

Lab One

Anthony Dushaj

anthony.dushaj1@Marist.edu

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1 PROBLEM ONE

There are a couple different advantages to using the same system call interface for manipulating both files and devices. First being, it is convenient due to how things are structured. To explain, devices can be accessed as if they are files within this architecture. IO devices and files are not too different from each other, allowing for many system calls to be relatively reusable.

The disadvantage of using the same interface for both is primarily performance and functionality. For example, the functionality of certain devices is limited to the scope of the API.

2 PROBLEM TWO

It is absolutely possible for a user to develop a new command interpreter using the system call interface provide by the operating system. Command lines or shells use system calls to carry out processes. As long as a user has access to these system calls they can create a new command line.