CSE2301 Lab 1 FALL 2009

In this lab, you will be introduced to the Linux operating system. The basic commands will be presented in this lab. By the end of you alb, you will be asked to perform simple operations and submit a script of the terminal session.

What is a shell?

A shell is th interface between you and the computer. It accepts commands typed by the user and then uses the operating system in order to execute these commands. For example the command could be ls followed by enter

sh-3.00\$	ls			
emp.data	f2	file1	one_liners.log one_liners.pdf p1	p3
f1	£3	ile2	one_liners.odt one_liners.ps p2	
sh-3.00\$				

Before you enter Is the shell displayed the prompt (in this case sh-3.00\$) and sits patiently waiting for your input. After typing Is and pressing enter, it takes the command (Is – listing all the files in the current directory) and runs it (using the OS) producing the shown output.

Where the shell can find the program 1s to run? There is a variable called PATH (We will discuss how to set PATH variable later). This variable lets the shell looks for any command that you type in specific places, if the command is not in one of the places defined by PATH, then the shell displays a message on the form (The exact form depends on what shell you are running on your system)

sh-3.00\$ Command not found

Is is one of many basic commands that you can use to manipulate your files. The best way to know how to use a command is to use the man command (short for manual). For example type man ls at your shell prompt and you get a description of the ls command and the options you can use with it.

Do man, man -1, man -s, man -a, and man -las what do you get?

What are the different kinds of shells?

There are many shells that you can use on any Unix/Linux system. We will briefly introduce these shells and compare between them. There is a shell that is started

hen you login, that is the default shell and is set by your system administrator. You can start other shells, or you can change your default shell later.

The Bourne Shell

Designed by Stephen Bourne of AT&T Bell Laboratories and released in 1977. The Bourne shell, or sh as it is widely known is considered to be the original shell (although it was actually a replacement for Thompson Shell. It is considered to be a standard on any UNIX system. The Bourne shell is considered the least common denominator for shells. For truly portable scripts, use the Bourne Shell and it will run on many shells.

The C Shell

Designed by Bill Joy at the University of California at Berkeley for the BSD Unix. Its syntax resembles that of C, hence the name. It introduced new features to the shell like the history substitution (!! to repeat the last command) and the \sim expansion for home directory lookup.

There are some syntax difference between csh and sh, for example in sh we set a variable as "a=b'' while in csh "set a=b''

The Korn Shell

Developed by David Korn of AT&T Bell Laboratories for its System V Unix as a response to the csh. It has many of the features of csh but is backward compatible with sh. The Korn shell has been standardized as a part of POSIX

The Bourne Again Shell – Bash

The Bourne Again Shell or bash has been developed for the GNU project and is mainly a response to the Korn shell. It has many features in the Korn shell, but is backward compatible with the original Bourne Shell.

The Extended C shell tcsh

The tcsh extends the original c shell by adding file name completion and command line editing. It is also backward compatible with csh.

Unix File System

The Unix/Linux file system is organized on the form of a tree. The root directory is defined as "/" without the quotation marks. You can define files or directories relative to the directory you are in, or as an absolute starting from the / root

directory. An example of a Unix directory tree is shown below.



For example when I refer to the directory "courses" I can refer to it as ~/courses (~ means home directory) or the full path /home/aboelaze/courses. The command pwd (print working directory) displays the name of the directory you are currently in.

File Protection

In Unix/Linux each file has an access rights that are determined by the access bits. For example when you type ls -s filename

```
tigger 127 % ls -l abs.txt
-rwx----- 1 aboelaze faculty 1066 Nov 15 2005 abs.txt*
<mark>tigger 128 %</mark>
```

The access bits in this case is – rwx-----

The first dash states that the file is a regular file and not a directory (it would be d if it is a directory). The following 9 characters are divided into three groups with 3 character per group. The groups determine the access right for user (owner), group and others. In each group the right are rwx (for read, write, and execute). For the above example, the owner has the right to read, write (modify), or execute the file. The group and other do not have access rights at all to the file. Access bits on the form rwxr-xr-- means the owner have the right to read, write, and execute the file. People in the same group as the owner have the right to

read and execute the file (no write) stated as r-x, while others have the right to read the file but not write it or execute it.

Basic Unix Commands

Login and open an xterm. First to know your login shell, echo the login shell variable

tigger 207 % echo \$SHELL /cs/local/bin/tcsh tigger 208 🗞

That means that I am using a tcsh shell. To explain what the commands mean, echo echoes what follows it verbatim if you say echo bla bla bla, then "bla bla bla" will be displayed on the screen. However the dollar sign before SHELL tells the shell do not just echo the phrase SHELL but the variable named SHELL which is a shell variable holds the name of the login shell. Unix/Linus commands are on the form

commands arguments or commands options arguments

For example when we did is commands before, that is an example of a command without any arguments. We can do

ls file lists the named file if it exists or Is directory lists the contents of the directory if exists

there are a lot of options that could be used with ls (-a -s -l -f) do man ls to check all the options.

Some other commands

- removes (deletes) a file or a directory rm
- moves a file or director mv
- copies a file ср
- lists the running processes ps
- kills a process (kill -9 for maximum effects) kill

for example try to man uname (another Linux command), here is part of the man pages for uname.

After you man uname, try it for different options as given below.

NAME

uname - print system information

SYNOPSIS

uname [OPTION]...

DESCRIPTION

Print certain system information. With no OPTION, same as -s.

-a, --all print all information, in the following order:

-s, --kernel-name print the kernel name

-n, --nodename print the network node hostname

-r, --kernel-release print the kernel release

-v, --kernel-version print the kernel version

-m, --machine print the machine hardware name

-p, --processor print the processor type

-i, --hardware-platform print the hardware platform

The command grep

grep, as its name indicates, greps a specific pattern from a file and display the lines containing that line (by default). It has many options check man grep for complete list of options.

<mark>grep book file1</mark>

display all the lines in file1 that include the string book.

Another useful command is wc (short for word count). Wc counts the number of characters, words, and lines in a file.

tigger 157 % wc temp 3 32 169 temp tigger 158 %

That means the file temp has three lines, 32 words, and 169 characters.

Redirection and Pipes

By default, Unix/Linux uses three input/output channels

- 0=stdin (standard input, by default the keyboard)
- 1=stdout (standard output, by default the monitor)
- 2=stderr (standard error, by default the monitor)

For example when I type cat filename the file is displayed on the monitor. If there is an error of any type (for example the file does not exist, the error message is displayed on the monitor too.

sh-3.00\$ cat hgfhgfjhf cat: hgfhgfjhf: No such file or directory sh-3.00\$

by directing the standard error to cat.err

```
sh-3.00$ cat jhdsjhgfhg 2>cat.err
sh-3.00$ more cat.err
cat: jhdsjhgfhg: No such file or directory
sh-3.00$
```

we can redirect inputs (<) and outputs (>) for example

cat filename 1>out.txt 2>err.txt

cats the file filename and stores it in a file called out.txt, if there is any error message it will be stored in a file err.txt instead of being displayed on the monitor. >> means to append the output the the file (> deletes the contents of the file before sending the output to it).

<< string means the string is considered to be the end of input and on a line by itself (default CTRL-D)

```
tigger 113 % cat <<XX
? first line
? second line
? last line XX
```

? XX first line second line last line XX tigger 114 %

Pipes are used to send the output of a program to the input of another program. For example the command

ls |less

Is by itself display the directory on the monitor. The "|" pipe the output of the Is to the input of another program called less (less displays its input on the screen). So what is the difference between the above command and simple Is. One thing about less is that it display the contents a screen by screen, so a screen-full of file names will be shown, then it waits for any input character

Finally the command script. Script makes a copy of your terminal session (do man script for more details).

The way script works is as follows. When you type script, a file is created that will store every command you type and every thing that is displayed on the screen. So for example if you type Is, then the Is command together with the displayed results will be stored in the script file. You can specify the name of the file with the script command. If you did not specify the file, the default file is typescript. Do not forget to exit the scripting session using exit command. An example is shown below.

tigger 106 % script myscriptfile Script started, file is myscriptfile tigger 101 % date Fri Aug 14 14:55:34 EDT 2009 tigger 102 % exit exit Script done, file is myscriptfile	Starting the script, then you executed the date command, the result is shown on the screen Exit to end the scripting session
tigger 107 % cat myscriptfile	Now, we are out of the
Script started on Fri Aug 14 14:55:26 2009	scripting session, the
tigger 101 % date	contents is stored in a file
Fri Aug 14 14:55:34 EDT 2009	called myscriptfile. Cat
tigger 102 % exit	this file to see the contents
exit	of the session

Script done on Fri Aug 14 14:55:39 2009 tigger 108 %

Exercise

Start a script session to a file called myscript0

Type and execute a Linux command to do the following

- 1. Count the numbers of files in your current directory
- 2. Count the number of files in your current directory that includes the phrase $``\mathrm{HW}''$
- 3. Repeat the previous command but consider both capital and small letters (i.e. the files that contains HW, Hw, hW, and hw).
- 4. A command to count the number of lines, that you input from the standard input, that contains the string book. The number should be displayed after you finish entering text.
- 5. Submit your script file to L1

do man submit for instructions on submissions