

# Chapter 11 – File Processing

## Outline

- 11.1 Introduction
- 11.2 The Data Hierarchy
- 11.3 Files and Streams
- 11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File
- 11.5 Reading Data from a Sequential Access File
- 11.6 Updating Sequential Access Files
- 11.7 Random Access Files
- 11.8 Creating a Random Access File
- 11.9 Writing Data Randomly to a Random Access File
- 11.10 Reading Data Sequentially from a Random Access File
- 11.11 Case Study: A Transaction Processing Program
- 11.12 Input/Output of Objects



# 11.1 Introduction

- Data files
  - Can be created, updated, and processed by C programs
  - Are used for permanent storage of large amounts of data
    - Storage of data in variables and arrays is only temporary



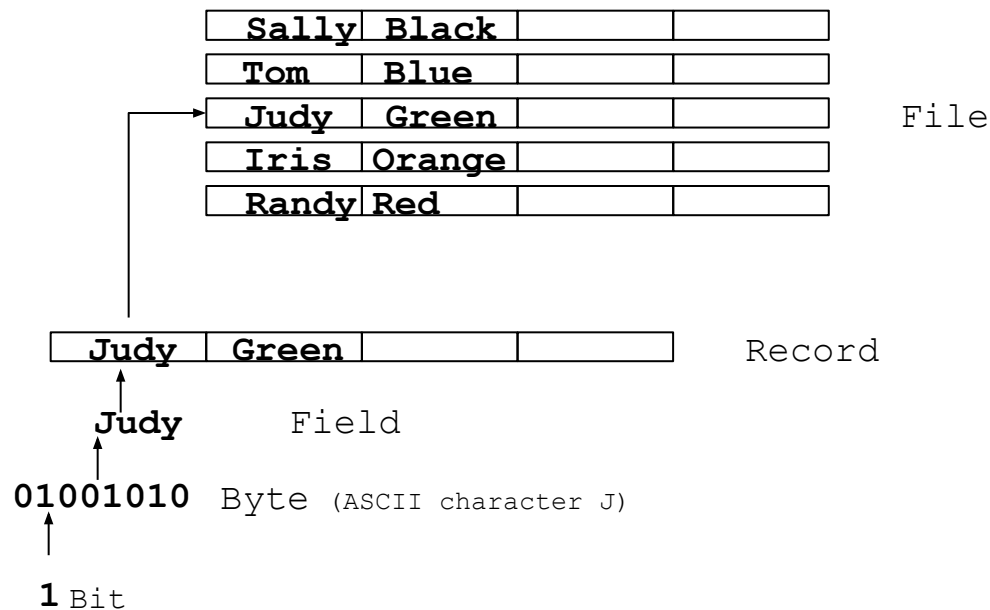
## 11.2 The Data Hierarchy

- Data Hierarchy:
  - Bit – smallest data item
    - Value of **0** or **1**
  - Byte – 8 bits
    - Used to store a character
      - Decimal digits, letters, and special symbols
  - Field – group of characters conveying meaning
    - Example: your name
  - Record – group of related fields
    - Represented by a **struct** or a **class**
    - Example: In a payroll system, a record for a particular employee that contained his/her identification number, name, address, etc.



## 11.2 The Data Hierarchy

- Data Hierarchy (continued):
  - File – group of related records
    - Example: payroll file
  - Database – group of related files



## 11.2 The Data Hierarchy

- Data files
  - Record key
    - Identifies a record to facilitate the retrieval of specific records from a file
  - Sequential file
    - Records typically sorted by key



## 11.3 Files and Streams

- C views each file as a sequence of bytes
  - File ends with the *end-of-file marker*
    - Or, file ends at a specified byte
- Stream created when a file is opened
  - Provide communication channel between files and programs
  - Opening a file returns a pointer to a **FILE** structure
    - Example file pointers:
      - **stdin** - standard input (keyboard)
      - **stdout** - standard output (screen)
      - **stderr** - standard error (screen)
- **FILE** structure
  - File descriptor
    - Index into operating system array called the open file table
  - File Control Block (FCB)
    - Found in every array element, system uses it to administer the file



## 11.3 Files and Streams

- Read/Write functions in standard library
  - **fgetc**
    - Reads one character from a file
    - Takes a **FILE** pointer as an argument
    - **fgetc( stdin )** equivalent to **getchar()**
  - **fputc**
    - Writes one character to a file
    - Takes a **FILE** pointer and a character to write as an argument
    - **fputc( 'a', stdout )** equivalent to **putchar( 'a' )**
  - **fgets**
    - Reads a line from a file
  - **fputs**
    - Writes a line to a file
  - **fscanf / fprintf**
    - File processing equivalents of **scanf** and **printf**



## 11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File

- C imposes no file structure
  - No notion of records in a file
  - Programmer must provide file structure
- Creating a File
  - **FILE \*myPtr;**
    - Creates a **FILE** pointer called **myPtr**
  - **myPtr = fopen("myFile.dat", openmode);**
    - Function **fopen** returns a **FILE** pointer to file specified
    - Takes two arguments – file to open and file open mode
    - If open fails, **NULL** returned
  - **fprintf**
    - Used to print to a file
    - Like **printf**, except first argument is a **FILE** pointer (pointer to the file you want to print in)





## 11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File

- **feof ( *FILE pointer* )**
  - Returns true if end-of-file indicator (no more data to process) is set for the specified file
- **fclose ( *FILE pointer* )**
  - Closes specified file
  - Performed automatically when program ends
  - Good practice to close files explicitly
- Details
  - Programs may process no files, one file, or many files
  - Each file must have a unique name and should have its own pointer



## 11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File

- Table of file open modes:

Mode	Description
<b>r</b>	Open a file for reading.
<b>w</b>	Create a file for writing. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
<b>a</b>	Append; open or create a file for writing at end of file.
<b>r+</b>	Open a file for update (reading and writing).
<b>w+</b>	Create a file for update. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
<b>a+</b>	Append; open or create a file for update; writing is done at the end of the file.



```

1  /* Fig. 11.3: fig11_03.c
2      Create a sequential file */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main()
6  {
7      int account;
8      char name[ 30 ];
9      double balance;
10     FILE *cfPtr;    /* cfPtr = clients.dat file pointer */
11
12     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "w" ) ) == NULL )
13         printf( "File could not be opened\n" );
14     else {
15         printf( "Enter the account, name, and balance.\n" );
16         printf( "Enter EOF to end input.\n" );
17         printf( "? " );
18         scanf( "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
19
20         while ( !feof( stdin ) ) {
21             fprintf( cfPtr, "%d %s %.2f\n",
22                     account, name, balance );
23             printf( "? " );
24             scanf( "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
25         }
26
27         fclose( cfPtr );
28     }
29
30     return 0;
31 }

```



## Outline



1. Initialize variables  
and FILE pointer

1.1 Link the pointer to a  
file

2. Input data

2.1 Write to file  
(fprintf)

3. Close file

[Outline](#)**Program Output**

Enter the account, name, and balance.

Enter EOF to end input.

? 100 Jones 24.98

? 200 Doe 345.67

? 300 White 0.00

? 400 Stone -42.16

? 500 Rich 224.62

?

## 11.5 Reading Data from a Sequential Access File

- Reading a sequential access file
  - Create a **FILE** pointer, link it to the file to read  
`myPtr = fopen( "myFile.dat", "r" );`
  - Use **fscanf** to read from the file
    - Like **scanf**, except first argument is a **FILE** pointer  
`fscanf( myPtr, "%d%s%f", &myInt, &myString, &myFloat );`
  - Data read from beginning to end
  - File position pointer
    - Indicates number of next byte to be read / written
    - Not really a pointer, but an integer value (specifies byte location)
    - Also called byte offset
  - **rewind( myPtr )**
    - Repositions file position pointer to beginning of file (byte 0)



```

1  /* Fig. 11.7: fig11_07.c
2      Reading and printing a sequential file */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main()
6  {
7      int account;
8      char name[ 30 ];
9      double balance;
10     FILE *cfPtr;    /* cfPtr = clients.dat file pointer */
11
12     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "r" ) ) == NULL )
13         printf( "File could not be opened\n" );
14     else {
15         printf( "%-10s%-13s\n", "Account", "Name", "Balance"
16         fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
17
18         while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
19             printf( "%-10d%-13s7.2f\n", account, name, balance
20             fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
21         }
22
23         fclose( cfPtr );
24     }
25
26     return 0;
27 }

```



## Outline



### 1. Initialize variables

#### 1.1 Link pointer to file

### 2. Read data ( fscanf )

#### 2.1 Print

### 3. Close file

Account	Name	Balance
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

### Program Output

```

1  /* Fig. 11.8: fig11_08.c
2      Credit inquiry program */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main()
6  {
7      int request, account;
8      double balance;
9      char name[ 30 ];
10     FILE *cfPtr;
11
12     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "r" ) ) == NULL )
13         printf( "File could not be opened\n" );
14     else {
15         printf( "Enter request\n"
16             " 1 - List accounts with zero balances\n"
17             " 2 - List accounts with credit balances\n"
18             " 3 - List accounts with debit balances\n"
19             " 4 - End of run\n? " );
20         scanf( "%d", &request );
21
22         while ( request != 4 ) {
23             fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf", &account, name,
24                 &balance );
25
26             switch ( request ) {
27                 case 1:
28                     printf( "\nAccounts with zero "
29                         "balances:\n" );
30
31                     while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {

```



## Outline



### 1. Initialize variables

### 2. Open file

#### 2.1 Input choice

#### 2.2 Scan files

### 3. Print



## 2.2 Scan files

## 3. Print

```
33         if ( balance == 0 )
34             printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
35                     account, name, balance );
36
37             fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf",
38                     &account, name, &balance );
39     }
40
41     break;
42 case 2:
43     printf( "\nAccounts with credit "
44             "balances:\n" );
45
46     while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
47
48         if ( balance < 0 )
49             printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
50                     account, name, balance );
51
52             fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf",
53                     &account, name, &balance );
54     }
55
56     break;
57 case 3:
58     printf( "\nAccounts with debit "
59             "balances:\n" );
60
61     while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
62
63         if ( balance > 0 )
64             printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
```



```
65         account, name, balance );
66
67         fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf",
68               &account, name, &balance );
69     }
70
71     break;
72 }
73
74     rewind( cfPtr );
75     printf( "\n? " );
76     scanf( "%d", &request );
77 }
78
79     printf( "End of run.\n" );
80     fclose( cfPtr );
81 }
82
83     return 0;
84 }
```



## Outline

### 3.1 Close file



## Program Output

Enter request

- 1 - List accounts with zero balances
- 2 - List accounts with credit balances
- 3 - List accounts with debit balances
- 4 - End of run

? 1

Accounts with zero balances:

300	White	0.00
-----	-------	------

? 2

Accounts with credit balances:

400	Stone	-42.16
-----	-------	--------

? 3

Accounts with debit balances:

100	Jones	24.98
-----	-------	-------

200	Doe	345.67
-----	-----	--------

500	Rich	224.62
-----	------	--------

? 4

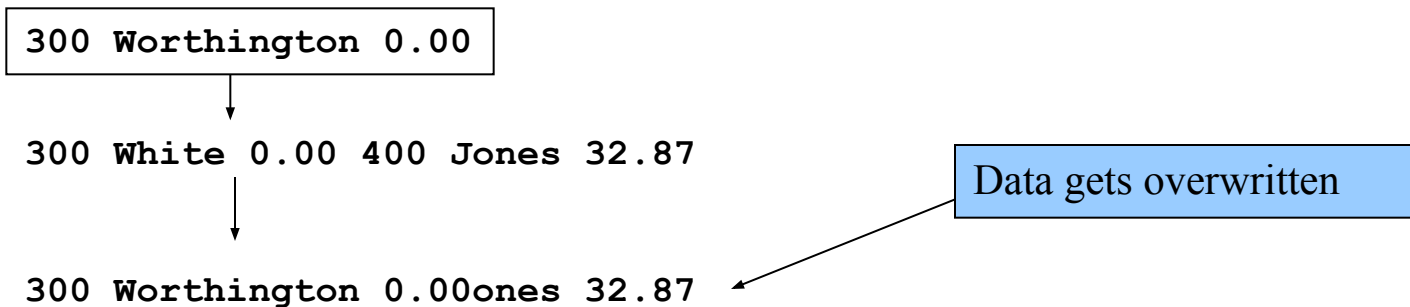
End of run.

## 11.5 Reading Data from a Sequential Access File

- Sequential access file
  - Cannot be modified without the risk of destroying other data
  - Fields can vary in size
    - Different representation in files and screen than internal representation
    - **1, 34, -890** are all **ints**, but have different sizes on disk

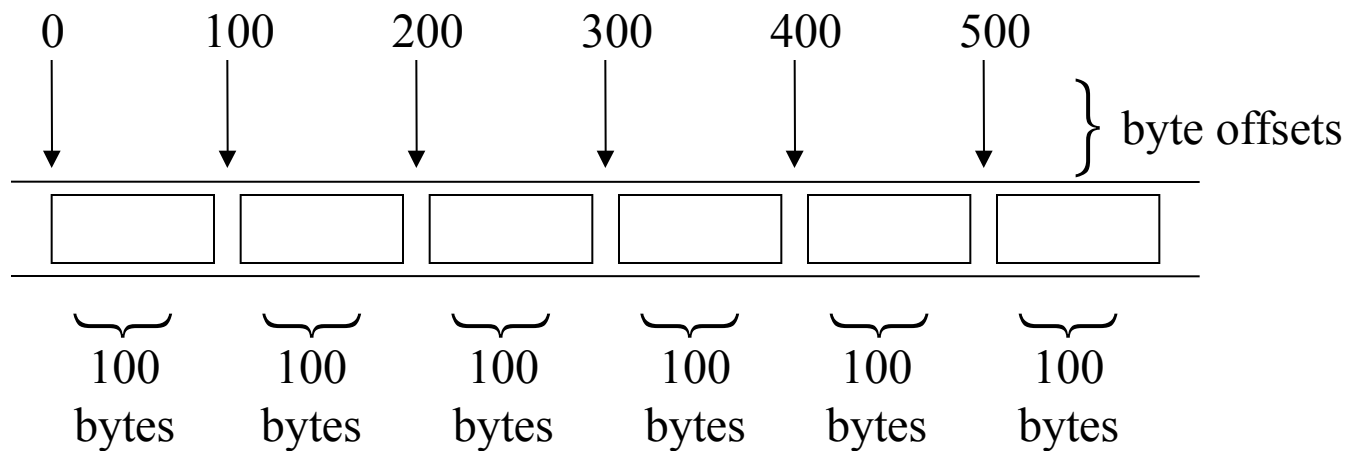
300 White 0.00 400 Jones 32.87    (old data in file)

If we want to change White's name to Worthington,



## 11.6 Random Access Files

- Random access files
  - Access individual records without searching through other records
  - Instant access to records in a file
  - Data can be inserted without destroying other data
  - Data previously stored can be updated or deleted without overwriting
- Implemented using fixed length records
  - Sequential files do not have fixed length records



## 11.7 Creating a Random Access File

- Data in random access files
  - Unformatted (stored as "raw bytes")
    - All data of the same type (**ints**, for example) uses the same amount of memory
    - All records of the same type have a fixed length
    - Data not human readable



## 11.7 Creating a Random Access File

- Unformatted I/O functions

- **fwrite**

- Transfer bytes from a location in memory to a file

- **fread**

- Transfer bytes from a file to a location in memory

- Example:

- ```
fwrite( &number, sizeof( int ), 1, myPtr );
```

- **&number** – Location to transfer bytes from
      - **sizeof( int )** – Number of bytes to transfer
      - **1** – For arrays, number of elements to transfer
        - In this case, "one element" of an array is being transferred
      - **myPtr** – File to transfer to or from



## 11.7 Creating a Random Access File

- Writing structs

```
fwrite( &myObject, sizeof (struct myStruct) ,  
1, myPtr );
```

- **sizeof** – returns size in bytes of object in parentheses

- To write several array elements

- Pointer to array as first argument

- Number of elements to write as third argument



```
1  /* Fig. 11.11: fig11_11.c
2      Creating a randomly accessed file sequentially */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  struct clientData {
6      int acctNum;
7      char lastName[ 15 ];
8      char firstName[ 10 ];
9      double balance;
10 };
11
12 int main()
13 {
14     int i;
15     struct clientData blankClient = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
16     FILE *cfPtr;
17
18     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "w" ) ) == NULL )
19         printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
20     else {
21
22         for ( i = 1; i <= 100; i++ )
23             fwrite( &blankClient,
24                 sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, cfPtr );
25
26         fclose( cfPtr );
27     }
28
29     return 0;
30 }
```



## Outline



### 1. Define struct

#### 1.1 Initialize variable

#### 1.2 Initialize struct

### 2. Open file

#### 2.1 Write to file using unformatted output

### 3. Close file



## 11.8 Writing Data Randomly to a Random Access File

- **fseek**
  - Sets file position pointer to a specific position
  - **fseek** ( *pointer*, *offset*, *symbolic\_constant* ) ;
    - *pointer* – pointer to file
    - *offset* – file position pointer (0 is first location)
    - *symbolic\_constant* – specifies where in file we are reading from
    - **SEEK\_SET** – seek starts at beginning of file
    - **SEEK\_CUR** – seek starts at current location in file
    - **SEEK\_END** – seek starts at end of file



```

1  /* Fig. 11.12: fig11 12.c
2      Writing to a random access file */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  struct clientData {
6      int acctNum;
7      char lastName[ 15 ];
8      char firstName[ 10 ];
9      double balance;
10 };
11
12 int main()
13 {
14     FILE *cfPtr;
15     struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
16
17     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "r+" ) ) == NULL )
18         printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
19     else {
20         printf( "Enter account number"
21             " ( 1 to 100, 0 to end input )\n? " );
22         scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
23
24         while ( client.acctNum != 0 ) {
25             printf( "Enter lastname, firstname, balance\n? " );
26             fscanf( stdin, "%s%s%lf", client.lastName,
27                 client.firstName, &client.balance );
28             fseek( cfPtr, ( client.acctNum - 1 ) *
29                 sizeof( struct clientData ), SEEK SET );
30             fwrite( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1,
31                 cfPtr );
32             printf( "Enter account number\n? " );

```



## Outline



### 1. Define struct

#### 1.1 Initialize variables

### 2. Open file

#### 2.1 Input data

#### 2.2 Write to file

```
33         scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
34     }
35
36     fclose( cfPtr );
37 }
38
39 return 0;
40 }
```



## Outline



### 3. Close file

```
Enter account number (1 to 100, 0 to end input)
? 37
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Barker Doug 0.00
Enter account number
? 29
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Brown Nancy -24.54
Enter account number
? 96
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Stone Sam 34.98
```

### Program Output



## Program Output

```
Enter account number
? 88
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Smith Dave 258.34
Enter account number
? 33
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Dunn Stacey 314.33
Enter account number
? 0
```

## 11.9 Reading Data Sequentially from a Random Access File

- **fread**
  - Reads a specified number of bytes from a file into memory  
`fread( &client, sizeof (struct clientData),  
1, myPtr );`
  - Can read several fixed-size array elements
    - Provide pointer to array
    - Indicate number of elements to read
  - To read multiple elements, specify in third argument



```
1  /* Fig. 11.15: fig11_15.c
2     Reading a random access file sequentially */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  struct clientData {
6      int acctNum;
7      char lastName[ 15 ];
8      char firstName[ 10 ];
9      double balance;
10 };
11
12 int main()
13 {
14     FILE *cfPtr;
15     struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
16
17     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "r" ) ) == NULL )
18         printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
19     else {
20         printf( "%-6s%-16s%-11s%10s\n", "Acct", "Last Name",
21             "First Name", "Balance" );
22
23         while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
24             fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1,
25                 cfPtr );
26
27             if ( client.acctNum != 0 )
28                 printf( "%-6d%-16s%-11s%10.2f\n",
29                     client.acctNum, client.lastName,
30                     client.firstName, client.balance );
31         }
32     }
```



## Outline



### 1. Define struct

#### 1.1 Initialize variables

### 2. Read ( fread )

#### 2.1 Print

```

33         fclose( cfPtr );
34     }
35
36     return 0;
37 }

```



Outline



### 3. Close file

| Acct | Last Name | First Name | Balance |
|------|-----------|------------|---------|
| 29   | Brown     | Nancy      | -24.54  |
| 33   | Dunn      | Stacey     | 314.33  |
| 37   | Barker    | Doug       | 0.00    |
| 88   | Smith     | Dave       | 258.34  |
| 96   | Stone     | Sam        | 34.98   |

### Program Output

## 11.10 Case Study: A Transaction Processing Program

- This program
  - Demonstrates using random access files to achieve instant access processing of a bank's account information
- We will
  - Update existing accounts
  - Add new accounts
  - Delete accounts
  - Store a formatted listing of all accounts in a text file





```

1  /* Fig. 11.16: fig11 16.c
2      This program reads a random access file sequentially,
3      updates data already written to the file, creates new
4      data to be placed in the file, and deletes data
5      already in the file.                                     */
6  #include <stdio.h>
7
8  struct clientData {
9      int acctNum;
10     char lastName[ 15 ];
11     char firstName[ 10 ];
12     double balance;
13 };
14
15 int enterChoice( void );
16 void textFile( FILE * );
17 void updateRecord( FILE * );
18 void newRecord( FILE * );
19 void deleteRecord( FILE * );
20
21 int main()
22 {
23     FILE *cfPtr;
24     int choice;
25
26     if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "r+" ) ) == NULL )
27         printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
28     else {
29
30         while ( ( choice = enterChoice() ) != 5 ) {
31
32             switch ( choice ) {

```



## Outline



### 1. Define struct

#### 1.1 Function prototypes

#### 1.2 Initialize variables

#### 1.3 Link pointer and open file

### 2. Input choice



## 2.1 Perform action

## 3. Close file

## 3.1 Function definitions

```
33         case 1:
34             textFile( cfPtr );
35             break;
36         case 2:
37             updateRecord( cfPtr );
38             break;
39         case 3:
40             newRecord( cfPtr );
41             break;
42         case 4:
43             deleteRecord( cfPtr );
44             break;
45     }
46 }
47
48     fclose( cfPtr );
49 }
50
51     return 0;
52 }
53
54 void textFile( FILE *readPtr )
55 {
56     FILE *writePtr;
57     struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
58
59     if ( ( writePtr = fopen( "accounts.txt", "w" ) ) == NULL )
60         printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
61     else {
62         rewind( readPtr );
63         fprintf( writePtr, "%-6s%-16s%-11s%10s\n",
64                 "Acct", "Last Name", "First Name", "Balance" );
```



### 3.1 Function definitions

```

65
66     while ( !feof( readPtr ) ) {
67         fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1,
68             readPtr );
69
70         if ( client.acctNum != 0 )
71             fprintf( writePtr, "%-6d%-16s%-11s%10.2f\n",
72                 client.acctNum, client.lastName,
73                 client.firstName, client.balance );
74     }
75
76     fclose( writePtr );
77 }
78
79 }
80
81 void updateRecord( FILE *fPtr )
82 {
83     int account;
84     double transaction;
85     struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
86
87     printf( "Enter account to update ( 1 - 100 ): " );
88     scanf( "%d", &account );
89     fseek( fPtr,
90         ( account - 1 ) * sizeof( struct clientData ),
91         SEEK SET );
92     fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, fPtr );
93
94     if ( client.acctNum == 0 )
95         printf( "Account # %d has no information.\n", account );
96     else {

```



### 3.1 Function definitions

```

97         printf( "%-6d%-16s%-11s%10.2f\n\n",
98                 client.acctNum, client.lastName,
99                 client.firstName, client.balance );
100        printf( "Enter charge ( + ) or payment ( - ): " );
101        scanf( "%lf", &transaction );
102        client.balance += transaction;
103        printf( "%-6d%-16s%-11s%10.2f\n",
104                client.acctNum, client.lastName,
105                client.firstName, client.balance );
106        fseek( fPtr,
107                ( account - 1 ) * sizeof( struct clientData ),
108                SEEK_SET );
109        fwrite( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1,
110                fPtr );
111    }
112 }
113
114 void deleteRecord( FILE *fPtr )
115 {
116     struct clientData client,
117         blankClient = { 0, "", "", 0 };
118     int accountNum;
119
120     printf( "Enter account number to "
121            "delete ( 1 - 100 ): " );
122     scanf( "%d", &accountNum );
123     fseek( fPtr,
124            ( accountNum - 1 ) * sizeof( struct clientData ),
125            SEEK_SET );
126     fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, fPtr );

```



### 3.1 Function definitions

```
127
128     if ( client.acctNum == 0 )
129         printf( "Account %d does not exist.\n", accountNum );
130     else {
131         fseek( fPtr,
132             ( accountNum - 1 ) * sizeof( struct clientData ),
133             SEEK_SET );
134         fwrite( &blankClient,
135             sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, fPtr );
136     }
137 }
138
139 void newRecord( FILE *fPtr )
140 {
141     struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };
142     int accountNum;
143     printf( "Enter new account number ( 1 - 100 ): " );
144     scanf( "%d", &accountNum );
145     fseek( fPtr,
146         ( accountNum - 1 ) * sizeof( struct clientData ),
147         SEEK_SET );
148     fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, fPtr );
149
150     if ( client.acctNum != 0 )
151         printf( "Account #%d already contains information.\n",
152             client.acctNum );
153     else {
154         printf( "Enter lastname, firstname, balance\n? " );
155         scanf( "%s%s%lf", &client.lastName, &client.firstName,
156             &client.balance );
```



### 3.1 Function definitions

```
157     client.acctNum = accountNum;
158     fseek( fPtr, ( client.acctNum - 1 ) *
159           sizeof( struct clientData ), SEEK_SET );
160     fwrite( &client,
161           sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, fPtr );
162 }
163 }
164
165 int enterChoice( void )
166 {
167     int menuChoice;
168
169     printf( "\nEnter your choice\n"
170           "1 - store a formatted text file of accounts called\n"
171           "    \"accounts.txt\" for printing\n"
172           "2 - update an account\n"
173           "3 - add a new account\n"
174           "4 - delete an account\n"
175           "5 - end program\n? " );
176     scanf( "%d", &menuChoice );
177     return menuChoice;
178 }
```

After choosing option 1 accounts.txt contains:

| Acct | Last Name | First Name | Balance |
|------|-----------|------------|---------|
| 29   | Brown     | Nancy      | -24.54  |
| 33   | Dunn      | Stacey     | 314.33  |
| 37   | Barker    | Doug       | 0.00    |
| 88   | Smith     | Dave       | 258.34  |
| 96   | Stone     | Sam        | 34.98   |

## Program Output

Enter account to update (1 - 100): 37

|    |        |      |      |
|----|--------|------|------|
| 37 | Barker | Doug | 0.00 |
|----|--------|------|------|

Enter charge (+) or payment (-): +87.99

|    |        |      |       |
|----|--------|------|-------|
| 37 | Barker | Doug | 87.99 |
|----|--------|------|-------|

Enter new account number (1 - 100): 22

Enter lastname, firstname, balance

? Johnston Sarah 247.45