NPRG041 - 2024/25 Winter - Labs MS - Small Assignment C03

Counter

The subject of this homework is a simple application that will enable the calculation of basic statistics on (almost) natural language texts, e.g., detect the number of letters, words, or sentences. Input text can be gained via the standard input or input files. On the other hand, we need to be able to write the calculated statistics to the standard output or to output files, too.

We could specify the intended inputs and outputs we want to work with, for example, using arguments passed to our application from the command line. We will not deal with this aspect again within the scope of this task, though. We will focus only on the code that will enable the actual processing of input texts and generation of outputs, not on the main function and the related code, which will invoke and control this processing over the intended inputs and outputs.

Specifically, we expect the implementation of a Counter class, which will offer all the necessary functions for processing inputs and outputs, and a Statistics structure, which will allow to preserve values of individual detected statistics. In both the cases, it is necessary to strictly follow the prescribed type names, as well as behavior and interfaces described below.

To process the input files, we will use the std::ifstream interface and function std::getline, to work with the output files, we will use std::ofstream. We must write our code in a way that permits us to work with any other input or output stream in the form of std::istream or std::ostream as well. Everything we need can be found in the standard libraries <iostream>, <fstream>, and <string>.

From the practical point of view, we want to implement the following two pairs of functions, treating them all as public static member functions (methods) of the mentioned Counter class. When designing them, we will use the mechanism of function overloading, when we deliberately name the corresponding functions exactly the same, while ensuring they differ in the number and/or types of their parameters.

- static void process(const std::string& filename, Statistics* data): we arrange loading of the input text to be processed from a given input file determined by its name, and store the detected values within the already prepared instance of the statistics structure
- static void process(std::istream& stream, Statistics* data): the same, only the input text is read from an already open general input stream
- static void print(const std::string& filename, const Statistics* data): we print values of the detected statistics to a specified output file
- static void print(std::ostream& stream, const Statistics* data): the same, only the values are written to an already open general output stream

Regarding the structure of the input text, we have the following assumptions. The entire text consists of an arbitrary number of sentences. They must always end with exactly one punctuation mark, specifically by a dot., question mark?, or exclamation mark!. They may also be potentially separated by any number of spaces. Any number of spaces can also be before the first sentence or after the last one, if any. Sentences contain arbitrarily mixed words and numbers, but at least one of them. Words and numbers as such are always separated from each other by at least one space. Words contain only letters of the English alphabet. Numbers contain only decimal digits and possibly a decimal dot. within decimal numbers. In such a case, there must be at least one digit before and after the decimal dot. We will not work with negative numbers. The text can also contain any number of line breaks, they can only be placed between sentences, words or numbers.

To recognize individual letters and digits, standard functions int std::isdigit(int ch) and int std::isalpha(int ch) from the <cctype> library are to be used. To parse the corresponding numerical values from input strings, we will use functions int std::stoi(const std::string& str, std::size_t* pos) and std::stof, respectively. They are both from the <string> library and have the same interface (at least as for the first two parameters we need), and the same principles of behavior. We need to be careful to correctly detect all the possible error situations should the parsing fail, though. This means that we have to catch both std::invalid_argument and std::out_of_range exceptions, as well as to correctly handle the situation when an otherwise legitimate numeric value would be followed by anything else.

The goal of the input text processing is to detect basic statistics, namely the total number of lines (lines), sentences (sentences), words (words), numbers (numbers), letters (letters), digits (digits), spaces (spaces), and symbols (symbols for question marks, exclamation marks, and dots, including those inside decimal numbers), and also the total sum of all integer numbers (integers) and separately the sum of all the decimal numbers (floats). We will use data types long and double for these sums, respectively, possible overflows will not be checked. The individual numbers found will always be within the maximum range of int or float types, respectively.

To store values of the detected statistics, we will propose the already mentioned structure Statistics. It will only contain the necessary data items (they will be accessible publicly and their aforementioned names and order must both be respected), we will thus do without any methods. Newly constructed instances of this structure must have all the data items implicitly initialized to zero values. When working with them, we will always update their values incrementally, not replace them with new values. This will make it possible to share one instance of the structure (e.g., created locally in the main function) across multiple inputs, therefore, to accumulate the detected values even across multiple gradually processed inputs together.

We will print the statistics in the format illustrated in the following sample output. One record will reside on each line, in particular, its short name, colon, space, and the actual value. Each line will be terminated with a line break std::endl. To write each individual value, we will directly use the stream insertion operator <<. The order and names of individual records must be preserved.

Lines: 3
Sentences: 4
Words: 30
Numbers: 7
Letters: 163
Digits: 20
Spaces: 37
Symbols: 7
Integers: 85
Floats: 23.5

In general, we may assume that input texts are correct in terms of the described structure. However, we must explicitly check for malformed words and numbers, i.e., situations where already commenced words contain digits (e.g., a15), or, conversely, commenced numbers contain letters (e.g., 3.14a). Next, we need to take care of situations where it is not possible to get the value of an otherwise correct number due to an overflow (e.g., 9876543210). Finally, we also have to detect and treat all error situations related to working with files themselves, namely in case of unsuccessful attempts of opening input or output files.

In all the described error situations, we throw a text exception (i.e., an exception of type const char*, not std::string) with a corresponding message according to the following enumeration:

- Unable to open input file
- Unable to open output file
- Invalid word detected
- Invalid integer number detected
- · Invalid floating point number detected

Split your code into individual modules with possible header files. You must place definitions of the prescribed Counter class and Statistics structure into a header file named Counter.h. Submit all the created source files (*.cpp and *.h) except the main file Main.cpp containing the implementation of the main function and related code that you have most likely created in order to experimentally test the prescribed functionality. This file is already a part of the predefined test in ReCodEx, contains the #include "Counter.h" directive, will be compiled together with all the remaining submitted files of your project, and will control the course of the entire test execution.

The main purpose of this task is to verify the ability to work with files and streams in general. It is assumed that all the practices we have already learned are followed, as well as the general requirements we have on the tasks. In particular, focus especially on the following aspects. Again, be careful not to repeat the same or similar fragments of code. We continue to use the size_t type for various counts. Processing of

the input texts needs to be handled in a single pass. Do not use any containers (except for the std::string string itself).

When parsing the values of integer and decimal numbers, do not forget to detect all possible error situations. Functions std::stoi and std::stof are expected to be used, but do not call them directly from the main code, wrap them into their own functions. Simply because you do not want to transfer the responsibility of handling these low-level error situations to the caller.

If you want to propose some other internal functions of your own and they cannot be expected to be usable universally (in other words, they are tied purely to the counter task we are solving), do not introduce them as global functions, but as private static member functions of our Counter class. This entire class exists for exactly this reason, i.e., to encapsulate everything we need to implement our counter in one place.

The process of parsing each line needs to be managed in one pass only. Better save with the proposal of further auxiliary functions, excessive decomposition would not bring any benefits. The counter class must not have any data members (since it would not make sense to store them permanently), the statistics structure, on the other hand, must not have any methods.

Let us also add how to stop entering the input text via the standard input when debugging. Use of CTRL+D suffices on Linux, while CTRL+Z on a separate line and then Enter is needed on Windows.

If you encounter an error signal (which is something other than a return code) while debugging your program in ReCodEx, it means it ran into a serious enough problem that it had to be terminated. The cause in our case will most likely be that you were trying to access positions before the beginning or after the end of your arrays or containers (which also applies to strings std::string), or you are using references or pointers to objects or items that already ceased to exist at that moment.