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Section 4: Revisions to Execution Environment Utilities

4.5 cd — Change working directory

Editor's Note: The following rationale will be added to E.4.5, but is kept here with `cd` *for this draft:*

cd Rationale. *(This subclause is not a part of P1003.2b)*

Some historical shells, such as the KornShell, took special actions when the directory name contained a dot-dot component, selecting the logical parent of the directory, rather than the actual parent directory (i.e., it moved up one level toward the / in the pathname, remembering what the user typed, rather than performing the equivalent of the C-language call

```
chdir("..");
```

In such a shell, the following commands would not be equivalent for all directories:

```
cd .. && ls              ls ..
```

This behavior is not consistent with the definition of dot-dot and is not allowed by this standard, although it would be allowed as an extension if triggered by an environment variable or command-line option.

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