# wc:Counting lines, words and characters

#### • \$ cat infile

I am the wc command
I count characters, words and lines
With options I can also make a selective count

#### • \$wc infile

3 20 103 infile

wc counts 3 lines, 20 words and 103 charcters

- A line is any group of characters not containing a newline [\$wc -l infile]
- A word is a group of characters not containing a space, tab or newline [\$wc -w infile]
- A character is smallest unit of information, and includes a space, tab and newline [\$wc -c infile]

 When used with multiple filenames, wc produces a line for each file as well as total count

## \$wc chap01 chap02 chap03

305 4058 23179 chap01

550 4732 28132 chap02

377 4500 25221 chap03

1232 13290 76532 total

### comm:what is common

- Compare two sorted files line-by-line
- With no options, comm produces three-column output.
- Column one contains lines unique to FILE1, column two contains lines unique to FILE2, and column three contains lines common to both files.

• \$comm f1 file2



