

Jack Mathieson Journal weeks 5-6

jack.mathieson

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Week 5 Journal

23/Aug/2019

Learning about various commands in this computer manager thing called a terminal (basically the big black box into which you submit bizarre commands to change the DNA of your computer and where you expect a little message to pop up saying "hello Neo, the Matrix has you". Here are a few of the commands we learnt:

Ctrl L = new page

pwd = present working directory

ls = list files

ls -F = something else to do with colours...?

ls -help = gives you a list of the different ls commands (sweet!)

Press the "up" key to go to the previous command you gave

Other Seminar notes

Ethnography just got mention! YAY!!! Apparently one example provided was a way of capturing metadata from interviews in ethnographic research. Cool!

So here's the basic outline they gave today of what the whole Scoping process is for and what they expect at the end. Here's what it's been so far

Scoping 1: articulate problems. What is the issue that you are struggling with?

Scoping 2: breaking down the problem in steps. How would you actually go about this in the tedious, step-by step way, and if you had a "magic wand" to do this for you what would you make it do?

28/Aug/2019

Just begun the swcarpentry exercises (this is being typed out on LaTeX, as were the previous notes for this journal). So far it's most of what we covered in class already.

My terminal seems to already display the "link" that ls -F is supposed to indicated for certain documents... still a little fuzzy on what this command means. Might bring it up in class.

The ls -l -h is useful but I still feel like I don't know how to read this much data in this format. Don't know how to navigate the terminal list yet.

...Ok, ls -R seems to take so much effort that I can no longer put in a Ctrl L command to get looped back (did I use that term correctly?). And again, on ls -R -t it does the same, but I think the main difference is that -t is meant to show things kind of like the -h command. It was easier to read (when it wasn't blinking through hundreds of program lines) and so it makes the -R command readable.

Huh... by time of last change...ok.

...aaaand the data shell/ is not in the desktop/ when I enter the ls directory command "ls Desktop.

Ohhhhhh... wait, I know why. I need to move it to Desktop for the terminal to see it there. Just confirming... and SUCCESS!!! I did something techy!

Hmm, ok, the next command didn't go great. Ah, **Note to self:** always put a space after the / sign of a directory when typing it into the terminal.

Another problem. Doesn't know how to open or recognise the file "data-shell" even when the command recognises it as a file on the desktop. Odd.

29/Aug/2019

So this issue has continued onto another day (and while it's frustrating at least no one else seems to be able to point out the obvious mistake that I think I'm making... misery loves company)

I'm miserable on my own again... turns out that I didn't understand how the terminal doesn't show you things from a "home screen" but it actually goes to various directories with you (so if I'm at 'Desktop/' and look for 'data-shell' I'll find it, but if I'm in 'data-shell' and look for 'data-shell' the terminal will say "no directory found", because there isn't a file there.

Second Mistake: remember that what the terminal will find in a search depends on where you are... what where you move around (by using 'pwd' to see where you are and 'cd' to take you elsewhere.

Alright, so new command (which LaTeX isn't letting me print for some reason but it's the one that in a command is written as two periods) tells you the parent directory of what you're looking at (so on my computer '../videos' is the same as 'Desktop/videos').

Ok, WHO ON EARTH would want to know the names of the files in a directory in REVERSE order??? (reaction to '-r')

And now I know this universe is against me today. Overleaf had shut down on me twice in the time it took me to write the last two paragraphs (it's been about an hour since then). The reason my internet is so terrible was because it was on Macquarie Public not eduroam... I only discovered this AFTER restarting my machine.

31/Aug/2019

Hi again, another day another exercise, but hopefully this time it will all get finished.

working on moving data around, the '..' command is still getting to me. I need a picture of some kind in my head for this.

Week 6 Journal

So this journal is going to record the remaining swcarpentry activities that week 5's journal did not complete and it is also going to document the second half of the Elaboration process attempting to use and test out different Transcribing tools.

Elaboration Tests

Transcription software test:

03/Sept/2019

Test 1: looking at an online service called "Otranscribe". Had an option to upload a youtube URL so gave that a shot (the song was "I'm not scared of the dark"). Unfortunately, while it played the song fine it only seemed to record words that I wrote... did it intend to then read out written words as opposed to write down spoken words? Didn't seem to be what I was after.

Test 2: A different online program, imaginatively called "Transcribe" seemed to produce a better result! Able to upload a simple windows media file of "Fix You" and it transcribed the words almost perfectly. Sadly this seems to be some kind of free trial deal where it only transcribed the first 60 seconds or so of the song.

Test 3: Attempted at another online system called "Trint", though signing in took some time and it turned out that only the first 30 minutes of transcription were free. Unfortunately the transcription was pretty abysmal (same song as Test 2). The fact that it was a song probably didn't help, however there were still great chunks of the song that were completely left out of the transcript.

Test 4: Yet another online one, "Happyscribe". This one looks like it's English in origin as the billing is in pounds/hour after the free trial that gives me 30 minutes. And it's behaved much the same way as Test 3. Terrible transcription. Again, it was a song, however given that one test has already transcribed the same song perfectly for 1 minute I'm willing to bet there are others.

Audio Recording Device Zoom H4n Manual Comprehension Test

05/Sept/2019

Essentially what I'm going to check for here is if this gizmo does the following (check or Negative).

-Illustrations: **check**- easy to identify different parts of the gizmo according to the manual illustrations.

-Turn on and off: **check**- button is easily identifiable.

-Start and pause recording: **check**- visible play and pause button.

-Start and finish recording: **check**- defines the difference between pausing the recording and finishing the same recording and has a way to do both.

- Playback option: **check**- gizmo has a built-in speaker that lets it play back a recording. Useful in case there is no access to computer or transcribing tools.
- Identifies how to play back and how to play/pause recording: **Negative**-the buttons to press seem to be the same for pausing the recording.
- Describes power settings: **check**: uses AA batteries and can be plugged into an outlet to recharge.
- Option to add marks to recording: **check**: can add a mark and it is a simple step to do so.
- Demonstrates how to switch between modes: **check**: contains a mode overview and shows how to go between them.
- Contains a mode suitable for interviews and adding marks to recordings: **check**: recommends STEREO mode.
- Save a track: **check**: there are instructions to "store a patch".
- Marks are saved with the track: **check**: the saved audio track will contain the marks list created during it's playback.
- Saved audio track saved as a file compatible with editing on a computer and transcription tool: **check**: can convert to MP3 format in STEREO mode.
- Files are transferable between gizmo and computer: **check**: an SD card in the gizmo provides a means of transferring the audio files to the computer.
- Mark list saved with converted MP3 file: **Negative**: no such function has been suggested.

Testing MP3 file Transcription using "Transcribe"

05/Sept/2019

SUCCESS!!! once learning that the H4n recorder converts its files into MP3 files I tested out the way Transcribe would do its thing with that kind of file. Transcribed the first 60 seconds of one of my old lectures almost perfectly!

Addendum to the check-list

06/Sept/2019

- Make sure that an SD card is installed and working in the gizmo, or else it will not operate.
- Make sure the volume is up to the sufficient level or else the recording may be too quiet or too loud.

H4n Audio Recorder Test

06/Sept/2019

- Yay!!! Got the actual gizmo! Running through the tests as outlined in the preliminary manual test.
- Resembles the illustration in manual: **check**
- SD card installed: **check**
- Turn on: **check**: turns on as instructed and the display screen shows the expected image

- Turn off: **check**: Instructions do **NOT SPECIFICALLY** indicate how to turn off, however holding the same switch to turn it on will turn it off.
- Stereo mode on: **check**
- Mic light is lit as opposed to microphone outlets 1 and 2: **check**
- Recording volume prep: **check**: When the recording button is pressed once the recorder notes the volume of the surrounding sound before any recording takes place. The mike light indicates when the surround sound is too loud.
- Volume adjusting: **check**: the volume of the recording can be adjusted as indicated.
- Begin recording and end recording: **check**
- Playback: **check**: playback is successful! Can be paused at any time.
- Exiting playback: **Negative**: no indication of how to stop and start from the beginning of a playback
- Saved audio file: **check**: file can be accessed in a folder on the device.
- Retrieving file from SD card: **check**: successfully played as Windows media file on computer!
- Audio file automated transcription using Transcribe software: CHECK: SUCCESS!!! Transcribe is compatible with the audio file that is produced by the H4n Recorder!** minimal mistakes.
- Make new recording: **check**: the new audio file is made and automatically saved in the same file as the first one, both easily accessible as per instructions.
- Pause and play while in the middle of recording: **check**
- Mark made in the audio recording: **check**: mark made and can be skipped to using the f-fwrld key on the gizmo. NOTE, the recording skips to the recording AFTER the Mark, and so if you wanted to hear what was just before the Mark you would have to listen up to that point.
- Transferred audio file maintains the saved mark across transfer to computer: NEGATIVE: the audio file transferred to the computer DID NOT contain any discernible mark.**
- Test to find "Mark List" in a recording on the the gizmo: **check**: ON THE GIZMO a list of the locations where Marks have been made can be found in the recording once the file is found. NOTE the end of a recording is also included as a Mark.
- Meta-Data collected with the recording: **check**: on the Gizmo the audio file also contains the date and time of the recording as well as format and size.

Unix Shell Exercises

05/Sept/2019

A little behind on the documenting process for understanding the terminal commands and capabilities so I'm gonna start here with a brief overview of what I've been over since week 5:

Moving between files has become pretty easy thanks to a proper understanding of the working directory found with command 'pwd'. The tab command after typing in the first part of a directory name also solves most problems of going

to an incorrect directory or not typing the directory name correctly... these two commands pretty much solved the first (and major) mistake I made in week 5. Returning any directory you have to change it, so command 'cd' followed by the name and to go to home directory is either just 'cd' or ' '. Or if you don't want to type out the direct route to the directory above you just go 'cd ..' which tapes you to the parent directory. Commands 'ls -F' tell you what is in a directory once you are there... still not certain what difference '-F' makes because on my terminal it produces the same result as a regular 'ls' command. In addition to this there are some neat commands that will list the pwd files in different categories, like 'ls -R' which shows you the whole directory chain of subs, sub-subs, and sub-sub-subs etc. (not to be confused with 'ls -r' which shows things in reverse order)

As doing stuff to files here's where I'm up to. Create directory: 'mkdir' followed by a name that preferably doesn't have many spaces or hyphens. Text Editor is just a way to type whatever text you want inside a file (that you create when giving the command 'nano'). within nano treat the arrow keys as 'ctrl' (LaTeX doesn't like it when I try to hold shift down on 6 to produce that character... so be that way). **Important difference between 'nano' text editor and 'touch' command:** 'nano' is meant to edit a text file but does not always create one to edit, depending on the system, so 'touch' creates a blank file for nano to operate on. to move a file type 'mv' command. This can also rename a file, so be careful (use the 'mv -i' command to give you a handy confirmation buffer). And finally there's the copy command 'cp' which like 'mv' can work on both files and whole directories (if you use the '-R' recursive command).

...So that's where I'm up to...

...Joy...

-important to note that moving and renaming a file are considered the same thing (you have to name what you're moving in the directory where it is and where you want it, so to change the name just "move" it to the same directory and give it a new name).

-**Mistake:** I need to remember that copying/moving a directory WITH the file inside it means that I need the recursive command '-R' other wise it will just move the last name that I entered (e.g 'mv file1/sub-file1 ../file2/subfile1' will only move sub-file, not file1 as well)

-ahhhhhh, the '-i' command is VERY useful here when removing things with 'rm!' helps make sure that you know what you're doing.

-ok... getting confused between '-r' and '-R'.

-All good. '-r' shows things in reverse and '-R' shows the sub files and directories of whatever pwd you're in.

-Note on copying: when you want to confirm that you have copied correctly the very last name you entered should be a directory (e.g 'file1/')