

Systemd

Here are some basic exercises focused on using systemd, specifically covering systemctl for managing services and journalctl for viewing logs.

Part 1: Understanding systemd and systemctl

Exercise 1: Checking systemd Version

Objective: Verify the version of systemd installed on your system.

1. Open your terminal.
2. Check the systemd version:

```
systemctl --version
```

Exercise 2: Managing Services with systemctl

Objective: Learn how to manage system services using systemctl.

1. List all available services:

```
systemctl list-unit-files --type=service
```

2. Check the status of a specific service (e.g., sshd):

```
systemctl status sshd
```

3. Start a service (e.g., start the SSH service):

```
sudo systemctl start sshd
```

4. Enable a service to start on boot:

```
sudo systemctl enable sshd
```

5. Stop a service:

```
sudo systemctl stop sshd
```

6. Restart a service:

```
sudo systemctl restart sshd
```

Exercise 3: Checking System State

Objective: Check the overall system state with `systemctl`.

1. Check the current state of the system (running, maintenance, etc.):

```
systemctl get-default
```

2. Change the default target to multi-user (non-graphical mode):

```
sudo systemctl set-default multi-user.target
```

3. Reboot the system to apply the changes (optional):

```
sudo reboot
```

Part 2: Viewing Logs with `journalctl`

Exercise 4: Basic Usage of `journalctl`

Objective: Learn how to view logs using `journalctl`.

1. View the entire system log:

```
journalctl
```

2. View logs for the current boot:

```
journalctl -b
```

3. View logs for a specific service (e.g., `sshd`):

```
journalctl -u sshd
```

4. View the most recent logs:

```
journalctl -n 50
```

5. Follow logs in real time (similar to `tail -f`):

```
journalctl -f
```

Part 3: Create a service

1. In `/usr/lib/systemd/system/` create a unitfile with the following content.
The name of the unit file should be `date.service`.

```
[Unit]
Description=date service
[Service]
ExecStart=/usr/local/bin/date.sh
KillMode=process
[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

2. In `/usr/local/bin/` create a script with the following content.
(the name of the script should be `date.sh`)

```
#!/usr/bin/bash
while true
do
    /usr/bin/date > /tmp/date.out
    sleep 5
done
```

Make sure the `date.sh` script is executable.

3. Enable the service and start the service.
Check whether the service is running.
Check the content of the `/tmp/date.out` file.
4. Stop and disable the service.