



## Lab1 Simple Shell Commands

### Objectives

- To get familiar with Linux and its programming environment.
- To understand the relationship between OS command interpreters (shells), system calls, and the kernel.
- To learn how to write .sh file
- To learn what is processes and how to fork and what does fork mean

### Overview

A Unix shell is a command-line interpreter or shell that provides a traditional user interface for the Unix operating system and for Unix-like systems. The shell can runs in an **interactive** mode. In interactive mode, you will display a prompt (e.g. **Shell>**) and the user of the shell will type in a command at the prompt (e.g. **Shell> ls -l**) Your shell terminates when the user enters the exit command at the prompt.

### List of shell commands:

- **cd** -- change directory
- **pwd** -- print working directory
- **ls** -- list all files and sub-directories in a directory
- **stat** -- display information about a file
- **rm** -- remove (i.e. delete) a file
- **cp** -- copy a file
- **cat, more, less** -- list the contents of a file
- **chmod** -- change file mode, i.e. file permissions
- **ln** -- create a link
- **wc** -- count words
- **mkdir** -- create a new directory
- **head** -- output only the first lines of a file
- **tail** -- output only the last lines of a file
- **grep** -- find a word in one or more files
- **ps** -- process status (lists running processes, often run as **ps aux** for the most

information)

- **cut** -- extract a column from a file
- **sort** -- sort a file alphabetically
- **uniq** -- remove adjacent duplicate lines
- **| pipe** -- the `pipe` command lets you send the output of one command to another format is `Command-1 | Command-2 | ... | Command-N`
- **>>** or **>** or **<<** or **<** -- To redirect a standard output of any command to another process, use the `>` symbol. To redirect a standard input of any command, use the `<` symbol.
- **ls | wc -l >> text.txt** what do you think this command do ?

## Write and run your first .sh file

```
#!/bin/sh
#
# This shell script prints hello to all the friends you
# pass as parameter
#
if [ $# -le 1 ]
then
    echo
    echo "$0 needs at least one argument"
    echo "  Eg."
    echo "    $0 Mickey Donald Daisy"
fi

for friend in $*
do
    echo "Hello $friend"
done
```

run the file using your friends names

## Count files in directory Example

```
#!/bin/bash
#
# Counts how many files are in the directories passed
# as parameter. If not directories are passed it uses
# the current directory.

# If no arguments use only current directory
if [ $# -lt 1 ]
then
  dirs=.
else
  dirs=$*
fi

#Initialize file counter to 0
count=0

# for all the directories passed as argument
for dir in $dirs
do
  echo $dir:
  for file in $dir/*
  do
    echo "$count: $file"
    count=`expr $count + 1`
  done
done

echo "$count files found"
```

Try to run the code by passing no argument then passing some folder names

### **Policies**

- Marks is on attending the lab and running the code over there.