

2803ICT

# Advanced C

# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
  - Function pointers
  - (complex) Declarations
  - **volatile** and **extern**
  - Command line arguments
  - Variable argument lists
  - The preprocessor
- System Info and Time
  - Generic
  - Unix
  - Windows

# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
  - **FUNCTION POINTERS**
  - (complex) Declarations
  - **volatile** and **extern**
  - Command line arguments
  - Variable argument lists
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# Function Pointer

```
int x;
```

*x is an integer*

```
int* pointer;
```

*pointer is a pointer to integer*

```
int function();
```

*function is the name of a function that takes no parameters and returns an int value*

```
int (*pFunc)();
```

*pFunc is pointer to function that takes no parameters and returns an int*

```
int (*pFunc)();           //- ptr to function
pFunc = &function;        //- initialise its value
int res = (*pFunc)();     //- call the function
int res = pFunc();        //- alternative call
```

# Function as argument - example

We want a function to accept one of a series of functions of the type:

```
int DoSomething(int, double, char *);
```

```
int DoSomethingElse(int, double, char *);
```

```
int DoItAgainWithFeeling(int, double, char*);
```

*Pointer to function parameter*

*Ordinary parameter*

```
void RunAFunction (int(*Func) (int, double, char*), char);
```

*Function return type*

*Function name*

*Function arguments*

*Brackets to avoid int\* interpretation*

# Function as argument - example

```
void RunAFunction (int(*Func)(int, double, char*), char) {  
    //...  
  
    Func(6,2.5,"aaa");  
  
    //...  
  
}  
  
RunAFunction(DoSomething, 'a');
```

# Function as argument - example

```
void RunAFunction (int(*Func) (int, double, char*), char);
```

*Examples of calls to RunAFunction()*

```
RunAFunction (DoSomething, 'a');
```

```
RunAFunction (DoSomethingElse, 'b');
```

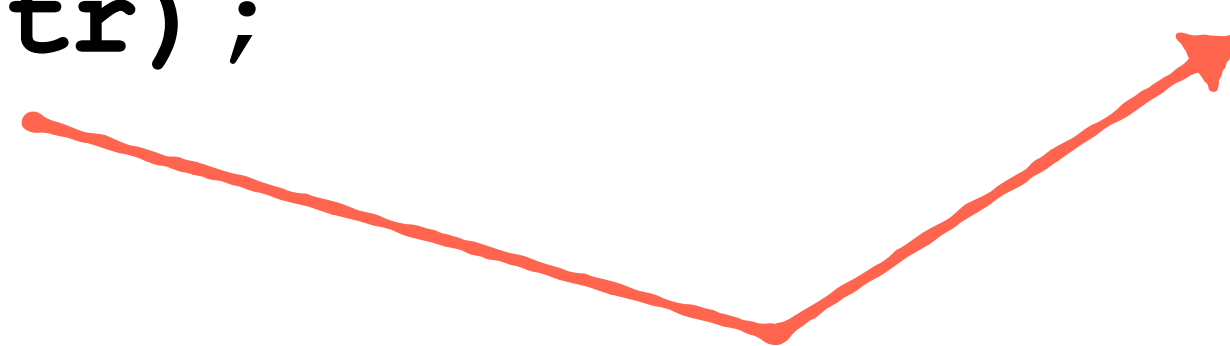
```
RunAFunction (DoItAgainWithFeeling, 'c');
```

*Example of use within RunAFunction():*

```
Func (Num, Dec, Str);           // or
```

```
(*Func) (Num, Dec, Str);
```

*Num, Dec, Str are  
local variables of  
RunAFunction()*



# Function as argument - example 2

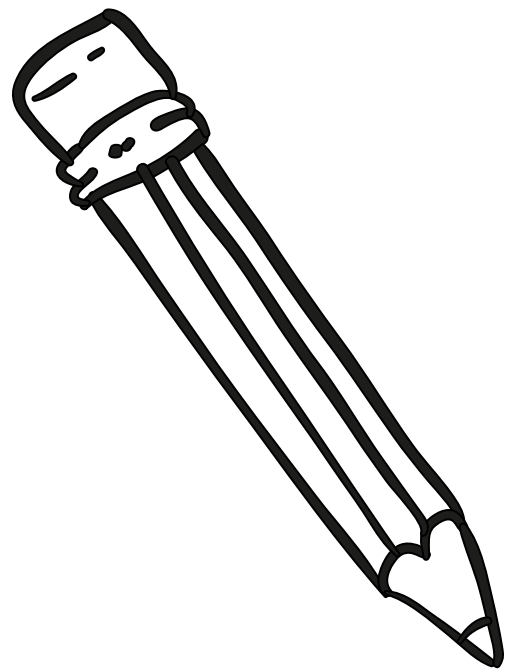
```
long step(int n)
{
    return n * n;
}
void work(int n, long(*func) (int) )
{
    int x, ans=0, y = 5;
    for(x=0; x<n; x++) ans += (*func) (x) ;
}
void main ()
{
    work(2, step) ;
}
```



# Using typedefs

The main goal - make the code readable

```
typedef void func(int);          //- a function  
typedef void (*pfunc)(int);     //- a ptr to func
```



Declare a function named **signal**, that:

- takes an *integer* and a *pointer to a function* that takes int and return void
- returns a *pointer to a function* of the same type

# Using typedefs

The main goal - make the code readable

```
typedef void func(int);          //- a function  
typedef void (*pfunc)(int);      //- a ptr to func
```

Declarations of the function **signal**:

```
void (*signal(int, void(*) (int)))(int);  
func *signal( int, func* );  
pfunc signal( int, pfunc );
```

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

To use `qsort()` you need to include `<stdlib.h>` and `<search.h>`

```
void qsort(void *base, size_t num, size_t size,  
          int (*compare)(const void *e1, const void *e2));
```

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

To use `qsort()` you need to include `<stdlib.h>` and `<search.h>`

```
void qsort(void *base, size_t num, size_t size,  
          int (*compare)(const void *e1, const void *e2));
```

*Start of array to be sorted*

*#of elements*

*Element size in bytes*

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

To use `qsort()` you need to include `<stdlib.h>` and `<search.h>`

```
void qsort(void *base, size_t num, size_t size,  
int (*compare)(const void *e1, const void *e2));
```

User supplied  
comparison function

Pointer to the key  
to search

Pointer to the element  
to be compared with  
the key

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

To use `qsort()` you need to include `<stdlib.h>`

```
void qsort(void *base, size_t num, size_t size,  
          int (*compare)(const void *e1, const void *e2));
```

```
compare( (void *) elem1, (void *) elem2 );
```

`compare()` compares two array elements, and returns a value specifying their relationship. The value must be:

- 0        `elem1 = elem2`
- <0      `elem1 < elem2`
- >0      `elem1 > elem2`

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

Example: read the command-line params and sort them

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int compare(const void *arg1, const void *arg2 )
{
    return strcmp (* (char**) arg1 , * (char**) arg2) ;
}
```

# Function pointer example - *QSORT*

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int compare(const void *arg1, const void *arg2 )
{
    return strcmp(*(char**)arg1, *(char**)arg2) ;
}

void main( int argc, char **argv )
{
    size_t big = sizeof(char*) ;
    argv++ ;           //- skip argv[0]
    argc-- ;
    qsort((void*)argv, (size_t)argc, big, compare) ;
    //-- print out sorted list --
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; ++i)
        printf("%s ", argv[i] ) ;
    printf( "\n" ) ;
}
```

*Output:*

```
%qsort every good boy deserves favor
boy deserves every favor good
```



# Function pointer example 2 - *BSEARCH*

```
void *bsearch(const void *key, const void *base,  
             size_t num, size_t size,  
             int (*compare)(const void *e1, const void *));
```

*Pointer to object to search for*

Example: find the word “cat” in the command-line params

*Output:*

```
%bsearch dog pig horse cat human rat cow goat  
bsearch cat cow dog goat horse human pig rat  
cat found
```

# Function pointer example 2 - *BSEARCH*

```
int compare( char **arg1, char **arg2 );
void main( int argc, char **argv )
{
    char **result;
    char *key = "cat";
    size_t big = sizeof(char*);

    qsort( (void *)argv, (size_t)argc, big, compare); //sort
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; ++i )
        printf("%s ", argv[i] );

    result = (char**)bsearch((char*) &key,                //search
        (char*)argv, argc, big, compare);

    if (result) printf("\n%s found ", *result);
    else printf( "\nCat not found!\n" );
}
```

# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
  - Function Pointers
  - **(COMPLEX) DECLARATIONS**
  - **volatile** and **extern**
  - Command line arguments
  - Variable argument lists
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# Abstract declarators

- These are declarators **without** an **identifier**,
- Used in typedefs and formal parameter lists

`int *`

`int *[5]`

`int (*) [5]`

`int *()`

`int (*) ()`

An array of five pointers to int

The type name for a ptr to type int

A ptr to a function returning an int

A function returning a pointer to int

A ptr to an array of five ints

# Abstract declarators

- These are declarators **without** an **identifier**,
- Used in typedefs and formal parameter lists

<code>int *</code>	<code>//– The type name for a ptr to type int</code>
<code>int *[5]</code>	<code>//– An array of five pointers to int</code>
<code>int (*) [5]</code>	<code>//– A ptr to an array of five ints</code>
<code>int *()</code>	<code>//– A function returning a pointer to int</code>
<code>int (*) ()</code>	<code>//–A ptr to a function returning an int</code>

# Interpreting Declarations

- A simple way to **interpret complex declarators** is to read them “**from the inside out**,” using the following four steps:

- 1 Start with the identifier and look directly to the right for brackets or parentheses (if any).
- 2 Interpret these brackets or parentheses, then look to the left for asterisks.
- 3 If you encounter a right parenthesis at any stage, go back and apply rules 1 and 2 to everything within the parentheses.
- 4 Apply the type specifier.

# Example Declaration – 1

<code>char</code>	<code>*</code>	<code>(</code>	<code>*</code>	<code>(</code>	<code>*var</code>	<code>)</code>	<code>(</code>	<code>)</code>	<code>[10]</code>	<code>;</code>
^										
7	6	4	2	1		3			5	

The steps to interpret this are numbered in order as follows:

1. The identifier **var** is declared as
2. a pointer to
3. a function returning
4. a pointer to
5. an array of 10 elements, which are
6. pointers to
7. **char** values.

# Example Declaration – 2

```
int * (*const *name[5][7]) (void) ;
```

^                    ^                    ^    ^                    ^                    ^  
6                    4                    3    1                    2                    5

1. **name** is declared as
2. an (2D) array of
3. pointers to a
4. **const** pointer. This **const** pointer points to
5. a function that takes no parameters and
6. returns a pointer to an **integer**.

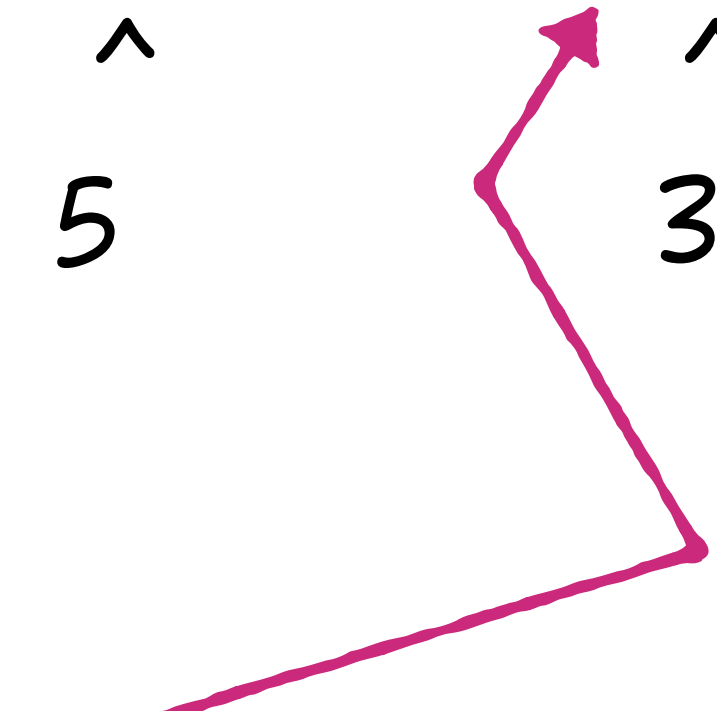


# Example Declaration – 3

```
double (*var( double(*) [3] )) [5] ;
```

^                    ^   ^   ^            ^                    ^   ^                    ^  
8                    6   1   2            5                    3   4                    7

1. **var** is declared as
2. a function that takes
3. a pointer to a
4. array of three
5. **double** values
6. and returns a pointer to
7. an array of five
8. **double** values.



The parentheses around the asterisk in the argument type are required; without them, the argument type would be an array of three pointers to **double** values.

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- Advanced C
  - Function pointers
  - (complex) Declarations
  - **VOLATILE AND EXTERN**
  - Command line arguments
  - Variable argument lists
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# Volatile Type Qualifier

- This is used to tell the compiler that the value of the **variable may be modified unexpectedly by the OS or hardware** outside of the running program.
- When a variable is declared as `volatile`, the **compiler reloads the value from memory each time** it is accessed by the program.

# Volatile Type Qualifier

- Used for objects in memory that might be shared by:
  - ▶ multiple concurrent processes
  - ▶ interrupt service routines
  - ▶ memory-mapped I/O control hardware

# Volatile Type Qualifier

- An item can be both `const` and `volatile`,

```
int const* volatile w = &object;
```

- Here the value of the memory pointed to by `w` cannot be modified by the program itself but it might be modified by another process

# extern Type Qualifier

- This **permits one part** of your program to **access** a global variable or function **defined in some other part** of your program.
- Essentially tells the compiler to **look in another file** for the definition of a function or variable
- Example:

```
extern int array[2];
```

# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
  - Function pointers
  - (complex) Declarations
  - `volatile` and `extern`
  - **COMMAND LINE ARGUMENTS**
  - Variable argument lists
  - The preprocessor
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# Command Line Arguments

- You can provide **input** to a C or C++ program by **passing arguments** on the **command line**
- The form of the main program arguments is:

```
void main (int argc, char **argv, char **envp)
```

number of arguments  
(includes the program name)

ragged array of  
arguments as  
strings

environment  
variables

- **argc**, **argv** and **envp** are parameter names by convention
- **\*\*argv** and **\*\*envp** are ragged arrays
- These are **all optional**



# Command Line Arguments

```
>myprog hello 12 4.5
```

**argc** = 4

**argv** = array of 4 pointers to the strings: "myprog", "hello", "12", "4.5"

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i;
    for (i=0; i<argc; i++) {
        printf("argv[%d] = %s\n", i, argv[i]);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

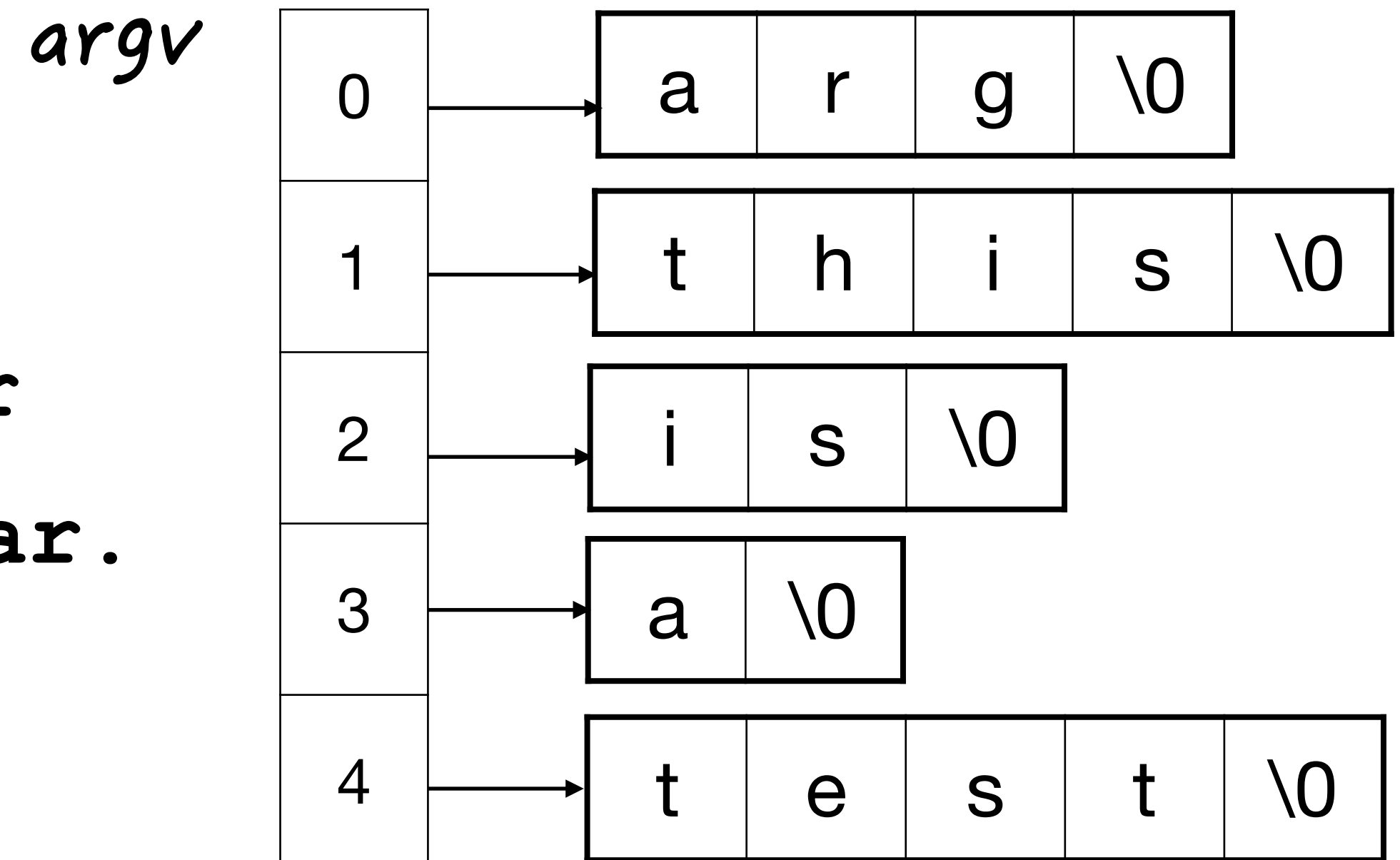
# Command Line Arguments

- `argv` is an array of null terminated strings, eg.

- `argv` can be declared as:

`char *argv[]`: an array of pointers to `char`

`char **argv` : a pointer to pointers to `char`.



- The first string (`argv[0]`) is the **program name**, and each following string is an argument passed to the program. The last pointer (`argv[argc]`) is **NULL**.

# Command Line Arguments

- Example if “`$echo hello world`” then:
  - `argc = 3`
  - `argv[0]` – the name of the program “echo”
  - `argv[1]` – the string “hello”
  - `argv[2]` – the string “world”
- Example: echo arguments

```
main(int argc, char *argv)
{
    while ( --argc > 0 )
        printf( (argc>1) ? "%s" : "%s\n", *++argv) ;
}
```

# Environment Variables

- The environment is a **symbolic variable** that represents an element of the user's operating system environment such as a path, a directory name or a configuration string.
- For example the PATH environment variable
- The environment block passed to main via **envp** is a “frozen” copy of the current environment.
- **envp** is a pointer to an array of environment strings, that can be declared as either :
  - `char * envp[] ;`      // an array of pointers to char
  - `char **envp;`      // a pointer to pointers to char
- The end of the array is indicated by a **NULL** pointer.

# Environment Variables

```
#include <stdio.h>

main(int argc, char* argv[], char* envp[])
{
    int a;
    printf("The command name (argv[0]) is %s\n", argv[0]);
    printf("There are %d arguments:\n", argc-1);
    for (a=1; a<argc; a++)
        printf("\targument %2d:\t%s\n", a, argv[a]);

    printf("The environment is as follows:\n");
    a = 0;
    while (envp[a] != NULL)
        printf("\t%s\n", envp[a++]);
}
```

# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
  - Function pointers
  - (complex) Declarations
  - `volatile` and `extern`
  - Command line arguments
  - **VARIABLE ARGUMENT LISTS**
  - The preprocessor
- System Info and Time
  - Generic
  - Unix
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# Variable Length Argument Lists

- In C and C++ functions can have variable length argument lists, that is, they can take a variable number arguments eg. printf and scanf are already of this form
- Functions that require variable lists are declared using the ellipsis (...) in the argument list.
- Requires the **<stdarg.h>** header file
- To access arguments passed to functions using this method, you must use the types **va\_list**, **va\_start**, **va\_arg**, and **va\_end** macros
- Variable argument lists are implemented whenever the last argument in a function is the ellipsis (...)
- A function that takes a variable number of arguments requires at least one “placeholder” argument, even if it is not used. If this place-holder argument is not supplied, you can not access the remaining arguments

# Variable Length Argument Lists

```
va_start (ap, v)
```

- Is used to initialise the argument pointer **ap** to point to a list of the arguments given after **v** the last argument actually declared in function header - **v** cannot be an array.

```
va_arg (ap, type)
```

- Is used to step through argument list - variables of any type can be in the list

```
va_end (ap)
```

- Used to clean up memory when done



# OUTLINE

- Advanced C
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  - **THE PREPROCESSOR**
- System Info and Time
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# The Preprocessor

- The preprocessor is a **text processor** built into the compiler that manipulates the text of a C/C++ source file before the file is actually parsed.
- It defines directives that are typically used to make source programs **easy to change** and **easy to compile** in different execution environments.
- For example directives may be used to:
  - **Replace/substitute text** in the file,
  - **insert the contents** of other files into the source file,
- suppress compilation of part of the file by **removing sections** of text.
- Preprocessor statements do not support escape sequences.

# Preprocessor Directives

- The preprocessor recognises the following directives

<code>#define</code>	<code>#undef</code>	<code>// - includes/ ignores macros</code>
<code>#ifdef</code>	<code>#ifndef</code>	<code>// - conditional compilation</code>
<code>#if</code>	<code>#endif</code>	<code>// - conditional compilation</code>
<code>#else</code>	<code>#elif</code>	<code>// - conditional compilation</code>
<code>#include</code>		<code>// - includes a file</code>
<code>#line</code>		<code>// - get or set the current line number</code>
<code>#error</code>		<code>// - produce compile-time error messages</code>
<code>#pragma</code>		<code>// - give special instructions to compiler</code>

# Preprocessor Directives

- Directives can appear anywhere in a source file.
- The hash sign (#) must be the first nonwhite-space character on the line before the directive
- Some directives include arguments or values.
- Directives are terminated by an EOL character
- Multiline preprocessor directives can be created by placing a backslash (\) at the end of each line, this means the directive continues on the next line

```
#define STORY  Once upon a time in a far \
                away land there was a      \
                lonely cane toad ...
```

# Using `#define` / `#undef`

- `#define` is used to create a **macro** that the preprocessor will replace in the source file, eg

```
#define PI 3.1417  
int area = r * PI * PI;
```

- `#undef` is used to tell the preprocessor to ignore a previously defined macro

```
#undef PI
```

# Using `#define` / `#undef`

- Macros can be defined to accept one or more arguments

```
#define INCH2CM(a) ((a) * 2.54)
```

- Macros are **very fast** because they do not have any function call overheads – line **inline** in C++
- Macros don't perform any type checking

# Using #define / #undef

- It is very important to **enclose the macro arguments in brackets**, so that they are properly interpreted

```
#define SQ(x)    x * x
```

```
int a = SQ(k + 7) / 12
```

```
int a = k + 7 * k + 7 / 12
```

The result setting **k=1** becomes 8

```
#define SQ(x)    ((x) * (x))
```

```
int a = SQ(k + 7) / 12
```

```
int a = ((k + 7) * (k + 7)) / 12
```

The result setting **k=1** becomes 6

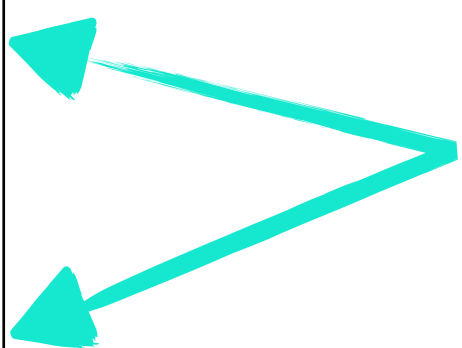


# Conditional Compilation

- `#ifdef` / `#endif` / `#ifndef` / `#if` / `#else` are used to control what parts of a program get compiled
- These are useful for writing programs that need to be compiled differently for different platforms

```
#define WIN32
#ifdef WIN32
    printf("win32 specific code");
#else
    printf("unix specific code");
#endif
```

The compiler will only compile one of the two code blocks depending on if WIN32 has been defined





# Example X-platform programming Loadable libraries:

```
#ifdef WIN32
#include <direct.h>
#include <windows.h>
#else
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <dlfcn.h>
#endif

#ifdef WIN32
string nameOfLibToLoad("C:\\opt\\lib\\libctest.dll");
HINSTANCE lib_handle =
LoadLibrary(TEXT(nameOfLibToLoad.c_str()));
#else
string nameOfLibToLoad("/opt/lib/libctest.so");
void * lib_handle = dlopen(nameOfLibToLoad.c_str(), RTLD_LAZY);
#endif
if (!lib_handle) exit(-1);
```

Continued next slide...

*Continued from previous slide*

```
#ifdef WIN32
```

```
void* fn_handle = (func_t*) GetProcAddress(lib_handle,  
"superfunctionx");  
if (!fn_handle) exit(-1);
```

```
#else
```

```
dlerror(); // reset errors  
void* fn_handle= (func_t*) dlsym(lib_handle, "superfunctionx");  
const char* dlsym_error = dlerror();  
if (dlsym_error) exit(-1);
```

```
#endif
```

```
/** ... **/
```

```
#ifdef WIN32
```

```
FreeLibrary(lib_handle);
```

```
#else
```

```
dlclose(lib_handle);
```

```
#endif
```

**Example X-platform  
programming Loadable  
libraries:**

# Predefined Macros

- ANSI C supports a number of predefined macros
  - `__DATE__` The compilation date of the source file.
  - `__FILE__` The name of the current source file.
  - `__LINE__` The line number in the source file.
  - `__STDC__` Indicates conformance with ANSI C
  - `__TIME__` The compilation time of the source file.
  - `__TIMESTAMP__` date & time of last file modification
- Examples:

```
printf("This program compiled on %s", __DATE__);  
printf("Executed line %d in file %s", __LINE__, __FILE__);
```

# Stringizing (#) Operator

- Causes its argument to be **converted into a string**

```
#define STR(x) #x
```

```
printf("%s", STR(1+2));  
printf("%s", STR("1+2"));
```

*-> printf("%s", "1+2");*

*Output*

1+2  
1+2

- We can also use it to print out the definition of macros

```
#define ISZERO(x) (x ? FALSE : TRUE)  
#define STR(x) #x  
#define DUMP(x) STR(x)
```

```
printf("%s", DUMP(ISZERO(2))) ;
```

*Output*

(2 ? FALSE : TRUE)

# Token-Pasting (##) Operator

- **Concatenates** its arguments together to make new tokens
- Allows the creation of C++ template like code in C

```
#define JOIN(a,b)      a ## b
```

```
JOIN(int_, List(); ) ;  ⇒ int_List();  
JOIN(dbl_, List(); ) ;  ⇒ dbl_List();
```

```
#define PASTE(n)      printf("token" #n "= %d", token##n )  
int token9 = 9;
```

```
PASTE(9) ;      ⇒ printf("token" "9" " = %d", token9 )  
                ⇒ printf("token9 = %d", token9 )  
                ⇒ token9 = 9
```

# Parsing Text - strtok

- Often you need to take some text input and **split it up** into different fields
- There are many ways to do this: one is

```
int n = 0;
char *tokens[100];
token[n] = strtok(inputString, ",");
while (token[n++])
{
    tokens[n] = strtok(NULL, ",");
}
```

# Parsing Text - `sscanf`

- Another way of parsing is similar to using `printf`
- `sscanf` parses input strings
- `scanf` reads and parses from standard input
- Say you want to parse "**Test 1 1.5 a -3 end**"
- You could do it as follows:

```
char str1[10], str2[5], str3[5];
int    num1, num3;
float num2;
int res = sscanf(string, "%s %d %.1f %c %d %s", str1, &num1,
                  &num2, str2[0], &num3, str3);
if (res < 6) printf("Error");
```



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  - **GENERIC**
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# System Time (Generic)

- There are different ways to get the time

`#include <time>`

- The Kernel calendar time (secs since midnight 1 Jan 1970 )

`time_t time(time_t * ptr); //- secs`

- Convert `time_t` to a human readable value using

`char*ctime(const time_t * ptr);`

•returns: “Tue Feb 10 18:27:38 2011”

- Get running program time (in `CLOCKS_PER_SEC * sec`)  
using `clock_t clock();`

# System Time (Generic)

- You can get the time broken down into days/years etc

`struct tm* gmtime (time_t * ptr)` //- greenwich mean time

`struct tm* localtime (time_t * ptr)` //- local time zone

```
struct tm
{
    int tm_sec;
    int tm_min;
    int tm_hour;
    int tm_mday;
    int tm_mon;
    int tm_year;
    ...
}
```

# Time Conversions (Generic)

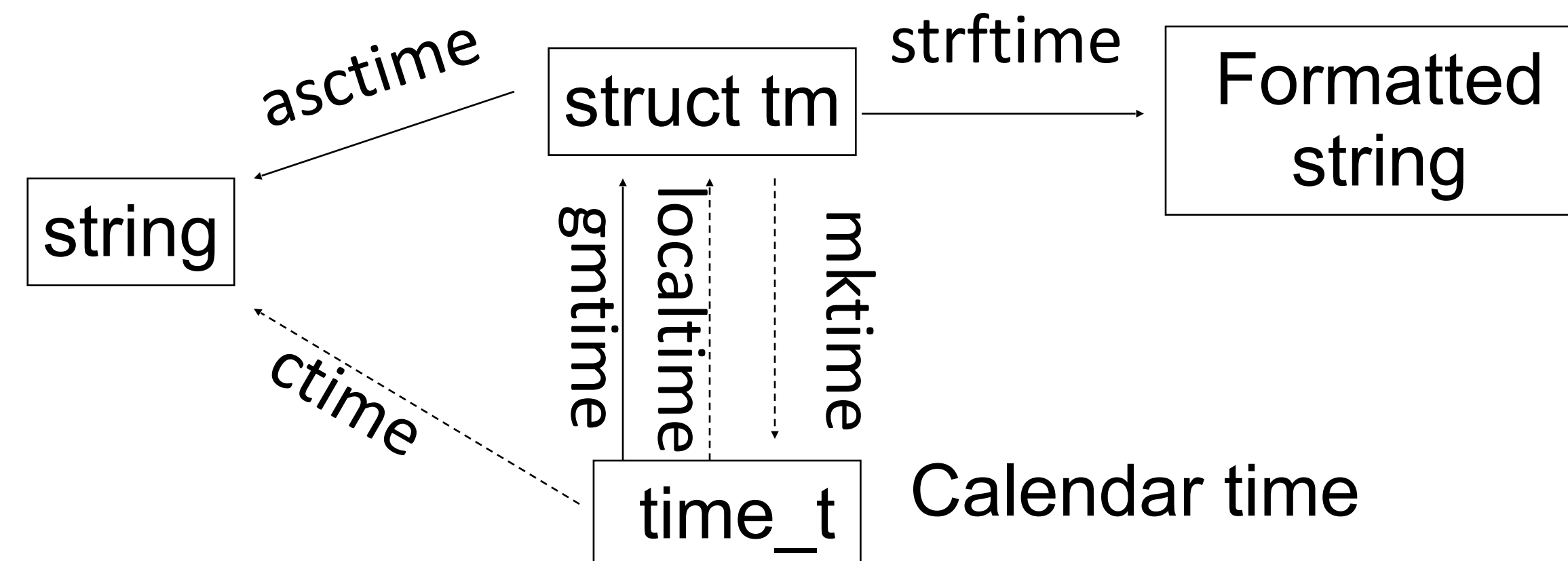
- You can convert between these time formats human readable time using

`time_t mktime(struct tm*);` *// - convert tm to time\_t*

`char* asctime(const struct tm*);` *// - like ctime*

`size_t strftime(char* buf, size_t maxsize, char* format, struct tm*);`

- The format string uses special characters to define how to format the time that will be stored in buf





# Unix Microsecond Time Routine

- A Hires Kernel calendar time (in usecs)

```
int gettimeofday(struct timeval*, NULL)
```

```
struct timeval
```

```
{
```

```
    time_t tv_sec;    //- seconds
```

```
    long  tv_usec;    //- microseconds
```

```
};
```

# Unix Nanosecond Timer

```
int clock_getres(clockid_t clk_id, struct timespec *res);
int clock_gettime(clockid_t clk_id, struct timespec *tp);
int clock_settime(clockid_t clk_id, const struct timespec *tp);

struct timespec {
    time_t    tv_sec;        //- seconds
    long      tv_nsec;       //- nano seconds
};
```

- **Example**

```
#include <sys/time.h>
int main()
{
    timespec ts;
    // clock_gettime(CLOCK_MONOTONIC, &ts); // Works on FreeBSD
    clock_gettime(CLOCK_REALTIME, &ts); // Works on Linux
}
```

# Unix System Info

- **System info**

```
int uname(struct utsname* name)
```

```
struct utsname
```

```
{
```

```
    char sysname[];           //- Name of this operating system.
```

```
    char nodename[];         //- Name of this node/host
```

```
    char release[];          //- Current release level of this OS.
```

```
    char version[];          //- Current version of this release.
```

```
    char machine[];          //- Name of the hardware type
```

```
}
```

```
int gethostname(char* name, int length);
```



# Win32 System Info

```
void GetSystemInfo(LPSYSTEM_INFO lpSystemInfo );
```

- lpSystemInfo
  - A pointer to a system\_info structure that receives the information.

```
typedef struct _SYSTEM_INFO {
    union {
        DWORD dwOemId;
        struct {
            WORD wProcessorArchitecture;
            WORD wReserved;
        };
    };
    DWORD dwPageSize;
    LPVOID lpMinimumApplicationAddress;
    LPVOID lpMaximumApplicationAddress;
    DWORD_PTR dwActiveProcessorMask;
    DWORD dwNumberOfProcessors;
    DWORD dwProcessorType;
    DWORD dwAllocationGranularity;
    WORD wProcessorLevel;
    WORD wProcessorRevision; } SYSTEM_INFO;
```

# Win32 Version Info

**BOOL GetVersionEx(LPOSVERSIONINFO lpVersionInfo );**

- **lpVersionInfo**
  - An OSVERSIONINFO or OSVERSIONINFOEX structure that receives the operating system information.
  - Before calling the GetVersionEx function, set the dwOSVersionInfoSize member of this structure as appropriate

```
typedef struct _OSVERSIONINFO
{
    DWORD dwOSVersionInfoSize;
    DWORD dwMajorVersion;
    DWORD dwMinorVersion;
    DWORD dwBuildNumber;
    DWORD dwPlatformId;
    TCHAR szCSDVersion[128];
} OSVERSIONINFO, *LPOSVERSIONINFO;
```



# Win32 Example

```
int main()
{
    OSVERSIONINFO osvi;
    SYSTEM_INFO si;
    ZeroMemory(&si, sizeof(SYSTEM_INFO));
    ZeroMemory(&osvi, sizeof(OSVERSIONINFOEX));

    osvi.dwOSVersionInfoSize = sizeof(OSVERSIONINFO);
    if ( !(GetVersionEx ((OSVERSIONINFO *) &osvi)) )
        return FALSE;

    GetSystemInfo(&si);
    return 0;
}
```

# System Information Functions

- **GetComputerName** Returns the NetBIOS name of the local computer
- **GetComputerNameEx** Returns the NetBIOS or DNS name of the computer.
- **GetComputerObjectName** Returns the computer name in a specified format
- **GetCurrentHwProfile** Retrieves the current hardware profile.
- **GetKeyboardType** Retrieves information about the current keyboard.
- **GetNativeSystemInfo** systeminfo for applications running under WOW64.
- **GetProductInfo** Retrieves the product type for the operating system.
- **GetSysColor** Retrieves the current color of a display element.
- **GetSystemDirectory** Retrieves the path of the system directory.
- **GetSystemInfo** Retrieves information about the current system.
- **GetSystemMetrics** Retrieves the specified system metric.
- **GetSystemWindowsDirectory** Retrieves the path of the Windows directory.
- **GetUserName** Returns the user name of the current thread.
- **GetVersion** Returns the version number of the operating system.
- **GetWindowsDirectory** Retrieves the path of the Windows directory.
- **IsProcessorFeaturePresent** checks if a processor feature is supported.
- ....MANY OTHERS



# Win32 Timer Functions

- **DWORD GetTickCount();** // milisecs secs since reboot

- **Calendar Time can be retrieved as well**

```
void GetSystemTime(SYSTEMTIME* lpSystemTime);  
BOOL SetSystemTime(SYSTEMTIME* lpSystemTime);  
void GetLocalTime(SYSTEMTIME* lpSystemTime);  
typedef struct _SYSTEMTIME {  
    WORD wYear;  
    WORD wMonth;  
    WORD wDayOfWeek;  
    WORD wDay;  
    WORD wHour;  
    WORD wMinute;  
    WORD wSecond;  
    WORD wMilliseconds;  
} SYSTEMTIME, *PSYSTEMTIME;
```

# Windows Hires Timer

```
class CHiResTimer
{
protected:
    __int64 m_nStart;
    __int64 m_nStop;
    __int64 m_nFreq; //- ticks per second
    void      Stop();
    bool      m_bSupported;
    __int64 Diff()      {return m_nStop - m_nStart;}
public:
    CHiResTimer(bool bAutoStart = true);
    virtual ~CHiResTimer() {};

    bool      IsSupported() const { return m_bSupported; };
    void      Reset();
    double     Elapsed()      { Stop(); return Diff() / double(m_nFreq); }
    __int64    sElapsed()     { Stop(); return Diff() / m_nFreq; }
    __int64    msElapsed()    { Stop(); return Diff() / (m_nFreq / 1000); }
    __int64    usElapsed();

};
```



# Windows Hires Timer

```
CHiResTimer::CHiResTimer(bool bAutoStart)
{
    m_bSupported = QueryPerformanceFrequency(
        (LARGE_INTEGER *)&m_nFreq) != 0;
    m_bSupported &= (m_nFreq != 0);
    if (bAutoStart) Reset();
}

__int64 CHiResTimer::usElapsed()
{
    Stop();
    const unsigned long div = 0x10c6f7a0b5edUL;    // = 2^64 / 1e6
    __int64 d = (m_nStop - m_nStart);
    if (d < div)    return (d*1000000UL)/m_nFreq;    // pick best one
    else            return (d/m_nFreq)*1000000UL;
}

void CHiResTimer:: Stop()
{    QueryPerformanceCounter((LARGE_INTEGER *)&m_nStop); }

void CHiResTimer:: Reset()
{    QueryPerformanceCounter((LARGE_INTEGER *)&m_nStart); }
```

# Error Handling

## UNIX

- System calls return **-1** on error
- When there is an error the OS sets a global error value based on the errors listed in **/usr/include/errno.h**
- The program can print a description of an error to the console using **perror(str);**

## Windows

- Win32 API returns zero (**FALSE**) if a function fails.
- To get extended error information, use the **FormatMessage()** function.



# Software Development Gudie





# Considerations

- **Dealing with uncertainty and complexity**
  - **Uncertainty - Requirements engineering**
  - **Complexity - Application of good design methods**
- **Software maintenance - characteristics of maintainable software**
  - **Properly structured – little coupling, high cohesion**
  - **Appropriately documented (file, function, line level)**
  - **Coding standards (style guide, variable naming etc)**
- **Systems level considerations,**
  - **interaction of software with its environment.**
  - **Performance, hardware, users, other software etc**



# Software Development Phases

- There are 4 basic processes involved in software development, analysis, and design, coding and testing.
- **1. Analysis**
  - Primary aim – to generate requirements specification /
  - Information Structures (Objects)
  - Functional block diagram
- **2. Design**
  - software architecture: Class Diagram / Structure Chart / etc
  - Data Structures (eg linked lists, queues, trees, arrays etc)
  - Algorithm selection
  - File formats / screen layout / user interface
- **3. Coding**
  - Choice of language
  - Coding Style / Methodology
  - Software documentation
- **4. Testing**
  - Boundary value testing
  - Functional testing
  - Structural testing
  - Acceptance Testing

# Requirements Engineering

- **Categories**
  - Functional
  - Nonfunctional
  - Quantifiable
  - System / software level
- **Analysis**
  - Classification
  - Clarification
  - Negotiation
  - Modeling
- **Gathering**
  - Sources
  - Methods
- **Specification**
  - Evaluation and use of System requirements
  - Evaluation and use of Software requirements
- **Req. Validation**
  - Reviews
  - Prototyping
  - Acceptance testing



# Software Design Issues

- **Two phase Design Process**
  - Architectural design – high level / block diag
  - Detailed design – algorithms, data structs etc
- **Design Issues:**
  - Event Handling
  - Fault tolerance
  - Security,
  - Performance (speed / memory use)
  - Data persistence,
  - Hardware Constraints
  - usability
- **Relationship between requirements, design and validation**

# Software Design Methods

- **System Modeling**

- Information (data flow)
- Behavioral (event driven)
- Structure
- Abstraction
- Coupling / cohesion
- Encapsulation / Information hiding

- **Design Patterns**

- creational
- structural
- behavioural

- **Design Paradigms**

- Function oriented (top-down structure decomposition)
- Object oriented design
- Data centric design

- **Software Architecture**

- Distributed
  - Client / Server, N-layered
- Concurrent
  - Multiprocess,
  - multithreaded
  - parallel,
- Pipes and filters



# ***Module/Function Cohesion***


- This is a measure of how well a module hangs together, the interrelation of the code and the data references within the module.
- Cohesion is measured on a scale starting at
  1. Coincidental – coincidence, nonsense
  2. Logical – similar operations eg all I/O together
  3. Temporal cohesion – together because of timing
  4. Procedural cohesion – together because of control, ordered flow of tasks/steps.
  5. Communication – shares data within module
  6. Sequential cohesion – both procedural+communication
  7. Functional – operations only carry out a single task
  8. Information based – a collection of functionally cohesive modules sharing a hidden data structure.

**More Cohesive**



# ***Module/Function Coupling***

- This is a measure of the independence of two (or mode) modules with respect to each other.
- The higher the coupling, the less independence and the harder it is to think of them as modules.
- The lower the coupling, the more independent modules are and the easier it is to separately reason about, design, modify & test the modules
- Coupling is measured on a scale starting at

- 
1. Content – modules dive into each other – nonsense
  2. Common coupling – access the same global data
  3. Control coupling – pass explicit (ie not implied by the data) control information between modules
  4. Stamp coupling – modules refer to the same data structures although not to the same field
  5. Data coupling – communicate by parameters only



# Software Validation

- **Objectives**

- Acceptance
- Installation
- Alpha / beta
- Regression
- Performance
- Security
- Stress
- Configuration
- Usability / HCI

- **Levels**

- Unit
- Integration
- System

- **Methods**

- Input based
  - Boundary value
  - Random
  - Equivalence
- Code based
  - Control flow
  - Data flow
  - Fault based
- Others
  - Usage based
  - Model based
  - Black box
  - White box

# Documentation

- **Requirements Specification**
  - System level – non functional eg performance
  - Software Level – functional, user
  - Acceptance Tests (to be performed)
- **Design Specifications**
  - **Architectural Design**
    - Logical Block diagram
    - State machines
    - Control flow
    - Data flow
  - **Detailed Design**
    - Structure charts
    - UML class diagram
    - Pseudo code
- **Code Documentation (high level: doxygen)**
- **Test results (acceptance tests, other tests)**



# Bad C Program

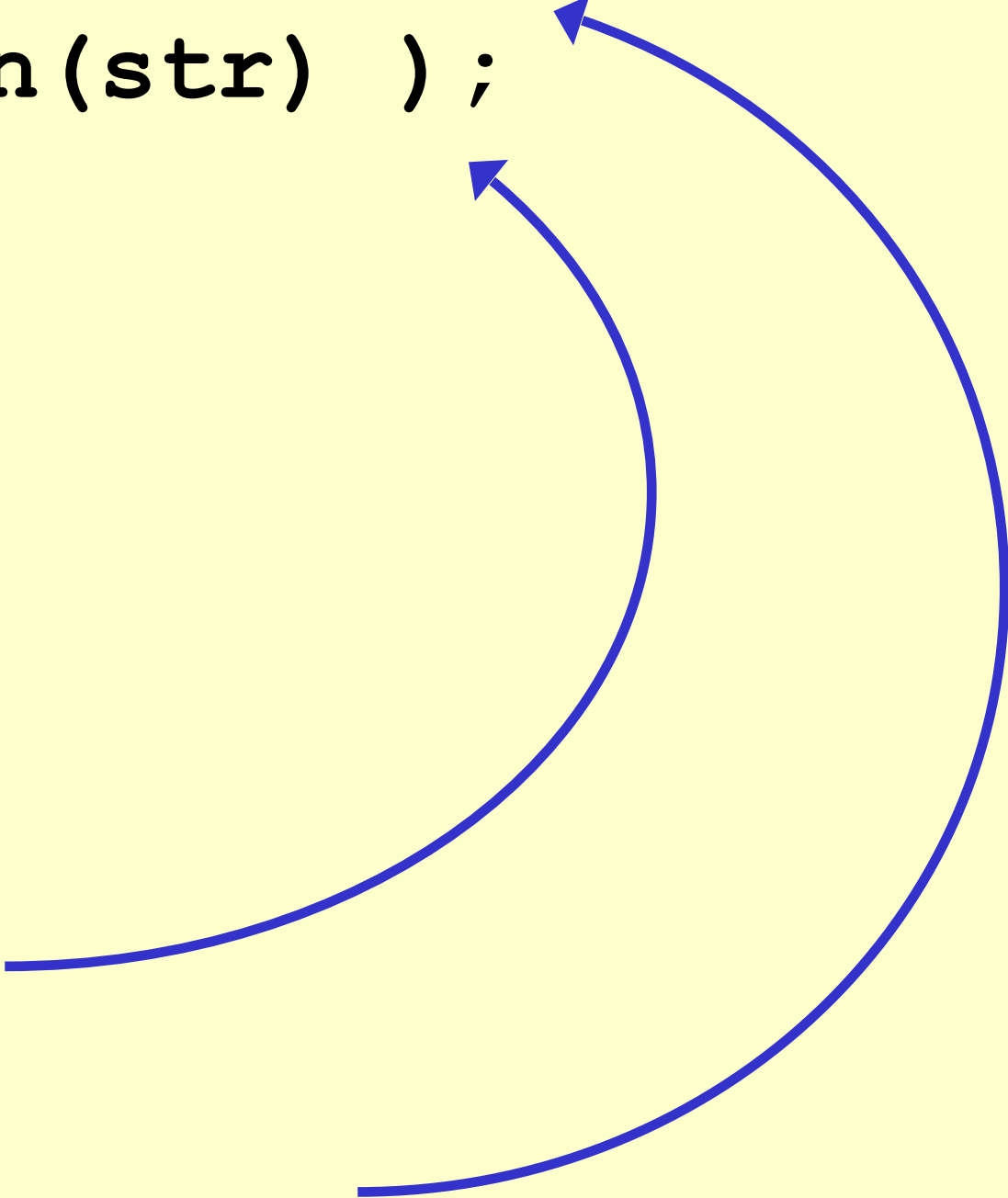
```
struct NODE{char *data; NODE *next;};
typedef struct NODE Node;
main()
{
    char string[32];
    scanf("%s", string );           // get & add 1st string to list
    Node *Head = malloc(sizeof(Node) );
    Head->next = NULL;               // ←NOTE !
    Head->data = malloc( strlen(str) );
    strcpy(Head->data, string);

    scanf("%s", string );           // get & add 2nd string to list
    Head->next = malloc(sizeof(Node) );
    Head->next->data = malloc( strlen(str) );
    strcpy(Head->next->data, string);
    Head->next->next = NULL;         // ←NOTE !
}
```



# Better C Program

```
struct NODE{char *data; NODE* next;};
typedef struct NODE Node;
void AddToList(Node* ptr, char* str)
{
    Node* tmp = malloc(sizeof(Node) );
    tmp->next = ptr;
    tmp->data = malloc( strlen(str) );
    strcpy(tmp->data, str);
}
main()
{
    Node *Head;
    char string[32];
    scanf("%s", string );
    AddToList(Head, string);
    scanf("%s", string );
    AddToList(Head, string);
}
```



# C+ Program (not quite C++)

```
struct NODE {char *data, NODE *next;};
typedef struct NODE Node;
struct LIST {Node *head, void (*Add) (LIST*, char*);};
typedef struct LIST List;
Void Add(List* this, char* str)
{
    Node* ptr = this->head;
    head = malloc( sizeof(Node) );
    head->next = ptr;
    head->data = malloc( strlen(str) );
    strcpy(head->data, str);
}
main()
{
    List myList;
    char string[32];
    scanf("%s", string );
    myList.Add(&myList, string);
    scanf("%s", string );
    myList.Add (&myList, string);
}
```

The initialisation of  
LISTOBJ is left as an  
exercise to the  
reader 😊

# Questions?

