# Simple Shell Documentation

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May 15, 2016

## 1 Description

This program is a simplified shell command interpreter which is developed and tested on Ubuntu 14.04. The source codes of the program is avaliable on https://github.com/list12356/simpleshell.git

## 2 Main Function

The main function of this program is shown as following:

- resolve the internal command
- resolve the external command
- ullet support the , including both > and >>
- support the command line pipe

### 3 User Guide

#### 3.1 Input the command

This program include two exucetable files, the write and read. Before using the program, please make sure that you have a named pipe(FIFO file) available and can open the write program and read program in two different terminal respectively. First, you should type the name of the FIFO file in both program and make sure that it is valid. And then you can type the commands in the write program so that the result will show on the read program. A simple example is showed in Figure ??

#### 3.2 Output redirection

The program can resolve two redirection symbols, > and >>. For the symbol >, the program will first detect whether there already exists a file which match the name after the symbol. If there already exists a such file, the program will

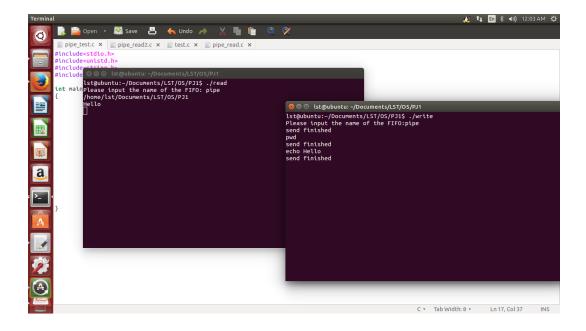


Figure 1: Simple Example

first delete it and create a new one to output the result. If there is no such file, the program wil create a new one. For the symbol >>, the program will output the result on the tail of the file, if it exists, or create a new one. An example is shown as below. We first use three "pwd >> tmp.txt" command, and use "cat tmp.txt" we can see from Figure ??that the results are added on the tail of the file "tmp.txt". And we use the "ls > tmp.txt", and repeat the progress, we can see from Figure ??that the tmp.txt file is rewritten by the program.

## 3.3 Command line pipe

The commandline pipe is also suported in the program. And the usage is the same as the usual case in Linux. I use several command as examples as shown in Figure??.

## 4 Structure of the Program

The basic and structure of th Program can be shown in the pesudo code of Algorithm??

Figure 2: Output Redirection

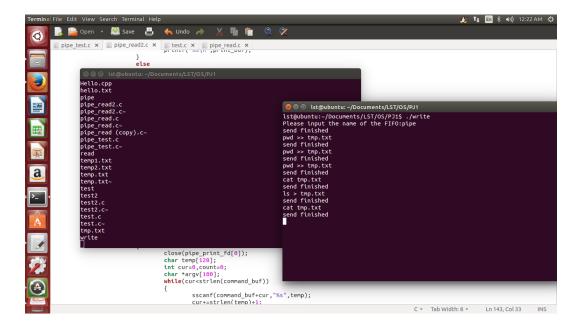


Figure 3: Output Redirection

## Algorithm 1 Simple Shell Program

```
1: while true do
        read from the FIFO to fifobuf
 2:
        search for ' <','>','>>','|'
 3:
        if there is a redirection then
 4:
            dup2(outputfile,stdout)
 5:
        end if
 6:
         {\bf if} \ {\bf there} \ {\bf is} \ {\bf a} \ {\bf command} \ {\bf line} \ {\bf pipe} \ {\bf then} 
 7:
 8:
            devide the command and make the flag
        end if
 9:
        if Internal Command then
10:
            execute the internal command
11:
        else
12:
            create a child process
13:
            if is child process then
14:
                if there is a command line pipe then
15:
                    create a pipe
16:
                    create a grandchild process
17:
                    {\bf if} \ {\rm is} \ {\rm grandchild} \ {\rm process} \ {\bf then}
18:
                       redirect the stdout to the pipe
19:
                        execute the command before '|'
20:
21:
                    else
22:
                        wait
                        redirect the stdin to the the pipe
23:
24:
                    end if
                end if
25:
                execute the command
26:
27:
            else
28:
                wait
29:
            end if
        end if
30:
        recover the stdin and stdout
31:
32: end while
```

Figure 4: Command Line Pipe

## 5 Conclusion and Future Plan

### 5.1 About the External Commands

When resolving the externa commands, I used the fork() system call to create a child process, and the child process execute the command. Probably a more right way to use a pipe and redirect the stdout of the child process to the write port of the pipe and let the father process to print the result. However, this method has a fatal problem, there are some commands like "vim" that require that the output should be a terminal, not a pipe. So I aborted this method in the final version. However, you can still see it in the annotation in the source codes.

## 5.2 About the Redirection of the Input

The input redirection is also considered in the program but I did not do enough test.

#### 5.3 Future Plan

To be determined.