

Microprocessor based digital Systems

 programming language

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Why learn C

Embedded software stuck at C

No parallel languages for multi-core on horizon

[Rick Merritt](#) [EE Times](#) 09/27/2007 8:35 PM

AUSTIN, Texas — Embedded developers are slowly moving to multi-core architectures, but they will make the transition without much help from parallel programming languages. A lack, and sometimes a plethora, of standards is also an impediment, said a panel of embedded [software](#) experts at the Power.org conference here Tuesday (Sept. 25).

"Eighty-five percent of all embedded developers use [C](#) or C++. Any other language is a non-starter," said David Kleidermacher, chief technology officer of Green Hills Software. "I don't have much hope a new parallel language will get a foothold," he added.

Real engineers program in C

Michael Barr Embedded.com 08/01/2009 5:00 AM

A couple of months ago, I ate a pleasant lunch with a couple of young entrepreneurs in Baltimore. The two are recent computer science graduates from Johns Hopkins University with a fast-growing consulting business. Their firm specializes in writing software for web-centric databases in a language called Ruby on Rails (a.k.a., "Ruby"). As we discussed many of the similarities and a few of the differences in our respective businesses over lunch, one of the young men made a comment I won't soon forget, **"Real men program in C."**

Clever though he is, the young man admitted he wasn't making that quote up on the spot. **That "real men program in C" is part of a lingo he and his fellow computer science students developed while categorizing the usefulness of the various programming languages available to them.**

Why learn C

Programming languages used in embedded software projects.

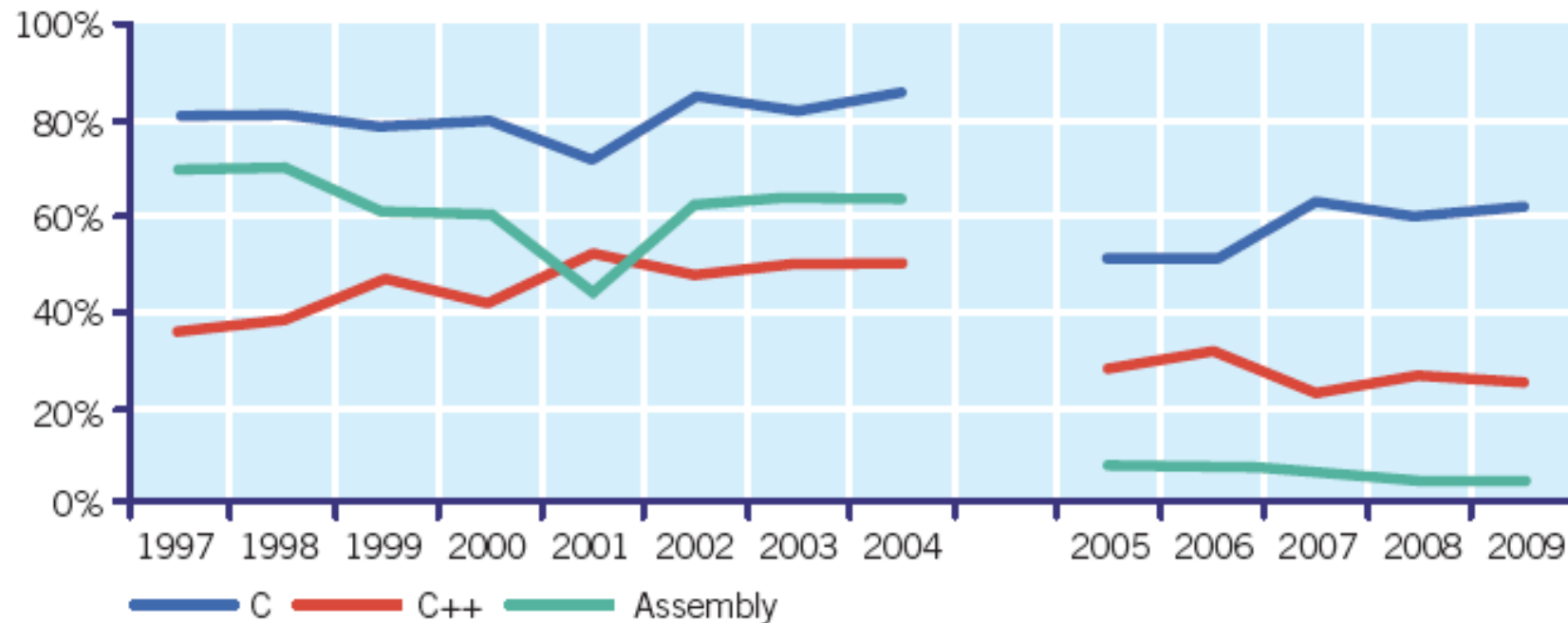


Figure 1

Template for C

```
//-----  
// Microprocesadores (3-IT)  
// Dpto. Tecnología Electronica  
// UC3M  
//-----  
#include <p18f252.h>           // Register definitions  
#include <portb.h>           // PORTB library function  
#include <timers.h>          // Timer library functions  
//-----  
// Set configuration bits:  
// - set HS oscillator  
// - disable watchdog timer  
// - disable low voltage programming  
//-----  
#pragma config OSC = HS  
#pragma config WDT = OFF  
#pragma config LVP = OFF  
//-----  
//Constant Definitions  
//-----  
#define      CONST      1           // Constant  
#define      Test_LED   LATAbits.LATA5 // Test LED  
//-----  
// Variable declarations  
//-----  
const rom char ready[] = "\n\rREADY>"; // Program memory (Tables)  
//-----  
// Function Prototypes  
//-----  
void myfunc(char mydata);  
void isr(void);  
void isrlow(void);  
void Setup(void);
```

```
//-----  
// Load Interrupt vectors  
//-----  
//-----  
// main() & user functions  
//-----  
void main(void)  
{  
    Setup();  
    // Setup peripherals and software variables.  
  
    while(1) // Loop forever  
    {  
        ;  
    }  
  
    //end while(1)  
}  
//-----  
// Setup() initializes program variables and peripheral registers  
//-----  
void Setup(void)  
{  
    ;  
}  
  
//-----  
// isr()  
//-----
```

C concept

About functions and variables

As a high level language, it is oriented towards **structured programming**.

C language has been developed to create **functions** (set of **instructions** which perform a given task), that are combined in order to form a **program**.

The basic function of all is **main**, which is the function that is executed first (coming from **Power-On-Reset** (POR)):

```
void main(void)
{
    
}

```

Las **variables** se pasan de una a otra función, consiguiendo la operación conjunta de las funciones.

C concept



```
void main(void)
{
    sys_init();

    if(coin)
        coin = 0;
        tune = get_tune();
        play(tune);
    else
        waitroutine();
}
```

functions

Receive, process and return data, held in variables

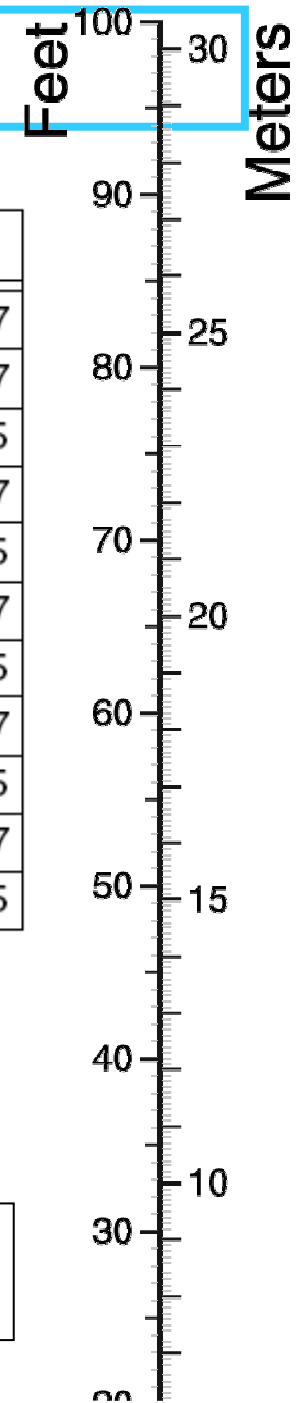
variables

Hold data of different types and sizes

instructions

Data Types

Type	Size	Minimum	Maximum
char ^(1,2)	8 bits	-128	127
signed char	8 bits	-128	127
unsigned char	8 bits	0	255
int	16 bits	-32,768	32,767
unsigned int	16 bits	0	65,535
short	16 bits	-32,768	32,767
unsigned short	16 bits	0	65,535
short long	24 bits	-8,388,608	8,388,607
unsigned short long	24 bits	0	16,777,215
long	32 bits	-2,147,483,648	2,147,483,647
unsigned long	32 bits	0	4,294,967,295



HOMEWORK

How is each data type stored in Memory

Data Types

Oh yes!!!
It does matter



Data Types

```
void main(void)
{
    sys_init();

    if(coin)
        coin = 0;
        tune = get_tune();
        play(tune);
    else
        waitroutine();
}
```

HOMEWORK

There is no Boolean data type.

How can we create **coin** as 1 bit variable?

Data Types

The data types specify the different sizes of the values for

Constants

Definition: A constant is a value of any type that has the same value and can never change.

and the

Variables

Definition: A variable is a way of referring to a memory location used in a computer program. This memory location holds values- perhaps numbers or text or more complicated types of data.

Pointer: A pointer is a special kind of variable in C that holds the address of another variable. Pointers and arrays are two sides of the same coin. To write any kind of non trivial application in C, pointers are needed.

Declaration of variables

The variables must be declared before we can use them.

Declaring a variable involves specifying:

- 1.- Data Type (size)
- 2.- Name of the variable

```
int    cont0, cont1, k;  
char   mode, cy;
```

The **initialization** of the variables can take place when the variable is created

```
int    cont0 = 0;  
char   mode = 'forward';
```

Data Types Examples

Collection of Constant Data in ROM (arrays)

```
const rom char *datarray = "Press button to select tune"  
const rom char tunes[ ] = { "Cure, Feels like Heaven", "&",  
                             "Dire Straits, Brothers in Arms", "&" }
```

Microcontroller positions are memory locations, therefore, Variables

```
keybd = PORTC;           reads the pins in port C  
  
PORTA = LightsON;       sets the value of port A  
PORTA = LightsOFF;
```

Labels to hold data

```
#define chain           expression  
  
#define LightsON       0x01100110  
#define LED            PORTAbits.RA5
```

Working with Variables

Retrieving data from memory

1.- By its name

```
int    a;  
  
a = 17;
```

2.- By its address (through pointers)

We need a pointer (a variable that stores the address of another variable), which is defined by

```
int    *bk, a;
```

Then

```
bk = &a;  
a  = *bk;
```

& = la dirección de la variable
* = el contenido de la dirección

Scope of Variables

Global

Declared before the start of the main() function

Scope: is anywhere in the program (includes main and all other functions)

Life Span: While the program is running

Hint: It is usually better to avoid the use of global variables

Local

The declaration is placed after the { start brace of any function including main

Scope of a local variable is limited to the function it is declared in.

Life Span: Local variables are destroyed when a function is exited, and a new one is created when a function is visited again, they exist in memory on a **temporary** basis.

If the programmer would like the value of the variable to be remembered when the function is revisited then that variable must be declared as static

Programming in C

Programming Structures

IF

```
if(expression)
{
}
else
{
}
```

SWITCH

```
switch(variable) {
    case const_expr1:
        statement1;
        break;
    case const_expr2:
        statement2;
        break;
    case const_expr3:
        statement3;
        break;
    default:
        statement0;
}
```

FOR

```
for(expr1;expr2;expr3)
{
}

for(i=1;i<10;i++)
    sum=sum+1;
```


Programming in C

Programming Structures

WHILE

```
while(expression)
{
}

```

```
while(i<10)
{
    sum=sum+1;
    i++;
}

```

DO WHILE

```
do
    statement;
while(expression)

```

Programming in C

Conditional expressions with variables in `if(expression)` & `while(expression)`

`==` equal? `A == 0`

`!=` not equal?

```
if(PORTA==0x0F)
```

```
{
```

`>` Greater than

```
}
```

`>=` Greater or equal

`<` Lower than

`<=` Lower or equal

`&&` and

`||` or

`!` not (one's complement)

Programming in C

Operations with variables

Arithmetic

+ addition

- subtraction

* multiplication

/ division

% quotient

++ increment (+1)

-- decrement (-1)

Logic

& and used to clear bits
`PORTA=PORTA & B'00001111'`

| or used to set bits
`PORTA=PORTA | B'00001111'`

^ xor toggle state
`PORTA=PORTA ^ B'00010000'`

~ not

>> left shift
`PORTA=PORTA >> 4`

<<

PIC Microcontroller C

Reference to individual bits

```
TRISBbits.TRISB3 = 0;  
PORTBbits.RB4=1;
```

#pragma statements

Pragmas are special compiler commands which control certain features of a C-compiler. Pragma statements are specifically designed to insert statements for the microcontroller for which we are writing code.

PIC Microcontroller C

```
//-----  
// Set configuration bits:  
// - set HS oscillator  
// - disable watchdog timer  
// - disable low voltage programming  
//-----
```

```
/*  
#pragma config OSC = HS  
#pragma config WDT = OFF  
#pragma config DEBUG = ON
```

Example of a C program

```
#include <p18cxxx.h>    /* for TRISB and PORTB
                        declarations */
```

```
int counter;
```

Global Variable

```
void main (void)
```

```
{
```

```
    counter = 1;
```

```
    TRISB = 0;          /* configure PORTB for output */
```

```
    while (counter <= 15)
```

```
    {
```

```
        PORTB = counter; /* display value of 'counter'
                           on the LEDs */
```

```
        counter++;
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Built-in functions

- Preface
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- Chapter 2. Hardware Peripheral Functions
 - 2.1 Introduction
 - 2.2 A/D Converter Functions
 - 2.3 Input Capture Functions
 - 2.4 I2C™ Functions
 - 2.5 I/O Port Functions
 - 2.6 Microwire Functions
 - 2.7 Pulse-Width Modulation Functions
 - 2.8 SPI™ Functions
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Hardware

Control devices integrated in
The chip

Software

Create devices by software



MPLAB® C18 C COMPILER LIBRARIES

Built-in functions

OpenTimer0

Function: Configure and enable timer0.

Include: `timers.h`

Prototype: `void OpenTimer0(unsigned char config);`

Arguments: *config*
A bitmask that is created by performing a bitwise AND operation ('&') with a value from each of the categories listed below. These values are defined in the file `timers.h`.

Enable Timer0 Interrupt:

`TIMER_INT_ON` Interrupt enabled
`TIMER_INT_OFF` Interrupt disabled

Timer Width:

`T0_8BIT` 8-bit mode
`T0_16BIT` 16-bit mode

Clock Source:

`T0_SOURCE_EXT` External clock source (I/O pin)
`T0_SOURCE_INT` Internal clock source (TOSC)

External Clock Trigger (for `T0_SOURCE_EXT`):

`T0_EDGE_FALL` External clock on falling edge
`T0_EDGE_RISE` External clock on rising edge

Prescale Value:

`T0_PS_1_1` 1:1 prescale
`T0_PS_1_2` 1:2 prescale
`T0_PS_1_4` 1:4 prescale
`T0_PS_1_8` 1:8 prescale
`T0_PS_1_16` 1:16 prescale
`T0_PS_1_32` 1:32 prescale
`T0_PS_1_64` 1:64 prescale
`T0_PS_1_128` 1:128 prescale
`T0_PS_1_256` 1:256 prescale

Built-in functions

Instruction Macro ¹	Action
<code>Nop()</code>	Executes a no operation (NOP)
<code>ClrWdt()</code>	Clears the watchdog timer (CLRWDT)
<code>Sleep()</code>	Executes a SLEEP instruction
<code>Reset()</code>	Executes a device reset (RESET)
<code>Rlcf(var, dest, access)^{2,3}</code>	Rotates <i>var</i> to the left through the carry bit.
<code>Rlncf(var, dest, access)^{2,3}</code>	Rotates <i>var</i> to the left without going through the carry bit
<code>Rrcf(var, dest, access)^{2,3}</code>	Rotates <i>var</i> to the right through the carry bit
<code>Rrncf(var, dest, access)^{2,3}</code>	Rotates <i>var</i> to the right without going through the carry bit
<code>Swapf(var, dest, access)^{2,3}</code>	Swaps the upper and lower nibble of <i>var</i>
<p>Note 1: Using any of these macros in a function affects the ability of the MPLAB C18 compiler to perform optimizations on that function.</p> <p>2: <i>var</i> must be an 8-bit quantity (i.e., <code>char</code>) and not located on the stack.</p> <p>3: If <i>dest</i> is 0, the result is stored in <code>WREG</code>, and if <i>dest</i> is 1, the result is stored in <i>var</i>. If <i>access</i> is 0, the access bank will be selected, overriding the <code>BSR</code> value. If <i>access</i> is 1, then the bank will be selected as per the <code>BSR</code> value.</p>	