Linux command line for you and me
Documentation

Release 0.1

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Contents:

1 Shell commands 3
  1.1 Gnome Terminal 3
  1.2 What is a terminal and a shell? 3
  1.3 date command 4
  1.4 cal command 4
  1.5 whoami command 5
  1.6 id command 5
  1.7 pwd command 5
  1.8 cd command 5
  1.9 . directory and .. directory 5
  1.10 ls command 5
  1.11 mkdir command 6
  1.12 rm command 6
  1.13 Copying a file using cp command 7
  1.14 Renaming or moving a file 7
  1.15 tree command 7
  1.16 wc command 7
  1.17 echo command 7
  1.18 Redirecting the command output 7
  1.19 Using > to redirect output to a file 7
  1.20 Moving around in the command line 7
  1.21 man pages 7

2 File system 11
  2.1 FHS 11

3 Useful commands 13
  3.1 Creating soft link to a file 13
  3.2 Creating hard links 13
  3.3 Extracting a tar file 14
  3.4 Creating a tar file 14
  3.5 Vim editor 15
  3.6 :q to exit vim 15
  3.7 Open a new file or edit an existing file 15
  3.8 Different modes of vim 15
  3.9 :w to save a file 17
  3.10 :q! to quit without saving 17
3.11 Becoming root user ........................................... 17
3.12 Using sudo command ........................................ 17
3.13 Environment variables ....................................... 17
3.14 Setting up environment variable values .................. 18
3.15 locate command .............................................. 18
3.16 Finding date/time in different timezones ............... 18

4 Users and Groups .................................................. 19
4.1 Finding the owner of file .................................... 19
4.2 /etc/passwd file .............................................. 19
4.3 Details about groups ......................................... 21
4.4 wheel group ................................................... 21
4.5 Becoming superuser .......................................... 21
4.6 Adding a new user ........................................... 21
4.7 Changing user passwords ................................... 22
4.8 Modifying existing user details ............................. 22
4.9 Deleting a user ............................................... 22
4.10 Adding a new group ......................................... 22
4.11 Adding new group to an user ............................... 22

5 File permissions .................................................... 23
5.1 chmod command ............................................... 23
5.2 PATH variable ............................................... 24
5.3 .bashrc file ................................................... 24
5.4 which command ............................................... 25
5.5 she-bang or sha-bang in executable files ............... 25

6 Processes in Linux ................................................ 27
6.1 How to view all running processes? ....................... 27
6.2 How to find a particular process? ......................... 27
6.3 How to kill/stop a particular process? ................... 28
6.4 Finding out list of open files .............................. 28
6.5 Signals .......................................................... 28
6.6 top command .................................................. 29
6.7 Load average ................................................... 29
6.8 htop tool ........................................................ 29
6.9 More about Linux processes ............................... 30
6.10 /proc directory .............................................. 30
6.11 /proc/cpuinfo ............................................... 31
6.12 /proc/cmdline ............................................... 31
6.13 /proc/meminfo ............................................. 31
6.14 /proc/uptime ................................................ 32
6.15 /proc/sys/ & sysctl command ......................... 32
6.16 Enabling IP forward with sysctl ....................... 32

7 Linux Services ..................................................... 35
7.1 What is a service? ............................................ 35
7.2 What is a daemon? .......................................... 35
7.3 What is the init system? ................................... 35
7.4 Units in systemd ............................................. 35
7.5 .service units in systemd ................................. 36
7.6 How to find all the systemd units in the system? .... 36
7.7 Working with a particular service ....................... 36
7.8 Enabling or disabling a service ......................... 37
7.9 Shutdown or reboot the system using systemctl ...... 38
7.10 Finding the logs of a service .......................................................... 38
7.11 Continuous stream of logs .............................................................. 38
7.12 Listing of previous boots ................................................................. 39
7.13 Time-based log viewing ................................................................. 39

8 Package management .......................................................................... 41
  8.1 dnf command ................................................................................. 41
  8.2 Searching for a package ................................................................. 41
  8.3 Finding more information about a package .................................... 42
  8.4 Installing a package ..................................................................... 42
  8.5 apt command ................................................................................. 43
  8.6 apt-get update .............................................................................. 43
  8.7 apt-get install ............................................................................... 43

9 File system mounting ........................................................................ 45
  9.1 Connecting USB drives to your system .................................... 46
  9.2 Mounting a device ....................................................................... 46
  9.3 Unmounting .................................................................................. 46
  9.4 Encrypting drives with LUKS ....................................................... 46

10 Networking commands .................................................................... 47
   10.1 Finding the IP address ............................................................... 47
   10.2 ping command .......................................................................... 47
   10.3 Short note about DNS ............................................................... 48
   10.4 /etc/resolv.conf ...................................................................... 48
   10.5 host command .......................................................................... 48
   10.6 dig command ........................................................................... 48
   10.7 ss command ............................................................................. 49
   10.8 traceroute command ................................................................. 50
   10.9 tracepath command ................................................................. 50
   10.10 Remote login to a computer using ssh tool ......................... 51
   10.11 ssh key generation ................................................................. 51
   10.12 ssh-copy-id ............................................................................ 52
   10.13 Stop and disable the sshd service ....................................... 52
   10.14 Disable password based login for ssh .................................. 52
   10.15 How to find active (open) network connections from your computer? .... 53

11 Random things ................................................................................ 55
   11.1 w command ............................................................................. 55
   11.2 How long is the system running? ............................................. 55
   11.3 Finding CPU time of a command ............................................ 55
   11.4 dmesg command ..................................................................... 56

12 What's next? .................................................................................... 57

13 Team ................................................................................................. 59

14 Indices and tables ........................................................................... 61
Warning: This book is under heavy development. Think alpha release. No editing has been done on the book yet, so there may be errors.
Linux shell or the terminal is the lifeline of the developers, and of any power user. Things which can be done on the GUI (by clicking on different buttons), can be done much efficiently on the terminal by using commands. One can not remember all the commands, but with regular usage one can easily remember the most useful ones.

The following guide will introduce you to some basic minimal commands required to use your Linux computer efficiently.

1.1 Gnome Terminal

The above is the screenshot of the Gnome terminal application. As you can see the command prompt contains these following information:

[username@hostname directoryname]

In our case the username is babai, hostname is kdas-laptop, and directory is mentioned as ~. This ~ is a special character in our case. It means the home directory of the user. In our case the home directory path is /home/babai/.

1.2 What is a terminal and a shell?

Read the articles on Wikipedia to learn about computer terminals, terminal emulators and shell.

1.3 date command

date command tells the current date time.

```bash
$ date
Sun Jun 25 10:13:44 IST 2017
```
In case you want to know the current date/time in UTC, use the following command. (I added this in 2018, so please do not get confused at the date).

```bash
$ date -u
Mon May 21 01:43:47 UTC 2018
```

### 1.4 cal command

`cal` command is used to display calendar in your shell, by default it will display the current month.

```bash
$ cal
   June 2017
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
  1  2  3
 4  5  6  7  8  9 10
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17
 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
 25 26 27 28 29 30
$ cal 07 2017
   July 2017
 Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
   1
  2  3  4  5  6  7  8
  9 10 11 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
```

(continues on next page)
1.5 whoami command

`whoami` command will tell you which user account you are using in this system.

```bash
$ whoami
fedora
```

1.6 id command

`id` prints real user id, and various other details related to the account.

```bash
$ id
uid=1000(fedora) gid=1000(fedora) groups=1000(fedora),4(adm),10(wheel),190(systemd-journal) context=unconfined_u:unconfined_r:unconfined_t:s0-s0:c0.c1023
```

1.7 pwd command

`pwd` command will help you to find out the absolute path of the current directory. Let us see an example below:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ pwd
/home/babai
```

1.8 cd command

The next command we will learn is `cd`. This command will help you to change your current directory. We will move to `/tmp` directory in our example:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ cd /tmp
[babai@kdas-laptop tmp]$ pwd
/tmp
[babai@kdas-laptop tmp]$ cd ~
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ pwd
/home/babai
```

Here you can see that first we moved to `/tmp` directory, and then we moved back to the home directory by using `~` character.

1.9 .. directory and . directory

`..` and `.` has special meaning in the Linux. `..` means the current directory and `.` means the parent directory. We can use these in various situations for daily activities.

1.5 whoami command
$ cd ..

The above command moves to the parent directory.

### 1.10 ls command

We use `ls` command to view the files and directories inside any given directory. If you use `ls` command without any argument, then it will work on the current directory. We will see few examples of the command below:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ ls
Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos
cpython systemd-private-759094c89c594c07a90156139ec4b969-colord.service-
--hwU1hR
hogsuspend systemd-private-759094c89c594c07a90156139ec4b969-rtkit-daemon.
--service-AwylGa
hsperfdata_babai tracker-extract-files.1000
plugtmp tracker-extract-files.1002
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ ls /
bin cpython etc lib lost+found mnt proc run srv sysroot usr
boot dev home lib64 media opt root sbin sys tmp var
```

In the last two commands we provided a path as the argument to the `ls` command. `/` is a special directory, which represents root directory in Linux filesystem. You will know more in the next chapter.

### 1.11 mkdir command

We can create new directories using `mkdir` command. For our example we will create a `code` directory in our home directory:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ mkdir code
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ ls
code Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures Public Templates Videos
```

We can also create directories in a recursive way using `-p` option:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ mkdir -p dir1/dir2/dir3
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ ls dir1/ dir1/dir2/
dir1/:
dir2
dir1/dir2/:
dir3
```

### 1.12 rm command

`rm` command is used to remove a file, or directory. The `-rf` option is being used to remove in a recursive way. But, always double check before you use `rm -rf` command, if you by mistake give this command in your home directory, or any other important directory, it will not ask to confirm, but it will delete everything there. `-f` stands for force, it will just delete everything. So, please be careful and read twice before pressing enter key.
1.13 Copying a file using cp command

We use the `cp` command to copy a file in the Linux shell. To copy recursively use the `cp` command with the `-r` flag. We use the `cp file_to_copy new_location` format. In the example below, we are copying the `hello.txt` to `hello2.txt`.

```
$ cp hello.txt hello2.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 75 Jun 25 04:47 hello2.txt
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 75 Jun 25 04:33 hello.txt
```

In another example, I will copy the file `passwordauthno.png` from the Pictures directory in my home directory to the current directory.

```
$ cp ~/Pictures/passwordauthno.png .
```

In the following example, I will be copying the `images` directory (and everything inside it) from the `Downloads` directory under home to the `/tmp/` directory.

```
$ cp -r ~/Downloads/images /tmp/
```

1.14 Renaming or moving a file

The `mv` command is used to rename or move a file or directory. In the following example, the file `hello.txt` is renamed to `nothello.txt`.

```
$ mv hello.txt nothello.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 75 Jun 25 04:33 nothello.txt
```

1.15 tree command

`tree` command prints the directory structure in a nice visual tree design way:

```
[babai@kdas-laptop ~]$ tree
.
  ├── code
  │   └── Desktop
  │       └── dir1
  │           └── dir2
  └── Documents
       └── Downloads
       └── Music
(continues on next page)
1.16 wc command

`wc` is an useful command which can help us to count newline, word and bytes of a file.

```
$ cat hello.txt
HI that is a file.
This is the second line.
And we also have a third line.
$ wc -l hello.txt
3 hello.txt
$ wc -w hello.txt
17 hello.txt
```

The `-l` flag finds the number of line in a file, `-w` counts the number of words in the file.

1.17 echo command

`echo` command echos any given string to the display.

```
$ echo "Hello"
Hello
```

1.18 Redirecting the command output

In Linux shells, we can redirect the command output to a file, or as input to another command. `|` is the most common way to do so. Using this we can now count the number of directories in the root (`/`) directory very easily.

```
$ ls /
bin boot dev etc home lib lib64 lost+found media mnt opt proc root run ...
sbin srv sys tmp usr var
$ ls / | wc -w
20
```

1.19 Using > to redirect output to a file

We can use `>` to redirect the output of one command to a file, if the file exists this will remove the old content and only keep the input. We can use `>>` to append to a file, means it will keep all the old content, and it will add the new input to the end of the file.
$ ls / > details.txt
$ cat details.txt
bin
boot
dev
etc
home
lib
lib64
lost+found
media
mnt
opt
proc
root
run
sbin
srv
sys
tmp
usr
var
$ ls /usr/ > details.txt
$ cat details.txt
bin
games
include
lib
lib64
libexec
local
sbin
share
src
tmp
$ ls -l /tmp/ >> details.txt
$ cat details.txt
bin
games
include
lib
lib64
libexec
local
sbin
share
src
tmp
total 776
-rwxrwxr-x. 1 fedora fedora 34 Jun 24 07:56 helol.py
-rw-------. 1 fedora fedora 784756 Jun 23 10:49 tmp3lDEho

1.19. Using > to redirect output to a file
1.20 Moving around in the command line

There are key shortcuts available in Bash which will help you to move around faster. The following table is a good starting point.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key combination</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl + A</td>
<td>Move to the beginning of the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl + E</td>
<td>Move to the end of the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + B</td>
<td>Move to the previous word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + F</td>
<td>Move to the next word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl + U</td>
<td>Erase to the beginning of the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl + K</td>
<td>Erase to the end of the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ctrl + W</td>
<td>Erase the previous word</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.21 man pages

`man` shows the system’s manual pages. This is the command we use to view the help document (manual page) for any command. The man pages are organized based on sections, and if the same command is found in many different sections, only the first one is shown.

The general syntax is `man section command`. Example `man 7 signal`.

You can know about different sections below. Press `q` to quit the program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Executable programs or shell commands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>System calls (functions provided by the kernel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Library calls (functions within program libraries)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Special files (usually found in /dev)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>File formats and conventions eg /etc/passwd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Miscellaneous (including macro packages and conventions), e.g. man(7), groff(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>System administration commands (usually only for root)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kernel routines [Non standard]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now you know a few really basic, Linux commands. Before we can learn anything else, we should look into how files and directories are structured inside a Linux system.

### 2.1 FHS

$ ls /
bin boot dev etc home lib lib64 lost+found mc media mnt opt output proc ...
→ root run sbin srv sys tmp usr var

/ is the root directory of your file system. It’s under this directory, that all the other files and directories reside. There’s a Filesystem Hierarchy Standard (FHS), which talks about these different directories, and what kinds of files are located in which directory.
Useful commands

In this chapter, we will learn about a few more commands which we may have to use in daily life.

### 3.1 Creating soft link to a file

Soft link or symbolic links are a special kind of file, which actually point to some other file using either related or absolute paths. We can create soft links using *ln -s* command.

```
$ ln -s /etc/hostname name
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 11:14 hello.txt
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 12:32 name -> /etc/hostname
$ cat name
kushal-test.novalocal
```

In the above example, we created a soft link called *name* to the */etc/hostname* file. You can see details about the soft link files by using the *ls -l* command. You can create links to any directory in the same way.

If you remove the original file the soft link is pointing to, then the soft link will become useless, because it’ll point to a file that does not exist. Soft links can also point to file which is in a different file system.

### 3.2 Creating hard links

```
$ echo "Hello World!" > hello.txt
$ ln hello.txt bye.txt
$ ls -l
 total 16
-rw-rw-r--. 2 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 11:14 bye.txt
-rw-rw-r--. 2 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 11:14 hello.txt
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 12:32 name -> /etc/hostname
```

(continues on next page)
If you look carefully, at the above example, we’ve created a hard link using the `ln` command. When we made a change to the original `hello.txt` file, that is also reflected in the `bye.txt` file.

But, because `bye.txt` is a hard link, even if I delete the `hello.txt`, the hard link still exists, and also has the original content.

### 3.3 Extracting a tar file

**tar** is a tool to create and extract archive files. Many times we will have to download and then extract tar files in our regular day to day work.

```bash
$ tar -xzvf files.tar.gz
hello.c
bye.txt
```

`files.tar.gz` file is compressed with gzip, if the file name ends with `.tar.bz2`, then it is compressed with bzip2.

```bash
$ tar -xjvf files.tar.bz2
hello.c
bye.txt
```

### 3.4 Creating a tar file

We can use the same `tar` command to create a tar file.

```bash
$ tar -czvf files.tar.gz hello.c bye.txt
hello.c
bye.txt
$ ls
bye.txt  files.tar.gz  hello.c
```
3.5 Vim editor

Text editors are tools to edit files. This could be a configuration file, or source code, or an email, or any other kind of text file. Which editor to use, is generally a personal choice, and a lot of good energy has been wasted in the telling of which one, is the one, truem best editor. In this book we will just learn about Vim editor. It’s also known as vi improved editor. In the Fedora Linux distribution, the vi command is actually an alias to vim itself.

If we just type vim, and press enter, we will see the following screen.

![Vim Editor Screen](image)

3.6 :q to exit vim

Press Escape and then type :q to exit vim.

3.7 Open a new file or edit an existing file

`vim filename` is the command to open an existing file. If the file does not exist, it will open a new, empty file for editing.

3.8 Different modes of vim

Vim editor starts off in command mode. Every time you open a file, this is the default mode of the editor. You can press the Escape key in any other mode to come back to command mode.

You press i to go into insert mode; we edit documents in the insert mode. If you press Escape, you will return to command mode.
VIM - Vi IMproved

version 8.0.617
by Bram Moolenaar et al.
Modified by <bugzilla@redhat.com>
Vim is open source and freely distributable

Sponsor Vim development!
type :help sponsor<Enter> for information
type :q<Enter> to exit
type :help<Enter> or <F1> for on-line help
type :help version8<Enter> for version info

1 Hello I am in insert mode.

-- INSERT --
3.9 :w to save a file

In command mode, typing :w saves a file. If you want to save and quit the editor, then type either :wq or :x.

3.10 :q! to quit without saving

Typing :q!, when you are in command mode, will allow us quit without saving the current file.

Vim is a powerful editor, and we learned only a few, really basic steps in it. It will take a complete book, to explain different features of vim. But, the steps above are sufficient for our book’s scope.

One major thing to remember about any text file, is keeping the newline character as the last line of the file. Because that is how the POSIX standard defines a line.

3.11 Becoming root user

`root` is the superuser. root has the power to make changes in various parts of a Linux system. That also means if you make any dangerous change (say deleting your user account) as root (by mistake), that can easily cause real damage.

The general rule is, when you need superuser power, use the `sudo` command to get work done, and use your normal user account for everything else. The `su -` command will helps you become the `root` user; use this extremely carefully.

```
$ su -
Password: 
#
```

Notice how the command prompt changed to # from $. # shows that you are using the `root` — another visible indication to think about every command you give as `root`. Press Ctrl+d to log out of the `root` account. (or any account, for that matter)

3.12 Using sudo command

Add the `sudo` command in front of any other command to execute them as `root`. For example:

```
$ less /var/log/secure
/var/log/secure: Permission denied
$ sudo less /var/log/secure
[sudo] password for fedora:
... long output
```

3.13 Environment variables

Environment variables are a way to pass data on to applications. We can set values of different variables, which any application can then access. There are various variables which decide how the shell will behave. To see all the variables, use the `printenv` command.

```
$ printenv
... long output
```
You can execute the same command once as normal user, and once as *root*, and then check for the differences between the output. You will mostly see they are same, with some (or more) unique ones. That’s because, variables are user specific.

### 3.14 Setting up environment variable values

We can use the `export` command to create a new environment variable or change an existing one. We use the `echo` command to print a particular environment variable’s value.

```bash
$ export NAME="Kushal Das"
$ echo $NAME
Kushal Das
$ export NAME="Babai Das"
$ echo $NAME
Babai Das
```

In our example we first created a new variable called *name*, and then we changed the value of the variable.

### 3.15 locate command

`locate` is a very useful tool to find files in the system. It’s part of the `mlocate` package. For example, the following command will search all the files with `firewalld` in the name.

```bash
$ locate firewalld
/etc/firewalld
/etc/sysconfig/firewalld
/etc/systemd/system/basic.target.wants/firewalld.service
/home/kdas/.local/share/Zeal/Zeal/docsets/Ansible.docset/Contents/Resources/Documents/ ˓docs.ansible.com/ansible/firewalld_module.html
/home/kdas/Downloads/ansible-devel/lib/ansible/modules/system/firewalld.py
/home/kdas/Downloads/ansible-fail-on-github-zipfile/lib/ansible/modules/system/ ˓-firewalld.py
/home/kdas/code/git/ansible/lib/ansible/modules/system/firewalld.py
... long output
```

You can update the search database by using `updatedb` command as root.

```bash
$ sudo updatedb
```

This may take some time as it will index all the files in your computer.

### 3.16 Finding date/time in different timezones

The `/usr/share/zoneinfo` directory contains all the different timezone files. We can use these file names to get current date/time in any timezone. For example, the following command will show the current date/time in US/Pacific timezone.

```bash
$ TZ=US/Pacific date
Sun May 20 18:45:54 PDT 2018
```
In this chapter we’ll learn about user and group management on your system, and also about basic access control.
In Linux everything is associated to an user and a group. Based on these values, the system figures out, who can access what part of the system. That includes files, directories, network ports etc.

### 4.1 Finding the owner of file

We use the `ls -l` command to find the owner, and group of a file or directory.

```
[fedora@kushal-test ~]$ ls -l
total 12
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 11:14 hello.txt
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 5365 Jun 7 02:28 shellshare
[fedora@kushal-test ~]$  
```

In the above example, fedora is the name of the owner and group both. The first value talks about who can access this file (we will learn about this in a while.)

### 4.2 /etc/passwd file

/`etc/passwd` contains all the users available in the system. This is a plain text file (this means you can view the information by using `cat` command.)

```
$ cat /etc/passwd
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
bin:x:1:1:bin:/bin:/sbin/nologin
```

(continues on next page)
Each line has seven entries separated by `:`.

```
username:password:uid:gid:gecos:/home/dirname:shell
```

### FIELD | MEANING
--- | ---
username | the username
password | the password of the user
uid | Numeric user id
gid | Numeric group id of user
gecos | arbitrary field
/home/dirname | Home directory of the user
shell | Which shell to use for the user

You'll see accounts with `/sbin/nologin` as their shell. These are generally accounts for various services, which are not supposed to be used by a normal human user; (which is why, no shell is needed.)

The actual user passwords are stored in an encrypted form in `/etc/shadow` file, with only the root user having access to this file.

```sh
$ ls -l /etc/shadow
----------. 1 root root 2213 Jun 22 15:20 /etc/shadow
```

If you want to know more about the current user, use the `id` command.
4.3 Details about groups

Group details are stored inside the `/etc/group` file. Each user has one primary group, and zero or more supplementary groups.

4.4 wheel group

If your user is part of the `wheel` group, then it has sudo access. If you remember the Fedora Installer, it actually gives you the option to mark a new user to be part of the wheel group during installation.

4.5 Becoming superuser

Have you noticed the silent command `sudo` in front of many commands in the lab before? We use that `sudo` command to become root user temporarily. The root user is also known as the superuser of the system, it has all the access power to change anything on the system. It is the administrator account of any Linux system.

Try the following command.

```bash
$ sudo id
```

Now, you will find the `id` command worked as root instead of your regular user.

If you want to become root user for more than one command, then use the following command, and provide the root password to the input.

```bash
$ su -
```

**Important:** To be able to use `sudo` command, you must have your user mentioned in the `/etc/sudoers` file. The best way to edit the file is to use `visudo` command as root user.

**Important:** Read the man pages of `su` and `sudo` command.

4.6 Adding a new user

The `useradd` command adds a new user to the system. As you can well guess, this command has to execute as root, otherwise anyone can add random user accounts in the system. The following command adds a new user `babai` to the system.

```bash
$ sudo useradd babai
```

In Fedora, the initial user you create gets the uid 1000.
4.7 Changing user passwords

The `passwd` command helps to change any user password.

```bash
$ sudo passwd babai
Changing password for user babai.
New password:
Retype new password:
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.
```

4.8 Modifying existing user details

The `usermod` command can help to modify an existing user. You can use the same command to lock user account in the system.

```bash
$ sudo usermod -L babai
$ su - babai
Password:
su: Authentication failure
$ sudo usermod -U babai
```

The last command in the above example unlocks the user account.

4.9 Deleting a user

We use the `userdel` command to delete a user from the system.

4.10 Adding a new group

The `groupadd` command adds a new group. You can also pass the group id as an option. In the following example we are adding a new group called `firejumpers`.

```bash
$ sudo groupadd -g 4001 firejumpers
```

4.11 Adding new group to an user

We can use `usermod` command to add any extra group to any of our system user. In the following example, we are adding `firejumpers` group to our vagrant user.

```bash
$ sudo usermod -aG firejumpers vagrant
```

**Important:** Remember to use `-a` flag, or else it will delete all groups for the user and have only the new group you have mentioned in the command.
Linux follows long Unix history, and has the same kinds of permission and ownership of files and directories. In this chapter, we will learn in detail about the same.

Let us look at the output of `ls -l` command.

```
$ ls -l
total 24
drwxrwxr-x. 2 fedora fedora 4096 Jun 24 08:00 dir1
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 174 Jun 23 13:26 files.tar.bz2
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 164 Jun 23 13:20 files.tar.gz
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 19 Jun 23 14:14 hello.txt
lrwxrwxrwx. 1 fedora fedora 13 Jun 23 12:32 name -> /etc/hostname
```

The first column contains the permission details of each file and directory. The permissions are displayed using groups of three values, r for read access, w for write access, and x for execute access. These 3 values are mentioned for owner, group, and other user accounts. The first - can be d for directories or l for links.

There’s another way to calculate the same file permissions, using numbers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Execute</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This means, if you want to give read and write access only to the owner and group, you mention it like this “660”, where the first digit is for the owner, second digit is for the group, and the third digit is for the other users. We can use this format along with the `chmod` command to change permissions of any file or directory.

### 5.1 chmod command

`chmod` is the command which changes the file mode bits. Through chmod command one can alter the access permissions (i.e to permissions to read, write and execute) to file system objects (i.e files and directories). If we look at the command closely chmod is the abbreviation of change mode. A few examples are given below.
$ echo "hello" > myfile.txt
$ cat myfile.txt
hello
$ ls -l myfile.txt
-rw-rw-r--. 1 fedora fedora 6 Jun 25 03:42 myfile.txt
$ chmod 000 myfile.txt
$ ls -l myfile.txt
---------. 1 fedora fedora 6 Jun 25 03:42 myfile.txt
$ cat myfile.txt
cat: myfile.txt: Permission denied
$ chmod 600 myfile.txt
$ ls -l myfile.txt
-rw-------. 1 fedora fedora 6 Jun 25 03:42 myfile.txt
$ cat myfile.txt
hello

In the first line, we created a new file called *myfile.txt* using the *echo* command (we redirected the output of echo into the file). Using the *chmod 000 myfile.txt* command, we removed the read/write permissions of the file, and as you can see in the next line, even the owner of the file cannot read it. Setting the mode to 600 brings back read/write capability to the owner of that particular file.

The executable permission bit is required for directory access, and also for any file you want to execute.

### 5.2 PATH variable

The *PATH* variable is a special variable. When we type a command in the bash shell, it searches for the command in the directories mentioned, in the *PATH* variable. We can see the current *PATH* value using the *echo* command.

$ echo $PATH
/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/sbin:/home/fedora/.local/bin:/home/fedora/bin

The different directories are separated by `:`. You can see the `/home/fedora/bin` directory is mentioned in the path. This means if we have that directory, and an executable file is in there, we can use it as a normal command in our shell. We will see an example of this, later in the book.

### 5.3 .bashrc file

The `~/.bashrc` is a special configuration file for your bash terminal. You can define or delete or update environment variables and many things more.

For example, if want to add a new directory path to the *PATH* variable, then we can add the following line at the end of the `~/.bashrc` file.

```bash
export PATH=/mnt/myproject/bin:$PATH
```

Remember to logout and login again to see the change.

**Important:** To know more, read the man page of *bash* command.
5.4 which command

We use the `which` command, to find the exact path of the executable being used by a command in our shell.

```bash
$ which chmod 
/usr/bin/chmod
$ which tree 
/usr/bin/which: no tree in (/usr/local/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/sbin:/home/fedora/.local/bin:/home/fedora/bin)
```

The second example shows the output in case the `which` command cannot find the executable mentioned.

5.5 she-bang or sha-bang in executable files

she-bang or sha-bang is the first line in scripts; which starts with `#!` and then the path of the interpreter to be used for the rest of the file. We will create a simple bash hello world script using the same, and then execute it.

```bash
$ vim hello.sh
$ chmod +x hello.sh
$ ./hello.sh
Hello World!
```
A process is a program (think about any Linux application) in a running state. It contains various details, like the memory space the program needs, a process id, the files opened by the process, etc.

6.1 How to view all running processes?

The following command shows all the processes from your computer.

```
$ ps aux
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USER</th>
<th>PID</th>
<th>%CPU</th>
<th>%MEM</th>
<th>VSZ</th>
<th>RSS</th>
<th>TTY</th>
<th>STAT</th>
<th>START</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>COMMAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>root</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>215356</td>
<td>4984</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Ss</td>
<td>May29</td>
<td>0:28</td>
<td>/usr/lib/systemd/...system --deserialize 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>root</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>May29</td>
<td>0:00</td>
<td>[kthreadd]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>root</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>S&lt;</td>
<td>May29</td>
<td>0:00</td>
<td>[kworker/0:0H]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>root</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>May29</td>
<td>0:11</td>
<td>[ksoftirqd/0]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>root</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>May29</td>
<td>8:27</td>
<td>[rcu_sched]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>... long output</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can see that the output also tells you under which user the process is running, what the actual command being used is, and the percentage of CPU and memory usage.

The **PID** column shows the process id; you can see that the **systemd** process has PID 1, which means it is the first process to start in the system.

6.2 How to find a particular process?

Let’s say, I want to know the process id of the Firefox browser in my system. I can use the following command to find that information.
Here, we are first running the ps command, and then passing the output of that to the next command using the | character. In this case, as you see, grep is that second command. We can find and look for text using the grep tool. We will learn more about grep in the future.

### 6.3 How to kill/stop a particular process?

We can kill/stop any process using the `kill` command. We found out, in the last example, that the id of the Firefox process in my computer is 26752, we can use that id to kill it.

```bash
$ kill 26752
```

If there is no error message, you’ll find that Firefox has disappeared.

### 6.4 Finding out list of open files

`lsof` command will show list of all open files. The man page has more details about the different command line options available.

### 6.5 Signals

Signals are a limited way to communicate to a process. You can think about them as notifications to a process, and depending on the signal handler in the code, the process does something with that signal. The `kill` command actually sends a signal to the given process id, the default signal is `TERM`, which says to terminate the process. To directly/forcibly kill a process, you can send the `KILL` signal.

```bash
$ kill -9 26752
```

Here 9 is number representation of the `KILL` signal. To know more about Linux signals, read the man page.

```bash
$ man 7 signal
```

`kill` command also has a -l flag, which prints all of the signal names, and numbers on the screen.

```bash
$ kill -l
```

(continues on next page)
6.6 top command

**top** is a very useful command while using a Linux system. It’s a quick way to know about all the running processes in the system, and their related status about CPU and memory usage in general. To get out of top, press the key *q*.

```
top - 17:37:28 up 24 days, 11:52, 2 users, load average: 0.57, 0.73, 0.75
Tasks: 372 total, 2 running, 370 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%Cpu(s): 11.6 us, 2.6 sy, 0.0 ni, 84.9 id, 0.1 wa, 0.3 hi, 0.5 si, 0.0 st
KiB Mem : 7858752 total, 1701052 free, 4444136 used, 1713564 buff/cache
KiB Swap: 3268604 total, 1558396 free, 1710208 used. 2431656 avail Mem

PID USER    PR NI  VIRT   RES   SHR S %CPU %MEM    TIME+  COMMAND
28300 kdas  20   0 1502016 287340 44396 R 25.0 3.7 290:56.60 chrome
2668 kdas   9  -11 2067292 9756 7164 S 6.2 0.1 166:06.48 pulseaudio
15122 kdas  20   0 771844 33104 11352 S 6.2 0.4 39:24.60 gnome-terminal-
24760 kdas  20  0 1945840 209128 76952 S 6.2 2.7 1:41.15 code
27526 kdas  20   0 156076 4268 3516 R 6.2 0.1 0:00.01 top
  1 root    20  0 215356 4880 3108 S 0.0 0.1 0:28.25 systemd
  2 root    20  0 0 0 0 0 S 0.0 0.0 0:00.66 kthreadd
  4 root    0 -20 0 0 0 S 0.0 0.0 0:00.00 kworker/0:0H
  6 root    20  0 0 0 0 S 0.0 0.0 0:11.79 ksoftirqd/0
  7 root    20  0 0 0 0 S 0.0 0.0 8:28.06 rcu_sched
... long output
```

By the way, feel free to press *l* and see if anything changes in the top command output.

6.7 Load average

If you look at the *top* output carefully, you will find load average mentioned. Actually, there are 3 numbers provided; these are the load averages of the system in the last one minute, 5 minutes ago, and 15 minutes ago.

```
load average: 0.57, 0.73, 0.75
```

In simple words, load average means the average time any process has to wait to get access to the CPU (or other resources), in idle state the load average is 0. This information is a quick way to learn about the system, if the system is slow to respond, just looking at the load-average, and then the rest of the top output should be a good starting point.

6.8 htop tool

**htop** is a modern version of the top tool. It has many more features, interactiveness being the biggest amongst them. **htop** does not come by default in most of the Linux installations, which means you will have to install it using the system’s package management tool.

These are the ways to install it in Fedora and in Debian/Ubuntu.
$ sudo dnf install htop -y

$ sudo apt-get install htop

To know more about htop, please read the man page.

$ man htop

6.9 More about Linux processes

You can learn more about Linux processes in the glibc manual. Use the info command to find out more.

$ info libc process

6.10 /proc directory

/proc is a special directory in our filesystem. This is a virtual filesystem which contains information about all the running processes, and information about the hardware present in the system. You will find that the files in the virtual filesystem are 0 in size.

Now we’ll learn about a few files inside this directory.
6.11 /proc/cpuinfo

/proc/cpuinfo file has information about the CPU in your system. It includes the model number, and also the various flags available in that particular CPU model.

6.12 /proc/cmdline

/proc/cmdline file has all the parameters passed to the kernel at the bootup time. The following is a cloud-based virtual machine.

$ cat /proc/cmdline
BOOT_IMAGE=/boot/vmlinuz-4.8.6-300.fc25.x86_64 root=UUID=9be70055-35f2-4a57-b120-˓
˓→5a03dfdb504 ro no_timer_check console=tty1 console=ttyS0,115200n8 rhgb quiet_ ˓→console=ttyS1 LANG=en_US.UTF-8 initrd=/boot/initramfs-4.8.6-300.fc25.x86_64.img

6.13 /proc/meminfo

/proc/meminfo contains information related to the memory in the system. You can see the total amount RAM, the available memory and other values there.

$ cat /proc/meminfo
MemTotal: 4046820 kB
MemFree: 2960568 kB
MemAvailable: 3696216 kB
Buffers: 53756 kB
Cached: 830052 kB
SwapCached: 0 kB
Active: 347216 kB
Inactive: 575692 kB
Active(anon): 39388 kB
Inactive(anon): 196 kB
Active(file): 307828 kB
Inactive(file): 575496 kB
Unevictable: 0 kB
Mlocked: 0 kB
SwapTotal: 0 kB
SwapFree: 0 kB
Dirty: 4 kB
Writeback: 0 kB
AnonPages: 39120 kB
Mapped: 42032 kB
Shmem: 488 kB
Slab: 141692 kB
SReclaimable: 114996 kB
SUncacheable: 26696 kB
KernelStack: 1360 kB
PageTables: 2700 kB
NFS_Unstable: 0 kB
Bounce: 0 kB
WritebackTmp: 0 kB
CommitLimit: 2023408 kB
Committed_AS: 127752 kB

(continues on next page)
6.14 /proc/uptime

The first value in this file shows the number of seconds the system is up. The second value is the total number of idle seconds for each CPU, so for the modern systems, this value can be more than the first value.

6.15 /proc/sys/ & sysctl command

This directory is a special one for system administrators. This not only provides information, but also allows you to quickly change (enable/disable) different kernel features.

We use the `sysctl` command to view or edit the values for `/proc/sys/`. If you want to see all the different settings, use the following command.

```
$ sudo sysctl -a
[sudo] password for kdas:
abi.vsyscall32 = 1
crypto.fips_enabled = 0
debug.exception-trace = 1
debug.kprobes-optimization = 1
dev.cdrom.autoclose = 1
dev.cdrom.autoeject = 0
dev.cdrom.check_media = 0
dev.cdrom.debug = 0
dev.cdrom.info = CD-ROM information, Id: cdrom.c 3.20 2003/12/17
... long output
```

6.16 Enabling IP forward with sysctl

To enable IP forwarding to the VM(s), use the following command.
$ sudo sysctl -w net.ipv4.ip_forward=1

To check the current value, use the following command.

$ sysctl net.ipv4.ip_forward

You can see the same value in the /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward file too.

$ cat /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_forward
1

To make the change permanent, write the following in the /etc/sysctl.conf file.

net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1

Then, enable the changes using the following command.

$ sudo sysctl -p /etc/sysctl.conf
This is also a chapter related to the *systemd* tool.

### 7.1 What is a service?

A service is a process or application which is running in the background, either doing some predefined task or waiting for some event. If you remember our process chapter, we learned about *systemd* for the first time there. It is the first process to run in our system; it then starts all the required processes and services. To know about how the system boots up, read the `bootup` man page. [Click here](#) to read it online.

```bash
$ man bootup
```

### 7.2 What is a daemon?

Daemon is the actual term for those long-running background processes. A service actually consists of one or more daemons.

### 7.3 What is the init system?

If you look at Unix/Linux history, you will find the first process which starts up, is also known as *init process*. This process used to start other processes by using the `rc` files from `/etc/rc.d` directory. In the modern Linux systems, *systemd* has replaced the init system.

### 7.4 Units in systemd

Units are a standardized way for the systemd to manage various parts of a system. There are different kinds of units, *service* is for system services, *path* for path based ones. There is also *socket* which are socket based systemd units.
There are various other types, we can learn about those later.

### 7.5 `.service` units in systemd

These are service units, which explains how to manage a particular service in the system. In our daily life, we generally only have to work with these unit files.

### 7.6 How to find all the systemd units in the system?

```bash
$ systemctl
... long output
-
.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /
    boot.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /boot
    dev-hugepages.mount loaded active
  -mounted  Huge Pages File System
    dev-mqueue.mount loaded active
  -mounted  POSIX Message Queue File System
    home.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /home
    proc-fs-nfsd.mount loaded active
  -mounted  NFSD configuration filesystem
    run-user-1000-doc.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /run/user/1000/doc
    run-user-1000-gvfs.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /run/user/1000/gvfs
    run-user-1000.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /run/user/1000
    run-user-42.mount loaded active
  -mounted  /run/user/42
... long output
```

In the output of the `systemctl` command, you should be able to see all the different kinds of units in the system. If you want to see only the service units, then use the following command.

```bash
$ systemctl --type=service
```

### 7.7 Working with a particular service

Let us take the `sshd.service` as an example. The service controls the sshd daemon, which allows us to remotely login to a system using the `ssh` command.

To know the current status of the service, I execute the following command.

```bash
$ sudo systemctl status sshd
sshd.service - OpenSSH server daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/sshd.service; disabled; vendor preset: enabled)
   Active: inactive (dead)
     Docs: man:sshd(8)
```

(continues on next page)
To start the service, I’ll use the following command, and then I can use the `status` argument to the `systemctl` to check the service status once again.

```bash
$ sudo systemctl start sshd
$ sudo systemctl status sshd
```

In the same way, we can use either the `stop` or `restart` arguments to the `systemctl` command.

### 7.8 Enabling or disabling a service

Even if you start a service, you’ll find that after you reboot the computer, the service did not start at the time of boot up. To do so, you will have to enable the service, or to stop a service from starting at boot, you will have to disable the service.

```bash
$ sudo systemctl enable sshd.service
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/sshd.service → /usr/lib/systemd/system/sshd.service.
$ sudo systemctl disable sshd.service
Removed /etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/sshd.service.
```
7.9 Shutdown or reboot the system using systemctl

We can also reboot or shutdown the system using the systemctl command.

```bash
$ sudo systemctl reboot
$ sudo systemctl shutdown
```

7.10 Finding the logs of a service

We can use the **journalctl** command to find the log of a given service. The general format is **journalctl -u service-name**. Like below is the log for *sshd* service.

```bash
$ sudo journalctl -u sshd
-- Logs begin at Thu 2017-06-22 14:16:45 UTC, end at Fri 2017-06-23 05:21:29 UTC. --
Jun 22 14:17:39 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[1]: Starting OpenSSH server daemon...
Jun 22 14:17:39 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[1]: sshd.service: PID file /var/run/sshd.pid not readable (yet?) after start: No such file or directory
Jun 22 14:17:39 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[827]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Jun 22 14:17:39 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[827]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Jun 22 14:17:39 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[1]: Started OpenSSH server daemon.
Jun 22 14:22:08 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[863]: Accepted publickey for fedora from 103.249.881.17 port 56124 ssh2: RSA SHA256:lvn4rIszmfB14PBQwh4k9C
Jun 22 14:29:24 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[1]: Stopping OpenSSH server daemon...
Jun 22 14:29:24 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[827]: Received signal 15; terminating.
Jun 22 14:29:24 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[1]: Starting OpenSSH server daemon...
Jun 22 14:29:24 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[2164]: Server listening on 0.0.0.0 port 22.
Jun 22 14:29:24 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[2164]: Server listening on :: port 22.
Jun 22 15:15:29 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[13522]: Did not receive identification string from 5.153.62.226 port 48677
```

7.11 Continuous stream of logs

In case you want to monitor the logs of any service, that is keep reading the logs in real time, you can use `-f` flag with the **journalctl** command.

```bash
$ sudo journalctl -f -u sshd
-- Logs begin at Thu 2017-06-22 14:16:45 UTC. --
Jun 23 03:39:09 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[14095]: Did not receive identification string from 158.85.81.118 port 10000
Jun 23 04:13:32 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[14109]: Received disconnect from 221.194.47.242 port 55028: [preauth]
Jun 23 04:13:32 kushal-test.novalocal sshd[14109]: Disconnected from 221.194.47.242 port 55028 [preauth]
```
I can see that someone was trying to break into this VM by trying random ports :)

### 7.12 Listing of previous boots

In systems like Fedora, `journalctl` by default keeps history from past boots. To know about all available boot history, type the following command.

```bash
$ sudo journalctl --list-boots
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boot ID</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7a88e13a76434a199f82ad90441ae7f</td>
<td>Tue 2014-12-09 03:41:08 IST</td>
<td>Tue 2014-12-09 03:41:08 IST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b86086ed59b84b228e74f91ab08a66b3</td>
<td>Sun 2015-06-28 23:54:26 IST</td>
<td>Sun 2015-07-12 07:27:48 IST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71d3f6024f514653bf2d2574243d096d1</td>
<td>Sun 2016-06-05 01:51:05 IST</td>
<td>Sun 2016-06-05 01:51:05 IST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b7721878a5f144d009418cf269b5eea71</td>
<td>Fri 2016-08-19 19:47:57 IST</td>
<td>Sat 2016-08-20 01:16:07 IST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6102102f7c7804379b888d83ce66838b</td>
<td>Sat 2016-08-20 01:21:36 IST</td>
<td>Sun 2016-08-21 00:05:38 IST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To know about any particular boot log, you can use the hash along with `-b` flag to the `journalctl` command.

```bash
$ sudo journalctl -b 7a88e13a76434a199f82ad90441ae7f
```

### 7.13 Time-based log viewing

We can also use `journalctl` to view logs for a certain time period. For example, if we want to see all the logs since yesterday, we can use the following command.

```bash
$ sudo journalctl -b --since yesterday
```
$ sudo journalctl --since yesterday
(sudo) password for fedora:
-- Logs begin at Tue 2014-12-09 03:41:08 IST, end at Sat 2017-06-24 15:21:54 IST. --
Jun 23 00:00:00 kushal-test.novalocal /usr/libexec/gdm-x-session[28622]: (evolution-→alarm-notify:11609): evolution-alarm-notify-WARNING ***: alarm.c:253: Request
Jun 23 00:01:01 kushal-test.novalocal CROND[22327]: (root) CMD (run-parts /etc/cron.→hourly)
... long output

You can also use date time following \textit{YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS} format.

$ sudo journalctl --since "2015-11-10 14:00:00"
-- Logs begin at Tue 2014-12-09 03:41:08 IST, end at Sat 2017-06-24 15:25:30 IST. --
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Reached target Timers.
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Reached target Paths.
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Listening on D-Bus User Message →Socket.
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Reached target Sockets.
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Reached target Basic System.
Jun 05 01:51:05 kushal-test.novalocal systemd[5674]: Reached target Default.
In the Free and Open Source Software world, most software is released in source code format by developers. This means that generally, if you want to install a piece of software, you will find the source code on the website of the project. As a user, you will have to find and install all the other bits of software, that this particular piece depends on (the dependencies) and then install the software. To solve this painful issue, all Linux distributions have something called a package management system. Volunteers (mostly) all across the world help make binary software packages out of source code released by the developers, in such a way that users of the Linux distribution can easily install, update or remove that software.

It’s generally recommended, we use the package management system that comes with the distribution, to install software for the users. If you are really sure about what you’re doing in the system, you can install from the source files too; but that can be dangerous.

### 8.1 dnf command

**dnf** is the package management system in Fedora. The actual packages come in the **rpm** format. **dnf** helps you search, install or uninstall any package from the Fedora package repositories. You can also use the same command to update packages in your system.

### 8.2 Searching for a package

```bash
$ dnf search pss
Fedora 25 - x86_64 34 MB/s |
  -50 MB 00:01
Fedora 25 - x86_64 - Updates 41 MB/s |
  -23 MB 00:00
Last metadata expiration check: 0:00:07 ago on Sun Jun 25 04:14:22 2017.
======================================================================== N/S Matched: pss
pss.noarch : A power-tool for searching inside source code files
pssh.noarch : Parallel SSH tools
```
First the tool, downloads all the latest package information from the repository, and then gives us the result.

### 8.3 Finding more information about a package

`dnf info` gives us more information about any given package.

```
$ dnf info pss
```

```
Available Packages
Name : pss
Arch : noarch
Epoch : 0
Version : 1.40
Release : 6.fc25
Size : 58 k
Repo : fedora
Summary : A power-tool for searching inside source code files
URL : https://github.com/eliben/pss
License : Public Domain
Description : pss is a power-tool for searching inside source code files.
: pss searches recursively within a directory tree, knows which
: extensions and file names to search and which to ignore, automatically
: skips directories you wouldn't want to search in (for example .svn or .
: git),
: colors its output in a helpful way, and does much more.
```

### 8.4 Installing a package

The `dnf install` command helps us install any given package. We can pass more than one package name as the argument.

```
$ sudo dnf install pss wget
```

```
Package wget-1.18-3.fc25.x86_64 is already installed, skipping.
Dependencies resolved.
=====================================================================================================================================================  
Package Arch Version Repository Size  
Installing:  
pss noarch 1.40-6.fc25 fedora 58 k  
Transaction Summary  
Install 1 Package  
Total download size: 58 k
Installed size: 196 k
Is this ok [y/N]: y
```

```
Downloading Packages:
pss-1.40-6.fc25.noarch.rpm  
                       969 kB/s | 58 kB 00:00
  
(continues on next page)"
Total 118 kB/s | 58 kB 00:00

Running transaction check
Transaction check succeeded.
Running transaction test
Transaction test succeeded.
Running transaction
  Installing : pss-1.40-6.fc25.noarch
     →     1/1
  Verifying : pss-1.40-6.fc25.noarch
     →     1/1

Installed:
  pss.noarch 1.40-6.fc25

Complete!

8.5 apt command

apt is the package management system for the Debian Linux distribution. As Ubuntu is downstream of the Debian distribution, it also uses the same package management system.

8.6 apt-get update

$ apt-get update
... long output

The apt-get update command is used to update all the package information for the Debian repositories.

8.7 apt-get install

sudo apt-get install is the command used to install any given package from the repository.
In this chapter, we’ll learn how to mount file systems. If you type `mount` in the shell, it will tell you about various file systems, and how are they mounted (as a directory) in the system.

```
$ mount
sysfs on /sys type sysfs (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,relatime,seclabel)
proc on /proc type proc (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,relatime)
devtmpfs on /dev type devtmpfs (rw,nosuid,seclabel,size=2012852k,nr_inodes=503213,
   _mode=755)
securityfs on /sys/kernel/security type securityfs (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,relatime)
tmpfs on /dev/shm type tmpfs (rw,nosuid,nodev,seclabel)
devpts on /dev/pts type devpts (rw,nosuid,noexec,relatime,seclabel,gid=5,mode=620,
   __ptmxmode=000)
tmpfs on /run type tmpfs (rw,nosuid,nodev,seclabel,mode=755)
tmpfs on /sys/fs/cgroup type tmpfs (ro,nosuid,nodev,noexec,seclabel,mode=755)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/systemd type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,relatime,xattr,
   __release_agent=/usr/lib/systemd/systemd-cgroups-agent,name=systemd)
pstore on /sys/fs/pstore type pstore (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,seclabel)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/devices type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,devices)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/perf_event type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,perf_
   __event)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/freezer type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,freezer)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/blkio type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,blkio)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/cpu,cpuacct type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,relative,cput,
   __cpuacct)
cgroup on /sys/fs/cgroup/net_cls,net_prio type cgroup (rw,nosuid,nodev,noexec,
   __relative,net_cls,n
```
If you look carefully at the output above, you’ll find that /dev/vda1 is mounted as root / in the system. This is actually the primary hard drive in this system. The device can be different based on the system.

- /dev/vd* For virtual machines
- /dev/sd* For physical machines

The number at the end of the device name is the partition number.

### 9.1 Connecting USB drives to your system

If you connect vfat partitioned USB drives (the normal pendrives), they will auto mount under the /run/media/username/ directory. But, for NTFS based drives, you will have to install the driver to mount those partitions.

```
sudo dnf install ntfs-3g -y
```

### 9.2 Mounting a device

We can use the `mount` command to mount a file system on an existing directory. The syntax to do that is, `mount device /path/to/mount/at`.

```
sudo mount /dev/sdb1 /mnt
```

In the example above, we mounted /dev/sdb1 on the /mnt directory.

### 9.3 Unmounting

We use the `umount` command on a given directory to unmount the file system.

Do not remove any drive from the system before unmounting them. Just to be on the safe side, you can execute the `sync` command, which will write any existing cache to the drives. That will make sure that your chances of losing data is marginal.

### 9.4 Encrypting drives with LUKS

Follow this link to learn about how to encrypt your drives with LUKS. This is a simple way to make sure that even if you loose your USB drive, the data inside can still be safe (relatively).
CHAPTER 10

Networking commands

In this chapter, we will learn about a few basic networking commands, which will help us in our daily Linux usage.

10.1 Finding the IP address

The `ip` command can be used to find the IP address of the system.

```
$ ip addr show
1: lo: <LOOPBACK,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 65536 qdisc noqueue state UNKNOWN group default
   link/model loopback 00:00:00:00:00:00 brd 00:00:00:00:00:00
   inet 127.0.0.1/8 scope host lo
       valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
   inet6 ::1/128 scope host
       valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
2: eth0: <BROADCAST,MULTICAST,UP,LOWER_UP> mtu 1454 qdisc fq_codel state UP group default qlen 1000
   link/ether fa:16:3e:3c:ed:27 brd ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
   inet 172.10.95.253/20 brd 172.10.111.255 scope global dynamic eth0
       valid_lft 57021sec preferred_lft 57021sec
   inet6 fe80::f816:3eff:fe3c:ed27/64 scope link
       valid_lft forever preferred_lft forever
```

Here `lo` is a special device which points to the same system (also known as localhost). The IP 127.0.0.1 always points to the the localhost. `eth0` is our ethernet device which connects to the network.

10.2 ping command

`ping` is simple way to find if you are connected to Internet or not. We can also ping any particular computer to find if the computer is connected to the network or not. Press `Ctrl+c` to stop the loop.
$ ping google.com  PING google.com (216.58.201.142) 56(84) bytes of data. 64 bytes from mad06s25-in-f142.1e100.net (216.58.201.142): icmp_seq=1 ttl=44 time=157 ms 64 bytes from mad06s25-in-f142.1e100.net (216.58.201.142): icmp_seq=2 ttl=44 time=156 ms 64 bytes from mad06s25-in-f142.1e100.net (216.58.201.142): icmp_seq=3 ttl=44 time=156 ms 58 ms ^C — google.com ping statistics — 3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 2000ms rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 156.373/156.811/157.566/0.704 ms

10.3 Short note about DNS

DNS or Domain Name System is a decentralized naming system for systems which are connected to Internet (can be for private networks too). This is the way a computer knows, which other computer to connect to, when we type google.com in our browser, or in the ping command. There are servers known as dns servers, and for every domain name it needs to find, the client system generally connects to these dns servers, and finds out the IP address of the computer at that domain name.

10.4 /etc/resolv.conf

/etc/resolv.conf is the configuration file for DNS. It contains the DNS server address to use for DNS queries.

```
$ cat /etc/resolv.conf
# Generated by NetworkManager
nameserver 1.1.1.1
nameserver 8.8.8.8
```

The 1.1.1.1 is the DNS server from Cloudflare, and 8.8.8.8 is the DNS server hosted by Google.

10.5 host command

The `host` command will show you the IP address of any given hostname.

```
$ host www.example.com
www.example.com has address 93.184.216.34
```

10.6 dig command

dig command can tell us DNS records, MX details (used to send emails) and other information for a given domain name.

```
$ dig kushaldas.in
; <<>> DiG 9.10.4-P8-RedHat-9.10.4-5.P8.fc25 <<>> kushaldas.in
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 50750
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 1, AUTHORITY: 0, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
```

(continues on next page)
If you want to specify a DNS server to use, you can do that with the address specified at the end of the command along with a @ sign.

```
$ dig rtnpro.com @208.67.222.222
```

```
; <<>> DiG 9.10.4-P8-RedHat-9.10.4-5.P8.fc25 <<>> rtnpro.com @208.67.222.222
;; global options: +cmd
;; Got answer:
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY, status: NOERROR, id: 27312
;; flags: qr rd ra; QUERY: 1, ANSWER: 0, AUTHORITY: 1, ADDITIONAL: 1

;; OPT PSEUDOSECTION:
;; EDNS: version: 0, flags:; udp: 4096
;; QUESTION SECTION:
rtnpro.com. IN A

;; AUTHORITY SECTION:
rtnpro.com. 3600 IN SOA dns1.bigrock.in. rtnpro.gmail.com. 2017021401 7200 7200 172800 38400

;; Query time: 899 msec
;; SERVER: 208.67.222.222#53(208.67.222.222)
;; WHEN: Sun Jun 25 11:40:01 IST 2017
;; MSG SIZE rcvd: 106
```

### 10.7 ss command

The `ss` command shows us socket statistics from the system. This command replaces the older `netstat` command. Read the man page of the command to know more about the different arguments we can pass at the command line.

```
$ ss -putn
Netid State Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address:Port Peer Address:Port
  tcp ESTAB 0 0 192.168.1.101:51496 162.125.34.129:443
  users:(("dropbox", pid=28797, fd=80))
  tcp ESTAB 0 0 192.168.1.101:51496 74.125.200.189:443
  users:(("chrome", pid=22112, fd=385))
  tcp ESTAB 0 0 192.168.1.101:51496 209.12.123.55:22
  users:(("ssh", pid=26621, fd=3))
```

(continues on next page)
10.8 traceroute command

The `traceroute` command is used to show the full route of a network packet from the system to any given host.

```bash
$ traceroute www.rtnpro.com
traceroute to www.rtnpro.com (146.185.181.157), 30 hops max, 60 byte packets
1  gateway (192.168.1.1)  1.434 ms  1.920 ms  1.891 ms
2  45.113.248.3 (45.113.248.3)  7.478 ms  10.335 ms  10.343 ms
3  45.113.248.1 (45.113.248.1)  10.319 ms  10.293 ms  10.274 ms
4  121.244.26.1.static-pune.vsnl.net.in (121.244.26.1)  26.938 ms  26.608 ms  27.165 ms
5  172.31.183.162 (172.31.183.162)  9.883 ms  10.133 ms  10.122 ms
6  172.31.19.201 (172.31.19.201)  10.591 ms  172.29.250.33 (172.29.250.33)  6.894 ms
7  ix-ae-0-4.tcore1.MLV-Mumbai.as6453.net (180.87.38.5)  9.378 ms  8.886 ms  9.240 ms
8  if-ae-9-5.tcore1.WYN-Marseille.as6453.net (80.231.217.77)  159.550 ms if-ae-5-2.
   tcore1.WYN-Marseille.as6453.net (180.87.38.126)  159.614 ms if-ae-9-5.tcore1.WYN-
   -Marseille.as6453.net (80.231.217.77)  159.506 ms
9  if-ae-8-1600.tcore1.PYE-Paris.as6453.net (80.231.217.6)  159.392 ms  159.474 ms
10 if-ae-15-2.tcore1.AV2-Amsterdam.as6453.net (195.219.194.145)  159.327 ms  158.355 ms
11 195.219.194.26 (195.219.194.26)  133.216 ms  134.168 ms  134.683 ms
12 138.197.250.29 (138.197.250.29)  192.236 ms  192.125 ms  138.197.250.23 (138.197.
   250.23)  192.083 ms
13 * 146.185.181.157 (146.185.181.157)  191.831 ms  191.861 ms
```

10.9 tracepath command

The `tracepath` command traces a path to a network host discovering MTU along the path. This is a modern replacement of the `traceroute` command, and also does not need superuser privileges to execute.

```bash
$ tracepath www.rtnpro.com
1?: [LOCALHOST] pmtu 1500
1: gateway 0.950ms
1: gateway 0.715ms
2: gateway 0.689ms pmtu 1492
2: 45.113.248.3 3.564ms
3: 45.113.248.1 4.634ms
4: 121.244.26.1.static-pune.vsnl.net.in 7.208ms asymm 8
5: ix-ae-0-4.tcore1.MLV-Mumbai.as6453.net (180.87.38.5) 7.208ms asymm 8
6: if-ae-9-5.tcore1.WYN-Marseille.as6453.net (80.231.217.77) 125.727ms asymm 12
7: if-ae-8-1600.tcore1.PYE-Paris.as6453.net (80.231.217.6) 128.893ms asymm 11
8: if-ae-15-2.tcore1.AV2-Amsterdam.as6453.net (195.219.194.145) 126.019ms asymm 9
9: 195.219.194.26 (195.219.194.26) 136.373ms asymm 10
10: 138.197.250.29 (138.197.250.29) 192.083ms
11: 146.185.181.157 (146.185.181.157) 191.040ms reached
Resume: pmtu 1492 hops 13 back 13
```
10.10 Remote login to a computer using ssh tool

We use the `ssh` command to login to remote computers. The remote computer must have the `sshd` service running, and should also allow clients to connect to this service. Let’s try to connect to localhost itself. Remember to start the `sshd` service before this step.

```
$ ssh kdas@localhost
kdas@localhost's password:
Last login: Wed Jun 21 08:44:40 2017 from 192.168.1.101
$
```

As you can see, the command syntax is ssh followed by `user@hostname`. If your remote system’s user name is same as your current one, then you can omit the username and just use the hostname(IP address or domain name).

```
$ ssh localhost
kdas@localhost's password:
$
```

10.11 ssh key generation

ssh keys are used in the daily life of a Linux user or developer. In simple terms, it helps us to securely login to other computers. In the following example, we will create a new key for our user.

```
$ ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096 -C "kushaldas@gmail.com"
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/fedora/.ssh/id_rsa):
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/fedora/.ssh/id_rsa.
Your public key has been saved in /home/fedora/.ssh/id_rsa.pub.
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:O6Rxir7lpFBQsBnvs+NJRU8Ih01ffVBvLTE8s5TpxLQ kushaldas@gmail.com
The key’s randomart image is:

As you can see in the output, the key has been saved in the `~/.ssh` directory. You can also find out that these files are only readable by the owner.

```
$ ls -l .ssh
total 12
-rw-------. 1 fedora fedora 3326 Jun 25 06:25 id_rsa
-rw-r--r--. 1 fedora fedora 745 Jun 25 06:25 id_rsa.pub
```

Each key has two parts. The `id_rsa.pub` is the public key and `id_rsa` is the private part of the key. One can safely upload or use the public key anywhere. But the private key, should be kept in a safe manner, because if people get
access to your private key, they can also access all of your information from any system using that key. In other words, do not give the private key to anyone, or do not randomly copy the .ssh directory to a USB drive and then forget about it.

10.12 ssh-copy-id

**ssh-copy-id** command copies the keys to a given remote system. After this step we can use the ssh key to login to the box directly, instead of the usual username / password method.

```bash
$ ssh-copy-id fedora@209.12.123.55
```

```
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter out any that are already installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 2 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are prompted now it is to install the new keys

fedora@209.12.123.55's password:

Number of key(s) added: 2

Now try logging into the machine, with: "ssh 'fedora@209.12.123.55'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.
```

10.13 Stop and disable the sshd service

If you don’t need ssh access to your computer (say, your laptop), you should always stop and disable the sshd service in the computer.

10.14 Disable password based login for ssh

Remember, this step can be dangerous. Unless you’re really, really sure that you can access a computer by either logging in physically or using your ssh key (and you have a backup of the key somewhere), you should not do this step.

By disabling password based login in the sshd service, you make sure that only people with the right private key can login to the computer. This helps greatly when people try to break into the system by guessing the password. This is also really helpful in case your computer is connected to some network, and you still need to access it over ssh.

We will use vim to open the /etc/ssh/sshd_config file, which is the configuration file for sshd service.

```bash
$ sudo vim /etc/ssh/sshd_config
```

Search for the term **PasswordAuthentication**, and change the value to no. Below I have added a new line to do the same. You can also understand, that the lines starting with # are comments in this configuration file. This configuration will disable password based authentication for the sshd service. You should remember to restart the sshd service after this step for the change to take place.
10.15 How to find active (open) network connections from your computer?

$ sudo lsof -i -n -P

The `lsof` command shows open files, using `-i` we are asking to list of all Internet and x.25 (HP-UX) network files. To know more, read the man page of the `lsof` command.
I have yet to figure out where to put this information, which is why they are here, in the random chapter. These will be moved to different chapters in the future.

### 11.1 w command

The `w` command shows all the users, logged in to the computer. If you pass the `-f` flag, it toggles information about where each user is logged in from.

:: $ w 17:22:41 up 24 days, 11:37, 2 users, load average: 0.56, 0.50, 0.59 USER TTY LOGIN@ IDLE JCPU PCPU WHAT kdas tty2 31May17 22days 3:07m 3:16 i3 -a -restart /run/user/1000/i3/restart-state.28641

### 11.2 How long is the system running?

We have the `uptime` command which gives us information about how long the system is running. You can figure out the last time the system turned off or rebooted at a glance. For my laptop, it was 24 days ago.

:: $ uptime 17:31:30 up 24 days, 11:46, 2 users, load average: 0.76, 0.98, 0.81

### 11.3 Finding CPU time of a command

The `time` command will help you to find the CPU time spent for any command. The following example will tell us how much time `du -sh` took to calculate the disk usage.

```bash
$ time du -sh
5.5G
real 0m1.026s
```

(continues on next page)
11.4 dmesg command

The `dmesg` command prints out messages from the kernel buffer. Using this tool we can learn about the messages and information from the kernel drivers during and after the boot up process. This can be very handy when troubleshooting; for e.g. when the machine fails to boot or a certain piece of hardware does not function correctly.
CHAPTER 12

Whats next?

After you are familiar with the commands in this book, we would suggest you to learn shell scripting. Start from https://www.shellscript.sh and then you can read the beginners bash guide.
Team

- Jason Braganza (Editor in command)
- Kushal Das (Adds typos in every form)
CHAPTER 14

Indices and tables

- genindex
- search
Index

A
apt, 43

B
bashrc, 24
bootup, 35

C
chmod, 23
cmdline, 31
cpuinfo, 30

d
daemon, 35
dig, 48
dmesg, 56
dnf, 41
dnf install, 42
dns, 48

E
Environment variable, 17
export, 18

F
fhs, 11
File permission, 23

G
groupadd, 22

H
host, 48

I
id, 20
ip, 47

J
journalctl, 38

K
kill, 28

L
load average, 29
locate, 18
lsof, 28

M
meminfo, 31
mount, 45, 46

N
NTFS, 46

P
passwd, 21
PATH, 24
ping, 47
proc filesystem, 30
ps, 27

S
services, 36
signal, 28
ss, 49
ssh, 50
ssh-copy-id, 52
su, 17
sudo, 17, 21
sysctl, 32
systemctl, 36

T
tar, 14
time, 55
timezones, 18
  top, 29
  tracepath, 50
  traceroute, 50

U
  umount, 46
  updatedb, 18
  uptime, 55
  useradd, 21
  userdel, 22
  usermod, 22

V
  vim, 14

W
  w, 55
  which, 24