



# The Unix Shell

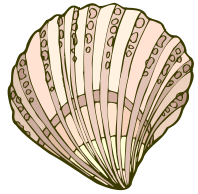
## Permissions



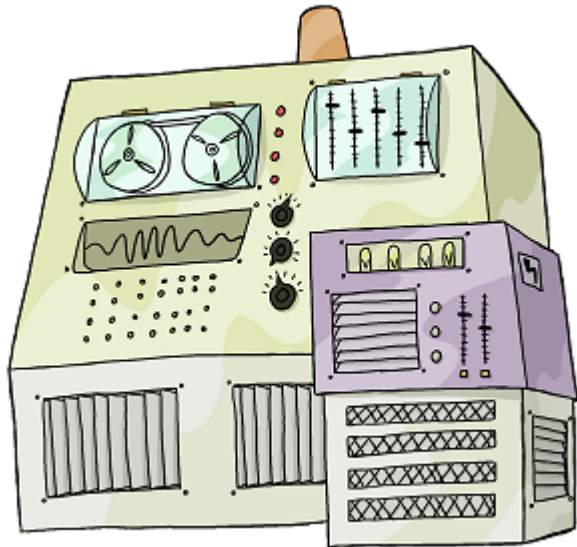
Copyright © Software Carpentry 2010

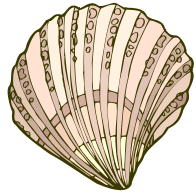
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See <http://software-carpentry.org/license.html> for more information.



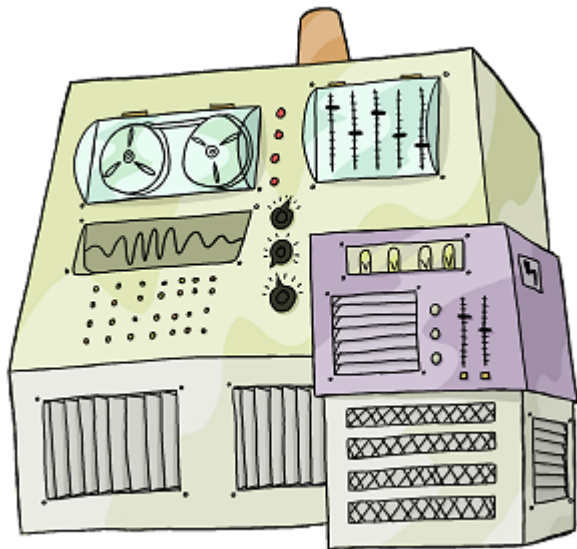
shell

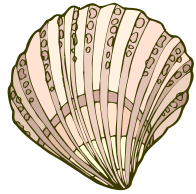




shell

`pwd`, `mkdir`, `cp`, ...

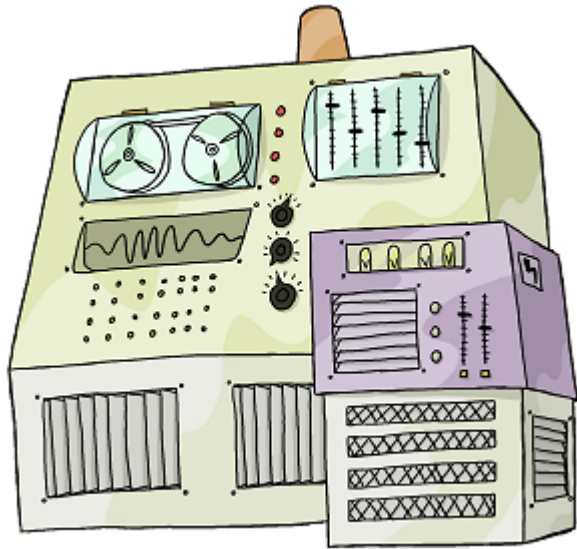


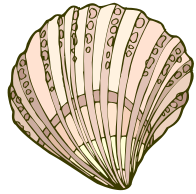


shell

`pwd, mkdir, cp, ...`

\*



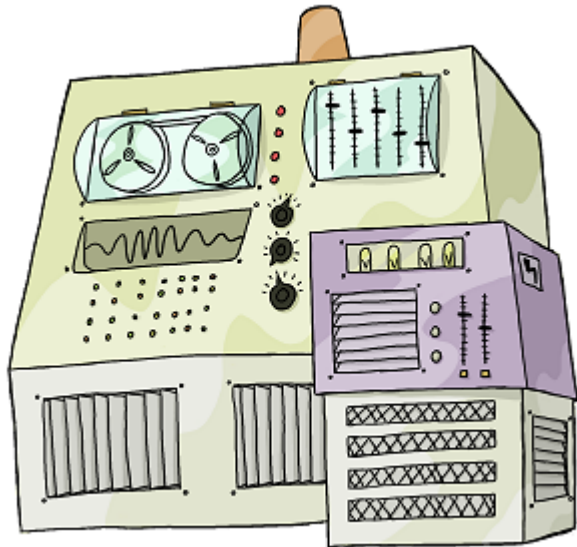


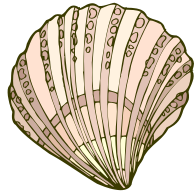
shell

`pwd, mkdir, cp, ...`

`*`

`>, |`





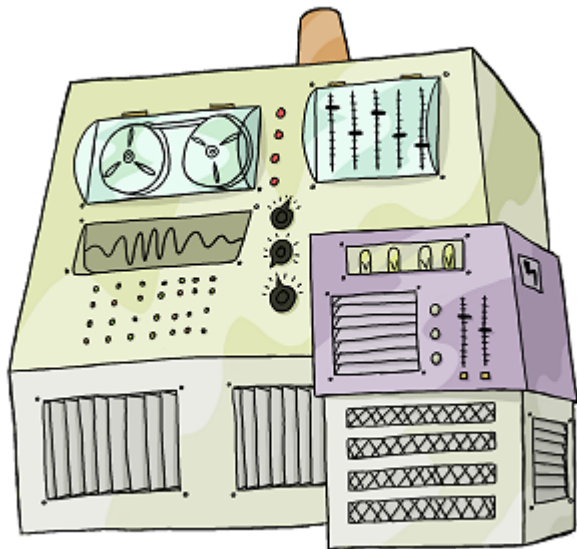
shell

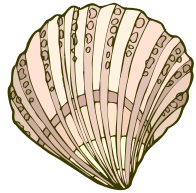
`pwd, mkdir, cp, ...`

`*`

`>, |`

Who can see what?





shell

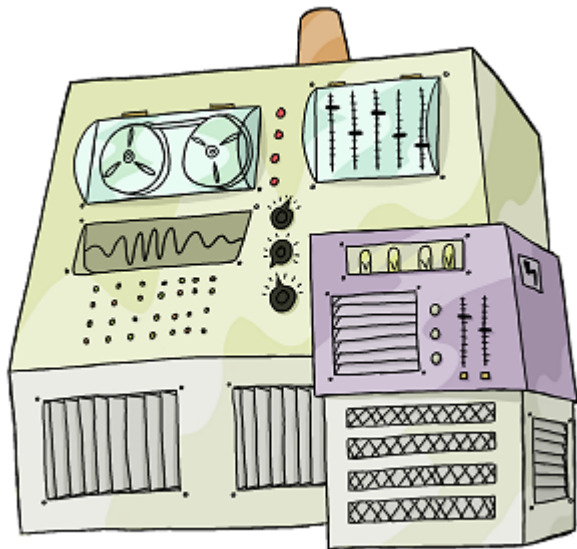
`pwd, mkdir, cp, ...`

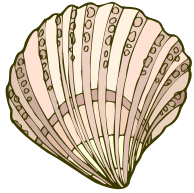
`*`

`>, |`

Who can see what?

change





shell

`pwd, mkdir, cp, ...`

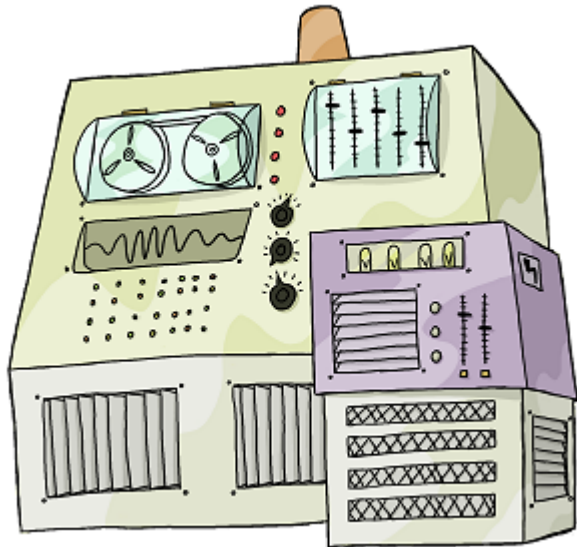
`*`

`>, |`

Who can see what?

change

run





# Simplified version of Unix permissions

Simplified version of Unix permissions

Windows uses similar concepts...

Simplified version of Unix permissions

Windows uses similar concepts...

...but there is no exact translation between the two



user



user

Has unique *user name* and *user ID*



user

Has unique *user name* and *user ID*

User name is text: "imhotep", "larry", "vlad", ...



user

Has unique *user name* and *user ID*

User name is text: "imhotep", "larry", "vlad", ...

User ID is numeric (easier for computer to store)



user



group





user



group

Has unique *group name* and *group ID*



user



group

Has unique *group name* and *group ID*

User can belongs to zero or more groups



user



group

Has unique *group name* and *group ID*

User can belongs to zero or more groups

List is usually stored in `/etc/group`



user



group



all



user



group



all

Everyone else



user



group



all



Has user and group IDs



user

group

all

read





user

group

all

read

write







user

group

all

read

write

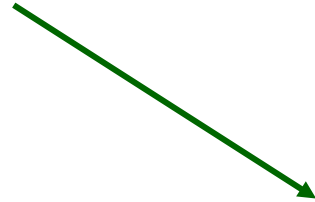
execute





	user	group	all
read	✓	✓	✗
write	✓	✗	✗
execute	✗	✗	✗

# File's owner can read and write it



	user	group	all
read	✓	✓	✗
write	✓	✗	✗
execute	✗	✗	✗

File's owner can read and write it

Others in group can read



	user	group	all
read	✓	✓	✗
write	✓	✗	✗
execute	✗	✗	✗

File's can read and write it  
 Others in group can read  
 That's all



	user	group	all
read	✓	✓	✗
write	✓	✗	✗
execute	✗	✗	✗

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$
```

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*         waiver.txt
```

```
$
```

```
$ cd labs
```

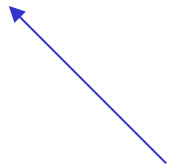
```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup      waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*     waiver.txt
```

```
$
```



means "executable"



```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
```

```
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
```

```
$
```

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

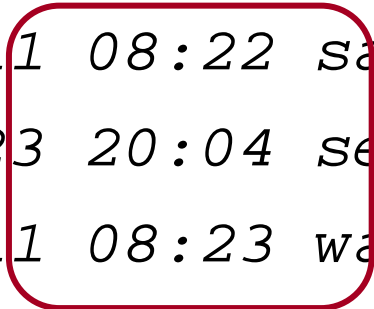
```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```

```
$
```



name

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

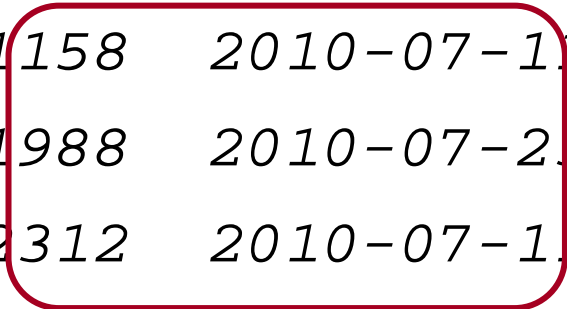
```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r--  1 vlad bio  1158  2010-07-11  08:22  safety.txt
-rwxr-xr-x  1 vlad bio 31988  2010-07-23  20:04  setup
-rw-rw-r--  1 vlad bio  2312  2010-07-11  08:23  waiver.txt
```

```
$
```



last modified

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```

```
$
```

↑  
size (in bytes)

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```

```
$
```

↑  
group owner

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

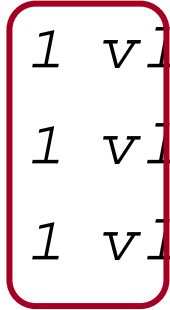
```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*         waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```



user owner

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*         waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```



don't care (for now)

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety.txt  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver.txt
```

```
$
```



permissions



```

$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
$

```

*-rwxr-xr-x*

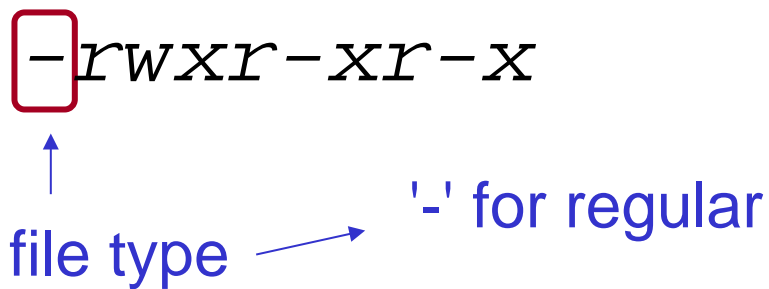
```
$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r--  1 vlad bio  1158  2010-07-11  08:22  safety.txt
-rwxr-xr-x  1 vlad bio 31988  2010-07-23  20:04  setup
-rw-rw-r--  1 vlad bio  2312  2010-07-11  08:23  waiver.txt
$
```

**-**rwxr-xr-x



file type

```
$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
$
```



```

$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*         waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
$

```

**-**rwxr-xr-x

↑  
file type

'-' for regular  
'd' for directory

```
$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*         waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
$
```

**-rwxr-xr-x**



user owner permissions

```
$ cd labs
$ ls
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
$ ls -F
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
$ ls -l
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
$
```

`-rwxr-xr-x`



group owner permissions

```
$ cd labs
```

```
$ ls
```

```
safety.txt      setup          waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -F
```

```
safety.txt      setup*        waiver.txt
```

```
$ ls -l
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety
```

```
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup
```

```
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio 2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
```

```
$
```

```
-rwxr-xr-x
```



everyone else's permissions

```
$ ls -a -l
```

```
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio      0  2010-08-14 09:55 .  
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio  8192 2010-08-27 23:11 ..  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
```

```
$
```



```
$ ls -a -l
```

```
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio      0  2010-08-14 09:55 .  
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio  8192 2010-08-27 23:11 ..  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  1158 2010-07-11 08:22 safety  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988 2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  2312 2010-07-11 08:23 waiver
```

```
$
```

```
$ ls -a -l
```

```
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio      0  2010-08-14 09:55 .  
drwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio  8192  2010-08-27 23:11 ..  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  1158  2010-07-11 08:22 safety  
-rwxr-xr-x 1 vlad bio 31988  2010-07-23 20:04 setup  
-rw-rw-r-- 1 vlad bio  2312  2010-07-11 08:23 waiver  
$
```

What does "execute" mean for directories?

What does "execute" mean for directories?

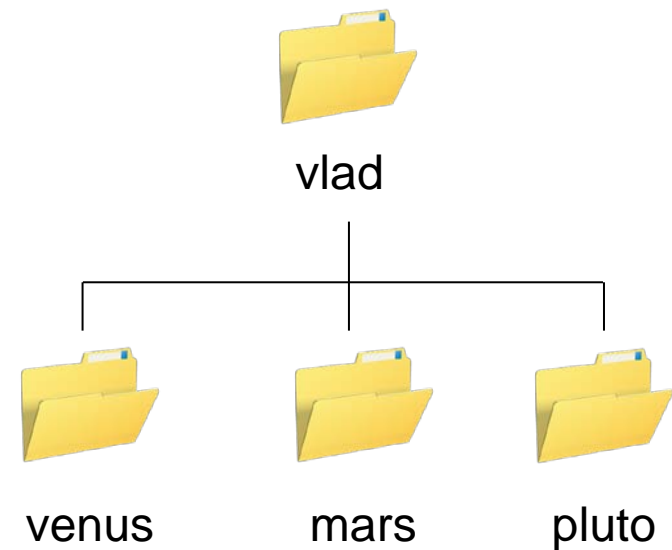
Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

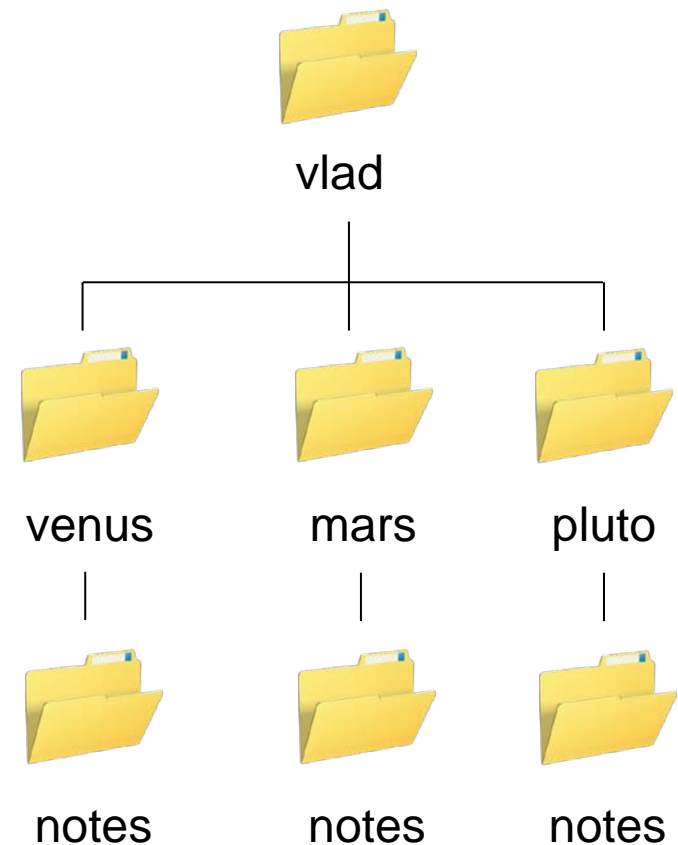
the directory



What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

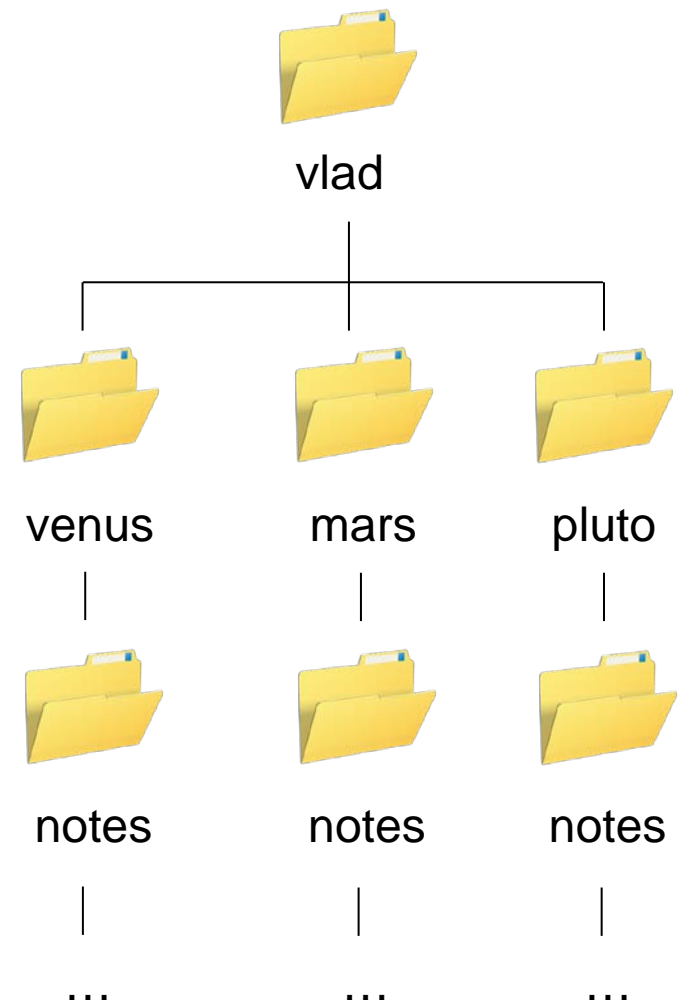
the directory



# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

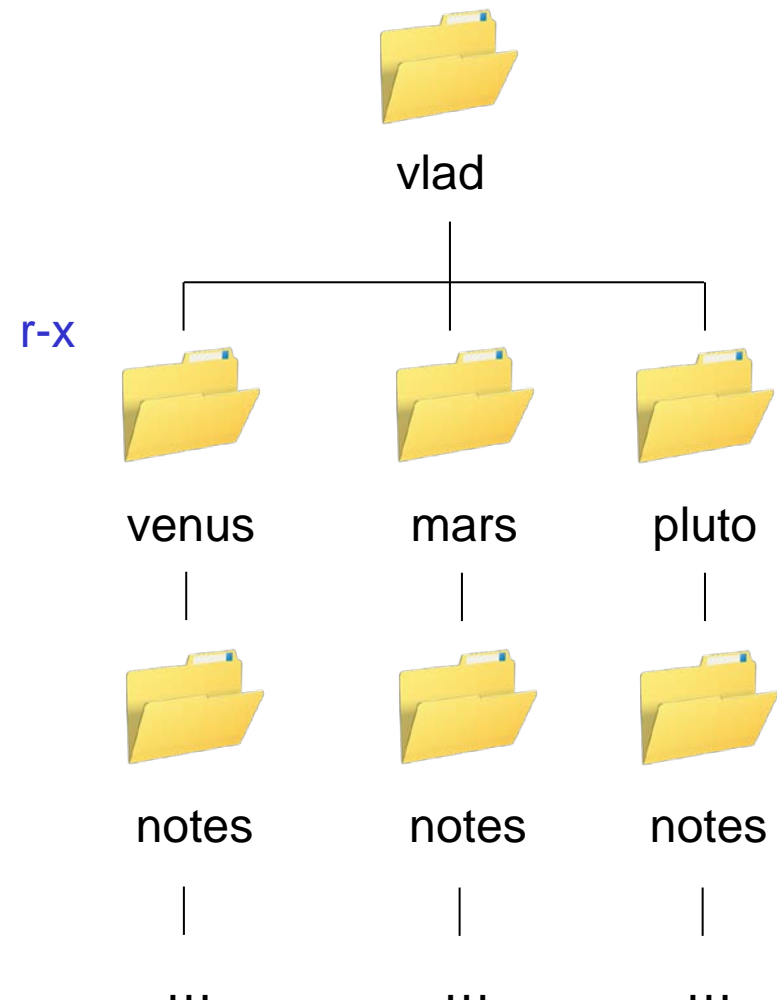
the directory



What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory



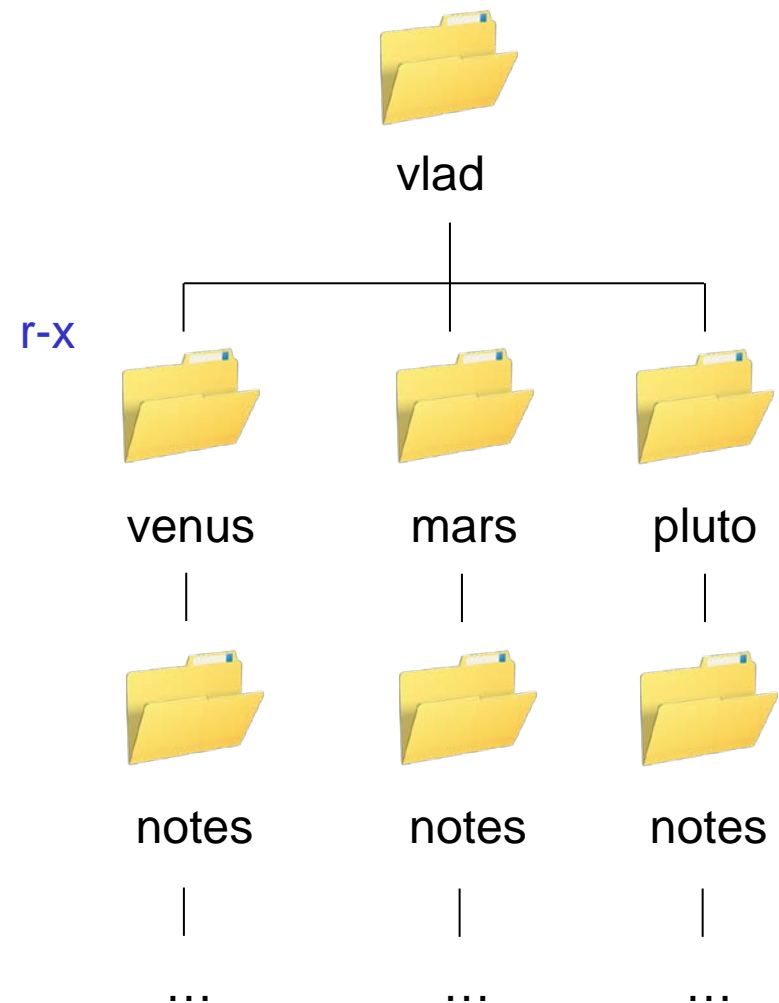


What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes
```

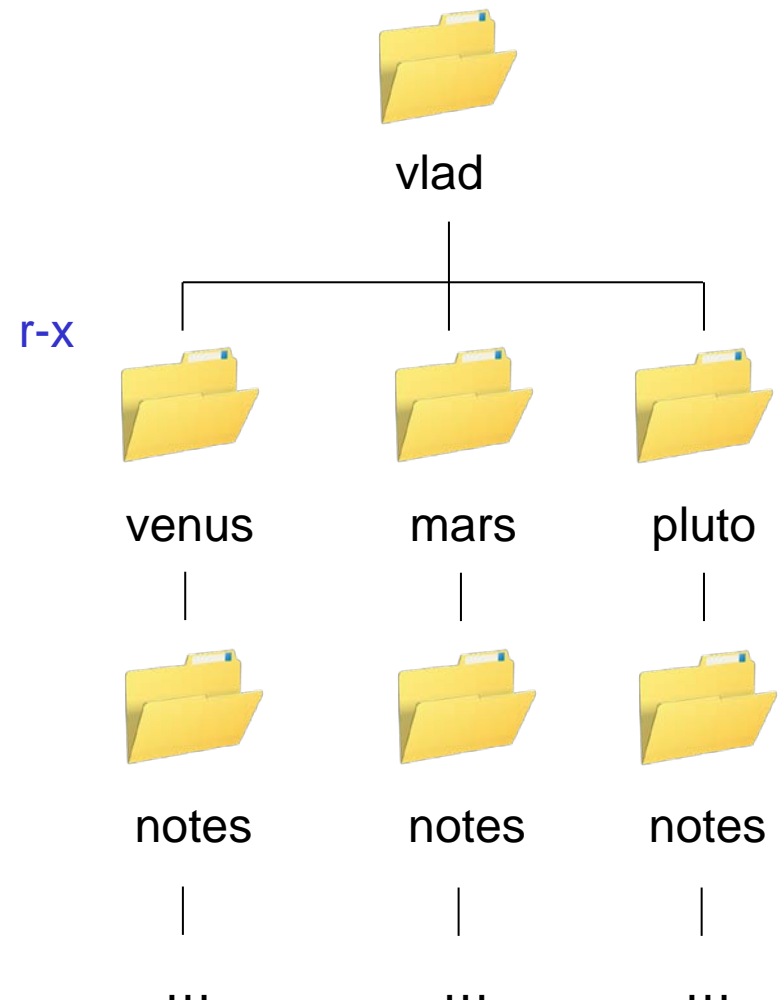


What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes
```

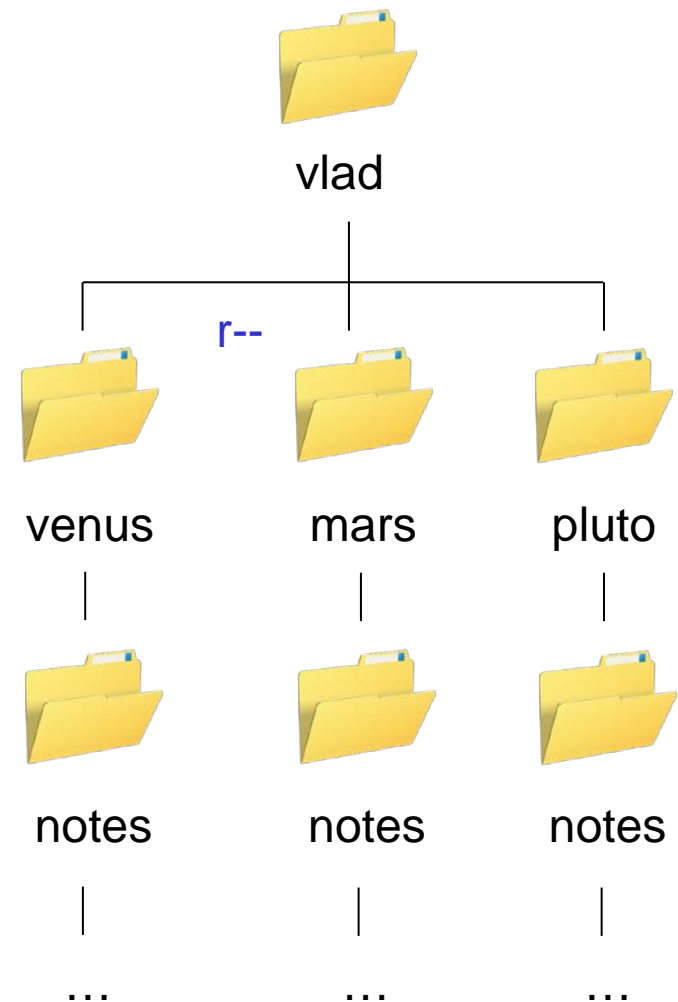


What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes ✓
```

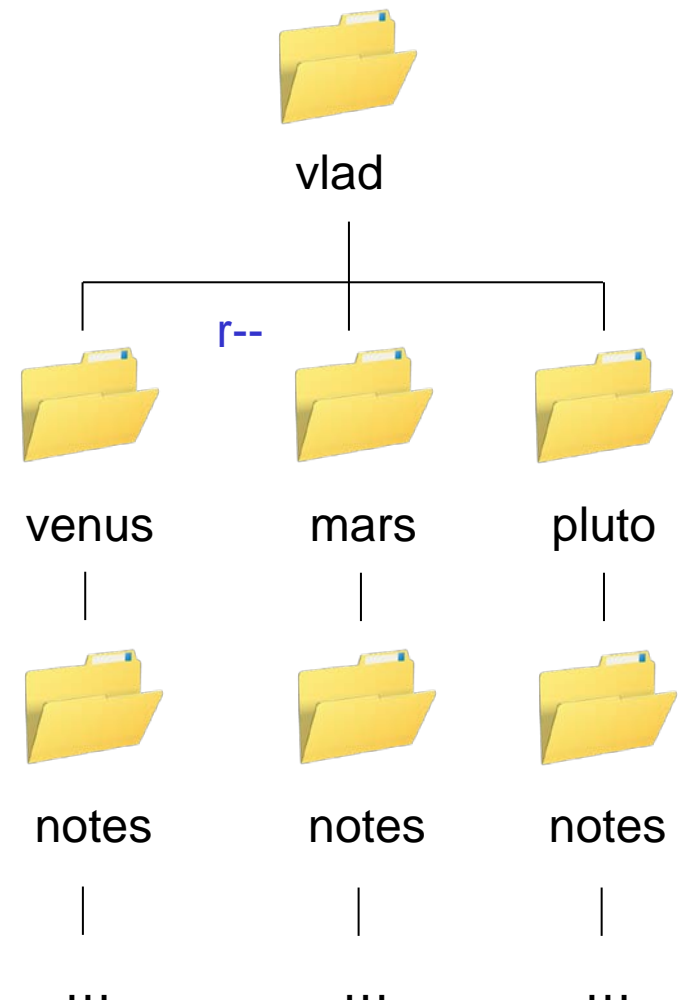


# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes ✓  
$ ls mars mars/notes ✓
```

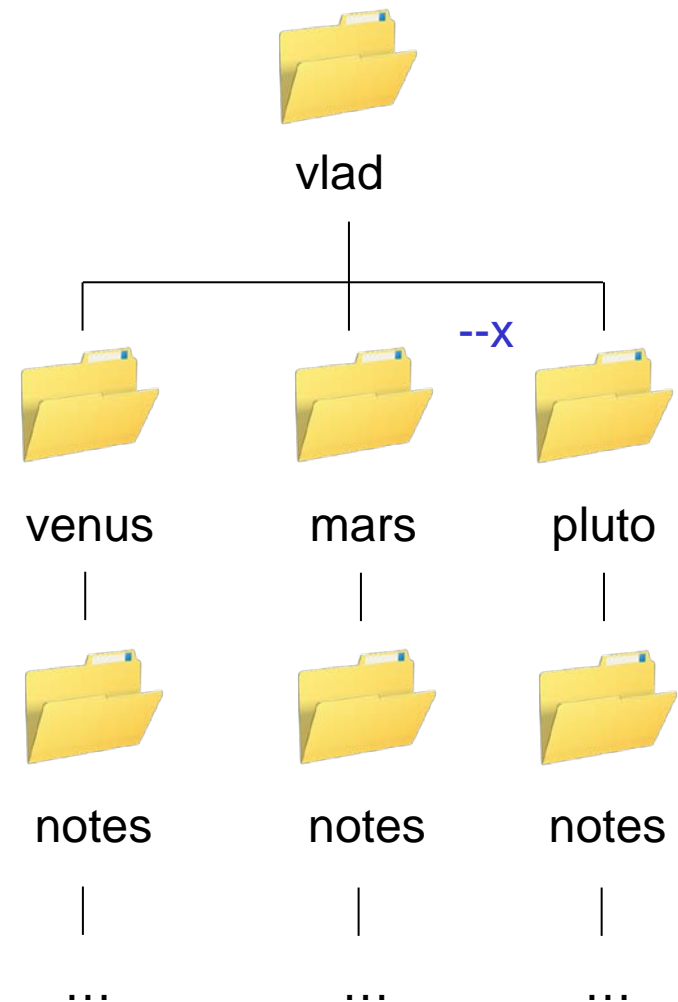


# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes ✓  
$ ls mars mars/notes ✓
```

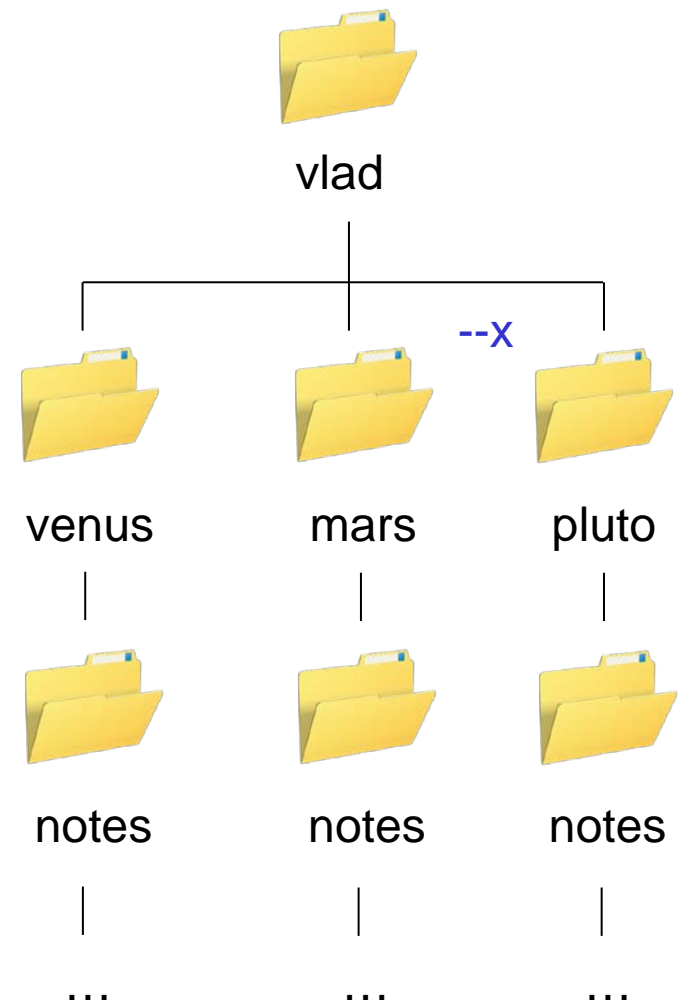


# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes ✓  
$ ls mars mars/notes ✓  
$ ls pluto ✗
```

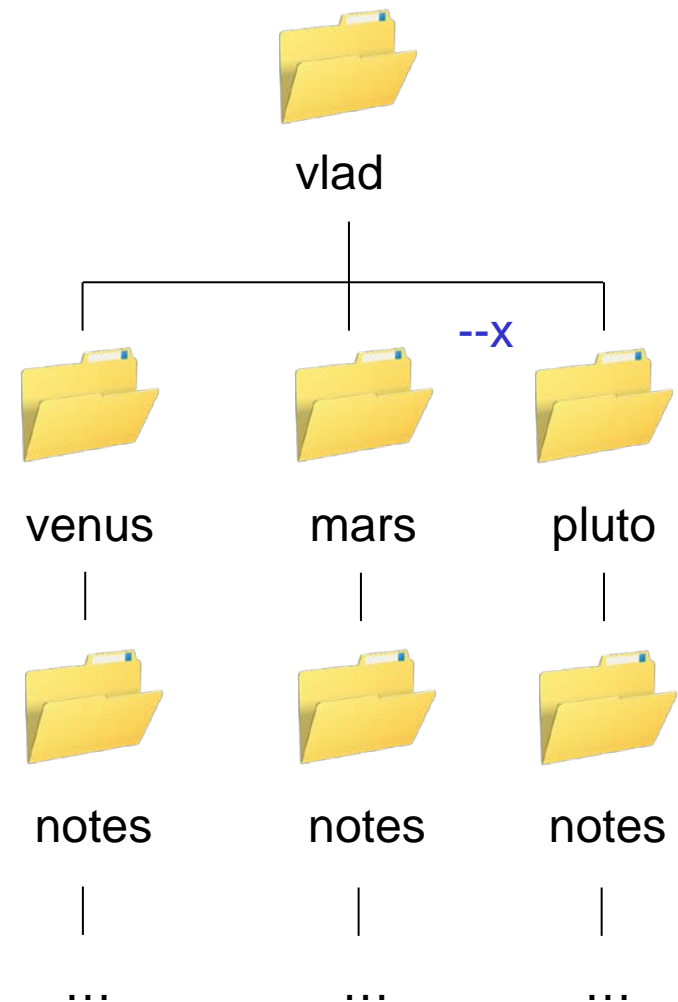


# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```
$ ls venus venus/notes ✓  
$ ls mars mars/notes ✓  
$ ls pluto x  
$ ls pluto/notes
```



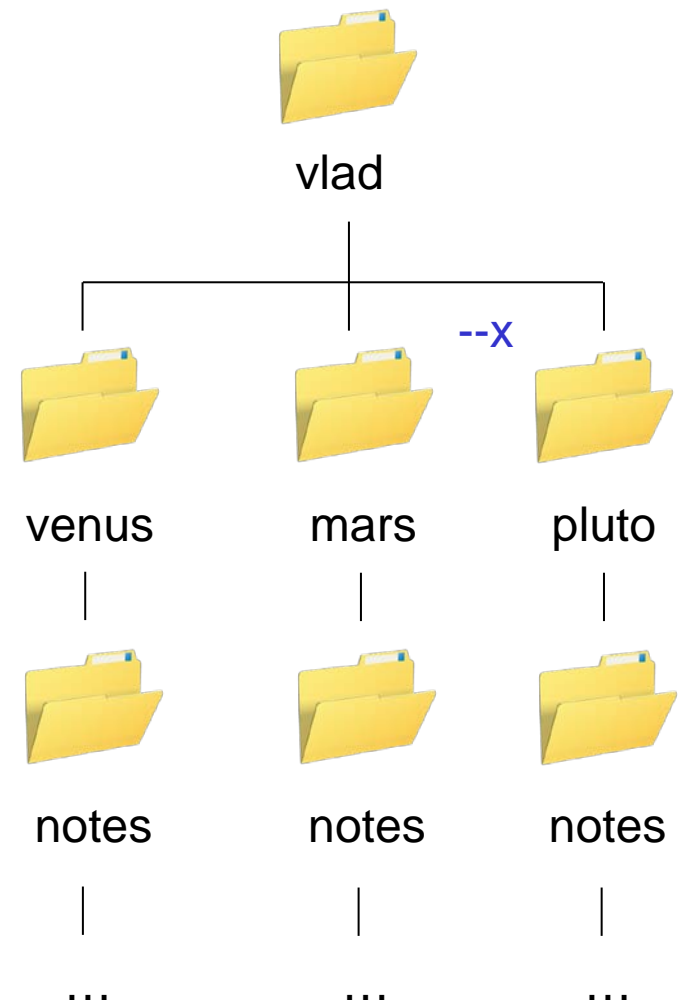
# What does "execute" mean for directories?

Gives the right to *traverse*

the directory

```

$ ls venus venus/notes ✓
$ ls mars mars/notes ✓
$ ls pluto ✗
$ ls pluto/notes ✓
    
```





# Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

## Change permission with chmod (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```



Everyone can read it

## Change permission with chmod (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```



Everyone can read it

Modify it

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```



Everyone can read it

Modify it

Try to run it (which probably doesn't make sense)

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$
```

## Change permission with chmod (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$
```



User (u) has read-write (rw)

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-rwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$
```



## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-rwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod g=r final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r--rw- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$
```

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-rwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod g=r final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r--rw- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$
```

Use ';' to put multiple commands  
on a single line

## Change permission with `chmod` (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-rwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod g=r final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r--rw- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod a= final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r----- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:20 final.
```

## Change permission with chmod (change mode)

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-29 22:30 final.
```

```
$ chmod u=rw final.grd
```

```
$ ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-rwxrwx 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod g=r final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r--rw- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:19 final.
```

```
$ chmod a= final.grd; ls -l final.grd
```

```
-rw-r--- 1 vlad bio 4215 2010-08-30 08:20 final.
```

No permissions at all

Again, things are different on Windows

Again, things are different on Windows

**Permissions defined by Access Control Lists (ACLs)**

Again, things are different on Windows

Permissions defined by Access Control Lists (ACLs)

A list of (who, what) pairs

Again, things are different on Windows

Permissions defined by Access Control Lists (ACLs)

A list of (who, what) pairs

**More flexible...**



Again, things are different on Windows

Permissions defined by Access Control Lists (ACLs)

A list of (who, what) pairs

More flexible...

...but more complex to administer and understand

Again, things are different on Windows

Permissions defined by Access Control Lists (ACLs)

A list of (who, what) pairs

More flexible...

...but more complex to administer and understand

**Some flavors of Unix provide ACLs, but hardly  
anyone uses them**

# Create your own commands

# Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

# Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```



No input file specified, so read from keyboard

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```



Send output to a file called `smallest`

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$
```



## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$
```



Ctrl-D means "end of input" in Unix

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$
```



Ctrl-D means "end of input" in Unix

Ctrl-Z does the same thing in Windows

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$ chmod u+x smallest
```

```
$
```

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$ chmod u+x smallest
```

```
$
```



Give the user owner permission to run this file

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$ chmod u+x smallest
```

```
$ ./smallest
```

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
```

```
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
```

```
^D
```

```
$ chmod u+x smallest
```

```
$ ./smallest
```



Put ./ at the front to be sure of running  
the `smallest` that it's *this* directory

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
^D
$ chmod u+x smallest
$ ./smallest
 9  methane.pdb
$
```

## Create your own commands

```
$ cat > smallest
wc -l *.pdb | sort | head -1
^D
$ chmod u+x smallest
$ ./smallest
 9  methane.pdb
$
```

Try doing *that* with a desktop full of GUIs





created by

Greg Wilson

August 2010



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