minIni

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MININI is a programmer's library to read and write "INI" files in embedded systems. MININI takes little resources, has a deterministic memory footprint, and can be configured for various kinds of file I/O libraries.

The principal purpose for MININI is to be used on embedded systems that run on an RTOS (or even without any operating system). MININI requires that such a system provides a kind of storage and file I/O system, but it does not require that this file I/O system is compatible with the standard C/C^{++} library —indeed, the standard library is often too big and resource-hungry for embedded systems.

Contents

[NTRODUCTION	1
Limitations	1
INI file syntax	1
Using minIni	
The "glue" file	3
Multi-tasking	7
Key and section enumeration	7
FUNCTION REFERENCE	8
Appendices	15
A: Example glue files	
B: License	19
[NDEX	21

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The MININI library was derived in part from the article "Multiplatform .INI Files" by Joseph J. Graf in the March 1994 issue of Dr. Dobb's Journal.

The examples and programs in this manual have been included for their instructional value. They have been tested with care, but are not guaranteed for any particular purpose.

Introduction

MININI is a library to read and write simple configuration files with a format compatible with "INI" files. The MININI library features a small code size footprint and it requires little resources (e.g. RAM). It is therefore suitable for use in (small) embedded systems.

INI files are best known from Microsoft Windows, where functions like GetProfileString and WriteProfileString read from and write to INI files. The functions in MININI are modelled after the functions of the Windows SDK, but they are not fully compatible with them.

Although the main feature of MININI is that it is small and minimal, it has a few other features:

- ♦ MININI supports reading keys that are outside a section, and it thereby supports configuration files that do not use sections (but that are otherwise compatible with INI files).
- ♦ Section and key enumeration are supported.
- ♦ You may use a colon to separate key and value; the colon is equivalent to the equal sign. That is, the strings "Name: Value" and "Name=Value" have the same meaning.
- ♦ Trailing comments (i.e. behind a key/value pair on a line) are allowed. The hash character ("#") is an alternative for the semicolon to start a comment.
- ♦ When writing a value that contains a comment character (";" or "#"), that value will automatically be put between double quotes; when reading the value, these quotes are removed. When a double-quote itself appears in the setting, these characters are escaped.
- ♦ Flexible rational number support, either fixed-point or floating-point.
- \diamond Since writing speed is *much* lower than reading speed in Flash memory (SD/MMC cards, USB memory sticks), MININI caches "file writes" to optimize performance, and it does so in a way that does not require extra memory.

Limitations

MININI's design is aimed at being full-featured while using a small and deterministic memory footprint. It is not optimized for speed. On performance-sensitive code, I advice to read any values or settings that are needed ahead of the time and to store these in variables.

Specifically, MININI does not cache any key/value pairs that it reads from the INI file. It also does not keep the INI file open between calls; MININI closes the file after every read or write operation. When writing to an INI file, MININI creates a temporary file into which it copies (with modifications) the original file. On success, it deletes the original file and renames the temporary file back.

INI file syntax

INI files have a simple syntax with name/value pairs in a plain text file. The name must be unique (per section) and the value must fit on a single line. An INI file is commonly separated into sections —in MININI, this is optional. A section is a name between square brackets, like "[Network]" in the example below.

Listing: Example INI file

[Network] hostname = My Computer address = dhcp dns = 192.168.1.1

2 — INI file syntax

In the API and in this documentation, the "name" for a setting is denoted as the *key* for the setting. The key and the value are separated by an equal sign ("="). MININI supports the colon (":") as an alternative to the equal sign for the key/value delimiter.

Section and key name comparisons are case insensitive in MININI (as is the case in the Microsoft Windows API). In the INI file, you may type "DNS = 192.168.1.1" equally well (and meaning the same thing) as "dns = 192.168.1.1".

Leading a trailing spaces around values or key names are removed. If you need to include leading and/or trailing spaces in a value, put the value between double quotes. The ini_gets function strips off the double quotes from the returned value. Function ini_puts adds double quotes if the value to write contains trailing white space (or special characters).

MININI ignores spaces around the "=" or ":" delimiters, but it does not ignore spaces between the brackets in a section name. In other words, it is best not to put spaces behind the opening bracket "[" or before the closing bracket "]" of a section name.

Comments in the INI must start with a semicolon (";") or a hash character ("#"), and run to the end of the line. A comment can be a line of its own, or it may follow a key/value pair.

Using minIni

The first step in using MININI is making sure that it compiles. The library consists of only one C file and two header files, so the amount of configuration to do is minimal. If you cannot use the standard C/C⁺⁺ library, there is, however, a configuration file (or "glue" file) that you must make or customize; this file is explained in the next section. The MININI distribution comes with a default configuration file that maps to the standard C library (specifically the file I/O functions from the "stdio" package) and example glue files for two embedded file system libraries for embedded systems —see appendix A of this manual.

Once you have a good glue file, you can add the source file of MININI to your project and include the header file "minIni.h" in your source code files. In your source code, you can then use the functions in the MININI library to read text and values from INI files and to write text and values to an INI file. See the function reference for details.

MININI uses string functions from the standard C/C^{++} library, including one function that is not in the ANSI C standard: strnicmp. On the Unix and Linux platforms, this function is usually called strncasecmp. If you are using a GNU GCC compiler, but you are not compiling for a Linux or "BSD" platform, you may need to define strnicmp as strncasecmp in the glue file (see below). If your compiler provides neither strnicmp nor strncasecmp, you can use a portable implementation in MININI by defining the macro PORTABLE_STRNICMP in the glue file (or on the compiler command line).

A notable limitation of MININI is that there is a (fixed) maximum length of a line that can be read from an INI file. This maximum length is configurable (at compile-time, not at run-time) and it may be short on embedded systems—see page 4.

When running in an Unicode environment or when moving the INI file across platforms, there may be other considerations concerning the use of MININI—see the relevant sections in this chapter, specifically page 6.

The "glue" file

The MININI library must be configured for a platform with the help of a so-called "glue file". This glue file contains macros (and possibly functions) that map file reading and writing functions used by the MININI library to those provided by the operating system. The glue file must be called "minGlue.h".

One general configuration is whether internal error checking via "assertions" is active. The MININI library uses the assert macro to help catch errors in the MININI library and/or catch errors in how the application interfaces with the MININI library. To build a release version, one typically recompiles all source code with the NDEBUG macro set.

In the case that your (embedded) platform lacks an assert.h file, you may want to define NDEBUG in the minGlue.h file.

• I/O functions

The MININI source code requires functions from a file I/O library to perform the actual reading and writing. This can be any library; MININI does not rely on the availability of a standard C library, because embedded operating systems may have limited support for file I/O. Even on full operating systems, separating the file I/O from the INI format parsing carries advantages, because it allows you to cache the INI file and thereby enhance performance.

The functions that you need to implement, or map to standard file I/O functions are:

Listing: Functions to map in the "glue file"

```
int ini_openread(const char *filename, INI_FILETYPE *file)
int ini_openwrite(const char *filename, INI_FILETYPE *file)
int ini_close(INI_FILETYPE *file)
int ini_read(char *buffer, size_t size, INI_FILETYPE *file)
int ini_write(char *buffer, INI_FILETYPE *file)
int ini_rename(const char *source, const char *dest)
int ini_remove(const char *filename)
int ini_tell(INI_FILETYPE *file, INI_FILEPOS *pos)
int ini_seek(INI_FILETYPE *file, INI_FILEPOS *pos)
```

All functions should return zero on failure and a non-zero value on success. For examples of "implementations" for the above functions, see appendix A on page 15.

The INI_FILETYPE type used in the above "glue" functions, must also be defined in the glue file. If you are using the standard C/C^{++} file I/O library, this is the "FILE*" type of the standard C/C^{++} file I/O library. On embedded systems with a different I/O library, chances are that you need a different handle or "structure" to identify the storage. For example:

```
#define INI_FILETYPE HANDLE
```

The MININI functions will declare variables of the INI_FILETYPE type and pass these variables to sub-functions (including the glue interface functions) by reference.

For read-only support of INI files (see also page 5), only the macros/functions ini_openread, ini_close and ini_read are needed. The other functions are only needed for writing support. The type that holds the "file position" (for functions ini_tell and ini_seek) must be declared as well. For applications that use the standard C/C⁺⁺ file I/O library functions fgetpos and fsetpos, this is the fpos_t type.

```
#define INI_FILEPOS fpos_t
```

Function ini_openread can only open an existing file, and it opens it for reading only. Function ini_openwrite must create a new file, or delete and re-create an existing file. The definition of the function ini_openrewrite is optional; if available, it is used to open an existing file for writing, but without truncating the file (many libraries call this "read + write mode"). Function ini_openrewrite allows for an optimization in the special case that an update of a setting does not cause the file length to be changed.

On Microsoft Windows and DOS, files can be opened in either "text mode" or in "binary mode", and this relates mostly on the line termination translation. Despite INI files being text files, it is advised to open the INI file in binary mode.

See see appendix A on page 15 for examples of glue files for various file systems.

Buffer size (maximum line length)

Another item that needs to be configured is the buffer size. The functions in the MININI library allocate this buffer on the stack, so the buffer size is directly related to the stack usage. In addition, the buffer size determines the maximum line length that is supported in the INI file and the maximum path name length for the temporary file (for writing support). For example, minGlue.h could contain the definition:

The above macro limits the line length of the INI files supported by MININI to 512 characters.

The buffer size declared here is also the size of the "write cache" that MININI uses to optimize performance on file writes.

• Read-only support

In its default configuration, MININI supports both reading and writing INI files. If your application does not require write support, you can add a setting to the minGlue.h file to strip out the unneeded code.

```
#define INI_READONLY
```

When writing a setting to an INI, MININI writes it to a temporary file, copies the other sections and keys from the original INI file, and then deletes the original file and renames the temporary file to the name of the original file. This approach uses the least amount of memory. The path name of the temporary file is the same as the input file, but with the last character set to a tilde ("~").

Furthermore, when writing to the temporary file, MININI on repeatedly looks ahead in the INI and jumps back to a position that it marked earlier. The goal of this design is to minimize the number of inidividual "write actions" to the file, because on Flash memory (and EEPROM memory), writing is an order of magnitude slower than reading.

• Rational number support

MININI optionally supports reading and writing single-precision floating point values —see functions ini_getf and ini_putf. Embedded processors may lack floating point hardware and software emulation of floating-point operations may be too costly in resources (memory). For these platforms, alternatives are to switch to a fixed-point representation or, when rational numbers are not relevant for the project, to disable the rational number support in MININI altogether.

To enable rational number support, a macro for the type and macros or interface functions for number-to-text conversions must be added to minGlue.h. For the standard C/C^{++} library, you can add the following definitions to the glue file:

For a different representation of rational numbers, only the definitions in minGlue.h have to changes. The following example is based on the "fixedptc" library by Ivan Voras.

```
#define INI_REAL fixedpt
#define ini_ftoa(string,value) fixedpt_str((value),(string))
#define ini_atof(string) fixedpt_val((string))
```

To disable rational number support, remove the declaration macro for the INI_REAL type from the minGlue.h file.

• Unicode (enable/disable)

MININI can be compiled with Unicode support, but it delegates storing the actual characters to the "glue" routines. Although you can use standard Unicode file reading and writing routines to create and query INI files in Unicode text format, it is advised to keep the INI file format as ASCII, for best compatibility with other implementations. To store Unicode characters in the ASCII file, convert the Unicode data to (and from) UTF-8 (the MININI library does not provide functions for this conversion).

It is advised to keep the section and key names as ASCII or ANSI Latin-1; only the "values" of each key should be encoded as UTF-8.

Currently, all distributions of Linux lack a header file called tchar.h which adds a portability layer for source code that can be compiled as ASCII or as Unicode. MININI relies on tchar.h when compiling for Unicode. Therefore, when compiling a Unicode application under Linux, you have two options: create a minimal version of tchar.h yourself, or compile MININI for the 8-bit ANSI character set, while the remainder of the application is Unicode. To force-compile MININI for ANSI, add the definition INI_ANSIONLY in the glue file ("minGlue.h"). For example:

#define INI_ANSIONLY

/* ignore UNICODE or _UNICODE macros, compile as ASCII/ANSI */

• Line termination

On Microsoft Windows and DOS, lines of text files are usually terminated by a CR-LF character pair (" \r " in C/C⁺⁺ terminology). On Linux and Unix, the line terminator is only the LF character and on the Macintosh, it is only the CR character.

The line termination convention is not important when reading from INI files, because MININI strips off all trailing white space (and control characters such as carriage-return and line-feed are considered white space). The line termination convention is also not important when the INI file is only accessed by MININI. Finally, if you use the standard C/C^{++} library as the back-end for reading and writing files, this standard C/C^{++} library may already handle the platform-dependent line termination for you.

However, if you wish to read and adjust the INI files with other applications, across platforms—e.g. edit the INI file with a simple text editor as Notepad on Microsoft Windows and then store it on an embedded device with a Linux-based operating system, then it may be advantageous to tell MININI the line termination characters to use. To do so, define the macro INI_LINETERM in the file "minGlue.h" and set it to the character or characters to use. For example:

#define INI_LINETERM "\r\n"

Summary of configuration macros

INI_ANSIONLY	If this macro is defined, INI files are forced to be written with 8-bit characters (ASCII or ANSI character sets), regardless of whether the remainder of the application is written as Unicode. See page 6.
INI_BUFFERSIZE	The maximum line length that is supported, as well as the maximum path length for temporary file (if write access is enabled). The default value is 512. See page 4.
INI_FILEPOS	The type for a position in a file. This is a <i>required setting</i> if writing support is enabled.
INI_FILETYPE	The type for a variable that represents a file. This is a required setting. See page 4.

INI_LINETERM This macro should be set to the line termination character (or characters).

If left undefined, the default is a line-feed character. Note that the standard file I/O library may translate a line-feed character to a carriage-return/line- $\,$

feed pair (this depends on the file I/O library). See page 6

INI_READONLY If this macro is defined, write access is disabled (and the code for writing

INI files is stripped from the MININI library. See page 5

INI_REAL The type for a variable that represents a rational number. If left undefined,

rational number support is disabled. See page 5.

NDEBUG If defined, the assert macro in the MININI source code is disabled. Typi-

cally developers build with assertions enabled during development and disable them for a release version. If your platform lacks an <code>assert</code> macro,

you may want to define the NDEBUG macro in minGlue.h.

PORTABLE_STRNICMP

When this macro is defined, MININI uses an internal, portable strnicmp function. This is required for platforms that lack this function —note that MININI already handles the common case where this function goes under the name strncasecmp. See page 3.

Multi-tasking

The MININI library does not have any global variables and it does not use any dynamically allocated memory. Yet, the library should not be considered "thread-safe" or re-entrant, because it implicitly uses a particular shared resource: the file system.

Multiple tasks reading from an INI file do not pose a problem. However, when one task is writing to an INI file, no other tasks should access this INI file —neither for reading, nor for writing. It might be easier, in the implementation, to serialize *all* accesses of the INI file.

The first advise in protecting resources from concurrent access in a multi-tasking environment is to avoid sharing resources between tasks. If only a single task uses a resource, no semaphore protection is necessary and no priority inversion or deadlock problems can occur. This advise also applies to the MININI library. If possible, make a single task the "owner" of the INI file and create a client/server architecture for other tasks to query and adjust settings.

If the INI file must be shared between tasks (and at least one of the tasks writes to the INI file), you need to write wrappers around the functions of the MININI library that block on a mutex or binary semaphore.

Key and section enumeration

MININI can list all sections in an INI file and all keys in a section, but in a different way than the function GetProfileString from the Microsoft Windows API. To list all sections, call function ini_getsection with an incremental "index" number until it fails. Similarly, to list all keys in a section, call ini_getkey with an incremental "index" number (plus the name of the section) until it fails.

Listing: Browsing through all keys and all sections in "config.ini"

```
int s, k;
char section[40], key[40];
for (s = 0; ini_getsection(s, section, sizeof section, "config.ini") > 0; s++) {
   printf("[%s]\n", section);
   for (k = 0; ini_getkey(section, k, key, sizeof key, "config.ini") > 0; k++)
        printf("\t%s\n", key);
} /* for */
```

Function reference

In addition to the functions in plain C, minIni comes with a C⁺⁺ class. When creating a variable of the minIni class, you pass in the name of the INI file once, so that this name does not need to be passed to every other function. The class exists for the standard C⁺⁺ string library and for wxWidgets, using the wxString type. The function reference only lists the methods with the std::string type, but these are replaced by versions that use wxString when compiling for wxWidgets.

minIni::minIni class constructor

The minIni constructor creates an instance of the minIni class.

Syntax: minIni(const std::string& filename)

filename The full file name of the INI file to use for all reads and writes, through

this instance. The filename format and limitations, and whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying

file I/O library.

Example: Creating a class instance to read a setting (C^{++}) only:

minIni ini("config.ini");
std::string username = ini.gets("Users", "admin");

minIni::del

Delete a section or a key

Delete a key or an entire section.

Syntax: bool del(const std::string& Section, const std::string& Key)

bool del(const std::string& Section)

Section The name of the section.

Key The name of the key.

Returns: true on success, false on failure.

Notes: This method is the equivalent of ini_puts with the parameter Key and/or Value

parameters to NULL.

This function is unavailable if MININI is configured as a read-only library (page 5).

See also: ini_puts

ini_getbool / minIni::getbool

Read a "truth" flag

ini_getbool returns the zero for false or one for true, depending on the value that is found in the given section and at the given key.

Syntax: int ini_getbool(const char *Section, const char *Key, int DefValue, const char *Filename)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is NULL or an empty

string, the Key is searched outside any section.

Key The name of the key. This parameter may not be NULL.

DefValue The default value, which will be returned if the key is not present in

the INI file. Even though it is declared as an "int" in the C interface,

it should be either 0 (zero) or 1 (one).

The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and Filename

> whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: The true/false flag as interpreted from the value read at the given key, or DefValue if the key is not present in the given section (or if it cannot be interpreted to either

a "true" or a "false" flag).

Specifically, the return value depends on the first letter of the value read at the

key. If that first character is: ♦ "Y", "T" or "1", the function returns true (or 1):

♦ "N", "F" or "0", the function returns false (or 0);

♦ anything else, the function returns parameter DefValue.

Notes: To set a boolean value in the C⁺⁺ interface, use minIni::put; For the C interface,

use either ini_putl. Alternatively, you can store texts like "Yes" and "No" at the

key using minIni::put and ini_puts.

See also: ini_getl

ini_getf / minIni::getf

Read a rational number

ini_getf returns the numeric value that is found in the given section and at the given key. The value may have a fractional part (i.e. rational numbers).

Syntax: INI_REAL ini_getf(const char *Section, const char *Key,

INI_REAL DefValue, const char *Filename)

INI_REAL getf(const std::string& Section, const std::string& Key, INI_REAL DefValue=0)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is *NULL* or an empty

string, the Key is searched outside any section.

The name of the key. This parameter may not be NULL. Key

DefValue The default value, which will be returned if the key is not present in

the INI file.

The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and Filename

> whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: The value read at the given key, or DefValue if the key is not present in the given

section.

Notes: Rational number support must have been enabled for this function to be present

—see page 5. The type for the rational numbers, INI_REAL, depends on the

configuration of MININI.

See also: ini_getl, ini_putf

ini_getkey / minIni::getkey

Enumerate keys

Read the name of an indexed key inside a given section.

Syntax: int ini_getkey(const char *Section, int Index, char *Buffer, int BufferSize, const char *Filename)

str::string getkey(const std::string& Section, int Index)

The name of the section. If this parameter is *NULL* or an empty Section

string, the keys outside any section are enumerated.

Index The zero-based index of the key to return.

Buffer The buffer into which this function will store the key name.

The size of the buffer pointed at by parameter Buffer. This is the BufferSize

maximum number of characters that will be read and stored.

The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and Filename

> whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C^{++} class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: The C function returns the number of characters read into parameter Buffer.

or zero if no (more) keys are present in the specified section. The C⁺⁺ method

returns the name of the key in a string.

Example: Enumerating keys in section "Devices":

```
int k;
char name[20];
for (k = 0; ini_getkey("Devices", k, name, 20, "config.ini") > 0; k++)
    printf("%s\n", name);
```

See also: ini_getsection

ini_getl / minIni::getl

Read a numeric value

ini_getl returns the integer value (a "whole number") that is found in the given section and at the given key.

Syntax: long ini_getl(const char *Section, const char *Key, long DefValue, const char *Filename)

> long getl(const std::string& Section, const std::string& Key, long DefValue=0)

int geti(const std::string& Section, const std::string& Key, int DefValue=0)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is NULL or an empty

string, the Key is searched outside any section.

Kev The name of the key. This parameter may not be NULL.

The default value, which will be returned if the key is not present in DefValue

the INI file.

Filename The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and

whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

The value read at the given key, or DefValue if the key is not present in the given Returns:

section.

If the key is present, but it does not represent a decimal number, this function

may return zero or an incorrect value.

Notes: The number must be in decimal or in hexadecimal format. For hexadecimal values,

the value must be preceded with "0x"; for example, 0x1234 stands for the decimal

value 4660.

See also: ini_getf, ini_gets, ini_putl

ini_gets / minIni::gets

Read a string

ini_gets reads the textual value that is found in the given section and at the given key.

Syntax: int ini_gets(const char *Section, const char *Key,

const char *DefValue, char *Buffer, int BufferSize,

const char *Filename)

std::string gets(const std::string& Section,

const std::string& Key,

const std::string& DefValue="")

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is NULL or an empty

string, the Key is searched outside any section.

Key The name of the key. This parameter may not be *NULL*.

The default value, which will be returned (in parameter Buffer) if DefValue

the key is not present in the INI file.

The buffer into which this function will store the data read. Buffer

BufferSize The size of the buffer pointed at by parameter Buffer. This is the

maximum number of characters that will be read and stored.

The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and Filename

> whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: The C function returns the number of characters read into parameter Buffer. The

C⁺⁺ method returns the string read at the given key, or DefValue if the key is

not present in the given section.

See also: ini_getl, ini_puts

ini_getsection / minIni::getsection

Enumerate sections

ini_getsection reads the name of an indexed section.

Syntax: int ini_getsection(int Index, char *Buffer, int BufferSize, const char *Filename)

std::string getsection(int Index)

The zero-based index of the section to return. Index

Buffer The buffer into which this function will store the section name.

BufferSize The size of the buffer pointed at by parameter Buffer. This is the maximum number of characters that will be read and stored.

Filename The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and

whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

The C function returns the number of characters read into parameter Buffer, or Returns:

zero if no (more) sections are present in the INI file. The C⁺⁺ method returns the

name of the section in a string.

Example: Enumerating all sections in file "config.ini":

```
int s;
char name[20];
for (s = 0; ini_getsection(s, name, 20, "config.ini") > 0; s++)
    printf("%s\n", name);
```

See also: ini_getkey

ini_putf / minIni::put

Store a rational number

ini_putf stores the numeric value that in the given section and at the given key. The numeric value is written as a rational number, with a "whole part" and a fractional part.

Syntax: int ini_putf(const char *Section, const char *Key, INI_REAL Value, const char *Filename)

> bool put(const std::string& Section, const std::string& Key, INI_REAL Value)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is NULL or an empty

string, the Key is stored outside any section (i.e. above the first

section, if the INI file has any sections).

The name of the key. This parameter may not be *NULL*. Kev

Value The value to write at the key and the section.

Filename The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and

> whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

1/true on success, 0/false on failure. Returns:

Notes: This function is unavailable if MININI is configured as a read-only library (page 5).

It is also unavailable if rational number support has *not* been enabled (page 5).

The type for the rational numbers, INI_REAL, depends on the configuration of

MININI.

See also: ini_getf, ini_putl

ini_putl / minIni::put

Store a numeric value

ini_putl stores the numeric value that in the given section and at the given key.

Syntax: int ini_putl(const char *Section, const char *Key, long Value, const char *Filename)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is *NULL* or an empty

string, the Key is stored outside any section (i.e. above the first

section, if the INI file has any sections).

Key The name of the key. This parameter may not be NULL.

Value The value to write at the key and the section.

Filename The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and

whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The C⁺⁺ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: 1/true on success, 0/false on failure.

Notes: This function is unavailable if MININI is configured as a read-only library (page 5).

See also: ini_getl, ini_puts

ini_puts / minIni::put

Store a string

ini_puts stores the text parameter that in the given section and at the given key.

Syntax: int ini_puts(const char *Section, const char *Key, const char *Value, const char *Filename)

Section The name of the section. If this parameter is *NULL* or an empty

string, the Key is stored outside any section (i.e. above the first

section, if the INI file has any sections).

Key The name of the key. If this parameter is NULL, the function erases

all keys (and their associated values) from the section.

14 — ini_puts / minIni::put

Value The text to write at the key and the section. This string should

not contain any line breaking characters, such as carriage-return or line-feed characters. If this parameter is NULL, the function erases

the key/value pair.

Filename The name of the INI file. The filename format and limitations, and

whether or not this parameter may include a path, depends on the underlying file I/O library. The ${\bf C}^{++}$ class uses the filename specified

in the class constructor.

Returns: 1/true on success, 0/false on failure.

Notes: This function can also be used to delete entries or sections, by setting the Key or

Value parameters to NULL.

This function is unavailable if MININI is configured as a read-only library (page 5).

See also: ini_gets, ini_putl

Example glue files

• stdio (standard C/C⁺⁺ library)

On Microsoft Windows or DOS, it is advised to open the INI file in binary mode, despite INI files being *text* files. If text mode is unavailable on yor platform, change "rb" and "wb" to "r" and "w" respectively.

```
/* map required file I/O types and functions to the standard C library */
#include <stdio.h>
#define INI_FILETYPE
                                       FILE*
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
                                       ((*(file) = fopen((filename), "rb")) != NULL)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file) ((*(file) = fopen((filename),"wb")) != NULL)
#define ini_openrewrite(filename,file) ((*(file) = fopen((filename),"r+b")) != NULL)
#define ini_close(file)
                                       (fclose(*(file)) == 0)
#define ini_read(buffer,size,file)
                                       (fgets((buffer),(size),*(file)) != NULL)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
                                       (fputs((buffer),*(file)) >= 0)
#define ini_rename(source,dest)
                                       (rename((source), (dest)) == 0)
#define ini_remove(filename)
                                       (remove(filename) == 0)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                       long int
                                       (*(pos) = ftell(*(file)))
#define ini_tell(file,pos)
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
                                       (fseek(*(file), *(pos), SEEK_SET) == 0)
/* for floating-point support, define additional types and functions */
#define INI_REAL
                                       sprintf((string),"%f",(value))
#define ini_ftoa(string,value)
#define ini_atof(string)
                                       (INI_REAL)strtod((string),NULL)
```

CCS FAT library (http://www.ccsinfo.com)

```
#define INI_BUFFERSIZE 256
                                  /* maximum line length, maximum path length */
#ifndef FAT_PIC_C
  #error FAT library must be included before this module
#endif
#define const
                                  /* keyword not supported by CCS */
#define INI_FILETYPE
                                      (fatopen((filename), "r", (file)) == GOODEC)
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file) (fatopen((filename), "w", (file)) == GOODEC)
#define ini_close(file)
                                      (fatclose((file)) == 0)
#define ini_read(buffer,size,file)
                                      (fatgets((buffer), (size), (file)) != NULL)
                                      (fatputs((buffer), (file)) == GOODEC)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
#define ini_remove(filename)
                                      (rm_file((filename)) == 0)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                      fatpos_t
                                      (fatgetpos((file), (pos)) == 0)
#define ini_tell(file,pos)
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
                                      (fatsetpos((file), (pos)) == 0)
#ifndef INI_READONLY
/* CCS FAT library lacks a rename function, so instead we copy the file to the
 * new name and delete the old file
static int ini_rename(char *source, char *dest)
  FILE fr, fw;
  int n:
  if (fatopen(source, "r", &fr) != GOODEC)
   return 0;
  if (rm_file(dest) != 0)
   return 0:
  if (fatopen(dest, "w", &fw) != GOODEC)
    return 0:
```

```
/* With some "insider knowledge", we can save some memory: the "source"
   * parameter holds a filename that was built from the "dest" parameter. It
   \boldsymbol{*} was built in a local buffer with the size INI_BUFFERSIZE. We can reuse
   * this buffer for copying the file.
  while (n=fatread(source, 1, INI_BUFFERSIZE, &fr))
   fatwrite(source, 1, n, &fw);
  fatclose(&fr);
  fatclose(&fw);
  /* Now we need to delete the source file. However, we have garbled the buffer
   * that held the filename of the source. So we need to build it again.
  ini_tempname(source, dest, INI_BUFFERSIZE);
 return rm_file(source) == 0;
#endif
```

EFSL (http://www.efsl.be/)

```
#define INI_BUFFERSIZE 256
                                  /* maximum line length, maximum path length */
#define INI_LINETERM
                        "\r\n"
                                  /* set line termination explicitly */
#include "efs.h"
extern EmbeddedFileSystem g_efs;
#define INI_FILETYPE
                                      EmbeddedFile
                                      (file_fopen((file), &g_efs.myFs, (char*)(filename), 'r') == 0)
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file) (file_fopen((file), &g_efs.myFs, (char*)(filename), 'w') == 0)
#define ini_close(file)
                                     file_fclose(file)
#define ini_read(buffer,size,file) (file_read((file), (size), (buffer)) > 0)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
                                     (file_write((file), strlen(buffer), (char*)(buffer)) > 0)
                                     rmfile(&g_efs.myFs, (char*)(filename))
#define ini_remove(filename)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                      euint32
#define ini_tell(file,pos)
                                      (*(pos) = (file)->FilePtr))
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
                                     file_setpos((file), (*pos))
#if ! defined INI_READONLY
/* EFSL lacks a rename function, so instead we copy the file to the new name
* and delete the old file
static int ini_rename(char *source, const char *dest)
  EmbeddedFile fr, fw;
  int n:
  if (file_fopen(&fr, &g_efs.myFs, source, 'r') != 0)
   return 0:
  if (rmfile(&g_efs.myFs, (char*)dest) != 0)
   return 0:
  if (file_fopen(&fw, &g_efs.myFs, (char*)dest, 'w') != 0)
   return 0:
  /* With some "insider knowledge", we can save some memory: the "source"
  * parameter holds a filename that was built from the "dest" parameter. It
  * was built in buffer and this buffer has the size INI_BUFFERSIZE. We can
  * reuse this buffer for copying the file.
  while (n=file_read(&fr, INI_BUFFERSIZE, source))
   file_write(&fw, n, source);
  file_fclose(&fr);
  file_fclose(&fw);
  /* Now we need to delete the source file. However, we have garbled the buffer
  * that held the filename of the source. So we need to build it again.
  ini_tempname(source, dest, INI_BUFFERSIZE);
  return rmfile(&g_efs.myFs, source) == 0;
}
#endif
```

FAT Filing System (http://www.embedded-code.com/)

```
#define INI_BUFFERSIZE 256
                                  /* maximum line length, maximum path length */
#include <mem-ffs.h>
#define INI_FILETYPE
                                      FFS FILE*
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
                                      ((*(file) = ffs_fopen((filename), "r")) != NULL)
                                      ((*(file) = ffs_fopen((filename),"w")) != NULL)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file)
#define ini_close(file)
                                      (ffs_fclose(*(file)) == 0)
#define ini read(buffer.size.file)
                                      (ffs_fgets((buffer),(size),*(file)) != NULL)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
                                      (ffs_fputs((buffer),*(file)) >= 0)
#define ini_rename(source,dest)
                                      (ffs_rename((source), (dest)) == 0)
#define ini remove(filename)
                                      (ffs_remove(filename) == 0)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                      (ffs_fgetpos(*(file), (pos)) == 0)
#define ini_tell(file,pos)
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
                                      (ffs_fsetpos(*(file), (pos)) == 0)
```

FatFs & Tiny-FatFs (http://elm-chan.org/)

```
#define INI_BUFFERSIZE 256
                                  /* maximum line length, maximum path length */
/* You must set _USE_STRFUNC to 1 or 2 in the include file ff.h (or tff.h)
 \ast to enable the "string functions" fgets() and fputs().
 */
#include "ff.h"
                                  /* include tff.h for Tiny-FatFs */
#define INI_FILETYPE
                       FIL
                                      (f_open((file), (filename), FA_READ+FA_OPEN_EXISTING) == FR_OK)
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file) (f_open((file), (filename), FA_WRITE+FA_CREATE_ALWAYS) == FR_OK)
                                      (f_close(file) == FR_OK)
#define ini close(file)
                                      f_gets((buffer), (size),(file))
#define ini_read(buffer,size,file)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
                                      f_puts((buffer), (file))
#define ini_remove(filename)
                                      (f_unlink(filename) == FR_OK)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                      DWORD.
                                      (*(pos) = f_tell((file)))
#define ini tell(file.pos)
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
                                      (f_lseek((file), *(pos)) == FR_OK)
static int ini_rename(TCHAR *source, const TCHAR *dest)
  /* Function f_rename() does not allow drive letters in the destination file */
  char *drive = strchr(dest, ':');
  drive = (drive == NULL) ? dest : drive + 1;
  return (f_rename(source, drive) == FR_OK);
}
```

"Memory Disk Drive" file system (Microchip)

```
#define INI_BUFFERSIZE 256
                                  /* maximum line length, maximum path length */
#include "MDD File System\fsio.h"
#include <string.h>
#define INT FILETYPE
                                       FSFILE*
                                       ((*(file) = FSfopen((filename),FS_READ)) != NULL)
#define ini_openread(filename,file)
#define ini_openwrite(filename,file) ((*(file) = FSfopen((filename),FS_WRITE)) != NULL)
#define ini_openrewrite(filename,file) ((*(file) = fopen((filename),FS_READPLUS)) != NULL)
#define ini_close(file)
                                       (FSfclose(*(file)) == 0)
#define ini_write(buffer,file)
                                       (FSfwrite((buffer), 1, strlen(buffer), (*file)) > 0)
#define ini_remove(filename)
                                       (FSremove((filename)) == 0)
#define INI_FILEPOS
                                       long int
#define ini_tell(file,pos)
                                       (*(pos) = FSftell(*(file)))
                                       (FSfseek(*(file), *(pos), SEEK_SET) == 0)
#define ini_seek(file,pos)
```

```
/* Since the Memory Disk Drive file system library reads only blocks of files,
 * the function to read a text line does so by "over-reading" a block of the
 \boldsymbol{\ast} of the maximum size and truncating it behind the end-of-line.
static int ini_read(char *buffer, int size, INI_FILETYPE *file)
  size_t numread = size;
  char *eol;
  if ((numread = FSfread(buffer, 1, size, *file)) == 0)
   return 0;
                               /* at EOF */
  if ((eol = strchr(buffer, '\n')) == NULL)
   eol = strchr(buffer, '\r');
  if (eol != NULL) {
   /* terminate the buffer */
    *++eol = '\0';
    /* "unread" the data that was read too much */
   FSfseek(*file, - (int)(numread - (size_t)(eol - buffer)), SEEK_CUR);
  } /* if */
  return 1;
#ifndef INI_READONLY
static int ini_rename(const char *source, const char *dest)
  FSFILE* ftmp = FSfopen((source), FS_READ);
  FSrename((dest), ftmp);
  return FSfclose(ftmp) == 0;
}
#endif
```

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Index

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Α	ASCII, 6	K	Key enumeration, see Enumeration
	assert, 3		,
	,	L	License, 19
В	Binary mode, 4, 15	_	,
	Diffally filodo, 4, 10		Limitations, 1, 3
C	G 1	-	Line termination, 4, 6
C	C++ class, 8		Linux, 3, 6
	Case-insensitive (comparisons), 2	k 4	
	CCS Inc., 15	M	MDD (file system), 17
	Comments		Memory footprint, i, 1, 7
	INI file ~, 1, 2		Microchip Technology Inc., 17
	Compilation		minGlue.h, 3, 15
	release build, 3		MinGW, 3
	Constructor, 8		minIni::del, 8
		_	•
D	Delete (key or section), 8		minIni::getbool, 8
	()) -		minIni::getf, 9
E	EECI (61	-	minIni::getkey, 10
	EFSL (file system), 16		minIni::getl, 10
	Enumeration, 1, 7, 10, 12		minIni::gets, 11
г		_	minIni::getsection, 12
F	Fat Filing System, 17		minIni::minIni, 8
	FatFs, 17		minIni::put, 12, 13
	File system, 15, see also Glue file		Multi-tasking, 7
	Fixed point, 5, 9, 12		Mutex, 7
	Flash memory, 1, 5		,
	Floating point, 5, 9, 12	N	NDEBUG, 3
			,
G	GetProfileString, 1, 7	_	Nil, Michael de ~, 16
	Glue file, 3, 15	D	
	GNU GCC, 3	P	Petit FatFs, 17
	Graf, Joseph J. ~, ii		
	Graf, Joseph J., 11	R	Rational numbers, 1, 5, 9, 12
Н		-	Read-only support, 5, 8, 13, 14
П	Hexadecimal, 11		Real number, see Rational number
т		_	Release build, 3
l	INI file comments, 1, 2		Release build, 5
	ini_getbool, 8	C	
	ini_getf, 9	S	Section
	ini_getkey, 10		INI file ~, 1
	ini_getl, 10		Section enumeration, see Enumeration
	ini_gets, 11		Semaphore protection, 7
	ini_getsection, 12		Spaces (characters), 2
	ini_putf, 12		std::string, 8
	ini_putl, 13		strncasecmp, 3
	ini_puts, 13		strnicmp, 3, 7
			5011110mp, 6, 1

T	tchar.h, 6	_ V	Voras, Ivan ~, 5
	Temporary file, 5	W	White space, 2
	Text mode, 4 Thread-safe, 7	• •	Write access, see Read-only support Write cache, 1, 5
	Tiny-FatFs, see Petit FatFs		${\tt WriteProfileString}, 1$
U	Unicode, 6	wxString, 8 wxWidgets, 8	
	Unix, 3, 6 UTF-8, 6	Y	Ysboodt, Lennart ~, 16