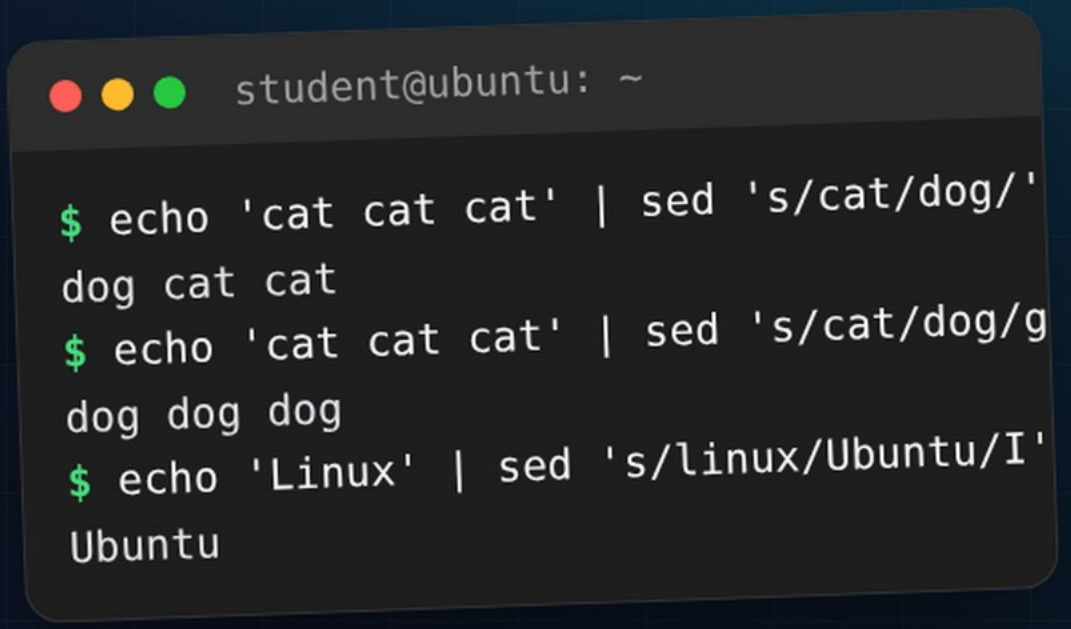
LINUX EDITORS · 2/6

sed

Find & Replace Like a Pro



LESSON 2

sed: The Linux Stream Editor for Find & Replace

sed

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PART 1 OF 5

What Is sed?

1. Reads text line by line
2. Applies your commands to each line
3. Prints the result, no window

```
student@ubuntu: ~

$ cat fruits.txt
red apple
green apple
$ sed 's/apple/pear/' fruits.txt
red pear
green pear
```

PART 2 OF 5

Find & Replace: s/old/new/

1. s/old/new/: first match per line
2. g flag: every match
3. I flag: ignore case (GNU sed)

```
student@ubuntu: ~

$ echo 'cat cat cat' | sed 's/cat/dog/'
dog cat cat
$ echo 'cat cat cat' | sed 's/cat/dog/g'
dog dog dog
$ echo 'Linux' | sed 's/linux/Ubuntu/I'
Ubuntu
```

PART 3 OF 5

Edit Files in Place

1. -i: save changes into the file
2. -i.bak: keep a backup
3. Test without -i, then apply

```
student@ubuntu: ~
$ sed 's/8080/9090/' app.conf     # test
port=9090
$ sed -i.bak 's/8080/9090/' app.conf
$ ls app.conf*
app.conf  app.conf.bak
```

PART 4 OF 5

Delete and Print Lines

1. sed '3d': delete line 3
2. sed '/^#/d': drop comment lines
3. sed -n '5,10p': print lines 5–10

```
student@ubuntu: ~

$ sed '3d' list.txt
$ sed '/^#/d' /etc/ssh/sshd_config
Include /etc/ssh/sshd_config.d/*.conf
KbdInteractiveAuthentication no
UsePAM yes
$ sed -n '5,10p' big.log
```

PART 5 OF 5

sed in Real DevOps Work

1. Update config files in scripts
2. Clean data before analysis
3. Combine with grep, awk & pipes

student@ubuntu: ~

```
# set a value in a config file
$ sed -i 's/^debug=.*/debug=false/' app.conf
# CSV to tab-separated
$ sed 's/,/\t/g' sales.csv > sales.tsv
# keep only the error text
$ grep ERROR app.log | sed 's/.*ERROR: //'
```

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