**/proc > /sys > /dev**

**/sys: extract data from /proc**

**/dev: extract data from /sys**

**procfs** is the most popular way to expose kernel information to users, but there are more. The files under **/proc** are unstructured and contain both information about processes and devices. The goal of [**sysfs**](gloss01.html#gloss_425) is to solve some of these shortcomings by migrating device data to /sys. Data still can exist on both, and the device tools such as **lspci** still use **/proc**.

[**udev**](gloss01.html#gloss_455) is the Linux kernel’s device manager. It manages the device files under /dev using information about the device from **sysfs**. Every accessible device on the system will have a corresponding device file under /dev. If a device is plugged in to the computer while it is running, **udev** can configure it and make it available to the system. Devices that support being plugged in at runtime are also called [*hotplug*](gloss01.html#gloss_169) devices, as opposed to [*coldplug*](gloss01.html#gloss_55) devices that require the computer to be rebooted for them to be used.