

# Unix

<https://harvard-iacs.github.io/2019-CS207/lectures/lecture1/>

David Sondak

Harvard University  
Institute for Applied Computational Science

9/5/2019

- Course introduction
- Unix and Linux

# Today

- More on Unix / Linux
- Practice time

Again, some content adapted from Dr. Chris Simmons.

# Unix Commands

# Basic Commands

## UNIX / LINUX CHEAT SHEET

### FILE SYSTEM

**ls** — list items in current directory  
**ls -l** — list items in current directory and show in long format to see permissions, size, and modification date  
**ls -la** — list all items in current directory, including hidden files  
**ls -R** — list all items in current directory and show directories with a slash and executables with a star  
**ls dir** — list all items in directory dir  
**cd dir** — change directory to dir  
**cd ..** — go up one directory  
**cd /** — go to the root directory  
**cd ~** — go to your home directory  
**cd -** — go to the last directory you were just in  
**pwd** — show present working directory  
**mkdir dir** — make directory dir  
**rm file** — remove file  
**rm -r dir** — remove directory dir recursively  
**cp file1 file2** — copy file1 to file2  
**cp -r dir1 dir2** — copy directory dir1 to dir2 recursively  
**mv file1 file2** — move (rename) file1 to file2  
**ln -s file link** — create symbolic link to file  
**touch file** — create or update file  
**cat file** — output the contents of file  
**less file** — view file with page navigation  
**head file** — output the first 10 lines of file  
**tail file** — output the last 10 lines of file  
**tail -f file** — output the contents of file as it grows, starting with the last 10 lines  
**vim file** — edit file  
**alias name 'command'** — create an alias for a command

### SYSTEM

**shutdown** — shut down machine  
**reboot** — restart machine  
**date** — show the current date and time  
**whoami** — who you are logged in as  
**finger user** — display information about user  
**man command** — show the manual for command  
**df** — show disk usage  
**du** — show directory space usage  
**free** — show memory and swap usage  
**whereis app** — show possible locations of app  
**which app** — show which app will be run by default

### COMPRESSION

**tar cf file.tar files** — create a tar named file.tar containing files  
**tar xf file.tar** — extract the files from file.tar  
**tar czf file.tar.gz files** — create a tar with Gzip compression  
**tar xzf file.tar.gz** — extract a tar using Gzip  
**gzip file** — compresses file and renames it to file.gz  
**gunzip -d file.gz** — decompresses file.gz back to file

### PROCESS MANAGEMENT

**ps** — display your currently active processes  
**top** — display all running processes  
**kill pid** — kill process id pid  
**kill -9 pid** — force kill process id pid

### SEARCHING

**grep pattern files** — search for pattern in files  
**grep -r pattern dir** — search recursively for pattern in dir  
**grep -rn pattern dir** — search recursively for pattern in dir and show the line number found  
**grep -r pattern dir --include='\*.ext'** — search recursively for pattern in dir and only search in files with .ext extension  
**command | grep pattern** — search for pattern in the output of command  
**find file** — find all instances of file in real system  
**locate file** — find all instances of file using indexed database built from the updatedb command. Much faster than find  
**sed -i 's/day/night/g' file** — find all occurrences of day in a file and replace them with night - s means substitute and g means global - sed also supports regular expressions

### PERMISSIONS

**ls -l** — list items in current directory and show permissions  
**chmod ugo file** — change permissions of file to ugo  
- u is the user's permissions, g is the group's permissions, and o is everyone else's permissions. The values of u, g, and o can be any number between 0 and 7.  
7 — full permissions  
6 — read and write only  
5 — read and execute only  
4 — read only  
3 — write and execute only  
2 — write only  
1 — execute only  
0 — no permissions  
**chmod 600 file** — you can read and write - good for files  
**chmod 700 file** — you can read, write, and execute - good for scripts  
**chmod 644 file** — you can read and write, and everyone else can only read - good for web pages  
**chmod 755 file** — you can read, write, and execute, and everyone else can read and execute - good for programs that you want to share

### NETWORKING

**wget file** — download a file  
**curl file** — download a file  
**scp user@host:file dir** — secure copy a file from remote server to the dir directory on your machine  
**scp file user@host:dir** — secure copy a file from your machine to the dir directory on a remote server  
**scp -r user@host:dir dir** — secure copy the directory dir from remote server to the directory dir on your machine  
**ssh user@host** — connect to host as user  
**ssh -p port user@host** — connect to host on port as user  
**ssh-copy-id user@host** — add your key to host for user to enable a keyed or passwordless login  
**ping host** — ping host and output results  
**whois domain** — get information for domain  
**dig domain** — get DNS information for domain  
**dig -x host** — reverse lookup host  
**lsof -i tcp:1337** — list all processes running on port 1337

### SHORTCUTS

**ctrl+a** — move cursor to beginning of line  
**ctrl+e** — move cursor to end of line  
**alt+f** — move cursor forward 1 word  
**alt+b** — move cursor backward 1 word

<http://cheatsheetworld.com/programming/unix-linux-cheat-sheet/>

# Absolutely Essential Commands

These commands should be at your fingertips at all times:

**ls** — list items in current directory

**ls -l** — list items in current directory and show in long format to see permissions, size, and modification date

**ls -a** — list all items in current directory, including hidden files

**ls -F** — list all items in current directory and show directories with a slash and executables with a star

**ls dir** — list all items in directory dir

**cd dir** — change directory to dir

**cd ..** — go up one directory

**cd /** — go to the root directory

**cd ~** — go to your home directory

**cd -** — go to the last directory you were just in

**pwd** — show present working directory

**mkdir dir** — make directory dir

**rm file** — remove file

**rm -r dir** — remove directory dir recursively

**cp file1 file2** — copy file1 to file2

**cp -r dir1 dir2** — copy directory dir1 to dir2 recursively

**mv file1 file2** — move (rename) file1 to file2

**ln -s file link** — create symbolic link to file

**touch file** — create or update file

**cat file** — output the contents of file

**less file** — view file with page navigation

**head file** — output the first 10 lines of file

**tail file** — output the last 10 lines of file

**tail -f file** — output the contents of file as it grows, starting with the last 10 lines

**vim file** — edit file

**alias name 'command'** — create an alias for a command

# The `ls` command

- The `ls` command displays the names of files
- Giving it the name of a directory will list all files in that directory
- `ls` commands:
  - `ls` — list files in current directory
  - `ls /` — list files in the root directory
  - `ls .` — list files in the current directory
  - `ls ..` — list files in the parent directory
  - `ls /usr` — list files in the `/usr` directory

# Command Line Options

- Modify output format of `ls` with *command line options*
- There are many options for the `ls` command, e.g.
  - `-l` — *long* format
  - `-a` — *all*; shows hidden files as well as regular files
  - `-F` — include special character to indicate file types

Note: Hidden files have names that start with `.`

```
-rw-r--r--  1 dsondak staff  1687 Jul  2 09:56 .gitignore
```



# ls Command Line Options

- How to use the command line options:
  - `ls -a`, `ls -l`, ...
- Two or more options can be used at the same time!
  - `ls -ltr`

# General ls Command Line

- The general form is

- `ls [options] [names]`
- Note: Options must come first
- You can mix any options with any names
- Example:

```
ls -al /usr/bin
```

- The brackets around options and names means that something is optional
- You will see this kind of description often in the Unix commands documentation
- Some commands have required parameters
- You can also use variable argument lists
  - `ls /usr /etc`
  - `ls -l /usr/bin /tmp /etc`
  - This will display many files or directory names

## man and More Information

- **man pages** (manual pages) provide extensive documentation
- The Unix command to display a manual page is `man`
- Man pages are split into 8 numbered sections
  - ① General commands
  - ② System calls
  - ③ C library functions
  - ④ Special files (usually devices found in `/dev`)
  - ⑤ File formats and conventions
  - ⑥ Games
  - ⑦ Miscellaneous
  - ⑧ Sys admin commands and daemons
- You can request pages from specific sections, e.g.

`man 3 printf` (shows manpage for C library function)

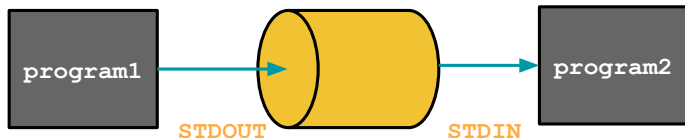
# Interacting with the Shell

# Running a Unix Program

- Type in the name of a program and some command line options
- The shell reads this line, finds the program, and runs it feeding it the options you specified
- The shell establishes 3 I/O streams:
  - ① Standard input
  - ② Standard output
  - ③ Standard error
- File descriptors associated with each stream:
  - 0 = STDIN
  - 1 = STDOUT
  - 2 = STDERR

# Unix Pipes

- A pipe is a holder for a stream of data
- A Unix **pipeline** is a set of processes chained by their standard streams
  - The output of each process (`stdout`) feeds directly as input (`stdin`) to the next one
- Very useful for using multiple Unix commands together to perform a task



# Building Commands

- More complicated commands can be built up by using one or more pipes
- The `|` character is used to *pipe* two commands together
- The shell does the rest for you!

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ cat readings.md
Title: Lecture 1
Category: lectures
Date: 2019-09-03
Slug: lecture1
Author: David Sondak

# Lecture 0

* Unix and Linux
* `git` bash

### Introduction Slides
- [Lecture 1 Slides]({attach}presentation/lecture2.pdf)

### Lecture Notebook Slides
- [Lecture 1 Notebook]({filename}notebook/lecture2.ipynb)
```

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ cat readings.md | wc
17      37    302
```

- Note: `wc` prints the number of newlines, words, and bytes in a file.

## More Unix Commands: find

- `find` searches the filesystem for files whose name matches a specific pattern
- It can do much more than this and is one of the most useful commands in Unix
  - e.g. it can find files and then perform operations on them
- Example:

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ ls
data  fig  notebook  notes  presentation  readings.md
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ find . -name presentation -print
./presentation
```



- find can also scan for certain file types:
  - Find directories with `find . -type d -print`
  - Find files with `find . -type f -print`
- The `exec` option can be used to make very powerful commands on files
  - `find . -type f -exec wc -l {} \;`
- What does this command do?

# The Famous grep

- grep extracts lines from a file that match a given string or pattern

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ grep -r "grep" presentation/
Binary file presentation//.lecture2.tex.swp matches
presentation//lecture2.tex: \begin{frame}{The Famous \texttt{grep}}
presentation//lecture2.tex: \item \texttt{grep} extracts lines from a file that match a given string or pattern \texttt{[0.5em]}
presentation//lecture2.tex: \item \texttt{grep} can also use a regular expression for the pattern search
presentation//lecture2.tex: \includegraphics[width=0.9\textwidth]{grep_example.png}
```

- grep can also use a regular expression for the pattern search

# Regular Expressions

- `grep` isn't the only Unix command that supports regular expressions
  - `sed`
  - `awk`
  - `perl`
- General search pattern characters
  - Any character
  - `"."` matches any character except a newline
  - `"*"` matches zero or more occurrences of the single preceding character
  - `"+"` matches one or more of the preceding character
  - `"?"` matches zero or one of the preceding character
- More special characters
  - `"()"` are used to quantify a sequence of characters
  - `"|"` functions as an OR operator
  - `"{"}` are used to indicate ranges in the number of occurrences

## More on Regular Expressions

- To match a special character, you should use the backslash “\”
  - e.g. to match a period do “\.”
  - `a\.b` matches `a.b`
- A *character class* (a.k.a. character set) can be used to match *only one* out of several characters
- Place the characters you want to match between square brackets, `[ ]`
- A hyphen can be used to specify a range of characters
- A caret, `^`, after the opening square bracket will negate the class
  - The result is that the character class will match any character that is **not** in the character class
- Examples:
  - `[abc]` matches a single `a`, `b`, or `c`
  - `[0-9]` matches a single digit between 0 and 9
  - `[^A-Za-z]` matches a single character as long as it's not a letter

# Regular Expressions Continued

- Some shorthand character classes are available for convenience,
  - `\d` a digit, e.g. `[0-9]`
  - `\D` a non-digit, e.g. `[^0-9]`
  - `\w` a word character, matches letters and digits
  - `\W` a non-word character
  - `\s` a whitespace character
  - `\S` a non-whitespace character
- Some shorthand classes are available for matching boundaries,
  - `^` the beginning of a line
  - `$` the end of a line
  - `\b` a word boundary
  - `\B` a non-word boundary
- Some references:
  - [RegexOne](#)
  - [Mastering Regular Expressions](#)

# Regular Expression Examples and Practice

You are given a text file called `dogs.txt` that contains names, ages, and breeds of dogs. Use `grep` and regular expressions to accomplish the following:

❶ Find all dogs named either *Sally* or *Joey*.

- **Hint:** In addition to a regular expression, you may also find the `-E` option for `grep` useful

❷ Find all dogs named *Joey*.

- **Note:** There are two dogs named *Joey*, but one of them has been entered in all lowercase!
- **Note:** The extended regex `grep` option (`-E`) is not needed here

❸ Find all dogs that are 6 months old.

- **Hint:** You may assume that dogs that are 6 months old have been entered as 0.5.

# File Attributes

Every file has a specific list of attributes:

- Access times
  - when the file was created
  - when the file was last changed
  - when the file was last read
- Size
- Owners
  - user (remember UID)
  - group (remember GID)
- Permissions

For example, time attributes access with `ls`,

- `ls -l` shows when the file was last changed
- `ls -lc` shows when the file was created
- `ls -lu` shows when the file was last accessed

- Each file has a set of permissions that control who can access the file
- There are three different types of permissions:
  - read, abbreviated `r`
  - write, abbreviated `w`
  - execute, abbreviated `x`
- In Unix, there are permission levels associated with three types of people that might access a file:
  - owner (you)
  - group (a group of other users that you set up)
  - world (anyone else browsing around on the file system)



# File Permissions Display Format

— **rwx** **rwx** **rwx**  
Owner Group Others

- The first entry specifies the type of file:
  - “-” is a plain file
  - “d” is a directory
  - “c” is a character device
  - “b” is a block device
  - “l” is a symbolic link
- Meaning for Files:
  - r - allowed to read
  - w - allowed to write
  - x - allowed to execute
- Meaning for Directories:
  - r - allowed to see the names of files
  - w - allowed to add and remove files
  - x - allowed to enter the directory

# Changing File Permissions

- The `chmod` command changes the permissions associated with a file or directory
- Basic syntax: `chmod <mode> <file>`
- The `<mode>` can be specified in two ways
  - Symbolic representation
  - Octal number
- It's up to you which method you use
- Multiple symbolic operations can be given, separated by commas

# Symbolic Representation

- Symbolic representation has the following form,
  - [ugoa] [+ -=] [rwxX]
- u=user, g=group, o=other, a=all
- + — add permission, - — remove permission, = — set permission
- r=read, w=write, x=execute
- X — Sets to execute only if the file is a directory or already has execute permission
  - Very useful when using recursively

# Symbolic Representation Examples

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ ls -al notes/
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 4 dsondak staff 128 Sep  3 18:37 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 17:46 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ chmod g=rw notes/foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ ls -al notes
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 4 dsondak staff 128 Sep  3 18:37 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 17:46 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-rw-rw-r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ chmod u-w,g+x,o=x notes/foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$ ls -al notes
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 4 dsondak staff 128 Sep  3 18:37 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 17:46 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-r--rwx--x 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/lectures/lecture1
$
```

# Octal Representation

- Octal mode uses a single-argument string which describes the permissions for a file (3 digits)
  - Each digit is a code for each of the three permission levels
  - Permissions are set according to the following numbers:
    - read=4, write=2, execute=1
  - Sum the individual permissions to get the desired combination
- 
- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • 0 = no permission at all    | • 4 = read only                        |
| • 1 = execute only            | • 5 = read and execute (4+1)           |
| • 2 = write only              | • 6 = read and write (4+2)             |
| • 3 = write and execute (1+2) | • 7 = read, write, and execute (4+2+1) |

# Octal Representation Examples

```
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ ls -al notes/
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 5 dsondak staff 160 Sep  3 18:47 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 18:40 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:47 bar
-r--rwx--x 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ chmod 660 notes/bar
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ ls -al notes
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 5 dsondak staff 160 Sep  3 18:47 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 18:40 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-rw-rw---- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:47 bar
-r--rwx--x 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ chmod 417 notes/bar
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
$ ls -al notes
total 0
drwxr-xr-x 5 dsondak staff 160 Sep  3 18:47 .
drwxr-xr-x 8 dsondak staff 256 Sep  3 18:40 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 17:46 README.md
-r-----x 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:47 bar
-r--rwx--x 1 dsondak staff   0 Sep  3 18:37 foo
dsondak:~/Teaching/Harvard/CS207/2019-CS207/content/Lectures/Lecture1
```

# Text Editors and Shell Customization

- For programming and changing of various text files, we need to make use of available Unix text editors
- The two most popular and available editors are [vi](#) and [emacs](#)
- You should familiarize yourself with at least one of the two
  - [Editor Wars](#)
- We will have very short introductions to each



# A Brief Text Editor History

- `ed` : line mode editor
- `ex` : extended version of `ed`
- `vi` : full screen version of `ex`
- `vim` : Vi IMproved
- `emacs` : another popular editor
- `ed/ex/vi` share lots of syntax, which also comes back in `sed/awk`: useful to know.

- The big thing to remember about `vi` is that it has two different modes of operation:
  - Insert Mode
  - Command mode
- The insert mode puts anything typed on the keyboard into the current file
- The command mode allows the entry of commands to manipulate text
- Note that `vi` starts out in the command mode by default

# vim Quick Start Commands

- `vim <filename>`
- Press `i` to enable insert mode
- Type text (use arrow keys to move around)
- Press `Esc` to enable command mode
- Press `:w` (followed by return) to save the file
- Press `:q` (followed by return) to exit vim

# Useful vim Commands

- `:q!` - exit without saving the document. Very handy for beginners
- `:wq` - save and exit
- `/ <string>` - search within the document for text. `n` goes to next result
- `dd` - delete the current line
- `yy` - copy the current line
- `p` - paste the last cut/deleted line
- `:1` - goto first line in the file
- `:$` - goto last line in the file
- `$` - end of current line
- `^` - beginning of line
- `%` - show matching brace, bracket, parentheses

Here are some vim resources: <https://vim.rtorr.com/>,  
<https://devhints.io/vim>, <https://vim-adventures.com/>,  
[vimtutor](#).

# Shell Customization

- Each shell supports some customization.
  - user prompt settings
  - environment variable settings
  - aliases
- The customization takes place in startup files which are read by the shell when it starts up
  - Global files are read first - these are provided by the system administrators (e.g. `/etc/profile`)
  - Local files are then read in the user's `HOME` directory to allow for additional customization

# Shell Startup Files

Useful information can be found at the bash man page:

<https://linux.die.net/man/1/bash>

- `~/.bash_profile`
  - Conventionally executed at login shells
  - Conventionally only run once: at login
  - MacOS executes it for every new window
- `~/.bashrc`
  - Conventionally executed for each new window
  - Can contain similar information as the `.bash_profile`
- `~/.bash_login`
  - Relic of a bygone time; rarely (if ever) modify
- `~/.profile`
  - Executed after looking for `.bash_profile` and `.bashrc`; generally don't modify
- `~/.bash_logout`
  - Executed when the shell exits

Decent reference on the difference between `.bash_profile` and `.bashrc`:

[Apple Stack Exchange](#), [Scripting OS X](#)

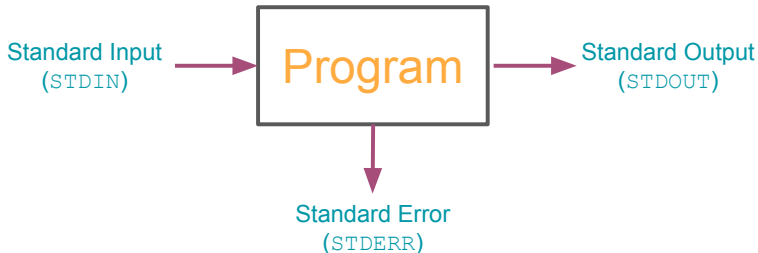
Update your `.bash_profile`

Exercise goals:

- Familiarize with a text editor (like `vim`)
- Create an alias for `ls` (e.g. `ll`) [see <https://www.tecmint.com/create-alias-in-linux/>]
- Change command line prompt format (see <https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/howto-linux-unix-bash-shell-setup-prompt.html>)

Note to Windows users: [Modify Bash Profile in Windows](#)

Note: The [Dracula Theme](#) is pretty fun.



- File descriptors are associated with each stream,
  - 0=STDIN, 1=STDOUT, 2=STDERR
- When a shell runs a program for you,
  - Standard input is the keyboard
  - Standard output is your screen
  - Standard error is your screen
- To end the input, press Ctrl-D on a line; this ends the input stream



# Shell Stream Redirection

- The shell can attach things other than the keyboard to standard input or output
  - e.g. a file or a pipe
- To tell the shell to store the output of your program in a file, use `>`,
  - `ls > ls_out`
- To tell the shell to get standard input from a file, use `<`,
  - `sort < nums`
- You can combine both forms together,
  - `sort < nums > sortednums`

# Modes of Output Redirection

- There are two modes of output redirection,
  - `>` — create mode
  - `>>` — append mode
- `ls > foo` creates a new file `foo`, possibly deleting any existing file named `foo` while `ls >> foo` appends the output to `foo`
- `>` only applies to `stdout` (not `stderr`)
- To redirect `stderr` to a file, you must specify the request directly
  - `2>` redirects `stderr` (e.g. `ls foo 2> err`)
  - `&>` redirects `stdout` and `stderr` (e.g. `ls foo &> /dev/null`)
  - `ls foo > out 2> err` redirects `stdout` to `out` and `stderr` to `err`

# Wildcards

- The shell treats some characters as special
- These special characters make it easy to specify filenames
- `*` matches anything
- Giving the shell `*` by itself removes `*` and replaces it with all the filenames in the current directory
- `echo` prints out whatever you give it (e.g. `echo hi` prints out `hi`)
- `echo *` prints out the entire working directory!
- `ls *.txt` lists all files that end with `.txt`