LAB 2

Course Code: CSC 2209 Course Title: Operating Systems

Dept. of Computer Science
Faculty of Science and Technology

Lecturer No:	**02**	**Week No:**	**02**	**Semester:**	
Lecturer:	*Name & email*				

Lecture Outline

1. cat Command
2. Hidden Files
3. Showing Contents of a File
4. How to Append Files
5. How to Concatenate Files
6. cp Command
7. mv Command
8. rm Command

cat command

- cat > test.txt

  This is a test.

  I like Unix operating systems.

- To save the changes press CTRL-d i.e. press and hold CTRL and press d. Create another text file called bar.txt as follows:

Exercise

In dir1, create a text file called ‘file1.txt’, with the text: this is my first text file

Hidden Files

- The special . and .. directories don't show up when you do ls, they are **hidden files**
- **Similarly we have hidden files**
  Simple rule: files whose names start with . are considered 'hidden'
  Make ls display all files, even the hidden ones, by giving it the -a (all) option:
  $ **ls -a**
  . .. .bashrc .profile report.doc
- Hidden files are often used for configuration files
- Usually found in a user's home directory
- You can still read hidden files — they just don't get listed by ls by default

cat command to show content of a file

- It's used to print the contents of a file to the screen(stdout more precisely), really useful when you want to have a quick look on contents of a file.
- As example, use **cat a_text_file** to get the inside contents of that file in your screen.

cat command to append

- Use the (>>) operator to append the contents of file1.txt to file2.txt :

- cat file1.txt >> file2.txt

Create, View and Append file

- **To create a file**
  Syntax: $ cat>filename
  Example: $ cat>ex1

- **To view the content of the file**
  Syntax: $ cat filename
  Example: $ cat ex1

- **To append some details with the existing details in the file**
  Syntax: $ cat>>filename
  Example: $ cat>>ex1

Concatenate multiple files

- **To concatenate multiple files**
  Syntax: $ cat file1 file2 >> file3
  Example: $ cat computer compiler >> world

cp command

- **cp** , You can copy files and directories with this command. Typical usage is like **cp file_a file_1_copy** or **cp directory_a dir_a_copy**
  - **Syntax**: $ cp source destination
    Example: $ cp ex1 ex2
- Also don't forget to use proper path when you're coping something to different location.

mv command

- The mv command is used to **move or rename** directories and files.
- To rename a file use **mv old_name new_name**
  Syntax: $ mv oldfile newfile
  Example: $ mv ex1 ex3

rm command

- The rm command is used to remove files or directory.
- **To delete a file**
  Syntax: $ rm filename
  Example: $ rm ex1
- **To delete all files**
  Syntax: $ rm *
- rm –d dir_name (empty directory remove)
- **rm -r /tmp/backup** to remove everything that folder.
- Of course you've to be careful before removing anything.

Create, change and remove a directory

- **To create a directory**
  Syntax: $ mkdir dirname
- **To change the name of the directory (!!)**
  Syntax: $ cd dirname (!! mv old_name new_name)
- **To remove the directory**
  Syntax: $ rmdir dirname
  Example: $ rmdir flower
- **To delete all directories** The `-p` option can delete directory and its subdirectories/sub-folders:
  Syntax: $ **`rmdir -p dir1/dir2/dir3`**

Exercises

In AIUB, create a text file called ‘file1.txt’, with the text: “this is my first text file
Second line of my first text file”
Create another file name file2.txt with the text “second file_yourname”
Copy file1.txt to file2.txt
Rename file2.txt to your_name.txt
Delete file2.txt
Delete your_name.txt
Delete AIUB

Books

- Unix Shell Programming
  - Written by Yashavant P. Kanetkar