# Cron

- It is used to schedule recurring events
- Use crontab to edit, install and view job schedules

### Syntax:

crontab [-u user] file crontab [-l:-r|-e]

- -l lists crontab jobs
- -r remove crontab
- -e edits crontab jobs using \$EDITOR

#### Note

- cron jobs are stored in /var/spool/cron
- daemon for crontab: crond

#### Valid fields

Minute	Hour	Day of Month	Month	Day of week
0-59	0-23	1-31	1-12 or jan, Feb	0 or 7 = Sunday,1=Monday,

• Multiple values may be separated by commas □ \* indicates all valid values □ For further help:

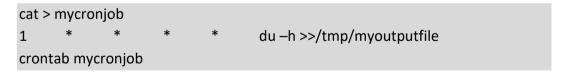
man 5 crontab

#### Controlling access to cron

List of users to be allowed or denied will be listed in following files /etc/cron.allow and /etc/cron.deny respectively.

## Examples

1. Cron job which will run du —h and saves output to /tmp/myoutputfile in every minute.



2. Cron job which will run du —h and saves its output to /tmp/myoutputfile in every 1st minute of hour alternating in 2 hours.

```
cat > mycronjob

1 */2 * * * du -h >>/tmp/myoutputfile

[press Ctrl+d to save and exict form cat mode]

crontab mycronjob
```

3. Cron job to do task in every 1st day of 4th week of the month on time of 5:00 PM

Targeted Audience: Students of Network and System Administration CSIT (TU), System Administration (Elective) BE Computer/BIT (Purbanchal University), MCS 22: Operating System Concepts and Network Management IGNOU, MCS 52: Network Administration and Programming, IGNOU

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crontab -e 0 17 1 \*/4 \* Is -I >>output1

To execute script files in a particular directory called /etc/rc.d/htb

vi /etc/crontab

path=<...path in the file currently>:/etc/rc.d/htb

0 17 1 \* root run-parts /etc/rc.d/htb

### System logging

- To start system logging #service syslog start
- Configuration file

/etc/syslog.conf

Information files

/var/log/messages contains all log inforation /var/log/dmesg contains kernel related logs /var/log/mail contains mail realated logs and so on.

Note: use tail command with feeding option to analyze current activities in particular program. For instance, use following command when even you got any error occurs in hosting website in apache:

tail -f /var/log/httpd/error.log

Format of log:

Date/time:application [PID] messages