

Background:

RLE compression relies on the fact that in many files there are many repeated characters (example: AAAAAA) .. The algorithm replaces this with a character+count resulting in a much smaller size.

For example: a string in a file contains: "AAAAADDDDDDDDEEEQZZZZZZZZQAAEE" is replaced with: "A5D8E3Q10A2E2"

There are two operations:

A) COMPRESS: read and compress the file into a 2nd file

B) DECOMPRESS: read a compressed file and reconstruct the original file.

Part1: compression

- 1) Write a Compress function that receives a string as parameter and return compressed string.
The function will :
 - a. Read 1st character from string parameter
 - b. Count how many times it is repeated
 - c. Add this info to a new string
 - d. Read next character from source string,.
 - e. Repeat from step b above, till end of string
 - f. When done the function will return the new string
- 2) Test your function using sample string above.

Part2: file processing

- 1) Ask user for input file name and open it (this is the text file containing data/art to be compressed)
- 2) Open an output file to be the compressed file (add extension .comp to the name)
- 3) Read a line from input file (getline into a string)
- 4) Send the string to the compress function.
- 5) When the compress function returns the compressed string, write it to the output file
- 6) Read next line from input file, goto #4
- 7) Repeat till end of file

Part2: decompress

- 1) Write a function decompress that takes a string and return a string
- 2) Stream 1 char and 1 number
- 3) Create a string that is filled with x-number of this char
- 4) Add this string to the decompress string
- 5) Repeat till end of source string
- 6) Return the decompressed string

- 7) Use the above function and open the .comp file, read line by line from it, decompress each line, and write it to a .decomp file

RESULT:

You will have a new .comp file that is a compressed version of the original file AND a .decomp file that is the decompression of the decomp file.

Your .decomp file should be the same as the original file.