



Useful UNIX Commands

command	description
<code>ls</code>	lists the files in the working directory
<code>ls blah</code>	lists the files in directory <i>blah</i>
<code>cd blah</code>	changes to a new directory (<i>blah</i>)
<code>pwd</code>	show name of present working directory (where am I?)
<code>cp file1 file2</code>	copy files (<i>file2</i> = copy of <i>file1</i>)
<code>cp file dir</code>	copy files into a destination directory
<code>cp -r dir1 dir2</code>	copy directory & sub-directories (<i>dir2</i> = copy of <i>dir1</i>)
<code>mv blah1 blah2</code>	move (or rename) files or directories (<i>blah2</i> = new name)
<code>mkdir blah</code>	make a new (empty) directory
<code>rm blah</code>	removes (deletes) file(s). Caution! There is no “undelete”
<code>rmdir blah</code>	removes (deletes) an empty directory
<code>less blah</code>	show contents of a <i>text</i> file - one screen at a time (type “q” to exit)
<code>cat blah</code>	show contents of a <i>text</i> file - all at once
<code>history</code>	see a list of previous commands (can rerun one with !N - e.g. !55)
<code>rm -rf</code>	DON'T DO IT! Removes LOTS of files...

command	description
<code>ls -la blah</code>	list files (+hidden ones) with extra info
<code>chmod flags blah</code>	changes permissions for files/directories
<code>nano blah</code>	simple text-only editor (for file <i>blah</i>)
<code>emacs blah</code>	more powerful/complicated, text-only editor (for file <i>blah</i>)
<code>control c</code>	Kill current running job and give back a prompt
<code>command &</code>	run this command in background (gives new prompt)
<code>control z</code>	suspend current stop and give back a prompt (job not killed)
<code>bg</code>	after control z, will make last job run in background (like <code>&</code>)
<code>tab key</code>	fill in end of filename (press twice for all possibilities)
up/down arrow keys	scroll through history of commands
<code>fsl</code>	start the main FSL GUI (can start all other GUIs from this)
<code>fsleyes imagefile</code>	view 3D or 4D images (specifying <i>imagefile</i> is optional)
<code>diff file1 file2</code>	show differences between the two text files
<code>wc blah</code>	character/word/line count of file <i>blah</i> (not a water closet)