VG101: Introduction to Computer and Programming

Week7 Checklist

A short introduction about Linux

History

- DOS vs. Unix
 - o DOS -> MS-DOS -> Windows
 - Unix: MINIX, Linux, macOS
- CLI (Command Line Interface) vs. GUI (Graphical User Interface)

Some useful command in command line (Bash)

- .
- ..
- cd: cd pathname: change directory
- 1s: 1s directory: list files & folders under a directory
- mkdir: mkdir dir: make directory
- rmdir: rmdir dif: remove directory
- rm: rm file: remove file
- cat : cat file : concatenate files
- diff: diff file1 file2: compare the difference of two files
- pwd: print working directory
- man: open manual page
- apt-get install xxx (for Ubuntu) or brew install xxx (for macOS)
- ./executable_filename

Compiling in command line

- What does "compile" mean?
- Compiler
 - o gcc
 - o clang
- Command:
 - o gcc -o executable_filename source_code_filename.c
 - May add some options for compiling
- Example
 - o Compiling command on JOJ: gcc -02 -wall -wextra -werror -pedantic -wno-

• Text + Command Line Compiling vs. IDE

Overview C

C

- A Lower-level higher-level language.
- A procedure-oriented programming language.
- Good for system programming.

C and C++

- C++ is based on C.
- C++ is An object-oreiented programming language.
- C++ integrates many modern programming ideas.

Before we start

- Be prepared to get rid of bad programming habits.
- Submitting program on JOJ that result to an error = Submitting nothing.
- Warning == Error on JOJ.
- Start early.

Features of C

```
/* Filename: helloworld.c */
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    printf("Hello world!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

- Filename: end with .c
- Include header files (libraries)
- A main function with an int as the return value
- ; at the end of each line
- {} as block
- Comment

```
// comment in line

/*
\((0.0)/)
comment as a block
\((=.0)-)
*/
```

- Coding style
- Undefined behavior

Header files

- What is source files (.c) and header files (.h)?
- Library: functions written by professional programers.
- Common libraries:

```
#include <stdio.h> // For standard input and output.
#include <math.h> // For basic mathematic operations like sqrt, sin,
pow.
#include <stdlib.h> // For random number generation and dynamic memory
allocation.
#include <string.h> // For efficient string manipulation.
#include <time.h> // For recording program running time.
```

- Why we need to include library?
- Function: Declaration vs. Definition.
- Include: link multiple files (including library files).

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
#include "myFunctions.h"
```

- Header files: functions declarations written by you.
- Difference between <> and """

main function

- main function is where a program starts executing.
- A program only contains **one** main function.
- main function is not callable for you. (No recursion for main function)
- Return type and return value for main should be int and 0 (non-zero return value is to indicate some errors)

```
int main() // Return type: a integer
{
    // Write your code here
    return 0; // Return value: 0
}
```

- Your program will fail on JOJ if you don't add return type and return value.
- Please **don't** write everything in the main function.

Variable

- A variable need a name, a data type, a value
- Variable name rules similar to MATLAB
- Requires declaration before use
 - Why variable declaration is needed?

```
int a;
float b;
unsigned int c;
char d;
long e;
```

Data types

- char: 8 bits ASCII code representing a character
- int: not guaranteed how many bytes, commonly 4 bytes (32 bits)
- unsigned int
- long
- float & double (both floating point)
- No bool type (logical type) in C. Number 0 = False. Number not 0 = True.

Data type conversion

• C will automatically convert data type if necessary.

```
int a = 1 + 1.5;   // What is the value of a? double b = 3 / 2;   // What is the value of b? double c = 3 / 2.0;   // What is the value of c? int d = a + b + c;   // What is the value of d? char e = 'a'; e = e + 1;
```

• You can manually convert data type.

```
double pi = 3.1415926;
int integerPi = (int)pi; // Convert double into int
```

- Tips: some automatical type conversion may result in some information loss (e.g. long long -> int). It will generate warning, and in JOJ, every warning will be regarded as error:) So in this case, do it type conversion manually to tell the compiler that you indeed intend to do this conversion.
- All the constant in C will be an int by default, and double for float point number

Constant variable

- Require initial value assigned, or the variable is meaningless.
- Changing the value of constant variable causes error.
- Why constant variable? Sometimes we want to garantee we will not mistakely change variable that should remain constant. In future learning, you will see many usage of const and find it is more like a promise that "I will not change this value."

```
const int a=1; // Constant variable must has initial value assigned a=2; // Error!
```

Input / Output

- You must include <stdio.h>.
- Output function: printf
- Input function: scanf

printf

- Similar to MATLAB function fprintf.
- Only print to standard output stream (stdout).
- Use C function fprintf for file output.

scanf

- Similar to MATLAB function fscanf.
- Only scan from standard input stream (stdin).
- Use C function fscanf for file input.
- Visual Studio may require you use scanf_s but it is not a standard library function. It will fail compiling on JOJ.

Operators

Assignment operator: =

- Arithmatic: + , , * , /
- Remainder: %
- No ^ for power, use pow() instead

Syntax sugar (to be lazy)

- increment: ++
- decrement: --
- i++ vs. ++i

```
int i;
i = (i++) + (++i);  // DO NOT write anything like this in real life
```

• Shorthand assignment operators

```
o a += b ⇔ a = a + b
o a -= b ⇔ a = a - b
o a *= b ⇔ a = a * b
o a /= b ⇔ a = a / b
```

• (condition)? expression1: expression2

```
max = (x > y) ? x : y;
```

Logical operators

| operator | operation |
|----------|--------------|
| && | And |
| П | Or |
| ! | Not |
| == | Equal to |
| != | Not equal to |

different with & , | , ^

Control statements

- if, switch, while, for. Similar to MATLAB.
- blocks {}: enclose multiple statesments
- Variable scope: only valid inside block.

- block {} can be omitted if it only enclose one statement.
- Again, Indent is important and useful!

if

- No major difference with MATLAB
- No elseif, use else if

switch

- Fast way to deal with multiple situations.
- break is important. What will happen without break?

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
```

```
int n;
printf("what is the rank of the card (1-13)? ");
scanf("%d", &n);
switch (n)
{
    case 1: printf("Ace\n"); break;
    case 11: printf("Jack\n"); break;
    default: printf("%d\n", n); break;
}
return 0;
}
```

while

- No major difference with MATLAB
- Do-while : another version of while loop.
- while(1) for infinite loop.
- break & continue : same as MATLAB

for

- Most common loop statement
- How to use?

• The above code equals code below:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int i=0;
    while (i<10)
    {
        printf("%d\n", i);
        i++;
    }
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

• What are the scopes of variable i and j if we do this?

```
for (int i=0; i<10; i++)
    DoSomething();
int j;
for (j=0; j<10; j++)
    DoSomething();</pre>
```

• A common mistake

```
for (int i=0; i<10; i++);
    DoSomething();</pre>
```

Function

- Allow code written outside main function
- Syntax:

- Parameter passed by value
- Same variable name can be used in different function (they do not share value)
- If the inside variable share the same name with the outside variable, it will block the outside one
- Use void function if function return nothing.
- Use void parameter if function needs no input parameters. (can be omitted)

Call function in main

- Function declaration should appear above where it is used.
- Function definition can appear after main function.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int add(int a, int b);  // Function declaration, ; required

int main()
{
  int a, b, c;
```

• Put declaration and definition together:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int add(int a, int b)
                     // Function declaration + definition, ";"
not required
{
    return (a + b);
}
int main()
   int a, b, c;
    scanf("%d, %d", &a, &b);
    c = add(a, b);
                              // Call the function
                              // return value stored into variable "c"
    printf("a+b=%d\n", c);
   return 0;
}
```

- Both are OK in this case.
- Sometimes you have to use the former
 - Using function in other .c files, definition written in a .h file.
 - Two functions calling each other.