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# **Basic C Programming**

## This Lecture

- At the end of this lecture, you will be able to understand the following:
  - Why Learning C Programming Language?
  - Development of a C Program
  - Data Types, Constants, Variables and Operators
  - Simple Input/Output

# Basic C Programming

- **Why Learning C Programming Language?**
- Development of a C Program
- Data Types, Constants, Variables and Operators
- Simple Input/Output

# Why Learning C Programming Language?

- **Advantages** on using C
  - Powerful, flexible, efficient, portable
  - Enable the creation of well-structured programs
- Any **disadvantages**?
  - Free style and **not strongly-typed**
  - The use of **pointers**, which may confuse many students
- **Why** doing data structures in C
  - Efficient
  - Provide **pointers** for building data structures which are powerful
  - Bridge to C++ (OO Programming)

# Basic C Programming

- Why Learning C Programming Language?
- **Development of a C Program**
- Data Types, Constants, Variables and Operators
- Simple Input/Output

# Structure of a C Program

A simple C program has the following structure:

```
/* comment line 1 */  
// or comment line 2  
preprocessor instructions  
int main()  
{  
    ↪ if no return, use void  
    statements;  
    return 0;  
}
```

e.g. `#include <stdio.h>`  
global declaration

# Structure of a C Program

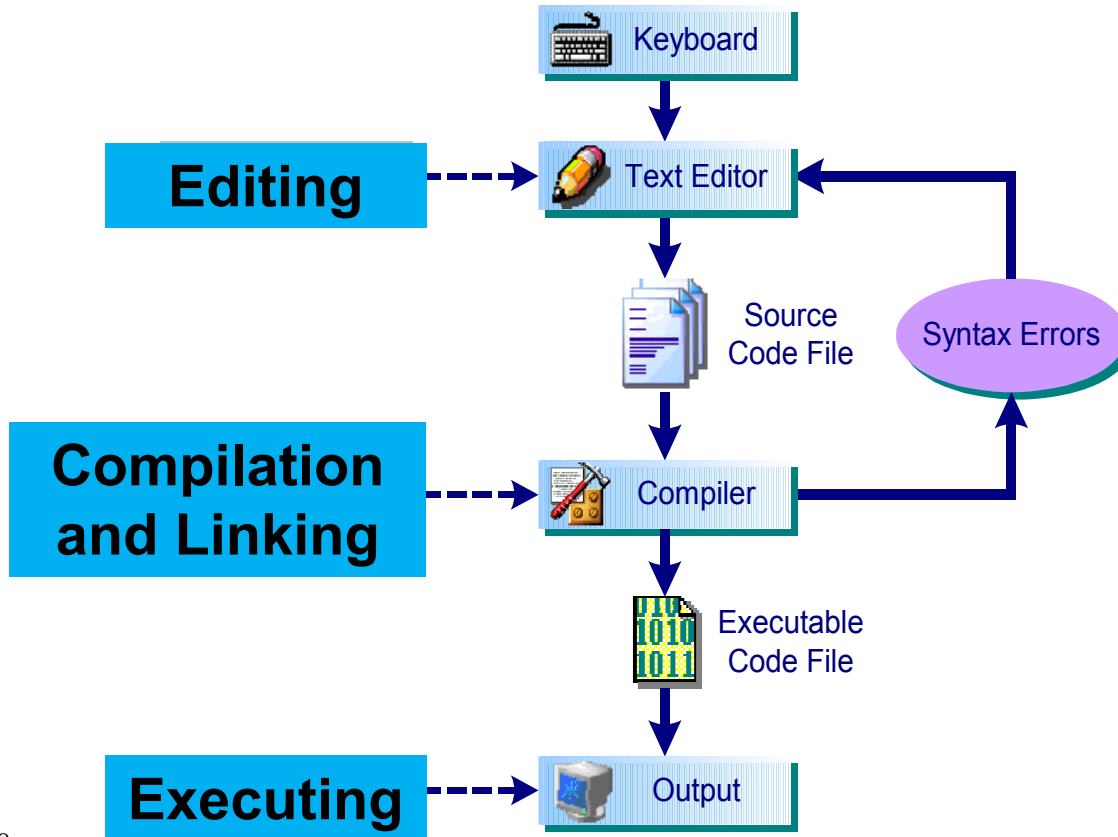
A simple C program has the following structure:

```
/* comment line 1 */  
// or comment line 2  
preprocessor instructions  
int main()  
{  
    statements;  
    return 0;  
}
```

## An Example Program

```
/* Purpose: a program to  
print Hello World! */  
#include <stdio.h>  
int main()  
{ // begin body  
    printf("Hello World! \n");  
    return 0;  
} // end body
```

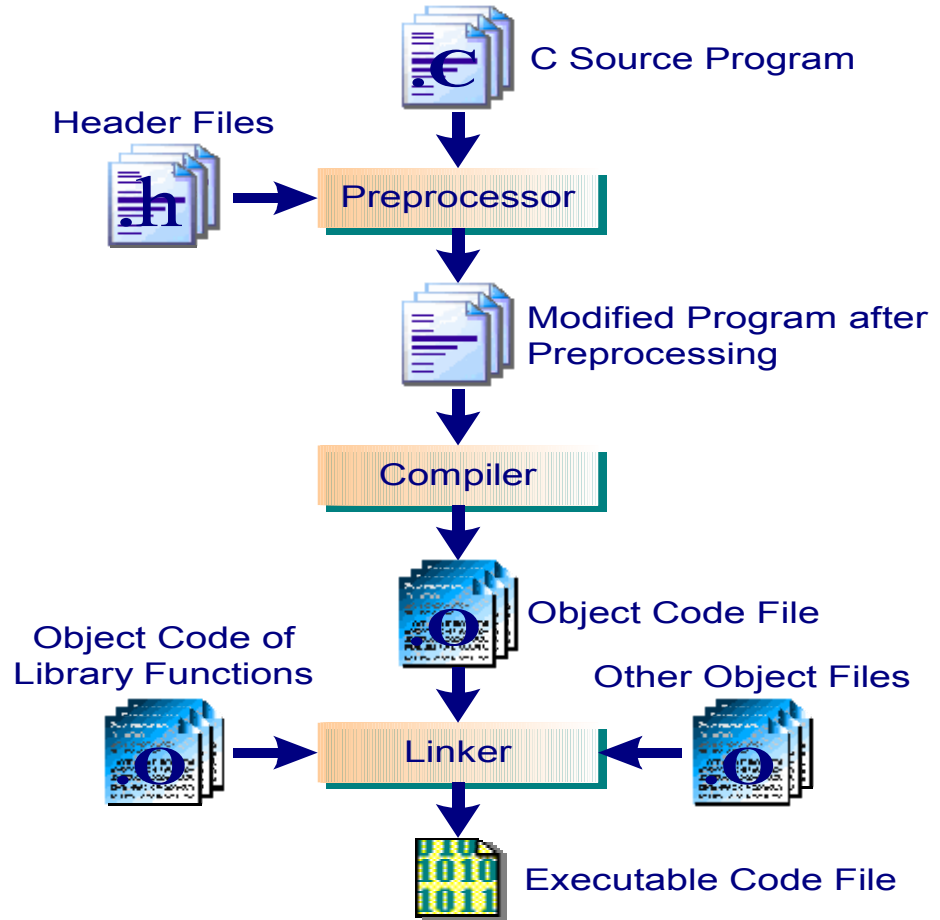
# Development of a C Program





# Compilation and Linking

After writing the C program and typing it into the editor, the program needs to be processed by  
**(1)preprocessor**  
**(2)compiler**  
**(3)linker**  
before you can execute the program.



# Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

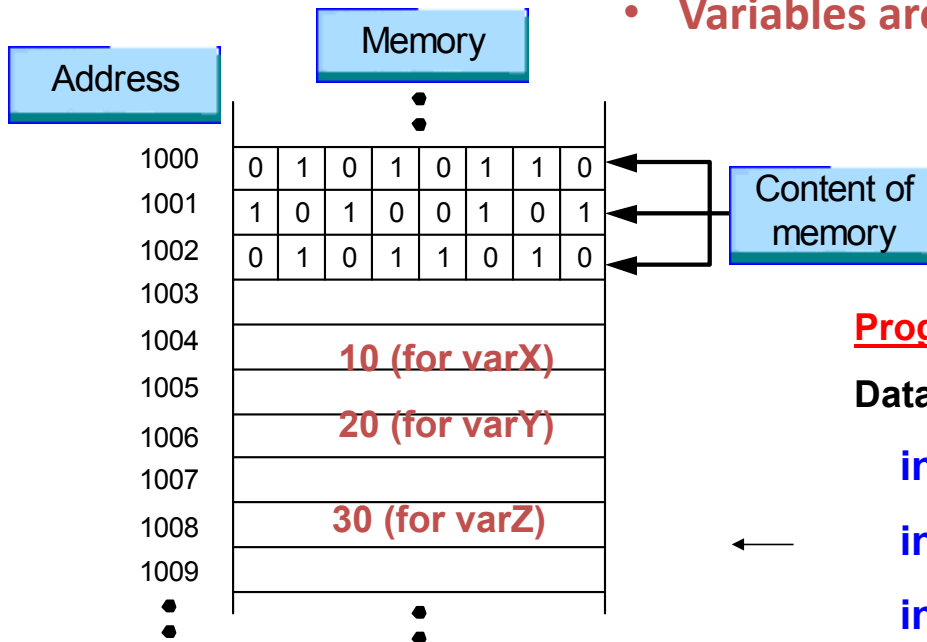
- **Code::Blocks**
- **Microsoft Visual Studio C/C++** (Dreamspark for Student, <https://www.dreamspark.com/>)
- **JGRASP** (<http://www.jgrasp.org/>)
- **Bloodshed Dev-C++**  
(<http://www.bloodshed.net/devcpp.html/>)

# Basic C Programming

- Why Learning C Programming Language?
- Development of a C Program
- **Data Types, Constants, Variables and Operators**
- Simple Input/Output

# Computer Memory and Variables

- Computer memory is used for storing data objects (variables or constants).
- Variables are used for storing data.



## Program logic

**DataType Variable Value**

**int varX = 10;**

**int varY = 20;**

**int varZ;**

**varZ = varX + varY;**

# Data and Types

- It determines the **kind of data** that a **variable** can hold, how many **memory cells** (bytes) are reserved for it and the operations that can be performed on it. (Note – the size in memory depends on machines.)
- **Integers**
  - short (2 bytes – 16 bits)
  - **int** (4 bytes or 2 bytes in some older systems)
  - long (4 bytes)
  - unsigned (4 bytes)
  - unsigned short (2 bytes)
  - unsigned long (4 bytes)
- **Floating Points**
  - **float** (4 byte – 32 bits)
  - double (8 bytes – 64 bits)
  - *long double*
- **Characters**
  - 128 distinct characters in the **ASCII character set**.
  - Two C character types: **char** and unsigned char.
    - char (1 byte – 8 bits, range: -128 – 127)
    - unsigned char (1 byte – 8 bits, range: 0 – 255)

Note: Operations involving the **int** data type are always *exact*, while the **float** and **double** data types can be *inexact*.

# Character - ASCII Set (1 byte)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	NUL							BEL	BS	TAB
1	LF		FF	CR						
2								ESC		
3			SP	!	"	#	\$	%	&	'
4	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/	0	1
5	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;
6	<	=	>	?	@	A	B	C	D	E
7	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
8	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y
9	Z	[	\	]	^	_	'	a	b	c
10	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
11	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w
12	x	y	z	{		}	~	DEL		

# Examples of Escape Sequence

- Some useful **non-printable control characters** are referred to by the **escape sequence** which is a better alternative, in terms of memorization, than numbers. e.g. **'\n'** the newline (or linefeed) character instead of the number **10**.

'\a'	alarm bell	'\f'	form feed	'\n'	newline
'\t'	horizontal tab	'\"'	double quote	'\v'	vertical tab
'\b'	back space	'\\'	backslash	'\r'	carriage return
'\''	single quote				

# Constants

- A constant is an object whose value is unchanged throughout the life of the program. There are four types of constants: integer constants, floating point constants, character constants and string constants.

- Four types of constant values:

- **Integer**: e.g. 100, -256; **Floating-point**: e.g. 2.4, -3.0;
- **Character**: e.g. 'a', '+' ; **String**: e.g. "Hello Students "

or 3124e3



- **Defining Constants – by using the preprocessor directive #define**

Format: **#define** CONSTANTNAME value

E.g. **#define** TAX\_RATE 0.12

/\* define a constant TAX\_RATE with 0.12 \*/

} upper case

convention:

# define TAX\_RATE 0.12

const double monthRate  
= TAX\_RATE/12

↑  
dependent  
on another

- **Defining Constants - By defining a constant variable**

Format: **const** type varName = value;

E.g. **const** float pi = 3.14159;

/\* declare a float constant variable pi with value 3.14159 \*/  
printf("pi = %f\n", pi);



name with lowercase

# Variables

- A variable declaration always contains 2 components:
  - its **data\_type** (eg. short, int, long, etc.)
  - its **var\_name** (e.g. count, numOfSeats, etc.)The syntax for variable declaration: **data\_type var\_name**[, **var\_name**];

- Declare your variables at the **beginning** of your program.  
Examples of variable initializations:

**int** count = 20;

**float** temperature, result;

- The following C **keywords** are reserved and cannot be used as variable names:

auto	break	case	char	const	continue
default	do	double	else	enum	extern
float	for	goto	if	int	long
struct	switch	typedef	union	sizeof	static
volatile	while	unsigned	void		

# Operators

- Fundamental Arithmetic operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$ ,  $\%$ 
  - E.g.  $7/3 = 2$ ;  $7\%3 = 1$ ;  $6.6/2.0=3.3$ ;
- Assignment operators:
  - E.g. `float amount = 25.50`;
- Arithmetic assignment operators:  $+=$ ,  $-=$ ,  $*=$ ,  $/=$ ,  $\%=$ 
  - E.g. `a += 5`;
- Chained assignment:
  - E.g. `a = b = c = 3`;
- Increment/decrement operators:  $++$ ,  $--$
- Relational operators:  $==$ ,  $!=$ ,  $<$ ,  $<=$ ,  $>$ ,  $>=$ 
  - E.g. `7 >= 5`

uppercase  $\rightarrow$  lowercase  
+32

[to be discussed in the next lecture]

# Increment Operators

- In prefix mode: **++**var\_name.
  - (1) var\_name is incremented by 1 and
  - (2) the value of the **expression** is the updated value of var\_name.
- In postfix mode: var\_name**++**.
  - (1) The value of the **expression** is the current value of var\_name
  - (2) then var\_name is incremented by 1.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int num = 4;
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    num++; // ++num; i.e., num = num+1;
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    num = 4;
    printf("value of num++ is %d\n", num++);
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    printf("value of ++num is %d\n", ++num);
    printf("value of num is %d\n\n", num);
    return 0;
}
```

## Output

value of num is 4

value of num is 5

value of num++ is 4

value of num is 5

value of ++num is 6

value of num is 6

# Decrement Operators

- The way the **decrement operator** '--' works in the same way as the ++ operator, except that the variable is decremented by 1.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int num = 4;
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    num--; // same as --num;
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    num = 4;
    printf("value of num-- is %d\n", num--);
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    printf("value of --num is %d\n", --num);
    printf("value of num is %d\n", num);
    return 0;
}
```

## Output

value of num is 4

value of num is 3

value of num-- is 4

value of num is 3

value of --num is 2

value of num is 2

# Data Type Conversion

Arithmetic operations require **two numbers** in an expression/assignment are of the same type.

If not, three kinds of conversion are available:

1. **Explicit conversion** - uses type casting operators, i.e. (int), (float), ..., etc.
  - e.g. (int)2.7 + (int)3.5
2. **Arithmetic conversion** - in mix operation, it converts the operands to the type of the **higher ranking** of the two.
  - e.g. double a; a = **2** + 3.5; // 2 to 2.0 then add
3. **Assignment conversion** - converts the type of the result of computing the expression to that of the type of the **left hand side** if they are different.
  - e.g. int b; b = **2.7 + 3.5**; // 6.2 to 6 then to b

High

long double
double
float
long
int

Low

Note: Possible pit-falls about type conversion -

**Loss of precision**: e.g. from **float** to **int**, the fractional part will be lost.

# Mathematical Libraries

```
#include <math.h>
```

Function	Argument Type	Description	Result Type
<code>ceil(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the smallest <code>double</code> larger than or equal to <code>x</code> that can be represented as an <code>int</code> .	<code>double</code>
<code>floor(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the largest <code>double</code> smaller than or equal to <code>x</code> that can be represented as an <code>int</code> .	<code>double</code>
<code>abs(x)</code>	<code>int</code>	Return the absolute value of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> is an <code>int</code> .	<code>int</code>
<code>fabs(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the absolute value of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> is a floating point number.	<code>double</code>
<code>sqrt(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the square root of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> $\geq 0$ .	<code>double</code>
<code>pow(x,y)</code>	<code>double x</code> , <code>double y</code>	Return <code>x</code> to the <code>y</code> power, <code>x<sup>y</sup></code> .	<code>double</code>
<code>cos(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the cosine of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> is in radians.	<code>double</code>
<code>sin(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the sine of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> is in radians.	<code>double</code>
<code>tan(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the tangent of <code>x</code> , where <code>x</code> is in radians.	<code>double</code>
<code>exp(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the exponential of <code>x</code> with the base <code>e</code> , where <code>e</code> is 2.718282.	<code>double</code>
<code>log(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the natural logarithm of <code>x</code> .	<code>double</code>
<code>log10(x)</code>	<code>double</code>	Return the base 10 logarithm of <code>x</code> .	<code>double</code>

# Basic C Programming

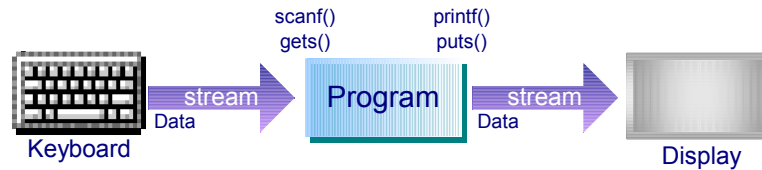
- Why Learning C Programming Language?
- Development of a C Program
- Data Types, Constants, Variables and Operators
- **Simple Input/Output**

# Simple Input/Output

- The following two Input/Output functions are most frequently used:

- **printf()** : output function
- **scanf()** : input function

*putchar ( )*  
*getchar ( )*



- The I/O functions are in the C library **<stdio>**, to use the I/O functions, we need to include the header file:

**#include <stdio.h>**

as the preprocessor instruction in a program.



# printf(): Control-string

The printf() statement has the form:

**printf** (**control-string**, **argument-list**);

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int num1 = 1, num2 = 2;
    printf("%d + %d = %d\n",
    return 0;
}
```

**Output**

1 + 2 = 3

- The control-string is a string constant. It is printed on the screen.
  - %d is a **conversion specification**. An item will be substituted for it in the printed output.

# printf(): Argument-list

The printf() statement has the form:

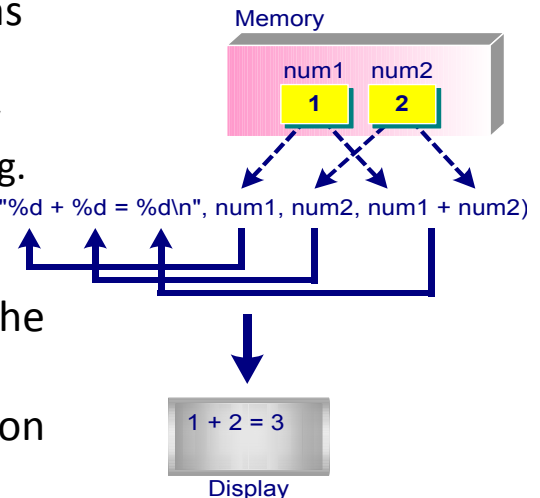
**printf** (**control-string**, **argument-list**);

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int num1 = 1, num2 = 2;
    printf("%d + %d = %d\n", num1, num2, num1+num2);
    return 0;
}
```

**Output**

1 + 2 = 3

- The **argument-list** contains a list of items such as item1, item2, ..., etc.
  - Values are to be substituted into places held by the conversion specification in the control string.
  - An item can be a constant, a variable or an expression like num1 + num2.
- The **number** of items must be the same as the number of conversion specifiers.
- The **type** of items must also match the conversion specifiers.



# Control-String

## Conversion Specification

- A **conversion specification** is of the form

<code>% [flag] [minimumFieldWidth] [.precision]<b>conversionSpecifier</b></code>
--

– **%** and **conversionSpecifier** are compulsory. The others are optional.

### Note:

- We will focus on using the compulsory options **%** and **conversionSpecifier**.
- Please refer to your textbook for the other options such as *flag*, *minimumFieldWidth* and *precision*.

# printf() – Conversion Specifier

Some common types of *Conversion Specifiers*:

<b>d</b>	<b>signed decimal conversion of int</b>
<b>o</b>	<b>unsigned octal conversion of unsigned</b>
<b>x,X</b>	<b>unsigned hexadecimal conversion of unsigned</b>
<b>c</b>	<b>single character conversion</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>signed decimal floating point conversion</b>
<b>s</b>	<b>string conversion</b>

# printf(): Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main( )
{
    int          num = 10;
    float         i = 10.3;
    double        j = 100.3456;

    printf("int num = %d\n", num);
    printf("float i = %f\n", i);
    printf("double j = %f\n", j);
    /* by default, 6 digits are printed
       after the decimal point */
    printf("double j = %.2f\n", j);
    printf("double j = %10.2f\n", j);
    /* formatted output */
    return 0;
}
```

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## Output

int num = 10

float i = 10.300000

double j = 100.345600

double j = 100.35

double j = 100.35

# Simple Input: scanf()

- A scanf() statement has the form

**scanf** (**control-string**, **argument-list**);

- **control-string** is a string constant containing conversion specifications.
- The **argument-list** contains a list of items.
  - The **items** in scanf() may be any **variable** matching the type given by the conversion specification. It cannot be a constant. It cannot be an expression like  $n1 + n2$ .
  - The **variable name** has to be preceded by an **&**. This is to tell scanf() the **address** of the variable so that scanf() can read the input value and store it in the variable.
- scanf **stops reading** when it has read **all** the items as indicated by the control string or the **EOF** (end of file) is encountered.

# scanf(): Example

- A scanf() statement has the form  
**scanf (control-string, argument-list);**

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main( )
{
    int  n1, n2;
    float f1;
    double f2;

    printf("Please enter 2 integers:\n");
    scanf("%d %d", &n1, &n2);
    printf("The sum = %d\n", n1+n2);
    printf("Please enter 2 floats:\n");
    scanf("%f %lf", &f1, &f2);
    // Note: use %lf for double data
    printf("The sum = %f\n", f1+f2);
    return 0;
} 31
```

## Output

Please enter 2 integers:

5 10

The sum = 15

Please enter 2 floats:

5.3 10.5

The sum = 15.800000

# Common Error 1: scanf()

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

```
int main( )
```

```
{
```

```
    int  n1, n2;
```

```
    float f1;
```

```
    double f2;
```

```
    printf("Please enter 2 integers:\n");
```

```
    scanf("%d %d", n1, n2);
```

```
    printf("The sum = %d\n", n1+n2);
```

```
    printf("Please enter 2 floats:\n");
```

```
    scanf("%f %lf", f1, f2);
```

```
    // Note: use %lf for double data
```

```
    printf("The sum = %f\n", f1+f2);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}32
```

Can you compile the program?

Can you run the program?





## Common Error 2: scanf()

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main( )
{
    int number;
    char reply;
    printf("Please enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &number); // read in an integer
    printf("The number read is %d\n", number);

    printf("Correct (y/n)? ");
    scanf("%c", &reply); // read in a char

    printf("your reply : %c\n", reply); // display the char
    return 0;
}
```

### Intended Output:

Please enter a number: 1234<Enter>

The number read is 1234

Correct (y/n)? y

your reply : y

**Can you compile the program?**

**Can you run the program as intended?**

## Common Error 2: Problem

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main( )
{
    int number;
    char reply;
    printf("Enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &number); //read in an integer
    printf("The number read is %d\n", number);

    printf("Correct (y/n)? ");
    scanf("%c", &reply); //read in a char

    printf("your reply : %c\n", reply); //display the char
    return 0;
}
```

**When the program runs:**

**Output**

Enter a number: 1234<Enter>

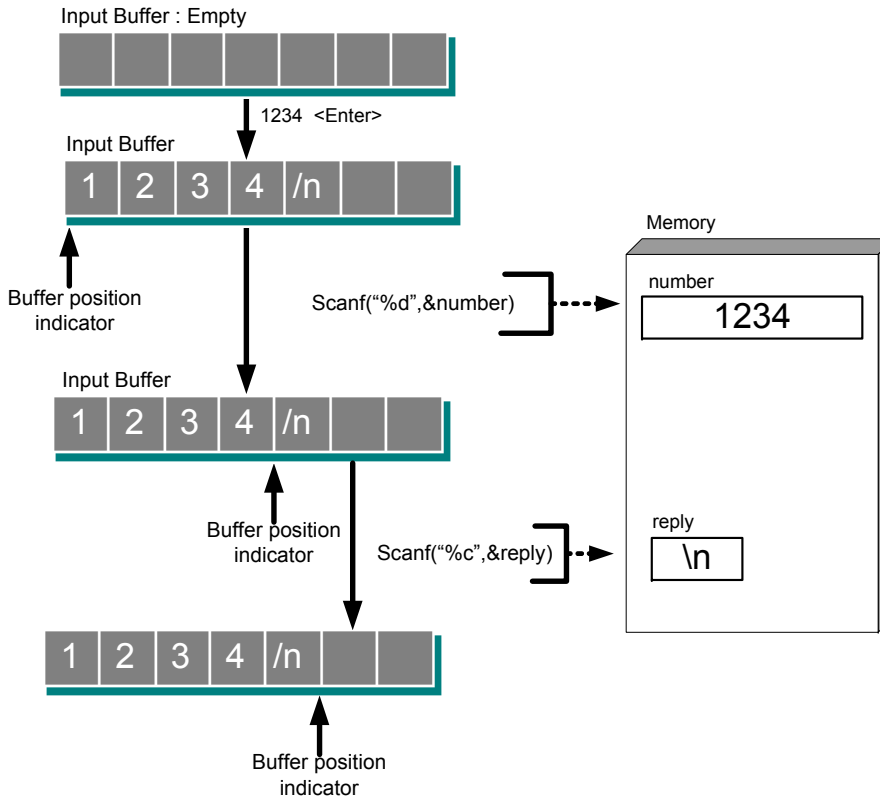
The number read is 1234

**Correct (y/n)? your reply :**

// an error here

// the reply is not read

## Common Error 2: Reason



### ***Reason:***

There is a **hidden character** '**\n**' entered when you type 1234 <Enter>

# Common Error 2: Suggested Solutions

- **Solution 1: read in '\n'**

```
...  
printf("Correct (y/n)?");  
scanf("\n%c", &reply);           // read the newline  
printf("Your reply: %c\n", reply);  
...
```

OR

```
char dummy;  
...  
scanf("%c", &dummy);
```

- **Solution 2: using fflush()**

```
int number; char reply;  
printf("Enter a number: ");  
scanf("%d", &number);           //read in an integer  
printf("The number read is %d\n", number);  
fflush(stdin);           // flush the input buffer with newline  
printf("Correct (y/n)?");  
scanf("%c", &reply);  
printf("Your reply: %c\n", reply);
```

# Common Error 2: Suggested Solutions

- **Solution 1: read in '\n'**

```
...
printf("Correct (y/n)?");
scanf("\n%c", &reply); // read the newline
printf("Your reply: %c\n", reply);
...
```

OR

```
char dummy;
...
scanf("%c", &dummy);
```

- **Solution 2: using fflush()**

```
int number; char reply;
printf("Enter a number: ");
scanf("%d", &number); //read in an integer
printf("The number read is %d\n", number);
fflush(stdin); // flush the input buffer with newline
printf("Correct (y/n)?");
scanf("%c", &reply);
printf("Your reply: %c\n", reply);
```

# Character Input/Output

## putchar( )

- The syntax of calling putchar is

```
putchar(characterConstantOrVariable);
```

It is equivalent to

```
printf("%c", characterConstantOrVariable);
```

- The difference is that **putchar** is **faster** because **printf** needs to process the control string for formatting. Also, it returns either the integer value of the written character or EOF if an error occurs.

## getchar ( )

- The syntax of calling getchar is

```
ch = getchar(); // ch is a character variable.
```

It is equivalent to

```
scanf("%c", &ch);
```

# Character Input/Output

```
/* example to use getchar() and putchar() */
```

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

```
int main(void)
```

```
{
```

```
    char ch, ch1, ch2;
```

```
    putchar('1');
```

```
    putchar(ch='a');
```

```
    putchar('\n');
```

```
    printf("%c%c\n", 49, ch);
```

```
    ch1 = getchar();
```

```
    ch2 = getchar();
```

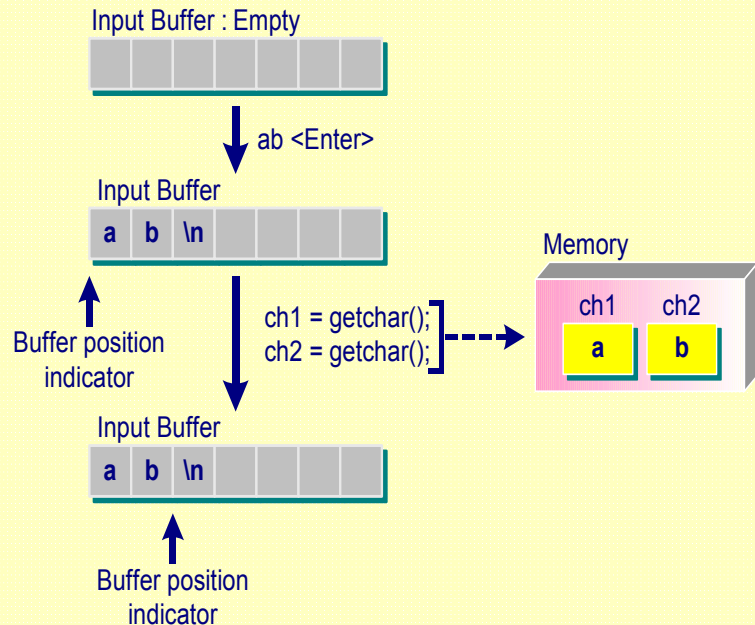
```
    putchar(ch1);
```

```
    putchar(ch2);
```

```
    putchar('\n');
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



## Output

1a

1a

ab

(User Input)

ab

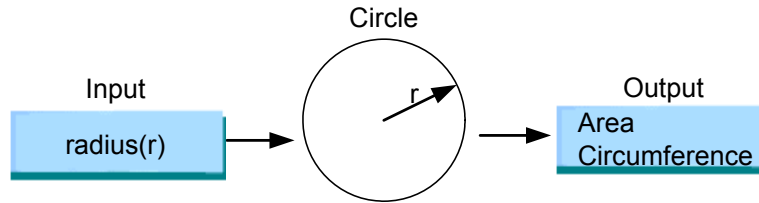
# Programming Problem



## Problem: Writing a Simple C Program (Sequential Structure)

/\* Purpose: A sample program to calculate the area and circumference.

Author: S.C. Hui \*/



$$\text{Area} = \pi * r * r$$

$$\text{Circumference} = 2 * \pi * r$$

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

```
#define PI 3.14
```

```
int main( )
```

```
{ // declare variables
```

```
float radius, area, circumference;
```

```
// Read the radius of the circle
```

→ **/\* Write your code here \*/**

```
// Calculate the area
```

→ **/\* Write your code here \*/**

```
// Calculate the circumference
```

→ **/\* Write your code here \*/**

```
// Print the area and circumference of the circle
```

→ **/\* Write your code here \*/**

```
return 0;
```

```
}
```

### Output

Enter the radius: 5.0

The area is 78.50

The circumference is 31.40

# Writing a Simple C Program (Sequential Structure)

*/\* Purpose: A sample program to calculate the area and circumference.*

*Author: S.C. Hui\*/*

*#include <stdio.h>*

→ *#define PI 3.14*

*int main( )*

*{ // declare variables*

→ *float radius, area, circumference;*

*// Read the radius of the circle*

→ *printf("Enter the radius: ");*

*scanf("%f", &radius);*

*// Calculate the area*

→ *area = PI \* radius \* radius;*

*// Calculate the circumference*

→ *circumference = 2 \* PI \* radius;*

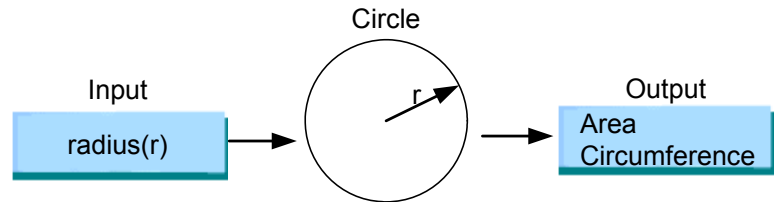
*// Print the area and circumference of the circle*

→ *printf("The area is %.2f\n", area);*

*printf("The circumference is %.2f", circumference);*

*return 0;*

*}*



$$\text{Area} = \pi * r * r$$

$$\text{Circumference} = 2 * \pi * r$$

## Output

Enter the radius: 5.0

The area is 78.50

The circumference is 31.40