# Embedded C



# C programming for embedded microcontroller systems

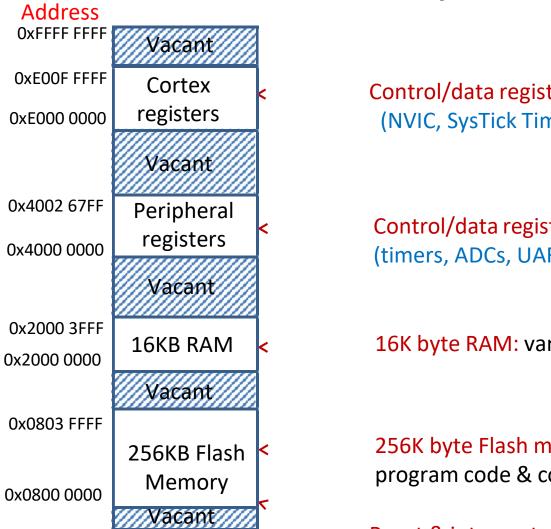
#### Outline

- Program organization and microcontroller memory
- Data types, constants, variables
- Microcontroller register/port addresses
- Operators: arithmetic, logical, shift
- Control structures: if, while, for
- Functions
- Interrupt routines

# Basic C program structure

```
#include "STM32L1xx.h"
                             /* I/O port/register names/addresses for the STM32L1xx microcontrollers */
/* Global variables – accessible by all functions */
int count. bob:
                          //global (static) variables – placed in RAM
/* Function definitions*/
                         //parameter x passed to the function, function returns an integer value
int function1(char x) {
 int i,i;
                          //local (automatic) variables – allocated to stack or registers
  -- instructions to implement the function
 /* Main program */
void main(void) {
                          //local (automatic) variable (stack or registers)
 unsigned char sw1;
                                                                                 Declare local variables
 int k;
                          //local (automatic) variable (stack or registers)
 /* Initialization section */
 -- instructions to initialize variables, I/O ports, devices, function registers
                                                                                 Initialize variables/devices
 /* Endless loop */
 while (1) {
                    //Can also use: for(;;) {
  -- instructions to be repeated
                                                                                 Body of the program
 } /* repeat forever */
```

# STM32L100RC µC memory map



Control/data registers: Cortex-M3 CPU functions (NVIC, SysTick Timer, etc.)

Control/data registers: microcontroller peripherals (timers, ADCs, UARTs, etc.)

16K byte RAM: variable & stack storage

256K byte Flash memory: program code & constant data storage

Reset & interrupt vectors: in 1st words of flash memory

#### Microcontroller "header file"

 Keil MDK-ARM provides a derivative-specific "header file" for each microcontroller, which defines memory addresses and symbolic labels for CPU and peripheral function register addresses.

```
#include "STM32L1xx.h" /* target uC information */

// GPIOA configuration/data register addresses are defined in STM32L1xx.h

void main(void) {

uint16_t PAval; //16-bit unsigned variable

GPIOA->MODER &= ~(0x00000003); // Set GPIOA pin PA0 as input

PAval = GPIOA->IDR; // Set PAval to 16-bits from GPIOA

for(;;) {} /* execute forever */
}
```

## C compiler data types

- Always match data type to data characteristics!
- Variable type indicates how data is represented
  - #bits determines range of numeric values
  - signed/unsigned determines which arithmetic/relational operators are to be used by the compiler
  - non-numeric data should be "unsigned"
- Header file "stdint.h" defines alternate type names for standard C data types
  - Eliminates ambiguity regarding #bits
  - Eliminates ambiguity regarding signed/unsigned

(Types defined on next page)

# C compiler data types

# C compiler data types

Data type declaration *	Number of bits	Range of values
char k; unsigned char k; uint8_t k;	8	0255
signed char k; int8_t k;	8	-128+127
short k; signed short k; int16_t k;	16	-32768+32767
unsigned short k; uint16_t k;	16	065535
int k; signed int k; int32_t k;	32	-2147483648 +2147483647
unsigned int k; uint32_t k;	32	04294967295

<sup>\*</sup> intx\_t and uintx\_t defined in stdint.h

### Data type examples

- Read bits from GPIOA (16 bits, non-numeric)
  - uint16\_t n; n = GPIOA->IDR; //or: unsigned short n;
- Write TIM2 prescale value (16-bit unsigned)
  - uint16\_t t; TIM2->PSC = t; //or: unsigned short t;
- Read 32-bit value from ADC (unsigned)

```
- uint32_t a; a = ADC; //or: unsigned int a;
```

System control value range [-1000...+1000]

```
- int32_t ctrl; ctrl = (x + y)*z; //or: int ctrl;
```

Loop counter for 100 program loops (unsigned)

```
- uint8_t cnt; //or: unsigned char cnt;
```

- for (cnt = 0; cnt < 20; cnt++) {</pre>

### Constant/literal values

Decimal is the default number format

```
int m,n; //16-bit signed numbers m = 453; n = -25;
```

Hexadecimal: preface value with 0x or 0X

```
m = 0xF312; n = -0x12E4;
```

Octal: preface value with zero (0)

```
m = 0453; n = -023;
```

Don't use leading zeros on "decimal" values. They will be interpreted as octal.

Character: character in single quotes, or ASCII value following "slash"

```
m = 'a'; //ASCII value 0x61
n = '\13'; //ASCII value 13 is the "return" character
```

String (array) of characters:

```
unsigned char k[7]; strcpy(m,"hello\n"); //k[0]='h', k[1]='e', k[2]='l', k[3]='l', k[4]='o', //k[5]=13 or '\n' (ASCII new line character), //k[6]=0 or '\0' (null character – end of string)
```

### Program variables

- A variable is an addressable storage location to information to be used by the program
  - Each variable must be declared to indicate size and type of information to be stored, plus name to be used to reference the information

```
int x,y,z; //declares 3 variables of type "int"
char a,b; //declares 2 variables of type "char"
```

- Space for variables may be allocated in registers,
   RAM, or ROM/Flash (for constants)
- Variables can be automatic or static

#### Variable arrays

- An array is a set of data, stored in consecutive memory locations, beginning at a named address
  - Declare array name and number of data elements, N
  - Elements are "indexed", with indices [0 .. N-1]

```
int n[5]; //declare array of 5 "int" values

n[3] = 5; //set value of 4^{th} array element
```

Note: Index of first element is always 0.

<u>Address</u>:

n[1] n+4

n[0]

n[2] n+8

n[3] n+12

n[4] n+16

#### Automatic variables

- Declare within a function/procedure
- Variable is visible (has scope) only within that function
  - Space for the variable is allocated on the system <u>stack</u> when the procedure is entered
    - Deallocated, to be re-used, when the procedure is exited
  - If only 1 or 2 variables, the compiler may allocate them to <u>registers</u> within that procedure, instead of allocating memory.
  - Values are not retained between procedure calls

## Automatic variable example

```
void delay () {
 int i,j; //automatic variables – visible only within delay()
for (i=0; i<100; i++) { //outer loop
   for (j=0; j<20000; j++) { //inner loop
                            //do nothing
         Variables must be initialized each
         time the procedure is entered since
         values are not retained when the
         procedure is exited.
```

#### Static variables

- Retained for use throughout the program in RAM locations that are not reallocated during program execution.
- Declare either within or outside of a function
  - If declared outside a function, the variable is global in scope,
     i.e. known to all functions of the program
    - Use "normal" declarations. Example: int count;
  - If declared within a function, insert key word static before the variable definition. The variable is local in scope, i.e. known only within this function.

```
static unsigned char bob;
static int pressure[10];
```

### Static variable example

```
unsigned char count; //global variable is static – allocated a fixed RAM location
                      //count can be referenced by any function
void math op () {
                      //automatic variable – allocated space on stack when function entered
 int i;
 static int j;
                      //static variable – allocated a fixed RAM location to maintain the value
 if (count == 0) //test value of global variable count
    i = 0;
                     //initialize static variable j first time math op() entered
 i = count;
                      //initialize automatic variable i each time math op() entered
                      //change static variable j – value kept for next function call
j = j + i;
                      //return & deallocate space used by automatic variable i
void main(void) {
 count = 0;
                      //initialize global variable count
 while (1) {
  math op();
  count++;
                      //increment global variable count
```

#### C statement types

- Simple variable assignments
  - Includes input/output data transfers
- Arithmetic operations
- Logical/shift operations
- Control structures
  - IF, WHEN, FOR, SELECT
- Function calls
  - User-defined and/or library functions

### Arithmetic operations

C examples – with standard arithmetic operators

```
int i, j, k; // 32-bit signed integers
uint8_t m,n,p; // 8-bit unsigned numbers
i = j + k; // add 32-bit integers
m = n - 5; // subtract 8-bit numbers
j = i * k; // multiply 32-bit integers
m = n / p; // quotient of 8-bit divide
m = n % p; // remainder of 8-bit divide
i = (j + k) * (i - 2); //arithmetic expression
```

\*, /, % are higher in precedence than +, - (higher precedence applied  $1^{st}$ ) Example: j \* k + m / n = (j \* k) + (m / n)

Floating-point formats are not directly supported by Cortex-M3 CPUs.

# Bit-parallel logical operators

Bit-parallel (bitwise) logical operators produce n-bit results of the corresponding logical operation:

```
& (AND) | (OR) ^ (XOR) ~ (Complement)
  C = A \& B;
  (AND)
                   B
  C = A \mid B;
  (OR)
                    B
                        0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0
                        0 1 1 1 0 1 0 0
  C = A \wedge B;
  (XOR)
                    B
                        1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1
                        0 1 1 0 0 1 0 0
                    A
                    B
   (COMPLEMENT)
```

# Bit set/reset/complement/test

Use a "mask" to select bit(s) to be altered

```
C = A \& 0xFE; A abcdefgh
                0xFE 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 Clear selected bit of A
                   C abcdefq0
C = A \& 0x01; A abcdefgh
                0xFE <u>0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1</u>
                       0 0 0 0 0 0 h Clear all but the selected bit of A
C = A \mid 0x01; A abcdefgh
                0 \times 01 \quad \underline{0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0} \quad \underline{1}
                   C a b c d e f g 1 Set selected bit of A
C = A ^ 0x01; A abcdefgh
               0 \times 01  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1
                   C abcdefgh'
                                          Complement selected bit of A
```

# Bit examples for input/output

 Create a "pulse" on bit 0 of PORTA (assume bit is initially 0)

```
PORTA = PORTA | 0x01; //Force bit 0 to 1
PORTA = PORTA & 0xFE; //Force bit 0 to 0
```

• Examples:

```
if ((PORTA & 0x80)!= 0) //Or: ((PORTA & 0x80) == 0x80)

bob(); // call bob() if bit 7 of PORTA is 1

c = PORTB & 0x04; // mask all but bit 2 of PORTB value

if ((PORTA & 0x01) == 0) // test bit 0 of PORTA

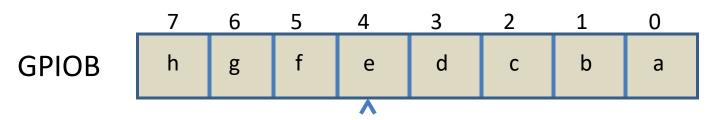
PORTA = c | 0x01; // write c to PORTA with bit 0 set to 1
```

#### Example of µC register address definitions in STM32Lxx.h

(read this header file to view other peripheral functions)

```
((uint32 t)0x40000000)
                                                          //Peripheral base address in memory
#define PERIPH BASE
                            (PERIPH BASE + 0x20000)
#define AHBPERIPH BASE
                                                          //AHB peripherals
/* Base addresses of blocks of GPIO control/data registers */
#define GPIOA BASE
                          (AHBPERIPH BASE + 0x0000)
                                                         //Registers for GPIOA
#define GPIOB BASE
                          (AHBPERIPH BASE + 0x0400)
                                                         //Registers for GPIOB
#define GPIOA
                      ((GPIO TypeDef *) GPIOA BASE)
                                                         //Pointer to GPIOA register block
                      ((GPIO TypeDef*) GPIOB BASE)
                                                         //Pointer to GPIOB register block
#define GPIOB
/* Address offsets from GPIO base address – block of registers defined as a "structure" */
typedef struct
                          /*!< GPIO port mode register,
                                                                       Address offset: 0x00
   IO uint32 t MODER;
   IO uint16 t OTYPER;
                                                                       Address offset: 0x04
                                                                                                */
                          /*!< GPIO port output type register,
                          /*!< Reserved.
                                                                                                */
 uint16 t RESERVEDO;
                                                                                      0x06
  IO uint32 t OSPEEDR; /*!< GPIO port output speed register,
                                                                       Address offset: 0x08
                                                                                                */
  IO uint32 t PUPDR;
                                                                                                 */
                          /*!< GPIO port pull-up/pull-down register,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x0C
                                                                                                 */
  IO uint16 t IDR;
                          /*!< GPIO port input data register,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x10
                                                                                                 */
                          /*!< Reserved,
 uint16 t RESERVED1;
                                                                                       0x12
   IO uint16 t ODR;
                          /*!< GPIO port output data register,
                                                                                                 */
                                                                        Address offset: 0x14
 uint16 t RESERVED2;
                          /*!< Reserved,
                                                                                       0x16
                                                                                                 */
  IO uint16 t BSRRL;
                          /*!< GPIO port bit set/reset low registerBSRR,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x18
  IO uint16 t BSRRH;
                                                                                                 */
                          /*!< GPIO port bit set/reset high registerBSRR,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x1A
   IO uint32 t LCKR;
                          /*!< GPIO port configuration lock register,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x1C
   IO uint32 t AFR[2];
                          /*!< GPIO alternate function low register,
                                                                        Address offset: 0x20-0x24 */
} GPIO TypeDef;
```

# Example: I/O port bits (using bottom half of GPIOB)



Switch connected to bit 4 (PB4) of GPIOB

```
uint16 tsw;
                             //16-bit unsigned type since GPIOB IDR and ODR = 16 bits
sw = GPIOB->IDR;
                            // sw = xxxxxxxxhgfedcba (upper 8 bits from PB15-PB8)
sw = GPIOB -> IDR \& 0x0010; // sw = 000e0000 (mask all but bit 4)
                            // Result is sw = 00000000 or 00010000
                             // NEVER TRUE for above sw, which is 000e0000
if (sw == 0x01)
                             // TRUE if e=1 (bit 4 in result of PORTB & 0x10)
if (sw == 0x10)
if (sw == 0)
                            // TRUE if e=0 in PORTB & 0x10 (sw=00000000)
if (sw != 0)
                            // TRUE if e=1 in PORTB & 0x10 (sw=00010000)
                            // Write to 16 bits of GPIOB; result is 01011010
GPIOB->ODR = 0x005a;
GPIOB->ODR \mid = 0x10;
                            // Sets only bit e to 1 in GPIOB (GPIOB now hgf1dcba)
                            // Resets only bit e to 0 in GPIOB (GPIOB now hgfOdcba)
GPIOB->ODR &= ^{\circ}0x10;
if ((GPIOB->IDR \& 0x10) == 1)
                                // TRUE if e=1 (bit 4 of GPIOB)
```

# Shift operators

x >> y (right shift operand x by y bit positions)

x << y (left shift operand x by y bit positions)

Shift operators:

```
Vacated bits are filled with 0's.
Shift right/left fast way to multiply/divide by power of 2
B = A << 3;
(Left shift 3 bits) B 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0
B = A >> 2;
                         A 10110101
(Right shift 2 bits) B 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1
B = 1'';
                     B = 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ (ASCII \ 0x31)
                  C = 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ (ASCII \ 0 \times 35)
C = '5';
D = (B << 4) | (C & 0x0F);
        (B << 4) = 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0,
```

(C & 
$$0x0F$$
) =  $0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1$   
D =  $0 0 0 1 0 1 (Packed BCD 0x15)$ 

#### C control structures

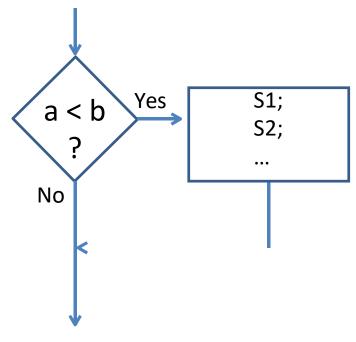
- Control order in which instructions are executed (program flow)
- Conditional execution
  - Execute a set of statements if some condition is met
  - Select one set of statements to be executed from several options, depending on one or more conditions
- Iterative execution
  - Repeated execution of a set of statements
    - A specified number of times, or
    - Until some condition is met, or
    - While some condition is true

#### IF-THEN structure

Execute a set of statements if and only if some condition is met

```
TRUE/FALSE condition

if (a < b)
{
    statement s1;
    statement s2;
    ....
}</pre>
```



### **Relational Operators**

Test relationship between two variables/expressions

Test	TRUE condition	Notes
(m == b)	m equal to b	Double =
(m != b)	m not equal to b	
(m < b)	m less than b	1
(m <= b)	m less than or equal to b	1
(m > b)	m greater than b	1
(m >= b)	m greater than or equal to b	1
(m)	m non-zero	
(1)	always TRUE	
(0)	always FALSE	

Compiler uses
 signed or unsigned
 comparison, in
 accordance with
 data types

#### **Example**:

```
unsigned char a,b;
int j,k;
if (a < b) – unsigned
if (j > k) - signed
```

### **Boolean operators**

 Boolean operators && (AND) and || (OR) produce TRUE/FALSE results when testing multiple TRUE/FALSE conditions

```
if ((n > 1) \&\& (n < 5)) //test for n between 1 and 5
if ((c = 'q') \mid | (c = 'Q')) //test c = lower or upper case Q
```

Note the difference between Boolean operators &&, ||
 and bitwise logical operators &, |

#### Common error

Note that == is a <u>relational</u> operator,
 whereas = is an <u>assignment</u> operator.

```
if (m == n) //tests equality of values of variables m and n
if (m = n) //assigns value of n to variable m, and then
//tests whether that value is TRUE (non-zero)
```

The second form is a common error (omitting the second equal sign), and usually produces unexpected results, namely a TRUE condition if n is 0 and FALSE if n is non-zero.

#### **IF-THEN-ELSE** structure

• Execute one set of statements if a condition is met and an alternate set if the condition is not met.

```
if (a == 0)
{
    statement s1;
    statement s2;
}
else
{
    statement s3;
    statement s4:
}
```

#### IF-THEN-ELSE HCS12 assembly language vs C example

```
EQU $91; A/D Data Port
AD PORT:
MAX TEMP:
                  EQU 128; Maximum temperature
VALVE OFF:
                  EQU 0 ; Bits for valve off
VALVE ON:
                  EQU 1 ; Bits for valve on
VALVE PORT:
                  EQU $258; Port P for the valve
; Get the temperature
                                              C version:
     Idaa AD PORT
; IF Temperature > Allowed Maximum
                                             #define MAX TEMP 128
     cmpa #MAX TEMP
     bls ELSE PART
                                             #define VALVE OFF 0
: THEN Turn the water valve off
                                             #define VALVE ON 1
     Idaa VALVE OFF
     staa VALVE PORT
                                             if (AD PORT <= MAX TEMP)
     bra END IF
                                                 VALVE PORT = VALVE OFF;
; ELSE Turn the water valve on
                                             else
ELSE PART:
                                                 VALVE PORT = VALVE ON;
     Idaa VALVE ON
     staa VALVE PORT
END IF:
; END IF temperature > Allowed Maximum
```

### **Ambiguous ELSE association**

```
if (n > 0)
  if (a > b)
      z = a;
else //else goes with nearest previous "if" (a > b)
   z = b;
if (n > 0) {
  if (a > b)
                       Braces force proper association
     z = a;
} else { //else goes with first "if" (n > 0)
  z = b;
```

## Multiple ELSE-IF structure

 Multi-way decision, with expressions evaluated in a specified order

```
if (n == 1)
    statement1;  //do if n == 1
else if (n == 2)
    statement2;  //do if n == 2
else if (n == 3)
    statement3;  //do if n == 3
else
    statement4;  //do if any other value of n (none of the above)
```

Any "statement" above can be replaced with a set of statements: {s1; s2; s3; ...}

#### **SWITCH** statement

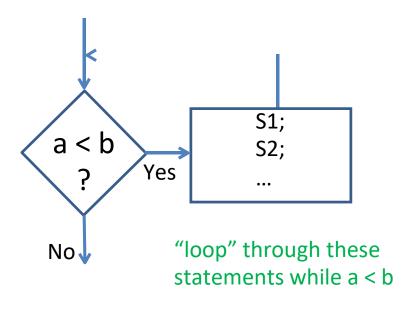
 Compact alternative to ELSE-IF structure, for multiway decision that tests one variable or expression for a number of constant values

```
/* example equivalent to that on preceding slide */
switch (n) { //n is the variable to be tested
    case 0: statement1; //do if n == 0
    case 1: statement2; // do if n == 1
    case 2: statement3; // do if n == 2
    default: statement4; //if for any other n value
}
Any "statement" above can be replaced with a set of
statements: {s1; s2; s3; ...}
```

## WHILE loop structure

 Repeat a set of statements (a "loop") as long as some condition is met

```
while (a < b)
{
    statement s1;
    statement s2;
    ....
}</pre>
```



Something must eventually cause a >= b, to exit the loop

# WHILE loop example: C vs. HCS12 Assembly Language

```
C version:
#define MAX_ALLOWED 128
#define LIGHT ON 1
#define LIGHT OFF 0
while (AD_PORT <= MAX_ALLOWED)
  LIGHT PORT = LIGHT ON;
  delay();
  LIGHT PORT = LIGHT OFF;
  delay();
```

```
AD PORT: EQU $91; A/D Data port
MAX ALLOWED: EQU 128; Maximum Temp
LIGHT ON: EQU 1
LIGHT OFF: EQU 0
LIGHT PORT: EQU $258; Port P
; Get the temperature from the A/D
    Idaa AD PORT
; WHILE the temperature > maximum allowed
WHILE START:
    cmpa MAX ALLOWED
    bls END WHILE
; DO - Flash light 0.5 sec on, 0.5 sec off
    Idaa LIGHT ON
    staa LIGHT PORT; Turn the light
   jsr delay ; 0.5 sec delay
    Idaa LIGHT OFF
    staa LIGHT PORT; Turn the light off
   isr delay
   End flashing the light, Get temperature from the A/D
    Idaa AD PORT
; END DO
         WHILE START
    bra
END WHILE:
```

## DO-WHILE loop structure

Repeat a set of statements (one "loop")

until some condition is met

```
do
  {
    statement s1;
    statement s2;
    ....
}
while (a < b);</pre>
```

"loop" through S1; these statements S2; until a < b Yes a < b No J

The condition is tested <u>after</u> executing the set of statements, so the statements are guaranteed to execute at least once.

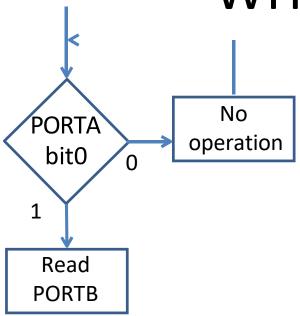
# DO-WHILE example

```
; HCS12 Assembly Language Version
C version:
                                   ; DO
                                   ; Flash light 0.5 sec on, 0.5 sec off
                                            ldaa LIGHT ON
#define MAX ALLOWED 128
                                            staa LIGHT PORT ; Turn light on
#define LIGHT ON 1
                                            jsr delay ; 0.5 sec delay
#define LIGHT OFF 0
                                            ldaa LIGHT OFF
                                            staa LIGHT PORT ; Turn light off
                                            jsr
                                                   delay
do {
                                   ; End flashing the light
 LIGHT PORT = LIGHT ON;
                                   ; Get the temperature from the A/D
 delay();
                                            ldaa
                                                   AD PORT
  LIGHT PORT = LIGHT OFF;
                                   ; END DO
                                                   WHILE START
                                            bra
  delay();
                                   ; END WHILE:
} while (AD PORT <= MAX ALLOWED);</pre>
                                   ; END WHILE temperature > maximum allowed
                                   ; Dummy subroutine
                                   delay:
                                             rts
```

## WHILE examples

```
/* Add two 200-element arrays. */
int M[200], N[200], P[200];
int k;
/* Method 1 – using DO-WHILE */
k = 0;
                         //initialize counter/index
do {
  M[k] = N[k] + P[k]; //add k-th array elements
            //increment counter/index
  k = k + 1;
k = 100 while (k < 200); //repeat if k less than 200
/* Method 2 – using WHILE loop
k = 0;
                         //initialize counter/index
while (k < 200) { //execute the loop if k less than 200
  M[k] = N[k] + P[k]; //add k-th array elements
 k = k + 1:
              //increment counter/index
```

#### WHILE example



Wait for a 1 to be applied to bit 0 of GPIOA and then read GPIOB

```
while ((GPIOA->IDR & 0x00001) == 0) // test bit 0 of GPIOA

{} // do nothing & repeat if bit is 0

c = GPIOB->IDR; // read GPIOB after above bit = 1
```

#### FOR loop structure

- Repeat a set of statements (one "loop") while some condition is met
  - often a given # of iterations

```
Initialization(s) execution

for (m = 0; m < 200; m++)

{

statement s1;

statement s2;
}

Condition for Operation(s) at end of each loop
```

#### FOR loop structure

 FOR loop is a more compact form of the WHILE loop structure

## FOR structure example

```
/* Read 100 16-bit values from GPIOB into array C */
/* Bit 0 of GPIOA (PA0) is 1 if data is ready, and 0 otherwise */
uint16_t c[100];
uint16 t k;
for (k = 0; k < 200; k++) {
    while ((GPIOA->IDR & 0x01) == 0) //repeat until PA0 = 1
                                   //do nothing if PAO = 0
                                  //read data from PB[15:0]
    c[k] = GPIOB -> IDR;
```

#### FOR structure example

```
/* Nested FOR loops to create a time delay */

for (i = 0; i < 100; i++) { //do outer loop 100 times
    for (j = 0; j < 1000; j++) { //do inner loop 1000 times
    }
    //do "nothing" in inner loop
}
```

#### **C** functions

- Functions partition large programs into a set of smaller tasks
  - Helps manage program complexity
  - Smaller tasks are easier to design and debug
  - Functions can often be reused instead of starting over
  - Can use of "libraries" of functions developed by 3<sup>rd</sup> parties, instead of designing your own

#### **C** functions

- A function is "called" by another program to perform a task
  - The function may return a result to the caller
  - One or more arguments may be passed to the function/procedure

#### **Function definition**

```
Type of value to be
                                   Parameters passed
  returned to the caller*
                                   by the caller
int math_func (int k; int n)
 int j;  //local variable
j = n + k - 5;  //function body
return(j);  //return the result
```

<sup>\*</sup> If no return value, specify "void"

#### **Function arguments**

- Calling program can pass information to a function in two ways
  - By value: pass a constant or a variable value
    - function can use, but not modify the value
  - By reference: pass the address of the variable
    - function can both read and update the variable
  - Values/addresses are typically passed to the function by pushing them onto the system stack
    - Function retrieves the information from the stack

# Example – pass by value

```
/* Function to calculate x<sup>2</sup> */
int square (int x) { //passed value is type int, return an int value
  int y; //local variable – scope limited to square
  y = x * x; //use the passed value
  return(x); //return the result
void main {
 int k,n; //local variables – scope limited to main
 n = 5;
 k = square(n); //pass value of n, assign n-squared to k
 n = square(5); // pass value 5, assign 5-squared to n
```

# Example – pass by reference

```
/* Function to calculate x<sup>2</sup> */
void square ( int x, int *y ) { //value of x, address of y
 *y = x * x; / //write result to location whose address is y
void main {
 int k,n;
                  //local variables – scope limited to main
 n = 5;
 square(n, &k); //calculate n-squared and put result in k
 square(5, &n); // calculate 5-squared and put result in n
```

In the above, *main* tells *square* the location of its local variable, so that *square* can write the result to that variable.

## Example – receive serial data bytes

```
/* Put string of received SCI bytes into an array */
Int rcv_data[10]; //global variable array for received data
Int rcv_count; //global variable for #received bytes

void SCI_receive () {
  while ((SCISR1 & 0x20) == 0) {} //wait for new data (RDRF = 1)
  rcv_data[rcv_count] = SCIDRL; //byte to array from SCI data reg.
  rcv_count++; //update index for next byte
}
```

Other functions can access the received data from the global variable array rcv\_data[].

#### Some on-line C tutorials

- http://www.cprogramming.com/tutorial/ctutorial.html
- http://www.physics.drexel.edu/courses/Comp \_Phys/General/C\_basics/
- http://www.iu.hio.no/~mark/CTutorial/CTutorial.html
- http://www2.its.strath.ac.uk/courses/c/