

This assignment covers building a new system kernel. WARNING: this may take a while. WARNING: be careful, you can easily erase your operating system.

Build and boot with a new installation of the kernel.

A copy of the configuration file used for your standard kernel is found in `/boot/config`. Use this file only to copy it down as `.config`, do not modify it.

I recommend you compile and install to make sure it works. (I.e., skip the “eliminate” part of step A for now and compile and install a “stock” kernel to make sure you know the procedure). This kernel should be almost the same size as the stock kernel and should work exactly like the stock kernel

A) Configure the kernel.

Desirable: Eliminate any unnecessary drivers and/or components so that your kernel is as small as possible. Minimal: Eliminate at least one unnecessary kernel component so your kernel is smaller than the stock kernel.

Your machine has: an IDE hard drive, a PCI bus, a PS/2 mouse and a intel PRO/100 on board network adapter.

If you get into trouble in step B, copy it in as `.config` and start again.

B) Build a new kernel (`bzImage`).

1) Report: the date stamp on the `bzImage` file.

C) Modify the `lilo.conf` file to have a second linux bootable configuration. Duplicate the 4 lines and two comment lines (total of 7 lines), change the image to `bzImage` and the label to `bz`. Make sure the original bootable configuration entry stays first so that it is the default.

D) Move the new kernel so that it is `/boot/bzImage`. (Do NOT under ANY circumstances remove or replace `vmlinuz`)

E) Run lilo, it should show two “Added” reports.

F) Reboot, shift key down; select `bz`.

Make sure your kernel is working by, i) can bob login (and ls his home dir) ii) can your personal account login (and ls your home dir).

2) Report: the contents of `/proc/sys/kernel/version`

3) Report: the size of you new kernel and the size of the stock kernel.

After you have done this, you may reboot to the standard kernel.