COMP3511

Lab 01: Introduction to the Lab Environment

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Lab Tutorial

- Short introduction to Linux
- How to login your lab environment
- How to use your lab environment (with demo)

After this tutorial you should be able to:

- Login/logout lab server
- Interact with OS in lab server: change directory, list directory files, create files, edit files, save files, delete files......

Lab Environment

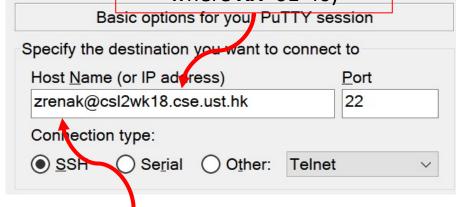
- Linux environment (contrast to Windows and MacOS you are familiar with)
- Accessed remotely via SSH in terminal

Beware! Don't store large files on your lab environment

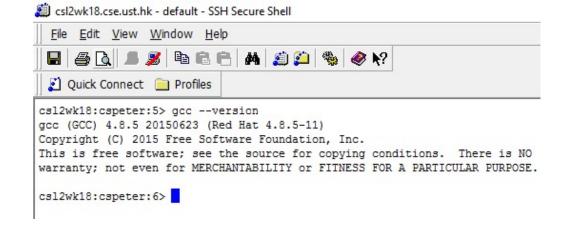
Getting Started (in Windows)

- Use SSH (Secure SHell client) or Putty (https://www.putty.org)
 - Host Name (address):
 csl2wkXX.cse.ust.hk
 (where XX=01..40)
 - ITSC username (e.g. cspeter)
 - Port Number: 22
- Save config

Enter a machine name (csl2wk**XX**.cse.ust.hk, where **XX**=01-40)



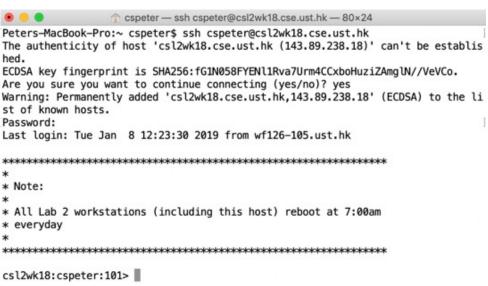
Enter your ITSC username



Getting Started (in Mac/Linux)

- In Mac, open Terminal and then type in the ssh command
 - ssh [Your ITSC username]@csl2wkXX.cse. ust.hk (where XX=01..40)
- In Linux, there should be a similar terminal software (e.g. Konsole, GNOME terminal)





Try login

What is Linux?

- An UNIX-like operating system
- Open-source, easy to customize
- A popular choice of programmers
 - The shell, although difficult to learn at the beginning, has proven to be productive and convenient for programmers
 - Closer environment to the servers where applications are hosted on
- A popular choice for servers
 - Even Microsoft Azure is based on Linux

Why learn Linux?

- To manage a server for your application
- To use powerful tools like Kali Linux for cyber security studies
- To use cloud computing services
- To use containers (Docker, Kubernetes)

• For this course: Linux offers simple and uniform lab environment

The Terminal

- The piece of hardware that allows you to interact with the computer
 - The monitor
 - The keyboard
- A computer was connected to multiple terminals for sharing
 - Computers were expensive
- Now terminal refers to the Text UI program
 - A virtual terminal
 - Emulating text I/O of early terminals



Shell

- The piece of software that provides text interaction with the computer
 - Linux uses bash as the default shell
 - There are other shells, e.g. sh, csh, zsh,
 - csh is the default shell in Lab 2
 - You can customize the shell by editing ~/.cshrc_user
- Users tell the computer what to do with commands
 - Shell commands are programs that do specific tasks
 - Commands may or may not give text feedback
 - Some commands accept arguments

Shell vs Terminal

- The **terminal** is the GUI window that you see on the screen. It takes commands and shows output. (input and output module)
- The **shell** is the software that interprets and executes the various commands that we type in the **terminal**.

Interaction with Linux OS

Shell Commands

- Directory
 - List/Change directory
 - Create, Rename, Move, Remove
- File
 - Check file contents
 - Create, Rename, Edit, Move, Remove
- Getting Help

Shell Commands

- Example shell commands
 - ls lists files under a directory
 - cd changes the working directory to somewhere else
 - pwd shows current directory
- Clear the output: clear
- Example command arguments
 - Arguments can be a character or a word
 - Character arguments can stack together
 - ls -a -1 or in short ls -al
 - 'a' shows hidden files, 'l' list detailed information of files
 - Each command is different, consult the manual or help
 - man ls
 - ls --help

Essential Shell Commands

ls	cd	cat
rm	mkdir	rmdir
pwd	echo	whoami
less	more	man
info	touch	exit

- Use the key <Tab> to auto-complete commands
- Use arrow keys (up and down) to find previously used commands
- Use argument --help on any command to show their usage
- Use man (a command) to show detailed command description
 - E.g. man less

Directory - Path

- An absolute path specifies the path of the file starting from the root
 (/) directory
- Relative path using dot(.) and dotdot (..)
 - indicates the current directory
 - .. indicates the directory in the upper level
- Example:
 - ../test.txt
 - It means the file text.txt located in the upper level

Related commands

- pwd
 - Print the absolution path of the current path
- 1s
 - List out the content in the current working directory
 - Examples:
 - ls -1
 - List out the detailed information about the current directory
 - 1s -1h
 - List out the detailed information, with a human readable format
 - ls /home
 - List out the content of the home directory

Related commands

- cd
 - Change directory
 - Examples:
 - cd ..
 - Change the current directory to the upper level
 - cd .
 - Change the current directory to the current directory
 - Nothing will happen
 - cd /etc/init.d/
 - Change the current directory to /etc/init.d/
 - cd ~
 - Change the current directory back to your home directory

Directory management

- Creating directories
 - mkdir <arg1> <arg2> ... <argn>
- Renaming and moving directories
 - mv <source> <destination>
- Copying directories
 - cp -r <source> <destination>

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- Remove directories
 - rmdir <dir1> <dir2> ... <dirN>
 - All directories must be empty
 - If not empty: rm -r <dir1> <dir2> ... <dirN>

File management

- Create an empty file or update its timestamp
 - touch <file>
 - It will be useful if you would like to change the last modified date of a file for some reasons
- Remove files
 - rm <file1> <file2> ... <fileN>
- Remove ALL files recursively
 - rm * -rf
 - Don't do this if you are root user and in the root directory

View a text file

- There are 3 commands to view a text file
 - cat <filename>
 - more <filename>
 - less <filename>
- There are 2 commonly used command-line editors (nano and vim)
 - nano <filename>
 - vim <filename>

Command line editors (nano/vi)

nano

- Commands:
 - Arrow keys: Navigate the editor
 - Ctrl+X: exit nano
 - Ctrl+O: write output
 - Ctrl+K: (multiple times), each time it cut one line
 - Ctrl+U: Paste the copied lines from Ctrl+K

• vim

- Commands:
 - ESC+i: Enter insert mode
 - ESC+dd: delete a line of text
 - ESC+4y: copy 4 lines
 - ESC+p: paste lines
 - ESC+wq!: exit and save
 - ESC+q!: exit but not save

Tutorials of using Nano/Vi

- There are many good online tutorials for nano/vi:
 - Nano: https://www.tecmint.com/learn-nano-text-editor-in-linux/
 - Vi: https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/unix-vi-editor.htm

Text Editing in Terminal with vim

- vim is a powerful tool for text editing in Unix
- To edit or create a file, use vim <filename>
- Now create a new file: vim main.c
 - When you first enter vim, you are in command mode, where every key serves as a command, not an input
 - vim have different modes: command mode, input mode, visual mode
 - <Esc> will lead vim back to command mode
- Press <i> to enter input mode, write the following Hello World for C

Text Editing in Terminal with VI

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    printf("Hello, World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

- After you finished, press <Esc> to go back to command mode
- Press :w to save your file
- Press :q to quit VI
 - Alternatively, you can use :wq to finish both action
- Back in the Terminal,
 - Use gcc main.c to compile
 - Use ./a.out to run the Hello World
 - In this example, . / refers to the current working directory

Editing within vim

- When in command mode, these commands will enter input mode
 - <i> inserts at the current position
 - <a> inserts one character after current position
 - <o> inserts at a newline after current line
- Replace mode:
 - <r> replace the current character with the next you enter, will not change mode
 - <insert> enters replace mode

Editing within vim

- When in command mode,
 - <yy> copies one line
 - <dd> cuts one line
 - <10yy> copies 10 lines, <10dd> cuts 10 lines

Linux File System

- Hierarchical structure from the root directory /
- Your user folder (home) has alias of ~
 - cd or cd ~ go back to home directory
- Your shell records a working directory
 - The directory you are at right now
 - Your working directory is always home when you launch the shell
 - You can show your current working directory with pwd

Try something!

- Login your account.
- In your home folder:
 - Create directory named "intro"
 - Change to "intro" directory as working directory
 - Create a file named "helloworld" using vim or nano
 - Write the file with contents: "hello world"
 - Save the file and exit editor
 - View the contents of file using cat, more, or less
 - Remove the intro directory
- Logout

Thanks!