Hadoop HDFS Command Cheatsheet

List Files

hdfs dfs -ls /	List all the files/directories for the given hdfs destination path.
hdfs dfs -ls -d /hadoop	Directories are listed as plain files. In this case, this command will list the details of hadoop folder.
hdfs dfs -ls -h /data	Format file sizes in a human-readable fashion (eg 64.0m instead of 67108864).
hdfs dfs -ls -R /hadoop	Recursively list all files in hadoop directory and all subdirectories in hadoop directory.
hdfs dfs -ls /hadoop/dat*	List all the files matching the pattern. In this case, it will list all the files inside hadoop directory which starts with 'dat'.

Read/Write Files

hdfs dfs -text /hadoop/derby.log	HDFS Command that takes a source file and outputs the file in text format on the terminal. The allowed formats are zip and TextRecordInputStream.
hdfs dfs -cat /hadoop/test	This command will display the content of the HDFS file test on your stdout .
hdfs dfs -appendToFile /home/ubuntu/test1 /hadoop/text2	Appends the content of a local file test1 to a hdfs file test2.

Upload/Download Files

hdfs dfs -put /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Copies the file from local file system to HDFS.
hdfs dfs -put -f /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Copies the file from local file system to HDFS, and in case the local already exits in the given destination path, using -f option with put command will overwrite it.
hdfs dfs -put -l /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Copies the file from local file system to HDFS. Allow DataNode to lazily persist the file to disk. Forces replication factor of 1.
hdfs dfs -put -p /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Copies the file from local file system to HDFS. Passing -p preserves access and modification times, ownership and the mode.
hdfs dfs -get /newfile /home/ubuntu/	Copies the file from HDFS to local file system.
hdfs dfs -get -p /newfile /home/ubuntu/	Copies the file from HDFS to local file system. Passing -p preserves access and modification times, ownership and the mode.
hdfs dfs -get /hadoop/*.txt /home/ubuntu/	Copies all the files matching the pattern from HDFS to local file system
hdfs dfs -copyFromLocal /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Works similarly to the put command, except that the source is restricted to a local file reference.
hdfs dfs -copyToLocal /newfile /home/ubuntu/	Works similarly to the put command, except that the destination is restricted to a local file reference.
hdfs dfs -moveFromLocal /home/ubuntu/sample /hadoop	Works similarly to the put command, except that the source is deleted after it's copied.

File Management

hdfs dfs -cp /hadoop/file1 /hadoop1	Copies file from source to destination on HDFS. In this case, copying file1 from hadoop directory to hadoop1 directory.
hdfs dfs -cp -p /hadoop/file1 /hadoop1	Copies file from source to destination on HDFS. Passing -p preserves access and modification times, ownership and the mode.
hdfs dfs -cp -f /hadoop/file1 /hadoop1	Copies file from source to destination on HDFS. Passing -f overwrites the destination if it already exists.
hdfs dfs -mv /hadoop/file1 /hadoop1	Move files that match the specified file pattern <src> to a destination <dst>. When moving multiple files, the destination must be a directory.
hdfs dfs -rm /hadoop/file1	Deletes the file (sends it to the trash).

hdfs dfs -rm -r /hadoop hdfs dfs -rm -R /hadoop hdfs dfs -rmr /hadoop	Deletes the directory and any content under it recursively.
hdfs dfs -rm -skipTrash /hadoop	The -skipTrash option will bypass trash, if enabled, and delete the specified file(s) immediately.
hdfs dfs -rm -f /hadoop	If the file does not exist, do not display a diagnostic message or modify the exit status to reflect an error.
hdfs dfs -rmdir /hadoop1	Delete a directory.
hdfs dfs -mkdir /hadoop2	Create a directory in specified HDFS location.
hdfs dfs -mkdir -f /hadoop2	Create a directory in specified HDFS location. This command does not fail even if the directory already exists.
hdfs dfs -touchz /hadoop3	Creates a file of zero length at <path> with current time as the timestamp of that <path>.

Ownership and Validation	
hdfs dfs -checksum /hadoop/file1	Dump checksum information for files that match the file pattern <src> to stdout.
hdfs dfs -chmod 755 /hadoop/file1	Changes permissions of the file.
hdfs dfs -chmod -R 755 /hadoop	Changes permissions of the files recursively.
hdfs dfs -chown ubuntu:ubuntu /hadoop	Changes owner of the file. 1st ubuntu in the command is owner and 2nd one is group.
hdfs dfs -chown -R ubuntu:ubuntu /hadoop	Changes owner of the files recursively.
hdfs dfs -chgrp ubuntu /hadoop	Changes group association of the file.
hdfs dfs -chgrp -R ubuntu /hadoop	Changes group association of the files recursively.

Filesystem	
hdfs dfs -df /hadoop	Shows the capacity, free and used space of the filesystem.
hdfs dfs -df -h /hadoop	Shows the capacity, free and used space of the filesystem. -h parameter Formats the sizes of files in a human-readable fashion.
hdfs dfs -du /hadoop/file	Show the amount of space, in bytes, used by the files that match the specified file pattern.
hdfs dfs -du -s /hadoop/file	Rather than showing the size of each individual file that matches the pattern, shows the total (summary) size.
hdfs dfs -du -h /hadoop/file	Show the amount of space, in bytes, used by the files that match the specified file pattern. Formats the sizes of files in a human-readable fashion.

Administration	
hdfs balancer -threshold 30	Runs a cluster balancing utility. Percentage of disk capacity. This overwrites the default threshold.
hadoop version	To check the vesrion of Hadoop.
hdfs fsck /	It checks the health of the Hadoop file system.
hdfs dfsadmin -safemode leave	The command to turn off the safemode of NameNode.
hdfs dfsadmin -refreshNodes	Re-read the hosts and exclude files to update the set of Datanodes that are allowed to connect to the Namenode and those that should be decommissioned or recommissioned.
hdfs namenode -format	Formats the NameNode.