

# bash tutorial

- ✱ Carl Albing, JP Vossen
- ✱ [www.bashcookbook.com](http://www.bashcookbook.com)



# Lots to do...

- do we still need command line?
- rapid fly-by of bash
  - as command interpreter
  - as language
- a few power-user features

Bash

# Who are we here today?

- S/W Developer
- Sys Admin
- Hobbyist
- Professional
- ???

# Command Line

- Isn't that so “last century”?
- Try doing this with a GUI:
  - rename 280 files
  - move only files with “Tea”
  - copy a file every 10 minutes
  - tweak the content of 50 files
  - add a feature (e.g. sort)
- Not just for system admins
  - users, developers, too
  - general “housekeeping”
- Even available for Windows!

# bash – the big picture

- a breakthrough – separate from OS
- commands as piece-wise tasks
  - small, single or simple
- connect-able commands
  - like Legos<sup>®</sup>
  - I/O redirection

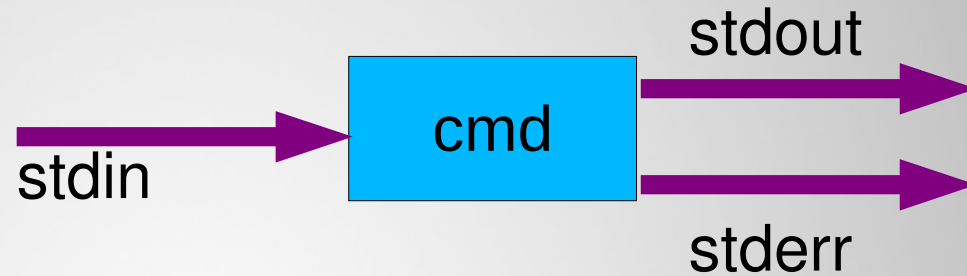
# bash - commands

- simple use:
- *prompt command arguments*
- \$ ls
- ...
- \$ echo hi
- hi
- \$

# bash - connections

- I/O redirection
  - `command > output`  
`ls > mydir.txt`
  - `command < input`  
`wc < mydata`
  - `command1 | command2`  
`ls | wc`
- avoids feature creep
- relies on streams not GUIs

# bash - connections



- stdout and stderr

```
cmd > outfile 2> errfile
```

```
cmd > logfile 2>&1
```

```
cmd 2>&1 | next command
```

```
cmd |& next command # 4.x
```

- expert challenge:  
can you connect stderr to a pipe?



# more redirections

```
$ set noclobber  
$ cmd > file  
$ cmd > file          # errors this time  
$ cmd >| file         # overwrites
```

```
$ cmd > file  
$ cmd >> file
```

# more redirections

```
$ # equivalent  
$ cmd &> file  
$ cmd >& file  
$ cmd > file 2>&1
```

# “here” redirections

```
$ cmd <<EOF
```

```
$ cmd <<'EOF'
```

```
$ cmd <<\EOF
```

```
$ cmd <<-EOF
```

```
$ cmd <<anytxt
```

```
$ cmd <<<string
```

# closing connections

- as part of redirection
- important for daemon scripts
- use &-

```
bgcmd >/dev/null 2>&1 <&- &
```

```
bgcmd &>/dev/null <&- &
```

# bash connections

- “process substitution”
- using `<( ... )` and `>( ... )`

```
$ wc <(ls | grep -e '\.c')  
      5          5      46 /dev/fd/63
```

```
$
```

# bash beyond commands

- programming language
- basic operation is invocation
- variables
  - integers
  - strings
  - arrays
- control structures
  - branching
  - looping

# bash variables

`name=value`

`$name`

`${name}`

*`name=value command`*

`HOME=/tmp scriptfile`

`echo $VAR`

`printf "count is %d\n" $CNT`

- builtin, efficient, portable

# variable manipulations

```
${name:-default}
```

```
${name:=default}
```

```
${name:+altvalue}
```

```
${name:?errmsg}
```



# bash – string manipulations

- removing leading text

```
${name#pre}
```

```
${name##pre}
```

# bash – string manipulations

- remove trailing text

```
${name%post}
```

```
${name%%post}
```

# bash – string manipulations

- substitute

```
${name/pattern/string}
```

```
${name//pattern/string}
```

# string manipulations

- substring:

```
${name:offset}
```

```
${name:offset:length}
```

```
${name: -offset:length}
```

```
${name:offset:-length}
```

- string length:

```
${#name}
```

# string manipulation: desperation

```
while read ALINE
do
    for ((i=0; i<${#ALINE}; i++))
    do
        ACHAR=${ALINE:i:1}
        ...
    done
done
```

# examples

Bash

# examples

```
for FN in *.JPG
do
    mv "$FN" "${FN/JPG/jpg}"
# or:
    mv "$FN" "${FN%JPG}.jpg"
done
```

- which is safer? do you know why?

# bash – numerical

let statement

```
$ ( ( ... ) )
```

```
let CNT++
```

```
$ ( ( CNT++ ) )
```

```
let BSUM+=(AVAL/PER)
```

```
$ ( ( BSUM += ( AVAL / PER ) ) )
```

- ***integer only! integer division!***
- no spacing with let



# “if” statement

```
if list ; then cmds ; elif blist ; else cmds ;  
fi
```

- list can be just a program or a whole pipeline
  - return 0 ==> “true”
- one such program is test
  - also known as “[ ”
  - a shell builtin

```
if [ $VAR -gt $LIMIT ] ; then ...
```

```
if [ $VAR ] ; then ...
```

# “if” – newer syntax

- bash also supports [ [ ... ] ]
  - newer syntax
  - additional comparisons
    - `a == b` , `a != b` where b can be a shell pattern
    - `a =~ b` , where b can be a regular expression

# “if” – newer syntax

- bash supports numerical expressions ( ( . . . ) )
  - newer syntax
  - no need to use \$ in \$vars (except for \$1... )
  - more “natural” numerical comparisons, expr.

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## using no “if”

```
cd /tmp/myplace && echo got it  
[ $VAR ] && rm $VAR  
test $VAR && cat $VAR  
$0 stop && $0 start
```

```
test -x $SNMPD || exit 5
```

# compound commands

```
(list)
{ list ; }
((expression))
[[ expression ]]
```

- all will work with “if” statement
- spaces, semi required for {...}
- ((...)) is arithmetic, (...) is subshell
- list is commands
- expression is not

# for loop

```
for name [in word] ; do list ; done
```

- examples:

```
for fn ; do echo $fn; done >  
file.out
```

```
for fn in *.c; do cc -c $fn; done
```

```
for (( expr1 ; expr2 ; expr3 )) ; do  
    list; done
```

- example:

```
for ((i=0; i<10; i++)); do echo $i;  
done
```

# other control structures

`while list; do list; done`

`until list; do list; done`

`case word in; pattern) list ;; esac`

`select var in word ; do list ; done`

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# example

```
#!/bin/bash
# cookbook filename: dbinitier
# initialize databases from a standard file
# creating databases as needed.
DBLIST=$(mysql -e "SHOW DATABASES;" | tail +2)
select DB in $DBLIST "new..."
do
    if [[ $DB == "new..." ]]
    then
        printf "%b" "name for new db: "
        read DB rest
        echo creating new database $DB
        mysql -e "CREATE DATABASE IF NOT EXISTS $DB;"
    fi

    if [ "$DB" ]
    then
        echo Initializing database: $DB
        mysql $DB < ourInit.sql
    fi
done
```



# bash – arrays

- one dimensional
- zero-based
- example uses:

```
declare -a name
```

```
name[5]="blah"
```

```
name=(orange green yellow)
```

```
echo ${name[5]}
```

```
${#name[*]}
```

```
${#name[5]}
```

# Associative Arrays

- As of bash 4.x
- String as index to an array
- Let computer do the hashing/lookup
- Available in other languages
  - python, perl, awk, others
- Extends bash array syntax

# (Assoc.) Arrays - syntax

```
declare -a  
$VAR[ 2 ]  
$VAR[ $NUM ]
```

```
declare -A  
$VAR[ "indx" ]  
$VAR[ $NDX ]
```

```
# using assoc. arrays  
declare -A COUNTER  
while read app lang size  
do  
    let COUNTER[$lang]++  
done
```

# (Assoc.) Arrays - syntax

`${#COUNTER[*]}`

size of the array

`${!COUNTER[@]}`

list of elements of the array

```
# using assoc. arrays
for INDX in "${!COUNTER[@]}"
do
    printf "%s %d\n" $INDX ${COUNTER[$INDX]}
done
```

# (Assoc.) Arrays - example

```
$ cat aa.data
mypile python 100
hardwork C 10284
fstdev java 4118
lakfjd C 413
aljll java 870
zxcv perl 13432
ajkl0q C 13478
x.mx C 908
$
$ ./aaex.sh <aa.data
4 apps use C
2 apps use java
1 apps use python
1 apps use perl
$
```

# (Assoc.) Arrays - example

```
# use associative arrays to count occurrences
#
declare -A COUNTER
# first time, the array entry is an empty string
while read app lang size
do
    let COUNTER[$lang]++
done
#
# no order guaranteed for ${!...[*]}
# so we pipe into sort
for INDX in "${!COUNTER[@]}"
do
    # NB the $ in "$INDX" is crucial to make a
    # valid index value in the array reference
    printf "%d apps use %s\n" \
        ${COUNTER[$INDX]} $INDX
done | sort -rn
```

# function definition

```
function plural (  
{  
    if [ $2 -eq 1 -o $2 -eq -1 ]  
    then  
        echo ${1}  
    else  
        echo ${1}s  
    fi  
}
```

- not just { } but any compound statement
- add redirection, e.g. usage function

# calling the function

- like any shell command
  - no parentheses on arguments

```
while read num name
do
    printf "%s " $num
    plural "$name" $num
done
```



# command substitution

- run a command
- capture the output
- newlines in output become spaces

`$( cmd )`

- as in:

```
VAR=$(ls)
```

```
for FN in $(ls) ; do ...; done
```

# Do you know...

- The command substitution

`$(cat file)`

✱ can be replaced by the equivalent but faster

`$(< file)`

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# Do you know...

- how to:
    - redirect in/out of entire loops, functions
    - parse/set new args
- ```
function usage (  
{  
...  
} >&2
```

```
set -- $foo $bar
```

# Connect stderr to |

- swapping stderr and stdout

```
myscript 3>&1 1>&2 2>&3
```

- to pipe stderr to next command

- remember special order on a pipe

```
script 3>&1 1>log.out 2>&3- | acmd
```

# Net redirection

- bash recognizes special files
  - not part of file system
  - host is hostname or ip address
  - port is port number or service name
  - bash opens a connection to the socket
  - now compiled by default on ubuntu
  - or use `--enable-net-redirections` on compile

*/dev/tcp/host/port*

*/dev/udp/host/port*

# bash - summary

- command line has many uses
- bash – for commands and scripts
- bash – a full-blown language
- many new, enhanced features
  - productivity, precision, flexibility
- a tool worth knowing well

# bash info

- [www.bashcookbook.com](http://www.bashcookbook.com)
  - many bash documents all in 1 place
- [www.gnu.org/software/bash](http://www.gnu.org/software/bash)
  - [www.cygwin.com](http://www.cygwin.com)

