Introduction to the Command Line

Mark Gross

Slides available →
https://github.com/MarkusG/UCI-Slides/blob/master/CLI.pdf

About Me

- **Mathematics student at Saddleback College**
- **Software Developer at Roland DGA**
- **Programming since 2016**
- **Using Linux since 2018**
- **In the top 13% of ranked Tetris players worldwide**
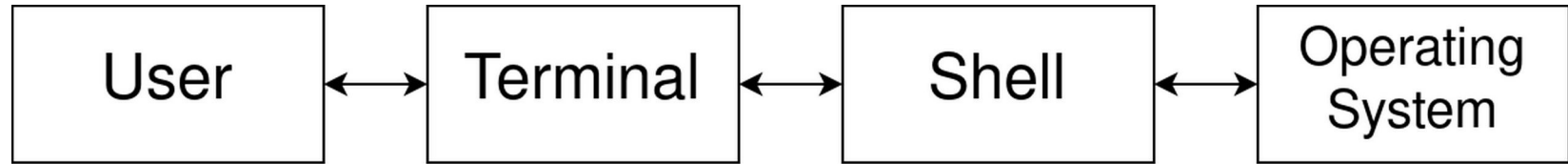
Why Use the Command Line?

- **It's powerful**
  - "Graphical user interfaces make easy tasks easy, while command line interfaces make difficult tasks possible." (TLCL xvii)
- **It's everywhere**

Some Quick Terminology

- **Terminal – displays text and receives keystrokes from the user**
- **Shell – interprets and runs commands**
- **Operating system – handles the computer's resources**

Shells Across Operating Systems

- **Windows**
  - Command Prompt
  - PowerShell
- **Linux and OSX**
  - bash, zsh, fish, and countless others

Basics – Working with the File System

- **Current directory**

- **ls – "list" files/directories in the current directory**
- **cd – "change directory"**
- **mkdir – "make directory"**
- **mv – "move" a file/directory**
- **rm – "remove" - delete**
- **ln – "link" – shortcuts**