

# Unix System Programming

## Files



# Outline

## Last Week:

- UNIX history/interface
- The PC revolution
- UNIX overview - process, shell, file
  - » system calls vs library routines
- Basic file I/O - open(), close(), read(), write(), lseek()
- Standard file I/O library - fopen(), fclose(), ...

## This Week:

- UNIX history - more on the key players
- Efficiency read/write
- The File
- File pointer
- File control/access

## UNIX Key Players/Time Line

- 1969 Ken Thompson (Unix OS) - ARPANET
- 1971 Dennis Ritchie creates "C" language (1973 UNIX-C)
- 1977 Bill Joy (BSD released, TCP/IP-1980, open source, Internet backbone, Sun Microsystem in 1982 - NFS)
- 1984 Richard Stallman (RMS, emacs, GPL, GNU, HURD-91)
- 1985 Steve Jobs (NeXT-Mach, Mac OS X - 2001)
- 1985 Avie Tevanian (CMU/Mach)
- 1991 Linus Torvalds (Linux, based on Minix-Tannenbaum)



## read/write and efficiency

- Evaluated by copyfile that reads from one file and writes to another:

```
while( nread = read( infile, buffer, BUFSIZE )
      if( write( outfile, buffer, nread ) < nread )
        close_return( outfile, infile );
```

- Time Command
  - » Granularity is a factor (50, 60, 100 ticks per second)
  - » User time (not system call)
  - » System time (kernel time, e.g. performing read() and writes())
  - » Real time (elapsed time from start to completion)
- What is an appropriate BUFSIZE?
  - » 1 byte?
  - » 512 bytes?
  - » 1000 bytes?

## read/write and efficiency (cont)

- 68,307 byte file on computer running SVR 4 UNIX with block size 512

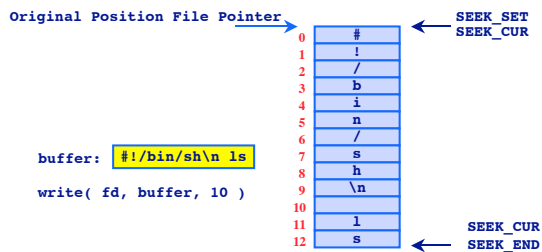
BUFSIZE	Real Time	User Time	System Time
1	24.49	3.13	21.16
64	0.46	0.12	0.33
512	0.12	0.02	0.08
4096	0.07	0.00	0.05
8192	0.07	0.01	0.05

- 1 byte at a time bad performance
- Best performance when BUFSIZE is a multiple of block size
  - » Less system calls, reduces context switches

## File Pointer

- Both read() and write() changes the file pointer.
- The pointer is incremented by exactly the number of bytes read or written.
- lseek() - repositions the file pointer for direct access to any part of the file

## write() - File Pointer

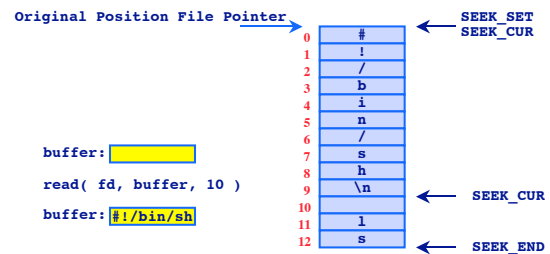


- Output file descriptor traditional 1 for standard output, better to use constants defined in `<unistd.h>` : `STDOUT_FILENO`.

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## read() - File Pointer



- Output file descriptor traditional 0 for standard output, better to use constants defined in `<unistd.h>` : `STDIN_FILENO`.
- Recall: Returns -1 on error, 0 end of file, or #bytes read

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## lseek()

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>
long lseek( int fd, off_t offset, int whence );
```

- Repositions the offset of the file descriptor `fd` to argument `offset`.
- Whence constants:
  - » `SEEK_SET` (usually 0)
    - The file pointer is set to `offset` bytes from beginning of file (default 0)
  - » `SEEK_CUR` (usually 1)
    - The file pointer is set to its current location plus `offset` bytes (default 1, may be negative).
  - » `SEEK_END` (usually 2)
    - The file pointer is set to the size of the file plus `offset` bytes.
- The return value is the new value of the pointer if the routine has executed successfully (`offset` of 0 returns current value of pointer, -1 indicates an error, negative offsets possible for non-regular files)

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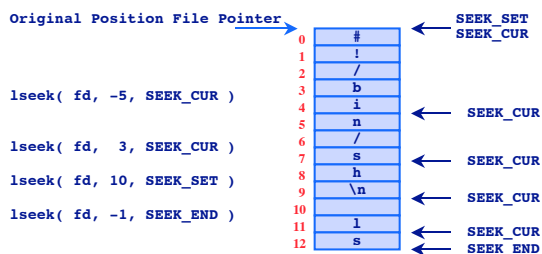
## lseek: Simple Examples

- Random access
  - » `Jump to any byte in a file`
- Move to byte #16
  - » `newpos = lseek( file_descriptor, 16, SEEK_SET );`
- Move forward 4 bytes
  - » `newpos = lseek( file_descriptor, 4, SEEK_CUR );`
- Move to 8 bytes from the end
  - » `newpos = lseek( file_descriptor, -8, SEEK_END );`

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## lseek - Examples

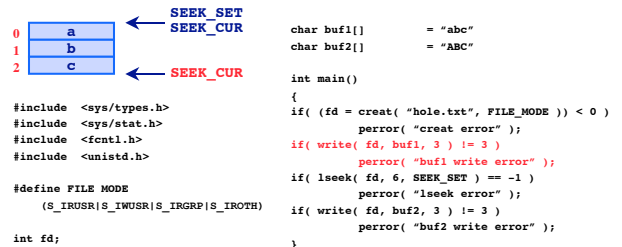


- `lseek( fd, (off_t) -1, SEEK_END ) - 1` bytes before the end of file
- OK to specify a position beyond the end of a file - next write creates a hole
- Not OK to specify a position before the beginning of the file

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## lseek - Hole (1)



- OK to specify a position beyond the end of a file - next write creates a hole
- Not OK to specify a position before the beginning of the file

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## Iseek - Hole (2)

```

0 | a | ← SEEK_SET
1 | b |
2 | c | ← SEEK_CUR
3 |   |
4 |   | ← SEEK_CUR
5 |   |
char buf1[] = "abc"
char buf2[] = "ABC"

int main()
{
  if( (fd = creat( "hole.txt", FILE_MODE )) < 0 )
    err_sys( "creat error" );
  if( write( fd, buf1, 3 ) != 3 )
    err_sys( "buf1 write error" );
  if( lseek( fd, 6, SEEK_SET ) == -1 )
    err_sys( "lseek error" );
  if( write( fd, buf2, 3 ) != 3 )
    err_sys( "buf2 write error" );
}

```

- OK to specify a position *beyond* the end of a file - next write creates a hole
- Not OK to specify a position *before* the beginning of the file

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## Iseek - Hole (3)

```

0 | a | ← SEEK_SET
1 | b |
2 | c |
3 | \0 |
4 | \0 |
5 | \0 |
6 | A | ← SEEK_CUR
7 | B | ← SEEK_CUR
8 | C |
char buf1[] = "abc"
char buf2[] = "ABC"

int main()
{
  if( (fd = creat( "hole.txt", FILE_MODE )) < 0 )
    err_sys( "creat error" );
  if( write( fd, buf1, 3 ) != 3 )
    err_sys( "buf1 write error" );
  if( lseek( fd, 6, SEEK_SET ) == -1 )
    err_sys( "lseek error" );
  if( write( fd, buf2, 3 ) != 3 )
    err_sys( "buf2 write error" );
}

{cinnamon:ingrid:35} od -c hole.txt
0000000 a b c \0 \0 \0 A B C
0000011

```

- subsequent write cause file to be extended
- All bytes that have not been written are read back as 0.

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## File Control - via fcntl()

```

#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

int fcntl( int fd, int cmd );
int fcntl( int fd, int cmd, long arg );
int fcntl( int fd, int cmd, struct lock *ldata )

```

- Performs operations on an open file, pertaining to the *fd*, the file descriptor
- Performs a variety of functions instead of having a single well-defined role
- Possible values of *cmd* is listed in `fcntl.h`
- Third parameter and its type depends on *cmd*

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## fcntl: cmd – get/set file status flags

- **F\_GETFL**
  - › Returns the current file status flags as set by `open()`.
  - › Access mode can be extracted from AND'ing the return value
    - `return_value & O_ACCMODE`
    - e.g. `O_RDONLY`
- **F\_SETFL**
  - › Sets the file status flags associated with *fd*.
  - › Only `O_APPEND`, `O_NONBLOCK` and `O_ASYNC` may be set.
  - › Other flags are unaffected

File Status Flag	Description
<code>O_RDONLY</code>	open for reading only
<code>O_WRONLY</code>	open for writing only
<code>O_RDWR</code>	open for read & write
<code>O_APPEND</code>	append on each write
<code>O_NONBLOCK</code>	Non blocking mode
<code>O_SYNC</code>	wait for writes to finish
<code>O_ASYNC</code>	asynchronous I/O

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## fcntl: cmd – get/set file status flags

- Example: takes a single command line argument that specifies a file descriptor and prints out a descriptor of the file flags for that descriptor
 

```

{saffron} a.out 0 # stdin file descriptor
read only
{saffron} a.out 1 # stdout file descriptor
write only
{saffron} a.out 2 # stderr file descriptor
read write

```

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## Example 1: fcntl - F\_GETFL

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

int main( int argc, char *argv[] )
{
  int accmode, val;

  if( argc != 2 )
  {
    fprintf( stderr, "usage: a.out <descriptor#> " );
    exit(1);
  }

  if( (val = fcntl( atoi(argv[1]), F_GETFL, 0 )) < 0 )
  {
    perror( "fcntl error for fd" );
    exit( 1 );
  }

  accmode = val & O_ACCMODE;

```

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## fcntl - FGET\_FL & FSET\_FL

```
if( accmode == O_RDONLY )
    printf( "read only" );
else if( accmode == O_WRONLY )
    printf( "write only" );
else if( accmode == O_RDWR )
    printf( "read write" );
else
    {
        fprintf( stderr, "unknown access mode" );
        exit(1);
    }

if( val & O_APPEND )
    printf( ", append" );
if( val & O_NONBLOCK )
    printf( ", nonblocking" );
if( val & O_SYNC )
    printf( ", synchronous writes" );
putchar( '\n' );
exit(0);
}
```

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```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

/* flags are file status flags to turn on */
void set_fl( int fd, int flags )
{
    int val;

    if( (val = fcntl( fd, F_GETFL, 0 )) < 0 )
        {
            perror( "fcntl F_GETFL error" );
            exit( 1 );
        }
    val |= flags; /* turn on flags */
    if( fcntl( fd, F_SETFL, val ) < 0 )
        {
            perror( "fcntl F_SETFL error" );
            exit( 1 );
        }
}
```

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## errno and perror()

- Unix provides a globally accessible integer variable that contains an error code number
- Error variable: `errno` – `errno.h`
- `perror( " a string " )`: a library routine, not a system call

```
{atlas} more /usr/include/sys/*errno.h
.
.
.
#define EPERM          1 /* Operation not permitted */
#define ENOENT         2 /* No such file or directory */
#define ESRCH          3 /* No such process */
#define EINTR          4 /* Interrupted system call */
#define EIO            5 /* I/O error */
#define ENXIO          6 /* No such device or address */
.
.
.
```

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```
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    extern int errno;
    int fd;

    /* open file "ugh" for reading */
    if( fd = open( "ughugh", O_RDONLY ) == -1 )
        {
            fprintf( stderr, "Error %d\n", errno );
            perror( "ugh" );
        }
    /* end main */

{saffron:ingrid:57} gcc ugga.c -o ugga
{saffron:ingrid:57} ls
ugga ugga.c
{saffron:ingrid:57} ./ugga
Error 2
ugh: No such file or directory
```

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## The Standard IO Library

- `fopen`,
- `fclose`,
- `printf`, `fprintf`, `sprintf`, `scanf`, `fscanf`, `getc`, `putc`, `gets`, `fgets`, etc.
- `#include <stdio.h>`

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## Why use read()/write()

- Maximal performance
  - » IF you know exactly what you are doing
  - » No additional hidden overhead from `stdio`
- Control exactly what is written/read at what times

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## File Concept - An Abstract Data Type

- File Types
- File Operations
- File Attributes
- Internal File Structure

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## File Types

- Regular files (text or binary)
- Directory files (names and pointers of files)
- Character special files (used by certain devices)
- Block special files (typically disk devices)
- FIFOs (used for interprocess communication)
- Sockets (usually for network communication)
- Symbolic Links (points to another file)

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## File Mix on a Typical System

● <u>File Type</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
regular file	30,369	91.7%
directory	1,901	5.7
symbolic link	416	1.3
char special	373	1.1
block special	61	0.2
socket	5	0.0
FIFO	1	0.0

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## File Operations

- Creating a file
- Writing a file
- Reading a file
- Repositioning within a file
- Deleting a file
- Truncating a file

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## Files Attributes: Meta-Data

### System information on disk associated with each file:

- Name – only information kept in human-readable form.
- Type – needed for systems that support different types.
- Location – pointer to file location on device/disk.
- Size – current file size.
- Protection bits – controls who can do reading, writing, executing.
- Time, date, and user identification – data for protection, security, and usage monitoring.
- Special file?
  - » Directory, Symbolic link, ...
  - » Information about files are kept in the **directory structure**, which is maintained on the disk (later)

```
{atlas:maria:143} ls -lig ch11.ppt
231343 -rw-r--r-- 1 profs 815616 Nov 4 2002 ch11.ppt
```

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## Obtaining File Information

Great for analyzing files.

- `stat()`, `fstat()`, `lstat()`
- Retrieve all sorts of information about a file
  - » Which device it is stored on
  - » Don't need access right to the file, but need search rights to directories in path leading to file
  - » Information:
    - Ownership/Permissions of that file,
    - Number of links
    - Size of the file
    - Date/Time of last modification and access
    - Ideal block size for I/O to this file

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## stat, fstat, lstat

```
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int stat( const char *file_name, struct stat *buf );
int fstat( int fd, struct stat *buf );
int lstat( const char *file_name, struct stat *buf );
```

- `stat( )`, `fstat( )`
  - » Stats the file pointed to by `file_name` or by `fd` and fills in `buf`.
- `lstat( )`
  - » Same as `stat( )` except that the symbolic link is stated itself (i.e. do not follow the link).

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## struct stat

```
struct stat
{
    dev_t    st_dev;        /* device num.          */
    dev_t    st_rdev;       /* device # special files */
    ino_t    st_ino;        /* i-node num.          */
    mode_t   st_mode;       /* file type, perms     */
    nlink_t  st_nlink;      /* num. of links        */
    uid_t    st_uid;       /* uid of owner         */
    gid_t    st_gid;       /* group-id of owner    */
    off_t    st_size;      /* size in bytes        */
    time_t   st_atime;     /* last access time     */
    time_t   st_mtime;     /* last mod. time       */
    time_t   st_ctime;     /* last stat chg time   */
    long     st_blksize;   /* best I/O block size  */
    long     st_blocks;    /* # of 512 blocks used */
}
```

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## st\_dev & st\_rdev

- `st_dev` holds the device number of the *file system* where the file is located:
  - » usually a hard disk
- `st_rdev` holds the device number for a *special file*.
  - » A special file is used to describe a device (peripheral) attached to the machine:
  - » CD drives, keyboard, hard disk, microphone, etc.
  - » Special files are usually stored in `/dev`

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## st\_mode

- File types (regular file, directory, socket, ...)
- File permissions

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## st\_mode: Getting the Type Information

- AND the `st_mode` field with `S_IFMT` to get the type bits.
- then test the result against:
  - » `S_IFREG` Regular file
  - » `S_IFDIR` Directory
  - » `S_IFSOCK` Socket
  - » etc.

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## Example

```
struct stat sbuf;
:
if( stat( file, &sbuf ) == 0
    if( ( sbuf.st_mode & S_IFMT ) == S_IFDIR )
        printf( "A directory\n" );
```

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## Type Info. Macros

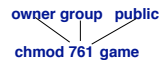
- Modern UNIX systems include test macros in `<sys/stat.h>` and `<linux/stat.h>`:

» <code>S_ISREG()</code>	regular file
» <code>S_ISDIR()</code>	directory file
» <code>S_ISCHR()</code>	char. special file
» <code>S_ISBLK()</code>	block special file
» <code>S_ISFIFO()</code>	pipe or FIFO
» <code>S_ISLNK()</code>	symbolic link
» <code>S_ISSOCK()</code>	socket

## Type Info. Macros: Example

```
struct stat sbuf;
:
if( stat(file, &sbuf) == 0 )
{
if( S_ISREG( sbuf.st_mode ) )
printf( "A regular file\n" );
else if( S_ISDIR(sbuf.st_mode) )
printf( "A directory\n" );
else ...
}
```

## st\_mode: Permission Code



- Determines **who** can access and manipulate a directory or file
  - Mode of access:** read, write, execute
  - Three classes of users (3 fields of 3 bits each)

a) owner access	7	⇒	RWX	1 1 1
b) group access	6	⇒	1 1 0	
c) public access	1	⇒	0 0 1	
- `drw-r-r---` maria profs 512 May 15 22:15 hello.txt
- Group contains a set of users

```
chgrp mgroup game
```

## chmod shell command

`chmod [-options] modes file/directory`

- options ⇒ option: -R

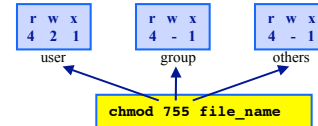
- modes:

» Who?	u g o a
» Operator?	= + -
» Permissions?	r w x

Example:

`chmod u=rwx,g+w,o-w maria.txt`

- Octal - one octal per user, representing 3 bit positions



## chmod and fchmod

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>

int chmod( const char *path, mode_t mode );
int fchmod( int fd, mode_t mode );
```

- Change permissions of a file.
- The mode of the file given by `path` or referenced by `fd` is changed.
- `mode` is specified by OR'ing the following.
  - `S_ISUID`, `S_ISGID`, `S_ISVTX`, `S_{{R,W,X}}{USR,GRP,OTH}`
- Effective uid of the process must be zero (**superuser**) or must **match the owner** of the file.
- On success, zero is returned. On error, -1 is returned

## chmod example

- Modify permission on files foo and bar

```
{atlas} ls -l foo bar
-rw----- 1 maria    0 Nov 15   15:43 bar
-rw-rw-rw- 1 maria    0 Nov 15   15:43 foo
```

- So that new state is

```
{atlas} ls -l foo bar
-rw-r--r-- 1 maria    0 Nov 15   15:43 bar
-rw-rwlrw- 1 maria    0 Nov 15   15:43 foo
```

- Group execute is listed as 'l' to signal mandatory locking

## Example: chmod()

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>

int main(void)
{
    struct stat statbuf;

    /* turn on set-group-ID and turn off group-execute */
    if( stat("foo", &statbuf) < 0 )
    {
        perror("stat error for foo" );
        exit(1);
    }
    if( chmod("foo", (statbuf.st_mode & ~S_IXGRP) | S_ISGID) < 0 )
    {
        perror("chmod error for foo");
        exit(1);
    }
}
```

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```
/* set absolute mode to "rw-r--r--" */
if( chmod("bar", S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR|S_IRGRP|S_IROTH) < 0 )
{
    perror("chmod error for bar");
    exit(1);
}
exit(0);
}
```

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## chown, fchown, lchown

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>
int chown( const char *path, uid_t owner, gid_t group );
int fchown( int fd, uid_t owner, gid_t group );
int lchown( const char *path, uid_t owner, gid_t group );
```

- Change user ID of a file and the group ID of a file.
- Only the superuser may change the owner of a file.
- The owner of a file may change the group of the file to any group of which that owner is a member.
- When the owner or group of an executable file are changed by a non-superuser, the S\_ISUID and S\_ISGID mode bits are *cleared*.

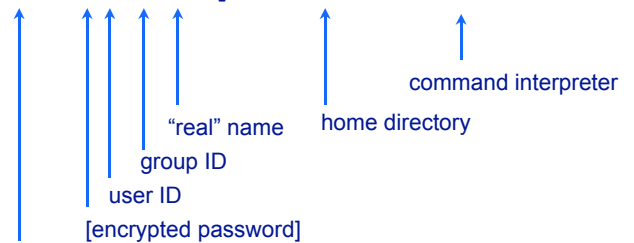
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## st\_uid: Users and Ownership: /etc/passwd

- Every file is owned by one of the system's users – identity is represented by the **user-id (UID) of owner (st\_uid in stat)**
- Password file associated UID with system users.

```
maria:x:65:20:M. Hybinette:/home/maria:/bin/ksh
```



login name

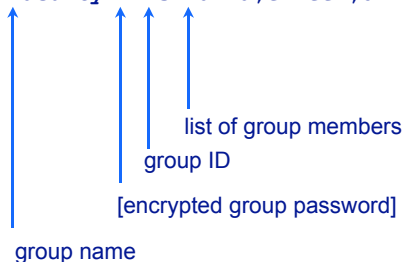
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## /etc/group

- Information about system groups

```
faculty:x:23:maria,eileen,dkl
```



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## Real uids

- The uid of the user who *started* the program is used as its *real uid*.
- The real uid affects what the program can do (e.g. create, delete files).
- For example, the uid of `/usr/bin/vi` is `root`:  

```
» $ ls -alt /usr/bin/vi
lrwxrwxrwx 1 root root 20 Apr 13...
```
- But when I use `vi`, its *real uid* is `maria` (not `root`), so I can **only** edit **my** files.
- Every file has an owner and a group owner. The owner is specified by the `st_uid` member of the `stat` structure that we will talk about shortly.

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## Effective uids

- Normally executing program's *effective uid* is the same as the *real uid*, however sometimes a process may change to use the owner's ID of a file/program.
  - » the uid of the program *owner*
  - » e.g. the *passwd* program changes to use its effective uid (*root*) so that it can *edit* the */etc/passwd* file
- The process determines its *effective uid* by looking at the file's mode flag (*st\_mode*)
- This feature is used by many system tools, such as logging programs.

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## Real and Effective Group-ids

- There are also real and effective *group-ids*.
- Usually a program uses the *real group-id* (i.e. the *group-id of the user*).
- Sometimes useful to use *effective group-id* (i.e. *group-id of program owner*):
  - » e.g. software shared across teams

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## Extra File Permissions

- **Octal Value**    **Meaning**
  - 04000    **Set user-id** on execution.  
Symbolic: `--s --- ---`
  - 02000    **Set group-id** on execution.  
Symbolic: `--- --s ---`
  - 01000    **Save-text-image** (sticky bit)  
Symbolic: `--- --- --t`
- These specify that a program should use the *effective user/group id* during execution.
- For example:
  - » `$ ls -alt /usr/bin/passwd`  
`-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 25692 May 24...`

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## Sticky Bit

- **Octal**    **Meaning**
  - 01000    **Save text image** on execution.  
Symbolic: `--- --- --t`
- This specifies that the program code should **stay resident** in memory after termination.
  - » this makes the start-up of the next execution faster
- **Obsolete** due to virtual memory.

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## st\_mode: Permissions

- This field contains type and permissions (12 lower bits) of file in bit format.
- It is extracted by AND-ing the value stored there with various constants
  - » see `man stat`
  - » also `<sys/stat.h>` and `<linux/stat.h>`
  - » some data structures are in `<bits/stat.h>`

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## Getting Permission Information

- AND the *st\_mode* field with one of the following masks and test for non-zero:

» S_IRUSR	0400	user read
S_IWUSR	0200	user write
S_IXUSR	0100	user execute
» S_IRGRP	0040	group read
S_IWGRP	0020	group write
S_IXGRP	0010	group execute
» S_IROTH	0004	other read
S_IWOTH	0002	other write
S_IXOTH	0001	other execute
- `<sys/stat.h>`

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## Example

```

• struct stat sbuf;
  :
  printf( "Permissions: " );
  if( ( sbuf.st_mode & S_IRUSR ) != 0 )
    printf( "user read, " );
  if( ( sbuf.st_mode & S_IWUSR ) != 0 )
    printf( "user write, " );
  :
• Or use octal values, which are easy to combine:

if( ( sbuf.st_mode & 0444 ) != 0 )
  printf( "readable by everyone\n" );

```

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## st\_mode: Getting Mode Information

- AND the `st_mode` field with one of the following masks and test for non-zero:
  - » `S_ISUID` set-user-id bit is set
  - » `S_ISGID` set-group-id bit is set
  - » `S_ISVTX` sticky bit is set
- Example:
 

```

if( (sbuf.st_mode & S_ISUID) != 0 )
  printf( "set-user-id bit is set\n" );

```

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## The superuser

- Most system admin. tasks can only be done by the **superuser** (also called the **root** user)
- Superuser
  - » has access to all files/directories on the system
  - » can override permissions
  - » owner of most system files
- Shell command: `su <username>`
  - » Set current user to superuser or another user with proper password access

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## User Mask: umask

- Unix allows "masks" to be created to set permissions for "newly-created" directories and files.
- The `umask` command automatically sets the permissions when the user creates directories and files (umask stands for "user mask").
- Prevents permissions from being **accidentally turned on** (hides permissions that are available).
- Set the bits of the umask to permissions you want to **mask out** of the file permissions.
- This process is useful, since user may sometimes forget to change the permissions of newly-created files or directories.

```

fd = open( path, O_CREAT, mode ) =>
fd = open( path O_CREAT, (~umask) & mode )

```

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## umask (1)

- Defaults (executable must be manually set - after they are created)

File Type	Default Mode
Non-executable files	666
Directories	777

From this initial mode, Unix **subtracts** the value of the **umask**.

mask	Directory (777)	File (666)
0	7 (rwx)	6 (rw-)
1	6 (rw-)	6 (rw-)
2	5 (r-x)	4 (r--)
3	4 (r--)	4 (r--)
4	3 (-wx)	2 (-w-)
5	2 (-w-)	2 (-w-)
6	1 (--x)	0 (---)
7	0 (---)	0 (---)

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## umask: Calculations (2)

- If you want a file permission of **644** on a regular file, the **umask** would need to be **022**.

Default Mode	666
umask	-022
New Allowable File Mode	644

- Bit level: `new_mask = mode & ~umask`

```

umask   = 000110110 = ---rw-rw = 0066
~umask  = 111001001
mode    = 110110110 = rw-rw-rw = 0666
new_mask = 110000000 = rw----- = 0600

```

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## umask (3)

### • Common Settings:

mask	Directory (777)	File (666)
000 (public)	777 (rwx rwx rwx)	666 (rw- rw- rw-)
011 (public)	766 (rwx rw- rw-)	666 (rw- rw- rw-)
022 (write protected)	755 (rwx r-x r-x)	644 (rw- r-- r--)
007 (project private)	770 (rwx rwx ---)	660 (rw- rw- ---)
077 (private)	700 (rwx --- ---)	600 (rw- --- ---)

## umask

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
mode_t      umask( mode_t mask );
```

- Set file mode creation *mask* and returns the old value. *mask* is formed as the bitwise OR of any of the nine file permission constants from <sys/stat.h>: S\_IRUSR, S\_IWUSR, S\_IXUSR, ...
- There is no error return
- When creating a file, permissions are turned off if the corresponding bits in *mask* are set.
- Return value
  - This system call always succeeds and the previous value of the mask is returned.
  - “umask” shell command

## Example: umask

```
int main(void)
{
    umask(0); /* --- --- */

    if( creat( "foo", S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR|S_IRGRP|S_IROTH|S_IWOTH ) < 0 )
    {
        /* rw- rw- rw- */
        perror("creat error for foo");
        exit(1);
    }

    umask( S_IRGRP|S_IROTH ); /* --- rw- rw- */
    if( creat( "bar", S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR|S_IRGRP|S_IROTH|S_IWOTH ) < 0 )
    {
        /* rw- rw- rw- */
        perror("creat error for bar");
        exit(1);
    }
    exit(0);
}

{saffron:maria:68} ls -ltra foo bar
-rw-rw-rw-  1 maria  faculty    0 Apr  1 20:35 foo
-rw-----  1 maria  faculty    0 Apr  1 20:35 bar
```