

UNIX essentials (hands-on)

- overview: **Unix, tcsh, AFNI**
- the directory tree
- basic shell commands (class practice)
- running programs
- the shell (using the T-shell)
 - command line processing
 - special characters
 - command types
 - shell, array and environment variables
 - wildcards
 - shell scripts
 - shell commands
 - pipes and redirection
- OS commands
- special files

• **Overview: Unix, T-shell, AFNI**

→ **Unix**

- a type of operating system (a standard), first developed in 1969
- examples: Solaris, OpenSolaris, Irix, AIX, HP-UX, OS X, Linux, FreeBSD
 - actually, Linux and FreeBSD are not Unix compliant, but are very similar
- has graphical environment, but a strength is in command-line capabilities
- hundreds of commands, minimum, thousands on most systems

→ **tcsh** (T-shell)

- a Unix shell: a command-line interpreter
 - when user types a command and hits **Enter**, the shell processes that command
- just one of the common Unix programs (a single file: /bin/tcsh)
- other Unix shells: sh, bash, csh, ksh, zsh
- has own syntax and sub-commands
- not as powerful as bash, but more simple and readable

→ **AFNI**

- a suite of data analysis tools
- more than 600 programs, scripts and plugins
- free and open source

- **Overview: Unix, T-shell, AFNI** - separate commands and syntax

- **Unix** : sample commands and syntax

- commands: **ls, cat, less, mv, cp, date, ssh, vi, rm**
- syntax: variables (**\$**), quotes (**'**, **"**, **`**), wildcards (*****, **?**, **[]**), pipes (**|**), redirection (**>**)
- comments: part of any Unix-based system (e.g. **Solaris, Linux, OS X**)
command help from 'man' pages (or a book), e.g. **man less**

- **tcsh** (T-shell) : sample commands and syntax

- commands: **cd, set, setenv, if, foreach, alias, history**
- syntax: home directories (**~**), history (**!**), jobs (**%**), redirecting **stderr (>&)**
- comments: single installed program, command help from 'man tcsh' (or a book)

- **AFNI** : sample commands and syntax

- commands: **afni, suma, 3dcalc, afni_proc.py, 3dDeconvolve**
- syntax: sub-brick selection (**[\$]**) - note: these characters appear elsewhere
- comments: installed suite of programs, command help from -help output
e.g. **afni_proc.py -help**
e.g. **afni_proc.py -help | less**

- **The Directory Tree** (the organization of the file system)
 - directories contain files and/or directories
 - / : means either the root directory, or a directory separator
 - consider `/home/afniuser/AFNI_data6 FT/SUMA`
 - getting to `FT/SUMA` requires starting from `AFNI_data6`
 - an "absolute" pathname begins with '/', a "relative" pathname does not
 - a relative pathname depends on where you start from
 - every directory has a parent directory
 - the relative pathname for the parent directory is `..`
 - what does `"cd .."` do?
 - the relative pathname for the current directory is `.`
 - what does `"cd ."` do?
 - consider `./run_this_script`, `cp ~/file .`, `ls ../afni_handouts`
 - many commands can be used to return to the home directory (of "afniuser")
 - `cd`, `cd /home/afniuser`, `cd $HOME`, `cd ~`, `cd ~afniuser`
 - note the 2 special characters, '~' and '\$'
 - while you work, keep your location within the directory tree in mind

Basic Shell Commands: open a terminal window and practice

1. Upon opening a new terminal window, what directory am I in? (`pwd`)
2. Approximately how many files and directories are here? (`ls`, `ls -l`, `ls -a`)
3. How big are these programs (as files): `tcsh`, `afni`, `.cshrc`, `s15.proc.FT.uber`?
`ls -l /bin/tcsh`, `ls -l abin/afni`, `ls -l .cshrc`,
`cd AFNI_data6/FT_analysis`, `ls -l`, `wc s15.proc.FT.uber`
4. The last 2 are actually scripts, look at them. (`cat`, `gedit`, `nedit`)
5. What polynomial order is used for the baseline in 3dDeconvolve in `s15.proc.FT.uber`?
Search for "polort" in the 3dDeconvolve command. (`less s15.proc.FT.uber`)
(consider keystrokes in `less`: *Enter*, *Space*, *b*, *g*, *G*, *h*, */*, *n*, *N*, *q*
--> down line, page, up page, go to top, bottom, help, search, next, next-up, quit)
6. Why are the line continuation characters ('\') useful? (`less s15.proc.FT.uber`)
--> for readability, note: must be LAST character on line
7. How many runs are processed in the `foreach run` loops? (find "`set runs =`")
8. What are the arguments to the `within()` function in `3dcalc`?
`3dcalc -help | less` (use */* and *n* to search for occurrences of 'within')
9. If we run `afni`, how can we still type commands (without opening another terminal)?
(`ctrl-z`, `bg`) (also try: `afni &`)

• Running Programs

- a program is something that gets "executed", or "run"
- the first element of a command line is generally a program (followed by a space)
- most shells are case sensitive when processing a command
- command examples (options usually start with a '-') :
 - **/bin/ls \$HOME/AFNI_data6**
 - **count -digits 2 1 10**
- script: an interpreted program (interpreted by some other program)
 - e.g. shell script, javascript, perl script, afni startup script
 - recall: **less ~/AFNI_data6/FT_analysis/s15.proc.FT.uber**
- create a script (text file) containing a few commands: (**gedit my_script.txt**)

```
echo "hello there"  
ls -a  
count 7 11
```
- execute the script in a few ways

```
tcsch my_script.txt  
bash my_script.txt  
./my_script.txt  
chmod 755 my_script.txt  
./my_script.txt
```

<--- script should start with '#!/bin/tcsch', for example

- **The Shell** (focusing on the T-shell)
 - a shell is a command interpreter (case and syntax sensitive)
 - examples: tcsh, csh, sh, bash, ksh, zsh, wish, tclsh, rsh, ssh
 - command: **echo \$0**
 - the T-shell: **/bin/tcsh**
 - an enhanced C-shell (**cs**h), which has C programming style syntax
- **Command Line Processing** (simplified outline):
 - 1) evaluate special characters, such as: `~ $ & * ? \ ' " ` |`
 - 2) decide which program to execute (more on this later)
 - absolute pathname? alias? shell command? in the **\$PATH**?
 - 3) execute appropriate program, passing to it the parameter list
 - 4) save the execution status in the **\$status** variable (0 is considered success)
 - tcsh has automatic filename completion using the Tab key
 - type "**ls suma**" and hit the *Tab* key, watch what happens, and hit *Enter*
 - type "**ls AF**" and hit the *Tab* key, note what happens
 - note: this requires setting the shell variable, **filec**

- **Special Characters** (some of them, and some of their uses)
 - ~ : the current user's home directory (e.g. `/home/afniuser`), same as `$HOME`
 - \$: used to access a variable (e.g. `$PATH`)
 - & : used to put a command in the background (e.g. `suma &`)
 - * : wildcard, matching zero or more characters (e.g. `echo AFNI_da*`)
 - ? : wildcard, matching exactly one character (e.g. `ls AFNI_data?`)
 - \ : command line continuation (must be the last character on the line)
 - ' : the shell will not evaluate most special characters contained within these quotes
 (e.g. `echo '$HOME'` : will output `$HOME`, not `/home/afniuser`)
 (e.g. `3dbucket -prefix small_func 'func_slim+orig[0,2..4]'`)
 - " : the shell will evaluate `$variables` and ``commands`` contained within these
 (e.g. `echo "[*] my home dir is $HOME"`)
 (e.g. `echo "the numbers are 'count 7 12'"`)
 - ` : execute the command contained within these quotes, and replace the quoted part with the output of the contained command
 (e.g. `echo "the numbers are `count 7 12`"`)

- **Command Types**

- the shell must decide what type of command it has:

- pathname for a program: execute that program
 - alias: apply any alias(es) then start over (decide on which program to run)
 - shell command: part of the **/bin/tcsh** program
 - check the **\$PATH** directories for the program

- consider the commands:

- ```
/bin/ls AFNI_data6/afni
```

- ```
ls AFNI_data6/afni
```

- ```
cd AFNI_data6/afni
```

- ```
wc ~/AFNI_data6/afni/epi_r1_ideal.1D
```

- the "which" command shows where the shell gets a command from:

- ```
which ls
```

- ```
which cd
```

- ```
which wc
```

- **Shell Variables: The PATH Variable**

- a list of directories to be searched for a given program to be run from

- the **\$path** and **\$PATH** variables are identical, but are represented differently

- **\$path** is specific to **csch/tcsh**

- commands: 

```
echo $PATH
```

- ```
echo $path
```

- ```
cat ~/.cshrc
```

## • Shell Variables

- shell variables are variables that are stored in, and affect the shell
- all variables are stored as strings (or as arrays of strings)
- a variable is accessed via the '\$' character
- the 'echo' command: echo the line after processing any special characters
  - command: **echo my home dir, \$HOME, holds ~/\***
- the 'set' command: set or assign values to one or more variables
  - without arguments: 'set' displays all variables, along with any values
  - 'set' takes a list of variables to set, possibly with values
  - consider the commands:

```
set food
echo $food
set food = pickle
echo $food
set food eat = chocolate donut (emphasis: food eat = chocolate donut)
set
set food = eat chocolate donut
set food = "eat chocolate donut"
echo $food
```

→ variables can be assigned the result of a numerical computation using the '@' command, however only integer arithmetic is allowed

- commands: **set value1 = 17**  
**@ value2 = \$value1 \* 2 + 6**  
**echo value2 = \$value2**

- **Array Variables**

→ array variables are set using ( )

→ consider the commands:

```
set stuff = (11 12 13 seven 15)
echo $stuff
echo $stuff[1]
echo $stuff[2-4]
echo $stuff[8]
set stuff = (hi $stuff $food)
echo $stuff
echo $path
cat ~/.cshrc
```

- **Environment Variables**

- similar to shell variables, but their values will propagate to children shells
- by convention, these variables are all upper-case (though it is not required)
- similarly, shell variables are generally all lower-case
- set environment variables using "**setenv**" (as opposed to the "**set**" command)
- without any parameters, the "**setenv**" command will display all variables
- the "**setenv**" command will only set or assign one variable at a time
- the format for the command to set a value is (without any '=' sign):

**setenv VARIABLE value**

- commands:

```
setenv MY_NAME Elvis
```

```
echo $MY_NAME
```

```
echo $path
```

```
echo $PATH
```

```
echo $HOME
```

```
setenv
```

- **Wildcards**

→ used for shell-attempted filename matching

→ special characters for wildcards:

**\***, **?**, **[**, **]**, **^**

**\*** : matches any string of zero or more characters

(special case: a lone \* will not match files starting with '.')

**?** : matches exactly one character

**[ ]** : matches any single character within the square brackets

**[^]** : matches any single character EXCEPT for those within the brackets

→ commands (run from the **AFNI\_data6/EPI\_run1** directory):

```
ls
```

```
ls *
```

```
ls -a
```

```
ls 8*3.dcm
```

```
ls 8*0*3.dcm
```

```
ls 8*00?3.dcm
```

```
ls 8*00[23].dcm
```

```
ls 8*00[^23].dcm
```

- **Shell Scripts**

- a text file, a sequence of shell commands
- the '\n' character can be used for line continuation (for readability)
  - for that purpose, it must be the last character on the line (including spaces)
- executing shell scripts, 3 methods:
  - 1) **./filename** : (safest) execute according to the top **"#!program"**
    - if no such line, usually executed via **bash** (a potential error)
    - the file must have execute permissions (see '**ls -l**', '**chmod**')
  - 2) **tcsh filename** : execute as t-shell commands
  - 3) **source filename** : execute using current shell
    - affects current environment
    - this method should be used only when that is the intention (e.g. **.cshrc**)
- recall **~/AFNI\_data6/FT\_analysis/s15.proc.FT.uber**
- **create a script (text file) called my\_script.txt containing a few commands**
- recall: execute the script in a few ways
  - tcsh my\_script.txt**
  - bash my\_script.txt**
  - ./my\_script.txt**
  - chmod 755 my\_script.txt**
  - ./my\_script.txt** <--- script should start with **'#!/bin/tcsh'**, for example

- **Some Shell Commands** (handled by the shell)

**cd** : change working directory

**pwd** : display the present working directory

**set** : set variables or assign string values to variables

**@** : set a variable to the results of an integral computation

**alias** : display or create an alias  
(e.g. **alias hi 'echo hello there'** )

**bg** : put a process in the background (usually after ctrl-z)

**fg** : put a process in the foreground

**exit** : terminate the shell

**setenv** : set environment variables

**source** : execute a script within the current shell environment

- special keystrokes (to use while a process is running)

**ctrl-c** : send an interrupt signal to the current process

**ctrl-z** : send a suspend signal to the current process

- **More Shell Commands: basic flow control**

→ commands: `if`, `else`, `endif`, `while`, `end`, `foreach`

---

```
if ($user == "elvis") then
 echo 'the king lives'
endif
```

---

```
set value = 5
set fact = 1
while ($value > 0)
 @ fact = $fact * $value
 @ value -= 1
end
echo 5 factorial = $fact
```

---

```
foreach value (1 2 3 four eight 11)
 echo the current value is $value
end
```

---

```
foreach file (I.*3)
 ls -l $file
end
```

## • Pipes and Redirection

> : redirect program output (**stdout**) to a file

e.g. **3dinfo -help > 3dinfo.help**

**3dinfo -pickle > 3dinfo.help**

>& : redirect all output (both **stdout** and **stderr**) to a file

e.g. **3dinfo -pickle >& 3dinfo.pickle**

e.g. **tcsh my\_script.txt >& script.output**

>> : append program output to a file

e.g. **echo "remember to feed the cat" >> script.output**

| : pipe standard output to the input of another program

e.g. **3dDeconvolve -help | less**

|& : include **stderr** in the pipe

e.g. **tcsh -x my.big.script |& tee script.output**

- run the script (echo commands to terminal before executing)
- send all output to the **tee** program
- the **tee** program duplicates its input, sending the output to both the terminal and the given file (**script.output**)
- you can see the output, but it is also stored for future analysis

## • Some OS Commands

- ls** : list the contents of a directory
  - \* **cat** : concatenate files to the terminal (print them to the screen)
  - \* **more** : a file perusal program - view files one page at a time
  - \* **less** : a better file perusal program (type **less**, get more)
  - echo** : echo command to terminal window
  - man** : on-line manuals for many OS commands (and library functions)
    - this uses a "**less**" interface to display the information
    - e.g. consider **man** on : **ls**, **less**, **man**, **tcsh**, **afni**
  - \* **head** : display the top lines of a file (default = 10)
    - e.g. **3dinfo func\_slim+orig | head -25**
  - \* **tail** : display the bottom lines of a file (default = 10)
    - e.g. **tail ideal\_r1.1D**
  - \* **wc** : word count - count characters, words and lines (of a file)
  - cp** : copy files and directories to a new location
  - mv** : rename a file, or move files and directories
  - rm** : remove files and/or directories (BE CAREFUL - no recovery)
    - e.g. **rm junk.file**
    - e.g. **rm -r bad.directory**
- \* denotes a 'filter' program, which can take input from a file or from **stdin**

\* **grep** : print lines from a file that match the given pattern

e.g. **grep path ~/.cshrc**

e.g. **ls ~/abin | grep -i vol**

e.g. from the output of "**3dVol2Surf -help**" show lines which contain 'surf', but not 'surface', then remove duplicates:

```
3dVol2Surf -help | grep surf | grep -v surface | sort | uniq
```

- **Some Special Files (in the home directory)**

**.cshrc** : c-shell startup file ("csh run commands")

- set aliases
- adjust the path
- set shell and environment variables

**.afnirc** : **AFNI** startup file

**.sumarc** : **suma** startup file

**.login** : commands run at the start of a login shell (e.g. a terminal window)

**.logout** : commands run before exiting a login shell

**.bashrc** : bash startup file (in case **bash** your login shell)