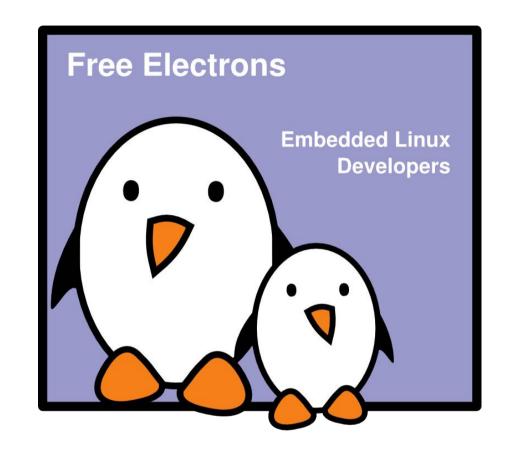


The Unix and GNU/Linux command line

The Unix and GNU/Linux command line

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Document sources, updates and translations: http://free-electrons.com/docs/command-line

Corrections, suggestions, contributions and translations are welcome!



Command memento sheet



It is a useful companion to this presentation.

Examples for the most useful commands are given in just one sheet.

Suggestions for use

Stick this sheet on your wall, use it as desktop wallpaper, make it a mouse mat, print it on clothing, slice it into bookmarks...

Caution

Store away from mice!

Get it on http://free-electrons.com/docs/command-line



Training Contents (1)

Shells, filesystem and file handling

- Everything is a file
- GNU / Linux filesystem structure
- Command line interpreters
- Handling files and directories
- Displaying, scanning and sorting files
- Symbolic and hard link
- File access rights



Training contents (2)

Standard I/O, redirections, pipes

- Standard input and output, redirecting to files
- Pipes: redirecting standard output to other commands
- Standard error



Training Contents (3)

Task control

- Full control on tasks
- Executing in background, suspending, resuming and aborting
- List of active tasks
- Killing processes
- Environment variables
- PATH environment variables
- Shell aliases, .bashrc file



Training contents (4)

Miscellaneous

- Text editors
- Compressing and archiving
- Printing files
- Comparing files and directories
- Looking for files
- Getting information about users



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Unix filesystem



Everything is a file

Almost everything in Unix is a file!

- Regular files
- DirectoriesDirectories are just fileslisting a set of files
- Symbolic links Files referring to the name of another file

- Devices and peripherals Read and write from devices as with regular files
- Pipes
 Used to cascade programs
 cat *.log | grep error
- Sockets
 Inter process communication



File names

File name features since the beginning of Unix

- Case sensitive
- No obvious length limit
- Can contain any character (including whitespace, except /). File types stored in the file ("magic numbers"). File name extensions not needed and not interpreted. Just used for user convenience.
- File name examples:

```
README .bashrc Windows Buglist index.htm index.html index.html.old
```



File paths

A *path* is a sequence of nested directories with a file or directory at the end, separated by the / character

- Relative path: documents/fun/microsoft_jokes.html Relative to the current directory
- Absolute path:
 /home/bill/bugs/crash9402031614568
- /: root directory.
 Start of absolute paths for all files on the system (even for files on removable devices or network shared).



GNU / Linux filesystem structure (1)

Not imposed by the system. Can vary from one system to the other, even between two GNU/Linux installations!

```
/bin/ Basic, essential system commands
/boot/ Kernel images, initrd and configuration files
/dev/ Files representing devices
/dev/hda: first IDE hard disk
/etc/ System configuration files
/home/ User directories
/lib/ Basic system shared libraries
```



GNU / Linux filesystem structure (2)

/lost+found	Corrupt files the system tried to recover
/media	Mount points for removable media:
	/media/usbdisk,/media/cdrom
/mnt/	Mount points for temporarily mounted
filesystems	
/opt/	Specific tools installed by the sysadmin
	/usr/local/ often used instead
/proc/	Access to system information
	/proc/cpuinfo,/proc/version
/root/	root user home directory
/sbin/	Administrator-only commands
/sys/	System and device controls
	(cpu frequency, device power, etc.)



GNU / Linux filesystem structure (3)

```
/tmp/ Temporary files

/usr/ Regular user tools (not essential to the system)
/usr/bin/, /usr/lib/, /usr/sbin...

/usr/local/ Specific software installed by the sysadmin
(often preferred to /opt/)

/var/ Data used by the system or system servers
/var/log/, /var/spool/mail (incoming mail), /var/spool/lpd (print jobs)...
```

The Unix filesystem structure is defined by the Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS): http://www.pathname.com/fhs/



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Shells and file handling



Command line interpreters

- Shells: tools to execute user commands
- Called "shells" because they hide the details on the underlying operating system under the shell's surface.
- Commands are input in a text terminal, either a window in a graphical environment or a text-only console.
- Results are also displayed on the terminal. No graphics are needed at all.
- Shells can be scripted: provide all the resources to write complex programs (variable, conditionals, iterations...)



Well known shells

Most famous and popular shells

- sh: The Bourne shell (obsolete)
 Traditional, basic shell found on Unix systems, by Steve Bourne.
- csh: The C shell (obsolete)
 Once popular shell with a C-like syntax
- tcsh: The TC shell (still very popular)
 A C shell compatible implementation with evolved features (command completion, history editing and more...)
- bash: The Bourne Again shell (most popular)
 An improved implementation of sh with lots of added features too.



fish: a great new shell

The Friendly Interactive SHell http://www.fishshell.org/



- Standard features: history, command and file completion...
- Brand new features: command option completion, command completion with short description, syntax highlighting..
- Easier to any open files: open built-in command.
- Much simpler and consistent syntax (not POSIX compliant) Makes it easier to create shell scripts.

Command line beginners can learn much faster! Even experienced users should find this shell very convenient.

Is command

Lists the files in the current directory, in alphanumeric order, except files starting with the "." character.

- ls -a (all) Lists all the files (including .* files)
- ▶ 1s −1 (long) Long listing (type, date, size, owner, permissions)
- ls -t (time)
 Lists the most recent files first

- ls -S (size)
 Lists the biggest files first
- ▶ ls -r (reverse)
 Reverses the sort order
- ls -ltr (options can be combined)
 Long listing, most recent files at the end



File name pattern substitutions

Better introduced by examples!

- The shell first replaces *txt by all the file and directory names ending by txt (including .txt), except those starting with ., and then executes the ls command line.
- ls -d .*
 Lists all the files and directories starting with .
 -d tells ls not to display the contents of directories.
- cat ?.log
 Displays all the files which names start by 1 character and end by .log



Special directories (1)

- . /
- ► The current directory. Useful for commands taking a directory argument. Also sometimes useful to run commands in the current directory (see later).
- ▶ So ./readme.txt and readme.txt are equivalent.
- . . /
- ► The parent (enclosing) directory. Always belongs to the . directory (see ls -a). Only reference to the parent directory.
- Typical usage:



Special directories (2)

~/

- Not a special directory indeed. Shells just substitute it by the home directory of the current user.
- Cannot be used in most programs, as it is not a real directory.

~sydney/

Similarly, substituted by shells by the home directory of the sydney user.



The cd and pwd commands

- cd <dir>
 Changes the current directory to <dir>
- Gets back to the previous current directory.
- pwd
 Displays the current directory ("working directory").



The cp command

- cp <source_file> <target_file>
 Copies the source file to the target.
- cp file1 file2 file3 ... dir Copies the files to the target directory (last argument).
- ▶ cp -i (interactive)
 Asks for user confirmation if the target file already exists
- cp -r <source_dir> <target_dir> (recursive)
 Copies the whole directory.



mv and rm commands

- mv <old_name> <new_name> (move)
 Renames the given file or directory.
- ► mv -i (interactive)
 If the new file already exits, asks for user confirm
- rm file1 file2 file3 ... (remove)
 Removes the given files.
- rm -i (interactive)
 Always ask for user confirm.
- rm -r dir1 dir2 dir3 (recursive)
 Removes the given directories with all their contents.



Creating and removing directories

- mkdir dir1 dir2 dir3 ... (make dir)
 Creates directories with the given names.
- rmdir dir1 dir2 dir3 ... (remove dir)
 Removes the given directories
 Safe: only works when directories and empty.
 Alternative: rm -r (doesn't need empty directories).



Displaying file contents

Several ways of displaying the contents of files.

- cat file1 file2 file3 ... (concatenate)
 Concatenates and outputs the contents of the given files.
- More file1 file2 file3 ...
 After each page, asks the user to hit a key to continue.
 Can also jump to the first occurrence of a keyword (/ command).
- less file1 file2 file3 ...
 Does more than more with less.
 Doesn't read the whole file before starting.
 Supports backward movement in the file (? command).



The head and tail commands

- head [-<n>] <file> Displays the first <n> lines (or 10 by default) of the given file. Doesn't have to open the whole file to do this!
- tail [-<n>] <file> Displays the last <n> lines (or 10 by default) of the given file. No need to load the whole file in RAM! Very useful for huge files.
- tail -f <file> (follow)
 Displays the last 10 lines of the given file and continues to display new lines when they are appended to the file.
 Very useful to follow the changes in a log file, for example.
- Examples
 head windows_bugs.txt
 tail -f outlook_vulnerabilities.txt



The grep command

- grep <pattern> <files> Scans the given files and displays the lines which match the given pattern.
- grep error *.log
 Displays all the lines containing error in the *.log files
- grep -i error *.log
 Same, but case insensitive
- grep -ri error .
 Same, but recursively in all the files in . and its subdirectories
- grep -v info *.log
 Outputs all the lines in the files except those containing info.



The sort command

- Sort <file> Sorts the lines in the given file in character order and outputs them.
- sort -r <file>
 Same, but in reverse order.
- sort -ru <file>u: unique. Same, but just outputs identical lines once.
- More possibilities described later!

The sed command

- sed is a Stream EDitor
- It parses text files and implements a programming language to apply transformations on the text.
- One of the most common usage of sed is text replacement, which relies on regular expressions
 - sed -e 's/abc/def/' testfile will replace every string "abc" by "def" in the file testfile and display the result on the standard output.
 - sed 's/^[\t]*//' testfile will remove any tabulation or space at the beginning of a line
 - sed 's/^|\([^|]*\)|\([^|]*\)|\$/\1 -> \2/' testfile
 replace lines like |string1|string2|
 by string1 -> string2



sed: regular expressions

- Regular expressions are useful in many Unix tools, not only sed. They allow to match the input text against an expression.
 - . matches any character
 - [] matches any character listed inside the brackets
 - [^] matches any character not listed inside the brackets
 - ^ matches the beginning of the line
 - > \$ matches the end of the line
 - * matches the previous element zero or more times, + matches the previous element one or more times, ? matches the previous element zero or one time
 - \(\) defines a sub-expression that can be later recalled by using \n, where n is the number of the sub-expression in the regular expression
 - More at http://www.regular-expressions.info/



Symbolic links

A symbolic link is a special file which is just a reference to the name of another one (file or directory):

- Useful to reduce disk usage and complexity when 2 files have the same content.
- Example: anakin_skywalker_biography -> darth_vador_biography
- How to identify symbolic links:
 - ▶ 1s -1 displays -> and the linked file name.
 - ► GNU 1s displays links with a different color.



Creating symbolic links

- ► To create a symbolic link (same order as in cp): ln -s file name link name
- ► To create a link with to a file in another directory, with the same name:

```
ln -s ../README.txt
```

To create multiple links at once in a given directory:
ln -s file1 file2 file3 ... dir

To remove a link:

```
rm link_name
Of course, this doesn't remove the linked file!
```

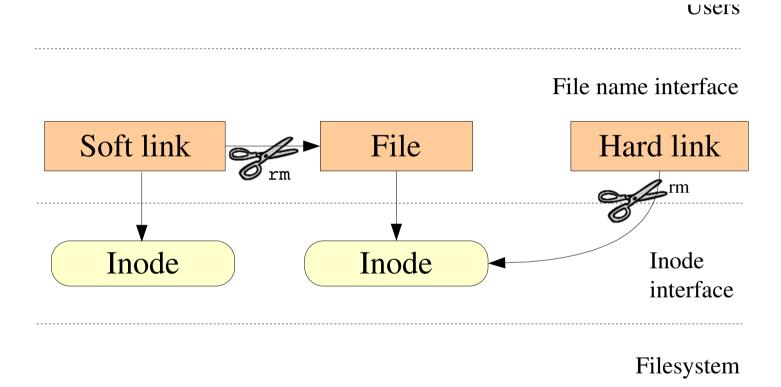
Hard links

- The default behavior for ln is to create hard links
- A hard link to a file is a regular file with exactly the same physical contents
- While they still save space, hard links can't be distinguished from the original files.
- If you remove the original file, there is no impact on the hard link contents.
- The contents are removed when there are no more files (hard links) to them.



Files names and inodes

Makes hard and symbolic (soft) links easier to understand!





The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Command documentation



Command help

Some Unix commands and most GNU / Linux commands offer at least one help argument:

- -h(- is mostly used to introduce 1-character options)
- --help
 (-- is always used to introduce the corresponding "long" option name, which makes scripts easier to understand)

You also often get a short summary of options when you input an invalid argument.



Manual pages

man <keyword>

Displays one or several manual pages for <keyword>

man man

Most available manual pages are about Unix commands, but some are also about C functions, headers or data structures, or even about system configuration files!

- man stdio.h
- man fstab (for /etc/fstab)

Manual page files are looked for in the directories specified by the MANPATH environment variable.



Info pages

In GNU, man pages are being replaced by info pages. Some manual pages even tell to refer to info pages instead.

info <command>

- info features:
 - Documentation structured in sections ("nodes") and subsections ("subnodes")
 - Possibility to navigate in this structure: top, next, prev, up
 - Info pages generated from the same texinfo source as the HTML documentation pages



Searching the Internet for resources (2)

Looking for documentation

- ▶ Look for <tool> or <tool> page to find the tool or project home page and then find the latest documentation resources.
- ► Look for <tool> documentation or <tool> manual in your favorite search engine.

Looking for generic technical information

WikiPedia: http://wikipedia.org Lots of useful definitions in computer science. A real encyclopedia! Open to anyone's contributions.

Searching the Internet for resources (1)

Investigating issues

- Most forums and mailing list archives are public, and are indexed on a very frequent basis by Google.
- ▶ If you investigate an error message, copy it verbatim in the search form, enclosed in double quotes ("error message"). Lots of chances that somebody else already faced the same issue.
- Don't forget to use Google Groups: http://groups.google.com/ This site indexes more than 20 years of newsgroups messages.



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Users and permissions



File access rights

Use ls -1 to check file access rights

3 types of access rights

- Read access (r)
- Write access (w)
- Execute rights (x)

3 types of access levels

- User (u): for the owner of the file
- Group (g): each file also has a "group" attribute, corresponding to a given list of users
- Others (o): for all other users



Access right constraints

- x is sufficient to execute binaries
 Both x and r and required for shell scripts.
- Both r and x permissions needed in practice for directories: r to list the contents, x to access the contents.
- You can't rename, remove, copy files in a directory if you don't have w access to this directory.
- ► If you have w access to a directory, you CAN remove a file even if you don't have write access to this file (remember that a directory is just a file describing a list of files). This even lets you modify (remove + recreate) a file even without w access to it.



Access rights examples

- ▶ -rw-r--r--
 - Readable and writable for file owner, only readable for others
- -rw-r----
 - Readable and writable for file owner, only readable for users belonging to the file group.
- Directory only accessible by its owner
- File executable by others but neither by your friends nor by yourself. Nice protections for a trap...





chmod: changing permissions

- chmod <permissions> <files>
 2 formats for permissions:
- Octal format (abc):
 a,b,c = r*4+w*2+x (r, w, x: booleans)
 Example: chmod 644 <file>
 (rw for u, r for g and o)
- Or symbolic format. Easy to understand by examples: chmod go+r: add read permissions to group and others.

chmod u-w: remove write permissions from user. chmod a-x: (a: all) remove execute permission from all.



More chmod (1)

```
chmod -R a+rX linux/
  Makes linux and everything in it available to
  everyone!
```

- R: apply changes recursively
- X: x, but only for directories and files already executable Very useful to open recursive access to directories, without adding execution rights to all files.



More chmod (2)

chmod a+t /tmp

- ▶ t: (sticky). Special permission for directories, allowing only the directory and file owner to delete a file in a directory.
- ► Useful for directories with write access to anyone, like /tmp.
- ▶ Displayed by ls −1 with a t character.



File ownership

Particularly useful in (embedded) system development when you create files for another system.

- hown -R sco /home/linux/src (-R: recursive)
 Makes user sco the new owner of all the files in
 /home/linux/src.
- chgrp -R empire /home/askywalker Makes empire the new group of everything in /home/askywalker.
- chown -R borg:aliens usss_entreprise/ chown can be used to change the owner and group at the same time.



Beware of the dark side of root

- ▶ root user privileges are only needed for very specific tasks with security risks: mounting, creating device files, loading drivers, starting networking, changing file ownership, package upgrades...
- ► Even if you have the root password, your regular account should be sufficient for 99.9 % of your tasks (unless you are a system administrator).
- In a training session, it is acceptable to use root. In real life, you may not even have access to this account, or put your systems and data at risk if you do.





Using the root account

In case you really want to use root...

- If you have the root password:
 su (switch user)
- In modern distributions, the sudo command gives you access to some root privileges with your own user password.

Example: sudo mount /dev/hda4 /home



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Standard I/O, redirections, pipes



Standard output

More about command output

- All the commands outputting text on your terminal do it by writing to their standard output.
- Standard output can be written (redirected) to a file using the > symbol
- Standard output can be appended to an existing file using the >> symbol



Standard output redirection examples

- ls ~saddam/* > ~gwb/weapons_mass_destruction.txt
- cat obiwan_kenobi.txt > starwars_biographies.txt
 cat han_solo.txt >> starwars_biographies.txt
- echo "README: No such file or directory" > README Useful way of creating a file without a text editor.
 Nice Unix joke too in this case.



Standard input

More about command input

Lots of commands, when not given input arguments, can take their input from *standard input*.

```
sort
windows
linux
[Ctrl][D]
the standard input: in this case,
what you type in the terminal
linux
(ended by [Ctrl][D])
windows
```

sort < participants.txt</p>
The standard input of sort is taken from the given file.



Pipes

- Unix pipes are very useful to redirect the standard output of a command to the standard input of another one.
- Examples

```
cat *.log | grep -i error | sort
```

- pgrep -ri error . | grep -v "ignored" | sort -u \
 > serious_errors.log
- cat /home/*/homework.txt | grep mark | more
- This one of the most powerful features in Unix shells!



The tee command

```
tee [-a] file
```

- The tee command can be used to send standard output to the screen and to a file simultaneously.
- make | tee build.log Runs the make command and stores its output to build.log.
- make install | tee -a build.log Runs the make install command and appends its output to build.log.



Standard error

- Error messages are usually output (if the program is well written) to standard error instead of standard output.
- Standard error can be redirected through 2> or 2>>
- Example: cat f1 f2 nofile > newfile 2> errfile
- Note: 1 is the descriptor for standard output, so 1> is equivalent to >.
- Can redirect both standard output and standard error to the same file using &> :

```
cat f1 f2 nofile &> wholefile
```



The yes command

Useful to fill standard input with always the same string.

- yes <string> | <command>
 Keeps filling the standard input of <command> with
 <string> (y by default).
- Examples
 yes | rm -r dir/
 bank> yes no | credit_applicant
 yes "" | make oldconfig

(equivalent to hitting [Enter] to accept all default settings)



Special devices (1)

Device files with a special behavior or contents

/dev/null
 The data sink! Discards all data written to this file.
 Useful to get rid of unwanted output, typically log
 information:
 mplayer black_adder_4th.avi &> /dev/null

/dev/zero
 Reads from this file always return \0 characters
 Useful to create a file filled with zeros:
 dd if=/dev/zero of=disk.img bs=1k count=2048

See man null or man zero for details



Special devices (2)

/dev/random

Returns random bytes when read. Mainly used by cryptographic programs. Uses interrupts from some device drivers as sources of true randomness ("entropy"). Reads can be blocked until enough entropy is gathered.

/dev/urandom

For programs for which pseudo random numbers are fine. Always generates random bytes, even if not enough entropy is available (in which case it is possible, though still difficult, to predict future byte sequences from past ones).

See man random for details.



Special devices (3)

/dev/full Mimics a full device. Useful to check that your application properly handles this kind of situation.

See man full for details.



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Task control



Full control on tasks

- Since the beginning, Unix supports true preemptive multitasking.
- Ability to run many tasks in parallel, and abort them even if they corrupt their own state and data.
- Ability to choose which programs you run.
- Ability to choose which input your programs takes, and where their output goes.



Processes

"Everything in Unix is a file Everything in Unix that is not a file is a process"

Processes

- Instances of a running programs
- Several instances of the same program can run at the same time
- Data associated to processes: Open files, allocated memory, stack, process id, parent, priority, state...



Running jobs in background

Same usage throughout all the shells

- Useful
 - For command line jobs which output can be examined later, especially for time consuming ones.
 - To start graphical applications from the command line and then continue with the mouse.
- Starting a task: add & at the end of your line:

```
find prince charming --cute --clever --rich &
```



Background job control

jobs
Returns the list of background jobs from the same shell

```
[1]- Running ~/bin/find_meaning_of_life --without-god &
[2]+ Running make mistakes &
```

fg
fg %<n>
Puts the last / nth background job in foreground mode

Moving the current task in background mode: [Ctrl] Z bq

► kill %<n>
Aborts the nth job.



Job control example

```
> jobs
[1]- Running ~/bin/find meaning of life --without-god &
[2]+ Running make mistakes &
> fg
make mistakes
> [Ctrl] Z
[2]+ Stopped make mistakes
> bq
[2]+ make mistakes &
> kill %1
[1]+ Terminated ~/bin/find meaning of life --without-god
```



Listing all processes

... whatever shell, script or process they are started from

- ▶ ps -ux
 Lists all the processes belonging to the current user
- ps -aux (Note: ps -edf on System V systems)
 Lists all the processes running on the system

```
grep bart | grep bash
ps -aux
USER
           PID %CPU %MEM
                           VSZ
                                RSS TTY
                                              STAT START
                                                           TIME COMMAND
bart
          3039
                0.0
                    0.2 5916 1380 pts/2
                                                   14:35
                                                           0:00 /bin/bash
                         5388 1380 pts/3
bart
          3134
               0.0
                    0.2
                                                   14:36
                                                           0:00 /bin/bash
                          6368 1360 pts/4
                                                           0:00 /bin/bash
bart
          3190
               0.0
                    0.2
                                                   14:37
                                  0 pts/2
bart
          3416
                0.0
                     0.0
                             0
                                              RW
                                                   15:07
                                                           0:00 [bash]
```

PID: Process id

VSZ: Virtual process size (code + data + stack)

RSS: Process resident size: number of KB currently in RAM

TTY: Terminal

STAT: Status: R (Runnable), S (Sleep), W (paging), Z (Zombie)...



Live process activity

top – Displays most important processes, sorted by cpu percentage

```
top - 15:44:33 up 1:11, 5 users, load average: 0.98, 0.61, 0.59
Tasks: 81 total, 5 running, 76 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
Cpu(s): 92.7% us, 5.3% sy, 0.0% ni, 0.0% id, 1.7% wa, 0.3% hi, 0.0% si
Mem: 515344k total, 512384k used, 2960k free, 20464k buffers
Swap: 1044184k total, 0k used, 1044184k free, 277660k cached
             PR NT
                              SHR S %CPU %MEM
 PID USER
                   VIRT
                         RES
                                              TIME+
                                                    COMMAND
                                             0:21.49 bunzip2
3809 jdoe
            25
                 0 6256 3932 1312 R 93.8 0.8
2769 root 16 0 157m 80m 90m R 2.7 16.0
                                            5:21.01 X
3006 jdoe 15 0 30928 15m 27m S 0.3 3.0 0:22.40 kdeinit
3008 jdoe 16 0 5624 892 4468 S 0.3 0.2
                                            0:06.59 autorun
3034 idoe 15 0 26764 12m 24m S 0.3 2.5 0:12.68 kscd
            16 0 2892 916 1620 R 0.3 0.2 0:00.06 top
3810 jdoe
```

- You can change the sorting order by typing M: Memory usage, P: %CPU, T: Time.
- You can kill a task by typing k and the process id.



Killing processes (1)

▶ kill <pids>

Sends an abort signal to the given processes. Lets processes save data and exit by themselves. Should be used first. Example:

kill 3039 3134 3190 3416

▶ kill -9 <pids>

Sends an immediate termination signal. The system itself terminates the processes. Useful when a process is really stuck (doesn't answer to kill -1).

▶ kill -9 -1
Kills all the processes of the current user. -1: means all processes.



Killing processes (2)

- killall [-<signal>] <command> Kills all the jobs running <command>. Example: killall bash
- xkill

Lets you kill a graphical application by clicking on it! Very quick! Convenient when you don't know the application command name.



Recovering from stuck graphics

- If your graphical session is stuck and you can no longer type in your terminals, don't reboot!
- It is very likely that your system is still fine. Try to access a text console by pressing the [Ctrl][Alt][F1] keys (or [F2],[F3] for more text consoles)
- In the text console, you can try to kill the guilty application.
- Once this is done, you can go back to the graphic session by pressing [Ctrl][Alt][F5] or [Ctrl][Alt][F7] (depending on your distribution)
- If you can't identify the stuck program, you can also kill all your processes: kill −9 −1
 You are then brought back to the login screen.



Sequential commands

- Can type the next command in your terminal even when the current one is not over.
- Can separate commands with the ; symbol: echo "I love thee"; sleep 10; echo " not"
- Conditionals: use | | (or) or && (and): more God | | echo "Sorry, God doesn't exist" Runs echo only if the first command fails

ls ~sd6 && cat ~sd6/* > ~sydney/recipes.txt
Only cats the directory contents if the ls command succeeds
(means read access).



Quoting (1)

Double (") quotes can be used to prevent the shell from interpreting spaces as argument separators, as well as to prevent file name pattern expansion.

- > echo "Hello World"
 Hello World
- > echo "You are logged as \$USER"
 You are logged as bgates
- > echo *.log
 find_prince_charming.log cosmetic_buys.log
- > echo "*.log"
 *.log



Quoting (2)

Single quotes bring a similar functionality, but what is between quotes is never substituted

> echo 'You are logged as \$USER'
You are logged as \$USER

Back quotes (`) can be used to call a command within another

> cd /lib/modules/`uname -r`; pwd
/lib/modules/2.6.9-1.6_FC2

Back quotes can be used within double quotes

> echo "You are using Linux `uname -r`"
You are using Linux 2.6.9-1.6_FC2



Measuring elapsed time



Environment variables

- Shells let the user define variables.
 They can be reused in shell commands.
 Convention: lower case names
- You can also define environment variables: variables that are also visible within scripts or executables called from the shell. Convention: upper case names.
- Lists all defined environment variables and their value.



Shell variables examples

Shell variables (bash)

projdir=/home/marshall/coolstuff
ls -la \$projdir; cd \$projdir

Environment variables (bash)

- ▶ cd \$HOME
- export DEBUG=1
 ./find_extraterrestrial_life
 (displays debug information if DEBUG is set)



Main standard environment variables

Used by lots of applications!

- ► LD_LIBRARY_PATH

 Shared library search path
- Screen id to display X (graphical) applications on.
- ► EDITOR

 Default editor (vi, emacs...)
- HOME
 Current user home
 directory
- Name of the local machine

- мамратнManual page search path
- PATH
 Command search path
- PRINTER
 Default printer name
- SHELL
 Current shell name
- TERM
 Current terminal type
- USER
 Current user name



PATH environment variables

> PATH
Specifies the shell search order for commands

```
home/acox/bin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/kerberos/bin:
/usr/bin:/usr/X11R6/bin:/bin:/usr/bin
```

► LD_LIBRARY_PATH
Specifies the shared library (binary code libraries shared by applications, like the C library) search order for 1d

```
/usr/local/lib:/usr/lib:/lib:/usr/X11R6/lib
```

MANPATH
Specifies the search order for manual pages
/usr/local/man:/usr/share/man



PATH usage warning

It is strongly recommended not to have the "." directory in your PATH environment variable, in particular not at the beginning:

- ➤ A cracker could place a malicious ls file in your directories. It would get executed when you run ls in this directory and could do naughty things to your data.
- If you have an executable file called test in a directory, this will override the default test program and some scripts will stop working properly.
- ► Each time you cd to a new directory, the shell will waste time updating its list of available commands.

Call your local commands as follows: ./test

(P)

Alias

Shells let you define command *aliases*: shortcuts for commands you use very frequently.

Examples

- ▶ alias ls='ls -la'
 Useful to always run commands with default arguments.
- alias rm='rm -i'
 Useful to make rm always ask for confirmation.
- alias frd='find_rambaldi_device --asap --risky' Useful to replace very long and frequent commands.
- alias cia='. /home/sydney/env/cia.sh'
 Useful to set an environment in a quick way
 (. is a shell command to execute the content of a shell script).



The which command

Before you run a command, which tells you where it is found

```
bash> which ls
  alias ls='ls --color=tty'
    /bin/ls
```

- tcsh> which ls
 ls: aliased to ls --color=tty
- bash> which alias
 /usr/bin/which: no alias in
 (/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/X11R6/bin)
- tcsh> which alias
 alias: shell built-in command.

(P)

~/.bashrc file

- ~/.bashrc
 Shell script read each time a bash shell is started
- You can use this file to define
 - ► Your default environment variables (PATH, EDITOR...).
 - Your aliases.
 - Your prompt (see the bash manual for details).
 - A greeting message.



Command editing

- You can use the left and right arrow keys to move the cursor in the current command.
- You can use [Ctrl][a] to go to the beginning of the line, and [Ctrl][e] to go to the end.
- You can use the up and down arrows to select earlier commands.
- You can use [Ctrl][r] to search inside the history of previous commands.



Command history (1)

- history Displays the latest commands that you ran and their number. You can copy and paste command strings.
- You can recall the latest command:
 !!
- You can recall a command by its number ! 1003
- You can recall the latest command matching a starting string:

!cat



Command history (2)

- You can make substitutions on the latest command: ^more^less
- You can run another command with the same arguments:
 more !*



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Text editors

Text editors

Graphical text editors
Fine for most needs

- nedit
- ► Emacs, Xemacs
- ► Kate, Gedit

Text-only text editors

Often needed for sysadmins and great for power users

- ▶ vi, vim
- nano



The nedit text editor

http://www.nedit.org/

- Best text editor for non vi or emacs experts
- Feature highlights:
 - Very easy text selection and moving
 - Syntax highlighting for most languages and formats. Can be tailored for your own log files, to highlight particular errors and warnings.
 - Easy to customize through menus
- Not installed by default by all distributions



nedit screenshot

```
Makefile - /data/mike/handhelds/stock_kernel/linux-2.6.8.1/arch/arm/
 File Edit Search Preferences Shell
                                                                              Help
                                       Macro
                                              Windows
# arch/arm/Makefile
# This file is subject to the terms and conditions of the GNU General Public
# License. See the file "COPYING" in the main directory of this archive
# for more details.
# Copyright (C) 1995-2001 by Russell King
LDFLAGS_vmlinux :=-p --no-undefined -X
LDFLAGS BLOB
              :=--format binary
AFLAGS vmlinux.lds.o = -DTEXTADDR=$(TEXTADDR) -DDATAADDR=$(DATAADDR)
OBJCOPYFLAGS
                 :=-0 binary -R .note -R .comment -S
GZFLAGS
                 :=-9
#CFLAGS
                +=-pipe
ifeq ($(CONFIG FRAME POINTER), y)
                +=-fno-omit-frame-pointer -mapcs -mno-sched-prolog
CFLAGS
endif
ifeq ($(CONFIG CPU BIG ENDIAN), y)
CFLAGS
                += -mbiq-endian
AS
                += -EB
LD
                += -EB
AFLAGS
                += -mbiq-endian
else
                 += -mlittle-endian
CFLAGS
AS
                 += -EL
LD
                 += -EL
AFLAGS
                 += -mlittle-endian
endif
comma = ,
# This selects which instruction set is used.
# Note that GCC does not numerically define an architecture version
# macro, but instead defines a whole series of macros which makes
# testing for a specific architecture or later rather impossible.
```



Emacs / Xemacs

```
emacs@localhost.localdomain
 File Edit Options Buffers Tools C Help
 0 0 × 0 0 0 9 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2
        linux/arch/arm/mach-pxa/generic.c
                   Nicolas Pitre
                  Jun 15, 2001
     * Copyright: MontaVista Software Inc.
     * Code common to all PXA machines
     * This program is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify
     * it under the terms of the GNU General Public License version 2 as
     * published by the Free Software Foundation.
     * Since this file should be linked before any other machine specific file,
     * the initcall() here will be executed first. This serves as default
     * initialization stuff for PXA machines which can be overridden later if
    #include linux/module.h>
   #include ux/kernel.h>
    #include ux/init.h>
    #include ux/delay.h>
   #include linux/device.h>
    #include ux/pm.h>
    #include <asm/hardware.h>
    #include <asm/system.h>
   #include <asm/pgtable.h>
    #include <asm/mach/map.h>
    #include <asm/arch/irgs.h>
    #include <asm/arch/udc.h>
    #include <asm/arch/pxafb.h>
    #include "generic.h"
    #include ".../drivers/serial/pxa-serial.h"
    * Handy function to set GPIO alternate functions
    void pxa_gpio_mode(int gpio_mode)
            unsigned long flags;
           int gpio = gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_NR;
           int fn = (gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_FN) >> 8;
           int gafr;
           local_irq_save(flags);
            if (gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_DIR) {
                    7* if output and active low, then first set the bit to make it inactive */
                    if (qpio mode & GPIO ACTIVE LOW)
                        (C CVS-1.15 Abbrev) -- LT--Top-
   Loading cc-mode...done
```

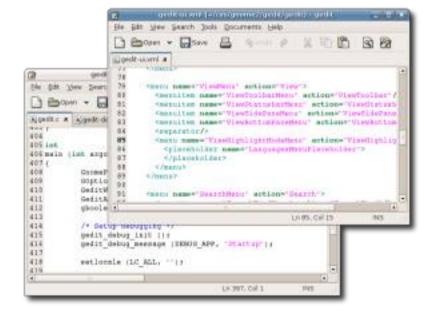
- Emacs and Xemacs are pretty similar (up to your preference)
- Extremely powerful text editor features
- Great for power users
- Less ergonomic than nedit
- Non standard shortcuts
- Much more than a text editor (games, e-mail, shell, browser).
- Some power commands have to be learnt.



Kate and gedit

```
Kate Homepage: page.tpl.php - Kate
   Edit Document View XML Bookmarks Tools Sessions Settings Window Help
                          E <! DOCTYPE html
    index.html
                              PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
    drupal.css
                              "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
                            <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en">
                                 Copyright (C) 2006 Anders Lund <anders@alweb.dk> -->
    style css
                              <title><?php print $head title ?></title>
                              <meta http-equiv="Content-Style-Type" content="text/css" />
                              <?php print $head ?>
                              <?php print $styles ?>
  ☆ ◆ ◆ → → →
  litor.org/drupal/modules/ *
                              <body <?php print theme("onload_attribute"); ?>>
                                <div id="topsy">
                                <div id="header">
  Bartide
                                  <img class="floatleft" src="/themes/kate/kdelogo.png" alt="KDE"</pre>
  flexinode
                                  <h1>Kate -- Get an Edge in Editing<br><small>
                                      KDE Advanced Text Editor</small></h1>
  mimage
                  4.096
  pathauto
                  4.096
                                <div id="mid">
  Taggregator module 49.24
                                  <div id="leftcolumn">
  7archive.module
                                    <?php print $sidebar left ?>
  block.module
                  20.67
  blog.module
                  10.99
                                  <div id="content">
                                    <?php if ($mission) { ?><div id="mission"><?php print $missi
<?php if ($title != ""): ?>
                  23.94
  Dlogapi.module
  Dook module
                  32.52
                                    <h2 class="main-title"><?php print $title; ?></h2>
  Comment.module 76.69:
                                                                                                 4 1
  Contact module 5.194
                          Line: 17 Col: 43 INS NORM page.tpl.php
                       ▼ 📆 Find in Files 📵 Terminal 💑 XML Checker Output
```

- Kate is a powerful text editor dedicated to programming activities, for KDE
 - http://kate.kde.org



- Gedit is a text editor for the Gnome environment
 - http://projects.gnome.org/gedit/

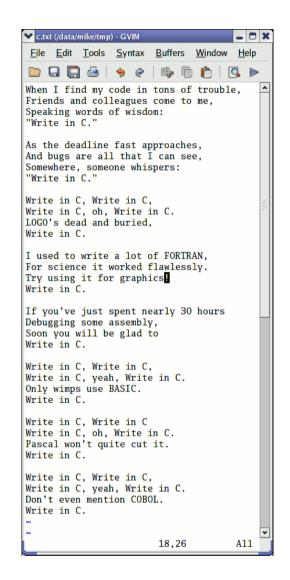


Text-mode text editor available in all Unix systems. Created before computers with mice appeared.

- Difficult to learn for beginners used to graphical text editors.
- Very productive for power users.
- Often can't be replaced to edit files in system administration or in Embedded Systems, when you just have a text console.



vim - vi improved



- vi implementation now found in most GNU / Linux host systems
- Implements lots of features available in modern editors: syntax highlighting, command history, help, unlimited undo and much much more.
- Cool feature example: can directly open compressed text files.
- Comes with a GTK graphical interface (gvim)
- Unfortunately, not free software (because of a small restriction in freedom to make changes)



vi basic commands



Though vi is extremely powerful, its main 30 commands are easy to learn and are sufficient for 99% of everyone's needs!

You can also take the quick tutorial by running vimtutor.

Get our vi memento sheet if you didn't get it with this course: http://free-electrons.com/docs/command-line

GNU nano

http://www.nano-editor.org/

- Another small text-only, mouse free text editor.
- An enhanced Pico clone (non free editor in Pine)
- Friendly and easier to learn for beginners thanks to on screen command summaries.
- Available in binary packages for several platforms.
- An alternative to vi in embedded systems. However, not available as a busybox built-in.



GNU nano screenshot

```
GNU nano 1.2.3
                                   File: fortune.txt
The herd instinct among economists makes sheep look like independent thinkers.
Klingon phaser attack from front!!!!!
100% Damage to life support!!!
Spock: The odds of surviving another attack are 13562190123 to 1, Captain.
Quantum Mechanics is God's version of "Trust me."
I'm a soldier, not a diplomat. I can only tell the truth.
                -- Kirk, "Errand of Mercy", stardate 3198.9
Did you hear that there's a group of South American Indians that worship
the number zero?
Is nothing sacred?
They are called computers simply because computation is the only significant
job that has so far been given to them.
As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not
certain, and as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality.
                -- Albert Einstein
Tact, n.:
        The unsaid part of what you're thinking.
Support bacteria -- it's the only culture some people have!
             ^O WriteOut ^R Read File ^Y Prev Page ^K Cut Text ^C Cur Pos
^G Get Help
   Exit
             ^J Justify
                          ^W Where Is
                                       AV Next Page AU UnCut Txt AT To Spell
```



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Compressing and archiving



Measuring disk usage

Caution: different from file size!

- du -h <file> (disk usage)
 -h: returns size on disk of the given file, in human readable format: K (kilobytes), M (megabytes) or G (gigabytes), . Without -h, du returns the raw number of disk blocks used by the file (hard to read). Note that the -h option only exists in GNU du.
- du -sh <dir>
 -s: returns the sum of disk usage of all the files in the given directory.



Measuring disk space

▶ df -h <dir>

Returns disk usage and free space for the filesystem containing the given directory.

Similarly, the -h option only exists in GNU df.

Example:

```
> df -h .
Filesystem
/dev/hda5
```

```
Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on 9.2G 7.1G 1.8G 81% /
```

▶df -h

Returns disk space information for all filesystems available in the system. When errors happen, useful to look for full filesystems.



Compressing and decompressing

Very useful for shrinking huge files and saving space

- g[un]zip <file> GNU zip compression utility. Creates .gz files. Ordinary performance (similar to Zip).
- b[un]zip2 <file>
 More recent and effective compression utility.
 Creates .bz2 files. Usually 20-25% better than gzip.
- [un]lzma <file> Much better compression ratio than bzip2 (up to 10 to 20%). Compatible command line options.



Archiving (1)

Useful to backup or release a set of files within 1 file

- tar: originally "tape archive"
- Creating an archive:

```
tar cvf <archive> <files or directories>
```

c: create

v: verbose. Useful to follow archiving progress.

f: file. Archive created in file (tape used otherwise).

Example:

```
tar cvf /backup/home.tar /home
bzip2 /backup/home.tar
```



Archiving (2)

- Viewing the contents of an archive or integrity check: tar tvf <archive> t: test
- Extracting all the files from an archive: tar xvf <archive>
- Extracting just a few files from an archive:

 tar xvf <archive> <files or directories>
 Files or directories are given with paths relative to the archive root directory.



Extra options in GNU tar

tar = gtar = GNU tar on GNU / Linux Can compress and uncompress archives on the fly. Useful to avoid creating huge intermediate files Much simpler to do than with tar and bzip2!

- j option: [un]compresses on the fly with bzip2
- z option: [un]compresses on the fly with gzip
- --1zma option: [un]compresses on the fly with 1zma
- Examples (which one will you remember?)



- gtar jcvf bills bugs.tar.bz2 bills_bugs
- tar cvf bills bugs | bzip2 > bills bugs.tar.bz2



Checking file integrity

Very low cost solution to check file integrity

- md5sum FC3-i386-disk*.iso > MD5SUM Computes a MD5 (Message Digest Algorithm 5) 128 bit checksum of the given files. Usually redirected to a file.
- Example output:

 db8c7254beeb4f6b891d1ed3f689b412 FC3-i386-disc1.iso
 2c11674cf429fe570445afd9d5ff564e FC3-i386-disc2.iso
 f88f6ab5947ca41f3cf31db04487279b FC3-i386-disc3.iso

6331c00aa3e8c088cc365eeb7ef230ea FC3-i386-disc4.iso

► md5sum -c MD5SUM

Checks the integrity of the files in MD5SUM by comparing their actual MD5 checksum with their original one.



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Printing



Unix printing

- Multi-user, multi-job, multi-client, multi-printer In Unix / Linux, printing commands don't really print. They send jobs to printing queues, possibly on the local machine, on network printing servers or on network printers.
- Printer independent system:
 Print servers only accept jobs in PostScript or text. Printer drivers on the server take care of the conversion to each printers own format.
- Robust system:
 Reboot a system, it will continue to print pending jobs.



Printing commands

- ► Useful environment variable: PRINTER

 Sets the default printer on the system. Example: export PRINTER=1p
- ▶ lpr [-P<queue>] <files> Sends the given files to the specified printing queue The files must be in text or PostScript format. Otherwise, you only print garbage.
- a2ps [-P<queue>] <files> "Any to PostScript" converts many formats to PostScript and send the output to the specified queue. Useful features: several pages / sheet, page numbering, info frame...



Print job control

▶ lpq [-P<queue>]Lists all the print jobs in the given or default queue.

```
lp is not ready
Rank Owner Job File(s) Total Size
1st asloane 84 nsa_windows_backdoors.ps 60416 bytes
2nd amoore 85 gw bush iraq mistakes.ps 65024000 bytes
```

cancel <job#> [<queue>]
Removes the given job number from the default queue.



Using PostScript and PDF files

Viewing a PostScript file

- PostScript viewers exist, but their quality is pretty poor.
- Better convert to PDF with ps2pdf: ps2pdf decss_algorithm.ps xpdf decss algorithm.pdf &

Printing a PDF file

- You don't need to open a PDF reader!
- ▶ Better convert to PostScript with pdf2ps: pdf2ps rambaldi_artifacts_for_dummies.pdf lpr rambaldi artifacts for dummies.ps



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Synchronizing files



Smart directory copy with rsync

rsync (remote sync) has been designed to keep in sync directories on 2 machines with a low bandwidth connection.

- Only copies files that have changed. Files with the same size are compared by checksums.
- Only transfers the blocks that differ within a file!
- Can compress the transferred blocks
- Preserves symbolic links and file permissions: also very useful for copies on the same machine.
- Can work through ssh (secure remote shell). Very useful to update the contents of a website, for example.



rsync examples (1)

- rsync -a /home/arvin/sd6_agents/ /home/sydney/misc/
 - -a: archive mode. Equivalent to -rlptgoD... easy way to tell you want recursion and want to preserve almost everything.
- rsync -Pav --delete /home/steve/ideas/ /home/bill/my_ideas/
 - -P: --partial (keep partially transferred files) and --progress (show progress during transfer)
 - --delete: delete files in the target which don't exist in the source.

Caution: directory names should end with / . Otherwise, you get a my ideas/ideas/ directory at the destination.



rsync examples (2)

Copying to a remote machine

```
rsync -Pav /home/bill/legal/arguments/ \
bill@www.sco.com:/home/legal/arguments/
```

User bill will be prompted for a password.

Copying from a remote machine through ssh

```
rsync -Pav -e ssh
homer@tank.duff.com:/prod/beer/ \
fridge/homer/beer/
```

User homer will be prompted for his ssh key password.



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Comparing files and directories



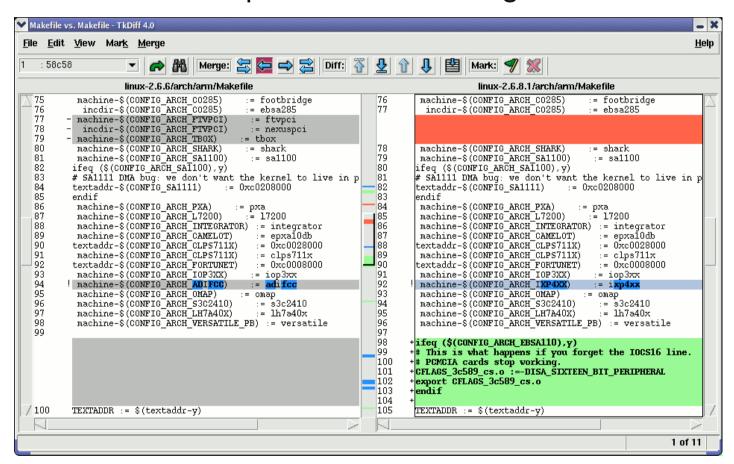
Comparing files and directories

- diff file1 file2 Reports the differences between 2 files, or nothing if the files are identical.
- diff -r dir1/ dir2/ Reports all the differences between files with the same name in the 2 directories.
- ► These differences can be saved in a file using the redirection, and then later re-applied using the patch command.
- To investigate differences in detail, better use graphical tools!



tkdiff

http://tkdiff.sourceforge.net/ Useful tool to compare files and merge differences





kompare

Another nice tool to compare files and merge differences Part of the kdesdk package (Fedora Core)

```
File Difference Settings Help
 Makefile
                                                                   Makefile
                                                                     75 incdir-$(CONFIG_FOOTBRIDGE)
                                                                                                            := ebsa285
 76 incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285)
                                                                    75 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285)
                                                                                                            = 0x60008000
    machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FTVPCI)
                                         := ftvpci
                                                                    76 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285)
                                                                                                            := footbridge
 78 incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FTVPCI)
                                         := nexuspci
                                                                        incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CO285)
                                                                                                            := ebsa285
 79 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_TBOX)
                                        := tbox
 80 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SHARK)
                                         := shark
                                                                    78 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SHARK)
                                                                                                            := shark
 81 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100)
                                         := sa1100
                                                                    79 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100)
                                                                                                             := sa1100
 82 ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100),v)
                                                                     80 ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100),v)
 83 # SA1111 DMA bug: we don't want the kernel to live in p
                                                                    82 # SA1111 DMA bug: we don't want the kernel to live in pr
 84 textaddr-$(CONFIG_SA1111)
                                     := 0xc0208000
                                                                     83 textaddr-$(CONFIG_SA1111)
                                                                                                        := 0xc0208000
 85 endif
                                                                    84 endif
 86 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_PXA)
                                       := pxa
                                                                     85 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_PXA)
 87 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_L7200)
                                                                     86 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_L7200)
                                                                                                            := 17200
                                        := 17200
 88 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_INTEGRATOR) := integrator
                                                                     87 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_INTEGRATOR) := integrator
 89 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CAMELOT)
                                           := epxa10db
                                                                     88 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CAMELOT)
                                                                                                              := epxa10db
 90 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X)
                                       = 0xc0028000
                                                                     89 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X)
                                                                                                           := 0xc0028000
                                                                     89 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X)
 91 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X)
                                       := clps711x
                                                                                                           := clps711x
 92 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FORTUNET)
                                        := 0xc0008000
                                                                     90 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FORTUNET)
                                                                                                           := 0xc0008000
 93 machine-$(CONFIG ARCH IOP3XX)
                                                                     91 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_IOP3XX)
                                         := iop3xx
                                                                                                             := iop3xx
                                                                     92 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_IXP4XX)
 94 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_ADIFCC)
                                          := adifcc
                                                                                                             := ixp4xx
 95 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_OMAP)
                                        := omap
                                                                       machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_OMAP)
 96 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_S3C2410)
                                                                     94 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_S3C2410)
                                                                                                              := s3c2410
                                           := s3c2410
 97 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_LH7A4OX)
                                           := 1h7a40x
                                                                    95 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_LH7A40X)
                                                                                                              := 1h7a40x
 98 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_VERSATILE_PB) := versatile
                                                                    96 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_VERSATILE_PB) := versatile
                                                                    98 ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_EBSA110),y)
100 TEXTADDR := $(textaddr-v)
101 ifeq ($(incdir-v),)
                                                                    99 # This is what happens if you forget the IOCS16 line.
                                                                    100 # PCMCIA cards stop working.
102 incdir-y := $(machine-y)
                                                                   101 CFLAGS_3c589_cs.o :=-DISA_SIXTEEN_BIT_PERIPHERAL
103 endif
104 INCDIR
            := arch-$(incdir-v)
                                                                   102 export CFLAGS_3c589_cs.o
                                                                   103 endif
105
                                                                   104
106 export
              TEXTADDR GZFLAGS
                                                                   105 TEXTADDR := $(textaddr-y)
Comparing file file:/data/mike/handhelds/stock_kernel/linux-2.6....data/mike/handhelds/stock_kernel/linux-2.6.8.1/arch/arm/Makefile | 1 of 11 differences, 0 applied | 1 of 1 file
```

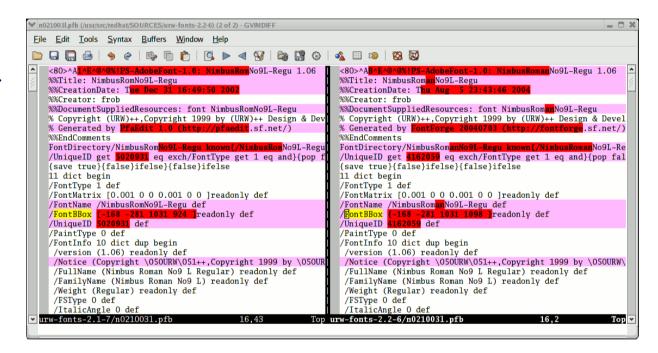


gvimdiff

Another nice tool to view differences in files

Available in most distributions with gvim Apparently not using diff.

No issue with files with binary sections!





The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Looking for files



The find command

Better explained by a few examples!

- ▶ find . -name "*.pdf" Lists all the *.pdf files in the current (.) directory or subdirectories. You need the double quotes to prevent the shell from expanding the * character.
- find docs -name "*.pdf" -exec xpdf {} ';' Finds all the *.pdf files in the docs directory and displays one after the other.
- Many more possibilities available! However, the above 2 examples cover most needs.



The locate command

Much faster regular expression search alternative to find

- locate keys
 Lists all the files on your system with keys in their name.
- locate "*.pdf"
 Lists all the *.pdf files available on the whole machine
- locate "/home/fridge/*beer*"
 Lists all the *beer* files in the given directory (absolute path)
- locate is much faster because it indexes all files in a dedicated database, which is updated on a regular basis.
- find is better to search through recently created files.



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Miscellaneous Various commands



Getting information about users

- who
 Lists all the users logged on the system.
- whoami
 Tells what user I am logged as.
- groups
 Tells which groups I belong to.
- proups <user>
 Tells which groups <user> belongs to.
- Finger <user>
 Tells more details (real name, etc) about <user>
 Disabled in some systems (security reasons).



Changing users

You do not have to log out to log on another user account!

- su hyde (Rare) Change to the hyde account, but keeping the environment variable settings of the original user.
- su jekyll (More frequent) Log on the jekyll account, with exactly the same settings as this new user.
- Su –
 When no argument is given, it means the root user.



The wget command

Instead of downloading files from your browser, just copy and paste their URL and download them with wget!

wget main features

- http and ftp support
- Can resume interrupted downloads
- Can download entire sites or at least check for bad links
- Very useful in scripts or when no graphics are available (system administration, embedded systems)
- Proxy support (http_proxy and ftp_proxy env. variables)



wget examples

- wget -c \
 http://microsoft.com/customers/dogs/winxp4dogs.zip
 Continues an interrupted download.
- wget -m http://lwn.net/
 Mirrors a site.
- wget -r -np http://www.xml.com/ldd/chapter/book/
 Recursively downloads an on-line book for off-line access.
 -np: "no-parent". Only follows links in the current directory.



Misc commands (1)

- sleep 60Waits for 60 seconds(doesn't consume system resources).
- wc report.txt (word count)
 438 2115 18302 report.txt
 Counts the number of lines, words and characters in a file or in standard input.



Misc commands (2)

- bc ("basic calculator?")
 bc is a handy but full-featured calculator. Even includes a programming language! Use the -1 option to have floating point support.
- Nate Returns the current date. Useful in scripts to record when commands started or completed.



Checksum commands

- A checksum or hash sum is a fixed-size datum computed from an arbitrary block of digital data for the purpose of detecting accidental errors that may have been introduced during its transmissions or storage.

 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Checksum
- The MD5 hash algorithm is implemented in the md5sum command

```
$ md5sum patch-2.6.24.7.bz2
0c1c5d6d8cd82e18d62406d2f34d1d38 patch-2.6.24.7.bz2
```

- The SHA algorithm is implemented in the shaXsum (sha1sum, sha256sum, etc.)
- The integrity of several files can be verified against a file listing the checksums using the -c option.



System administration

See our presentation about system administration basics:

- Network setup
- Creating and mounting filesystems
- Accessing administrator (root) priviledges
- Package management

Also available on http://free-electrons.com/docs/command-line



The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Application development



Compiling simple applications

- The compiler used for all Linux systems is GCC http://gcc.gnu.org
- To compile a single-file application, developed in C : gcc -o test test.c
 - Will generate a test binary, from the test.c source file
- ► For C++: g++ -o test test.cc
- The -Wall option enables more warnings
- To compile sources files to object files and link the application :

```
gcc -c test1.c
gcc -c test2.c
gcc -o test test1.o test2.o
```

gcc automatically calls the linker 1d



Using libraries (1)

- On any Linux system, a C library is available and offers a large set of APIs for application development.
 - See http://www.gnu.org/software/libc/manual/
- Outside of the C library, thousands of other libraries are available for graphic programming, multimedia, networking, scientific computations, and moroe.
- Most libraries are already available as packages in your distribution, in general in two packages
 - ▶ libfoo is the package containing the library itself. This package is required to execute already compiled applications, but not sufficient to build new applications
 - ▶ libfoo-dev is the package containing the headers and other configurations files and tools needed to build new applications relying on libfoo.



Using libraries (2)

- In your source code, include the proper header files of the library
 - Usually #include <foo.h> or #include <foo/foo.h>
 - ▶ These headers are present in /usr/include/
 - ➤ Refer to the documentation of the library for details, available in /usr/share/doc/<package>/, on the Web... or in the header files!
- To compile your application with the library, the easiest solution is to use pkg-config, which is supported by most libraries today : gcc -o test test.c \$(pkg-config --cflags -libs)
- By default, the application are dynamically linked with the libraries
 - The libraries must be present in /lib/ for the application to work
 - Use the 1dd command to see which libraries are needed by an application



Make and Makefiles

- The compilation process can be automated using the make tool.
- make reads a file called Makefile from the current directory, and executes the rules described in this file
- Every rule is has a target name, a colon, and a list of dependencies, and the list of commands to generate the target from the dependencies

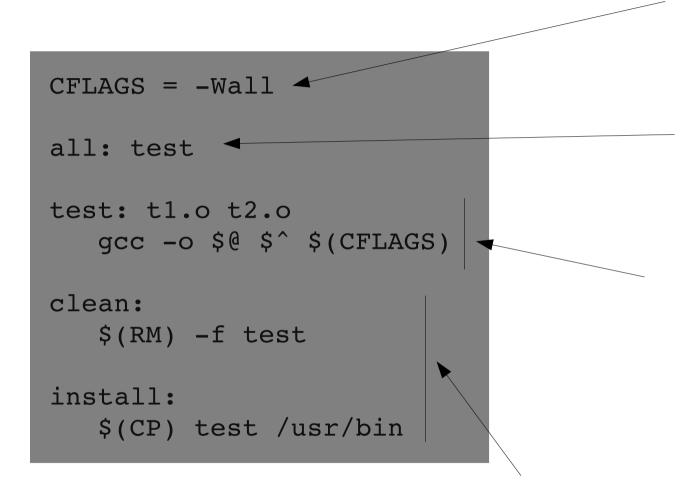
```
target: dep1 dep2 command1 command2 command3
```

- ▶ When simply running make, the default target that is generated is "all". A target is only re-generated if dependencies have changed.
- See http://www.gnu.org/software/make/manual/





Simple Makefile example



These targets are executed by running "make clean" and "make install"

Variables can be defined and later expaneded with \$(VARNAME)

The default target "all" simply depends on the "test" target.

The "test" target depends on t1.0 and t2.0. Once these files are generated, the gcc command is executed.

\$@ is the target name
\$^is the name of all
dependencies.

The .o files are generated using implicit dependencies, known by make.



Build systems

- Makefiles are nice, but they don't easily allow easy adaptation to the different build environment and different build options
- More elaborated build systems have been developed
 - Autotools (automake, autoconf), based on Makefiles and shell scripts. Even though they are old and a little bit difficult to understand, they are the most popular build system for free software packages.
 - CMake, a newer, cleaner build system
 - Sconcs and Waf, other build systems based on Python
- The typical steps to compile a autotools based package are ./configure make sudo make install



Debugging

- The official debugger that comes with the GNU development tools is gdb.
 - See http://sourceware.org/gdb/download/onlinedocs/gdb.html
- An application must be compiled with the -g option to be properly debugged. This option adds debugging information to the application binary gcc -o test test.c -g
- The application can then be run inside the gdb debugger: gdb test
- Or the debugger can be attached to the application while it is running:
 qdb test -p PID
 - Where PID is the process ID of the running application



Using gdb

- gdb is a text-based debugger, with a command-line interface like a shell, providing dedicated commands. Some of the important commands are:
 - break (b) to set a breakpoint in the code. Can be used with a function name or a location in the source code, or an absolute memory address.
 - print (p) to print the value of a variable. Used with a variable name, even if it's a complex one (which involves dereferencing structures, for example)
 - c to continue the execution until the next breakpoint.
 - next (n) to execute only the next line of code (step over any function call) and step (s) to execute only the next line of code (step into any function call)
 - backtrace (bt) to display the function call stack



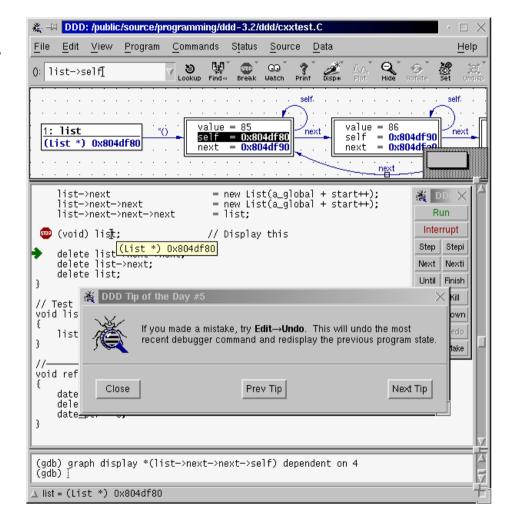
gdb sample session

```
Thomas@surf:/tmp$ qcc -o test test.c -q
thomas@surf:/tmp$ gdb test
GNU qdb 6.8-debian
[...)
(gdb) break foo
Breakpoint 1 at 0x80483c7: file test.c, line 5.
(qdb) run
Starting program: /tmp/test2
Breakpoint 1, foo (a=2, b=3) at test.c:5
   return a + b;
(gdb) p a
$1 = 2
(gdb) p b
$2 = 3
(gdb) c
Continuing.
foo=5
Program exited normally.
```



ddd, the graphical gdb

- There are several graphical frontends to gdb. A popular one is ddd.
 - Allows to navigate in the source code while debugging
 - Allows to set break points, inspect and change variable value directly by looking at the source code
- http://www.gnu.org/software/ddd/





The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

Version control system CVS



Version control (1)

- Activity that consists in maintaining the full history of project files
- Every version of every file is recorded
- It allows to :
 - Create a knowledge database about the project codebase
 - Revert in case of mistake
 - Review the modifications introduced between two different versions
 - Work as a team on a single project
 - Create parallel development or release branches
 - Tag previous versions of a project



Version control (2)

- Useful for :
 - Source code, of course
 - Documentation, translation strings, compilation scripts, configuration files, etc.
 - ▶ Binary data can be versioned, but the functionalities will be limited. Best to use text-only file formats.
- Generated files should never be versioned.
- Version control is absolutely necessary when working as a team on a project
 - Version control systems are one of the fundamental tools used for open source development
- Version control is still very useful when working alone on a project.



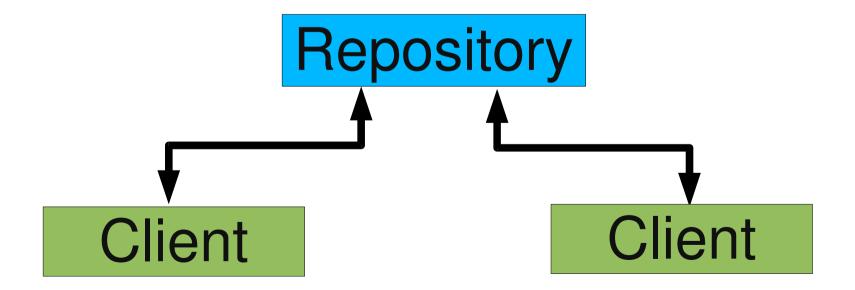
Tools and approaches

- A lot of version control systems available
 - Proprietary: Perforce, Synergy, StarTeam, BitKeeper, ClearCase
 - Free and open source: CVS, Subversion, Git, Mercurial, Arch, Monotone
- In the free/open solutions, two main approaches
 - The classical one, the centralized approach, implemented by CVS and Subversion
 - A newer one, the decentralized or distributed approach, implemented in Git, Mercurial, Arch or Monotone.



Centralized approach

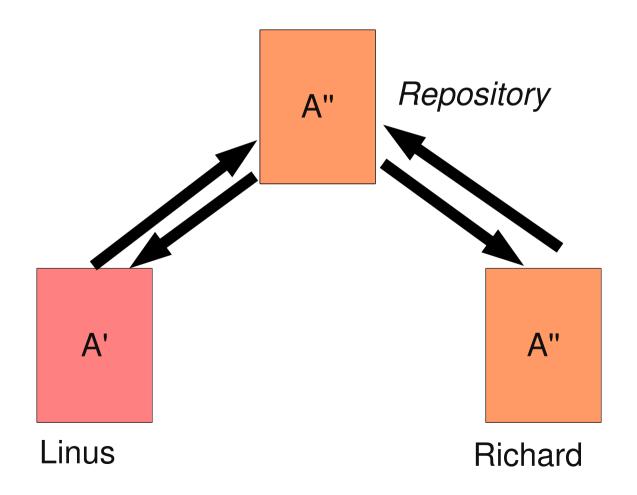
- The centralized approach is based on the presence of a server hosting a repository.
- The repository contains the history of all files and acts as the reference for all participants in the project.
- Typical client/server approach.





Conflict management (1)

When two persons are working at the same time on the same file, when the changes are sent to the server, a conflict can occur if the modifications are not « compatible ».



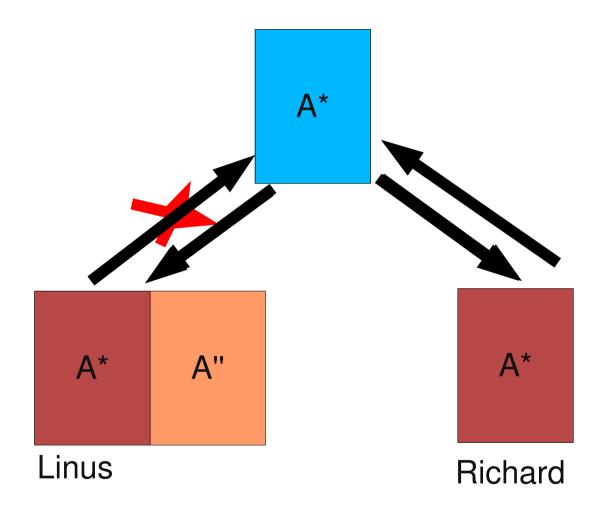


Conflict management (2)

- Two solutions to solve the conflict problem
 - The **locking** approach: preventing two developers to work on the same file.
 - The **merge** approach: the second developer sending his changes to the server is responsible for merging his changes with the other developers changes already present on the server.
- In the free/open source projects, the traditional model is the merge one. It avoids the burden of handling the locking and scales better with a bigger team.
- But CVS and Subversion both implement advisory locking: a developer must voluntarily lock the files he is going to work with.



Conflict resolution by fusion



CVS

- Free Software
- Used to be the most widely used free version control system. Now replaced by Subversion.
- Still used by big projects, but a lot of large projects (KDE, Apache, Eclipse) have moved to Subversion.
- Homepage : http://www.nongnu.org/cvs/
- Documentation : http://ximbiot.com/cvs/manual/



CVS usage

- The main client is a command-line one, implemented in the cvs command
 - cvs help gives the list of available commands
 - add, admin, annotate, checkout, commit, diff, edit, editors, export, history, import, init, log, login, logout, ls, pserver, rannotate, rdiff, release, remove, rlog, rls, rtag, server, status, tag, unedit, update, version, watch, watchers
 - cvs --help command gives the help of command.
- Graphical interfaces
 - ▶ Integration in Vim, Emacs, Anjuta, Dev-C++, Eclipse, Kdevelop, etc.
 - Graphical clients: Cervisia (for KDE), gcvs (for Gnome), CrossVC, etc.
 - Web clients: ViewVC, cvsweb, etc.



Create the working copy

- The first step to work on an existing project is to create a working copy. A working copy is a copy on the developer machine of the full tree of the project source code.
 - The developer will work on this copy of the source code, as usual (files are directly accessible and editable).
- cvs -d repository-address checkout module
 - Create in the current directory a working copy of the module module located in the given repository
- A repository address can be :
 - A local path, like :local:/home/user/cvsrepo/
 - The address of a CVS pserver, like :pserver:user@host
 :/var/cvsrepo/
 - Using SSH, by setting the environment variable CVS_RSH to ssh, and using an address like :ext:user@host:/var/cvsrepo/



Simple usage

- Working copy creation to be done once for all!
- Modifications of the project files
 - ➤ Files are modified directly, as usual, nothing special is necessary.

 CVS knows the contents of the original version of the files and is able to compute the list of modifications made by the developer.
 - ▶ Every directory contains a CVS directory that should not be modified.
- Send the modifications to the server : commit
 - cvs commit
 - ▶ Runs a text editor to write the message that describes the commit. This message will be preserved forever in the history. Very important to describe your change in details!
- Fetch the modifications made by other developers : update
 - cvs update



Example

```
$ cvs -d :local:/tmp/repo/ checkout project
cvs checkout: Updating project
U project/README
U project/a.c
U project/b.c
$ cd project/
project$ vi README
project$ cvs commit -m "Adding infos"
cvs commit: Examining .
/tmp/repo/project/README,v <-- README</pre>
new revision: 1.3; previous revision: 1.2
project$ cvs update
cvs update: Updating .
U a.c
project$
```



File management

- When new files or directories are created inside the project, they are not automatically taken into account by CVS
- They must be explicitly added with the add command
 - cvs add file1.c
 - The new file is not propagated to the repository until the next commit
 - Same thing with directories
- Files and directories can be removed with the remove command
- Issues fixed in Subversion
 - Files and directories cannot be renamed without losing the history
 - Directory removal is badly handled in CVS



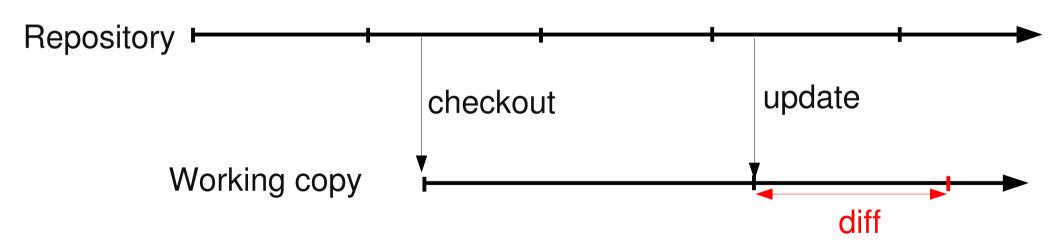
Example

```
project$ vi c.c
project$ cvs add c.c
cvs add: scheduling file `c.c' for addition
cvs add: use `cvs commit' to add this file permanently
project$ cvs commit -m "New file c.c"
cvs commit: Examining .
/tmp/repo/project/c.c,v <-- c.c</pre>
initial revision: 1.1
project$ rm a.c
project$ cvs remove a.c
cvs remove: scheduling `a.c' for removal
cvs remove: use `cvs commit' to remove this file permanently
project$ cvs commit -m "Remove a.c"
cvs commit: Examining .
/tmp/repo/project/a.c,v <-- a.c</pre>
new revision: delete; previous revision: 1.2
```



State of the working copy

- To get informations about the state of the working, use the status command
 - ▶ Will tell the version of the file, if they have been locally modified, etc.
- To see the modifications made to the project and not committed yet, use the diff command





Diff command example



Using the history

- See the commit messages
 - cvs log
 - cvs log file.c
- See the differences between two past revisions
 - cvs diff -r 1.1 -r 1.2 file.c
 - ▶ With CVS, the versioning is done on a per-file basis: a commit is not an entity that can be referred to once completed. It makes the usage of the history very complicated. This is fixed in Subversion.
- See who made a change
 - cvs annotate
- A graphical interface, either a graphical client or a web client, will be very useful to navigate and use the history efficiently



Conflict management in CVS (1)

After changing a file, we try to commit the change to the server \$ cvs commit -m "Modification"

```
cvs commit: Examining .
cvs commit: Up-to-date check failed for `main.c'
cvs [commit aborted]: correct above errors first!
```

The file has been modified on the server since our last update. So we must make merge the modifications we have done with the modifications of the other developers, by updating our working copy.

```
$ cvs update
```

```
cvs update: Updating .

RCS file: /tmp/repo/project/main.c,v
retrieving revision 1.1
retrieving revision 1.2
Merging differences between 1.1 and 1.2 into main.c
rcsmerge: warning: conflicts during merge
cvs update: conflicts found in main.c
C main.c
```



Conflict management in CVS (2)

Inside main.c



Conflict resolution in CVS

- The conflict must be manually resolved by the developer, no automated tool can resolve such conflicts
- ► The conflict is resolved directly in the file by removing the markers and merging the modifications (either selecting one of them or creating a new version based on both modifications)
- Once resolved, the file can be committed as usual

```
project$ cvs commit -m "In French"
cvs commit: Examining .
/tmp/repo/project/main.c,v <-- main.c
new revision: 1.3; previous revision: 1.2</pre>
```



Repository initialization

- A repository must be initialized using the init command:
 - mkdir /home/user/cvsrepo
 - cvs -d :local:/home/user/cvsrepo init
- Once initialized, it can be accessed locally or remotely through SSH. Remote access through pserver will require additional configuration, see the CVS documentation.
- If already existing projects have to be imported in the repository, use the import command
 - cd project
 - cvs -d :local:/home/user/cvsrepo import modulename vendortag releasetag
 - vendortag, symbolic name for the branch
 - releasetag, symbolic name for the release



Tags and branches

- Tags allow to identify a given version of the project through a meaningful symbolic name
 - Useful for example if the version has been delivered to the test team or to a customer.
- Tags are created using the cvs tag command.
- Branches allow to create parallel flow of developments
 - Maintenance of a previous release
 - Development of experimental new features
- Created using the -b option of the cvs tag command
- Branching and merging is relatively complicated, and falls outside the scope of this training.



Connection with other tools

Send a mail at every commit, with the diff. Allow others to review, and notifies them of the changes..

Mail

IRC

Send a message at every commit. Notifies of the changes.

Version control

At every commit, a build and test machin builds and tests the project.

Build and test

Link the commits with the bugs and the bugs with the commits.

Bug tracking



Why Subversion?

- Because CVS has many drawbacks and short-coming
 - Not possible to simply rename files and directories while preserving the history
 - No atomic commits identifying the commit as a whole, making it difficult to navigate in the history, revert commits, and is the source of repository incoherency in case of crashes
 - Poor branching and merging capabilities
- In usage, Subversion is very similar to CVS: the commands are exactly the same.
 - Fixes all CVS short comings
 - And provides interesting branching and merging features such as merge-tracking.
 - Many large-scale projects already made the switch.

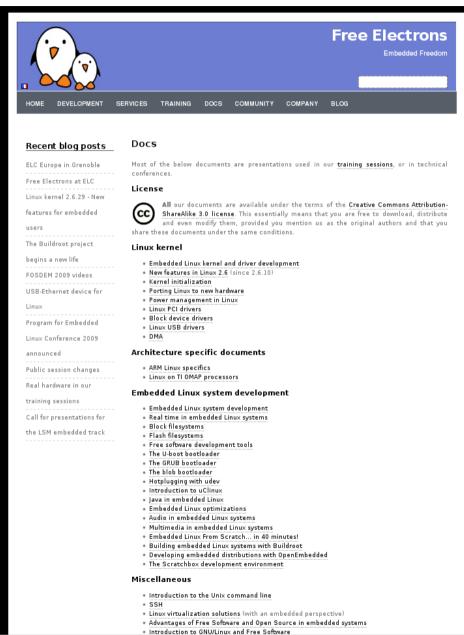


Distributed version control systems

- Since a few years, a new generation of version control systems
- Distributed version control instead of a centralized approach
- Principles
 - No technically-central repository, every copy is a repository
 - ► All developers can create local branches, share these branches with other developers without asking a central authority.
 - Advanced branching and merging capabilities.
- More and more commonly used in free software projects (Linux kernel, X.org, etc.)
- Most commonly used tools: Git, Mercurial



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