The Moby Dick Program

The purpose of this program is to count the words in the book Moby Dick. It uses a list of ‘Stop’ words as a list of words the are not to be counted.

Main Form

Two input text boxes, one for the stop Words list text file and one for the Book text file. These text boxes have default values. You can override these values by typing in new values at run time. The default values can be changed by updating the Text property of the Text Box(s) and rebuilding the program. If the Stop Words file, or the Book text file can not be found, an error message is displayed in the status line at the bottom of the form.

Two processing options check boxes, Case Sensitive and Top 100. These options can be turned on (checked) or off (un-checked). The default for Case Sensitive is off, meaning the words will actually be compared in lower case, i.e. ‘The’ is the same as ‘the’. The default for Top 100 is on, meaning only to top 100 most used words in the book will be displayed. Turning this option off means all words in the book will be displayed. These defaults can be changed by updating the CheckState property of the Check Box object and rebuilding the program.

The ‘Execute’ button is used to process the Book file, using the Sop Words from the Stop Words list file as words to be skipped in the book, and using the options during the processing and display of the results.

The Book Words button has two functions. First is it a header letting you know what is being displayed in the data grid, and as an action button used to switch between the Book Words list and the Stop Words list. This gives you the ability to view the Stop Words used in processing the Book file, as well as seeing the resulting list of words found in the book

The data grid also has the ability to sort the data by any column in the list. Simply click on the column header of the column you want the data to be sorted by. If the data in that column is already sorted in ascending order (alphabetically or numeric) then the data will be sorted in ascending order, otherwise it will be sorted in descending order. The default sort order for the Book Words list is descending Count order. The default sort order for the Stop Words list is ascending Stop Word order.

When displaying the work lists, the status line at the bottom of the form will display the word count in that list.

You can exit the program by using the File -> Exit command on the menu bar at the top of the form, or by clicking the X at the top right of the form.