Express Linux Tutorial Learn Basic Commands in an Hour

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Overview

- Definition of Operating System, file-system (slides 3-5)
- Remote Access (slides 7-13)
- Basic Commands (slides 15-26)
- Other Useful Commands (slides 28 -31)





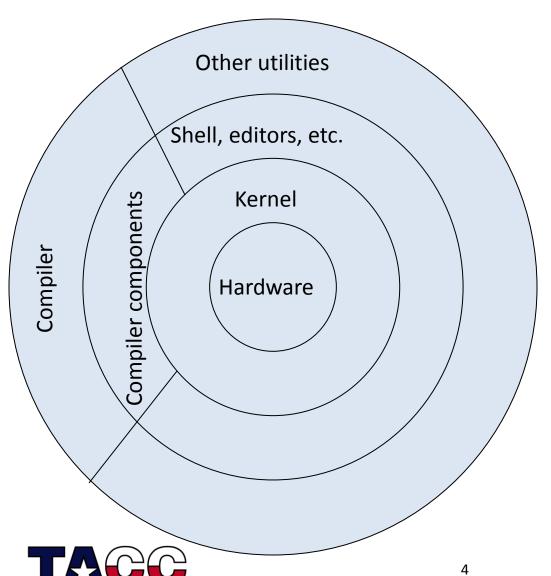
What is an Operating System (OS)?

- Software interface between the user and the computer hardware
- Controls the execution of other programs
- Responsible for managing multiple computer resources (CPU, memory, disk, display, keyboard, etc.)
- Examples of OS: Windows, Unix/Linux, OS X





How does the Linux OS work?



- Linux has a kernel and one or more shells
- The shell is the command line interface through which the user interacts with the OS. Most commonly used shell is "bash"
- The kernel sits on top of the hardware and is the core of the OS; it receives tasks from the shell and performs them



Linux File System

- A directory in Linux is similar to a "Folder" in Windows OS
- Files are organized into directories and sub-directories
- In Linux, paths begin at the root directory which is the top-level of the file system and is represented as a forward slash (/)
- Forward slash is used to separate directory and file names





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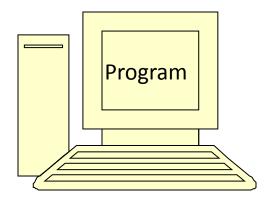


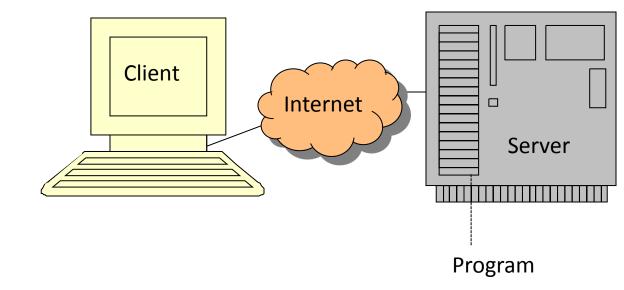


Desktop Access vs. Remote Access

Desktops











How to access Linux systems remotely from Windows machine?

- Using client programs on Windows machines
 - SSH Secure Shell Client
 http://www.icrew.org/mirror/ssh/SSHSecureShellClient-3.2.9.exe
 - PuTTY
 http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/download.html

Other options:

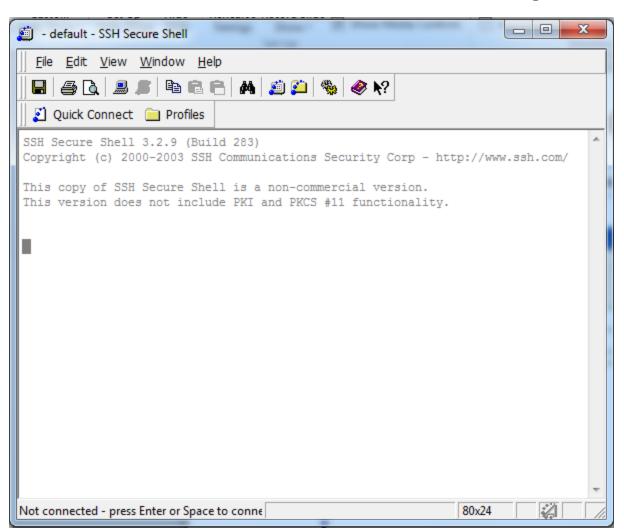
- Install Linux on a USB stick: http://www.pendrivelinux.com/
- Use Cygwin/VM Ware (runs as a windows process)





On Windows, double click on the SSH Secure Shell Client, the following window will appear

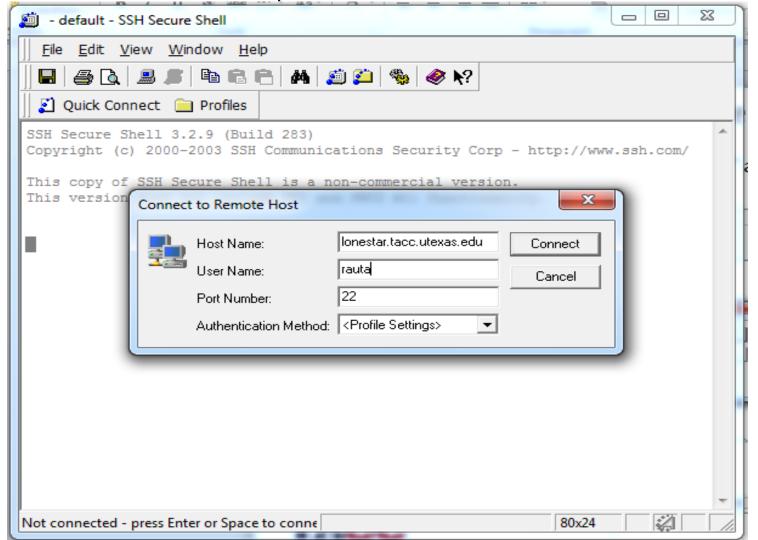








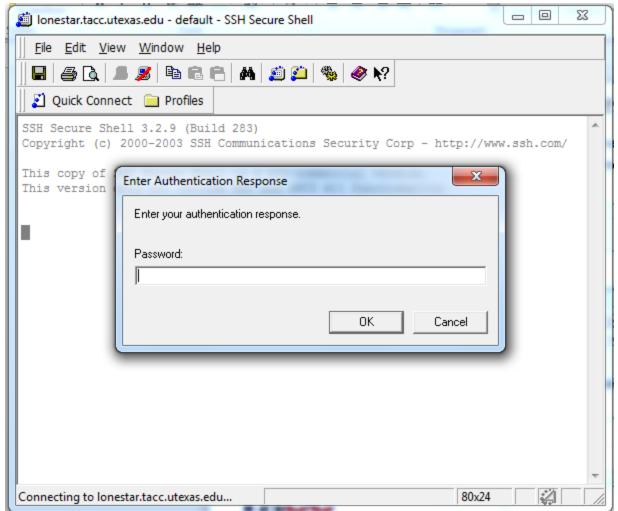
Click on "Quick Connect", enter "Host Name" and "Username"







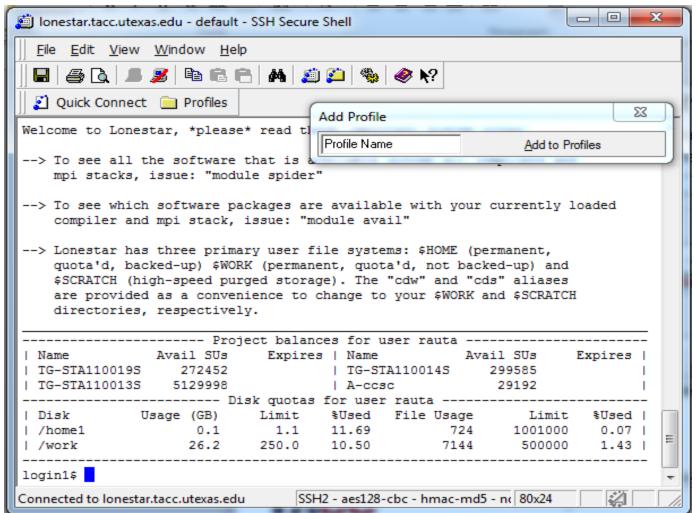
Click on "Quick Connect", enter "Host Name", "Username", click
 "Connect", enter password, click on "OK" for "Enter Authentication..."







Enter commands at the command prompt







Interacting with the Shell

- Type a command (ls) at the prompt (login3\$) and press ENTER
 Example: login3\$ ls
- Shell starts a new process for executing the requested command, the new process executes the command and the shell displays any output generated by the command
- When the process completes, the shell displays the prompt and is ready to take the next command
- Specific information is passed to the command via more arguments
- The shell is killed by "exit" or CTRL-D

```
login3$ exit
```

logout





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Basic Commands (1)

 To print the name of the current/working directory, use the pwd command

```
login4$ pwd
/share/home/01698/rauta
```

• To make a new directory, use the mkdir command login4\$ mkdir ssc222

To change your working directory, use the cd command

login4\$ cd ssc222





Basic Commands (2)

To create a new file use the vi command

```
login4$ vi test.txt
```

- Press i to start inserting text
- Type some text: Hello Class 222
- To save and quit, press "Esc" key, and enter : wq!
 (press the enter key after typing : wq!)
- To quit without saving, press "Esc" key if in insert mode, and enter ": q!"
- To display the contents of the file, use the cat short for concatenation) command
 - login4\$ cat test.txt





Basic Commands (3)

 To list the contents of a directory, use the ls command

 To see all files and directories, including hidden ones use the -a flag with the ls command. Hidden files have a "." in front of them

Note: your current working directory can be checked by using the pwd command.





Basic Commands (4)

To copy contents of one file to another, use the cp command

```
login4$ cp test.txt copytest.txt
login4$ cp test.txt test3.txt
One more example:
login4$ mkdir junk
login4$ cp test.txt ./junk/test2.txt
(The command above copies a file to the sub-directory junk)
login4$ cd junk
login4$ ls
login4$ cd ..
```

To go a level up from the current working directory





Exercise -1 (Part A)

Run the following commands to make a directory:

```
login1$ mkdir ssc229
login1$ cd ssc229
```

- Create a file using vi command in ssc229 (see slide 15) login1\$ vi test.txt
- Run the following commands in the ssc229 directory

```
login1$ cp test.txt test2.txt
login1$ mkdir junk
login1$ mkdir junk2
login1$ cp test2.txt ./junk/test2.txt
login1$ cp test2.txt ./junk2/test2.txt
login1$ ls
```





Exercise -1 (Part B)

Run the following commands starting from the ssc229
 directory that you created in Part A of Exercise-1

```
login1$ ls
login1$ cd junk
login1$ ls
login1$ cd ..
login1$ cd junk2
login1$ ls
login1$ cd ..
login1$ ls
login1$ cp test.txt test3.txt
```





Basic Commands (5)

• To remove a file, use the rm command login4\$ rm test2.txt

To remove a directory, use the " -r " option with the rm command

login4\$ rm -r junk2

 You can also use the rmdir command to remove an empty directory

login4\$ rmdir junk2

Note: rmdir command does not have -r option





Basic Commands (6)

• A file can be renamed by moving it. The same can be achieved by using the $m_{\rm V}\,$ command

```
login4$ mv test3.txt newtest3.txt
```

 Use the man command to get more information about a command – it is like using help in Windows

```
login4$ man rmdir
```

• Use the diff command to see the differences in two files login4\$ diff test.txt newtest3.txt





Basic Commands (7)

 Previously executed commands in a shell can be viewed by using the history command. For example:

```
login4$ history
1 man ls
2 ls -ltr
3 ls -l -t -r
4 ls -ltr
5 history
```





Basic Commands (8)

 If the contents to display are more than one page, you could use the more/less command for paging through text a screenful at a time

```
login4$ more test.txt
login4$ less test.txt
```

(less allows both fwd and bwd movement)





Basic Commands (9) Creating a tarball

 TAR (Tape Archive) command bundles files and subdirectories together and creates an archive (known as tar file or tarball)

• To create a tarball of all the files and sub-directories in the directory ssc229 that you created in Exercise 1, use **c** flag:

```
tar -cvf mytar.tar *
```

• To extract the contents of a tar file use x flag:

login1\$ tar -xvf mytar.tar





Basic Commands (10) Creating a Compressed tarball

To compress the tar file as it is being created use z flag with
 c flag:

```
login1$ tar -cvzf mytar.tar.gz *
```

To extract the contents of a compressed tar file use x flag:
 login1\$ tar -xvf mytar.tar.gz

Note: the **c**, **v**, and **f** flags mean create a new archive, be verbose so that the files being archived are listed, and write the archive to a file.





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Redirecting Output

- By default, the output is displayed on the screen
- ">" symbol can be used to redirect the output to a file or a utility (e.g., ls). Example:

 The " | " symbol is used to connect the output of one process to the input of another process

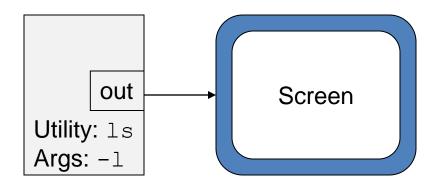
$$ls -l \mid wc -l$$

wc counts the number of lines

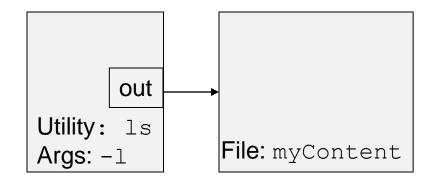




Redirecting Output

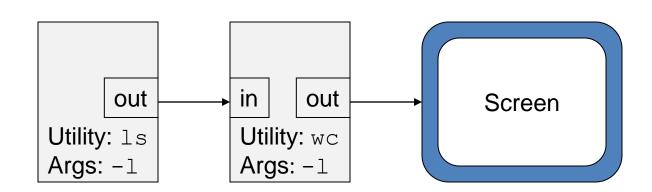


Command: ls -ltr



Command:

ls -ltr > myContent



Command: ls -l | wc -l





Other Directives

" < " symbol is used for input redirection

```
mail -s "SSC 222/292" rauta@tacc.utexas.edu < test.txt
```

• ">>" symbol is used for appending output to a file login4\$ cat test3.txt >> test.txt

• ";" is used to execute multiple commands in one step login4\$ clear; date





Adding Content to a File

You can add content to a file as follows

```
login4$ cat > test.txt
This is what I am entering from the console
CTRL-D
login4$ cat test.txt
This is what I am entering from the console
```

You can append content to a file as follows

```
login4$ cat >> test.txt
Appending more lines
CTRL-D
```





Check Username and Group

- Three types of users: owner or user, group, all others
- To check the login name use the command whoami or echo \$USER
- To check the groups you are a member of use the command groups
- To check your user id, or group id use the command id





File Permissions (1)

- Users typically perform the following operations on files:
 - Read files (using more, cat, etc.)
 - Write files (using >, vi, etc.)
 - Execute commands in a file (executables, etc.)
- Each file has three permissions read, write and execute (rwx)
- Person creating the file is the owner or user and can modify permissions as desired
 - Owner can modify permissions on files to grant or revoke access to other users





File Permissions (2)

 To check the file permissions use the -1 flag with the 1s command

```
login4$ ls -1
total 24
drwx----- 2 rauta G-25072 4096 Jan 17 14:07 junk
drwx----- 2 rauta G-25072 4096 Jan 17 14:15 junk2
-rw----- 1 rauta G-25072 65 Jan 17 13:59 test.txt
```





File Permissions (3)

- chmod command is used to change permissions on a file
- To add specific permission use chmod +
 - To add write permission to all users use:

```
chmod a+w filename
```

- To add read permission to only the users in your group use: chmod g+r filename
- To make a file executable and runnable by any user chmod a+x myfile
- To remove specific permission use chmod -
- Add and remove permissions can be combined in a single step
 - chmod u+x,g+r,o-rwx filename





File Permissions (4)

 Instead of using alphabets u, g, o for user, group, and others we can use numbers to specify file permissions

Note that:

chmod go+rx filename = chmod 755 filename





Directory Permissions

- To check the contents of a file with ls command, you would need read permission
- To add or remove files in a directory, you would need write and execute permission
- To change to a directory or to go through its contents, you would need execute permission
- To list files in a directory using ls -l command you would need read and execute permissions





References

- http://code.google.com/edu/tools101/linux/basics.html#the_ command_line
- http://www.tacc.utexas.edu/documents/13601/118360/Linux
 Intro HPC 09+11+2011 hliu.pdf
- http://www.cis.uab.edu/courses/cs333/spring2005/
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