NAME

soelim − interpret .so requests in groff input

SYNOPSIS

soelim [−**Crtv**] [−**I** *dir*] [*file . . .*]

DESCRIPTION

soelim reads *files* and replaces lines of the form

> **.so** *file*

by the contents of *file*. It is useful if files included with **.so** need to be preprocessed. Normally, **soelim** should be invoked with the −**s** option of **groff**.

To embed '\' in the file name, write '\\' or '\e'. To embed a space, write '\ '. Any other escape sequence in *file* makes **soelim** ignore the whole line.

Note that there must be no whitespace between the leading dot and the two characters 's' and 'o'. Otherwise, only **groff** interprets the **.so** request (and **soelim** ignores it).
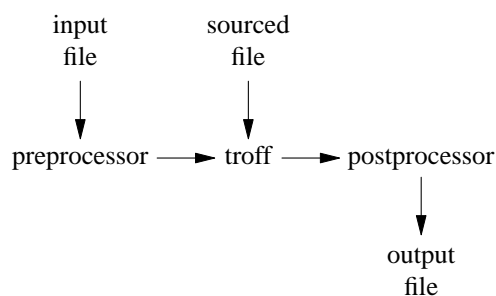
OPTIONS

Whitespace is permitted between a command-line option and its argument.

−C   Recognize **.so** even when followed by a character other than space or newline.

−I*dir*   This option may be used to add a directory to the search path for files (both those on the command line and those named in **.so** requests). The search path is initialized with the current directory. This option may be specified more than once; the directories are then searched in the order specified (but before the current directory). If you want to make the current directory be read before other directories, add −**I.** at the appropriate place.

No directory search is performed for files with an absolute file name.

−r   Do not add **.lf** requests (for general use, with non-groff files).

−t   Don't emit **.lf** requests but TeX comment lines (starting with '%') giving the current file and line number.
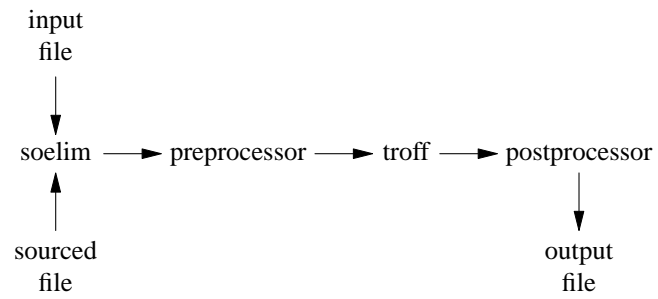
−v   Print the version number.

USAGE

The normal processing sequence of groff is this:

```
        input            sourced
        file              file

          |                |
          ↓                ↓
preprocessor ───▶ troff ───▶ postprocessor

                               |
                               ↓
                             output
                              file
```

That is, files sourced with **.so** are normally read *only* by **troff** (the actual formatter). **soelim** is *not* required for **troff** to source files.

If a file to be sourced should also be preprocessed, it must already be read *before* the input file passes through the preprocessor. This is handled by **soelim**:

```
        input
         file
           │
           ▼
       soelim  ───────▶  preprocessor  ───────▶  troff  ───────▶  postprocessor
           ▲                                                           │
           │                                                           ▼
       sourced                                                      output
         file                                                        file
```

SEE ALSO
>   **groff**(1)