

# Unix permissions on non-files

Many devices show up in file system

e.g. `/dev/tty1` permissions just like for files

Other access controls not represented in file system

e.g. must usually be root to do the following

- Bind any TCP or UDP port number less than 1024
- Change the current process's user or group ID
- Mount or unmount most file systems
- Create device nodes (such as `/dev/tty1`) in the file system
- Change the owner of a file
- Set the time-of-day clock; halt or reboot machine

# Example - login run as root

Unix users typically stored in files in `/etc` files `passwd`, `group`, and often `shadow` or `master.passwd`

For each user, files contain

- Textual username (e.g., "dm", or "root")
- Numeric user ID, and group ID(s)
- One-way hash of user's password:  $\{\text{salt}; H(\text{salt}; \text{passwd})\}$
- Other information, such as user's full name, login shell, etc.

For instance `/usr/bin/login` runs as root

- Reads username & password from terminal
- Looks up username in `/etc/passwd`, etc.
- Computes  $H(\text{salt}; \text{typed password})$  & checks that it matches
- If matches, sets group ID & user ID corresponding to username
- Execute user's shell with `execve` system call