
Data Representation

Data Types in C

- 4 Basic Types
 - Double
 - Float - already know
 - Int - already know
 - Char - already know



Double

- Decimal value
- Uses 64 bits of memory when being stored
 - 52 bits → reserved for number
 - 11 bits → reserved for exponent, to store decimal
 - 1 bit → reserved for sign (positive / negative)



Double

- Largest possible value:
 - $2^{53} - 1$
 - *or* 9,007,199,254,740,991
- Smallest possible value:
 - Same thing as max value, just make it negative
 - $-2^{53} - 1$
 - *or* -9,007,199,254,740,991



Double vs Float

- Double has 64-bit precision
- Float has 32-bit precision
 - 23 bits reserved for number
 - 8 bits reserved for decimal
 - 1 bit reserved for sign



Precision

- Describes what values can be stored in certain variable types
- Double: $(2^{53} - 1)$; with decimals
- Float: $(2^{24} - 1)$; with decimals
- Integer: $(2^{32} - 1)$; no decimals
- Char: $(2^7 - 1)$; no decimals
- Boolean: 1 - 0; no decimals



Upcasting

- Upcast → the ability to convert from a smaller data type into a larger data type

```
char foo = 42;  
  
int bar = foo;  
  
printf("Foo is: %c\n", foo);  
printf("Bar is: %d\n", bar);
```



Upcasting

- ALWAYS SAFE to go from a smaller data type to a larger one
 - No loss of information
 - Try it out: Write a program that scans in an integer, then upcast it to a float. Print out both numbers



Downcasting

- Going from a larger data type to a smaller one
 - Ex: From integer to char
- DANGEROUS because information can be lost, without any warnings



Downcasting

- DANGEROUS because information can be lost, without any warnings
- Try it out: Change your upcast code to scan in a larger data type, then downcast to a smaller one. What problems do you run into?



Cast operator

- Can use the *cast* operator to implicitly change between data types

```
int meme = 42;
```

```
char pepe = (char) meme;
```



Cast operator

- Can use the *cast* operator to implicitly change between data types
- Upcast / downcast rules still apply



Practical uses of upcasting/downcasting

- Integer / Floating point division
- Review
 - Integer division causes decimal points to be cut off in final answer
 - Floating point division allows decimal points to stay

Practical uses of upcasting/downcasting

- Integer / Floating point division
 - Can *cast* an integer into a float in order to ensure floating point division occurs

```
int i = 42; int j = 5;  
  
float answer = (float) i / j;
```



Coding Challenge

Scan in 5 (five) integers describing test scores in Programming. Find the average of these five scores and print it out with 2 (two) decimal place precision.

