NAME

cpio - copy file archives in and out

SYNOPSIS

cpio -o [**acBv**]

cpio -i [**Bcdmrtuvfs6**] [patterns]

cpio -p [**adlmruv**] directory

DESCRIPTION

Cpio -o (copy out) reads the standard input to obtain a list of path names and copies those files onto the standard output together with path name and status information.

Cpio -i (copy in) extracts files from the standard input which is assumed to be the product of a previous **cpio -o**. Only files with names that match *patterns* are selected. *Patterns* are given in the name-generating notation of *sh*(1). In *patterns*, meta-characters **?**, *****, and **[...]** match the slash **/** character. Multiple *patterns* may be specified and if no *patterns* are specified, the default for *patterns* is ***** (i.e., select all files). The extracted files are conditionally created and copied into the current directory tree based upon the options described below.

Cpio -p (pass) reads the standard input to obtain a list of path names of files that are conditionally created and copied into the destination *directory* tree based upon the options described below.

The meanings of the available options are:

a Reset access times of input files after they have been copied.

B Input/output is to be blocked 5,120 bytes to the record (does not apply to the *pass* option; meaningful only with data directed to or from **/dev/rmt?**).

d *Directories* are to be created as needed.

c Write *header* information in ASCII character form for portability.

r Interactively *rename* files. If the user types a null line, the file is skipped.

t Print a *table of contents* of the input. No files are created.

u Copy *unconditionally* (normally, an older file will not replace a newer file with the same name).

v *Verbose*: causes a list of file names to be printed. When used with the **t** option, the table of contents looks like the output of an **ls -l** command (see *ls*(1)).

l Whenever possible, link files rather than copying them. Usable only with the **-p** option.

m Retain previous file modification time. This option is ineffective on directories that are being copied.

f Copy in all files except those in patterns.

s Swap bytes. Use only with the **-i** option.

S Swap halfwords. Use only with the **-i** option.

b Swap both bytes and halfwords. Use only with the **-i** option.

6 Process an old (i.e., UNIX Sixth Edition format) file. Only useful with **-i** (copy in).

EXAMPLES

The first example below copies the contents of a directory into an archive; the second duplicates a directory hierarchy:

```
ls | cpio -c >/dev/mt0

cd olddir
find . -depth -print | cpio -pdl newdir
```

The trivial case ``find . -depth -print | cpio -oB >/dev/rmt0'' can be handled more efficiently by:

```
find . -cpio /dev/rmt0
```

SEE ALSO

ar(1), find(1), cpio(4).

BUGS

Path names are restricted to 128 characters. If there are too many unique linked files, the program runs out of memory to keep track of them and, thereafter, linking information is lost. Only the super-user can copy special files. The **-B** option does not work with certain magnetic tape drives (see un32(7) in the UNIX System Administrator's Manual).