

Introduction to C Programming

Hong Liu

HPC Consultant

NICS

- **A Brief History of C**
- In 1972 C was first wrote_at Bell Labs.
- In 1978 the publication of The C Programming Language caused a revolution in the computing world.
- In 1983, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) established a committee to provide a modern, comprehensive definition of C. The resulting definition, the ANSI standard, or "ANSI C", was completed late 1988.

• Why C?

<i>Features of C language</i>	<i>Uses of C language:</i>
Reliability	Database systems
Portability	Graphics packages
Flexibility	Word processors
Interactivity	Spread sheets
Modularity	Operating system development
	Compilers and Assemblers
	Network drivers
	Interpreters

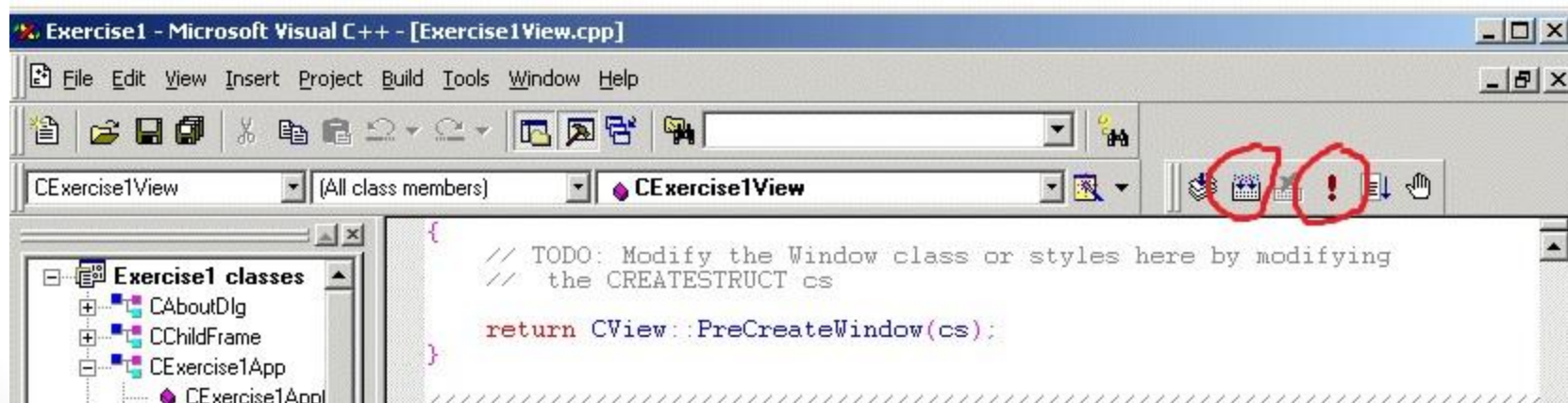
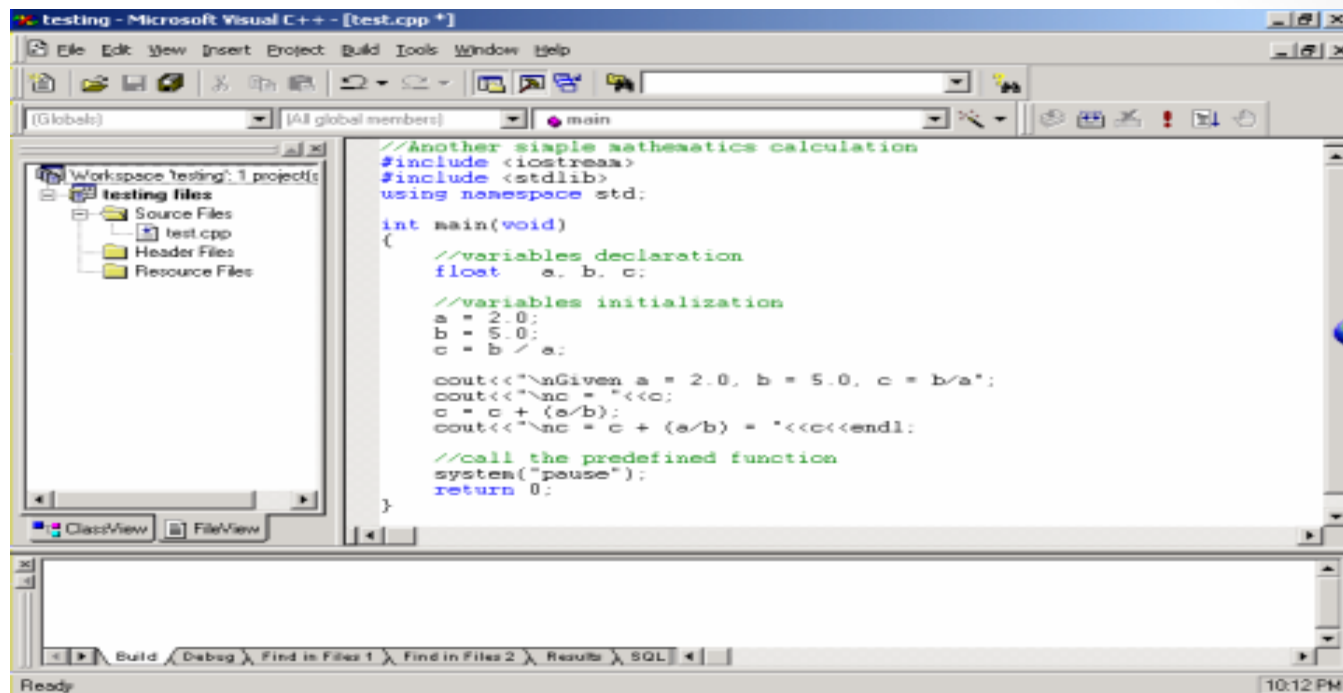
Running C Programs

Developing a program in a compiled language such as C requires at least four steps:

- **editing** (or writing) the program `*.c`
- **compiling** it `*.obj`
- **linking** it `*.exe` *(stdio.h)*
- **executing** it

Using Microsoft C

- **Edit stage:**
- Type program in using one of the Microsoft Windows editing packages.
- **Compile and link:**
- Select **Build** from menu. **Building** option allows you to both **compile** and **link** in the same option.
- **Execute:**
- Select the **Build** menu → then, **Execute *filename.exe*** menu



Unix systems

- Online terminal emulator
- <http://simpleshell.com/>
- *hello world example*
- #include <stdio.h>
- main()
- {
- printf("Hello world\n");
- }

- Please note that Unix is a case sensitive operating system and files named `firstprog.c` and `FIRSTPROG.c` are treated as two separate files on these system.
- By default the Unix system compiles and links a program in one step, as follows: **`cc firstprog.c`**
- This command creates an executable file called `a.out` .
- The program is run as follows:
- **`./a.out`**

Add Comments to a Program

- A **comment** is a note to yourself (or others). All comments are ignored by the compiler.
- **`/* This is a comment. */`**
- **`main() /* main function*/`**
- **`{`**
 - **`printf("Hello, World! \n"); /* DisplayMessage */`**
- **`}`**

Data Types

- You can create *variables* to store *values* in. There are five basic data types associated with variables:
- **int** - integer: a whole number.
- **float** - floating point value: ie a number with a fractional part.
- **double** - a double-precision floating point value.
- **char** - a single character.
- **void** - valueless.

- An **int** variable can store a value in the range -32768 to +32767. No fractional part is allowed.
- To declare an **int** : **int *variable name*;**
- **int a ;** Declares that you want to create an **int** variable called **a**.
- To assign a value to our integer variable we would use the following C statement:
- **a=10;**

- **Decimal Number Variables: float and double.**
- **float:** A float number has about seven digits of precision and a range of about 1.E-36 to 1.E+36.
- **double:** A double number has about 13 digits of precision and a range of about 1.E-303 to 1.E+303.

- To declare : **float total; double sum;**
- Assign a numerical value to our floating point and double precision variables:
- **total=0.0; sum=12.50;**

- **Character Variables**
- To declare a variable of type character we use the keyword **char**.
- For example:
- **char c;**
- To assign, or store, a character value in a **char** :
- **c='A'**

void

- Basically it means "nothing" or "no type"
- In C if you don't specify the return type, the compiler automatically inferred that you wanted to return an int
- Function return value: `void myFunc(int)` -- the function returns nothing

True and False in C

- In C *true* is represented by any numeric value not equal to 0 and *false* is represented by 0.
- **if(a)**
- If **a** isn't zero then this also acts as the value *true*

Mathematical operations

Add, subtract, multiply and divide.

- add $a+b$
- subtract $a-b$
- multiply $a*b$
- divide a/b

- What is the answer to this simple calculation?
- **a=10/3**
- The answer depends upon how **a** was declared. If it was declared as type **int** the answer will be 3; if **a** is of type **float** then the answer will be 3.333.

- `#include <stdio.h>`
- `main(){`
 - `int a,b,average;`
 - `a=10; b=6;`
 - `average = (a+b) / 2 ;`
 - `printf("Here is the answers.. ");`
 - `printf("\n");`
 - `printf("%d.",average);`
 - `printf("\n");`
- `}`

Input and Output Functions

- Input functions, called **scanf**
 - **scanf("%d",&a);**
- Output functions, called **printf**
 - **printf("The value stored in a is %d",a);**

- `#include <stdio.h>`
- `main()`
- `{`
 - `int a,b,c;`
 - `printf("\n The first number is ");`
 - `scanf("%d",&a);`
 - `printf("The second number is ");`
 - `scanf("%d",&b);`
 - `c=a+b;`
 - `printf("The answer is %d \n",c);`
- `}`

- `#include <stdio.h>`
- `main()`
- `{`
 - `int dec = 5;`
 - `char ch = 's';`
 - `float pi = 3.14;`
 - `printf("%d %f %c\n", dec, pi, ch);`
- `}`

Functions

A function has the general form:

```
type FunctionName (type declared parameter list)
{
    statements that make up the function
}
```

```
#include<stdio.h>
void demo()
{
    printf("Hello");
}
main()
{
    demo();
}
```

Making The Connections

- How to get data into a function? *parameters* are used to carry data values into a function. Parameters are listed and declared in between the () brackets in the function's definition
- **sum(int a, int b){**
 - **int result;**
 - **result=a + b;**
- **}**
- **sum(1,2);**

- How do we get values out?
- **return *value*;**

- **int sum(int a, int b){**
 - **int result;**
 - **result = a + b;**
 - **return result;**
- **}**
- And to use it you can write something like:
- **r=sum(1,2);**

- **void demo();**
- is a function with no parameters and no return value.

- ```
#include<stdio.h>
int sum(int a, int b){
 int result;
 result=a+b;
 return result;
}

main(){
 int r;
 r=sum(1,3);
 printf("The answer is %d.\n", r);
}
```

# The Standard Library

## Functions

- **stdio.h: I/O functions:**
  - **printf()** as previously described
  - **scanf()** as previously described
- **string.h: String functions**
  - **strcpy()** copys contents of str2 to str1
- **ctype.h: Character functions**
  - **islower()** returns non-0 if arg is lowercase letter
  - **isupper()** returns non-0 if arg is uppercase letter
- **math.h: Mathematics functions**
  - **sqrt()** returns square root of num
- **time.h: Time and Date functions**
  - **time()** returns current calender time of system

# Data Types Part II

- So far we have looked at *local* variable now we switch our attention to other types of variables supported by the C programming language:
- **Global variables**
- `int max;`
- `main(){`
- `.....`
- `}`
- `f1(){`
- `.....`
- `}`

- **Constant Data Types**
- **Fixed values that may not be altered by program**
  - **#define CONSTANTNAME value**
  - For example:
  - **#define SALESTAX 0.05**
- **#define SALESTAX 0.05**
- **#include <stdio.h>**
- **main() {**
  - **float amount, taxes, total;**
  - **printf("Enter the amount purchased : ");**
  - **scanf("%f",&amount);**
  - **taxes = SALESTAX\*amount;**
  - **printf("The sales tax is £%4.2f",taxes);**
  - **printf("\n The total bill is £%5.2f",total);**
- **}**

Questions?