Lecture 02 Introducing C

CS211 – Fundamentals of Computer Programming II Branden Ghena – Winter 2022

Slides adapted from: Jesse Tov

Administrivia

Office hours have started!

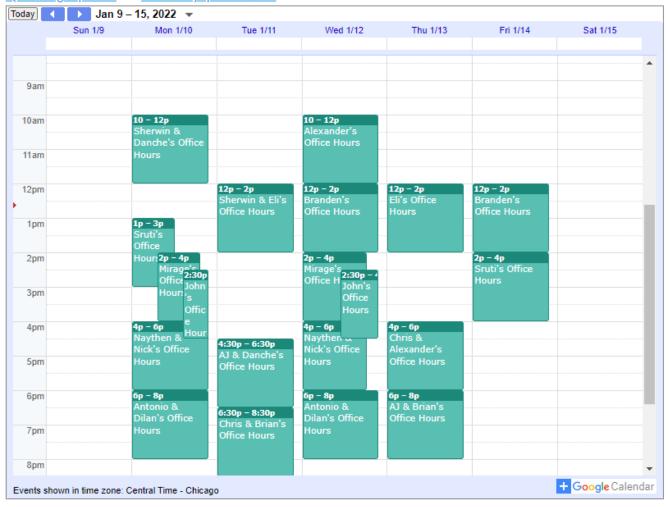
 Check Canvas homepage for calendar

- Everyone should have Campuswire access
 - Email me ASAP if you don't

Office Hours:

Office hours at: https://gather.town/app/RP34SKOkOiqVlpqb/NU-CS211-W22-OH & Password: wildcatcomputerscience

Queue signup form & - Read-only queue status &



Administrivia

- Lab01 is due on Friday
 - More than half of you have finished it already
 - Please reach out if you have problems!
- Lab02 is released today
 - Practice C programming
 - Due on Monday
- Hw01 will be released tonight
 - Due next week Thursday

Today's Goals

- Introduce the basics of C programming
 - Compilation
 - Variables
 - Conditionals (if)
 - Iteration (while and for)
 - Input and Output (printf and scanf)
- Continue practicing use of the shell

Getting the examples from lecture

- First, make your own cs211 directory to store class stuff in
 - cd ~/
 - mkdir cs211
- The files for this class are in a zipped tarball (just like a zip file)
 - We can extract them right into your cs211/ directory
 - cd ~/cs211/
 - tar -xvkf ~cs211/lec/02_intro_c.tgz
 - cd 02_intro_c
 - What does that command do?: https://explainshell.com/explain?cmd=tar+-xvkf+%7Ecs211%2Flec%2F02 intro c.tqz

Outline

- Quick Shell Note
- Hello World in C
- Compilation
- Computing Fibonacci Numbers
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- Iteration
- Other C Syntax
- Input and Output

Reminder: Helpful guides to shell commands

- Great lecture notes on using the shell
 - https://swcarpentry.github.io/shell-novice/
- Tool to explain various shell command syntax
 - https://explainshell.com/
- Tool to explain how to use various shell commands
 - Just type the command into the box at the top
 - https://tldr.ostera.io/

Shell command: sudo

- Superuser do
 - Executes a command with special administrator privilege (superuser)
 - Necessary for installing new programs and modifying the OS
- Run it before a command to execute that command as a superuser
 - Example: sudo rm -rf / (don't run this!)
- You can only use sudo on computers where you are an admin
 - Only use with caution and care. It can destroy your computer
 - You'll never need it for class stuff
 - You are NOT an admin on the class servers! (neither am I)

sudo example

```
branden@moore:~% sudo echo "Sorry Pred, I'm testing this for CS211."

We trust you have received the usual lecture from the local System
Administrator. It usually boils down to these three things:

#1) Respect the privacy of others.

#2) Think before you type.

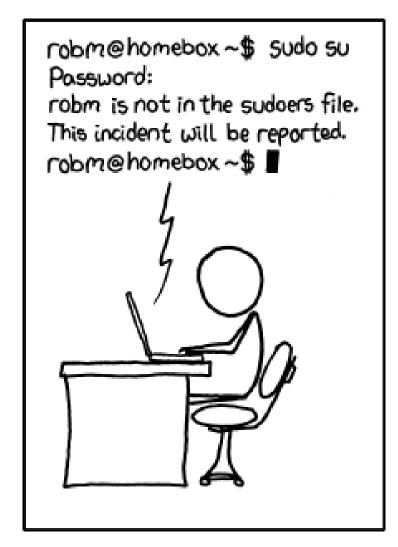
#3) With great power comes great responsibility.

[sudo] password for branden:
```

sudo example

```
branden@moore:~% sudo echo "Sorry Pred, I'm testing this for CS211."
We trust you have received the usual lecture from the local System
Administrator. It usually boils down to these three things:
    #1) Respect the privacy of others.
    #2) Think before you type.
    #3) With great power comes great responsibility.
[sudo] password for branden:
branden is not in the sudoers file. This incident will be reported.
branden@moore:~ [1]%
```

relevant xkcd (but no break, go read this later)







https://xkcd.com/838/

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Hello world C program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
   printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
   return 0;
}
```

Hello world C program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

hello.c

This is the code file where you can find this code!

See slide near beginning on how to get code from today's lecture.

Hello world C program

Hello world C program

Hello world C program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Call to the printf() function

One argument to the function, the string "Hello, CS211\n"

Hello world C program

The printf() function is a part of the standard input/output library, included here

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
    return 0;
}
Call to the printf() function
One argument to the function,
the string "Hello, CS211\n"
```

Hello world C program

Hello world C program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Two special things going on here:

1. main() is a special function name that is called when the program runs

Hello world C program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    printf("Hello, CS 211!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Two special things going on here:

- 1. main() is a special function name that is called when the program runs
- 2. main() returns a number that specifies whether the program succeeded or failed and how
 - 0 means success
 - non-zero means failure
 - specific numbers mean different things to different programs

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How do you "run" C code?

- First, the C code needs to be translated
 - From human-readable source code
 - To machine code capable of being executed on a particular machine (definitely not human readable)
- This translation process is called "compiling"
 - The tool that does it is a "compiler"



What does machine code look like?

- Just a bunch of numbers
 - Your text editor would interpret those numbers as random characters

- The computer processor reads the numbers to figure out which instruction to run
 - This is a version of assembly code
 - See CS213 for way more details

Compiling a C program

- The compiler we'll use is referred to as cc
 - Short for <u>C</u> Compiler
 - It takes in C source code and outputs executable machine code
- •cc hello.c
- ls a.out hello.c
- ./a.out Hello, CS 211!

Let's go to the shell and try it out!

Compiling a C program

- a.out is the default name, but we probably want to use something more memorable
- The -○ flag specifies the output filename for the compiler

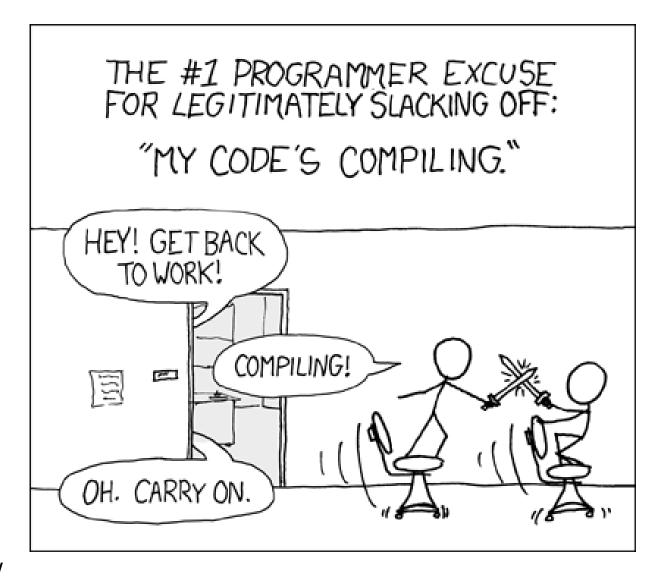
- cc -o hello hello.c
- ls hello hello.c
- ./hello Hello, CS 211!

Remember to compile!

You need to re-compile code every time the source code changes

- You WILL forget to do this at some point
 - And you'll run the program but it'll do the old behavior rather than the new things you've written
- Compile often!
 - Keep multiple windows open to make this easier
 - I write a handful of lines of C code, then compile again
 - Way easier to find one or two mistakes now than deal with MANY later

Break + relevant xkcd



https://xkcd.com/303/

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Definition of Fibonacci Function

•
$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

n	fib(n)
0	0
1	1
2	1
3	2
4	3
5	5
6	8
7	13
8	21

fib.c

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
long fib(int n){
   if (n < 2) {
      return n;
   } else {
      return fib (n - 2) + fib (n - 1);
```

Recursion works in C!

fib.c

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
long fib(int n){
                                        fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
  if (n < 2) {
     return n;
  } else {
     return fib (n - 2) + fib (n - 1);
     if ((test-expr)) { // evaluate (test-expr); then...
       (then-stms) // do these if (test-expr) was true
       (else-stms) // do these if (test-expr) was false
```

Statements can be nested in C

```
if ((first-test-expr)) {
  if ((second-test-expr)) {
    ⟨A-stms⟩
  } else {
    (B-stms)
} else {
  if ((third-test-expr)) {
    (C-stms)
  } else {
    (D-stms)
```

C ignores most whitespace

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
```

```
long fib(int n){
  if (n < 2) {
    return n;
  } else {
    return fib (n - 2) + fib (n - 1);
```

C ignores most whitespace

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
```

```
long fib(int n){
 if (n < 2)
   return n;
  } else {
   return fib(n - 2) +
          fib(n-1);
```

C doesn't care about whitespace

C ignores most whitespace

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

```
long fib(int n){if(n<2){return n;}else{return fib(n-2)+fib(n-1);}}
```

C really doesn't care about whitespace

C ignores most whitespace

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

```
long fib(int n){if(n<2){return n;}else{return fib(n-2)+fib(n-1);}}
```

C really doesn't care about whitespace

But humans do!

So don't write your code this way!!!!!!!!!

A note on style

- A lot of things are *possible* in C, but bad ideas
 - They can make things hard to read
 - They can be a source of bugs in code

We try to provide you with what we think of as "good" C code

- We have a guide to how you should write your C code
 - This is a (small) portion of your grade on each assignment!
 - https://nu-cs211.github.io/cs211-files/cstyle.html

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Values, objects, and variables

- Values are the actual information we want to work with
 - Numbers, Strings, Images, etc.
 - Example: 3 is an int value while 'a' is a char value
- An object is a chunk of memory that can hold a value of a particular type.
 - Example: function f has a parameter int x
 - Each time f is called, a "fresh" object that can hold an int is "created"
- A **variable** is the name of an object
- Assigning to a variable changes the value stored in the object named by the variable

```
int z = 5;

z = 7;

z = z + 4;
```

What happens?

```
int z = 5;
z = 7;
z = z + 4;
```

What happens?

The first statement is a definition.
 It creates an int object,
 names it z,
 and initializes it to the value 5



- What happens?
 - 2. The second statement is an assignment. It replaces the value 5 stored in the object named by z with the value 7.



```
int z = 5;
z = 7;
z = z + 4;
```

- What happens?
 - 3. The third statement is also an assignment. It retrieves the current value of z (which is 7), then adds 4 to it, and then stores the result back in the object named by z.

C: Typed imperative programming

- Imperative programming
 - Each line is a statement that changes the program's state
 - Usually, the values within a variable
- Type System
 - Variables have a type associated with them
 - The type determines qualities of the *object*
 - Example: how much memory it takes up
 - The type specifies what kind of value the variable holds
 - Example: integers, decimal numbers, strings, etc.

Types in C

- Hold an integer number (like 5 or 0 or -3)
 - char, short, int, long, size t, int8 t, int16 t, int32 t, etc.
 - These can also specify signedness
 - unsigned: only 0 and greater
 - signed: negative, 0, or positive
- Hold a decimal number (like 6.238 or 0.00001 or -32566.5)
 - float, double
 - These are always negative, 0, or positive
- Difference between types: how big of a value they can hold
 - short: 0 to 65536 OR signed short: -32768 to 32767
 - int: 0 to 4294967296 OR signed int: -2147483648 to 2147483647
 - We'll have a whole future lecture on why the types are like this

Signed vs unsigned variables

- All "integer" types in C can be signed or unsigned
 - char, short, int, long, etc.
 - Unsigned: only zero or positive
 - Signed: negative, zero, or positive
- Signed is the default! If it doesn't say, it's usually signed
 - An exception is size_t which is unsigned
- Comparing signed and unsigned numbers generates a warning
 - Should make sure they're the same before comparing

Temporarily changing types while comparing

- You can cast a variable to another type during an expression
 - To cast, put a type in parentheses before the variable name

Example

Temporarily changing types while comparing

- You can cast a variable to another type during an expression
 - To cast, put a type in parentheses before the variable name

Example

typedef can be used to make new C type names

- Typedef creates a new type name that is a copy of an existing type
- Typedef keyword is followed by two types
 - First type: the original type name
 - Second type: the new type name

Example:

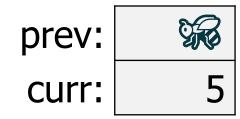
```
typedef int x_coordinate_t;
x_coordinate_t my_variable = 5;
```

```
int prev;
int curr = 5;
int next = 8;
prev = curr;
curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
prev = curr;
curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
prev = curr;
curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
```

```
int prev;
   int curr = 5;
   int next = 8;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
```



```
int prev;
\rightarrow int curr = 5;
   int next = 8;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
   prev = curr;
   curr = next;
   next = prev + curr;
```



```
int prev;
  int curr = 5;
\rightarrowint next = 8;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
```



```
int prev;
 int curr = 5;
 int next = 8;
prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 5
curr: 5
next: 8

```
int prev;
 int curr = 5;
 int next = 8;
 prev = curr;
curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 5
curr: 8
next: 8

```
int prev;
  int curr = 5;
  int next = 8;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 5
curr: 8
next: 13

```
int prev;
  int curr = 5;
  int next = 8;
 prev = curr;
  curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
\rightarrow prev = curr;
  curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
  curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 8
curr: 8
next: 13

```
int prev;
 int curr = 5;
 int next = 8;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev:	8
curr:	13
next:	13

```
int prev;
 int curr = 5;
 int next = 8;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev:	8
curr:	13
next:	21

```
int prev;
 int curr = 5;
 int next = 8;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
 prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
\rightarrow prev = curr;
 curr = next;
 next = prev + curr;
```

prev:	13
curr:	13
next:	21

```
int prev;
  int curr = 5;
  int next = 8;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
\rightarrow curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 13
curr: 21
next: 21

```
int prev;
  int curr = 5;
  int next = 8;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
  next = prev + curr;
  prev = curr;
  curr = next;
next = prev + curr;
```

prev: 13
curr: 21
next: 34

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Statements and Conditions aren't enough

- Those lines of code were actually implementing Fibonacci!
 - And they were doing it without requiring any recursion
- Problem: it's really repetitive to have to write out the same lines of code again and again
- Solution: Iteration

Iteration with the While Statement

Syntax

```
while ((test-expression)) {
    (body-statements)
}
```

Semantics

- 1. Evaluate (test-expression) to a bool
- 2. If the bool is false then skip to the statement after the while loop
- 3. Execute (body-statements) (if the bool was true)
- 4. Go back to step 1

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
long fib iterative(int n) {
    long curr = 0;
    long next = 1;
    while (n > 0) {
        long prev = curr;
        curr = next;
        next = prev + curr;
        n = n - 1;
    return curr;
```

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

67

For loops

- For loops allow you to combine iteration and incrementing
 - When you write a for statement like this:

```
for ((start-decl); (test-expr); (step-expr)) {
  (body-stms)
• It's as if you'd written this while statement:
  ⟨start-decl⟩;
  while ((test-expr)) {
    (body-stms)
    (step-expr);
```

```
long fib iterative(int n) {
    long curr = 0;
    long next = 1;
    while (n > 0) {
        long prev = curr;
        curr = next;
        next = prev + curr;
        n = n - 1;
    return curr;
```

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

```
long fib iterative(int n) {
    long curr = 0;
    long next = 1;
    int i = 0;
    while (i < n) {
        long prev = curr;
        curr = next;
        next = prev + curr;
        i = i + 1;
    return curr;
```

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

```
long fib iterative(int n) {
    long curr = 0;
    long next = 1;
    int i = 0;
    for (; i < n; ) {
        long prev = curr;
        curr = next;
        next = prev + curr;
        i = i + 1;
    return curr;
```

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

```
long fib iterative(int n) {
    long curr = 0;
    long next = 1;
    // int i = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; ) {</pre>
        long prev = curr;
        curr = next;
        next = prev + curr;
        i = i + 1;
    return curr;
```

$$fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}$$

fib.c

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
long fib iterative(int n) {
     long curr = 0;
     long next = 1;
     for (int i = 0; i < n; i = i + 1) {
           long prev = curr;
           curr = next;
           next = prev + curr;
//i = i + 1;
     return curr;
```

fib.c

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
long fib iterative(int n) {
     long curr = 0;
     long next = 1;
     for (int i = 0; i < n; i = i + 1) {
          long prev = curr;
          curr = next;
          next = prev + curr;
     return curr;
```

- What value will this code return when called as:
 - loop_function(6)
 - loop_function(5)
 - loop_function(3)

```
int loop_function(int test) {
  int retval = 0;
  while (test < 5) {
    retval = retval + 1;
    test = test + 1;
  }
  return retval;
}</pre>
```

What value will this code return when called as:

```
loop_function(6)
                       returns 0
 loop_function(5)
 loop_function(3)
int loop function(int test) {
  int retval = 0;
  while (test < 5) {
    retval = retval + 1;
    test = test + 1;
  return retval;
```

What value will this code return when called as:

```
loop_function(6)
                       returns 0
 loop_function(5)
                       returns 0
 loop_function(3)
int loop function(int test) {
  int retval = 0;
  while (test < 5) {
    retval = retval + 1;
    test = test + 1;
  return retval;
```

What value will this code return when called as:

```
loop_function(6)
                        returns 0
 loop_function(5)
                       returns 0
 loop_function(3)
                        returns 2
int loop function(int test) {
  int retval = 0;
  while (test < 5) {
    retval = retval + 1;
    test = test + 1;
  return retval;
```

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C comments

- // means a single-line comment
- /* starts a multiline comment, which continues until */

- How to use comments effectively
 - Comment "blocks" of code with their purpose
 - Every line is too much
 - Often helpful to write the comments before the code as planning
 - Comment tricky bits of code so you know what it means
 - You + several weeks = "what does that code mean?!"

Logical operators

- || &&
 - Logical OR, and Logical AND
 - a < 5 && b > 12
-]
- Logical NOT
- ! (a < 5) equivalent to (a >= 5)
- ==
 - Equality test
 - 5 == 5 **-> TRUE**
 - 16 == -3 **-> FALSE**
 - Don't mix it up with assignment (single equals sign)
 - Really common new C programmer mistake

Other operators you'll see around

- += *= -= /=
 - Perform the action of VAR = VAR operator ARG
 - a += 5 **->** a = a + 5
 - a *= b -> a = a * b
- %
 - Modulus operator
 - Returns the remainder of division
 - 12 % 10 **-> 2**
- ~ | & ^
 - Bitwise NOT, OR, AND, and XOR (you'll learn these in CS213)
 - Importantly, ^ is not exponentiation!!!

Adding and Subtracting one

- ++ --
 - Shorthand for plus 1 or minus 1
 - ++a -> a += 1 -> a = a + 1
- The auto-increment/decrement operators can go before or after the variable
 - (--x) subtracts one and returns the new value of x from the expression
 - (x--) subtracts one but returns the *old* value of x from the expression
 - Usually, this doesn't matter, unless you write complicated statements that combine assignment and conditions
 - if (--x > 0) ... (please just never do this)

fib.c

Implementing Fibonacci in C

```
fib(n) = \begin{cases} n, & if \ n < 2; \\ fib(n-2) + fib(n-1), & otherwise \end{cases}
long fib iterative(int n) {
     long curr = 0;
     long next = 1;
     for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) { // i++ also works
          long prev = curr;
          curr = next;
          next = prev + curr;
     return curr;
```

Ternary Operator

- ? :
 - Shorthand version of an if statement, determining result of expression
 - Example:

```
• return (a < 5) ? a : b;
```

equivalent to

```
• if (a < 5) {
    return a;
} else {
    return b;
}</pre>
```

• You won't need to use this. Usually, it just makes code harder to read.

Outline

- Quick Shell Note
- Hello World in C
- Compilation
- Computing Fibonacci Numbers
- Variables
- Iteration
- Other C Syntax
- Input and Output

printf() function

- The usual way to print in C is the printf() function
 - Takes a format string followed by arguments to interpolate in place of the string's format specifiers

```
printf("(%d, %d)\n", x, y);
%d format specifier means the argument is an int
```

Prints " (" + the value of x + ", " + the value of y + ") \n "

• printf() is in the stdio.h library, which needs to be #include-ed

output.c

Example: formatted output

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
  int x = 5;
  double f = 5.1;
  printf("sizeof x: %zu bytes\n", sizeof(x));
  printf("sizeof f: %zu bytes\n", sizeof(f));
  printf("x: %d\nf: %.60e\n", x, f);
```

- A format specifier gives the argument's type and maybe some options
 - %zu type: size t (the return result of size of)
 - %d **type:** int
 - %.60e type: double, include 60 digits of precision

How do you learn format specifiers?

- You look them up in a guide!
 - Even I don't have them memorized...
- man 3 printf
 - Runs in the terminal
 - Shows details about printf
- google "printf format specifiers" (this is what I do)
 - cplusplus.com is a good resource
 - https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/cstdio/printf/

Reading user input

- To input numbers in C, use the scanf() function
- scanf reads keyboard input, converts it to the require type, and stores it in an existing variable:

```
int x = 0;
scanf("%d", &x);
```

- Like printf(), scanf() uses a format string to determine what type to convert the input into
- &x means to pass x's location, not its value (more on this next week)
- Careful: scanf() directives aren't exactly the same as printf()

input.c

Example: reading input

```
#include <stdio.h>
double sqr dbl(double n) {
  return n * n;
int main(void){
  double d = 0.0;
  scanf("%lf", &d);
  printf("%lf squared is %lf\n", d, sqr dbl(d));
```

multi_input.c

Example: reading multiple items

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void){
  int x;
  int y;
  printf("Enter two integers: ");
  scanf("%d%d", &x, &y);
 printf("%d * %d = %d\n", x, y, x * y);
```

check_input.c

What if scanf() has an error?

• scanf() returns the number of successful conversions

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
  int x
  int y;
  printf("Enter two integers: ");
  if (scanf("%d%d", &x, &y) != 2) {
   printf("Input error\n");
    return 1;
 printf("%d * %d == %d\n", x, y, x * y);
```

You now know the basics of C programming!

- We're missing a few simple things
 - You'll practice those in Lab02 and Hw01
 - Structs!

- We're missing some advanced features
 - We'll cover those next week

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