Class 04: Linux, Continued

Held: Friday, 28 January 2011

Summary: We conclude our initial explorations of Linux.

Related Pages:
- EBoard.
- Lab: GNU/Linux III.
- Due: Assignment 1: Fun with Linux.

Notes:
- I have responded to all of the assignment 0’s I received. I have also posted a selection of answers to your questions. I would recommend that you read the course-related questions.
- Don’t forget that K&R 1 is due Sunday night.
- Next Thursday: Summer opportunities in CS. (And yes, we’ll discuss opportunities that might be appropriate for you folks.)
- A few of you made it to yesterday’s session. I’ll summarize a few important lessons from that session.
- I am perennially behind. Expect to see a posting of assignment 2 some time this afternoon or evening.
- Welcome to our class visitors!

Overview:
- Why Linux first?
- Review.
- Lab, continued.
- Reflection.

Context: Why Linux First?

“I thought this was a class in problem solving in C. Why are we spending a week on Linux first?”

- The class is also intended to provide familiarity with the Linux operating system.
- Plugging together Unix tools is a form of problem solving. (It’s a different kind of programming.)
- You need to know Linux to program in C the way we want you to program in C.
- As examples: We’ll have you implement your own versions of a few tools.
Short Review

- What’s been the most confusing thing so far?
- What new commands have you learned in labs 2 and the start of lab 3?
- I’ve posted a short reference page on Linux. It is clearly a work in progress.

Laboratory

- Yay! Even more hands-on explorations with Linux.

Reflection

- What seem to be the three most important things you learned?
- What do you expect will be hardest to remember?
- What are some tasks that you might want to do with the OS but that we did not teach you to do?