CSC161 2011S *Imperative Problem Solving*

Class 05: An Introduction to C

Held: Monday, 31 January 2011

Summary: We begin to explore the C progamming language.

Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Compiling C.
- Reading: K&R 1.

Notes:

- Assignment 2 is ready. Sorry for the delay in getting it out.
- Reading for tonight: Wikipedia on Emacs.
- It was a crazy weekend, so I'm behind in getting grading done. I'll get it to you as soon as I can.
- EC for Thursday's Summer Opportunities talk.

Overview:

- About the C Programming Language.
- Some C Basics.
- Q & A.
- Lab: Compiling C.

About the C Programming Language

- A moderately old language (early 1970's)
  - Newer than Fortran, Cobol, Algol
  - About the same age as Pascal
  - Older than Java, Python
- Imperative
  - Assignment is a key operation
  - Sequencing of operations is a key concept
- Comparatively low-level
  - You get to play with the underlying machine
  - You have to play with the underlying machine
- Small
- Coherent: Developed by one person (Dennis Ritchie)
- Closely linked to Unix. (The language in which Unix was developed.)
- A popular language and an even more popular syntax.

The Basics of C

- There are six basic things you need to know to write a program in a language.
- What are they?
- And what did you learn about how to do them in C?

Questions and Answers

- What are your primary questions from the reading?

Lab

- Begin the lab.
