The command line

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Review

Review exercises (on the command line)

- 01. Go to your pr-app repository
 a. Hint: cd
- 02. Add a new file called "foo.txt"
 - a. Hint: touch
- 03. Verify that "foo.txt" is there
 - a. Hint: 1s
- 04. "foo.txt" is an empty file. Add the following text into it: "testing, testing"
 - a. Hint: echo [text] > [filename]
- 05. Check that "foo.txt" is no longer empty
 - a. Hint: cat
- 06. Add some more stuff. Append "1, 2, 3" to "foo.txt," then repeat step 05
 - a. Hint: echo [text] >> [filename]
- 07. Our testing is complete! Get rid of our "foo.txt" file (cautiously!).
 - a. Hint: rm -i, then Y

Getting further acquainted

Expanding our vocabulary

• Patterns in file names

- \circ 1s [character(s)]* \rightarrow Find all files that **begin** with a specific character (or characters)
- \circ 1s *[character(s)] \rightarrow Find all files that end in a specific character (or characters)
- \circ 1s *[character(s)] * \rightarrow Find all files that contain a specific character (or characters)
- Example: 1s ghost* → Returns all files that begin with the word (character string) "ghost"

Counting

- \circ wc [file] \rightarrow Find the number of lines, words, and bytes in a file (or files)
- \circ wc -1 [file] \rightarrow Find the number of **lines** in a file (or files)
- \circ wc -w [file] \rightarrow Find the number of words in a file (or files)
- \circ wc -c [file] \rightarrow Find the number of **bytes** in a file (or files)
- Example: wc -1 ghost* → Returns the number of lines in each file that begins with "ghost"

Practice Exercises

- 01. Go to the directory where your local copy of the pr-app repository is located, then go into "data," then "hoax_xml" (the corpus of documents)
 - a. Hint: cd, cd, cd (until you get to "hoax_xml")
- 02. Verify that you are in "hoax_xml"
 - a. Hint: pwd
- 03. Return the documents that were published in 1838
 - a. Hint: ls *[characters]*
- 04. Return the documents that were published in the 1830s
 - a. Hint: slightly modify your solution to Exercise 03
- 05. Find the number of lines in each document published in 1838
 - a. Hint: wc -l *[characters]*

Combining lists and counts (and more!)

- 1s returns a list of files/directories
- wc -1 counts the number of lines in its input
- How do we combine them? \rightarrow The pipe operator
- Pipe (|) → Uses the output of a preceding (left of the pipe) command as the input of a subsequent (right of the pipe) command
- Example: ls | wc -l
 - Translation: Count the number of lines in the returned list of directories
 - Answers the question: How many files are in a directory? Subdirectories in a directory?
- Example: 1s *183* | wc -1 \rightarrow Returns the number of documents published in the 1830s
- Example: wc -1 *183* | sort \rightarrow Returns the number of lines per document published in the 1830s, in ascending order

Practice Exercises

- 01. Return the number of documents in the corpus whose titles contain the word "ghost"
 - a. Hint: ls *[characters]* | wc -w
- 02. Find the longest document published between 1800 and 1810
 - a. Hint: wc -l *[characters]* | sort
- 03. Find the shortest document published in the 1830s
 - a. Hint: wc -l *[characters]* | sort -r

"Reading" documents

- less [filename] → Returns a scrollable version of a file's contents
- less -N [filename] \rightarrow Does the above, with the addition of line numbers
- head [filename] → Returns the first few lines of a file's contents
- tail [filename] \rightarrow Returns the **last** few lines of a file's contents
- grep [pattern] [filename] → Searches for the pattern within a file (or multiple files)
- grep -n [pattern] [filename] → Does the above, with the addition of line numbers
- Example: grep -n "(C|c)onstable" *183* → Returns the occurrences (with line numbers) of the word "Constable" or "constable" in documents published in the 1830s

Practice Exercises

- 01. What do you see when you enter less -N aghost_age_1832.xml?
- 02. What do you see when you enter head aghost_age_1832.xml?
- 03. When you repeat Exercise 02 with tail instead of head?
- 04. Return the lines that contain the word "constable" in the documents published in the 1830s
 - a. Hint: grep -n -E [pattern] *[characters]*
- 05. How would you return the count of the number of lines grep returns?
 - a. Hint: pipe (|), wc -1

Further resources

- Learn Enough Command Line to Be Dangerous
 - https://www.learnenough.com/command-line-tutorial
- tldr pages
 - o https://tldr.sh/