

```
UEFI - Unified Extensible Firmware Interface
BIOS - Basic Input and Output System
```

- OBJECTIVES:**

The basic steps are:

1. The BIOS/UEFI locates and executes the boot program, or boot

2. The boot loader loads the kernel.

3. The kernel starts the 'init' process(pid=1).

4. `init` manages system initialization, using conventional 'SysVinit'

using 'Upstart' or systemd.

Checkmemory and hardware

/

V

Locates boot program in

1

V

1

V

Kernel

1

Hardware check

1

```
init processes start
```

八

/ | \

1

scripts |

Upstart

-Identify several types of boot loaders.

Types include:

GRUB

LILO - Linux Loader (obsolete)

efilinux - designed for the UEFI mechanism

Das U-Boot - most popular loader for embedded Linux systems; others

include

bareboot.

-Describe what BIOS does.

Checks memory and hardware, then locates Boot loader in MBR

-Identify the relevant configuration files.

they are: /etc/sysconfig for RHEL, and /etc/default for Debian systems

-Describe how the system shuts down and reboots.

commands examples:

sudo shutdown -h +1 "Power Failure imminent"

sudo shutdown -h now

sudo shutdown -r now

sudo shutdown now

FORMAT: shutdown [OPTIONS...] [TIME] [WALL...]

find more help using 'shutdwon --help'

Basic Steps For Computer Startup:

1 - Boot loader

executes 2 - Linux kernel and initrd or initramfs loaded into memory and kernel

3 - init process starts

system services started. 4 - Additional kernel modules(including device drivers) are loaded,

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Chapter 3

OBJECTIVES:

- Explain what the role of the GRUB is.

1 - handles the early phases of system startup

2 - makes it possible to choose alternatives OS

ramdisks at boot time 3 - makes it possible to choose alternative kernels and/or initial

edit configuration 4 - Boot paramters can be easily changed at boot time without having to

files, etc. in advance.

- Understand the differences between the GRUB 1 and GRUB 2 versions.

GRUB 2 :

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- file read at boot are
/boot/grub/grub.cfg or /boot/grub2/grub.cfg
This file is auto-generated by update-grub (or

grub2-mkconfig on RHEL 7)

based on configuration files in the /etc/grub.d directory
and on /etc/default/grub

GRUB 2 :

- file read at boot are
/boot/grub/grub.conf or /boot/grub/menu.lst.
In RHEL 5-7, it can be edited using the 'grubby utility'.

Any changes made will be preserved

but in GRUB 2 any changes to grub.cfg is lost when next it
is auto-generated.

- Be familiar with the interactive selections you can make at boot.
 - on entering the GRUB environment after BIOS setup menu appears
 - menu offers the ffl.:
 - ~ list of bootable images
 - ~ interactive shell - for altering the available

stanzas

- ~ enter pure shell command
- ~ reinstall GRUB

- Know how to install GRUB

GRUB 1 using a program called grub -> \$ sudo grub or grub-install

```
/ > root (hd0, 0)
- install grub program and associated utilities in proper locations
- > setup (hd0)
\ > exit
\
```

GRUB 2 uses a bunch of utilities like grub2-* or grub-*

-> \$ sudo grub2-install /dev/sda

- installing files GRUB needs to operate at boot time, either under
/boot/grub or /boot/grub2
: Linux kernel files vmlinux-*, initramfs-* which need
to be in the /boot directory
- installing GRUB as the boot loader in the system

- Explain how the configuration files that GRUB needs are used and
modified.

- the two locations that are used in the reconstruction of
the /boot/grub2/grub.cfg are:
/etc/default/grub, and
/etc/grub.d

-----<<

GRUB Device Nomenclature

- sda1 is (hd0,1) in GRUB 2 but (hd0,0) in GRUB 1
- sdc4 -s (hd2,4) in GRUB 2 but (hd1,3) in GRUB 1

Note: In the configuration file, each stanza has to specify what the root partition is i.e. the partition that contains the 'kernel' itself(in the /boot directory), say /boot had its own directory /dev/sda1, then

For GRUB 1,

title 3.17.3

root (hd0,0)

kernel vmlinuz-3.17.3 ro root=/dev/sda2 quiet

initrd initramfs-3.17.1.img

If /boot is not in its own partition, it might look like

title 3.17.3

root (hd0,0)

kernel /boot/vmlinuz-3.17.3 ro root=/dev/sda1 quiet

initrd /boot/initramfs-3.17.3.img

it is also fine to do kernel (hd0,0)/vmlinuz

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Chapter 4 init: SystemV, Upstart, Systemd

Steps:

- Device recognition and initialization
- launch system services
- filesystems made available
- start important management systems
- make system available

OBJECTIVE:

- Understand the importance of the 'init' process.
- Explain the traditional SysVinit method works and how it incorporates 'runlevels' and what happens in each one.
- know how to use chkconfig and service to start and stop services or make them persistent across reboots.
- Understand the alternative 'Upstart' and 'systemd'
- Use 'systemctl' to configure and control 'systemd'.

The mother process controller is the /sbin/init or simple called 'init'

Runlevel	Meaning
S,s	Same as 1
0	Shutdown system and turn off
1	Single User Mode
2	Multiple user, no NFS, only text login
3	Multiple user, with NFS and network, only text login
4	Not used
5	Multiple user, with NFS and network, graphical login
6	Reboot

- On start the 'init' process reads the /etc/inittab
 - Here the scripts to be run are mentioned along with other parameters.
 - Format: id:runlevel(s):action:process
 - where:
 - id - a unique 1-4 character identification for the entry
 - runlevel(s) - zero or more single characters or digit indicating runlevel the action will be taken for.
 - action - describes the action to be taken.
 - process - specifies the process to be executed.

```
(init)/sbin/init -----> /etc/inittab ===> (script)rc.sysinit ===>  

(script)rc  

    |  

    ^  

    |  

    |  

    | [start LVM, mount  

fs, etc.] |  

    |  

|  

| <Reads from rc scripts to be run>  

|  

|  

|  

| <makes system to go to  

rc.d/rc[0-6].d and run all scripts there>
```

Note: All runlevel directory link back to the /etc/init.d directory where all the scripts actually reside.

Start scripts start with S in name

Kill scripts start with K in name

--Controlling which initialization scripts are run on entry to each runlevel involves managing the symbolic links,

this can be done manually but the 'chkconfig' utility is used to do this efficiently.

Note: Ubuntu uses update-rc.d inplace of chkconfig

chkconfig usage:

- check service to see if it is set to run in the current level
'chkconfig service_name'

levels

- see what services are configured to run in each of the run

'chkconfig --list [service names]

- Turn on a certain service next time the system boots
'sudo chconfig somme_service on'

- Do not turn on a service next time the system boots
'chkconfig some_service off'

- Change a currently running service
'sudo chkconfig service_name [stop | start]

The chkconfig utility process explained:

Syntax in scripts:

```
# chkconfig: 2345 10 90
--meaning runlevel 2, 3, 4, 5
--start script -> S10
--stop script -> K90
```

UPSTART:

is 'event driven', rather than being a set of serial procedures. Event notifications are sent to the 'init' process to tell it to execute certain commands at the right time after pre-requisites have been fulfilled. 'Upstart' is being superseded by 'systemd'.

Upstart configuration files are:

- /etc/init/rcS.conf
- /etc/rc-sysinit.conf
- /etc/inittab
- /etc/init/rc.conf
- /etc/rc[0-6].d

Upstart events are found in the /etc/event.d or (in Ubuntu)

/etc/apm/event.d

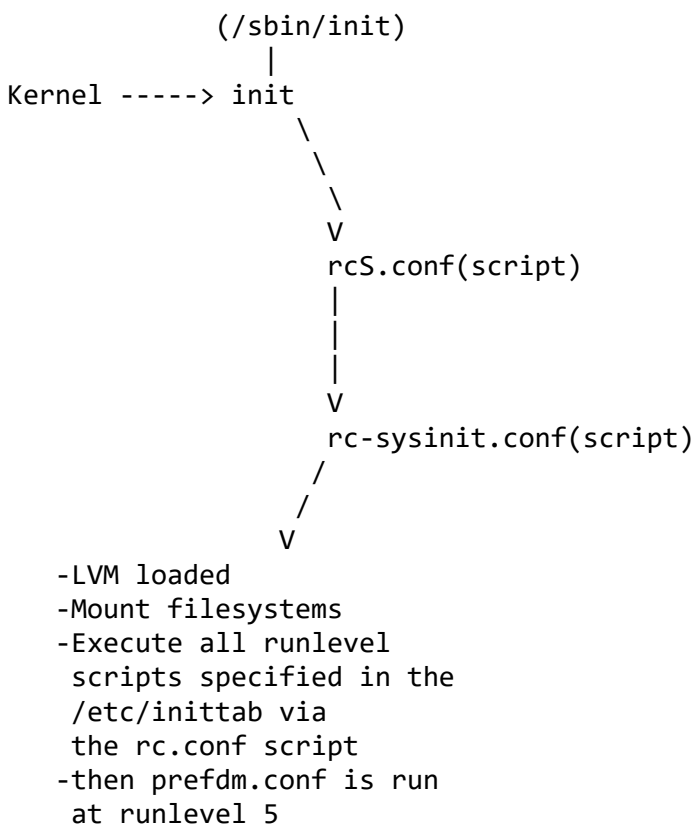
Using 'initctl' you can view, start, stop jobs in much the same way as that 'service' does.

syntax: initctl options command

- options includes: start, stop, restart, reload, status, list, emit

More info: www.ubuntu.com/cookbook

UPSTART STEPS:



SYSTEMD(systemd)

features include:

- compatible with SysVinit scripts.
- Boosts faster.
- provides paralization capabilities.
- Uses socket and D-Bus activation for starting services.
- Replaces scripts with programs.
- Offers on-demand starting daemons
- Keeps track of processes using cgroups(control groups).
- snapshots capabilities and system state restoration.
- can be a drop in replacement for SysVinit.

chp1.txt

- uses '.service' files rather than bash scripts

Examples of new configuration files for systemd are:

- /etc/hostname (redhat, replaces /etc/sysconfig/network)
- /etc/HOSTNAME SUSE
- /etc/hostname Debian
- /etc/vconsole.conf - default keyboard mapping and console font
- /etc/sysctl.d/*.conf - drop-in directory for kernel 'sysctl' parameters
- /etc/os-release - distros ID

Runlevel	Target Units	Description
0	runlevel0.target, poweroff.target	Shut down and power off the system.
1	runlevel1.target, rescue.target	Set up a rescue shell.
2	runlevel2.target, multi-user.target	Set up a non-graphical multi-user system.
3	runlevel3.target, multi-user.target	Set up a non-graphical multi-user system.
4	runlevel4.target, multi-user.target	Set up a non-graphical multi-user system.
5	runlevel5.target, graphical.target	Set up a graphical multi-user system.
6	runlevel6.target, reboot.target	Shut down and reboot the system.

NOTE:-----

SysVinit	systemd
v	v
service utility	systemctl utility
update-rc.d, invoke-rc.d -- Ubuntu, Debian	
sysv-rc-conf -- Ubuntu	
chkconfig -- RHEL, CentOS, Fedora	

'systemctl' is the main utility for managing services in 'systemd'

Basic syntax: \$ systemctl [options] command [name]

Usage examples:

\$ systemctl --> shows status of systemd controlled services

\$ systemctl list-units -t service --all --> show all available services

\$ systemctl list-units -t service --> show only active services

\$ sudo systemctl start foo --> start or activate foo service

sudo systemctl start foo.service

sudo systemctl start /path/to/foo.service

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```
$ sudo systemctl stop foo.service --> stop(deactivate) a service
```

```
$ sudo systemctl enable sshd.service --> to enable or disable a service
sudo systemctl disable sshd.service
```

-- equivalent to chkconfig --add/ --del and doesn't actually start the service.

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Chp 5 Linux Filesystem Tree Layout

Types of file system differ by:

- purpose
- size
- ownership
- sharing

Objectives of chapter 5:

- Explain why Linux requires the organization of one big filesystem tree, and

what the major considerations are for how it is done.

- Know the role played by the Filesystem Hierarchy Standard.

- Describe what must be available at boot in the root(/) directory, and what

can be available only once the system has started.

- Explain each of the main subdirectory trees in terms of purpose and contents.

File systems are:

1. Shareable vs. non-shareable
2. Variable vs static

File main directories present in FHS

Directory	In FHS?	Purpose
/	Yes	Primary directory of the entire file system hierarchy.
/bin	Yes	Essential executable programs that must be available in 'single user mode'.
/boot	Yes	Files needed to boot - kernel, initrd or initramfs, images, boot configuration files and bootloader programs.
/dev	Yes	Device nodes, used to interact with hardware devices.
/etc	Yes	System wide configuration files.
/home	Yes	User home directories including personal settings, files, etc.
/lib	Yes	Libraries required by executable binaries in .bin and /sbin.

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/lib64	No	64-bit libraries requires by executable binaries in /bin and /sbin, for systems which can run both 32-bit and 64-bit programs.
/media	Yes	Mount points for removable media such as CDs, DVDs, USB sticks etc.
/mnt	Yes	Temporarily mounted filesystems.
/opt	Yes	Optional application software packages.
/proc	Yes	Virtual pseudo-filesystem giving information about the system and processes running on it
		Can be used to alter system parameters.
/sys	No	Virtual pseudo-filesystem giving information about the system and processes running on it. Can be used to alter system parameters. Similar to a device tree and is part of the Unified Device Model.
/root	Yes	Home directory of the root user.
/sbin	Yes	Essential system binaries.
/srv	Yes	Site-specific data served up by the system. Seldom used.
/tmp	Yes	Temporary files; on many distributions lost across reboot and may be a ramdisk in memory.
/usr	Yes	Multi-user applications, utilities and data; theoretically read-only.
/var	Yes	Variable data that changes during system operation.

The three files associated with each 'bootable kernel' are:

- vmlinuz -- compressed Linux kernel
- initramfs or initrd -- Initial RAM Filesystem, mounted before the real root filesystem becomes available.
- config -- configuration file used when compiling the kernel. Used mainly for bookkeeping and reference
- System.map -- The kernel 'symbol table', useful for debugging. Gives the 'hexadecimal addresses' of all kernel symbols.

/bin

contains executable binaries needed by both admin and unprivileged users.
may not contain subdirectories

/boot

two main absolutely essential files are: vmlinuz --> compressed kernels
initramfs --> initial RAM
Filesystem

/dev

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contains special device files(also known as device nodes) this represent devices built into or connected to the system.

network devices do not have device nodes in Linux and are referenced by names such as eth1 or wlan0

/etc

contains machine-local configuration files; there should be no executable binary programs.

sample files and directories include:

- /etc/sysconfig -- system configuration and directories (Red Hat)

- /etc/default -- same as above (Debian)

- /etc/skel -- contains skeleton files used to populate newly created home directories

- /etc/init.d -- contains start up and shut down scripts when using System V initialization

/home

contains all personal configuration, data, and executable programs.

/lib

contains only those libraries needed to execute the binaries in /bin and /sbin. These are useful for booting the system

and executing commands within the filesystem.

kernel modules(device and filesystem drivers) are located under /lib/modules/<kernel-version-number>

PAM(Pluggable Authentication Modules) files are stored in the /lib/security

Systems that support both 32-bit and 64-bit libraries use /lib and /lib64 respectively.

/media

used to mount filesystems on removable media such as CDs, DVDs, and USB drives or even old floppy disks

on SUSE and RHEL 7 removable media will pop up under /run/media/[username]/....

/mnt

used to temporarily mount a filesystem when needed. Like

- NFS

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- Samba
- CIFS
- AFS

/opt

used by software packages that wish to keep all their files in one isolated place rather than scatter them all over the system.

Example: `dolphy_app -- /opt/dolphy_app/bin, /opt/dolphy_app/man`

Special subdirectories of /opt are:

`/opt/bin`

/proc

mount point for a pseudo-filesystem, where information only resides in memory, not on disk. Like /dev the /proc is empty on a non-running system.

Here each active process on the system has its own subdirectory that gives detailed information about the state of the process, the resources it is using, and its history.

Important pseudo-files include:

- /proc/interrupts -----
- /proc/meminfo |
- /proc/mounts |-----> system's hardware
- /proc/partitions -----
- /proc/filesystem -----|
- /proc/sys/-----|-----> system configuration

information and interfaces

/sys

mount point for sysfs pseudo-filesystem, where information resides only in memory

sysfs is used both to gather information about the system, and modify its behaviour while running.

/root

home directory of the root user

/sbin

contains binaries essential for booting, restoring, recovering, and/or

repairing

must be able to mount other filesystems on /usr, /home and other locations

these programs should be included here:

- fdisk, fsck, getty, halt, ifconfig, init, mkfs, mkswap, reboot, route, swapon, swapoff, update.

contains binaries essential for booting, restoring, recovering, and/or repairing in addition to those binaries in /bin.

they must also be able to mount other filesystems on '/usr, /home' and other locations, once the root system is known to be in good health during boot.

The following programs shld be included in this directory, if their subsystems are installed:

fdisk, fsck, getty, halt, ifconfig, init, mkfs, mkswap, reboot, route, swapon, swapoff, update.

Note: some recent repos are merging /sbin and /usr/sbin as well as /bin and /usr/bin.

/tmp

store temporary files, accessed by any user
reset /tmp behaviour on RHEL 6 using 'systemctl mask tmp.mount
for temporary files
regularly cleaned of its contents at regular basis using 'cron jobs' or
'at reboot'
files here are stored in memory not disk
Note: canceling the usage of /tmp for creating large files can be done
using the command: systemctl mask tmp.mount, then 'reboot'

/usr

secondary hierarchy
used for files that are not needed for system booting.
may be located at location different from root directory
software packages should not create subdirectories directly under /usr
typically read-only data
contains binaries which are not needed in single user mode

Directory	Purpose
-----	-----
/usr/bin	binaries for applications not needed in single user
mode	
/usr/include	header files for compiling applications
/usr/lib	Libraries for programs in /bin and /sbin.
/usr/lib64	64-bit libraries for 64-bit programs in /bin and /sbin.
/usr/sbin	Non-essential system binaries, e.g. system daemons.
/usr/share	Shared data used by applications,
architecture-independent	

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/usr/src	Source files usually for linux kernel.
/usr/X11R6	X Window files; generally obsolete.
/usr/local	Local data and programs specific to the host.

Subdirectories include bin, sbin, lib, share, include, etc.

/var

contains variable (or volatile) data files that change frequently during system operation.

Examples:

- Log file
- Spool directories and files for printing, mail queues, etc.
- Admin data files
- Transient and temporary files

	Directory	Purpose
	/var/ftp	ftp server base
	/var/lib	Persistent data modified by programs as they
run.		
	/var/lock	Lock files used to control simultaneous access
to resources.		
	/var/log	Log files
	/var/mail	User mailboxes
	/var/run	Information about the running system since the
last boot.		
	/var/spool	Tasks spooled or waiting to be processed, such
as print queues.		
	/var/tmp	Temporary files to be persisted across reboot,
at times linked to /tmp		
	/var/www	Root for website hierarchies.

/run

stores transient files: those that contain run-time information, which may need to be written early in system startup.

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Chapter 6

This lies at the heart of the Linux operating system.

It controls access to hardware, competition for resources between different

chp1.txt

applications and other tasks, handles I/O activity and files and data storage, security, networking, etc.

Adding kernel command line parameters at boot time, the system can be made to behave in many different ways.

Learning Objectives:

- grasp the main responsibilities the kernel must fulfill and how it achieves them.
- Explain what parameters can be set on the kernel command line and how to make them effective either for just one system boot, or persistently.
- know where to find detailed documentation on these parameters.
- know how to use sysctl to set kernel parameters either after the system starts, or persistently across system reboots.

kernel serves as a connection between hardware and software handles all connected devices using 'device drivers'

Main kernel:

- system initialization and boot up.
- process scheduling
- memory management
- controlling access to hardware
- I/O between applications and storage devices.
- Implementation of local and network filesystems.
- Security control, both locally (such as filesystem permissions) and over the network.
- networking control.

Kernel Command Line:

GRUB version 1
/boot/grub/grub.conf
GRUB version 2
/boot/grub2/grub.cfg

cat /proc/cmdline -- shows what cmdline a system was booted with.

-Kernel Boot Parameters:

sources of documentation for kernel parameters includes:-

- in the kernel source Documentation/kernel-parameters.txt
- Online, at

<http://kernel.org/doc/Documentation/kernel-parameters.txt>

- On the as kernel-doc or linux-doc
- By typing 'man dootparam'

parameters may be typed as an argument or in the form param=value, where value can be a 'string, integer, array of integers etc.

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Bootparameters:

- ro -- mounts root device read-only on boot.
- root -- root filesystem
- rd_LVM_LV -- it activates the root filesystem in the logical volume specified
- rd_NO_LUKS -- disables crypto LUKS detection.
- rd_NO_DM -- disables DM RAID detection.
- LANG -- is the system language.
- SYSFONT -- is the console font.
- KEYTABLE -- is the keytable filename.
- rhgb -- for graphical boot support on Red Hat systems.
- quiet -- disables most log messages.

'sysctl' interface can be used to read and tune kernel parameters at run time. To display current values - 'sysctl -a'

- More details: sysctl use -- man 8 sysctl
sysctl() use -- man 2 sysctl
- if settings are in /etc/sysctl.conf -- man sysctl.conf

Note:

kernel command line allows specification of start up options
sysctl allows specification of run time options

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Chapter 7 Kernel Modules

Objectives:

- list the advantages of utilizing kernel modules.
- use insmod, rmmod, and modprobe to load and unload kernel modules.
- know how to use modinfo to find out information about kernel modules.

Advantages of kernel modules include:

- it facilitates development
- kernel reboots are not required
-

Module utilities:

- lsmod -- list modules
- insmod -- directly load modules
- rmmod -- directly remove modules
- modprobe -- load or unload modules, using a pre-built module database with dependency information
- depmod -- rebuild the module dependency database; needed by modprobe and modinfo
- modinfo -- display information about a module.

Syntax for load and unloading modules

sudo /sbin/rmmod module_name


```
chp1.txt
sudo /sbin/insmod <pathto>/module_name
```

-----OR using modprobe-----

```
sudo /sbin/modprobe module_name
sudo /sbin/modprobe -r module_name
```

information on modules can be gotten using:

```
modinfo module_name OR /sbin/modinfo my_module, /sbin/modinfo
<pathto>/my_module.ko
```

A modules status can be seen in the /sys pseudo-filesystem directory tree

- e.g.:

```
for module e1000
/sys/module/e1000
```

some or if not all parameters can be 'read or written' under /sys/module/e1000/parameters

Module parameters:loading module with parameters

```
sudo /sbin/insmod <pathto>/e1000.ko debug=2 copybreak=256
sudo /sbin/modprobe e1000 debug=2 copybreak=256
```

Note: files in the /etc/modprobe.d control some parameters that come into play when using modprobe

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Chapter 8. Devices and UDEV

Linux uses udev to discover devices (hardware and peripheral) both during boot and later on when connected to the system.

Device nodes are created automatically and then used by apps and OS subsystems to communicate with and transfer data to and from devices.

Objectives:

- Explain the role of 'device nodes and how they use major and minor numbers.
- Understand the need for the udev method and list its key components.
- Describe how the udev device manager functions.
- Identify udev rule files and learn how to create custom rules.

Character and block devices have filesystem entries associated with them; network devices in Linux do not.

These device nodes can be used by programs to communicate with devices, using I/O system calls such as 'open(), close(), read(), and write().

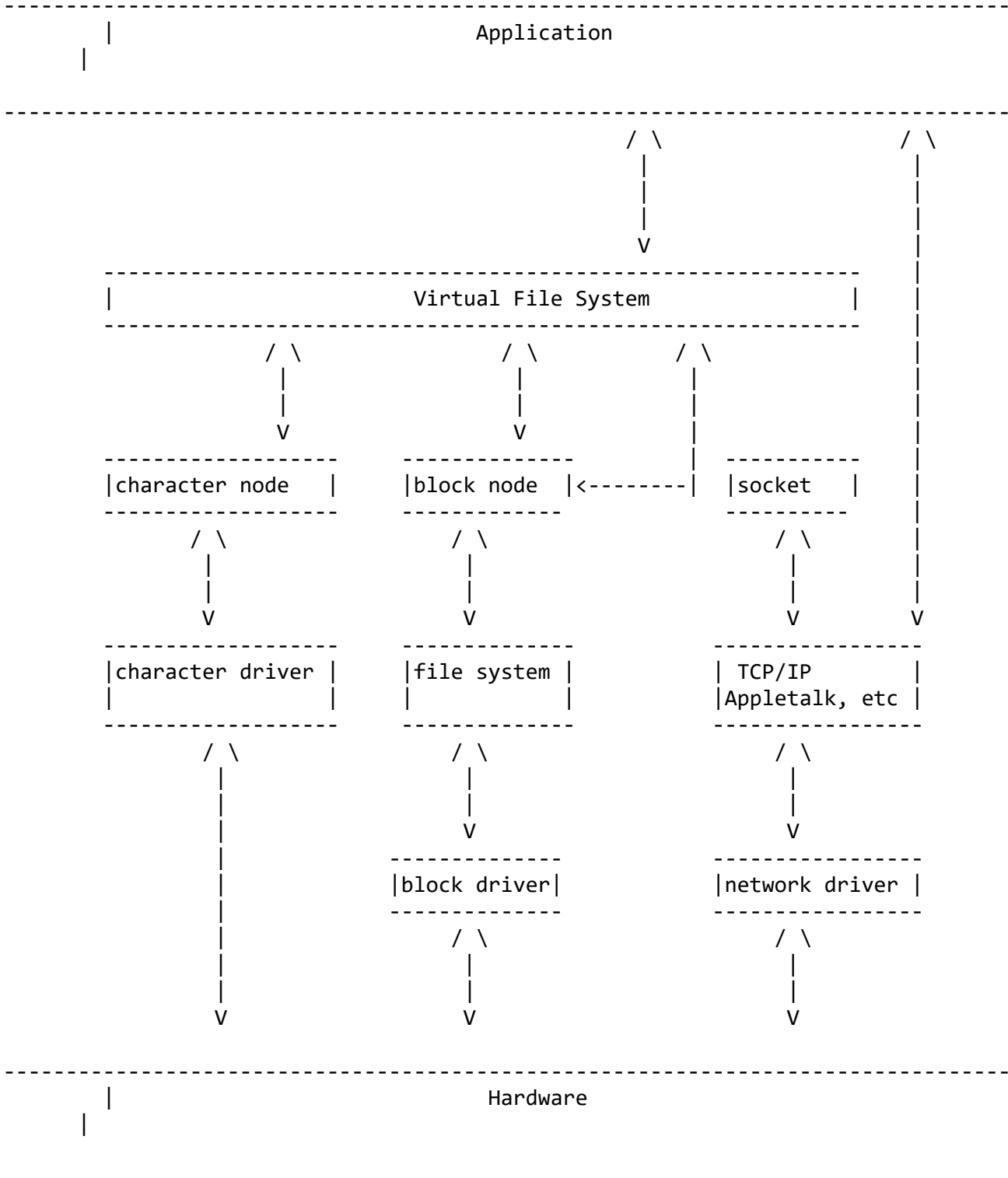
Network devices work by transmitting and receiving packets of data.

Device nodes can be created with:

```
sudo mknod [-m mode] /dev/name <type> <major> <minor>
```

chp1.txt
e.g., `mknod -m 666 /dev/mycdrv c 254 1`

Device Nodes -----



The 'major' and 'minor' numbers identify the driver associated with the device.

In most cases (but not all) device nodes of the same type (block or character) with the same major number use the same driver.

Minor numbers are used only by the device driver to differentiate between the different devices it may control.

mknod() and stat() : return information about 'major' and 'minor' numbers.

udev:

POSIX -- Portable Operating System Interface

udev -- user device

Handles the dynamical generation of device nodes. It replaced devfs and hotplug

udev Components:

udev runs a daemon(udevd or systemd-udev) and monitors a netlink socket.

mechanism: device --ADDED--> uevent kernel facility --SENDS MESSAGE--> socket --> udev [adds or removes nodes]

- libudev -: library which allows access to information about the devices

- udevd -: daemon that manages the /dev directory.

- udevadm -: utility for control and diagnostics.

udev main configuration file: /etc/udev/udev.conf

udev naming rules file: /etc/udev/rules.d

udev Device Manager:-

mechanism --: udev[receives message from kernel] --PARSES--> Rule-Setting Files[in /etc/udev/rules.d/*.rules]

Actions taken includes:-

- device node naming

- device node and symbolic links creation.

- setting file permissions and ownership for the device node.

- taking other actions to initialize and make device available.

These rules are completely customizable

udev rules are located under:

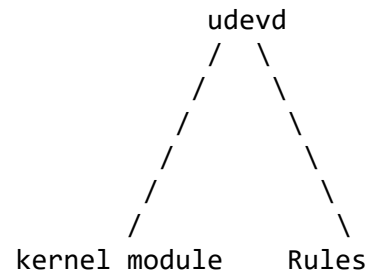
/etc/udev/rules.d/<rulename>.rules, e.g. 30-usb.rules, 90-mycustom.rules

Create device node in

/dev

/ \
|
|
|

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database

Creating udev Rules

format: <match><op>value [, ...] <assignment><op>value [, ...]

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Chapter 9. Partitioning and Formatting

Disks

Schemes are selected based on the following:

- size of system
- number of users and their needs
- type of hardware available
- type of data bus to which the storage is attached

Objectives:

- Describe and contrast the most common types of hard disks and data buses.
- Explain disk geometry and other partitioning concepts.
- Understand how disk devices are named and how to identify their associated device nodes.
- Distinguish among and select different partitioning strategies.
- Use utilities such as blkid and fdisk.
- Back up and restore partition tables

Common Disk Types:

- IDE and EIDE(Integrated Drive Electronics, and Enhanced IDE) obsolete
- SATA(Serial Advanced Technology Attachment) seen as SCSI devices by the OS smaller cable size(7 pins) when compared to PATA, a.k.a.

IDE

native hot swapping, and faster
more efficient data transfer
can handle 16GB/s, but 3 GB/s and 6 GB/s are more common

- SCSI(Small Computer Systems Interface)
lower capacity than SATA
faster than SATA
work better in parallel, as when used in RAID

configurations

versions may include:- Fast, Wide, Ultra, and UltraWide

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more varied device drivers unlike SATA

disk range vary from 8 bit bus to 16 bit bus

transfer rate of 5 MB/s(narrow, standard SCSI) to about 160 MB/s (Ultra-Wide SCSI-3)

Single ended device controllers [host up to 7 devices, max cable length 6 meters]

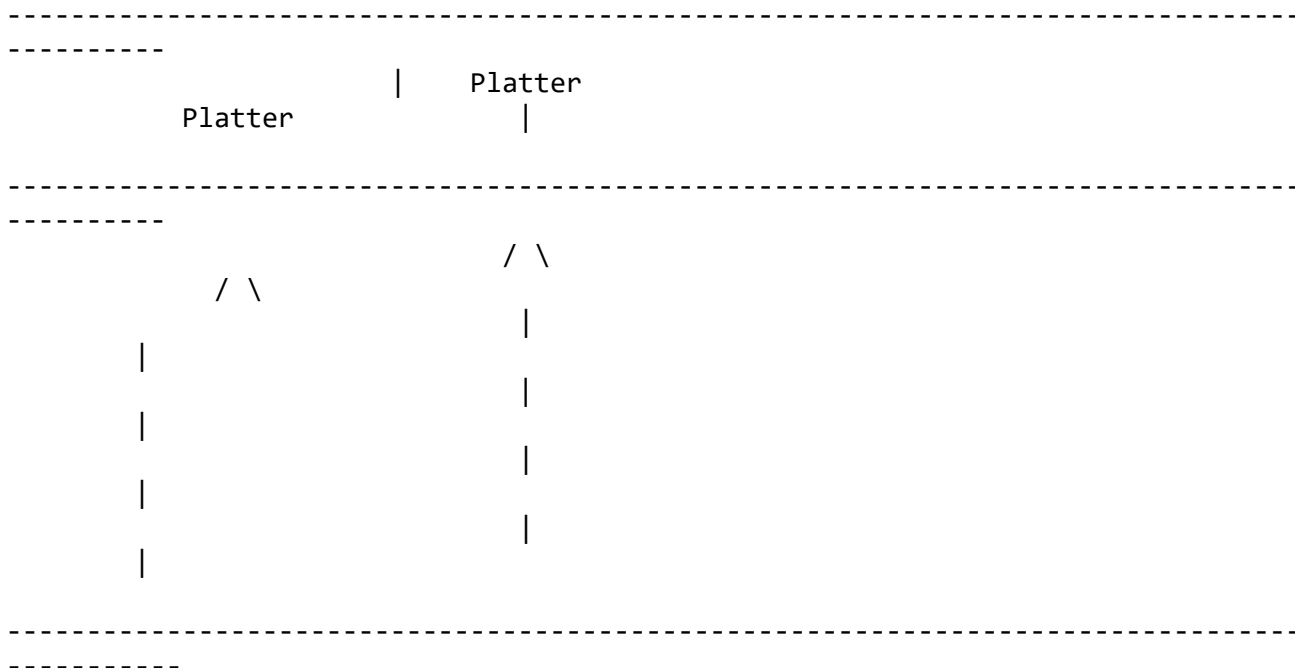
Differential controllers[host up to 15 devices, max length 12 meters]

- SAS(Serial Attached SCSI)
 - newer point to point serial protocol replacing the earlier Parallel SCSI interface
 - data transfer rate similar to SATA
 - better performance
- USB(Universal Serial Bus)
 - include pen drives and extensible USB drives
 - OS sees them as SCSI devices
 - in the same category as SSDs drives

Disk Geometry:

- parameters include:-
 - heads, cylinders, tracks and sectors
- Structure:-

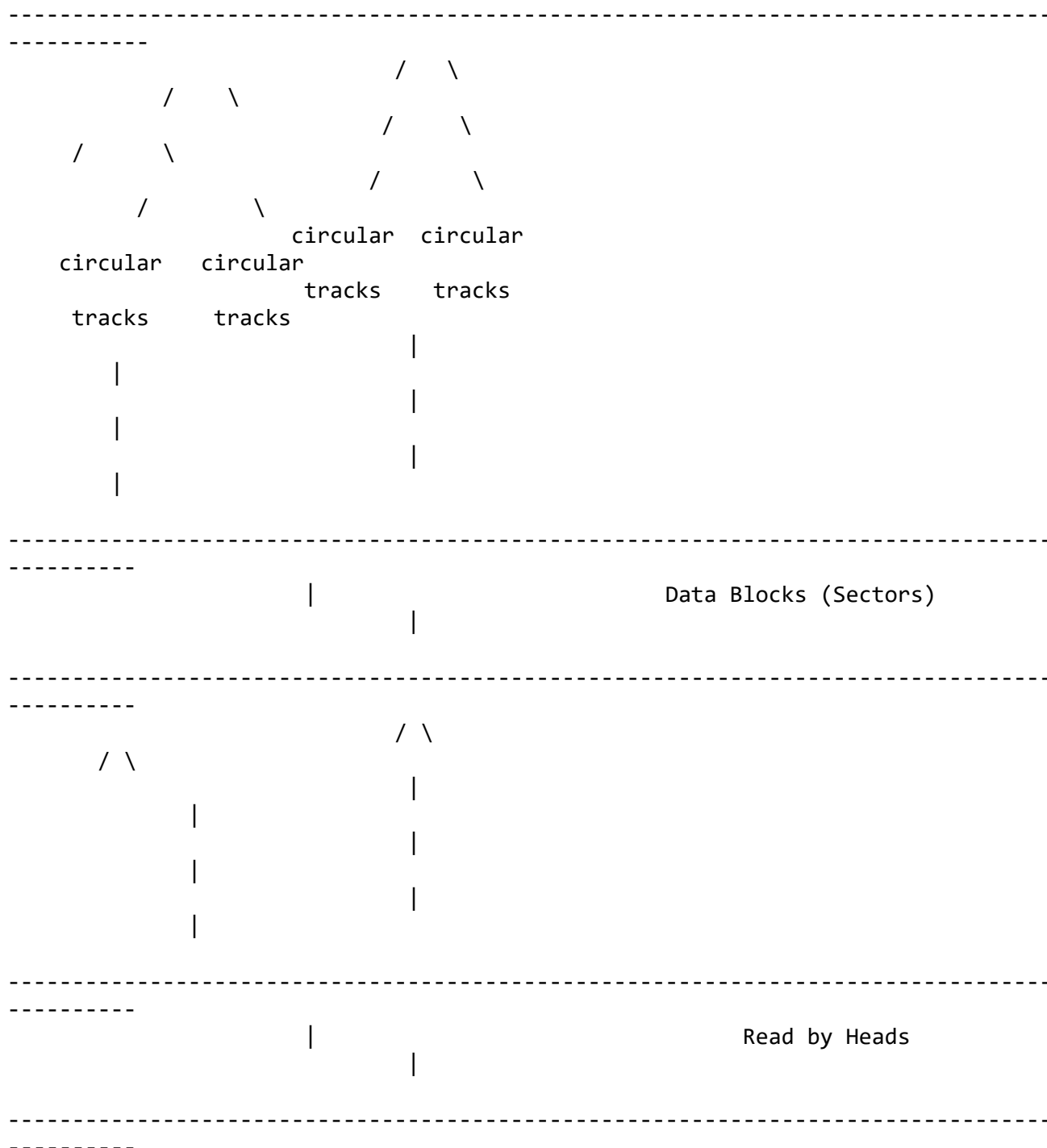
DISKS
/ \



chp1.txt

all sectors)

Cylinders(group of similar platters on

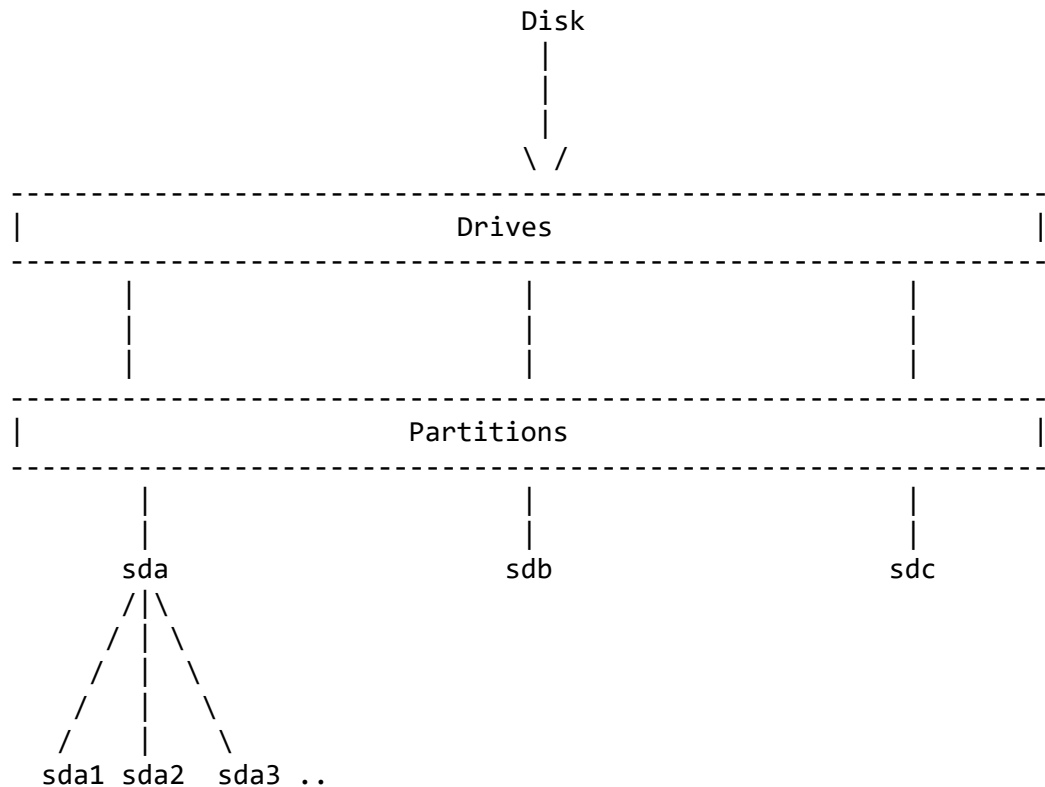


Partitioning:

disks are divided into partitions based on physically contiguous groups of sectors or cylinders.

SCSI and SATA support up to 15 partitions, where 1-4 are primary

and 5-15 logical partitions
structure:



Why Partition?

- separation -- separating installation files from user files
- sharing -- keeping shared resources like /home on central

location

- security -- imposing quotas, permissions and settings
- size -- preventing accumulated data from crashing OS
- performance --
- swap -- hibernation schemes can use this

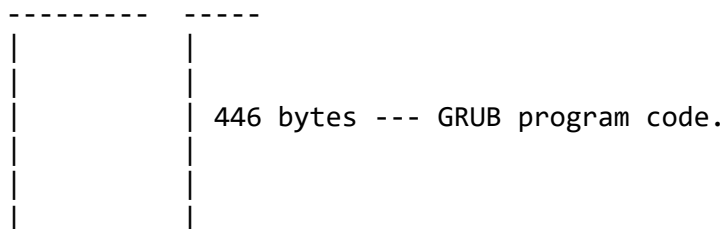
Partition Table:

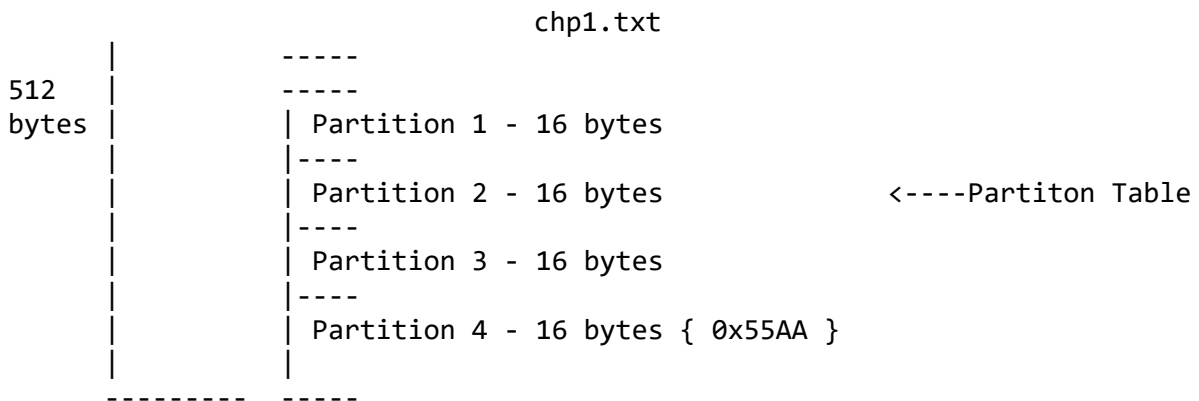
- The disk partition table is contained within the Master Boot Record(MBR), and the MBR is 512bytes in length.

structure is defined by an operating system-independent convention.

- The parttion table is 64 bytes long and is placed after the 446 byte boot record

--: structure -
MBR






```

                                chp1.txt
controller 1 => target ID number 2 & 5
                                \   \
                                \   \
                                \   \ /dev/sdd
                                \   \
                                \   \ /dev/sdc

```

blkid and lsblk:

blkid is a utility to locate block devices and report on their attributes
 blkid works with libblkid library, takes as an argument a particular
 device or list of devices

Usage:

```
sudo blkid /dev/sda*
```

blkid will only work on devices that contain data that is
 finger-printable; e.g., empty partition will not generate a block-identity UUID

blkid - forms of operations:

- 1 - searching for a device with a specific NAME=value pair, or
- 2 - displaying NAME=value pairs for one or more devices

lsblk - will represent information in a tree format.

Linux systems shld use a minimum of two partitions:

- /root:
 - used for the entire logical system
- Swap:
 - used as an extension of physical memory
 - used as virtual memory

Backing Up and Restoring Partition Tables:

this helps to restore the former partition of disk if new partition fails

```
backup - sudo dd if=/dev/sda of=mbrbackup bs=512 count=1
```

```
restore - sudo dd if=mbrbackup of=/dev/sda bs=512 count=1
```

Partition Table Editors:

- fdisk: menu driven partition table editor
- sfdisk: non-interactive partition editor program, useful in scripting
- parted: GNU partition manipulation program.
- gparted: widely used graphical interface to parted

Using fdisk:

```
start: sudo fdisk /dev/sdb
```

the main (one-letter) commands are:

- m: Display the menu
- p: List the partition table.
- n: Create a new partition.
- d: Delete a partition.
- t: Change a partition type.

chp1.txt

- w: Write the new partition table information and exit.
- q: Quit without making changes.

cat /proc/partitions - will show you the partition operating system is currently aware of.

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Chapter 10. Encryption Disks

Linux distributions most often use the 'LUKS' method and perform encryption-related tasks using 'cryptsetup'.

OBJECTIVES:

- provide sound reasons for using encryption and know when it is called for.
- understand 'LUKS' operations through the use of 'cryptsetup'.
- be able to setp and use encrypted filesystems and partitions.
- know how to configure the system to mount encrypted partitions at boot.

Why use encryption:

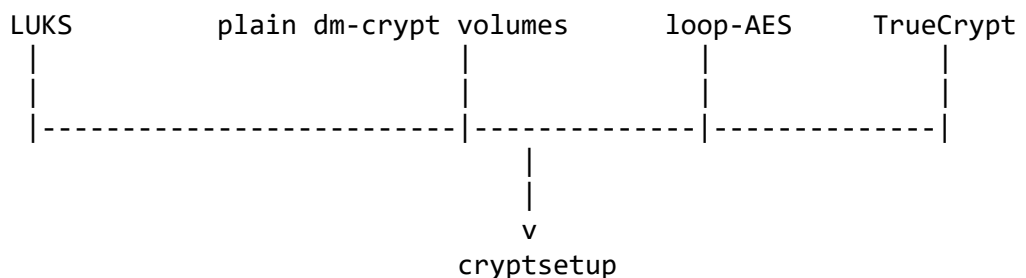
Configuration and using block device level encryption provides aone of the strongest protections agianst harm caused by loss or compromise of data contained in hard drives and other media.

Note: Encryption can not be carried out on an already existing partition in place without a data copying operation.

LUKS:

block level encryption is provided through the use of LUKS(Linux Unified Key Setup).

LUKS is highly recommended for portable systems e.g. laptops, tablets, smartphones.



LUKS stores all necessary information in the partition header itself, it is rather easy to migrate partitions to other disks or systems.

LUKS can also be used to transparently encrypt swap partitions.

Cryptsetup:

command format -

cryptsetup [option...] <action> <action-specific>

listing possibilities ->

chp1.txt

cryptsetup --help

Using an Encrypted Partition:

if the LVM partition '/dev/VG/MYSECRETE' already exists the following steps will setup encryption

- > 1. Make it available to LUKS
- 2. format it
- 3. mount it
- 4. use it
- 5. unmount it

-->

sudo cryptsetup luksFormat /dev/VG/MYSECRET -- (if kernel doesn't support the default method used by 'cryptsetup' use sudo cat /proc/crypto to find out which your system supports)

sudo cryptsetup luksFormat --cipher aes /dev/VG/MYSECRET

sudo cryptsetup --verbose luksOpen /dev/VG/MYSECRET SECRET

sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/mapper/SECRET

mount it -->

sudo mount /dev/mapper/SECRET /mnt

unmount it -->

sudo umount /mnt

remove the mapper -->

sudo cryptsetup --verbose luksClose SECRET

Mounting at Boot:

Steps include -->

- make appropriate entry in /etc/fstab
- add entry to /etc/crypttab
- such as 'SECRET /dev/mapper/MYSECRET

Steps for Using LUKS:

- create a partition for the encrypted block device
- format with cryptsetup
- create an un-encrypted pass through device
- format with a standard filesystem such as ext4
- mount the filesystem on the encrypted block device

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Chp11. Linux Filesystems and the VFS(Virtual File System)

Structure of Linux file system:

software <-----> VFS <-----> on-disk filesystem

Objectives:

- explain the basic filesystem organization.
- understand the role of the VFS.
- know what filesystems are available in Linux and which ones can be used

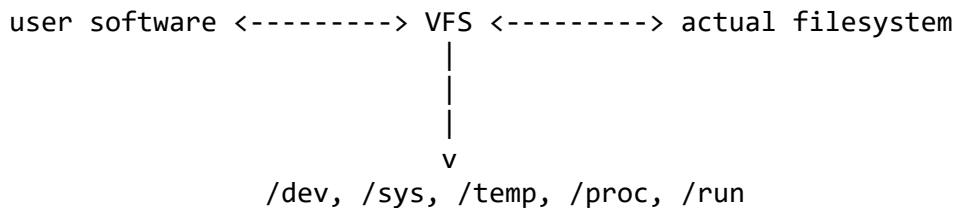
on your actual system.

- grasp why journaling filesystem represent significant advances.
- discuss the use of special filesystems in Linux.

Local filesystems generally reside within a disk partition which can be a physical partition on a disk, or a logical partition controlled by a Logical Volume Manager (LVM).

Filesystems can also be of a network nature and their true physical embodiment completely hidden to the local system across the network.

VFS:



Journalling Filesystems:

These recover from system crashes or ungraceful shutdowns with little or no corruption, and they do so very rapidly.

Here operations are grouped into transactions, each must be completed without error, atomically; otherwise the filesystem is not changed.

Examples include:

- ext3, extension of ext2
- ext4, enhanced ext3
- reiserfs, formally for linux
- JFS, IBM
- XFS, RHEL
- btrfs, latest journalling filesystem under rapid

development.

Current Filesystem Types:

to see system currently registered and understood filesystem.

cat /proc/filesystems

Special Filesystems:

Filesystem	Mount Point	Purpose
rootfs	None	During kernel load,
provides an empty root directory.		
hugtlbfs	Anywhere	Provides extended page
access (2 or 4 MB on x86)		
bdev	None	Used for block devices.
proc	/proc	Pseudo filesystem access
to many kernel structures and subsystems.		
sockfs	None	Used by BSD Sockets.
tmpfs	Anywhere	RAM disk with swapping,
re-sizing.		
shm	None	Used by System C IPC

chp1.txt

Shared Memory.		
pipefs	None	Used for pipes.
binfmt_misc	Anywhere	Used by various
executable formats.		
devpts	/dev/pts	Used by Unix98
pseudo-terminals.		
usbfs	/proc/bus/usb	Used by USB sub-system
for dynamical devices.		
sysfs	/sys (or elsewhere)	Used as a device tree.
debugfs	/sys/kernel/debug (or	Used for simple debugging
file access.	elsewhere)	

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Chpt.12. Filesystem Features: Attributes, Creating,

Checking, Mounting

Objectives:

- be familiar with concepts such as inodes, directory files and extended attributes.
- create and format filesystems.
- check and fix errors on filesystems.
- mount and unmount filesystems.

Inodes:

is a data structure on disk that describes and stores file attributes, including location.

the information stored includes --

- > permissions
- > user and group ownership
- > size
- > timestamps (nanoseconds)
 - last access time
 - last modification time
 - change time

Directory Files:

is a particular type of file that is used to associate file names and inodes.

two ways to associate (or link) a file name with an inode:

- > HARD links point to an inode.
- > SOFT (or symbolic) links point to a file name which has an associated inode.

process references pathname ---> kernel [searches directories to find corresponding inode number]

converts name to inode

number --> loads into memory

Extended Attributes and lsattr/chattr:

extended attributes associate not interpreted directly by the filesystem with files.

Namespaces used in fileattributes:

- > user,
- > trusted,
- > system - access control list (ACL),
- > security- SELinux.

format: chattr [-|+|=mode] filename (change attribute)
 lsattr filename (list file attribute)

Namespaces:

user --

flags --> i: immutable, a: append-only, d: no-dump,

A: No atime update

Creating and Formatting Filesystems:

utility for formatting (making) filesystem on a partition is

'mkfs'

format --> mkfs [-t fstype] [options] [device name], e.g.: sudo

mkfs -t ext4 /dev/sda10 OR sudo mkfs.ext4 /sda10

Checking and Fixing Filesystems:

utility for checking and fixing any errors in a filesystem is

'fsck'

format --> sudo fsck -t ext4 /dev/sda10 OR sudo fsck.ext4

/dev/sda10

--> fsck [-t fstype] [options] [device-file]

Note: SHOULD ONLY BE RUN ON UNMOUNTED FILESYSTEMS.

to do so run the following command --> sudo touch /forcefsck,

sudo reboot

Mount:

Each file system is mounted under a specific directory as in:

--> sudo mount -t ext4 /dev/sdb4 /home

mounting files using label or a UUID

--> sudo mount /dev/sdb4 /home

--> sudo mount LABEL=home /home

--> sudo mount -L home /home

--> sudo mount UUID=26d58ee2-94jjfhhv0-vnskjs-44ns48 /home

--> sudo mount -U UUID=26d58ee2-94jjfhhv0-vnskjs-44ns48 /home

with mount --help you get a quick summary of mount options

unmount:

umount [device-file | mount-point]

--> sudo umount /home

chp1.txt

```
--> sudo umount /dev/sda3
```

Mounting Filesystem at Boot:

this command will show you how to mount all filesystems listed in the /etc/fstab at boot

```
--> cat /etc/fstab
```

Listing Currently Mounted Filesystems:

```
--> mount
```

Notes:

```
format filesystems --> mkfs
```

checking and fixing errors --> fsck

```
list file attributes --> lsattr
```

change file attribute --> chattr

```
list open files --> lsof
```

<----->

Chapter 13. Filesystem Features: Swap, Quotas,

Usage.

Linux uses robust 'swap space' implementation through which the virtual memory system permits the apparent use of memory than is physically available.

Filesystem quotas can be used to administer user account usage of disk space.

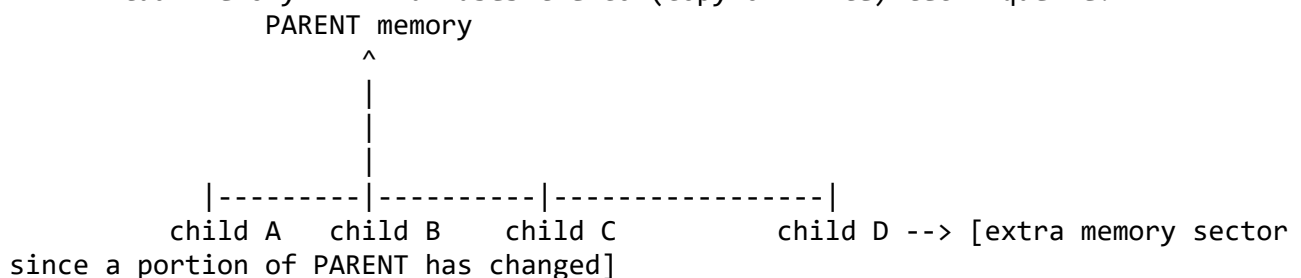
Utilities such as 'df' and 'du' enable easy monitoring of filesystem usage and capacities.

Objectives:

- explain the concepts of swap and quotas.
- use the utilities that help manage quotas: quotacheck, quotaon, quotaoff, edquota, and quota.
- use the utilities df and du.

Swap:

virtual memory in Linux uses the COW(Copy On Write) technique ie:



- when memory pressure is high 'less active memory regions are swapped

out to disk' and only recalled when needed.

- In most cases the recommend swap size is the RAM
- to see what ure system is currently using for swap areas: `$ cat /proc/swaps`
and current usage: `$ free -o`
- commands invovling swap are:
 - `mkswap`: format a swap partition or file
 - `swapon`: activate a swap partition or file
 - `swapoff`: deactivate a swap partition or file

Quotas:

- `quotacheck`:- generates and updates quota accounting files
- `quotaon`:- enable quota accounting
- `quotaoff`:- disables quota accounting
- `edquota`:- used for editing user of group quotas.
- `quotas`:- reports on usage and limits.

Note:

Quota operations require the existence of the files 'aquota.user and aquota.group' in the root directory of the filesystem using quotas.

Setting up Quotas:

- steps include:-
 - mount the filesystem with user and/or group quota options:
 - add the userquota and/or grpquota options to the filesystem entry in /etc/fstab
 - remount the filesystem (or mount it if new)
 - run 'quotacheck' on the filesystem to set up quotas.
 - enable quotas on the filesystem
 - set quotas with the edquota program.

Setting up Quotas:

- in /etc/fstab:- `/dev/sda5 /home ext4 defaults,usrquota 1 1`
- then test the system:
 - `sudo mount -o remount /home`
 - `sudo quotacheck -vu /home`
 - `sudo quotaon -vu /home`
 - `sudo edquota someuser`

- fstab options include: `usrquota` and `grpquota`

quotacheck:

creates/updates the quota accounting files aquota.user and aquota.group for the system

- to update user files for all filesystems in /etc/fstab with user quota options:

`$ sudo quotacheck -ua`

- to update group files for all filesystems i /etc/fstab with group quota options:

chp1.txt

```
$ sudo quotacheck -ga
```

- to update the user file for a particular filesystem:
\$ sudo quotacheck -u [somefilesystem]
- to update the group file for a particular filesystem:
\$ sudo quotacheck -g [somefilesystem]

Note: use -v option to get more verbose output

Note: quotacheck is generally run:-

- when quotas are turned on
- fsck reports errors during system start up

Turning quotas on and off:

- syntax:
 - \$ sudo quotaon [flags] [filesystem]
 - \$ sudo quotaoff [flags] [filesystem]
 - where the flags can be:

-a, --all	turn off for all filesystems
-f, --full	turn off
-u, --user	operate on user quotas
-g, --group	"
-p, --print-state	print whether quotas are on or off
-x, --xfs-command=cmd	perform XFS quota command
-F, --format=formatname	operate on specific quota format
-v, --verbose	print more messages
-h, --help	display help text and exit
-V, --version	display version information
- sudo quotaon -av /dev/sda6 / : group quotas turned on
- sudo quotaon -av /dev/sda6 /home : user quotas turned on
- sudo quotaoff -av /dev/sda6 / : group quotas turned off
- sudo quotaoff -av /dev/sda6 /home : user quotas turned off
- sudo quotaon -avu /dev/sda6 /home : user quotas turned on
- sudo quotaoff -avu /dev/sda6 /home : user quotas turned off
- sudo quotaon -avg /dev/sda6 /home : group quotas turned on
- sudo quotaoff -avg /dev/sda6 /home : group quotas turned off

Note: quota operations will fail if aquota.user and aquota.group do not exist

Examining Quotas:

- quota (or quota -u) for current user
- quota -g returns current group quota
- with superuser for any user:
 - sudo quota george
 - sudo quota gracie

Setting Quotas:

- only fields that can be modified are 'soft and hard limits' only
- edquota -u [username]

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- edquota -g [groupname]
- edquota -u -p [userproto] [username] : used in scripts
- edquota -u -p [groupproto] [groupname] : used in scripts
- edquota -t : to set grace periods

Note: soft limits may be exceeded for a grace period, hard limits may never be exceeded

Filesystem Usage:

df (disk free) examines filesystem capacity and usage
df -hTi

Diskspace Usage:

du (disk usage) shows how much space a directory and its subdirectories are using on a filesystem

- For current directory: \$ du
- to list all files not directories alone: \$ du -a
- human readable format: \$ du -h
- for specific directory: \$ du -h somedir
- display only totals: \$ du -s

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Chapter 14. The Ext2/Ext3/Ext4 Filesystems

Most used filesystem, with the ext4 being the latest version.

Objectives:

- describe the main features of the ext4 filesystem and how it is laid out on disk.
- explain the concepts of block groups, superblock, data blocks and inodes.
- Use the dumpe2fs and tune2fs utilities.
- list the ext4 filesystem enhancements.

Ext4 History and Basics:

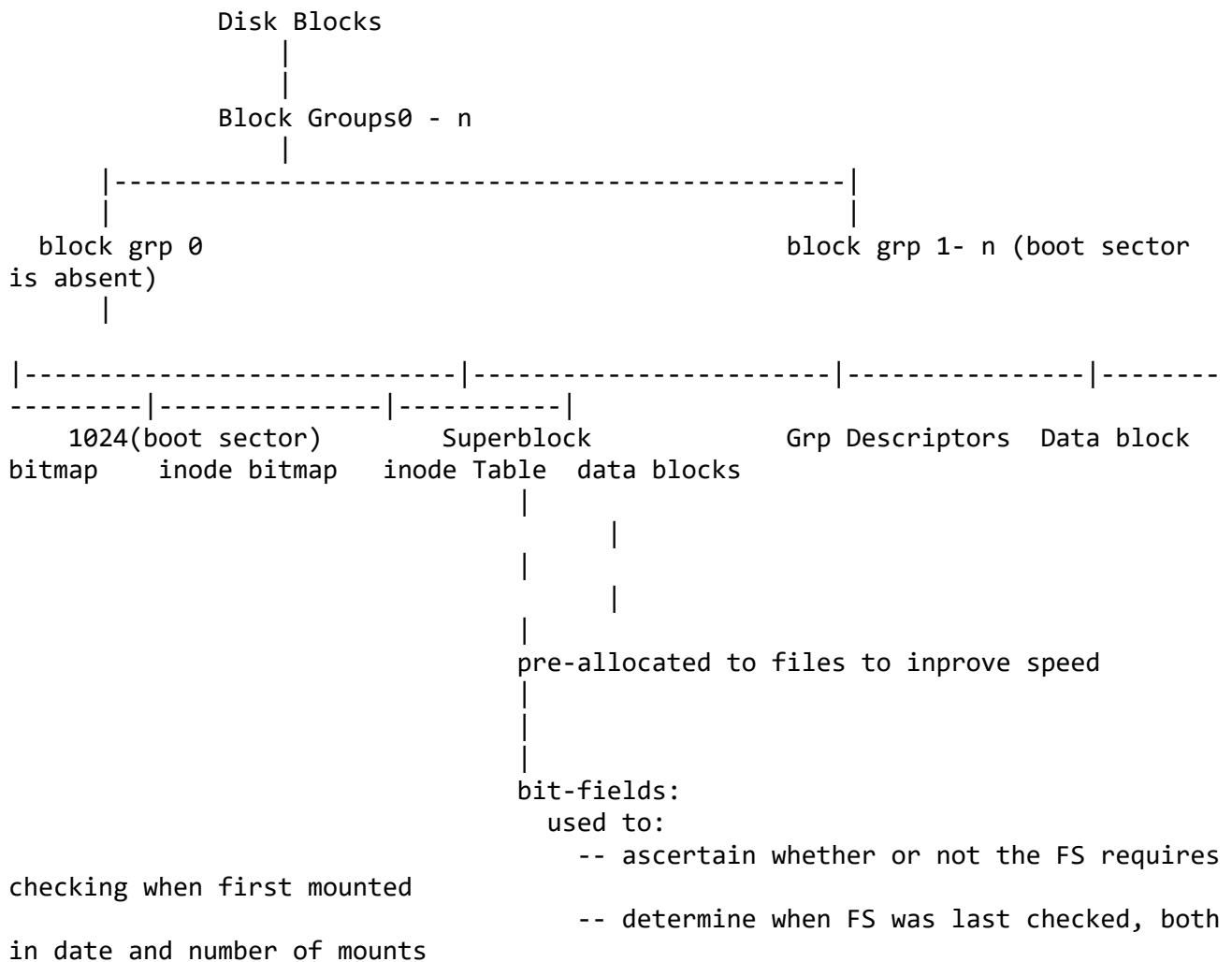
Timeline:--> ext2 --> ext3 (with journalling) --> ext4 (extents added for large filesystems)

RHEL 7 uses XFS as default

Ext4 Features:

ext4
|
|
blocks --->[512, 1024, 2048, 4096]
|
Pages of Memory -->[x86(4kb page size), x64(8kb page size)]

Ext4 Layout:



Block Groups:
Same as above

dumpefs:
- scan filesystem information
\$ sudo dumpefs /dev/sda2

tune2fs:
-- used to change filesystem parameters
--- change the maximum number of mounts between filesystem checks(max-mount-count)
\$ sudo tune2fs -c 25 /dev/sda2
--- change the time interval between checks (interval-between-checks)
\$ sudo tune2fs -i 10 /dev/sda2

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--- list the contents of the superblock including current values of parameters which can be changed:

```
$ sudo tune2fs -l /dev/sda2
```

Superblock Information:

Contains information about the filesystem including:

- mount count and maximum count, set by tune2fs.
- block size, set by mkfs
- blocks per group
- free block count
- free inode count.
- operating system ID

Data Blocks and Inodes:

these are blocks whose bits contain 0 for each free block of inode and 1 for each used one.

Ext4 Filesystem Enhancements:

- is backwards-compatible with ext3 and ext2
- increases the maximum filesystem size to 1 EB (from 16 TB), and the maximum file to 16 TB (from 2 TB).
- increase without limit the maximum number of subdirectories, which was limited to 32k in ext3
- splits large files into the largest possible extents instead of using indirect block mapping.
- uses multiblock allocation
- pre-allocate disk space for a file
- uses allocate-on-flush
- uses fast fsck
- uses checksums for the journal which improves reliability
- uses improved timestamps which is measured in nanoseconds
- includes snapshot support.

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Chapter 15. The XFS and btrfs Filesystems.

these are important challengers to the ext4 filesystem.

Objectives:

- describe the XFS filesystem
- maintain the XFS filesystem
- describe the btrfs filesystem

XFS Filesystem:

originally made by SGI for IRIX OS

- advantages include:

chp1.txt

- handle:
 - up to 16EB(exabytes) for the total filesystem
 - up to 8EB(exabytes) for an individual file
- high performance:
 - employing DMA(Direct Memory Access) I/O
 - guaranteeing an I/O rate
 - adjusting stripe size to match underlying RAID or LVM devices
- can journal quota information, but leads to decrease in recovery time when a quota-enabled filesystem is uncleanly unmounted
- supports extended attributes

XFS Filesystem Maintenance:

- advantage:
 - most maintenance tasks can be done on-line while the filesystem is fully mounted, these include:
 - defragmenting
 - enlarging
 - dumping/restoring
 - backup and restore can be done with the native XFS utilities:
 - xfsdump
 - xfsrestore

The btrfs Filesystem:

B-tree file system:

- advantages:
 - addresses the lack of:-
 - pooling,
 - snapshots,
 - checksums, and
 - integral multi-device spanning

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Chapter 16. Logical Volume Management(LVM)

- permits having one logical filesystem span mutiple physical volumes and partitions while appearing as a simple partition for normal use.
- makes shrinking and expanding easy

Objectives:

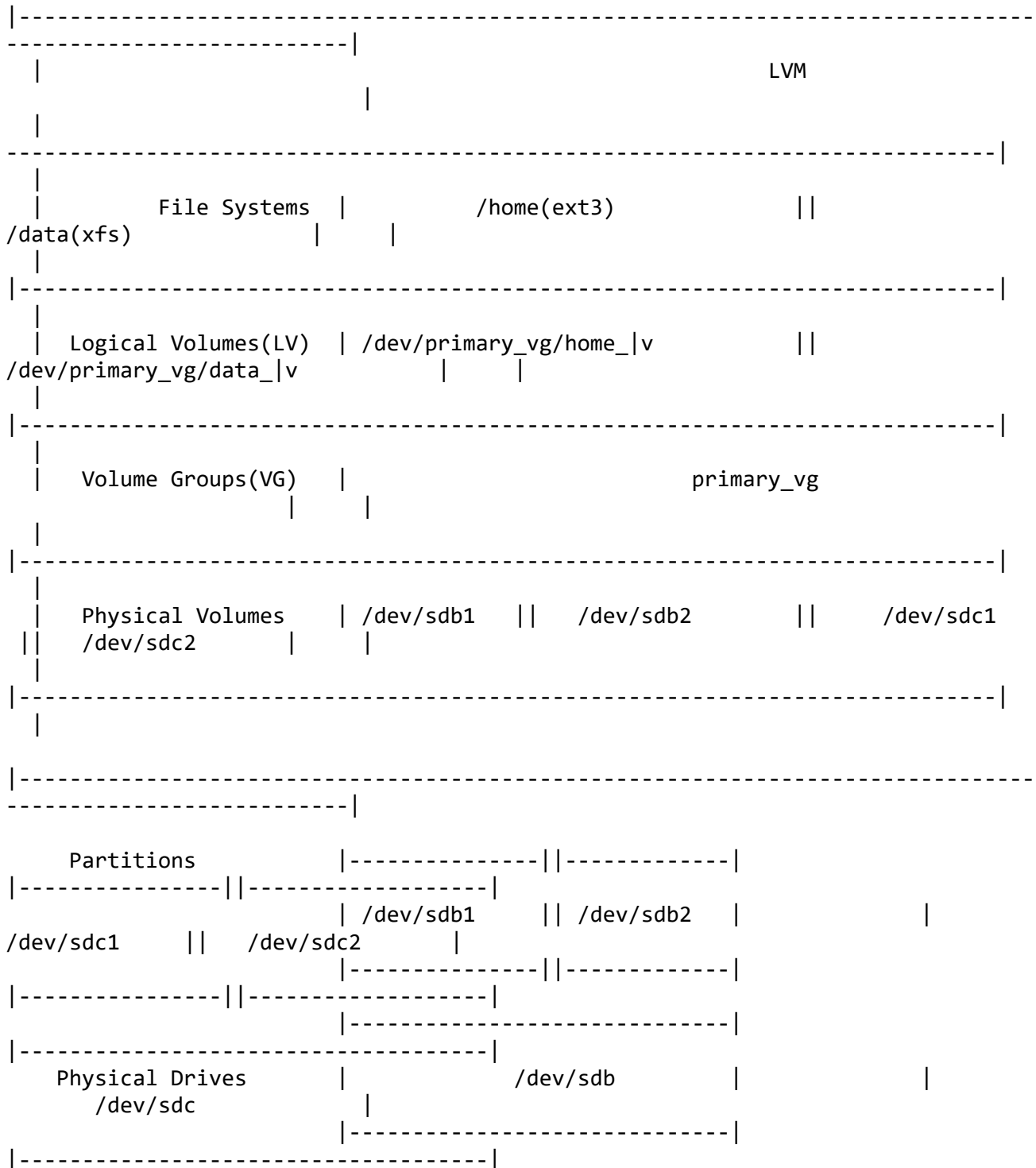
- explain the concepts behind LVM
- create logical volumes
- display logical volumes
- resize logocal volumes
- use LVM snapshots

LVM:

- breaks up one virtual partition into multiple chunks, each of which can be on different partitions and/or disks.

chp1.txt

- Typical LVM structure or layout
- striping (splitting of data to more than one disk)



LVM and RAID:

- LVM can be built on RAID

Volumes and Volume Group:

- commands:
 - vgcreate: create volume group
 - vgextend
 - vgreduce
 - pvcreate: convert a partition to a physical volume
 - pvdisplay: shows the physical volume
 - pvmove: moves the data from one physical volume group to others
 - pvremove

Logical Volumes Utilities:

- \$ ls -lF /sbin/lv* --> doesn't work on ubuntu Trusty

Creating Logical Volumes:

- commands:
 - lvcreate --> allocates logical volumes from within volume groups
 - lvdisplay --> reports on available logical volumes
- filesystems are placed in logical volumes and are formatted with mkfs as usual
- steps:
 - create partitions on disk drives (type 8e in fdisk)
 - create physical volumes from the partitions --> \$ sudo pvcreate /dev/sdc1
 - create the volumes group --> \$ sudo vgcreate -s 16M vg /dev/sdb1
 - allocate logical volumes from the volume group --> \$ sudo lvcreate -L 50G -n mylvm vg
 - format the logical volumes --> \$ sudo mkfs -t ext4 /dev/vg/mylvm
 - mount the logical volumes (also update /etc/fstab as needed) --> \$ mkdir /mylvm, then --> \$ sudo mount /dev/vg/mylvm /mylvm, then --> /dev/vg/mylvm /mylvm ext4 defaults 0 0 (to the /etc/fstab)

Displaying Logical Volumes:

- sudo pvdisplay or sudo pvdisplay /dev/sda5
- sudo vgdisplay or sudo vgdisplay /dev/vg0
- sudo lvdisplay or sudo lvdisplay /dev/vg0/lvm1

Resizing Logical Volumes:

- with fs:
 - shrink --> 1. shrink fs 2. shrink volume
 - expand --> 1. expand volume, 2. expand fs
- utility: resizefs

Examples of Resizing:

```
sudo lvextend -L +500M /dev/vg/mylvm
sudo resizefs /dev/vg/mylvm
```

- shrink:

```
sudo umount /mylvm
```

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```
sudo fsck -f /dev/vg/mylvm
sudo resizefs /dev/vg/mylvm 200M
sudo lvreduce -L 200M /dev/vg/mylvm
sudo mount /dev/vg/mylvm
```

- New versions of lvm utility:
 - sudo
 - sudo lvextend -r -L +100M /dev/vg/mylvm
 - sudo lvreduce -r -L -100M /dev/vg/mylvm
- volume group:
 - sudo pvmove /dev/sdc1
 - sudo vgreduce vg /dev/sdc1

LVM Snapshots:

- creates an exact copy of an existing logical volume
- useful for:
 - backups, application testing, and deploying VMs
- creating snapshots:
 - sudo lvcreate -l 128 -s -n mysnap /dev/vg/mylvm
 - make a mount point and mount the snapshot:
 - mkdir /mysnap
 - mount -o ro /dev/vg/mysnap /mysnap
 - to use and remove snapshot:
 - sudo umount /mysnap
 - sudo lvremove /dev/vg/mysnap

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Chapter

17. RAID

- The use of RAID spreads I/O activity over multiple physical disks, rather than just one.
- Its purpose is to enhance data integrity and recoverability in case of failure, as well as to boost performance when used with modern storage devices.
- RAID has different levels with vary in their relative strengths in safety, performance, complexity and cost.

Objectives:

- explain the concept of RAID.
- summarize RAID levels.
- configure a RAID device using the essential steps provided.
- monitor RAID devices in multiple ways.
- use hot spares.

RAID:

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- Meaning Redundant Array of Independent Disk
- RAID can be implemented in 'software' or in 'hardware'
- simple implementation:-

512GB hard drives ---> RAID software implementation --->

1TB disk

- Disadvantage of RAID hardware:
 - if disk controller fails, it must be replaced by a compatible controller unlike software implementation which can allow the disk to work with any controller.
- The essential features of RAID are:
 - mirroring: writing the same data to more than one disk.
 - striping: splitting of data to more than one disk.
 - parity: extra data is stored to allow problem detection and repair, yielding fault tolerance.
 - Thus use of RAID can improve both performance and reliability.
- RAID devices are typically created by combining partitions from several disks together
- mdadm is used to create and manage RAID devices, '/dev/mdX' is equivalent to '/dev/sda1'

RAID Levels:

- many levels exists based on the specification of increasing complexity and use, these are:

- RAID 0: uses only striping.
 - advantages:
 - data spread across multiple disks
 - improved performance
 - disadvantages:
 - no redundancy
 - no stability
 - no recovery capabilities
- RAID 1: uses only mirroring
 - advantages:
 - good for recovery as each disk has a

duplicate

- RAID 5: uses rotating parity strip;
 - advantage:
 - disk failure only causes drop in

performance, no loss of data

- Note: they must be at least 3 disks
- RAID 6: has striped disks with dual parity,
 - can handle loss of two disks
 - requires at least 4 disks
 - replaces RAID 5 due to its stress on hardware
- RAID 10: is a mirrored and striped data set.
 - at least 4 drives are needed.

Note: adding more disks improves performance.

Software RAID Configuration:

- Steps for setup includes:
 - create partitions on each disk (type fd in fdisk)

```

                                chp1.txt
-- create RAID device with mdadm
-- format RAID device
-- add device to /etc/fstab
-- mount RAID device
-- capture RAID details to ensure persistence
- The command: sudo mdadm -S --> used to stop RAID
- Example:
  - create two partitions of type fd on disks /dev/sdb, /dev/sdc
    -- sudo fdisk /dev/sdb, sudo fdisk /dev/sdc
  - set up the array
    -- sudo mdadm --create /dev/md0 --level=1 --raid-disks=2
/dev/sdbX /dev/sdcX
  - format it
    -- sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/md0
  - add to configuration
    -- sudo bash -c "mdadm --detail --scan >>
/etc/mdadm.conf"
  - mount it
    -- sudo mkdir /myraid
    -- sudo mount /dev/md0 /myraid
    -- add /dev/md0 /myraid ext4 defaults 0 2
  - examine /proc/mdstat to see the RAID status as in:
    -- cat /proc/mdstat
  - to stop
    -- sudo mdadm -S /dev/md0

```

Monitoring RAID:

```

- ways include:
  -- sudo mdadm --detail /dev/md0
  -- cat /proc/mdstat
  -- you can also use: mdmonitor, requires the configuration of
/etc/mdadm.conf
  -- status of RAID device /dev/mdX:
    --- sudo mdadm --detail /dev/mdX
  -- show status of all RAID devices on the system
    -- cat /proc/mdstat
  -- Monitor RAID via email:
    --- MAILADDR eddie@haskel.com
    --- starting email service with:
      ---- sudo service mdmonitor start
      ---- sudo chkconfig <mdmonitor | mdadm> on

```

RAID Hot Spares:

```

- used to fix redundancies
- create hot spares for RAID
  -- sudo mdadm --create /dev/md0 -l 5 -n3 -x 1 /dev/sda8 /dev/sda9
/dev/sda10 /dev/sda11
  -- switch '-x 1' tells RAID to use one hot spares
  -- testing the redundancy and hot spare of your array
    --- sudo mdadm --fail /dev/md0 /dev/sdb2
  -- restoring tested drive:

```

```

chp1.txt
--- sudo mdadm --remove /dev/md0 /dev/sdb2
--- sudo mdadm --add /dev/md0 /dev/sde2

```

```

<-----
----->

```

Chapter 18. Local System Security

Objectives:

- assessing system security risks
- fashion and implement sound computer security policies and procedures
- efficiently protect BIOS and the boot loader with passwords
- use appropriate mount options, setuid and setgid to enhance security

Local System Security:

- can be defined in terms of:
 - the systems ability to regularly do what it is supposed to do
 - integrity and correctness of system
 - ensuring that the system is only available to those authorized to use it

- areas of security include:
 - physical
 - local
 - remote, and personal

Creating a security policy:

- basic structure of computer security:
 - be simple and easy to understand
 - get constantly updated
 - be in the form of a written documentation
 - describe both policies and procedures
 - specify enforcement actions
 - specify actions to take in response to a security breach
- basic structure of security policies:
 - should be generic so its to follow
 - must save the data that needs protections
 - deny access to required services and protect user policy
- policies should be updated on a regular basis

What to Include in the Policy:

- methods of protecting information from being read or copied by unauthorized personnel
- protection of information from being altered or deleted without the permission of the ownership
- all services should be protected so they are available and not degraded in any manner without authorization
- aspects include:
 - confidentiality
 - data integrity
 - availability
 - consistency
 - control

-- audit

What Risks to Assess:

- Questions are:

-- what do I want to protect?

-- what am I protecting it against?

-- how much time, personnel, and money is needed to provide adequate protection?

Choosing a Security Philosophy:

- basic philosophies:

-- anything not expressly permitted is denied

-- anything not expressly forbidden is permitted

Some General Security Guidelines:

- general guidelines:

-- human factor is the weakest link:

--- educate your users and keep them happy

-- no computer environment is invulnerable

-- paranoia is a good thing:

--- be suspicious, vigilant, persevere when securing a computer.

Updates and Security:

- always apply updates and upgrades

Hardware Accessibility and Vulnerability:

- physical access to servers and workstations should be monitored

Hardware Access Guidelines:

- steps include:

-- locking down workstations and servers

-- protecting your network links against access by people you do not trust

-- protecting your keyboards where passwords are entered to ensure the keyboards cannot be tampered with

-- password protecting BIOS to prevent booting from live or rescue CD/DVD or USB key

Protection of BIOS:

- should be done with care

Protecting The Boot Loader with Password:

- should be secured with the BIOS for full protection

- steps include:

-- GRUB version 1:

--- run grub-md5-crypt

--- copy displayed hashed password

--- edit /boot/grub/grub.conf and add the line below the timeout entry:

---- password --md5

\$1kl(8r8lkz.ljgsoorp)i4mmkkklxza

-- GRUB version 2:

--- more complicated to set up

--- edit system configuration files in

/etc/grub.d

--- run update-grub

Filesystem Security: mount options:

- nodev --> do not interpret character or block special devices on the system
- nosuid --> the set-user-identifier or set-group-identifier bits do not take effective
- noexec --> restrict direct execution of any binaries on the mounted filesystem
- ro --> mount the filesystem in read-only mode as in:
 - mount -o ro,noexec,nodev /dev/sda2 /mymountpt
 - OR
 - /dev/sda2 /mymountpt ext4 ro,noexec,nodev 0 0

setuid and setgid:

- using this commands one can change the default behaviour of any program to run with the permission of the owner rather than with that of the current user of the program

Setting the setuid/setgid Bits:

- commands:
 - chmod u+s somefile
 - chmod g+s somefile
 - chmod g+s somedir --> files created in this directory are group owned by the group owner of the directory.

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Chapter 19. Linux Security

Modules

The responsibility of protecting a system falls on:

- application designers
- Linux kernel developers and maintainers

Objectives:

- understand how the Linux Security Modules framework works and how it is deployed
- list the various LSM implementations available
- delineate the main features of SELinux
- explain the different modes and policies available
- grasp the importance of contexts and how to get and set them
- know how to use the important SELinux utility programs

What Are Linux Security Modules?:

- using 'mandatory access controls' linux kernel ensures a secure system
- protocol for Implementation are:
 - minimize changes to the kernel
 - minimize overhead on the kernel
 - permits flexibility and choice between different

Implementations. each of which is presented as a self-contained LSM (Linux Security Module)

chp1.txt

-- basic scenerio:

--- request to kernel system ---> kernel invokes security

system

|

|

|

Yes

|

|

V

V

does user

have right to make request ---> kernel carries out request

|

|<----No

|

V

kernel denies access to user

LSM Choices:

- current LSMs are:

- SELinux
- AppArmor
- Smack
- TOMOYO

SELinux Overview:

- used to determine which processes can access which:-

- files
- directories
- ports, and
- other items on the system

- works with these conceptual quantities:

- contexts: labels to files, processes, and ports, e.g. user, role, and type

- rules: in terms of contexts, processes, files, ports, users

- policies: set of rules that describes what system-wide control decisions should be made by SELinux

SELinux Modes:

- ENFORCING: all SELinux code is operative and access is denied according to policy. All violations are audited and logged.

- PERMISSIVE: Enables SELinux code but only audits and warns about operations that would be denied in enforcing mode.

- DISABLED: completely disable SELinux kernel and application code leaving the system without any of its protections.

chp1.txt

- modes are selected and explained in a file (usually /etc/selinux/config) whose location varies by distribution (is often either at /etc/sysconfig/selinux or linked from there)
- utilities used here are:
 - sestatus: display current mode and policy
 - getenforce
 - setenforce --> \$ sudo setenforce permissive
- to completely disable mode use:
 - configuration file, /etc/selinux/config and set SELINUX=disabled
 - kernel parameter, adding selinux=0 to the kernel parameter list when booting

SELinux Policies:

- usually /etc/sysconfig/selinux is used to set the SELinux policy.
- multiple policies are allowed but only one can be active at a time
- each policy is installed under /etc/selinux/[SELINUXTYPE]
 - COMMON POLICIES are:
 - targeted: default policy state in which SELinux is more restricted to targeted processes.
user processes and init processes are not targeted
 - minimum: here only selected processes are targeted
 - MLS" Multi-Level Security policy is much more restrictive. Here all processes are placed in a fined-grained security domains with particular policies

Context Utilities:

- SELinux contexts are:
 - User
 - role
 - Type
 - Level
- SELinux and Standard Command Line Tools:
 - ps, ls, cp, mv, and mkdir

SELinux Context Inheritance and Preservation:

- newly created files inherit the context from their parent directory
 - moving or copying files, it is the context of the source directory that may be preserved
- restorecon:

- resets file contexts, based on parent directory settings.
- \$ restorecon -Rv /home/peter

semanage fcontext:

- used to manage the default context for a newly created directory
 - mkdir /virtualHosts
 - ls -Z
 - semanage fcontext -a -t httpd_sys_content_t /virtualHosts
 - ls -Z
 - effecting the change above:
 - restorecon -RFv /virtualHosts
 - ls -Z

Using SELinux Booleans:

- SELinux policy behaviour can be configured at runtime without rewriting the policy.

using SELinux Booleans which are policy parameters that can be enabled and disabled.

- `sudo semanage boolean -l` (list booleans of current policy, including current state and short description)

`getsebool` and `setsebool`:

- `getsebool -a -->` prints only the boolean name and its current status.
- `setsebool`: changing boolean status non-persistently with `-P` it persists

- Examples:

```
-- getsebool ssh_chroot_rw_homedir
-- sudo setsebool ssh_chroot_rw_homedir on
-- sudo reboot --> removes the above changes
-- sudo setsebool -P ssh_chroot_rw_homedir on --> persists
```

changes

Troubleshooting Tools:

- example:

```
-- echo 'File created at /rrot' > rootFile
-- mv rootFile /var/www/html
-- wget -O - localhost/rootFile
    --- access denied
-- check error log --> $ tail /var/log/messgaes
    -- sealert -l dskjk03-kjfk1j-kkhh-euykj-3455
    -- on RHEL 7 --> grep httpd /var/log/audit/audit.log |
```

`audit2allow -M mypol`

`--->> audit2allow` (generates SELinux policies)

and `audit2why` (translates SELinux into a description of why the access was denied)

```
-- correcting access issue --> restorecon -Rv /var/www/html/
-- wget -q -O - localhost/rootFile
    --->> success
```

AppArmor:

- is an LSM alternative to SELinux
- used by SUSE, Ubuntu and other destros
- AppArmor:

- Provides Mandatory Access Control (MAC)
- Allows asministrators to associate a security profile to a program which restricts its capabilities

- Is considered by some to be easier than SELinux

- Is considered filesystem-neutral(no Security labels required)

- AppArmor supplements the traditional UNIX Discretionary Access Control (DAC) model by providing Mandatory Access Control(MAC)

- in AppArmor: violations of the profile are logged and can be turned into a profile based on the programs typical behaviour.

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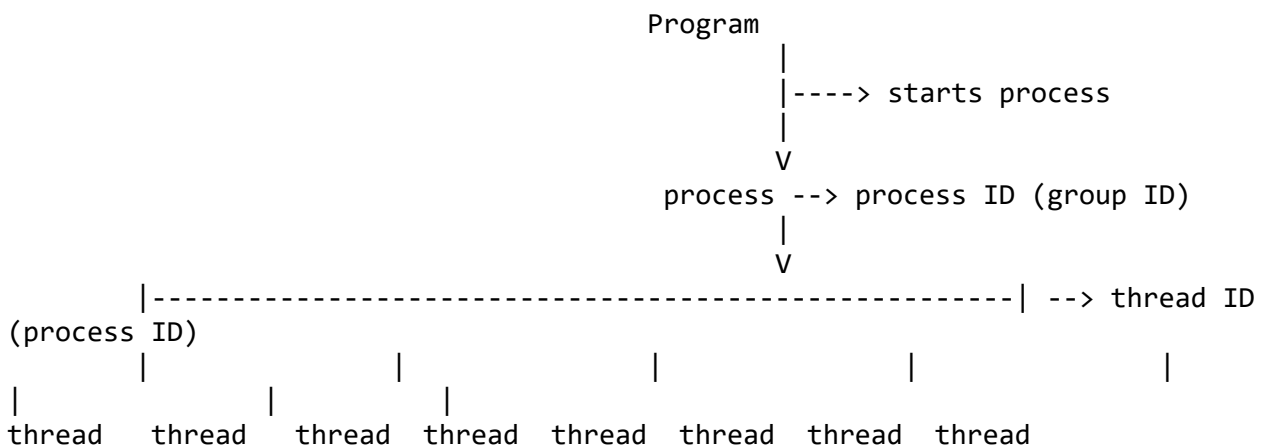
- A process is an embodiment of a running application which may or may not consist of multiple threads
- processes have both attributes and well-delineated permissions.
- they must in one of a number of enumerated states, most common being 'running' or 'sleeping'
- important to know when a process is running in the 'user mode' or 'kernel mode' with elevated privileges for the latter.
- a number of different ways exist to create 'child' processes and to set and modify their priorities.

Objectives:

- describe a process and the resources associated with it
- distinguish between processes, programs and threads
- understand process attributes, permissions and states
- know the difference between running in user and kernel modes
- describe 'daemon' processes
- understand how new processes are forked (created)
- use nice and renice to set and modify priorities

Processes, Programs and Threads:

- ```
- Process:
 -- this is an executing program and associated resources,
including environment, open files, signal handlers
 -- the same program may be executing more than once
simultaneously and thus be responsible for multiple processes
 -- basic structure
```



### The init Process:

- this is the first user process on the system with a process ID = 1
- remains till shutdown and is the last process to terminate at shutdown
- ancestral parent of all other user processes

### Processes:

- is an instance of a program in execution
- may be in a running state, or sleep state
- each process has:

chp1.txt

- pid (Process ID),
  - ppid (Parent Process ID),
  - pgi (Process Group ID)
  - any process from the kernel has a '[' around their names when '\$ ps' is run
  - when a parent process dies before a child, the ppid is set to 1 (init), or to 2 in newer systems using 'systemd'
  - when child process terminates normally or abnormally before its parents which has not waited for it and examined its exit code is known as a 'zombie (or defunct)' process
  - the parent 'init' process checks on its adopted child processes and lets those who have terminated die gracefully
  - Process are controlled 'scheduling', which is preemptive and is only done by the kernel
  - largest PID has been limited to a 16-bit number, or 32768
  - pid\_max can be altered in the /proc/sys/kernel/pid\_max
- Process Attributes:
- these includes:
    - the program being executed
    - context (state)
    - permissions
    - associated resources
  - context switching: is done by the kernel

Controlling Processes with ulimit:

- ulimit is a built in bash command that display or resets a number of resources limits associated with processes running under a shell.
- run \$ ulimit -a

Controlling Processes with ulimit(cont.)

- the 'ulimit -a' values can be changed to:
  - restrict (limit to a value), or
  - expand (increase the current limit or value)
- Kinds of limit include:
  - Hard: max value can't be exceeded, set only by root user
  - soft: the current limiting value which a user can modify but can't exceed hard limit
- syntax:
  - \$ ulimit [options] [limit]
  - as in: ulimit -n 1600
  - permanently changing this values to affect all currently logged in shells one must modify /etc/security/limits.conf, then reboot

Process Permission and setuid:

- process permissions are based on process ownership or user who invoked it.
- two types of programs exists:
  - setuid programs, programs marked with an s execute bit. These run with a different ownership from the current invoker
  - non-setuid programs, that run based on the real user id

More on Process States:

## chp1.txt

- Running:
  - is either running or sitting in run queues
- Sleeping:
  - waiting on a request (usually I/O) that was made
- Stopped:
  - suspended process, using ctrl-Z or debugger
- Zombie:
  - enters the state when it terminates and no other process (usually parent) has inquired about its state.
  - here all resources are released except its exit state and its entry in the process table
  - it is adopted by the init (PID=1) or kthreadd (PID=2) when its parent process dies.

### Execution Modes:

- any one process can be in either:
  - user mode
  - system mode
- modes are enforced at hardware level not software level

### User Mode:

- all process are started in the use mode by default
- all processes are isolated in their own environment called process resource isolation

### Kernel Mode:

- system mode processes run in user mode unless they are jumping into a system called

### Kernel Mode:

- here CPU has access to all hardware on the system.

### Daemons:

- this is a background process whose sole purpose is to provide some specific service to users of the system

- basics of daemons:

-- daemons can be quite s=efficient because they are only called when needed

- many daemons are started at boot time
- daemons names usually end with d
- some examples are: httpd, udevd
- daemons may respond to external events (udev), or elapsed time (crond)

### time (crond)

- daemons generally have no controlling terminal and no standard input/output devices
- daemons sometimes provide better security control

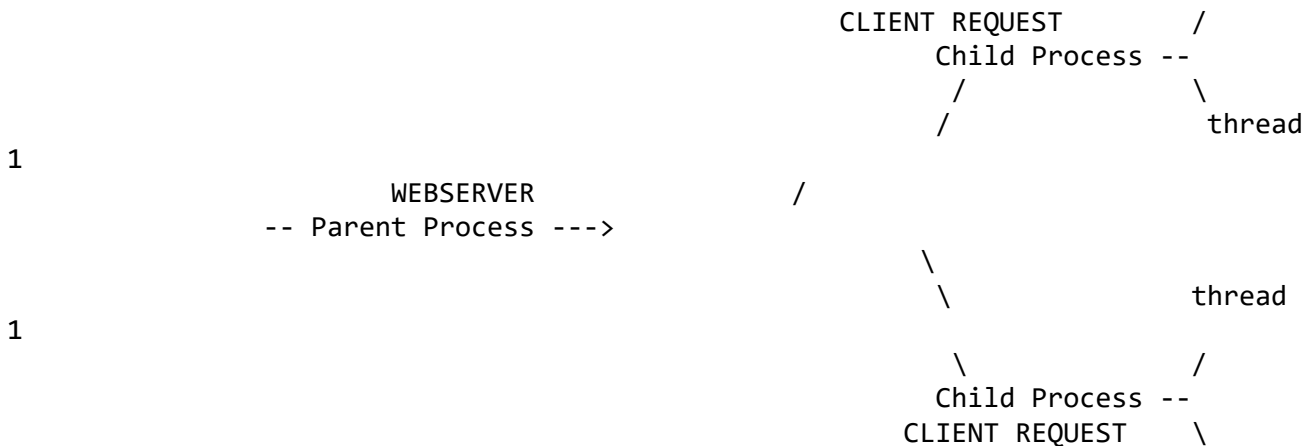
### Kernel-Created Processes:

- the kernel directly creates two kinds of processes:
  - internal kernel processes:
    - take care of maintenance work
    - theses often run as long as the system runs
  - external user processes:
    - run in user space like normal applications but where started by the kernel
    - they are few and short lived
- to see these:
  - \$ ps -elf

## Process Creating and Forking:

- steps:

thread 2



thread 2

## Creating Processes in a Command Shell:

- steps:

-- user executes a command at the command shell:

---> a new process is created (forked)

---> a wait call puts the parent to sleep.

---> the command is loaded onto the child's process space

vis the exec system call.

---> the command completes executing, and the child process dies vis the exit system call

---> the parent shell is re-awakened by the death of the child process and proceeds to issue a new shell command.

--> with '&' the parent shell skips the wait request and is free to issue a new command immediately

--> exceptions are the 'echo' and 'kill' which are built into the shell and no program files are loaded for them to run.

## Using nice to Set Priorities:

- process priorities are controlled using the nice and renice commands.

- scale (least nice, highest priority)-20 to +19(most nice, lowest priority)

- syntax:

-- nice -n 5 command [ARGS]

-- nice -5 command [ARGS]

## modofieddifying the Nice Value:

- only the superuser can run nice or renice

- editing the /etc/security/limit.conf

-- renice +3 13848

-- man renice for more info

## Static and Shared Libraries:

- programs are built using libraries of code.

- Static:

-- the code for the libraries functions are inserted into the program at compile time and

chp1.txt

does not change thereafter even if the library is updated

- Shared:

- code is loaded at run time and if updated the program will use the new library.

- advantages:

- shared by applications

- better memory useage

- smaller more manageable executable sizes

- called DLL (Dynamic Link Library)

Shared Library Versions:

- name convention: sharedlib.so.N --> where N = version number

Finding Shared Libraries:

- ldd: used to ascertain what shared libraries an executable requires.

- \$ ldd /usr/bin/vi

- ldconfig:

- usually run at boot time but ccan be run anytime and uses the /etc/ld.so.conf

- shared libs should only be stored in system directories