‘grep’ to match lines

grep “pattern” file	Searches “pattern” in “file”
grep -v “garbage” file	Only print lines without “garbage”
grep -i “pattern” file	Ignores the case
grep “[abc]” file	Lines which have an “a”, “b” or “c”
grep “[1-5]” file	Lines which have numbers from 1 to 5
grep “^[0-9]” file	Lines which start with a number
grep “\.$” file	Lines which end with a dot

‘awk’ to work with columns

awk ‘{print $1,$2}’ file	Prints the 1st and 2nd columns of the file
awk ‘$3 > 500 {print $1}’ file	Prints the 1st col only if 3rd is over 500
awk ‘seen[$0]++ == 1 {print $1}’ file	Prints 1st column of duplicate lines

‘sed’ to substitute text

sed “s/old/new/g” file	Changes all occurrences of “old” to “new”
sed “1,2s/old/new/g” file	Only for the first two lines
sed -i “s/old/new/g” file	Overwrites the file contents

other tools

sort -g file	Sorts all lines, with numerical preference
wc file	Counts the words, lines and chars of a file
head -n 1 file	Shows only the first line of a file
tail -f logfile	Shows the last lines plus any new lines
gnuplot <<< ‘set term png; set output “file.png”; plot “1.txt” w lines lw 2 notitle’	
perl -e “print uc $i”	Run a one-line Perl command
seq -s “, ” -w 0 3 20	Numbers from 0 to 20, step 3, zero-padded
cut -c 12-13 file	Get chars 12 and 13 in each line
paste file_column1 file_column2	Append, line by line, in a single line

bash scripts

name=”Pepe”; echo $name	Declares a variable and prints it
four=$((2+2))	Evaluates an expression
first_line=`head -n 1 file`	Assigns the output of a command
if [“$a” == “$b”]; then A; else B; fi	Conditional expression
for i in *; do mv $i $i.old; done	Iterate on all files
for i in newdir{0..9}; do mkdir $i; done	Iterate on a new list of elements
nohup wget http://ubuntu.com/cd.iso &	Detach and run in background
cat <<< “Hello” >> output.txt	Fakes an input file, appends it to the output