[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bnx\_GAHM0wo&list=PLS1QulWo1RIb9WVQGJ\_vh-RQusbZgO\_As&index=8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bnx_GAHM0wo&list=PLS1QulWo1RIb9WVQGJ_vh-RQusbZgO_As&index=8)

**Notes:**

* Command cp is used to copy files in Linux
* Let’s create two directories (dir1 and dir2) and a text file (test1.txt)
* Command cp test1.txt test2.txt will create test2.txt if it doesn’t exists and will copy the contents of test1 into test2. You can use cat to compare both files
* Command cp test1.txt dir1 will copy the file into the dir1.
* Command cp test1.txt test2.txt dir2 will copy both files into the directory dir2
* If a file with the same name already exists in a directory, the cp command will overwrite the contents of that file
* Use command cp -i test1.txt test2.txt dir1 so that the terminal will ask you if you want your file to be overwritten. If you say n, only test2.txt will be copied.
* You can use cp ../file1.txt ../file2.txt . to say to copy these files in the current directory (dot is current directory)
* Difference between cat and cp copying: cp is more simple and will retain the original’s permissions.
* If you want to copy a directory which has one/multiple files into a directory that does not exist, use the command cp -R dir1 dir3 (-R is recursive copying)
* If you transfer a directory with files into a directory that does not exist the contents of the ogirinal will be transferred to the copy. But if that copy directory already exists, it will copy the original directory INTO the copy directory first and then the content. Use cp -vR dir1 dir3 to see this in action.
* Use man cp to see all other options.