Soft link vs hard link

What is hard link ------? Copy (mirror) of selected file.

It access data exists on original file.

A computer screen shot of a blue background

Description automatically generated

Available via same file system.

Available for only regular files not (special files or directories).

When hard link is created it take same inode of original file.

What is soft link ----🡪 Pointer for file name .

Available for files and directories.

Available at any location not restricted for same file system.

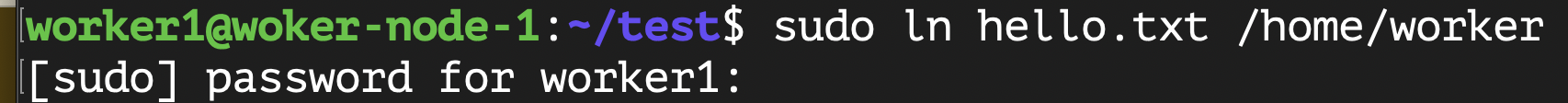
When soft link is created it take different inode .

A computer screen shot of a computer

Description automatically generated

How to create hard link ?

$ ln /path/to/file /path/to/hardlink



Note content is accessed and same inode

A computer screen shot of a black background

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How to create soft link ?

$ ln -s /full\_path/to/file /path/to/soft\_link

Notes --🡪

1. You must specify full path for file
2. Different inode number for soft link.



A screenshot of a computer

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