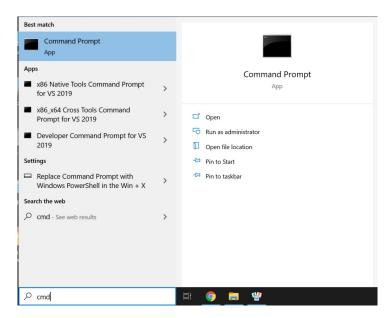
Practical 2: CLI in Windows and Linux (II)

This lab practical is a continuation of the previous practical on CLI in Windows and Linux systems. You may be able to recognize some patterns of command line being used. In this lab, we will expound some general principles that are used by most command line programs (like git, python, zip, ssh, etc.).

Navigate to "Run" or go to windows search section and typed in "cmd".



The command line interface (CLI) windows is opened as below.



Figure 1: CLI

Things to remember:

- 1. The first thing you type into the CLI is actually just the name of a command.
- 2. The things that come after the command being called are called "arguments", and they are passed to the command being called.
- 3. CLI is very sensitive to spaces.

Commands with Appropriate Arguments.

Using a combination of [command] [/?] in CLI, you get to know what are the arguments available for the command.

```
C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop>dir /?
Displays a list of files and subdirectories in a directory.
DIR [drive:][path][filename] [/A[[:]attributes]] [/B] [/C] [/D] [/L] [/N]
[/O[[:]sortorder]] [/P] [/Q] [/R] [/S] [/T[[:]timefield]] [/W] [/X] [/4]
  [drive:][path][filename]
               Specifies drive, directory, and/or files to list.
               Displays files with specified attributes.
  attributes
                                                  R Read-only files
              D Directories
                                                  A Files ready for archiving I Not content indexed files
                H Hidden files
                   System files
                L Reparse Points
                                                  O Offline files
                   Prefix meaning not
               Uses bare format (no heading information or summary).
  /C
               Display the thousand separator in file sizes. This is the
               default. Use /-C to disable display of separator.
               Same as wide but files are list sorted by column.
               Uses lowercase.
New long list format where filenames are on the far right.
               List by files in sorted order.
  /0
                                                 S By size (smallest first)
  sortorder
                N By name (alphabetic)
                E By extension (alphabetic) D By date/time (oldest first)
Press any key to continue . . .
```

Figure 2: Displying lists of arguments for a function.

1. Displaying the directory with specific attributes will need to type "dir /a:[attribute]" then press "Enter"

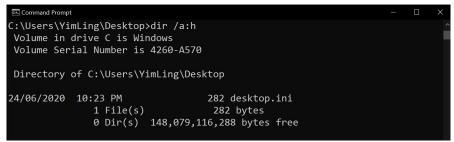


Figure 3: An example of displaying files with specific attribute.

Q: What was the command and argument used in Figure 3? What was implicated?

2. Displaying the directory with specific sorting mechanism will need to type "dir /o: [attribute]" then press "Enter"

```
C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02>dir /o:s
 Volume in drive C is Windows
 Volume Serial Number is 4260-A570
 Directory of C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02
25/06/2020 03:59 PM
                        <DIR>
24/06/2020
           12:22 PM
                                     0 abc.TXT
                                    0 cli.docx
25/06/2020
           03:59 PM
25/06/2020
           03:59 PM
                        <DIR>
19/06/2020
           08:27 AM
                            2,890,359 bronze sculptures 01.jpg
19/06/2020
           08:27 AM
                             3,782,388 KA block 01.jpg
               4 File(s)
                             6,672,747 bytes
               2 Dir(s) 148,075,991,040 bytes free
```

Figure 4: An example of displaying files with specific sorting mechanism.

Q: What was the command and argument used in Figure 4? What was implicated?

3. Displaying a directory may contain multiple arguments for display customization.

```
C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02>dir c:\Users\YimLing\Desktop /a:d /o:s
Volume in drive C is Windows
Volume Serial Number is 4260-A570
Directory of c:\Users\YimLing\Desktop
25/06/2020 03:56 PM
                        <DIR>
25/06/2020 03:58 PM
                                      Practical01
                        <DIR>
25/06/2020
           03:59 PM
                        <DIR>
                                      Practical02
25/06/2020 03:56 PM
              0 File(s)
                                     0 bytes
               4 Dir(s) 148,076,744,704 bytes free
C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02>_
```

Figure 5: Displaying a directory with combination of arguments.

Q: What was the command and arguments used in Figure 5? What was implicated?

Wildcards.

1. The usage of wilcards are inevitable especially in command line programs.

```
C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02>dir *.jpg

Volume in drive C is Windows

Volume Serial Number is 4260-A570

Directory of C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02

19/06/2020 08:27 AM 2,890,359 bronze sculptures 01.jpg
19/06/2020 08:27 AM 3,782,388 KA block 01.jpg
2 File(s) 6,672,747 bytes
0 Dir(s) 148,076,265,472 bytes free

C:\Users\YimLing\Desktop\Practical02>__
```

Figure 6: Use of wildcards to display files 1.

Q: What was the command and argument used in Figure 6? What was implicated?

2. Create an empty textfile in Practical01 using "type" command in CLI.

Figure 7: Use of wildcards to display files 2.

Q: What was the command and argument used in Figure 7? What was implicated?

Piping.

1. Echo the "dir" command

Before we explore piping in CLI, let us explore an additional use of "dir" command. Rather than listing the current working directory in CLI, "dir" is able to save the listing in a specified text file. Type "dir > cli2.txt" and press "Enter".

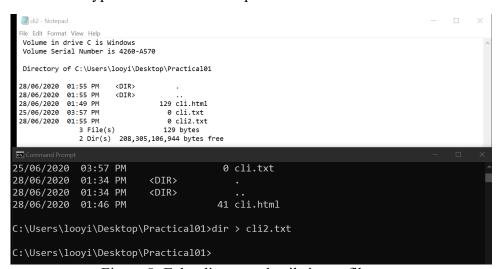


Figure 8: Echo directory details into a file.

Q: What was the command used in Figure 8? What was implicated?

2. The "sort" command.

Now, explore the "sort" command in CLI. Type "sort < cli.txt" and press "Enter". Press "Enter" after each line. When you are done, press "Ctrl+Z" then press "Enter" again. Ctrl+Z is a special key that tells the CLI to stop sending keyboard input to the program.

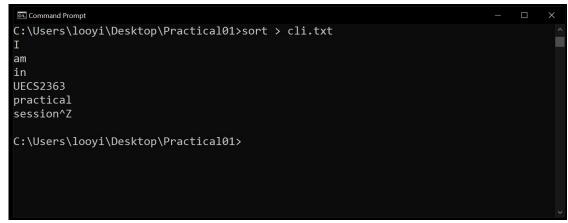


Figure 9: Using sort command.

Q: What was implicated after executing similar steps in Figure 9?

3. Use of piping in CLI.

Commands "dir" listed out details of the current directory while "sort" is used for sorting (usually ascending). What if combining both commands in a command line? This will be called piping. Pipe or "|" on the keyboard, allows combination of both commands be done in CLI.

Type "dir > cli3.txt" and press "Enter" to echo the details of the current working directory into "cli3.txt" as shown in Figure 10.

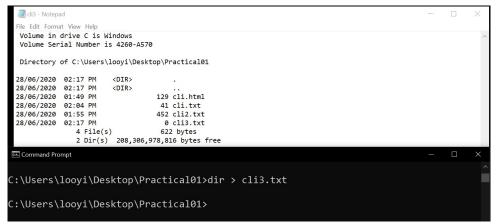


Figure 10: Echo directory details into cli3.txt.

Now, type "dir | sort" and compare the output in CLI with "cli3.txt" as shown in Figure 11.

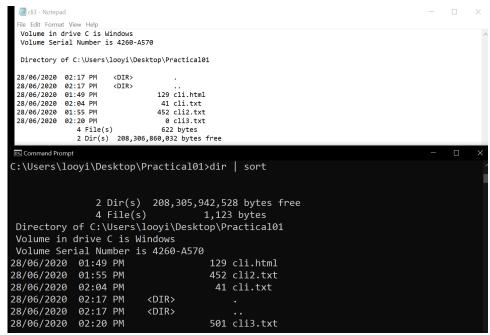


Figure 11: Piping in CLI.

Q: What was implicated after execution of the command line as shown in Figure 11?

4. Use of "more" command.

Another useful command for list of display on CLI is "more" command. Try by typing "dir C:\Windows | more" and press "Enter".

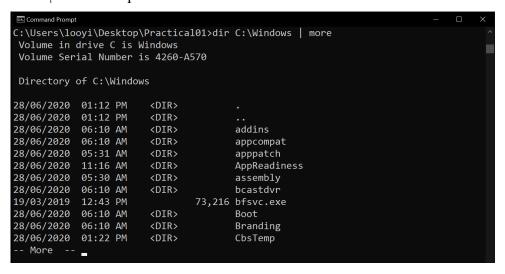


Figure 12: Piping "more" to "dir" in CLI.

Q: What was implicated after execution of the command line as shown in Figure 12?

Batch Files.

Submission of a software project / assignment by email usually use a common way of ziping up all files and send or upload to an email address or a cloud storage. Normally one would use a program such as WinZip for this task. We all know what are the steps; click on the WinZip icon. Click, click, click, until each file is added. Click, click, type the zip file name, click, click, and it is done. If a last-minute change is needed to be made? Do it all over again. And again...

1. Using the "jar" command

Before we explore batch files, let's explore the basic command, "jar" to create zip file in CLI. In order to use this command a JDK need to be installed in the machine. "jar" command could only work in the folder where "java.exe" is, which normally is in the "C:\ Program Files\Java\jdk-14\bin\".

CD to the directory containing "java.exe" Type "jar -cvf %destinationpath%\cli.zip * %destinationpath%" and press "Enter".

Note: "-cf" denotes compression to a file, while v option in "-cvf" produces verbose output, which lists all the actions that "jar" command takes.

```
C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-14\bin>jar -cvf c:\Users\looyi\Desktop\Practical02\cli.zip^
c:\Users\looyi\Desktop\Practical02\*
added manifest
adding: Users/looyi/Desktop/Practical02/abc.TXT(in = 0) (out= 0)(stored 0%)
adding: Users/looyi/Desktop/Practical02/bronze sculptures 01.jpg(in = 2890359) (out= 2851869)(deflated 1%)
adding: Users/looyi/Desktop/Practical02/cli.docx(in = 0) (out= 0)(stored 0%)
adding: Users/looyi/Desktop/Practical02/cli.docx(in = 0) (out= 0)(stored 0%)
adding: Users/looyi/Desktop/Practical02/KA block 01.jpg(in = 3782388) (out= 3766802)
(deflated 0%)
C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-14\bin>
```

Figure 13: Create a zip file.

O: What was implicated in Figure 13?

2. Using batch files.

Rather than typing the command every time, you can place it into a batch file, and run the batch file as a single command. We will start with a simple version of such a batch file.

Start the Notepad program and save the file as "clizipbatch.bat" with texts entered into the file as shown in Figure 14.

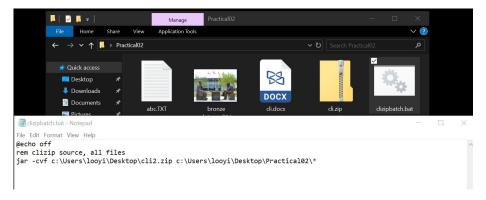


Figure 14: Create a batch file for zip function.

Now launch clizipbatch.bat file in the CLI as shown in Figure 15.



Figure 15: Run clizipbatch.bat in CLI.

Q: What was implicated in Figure 15?

Now edit the clizipbatch.bat file. The first two commands of the start batch file are new commands. "@echo off" suppresses the display of each command on the screen as it is executed. A line starting with "rem" contains comments that are ignored by CLI. Try adding "rem" before "@echo off" in the first line of clizipbatch.bat file. Then execute the file once again in CLI as shown in Figure 16.

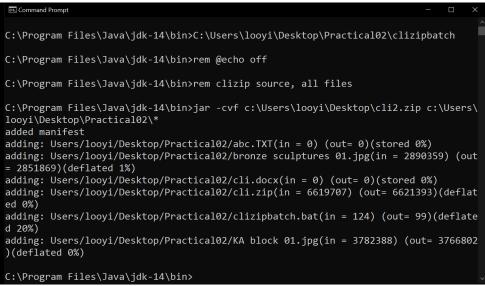


Figure 16: Run editted clizipbatch.bat in CLI.

Q: What was implicated in Figure 16?

Simple Programming.

Simple programming can be done in batch files such as conditional or loop statements.

1. Conditional statements

In batch files, we may write simple programming for conditional statements to be executed. Create a batch file as shown in Figure 17 in Practical01 folder. Execute the batch file in CLI.

```
File Edit Format View Help

@echo off
set /A a=2
set /A b=3
set name1=YL
set name2=Loo

:: Using if statement
if %a%==2 echo The value of a is 2
if %name2%==Loo echo "Hi greetings from Loo"

:: Using if else statements
if %a%==%b% (echo Numbers are equal) else (echo Numbers are different)
if %name1%==%name2% (echo Name 1 and 2 are the same) else (echo Name 1 and 2 are different)

pause
```

Figure 17: Create a batch file that contains conditional statements.

Q: What was implicated after executing batch file of Figure 17? What will be implicated if "@echo off" is removed?

2. Loop statements

Now, let's look into having loop or repeating statements in batch files. Create a batch file as shown in Figure 18 in Practical01 folder. Then execute the batch file in CLI.



Figure 18: Create a batch file that contains loop/repeating statements.

Q: What was implicated after executing batch file of Figure 18? How to loop through directories instead of files?