



# CS 11 C track: lecture 1

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- Preliminaries

- Need a CMS cluster account

- <http://acctreq.cms.caltech.edu/cgi-bin/request.cgi>

- Need to know UNIX

- IMSS tutorial linked from track home page

- Track home page:

- <http://courses.cms.caltech.edu/courses/cs11/material/c/mike/index.html>



# Assignments

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- 1st assignment is posted now
- Due one week after class, midnight
- Grading system: see "admin page"  
linked from track home page



# Other administrative stuff

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- See admin web page:

<http://courses.cms.caltech.edu/cs11/material/c/mike/admin.html>

- Covers how to submit labs, collaboration policy, grading, etc.



# Textbook

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- Kernighan and Ritchie:

## The C Programming Language, 2nd. ed.

- 1st edition NOT acceptable
- "ANSI C"
- Only for reference



# C: pros and cons

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- What C is good at
  - low-level programming
  - speed and memory efficiency
  - portability (sorta)
- Bad things about C
  - unsafe!!!
  - low level of abstraction



# Getting started (1)

---

- The "hello, world!" program:

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



## Getting started (2)

---

- Make this into a file called `hello.c` using a text editor
  - *e.g.* `emacs`, `vi`, `nedit`, `pico`
- Compile into a program and run:

```
% gcc hello.c -o hello
% ./hello
hello, world!
%
```
- Woo hoo!



# Source code to executable (1)

---

- What you write is called "source code"
- Two kinds of source code files:
  - regular code (files end in ".c")
  - **header** files (files end in ".h")
- **Compiler** turns source code into "object code"
  - (files end in ".o")
- **Linker** turns object code file(s) into executable (no special file suffix)





# Source code to executable (2)

---

- The program `gcc` is both a compiler and a linker
- When you do this:  

```
% gcc hello.c -o hello
```
- Then `gcc`
  - compiles `hello.c` to `hello.o`
  - links `hello.o` with system libraries
  - outputs the binary executable program `hello`
  - removes `hello.o`



# Source code to executable (3)

---

- You can do each step individually:

```
% gcc -c hello.c           (compile only)
```

```
% gcc hello.o -o hello     (link only)
```

- In this case, `hello.o` is not removed
- Sequence:
  - **compiling**: source code to object code
  - **linking**: object code to binary executable



# The C language - overview

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- Programs are built up of **functions**
- Functions
  - take in arguments
  - compute something
  - return a result
- The **main()** function
  - is where program execution starts



# Data types (1)

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- All data in C has to have a specified **type**
- Examples:
  - **int** (integer)
  - **char** (character)
  - **float** or **double** (approximate real number)
  - others
- Variables hold data of a particular type only
- Variables must be declared before use



## Data types (2)

---

- Type declarations:

```
int i;    /* name = i    type = int */
```

```
char c;   /* name = c    type = char */
```

```
double d;
```

```
float some_float = 3.14;
```

- Identifiers: `i`, `c`, `d`, `some_float`
- Optional initialization (e.g. `some_float`)
- Booleans → `0` or nonzero (usually `1`)



# Data types (3)

---

- Strings: **arrays** of type **char**

```
char some_string[9] = "woo hoo!";
```

```
char same_string[] = "woo hoo!";
```

- Much more on strings, arrays later
- Other types: **structs**, **pointers**



# Operators (1)

---

- Numeric: + - \* / %
- Assignment: =

```
int i = 10;    /* initialization */
```

```
int j = 20;    /* initialization */
```

```
i = 2 + i * j; /* assignment */
```

```
j = j % 2;    /* assignment */
```



# Assignment operator

---

- Assignment works this way:
  - 1) Evaluate the right-hand side (RHS) of the assignment operator
  - 2) Assign the resulting value to the left-hand side (LHS) of the assignment operator





# Operators (2)

---

- What does

`i = 2 + i * j;`

mean?

a) `i = (2 + i) * j;`

b) `i = 2 + (i * j);`

- `*` has a higher *precedence* than `+`
- Use `()` to force other interpretation



# Operators (3)

---

- Other assignment operators:

- `+=`, `-=`, `*=`, ...

```
i += 2; /* i = i + 2; */
```

- increment and decrement: `++`, `--`

```
i++; /* i = i + 1; */
```

```
++i; /* same */
```



# Operators (4)

---

- Test operators:
  - compare two values
  - < <= > >=
  - == for testing equality
  - != for testing inequality
  - read "!" as "not"



# Operators (5)

---

- Logical operators:
  - arguments are `ints` used as booleans
  - *i.e.* usually `0` or `1` (false or true)
  - `!` operator is unary logical "not"
  - `&&` operator is binary logical "and"
  - `||` operator is binary logical "or"



# Operators (6)

---

```
int bool1, bool2, bool3, bool4;
```

```
bool1 = 0; /* false */
```

```
bool2 = !bool1; /* bool2 --> true */
```

```
bool3 = bool1 || bool2; /* value? */
```

```
bool4 = bool1 && bool2; /* value? */
```



# Operators (7)

---

- "Unary minus" operator:

```
int var1 = 10;
```

```
int var2;
```

```
var2 = -var1;
```

- Like `-` with nothing to the left
- Negates the value



# Expressions and statements

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- $i + 2 * j$  is an *expression* (has a value)
- $i = j * k;$  is a *statement*
  - ends in a semicolon
  - also is an expression (value is value of  $i$ )
- $i = j = k = 0;$  is allowed
- Equivalent to  $i = (j = (k = 0));$
- NOT  $((i = j) = k) = 0;$



# Comments

---

```
/* This is a comment. */
```

```
/*
```

```
 * Comments can span
```

```
 * multiple lines.
```

```
 */
```

```
// This is NOT a comment!
```





# Functions (1)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
{
    int y = 10;
    return y * x;
}
```



## Functions (2)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
{
    int y = 10;
    return y * x;
}
```

A red arrow points from the word "name" to the function name "f" in the code above.



## Functions (3)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
{
    int y = 10;
    return y * x;
}
```

argument list




# Functions (4)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
{
    int y = 10;
    return y * x;
}
```

return type






# Functions (5)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
```

body



```
{  
    int y = 10;  
    return y * x;  
}
```



# Functions (6)

---

- Functions take *arguments* and return values:

```
int f(int x)
```

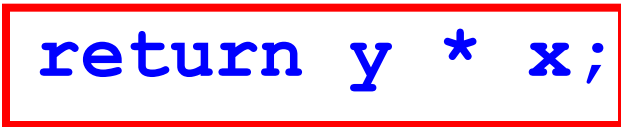
```
{
```

```
    int y = 10;
```

```
    return y * x;
```

```
}
```

return statement





# Functions (7)

---

- Calling the function we just defined:

```
/* in another function... */
```

```
int res;
```

```
int i = 10;
```

```
res = f(10);
```

```
res = f(5 + 5);
```

```
res = f(i);
```

```
res = f(i*5 + i/2);
```

- All of these are valid function calls
- Take in arguments, return result



# Functions (8)

---

- Functions can take multiple arguments:

```
int g(int x, int y)
{
    int z = 42;
    return x * y * z;
}
```

argument list

- Argument names (**x**, **y**) preceded by types (**int**)
- Arguments separated by commas





# Functions (9)

---

- Calling functions that take multiple arguments:

```
/* in another function... */  
int res;  
int i = 10, j = 20;  
res = g(10, 20);  
res = g(5 + 5, 20);  
res = g(i, j);  
res = g(i*5 + i/2, j * 10);
```



# Functions (10)

---

- Not all functions return values:

```
void print_number(int i)
{
    printf("number is: %d\n", i);
}
```

- Return type is **void** (nothing to return)
- Use this when no return value needed



# Functions (11)

---

- Not all functions return values:

```
void print_number(int i)
{
    printf("number is: %d\n", i);
    return; /* unnecessary */
}
```

- **return** statement not required
  - unless you return in the middle of the function



# Functions (12)

---

- Calling this function:

```
/* In another function... */  
int i = 10;  
print_number(20);  
print_number(i);  
print_number(i*5 + i/2);
```

- Prints 20, 10, 55 respectively



# Functions (13)

---

- Not all functions take arguments:

```
int five(void)
{
    return 5;
}
```

- No arguments (use **void** to indicate)



# Functions (14)

---

- Calling functions without arguments:  
`int value;`  
`value = five();`
- Now value equals 5
- Note `()` after `five`
  - means "this function is being called with no arguments"
  - Without this, function won't be called!



# Functions – type declarations

---

- **Type declarations** come at the beginning of the function

- Need a declaration for every **local variable**

```
int foo(int x)
```

```
{
```

```
    int y;    /* type declaration */
```

```
    y = x * 2;
```

```
    return y;
```

```
}
```



# Functions – type declarations

---

- This is wrong:

```
int foo(int x)
{
    int y;        /* type decl */
    y = x * 2;    /* code */
    /* type declaration after code: */
    int z = y * y;
    return z;
}
```

- Generates a compiler warning





# Local and global variables (1)

---

- Variable declarations can be **local** or **global**
- **Local**: inside a function
- **Global**: outside a function
  - accessible from any function



# Local and global variables (2)

---

```
int x;          /* Global variable */
int y = 10;     /* Initialized global variable */

int foo(int z)
{
    int w;      /* local variable */
    x = 42;     /* assign to a global variable */
    w = 10;     /* assign to a local variable */
    return (x + y + z + w);
}
```



# Local and global variables (3)

---

- In general, **avoid using global variables!**
- Global variables can be changed by *any* function
  - makes debugging much harder
- Global variables are never necessary
  - though sometimes convenient
- OK to use global "variables" if they really are constant
  - *i.e.* if you don't change their values



# printf()

---

```
int a = 5;
double pi = 3.14159;
char s[] = "I am a string!";
printf("a = %d, pi = %f, s = %s\n",
       a, pi, s);
```

- Substitutes values for **%d**, **%f**, **%s** etc.
- **%d** : int, **%f** : float, double, **%s** : string
- **\n** : new line



# The C preprocessor (1)

---

- What does the funky line `#include <stdio.h>` mean?
- **C preprocessor** directive
- Extra step in compilation:
  - **cpp**: source code -> expanded source code
  - **gcc**: compiles source code -> object code
  - **gcc (ld)**: links object code -> executable
  - **gcc** does all this for you



# The C preprocessor (2)

---

- What does the funky line `#include <stdio.h>` mean?
- Includes the **declaration** of `printf()`
  - NOT the implementation
  - allows your code to use `printf()`
- The linker adds in the implementation



# Conditionals (1)

---

- Need to be able to test for conditions:

```
int a = 10;
if (a < 20)
{
    printf("less than 20\n");
}
else
{
    printf("not less than 20\n");
}
```



# Conditionals (2)

---

- Test: 0 is "false", anything else is "true":

```
if (1) /* true */
{
    printf("less than 20\n");
}
else
{
    printf("not less than 20\n");
}
```





# Conditionals (3)

---

- VERY common error:

```
int a = 0;
if (a = 10) /* always true! */
{
    printf("a equals 10\n");
}
else
{
    printf("a doesn't equal 10\n");
}
```



# Conditionals (4)

---

- Should be:

```
int a = 0;
```

```
if (a == 10) /* not always true */
```

```
{
```

```
    printf("a equals 10\n");
```

```
}
```

```
else
```

```
{
```

```
    printf("a doesn't equal 10\n");
```

```
}
```



# Conditionals (5)

---

- **else** clause is optional:

```
int a = 0;  
if (a == 10)  
{  
    printf("a equals 10\n");  
}
```



# Conditionals (5)

---

- **else if** for multiple cases:

```
int a = 0;
if (a == 10) {
    printf("a equals 10\n");
} else if (a < 10) {
    printf("a is less than 10\n");
} else {
    printf("a is greater than 10\n");
}
```



# for loop (1)

---

- Need to do things repeatedly:

```
int i;  
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```



## for loop (2)

---

```
for (<initialization>;  
    <test>;  
    <increment>)  
{ <body> }
```

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```



## for loop (3)

---

```
for (<initialization>;  
    <test>;  
    <increment>)  
{ <body> }
```

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```



# for loop (4)

---

```
for (<initialization>;  
    <test>;  
    <increment>)  
{ <body> }
```

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```





# for loop (5)

---

```
for (<initialization>;  
    <test>;  
    <increment>)  
{ <body> }
```

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```



# for loop (6)

---

```
for (<initialization>;  
    <test>;  
    <increment>)  
{ <body> }
```

```
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)
```

```
{  
    printf("cowabunga!!!\n");  
}
```



# That's all for now!

---

- Much more on all these topics in later lectures
- Do first assignment to get familiar with basics
- Use "style checker" to avoid style mistakes
- Have fun!