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ROBOTIC TEAM

PURPOSE: Command-Line Argument Handling in C

Introduction

This report documents the development of a C program for handling command-line arguments, progressing from a basic "Hello, world!" program (`helloworld.c`) to an enhanced version (`helloArgv.c`) that supports variable outputs based on user-specified parameters.

1. Initial Setup and Development

1.1 `helloworld.c`

The project commenced with the creation of `helloworld.c`, a simple C program that prints "Hello world! ,Am doing robotics" and other line prints to the console "Thank you!". This foundational program was designed to familiarise with basic C syntax and compiling processes.



```
C helloworld.c x
C helloworld.c > main()
1  #include<stdio.h>
2  int main()
3  {
4      printf("Hello world!,Am doing robotic\n");
5      printf("Thank you!\n");
6      return 0;
7  }
```

1.2 Compilation and Execution

The program was compiled using the `gcc` compiler, which produced an executable file named `helloworld`. Execution of `helloworld` confirmed the correct functioning of basic print operations in C.

```
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
● ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/AssignmentB$ gcc -o helloworld -W -Wall helloworld.c
● ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/AssignmentB$ ./helloworld
Hello world!,Am doing robotic
Thank you!
○ ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/AssignmentB$ █
```

2. Project Expansion: `helloArgv.c`

2.1 Program Objective

Building upon `helloworld.c`, the project evolved into `helloArgv.c`, aimed at demonstrating command-line argument parsing capabilities in C. The enhanced program allows users to specify parameters (`--m` for morning messages and `--e` for evening messages) to control program output dynamically.

2.2 Development Process

2.2.1 Feature Implementation

- **Argument Parsing:** Implemented logic to parse command-line arguments (`argv`) using conditional checks and string comparisons (`strcmp`).
- **Function Modularity:** Introduced modular functions (`print_help`, `print_morning_message`, `print_evening_message`) to enhance code readability and maintainability.

2.3 Compilation and Execution

2.3.1 Compilation Steps

- The program was compiled using `gcc` with appropriate flags (`-o`) to generate an executable file (`helloArgv`).

2.3.2 Usage Scenarios

- **Execution Examples :** Demonstrated multiple usage scenarios, including printing morning messages (`--m M`), evening messages (`--e E`), combined messages (`--m M --e E`), and displaying help instructions (`--help`).

3. code in vs code:

C helloArgv.c > ...

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2  #include <stdlib.h>
3  #include <string.h>
4
5  void print_help() {
6      printf("Usage: ./helloArgv [--m M] [--e E]\n");
7      printf("  --m M    Print M morning-welcome-messages\n");
8      printf("  --e E    Print E evening-welcome-messages\n");
9  }
10
11 void print_morning_message(int count) {
12     for (int i = 0; i < count; i++) {
13         printf("Good morning!\n");
14     }
15 }
16
17 void print_evening_message(int count) {
18     for (int i = 0; i < count; i++) {
19         printf("Good evening!\n");
20     }
21 }
22
23 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
24     int morning_count = 0;
25     int evening_count = 0;
26
27     for (int i = 1; i < argc; i++) {
28         if (strcmp(argv[i], "--help") == 0) {
29             print_help();
30             return 0;
31         } else if (strcmp(argv[i], "--m") == 0) {
32             if (i + 1 < argc && argv[i + 1][0] != '-') {
33                 morning_count = atoi(argv[++i]);
34             } else {
35                 morning_count = 1;
36             }
37         } else if (strcmp(argv[i], "--e") == 0) {
38             if (i + 1 < argc && argv[i + 1][0] != '-') {
39                 evening_count = atoi(argv[++i]);
40             } else {
41                 evening_count = 1;
42             }
43         }
44     }
45 }
```

```

38         if (i + 1 < argc && argv[i + 1][0] != '-') {
39             evening_count = atoi(argv[++i]);
40         } else {
41             evening_count = 1;
42         }
43     } else {
44         printf("Unknown option: %s\n", argv[i]);
45         print_help();
46         return 1;
47     }
48 }
49
50 if (morning_count > 0) {
51     print_morning_message(morning_count);
52 }
53
54 if (evening_count > 0) {
55     print_evening_message(evening_count);
56 }
57
58 return 0;
59 }
60
61

```

3.2 Sample Output

This document show the key command to run and debug our code and the output after typing the code in console

```

└─ ASSIGNMENTS
  └─ helloArgv
  └─ helloArgv.c
  └─ helloworld

• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ gcc -o helloArgv -W -Wall helloArgv.c
• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ ./helloArgv --help
Usage: ./helloArgv [--m M] [--e E]
    --m M    Print M morning-welcome-messages
    --e E    Print E evening-welcome-messages
• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ ./helloArgv --m 1
Good morning!
• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ ./helloArgv --e 1
Good evening!
• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ ./helloArgv --m 5 --e 3
Good morning!
Good morning!
Good morning!
Good morning!
Good morning!
Good evening!
Good evening!
Good evening!
• ingabire@ingabire-VirtualBox:~/Desktop/week1/Assignment$ 

```

Conclusion

The evolution from `helloworld.c` to `helloArgv.c` illustrates a methodical progression in program refinement. This journey includes foundational learning, implementing new features, conducting thorough testing, and creating detailed documentation. It highlights the significance of adeptly managing command-line arguments in C programming, emphasizing adaptability, dependability, and user engagement as pivotal aspects of software development.

