

Quick Intro to Unix

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Mainframes (1950s – 1970s)



- Much like clusters today (high performance and capacity)
- Users connected from terminal computers (glorified keyboard + screen/paper output)
- Behaviour and terminology originates from back then



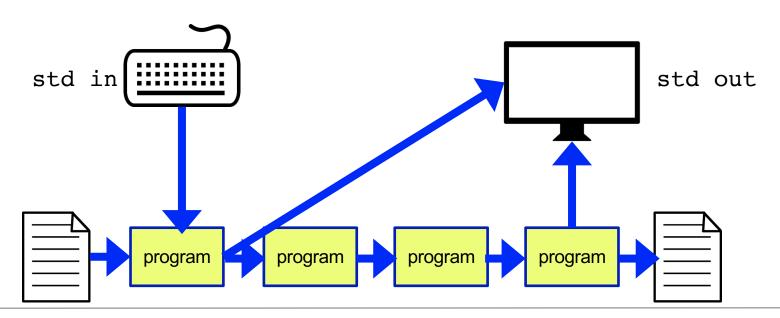
Unix systems 1970s - present

- Many versions across the years: Bell Labs, Berkeley, IBM, hobbyists
- "Unix" is actually a trademark but became commonplace
- Sometimes people use *nix
- Official documentation uses the term POSIX = the behavioural standard that anything calling itself a Unix system has to conform to
- Examples: macOS, Linux, Android, iOS
- the vast majority of commands work the same way, but some versions have additional functionality (e.g. BSD grep vs GNU grep)



Philosophy

A collection of **specialized** programs (or "commands") that are inter-**connectable** through **text**



Some terms

- command line = terminal = shell ≈ bash
- prompt = text after which you may enter commands (usually ends with \$)
- ssh = secure shell : creates an encrypted connection to another computer
- command = program
- directory = folder
- (compressed) archive = (compressed) files joined into single file (e.g. zip, tar.gz, tar.bz2)
- pipe = data redirector that takes output from one command and inputs it to another command



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