



NuShell

Superglue for your OS

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SysGhent 

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Introduction


What does the following Bash code do?

```
find . -type f -name "*.log" -mtime +30 -exec rm {} \;
```

 Shell

What does the following Bash code do?

```
find . -type f -name "*.log" -mtime +30 -exec rm {} \;
```

 Shell

Nu:

```
ls **/*.log | where modified < (date now) - 30day | rm
```

 Shell


Improvements:

- Decomposes the problem with pipes
- Does not require find flags
- Built-in glob, duration and date type

What does Nu in NuShell stand for?


What does the following Bash code do?

```
find . -type f -name "*.log" -mtime +30 -exec rm {} \;
```

 Shell

Nu:

```
ls **/*.log | where modified < (date now) - 30day | rm
```

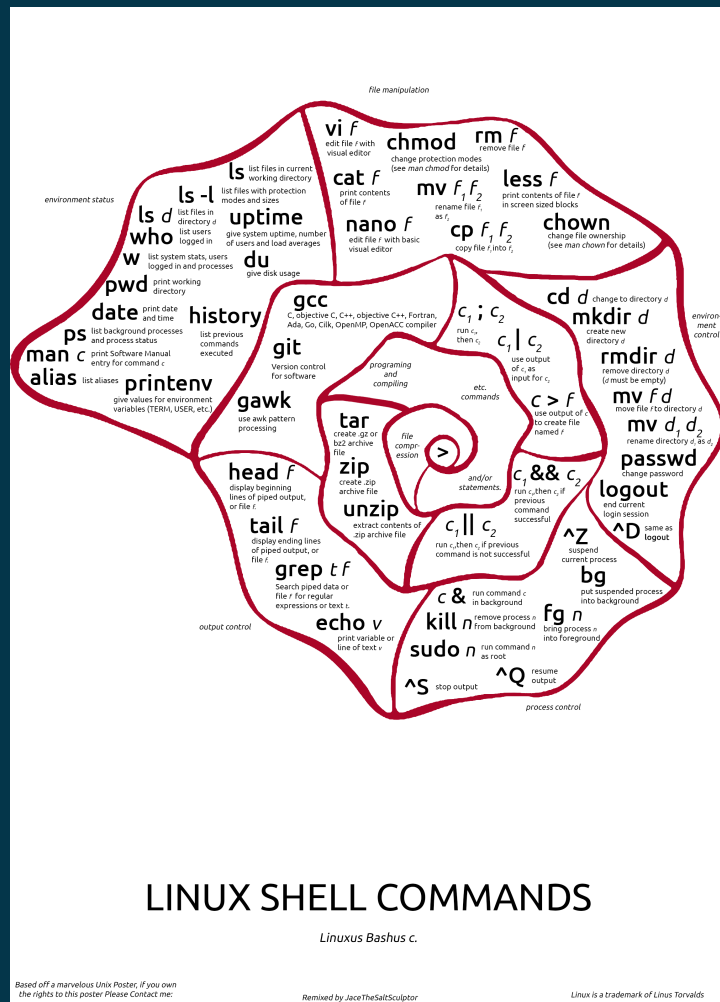
 Shell

Improvements:

- Decomposes the problem with pipes
- Does not require find flags
- Built-in glob, duration and date type

What does Nu in NuShell stand for?

New shell.



Prerequisites

Try it out yourself

No installation: <https://www.nushell.sh/demo/>

Install locally: <https://www.nushell.sh/book/installation.html>

- Download binary: github.com/nushell/nushell/releases
- Rust:
 - Install rustup from <https://rustup.rs/>
 - Add Cargo bin to your PATH if not done automatically
 - `cargo install nu`
- Mac: `brew install nushell`
- Windows (winget): `winget install nushell`
- Windows (chocolatey): `choco install nushell`


Linux:

- Debian: `apt install rustup`
- Nix: `nix-shell -p nushell`
- Snap: `sudo snap install nushell --classic`

Have a look at the *.nu files in this repo.

To run an exercise:

```
workshop.nu # With shebang  
nu workshop.nu
```

 Shell

To pipe in data from Bash:

```
cat somefile.txt | exercise.nu # With shebang  
cat somefile.txt | nu exercise.nu
```

 Shell

Piping within NuShell:

```
open somefile.txt | exercise.nu
```

 Shell

Basics

Commands output tables

ls

Shell

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

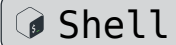
=>

| # | name | type | size | modified |
|---|--------------------|------|-----------|--------------|
| 0 | CITATION.cff | file | 812 B | 2 months ago |
| 1 | CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md | file | 3.4 KiB | 9 months ago |
| 2 | CONTRIBUTING.md | file | 11.0 KiB | 5 months ago |
| 3 | Cargo.lock | file | 194.9 KiB | 15 hours ago |
| 4 | Cargo.toml | file | 9.2 KiB | 15 hours ago |
| 5 | Cross.toml | file | 666 B | 6 months ago |
| 6 | LICENSE | file | 1.1 KiB | 9 months ago |
| 7 | README.md | file | 12.0 KiB | 15 hours ago |

...

Sort output by column

```
ls | sort-by size | reverse
```



| | | | | | |
|------|---|-----------------|------|-----------|--------------|
| # => | | | | | |
| # => | # | name | type | size | modified |
| # => | | | | | |
| # => | 0 | Cargo.lock | file | 194.9 KiB | 15 hours ago |
| # => | 1 | toolkit.nu | file | 20.0 KiB | 15 hours ago |
| # => | 2 | README.md | file | 12.0 KiB | 15 hours ago |
| # => | 3 | CONTRIBUTING.md | file | 11.0 KiB | 5 months ago |
| # => | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| # => | 5 | LICENSE | file | 1.1 KiB | 9 months ago |
| # => | 6 | CITATION.cff | file | 812 B | 2 months ago |
| # => | 7 | Cross.toml | file | 666 B | 6 months ago |
| # => | 8 | typos.toml | file | 513 B | 2 months ago |
| # => | | | | | |

Filtering output

```
ls | where size > 10kb
```


 Shell

```
# =>
```

| # | name | type | size | modified |
|---|-----------------|------|-----------|---------------|
| 0 | CONTRIBUTING.md | file | 11.0 KiB | 5 months ago |
| 1 | Cargo.lock | file | 194.6 KiB | 2 minutes ago |
| 2 | README.md | file | 12.0 KiB | 16 hours ago |
| 3 | toolkit.nu | file | 20.0 KiB | 16 hours ago |

```
# =>
```

ps

 Shell

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>

=>


=>

=>

| # | pid | ppid | name | status | cpu | mem | virtual |
|---|------|------|---------------|----------|------|-----------|---------|
| 0 | 1 | 0 | init(void) | Sleeping | 0.00 | 1.2 MiB | 2.2 MiB |
| 1 | 8 | 1 | init | Sleeping | 0.00 | 124.0 KiB | 2.3 MiB |
| 2 | 6565 | 1 | SessionLeader | Sleeping | 0.00 | 108.0 KiB | 2.2 MiB |
| 3 | 6566 | 6565 | Relay(6567) | Sleeping | 0.00 | 116.0 KiB | 2.2 MiB |
| 4 | 6567 | 6566 | nu | Running | 0.00 | 28.4 MiB | 1.1 GiB |

Running processes

```
ps | where status == Running
```

 Shell

```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```


```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```

| # | pid | ppid | name | status | cpu | mem | virtual |
|---|------|------|------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| 0 | 6585 | 6584 | nu | Running | 0.00 | 31.9 MiB | 1.2 GiB |

Running processes

```
ps | where status == Running
```

 Shell

```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```

```
# =>
```


```
# =>
```

| # | pid | ppid | name | status | cpu | mem | virtual |
|---|------|------|------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| 0 | 6585 | 6584 | nu | Running | 0.00 | 31.9 MiB | 1.2 GiB |

How does this work?

Running processes

```
ps | where status == Running
```

 Shell

```
# =>
```

| # | pid | ppid | name | status | cpu | mem | virtual |
|---|-----|------|------|--------|-----|-----|---------|
|---|-----|------|------|--------|-----|-----|---------|

```
# =>
```

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|----|---------|------|----------|---------|
| 0 | 6585 | 6584 | nu | Running | 0.00 | 31.9 MiB | 1.2 GiB |
|---|------|------|----|---------|------|----------|---------|

```
# =>
```

How does this work?

```
ps | describe
```

 Shell

```
# => table<pid: int, ppid: int, name: string, status: string, cpu: float, mem: filesize, virtual: filesize> (stream)
```

Running processes

```
ps | where status == Running
```

 Shell

```
# =>
```

| # | pid | ppid | name | status | cpu | mem | virtual |
|---|-----|------|------|--------|-----|-----|---------|
|---|-----|------|------|--------|-----|-----|---------|

```
# =>
```

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|----|---------|------|----------|---------|
| 0 | 6585 | 6584 | nu | Running | 0.00 | 31.9 MiB | 1.2 GiB |
|---|------|------|----|---------|------|----------|---------|

```
# =>
```

How does this work?

```
ps | describe
```

 Shell

```
# => table<pid: int, ppid: int, name: string, status: string, cpu: float, mem: filesize, virtual: filesize> (stream)
```

Find processes sorted by greatest cpu utilization.

Exercise

Find processes sorted by greatest cpu utilization.

```
ps | where cpu > 0 | sort-by cpu | reverse
```

Shell

| | | | | | | |
|------|---|-------|--------------------|-------|---------|---------|
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | # | pid | name | cpu | mem | virtual |
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | 0 | 11928 | nu.exe | 32.12 | 47.7 MB | 20.9 MB |
| # => | 1 | 11728 | Teams.exe | 10.71 | 53.8 MB | 50.8 MB |
| # => | 2 | 21460 | msedgewebview2.exe | 8.43 | 54.0 MB | 36.8 MB |
| # => | | | | | | |

Pipelines

Example

```
ls
| sort-by size
| reverse
| first
| get name
| cp $in ~
```

 Shell

Whenever possible, Nushell commands are designed to act on pipeline input.

Why does cp need \$in?

Example

```
ls
| sort-by size
| reverse
| first
| get name
| cp $in ~
```

 Shell

Whenever possible, Nushell commands are designed to act on pipeline input.


Why does cp need \$in?

Because cp has two positional arguments.

No \ needed in multi-line pipelines.

Equivalent:

```
ls | sort-by size | reverse | first | get name | cp $in ~
```

 Shell

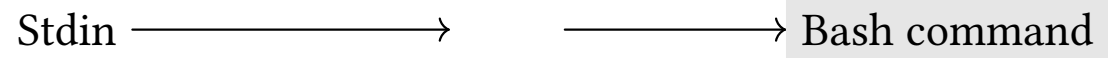
Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

Bash command

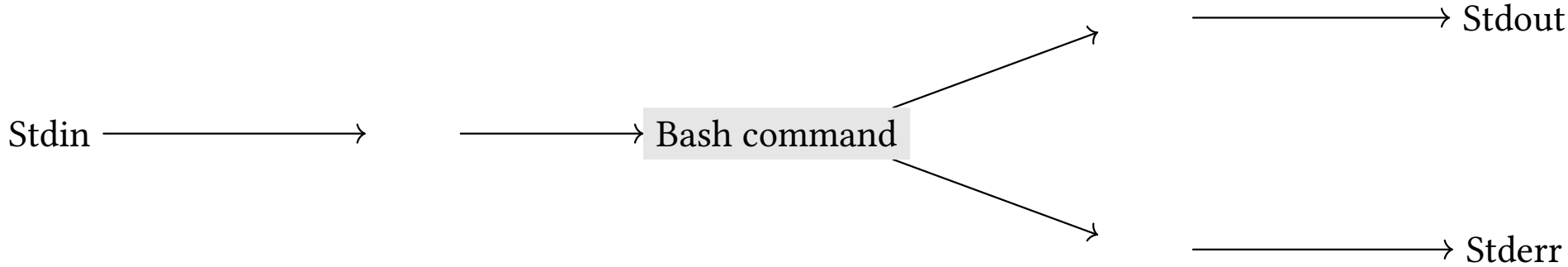
Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:



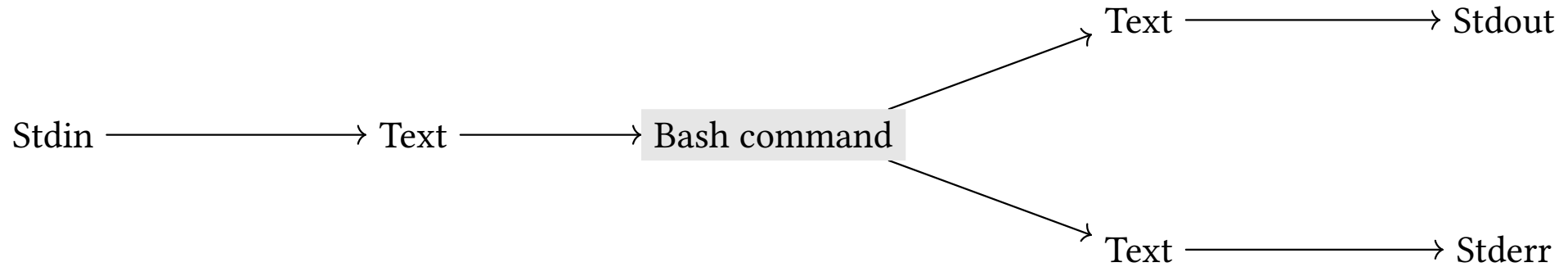
Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:



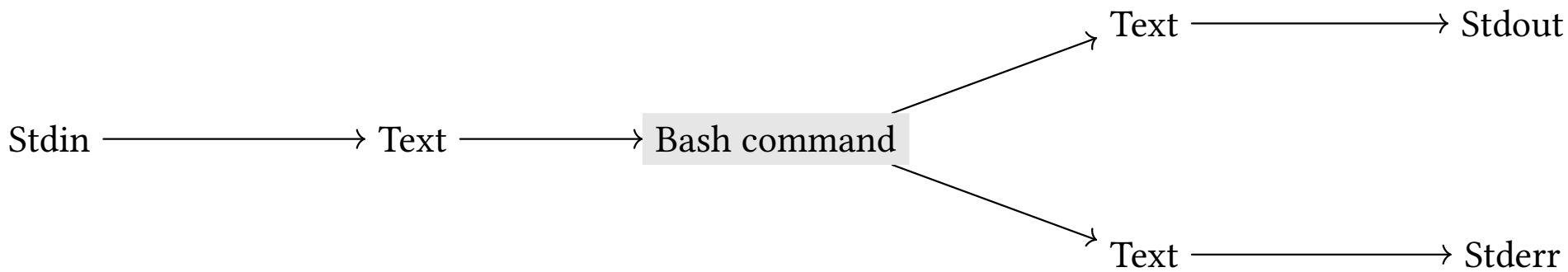
Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:



Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

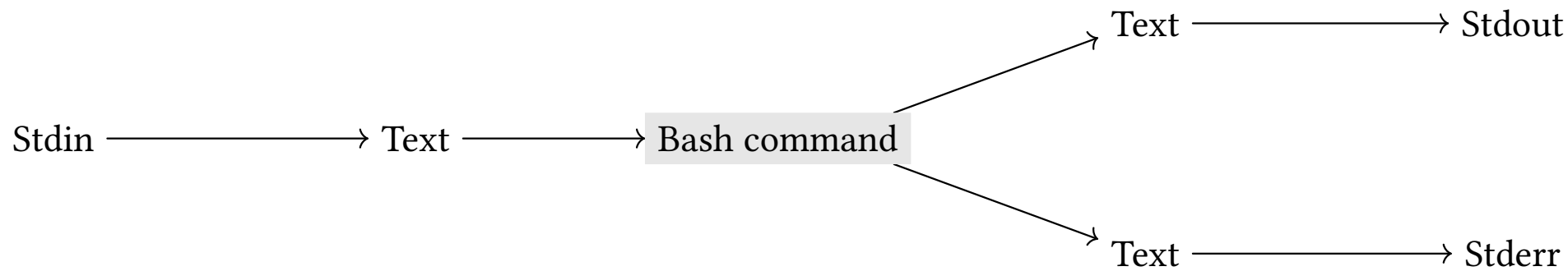


Nu pipeline:

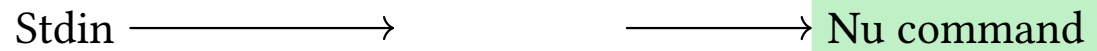
Nu command

Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

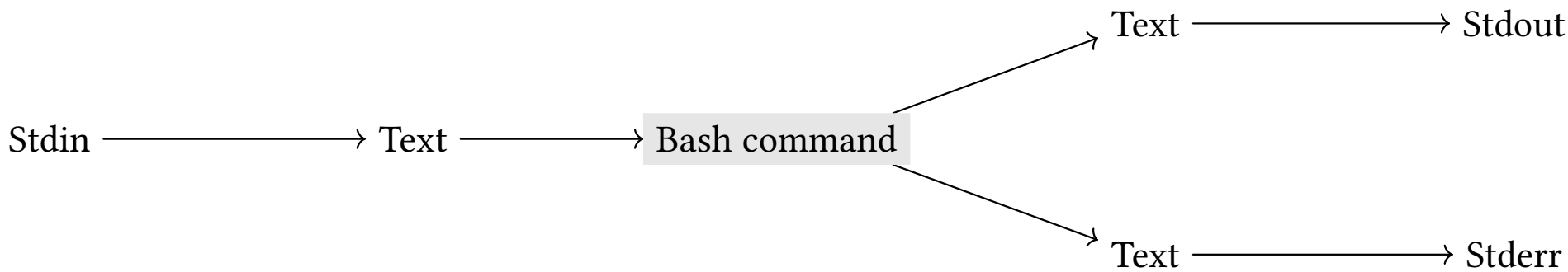


Nu pipeline:

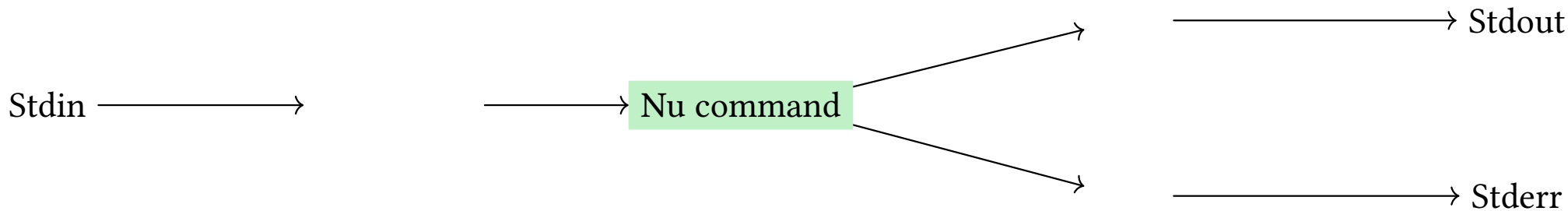


Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

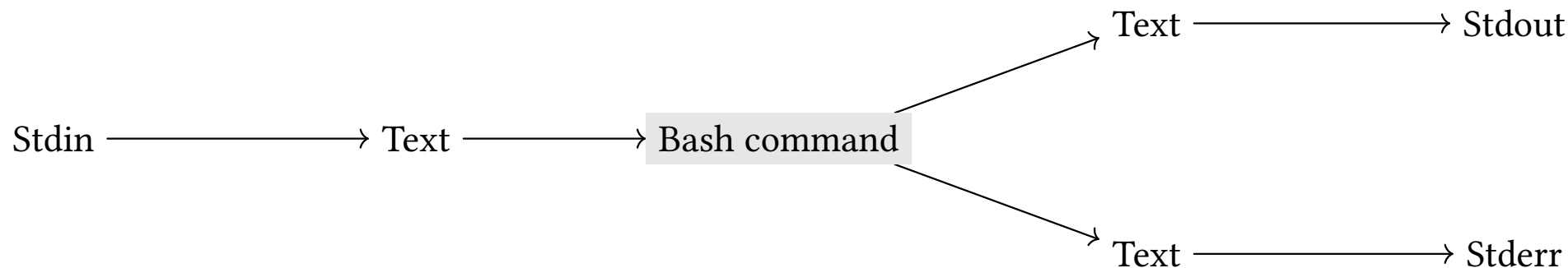


Nu pipeline:

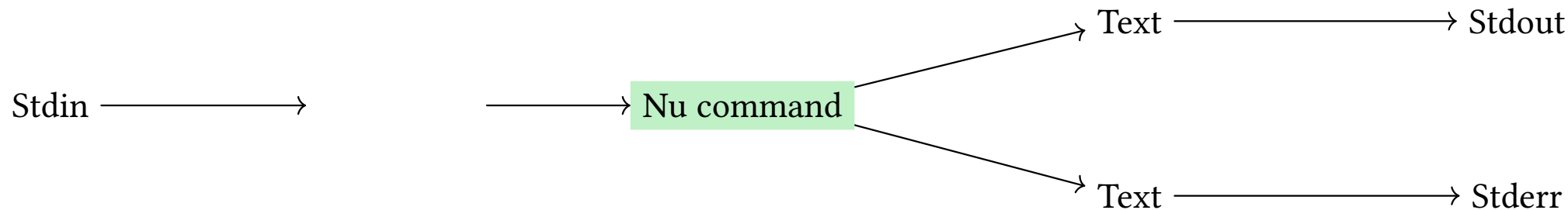


Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

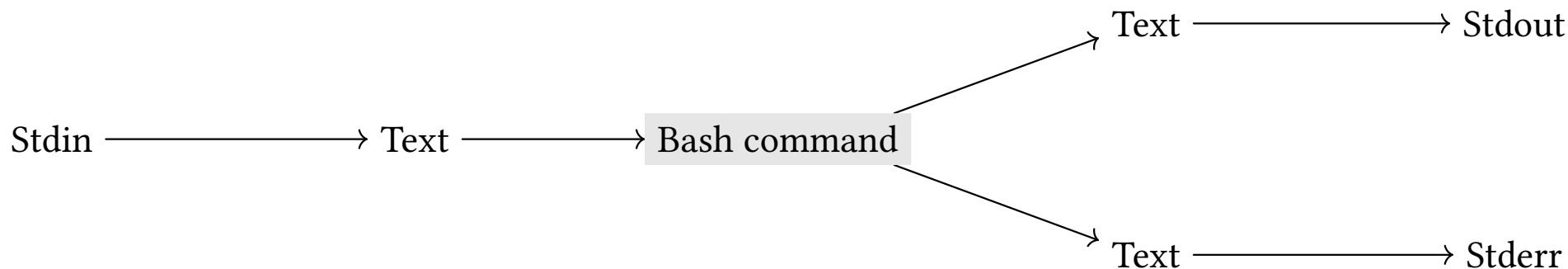


Nu pipeline:

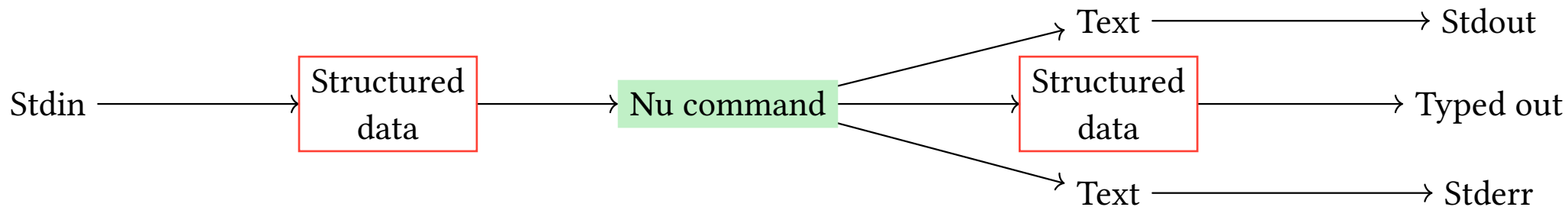


Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:

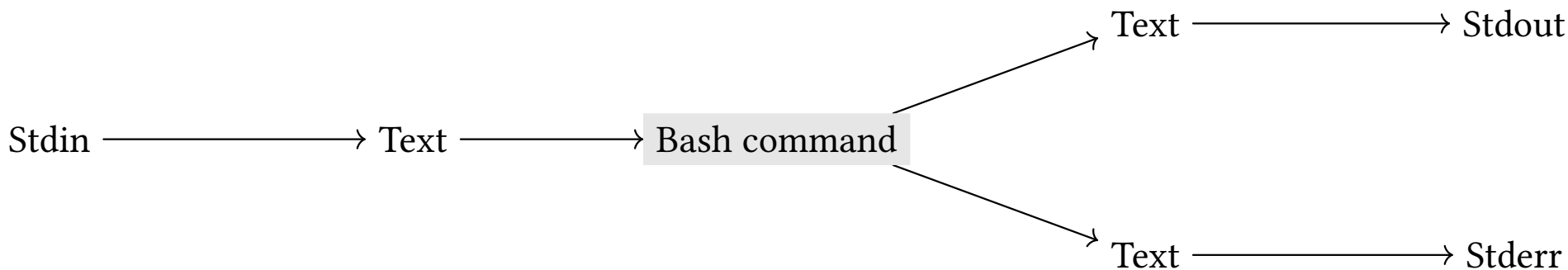


Nu pipeline:

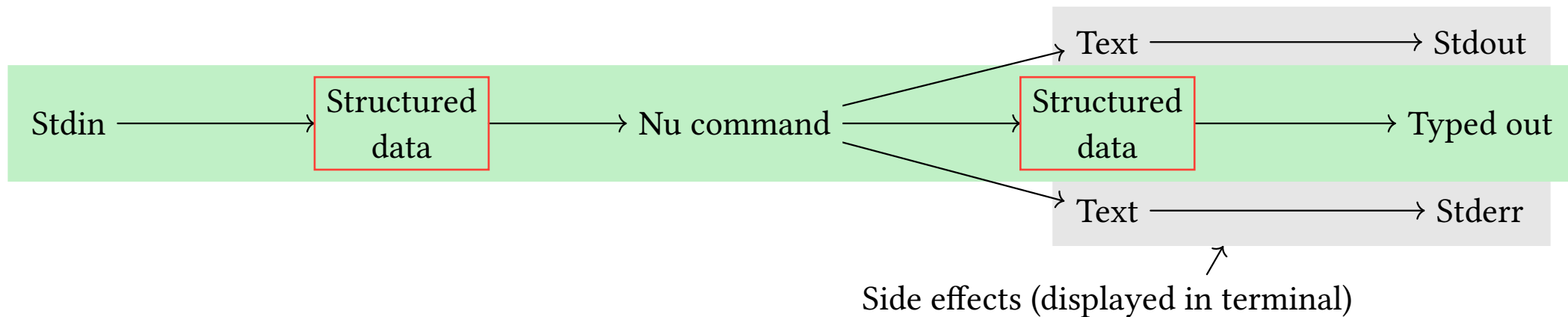


Battle of the pipelines

Bash pipeline:




Nu pipeline:



Tables are built from rows of records:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|------------|---|---------------|
| <code>ls</code> |  Shell | } | (1) Table | | |
| <code> sort-by size</code> | | | | | |
| <code> reverse</code> | | | | | |
| <code> first</code> | | | | } | (2) Record |
| <code> get name</code> | | | | } | (3) Cell path |
| <code> cp \$in ~</code> | | } | (4) String | | |

Another way to find this out:

```
ls | sort-by size | reverse | first | describe  Shell
# => record<name: string, type: string, size: filesize, modified: datetime>
```

Exercise

Spawn a process and kill it based on its name.

Hint:

Exercise

Spawn a process and kill it based on its name.

Hint:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe
```

| | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|--------------|------|---------|---------|
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | # | pid | name | cpu | mem | virtual |
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | 0 | 9268 | Notepad2.exe | 0.00 | 32.0 MB | 9.8 MB |
| # => | | | | | | |

Solution:

Exercise

Spawn a process and kill it based on its name.

Hint:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe
```

 Shell

| | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|--------------|------|---------|---------|
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | # | pid | name | cpu | mem | virtual |
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | 0 | 9268 | Notepad2.exe | 0.00 | 32.0 MB | 9.8 MB |
| # => | | | | | | |

Solution:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe | get pid | get 0 | kill $in
```

 Shell

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| # => | | |
| # => | 0 | SUCCESS: Sent termination signal to the process with PID 9268. |
| # => | | |

Or more concisely:

Exercise

Spawn a process and kill it based on its name.

Hint:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe
```

 Shell

| | | | | | | |
|------|---|------|--------------|------|---------|---------|
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | # | pid | name | cpu | mem | virtual |
| # => | | | | | | |
| # => | 0 | 9268 | Notepad2.exe | 0.00 | 32.0 MB | 9.8 MB |
| # => | | | | | | |

Solution:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe | get pid | get 0 | kill $in
```

 Shell

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| # => | | |
| # => | 0 | SUCCESS: Sent termination signal to the process with PID 9268. |
| # => | | |

Or more concisely:

```
ps | where name == Notepad2.exe | get pid.0 | kill $in
```

 Sh

Explore

Telescoping into structured data:

```
help commands | explore
```

```
Shell
```

Key bindings:

- Go deeper: Enter
- Go back: ESC / q
- Navigate: Arrow keys or j/k

The `help` command is for built-in Nu commands. `man` is for external commands.

Data exploration

Open interactive data explorer with :try in explore mode.

Pipe current explore view into a pipeline with:

```
$in | select name description | where name == "ls"
```

 Shell

(in older versions, maybe \$nu instead of \$in)

Exercise

Find the help page for the `cp` command and explore its output.

Use `help commands | explore` to find all commands in the `filters` category that contain “by” in their name.

Hint: In `:try` mode, use `where and =~` (or `str contains`).

Solution:

Exercise


Find the help page for the `cp` command and explore its output.

Use `help commands | explore` to find all commands in the `filters` category that contain “by” in their name.

Hint: In `:try` mode, use `where` and `=~` (or `str contains`).

Solution:

```
$in | where category == filters and name =~ by
```

 Shell

Shorthand for:

Exercise


Find the help page for the `cp` command and explore its output.

Use `help commands | explore` to find all commands in the `filters` category that contain “by” in their name.

Hint: In `:try` mode, use `where` and `==` (or `str contains`).

Solution:

```
$in | where category == filters and name =~ by
```

 Shell

Shorthand for:

```
help commands |
```

```
where (
```

```
  ($it.category == "filters") and
```

```
  ($it.name | str contains "by")
```

```
)
```

 Shell

} (1) Table output

} (2) Filter

} (3) Row condition 1

} (4) Row condition 2