System Administration

MTAT.08.021

6 ECTS

Way of assessment: Exam

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http://courses.cs.ut.ee/2010/syshald/

Course schedule

→ lectures

Thursdays 12-14

→ practicals

Tuesdays 12-14 (red)

Tuesdays 14-16 (green)

Wednesdays 12-14 (blue)

Wednesdays 14-16 (black)

Thursdays 14-16 (grey)

Thursdays 16-18 (white)

Liivi 2 - 405

Liivi 2 - 123

What is expected of the students?

What will happen in the labs?

What will we talk about in the lectures?

Terminology

Fundamentals

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of:

- → Administering a single desktop system
- → Networking (TCP/IP)
- → UNIX command line

Personal qualities:

- → persistence
- → stress tolerance

Relation to other courses

Before:

- → Network Technology I / Võrgutehnoloogia I
- → Operating Systems / Operatsioonisüsteemid

Same skill level:

→ Computer Security / Andmeturve

After:

- → Network Technology II / Võrgutehnoloogia II
- → Operating Systems Structures / Operatsioonisüsteemide ehitus

Composition of the final grade

to qualify for the exam:

→ pass all the lab (also: 30% of the grade)

final grade:

- → 50% from tests during the semester (4-6 tests)
- → 30% from practicals
- → 20% from written exam

tests:

- → take place during the lectures
- → you will be notified in advance

Tests

the tests will take place during the lectures
you will be notified in advance
3 to 5 questions per test
~up to ½ of A4 per answer
use of materials is not allowed

Practicals

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you have to build a simple system offering some typical services

Laboug lexpoort loodud

Laboug lexpo

the result to will be agraded

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Lab topics

- → Introduction & some basic settings
- → Logical Volume Management
- → Name Service (DNS)
- → Mail Services (SMTP, IMAP, ...)
- → Relational Database Management System

Lab topics

- → Web Server
- → Remote File Access
- → Monitoring
- → Incident Management
- → Virtualization

Hidden motives

What we actually want to happen:

Coherent "building" process

Systematic monitoring

Troubleshooting

Lecture topics: resources

- → Storage and Backup
- → Processing Power and Bandwidth
- → Software
- → Resource Virtualization

Lecture topics: processes

- → Planning
- → Risk Analysis and Disaster Recovery
- → Change Management
- → Configuration Management, Knowledge Management
- → Maintenance
- → Monitoring

Lecture topics: processes

- → Incident and Problem Management
- → Service Desk
- → System Administration Standards and Best Practices

Reading Materials

http://courses.cs.ut.ee/2010/syshaldus/

- → lecture slides
- → links
- → lecture notes (in estonian only)
- → lab instructions

Reading Materials

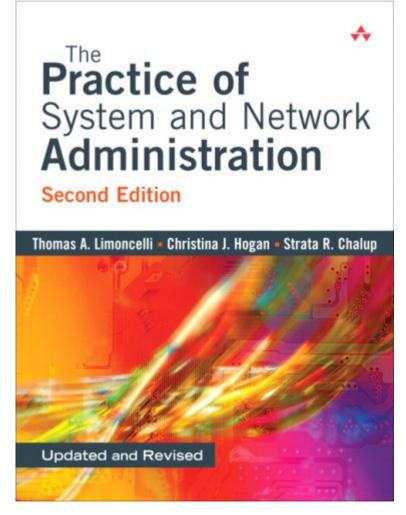
The Practice of System and Network

Administration

Thomas A. Limoncelli

Christina J. Hogan

Strata R. Chalup



Administration vs. Management

administration ~ technical level management ~ organizational level

administreerimine vs. haldus? haldus vs. juhtimine?

Terminology: (computer) system

regarded as whole; the structure of the system does not allow the components to be randomly rearranged; system as a whole can have properties/capabilities which the individual components do not have

Terminology: (computer) system

any element which has no relationship with any other element of a system, cannot be a part of that system.

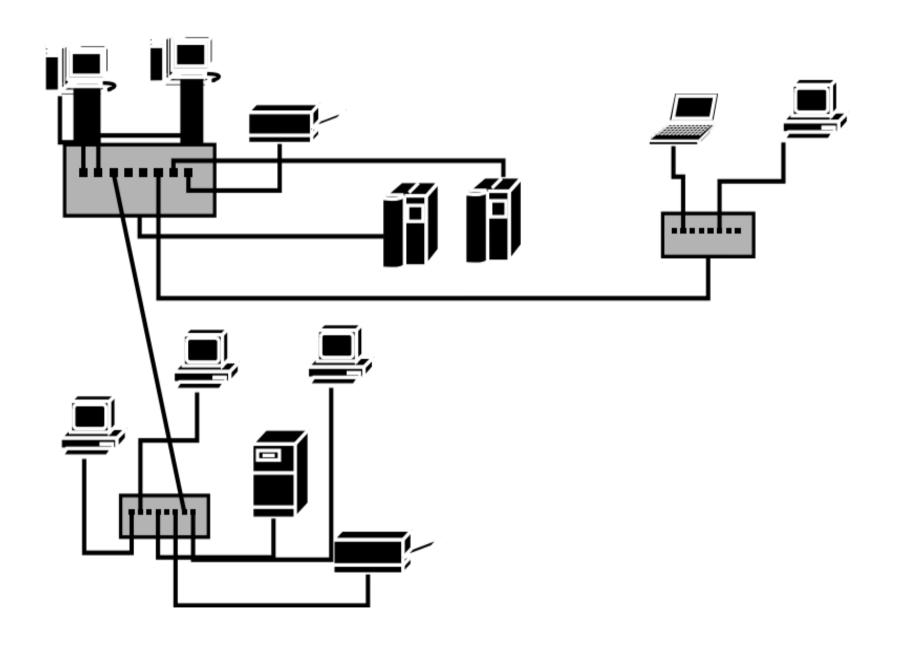
Terminology: computer system

a set of hardware and software which processes data in a meaningful way

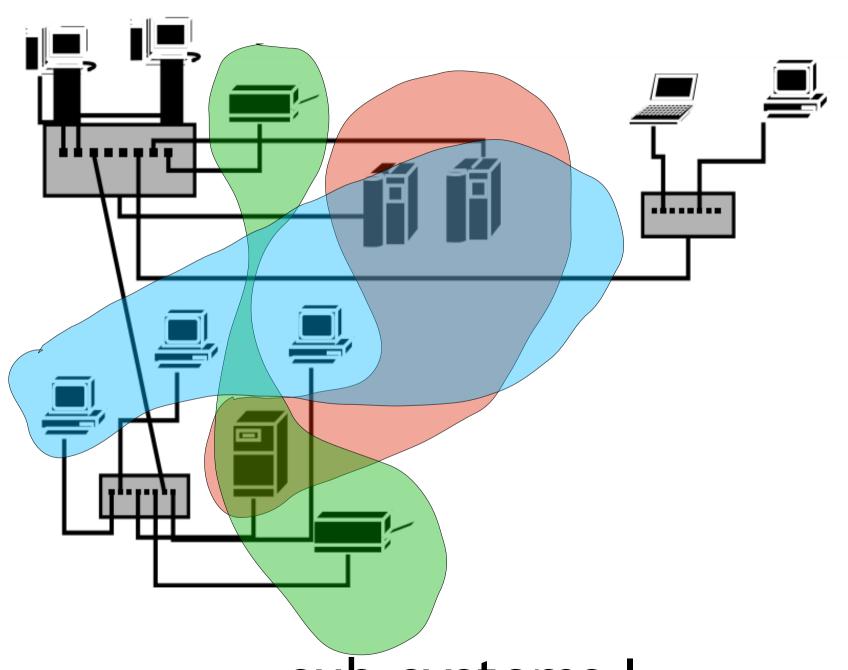
Terminology: computer system

Computer system:

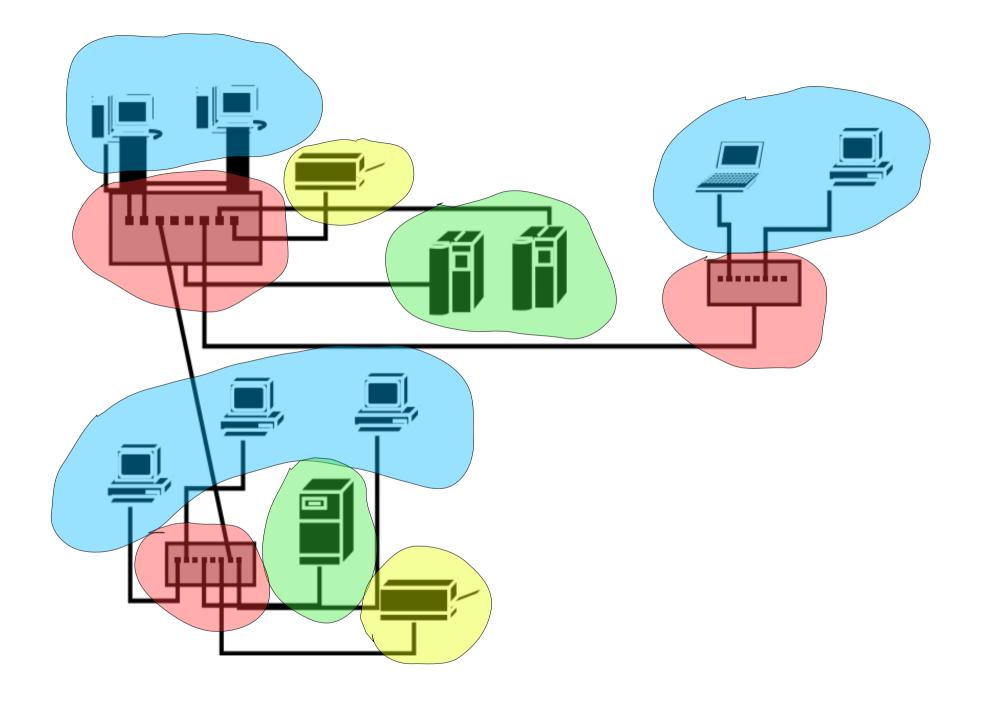
- → has interconnected components
- → is organized, has structure
- → is purposeful
- → can consist of (semi-independent) sub-systems
- the goals of the system are determined by its owner



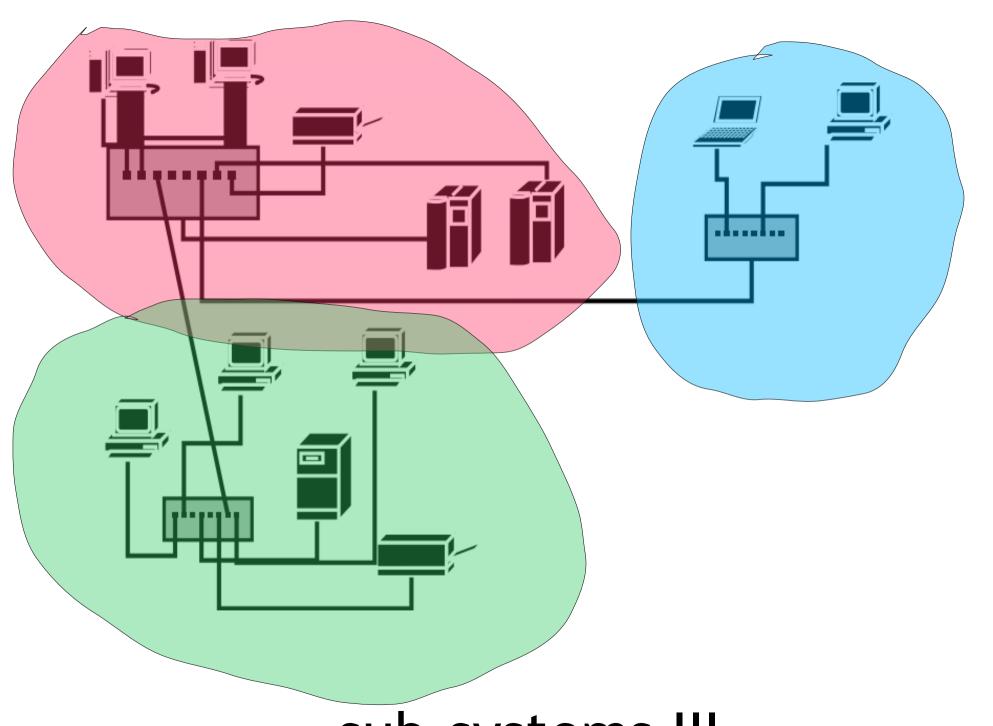
computer system



sub-systems I



sub-systems II



sub-systems III

Terminology: user (kasutaja)

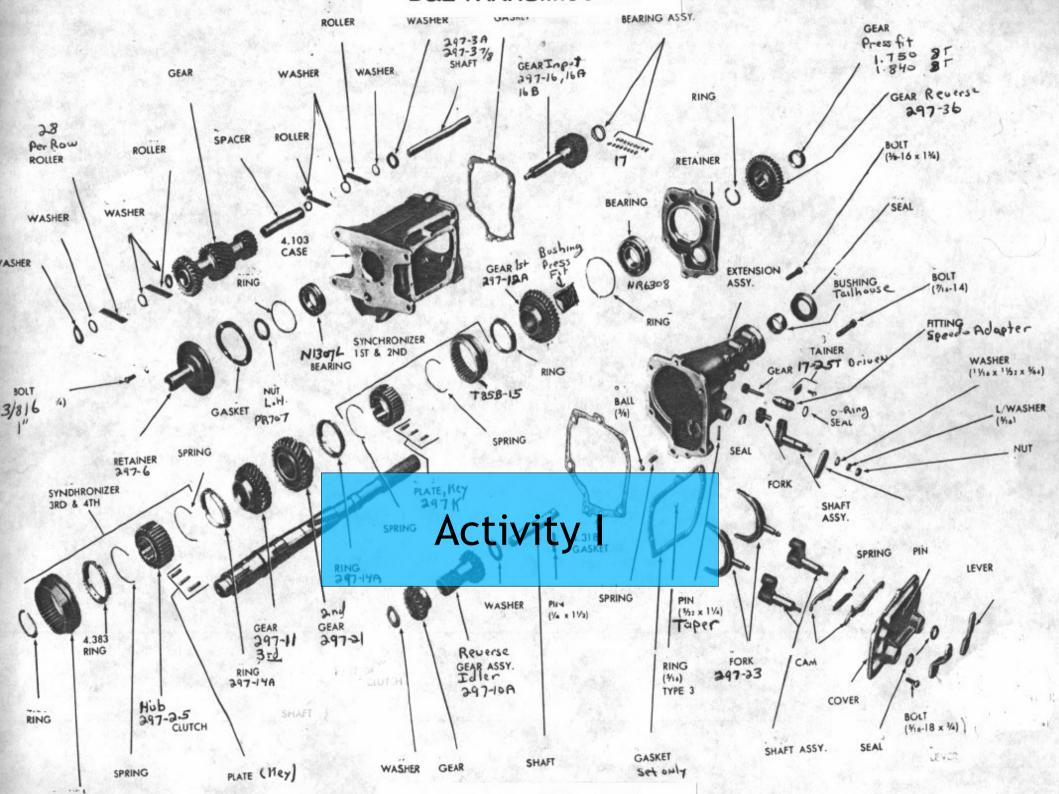
- → interacts with the system
- → makes some use of this interaction
- → can change some internal state of the system
- → usually cannot change the structure of the system

Terminology: system administration (süsteemihaldus)

- → periodical activities
- → restructuring
- → aims to keep the system aligned with the goals
- → performed by the system administrator (süsteemiadministraator, süsteemihaldur)

Terminology: service, customer

- → from the business' point of view we provide a service
- regulated with contracts
- internal and external services
- → customer (klient) is the receiving side of the service
- user and customer may be the same person, but not necessarily



Selection of sysadmin's duties

- → planning, implementing new technologies
- → hardware installation, configuration, maintenance
- → software installation, configuration, maintenance
- → auditing the systems

Selection of sysadmin's duties

- monitoring the system
- → responding to incidents, providing workarounds
- → identifying problems, providing long-term solutions
- preventing the problems

Selection of sysadmin's duties

- consulting the users
- performing user account maintenance
- → documenting
- → light programming
- → security administration
- → data protection

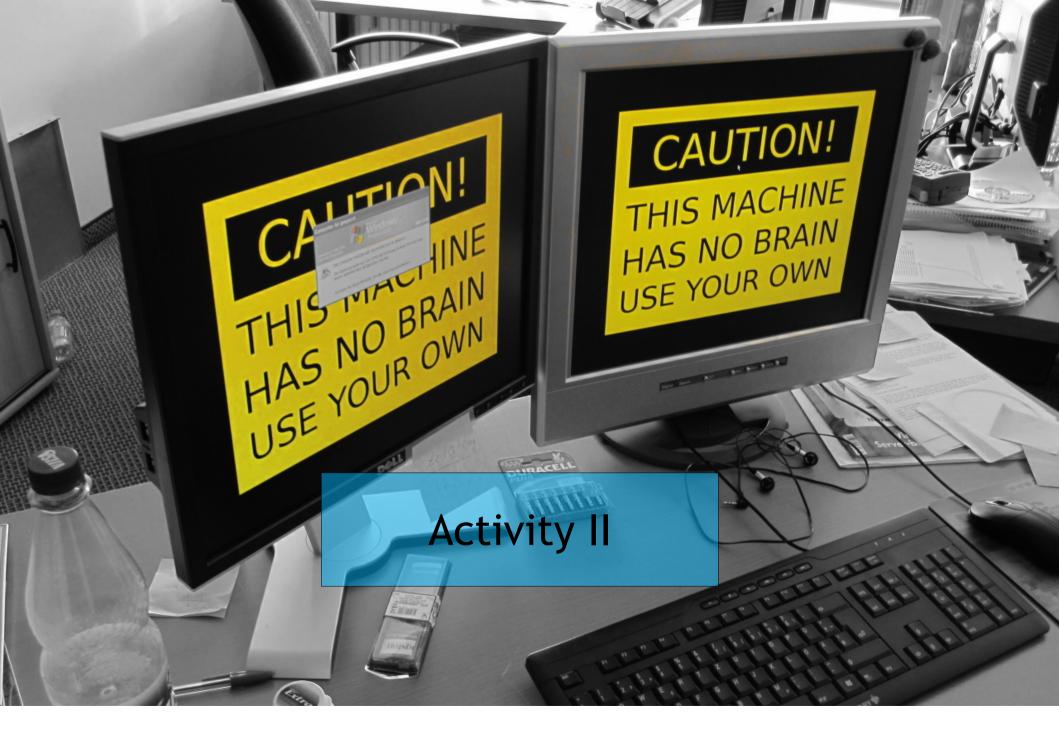
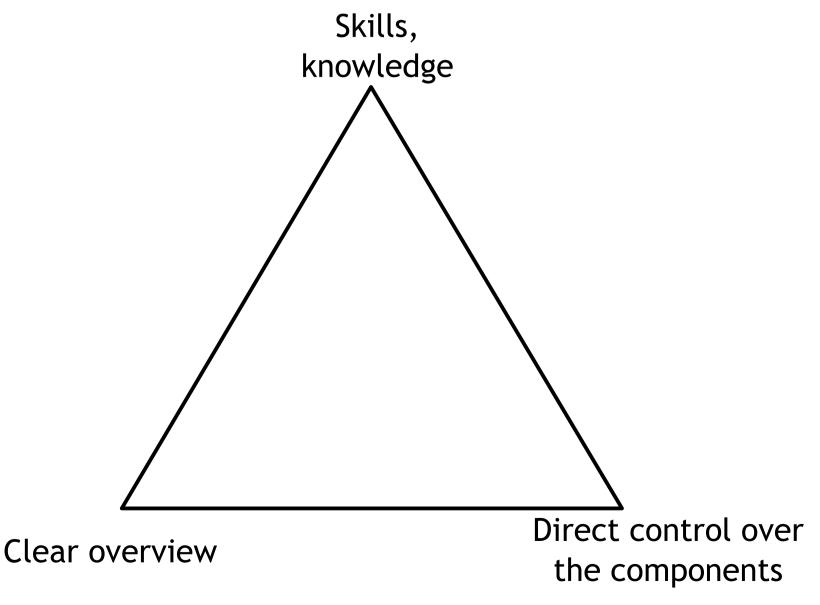
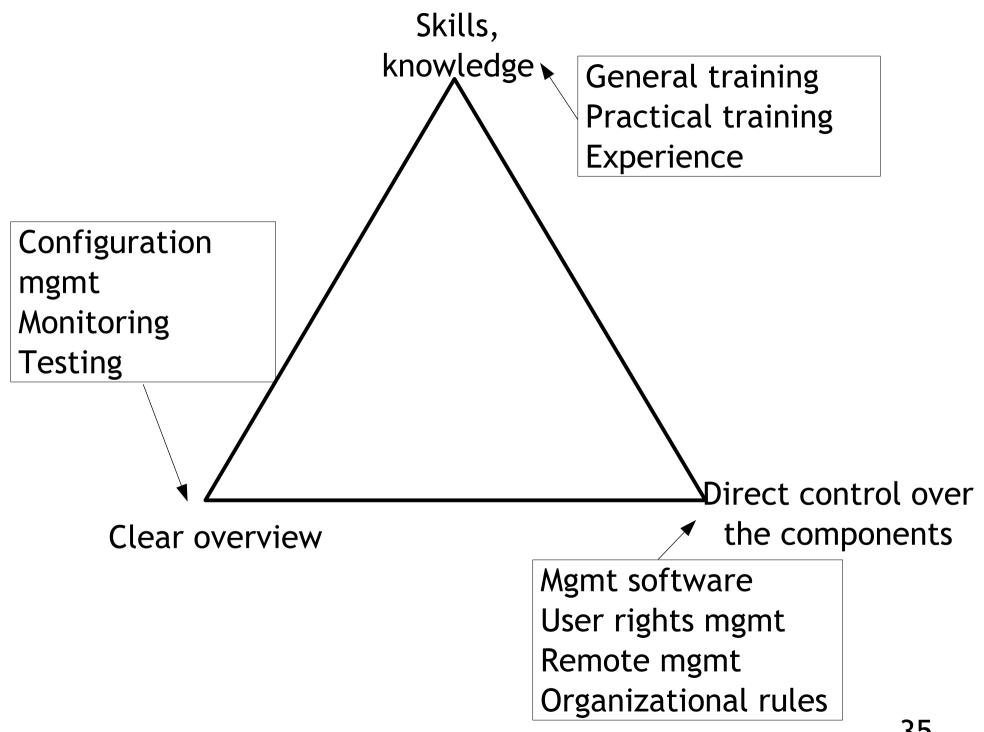


photo: http://www.flickr.com/photos/pasukaru76/

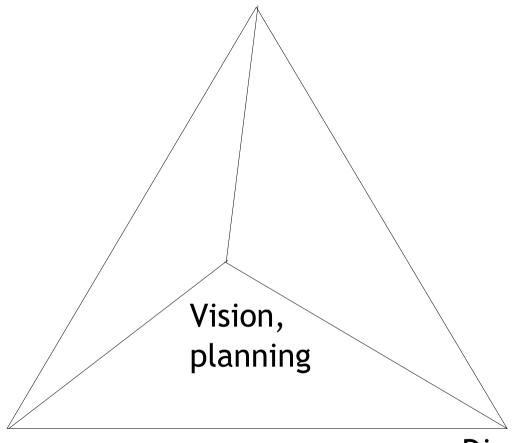
Fundamentals





Fundamentals

Skills, knowledge



Clear overview

Direct control over the components

Basic Principles in System Administration

- → Take care of the basics first
- → Plan ahead
- → Keep solutions clear and simple
- → Automate

Basic Principles in System Administration

- * Know your systems and tools
- * Know your users and enterprise communicate
- → Document

Activity III

