

Assignment: An Introduction to File Systems

Introduction

- The goal of assignment is to understand
 - basic file system design and implementation
 - file system testing
 - data serialization/de-serialization
- At the end of the assignment, you will feel like a file system expert!

Outline

- Background
 - Mounting file systems
- Assignment
 - Specification
 - Downloading and testing file system image
 - General FAT32 data structures
 - Endian-ness

Mounting File Systems

Unix File Hierarchy

- All files accessible in a Unix system are arranged in one big tree
 - Also called the *file hierarchy*
 - Tree is rooted (starts) at /
- These files can be spread out over several devices
- The mount command serves to attach the file system found on some device to the big file tree

'mount' command

- mount
- mount <device> <mount directory>

- Typing 'mount' without arguments shows you what is mounted and where
- Second example attaches a device or partition to a directory
 - Must have root privileges

Mount point

/boot

/home

/lib

files..

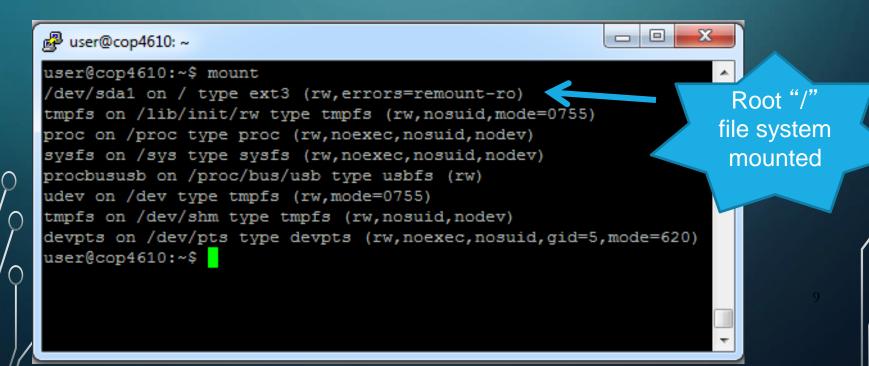
files...

files..

/dev/sda1

The device sda partition 1 is mounted at "/". All files and dirs below "/" come from this device.

 Type command 'mount' without any arguments to see what is mounted and where





/dev/sda1



Now suppose we attach a thumb drive and want our thumb drive files accessible under /mnt...

File Hierarchy Example

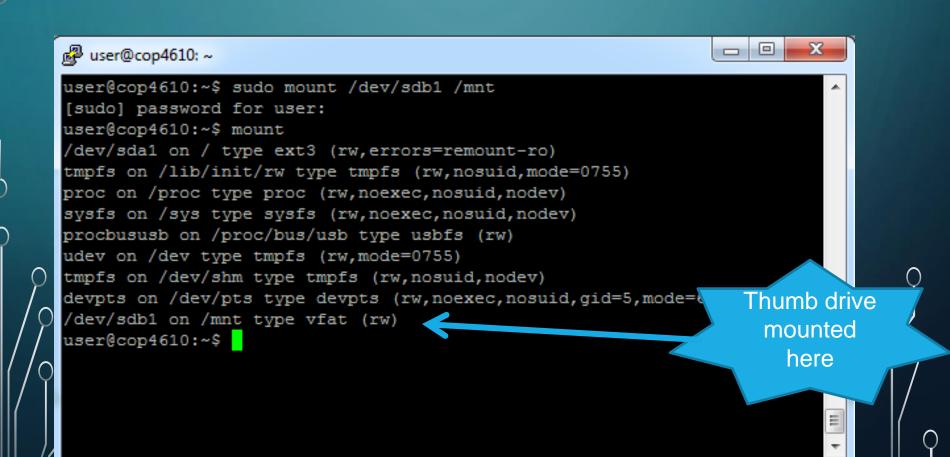


/dev/sda1



Files from the thumb drive are now accessible under /mnt

 The 'mount' command can dynamically attach new devices to new mount points



Un-mount Command

• umount <dir>

- In our example where the thumb drive was mounted at /mnt, we can issue
 - \$> umount /mnt
 - Requires root privileges

^o Loopback File Systems

- A loopback file system is an image of a complete file system within a single file
- All the sector contents are concatenated in order within the file (one big char array).
- Linux can mount one of these like any other filesystem.
 mount -o loop diskl.iso /mnt/disk
- You will use one of these for your project
- You will NOT be mounting it, unless you want to explore its contents from the Linux shell.

Figuring out names of devices

- /etc/fstab Has list of devices and file systems that get auto-mounted on boot
- 'dmesg' command shows output when plugging in a dynamic device

Assignment

- You will create a user-space utility to manipulate a FAT32 file system image
- Utility must understand a few basic commands to allow simple file system manipulation
- Utility must not corrupt the file system and should be robust

This assignment will be written and tested using Java 17.0.10 on the VM

• Do the following:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install openjdk-17-jdk-headless
java -version
```

You should see:

```
openjdk 17.0.10 2024-01-16
OpenJDK Runtime Environment (build 17.0.10+7-Ubuntu-120.04.1)
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM (build 17.0.10+7-Ubuntu-120.04.1, mixed mode, sharing)
```

File System Image

- Manipulation utility will work on a pre-configured FAT32 file system image
 - Actually a file
- File system image will have raw FAT32 data structures inside
 - Just like looking at the raw bytes inside of a disk partition

File System Image

- Your FAT32 manipulation utility will have to
 - Open the FAT32 file system image
 - Read parts of the FAT32 file system image and interpret the raw bytes inside to service your utility's file system commands...

...just like a file system!