CSC 2500-001: Unix Programming Lab

Lab 01

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1-28-20

1. How can you determine what shell you are running? (5)

Answer: echo $0

1. Briefly, what information does the -help option display for the tar utility? How would you display this information one screen at a time? (5)

Answer 1: GNU 'tar' saves many files together into a single tape or disk archive, and can

restore individual files from the archive.

Answer 2: ls -la | more

1. How would you display a list of utilities that compress files? (5)

Answer: $ apropos compress

1. The example on page 35 shows that man pages for passwd appear in sections 1 and 5 of the system manual. Explain how you can use man to determine which sections of the system manual page with a given name. (10)

Answer: $ apropos (keyword)| more

1. How would you find out which Linux utilities create and work with archive files? (5)

Answer: apropos archive

1. What happens when you give the following commands if the file named done already exists? (10)
   1. $ cp to\_do done
   2. $ mv to\_do done

Answer 1: cp: cannot stat 'to\_do': No such file or directory

Answer 2: mv: cannot stat 'to\_do': No such file or directory

Either command overwrites done with the contents of to\_do

1. What is the result of giving the which utility the name of a command that resides in a directory that is not in your search path? (5)

Answer: Gives a message saying that the command is not in the directory list of your specified path

1. Try giving these two commands:(10)
   1. $ echo cat
   2. $ cat echo

Explain the differences between the output of each command

Answer: $ cat echo gives no such file or directory, while $ echo cat prints cat

1. How can you find out which utilities are available on your system for editing files? Which utilites are available for editing on your system? (10)

Answer: apropos. ed, editor, ex, nano, pico, red, rview, rvim, sed, select-editor, sensible editor, tc-pedit, tc-sbmod, vi, view, vim

1. Which command can you use to determine who is logged in on a specific terminal? (5)

Answer: w

1. Is each of the following an absolute pathname, a relative pathname, or a simple pathname? (10)
   1. Milk\_co
   2. correspond/business/milk\_co
   3. /home/max
   4. /home/max/literature/promo
   5. ..
   6. Letter.0210

Answer: Absolute pathnames- c,d. relative pathnames- e,b. Simple pathnames- a, f

1. List the commands you can use to perform these operations: (10)
   1. Make your home directory the working directory
   2. Identify the working directory

Answer1: cd

Answer2: pwd

1. What is an inode? What happens to the inode when you move a file within a filesystem? (10)

Answer: the control structure for a file. If the two filenames have the same inode number, they share the same control structure and are links to the same file.