

Basic I/O Task

The aim of this task is to become familiar with basic input and output operations from `stdin` and to `stdout`, respectively.

Step #1: Basic Input/Output

The standard C library `libc.so` provides various functions via the header files `<stdio.h>` that enables input from `stdin` (typically your keyboard) and output to `stdout` (typically the terminal program where you started the program). Some of these functions are listed in the following table.

Input	Output	Description
<code>getc()</code> , <code>getchar()</code>	<code>putc()</code> , <code>putchar()</code>	transfer a single ASCII symbol at a time
<code>fgets()</code>	<code>puts()</code>	transfer a string including the <code>\n</code> escape sequence
<code>scanf()</code>	<code>printf()</code>	format (using format modifiers) and transfer data
<code>fread()</code>	<code>fwrite()</code>	transfer a number of bytes



You'll find some examples for each of these functions at <https://devdocs.io/c/io>.

Task #1: Using `getc()`, `getchar()`, `putc()` and `putchar()` (i) read-in at least 5 symbols from `stdin`, (ii) store them in respective variables, and (iii) output them to `stdout`. Carefully, monitor what you type (which keys on the keyboard) and how the program behaves. Document your observations as comments in the code. Repeat the same task for the function pairs `fgets()` and `puts()` and `fread()` and `fwrite()`. The program shall also validate the input. Print respective information to `stdout`, e.g., whether the given input was a *control* symbol, a *digit*, a *lowercase* or an *uppercase* letter etc. To that end, checkout the ASCII table and/or functions provided via the `<ctype.h>` header file like `isdigit()`, `isalpha()` etc. What do you get and how to validate input for *not so common* keys like `ö`, `ß`, `@`, `\`, `§`, `esc`, or `strg`?

Put all your code in a single C-source file along with a proper comment header describing your tests and findings, name the file `yourname_task01.c` (substitute `yourname` with your family name in lowercase letters; use *ue* rather than *ü* etc.), and upload it to the *Basic I/O Task* section via the Moodle class.

Step #2: Formatted Input/Output

The input and output function families of `printf()` and `scanf()` allow for reading and writing to multiple variables and converting these values between different types. To that end, these functions provide something called *format modifiers* and a *variable argument list*. Format modifiers are written within the first argument enclosed by double quotes. For (almost) every format modifier you'll need

to provide a variable (in case of `printf()`) or the address of a variable (in case of `scanf()`). The sequence and number of format modifiers and variables need to match.



The *address of a variable* is obtained by putting the `&` symbol in front of the name of a variable - see the example below.

The following table lists some of the more common format modifiers of these function families. A somewhat more complete list can be found in the documentation, e.g.: at

- <https://devdocs.io/c/io/fprintf> or
- <https://devdocs.io/c/io/scanf>, respectively.

Modifier	Type	Description
<code>%c</code>	<code>char</code>	output the value of a variable as a symbol according to the ASCII table
<code>%s</code>	<code>char []</code>	output the values stored in a char array as ASCII symbols
<code>%d</code>	<code>int</code>	output the value of a variable as a decimal integer
<code>%i</code>	<code>int</code>	output the value of a variable as a decimal integer
<code>%u</code>	<code>unsigned int</code>	output the value of a variable as a unsigned decimal integer
<code>%x</code>	<code>int</code>	output the value of a variable as a hexadecimal number
<code>%f</code>	<code>float</code>	output the value of a variable as a floating point number
etc.		

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

int main(void) {
    int n = 0, age = 0;
    float weight = 0.0;
    char name[5];
    n = scanf("%4s %d %f", &name[0], &age, &weight);
    assert (3 == n);
    printf("Name: %s, Age: %d, Weight %.2f\n", name, age, weight);
    return 0;
}
```

An execution sequence of this program could look like:

```
Tom 20 69.3
Name: Tom, Age: 20, Weight 69.30
```

Task #2: Create a program using `scanf()` and `printf()` to read integer, floating-point numbers, characters and strings in intermixed sequences into various variables. Add code to validate your input to some extent. Finally, output all the readings using `printf()`.

Put all your code in a single C-source file along with a proper comment header describing your tests and findings, name the file `yourname_task02.c` (substitute `yourname` with your family name in lowercase letters; use *ue* rather than *ü* etc.), and upload it to the *Basic I/O Task* section via the Moodle class.