

* Standard File Streams

→ when commands are executed by default there are three standard file streams always open for use: standard input (standard in or stdin), standard output (standard out or stdout) and standard error (or stderr).

Name	Symbolic Name	Value	Example
standard input	stdin	0	keyboard
standard output	stdout	1	terminal
standard error	stderr	2	log file

→ usually, stdin is your keyboard, and stdout and stderr are printed on your terminal.

→ stderr is often redirected to an error logging file, while stdin is supplied by ~~directory~~ directing input to come from a file or from the output of previous command through a pipe.

- stdout is also often redirected into a file. Since stderr is where error messages (and warning) are written, usually nothing will go there.
- In Linux, all open files are represented internally by what are called file descriptors.
- Simply put, these are represented by numbers starting at zero.
- stdin is file descriptor 0, stdout is file descriptor 1, stderr is file descriptor 2.
- Typically, if others files are opened in addition to these three, which are opened by default, they will start at file descriptor 3 and increase from there.

* I/O Redirection

- Through the command shell, we can redirect the three standard file streams so that we can get input from either a file or another command
- Instead of ^{from} our keyword and we can write output and errors to files or use them to provide input for subsequent commands.

→ For example, if we have a program called do-something that reads from stdin and write to stdout and stderr, we can change its ^{Source} ~~input~~ by using the less-than sign (<) followed by name of the file to be consumed for input data

```
$ do-something < input-file
```

→ If you want to send the output to a file, use the greater-than sign (>) as in:

```
$ do-something > output-file
```

→ In fact, you can do both at same time as in

```
$ do-something < input-file > output-file
```

→ Because stderr is not the same as stdout, error message will still be seen on the terminal windows in the above example.

→ If you want to redirect stderr to separate file, you use stderr's file descriptor number (2), the greater-than (>), followed by the name of the file you want to receive everything the running command writes to stderr:

```
$ do-something 2 > error-file
```

NOTE :- By the same logic, do-something 1 > output-file is the same as do-something > output-file.

→ A special shorthand notation can send anything written to file descriptor 2 (stderr) to the same place as file descriptor 1 (stdout) : 2 > 1

```
$ do-something > all-output-file
```

```
2 > 1
```

bash Permits an easier syntax for above

```
$ do-something >& all-output-file
```

* PIPES

→ In order to use pipe, we can use the vertical-bar pipe symbol (|), between commands as in

\$ command1 | command2 | command3

→ The above represents what we often call a Pipeline.

→ It allows Linux to combine the actions of several commands into one.

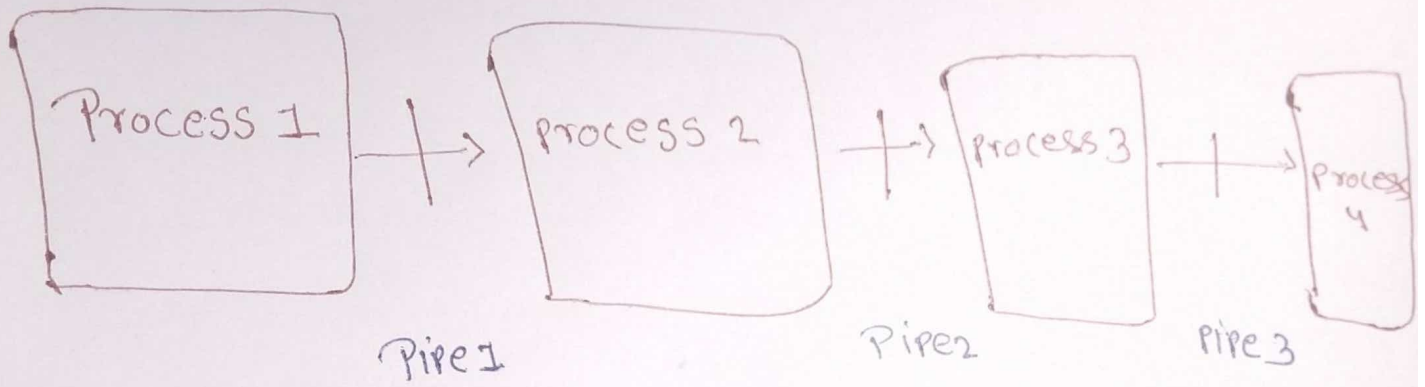
→ This is extraordinarily efficient because command2 and command3 do not have to wait for the previous pipeline commands to complete.

→ Computing power is much better utilized and things get done quicker.

→ Furthermore, there is no need to save output files between stages in the Pipeline

→ which saves disk space and reduces reading and writing from disk

→ which often constitutes the slowest bottleneck in getting something done.



pipeline