## **Arrays**

Song Liu (song.liu@bristol.ac.uk)

GA 18, Fry Building,

Microsoft Teams (search "song liu").

# **Previously**

- Time Complexity
  - The number of elementary computing cycles
  - Number of for loop iterations (prime1, prime2, prime3)
- Recursion
  - Function calls it self
  - Deposit example
- Stack Memory Layout
  - lce cream
  - The function being called is placed on the top of the stack.

#### Part II Data Science in C

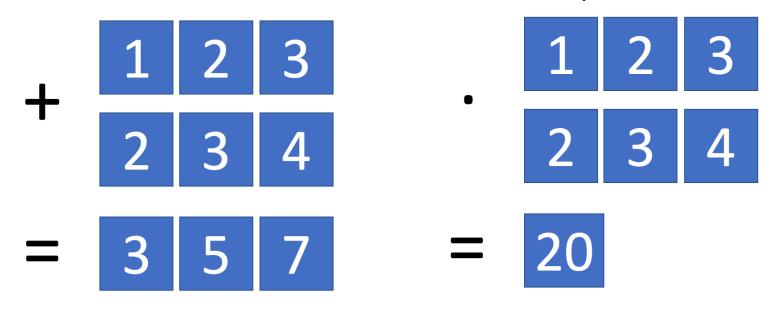
- We have finished the first part of this course, the foundation of C.
- From this lecture, we will progress to the next section, which is using C to perform some basic DS tasks.
- First, we will look at how various types of data are stored in the memory.

# Today's Agenda

- What is Array?
  - How to
    - create an array?
    - access an array?
  - How an array is stored in the computer memory?
- How to pass an array as an input argument of a function?
  - Passing by value vs Passing by reference

#### **Vector Calculation**

- Vectors are a sequence of numbers.
  - $\circ$  a = [1, 2, 3] is a three-dimensional vector.
- Vector calculations: addition, subtraction, dot product, etc.



**Vector Addition** 

**Dot Product** 

#### **Vector Calculation**

 Consider the following program tries to compute the three dimensional vector addition

$$c = a + b, a = [1, 2, 3], b = [2, 3, 4].$$

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    double a1=1.0, a2=2.0, a3=3.0;
    double b1=2.0, b2=3.0, b3=4.0;
    double c1, c2, c3;
    c1 = a1+b1; c2 = a2 + b2; c3= a3 + b3;
}
```

- This program is dumb.
- What if you have a 100-dimension vector?

```
\circ c1 = a1 + b1; ... c100 = a100 + b100; ?
```

#### **Vector Calculation**

To automate vector calculations, we need two things:

- A way to represent an element in vector via an integer index.
  - o e.g. a[i] represents the i -th element of vector a.
- A loop to perform calculations on all elements in a vector

Imagine we can do something like: (pseudo code)

```
For i from 1 to 100
c[i] = a[i] + b[i]
```

This program is much more scalable and understandable.

#### **Array**

- Array is a fundamental data structure in C programming language that stores a sequence of elements.
- You can declare an array using the syntax:

```
o data_type variable_name[array_size];

// declares an int array with 100 elements.
int a[100];
```

• array\_size can **NOT** be a variable.

```
int c = 100;
int b[c]; // compilation error!
```

o array\_size must be determined at compilation time.

## **Accessing Array**

- The first element in the array is a [0].
- The second element in the array is a [1].
- and so on. This is called zero-based indexing.
- e.g., a[2] = 5; assigns 5 to the third element of a.
- You can access multiple elements using a loop:

```
int a[10];
for(int i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1){
    a[i] = 123; // assigning the i+1-th element
}
for(int i = 0; i < 10; i = i+1){
    printf("%d ", a[i]); // print the i+1-th element
}</pre>
```

## **Initialize Array**

- Array declaration only reserves memory space for the array.
   The array will not be initialized automatically.
- If you do not initialize an array yourself, it will contain rubbish value, similar how variable declaration is handled in C.
- You can initialize an array using the syntax:

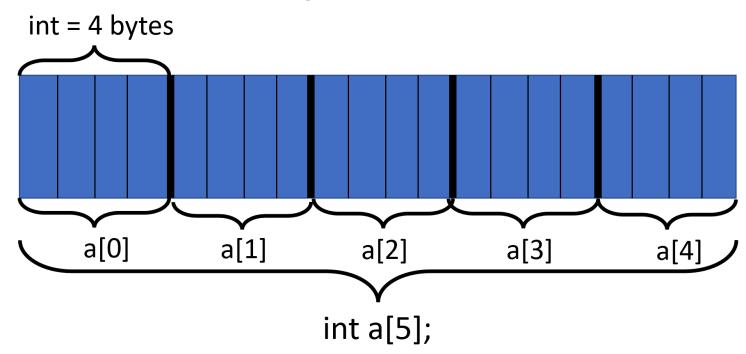
```
o data_type variable_name[] = {elements}; .
```

```
o int a[] = {1,2,3};
```

No need to specify the array\_size.

# **Array's Memory Layout**

• Array is stored in a contiguous section memory.



#### **Vector Addition, Revisited**

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    //declare and initialize array a and b.
    double a[] = \{1.0, 2.0, 3.0\},\
           b[] = \{2.0, 3.0, 4.0\};
    double c[3]:
    //addition
    for(int i = 0; i < 3; i=i+1){
        c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
    //display each element in the array c
    for(int i = 0; i < 3; i=i+1){
        printf("%f\n", c[i]);
```

#### Increment

- Since we are going to write i = i + 1 a lot,
- Use i++ as a shorthand for i = i + 1.

```
for(int i = 0; i < 3; i++){
    printf("%f\n", c[i]);
}
// is the same as
for(int i = 0; i < 3; i = i + 1){
    printf("%f\n", c[i]);
}</pre>
```

• Similarly, i += k is short for i = i + k.

```
for(int i = 1; i < 10; i += 2){
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
//prints out 1,3,5,7,9</pre>
```

## Today's Agenda

- What is Array?
  - How to
    - create an array?
    - access an array?
  - How an array is stored in the computer memory?
- How to pass an array as an input argument of a function?
  - Passing by value vs Passing by reference

## **Array as Input Argument**

- You can pass array as input variables of a function.
- Simply write datat\_ype variable\_name[] inside the parenthesis following the function name.
- array\_size is not needed.

#### **Dot Product**

• Consider a function dot computes the dot product between two vectors a, b:  $a \cdot b = \sum_i a_i b_i$ .

```
//compute dot product between a and b.
//a and b are two input arrays
double dot(double a[], double b[]){
    double s = 0;
    for(int i = 0; i < 3; i++){
        s += a[i]*b[i];
    }
    return s;
}</pre>
```

What if you do not known the size of a and b?

#### **Dot Product**

Pass another input argument, specifying the array length.

```
//compute dot product between a and b.
//a and b are two input arrays
//len is the length of both a and b.
double dot(double a[], double b[], int len){
   double s = 0;
   for(int i = 0; i< len; i++){
      s += a[i]*b[i];
   }
   return s;
}</pre>
```

### Pass by Value

When you pass an input argument to a function, you are passing by value: The program will copy the value to the input variable.

```
#include <stdio.h>
double square(double a){
    a = a*a; //assignment to the input variable!
    return a;
}
void main(){
    double n = 2;
    double nn = square(n);
    printf("%f %f\n", nn, n);
    //display 4 2
}
```

The value of n is copied to the input argument a, thus operations on a has no effect on n.

### Pass by Reference

- However, comparing to ordinary variables, the array occupies a much bigger memory space, thus pass by value can be expensive.
- In C, array is passed by reference.
  - If callee changes the array, caller's array will also be changed.

### Pass by Reference, Example

```
//add all elements in an array by 1
void addone(double a[], int len){
    for(int i = 0; i< len; i++){</pre>
        a[i] += 1;
void main(){
    double a[] = {1.0, 2.0};
    addone(a,2);
    printf("%f %f\n", a[0], a[1]);
    //display 2 3, NOT 1, 2!!
```

### Return an Array

- Array cannot be returned by a function.
- However, since a function can make changes to caller's array, you can pass an array as input argument, and store results in that array.

```
//compute a+b and store the result in c
void add(double a[], double b[], double c[], int len){
    for(int i = 0; i < len; i++){
        c[i] = a[i] + b[i];
    }
}
void main(){
    double a[] = {1.0, 2.0}, b[] = {2.0, 3.0};
    double c[2];
    add(a,b,c,2);
    printf("%f %f\n", c[0], c[1]);
    //display 3 5</pre>
```

# String = char Array!

In C, a string is simply a char array that ends with 0.

For example,

```
char a[] = {'A', 'B', 'C', 0}; // Notice the 0 at the end
char b[] = "ABC";
printf("%s\n", a);
printf("%s\n", b);
printf("%s\n", "ABC");
//all prints out "ABC"
```

#### Homework

- 1. Download the labpack and read code introduced in the lecture,
  - vecadd.c : Vector Addition
  - vecdot.c : Vector Dot Product
  - passingbyval.c : Passing by Value Example
  - passingbyref.c : Passing by Reference Example
- Make sure you understand how to
  - Create array
  - Initialize array
  - Read/Write elements of an array
  - Pass array as input to a function and

### Lab 1, Find Max (submit)

- 1. Create a new C file (file->new file... save as ab1234.c)
- 2. In the main function, create an integer array and initialize it with a sequence of integers [2,1,3,4,3].
  - Use the initialization syntax introduced in the lecture.
- 3. Write a function called max taking two inputs:
  - The input array
  - The length of the input array.
- 4. max returns the maximum value in the input array.
- 5. For example, provided with an array [1,2,2], max should return 2.
- 6. Test max function in main using the array you just created at the 2nd step and print out the maximum value.

<ul> <li>Hint: write pseudo code on a paper first and talk to coursemates/TA if you are not sure where to start</li> </ul>	_

## Lab 2, Swap (submit)

- 1. Write a new function in the same file called swap.
- 2. swap takes an array with length 2 as input.
- 3. swap does not return anything.
- 4. After swap function is called, the elements in the input array will be swapped.
  - If the input array is [1,2], it becomes [2,1] after swap is called.
- 5. Test your swap function in main with the array [1987, 10] and print out the array after swap.

# Lab 3, Row Major Matrix (submit)

- 1. Create an integer array and initialize it with value [1,2,3,4,5,6] in your main function.
- 2. Suppose this is a 3 by 2 matrix stored in a row major order. Read the link and see what row major means.
- 3. Write a function print taking 3 inputs.
  - o an array storing a matrix in row major order.
  - the number of rows of the matrix.
  - the number of columns of the matrix.
- 4. print prints out the input matrix in a proper format.
- 5. Test your print function in main with the array you created in the first step.

Submit your c file with the naming convention CW1.	n you used in