04 – The Find command, editing, and scripting

CS 2043: Unix Tools and Scripting, Spring 2019 [1]

Matthew Milano
January 30, 2019
Cornell University
1. As always: Everybody! ssh to wash.cs.cornell.edu

2. Quiz time! Everybody! run quiz-01-30-19

3. The **find** Command

4. Scripting

5. Text Editors

6. Let’s Git Started
As always: Everybody! ssh to wash.cs.cornell.edu
Quiz time! Everybody! run quiz-01-30-19
The **find** Command
If you Leave this Class with Anything...

• Quite possibly the most underrated tool for your terminal:
  • **find**: searching for files / directories by name or attributes.
Search for Files in a Directory Hierarchy

```
find [where to look] criteria [what to do]
```

- Used to locate files or directories.
- Search any set of directories for files that match a criteria.
- Search by name, owner, group, type, permissions, last modification date, and more.
  - Search is recursive (will search all subdirectories too).
    - Sometimes you may need to limit the depth.
- Comprehensive & flexible. Too many options for one slide.
Some Useful Find Options

- **-name**: name of file or directory to look for.
- **-maxdepth** num: search at most num levels of directories.
- **-mindepth** num: search at least num levels of directories.
- **-amin** n: file last access was n minutes ago.
- **-atime** n: file last access was n days ago.
- **-group** name: file belongs to group name.
- **-path** pattern: file name matches shell pattern pattern.
- **-perm** mode: file permission bits are set to mode.

Of course...a lot more in man find.
Some Details

• This command is extremely powerful...but can be a little verbose (both the output, and what you type to execute it). That’s normal.
• Modifiers for **find** are evaluated in conjunction (a.k.a AND).
• Can condition your arguments with an OR using the -o flag.
  • Must be done *for each* modifier you want to be an OR.
• Can execute command on found files / directories by using the **-exec** modifier, and **find** will execute the command for you.
  • The variable name is `{}`.
  • You have to end the command with either a
    • Semicolon (;): execute command *on each* result as you find them.
    • Plus (+): find all results first, *then* execute command.
  • Warning: have to escape them, e.g. \; and \+
  • The ; and + are shell expansion characters!
Basic Examples

Find all files accessed at most 10 minutes ago

```
find . -amin -10
```

Find all files accessed at least 10 minutes ago

```
find . -amin +10
```

Comparing AND vs OR behavior

```
find . -type f -readable -executable
- All files that are readable and executable.
find . -type f -readable -o -executable
- All files that are readable or executable.
```

Display all the contents of files accessed in the last 10 minutes

```
find . -amin -10 -exec cat {} \+
```

On a Mac and ended up with `.DS_Store` Everywhere?

```
find . -name ".DS_Store" -exec rm -f {} \;
- Could be ; or + since rm allows multiple arguments.
```
Solve maze in one line

Maze in 2 seconds

```
find / -iname victory -exec handin maze {{} } \\
```

• imagine how much more complicated maze could get in the real world...
More Involved Example

- Your boss asks you to backup all the logs and send them along.
- Combining some of the things we have learned so far (also zip)

```bash
# Become `root` since `/var/log` is protected:
$ sudo su
<enter password for your user>
# Make a containment directory to copy things to
$ mkdir ~/log_bku
# `find` and copy the files over in one go
$ find /var/log -name "*.log" -exec cp {} ~/log_bku/ \;
# The `cp` executed as `root`, so we cannot read them.
$ chown -R mpm288 ~/log_bku  # My netID is mpm288
# Give the folder to yourself.
$ mv ~/log_bku /home/mpm288/
# Become your user again
$ exit
# Zip it up and send to your boss
$ zip -r log_bku.zip ~/log_bku
```
• Don’t have to be root: **sudo find** was too long for slides.
  1. Make the directory `<dir>` as normal user.
  2. **sudo find** ... `-exec cp {} <dir> \;`
  3. **sudo chown** `-R <you> <dir>`
  4. **zip** `-r <dir>.zip <dir>`

• **Cannot** use `\+` instead of `\;` in this scenario:
  • Suppose you found `/var/log/a.log` and `/var/log/b.log`.
  • Executing with `\; (-exec as you find):
    1. cp `/var/log/a.log` `~/log_bku/`
    2. cp `/var/log/b.log` `~/log_bku/`
  • Executing with `\+ (find all first, then -exec once):
    • cp `/var/log/a.log` `/var/log/b.log` `~/log_bku/`
    • cp gets mad: you gave three arguments
Scripting
What is a Script?

• The high-level story is: nothing special.
  • Just a sequence of operations being performed.
  • Runs from top to bottom.

• Common practice:
  • Executable filetype.
  • Shebang.
Bash Scripting at a Glance

- The shebang `#!/bin/bash` is the interpreter
- Run a command or two!
- Always test your scripts!

```bash
#!/bin/bash
#this is a comment. Maze solution script!
find / -iname victory -exec handin maze {} \+
```

```python
#!/usr/bin/python3
print('hello there friend');
```
Some execution details

- Run your scripts by providing a *qualified path* to them.
  - path must start with a folder
  - Current directory? use `./scriptname`
  - somewhere else? specify the path to your script

- Scripts execute from top to bottom.
- This is just like Python, for those of you who know it already.
- Bad code? you may only realize it when (and if) the script reaches that line
- The script starts at the top of the file.
- Execution continues down until the bottom (or *exit* called).
  - Broken statement? It still keeps executing the subsequent lines.
Text Editors
There is a great and ancient war among the *NIXfolk ... long has it raged, and ever shall it burn.

To use VIM, or to use emacs?

I will (try to) teach both.

But the easiest editor is nano

**NANO:** the OG notepad

**VIM:** *mode*-based editor

**EMACS:** *hotkey*-based editor
Your friend Nano

Edit files like it's 1989

nano file

---

GNU nano 2.9.8
markdown source/04 Find and scripting.md

[/info]

# Text Editors

## Nano, and VIM vs Emacs

- There is a great and ancient war among the *NIXfolk ... long has it raged, and ever shall it burn.
- To use VIM, or to use emacs?
- I will (try to) teach both.
- But the easiest editor is nano
  - **NANO:** the OG notepad
  - **VIM:** *mode*-based editor
  - **EMACS:** *hotkey*-based editor

## Your friend Nano

[cmd=('nano')] Edit files like it's 1989

[/cmd]

![Nano Screenshot](img/04_nano_screenshot.png)

## What is VIM?

- VIM is a powerful "lightweight" text editor.
- VIM actually stands for "VI IMPorved".
  - 'vi' is the predecessor, and mostly works the same.
  - If you end up on a system that does not have 'vim', I would be shocked if 'vi'
    was not there.
- VIM can be installed on pretty much every OS these days.
- Allows you to edit things quickly....
  - ...after the initial learning curve.

---

Figure 1: Nano Screenshot
What is VIM?

- VIM is a powerful “lightweight” text editor.
- VIM actually stands for “Vi IMporoved”.
  - vi is the predecessor, and mostly works the same.
  - If you end up on a system that does not have vim, try vi.
    - if no vi, try nano
- VIM can be installed on pretty much every OS these days.
- Allows you to edit things quickly...
  - ...after the initial learning curve.
The 3 Main Modes of VIM

• Normal Mode:
  • Launching pad to issue commands or go into other modes.
  • Can view the text, but not edit it directly (only through commands).
  • Return to normal mode from other modes: press ESCAPE

• Visual Mode:
  • Used to highlight text and perform block operations.
  • Enter visual mode from normal mode: press v
    • Visual Line: \texttt{shift+v}
    • Visual Block: \texttt{ctrl+v}
      • Explanation: try them out, move your cursor around...you’ll see it.

• Insert Mode:
  • Used to type text into the buffer (file).
  • Like any regular text-editor you’ve seen before.
  • Enter from normal mode: press \texttt{i}
Moving Around VIM

• Most of the time, you can scroll with your mouse / trackpad.
• You can also use your arrow keys.
• VIM shortcuts exist to avoid moving your hands at all. Use
  • h to go left.
  • j to go down.
  • k to go up.
  • l to go right.

• Hardcore VIM folk usually map left caps-lock to be ESCAPE.
  • Goal: avoid moving your wrists at all costs. Arrows are so far!
  • I don’t do this. I also don’t use VIM.
## Useful Commands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>:help</code></td>
<td>help menu, e.g. specify <code>:help v</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:u</code></td>
<td>undo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:q</code></td>
<td>exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:q!</code></td>
<td>exit without saving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:e [filename]</code></td>
<td>open a different file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:syntax [on/off]</code></td>
<td>enable / disable syntax highlighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:set number</code></td>
<td>turn line numbering on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:set nonumber</code></td>
<td>turn numbering off (e.g. to copy paste)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:set spell</code></td>
<td>turn spell checking on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:set nospell</code></td>
<td>turn spell checking off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:sp</code></td>
<td>split screen horizontally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:vsp</code></td>
<td>split screen vertically</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;ctrl+w&gt; &lt;w&gt;</code></td>
<td>rotate between split regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:w</code></td>
<td>save file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>:wq</code></td>
<td>save file and exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;shift&gt;+&lt;z&gt;&lt;z&gt;</code></td>
<td>alias for <code>:wq</code> (hold shift and hit z twice)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WOW How about no. let’s see Emacs

• Basic editing works like notepad (except no mouse)
• No switching between modes to edit/search/save/etc.
• Emacs can also be installed on pretty much every OS.
• Allows you to edit things *moderately* quickly...
  • ...and keeps getting faster as you learn it
Emacs modes

An editor, also from 1976.

emacs file

- Based on file and action type
  - Java file detected? IDE mode engaged!
  - Plain file detected? Basic edit mode engaged!
  - LaTeX file detected? TeXstudio mode!
- Shortcuts and actions mostly independent of mode
  - But modes hide a lot of power...
  - Sometimes accused of being a whole OS.
Moving around and basic editing:

- move by character? Use the arrow keys!
- move by word? Hold control and use the left/right arrow keys!
- move by paragraph? Hold control and use the up/down arrow keys!
- Saving: hold CTRL, press X then S (all while holding control)
- Closing: hold CTRL, press X then C (all while holding control)
- Convention: C-x means “hold control, press x”
  - C-x C-s means “press x and s, all while holding control”
- These editors predate “normal” shortcuts!
## Useful Shortcuts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shortcut</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C-x C-f</td>
<td>Open a file for editing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-x C-s</td>
<td>Save the current file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-x C-c</td>
<td>exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-x b</td>
<td>change to a different open file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-space</td>
<td>Start highlighting (marking) a region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-w</td>
<td>Cut the code in the highlighted region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt-w</td>
<td>Copy the code in the highlighted region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-g</td>
<td>Quit (cancel command, “escape”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-y</td>
<td>paste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-s</td>
<td>search (find)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape-x</td>
<td>Enter a command by name (C-g to quit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-x k</td>
<td>close a file (it will ask) (emacs stays open)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape-$</td>
<td>spellcheck the word under the cursor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape-x ispell</td>
<td>spellcheck the highlighted region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape-x help</td>
<td>Get just a lot of help information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape-x &lt;tab&gt;</td>
<td>List ALL THINGS EMACS CAN DO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What editor to choose?

Classical learning curves for some common editors

Figure 2: Editor Learning Curves
Let’s Git Started
What is git?

- **git** is a *decentralized* version control system.
- Like “historic versions” for DropBox/OneDrive
- Except far more advanced, and more streamlined
- It enables you to save changes as you go to your code.
  - As you make these changes, if at any point in time you discover your code is “broken”, you can *revert* back in time!
  - Of course, if you haven’t been “saving” frequently, you have less to work with.
  - Mantra: *commit* early and often.
- Can also *share* your code with friends!!
  - Can work on same version, or...
  - can “go back in time” to latest working one!
  - You will have trouble – we all do.
The Stupid Content Tracker

```
git [--version] [--help] [-C <path>] [-c <name>=<value>]
    [--exec-path=<path>] [--html-path] [--man-path]
    [--info-path] [-p|--paginate|--no-pager]
    [--no-replace-objects] [--bare] [--git-dir=<path>]
    [--work-tree=<path>] [--namespace=<name>]
<command> [<args>]
```

- Do **not** expect to learn **git** once and be done.
- You will learn it steadily, over time. The sooner you start, the better off you will be in your development career.

- **Git is not just for CS Majors.**
  - It is for *anybody* working with any code.
**git Terminology**

- The tracked folder is called a *repository (repo)*
- You `git init .` to create repository “here”
- To *track* a file in a repository, you `git add <filename>`
- The act of “saving” is *commit*, and needs a message
  - to commit all tracked files,
    `git commit -a -m 'your message here'`
- To copy a repository, you `git clone` it
- To work with friends, you need to
  - `git clone` their (or a common) repository
  - `git pull /other/repo/path` their changes
- if you edited the same file, you get a *conflict*
  - if you have uncommitted changes, you can’t pull
Teaser: Example Scenario

• Suppose you (A), and your best friend B are working in the same repo.
• You init the repository and make a commit; your friend then clones from you
• A and B both edit the same file and commit the edits
• A pulls, and discovers the conflict! You resolve it, but..
• B pulls, and discovers another one!
• Basically, git can get complicated quickly. Nothing replaces actual communication!
Demo Time! Everybody!

```bash
git clone /course/cs2043/demos/git-demo cd git-demo

git pull /course/cs2043/demos/git-demo

nano demo-file

git commit -a -m 'mucking with the demo'

git pull /course/cs2043/demos/git-demo
```
References

[1] Stephen McDowell, Bruno Abrahao, Hussam Abu-Libdeh, Nicolas Savva, David Slater, and others over the years. “Previous Cornell CS 2043 Course Slides”.