

Advanced Programming

WorkShop: Linux Fundamentals

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What is Linux?

- Open-source operating system kernel
- Core of distributions like Ubuntu, Debian, Fedora
- Used in servers, DevOps, IoT, and embedded systems
- Key features: **stability, security, flexibility**

File System Structure

Directory	Description
/	Root directory
/home	User home folders
/etc	System configurations
/var/log	Log files
/usr/bin	Installed apps and binaries

- **Absolute paths** start with /
- **Relative paths** depend on current directory

Terminal Basics

Command	Description
<code>pwd</code>	Print current directory
<code>ls -l</code>	List files in detail
<code>cd</code>	Change directory
<code>mkdir / rmdir</code>	Create or remove directory
<code>cp</code> , <code>mv</code> , <code>rm</code>	Copy, move, remove files
<code>cat</code> , <code>nano</code> , <code>less</code>	View or edit files

Example Session

```
pwd                # Show current directory path
ls -lah            # List all files with size & details
cd /etc             # Change directory to /etc
mkdir test && cd test # Create folder 'test' and move into it
cp /var/log/syslog . # Copy syslog file to current directory
mv syslog logs.txt  # Rename syslog to logs.txt
rm logs.txt         # Remove the file
```

Permissions

- Access types: **r** (read), **w** (write), **x** (execute)
- Levels: user, group, others

```
ls -l                                # View permissions and owners
chmod +x script.sh                  # Add execute permission
chmod 640 config.env                # Owner read/write, group read only
chown root:root /etc/app.conf       # Change owner and group to root
```

Users & Processes

```
whoami          # Show current user
adduser test    # Add a new user named 'test'
ps aux          # Show all running processes
kill -9 1234    # Force kill process with PID 1234
```

View running tasks interactively:

```
top             # Display real-time process list
htop            # Better visual process monitor (install separately)
```


Package Management

Distribution	Tool	Example
Ubuntu/Debian	apt	<code>sudo apt install curl</code>
Fedora	dnf	<code>sudo dnf update</code>
Arch	pacman	<code>sudo pacman -S git</code>

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y    # Update and upgrade all packages
sudo apt install build-essential git      # Install packages
sudo apt remove nano                      # Remove a package
```

Bash & Shell Scripting

Automate tasks using Bash scripts

File extension: `.sh`

```
#!/bin/bash          # Shebang line to use Bash
echo "Welcome to Bash!" # Print a message to terminal
```

Save as `myscript.sh`, then:

```
chmod +x myscript.sh # Make file executable
./myscript.sh         # Run the script
```

Variables

```
#!/bin/bash  
name="Hossein"           # Define a variable  
echo "Hello $name"       # Access variable value
```

Output:

```
Hello Hossein
```

Conditionals

```
#!/bin/bash
read -p "Enter a number: " num    # Ask for user input
if [ $num -gt 10 ]; then          # If number greater than 10
    echo "Greater than 10"
else                               # Otherwise
    echo "10 or less"
fi
```

Loops

```
#!/bin/bash
for i in 1 2 3 4 5          # Loop from 1 to 5
do                          # Print each iteration
    echo "Count: $i"
done
```

or:

```
count=1                    # Initialize variable
while [ $count -le 3 ]     # While count ≤ 3
do
    echo "Loop $count"     # Print current count
    ((count++))            # Increment count
done
```

Small Project: “Backup Logs”

```
#!/bin/bash
# Simple backup script
mkdir -p ~/backup           # Create backup directory
cp /var/log/syslog ~/backup/ # Copy system log file
echo "Backup completed!"    # Print confirmation
```

Hands-on Practice

1. Create a file named `hello.sh`
2. Add a shebang line (`#!/bin/bash`)
3. Print your name and current date (`date`)
4. Make it executable and run it
5. Add a loop or if-condition

Summary & References

- Linux = stable, secure, flexible
- Know file system + terminal basics
- Manage users, permissions, packages
- Start writing small Bash scripts

Resources:

- linuxjourney.com
- linuxcommand.org

End of Presentation

Sharif University Workshop Series — Linux Fundamentals