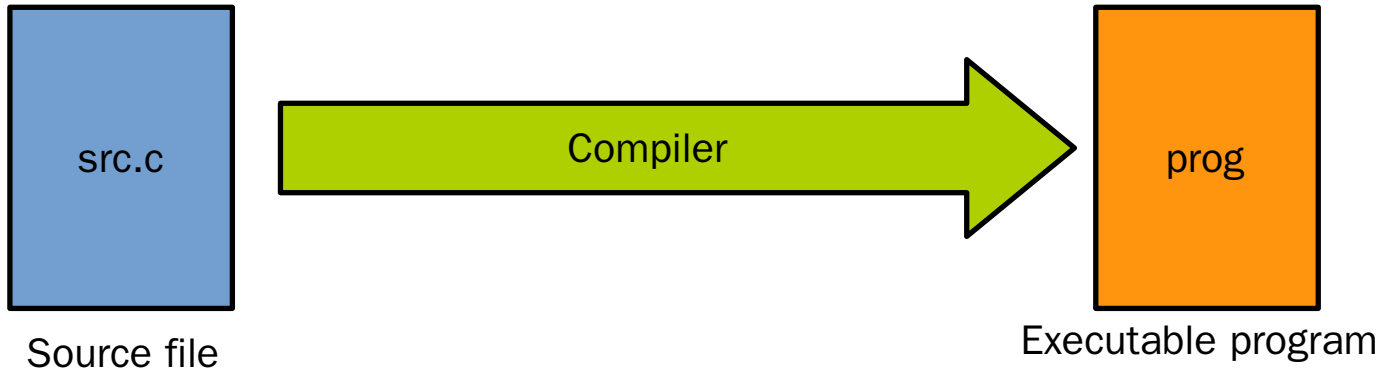


COMP26020 Programming Languages and Paradigms Part 1: C Programming

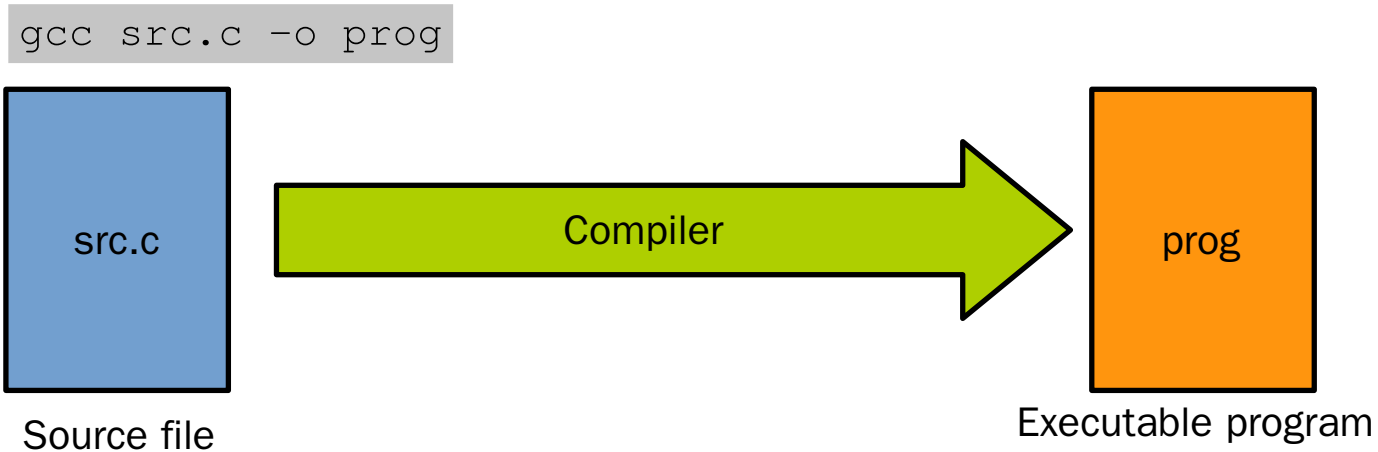
The Preprocessor

The Preprocessor

```
gcc src.c -o prog
```

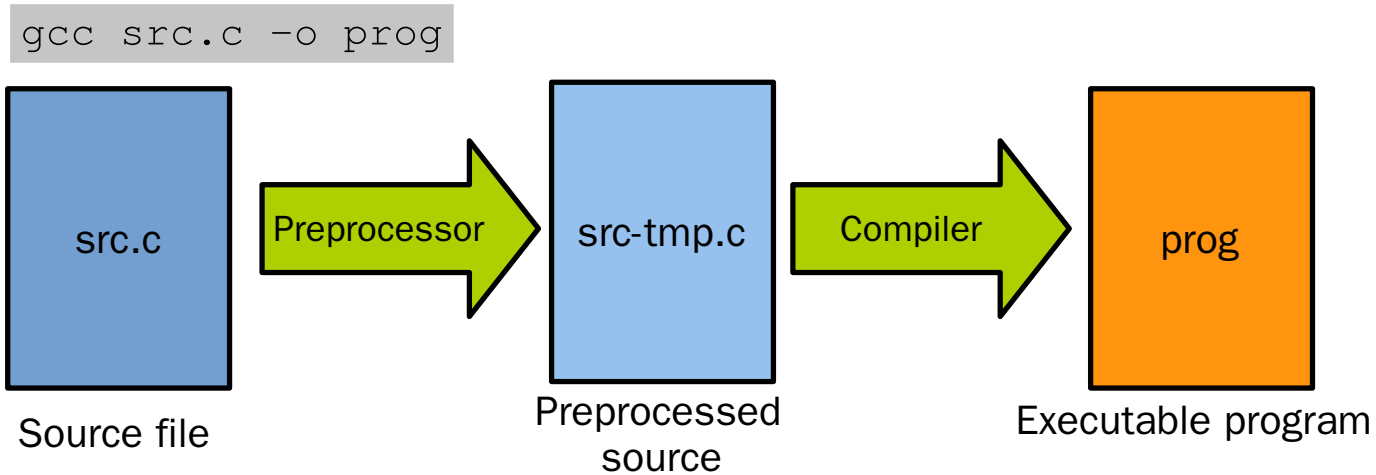


The Preprocessor



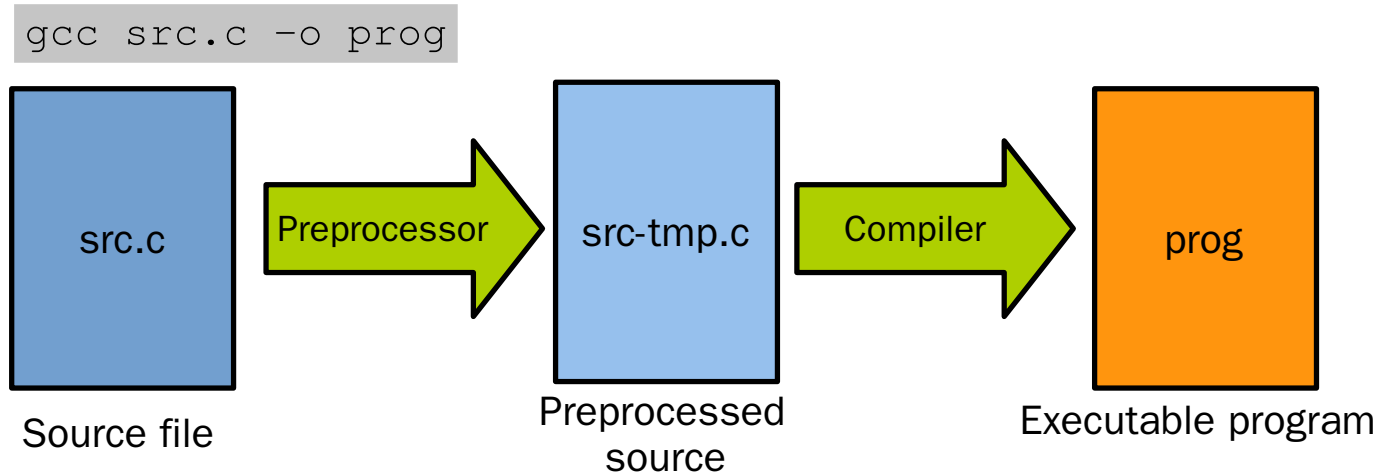
Actually things are a little bit more complicated 😜

The Preprocessor



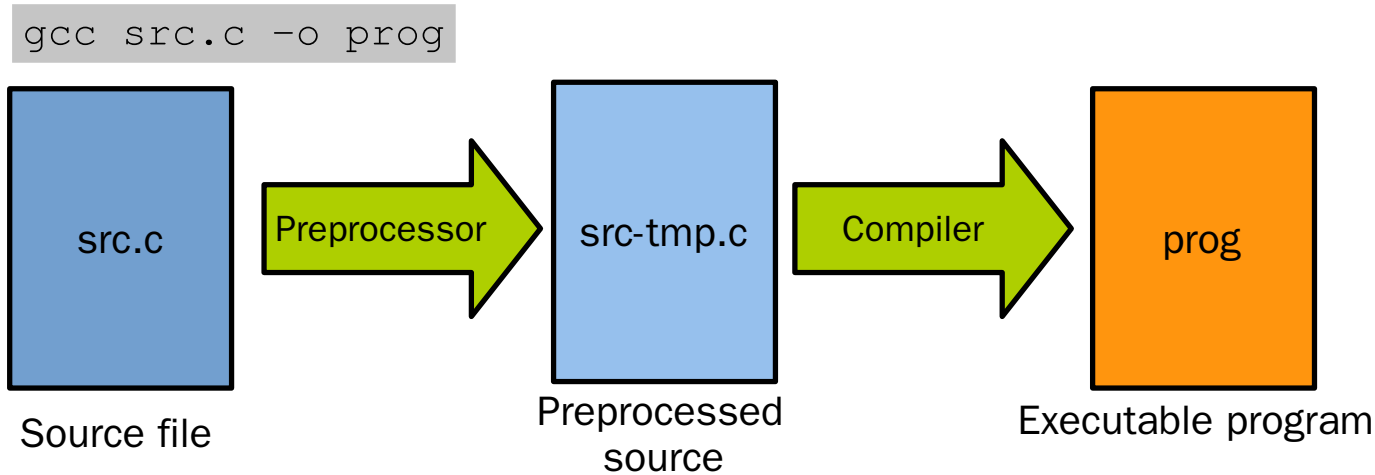
- Run by the compiler transparently
- Performs **textual transformations** in the source code:

The Preprocessor



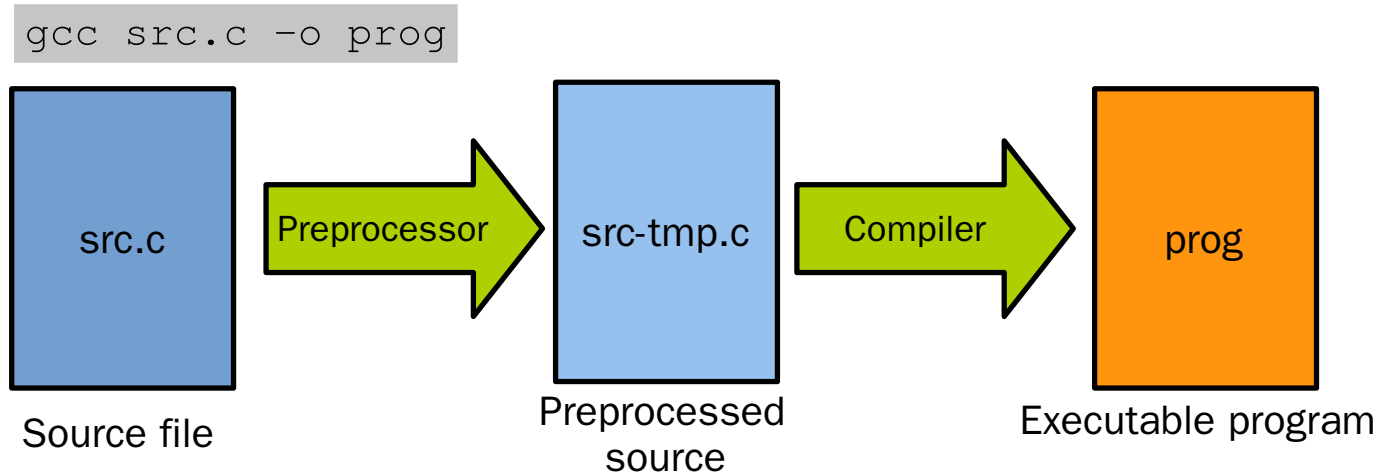
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 1. Include **headers** files (e.g. `stdio.h`) to access functions, data structures, and other constructs defined in other source files
 2. Expand tokens named **macros** into more complex bits of code
 3. **Conditionally enable/disable some bits of code**

Header Inclusion

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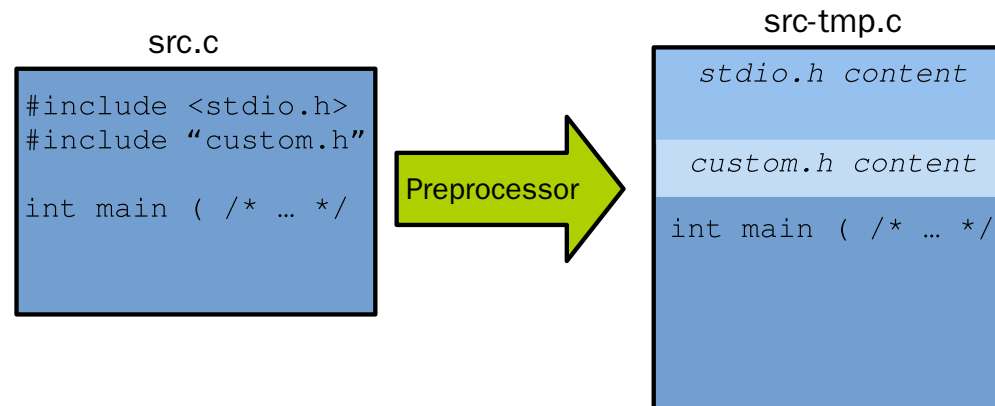
- **Header** files: C code files with `.h` extension, contain what is necessary to use foreign libraries/source files
 - Should be **included** in the source file (`.c`) wishing to use the foreign code

```
// In the .c source file, include headers like that:  
#include <stdio.h>           // Use <> to include a file from the default include path  
#include "my-custom-header.h" // Use "" for the local and user-supplied include directories
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```

- Headers can be included in several `.c` files composing a program
- To avoid double definitions, **they should contain only declarations:** functions prototypes, variables/custom types/structs declaration, etc.
- **No definitions** (i.e. function implementation or global variable affectation)

Macro Expansions

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```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int array[10];

    // If I modify the array size, I shall not
    // forget to update the iteration bound
    // here too!
    for(int i=0; i<10; i++) {
        array[i] = i;
        printf("array[%d] = %d\n", i, array[i]);
    }

    return 0;
}
```

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    }

    return 0;
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>

// If we want to change the array size,
// we only need to update this:
#define ARRAY_SIZE 10

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int array[ARRAY_SIZE];

    for(int i=0; i<ARRAY_SIZE; i++) {
        array[i] = i;
        printf("array[%d] = %d\n", i, array[i]);
    }

    return 0;
}
```

[15-preprocessor/macro.c](#) 

Macro Expansions

- In general, **try to have a less hardcoded values as possible**
 - When you see that you are writing a constant value more than once, check if using a macro is possible!
 - Even if you have a constant used only once a macro can make it look more meaningful and easier to update in the future

Macro Expansions

- In general, **try to have a less hardcoded values as possible**
 - When you see that you are writing a constant value more than once, check if using a macro is possible!
 - Even if you have a constant used only once a macro can make it look more meaningful and easier to update in the future
- Macros can also be used to write macro "functions"
 - Can be error-prone, see here: <https://bit.ly/3EaQ2DA>

Macro Expansions

- Be careful with operator precedence!


```
#define SIZE_1 10
#define SIZE_2 10

// We can use a macro in another macro's
// definition:
#define TOTAL SIZE_1 + SIZE_2

int main(int argc, char **argv) {

    // expect to print 10+10 = 20 * 2 = 40
    printf("total twice = %d\n", TOTAL * 2);

    return 0;
}
```

[15-preprocessor/macro-replacement-issue.c](#) 

Macro Expansions

- Be careful with operator precedence! Use parentheses!

```
#define SIZE_1 10
#define SIZE_2 10

// We can use a macro in another macro's
// definition:
#define TOTAL SIZE_1 + SIZE_2

int main(int argc, char **argv) {

    // faulty! expands to: 10 + 10 * 2
    printf("total twice = %d\n", TOTAL * 2);

    return 0;
}
```

[15-preprocessor/macro-replacement-issue.c](#)

```
#define SIZE_1 10
#define SIZE_2 10

// More than 1 macro in another macro's
// definition? use parentheses
#define TOTAL (SIZE_1 + SIZE_2)

int main(int argc, char **argv) {

    // correct, expands to: (10 + 10) * 2
    printf("total twice = %d\n", TOTAL * 2);

    return 0;
}
```

[15-preprocessor/macro-replacement-fix.c](#)

Conditional Compilation

Conditional Compilation

```
#define DEBUG_MODE           // controls the activation/deactivation of debug mode
#define VERBOSITY_LEVEL 4    // control the debug verbosity level
```

```
#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function();
#endif
```

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("hello, world\n");
```

```
#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
    debug_function();
#endif
    return 0;
}
```

```
#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function() {
    printf("This is printed only if the macro DEBUG_MODE is defined\n");
```

```
#if VERBOSITY_LEVEL > 3
    printf("Additional debug because the verbosity level is high\n");
#endif /* VERBOSITY_LEVEL */
```

```
    return 42;
}
#endif /* DEBUG_MODE */
```

Conditional Compilation

```
#define DEBUG_MODE          // comment this to disable debug mode
#define VERBOSITY_LEVEL 4

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function();
#endif

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("hello, world\n");

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
    debug_function();
#endif
    return 0;
}

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function() {
    printf("This is printed only if the macro DEBUG_MODE is defined\n");

    #if VERBOSITY_LEVEL > 3
        printf("Additional debug because the verbosity level is high\n");
    #endif /* VERBOSITY_LEVEL */

    return 42;
}
#endif /* DEBUG_MODE */
```

Conditional Compilation

```
#define DEBUG_MODE
#define VERBOSITY_LEVEL 4 // update this to set the level of verbosity

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function();
#endif

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("hello, world\n");

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
    debug_function();
#endif
    return 0;
}

#ifdef DEBUG_MODE
int debug_function() {
    printf("This is printed only if the macro DEBUG_MODE is defined\n");
}

#if VERBOSITY_LEVEL > 3 // You can use the other C-like comparison operations (==, etc.)
    printf("Additional debug because the verbosity level is high\n");
#endif /* VERBOSITY_LEVEL */

    return 42;
}
#endif /* DEBUG_MODE */
```

Summary

- Preprocessor: textual transformation before compilation
 - Automatically called by the compiler
 - Header inclusion, macro expansion, conditional code inclusion
-

Feedback form: <https://bit.ly/37s9JZ9>

