The ABC of computational Text Analysis

04: Introduction to the Commandline

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Action Plan #COVID-19

- interacting through chat + (audio + video) mute mic unless you speak
- slides already online
- weekly live-lectures
- recorded sessions on SWITCHtube



Recap last Lecture

- Was the installation successful?
- Any questions?

Outline

- learn principles of the shell
- perform shell commands
- solving exercises

Unix Philosophy

Build small programs that *do one thing* and *do it well*.

Starting a Shell

macOS

- open Terminal
- shell type: zsh

Windows

- open Ubuntu 18.04 LTS
- shell type: Bash
- open Windows Command Prompt

Bourne-again Shell

- offers many built-in apps
- shell prompt

```
USER@HOSTNAME:~$
```

home directory ~

```
refers to /home/USER
```

- case-sensitive
- no feedback

Getting started in a Shell

running commands

```
command -a --long_argument FILE  # generic components
echo "hello world"  # print a hello
```

getting help

```
man echo # get help for any command (e.g., echo)
echo --help # get help for any command (e.g., echo)
```

Structure of a File System

Navigating in a File System

list content

open in a window

```
open . # open path in finder (macOS)
nautilus . # same for Ubuntu (Windows)
```

Reading/Modifying Files

```
more text.txt  # print content (space to scroll)

head text.txt  # print first 10 lines of file
tail -5 text.txt  # print last 5 lines of file

# Ubuntu Linux (Windows)
xdg-open text.txt  # open file in default application
# macOS
open text.txt  # open file in default application
```

Useful Key Actions

- autocompletion: *tab*
- get last command: ↑
- scrolling: space
- interrupt *CTRL* + *C*
- quit: *q* OR *CTRL* + *D*

Creating, Moving and Copying

create files and directories

```
touch test.txt  # create a new file
mkdir data  # make a new directory
```

change their location

```
cp test.txt /other/.  # copy file, keep its name
mv test.txt /other/new_name.txt # move or rename a file
```

Removing Files

Watch out, there is no way back: No recycle bin.

```
rm old.txt  # remove a file
rm -r old_data  # remove a folder with all its files
```

Wildcards

placeholders to match ...

- any single character: ?
- any sequence of characters: *

```
mv data/*.txt new_data/.  # move txt-files from to other subfole
cp *.txt files/.  # copy all txt-files in a single fole
```

Searching

collect certain files only

```
ls *.txt  # list all files with the suffix .txt
ls */*.txt  # list all txt-files in any subfolder
```

find specific files

```
# concerning names
find /path/to/dir -name "fname" # find a file in specific direct
locate -i pattern_1 pattern_2 # global search of files/folders
# concerning content
grep -r 'x' # find files containing x
```

Expansion

batch processing with expansion

```
touch text_{a..c}.txt
# is equivalent to
touch text_a.txt text_b.txt text_c.txt

mkdir {2000..2005}{a..c}
# is equivalent to
mkdir 2000a 2000b 2000c 2001a 2001b 2001c ...
```

Combining Commands

shell operators to ...

- stream to next command: <a>\bullet (pipe)
- redirect into file (overwrite): >
- append to existing file: >>>

```
echo 'line 1' > test.txt  # write into file
more test.txt | tail -1  # pass output to next command
```

Learn more about operators

Merging Files

```
cat part_1.txt part_2.txt  # concatenate multiple files
cat *.txt > all_text.txt  # merge all txt into a single one
```

Course Repository

background

- Git version control software
- GitHub hosting platform

```
# get an initial copy of the course material
git clone https://github.com/aflueckiger/KED2020.git
# update your local copy continiously
cd KED2020
git pull
```

Scripting

- all commands in single script one command per row
- start script with Shebang

```
#!/bin/sh
```

execute with

bash scriptname

```
#!/bin/sh

# example script located at: scripts/find_all_pdf.sh
echo "This is a list of all PDFs on my computer:"
locate -i /home/*.pdf
```

Conventions

- no spaces/umlauts in names alphanumeric, underscore, hyphen, dot
- files have a suffix, folders not

```
text_1.txt US. texts
```

descriptive file organization

```
SOURCE/YEAR/speech_party_X.txt
```

- separate data from scripts
- never change the raw data

Questions

Assignment #1

get/submit via OLAT

starting tonight deadline: 26 March 2020, 23:59

ask friends for support, not solutions

In-class: Exercises I

In-class: Exercises II

Additional Resources

useful primers on Bash

- The Programming Historian
- DigitalOcean