

MODULE Xa USING C LIBRARY - THE C CHARACTER AND STRING 2

MODULE 25 & 26 THE C++ STL - CHARACTERS AND STRINGS (Template based)

My Training Period: hours

For the secure version, please refer to your compiler documentation. However some of the secure version functions already used in [C Lab worksheet tutorials](#). The compiler used is Visual C++ 2005 Express Edition.

X.4 Standard Input/Output Library Functions

- These functions are from the standard input/output library, [stdio.h](#).
- Are specifically for manipulating characters and string data.
- Table X.3 summarizes these functions and their usage.

Function prototype	Function description
<code>int getchar(void)</code>	Input the next character from the standard input (keyboard) and return it as an integer.
<code>char *gets(char *s)</code>	Input characters from the standard input (keyboard) into the array <code>s</code> until a newline or end-of-file character is encountered. A terminating NULL character is appended to the array.
<code>int putchar(int c)</code>	Print the character stored in <code>c</code> .
<code>int puts(const char *s)</code>	Print the string <code>s</code> followed by a newline character.
<code>int sprintf(char *s, const char *format, ...)</code>	Equivalent to <code>printf()</code> except the output is stored in the array <code>s</code> instead of printing on the screen.
<code>int sscanf(char *s, const char *format, ...)</code>	Equivalent to <code>scanf()</code> except the input is read from the array <code>s</code> instead of reading from the keyboard.

Table X.3 : The standard input/output library character and string functions

- Program examples functions from the [stdio.h](#), beginning with `gets()` and `putchar()`. The secure version is put in comments.

```
// using the gets() and putchar()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

// function prototype...
void reverse(char *);

int main()
{
    // an array for storing the string...
    char sentence[80];

    printf("Using gets() and putchar()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    // prompt for user input...
    printf("Enter a line of text:\n");
    // gets_s(*buffer, size_in_character);
    // gets_s(sentence, 79); // a secure version
    gets(sentence);

    printf("\nThe line printed backward is:\n");
    // reverse() function call...
    reverse(sentence);
    printf("\n");
    return 0;
}

void reverse(char *s)
{
    // test if nothing entered...
    if(s[0] == '\0')
        return;
    // if something entered...
    else
    {
```

```

        reverse(&s[1]);
        putchar(s[0]);
    }
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

- The `getchar()` and `puts()`.

```

// using the getchar() and puts()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main()
{
    char c, sentence[80];
    int i = 0;
    printf("Using getchar() and puts()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    puts("Enter a line of text: ");
    // while iteration/loop...
    while ((c = getchar()) != '\n')
        sentence[i++] = c;
    // insert NULL at the end of string
    sentence[i] = '\0';
    puts("\nThe line of text entered was: ");
    puts(sentence);
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

- The `sprintf()`. The secure version is in the comments.

```

// using sprintf()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main()
{
    char s[80];
    int x;
    float y;

    printf("Using sprintf()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    printf("Enter an integer and a float, separated by space: \n");
    // scanf_s("%d%f", &x, &y, size_of_buffer, size_of_buffer);
    // scanf_s("%d%f", &x, &y, 4, 8);
    scanf("%d%f", &x, &y);
    // sprintf_s(s, 79, "Integer:%6d\nFloat:%8.2f", x, y);
    // sprintf_s(*buffer, size_of_buffer, "Integer:%6d\nFloat:%8.2f", x, y);
    sprintf(s, "Integer:%6d\nFloat:%8.2f", x, y);
    printf("\n%s\n%s\n", "The formatted output stored in array s is: ", s);
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

```

C:\bc5\bin\hohoh.exe
Using sprintf()
-----
Enter an integer and a float, separated by space:
33 45.321

The formatted output stored in array s is:
Integer: 33
Float: 45.32
Press any key to continue . . .

```

- The `sscanf()`. The secure version is in the comments.

```

// using sscanf()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main()
{
    char s[] = "31298 87.375";
    int x;
    float y;

    printf("Using sscanf()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    // sscanf_s(s, "%d%f", &x, &y, x_buffer_size, y_buffer_size, ...);
    // sscanf_s(s, "%d%f", &x, &y, sizeof(int), sizeof(float));
    sscanf(s, "%d%f", &x, &y);
    printf("array, s[] = 31298 87.375\n");
    printf("\n%s\n%s%6d\n%s%8.3f\n",
        "The values stored in character array s are: ",
        "Integer: ", x, "Float: ", y);
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

```

C:\bc5\bin\hohoh.exe
Using sscanf()
-----
array, s[] = 31298 87.375

The values stored in character array s are:
Integer: 31298
Float: 87.375
Press any key to continue . . .

```

X.5 String Manipulation Functions of The String Handling Library

- These functions are for:
 1. Manipulating string data.
 2. Comparing strings.
 3. Searching strings for characters and other strings.
 4. Tokenizing strings (separating strings into logical pieces).
 5. Determining the length of strings.
- We call these functions from `string.h` header file.
- Table X.4 summarizes these functions.

Function prototype	Function description
<code>char *strcpy(char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Copies the string <code>s2</code> into the array <code>s1</code> . The value of <code>s1</code> is returned.
<code>char *strncpy(char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n)</code>	Copies at most <code>n</code> characters of the string <code>s2</code> into the array <code>s1</code> . The value of <code>s1</code> is returned.
<code>char *strcat(char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Appends the string <code>s2</code> to the array <code>s1</code> . The first character of <code>s2</code> overwrites the terminating <code>NULL</code> character of <code>s1</code> . The value of <code>s1</code> is returned.
<code>char *strncat(char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n)</code>	Appends at most <code>n</code> characters of string <code>s2</code> to array <code>s1</code> . The first character of <code>s2</code> overwrites the terminating <code>NULL</code> character of <code>s1</code> . The value of <code>s1</code> is returned.

Table X.4: The string manipulation functions of the string handling library

- Let explore the program examples, beginning with `strcpy()` and `strncpy()`. The secure version is in the comments.

```

// using strcpy() and strncpy()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

```

```

int main()
{
    char x[ ] = "Yo! Happy Birthday to me";
    char y[25], z[15];

    printf("Using strcpy() and strncpy()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    printf("The string in array x is: %s\n", x);
    // strcpy_s(*destination, dest_size_in_byte, *source)
    printf("The string in array y is: %s\n", strcpy_s(y, 25, x));
    printf("The string in array y is: %s\n", strcpy(y, x));
    printf("The string in array y is: %s\n", y);
    // strncpy_s(*destination, dest_size_in_byte, *source, count);
    // strncpy_s(z, 15, x, 14);
    strncpy(z, x, 14);
    z[14] = '\0';
    printf("Copy only the first 14 characters ....\n", z);
    printf("The string in array z is: %s\n", z);
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

// using strcat() and strncat(). The secure version is in the comments.

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char s1[20] = "Happy ";
    char s2[] = "New Year ";
    char s3[40] = " ";

    printf("Using strcat() and strncat()\n");
    printf("-----\n");
    printf("s1 = %s\ns2 = %s\n", s1, s2);
    // strcat_s(*destination, dest_size_in_byte, *source)
    // strcat_s(s1, 20, s2);
    printf("\nstrcat (s1, s2) = %s\n", strcat(s1, s2));
    // strncat_s(*destination, dest_buffer_size_in_byte, *destination, count)
    // strncat_s(s3, 40, s1, 6);
    printf("strncat (s1, s2, 6) = %s\n", strncat(s3, s1, 6));
    // strcat_s(s3, 40, s1);
    printf("strcat(s3, s1) = %s\n", strcat(s3, s1));
    return 0;
}

```

Output:

X.6 Comparison Functions Of The String Handling Library

- Let explore the string comparison functions, [strcmp\(\)](#) and [strncmp\(\)](#), of the string handling library. Table X.5 is a summary of the functions and followed by program examples.
- For these sections, how the computers know that one particular letter comes before another?
- All characters are represented inside the computer as numeric codes, when the computer compares two strings, it actually compares the numeric codes of the characters in the strings.
- There are three popular coding schemes for character representation (character set):

1. ASCII – American Standard Code for Information Interchange.
2. EBCDIC – Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code.
3. Unicode.

- ASCII, EBCDIC and Unicode are called character codes or character sets.
- String and character manipulations actually involve the manipulation of the appropriate numeric codes and not the characters themselves.
- These explain the interchangeability of characters and small integers in C/C++.

Function prototype	Function description
<code>int strcmp(const char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Compares the string <code>s1</code> to the string <code>s2</code> . The function returns 0, less than 0, or greater than 0 if <code>s1</code> is equal to, less than, or greater than <code>s2</code> , respectively.
<code>int strncmp(const char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n)</code>	Compares up to <code>n</code> characters of the string <code>s1</code> to the string <code>s2</code> . The function returns 0, less than 0, or greater than 0 if <code>s1</code> is equal to, less than, or greater than <code>s2</code> , respectively.

Table X.5: The string comparison functions of the string handling library

```
// using strcmp() and strncmp()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char * s1 = "Happy New Year";
    char *s2 = "Happy New Year";
    char *s3 = "Happy Birthday";

    printf("Using strcmp() and strncmp()\n");
    printf("-----\n");

    printf("s1 = %s\n", s1);
    printf("s2 = %s\n", s2);
    printf("s3 = %s\n", s3);
    printf("\nstrcmp(s1, s2) = %2d\n", strcmp(s1, s2));
    printf("strcmp(s1, s3) = %2d\n", strcmp(s1, s3));
    printf("strcmp(s3, s1) = %2d\n", strcmp(s3, s1));

    printf("\nstrncmp(s1, s3, 6) = %2d\n", strncmp(s1, s3, 6));
    printf("strncmp(s1, s3, 7) = %2d\n", strncmp(s1, s3, 7));
    printf("strncmp(s1, s1, 7) = %2d\n", strncmp(s1, s1, 7));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

X.7 Search Functions Of The String handling Library

- Used to search strings for characters and other strings. Table X.6 is the summary of these functions and followed by program examples.

Function prototype	Function description
<code>char *strchr(const char *s, int c)</code>	Locates the first occurrence of character <code>c</code> in string <code>s</code> . If <code>c</code> is found, a pointer to <code>c</code> in <code>s</code> is returned. Otherwise a NULL pointer is returned.
<code>size_t strcspn(const char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Determines and returns the length of the initial segment of string <code>s1</code> consisting of characters not contained in string <code>s2</code> .
<code>size_t strspn(const char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Determines and returns the length of the initial segment of string <code>s1</code> consisting only of characters contained in string <code>s2</code> .
<code>char *strpbrk(const char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Locates the first occurrence in string <code>s1</code> of any character in string <code>s2</code> . If a character from string <code>s2</code> is found, a pointer to the character in string <code>s1</code> is returned. Otherwise a NULL pointer is returned.

<code>char *strchr(const char *s, int c)</code>	Locates the last occurrence of <code>c</code> in string <code>s</code> . If <code>c</code> is found, a pointer to <code>c</code> in string <code>s</code> is returned. Otherwise a <code>NULL</code> pointer is returned.
<code>char *strstr(const char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	Locates the first occurrence in string <code>s1</code> of string <code>s2</code> . If the string is found, a pointer to the string in <code>s1</code> is returned. Otherwise a <code>NULL</code> pointer is returned.
<code>char *strtok(char *s1, const char *s2)</code>	A sequence of calls to <code>strtok()</code> breaks string <code>s1</code> into "tokens", logical pieces such as words in a line of text, separated by characters contained in string <code>s2</code> . The first call contains <code>s1</code> as the first argument, and subsequent calls to continue tokenizing the same string contain <code>NULL</code> as the first argument. A pointer to the current token is returned by each call. If there are no more tokens when the function is called, <code>NULL</code> is returned.

Table X.6: String manipulation functions of the string handling library.

```
// using strchr()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string = "This is a test statement, testing! ";
    char character1 = 'e', character2 = 'z';
    printf("    Using strchr()\n");
    printf("    -----\n");
    if (strchr(string, character1) != NULL)
        printf("'e' was found in \"%s\".\n", character1, string);
    else
        printf("'e' was not found in \"%s\".\n", character1, string);
    if (strchr(string, character2) != NULL)
        printf("'z' was found in \"%s\".\n", character2, string);
    else
        printf("'z' was not found in \"%s\".\n", character2, string);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

```
// using strcspn()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string1 = "The value is 3.14159";
    char *string2 = "1234567890";

    printf("    Using strcspn()\n");
    printf("    -----\n");
    printf("string1 = %s\n", string1);
    printf("string2 = %s\n", string2);
    printf("\nThe length of the initial segment of string1\n");
    printf("not containing characters from string2 = %u", strcspn(string1, string2));
    printf("\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

```
// using strpbrk()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string1 = "This is a test statement";
    char *string2 = "search";

    printf("    Using strpbrk()\n");
    printf("    -----\n");
    printf("In \"%s\" string, a character \"%c\"\n", string2, *strpbrk(string1, string2));
    printf("is the first character to appear in\n\"%s\"\n", string1);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

```
C:\bc5\bin\proj0010.exe
Using strpbrk()
-----
In "search" string, a character 'h'
is the first character to appear in
"This is a test statement"
Press any key to continue . . .
```

```
// using strchr()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string1 = "A zoo has many animals including birds";
    int c = 'm';

    printf("    Using strchr()\n");
    printf("    -----\n");
    printf("string1 = %s\n", string1);
    printf("\nThe remainder of string1 beginning with the\n");
    printf("last occurrence of character \"%c\"", c);
    printf("\nis: %s\n", strchr(string1, c));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

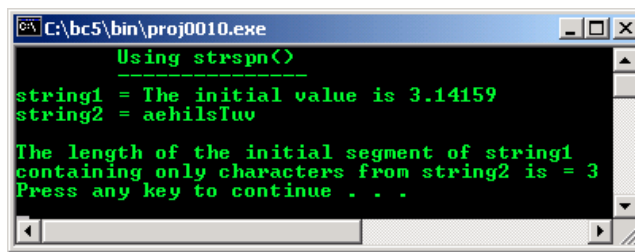
```
C:\bc5\bin\proj0010.exe
Using strchr()
-----
string1 = A zoo has many animals including birds
The remainder of string1 beginning with the
last occurrence of character 'm'
is: mals including birds
Press any key to continue . . .
```

```
// using strspn()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string1 = "The initial value is 3.14159";
    char *string2 = "aehilsTuv";

    printf("    Using strspn()\n");
    printf("    -----\n");
    printf("string1 = %s\n", string1);
    printf("string2 = %s\n", string2);
    printf("\nThe length of the initial segment of string1\n");
    printf("containing only characters from string2 is = %u\n", strspn(string1, string2));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:



```
C:\bc5\bin\proj0010.exe
Using strstr()
-----
string1 = The initial value is 3.14159
string2 = aehilsTuv

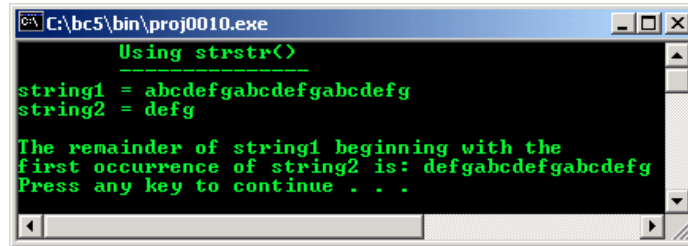
The length of the initial segment of string1
containing only characters from string2 is = 3
Press any key to continue . . .
```

```
// using strstr()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char *string1 = "abcdefgabcdefgabcdefg";
    char *string2 = "defg";

    printf("    Using strstr()\n");
    printf("    ----- \n");
    printf("string1 = %s\n", string1);
    printf("string2 = %s\n", string2);
    printf("\nThe remainder of string1 beginning with the");
    printf("\nfirst occurrence of string2 is: %s\n", strstr(string1, string2));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:



```
C:\bc5\bin\proj0010.exe
Using strstr()
-----
string1 = abcdefgabcdefgabcdefg
string2 = defg

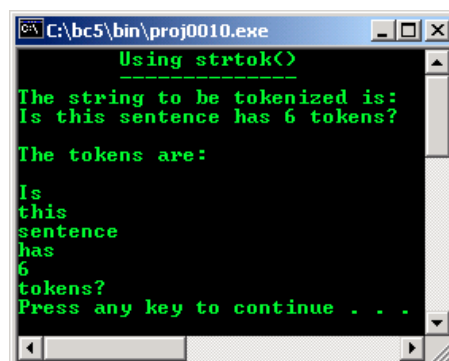
The remainder of string1 beginning with the
first occurrence of string2 is: defgabcdefgabcdefg
Press any key to continue . . .
```

```
// using strtok()
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

int main()
{
    char string[] = "Is this sentence has 6 tokens?";
    char *tokenPtr;

    printf("    Using strtok()\n");
    printf("    ----- \n");
    printf("The string to be tokenized is: %s\n", string);
    printf("\nThe tokens are: \n\n");
    tokenPtr = strtok(string, " ");
    while (tokenPtr != NULL)
    {
        printf("%s\n", tokenPtr);
        tokenPtr = strtok(NULL, " ");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output:



```
C:\bc5\bin\proj0010.exe
Using strtok()
-----
The string to be tokenized is:
Is this sentence has 6 tokens?

The tokens are:

Is
this
sentence
has
6
tokens?
Press any key to continue . . .
```



```

// a loop uses strtok_s() to print all the tokens
// (separated by commas or blanks) in two
// strings at the same time. The secure version is in the comments.
#include <string.h>
#include <stdio.h>

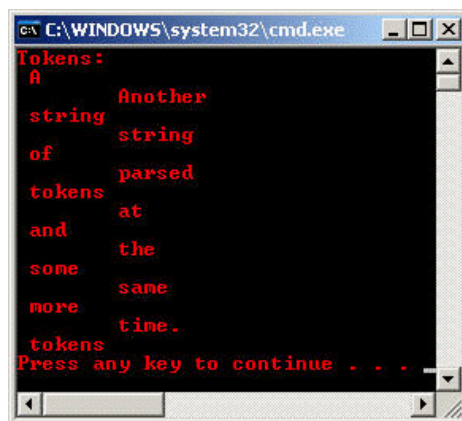
char string1[ ] = "A string\tof ,,tokens\nd and some more tokens";
char string2[ ] = "Another string\n\tparsed at the same time.";
char seps[ ] = " ,\t\n";
char *token1, *token2, *next_token1, *next_token2;

int main( void )
{
    printf( "Tokens:\n" );

    // establish string and get the first token:
    // char *strtok_s(char *strToken, const char *strDelimit, char **context);
    token1 = strtok_s( string1, seps, &next_token1);
    token2 = strtok_s ( string2, seps, &next_token2);
    // while there are tokens in "string1" or "string2"
    while ((token1 != NULL) || (token2 != NULL))
    {
        // Get next token:
        if (token1 != NULL)
        {
            printf( " %s\n", token1 );
            token1 = strtok_s( NULL, seps, &next_token1);
        }
        if (token2 != NULL)
        {
            printf(" %s\n", token2 );
            token2 = strtok_s (NULL, seps, &next_token2);
        }
    }
    return 0;
}

```

Output:



```

C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe
Tokens:
A
string of tokens
and some more
tokens
Another string
parsed at
the same
time.
Press any key to continue . . .

```

Further C string library related reading:

1. Check the [best selling C / C++ books at Amazon.com](#).
2. [Win32 Locale, Unicode & Wide Characters \(Story\)](#) and [Windows Win32 Users & Groups](#) (Microsoft implementation) for Multibytes, Unicode characters and Localization.
3. For C++ using template based characters and string manipulations story and examples can be found [C++ Template Based Strings & Characters 1](#) and [C++ Template Based Strings & Characters 2](#).

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