System Administrator DeCal
Week 2 Homework

Due by next class (2/13)

February 6, 2007

1   Questions

1. What is the difference between the **terminal** and the **shell**?

2. How would you copy the file `first_file.txt` to `new_name.txt` ?

3. How would you copy the file `my_file.txt` to `your_file.txt` on the `tsunami` host on port 22 ?

4. How would you delete all of the files that end in `.tmp` in the current directory? Why can typing this command be dangerous?

5. How would you copy the file `lab results.dat` into the `data` directory?

6. What is the difference between a shell variable and an environment variable?

7. How do you set the variable `var` to the value `foo`? How do you get the value back?

8. What are **stdin**, **stdout**, and **stderr** connected to by default?

9. Give an example of redirection for **stdin**, **stdout**, **stderr**. These examples don't all have to be in one command.

10. What is the difference between **overwrite** and **append** mode for **stdout** and **stderr**? How do you specify each mode?

11. What is `/dev/null` ? Why is it useful?

12. How do you join the output of one command to the input of another without creating a temporary file? Give an example.

13. What is the difference between **single quotes**, **double quotes**, and **back quotes**. Give an example of **back quotes** use.

14. Briefly describe how the shell parses the command you type in before sending it to the system for execution.

2   Submission

E-mail your responses to `sysadmin-decal@ocf.berkeley.edu`