

Homework 6

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1. Consider the following C program:

```
void foo()
{
    int i;
    printf("%d ", i++);
}

void main()
{
    int j;
    for (j = 1; j <= 10; j++)
        foo();
}
```

Local variable `i` in subroutine `foo` is never initialized. On many systems, however, variable `i` appears to “remember” its value between the calls to `foo`, and the program will print 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9.

- (a) Suggest an explanation for this behavior

`i` is declared without a default value every time so the value is determined by what’s already at the address. In this scenario, it seems whenever `foo` is ran, `i` takes the same address and the same value is incremented.

- (b) Change the code above (without modifying function `foo`) to alter this behavior.

```
void main()
{
    int j, i;
    for (j = 1; j <= 10; j++){
        printf("%d ", i);
        foo();
    }
}
```

2. Can you write a macro in C that “returns” the factorial of an integer argument (without calling a subroutine)? Why or why not?

It would be impossible because recursion is impossible with just textual substitution and a loop solution can’t directly “return” a value.

3. Consider a subroutine `swap` that takes two parameters and simply swaps their values. For example, after calling `swap(X,Y)`, `X` should have the original value of `Y` and `Y` the original value of `X`. Assume that variables to be swapped can be simple or subscripted (elements of an array), and they have the same type (integer). Show that it is *impossible* to write such a general-purpose `swap` subroutine in a language with:

- (a) Parameters passing by value.

It’s impossible when passing by value because the programmer only has access to the values of `X` and `Y` and not the addresses of the variables. Therefore, the programmer can’t set the value at the address of `X` to the value of `Y` and vice versa.

- (b) Parameters passing by name.

Consider the case `swap(i, a[i])`. After changing the value of `i`, `a[i]` references a different address so the behavior becomes unpredictable.

4. Consider the following program, written in no particular language.

```
procedure f (x, y, z)
    x := x + 1
    y := z
    z := z + 1

// main
i := 1;
a[1] := 10;
a[2] := 11
f (i, a[i], i);
print (i);
print (a[1]);
print (a[2]);
```

Show what the program prints in the case of parameter passing by

- (a) value

1 10 11

- (b) reference

3 2 11

(c) value-result

If the value of `i` is updated to the result before `a[i]` is updated:

2 10 1

If the value of `i` is updated to the result after `a[i]` is updated:

2 1 11

Another source of ambiguity with value-result, though not present here, is if two parameter values evaluate to different results. For example, if `x` and `z` ended up at different values, which result would `i` take?

(d) name

3 10 2

5. Does a program run faster when the programmer does not specify values for the optional parameters in a subroutine call?

No because the default value is set to the parameter in runtime so it's equivalent to setting the value within the function normally.