last modified: 2021-11-19

CS 235 - Useful UNIX/Linux commands for CS 235

beginning notes:

- remember: UNIX/Linux is case-sensitive!
- nrs-projects.humboldt.edu is the host name of a (virtual) HSU computer that has Java installed on it, along with the Oracle middleware to allow JDBC to connect to the HSU Oracle database named student.
- you will use ssh to connect to nrs-projects to try out JDBC.
- once you have logged onto nrs-projects.humboldt.edu, here is a collection of UNIX/Linux commands that you might find useful:

help-related commands:

man desired_command	display the UNIX/Linux manual page for desired_command, if it exists
apropos string	display names of UNIX/Linux commands followed by 1-line descriptions for commands whose 1-line descriptions contain <i>string</i>

directory-related commands:

cd	change directory; make the home directory the current working directory
cd directory_name	change the current working directory to directory_name
	a nickname for the current directory
	a nickname for the parent of the current directory
~username	a nickname for <i>username</i> 's current directory
~	a nickname for the current user's home directory
pwd	give the name of the current (present) working directory
mkdir directory_name	make a new directory named <i>directory_name</i> within/under the current working directory
rmdir directory_name	remove the directory <i>directory_name</i> within/under the current working directory; note that it must be empty for this to work
ls	list the contents of the current working directory
ls -l	in "long" format, including file permissions
ls -ld	including permissions and information for subdirectories instead of their contents
1s directory_name	list the contents of the directory directory_name
chmod 700 directory_name	protect the directory <u>directory name</u> so that only you can read, write, or execute its contents. This should be used for homework directories.

last modified: 2021-11-19

file-related commands:

cp filename newfilename	create a copy of filename with the name newfilename
cp fl f2 f3 directory_name	creates copies of files $f1, f2, f3,$ (all that you care to list) in the directory <i>directory_name</i>
mv filename newfilename	change the name of the file filename to newfilename
mv f1 f2 f3 directory_name	moves files $f1, f2, f3,$ (all that you care to list) to the directory directory_name
rm filename	remove the file filename (be careful - this cannot be undone!)
rm -i filename	slightly-safer way to remove a file asks you to confirm removal! (BUT still cannot be undone!)
chmod 600 filename	protect the file filename - only you can read or write it
more filename	look at the contents of filename on-screen, one screen at a time
cat filename	look at the contents of filename on-screen, all at once
nano filename vi filename emacs filename	edit file <i>filename</i> (these are three different text editors available on nrs-projects)

commands and tips for stopping a UNIX/Linux process:

^C	(typing ctrl key and letter c at the same time) This can often be used to stop or kill a running UNIX/Linux command (a command running in the foreground). Useful if you accidentally type a command that does more than you want to see (e.g., when you don't want to see the rest of a man page)
ps x	gives information about currently-running processes that you own (even from other UNIX/Linux sessions). The name of each process is on the far right, and the process id of each process is in the first column. (Beware : the options for ps vary on different flavors of UNIX/Linux!)
kill process_id kill -9 process_id	stop, or kill, the process with process id <i>process_id</i> . I was always taught to try the version without -9 before trying the version with -9, because the former kills the process less "messily".

other commands and etc.:

javac <i>ClassName</i> .java	compile the Java source code in the file ClassName.java into
	Java bytecode; results in at least the Java bytecode file
	ClassName.class, and possibly additional Java bytecode files
	(one per non-public class also contained within
	ClassName.java's source code)

java ApplicClassName	use the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) to interpret and run the Java application class ApplicClassName (whose Java bytecode is in <i>ApplicClassName</i> .class); starts execution at its main method
javadoc <i>ClassName</i> .java	generate HTML documentation for <i>ClassName</i> based on its javadoc-style comments
*	UNIX/Linux wildcard character that matches any 0 or more characters. E.g., ha*s matches has, ha3s, happiness, etc.
?	UNIX/Linux wildcard character that matches any single character. E.g., ha?s matches hams, ha3s but does not match has, haaas
tab key	in several UNIX/Linux shells (including nrs-projects' default shell, bash), typing this key after you have started typing a file name will cause the shell to try to complete (fill in) the file name you have started typing, if it can. This is called filename completion .
grep pattern *	look for files in the current working directory that contain inside of them the pattern or letters <i>pattern</i>
diff file1 file2	compare the contents of <i>file1</i> and <i>file2</i> , and show any differences. If the two files are identical, nothing is returned.
history	show a list of the most recently-executed commands in this UNIX/Linux session
!!	redo the last UNIX/Linux command executed
!com	redo the most recent UNIX/Linux command executed starting with the letters com
!-num	redo the UNIX/Linux command executed num commands ago
!num	redo the UNIX/Linux command numbered num in the history list
up-arrow key	lets you scroll through the commands in the history list
quota	On many UNIX/Linux/Linux systems, this lets you know how much of you disk space quota you are using. This does not seem to be set up on nrs-projects at this time, but just in case it is set up at some point, I'm still including it in this list.