



Network Monitoring & Management

A few Linux basics

Our chosen platform

Ubuntu Linux 10.04 LTS 32-bit

- LTS = Long Term Support
- no GUI, we administer using ssh
- Ubuntu is Debian underneath
- In the real world choose 64-bit edition
- There are other platforms you could use:
 - CentOS / RedHat, FreeBSD, ...
- This isn't a UNIX admin course
 - Worksheets are mostly step-by-step
 - Please help each other or ask us for help



You need to be able to....

Login to your virtual machine using ssh

- On Windows use putty.exe
- Connect to pcX as user *sysadm*
- **Be *root* when necessary:** `sudo <cmd>`
- **Install packages**
 - `sudo apt-get install <pkg>`
- **Edit files**
 - `sudo joe /etc/mailname`
 - `sudo vi /etc/mailname`

joe editor

- Ctrl-C quit without saving
- Ctrl-K X to quit and save
- Cursors work as you expect
- We provide a PDF reference in the materials

vi editor

- The default editor for all UNIX and Linux distributions
- Can be difficult to use
- If you know it and prefer to use vi please do
- We provide a PDF reference in the materials

Other tools

- Terminate foreground program:
 - `ctrl-c`
- Browse the filesystem:
 - `cd /etc`
 - `ls`
 - `ls -l`
- Rename and delete files
 - `mv file file.bak`
 - `rm file.bak`

Starting and stopping services

Standard method

- `/etc/init.d/apache2 restart`

New method

- `service apache2 restart`

Check for the process

- `ps auxwww | grep apache`

Viewing files

Sometimes files are viewed through a pager program (“more”, “less”, “cat”). Example:

- `man sudo`
- Space bar for next page
- “b” to go backwards
- “q” to quit
- “/” and a pattern (/text) to search

To get started

1. Login to your virtual server using ssh
2. Install the “joe” editor package
 - `sudo apt-get update`
 - `sudo apt-get install joe`
3. Edit the “mailname” file and update the entry to match your virtual machine’s name:
 - `sudo joe /etc/mailname`
(Or use your favorite editor (vi, pico, etc.). Change “gold.ws.nsrc.org” to “pcX.ws.nsrc.org”)
4. Save and quit from the file. (*ctrl-K-H* for Help)
5. Restart the mailserver:
 - `sudo service postfix restart`

Troubleshooting: Your logs

- Log files are critical to solve problems. They reside (largely) in `/var/log/`
- Some popular log files include:
 - `/var/log/messages`
 - `/var/log/apache2/error.log`
 - `/var/log/mail.log`
 - And, many, many more
- To view the last entry in a log file:
 - `tail /var/log/messages`
- To view new entries as they happen:
 - `tail -f /var/log/messages`