

Programming report

Week 3 Assignments C++

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Assignment 40, Pointer and index-using implementations

We are asked to provide a function called `nowhere` using pointers and explain of how that function and `strcpy` function works.

How `strcpy` works:

To the function a C-string is passed as a pointer `src` pointing to a const char. A new pointer variable (pointer `dst` pointing to a char) which is empty as default takes the character where `src` is pointing to as first. The while loop iterates over all characters where `src` is pointing at. Both pointer variables are incremented and the characters of `src` are copied one by one to the `dst` pointer variable. The incrementation of the pointer accesses the next character in the memory block. So first the first character in memory is copied to the first memory place of `dst`, then the second, etc. The loop terminates after the end of the C-string is reached, i.e. when `'\0'` is copied to `dst`.

How `nowhere` works:

A C-string is passed to the pointer variable `src` like the `strcpy` function. And a character(or multiple characters) is chosen by the user to see if it is nowhere in the C-string. This is done by checking if the character in memory given by the user is equal to a character in the C-string. Like `strcpy` the while loop terminates after `'\0'` is reached, and in this case it also terminates if the character is found, hence it is not nowhere in the C-string. If the character given by the user is nowhere in

the C-string, an if-statement is used to check if the '\0' is reached, hence end of the C-string and the character is nowhere in the C-string.

Why pointer-implementation is preferred:

The pointer-implementation is preferred, because it is more efficient. If indices are used, then the program first goes to the index and then looks at the memory. A pointer goes directly to the memory and then performs its duty.

Code Listings

Listing 1: nowhere.cc

```
void nowhere(char *character, char const *src)
{
    while((*character != *src++))
    {
        if (*src == '\0')
        {
            std::cout << "Character is nowhere!\n";
        }
    }
}
```

Assignment 41, Some questions

We are asked to comment about variants of new/delete and provide some examples.

1.new:

To allocate primitive types or objects; eg:

Listing 2: example.cc

```
int *v1 = new int;           // an int pointer variable
                             //points to memory allocated by operator new
string *s1 = new string;     // a class-type object
                             //is allocated
```

2. delete:

To release the memory of a single element allocated using new; eg:

Listing 3: example.cc

```
delete v1;
delete s1;
```

3. new[]:

To allocate dynamic arrays, whose lifetime may exceed the lifetime of the function in which they were created; eg:

Listing 4: example.cc

```
int *intarr = new int[20]; // allocates 20 ints
string *stringarr = new string[10]; // allocates
// 10 class-type objects 'string'
```

4. delete[]:

To call the destructor for each element in the array and return the memory pointed at by the pointer to the common pool; eg:

Listing 5: example.cc

```
delete[] intarr;
delete[] stringarr;
```

5. operator new(sizeInBytes):

To allocate raw memory, a block of memory for unspecified purpose; eg:

Listing 6: example.cc

```
char *chPtr =
static_cast<char *>(operator new(numberOfBytes));
// the raw memory returned by new is a
//void *, here assigned to a char * variable
```

6. operator delete:

To return the raw memory allocated by operator new; eg:

Listing 7: example.cc

```
operator delete(chPtr);
```

7. placement new:

To initialize an object or value into an existing block of memory; eg:

Listing 8: example.cc

```
Type *new(void *memory) Type(arguments);  
    //memory is a block of memory of at  
    //least sizeof(Type) bytes and Type(arguments)  
    //is any constructor of the class Type;
```

(Memory allocated this way is returned by explicitly calling the object's destructor)

Assignment 42, Destructors

We are asked to prevent memory leaks in our implemented string class by submitting a destructor.

Code Listings

Listing 9: strings.h

```
#ifndef STRINGS_H  
#define STRINGS_H  
  
#include<iostream>  
  
class Strings  
{  
    char *d_str;  
    size_t d_size = 0;  
  
    void addCapacity(size_t increment);  
  
public:
```

```

Strings(size_t argc, char **argv);
Strings(char **environ);
~Strings();

size_t size();
char *str();
char *at(size_t index);
char const *at(size_t index) const;

void addString(std::string newString);
void addString(char *charArray);
void setSize(size_t size);
void setStr(char *str);
};

#endif

```

Listing 10: destructor.c

```

#include "strings.h"

Strings::~~Strings()
{
    delete[] d_str;
}

```

Assignment 43, Double pointers

We are asked to modify our string class using double pointers because the algorithm of exercise 33 being too inefficient.