C Reference Card (ANSI)

Program Structure/Functions

<pre>type fnc(type1,); type name; int main(void) { declarations statements</pre>	function prototype variable declaration main routine w/o args local variable declarations
<pre> } type fnc(arg₁,) { declarations statements return value; </pre>	function definition local variable declarations
<pre>} /* */ int main(int argc, char *argv[]) exit(arg);</pre>	comments main with args terminate execution

C Preprocessor

include library file	#include $<$ filename $>$
include user file	#include "filename"
replacement text	#define $name\ text$
replacement macro	#define $name(var)$ $text$
Example. #define max(A,E	3) ((A)>(B) ? (A) : (B))
undefine	#undef $name$
quoted string in replace	#
Example. #define msg(A)	printf("%s = %d", #A, (A))
concatenate args and rescan	##
conditional execution	#if, #else, #elif, #endif
is <i>name</i> defined, not defined?	#ifdef, #ifndef
name defined?	$\mathtt{defined}(name)$
line continuation char	\

Data Types/Declarations

2 ara 2 p 25/ 2 colar arroll	~
character (1 byte)	char
integer	int
real number (single, double precision)	float, double
short (16 bit integer)	short
long (32 bit integer)	long
double long (64 bit integer)	long long
positive or negative	signed
non-negative modulo 2^m	unsigned
pointer to int, float,	<pre>int*, float*,</pre>
enumeration constant enum tag	$\{name_1 = value_1, \ldots\};$
constant (read-only) value	type const name;
declare external variable	extern
internal to source file	static
local persistent between calls	static
no value	void
structure	struct tag {};
create new name for data type	typedef type name;
size of an object (type is size_t)	${ t sizeof}$ $object$
size of a data type (type is size_t)	${ t size of} \ (type)$

Initialization

initialize variable	type name=value;
initialize array	$type name[]=\{value_1, \ldots\}$
initialize char string	char name[]="string"

Constants

sumx: long, unsigned, float	65536L, -10, 3.0F
exponential form	4.2e1
prefix: octal, hexadecimal	0, 0x or 0X
Example. 031 is 25, 0x31 is 49 dec	cimal
character constant (char, octal, hex)	'a', '\ <i>ooo</i> ', '\x <i>hh</i> '
newline, cr, tab, backspace	\n, \r, \t, \b
special characters	\ \?, \', \"
string constant (ends with '\0')	"abcde"

Pointers, Arrays & Structures

```
declare pointer to type
                                        type *name;
declare function returning pointer to type type *f();
declare pointer to function returning type type (*pf)();
generic pointer type
                                        void *
null pointer constant
                                        NULL
object pointed to by pointer
                                        *pointer
address of object name
                                        &name
                                        name[dim]
array
multi-dim array
                                     name[dim_1][dim_2]...
Structures
    struct tag {
                          structure template
      declarations
                          declaration of members
    };
create structure
                                        struct tag name
member of structure from template
                                        name.member
member of pointed-to structure
                                        pointer -> member
    Example. (*p).x and p->x are the same
single object, multiple possible types
                                        union
bit field with b bits
                                     unsigned member: b;
```

Operators (grouped by precedence)

struct member operator	name.member
struct member through pointer	$pointer ext{->} member$
increment, decrement	++,
plus, minus, logical not, bitwise not	+, -, !, ~
indirection via pointer, address of obje	ect *pointer, &name
cast expression to type	(type) expr
size of an object	sizeof
multiply, divide, modulus (remainder)	*, /, %
add, subtract	+, -
left, right shift [bit ops]	<<, >>
relational comparisons	>, >=, <, <=
equality comparisons	==, !=
and [bit op]	&
exclusive or [bit op]	^
or (inclusive) [bit op]	1
logical and	&&
logical or	
conditional expression	$expr_1$? $expr_2$: $expr_3$
assignment operators	+=, -=, *=,
expression evaluation separator	,
Unary operators, conditional expression	on and assignment oper-

ators group right to left; all others group left to right.

Flow of Control

statement terminator		;
block delimiters		{ }
exit from switch, while	e, do, for	break;
next iteration of while.	do, for	continue;
go to		<pre>goto label;</pre>
label		label: statement
return value from funct	ion	return expr
Flow Constructions		•
if statement	if $(expr_1)$ st else if $(expr_2)$ else statemen	$statement_2$
while statement	while $(expr)$ $statement$	
for statement	for (expr ₁ ; ex statement	$epr_2; expr_3)$
do statement	<pre>do statement while(expr);</pre>	
switch statement		<pre>: statement₁ break; : statement₂ break;</pre>

ANSI Standard Libraries

<assert.h></assert.h>	<ctype.h></ctype.h>	<errno.h></errno.h>	<float.h></float.h>	<pre><limits.h></limits.h></pre>
<locale.h></locale.h>	<math.h></math.h>	<setjmp.h></setjmp.h>	<signal.h></signal.h>	<stdarg.h></stdarg.h>
<stddef.h></stddef.h>	<stdio.h></stdio.h>	<stdlib.h></stdlib.h>	<string.h></string.h>	<time.h></time.h>

Character Class Tests <ctype.h>

alphanumeric?	isalnum(c)
alphabetic?	isalpha(c)
control character?	iscntrl(c)
decimal digit?	isdigit(c)
printing character (not incl space)?	isgraph(c)
lower case letter?	islower(c)
printing character (incl space)?	<pre>isprint(c)</pre>
printing char except space, letter, digit?	<pre>ispunct(c)</pre>
space, formfeed, newline, cr, tab, vtab?	isspace(c)
upper case letter?	isupper(c)
hexadecimal digit?	<pre>isxdigit(c)</pre>
convert to lower case	tolower(c)
convert to upper case	toupper(c)

String Operations <string.h>

s is a string; cs, ct are constant strings

length of s	strlen(s)
copy ct to s	strcpy(s,ct)
only first n chars	strncpy(s,ct,n)
concatenate ct after s	strcat(s,ct)
only first n chars	strncat(s,ct,n)
compare cs to ct	strcmp(cs,ct)
only first n chars	strncmp(cs,ct,n)
pointer to first c in cs	strchr(cs,c)
pointer to last c in cs	strrchr(cs,c)
copy n chars from ct to s	memcpy(s,ct,n)
copy n chars from ct to s (may overlap)	memmove(s,ct,n)
compare n chars of cs with ct	memcmp(cs,ct,n)
pointer to first c in first n chars of cs	memchr(cs,c,n)
put c into first n chars of s	memset(s,c,n)

C Reference Card (ANSI)

stdin

stdout

Input/Output <stdio.h>

Standar	d I/C)
standard	input	stream

standard output stream

standard error stream	stderr
end of file (type is int)	EOF
get a character	<pre>getchar()</pre>
print a character	${ t putchar}(chr)$
print formatted data	<pre>printf("format", arg1,)</pre>
print to string s	<pre>sprintf(s,"format",arg1,)</pre>
read formatted data	$ exttt{scanf}(exttt{"}format exttt{"}, & name_1, \dots)$
read from string s	$sscanf(s,"format",&name_1,)$
print string s	<pre>puts(s)</pre>
File I/O	
declare file pointer	FILE $*fp$;
pointer to named file	fopen("name", "mode")
modes: r (read), w (wri	te), a (append), b (binary)
get a character	$\mathtt{getc}(\mathit{fp})$
write a character	$ exttt{putc}(\mathit{chr}, \mathit{fp})$
push one char back to fp	$\mathtt{ungetc}(\mathit{chr}, \mathit{fp})$
only one push back is g	
write to file	$fprintf(fp,"format",arg_1,)$
read from file	$ exttt{fscanf}(extit{fp,"} extit{format",} extit{arg}_1, \dots)$
read and store n elts to *pts	fread(*ptr,eltsize,n, fp)
write n elts from *ptr to file	fwrite(*ptr,eltsize,n, fp)
close file	$ extsf{fclose}(fp)$
non-zero if error	$\mathtt{ferror}(\mathit{fp})$
non-zero if already reached	
read line to string s (< max	chars) fgets(s,max, fp)
write string s	$\mathtt{fputs}(\mathtt{s},\mathit{fp})$
Codes for Formatted I/O	O: "%-+ 0w.pmc"
 left justify 	
+ print with sign	
space print space if no	
0 pad with leading	zeros
w min field width	
p precision	
m conversion charac	cter:
h short,	1 long, L long double
c conversion charac	eter:
d,i integer	u unsigned
c single char	s char string
f double (print:	
f float (scanf)	lf double (scanf)
o octal	x,X hexadecimal
p pointer	n number of chars written
g,G same as f or e	,E depending on exponent

Variable Argument Lists <stdarg.h>

Standard Utility Functions <stdlib.h>

v			
absolute value of int n	abs(n)		
absolute value of long n	labs(n)		
quotient and remainder of ints n,d	div(n,d)		
returns structure with div_t.quot and div_t.rem			
quotient and remainder of longs n,d	ldiv(n,d)		
returns structure with ldiv_t.quot a	and ldiv_t.rem		
pseudo-random integer [0,RAND_MAX]	rand()		
set random seed to n	srand(n)		
terminate program execution	exit(status)		
pass string s to system for execution	system(s)		
Conversions			
convert string s to double	atof(s)		
convert string s to integer	atoi(s)		
convert string s to long	atol(s)		
convert prefix of s to double	strtod(s,&endp)		
convert prefix of s (base b) to long	strtol(s,&endp,b)		
same, but unsigned long	strtoul(s,&endp,b)		
Storage Allocation			
allocate storage malloc(size),	<pre>calloc(nobj,size)</pre>		
change size of storage newptr =	realloc(ptr,size);		
deallocate storage	<pre>free(ptr);</pre>		
Array Functions			
search array for key bsearch(key,	array,n,size,cmpf)		
sort array ascending order qsort(array,n,size,cmpf)			
Time and Date Functions	<pre><+imo h></pre>		

Time and Date Functions <time.h>

clock() processor time used by program Example. clock()/CLOCKS_PER_SEC is time in seconds current calendar time time() time₂-time₁ in seconds (double) difftime(time2,time1) arithmetic types representing times clock_t,time_t structure type for calendar time comps struct tm seconds after minute tm_sec tm_min minutes after hour tm hour hours since midnight tm_mday day of month months since January tm_mon tm_year years since 1900 tm_wday days since Sunday tm_yday days since January 1 tm_isdst Daylight Savings Time flag convert local time to calendar time mktime(tp) convert time in tp to string asctime(tp) convert calendar time in tp to local time ctime(tp)

gmtime(tp)

strftime(s,smax,"format",tp)

localtime(tp)

convert calendar time to GMT

format date and time info

convert calendar time to local time

tp is a pointer to a structure of type tm

Mathematical Functions <math.h>

Arguments and returned values are double

trig functions	sin(x), $cos(x)$, $tan(x)$
inverse trig functions	asin(x), acos(x), atan(x)
$\arctan(y/x)$	atan2(y,x)
hyperbolic trig functions	sinh(x), cosh(x), tanh(x)
exponentials & logs	exp(x), log(x), log10(x)
exponentials & logs (2 power)	<pre>ldexp(x,n), frexp(x,&e)</pre>
division & remainder	<pre>modf(x,ip), fmod(x,y)</pre>
powers	pow(x,y), $sqrt(x)$
rounding	<pre>ceil(x), floor(x), fabs(x)</pre>

Integer Type Limits inits.h>

The numbers given in parentheses are typical values for the constants on a 32-bit Unix system, followed by minimum required values (if significantly different).

CHAR_BIT	bits in char	(8)
CHAR_MAX	max value of char	(SCHAR_MAX or UCHAR_MAX)
CHAR_MIN	min value of char	(SCHAR_MIN or 0)
SCHAR_MAX	max signed char	(+127)
SCHAR_MIN	min signed char	(-128)
SHRT_MAX	max value of short	(+32,767)
SHRT_MIN	min value of short	(-32,768)
INT_MAX	max value of int	(+2,147,483,647) $(+32,767)$
INT_MIN	min value of int	(-2,147,483,648) $(-32,767)$
LONG_MAX	max value of long	(+2,147,483,647)
LONG_MIN	min value of long	(-2,147,483,648)
UCHAR_MAX	max unsigned char	(255)
USHRT_MAX	max unsigned shor	t $(65,535)$
UINT_MAX	\max unsigned int	(4,294,967,295) $(65,535)$
ULONG_MAX	max unsigned long	(4,294,967,295)

Float Type Limits <float.h>

The numbers given in parentheses are typical values for the constants on a 32-bit Unix system.

FLT_RADIX	radix of exponent rep	(2)
FLT_ROUNDS	floating point rounding mode	9
FLT_DIG	decimal digits of precision	(6)
FLT_EPSILON	smallest x so $1.0f + x \neq 1.0f$	(1.1E - 7)
FLT_MANT_DIG	number of digits in mantissa	
FLT_MAX	maximum float number	(3.4E38)
FLT_MAX_EXP	maximum exponent	
FLT_MIN	minimum float number	(1.2E - 38)
FLT_MIN_EXP	minimum exponent	
DBL_DIG	decimal digits of precision	(15)
DBL_EPSILON	smallest x so $1.0 + x \neq 1.0$	(2.2E - 16)
DBL_MANT_DIG	number of digits in mantissa	
DBL_MAX	max double number	(1.8E308)
DBL_MAX_EXP	maximum exponent	
DBL_MIN	min double number	(2.2E - 308)
DBL_MIN_EXP	minimum exponent	

March 2025 v2.3. Copyright © 2025 Joseph H. Silverman

Permission is granted to make and distribute copies of this card provided the copyright notice and this permission notice are preserved on all copies.

Send comments and corrections to J.H. Silverman, Math. Dept., Brown Univ., Providence, RI 02912 USA. (jhs@math.brown.edu)