



# Introduction to Shell Scripting

## Error Redirection, Scripts, Regex

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# Students will be able to

- Redirect standard error
- Write a basic script
- Understand regex expressions



Swoobat

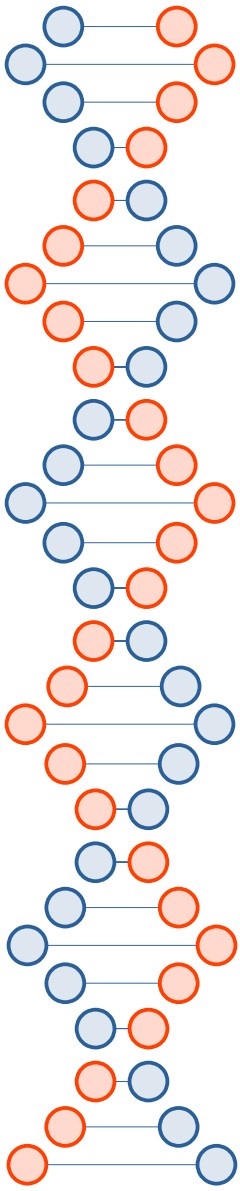


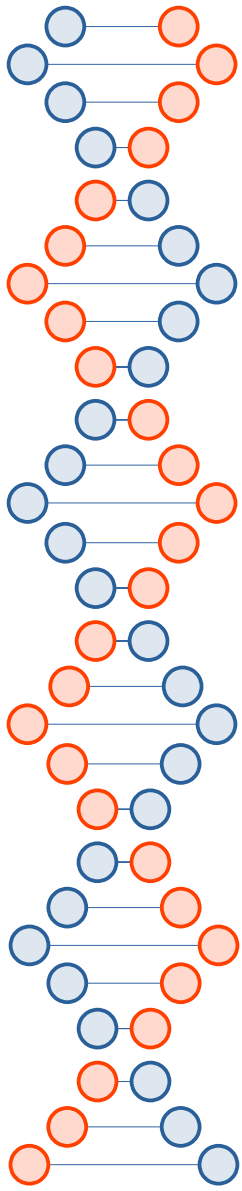
# Redirecting standard error

- Recall that standard error is file descriptor 2
- To redirect standard error, redirect file descriptor 2
- **`some_command 2> /dev/null`**
  - Hides standard error
- **`some_command > /dev/null 2>&1`**
  - Hide standard error and standard output
- **`some_command &> /dev/null`**
  - Same as above (Bashism!)

# Introduction to the Script

- Text files that can be run (interpreted) by the operating system
- The first line is the shebang, which is the command to run the script with
- Each line after the shebang is run as if it was typed interactively (for the most part)





# Example shebangs

- `#!/bin/bash`
- **`#!/usr/bin/env bash`**
  - **Posix compliant**
- `#!/usr/bin/sed`
- `#!/usr/bin/awk`

# Your first Bash script



```
#!/usr/bin/env bash
```

```
pwd
```

```
ls
```

```
cd ~
```

```
pwd
```

```
ls
```

```
cd /
```

```
pwd
```

```
ls
```

Slides slightly modified

# CMSC 330: Organization of Programming Languages

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## Regular Expressions

# What if we want to find more complicated patterns?

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- E.g.,
  - Either Steve, Stephen, Steven, Stefan, or Esteve
  - All words that have even number vowels

We need **Regular Expressions**



# Regular Expressions

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- A regular expression is a pattern that describes a set of strings. It is useful for
  - Searching and matching
  - Formally describing strings
    - The symbols (lexemes or tokens) that make up a language
- Common to lots of languages and tools
  - Syntax for them in **sed**, **grep**, **awk**, Perl, Python, Ruby, ...
    - Popularized (and made fast) as a language feature in Perl
- Based on some elegant theory

# Example Regular Expressions

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- Ruby
  - Strings are matched exactly; here, the string "Ruby"
- Ruby|OCaml
  - $e1|e2$  means to match either  $e1$  or  $e2$
  - Here, matches either "Ruby" or "OCaml"
- $(ab)^*$ 
  - 0 or more occurrences of "ab": matches "", "ab", "abab", "ababab", ...

# Repetition in Regular Expressions

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The following are suffixes on a regular expression  $e$

$e^*$       *zero or more occurrences of  $e$*

$e^+$       *one or more occurrences of  $e$*

so  $e^+$  is the same as  $ee^*$

$a^*$       “”, “a”, “aa”, “aaa”, ...

$a^+$       “a”, “aa”, “aaa”, ...

$bc^*$       “b”, “bc”, “bcc”, ...

$a+b^*$       “a”, “ab”, “aa”, “aab”, “aabb”, “aabbb”, “aaa”, ...

# Repetition in Regular Expressions

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The following are suffixes on a regular expression  $e$

$e^*$       *zero or more* occurrences of  $e$

$e^+$       *one or more* occurrences of  $e$

so  $e^+$  is the same as  $ee^*$

$e?$       *exactly zero or one*  $e$

$e\{x\}$       *exactly  $x$*  occurrences of  $e$

$e\{x,\}$       *at least  $x$*  occurrences of  $e$

$e\{x,y\}$       *at least  $x$  and at most  $y$*  occurrences of  $e$

# Watch Out for Precedence

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- `(Ruby)*` means `{ "", "Ruby", "RubyRuby", ... }`
- `Ruby*` means `{ "Rub", "Ruby", "Rubyy", ... }`
- Best to use parentheses to disambiguate
  - Note that parentheses have another use, to extract matches, as we'll see later

# Character Classes

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- [abcd]
  - {"a", "b", "c", "d"} (Can you write this another way?)
- [a-zA-Z0-9]
  - Any upper- or lower-case letter or digit (range of ASCII characters)
- [^0-9]
  - Any character except 0-9 (the ^ means *not*, and must come first)
- [\t\n ]
  - Tab, newline or space
- [a-zA-Z\_\\\$][a-zA-Z\_\\\$0-9]\*
  - Java identifiers (\$ escaped...see next slide)

# Special Characters

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.	any character		
^	beginning of line		
\$	end of line		
\\$	just a \$		
\d	digit, [0-9]		
\s	whitespace, [\t\r\n\f ]		
\w	word character, [A-Za-z0-9_]		
\D	non-digit, [^0-9]		
\S	non-space, [^\t\r\n\f ]		
\W	non-word, [^A-Za-z0-9_]		
\\	literal backslash	\(	literal open parenthesis

Using `^pattern$`  
ensures entire  
string/line must  
match pattern

# Potential Syntax Confusions

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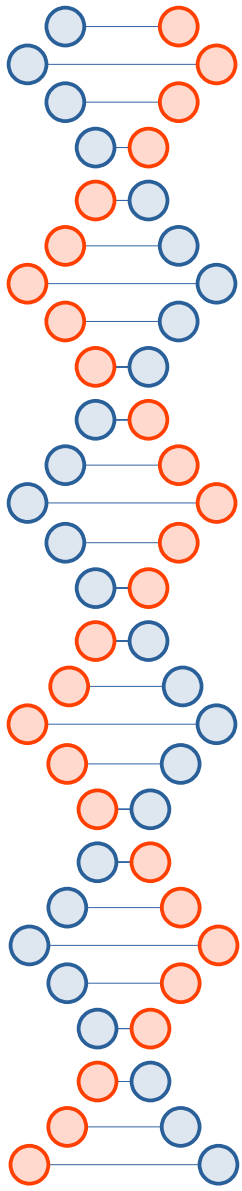
- [ ]
  - Inside regular expressions: character class
  - Outside regular expressions: test expression (in Bash)
- ^
  - Inside regex character class: *not*
  - Outside regex character class: beginning of line
- ()
  - Inside character classes: literal characters ( )
  - Outside character classes in regex: used for grouping
- -
  - Inside regex character classes: range (e.g., a to z given by [a-z])
  - Outside regex character classes: literal -



# Summary

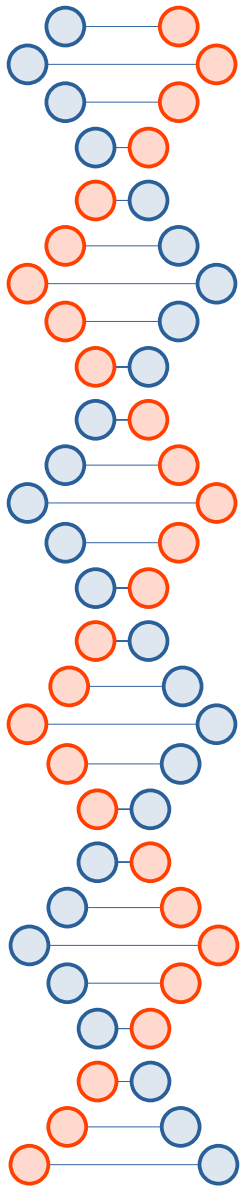
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- Let *re* represents an arbitrary pattern; then:
  - *re* – matches regexp *re*
  - $(re_1|re_2)$  – match either *re*<sub>1</sub> or *re*<sub>2</sub>
  - $(re)^*$  – match 0 or more occurrences of *re*
  - $(re)^+$  – match 1 or more occurrences of *re*
  - $(re)?$  – match 0 or 1 occurrences of *re*
  - $(re)\{2\}$  – match exactly two occurrences of *re*
  - $[a-z]$  – same as  $(a|b|c|\dots|z)$
  - $[\^0-9]$  – match any character that is not 0, 1, etc.
  - $^, \$$  – match start or end of string



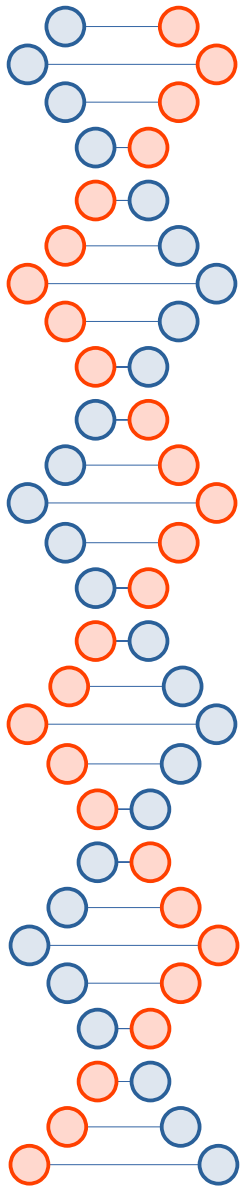
# Example regexs

- ACTG
- [ACTG]
- A\*C\*T\*G\*
- [ACUG]+
- (G|C)+



# Play with Regex

- Ascii table ([link](#))
- [regexer.com](#)



The End

Today's Terminal Toy:  
[asciiquarium](#)