



C Programming I

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Introduction

What is the C Language?

- A general-purpose, procedural, imperative computer programming language.
- Developed in 1972 by Dennis M. Ritchie at the Bell Telephone Laboratories to develop the UNIX operating system.
- The UNIX operating system, the C compiler, and essentially all UNIX applications programs have been written in C.
- C is the most widely used computer language.
 - Easy to learn
 - Structured language
 - Produces efficient programs
 - Handles low-level activities
 - Can be compiled on a variety of computer platforms
- Most of the state-of-the-art softwares have been implemented using C.
- Today's most popular Linux OS and RDBMS MySQL have been written in C.

What do you need to learn C?

1 C Compiler

- What is a Compiler?
 - A compiler is a computer program (or set of programs) that transforms source code written in a programming language (the source language) into another computer language (the target language, often having a binary form known as object code).
- How does a compiler do?
 - Translate C source code into a binary executable
- List of Common Compilers:
 - GCC GNU Project (Free, available on most *NIX systems)
 - Intel Compiler
 - Portland Group (PGI) Compiler
 - Microsoft Visual Studio
 - IBM XL Compiler

2 Text Editor

- Emacs
- VI/VIM
- Notepad++ (avoid Notepad if you will eventually use a *NIX system)
- Integrated Development Environment: Eclipse, XCode, Visual Studio, etc

Program Structure

Program Structure

A C Program consists of the following parts

- Preprocessor Commands
- Functions
- Variables
- Statements & Expressions
- Comments

A Simple Hello World Code

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{
    /* My First C Code */
    printf("Hello World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Compile and execute the code

```
dyn100077:Exercise apacheco$ gcc hello.c
dyn100077:Exercise apacheco$ ./a.out
Hello World!
```

My First C Code

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{
    /* My First C Code */
    printf("Hello World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

- `#include <stdio.h>` is a preprocessor command.

It tells a C compiler to include `stdio.h` file before going to actual compilation.

- `int main()` is the main function where program execution begins.
- `/* ... */` is a comment and ignored by the compiler.
- `printf(...)` is function that prints `Hello World!` to the screen.
- `return 0;` terminates `main()` function and returns the value 0.

Basic Syntax

Basic C Syntax I

- C is a case sensitive programming language i.e. program is not the same as Program or PROGRAM.
- Each individual statement must end with a semicolon.
- Whitespace i.e. tabs or spaces is insignificant except whitespace within a character string.
- All C statements are free format i.e. no specified layout or column assignment as in FORTRAN77.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main () { /* My First C Code */ printf("Hello World!\n"); return 0; }
```

will produce the exact same result as the code on the previous slide.

- In C everything within `/*and */` is a comment. Comments can span multiple lines.

```
/* this is single line comment */
/* This
is a
multiline comment */
```

Basic C Syntax II

- Always use proper comments in your code. Your code will most likely be handed to someone long after you are gone.
- Comments are completely ignored by compiler (test/debug code)

Data Types, Variables and Constants

Data Types

Basic Types: There are five basic data types

- ❶ int - integer: a whole number.
- ❷ float - floating point value: ie a number with a fractional part.
- ❸ double - a double-precision floating point value.
- ❹ char - a single character.
- ❺ void - valueless special purpose type.

Derived Types: These include

- ❶ Pointers
- ❷ Arrays
- ❸ Structures
- ❹ Union
- ❺ Function

- The array and structure types are referred to collectively as the aggregate types.
- The type of a function specifies the type of the function's return value.

Basic Data Types: Integer

Type	Storage size (in bytes)	Value range
char	1	-128 to 127 or 0 to 255
unsigned char	1	0 to 255
signed char	1	-128 to 127
int	2	-32,768 to 32,767
	or 4	or -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
unsigned int	2	0 to 65,535
	or 4	or 0 to 4,294,967,295
short	2	-32,768 to 32,767
unsigned short	2	0 to 65,535
long	4	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
unsigned long	4	0 to 4,294,967,295

- To get the exact size of a type or a variable on a particular platform, you can use the `sizeof` operator.
- The expressions `sizeof(type)` yields the storage size of the object or type in bytes.

Basic Data Types: Floating-Point & void

Type	Storage size	Value range	Precision (decimal places)
float	4 bytes	1.2E-38 to 3.4E38	6
double	8 bytes	2.3E-308 to 1.7E308	15
long double	10 bytes	3.4E-4932 to 1.1E4932	19

Situation	Description
function returns as void	function with no return value
function arguments as void	function with no parameter
pointers to void	address of an object without type

Input and Output

- C or any programming language in general needs to be interactive i.e. write something back and optionally read data to be useful.
- Similar to Unix, C treats all devices as files.

Standard File	File Pointer	Device
Standard Input	stdin	Keyboard
Standard Output	stdout	Screen
Standard Error	stderr	Screen

- C Programming language provides three functions to read/write from standard input/output

	Unformatted		Formatted
Input	getchar	gets	scanf
Output	putchar	puts	printf

The `getchar()` & `putchar()` functions

- The `int getchar(void)` function reads the next available character from the screen and returns it as an integer.

This function reads only single character at a time.

- The `int putchar(int c)` function puts the passed character on the screen and returns the same character.

This function puts only single character at a time.

The `gets()` & `puts()` functions

- The `char *gets(char *s)` function reads a line from stdin into the buffer pointed to by `s` until either a terminating newline or EOF.
- The `int puts(const char *s)` function writes the string `s` and a trailing newline to stdout.

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

    printf( "Enter a value :");
    c = getchar( );

    printf( "\nYou entered: ");
    putchar( c );

    return 0;
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main( )
{
    char str[100];

    printf( "Enter a value :");
    gets( str );

    printf( "\nYou entered: ");
    puts( str );

    return 0;
}
```

Formatted I/O

- The `int scanf(const char *format, ...)` function reads input from the standard input stream `stdin` and scans that input according to format provided.
- The `int printf(const char *format, ...)` function writes output to the standard output stream `stdout` and produces output according to a format provided (optional).

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

```
int main ()
{
    /* My Second C Code */
    char name[100];
    printf("Enter your name:");
    scanf("%s",name);
    printf("Hello %s\n",name);
    return 0;
}
```

- The format specifier: `%[flags][width][.precision][length]specifier`

flag	meaning
-	left justify
+	always display sign
0	pad with leading zeros

Common Format Specifier

Specifier	Output	Example
%f	decimal float	3.456
%7.5f	decimal float, 7 digit width and 5 digit precision	3.45600
%d	integer	5
%05d	integer, 5 digits pad with zeros	00101
%s	string of characters	"Hello World!"
%e	scientific notation for decimal float	2.71828e+5
\n	insert new line	
\t	insert tab	

Control Structures: for, if & switch

