

C Programming Basics

Lab Session: Introduction to C Language

Course: Operating Systems

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Introduction to C Language

C is a powerful, general-purpose programming language developed by Dennis Ritchie in the early 1970s. It is widely used for system programming and embedded systems because of its speed, portability, and close-to-hardware capabilities.

★ Key Features:

- Simple and efficient syntax
- Structured programming approach
- Close to hardware and memory-level manipulation
- High-performance execution
- Cross-platform portability
- Large support of standard libraries

✅ Topics Covered in This practical session

- Printing output using `printf()`
- Variable declaration and initialization
- Data types: `int`, `float`, `double`, `char`
- Format specifiers: `%d`, `%f`, `%lf`, `%c`, `%s`
- Getting memory size using `sizeof()`
- Accepting user input with `scanf()`
- Performing arithmetic operations: `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `fmod()`
- Assigning values between variables
- Displaying characters and their ASCII values

Practical Code Examples with Output and Explanation

1. Hello World Program

```
#include<stdio.h> //insert library

int main(){

    printf("Hello World!\n");

    return 0;

}
```

Fedora Output:

```
[2021ict108@fedora ~]$ vi first.c
[2021ict108@fedora ~]$ gcc first.c -o first
[2021ict108@fedora ~]$ ./first

Hello World!
```

Explanation:

This is the most basic C program. It includes the standard I/O library and prints Hello World! to the console.

After every edit on the .c file we should run the command : gcc filename.c -o filename.

To Run the program: ./filename

2. Using Integer Variables

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){

    int age = 25;

    printf("%d\n", age);

    age = 31;

    printf("\nNew age: %d\n", age);

    return 0;}
```

Output:

25

New age: 31

Explanation:

We declared an integer variable age, assigned it values, and printed them. %d is used for integers.

here are some other syntaxes used for

%d or %i - integers

%f or %F - float

%lf - double

%c - char

%s - string

3. Variable Assignment Between Two Integers

```
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
int main(){
```

```
    int firstNumber = 25;
```

```
    printf("First number: %d\n", firstNumber);
```

```
    int secondNumber = firstNumber;
```

```
    printf("Second number: %d\n", secondNumber);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Output:

First number: 25

Second number: 25

Explanation:

This demonstrates assigning the value of one variable to another.

4. Multiple Declarations in One Line

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){

    int firstNumber, secondNumber = 25;

    printf("First number: %d\n", firstNumber);

    printf("Second number: %d\n", secondNumber);

    return 0;

}
```

Output (may vary):

First number: 1 (Garbage value)

Second number: 25

Explanation:

firstNumber is declared but not initialized, so it may print a garbage value. Always initialize variables!

5. Using sizeof() and Printing Double

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){

    int age = 10;

    printf("%d\n", age);

    printf("Size: %zu\n", sizeof(age));


    double number = 12.45;

    printf("%.2lf\n", number);

}
```

```
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

10

Size: 4

12.45

Explanation:

sizeof() gives memory size in bytes. %.2lf prints a double with 2 decimal places.

6. Working with float

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){
    float number = 10.9f;
    printf("%f\n", number);
    printf("%.1f\n", number);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

10.900000

10.9

Explanation:

%f displays a float. Use %.1f for one decimal place.

7. Printing Characters and ASCII

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){
    char character = 'z';
```

```
    printf("%c\n", character);  
    printf("%d\n", character);  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output:

z
122

Explanation:

%c prints the character, %d prints its ASCII value.

8. User Input Handling

```
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
int main(){
```

```
    int age;
```

```
    double number;
```

```
    char alpha;
```

```
    printf("Enter your age: ");
```

```
    scanf("%d", &age);
```

```
    printf("Age = %d\n", age);
```

```
    printf("Enter double input: ");
```

```
    scanf("%lf", &number);
```

```
    printf("Number is = %lf\n", number);
```

```
    printf("Enter char input: ");
```

```
scanf(" %c", &alpha); // Note the space before %c to avoid buffer issues
printf("Char is = %c\n", alpha);

return 0;
}
```

Output:

Enter your age: 10

Age = 10

Enter double input: 32.45

Number is = 32.450000

Enter char input: h

Char is = h

Explanation:

We use scanf() to accept different data types from the user. Note the space before %c to clear input buffer.

9. Arithmetic Operations in C

```
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
#include<math.h>
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    float num1, num2;
```

```
    printf("Enter num1: ");
```

```
    scanf("%f", &num1);
```

```
printf("Enter num2: ");  
scanf("%f", &num2);  
  
float sum = num1 + num2;  
float sub = num1 - num2;  
float mul = num1 * num2;  
float div = num1 / num2;  
float mod = fmod(num1, num2);  
  
printf("Add: %.2f\n", sum);  
printf("Sub: %.2f\n", sub);  
printf("Mul: %.2f\n", mul);  
printf("Div: %.2f\n", div);  
printf("Mod: %.2f\n", mod);  
  
return 0;  
}
```

Output Example:

Enter num1: 15

Enter num2: 4

Add: 19.00

Sub: 11.00

Mul: 60.00

Div: 3.75

Mod: 3.00

Explanation:

This code performs all basic arithmetic operations including modulo (fmod() from math.h for float values).

✓ Summary

Today we are focused on :

- How to write, compile, and run C programs
- How variables and types work
- How to handle input/output
- How to use arithmetic operators
- The behavior of format specifiers and sizeof()