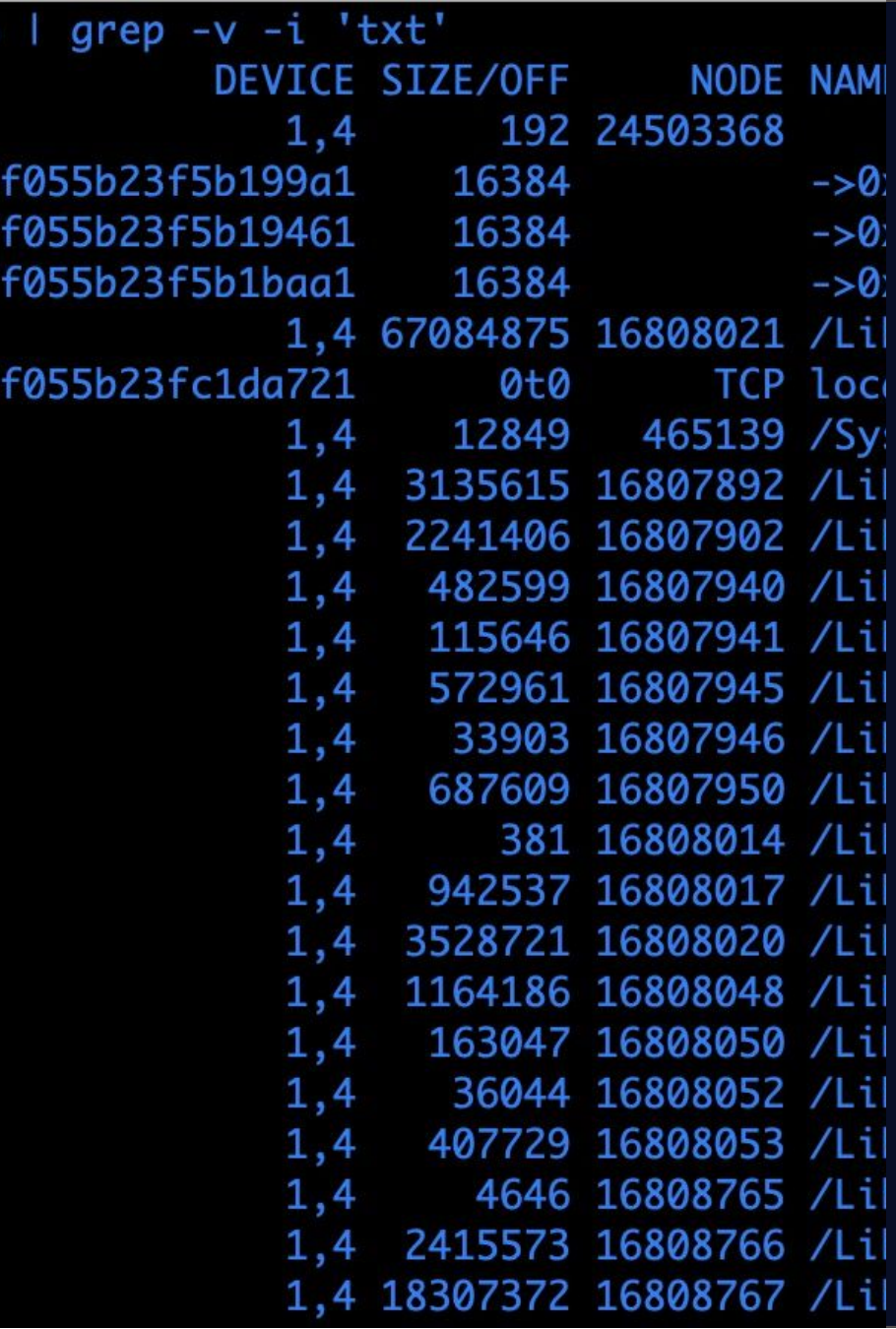

Linux File Handling Utilities

In Linux, there are various file handling utilities that allow you to perform different operations on files and directories. Let's explore some of the most commonly used commands, their syntax, and how to execute them.

by Vamshi Polisetty

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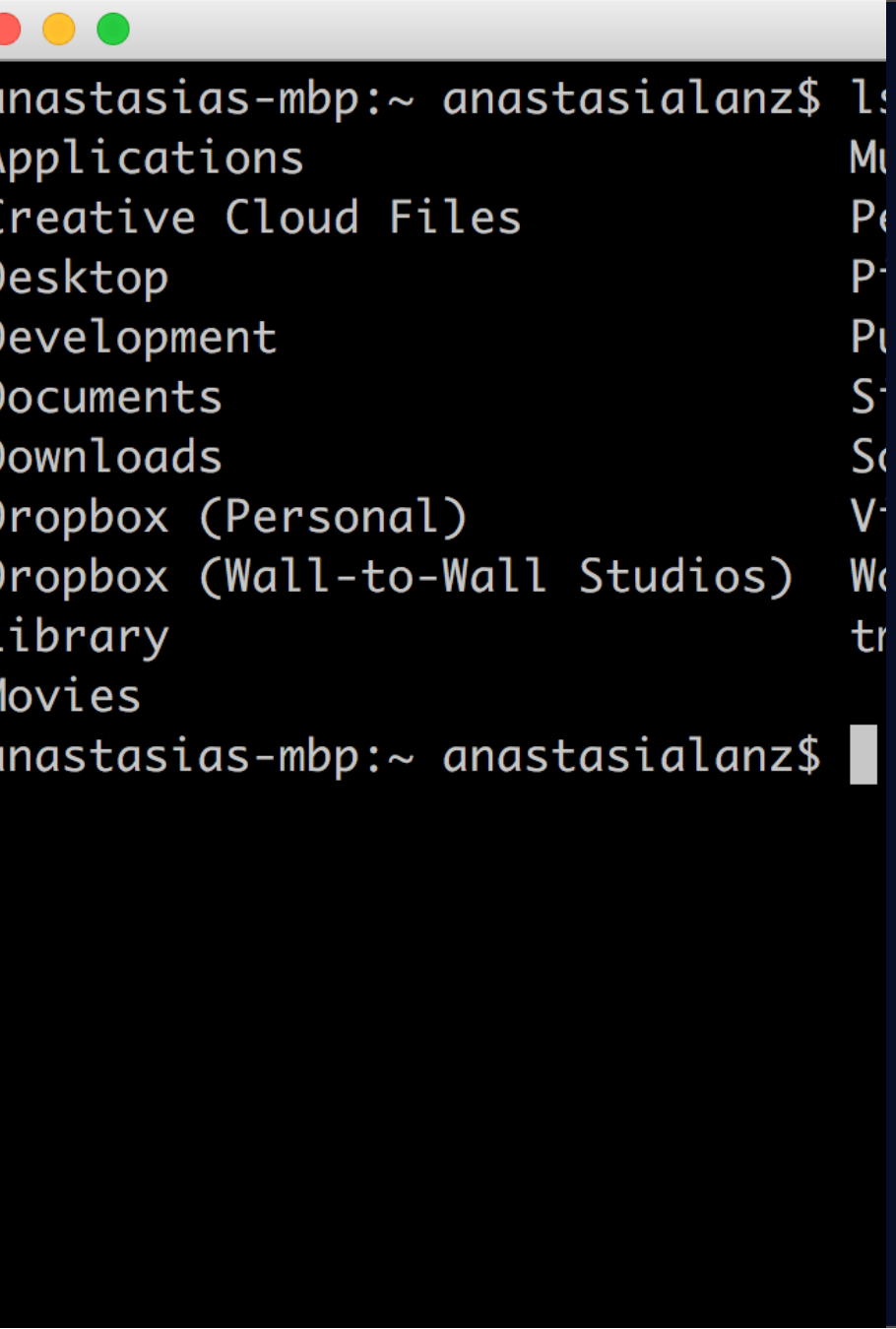

1. Command: ls

ls is used to list files and directories in the current directory.

Syntax: ls [options] [path]

Example: ls -l /home

This command provides a simple way to view the contents of a directory.

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2. Command: pwd

`pwd` is used to print the current working directory.

Syntax: `pwd`

Example: `pwd`

This command helps you quickly identify the current directory you are working in.

```
anastasias-mbp:~ anastasialanz$ pwd
/Users/anastasialanz
anastasias-mbp:~ anastasialanz$
```

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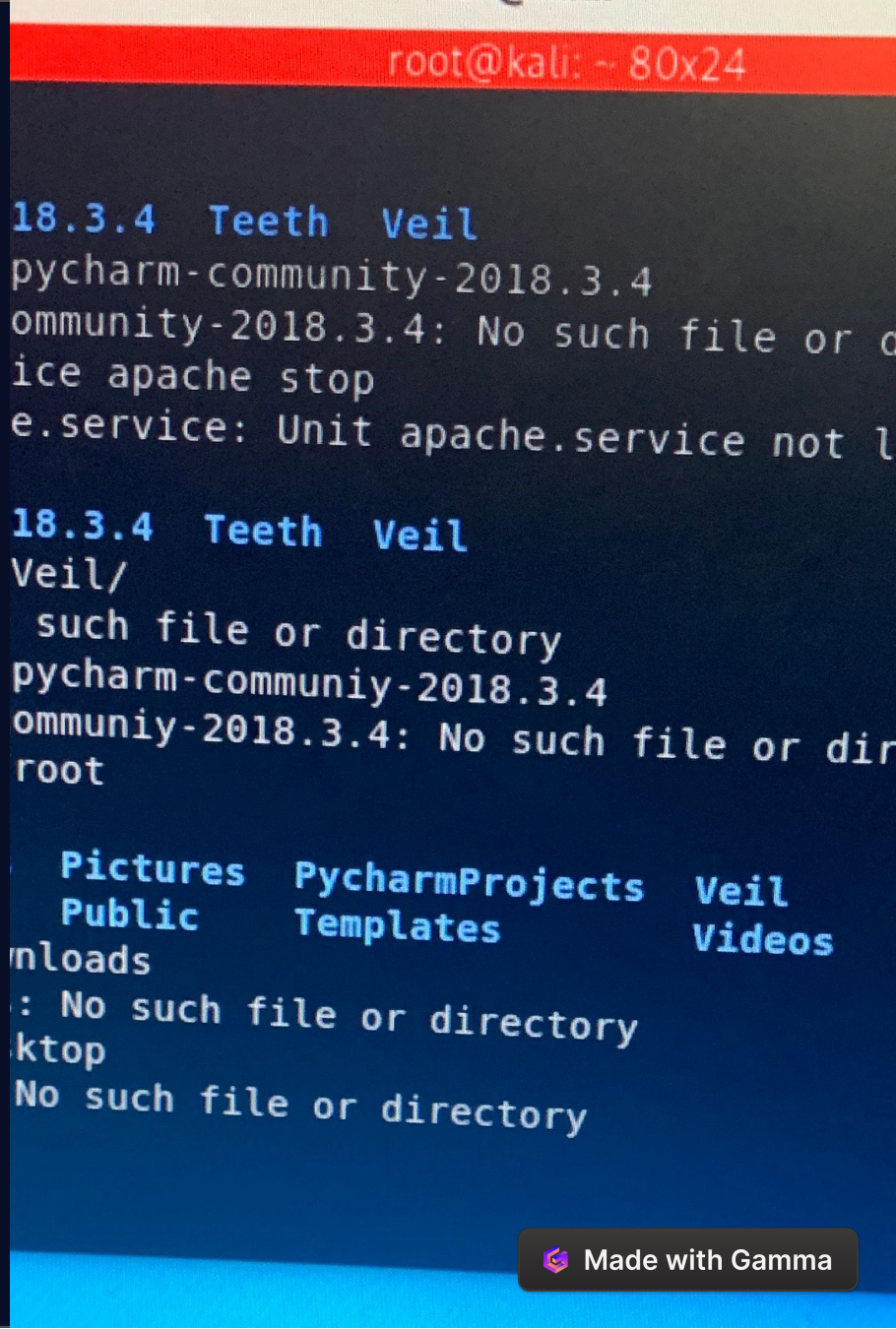
3. Command: cd

`cd` is used to change the current directory.

Syntax: `cd [directory_path]`

Example: `cd /home/user/documents`

This command allows you to navigate through different directories in your file system.



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```
/tmp
ouch ptest0502
kdir ptest0502
rectory `ptest0502': File exists
kdir dptest0502
xit

l -h /tmp

  4.0K May  2 18:58 dptest0502
  4.0K May  2 18:57 drtest0502
     0 Apr 25 14:44 file-2017-04-2
     0 Apr 25 14:44 file-2017-04-2
   885 Apr 27 17:59 inittab
  4.0K Apr 23 14:28 install.1
  4.0K Apr 23 14:28 install.2
  4.0K Apr 21 16:15 prl-tools-dir
  4.0K Apr 21 16:15 prl-tools-mnt
     0 May  2 18:57 ptest0502
     0 May  2 18:56 rtest0502
    28 Apr 24 15:51 sort.text
     0 Apr 30 15:36 test
1    0 Apr 30 15:40 test0430
```

4. Command: mkdir

`mkdir` is used to create a new directory.

Syntax: `mkdir [directory_name]`

Example: `mkdir new_directory`

This command enables you to easily create directories to organize your files.

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```
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
index.html
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
MyDirectory     index.html
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
index.html
anastasias-mbp:example anastasialanz$
```

5. Command: rmdir

`rmdir` is used to remove a directory if it is empty.

Syntax: `rmdir [directory_name]`

Example: `rmdir directory_to_remove`

This command is useful when you want to delete a directory that doesn't contain any files or directories.

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6. Command: touch

`touch` is used to create an empty file or update the access and modification timestamps of a file.

Syntax: `touch [file_name]`

Example: `touch new_file.txt`

This command allows you to quickly create empty files or update the timestamps of existing files.

2. bash

```
e anastasialanz$ touch hello.txt
e anastasialanz$ ls
.html
e anastasialanz$
```

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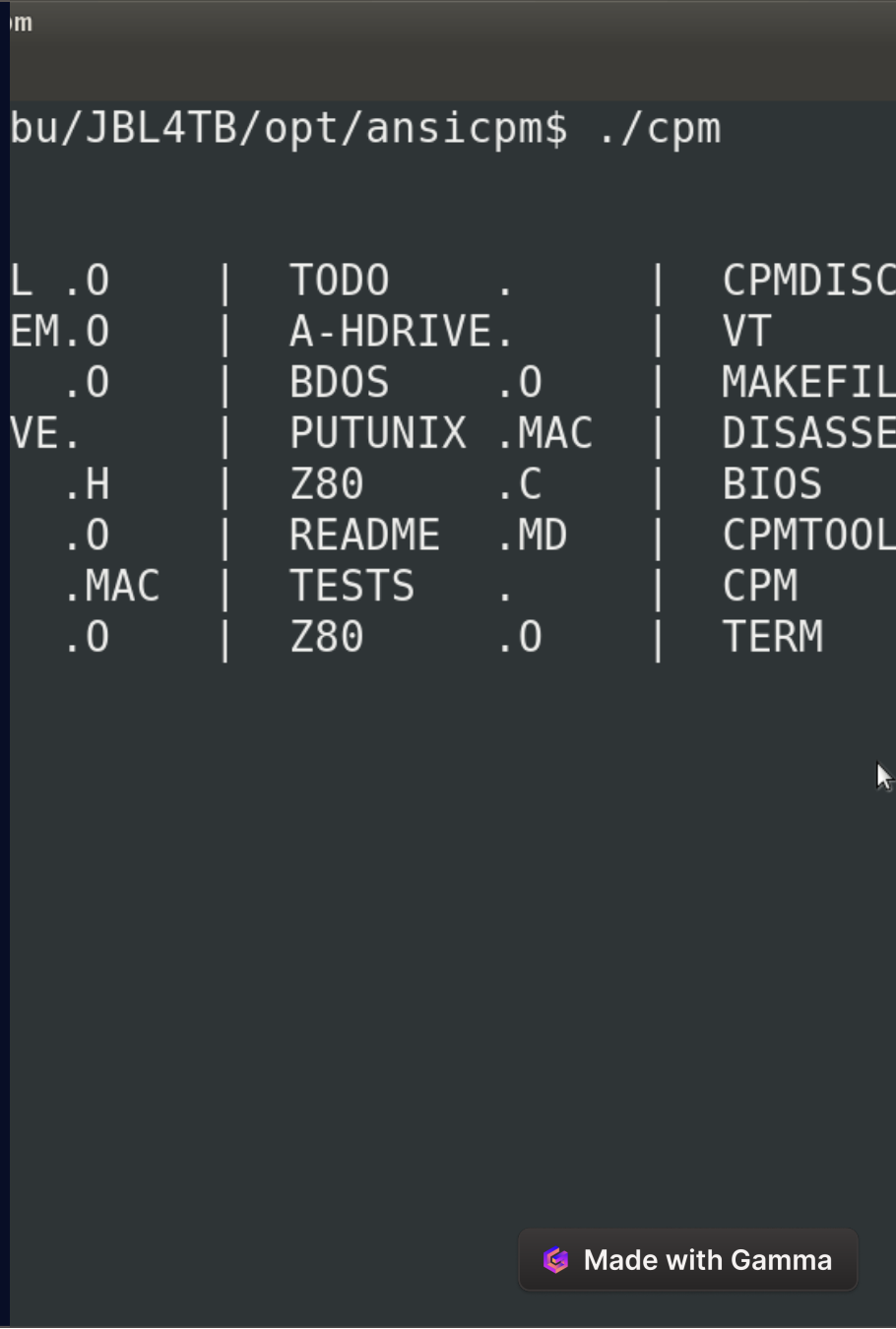
7. Command: cp

`cp` is used to copy files or directories.

Syntax: `cp [options] [source] [destination]`

Example: `cp file.txt /home/user/Documents`

This command helps you duplicate files or directories.



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8. Command: mv

`mv` is used to move or rename files or directories.

Syntax: `mv [options] [source] [destination]`

Example: `mv file.txt /home/user/Documents/new_file.txt`

This command allows you to relocate files or directories to different locations.

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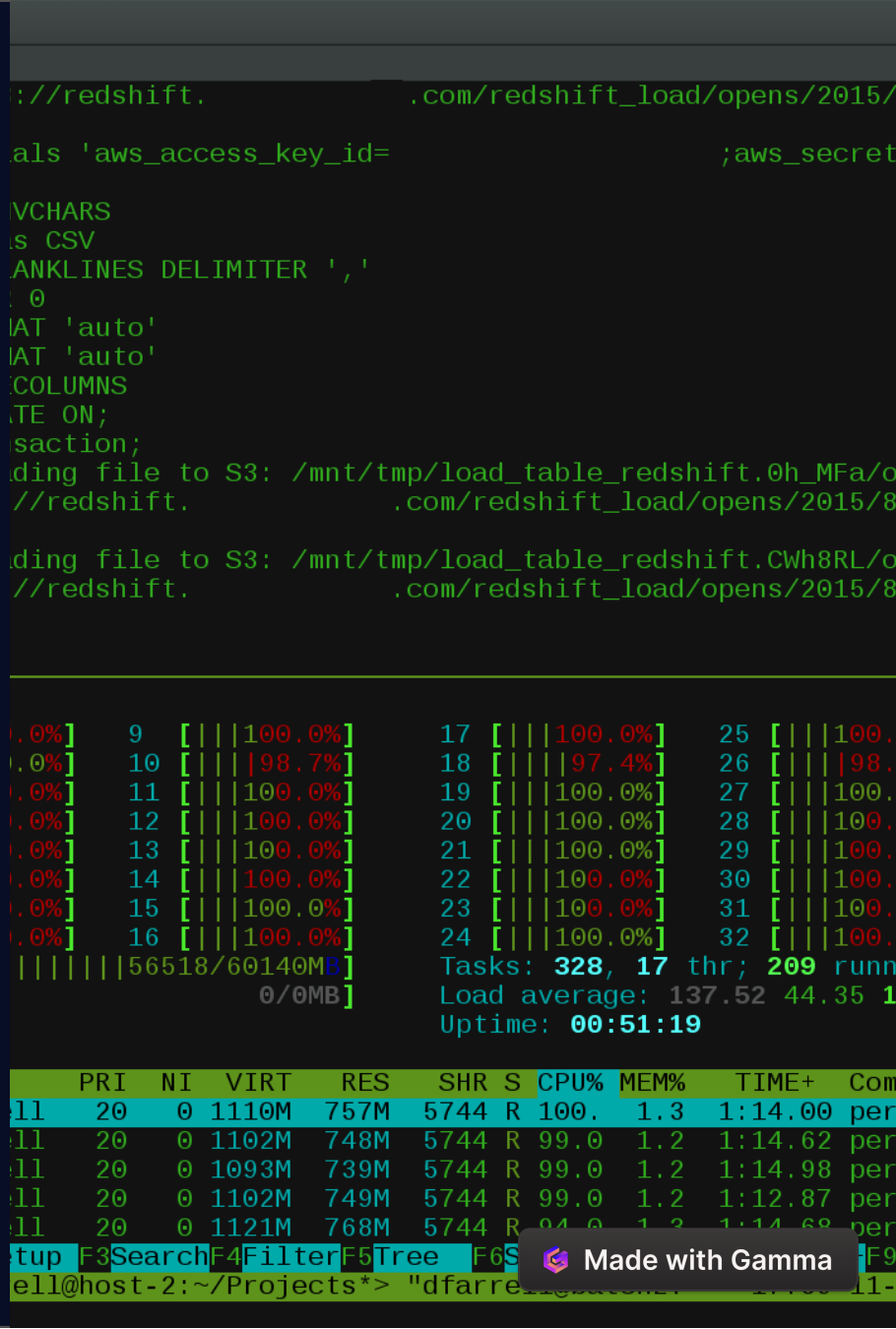
9. Command: rm

`rm` is used to remove (delete) files or directories.

Syntax: `rm [options] [file_or_directory]`

Example: `rm file.txt`

This command helps you delete unwanted files or directories.



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```
ubuntu@ubuntu-B85M-D3H:/bin$ ls
bash                    dbus-uuidgen
bunzip2                 dd
busybox                 df
bzcat                   dir
bzcmp                   dmesg
bzdiff                  dnsdomainname
bzegrep                 domainname
bzexe                   dumpkeys
bzfgrep                 echo
bzgrep                  ed
bzip2                   egrep
bzip2recover            false
bzless                  fgconsole
bzmore                  fgrep
cat                     findmnt
chacl                   fuser
chgrp                   fusermount
chmod                   getfacl
chown                   grep
chvt                    gunzip
cp                      gzexe
cpio                    gzip
dash                    hostname
date                    ip
dbus-cleanup-sockets    jar
dbus-daemon             java
```

10. Command: cat

`cat` is used to concatenate and display the contents of one or more files.

Syntax: `cat [file1] [file2] ...`

Example: `cat file1.txt file2.txt`

This command allows you to view the contents of files or combine multiple files together.

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```
ver.pem ec2-user@13.112.191.175
.191.175 (13.112.191.175)' can't be established.
60v2VvZXAxCU3kWJ21/DthHPY1xRhr7SN0jJtFzagS0.
e connecting (yes/no)? yes
12.191.175' (ECDSA) to the list of known hosts.
ion denied (publickey).
ver.pem ubuntu@13.112.191.175
NU/Linux 4.4.0-1074-aws x86_64)

ubuntu.com
cape.canonical.com
u.com/advantage

Advantage Cloud Guest:
ss/services/cloud



buntu system are free software;
 each program are described in the
oc/*/copyright.

WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by


r (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
```

11. Command: more

more is used to display the contents of a file one screen at a time.

Syntax: more [file_name]

Example: more file.txt

This command is useful when you want to view large files without scrolling through the entire content at once.

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THANK YOU

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