

# Assignment 1

## System Software & Operating System : CO222

1. Write a C program that takes a file name as a **command line parameter** and **sorts a set of integers stored in the file** (use any sorting method). You can assume that the file will always be there in the current directory and that it will always contain a set of integers (maximum no. of integers is 1000). The sorted output is written to the display and the input file is left unchanged. Compile the C file into an executable named "sort1". Name the C file "sort1.c".

Write another C program "xsort.c" that implements a command called "xsort" that you will invoke from the shell prompt. The syntax of the command is "xsort <filename>". When you type the command, the command opens a new **xterm** window, and then sorts the integers stored in the file <filename> using the program "sort1". Look up the manual pages for **xterm**, **fork** and the different variations of **exec\*** calls (such as **execv**, **execve**, **execlp** etc.) to do this assignment.

2. In this assignment we will start writing a command interpreter (Shell). We will complete it in Assignment 2.

The shell will give a prompt for the user to type in a command (from a set of commands), take the command, execute it, and then give the prompt back for the next command (i.e., actually give the functionality of a shell). Your program for the first assignment should do the following:

- Give a prompt "**yourname\$**" for the user to type in a command.
- Implement the following *builtin* commands:
  - **cd <dir>** : changes the directory to "*dir*".
  - **pwd** : prints the current directory.
  - **mkdir <dir>** : creates a new directory called "*dir*".
  - **rmdir <dir>** : removes the directory called "*dir*".
  - **ls** : lists files in the current directory. Make it support "-l" option.
  - **exit** : exits the shell.

The commands are the same as the corresponding Linux commands by the same name. "man" the command to see the descriptions in your Linux distribution. To implement the commands use system calls like **chdir**, **getcwd**, **mkdir**, **rmdir**, **readdir** etc. which are available as C library functions.

These commands are called builtin because your shell program will have a function corresponding to each of these commands to execute; no new process will be created to execute them. Note that these commands are not *builtin* commands in the **bash** shell.

- Any other command typed at the prompt should be executed as if it is the name of an executable file. For instance, typing "*a.out*" should execute the file *a.out*. The file can be in the current directory or in any of the directories specified by the **PATH** environment variable (use **getenv** to get the value of the **PATH**). The file should be executed after creating a new process and then **exec**'ing the file onto it. The parent process should wait for the file to finish execution and then go on to read and execute next command from the user.

To run your shell, write another C program that will create a child process and call an appropriate form of **exec** to run the program above from the Linux shell. The parent process simply waits for the child to finish (execute the "**exit**" command), after which it also exits.

Name the C file for the shell *shell.c*. Name the C program above that runs your shell *run.c*.