## **Exp 1 Unix General Purpose Utility Commands**

# Case Study 1: System Monitoring and User Interaction in a Shared Development Environment

#### Scenario:

A team of developers shares a Linux server for code deployment and debugging. Each developer uses the terminal for various tasks including checking system status, writing scripts, and managing files.

## **Command Usage Scenarios:**

Command	Use Case / Scenario		
echo	Used in shell scripts or to display output, e.g., echo "Build started at $(date)$ ".		
clear	Clears the cluttered terminal screen during debugging or long sessions.		
exit	Used to log out from the terminal or end a shell script execution.		
date	Displays current system date/time—useful for logging or confirming system time.		
time	Measures how long a command or script takes to execute, e.g., time ./build.sh.		
uptime	Checks how long the server has been running—useful for troubleshooting crashes.		
cal	Checks the calendar, useful when scheduling scripts or meetings via terminal.		
cat	Displays contents of configuration or log files quickly.		
tty	Tells which terminal you're connected to, helpful in debugging user sessions.		
man	Accesses the manual page for a command, e.g., man <code>grep</code> to see syntax and options.		
which	Finds the location of installed utilities, e.g., which python shows Python binary path.		

history	Views recently executed commands for repeating or debugging past commands.
id	Displays user ID, group ID, useful in permission troubleshooting.
pwd	Displays the present working directory; helps users verify their path.
whoami	Confirms logged-in user identity—especially important with multiple users.

# ▼ Tasks to be Performed by Developers

Task No.	Task Description	Command(s) Used
1	Display a custom message when a build or script starts	echo "Build started at \$(date)"
2	Clean up the terminal before starting a new debugging session	clear
3	Safely exit a terminal session or shell script after completion	exit
4	Log the current system date and time before starting a process	date
5	Measure the performance or execution time of a build or script	time ./build.sh
6	Check how long the server has been up (for troubleshooting)	uptime
7	View the calendar to plan meeting times or script executions	cal
8	Read the contents of configuration files or logs	<pre>cat config.txt or cat logs/error.log</pre>
9	Identify which terminal device a user session is connected to	tty

10	Learn how to use an unfamiliar command or check syntax	man grep, man find
11	Locate the path of installed programs or interpreters	which python, which node
12	Review past commands for reuse or debugging	history
13	Check your user ID and group for permission checks	id
14	Confirm your current working directory	pwd
15	Confirm the current logged-in user (especially in multi-user environments)	

# Case Study 2: System Administration - Networking, Printing & Mail Server Maintenance

#### Scenario:

A system admin in a university lab environment is responsible for maintaining Linux machines used by students for assignments, printing reports, and sending lab notifications via email.

## **Command Usage Scenarios:**

Command	Use Case / Scenario		
ping	Checks network connectivity to an external server (e.g., ping google.com).		
ifconfig	Views or configures network interfaces, especially during WiFi/Ethernet issues.		
pr	Prepares formatted output for printing (e.g., pr report.txt).		
lp/lpr	Sends files to the printer (e.g., 1p project_summary.pdf).		
lpstat	Checks the status of current print jobs and printer queues.		
lpq	Displays the print queue in more detail.		

lprm Removes a specific print job from the queue.

cancel Cancels a printing job entirely (e.g., cancel 42).

mail Sends system-generated emails to users (e.g., notifying students of system maintenance).

## Exp 2

Execution of File System Management Commands like Is, cd, pwd, cat, mkdir, rmdir, rm, cp, mv, chmod, wc, piping and redirection, grep, tr, echo, sort, head, tail, diff,comm, less, more, file, type, wc, split, cmp, tar, find, vim, gzip, bzip2, unzip, locate,etc.

Case Study 2: File Management in a Software Development Team

Scenario:

A software development team is working on a Unix-based system to manage project files efficiently.

Implementation Steps:

1. Creating a Project Directory and Files:

mkdir ProjectX → Creates a new directory for the project.

 $cd ProjectX \rightarrow Navigates to the project directory.$ 

touch main.py README.md → Creates a Python file and a README.

2. Checking and Managing Files:

Is  $-I \rightarrow Lists$  files with details.

cat README.md  $\rightarrow$  Displays README contents.

nano README.md → Edits the README file.

3. Copying and Moving Files:

cp main.py backup.py → Creates a backup of the script.

my backup.py old version.py → Renames the backup file.

4. Archiving and Deleting Files:

rm old\_version.py → Deletes the old backup file.

rm -r ProjectX → Deletes the entire project directory if needed.

5. Checking File Content:

head main.py → Displays the first 10 lines of the script.

tail -n 5 main.py  $\rightarrow$  Shows the last 5 lines.

These case studies provide practical usage of user and file management commands in real-world scenarios. Let me know if you need further details!

Exp 3 Execution of User Management Commands like who, whoami, su, sudo, login, logout, exit, passwd, useradd/adduser, usermod, userdel, groupadd, groupmod, groupdel, gpasswd, chown, chage, chgrp, chfn, etc.

Case Study 1: User Management in a Multi-User Unix System

Scenario:

A university has a shared Linux server for students and faculty to access programming resources. The system administrator needs to create user accounts, manage permissions, and ensure security.

Implementation Steps:

1. Creating Student and Faculty Accounts:

useradd student1 → Creates a student account.

useradd faculty1 → Creates a faculty account.

passwd student1  $\rightarrow$  Sets a password for student1.

#### 2. Assigning Users to Groups:

groupadd students → Creates a group for students.

groupadd faculty → Creates a group for faculty.

usermod -aG students student1  $\rightarrow$  Adds student1 to the "students" group.

usermod -aG faculty faculty1 → Adds faculty1 to the "faculty" group.

#### 3. Checking Logged-In Users:

who  $\rightarrow$  Displays active users.

id student1  $\rightarrow$  Shows the UID and GID of student1.

#### 4. Deleting a User Who Graduated:

userdel -r student1 → Removes student1 and their home directory.

#### 5. Checking Password Expiration Policy:

chage -I faculty1  $\rightarrow$  Checks password expiry for faculty1.

Exp 4 Execution of Process Management Commands like ps, pstree, nice, kill, pkill, killall, xkill, fg, bg, pgrep, renice, etc.

# **Scenario-Based Usage of Process Management Commands**

Comman d	Scenario	Usage
ps	You want to see all currently running processes for your user.	ps aux <b>or</b> ps -ef
pstree	You want to view the parent-child relationship of processes.	pstree
nice	You want to start a process with lower priority so it doesn't consume much CPU.	nice -n 10 myscript.sh
renice	You want to change the priority of an already running process.	renice -n 5 -p <pid></pid>
kill	You want to terminate a process using its PID.	kill 1234
pkill	You want to kill a process by its name (not PID).	pkill firefox
killall	You want to kill all instances of a process.	killall chrome
xkill	A graphical app is frozen and you want to forcefully kill it by clicking on its window.	xkill (then click on the window)
fg	A process running in background needs to be brought to foreground.	fg %1
bg	A stopped process needs to be resumed in the background.	bg %1
pgrep	You want to find PID of a running process by name.	pgrep python

## Case Study: Managing Application Performance in a Linux Server

#### **Problem:**

A software development company is running multiple apps (e.g., Python scripts, MySQL server, Firefox for testing) on a Linux server. Some scripts consume a lot of CPU, causing the system to slow down. The team needs to monitor and manage these processes efficiently.

### **Objectives:**

- Identify high-CPU usage processes
- Reduce the CPU priority of some tasks
- Kill non-responsive processes
- Manage background/foreground jobs

# **X** Solution Using Process Management Commands

### **Step 1: Monitor Active Processes**

bash CopyEdit ps aux --sort=-%cpu

Lists all processes sorted by CPU usage.

## **Step 2: View Process Hierarchy**

bash CopyEdit pstree -p Visualizes how child processes are linked to parent processes.

#### **Step 3: Run Heavy Script with Lower Priority**

bash

CopyEdit

nice -n 10 python3 heavy\_script.py

Prevents script from hogging CPU.

## **Step 4: Find the PID of a Resource-Hungry Process**

bash

CopyEdit

pgrep -f heavy\_script.py

Returns the PID of the script if you didn't store it initially.

## **Step 5: Change the Priority of a Running Process**

bash

CopyEdit

renice -n 15 -p 4567

Reduces priority of PID 4567, giving more CPU to others.

## Step 6: Kill a Hung Firefox Browser

bash

CopyEdit

pkill firefox

Closes all Firefox processes.

```
OR
```

## bash CopyEdit xkill

Click on a frozen window to forcefully close it.

### Step 7: Background and Foreground Process Handling

```
bash
```

#### CopyEdit

```
./long_task.sh &
jobs  # View job list
fg %1  # Bring job 1 to foreground
bg %1  # Send job 1 to background again
```

# **Conclusion:**

This case study shows how a Linux admin can use **process management commands** to:

- Optimize system performance,
- Reduce CPU load from non-critical tasks,
- Handle frozen or unresponsive applications,
- Maintain server health in a multi-user environment.

Exp 5 Execution of Memory Management Commands like free, /proc/meminfo, top, htop,df, du, vmstat, demidecode, sar, pagesize, etc.

# Case Study: Diagnosing Memory Bottlenecks on a Production Server

#### **Background:**

A company runs a web server that has been responding slowly. The system administrator is assigned the task of diagnosing whether it's a **memory issue** or a **disk usage problem**.

## **SCENARIOS & COMMANDS USED**

## 1. Monitor Available RAM in Real-Time

Scenario: You want to check whether your server is running out of memory.

#### Command:

bash CopyEdit free -h

- •
- **Use:** Displays free, used, and total memory (RAM and swap) in a human-readable format.
- **Solution:** If free shows low "available" RAM and high swap usage, it indicates memory pressure.

## 2. Check Detailed Memory Information

Scenario: You need exact stats on memory breakdown.

#### Command:

bash CopyEdit

cat /proc/meminfo

•

- **Use:** Dumps detailed memory stats directly from the kernel.
- **Solution:** Check MemAvailable, Buffers, Cached to understand actual memory usage.

## 3. Real-Time Process Monitoring

Scenario: Find out which processes consume the most memory.

#### Command:

bash

CopyEdit

top

•

- **Use:** Lists running processes sorted by CPU/memory usage.
- **Solution:** Identify memory-hogging processes (look under %MEM column).

#### **Alternative Command:**

bash

CopyEdit

htop

•

• Use: Colorful, interactive version of top.

• Note: May need to install it using sudo apt install htop.

## 4. Check Disk Space Usage

**Scenario:** Check if the system is running out of disk space, impacting swap and memory.

#### Command:

bash

CopyEdit

df -h

•

- Use: Displays disk space usage for all mounted partitions.
- Solution: Identify if / or /home is nearly full.

## 5. Check Directory Size to Clear Space

Scenario: You need to identify which directories are taking up space.

#### Command:

bash

CopyEdit

du -sh /var/\*

•

- Use: Displays size of folders under /var.
- Solution: Delete large unnecessary logs from /var/log.

## 6. View Memory Statistics in Real-Time

**Scenario:** Need to observe memory usage pattern over time.

Command:

bash CopyEdit vmstat 5

•

• Use: Displays memory, CPU, and I/O usage every 5 seconds.

• Solution: Helps identify spikes in memory demand or swap usage.

## 7. Check Hardware Details

**Scenario:** Want to verify total physical RAM and memory slots.

#### Command:

bash CopyEdit

sudo dmidecode -t memory

•

• Use: Provides hardware-level details of memory modules.

Solution: Used to plan memory upgrades.

## 8. Check Page Size

Scenario: Need to know the system's memory page size (used in memory tuning).

#### Command:

bash

### CopyEdit

getconf PAGE\_SIZE

•

• Output: Shows memory page size (e.g., 4096 bytes).

• Use: Useful in understanding paging behavior.

## 9. Historical Resource Usage Report

**Scenario:** Need to analyze memory usage over the last few hours/days.

#### Command:

bash CopyEdit

sar -r 1 5

•

- **Use:** Reports memory usage (free, used, cache, buffer) at 1-second intervals, 5 times.
- Note: You might need to install sysstat package.

# Summary of the Case Study Execution

#### **Problem Observed:**

Web server slow and unresponsive.

#### Commands Used:

• free -h, top, and vmstat revealed high memory usage.

- cat /proc/meminfo confirmed low available memory and swap usage.
- df -h showed root partition 90% full.
- du -sh /var/\* identified large logs in /var/log.
- htop showed specific service using excessive RAM.
- dmidecode checked if more RAM could be added.

#### **Solution Taken:**

- Cleared unused logs.
- Restarted memory-intensive service.
- Scheduled system upgrade to add more RAM.

# Conclusion:

These commands together provide a **comprehensive diagnostic toolkit** for identifying, analyzing, and resolving memory-related issues on Unix/Linux systems.