

UNIX - Commands

Input

File System

Directories

Files

Two Files

Files and Directories

Output/Input

Processing of Lines

Piping
The output of one command becomes the input of the other

pwd | rev | cut -d '/' -f1 | rev
displays the name of the current directory without the leading path

ls | wc -w
counts the files/directories contained in the current directory

ps -e | wc -l
counts the number of rows in the table that shows all processes

ps -e | grep bash
shows all processes that are shells

ps -e | head
displays the first 10 lines of the table that shows all processes

File/Lines

history | grep "!"
shows all commands in the history that involved piping

ps -e | less
displays the table that shows all processes in a scrollable view

history | grep "!" | cut -d "!" -f2
shows all commands behind a (first) pipe

Output Redirection

Output Redirection
of the command
stdout: 1
stderr: 2
> Redirect stdout
> Redirect stderr
>> Redirect stderr to stdout
>> Append to stdout
>>1 Pipe stdout and stderr to another command

echo "Obama" > president
writes to file 'president' instead of the screen

ps -ef > proList
the table showing all processes is output to file 'proList'

date >> proList
current date and time is appended at the end of file 'proList'

Input Redirection
while read x<0
echo -e \$(cat -v \$x)
done < fileToBeRead
the content of file 'fileToBeRead' is used as input for 'read x', thus allowing to process 'fileToBeRead' line-by-line

Processes and OS

echo "Mind the gap" | tr M g | tr -d g
replaces specified characters by given substitutes

echo "West End" | tr -d \$n
specified characters 'n' are not replaced but deleted in "West End"

echo "Summer 1999" | tr -s \$n
any sequence of 'n's, 'n' in "Summer 1999" is replaced by one 'n' or 'N', respectively

ps
displays a table of current processes

top
displays dynamic real-time view of current Linux tasks

jobs
lists active jobs

fg
resumes execution of a suspended process by bringing it to the foreground and thus redirecting its standard input and output streams to the user's terminal

fork
SYSTEM CALL: generates a child process as 'copy' of the current one, its parent

exec
SYSTEM CALL: a process starts its work, the execution of its associated command

exit
SYSTEM CALL: a process terminates after doing its work, causing its parent to 'wake up', and returning an integer as exit status

wait
SYSTEM CALL: the calling process goes to sleep in order to allow its child(ren) to do their work

killall
terminates processes specified by process ID

stty
lists all signals that can send

stty sane
simply prints the process IDs to stdout

stty raw
terminates all processes with matching names

stty sane
terminates all processes of the specified user

stty sane
waits until all relevant processes are dead

stty sane
lists all signals that can be sent

stty sane
HUP INT QUIT TILL TRAP ABRT IOT BUG FPE KILL URG ERQD USR2 PIPE ALRM TERM STKFLT CHLD CONT STOP TSTP TTIN TTOUT URG XCPU XFSZ VTIME PWRG PWD WINCH IO PWR SYS UNUSED

sudo
execute the following command as a superuser

su
become the superuser for a session

finger
displays information about users currently logged in

who
shows users logged on

finger
gives more detailed information about users

last
displays usernames and a count

lastlog
displays time of last system boot

date
print date

cal
print calendar

free
print free memory

uptime
print uptime

clear
clears the screen

exit
ends the current shell

exit 66
ends the current shell with an exit status of 66 (can be displayed by executing 'echo \$?' afterwards)

history
all the commands entered so far

Scripting

\$var returns the value of variable
var (but assignment is var=value)
\$? exit status of the last command/command/process
(comparable to a return value), integer
in { 0, 1, ..., 255 } ?); "true" is 0,
"false" is 1 (in general, not 0);
an exit status of 0 means 'success', anything
different from 0 means ... well, something
else; display exit status with echo \$?
number of parameters (strings separated by
blanks) given to the command/script/method
\$1, \$2, ..., \$9
value of 1st, 2nd, ..., 9th parameter given
to the command/script/method; works only for
1, ..., 9, not for numbers with two or more
digits (use shift operator in that case)
CAUTION: for a script abc.sh containing a
function xyz(), \$1 can have different meanings
inside abc.sh - outside of xyz() (and any
other function), it means the 1st command
line parameter given to abc.sh, e. g., "hello"
in case of 'sh abc.sh hello world';
inside of xyz(), it means the 1st parameter
handed over to xyz(), e. g., "world" in case
of 'xyz \$2'. Analogously for \$2, ..., \$#, etc.
\$! process ID of the current shell
(as displayed by 'ps')
\$@ a list of all parameters given to the command/
script/method, each one in its own "
\$* a list of all parameters given to the command/
script/method, all together in one pair of "
\$! process ID of the last
executed background command

```
#!/bin/bash
# this is called she-bang
for x in 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9; do # for every item x in the list do the following:
    if [ $x -eq 0 ]; then
        # if x = 0 ...
    elif [[ $x -lt 3 || $x -ne 6 ]]; then
        # ... else, if x < 3 or x = 6 ...
        echo -e "$x is three"
        sleep 2
        echo -e "Letters in one word\n"
    elif [[ $x -ne 3 && $x -ne 6 && $x -ne 7 ]]; then
        # ... else, if x is not 3, 6 or 7 ...
        echo -e "$x is a four-letter word"
    else
        # ... else (any case left)
        echo -e "$x is five characters long"
    fi
done
```

```
x=1
until [ $x -ge 999999 ]; do
    echo -e "$x is not enough, bid more!"
    x=$((x*10))
done
# done loop is finished.

Numerical comparison
if [ $x -eq 1 ]; then
    # if x = 1
    if [ $x -ne 2 ]; then
        # if not x = 2
    elif [ $x -eq 3 ]; then
        # if x = 3
        if [ $x -gt 4 ]; then
            # if x > 4
        elif [ $x -le 5 ]; then
            # if x <= 5
            if [ $x -lt 6 ]; then
                # if x < 6
            else
                # if x >= 6
            fi
        fi
    fi
fi

String Comparison
if [ $w = "London" ]; then
    # if w is exactly the string "London"
elif [ $w != "Brighton" ]; then
    # if w is not exactly the string "Brighton"
```