NAME

fmlcut – cut out selected fields of each line of a file

SYNOPSIS

fmlcut –**c***list* [*filename* . . .]
fmlcut –**f***list* [–**d** *char*] [–**s**] [*filename* . . .]

DESCRIPTION

The **fmlcut** function cuts out columns from a table or fields from each line in *filename*; in database parlance, it implements the projection of a relation. **fmlcut** can be used as a filter; if *filename* is not specified or is –, the standard input is read. *list* specifies the fields to be selected. Fields can be fixed length (character positions) or variable length (separated by a field delimiter character), depending on whether –**c** or –**f** is specified.

Note: Either the –**c** or the –**f** option must be specified.

OPTIONS

list — A comma-separated list of integer field numbers (in increasing order), with optional – to indicate ranges. For example: **1,4,7; 1**–**3,8;** –**5,10** (short for **1**–**5,10**); or **3**– (short for third through last field).

–**c***list* — If –**c** is specified, *list* specifies character positions (for instance, –**c1**–**72** would pass the first 72 characters of each line). Note: No space intervenes between –**c** and *list.*

–**f***list* — If –**f** is specified, *list* is a list of fields assumed to be separated in the file by the default delimiter character, TAB, or by *char* if the –**d** option is specified. For example, –**f1,7** copies the first and seventh field only. Lines with no delimiter characters are passed through intact (useful for table subheadings), unless –**s** is specified. Note: No space intervenes between –**f** and *list.* The following options can be used if you have specified –**f**.

- –**d***char* — If –**d** is specified, *char* is the field delimiter. Space or other characters with special meaning to FMLI must be quoted. Note: No space intervenes between –**d** and *char* . The default field delimiter is TAB.
- –**s** — Suppresses lines with no delimiter characters. If –**s** is not specified, lines with no delimiters will be passed through untouched.

EXAMPLES

The following example gets the login IDs and names.

example% fmlcut –d: –f1,5 /etc/passwd

The next example gets the current login name.

example% `who am i | fmlcut –f1 –d" "`

SEE ALSO

fmlgrep(1F)

DIAGNOSTICS

fmlcut returns the following exit values:

0 when the selected field is successfully cut out

2 on syntax errors

The following error messages may be displayed on the FMLI message line:

ERROR: line too long
A line has more than 1023 characters or fields, or there is no new-line character.

ERROR: bad list for c / f option
Missing −**c** or −**f** option or incorrectly specified *list*. No error occurs if a line has fewer fields than the *list* calls for.

ERROR: no fields
The *list* is empty.

ERROR: no delimiter
Missing *char* on −**d** option.

NOTES

fmlcut cannot correctly process lines longer than 1023 characters, or lines with no new-line character.