Module
1

Unix/Linux cheat sheet

Navigation Commands

pwd	print working directory (dir) - shows what dir you're in
ls	list the contents of a dir
ls -l	list the contents of a dir and show extra info about the files
ls -a	list all files, including hidden files
cd	change directory
cd ..	go to the parent directory
cd ~	go to your home directory
exit	log out of the current session
↑,↓	scroll through command history
[tab key]	autocomplete current command/filename
ctrl-a	jump to the start of current command line
ctrl-e	jump to the end of current command line

Examining files

file	determine the type of a file
cat	concatenate a file
less	view text files
head	view first 10 lines of a file
head -n x	view first x lines of a file
tail	view last 10 lines of a file
tail -n x	view last x lines of a file
grep	locate a pattern in a file (or files)
find	find a file on the system

Manipulating files and directories

cp	copy a file
cp -i	copy a file and ask before overwriting
cp -r	copy a directory with its contents
mv x y	move or rename a file x to y
mv -i	move or rename a file and ask before overwriting
rm	remove a file
rm -r	remove a directory with its contents

Manipulating files and directories (cont.)

rm -i	ask before removing a file. Good to use with the -r option
mkdir	make a directory
rmdir	remove an empty directory
chmod	change permissions of a file
sort	sort files (merges too) (useful: --ignore-case and --key=x)

Internet

wget	download a file
ssh	connect via secure shell to a machine
scp	upload/download files, examples:
	upload: scp local_source user@host:~/destination
	download: scp user@host:~/remote_source local_destination

Multi-tasking

ctrl+z	stops whatever program you are using
bg	lists stopped jobs; resumes the last stopped job and runs it in the background
jobs	lists stopped or backgrounded jobs
fg	brings most recent backgrounded job to the foreground
fg x	brings job x to the foreground
ctrl+c	terminates whatever program you are using (permanently)
screen	launch and use multiple shells from a single ssh session

Compression

tar -cvf	create a tar archive
tar -xvf	extract a tar archive
tar -czvf	create a tar.gz (gunzip'ed) archive
tar -xzvf	extract/unzip a tar.gz archive
zip	zip a file
unzip	un-zip a file
gzip	gzip a file
gunzip	un-gzip a file

Pipe tools

wc	word-count (and lines, and bytes)
sort	sort (by default on first column)
uniq	merge repeated lines
tr	translate characters
tee	save intermediate results

For help with any of the above commands, try these commands:

Help Commands

man	read manual for a command
man –k	search for manual page via a keyword
whereis x	show locations for application x
which x	show which application x will be run by default