NAME

sdiff - side-by-side diff

SYNOPSIS

sdiff [**-abdilstHW**] [**-I** *regexp*] [**-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 *regexp*
        Ignore line changes matching *regexp*. All lines in the change must match *regexp* 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.