GNU libiberty

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Chapter 1: Using 1

1 Using

To date, libiberty is generally not installed on its own. It has evolved over years but does not have its own version number nor release schedule.

Possibly the easiest way to use libiberty in your projects is to drop the libiberty code into your project's sources, and to build the library along with your own sources; the library would then be linked in at the end. This prevents any possible version mismatches with other copies of libiberty elsewhere on the system.

Passing '--enable-install-libiberty' to the configure script when building libiberty causes the header files and archive library to be installed when make install is run. This option also takes an (optional) argument to specify the installation location, in the same manner as '--prefix'.

For your own projects, an approach which offers stability and flexibility is to include libiberty with your code, but allow the end user to optionally choose to use a previously-installed version instead. In this way the user may choose (for example) to install libiberty as part of GCC, and use that version for all software built with that compiler. (This approach has proven useful with software using the GNU readline library.)

Making use of libiberty code usually requires that you include one or more header files from the libiberty distribution. (They will be named as necessary in the function descriptions.) At link time, you will need to add '-liberty' to your link command invocation.

2 Overview

Functions contained in libiberty can be divided into three general categories.

2.1 Supplemental Functions

Certain operating systems do not provide functions which have since become standardized, or at least common. For example, the Single Unix Specification Version 2 requires that the basename function be provided, but an OS which predates that specification might not have this function. This should not prevent well-written code from running on such a system.

Similarly, some functions exist only among a particular "flavor" or "family" of operating systems. As an example, the bzero function is often not present on systems outside the BSD-derived family of systems.

Many such functions are provided in libiberty. They are quickly listed here with little description, as systems which lack them become less and less common. Each function foo is implemented in 'foo.c' but not declared in any libiberty header file; more comments and caveats for each function's implementation are often available in the source file. Generally, the function can simply be declared as extern.

2.2 Replacement Functions

Some functions have extremely limited implementations on different platforms. Other functions are tedious to use correctly; for example, proper use of malloc calls for the return value to be checked and appropriate action taken if memory has been exhausted. A group of "replacement functions" is available in libiberty to address these issues for some of the most commonly used subroutines.

All of these functions are declared in the 'libiberty.h' header file. Many of the implementations will use preprocessor macros set by GNU Autoconf, if you decide to make use of that program. Some of these functions may call one another.

2.2.1 Memory Allocation

The functions beginning with the letter 'x' are wrappers around standard functions; the functions provided by the system environment are called and their results checked before the results are passed back to client code. If the standard functions fail, these wrappers will terminate the program. Thus, these versions can be used with impunity.

2.2.2 Exit Handlers

The existence and implementation of the atexit routine varies amongst the flavors of Unix. libiberty provides an unvarying dependable implementation via xatexit and xexit.

2.2.3 Error Reporting

These are a set of routines to facilitate programming with the system errno interface. The libiberty source file 'strerror.c' contains a good deal of documentation for these functions.

2.3 Extensions

libiberty includes additional functionality above and beyond standard functions, which has proven generically useful in GNU programs, such as obstacks and regex. These functions are often copied from other projects as they gain popularity, and are included here to provide a central location from which to use, maintain, and distribute them.

3 Obstacks

An obstack is a pool of memory containing a stack of objects. You can create any number of separate obstacks, and then allocate objects in specified obstacks. Within each obstack, the last object allocated must always be the first one freed, but distinct obstacks are independent of each other.

Aside from this one constraint of order of freeing, obstacks are totally general: an obstack can contain any number of objects of any size. They are implemented with macros, so allocation is usually very fast as long as the objects are usually small. And the only space overhead per object is the padding needed to start each object on a suitable boundary.

3.1 Creating Obstacks

The utilities for manipulating obstacks are declared in the header file 'obstack.h'.

struct obstack [Data Type]

An obstack is represented by a data structure of type struct obstack. This structure has a small fixed size; it records the status of the obstack and how to find the space in which objects are allocated. It does not contain any of the objects themselves. You should not try to access the contents of the structure directly; use only the functions described in this chapter.

You can declare variables of type struct obstack and use them as obstacks, or you can allocate obstacks dynamically like any other kind of object. Dynamic allocation of obstacks allows your program to have a variable number of different stacks. (You can even allocate an obstack structure in another obstack, but this is rarely useful.)

All the functions that work with obstacks require you to specify which obstack to use. You do this with a pointer of type struct obstack *. In the following, we often say "an obstack" when strictly speaking the object at hand is such a pointer.

The objects in the obstack are packed into large blocks called *chunks*. The struct obstack structure points to a chain of the chunks currently in use.

The obstack library obtains a new chunk whenever you allocate an object that won't fit in the previous chunk. Since the obstack library manages chunks automatically, you don't need to pay much attention to them, but you do need to supply a function which the obstack library should use to get a chunk. Usually you supply a function which uses malloc directly or indirectly. You must also supply a function to free a chunk. These matters are described in the following section.

3.2 Preparing for Using Obstacks

Each source file in which you plan to use the obstack functions must include the header file 'obstack.h', like this:

#include <obstack.h>

Also, if the source file uses the macro obstack_init, it must declare or define two functions or macros that will be called by the obstack library. One, obstack_chunk_alloc, is used to allocate the chunks of memory into which objects are packed. The other, obstack_chunk_free, is used to return chunks when the objects in them are freed. These macros should appear before any use of obstacks in the source file.

Usually these are defined to use malloc via the intermediary xmalloc (see section "Unconstrained Allocation" in *The GNU C Library Reference Manual*). This is done with the following pair of macro definitions:

```
#define obstack_chunk_alloc xmalloc
#define obstack_chunk_free free
```

Though the memory you get using obstacks really comes from malloc, using obstacks is faster because malloc is called less often, for larger blocks of memory. See Section 3.10 [Obstack Chunks], page 11, for full details.

At run time, before the program can use a struct obstack object as an obstack, it must initialize the obstack by calling obstack_init.

int obstack_init (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

[Function]

Initialize obstack obstack-ptr for allocation of objects. This function calls the obstack's obstack_chunk_alloc function. If allocation of memory fails, the function pointed to by obstack_alloc_failed_handler is called. The obstack_init function always returns 1 (Compatibility notice: Former versions of obstack returned 0 if allocation failed).

Here are two examples of how to allocate the space for an obstack and initialize it. First, an obstack that is a static variable:

[Variable]

The value of this variable is a pointer to a function that obstack uses when obstack_chunk_alloc fails to allocate memory. The default action is to print a message and abort. You should supply a function that either calls exit (see section "Program Termination" in The GNU C Library Reference Manual) or longjmp (see section "Non-Local Exits" in The GNU C Library Reference Manual) and doesn't return.

```
void my_obstack_alloc_failed (void)
...
obstack_alloc_failed_handler = &my_obstack_alloc_failed;
```

3.3 Allocation in an Obstack

obstack_alloc_failed_handler

The most direct way to allocate an object in an obstack is with obstack_alloc, which is invoked almost like malloc.

```
void * obstack_alloc (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size) [Function]
This allocates an uninitialized block of size bytes in an obstack and returns its address.
Here obstack-ptr specifies which obstack to allocate the block in; it is the address of the struct obstack object which represents the obstack. Each obstack function or macro requires you to specify an obstack-ptr as the first argument.
```

This function calls the obstack's obstack_chunk_alloc function if it needs to allocate a new chunk of memory; it calls obstack_alloc_failed_handler if allocation of memory by obstack_chunk_alloc failed.

For example, here is a function that allocates a copy of a string str in a specific obstack, which is in the variable string_obstack:

```
struct obstack string_obstack;

char *
copystring (char *string)
{
    size_t len = strlen (string) + 1;
    char *s = (char *) obstack_alloc (&string_obstack, len);
    memcpy (s, string, len);
    return s;
}
```

To allocate a block with specified contents, use the function obstack_copy, declared like this:

This allocates a block and initializes it by copying size bytes of data starting at address. It calls obstack_alloc_failed_handler if allocation of memory by obstack_chunk_alloc failed.

Like obstack_copy, but appends an extra byte containing a null character. This extra byte is not counted in the argument size.

The obstack_copyO function is convenient for copying a sequence of characters into an obstack as a null-terminated string. Here is an example of its use:

```
char *
obstack_savestring (char *addr, int size)
{
   return obstack_copy0 (&myobstack, addr, size);
}
```

Contrast this with the previous example of savestring using malloc (see section "Basic Allocation" in The GNU C Library Reference Manual).

3.4 Freeing Objects in an Obstack

To free an object allocated in an obstack, use the function obstack_free. Since the obstack is a stack of objects, freeing one object automatically frees all other objects allocated more recently in the same obstack.

```
void obstack_free (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *object) [Function]

If object is a null pointer, everything allocated in the obstack is freed. Otherwise, object must be the address of an object allocated in the obstack. Then object is freed, along with everything allocated in obstack since object.
```

Note that if *object* is a null pointer, the result is an uninitialized obstack. To free all memory in an obstack but leave it valid for further allocation, call <code>obstack_free</code> with the address of the first object allocated on the obstack:

```
obstack_free (obstack_ptr, first_object_allocated_ptr);
```

Recall that the objects in an obstack are grouped into chunks. When all the objects in a chunk become free, the obstack library automatically frees the chunk (see Section 3.2 [Preparing for Obstacks], page 4). Then other obstacks, or non-obstack allocation, can reuse the space of the chunk.

3.5 Obstack Functions and Macros

The interfaces for using obstacks may be defined either as functions or as macros, depending on the compiler. The obstack facility works with all C compilers, including both ISO C and traditional C, but there are precautions you must take if you plan to use compilers other than GNU C.

If you are using an old-fashioned non-ISO C compiler, all the obstack "functions" are actually defined only as macros. You can call these macros like functions, but you cannot use them in any other way (for example, you cannot take their address).

Calling the macros requires a special precaution: namely, the first operand (the obstack pointer) may not contain any side effects, because it may be computed more than once. For example, if you write this:

```
obstack_alloc (get_obstack (), 4);
```

you will find that get_obstack may be called several times. If you use *obstack_list_ptr++ as the obstack pointer argument, you will get very strange results since the incrementation may occur several times.

In ISO C, each function has both a macro definition and a function definition. The function definition is used if you take the address of the function without calling it. An ordinary call uses the macro definition by default, but you can request the function definition instead by writing the function name in parentheses, as shown here:

```
char *x;
void *(*funcp) ();
/* Use the macro. */
x = (char *) obstack_alloc (obptr, size);
/* Call the function. */
x = (char *) (obstack_alloc) (obptr, size);
/* Take the address of the function. */
funcp = obstack_alloc;
```

This is the same situation that exists in ISO C for the standard library functions. See section "Macro Definitions" in *The GNU C Library Reference Manual*.

Warning: When you do use the macros, you must observe the precaution of avoiding side effects in the first operand, even in ISO C.

If you use the GNU C compiler, this precaution is not necessary, because various language extensions in GNU C permit defining the macros so as to compute each argument only once.

3.6 Growing Objects

Because memory in obstack chunks is used sequentially, it is possible to build up an object step by step, adding one or more bytes at a time to the end of the object. With this technique, you do not need to know how much data you will put in the object until you come to the end of it. We call this the technique of growing objects. The special functions for adding data to the growing object are described in this section.

You don't need to do anything special when you start to grow an object. Using one of the functions to add data to the object automatically starts it. However, it is necessary to say explicitly when the object is finished. This is done with the function obstack_finish.

The actual address of the object thus built up is not known until the object is finished. Until then, it always remains possible that you will add so much data that the object must be copied into a new chunk.

While the obstack is in use for a growing object, you cannot use it for ordinary allocation of another object. If you try to do so, the space already added to the growing object will become part of the other object.

- void obstack_blank (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size) [Function]

 The most basic function for adding to a growing object is obstack_blank, which adds space without initializing it.

To add a block of initialized space, use obstack_grow, which is the growing-object analogue of obstack_copy. It adds size bytes of data to the growing object, copying the contents from data.

This is the growing-object analogue of obstack_copy0. It adds size bytes copied from data, followed by an additional null character.

- void obstack_1grow (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, char c) [Function]

 To add one character at a time, use the function obstack_1grow. It adds a single byte containing c to the growing object.
- void obstack_ptr_grow (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *data) [Function]

 Adding the value of a pointer one can use the function obstack_ptr_grow. It adds
 sizeof (void *) bytes containing the value of data.
- void obstack_int_grow (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int data) [Function]

 A single value of type int can be added by using the obstack_int_grow function. It adds sizeof (int) bytes to the growing object and initializes them with the value of data.
- void * obstack_finish (struct obstack *obstack-ptr) [Function]
 When you are finished growing the object, use the function obstack_finish to close it off and return its final address.

Once you have finished the object, the obstack is available for ordinary allocation or for growing another object.

This function can return a null pointer under the same conditions as obstack_alloc (see Section 3.3 [Allocation in an Obstack], page 5).

When you build an object by growing it, you will probably need to know afterward how long it became. You need not keep track of this as you grow the object, because you can find out the length from the obstack just before finishing the object with the function obstack_object_size, declared as follows:

```
int obstack_object_size (struct obstack *obstack-ptr) [Function]

This function returns the current size of the growing object, in bytes. Remember to call this function before finishing the object. After it is finished, obstack_object_size will return zero.
```

If you have started growing an object and wish to cancel it, you should finish it and then free it, like this:

```
obstack_free (obstack_ptr, obstack_finish (obstack_ptr));
```

This has no effect if no object was growing.

You can use obstack_blank with a negative size argument to make the current object smaller. Just don't try to shrink it beyond zero length—there's no telling what will happen if you do that.

3.7 Extra Fast Growing Objects

The usual functions for growing objects incur overhead for checking whether there is room for the new growth in the current chunk. If you are frequently constructing objects in small steps of growth, this overhead can be significant.

You can reduce the overhead by using special "fast growth" functions that grow the object without checking. In order to have a robust program, you must do the checking yourself. If you do this checking in the simplest way each time you are about to add data to the object, you have not saved anything, because that is what the ordinary growth functions do. But if you can arrange to check less often, or check more efficiently, then you make the program faster.

The function obstack_room returns the amount of room available in the current chunk. It is declared as follows:

```
int obstack_room (struct obstack *obstack-ptr) [Function]

This returns the number of bytes that can be added safely to the current growing object (or to an object about to be started) in obstack obstack using the fast growth functions.
```

While you know there is room, you can use these fast growth functions for adding data to a growing object:

```
void obstack_1grow_fast (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, char c) [Function]

The function obstack_1grow_fast adds one byte containing the character c to the growing object in obstack obstack-ptr.
```

The function obstack_ptr_grow_fast adds sizeof (void *) bytes containing the value of data to the growing object in obstack obstack-ptr.

The function obstack_int_grow_fast adds sizeof (int) bytes containing the value of data to the growing object in obstack obstack-ptr.

```
void obstack_blank_fast (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size) [Function]
The function obstack_blank_fast adds size bytes to the growing object in obstack obstack-ptr without initializing them.
```

When you check for space using obstack_room and there is not enough room for what you want to add, the fast growth functions are not safe. In this case, simply use the corresponding ordinary growth function instead. Very soon this will copy the object to a new chunk; then there will be lots of room available again.

So, each time you use an ordinary growth function, check afterward for sufficient space using obstack_room. Once the object is copied to a new chunk, there will be plenty of space again, so the program will start using the fast growth functions again.

Here is an example:

```
add_string (struct obstack *obstack, const char *ptr, int len)
  while (len > 0)
    {
      int room = obstack_room (obstack);
      if (room == 0)
          /* Not enough room. Add one character slowly,
             which may copy to a new chunk and make room. */
          obstack_1grow (obstack, *ptr++);
          len--;
        }
      else
        {
          if (room > len)
            room = len;
          /* Add fast as much as we have room for. */
          len -= room;
          while (room-- > 0)
            obstack_1grow_fast (obstack, *ptr++);
    }
}
```

3.8 Status of an Obstack

Here are functions that provide information on the current status of allocation in an obstack. You can use them to learn about an object while still growing it.

void * obstack_base (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

[Function]

This function returns the tentative address of the beginning of the currently growing object in *obstack-ptr*. If you finish the object immediately, it will have that address. If you make it larger first, it may outgrow the current chunk—then its address will change!

If no object is growing, this value says where the next object you allocate will start (once again assuming it fits in the current chunk).

void * obstack_next_free (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

[Function]

This function returns the address of the first free byte in the current chunk of obstack obstack-ptr. This is the end of the currently growing object. If no object is growing, obstack_next_free returns the same value as obstack_base.

int obstack_object_size (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

[Function]

This function returns the size in bytes of the currently growing object. This is equivalent to

obstack_next_free (obstack-ptr) - obstack_base (obstack-ptr)

3.9 Alignment of Data in Obstacks

Each obstack has an alignment boundary; each object allocated in the obstack automatically starts on an address that is a multiple of the specified boundary. By default, this boundary is 4 bytes.

To access an obstack's alignment boundary, use the macro obstack_alignment_mask, whose function prototype looks like this:

int obstack_alignment_mask (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

[Macro]

The value is a bit mask; a bit that is 1 indicates that the corresponding bit in the address of an object should be 0. The mask value should be one less than a power of 2; the effect is that all object addresses are multiples of that power of 2. The default value of the mask is 3, so that addresses are multiples of 4. A mask value of 0 means an object can start on any multiple of 1 (that is, no alignment is required).

The expansion of the macro obstack_alignment_mask is an lvalue, so you can alter the mask by assignment. For example, this statement:

```
obstack_alignment_mask (obstack_ptr) = 0;
```

has the effect of turning off alignment processing in the specified obstack.

Note that a change in alignment mask does not take effect until after the next time an object is allocated or finished in the obstack. If you are not growing an object, you can make the new alignment mask take effect immediately by calling obstack_finish. This will finish a zero-length object and then do proper alignment for the next object.

3.10 Obstack Chunks

Obstacks work by allocating space for themselves in large chunks, and then parceling out space in the chunks to satisfy your requests. Chunks are normally 4096 bytes long unless you specify a different chunk size. The chunk size includes 8 bytes of overhead that are

not actually used for storing objects. Regardless of the specified size, longer chunks will be allocated when necessary for long objects.

The obstack library allocates chunks by calling the function <code>obstack_chunk_alloc</code>, which you must define. When a chunk is no longer needed because you have freed all the objects in it, the obstack library frees the chunk by calling <code>obstack_chunk_free</code>, which you must also define.

These two must be defined (as macros) or declared (as functions) in each source file that uses obstack_init (see Section 3.1 [Creating Obstacks], page 4). Most often they are defined as macros like this:

```
#define obstack_chunk_alloc malloc
#define obstack_chunk_free free
```

Note that these are simple macros (no arguments). Macro definitions with arguments will not work! It is necessary that obstack_chunk_alloc or obstack_chunk_free, alone, expand into a function name if it is not itself a function name.

If you allocate chunks with malloc, the chunk size should be a power of 2. The default chunk size, 4096, was chosen because it is long enough to satisfy many typical requests on the obstack yet short enough not to waste too much memory in the portion of the last chunk not yet used.

```
int obstack_chunk_size (struct obstack *obstack-ptr) [Macro]
This returns the chunk size of the given obstack.
```

Since this macro expands to an Ivalue, you can specify a new chunk size by assigning it a new value. Doing so does not affect the chunks already allocated, but will change the size of chunks allocated for that particular obstack in the future. It is unlikely to be useful to make the chunk size smaller, but making it larger might improve efficiency if you are allocating many objects whose size is comparable to the chunk size. Here is how to do so cleanly:

```
if (obstack_chunk_size (obstack_ptr) < new-chunk-size)
  obstack_chunk_size (obstack_ptr) = new-chunk-size;</pre>
```

3.11 Summary of Obstack Functions

Here is a summary of all the functions associated with obstacks. Each takes the address of an obstack (struct obstack *) as its first argument.

```
void obstack_init (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)
Initialize use of an obstack. See Section 3.1 [Creating Obstacks], page 4.
```

void *obstack_alloc (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size)

Allocate an object of size uninitialized bytes. See Section 3.3 [Allocation in an Obstack], page 5.

```
void *obstack_copy (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *address, int size)
Allocate an object of size bytes, with contents copied from address. See Section 3.3 [Allocation in an Obstack], page 5.
```

```
void *obstack_copy0 (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *address, int size)
Allocate an object of size+1 bytes, with size of them copied from address, followed by a null character at the end. See Section 3.3 [Allocation in an Obstack], page 5.
```

void obstack_free (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *object)

Free *object* (and everything allocated in the specified obstack more recently than *object*). See Section 3.4 [Freeing Obstack Objects], page 6.

void obstack_blank (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size)

Add size uninitialized bytes to a growing object. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

void obstack_grow (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *address, int size)

Add size bytes, copied from address, to a growing object. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

void obstack_grow0 (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, void *address, int size)

Add size bytes, copied from address, to a growing object, and then add another byte containing a null character. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

void obstack_1grow (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, char data-char)

Add one byte containing data-char to a growing object. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

void *obstack_finish (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

Finalize the object that is growing and return its permanent address. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

int obstack_object_size (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

Get the current size of the currently growing object. See Section 3.6 [Growing Objects], page 8.

void obstack_blank_fast (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, int size)

Add size uninitialized bytes to a growing object without checking that there is enough room. See Section 3.7 [Extra Fast Growing], page 9.

void obstack_1grow_fast (struct obstack *obstack-ptr, char data-char)

Add one byte containing data-char to a growing object without checking that there is enough room. See Section 3.7 [Extra Fast Growing], page 9.

int obstack_room (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

Get the amount of room now available for growing the current object. See Section 3.7 [Extra Fast Growing], page 9.

int obstack_alignment_mask (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

The mask used for aligning the beginning of an object. This is an Ivalue. See Section 3.9 [Obstacks Data Alignment], page 11.

int obstack_chunk_size (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

The size for allocating chunks. This is an Ivalue. See Section 3.10 [Obstack Chunks], page 11.

void *obstack_base (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

Tentative starting address of the currently growing object. See Section 3.8 [Status of an Obstack], page 10.

void *obstack_next_free (struct obstack *obstack-ptr)

Address just after the end of the currently growing object. See Section 3.8 [Status of an Obstack], page 10.

4 Function, Variable, and Macro Listing.

HOST_CHARSET [Extension]

This macro indicates the basic character set and encoding used by the host: more precisely, the encoding used for character constants in preprocessor '#if' statements (the C "execution character set"). It is defined by 'safe-ctype.h', and will be an integer constant with one of the following values:

HOST_CHARSET_UNKNOWN

The host character set is unknown - that is, not one of the next two possibilities.

HOST_CHARSET_ASCII

The host character set is ASCII.

HOST CHARSET EBCDIC

The host character set is some variant of EBCDIC. (Only one of the nineteen EBCDIC varying characters is tested; exercise caution.)

void* alloca (size_t size)

[Replacement]

This function allocates memory which will be automatically reclaimed after the procedure exits. The libiberty implementation does not free the memory immediately but will do so eventually during subsequent calls to this function. Memory is allocated using xmalloc under normal circumstances.

The header file 'alloca-conf.h' can be used in conjunction with the GNU Autoconf test AC_FUNC_ALLOCA to test for and properly make available this function. The AC_FUNC_ALLOCA test requires that client code use a block of preprocessor code to be safe (see the Autoconf manual for more); this header incorporates that logic and more, including the possibility of a GCC built-in function.

int asprintf (char **resptr, const char *format, ...)

[Extension]

Like sprintf, but instead of passing a pointer to a buffer, you pass a pointer to a pointer. This function will compute the size of the buffer needed, allocate memory with malloc, and store a pointer to the allocated memory in *resptr. The value returned is the same as sprintf would return. If memory could not be allocated, minus one is returned and NULL is stored in *resptr.

int atexit (void(*f)())

[Supplemental]

Causes function f to be called at exit. Returns 0.

char* basename (const char *name)

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to the last component of pathname name. Behavior is undefined if the pathname ends in a directory separator.

int bcmp (char *x, char *y, int count)

[Supplemental]

Compares the first count bytes of two areas of memory. Returns zero if they are the same, nonzero otherwise. Returns zero if count is zero. A nonzero result only indicates a difference, it does not indicate any sorting order (say, by having a positive result mean x sorts before y).

void bcopy (char *in, char *out, int length)

[Supplemental]

Copies *length* bytes from memory region *in* to region *out*. The use of **bcopy** is deprecated in new programs.

Performs a search over an array of *nmemb* elements pointed to by *base* for a member that matches the object pointed to by *key*. The size of each member is specified by *size*. The array contents should be sorted in ascending order according to the *compar* comparison function. This routine should take two arguments pointing to the *key* and to an array member, in that order, and should return an integer less than, equal to, or greater than zero if the *key* object is respectively less than, matching, or greater than the array member.

char** buildargv (char *sp)

[Extension]

Given a pointer to a string, parse the string extracting fields separated by whitespace and optionally enclosed within either single or double quotes (which are stripped off), and build a vector of pointers to copies of the string for each field. The input string remains unchanged. The last element of the vector is followed by a NULL element.

All of the memory for the pointer array and copies of the string is obtained from malloc. All of the memory can be returned to the system with the single function call freeargy, which takes the returned result of buildargy, as it's argument.

Returns a pointer to the argument vector if successful. Returns NULL if sp is NULL or if there is insufficient memory to complete building the argument vector.

If the input is a null string (as opposed to a NULL pointer), then buildarg returns an argument vector that has one arg, a null string.

void bzero (char *mem, int count)

[Supplemental]

Zeros count bytes starting at mem. Use of this function is deprecated in favor of memset.

void* calloc (size_t nelem, size_t elsize)

[Supplemental]

Uses malloc to allocate storage for *nelem* objects of *elsize* bytes each, then zeros the memory.

char* choose_temp_base (void)

[Extension]

Return a prefix for temporary file names or NULL if unable to find one. The current directory is chosen if all else fails so the program is exited if a temporary directory can't be found (mktemp fails). The buffer for the result is obtained with xmalloc.

This function is provided for backwards compatibility only. Its use is not recommended.

char* choose_tmpdir ()

[Replacement]

Returns a pointer to a directory path suitable for creating temporary files in.

long clock (void)

[Supplemental]

Returns an approximation of the CPU time used by the process as a clock_t; divide this number by 'CLOCKS_PER_SEC' to get the number of seconds used.

char* concat (const char *s1, const char *s2, ..., NULL)

[Extension]

Concatenate zero or more of strings and return the result in freshly xmalloced memory. Returns NULL if insufficient memory is available. The argument list is terminated by the first NULL pointer encountered. Pointers to empty strings are ignored.

char** dupargv (char **vector)

[Extension]

Duplicate an argument vector. Simply scans through *vector*, duplicating each argument until the terminating NULL is found. Returns a pointer to the argument vector if successful. Returns NULL if there is insufficient memory to complete building the argument vector.

int errno_max (void)

[Extension]

Returns the maximum errno value for which a corresponding symbolic name or message is available. Note that in the case where we use the sys_errlist supplied by the system, it is possible for there to be more symbolic names than messages, or vice versa. In fact, the manual page for perror(3C) explicitly warns that one should check the size of the table (sys_nerr) before indexing it, since new error codes may be added to the system before they are added to the table. Thus sys_nerr might be smaller than value implied by the largest errno value defined in <errno.h>.

We return the maximum value that can be used to obtain a meaningful symbolic name or message.

void expandargv (int *argcp, char ***argvp)

[Extension]

The argcp and argvp arguments are pointers to the usual argc and argv arguments to main. This function looks for arguments that begin with the character 'Q'. Any such arguments are interpreted as "response files". The contents of the response file are interpreted as additional command line options. In particular, the file is separated into whitespace-separated strings; each such string is taken as a command-line option. The new options are inserted in place of the option naming the response file, and *argcp and *argvp will be updated. If the value of *argvp is modified by this function, then the new value has been dynamically allocated and can be deallocated by the caller with freeargv. However, most callers will simply call expandargv near the beginning of main and allow the operating system to free the memory when the program exits.

int fdmatch (int fd1, int fd2)

[Extension]

Check to see if two open file descriptors refer to the same file. This is useful, for example, when we have an open file descriptor for an unnamed file, and the name of a file that we believe to correspond to that fd. This can happen when we are exec'd with an already open file (stdout for example) or from the SVR4 '/proc' calls that return open file descriptors for mapped address spaces. All we have to do is open the file by name and check the two file descriptors for a match, which is done by comparing major and minor device numbers and inode numbers.

FILE * fdopen_unlocked (int fildes, const char * mode)

[Extension]

Opens and returns a FILE pointer via fdopen. If the operating system supports it, ensure that the stream is setup to avoid any multi-threaded locking. Otherwise return the FILE pointer unchanged.

int ffs (int valu)

[Supplemental]

Find the first (least significant) bit set in valu. Bits are numbered from right to left, starting with bit 1 (corresponding to the value 1). If valu is zero, zero is returned.

int filename_cmp (const char *s1, const char *s2)

[Extension]

Return zero if the two file names s1 and s2 are equivalent. If not equivalent, the returned value is similar to what **strcmp** would return. In other words, it returns a negative value if s1 is less than s2, or a positive value if s2 is greater than s2.

This function does not normalize file names. As a result, this function will treat filenames that are spelled differently as different even in the case when the two filenames point to the same underlying file. However, it does handle the fact that on DOS-like file systems, forward and backward slashes are equal.

int fnmatch (const char *pattern, const char *string, int flags) [Replacement] Matches string against pattern, returning zero if it matches, FNM_NOMATCH if not. pattern may contain the wildcards? to match any one character, * to match any zero or more characters, or a set of alternate characters in square brackets, like '[a-gt8]', which match one character (a through g, or t, or 8, in this example) if that one character is in the set. A set may be inverted (i.e., match anything except what's in the set) by giving ^ or ! as the first character in the set. To include those characters in the set, list them as anything other than the first character of the set. To include a dash in the set, list it last in the set. A backslash character makes the following character not special, so for example you could match against a literal asterisk with '*'. To match a literal backslash, use '\\'.

flags controls various aspects of the matching process, and is a boolean OR of zero or more of the following values (defined in <fnmatch.h>):

FNM_PATHNAME

FNM_FILE_NAME

string is assumed to be a path name. No wildcard will ever match /.

FNM_NOESCAPE

Do not interpret backslashes as quoting the following special character.

FNM_PERIOD

A leading period (at the beginning of *string*, or if FNM_PATHNAME after a slash) is not matched by * or ? but must be matched explicitly.

FNM_LEADING_DIR

Means that *string* also matches *pattern* if some initial part of *string* matches, and is followed by / and zero or more characters. For example, 'foo*' would match either 'foobar' or 'foobar/grill'.

FNM_CASEFOLD

Ignores case when performing the comparison.

FILE * fopen_unlocked (const char *path, const char * mode) [Extension]

Opens and returns a FILE pointer via fopen. If the operating system supports it, ensure that the stream is setup to avoid any multi-threaded locking. Otherwise return the FILE pointer unchanged.

void freeargv (char **vector)

[Extension]

Free an argument vector that was built using buildargv. Simply scans through vector, freeing the memory for each argument until the terminating NULL is found, and then frees vector itself.

FILE * freopen_unlocked (const char * path, const char * mode, FILE * stream) [E

[Extension]

Opens and returns a FILE pointer via freopen. If the operating system supports it, ensure that the stream is setup to avoid any multi-threaded locking. Otherwise return the FILE pointer unchanged.

long get_run_time (void)

[Replacement]

Returns the time used so far, in microseconds. If possible, this is the time used by this process, else it is the elapsed time since the process started.

char* getcwd (char *pathname, int len)

[Supplemental]

Copy the absolute pathname for the current working directory into pathname, which is assumed to point to a buffer of at least len bytes, and return a pointer to the buffer. If the current directory's path doesn't fit in len characters, the result is NULL and errno is set. If pathname is a null pointer, getcwd will obtain len bytes of space using malloc.

int getpagesize (void)

[Supplemental]

Returns the number of bytes in a page of memory. This is the granularity of many of the system memory management routines. No guarantee is made as to whether or not it is the same as the basic memory management hardware page size.

char* getpwd (void)

[Supplemental]

Returns the current working directory. This implementation caches the result on the assumption that the process will not call chdir between calls to getpwd.

int gettimeofday (struct timeval *tp, void *tz)

[Supplemental]

Writes the current time to tp. This implementation requires that tz be NULL. Returns 0 on success, -1 on failure.

void hex_init (void)

[Extension]

Initializes the array mapping the current character set to corresponding hex values. This function must be called before any call to hex_p or hex_value. If you fail to call it, a default ASCII-based table will normally be used on ASCII systems.

int hex_p (int c)

[Extension]

Evaluates to non-zero if the given character is a valid hex character, or zero if it is not. Note that the value you pass will be cast to unsigned char within the macro.

unsigned int hex_value (int c)

Extension

Returns the numeric equivalent of the given character when interpreted as a hexadecimal digit. The result is undefined if you pass an invalid hex digit. Note that the value you pass will be cast to unsigned char within the macro.

The hex_value macro returns unsigned int, rather than signed int, to make it easier to use in parsing addresses from hex dump files: a signed int would be sign-extended when converted to a wider unsigned type — like bfd_vma, on some systems.

```
char* index (char *s, int c)
```

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to the first occurrence of the character c in the string s, or NULL if not found. The use of index is deprecated in new programs in favor of strchr.

Routines to manipulate queues built from doubly linked lists. The **insque** routine inserts *elem* in the queue immediately after *pred*. The **remque** routine removes *elem* from its containing queue. These routines expect to be passed pointers to structures which have as their first members a forward pointer and a back pointer, like this prototype (although no prototype is provided):

```
struct qelem {
   struct qelem *q_forw;
   struct qelem *q_back;
   char q_data[];
};
```

```
[Extension]
ISALPHA(c)
ISALNUM(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISBLANK(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISCNTRL(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISDIGIT (c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISGRAPH(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISLOWER(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISPRINT(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISPUNCT(c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISSPACE (c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISUPPER (c)
                                                                          [Extension]
ISXDIGIT (c)
                                                                          [Extension]
```

These twelve macros are defined by 'safe-ctype.h'. Each has the same meaning as the corresponding macro (with name in lowercase) defined by the standard header 'ctype.h'. For example, ISALPHA returns true for alphabetic characters and false for others. However, there are two differences between these macros and those provided by 'ctype.h':

- These macros are guaranteed to have well-defined behavior for all values representable by signed char and unsigned char, and for EOF.
- These macros ignore the current locale; they are true for these fixed sets of characters:

```
ALPHA
         A-Za-z
         A-Za-z0-9
ALNUM
BLANK
         space tab
CNTRL
         !PRINT
DIGIT
         0-9
         ALNUM | | PUNCT
GRAPH
LOWER
PRINT
         GRAPH || space
         '~!@#$%^&*()_-=+[{]}\|;:'",<.>/?
PUNCT
```

SPACE space tab $\n \r \f \v$ UPPER A-Z
XDIGIT 0-9A-Fa-f

Note that, if the host character set is ASCII or a superset thereof, all these macros will return false for all values of char outside the range of 7-bit ASCII. In particular, both ISPRINT and ISCNTRL return false for characters with numeric values from 128 to 255.

These six macros are defined by 'safe-ctype.h' and provide additional character classes which are useful when doing lexical analysis of C or similar languages. They are true for the following sets of characters:

NVSPACE space tab f v 0SPACE_OR_NUL VSPACE || NVSPACE

ISOBASIC VSPACE | | NVSPACE | | PRINT

const char* lbasename (const char *name)

[Replacement]

Given a pointer to a string containing a typical pathname ('/usr/src/cmd/ls/ls.c' for example), returns a pointer to the last component of the pathname ('ls.c' in this case). The returned pointer is guaranteed to lie within the original string. This latter fact is not true of many vendor C libraries, which return special strings or modify the passed strings for particular input.

In particular, the empty string returns the same empty string, and a path ending in / returns the empty string after it.

const char* lrealpath (const char *name)

[Replacement]

Given a pointer to a string containing a pathname, returns a canonical version of the filename. Symlinks will be resolved, and "." components will be simplified. The returned value will be allocated using malloc, or NULL will be returned on a memory allocation error.

```
const char* make_relative_prefix (const char *progname, const [Extension] char *bin_prefix, const char *prefix)
```

Given three paths progname, bin_prefix, prefix, return the path that is in the same position relative to progname's directory as prefix is relative to bin_prefix. That is, a string starting with the directory portion of progname, followed by a relative pathname of the difference between bin_prefix and prefix.

If progname does not contain any directory separators, make_relative_prefix will search PATH to find a program named progname. Also, if progname is a symbolic link, the symbolic link will be resolved.

For example, if bin_prefix is /alpha/beta/gamma/gcc/delta, prefix is /alpha/beta/gamma/omega/, and progname is /red/green/blue/gcc, then this function will return /red/green/blue/../../omega/.

The return value is normally allocated via malloc. If no relative prefix can be found, return NULL.

char* make_temp_file (const char *suffix)

[Replacement]

Return a temporary file name (as a string) or NULL if unable to create one. suffix is a suffix to append to the file name. The string is malloced, and the temporary file has been created.

void* memchr (const void *s, int c, size_t n)

[Supplemental]

This function searches memory starting at *s for the character c. The search only ends with the first occurrence of c, or after length characters; in particular, a null character does not terminate the search. If the character c is found within length characters of *s, a pointer to the character is returned. If c is not found, then NULL is returned.

- int memcmp (const void *x, const void *y, size_t count) [Supplemental] Compares the first count bytes of two areas of memory. Returns zero if they are the same, a value less than zero if x is lexically less than y, or a value greater than zero if x is lexically greater than y. Note that lexical order is determined as if comparing unsigned char arrays.
- void* memcpy (void *out, const void *in, size_t length) [Supplemental] Copies length bytes from memory region in to region out. Returns a pointer to out.
- void* memmove (void *from, const void *to, size_t count) [Supplemental] Copies count bytes from memory area from to memory area to, returning a pointer to to.
- void* memset (void *s, int c, $size_t$ count) [Supplemental] Sets the first count bytes of s to the constant byte c, returning a pointer to s.
- int mkstemps (char *pattern, int suffix_len) [Replacement]
 Generate a unique temporary file name from pattern. pattern has the form:

path/ccXXXXXXsuffix

suffix_len tells us how long suffix is (it can be zero length). The last six characters of pattern before suffix must be 'XXXXXX'; they are replaced with a string that makes the filename unique. Returns a file descriptor open on the file for reading and writing.

void pex_free (struct pex_obj obj) Clean up and free all data associated with obj.

[Extension]

int pex_get_status (struct pex_obj *obj, int count, int *vector) [Extension] Returns the exit status of all programs run using obj. count is the number of results expected. The results will be placed into vector. The results are in the order of the calls to pex_run. Returns 0 on error, 1 on success.

Returns the process execution times of all programs run using *obj. count* is the number of results expected. The results will be placed into *vector*. The results are in the order of the calls to <code>pex_run</code>. Returns 0 on error, 1 on success.

struct pex_time has the following fields of the type unsigned long: user_seconds, user_microseconds, system_seconds, system_microseconds. On systems which do not support reporting process times, all the fields will be set to 0.

Prepare to execute one or more programs, with standard output of each program fed to standard input of the next. This is a system independent interface to execute a pipeline.

flags is a bitwise combination of the following:

PEX_RECORD_TIMES

Record subprocess times if possible.

PEX_USE_PIPES

Use pipes for communication between processes, if possible.

PEX SAVE TEMPS

Don't delete temporary files used for communication between processes.

pname is the name of program to be executed, used in error messages. tempbase is a base name to use for any required temporary files; it may be NULL to use a randomly chosen name.

Return a stream for a temporary file to pass to the first program in the pipeline as input.

The name of the input file is chosen according to the same rules pex_run uses to choose output file names, based on in_name, obj and the PEX_SUFFIX bit in flags.

Don't call fclose on the returned stream; the first call to pex_run closes it automatically.

If flags includes PEX_BINARY_OUTPUT, open the stream in binary mode; otherwise, open it in the default mode. Including PEX_BINARY_OUTPUT in flags has no effect on Unix.

FILE * pex_input_pipe (struct pex_obj *obj, int binary) [Extension] Return a stream fp for a pipe connected to the standard input of the first program in the pipeline; fp is opened for writing. You must have passed PEX_USE_PIPES to the pex_init call that returned obj.

You must close fp using fclose yourself when you have finished writing data to the pipeline.

The file descriptor underlying fp is marked not to be inherited by child processes.

On systems that do not support pipes, this function returns NULL, and sets errno to EINVAL. If you would like to write code that is portable to all systems the pex functions support, consider using pex_input_file instead.

There are two opportunities for deadlock using pex_input_pipe:

- Most systems' pipes can buffer only a fixed amount of data; a process that writes to a full pipe blocks. Thus, if you write to 'fp' before starting the first process, you run the risk of blocking when there is no child process yet to read the data and allow you to continue. pex_input_pipe makes no promises about the size of the pipe's buffer, so if you need to write any data at all before starting the first process in the pipeline, consider using pex_input_file instead.
- Using pex_input_pipe and pex_read_output together may also cause deadlock. If the output pipe fills up, so that each program in the pipeline is waiting for the next to read more data, and you fill the input pipe by writing more data to fp, then there is no way to make progress: the only process that could read data from the output pipe is you, but you are blocked on the input pipe.

An interface to permit the easy execution of a single program. The return value and most of the parameters are as for a call to pex_run. flags is restricted to a combination of PEX_SEARCH, PEX_STDERR_TO_STDOUT, and PEX_BINARY_OUTPUT. outname is interpreted as if PEX_LAST were set. On a successful return, *status will be set to the exit status of the program.

- FILE * pex_read_err (struct pex_obj *obj, int binary) [Extension]
 Returns a FILE pointer which may be used to read the standard error of the last program in the pipeline. When this is used, PEX_LAST should not be used in a call to pex_run. After this is called, pex_run may no longer be called with the same obj. binary should be non-zero if the file should be opened in binary mode. Don't call fclose on the returned file; it will be closed by pex_free.
- FILE * pex_read_output (struct pex_obj *obj, int binary) [Extension]
 Returns a FILE pointer which may be used to read the standard output of the last program in the pipeline. When this is used, PEX_LAST should not be used in a call to pex_run. After this is called, pex_run may no longer be called with the same obj. binary should be non-zero if the file should be opened in binary mode. Don't call fclose on the returned file; it will be closed by pex_free.

Execute one program in a pipeline. On success this returns NULL. On failure it returns an error message, a statically allocated string.

obj is returned by a previous call to pex_init.

flags is a bitwise combination of the following:

PEX_LAST This must be set on the last program in the pipeline. In particular, it should be set when executing a single program. The standard output of the program will be sent to outname, or, if outname is NULL, to the standard output of the calling program. Do not set this bit if you want to call pex_read_output (described below). After a call to pex_run with this bit set, pex_run may no longer be called with the same obj.

PEX_SEARCH

Search for the program using the user's executable search path.

PEX_SUFFIX

outname is a suffix. See the description of outname, below.

PEX_STDERR_TO_STDOUT

Send the program's standard error to standard output, if possible.

PEX BINARY INPUT

PEX_BINARY_OUTPUT

PEX_BINARY_ERROR

The standard input (output or error) of the program should be read (written) in binary mode rather than text mode. These flags are ignored on systems which do not distinguish binary mode and text mode, such as Unix. For proper behavior these flags should match appropriately—a call to pex_run using PEX_BINARY_OUTPUT should be followed by a call using PEX_BINARY_INPUT.

PEX_STDERR_TO_PIPE

Send the program's standard error to a pipe, if possible. This flag cannot be specified together with PEX_STDERR_TO_STDOUT. This flag can be specified only on the last program in pipeline.

executable is the program to execute. argv is the set of arguments to pass to the program; normally argv [0] will be a copy of executable.

outname is used to set the name of the file to use for standard output. There are two cases in which no output file will be used:

- 1. if PEX_LAST is not set in flags, and PEX_USE_PIPES was set in the call to pex_init, and the system supports pipes
- 2. if PEX_LAST is set in flags, and outname is NULL

Otherwise the code will use a file to hold standard output. If PEX_LAST is not set, this file is considered to be a temporary file, and it will be removed when no longer needed, unless PEX_SAVE_TEMPS was set in the call to pex_init.

There are two cases to consider when setting the name of the file to hold standard output.

1. PEX_SUFFIX is set in flags. In this case outname may not be NULL. If the tempbase parameter to pex_init was not NULL, then the output file name is the concatenation of tempbase and outname. If tempbase was NULL, then the output file name is a random file name ending in outname.

2. PEX_SUFFIX was not set in flags. In this case, if outname is not NULL, it is used as the output file name. If outname is NULL, and tempbase was not NULL, the output file name is randomly chosen using tempbase. Otherwise the output file name is chosen completely at random.

errname is the file name to use for standard error output. If it is NULL, standard error is the same as the caller's. Otherwise, standard error is written to the named file.

On an error return, the code sets *err to an errno value, or to 0 if there is no relevant errno.

const char * pex_run_in_environment (struct pex_obj *obj, int [Extension] flags, const char *executable, char * const *argv, char * const *env, int env_size, const char *outname, const char *errname, int *err)

Execute one program in a pipeline, permitting the environment for the program to be specified. Behaviour and parameters not listed below are as for pex_run.

env is the environment for the child process, specified as an array of character pointers. Each element of the array should point to a string of the form VAR=VALUE, with the exception of the last element that must be NULL.

This is the old interface to execute one or more programs. It is still supported for compatibility purposes, but is no longer documented.

void psignal (int signo. char *message)

[Supplemental]

Print message to the standard error, followed by a colon, followed by the description of the signal specified by signo, followed by a newline.

int putenv (const char *string)

[Supplemental]

Uses setenv or unsetenv to put string into the environment or remove it. If string is of the form 'name=value' the string is added; if no '=' is present the name is unset/removed.

int pwait (int pid, int *status, int flags)
Another part of the old execution interface.

[Extension]

Thouser part of the old execution interface

long int random (void)

[Supplement]

void srandom (unsigned int seed)

[Supplement]

[Supplement]

void* setstate (void *arg_state)

[Supplement]

Random number functions. random returns a random number in the range 0 to LONG_MAX. srandom initializes the random number generator to some starting point determined by seed (else, the values returned by random are always the same for each run of the program). initstate and setstate allow fine-grained control over the state of the random number generator.

char* reconcat (char *optr, const char *s1, ..., NULL)

[Extension]

Same as concat, except that if *optr* is not NULL it is freed after the string is created. This is intended to be useful when you're extending an existing string or building up a string in a loop:

```
str = reconcat (str, "pre-", str, NULL);
```

int rename (const char *old, const char *new)

[Supplemental]

Renames a file from old to new. If new already exists, it is removed.

char* rindex (const char *s, int c)

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to the last occurrence of the character c in the string s, or NULL if not found. The use of rindex is deprecated in new programs in favor of strrchr.

int setenv (const char *name, const char *value, int overwrite)
void unsetenv (const char *name)

[Supplemental] [Supplemental]

setenv adds name to the environment with value value. If the name was already present in the environment, the new value will be stored only if overwrite is nonzero. The companion unsetenv function removes name from the environment. This implementation is not safe for multithreaded code.

int signo_max (void)

[Extension]

Returns the maximum signal value for which a corresponding symbolic name or message is available. Note that in the case where we use the sys_siglist supplied by the system, it is possible for there to be more symbolic names than messages, or vice versa. In fact, the manual page for psignal(3b) explicitly warns that one should check the size of the table (NSIG) before indexing it, since new signal codes may be added to the system before they are added to the table. Thus NSIG might be smaller than value implied by the largest signo value defined in <signal.h>.

We return the maximum value that can be used to obtain a meaningful symbolic name or message.

int sigsetmask (int set)

[Supplemental]

Sets the signal mask to the one provided in set and returns the old mask (which, for libiberty's implementation, will always be the value 1).

int snprintf (char *buf, size_t n, const char *format, ...)

[Supplemental]

This function is similar to sprintf, but it will print at most n characters. On error the return value is -1, otherwise it returns the number of characters that would have been printed had n been sufficiently large, regardless of the actual value of n. Note some pre-C99 system libraries do not implement this correctly so users cannot generally rely on the return value if the system version of this function is used.

char* spaces (int count)

[Extension]

Returns a pointer to a memory region filled with the specified number of spaces and null terminated. The returned pointer is valid until at least the next call.

char* stpcpy (char *dst, const char *src)

[Supplemental]

Copies the string src into dst. Returns a pointer to dst + strlen(src).

char* stpncpy (char *dst, const char *src, size_t len) [Supplemental] Copies the string src into dst, copying exactly len and padding with zeros if necessary. If len < strlen(src) then return dst + len, otherwise returns dst + strlen(src).

int strcasecmp (const char *s1, const char *s2)

[Supplemental]

A case-insensitive strcmp.

char* strchr (const char *s, int c)

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to the first occurrence of the character c in the string s, or NULL if not found. If c is itself the null character, the results are undefined.

char* strdup (const char *s)

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to a copy of s in memory obtained from malloc, or NULL if insufficient memory was available.

const char* strerrno (int errnum)

[Replacement]

Given an error number returned from a system call (typically returned in errno), returns a pointer to a string containing the symbolic name of that error number, as found in <errno.h>.

If the supplied error number is within the valid range of indices for symbolic names, but no name is available for the particular error number, then returns the string 'Error num', where num is the error number.

If the supplied error number is not within the range of valid indices, then returns NULL.

The contents of the location pointed to are only guaranteed to be valid until the next call to strerrno.

char* strerror (int errnoval)

[Supplemental]

Maps an error number to an error message string, the contents of which are implementation defined. On systems which have the external variables sys_nerr and sys_errlist, these strings will be the same as the ones used by perror.

If the supplied error number is within the valid range of indices for the sys_errlist, but no message is available for the particular error number, then returns the string 'Error num', where num is the error number.

If the supplied error number is not a valid index into sys_errlist, returns NULL.

The returned string is only guaranteed to be valid only until the next call to strerror.

int strncasecmp (const char *s1, const char *s2)

[Supplemental]

A case-insensitive strncmp.

int strncmp (const char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n) [Supplemental] Compares the first n bytes of two strings, returning a value as strcmp.

char* strndup (const char *s, size_t n)

Returns a pointer to a copy of s with at most n characters in memory obtained from malloc, or NULL if insufficient memory was available. The result is always NUL terminated.

char* strrchr (const char *s, int c)

[Supplemental]

Returns a pointer to the last occurrence of the character c in the string s, or NULL if not found. If c is itself the null character, the results are undefined.

const char * strsignal (int signo)

[Supplemental]

Maps an signal number to an signal message string, the contents of which are implementation defined. On systems which have the external variable sys_siglist, these strings will be the same as the ones used by psignal().

If the supplied signal number is within the valid range of indices for the sys_siglist, but no message is available for the particular signal number, then returns the string 'Signal num', where num is the signal number.

If the supplied signal number is not a valid index into sys_siglist, returns NULL.

The returned string is only guaranteed to be valid only until the next call to strsignal.

const char* strsigno (int signo)

[Extension]

Given an signal number, returns a pointer to a string containing the symbolic name of that signal number, as found in <signal.h>.

If the supplied signal number is within the valid range of indices for symbolic names, but no name is available for the particular signal number, then returns the string 'Signal num', where num is the signal number.

If the supplied signal number is not within the range of valid indices, then returns NULL.

The contents of the location pointed to are only guaranteed to be valid until the next call to strsigno.

char* strstr (const char *string, const char *sub)

[Supplemental]

This function searches for the substring sub in the string string, not including the terminating null characters. A pointer to the first occurrence of sub is returned, or NULL if the substring is absent. If sub points to a string with zero length, the function returns string.

double strtod (const char *string, char **endptr)

[Supplemental]

This ISO C function converts the initial portion of *string* to a **double**. If *endptr* is not NULL, a pointer to the character after the last character used in the conversion is stored in the location referenced by *endptr*. If no conversion is performed, zero is returned and the value of *string* is stored in the location referenced by *endptr*.

int strtoerrno (const char *name)

[Extension]

Given the symbolic name of a error number (e.g., EACCES), map it to an errno value. If no translation is found, returns 0.

long int strtol (const char *string, char **endptr, int base) [Supplemental] unsigned long int strtoul (const char *string, char [Supplemental] **endptr. int base)

The strtol function converts the string in string to a long integer value according to the given base, which must be between 2 and 36 inclusive, or be the special value

0. If base is 0, strtol will look for the prefixes 0 and 0x to indicate bases 8 and 16, respectively, else default to base 10. When the base is 16 (either explicitly or implicitly), a prefix of 0x is allowed. The handling of endptr is as that of strtod above. The strtoul function is the same, except that the converted value is unsigned.

int strtosigno (const char *name)

[Extension]

Given the symbolic name of a signal, map it to a signal number. If no translation is found, returns 0.

int strverscmp (const char *s1, const char *s2)

[Function]

The strverscmp function compares the string s1 against s2, considering them as holding indices/version numbers. Return value follows the same conventions as found in the strverscmp function. In fact, if s1 and s2 contain no digits, strverscmp behaves like strcmp.

Basically, we compare strings normally (character by character), until we find a digit in each string - then we enter a special comparison mode, where each sequence of digits is taken as a whole. If we reach the end of these two parts without noticing a difference, we return to the standard comparison mode. There are two types of numeric parts: "integral" and "fractional" (those begin with a '0'). The types of the numeric parts affect the way we sort them:

- integral/integral: we compare values as you would expect.
- fractional/integral: the fractional part is less than the integral one. Again, no surprise.
- fractional/fractional: the things become a bit more complex. If the common prefix contains only leading zeroes, the longest part is less than the other one; else the comparison behaves normally.

```
strverscmp ("no digit", "no digit")

⇒ 0  // same behavior as strcmp.

strverscmp ("item#99", "item#100")

⇒ <0  // same prefix, but 99 < 100.

strverscmp ("alpha1", "alpha001")

⇒ >0  // fractional part inferior to integral one.

strverscmp ("part1_f012", "part1_f01")

⇒ >0  // two fractional parts.

strverscmp ("foo.009", "foo.0")

⇒ <0  // idem, but with leading zeroes only.
```

This function is especially useful when dealing with filename sorting, because filenames frequently hold indices/version numbers.

char* tmpnam (char *s)

[Supplemental]

This function attempts to create a name for a temporary file, which will be a valid file name yet not exist when tmpnam checks for it. s must point to a buffer of at least L_tmpnam bytes, or be NULL. Use of this function creates a security risk, and it must not be used in new projects. Use mkstemp instead.

int unlink if ordinary (const char*)

[Supplemental]

Unlinks the named file, unless it is special (e.g. a device file). Returns 0 when the file was unlinked, a negative value (and errno set) when there was an error deleting the file, and a positive value if no attempt was made to unlink the file because it is special.

void unlock_std_streams (void)

[Extension]

If the OS supports it, ensure that the standard I/O streams, stdin, stdout and stderr are setup to avoid any multi-threaded locking. Otherwise do nothing.

void unlock_stream (FILE * stream)

[Extension]

If the OS supports it, ensure that the supplied stream is setup to avoid any multithreaded locking. Otherwise leave the FILE pointer unchanged. If the *stream* is NULL do nothing.

int vasprintf (char **resptr, const char *format, va_list args) [Extension]
Like vsprintf, but instead of passing a pointer to a buffer, you pass a pointer to a
pointer. This function will compute the size of the buffer needed, allocate memory
with malloc, and store a pointer to the allocated memory in *resptr. The value
returned is the same as vsprintf would return. If memory could not be allocated,
minus one is returned and NULL is stored in *resptr.

int vfork (void)

[Supplemental]

Emulates vfork by calling fork and returning its value.

int vprintf (const char *format, va_list ap)

[Supplemental]

int vfprintf (FILE *stream, const char *format, va_list ap)

[Supplemental]

int vsprintf (char *str, const char *format, va_list ap)

[Supplemental]

These functions are the same as printf, fprintf, and sprintf, respectively, except that they are called with a va_list instead of a variable number of arguments. Note that they do not call va_end; this is the application's responsibility. In libiberty they are implemented in terms of the nonstandard but common function _doprnt.

- int vsnprintf (char *buf, size_t n, const char *format, va_list ap) [Supplemental]

 This function is similar to vsprintf, but it will print at most n characters. On error the return value is -1, otherwise it returns the number of characters that would have been printed had n been sufficiently large, regardless of the actual value of n. Note some pre-C99 system libraries do not implement this correctly so users cannot generally rely on the return value if the system version of this function is used.
- int waitpid (int pid, int *status, int)

[Supplemental]

This is a wrapper around the wait function. Any "special" values of *pid* depend on your implementation of wait, as does the return value. The third argument is unused in libiberty.

int writeargv (const char **argv, FILE *file)

[Extension]

Write each member of ARGV, handling all necessary quoting, to the file named by FILE, separated by whitespace. Return 0 on success, non-zero if an error occurred while writing to FILE.

int xatexit (void (*fn) (void))

[Function]

Behaves as the standard atexit function, but with no limit on the number of registered functions. Returns 0 on success, or -1 on failure. If you use xatexit to register functions, you must use xexit to terminate your program.

void* xcalloc (size_t nelem, size_t elsize)

[Replacement]

Allocate memory without fail, and set it to zero. This routine functions like calloc, but will behave the same as xmalloc if memory cannot be found.

void xexit (int code)

[Replacement]

Terminates the program. If any functions have been registered with the xatexit replacement function, they will be called first. Termination is handled via the system's normal exit call.

void* xmalloc (size_t)

[Replacement]

Allocate memory without fail. If malloc fails, this will print a message to stderr (using the name set by xmalloc_set_program_name, if any) and then call xexit. Note that it is therefore safe for a program to contain #define malloc xmalloc in its source.

void xmalloc_failed (size_t)

[Replacement]

This function is not meant to be called by client code, and is listed here for completeness only. If any of the allocation routines fail, this function will be called to print an error message and terminate execution.

void xmalloc_set_program_name (const char *name)

[Replacement]

You can use this to set the name of the program used by xmalloc_failed when printing a failure message.

[Replacement]

Duplicates a region of memory without fail. First, *alloc_size* bytes are allocated, then *copy_size* bytes from *input* are copied into it, and the new memory is returned. If fewer bytes are copied than were allocated, the remaining memory is zeroed.

void* xrealloc (void *ptr, size_t size)

[Replacement]

Reallocate memory without fail. This routine functions like realloc, but will behave the same as xmalloc if memory cannot be found.

char* xstrdup (const char *s)

[Replacement]

Duplicates a character string without fail, using xmalloc to obtain memory.

char* xstrerror (int errnum)

[Replacement]

Behaves exactly like the standard strerror function, but will never return a NULL pointer.

char* xstrndup (const char *s, size_t n)

[Replacement]

Returns a pointer to a copy of s with at most n characters without fail, using xmalloc to obtain memory. The result is always NUL terminated.

Appendix A Licenses

A.1 GNU LESSER GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE

Version 2.1, February 1999

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That's all there is to it!

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