Revised: 4/5/2020

System Administration

Michael C. Hackett
Computer Science Department

Community College of Philadelphia

Lecture Topics

- Printer Administration
 - CUPS
 - Print Job Management
 - LPD
 - Printer Configuration

- Log File Administration
 - System Log Daemon
 - Systemd Journal Daemon
 - Log Management

- User Administration
 - Creating Accounts
 - Modifying Accounts
 - Locking Accounts
 - Removing Accounts

Group Administration

- The most commonly used printing service on Linux systems is CUPS ("cups")
 - Common Unix Printing System
- A **print job** is information (files or command output) that is sent to a printer for printing
- The CUPS daemon (cupsd) is the process that handles printing any print jobs for a system using CUPS
 - The 1p command is used to create print jobs
 - Historically, it meant to print lines ("line print") to a physical printer

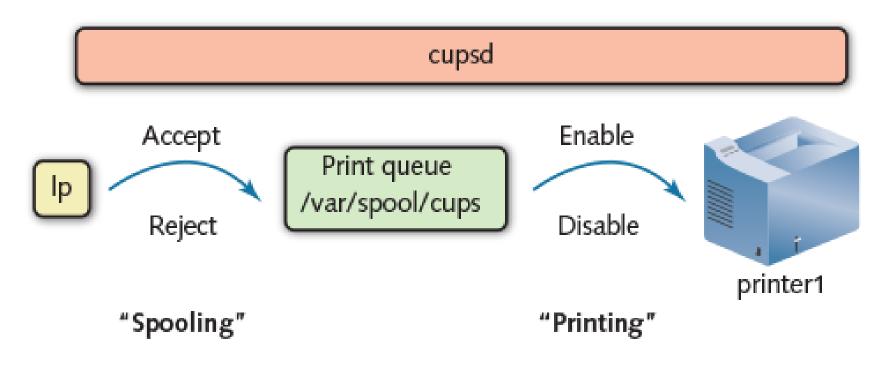
• Each print job is assigned a unique print job ID by cupsd

- If a printer is accepting print requests, cupsd will place a copy of what is to be printed in a temporary directory called the **print queue**
 - This process is sometimes called *queuing* or *spooling*
- The print queue directory is usually /var/spool/cups
 - The same print queue directory is used, regardless of the number of printers connected to the system

- If a printer is enabled and accepting print requests, cupsd:
 - 1. Sends the print job from the print queue to the printer to be printed
 - 2. Deletes the print job from the queue

• If a printer is disabled, the print job will remain waiting in the print queue

 If a printer is not accepting print requests, cupsd will display an error message



cupsd Workflow

The lpstat command is used to view the status of (line) printers.
 lpstat [options]

- With no options, lpstat will display the contents of the print queue
- The -t option will display a total listing of all printers

```
Iroot@localhost ~1# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
```

• The **cupsreject** command is used to direct cupsd to reject print jobs for a certain printer from being spooled.

cupsreject printername

```
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
[root@localhost ~1# cupsreject printer1
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 not accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT -
       Rejecting Jobs
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
       Rejecting Jobs
[root@localhost ~]#
```

• The **cupsaccept** command is used to direct cupsd to allow print jobs for a certain printer to be spooled.

cupsaccept printername

```
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 not accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT -
       Rejecting Jobs
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
       Rejecting Jobs
[root@localhost ~1# cupsaccept printer1
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
[root@localhost ~]#
```

• The **cupsdisable** command is used to direct cupsd to prevent print jobs for a certain printer from leaving the queue.

cupsdisable printername

```
Iroot@localhost ~ 1# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
printer printer1 is idle. enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:44:26 PM EDT
[root@localhost ~ 1# cupsdisable printer1
[root@localhost ~ 1# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:59:38 PM EDT
printer printer1 disabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:59:38 PM EDT
Paused
[root@localhost ~ 1# _
```

• The **cupsenable** command is used to direct cupsd to allow print jobs for a certain printer to leave the queue.

cupsenable printername

```
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:59:38 PM EDT
printer printer1 disabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 01:59:38 PM EDT -
        Paused
[root@localhost ~]# cupsenable printer1
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 02:01:32 PM EDT
                          enabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 02:01:32 PM EDT
printer printer1 is idle.
[root@localhost ~]#
```

cupsaccept Allows print jobs into the print queue

cupsreject Prevents print jobs from entering the print queue

cupsenable Allows print jobs to leave the print queue to be printed

cupsdisable Prevents print jobs from leaving the print queue to be printed

 The -r option can be used with cupsreject or cupsdisable to specify a reason for why print jobs are being rejected or not printed

```
[root@localhost ~]# cupsdisable -r "Changing print cartridge" printer1
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat -t
scheduler is running
no system default destination
device for printer1: /dev/null
printer1 accepting requests since Tue 31 Mar 2020 02:11:15 PM EDT
printer printer1 disabled since Tue 31 Mar 2020 02:11:15 PM EDT -
Changing print cartridge
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The lp command is used to create print jobs.
 lp [options] files to print
 - The -d option specifies the destination printer

lp -d printer1 ~/.bashrc

• This command would send ~/.bashrc to be printed on printer1

lp -d printer1 ~/.bashrc ~/.bash_history

 This command would send the files ~/.bashrc and ~/.bash_history to be printed on printer1

```
[root@localhost ~]# lp -d printer1 ~/.bashrc ~/.bash_history request id is printer1-1 (2 file(s))
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The request id is the print job ID.
 - In this example, the print job ID is printer1-1

- If no destination printer is specified, the default printer is used.
- The default printer can be set system-wide by:
 - Running the command **lpoptions** -d printer
 - Editing the /etc/cups/lpoptions file
- The default printer can be set for a specific user by:
 - Adding **default** *printer* to **.lpoptions** in your home directory
 - Setting the PRINTER or LPDEST environment variables to the desired printer
 - For example: export PRINTER=printer1

• The **-n** option is used to print multiple copies.

 This command would send three copies of ~/.bashrc to be printed on printer1

This command would send four copies of the files ~/.bashrc and ~/.bash_history to be printed on the default printer

 The lpstat command, when used with no options, will display all jobs in the print queue that have been printed.

```
[root@localhost ~]# lpstat
printer1-1 root 7168 Tue 31 Mar 2020 03:04:12 PM EDT
```

Useful **1pstat** options

-a Lists all printers accepting jobs

-p Lists all printers that are enabled

-d Displays the default printer

-o printer Displays the print jobs in the queue for printer

-S Displays printer status information

-t Displays all available information about all printers

The cancel command is used to delete print jobs.
 cancel print job IDs

cancel printer1-1

This command would cancel print job printer1-1

cancel printer1-1 printer1-3

• This command would cancel print jobs printer1-1 and printer1-3

cancel -a printer

This command would cancel all print jobs on the specified printer

cancel -u username

• This command would cancel print jobs created by the specified user

• The **lpadmin** command is used to restrict user access to printers

```
lpadmin -u allow:user1,user2 -d printer
```

This command would allow users user1 and user2 to use the specified printer

lpadmin -u allow:all -d printer

• This command would allow all users to use the specified printer

lpadmin -u deny:user1,user2 -d printer

 This command would prevent users user1 and user2 from using the specified printer

lpadmin -u deny:all -d printer

This command would prevent all users from using the specified printer

LPD

- The Line Printer Daemon (LPD) is the legacy print daemon on Linux systems.
 - Was effectively superseded by CUPS
- LPD used the following commands:

```
lpr Used to print documents (similar to lp)
```

lpc Used to view the status of a printer

1pq Used to view print jobs in the print queue (similar to lpstat)

lprm Used to delete print jobs (similar to cancel)

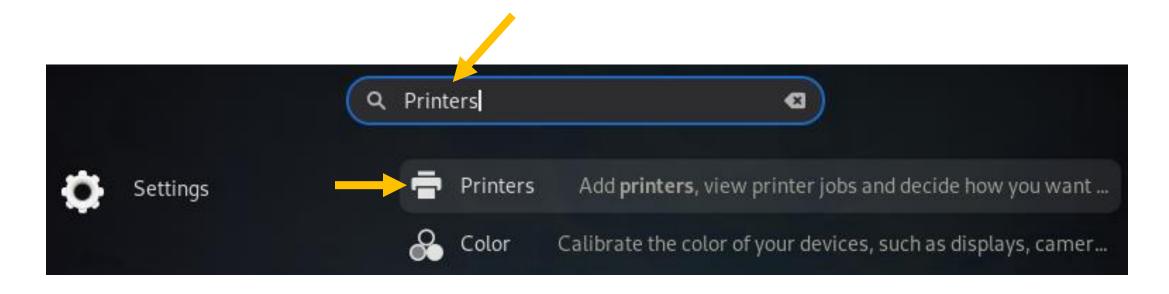
• For any users who are more familiar with the traditional LPD printing system, CUPS provides its own versions of these commands.

 The configuration file for the CUPS daemon is /etc/cups/cupsd.conf

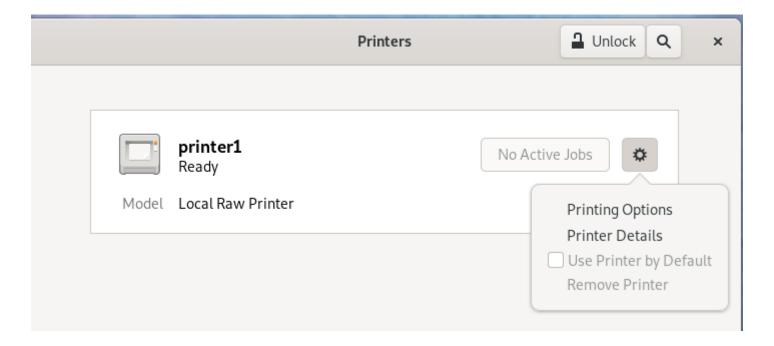
 The file that contains the configurations of each printer is /etc/cups/printers.conf

 These configuration files require exact settings, and it is often easier to use programs (like **lpadmin**) to configure CUPS and printers instead of editing these files manually.

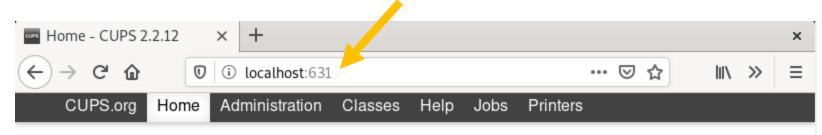
 Desktop environments typically have graphical printer configuration tools



 Basic settings and printing test pages from graphical configuration tools like these



- The preferred method to administer CUPS is through its web interface.
- Can be reached through a web browser.
- Default port for CUPS is 631
- Accessing a remote system: http://ip-address:631
- Accessing a local system: http://localhost:631



CUPS 2.2.12

CUPS is the standards-based, open source printing system developed by Apple Inc. for macOS® and other UNIX®-like operating systems.

CUPS for Users

Overview of CUPS

Command-Line Printing and Options

User Forum

CUPS for Administrators

Adding Printers and Classes

Managing Operation Policies

Using Network Printers

cupsd.conf Reference

CUPS for Developers

Introduction to CUPS Programming

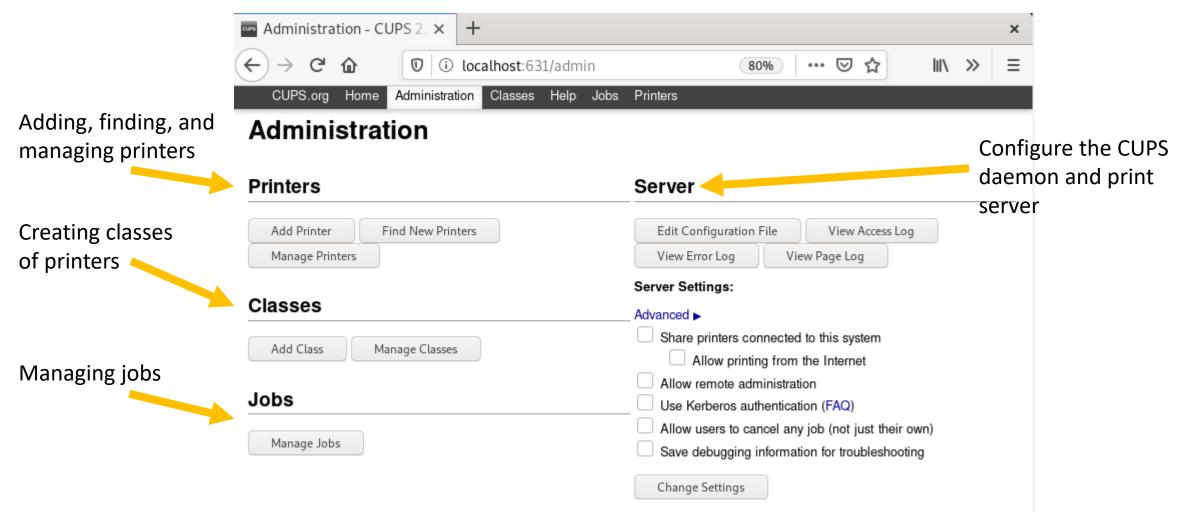
CUPS API

Filter and Backend Programming

HTTP and IPP APIs

Developer Forum

- The Administration Tab allows for
 - Adding, finding, and managing printers
 - Creating classes of printers
 - A class is a group of printers- When a print job is sent to a class, the first available printer prints it
 - Managing jobs
 - Configure the CUPS daemon and print server



Log File Administration

- Log files are files containing information recorded by daemons
 - May contain general process information or error messages
 - Log files are useful to troubleshooting problems and identify the source of an issue
- Most daemons store their log files in /var/log

Log File Administration

Some common log files found in /var/log

auth.log Authentication request log

boot.log Startup/system initialization (daemons) log

kern.log Kernel log

secure Network access log

dmesg Startup/system initialization (hardware) log

messages or syslog Daemon log during and after system initialization

Log File Administration

 A logging daemon handles the logging process for other daemons and different parts of the operating system

 System Log Daemon (rsyslogd) and Systemd Journal Daemon (journald) are the two most commonly used logging daemons.

System Log Daemon

- When rsyslogd is loaded when the system initializes, it creates the /dev/log socket file
 - This socket file is written to by other daemons and processes
- rsyslogd listens for event messages that daemons send to the socket file
 - It then writes that event to the appropriate log file.
- rsyslogd is configured with the /etc/rsyslog.conf file and files in the /etc/rsyslog.d directory

System Log Daemon

• Each entry in /etc/rsyslog.conf has the following format: facility.priority logfile

- The facility is the source of the information to log
- The priority is the importance of that information
- The logfile is the path to the file where this information should be logged.

kern.warn /var/log/kernelwarnings

This entry would log any kernel warning messages to /var/log/kernelwarnings

System Log Daemon

rsyslogd Facilities:

auth/security Local authentication messages

authpriv Network authentication messages

cron Cron and At messages

daemon System daemon messages

kern Kernel messages

1pr Printer system messages

System Log Daemon

rsyslogd Facilities:

mail Mail server messages

news News server messages

syslog rsyslogd messages

user User process messages

local0-7 Local messages; For custom use

System Log Daemon

rsyslogd Priorities:

debug All messages from a facility

info Normal information message

notice A note for future reference; Usually not a problem

warn/warning Possible error; Problem not critical to system operations

alert Problem that needs to be fixed immediately

crit Critical system error

emerg/panic
Very serious error

err/error All other messages

When journald is loaded when the system initializes, it (like rsyslogd)
creates and listens to the /dev/log socket file

- journald is configured with the /etc/systemd/journald.conf
- journald logs all event information to a database in the /var/log/journal directory
 - Events are tagged with the same rsyslogd facilities and priorities

When journald is loaded when the system initializes, it (like rsyslogd)
creates and listens to the /dev/log socket file

- journald is configured with the /etc/systemd/journald.conf
- journald logs all event information to a database in the /var/log/journal directory
 - Events are tagged with the same rsyslogd facilities and priorities

• The **journalctl** command is used to view events in this database

 Entering the journalctl command followed by pressing Tab twice will list the areas and criteria that can be used to query the database

```
[root@localhost ~]# journalct|
Display all 199 possibilities? (y or n)_
```

- To search for logs from a particular process or command, the journalctl _COMM= command is used
 - Pressing Tab twice will list the available processes/commands



• To display all events logged for the cron daemon:

journalctl _COMM=crond

```
[root@localhost ~]# journalctl _COMM=crond
 - Logs begin at Sat 2019-11-30 14:17:29 EST, end at Tue 2020-03-31 17:44:23 EDT. --
Nov 30 14:17:43 localhost.localdomain crond[760]: (CRON) STARTUP (1.5.4)
Nov 30 14\colon 17\colon 43 localhost.localdomain crond[760]: (CRON) INFO (Syslog will be used instead of
Nov 30 14:17:43 localhost.localdomain crond[760]: (CRON) INFO (RANDOM DELAY will be scaled w
Nov 30 14:17:44 localhost.localdomain crond[760]: (CRON) INFO (running with inotify support)
Nov 30 14:35:29 localhost.localdomain crond[760]: (CRON) INFO (Shutting down)
-- Reboot --
Nov 30 15:13:01 localhost.localdomain crond[734]: (CRON) STARTUP (1.5.4)
Nov 30 15\colon 13\colon 01 localhost.localdomain crond[734]: (CRON) INFO (Syslog will be used instead of
Nov 30 15:13:01 localhost.localdomain crond[734]: (CRON) INFO (RANDOM_DELAY will be scaled w
Nov 30 15:13:02 localhost.localdomain crond[734]: (CRON) INFO (running with inotify support)
Nov 30 15:53:44 localhost.localdomain crond[734]: (CRON) INFO (Shutting down)
-- Reboot --
Dec 01 13:48:41 localhost.localdomain crond[750]: (CRON) STARTUP (1.5.4)
Dec 01 13:48:41 localhost.localdomain crond[750]: (CRON) INFO (Syslog will be used instead o
Dec 01 13:48:41 localhost.localdomain crond[750]: (CRON) INFO (RANDOM_DELAY will be scaled w
Dec 01 13:48:43 localhost.localdomain crond[750]: (CRON) INFO (running with inotify support)
Dec 01 14:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[1669]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
Dec 01 15:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[1742]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
```

Press q to exit

• To display all events logged for the cron daemon since 1:00PM (13:00):

journalctl _COMM=crond --since "13:00"

```
[root@localhost ~]# journalctl _COMM=crond --since "13:00"
-- Logs begin at Sat 2019-11-30 14:17:29 EST, end at Tue 2020-03-31 17:44:23 EDT. --
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) STARTUP (1.5.4)
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (Syslog will be used instead of s
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (RANDOM_DELAY will be scaled with
Mar 31 13:43:01 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (running with inotify support)
Mar 31 14:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[1477]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
Mar 31 15:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[1586]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
Mar 31 16:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[2902]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
Iroot@localhost ~]# _
```

• To display all events logged for the cron daemon since 1:00PM (13:00) until 3:00PM (15:00):

```
journalctl _COMM=crond --since "13:00" --until "15:00"
```

```
[root@localhost ~]# journalctl _COMM=crond --since "13:00" --until "15:00"
-- Logs begin at Sat 2019-11-30 14:17:29 EST, end at Tue 2020-03-31 17:44:23 EDT. --
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) STARTUP (1.5.4)
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (Syslog will be used instead of ser
Mar 31 13:42:59 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (RANDOM_DELAY will be scaled with f
Mar 31 13:43:01 localhost.localdomain crond[762]: (CRON) INFO (running with inotify support)
Mar 31 14:01:01 localhost.localdomain CROND[1477]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.hourly)
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The following date/time format is used to search on other days:
 - YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS

journalctl _COMM=crond --since "2020-01-01 00:00:00"

• This command would retrieve all events for crond since 12:00AM, January 1st, 2020.

To display all events logged for a certain PID:
 journalctl _PID=X

• Where X is the process ID

Log Management

 Over time, log files and journald's database will start to accumulate and use up disk space

A system administrator may find themselves needing to clear out logs

- For journald, the SystemMaxUse line in /etc/systemd/journald.conf can be adjusted
 - This line specifies how much disk space its log database should use
 - When it becomes full, older events are deleted and replaced new events

Log Management

• The log files in /var/log will need to be cleared out periodically

• The log files themselves should **never** be deleted

• An easy way to do this is with the redirection symbol:

>/var/log/auth.log

- This would clear the contents of the auth.log file
- Though, the system administrator might first want to print out the log to a printer or copy the logs to a backup location/disk

Log Management

- Log file management can also be scheduled with the logrotate command
- Configured in /etc/logrotate.conf and with files in /etc/logrotate.d directory
- logrotate renames log files at custom time intervals
 - The old log file is renamed, usually with a timestamp
 - A new log file is created to replace the old one
- logrotate also allows you to specify how many old log files to keep
 - For example, if configured to only keep three old log files then the oldest file will be deleted on the next rotation

- A valid user name and password is required to log in to a shell.
 - A user name and password is authenticated against files that contain user account information

User account information is typically contained within two files:

```
/etc/passwd Each line describes a user account
```

/etc/shadow Contains encrypted user account passwords

• Each line in /etc/passwd is formatted with the following values, separated by colons:

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

username:password:UID:GID:GECOS:homedirectory:shell

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

 An x in the password field indicates this account's password is encrypted in /etc/shadow

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:<mark>1000</mark>:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The UID field (User ID) is a unique number assigned to each user
 - UID's less than 1000 are user accounts that are used by daemons
 - The root user always has a UID of zero.

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:<mark>1000</mark>:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The GID field (Group ID) indicates the primary group the user belongs to
 - Groups will discussed at the end of the lecture

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The GECOS field was originally used in the General Electric
 Comprehensive Operating System
 - Today, it is used for text that describes the user account

username:password:UID:GID:GECOS:homedirectory:shell

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

• The home directory field specifies the path to the user's home directory

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/passwd | grep mhackett
mhackett:x:1000:1000:Michael Hackett:/home/mhackett:/bin/bash
[root@localhost ~]# _
```

- The shell field specifies the type of shell to be used when the user logs in
 - /bin/nologin can be specified for accounts that may not be used to log in and receive a shell with.
 - Daemon accounts typically have /bin/nologin set as their shell

 Each line in /etc/shadow is formatted with the following values, separated by colons:

```
[root@localhost ~]# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf@DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::0:99999:7:::
[root@localhost ~]#
```

username:password:lastchange:min:max:warn:disable1:disable2:

• The password field contains the account's encrypted password.

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf@DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/:[:0:99999:7:::
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The lastchange field indicates when the account's password was last changed
 - Number of days since January 1, 1970
- If the lastchange field is blank, that indicates the account has never changed its password

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf@DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::@:99999:7:::
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The min field indicates the number of days a user must wait before changing their password again
- If the min field is 0, then the account's password may be changed at any time

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf0DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::0:<mark>99999</mark>:7:::
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The max field indicates the number of days until the user is forced to change their password
- 99999 is the general value used for accounts that are never forced to change their password

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf0DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::0:99999 <mark>?</mark>?:::
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The warn field indicates the number of days the user is warned to change their password, prior to it expiring.
- 7, in the example above, would warn the user seven days before their password expires.

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf0DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::0:99999:7::
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The disable1 field indicates the number of days the user may log in after their password expired, before their account is disabled.
- If this field is empty, the account is immediately disabled after the password expires.

```
[root@localhost ~1# cat /etc/shadow | grep mhackett
mhackett:$6$3/RDoshAeMsJFoFm$jaPfUWIrvauViwtFspg1K/IxlsifLKCEGZNGNFoUbSUyVc/FEmf@DuDuViHFxStImOkRris
Po6UvMHTLcWONo/::0:99999:7:[:
[root@localhost ~1#
```

- The disable2 field indicates the date (number of days since January 1, 1970) when the account is disabled.
- If this field is empty, the account is immediately disabled after the password expires.

The useradd command is used to create new user accounts.
 useradd [options] username

 When certain information (like the default shell, home directory, password expiration, etc.) is not provided, default values are specified by /etc/login.defs and /etc/default/useradd

- The /etc/login.defs file specifies default values for:
 - Default location for email
 - Password expiration information
 - Minimum password length
 - Range of UIDs and GIDs to use
 - If home directories are created automatically
 - The method to encrypt passwords in /etc/shadow

- The /etc/default/useradd file specifies default values for:
 - Default primary group
 - Home directory location
 - Defaults for when to disable an account
 - Default shell
 - The *skeleton* directory used to create the home folder
- Most systems use the /etc/skel directory as the skeleton directory
 - The skeleton directory contains default files and folders placed in new home folders created for new users
 - .bashrc, .bash_profile, etc.

 Different options can be used with the useradd command to override default values in /etc/login.defs and /etc/default/useradd

-c "description" Sets the GECOS field

-d homedir Sets the path to the user's home directory

-e expiredate Number of days until disabled (date)

-f days Number of days until disabled (expired password)

-g *group* Sets the primary group

m Specifies a home directory should be made

Specifies the skeleton directory to be used

Specifies the default shell

Specifies the User ID

– m

-k directory

-s shell

-u UID

• The passwd command is used to change the password of an account.

- The **passwd** command, when used by itself, changes the password of the user that executed the command.
 - Any user can change their password with the passwd command
- The root user can set/change the password of any other user by specifying the user name after the passwd command passwd username

Modifying Accounts

• The **usermod** command is used to modify existing user accounts.

usermod [options] username

-c "description" Changes the GECOS field

-d homedir Changes the user's home directory

-e expiredate Changes the number of days until disabled (date)

-f days Changes the number of days until disabled (expired pass.)

-g group Changes the primary group

-1 *username* Changes the username

-s shell Changes the default shell

-u *UID* Changes the User ID

Modifying Accounts

• The **chage** command is used to modify password expiration information for existing user accounts.

chage [options] username

- -m days Changes the minimum days until password can be changed again
- -M days Changes the maximum days until password must be changed again
- -W days Changes the warning time (number of days until password expires)

Locking Accounts

- An account can be locked to prevent a user from logging in.
- To lock an account with usermod:
 - usermod -L username
- To lock an account with passwd:
 - passwd -1 username
- To unlock an account with usermod:
 - usermod -U username
- To unlock an account with passwd:
 - passwd -u username

Locking Accounts

 An alternative means to lock out an account is to change the account's default shell to /bin/false or /bin/nologin

With usermod:
 usermod -s /bin/false username

With the change shell chsh command:
 chsh /bin/false username

Removing Accounts

- The userdel command is used to delete existing user accounts.
 userdel [options] username
 - -r Removes the user's home directory and its contents
- Any files owned by the deleted user will now be owned by that user's UID
 - Ownership of such files would need to be changed using the chown and chgrp commands
 - Alternatively, any new or current account assigned this UID will become the owner of those files

• Every user has a primary group they belong to

Users can be a member of multiple groups

 Groups (and the users that belong to each group) are specified in /etc/group

• Each line in /etc/group is formatted with the following values, separated by colons:

groupname:password:GID:members

The members are usernames separated by commas

Group passwords are rarely used

 The easiest way to add/modify/remove a group is to modify /etc/group

Alternatively, the groupadd command is used to create a new group.
 groupadd [options] groupname

-g GID Specifies the new group's Group ID

• To add a user to a group, the **usermod** command is used with the **-G** option.

usermod -G groupname username

The groupmod command is used to modify an existing group.
 groupmod [options] groupname

- **-g** GID Changes the group's Group ID
- -n name Changes the group's name

The groupdel command is used to delete an existing group.
 groupmod [options] groupname

-f Forces the group to be deleted, even if it is a user's primary group

 When executed by a normal user, the groups command will display the groups of which the user is a member

groups

• The root user can provide a username to the **groups** command to display that user's group membership

groups username

The user's primary group is always displayed first

• The **id** command will display the user's User ID and the Group IDs of the groups that the user is a member

id

The user's primary group is always the first group displayed