

# Command line arguments

- There are times when a program is developed that requires users to enter a small amount of information at the terminal.
- This information might consist of a number indicating the triangular number that you want to have calculated or a word that you want to have looked up in a dictionary.
- Two ways of handling this:
  1. Request the data from the user.
  2. Supply the information to the program at the time the program is executed (command- line arguments).
- We know that the main() function is a special function in C
  - Entry point of the program
- When the main() is called by the runtime system, two arguments are actually passed to the function.
  - the FIRST is the argument (argc for argument count) is a integer value that specifies the number of arguments typed on the command line .
  - The SECOND argument (argv for argument vector) is an array of characters pointers (strings)
- The first entry in this array is a pointer to the name of the program that is executing