UNIX File Systems

System Administration Decal Spring 2009 Intermediate Lecture #2 George Wu Slides by: Joshua Kwan

Last time...

- Commands: cd, ls, pwd, mkdir, rmdir, cp, mv, rm, grep, find, locate
- Pipes chain output of one command into input of another.
- Input/output redirection with > and <
- Command substitution
- /dev/null the 'bit bucket', or a file that's always empty

Today

- How are files, programs, and user directories organized in Unix?
- Types of files: it isn't just "files" and "directories"
- How do you do 'shortcuts' in Unix like aliases in OS X or shortcuts on Windows?

Windows Filesystem Hierarchy

- Your data in "C:\Documents and Settings"
- Core system files, libraries in "C:\windows"
- Extra programs in "C:\Program Files"

Mac OS Filesystem Hierarchy

- Your data in "/Users/yourname"
- Core system files in "/System"
- Extra programs in "/Applications"
- Configuration data in "/Library"
- Despite being much more concise/readable, a relative of...

UNIX Filesystem Hierarchy

- / root directory, generally contains nothing
- /home personal user directories
- /etc contains system configuration files
- /bin contains core system programs
- /sbin contains core system admin tools
- /dev contains device files (more later)

UNIX Filesystem Hierarchy

- /boot contains the kernel image, etc.
- /lib contains system libraries (think DLLs)
- /tmp contains temp files, writable by all
- /usr contains nonessential data and programs
- /var contains "database" type information

/proc and /sys

- Linux specific filesystems that are really useful!
- They contain meta-information about the computer, e.g.
 - /proc/cpuinfo show CPU info
 - /proc/modules show loaded kernel drivers
 /proc/sys kernel "tunables" (Advanced!)
- Won't study /sys in this class; similar

UNIX FS in Practice: Ubuntu

- /bin/ls: Duh
- /sbin/shutdown: Power off/reboot machine
- /var/lib/dpkg: Contains information about the packages installed on your machine
- /usr/share/{doc,man}: Documentation, man pages for all packages
- /etc/cron.d: Configure scheduled tasks
- /dev/hda1: Device file for first partition of first IDE disk on system

Administrivia

- Do your labs! Include your cs198-XX username, sorry I forgot to make that clear.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions come to OH or email me with specific questions.
- Use *ilinux1.eecs.berkeley.edu* and *bash* for homework assignments if you don't have Linux at home.
- We *will* have a shell-scripting lecture!

4 Types of Files

- Should be familiar:
 - Regular files are exactly what you think; simply data files, e.g. text, music, programs
 - Directories: Simply contain other files.
- Probably not familiar:
 - Device files: look like normal files, but reading/ writing them interacts with kernel, like /dev/hda1 from before
 - Named pipes.. described by example!

Just for Fun: Named Pipes

mkfifo my_pipe gzip -9 -c my_pipe > out.gz Usage: cat file.txt > my_pipe

Symbolic and Hard Links

- Like 'shortcuts'; use the **In** command to make them.
- Symbolic links (In –s): If you remove the file the shortcut points to, the link is broken!
- Hard link (In): like an 'extra pointer' to the same data on disk. Looks like a copy, doesn't take up extra space.

File Extensions

• On Windows, file extensions are very scary and meaningful!

Rename	×
⚠	If you change a file name extension, the file may become unusable. Are you sure you want to change it?
	Yes No

 Unix? Not so much. "A rose by any other name smells just as sweet."

File Extensions

• You can use the **file** command to identify files based on their *content*, not their extension.

joshk@nigiri:~\$ file music3.doc music3.doc: Rich Text Format data, version 1, ANSI joshk@nigiri:~\$ mv music3.doc music3.mp3 joshk@nigiri:~\$ file music3.mp3 music3.mp3: Rich Text Format data, version 1, ANSI joshk@nigiri:~\$ mv music3.mp3 music3 joshk@nigiri:~\$ file music3 music3: Rich Text Format data, version 1, ANSI

• **Some** Linux programs will infer based on the extension, *but it's not central to the OS like on Windows.*