

Lecture 3: Bash Basics

CSE 374: Intermediate
Programming Concepts and
Tools

Administrivia

HW 1 will be posted later today

- will post instructions on setup and HW to course webpage
 - will include access to Klaatu Linux accounts
- will announce posting via Ed board (which sends emails)

Sorry about Canvas weirdness...

- Working with UW IT to fix panopto and zoom tabs
 - Lecture 2 video is now on Panopto Recordings tab of Canvas
- Going forward goal is to have lectures recorded and uploaded as well as a live sign in link, but figuring that out

Shell State

- Each new instance of the bash shell maintains a "state"
 - Current location in the file system
- PATH variable
 - Whenever a command is executed there is a list of pre-defined locations bash looks
 - PATH holds the list of pre-designed directories
 - -echo \$PATH
- Bash rc file
 - A shell script that is automatically run whenever Bash starts up
 - Used to initialize your shell state
 - You can find example files shard online
 - Exists locally on your machine, not on the remote linux server
- Bash history file
 - .bash_history is a hidden file that automatically logs your command history

https://astrobiomike.github.io/unix/modifying your path

Shell Variables

- Shell variables = string substitution
 - Declare variables in the shell to easily refer to a given string
 - All variables are strings
- Declare variables in the terminal with a name and a string value
 - -<var name>="<var string>"
 - -EX: myvar="myvalue"
 - Note: no white space allowed on either side of the "="
- Refer to your variable using the "\$" symbol before the var name
 - -\$<var name>
 - -EX: echo \$myvar
 - myvalue
- Alias
 - Rename a bash command, create your own shortcut
 - -alias <string>="substitution string"
 - EX: alias cheer="echo hip hip horray!"
 - Only exists within the currents state of your shell
 - Can store alias in bashrc file to preserve alias across all shells

Bash Script Variables

- When writing scripts you can use the following default variables
- \$# stores number of parameters entered
- Ex: if [\$# -lt 1] tests if script was passed less than 1 argument
- \$N returns Nth argument passed to script
- Ex: sort \$1 passes first string passed into script into sort command
- \$0 command name
- Ex: echo "\$0 needs 1 argument" prints "<name of script> needs 1 argument"
- **\$*** returns all arguments
- \$@ returns a space separated string containing all arguments "\$@" prevents args originally quoted from being read as multiple args

Alias

- defines a shortcut or 'alias' to a command
 - -alias <string>="substitution string"
 - EX: alias cheer="echo hip hip horray!"
 - technically just string replacement
 - Only exists within the currents state of your shell
 - Can store alias in bashrc file to preserve alias across all shells

Special Variables

```
$HOME - sets home directory

EX: $HOME=-/CSE374 would reset your home directory to always be CSE374

$PS1 - sets prompt

$PATH - tells shell where to look for things

printenv shows current state
```

Math in Bash

- Everything is interpreted as a string
 - No concept of integer values
- To do math use double parentheses to interpret as arithmetic expression

```
-RES=$((1+2))
-$RES will be set to "3"
-MYVAR=$((RES+2))
-$MYVAR will be "5"
-K=$i + $j does not add numbers
-k=$(($i+$j)) will add numbers
```

Quotes in the Shell

- Double quotes can be used to wrap a string with white space into a single argument
 - -EX: myvar="Some string"
- Single quotes tell the shell to treat the string as a literal
 - No variable expansion or command substitution
 - -EX: echo '\$myvar'
 - \$myvar
 - -echo "\$myvar"
 - Some string



Demo: Variables and Aliases