NAME

opendir – open a directory / readdir – read a directory

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/types.h>

#include <dirent.h>

DIR *opendir(const char *name);

struct dirent *readdir(DIR *dir);
```

DESCRIPTION opendir

The **opendir()** function opens a directory stream corresponding to the directory *name*, and returns a pointer to the directory stream. The stream is positioned at the first entry in the directory.

RETURN VALUE

The **opendir()** function returns a pointer to the directory stream or NULL if an error occurred.

DESCRIPTION readdir

The **readdir()** function returns a pointer to a dirent structure representing the next directory entry in the directory stream pointed to by *dir*. It returns NULL on reaching the end-of-file or if an error occurred. It is safe to use **readdir()** inside threads if the pointers passed as *dir* are created by distinct calls to **opendir()**.

The data returned by **readdir()** is overwritten by subsequent calls to **readdir()** for the **same** directory stream.

The *dirent* structure is defined as follows:

```
struct dirent {
    long            d_ino;      /* inode number */
    off_t           d_off;      /* offset to the next dirent */
    unsigned short  d_reclen;   /* length of this record */
    unsigned char   d_type;     /* type of file; not supported by all filesystem types */
    char            d_name[256]; /* filename */
};
```

RETURN VALUE

The **readdir()** function returns a pointer to a dirent structure, or NULL if an error occurs or end-of-file is reached.

ERRORS

EACCES
Permission denied.

ENOENT
Directory does not exist, or *name* is an empty string.

ENOTDIR
name is not a directory.

NAME

stat, fstat, lstat – get file status

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int stat(const char *path, struct stat *buf);
int fstat(int fd, struct stat *buf);
int lstat(const char *path, struct stat *buf);
```

Feature Test Macro Requirements for glibc (see **feature_test_macros**(7)):

lstat(): _BSD_SOURCE || _XOPEN_SOURCE >= 500

DESCRIPTION

These functions return information about a file. No permissions are required on the file itself, but — in the case of **stat**() and **lstat**() — execute (search) permission is required on all of the directories in *path* that lead to the file.

stat() stats the file pointed to by *path* and fills in *buf*.

lstat() is identical to **stat**(), except that if *path* is a symbolic link, then the link itself is stat-ed, not the file that it refers to.

fstat() is identical to **stat**(), except that the file to be stat-ed is specified by the file descriptor *fd*.

All of these system calls return a *stat* structure, which contains the following fields:

```
struct stat {
    dev_t     st_dev;     /* ID of device containing file */
    ino_t     st_ino;     /* inode number */
    mode_t    st_mode;    /* protection */
    nlink_t   st_nlink;   /* number of hard links */
    uid_t     st_uid;     /* user ID of owner */
    gid_t     st_gid;     /* group ID of owner */
    dev_t     st_rdev;    /* device ID (if special file) */
    off_t     st_size;    /* total size, in bytes */
    blksize_t st_blksize; /* blocksize for file system I/O */
    blkcnt_t  st_blocks;  /* number of blocks allocated */
    time_t    st_atime;   /* time of last access */
    time_t    st_mtime;   /* time of last modification */
    time_t    st_ctime;   /* time of last status change */
};
```

The *st_dev* field describes the device on which this file resides.

The *st_rdev* field describes the device that this file (inode) represents.

The *st_size* field gives the size of the file (if it is a regular file or a symbolic link) in bytes. The size of a symlink is the length of the pathname it contains, without a trailing null byte.

The *st_blocks* field indicates the number of blocks allocated to the file, 512-byte units. (This may be smaller than *st_size*/512 when the file has holes.)

The *st_blksize* field gives the "preferred" blocksize for efficient file system I/O. (Writing to a file in smaller chunks may cause an inefficient read-modify-rewrite.)

Not all of the Linux file systems implement all of the time fields. Some file system types allow mounting in such a way that file accesses do not cause an update of the *st_atime* field. (See "noatime" in **mount**(8).)

The field *st_atime* is changed by file accesses, for example, by **execve**(2), **mknod**(2), **pipe**(2), **utime**(2) and **read**(2) (of more than zero bytes). Other routines, like **mmap**(2), may or may not update *st_atime*.

The field *st_mtime* is changed by file modifications, for example, by **mknod**(2), **truncate**(2), **utime**(2) and **write**(2) (of more than zero bytes). Moreover, *st_mtime* of a directory is changed by the creation or deletion of files in that directory. The *st_mtime* field is *not* changed for changes in owner, group, hard link count, or mode.

The field *st_ctime* is changed by writing or by setting inode information (i.e., owner, group, link count, mode, etc.).

The following POSIX macros are defined to check the file type using the *st_mode* field:

S_ISREG(m)	is it a regular file?
S_ISDIR(m)	directory?
S_ISCHR(m)	character device?
S_ISBLK(m)	block device?
S_ISFIFO(m)	FIFO (named pipe)?
S_ISLNK(m)	symbolic link? (Not in POSIX.1-1996.)
S_ISSOCK(m)	socket? (Not in POSIX.1-1996.)

RETURN VALUE

On success, zero is returned. On error, −1 is returned, and *errno* is set appropriately.

ERRORS

EACCES
Search permission is denied for one of the directories in the path prefix of *path*. (See also **path_resolution**(7).)

EBADF
fd is bad.

EFAULT
Bad address.

ELOOP
Too many symbolic links encountered while traversing the path.

ENAMETOOLONG
File name too long.

ENOENT
A component of the path *path* does not exist, or the path is an empty string.

ENOMEM
Out of memory (i.e., kernel memory).

ENOTDIR
A component of the path is not a directory.

SEE ALSO

access(2), **chmod**(2), **chown**(2), **fstatat**(2), **readlink**(2), **utime**(2), **capabilities**(7), **symlink**(7)