UNIX

Things to do

Unix Philosophy

- This lecture is about the setup and philosophy of Unix
- Lecture Plan
 - Basic Philosophy
 - File System
 - Core Commands
 - Redirection
 - Pipes
 - Processes
 - Shells
 - System Interface to C Programs
 - Next Things

Basic Unix Philosophy

EVERYTHING IS A FILE!!

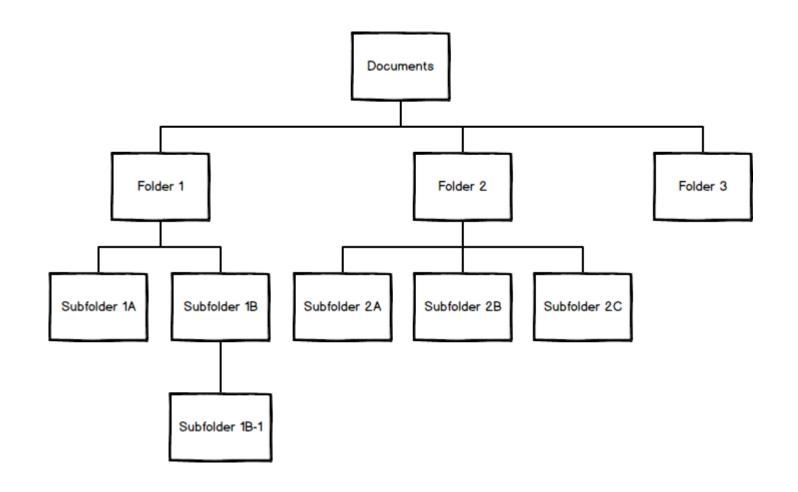
- Directories are files
- Executables are files
- Devices are files
- Files are... files



File System

Consists of:

- Files
- Directories (which contain more files)



Navigating the Tree

Can be done by direct path:

• /home/bernard/dir1/dir2/file1.file

Or relative path:

- If I am in /home/bernard
- dir1/dir2/file1.file

Cue: Do a DEMO

Permissions

3 Kinds

• Read, Write, Execute

Also 3 Kinds

User, Group, Global

Can be seen using: Is -I

Can be fiddled using: chmod

Unix Examples:

cantread.sh
Can't copy it

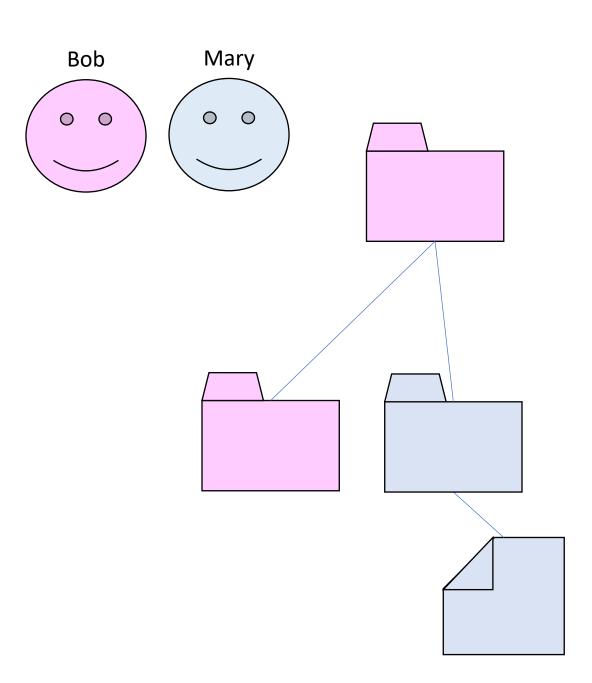
cantwrite.sh
Can't write to it

cantexe.shCan't execute

Users

A user is basically a set of **files** and/or directories that belong to them or they have permission to access.

Users can interact with the system by running a process called a **shell.**



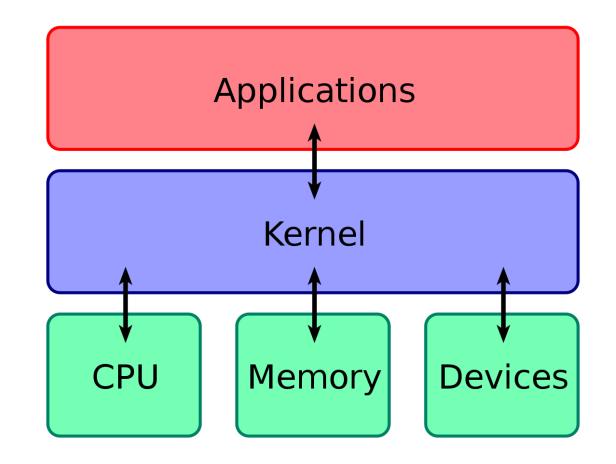
The Kernel

The Kernel

- Is a program
- It is always there

The Kernel manages:

- Files
- Users
- Devices
- Processes (not technically files... but kind of look like files)



Devices

Devices include things like:

- Terminal
- Network Port
- Keyboard
- Disk
- RNG

Can be viewed using:

• Isblk, Ispci, Isusb etc



Processes

Processes:

- Programs that are running
- Are owned by a user
- Can launch other processes
 - A parent process launches a child process
- Generally, if the parent dies, the child dies
 - This can be worked around



Shell

The Shell

- Is an interactive process that allows a user to run new processes
- All commands seen thus far are programs turned into processes

When the user logs out, the shell is gone

- This includes processes
 - This can be avoided

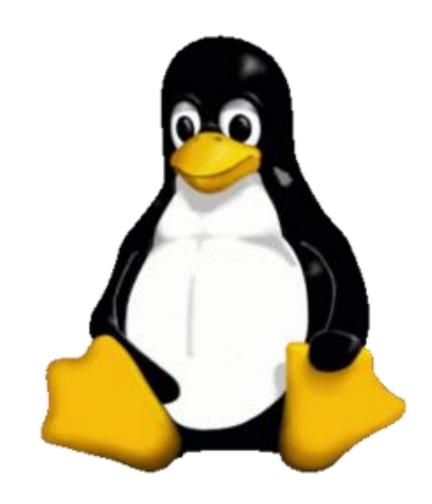
Not all processes are spawned from a shell

- The Kernel is its own thing (starts processes on start up)
- These processes tend to respond to external events (timers, messages etc)

Basic Commands

Lots:

- ls, cp, mv, rm
- less
- pwd, cd
- cat
- grep, egrep
- head, tail, wc
- cut
- paste
- ps, kill



Redirection

Unix allows output to be redirected

- Putting into a file: >
- Adding to the end of a file
- For piping to other programs

We can redirect not just to our standard input and output but too other file descriptors

This will be covered in detail later

C Programming Interface

C

- Has a special relationship with Unix
- It is the first programming language in Unix
- Very Low Level
- There are many commands that C programs can use to interact with the system (all of these are in section 3 of the unix manual)

The two very basic parts are:

Housekeeping

Workshops

Your first workshop is this week

Assignment #1 is out.

• It is in BASH, learn BASH

Practice:

 Write some bash scripts that do things (move files, create files, calculate numbers)