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vILP – Level 2

Content Manual

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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:

- `tr` – translate
- `more` – view text files page wise

1.4 *more*

`more` command allows to view text files or other output in a scrollable manner. When `cat` command is used to view a very long file, all the output scrolls off the top of your screen and only the last page can be viewed. `more` command solves this problem by allowing the output of `cat` command one screenful of data at a time.

Syntax:

`more [option] filename`

Options:

`-num` This option specifies an integer which is the screen size (in lines).

`-d` `more` will prompt the user with the message "[Press space to continue, 'q' to quit.]" and will display "[Press 'h' for instructions.]" instead of ringing the bell when an illegal key is pressed.

`-l` `more` usually treats `^L` (form feed) as a special character, and will pause after any line that contains a form feed. The `-l` option will prevent this behavior.

`-p` Do not scroll. Instead, clear the whole screen and then display the text.

1.5 *tr*

`tr` command automatically translates or substitute characters.

Syntax:

`tr [OPTION] set1 [set2]`

Translate, squeeze, and/or delete characters from standard input, writing to standard output.

Options:

-c : complements the set of characters in string.

-d : deletes the characters in set1

-s : replaces repeated characters listed in the set1 with single occurrence

-t : truncates set1

Example: To replace any occurrence of a by x, b by y and c by z in a given string

```
$echo "about to call" |tr [abc] [xyz]
```

Output : xyout to zxll

Example: To replace non matching characters

```
$ echo "Hello"|tr -c e a
```

Output : aeaaaa

In the above example , except the character “e” other characters are replaced by a

Example: Squeez , we can squeeze more than one occurrence of continuous characters with single occurrence.

```
$echo "about  to call" |tr -s ' '
```

Output : about to call

Above example squeezes two or more blank spaces into one.

For more options use the command

\$man tr