

# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

## The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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# Training Contents (1)

Shells, filesystem and file handling

- ▶ Everything is a file
- ▶ GNU / Linux filesystem structure
- ▶ Command line interpreters
- ▶ Handling files and directories
- ▶ Displaying, scanning and sorting files
- ▶ Symbolic and hard link
- ▶ File access rights

# Training contents (2)

Standard I/O, redirections, pipes

- ▶ Standard input and output, redirecting to files
- ▶ Pipes: redirecting standard output to other commands
- ▶ Standard error



# Training Contents (3)

## Task control

- ▶ Full control on tasks
- ▶ Executing in background, suspending, resuming and aborting
- ▶ List of active tasks
- ▶ Killing processes
- ▶ Environment variables
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- ▶ Shell aliases, .bashrc file



# Training contents (4)

## Miscellaneous

- ▶ Text editors
- ▶ Compressing and archiving
- ▶ Printing files
- ▶ Comparing files and directories
- ▶ Looking for files
- ▶ Getting information about users





# Training contents (5)

## System administration basics

- ▶ File ownership
- ▶ Setting up networking
- ▶ Filesystems: creating and mounting

## Going further

- ▶ Getting help, accessing manual pages
- ▶ Searching the Internet for resources



# GNU / Linux and Free Software

- ▶ This presentation included an introduction to Free Software and Open Source: operating systems, applications, key projects and rules for success.
- ▶ It is now available as a separate presentation:  
<http://free-electrons.com/articles/freesw>



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Unix filesystem



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# Everything is a file

Almost everything in Unix is a file!

- ▶ Regular files

- ▶ Directories

Directories are just files  
listing a set of files

- ▶ Symbolic links

Files referring to the name of  
another file

- ▶ Devices and peripherals

Read and write from devices as  
with regular files

- ▶ Pipes

Used to cascade programs

```
cat *.log | grep error
```

- ▶ Sockets

Inter process communication



# File names

File name features since the beginning of Unix

- ▶ Case sensitive
- ▶ No obvious length limit
- ▶ Can contain any character (including whitespace, except /).  
File types stored in the file (“magic numbers”).  
File name extensions not needed and not interpreted. Just used for user convenience.

- ▶ File name examples:

`README`  
`index.htm`

`.bashrc`  
`index.html`

`Windows Buglist`  
`index.html.old`



# File paths

A *path* is a sequence of nested directories with a file or directory at the end, separated by the `/` character

- ▶ Relative path: `documents/fun/microsoft_jokes.html`  
Relative to the current directory
- ▶ Absolute path: `/home/bill/bugs/crash9402031614568`
- ▶ `/` : *root directory*.

Start of absolute paths for all files on the system (even for files on removable devices or network shared).



# GNU / Linux filesystem structure (1)

Not imposed by the system. Can vary from one system to the other, even between two GNU/Linux installations!

/	Root directory
/bin/	Basic, essential system commands
/boot/	Kernel images, initrd and configuration files
/dev/	Files representing devices
	/dev/hda: first IDE hard disk
/etc/	System configuration files
/home/	User directories
/lib/	Basic system shared libraries



# GNU / Linux filesystem structure (2)

<code>/lost+found</code>	Corrupt files the system tried to recover
<code>/media</code>	Mount points for removable media: <code>/media/usbdisk</code> , <code>/media/cdrom</code>
<code>/mnt/</code>	Mount points for temporarily mounted filesystems
<code>/opt/</code>	Specific tools installed by the sysadmin <code>/usr/local/</code> often used instead
<code>/proc/</code>	Access to system information <code>/proc/cpuinfo</code> , <code>/proc/version</code> ...
<code>/root/</code>	root user home directory
<code>/sbin/</code>	Administrator-only commands
<code>/sys/</code>	System and device controls (cpu frequency, device power, etc.)





# GNU / Linux filesystem structure (3)

<code>/tmp/</code>	Temporary files
<code>/usr/</code>	Regular user tools (not essential to the system) <code>/usr/bin/</code> , <code>/usr/lib/</code> , <code>/usr/sbin...</code>
<code>/usr/local/</code>	Specific software installed by the sysadmin (often preferred to <code>/opt/</code> )
<code>/var/</code>	Data used by the system or system servers <code>/var/log/</code> , <code>/var/spool/mail</code> (incoming mail), <code>/var/spool/lpd</code> (print jobs)...

The Unix filesystem structure is defined  
by the Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS):

<http://www.pathname.com/fhs/>



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## Shells and file handling



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# Command line interpreters

- ▶ Shells: tools to execute user commands
- ▶ Called “shells” because they hide the details on the underlying operating system under the shell's surface.
- ▶ Commands are input in a text terminal, either a window in a graphical environment or a text-only console.
- ▶ Results are also displayed on the terminal. No graphics are needed at all.
- ▶ Shells can be scripted: provide all the resources to write complex programs (variable, conditionals, iterations...)



# Well known shells

Most famous and popular shells

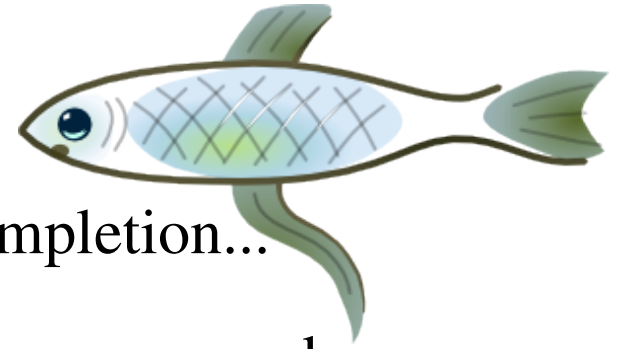
- ▶ **sh**: The Bourne shell (obsolete)  
Traditional, basic shell found on Unix systems, by Steve Bourne.
- ▶ **cs****h**: The C shell (obsolete)  
Once popular shell with a C-like syntax
- ▶ **tc****sh**: The TC shell (still very popular)  
A C shell compatible implementation with evolved features (command completion, history editing and more...)
- ▶ **ba****sh**: The Bourne Again shell (most popular)  
An improved implementation of sh with lots of added features too.



# fish: a great new shell

The Friendly Interactive SHell

<http://www.fishshell.org/>



- ▶ Standard features: history, command and file completion...
- ▶ Brand new features: command option completion, command completion with short description, syntax highlighting..
- ▶ Easier to any open files: **open** built-in command.
- ▶ Much simpler and consistent syntax (not POSIX compliant)  
Makes it easier to create shell scripts.

Command line beginners can learn much faster!

Even experienced users should find this shell very convenient.



# ls command

Lists the files in the current directory, in alphanumeric order, except files starting with the “.” character.

▶ **ls -a** (all)

Lists all the files (including . \* files)

▶ **ls -l** (long)

Long listing (type, date, size, owner, permissions)

▶ **ls -t** (time)

Lists the most recent files first

▶ **ls -S** (size)

Lists the biggest files first

▶ **ls -r** (reverse)

Reverses the sort order

▶ **ls -ltr** (options can be combined)

Long listing, most recent files at the end



# File name pattern substitutions

Better introduced by examples!

▶ `ls *txt`

The shell first replaces `*txt` by all the file and directory names ending by `txt` (including `.txt`), except those starting with `.`, and then executes the `ls` command line.

▶ `ls -d .*`

Lists all the files and directories starting with `.`  
`-d` tells `ls` not to display the contents of directories.

▶ `cat ?.log`

Displays all the files which names start by 1 character and end by `.log`



# Special directories (1)

`./`

- ▶ The current directory. Useful for commands taking a directory argument. Also sometimes useful to run commands in the current directory (see later).
- ▶ So `./readme.txt` and `readme.txt` are equivalent.

`../`

- ▶ The parent (enclosing) directory. Always belongs to the `.` directory (see `ls -a`). Only reference to the parent directory.
- ▶ Typical usage:  
`cd ..`





# Special directories (2)

~/

- ▶ Not a special directory indeed. Shells just substitute it by the home directory of the current user.
- ▶ Cannot be used in most programs, as it is not a real directory.

~sydney/

- ▶ Similarly, substituted by shells by the home directory of the `sydney` user.



# The cd and pwd commands

- ▶ `cd <dir>`

Changes the current directory to `<dir>`.

- ▶ `cd -`

Gets back to the previous current directory.

- ▶ `pwd`

Displays the current directory ("working directory").



# The cp command

▶ `cp <source_file> <target_file>`

Copies the source file to the target.

▶ `cp file1 file2 file3 ... dir`

Copies the files to the target directory (last argument).

▶ `cp -i` (interactive)

Asks for user confirmation if the target file already exists

▶ `cp -r <source_dir> <target_dir>` (recursive)

Copies the whole directory.



# Smart directory copy with rsync

**rsync** (remote sync) has been designed to keep in sync directories on 2 machines with a low bandwidth connection.

- ▶ Only copies files that have changed. Files with the same size are compared by checksums.
- ▶ Only transfers the blocks that differ within a file!
- ▶ Can compress the transferred blocks
- ▶ Preserves symbolic links and file permissions: also very useful for copies on the same machine.
- ▶ Can work through ssh (secure remote shell). Very useful to update the contents of a website, for example.



# rsync examples (1)

▶ `rsync -a /home/arvin/sd6_agents/ /home/sydney/misc/`

`-a`: archive mode. Equivalent to `-rlptgoD`... easy way to tell you want recursion and want to preserve almost everything.

▶ `rsync -Pav --delete /home/steve/ideas/ /home/bill/my_ideas/`

`-P`: `--partial` (keep partially transferred files) and `--progress` (show progress during transfer)

`--delete`: delete files in the target which don't exist in the source.

Caution: directory names should end with `/`. Otherwise, you get a `my_ideas/ideas/` directory at the destination.



# rsync examples (2)

- ▶ Copying to a remote machine

```
rsync -Pav /home/bill/legal/arguments/ \
bill@www.sco.com:/home/legal/arguments/
```

User **bill** will be prompted for a password.

- ▶ Copying from a remote machine through ssh

```
rsync -Pav -e ssh
homer@tank.duff.com:/prod/beer/ \
fridge/homer/beer/
```

User **homer** will be prompted for his ssh key password.



# mv and rm commands

- ▶ `mv <old_name> <new_name>` (move)  
Renames the given file or directory.
- ▶ `mv -i` (interactive)  
If the new file already exists, asks for user confirm
- ▶ `rm file1 file2 file3 ...` (remove)  
Removes the given files.
- ▶ `rm -i` (interactive)  
Always ask for user confirm.
- ▶ `rm -r dir1 dir2 dir3` (recursive)  
Removes the given directories with all their contents.



# Creating and removing directories

▶ `mkdir dir1 dir2 dir3 ...` (make dir)

Creates directories with the given names.

▶ `rmdir dir1 dir2 dir3 ...` (remove dir)

Removes the given directories

Safe: only works when directories are empty.

Alternative: `rm -r` (doesn't need empty directories).





# Displaying file contents

Several ways of displaying the contents of files.

▶ `cat file1 file2 file3 ...` (concatenate)

Concatenates and outputs the contents of the given files.

▶ `more file1 file2 file3 ...`

After each page, asks the user to hit a key to continue.

Can also jump to the first occurrence of a keyword  
(`/` command).

▶ `less file1 file2 file3 ...`

Does more than `more` with less.

Doesn't read the whole file before starting.

Supports backward movement in the file (`?` command).



# The head and tail commands

## ▶ `head [-<n>] <file>`

Displays the first <n> lines (or 10 by default) of the given file.

Doesn't have to open the whole file to do this!

## ▶ `tail [-<n>] <file>`

Displays the last <n> lines (or 10 by default) of the given file.

No need to load the whole file in RAM! Very useful for huge files.

## ▶ `tail -f <file>` (follow)

Displays the last 10 lines of the given file and continues to display new lines when they are appended to the file.

Very useful to follow the changes in a log file, for example.

## ▶ Examples

```
head windows_bugs.txt
```

```
tail -f outlook_vulnerabilities.txt
```



# The grep command

▶ `grep <pattern> <files>`

Scans the given files and displays the lines which match the given pattern.

▶ `grep error *.log`

Displays all the lines containing **error** in the `*.log` files

▶ `grep -i error *.log`

Same, but case insensitive

▶ `grep -ri error .`

Same, but recursively in all the files in `.` and its subdirectories

▶ `grep -v info *.log`

Outputs all the lines in the files except those containing **info**.



# The sort command

▶ `sort <file>`

Sorts the lines in the given file in character order and outputs them.

▶ `sort -r <file>`

Same, but in reverse order.

▶ `sort -ru <file>`

**u**: unique. Same, but just outputs identical lines once.

▶ More possibilities described later!



# Symbolic links

A symbolic link is a special file which is just a reference to the name of another one (file or directory):

- ▶ Useful to reduce disk usage and complexity when 2 files have the same content.
- ▶ Example:  
`anakin_skywalker_biography -> darth_vador_biography`
- ▶ How to identify symbolic links:
  - ▶ `ls -l` displays `->` and the linked file name.
  - ▶ GNU `ls` displays links with a different color.



# Creating symbolic links

- ▶ To create a symbolic link (same order as in **cp**):

```
ln -s file_name link_name
```

- ▶ To create a link with to a file in another directory, with the same name:

```
ln -s ../README.txt
```

- ▶ To create multiple links at once in a given directory:

```
ln -s file1 file2 file3 ... dir
```

- ▶ To remove a link:

```
rm link_name
```

Of course, this doesn't remove the linked file!



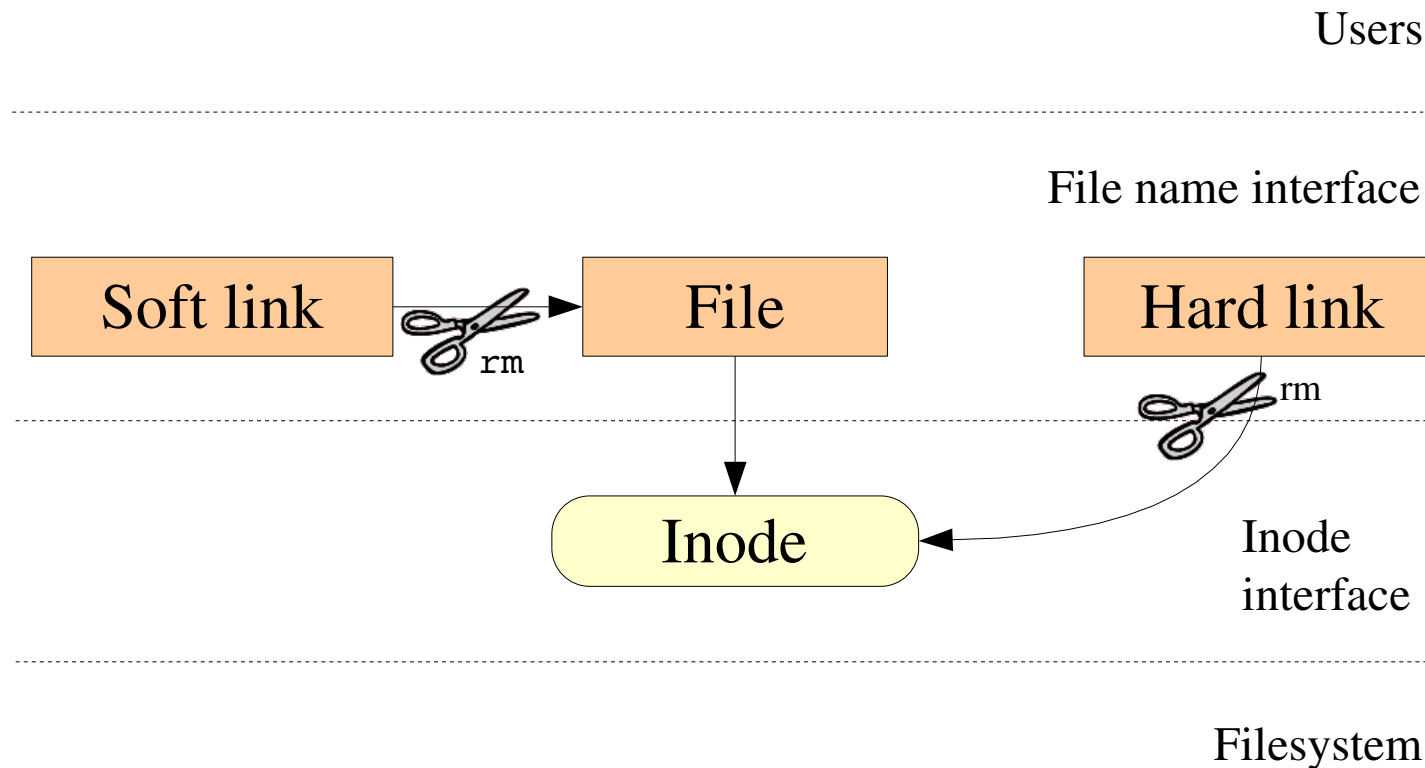
# Hard links

- ▶ The default behavior for `ln` is to create *hard links*
- ▶ A *hard link* to a file is a regular file with exactly the same physical contents
- ▶ While they still save space, hard links can't be distinguished from the original files.
- ▶ If you remove the original file, there is no impact on the hard link contents.
- ▶ The contents are removed when there are no more files (hard links) to them.



# Files names and inodes

Makes hard and symbolic (soft) links easier to understand!





# File access rights

Use `ls -l` to check file access rights

3 types of access rights

- ▶ Read access (**r**)
- ▶ Write access (**w**)
- ▶ Execute rights (**x**)

3 types of access levels

- ▶ User (**u**): for the owner of the file
- ▶ Group (**g**): each file also has a “group” attribute, corresponding to a given list of users
- ▶ Others (**o**): for all other users



# Access right constraints

- ▶ **x** without **r** is legal but is useless  
You have to be able to read a file to execute it.
- ▶ Both **r** and **x** permissions needed for directories:  
**x** to enter, **r** to list its contents.
- ▶ You can't rename, remove, copy files in a directory if you don't have **w** access to this directory.
- ▶ If you have **w** access to a directory, you CAN remove a file even if you don't have write access to this file (remember that a directory is just a file describing a list of files). This even lets you modify (remove + recreate) a file even without **w** access to it.



# Access rights examples

▶ `-rw-r--r--`

Readable and writable for file owner, only readable for others


▶ `-rw-r-----`

Readable and writable for file owner, only readable for users belonging to the file group.

▶ `drwx-----`

Directory only accessible by its owner

▶ `-----r-x`

File executable by others but neither by your friends nor by yourself. Nice protections for a trap... 



# chmod: changing permissions

▶ `chmod <permissions> <files>`

2 formats for permissions:

▶ Octal format (abc):

$a, b, c = r*4 + w*2 + x$  (r, w, x: booleans)

Example: `chmod 644 <file>`

(rw for u, r for g and o)

▶ Or symbolic format. Easy to understand by examples:

`chmod go+r`: add read permissions to group and others.

`chmod u-w`: remove write permissions from user.

`chmod a-x`: (a: all) remove execute permission from all.



# More chmod (1)

```
chmod -R a+rX linux/
```

Makes `linux` and everything in it available to everyone!

- ▶ **R**: apply changes recursively
  - ▶ **X**: **x**, but only for directories and files already executable
- Very useful to open recursive access to directories, without adding execution rights to all files.



# More chmod (2)

```
chmod a+t /tmp
```

- ▶ **t**: (sticky). Special permission for directories, allowing only the directory and file owner to delete a file in a directory.
- ▶ Useful for directories with write access to anyone, like `/tmp`.
- ▶ Displayed by `ls -l` with a **t** character.



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Standard I/O, redirections, pipes



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# Standard output

## More about command output

- ▶ All the commands outputting text on your terminal do it by writing to their *standard output*.
- ▶ Standard output can be written (redirected) to a file using the `>` symbol
- ▶ Standard output can be appended to an existing file using the `>>` symbol





# Standard output redirection examples

- ▶ `ls ~saddam/* > ~gwb/weapons_mass_destruction.txt`
- ▶ `cat obiwan_kenobi.txt > starwars_biographies.txt`  
`cat han_solo.txt >> starwars_biographies.txt`
- ▶ `echo "README: No such file or directory" > README`

Useful way of creating a file without a text editor.

Nice Unix joke too in this case.



# Standard input

## More about command input

- ▶ Lots of commands, when not given input arguments, can take their input from *standard input*.

- ▶ `sort`  
`windows`  
`linux`  
`[Ctrl][D]`  
`linux`  
`windows`

`sort` takes its input from the standard input: in this case, what you type in the terminal (ended by `[Ctrl][D]`)

- ▶ `sort < participants.txt`

The standard input of `sort` is taken from the given file.



# Pipes

- ▶ Unix pipes are very useful to redirect the standard output of a command to the standard input of another one.
- ▶ Examples
  - ▶ `cat *.log | grep -i error | sort`
  - ▶ `grep -ri error . | grep -v "ignored" | sort -u \> serious_errors.log`
  - ▶ `cat /home/*/homework.txt | grep mark | more`
- ▶ This one of the most powerful features in Unix shells!



# The tee command

```
tee [-a] file
```

► The **tee** command can be used to send standard output to the screen and to a file simultaneously.

```
► make | tee build.log
```

Runs the **make** command and stores its output to **build.log**.

```
► make install | tee -a build.log
```

Runs the **make install** command and appends its output to **build.log**.



# Standard error

- ▶ Error messages are usually output (if the program is well written) to *standard error* instead of standard output.
- ▶ Standard error can be redirected through `2>` or `2>>`
- ▶ Example:  
`cat f1 f2 nofile > newfile 2> errfile`
- ▶ Note: `1` is the descriptor for standard output, so `1>` is equivalent to `>`.
- ▶ Can redirect both standard output and standard error to the same file using `&>` :  
`cat f1 f2 nofile &> wholefile`



# The yes command

Useful to fill standard input with always the same string.

► `yes <string> | <command>`

Keeps filling the standard input of `<command>` with `<string>` (`y` by default).

► Examples

```
yes | rm -r dir/
```

```
bank> yes no | credit_applicant
```

```
yes "" | make oldconfig
```

(equivalent to hitting `[Enter]` to accept all default settings)



# Special devices (1)

Device files with a special behavior or contents

## ▶ `/dev/null`

The data sink! Discards all data written to this file.

Useful to get rid of unwanted output, typically log information:

```
mplayer black_adder_4th.avi &> /dev/null
```

## ▶ `/dev/zero`

Reads from this file always return `\0` characters

Useful to create a file filled with zeros:

```
dd if=/dev/zero of=disk.img bs=1k count=2048
```

See `man null` or `man zero` for details



# Special devices (2)

## ▶ `/dev/random`

Returns random bytes when read. Mainly used by cryptographic programs. Uses interrupts from some device drivers as sources of true randomness (“entropy”).

Reads can be blocked until enough entropy is gathered.

## ▶ `/dev/urandom`

For programs for which pseudo random numbers are fine.

Always generates random bytes, even if not enough entropy is available (in which case it is possible, though still difficult, to predict future byte sequences from past ones).

See `man random` for details.





# Special devices (3)

## ▶ `/dev/full`

Mimics a full device.

Useful to check that your application properly handles this kind of situation.

See `man full` for details.



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Task control



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# Full control on tasks

- ▶ Since the beginning, Unix supports true preemptive multitasking.
- ▶ Ability to run many tasks in parallel, and abort them even if they corrupt their own state and data.
- ▶ Ability to choose which programs you run.
- ▶ Ability to choose which input your programs takes, and where their output goes.



# Processes

“Everything in Unix is a file  
Everything in Unix that is not a file is a process”

## Processes

- ▶ Instances of a running programs
- ▶ Several instances of the same program can run at the same time
- ▶ Data associated to processes:  
Open files, allocated memory, stack, process id, parent, priority, state...



# Running jobs in background

Same usage throughout all the shells

## ► Useful

- For command line jobs which output can be examined later, especially for time consuming ones.
- To start graphical applications from the command line and then continue with the mouse.

► Starting a task: add **&** at the end of your line:

```
find_prince_charming --cute --clever --rich &
```



# Background job control

## ▶ jobs

Returns the list of background jobs from the same shell

```
[1]-  Running ~/bin/find_meaning_of_life --without-god &  
[2]+  Running make mistakes &
```

## ▶ fg

fg %<n>

Puts the last / nth background job in foreground mode

## ▶ Moving the current task in background mode:

[Ctrl] Z

bg

## ▶ kill %<n>

Aborts the nth job.



# Job control example

```
> jobs
[1]-  Running ~/bin/find_meaning_of_life --without-god &
[2]+  Running make mistakes &

> fg
make mistakes

> [Ctrl] Z
[2]+  Stopped make mistakes

> bg
[2]+ make mistakes &

> kill %1
[1]+  Terminated ~/bin/find_meaning_of_life --without-god
```



# Listing all processes

... whatever shell, script or process they are started from

## ▶ `ps -ux`

Lists all the processes belonging to the current user

## ▶ `ps -aux` (Note: `ps -edf` on System V systems)

Lists all the processes running on the system

```
▶ ps -aux | grep bart | grep bash
USER      PID  %CPU  %MEM    VSZ   RSS TTY      STAT START   TIME COMMAND
bart      3039  0.0   0.2   5916  1380 pts/2    S      14:35   0:00 /bin/bash
bart      3134  0.0   0.2   5388  1380 pts/3    S      14:36   0:00 /bin/bash
bart      3190  0.0   0.2   6368  1360 pts/4    S      14:37   0:00 /bin/bash
bart      3416  0.0   0.0      0      0 pts/2    RW     15:07   0:00 [bash]
```

▶ PID: Process id  
VSZ: Virtual process size (code + data + stack)  
RSS: Process resident size: number of KB currently in RAM  
TTY: Terminal  
STAT: Status: R (Runnable), S (Sleep), W (paging), Z (Zombie)...





# Live process activity

- ▶ **top** – Displays most important processes, sorted by cpu percentage

```
top - 15:44:33 up 1:11, 5 users, load average: 0.98, 0.61, 0.59
Tasks: 81 total, 5 running, 76 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
Cpu(s): 92.7% us, 5.3% sy, 0.0% ni, 0.0% id, 1.7% wa, 0.3% hi, 0.0% si
Mem: 515344k total, 512384k used, 2960k free, 20464k buffers
Swap: 1044184k total, 0k used, 1044184k free, 277660k cached
```

PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
3809	jdoe	25	0	6256	3932	1312	R	93.8	0.8	0:21.49	bunzip2
2769	root	16	0	157m	80m	90m	R	2.7	16.0	5:21.01	X
3006	jdoe	15	0	30928	15m	27m	S	0.3	3.0	0:22.40	kdeinit
3008	jdoe	16	0	5624	892	4468	S	0.3	0.2	0:06.59	autorun
3034	jdoe	15	0	26764	12m	24m	S	0.3	2.5	0:12.68	kscd
3810	jdoe	16	0	2892	916	1620	R	0.3	0.2	0:00.06	top

- ▶ You can change the sorting order by typing  
**M**: Memory usage, **P**: %CPU, **T**: Time.
- ▶ You can kill a task by typing **k** and the process id.



# Killing processes (1)

## ► `kill <pids>`

Sends an abort signal to the given processes. Lets processes save data and exit by themselves. Should be used first. Example:

```
kill 3039 3134 3190 3416
```

## ► `kill -9 <pids>`

Sends an immediate termination signal. The system itself terminates the processes. Useful when a process is really stuck (doesn't answer to `kill -1`).

## ► `kill -9 -1`

Kills all the processes of the current user. `-1`: means all processes.



# Killing processes (2)

▶ `killall [-<signal>] <command>`

Kills all the jobs running `<command>`. Example:

`killall bash`

▶ `xkill`

Lets you kill a graphical application by clicking on it!

Very quick! Convenient when you don't know the application command name.



# Recovering from stuck graphics

- ▶ If your graphical session is stuck and you can no longer type in your terminals, don't reboot!
- ▶ It is very likely that your system is still fine. Try to access a text console by pressing the `[Ctrl][Alt][F1]` keys (or `[F2]`, `[F3]` for more text consoles)
- ▶ In the text console, you can try to kill the guilty application.
- ▶ Once this is done, you can go back to the graphic session by pressing `[Ctrl][Alt][F5]` or `[Ctrl][Alt][F7]` (depending on your distribution)
- ▶ If you can't identify the stuck program, you can also kill all your processes:  
`kill -9 -1`

You are then brought back to the login screen.



# Sequential commands

- ▶ Can type the next command in your terminal even when the current one is not over.
- ▶ Can separate commands with the `;` symbol:  
`echo "I love thee"; sleep 10; echo " not"`
- ▶ Conditionals: use `||` (or) or `&&` (and):  
`more God || echo "Sorry, God doesn't exist"`  
Runs `echo` only if the first command fails

`ls ~sd6 && cat ~sd6/* > ~sydney/recipes.txt`

Only cats the directory contents if the `ls` command succeeds (means read access).



# Quoting (1)

Double (") quotes can be used to prevent the shell from interpreting spaces as argument separators, as well as to prevent file name pattern expansion.

```
> echo "Hello World"  
Hello World
```

```
> echo "You are logged as $USER"  
You are logged as bgates
```

```
> echo *.log  
find_prince_charming.log cosmetic_buys.log
```

```
> echo "*.log"  
*.log
```



# Quoting (2)

Single quotes bring a similar functionality, but what is between quotes is never substituted

```
> echo 'You are logged as $USER'  
You are logged as $USER
```

Back quotes (`) can be used to call a command within another

```
> cd /lib/modules/`uname -r`; pwd  
/lib/modules/2.6.9-1.6_FC2
```

Back quotes can be used within double quotes

```
> echo "You are using Linux `uname -r`"  
You are using Linux 2.6.9-1.6_FC2
```



# Measuring elapsed time

```
▶ time find_expensive_housing --near  
<...command output...>
```

**real**        0m2.304s (actual elapsed time)

**user**        0m0.449s (CPU time running program code)

**sys**         0m0.106s (CPU time running system calls)

$\text{real} = \text{user} + \text{sys} + \text{waiting}$

$\text{waiting} = \text{I/O waiting time} + \text{idle time (running other tasks)}$





# Environment variables

- ▶ Shells let the user define *variables*.  
They can be reused in shell commands.  
Convention: lower case names
- ▶ You can also define *environment variables*: variables that are also visible within scripts or executables called from the shell.  
Convention: upper case names.
- ▶ `env`  
Lists all defined environment variables and their value.



# Shell variables examples

## Shell variables (bash)

- ▶ `projdir=/home/marshall/coolstuff`  
`ls -la $projdir; cd $projdir`

## Environment variables (bash)

- ▶ `cd $HOME`
- ▶ `export DEBUG=1`  
`./find_extraterrestrial_life`  
(displays debug information if **DEBUG** is set)



# Main standard environment variables

Used by lots of applications!

▶ **LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH**

Shared library search path

▶ **DISPLAY**

Screen id to display X  
(graphical) applications on.

▶ **EDITOR**

Default editor (vi, emacs...)

▶ **HOME**

Current user home directory

▶ **HOSTNAME**

Name of the local machine

▶ **MANPATH**

Manual page search path

▶ **PATH**

Command search path

▶ **PRINTER**

Default printer name

▶ **SHELL**

Current shell name

▶ **TERM**

Current terminal type

▶ **USER**

Current user name



# PATH environment variables

## ▶ PATH

Specifies the shell search order for commands

```
/home/abox/bin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/kerberos/bin  
:/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/X11R6/bin:/bin:/usr/bin
```

## ▶ LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH

Specifies the shared library (binary code libraries shared by applications, like the C library) search order for `ld`

```
/usr/local/lib:/usr/lib:/lib:/usr/X11R6/lib
```

## ▶ MANPATH

Specifies the search order for manual pages

```
/usr/local/man:/usr/share/man
```



# PATH usage warning

It is strongly recommended not to have the “.” directory in your **PATH** environment variable, in particular not at the beginning:

- ▶ A cracker could place a malicious **ls** file in your directories. It would get executed when you run **ls** in this directory and could do naughty things to your data.
- ▶ If you have an executable file called **test** in a directory, this will override the default **test** program and some scripts will stop working properly.
- ▶ Each time you **cd** to a new directory, the shell will waste time updating its list of available commands.

Call your local commands as follows: **./test**



# Alias

Shells let you define command *aliases*: shortcuts for commands you use very frequently.

## Examples

▶ `alias ls='ls -la'`

Useful to always run commands with default arguments.

▶ `alias rm='rm -i'`

Useful to make `rm` always ask for confirmation.

▶ `alias frd='find_rambaldi_device --asap --risky'`

Useful to replace very long and frequent commands.

▶ `alias cia='. /home/sydney/env/cia.sh'`

Useful to set an environment in a quick way

(`.` is a shell command to execute the content of a shell script).



# The which command

Before you run a command, **which** tells you where it is found

- ▶ `bash> which ls`  
`alias ls='ls --color=tty'`  
`/bin/ls`
- ▶ `tcsh> which ls`  
`ls: aliased to ls --color=tty`
- ▶ `bash> which alias`  
`/usr/bin/which: no alias in`  
`(/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/bin:/usr/X11R6/bin)`
- ▶ `tcsh> which alias`  
`alias: shell built-in command.`



# ~/.bashrc file

## ▶ ~/.bashrc

Shell script read each time a **bash** shell is started

## ▶ You can use this file to define

- ▶ Your default environment variables (**PATH**, **EDITOR**...).
- ▶ Your aliases.
- ▶ Your prompt (see the **bash** manual for details).
- ▶ A greeting message.





# Command editing

- ▶ You can use the left and right arrow keys to move the cursor in the current command.
- ▶ You can use `[Ctrl][a]` to go to the beginning of the line, and `[Ctrl][e]` to go to the end.
- ▶ You can use the up and down arrows to select earlier commands.



# Command history (1)

- ▶ `history`

Displays the latest commands that you ran and their number.  
You can copy and paste command strings.

- ▶ You can recall the latest command:

`!!`

- ▶ You can recall a command by its number

`!1003`

- ▶ You can recall the latest command matching a starting string:

`!cat`



# Command history (2)

- ▶ You can make substitutions on the latest command:  
`^more^less`
- ▶ You can run another command with the same arguments:  
`more !*`



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Miscellaneous Text editors



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# Text editors

## Graphical text editors

Fine for most needs

- ▶ `nedit`
- ▶ `Emacs`, `Xemacs`

## Text-only text editors

Often needed for sysadmins and great for power users

- ▶ `vi`
- ▶ `nano`



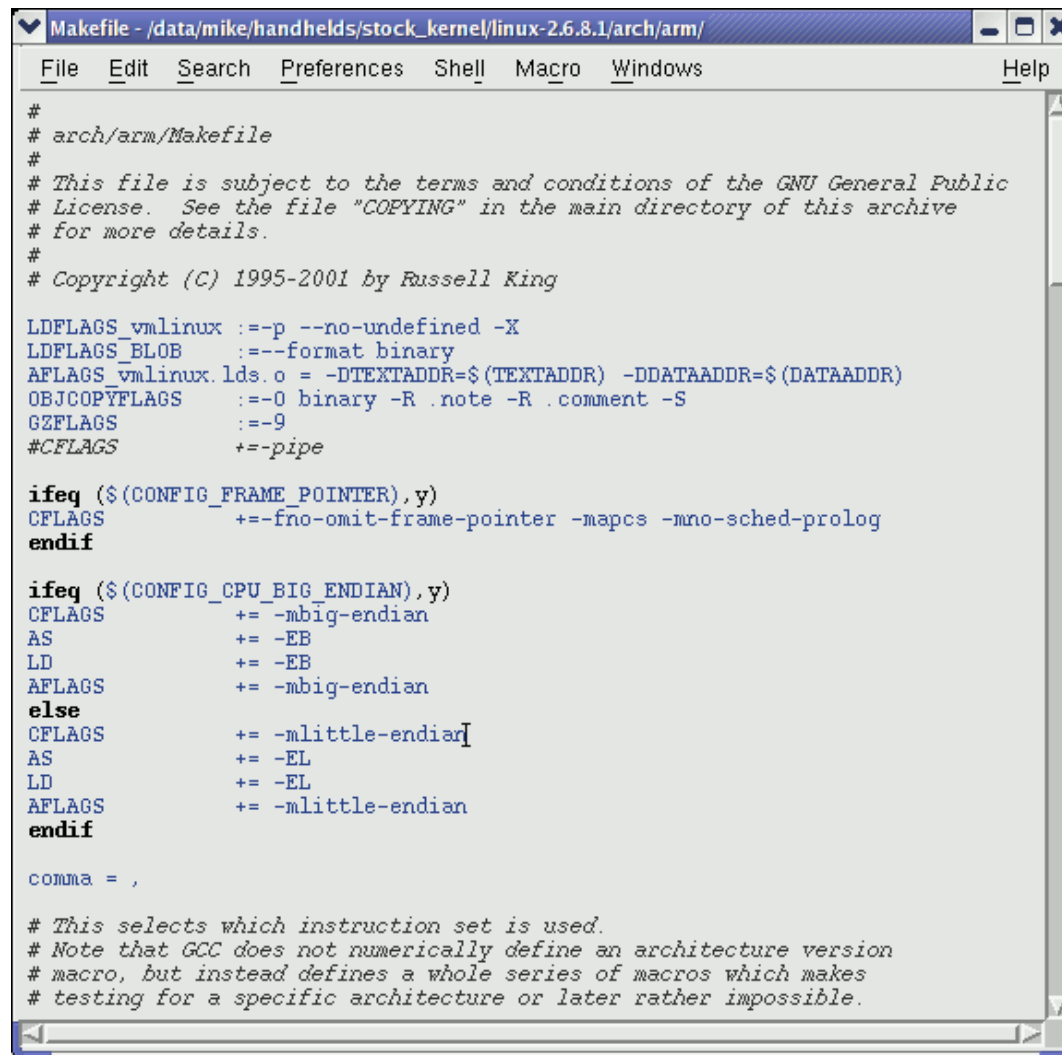
# The nedit text editor

<http://www.nedit.org/>

- Best text editor for non **vi** or **emacs** experts
- ▶ Feature highlights:
  - Very easy text selection and moving
  - Syntax highlighting for most languages and formats. Can be tailored for your own log files, to highlight particular errors and warnings.
  - Easy to customize through menus
- ▶ Not installed by default by all distributions



# nedit screenshot



```
#
# arch/arm/Makefile
#
# This file is subject to the terms and conditions of the GNU General Public
# License. See the file "COPYING" in the main directory of this archive
# for more details.
#
# Copyright (C) 1995-2001 by Russell King

LDFLAGS_vmlinux := -p --no-undefined -X
LDFLAGS_BLOB    := --format binary
AFLAGS_vmlinux.lds.o = -DTEXTADDR=$(TEXTADDR) -DDATAADDR=$(DATAADDR)
OBJCOPYFLAGS    := -O binary -R .note -R .comment -S
GZFLAGS         := -9
#CFLAGS         += -pipe

ifeq ($(CONFIG_FRAME_POINTER),y)
CFLAGS          += -fno-omit-frame-pointer -mapcs -mno-sched-prolog
endif

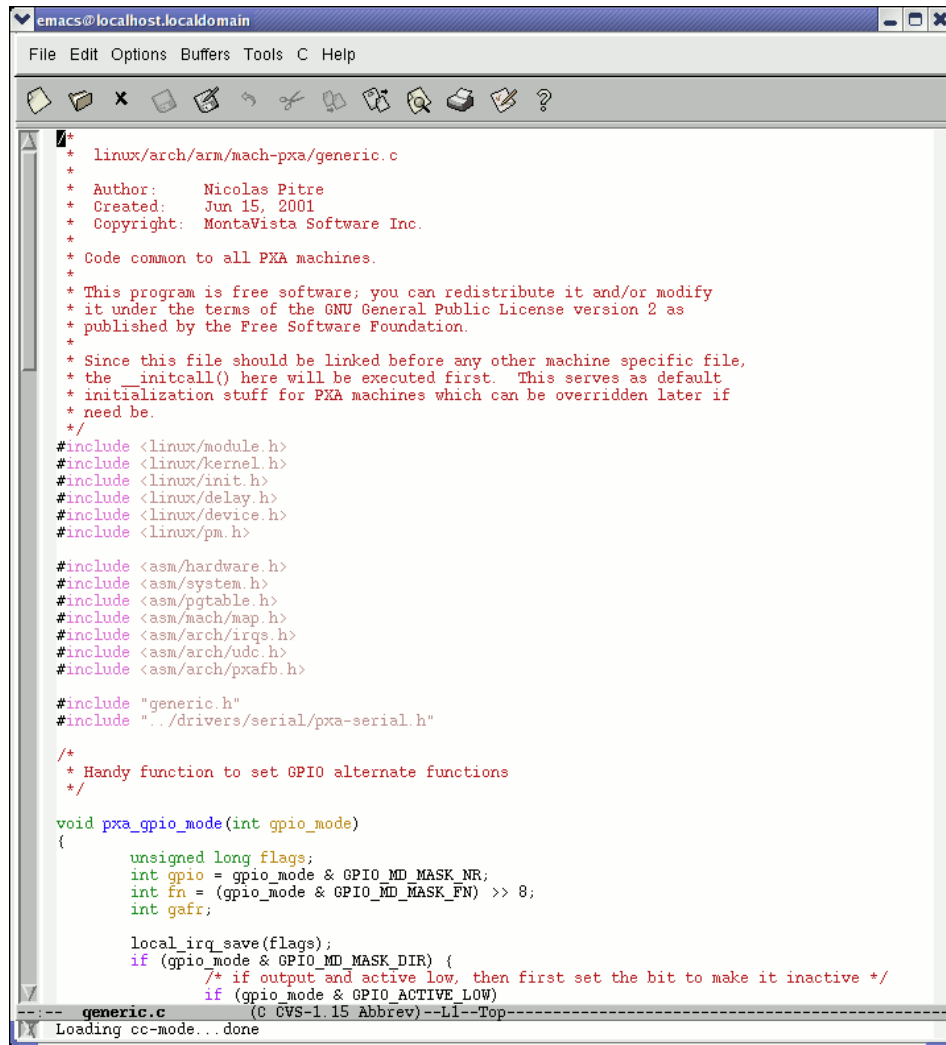
ifeq ($(CONFIG_CPU_BIG_ENDIAN),y)
CFLAGS          += -mbig-endian
AS              += -EB
LD              += -EB
AFLAGS          += -mbig-endian
else
CFLAGS          += -mlittle-endian
AS              += -EL
LD              += -EL
AFLAGS          += -mlittle-endian
endif

comma = ,

# This selects which instruction set is used.
# Note that GCC does not numerically define an architecture version
# macro, but instead defines a whole series of macros which makes
# testing for a specific architecture or later rather impossible.
```



# Emacs / Xemacs



```
emacs@localhost.localdomain
File Edit Options Buffers Tools C Help

/*
 * linux/arch/arm/mach-pxa/generic.c
 *
 * Author:      Nicolas Pitre
 * Created:     Jun 15, 2001
 * Copyright:   MontaVista Software Inc.
 *
 * Code common to all PXA machines.
 *
 * This program is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify
 * it under the terms of the GNU General Public License version 2 as
 * published by the Free Software Foundation.
 *
 * Since this file should be linked before any other machine specific file,
 * the __initcall() here will be executed first. This serves as default
 * initialization stuff for PXA machines which can be overridden later if
 * need be.
 */
#include <linux/module.h>
#include <linux/kernel.h>
#include <linux/init.h>
#include <linux/delay.h>
#include <linux/device.h>
#include <linux/pm.h>

#include <asm/hardware.h>
#include <asm/system.h>
#include <asm/pgtable.h>
#include <asm/mach/map.h>
#include <asm/arch/irqs.h>
#include <asm/arch/udc.h>
#include <asm/arch/pxafb.h>

#include "generic.h"
#include "../drivers/serial/pxa-serial.h"

/*
 * Handy function to set GPIO alternate functions
 */

void pxa_gpio_mode(int gpio_mode)
{
    unsigned long flags;
    int gpio = gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_NR;
    int fn = (gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_FN) >> 8;
    int gafr;

    local_irq_save(flags);
    if (gpio_mode & GPIO_MD_MASK_DIR) {
        /* if output and active low, then first set the bit to make it inactive */
        if (gpio_mode & GPIO_ACTIVE_LOW)
            generic.c
            (C CVS-1.15 Abbrev)--LI--Top
Loading cc-mode... done
```

- Emacs and Xemacs are pretty similar (up to your preference)
- Extremely powerful text editor features
- Great for power users
- Less ergonomic than nedit
- Non standard shortcuts
- Much more than a text editor (games, e-mail, shell, browser).
- Some power commands have to be learnt.



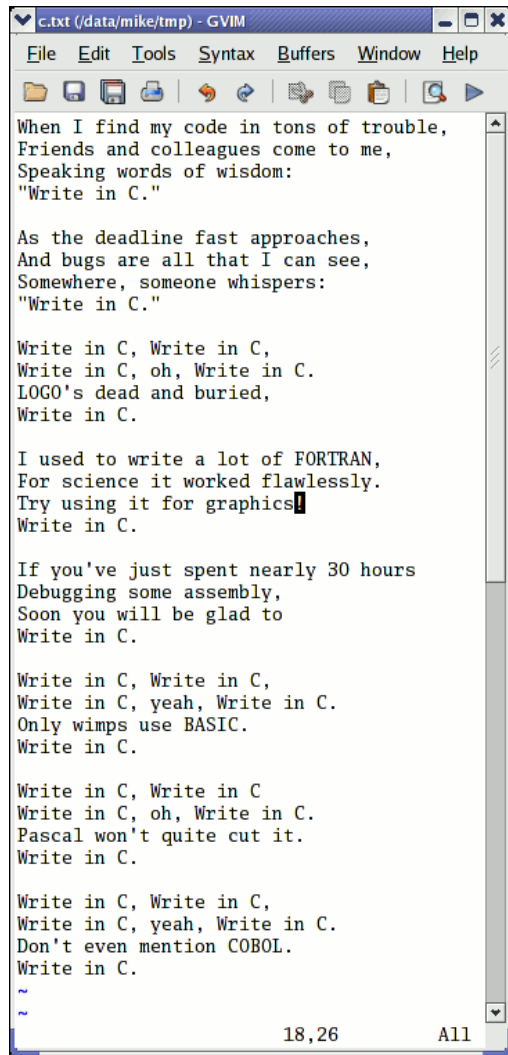


Text-mode text editor available in all Unix systems. Created before computers with mice appeared.

- Difficult to learn for beginners used to graphical text editors.
- Very productive for power users.
- Often can't be replaced to edit files in system administration or in Embedded Systems, when you just have a text console.



# vim - vi improved



```
c.txt (/data/mike/tmp) - GVIM
File Edit Tools Syntax Buffers Window Help

When I find my code in tons of trouble,
Friends and colleagues come to me,
Speaking words of wisdom:
"Write in C."

As the deadline fast approaches,
And bugs are all that I can see,
Somewhere, someone whispers:
"Write in C."

Write in C, Write in C,
Write in C, oh, Write in C.
LOGO's dead and buried,
Write in C.

I used to write a lot of FORTRAN,
For science it worked flawlessly.
Try using it for graphics
Write in C.

If you've just spent nearly 30 hours
Debugging some assembly,
Soon you will be glad to
Write in C.

Write in C, Write in C,
Write in C, yeah, Write in C.
Only wimps use BASIC.
Write in C.

Write in C, Write in C
Write in C, oh, Write in C.
Pascal won't quite cut it.
Write in C.

Write in C, Write in C,
Write in C, yeah, Write in C.
Don't even mention COBOL.
Write in C.

~
18,26 All
```

- ▶ **vi** implementation now found in most GNU / Linux host systems
- ▶ Implements lots of features available in modern editors: syntax highlighting, command history, help, unlimited undo and much much more.
- ▶ Cool feature example: can directly open compressed text files.
- ▶ Comes with a GTK graphical interface (**gvim**)
- ▶ Unfortunately, not free software (because of a small restriction in freedom to make changes)





You can also take the quick tutorial by running `vimtutor`.

[http://free-electrons.com/training/intro\\_unix\\_linux](http://free-electrons.com/training/intro_unix_linux)

# GNU nano

<http://www.nano-editor.org/>

- ▶ Another small text-only, mouse free text editor.
- ▶ An enhanced **Pico** clone (non free editor in **Pine**)
- ▶ Friendly and easier to learn for beginners thanks to on screen command summaries.
- ▶ Available in binary packages for several platforms.
- ▶ An alternative to **vi** in embedded systems.  
However, not available as a **busybox** built-in.



# GNU nano screenshot

```
GNU nano 1.2.3      File: fortune.txt

The herd instinct among economists makes sheep look like independent thinkers.

Klingon phaser attack from front!!!!
100% Damage to life support!!!

Spock: The odds of surviving another attack are 13562190123 to 1, Captain.

Quantum Mechanics is God's version of "Trust me."

I'm a soldier, not a diplomat.  I can only tell the truth.
      -- Kirk, "Errand of Mercy", stardate 3198.9

Did you hear that there's a group of South American Indians that worship
the number zero?

Is nothing sacred?

They are called computers simply because computation is the only significant
job that has so far been given to them.

As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not
certain, and as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality.
      -- Albert Einstein

Tact, n.:
      The unsaid part of what you're thinking.

Support bacteria -- it's the only culture some people have!

^G Get Help  ^O WriteOut  ^R Read File  ^Y Prev Page  ^K Cut Text   ^C Cur Pos
^X Exit      ^J Justify   ^W Where Is   ^V Next Page  ^U UnCut Txt  ^T To Spell
```



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Miscellaneous

### Compressing and archiving



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# Measuring disc usage

Caution: different from file size!

▶ `du -h <file>` (disk usage)

`-h`: returns size on disk of the given file, in human readable format: K (kilobytes), M (megabytes) or G (gigabytes), .

Without `-h`, `du` returns the raw number of disk blocks used by the file (hard to read).

Note that the `-h` option only exists in GNU `du`.

▶ `du -sh <dir>`

`-s`: returns the sum of disk usage of all the files in the given directory.



# Measuring disk space

## ▶ `df -h <dir>`

Returns disk usage and free space for the filesystem containing the given directory.

Similarly, the `-h` option only exists in GNU `df`.

## ▶ Example:

```
> df -h .
```

Filesystem	Size	Used	Avail	Use%	Mounted on
/dev/hda5	9.2G	7.1G	1.8G	81%	/

## ▶ `df -h`

Returns disk space information for all filesystems available in the system. When errors happen, useful to look for full filesystems.





# Compressing

Very useful for shrinking huge files and saving space

- ▶ `g[un]zip <file>`

GNU zip compression utility. Creates `.gz` files.  
Ordinary performance (similar to Zip).

- ▶ `b[un]zip2 <file>`

More recent and effective compression utility.  
Creates `.bz2` files. Usually 20-25% better than `gzip`.

- ▶ Using `7-zip`

Much better compression ratio than `bzip2` (up to 10 to 20%).  
See the `7-zip` page for details.



# Archiving (1)

Useful to backup or release a set of files within 1 file

▶ **tar**: originally “tape archive”

▶ Creating an archive:

```
tar cvf <archive> <files or directories>
```

**c**: create

**v**: verbose. Useful to follow archiving progress.

**f**: file. Archive created in file (tape used otherwise).

▶ Example:

```
tar cvf /backup/home.tar /home  
bzip2 /backup/home.tar
```



# Archiving (2)

- ▶ Viewing the contents of an archive or integrity check:

```
tar tvf <archive>
```

t: test

- ▶ Extracting all the files from an archive:

```
tar xvf <archive>
```

- ▶ Extracting just a few files from an archive:

```
tar xvf <archive> <files or directories>
```

Files or directories are given with paths relative to the archive root directory.



# Extra options in GNU tar

`tar` = `gtar` = GNU `tar` on GNU / Linux

Can compress and uncompress archives on the fly. Useful to avoid creating huge intermediate files

Much simpler to do than with `tar` and `bzip2`!

▶ `j` option: [un]compresses on the fly with `bzip2`

▶ `z` option: [un]compresses on the fly with `gzip`

▶ Examples (which one will you remember?)

▶ `gtar jcvf bills_bugs.tar.bz2 bills_bugs`

▶ `tar cvf - bills_bugs | bzip2 > bills_bugs.tar.bz2`



# 7-zip (1)

<http://www.7-zip.org/>

Now the best solution for your archives!

- ▶ License: **GNU** LGPL
- ▶ **7-zip** compresses much better than **bzip2** (up to 10 or 20%) and of course **zip** (30 to 50 %).  
Benchmark compressing **Knoppix 5.0.1**: -22% (vs. bzip2)!
- ▶ Caution: **7-zip** cannot replace **tar** for archiving on Unix.  
It doesn't keep file owner and group information, but of course keeps file permissions.  
Use it to compress **tar** archives!



# 7-zip (2)

- ▶ 7-zip supports strong AES-256 encryption.  
No need to encrypt in a separate pass.
- ▶ At last a solution available for **Unix** and **Windows**!  
The tool supports most other compression formats:  
**zip**, **cab**, **arj**, **gzip**, **bzip2**, **tar**, **cpio**, **rpm** and **deb**.



# Using 7-zip

Archive files are usually created with a **.7z** extension

- ▶ Creating an archive: (**a**: add)

```
7z a <archive> <files or directories>
```

- ▶ List files in archive: (**l**: list)

```
7z l <archive>
```

- ▶ Extracting from a **7-zip** archive: (**e**: extract)

```
7z x <archive>
```

- ▶ Backup a directory (keeping owner and group information):

```
tar cf - <dir> | 7z a -si dir.tar.7z
```

standard input

- ▶ Restore this backup:

```
7z x -so dir.tar.7z | tar xf -
```

standard output



# Checking file integrity

Very low cost solution to check file integrity

▶ `md5sum FC3-i386-disk*.iso > MD5SUM`

Computes a MD5 (Message Digest Algorithm 5) 128 bit checksum of the given files. Usually redirected to a file.

▶ Example output:

```
db8c7254beeb4f6b891d1ed3f689b412 FC3-i386-disc1.iso
2c11674cf429fe570445afd9d5ff564e FC3-i386-disc2.iso
f88f6ab5947ca41f3cf31db04487279b FC3-i386-disc3.iso
6331c00aa3e8c088cc365eeb7ef230ea FC3-i386-disc4.iso
```

▶ `md5sum -c MD5SUM`

Checks the integrity of the files in `MD5SUM` by comparing their actual MD5 checksum with their original one.





# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Miscellaneous Printing



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# Unix printing

- ▶ Multi-user, multi-job, multi-client, multi-printer

In Unix / Linux, printing commands don't really print. They send jobs to printing queues, possibly on the local machine, on network printing servers or on network printers.

- ▶ Printer independent system:

Print servers only accept jobs in PostScript or text. Printer drivers on the server take care of the conversion to each printer's own format.



- ▶ Robust system:

Reboot a system, it will continue to print pending jobs.



# Printing commands

- ▶ Useful environment variable: `PRINTER`

Sets the default printer on the system. Example:

```
export PRINTER=lp
```

- ▶ `lpr [-P<queue>] <files>`

Sends the given files to the specified printing queue

The files must be in text or PostScript format. Otherwise, you only print garbage.

- ▶ `a2ps [-P<queue>] <files>`

“Any to PostScript” converts many formats to PostScript and send the output to the specified queue. Useful features: several pages / sheet, page numbering, info frame...



# Print job control

## ► `lpq [-P<queue>]`

Lists all the print jobs in the given or default queue.

```
lp is not ready
Rank      Owner    Job      File(s)                      Total Size
1st       asloane  84      nsa_windows_backdoors.ps    60416 bytes
2nd       amoore   85      gw_bush_iraq_mistakes.ps    65024000 bytes
```

## ► `cancel <job#> [<queue>]`

Removes the given job number from the default queue.



# Using PostScript and PDF files

## Viewing a PostScript file

- ▶ PostScript viewers exist, but their quality is pretty poor.
- ▶ Better convert to PDF with `ps2pdf`:  
`ps2pdf decss_algorithm.ps`  
`xpdf decss_algorithm.pdf &`

## Printing a PDF file

- ▶ You don't need to open a PDF reader!
- ▶ Better convert to PostScript with `pdf2ps`:  
`pdf2ps rambaldi_artifacts_for_dummies.pdf`  
`lpr rambaldi_artifacts_for_dummies.ps`



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

---

## Miscellaneous

### Comparing files and directories



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# Comparing files and directories

▶ `diff file1 file2`

Reports the differences between 2 files, or nothing if the files are identical.

▶ `diff -r dir1/ dir2/`

Reports all the differences between files with the same name in the 2 directories.

▶ To investigate differences in detail, better use graphical tools!



# tkdiff

<http://tkdiff.sourceforge.net/>

Useful tool to compare files and merge differences

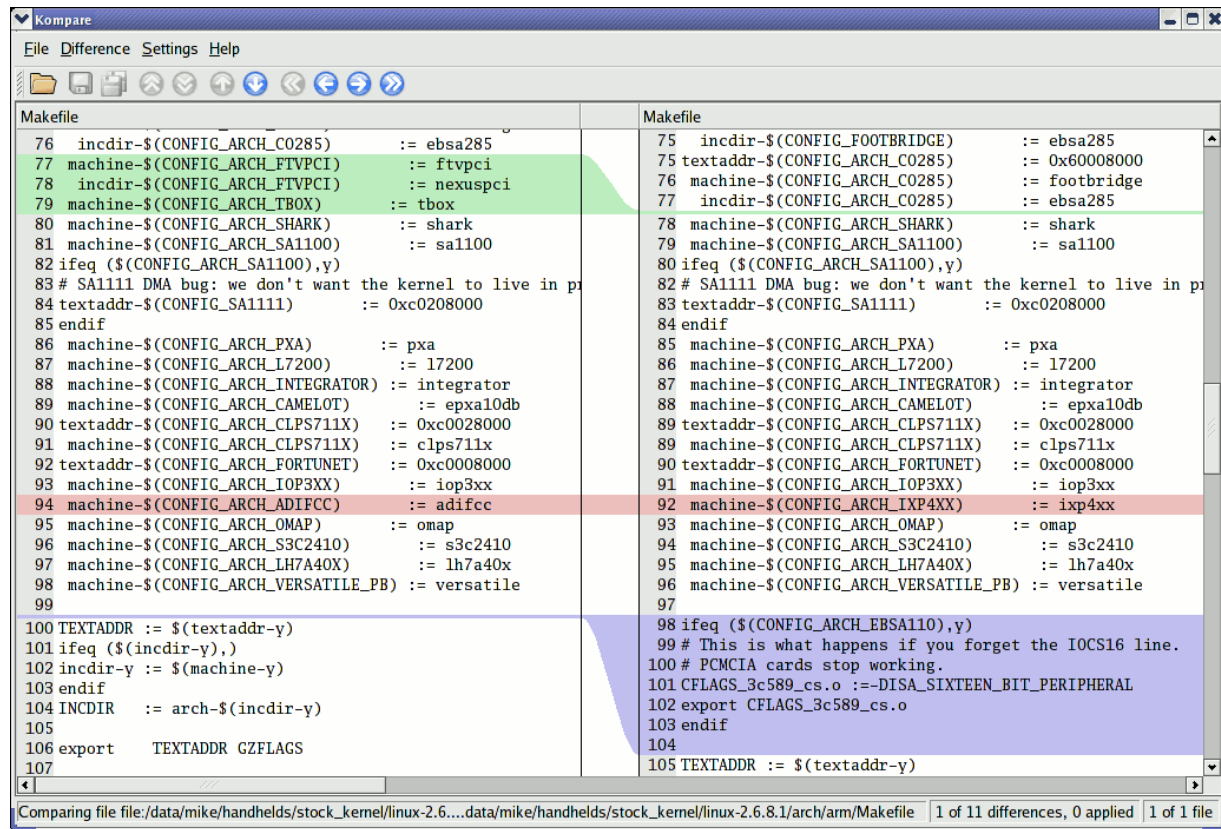
```
Makefile vs. Makefile - TkDiff 4.0
File Edit View Mark Merge Help
1 : 58c58 Merge: Diff: Mark:
linux-2.6.6/arch/arm/Makefile linux-2.6.8.1/arch/arm/Makefile
75 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285) := footbridge
76 incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285) := ebsa285
77 - machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FTVPCI) := ftvpci
78 - incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FTVPCI) := nexuspai
79 - machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_TBOX) := tbox
80 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SHARK) := shark
81 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100) := sa1100
82 ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100),y)
83 # SA1111 DMA bug: we don't want the kernel to live in p
84 textaddr-$(CONFIG_SA1111) := 0xc0208000
85 endif
86 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_PXA) := pxa
87 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_L7200) := l7200
88 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_INTEGRATOR) := integrator
89 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CAMELOT) := epxa10db
90 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X) := 0xc0028000
91 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X) := clps711x
92 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FORTUNET) := 0xc0008000
93 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_IOP3XX) := iop3xx
94 ! machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_ADIFCC) := adifcc
95 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_OMAP) := omap
96 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_S3C2410) := s3c2410
97 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_LH7A40X) := lh7a40x
98 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_VERSATILE_PB) := versatile
99
100 TEXTADDR := $(textaddr-y)
76 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285) := footbridge
77 incdir-$(CONFIG_ARCH_C0285) := ebsa285
78
79 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SHARK) := shark
80 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100) := sa1100
81 ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_SA1100),y)
82 # SA1111 DMA bug: we don't want the kernel to live in p
83 textaddr-$(CONFIG_SA1111) := 0xc0208000
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86 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_L7200) := l7200
87 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_INTEGRATOR) := integrator
88 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CAMELOT) := epxa10db
89 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X) := 0xc0028000
90 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_CLPS711X) := clps711x
91 textaddr-$(CONFIG_ARCH_FORTUNET) := 0xc0008000
92 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_IOP3XX) := iop3xx
93 ! machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_1XP4XX) := 1xp4xx
94 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_OMAP) := omap
95 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_S3C2410) := s3c2410
96 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_LH7A40X) := lh7a40x
97 machine-$(CONFIG_ARCH_VERSATILE_PB) := versatile
98
99 +ifeq ($(CONFIG_ARCH_EBSA110),y)
100 +# This is what happens if you forget the IOCS16 line.
101 +# PCMCIA cards stop working.
102 +CFLAGS_3c589_cs.o := -DISA_SIXTEEN_BIT_PERIPHERAL
103 +export CFLAGS_3c589_cs.o
104 +endif
105 TEXTADDR := $(textaddr-y)
```





# kompare

Another nice tool to compare files and merge differences  
Part of the **kdesdk** package (Fedora Core)



# gvimdiff

Another nice tool to view differences in files

Available in most  
distributions with **gvim**  
Apparently not using  
**diff**.

No issue with files with  
binary sections!

```
<80>^A^E^@^@^@!PS-AdobeFont-1.0: NimbusRomNo9L-Regu 1.06
%%Title: NimbusRomNo9L-Regu
%%CreationDate: Tue Dec 31 16:49:50 2002
%%Creator: frob
%%DocumentSuppliedResources: font NimbusRomNo9L-Regu
% Copyright (URW)++,Copyright 1999 by (URW)++ Design & Devel
% Generated by PfaEdit 1.0 (http://pfaedit.sf.net/)
%%EndComments
FontDirectory/NimbusRomNo9L-Regu known{/NimbusRomNo9L-Regu
/UniqueID get 5020931 eq exch/FontType get 1 eq and}{pop f
{save true}{false}ifelse}{false}ifelse
11 dict begin
/FontType 1 def
/FontMatrix [0.001 0 0 0.001 0 0]readonly def
/FontName /NimbusRomNo9L-Regu def
/FontBBox [-168 -281 1031 924]readonly def
/UniqueID 5020931 def
/PaintType 0 def
/FontInfo 10 dict dup begin
/version (1.06) readonly def
/Notice (Copyright \05OURW\051++,Copyright 1999 by \05OURW
/FullName (Nimbus Roman No9 L Regular) readonly def
/FamilyName (Nimbus Roman No9 L) readonly def
/Weight (Regular) readonly def
/FSType 0 def
/ItalicAngle 0 def
urw-fonts-2.1-7/n0210031.pfb 16,43 Top
urw-fonts-2.2-6/n0210031.pfb 16,2 Top
```



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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Miscellaneous  
Looking for files



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# The find command

Better explained by a few examples!

► `find . -name "*.pdf"`

Lists all the `*.pdf` files in the current (`.`) directory or subdirectories. You need the double quotes to prevent the shell from expanding the `*` character.

► `find docs -name "*.pdf" -exec xpdf {} ';'`

Finds all the `*.pdf` files in the `docs` directory and displays one after the other.

► Many more possibilities available! However, the above 2 examples cover most needs.



# The locate command

Much faster regular expression search alternative to `find`

- ▶ `locate keys`

Lists all the files on your system with `keys` in their name.

- ▶ `locate "*.pdf"`

Lists all the `*.pdf` files available on the whole machine

- ▶ `locate "/home/fridge/*beer*"`

Lists all the `*beer*` files in the given directory (absolute path)

- ▶ `locate` is much faster because it indexes all files in a dedicated database, which is updated on a regular basis.

- ▶ `find` is better to search through recently created files.



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## Miscellaneous Various commands



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# Getting information about users

- ▶ **who**

Lists all the users logged on the system.

- ▶ **whoami**

Tells what user I am logged as.

- ▶ **groups**

Tells which groups I belong to.

- ▶ **groups <user>**

Tells which groups <user> belongs to.

- ▶ **finger <user>**

Tells more details (real name, etc) about <user>

Disabled in some systems (security reasons).



# Changing users

You do not have to log out to log on another user account!

▶ `su hyde`

(Rare) Change to the `hyde` account, but keeping the environment variable settings of the original user.

▶ `su - jekyll`

(More frequent) Log on the `jekyll` account, with exactly the same settings as this new user.

▶ `su -`

When no argument is given, it means the `root` user.





# The wget command

Instead of downloading files from your browser, just copy and paste their URL and download them with **wget**!

## wget main features

- ▶ http and ftp support
- ▶ Can resume interrupted downloads
- ▶ Can download entire sites or at least check for bad links
- ▶ Very useful in scripts or when no graphics are available (system administration, embedded systems)
- ▶ Proxy support (**http\_proxy** and **ftp\_proxy** env. variables)



# wget examples

- ▶ `wget -c \`  
`http://microsoft.com/customers/dogs/winxp4dogs.zip`  
Continues an interrupted download.
- ▶ `wget -m http://lwn.net/`  
Mirrors a site.
- ▶ `wget -r -np http://www.xml.com/ldd/chapter/book/`  
Recursively downloads an on-line book for off-line access.  
`-np`: "no-parent". Only follows links in the current directory.



# Misc commands (1)

## ▶ `sleep 60`

Waits for 60 seconds  
(doesn't consume system resources).

## ▶ `wc report.txt` (word count)

```
438  2115 18302 report.txt
```

Counts the number of lines, words and characters in a file or in standard input.



# Misc commands (2)

## ► `bc` ("basic calculator?")

`bc` is a handy but full-featured calculator. Even includes a programming language! Use the `-l` option to have floating point support.

## ► `date`

Returns the current date. Useful in scripts to record when commands started or completed.



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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## System administration basics



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# File ownership

Particularly useful in (embedded) system development when you create files for another system.

▶ `chown -R sco /home/linux/src` (`-R`: recursive)

Makes user `sco` the new owner of all the files in `/home/linux/src`.

▶ `chgrp -R empire /home/askywalker`

Makes `empire` the new group of everything in `/home/askywalker`.

▶ `chown -R borg:aliens usss_entreprise/`

`chown` can be used to change the owner and group at the same time.



# Shutting down

- ▶ `shutdown -h +5` (`-h`: halt)

Shuts the system down in 5 minutes.

Users get a warning in their consoles.

- ▶ `shutdown -r now` (`-r`: reboot)

- ▶ `init 0`

Another way to shutdown

(`init` is used internally by `shutdown`).

- ▶ `init 6`

Another way to reboot.

- ▶ `[Ctrl][Alt][Del]`

Also works on GNU/Linux (at least on PCs!).



# Network setup (1)

## ► `ifconfig -a`

Prints details about all the network interfaces available on your system.

## ► `ifconfig eth0`

Lists details about the `eth0` interface

## ► `ifconfig eth0 192.168.0.100`

Assigns the `192.168.0.100` IP address to `eth0` (1 IP address per interface).

## ► `ifconfig eth0 down`

Shuts down the `eth0` interface (frees its IP address).





# Network setup (2)

▶ `route add default gw 192.168.0.1`

Sets the default route for packets outside the local network. The gateway (here `192.168.0.1`) is responsible for sending them to the next gateway, etc., until the final destination.

▶ `route`

Lists the existing routes

▶ `route del default`  
`route del <IP>`

Deletes the given route

Useful to redefine a new route.



# Network testing

► `ping freshmeat.net`  
`ping 192.168.1.1`

Tries to send packets to the given machine and get acknowledgment packets in return.

```
PING 192.168.1.1 (192.168.1.1) 56(84) bytes of data.  
64 bytes from 192.168.1.1: icmp_seq=0 ttl=150 time=2.51 ms  
64 bytes from 192.168.1.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=150 time=3.16 ms  
64 bytes from 192.168.1.1: icmp_seq=2 ttl=150 time=2.71 ms  
64 bytes from 192.168.1.1: icmp_seq=3 ttl=150 time=2.67 ms
```

- When you can ping your gateway, your network interface works fine.
- When you can ping an external IP address, your network settings are correct!



# Network setup summary

Only for simple cases with 1 interface, no dhcp server...

- ▶ Connect to the network (cable, wireless card or device...)

- ▶ Identify your network interface:  
`ifconfig -a`

- ▶ Assign an IP address to your interface (assuming `eth0`)  
`ifconfig eth0 192.168.0.100` (example)

- ▶ Add a route to your gateway (assuming `192.168.0.1`) for packets outside the network:  
`route add default gw 192.168.0.1`



# Name resolution

- ▶ Your programs need to know what IP address corresponds to a given host name (such as `kernel.org`)
- ▶ Domain Name Servers (DNS) take care of this.
- ▶ You just have to specify the IP address of 1 or more DNS servers in your `/etc/resolv.conf` file:  
`nameserver 217.19.192.132`  
`nameserver 212.27.32.177`
- ▶ The changes takes effect immediately!



# Creating filesystems

## Examples

▶ `mkfs.ext2 /dev/sda1`

Formats your USB key (`/dev/sda1`: 1<sup>st</sup> partition raw data) in `ext2` format.

▶ `mkfs.ext2 -F disk.img`

Formats a disk image file in `ext2` format

▶ `mkfs.vfat -v -F 32 /dev/sda1` (`-v`: verbose)

Formats your USB key back to `FAT32` format.

▶ `mkfs.vfat -v -F 32 disk.img`

Formats a disk image file in `FAT32` format.

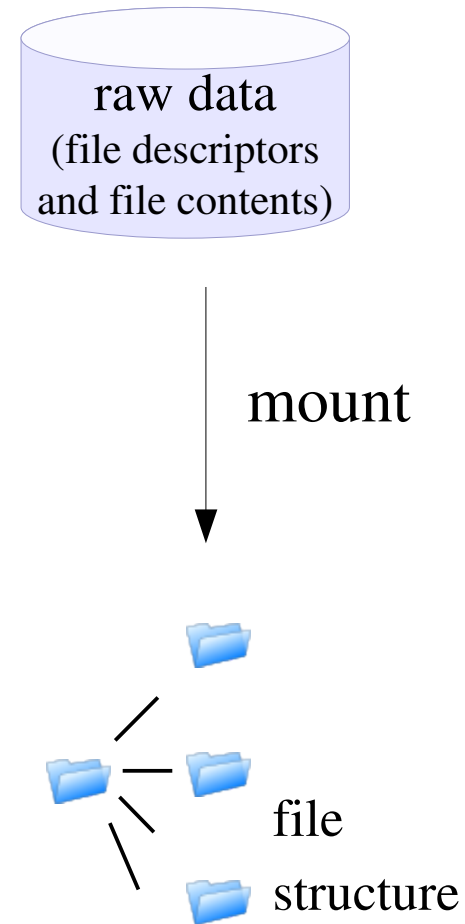
Blank disk images can be created as in the below example:

```
dd if=/dev/zero of=disk.img bs=1024 count=65536
```



# Mounting devices (1)

- ▶ To make filesystems on any device (internal or external storage) visible on your system, you have to *mount* them.
- ▶ The first time, create a mount point in your system:  
`mkdir /mnt/usbdisk` (example)
- ▶ Now, mount it:  
`mount -t vfat /dev/sda1 /mnt/usbdisk`  
`/dev/sda1`: physical device  
`-t`: specifies the filesystem (format) type  
(`ext2`, `ext3`, `vfat`, `reiserfs`, `iso9660`...)



# Mounting devices (2)

- ▶ Lots of `mount` options are available, in particular to choose permissions or the file owner and group... See the `mount` manual page for details.
- ▶ Mount options for each device can be stored in the `/etc/fstab` file.  
Thanks to this file, you just need to state the mount point:

```
# /etc/fstab: static file system information.
# <file system> <mount point> <type> <options> <dump> <pass>
proc /proc proc defaults 0 0
/dev/hda3 / ext3 defaults,errors=remount-ro 0 1
/dev/hda4 /home ext3 defaults 0 2
/dev/hda2 /root2 ext3 defaults 0 2
/dev/hda1 none swap sw 0 0
/dev/hdc /media/cdrom0 udf,iso9660 user,noauto 0 0
```

- ▶ `mount` examples with `/etc/fstab`:  
`mount /proc`  
`mount /media/cdrom0`



# Mounting devices (3)

You can also mount a filesystem image stored in a regular file (*loop devices*)

- ▶ Useful to develop filesystems for another machine
- ▶ Useful to access the contents of an ISO cdrom image without having to burn it.
- ▶ Useful to create a Linux partition on a hard disk with only Windows partitions

```
cp /dev/sda1 usbkey.img  
mount -o loop -t vfat usbkey.img /mnt/usbdisk
```





# Listing mounted filesystems

Just use the `mount` command with no argument:

```
/dev/hda6 on / type ext3 (rw,noatime)
none on /proc type proc (rw,noatime)
none on /sys type sysfs (rw)
none on /dev/pts type devpts (rw,gid=5,mode=620)
usbfs on /proc/bus/usb type usbfs (rw)
/dev/hda4 on /data type ext3 (rw,noatime)
none on /dev/shm type tmpfs (rw)
/dev/hda1 on /win type vfat (rw,uid=501,gid=501)
none on /proc/sys/fs/binfmt_misc type binfmt_misc (rw)
```



# Unmounting devices

- ▶ `umount /mnt/usbdisk`

Commits all pending writes and unmounts the given device, which can then be removed in a safe way.

- ▶ To be able to unmount a device, you have to close all the open files in it:

- ▶ Close applications opening data in the mounted partition

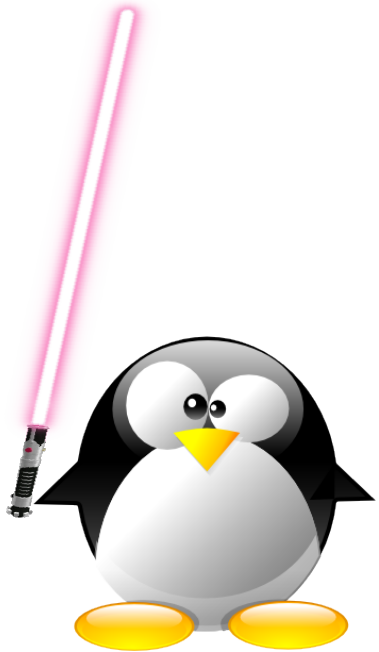
- ▶ Make sure that none of your shells have a working directory in this mount point.

- ▶ You can run the `lsof` command (list open files) to view which processes still have open files in the mounted partition.



# Beware of the dark side of root

- ▶ `root` user privileges are only needed for very specific tasks with security risks: mounting, creating device files, loading drivers, starting networking, changing file ownership, package upgrades...
- ▶ Even if you have the `root` password, your regular account should be sufficient for 99.9 % of your tasks (unless you are a system administrator).
- ▶ In a training session, it is acceptable to use `root`. In real life, you may not even have access to this account, or put your systems and data at risk if you do.



# Using the root account

In case you really want to use `root`...

- ▶ If you have the `root` password:

`su` - (switch user)

- ▶ In modern distributions, the `sudo` command gives you access to some `root` privileges with your own user password.

Example: `sudo mount /dev/hda4 /home`

- ▶ Distributions like Debian or Ubuntu by default don't allow the `root` user to use graphical applications (more complex and thus more vulnerable).

- ▶ If you really want to start a graphical application with `root`, type:

As `root`: `export DISPLAY=:0` (i.e. use the first display)

As your regular user: `xhost +` (i.e. allow other users)



# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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GNU / Linux: distribution packages



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# How to find packages

- ▶ Debian packages: <http://www.debian.org/distrib/packages>  
Search by package or file name
- ▶ rpmfind: <http://rpmfind.net/>  
Lots of RPM packages for Red Hat, Mandriva, Suse...



# Identifying packages

What package does a file belong to?

► Useful to get more information, get the code, find newer versions, report issues...

► Distribution with **RPM** packages:  
(Red Hat, Fedora, Mandriva, Suse...)

```
> rpm -qf /bin/ls  
coreutils-5.2.1-7
```

► Debian, Ubuntu:

```
> dpkg -S /bin/ls  
fileutils: /bin/ls
```



# Information about packages

- ▶ Access package description, version number, sources, etc.

- ▶ RPM based distributions:

```
rpm -qi <package-name>
```

- ▶ Debian:

```
dpkg -s <package-name>
```





# The Unix and GNU / Linux command line

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Going further



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# Command help

Some Unix commands and most GNU / Linux commands offer at least one help argument:

▶ **-h**

(- is mostly used to introduce 1-character options)

▶ **--help**

(-- is always used to introduce the corresponding “long” option name, which makes scripts easier to understand)

You also often get a short summary of options when you input an invalid argument.



# Manual pages

`man <keyword>`

Displays one or several manual pages for `<keyword>`

▶ `man man`

Most available manual pages are about Unix commands, but some are also about C functions, headers or data structures, or even about system configuration files!

▶ `man stdio.h`

▶ `man fstab` (for `/etc/fstab`)

Manual page files are looked for in the directories specified by the `MANPATH` environment variable.



# Info pages

- ▶ In GNU, man pages are being replaced by info pages. Some manual pages even tell to refer to info pages instead.

`info <command>`

- ▶ `info` features:
  - ▶ Documentation structured in sections (“nodes”) and subsections (“subnodes”)
  - ▶ Possibility to navigate in this structure: top, next, prev, up
  - ▶ Info pages generated from the same texinfo source as the HTML documentation pages



# Searching the Internet for resources (1)

## Investigating issues

- ▶ Most forums and mailing list archives are public, and are indexed on a very frequent basis by **Google**.
- ▶ If you investigate an error message, copy it verbatim in the search form, enclosed in double quotes (“error message”). Lots of chances that somebody else already faced the same issue.
- ▶ Don't forget to use Google Groups: <http://groups.google.com/>  
This site indexes more than 20 years of newsgroups messages.



# Searching the Internet for resources (2)

## Looking for documentation

- ▶ Look for `<tool>` or `<tool> page` to find the tool or project home page and then find the latest documentation resources.
- ▶ Look for `<tool> documentation` or `<tool> manual` in your favorite search engine.

## Looking for generic technical information

- ▶ Wikipedia: <http://wikipedia.org>  
Lots of useful definitions in computer science. A real encyclopedia! Open to anyone's contributions.



# Training labs

Training labs are also available from the same location:

[http://free-electrons.com/training/intro\\_unix\\_linux](http://free-electrons.com/training/intro_unix_linux)

They are a useful complement to consolidate what you learned from this training. They don't tell *how* to do the exercises. However, they only rely on notions and tools introduced by the lectures.



If you happen to be stuck with an exercise, this proves that you missed something in the lectures and have to go back to the slides to find what you're looking for.



# Related documents

All the technical presentations and training materials created and used by Free Electrons, available under a free documentation license (more than 1500 pages!).

<http://free-electrons.com/training>

- ▶ Introduction to Unix and GNU/Linux
- ▶ Embedded Linux kernel and driver development
- ▶ Free Software tools for embedded Linux systems
- ▶ Audio in embedded Linux systems
- ▶ Multimedia in embedded Linux systems

<http://free-electrons.com/articles>

- ▶ Advantages of Free Software in embedded systems
- ▶ Embedded Linux optimizations
- ▶ Embedded Linux from Scratch... in 40 min!

- ▶ Linux USB drivers
- ▶ Real-time in embedded Linux systems
- ▶ Introduction to uClinux
- ▶ Linux on TI OMAP processors
- ▶ Free Software development tools
- ▶ Java in embedded Linux systems
- ▶ Introduction to GNU/Linux and Free Software
- ▶ Linux and ecology
- ▶ What's new in Linux 2.6?
- ▶ How to port Linux on a new PDA





# How to help

If you support this work, you can help ...

- ▶ By sending corrections, suggestions, contributions and translations
- ▶ By asking your organization to order training sessions performed by the author of these documents (see <http://free-electrons.com/training>)
- ▶ By speaking about it to your friends, colleagues and local Free Software community.
- ▶ By adding links to our on-line materials on your website, to increase their visibility in search engine results.



# Thanks

- ▶ To the [OpenOffice.org](http://OpenOffice.org) project, for their presentation and word processor tools which satisfied all my needs.
- ▶ To the [Handhelds.org](http://Handhelds.org) community, for giving me so much help and so many opportunities to help.
- ▶ To the members of the whole Free Software and Open Source community, for sharing the best of themselves: their work, their knowledge, their friendship.
- ▶ To people who sent comments and corrections:  
Tyler Le, Laurent Thomas, Jeff Ghislain, Leif Thande,  
Frédéric Desmoulins, Przemysław Ciesielski



## **Embedded Linux Training**

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