ECE 220 Computer Systems & Programming

File I/O













Input / Output Streams



scanf("%d", &x)

I/O Device operates using I/O protocol (such as memory mapped I/O) In C, we abstract away the I/O details to an I/O function call





Stream Abstraction for I/O

All character-based I/O in C is performed on **text streams**. A stream is a **sequence of ASCII characters**, such as:

- the sequence of ASCII characters printed to the monitor by a single program
- the sequence of ASCII characters entered by the user during a single program
- the sequence of ASCII characters in a single file

Characters are processed in the order in which they were added to the stream.

 e.g., a program sees input characters in the same order as the user typed them.

Standard Streams:

Input (keyboard) is called stdin.

Output (monitor) is called **stdout**.

Error (monitor) is called **stderr**.

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Stream Buffering



- Input device is the producer; Program is the consumer
- We want producer and consumer to be operating independently
- Why??? Think Netflix over spotty internet connection
- We can accomplish that via **buffering**



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Simple Buffer



- Producer adds data at Tail
- Consumer removes data from Head
- Buffer Full?
- Buffer Empty?
- Concept of circular buffer
- Also called First in, First Out (FIFO) or Queue



Basic I/O Functions

The standard I/O functions are declared in the <stdio.h> header file.

<u>Function</u>	Description
putchar	Displays an ASCII character to the screen.
getchar	Reads an ASCII character from the keyboard.
printf	Displays a formatted string.
scanf	Reads a formatted string.
fopen	Open/create a file for I/O.
fclose	Close a file for I/O.
fprintf	Writes a formatted string to a file.
fscanf	Reads a formatted string from a file.
fgetc	Reads next ASCII character from stream.
fputc	Writes an ASCII character to stream.
fgets	Reads a string (line) from stream.
fputs	Writes a string (line) to stream.
EOF & feof	End of file

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How to use these I/O functions

FILE* fopen(const char* filename, const char* mode) //mode: "r", "w", "a",... success-> returns a pointer to FILE failure-> returns NULL

int fclose(FILE* stream)

success-> returns 0
failure-> returns EOF (Note: EOF is a macro, commonly -1)

int fprintf(FILE* stream, const char* format, ...)

success-> returns the number of characters written failure-> returns a negative number

int fscanf(FILE* stream, const char* format, ...)

success-> returns the number of items read; 0, if pattern doesn't match failure-> returns EOF





int fgetc(FILE* stream)

success-> returns the next character failure-> returns EOF and sets end-of-file indicator

int fputc(int c, FILE* stream)

success-> write the character to file and returns the character written failure-> returns EOF and sets end-of-file indicator

char* fgets(char* string, int num, FILE* stream)

success-> returns a pointer to string failure-> returns NULL and sets the end-of-file indicator

int fputs(const char* string, FILE* stream)

success-> writes string to file and returns a non-negative value failure-> returns EOF and sets the end-of-file indicator

int feof(FILE* stream) //checks end-of-file indicator
 if at the end of file-> returns a non-zero value
 if not -> returns 0

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int fseek(FILE *stream, long offset, int whence)

success-> 0
failure-> -1
whence: SEEK_SET, SEEK_CUR, SEEK_END

long ftell(FILE *stream)

success-> current offset failure-> -1

int sprintf(char *str, const char *format, ...)
int sscanf(const char *str, const char *format, ...)





Exercise: Read an mxn matrix from file in_matrix.txt and write its transpose to file out_matrix.txt. The first row of the file specifies the size of the matrix.
Hint: use fscanf to read from a file and use fprintf to write to a file.

```
in matrix.txt
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
                                                                   23
    FILE *in file;
                                                                   123
    FILE *out file;
                                                                   456
    //
    in_file = fopen("in matrix.txt", "r");
    if(in file == NULL)
       return -1;
    //
                                                               out matrix.txt
    int m, n;
                                                                   32
    fscanf(in file, "%d %d", &m, &n);
                                                                   14
    int matrix[m][n];
                                                                   25
```

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```
//
out_file = fopen("out_matrix.txt", "w");
if(out_file == NULL)
    return -1;
//
fprintf(out_file, "%d %d\n", n, m);
```

return 0;

}



