

LPIC-1 101-500 – Lesson 2

103.2 Process text streams using filters



Concatenate files with `cat`

- `$ cat /etc/fstab` # show the contents of the **fstab** file
- `$ cat /etc/fstab /etc/mtab` # concatenate the output of **fstab** and **mtab** to stdout.
- `$ cat /etc/fstab /etc/mtab > /tmp/fsmtab` # concatenate **fstab** and **mtab** to one file (**fsmtab**)

Options:

- `-n` # number output lines



Concatenate bzip2 compressed files with `bzcat`

- `$ bzcat file1.bz2` # show the contents of the `file1.bz2` file
- `$ bzcat file1.bz2 file2.bz2` # concatenate the output of `file1.bz2` and `file2.bz2` to stdout
- `$ bzcat file1.bz2 file2.bz2 > file12` # concatenate the output of `file1.bz2` and `file2.bz2` to `file12`



Concatenate xz compressed files with `xzcat`

- `$ xzcat file1.xz` # show the contents of the `file1.xz` file
- `$ xzcat file1.xz file2.xz` # concatenate the output of `file1.xz` and `file2.xz` to stdout
- `$ xzcat file1.xz file2.xz > file12` # concatenate the output of `file1.xz` and `file2.xz` to `file12`



Concatenate gzip compressed files with `zcat`

- `$ zcat file1.gz` # show the contents of the `file1.gz` file
- `$ zcat file1.gz file2.gz` # concatenate the output of `file1.gz` and `file2.gz` to stdout
- `$ zcat file1.gz file2.gz > file12` # concatenate the output of `file1.gz` and `file2.gz` to `file12`



View files with `less`

- `$ less /etc/vim/vimrc` # show the contents of the `vimrc` file with scrolling
- `q`: Quit `less`
- `gg`: Go to the top of the file
- `G`: Go to the bottom of the file



Number lines from a file with `nl`

- `$ nl /etc/bash.bashrc # number all non empty lines in bash.bashrc`

Options:

- `-b a` # number empty lines as well
- `-b n` # no numbering



Remove section from lines with `cut`

- `$ cut -b10 /etc/fstab` # show the 10th byte from each line in `fstab`
- `$ cut -c10 /etc/fstab` # show the 10th character from each line in `fstab`
- `$ cut -d: -f1 /etc/passwd` # use ":" as a delimiter instead of the default Tab and show the first field

Show the beginning of a file with `head`

- `$ head /etc/passwd # show the 10 first lines of the passwd file`

Options:

- `-c 50 # show the first 50 characters`
- `-n 20 # show the first 20 lines`



Show the end of a file with `tail`

- `$ tail /var/log/syslog # show the last 10 lines of syslog`

Options:

- `-c 50 # show the last 50 characters`
- `-n 20 # show the last 20 lines`
- `-f # monitor a file as it grows.`
Useful for watching log files



Join two files with `paste`

- **\$ paste colors.txt animals.txt #**
the lines in the two files are joined with 'Tab' as the delimiter.

Options:

- **-d@ #** use '@' as the delimiter
- **-s #** place the contents of each file on a different line



Show files in octal with `od`

- `$ od colors.txt # show the colors.txt file in octal format of 2 bytes`

Options:

- `-x # show output in hexadecimal`
- `-d # show output in decimal`
- `-a # show characters`
- `-c # show characters and special characters`



Manipulate text with `sed`

- **\$ sed -e "s/Red/Green/" rainbow.txt** # replace the first occurrence of "Red" with "Green", in a line, and display to stdout
- **\$ sed -i -e "s/Red/Green/" rainbow.txt** # replace the first occurrence of "Red" with "Green" and write back to rainbow.txt
- **\$ sed -e "s/Red/Green/g" rainbow.txt** # replace all occurrences of "Red" with "Green", in a line, and display to stdout
- **\$ sed -e "s/Red//"** rainbow.txt # remove the first occurrence of "Red", in a line
- **\$ sed -e "/Purple/d"** rainbow.txt # remove all lines containing "Purple"

Sort command output with `sort`

- `$ sort unsorted.txt # alphabetic sorting of unsorted.txt`

Options:

- `-f` # ignore upper or lower case
- `-n` # numeric sorting
- `-r` # reverse sorting
- `-t:` # use ":" as delimiter
- `-k6` # use the 6th column for sorting
- `-u` # suppress duplicate values

Split files with `split`

- `$ split -5 unsorted.txt # split unsorted.txt in smaller files of 5 lines (instead of the default 1000)`



Translate characters with `tr`

- `$ cat animals | tr a-z A-Z #`
convert upper case to lower case

Special Characters:

- `\\"` → **backslash**
- `\a` → **bell**
- `\b` → **backspace**
- `\f` → **form feed**
- `\n` → **newline**
- `\r` → **carriage return**
- `\t` → **horizontal tab**



Translate characters with `tr`

- `$ tr '1-3' 'a-c' < colors.txt #`
translate occurrences of 1,2,3 to
a,b,c respectively
- `$ tr -d '1-3' < colors.txt #`
delete occurrences of 1,2,3



Suppress duplicate records with `uniq`

- `$ sort multiples.txt | uniq # sort names first, then delete double entries`

Options:

- `-d # display only repeated entries`
- `-u # display only unique entries`
- `-c # count each occurrence`



Print newline, word, and byte counts with `wc`

- **\$ wc unformatted.txt unsorted.txt**
show the count of characters,
words and lines for each file and
their sum total

Options:

- **-c** # display character count only
- **-w** # display word count only
- **-l** # display line count only



Generate file hashes with `ms5sum`, `sha256sum` and `sha512sum`

These are security tools to verify the hash of a download or a package

- ```
$ md5sum debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso # Not very secure
```

  
a3ebc76aec372808ad80000108a2593a    debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso
- ```
$ sha256sum debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso # recommended
```


93863e17ac24eeaa347dfb91ddac654f214c189e0379d7c28664
a306e0301e7 debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso
- ```
$ sha512sum debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso # Strongest
```

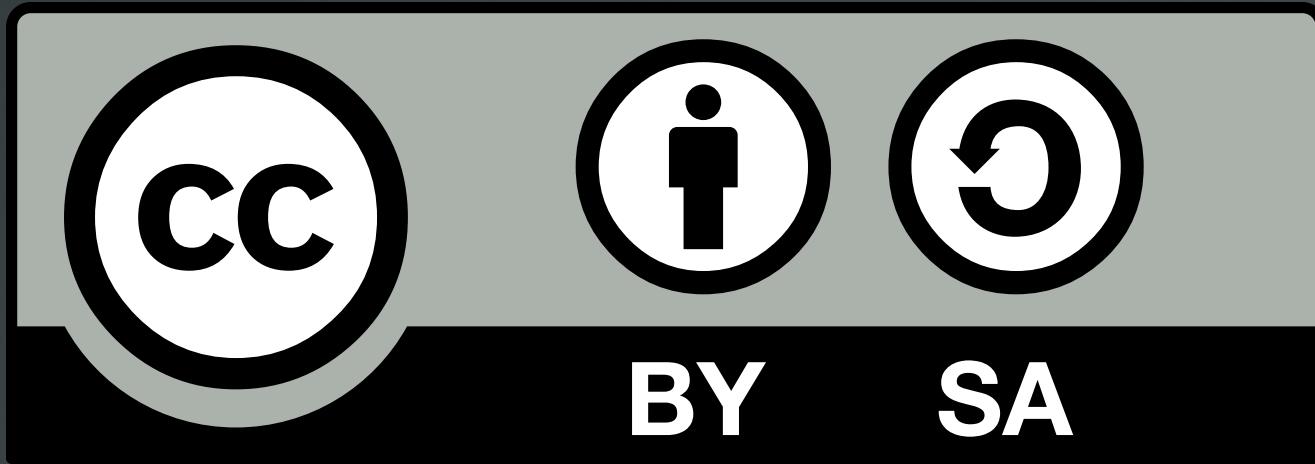
  
0a6aee1d9aafc1ed095105c052f9fdd65ed00ea9274188c9cd007  
2c8e6838ab40e246d45a1e6956d74ef1b04a1fc042151762f2541  
2e9ff0cbf49418eef7992e    debian-10.5.0-amd64-netinst.iso

## Options:

- `-c` # use a file for checking



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