

CS2013 Systems Programming

(Lab 1) Overview and Administrative information

Department of CSE, IIT Palakkad

IIT Palakkad

July 31, 2025

Quiz 1 (15 minutes)

1. What is the output of the following python code ?

```
>>> 0.1 + 0.2
```

2. Following python function checks if input is a multiple of 3. Complete it.

```
def isMultOfThree(n):  
    # Write code
```

3. Following python function checks if input is a power of 3. Complete it.

```
def isPowerOfThree(n):  
    # Write code
```

Do not copy the question

Course details

- Course code - CS2013
- Course title - **Systems Programming**

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- What is this course about ?
- What will be covered ?
- Why is it core course ?

Locations, staying updated and the Team

- Location: A01-109, Computer Lab, Academic Building, Sahyadri Campus, IIT Palakkad
- Time: 2.00 PM to 6.00 PM
- **Slides will be available in moodle**

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Teaching team

- Instructor - Dinesh (kdinesh@iitpkd.ac.in)
- TAs - Anna Merry (SoCD) and Kiran Babu (Direct PhD)

Session plan

- Lecture part . . .
- . . . followed by hands-on session

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- Each lab session is 1 theory session + 3 x 1 hr lab sessions
 - 2.00 – 2.15 : Quiz
 - 2.15 – 3.00 : Lecture + Lab
 - 3.00 – 4.00 : Lab
 - 4.00 – 5.00 : Lecture + Lab
 - 5.00 – 6.00 : Lab (Eval)
- Internet cut during the session

Evaluation policy

Evaluation (#)	Activity	Weight	When
Cont. (13)	In-lab assessment	25%	
	Weekly lab quiz	5%	15 minutes @ start
Term (3)	Lab test 1	15%	Likely on Sep 11
	Lab test 2	15%	Likely on Oct 16
	End exam	40%	Likely on Nov 15 - 17

- References – Web articles and links. See Moodle / Mailing list
- Textbook - **Computer Systems** – A programmer's perspective (Bryant, O'Hallaron)
- Copies available in Sahyadri library

Expectations

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- Expected to complete take-home assignments and readings
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- Check mailing list (cs2013-2025@googlegroups) !
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- Mental model: how computer works
- Help explain behaviour of a computer
- Connects to ...
 - Data Structures and Algorithms
 - Compilers
 - Computer Architecture
 - Databases, Networking
 - ... and so on
- **Related course** - FoCS (for BTech CS)

Outcomes of the course

- Automate boring tasks: scripting
- Maintaining code bases, versioning
- C / C++ programming
- Comfortable with Unix environment
- Testing, Debugging and Profiling
- Unix Philosophy and Hacker mindset
- **Engineer vs Technician**

Tentative Schedule

#	Day	Topic
01	July 31	Overview; Using ssh; Basic shell scripting
02	Aug 02	Advanced shell scripting; Version control git
03	Aug 07	Basics of C programming; Pointers
	Aug 14	Solving problems via C programming - I
04	Aug 21	Solving problems via C programming - II
05	Aug 28	Advanced C programming
06	Sep 04	Functions; Calling conventions; Recursion
08	Sep 18	User defined types and its use
09	Sep 25	Debugging (gdb) and handling memory leaks (valgrind)
10	Oct 09	Coding across multiple files; Makefile
12	Oct 23	Coding across multiple files; Testing
13	Oct 30	Basics of C++ ; OOP ; Overloading
14	Nov 06	Templates; STL in C++
15	Nov 13	Multithreading in C; Profilers (gprof) / Buffer session

Mental model of how computer works

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- Open-source (FOSS)
 - Freedom 0 - ... to run for any purpose
 - Freedom 1 - ... to study how the program runs and change it
 - Freedom 2 - ... to distribute copies
 - Freedom 3 - ... to distribute modified version to other
- Operating Systems - Windows, Mac, Linux
- Kernel - Linux kernel, Mach kernel
- Distributions - Fedora, Ubuntu, Nix, Debian, Arch
- GNU - FOSS collection