Recovering files from backup

Recovering files from backup of /home or /archive

Your $HOME and $ARCHIVE directories are regularly backed up. You can access snapshots of your $HOME or $ARCHIVE by looking in a "very hidden" (even ls -a will not display it) folder called $HOME/.zfs/snapshot (or $ARCHIVE/.zfs/snapshot).

When you run 'ls -a' in this folder you will see a list of hidden folders whose name includes the date and time of the snapshot it contains, eg:

```
[Mercer: sl151@login-0-0 snapshot]$ pwd
/home/sl151/.zfs/snapshot
[Mercer: sl151@login-0-0 snapshot]$ ls -Fa
./.auto-2015-07-12T04:00:00UTC/ .auto-2015-08-12T04:00:00UTC/ ..
/auto-2015-07-13T04:00:00UTC/ .auto-2015-08-13T04:00:00UTC/
/auto-2015-06-13T04:00:00UTC/ .auto-2015-07-14T04:00:00UTC/
/auto-2015-08-14T04:00:00UTC/
/auto-2015-06-14T04:00:00UTC/ .auto-2015-07-15T04:00:00UTC/
/auto-2015-08-15T04:00:00UTC/
```

Each of these folders contains your $HOME (or $ARCHIVE) as it was at the time and date of the snapshot. You can copy files from the snapshot back to $HOME, $SCRATCH or another location.

The files you copy back will be the files as they were on that date! If you copy it back to it's original location you may overwrite any changes you have made since then.

You cannot edit files in the snapshot, or add anything to the snapshot - it is a strictly read-only snapshot of a past state of your files.