

CS2211b

# Software Tools and Systems Programming



Western  
UNIVERSITY • CANADA

Week 3a  
Pipes

# Announcements

Week 2 Q&A on OWL

Lab 2 on OWL

Minor Update to  
Assignment #1

Quiz Next Lecture!

Midterm Scheduled For:

**Date:** Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

**Time:** 9:30AM to 11:30AM

**Room:** WSC-55

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**3.6** The command **rmdir bar** fails with the message that the directory is not empty. On running **ls bar**, no files are displayed. Why did the **rmdir** command fail?

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**3.19** Will the command **cp foo bar** work if (i) *foo* is an ordinary file and *bar* is a directory, (ii) both *foo* and *bar* are directories?

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**4.10** What do you do to ensure that no one is able to see the names of the files you have?

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**4.14** If umask shows the value (i) 000, (ii) 002, what implications do they have from a security viewpoint?

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**6.14** You want to concatenate two files, *foo1* and *foo2*, but also insert some text after *foo1* and *foo2* from the terminal. How will you do this?

# Week 2 Practice Questions

**6.20 (ii)** Use command substitution to print the listing of a group of filenames stored in a file.



# In-class Activity From Last Week

# In-class Activity

**Individual Activity:** do not have to hand in!

1. Store the text “Hello World!” in the file *hello.txt* using the echo command.
2. Concatenate *file1*, *file2* and *file3* into *file4*. Remember that the cat command can take multiple files.
3. What is the difference between:  

```
wc file
```

 and 

```
wc < file
```
4. Redirect both the standard output and standard error of the command `ls myfile` to the file *out*.

# More on Wild Cards

# More on Wild Cards

Some shell support extra wild card characters:

**[!...]** matches any character NOT between the square brackets  
Example: **b[!aei]t** matches bzt, b3t, b%t, but not bat

**Not supported by C Shell**

**{pat1, pat2, ...}** matches any pattern or string in braces  
Example: **{cat,dog,b?t}** matches cat, dog, bat, b5t, b-t

**Not supported by Bourne Shell**

# More on Wild Cards

## Example:

List any file starting with a non-number character (e.g. bat.txt, \_cat.sh, ZAP)

# More on Wild Cards

## Example:

List any file starting with a non-number character and ending in .txt (e.g. bat.txt, \_cat.txt, ZAP.txt)

**ls [!0-9]\*.txt**

# More on Wild Cards

## Example:

List any file starting with a non-number character and ending in .txt (e.g. bat.txt, \_cat.txt, ZAP.txt)

**ls [!0-9]\*.txt**

**Will not include files that start with . (single dot)**

# More on Wild Cards

## Example:

List any file starting with a non-number character and ending in .txt (e.g. bat.txt, \_cat.txt, ZAP.txt)

**ls [!0-9]\*.txt**

Will not include files that start with . (single dot)

**ls .[!0-9]\*.txt [!0-9]\*.txt**

**ls {.,}[!0-9]\*.txt**



# More on Wild Cards

## A note on capitalization:

The characters in character classes like [a-z] or [A-Z] are based on the local settings of the system. For example:

```
[dservos5@cs2211b testdir]$ ls
0  1  2  3  9  a  A  b  B  c  C  z  Z
[dservos5@cs2211b testdir]$ ls [a-z]
a  A  b  B  c  C  z
[dservos5@cs2211b testdir]$ ls [A-Z]
A  b  B  c  C  z  Z
```

**May not do what you want in terms of capitalization**

# Pipes

# Pipes

- Like redirection but allows us to redirect output streams from one command to input of another.
- Connects standard out of one program to standard in of another program.
- General form:

`command1 | command2`

Output of command1 is sent to input of command2

- Examples:

`who | sort`

`cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w`

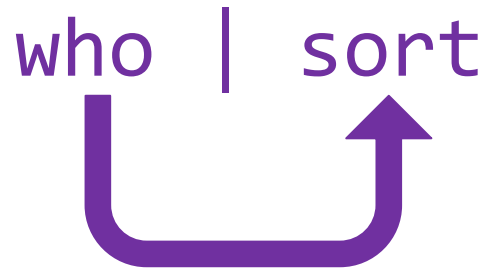
# Pipes

Example:

who | sort

# Pipes

Example:



Output of: who

yguo379	pts/2	2018-01-22	15:08	(nexus-11.wireless.uwo.ca)
plangary	pts/3	2018-01-22	14:50	(nexus-9.wireless.uwo.ca)
dservos5	pts/4	2018-01-22	14:24	(135-23-234-30.cpe.pppoe.ca)
selmolla	pts/5	2018-01-22	14:49	(nexus-11.wireless.uwo.ca)

- Output of who is sent as input to sort command.
- Not displayed on screen.

# Pipes

Example:

`who | sort`

Output of: `who | sort`

dservos5	pts/4	2018-01-22	14:24	(135-23-234-30.cpe.pppoe.ca)
plangary	pts/3	2018-01-22	14:50	(nexus-9.wireless.uwo.ca)
selmolla	pts/5	2018-01-22	14:49	(nexus-11.wireless.uwo.ca)
yguo379	pts/2	2018-01-22	15:08	(nexus-11.wireless.uwo.ca)

- Output from `who` command is sorted by the `sort` command.
- The result is displayed via standard output.
- This command sorts the `who` output by username.

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```



**Output of: cat readme.txt**

Section 6.9 makes use of this feature, while some situations are presented in Chapter 13 (featuring shell programming).

The system's default then applies (666 for files and 777 for directories).

cat reads the file readme.txt and sends it as standard input to the tr command.



# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```



If a character in SET1 is found multiple times in a row, replace it with just one character from SET2.

**Example:** If input is “Hello World” and command is: `tr -s 1 1` result is: “He1o Wor1d” rather than “He11o Wor1d”.

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```



SET1 contains any number from 0 to 9, .  
(single dot), brackets or a space.

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```



SET2 contains only  
a space.

# Pipes


Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```

Output of: cat readme.txt

Section 6.9 makes use of this feature, while some situations are presented in Chapter 13 (featuring shell programming).

The system's default then applies (666 for files and 777 for directories).



```
tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' '
```

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```

Output of: cat readme.txt

Section 6.9 makes use of this feature, while some situations are presented in Chapter 13 (featuring shell programming).

The system's default then applies (666 for files and 777 for directories).

tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' ' '

Output of: tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' ' '

Section makes use of this feature, while some situations are presented in Chapter featuring shell programming

The system's default then applies for files and for directories

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```

Output of: `tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' '`

Section makes use of this feature, while some situations are presented in Chapter featuring shell programming


The system's default then applies for files and for directories

`tr` removes any numbers, periods, and brackets and sends the output to the `wc` command.

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```




26

# Pipes

Example:

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w
```



26

This command counted the number of words in *readme.txt* excluding numbers, periods or brackets as their own words.



# Pipes

## With Redirects

- We can combine pipes and redirects:

```
who | sort > sortedlist.txt
```

```
cat readme.txt | tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' | wc -w > wordcount.txt
```

- Stores the output of the example commands in sortedlist.txt or wordcount.txt
- Can also redirect input:

```
tr -s '[0-9. ()]' ' ' < readme.txt | wc -w > wordcount.txt
```

- cat is not needed as the shell reads readme.txt and redirects it to the input stream of tr.

# Pipes

## tee command

- How can we both output to the screen and save the output in a file?
- For example:

```
sort -u nums.txt
```

Displays the unique lines in nums.txt

# Pipes

## tee command

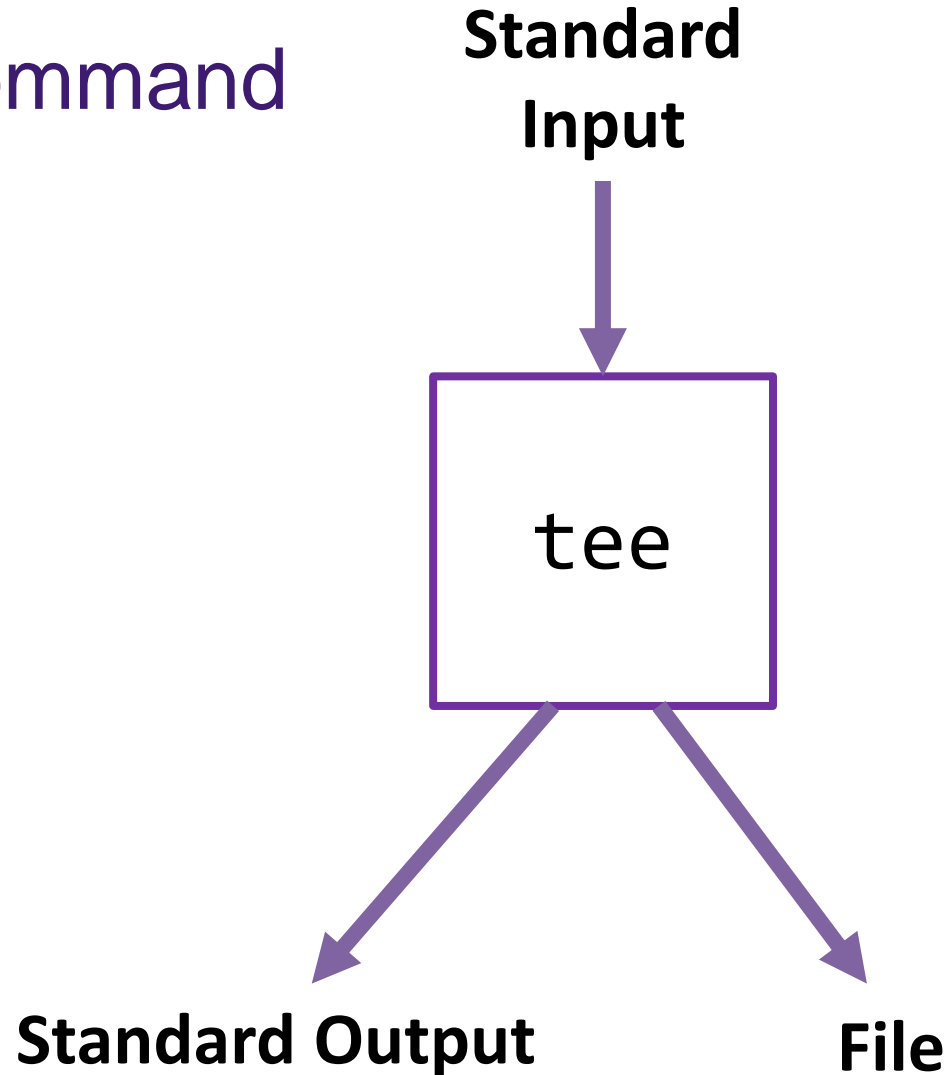
- How can we both output to the screen and save the output in a file?
- For example:

```
sort -u nums.txt | tee output.txt
```

We can use tee command to display and redirect to file.

# Pipes

tee command



# Pipes

## tee command

- Can further pipe output of tee.
- For example:

```
sort -u nums.txt | tee output.txt | wc -l
```

Save the unique lines from nums.txt in output.txt and display the number of unique lines to the standard output.

# In-class Activity

Using pipes:

1. Write a command to count the number of files in the current directory and both display the result to the screen and save it in `out.txt`
2. Using the `hostname` command, write a command to replace any number in the `hostname` with the '#' character (e.g. `cs2211b` would become `cs#b`) and save the result in `out.txt` (do not display).
3. Write a command to display the unique lines in *readme.txt*. Remove . (single dots), brackets and numbers. **Hint:** you will need to make every word on it's own line.

# /dev/null

- Some times you want to throw away your output and not display it to the screen or save it in a file.
- */dev/null* is a special file that is always empty.
- Any files saved to it or output sent to it is discarded.
- Examples:
  - Copy things to here and they disappear:  
`cp myfile /dev/null`
  - Copy from here and get an empty file:  
`cp /dev/null myfile`
  - Redirect error messages to this file and they are discarded:  
`ls -l fileThatDoesNotExist 2> /dev/null`