Shell Programming

A Necessity for all Programmers

sort, cut, and grep commands

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You will learn how to use ...



- sort
- cut
- grep

sort command



- sort lines of text in ascending or descending order
- sort <Options> <File(s)>
- Options
 - without options: sorts lines of a text in ascending order
 - -o outputfile: copies the sorted contents to the output file
 - -u: output only unique lines after sorting
 - -m: merge the sorted files
 - -r: reverse sort
 - +n (n+1): sort on the nth column
 - -n: numeric sort

cut command



- The cut command can be used to view certain fields
- cut <Options> <File>
- Options
 - -f : for extracting certain fields
 - -c: for extracting columns
 - Example 1: cut -f 1,4 students.txt
 - Example 2: cut -f 1-3 students.txt
 - Example 3: cut -c 1-4 students.txt

grep command



- grep searches for pattern in each file
- grep <Options> <Pattern> <File>
- Options
 - -c : counts the number of lines where such a pattern occurs
 - -v: displays those lines which do not contain the pattern
 - -i: ignores case while searching
 - -n: displays line number
 - -l: displays files containing the text

grep command .. contd



- Search Patterns
 - .(dot): matches any one character
 - .*: zero or any number of characters
 - [chars] : matches any one of a set of characters
 - [char-char]: matches any one of a range of characters
 - ^ chars: matches a set of characters occurring at the beginning of each line
 - [^ char-char]: matches any character other than specified in the character set
 - chars\$: matches a set of characters occurring at the the end of each line

Now, you can use...



- sort: to sort the contents of the file in a lexicographic order
- cut: to extract certain fields from the file content
- grep: to extract lines containing specified patterns

Thank you

