Introduction to Linux Shell



COMP201 Lab Session Fall 2021

What is shell?



 The Linux shell is the interface between you and operating system that controls the hardware.

 The most commonly used shell is called BASH – Bourne Again Shell

- username@hostname:curr_dir\$
 - username: farzin
 - hostname: COMP201
 - curr_dir: /home



Executing system programs



Execute programs

- \$date
 - This program prints current date and time
- \$echo
 - This program prints the input argument



Path and \$PATH



\$PATH

 A variable that contains addresses where system look for programs to execute

\$which

 Prints which file is being executed given an input program name

\$pwd

- This program prints current working directory
- Stands for "print working directory"



Path

```
farzin@COMP201: ~ _ _ _ X

File Edit View Search Terminal Help

farzin@COMP201:/home$ pwd
/home
farzin@COMP201:/home$ cd ~
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd
/home/farzin
farzin@COMP201:/home$ cd ..
farzin@COMP201:/$ pwd
/
farzin@COMP201:/$ cd ./home/farzin/
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd
/
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd
/home/farzin
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd
```

\$cd

- Changes the working directory
- .. is the parent directory
- . is the current directory
- Tilda (~) is the /home/usr directory

Absolute vs Relative path

- Relative: ./home/farzin
- Absolute: /home/farzin



Listing files and directories

```
farzin@COMP201: /
                                                                   File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:/home$ ls
farzin
farzin@COMP201:/home$ ls -l
total 4
drwxr-xr-x 44 farzin farzin 4096 Oct 11 02:02 farzin
farzin@COMP201:/homeS cd ..
farzin@COMP201:/$ ls
bin
       etc
                       lib
                                   media root srv
                                                          USF
                                                swapfile
      home
                      lib32
                                          run
boot
                                                          var
cdrom initrd.img
                      lib64
                                   opt
                                          sbin
                                                          vmlinuz
       initrd.img.old lost+found
                                                          vmlinuz.old
                                  ргос
                                          snap
farzin@COMP201:/$ ls /home
farzin
farzin@COMP201:/$ ls ./home
farzin
farzin@COMP201:/$
```

\$ Is

- Prints files and directories under current working directory
- You can use options with commands like "-I" which shows a long list containing more details of files and folders
- You can also pass absolute or relative path to \$ls command
- Use --help for more info about arguments
- Check -a and -F options



Listing files and directories

```
macar20@WS001: ~/mnist_data/MNIST/raw
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist data/MNIST/raw$ ls -lS
total 65012
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 47040016 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 9912422 Haz 14 13:07
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                              7840016 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                              1648877 Haz 14 13:07
                                60008 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                                28881 Haz 14 13:07
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                                10008 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                                 4542 Haz 14 13:07
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist data/MNIST/raw$ ls -lSr
total 65012
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                                 4542 Haz 14 13:07
                                10008 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                                28881 Haz 14 13:07
                                60008 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                              1648877 Haz 14 13:07
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
                              7840016 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 9912422 Haz 14 13:07
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 47040016 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist data/MNIST/raw$
```

 You can use "-S" option to display files sorted by their sizes, and "-r" option for reverse sorting.



Making directories, files, and removing them

```
fnegahbani20@WS001: ~/comp201
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ mkdir my dir
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ touch my text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ touch source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my_dir my_text.txt source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my dir my text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm my_dir/
rm: cannot remove 'my dir/': Is a directory
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm -R my dir/
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$
```

- \$ mkdir <folder_name>
 - Makes a new directory in the given working directory with the given "folder_name".
- \$ touch
 - Creates a file with desired extension and name
- \$ rm
 - Removes a file or folder.
 - For removing folders you need to use -R option



File Permission in Linux

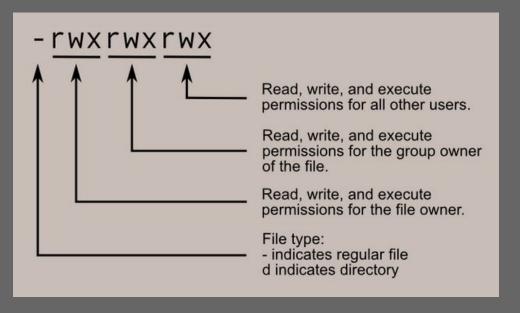


Image source: http://linuxcommand.org/lc3 Its0090.php



File Permission in Linux

```
rwx rwx rwx = 111 111 111
rw- rw- rw- rw- = 110 110 110
rwx --- = 111 000 000

and so on...

rwx = 111 in binary = 7
rw- = 110 in binary = 6
r-x = 101 in binary = 5
r-- = 100 in binary = 4
```

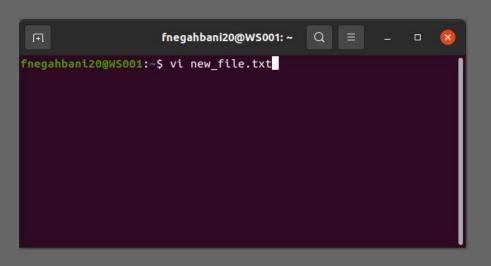
Image source: http://linuxcommand.org/lc3_lts0090.php

Initially, test.sh cannot be executed, to grant -rwx rwx r-x permission to test.sh file:

fnegahbani20@WS001:~\$ chmod 775 test.sh



What is Vi?



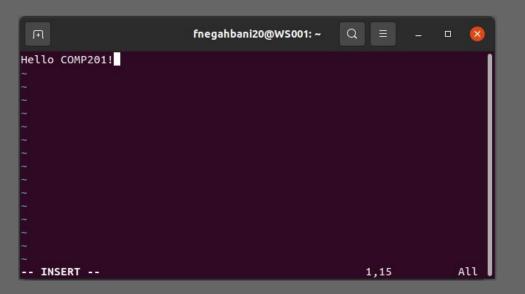
 Vi is the default text editor in the UNIX operating system.

 Using vi, we can create a new file, read, and edit an existing file.

To open vi, type "vi" or "vi filename".
 If the file "filename" doesn't exist, it will be created when you save it.



Operation Modes in vi or vim



Normal mode

- The default mode in vi.
- In some source, like
 https://www.cs.colostate.edu/helpdocs/vi.h
 tml, it is also called command mode.
- Every character you type is interpreted as a command.

Insert mode

- The one on the left picture.
- To switch from normal mode to insert mode, type 'i' in the normal mode.
- Every character you type is put to the file.
- To switch back to normal mode, press
 <Esc>



Operation Modes in vi or vim



Visual mode

- To switch from normal mode to visual mode, type 'v'.
- You can select blocks of text.
- Type d to delete the block, c to delete the block and switch to insert mode to replace the deleted block with another string.
- To switch back to normal mode, type
 <Esc>.

Exit without saving

 To exit from a file without saving it, go to the Normal mode (command mode) by pressing <Esc> then type :q!



Redirection

```
farzin@COMP201: ~/COMP201
                                                                         _ _ ×
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ touch myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ echo "Test1: Hello!" > myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
Test1: Hello!
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat < myfile.txt</pre>
Test1: Hello!
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ echo "Test2: Anybody there?" >> myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
Test1: Hello!
Test2: Anybody there?
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ mkdir myfolder
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ ls
myfile.txt myfolder
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat < myfile.txt > ./myfolder/myfile2.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ ls ./myfolder
myfile2.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat ./myfolder/myfile2.txt
Test1: Hello!
Test2: Anybody there?
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$
```

- \$cat
 - Print the content of the given file
- "< file" and "> file"
 - You can wire the input and output of a program to a file
 - ">> file" appends to end of file



Piping

```
farzin@COMP201: ~/COMP201
                                                           _ _ ×
     Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
BaNanA
apple
BaNanA
orange
Apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep -i apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep -i a
BaNanA
 pple
BaNanA
orange
 pple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$
```

- Pipe character " | "
 - Connects output of a program to input of another one
- \$grep
 - Searches for a particular information
 - By default it is case sensitive
- Try "grep --help" and find what does -i option do



Piping

```
macar20@WS001: ~/Downloads

(base) macar20@WS001: ~/Downloads$ ls *.pdf | wc -l
514
(base) macar20@WS001: ~/Downloads$
```

 We can pass output of Is to wc ("word count") to count number of PDF files in a directory

