

Arrays in C



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Outlines

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Introduction

- Array is a non-primitive data type that can **hold multiple** elements of the **same data type**.
- Arrays are used to **group** the **same** type of data together, ex. array of ages.
- Array **size/number of elements** must be defined before compiling.
- Array **size can not be changed** during the **execution**.
- Each array element has its **unique index starting from 0**.

1-D arrays

- **Size/Number of elements:** must be defined **before compiling**.
- **Declaration example:**
 - `int ages[5];` // ages is an array of 5 integers.
- **Definition example:**
 - `int ages[5] = {15, 20, 16, 10, 25};`
 - Element with index 0 has value of 15.
 - Element with index 4 has value of 25.
- Note that **THERE IS NO** element with **index 5 or more !!!!**

1-D arrays

- For **set/get** the **value**:
 - `array_name[element_index] = value;`
- For **getting** the **address**:
 - `&array_name[element_index].`
- Examples:
 - `ages[0] = 5;` // changes age[0] value to 5
 - `printf("%d", ages[3]);` // prints 10
 - `scanf("%d", &ages[2]);` // takes input from keyboard and stores it in ages[2]

20 Bytes

0	ages[0] = 5
1	
2	
3	
4	ages[1] = 20
5	
6	
7	
8	ages[2] = 16
9	
10	
11	
12	ages[3] = 10
13	
14	
15	
16	ages[4] = 25
17	
18	
19	

2-D arrays

- **Size/Number of elements:** must be defined **before compiling**.
- **Declaration example:**
 - `int age_height[3][2];` // ages is an array of 3 sub-arrays of 2 integers.
- **Definition example:**
 - `int age_height[3][2] = {{15, 140}, {20, 160}, {19, 170}};`
 - Element with index 0 in the sub-array with index 0 has value of 15.
 - Element with index 1 in the sub-array with index 2 has value of 170.
- Note that **THERE IS NO element** with **index 3 or more**, and **THERE IS NO sub-array** with **index 4 or more** !!!!

2-D arrays

- For **set/get** the **value**:
 - `array_name[sub_array_index][element_index] = value;`
- For **getting** the **address**:
 - `&array_name[sub_array_index][element_index].`
- Examples:
 - `age_height[0][0] = 5;` // changes age_height[0][0] value to 5
 - `printf("%d", age_height[1][1]);` // prints 160
 - `scanf("%d", &age_height[0][1]);`
 - // takes input from keyboard and stores it in age_height[0][1]

24 Bytes

0	
1	
2	age_height[0][0] = 5
3	
4	
5	
6	age_height[0][1] = 140
7	
8	
9	
10	age_height[1][0] = 20
11	
12	
13	age_height[1][1] = 160
14	
15	
16	
17	age_height[2][0] = 19
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	age_height[2][1] = 170
23	

Strings

- Strings in C language are simply defined as an **array of ASCII characters terminated by a NULL character '\0' or 0**.
- **ASCII code:**
 - **Stands for:** American Standard Code for Information Interchange.
 - It is a code that represents all characters you can type.
 - 'A', 'B', 'C', ..., 'a', 'b', 'c', ..., '\n', '?', ' ', '+', ..., '1', '2', etc.
- ASCII characters range from **ASCII code 0** to **ASCII code 127**.
- Each character's ASCII can be written in C by writing the character between two single quotes, ex. **ASCII of A is 'A' or 65 in decimal**.

Strings

- **Size/Number of elements:** must be defined **before compiling**.
- **Declaration example:**
 - `char name[10];` // name is an array of 10 characters.
- **Definition example:**
 - `char name[10] = {'A', 'h', 'm', 'e', 'd', '\0'};` or simply `char name[10] = "Ahmed";`
 - The string name can hold up to **9 characters + the NULL character**.
 - If you entered 10 characters, then the array name will not be treated as a string.
 - If you entered **more than 10** characters, the **application may crash**.

Strings

- For **set/get** the **value**:
 - `array_name[character_index] = 'value';`
- For getting the address:
 - `&array_name[character_index].`
- Examples:
 - `name[2] = 'M';` // changes name[2] value to 'M'
 - **Printing:**
 - `printf("%s", name);` // prints Ahmed
 - `puts(name);` // prints Ahmed
 - **Scanning:**
 - `gets(name);` //takes all the string from the keyboard and stores it in the string array name with the same order



10 Bytes

0	'A'
1	'h'
2	'M'
3	'e'
4	'd'
5	'\0'
6	
7	
8	
9	

String functions

- **stdio.h** functions:
 - **puts:**
 - Operation: **It prints the string.**
 - Syntax: **puts(string_name);**
 - Example: **puts("Ahmed"); // prints Ahmed**
 - **gets:**
 - Operation: **It reads the input from the keyboard and stores it in the string in the same order.**
 - Syntax: **gets(string_name);**
 - Example: **gets(name);**

String functions

- **string.h** functions:
 - **strlen:**
 - **Operation:** It gets the string length, the number of characters in the string without the NULL character.
 - **Syntax:** `strlen(string_name/string);`
 - **Example:** `int length = strlen("Ahmed");` // length of Ahmed is 5.
 - **strupr:**
 - **Operation:** It converts all characters in the string to uppercase.
 - **Syntax:** `strupr(string_name);`
 - **Example:** `strupr(name);` // Converts Ahmed to AHMED.
 - **strlwr:**
 - **Operation:** It converts all characters in the string to lowercase.
 - **Syntax:** `strlwr(string_name);`
 - **Example:** `strlwr(name);` // Converts Ahmed to ahmed.

String functions

- **string.h functions:**

- **strcmp:**

- **Operation:** It compares two strings if they are identical it returns 0.
 - **Syntax:** `strcmp(string_1_name, string_2_name);`
 - **Example:** `strcmp("Ahmed", "ahmed");` // It returns a non-zero value because 'A' ≠ 'a'.

- **strcat:**

- **Operation:** It concatenates two strings.
 - **Syntax:** `strcat(string_1_name, string_2_name);`
 - **Example:** `strcat(name, " Mohamed");` // name will become "Ahmed Mohamed".

- **strcpy:**

- **Operation:** It copies a string to another.
 - **Syntax:** `strcpy(destination_string, source_string);`
 - **Example:** `strcpy(name, "Zaki");` // name will become "Zaki".

Summary

- Now you are familiar with array declaration, definition, and accessing array elements.
- Remember, array size is defined before compiling.
- Remember, array size can not be changed during run-time.
- Remember, the last element has index of `array_size - 1`.
- Remember, strings must be terminated by `'\0'`.