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Unix Programming. Assignment - 1

1. What are the different types of files in UNIX?

The 3 categories of the files are:-

- i) Ordinary files. (or regular files)
- ii) Directory files
- iii) Device files

i) Ordinary files:- It contains only data as a stream of characters.

→ Ordinary files is a file on the system that contains data, text or program instructions.

→ An ordinary data files can be either a text file or binary file.

→ Text file contains only printable characters & you can view & edit them

→ A binary file contains both printable & non printable characters that covers the entire ASCII range.

→ Hidden files: an invisible files is one the first character of which is the dot or the period character (.)

~~or Unix~~

ii) Directory files

→ A directory files contains no data but keeps details of the files & subdirectories that it contains.

→ A directory files contains one entry for every files & subdirectory that it houses

• Each entry has 2 components namely

① File name & ② Unique identification number of the file or directory.

• Unix directories are equiv. equivalent to windows folders

* Device file:

- * All the operations on the devices are performed by reading or writing the file representing the devices.
- * Advantage of device file is that some of the commands used to access an ordinary file also work with device file.
- * Device file names are generally found in a single directory structure / dev.
- * It is the attributes of the file that entirely govern the operation of the device.

(2) Explain the shell interpretive lifecycle.

The shell performs following activities in its interpretive cycle:

- The shell :- issues the prompt (\$) & waits for the user to enter a command (like ls chap*)
- After a command is entered, the shell scans the command line for meta characters like ls chap* & expands the abbreviations to recreate a simplified command line (ls chap1 chap2)
- Then the shell passes the command line to the kernel for execution & waits for the command to complete its task.
- After the command is executed, the shell issues the prompt (\$) again & waits for the user to enter a next command.

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3. Explain about absolute & relative path name.

- A pathname is a text string by which we can move up of one or more names separated by a '/'.
- * A pathname specifies how to traverse (navigate) the hierarchical directory names in the file system to reach some destination object.

Absolute pathname:

- An absolute pathname begins with a slash (/).
- The absolute path defines the location of a directory or a file from the root file system (/).
- The absolute path contains the full path of the directory or file.

Relative pathname

- The relative pathname does not begin with "/".
- Specify the location relative to your current working directory.
- . (a single dot) - this represents the current directory.
- .. (2 dots) - this represents the parent directory.

Ex: 1

date command can be executed in 2 ways.

using absolute pathname:

1. /bin/date

Thu Oct 15 10:20:29 IST 2020

using relative

1. date

Thu Sep 7 10:20:29 IST 2020.

4. a) Explain file current permission.
rw-r-xr-- specify the chmod expression required to change them for the following.

i) Rwxrwxrwx

Relative permissions.

chmod u+xg+twot wr demo file

Absolute permission

chmod 777 demo file

ii) r--x---

Relative permissions.

chmod u-wg-rx.o-r demo file.

Absolute permissions

chmod 440 demo file.

(iii) -----

Relative permission:

chmod u-rw g-rx o-r demo file

Absolute permission.

chmod on o demo file.

(iv) ---r--R--

Relative permission: chmod.

Absolute permission: chmod.

- 5). Briefly describe the following commands cat, cp, mv, rm, wc, od.

→ cat:- This command can also accept numbers than one

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display the content of a file on the screen
Syntax:- `cat FILENAME`

Case 1:- This command can ~~also~~ also accept number than one file as argument.

Example:- `$ cat P1.c P2.c`

→ Here the content of the second file is shown immediately after the first file.

→ So, this command concatenates 2 files, hence its name (cat)

Case - 2:-

→ This command can also be used to create a new file

→ Syntax:-

`cat > FILE . NAME`

Example:-

`$ cat > P3.c welcome`

TO SHELL // contents of P3.c

[ctrl-d] // terminates P3.c

+ CP: This command is used to copy a file(s) from one location to another location. It creates an exact image of the file on the disk with a different name.

Syntax:- `cp source -file destination -file.`

Eg:- `$ cp file1 file2` // copies content of file 1 to file 2

* mv: This command renames or moves files

Case 1: This command can be used to rename a file in the current directory

Syntax:-

`mv OLD FILENAME NEW FILENAME`

→ This command can also be used to move a group of files to a directory

* **rm:-**

This command can be used to delete a file.

Syntax:-

`rm FILENAME`

Example:-

`$ rm FILE //deletes FILE`

`$ rm FILE1 FILE2 FILE3 //deletes 3 files.`

* **wc**

→ This command can be used to get a count of the total number of lines words & characters contained in a file.

Syntax:-

`wc FILE NAME`

od:- This command can be used to display the content of executable file in a ASCII octal form

ex:- `$ cat P1.obj`

abcd efgh //content of file P1.obj

abcd efgh