Science & Technology Facilities Council | UK Research and Innovation | NERC SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Unix Shell

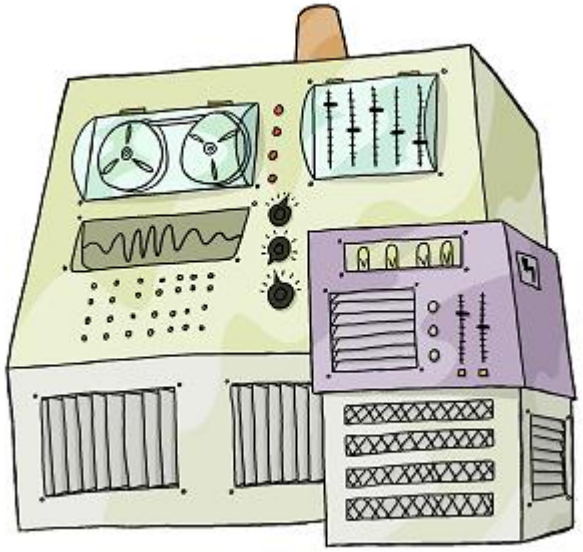
Introduction

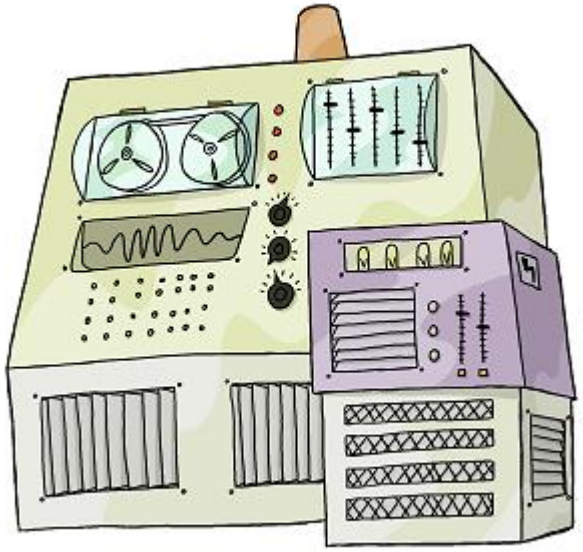
Centre for Environmental Data Analysis
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES COUNCIL
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

software carpentry

National Centre for Atmospheric Science
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

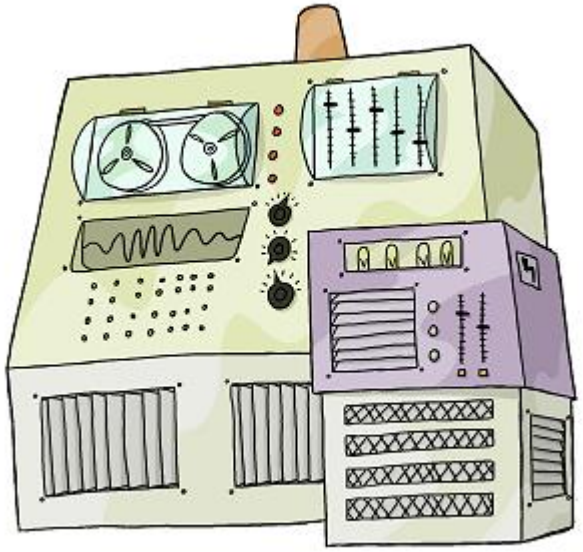
National Centre for Earth Observation
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL





Run

Programs

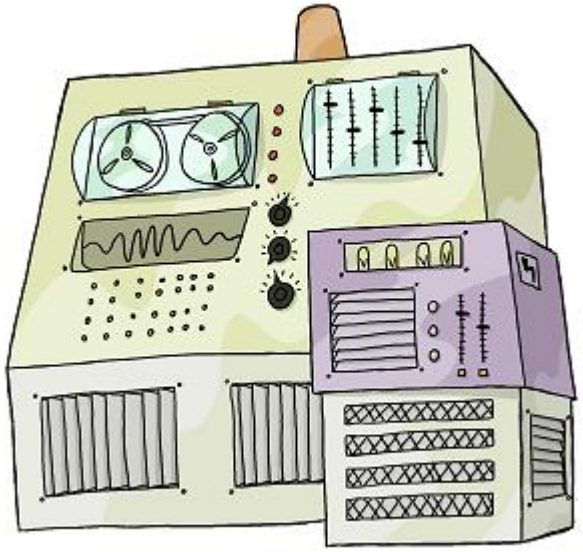


Run

Programs

Store

Data



Run

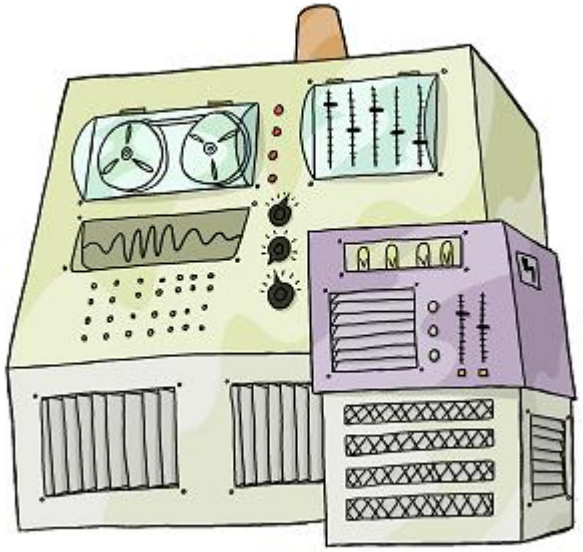
Programs

Store

Data

Communicate

with each other



Run

Programs

Store

Data

Communicate

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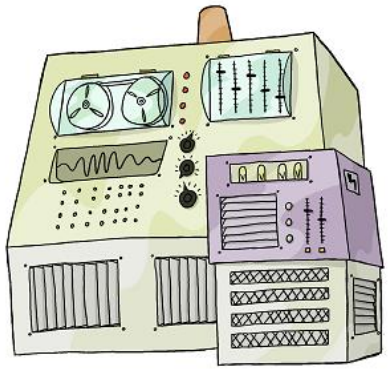
Interact

with us

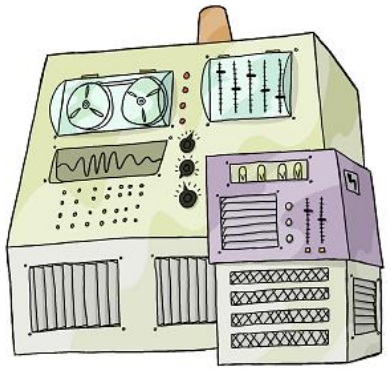
Interact

with us

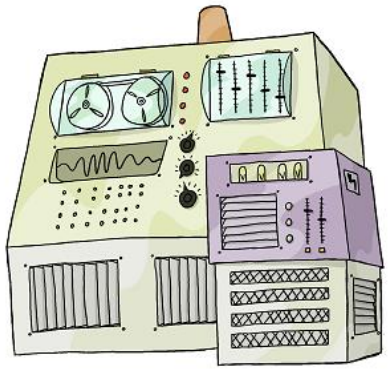


Interact

with us



Telepathy

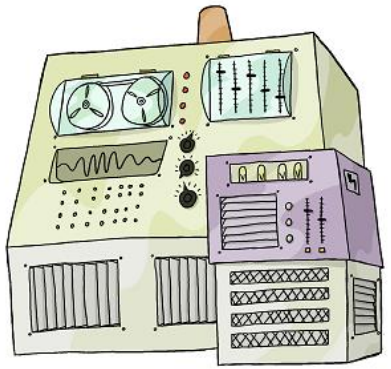


Interact

with us

Telepathy

Speech



Interact

with us

Telepathy

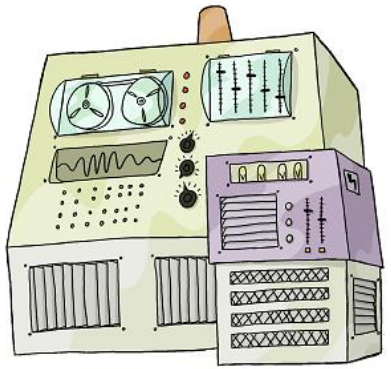
Speech

WIMP

(windows, icons, mice, pointers)

Interact

with us

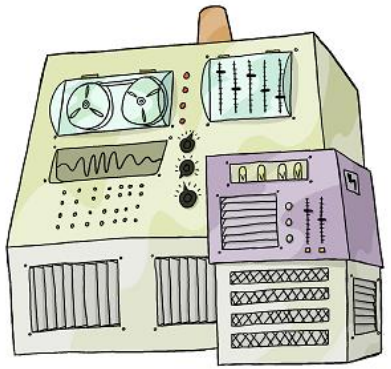


Rewiring

Telepathy

Speech

WIMP



Interact with us

Rewiring

Telepathy

Typewriter

Speech

WIMP

Typewriter

~~Typewriter~~

Line printer + keyboard

~~Typewriter~~

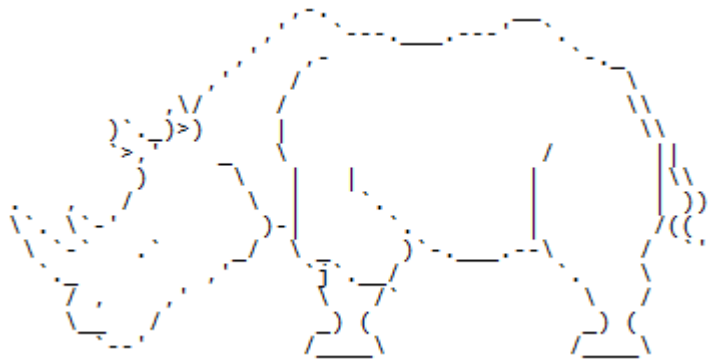
Line printer + keyboard

Text only

~~Typewriter~~

Line printer + keyboard

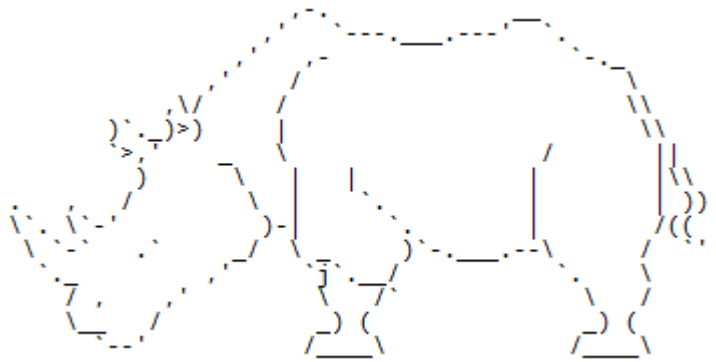
Text only



~~Typewriter~~

Line printer + keyboard

Text only



CLUI: command-line user interface

user logs in

user logs in

user types command

user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

and prints output

user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

and prints output

user types another command

user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

  and prints output

user types another command

computer executes command

  and prints output

user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

  and prints output

user types another command

computer executes command

  and prints output

⋮

user logs off

user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

  and prints output

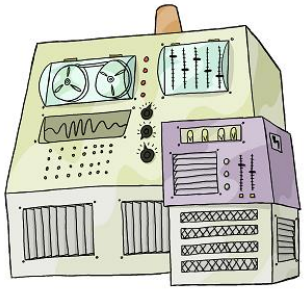
user types another command

computer executes command

  and prints output

⋮

user logs off



user logs in

user types command

computer executes command

  and prints output

user types another command

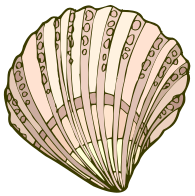
computer executes command

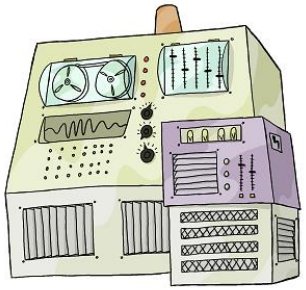
  and prints output

⋮

user logs off

shell





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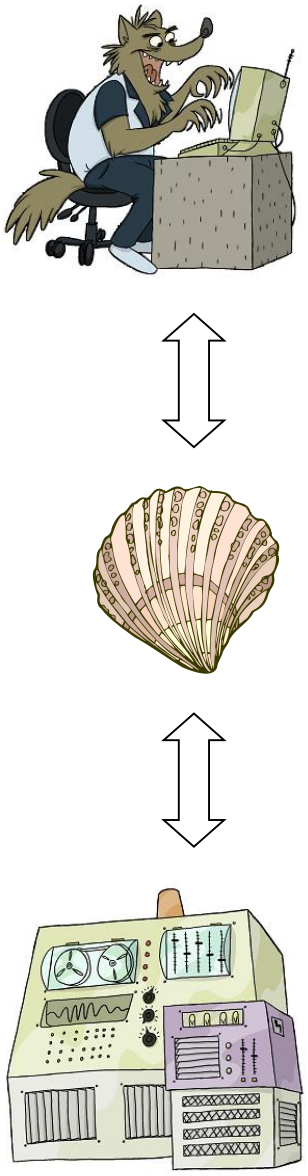
⋮
user logs off
```

shell



A shell is just a program that runs other programs

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Most popular is bash (the Bourne again shell)

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than using windows, a mouse, etc.

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Use it because:

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Use it because:

– many tools only have command-line interfaces

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Using it feels a lot more like programming

than using windows, a mouse, etc.

Commands are terse and often cryptic

Use it because:

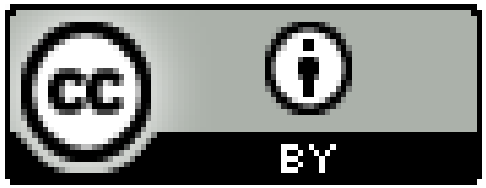
– many tools only have command-line interfaces

– allows you to combine tools in powerful new ways

created by

Greg Wilson

August 2010



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Files and Directories

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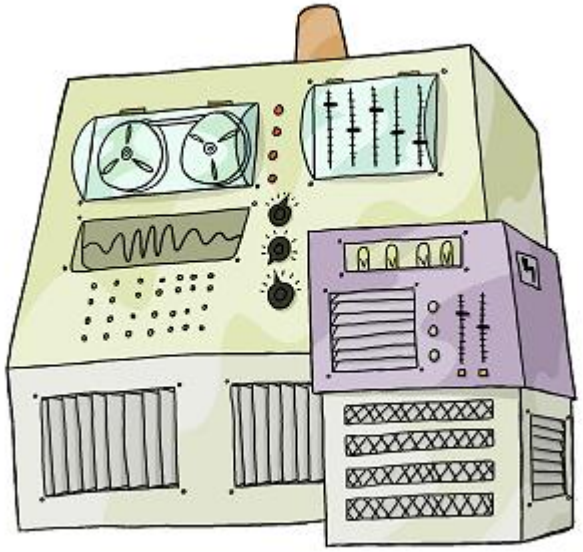
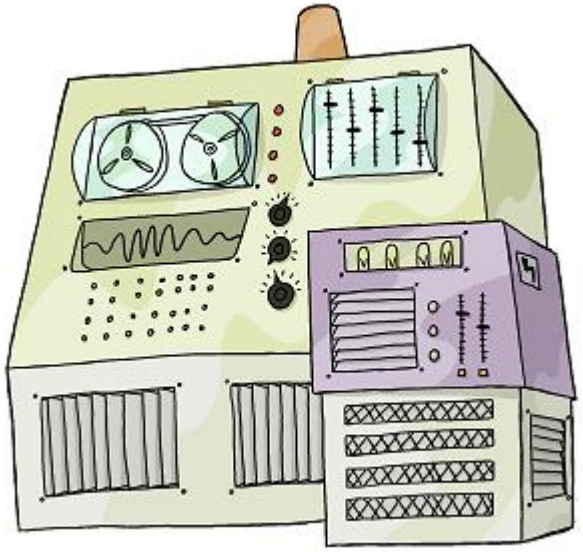


Run Programs

Store Data

Communicate with each other

Interact with us



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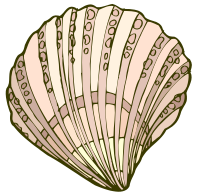


shell

Store

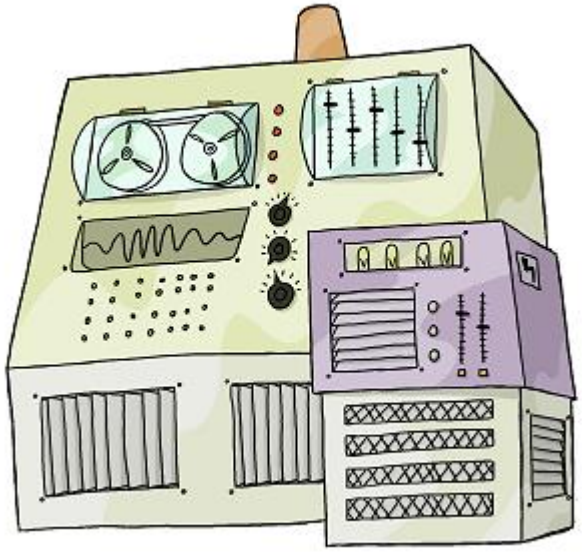
Data

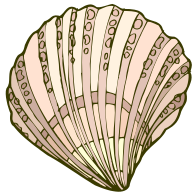
Communicate

with each other

Interact

with us

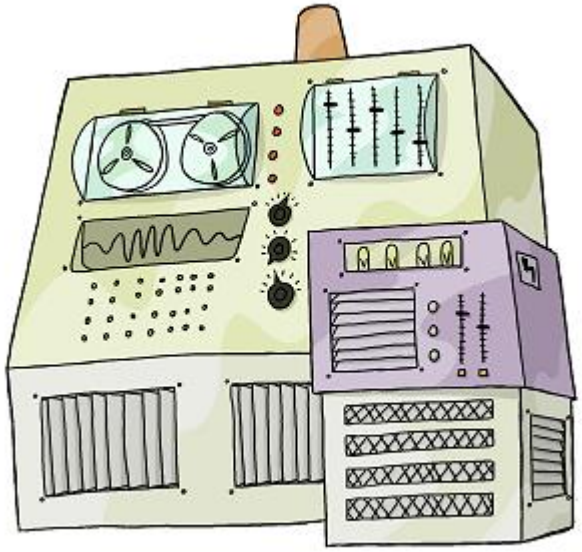


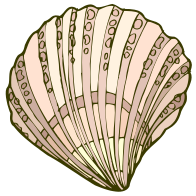


shell

Store

Data



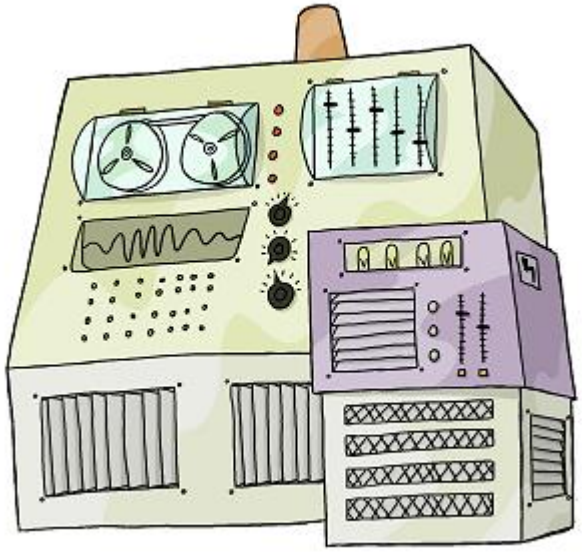


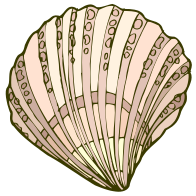
shell

Store

Data

file system





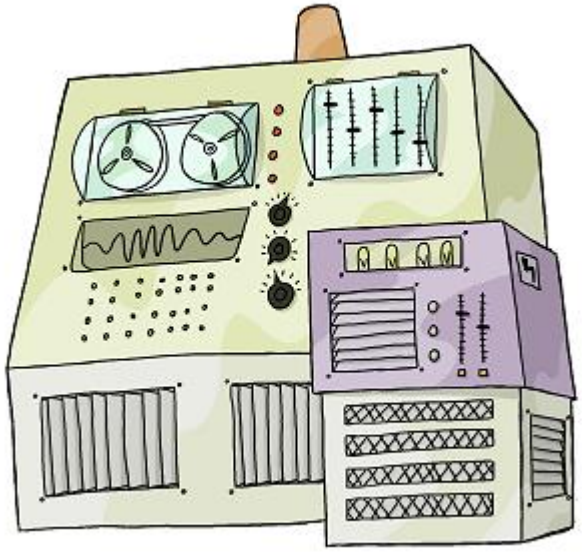
shell

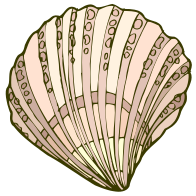
Store

Data

file system

files





shell

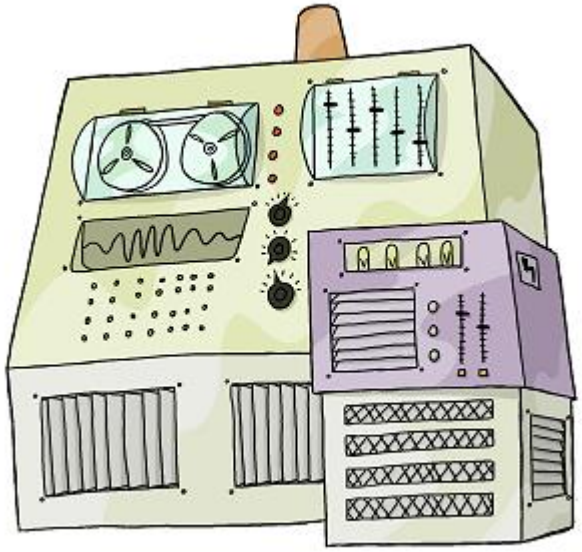
Store

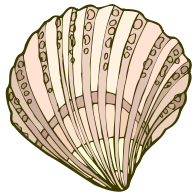
Data

file system

files

directories





shell

Store

Data

file system

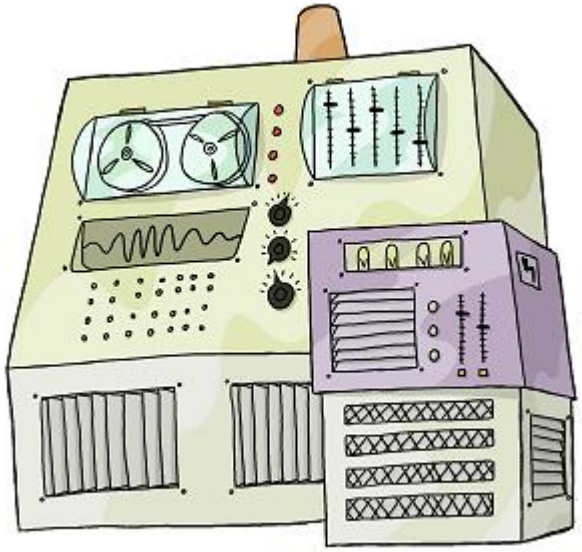
files

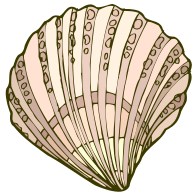
directories

Use the shell

to view and change

the file system





Use the shell

to run commands

to view what's in

the file system

Store

Data

shell

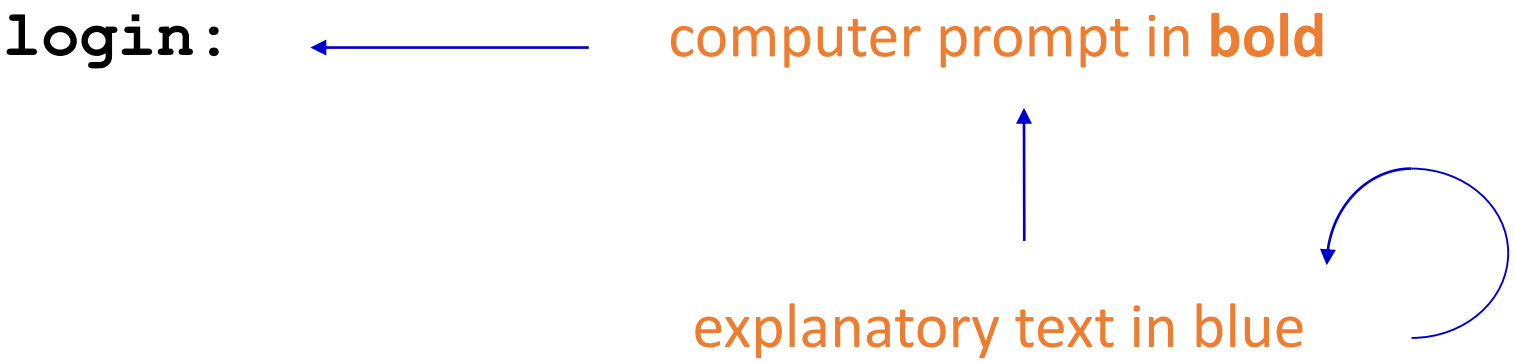
file system

files

directories

```
login:
```

`login:` ← computer prompt in **bold**


login:
computer prompt in **bold**
explanatory text in blue

login: vlad ← user input in green

```
login: vlad
password: ********
```


password

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$
```

shell prompt

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$
```

shell prompt

like Python's >>> and ...

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
```


check user ID

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
```

check user ID

shell finds the `whoami` program

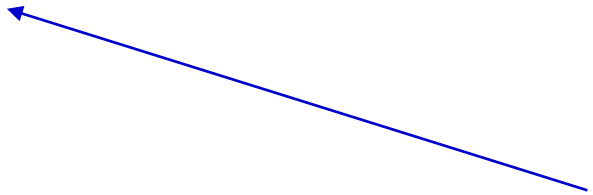
```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
```

check user ID

shell finds the `whoami` program

runs it

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
```



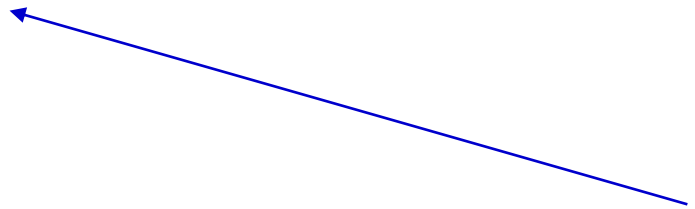
check user ID

shell finds the `whoami` program

runs it

prints its output

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$
```



check user ID

shell finds the `whoami` program

runs it

prints its output

displays a new prompt

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
```


what is the *working directory*

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
```


what is the *working directory*

the directory used when no other directory is explicitly specified

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

root

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

root

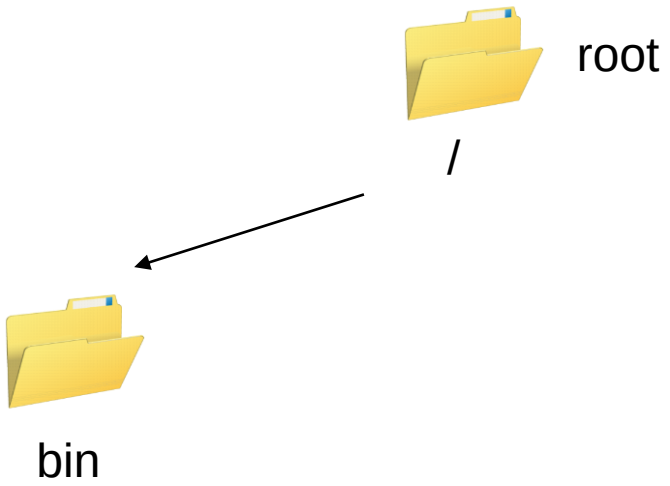
/

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

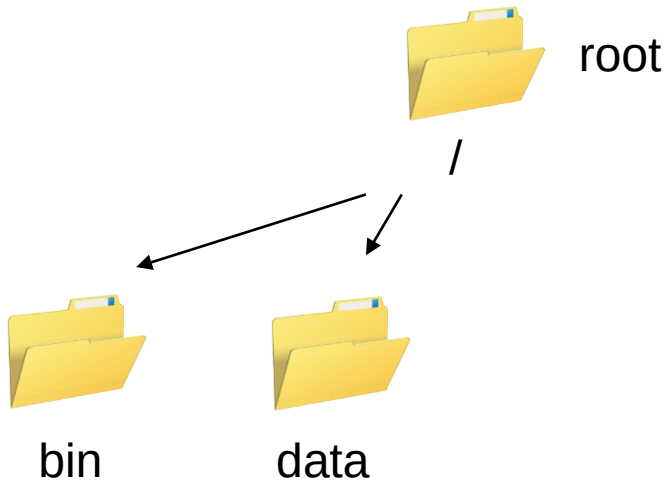
root

/

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```



```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```



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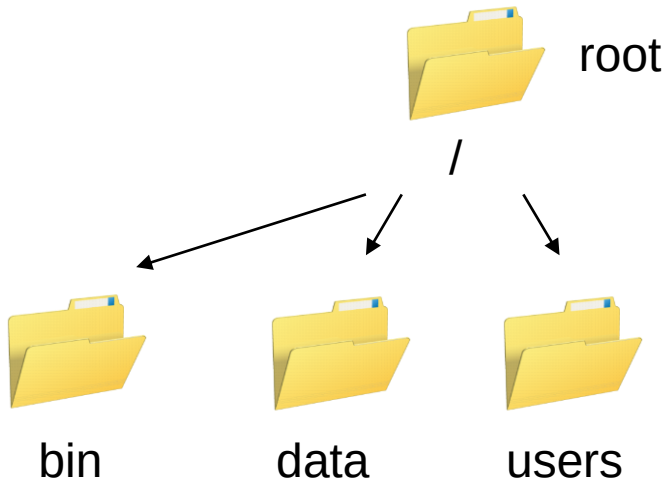

```
login: vlad
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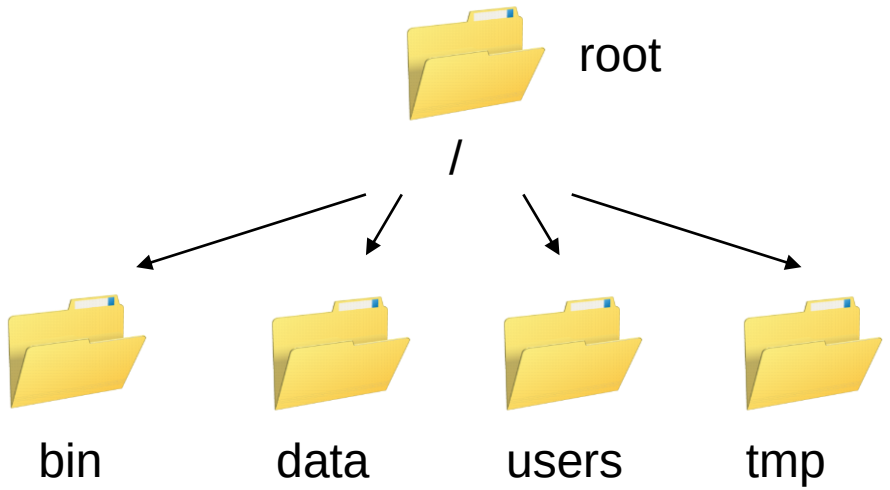
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```



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/users/vlad
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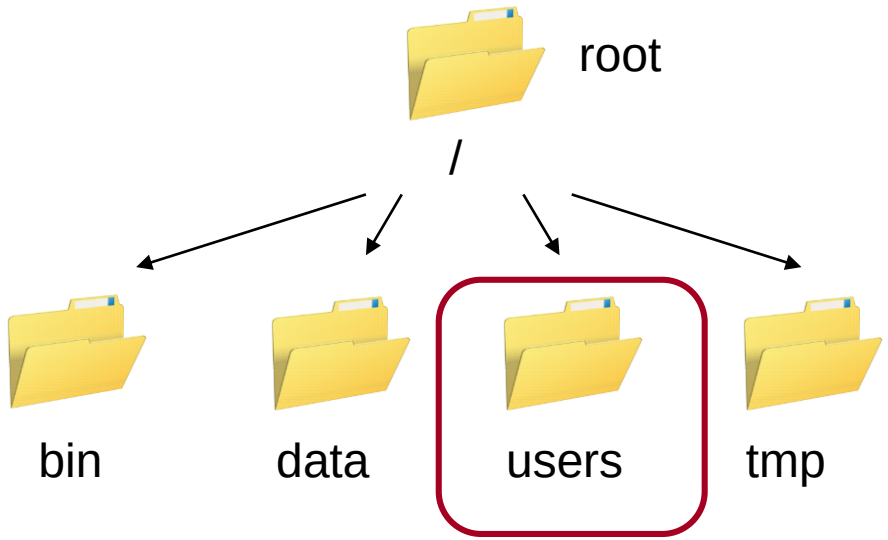

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login: vlad
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vlad
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/users/vlad
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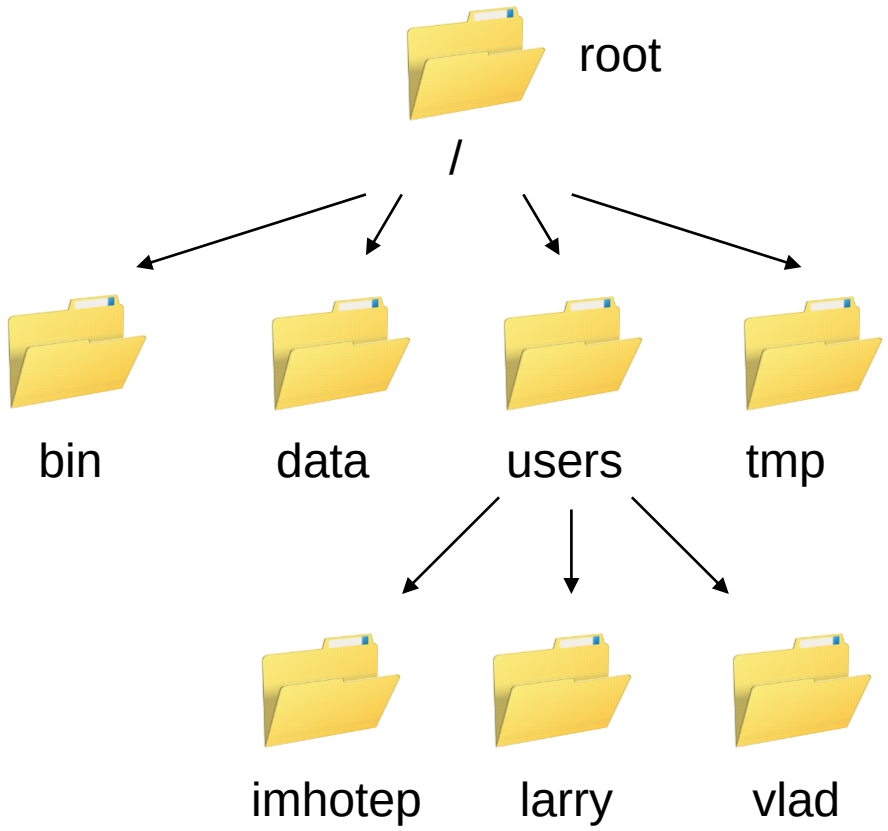

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password: ********
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vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```
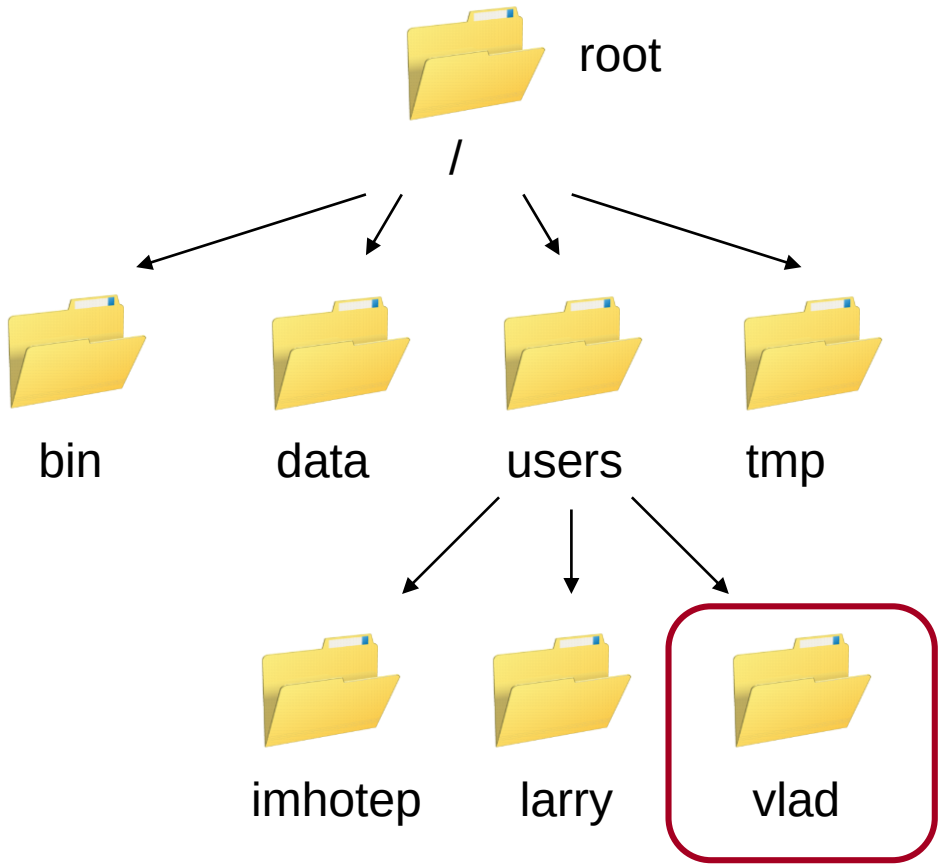
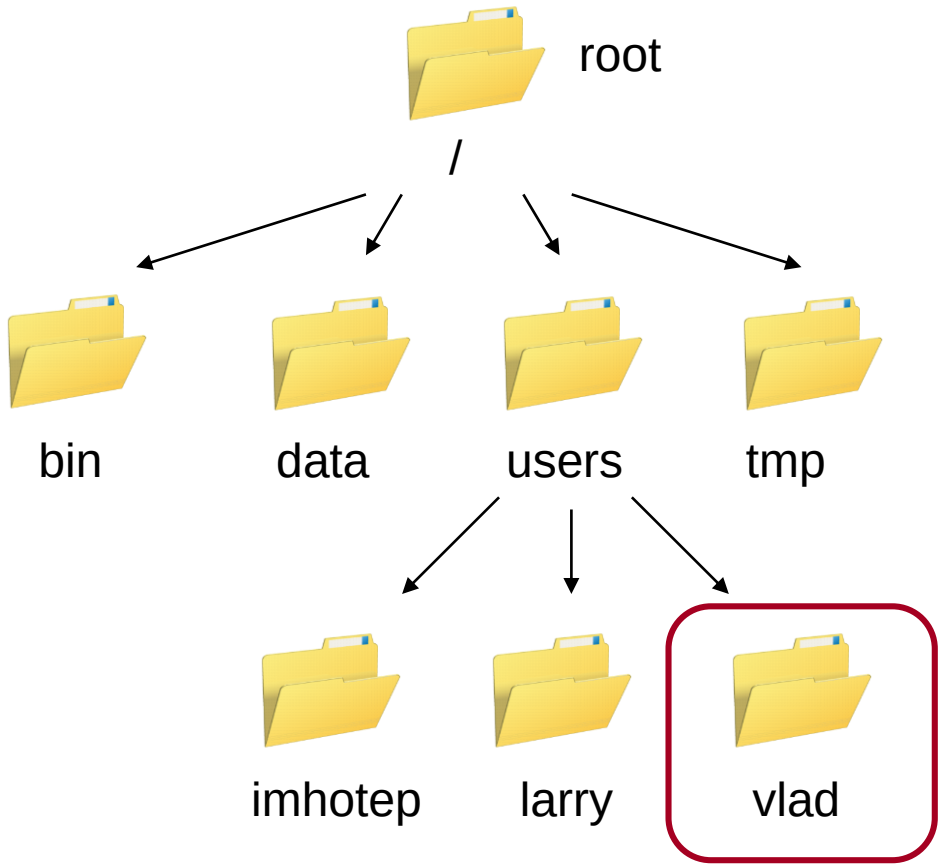
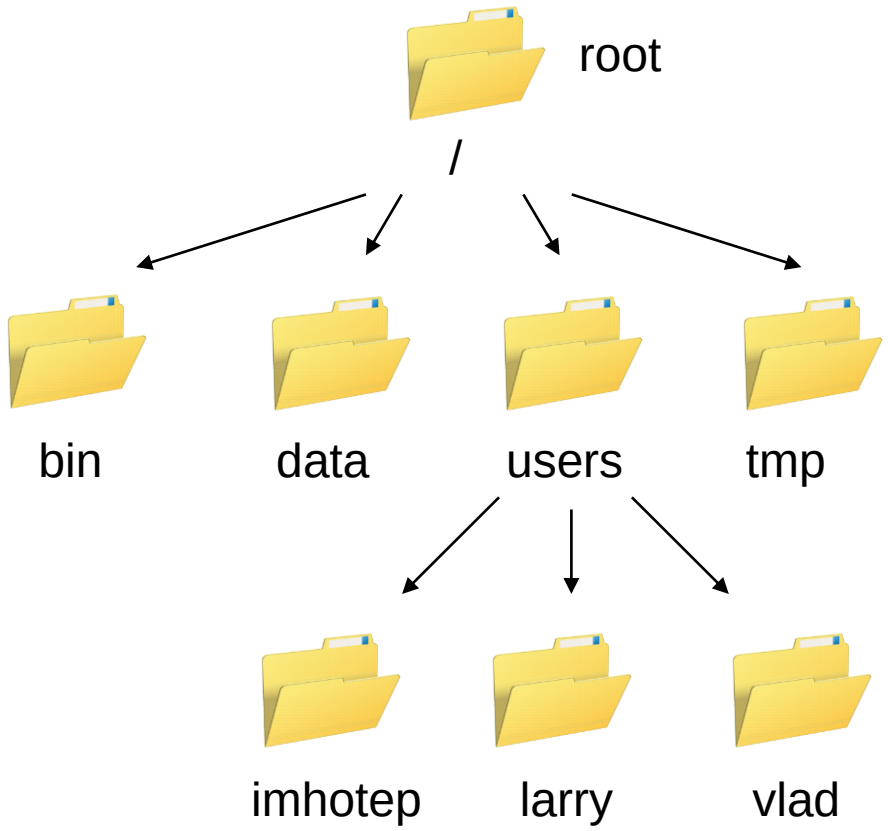



```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```



```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```



```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
```


stands for "listing"

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
```


stands for "listing"

sadly more memorable than

most command names

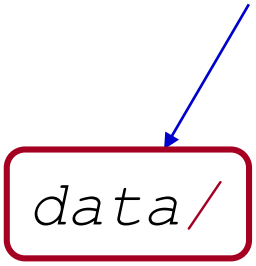
```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin           data       mail        music
notes.txt     papers     pizza.cfg   solar
solar.pdf     swc
$
```

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$
```

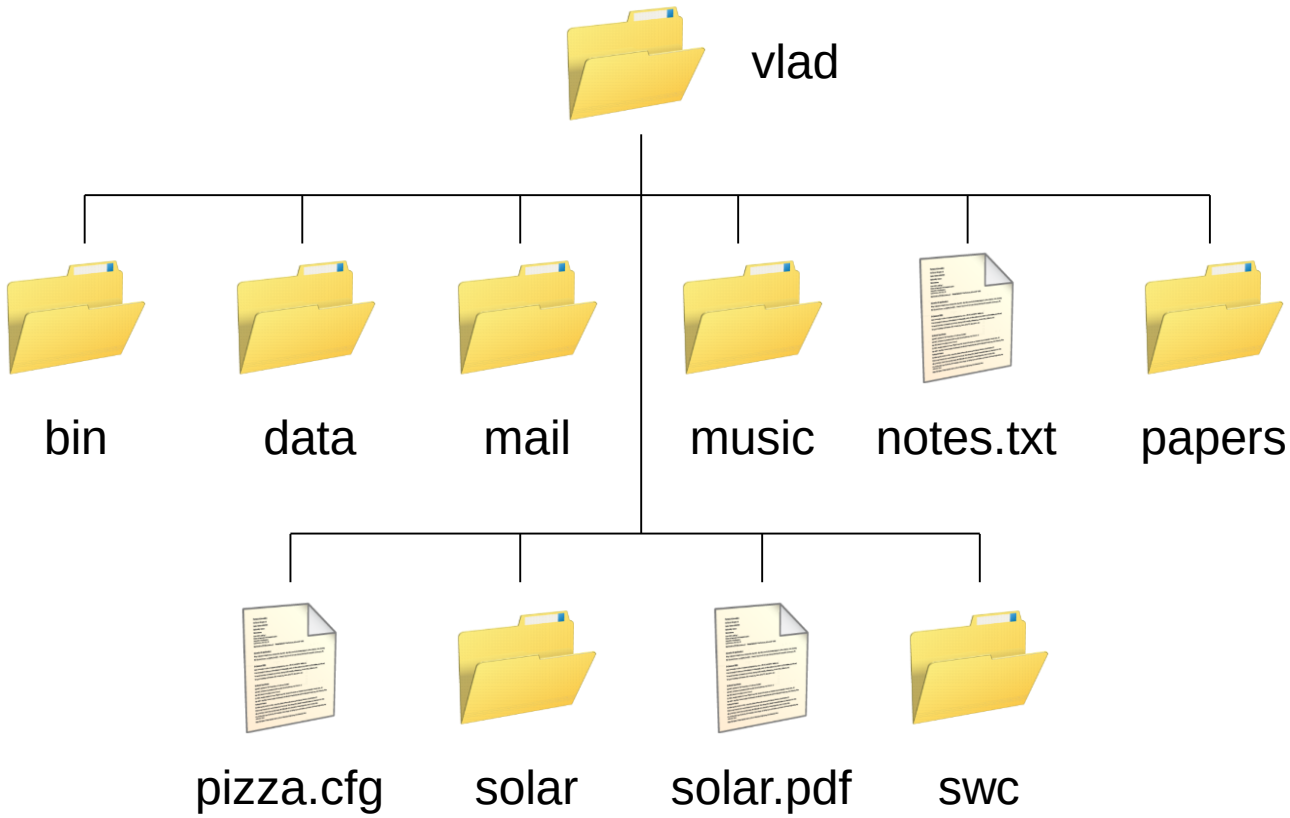
an *argument* or *flag* modifying the command's behavior

```
login: vlad
password: ********
$ whoami
vlad
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/      music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg  solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$
```

adds a trailing '/' to directory names



```
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
```



```
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
```

By convention, use *filename extension* to indicate file type

```
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
```

By convention, use *filename extension* to indicate file type

.txt for text, .pdf for PDF, .cfg for configuration file, etc.

```
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/        music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg    solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
```

By convention, use *filename extension* to indicate file type

.txt for text, .pdf for PDF, .cfg for configuration file, etc.

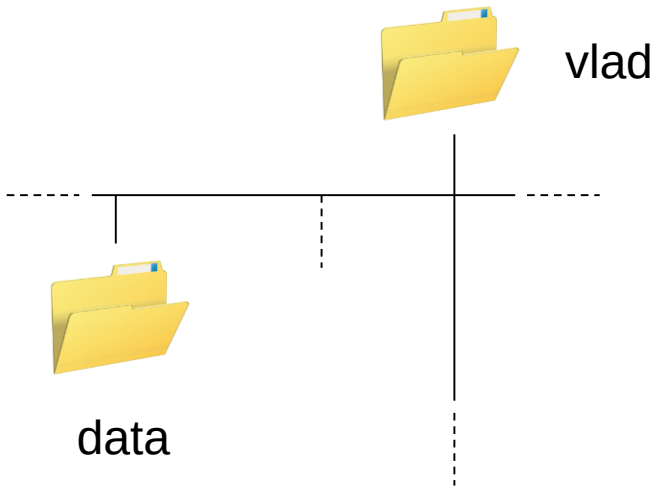
But this is only a convention, not a guarantee

```
$ ls -F data
```

```
$ ls -F data
amino_acids.txt    elements/      morse.txt
pdb/               planets.txt    sunspot.txt
$
```

```
$ ls -F data
amino_acids.txt    elements/      morse.txt
pdb/               planets.txt    sunspot.txt
$
```

a *relative path*

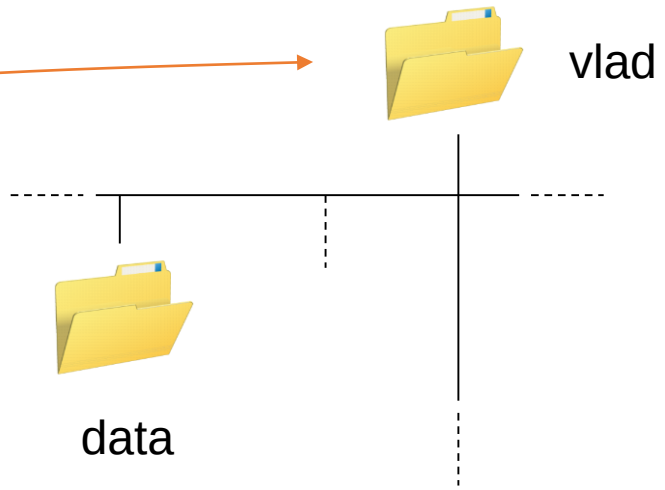


```
$ ls -F data
amino_acids.txt    elements/      morse.txt
pdb/               planets.txt    sunspot.txt
$
```

a *relative path*

relative to

current working directory



```
$ ls -F /data
access.log    backup/    hardware.cfg
network.cfg
$
```

```
$ ls -F /data
access.log    backup/     hardware.cfg
network.cfg
$
```

an *absolute path*

```
$ ls -F /data
access.log    backup/    hardware.cfg
network.cfg
$
```

an *absolute path*

leading '/' means "from root"

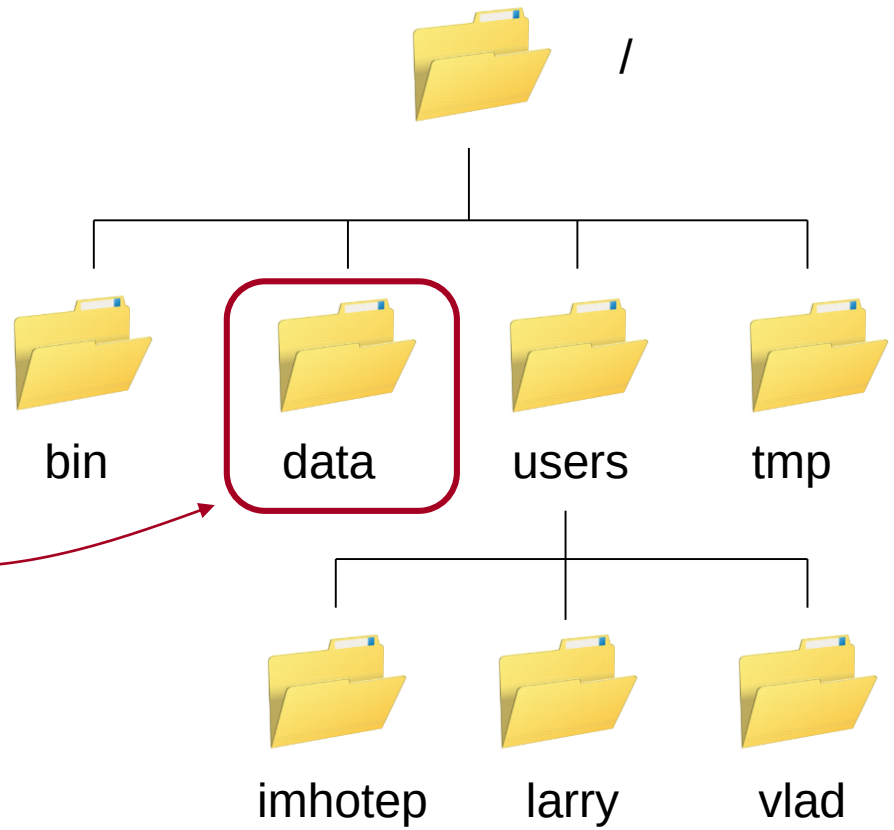
```
$ ls -F /data
access.log    backup/    hardware.cfg
network.cfg
$
```

an *absolute path*

leading '/' means "from root"

so it always refers to

this directory



```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
```

change directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
```

change directory

actually doesn't change the directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
```

change directory

actually doesn't change the directory

changes the shell's idea of

which directory we are in

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ ls
amino_acids.txt   elements/     morse.txt
pdb/              planets.txt   sunspot.txt
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ cd data
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ ls
amino_acids.txt    elements/      morse.txt
pdb/               planets.txt    sunspot.txt
$
```

because we're now "in" this directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
```

the directory above the current one

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
```

the directory above the current one

its *parent directory*

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

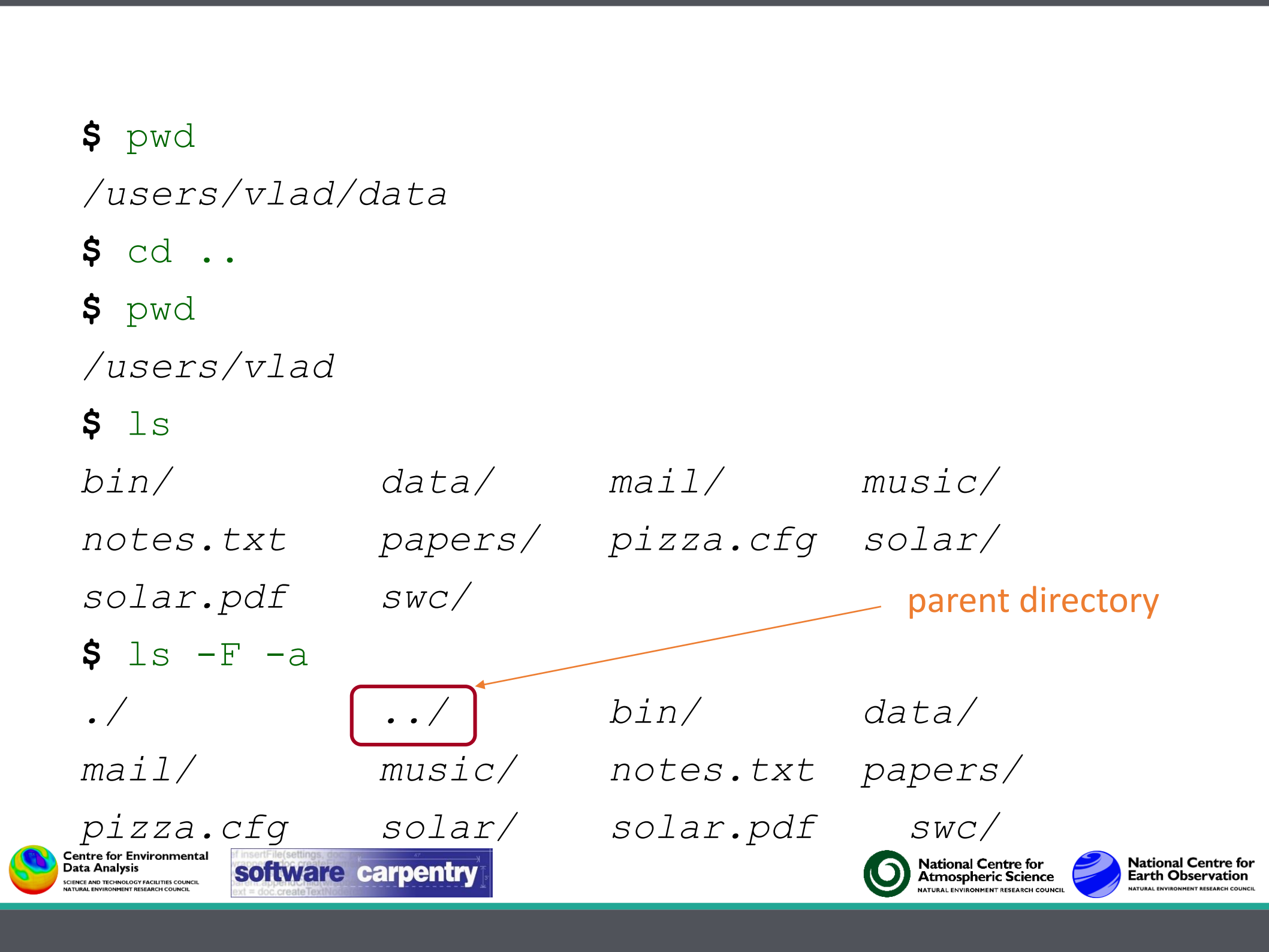
```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ ls -F -a
./            ../       bin/        data/
mail/         music/    notes.txt   papers/
pizza.cfg     solar/    solar.pdf      swc/
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ ls -F -a
./            ../        bin/        data/
mail/         music/     notes.txt   papers/
pizza.cfg     solar/     solar.pdf      swc/
```

"show all"

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ ls -F -a
./            ../        bin/        data/
mail/         music/     notes.txt   papers/
pizza.cfg     solar/     solar.pdf      swc/
```



```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ ls -F -a
./            ../        bin/        data/
mail/         music/     notes.txt   papers/
pizza.cfg     solar/     solar.pdf     swc/
```

parent directory

/users

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/data
$ cd ..
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/            data/       mail/       music/
notes.txt       papers/     pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf       swc/
$ ls -F -a
./              ../         bin/        data/
mail/           music/      notes.txt   papers/
pizza.cfg       solar/      solar.pdf     swc/
```

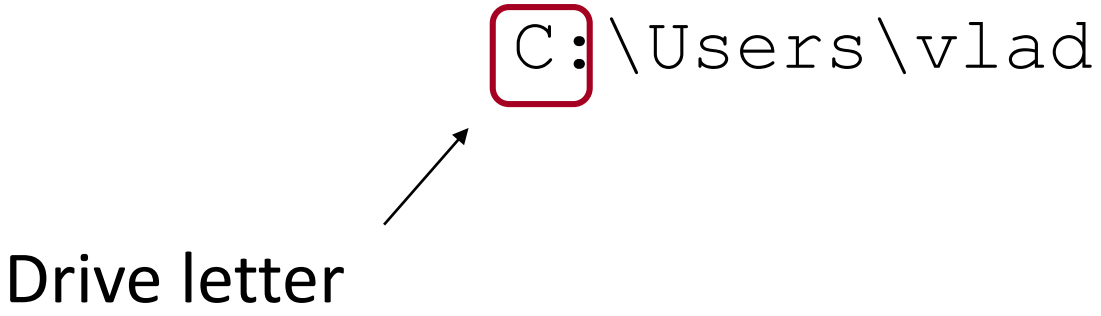
this directory itself

Things are different on Windows

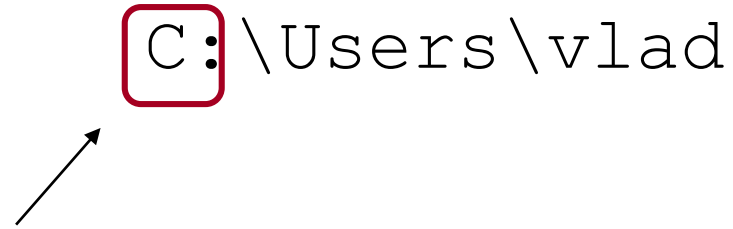
Things are different on Windows

```
C:\Users\vlad
```

Things are different on Windows



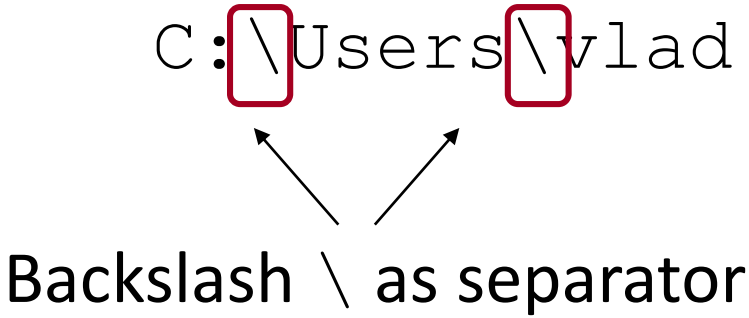
Things are different on Windows



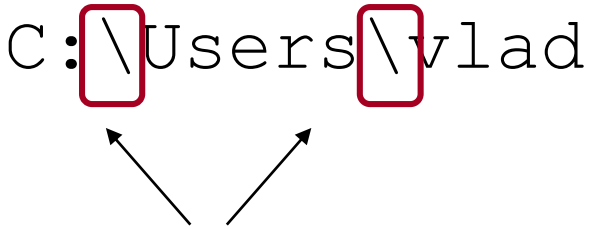
Drive letter

Each drive is a separate file system

Things are different on Windows



Things are different on Windows



Backslash \ as separator

Unix uses \ to escape special characters

in names like `my\ files.txt`

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Case insensitive

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Case insensitive

`c:\users\vlad` `C:\USERS\VLAD` `C:\uSeRs\VlAd`

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Cygwin: `/cygdrive/c/Users/vlad`

Map drive letters to "directories"

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Cygwin: `/cygdrive/c/Users/vlad`

Map drive letters to "directories"

And use / instead of \

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Cygwin: `/cygdrive/c/Users/vlad`

Map drive letters to "directories"

And use / instead of \

But still case insensitive

Things are different on Windows

`C:\Users\vlad`

Cygwin: `/cygdrive/c/Users/vlad`

Map drive letters to "directories"

And use / instead of \

But still case insensitive

Can't put `backup.txt` and `Backup.txt` in a directory

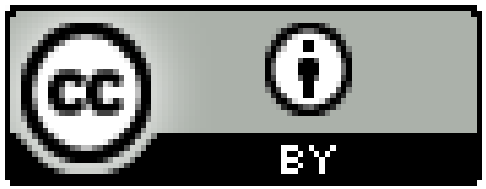
`pwd`	print working directory
`cd`	change working directory
`ls`	listing
`.`	current directory
`..`	parent directory

software carpentry

created by

Greg Wilson

August 2010



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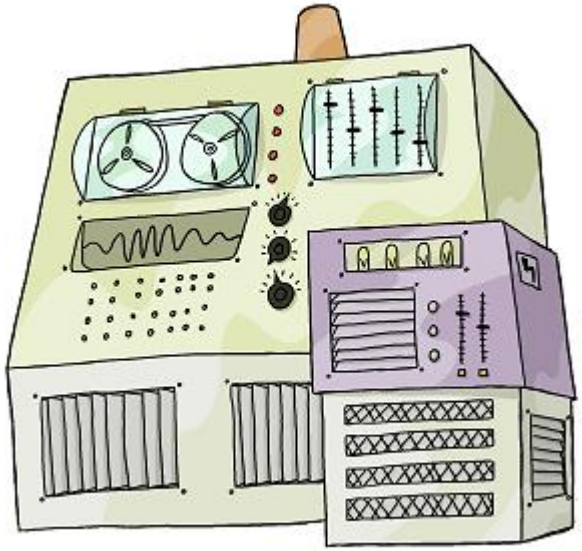
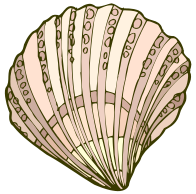
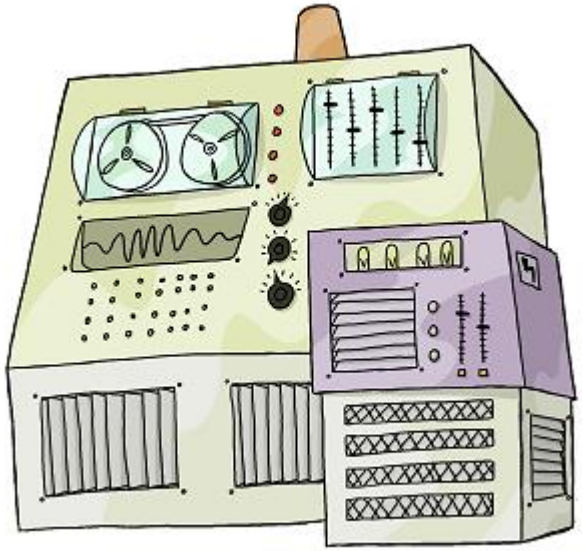
The Unix Shell

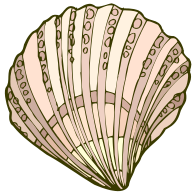
Creating and Deleting





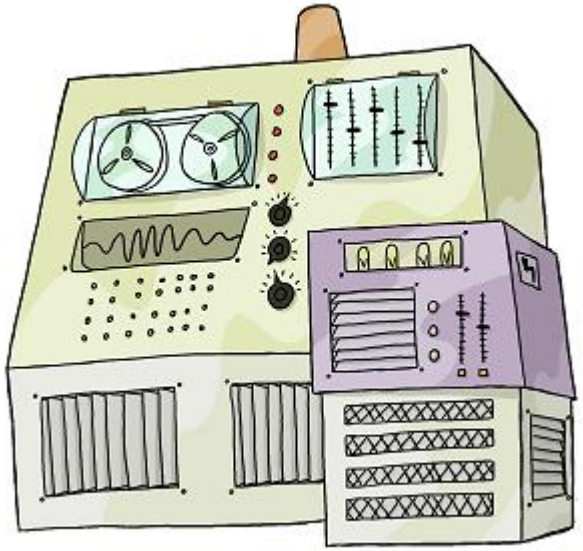
shell

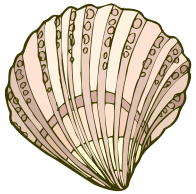




shell

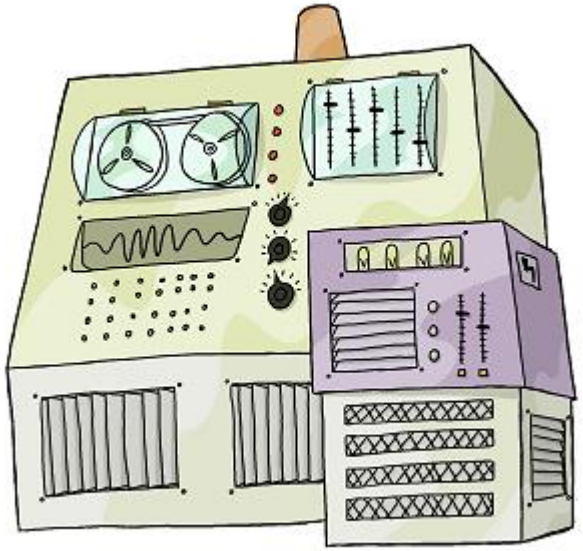
`pwd`	print working directory
`cd`	change working directory
`ls`	listing
`.`	current directory
`..`	parent directory





shell

`pwd`	print working directory
`cd`	change working directory
`ls`	listing
`.`	current directory
`..`	parent directory



But how do we create things

in the first place?

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ mkdir tmp
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ mkdir tmp
```

← make directory

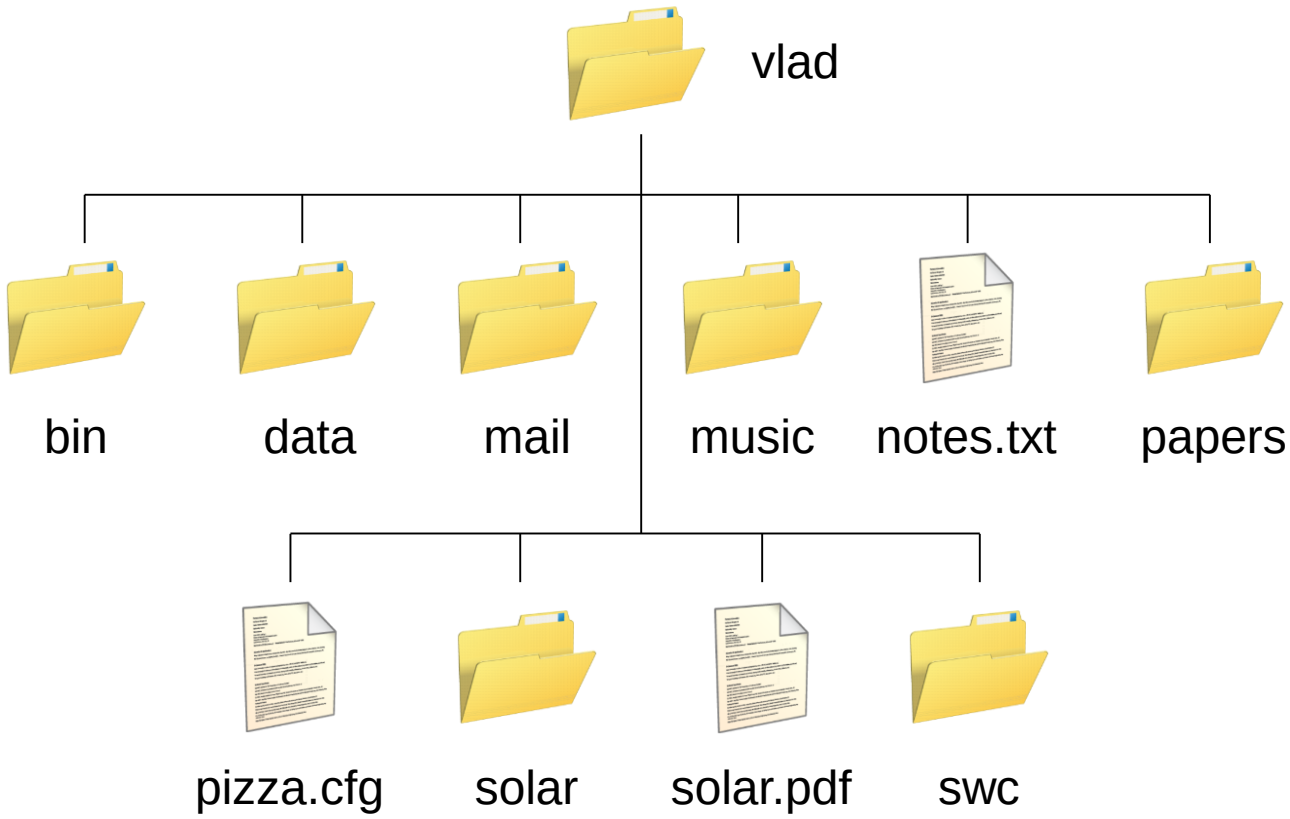
```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ mkdir tmp
```

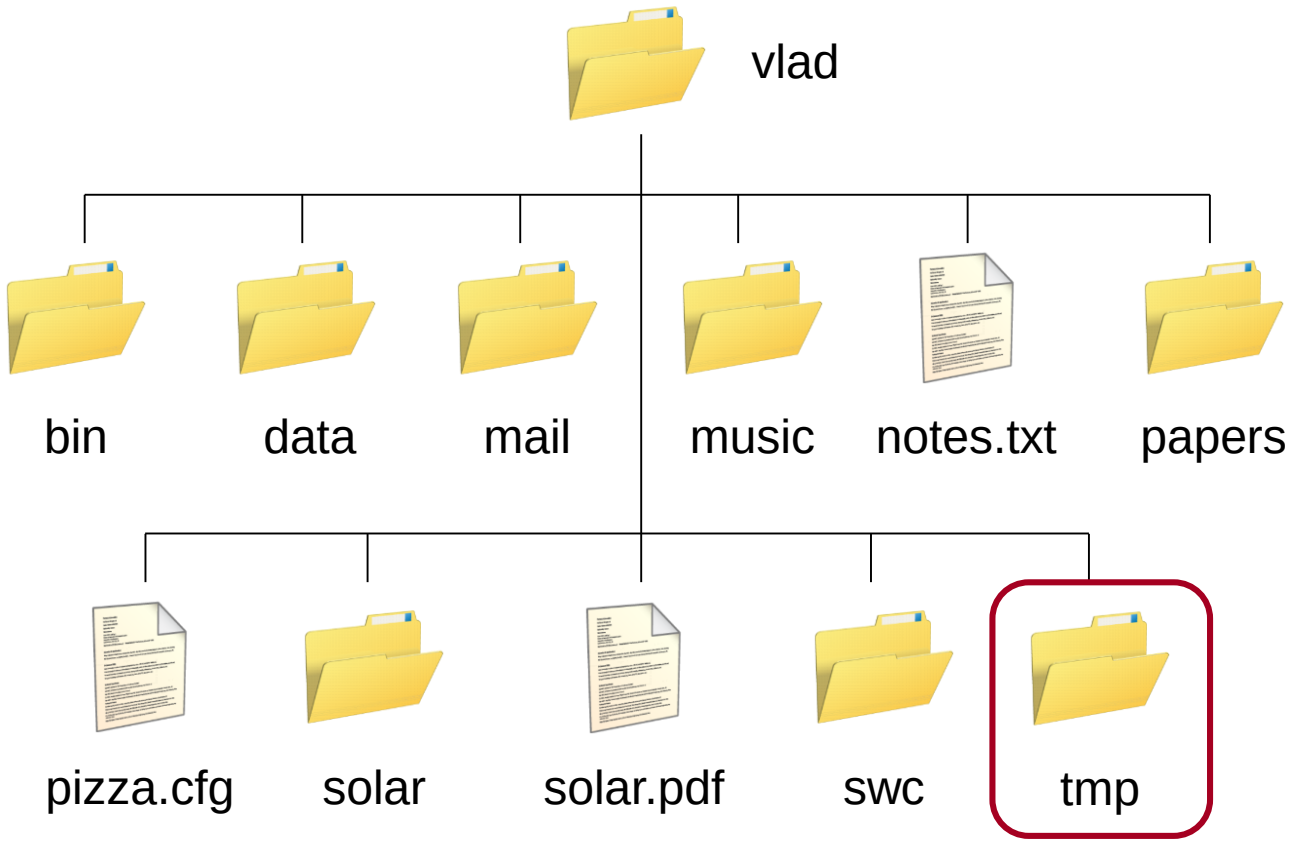
make directory

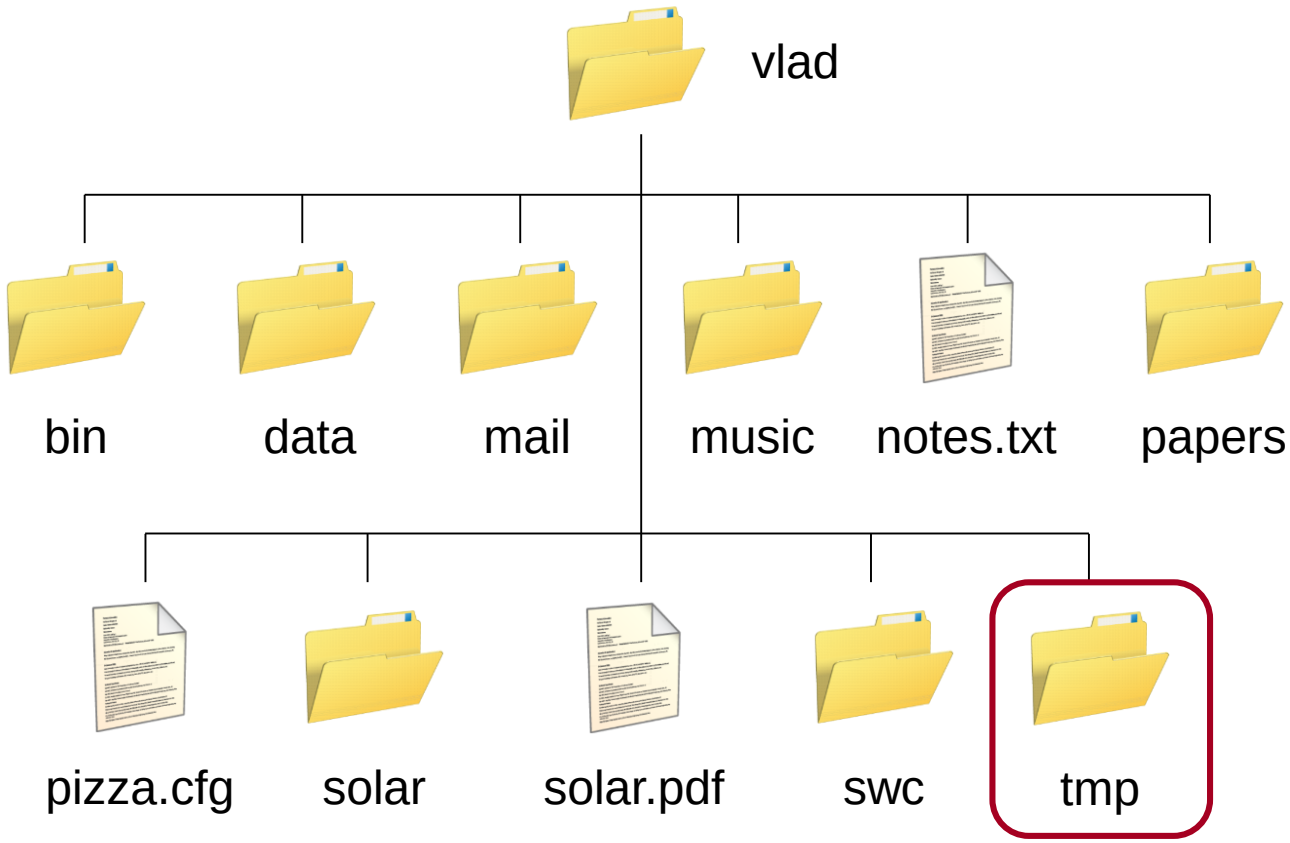
a relative path, so the new directory is made below the current one

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ mkdir tmp
$ ls -F
bin/          data/     mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/   pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/      tmp/
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/
$ mkdir tmp
$ ls -F
bin/          data/      mail/       music/
notes.txt     papers/    pizza.cfg   solar/
solar.pdf     swc/       tmp/
$
```


vlad
bin
data
mail
music
notes.txt
papers
pizza.cfg
solar
solar.pdf
swc


vlad
bin
data
mail
music
notes.txt
papers
pizza.cfg
solar
solar.pdf
swc
tmp



nothing below it yet

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls tmp
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls tmp
$
```

no output

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls tmp
$ ls -a tmp
.                ..
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls tmp
$ ls -a tmp
.                ..
```

/users/vlad/tmp

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ ls tmp
$ ls -a tmp
.                    ..
```

/users/vlad

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```

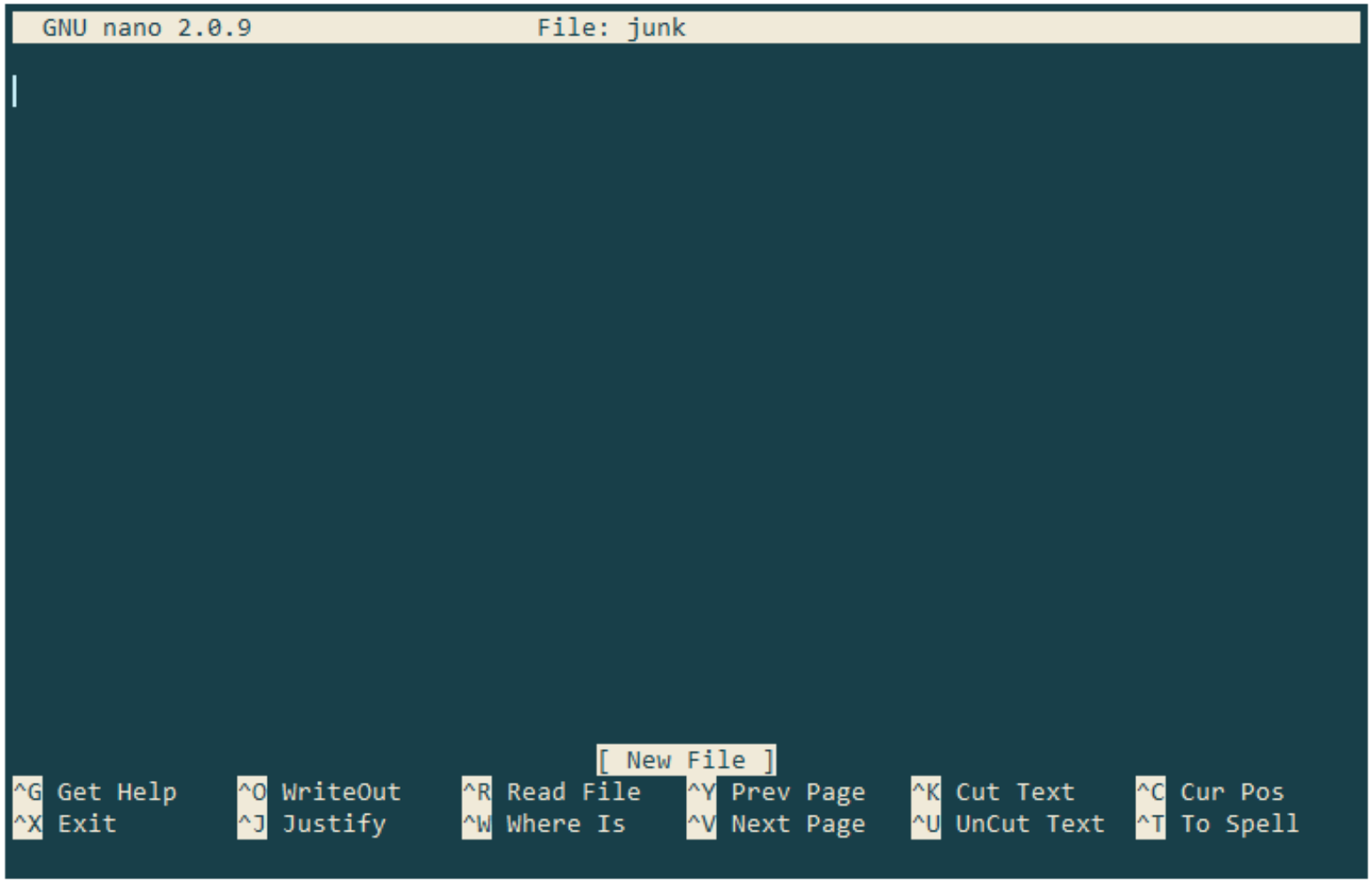
a text editor only a programmer could love

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```

a text editor only a programmer could love

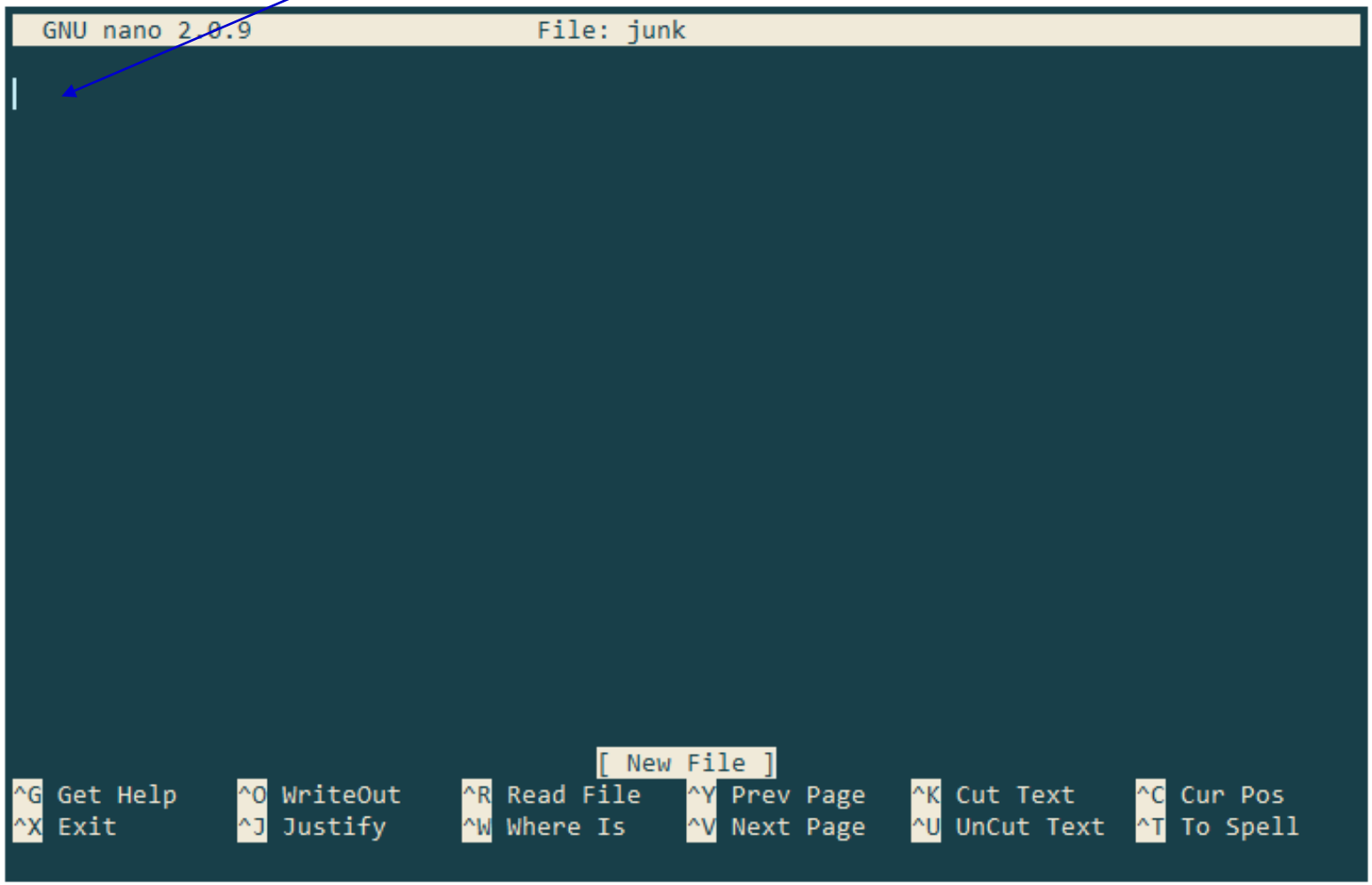
really do mean "text"…

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```

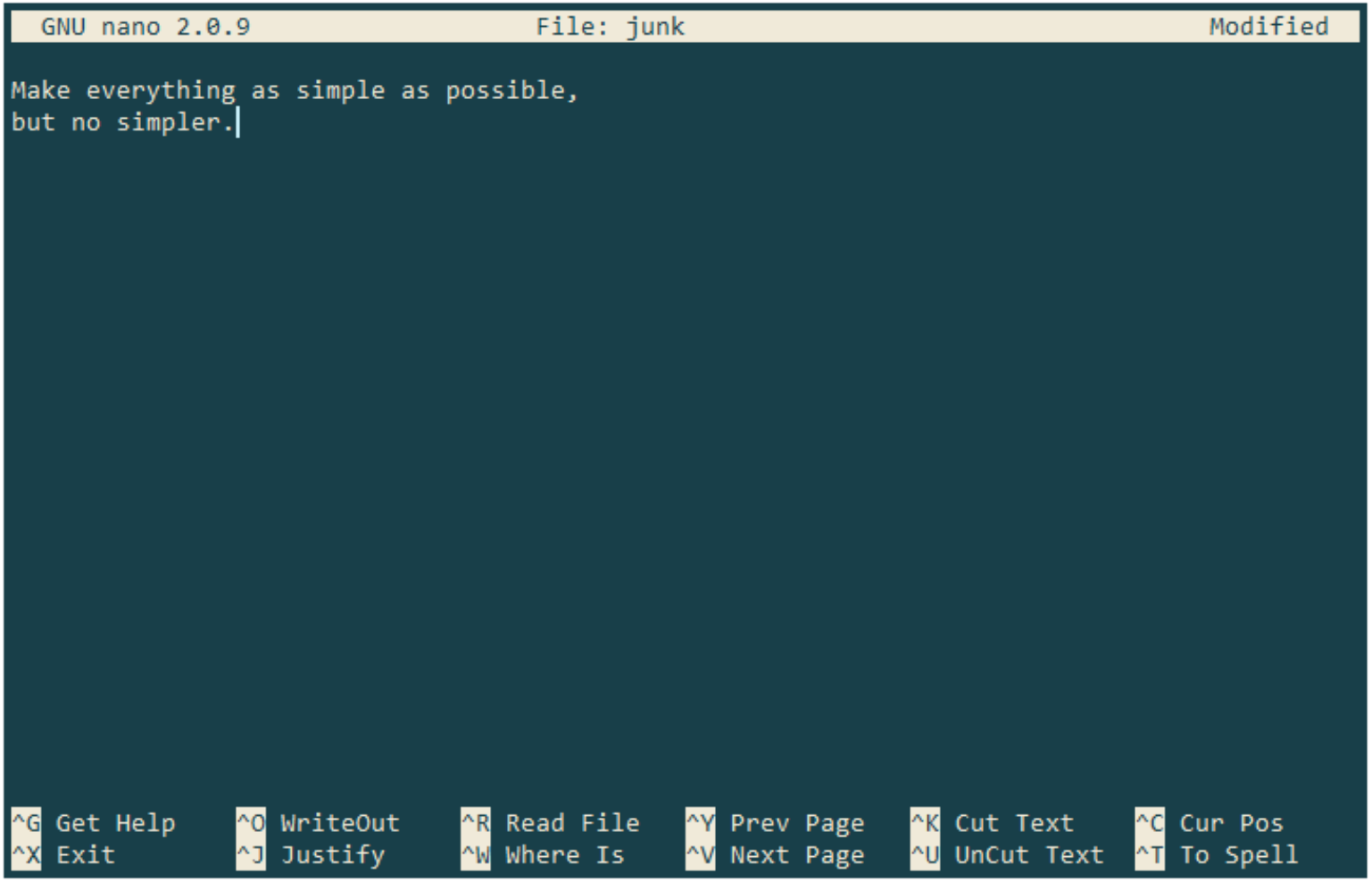


```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```

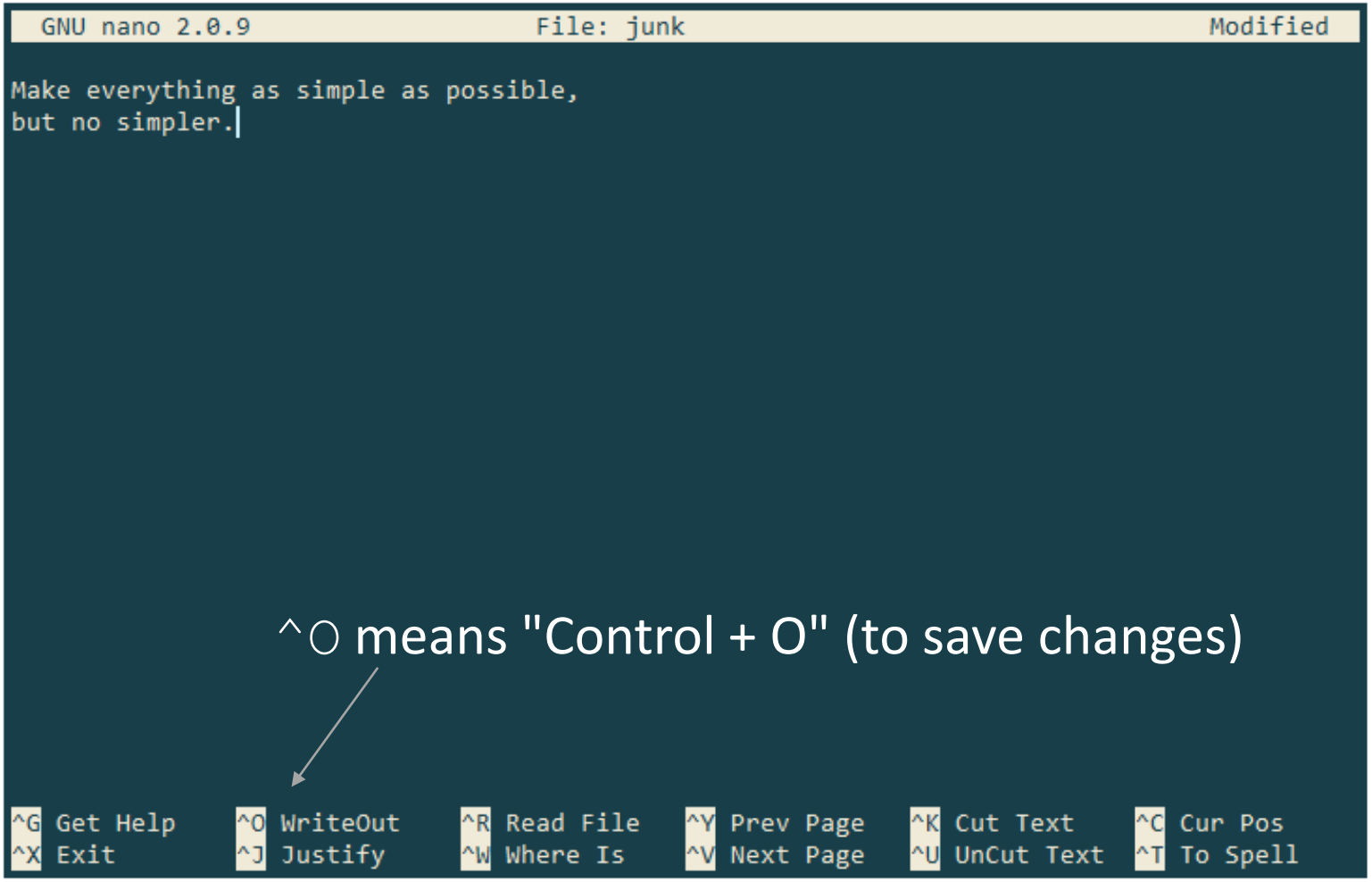
That's your cursor



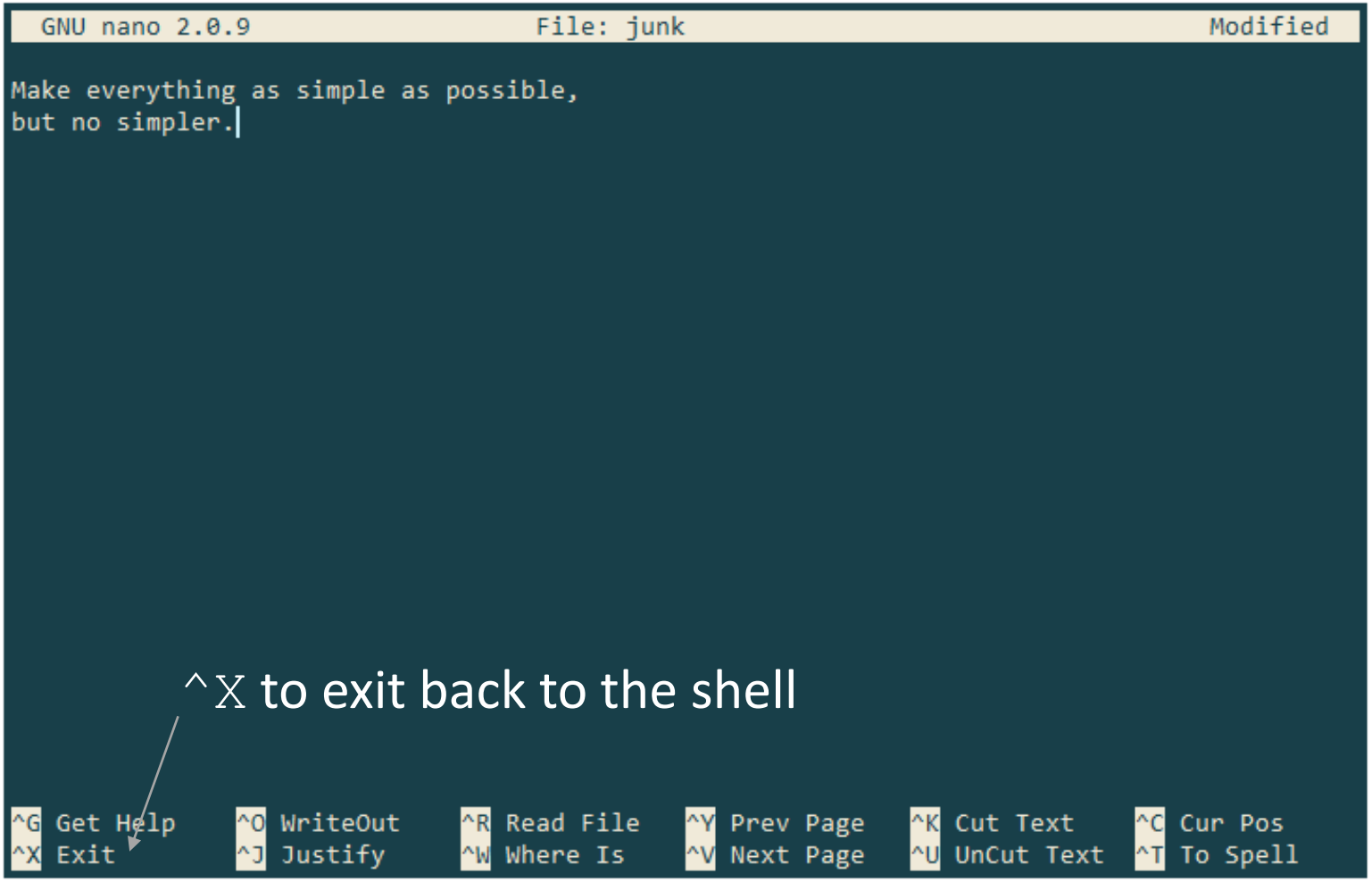
```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```



```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```



```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
```



```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$
```


nano doesn't leave any output on the screen after it exits

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$
```

but it has created the file

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$
```

use `-s` to show sizes

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$
```

use `-s` to show sizes

reported in disk blocks

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$
```

use `-s` to show sizes

reported in disk blocks

a less helpful default

may have been possible…

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$
```

use `-h` for human-friendly output

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$
```

use `-h` for human-friendly output

number of bytes

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$
```

use `-h` for human-friendly output

number of bytes

rounded up because computer stores

things on disk using blocks of 512 bytes

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$ rm junk
$
```

remove (delete) file

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$ rm junk
$
```

remove (delete) file

there is no (easy) un-delete!

```
$ cd tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ ls -s
   1  junk
$ ls -s -h
 512  junk
$ rm junk
$ ls
$
```


check that it's gone

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$
```

change working directory to `/users/vlad`

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$
```

`rm` only works on files

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$ rmdir tmp
```

use `rmdir` to remove directories

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$ rmdir tmp
rmdir: failed to remove `tmp': Directory not empty
$
```

but it only works when the directory is empty

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$ rmdir tmp
rmdir: failed to remove `tmp': Directory not empty
$
```

but it only works when the directory is empty

(safety feature)

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$ rmdir tmp
rmdir: failed to remove `tmp': Directory not empty
$ rm tmp/junk
$
```

so get rid of the directory's contents…

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ nano junk
$ ls
junk
$ cd ..
$ rm tmp
rm: cannot remove `tmp': Is a directory
$ rmdir tmp
rmdir: failed to remove `tmp': Directory not empty
$ rm tmp/junk
$ rmdir tmp
$
```

…then get rid of the directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

move a file

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

move a file (or directory)

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

move a file (or directory)

from here…

…to here

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$
```

move a file (or directory)

from here…

…to here

renames the file!

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$
```

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$
```

← current working directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$
```

move `/users/vlad/tmp/quotes.txt`
to `/users/vlad/quotes.txt`

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$ ls tmp
$
```

nothing left in `tmp`

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$ ls tmp
$ ls quotes.txt
quotes.txt
```

`quotes.txt` now in this directory

```
$ pwd
/users/vlad/tmp
$ mkdir tmp
$ nano tmp/junk
$ ls tmp
junk
$ mv tmp/junk tmp/quotes.txt
$ ls tmp
quotes.txt
$ mv tmp/quotes.txt .
$ ls tmp
$ ls quotes.txt
quotes.txt
```

`ls` with a file or directory argument lists that file or directory

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$
```

copy a file

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
quotes.txt   tmp/quotations.txt
$
```

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
quotes.txt   tmp/quotations.txt
$ rm quotes.txt
$
```

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
quotes.txt   tmp/quotations.txt
$ rm quotes.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
ls: cannot access quotes.txt: No such file or
directory
tmp/quotations.txt
$
```

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
quotes.txt   tmp/quotations.txt
$ rm quotes.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
ls: cannot access quotes.txt: No such file or
directory
tmp/quotations.txt
$ cp tmp/quotations.txt .
$ ls quotations.txt
quotations.txt
$
```

```
$ cp quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
quotes.txt   tmp/quotations.txt
$ rm quotes.txt
$ ls quotes.txt tmp/quotations.txt
ls: cannot access quotes.txt: No such file or
directory
tmp/quotations.txt
$ cp tmp/quotations.txt .
$ ls quotations.txt
quotations.txt
$
```

this is a directory, so the copy has the same name as the original file

`pwd`	print working directory
`cd`	change working directory
`ls`	listing
`.`	current directory
`..`	parent directory
`mkdir`	make a directory
`nano`	text editor
`rm`	remove (delete) a file
`rmdir`	remove (delete) a directory
`mv`	move (rename) a file or directory
`cp`	copy a file

software carpentry

created by

Greg Wilson

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