



FA2024 Week 01 • 2024-09-08

Intro to Terminal and Setup

George and Adarsh

Announcements

- Fall CTF registration is open!
 - sigpwny.com/register24
 - Beginner-friendly CTF on **Sunday**, September 22nd 12-6 PM!
 - Free t-shirts and badges are first come, first serve!
- We finished 4th place in CSAW CTF Quals!
 - We will be sending a team to New York for finals on November 6th-9th

Place	Team	Score
1	b011ers [U] (NA)	6405
2	Shellphish [U] (NA)	6405
3	CyberSpace [U] (NA)	6405
4	sigpwny [U] (NA)	6405



The "Don't Get Arrested" Slide

Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)

- Attacking "protected" computers
- Anywhere between a fine and **TWENTY** years in jail.
- If you don't have **EXPLICIT** permission to break into it, **DON'T**



Pwny CTF (ctf.sigpwny.com)

- Create an account right now!
- Where we put our challenges for you to build hands on experience
- Solve challenges, find flags, submit flags on website
- Talk to your neighbors and solve the collaboration challenge!

Welcome

Discord Authentication 50	SIGPwny Discord 50	Welcome to SIGPwny! 50
------------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------------

Challenge 0 Solved

Collaboration

10

Your collaboration token: **XXXXXXXXXX**

SIGPwny encourages working with the people around you! You can submit other users' collaboration tokens for a few points. If the text shows 'Successfully awarded points', you can check your profile to see an award for 10 points. **Don't share your code online – you should talk to others in-person.**

Flag



ctf.sigpwny.com

sigpwny{starting_off_strong}

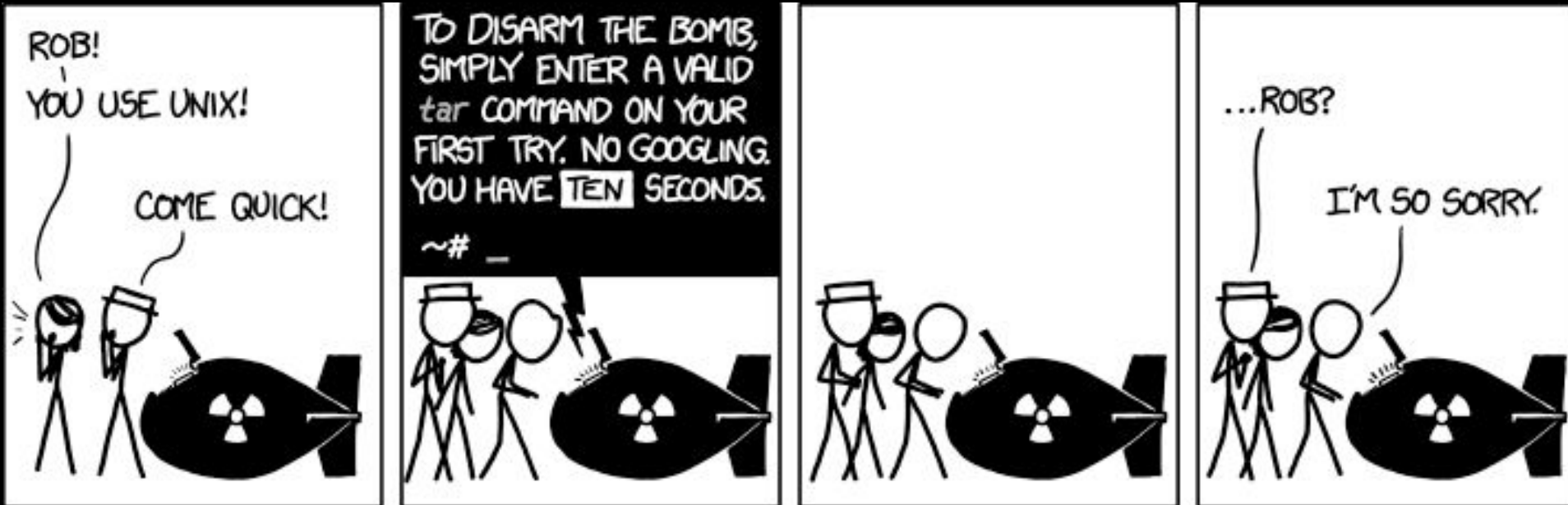


Table of Contents

1. What is a shell
 - *I want one!*
 - Install a package manager, terminal emulator
 - WSL or a virtual machine?
2. Using the shell
 - Platform differences
 - Useful builtins and utilities
3. Setup for reverse-engineering (rev) and binary exploitation (pwn) meetings
 - Installing Ghidra, pwntools, and GDB



> The Terminal

"It's where things happen" - Ravi



```
→ CSAW2020 ls
bard          grid          kui_blox1_sol.png
bard.hop     grid_solve.py libc-2.27.so
ezbreezy     krakme.exe   solve_ezbreezy.py
→ CSAW2020
```

```
mark@linux-desktop: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
mark@linux-desktop:~$
```

```
tquig@THOMAS-PC: ~
tquig@THOMAS-PC:~$
```



Linux



You're good to go!



Windows



macOS



PowerShell? Command Prompt?

- Those are shells too!
- However, the Windows terminal is built differently than the Mac and Linux terminals (which are both UNIX based)
 - Different command structure/rules
 - Less support for CTF relevant applications



Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL)

Mac users hold tight...

Linux users ... I hope you know this stuff already ;)



Installation

- Open command prompt as administrator
 - (Start button → type **cmd** → right click → "Run as Administrator")
- Type **wsl --install [-d <distro>]**
- Restart computer
- You should be able to launch Ubuntu from the start menu

```
Administrator: Windows PowerS  x  +  v  -  □  x
PS C:\Users\chris> wsl --install
Installing: Virtual Machine Platform
Virtual Machine Platform has been installed.
Installing: Windows Subsystem for Linux
Windows Subsystem for Linux has been installed.
Downloading: WSL Kernel
Installing: WSL Kernel
WSL Kernel has been installed.
Downloading: GUI App Support
Installing: GUI App Support
GUI App Support has been installed.
Downloading: Ubuntu
[===== 43.3% ]
```



Installation (Windows Store)

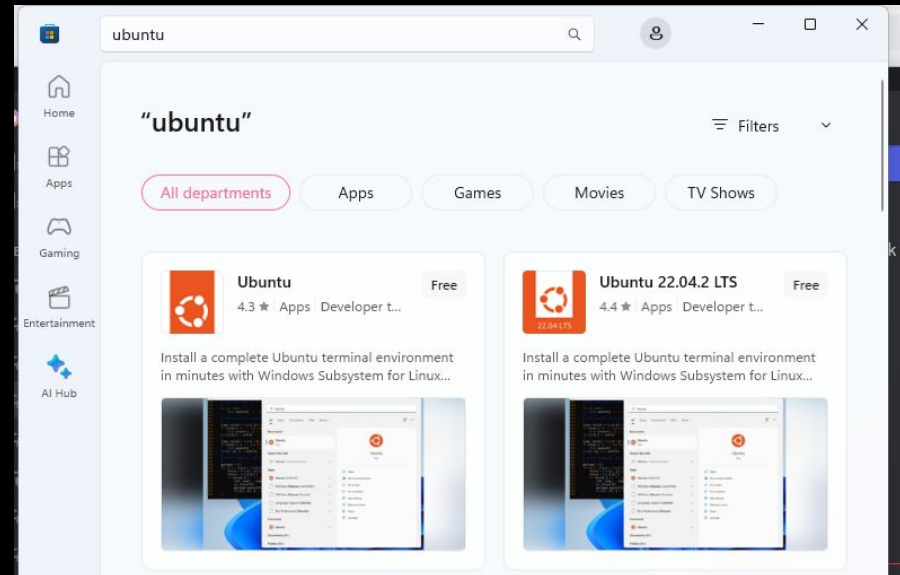
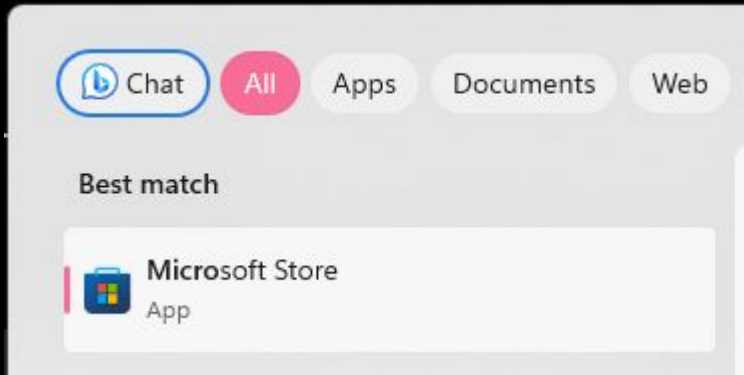
Open the
Microsoft Store



Search "Ubuntu"



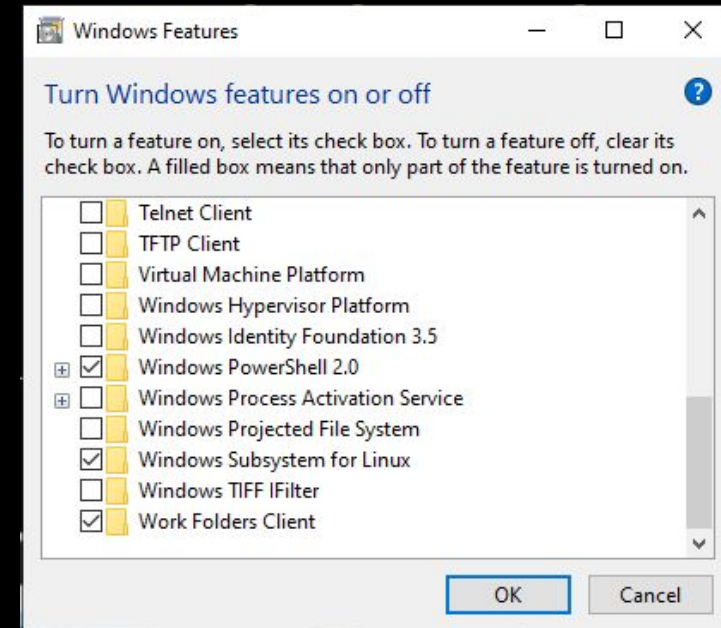
Install "Ubuntu"
(use the one without
a version number)



Installation (older Windows version)

If you get a command not found error when trying to run `wsl --install`, try this

- Go to the Windows search bar
- Search "Turn Windows features on or off"
- Check "Virtual Machine Platform" and "Windows Subsystem for Linux"
- Restart computer



Set a "root" username and password!

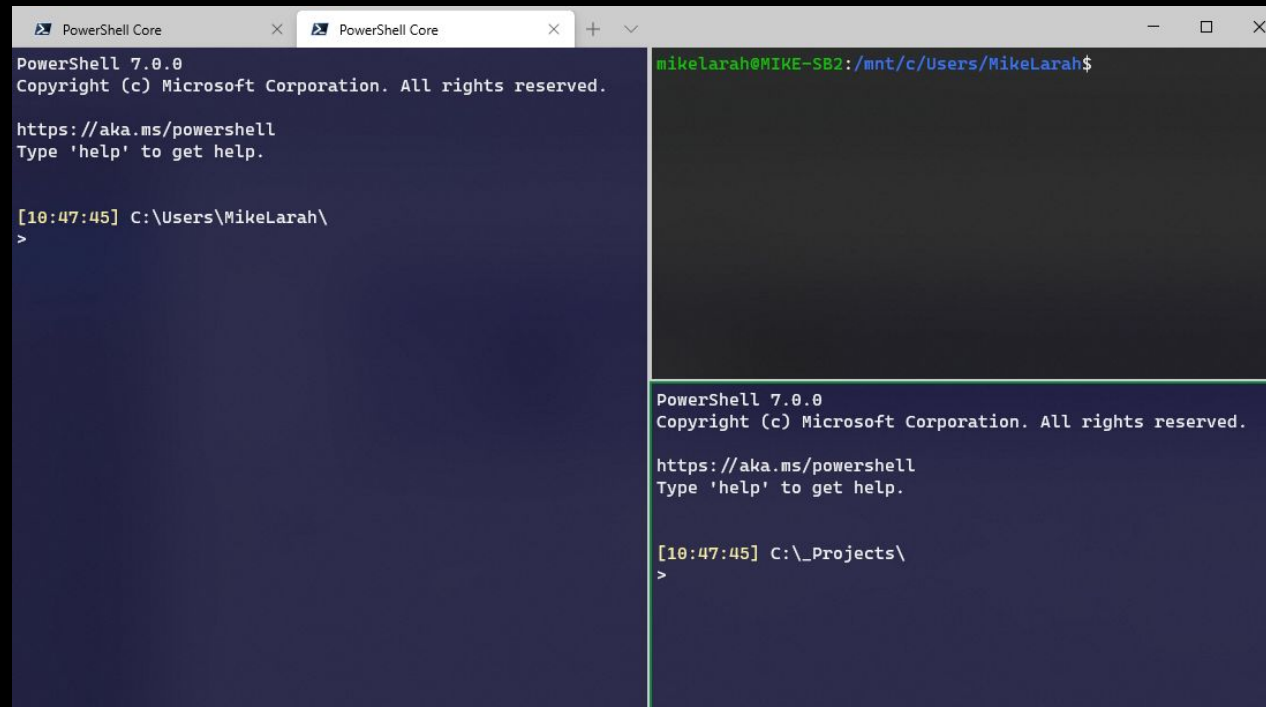
Select a username and password for your administrative user.

```
hayden@T470s ~  
Installing, this may take a few minutes...  
Please create a default UNIX user account. The username does not need to match your Windows username.  
For more information visit: https://aka.ms/wslusers  
Enter new UNIX username: hayden  
Enter new UNIX password:  
Retype new UNIX password:  
passwd: password updated successfully  
Installation successful!  
To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".  
See "man sudo_root" for details.  
hayden@T470s:~$
```



Windows Terminal (Optional)

- Nice for managing multiple types of shells (e.g. tabs for PowerShell, Kali on WSL, Debian on WSL, all in one terminal)
- Download from the [Microsoft Store](#)



The screenshot displays the Windows Terminal application with two tabs open, both titled "PowerShell Core". The left pane shows a PowerShell 7.0.0 session with the prompt at C:\Users\MikeLarah\>. The right pane is split into two sections: the top section shows a WSL session with the prompt mikelarah@MIKE-SB2:/mnt/c/Users/MikeLarah\$, and the bottom section shows another PowerShell 7.0.0 session with the prompt at C:_Projects\>.



macOS Terminal

Command
+ Space



Search "Terminal"



```
→ CSAW2020 ls
bard          grid          kui_blox1_sol.png
bard.hop     grid_solve.py libc-2.27.so
ezbreezy     krakme.exe   solve_ezbreezy.py
→ CSAW2020
```



Homebrew



- AKA "brew"
- Popular package installation tool on macOS
- Install: <https://brew.sh>
- Search: <https://formulae.brew.sh/>
- To install tools with brew, use `brew install <package>`
- Example: `brew install wget`



iTerm2 (Optional)



iTerm2

iTerm2 is a terminal emulator for macOS that does amazing things.

- Modern replacement for the basic macOS Terminal
- <https://iterm2.com>
- See also: [kitty](#), [Alacritty](#), [WezTerm](#), [Hyper...](#)



Reverse Engineering Setup



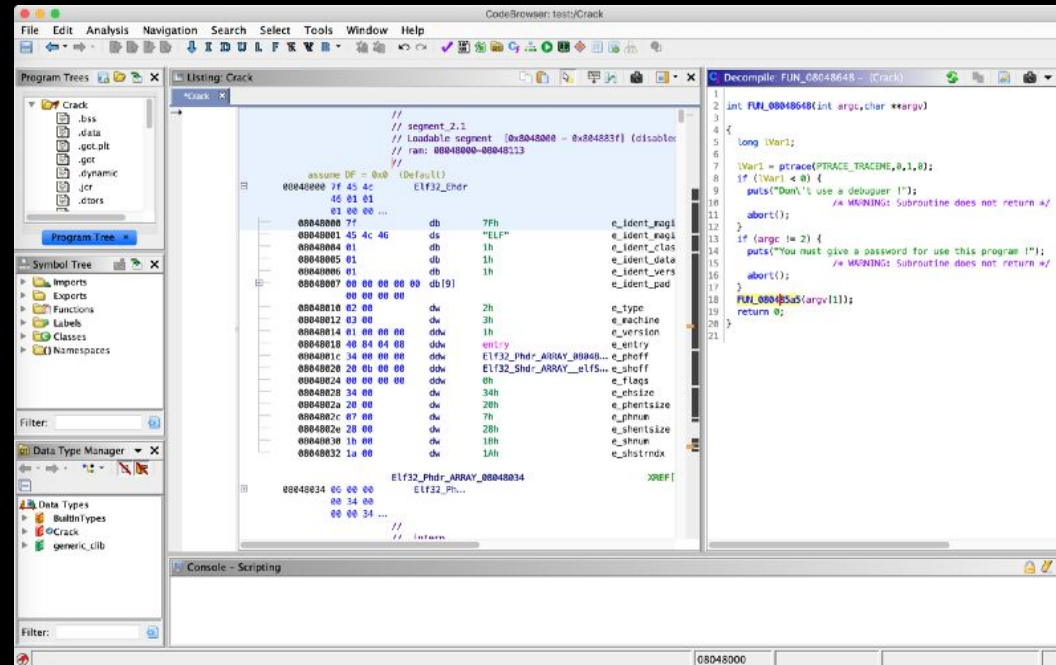
Ghidra

Decompiler go brrr



What is Ghidra?

- Ghidra is a reverse engineering toolkit developed by the NSA and made open source
- Allows you to disassemble applications - essentially turn an unreadable application into readable code



Installing Java (Windows/macOS)

Check if you have Java, and if so what version; should be ≥ 17

```
Last login: Sat Sep 16 22:50:17 on tty3003
~ > java -version
openjdk version "20.0.1" 2023-04-18
OpenJDK Runtime Environment Homebrew (build 20.0.1)
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM Homebrew (build 20.0.1, mixed mode, sharing)
~ > █
```

*Note: we recommend installing JDK and Ghidra on Windows, **not** WSL*



Installing Java (Windows/macOS)

Install JDK 17+ (**not JRE!**) from Oracle (or package manager, if applicable)

<https://www.oracle.com/java/technologies/downloads/#java22>

JDK 22	JDK 21	JDK 17	GraalVM for JDK 22	GraalVM for JDK 21	GraalVM for JDK 17
JDK Development Kit 22.0.2 downloads					
JDK 22 binaries are free to use in production and free to redistribute, at no cost, under the Oracle No-Fee Terms and Conditions (NFTC) .					
JDK 22 will receive updates under these terms, until September 2024, when it will be superseded by JDK 23.					
Linux	macOS	Windows			
Product/file description	File size	Download			
ARM64 Compressed Archive	184.27 MB	https://download.oracle.com/java/22/latest/jdk-22_linux-aarch64_bin.tar.gz (sha256)			
ARM64 RPM Package	183.95 MB	https://download.oracle.com/java/22/latest/jdk-22_linux-aarch64_bin.rpm (sha256) (OL 8 GPG Key)			
x64 Compressed Archive	186.23 MB	https://download.oracle.com/java/22/latest/jdk-22_linux-x64_bin.tar.gz (sha256)			
x64 Debian Package	159.64 MB	https://download.oracle.com/java/22/latest/jdk-22_linux-x64_bin.deb (sha256)			
x64 RPM Package	185.89 MB	https://download.oracle.com/java/22/latest/jdk-22_linux-x64_bin.rpm (sha256) (OL 8 GPG Key)			



Installing JDK (Linux)

```
sudo apt update
```

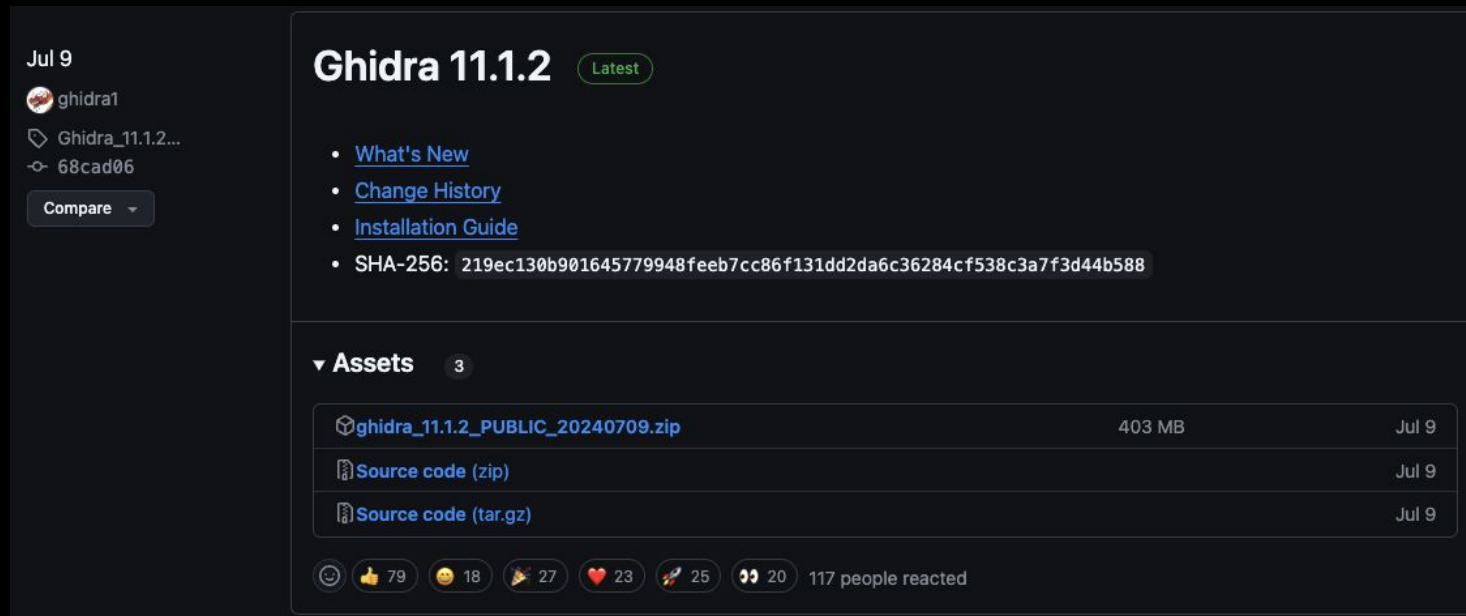
```
sudo apt install openjdk-17-jdk
```



Downloading Ghidra (All Platforms)

<https://github.com/NationalSecurityAgency/ghidra/releases>

Download the public archive in assets for the latest release (ghidra_X.X.X_PUBLIC_XXXXXXXXX.zip, not Source code.zip)



The screenshot shows the GitHub release page for Ghidra 11.1.2. The page is dark-themed and includes a sidebar on the left with the commit hash 68cad06 and a 'Compare' button. The main content area displays the release title 'Ghidra 11.1.2' with a 'Latest' badge. Below the title are links for 'What's New', 'Change History', and 'Installation Guide', along with the SHA-256 hash: 219ec130b901645779948feeb7cc86f131dd2da6c36284cf538c3a7f3d44b588. The 'Assets' section is expanded to show three items: 'ghidra_11.1.2_PUBLIC_20240709.zip' (403 MB, Jul 9), 'Source code (zip)' (Jul 9), and 'Source code (tar.gz)' (Jul 9). At the bottom, there are reaction icons for thumbs up (79), smiley face (18), fire (27), heart (23), rocket (25), and eyes (20), with a total of 117 people reacted.



Running Ghidra

Windows:

Double click `ghidraRun.bat`

Mac/Linux:

```
$ cd ~/Downloads
```

```
$ unzip ghidra_???.?._PUBLIC_*.zip && cd  
ghidra_???.?._PUBLIC
```

```
$ chmod +x ghidraRun && ./ghidraRun
```



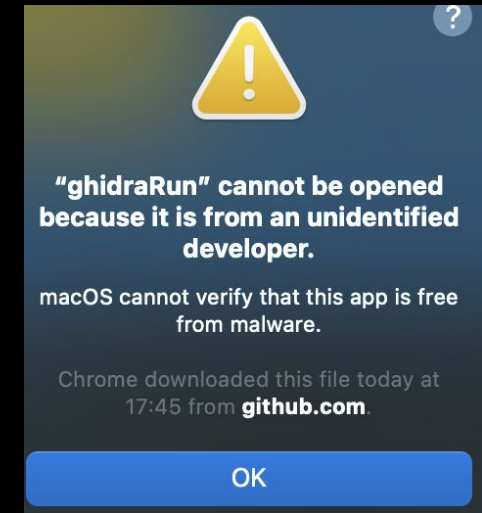
Running Ghidra (macOS)

The Ghidra distributable on GitHub is unsigned and needs permission to run the decompiler binaries

1. Open an x86 binary and run through the default decompiler
2. When you receive an error, go back to the "Privacy & Security" tab of settings, and hit "allow" on the binary that appears there
3. Repeat until you receive no errors when decompiling

OR run this one-liner to remove Ghidra from "quarantine":

```
sudo xattr -d -r com.apple.quarantine $GHIDRA_ROOT  
$GHIDRA_ROOT - where you downloaded ghidra to
```



Python and pwntools

"Now is better than never." (*The Zen of Python*, aphorism 15)



What is pwntools?

[pwntools](#) is a CTF framework and exploit development library written in Python

It makes scripting exploits much simpler/less tedious

```
>>> sh = process('/bin/sh')
>>> sh.sendline(b'sleep 3; echo hello world;')
>>> sh.recvline(timeout=1)
b''
>>> sh.recvline(timeout=5)
b'hello world\n'
>>> sh.close()
```



Installing Python

pyenv allows you to easily manage and switch between different Python versions (e.g. 3.12 and 3.8)

This is **preferred** over a system installation of Python

```
$ curl https://pyenv.run | bash
- add the EXPORT ... snippet in output to the
  end of your ~/.bashrc OR ~/.zshrc
$ pyenv install 3.11
$ source ~/.bashrc / source ~/.zshrc
$ pyenv global 3.11
```



Installing pwntools

```
python3 -m pip install pwntools
```

If you get a "command not found", you may need to refresh the shell environment:

```
source ~/.bashrc
```

```
source ~/.zshrc # zsh is default on macOS
```

on Apple silicon (M1, etc.) run this first!

```
$ brew install cmake pkg-config qemu
```



GDB + pwndbg

For those times where `printf` doesn't cut it



Computer Architectures



M1 Macbook

```
60 ;IF-THEN WITH COM
61 : IF (R0 <= 20 || R
62 MOV R0, #-2
63 CMP R0, #20
64 BLE S_THEN
65 CMP R0, #25
66 BLT S_ENDIF
67 S_THEN MOV R1, #1
68 S_ENDIF
```

aarch64 / arm64
“arm, 64 bit”

**You cannot run x86
programs normally*
on arm64, or vice
versa!**



i9-morbillion
laptop

```
_start:
    mov     edx, len
    mov     ecx, msg
    mov     ebx, 1
    mov     eax, 4
    int     0x80

    mov     eax, 1
    int     0x80
```

x86 / x86_64
“x86, 64 bit”

*We will talk about an exception
on Macs called Rosetta

**Otherwise, you can use QEMU



What is GDB?

- The **GNU DeBugger** allows you to inspect and modify execution of programs
- We will teach you how to debug **x86** binaries in **Rev II: x86 Reversing!**
- **pwndbg** is a "plugin" (`gdbinit`) for GDB that adds lots of nice features that are useful for binary exploitation and reverse-engineering



Installing GDB + pwndbg

macOS:

- GDB cannot debug native programs on Apple silicon (aarch64-darwin), *but can still debug binaries for other platforms (including x86)*
- Use our Docker container!

WSL/Linux:

```
$ sudo apt install gdb
```

```
$ git clone https://github.com/pwndbg/pwndbg && cd  
pwndbg && ./setup.sh
```



pwn-docker

For debugging and running x86 applications on **arm64 macs**

- if you have e.g. a windows arm machine, talk to us after the meeting



Installation

*You must be
running macOS 13
or newer!*

Enable Rosetta:

```
$ /usr/sbin/softwareupdate --install-rosetta --agree-to-license
```

Download the latest [Docker Desktop](#) and:

- Enable '**Use Virtualization Framework**' in 'Settings > General'
- Enable '**Use Rosetta for x86/amd64 on Apple Silicon**' in 'Settings > Features in Development'

Clone pwn-docker:

```
git clone https://github.com/sigpwny/pwn-docker.git
```



pwn-docker Usage

`./create.sh` - Run this to start your container. Type 'y' to initialize a permanent container, or 'n' for a temporary container. Don't start in background – still WIP.

`./connect.sh` - Connect to your permanent container after it has been stopped

GDB *should* work, ask in Discord if you run into a problem

```
$ file ./challenge
```

```
challenge: ELF 64-bit LSB pie executable, x86-64, ...
```

```
$ ROSETTA_DEBUGSERVER_PORT=1234 ./challenge
```

```
$ gdb ./challenge -ex 'target remote localhost:1234'
```

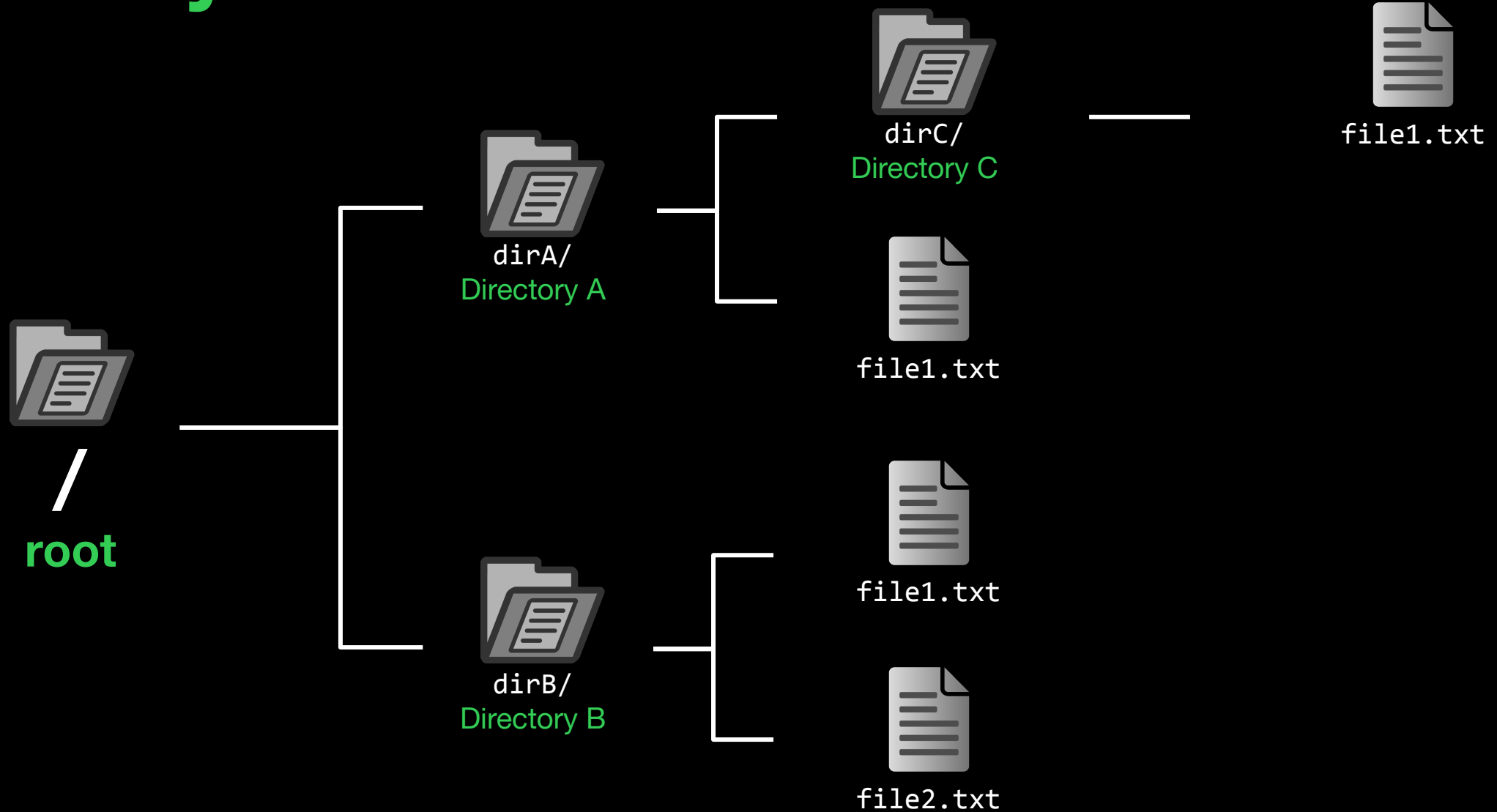


Unix Crash Course

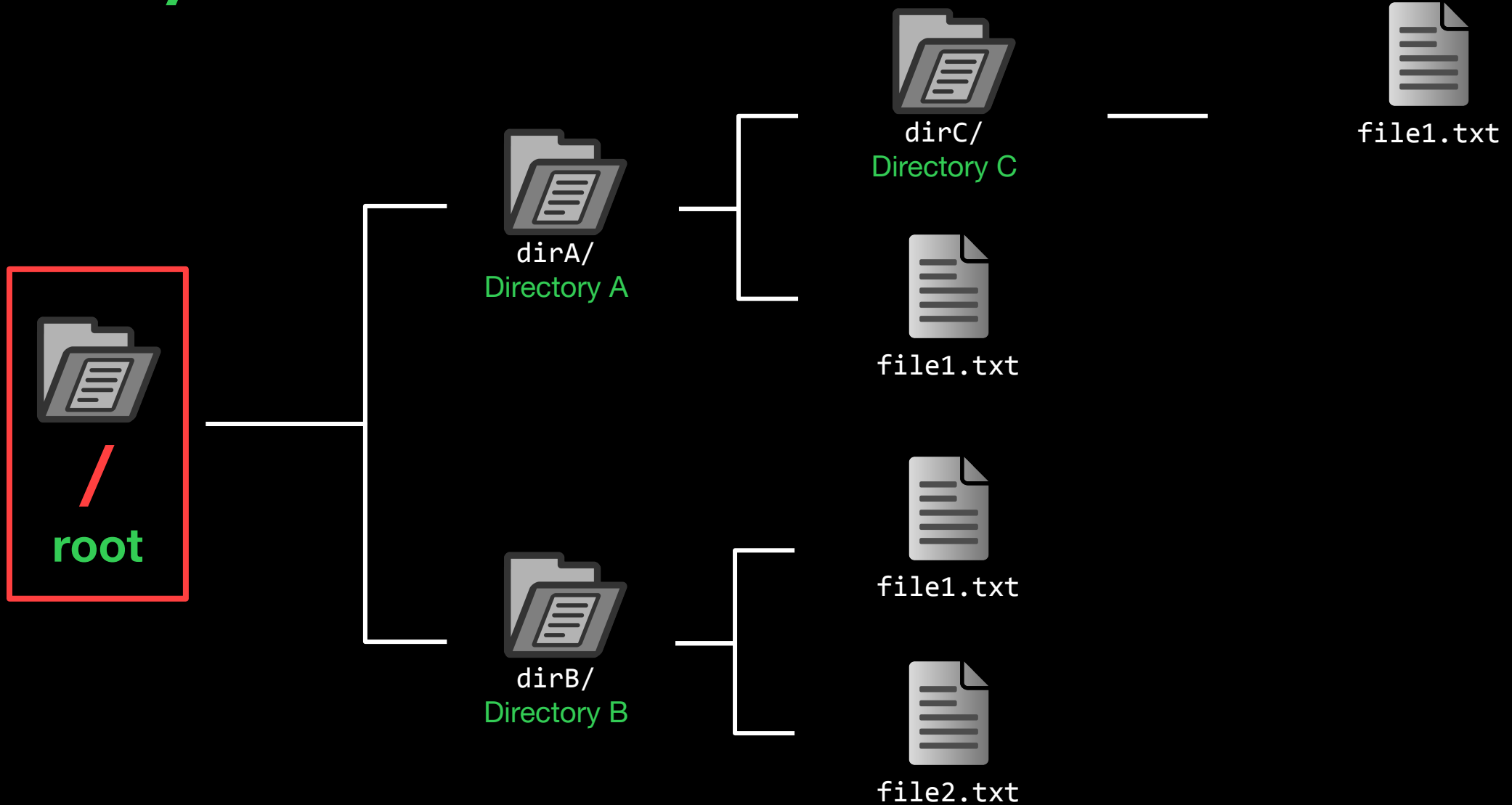
Navigate a file system!



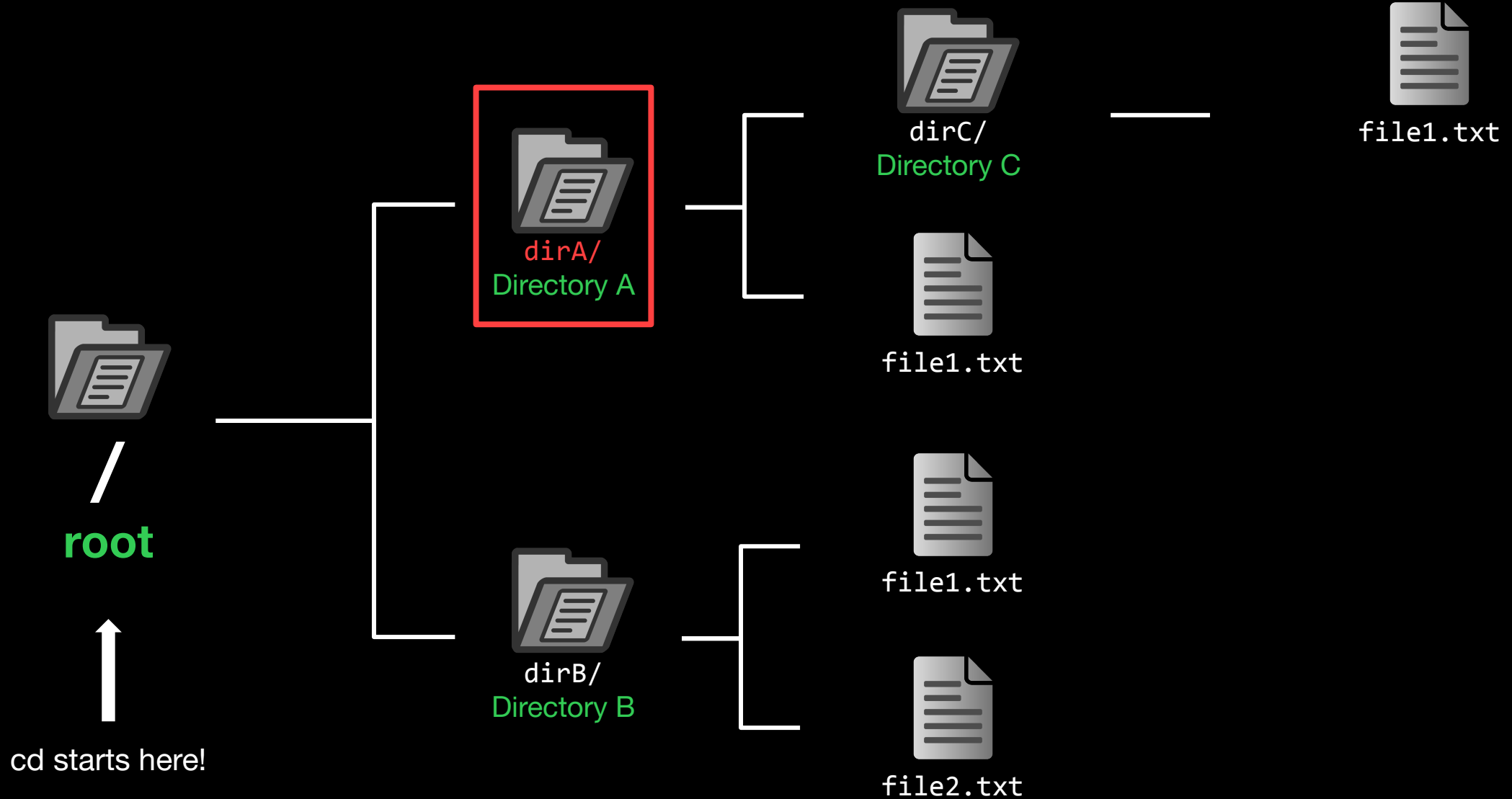
Filesystems



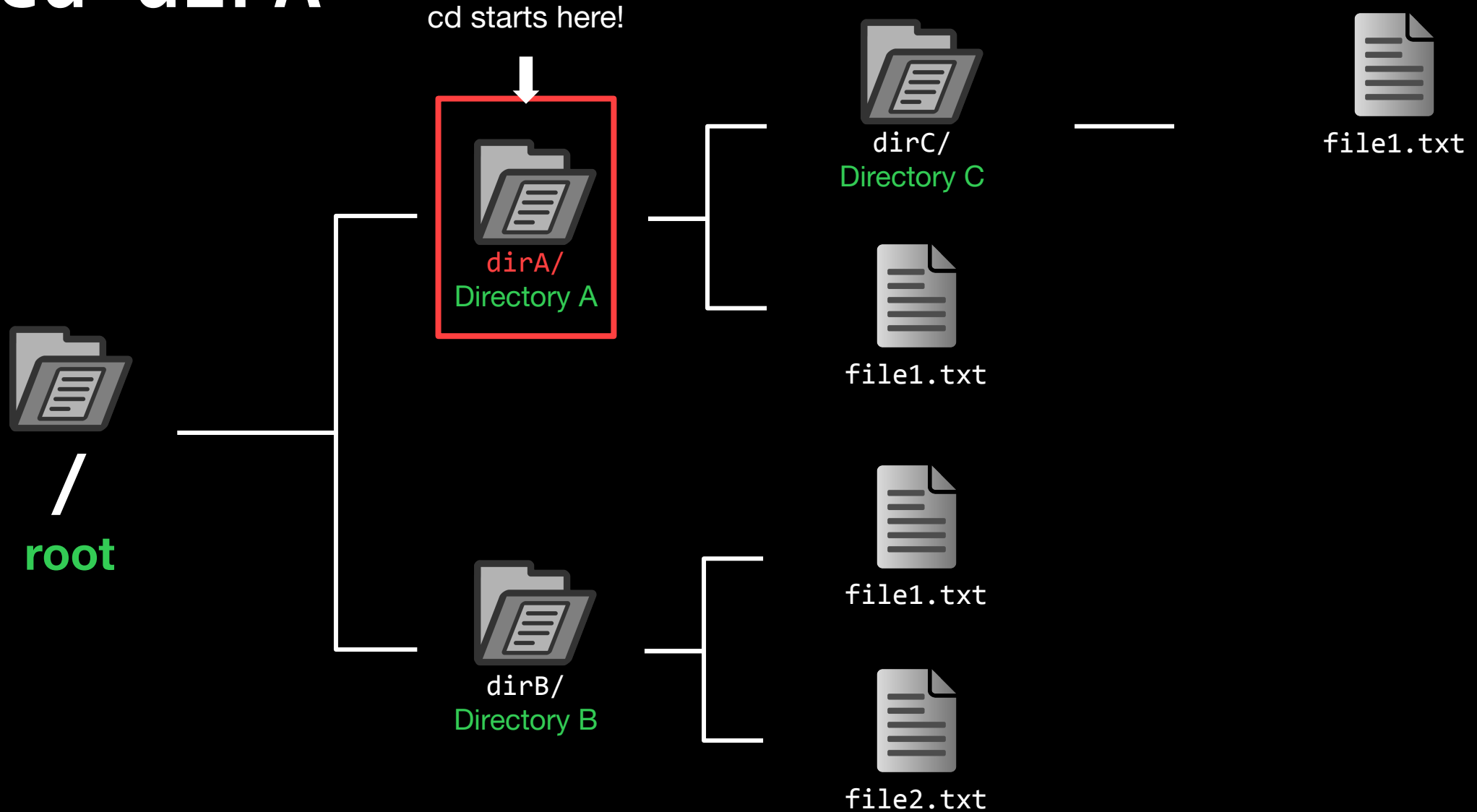
cd /

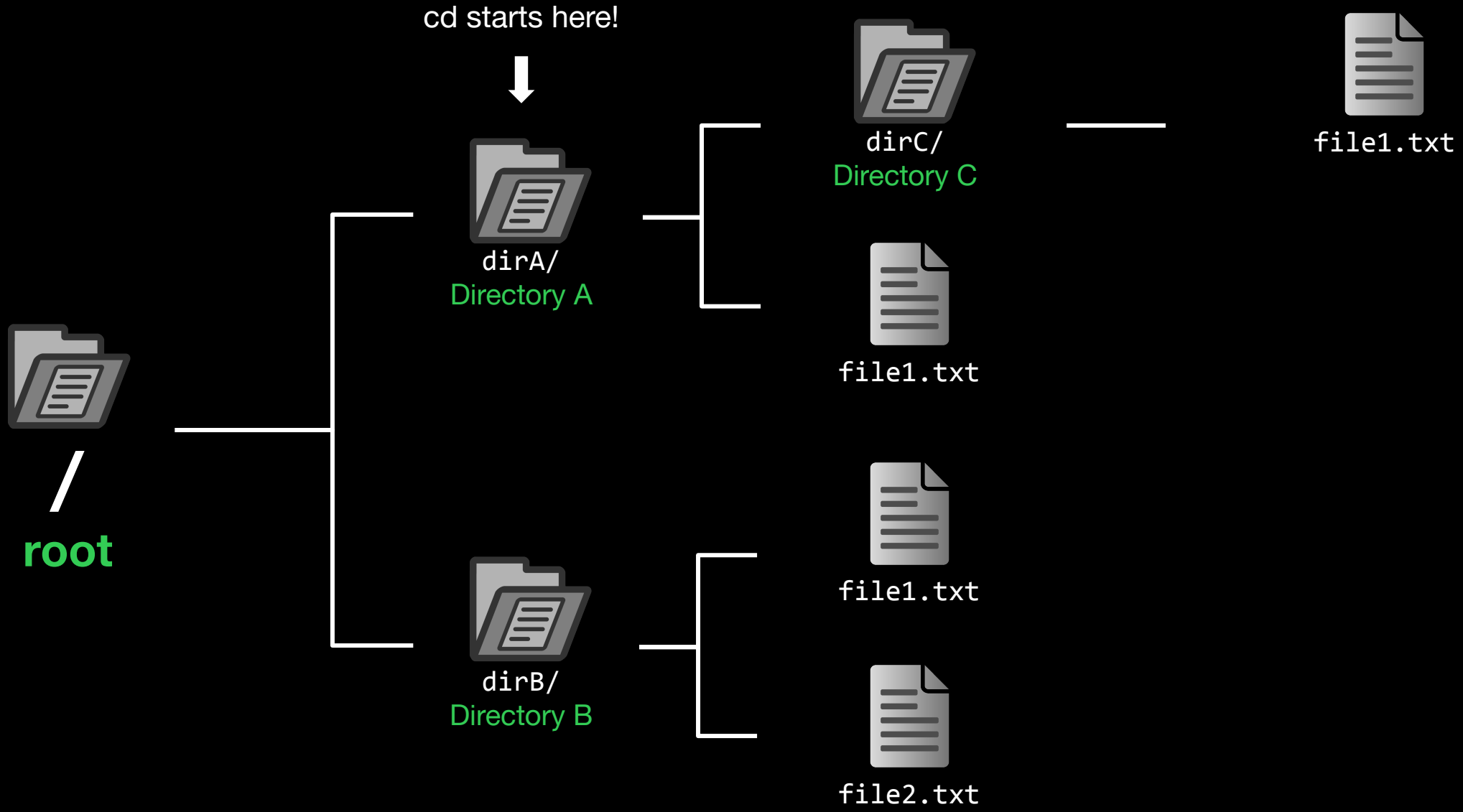


cd dirA

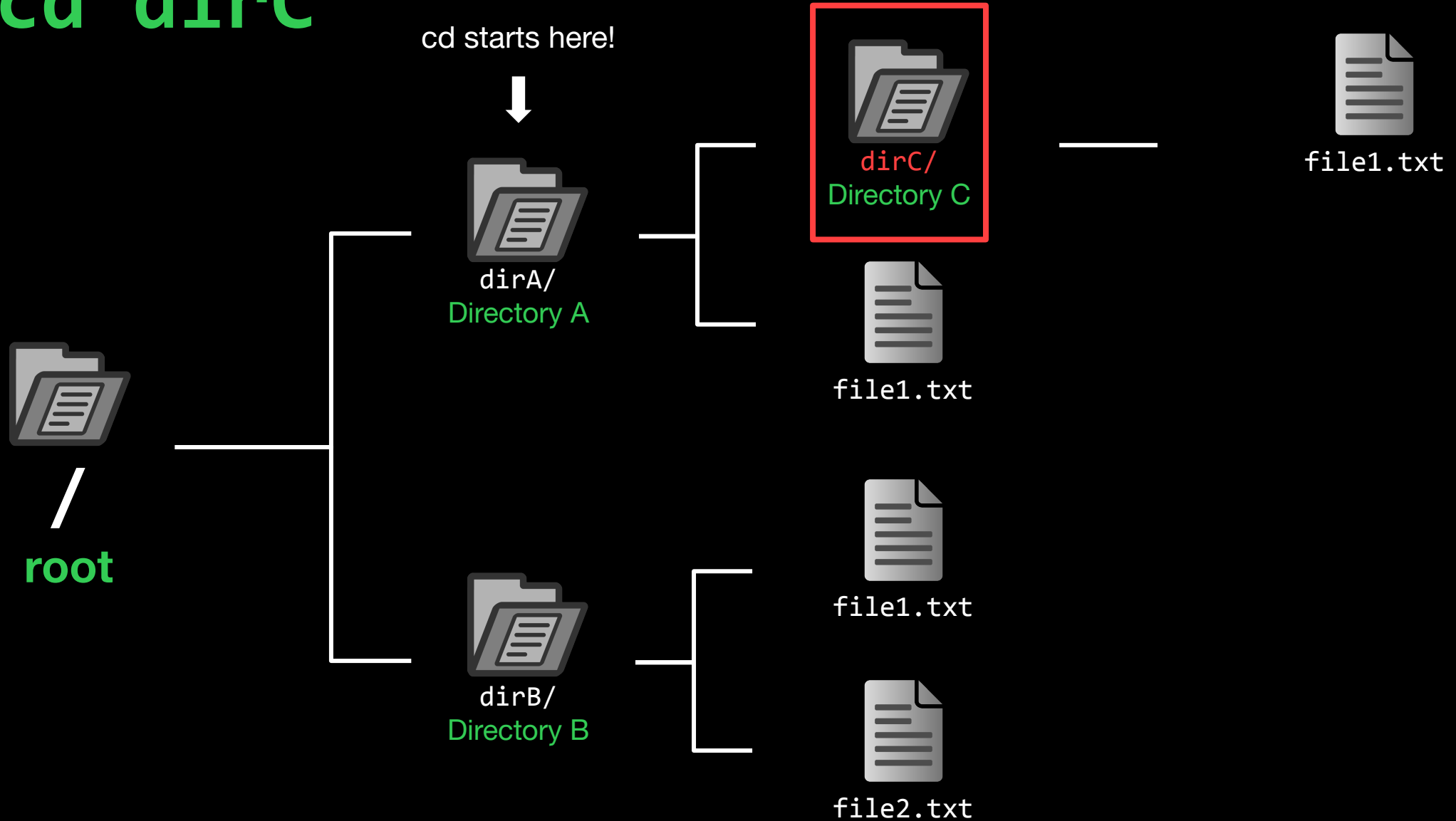


cd dirA

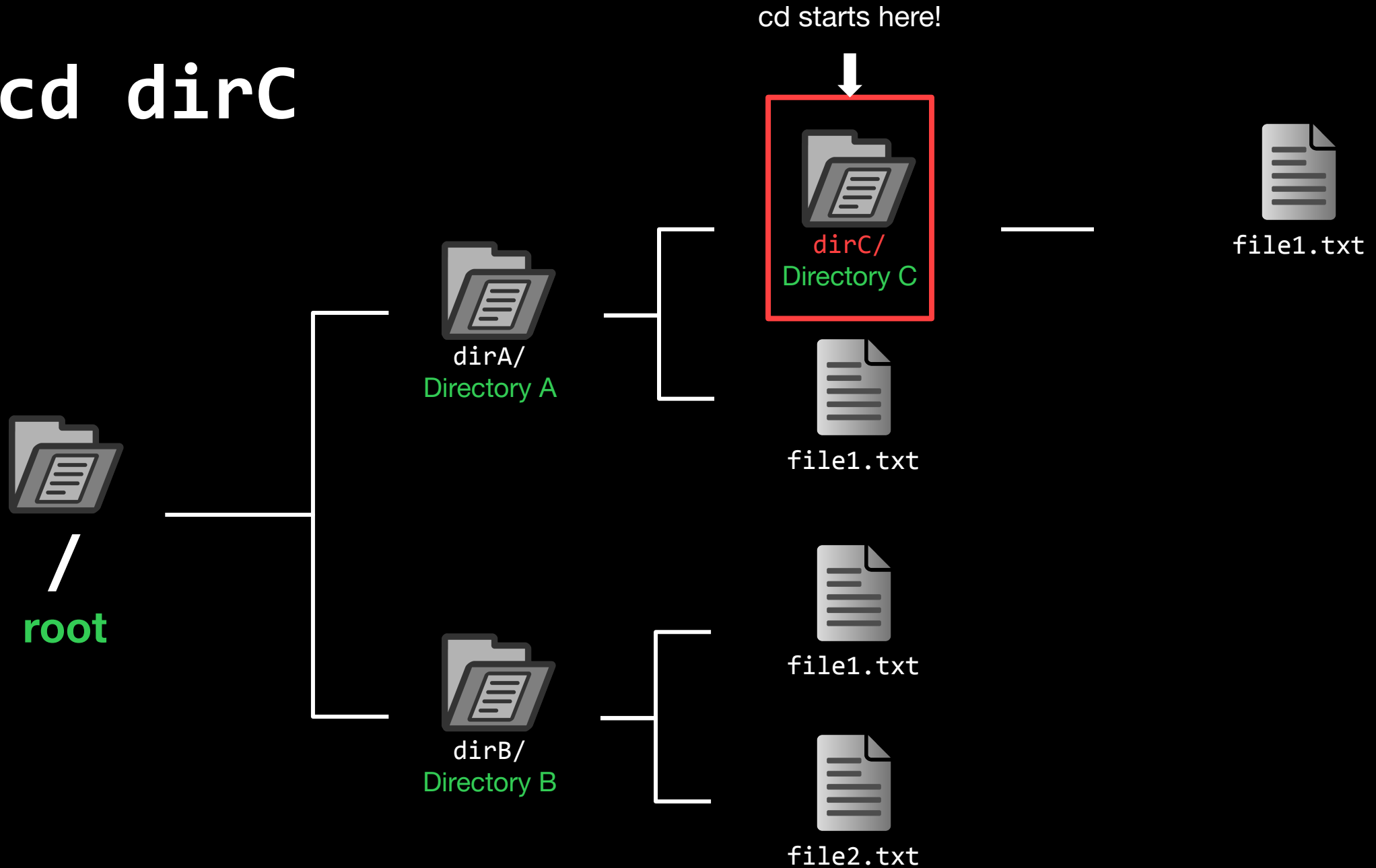


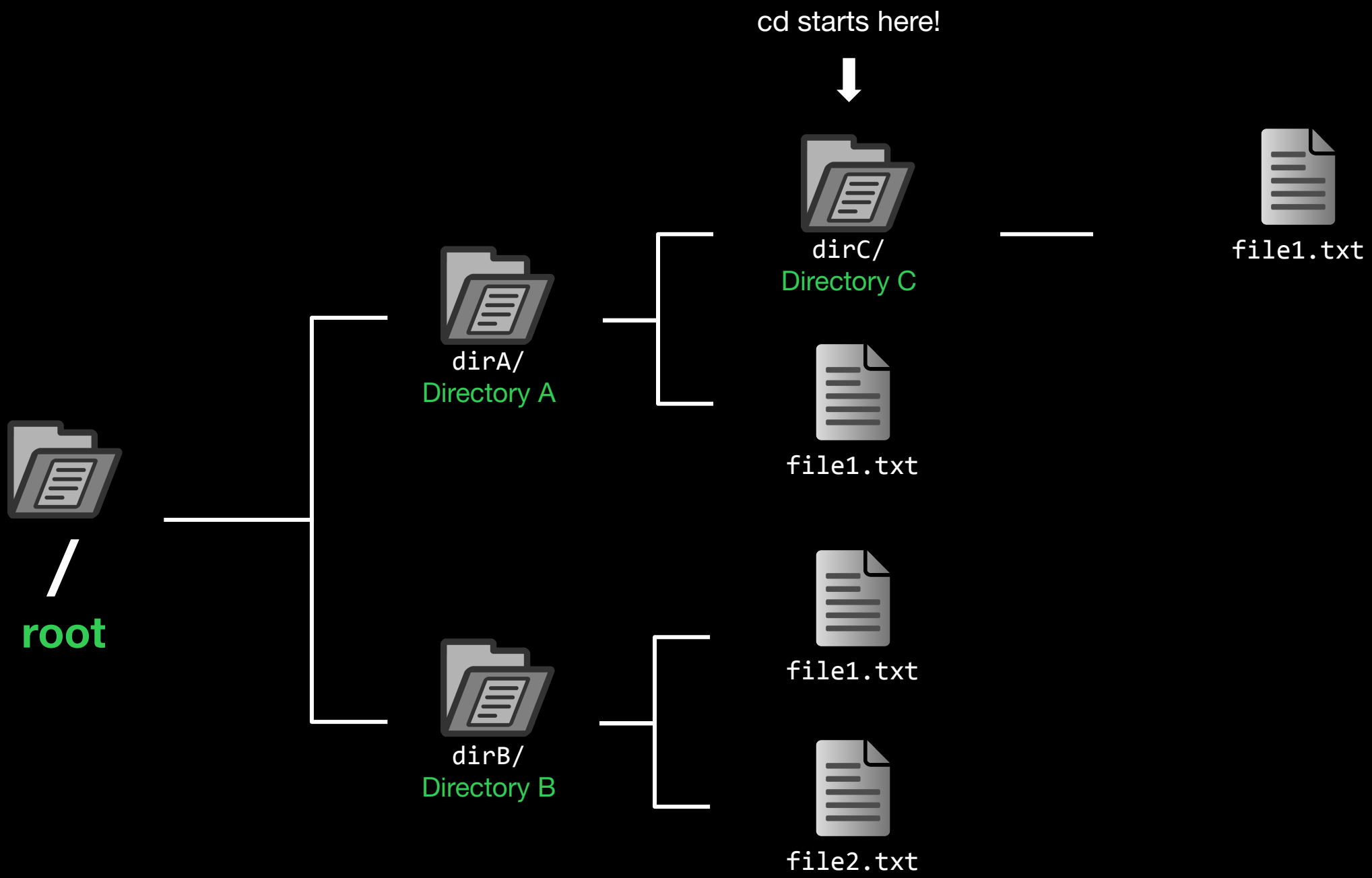


cd dirC



cd dirC





cd dirB

cd starts here!



/
root



dirA/
Directory A



dirC/
Directory C



file1.txt

Error: dirB not found



file1.txt



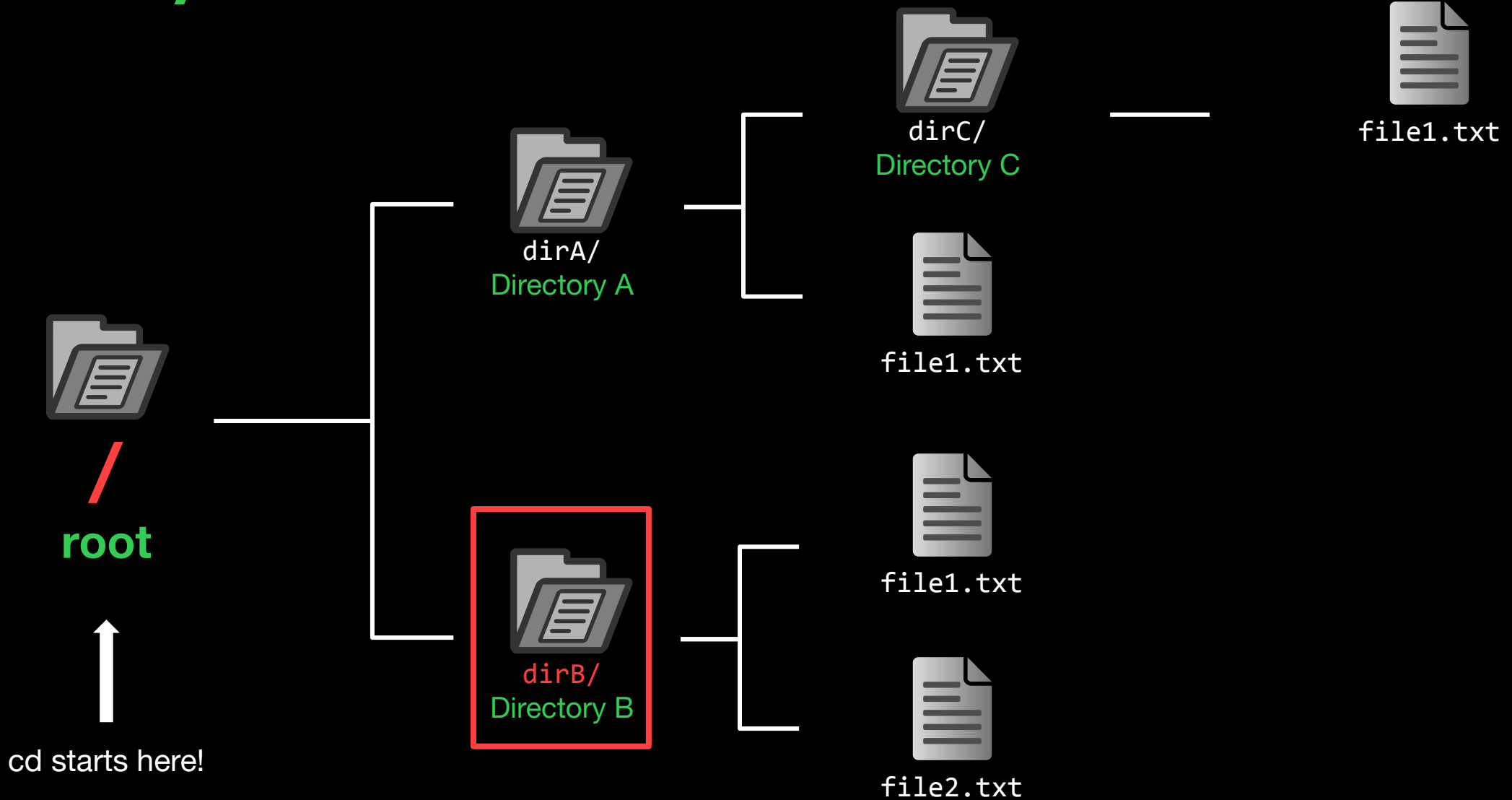
file1.txt



file2.txt

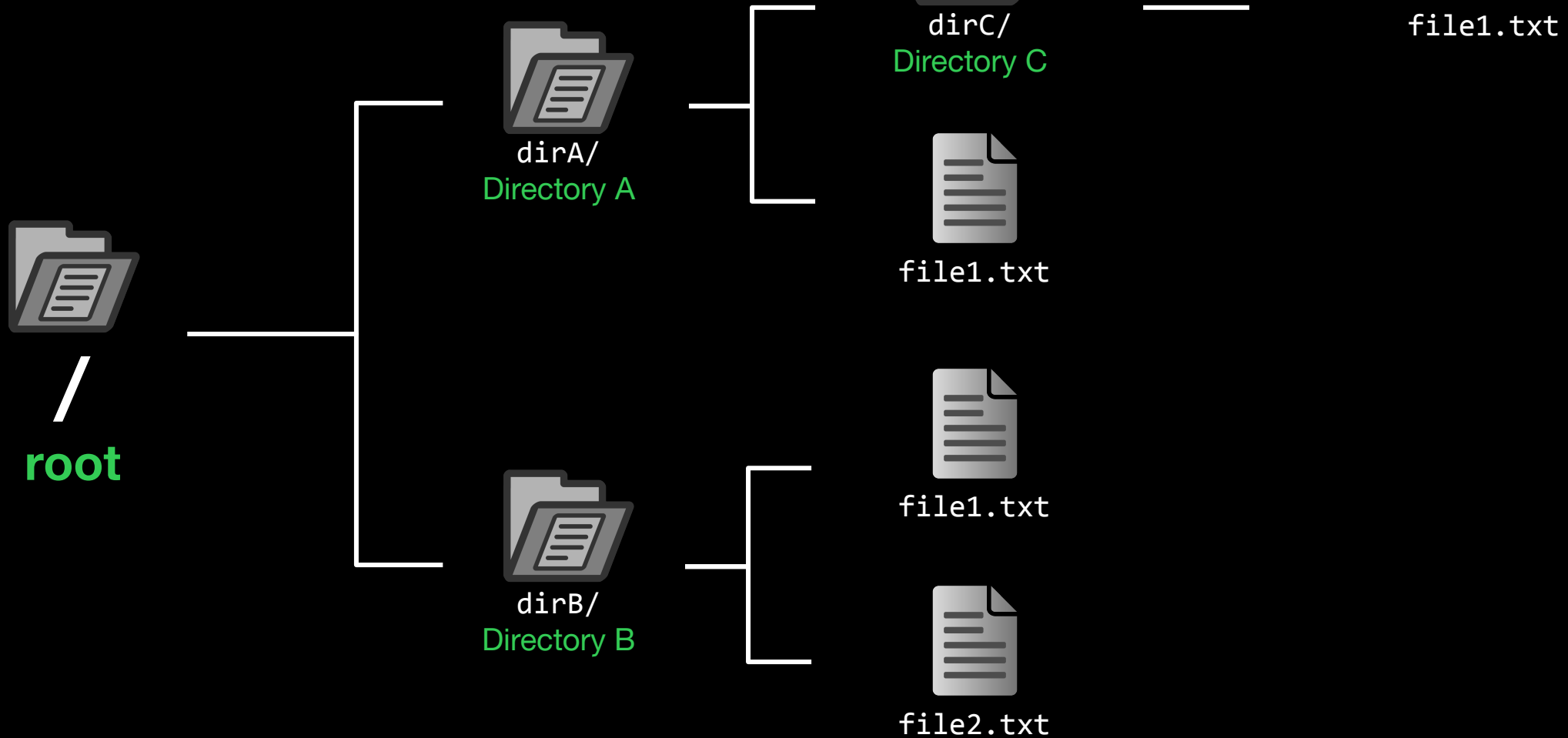


cd /dirB



```
cd ../../../dirB
```

cd starts here!



```
cd ../../dirB
```

cd starts here!



dirC/
Directory C



file1.txt



dirA/
Directory A



file1.txt



file1.txt



file2.txt

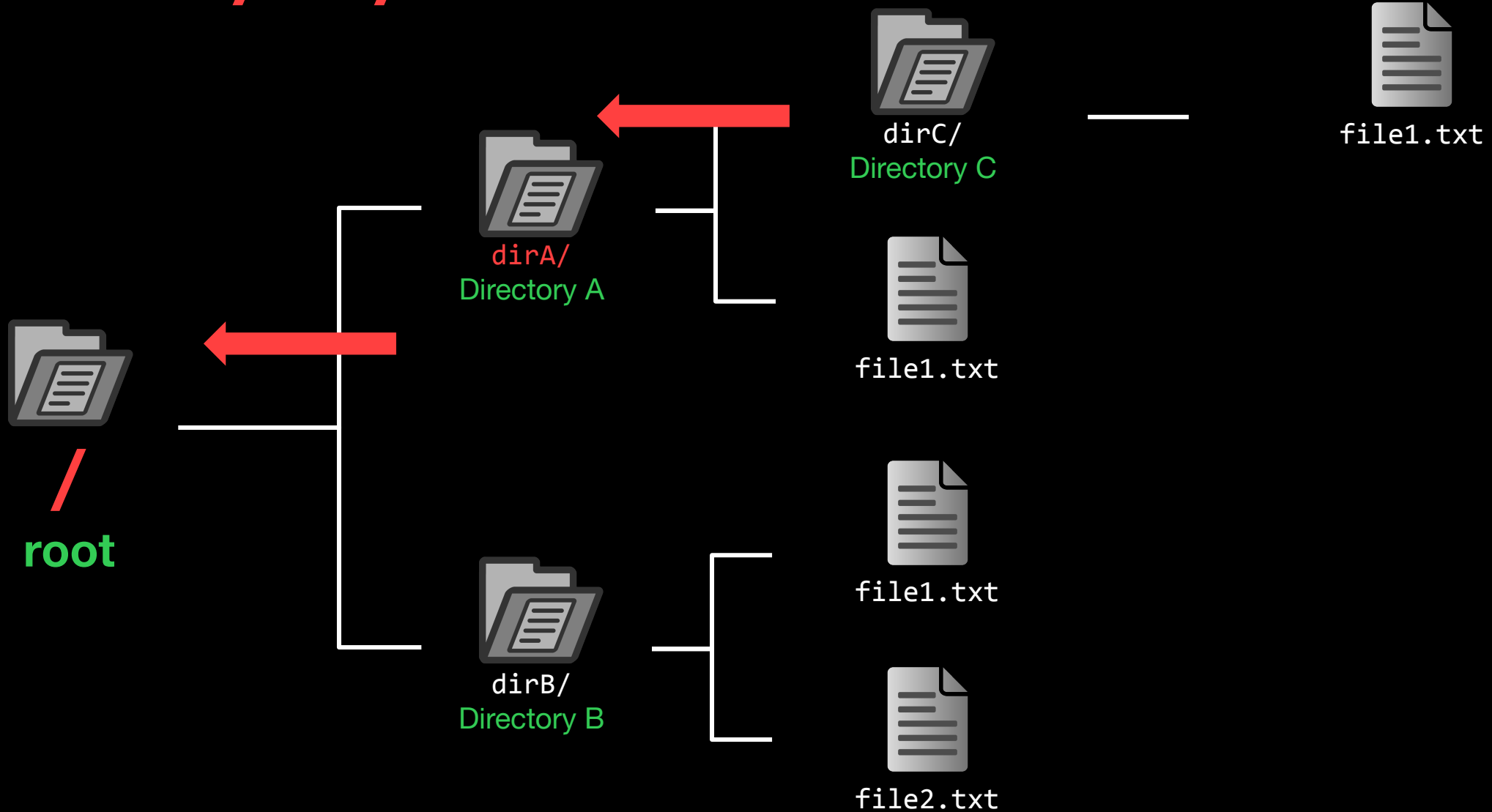


/
root



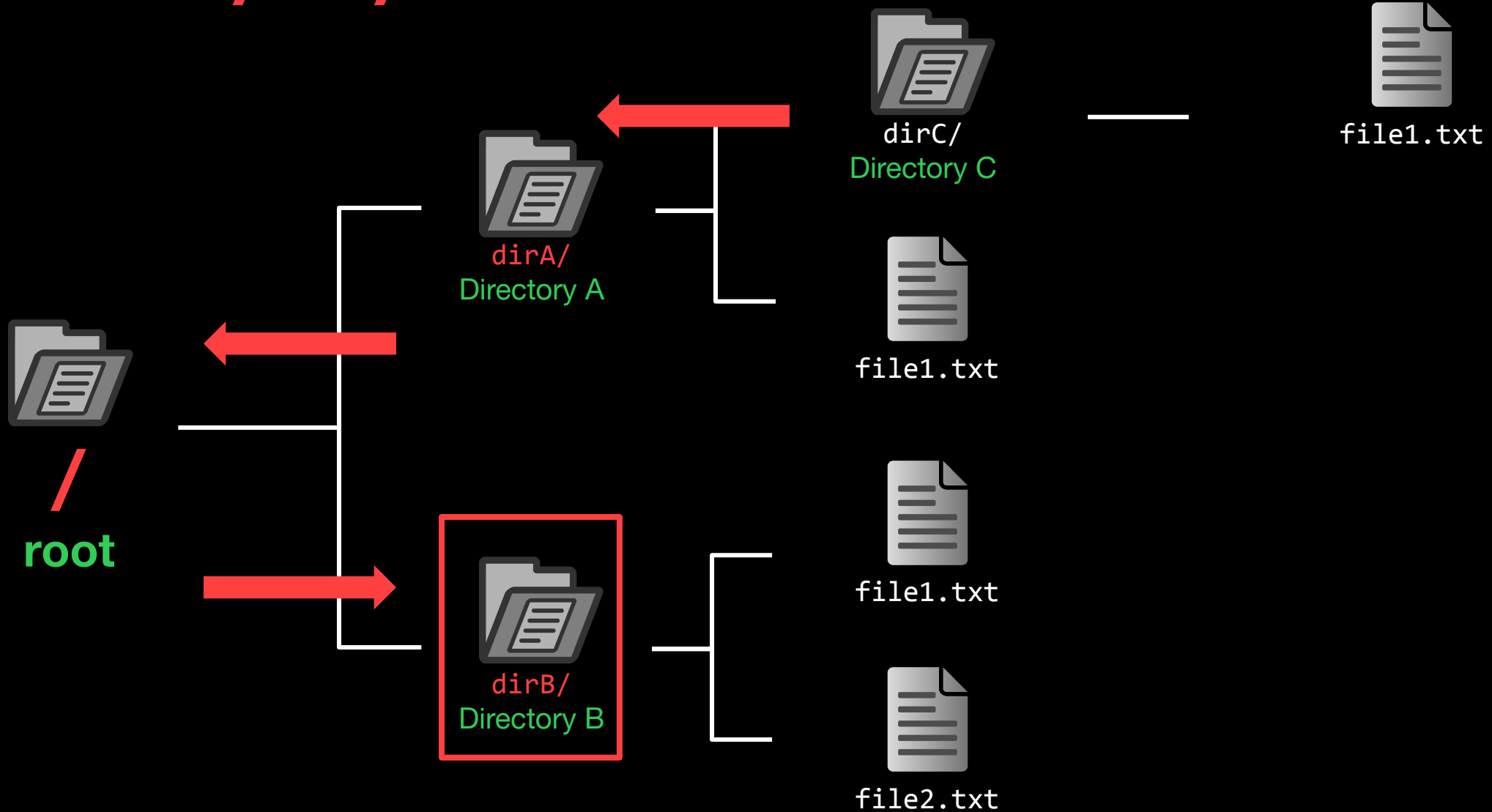
`cd ../.. /dirB`

cd starts here!

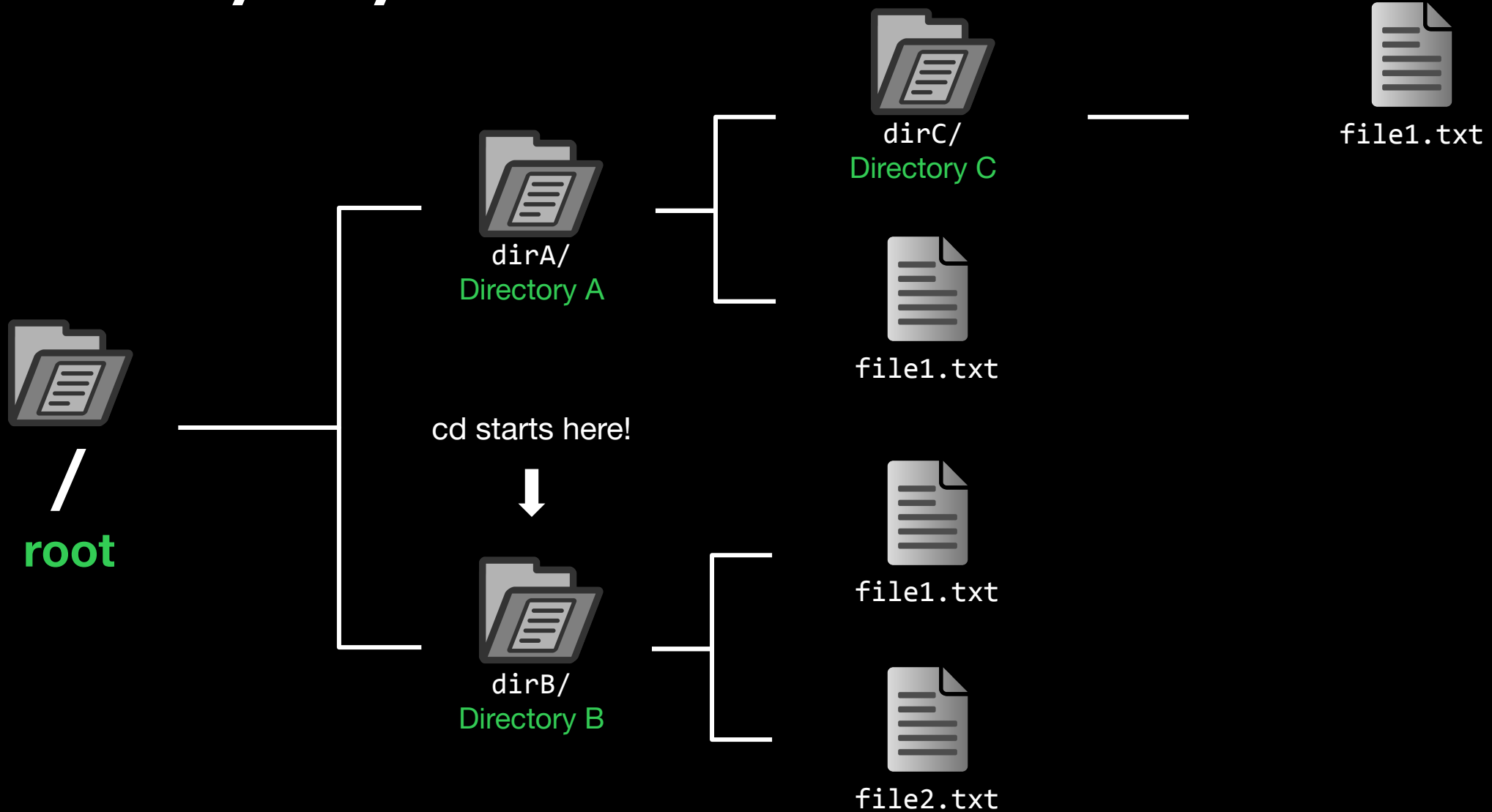


`cd ../../../dirB`

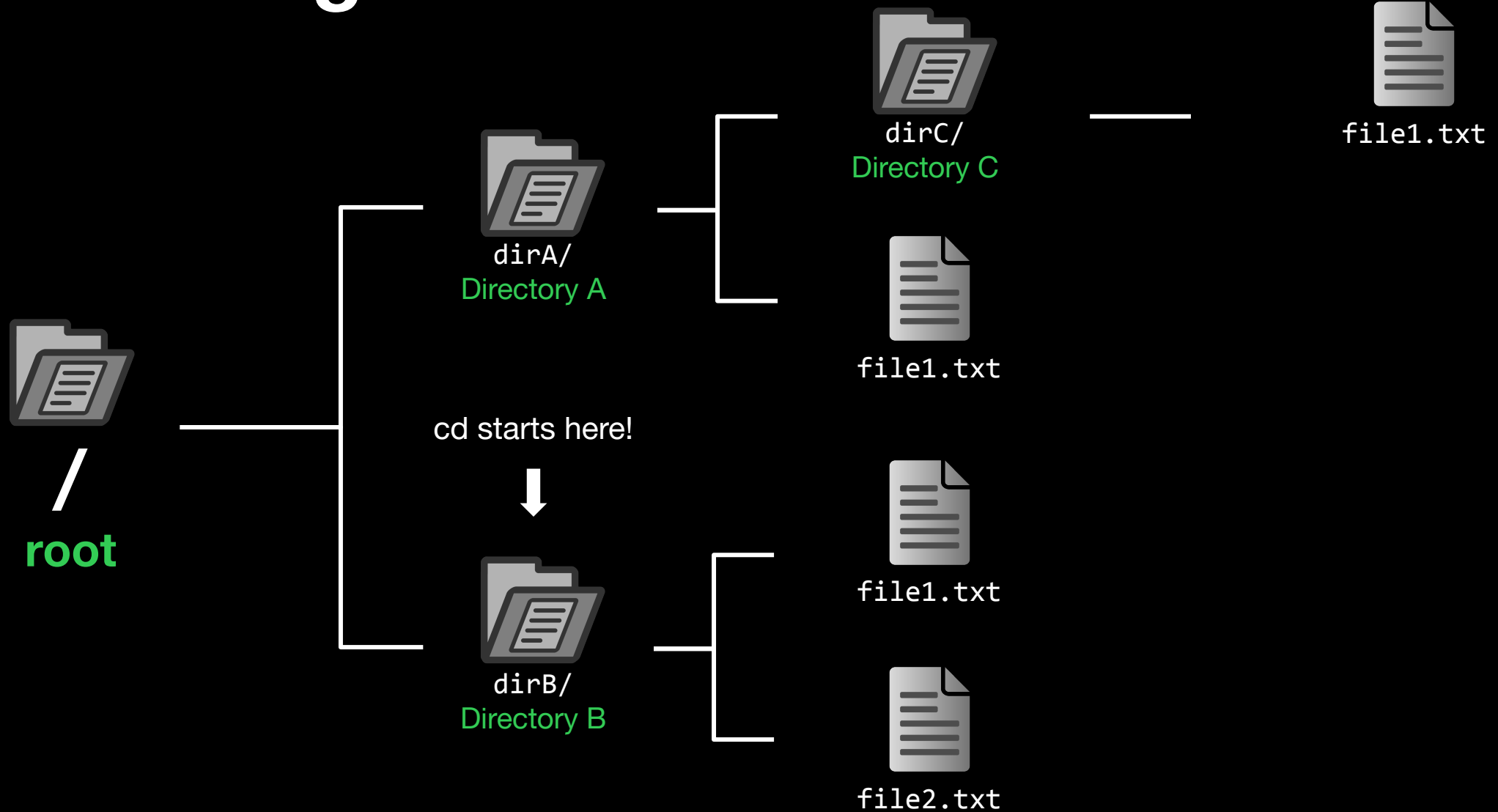
cd starts here!



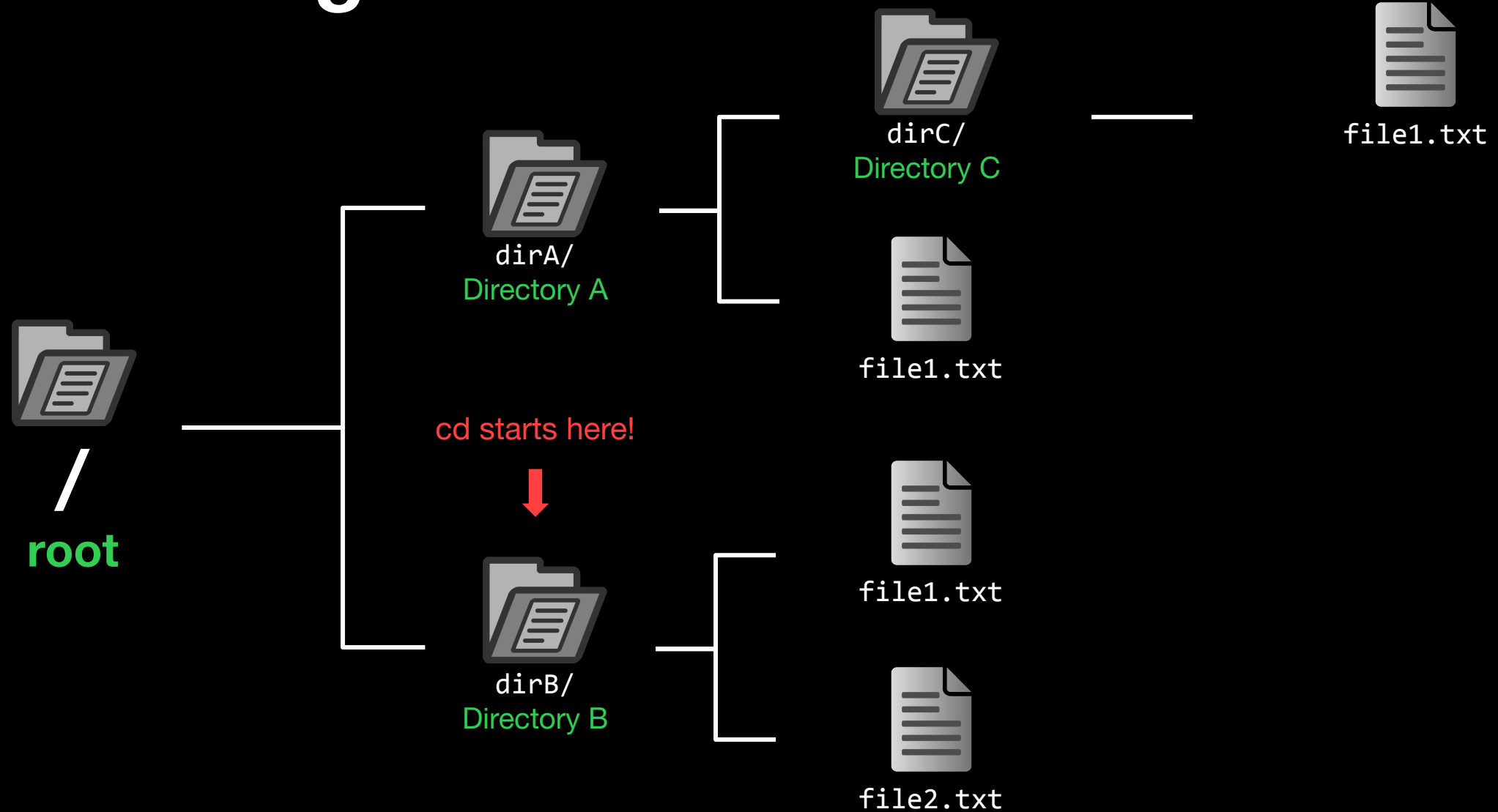
cd ../../dirB



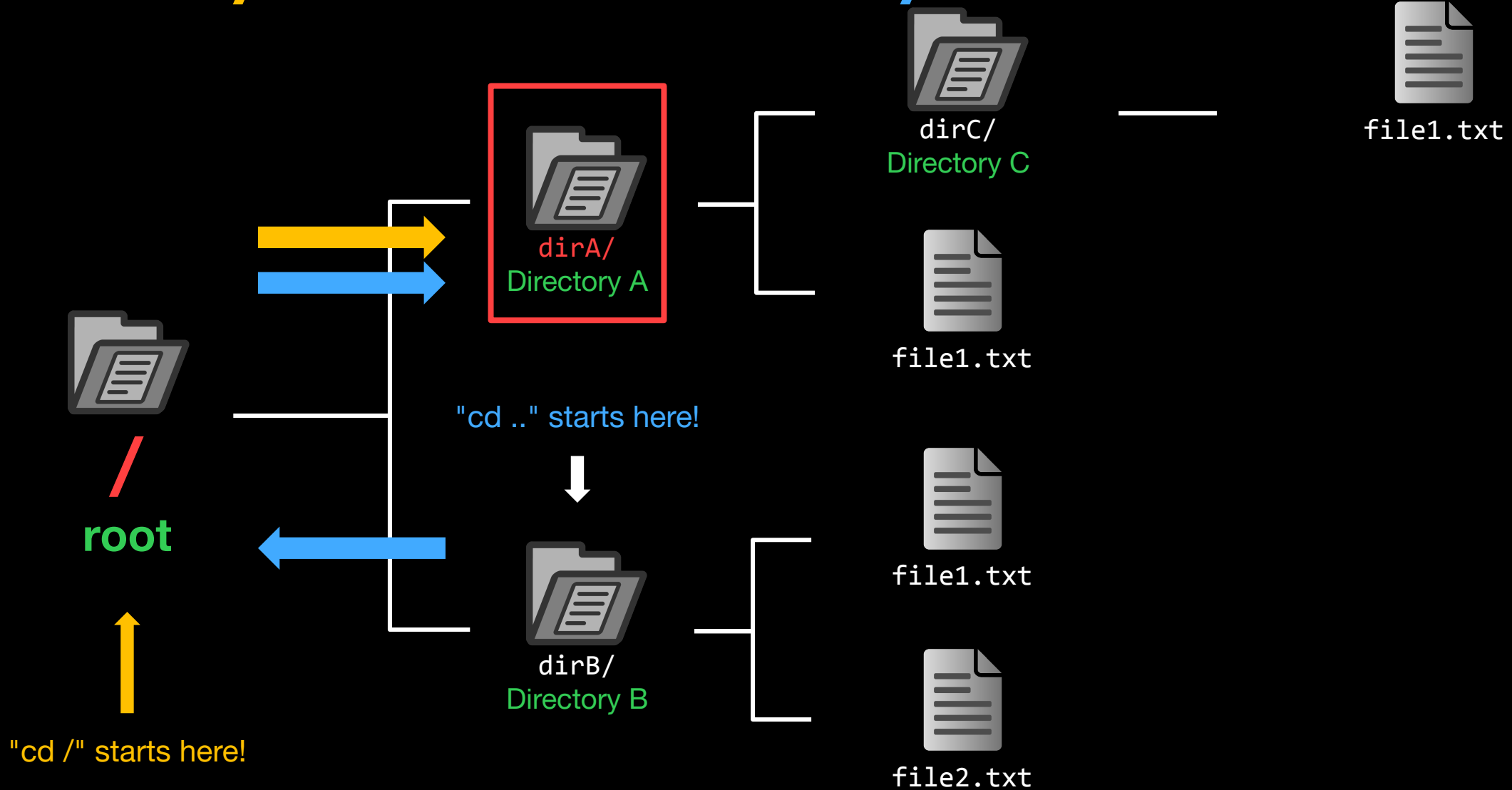
How to get to dirA?



How to get to dirA?



"cd /dirA" or "cd ../dirA"



Paths

Absolute Path

The full path that always starts at root (/)

```
/dirA/file1.txt
```

```
/dirA/dirC/file1.txt
```

Relative Path

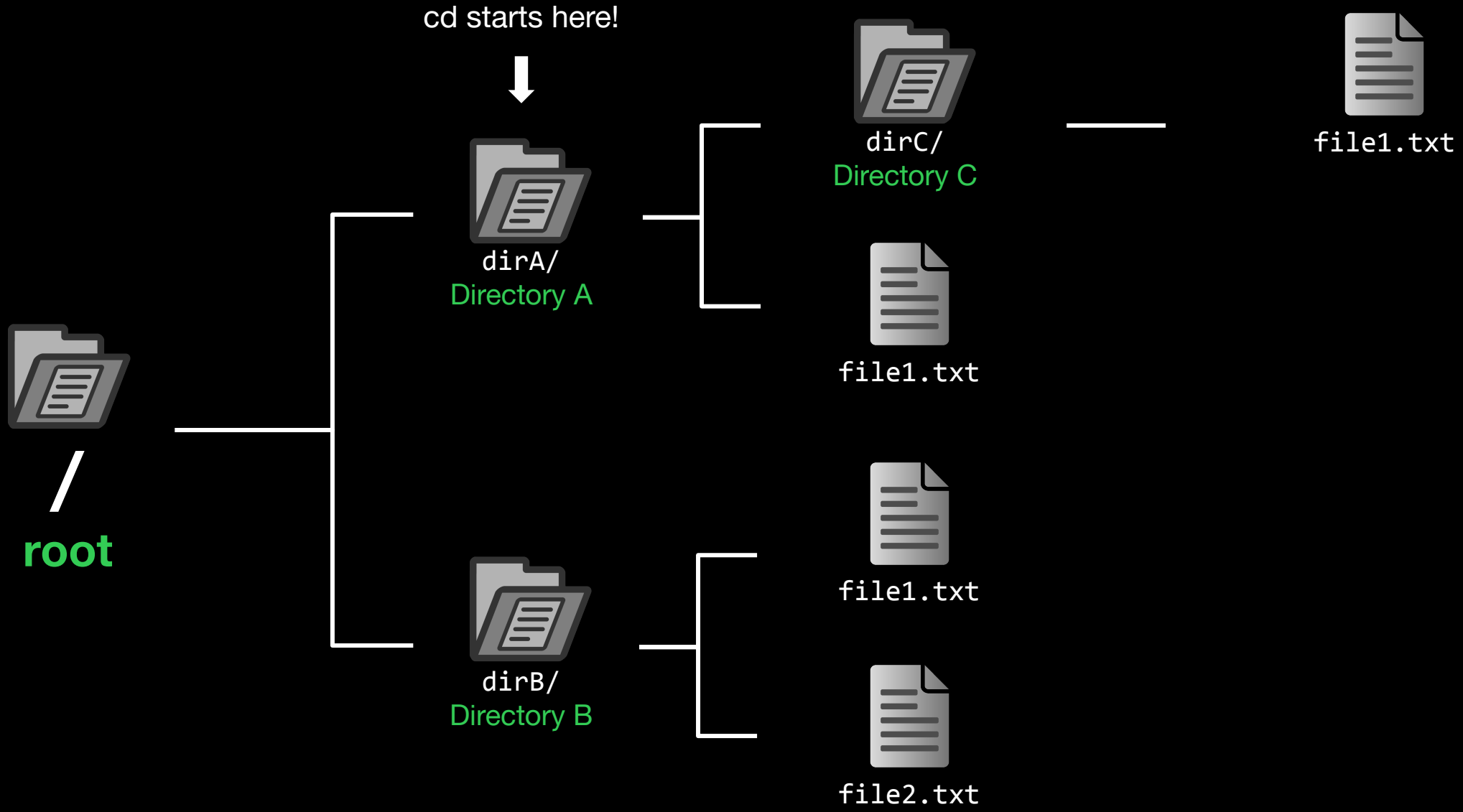
The partial path relative to where you are currently in the terminal

(Relative to dirA)

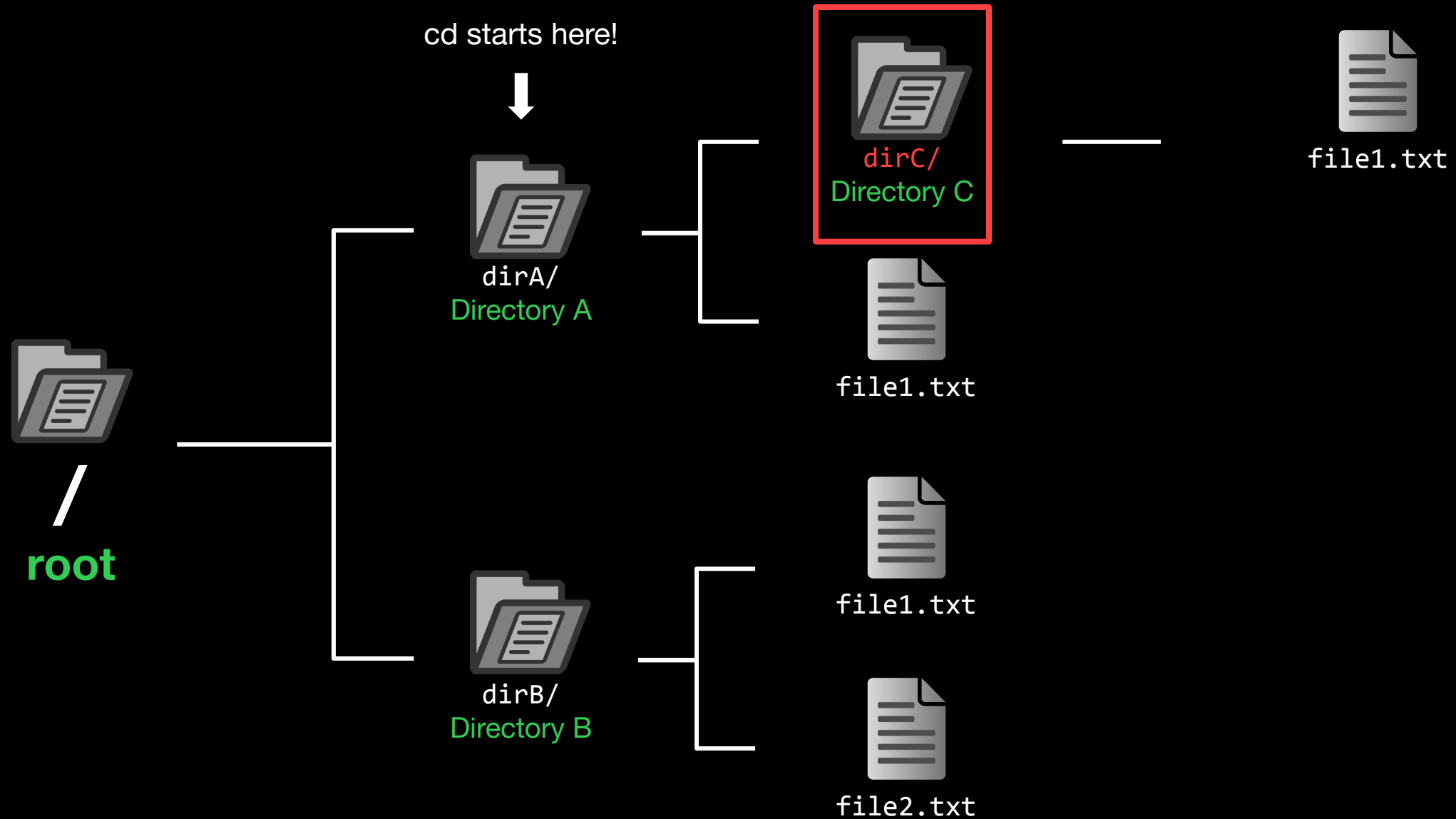
```
file1.txt
```

```
dirC/file1.txt
```





"cd dirC" or "cd ./dirC" or "cd dirC/"



./dirC == dirC == dirC/

Also **../dirC** and **../../dirC** and **../../../dirC** and...

These are just conventions!



What the `. * ? $ ` & > | ~` is going on?

Every directory has special `.` and `..` files for the current directory and the parent directory

Piping (`|`), redirection (`><`), job control (`&`)... the shell is very powerful!

Wildcards (glob patterns) like `*` and `?` can match multiple files

`export ENV=VALUE` sets variables in your environment (add to `~/ .bashrc` to make persistent)



Useful Commands - Filesystem

`ls [-la...]` `[directory]`: lists files in your current directory or specified directory

`cd <directory>`: changes your current directory to specified directory

`mv <sources> <dest>`: moves file(s) from source to dest (rename), if dest is a directory, move source

`rm [-r...]` `<sources>`: removes file(s) (**NOT REVERSIBLE**)

`cat <file>`: prints the contents of file (sometimes it prints gibberish: why might that happen?)

`./file`: executes whatever is at file (see also `$PATH`, [How programs get run](#) for a deep dive)

`man <command>`: lets you see info about a command and all of its parameters/options

`<parameter>` means it's a required parameter

`[parameter]` means it's an optional parameter



Useful Commands - Networking

`nc <ip> <port>`: Netcat, connect to `ip` (or hostname) on port `port`

`ssh <user@host> [-p port]`: Secure Shell, run a shell as `user` on `host` ([SSH keys](#))

`ping <ip>`: see if an IP address is up using ICMP (sometimes blocked by firewalls)

`curl <url>`: versatile network access tool that is mainly used to access websites from the terminal

`wget <url>`: download the file at `url`



Networking Fundamentals

`nc <ip> <port>`: Netcat, connect to `ip` (or hostname) on port `port`

`nc -l <port>`: Open a network socket to listen on `port`

Ports: communication endpoints on your computer (1-65535)

- Ports numbers ≤ 1024 are reserved for other programs



Next Steps - Bandit

```
ssh bandit0@bandit.labs.overthewire.org -p 2220
```



Next Steps - Bandit

```
ssh bandit0@bandit.labs.overthewire.org -p 2220
```

command

user

IP

port



Next Steps - Terminal Challenges

- **netcat**
 - Refer back to the slides!
- **Shell Basics**
 - Learn the ins and outs of using the terminal
- **A Very Special Character**
 - Intro to the ASCII table and Netcat



More Resources

- SIGPwny!
 - [Meeting archive](#)
 - #ask-for-help in Discord
- [The Missing Semester](#)
- [The Linux Command Line](#), [GNU Coreutils manual](#)
- Google



Questions/Issues?

- **We're here to help!**
 - Ask your friendly neighborhood helper
 - *#ask-for-help* in the SIGPwny Discord
- Consult Google/GitHub
 - Someone may have encountered and fixed your issue already
 - Writeups from past CTFs can be very informative (check [CTFtime](#))



Next Meetings

2024-09-12 • This Thursday

- *Web Hacking I* with Jake and Emma
- Learn introductory knowledge on web hacking

2024-09-15 • Next Sunday

- *Web Hacking II* with Louis
- Learn more advanced web hacking, such as XSS and SSRF!

2024-09-22 • Fall CTF 2024

- Register at sigpwny.com/register24!



ctf.sigpwny.com

sigpwny{starting_off_strong}

**Meeting content can be found at
sigpwny.com/meetings.**

