

Frequently used Unix Commands

First, start a “terminal” by selecting it from the applications drop down menu

ls	list the files and directories in your current directory
cd	change directory -- to move around in your <i>file system</i>
pwd	print working directory -- "where am I in my file system?"
mkdir	create directory – to organize your relevant files into groups
cp	copy files
mv	change file (or directory) name
rm	delete a file
more	peruse the content of a file
! + one character	repeat the previous Unix command that starts with that character
up and down arrow	brings up the previously entered commands

Something you will use in many open and closed labs:

- To copy a data file into a codelite project directory
 - Starting from your top directory how to navigate to the project directory?
 - Use the **cd** command. You can use cd command repeatedly as you navigate down your file system. You can also specify the whole path to get straight from the top directory to that specific codelite project directory
 - Once in the project directory, how to copy the data file from Dr. Li's data directory into my current project directory?
 - Use the **cp** command.
 - `cp ~cen/data/example.dat .` ← noticing the trailing period
 - You can use the **ls** command to check and verify if the data is actually in the project directory now
 - You can peruse the data file using the **more** command
 - This is important because you need to know the exact format of data file to be able to write the program that can read the correct information from it