

Unix Basics



Systems Programming

Unix Basics

- Unix directories
- Important Unix file commands
- File and Directory Access Rights through Permission Settings
- Using **chmod** to change permissions

Unix File Structure

- **Hierarchical file system**
 - Starts at *root*, denoted `"/`.
 - Abstraction is to navigate through the Unix directory structure relative to the current "working" directory.
 - Slashes separate directory levels.
 - File names cannot have blanks and lower-case is preferred {case-sensitive}.
 - Extensions are just conventions to the file system, but NOT to compilers!

Unix File Notation

- . = the current directory
- .. = the parent directory
- ~ = my home directory (i.e., the current directory when I login)

File name wild cards

- ? = any one character
- * = any zero or more characters

Unix Commands

- Basic format:

Command -option parameters

`ls -l labs*`

`cp old.c new.c`

- C commands can be cryptic and many are only two characters long, but an important exception is:

`man` = manual page request

`man ls`

Commands: pwd & ls

pwd = print working directory

ls = list file names and attributes.

-l = long listing

-d = list directory itself, not contents

-a = all files (including starting with ".")

ls [just file names]

ls -la [lots of info!]

ls -la labs* [only info labs]

ls -d [just directory names]

Commands: mkdir & cd

mkdir = make a new directory

```
mkdir newdir
```

cd = change directory

```
cd newdir
```

```
cd ../updir
```

```
cd [change to home directory]
```

Commands: mv & cp

cp = copy file

cp source destination

-p = preserve permissions

```
cp -p old.c new.c
```

```
cp prog1.c prog_dir/
```

```
cp *.c prog_dir/
```

mv = move file

mv source destination

```
mv prog1.c distance.c
```

```
mv prog1.c prog_dir/
```

For both commands if the destination is an existing directory, the file name stays the same.

File and Directory Permissions

- Each file or directory has three sets of permissions:
 - User (i.e. owner)
 - **Note** - Only the user can change permissions.
 - Group
 - Other (the world!)
- Each permission set has three permissions:
 - Read
 - Write
 - Execute

These are visible left to right via:

ls -la

File and Directory Permissions

- **Read access** = You can read the file contents. You can list the contents of the directory.
- **Write access** = You can write into this file. You can modify this directory.
- **Execute access** = You can run this file as a command. You can use this directory as part of a path.

To access any file, you first need execute permission on all directories from the root to the file.

Command: chmod

chmod = Change mode (permissions)

chmod mode files

mode:

specify users: **u**, **g**, or **o**

specify attribute: **r**, **w**, or **x**

connect with action:

+ = add

- = delete

= = set

Command: chmod

- Examples:

```
chmod u+x prog4.cpp
```

```
chmod o-r prog4.cpp
```

```
chmod u=rwx prog4.cpp
```

```
chmod o+r,g+r prog4.cpp
```

- You can also use octal numbers:

```
chmod 700 prog2.c
```

```
chmod 750 sample.c
```

Commands: emacs, cat, more

{generic format}

command filename

emacs = edit a file

emacs lab1.c

cat = printout text file

cat lab1.c

more = printout text file (only fill one screen)

more lab1.c

. hit the space bar to see more or q to quit.

Commands: rm, ps, kill

rm = delete a file

```
rm olddat.txt
```

ps = print currently active processes

```
ps
```

kill = stop one of your running processes

```
kill -9 26814
```

Example: ps kill

```
$emacs simple.c
{inside edit of simple.c}
^z
$ps
  PID TTY          TIME CMD
26792 pts/17        00:00:00 tcsh
26814 pts/17        00:00:00 emacs
26815 pts/17        00:00:00 ps
$ kill -9 26814
$
[1]      Killed                  emacs simple.c
```

type % to resume