NAME

savelog – save a log file

SYNOPSIS

savelog [−m mode] [−u user] [−g group] [−t] [−p] [−c cycle] [−l] [−j] [−J] [−1 . . −9] [−C] [−d] [−l] [−r rolldir] [−n] [−q] [−D dateformat] file ...

DESCRIPTION

The **savelog** command saves and optionally compresses old copies of files. Older versions of *file* are named:

file.<number><compress_suffix>

where *<number>* is the version number, 0 being the newest. Version numbers > 0 are compressed unless **−l** prevents it. Version number 0 is not compressed because a process might still have *file* opened for I/O. Only *cycle* versions of the file are kept.

If the file does not exist and **−t** was given, it will be created.

For files that do exist and have lengths greater than zero, the following actions are performed:

1)   Version numbered files are cycled. Version *file.2* is moved to version *file.3*, version *file.1* is moved to version *file.2*, and so on. Finally version *file.0* is moved to version *file.1*, and version *file* is deleted. Both compressed names and uncompressed names are cycled, regardless of **−l**. Missing version files are ignored.

2)   The new *file.1* is compressed unless the **−l** flag was given. It is changed subject to the **−m**, **−u**, and **−g** flags.

3)   The main *file* is moved to *file.0*.

4)   If the **−m**, **−u**, **−g**, **−t**, or **−p** flags are given, then an empty *file* is created subject to the given flags. With the **−p** flag, the file is created with the same owner, group, and permissions as before.

5)   The new *file.0* is changed subject to the **−m**, **−u**, and **−g** flags.

OPTIONS

−m mode
　　　chmod the log files to mode, implies **−t**

−u user
　　　chown log files to user, implies **−t**

−g group
　　　chgrp log files to group, implies **−t**

−c cycle
　　　Save cycle versions of the logfile (default: 7). The *cycle* count must be at least 2.

−t　　touch new logfile into existence

−l　　don't compress any log files (default: do compress)

−p　　preserve owner, group, and permissions of logfile

−j　　compress with bzip2 instead of gzip

−J   compress with xz instead of gzip

For xz no strength option is set, and xz decides on the default based on the total amount of physical RAM. Note that xz can use a very large amount of memory for the higher compression levels.

−1 . . −9
compression strength or memory usage (default: 9, except for xz)

−C   force cleanup of cycled logfiles

−d   use standard date for rolling

−D dateformat
override date format, in the syntax understood by the **date**(1) command

−r   use *rolldir* instead of . to roll files

−n   do not rotate empty files

−q   be quiet

BUGS
If a process is still writing to *file.0*, and savelog moves it to *file.1* and compresses it, data could be lost.

SEE ALSO
logrotate(8)