

NAME

ngctl - netgraph control utility

SYNOPSIS

ngctl [-d] [-f *filename*] [-n *nodename*] [*command* ...]

DESCRIPTION

The **ngctl** utility creates a new netgraph node of type *socket* which can be used to issue netgraph commands. If no **-f** flag is given, no command is supplied on the command line, and standard input is a tty, **ngctl** will enter interactive mode. Otherwise **ngctl** will execute the supplied command(s) and exit immediately.

Nodes can be created, removed, joined together, etc. ASCII formatted control messages can be sent to any node if that node supports binary/ASCII control message conversion.

In interactive mode, **ngctl** will display any control messages and data packets received by the socket node. In the case of control messages, the message arguments are displayed in ASCII form if the originating node supports conversion.

The options are as follows:

-f *nodeinfo*

Read commands from the named file. A single dash represents the standard input. Blank lines and lines starting with a "#" are ignored.

-n *nodename*

Assign *nodename* to the newly created netgraph node. The default name is *ngctlXXX* where XXX is the process ID number.

-d Increase the debugging verbosity level.

COMMANDS

The currently supported commands in **ngctl** are:

config get or set configuration of node at <path>
connect Connects hook <peerhook> of the node at <relpath> to <hook>
debug Get/set debugging verbosity level
dot Produce a GraphViz (.dot) of the entire netgraph.
help Show command summary or get more help on a specific command
list Show information about all nodes

mkpeer Create and connect a new node to the node at "path"
msg Send a netgraph control message to the node at "path"
name Assign name <name> to the node at <path>
read Read and execute commands from a file
rmhook Disconnect hook "hook" of the node at "path"
show Show information about the node at <path>
shutdown Shutdown the node at <path>
status Get human readable status information from the node at <path>
types Show information about all installed node types
write Send a data packet down the hook named by "hook".
quit Exit program

Some commands have aliases, e.g., "ls" is the same as "list". The "help" command displays the available commands, their usage and aliases, and a brief description.

EXIT STATUS

The **ngctl** utility exits 0 on success, and >0 if an error occurs.

SEE ALSO

netgraph(3), netgraph(4), nghook(8)

HISTORY

The **netgraph** system was designed and first implemented at Whistle Communications, Inc. in a version of FreeBSD 2.2 customized for the Whistle InterJet.

AUTHORS

Archie Cobbs <*archie@whistle.com*>