



4. DATA TYPES

T: Ch. 6

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Topics

- Introduction
- Primitive Data Types
- Character and String Types
- Enumeration Types
- Array Types
- Record Types
- Union Types
- Pointer and Reference Types
- Type Checking
- C++ Classes
- Classes in Java

Introduction

- A *data type* defines a collection of data objects and a set of predefined operations on those objects
 - The stored values (instructions and data) in memory hardware are untyped: the hardware on most machines makes no attempt to keep track of which interpretations correspond to which locations in memory.
 - One design issue for all data types: What operations are defined and how are they specified?
- *Type checking* is the activity of ensuring that the operands of an operator are of compatible types
 - A *type error* is the application of an operator to an operand of an inappropriate type
 - A programming language is *strongly typed* if type errors are always detected

Introduction

- Type System of a programming language:
 - Defines how a type is associated with each expression in the language and includes its rules for type equivalence and type compatibility.
 - Uses of the type system of a programming language
 - Error detection
 - Assistance for program modularization: ensuring consistency of the interfaces among modules.
 - Documentation: provides information about a program's data and its behavior.

Introduction

- A *descriptor* is the collection of the attributes of a variable that are used for type checking and performing allocation and deallocation operations.
 - Descriptors of static attributes are needed only at compile-time, built as part of the symbol table.
 - Descriptors for dynamic attributes must be used and maintained by the run-time system.
- Data Types are either scalar (primitive types), or structured (composite).
 - Scalar types: ordinal types (integer, char, enumerated), real, complex, etc.
 - Structure types: records/classes, unions, arrays, pointers, lists, sets, and files.

Primitive Data Types

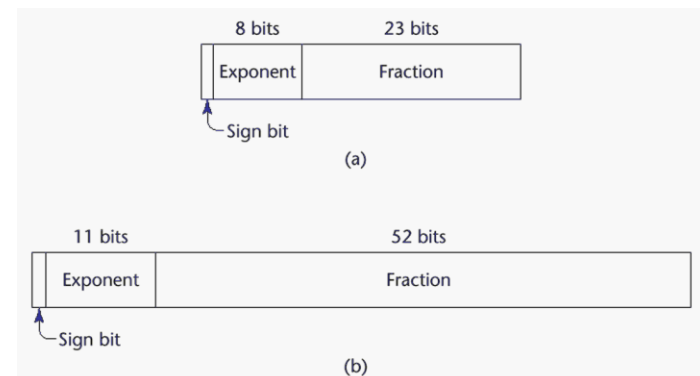
- Almost all programming languages provide a set of *primitive data types*
- Primitive data types: Those not defined in terms of other data types
 - numeric types (integer, floating point, complex, decimal)
 - Allowed operators: Arithmetic operations
 - Boolean, character types.
- Some primitive data types are merely reflections of the hardware.
- Others require only a little non-hardware support for their implementation.

Primitive Data Types: Integer

- Almost always an exact reflection of the hardware so the mapping is trivial.
- C and C++ integer types: `char`, `short`, `int`, `long`, `long long`
 - These are listed in nondecreasing order
 - An `int` is the size of an integer on the target processor
- Java's signed integer sizes: **`byte`**, **`short`**, **`int`**, **`long`**
 - These have fixed sizes: 1, 2, 4, and 8 bytes
- Unsigned and Signed
 - “Positive” and “negative” is usually represented by designating one of the bits in the integer as a sign bit
 - C++ allows an integer to be declared to be unsigned.
- Hardware representation of signed integers in binary is based on using the two's complement notation.
 - A negative integer is the complement of the positive version of the number plus 1.

Primitive Data Types: Floating Point

- Model real numbers, but only as approximations
- Languages for scientific use support at least two floating-point types (e.g., **float** and **double**); sometimes more.
 - Usually exactly like the hardware, but not always
 - Floating-point type is defined in terms of precision and range.
 - IEEE Floating-Point Standard 754
 - $\text{Value} = \text{sign} * \text{mantissa} * 2^{\text{exp}}$
 - $\text{Mantissa} = 1.\text{fract}$
 - C++ includes float, double and long double with increasing order of size



Primitive Data Types: Boolean

- Range of values: two elements, one for “true” and one for “false”
- Could be implemented as bits, but often as bytes
 - Advantage: readability of code
- The allowable operations are the logical (!, **&&**, **||**) and relational operations.

Primitive Data Types: Character

- Stored as numeric codings
- Most commonly used coding: ASCII (128 characters) or extended ASCII (256 characters)
 - In C++ char type is a 1 byte ASCII coding
 - A **byte** in Java is an 8 bit quantity
- An alternative, 16-bit coding: Unicode (UCS-2 or UTF-16)
 - Includes characters from most natural languages
 - Originally used in Java. A **char** in Java is a 16 bit quantity.
 - In C++ the data type **wchar_t** is used for Unicode characters.
- 32-bit Unicode (UCS-4 or UTF-32)
 - Supported by Fortran, starting with 2003

Character String Types

- Values are sequences of characters.
- Design issues:
 - Is it a primitive type or just a special kind of array?
 - Should the length of strings be static or dynamic?
- C and C++
 - Not a primitive type
 - Uses **char** arrays and a library of functions to provide operations.
 - String manipulation functions in the C standard library are inherently unsafe and source of numerous programming errors.
 - C++ has a string class which is a sequence of char. There are also strings of UTF-16 and UTF-32 available.
- Fortran and Python
 - Primitive type with assignment and several operations.

Character String Types

■ Java

- Provides a String class, which is a sequence of Java char, and which uses UTF-16 encoding.

■ Typical operations:

- Assignment and copying
- Comparison (=, >, etc.)
- Catenation
- Substring reference
- Pattern matching

Character String Length Options

- Static: Java's `String` class, C++ standard class, and strings in Python.
- *Limited Dynamic Length*: C and C++
 - In these languages, a special character is used to indicate the end of a string's characters, rather than maintaining the length.
- *Dynamic* (no maximum): SNOBOL4, Perl, JavaScript
- Compile- and Run-Time Descriptors

Static string
Length
Address

Compile-time
descriptor for static
strings

Limited dynamic string
Maximum length
Current length
Address

Run-time descriptor for
limited dynamic strings

Enumeration Types

- All possible values, which are named constants, are provided in the definition
- Example

```
enum days {mon, tue, wed, thu, fri, sat, sun};
```
- Values in an enumeration type are also represented internally as integers. By default, the first enumerator has the integer value 0, the second has the value 1, and so forth.
- Design issues
 - An enumeration constant is not allowed to appear in more than one type definition
 - Enumeration values can be coerced to integer

```
int x = mon;
```
 - Any other type cannot be coerced to an enumeration type

```
days myday = 4; //not allowed in C++  
myday = (days) 4; //in C++ casting to enumerated type is allowed
```

Enumeration Types

- Comparison: ordering is determined by the order in which the enumerators in the type declaration are listed.
- Values of enumeration types must be input or output indirectly
- Incrementing or decrementing can be applied using explicit type conversion (i.e., casting). For example,

```
myday = (days) (myday+ 1);
```

- None of the following works

```
myday = myday + 1;
```

```
myday += 1;
```

```
myday++;
```

```
++myday;
```

Evaluation of Enumerated Type

- Aid to readability, e.g., no need to code a color as a number
- Aid to reliability, e.g., compiler can check:
 - operations (don't allow colors to be added)
 - No enumeration variable can be assigned a value outside its defined range
 - C#, F#, Swift, and Java 5.0 provide better support for enumeration than C++ because enumeration type variables in these languages are not coerced into integer types.

Arrays

- An array is a homogeneous aggregate of data elements in which an individual element is identified by its position in the aggregate, relative to the first element.
- Array index types:
 - FORTRAN, C: integer only
 - Java: integer types only
 - **Array index type** C/C++ must be an ordinal type such as **char**, **short**, **int**, **long**, or **bool**.
- *Indexing* (or subscripting) is a mapping from indices to elements
array_name (index_value_list) → an element

Arrays

- Index range checking
 - C, C++, Perl, and Fortran do not specify range checking
 - Java, C# specify range checking
- Array operations: Operations that operate on an array as a unit
 - Such as assignment, catenation, comparison for equality or inequality, and slices.
 - What are the operations allowed on arrays in C++, Java, and Python?
- Subscript Bindings
 - Binding of subscript type to an array variable is usually static.
 - In some languages the lower bound of the subscript range is implicit (as in C/C++ and Java).
- Categories of arrays
 - Four categories based on binding to subscript ranges, binding to storage, and the location of the storage.

Subscript Binding and Array Categories

- *Static*: subscript ranges are statically bound and storage allocation is static (before run-time).
 - Advantage: efficiency (no dynamic allocation)
- *Fixed stack-dynamic*: subscript ranges are statically bound, but the allocation is done at declaration time.
 - Advantage: space efficiency
- *Fixed heap-dynamic*: similar to fixed stack-dynamic, storage binding is dynamic but fixed after allocation (i.e., binding is done when requested and storage is allocated from heap, not stack).
- *Heap-dynamic*: binding of subscript ranges and storage allocation is dynamic and can change any number of times
 - Advantage: flexibility (arrays can grow or shrink during program execution).

Subscript Binding and Array Categories (continued)

- C and C++ arrays that include **static** modifier are static.
- C and C++ arrays declared in functions without **static** modifier are fixed stack-dynamic.
- C and C++ provide fixed heap-dynamic arrays
 - C library functions malloc and free for allocation and deallocation.
 - C++ uses operators new and delete.
- In Java all non-generic arrays are fixed-heap-dynamic.
 - Java includes a generic second array class `ArrayList` that provides fixed heap-dynamic.
 - Does not support indexing (using get and set methods).
- Perl, JavaScript, Python, and Ruby support heap-dynamic arrays
 - Objects of C# List class are generic heap-dynamic arrays: elements are added with Add method.

Arrays

- Some languages allow initialization at the time of storage allocation

- C++ example:

- ```
int list [] = {4, 5, 7, 83}
```

- Character strings in C and C++

- ```
char name [] = "freddie";//length is 8
```

- Arrays of strings in C and C++

- ```
char *names [] = {"Bob", "Jake", "Joe"};
```

- Java initialization of String objects

- ```
String[] names = {"Bob", "Jake", "Joe"};
```

Arrays

- Operations that operate on an array as a unit
 - Such as assignment, catenation, comparison for equality or inequality, and slices.
 - C-based languages do not provide any array operations
 - Except through methods of classes as in Java, C++, and C#.
 - Python provides array assignments, but they are only reference changes. Python also supports array catenation and element membership operations
 - Array catenation using (+) and element membership (using in operator)

Rectangular and Jagged Arrays

- A rectangular array is a multi-dimensioned array in which all of the rows have the same number of elements and all columns have the same number of elements
- A jagged array is one in which the lengths of the rows need not be the same. For example, a jagged matrix has rows with varying number of elements
 - Possible when multi-dimensioned arrays actually appear as arrays of arrays
- C, C++, and Java support jagged arrays
- F# and C# support rectangular arrays and jagged arrays

Slices

- A slice is some substructure of an array; nothing more than a referencing mechanism
- Slices are only useful in languages that have array operations
- Python

```
vector = [2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16]
```

```
mat = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9]]
```

- The syntax of a Python slice reference is a pair of numeric expressions. Examples:

- `vector (3:6)` is a three-element array: the elements at indices 3, 4, and 5 of `vector`.
- First expression is the first subscript of the slice, and the second is the first subscript after the last subscript of the slice.
- `mat[0][0:2]` is the first and second element of the first row of `mat`

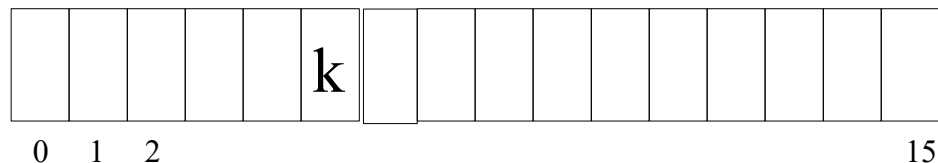
Implementation of Arrays

- Access function maps subscript expressions to an address in the array
- Access function for single-dimensioned arrays:

$\text{address}(\text{list}[k]) = \text{address}(\text{list}[0])$

$+ (k * \text{element_size})$

(NOTE in C, C++, and Java, lower_bound is == 0)



Implementation of Arrays

■ Accessing Multi-dimensioned Arrays

□ Two common ways:

- Row major order (by rows) – used in most languages
- Column major order (by columns) – used in Fortran

□ Example: Assuming a matrix having the following values

3 4 7

6 2 5

1 3 8

Its storage in row major order is

3 4 7 6 2 5 1 3 8

	0	1	...	j-1	j	...	n-1
0							
1							
⋮							
i-1							
i					⊗		
⋮							
m-1							

- Address of an element $\text{mat}[2][1]$ is the base address of the array plus
 - The number of rows times the row size, plus the number of elements to the left of the element in its row.
- $\text{Location}(a[i, j]) = \text{address of } a[0, 0] + (((i * n) + j) * \text{element_size})$

Implementation of Arrays

- General format

Location (a[i,j]) = address of a [row_lb,col_lb] + (((i - row_lb) * n) + (j - col_lb)) * element_size

- Compile-Time Descriptors

- A compile-time descriptor for a single –dimensional and multidimensional arrays
- If no index range checking is done and all attributes are static, then only the access function is required during execution.

Array
Element type
Index type
Index lower bound
Index upper bound
Address

Single–dimensioned array

Multidimensioned array
Element type
Index type
Number of dimensions
Index range 1
⋮
Index range <i>n</i>
Address

Multidimensional array

Associative Arrays

- An *associative array* is an unordered collection of data elements that are indexed by an equal number of values called *keys*.
 - User-defined keys must be stored.
- Built-in type in Perl, Python, Ruby, and Swift
 - In Python it is called dictionaries, where values are references to objects.
- Related Implementations in Java/C++ by standard class libraries
 - C++ map or Java HashMap
 - These are parameterized using `< >` and type names, so the type of the key and value are fixed.
 - Example:

```
map <string, float> myMap = {{\"smith\", 2.5},{\"George\", 3.25}};
```
 - The values in a map can be accessed directly by their corresponding key using the *bracket operator* (`operator[]`).

Record Types

- A *record* is a possibly heterogeneous aggregate of data elements in which the individual elements, called fields, are identified by names.
 - Fields are stored in adjacent memory locations.
 - Access is through offsets from the beginning of the structure.
- struct: a record of a collection of elements of possibly different types, supported in C, C++, and C#.
 - In C++, structures are similar to classes. The fields are called members, where references to individual fields are done using dot notation.
 - Declaration of a data type and a variable (compact way)

```
struct employeeType{  
    int id;  
    char name[25];  
    float salary;  
} employee;
```

Record Types

```
struct employeeType{ //declaration of a data type
    int id;
    char name[25];
    float salary;
};
```

```
struct employeeType employee;//in C definition variable
```

```
employeeType employee;//in C++ definition of variable
```

```
...
```

```
employee.salary = 5545;//access of member using dot notation
```

```
employeeType * empPtr = & employee;//access using a pointer
```

```
(*empPtr).name = "Smith";//access using the dot notation
```

```
empPtr -> salary = 4500.50;//access using arrow form
```

Record Types

- **Union:** A union in C/C++ is like a struct in that it generally has several fields, all of which are public by default. Unlike a struct, however, **only one of the fields is used at any given time**. In other words, it is a structure that allows the same storage space to be used to store values of different data types at different times.

- A union is a special class type that can hold only one of its non-static data members at a time.

- Example:

```
union UnionTyp {  
    int i;  
    double d;  
    char c;  
};  
UnionType u;  
u.i = 5;  
. . .  
u.c = 'M';
```

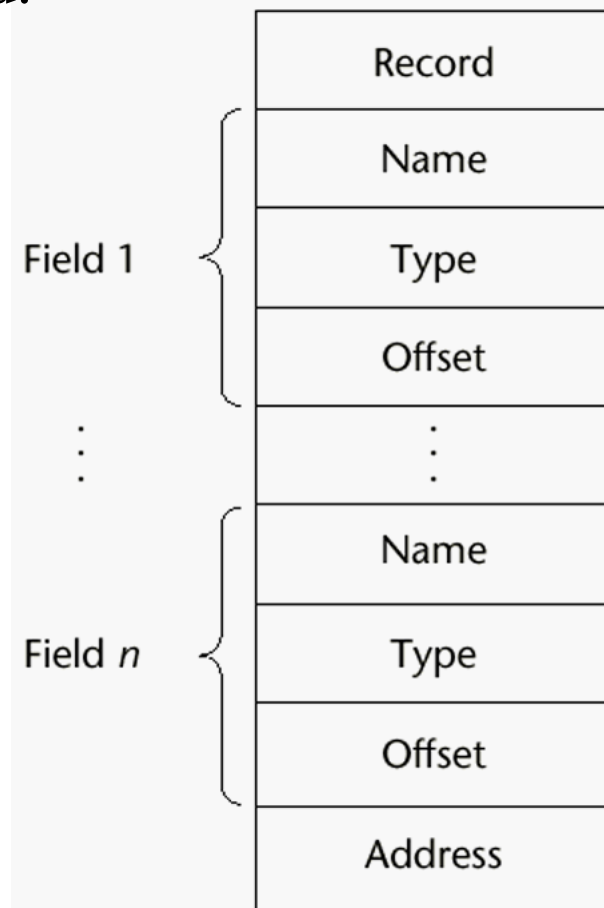
Comparison between Arrays and Records

- Records are used when collection of data values is heterogeneous
 - The fields of records are stored in adjacent memory locations.
 - Offset address relative to the beginning of the records is associated with each field.
 - Assignment operator is defined on struct variables of the same type.
 - Struct variable can be passed by value or reference to functions or to be the return type of a function.
 - I/O operations are not defined on struct variables.
- Access to array elements is much slower than access to record fields, because subscripts are dynamic (field names are static).

Implementation of Record Type

- A compile-time descriptor for a record.

- The fields of records are stored in adjacent memory locations.
- Offset address relative to the beginning of the records is associated with each field



Tuple Types

- A tuple is a data type that is similar to a record, except that the elements are not named.
- Used in Python, ML, and F# to allow functions to return multiple values
 - Python
 - Closely related to its lists, but they are immutable.
 - If a tuple needs to be changed, it can be converted to an array using the list function. Then it can be converted back to tuple using the tuple function.
 - a tuple is created by assigning a tuple literal, for example:
`myTuple = (3, 5.8, 'apple')`
 - Elements are referenced by indexing, where first index is at 1. For example `myTuple[2]` refers to the value 5.8.
 - Catenation using + operator, and deleted with **del** statement.

List Types (continued)

■ Python Lists

- The list data type also serves as Python's arrays
- Unlike Scheme, Common Lisp, ML, and F#, Python's lists are mutable.
- Elements can be of any type.
- Create a list with an assignment
`myList = [3, 5.8, "grape"]`
- List elements are referenced with subscripting, with indices beginning at zero.
`x = myList[1]` Sets `x` to 5.8
- List elements can be deleted with `del`
`del myList[1]`
- List Comprehensions – derived from set notation: Powerful mechanism for creating arrays. Syntax of Python List Comprehensions :
[expression for iterate_var in array if condition]

```
[x * x for x in range(6) if x % 3 == 0]
```

range(6) creates [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
Constructed list: [0, 9, 36]

Pointer and Reference Types

- A *pointer* type variable has a range of values that consists of memory addresses and a special value, *NULL* (value of 0)
 - A pointer variable indicates the location of a variable **of a given type**.
- Provide the power of indirect addressing
 - **Indirect addressing** Accessing a variable in two steps by first using a pointer variable that gives the location of the variable.
 - **Direct addressing** Accessing a variable in one step by using the variable name.
- Provide a way to manage dynamic memory (e.g., allocation and deallocation).

Pointer Arithmetic in C and C++

- A pointer can be used to access a location in the area where storage is dynamically created (usually called a *heap*)
 - **null pointer** is special pointer value that does not refer to any valid memory location, it is provided by **nullptr** keyword.
- C++ operators that are valid for pointers include: =, *, ->, and relational operators as (== and !=)
- Arithmetic operations as addition and subtraction. For example,

```
float stuff[100];  
float *p;  
p = stuff;
```

* (p+5) is equivalent to stuff[5] and p[5]

* (p+i) is equivalent to stuff[i] and p[i]

Problems with Pointers

- **Dangling pointers (dangerous)**

- A pointer points to a heap-dynamic variable that has been deallocated
- Example:

```
int * arrPtr1;  
int * arrPtr2 = new int[10];  
  
arrPtr1 = arrPtr2;  
delete [] arrPtr2;
```

- **Now arrPtr1 and arrPtr2 are dangling pointers**

Problems with Pointers

■ Lost heap-dynamic variable

- An allocated heap-dynamic variable that is no longer accessible to the user program (often called *garbage*).
- Example:

```
int *ptr1 = new int;  
*ptr1 = 5;  
int * ptr2 = new int;  
*ptr2 = 7;  
ptr1 = ptr2;  
cout << *ptr1 << " " << *ptr2 << endl;  
//first heap-dynamic variable is garbage now.
```

Pointers in C and C++

- Extremely flexible but must be used with care.
- Pointers can point at any variable regardless of when or where it was allocated.
- Used for dynamic storage management and addressing.
- Pointer arithmetic is possible.
- Explicit dereferencing and address-of operators (i.e., &).
- Domain type need not be fixed (**void ***)
 - void *** can point to any type and can be type checked (cannot be de-referenced)

Reference Types

- C++ includes a special kind of pointer type called a *reference type* that is used primarily for formal parameters
 - Advantages of both pass-by-reference and pass-by-value
 - Reference type variable refers to an object or a value in memory. While, a pointer variable refers to an address in memory.
- References in C++ must be initialized when declared:

```
int x;
```

```
int& xr = x;
```

- Similar to a constant pointer, it cannot be reassigned and it cannot be assigned 0.
- No dereferencing applied by the * operator
- References of reference are not possible
- Pointer of a reference is not possible: `int & * xr = x;`

Reference Types

- Java extends C++'s reference variables and allows them to replace pointers entirely.
 - References are references to objects, rather than being addresses.
- C# includes both the references of Java and the pointers of C++.

Evaluation of Pointers

- Dangling pointers and dangling objects are problems as is heap management.
- Pointers are like `goto`'s statements--they widen the range of references to memory cells that can be accessed by a variable.
- Pointers or references are necessary for dynamic data structures--so we can't design a language without them.
 - They are essential in some kinds of applications (e.g., device drivers).
- References of Java and C# provide some of the flexibility and capabilities of pointers without the hazards.

Type Checking

- *Type checking* is the activity of ensuring that the operands of an operator are of compatible types.
- A *compatible type* is one that is either legal for the operator, or is allowed under language rules to be implicitly converted, by compiler-generated code, to a legal type
 - This automatic conversion is called a *coercion*.
 - Example:
 - In an assignment statement, the type of the right-hand side must be compatible with that of the left-hand side.
 - The types of the operands of + must both be compatible with some common type that supports addition (e.g., numeric types).
- A *type error* is the application of an operator to an operand of an inappropriate type.

Type Checking (continued)

- If all type bindings are static, nearly all type checking can be static at compile-time.
- If type bindings are dynamic, type checking must be done at run-time, which is called dynamic checking.
 - Javascript and PHP allow only dynamic type checking.

Strong Typing

- A programming language is *strongly typed* if type errors are always detected.
 - Advantage of strong typing: allows the detection of the misuses of variables that result in type errors.
 - Language examples:
 - C and C++ are not: parameter type checking can be avoided; unions are not type checked.
 - Java and C# are, almost (because of explicit type casting).
- Coercion rules strongly affect strong typing--they can weaken it considerably (C++ versus ML and F#)
 - Although Java has just half the assignment coercions of C++, its strong typing is still far less effective than that of Ada.

Summary

- The data types of a language are a large part of what determines that language's style and usefulness
- The primitive data types of most imperative languages include numeric, character, and Boolean types
- The user-defined enumeration and subrange types are convenient and add to the readability and reliability of programs
- Arrays and records are included in most languages
- Pointers are used for addressing flexibility and to control dynamic storage management