

# Seat belts and Airbags for bash

Michael Potter

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[speakerrate.com/pottmi](https://speakerrate.com/pottmi)

[replatformtech.com/downloads](https://replatformtech.com/downloads)

# Why bash?

- Simple to get started.
- Actively developed and ported.
- Includes advanced features.
- Allows piping commands together.

We have a  
Focused Goal  
Today

The Demos follow a pattern

# The demo script

```
#!/opt/local/bin/bash
```

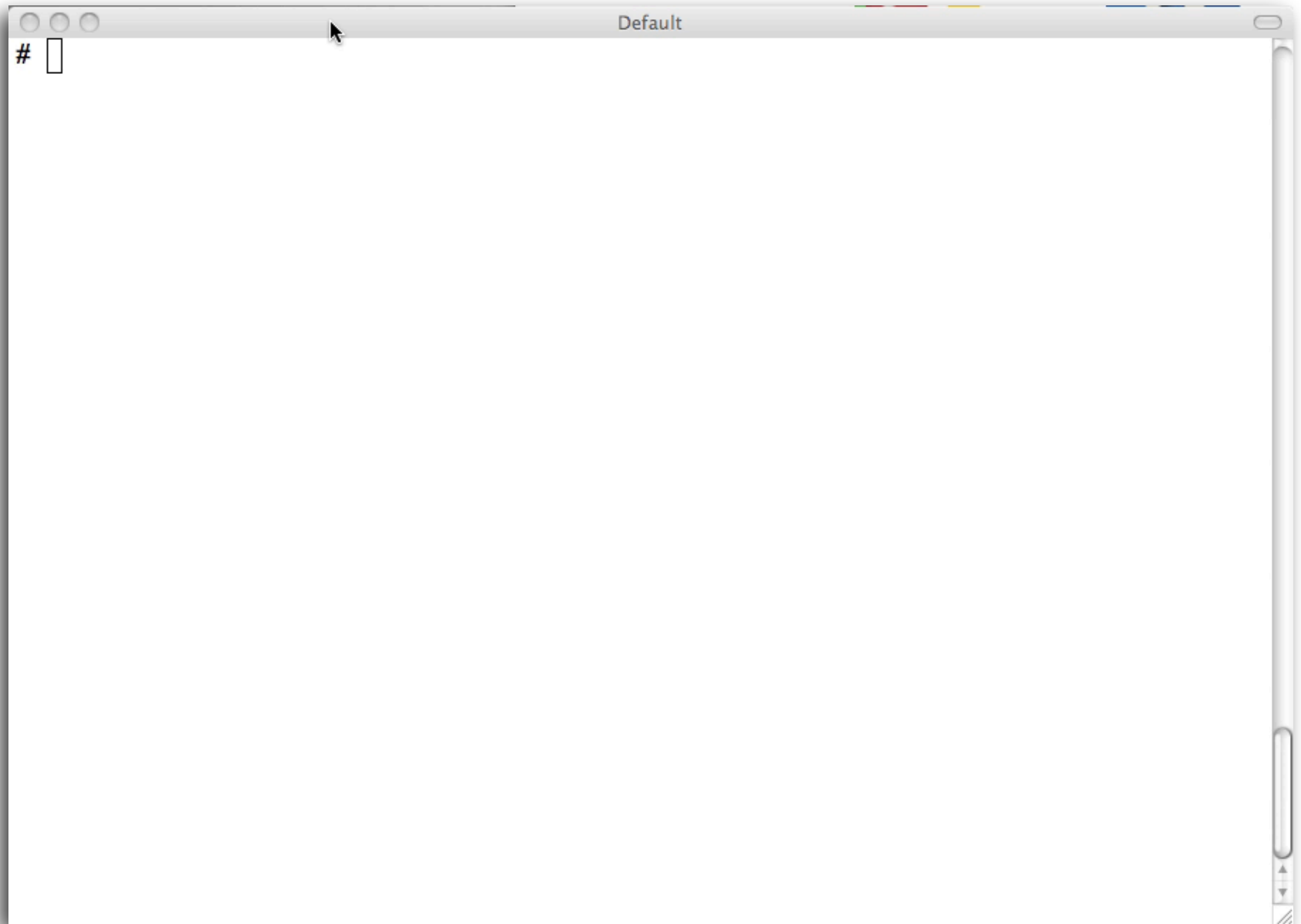
```
set -o option
```

```
echo "My process list:" >outputfile.txt
```

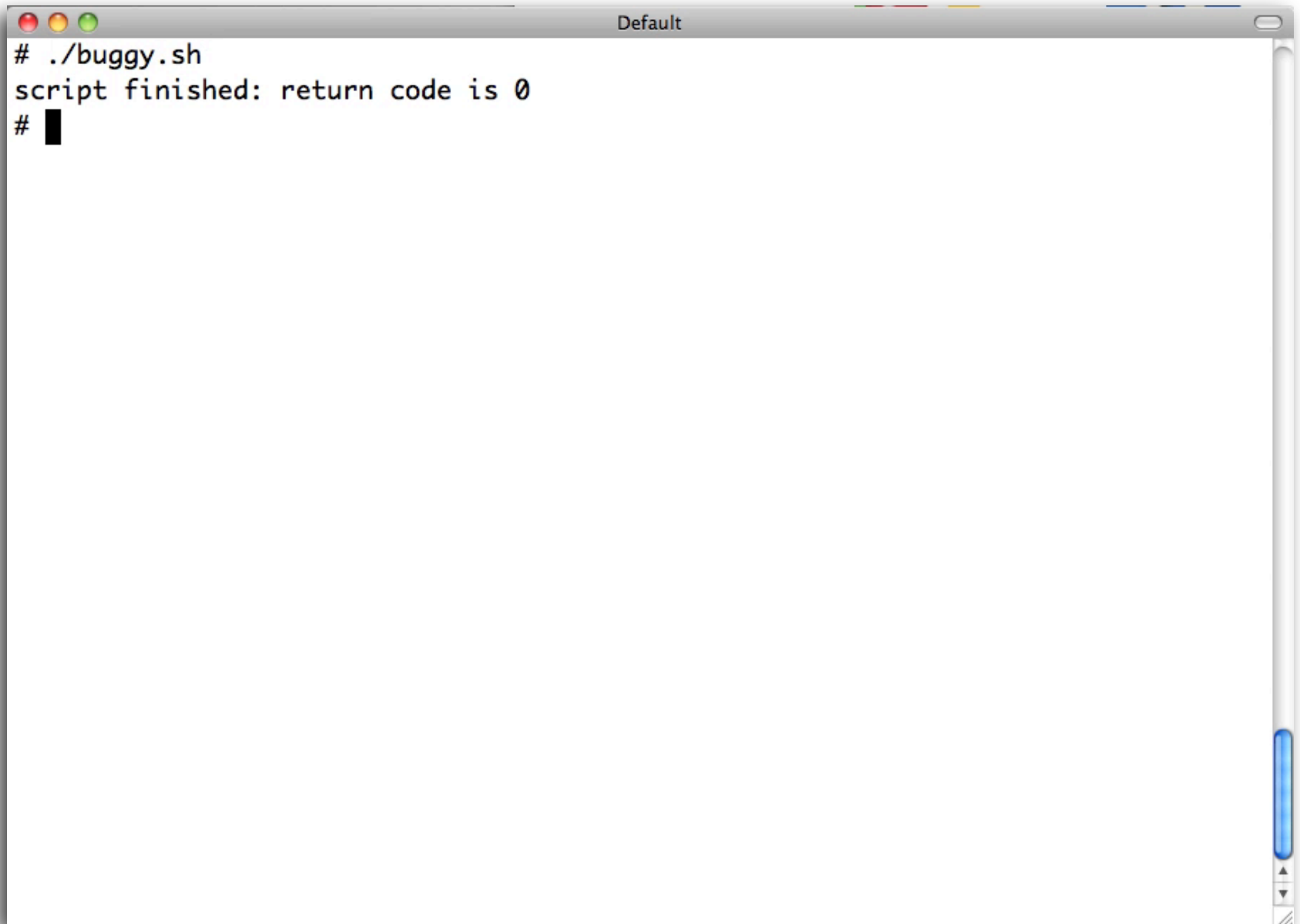
```
ps -ef 2>&1 |grep "^$USR" >outputfile.txt
```

```
echo "script finished: return code is $?"
```

# noclobber demo



# noclobber demo



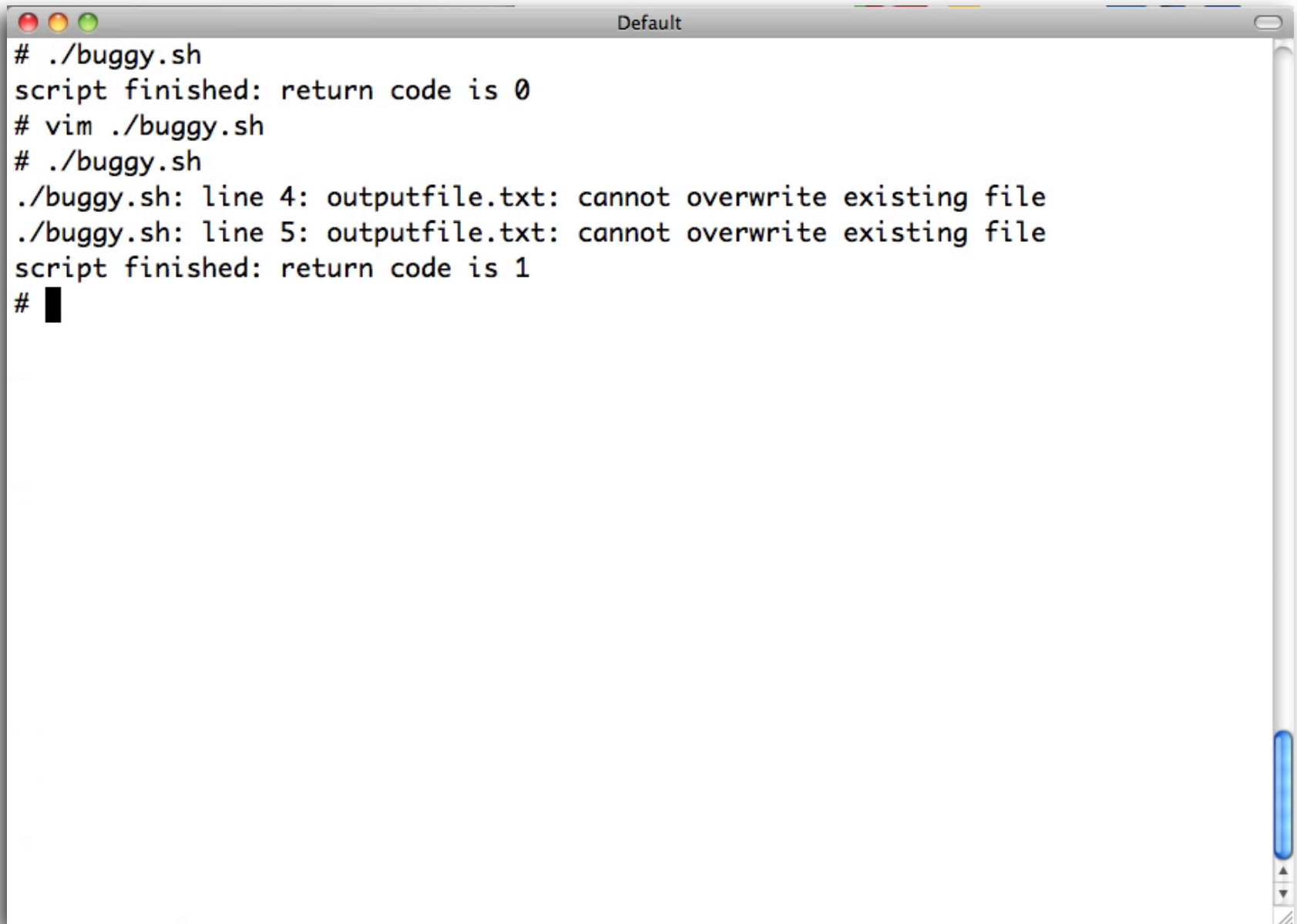
A terminal window titled "Default" with standard macOS window controls (red, yellow, green buttons). The terminal shows the execution of a script named "buggy.sh". The output of the script is "script finished: return code is 0". The prompt character is "#".

```
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# █
```





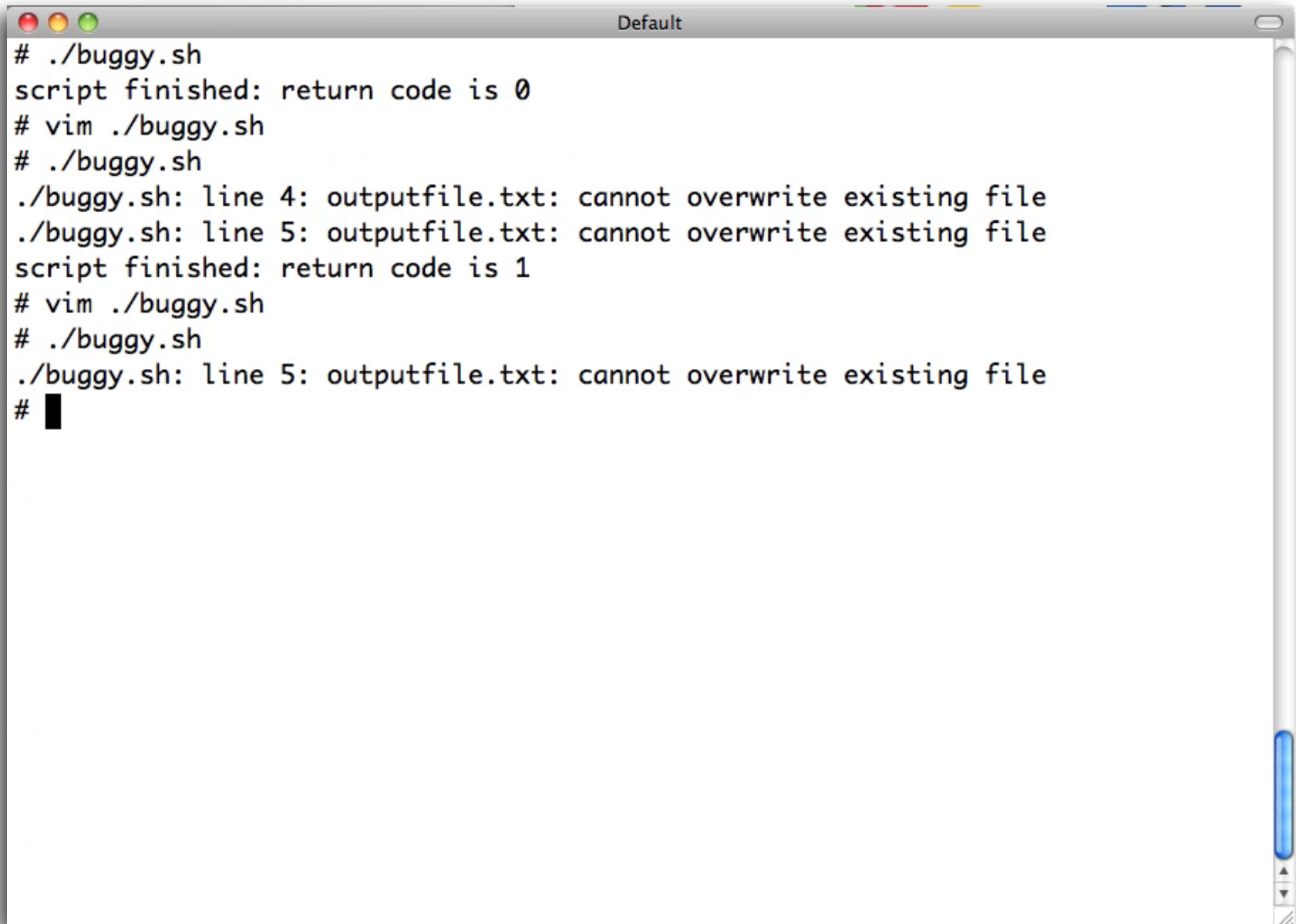
# noclobber demo



```
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
./buggy.sh: line 4: outputfile.txt: cannot overwrite existing file
./buggy.sh: line 5: outputfile.txt: cannot overwrite existing file
script finished: return code is 1
# █
```



# noclobber demo



```
Default
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
./buggy.sh: line 4: outputfile.txt: cannot overwrite existing file
./buggy.sh: line 5: outputfile.txt: cannot overwrite existing file
script finished: return code is 1
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
./buggy.sh: line 5: outputfile.txt: cannot overwrite existing file
# █
```

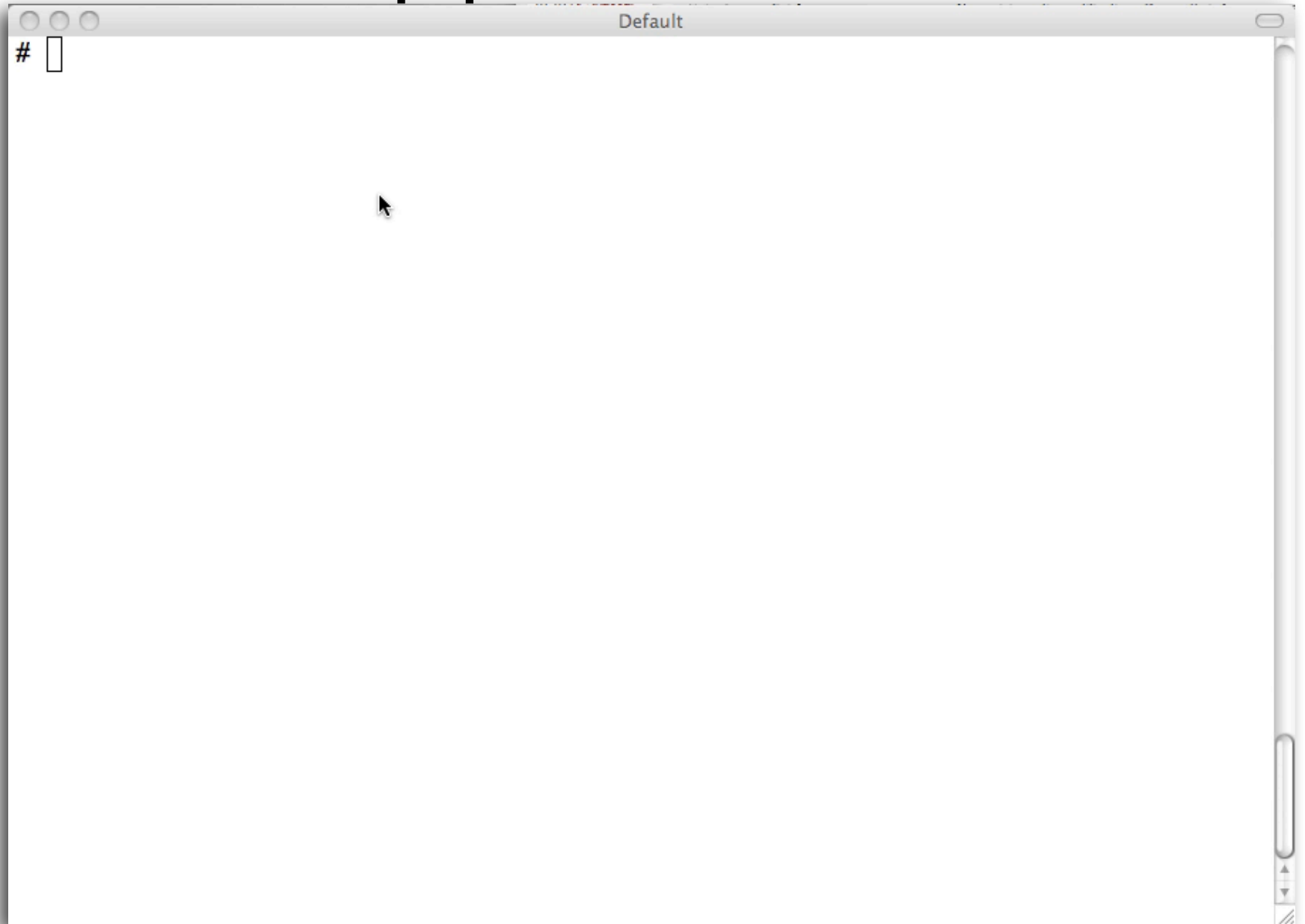


# What did we learn?

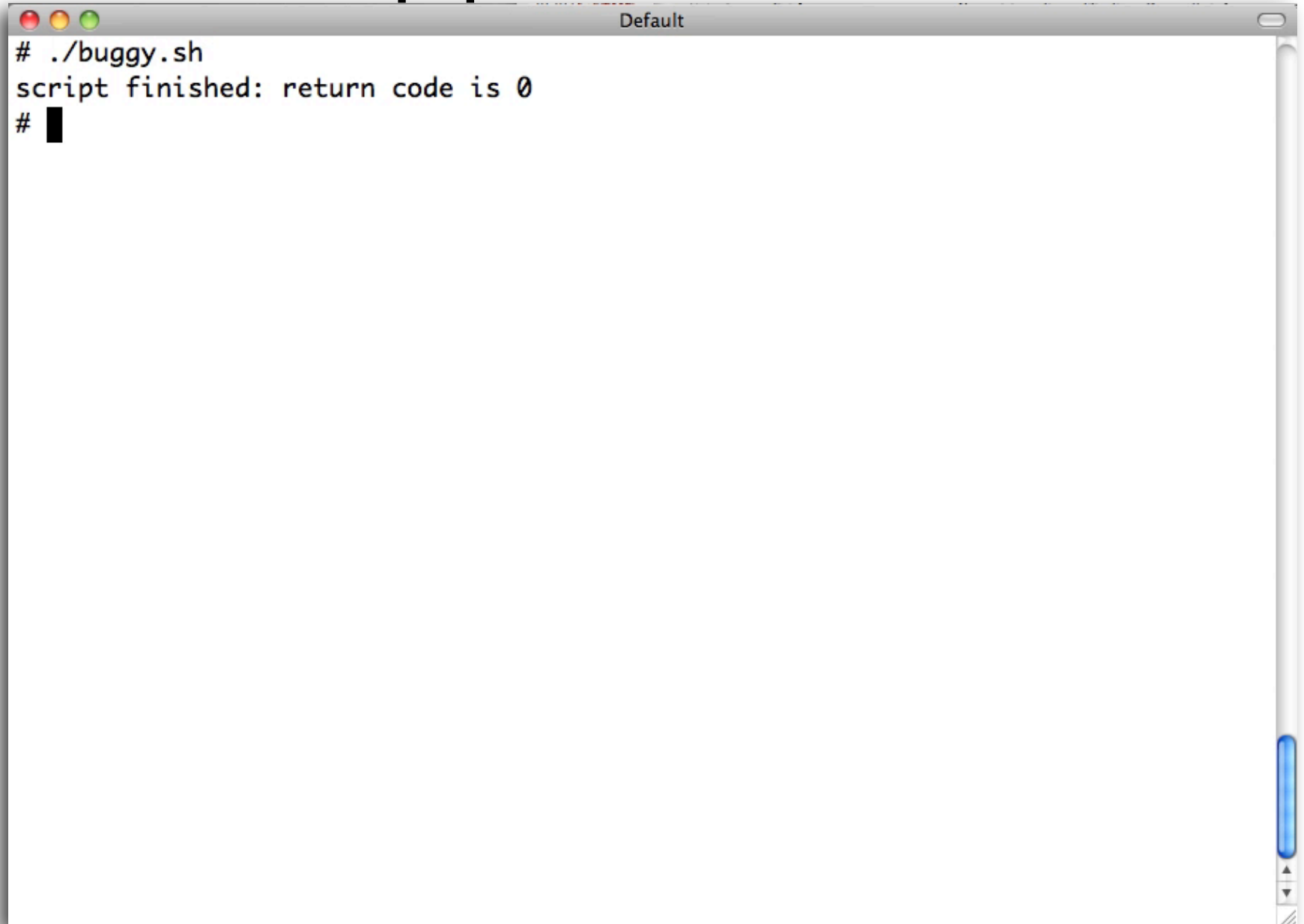
- `set -o noclobber`
  - used to avoid overlaying files
- `set -o errexit`
  - used to exit upon error avoiding cascading errors
- `echo "My process list:" |>outputfile.txt`
  - used to intentional clobber file

*command1* | *command2*

# pipefail demo



# pipefail demo



A terminal window titled "Default" showing the execution of a script. The prompt is "# ./buggy.sh". The output is "script finished: return code is 0". The prompt is "# █".

```
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# █
```

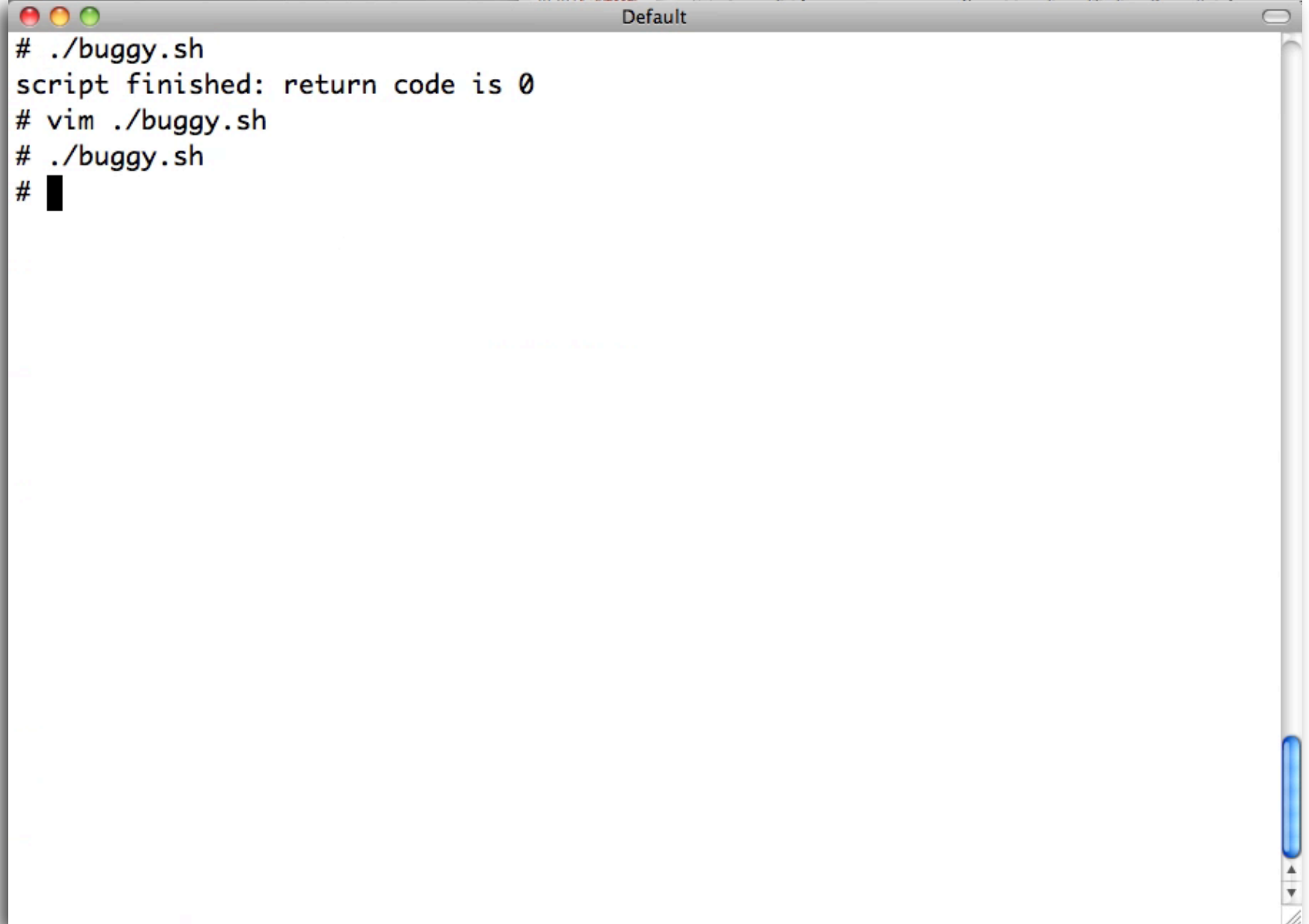


# pipefail demo

```
#!/bin/bash
set -o noclobber
set -o errexit
set -o pipefail
█
rm -f outputfile.txt
echo "My process list:" >outputfile.txt
ps -ef 2>&1 |grep "^$USR" >>outputfile.txt
echo "script finished: return code is $?"
```

```
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

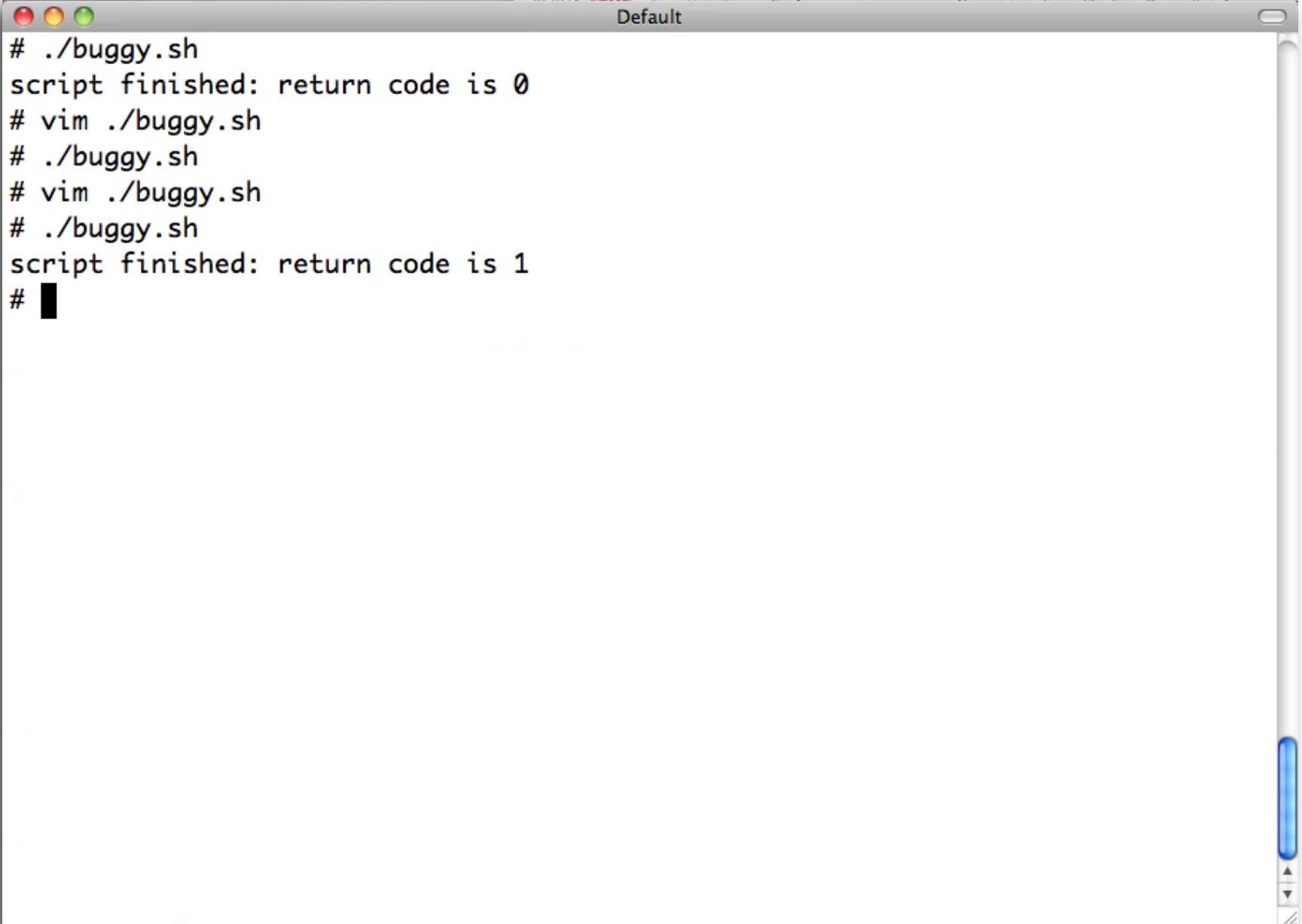
# pipefail demo



```
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
# █
```



# pipefail demo



```
Default
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 1
# █
```

# pipefail demo

```
#!/bin/bash
set -o noclobber
set -o errexit
set -o pipefail
trap 'echo error at about $LINENO' ERR
█
rm -f outputfile.txt
echo "My process list:" >outputfile.txt
ps -ef 2>&1 |grep "^$USR" >>outputfile.txt
echo "script finished: return code is $?"
```

```
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

# pipefail demo

```
Default
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 0
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
script finished: return code is 1
# vim ./buggy.sh
# ./buggy.sh
error at about 9
# █
```

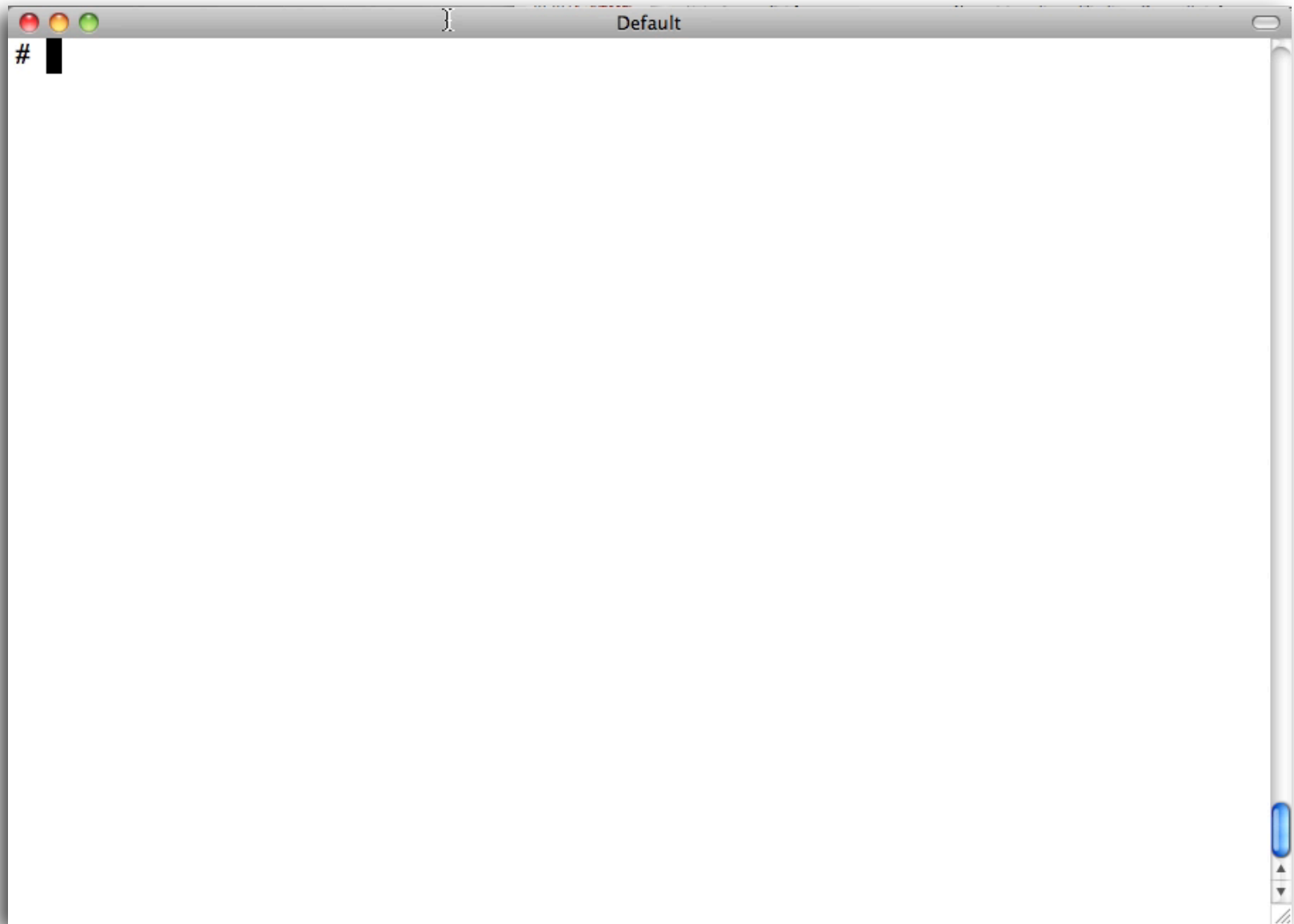


# What did we learn?

- `set -o pipefail`
  - unveils hidden failures
- `set -o errexit`
  - can exit silently
- `trap command ERR`
  - corrects silent exits
- `$LINENO`
  - enhances error reporting



# nounset demo



# What did we learn?

- `set -o nounset`
  - **exposes unset variables**

# the final demo script

```
#!/opt/local/bin/bash

set -o noclobber
set -o errexit
set -o pipefail
set -o nounset
trap 'echo error at about $LINENO' ERR

mv outputfile.txt outputfile.bak
echo "My process list:" >outputfile.txt
ps aux 2>&1 |grep "^$USER" >>outputfile.txt

echo "script finished: return code is $?"
```

# the final demo script

```
#!/opt/local/bin/bash
```

```
source stringent.sh || exit 1
```

```
mv outputfile.txt outputfile.bak  
echo "My process list:" >outputfile.txt  
ps aux 2>&1 |grep "^$USER" >>outputfile.txt  
  
echo "script finished: return code is $?"
```

# stringent.sh

```
set -o errexit
set -o noclobber
set -o nounset
set -o pipefail
```

```
function traperr
{
    echo "ERR:${BASH_SOURCE[1]}:${BASH_LINENO[0]}"
}>&2
}
```

```
set -o errtrace
trap traperr ERR
```

**IMPORTANT!** download full

stringent.sh from:

<http://www.replatformtech.com/> or

<http://github.com/pottmi/stringent.sh/>

# fail.sh

```
#!/bin/bash

source ./stringent.sh || exit 1

echo "before going to fail" >&2

false      # force a failure

echo "after going to fail" >&2
```

```
$ ./fail1.sh
before going to fail
ERROR: ./fail1.sh:7
$
```

# fail.sh

```
#!/bin/bash

source ./stringent.sh || exit 1
function goingtofail
{
    echo "before going to fail" >&2
    echo "start going to fail" >&2
    set /e # force a failure read Line; do
        false # force a failure
    done
    echo "after going to fail" >&2
    echo "end going to fail" >&2
}

goingtofail
```

```
$ ./fail.sh
before going to fail
start going to fail
ERROR: ./fail.sh:5
end going to fail
after going to fail
$
```

# trapperr needs improvement

```
function traperr
{
  declare -i n=${BASH_SUBSHELL};
  if (( $n >= 1 ))
  then
    nestlevel=$((#FUNCNAME[@]))
    fi
    if (( $nestlevel <= 2 ))
    then
      echo "ERR:${BASH_SOURCE[1]}:${BASH_LINENO[0]}" >&2
    else
      echo "ERR:${FUNCNAME[1]} (${BASH_SOURCE[1]}:${BASH_LINENO[0]})" >&2
      for (( i = 2 ; i < $nestlevel ; i++ ))
      do
        echo "    ${FUNCNAME[$i]} (${BASH_SOURCE[$i]}:" \
          "${BASH_LINENO[(($i-1)]})" >&2
      done
    fi
  fi
}
```

before going to fail  
start going to fail  
ERR:./fail.sh:6  
end going to fail  
after going to fail

before going to fail  
start going to fail  
ERR:./fail.sh:6  
Terminated

before going to fail  
start going to fail  
ERR:goingtofail(./fail.sh:6)  
main(./fail.sh:16)  
Terminated



# PIPESTATUS

```
bash-3.1$ ps -ef 2>&1 |grep "^$USR" >/dev/null
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "PIPESTATUS = ${PIPESTATUS[*]} \${?} = ${?}"
```

```
PIPESTATUS = 1 0  ${?} = 0
```

```
bash-3.1$ set -o pipefail
```

```
bash-3.1$ ps -ef 2>&1 |grep "^$USR" >/dev/null
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "PIPESTATUS = ${PIPESTATUS[*]} \${?} = ${?}"
```

```
PIPESTATUS = 1 0  ${?} = 1
```

```
bash-3.1$ ps aux 2>&1 |grep "^$USER" >/dev/null
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "PIPESTATUS = ${PIPESTATUS[*]} \${?} = ${?}"
```

```
PIPESTATUS = 0 0  ${?} = 0
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "PIPESTATUS = ${PIPESTATUS[*]} \${?} = ${?}"
```

```
PIPESTATUS = 0  ${?} = 0
```

# zoom

```
bash-3.1$ true | false | true
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "PIPESTATUS = ${PIPESTATUS[*]} \ $? = $?"
```

```
PIPESTATUS = 0 1 0  \ $? = 1
```

```
bash-3.1$ true | false | true
```

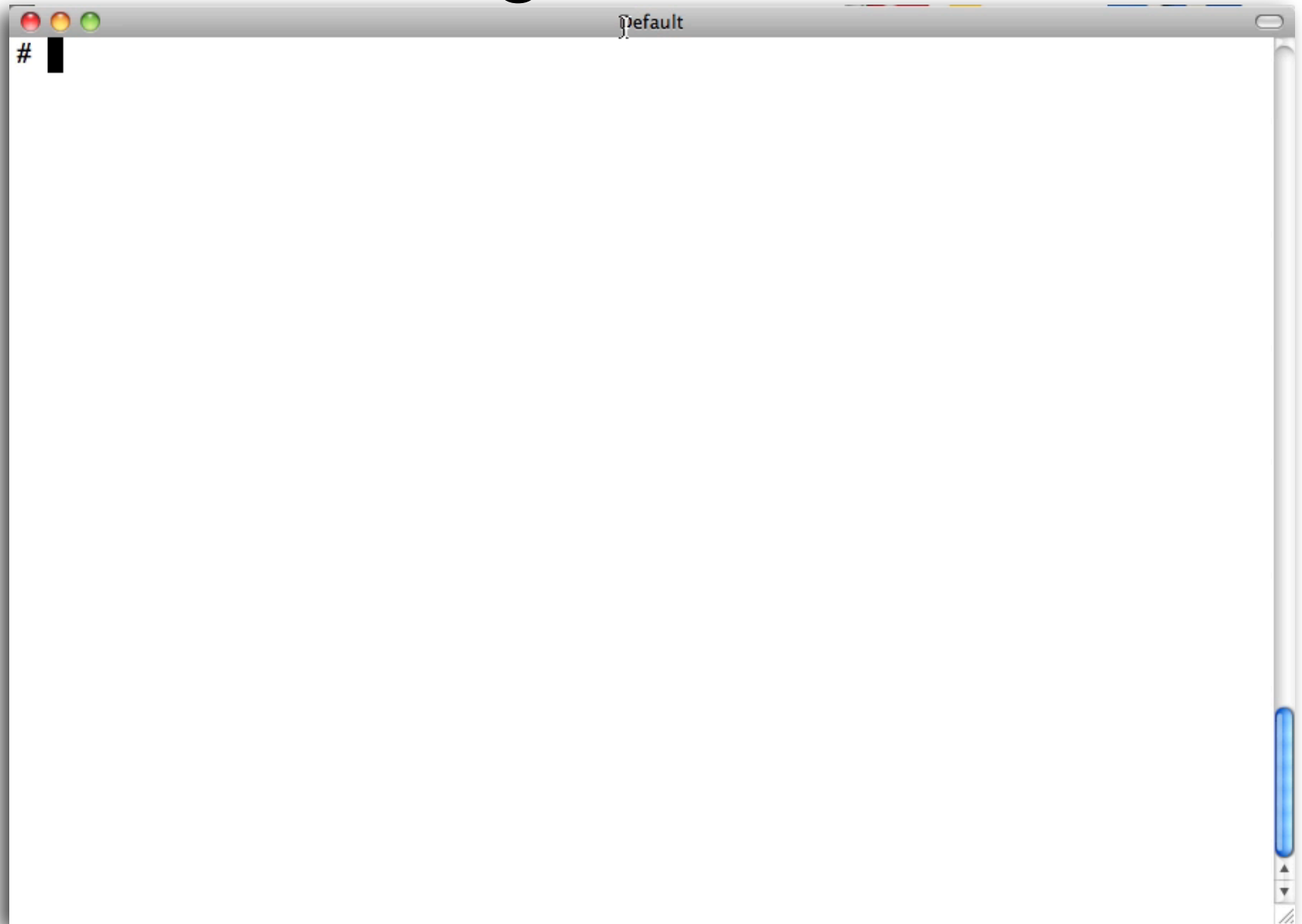
```
bash-3.1$ declare -a SAVEPS=( \ $? ${PIPESTATUS[@]})
```

```
bash-3.1$ echo "SAVEPS = ${SAVEPS[*]}"
```

```
SAVEPS = 1 0 1 0
```

# Variables

# Integer Demo



# What did we learn

- `stringent.sh`
  - Proven to be a good idea
- `declare -i variable`
  - non-integer values caught sooner
- `unset` variables used as an int are 0
  - unless caught with `set -o nounset`
- `$(( ... ))`
  - arithmetic syntax

# gotcha

```
declare -i MyInt1=012
declare -i MyInt2=0x12

echo "Value1 = $MyInt1"
echo "Value2 = $MyInt2"
printf "%o %x\n" $MyInt1 $MyInt2
```

```
Value1 = 10
Value2 = 18
12 12
```

# Arithmetic Syntax

- `intA=$(( ($intB + 5) * 2 ))`
  - Allowed anywhere a variable is allowed
- `let "intA = ($intB + 5) * 2"`
  - returns 0 or 1
- `(( intA = ($intB + 5) * 2 ))`
  - equivalent to let
- `intA=\($intB+5)*2`
  - no spaces allowed
  - Special characters must be escaped
  - `intA` must be declare -i
- `intA=$[ ($intB + 5) * 2 ]`

# Two More

- eval
  - Char=B
  - intB=0
  - eval “intA=\\$(( (\\$int\$Char + 5) \* 2 ))”
- external command
  - intA=\$(echo “(\$intB + 5) \* 2” | bc)



# Variable format

```
$MYVAR }
```

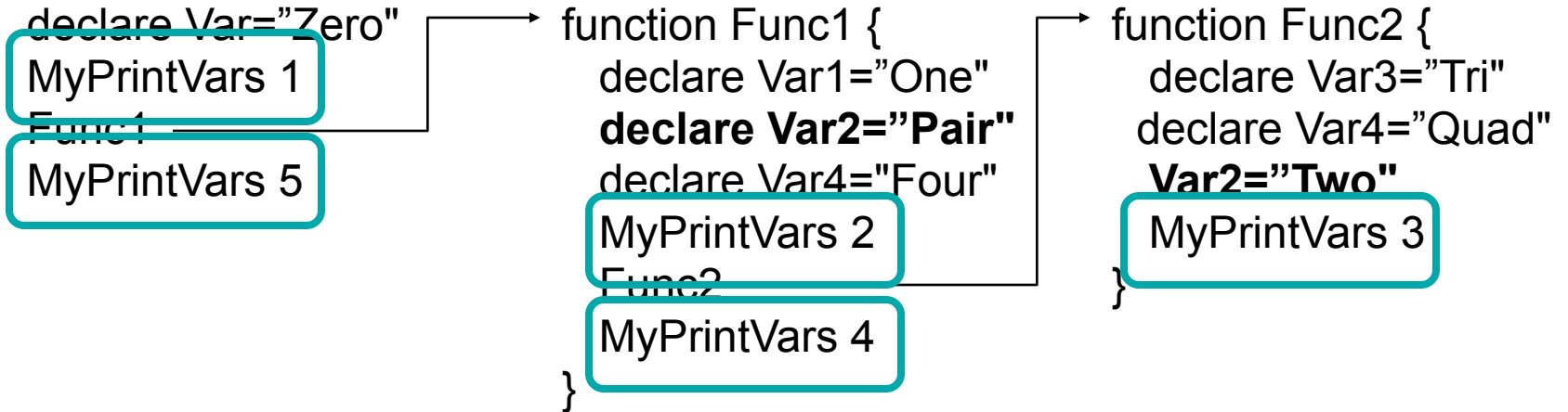
# Variable format

```
$ { MYVAR%*%n%t%t
```

# local variables

- weak
- good enough
- not just local, local and below
- two ways to declare:
  - declare
  - local
- \$1, \$2, ... are not scoped the same

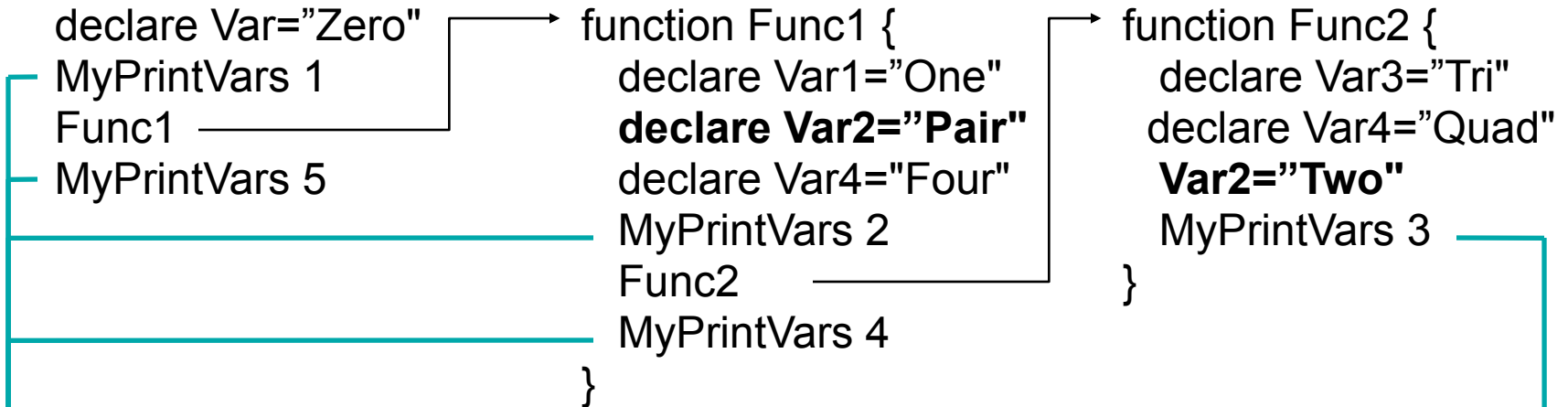
# Scoping



# Handling undefined variables

```
function MyPrintVars {  
    echo -n "$1 "  
    echo -n "Var1=${Var1:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var2=${Var2:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var3=${Var3:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var4=${Var4:-notset}"  
    echo "Var5=${Var5:-notset}"  
}
```

# Scoping



- 1 Var=Zero Var1=notset **Var2=notset** Var3=notset Var4=notset
- 2 Var=Zero Var1=One **Var2=Pair** Var3=notset Var4=Four
- 3 Var=Zero Var1=One **Var2=Two** Var3=Tri Var4=Quad
- 4 Var=Zero Var1=One **Var2=Two** Var3=notset Var4=Four
- 5 Var=Zero Var1=notset **Var2=notset** Var3=notset Var4=notset

# readonly variables

- Two ways to declare
  - declare -r
  - readonly
- One way trip
- Used with -i to create readonly integers
- readonly can be used on system variables
  - e.g. keep users from changing their prompt
  - not documented!

# conditionals

if *command*

if (( ))

if let

if [ ]

if test

if [[ ]]



# *if command*

```
set -x  
grep Jim /etc/passwd  
declare -i Status=$?  
set -x  
if (( $Status == 0 ))  
then  
    echo "Jim is a user"  
fi
```

```
if grep Jim /etc/passwd  
then  
    echo "Jim is a user"  
fi
```

# bang has side effects!

```
! grep Jim /etc/passwd  
declare -i Status=$?  
if (( $Status != 0 ))  
then  
    echo "Jim is a user"  
fi
```

# What did we learn?

- `set +o errexit` turns off `errexit`
  - `errexitoff` for `stringent.sh`
- Save  `$?`  to a permanent variable
- `!`  turns off `errexit` for a single command
- zero is true, non-zero is false
- `if (( ))` used for numeric tests

# gotcha

- if [[ \$Age > 20 ]] # bad, 3 buys beer!
  - > is a string comparison operator
- if [ \$Age > 20 ] # bad, everyone buys beer!
  - > is a redirection operator
- if [[ \$Age -gt 20 ]] # good
  - fails in strange ways if \$Age is not numeric
- if (( \$Age > 20 )) # best
  - \$ on Age is optional

# test and [

```
bash-3.1$ which test  
/bin/test
```

```
bash-3.1$ which [  
/bin/[[
```

```
bash-3.1$ ls -i /bin/[[ /bin/test
```

```
6196593 /bin/[[
```

```
6196593 /bin/test
```

So?

**if [[ ]]**

# [ versus [[

- `[[ $a == z* ]]`
  - True if \$a starts with an "z".
- `[[ $a == "z*" ]]`
  - True if \$a is exactly equal to "z\*".
- `[ $a == z* ]`
  - Error if \$a has a space.
  - Error if more than one filename starts with z.
  - True if a filename exists that starts with z and is exactly \$a.
  - True if no filenames exist that start with z and \$a equals z\*.
- `[ "$a" == "z*" ]`
  - True if \$a is exactly equal to z\*.



# the rules

- use [  
– when you “want” to use file globbing
- use ((  
– when you want to do math/numeric
- use [[  
– for everything else

# regular expressions

- Introduced with version 3.0
- Implemented as part of `[[ ]]`
- Uses binary operator `=~`
- Supports extended regular expressions
- Supports parenthesized subexpressions

# regular expression

```
declare MyStr="the quick brown fox"
```

```
[[ $MyStr == "the*" ]] # false: must be exact
```

```
[[ $MyStr == the* ]] # true: pattern match
```

```
[[ $MyStr =~ "^the" ]] # true
```

```
[[ $MyStr =~ "brown" ]] # true
```

```
[[ $MyStr =~ "the *quick *brown" ]] # true
```

# subexpressions

```
declare MyStr="the quick brown fox"
```

```
if [[ $MyStr =~ "the ([a-z]*)([a-z]*)" ]]
```

```
then
```

```
    echo "${BASH_REMATCH[0]}" # the quick brown
```

```
    echo "${BASH_REMATCH[1]}" # quick
```

```
    echo "${BASH_REMATCH[2]}" # brown
```

```
fi
```

# bad expressions

```
declare MyStr="the quick brown fox"
```

```
if [[ $MyStr =~ "the [a-z) ([a-z*)" ]]
```

```
then
```

```
    echo "got a match"
```

```
elif (( $? == 2 ))
```

```
then
```

```
    : # no match, colon is no-op command
```

```
else
```

```
    traperr "Assertion Error: Regular expression error"
```

```
    exit 1
```

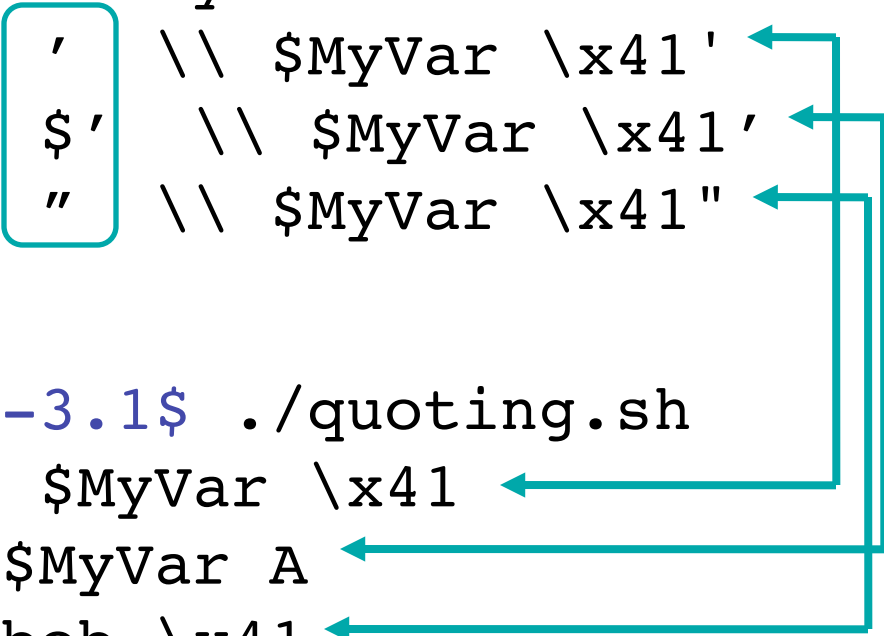
```
fi
```

# gotcha

- `cp $srcfile $dstfile`
  - broken if \$srcfile has a space
- `cp "$srcfile" "$dstfile"`
  - broken if srcfile begins with -
- `cp -- "$srcfile" "$dstfile"`

# quoting

```
declare MyVar="bob"  
echo '  \ \ $MyVar \x41 '  
echo $'  \ \ $MyVar \x41 '  
echo "  \ \ $MyVar \x41 "
```



```
bash-3.1$ ./quoting.sh  
  \ \ $MyVar \x41  
 \ $MyVar A  
 \ bob \x41
```

# quoting recommendation

- quote variables liberally
  - extra quotes likely to cause a consistent error
  - missing quotes are likely to cause inconsistent behavior
- Safe Exceptions
  - within if `[[ ]]`
  - Integer variables (define -i)
  - within if `(( ))`



# Handling undefined variables

```
function PrintVars {  
    echo -n "Var1=${Var1:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var2=${Var2:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var3=${Var3:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var4=${Var4:-notset}"  
    echo -n "Var5=${Var5:-notset}"  
}
```

# unset

# variables

- `${parameter -word}`  
– returns word
- `${parameter +word}`  
– returns empty (returns word if set)
- `${parameter =word}`  
– sets parameter to word, returns word
- `${parameter ?message}`  
– echos message and exits

# unset variables

- `${parameter-word}`
- `${parameter+word}`
- `${parameter=word}`
- `${parameter?message}`

# default variables

```
function MyDate
{
    declare -i Year=${1:?"$0 Year is required"}
    declare -i Month=${2:-1}
    declare -i Day=${3:-1}

    if (( $Month > 12 )); then
        echo "Error Month > 12" >&2
        exit 1
    fi
    if (( $Day > 31 )); then
        echo "Error Day > 31" >&2
        exit 1
    fi

    echo "$Year-$Month-$Day"
}
```

# sub strings

```
declare MyStr="The quick brown fox"
```

```
echo "${MyStr:0:3}" # The
```

```
echo "${MyStr:4:5}" # quick
```

```
echo "${MyStr: -9:5}" # brown
```

```
echo "${MyStr: -3:3}" # fox
```

```
echo "${MyStr: -9}" # brown fox
```

# substr by pattern

- `${Var#pattern}`
- `${Var%pattern}`
- `${Var##pattern}`
- `${Var%%pattern}`

a jingle

We are #1 because we give 110%.

Also, note the position on the  
keyboard.

# substr by pattern

```
declare MyStr="/home/pottmi/my.sample.sh"
```

```
echo "${MyStr##*/}" # my.sample.sh
```

```
echo "${MyStr%.*}" # /home/pottmi/my.sample
```

```
echo "${MyStr%/*}" # /home/pottmi
```

```
echo "${MyStr#*/}" #home/pottmi/my.sample.sh
```

```
echo "${MyStr%%.*}" # /home/pottmi/my
```



# search and replace

- `${var/pattern/replace}`

# substr by pattern

```
declare MyStr="the fox jumped the dog"
```

```
echo "${MyStr/the/a}"
```



```
# a fox jumped the dog
```

```
echo "${MyStr//the/a}"
```



```
# a fox jumped a dog
```

```
echo "${MyStr//the }"
```

```
# fox jumped dog
```

# xargs Ninja

```
grep -r Tapp
```

```
grep Tapp *
```

```
find . -type f |xargs grep Tapp
```

```
find . -type f -print0 |xargs -0 grep Tapp
```

```
find . -type f -print0 |xargs -0 grep Tapp /dev/null
```

```
cat listOfFiles.txt |tr '\n' '\0' |xargs -0 grep Tapp /dev/null
```

# unintended subshells

```
declare -i Count=0
declare Lines

cat /etc/passwd | while read Lines
do
    echo -n "."
    ((Count++))
done

echo " final count=$Count"
```

..... final count=0

# unintended subshells

```
declare -i Count=0
declare Lines

while read Lines
do
    echo -n "."
    ((Count++))
done </etc/passwd

echo " final count=$Count"
```

..... final count=38

# unintended subshells

```
declare -i Count=0
declare Lines

while read Lines
do
    echo -n "."
    ((Count++))
done <<(cat /etc/passwd)

echo " final count=$Count"
```

..... final count=38

# unintended subshells

```
declare -i Count=0
declare Lines

while read Lines
do
    echo -n "."
    ((Count++))
done < <(grep "false$" /etc/passwd)

echo " final count=$Count"
```

..... final count=20

# Running vi in a loop

```
while read FileName 0<&3
do
    if ! grep stringent $FileName
    then
        vi $FileName
    fi
done 3< <(ls *.sh)
```



# Learn more

- man bash
- O'Reilly - 'Learning the Bash shell'
- <http://bashdb.sourceforge.net/bashref.html>
- <http://www.faqs.org/docs/abs/HTML/>
- Ask me to help!

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