

Aim

Getting started with Linux basic commands and directory structure, execute file, directory operations.

Creating Files and Directories

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| touch <filename> | create a new file |
| mkdir <dirname> | create a new directory |

Current/Working Directory

Current Directory can be found out by pwd.

pwd stands for “print working directory”

Change Directory

command cd is used to change directory

cd <dirname>

Special Directories

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Current Directory | . |
| Parent directory of the current directory | .. |
| Home Directory | ~ |
| Root Directory | / |
| Another user’s directory | ~<username> |

Viewing contents of a text files

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| cat <filename> | display the text scroll off the screen |
| cat <file1> <file2> | concatenate two files |
| more <filename> | display the file one scornful at a time |
| less <filename> | similar but faster than more |

Listing files and directories

| | |
|-----------|--|
| ls | list files in the current directory |
| ls -l | provide a long listing of all files |
| ls -l -h | same as above command but size will be in human readable forms |
| ls -F | marks all executables with * and directories with / |
| ls —color | shows a coloured listing of files |
| ls -a | shows all files in the present directory including special dot files |

Copying files and directories

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| cp <file1> <file2> | copy file1 to file2 |
| cp <file1> <dirname> | copy file1 to directory dirname |
| cp -r <dirname1> <dirname2> | copy dirname1 directory to dirname2 directory recursively |

Renaming and moving files

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| mv <oldname> <newname> | renames file with old name to new name |
| mv <olddir> <newdir> | renames directory with olddir to newdir |
| mv <filename> <dirname> | moves file to the directory |

Removing files

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| rm <filename> | removes file with old name to new name |
| rmdir <dirname> | removes empty directory dirname |
| rmdir -rf <dirname> | removes a non empty directory |

Some more useful commands

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| clear | clears the terminal screen |
| locate | search for a specified filename |
| passwd | allows to change the password |
| whoami | displays the current logged in user |

Getting HELP

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| man <command name> | find out what the command does |
| man -f <command name> | one line summary of what the command does |
| man -k <keyword> | search for a command with keyword |

Directory Structure in Linux (important files)

| File | Content |
|-------|---|
| /bin | Essential User Command Binaries |
| /boot | Static files of the boot loader |
| /dev | Device files |
| /etc | host specific system configuration |
| /home | user home directories |
| /lib | essential shared libraries and kernel modules |
| /mnt | mount point for devices |
| /opt | add on application software packages |
| /sbin | system binaries |
| /tmp | temporary files |
| /usr | user utilities and applications |
| /var | variable files |
| /root | home directory of the root user |

Executing files

how to execute a file in linux

- cd to the directory which contains the file to e executed|
- type chmod +x <name_of_file>
- type sh ./<name_of_file>