

Bash Command “nt” Documentation

Problem Statement:

When I code in Python, I often times enjoy using the MacOS Terminal. When coding in this environment, I commonly have one tab running vim on the script I am editing, and the other I leave in the bash command line so that I can execute scripts. I wanted to streamline the process for opening a tab, then opening vim in a script, and my “nt” command does just that.

How it Works:

“nt” stands for new tab, and it does just that. By typing the command below, a new terminal tab will be opened, and the command in the quotations will be run automatically.

nt “vim script.py”

The command uses a package named osascript, which allows for keyboard strokes to be inputted. In the default Mac Terminal, hitting Command+T opens a new tab. Then, it pastes the command in the quotations into the new tab. Finally, it keystrokes return to run the quoted command.

How to Install and Run:

1. First, install the following package:

Pip install osascript

This will install a package which can input keyboard strokes, allowing for a new tab to be opened.

2. Next, store the file in a permanent location. I used:

~/bin/

3. The script needs to be stored as an executable, so run the following in the folder containing nt:

chmod +x nt

4. Finally, go to the home directory (cd ~), run the following command:

vim .bashrc

and add the following line:

source ~/bin/nt

*Note you will change ~/bin/ to where you store the script

5. Now go to any folder and execute the command!