Useful Bash Commands

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cd: change directory

- use tab or double tab to fill in
- Examples:
  - cd ~/Documents
  - cd ..
  - cd ./some_folder

ls: list files

- List all the files in the current directory
- Examples
  - ls
  - ls -a
  - ls -l

Bash basics: command_name -option(s) other_arguments

- Example:
  - ls -lrS

man: looking up user manual for a bash command

- man some_bash_command
- Examples
    - man top
    - man du
    - man ls
- Press 'q' to exit

find: find files or directories

- find . -type f -name '*.R'
- find . -type f -name 'hello_world.*'

du: report usage statistics on the file system

- du -hs *
- du -h -d 1 *

sort: external merge sort

- this makes it possible to sort really huge files, even ones that don't fit into memory, in a reasonable amount of time
- sort -n -k 1 file.txt

  Using Pipe

- ls -la | sort -nr -k 5

Other useful commands

- scp, cp, mv, rm -r
- top
- Dowloading files
  - curl <url> -o <filename>
  - curl http://ota.ox.ac.uk/text/2554.zip -o BNC.zip
  - wget <url> -O <filenames>
- Dealing with compressed file
  - tar -xf <filename>

Running program when you need to log out

nohup: no hang up signal, can log out. run a program in the background (use nice for lower priority)

- default output to nohup.out
- nohup some_program &
- nohup nice some_program &
- Save output to a file: nohup command > file
- Killing a process by PID: kill <PID number>

Exercises

- Find out how many files are in the current directory
  - Hint: Use ls, pipe, and wc