



Part 2: Useful commands

Master your Command Line

(Before it masters you)

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Introduction



UNIX Philosophy

Focused on *modularity & reusability*.

It can be summarized as:

- Write programs that do one thing and do it well.
- Write programs to work together.
- Write programs to handle text streams, because that is a universal interface.

Basic Operations

- Search for text (in files).
 - `cat`, `head`, `tail`, `wc`
 - `grep`
- Search for files (in directories).
 - `ls`
 - `find`, `locate`
- Manipulate files and directories.
 - `cp`, `scp`, `rm`, `mv`
 - `rsync`

GNU Coreutils

The **GNU Core Utilities** are the basic file, shell and text manipulation utilities of the GNU operating system.

They are expected to be present on every operating system.

Previously, the core utilities were implemented by the following packages:

1. `fileutils`
2. `shellutils`
3. `textutils`

In 2003, these three packages were combined into the current `coreutils` package.

Inside the file



cat, head, cd, wc

Utilities to view file content

Example

```
cat -A -n -s torrent-trackers
```

Example

```
head -n 10 torrent-trackers
```

Example

```
cd, cd .., cd ~, cd -
```

Example

```
wc torrent-trackers
```

WC - Output

```
465 233 9585 torrent-trackers
```

newline, wordcount, bytes, filename

grep

grep prints line that matches a certain pattern.

Syntax

```
grep OPTIONS PATTERN INPUT_FILE_NAMES
```

Example

```
$ grep --color=always "anime" torrent-tracker  
udp://tc.anime reactor.ru:8082/announce  
udp://tc.anime reactor.ru:8082/announce
```

grep

The exit status of **grep** when:

- line is selected is 0.
- no line is selected is 1.
- an error occurs is 2.

Useful **grep** options:

- i ignore case
- v invert matches
- c count no. of matching lines
- n prefix each line with line number
- l print name of the file and suppress all other output
- H print filename for each match
- o print only the matched parts of a line
- s suppress error messages
- color color the matching content
- a accept binary input
- label=LABEL display input actually coming from **stdin** as input from file LABEL

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xf python_code.tar.gz
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep  
main'
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
main'
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
-H main'
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
-H --label="$TAR_FILENAME" main'
```


grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
-H --label="$TAR_FILENAME" -n main'
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
-H --label="$TAR_FILENAME" -c main'
```

grep

Task

1. We have a tar file named `python_code.tar.gz`
2. We want to search for a function named `main`
3. But, without, extracting or decompressing the tar file

Example

```
$ tar -xzf python_code.tar.gz --to-command='grep -a  
-H --label="$TAR_FILENAME" -c -s main'
```

Inside the directory



ls

ls displays directory contents.

Useful **ls** options:

--sort **-S**, **-t**, **-X** Size, time, extension

--format **-1**, **-m**, **-l** Horizontal, commas, long

-h human readable

-g don't display file owner

-G don't display file group

-d if argument is a directory, list only its name

-I Ignore files matching pattern

--hide Hide files matching pattern (overridden by **-a**)

ls

Task

1. List all the directories in the folder **find**
2. List the last five files/folders to be modified

Example

```
$ ls
```

ls

Task

1. List all the directories in the folder **find**
2. List the last five files/folders to be modified

Example

```
$ ls -d */
```

ls

Task

1. List all the directories in the folder **find**
2. List the last five files/folders to be modified

Example

```
$ ls -lt | head
```


find

find search for files in a directory hierarchy.

Syntax

```
find DIRECTORY EXPRESSION
```

find

find search for files in a directory hierarchy.

Syntax

```
find DIRECTORY TESTS ACTIONS
```

find

find search for files in a directory hierarchy.

Syntax

```
find DIRECTORY TESTS ACTIONS
```

Example

```
$ find . -name file1b1
```

find

find search for files in a directory hierarchy.

Syntax

```
find DIRECTORY TESTS ACTIONS
```

Example

```
$ find . -name file1b1
```

Useful global options:

-maxdepth *n* Descend at most *n* levels

-mindepth *n* Do not apply tests at levels less than *n*

find

Following **TESTS** are available:

Name **-name**, **-iname**, **-path**, **-ipath**

Links

Time **-atime**, **-ctime**, **-mtime**, **-amin**, **-cmin**,
-mmin, **-anewer**, **-cnewer**, **-mnewer**, **-newerXY**,
-used

Size **-size**, **-empty**

Type **-type**

Owner **-user**, **-group**

Mode Bits/ File Permissions **-perm**, **-readable**, **-writable**,
-executable

Contents

Directories

Filesystems

find -TESTS

-path

```
$ find . -path '*/dir4a'  
./dir1/dir1a/dir2c/dir3a/dir4a
```

-size

```
$ find . -size +5k $ find . -size -5k
```

find files with some content

```
$ find . -name '*. [23]' | xargs grep -l anime  
./dir1/dir1a/dir2c/dir3a/file4.2  
./dir1/dir1b/file1b.3
```

find -TESTS

Task

Find files that were edited before:

1. 10 days.
2. 10 minutes.

find -TESTS

Task

Find files that were edited before:

1. 10 days.
2. 10 minutes.

-newerXY

```
$ find . -newermt "Jul 11"
```

-newerXY

```
$ find . -newermt "10:20"
```


find -TESTS

Task

Find and delete all files of a specific file type.

find -TESTS

Task

Find and delete all files of a specific file type.

-regex

```
$ find -regextype egrep -regex ".*(db|jpg)"
```

Use multiple tests

```
$ find . -type f \( -name "*.db" -or -name "*.jpg" \)
```

find -ACTIONS

Syntax

```
-execdir command {} ';'
                file name
```

-execdir

```
$ find -name "*.db" -execdir rm {} ';' 
```

find -ACTIONS

Syntax

```
-execdir command {} ';'
                        end of command
```

-execdir

```
$ find -name "*.db" -execdir rm {} ';' 
```

locate

locate finds files by name.

It has two drawbacks:

1. It uses the database built using **updatedb**.
2. It does not check if the files still exist.

Useful **locate** options:

- l, --limit** limit the no. of entries being displayed
- b, --basename** match only the basename of the file
- S, --statistics** display the database stats

Example

```
$ sudo updatedb  
$ locate
```

Manipulate Files and Directories



scp

- download **znc.pem** from server to add to irssi client

rm, cp & mv

- Text globbing - Use latex compile files and stuff as examples
- Bash Pattern Matching
 - `rm pre*.(tex)`

Shell porn



fortune & cowsay

- Let's add some star trek quotes
- Cowthink and cowsay
- Add some bling with pony

References



References

1. UnixPin
2. `man 7 regex`
3. `find`:
 - 3.1 Find History
 - 3.2 GNU Findutils - `info` -> Find

Questions?