

# The Unix Shell

Zhuo (April) Fu Ph.D  
University of Virginia

# **1. Introducing the Shell**

# Why learn shell?

Real life example

# What is shell?

- Shell is a program  
command-line interface, or CLI
- The antonym of CLI is  
GUI (graphical user interface)

# Be like a pro

- Shell vs kernel

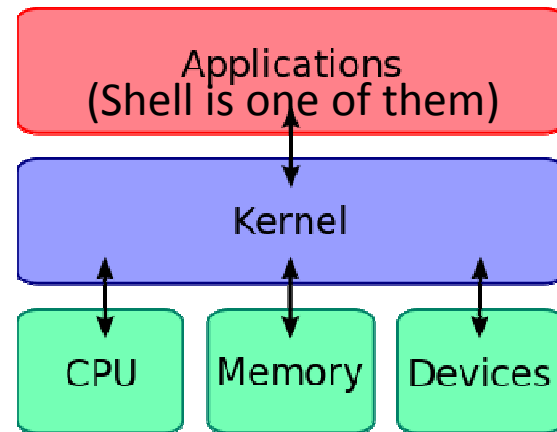
- Shell vs. Bash

- Bash is a shell
    - There are other shells:

C-Shell (csh), Korn Shell (ksh) TENEX C shell (tcsh)

- Unix vs. Linux

- Linux is free
    - Large company use Unix to build their own product (Mac is based on Unix)
    - Share a lot of same command



# Acquire data to practice on

- Google “software carpentry lessons”
- Version 5.3/the Unix shell site
- Click shell-novice-data.zip

## **2. Files and Directories**

- Directories ,folder, home & current directory
- Commands to remember
  - whoami
  - pwd
  - ls
  - cd
- Learn special symbols by using cd
- Learn flag vs. argument by using ls

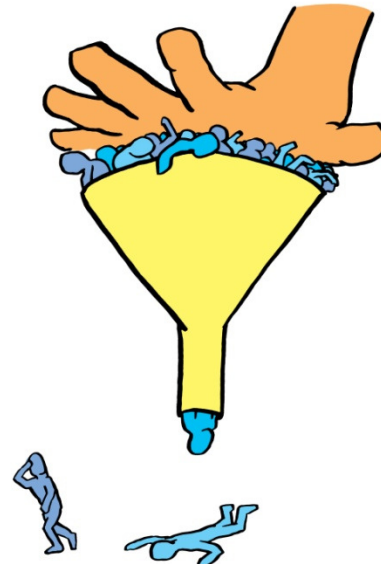


### **3. Creating folders and files**

# Command to remember

- mkdir
- nano
- cat
- rm
- rmdir
- mv
- cp

## 4. Pipes



- What is pipes?
- Symbols: > and |
  - > : feed stuff to to a file
  - >>: pipe without clear
  - | :feed stuff another command
- Real life example with > and >>

# Command to remember

- `wc`
- `sort`
- `head`

# **5. Loops**

- What is loop?
- Run the same command on each element on your list.
  - Peel {one orange} in {your basket}
- Why loop?
  - most of command only take one argument

# syntax

```
$ for filename in basilisk.dat unicorn.dat  
> do  
>     head -3 $filename  
> done
```



## **6. Shell Scripts**

- Put a set of commands in a file
- Run it when you needed
- Make shell programming repeatable
- Example: rename.

## **7. Finding Things**

# Command to remember

- find
- grep