

# Introduction to Linux Shell

COMP201 Lab1

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**KOÇ  
UNIVERSITY**

# What is shell?

A screenshot of a Linux terminal window. The title bar at the top reads 'farzin@COMP201: /home'. Below the title bar is a menu bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Search', 'Terminal', and 'Help'. The main area of the terminal shows the prompt 'farzin@COMP201: /home\$' followed by a cursor. The prompt is green, and the rest of the text is white on a dark background.

```
farzin@COMP201: /home
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201: /home$
```

- The Linux shell is the interface between you and operating system that controls the hardware.
- The most commonly used shell is called BASH – Bourne Again Shell
- username@hostname:curr\_dir\$
  - username: farzin
  - hostname: COMP201
  - curr\_dir: /home

# Executing system programs

```
farzin@COMP201: /home
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:/home$ date
Sun Oct 11 01:33:31 +03 2020
farzin@COMP201:/home$ echo Hello
Hello
farzin@COMP201:/home$ echo "Hello COMP201"
Hello COMP201
farzin@COMP201:/home$
```

- Execute programs
- **\$date**
  - This program prints current date and time
- **\$echo**
  - This program prints the input argument

# Path and \$PATH

```
farzin@COMP201: /home
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:/home$ echo $PATH
/opt/ros/melodic/bin:/home/farzin/.local/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin
farzin@COMP201:/home$ which echo
/bin/echo
farzin@COMP201:/home$ /bin/echo Hello
Hello
farzin@COMP201:/home$ pwd
/home
farzin@COMP201:/home$
```

- **\$PATH**

- A variable that contains addresses where system look for programs to execute

- **\$which**

- Prints which file is being executed given an input program name

- **\$pwd**

- This program prints current working directory
- Stands for “print working directory”

# Path

```
farzin@COMP201: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ pwd  
/home  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ cd ~  
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd  
/home/farzin  
farzin@COMP201:~$ cd /home  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ cd ..  
farzin@COMP201:/$ pwd  
/  
farzin@COMP201:/$ cd ./home/farzin/  
farzin@COMP201:~$ pwd  
/home/farzin  
farzin@COMP201:~$
```

- **\$cd**
  - Changes the working directory
  - .. is the parent directory
  - . is the current directory
  - Tilda (~) is the /home/usr directory
- **Absolute vs Relative path**
  - Relative: ./home/farzin
  - Absolute: /home/farzin

# Listing files and directories

```
farzin@COMP201: /  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ ls  
farzin  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ ls -l  
total 4  
drwxr-xr-x 44 farzin farzin 4096 Oct 11 02:02 farzin  
farzin@COMP201:/home$ cd ..  
farzin@COMP201:/ $ ls  
bin      etc          lib          media        root        srv          usr  
boot     home         lib32        mnt          run         swapfile    var  
cdrom    initrd.img   lib64        opt          sbin        sys         vmlinuz  
dev      initrd.img.old lost+found   proc         snap        tmp         vmlinuz.old  
farzin@COMP201:/ $ ls /home  
farzin  
farzin@COMP201:/ $ ls ./home  
farzin  
farzin@COMP201:/ $
```

- **\$ ls**
  - Prints files and directories under current working directory
  - You can use options with commands like “-l” which shows a long list containing more details of files and folders
  - You can also pass absolute or relative path to \$ls command
  - Use --help for more info about arguments
  - Check -a and -F options
  - Try: ls -alt

# Listing files and directories

```
macar20@WS001: ~/mnist_data/MNIST/raw
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist_data/MNIST/raw$ ls -ls
total 65012
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 47040016 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 9912422 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 7840016 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 1648877 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 60008 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 28881 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 10008 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 4542 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte.gz
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist_data/MNIST/raw$ ls -lsr
total 65012
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 4542 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 10008 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 28881 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 60008 Haz 14 13:07 train-labels-idx1-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 1648877 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 7840016 Haz 14 13:07 t10k-images-idx3-ubyte
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 9912422 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
-rw-rw-r-- 1 macar20 macar20 47040016 Haz 14 13:07 train-images-idx3-ubyte
(base) macar20@WS001:~/mnist_data/MNIST/raw$
```

- You can use “-S” option to display files sorted by their sizes, and “-r” option for reverse sorting.

# Making directories, files, and removing them

```
fnegahbani20@WS001: ~/comp201
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ mkdir my_dir
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my_dir
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ touch my_text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ touch source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my_dir  my_text.txt  source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm source.c
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my_dir  my_text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm my_dir/
rm: cannot remove 'my_dir/': Is a directory
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ rm -R my_dir/
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$ ls
my_text.txt
fnegahbani20@WS001:~/comp201$
```

- **\$ mkdir <folder\_name>**
  - Makes a new directory in the given working directory with the given “folder\_name”.
- **\$ touch**
  - Creates a file with desired extension and name
- **\$ rm**
  - Removes a file or folder.
  - For removing folders you need to use -R option



# df and gzip

```
localhost:~# ls
bench.py  hello.c  hello.js  readme.txt
localhost:~# df
Filesystem      1K-blocks      Used Available Use% Mounted on
/dev/root        5120000    2417700   2702300  47% /
devtmpfs         93464         0     93464   0% /dev
tmpfs            93620         8     93612   0% /run
none             93620         0     93620   0% /dev/shm
localhost:~# df -ha
Filesystem      Size      Used Available Use% Mounted on
/dev/root       4.9G      2.3G      2.6G   47% /
devtmpfs        91.3M         0     91.3M   0% /dev
proc            0           0         0   0% /proc
tmpfs           91.4M      8.0K     91.4M   0% /run
sysfs           0           0         0   0% /sys
devpts          0           0         0   0% /dev/pts
none            91.4M         0     91.4M   0% /dev/shm
localhost:~# gzip hello.c
localhost:~# ls
bench.py  hello.c.gz  hello.js  readme.txt
localhost:~#
```

- **\$ df**

- (disk free) is a standard Unix command used to display the amount of available disk space

- **\$ gzip**

- Used for file compression and decompression
- **Compressing Single file:**  
\$ gzip filename
- **Compressing Multiple file:**  
\$ gzip file1 file2 file3
- -d: Decompressing Files
- With --help try to find -k and -v usage.

# File Permission in Linux

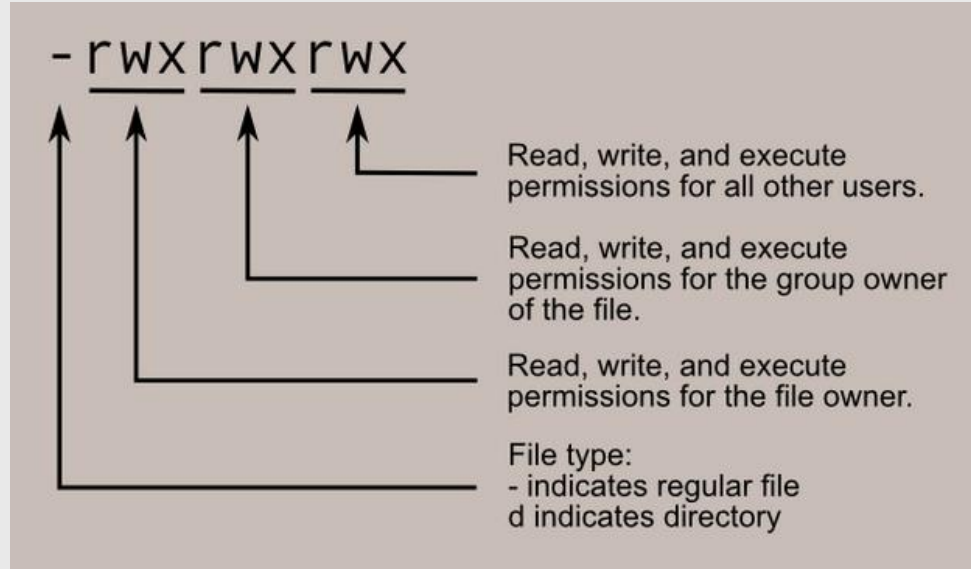


Image source: [http://linuxcommand.org/lc3\\_lts0090.php](http://linuxcommand.org/lc3_lts0090.php)

# File Permission in Linux

```
rwX rwX rwX = 111 111 111  
rw- rw- rw- = 110 110 110  
rwx --- --- = 111 000 000
```

and so on...

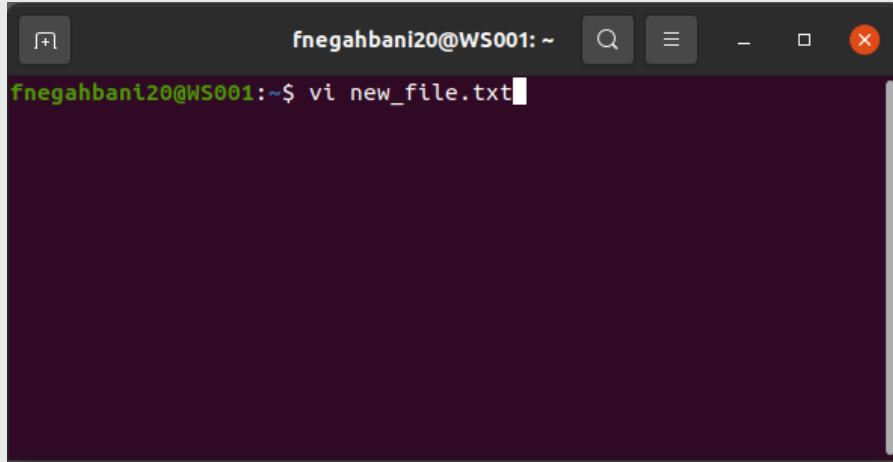
```
rwX = 111 in binary = 7  
rw- = 110 in binary = 6  
r-x = 101 in binary = 5  
r-- = 100 in binary = 4
```

Image source: [http://linuxcommand.org/lc3\\_lts0090.php](http://linuxcommand.org/lc3_lts0090.php)

Initially, test.sh cannot be executed, to grant -rwx rwx r-x permission to test.sh file:

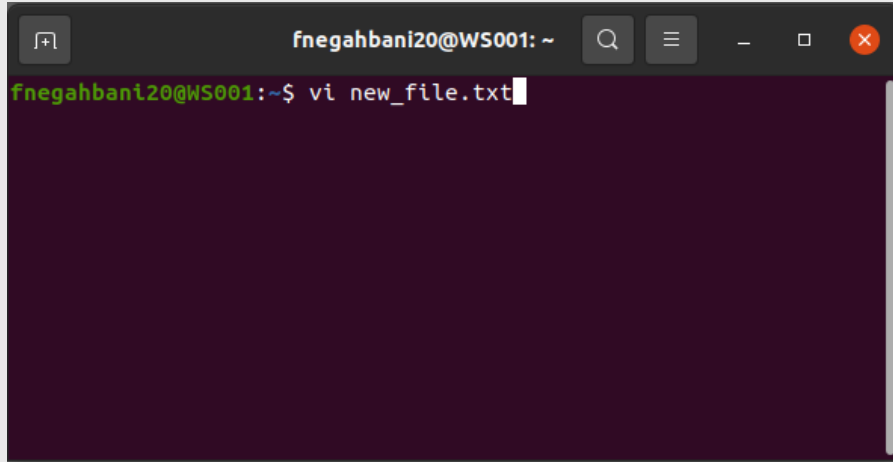
```
fnegahbani20@WS001:~$ chmod 775 test.sh
```

# What is Vi/Vim?

A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar shows 'fnegahbani20@WS001: ~' and standard window controls. The prompt is 'fnegahbani20@WS001:~\$' and the command 'vi new\_file.txt' is being entered, with a cursor at the end of the line.

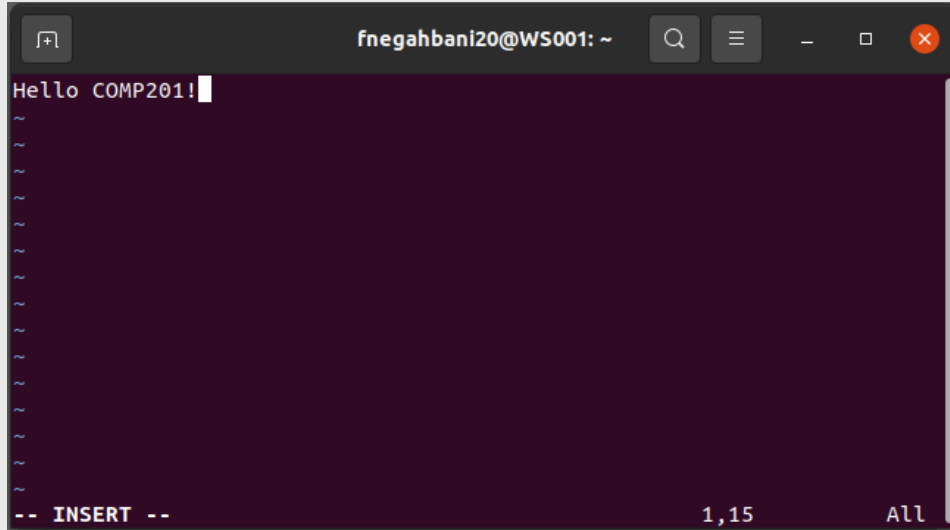
- Vi/Vim is the default text editor in the UNIX operating system.
- Using vi/vim, we can create a new file, read, and edit an existing file.
- Vim is short for Vi Improved. The two editors are very similar to each other. However, Vim offers some additional functionalities over the Vi editor

# What is Vi/Vim?

A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar shows 'fnegahbani20@WS001: ~' and standard window controls. The prompt is 'fnegahbani20@WS001:~\$' and the command 'vi new\_file.txt' is being entered, with a cursor at the end of the line.

- To open **vi**, type “vi” or “vi filename”. If the file “filename” doesn’t exist, it will be created when you save it.
- To open **vim**, type “vim” or “vim filename”. If the file “filename” doesn’t exist, it will be created when you save it.

# Operation Modes in vi or vim




- **Normal mode**

- The default mode in vi.
- In some source, like <https://www.cs.colostate.edu/helpdocs/vi.html>, it is also called command mode.
- Every character you type is interpreted as a command.

- **Insert mode**

- The one on the left picture.
- To switch from normal mode to insert mode, type 'i' in the normal mode.
- Every character you type is put to the file.
- To switch back to normal mode, press <Esc>

# Operation Modes in vi or vim



The screenshot shows a terminal window with a dark background. The title bar at the top reads "fnegahbani20@WS001: ~". The terminal content includes the text "Hello COMP201!" followed by a blank line, and then "Let's add more" which is currently selected with a light blue highlight. At the bottom of the terminal, there is a status bar with the text "-- VISUAL --" on the left, the number "2" in the center, and "3,15" and "All" on the right.

- **Visual mode**

- To switch from normal mode to visual mode, type 'v'.
- You can select blocks of text.
- Type d to delete the block, c to delete the block and switch to insert mode to replace the deleted block with another string.
- To switch back to normal mode, type <Esc>.

- **Exit without saving**

- To exit from a file without saving it, go to the Normal mode ( command mode) by pressing <Esc> then type :q!

# Redirection

```
farzin@COMP201: ~/COMP201
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ touch myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ echo "Test1: Hello!" > myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
Test1: Hello!
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat < myfile.txt
Test1: Hello!
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ echo "Test2: Anybody there?" >> myfile.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
Test1: Hello!
Test2: Anybody there?
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ mkdir myfolder
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ ls
myfile.txt  myfolder
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat < myfile.txt > ./myfolder/myfile2.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ ls ./myfolder
myfile2.txt
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat ./myfolder/myfile2.txt
Test1: Hello!
Test2: Anybody there?
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$
```

- **\$cat**
  - Print the content of the given file
- **“< file” and “> file”**
  - You can wire the input and output of a program to a file
  - “>> file” appends to end of file



# Piping

```
farzin@COMP201: ~/COMP201
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt
BaNaNA
apple
BaNaNA
orange
Apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep apple
apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep -i apple
apple
Apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$ cat myfile.txt | grep -i a
BaNaNA
apple
BaNaNA
orange
Apple
farzin@COMP201:~/COMP201$
```

- **Pipe character “ | ”**
  - Connects output of a program to input of another one
- **\$grep**
  - Searches for a particular information
  - By default it is case sensitive
- Try “grep --help” and find what does -i option do

# Other resources:

- [UNIX Tutorial for Beginners](#)
- [Unix/Linux Command Reference](#)
- MIT MS [The Shell](#)
- Stanford [CS107 Unix videos](#) 1-15, 24, 25