

# ROBOTICS CLUB

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
COUNCIL  
IIT KANPUR



# Winter Workshop

## General Programming

Courtesy: Professor Swaprawa Nath (ESC101 Instructor)

# What is Programming?

Computer programming is the process of designing and building an executable computer program for accomplishing a specific computing task.

# The Programming Cycle

1. Write your program or **edit** (i.e., change or modify) your program
2. **Compile** your program. If compilation fails, return to editing step
3. **Run** your program on an input. If output is not correct, return to editing step
  - a. Repeat step 3 for other inputs, if any

# Simple Program

On the first day, we practice the simplest C

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main () {
    printf("Welcome to Robotics Workshop");
    return 0;
}
```

The program prints the message "Welcome to Robotics Workshop"

# Program Components

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

```
int main ()
```

```
{  
    printf("Welcome to  
Programming")
```

```
    return 0;
```

1. This tells the C compiler to include the standard input output library.

2. as printf is the function called to output from a C program. To print a string, enclose it in " " and it gets printed.

"return" returns the control to the caller (program finishes in this case.)

main() is a function. All C programs start by executing from the first statement of

printf("Welcome to Programming"); is a **statement** in C. Statements in C end in semicolon ;



# printf

- printf is the “voice” of the C program
  - Used to interact with the users
- printf prints its arguments in a certain format
  - Format provided by user

# Understand this program?

Program to add two integers (17 and 23)

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main () {
    int a = 17;
    int b = 23;
    int c;
    c = a + b;
    printf("Result is %d", c);
    return 0;
}
```

The program prints the message:

**Result is 40**



# Printing the sum of two numbers

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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO  
THE C COMPILER

```
#include<stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a, b, c;
    a = 5, b = 4;
    c = a + b;
    printf("%d", c);
    return 0;
}
```

5 4  
a b  
9  
c

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK  
TO A HUMAN

I'm speaking English

Hello

a,b,c are variables.

a = 5 and b = 4.

Please add them and put  
the result in variable c.

Please tell me value of c.

Goodbye

# Words

- Made of alphabets
- Used to convey meaning
- English words have fixed meanings
- C *keywords* have fixed meanings
- All other C words (identifiers) have variable meanings
  - They take the meaning you want to give them

# C Keywords

auto	double	int	struct
break	else	long	switch
case	enum	register	typedef
char	extern	return	union
const	float	short	unsigned
continue	for	signed	void
default	goto	sizeof	volatile
do	if	static	while

● Seen  
already

These 32 keywords mean the same across every C compiler

Some compilers reserve a few extra keywords, but those are less important.

# int

- Computers store data in binary code
  - A 0 or 1 is a bit
  - 8 bits make a byte
  - 2/4/8 bytes make a word (depending on architecture)
- The keyword *int* asks the computer to assign one *word* of memory to store an integer value
  - `int a = 34;`
    - `0000 0000 | 0010 0010`
- How many integers can you store using N bits?
- Can only use *int* to store integers in a limited range
  - If you exceed the range, you will get a compilation error



# C Identifier/Variable Syntax

- Can use
  - A – Z
  - a – z
  - 0 – 9
  - The underscore character
- Cannot begin with a number
- A\_3, abcDS2, this\_variable are fine
- 321, 5\_r, dfd@dhr, this variable, no-entry are not



# Keyword Usage

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int else = 3;
```

```
    printf("%d", e
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

This won't work

auto	double	int	struct
break	else	long	switch
case	enum	register	typedef
char	extern	return	union
const	float	short	unsigned
continue	for	signed	void
default	goto	sizeof	volatile
do	if	static	while



# C character constants

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 'B';
    printf("%d\n", a);
    return 0;
}
```

What do you think the output will be?

# ASCII character set

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
32		!	"	#	\$	%	&	'	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/
48	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
64	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
80	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	[	\	]	^	_
96	`	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
112	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	{		}	~	

Translates letters to numbers for the computer to understand.

# Character Constant Operations

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 'C' - '3';
    printf("%d\n", a);
    return 0;
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 'c' - '3';
    printf("%d\n", a);
    return 0;
}
```

# Another Example: Playing with ASCII

A program that converts Capital to small characters

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main(){
    char first = 'D';
    char second = _____;
    printf("__ is now __\n", first, second);
    return 0;
}
```

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# Playing with ASCII

A program that converts Capital to small

```
# include <stdio.h>
int main(){
    char first = 'D';
    char second = first + 'a' - 'A';
    printf("%c is now %c\n", first, second);
    return 0;
}
```

# Tracing the Execution

```
1 # include <stdio.h>
2 int main()
3 {
4     printf("Welcome to ");
5     printf("C Programming");
6     return 0;
7 }
```



After lines  
After lines 5,6

Output:

Welcome to C Programming



- Line numbers of C program are given for clarity
- **Program counter** (reader part of C Compiler) starts at the first executable statement of main
- Program terminates gracefully when main "returns"



# Variables

- A name associated with memory cells (boxes) that store data
- Type of variable determines the size of the memory cell.

int m = 64;

char c = 'X';

float f = 3.1416;

- Variables can change their value during program
- f = 2.7183;

64

88

2.7183

# Variable Declaration

- To communicate to compiler the names and types of the variables used by the program
  - Type tells size of the box to store value
  - Variable must be declared before used
  - Optionally, declaration can be combined with definition (initialization)

`int count;`

Declaration without

initialization

`int min = 5;`

Declaration with

initialization

# Data Types in C

- **int**
  - Some modern compilers use 4 bytes for int
  - Bounded integers, e.g. 732 or 5
- **float**
  - Real numbers, e.g. 3.14 or 2.1
- **double**
  - Real numbers with more precision
- **char**
  - Single character, e.g. a or C or 6 or \$



# Assignment Statement

- A simple assignment statement  
variable = expression / value to be assigned;
- Computes the value of the expression on the right hand side (**RHS**), and stores it in the “box” of the variable on the left hand side (**LHS**)
- = is known as the **assignment operator**
- Examples

```
x = 10;  
ch = 'c';  
disc_2 = b*b - 4*a*c;  
count = count + 1;
```

# Input/Output

- Input: receive data from external sources (keyboard, mouse, sensors)
- Output: produce data (results of computations) (to monitor, printer, projector, ...)



# Input/Output

- **printf** function is used to display results to the user.  
(output) - **voice** of C compiler
- **scanf** function is used to read data from the user.  
(input) - **ear** of C compiler
- Both of these are provided as library functions.
  - **#include <stdio.h>** tells compiler that these (and some other) functions may be used by the programmer.



# Output - printf

string to be displayed,  
with placeholders

\n is the newline  
character.

```
printf("%d kms is equal\nto %f miles.\n", km,  
mi);
```

The string contains placeholders (%d and %f). Exactly one for each expression in the list of expressions.

Placeholder and the  
corresponding variable  
have compatible type.

While displaying the string, the placeholders are replaced with the value of the corresponding expression: first placeholder by value of first expression, second placeholder by value of second expression, and so on.

# Input - scanf

Similar to **printf**: string with placeholders, followed by list of variables to read

& is the **addressof** operator. To be covered later.

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

Note the **&** before the variable name. DO NOT FORGET IT.

- String in " " contains only the placeholders corresponding to the list of variables after it.
- Best to use one **scanf** statement at a time to input value into one variable

# Some Placeholders

Placeholder	Type
<b>%d</b>	<b>int</b>
<b>%f</b>	<b>float</b>
<b>%lf</b>	<b>double</b>
<b>%c</b>	<b>char</b>
<b>%%</b>	<b>literal percent sign (%)</b>

If placeholder and expression/variable type do not match, you may get unexpected results.



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# Special Characters

Escape Sequence	Character	ASCII Value
\0	null	000
\t	horizontal tab	009
\n	new line (line feed)	010
\v	vertical Tab	011
\"	quotation mark	034
\\	backslash	092

# Composite data types

- signed short int = signed short = short (%hi)
- signed long int = signed long = long (%li)
- unsigned int (%u)
- float (%f)
- double (%lf)
- long double (%Lf)

# Comments in C

- Anything written between `/*` and `*/` is considered a comment.

diameter = 2\*radius; `/* diameter of a circle */`

- Comments **cannot** be nested.

`/* I am /* a comment */ but I am not */`

First `*/` ends the effect of all unmatched start-of-comments (`/*`).



# Comments in C

- Anything written after `//` up to the end of that line  
`diameter = 2*radius; // diameter of a circle`  
`area = pi*radius*radius; // and its area`
- Not all C compilers support this style of comments.
  - Our online compiler **does** support it.

# Relational Operators



- Compare two quantities
- Work on **int char float double**

Operator	Function
>	Strictly greater than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<	Strictly less than
<=	Less than or equal to
==	Equal to
!=	Not equal to

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# Examples

Rel. Expr.	Result	Remark
$3 > 2$	1	
$3 > 3$	0	
$'z' > 'a'$	1	ASCII values used for char
$2 == 3$	0	
$'A' \leq 65$	1	'A' has ASCII value 65
$'A' == 'a'$	0	Different ASCII values
$('a' - 32) == 'A'$	1	
$5 \neq 10$	1	
$1.0 == 1$	AVOID	May give unexpected result due to approximation

Avoid mixing **int** and **float** values while comparing.  
Comparison with **floats** is not exact!

# Example

- Problem: Input **3** positive integers. Print the **count** of inputs that are even and odd

○ Do not use if-then-else

```
int a; int b; int c;  
int cEven; // count of even inputs  
scanf("%d%d%d", &a,&b,&c); // input a,b,c
```

```
// (x%2 == 0) evaluates to 1 if x is Even,  
// 0 if x is Odd
```

```
cEven = (a%2 == 0) + (b%2 == 0) + (c%2 == 0);  
printf("Even=%d\nOdd=%d", cEven, 3-cEven);
```

**INPUT**

**10**

**5**

**3**

**OUTPUT**

**Even=1**

**Odd=2**

# Logical Operators

Logical Op	Function	Allowed Types
&&	Logical AND	char, int, float, double
	Logical OR	char, int, float, double
!	Logical NOT	char, int, float, double

## Remember

- value 0 represents false.
- any other value represents true. Compiler returns 1 by default

# Examples

Expr	Result	Remark
2 && 3	1	
2    0	1	
'A' && '0'	1	ASCII value of '0' $\neq$ 0
'A' && 0	0	
'A' && 'b'	1	
! 0.0	1	0.0 == 0 is <b>guaranteed</b> <sup>38</sup>
! 10.05	0	Any real $\neq$ 0.0
(2<5) && (6>5)	1	Compound expr






# Precedence and Associativity

- NOT has same precedence as equality operator
- AND and OR are lower than relational operators
- OR has lower precedence than AND
- Associativity goes left to right
- $2 == 2 \ \&\& \ 3 == 1 \ || \ 1 == 1 \ || \ 5 == 4$  is true
- **Recommended:** use brackets

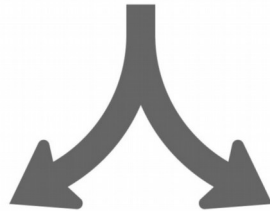
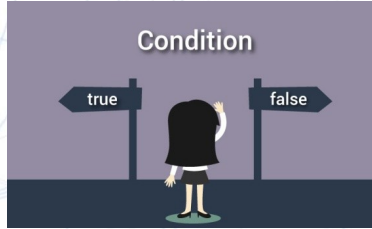
# Operator Precedence



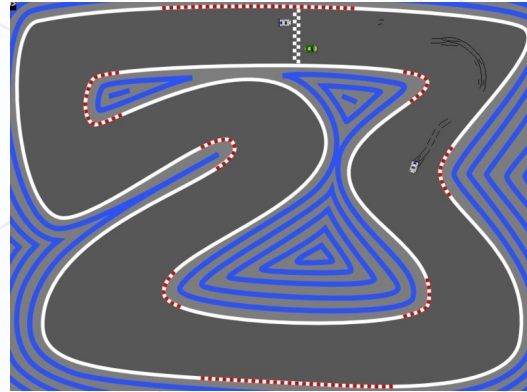
Operators	Description	Associativity
< > >= <=	Relational operators	Left to right
== !=	Equal, not equal	Left to right
&&	And	Left to right
	Or	Left to right
=	Assignment	Right to left

# Control Statements

## ● Branching



## ● Looping



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# Branching Statements in C

- 3 types of conditional statements in C

- if (cond) action

- if (cond) action

- else some-other-action

- switch-case

- Each action is a sequence of one or more statements!

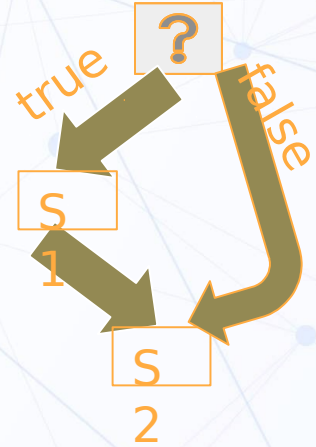
# if Statement

- General form of the if statement

```
if (expression)  
    statement S1  
statement S2
```

- Execution of if statement

- First the expression is evaluated.
- If it evaluates to a non-zero value, then S1 is executed and then control (program counter) moves to the statement S2.
- If expression evaluates to 0, then S2 is executed.

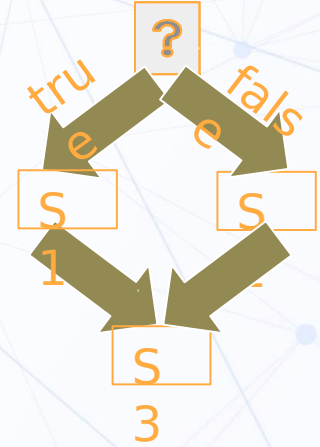




# if-else Statement

- General form of the if-else statement

```
if (expression)
    statement S1
else
    statement S2
statement S3
```



- Execution of if-else statement

- First the expression is evaluated.
- If it evaluates to a non-zero value, then S1 is executed and then control (program counter) moves to S3.
- If expression evaluates to 0, then S2 is executed and then control moves to S3.
- S1/S2 can be a **block** of statements!



# Example

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

int main() {
    int n;
    double m;
    printf("Please enter a positive number: ");
    scanf("%d",&n);
    if (n>0){
        m = log(n);           // natural log
        printf("%f\n", m);
    }
    else
        printf("Why can't you follow instructions?");
    return 0;
}
```

# Nested if, if-else

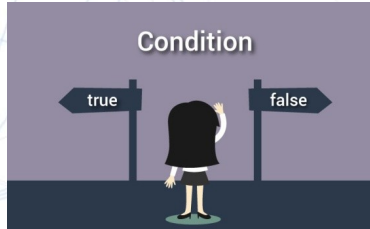
- Earlier examples showed us *nested if-else* statements

```
if (a <= b) {  
    if (a <= c) { ... } else {...}  
} else {  
    if (b <= c) { ... } else { ... }  
}
```

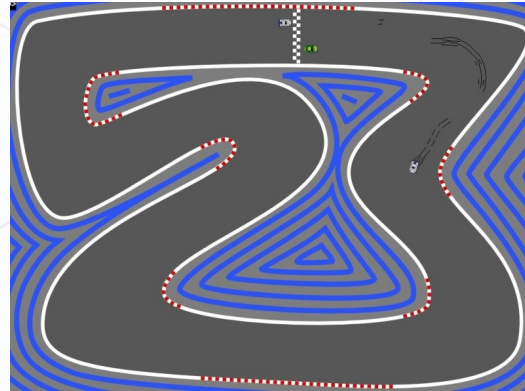
- Because **if** and **if-else** are also statements, they can be used anywhere a statement or block can be used.

# Control Statements

- Branching



- Looping



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# The for loop

Brackets essential if you want to do many things while looping

General form of a for loop

```
for(init_expr; stopping_expr; update_expr){
```

```
    statement1;
```

```
    statement2;
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

```
statement3;
```

```
statement4;
```

```
...
```

**How we usually speak to a human**

1. Do what is told in initialization expression

2. Then check the stopping expression

3. If stopping expression is true

Execute all statements inside braces

Execute update expression

Go back to step 2

Else stop looping and execute rest of the code

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# The for loop

```
for(init_expr; stopping_expr; update_expr){  
    statement1;  
    Statement2;  
}
```

The entire for loop is considered one statement

Can put inside for loops: printf statements, if-else/switch statements, even for loop statement (nested for loop)

**Usually** init\_expr, stopping\_expr, update\_expr involve the same variable, e.g. b in multiplication table example

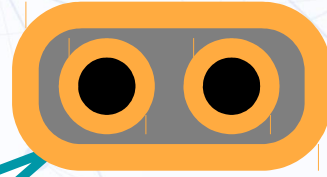
Lovingly called variable of the loop/counter variable



# Print sum of reciprocals of 1, 2, ..., n

Take  $n \geq 1$  from the user and give as output

$$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$$



Oops!  
Integer  
division!

The repeating task can be

*Given the sum of first  $i-1$  reciprocals and add  $1/i$  to it*

Define a variable (let's call it **sum**) to store partial sums

$$\text{sum} = \text{sum} + 1/i;$$

The above task is accomplished by the

$$\text{sum} = \text{sum} + 1.0/i;$$

$$\text{sum} = \text{sum} + (\text{double})1/i;$$

Also called *partial sums* or *running sums*

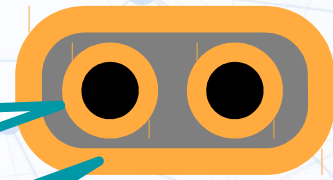


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# Loop Invariant

Very important once loops get more complicated



Notice that in previous slides

Loop invariants are powerful ways to ensure that your loop code is correct!

At the beginning of i-th iteration

$$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{i-1}$$

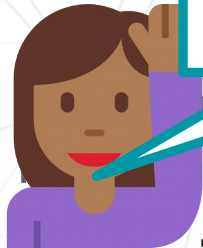
Except

After the

In i-th iteration the string  $2 \times i = 2i$  will get printed

iteration with  $i = 1$ , where sum stored 0  
stored the value

$$\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{i}$$



are known as *loop invariants* – few nice properties that hold for all iterations of a loop

A **loop invariant** is a formal statement about the relationship between variables in a program which is true just before the loop is ever run (established by the programmer)

**Exercise 1:** sum of reciprocals of the first n even numbers

**Exercise 2:** find if a number is prime or not

**Exercise 3\*:** sum of reciprocals of the first n prime numbers

# Some common errors in loops

**Initialization:** forget to do it or else wrong initialization

**Statements:** Note, update\_expr executed **after** statements

**Update:** Forget to do update step or wrong update step

**Termination:** wrong or missing termination

`for(b=1;b<10;b++){...}` not same as `for(b=1;b<=10;b++){...}`

**Infinite loop:** The loop goes on forever. Never terminates.

`for(b=2;b>=1,b++){...}`

# Interesting Exercise

Euler series

$$1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \dots + \infty$$

We know the solution

$$\frac{\pi^2}{6}$$

How should we compute it numerically?