

Assignment 3 - Simple Shell

Description:

The purpose of this assignment is to show how I implement my own shell that runs on top of the regular command line interpreter for Linux OS.

Approach / what I Did:

First I started with including header files `stdio.h`, `stdlib.h`, `sys/wait.h`, `unistd.h`, `errno.h` and `string.h`. Second, I created the function called `readFromCmd`, which reads user input from the command line and stores each line in an array of strings. `readFromCmd()` takes two arguments character array for user input and an array of the pointers to strings for storing each command. Next I used `fgets()`, which is referred from `stdio.h` to read user input from the command line and store it in the command line array. Then, I used the `strlen()` to get the size of the input and check if the last character is a newline. Otherwise replace it with null. After that, I used the `strtok()` to create the token for the input string into each command with the space for delimiter.

In my next step, in `main()` I used a variable of 1024 characters to buffer user input. Then, initialized `args` (a pointer array) to present a command prompt. I initialized the char array that points to the path and initialized the size of the array with a maximum path to 20. After that, I created an infinite while loop to keep prompting for input until the user hit the command 'end of file'. In the while loop, I initialized the character temporary array set to 50 to store user input strings from the command line in it. Then called `readFromCmd()` to read and tokenize input. Next I used `fork()` to create a child process and execute the user's stored commands in the child process by using `execvp()`. Then the parent process waits for the child process to exit, so I used `waitpid()`. Then, print the process id of the child process and then exit the child process status. Next I used the if statement to print an error message if an error code is returned.

Issues and Resolutions:

First issue encountered, Since I wasn't handling the space correctly, I encountered an error "No such file or directory". I needed to tokenize the command into smaller strings based on a delimiter which is a space to fix this error.

Screenshot of Compilation:

```
student@student-VirtualBox:~/Documents/csc415-assignment3-simpleshell-hMiyazaki95$ make
gcc -c -o miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.o miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.c -g -I.
gcc -o miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.o -g -I. -l pthread
```

```
student@student-VirtualBox:~/Documents/csc415-assignment3-simpleshell-hMiyazaki95$ ./miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main
Prompt$ ls
commands.txt Makefile miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.c miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.o README.md
exited 3967 with Child 0
Prompt$ ls -l
total 52
-rw-rw-r-- 1 student student 42 Feb 19 18:59 commands.txt
-rw-rw-r-- 1 student student 1868 Feb 26 22:42 Makefile
-rwxrwxr-x 1 student student 16560 Mar 1 21:25 miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main
-rw-rw-r-- 1 student student 2793 Mar 1 21:24 miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.c
-rw-rw-r-- 1 student student 9264 Mar 1 21:25 miyazaki_hajime_HW3_main.o
-rw-rw-r-- 1 student student 5897 Feb 19 18:59 README.md
exited 3969 with Child 0
Prompt$ ^C
```