

Myar Archiving Program

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this assignment, you should be able:

1. Be able to efficiently use low level fileio system calls
2. Understand and use the metadata that describes a file
3. Be able to interact with directory structures
4. Interact with system data structures compatibly (ar_hdr, archive format)

New mechanisms you will see and use include:

- system calls: read, write, lseek, stat, utime, unlink
- library routines: Directory Routines, String Routines (malloc, free only for buffer size from stat)
- umask

NAME

`myar` - Archiving Utility

SYNOPSIS

```
myar [qxotvdA:] archive-file [file1 .....]
```

DESCRIPTION

`myar` operates on the archive-file listed adding, deleting, listing contents according to the operations selected, using the files specified as appropriate. `Myar` maintains compatibility with “`ar`” utility on Linux, with the exception of the “`A`” option which is an added option to `myar`, and any item mentioned in the notes below.

- q Quickly the files specified to the archive-file
- x Extract the specified files from the archive-file
- o Used in combination with “`x`” restore the original permission and mtime
- t List the file names in the archive-file
- v Used in combination with “`t`” print the verbose info as “`ar`” does.
- d Delete the files specified from the archive-file
- A Quickly append all regular files in the directory modified more than N days ago

NOTE: The “`-v`”, “`-d`”, and multiple files on “`-q`” are optional. They will not be considered unless the rest of the assignment is perfect, and could possibly decrease your grade if they cause an error in the basic assignment. For extra credit all of the options must be done and be perfect, so extra credit is 0 or 10%. Don’t be late attempting the optional portion.

Exit Status

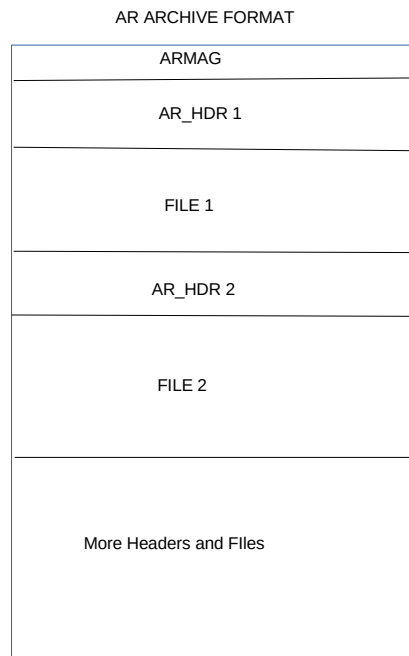
`myar` returns 0 on success and 1 on failure

ERROR MESSAGES

Same as in `ar`.

DISCUSSION

This is what an AR Archive Files looks like



The archive file maintained must use exactly the standard format defined in `"/usr/include/ar.h"`, and in fact must be tested with archives created with the `"ar"` command and `ar` must be tested with archives created by `myar`. You must

```
#include <ar.h>
```

for the definition of `struct ar_hdr`. In addition, define the following

```
struct meta {  
    char name[16]; //room for null  
    int mode;  
    int size;  
    time_t mtime; // a time_t is a long  
}
```

and write functions

```
int fill_ar_hdr(char *filename, struct ar_hdr *hdr);  
  
int fill_meta( struct ar_hdr hdr, struct meta *meta);
```

The first of these "stat"s the filename, and fills in the ar_hdr. stat structures have binary fields, ar_hdr fields are all printable ascii, so conversions are necessary. This is used in adding members to the archive.

The second goes in the opposite direction, converting fields in the ar_hdr into binary for the meta structure. The meta structure is used when extracting members from the archive, and for the "-t -v" option.

NOTES

- This is an exercise in efficiently using read/write/lseek directly, and you cannot use the buffered I/O library (fopen, fread, putc, etc). You should be reading and writing ar_hdrs in a single system call. File contents is written in buffers sized by stat.
- You may assume all files are in the current directory, no filename is longer than 15 bytes, and no archive index will be attempted. Unlike "ar" you will not follow symbolic links. In the "A" option you skip symbolic links.
- The ar_hdr and the ARMAG have even size. ar_hdr's must always be on an even boundary. This is maintained if the file being archived is even. However when archiving a file whose size is odd, a padding byte is required after it to preserve ar_hdr alignment.
- You MUST NOT consult source code for other implementations of "ar"
- Create archives with permission 0666 subject to umask. Extraction permission in the -x -o option is also subject to the umask. (Good news, this means there is nothing to do).
- When running the "ar" command on Ubuntu use "qU" instead of "q". Ubuntu does not include the metadata without the "U". This is a recent optimization justified by the typical use of "ar" to maintain binary libraries. Myar should always include the metadata.
- Since the system ar is also used for binary libraries, it includes an index in the archive file when it detects that a binary file has been added. We will only test with ascii text files, and both your program and ar will not add an index. For the "-q" option none of the files will be binary. When testing the "A" option, do it in a subdirectory that has no binary files (including the myar binary).
- The "x" and "d" commands operate on the first file matched in the archive, without checking for further matches.

- In the case of the "d" option, you will have to build a new archive file to recover the space. Do this by unlinking the original file after it is opened, and creating a new archive with the original name.
- Since file I/O is expensive, do not make more than one pass through the archive file, an issue especially relevant to the multiple delete case.

Utime is used to restore the mtime in the -o option. Since the ar_hdr can only store one time and utime sets mtime and atime, use the time in the ar_hdr to set both mtime and atime.

HAND in myar.c, makefile, any other files (not ar.h), in the lab1 subdirectory created in <yourid>/cs350 directory. Include a README to list any optional parts you completed.