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# vILP - Level 2

**Content Manual** 

Version 1.1

### December 2014

(ILP Guwahati)

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#### 1. Filters

When a program takes its input from another program, performs some operation on that input, and writes the result to the standard output, it is referred to as a filter. A common use of filters is to modify output. UNIX filters can restructure output.

Some common filters in UNIX are:

- uniq Removes identical adjacent lines
- head, tail displays first (last) n lines of a file.
- sort sorts files by line (lexically or numerically)
- cut select portions of a line
- wc word count (line count, character count)
- tr translate
- grep, egrep search files using regular expressions

#### 1.1. head

List the beginning of a file to standard output. The default is 10 lines, but a different number can be specified. The command has a number of interesting options.

#### Syntax:

head [OPTION] [FILE]

#### **Options:**

- -c Prints the first N bytes of file; with leading -, prints all but the last N bytes of the file.
- -n Prints first N lines; with leading print all but the last N lines of each file.

**Example:** To display the first 10 lines of the file myfile.txt.

\$head myfile.txt

To display the first 100 lines of the file myfile.txt. \$head -n100 myfile.txt

To print the first 5 bytes from the file \$ head -c5 myfile.txt

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#### 1.2. tail

List the (tail) end of a file to stdout. The default is 10 lines, but this can be changed with the -n option. Commonly used to keep track of changes to a system log-file, using the -f option, which outputs lines appended to the file.

#### Syntax:

tail [OPTION]... [FILE]...

#### **Example:**

To display the last 10 lines of the file myfile.txt.

\$ tail myfile.txt

To display the last 100 lines of the file myfile.txt.

\$ tail -100 myfile.txt

\$ tail -n100 myfile.txt