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Lab Report on MS-DOS

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Introduction

Microsoft Disk Operating System (MS-DOS) is an operating system for x86-based personal computers mostly developed by Microsoft. This came out initially in 1980 and quickly became the preferred OS over IBM-compatible desktop computers in the decades that followed.

Microsoft's DOS is an interface for the command line (CLI) OS, which means it lacks the visual user interface (GUI) found in modern OSes like Microsoft Windows or Mac OS. Clients communicate with the OS instead by entering instructions into an administrative prompt.

MS-DOS was intended to serve as a simple and efficient computer operating system capable of running on cheap-powered hardware. It included basic features like managing files, disc presentation, and disc services. Microsoft's DOS transformed over the years to accommodate advanced functions such as social media, handling memory, and performing multiple tasks.



Fig : MS-DOS (Command Prompt) Screen

Objectives of MS-DOS

MS-DOS, developed by Microsoft, aimed to provide a command-line interface for user interaction, manage files through a directory-based system, facilitate the execution of software applications, and ensure compatibility with various hardware configurations, particularly IBM-compatible personal computers.

Some of the objectives of MS-DOS are listed below:

- To organize and manage disk storage i.e. disk management.
- To ensure compatibility with IBM-compatible PCs.
- To provide a text based command line interface.
- To support basic file operations and directories.
- To efficiently manage system memory.
- To support a variety of hardware devices.
- To Enable system boot from a disk i.e. bootstrapping.
- To allow batch file execution.
- To keep the OS compact and efficient.
- To support third-party software development.

Advantages and Disadvantages

Some advantages of MS-DOS are explained below:

- **Efficient use of system resources:** MS-DOS was developed for use on negligible-powered hardware, making it a perfect match for first-generation desktop machines with little power for processing and storage.
- **Simple and intuitive command-line interface:** MS-DOS was developed for use on negligible-powered hardware, making it a perfect match for first generation desktop machines with little power for processing and storage.
- **The wide availability of software:** Microsoft's DOS quickly established itself as the dominant OS for desktop computers, spawning a plethora of applications and programs for it.
- **Compatibility with a wide range of hardware:** MS-DOS may have been utilized via an extensive variety of combinations of hardware due to the fact that was developed to be appropriate with the components of IBM compatible desktop machines.
- **Stability:** The MS-DOS was an efficient and dependable OS that was widespread in corporate and commercial conditions.

Some disadvantages of MS-DOS are explained below:

- **Limited multitasking support:** Microsoft DOS served as a focusing-on one- task computer operating system that could run one program at a time. As a result, it was far less effective compared to contemporary OSes, which allow for numerous programs concurrently.
- **No graphical user interface (GUI):** Microsoft's DOS lacked a graphical user interface, making it a bit harder for users unfamiliar with the command line interface to get acquainted with the OS.
- **Lack of built-in networking support:** The MS-DOS lacks socializing assistance, making it more challenging to communicate with machines to exchange materials.
- **Lack of plug-and-play support:** Microsoft's DOS wasn't compatible with plug-and-play equipment, so individuals had to customize and construct hardware devices manually.
- **Vulnerabilities to security threats:** Microsoft's DOS was a prompt operating system that didn't have numerous of the safety includes now found in contemporary operating systems.

MS – DOS Commands

Entered at the command prompt, MS-DOS commands are default functions included in the OS. Depending on which version is being used, there are about 100 MS-DOS commands.

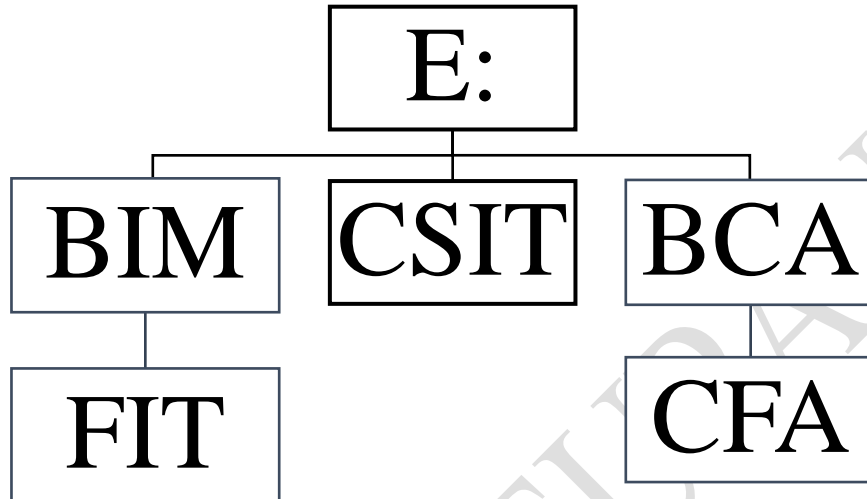
Common MS-DOS commands include the following:

Command	Example	Notes
CD	C:> CD \user\programs C:\user\programs>	Changes the current directory to the specified path. When entered with no path, it displays the current working directory's name. If the path is included in the command prompt, the prompt will change as in the example (see also PROMPT, below).
COPY	C:> COPY autoexec.bat autoexec.BAK	Copies specified file or files. Can be used to copy files to duplicates with different file names or to copy files into a different directory without changing names.
DEL	C:> DEL autoexec.BAK C:> DEL C:\backups*.BAK	Deletes a file or files. Can be used to delete files in the current working directory or in some other directory. Can also be used with wildcard characters to delete groups of files.
DIR	C:> DIR C:> DIR C:\backups*.txt	Displays all contents -- files and directories -- in the specified directory. If no directory is specified, it refers to the contents of the current directory. It can also be used with wildcard characters to display only specific files.

Lab Work

Apply the MS-DOS commands for the following tasks.

Qsn : 1) Create the folders as follows:



Also create a file subject.txt inside FIT folder.

Note : { ↵ denotes the enter sign }

Shifting to E Drive

```
C:\> ↵
```

```
C:\>E: ↵
```

Creating BIM, CSIT and BCA Folders

```
E:\> MD BIM ↵ [Note : Creating BIM folder]
```

```
E:\> MD CSIT ↵ [Note : Creating CSIT folder]
```

```
E:\> MD BCA ↵ [Note : Creating BCA folder]
```


Getting inside the BIM folder to create a new folder named “FIT”

E:\> CD BIM ↵ [Note : Entering inside the BIM folder]

E:\BIM> MD FIT ↵ [Note : Creating FIT folder]

E:\BIM> ↵

Getting inside the FIT folder to create a new file named “subject.txt”

E:\BIM> CD FIT ↵ [Note : Entering inside FIT folder]

E:\BIM\FIT> copy con subject.txt ↵ [Note : Creating subject.txt file]

Ctrl + Z ↵

E:\BIM\FIT> ↵

Getting out back to E Drive.

E:\BIM\FIT> CD.. ↵

E:\BIM> CD.. ↵

E:\>

Getting inside the BCA folder to create a new folder named “CFA”

E:\> CD BCA ↵

E:\BCA> MD CFA ↵

E:\BCA> ↵

E:\BCA> CD.. ↵

E:\>

Qsn : 2) Undo these actions i.e. delete all these files and folders:

Since the folder should be not empty to delete.

Getting inside the FIT folder to delete

E:\> CD BIM ↵

E:\BIM\>CD FIT ↵

E:\BIM\FIT\> del subject.txt ↵ [Note : Deleting subject.txt file]

E:\BIM\FIT\> CD.. ↵

E:\BIM\> RD FIT ↵ [Note : Deleting FIT folder]

E:\BIM\> CD.. ↵

E:\> RD BIM ↵ [Note : Deleting BIM folder]

E:\> RD CSIT ↵ [Note : Deleting CSIT folder]

E:\> CD BCA ↵

E:\BCA\> RD CFA ↵ [Note : Deleting CFA folder]

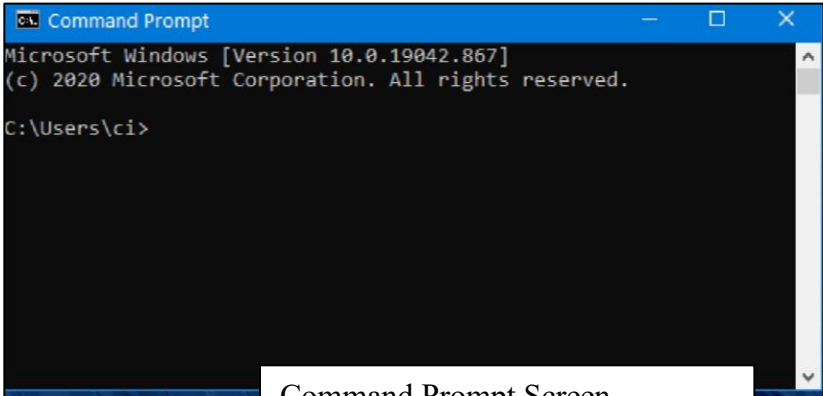
E:\BCA\> ↵

E:\BCA\> CD.. ↵

E:\> RD BCA ↵ [Note : Deleting BCA folder]

E:\>

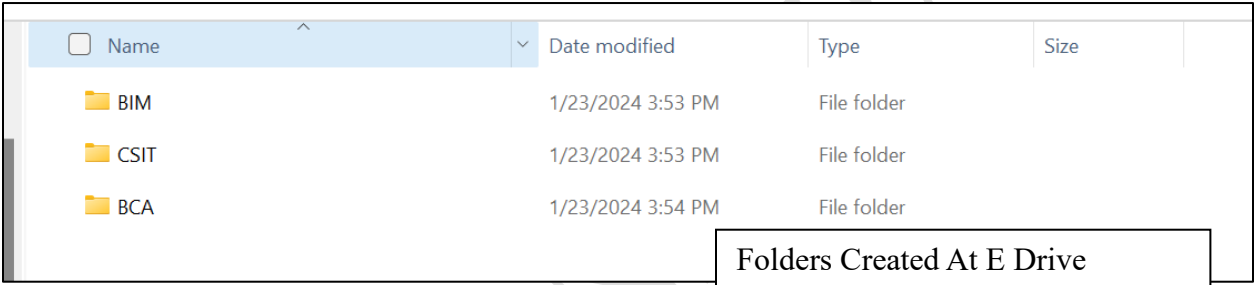
Appendix



```
Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19042.867]
(c) 2020 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

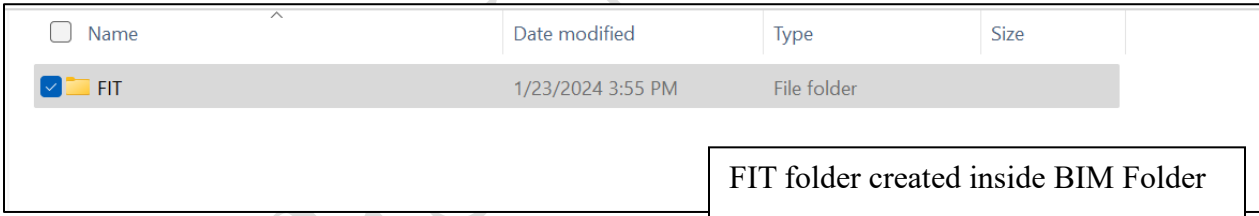
C:\Users\ci>
```

Command Prompt Screen



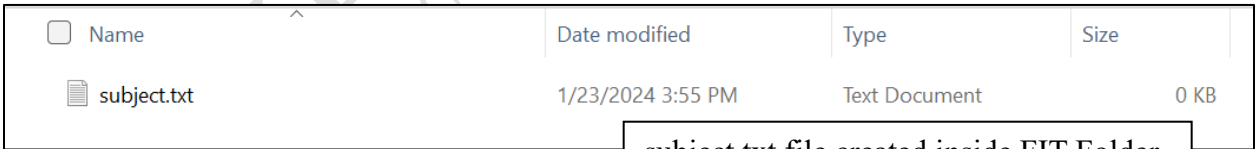
Name	Date modified	Type	Size
BIM	1/23/2024 3:53 PM	File folder	
CSIT	1/23/2024 3:53 PM	File folder	
BCA	1/23/2024 3:54 PM	File folder	

Folders Created At E Drive



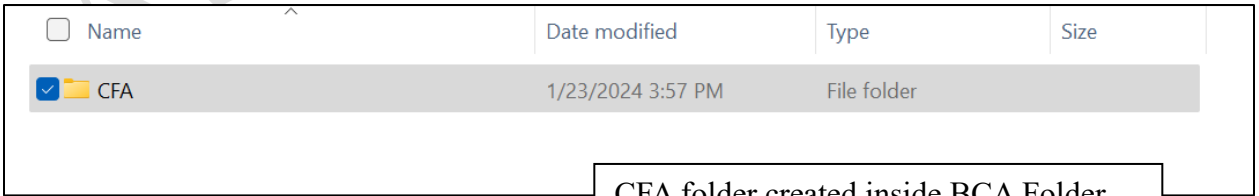
Name	Date modified	Type	Size
FIT	1/23/2024 3:55 PM	File folder	

FIT folder created inside BIM Folder



Name	Date modified	Type	Size
subject.txt	1/23/2024 3:55 PM	Text Document	0 KB

subject.txt file created inside FIT Folder



Name	Date modified	Type	Size
CFA	1/23/2024 3:57 PM	File folder	

CFA folder created inside BCA Folder