

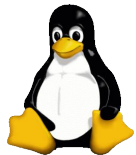
Linux commands

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[01]9th Jan 2019

Agenda

- Login, Session, Logout
- Manual pages
- Bash shell
- Users and Groups
- Process, Jobs
- File system basics
- Discretionary Access Control
- File operations
- Searching files and directories
- Redirection, Pipes and Filters



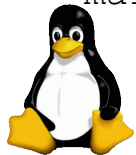
Login, Session, Logout



Login

- For secure CLI login to a remote Unix/Linux system, use
`ssh <username>@<fqdn>` Or `ssh <username>@<ipaddr>`
- For insecure GUI login to a remote Linux system, use `vnc`
Not part of this workshop.
- Insecure remote login commands are deprecated. Never use them.
`telnet`, `rsh`, `rlogin`

```
$ ssh maruthisi@192.168.136.10
maruthisi@192.168.136.10's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.4 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-36-generic x86_64)
...
maruthisi@godavari:~$
```



uname

- Use `uname -a` command to know basic information about system.
 - `uname -o` : operating system.
 - `uname -r` : kernel version.
 - `uname -m` : hardware architecture.
 - `uname -n` : node/host name.

```
$ uname -a  
Linux godavari 4.15.0-29-generic  
#31~16.04.1-Ubuntu SMP Wed Jul  
18 08:54:04 UTC 2018 x86_64  
x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

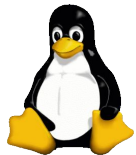
```
$ uname -o  
GNU/Linux
```

```
$ uname -r  
4.15.0-42-generic
```

```
$ uname -m  
x86_64
```

```
$ uname -m  
aarch64
```

```
$ uname -n  
godavari
```



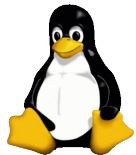
Session identification

- To identify a login session, use `tty`
pts = pseudo terminal session (ssh and Terminal in GUI)
tty = tele terminal session (CLI)
ttyS = Serial console session. (CLI)

```
$ tty  
/dev/pts/6
```

```
$ tty  
/dev/tty1
```

```
$ tty  
/dev/ttyS0
```



Other sessions

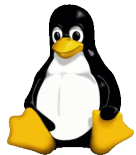
- To find out other login sessions, use `who -u` or `w` command

```
$ who -u
```

```
maruthisi pts/8      2019-01-09 05:02    .          1265 (172.16.0.100)
owner      pts/9      2019-01-09 05:05    .          1349 (172.16.0.100)
```

```
$ w
```

```
05:06:00 up 4 min,  2 users,  load average: 0.04, 0.24, 0.14
USER      TTY      FROM          LOGIN@      IDLE        JCPU       PCPU  WHAT
maruthis  pts/8    172.16.0.100  05:02      0.00s      0.13s      0.01s  w
owner     pts/9    172.16.0.100  05:05      4.00s      0.08s      0.08s  -bash
```



Session history

- To see history of login sessions, use `last` command

```
$ last
```

```
owner    pts/9          172.16.0.100      Wed Jan  9 05:05    still logged in
maruthis pts/8          172.16.0.100      Wed Jan  9 05:02    still logged in
reboot    system boot    4.15.0-29-generi Wed Jan  9 05:01    still running
...
owner     tty7           :0                Wed Jan  9 03:41 - crash (00:54)
reboot    system boot    4.15.0-29-generi Tue Jan  8 06:11 - 09:56 (03:44)
```

```
wtmp begins Tue Jan  8 06:11:45 2019
```

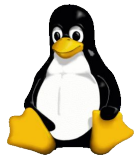


Logout

- To logout from a remote Unix/Linux system, use `logout` or `exit` or `ctrl+d`
- During logout all commands launched in the session are killed.

```
$ logout
```

```
Connection to localhost closed.
```



Manuals



Manual pages

- Historically documentation of Unix was in set of books. Each book is a Section. Each section has manual pages
- Frequently used sections are
 - command (section 1)
 - system call (section 2)
 - library function (section 3)
 - file format (section 5)
- Use `man man` to know about sections.
- Use `man [<section>] <argument>` command to see a manual page.
 - Use arrows to navigate.
 - Use / to search for a word while viewing.
 - Press q to stop viewing.

```
$ man man
```

```
$ man ls
```

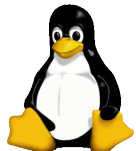
```
$ man passwd
```

```
$ man fork
```

```
$ man printf
```

```
$ man fstab
```

```
$ man 5 passwd
```



Apropos

- Apropos is search engine in Unix manual pages.
- It works even without the Internet.
- Use `apropos <search_string>` command to search a string in all manual pages

```
$ apropos uname
```

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| arch (1) | - print machine hardware name (same as <code>uname -m</code>) |
| oldolduname (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |
| olduname (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |
| uname (1) | - print system information |
| uname (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |

```
$ apropos "get name"
```

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| getpeername (2) | - get name of connected peer socket |
| oldolduname (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |
| olduname (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |
| name (2) | - get name and information about current kernel |



Bash shell



Shell

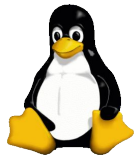
- First process after login
- Interprets and launches commands keyed-in at the command prompt

`<username>@<hostname>:<pwd>{ # | $ }`

- Most commonly used shell is bash
- Types of shells
 - root vs non-root shell (# vs \$ prompt)
 - login vs non-login shell (-bash vs bash)
- Interpreter for shell scripts

```
maruthisi@godavari:~$ _
```

```
root@godavari:~# _
```



Commands

- Programs that are keyed-in by user and launched by shell
- Types of commands
 - Internal (builtin) commands
 - External commands

```
$ type cd  
cd is a shell builtin
```

```
$ type ls  
mkdir is /bin/ls
```



Internal Commands

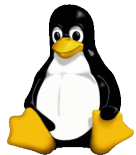
- Internal (built-in) commands are programs implemented by the shell itself

echo, fg, bg, cd, umask, ...

```
$ type cd
cd is a shell builtin
```

```
$ which cd
$ which type
```

```
$ whereis cd
cd:
```



External Commands

- External commands are programs (mostly c) in /bin or /usr/bin or /usr/sbin directory
- To know the location of a command use which or whereis command

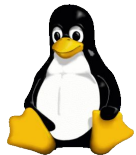
```
$ type mkdir  
mkdir is /bin/mkdir
```

```
$ type ls  
mkdir is /bin/ls
```

```
$ which ls  
/bin/ls
```

```
$ which git  
/usr/bin/git
```

```
$ whereis ls  
ls: /bin/ls  
/usr/share/man/man1/ls.1.gz
```



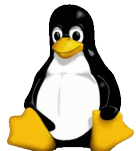
Commands General Syntax

- Commands have a general syntax
 - Command name
 - Options (short or long)
 - Options with arguments
 - Arguments

```
$ command [OPTION]... [OPTION OPTION_ARGUMENT]... [ARGUMENT]...
```

- Typically library functions `getopt()`, `getopt_long()` are used simplify implementation command line options received via `argc`, `argv`.

```
$ ls
$ ls -l
$ ls -l -t -r
$ ls -ltr
$ ls -l abc.txt
$ ls --color abc.txt
$ ls --color=none abc.txt
$ bash --rcfile mybashrc
```



Shell wildcard characters

- Zero or more character match `*`
- One character match `?`
- Character range `[0-9]` `[a-z]` `[A-Z]`
- Character enumeration `[abc]`
- Negation of range/enumeration
`[^0-9]` `[^xyz]`
- Escape sequence `\`
- Numeric range `{start..end}`
- Word enumeration `{expr1, expr2}`
- Home directory `~`

```
$ touch file{000..999}.txt
```

```
$ ls *.txt
```

```
$ ls file*.txt
```

```
$ ls file00?.txt
```

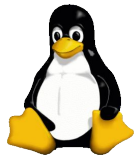
```
$ ls file0[0-1][0-9].txt
```

```
$ ls file??[01].txt
```

```
$ ls file{000..999}.txt
```

```
$ ls *.{doc,pdf}
```

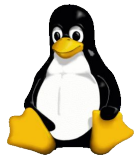
```
$ ls ~
```



Shell environment variables (1/5)

- Every process contains set of variables called environment variables.
- Child processes (commands) inherit a copy of these variables.
- One process cannot modify other processes' environment variables.
- Some of standard env variables (many more are there)

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <code>\$HOSTNAME</code> | - Hostname |
| <code>\$HOME</code> | - Home directory location |
| <code>\$SHELL</code> | - Default shell |
| <code>\$PWD</code> | - Present working directory |
| <code>\$PATH</code> | - Directory search order for commands (separated by :) |
| <code>\$LD_LIBRARY_PATH</code> | - Directory search order for shared libraries(separated by :) |
| <code>\$TERM</code> | - Terminal type |
| <code>\$DISPLAY</code> | - GUI display name, port (used by vnc, X11 forwarding) |
| <code>\$?</code> | - Exit status of previous command (0: success, ≠0 : failure) |



Shell environment variables (2/5)

- To display value of variable use `echo`

```
$ echo $HOSTNAME
```

```
godavari
```

```
$ echo $HOME
```

```
/home/maruthisi
```

```
$ echo $SHELL
```

```
/bin/bash
```

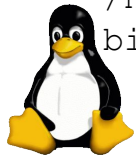
```
$ cd /
```

```
$ echo $PWD
```

```
/
```

```
$ echo $PATH
```

```
/home/maruthisi/bin:/home/maruthisi/.local/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin
```



Shell environment variables (3/5)

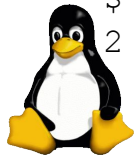
- Exit status = 0 if previous command succeeded, and $\neq 0$ else.

```
$ echo $TERM  
xterm-256color
```

```
$ echo $DISPLAY  
:0
```

```
$ cd ~  
$ ls .bashrc  
.bashrc  
$ echo $?  
0
```

```
$ ls abcd.txt  
ls: cannot access 'abcd': No such file or directory  
$ echo $?  
2
```



Shell environment variables (4/5)

- To display all variables use `env` or `export`

```
$ env
```

```
...
```

```
TERM=xterm-256color
```

```
...
```

```
SHELL=/bin/bash
```

```
...
```

```
USER=maruthisi
```

```
...
```

```
PATH=/home/maruthisi/bin:/home/maruthisi/.local/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin
```

```
...
```

```
PWD=/home/maruthisi
```

```
...
```

```
HOME=/home/maruthisi
```

```
...
```

```
DISPLAY=:0
```

```
OLDPWD=/  
_
```



Shell environment variables (5/5)

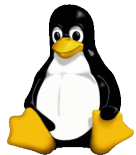
- To assign a value to a variable
 - In current shell and future child processes, use `export`
 - In current shell only, assign without `export`.

```
$ export PATH=/usr/local/cuda-10.0/bin:/opt/ros/kinetic/bin:$PATH
```

```
$ echo $PATH
```

```
/usr/local/cuda-10.0/bin:/opt/ros/kinetic/bin:/home/maruthisi/bin:/home/maruthisi/.local/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/games:/usr/local/games:/snap/bin
```

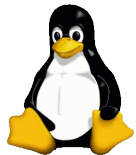
```
$ PATH=/usr/local/cuda-9.0/bin:/opt/ros/kinetic/bin:$PATH
```



RC scripts

- Enlist variable assignments in `.bashrc` to assign variables at login time.

```
$ vi .bashrc  
...  
export PATH=/usr/local/cuda-9.0/bin:/opt/ros/kinetic/bin:$PATH
```

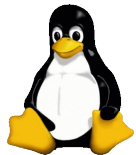


Users and Groups



Users

- User is an account for
 - A super user (root)
 - A person
 - A service
- An integer number (UID) is assigned to each user account (/etc/passwd file)
- Each user
 - Must belong to one primary group (preferably solo group)
 - May belong to many supplementary groups



Groups

Group is

- A logical collection of user accounts
- An integer number (GID) is assigned to each group (`/etc/group` file)

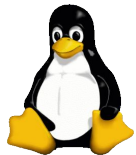
Eg:

- All Ph.D CSE students from 2018 January

`cs18resch01`

- All sudo users
- A solo group

`maruthisi`



Users

- Username, uid, gid, home directory, default login shell are stored in `/etc/passwd` file
- To know the uid, gid use `id` command

```
$ id maruthisi
uid=20201(maruthisi) gid=20201(maruthisi) groups=2051(cs18resch01),27(sudo)
```

```
$ cat /etc/passwd
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
...
amits:x:10001:10001::/home/amits:/bin/nologin
sohailm:x:11001:11001::/home/sohailm:/bin/sh
davidk:x:20001:20001::/home/davidk:/bin/bash
maruthisi:x:20201:20201::/home/maruthisi:/bin/bash
jyothin:x:20202:20202::/home/jyothin:/bin/sh
```



Passwords

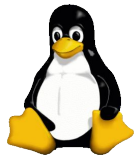
- Passwords are stored in encrypted form in `/etc/shadow` file
- Change password using `passwd` command

```
$ passwd
```

```
$ cat /etc/shadow
```

```
...
```

```
amits:$6$IRU45oem$RcHnDVg459/1GXNwRJmz7wqsyyfzb95k.6WEMV2Du04yf/lz0:17564:0:99999:7:::  
sohailm:$6$FKFYEysx$zvwpzSRJPq1hLtlH577YQZJKLHX9.RCp01KKry6A2guclV0:17564:0:99999:7:::  
jyothin:$6$NU9mvrF4$bgHrQxIV24lMlHynK2Mxefbo1UC9gMpcKNzCVaK/8mA9IS.:17564:0:99999:7:::  
maruthisi:$6$WT483SxE$bzsX290lzlA/nb8NZ6X2c3u0OFdhpcv.BynwFqP5.UPr1:17564:0:99999:7:::
```



Groups

- Group name, gid are stored in `/etc/group` file
- To know the uid, gid use `id` command

```
$ id maruthisi
uid=20201(maruthisi) gid=20201(maruthisi) groups=20201(maruthisi)
```

```
$ cat /etc/group
root:x:0:
daemon:x:1:
...
maruthisi:x:20201:
...
```

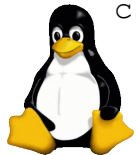


Supplementary Groups

- Supplementary group name, gid, members are stored in `/etc/group` file
- To know the uid, gid, gids use `id` command

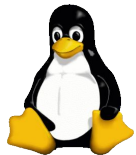
```
$ id maruthisi
uid=20201(maruthisi) gid=20201(maruthisi) groups=20201(maruthisi),2051(cs18resch01),27(sudo)
```

```
$ cat /etc/group
root:x:0:
daemon:x:1:
sudo:x:27:owner,maruthisi
...
maruthisi:x:20201:
...
cs18resch01:x:2051:maruthisi,jyothin
```



Home Directories

- A directory in /home created one for each user
- Starting directory after login.
- Special character is ~
- Permissions play a key role for securing files from other users, other groups, others in the world.
- UMASK in `/etc/login.defs` should be set to 077.
- Per user limits on storage space usage can be enforced using quotas.



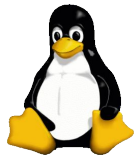
Home Directories

```
$ ls -l /home/
```

```
total 36
```

```
drwx----- 2 amits      amits      4096 Feb  2 10:50 amits
drwx----- 2 davidk     davidk     4096 Feb  2 10:51 davidk
drwx----- 2 jyothin    jyothin    4096 Feb  2 10:59 jyothin
drwx----- 2 maruthisi  maruthisi  4096 Feb  2 10:52 maruthisi
drwx----- 17 owner     owner     4096 Feb  2 11:19 owner
```

```
...
```

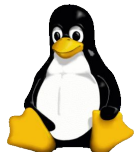


Processes, Jobs



Processes

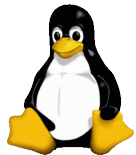
- A running program
- An Integer number (PID) is used for uniquely identifying a process.
- Processes which run in background are called daemons
- Processes which run in foreground are called interactive
- Each process is launched from an user account.
- Daemons are launched from service accounts or administrator account.



Process hierarchy

- All processes in a system form a hierarchy.
- The first process in the system is
 - init (in older systems, prior to 2016)
 - systemd (in current distros)
- Each process (except init/systemd) also has unique parent (PPID)

```
# pstree
systemd--+-NetworkManager--dhclient
          |                  |-{NetworkManager}
          |                  |-{gdbus}
          |                  `-{gmain}
          |-acpid
          |-avahi-daemon---avahi-daemon
          |-crond
          |-login---bash---pstree
          |-smartd
          |-sshd
          |-systemd---(sd-pam)
          |-systemd-journal
          |-systemd-logind
          |-systemd-udev
          `--wpa_supplicant
```



Process hierarchy (ubuntu)

- Historically, `init` is the first process with pid 1
- All other processes are descendents of the `init`
- Processes with PPID 1 are daemons.
- Processes with PPID 0 dont have parent.
- Command name displayed in `[]` are kernel threads, else userspace processes.

```
$ ps -ef
```

| UID | PID | PPID | C | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|----------|------|------|---|-------|-------|----------|--|
| root | 1 | 0 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:01 | /sbin/init splash |
| root | 2 | 0 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:00 | [kthreadd] |
| root | 27 | 2 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:01 | [kswapd0] |
| ... | | | | | | | |
| maruthi+ | 1313 | 1 | 0 | 05:47 | ? | 00:00:00 | /lib/systemd/systemd --user |
| ... | | | | | | | |
| maruthi+ | 2834 | 1367 | 0 | 05:51 | ? | 00:00:07 | /usr/lib/gnome-terminal/gnome-terminal |
| maruthi+ | 2841 | 2834 | 0 | 05:51 | pts/4 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| maruthi+ | 4971 | 2841 | 0 | 06:37 | pts/4 | 00:00:00 | ps -ef |
| ... | | | | | | | |



Process hierarchy (fedora)

- In recent distros, `systemd` is the first process with pid 1
- All other processes are descendents of the `systemd`
- Processes with PPID 1 are daemons.
- Processes with PPID 0 dont have parent.
- Command name displayed in `[]` are kernel threads, else userspace processes.

```
$ ps -ef
UID      PID    PPID    C  STIME TTY          TIME CMD
root      1      0      0  03:34 ?           00:00:02 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd --switched-root ...
root      2      0      0  03:34 ?           00:00:00 [kthreadd]
root     53      2      0  03:34 ?           00:00:06 [kswapd0]
...
maruthi+ 2730    1      0  03:39 tty2    00:00:09 /usr/libexec/gnome-terminal-server
maruthi+ 2734   2730    0  03:39 pts/0    00:00:00 bash
maruthi+ 4431   2734    0  06:58 pts/0    00:00:00 ps -ef
```



Listing processes

- List processes in current login session, use `ps -f` or `ps -fH` for hierarchy.
- List all processes in the system, use `ps -ef` or `ps -efH` for hierarchy.
- `pstree` could also be used to see processes (without pids) as a hierarchy.

```
$ ps -f
```

| UID | PID | PPID | C | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|----------|------|------|---|-------|--------|----------|-------|
| maruthi+ | 5075 | 5057 | 0 | 02:18 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| maruthi+ | 5848 | 5075 | 0 | 02:55 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | ps -f |

```
$ ps -ef
```

| UID | PID | PPID | C | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|-------|------|------|---|-------|-------|----------|--|
| root | 1 | 0 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:01 | /sbin/init splash |
| root | 2 | 0 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:00 | [kthreadd] |
| root | 27 | 2 | 0 | 05:46 | ? | 00:00:01 | [kswapd0] |
| ... | | | | | | | |
| owner | 1313 | 1 | 0 | 05:47 | ? | 00:00:00 | /lib/systemd/systemd --user |
| ... | | | | | | | |
| owner | 2834 | 1367 | 0 | 05:51 | ? | 00:00:07 | /usr/lib/gnome-terminal/gnome-terminal |
| owner | 2841 | 2834 | 0 | 05:51 | pts/4 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| owner | 4971 | 2841 | 0 | 06:37 | pts/4 | 00:00:00 | ps -ef |



Listing threads

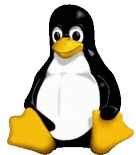
- List threads in current login session, use `ps -Lf`
 - List all threads in the system, use `ps -Lef`
 - List all threads (without pids) in the system in hierarchy, use `pstree`
- notice `n*[]`

```
$ ps -Lf
```

| UID | PID | PPID | LWP | C | NLWP | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|----------|------|------|------|---|------|-------|--------|----------|--------|
| maruthi+ | 5075 | 5057 | 5075 | 0 | 1 | 02:18 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| maruthi+ | 5808 | 5075 | 5808 | 0 | 1 | 02:48 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | ps -Lf |

```
$ ps -Lef
```

| UID | PID | PPID | LWP | C | NLWP | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|----------|------|------|------|---|------|-------|-----|----------|--------------------------|
| ... | | | | | | | | | |
| maruthi+ | 4627 | 3631 | 4627 | 4 | 62 | 02:18 | ? | 00:01:20 | /usr/lib/firefox/firefox |
| maruthi+ | 4627 | 3631 | 4649 | 0 | 62 | 02:18 | ? | 00:00:00 | /usr/lib/firefox/firefox |
| ... | | | | | | | | | |



Finding process

- To find process id from program name use `psgrep` or `pidof`

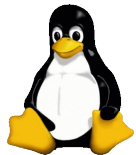
```
$ pgrep bash
8279
8354
```

```
$ pidof bash
8354 8279
```



Sending signals to processes

- Signals are asynchronous messages to processes.
- Shell sends signals to processes. Eg.
 - `SIGHUP` – During logout to all sub processes.
- Kernel sends signals to processes. Eg.
 - `SIGSEGV` – During illegal memory access.
 - `SIGFPE` – During illegal operands (like divide by zero, operation on NAN)
 - `SIGBUS` – Memory access alignment error.
 - `SIGCHLD` – Child process stopped/terminated.
- User could also send signals (see man 7 signal) to process(es)
 - With pid(s) using `kill -<signaltype>`
 - With program name using `pkill -<signaltype>`



Terminating/Killing processes

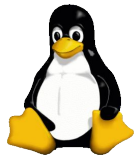
- To terminate process(es) gracefully (default signal)
 - Use `SIGTERM` : 15
- To terminate process(es) abruptly/forcibly
 - Use `SIGKILL` : 9
- To terminate/kill an interactive process use `ctrl+ c`

```
$ pidof firefox  
8279 8354
```

```
$ kill 8279  
$ kill -SIGTERM 8279  
$ kill -15 8279
```

```
$ kill -SIGKILL 8354  
$ kill -9 8354
```

```
$ pkill firefox  
$ pidof firefox
```



Stopping/Continuing process

- Processes could also be stopped (paused. Not exited) and continued (resumed) using signals
 - `SIGSTOP` : Stop process
 - `SIGCONT` : Resume stopped process.

```
$ pidof firefox  
8279 8354
```

```
$ kill -SIGSTOP 8354
```

```
$ kill -SIGCONT 8354
```

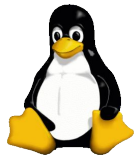


Other signals

- User could send other signals. Eg.
 - `SIGQUIT` – To dump core and terminate process(es).
 - `SIGUSR1`, `SIGUSR2` – To user-defined behavior.

```
$ pkill -SIGQUIT sample.out
```

```
$ ls  
coredump
```



Jobs

- Interactive shell associates a job with each pipeline.
- Each job is assigned a job id, which is unique within the shell.
- Use `&` at end of command line to start a job in background
- Without `&`, job is started in foreground

```
$ sleep 10 &
```

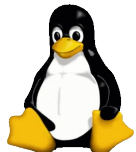
```
$ ps -f
```

| UID | PID | PPID | C | STIME | TTY | TIME | CMD |
|----------|------|------|---|-------|--------|----------|----------|
| maruthi+ | 5075 | 5057 | 0 | 02:18 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | bash |
| maruthi+ | 6057 | 5075 | 0 | 03:27 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | sleep 10 |
| maruthi+ | 6058 | 5075 | 0 | 03:27 | pts/17 | 00:00:00 | ps -f |

```
$ jobs
```

```
[1]+  Running                  sleep 10 &
```

```
$ sleep 10
```



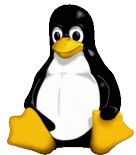
Switching jobs between foreground/background

- In an interactive shell,
 - `Ctrl + C` could be used to terminate a job.
 - `Ctrl + Z` could be used to stop a job and push it to background.
 - `fg` command could be used resume a job and bring it foreground.
 - `bg` command could be used to resume a job and run it in background.

```
$ cat
^Z
[1]+  Stopped                  cat
$ cat
^Z
[2]+  Stopped                  cat

$ jobs
[1]-  Stopped                  cat
[2]+  Stopped                  cat

$ fg 1
cat
```

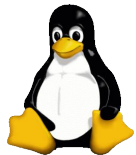


File System Basics



File System

- A subsystem in OS kernel
- Logical organization of disk sectors/blocks into files and directories.
- Does accounting of free/used space
- Provides quotas at user/group level
- Provides security using ownership, permissions, access controls (ACL).
- Addresses limitations of disk drives.
 - Logical blocking
 - Caching
- Different File systems types
 - xfs
 - ext4
 - iso9660



File System

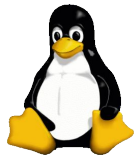
- List all file systems using `df -h`
- List file systems along with types using `df -hT`

```
$ df -h
```

| Filesystem | Size | Used | Avail | Use% | Mounted on |
|------------|------|------|-------|------|--------------|
| ... | | | | | |
| /dev/sda3 | 15G | 13G | 2.5G | 84% | / |
| tmpfs | 1.9G | 40K | 1.9G | 1% | /tmp |
| /dev/sdb10 | 725G | 315G | 411G | 44% | /mnt/MySpare |
| /dev/sdb9 | 1.9T | 763G | 1.1T | 41% | /mnt/MyDrive |
| /dev/sda5 | 200G | 8.0G | 192G | 4% | /home |
| ... | | | | | |

```
$ df -hT
```

| Filesystem | Type | Size | Used | Avail | Use% | Mounted on |
|------------|-------|------|------|-------|------|--------------|
| ... | | | | | | |
| /dev/sda3 | ext4 | 15G | 13G | 2.5G | 84% | / |
| tmpfs | tmpfs | 1.9G | 40K | 1.9G | 1% | /tmp |
| /dev/sdb10 | xfs | 725G | 315G | 411G | 44% | /mnt/MySpare |
| /dev/sdb9 | xfs | 1.9T | 763G | 1.1T | 41% | /mnt/MyDrive |
| /dev/sda5 | xfs | 200G | 8.0G | 192G | 4% | /home |
| ... | | | | | | |



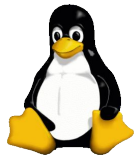
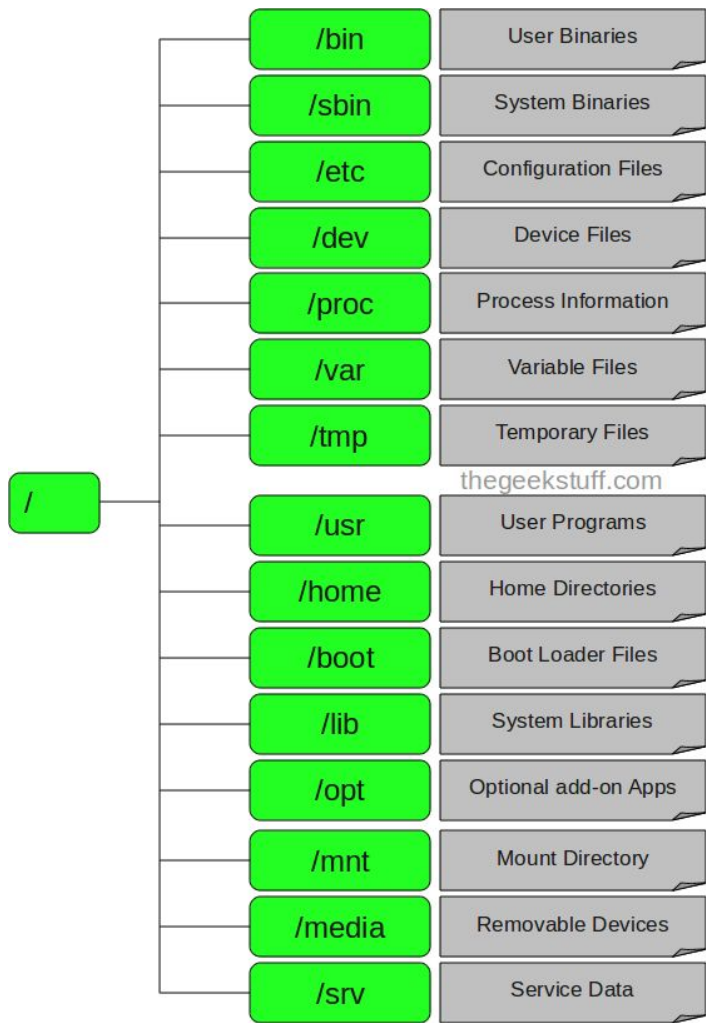
File Systems Hierarchy

- Multiple file-systems organized in a tree structure
- Top most is / (root directory).

NOTE: root is overloaded term. If not explicitly qualified, it could refer to

- root directory
- root user
- root user's home directory

based on context.



File Types

- In Unix/Linux, everything in file-system is a file.

- There are many types of files:

Regular File

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 35913142 Feb  3 04:34 initrd.img-4.4.0-31-generic
```

Directory

```
drwxr-xr-x 5 root root      4096 Nov 14  2016 grub
```

Block (buffered) device special file

```
brw-rw---- 1 root disk      8, 0 Feb  2 10:40 /dev/sda
```

Character (unbuffered) device special file

```
crw--w---- 1 owner tty      136, 0 Feb  3 04:36 /dev/pts/0
```

Symbolic Link (aka soft link)

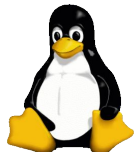
```
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 19 Nov 14  2016 /etc/mtab -> ../proc/self/mounts
```

Socket special file

```
srw-rw-rw-. 1 root root 0 Feb  3 03:34 /run/cups/cups.sock
```

Named Pipe special file

```
prw----- 1 root root 0 Feb  2 10:41 /run/systemd/inhibit/6.ref
```



File Types

- Know file type use `ls -l` command, notice the first letter in output.
- Regular files can be further differentiated based on content.
- Know file type based on its content using `file` command. Works based on magic number stored in `/usr/share/misc/magic.mgc` and `/etc/magic`

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 35913142 Feb  3 04:34 initrd.img-4.4.0-31-generic
```

```
$ file Documents
```

```
Documents: directory
```

```
$ file .bashrc
```

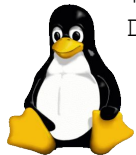
```
.bashrc: ASCII text
```

```
$ file sizeof.c
```

```
sizeof.c: C source, ASCII text
```

```
$ file Documents/ds-3808.pdf
```

```
Documents/ds-3808.pdf: PDF document, version 1.4
```



Discretionary Access Control



User types

- Three different categories of users
 - User (Self)
 - Group
 - Others (World)
- root user can read/write/delete everyone's files.

| type | users | group | others |
|------|-------|-------|--------|
| d l | r w x | r w x | r w x |

```
$ ls -l /share/
```

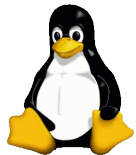
```
...  
drwxr-xr-x  9 maruthisi      maruthisi      4096 Feb 19 17:29 public  
drwxr-xr-x  9 maruthisi      cs18resch01    4096 Feb 19 17:29 cs18resch01  
...
```



File Ownership

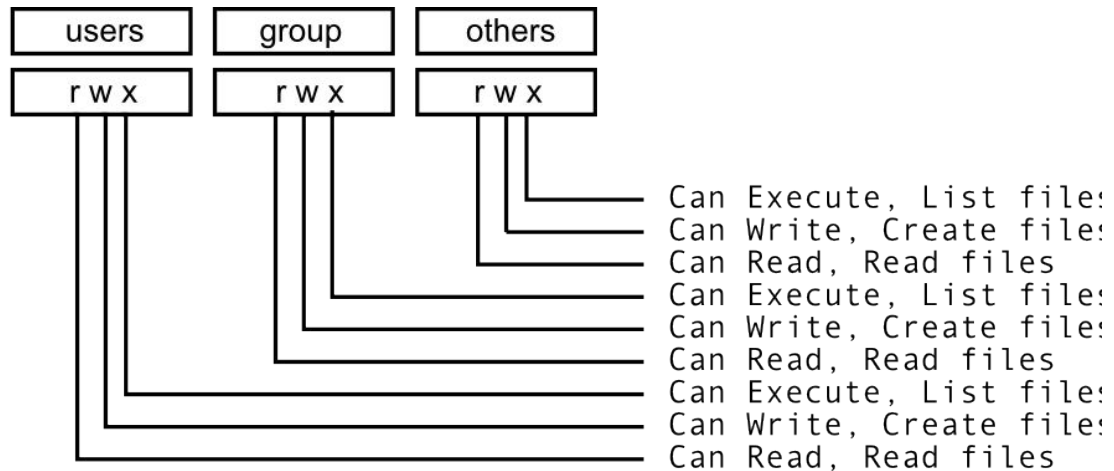
- Each file has (user and group)
 - User ownership
 - Group ownership
- Use `chown` to change user ownership of any file
- Use `chgrp` to change group ownership of any file

```
$ ls -l /share/
...
drwxr-xr-x  9 maruthisi  maruthisi  4096 Feb 19 17:29 public
drwxr-x---  9 maruthisi  cs18resch01 4096 Feb 19 17:29 cs18resch01
...
```



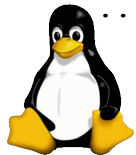
Permissions

- For directories
 - read (r), write (w), explore (x)
- For other files
 - read (r), write (w), execute (x)



```
$ ls -l /share/
```

```
...  
drwxr-xr-x  9 maruthisi maruthisi 4096 Feb 19 17:29 public  
dwxr-r-x--- 9 maruthisi cs18resch01 4096 Feb 19 17:29 cs18resch01  
...
```



Default permissions

- To see user's file-creation mask use `umask` command.
- mask is displayed in
 - octal format by default
0000
 - symbolic format with `-S` option.
`u=rwx,g=rwx,o=rwx`

```
$ umask
```

```
0002
```

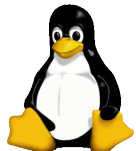
```
$ umask -S
```

```
u=rwx,g=rwx,o=rx
```

```
$ touch abc.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:23 abc.txt
```



Changing default permissions

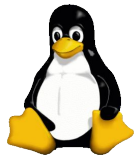
- To set user's file-creation mask use `umask` command.
- mask could be in octal format or symbolic format.
- To set user's file-creation mask permanently set it in `.bashrc`

```
$ umask -S  
u=rwx,g=rwx,o=rx
```

```
$ touch abc.txt  
$ ls -l  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:23 abc.txt
```

```
$ umask u=rwx,g=,o=  
$ umask 0077  
$ umask -S  
u=rwx,g=,o=
```

```
$ touch xyz.txt  
$ ls -l  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:23 abc.txt  
-rw----- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:24 xyz.txt
```



Change permissions

- To explicitly change permissions use `chmod`
- mask could be in
 - octal format or symbolic format.
 - absolute (=) or relative (+ or -)

```
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:23 abc.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:34 wuv.txt
-rw----- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:24 xyz.txt
```

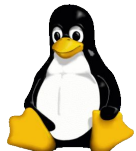
```
$ chmod u=rw,g=,o= wuv.txt xyz.txt
```

or

```
$ chmod o-rw wuv.txt
```

```
$ chmod g+rw xyz.txt
```

```
$ ls -l wuv.txt xyz.txt
-rw-rw---- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:34 wuv.txt
-rw-rw---- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 04:24 xyz.txt
```



File operations



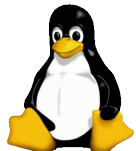
Listing files

- To list files in present working directory, use `ls` with options
 - l : long listing
 - h : sizes in human readable format (KB, MB, GB...)
 - t : sort by time (oldest last)
 - r : reverse the order
 - R : recursive listing of directory tree
- `total` is the size of metadata and data of directory being listed.

```
$ ls -hltr /boot
```

```
total 351M
```

```
drwx----- 3 root root 4.0K Jan  1  1970 efi
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 181K Jan 28  2016 memtest86+_multiboot.bin
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 181K Jan 28  2016 memtest86+.elf
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 179K Jan 28  2016 memtest86+.bin
...
-rw----- 1 root root 3.9M Nov 19 21:02 System.map-4.15.0-42-generic
drwxr-xr-x 5 root root 4.0K Dec 21 07:34 grub
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 59M Dec 21 08:58 initrd.img-4.15.0-42-generic
```



Paths

- Path is a sequence of file names separated by /
 - Path component: Each filename is called path component.
Eg. home, usr
 - Absolute path: Sequence of path components starting with the root directory.
Eg. /home/maruthisi , /bin/ls, /usr/local/cuda-10.0/bin
 - Relative path : Sequence of path components starting with present working directory.
Eg. Documents/cv.docx, Pictures/passport.jpeg

```
$ ls -l /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 83432 Jul 30 08:49 /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
```

```
$ ls -l Documents/TA.pdf
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 83432 Jul 30 08:49 Documents/TA.pdf
```



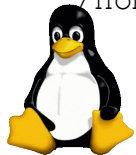
Splitting path

- To find base directory of a given path, use `dirname`
- To find leaf level path component, use `basename`

```
$ ls -l /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
-rw-rw-r-- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 83432 Jul 30 08:49 /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
```

```
$ basename /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
TA.pdf
```

```
$ dirname /home/maruthisi/Documents/TA.pdf
/home/maruthisi/Documents
```



Creating directories

- To create directories use `mkdir` command
- Use `-p` option to create a deeply nested directory and all its path components.

```
$ mkdir demo
```

```
$ mkdir -p demo/dir1/dir11 demo/dir1/dir12
```

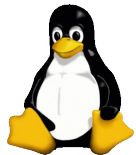


Deleting directories

- To delete directories use `rmdir` command
- Only empty directories can be deleted with `rmdir`
- Use `-p` option to delete a ancestors of a nested directory. Only empty ancestors will be deleted.

```
$ rmdir demo
rmdir: failed to remove 'demo': Directory not empty

$ rmdir demo/dir1/dir11 demo/dir1/dir12
$ rmdir -p demo/dir1
$ rmdir demo
rmdir: failed to remove 'demo': No such file or directory
```



Home, Current, Parent directory

- Every user has a home directory
 - Denoted using ~
- By default two hidden directory entries (dirent) exist in every directory
 - Current directory .
 - Parent directory ..

```
$ ls -la ~
drwx-----. 62 maruthisi maruthisi 8192 Jan 19 05:15 .
drwxr-xr-x.  6 root      root      83 Dec 10 04:38 ..
...
```

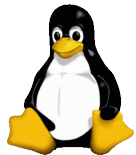
```
$ ls -la
drwxrwxrwx  3 maruthisi maruthisi 51 Jan 19 05:46 .
drwx-----. 62 maruthisi maruthisi 8192 Jan 19 05:15 ..
...
```



Knowing present working directory

- At any time a shell works in one directory, viz “present working directory”.
- To know present working directory, use `pwd`

```
$ pwd  
/home/maruthisi/demo
```



Changing present working directory

- To change present working directory, use `cd`
 - To change to home directory, use `cd` or `cd ~`
 - To change to any other directory, use `cd <directory>`
 - To go back to previous working directory, use `cd -`
 - To go to parent directory, use `cd ..`

```
$ pwd  
/home/maruthisi
```

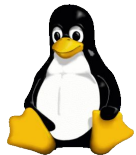
```
$ cd demo  
$ cd dir1  
$ pwd  
/home/maruthisi/demo/dir1
```

```
$ cd -  
/home/maruthisi/demo
```

```
$ pwd  
/home/maruthisi/demo
```

```
$ cd ~  
$ pwd  
/home/maruthisi
```

```
$ cd ..  
$ pwd  
/home
```



Hidden files

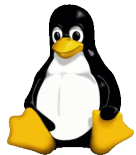
- Any filename that starts with `.` is a hidden file/directory
- To see hidden files use `-a` option of `ls`

```
$ ls -la ~
```

```
...  
-rw-rw-r--  1 maruthisi maruthisi 1081 Dec 10 20:37 .bashrc
```

```
$ ls -la
```

```
total 16  
drwxrwxrwx  3 maruthisi maruthisi  51 Jan 19 05:46 .  
drwx----- 62 maruthisi maruthisi 8192 Jan 19 05:15 ..  
...  
-rw-rw-rw-  1 maruthisi maruthisi   0 Jan 19 05:46 .mno.txt
```

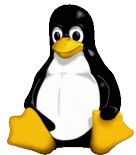


Creating regular files (1/2)

- To create regular files of zero length, use `touch` command.
- To create regular files of desired length, use `truncate -s` command.
Files created with `truncate` will be sparse (no storage blocks allocated).
Use KiB, MiB, .. for 1024 based units. KB, MB, ... for 1000 based units.

```
$ touch abc.txt def.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 08:49 abc.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 08:49 def.txt

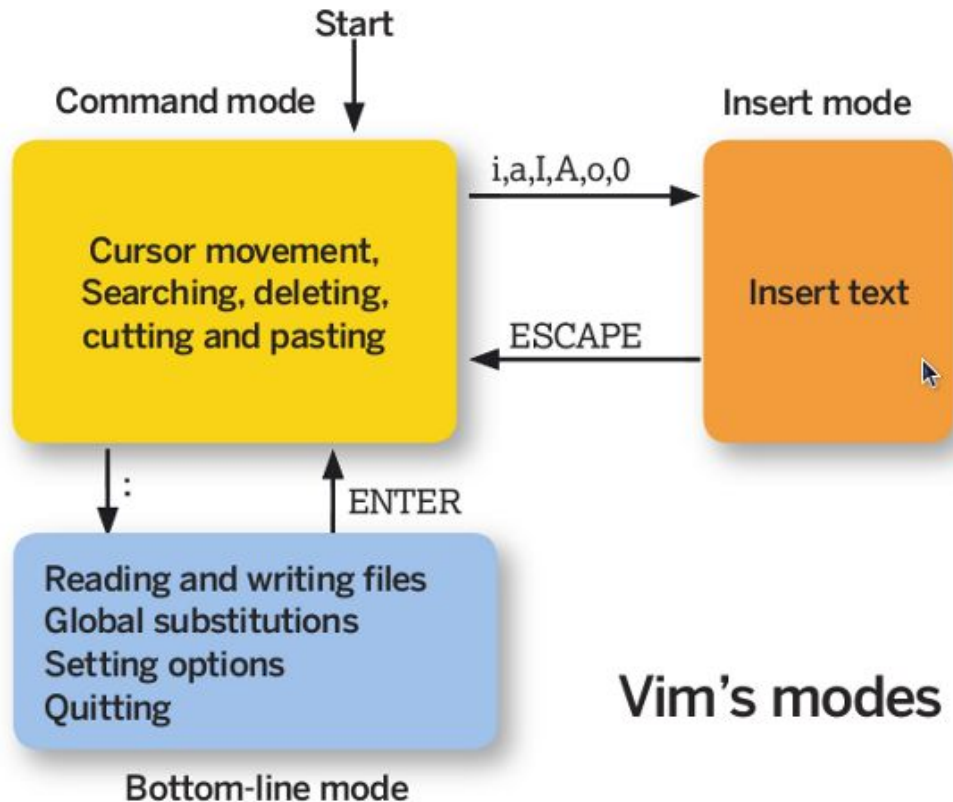
$ truncate -s 20TB xyz.txt
$ truncate -s 20TiB uvw.txt
$ ls -lh
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 08:49 abc.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 0 Jan 19 08:49 def.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 20T Jan 19 08:51 uvw.txt
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 19T Jan 19 08:49 xyz.txt
```



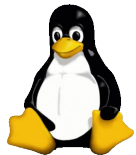
Creating regular files (2/2)

- To create a regular file with desired content, use `vim` editor.
- Vim is the widely available and powerful editor.
- It operates in three modes. Command mode, Insert mode, Bottom-line mode.
- In Bottom-line mode
 - `w` to write/save
 - `q!` to quit without saving
 - `wq` to write and quit

```
$ vi abc.txt  
hello world
```



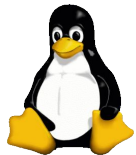
Vim's modes



Displaying regular file content

- To display content of a regular file having ASCII text, use `cat`
- Using `cat` to display a regular file having binary data may freeze login session.
- Vim could also be used to view content of a regular file having ASCII text.

```
$ cat abc.txt  
hello world  
$
```



Copying files

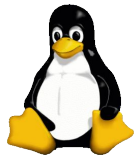
- To copy files, use `cp`
 - r : recursively
 - p : preserve permissions and ownership
 - i : interactive (queries yes/no)
 - f : force overwrite (no querying)
- Equivalent to copy+paste in GUI.

```
$ cp abc.txt ABC.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:10 abc.txt
```

```
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:29 ABC.txt
```



Moving files

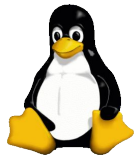
- To rename/move files, use `mv`
- Equivalent to cut+paste in GUI.
- Move within file-system does not involve data movement (just a metadata operation).
- Move across file-systems involves data movement operation. Time consuming for large files.

```
$ mv abc.txt ABC.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:10 abc.txt
```

```
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:29 ABC.txt
```



Deleting files

- To delete files, use `rm`
 - i : interactive (queries yes/no)
 - f : force overwrite (no querying)
- Equivalent to shift+delete in GUI.

CAUTION:

- There is no recycle-bin in Unix/Linux. Files deleted from command line using `rm` are permanently deleted.
- `lost+found` is not recycle bin.

```
$ rm ABC.txt
$ ls -l ABC.txt
ls: cannot access 'ABC.txt': No such file or directory
```



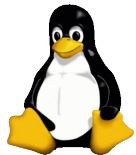
Deleting directories and files recursively

- To delete files recursively, use `rm`
 `-r` : recursively
- Equivalent to shift+delete in GUI.

CAUTION:

- `rm -rf` is a double-edged sword. Extra caution.

```
$ rm -rf demo
$ ls -l demo
ls: cannot access 'demo': No such file or directory
```



Index node (i-node) and Directory Entry (dirent)

- Every file has few ondisk data structures for metadata.
- Index node (inode) with a unique number (ino). Filename is not part of inode.
- Directory entries (dirent) which stores the file name, and inode number.

directory /home/you

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| foo | 123 |
| bar | 456 |
| and so on... | |

inode 123

| |
|---------------------|
| owner/group ID |
| permissions |
| file/directory/etc. |
| data block #s |
| and so on... |

blocks...

| |
|-----------|
| data data |
| data data |
| data data |



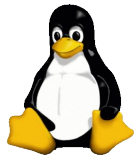
Knowing file metadata (1/2)

- To know file's metadata use `stat` command.

```
$ ls -li
 6894908 drwxrwxrwx 3 maruthisi maruthisi 16 Jan 19 05:20 dir1
421776638 -rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 05:15 file1.txt

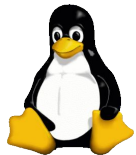
$ stat dir1
  File: 'dir1'
  Size: 16                Blocks: 0                IO Block: 4096    directory
Device: 807h/2055d      Inode: 6894908        Links: 2
Access: (0777/drwxrwxrwx)  Uid: ( 1001/maruthisi)   Gid: ( 1001/maruthisi)
Access: 2019-01-19 05:19:54.122106408 +0530
Modify: 2019-01-19 05:20:02.774092126 +0530
Change: 2019-01-19 05:20:02.774092126 +0530
 Birth: -

$ stat file1.txt
  File: 'file1.txt'
  Size: 12                Blocks: 8                IO Block: 4096    regular file
Device: 807h/2055d      Inode: 421776642      Links: 1
...
```



Knowing file metadata (2/2)

- Attributes from dirent:
 - File: name
- Attributes in inode:
 - Size: apparent file size
 - Blocks: allocated file size (in 512 byte blocks)
 - IO Block: Unit of I/O size by underlying block device driver.
 - Device: id of device on which this inode exists.
 - Inode: inode number
 - Links: number of dirents pointing to this inode.
 - Access: permissions
 - Uid: user owner's id
 - Gid: group owner's id
 - Access: the last time the file was read
 - Modify: the last time the file was modified (content has been modified)
 - Change: the last time meta data of the file was changed (e.g. permissions)
 -



Symbolic link

- To create a symbolic link (symlink), use `ln -s`
-f : force recreation
- Symlinks can be created within and across file-systems.
- Separate inode and dirent is created for symlink.
- A symlink can become dangling link if target is deleted.
- `ls -l` shows “l” in the file type column.
-L : to traverse symlink. Useful for detecting broken links.

```
$ ln -s abc.txt pqr.txt
```

```
$ ls -li
```

```
6894904 -rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:48 abc.txt  
6894915 lrwxrwxrwx 1 maruthisi maruthisi 7 Jan 19 09:49 pqr.txt -> abc.txt
```

```
$ ls -liL
```

```
6894918 -rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:56 abc.txt  
6894918 -rw-rw-rw- 1 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:56 pqr.txt
```



Hard link

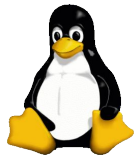
- To create a link (hardlink), use `ln`
 -f : force recreation
- Hardlinks must be created within file-system.
- A new dirent is created for each hardlink. Inode is shared across all hardlinks of the inode.
- A hardlink cannot become dangling link if target is deleted. Link count reduces.
- `ls -li` shows “-” in the file type column. Link count could be used to differentiate.

```
$ ln abc.txt stu.txt
```

```
$ ls -li
```

```
6894913 -rw-rw-rw- 2 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:59 abc.txt
```

```
6894913 -rw-rw-rw- 2 maruthisi maruthisi 12 Jan 19 09:59 stu.txt
```



Searching files and directories

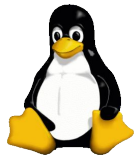


Finding files

- Searching files could be done using find
 - file extension
 - file type
 - file name

```
$ find . -name "*.mp3"  
./Music/Ringtones/bhajare.mp3
```

```
$ find . -type d -name "Pictures"  
./Pictures
```



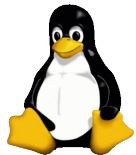
Finding sizes

- File size could be found from `ls -lh` or more precisely `ls -l`
- Directory size could be found from `ls -ldh` more precisely `ls -ldh`
- Directory and its contents size could be found using `du -sh` or more precisely `du -s`

```
$ ls -lh ./Music/Ringtones/bhajare.mp3
-rwxr-----. 1 maruthisi maruthisi 610K Aug 11 2016 ./Music/Ringtones/bhajare.mp3
```

```
$ ls -ldh Downloads/
drwxr-xr-x. 17 maruthisi maruthisi 4K Feb 3 14:05 Downloads/
```

```
$ du -sh Downloads
1.1G Downloads
```



Finding inside files

- Searching inside files could be done using `grep`
 - Inside a file
 - Inside all files in recursively in a directory

```
$ grep -e "compare" Prog1.cu
```

```
Prog1.cu:int compare_print_result(int *h_a, int *h_b, int *h_c, int *hd_c, int size);  
Prog1.cu:    if (compare_print_result(h_a, h_b, h_c, hd_c, size) != 0) {  
Prog1.cu:int compare_print_result(int *h_a, int *h_b, int *h_c, int *hd_c, int size)
```

```
$ grep -R -e "compare" .
```

```
./Prog1.cu:int compare_print_result(int *h_a, int *h_b, int *h_c, int *hd_c, int size);  
./Prog1.cu:    if (compare_print_result(h_a, h_b, h_c, hd_c, size) != 0) {  
./Prog1.cu:int compare_print_result(int *h_a, int *h_b, int *h_c, int *hd_c, int size)
```

...

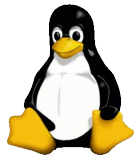
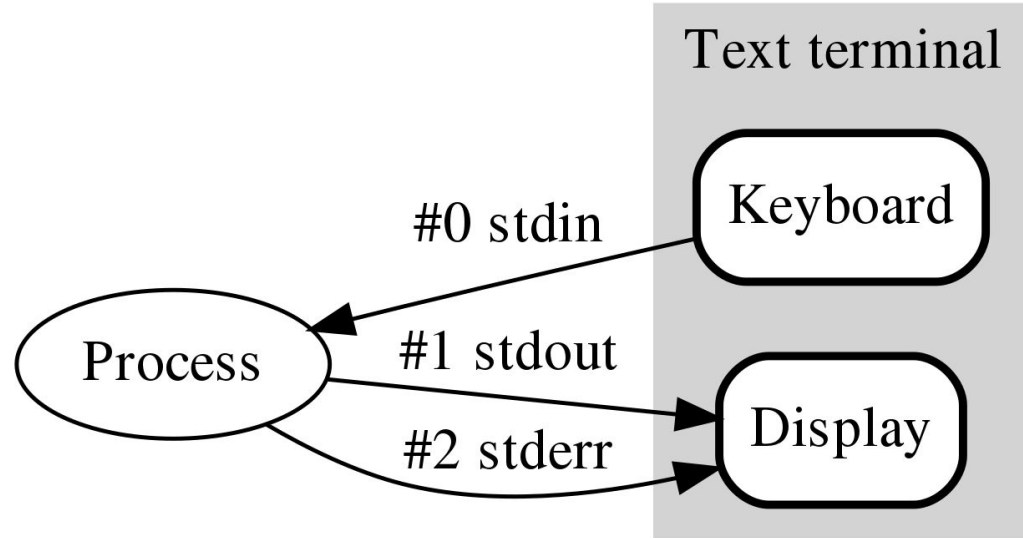


Redirection, Pipes and Filters



Process input outputs

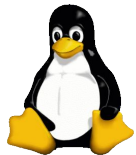
- Three files are opened by default for every process
 - Standard Input (file descriptor #0)
 - Standard Output (file descriptor #1)
 - Standard error (file descriptor #2)
- Command line parameters
- Environment variables
- Shared memory
- Message queues



Input redirection

- The process of feeding standard input from a file instead of keyboard.
- Use `command [options] [args] < filename`

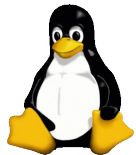
```
$ cat < /etc/passwd  
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash  
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin  
...  
$
```



Output redirection

- The process of sending standard output to a file instead of monitor.
- Use `command [options] [args] > filename`
or
- Use `command [options] [args] 1> filename`

```
$ ls -l > ls.txt  
$
```



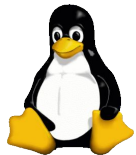
Error redirection

- The process of sending standard errors to a file instead of monitor.
- Use `command [options] [args] 2> filename`

```
$ ls -l abcd.txt  
ls: cannot access 'abcd.txt': No such file or directory
```

```
$ ls -l abcd.txt 2> efg.txt
```

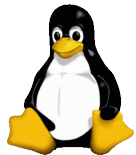
```
$ cat efg.txt  
ls: cannot access 'abcd.txt': No such file or directory
```



Infinite source and sink files

- Infinite sources
 - /dev/zero
 - /dev/urandom
 - /dev/random
 - yes
- Infinite sinks
 - /dev/null

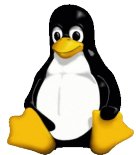
```
$ yes
Y
...
$ cat /dev/zero
$ cat /dev/random          # caution may make current shell use-less
...
$ cat /dev/urandom         # caution may make current shell use-less
...
$ cat /dev/urandom > /dev/null
```



Pipes

- The process of sending standard output of one process to standard input of another process.
- Use `command1 | command2`

```
$ ls -l | cat
```



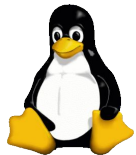
Filters

- Programs that modify input from stdin in some way and produce output on stdout.
- **Use** `command [options] [args] | filter1 [options] [args]`
- **Commonly used filters**
`head, tail, less, more, wc, grep, sort, uniq, awk, sed`

```
$ cat /etc/passwd | grep maruthisi
maruthisi:x:1001:1001::/home/maruthisi:/bin/bash
$
```

```
$ ls -l | sort -k 5 -n
<output of ls sorted by size>
```

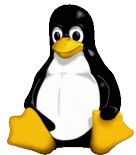
```
$ cat /etc/passwd | awk -F: '{print $7}' | sort | uniq | wc -l
6
```



Command substitution

- The process of sending standard output of one process to command line arguments of another process.
- To run a command and substitute its output as command line input, use backticks ``command``

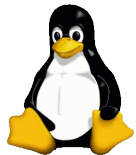
```
$ kill `pidof firefox`
```



Arguments' injection

- The process of sending standard output of one process to command line arguments of another process using a filter.
- To run a command and substitute its output as command line input, use `xargs filter`

```
$ sudo find /lib -name "*.ko" | xargs du -c | tail -1  
41512      total
```



References



References

- Linux manual pages



Q & A

