

# **UNIX command line**

What is Unix/Linux?

What operating system(s) do you know?

What is the computer shell?

# The shell

The shell is an interpreter (a program) that lets you interact with the operating system

graphical shell

command-line shell

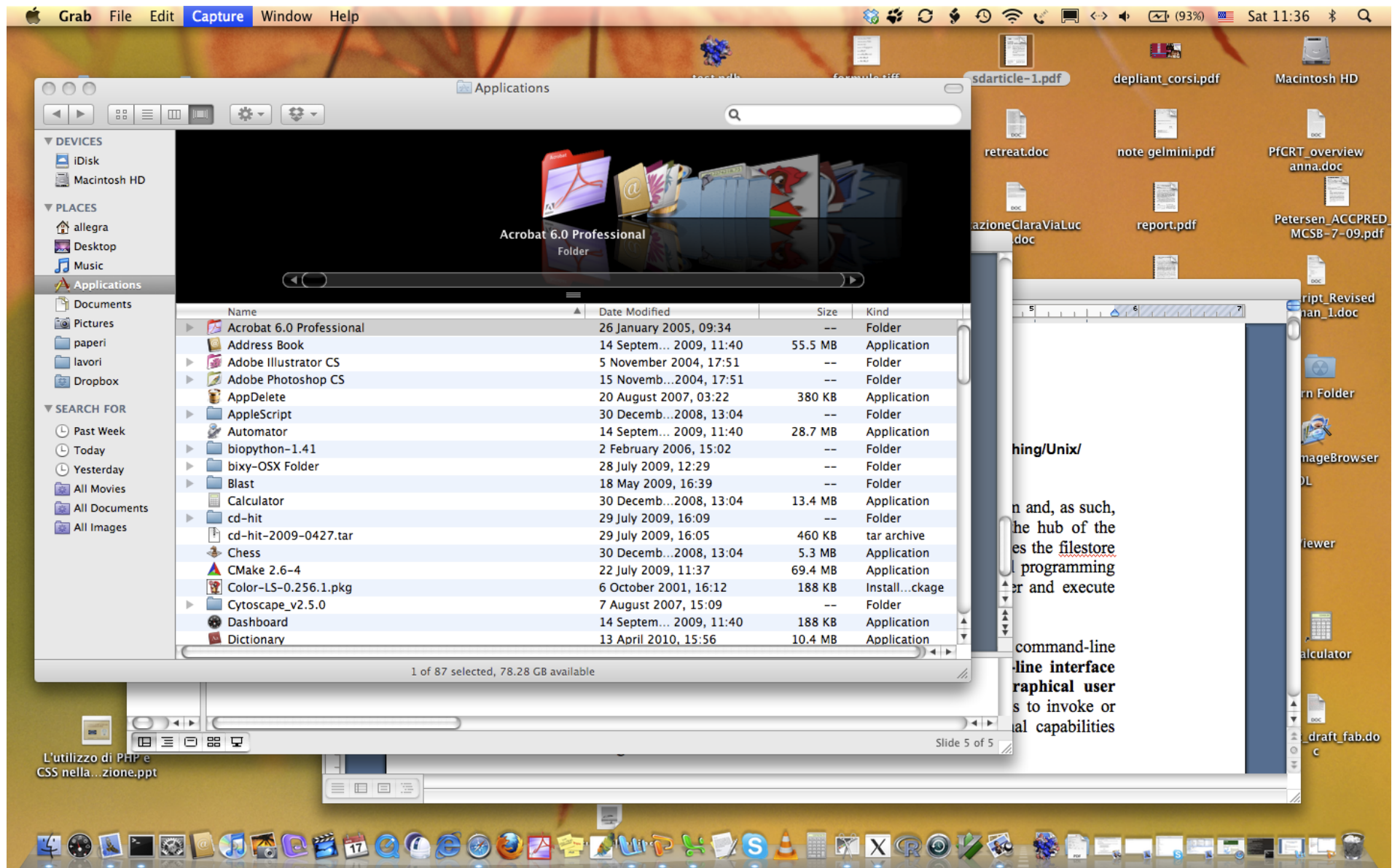


graphical interface

command-line interface

What is the graphical interface?

# graphical interface



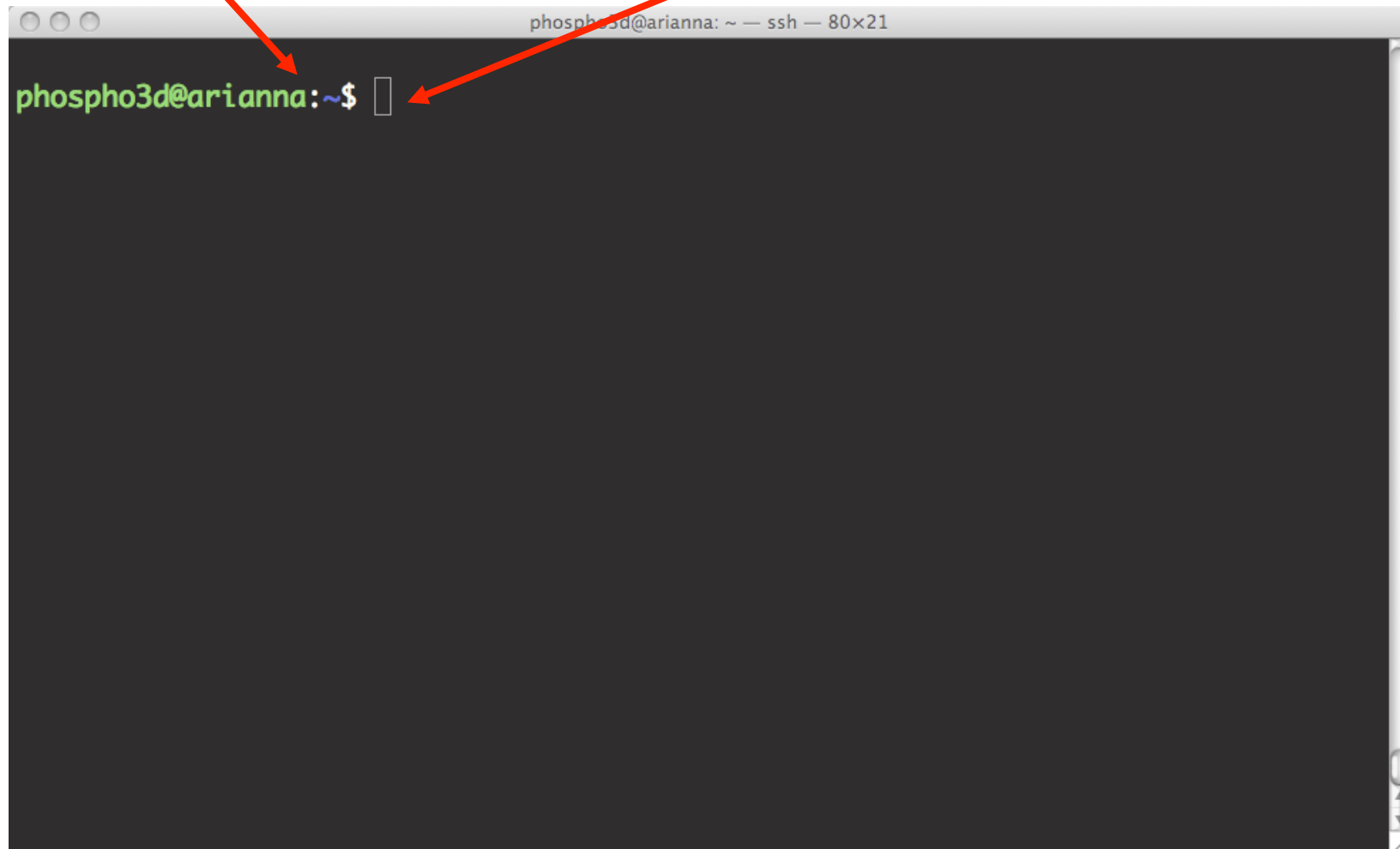
What is the command line interface (or  
Terminal)?



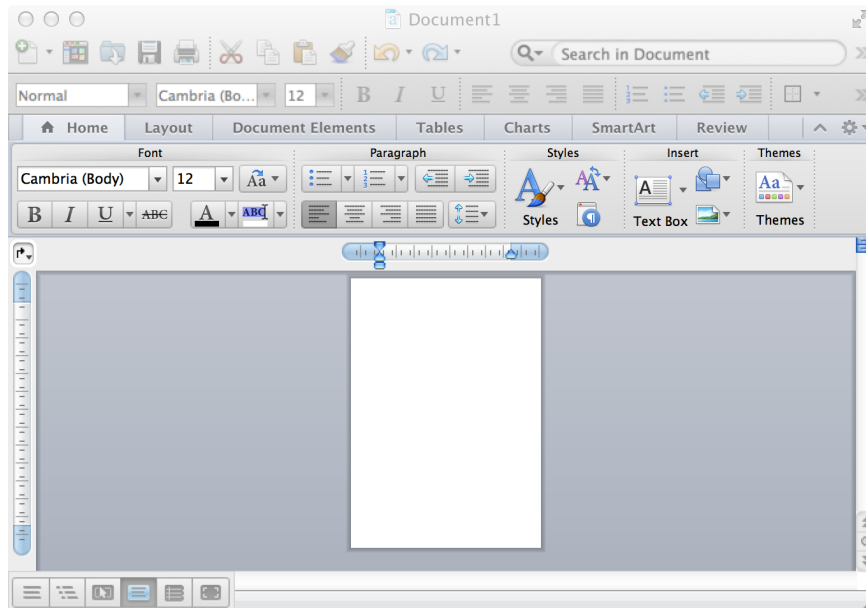
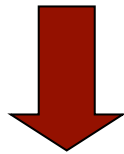
# command-line interface

prompt

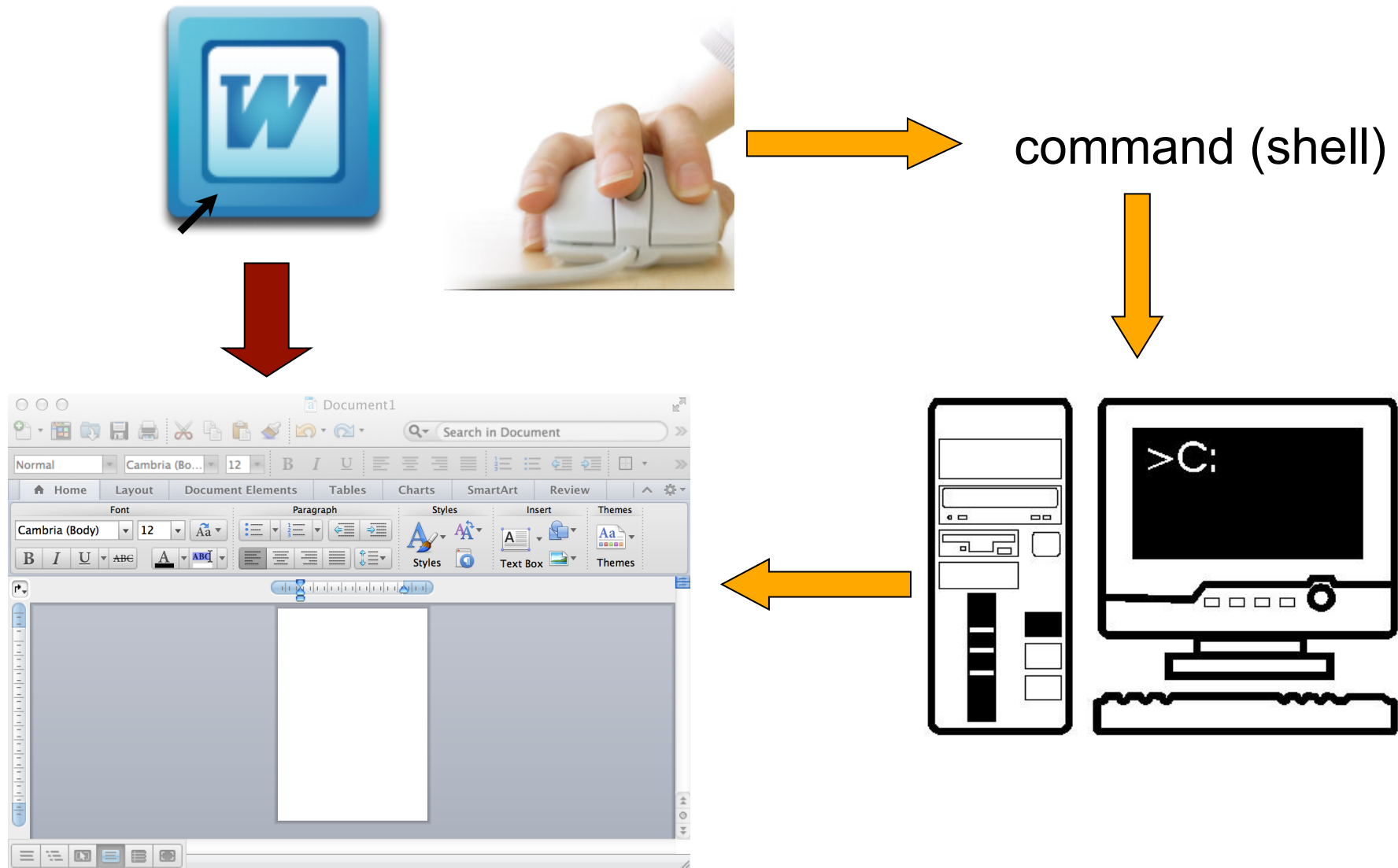
Here you write the command



What happens when you double click on the icon of an application?



What happens when you double click on the icon of an application?



Open a command-line terminal on your computer

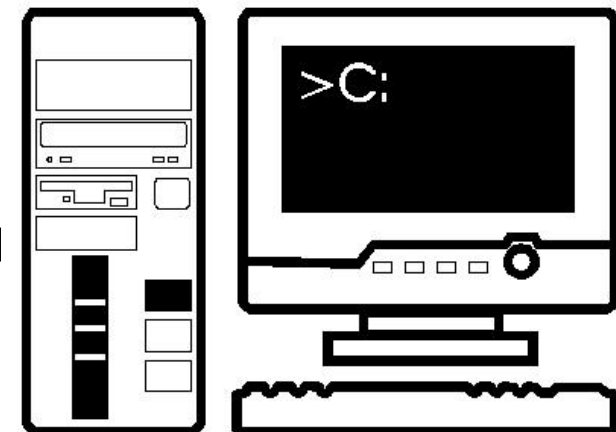
You can type a program name at the terminal prompt and then type **[Return]**

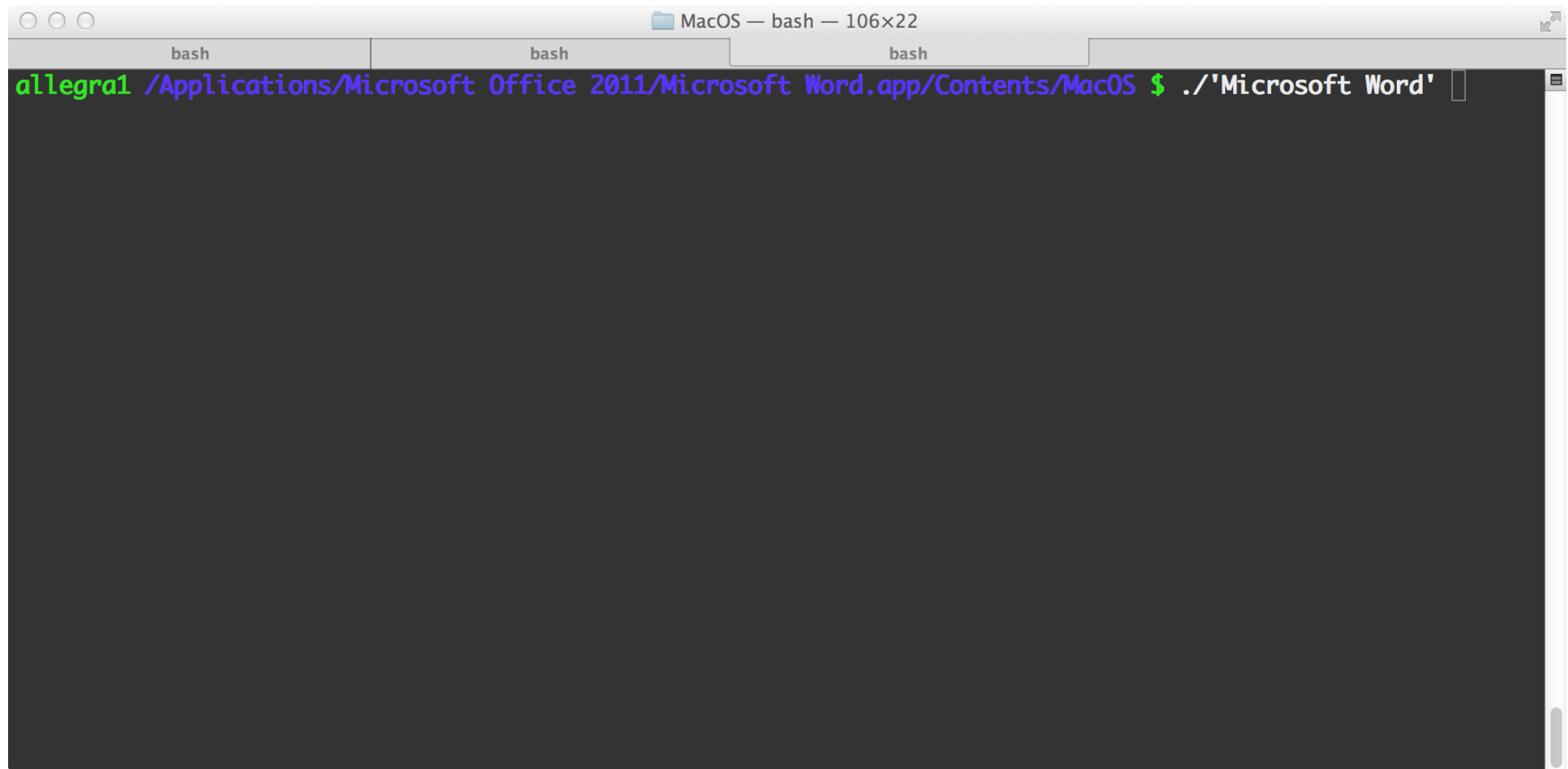
```
Terminal — csh — 68x21
~% python
```

```
Terminal — python2.7 — 68x21
~% python
Python 2.7.9 |Anaconda 2.2.0 (x86_64)| (default, Dec 15 2014, 10:37:
34)
[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5577)] on darwin
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more informatio
n.
Anaconda is brought to you by Continuum Analytics.
Please check out: http://continuum.io/thanks and https://binstar.org
>>>
```



command





A screenshot of a macOS terminal window. The title bar at the top reads "MacOS — bash — 106x22". Below the title bar, there are three tabs, each labeled "bash". The terminal content shows a prompt "allegra1" in green, followed by a path in purple: "/Applications/Microsoft Office 2011/Microsoft Word.app/Contents/MacOS". This is followed by a green dollar sign "\$" and the command "'Microsoft Word'" in white. A cursor is visible at the end of the command line. The rest of the terminal area is dark gray and empty.

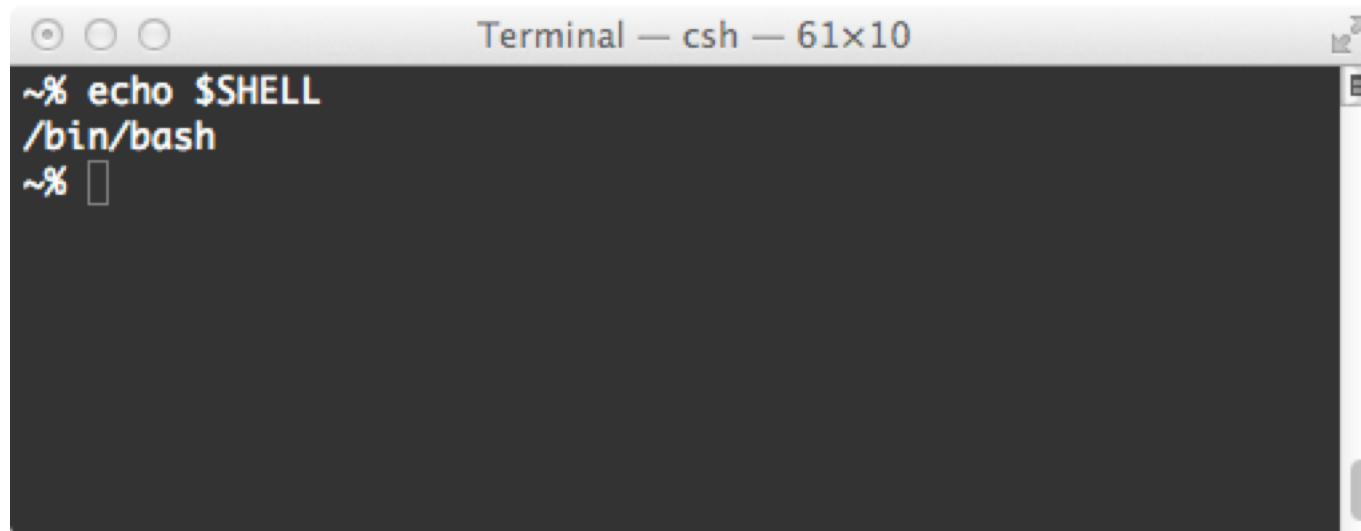
```
allegra1 /Applications/Microsoft Office 2011/Microsoft Word.app/Contents/MacOS $ './Microsoft Word'
```

## **The Terminal can be customised**

- Change default bg color
- Change text size, colour and font
- Increase/decrease transparency
- Resize it
- Have multiple windows open side by side
- Have multiple "tabs" open at the same time
- Change the command prompt (most commonly a \$ or % sign)
- Make the cursor blinking

# The Unix shell

- The shell is a command-line interpreter that lets you interact with Unix
- The shell takes what you type and "decides" what to do with it
- The shell is actually a scripting language somewhat like Python
- It is always possible to change shell (either temporarily or permanently)

A screenshot of a macOS Terminal window. The title bar at the top reads "Terminal — csh — 61x10". The terminal has a dark background with light-colored text. The prompt is "~% ". The user has entered the command "echo \$SHELL", and the output is "/bin/bash". The prompt is now "~% " with a cursor.

```
~% echo $SHELL
/bin/bash
~% 
```



## The command-line interface (terminal) allows you:

- to send typed instructions to the computer (i.e., run programs, move/view files, etc.)
- to see the output that results from those instructions.

Every time you type any Unix command and **press enter**, the computer will attempt to follow your instructions and then, when finished, return you to the **command prompt**.

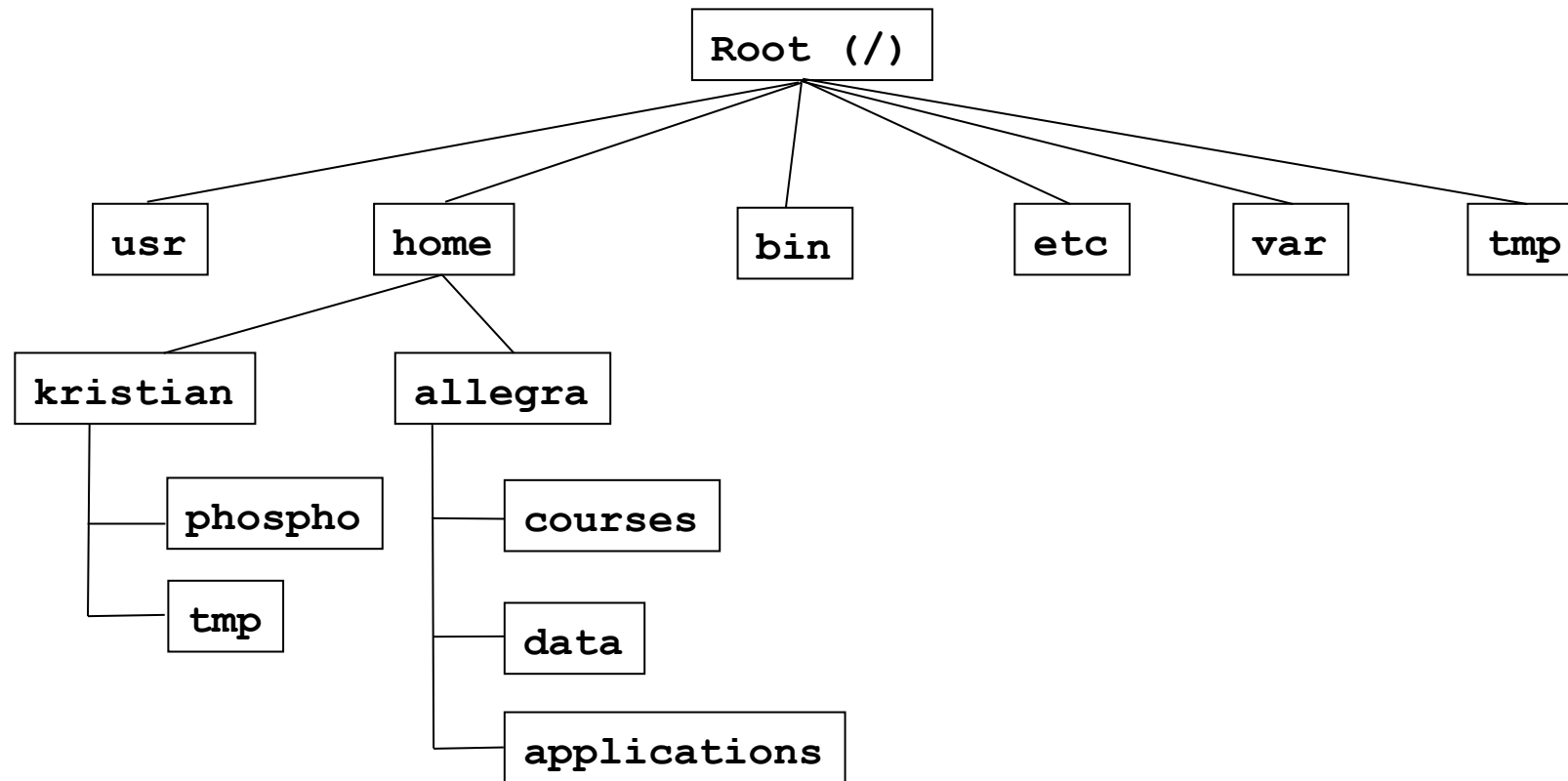
Type the Unix command 'ls' at the command prompt

What happens?

What is the filesystem tree?

# The directory structure

The file-system is arranged in a hierarchical structure, like an inverted tree

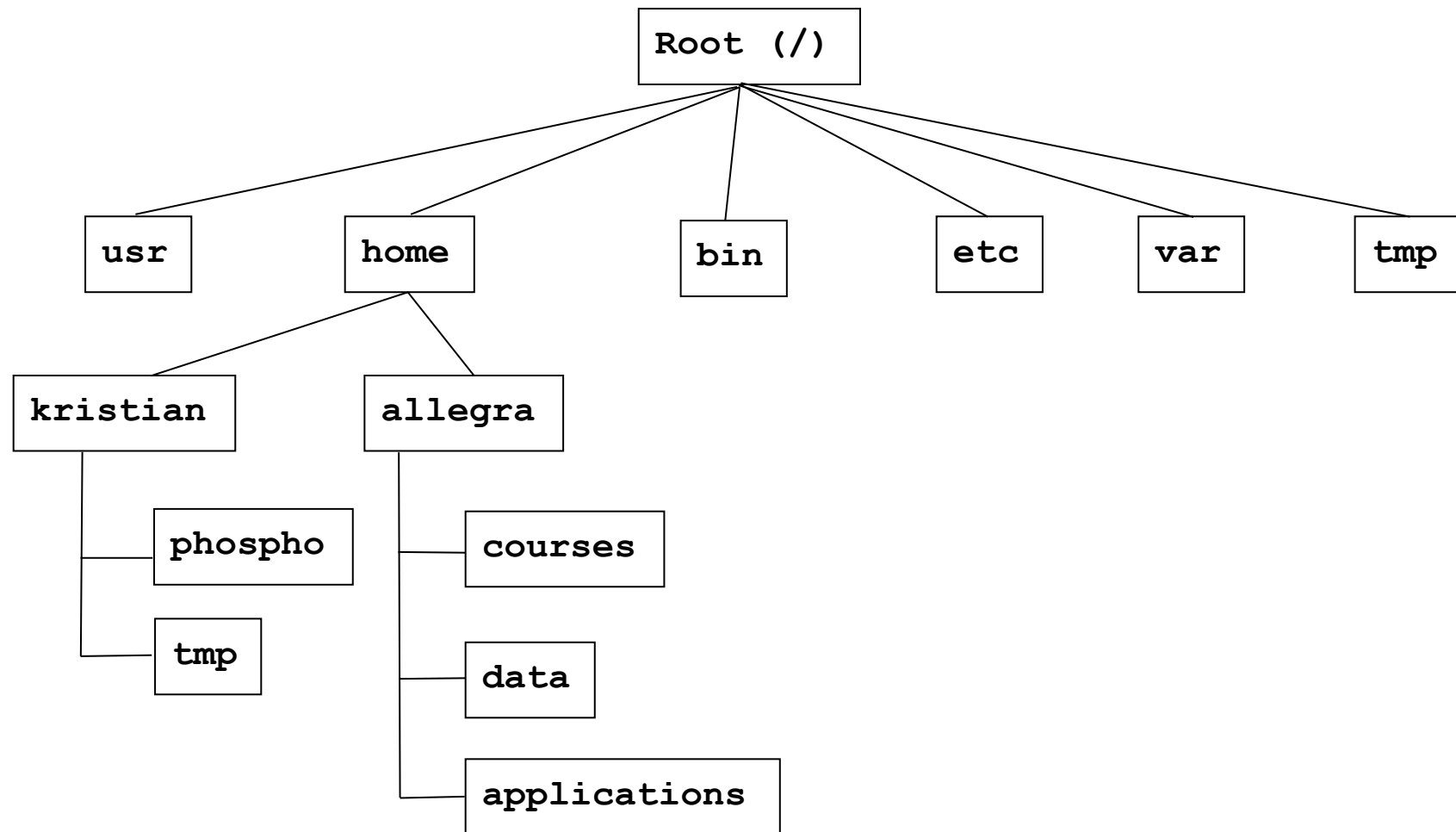


The top of the hierarchy is traditionally called **root**

When you first login, the current working directory is your home directory  
(containing files and directories that only you can modify)

How can you navigate the filesystem?

# What do you need to be able to do in order to navigate the filesystem?



In groups

## **What do you need to be able to do to navigate the filesystem?**

- Find out where you are in the filesystem
- Change directory
- Find your way home
- Identify the location of a file/directory

What is the ***path*** of a file or a directory?



Slashes separate parts of the directory path:

`/home/alleggra/courses/TGAC2015/Academis_Linux.pdf`

## **What do you need to be able to do in order to do/manage stuff in the filesystem?**

- Think of things you need to be able to do in, e.g., Windows or Mac OSX

In groups

## **What do you need to be able to do in order to do/manage stuff in the filesystem?**

- Think of things you need to be able to do in, e.g., Windows or Mac OSX
  - Make a new directory
  - Remove a directory
  - Copy a file to another file
  - Rename a file/directory
  - Create a file
  - Open/close a file
  - Remove a file
  - Run programs

What is a computer program?

Which ones do you know?

**Did you know that...**

**...everything in Unix is either a **file** or a **process**?**

A **process** is an **executing program** identified by a  
unique PID  
(PID = Process IDentifier)

A **file** is a collection of data

# About Unix commands

## Commands are themselves programs

```
%rm myfile.txt [Return]
```

- The shell searches the file containing the **program rm**
- **executes the program rm** on **myfile.txt**
- After the process **rm myfile.txt** has finished running, the shell returns the prompt **%** to you, indicating that it is waiting for further commands.



- `command_name -options <file> [Return]`
- `%ls [Return]`
- `%ls -l [Return]`
- `%ls -l <dirname> [Return]`
- `%ls -ltr <dirname> [Return]`

• `man <command name> [Enter]`

• `whatis <command name> [Enter]`

## OPTIONS and ARGUMENTS

- There are commands that can take **XXX**
- Commands may also take **XXX**
- **XXX** change the behaviour of the command
- **XXX** are the objects on which commands act
- You will specify **XXX** using a **XXX**
- The command name, **XXX** and **XXX** must be separated by **XXX**



## Replace the **XXX**

- If you've made a typo: Ctrl-**XXX** to cancel the whole line
- Unix is **XXX**-sensitive
- Ctrl-**XXX** sets the cursor at the beginning of the line
- Ctrl-**XXX** sets the cursor at the end of the line
- You can use up and down **XXX** to recall commands
- The command **XXX** tells you where is a given program
- You can use a **XXX** to write programs

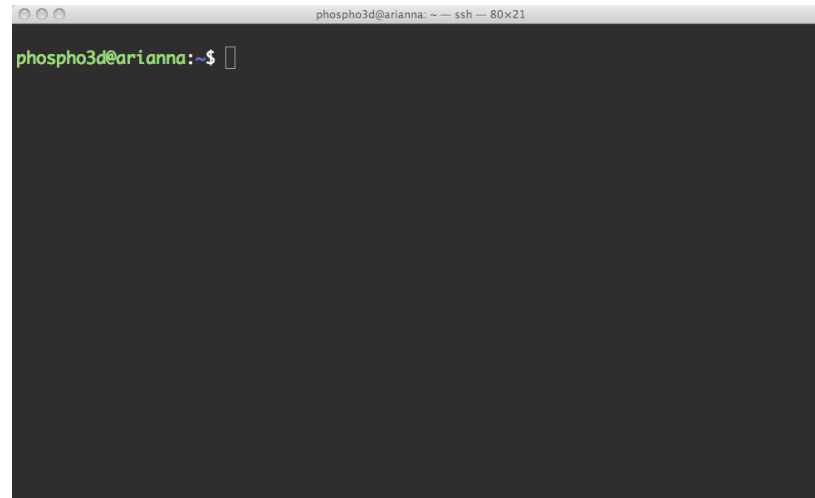
## **Writing and running** programs in Unix

Where can we write programs?

What is a **text** editor?

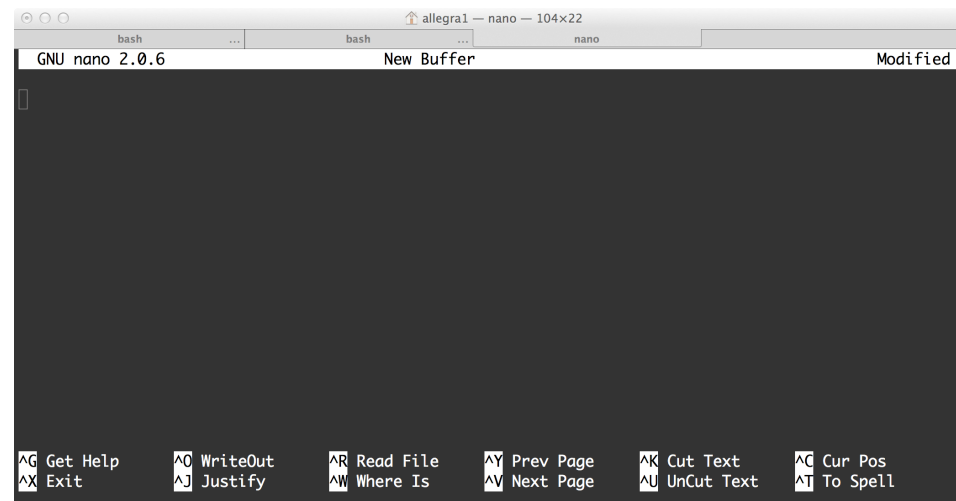
Which ones do you know?

- Access your home directory using the command-line interface



A terminal window titled "phospho3d@arianna: ~ — ssh — 80x21". The prompt is "phospho3d@arianna:~\$" followed by a cursor.

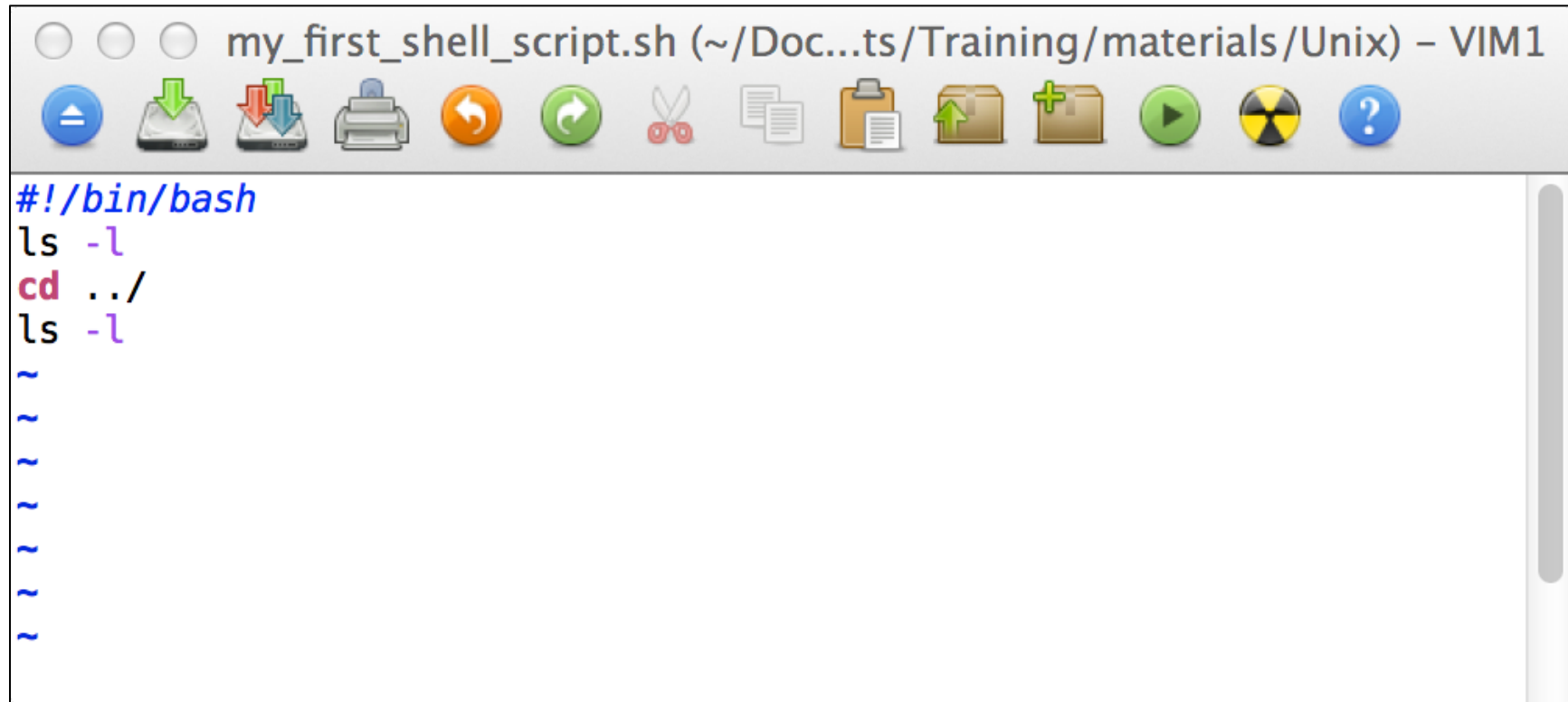
- Start the **nano** text editor



A terminal window titled "allegra1 — nano — 104x22". The window shows the nano text editor interface. The top bar includes "GNU nano 2.0.6", "New Buffer", and "Modified". The bottom bar displays various keyboard shortcuts:   
^G Get Help   ^O WriteOut   ^R Read File   ^Y Prev Page   ^K Cut Text   ^C Cur Pos  
^X Exit   ^J Justify   ^W Where Is   ^V Next Page   ^U UnCut Text   ^T To Spell

- Create a text file “my\_first\_shell\_script.sh”

# My first shell script

A screenshot of a VIM editor window. The title bar at the top reads "my\_first\_shell\_script.sh (~/Doc...ts/Training/materials/Unix) - VIM1". Below the title bar is a toolbar with various icons for editing and navigation. The main text area contains the following text:

```
#!/bin/bash
ls -l
cd ../
ls -l
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

## Write commands in a file, save and exit

- Go to the command-line interface and type “ls” at the prompt

How can we run programs on Unix?

# Prerequisites to run a program

1. The program must be somewhere on your computer
2. The program must be **executable**
3. You have to tell the **shell** which "**interpreter**" will read and execute the program AND where it will find it
4. You must be in the same directory as the program you want to run OR....
5. ....you can prefix its name with a path OR...
6. ...the path to your program must in the **PATH environment variable**



# Is my script executable?

## File system security (access rights)

Each file (and directory) has associated access rights, which may be found by typing `ls -l`

The diagram shows a single line of output from the `ls -l` command: `-rwxr-xr-- 1 gould admin 2541 2009-08-19 16:57 new_scop.txt`. Annotations with arrows point to each field: 'permissions' points to `-rwxr-xr--`; 'owner' points to `gould`; 'size in bytes' points to `2541`; 'date and time of the last modification' points to `2009-08-19 16:57`; and 'file's name' points to `new_scop.txt`. Below the line, additional annotations point to specific parts: 'd' points to the first character of the permissions; 'number of links' points to the `1`; 'group owner' points to `admin`.

Field	Value	Description
Permissions	<code>-rwxr-xr--</code>	Access rights for file and others
Number of links	<code>1</code>	Hard link count
Owner	<code>gould</code>	User who owns the file
Group owner	<code>admin</code>	Group the file belongs to
Size in bytes	<code>2541</code>	File size
Date and time of last modification	<code>2009-08-19 16:57</code>	Last change timestamp
File's name	<code>new_scop.txt</code>	Filename

## Access rights on directories

**r** allows users to list files in the directory

**w** allows users to delete files from the directory or move files into it

**x** allow users to access files in the directory

# How can I make my script executable?

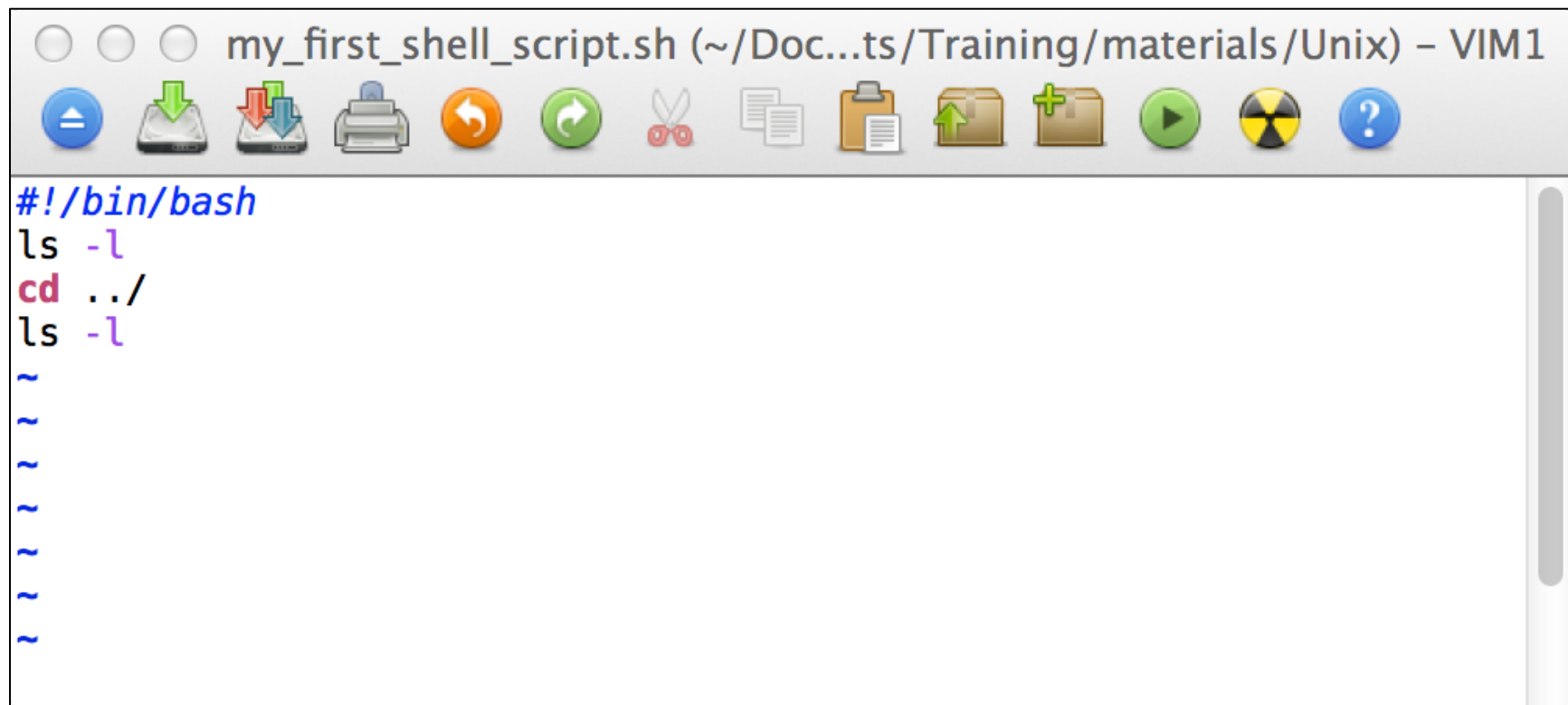
## Changing access rights: chmod

```
%chmod go-rwx myfile.txt
```

```
%chmod a+x my_script
```

Symbol	Meaning
<b>u</b>	user
<b>g</b>	group
<b>o</b>	other
<b>a</b>	all
<b>r</b>	read
<b>w</b>	write (and delete)
<b>x</b>	execute (and access directory)
<b>+</b>	add permission
<b>-</b>	take away permission

You have to tell the **shell** which "**interpreter**" will read and execute the program AND where it will find it



The image shows a VIM editor window titled "my\_first\_shell\_script.sh (~/.Doc...ts/Training/materials/Unix) - VIM1". The window has a toolbar with icons for undo, redo, save, print, undo, redo, cut, copy, paste, insert, play, and help. The script content is as follows:

```
#!/bin/bash
ls -l
cd ../
ls -l
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

```
#!/bin/bash
```

"Aha, you want to use the program located at `/bin/bash` to interpret all the instructions that follow"

**Now you want to execute the script**

**You have to tell Unix where it can find it**

**Where Unix searches for programs?**

## Where Unix searches for programs?

Once you have made a script executable you can always run it by prefixing its name with a path:

```
./shell_commands.sh
```

```
~alleggra/Documents/shell_commands.sh
```

- Anytime you are running a program, Unix will check through **a list of predefined directories** to see if that program exists in any of those locations.
- If it finds a match, it will try running the program and stop looking in any other directory.
- If it cannot find a match, it will print "command not found"

## **UNIX environment variables**

Unix keeps track of several special variables that are associated with your account

- Written in upper-case letters
- Start with a \$
- `echo $SHELL`
- `printenv SHELL`
- `echo $PATH`

# echo \$PATH

If the system returns a message saying "**command: Command not found**", this indicates that either the command doesn't exist at all on the system or it is simply not in your path.

```
# for shells in the bash family
export PATH=$PATH:~/alleggra/my_scripts
```

```
# for shells in the csh family
setenv PATH $PATH\:~/alleggra/my_scripts
```

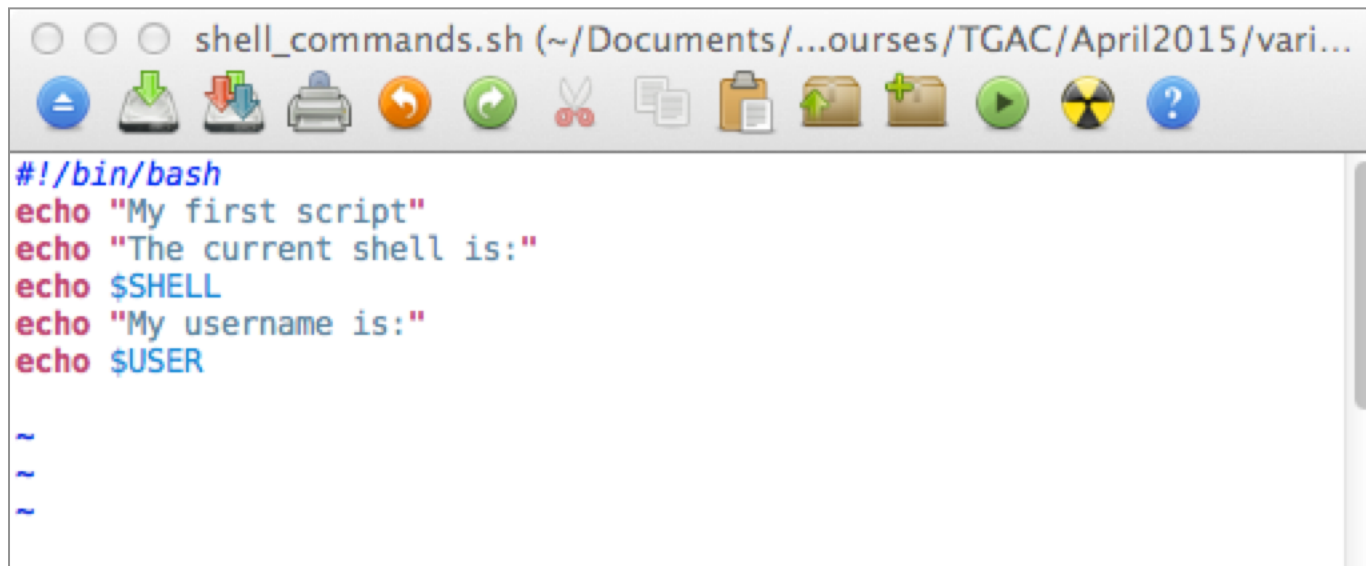
- Any program in ~/alleggra/my\_scripts can be run from **anywhere** in the filesystem (as long as the program file is executable)
- You can use tab-completion
- Your scripts will be treated like any Unix command



## **A few more questions...**

- What is command-line completion?
- What is a default argument?

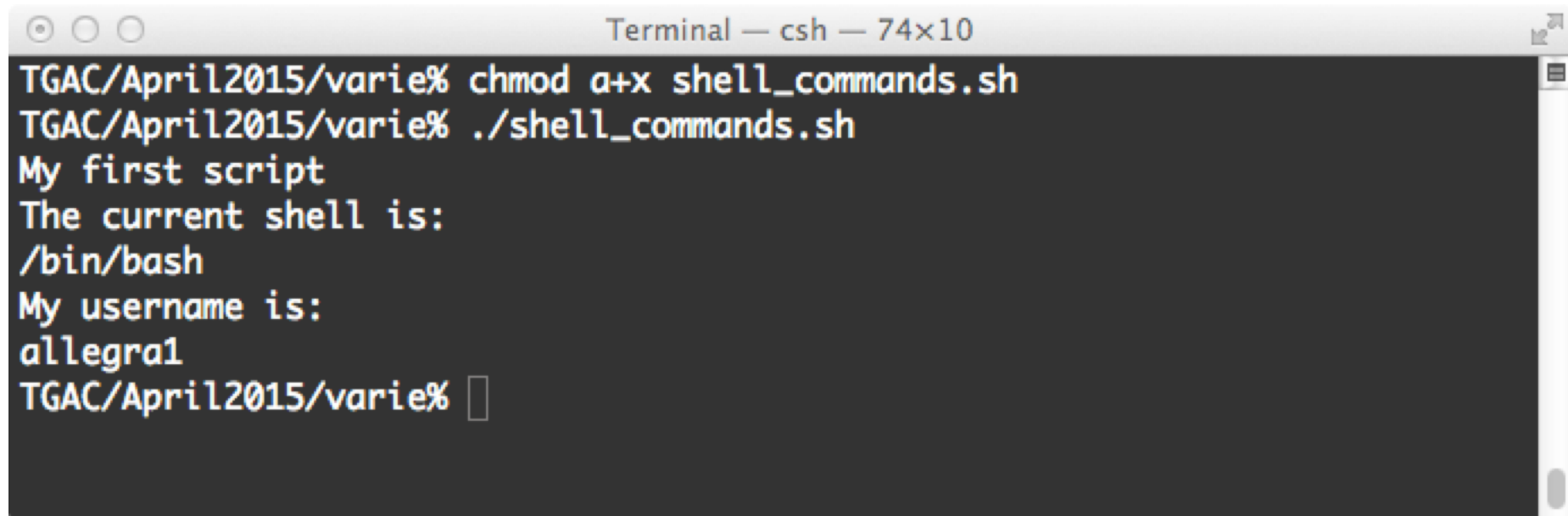
Exercise: use a text editor to write commands into a file, save, exit, make it executable and run it



A screenshot of a text editor window titled "shell\_commands.sh (~/.Documents/...ourses/TGAC/April2015/vari...". The window contains a shell script with the following content:

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "My first script"
echo "The current shell is:"
echo $SHELL
echo "My username is:"
echo $USER

~
~
~
```



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "Terminal — csh — 74x10". The terminal shows the execution of the shell script created in the previous step:

```
TGAC/April2015/varie% chmod a+x shell_commands.sh
TGAC/April2015/varie% ./shell_commands.sh
My first script
The current shell is:
/bin/bash
My username is:
allegra1
TGAC/April2015/varie% 
```



# Connecting to a remote computer

```
ssh remote_host
```

The *remote\_host* is the IP address or domain name that you are trying to connect to.

If your username is different on the remote system:

```
ssh remote_username@remote_host
```

Once you have connected to the server, you will probably be asked to verify your identity by providing a password.

```
ssh -x remote_username@remote_host
```

## Transferring files to/from a remote computer

**sftp username@host**

Enter your password when prompted

Several Unix commands do work

**get** → Copy a file from the remote computer to the local computer.

**put** → Copy a file from the local computer to the remote computer.

## Transferring files to/from a remote computer

**scp** copies files over a secure, encrypted network connection.

```
scp /home/image*.jpg allegra@myhost.com:/home/images
```

```
scp allegra@myhost.com:/home/image*.jpg /home/allegra/downloads
```

```
scp [-12346BCpqrsv] [-c cipher] [-F ssh_config] [-i identity_file]  
    [-l limit] [-o ssh_option] [-P port] [-S program]  
    [[user@]host1:]file1 ... [[user@]host2:]file2
```

Enter your password when prompted

## Non-interactive download of files from the Web

**wget** [*option*] . . . [*URL*] . . .

- Non-interactive means that it can work in the background, while the user is not logged on.
- This allows you to start a retrieval and disconnect from the system, letting Wget finish the work.
- By contrast, most of the Web browsers require constant user's presence, which can be a great hindrance when transferring a lot of data.

# Listing files and directories

<code>ls</code>	list files and directories
<code>ls -a</code>	list all files and directories
<code>mkdir</code>	make a directory
<code>cd <i>directory</i></code>	change to named directory
<code>cd</code>	change to home-directory
<code>cd ~</code>	change to home-directory
<code>cd ..</code>	change to parent directory
<code>pwd</code>	display the path of the current directory

## The directories ‘.’, ‘..’, and ‘~’

```
% ls -a [Enter]
```

```
% cd . [Enter]
```

```
% cd .. [Enter]
```

```
% ls ~/oeiras
```



# Handling files and directories

<code>cp file1 file2</code>	copy file1 and call it file2
<code>mv file1 file2</code>	move or rename file1 to file2
<code>rm file</code>	remove a file
<code>rmdir directory</code>	remove a directory
<code>cat file</code>	display a file
<code>more file</code>	display a file a page at a time
<code>head file</code>	display the first few lines of a file
<code>tail file</code>	display the last few lines of a file
<code>grep 'keyword' file</code>	search a file for keywords
<code>wc file</code>	count number of lines/words/characters in file

`more`

`less`

`clear`

# Redirection

<i>command &gt; file</i>	redirect standard output to a file
<i>command &gt;&gt; file</i>	append standard output to a file
<i>command &lt; file</i>	redirect standard input from a file
<i>cat file1 file2 &gt; file0</i>	concatenate file1 and file2 to file0
<i>sort</i>	sort data
<i>who</i>	list users currently logged in