NAME

touch – change file access and modification times

SYNOPSIS

touch [–acm] [–r *ref_file***]** *file. . .*
touch [–acm] [–t *time***]** *file. . .*
touch [–acm] [*date_time***]** *file. . .*

AVAILABILITY

SUNWcsu

DESCRIPTION

The **touch** utility will change the modification times, the access times, or both, of files.

The time used can be specified by **–t** *time*, by the corresponding time fields of the file referenced by **–r** *ref_file*, or by the *date_time* operand. If none of these are specified, **touch** will use the current time (the value returned by the **time**(2) system call).

If neither the **–a** nor **–m** options were specified, **touch** will update both the modification and access times.

OPTIONS

The following options are supported:

–a Change the access time of *file*. Do not change the modification time unless **–m** is also specified.

–c Do not create a specified *file* if it does not exist. Do not write any diagnostic messages concerning this condition.

–m Change the modification time of *file*. Do not change the access time unless **–a** is also specified.

–r *ref_file* Use the corresponding times of the file named by *ref_file* instead of the current time.

–t *time* Use the specified *time* instead of the current time. *time* will be a decimal number of the form:

[[*CC***]***YY***]***MMDDhhmm***[***.SS***]**

where each two digits represents the following:

MM	The month of the year [01-12].
DD	The day of the month [01-31].
hh	The hour of the day [00-23].
mm	The minute of the hour [00-59].
CC	The first two digits of the year.
YY	The second two digits of the year.
SS	The second of the minute [00-61].

Both *CC* and *YY* are optional. If neither is given, the current year will be assumed. If *YY* is specified, but *CC* is not, *CC* will be derived as follows:

If YY is:	CC becomes:
69-99	19
00-38	20
39-68	ERROR

The resulting time will be affected by the value of the **TZ** environment variable. If the resulting time value precedes the Epoch, **touch** will exit immediately with an error status. The range of valid times is the Epoch to January 18, 2038.

The range for *SS* is (00–61) rather than (00–59) because of leap seconds. If *SS* is 60 or 61, and the resulting time, as affected by the **TZ** environment variable, does not refer to a leap second, the resulting time will be one or two seconds after a time where *SS* is 59. If *SS* is not given, it is assumed to be 0.

OPERANDS

The following operands are supported:

file A path name of a file whose times are to be modified.

date_time Use the specified *date_time* instead of the current time. *date_time* is a decimal number of the form:

MMDDhhmm[*yy*]

where *MM*, *DD*, *hh*, and *mm* are as described for the *time* option-argument to the **−t** option and the optional *yy* is interpreted as follows:

If not specified, the current year will be used. If *yy* is in the range 69-99, the corresponding year 1969-1999 will be used; if *yy* is in the range 00-38, the corresponding year 2000-2038 will be used; if *yy* is in the range 39-68, an error will result.

If no **−r** option is specified, no **−t** option is specified, at least two operands are specified, and the first operand is an eight- or ten-digit decimal integer, the first operand will be assumed to be a *date_time* operand; otherwise, the first operand will be assumed to be a *file* operand.

RETURN VALUES

touch returns the number of files for which the times could not be successfully modified.

ENVIRONMENT

See **environ**(5) for descriptions of the following environment variables that affect the execution of **touch**: **LC_MESSAGES**, **NLSPATH**, and **TZ**.

EXIT STATUS

The following exit values are returned:

0 **touch** executed successfully and all requested changes were made.

>0 An error occurred.

SEE ALSO

time(2), **environ**(5)

NOTES Users familiar with the BSD environment will find that the **−f** option is accepted, but ignored. The **−f** option is unnecessary since **touch** will succeed for all files owned by the user regardless of the permissions on the files.