

National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences



Laboratory Manual

for

Operating Systems Lab

(BCS-4F1)

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Passing Command Line Arguments to a C/C++ Program

- Command line argument is a parameter supplied to the program when it is invoked.
Command line argument is an important concept in C/C++ programming. It is mostly used when you need to control your program from outside. Command line arguments

are passed to the main() method.

- To pass command line arguments, we typically define main() with two arguments: **first argument counts the number of arguments** on the command line and **the second is a pointer array which holds pointers of type char which points to the arguments** passed to the program. The syntax to define the main method is

```
int main (int argc, char*argv[]).
```

- Here, **argc** variable will hold the number of arguments passed to the program while the **argv** will contain pointers to those variables. **argv[0] holds the name of the program while argv[1] to argv[argc] hold the arguments.**
- Command-line arguments are given after the name of the program in the command-line shell of Operating Systems. Each argument is separated by a space. If a space is included in the argument, then it is written in "".

In Lab Tasks

Question 1:

See the usage of the following commands online. Also, run them on the terminal.

1. pwd
2. ls
3. cd
4. cp
5. mkdir & rmdir
6. man
7. sudo
8. apt-get
9. kill
10. ping
11. grep
12. mount
13. umount

Question 2:

- a. Create a file named **main.c** and write a code to print “Welcome to CourseCode Operating System Lab Course” on terminal.
- b. **main.c** file contains the main function receiving **command-line arguments**.
- c. You will pass the name of course code via these arguments.

Question 3:

- Write a program that takes multiple numbers from the user through **command line arguments**.
- Print the **multiplication result** of these numbers on the terminal.

Question 4:

- Write a program to remove capital alphabets(A-Z) from one file to another.
- Create a function `removeCapitalAlphabets(char * inputFileName, char * outputFileName)` in C.
- This function copies the content of the input file to the output file except capital letters.
- The names of input and output files are passed through command line arguments.
- You can write any alphabets and numbers in the input file.