

Introduction to Shell Scripting

The end!

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Students will be able to

- Find/xargs
- Test, [, [[
- String slicing
- Use shellcheck
- Bash strict mode
- Avoid eval and expr
- Use tar, zip, gzip
- Understand package management

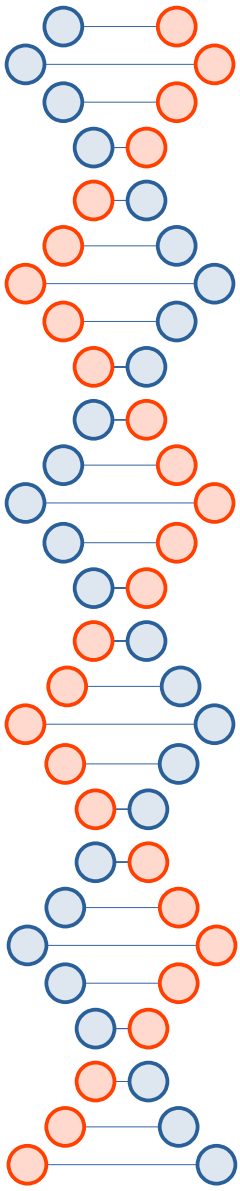


Swoobat



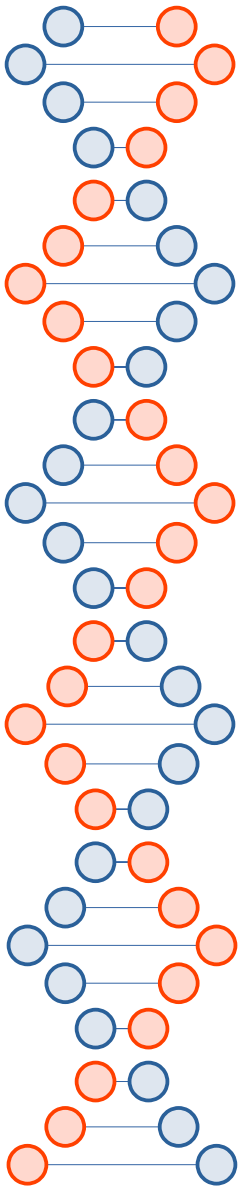
Change your shell to Bash!

- You might be running tcsh...
- **echo \$SHELL**
- **chsh**
 - Change to */bin/bash*



Important dates

- Final project due 5/16
- Include:
 - Documentation
 - Program log
 - `your-program | tee > program.log`
- Tip: you can automate your program's input for testing
 - `Your-program < your-input.txt | tee > program.log`



Find/xargs

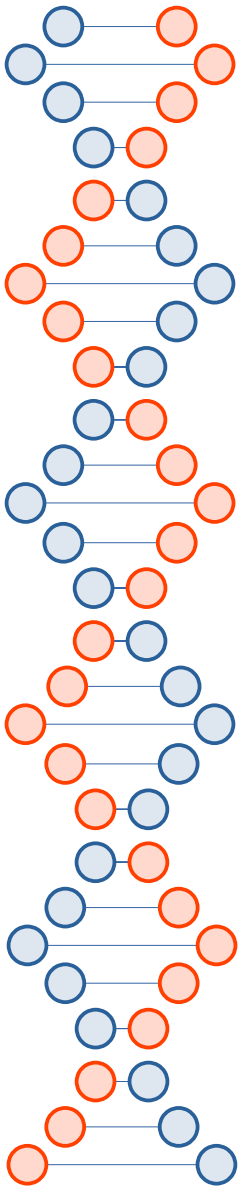
- Find files
- Run commands with multiple arguments
- These are really hard honestly so looking up examples is the most helpful
- Notes:
 - `find -print0 | xargs -0` for files that have spaces

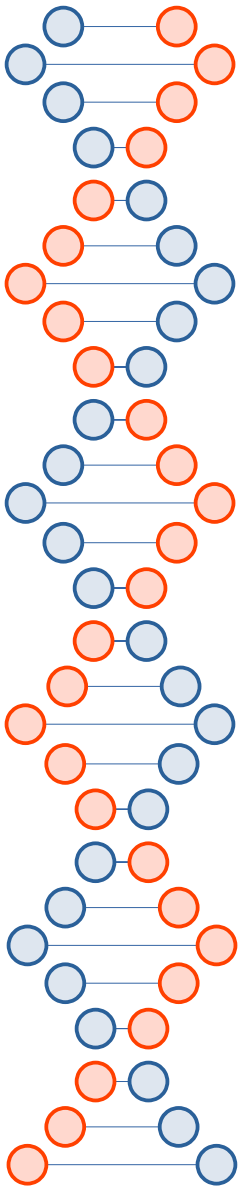
Inside a test statement

- `-eq` is for numeric equality
- `=` and `==` are for string equality
- Single quotes `[]` will exit 1 if a string is given for `-eq`
- Double quotes `[[]]` will compare ascii if a string is given for `-eq`

String slicing

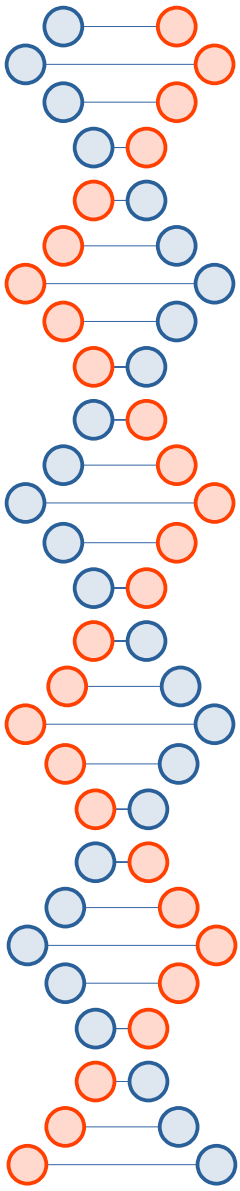
- **string=abcdefghj**
- **start=3**
- **length=5**
- **echo "\${string:start:length}"**





Shellcheck

- <https://www.shellcheck.net/>
- A shell script static analysis tool
 - Checks for program syntax and correctness
- Many suggestions, while technically correct, are also verbose
- For our class we will not worry about its suggestions

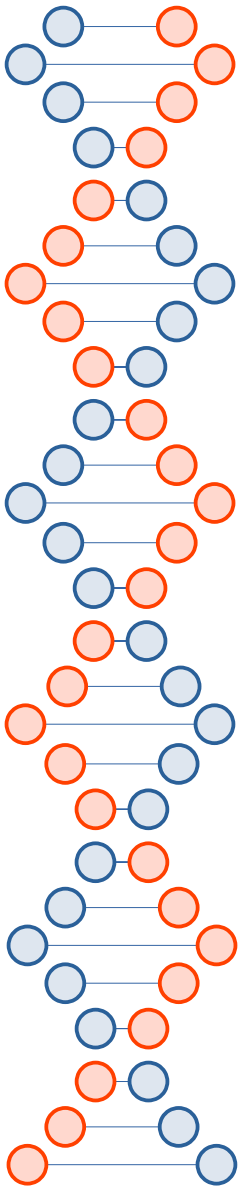


Bash strict mode

- <https://olivergondza.github.io/2019/10/01/bash-strict-mode.html>
- **#!/usr/bin/env bash**
- **set -euo pipefail**
- -e causes the script to exit when *any* command fails
- -u causes expansions of unassigned variables to fail
- -o pipefail causes a pipeline to fail when any command inside it fails
- This is totally optional but may help with your scripting

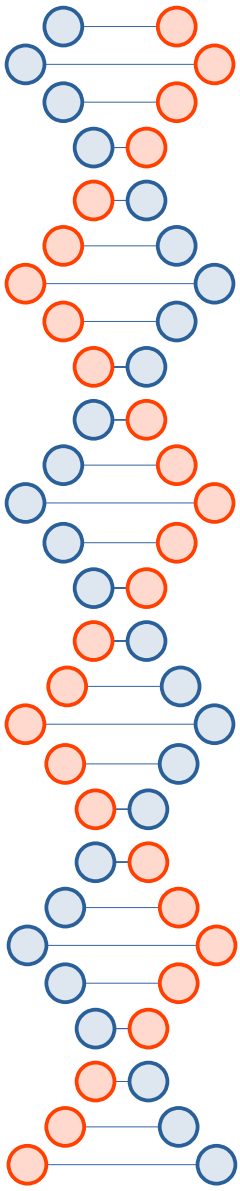
Background processes

- **do_something &**
 - Causes do_something to run in the background
- **disown**
 - Disowns do_something, it now runs freely.
- Fork bomb **(DO NOT RUN THIS!)**
- `:(){ :|:& }::`
- Make a function that pipes into itself in the background repeatedly and call it. **THIS WILL CRASH YOUR SYSTEM**
- <https://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/understanding-bash-fork-bomb/>



Tar

- Tar = tape archiver
 - That's why we use -f
- **tar -xvf archive.tar.gz**
 - Extract File Verbosely
- **tar -czfv archive.tar.gz file1 file2**
 - Create (g)Zip file verbosely



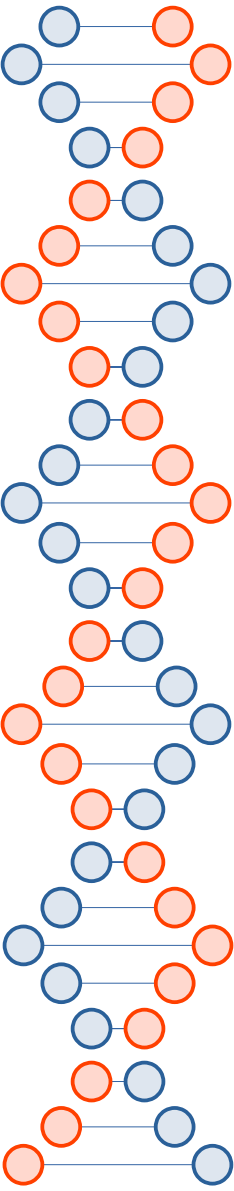
Gzip

- **gzip file.gzip file**
 - Creates file.gzip and deletes file
 - Use -k to keep the file
- **gunzip file.gzip**
 - Extract file from file.gzip and deletes file.gzip
- **zless file.tar.gzip**
 - Read a compressed archive

Zip vs Gzip

- tar.gz = compressed archive of files
 - More compression, no random access of files
- zip = archive of compressed files
 - Less compression, random access of files
- Same compression algorithm
 - bz2 has more compression but is slower
 - xz has even more compression and is even slower
- Network/compression tradeoff
 - What's faster, compression/decompression or network speed?
- Don't compress compressed files!
- Zip bombs = files that explode when uncompressed

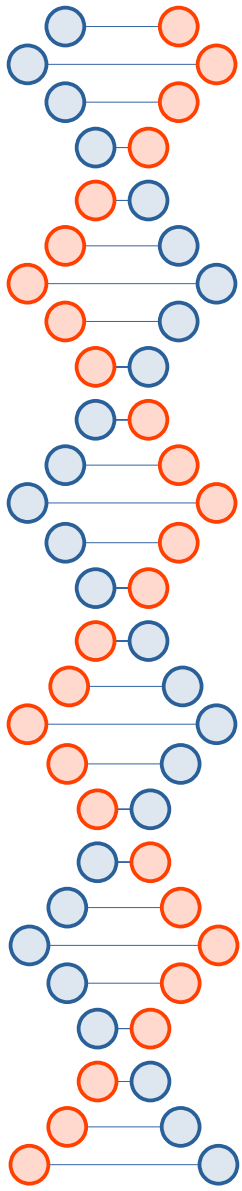
Forbidden keywords

- 
- Avoid these when possible
 - **eval**
 - Expands quotes twice, among other unpredictable behaviors
 - **expr**
 - Redundant
 - **curl | bash**
 - At least read the script first!
 - **ls | anything, really**
 - The output of ls is not safe for scripting



Package Management

- Example: [Conda](#)
- Repository = place to share (distribute) software
- Conda is run through the terminal, so Bash knowledge is helpful
- Uses hardlinks internally to save space
- Handles dependency resolution
 - Program A depends on Program B, so installing A will also install B



The End!

Today's Terminal Toy:
[notcurses-demo](#)