

Programming of Supercomputers Lab

Coding Guidelines

- (1) Indentation should be done with 4 spaces per level and never with tabs. You can set your editor to emit spaces when you hit the tab key.
- (2) Whitespace should be used liberally within expressions, but normally only one space at a time. For example, there should be a space before and after all operators and after every comma.
- (3) Non-ASCII characters should be rare and must use UTF-8 formatting.
- (4) Each line of text in your code should be at most 100 characters long. Be consistent in how you break up the longer lines.
- (5) Use trailing braces everywhere (if, else, functions, structures, typedefs, class definitions, etc.). The else statement starts on the same line as the last closing brace.

```
if (x) {           if (x) {  
  
    }             } else {  
  
                  }
```

- (6) Function names should be descriptive and should normally be a “command” verb, or a verb followed by noun. Avoid starting function names with nouns.
- (7) Function names start with a lower case:

```
void function( int arg1, double r );
```

- (8) In multi-word function names all words should be lower case, with underscores (_) between words:

```
void this_function_does_something(void);
```

- (9) Write a function call on one line if it fits; otherwise, wrap arguments at the parenthesis.

```
bool retval = do_something(arg1, arg2, arg3);  
bool retval = do_something(arg1,  
                           long_argument_2,  
                           arg3,  
                           arg4);
```

- (10) Always indent the following:

- a. Statements within function body
- b. Statements within blocks
- c. Statements within ‘case’ body of switch operators

```
int function(int bar) {  
    switch (bar) {  
        case 0:  
            ++bar;  
            break;  
        case 1:  
            // ...  
        default:  
            bar += bar;  
            break;  
    }  
}
```

- (11) Within functions single empty lines should be used to add clarity, etc. A function or method should never have more than one consecutive blank line within it.
- (12) Write small functions, no longer than 50 lines of code (around 1 page).
- (13) Factor out common code into small functions but don't create too many tiny functions. Each function has to be a coherent unit of work.
- (14) Use a standard header for all functions that is Doxygen compliant:

```
/**
 * Calculate the distribution factor of a dataset.
 *
 * @param nintci start element
 * @param cgup data array for which a factor should be calculated
 *
 * @return resulting distribution factor
 */
double calc_distribution_factor(int nintci, double* cgup)
```

- (15) Variable names start with a lower case character.

```
float x;
```

- (16) In multi-word variable names all words should be lower case, with underscores (_) between words:

```
double max_distribution_factor;
```

- (17) Typedef, Struct and Enum names use the same naming convention as variables, however, they always end with "_t".

```
typedef int fileHandle_t;
struct renderEntity_t;
```

- (18) Defined names and enum constants use all upper case characters with an underscore as a separator:

```
#define SIDE_FRONT0
enum CONTACT_T {
    CONTACT_NONE,
    CONTACT_TRMVERTEX
};
```

- (19) Use 'const' as much as possible. Use:

```
const int *p; // pointer to const int
int * const p; // const pointer to int
const int * const p; // const pointer to const int
```

However, don't use:

```
int const *p; // pointer to const int
```

Note: 'const' applies to whatever is on its immediate left (other than if there is nothing there in which case it applies to whatever is its immediate right)

- (20) Avoid having more than 5 nesting levels. If your code needs more nesting, consider creating a function for some of the nested code.
- (21) Comments should be brief and should explain WHY instead of HOW, i.e., don't restate code in the comments but give reasons why a particular algorithm was chosen, or why a particular data structure is used, or why a certain action must be taken.

References:

Google C++ Style Guide, <http://google-styleguide.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/cppguide.xml>

id Software Coding Style, <ftp://ftp.idsoftware.com/idstuff/doom3/source/CodeStyleConventions.doc>