

NAME

strfile, **unstr** - create a random access file for storing strings

SYNOPSIS

strfile [-Ciorsx] [-c *char*] *source_file* [*output_file*]

unstr *source_file*

DESCRIPTION

The **strfile** utility reads a file containing groups of lines separated by a line containing a single percent '%' sign and creates a data file which contains a header structure and a table of file offsets for each group of lines. This allows random access of the strings.

The output file, if not specified on the command line, is named *source_file.dat*.

The options are as follows:

- C** Flag the file as containing comments. This option causes the STR_COMMENTS bit in the header *str_flags* field to be set. Comments are designated by two delimiter characters at the beginning of the line, though **strfile** does not give any special treatment to comment lines.
- c char** Change the delimiting character from the percent sign to *char*.
- i** Ignore case when ordering the strings.
- o** Order the strings in alphabetical order. The offset table will be sorted in the alphabetical order of the groups of lines referenced. Any initial non-alphanumeric characters are ignored. This option causes the STR_ORDERED bit in the header *str_flags* field to be set.
- r** Randomize access to the strings. Entries in the offset table will be randomly ordered. This option causes the STR_RANDOM bit in the header *str_flags* field to be set.
- s** Run silently; do not give a summary message when finished.
- x** Note that each alphabetic character in the groups of lines is rotated 13 positions in a simple caesar cypher. This option causes the STR_ROTATED bit in the header *str_flags* field to be set.

The format of the header is:

```
#define VERSION 1
```

```
uint32_t str_version;    /* version number */
uint32_t str_numstr;     /* # of strings in the file */
uint32_t str_longlen;   /* length of longest string */
uint32_t str_shortlen;  /* length of shortest string */
#define STR_RANDOM 0x1   /* randomized pointers */
#define STR_ORDERED 0x2  /* ordered pointers */
#define STR_ROTATED 0x4  /* rot-13'd text */
#define STR_COMMENTS 0x8 /* embedded comments */
uint32_t str_flags; /* bit field for flags */
char      str_delim;    /* delimiting character */
```

All fields are written in network byte order.

The purpose of **unstr** is to undo the work of **strfile**. It prints out the strings contained in the file *source_file* in the order that they are listed in the header file *source_file.dat* to standard output. It is possible to create sorted versions of input files by using **-o** when **strfile** is run and then using **unstr** to dump them out in the table order.

FILES

strfile.dat default output file.

SEE ALSO

byteorder(3), fortune(6)

HISTORY

The **strfile** utility first appeared in 4.4BSD.