

Computer Engineering 175

Project Guide

1 A Simple C Compiler

What is Simple C? Simple C is a subset of the C programming language. It has few built-in types, a simplified declaration syntax, a streamlined set of operators, and only simple control constructs.

Is every Simple C program a C program? Yes, Simple C is a true subset of C, so every legal Simple C program is a legal C program. In particular, every Simple C program can be compiled using a traditional C compiler.

Why use a subset of C? Although Pascal is a smaller language and perhaps a better choice for building a first compiler, most students are familiar with the syntax and semantics of C, C++, or Java.

Where will the compiler run? You will be generating code for the Intel 80x86 family of processors running the Linux operating system. These machines are readily available in the design center.

Why use an Intel platform? Most students should be familiar with the Intel architecture through previous courses. Additionally, it is easy to write a simple compiler to generate efficient code for the Intel architecture. Generating efficient code for architectures such as the Sparc architecture would require a more sophisticated compiler.

2 Grading

How will my compiler be graded? Your compiler will be graded in six phases. Each phase will have a weight assigned. After each phase, you may continue with your implementation or use the solution provided.

How will each assignment be graded? Grading will be fully automated. Therefore, your compiler *must* produce output exactly as indicated in the assignment and online examples. Incorrectly formatted output that is otherwise correct will receive a zero. Your score will be determined by how many test cases your compiler passes. Your design and coding style will *not* be graded.

How will I submit each assignment? Assignments will be submitted online. The submission page is located off the class home page. Your username and password are the same as those of your design center account. A problem with the submission system is *not* a valid excuse for failing to complete an assignment.

What do I submit? For each assignment, you *must* submit a `tar` file containing your project directory, which *must* be named `phasen`, where `n` is the number of the current phase. Within the directory, you *must* have a `Makefile` that will produce an executable file called `scc`. The following steps will be used to compile your assignment:

1. `tar xf submission`
2. `cd phasen`
3. `rm -f *.o scc core`
4. `make`

How will my compiler work? Your compiler will read input from the standard input, will write valid output to the standard output, and will write error messages to the standard error: `scc < input-file > output-file 2> error-file`. Your compiler *must* work on the Linux machines in the design center.