

GUI and Command Line; the two most common ways of navigating the filesystem. I have used both methods in the past, though admittedly I have limited experience using Command Line (CL), as I only really used it in Linux, but I quickly grew fond of it. While both GUI and CL are fundamentally similar in that they allow the navigation manipulation of digital directories and files, they are also very different in many ways.

GUI, short for Graphical User Interface, is a method of representing data through the use of images, symbols, and interactable buttons. To navigate a directory in GUI, one must find the button associated with the directory, usually labeled with both the directory's name and representative symbol (or icon), and click on it. There are buttons located within the explorer, usually across the top or sides, that aid in more complex navigation. The GUI is designed to be easy to understand and intuitive, making simple tasks quick and efficient.

Command Line (CL) is similar to GUI in that it is a method of representing, navigating, and manipulating data through directories and files, but that is about where the similarity ends. Rather than an icon-based explorer window, CL uses a blank, often black-background text box for navigation. The user navigates through directories by typing a command, such as `cd` (change directory), followed either by the name of the directory (if the desired directory is located within the currently selected one), or a path to it. Users can also chain together multiple commands using a semicolon, allowing one to complete several tasks at once. (Example: "`cd /Users/Bob/Documents; ls -F`" – This will take the user to Bob's Document folder, then reveal everything inside separated by filetype.)

While navigating with a GUI is more user-friendly and easier to learn, when one really *knows* CL, it's a lot faster than GUI, as well as more intimate. With CL, one has the power to manipulate files with far more speed and precision than GUI allows, as well as providing the option to string together multiple steps into a single command, something that is virtually impossible to do in GUI. When one knows CL, one has complete control over one's filesystem, which is extremely useful for anything involving computers. CL is therefore a very useful tool for anyone looking to utilize computers in a fast and efficient manner, such as in a professional environment.