

1: GOAL

To achieve the same functionality as the unix cat command. That is, being able to echo any number and size of input files to the standard output, or to redirect it to another file. Usage would be to quickly view files, concatenate files, and create files.

2. ASSUMPTIONS

Cat can print anything, including binary files and pdfs. Output may not be readable.

Cat is not able to print directories.

3. DESIGN

Use UNIX system calls to open files as file descriptors, read and write files. Usage of cstrings and arrays to handle input arguments

ex. `int main(int argc, char** argv)`

Functionality to print to standard output is encapsulated into a function named `echo()`.

Error checking is done by returning an integer, that corresponds to an error code, and then printing the error to standard output.

4. PSEUDOCODE

`func echo(file descriptor):`

do:

system read to `bytesRead` from file descriptor

error check on `bytesRead` //return 1, 2, 3...

system write `bytesRead` to standard out

error check on write //return 4, 5. 6...

while: `bytesRead > 0` // stop if `bytesread` is 0 aka EOF is reached

success: return 0

`func main(argc, argv):` //argc is # of args, argv is argument values

if `argc = 0`:

`echo(stdin)`

else:

for arg in argv:

system open argv as filedescriptor

error checking on open=

`echo(file descriptor)`

system close argv

return