C for Everyone: Programming Fundamentals Notes

Week 1

Chapter: Example-Marathon

* void in int main(void){} means there are no arguments.

Chapter: Simple input/output – fahrenheit

* %d in scanf(“%d”,&fahrenheit) means integer

celsius = (fahrenheit – 32)/1.8 . Even the two variables are integer. After divided by a float type, the product will also become float type.

Chapter: Simple input/output – miles

* A normal machine is 4 byte machine, int type is 4 bytes.

For a longer bytes int, we can use long long, which is 8 bytes.

Code Practise

Week 1

Example-Circle code: Circle and Area

Example-Marathon: The distance of a marathon in kilometers

Simple input/output-fahrenheit: Conversion of Fahrenheit to Celsius

Simple input/output-miles: Distance of a marathon in yards

Assignment: Fix Dr. P’s mistake (week 1)

Week 2

Chapter: Comments

* How the C compiler works?

First off, there is a preprocessor, which puts it in whatever code is necessary. There’s what’s called the tokenizer, and the tokenizer goes and looks through things and discard the comment.

* There are two comment styles. /\* \*/ and //

Chapter: Keywords

* Special words for the pre-processor like include may not be reserved as the keywords. Also, main is not a reserved/keyword, but a identifier.
* Search keywords in google by typing ANSI C/C++ keyword Table

Chapter: Identifiers

* Identifiers can be interpreted as the name of variables

Chapter: Expressions and precedence (File included)

* Precedence:

\*is higher precedent than binary + and binary –

But unary – and unary + (e.g. +8, and -8) has a higher precedence.

* Associativity:

a+b+c: from left to right -> ((a+b)+c)

a=b=c=3: from right to left -> (a=(b=(c=3)))

Chapter: Expressions and evaluation

c = ++a + b++; d += 5; //

Output: a = 6, b = 8 b = c = 5 + 7 + 1 = 13, d = -12 + 5 = -7

b will perform self-addition after the addition of c is done.

Chapter: Fundamental types and sizeof

* unsigned means rule out the negative numbers (only positive), this type is strictly be used in integers.
* long can be applied to both integers and to the doubles, which is used for large value number.
* 3 types of doubles: float, double, long double. Long double can store the largest value.

Chapter: The integer and floating point types

* Different representation of the same number:

%e or %E print as 1.23456e+00

%f print as 1.23456

%g or %G will represent like %e or %f depending on which one has the shortest representation on printing to the screen.

* float type should use %f in prinf()
* double and long float should use %lf in printf()

Code Practise

Week 2

Expression and evaluation: Expression Evaluation

Declarations: Fundamental Types Declaration and Assignment

Fundamental types and sizeof: Fundamental Types sizeof operator

The char type: Char in c

The int type: Fundamental Types INT

Assignment: Fix Dr. P’s mistake (week 2)

Week 3

Chapter: Logical operators, expressions, and short-circuit evaluation

* short-circuit evaluation:

If one part of conditions already determines the result, we can use else to represent other conditions. It can save a lot of computations.

For example:

if (outside && weather)

printf("\nPlease use an umbrella.\n");

else

printf("\nDress normally.\n\n");

There is only one truth result, so we can use short-circuit evaluation.

* The comparison and relational operator such as >, <, && has a very low precedence. For example, (a<3) && (a>5) will first compare a and 3 and a and 5. Then, operates the && conditions and returns a 0.
* if(!a) equals if(a == 0)

Chapter: The conditional statement if and if-else

* if statement is done by determining the expression equals zero or non-zero value. For example: if (speed < 65). When speed > 65, expression is false and evaluates to 0. Otherwise, it evaluates to 1.

Chapter: The iterative statement while

* The while statement:

while(expression):

statement

If expression is false (0), we omit the statement.

If expression is true (1), we execute the statement and repeat until the expression is false.

* Syntax

e1;

while (e2)

{

statement;

e3;

}

In typical case: e1 is Initializer

e2 is terminating condition

e3 is increment/ decrement

Chapter: The for statement and its while analog

* The for statement:

for (i = 1, i <= 5, i++) :

statement

* Syntax

for(e1, e2, e3):

statement

In typical case: e1 is Initializer

e2 is terminating condition

e3 is increment/ decrement

Chapter: for statement code example

* The initializer is not necessary. For example:

for (; (c = getchar()) != EOF; total\_chars++)

There is no initializer, as the terminating condition gives sufficient information to know when should the loop be ended. ctrl+c to exit the program to reach EOF.

Chapter: oddball operators-conditional and comma

* c = (a < b)? a:b means if (a < b) then c = a; else c = b;
* Syntax

expression 1?expression 2:expression3

Chapter: ternary-operator code example

* In the code practice

speed = (speed <= 65) ? (65) : (speed <= 70) ? (70) : (90);

can be split into two sessions.

(speed <= 65) ? (65) : (speed <= 70) ? (70) : (90)

Means if speed <= 65 then speed = 65, else = the speed is determined by the second sessions.

Then (speed <= 70) ? (70) : (90);

means if speed <=70 then speed = 70, else = 90

Chapter: Break and continue and switch

* Example of switch:

switch (i)

{

case 1: a = 2 \* i; break;

case 2: a = 2 \* i; break;

default: a = 4 \* i; break;

}

break; is to prevent executing the next case.

* The labels in the switch can only be integer types like char, int, long.

Code Practise (Week 3)

Logical operators, expressions, and short-circuit evaluation:

logical operators and short circuit evaluation

Logic operators quiz

The conditional statement if and if-else: if and relations and flow of control

while-cnt-char explained: while-cnt-char-explained

while-code-example: Love you how much

While loop questions

for statement code example: demonstrate loop with for statement

ternary-operator code example: ternary operator and flow of control

Switch questions

Assignment: Fix Dr. P’s mistake (week 3)

Cond-comma-ops quiz

Week 4

Chapter: Function definition

* If a function return type is void, then the function does not need any return statement.

Chapter: Function code example

* void wrt\_very(int count) is the function declaration/signature of the function.

Chapter: Function code example

* return 0; means return of value zero to the operating system and the program finished in an expected or orderly way, a normal exit.
* If the return statement has an integer expression and the function return type is double, then the integer is converted to the double type and returned.

Chapter: Function prototype

* Prototype can be just with the parameter types or with names for the parameters.
* It allows a function declaration to precede a definition.
* For example:

double cube(double); // The prototype

int main() {

a = cube(3.5);

}

double cube(double x)

{

return x \* x \* x;

}

Chapter: Function Prototype – code example

* \t means horizontal tab.

Chapter: Function variables-with call-by-value explained

* call by value means the value of parameter passed into a function is copied and assigned to the local variable inside the function. The original parameter is never changed.
* For example:

int compute(int local\_n)

{

return local\_n\*local\_n

}

compute(n)

In this example, n is call by value. The value of n is assigned to local\_n and the variable n is not changed.

* The difference between call by value, call by address, and call by reference please check
  + <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-call-by-value-and-call-by-reference/>
  + <https://eeepage.info/call-by/>

Chapter: Function definitions and scope rules

* When variable is declared, it’s put on stack, which is the internal way that the compiler manages storage for variables.
* A variable declared in a block has a lifetime throughout this block, but disappears upon block exit.

Chapter: Storage class code example

* extern int reps = 0; extern means global variable that can use in different files.
* static int called = 0; static means global variable that can use in this cpp file.
* The key point in using a local to a function static variable is that its value is retained upon function exit.
* const int Limit = 10; const means the variable should not be changed.

Chapter: Recursion-factorial code

* function main() can be called recursively but it is not common to do so.
* Recursion use “call stack” to manage function call, LIFO (last in first out), so it uses more time and memory than loop
* When we don’t know the total number of the loop, recursion will be suitable to use.
* More info. About recursion:

<https://medium.com/learn-or-die/recursion-%E9%81%9E%E8%BF%B4-%E7%B0%A1%E4%BB%8B-php-%E7%AF%84%E4%BE%8B-6c3aba352772>

Chapter: Recursion Fibonacci code

* Recursive function gives a more logical easier to understand the program. However, it occupies more memory as it uses “call stack”. Hence, using while/for loop may be more efficient than recursive function.
* In the code practice, recursive Fibonacci shows one pitfall in using it versus an iterative calculation: Fibonacci has an exponential number of calls that can lots of stack space and extra time.

Code Practise (Week 4)

Function code example: demonstrate loops with while

Function Prototype – code example: function prototypes

Storage class code example: Storage class

Recursion-factorial code: simple recursion

Recursion Fibonacci code: Fibonacci