```
char *_strcpy(char *dest, char *src)
                                                                    int i;
                                                          int length = 0;
                                                     while (src[length])
                                                              length++;
                                               for (i = 0; i < length; i++)
                                                          dest[i] = src[i];
                                                           dest[i] = '\0';
                                                           return (dest);
                                                          int main(void)
                                                            char s1[98];
                                                               char *ptr;
ptr = _strcpy(s1, "First, solve the problem. Then, write the code\n");
                                                        printf("%s", s1);
                                                        printf("%s", ptr);
                                                              return (0);
```

This code defines a function\_strcpy that mimics the behavior of the standard C library function strcpy(). The \_strcpy function is designed to copy the string from src to dest and then it returns dest.

Here's a step-by-step breakdown:

- 1 The function starts by calculating the length of the src string. It does this by iterating through the string until it finds the null terminator (' \0').
- Next, the function copies each character from src to dest using a for loop.
- 3 After copying all the characters, the function appends a null terminator ('\0') at the end of the dest string to ensure it's properly terminated.
- 4 Finally, the function returns the dest pointer.

The main function then demonstrates the usage of \_strcpy:

- 1 A character array s1 of size 98 is declared. This will be the destination for our string copy.
- 2 The \_strcpy function is called with s1 as the destination and a string literal as the source. The result (which will be the pointer to s1) is stored in the pointer ptr.
- 3 The copied string is then printed twice: once using the s1 array and once using the ptr pointer. Both will produce the same output since they point to the same location in memory.

When the program is run, the output will be:

```
First, solve the problem. Then, write the code
First, solve the problem. Then, write the code
```

## A few things to note:

- The code can be optimized. Instead of first calculating the length and then copying, you can combine these two steps into one loop.
- The function doesn't check for buffer overflows. If dest is smaller than src, this will lead to undefined behavior. Always be cautious about buffer overflows when dealing with strings in C.

Sure, let's break down these lines of code step by step.

The section of code you've provided is from the \_strcpy function which is designed to copy a string from src to dest.

**1** For Loop Initialization:

```
for (i = 0; i < length; i++)
```

- 2 i = 0: Before the loop starts, the variable i is initialized to 0. This will serve as the index that we will use to access individual characters from both src and dest.
- 3 i < length: This is the loop condition. As long as i is less than length (the length of the src string that we calculated earlier), the loop will continue to iterate.
- 4 i++: After each iteration of the loop, the value of i will increase by 1. This allows us to move to the next character in the src and dest strings.
- 5 Loop Body:

```
dest[i] = src[i];
```

- 6 Inside the loop, the character at position i of the src string (src[i]) is copied to the corresponding position in the dest string (dest[i]).
- 7 This action is repeated for each character in the src string until we've copied all of them to dest.
- **8** Terminating Null Character:

```
dest[i] = '\0';
```

- 9 After the loop completes, i will have the value of length (because that's when the loop stops).
- 10 At this position in the dest string, we place a null terminator (' \∅'). This ensures that dest is a properly terminated C-style string.
- Remember, in C, strings are arrays of characters terminated by a null character ( '  $\backslash 0$ ). This null character signals the end of the string and is crucial for functions like printf to know when to stop reading characters.

In summary, this section of code is responsible for copying each individual character from the src string to the dest string and then ensuring that the dest string is properly terminated with a null character.

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