

# TCL Scripting for OPENLANE

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# TCL Script File Execution

Make a file with the vim editor and tcl extension

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ vi filename.tcl
```

To invoke the tclsh interpreter when executing file write `#!/usr/bin/tclsh` (where `#` is for comment) as first line

```
1 #!/usr/bin/tclsh
2
3 puts "hello"
```

Execute on command prompt

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ filename.tcl
filename.tcl: command not found
```

sorry the filename.tcl is not in the path such as /usr/bin etc.

Please use `./filename.tcl` (`./` means present directory just like `../` means parent directory)

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ ./filename.tcl
bash: ./filename.tcl: Permission denied
```

Linux needs execution permissions for the file through **chmod** command

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ chmod 777 filename.tcl
```

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ ./filename.tcl
hello
```

# TCL Execution on Shell Interpreter

```
ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ tclsh
% puts "hello"
hello
% puts {hello}
hello
% puts hello
hello
% puts hello world
can not find channel named "hello"
% puts {hello world}
hello world
% puts "hello world"
hello world
% █
```

# Assigning Variables

- Assign a variable with set command
  - set a 1
  - set b flower
  - set c 2.2
- Reference variable with \$, e.g. \$a, \$b, \$c, puts \$a (/r for carriage return, /t for tab), puts "\$a" (not {\$a})

```
ahsen@ahsen-SkyLake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ tclsh
% set a 1
1
% puts $a
1
% set b 2
2
% puts $a*$b
1*2
% 
```

# Mathematical Expressions

- `expr {$a+$b}`
- `expr {$a == 1}` or `expr {$a eq 1}`
- Also `eq`, `ne`, `!`, `<=`, `>=`, `<<`, `>>`
- Arrays
  - `set a(1) 10`
  - `set a(2) 7`
  - `set a(3) 17`
  - `set b 2`
  - `puts "Sum: [expr {$a(1)+$a($b)}]"`

# Loops

- `for {set i 0} {$i < 10} {incr i} {  
 puts $i  
}`
- `while {$i < 10} {  
 puts $i  
 set i [expr {$i + 2}]  
}`

# If - else

- set x 3
- if {\$x == 2} {  
    puts "x is 2"  
} elseif {(\$x > 2) && (\$x <= 4)} {  
    puts "x is greater than 2 and less than equal to 4"  
} else {  
    puts "x is greater than 4"  
}

# Procedure/function in TCL

- `proc procedureName {arguments} {  
 body  
}`
- `proc sum {arg1 arg2} {  
 set x [expr {$arg1 + $arg2}] (or return [expr {$arg1 + $arg2}])  
 return $x  
}`
- `puts "[sum 2 3]"`
- `set value [sum 2 3]`



# Associative Arrays

- Array
  - set a(1) hello
  - set a(2) world
- Associative Array
  - set a(age) 12
  - set a(car) toyota
- parray a
  - a(age) = 12
  - a(car) = toyota
- array names a
  - age car
- info exists a(age)
  - 1

```
(base) ahsen@ahsen-Skylake-Platform:~/Dropbox/vlsi/tcl$ tclsh
% set a(age) 12
12
% set a(car) toyota
toyota
% parray a
a(age) = 12
a(car) = toyota
% array names a
age car
% info exists a(age)
1
% info exists a
1
% info exists a(address)
0
% 
```

# TCL Array: env

- Array env is used for environment variables by TCL
  - e.g. env(PATH), env(USER), env(HOSTNAME) and openlane flow variables
  - env has a global name space and can also be written ::env()
- Try **parray env** to get the list and **puts [array names env]** to get index
- Used in openlane config files for variables

e.g. `set ::env(DSIGN_NAME) alu`, `set ::env(CLOCK_PERIOD) "10.000"`  
`set ::env(CLOCK_PORT) "clk"`
- Check if a particular env variable (index → DISPLAY) exists  
`if { [info exists ::env(DISPLAY)] }`
- Other global variables `argv` → Tcl list of arguments to tclsh or wish.

# Misc. Built-in Commands

- `puts [info script] → ./filename.tcl`
- `puts [file normalize [info script]] → /home/ahsen/vlsi/filename.tcl`
- `puts [file dirname [file normalize [info script]]] → /home/ahsen/vlsi`
- `lappend` will append new path to internal paths maintained by TCL  
e.g. `lappend ::auto_path $::env(OPENLANE_ROOT)`  
e.g. `lappend ::auto_path "$::env(OPENLANE_ROOT)/scripts"`
- Execute commands/programs in tcl  
e.g. `exec tclsh >&@stdout`  
(`>&@stdout` → sends standard output from the last command and standard error from all commands to standard output )
- `glob` command is used to match file names and outputs a list  
`glob *.v → design_2.v design_1.v`