

COMP 7500/7506 Advanced Operating Systems

Project 2: pWordCount: A Pipe-based WordCount Tool

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How to count words in a text?

Answer: You may count the number of spaces. Please check the sample code here:

<http://www.sanfoundry.com/c-program-count-words-in-sentence/>

Please also refer to the following discussions documented on `stackoverflow`.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/25746334/count-words-in-a-user-input-string-in-c>


2. Should we consider numbers while counting words?

Answer: Yes, you may consider numbers as a word, because we are counting the number of spaces. For example,

“There were 6 people”: 4 words

“It was a gr8 day”: 5 words.

3. How can I access a remote Linux machine in our college’s computer laboratories?

Answer: If you plan to remotely access Linux machines in our college’s computer lab, please refer to the instructions here: [Programming Environment Setup.pdf](#) .

Module “[Linux Programming](#)” on Canvas contains all the information about programming in the Linux environment.

4. Do we need to account for whitespace such as tab and newline, etc?

Answer: The project specification doesn't have any requirements on (1) special characters (e.g., numbers and punctuation) and (2) upper/lower cases. You may choose to (1) ignore these issues or (2) put an extra effort to handle these cases. I believe your programming skills will be enhanced if you take option (2).

5. I have a Mac. Can I use LLDB rather than GDB as a debugger?

Answer: Yes, you can use LLDB to perform the debugging task on your local Mac.

6. My child process won't run because the parent process ends too fast.

Answer: You should make the parent process waits for all the child processes to finish.

Please follow the sample code here to solve this problem:

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/19461744/how-to-make-parent-wait-for-all-child-processes-to-finish>

7. **C test framework.** Is there a specific unit testing framework that we should be using? (Spring’20)

Answer: I recommend you to use cunit. See sample code and sample usages here:
<http://cunit.sourceforge.net/>. You may, of course, choose to use any unit testing framework.