

INTRODUCTION TO EDITING: HELLO WORLD!

Most programs involve communication between the user and the computer. The user usually needs to provide **input**- information telling the program details of the task to be performed. The program needs to provide **output**- the results of its work. Our first programs will illustrate (simple) input and output, but there are many somewhat more complex variations of how input and output are handled. We will learn different approaches as we proceed over the next month.

To type in a program we need an editor. linux supports many editors, some of which are very sophisticated and powerful. We will use **gedit**. To invoke gedit, go again to “applications” then “accessories,” but this time choose “text editor” (rather than “terminal”). Type the following lines into the editor window:

```
/* Print 'Hello, world' on the screen */

#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    printf("Hello, world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Save the file by choosing **file** then **save** and then giving the file a more useful name than the default (“Untitled Document 1”). I will assume you save as “hello.c” by replacing “Untitled Document 1” with “hello.c” and then selecting **save** at lower right. The editor will ask you to select a folder in which to save. The folder (directory) “weekone” which you just created is a good choice.

If you go to your terminal window and type **ls** in the directory “weekone” you should now see a file called “hello.c” that you just saved there. You can show the contents of “hello.c” in the terminal window using the linux command **more**. That is, type

more hello.c

more displays the contents of a file starting from the top. (You can use the space bar to display additional lines in the file if it is more than one screen long.)