

Text processing and command line

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File redirection

- `sort < /etc/passwd`
- `echo 100000 > /proc/sys/fs/file-max`
- `ls -alR /proc/ 2> /dev/null`
- `ls -R /proc/ > output 2>&1`
 - `ls -R /proc/ &> output`

File redirection

- `<` STDIN from a file
- `>` STDOUT to a file (overwrite)
- `>>` STDOUT to a file (append)
- `2>` STDERR to a file (overwrite)
- `2>>` STDERR to a file (append)
- `&>` both STDOUT and STDERR

Piping commands together

- Piping allows the STDOUT from one program (on the left of the pipe) to become the STDIN of another (on the right of the pipe) (*“the Unix way”*)
- `ls -al | less`
- `cut -d: -f6 /etc/passwd|sort|uniq -c|sort -rn`
- Redirection and piping can be combined
- Usually used for feeding STDERR into the pipeline along with STDOUT
- `ls /proc/ 2>&1 | grep kernel`

Combining files and merging text

- `cat` Concatenate files
- `paste` Merges text from multiple files
 - `-s` option to merge files serially
 - uses tabs as default delimiter

File statistics

- `wc` - print line, word, and byte counts for each file
 - `-c`, `--bytes` - print the byte counts
 - `-m`, `--chars` - print the character counts
 - `-l`, `--lines` - print the newline counts
 - `-w`, `--words` - print the word counts

Extracting columns of text

- cut Extracts selected fields from a line of text
 - can specify which fields you want to extract
 - uses tabs as default delimiter
 - -d option to specify a different delimiter
 - most useful on structured input (text with columns)

Replacing text characters

- `tr` translates, squeezes & deletes characters
 - translates one set of characters into another
 - `tr a-z A-Z`
 - squeeze collapses duplicate characters
 - `tr -s '\n'`
 - deletes a set of characters
 - `tr -d '\000'`

Searching inside files

- `grep` searches for patterns within files
 - `-n` shows line numbers
 - `-A NUM` prints match and NUM lines after match
 - `-B NUM` prints match and preceding NUM lines
 - `-C NUM` prints match and NUM lines before and after
 - `-i` performs case insensitive match
 - `-v` inverts match; prints what doesn't match
 - `--color` highlight matched string in color

The streaming editor

- sed stream editor for filtering and transforming text
- usually the output of another program
- often used to automate edits on many files quickly
- small and very efficient
- `-i` option for in place edits with modern versions

Text processing with awk

- awk pattern scanning and processing language
- Turing complete programming language
- splits lines into fields (like cut)
- regex pattern matching (like grep)
- math operations, control statements, variables, IO...

Text sorting

- `sort` sorts text
- can sort on different columns
- by default sorts in lexicographical order
 - 1, 2, 234, 265, 29, 3, 4, 5
- can be told to sort numerically (by using the `-n` option)
 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 29, 234, 265
- can merge and sort multiple files simultaneously
- can sort in reverse order
- often used to prepare input for the `uniq` command

Duplicate removal utility

- `uniq` Removes duplicate adjacent lines from sorted text
- cleanly combines lists of overlapping but not identical information
- `-c` prefixes each line of output with a number indicating number of occurrences
- taking this output and performing a reverse sort produces a sorted list based on number of occurrences

Filename matching

- Many commands take a list of filenames as arguments
- Wildcard patterns
- Historically called “file globbing”
- Wildcard patterns are specified with special (meta) characters

Wildcard patterns

- ? matches any single character
- * matches anything (any number of characters)
- [...] character classes
 - the - character denotes a range
 - examples: [abcd2345] [a-d2-5] [a-gA-Z0-5]

Brace expansion

- Allows generation of arbitrary strings
- Similar to wildcards, but target files or directories don't need to exist
- Can have optional preamble and/or postamble
 - `{m,n,o,on}` expands to: `m`, `n`, `o` and `on`
 - `d{m,n,o,on}t` expands to: `dmt`, `dnt`, `dot` & `dont`, where `d` is the preamble and `t` is the postamble
- Can be combined with wildcards; brace expansion occurs before globbing

General quoting rules

- Metacharacters \ ? () \$... * % { } []
- Backslash \
- Double Quotes " "
- Single Quotes ' '

Nesting commands

- Command substitution - substitutes output of command in place of “embedded” command

```
`command`  
$(command)
```

Evaluating command output

```
$ ssh-agent
SSH_AUTH_SOCK=/tmp/ssh-
a9ktrvn22891/agent.22891; export
SSH_AUTH_SOCK;
SSH_AGENT_PID=22892; export SSH_AGENT_PID;
echo Agent pid 22892;
```

```
$ eval $(ssh-agent)
Agent pid 22897
```

```
$ echo $SSH_AGENT_PID
22897
```

Multiple and multi-line commands

- Entering multiple commands on one command line
 - Separate commands with a semi-colon ;
- Entering multi-line commands
 - use backslash \
 - *line wrapping / continuation*

Regular expressions

- Regular Expressions (REs) provide a mechanism to select specific strings from one or more lines of text
- complex language
- `grep`, `sed`, `perl`, ...
- `man 7 regex`

RE

- most characters, letters and numbers match themselves
- special characters are matchable
- . matches any single character
- specify where the match must occur with anchors

RE special characters

- `\t` tab
- `\n` newline/line feed
- `\r` carriage return
- `\f` form feed
- `\c` control characters
- `\x` character in hex
- `.` any single character

RE anchors

- `^RE` anchor RE at start of line
- `RE$` anchor RE at end of line
- `\<RE` anchor RE at start of word
- `RE\>` anchor RE at end of word

RE character classes

- Character classes, `[...]`, match any single character in the list
 - RE `[0123456789]` matches any single digit
- Some predefined character classes
 - `[:alnum:]` `[:alpha:]` `[:cntrl:]` `[:digit:]`
 - `[:lower:]` `[:punct:]` `[:space:]` `[:upper:]`
- The `-` character denotes a range
- RE `[:alnum:]` equivalent to `[0-9A-Za-z]`
 - Matches any single letter or number character

RE character classes examples

- `grep [[:upper:]] /etc/passwd`
- `egrep '[rb]' /etc/passwd`
- `egrep '[^rb]' /etc/passwd`

RE quantifiers

- Control the number of times a preceding RE is allowed to match
- * match 0 or more times
- + match 1 or more times
- ? match 0 or 1 times
- {n} match exactly n times
- {n,} match at least n times
- {n,m} match at least n but not more than m times

RE quantifiers

```
egrep '[stu].{14}$' /usr/share/dict/words
egrep '[aeiou].{9}ion$' /usr/share/dict/words
egrep 'c.{15,}$' /usr/share/dict/words
egrep 'n.{6,10}c$' /usr/share/dict/words
```

RE parenthesis

- (RE) creating a new atom
- (RE)\n non-zero digit - storing values
- (RE1|RE2) alternation: RE1 or RE2
- abc{3} vs. (abc){3}

```
$ cat file
```

Parenthesis allow you to store matched patterns.

```
$ sed -r 's/(.)\1/\[\1\1\]/g' file
```

Parenthesis allow you to store matched patterns.

- `egrep '(dog|cat)' file`

Text editing

- Unix revolves around text
 - text is robust
 - text is universally understood
 - the only tool / program required is a text editor
 - remote administration possible over low-bandwidth connections
- Text editors
 - Many editors available, each with fanatical followings
 - `pico/nano`, `vi` and `emacs` are the most common
 - `$EDITOR` control default editor

vi / vim

- `vi` The Visual Editor
 - Developed originally by Bill Joy for BSD UNIX
 - Officially included in AT&T UNIX System V
 - Available on all UNIX platforms
- `vim` Vi IMproved
 - Has significantly enhanced functionality
 - Includes a compatibility mode

vi help

- Books & Cheat Sheets
- :help
- <http://www.vim.org/>
- vimtutor

Basic vi

- Insert Mode: keystrokes are inserted into the document
- Command Mode: keystrokes are interpreted as commands
- hjkl
- i a [ESC] x dd
- Saving & exiting
 - :w
 - :q
 - :wq
 - :wq!