



ITWS -1

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Unix Command Line

Why Command Line?

- Why use command line when we have GUI?
 - Achieve complex tasks
 - Get things done quickly and efficiently
 - Perform tasks originally not thought of by authors
 - Automate tasks easily

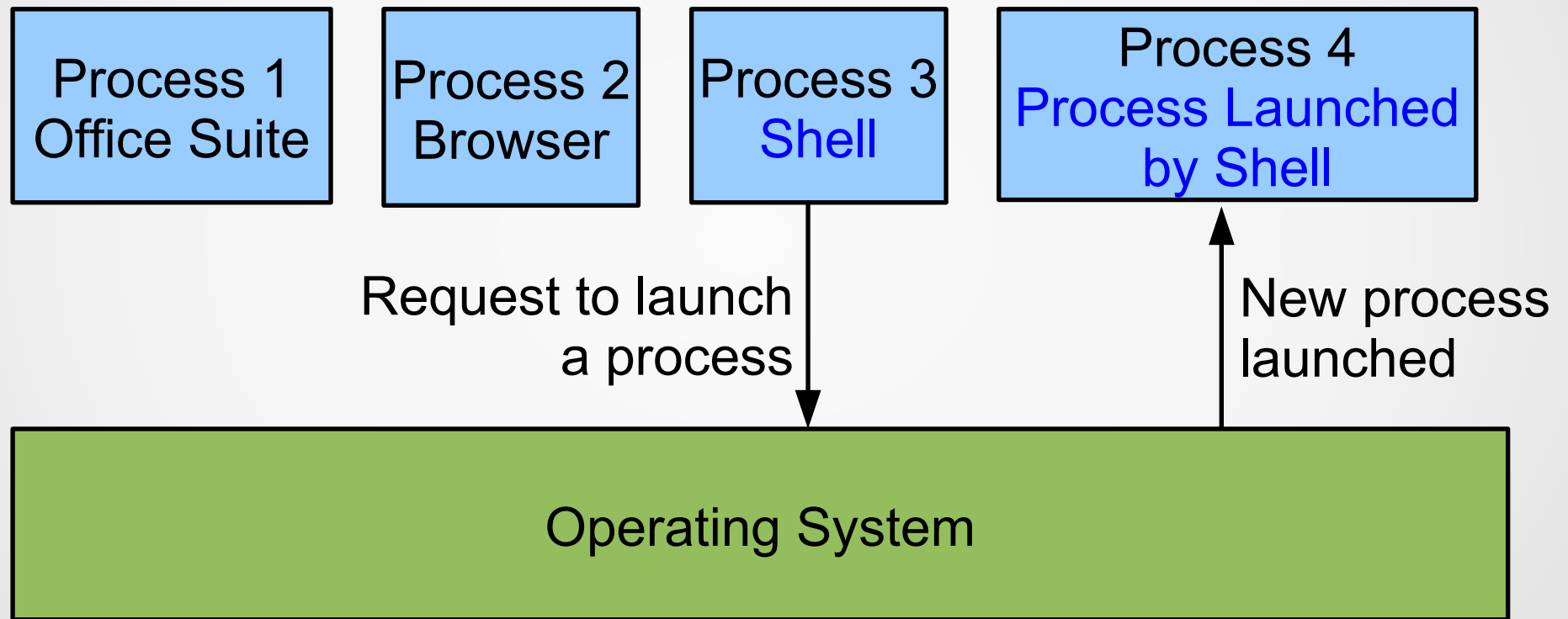
Example Use Cases

- Mr. A wishes to retrieve all files modified last week and replace the phrase “this week” with “next week” in those files.
- Everyday, Ms. B wishes to automatically retrieve all files modified on that day and back them up to different location.
- Ms. C likes to rename files so that their extensions are removed
- Mr. D likes to combine to merge fives sets of user lists into a single one

Unix Philosophy

- Do one thing and do it well
- Programs work together
- Simplicity
- Communicate using text streams

Shell



Launching a Shell

- Press Control-Alt-F1 to go to text console and login
 - Press Control-Alt-F7 to back to graphical mode
- Search for and open an application named “Terminal”
- Login at console as another user
- Remote login into another machine

Issuing a Command at the Prompt

Username

hostname

Current path

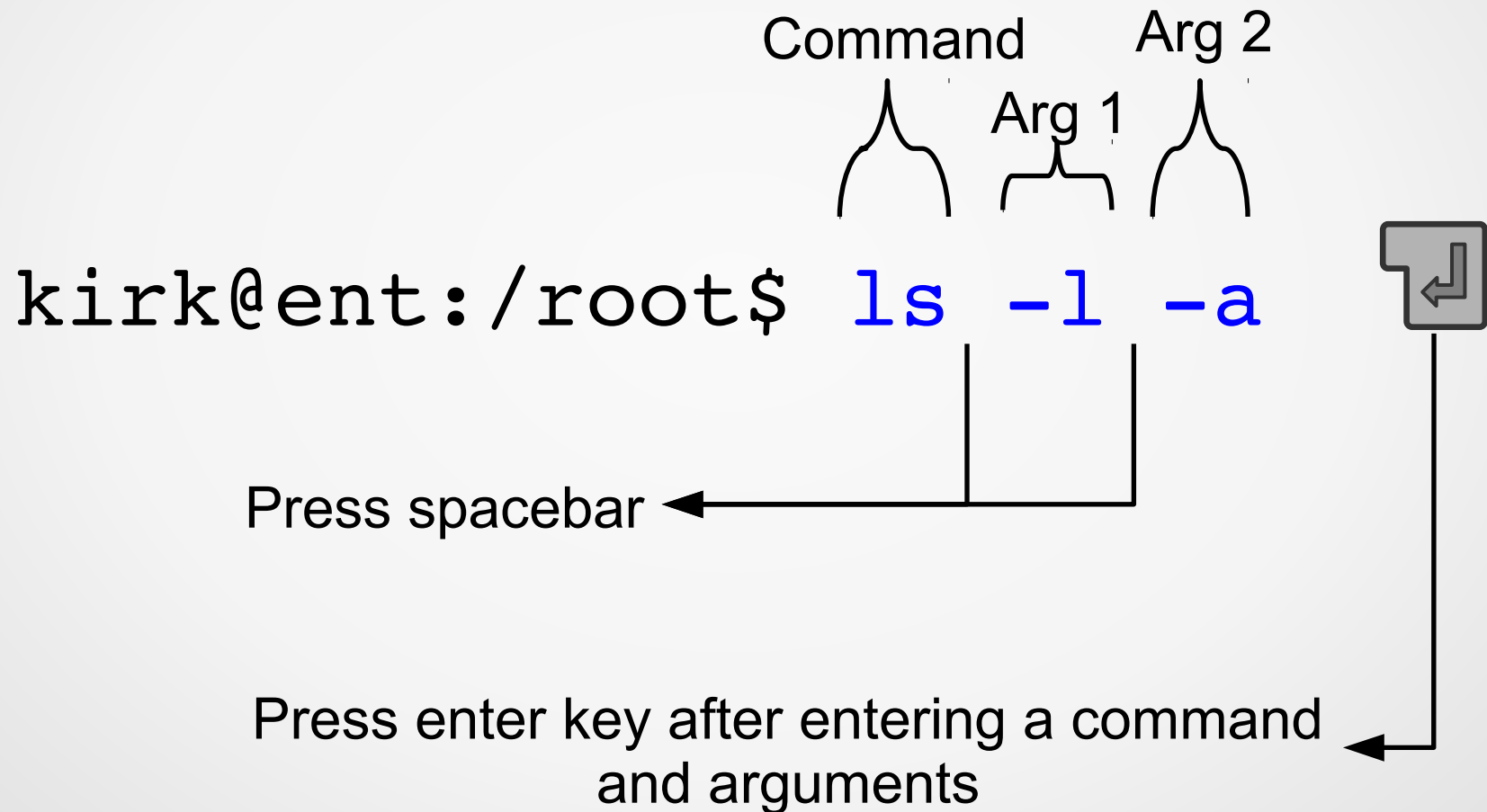
kirk@enterprise:/root\$ **ls**



Type a command

Press enter key after typing the command

Command with Arguments



ls – List Files & Directories

```
kirk@enterprise:/$ ls
```

```
bin    initrd.img  mnt    run    usr  
boot   lib         null   sbin   var  
dev    lib64       opt    srv    vmlinuz  
etc    lost+found  proc   sys  
home   media       root   tmp
```

} Output
of
command

```
kirk@enterprise:/$
```

}
Command prompt after
completion of 'ls' command

Getting Help on Commands

- `man ls` to see the 'manual page' of command `ls`
- `info ls` to get full documentation of `ls`
- `man man` to get help on how to use `man` command
- `info info` to get information on how to use the `info` browser
- Discover new commands by pressing <TAB> <TAB> and by reading their manual pages

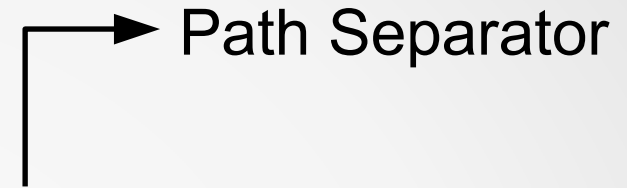
Exploring the File System

Paths

Directory



Sub-directory



`/usr/local/bin`

- `/` is the top most directory. It is also the path separator
- `.` is the current directory
- `..` is the parent directory. `/home/user/work/..` is same as `/home/user`
- `~` is the home directory of the current user

Prompt Working Directory

- `pwd` to show the current directory

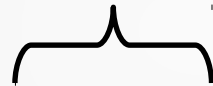
Working directory is also
shown in the prompt

kirk@enterprise: /usr/local\$ `pwd`
`/usr/local`

Change Working Directory

- `cd mypath` to switch to a directory
- `cd` to switch to home directory

Notice the change in path



```
kirk@enterprise:/usr$ cd local
kirk@enterprise:/usr/local$ cd /usr/bin
kirk@enterprise:/usr/bin$ cd /
kirk@enterprise:/$ cd ~
kirk@enterprise:/home/kirk$ cd ..
kirk@enterprise:/home$ cd .
kirk@enterprise:/home$
```

Output of “ls -l”

```
kirk@enterprise:/boot$ ls -l
```

```
total 14884
```

-rw-r--r--	1	root	root	153275	Jun	16	20:46	config
drwxr-xr-x	3	root	root	4096	Mar	26	10:07	extlinux
drwxr-xr-x	5	root	root	12288	Jun	19	01:24	grub
-rw-r--r--	1	root	root	9702279	Jun	18	01:13	initrd.img
-rw-r--r--	1	root	root	2417043	Jun	16	20:46	System.map
-rw-r--r--	1	root	root	2943568	Jun	16	20:41	vmlinuz



Permissions



Ownership



Size



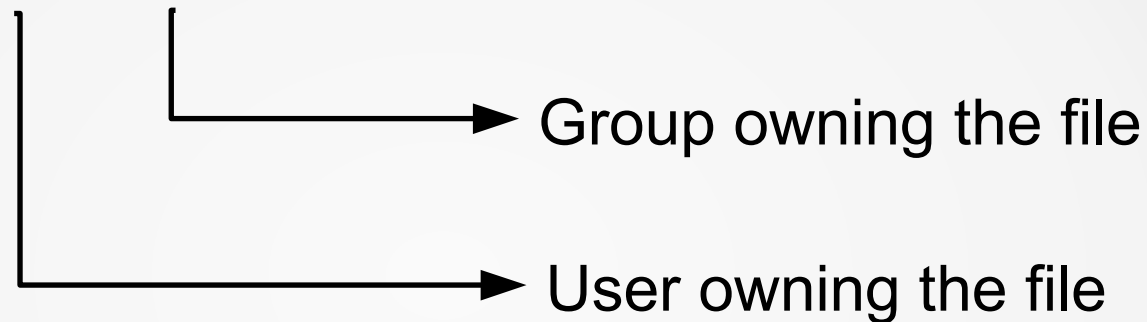
Modified time



Name

Ownership

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 2943568 Jun 16 20:41 vmlinuz
```



- A “group” is a set of users
- Each file or directory is owned by one user and one group
- Users are listed in the file </etc/passwd>
- Groups are listed in the file </etc/group>

Permissions

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 2943568 Jun 16 20:41 vmlinuz
```

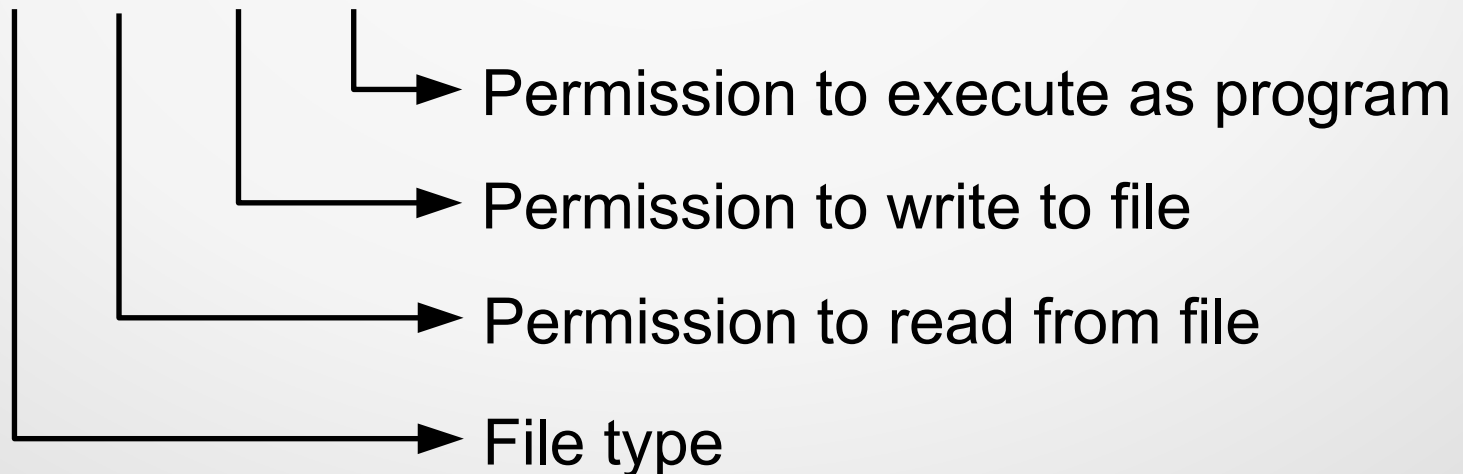
Permissions for:

User

Group

Others

drwxrwxrwx



Example: File Permissions

```
-rw-r----- 1 kirk engineers 2568 Jun 16 20:41 vmlinuz
```

→ Others can't *execute* the file as a program

→ Others can't *write* to the file

→ Others can't *read* the file

→ Users in *engineers* group can't *execute* the file

→ Users in *engineers* group can't *write* to the file

→ Users in *engineers* group can *read* the file

→ User *Kirk* can't *execute* the file as a program

→ User *Kirk* can *write* to the file

→ User *Kirk* can *read* the file

Example: Directory Permissions

```
drwxr-x--- 1 kirk engineers 2568 Jun 16 20:41 vmlinuz
```

Others can't enter and access files within

Others can't create/rename/delete files

Others can't list files in the directory

Users in *engineers* group can enter and access files within

Users in *engineers* group can't create/rename/delete files

Users in *engineers* group can list files in the directory

User *Kirk* can enter and access files within

User *Kirk* can create/rename/delete files

User *Kirk* can list files in the directory

File Types

- - is a regular file
- d is a directory
- l is a symbolic link
- s is a UNIX socket
- b is a block device
- c is a character device
- etc.

Tip: Everything is a file!

- Directories, links, hardware devices, and other communication mechanisms are exposed as files
- Want to read the CDROM contents? Simply read the file representing the CDROM device.
- Want to output to a sound card? Write to the device representing the sound card.

File System Organisation

- `/root` and `/home` store user data
- `/bin`, `/usr/bin`, `/sbin` and `/usr/sbin` store executable commands
- `/usr` stores files related to user applications
- `/usr/local` contains applications compiled by the user
- `/var` contains (variable) files that usually grow over time
- `/lib`, `/usr/lib` contains libraries
- `/tmp` contains temporary files
- `/proc` is a virtual file system containing kernel information
- `/mnt` and `/mount` contain file system mounts

Manipulating Files

Creating a File

- `touch filename` creates an empty file

```
kirk@enterprise:/work$ touch new_plan  
kirk@enterprise:/work$ ls -l new_plan  
-rw-r--r-- 1 kirk kirk 0 Aug  7 08:09 new_plan
```



File is empty

Simple Text Editor

- **nano** is a simple text editor
- **nano *filename*** to edit an existing file

```
GNU nano 2.2.6          New Buffer

^G Get Help ^O WriteOut ^R Read Fil ^Y Prev Pag ^K Cut Text ^C Cur Pos
^X Exit     ^J Justify  ^W Where Is ^V Next Pag ^U UnCut Te ^T To Spell
```

Press **Control-O** to save

Press **Control-X** to exit

Displaying the Contents of a File

- `cat filename` shows the contents of a file.

```
kirk@enterprise:~/work$ cat hello.txt
```

```
Hello, World!
```

```
kirk@enterprise:~/work$
```



File contents

Creating a File Using Redirection

- `cat > filename` creates a file with typed in content. Press **Control-D** after you are done entering text.

```
kirk@enterprise:~/work$ cat > flight_plan  
To Vulcan  
Then to Kronos  
{Control-D}  
kirk@enterprise:~/work$ cat flight_plan  
To Vulcan  
Then to Kronos  
kirk@enterprise:~/work$
```

Copying Files

- `cp origfile destfile` copies one file to another file

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ cp flight_plan flight_plan_dup
kirk@ent:~/work$ cat flight_plan_dup
To Vulcan
Then to Kronos
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup
```

Creating a Directory

- `mkdir dirname` creates a directory

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ mkdir mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls -l
```

```
...
```

```
drwxr-xr-x 2 kirk kirk 4096 Aug  7 08:26 mydir
```

└───────────> Directory created

Copying Multiple Files

- `cp file1 file2 ... dirname` can also copy multiple files to a directory

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ cp flight_plan flight_plan_dup mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ cd mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ ls  
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup
```

Rename a File

- *mv origname newname* renames a file

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ ls  
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ mv flight_plan fp
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ ls  
flight_plan_dup  fp
```


Move a File

- `mv filename dirname` also moves a file from one directory to another

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ ls  
fp  flight_plan_dup
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ mv fp ..
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ ls  
flight_plan_dup
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work/mydir$ cd ..
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup  fp  mydir
```

Deleting Files

- `rm filename` deletes a file

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  flight_plan_dup  fp  mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rm flight_plan_dup
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  fp  mydir
```

Deleting Directories

- `rmdir dirname` removes an empty directory

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  fp  mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rmdir mydir  
rmdir: failed to remove 'mydir/': Directory not empty
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rm mydir/flight_plan_dup
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rmdir mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls  
flight_plan  fp
```

Deleting Files Recursively

- `rm -rf dirname` removes a directory and its contents recursively

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ mkdir mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ touch mydir/file1
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rmdir mydir
```

```
rmdir: failed to remove 'mydir/': Directory not empty
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ rm -rf mydir
```

```
kirk@ent:~/work$ ls
```

```
flight_plan  fp
```

Tip: You Will Delete Your Data!

- Be careful with the `rm` and especially `rm -rf`
- Chances are you will delete important data at least once
- Use `rm -i` for interactive deleting

Tip: Auto Complete in Shell (Bash)

- **TAB** key to finish a half-entered command
- Up and down arrows to browse command history
- **!** to run previous command
 - **!*command*** will repeat previous invocation of *command*
- **history** to see the earlier typed commands
- Control-R to search a previously issued command

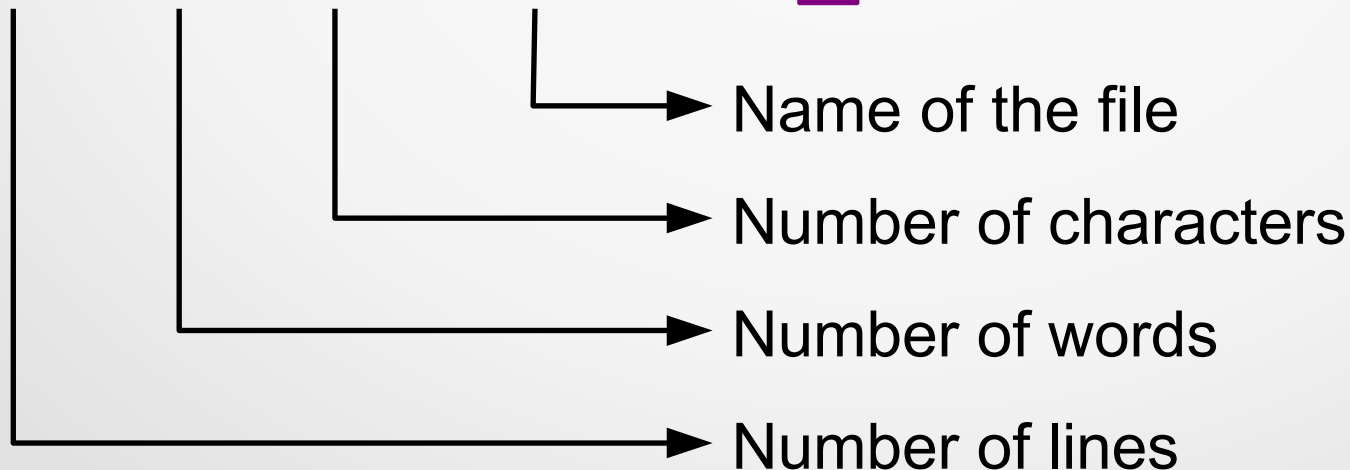
Text Processing

Word Count

- `wc filename` counts number of characters, words and lines in a file

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ wc flight_plan
```

```
2  5 25 flight_plan
```



Getting the Top Part

- `head filename` prints the top 10 lines of a file
- `head -n x filename` prints the top x lines of a file

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat flight_plan  
To Vulcan  
Then to Kronos
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ head -n 1 flight_plan  
To Vulcan
```

Getting the Bottom Part

- `tail filename` prints the bottom 10 lines of a file
- `tail -n x filename` prints the bottom x lines of a file
- `tail -f filename` watches the file continuously and prints it

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat flight_plan
```

```
To Vulcan
```

```
Then to Kronos
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ tail -n 1 flight_plan
```

```
Then to Kronos
```

Sort the Contents

- `sort filename` to sort data in a file

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat inventory.txt
```

```
Phasers - 10
```

```
Replicators - 2
```

```
Communicators - 100
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ sort inventory.txt
```

```
Communicators - 100
```

```
Phasers - 10
```

```
Replicators - 2
```

} Output is sorted
alphabetically

Omit Repeated Lines

- `uniq filename` to omit repeated lines
- Typically used after sorting

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat inventory.txt
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Phaser
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ uniq inventory.txt
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Phaser
```

} Repeating lines omitted

Cut Sections from Each Line

- `cut -d delim -f fields file` cuts given *fields* from a file with fields delimited by *delim*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat /etc/passwd
```

```
...
```

```
kirk:x:1000:1000::/home/kirk:/bin/bash
```

```
spock:x:1001:1001::/home/spock:/bin/bash
```

→ Delimiter is a colon ":"
→ Requesting field 6

```
kirk@ent:~$ cut -d : -f 6 /etc/passwd
```

```
/home/kirk
```

```
/home/spock
```

} Data in field 6,
Home directories of all the users

Merge Lines of Files

- `paste file1 file2` merges lines in *file1* with *file2*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat names
```

```
kirk
```

```
spock
```

```
scott
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat roles
```

```
bridge
```

```
science
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ paste -d : names roles
```

```
kirk:bridge
```

```
spock:science
```

```
scott:
```

↗ Delimiter should be a colon ":"

} Individual lines merged

Selecting Matching Lines

- `grep pattern file` prints lines from *file* matching a *pattern*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat names
```

```
kirk  
spock  
scott  
mccoy
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ grep "co" names
```

```
scott  
mccoy
```

} Lines containing text "co" in them

Redirection

Redirect Output to a File

- *command* > *outfile* stores the output of *command* into *outfile*
- *outfile* is completely overwritten

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls  
flight_plan inventory
```

} Normal "ls" output

Redirection of "ls" output to a file

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls > captured_output.txt
```

No output to terminal this time

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls  
flight_plan inventory captured_output.txt
```

New file created

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat captured_output.txt  
flight_plan inventory captured_output.txt
```

} Captured output

Redirect Output to a File (Append)

- *command* >> *outfile* stores the output of *command* into *outfile*
- *outfile* is appended to instead of overwritten

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls  
flight_plan inventory
```

└───────────> Redirection of "ls" output to a file

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls > captured_output.txt  
kirk@ent:~$ ls >> captured_output.txt
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat captured_output.txt  
flight_plan inventory captured_output.txt  
flight_plan inventory captured_output.txt
```

} Appended output

Redirect Input from a File

- *command < filename* redirects the contents of *filename* as input to *command*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat inventory
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Phaser
```

```
Communicator
```

} Original file contents

```
kirk@ent:~$ wc -l < inventory
```

```
3
```

Inventory file processed by "wc -l":
Number of lines in the file

Piping

- *command1* | *command2* redirects the output of *command1* as input to *command2*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat inventory
```

```
Communicator
```

```
Phaser
```

```
Communicator
```

} Original file contents

```
kirk@ent:~$ sort inventory
```

```
Communicator
```

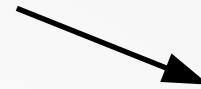
```
Communicator
```

```
Phaser
```

} Sorted file contents

Piping (contd.)

Output of “sort inventory” is
sent as input to “uniq”
because of pipe operator



```
kirk@ent:~$ sort inventory | uniq
```

Communicator
Phaser

} Sorted & unique file contents

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat inventory | sort | uniq
```

Communicator
Phaser

Piping among three commands

Paginated Display

- `less` and `more` for paginated display

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls /usr | more
```

```
bin  
games  
include  
lib  
libexec  
local
```

} One page of output

```
--More--
```

→ “more” waits here until <space> is pressed

```
lib  
local  
sbin  
src
```

} Final page of output

```
kirk@ent:~$ → “ls” and “more” are completed
```

Wildcards

* Wildcard

- Shell expands `*` to all filenames

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls  
flight_plan inventory
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat *
```

→ Shell expands this to
"cat flight_plan inventory"

To Vulcan
Then to Khronos
Communicator
Phaser

} Contents of "flight_plan"

} Contents of "inventory"

* Wildcard (contd.)

- Shell expands *part** to all filenames starting with *part*
- Shell expands **part* to all filenames ending with *part*

```
kirk@ent:~$ cat flight*
```

```
To Vulcan
```

```
Then to Khronos
```

Shell expands this to
"cat flight_plan"

} Contents of "flight_plan"

* Wildcard (contd.)

- Shell expands */path/** to all filenames in */path/*

Shell expands this to all files in path
“/usr/local” that end with “bin”

```
kirk@ent:~$ ls -d /usr/local/*bin  
/usr/local/bin /usr/local/sbin
```

Other Wildcards

- `?` expands to match a single character in the filename
- `[a-z]` expands to match a single character from `a` to `z`

User Related Commands

Who Am I?

- `whoami` shows the current user

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ whoami  
kirk
```

User ID

- `id` shows the current user and group information

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ id
uid=1000(bunny) gid=1000(bunny) groups=1000(bunny),
6(disk), 7(lp), 24(cdrom), 25(floppy), 27(sudo),
29(audio), 30(dip), 44(video), 46(plugdev),
105(scanner), 111(netdev), 112(lpadmin), 115(fuse)
```

Changing Password

- `passwd` changes the password

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ passwd
Changing password for kirk.
(current) UNIX password:
Enter new UNIX password:
Retype new UNIX password:
passwd: password updated successfully
```

Switching User

- `su newuser` switches the current user by launching a new shell as `newuser`

Another user on the system



```
kirk@enterprise:~$ su - spock
```

Password:

```
spock@enterprise:~$ pwd → A new shell is spawned  
/home/spock
```

```
spock@enterprise:~$ ls
```

```
counsel pon_farr → Spock's files
```


```
spock@enterprise:~$ exit
```

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ → Back to Kirk's shell
```



Change File Permissions


- `chmod [ugoa][+ -][rwx] file` changes the permissions of *file*
- *u*, *g*, *o* and *a* stand for user, group, others and all
- *+* and *-* stand for add or remove operation
- *r*, *w* and *x* stand for read, write and execute permissions

```
kirk@enterprise:~# ls -l
-rw-r--r-- 1 kirk bridge 22 Jun 18 01:13 script
```

 Original permissions

```
root@enterprise:~# chmod a+x script
root@enterprise:~# ls -l
-rwxr-xr-x 1 spock science 22 Jun 18 01:13 script
```

 New permissions: added execute permission to all

 "all", "add", "execute"

Change Permissions: Examples

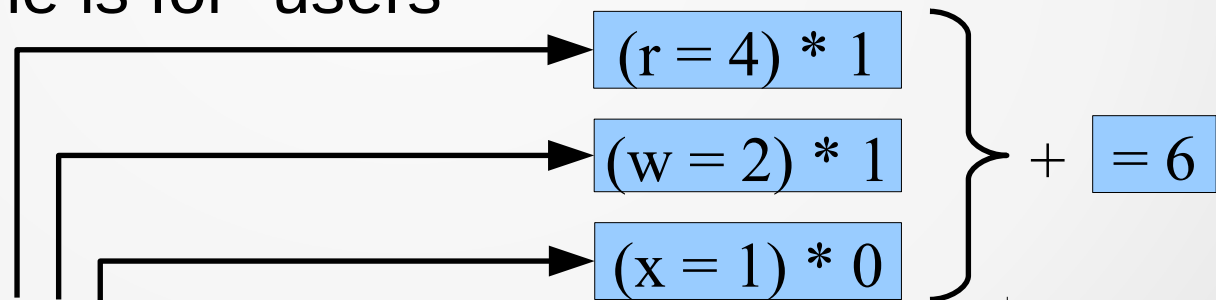
- `o-x` means remove executable permission to others
- `g+w` means grant write permission to group
- `a-r` means remove read permission from all

Change File Permissions (contd.)

- `chmod octalperms file` changes all the permissions of a *file*
- Permissions can be represented as numbers in octal base
- `r` equals 4, `w` equals 2, `x` equals 1
- Least significant digit is for “others”, next one is for “group” and the next one is for “users”

- Examples:

- `644` means `rw-r--r--`
- `755` means `rwxr-xr-x`
- `400` means `r-----`



Change Ownership of a File

- *chown user.group filename* changes the user owning the file *filename* to *user* and group owning the file to *group*
- Need to be root to change ownership
- Non-root user can change group ownership if belonging to the target group

```
root@enterprise:~# ls -l  
-rw-r--r-- 1 kirk bridge 22 Jun 18 01:13 script
```

Original user and group ownership

```
root@enterprise:~# chown spock.science script  
root@enterprise:~# ls -l  
-rw-r--r-- 1 spock science 22 Jun 18 01:13 script
```

New user and group ownership

Remote Login

Open Shell on a Remote Machine

- `ssh user@hostname` opens a shell on the remote machine

The diagram illustrates the process of opening a remote shell and returning to the local shell. It shows a sequence of commands and their outputs, with annotations explaining each step.

```
kirk@ent:~$ ssh spock@192.168.36.1
```

Annotations for the first command:

- `user` (points to `spock`)
- `hostname` (points to `192.168.36.1`)

Output: `spock@192.168.36.1's password:` → Prompts for password

```
spock@vulcan:~$ ls
```

Output: `council pon_farr` → Command executed on remote shell

```
spock@vulcan:~$ exit
```

Output: `logout`

Output: `Connection to 192.168.36.1 closed.`

```
kirk@ent:~$
```


Annotation: → Back to Kirk's shell

Executing Commands on a Remote Machine

- `ssh user@hostname command` runs command on the remote machine

```
kirk@ent:~$ ssh spock@localhost ls  
council  pon_farr
```

```
kirk@ent:~$ ssh spock@localhost cat council  
Vulcan science council
```


command

List of Logged in Users

- `who` to see the list of users logged in

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ who
```

mccoy	pts/1	2014-08-10 21:58	(:0)
kirk	pts/2	2014-08-10 22:03	(bridge)
scott	pts/3	2014-08-10 13:04	(eng)
spock	pts/4	2014-08-09 02:07	(vulcan)



Login
name



Terminal



Login time



Remote
hostname
or
graphical
display

Announcements

- `wall` announces a message to all users

```
kirk@enterprise:~$ wall  
This is the captain.  
All hands, RED ALERT!  
{Control-D}
```

To all logged in users



```
scott@enterprise:~$  
Broadcast Message from kirk@enterprise  
      (/dev/pts/1) at 22:04 ...  
This is the captain.  
All hands, RED ALERT!
```

Some More Interesting Commands

File Manipulation

- `find` to recursively find files matching a complex criteria
- `xargs` to convert input into arguments
- `tar`, `zip`, `bzip`, `xz` for archiving and compression
- `locate` to find files using an indexed database
- `alias` for setting an alias to an existing command

Text Processing

- `file` to know the type of a file looking at the contents
- `sed` for performing text translations
- `awk` a programming language for scanning and processing patterns
- `diff` to show differences between two files

System Administration

- `du` to find the size occupied by file on disk
- `df` for seeing free disk space
- `free` to see the memory usage
- `top` to monitor running processes
- `shutdown`, `reboot` to restart machine
- `crontab` for scheduling tasks
- `mount`, `umount` for accessing other disks/partitions
- `yum`, `apt-get` for software package installation/removal
- `wget` to download a file from a website

References

- Man Pages: *man*
- Info Documentation: *info*
- Learning the Shell:
http://linuxcommand.org/learning_the_shell.php