Linux Shell Scripts

What is Shell Script ?

- We have seen some basic shell commands, it's time to move on to scripts.
- There are two ways of writing shell programs.
 - You can type a sequence of commands and allow the shell to execute them interactively.
 - You can store those commands in a file that you can then invoke as a program. This is known as Shell Script.
- We will use bash shell assuming that the shell has been installed as */bin/sh* and that it is the default shell for your login.

Why Shell Script ?

- Shell script can take input from user, file and output them on screen.
- Useful to create own commands.
- Save lots of time.
- To automate some task of day today life.
- System administration part can be also automated.

How to write and execute ?

- Use any editor to write shell script.
- The extension is .sh.
- After writing shell script set execute permission for your script.
 - chmod +x script_name
- Execute your script
 - ./script_name

Shell script format

Every script starts with the line

#!/bin/bash

- This indicates that the script should be run in the bash shell regardless of which interactive shell the user has chosen.
- This is very important, since the syntax of different shells can vary greatly.
- # is used as the comment character.
- A word beginning with # causes that word and all remaining characters on that line to be ignored.

A sample shell script

#!/bin/bash echo "Hello User" echo "See the files in current directory" ls

Variables

- In Linux (Shell), there are two types of variable:
 - System variables created and maintained by Linux itself.
 - echo \$USER
 - echo \$PATH
 - User defined variables created and maintained by user.
- All variables are considered and stored as strings, even when they are assigned numeric values.
- Variables are case sensitive.

Variables

- When assigning a value to a variable, just use the name.
- No spaces on either side of the equals sign.

var_name=value

 Within the shell we can access the contents of a variable by preceding its name with a *s*.

```
myname=A [ use quotes if the value contains spaces ]
myos=Linux
text = 1+2
echo Your name:$myname [ A ]
echo Your os:$myos [ Linux ]
echo $text [ 1+2 ]
```

Variables

- If you enclose a \$variable expression in double quotes, it's replaced with its value when the line is executed.
- If you enclose it in single quotes, no substitution takes place. You can also remove the special meaning of the \$ symbol by prefacing it with a \.

myvar="Hello"
echo \$myvar[Hello]
echo ``\$myvar" [Hello]
echo `\$myvar' [\$myvar]
echo \\$myvar [\$myvar]



To read user input from keyboard and store it into a variable use *read var1,var2,....varn*

#!/bin/bash
echo -n "Enter your name:"
read name
echo -n "Enter your student no:"
read stdno
echo "Your Name:\$name"
echo "Your Age:\$stdno"

Shell Arithmetic

- The *expr* command evaluates its arguments as an expression.
- It is commonly used for simple arithmetic operations.

```
#!/bin/bash
expr 1 + 1
expr 1 - 1
expr 1 \* 1
expr 1 / 1
va r=`expr 1 + 1`
x=1
x=`expr $x + 1`
```

Shell Arithmetic

Expression Evaluation	Description
expr1 expr2	exprl if exprl is nonzero, otherwise expr2
expr1 & expr2	Zero if either expression is zero, otherwise expr1
expr1 = expr2	Equal
expr1 > expr2	Greater than
expr1 >= expr2	Greater than or equal to
expr1 < expr2	Less than
expr1 <= expr2	Less than or equal to
exprl != expr2	Not equal
expr1 + expr2	Addition
exprl - expr2	Subtraction
expr1 * expr2	Multiplication
expr1 / expr2	Integer division
expr1 % expr2	Integer modulo



if [conditiong1]; then statement1 elif [condition2]; then statement2 else statement3

- fi
- It is must to put spaces between the [braces and the condition being checked.
- If you prefer putting then on the same line as *if*, you must add a semicolon to separate the test from the *then*.

If-Else

String Comparison	Result
string1 = string2	True if the strings are equal.
string1 != string2	True if the strings are not equal.
-n string	True if the string is not null.
-z string	True if the string is null (an empty string).

Arithmetic Comparison	Result
expression1 -eq expression2	True if the expressions are equal.
expression1 -ne expression2	True if the expressions are not equal.
expression1 -gt expression2	True if expression1 is greater than expression2.
expressionl -ge expression2	True if expression1 is greater than or equal to expression2.
expression1 -lt expression2	True if expression1 is less than expression2.
expression1 -le expression2	True if expression1 is less than or equal to expression2.
! expression	True if the expression is false, and vice versa.

If-Else

File Conditional	Result
-d file	True if the file is a directory.
-e file	True if the file exists. Note that, historically, the -e option has not been portable, so -f is usually used.
-f file	True if the file is a regular file.
-g file	True if set-group-id is set on file.
-r file	True if the file is readable.
-s file	True if the file has nonzero size.
-u file	True if set-user-id is set on file.
-w file	True if the file is writable.
-x file	True if the file is executable.

If-Else

#!/bin/bash echo "Enter first number " read num1 echo "Enter second number" read num2 if [\$num1 -qt \$num2] ; then echo "\$num1 is greater than \$num2" elif [\$num1 -lt \$num2]; then echo "\$num1 is less than \$num2" else echo "\$num1 and \$num2 are equal"

fi



case \$var in
 condition1) statement ;;
 condition2) statement ;;
 *) statement3
esac

- Notice that each pattern line is terminated with double semicolons ;;.
- You can put multiple statements between each pattern and the next, so a double semicolon is needed to mark where one statement ends and the next pattern begins.

Case

#!/bin/sh
echo "Is it morning? Please answer yes or no"
read timeofday
case "\$timeofday" in
 yes) echo "Good Morning";;
 no) echo "Good Afternoon";;
 y) echo "Good Afternoon";;

*) echo "Sorry, answer not recognized";;

esac

Case

#!/bin/sh echo "Is it morning? Please answer yes or no" read timeofday case "\$timeofday" in yes | y | Yes | YES) echo "Good Morning";; n* | N*) echo "Good Afternoon";; *) echo "Sorry, answer not recognized";;

esac

Command Line arguments

- Command line arguments can be passed to the shell scripts. There exists a number of built in variables
 - **\$*** command line arguments
 - \$# number of arguments
 - **\$***n* nth argument in \$*
- ./script_name arg1 arg2 argn



for variable in list do statement done

for ((expr1; expr2; expr3)) do statement done

For

[1] #!/bin/bash echo "the number of args is \$#" **a=1** for i in \$* do echo "The \$a No arg is \$i" a=`expr \$a + 1` done

[2] #!/bin/bash for i in `ls` do echo \$i done [3] for((i=0;i<=50;i++)) do echo \$i done

While

while condition do statements done #!/bin/bash password="abc" echo "Enter password" read pass while [\$pass != \$password] do echo "Wrong Password, Try again" read pass done echo "Write Password"

Until

until condition do statements done #!/bin/bash password="abc" echo "Enter password" read pass until [\$pass = \$password] do echo "Wrong Password, Try again" read pass done echo "Write Password"

- Functions can be defined in the shell and it is very useful to structure the code.
- To define a shell function simply write its name followed by empty parentheses and enclose the statements in braces.

function_name () { statements

3

}

Function must be defined before one can invoke it.

#!/bin/sh
foo() {
 echo "Function foo is executing"
}
echo "script starting"
foo
echo "script ending"

<u>output</u> script starting Function foo is executing script ending

When a function is invoked, the parameters to the script [\$*, \$#, \$1, \$2] and so on are replaced by the parameters to the function.
When the function finishes, they are restored to their previous values.

```
#!/bin/bash
showarg()
  a=1
  for i in $*
  do
  echo "The $a No arg is $i"
  a=`expr $a + 1`
  done
echo "Listing start"
showarg $*
echo "Total:$#"
echo "Listing End"
```

- Functions can return numeric values using the return command.
- Functions can also return strings by the following ways.
 [1]
 f(){ var="123"; }

```
f
echo $var
```

```
[2]
f(){ echo "123";}
result="$(f)"
```

```
#!/bin/sh
yes_or_no()
ł
 echo "Is your name $* ?"
  echo "Enter yes or no:"
  read x
  case "$x" in
    y yes) return o;;
    n | no ) return 1;;
  esac
2
```

```
if yes_or_no "$1"
then
echo "Hi $1, nice name"
else
echo "Never mind"
fi
```

- Be careful :
 - Function calling can be recursive.
 f() f
 - statements
 - f }
 - The parameter must be passed every time a function is invoked either from main or from any other functions.

Thanks