

19.- ft_memcmp.-

Function based on the definition given in the BSD man pages for “memcmp(3)”.
The library associated is <string.h> (standard C library).

Synopsis: `int memcmp(const void *s1, const void *s2, size_t n);`

Purpose:

Compares two memory blocks (s1 and s2) byte by byte up to a specified number of bytes (n).

Parameters:

- s1: The first memory block to compare.
- s2: The second memory block to compare.
- n: The maximum number of bytes to compare.

Return Value:

Returns an integer representing the difference between the first non-matching bytes:

- 0 if the blocks are equal up to n bytes.
- A negative value if s1 is lexicographically less than s2.
- A positive value if s1 is lexicographically greater than s2.

Description:

- Iterates through the bytes of s1 and s2 simultaneously, comparing them until a difference is found or n bytes have been compared.
- Returns the difference between the first non-matching bytes.

Code:

```
#include "libft.h"

int ft_memcmp(const void *s1, const void *s2, size_t n)
{
    unsigned const char *str1 = s1;
    unsigned const char *str2 = s2;
    size_t i = 0;

    while (i < n)
    {
        if (str1[i] != str2[i])
            return (str1[i] - str2[i]);
        i++;
    }
    return (0);
}
```

Code Explanation:

1. **Cast to unsigned char:** Converts s1 and s2 to unsigned char pointers for byte-level comparison.
2. **Iterates through bytes:**
 - Continues as long as i is less than n (the specified comparison limit).

- Compares the current bytes at `str1[i]` and `str2[i]`.

3. **Returns difference:**

- If a difference is found, returns the difference between the byte values (cast to `int`).

4. **Returns 0:** If no difference is found within `n` bytes, returns 0 (blocks are considered equal).

Key Points:

- **Memory Block Comparison:** Works with any memory blocks, not just strings.
- **Byte-Level Comparison:** Compares bytes directly for efficient comparison.
- **Maximum Comparison Limit:** Compares up to `n` bytes, even if the memory blocks are larger.
- **Character Casting:** Uses `(unsigned char)` for proper comparison of characters, including extended ASCII values.
- **Lexicographical Order:** Compares bytes based on their ASCII values, determining which block is "less than" or "greater than" the other.