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Programming the UNIX™ System

M. R. M. Dunsmuir and G. J. Davies

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Preface

This book is a practical guide to the day to day use of the C programming language under UNIX System V. It is aimed at helping those with an interest in making full use of the UNIX system's programming facilities to get to grips quickly with the more powerful features of the system interface. Though there are a number of textbooks which discuss C programming and UNIX, most are introductory texts aimed at the beginner. However, there are an increasing number of more experienced programmers, especially in the commercial environment, who now may be embarking on the construction of complex applications. It is this group at whom the book is aimed. The text should also have a strong appeal to undergraduates who are studying and using UNIX.

We have tried to avoid an exhaustive or paedagogical approach, concentrating instead upon a study of the system's most useful and heavily used facilities. The reader is guided through the functions provided by the UNIX system interface and is shown, by the use of real C programming examples, how to make best use of them.

Though the treatment is based on UNIX System V it is sufficiently general to be of use on UNIX version 7 and System III. Where major differences between these three systems are in evidence we have tried to indicate them.

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