

## CSCD 340

### Lab 6

### SPECIFICATIONS

We will develop a shell and then add specific features. The goal of this assignment is to write a shell (called *mssh* which will stand for “my silly shell”). Specifically, you are to write the framework for a Linux shell using the C programming language. Once the shell is executing it will prompt the user with the "command? : " prompt. The user now may issue any command line Linux command.

Here are the general concepts

- 1) Using previous labs as a starter. You will prompt with command?: and your shell will exit when the “exit” command is issued.
- 2) Your shell has to be bash-syntax compatible. If you divert from this your shell will not pass the input used for testing!

Your shell should be able to handle

- 1) Basic commands, such as `ls -l`, `pwd`, and others.
- 2) You must handle a single pipe such as `(ls -l | wc -w)`
- 3) The *mssh* shell is to read input from a file called *.msshrc* and execute each line in this file as a command. This makes the *.msshrc* file a batch file. (BASH reads from *.bashrc*)
- 4) Implement aliasing, i.e. define an alias and undefine it.
  - a. For example you should be able to make the alias `LA` which is `ls -a`
  - b. Then you should be able to delete that alias
  - c. The *.msshrc* should be able to have predefined aliases. For example, it would contain `alias LA="ls -a"`
- 5) Implement a path extension feature, e.g., `PATH=$PATH:/data/myprogs`. Typically, this is executed when you log in, which means that it would be in the *.msshrc* file.
- 6) Implement a "history" mechanism which will allow access to the last *N* shell commands where *N*=`HISTORYCOUNT` is an environment variable in *.msshrc*. In *.msshrc* (if it exists) will be at least two environment variables `HISTCOUNT` and `HISTFILECOUNT`. If *.msshrc* does not exist your program `HISTCOUNT` will be 100 and `HISTFILECOUNT` will be 1000 by default. Your program will not crash if *.msshrc* does not exist. If the file exists the order will be guaranteed. At a minimum you should be able to recall commands by number, for example `!513`, or `!!` to re-execute the last command. Similar to bash, the history is stored in a file called *.msshrc\_history*.
- 7) Implement `cd`. Currently, `cd` will not work in *mssh*. For any shell to be effective you need to be able to change directories.
- 8) Implement redirection (`<` `>`). You should be able to redirect `stdin` and/or `stdout`.

## NOTES

- Design your code so it is **clean** and **modular**. If you look at Lab4, Lab5, Lab7 you already have a good start.
- **Don't wait to start** you won't finish if you don't chip away at this. Don't try to do everything in one sitting. Pick and choose and work on one topic.
- Draw a design document before you start coding. You need to understand how all the pieces work together before you start coding. If you don't you will quickly start breaking things by trying to add the next item.
- You will need multiple linked lists for this assignment.

## GENERAL FLOW

- The program starts up and checks for:
  - .msshrc – if it exists reads in the variables – file format is below – doesn't exist then default HISTCOUNT and HISTFILECOUNT are used
  - .mssh\_history is loaded if it exists
  - prompt is displayed
  - each command is handled appropriately
  - upon exit .mssh\_history is written from the executed commands

### .msshrc file format – if exists (guaranteed to have HISTCOUNT and HISTFILECOUNT

HISTCOUNT=value

HISTFILECOUNT=value

Alias1

Alias2

...

AliasN

PATH=\$PATH:/data/myprogs

## TO TURN IN

- The source code of your program. Name your file that contains main cscd340Lab6.c
- A Makefile so your code can easily be compiled with a target named mssh
- Some output captures to illustrate you shell is working. This does not need to be extensive. We will test your code this is just to illustrate you did your own testing. Name this cscd340Lab6.pdf
- A valgrind run showing you aren't leaking memory, included in your pdf – cscd340Lab6.pdf

You will submit a zip file named your last name first letter of your first name lab6.zip  
(Example steinerslab6.zip)