Introduction to Linux Shell

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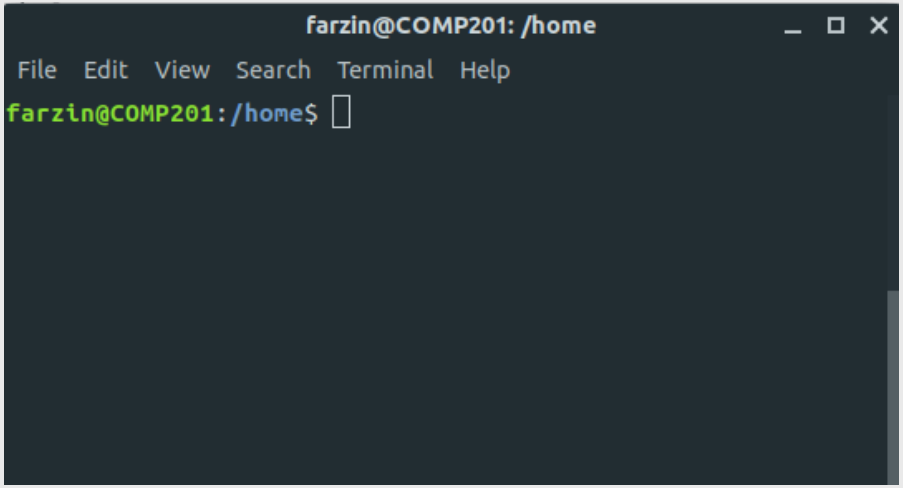
COMP201 Lab1

Spring 2022

What is shell?



- 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

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Executing system programs

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

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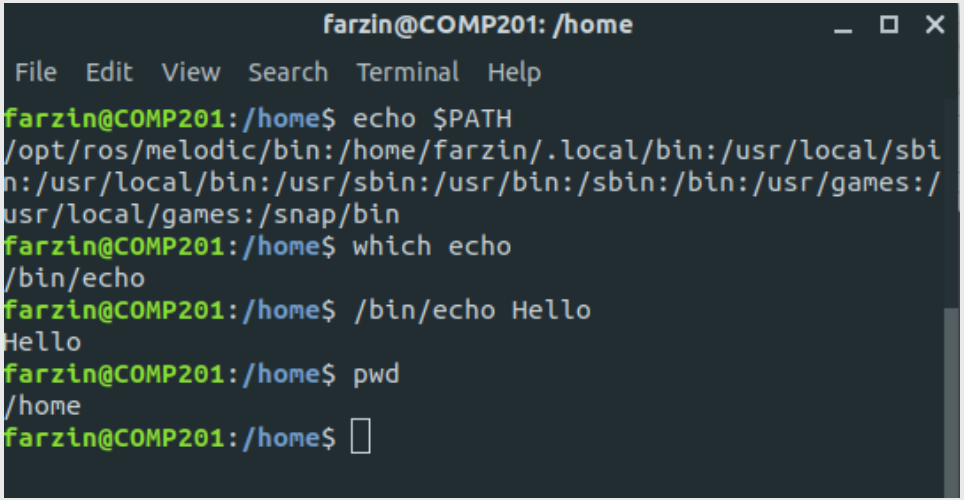
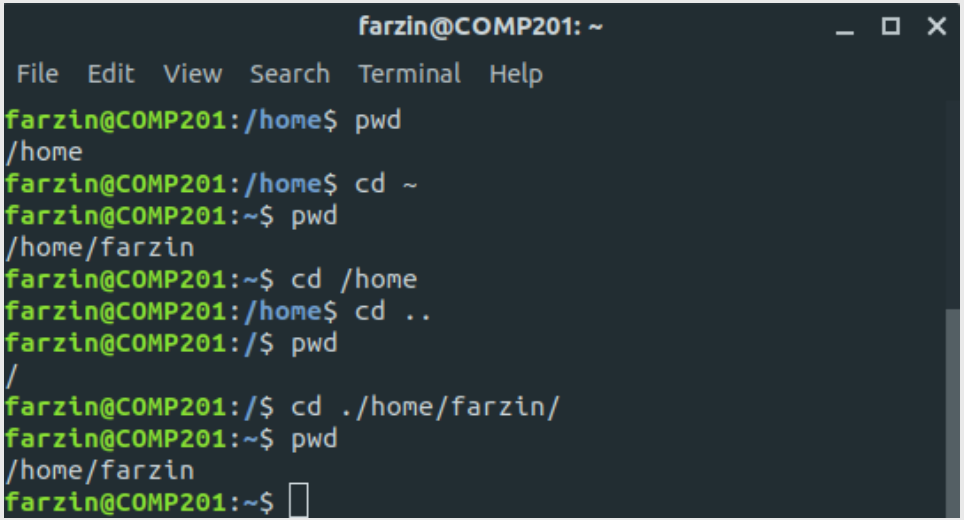
Path and $PATH



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



- **$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

- **$ 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

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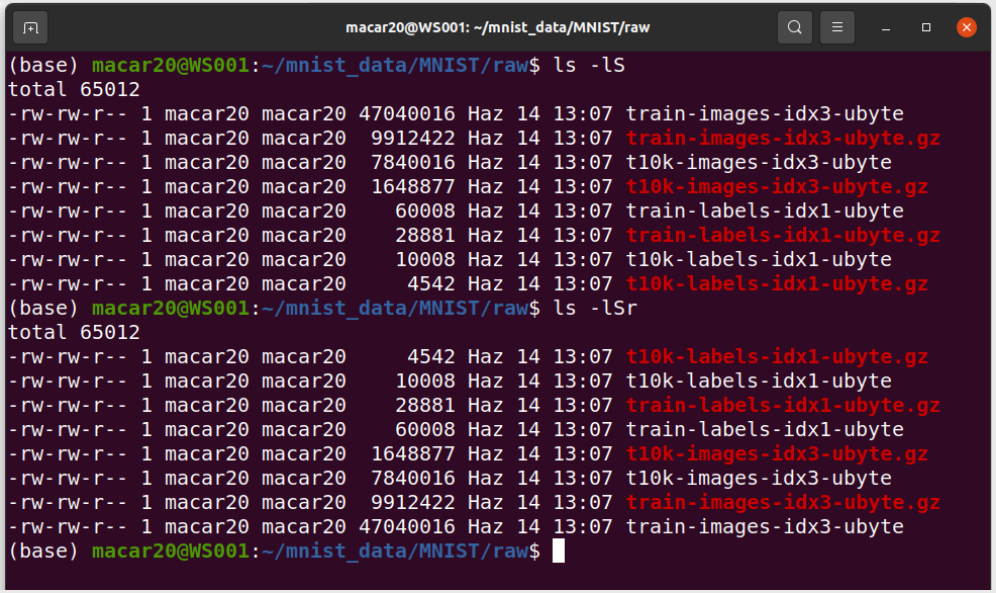
Listing files and directories



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

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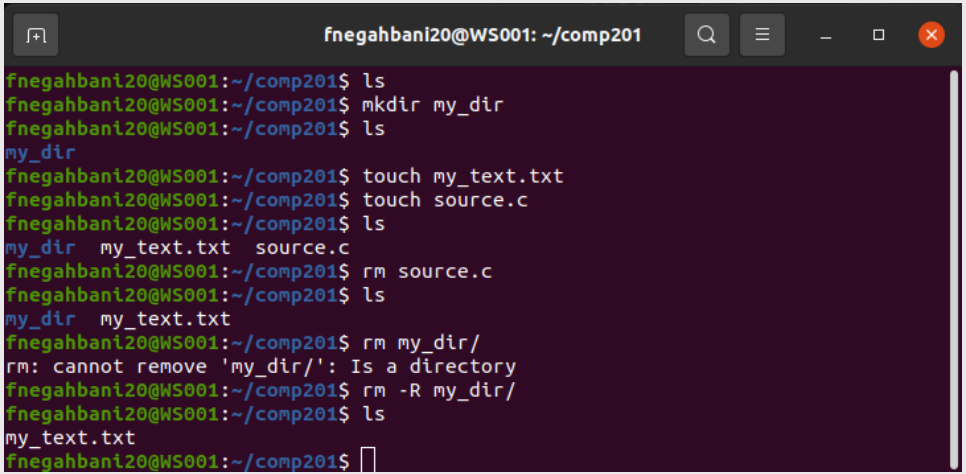
Making directories, files, and removing them



- $ **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.

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File Permission in Linux

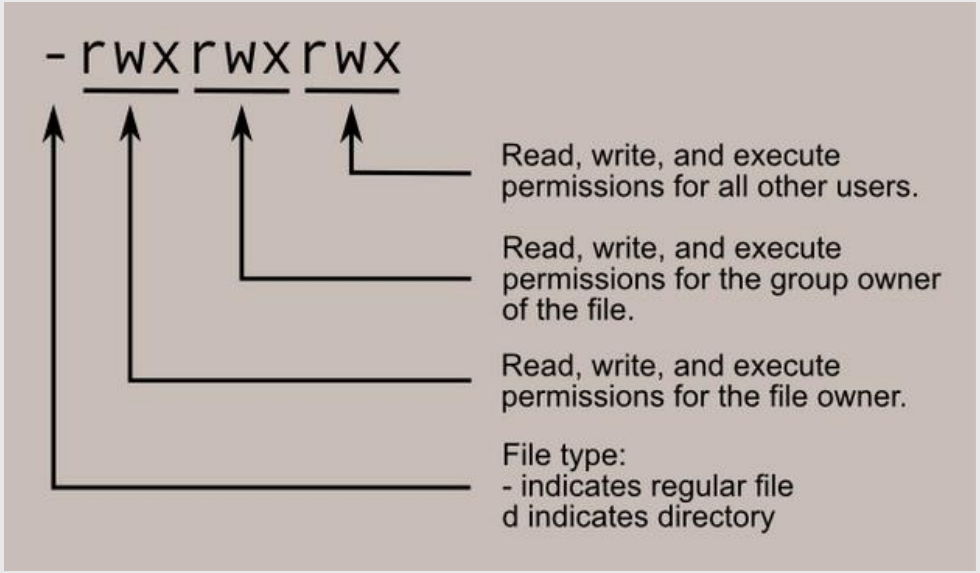


Image source: http://linuxcommand.org/lc3_lts0090.php

File Permission in Linux

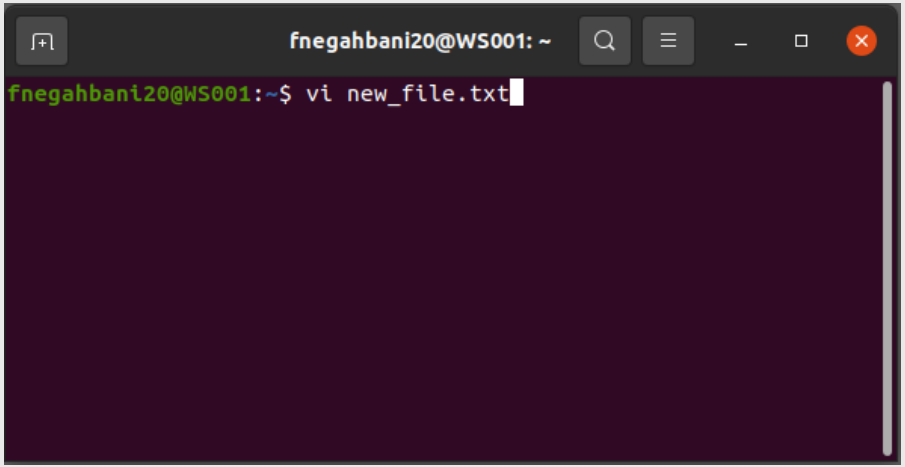
```
rwx rwx rwx = 111 111 111
rw- rw- rw- = 110 110 110
rwx --- --- = 111 000 000

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

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

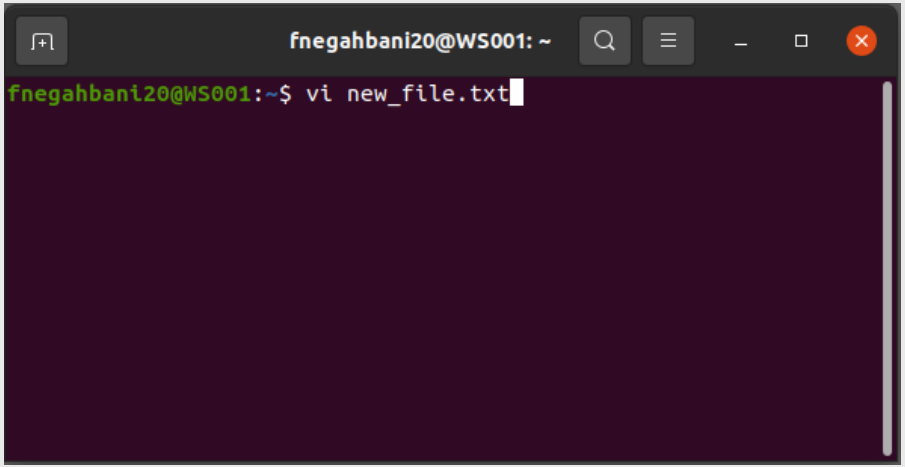
```
fnegahbani20@WS001:~$ chmod 775 test.sh
```

What is Vi/Vim?



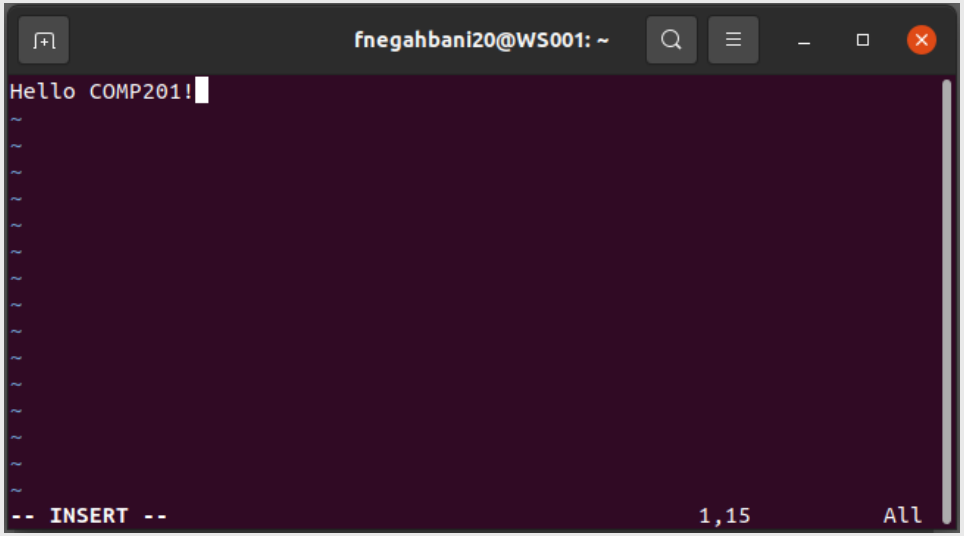
- Vi/Vim is the default text editor in the UNIX operating system.
- Using vi/vim, we can create a new file, read, and edit an existing file.
- Vim is short for Vi Improved. The two editors are very similar to each other. However, Vim offers some additional functionalities over the Vi editor

What is Vi/Vim?



- 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.

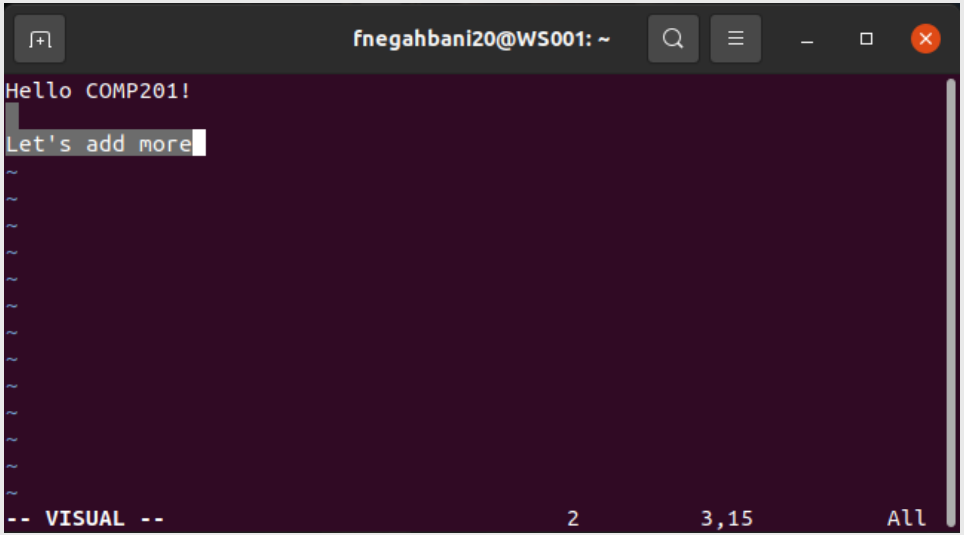
Operation Modes in vi or vim



- **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.

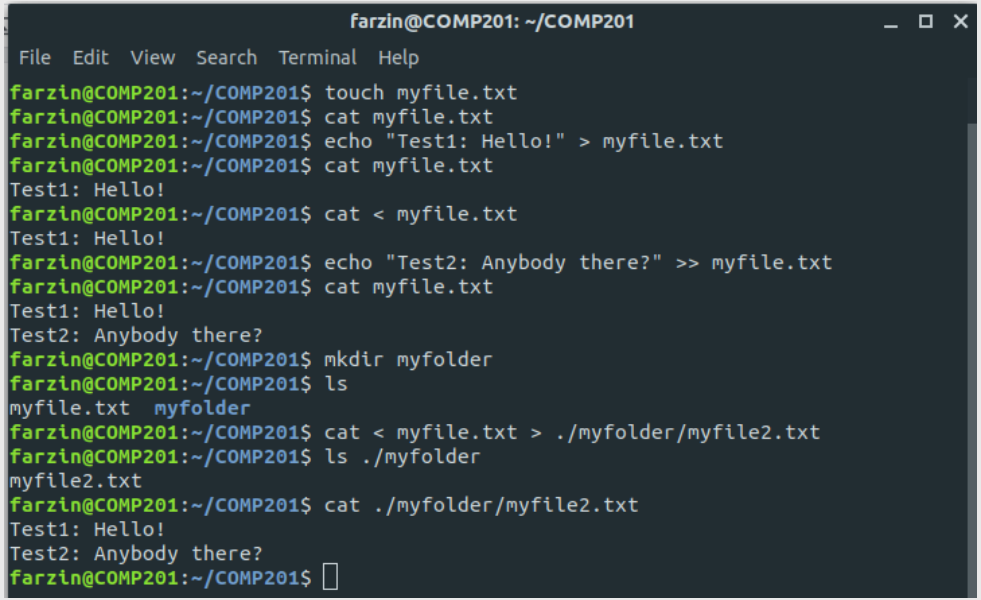
- **Insert mode**
  - The one on the left picture.
  - To switch from normal mode to insert mode, type ‘i’ in the normal mode.
  - Every character you type is put to the file.
  - To switch back to normal mode, press <Esc>

Operation Modes in vi or vim



- **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



- **$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

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Piping

- **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