Lecture 1: C programming language (English)

C is a general-purpose computer programming language. It was created by Dennis Ritchie and remains very widely used and influential. A successor to the programming language B, C was originally developed at Bell Labs by Ritchie between 1972 and 1973 to construct utilities running on Unix. It was applied to re-implementing the kernel of the Unix operating system. During the 1980s, C gradually gained popularity.

It has become one of the most widely used programming languages, with C compilers available for practically all modern computer architectures and operating systems. C has been standardized since 1989 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). C is a imperative procedural language, supporting structured programming, lexical variable scope, and recursion, with a static type system. It was designed to be compiled to provide low-level access to memory and language constructs that map efficiently to machine instructions, all with minimal runtime support. Despite its low-level capabilities, the language was designed to encourage cross-platform programming.

Since 2000, C has consistently ranked among the top two languages in the TIOBE index, a measure of the popularity of programming languages.

