RASH Documentation

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1	What is this?	3
2	Install	5
3	Setup	7
4	Usage 4.1 Searching history - rash search	9
5	Dependency5.1Platforms5.2Shells	
6	Design principle	13
7	License	15
	8.1 RASH command line interface	25 27
Pν	than Madula Inday	20

Links:

- Documentation (at Read the Docs)
 - **–** Commands
 - ConfigurationTips
- Repository (at GitHub)Issue tracker (at GitHub)
- PyPI
- Travis CI

Contents 1

2 Contents

What is this?

Shell history is useful. But it can be more useful if it logs more data points. For example, if you forget which *make* target to run for certain project, you'd want to search shell commands that are run in particular directory. Wouldn't it be nice if you can do this?:

```
rash search --cwd . "make*"
```

RASH records many data points and they are stored in SQLite database. Here is a list of recorded information ¹.

- 1. Current directory (\$PWD).
- 2. Exit code (\$?)
- 3. Exit code of pipes (\$PIPESTATUS / \$pipestatus)
- 4. The time command is started and terminated.
- 5. Environment variable (\$PATH, \$SHELL, \$TERM, \$HOST, etc.)
- 6. Real terminal. \$TERM is used to fake programs. RASH can detect if you are in tmux, byobu, screen, gnometerminal, etc.
- 7. Session information. If you go back and forth in some terminals, RASH does not loose in which sequence you ran the commands in which terminal.

RASH also has interactive search interface. You can see the search result as you type. If you are using zsh, you can execute the result instantaneously.

¹ If you are curious, checkout rash record --help.

Install

RASH is written in Python. The easiest way to install is to use *pip* (or *easy_install*, if you wish). You may need *sudo* for installing it in a system directory.:

```
pip install rash
pip install percol # if you want interactive search feature
```

If you use virtualenv to install RASH, you may have trouble when switching environment. In that case, it is safe to make an alias to full path of the rash executable.:

```
alias rash="PATH/TO/VIRTUALENV/bin/rash"
```

If you want to use developmental version, just clone the git repository and add the following in your RC file.:

```
alias rash="PATH/TO/RASH/rash_cli.py"
```

6 Chapter 2. Install

Setup

Add this to your .zshrc or .bashrc. That's all.:

eval "\$(rash init)"

For more information, see rash init $\operatorname{--help}$.

8 Chapter 3. Setup

Usage

4.1 Searching history - rash search

After your shell history is accumulated by RASH, it's the time to make use of the history! See rash search —help for detailed information. Here is some examples.

Forget how to run automated test for the current project?:

```
rash search --cwd . --include-pattern "*test*" --include-pattern "tox*"
```

All git commands you ran in one week .:

```
rash search --time-after "1 week ago" "git*"
```

Some intensive task you ran in the current project that succeeded and took longer than 30 minutes.:

```
rash search --cwd-under . --include-exit-code 0 --duration-longer-than 30m
```

What did I do after *cd*-ing to some directory?:

```
rash search --after-context 5 "cd SOME-DIRECTORY"
```

All failed commands you ran at this directory.:

```
rash search --cwd . --exclude-exit-code 0
```

Count number of commands you ran in one day:

```
rash search --limit -1 --no-unique --time-after "1 day ago" | wc -1
```

4.2 Showing detailed information - rash show

If you give --with-command-id to rash search command, it prints out ID number for each command history.:

```
% rash search --with-command-id --limit 5 "*git*"
359 git log
1253 git help clone
1677 git help diff
1678 git diff --word-diff
1780 git merge
```

You can see all information associated with a command with rash show command:

rash show 1677

4.3 Interactive search - rash isearch

Searching history using command line is not fast. You can use rash isearch command to interactively search history and see the result immediately as you type.

You need percol to use this feature.

Zsh user can setup a keybind like this:

```
# Type `Ctrl-x r` to start isearch bindkey "^Xr" rash-zle-isearch
```

Defining this function in your rc file can be handy and it is usable for bash users.:

```
rash-isearch(){
  eval "$(rash isearch)"
}
```

10 Chapter 4. Usage

Dependency

RASH tested against Python 2.6, 2.7 and 3.2. However, as some dependencies are not Python 3 compatible, some functionality is missing when used with Python 3.

Python modules:

- watchdog 1
- parsedatetime ²

5.1 Platforms

UNIX-like systems RASH is tested in Linux and I am using in Linux. It should work in other UNIX-like systems like BSD.

Mac OS I guess it works. Not tested.

MS Windows Probably no one wants to use a shell tool in windows, but I try to avoid stuff that is platform specific.

Only the daemon launcher will not work on Windows but there is several ways to avoid using it. See rash init --help.

5.2 Shells

RASH currently supports zsh and bash.

¹ These modules do not support Python 3. They are not installed in if you use Python 3 and related functionality is disabled.

Design principle

RASH's design is focused on sparseness. There are several stages of data transformation until you see the search result, and they are done by separated processes.

First, rash record command dumps shell history in raw JSON record. This part of program does not touches to DB to make process very fast. As there is no complex transformation in this command, probably in the future version it is better to rewrite it entirely in shell function.

Second, rash daemon runs in background and watches the directory to store JSON record. When JSON record arrives, it insert the data into database.

rash record and rash daemon are setup by simple shell snippet eval \$ (rash init).

Finally, you can search through command history using search interface such as *rash search*. This search is very fast as you don't read all JSON records in separated files.

```
+----+
| Shell |
              | Raw |
                             | SQLite |
                                              | Search |
| hooks |----->| JSON |----->| DB |----->| result |
                              +----+
             | record |
              +----+
                 `rash daemon`
      `rash record`
                                    `rash search`
                                      `rash show`
                                    \----/
         `rash init` setups them
                                     search interface
```

CHAPTER 7	
License	

RASH is licensed under GPL v3. See COPYING for details.

16 Chapter 7. License

More resources

8.1 RASH command line interface

8.1.1 Search interface

rash search

```
usage: rash search [-h] [--match-pattern GLOB] [--include-pattern GLOB]
                   [--exclude-pattern GLOB] [--match-regexp REGEXP]
                   [--include-regexp REGEXP] [--exclude-regexp REGEXP]
                   [--cwd DIR] [--cwd-glob GLOB] [--cwd-under DIR]
                   [--time-after TIME] [--time-before TIME]
                   [--duration-longer-than DURATION]
                   [--duration-less-than DURATION] [--include-exit-code CODE]
                   [--exclude-exit-code CODE] [--include-session ID]
                   [--exclude-session ID] [--match-environ-pattern ENV ENV]
                   [--include-environ-pattern ENV ENV]
                   [--exclude-environ-pattern ENV ENV]
                   [--match-environ-regexp ENV ENV]
                   [--include-environ-regexp ENV ENV]
                   [--exclude-environ-regexp ENV ENV] [--limit NUM]
                   [--no-unique] [--ignore-case] [--reverse]
                   [--sort-by {code,count,program_count,start,stop,success_count,success_ratio,time}
                   [--sort-by-cwd-distance DIR] [--after-context NUM]
                   [--before-context NUM] [--context NUM]
                   [--context-type {time, session}] [--with-command-id]
                   [--with-session-id] [--format FORMAT] [-f]
                   [--output OUTPUT]
                   [pattern [pattern ...]]
Search command history.
optional arguments:
 -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
Filter:
                        Glob pattern to match substring of command. It is as
 pattern
                        same as --match-pattern/-m except that the pattern is
                        going to be wrapped by `*`s. If you want to use strict
                        glob pattern that matches to entire command, use
                        --match-pattern/-m. (default: None)
```

```
--match-pattern GLOB, -m GLOB
                                                                  Only commands that match to this glob pattern are % \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +
                                                                  listed. Unlike --include-pattern/-g, applying this
                                                                  option multiple times does AND match. (default: [])
--include-pattern GLOB, -g GLOB
                                                                  glob patterns that matches to commands to include.
                                                                   (default: [])
--exclude-pattern GLOB, -G GLOB
                                                                  glob patterns that matches to commands to exclude.
                                                                   (default: [])
--match-regexp REGEXP, -M REGEXP
                                                                  Only commands that matches to this grep pattern are
                                                                  listed. Unlike --include-regexp/-e, applying this
                                                                  option multiple times does AND match. (default: [])
--include-regexp REGEXP, -e REGEXP
                                                                  Regular expression patterns that matches to commands
                                                                  to include. (default: [])
--exclude-regexp REGEXP, -E REGEXP
                                                                  Regular expression patterns that matches to commands
                                                                  to exclude. (default: [])
--cwd DIR, -d DIR
                                                                 The working directory at the time when the command was
                                                                  run. When given several times, items that match to one
                                                                  of the directory are included in the result. (default:
                                                                  [])
--cwd-glob GLOB, -D GLOB
                                                                  Same as --cwd but it accepts glob expression.
                                                                   (default: [])
--cwd-under DIR, -u DIR
                                                                  Same as --cwd but include all subdirectories.
                                                                   (default: [])
--time-after TIME, -t TIME
                                                                 commands run after the given time (default: None)
--time-before TIME, -T TIME
                                                                  commands run before the given time (default: None)
--duration-longer-than DURATION, -S DURATION
                                                                 commands that takes longer than the given time
                                                                   (default: None)
--duration-less-than DURATION, -s DURATION
                                                                  commands that takes less than the given time (default:
                                                                  None)
--include-exit-code CODE, -x CODE
                                                                  include command which finished with given exit code.
                                                                   (default: [])
--exclude-exit-code CODE, -X CODE
                                                                  exclude command which finished with given exit code.
                                                                   (default: [])
--include-session ID, -n ID
                                                                  include command which is issued in given session.
                                                                  (default: [])
--exclude-session ID, -N ID
                                                                  exclude command which is issued in given session.
                                                                  (default: [])
--match-environ-pattern ENV ENV
                                                                  select command which associated with environment
                                                                  variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
--include-environ-pattern ENV ENV, -v ENV ENV
                                                                  include command which associated with environment
```

```
variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
                        [])
  --exclude-environ-pattern ENV ENV, -V ENV ENV
                        exclude command which associated with environment
                        variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
  --match-environ-regexp ENV ENV
                        select command which associated with environment
                        variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
  --include-environ-regexp ENV ENV, -w ENV ENV
                        include command which associated with environment
                        variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
 --exclude-environ-regexp ENV ENV, -W ENV ENV
                        exclude command which associated with environment
                        variable that matches to given glob pattern. (default:
  --limit NUM, -1 NUM
                      maximum number of history to show. -1 means no limit.
                        (default: 10)
 --no-unique, -a
                        Include all duplicates. (default: True)
                       Do case insensitive search. (default: False)
 --ignore-case, -i
Sorter:
 --reverse, -r
                        Reverse order of the result. By default, most recent
                        commands are shown. (default: False)
 --sort-by {code,count,program_count,start,stop,success_count,success_ratio,time}
                        Sort keys `count`: number of the time command is
                        executed; `success_count`: number of the time command
                        is succeeded; `program_count`: number of the time
                        *program* is used; `start`(=`time`): the time command
                        is executed; `stop`: the time command is finished;
                        code: exit code of the command; Note that --sort-
                        by=count cannot be used with --no-unique. If you don't
                        give anything, it defaults to `count`. However, if you
                        give this option at least once, the default is ignored
                        (i.e., the result is *not* sorted by `count` unless
                        you give it explicitly.). (default: [])
 --sort-by-cwd-distance DIR, -y DIR
                        Sort by distance of recorded cwd fron DIR. Commands
                        run at DIR are listed first, then commands run at one
                        level down or one level up directories, and then two
                        level down/up, and so on. (default: None)
Modifier:
  --after-context NUM, -A NUM
                        Print NUM commands executed after matching commands.
                        See also --context option. (default: None)
 --before-context NUM, -B NUM
                        Print NUM commands executed before matching commands.
                        See also --context option. (default: None)
 --context NUM, -C NUM
                        Print NUM commands executed before and after matching
                        commands. When this option is given --no-unique is
                        implied and --sort-by is ignored. (default: None)
 --context-type {time, session}
                        `session`: commands executed in the same shell
                        session; `time`: commands executed around the same
```

```
time; (default: time)
Formatter:
  --with-command-id
                        Print command ID number. When this is set, --format
                        option has no effect. If --with-session-id is also
                        specified, session ID comes at the first column then
                        command ID comes the next column. (default: False)
                        Print session ID number. When this is set, --format
 --with-session-id
                        option has no effect. See also: --with-command-id
                        (default: False)
 --format FORMAT
                        Python string formatter. Available keys: command,
                        exit_code, pipestatus (a list), start, stop, cwd,
                        command_history_id, session_history_id. See also:
                        http://docs.python.org/library/string.html#format-
                        string-syntax (default: {command}\n)
                        Set formatting detail. This can be given multiple
 - f
                        times to make more detailed output. For example,
                        giving it once equivalent to passing --with-command-id
                        and one more -f means adding --with-session-id.
                        (default: 0)
Misc:
                        Output file to write the results in. Default is
 --output OUTPUT
                        stdout. (default: -)
```

rash show

rash isearch

```
# Type `Ctrl-x r` to start isearch
 bindkey "^Xr" rash-zle-isearch
If you like command or you are not using zsh, you can add
something like the following in your rc file to start and
execute the chosen command.
 rash-isearch(){
   eval "$(rash isearch)"
To pass long and complex query, give them after "--",
like this.::
 rash isearch -- \
   --cwd . \
   --exclude-pattern "*rash *" \
   --include-pattern "*test*" \
    --include-pattern "tox*" \
   --include-pattern "make *test*"
positional arguments:
                        The part of query that is not shown in UI and is
 base_query
                        impossible to rewrite in this session. Useful for
                        putting long and complex query. (default: None)
optional arguments:
 -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
  --query QUERY, -q QUERY
                        default query (default: None)
 --query-template QUERY_TEMPLATE
                        Transform default query using Python string format.
                        (default: None)
                        caret position (default: None)
 --caret CARET
```

8.1.2 System setup interface

rash init

```
eval $(rash init --shell zsh)
By default, this command also starts daemon in background to
automatically index shell history records. To not start daemon,
use --no-daemon option like this::
 eval $(rash init --no-daemon)
To see the other methods to launch the daemon process, see
``rash daemon --help``.
optional arguments:
                       show this help message and exit
 -h, --help
 --shell SHELL
                       name of shell you are using. directory before the last
                        / is discarded. It defaults to $SHELL. (default:
                        /bin/bash)
 --no-daemon
                        Do not start daemon. By default, daemon is started if
                        there is no already running daemon. (default: False)
  --daemon-opt DAEMON_OPTIONS
                        Add options given to daemon. See "rash daemon --help"
                        for available options. It can be specified many times.
                        Note that --no-error is always passed to the daemon
                        command. (default: [])
 --daemon-outfile DAEMON_OUTFILE
                        Path to redirect STDOUT and STDERR of daemon process.
                        This is mostly for debugging. (default: /dev/null)
```

rash daemon

```
usage: rash daemon [-h] [--no-error] [--restart] [--record-path RECORD_PATH]
                   [--keep-json] [--check-duplicate] [--use-polling]
                   [--log-level {CRITICAL, ERROR, WARNING, INFO, DEBUG}]
Run RASH index daemon.
This daemon watches the directory ``~/.config/rash/data/record``
and translate the JSON files dumped by ``record`` command into
sqlite3 DB at ``~/.config/rash/data/db.sqlite``.
``rash init`` will start RASH automatically by default.
But there are alternative ways to start daemon.
If you want to organize background process in one place such
as supervisord_, it is good to add `--restart` option to force
stop other daemon process if you accidentally started it in
other place. Here is an example of supervisord_ setup::
 [program:rash-daemon]
 command=rash daemon --restart
.. _supervisord: http://supervisord.org/
Alternatively, you can call ``rash index`` in cron job to
avoid using daemon. It is useful if you want to use RASH
on NFS, as it looks like watchdog does not work on NFS.::
```

```
# Refresh RASH DB every 10 minutes
 */10 * * * * rash index
optional arguments:
 -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
                        Do nothing if a daemon is already running. (default:
 --no-error
                        False)
                        Kill already running daemon process if exist.
 --restart
                        (default: False)
 --record-path RECORD_PATH
                        specify the directory that has JSON records. (default:
                       Do not remove old JSON files. It turns on --check-
 --keep-json
                        duplicate. (default: False)
 --check-duplicate
                       do not store already existing history in DB. (default:
                        False)
 --use-polling
                        Use polling instead of system specific notification.
                        This is useful, for example, when your $HOME is on NFS
                        where inotify does not work. (default: False)
  --log-level {CRITICAL, ERROR, WARNING, INFO, DEBUG}
                        logging level. (default: None)
```

rash locate

rash version

```
usage: rash version [-h]
Print version number.

optional arguments:
   -h, --help show this help message and exit
```

8.1.3 Low level commands

rash record

```
usage: rash record [-h] [--record-type {command, init, exit}]
                   [--command COMMAND] [--cwd CWD] [--exit-code EXIT_CODE]
                   [--pipestatus PIPESTATUS [PIPESTATUS ...]] [--start START]
                   [--stop STOP] [--session-id SESSION_ID]
                   [--print-session-id]
Record shell history.
optional arguments:
 -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
 --record-type {command,init,exit}
                        type of record to store. (default: command)
 --command COMMAND
                        command that was ran. (default: None)
 --cwd CWD
                        Like $PWD, but callee can set it to consider command
                        that changes directory (e.g., cd). (default: None)
 --exit-code EXIT_CODE
                        exit code $? of the command. (default: None)
 --pipestatus PIPESTATUS [PIPESTATUS ...]
                        $pipestatus (zsh) / $PIPESTATUS (bash) (default: None)
  --start START
                        the time COMMAND is started. (default: None)
  --stop STOP
                        the time COMMAND is finished. (default: None)
 --session-id SESSION_ID
                        RASH session ID generated by --print-session-id. This
                        option should be used with `command` or `exit`
                        RECORD_TYPE. (default: None)
 --print-session-id
                        print generated session ID to stdout. This option
                        should be used with `init` RECORD TYPE. (default:
                        False)
```

rash index

```
usage: rash index [-h] [--keep-json] [--check-duplicate] [record_path]
Convert raw JSON records into sqlite3 DB.
Normally RASH launches a daemon that takes care of indexing.
See ``rash daemon --help``.
positional arguments:
                     specify the directory that has JSON records. (default:
 record_path
                     None)
optional arguments:
 -h, --help
                     show this help message and exit
  --keep-json
                     Do not remove old JSON files. It turns on --check-
                     duplicate. (default: False)
 --check-duplicate do not store already existing history in DB. (default:
                     False)
```

8.1.4 ZSH functions

rash-zle-isearch

To setup Ctrl-x r to start rash isearch, add this to your .zshrc:

```
bindkey "^Xr" rash-zle-isearch
```

8.2 RASH configuration

class rash.config.Configuration

RASH configuration interface.

If you define an object named config in the *configuration file*, it is going to be loaded by RASH. config must be an instance of *Configuration*.

configuration file In unix-like systems, it's ~/.config/rash/config.py or different place if you set XDG_CONFIG_HOME. In Mac OS, it's ~/Library/Application Support/RASH/config.py. Use rash locate config to locate the exact place.

Example:

```
>>> from rash.config import Configuration
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.isearch.query = '-u .'
```

Here is a list of configuration variables you can set:

Configuration variables	
config.record.environ	Environment variables to record.
config.search.alias	Search query alias.
config.search.kwds_adapter	Transform keyword arguments.
config.isearch.query	Default isearch query.
config.isearch.query_template	Transform default query.
config.isearch.base_query	Default isearch base query.

class rash.config.RecordConfig

Recording configuration.

environ = None

Environment variables to record.

Each key (str) represent record type (init/exit/command). Each value (list of str) is a list of environment variables to record.

Example usage:

```
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.record.environ['command'] += ['VIRTUAL_ENV', 'PYTHONPATH']
```

class rash.config.SearchConfig

Search configuration.

alias = None

Search query alias.

It must be a dict-like object that maps a str to a list of str when "expanding" search query.

Example:

```
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.search.alias['test'] = \
... ["--exclude-pattern", "*rash *", "--include-pattern", "*test*"]
```

then,:

```
rash search test
```

is equivalent to:

```
rash search --exclude-pattern "*rash *" --include-pattern "*test*"
```

kwds_adapter = None

A function to transform keyword arguments.

This function takes a dictionary from command line argument parser and can modify the dictionary to do whatever you want to do with it. It is much more lower-level and powerful than alias. This function must return the modified, or possibly new dictionary.

Example definition that does the same effect as the example in alias:

```
>>> def adapter(kwds):
...     if 'test' in kwds.get('pattern', []):
...          kwds['pattern'] = [p for p in kwds['pattern']
...          if p != 'test']
...          kwds['exclude_pattern'].append("*rash *")
...          kwds['include_pattern'].append("*test*")
...          return kwds
...
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.search.kwds_adapter = adapter
```

class rash.config.ISearchConfig

Configure how rash isearch is started.

See also SearchConfig. Once isearch UI is started, SearchConfig controls how search query is interpreted. For example, aliases defined in SearchConfig can be used in isearch.

query = None

Set default value (str) for --query option.

If you want to start isearch with the query -d . (only list the command executed at this directory), use the following configuration:

```
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.isearch.query = '-d . '
```

As rash-zle-isearch passes the current line content to --query which override this setting, you need to use <code>query_template</code> instead if you want to configure the default query.

query_template = None

Transform default query using Python string format.

The string format should have only one field $\{0\}$. The query given by \neg query or the one specified by query fills that filed. Default value is do-nothing template ' $\{0\}$ '.

```
>>> config = Configuration()
>>> config.isearch.query_template = '-d . {0}'
```

base_query = None

Set default value (list of str) for --base-query option.

8.3 Tips

8.3.1 Define Zsh ZLE widget

You can use the ZLE widget *rash-zle-isearch* loaded by *rash init* to define your own modified widget. It takes arguments and passes them to *rash isearch* directly. Here is a recipe for "Do What I Mean" search:

```
rash-zle-dwim() {
    rash-zle-isearch --query-template "-x 0 -d . @ {0} "
}
zle -N rash-zle-dwim
bindkey "^Xs" rash-zle-dwim
```

In the configuration file, you should define an alias called @ like this (see also config.search.alias):

```
config.search.alias['@'] = [...] # some complex query
```

8.3.2 Using RASH in old version of zsh

RASH depends on precmd_functions / preexec_functions hooks in zsh. In old version zsh doesn't have it. However, you can use RASH by adding this in your .zshrc.

```
precmd() {
    for f in $precmd_functions
    do
        "$f"
    done
}

preexec() {
    for f in $preexec_functions
    do
        "$f"
    done
}
```

- genindex
- · modindex
- · search

8.3. Tips 27

Python Module Index

r

rash, 1
rash.config, 25

30 Python Module Index

```
Α
alias (rash.config.SearchConfig attribute), 25
В
base_query (rash.config.ISearchConfig attribute), 26
C
Configuration (class in rash.config), 25
configuration file, 25
Ε
environ (rash.config.RecordConfig attribute), 25
environment variable
    XDG_CONFIG_HOME, 25
ISearchConfig (class in rash.config), 26
K
kwds_adapter (rash.config.SearchConfig attribute), 26
query (rash.config.ISearchConfig attribute), 26
query_template (rash.config.ISearchConfig attribute), 26
R
rash (module), 1
rash.config (module), 25
RecordConfig (class in rash.config), 25
S
SearchConfig (class in rash.config), 25
X
XDG_CONFIG_HOME, 25
```