

A Taste of C

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Goals of this Lecture



Help you learn about:

- The basics of C
- Deterministic finite state automata (DFA)
- Expectations for programming assignments

Why?

- Help you get started with Assignment 1
 - Required readings...
 - + coverage of programming env in precepts...
 - + minimal coverage of C in this lecture...
 - = enough info to start Assignment 1
- DFAs are useful in many contexts
 - E.g. Assignment 1, Assignment 7

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Agenda



The charcount program

The upper program

The upper1 program

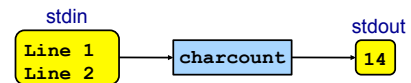
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The “charcount” Program



Functionality:

- Read all chars from stdin (standard input stream)
- Write to stdout (standard output stream) the number of chars read



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The “charcount” Program



The program:

```

charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  { charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
  
```

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“charcount” Building and Running



```

$ gcc217 charcount.c -o charcount
$ charcount
Line 1
Line 2
^D
14
$
  
```

What is this?
What is the effect?

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"charcount" Building and Running

```

$ cat somefile
Line 1
Line 2
$ charcount < somefile
14
$
    
```

What is this?
What is the effect?

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"charcount" Building and Running

```

$ charcount > someotherfile
Line 1
Line 2
^D
$ cat someotherfile
14
$
    
```

What is this?
What is the effect?

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"charcount" Building and Running in Detail

Question:

- Exactly what happens when you issue the command `gcc217 charcount.c -o charcount`

Answer: Four steps

- Preprocess
- Compile
- Assemble
- Link

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"charcount" Building and Running in Detail

The starting point

```

charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
    int c;
    int charCount = 0;
    c = getchar();
    while (c != EOF)
    {
        charCount++;
        c = getchar();
    }
    printf("%d\n", charCount);
    return 0;
}
    
```

- C language
- Missing definitions of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Preprocessing "charcount"

Command to preprocess:

- `gcc217 -E charcount.c > charcount.i`

Preprocessor functionality

- Removes comments
- Handles **preprocessor directives**

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Preprocessing "charcount"

```

charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
    int c;
    int charCount = 0;
    c = getchar();
    while (c != EOF)
    {
        charCount++;
        c = getchar();
    }
    printf("%d\n", charCount);
    return 0;
}
    
```

Preprocessor replaces `#include <stdio.h>` with contents of `/usr/include/stdio.h`

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Preprocessing "charcount"

```

charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  { charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
    
```

Preprocessor removes comment

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Preprocessing "charcount"

The result

```

charcount.i
...
int getchar();
int printf(char *fmt, ...);
...
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  { charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
    
```

Why int instead of char?

- C language
- Missing comments
- Missing preprocessor directives
- Contains code from `stdio.h`
 - Declarations of `getchar()` and `printf()`
- Missing definitions of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Compiling "charcount"

Command to compile:

- `gcc217 -S charcount.i`

Compiler functionality

- Translate from C to assembly language
- Use function declarations to check calls of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Compiling "charcount"

```

charcount.i
...
int getchar();
int printf(char *fmt, ...);
...
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  { charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
    
```

- Compiler sees function declarations
- So compiler has enough information to check subsequent calls of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Compiling "charcount"

```

charcount.i
...
int getchar();
int printf(char *fmt, ...);
...
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  { charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
    
```

- Definition of `main()` function
- Compiler checks calls of `getchar()` and `printf()` when encountered
- Compiler translates to assembly language

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Compiling "charcount"

The result: `charcount.s`

```

.section ".rodata"
format:
.string "%d\n"
.section ".text"
.globl main
.type main,@function
main:
    subq $4, %rsp
    movl $0, (%rsp)
    call getchar
loop:
    cmpl $-1, %eax
    je endloop
    incl (%rsp)
    call getchar
    jmp loop
endloop:
    movq $format, %rdi
    movl (%rsp), %esi
    movl $0, %eax
    call printf
    movl $0, %eax
    addq $4, %rsp
    ret
    
```

- Assembly language
- Missing definitions of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Assembling “charcount”



Command to assemble:

- `gcc217 -c charcount.s`

Assembler functionality

- Translate from assembly language to machine language

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Assembling “charcount”



The result:

charcount.o

Machine language
version of the
program

No longer human
readable

- Machine language
- Missing definitions of `getchar()` and `printf()`

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Linking “charcount”



Command to link:

- `gcc217 charcount.o -o charcount`

Linker functionality

- Resolve references
- Fetch machine language code from the standard C library (`/usr/lib/libc.a`) to make the program complete

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Linking “charcount”



The result:

charcount

Machine language
version of the
program

No longer human
readable

- Machine language
- Contains definitions of `getchar()` and `printf()`

Complete! Executable!

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Running “charcount”



Command to run:

- `charcount < somefile`

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Running “charcount”



Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

charcount.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
    int c;
    int charCount = 0;
    c = getchar();
    while (c != EOF)
    {
        charCount++;
        c = getchar();
    }
    printf("%d\n", charCount);
    return 0;
}
```

Computer allocates space
for `c` and `charCount` in the
stack section of memory

Why `int` instead
of `char`?

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Running "charcount"

Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

```
charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
  int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  {
    charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
```

- Computer calls `getchar()`
- `getchar()` tries to read char from stdin
- Success => returns char (within an int)
- Failure => returns EOF

EOF is a special non-char value that `getchar()` returns to indicate failure

Running "charcount"

Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

```
charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
  int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  {
    charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
```

Assuming `c != EOF`, computer increments `charCount`

Running "charcount"

Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

```
charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
  int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  {
    charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
```

Computer calls `getchar()` again, and repeats

Running "charcount"

Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

```
charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
  int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  {
    charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
```

- Eventually `getchar()` returns EOF
- Computer breaks out of loop
- Computer calls `printf()` to write `charCount`

Running "charcount"

Run-time trace, referencing the original C code...

```
charcount.c
#include <stdio.h>
/* Write to stdout the number of
  chars in stdin. Return 0. */
int main(void)
{
  int c;
  int charCount = 0;
  c = getchar();
  while (c != EOF)
  {
    charCount++;
    c = getchar();
  }
  printf("%d\n", charCount);
  return 0;
}
```

- Computer executes return stmt
- Return from `main()` terminates program

Normal execution => return 0 or `EXIT_SUCCESS`
 Abnormal execution => return `EXIT_FAILURE`

Other Ways to "charcount"

- 1

```
for (c=getchar(); c!=EOF; c=getchar())
  charCount++;
```
- 2

```
while ((c=getchar())!=EOF)
  charCount++;
```
- 3

```
for (;;)
{
  c = getchar();
  if (c == EOF)
    break;
  charCount++;
}
```
- 4

```
c = getchar();
while (c!=EOF)
{
  charCount++;
  c = getchar();
}
```

Which way is best?

Review of Example 1

Input/Output

- Including `stdio.h`
- Functions `getchar()` and `printf()`
- Representation of a character as an integer
- Predefined constant `EOF`

Program control flow

- The `for` and `while` statements
- The `break` statement
- The `return` statement

Operators

- Assignment: `=`
- Increment: `++`
- Relational: `== !=`

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Agenda

- The charcount program
- The upper program**
- The upper1 program

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Example 2: "upper"

Functionality

- Read all chars from stdin
- Convert each lower case alphabetic char to upper case
 - Leave other kinds of chars alone
- Write result to stdout

```

    graph LR
    A[stdin  
Does this work?  
It seems to work.] --> B[upper]
    B --> C[stdout  
DOES THIS WORK?  
IT SEEMS TO WORK.]
    
```

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"upper" Building and Running

```

$ gcc217 upper.c -o upper
$ cat somefile
Does this work?
It seems to work.
$ upper < somefile
DOES THIS WORK?
IT SEEMS TO WORK.
$
    
```

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ASCII

American Standard Code for Information Interchange

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
0	NUL							HT	LF							
16																
32	SP	!	"	#	\$	%	&	'	()	*	+	,	-	.	/
48	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
64	@	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
80	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	[\]	^	_
96	`	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
112	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	{		}	~	

Partial map

Note: Lower case and upper case letters are 32 apart

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EBCDIC

Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
0	NUL							HT									
16																	
32								LF									
48																	
64	SP											.	<	(+		
80	&											!	\$	*)	;	?
96	-	/										:	;	<	=	>	?
112												:	#	@	'	"	~
128		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i							
144		j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r							
160		-	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z							
176																	
192		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I							
208		J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R							
224		\	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z							
240	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9							

Partial map

Note: Lower case not contiguous; same for upper case

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“upper” Version 1

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{ int c;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { if ((c >= 97) && (c <= 122))
    c -= 32;
    putchar(c);
  }
  return 0;
}
```

What's wrong?

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Character Literals

Examples

'a'	the a character 97 on ASCII systems 129 on EBCDIC systems
'\n'	newline 10 on ASCII systems 37 on EBCDIC systems
'\t'	horizontal tab 9 on ASCII systems 5 on EBCDIC systems
'\\'	backslash 92 on ASCII systems 224 on EBCDIC systems
'\''	single quote 39 on ASCII systems 125 on EBCDIC systems
'\0'	the null character (alias NUL) 0 on all systems

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“upper” Version 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{ int c;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { if ((c >= 'a') && (c <= 'z'))
    c += 'A' - 'a';
    putchar(c);
  }
  return 0;
}
```

Arithmetic
on chars?

What's wrong?

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ctype.h Functions

```
$ man islower
NAME
    isalnum, isalpha, isascii, isblank, iscntrl, isdigit, isgraph,
    islower, isprint, ispunct, isspace, isupper, isxdigit -
    character classification routines

SYNOPSIS
    #include <ctype.h>
    int isalnum(int c);
    int isalpha(int c);
    int isascii(int c);
    int isblank(int c);
    int iscntrl(int c);
    int isdigit(int c);
    int isgraph(int c);
    int islower(int c);
    int isprint(int c);
    int ispunct(int c);
    int isspace(int c);
    int isupper(int c);
    int isxdigit(int c);

These functions
check whether c...
falls into a
certain character
class...
```

ctype.h Functions

```
$ man toupper
NAME
    toupper, tolower - convert letter to upper or lower case

SYNOPSIS
    #include <ctype.h>
    int toupper(int c);
    int tolower(int c);

DESCRIPTION
    toupper() converts the letter c to upper case, if possible.
    tolower() converts the letter c to lower case, if possible.

    If c is not an unsigned char value, or EOF, the behavior of
    these functions is undefined.

RETURN VALUE
    The value returned is that of the converted letter, or c if
    the conversion was not possible.
```

“upper” Final Version

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
int main(void)
{ int c;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { if (islower(c))
    c = toupper(c);
    putchar(c);
  }
  return 0;
}
```

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Review of Example 2

Representing characters

- ASCII and EBCDIC character sets
- Character literals (e.g., 'A' or 'a')

Manipulating characters

- Arithmetic on characters
- Functions such as islower() and toupper()

Agenda

- The charcount program
- The upper program
- The upper1 program**

Example 3: "upper1"

Functionality

- Read all chars from stdin
- Capitalize the first letter of each word
- "cos 217 rocks" => "Cos 217 Rocks"
- Write result to stdout

"upper1" Building and Running

```

$ gcc217 upper1.c -o upper1
$ cat somefile
cos 217 rocks
Does this work?
It seems to work.
$ upper1 < somefile
Cos 217 Rocks
Does This Work?
It Seems To Work.
$
    
```

"upper1" Challenge

Problem

- Must remember where you are
- Capitalize "c" in "cos", but not "o" in "cos" or "c" in "rocks"

Solution

- Maintain some extra information
- "In a word" vs "not in a word"

Deterministic Finite Automaton

Deterministic Finite State Automaton (DFA)

```

graph LR
    Start(( )) --> NORMAL((NORMAL))
    NORMAL -- "!isalpha (print)" --> NORMAL
    NORMAL -- "isalpha (print uppercase equiv)" --> INWORD((INWORD))
    INWORD -- "isalpha (print)" --> INWORD
    INWORD -- "!isalpha (print)" --> NORMAL
    
```

- **States**, one of which is denoted the **start** state
- **Transitions** labeled by chars or char categories
- Optionally, **actions** on transitions

"upper1" Version 1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
int main(void)
{ int c;
  int state = 0;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { switch (state)
    { case 0:
      if (isalpha(c))
      { putchar(toupper(c)); state = 1; }
      else
      { putchar(c); state = 0; }
      break;
      case 1:
      if (isalpha(c))
      { putchar(c); state = 1; }
      else
      { putchar(c); state = 0; }
      break;
    }
  }
  return 0;
}
```

That's a B.
What's wrong?

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"upper1" Toward Version 2

Problem:

- The program works, but...
- States should have names

Solution:

- Define your own named constants
- `enum Statetype {NORMAL, INWORD};`
 - Define an enumeration type
- `enum Statetype state;`
 - Define a variable of that type

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"upper1" Version 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
enum Statetype {NORMAL, INWORD};
int main(void)
{ int c;
  enum Statetype state = NORMAL;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { switch (state)
    { case NORMAL:
      if (isalpha(c))
      { putchar(toupper(c)); state = INWORD; }
      else
      { putchar(c); state = NORMAL; }
      break;
      case INWORD:
      if (isalpha(c))
      { putchar(c); state = INWORD; }
      else
      { putchar(c); state = NORMAL; }
      break;
    }
  }
  return 0;
}
```

That's a B+.
What's wrong?

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"upper1" Toward Version 3

Problem:

- The program works, but...
- Deeply nested statements
- No modularity

Solution:

- Handle each state in a separate function

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"upper1" Version 3

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
enum Statetype {NORMAL, INWORD};

enum Statetype handleNormalState(int c)
{ enum Statetype state;
  if (isalpha(c))
  { putchar(toupper(c));
    state = INWORD;
  }
  else
  { putchar(c);
    state = NORMAL;
  }
  return state;
}

enum Statetype handleInwordState(int c)
{ enum Statetype state;
  if (!isalpha(c))
  { putchar(c);
    state = NORMAL;
  }
  else
  { putchar(c);
    state = INWORD;
  }
  return state;
}
```

```
int main(void)
{ int c;
  enum Statetype state = NORMAL;
  while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
  { switch (state)
    { case NORMAL:
      state = handleNormalState(c);
      break;
      case INWORD:
      state = handleInwordState(c);
      break;
    }
  }
  return 0;
}
```

That's an A-.
What's wrong?

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"upper1" Toward Final Version

Problem:

- The program works, but...
- No comments

Solution:

- Add (at least) function-level comments

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Function Comments

Function comment should describe **what the function does** (from the caller's viewpoint)

- Input to the function
 - Parameters, input streams
- Output from the function
 - Return value, output streams, (call-by-reference parameters)

Function comment should **not** describe **how the function works**

Function Comment Examples

Bad main() function comment

```
Read a character from stdin. Depending upon the current DFA state, pass the character to an appropriate state-handling function. The value returned by the state-handling function is the next DFA state. Repeat until end-of-file.
```

- Describes **how the function works**

Good main() function comment

```
Read text from stdin. Convert the first character of each "word" to uppercase, where a word is a sequence of letters. Write the result to stdout. Return 0.
```

- Describes **what the function does** from caller's viewpoint

"upper1" Final Version

```
/*-----*/
/* upper1.c */
/* Author: Bob Dondero */
/*-----*/

#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

enum Statetype {NORMAL, INWORD};
```

Continued on next page

"upper1" Final Version

```
/*-----*/
/* Implement the NORMAL state of the DFA. c is the current
DFA character. Write c or its uppercase equivalent to
stdout, as specified by the DFA. Return the next state. */

enum Statetype handleNormalState(int c)
{
    enum Statetype state;
    if (isalpha(c))
    {
        putchar(toupper(c));
        state = INWORD;
    }
    else
    {
        putchar(c);
        state = NORMAL;
    }
    return state;
}
```

Continued on next page

"upper1" Final Version

```
/*-----*/
/* Implement the INWORD state of the DFA. c is the current
DFA character. Write c to stdout, as specified by the DFA.
Return the next state. */

enum Statetype handleInwordState(int c)
{
    enum Statetype state;
    if (!isalpha(c))
    {
        putchar(c);
        state = NORMAL;
    }
    else
    {
        putchar(c);
        state = INWORD;
    }
    return state;
}
```

Continued on next page

"upper1" Final Version

```
/*-----*/
/* Read text from stdin. Convert the first character of each
"word" to uppercase, where a word is a sequence of
letters. Write the result to stdout. Return 0. */

int main(void)
{
    int c;
    /* Use a DFA approach. state indicates the DFA state. */
    enum Statetype state = NORMAL;
    while ((c = getchar()) != EOF)
    {
        switch (state)
        {
            case NORMAL:
                state = handleNormalState(c);
                break;
            case INWORD:
                state = handleInwordState(c);
                break;
        }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Review of Example 3

Deterministic finite state automaton

- Two or more states
- Transitions between states
 - Next state is a function of current state and current character
- Actions can occur during transitions

Expectations for COS 217 assignments

- Readable
 - Meaningful names for variables and literals
 - Reasonable max nesting depth
- Modular
 - Multiple functions, each of which does one well-defined job
- Function-level comments
 - Should describe what function does
- See K&P book for style guidelines specification

Summary

The C programming language

- Overall program structure
- Control statements (**if**, **while**, **for**, and **switch**)
- Character I/O functions (**getchar()** and **putchar()**)

Deterministic finite state automata (DFA)

Expectations for programming assignments

- Especially Assignment 1

Start Assignment 1 soon!

Appendix: Additional DFA Examples

Another DFA Example

Does the string have "nano" in it?

- "banano" => yes
- "nnnnnnnanofff" => yes
- "banananonano" => yes
- "bananananashanana" => no

Double circle is accepting state

Single circle is rejecting state

```

    graph LR
        start((start)) -- 'n' --> n((n))
        n -- 'a' --> na((na))
        na -- 'n' --> nan((nan))
        nan -- 'o' --> nano(((nano)))
        start -- 'other' --> start
        n -- 'other' --> start
        na -- 'other' --> start
        nan -- 'other' --> start
        nano -- 'other' --> start
    
```

Yet Another DFA Example

Old Exam Question
Compose a DFA to identify whether or not a string is a floating-point literal

Valid literals	Invalid literals
• "-34"	• "abc"
• "78.1"	• "-e9"
• "+298.3"	• "1e"
• "-34.7e-1"	• "+"
• "34.7E-1"	• "17.9A"
• "7."	• "0.38+"
• ".7"	• "."
• "999.99e99"	• "38.38f9"