



**AIMS** | African Institute for  
Mathematical Sciences  
NEXT EINSTEIN INITIATIVE

# An Introduction to Linux Commands



**What is Linux ????**

# A brief history of linux

- **Linux** began in 1991 as a personal project by Finnish student [Linus Torvalds](#)
- linux is open source operating system
- The main singularity of Linux is to be a free software



# Getting started

Basic Command of Linux

# File Handling Command

- **touch** - command is used to create empty files
  - Syntax : touch file1 file2
  - eg: touch demo.txt
- **cat** - It can be used to create a file, display content of the file
  - Syntax : cat > file // Enter the file content
  - **CTRL + D**
  - eg: cat file
- **head** - display the first 10 lines of a file
  - Syntax : head filename
  - eg: head demo.txt

# Types of Command

- File Handling Commands
- Text Preprocessing Commands
- System Administration Commands
- Process Management Commands
- Network Commands

# File Handling Command

- **mkdir** - make directories
  - Syntax : mkdir [OPTION] DIRECTORY
  - eg: mkdir ammi
- **ls** - list directory content
  - Syntax : ls
  - eg: ls
- **cd** - changes directories
  - Syntax : cd Directory1/Directory2
  - eg: cd Desktop/presentation

# File Handling Command

- **pwd** - print the name of current working directory

- Syntax : pwd
- eg: pwd

- **cp** - copy files and directory

- Syntax : copy sourceFile destFile
- eg: cp file1 file2
- cp file presentation

- **mv** - move files

- Syntax : mv sourceFile destDirectory
- eg: mv ammi.txt documents



# File Handling Command

- **rm** - remove files or directories
  - Syntax : `rm filename`
  - eg: `rm ammi.txt`
  - `rm -rf pictures`
- **find** - search for files in a directory
  - Syntax : `find [path][pattern]`
  - eg: `find file1.txt`
- **history** - print the recently used commands
  - Syntax : `history`
  - eg: `history`

# File Handling Command

- **rm** - remove files or directories
  - Syntax : `rm filename`
  - eg: `rm ammi.txt`
  - `rm -rf pictures`
- **find** - search for files in a directory
  - Syntax : `find [path][pattern]`
  - eg: `find file1.txt`
- **history** - print the recently used commands
  - Syntax : `history`
  - eg: `history`

