



# Your new friend SED

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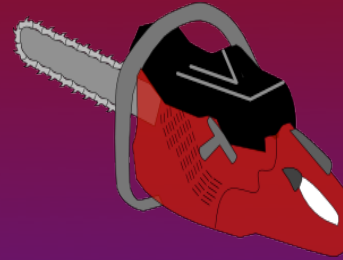
Solving a problem requires choosing the correct tool



GREP



SED



AWK



# When to use sed

- Automate editing to be performed on one or more lines
- Simplify the task of performing the same edits on multiple files
- Write conversion programs

# SED Overview



- More on Regular Expressions
- SED syntax
  - How SED works
- Examples of SED in action

# SED pep talk

*HURDLES* you will face

1. How to apply RegExp
2. How to use SED syntax
3. How to interact with the shell
4. The knack of script writing

**SED IS YOUR  
FRIEND**



## Regular Expressions Review

**^** : beginning of the line

**\$** : end of the line

**.** : any single character

**\** : escape character

**(character)\*** : matches arbitrary number of occurrences

**(character)?** : matches 0 or 1 occurrences

**(character)+** : matches 1 or more occurrences

# [ brackets are special ]

[ ] : matches anything enclosed in the [ ]

[^abc] : excludes everything after the character

[:alpha:] = [a-zA-Z] returns all upper and lower case alphabets

[:upper:] = [A-Z] returns all upper case letters

[:lower:] = [a-z] returns all lower case letters

[:digit:] = [0-9] returns any thing with digits

[:alnum:] = [0-9a-zA-Z] any thing with numbers or letters (no symbols only)

[:space:] matches any string that has spaces in it

# [ brackets are special ]

`^` : loses its special meaning in a bracket if not placed first

`[ab^]` means nothing special

`]` : loses special meaning if placed in a list

`[ ] | 2 ]` ---> returns `]`, `|`, `2`

`-` : loses its special meaning if placed last

`[892-]` means nothing special



matching specific # of repetitions of a pattern

**grep** "[[:digit:]]\{3\}[-]\?[[[:digit:]]\{4\}" file

any number

set of 3

seperated by  
0 or 1 dashes

any number

set of 4

what you are searching for  
808 - 7631

# How SED works

## Input

Reads from  
commands from  
standard input  
or  
from a file

## Pattern Space

- Streams through your file line by line looking for the correct pattern
- Performs sequence of editing commands in the pattern space

## Output

Outputs to  
the terminal  
unless  
otherwise  
specified

# SED syntax

```
% SED 'command' file.txt
```

Unix command

command you want  
to execute

file that you want  
to execute  
commands

# SED syntax

## Multiple commands

```
% SED -e 'command1' -e 'command2' file.txt
```

## Piping unix commands

```
% {unix command}| sed -e 'command1' file.txt
```

## Reading commands from a file

```
% SED -f sedscrip.sed
```

# Deleting Lines

% SED 'l,10d' file.txt

Finds line l  
through 10



Deletes lines l  
through 10



returns a file from 10 - N

1. star 3034	11.76 +0.46 +0.09 3
2. planet 3241	13.78 +0.57 +0.06 3
3. STAR 149	16.42 +0.60 +0.25 1
4. star 1593	11.12 +0.75 +0.30 3
5. galaxy 3122	11.92 +0.73 +0.19 1
6. starburst 778	8.90 +0.99 +0.22 4

% sed -e '1,2d' file

3. STAR 149	16.42 +0.60 +0.25 1
4. star 1593	11.12 +0.75 +0.30 3
5. galaxy 3122	11.92 +0.73 +0.19 1
6. starburst 778	8.90 +0.99 +0.22 4

% sed -e '3d' file

1. star 3034	11.76 +0.46 +0.09 3
2. planet 3241	13.78 +0.57 +0.06 3
4. star 1593	11.12 +0.75 +0.30 3
5. galaxy 3122	11.92 +0.73 +0.19 1
6. starburst 778	8.90 +0.99 +0.22 4

1. star 3034	11.76	+0.46	+0.09	3
2. planet 3241	13.78	+0.57	+0.06	3
3. STAR 149	16.42	+0.60	+0.25	1
4. star 1593	11.12	+0.75	+0.30	3
5. galaxy 3122	11.92	+0.73	+0.19	1
6. starburst 778	8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4

```
% sed -e '1,2d' -e '4,5d' -e 's/STAR/star/' file
```

3. star 149	16.42	+0.60	+0.25	1
6. starburst 778	8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4

```
readcol,'ple.stauffer.with.bi',stname,stname2, stv, stbmV, stvmr, strmi,  
usersym, cos(findgen(32.)*!PI*2./32.),sin(findgen(32.)*!PI*2./32.),/fill  
----  
plot,BKbmV,BKv2, yrange = [18,8],xrange = [0,2.],/ystyle,/xstyle,$  
  xtitle = 'B-V', ytitle = 'V',charsize = 2.0,$  
  color = black, background = white,/nodata  
oplot, jmBMV,jmV, color = black, psym = 1, symsize = 0.75  
device, /close
```

to

```
% sed -e 'plot/,/\nodata/d' file
```

```
readcol,'ple.stauffer.with.bi',stname,stname2, stv, stbmV, stvmr, strmi,  
usersym, cos(findgen(32.)*!PI*2./32.),sin(findgen(32.)*!PI*2./32.),/fill  
----  
  
oplot, jmBMV,jmV, color = black, psym = 1, symsize = 0.75  
device, /close
```



# search and replace

% SED 's/searchIT/replaceIT/' file.txt

Line by line  
finds  
the first  
occurrence of  
searchIT



Replaces  
something  
with replaceIT



replaceIT

file.txt

star	2484	file	9.16	+0.16	+0.15	2	0520222484
star	3034	file	11.76	+0.46	+0.09	3	0520223034
planet	3241		13.78	+0.57	+0.06	3	0520223241
STAR	1491		16.42	+0.60	+0.25	1	0520221491
star	1593		11.12	+0.75	+0.30	3	0520221593
galaxy	3122		11.92	+0.73	+0.19	1	0520223122
starburst	778		8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4	0520223128

Print modified line

% SED -e -n 's/[a-z]\*/light/p' file.txt

Do not print  
unless there is  
a match

light	2484	file	9.16	+0.16	+0.15	2	0520222484
light	3034	file	11.76	+0.46	+0.09	3	0520223034
light	3241		13.78	+0.57	+0.06	3	0520223241
light	1593		11.12	+0.75	+0.30	3	0520221593
light	3122		11.92	+0.73	+0.19	1	0520223122
light	778		8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4	0520223128

file.txt

star	2484	file	9.16	+0.16	+0.15	2	0520222484
star	3034	file	11.76	+0.46	+0.09	3	0520223034
planet	3241		13.78	+0.57	+0.06	3	0520223241
STAR	1491		16.42	+0.60	+0.25	1	0520221491
star	1593		11.12	+0.75	+0.30	3	0520221593
galaxy	3122		11.92	+0.73	+0.19	1	0520223122
starburst	778		8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4	0520223128

Global

% SED -e 's/[a-z]\*/**light**/g' file.txt

<b>light</b>	2484	<b>light</b>	9.16	+0.16	+0.15	2	0520222484
<b>light</b>	3034	<b>light</b>	11.76	+0.46	+0.09	3	0520223034
<b>light</b>	3241		13.78	+0.57	+0.06	3	0520223241
STAR	1491		16.42	+0.60	+0.25	1	0520221491
<b>light</b>	1593		11.12	+0.75	+0.30	3	0520221593
<b>light</b>	3122		11.92	+0.73	+0.19	1	0520223122
<b>light</b>	778		8.90	+0.99	+0.22	4	0520223128

the brown cat was chased by the brown dog  
the brown cat was not chased by the brown dog

```
% sed -e '/not/s/brown/white/g' file
```

the white cat was not chased by the white dog

# delimiters

**/ @ % # ; : \_**

- sed 's/**/**usr/bin**/**bin**/**g' file.txt
- sed 's/**#**/usr/bin**#**/bin**#**g' file.txt
- sed 's/**\_**/usr/bin**\_**/bin**\_**g' file.txt
- sed 's/**:**/usr/bin**:**/bin**:**g' file.txt

<http://www.foo.com/mypage.html>

```
% sed 's_www.foo.com/_bar.net/' file.txt
```

<http://www.bar.net/mypage.html>

## Pattern Space

- Able to save up to 9 different patterns that SED finds
  - accessible using `\1` - `\9`
- Need to save each pattern in `\( character\)`

```
sed 's/\([a-z]*\).*\1/
```

match lower  
case letters

matches  
characters  
after first  
match

stores first pattern

```
sed 's/\([a-z]*\) \([a-z]*\)/\2 \1/
```

switches order of 1st and 2nd  
matched pattern

abcd123

abcd

abcd efgh

efgh abcd

**Are you ready for  
your new *favorite*  
SED command?**



1167 989 835 1321 51553  
4315 787 321 4510 99909  
8953 153 153 1532 12325  
7891 142 415 2532 51535

```
sed -e 's:[0-9]*:& \& :g' -e 's:..$:\\|\\|\\|.' file.txt
```

1167 & 989 & 835 & 1321 & 51553 \\

4315 & 787 & 321 & 4510 & 99909 \\

8953 & 153 & 153 & 1532 & 12325 \\

7891 & 142 & 415 & 2532 & 51535 \\

# WEBSITES

1. [http://www.linuxhowtos.org/System/sed\\_tutorial.htm](http://www.linuxhowtos.org/System/sed_tutorial.htm)

2. <http://www.panix.com/~elflord/unix/sed.html> \*\*\*\*\*

3. <http://www.grymoire.com/Unix/Sed.html>

4. [http://www.cs.utk.edu/~vose/c-stuff/sed\\_tutorial.html](http://www.cs.utk.edu/~vose/c-stuff/sed_tutorial.html)

5. <http://en.kioskea.net/faq/1753-tips-and-tricks>

`\g` changes all of the patterns in each line

can add a number at the end of the substitution to indicate you only want to match that pattern

`\1` <---inside substitution  
`/1` <---after the substitution

can use numbers in combo with global command  
`/2g` after the second one