NAME

uniq – report or filter out repeated lines in a file

SYNOPSIS

uniq [–c | –d | –u] [–f *fields* **] [–s** *char* **] [** *input_file* **[** *output_file* **]]**
uniq [–c | –d | –u] [*–n* **] [+***m* **] [** *input_file* **[** *output_file* **]]**

AVAILABILITY

SUNWesu

DESCRIPTION

The **uniq** utility will read an input file comparing adjacent lines, and write one copy of each input line on the output. The second and succeeding copies of repeated adjacent input lines will not be written.

Repeated lines in the input will not be detected if they are not adjacent.

OPTIONS

The following options are supported:

–c Precede each output line with a count of the number of times the line occurred in the input.

–d Suppress the writing of lines that are not repeated in the input.

–f *fields* Ignore the first *fields* fields on each input line when doing comparisons, where *fields* is a positive decimal integer. A field is the maximal string matched by the basic regular expression:

[[:blank:]]*[^[:blank:]]*

If *fields* specifies more fields than appear on an input line, a null string will be used for comparison.

–s *chars* Ignore the first *chars* characters when doing comparisons, where *chars* is a positive decimal integer. If specified in conjunction with the **–f** option, the first *chars* characters after the first *fields* fields will be ignored. If *chars* specifies more characters than remain on an input line, a null string will be used for comparison.

–u Suppress the writing of lines that are repeated in the input.

–n Equivalent to **–f** *fields* with *fields* set to *n*.

+*m* Equivalent to **–s** *chars* with *chars* set to *m*.

OPERANDS

The following operands are supported:

input_file A path name of the input file. If *input_file* is not specified, or if the *input_file* is –, the standard input will be used.

output_file A path name of the output file. If *output_file* is not specified, the standard output will be used. The results are unspecified if the file named by *output_file* is the file named by *input_file*.

EXAMPLES

The following example lists the contents of the **uniq.test** file and outputs a copy of the repeated lines.

```
example% cat uniq.test
This is a test.
This is a test.
TEST.
Computer.
TEST.
TEST.
Software.
```

```
example% uniq –d uniq.test
This is a test.
TEST.
example%
```

The next example outputs just those lines that are not repeated in the **uniq.test** file.

```
example% uniq –u uniq.test
TEST.
Computer.
Software.
example%
```

The last example outputs a report with each line preceded by a count of the number of times each line occurred in the file.

```
example% uniq –c uniq.test
  2 This is a test.
  1 TEST.
  1 Computer.
  2 TEST.
  1 Software.
example%
```

ENVIRONMENT

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

EXIT STATUS

The following exit values are returned:

0 Successful completion.

>0 An error occurred.

SEE ALSO

comm(1), **pack**(1), **pcat**(1), **uncompress**(1), **sort**(1), **environ**(5)