list of all of the current processes without control terminals in a **ps** output, use the **-x** option.

- Here's an example of this effect:

\$ **nohup sleep 10000 &** ---> nohup a background process.

27406

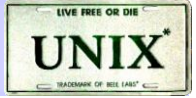
Sending output to 'nohup.out' ---> message from "nohup".

\$ **ps** ---> look at processes.

PID	TT	STAT	TIME	COMMAND
27399	p3	S	0:00	-sh(sh)
27406	p3	S N	0:00	<b>sleep 10000</b>
27407	p3	R	0:00	ps

\$ **^D** ---> logout.

# UNIX Shells



Login: **UG1**

---> log back in.

Password:

---> secret.

\$ **ps**

---> the background process is not

---> listed.

PID	TT	STAT	TIME	COMMAND
27409	p3	S	0:00	-sh(sh)
27411	p3	R	0:00	ps

\$ **ps -x**

---> the background process is listed.

PID	TT	STAT	TIME	COMMAND
27406	?	IN	0:00	<b>sleep 10000</b>
27409	p3	S	0:00	-sh ( sh )
27412	p3	R	0:00	ps -x

\$ \_

- **Signaling Processes: kill**

- **kill** command terminates a process before it completes.
- Bash, Korn and C shells contain Kill as built-in command, whereas Bourne shell invoke the standard utility instead.
- Both versions of kill supports the following functionality:

**Utility/Shell Command : kill [-signalId] {pid}  
kill -l**

- kill sends the signal with code signalId to the list of processes.
- signalId may be the number or name of a signal.

\$ **kill -l**

---> list the signal names.

1) SIGHUP

2) SIGINT

3) SIGQUIT

4) SIGILL

5) SIGTRAP

6) SIGABRT

7) SIGEMT

8) SIGFPE

9) SIGKILL

10) SIGBUS

11) SIGSEGV

12) SIGSYS

13) SIGPIPE

14) SIGALRM

15) SIGTERM

16) SIGUSR1

17) SIGUSR2

18) SIGCHLD

19) SIGPWR

20) SIGVTALRM

21) SIGPROF

22) SIGIO

23) SIGWINCH

24) SIGSTOP

25) SIGTSTP

26) SIGCONT

27) SIGTTIN

28) SIGTTOU

29) SIGURG

30) SIGLOST

32) SIGDIL

33) SIGXCPU

34) SIGXFSZ

35) SIGCANCEL

37) SIGRTMIN

38) SIGRTMIN+1

39) SIGRTMIN+2

40) SIGRTMIN+3

41) SIGRTMAX-3

42) SIGRTMAX-2

43) SIGRTMAX-1

44) SIGRTMAX

- By default, **kill** sends a **TERM signal** ( number 15 ), which causes the receiving processes to terminate.
- To send a signal to a process, you must either **own it** or be a **super-user**.
- **To ensure a kill (forcefully), send signal number 9.**
- The **kill** utility ( as opposed to the shell built-in commands ) allows **to specify 0 as the pid** to terminate **all of the processes** associated with the shell.



- Example: Create a background process and then kill it.

\$ ( sleep 10; echo done ) & ---> create background process  
27390 ---> process ID number.

\$ kill 27390 ---> kill the process.

\$ ps ---> it's gone!

PID	TT	STAT	TIME	COMMAND
27355	p3	S	0:00	-sh(sh)
27394	p3	R	0:00	ps

\$ (sleep 10; echo done) &  
27490 ---> process ID number.

\$ kill -KILL 27490 ---> kill the process with signal #9.

or

\$ kill -9 27490

- Finally, here's an example of the **kill utility's** ability to kill all of the processes associated with the current shell:

```
$ sleep 30 & sleep 30 & sleep 30 & ---> create three processes.  
27429  
27430  
27431
```

```
$ kill 0 ---> kill them all.  
27431 Terminated  
27430 Terminated  
27429 Terminated
```

PID = -1 means ALL processes belonging to the user  
(ABSOLUTE ALL if used by the super user)

## - **Waiting For Child Processes:** **wait**

Built-in Shell Command: **wait [ pid ]**

**wait** causes the shell to suspend until the child process with the specified process ID number terminates.

If no arguments are supplied, the shell waits for all of its child processes.

-Example:

\$ ( sleep 30; echo done 1 ) &      ---> create a child process.  
24193

\$ ( sleep 30; echo done 2 ) &      ---> create a child process.  
24195

\$ echo done 3; wait; echo done 4      ---> wait for children.

done 3

done 1      ---> output from first child.

done 2      ---> output from second child.

done 4

\$ \_

## - OVERLOADING STANDARD UTILITIES

\$ **cat > ls** ---> create a script called "ls".

echo my ls

**^D** ---> end of input.

\$ **chmod +x ls** ---> make it executable.

\$ **echo \$PATH** ---> look at the current PATH setting.

/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/sbin

\$ **echo \$HOME** ---> get pathname of my home directory.

/home/UG1

\$ **PATH=/home/UG1:\$PATH** ---> update.

\$ **ls** ---> call "ls".

my ls ---> my own version overrides "/bin/ls".

\$ \_

Note that **only this shell and its child shells** would be affected **by the change to PATH**; all other shells would be unaffected.

## - TERMINATION AND EXIT CODES

In the Bash, Bourne and Korn shells, the special shell variable `$?` always contains the value of the previous command's exit code.

In the C shell, the `$status` variable holds the exit code.

-In the following example, the **date** utility succeeded, whereas the **cc** and **awk** utilities failed:

\$ **date** ---> date succeeds.

Mon 29 8 22:13:38 2016

\$ **echo \$?** ---> display its exit value.

0 ---> indicates success.

\$ **cc prog.c** ---> compile a nonexistent program.

cpp: Unable to open source file `prog.c'.

\$ **echo \$?** ---> display its exit value.

1 ---> indicates failure.

\$ **awk** ---> use awk illegally.

awk: Usage: awk [-Fc] [-f source | `cmds'] [files]

\$ **echo \$?** ---> display its exit value.

1 ---> indicates failure.

\$ \_

- Any script that user write should always explicitly **return an exit code**.

To terminate a script, use the built-in **exit** command;

## **Shell Command: **exit** number**

**exit** terminates the script and returns **the exit value number** to its parent process.

If **number is omitted**, the exit value of the previous command is used.

If a script doesn't include **an explicit exit statement**, the exit value of the last command is returned by default.



-Example:

```
$ cat script.bash    ---> look at the script.  
echo this script returns an exit code of 3  
exit 3
```

```
$ script.bash        ---> execute the script.  
this script returns an exit code of 3
```

```
$ echo $?            ---> look at the exit value.  
3  
$ _
```

## - *Eval* **BUILT-IN COMMAND**

The *eval* shell command executes the output of a command as a regular shell command.

It is useful for processing the output of utilities that generate shell commands.

-Example: execute the result of *echo* command:

```
$ echo x=5  
x=5
```

---> first execute an echo directly.

```
$ echo $x
```

```
$ eval `echo x=5`
```

---> execute the result of the echo.

```
$ echo $x  
5  
$ _
```