

Supplementary Manual 2 - Shell or Terminal basics

The shell command-line, sometimes referred to as the terminal, is a tool into which you can type text commands to perform specific tasks—in contrast to a graphical user interface. You can navigate between folders, act on files inside those folders, or perform other actions. The symbol `$` denotes the shell command line.

In order to list files inside the active directory, use the `$ ls` command. Directories can be changed using the `$ cd` command. You can navigate to either full or relative paths. For example, the following command navigates to a relative path—one above the current directory:

```
$ cd ..
```

If you want to navigate to a directory *myDirectory* inside of the current directory, type:

```
$ cd myDirectory
```

You can always use the `$ pwd` command to retrieve the current absolute path. In order to create a new directory, use the `$ mkdir folderName` command. You can remove any directory with the `$ rm -rf folderName` command. Use the `$ rm` command to delete a file called *fileName*:

```
$ rm fileName
```