

10.- ft_memmove.-

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

Synopsis:

```
void *memmove(void *dst, const void *src, size_t len);
```

Purpose:

Copies a block of memory from one location to another, handling overlapping regions safely.

Parameters

- **dst**: Pointer to the destination memory block.
- **src**: Pointer to the source memory block.
- **len**: Number of bytes to copy.

Return Value

Returns a pointer to the destination memory block (**dst**).

8. Description

- Copies **len** bytes from **src** to **dst**.
- Safely handles overlapping regions by:
 - Copying from the beginning if **dst** is less than **src**.
 - Copying from the end if **dst** is greater than or equal to **src**.

The `memmove()` function copies **len** bytes from string **src** to string **dst**. The two strings may overlap; the copy is always done in a non-destructive manner.

The `memmove()` function returns the original value of **dst**.

9. Code

```
#include "libft.h"

void *ft_memmove(void *dst, const void *src, size_t len)
{
    size_t    i;

    i = 0;
    if (len)
    {
        if (dst < src)
        {
            while (i < len)
            {
                ((unsigned char *)dst)[i] = ((unsigned char *)src)[i];
                i++;
            }
        }
        else if (src < dst)
        {
            while (len --)
```

```

        ((unsigned char *)dst)[len] = ((unsigned char *)src)
[len];
    }
}
return (dst);
}

```

Code Explanation

1. Checks for overlapping regions:

- If `dst` is less than `src`, copies from the beginning (`i = 0`).
- If `dst` is greater than or equal to `src`, copies from the end (`i = len - 1`).

2. Copies bytes:

- Iterates through the required bytes (`len`).
- Copies individual bytes from `src` to `dst` using casting and pointer arithmetic.
- The code takes the addresses of `dst` and `src`, adds the offset `i` to them, and casts the resulting addresses to `unsigned char` pointers.
- It then dereferences these pointers to access the individual bytes at those positions.
- The assignment operator copies the byte from the source location (`src + i`) to the destination location (`dst + i`).
- The parentheses ensure correct order of operations:
- Casts are performed first, followed by pointer arithmetic, and finally, dereferencing.
- This syntax enables precise byte-by-byte copying within the memory blocks, ensuring safe handling of overlapping regions.

Here it is how the parentheses works: `*(unsigned char *)(dst + i)`:

- `*`: Dereference operator, accessing the value stored at the memory address.
- `(unsigned char *)`: Casts the address (`dst + i`) to an `unsigned char` pointer.
- `(dst + i)`: Pointer arithmetic, adding `i` bytes to the starting address of `dst`.

3. Returns `dst` pointer:

- Returns the pointer to the destination memory block.

Main Function (Optional)

```

int main(void)
{
    char src[18] = "memmove example";
    char dst[18];

    ft_memmove(dst, src, sizeof(src));
    printf("Copied string: %s\n", dst);
    return (0);
}

```

We use the above main function to show how `memmove` works. `Printf` shall give us the result of the string in `dst`; which has been copied byte by byte from `src` as defined by function.

ADDENDUM: (few additional notes to enhance clarity)

Key Points:

- **Memory Blocks:** Think of memory as a vast collection of tiny boxes, each holding a single byte of data.
- **Pointers:** They are like bookmarks, pointing to specific boxes in memory.
- **Overlapping Regions:** Imagine two blocks of memory partially covering each other, like overlapping puzzle pieces.

Casting:

- It's like translating a book from one language to another.
- Here, we're "translating" memory addresses to a common language of bytes (`unsigned char`) for consistent copying.

Pointer Arithmetic:

- It's like moving a bookmark forward or backward to access different boxes in memory.
- We use it to navigate through the bytes of the memory blocks.

Parentheses:

- They act like traffic signs, ensuring operations happen in the correct order.
- They enforce casting first, then pointer arithmetic, and finally dereferencing to access the bytes.

Analogy:

- Imagine copying a book word by word, being careful not to overwrite words you haven't copied yet.
- That's similar to how `ft_memmove` handles overlapping memory regions.

Remember:

- `ft_memmove` is designed for safe copying, even in tricky situations with overlapping memory.
- It's a valuable tool for working with memory in C programming.