Overview of C Programming – History, Evolution, and Importance

The C programming language was developed in 1972 by Dennis Ritchie at Bell Laboratories. It was mainly designed for developing the UNIX operating system. Before C, programming was done using assembly language, which was difficult to understand and maintain. C provided a balance between high-level programming and low-level system access, making it both powerful and flexible.

Over the years, C evolved through different standard versions such as C89, C90, C99, C11, and C18. These versions improved performance, portability, and reliability of programs.

C is still widely used today because it is fast, efficient, portable, and gives direct control over memory and hardware. Many modern languages like C++, Java, and Python are based on C concepts. It is widely used in operating systems, embedded systems, compilers, device drivers, and system-level software.