

Lecture 10.2

Topics

1. Derived Data Types – Arrays
2. Local Arrays – Initialization and Access

1. Derived Data Type – Arrays

Problems:

Consider the situation where there are 100 numbers of type **int** involved in some operations. With many or all of these 100 numbers are needed at once, one may choose to declare 100 variables of **int**. This, however, is not an attractive option.

Another problem is to sort (or rearrange) values of some sequence of numbers in certain order. The numbers can be integers or floating-point and the order can either be ascending or descending.

Solution Tools:

A tool to be used in the above problems is to use an array to handle these numbers (which are of the same type, such as **int**).

1.1 Definition

An **array is derived data type**, which is created as an ordered sequence of data of the same type. An array is declared as follows,

```
arrayType arrayName[ SIZE ];
```

where

arrayName is the name of the array,

SIZE is the length of the array, and

arrayType is the type of the array.

In the above declaration, SIZE is a **constant integer** and that the array declaration as above will have compiled-time memory allocation.

Examples

```
int iA1[ 5 ];
int iA2[ 3 ] = { 1, 2, 3 };
int iA3[] = { 1, 2, 3, 4 };
double dA1[ 3 ];
```

1.2 Initialization through Storage

The initialization of an array depends on how the array was stored. There are three kinds of storage in C in which a variable's value can be stored under.

1.2.1 Automatic (Local) Storage

An **automatic or local storage** will be given to variables and arrays that were defined inside functions (including the formal arguments). These variables and arrays will be available only within the functions and they will no longer exist as soon as the functions are done with their execution.

Example

```
int main() {
    int iA1[ 3 ];
    int iA2[ 2 ] = { 1, 2 };

    return 0;
}
```

1.2.2 External (Global) Storage

- External (global) storage is given to variables and arrays that were defined outside of any functions.
- Global variables and arrays are available everywhere after they are defined.
- They last through out the program execution.
- Global variables and arrays are initialized with **zero(s)** unless other specific values were given with the declarations.

Example

```
int common;
const int MAXSIZE = 5;
int iExtArray[ 3 ] = { 1, 2, 3 };

int main() {
    int iA1[ 3 ];
    int iA2[ 2 ] = { 1, 2 };

    return 0;
}
```

*1.2.3 **Static** Storage*

A declaration that was modified with the **static** keyword will force the system to provide a **static storage**.

This static storage reserves a common block of memory for a static variable and its value will be shared by any invocation that would require access to this static member.

Static variables are defined inside a method and will have the values initialized to **zero(s)** unless other values were given.

Example

```
int test() {
    static int iCommonValue;
    static int iCommonArray[ 2 ] = { 1, 2 };

    return 0;
}
```

2. Local Arrays – Initialization & Access

- Arrays are declared and should be defined (i.e., assigned with known values) before using.
- The declaration asks the system to allocation one contiguous block of memory that is the size of the array size times the size of the array type. Thus, the total number of bytes for some array is found as follows,

$$\text{SIZE} * \text{sizeof}(\text{arrayType})$$

With this block of memory, values can be stored in the array and then an array is completely defined.

Let's look at the initialization again.

2.1 Initialization

For local arrays, the initialization can be done in several ways. They can be left undefined, completely specified, or forcing zero completion.

For examples,

```
int iA1[ 3 ]; /* No initialization: values are unknown */

int iA2[ 4 ] = { 1, 2, 3, 4 }; /* Complete initialization
                               for all four members */

int iA3[ ] = { 5, 6, 7 }; /* Complete initialization for
                           an array of three members */

int iA4[ 5 ] = { 8, 9 }; /* Partially initialized for the
                           first two members; the remaining
                           three members will have value 0 */

int iA5[ 10 ] = { 0 }; /* Partially initialize the first
                        member with 0 and fill in the
                        remaining members with 0's. That
                        means all values are 0 */
```

2.2 Accessing Arrays

- Array members can be accessed by the array name and a valid index.
- The index should be in the range from 0 to (`SIZE - 1`). Any index that is outside of this range may produce an unknown value and may also alter data belonging to other objects or programs.

C has no index or boundary checking. The user must keep track of this range of indexes and make sure the individual index is valid.

- Array members can be either **lvalue** or **rvalue**. That means one can either retrieve an array member value or assign new value to an array member.

For examples,

```
iA1[ 0 ] = 100;
iA2[ 0 ] = iA1[ 0 ];
```

Note that

- The square brackets are called the **index operator**.
- It has very high precedence and thus its evaluation is almost immediate in many expressions.