

The Terminal

Introduction to the
command line



written by **Reindert-Jan Ekker**
presented by **Roy Bakker**



Overview

- Introduction
- Navigating the filesystem with **cd** and **ls**
- Reading files with **cat** and **less**
- Create, copy and delete: **mkdir**, **cp**, **rm**
- Nice tricks: history and completion
- Advanced: flags, wildcards



The Terminal

Power at your fingertips

Run programs using **text commands**

Why?

- It's super **powerful**
- **Repeat** and **edit** previous actions
- Works very well over a **network**



Let's dive right in!

Please start your own terminal and type
along.

But.. before we start

- The **Windows** terminal is different
- We use **Linux** on **Vagrant**
- So we all have the same environment

A Word of Warning

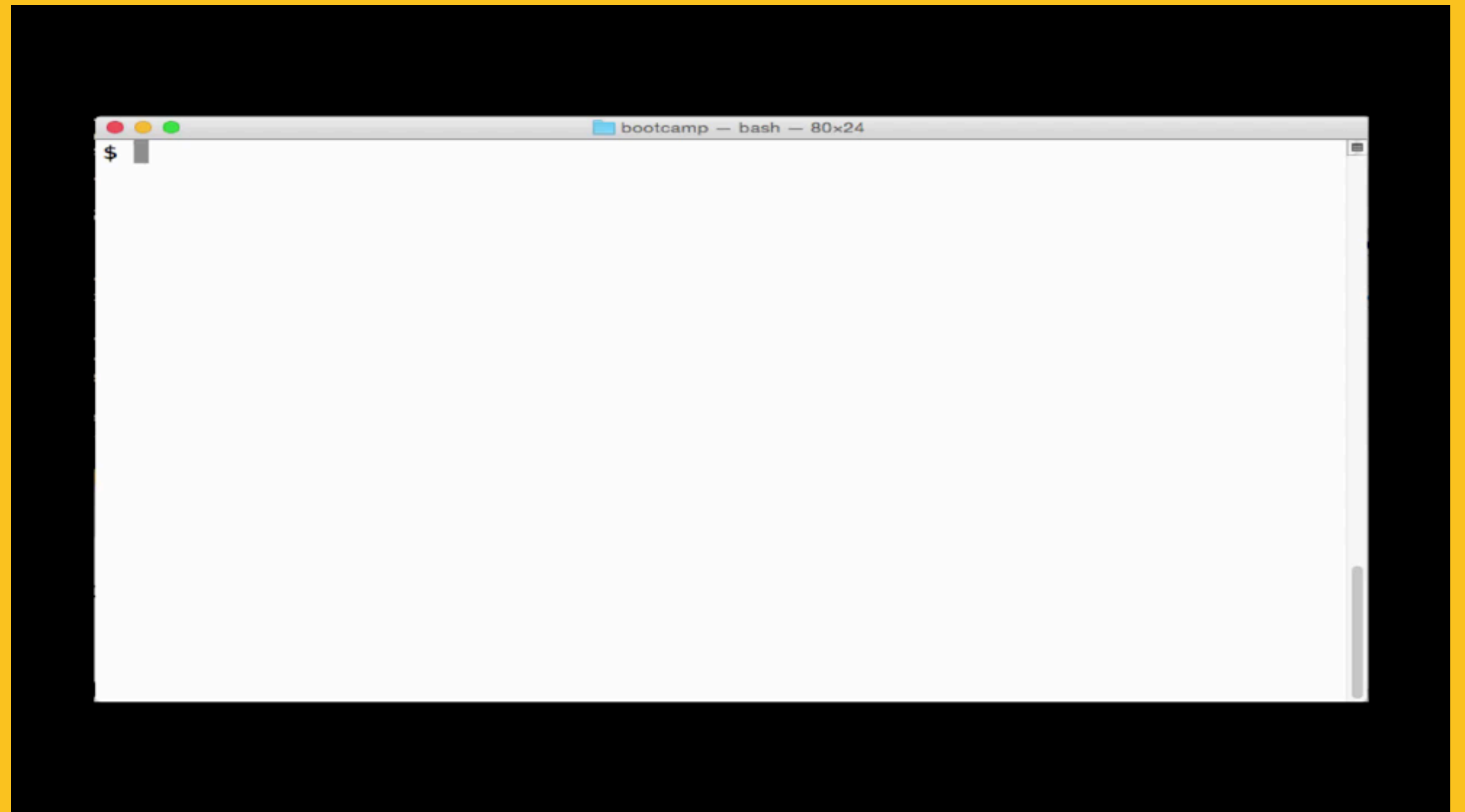
- The terminal is a **powertool**
- There is no **undo**
- **Read and re-read** what you type

Starting Vagrant

```
$ cd devbootcamp
$ vagrant up
Bringing machine up ...
...
...

$ vagrant ssh
Welcome to Ubuntu 14.04.1 LTS
...
...

vagrant@developmentbootcamp $
```



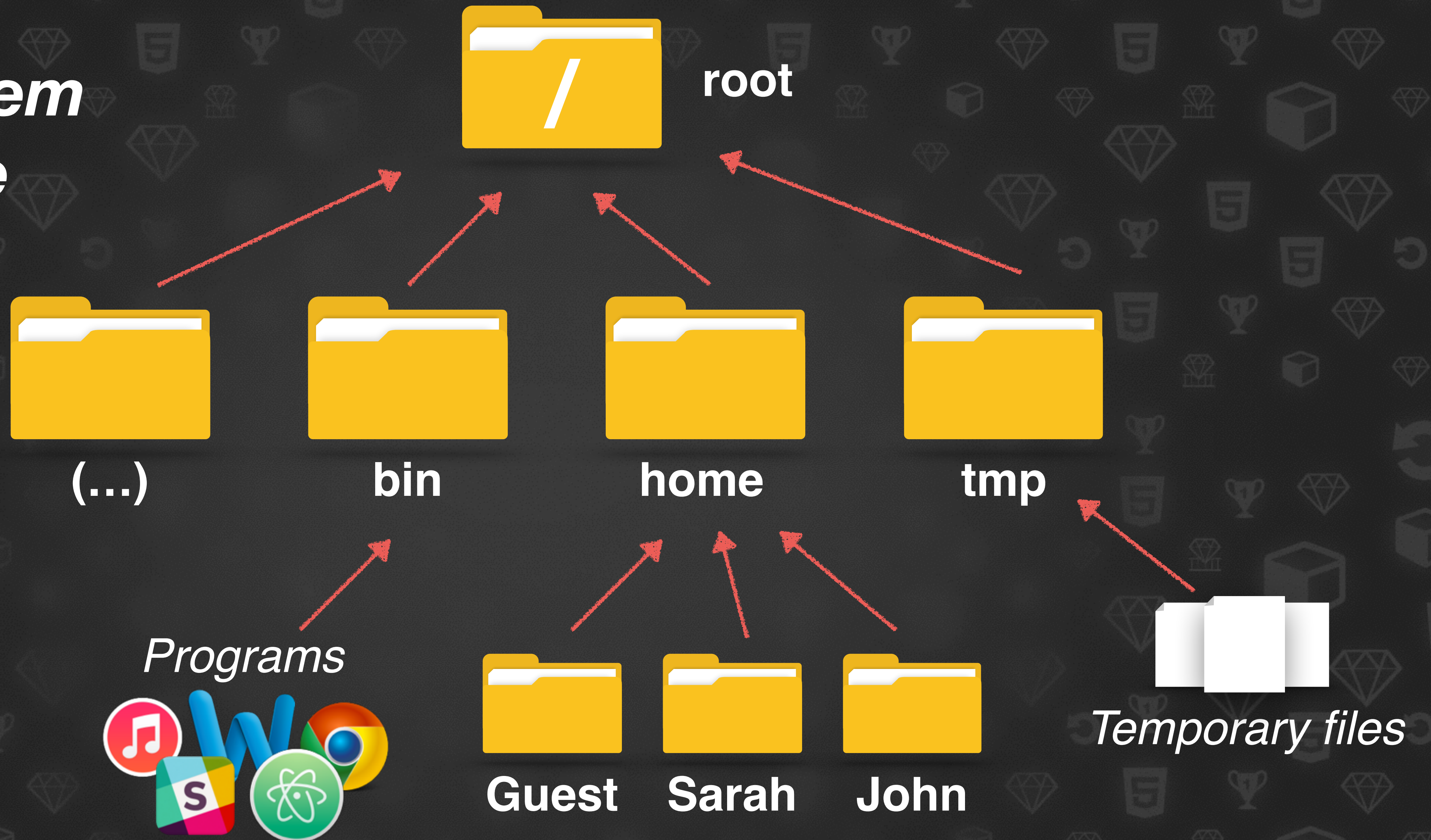


Directories

Navigating the Filesystem

Directories or Folders give structure to the filesystem
Using the **prompt** and the **cd** and **ls** commands to navigate

The Filesystem is a Tree



The Prompt

A terminal window with a grey title bar containing three black window control buttons. The terminal background is dark grey, and the text is white. The prompt 'vagrant@developmentbootcamp:~\$' is displayed at the top left.

```
vagrant@developmentbootcamp:~$
```

- The text ending with **\$** is called the **prompt**
- When you see it, the terminal is waiting for you to type a command
- It shows:
 - **who** you are
 - on **which machine** you are logged in
 - **where** you are (**current working directory**)

Command: ls

Short for **list**

Lists the **contents** of a **directory**

Command: cd

Short for **change directory**
Will move into another directory
Watch the **prompt** change..

Navigation



About commands

The first word is the **program** to run
All words after that are **arguments**
These tell the program what to do

About cd

With an argument: go to that directory

No argument: go **home** (/home/vagrant)

With two dots as argument: go to **parent**

The **~** symbol is short for **home**

What do you think?

- What does **ls** do with no argument?
- What will it do **with** an argument?
- What will it do with **more** arguments?
- What if the argument is a directory that **doesn't exist**?
- What if you pass “..” or “~” as argument?



Files

Read and edit

Reading files with **cat** and **less**

Vagrant and Shared Files

The **devbootcamp** dir on your host
system

/vagrant on the vagrant Linux machine

Commands: cat and less

Both display contents of a **file** (not a dir)

Need name of the file as an **argument**

cat shows the entire contents at once

less does pagination

Navigation





Create, Copy, Delete, Move

Creating directories with **mkdir**, copying with **cp**
Deleting with **rm** and **rmdir**, moving with **mv**

Directories

Create a directory with **mkdir**

Remove it with **rmdir**

NB: rmdir only works if dir is **empty**

Copying

Copy a file with **cp**

Two arguments: **cp source dest**

First argument is file to be copied

Second is destination

Moving Files

mv source dest

Works just like cp

Will silently overwrite dest

You can move a directory too

Deleting Files

Delete a file with **rm**

You will get no warning!

Navigation



Question

Consider command: **cp p.jpg x**

What will happen when x is a **directory**?

What will happen when x is a **file**?

What will happen when x does not exist?



Two Handy Tricks

That will save you a lot of typing

History: it knows what you've been doing

Completion: it can predict what you want (kind of)

History

To recall your previous commands
Use the **up** and **down** arrow keys
You can edit the commands and re-run
them

Completion

To complete file and directory names
Just type a bit of the filename
Press **TAB**

Navigation





Slightly Advanced Stuff

Flags and Wildcards: do more with the same command

Flags

Arguments that start with a **dash** (-)

Usually consist of a single letter

Alter the behaviour of a command

There are many of them

Use **man** to learn about them

Some examples

- **ls -l** : detailed listing
- **ls -a** : show all files (incl. hidden)
- **rm -i** : ask for confirmation
- **rm -r** : delete a directory with all contents
- **cp -R** : copy a directory with all contents

Wildcards

Special combinations of characters

Get replaced by lists of files

Replacement happens **before** command
is executed

Wildcards: examples

- ***** : matches all files in the directory
- ***.txt** : matches all files ending in .txt



No demo?

Try it yourself! Have fun :)

Overview

cd dir move into dir
ls dir list contents of dir
ls -a dir include hidden files
ls -l dir “long format”

cat file Show file contents
less file Paginate contents

mkdir dir create a new dir
rmdir dir remove empty dir
rm -r dir remove non-empty

cp src dest copy a file
cp -R src dest copy a dir
mv src dest move file/dir
rm file delete a file

history Use up/down arrows
completion Use TAB

wildcard: *, *.txt, a*
Will be replaced by matching filenames

Lunch Time!



Git/GitHub

Introduction to
version control



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Version Control

Total Recall without Arnold

Version Control. What is it and why do you want it?

What is it for?

- Safely **store** your code on a server
- Easily roll back your **changes**
- **Collaborate** with other people

Git Repository

A repository holds your files and their
version history

After making changes, you **commit**
them to the repository

Sharing

After committing, you **push** your
changes to the GitHub server
To get changes someone else made,
you **pull**

Navigation



Workshop

- Create a GitHub account
- Install GitHub Desktop
- Create a repo
- Share your work with others