

SUM & MEAN

simple terminal app example in c language

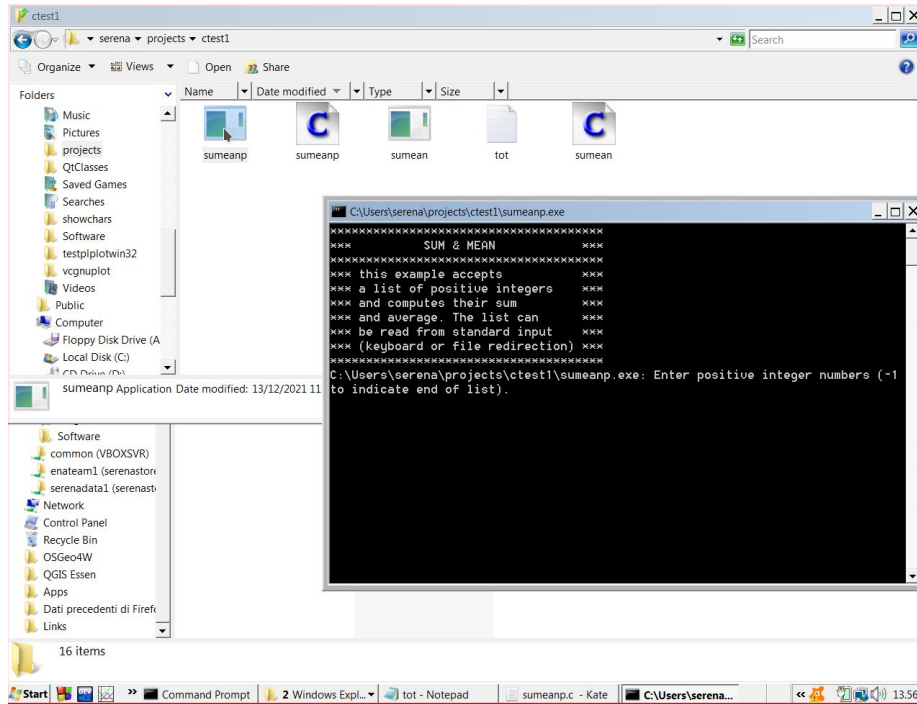


Figure 1: sum & mean execution

Introduction

This programming example accepts in input a list of positive integers and computes their sum and average, showing them as output.

The list can be read from standard input (keyboard or file redirection).

The log of what's going on with the computation is printed on the standard error output stream, while the actual numerical output is printed on the standard output at the end. This allows to use the app output as input of a following app, that read from the standard input. The output created on the standard input and/or the output created on the standard error can be also saved in different text files.

How To

The following instructions are given supposing you're yousing the GNU gcc c language compiler. You need to use a terminal emulator, like xterm on MacOS or gnome-terminal or konsole on GNU-Linux or cmd terminal on Microsoft Windows. Not all the instructions are given for all different operating systems but understanding the main examples, they may be derived easily

to compile on MSwin mingw32:

```
mingw32-make -f Makefile.win sumean
```

to compile on linux/MacOS/MS-Win+msys2:

```
make sumean
```

to run on MS-Win cmd shell

```
sumean
```

to remove all created files in MS-Win cmd shell

```
del sumean.o sumean *.log *.asc
```

to run on linux/MacOS/MS-Win+msys2

```
./sumean
```

to run on linux/MacOS/MS-Win+msys2 saving the results on an output file

```
./sumean >out.asc
```

to run on linux/MacOS/MS-Win+msys2 & logging

saving the instructions on an output file err.log saving the results on an output file out.asc this implies you giving input without hints (blind mode)

```
./sumean 2>err.log >out.asc
```

to remove all created files in GNU-linux/MacOS/MS-win+msys2

```
rm sumean.o sumean *.log *.asc
```

Using file explorer and mouse

the source file `sumeanp.c` is just the same app code with added a feature useful to run the app from file explorer graphical user interface. The `p` at the end of the file name means pause. After compiling you can just click on the `sumeanp.exe`. It is named `sumeanp.exe` but take in mind that in MS win file explorer the extension is written in a different column in the details view, or you can distinguish the file type from the different icon. Just compile the source.

to compile on GNU-Linux/MacOS:

```
make sumeanp
```

to compile on MS-Win:

```
mingw32-make sumeanp
```

Installation

The `sumean` app do not really need to be installed permanently on the system to be executed and exercise with it, it can be downloaded and saved in any folder of your computer, then compiled and run. Of course you need the permission to write on that folder, having it in a subfolder of the Desktop is ok. Some antiviruses and security systems on some OSs may wrongly detect the generated exe as harmful, take care of instruct or temporary stop/disable that systems. Many modern GNU-Linux distribution do not allow as default to run a binary exe app clicking on it with the mouse by the file browser. The Gnome file browser `nautilus` (now called only `Files`) can be instructed to do it, but the safer way to run it from Graphical User Interface (GUI) on GNU-Linux is to use a `.desktop` file as launcher and clicking on it instead. The file `install.sh` and `uninstall.sh` are there for that purpose, for people that wanna try this optional method.

Troubleshooting

In the simpler case, we're supposing that the `gcc` compiler executable can be called with the following instruction: `gcc sumean.c -o sumean`, which implies that somewhere in the list of the `PATH` environment variable is included a path to a folder containing the `gcc` executable file or a link to it. In the simpler case

```
sumean : bash — Konsole
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
francesco@squirrel:~/Documents/Miscellanea/sumean$ ./sumean
*****
***          SUM & MEAN          ***
*****
*** this example accepts          ***
*** a list of positive integers   ***
*** and computes their sum        ***
*** and average. The list can     ***
*** be read from standard input   ***
*** (keyboard or file redirection) ***
*****
./sumean: Enter positive integer numbers (-1 to indicate end of list).
10
12
2
4
-1
./sumean: you got 0 warnings
./sumean: valid numbers read: 4
./sumean: sum: 28.000000
./sumean: average: 7.000000
./sumean: showing results:
#points sum          average
4      28.000000      7.000000
francesco@squirrel:~/Documents/Miscellanea/sumean$
```

Figure 2: sum & mean results

in *nix like OSs it is called just gcc and in Microsoft Windows it should be called gcc.exe . Modern mingw32-gcc releases have that filename called

```
C:\Users\francesco\Desktop\sumean>echo %PATH%
C:\Python27\;C:\Python27\Scripts;C:\Python34\;C:\Python34\Scripts;C:\windows\system32;C:\w
ndows;C:\windows\system32\wbem;C:\windows\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0;C:\Program Fil
e\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC\bin\;C:\Dev-Cpp;C:\CMake\bin;C:\Program Files\Microsof
t Windows Performance Toolkit;C:\win32app\FTN95;C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio 9
\VC\bin\amd64\;C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC\bin\amd64\;C:\win32app\
lford;C:\Dev-Cpp;C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC;C:\Program Files\
icrosoft Visual Studio 9.0\VC\bin\ C:\Dev-Cpp\bin C:\gnuplot\bin

C:\Users\francesco\Desktop\sumean>dir C:\Dev-Cpp\bin\gcc.exe
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is 0000-0000

Directory of C:\Dev-Cpp\bin

29/01/2005    23:35    88,064  gcc.exe
             1 file              88,064 bytes
             0 directories      8,382,214,144 bytes free

C:\Users\francesco\Desktop\sumean>
```

Figure 3: path to gcc on MS-win OS

x86_64-w64-mingw32-gcc.exe for the 64 bit version and i686-w64-mingw32-gcc.exe for the 32 bit version, but may also include a copy called gcc.exe as well.