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How do I list files inside compressed tar ball (gzip'd tar'd) archive?

Posted by Vivek Gite <vivek@nixcraft.com>

Tar command provides the option to list files inside compressed tar ball. However mtools includes command called lz which gunzips and shows a listing of a gzip'd tar'd archive without extracting files.

For example, display listing of file called backup.tar.gz type command:

\$ lz backup.tar.gz

As you see Iz provides a listing of a gzip'd tar'd archive, that is a tar archive compressed with the gzip command. It is not strictly necessary on Debian GNU/Linux (or other Linux/BSD/Solaris oses), because the GNU tar(1) program provides the same capability with the command:

\$ tar -tzf backup.tar.gz

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