Finneas Colescott

MART 120

Comparing GUI to CLI

While GUI (or graphical user interface) is more commonly used in today’s computing systems, CLI (command line interface) is another way to interact with a device’s operating system. Each of these methods has its pros and cons. GUI can be easier for most users since it allows them to interact with their device while utilizing helpful images and other graphical elements (i.e. a folder system, and app icons, among others). CLI can be a bit more complex to grasp, as it lets the user interact with their device with the help of a number of commands, which they can enter in a terminal or command prompt window. Entering commands in this fashion lends CLI to be more efficient than a traditional GUI setup in most cases, but it can also be harder to use, as users must be aware of the various commands they need in order to complete or execute a task. GUI, on the other hand, can perform much better when it comes to accessing different forms of information, such as plain text, images, videos, gifs, graphs, etc., while CLI only can access and interact with plain text and files. Each of these different interfacing methods has unique pros and cons, making them both very useful depending on the task at hand.