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Assignment 6 – Device Driver

Description:

This assignment is to write a device driver that encrypts and decrypts a user text.

In the user interface, the user enters a text, and an integer key, then specifies wherever he wants the text to be encrypted or decrypted. By calling ioctl, the key and mode will be set in the device driver. After that, the call to write will write the user text into the device driver, and proceed to encryption or decryption. The user gets the result by calling read that will interact with the device driver to get the result.

In the device driver file, all the encryption and decryption are executed according to the user's text, key and mode.

If a mode or a key were not specified, their values will be set to the default values that are ENCRYPTION and 0 respectively.

Installation:

kernel module: run

- make
- sudo ./installIt.sh

test program: run

- make
- make run

Approach:

- Prompt for user text,
- prompt for user key, and make sure it is an integer.
- prompt for user mode, and make sure it is either 0 (encryption) or 1 (decryption)
- keep prompting for user input while it is incorrect
- call ioctl to set the key and the mode in the device driver. If the driver is able to get the information, it will set the mode and key, otherwise it will keep the default values.
- call write to pass the user text to the device driver. The device driver will read the text, and save it in the variable message; and will proceed to encryption or decryption of the message according to the mode specified.
- call read to get the result printed from the device driver. The device driver will pass the content of the message variable into the user's buffer using copy to user function.
- close the module by calling close.

Issues and Resolutions:

The biggest issue was installing the device driver. I had a lot of permission issues, but I managed to solve them by using sudo, and reading information on the internet.

My second issue was to understand how to write code in kernel mode since it was different from user mode.

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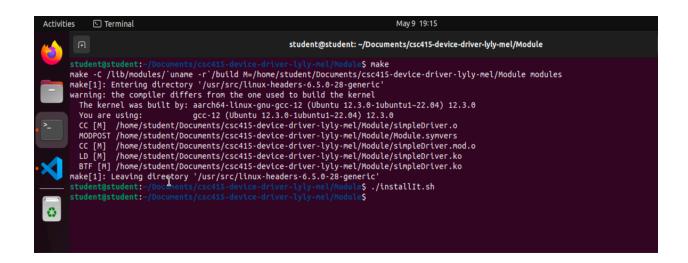
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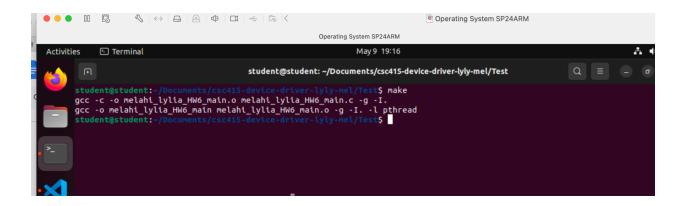
Also understanding how the device drive works and how it communicates with the user interface was a challenge. It took me some time to figure out how to use read, write and ioctl to transfer information between the device driver and the user. Then I figured out that the write is to provide data to the driver, read to get information from the driver, and ioctl is to give the driver a specific set of commands.

Also navigating between the user inputs and the driver inputs was a bit confusing at first.

Analysis: (If required for the assignment)

Screen shot of compilation:





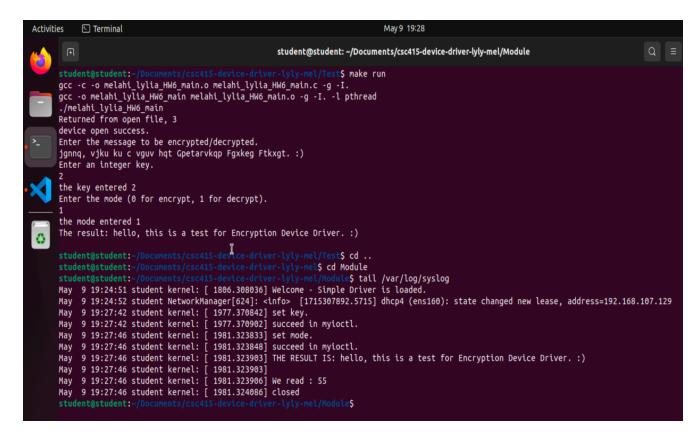
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Screen shot(s) of the execution of the program:

shows an example of text encryption

shows an example of text decryption

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some error handling

