Listing files and directories (ls)

When you first login, your current working directory is your home directory. Your home directory has the same name as your user-name, for example, somnog, and it is where your personal files and subdirectories are saved. To find out what is in your home directory type The ls command lists the contents of your current working directory. To list all files in your home directory including those whose names begin with a dot(All hidden files start with a dot.), type

ls -a

To list files in long list format:

ls -1

Making Directories (mkdir)

We will now make a new directory in your home directory mkdir somnog5 You can also create multiple directories with one command: mkdir somnog7 somnog4 somnog1 To see the directory you have just created, type

ls

Changing to a different directory (cd)

The command cd directory means change the current working directory to 'directory'. To change to the directory you have just made, type

cd somnog7

Still in the somnog directory, type Typing cd with no argument always returns you to your home directory. This is very useful if you are lost in the file system. Pathnames (pwd) pwd enable you to print out where you are in relation to the whole file-system:

pwd

~ (your home directory)

Home directories can also be referred to by the tilde ~ character. It can be used to specify paths starting at your home directory. So typing

cd ~ or cd

Copying Files and Directories (cp)

To copy from file to file2 run.

cp file1 file2

Directories can also be copied with the cp command, but it's necessary to add the option –r to do so. This option means 'recursive' and will copy the contents of the directory as well as the directory itself, for example:

cp -r dir1 dir2

Moving files and Directories (mv)

mv file1 file2.

This would rename a directory. Finally, Or you can move a file/directory using mv command For example, in your home directory create two new directories in a single command:

mkdir dir1 dir2

Also create a new file named myfile.txt using nano with this content "Hello SomNOG5!" Then check that the file is created in your current directory by running:

ls

Now, move myfile.txt to dir1 by running:

mv myfile.txt dir1

Now check if you have myfile.txt in your current directory, you can guess the command you run, right?

ls

Of course you will not see! Now list the content of dir1:

ls dir1

Did you see it? ==== Removing Files (rm) and Directories (rmdir) To delete (remove) a file, use the rm command. Create two empty files, file5 and file6

touch file5 file6

Inside your somnog directory, type

rm file5

In order to delete an empty directory you can use the command rmdir:

rmdir dir2

Now, attempt to delete dir1 with rmdir command

rmdir dir1

However this won't remove directories that already have files in them, instead you can use to recursively delete files in directory (rm -r)

rm -r dir1

cat (concatenate)

The command cat can be used to display the contents of a file on the screen.

cat file1.txt

less The command less writes the contents of a file onto the screen a page at a time. Type

cp /var/log/syslog logfile.txt
less logfile.txt

Press the space bar if you want to see another page, type q if you want to quit reading. As you can see, less is used in preference to cat for long files. head The head command writes the first ten lines of a file to the screen. First clear the screen then type

head logfile.txt

Now type:

head -5 logfile.txt

What difference did the -5 do to the head command? What about?

head -2 logfile.txt

tail

The tail command writes the last ten lines of a file to the screen. Clear the screen and type:

tail logfile.txt

How can you view the last 15 lines of the file?

tail -15 logfile.txt

Check your IP address: ip address

ip a