

# Introduction to Linux Shell

COMP201 Lab Session  
Fall 2020



**KOÇ  
UNIVERSITY**

# Agenda

- Linux
- Options to Install a Distro
- Ubuntu Shell Introduction
- Basic Shell Commands

# What is Linux?

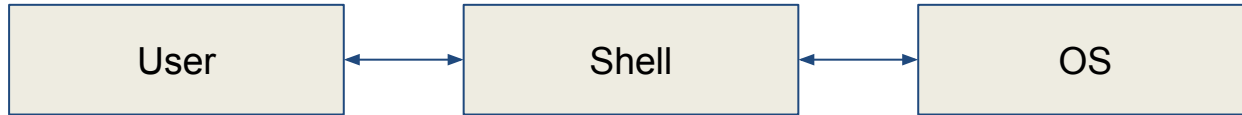
- Linux is a free and open-source operating system (OS) kernel.
- Combined with a GNU system, Linux forms an OS.
  - <https://www.gnu.org/gnu/linux-and-gnu.en.html>
- There are many GNU/ Linux distributions like Ubuntu, Fedora, Arch Linux, OpenSUSE, etc.
  - You may install Ubuntu 18.04 Desktop for this course.
    - <https://www.ubuntu.com/>

# Options to Install a GNU/Linux Distro

- You can install a distro using:
  1. Virtualization using Oracle VirtualBox, WMware, etc.
    - <https://www.virtualbox.org/>
  2. Dual-boot (multi-boot)
  3. Format (installing it as main OS)

# What is Shell?

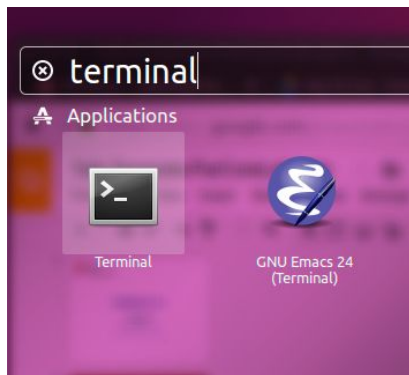
- Shell is the interface between the user and the OS
  - Takes command from user or script and gives them to OS
- Shell is also often called Terminal
- There are many applications for terminal:
  - **Bash**, Sh, Zsh, Csh, etc.



# Terminal

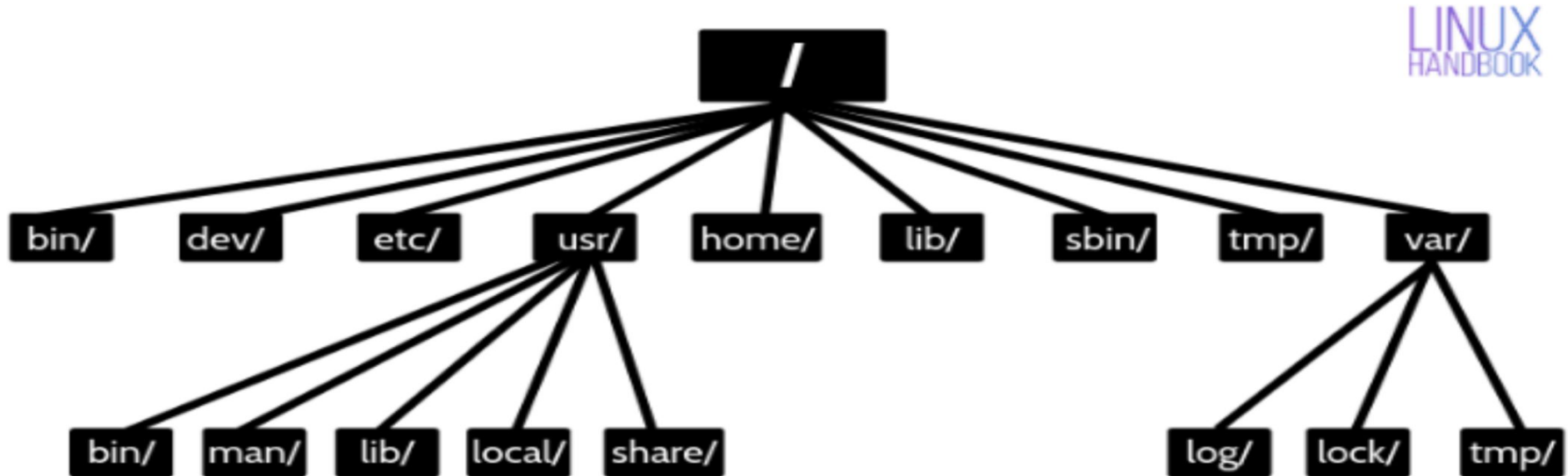
- Accessing terminal
  - Search terminal using Ubuntu search button

**Shell** is a program which processes commands and returns output , like bash in Linux . **Terminal** is a program that run a **shell**



# Directory Hierarchy

- Linux has hierarchical directory structure
  - Files organized as tree-like pattern of directories



# Basic Navigation Commands

- Current directory is called working directory
  - `pwd` command: Print working directory
  - `echo` command: Print the input passed to it
  - `ls` command: List files in working directory
  - `cd` command: Change working directory
    - Dot operator (`.`): Current directory
    - Double dot operator (`..`): Working directory's parent
    - `~` operator: Change to home directory



# Creating Directories/Files

- Creating directory
  - `mkdir directoryname`
- Create a file with desired name and extension
  - `touch filename.ext`
- Output a file's content
  - `cat filename.ext`
- Clear terminal output
  - `reset`
  - `clear`

# Deleting Directories/Files

- Deleting a file
  - `rm filename`
  - `rm -rf directory` (force delete recursively)
- Deleting a directory
  - `rmdir directory`
  - *There should be no files inside*

# Copying/Renaming Files

- Copy file

- `cp filename1 filename2`

- Rename/move file

- `mv oldfilename newfilename`

# Manipulating Files

- Searching file contents
  - Using `less` command
  - Using `grep` command

- Word count
  - `wc filename`

Use `-c` for characters, `-w` for words, `-l` lines

# I/O Redirection

- Redirecting output

- > operator (write output in file)

- `ls > list.txt`

- Append output

- >> operator (append output in file)

- `ls >> list.txt`

- Redirecting input

- < operator (read input from file)

- `sort < list.txt`

# Pipes

- Redirect output of one program to input of another program

```
ls | wc
```

- You can pipe multiple programs to each other, output of each one becomes the input of the next one:

```
cat list.txt | sort | uniq | wc
```

# Environment Variables?

- A set of variables sent by the calling process (e.g., shell) to the new program being executed
- Some standard bash variables

—\$PATH: Colon separated directory list for command search

—\$HOME: Currents user's home directory

—\$LOGNAME: Current user's name

—\$SHELL: User's preferred shell

—\$EDITOR: User's preferred editor

# \$PATH

- For example:

`/bin:/usr/bin:/sbin`

- When you enter a command in bash (e.g., `ls`), it will search for an executable file with that name in directories listed in `$PATH` one by one, and executes the first one found
- Hence, to run an executable in current directory, we need to use `./` before the program name



# Installing Compiler

- Install the package *build-essential* to have compiler and build tools:

```
sudo apt-get install build-essential
```

- Gcc and G++ and make included 😊
- Some other useful tools to install:

```
sudo apt-get install htop vim emacs git
```