
Linux Directory Cheat Sheet

Advanced Bioinformatics: Genome Analysis

Course code: MSIB 32500

- `/` : The 'root' directory which contains all other files and directories
- `/bin` : Common commands / programs, shared by all users
- `/boot` : Contains the files needed to successfully start the computer during the boot process
- `/dev` : Holds device files that represent physical and 'logical' devices
- `/etc` : Contains configuration files that control the operation of programs
- `/etc/cron.d` : One of the directories that allow programs to be run on a regular schedule
- `/home` : A directory that holds subdirectories for each user to store user specific files
- `/lib` : Contains shared library files and kernel modules
- `/lost+found` : Will hold recoverable data in the event of an an improper shut-down
- `/media` : Used to temporarily mount removable devices
- `/mnt` : A mount point for filesystems or temporary mount point for system administrators
- `/opt` : Contains third party or additional software that is not part of the default installation
- `/proc` : Holds files that contain information about running processes and system resources
- `/root` : The home directory of the System Administrator, or the 'root' user
- `/sbin` : Contains binary executables / commands used by the system administrator
- `/srv` : Provides a consistent location for storing data for specific services
- `/tmp` : A temporary location for storing files or data
- `/usr` : Is the directory where user programs and data are stored and shared
- `/usr/bin` : Contains binary executable files for users
- `/usr/lib` : Holds shared library files to support executables in `/usr/bin` and `/usr/sbin`
- `/usr/local` : Contains users programs that are installed locally from source code
- `/usr/sbin` : The directory for non-essential system administration binary executables
- `/var` : Holds variable data files which are expected to grow under normal circumstances
- `/var/lib` : Contains dynamic state information that programs modify while they run
- `/var/log` : Stores log files from a range of programs and services
- `/var/spool` : Contains files that are held (spooled) for later processing
- `/var/tmp` : A temporary store for data that needs to be held between reboots (unlike `/tmp`)