

# Linux/Bash Quick Reference

HPC Shell software carpentry lesson chapters 3-6

<http://www.hpc-carpentry.org/hpc-shell/>

## Discovering Your Environment

pwd

print working directory

hostname

get the name of the current host computer

## Listing Files and Directories

ls

list short - list files and directories

ls -l -a -h

flags for longer list, hidden files, and human readable

ls --help or man ls

to get more help on any command

alias ll='ls -l'

assign ls -l to ll. Must be quoted. Linux is very customizable.

commands are programs, case sensitive, you can combine flags like ls -lah

## Creating and Removing Directories

mkdir test\_dir

make directory - spaces separate arguments, use underscores

mkdir -p test\_dir

-p protects against errors if directory already exists

rmdir test\_dir

remove a directory, must be empty

## Navigating Through the Directory Tree

cd test\_dir

change directory

cd ~/test\_dir

absolute path from home directory

cd /homes/daveturner

absolute path starting at root /

cd ../dir

relative path with .. meaning go back one directory

cd

go back to your home directory, same as cd ~

## Creating and Manipulating Files

touch file.txt

create an empty file. Suffixes can be meaningful.

mv file.txt test\_dir

move a file to a different location

mv file.txt file2.txt

rename the file instead

cp file2.txt file.txt

copy the file and its contents

cp -rp dir dir2

copy the entire directory and maintain modification dates

rm file2.txt

remove a file

rm -fr dir2

recursively remove a directory and contents

## Editing Files

nano file.txt

edit a file using nano - control characters at the bottom

vi file.txt

edit a file using vi or vim - :wq to save and quit

<https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/unix-vi-editor.htm>

MobaXTerm

edit files on Windows system and sync with Linux system

## Downloading and Uncompressing Files

wget <http://www.hpc-carpentry.org/hpc-shell/files/bash-lesson.tar.gz>  
curl -O <http://www.hpc-carpentry.org/hpc-shell/files/bash-lesson.tar.gz>  
tar -xvzf bash-lesson.tar.gz decompress and expand the archive  
gzip/gunzip compress/expand data with .gz suffix  
compress/uncompress compress/expand data with .Z suffix  
zip/unzip compress/expand data with .zip suffix  
scp file.txt username@hpc.edu use scp to transfer files from local system to Linux system

## Displaying File Contents

cat/more/less file.txt display the contents of a file to the terminal  
head/tail -1 file.txt display the first/last line of the file  
wc -l file.txt count the number of lines (-l), words (-w) or characters (-c)

## Wildcards

(test wildcards with **ls -l** first to make sure you are choosing the desired files)

wildcard \* matches any number of type of characters (anything)  
wildcard ? matches any single character  
wildcard [a-e,w,z] matches any single character to a list or range  
ls -l \*\_1.fastq will list all files ending with **\_1.fastq**  
wc -l S\*[89]\_?.fastq count lines in files with 8 or 9 before the underscore  
grep Act5 dmel-all\* display only lines with Act5 in them

## Redirecting Output

echo "Hello there" echo a string to the terminal  
echo "Hello there" > file.txt > will redirect the stdout output to a file  
host=`hostname` run **hostname** and store in variable **\$host**  
echo "from \$host" >> file.txt >> to append, **2>** for stderr, **&>** for both  
grep Act5 dmel-all\* | wc -l pipes link output of one command to input of the next

[https://www.gnu.org/software/bash/manual/html\\_node/Bash-Features.html](https://www.gnu.org/software/bash/manual/html_node/Bash-Features.html)  
<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/bash-scripting-for-loop/>

## Writing Bash Scripts

<code>#!/bin/bash</code>	in the first line it defines what shell the script will run in
<code>chmod u+x script.sh</code>	follow by any other linux commands applications to run
<code>ls -l</code>	<b>add user execute permission</b> to the bash script if needed
<code>./script.sh</code>	shows read, write, execute permissions for user, group, others
	<b>run a script</b> from the current directory
<code>file=genome.fastq</code>	<b>set the variable <i>file</i></b> to the <b><i>genome.fastq</i></b> name
<code>wc -l \$file</code>	use the variable <b><i>\$file</i></b>
<code>echo "\$file"</code>	double quoted variables are evaluated, not within single quotes

## Bash Loops

<code>files=\$(ls *.fastq)</code>	get a list of .fastq files
<code>for file in \$files</code>	set variable file successively to 3 different names
<code>do</code>	
<code>wc -l \$file</code>	word count each file
<code>done</code>	

## Bash Conditionals

<code>if [[ \$num -eq 1 ]]</code>	numbers	<code>-eq -ne -lt -le -gt -ge</code>
<code>then</code>	string comparisons	<code>-z (empty) -n (not empty)</code>
<code>echo "it was 1"</code>		<code>== (equal) != (not equal)</code>
<code>elif [[ \$num -ne 0 ]]</code>	files	<code>-e (exists) -d (directory)</code>
<code>then</code>		
<code>echo \$num</code>		
<code>else</code>		
<code>echo "It was 0"</code>		
<code>fi</code>		

## Example bash script

```
#!/bin/bash -l
# shebang line identifying the shell type 'bash'
# Other lines starting with '#' are comments

# Examples of setting variables (they don't need to be all caps)
HOST=$(hostname)    # execute the 'hostname' command and put results in HOST
NCORES=$(getconf _NPROCESSORS_ONLN)

# Try using the variable.
# Use double quotes here as variables are not interpreted inside single quotes
echo "The host name is $HOST and has $NCORES cores"

# Create a simple loop to echo the files in the current directory
for FILE in $(ls)
do
    echo "File $FILE is in this directory"
done

# Use a C-like loop to set the index I from 1 to 5
for (( i=1; i<=5; i++ ))
do
    echo "Index I is $i"
done

# Check for a specific file and echo an error if it isn't there
if [ -f /homes/daveturner/myfile.txt ]
then
    echo "File myfile.txt exists in /homes/daveturner"
else
    echo "myfile.txt was not found in /homes/daveturner"
fi
```