# OPERATING SYSTEMS FINAL PROJECT

new and improved :: touch

Nick Morgan Josh Seaman Tigerlilly Zietz 23 April 2021

### touch <filename>

## **Project Description**

```
if (touch a file that already exists) {
    touch tells the user that the given file already exists;
} else {
    touch works as intended, creating the file;
```

touch += a little bit of ASCII fun

#### **Project Inspiration**

- Receive indications of success or failure
- Avoid trying to make files that already exist
- Remove ambiguity
- Ensure user is up-to-date
- Have fun



#### Research

- Existing commands and their shortcomings
  - o touch, in particular
- Modifying shell commands vs kernel commands
- GNU core utilities library and documentation
- How to modify core utilities inside of a new

kernel build

#### **Obstacles**

- Building of the kernel
  - Computer crashing, disk space
- touch is a core utility, not a kernel command
- TARBALL-CEPTION
- File structure permissions
- Machines placement of touch executable
- Learning GNU core utilities and how to use them



#### **Solutions**

- Untarred another tarball for core utilities
- Removed and reinstalled Ubuntu
- Dynamically allocated more storage/disk space
- Iterative development
- Keeping our laptop batteries charged throughout the build process
- Dr. Johnson's words of advice!



#### What We Learned

- Better understanding of how Operating Systems work behind the scenes
- Higher comprehension of C at a fundamental level
- Increased comfortability with commands including "grep" and "find"
- How to effectively navigate through a complex system while interpreting and interacting with thousands of lines of code written years ago by someone else

## Thank you!

Any questions?

