Session - 6

Linux shell commands-I

inux Shell Commands – Part I (Basic Overview and Examples)

The **Linux shell** is a command-line interface (CLI) used to interact with the operating system. You can execute **shell commands** to manage files, processes, networks, and much more.

📜 What is a Shell?

- A **shell** is a program that takes commands from the keyboard and gives them to the OS to perform.
- Common Linux shells:
  - bash (Bourne Again SHell) – most widely used
  - sh (Bourne Shell)
  - zsh, ksh, csh – other variations

🔹 Part I: Basic Linux Shell Commands

Here are some essential commands to get started:

Command	Description	Example
pwd	Print current working directory	pwd → /home/user
ls	List files and directories	ls -l → detailed list
cd	Change directory	cd /home/user/Documents
touch	Create an empty file	touch notes.txt
mkdir	Create a new directory	mkdir myfolder

Command	Description	Example
rm	Remove files or directories	rm file.txt, rm -r folder/
cp	Copy files or directories	cp file.txt backup/
mv	Move or rename files	mv old.txt new.txt
cat	Display contents of a file	cat readme.txt
echo	Print text to terminal or file	echo "Hello" > hi.txt
clear	Clear terminal screen	clear
exit	Exit the shell	exit

🔍 **Examples in Practice:**

🔸 **1. Navigate and View Files**

bash

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cd /home/user

ls -l

🔸 **2. Create and Remove**

bash

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mkdir myproject

cd myproject

touch file1.txt

rm file1.txt

🔸 3. Copy and Move

bash

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cp /etc/hosts ./hosts_backup

mv hosts_backup hosts_copy.txt

🔸 4. View Content

bash

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cat /etc/passwd

⚠️ Tips for Beginners:

- Use man command to read the manual for any command (e.g., man ls).
- Use tab key to auto-complete file/folder names.
- Use Ctrl + C to cancel running commands.