

The Preprocessor

Based on slides from K. N. King and Dianna Xu

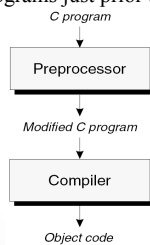
Bryn Mawr College
CS246 Programming Paradigm

Header Files

- Contains a collection of function prototypes, constant and preprocessor definitions
- Named with extension **.h**
- By convention carries the same name as the associated **.c** file
 - **hw1.h** → **hw1.c**
- Included in the source file with **#include**
 - **#include <stdio.h>**
 - **#include "hw1.h"**
- A way to use functions defined in other source files

The Preprocessor

- Directives such as **#define** and **#include** are handled by the *preprocessor*, a piece of software that edits C programs just prior to compilation.



The Preprocessor

- Preprocessor directives begin with a **#**
 - File inclusion
 - **#include** – includes a named file
 - Macro definition
 - **#define** – defines a (text replacement) *macro*
 - Conditional compilation
 - **#ifdef/#else/#endif** – conditional compilation

```

#ifdef MACRONAME
    part 1
#else
    part 2
#endif
  
```

Preprocessor Directives

- Several rules apply to all directives.
- *Directives always begin with the # symbol*
- *Directives can appear anywhere in a program.*
- *Any number of spaces and horizontal tab characters may separate the tokens in a directive.* Example:

```
#    define    N    100
```

- *Directives always end at the first new-line character, unless explicitly continued.*

To continue a directive to the next line, end the current line with a \ character:

```

#define DISK_CAPACITY (SIDES * \
    TRACKS_PER_SIDE * \
    SECTORS_PER_TRACK * \
    BYTES_PER_SECTOR)
  
```

#define

- Often used to define constants
 - **#define TRUE 1**
 - **#define FALSE 0**
 - **#define PI 3.14159**
 - **#define SIZE 20**
- Offers easy one-touch change of scale/size
- **#define** vs constants
 - The preprocessor directive uses no memory
 - **#define** may not be local

#define - more readable

```
#include<stdio.h>
#define MILE 1
#define KM 2

void km_mile_conv(int choice) {
    // -
    if (choice == MILE)
        // -
}

int main() {
    // -
    switch (choice) {
        case MILE:
            km_mile_conv(choice);
            break;
        case KM:
            km_mile_conv(choice);
            break;
        /* more cases */
    }
}
```

Parameterized Macros

- Examples of parameterized macros:


```
#define MAX(x,y) ((x)>(y)?(x):(y))
#define IS_EVEN(n) ((n)%2==0)
```
- Invocations of these macros:


```
i = MAX(j+k, m-n);
if (IS_EVEN(i)) i++;
```
- The same lines after macro replacement:


```
i = ((j+k)>(m-n)?(j+k):(m-n));
if ((i)%2==0) i++;
```
- A more complicated function-like macro:


```
#define TOUPPER(c) \
    ('a'<=(c)&&(c)<='z'? (c)-'a'+'A': (c))
```

Parameterized Macros

- A macro may evaluate its arguments more than once.**
Unexpected behavior may occur if an argument has side effects:
`n = MAX(i++, j);`
 The same line after preprocessing:
`n = ((i++)>(j)?(i++):(j));`
- Errors caused by evaluating a macro argument more than once can be difficult to find, because a macro invocation looks the same as a function call.
- For self-protection, it's a good idea to avoid side effects in arguments.

The # Operator

- The # operator converts a macro argument into a string literal*; it can appear only in the replacement list of a parameterized macro.
- For example:
`#define PRINT_INT(n) printf(#n " = %d\n", n)`
- The invocation
`PRINT_INT(i/j);`
 will become
`printf("i/j " = %d\n", i/j);`
- The compiler automatically joins adjacent string literals, so this statement is equivalent to
`printf("i/j = %d\n", i/j);`

The ## Operator

- The ## operator can "paste" two tokens together to form a single token.*
- If one of the operands is a macro parameter, pasting occurs after the parameter has been replaced by the corresponding argument.
- A macro that uses the ## operator:
`#define MK_ID(n) i##n`
- A declaration that invokes MK_ID three times:
`int MK_ID(1), MK_ID(2), MK_ID(3);`
- The declaration after preprocessing:
`int i1, i2, i3;`

General Properties of Macros

- Macros may be "undefined" by the #undef directive.**
 The #undef directive has the form
`#undef identifier`
 where *identifier* is a macro name.
 One use of #undef is to remove the existing definition of a macro so that it can be given a new definition.

Parentheses in Macro Definitions

- The replacement lists in macro definitions often require parentheses in order to avoid unexpected results.
- Each occurrence of a parameter in a macro's replacement list needs parentheses as well:

```
#define SCALE(x) (x*10)
/* needs parentheses around x */
```
- During preprocessing, the statement

```
j = SCALE(i+1);
```

becomes

```
j = (i+1*10);
```

This statement is equivalent to

```
j = i+10;
```

Conditional Compiling

- Debugging (so that you don't have to remove all your `printf` debugging!)

```
#ifdef DEBUG
// lots and lots of printf's
#else
// nothing often omitted
#endif
```

- Portability

```
#ifdef WINDOWS
// code that only works on windows
#endif
```

Defining a Macro for `#ifdef`

- `#define DEBUG`
- `#define DEBUG 0`
- `#define DEBUG 1`
- The `-Dmacro[=def]` flag of `gcc`
 - `gcc -DDEBUG hw1.c -o hw1`
 - `gcc -DDEBUG=1 hw1.c -o hw1`
 - `gcc -DDEBUG=0 hw1.c -o hw1`

`#ifndef`, `#if`, `#elif`, `#else`

- `#ifndef` is the opposite of `#ifdef`
- `#if DEBUG`
 - Test to see if `DEBUG` is non-zero
 - If using `#if`, must use `#define DEBUG 1`
 - Undefined macros are considered to be 0.
- `#elif MACRONAME`

```
#if WINDOWS
//included if WINDOWS is non-zero
#elif LINUX
//included if WINDOWS is 0 but LINUX is non-zero
#else
//if both are 0
#endif
```

Predefined Macros

- Useful macros that primarily provide information about the current compilation
 - `__LINE__` Line number of file compiled
 - `__FILE__` Name of file being compiled
 - `__DATE__` Date of compilation
 - `__TIME__` Time of compilation
- `printf("Compiled on %s at %s.\n", __DATE__, __TIME__);`

`#error`

- `#error message`
 - prints `message` to screen
 - often used in conjunction with `#ifdef`, `#else`
- ```
#if WINDOWS
//...
#elif LINUX
//...
#else
#error OS not specified
#endif
```

## Program Organization

- **#include** and **#define** first
- Globals if any
- Function prototypes, unless included with header file already
- **int main()** – putting your **main** before all other functions makes it easier to read
- The rest of your function definitions

## Math Library Functions

- Requires an additional header file  
**#include <math.h>**
- Must compile with additional flag **-lm**
- Prototypes in math.h
  - `double sqrt(double x);`
  - `double pow(double x, double p);`  $x^p$
  - `double log(double x);` (natural log, base e)
  - `double sin(double x)`
  - `double cos(double x)`

## Summary

- Learn to use prototypes and header files
- Preprocessor directives are very useful
- Always use **#define** directives for array sizes!