Processes

Shell commands for Pipes and redirections

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Pipes

- Inter-process communication can be performed also by processes executed by shell commands
- A shell pipe connects the standard output of a sender process, and the standard input of a receiving process



Pipe

command₁ | command₂

Examples

- ▶ Is -la | more
- ps | grep main
- cat file1.txt file2.txt file3.txt | sort
- ➢ Is -laR *.c | wc

I/O redirection

- The term redirection indicates the deviation of the standard channels, i.e.
 - Standard input (stdin, 0)
 - Standard output (stdout, 1)
 - Standard error (stderr, 2)
- In practice, a process (a command) reads/writes data from a source/destination different with respect to the predefined standard ones

I/O redirection

- A special file
 - /dev/null
- Writing on /dev/null does not produce any output (/dev/null is a sink)
- Reading from /dev/null returns a sequence of zeros

Standard input

```
command < file
```

Standard input redirection (reads from a file)

```
command << marker
... text ...
marker
```

- Standard input redirection (reads from terminal)
 - "here document"
 - marker is a generic string
 - Often EOF

Standard output

```
command > file
command 1> file
```

- Standard output redirection on a file
 - > If the file exist it is overwritten
 - > Descriptor 1 (stdout) is the default
 - Thus it is normally omitted

```
command >> file
```

Standard output redirection on a file (append)

Standard error

```
command 2> file
```

command 2>> file

- Standard error redirection on a file
- Standard error redirection on a file (append)

Both streams

```
command &> file & is not the last character of the line!!
```

- Standard output and error redirection on a file
- Standard output and error redirection on a file (append)

Multiple redirection

```
Bash Shell
command 1> fileOut 2> fileErr

Tcsh Shell
command > fileOut >& fileErr
```

- Redirection on different files of
 - Standard output
 - Standard error