Basics of Shell Scripting

Talk to a Teacher Project
http://spoken-tutorial.org
National Mission on Education through ICT

http://www.sakshat.ac.in

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20 May 2013

Learning Objectives

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- **System variables**

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- **Accepting user input via keyboard**

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- **If not, for relevant tutorials please visit http://spoken-tutorial.org**

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- **GNU Bash version 4 or above is recommended for practice**

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  - **User defined variables**

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System Variables

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- **Commonly used system variables are**
  - **BASH_VERSION**
  - **HOSTNAME**
  - **HOME etc**

User Defined Variables

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- **Avoid uppercase for names of user defined variables**

User Defined Variables

- Created and maintained by users
- Avoid uppercase for names of user defined variables
- Easy to differentiate between user defined and system variables

Unset

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- **The value of a variable can be unset by using the** `unset` **command**

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- The value of a variable can be unset by using the `unset` command
- The syntax for this is
  `unset variablename`

Global and Local Variables

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In Shell script,

- **User defined variables can be declared globally or locally**

- **By default, all variables are global**

- **So, their values remain the same inside and outside the function**

Getting user input via keyboard

The `read` command

- **is used to accept input from the keyboard**

Getting user input via keyboard

The `read` **command**

- **is used to accept input from the keyboard**
- **can also be used to assign an input value to a user defined variable**

Syntax of read command

- `read -p "PROMPT"`

Syntax of read command

- ` read -p "PROMPT" `

Syntax of read command

- `read -p "PROMPT"`
  `man read`

Summary

- **System variables**
- **User defined variables**
- **Accepting user input via keyboard**

Assignment I

1. **Write a simple Bash program to get the following system variables**
   - **pwd**
   - **logname**

2. **Write a simple Bash program**
   - ► **To ask username from user**
   - ► **To exit the program, if user does not enter anything within 10 seconds**
     Hint: `read -t 10 -p`

About the Spoken Tutorial Project

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- **Gives certificates to those who pass an online test**

- **For more details, please write to contact@spoken-tutorial.org**

Acknowledgements

- **Spoken Tutorial Project is a part of the Talk to a Teacher project**
- **It is supported by the National Mission on Education through ICT, MHRD, Government of India**
- **More information on this Mission is available at http://spoken-tutorial.org /NMEICT-Intro**