

NAME

sdiff - side-by-side diff

SYNOPSIS

sdiff [-**abdilstHW**] [-**I** *regex*] [-**o** *outfile*] [-**w** *width*] *file1 file2*

DESCRIPTION

sdiff displays two files side by side, with any differences between the two highlighted as follows: new lines are marked with '>'; deleted lines are marked with '<'; and changed lines are marked with '|'.

sdiff can also be used to interactively merge two files, prompting at each set of differences. See the **-o** option for an explanation.

The options are:

-l --left-column

Only print the left column for identical lines.

-o --output *outfile*

Interactively merge *file1* and *file2* into *outfile*. In this mode, the user is prompted for each set of differences. See EDITOR and VISUAL, below, for details of which editor, if any, is invoked.

The commands are as follows:

l | 1 Choose left set of diffs.

r | 2 Choose right set of diffs.

s Silent mode - identical lines are not printed.

v Verbose mode - identical lines are printed.

e Start editing an empty file, which will be merged into *outfile* upon exiting the editor.

e l Start editing file with left set of diffs.

e r Start editing file with right set of diffs.

e b Start editing file with both sets of diffs.

q Quit **sdiff**.

-s --suppress-common-lines

Skip identical lines.

-w --width *width*

Print a maximum of *width* characters on each line. The default is 130 characters.

Options passed to `diff(1)` are:

-a --text

Treat *file1* and *file2* as text files.

-b --ignore-space-change

Ignore trailing blank spaces.

-d --minimal

Minimize diff size.

-I --ignore-matching-lines *regex*

Ignore line changes matching *regex*. All lines in the change must match *regex* for the change to be ignored.

-i --ignore-case

Do a case-insensitive comparison.

-t --expand-tabs

Expand tabs to spaces.

-W --ignore-all-space

Ignore all spaces.

-B --ignore-blank-lines

Ignore blank lines.

-E --ignore-tab-expansion

Treat tabs and eight spaces as the same.

-t --ignore-tabs

Ignore tabs.

-H --speed-large-files

Assume scattered small changes in a large file.

--ignore-file-name-case

Ignore the case of file names.

--no-ignore-file-name-case

Do not ignore file name case.

--strip-trailing-cr

Skip identical lines.

--tabsize *NUM*

Change the size of tabs (default is 8.)

ENVIRONMENT**EDITOR, VISUAL**

Specifies an editor to use with the **-o** option. If both **EDITOR** and **VISUAL** are set, **VISUAL** takes precedence. If neither **EDITOR** nor **VISUAL** are set, the default is **vi(1)**.

TMPDIR

Specifies a directory for temporary files to be created. The default is */tmp*.

SEE ALSO

cmp(1), **diff(1)**, **diff3(1)**, **vi(1)**, **re_format(7)**

AUTHORS

sdiff was written from scratch for the public domain by Ray Lai <ray@cyth.net>.

CAVEATS

Tabs are treated as anywhere from one to eight characters wide, depending on the current column. Terminals that treat tabs as eight characters wide will look best.