

كلية هندسة الالكترونيات
قسم هندسة النظم والسيطرة
المرحلة الأولى

Computer Science Lab

MS-DOS Commands

Learning MS-DOS Basics

In this lab, you will learn the following:

View the contents of a directory

Change from one directory to another

Create and delete directories

Change from one drive to another

Clearing the MS-Dos screen

The Command Prompt

To enter to the MS-DOS screen choose **Run** then type **cmd**, you'll see the following:

C:\Users\your computer name>

This is called the **command prompt** or **DOS prompt**. The flashing underscore next to the command prompt is called the **cursor**. The cursor shows where the command you type will appear.

Typing a Command

This section explains how to type a command at the command prompt and demonstrates the "Bad command or file name" message.

- **To type a command at the command prompt**

1. Type the following at the command prompt (you can type the command in either uppercase or lowercase letters):

nal

If you make a typing mistake, press the **BACKSPACE** key to erase the mistake, and then try again.

2. Press **ENTER**.

You must press **ENTER** after every command you type. The following message appears: **Is not recognized as an internal or external command**

The " **not recognized command** " message appears when you type something that MS-DOS does not recognize.

3. To display the MS-Dos version, type the following command:

Ver

The following message appears on your screen:

MS-DOS version 6.22

Viewing the Contents of a Directory

In this section, you will view the contents of a directory by using the **dir** command. The **dir** command stands for "**directory**."

- **To view the contents of a directory**

Type the following at the command prompt: **dir**

A list similar to the following appears:

```
Volume in drive C is MS-DOS_6.22
Volume Serial Number is IE49-15E2
Directory of C:\

WIND      <DI
OWS       R>      09-08-92 10:27p
          <DI
TEMP      R>      05-15-92 12:09p
CONF
IG        SYS      278 09-23-92 10:50a
COMMAN
D COM     53014 09-18-92 6:00a
WINA
20        386      9349 11-11-91 5:00a
          <DI
DOS       R>      09-02-92 4:23p
AUTOEXE
C BAT     290 09-23-92 10:54a

          7 file(s) 62931 bytes
          8732672   bytes free
```

This is called a ***directory list***. A directory list is a list of all the files and subdirectories that a directory contains. In this case, you

see all the files and directories in the main or *root* directory of your drive. All the files and directories on your drive are stored in the root directory.

Changing Directories

Look at the list on your screen. All the names that have <**DIR**> beside them are directories. You can see a list of the files in another directory by changing to that directory, and then using the **dir** command again. In this case, you will change to the **DOS** directory.

Before you begin in this section, make sure you have a directory named DOS by carrying out the following procedure.

- o **To make sure you have a directory named Windows**

If you do not see a line in the directory list indicating that you have a directory named Windows, type the following at the command prompt:

dir /s Windows

You will see a message that includes a line such as the following:

Directory of C:\DIRNAME

- o **To change from the root directory to the WINDOWS directory**

To change directories, you will use the **cd** command. The **cd** command stands for "*change directory*."

- Type the following command:

cd windows

The command prompt changes. It should now look like the following:

C:\WINDOWS>

Next, you will use the `dir` command to view a list of the files in the DOS directory.

- o **To view a list of the files in the WINDOWS directory**

- Type the following command:

dir

A list of the files in the WINDOWS directory appears, but scrolls by too quickly to read. You can modify the **dir** command so that it displays only one screen of information at a time.

- o **To view the contents of a directory one screen at a time**

- Type the following at the command prompt:

dir /p

One screen of information appears. At the bottom of the screen, you will see the following message:

Press any key to continue . . .

- o **To view the contents of a directory in wide format**

- Type the following at the command prompt:

dir /w

The directory list appears, with the filenames listed in wide format. Note that only filenames are listed. No information about the files' size or date and time of creation appears.

Changing Back to the Root Directory

Next, you will change from the DOS directory to the root directory. The root directory is the directory you were in before you changed to the DOS directory. Before you begin this section, make sure your command prompt looks like the following:

C:\DOS>

- o **To change to the root directory**

- Type the following command:

**cd **

Note that the slash you type in this command is a backslash (\), not a forward slash (/).

No matter which directory you are in, this command always returns you to the root directory of a drive. The root directory does not have a name. It is simply referred to by a backslash (\).

The command prompt should now look like the following:

C:\>

When your command prompt appears similar to this---that is, when it does not contain the name of a directory---you are in the root directory.

Creating a Directory

In this section, you will create two directories. Creating a directory is helpful if you want to organize related files into groups to make them easy to find. Before you begin this section, make sure the command prompt looks like the following:

C:\>

To create a directory, you will use the **md** command. The **md** command stands for "make directory."

- o **To create and change to a directory named FRUIT**

1. Type the following command: **md fruit**

You have now created a directory named FRUIT. You won't see the new FRUIT directory until you carry out the **dir** command in the next step.

2.To confirm that you successfully created the FRUIT directory, type the following at the command prompt:

dir

or

dir /p

Look through the directory list. A new entry somewhere in the list should look similar to the following:

FRUIT <DIR> 09-25-93 12:09p

3.To change to the new FRUIT directory, type the following at the command prompt:

cd fruit

The command prompt should now look like the following:

C:\FRUIT>

You will now create a directory within the FRUIT directory, named GRAPES.

- **To create and work with a directory named GRAPES**

1. Type the following command: **md grapes**

You will not see the new GRAPES directory until you carry out the **dir** command in the next step.

2. To confirm that you successfully created the GRAPES directory, type the following at the command prompt:

dir

The GRAPES directory is a *subdirectory* of the FRUIT directory. A subdirectory is a directory within another directory. Subdirectories are useful if you want to further subdivide information.

3. To change to the GRAPES directory, type the following at the command prompt: **cd grapes**

The command prompt should now look like the following:

C:\FRUIT\GRAPES>

4. To switch back to the FRUIT directory, type the following:

cd ..

The command prompt should now look like the following:

C:\FRUIT>

Deleting a Directory

If you no longer use a particular directory, you may want to delete it to simplify your directory structure. Deleting a directory is also useful if you type the wrong name when you are creating a directory and you want to delete the incorrect directory before creating a new one.

In this section, you will delete the GRAPES directory. Before you begin in this section, make sure the command prompt looks like the following:

C:\FRUIT>

To delete a directory, use the **rd** command. The **rd** command stands for "*remove directory*."

- o **To delete the GRAPES directory**

1. Type the following command: **rd grapes**
2. To confirm that you successfully deleted the GRAPES directory, type the following at the command prompt:

dir

The GRAPES directory should no longer appear in the directory list.

Note You cannot delete a directory if you are in it. Before you can delete a directory, you must make the directory that is one level higher the current directory. To do this, type **cd..** at the command prompt.

Changing Drives

This section describes how to change drives. Changing drives is useful if you want to work with files that are on a different drive.

So far, you have been working with drive C. You have other drives you can use to store information. For example, drive D is your hard disk drive.

Before you begin this section, make sure your command prompt looks like the following:

C:\FRUIT>

- o **To change to and view files on a different drive**

1. Type the following command: **D:**

Note that the command prompt changed to the following:

D:\>

2. Change back to drive C by typing the following at the

command prompt: **C:**

Your command prompt should return to the following:

C:\FRUIT>

When you type a drive letter followed by a colon, you change to that drive. The drive letter that appears in the command prompt shows which drive is the **current drive**. Unless you specify otherwise, any commands you type are carried out on the current drive and in the current directory.

So far, all the commands you typed were carried out on the current drive and in the current directory.

Clearing the MS-Dos Screen

To clear the MS-Dos screen use the following command prompt:

C:\ cls

The screen now should appears clear.