

Text manipulation and scripting: some basics

regex	regular expressions
grep	global regex print: [-i] ignore case [-l] list names of matching files [-n] include line numbers [-w] whole word only [-r] recursively [-h] suppress output of filenames
	pipe: connects two commands
sed	stream editor example: global search and replace (replaces all occurrences of old with new and saves a new file. <pre>\$sed 's/old/new/g' <old_file> >new_file</pre>
awk	[s] substitute, [g] global transforms text like sed, but is also its own programming language oriented toward delimited fields separated by spaces or tabs and is excellent for loops and arrays example: prints only the third column <pre>\$ cat <file> awk '{print \$3}'</pre>
vi	visual editor (try VI tutor to get familiar with vi).
sort	sort lines of text files
uniq	report or omit repeated lines
wc	word count: [-l] line count [-c] byte count [-m] character count [-L] length of longest line [-w] word count
pushd	saves current working directory in memory
popd	returns the path at the top of the directory stack
dirs	print the directory stack, showing current directory first
echo	write to stdout (important tool to test a script before potentially making a mistake)
./	run a script
control+c, control+d	to escape a command
control+z	to escape a command (suspends, then you will have to kill)

regex special characters

[...]	set of possible matches
\	gives special meaning to a character or escapes special meaning of a special character
^	match beginning of line
\$	match end of line
.	match any character
	separates alternate possibilities
?	match the preceding element 0 or 1 time
*	match the preceding element >0 times
+	match the preceding element >1 times
(...)	group a series of elements
\r	carriage return
\t	tab
\n	line feed character
\r\n	line separator in Windows