

Programming and Computer Applications-1

Characters and Strings

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Fundamentals of Strings and Characters

- Characters are the fundamental building blocks of source programs.
- Every program is composed of a sequence of characters that—when grouped together meaningfully—is interpreted by the computer as a series of instructions used to accomplish a task.
- A program may contain **character constants**.
- A character constant is an `int` value represented as a character in single quotes.
- The value of a character constant is the integer value of the character in the machine's **character set**.

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- For example, 'z' represents the integer value of z, and '\n' the integer value of newline (122 and 10 in ASCII, respectively).
- A **string** is a series of characters treated as a single unit.
- A string may include letters, digits and various **special characters** such as +, -, *, / and \$.
- **String literals**, or **string constants**, in C are written in double quotation marks.

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- A string in C is an array of characters ending in the **null character** (' \0 ').
- A string is accessed via a pointer to the first character in the string.
- The value of a string is the address of its first character.
- Thus, in C, it is appropriate to say that a **string is a pointer**—in fact, a pointer to the string's first character.
- In this sense, strings are like arrays, because an array is also a pointer to its first element.
- A character array or a variable of type **char *** can be initialized with a string in a definition.

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- The definitions
 - `char color[] = "blue";`
`const char *colorPtr = "blue";`each initialize a variable to the string "blue".
- The first definition creates a 5-element array `color` containing the characters 'b', 'l', 'u', 'e' and '\0'.
- The second definition creates pointer variable `colorPtr` that points to the string "blue" somewhere in memory.

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- The preceding array definition could also have been written
 - `char color[] = { 'b', 'l', 'u', 'e', '\0' };`
- When defining a character array to contain a string, the array must be large enough to store the string and its terminating null character.
- The preceding definition automatically determines the size of the array based on the number of initializers in the initializer list.

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- A string can be stored in an array using `scanf`.
- For example, the following statement stores a string in character array `word[20]`:
 - `scanf("%s", word);`
- The string entered by the user is stored in `word`.
- Variable `word` is an array, which is, of course, a pointer, so the `&` is not needed with argument `word`.
- `scanf` will read characters until a space, tab, newline or end-of-file indicator is encountered.
- So, it is possible that the user input could exceed 19 characters and that your program might crash!

Fundamentals of Strings and Characters (Cont.)

- For this reason, use the conversion specifier `%19s` so that `scanf` reads up to 19 characters and saves the last character for the terminating null character.
- This prevents `scanf` from writing characters into memory beyond the end of `s`.
- (For reading input lines of arbitrary length, there is a nonstandard—yet widely supported—function `readline`, usually included in `stdio.h`.)
- For a character array to be printed as a string, the array must contain a terminating null character.

Character-Handling Library

- The [character-handling library](#) (`<ctype.h>`) includes several functions that perform useful tests and manipulations of character data.
- Each function receives a character—represented as an `int`—or EOF as an argument.
- EOF normally has the value `-1`, and some hardware architectures do not allow negative values to be stored in `char` variables, so the character-handling functions manipulate characters as integers.
- Figure 8.1 summarizes the functions of the character-handling library.

| Prototype | Function description |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <code>int isdigit(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a digit and 0 (false) otherwise. |
| <code>int isalpha(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a letter and 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int isalnum(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a digit or a letter and 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int isxdigit(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a hexadecimal digit character and 0 otherwise. (See Appendix C, Number Systems, for a detailed explanation of binary numbers, octal numbers, decimal numbers and hexadecimal numbers.) |
| <code>int islower(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a lowercase letter and 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int isupper(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is an uppercase letter and 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int tolower(int c);</code> | If <i>c</i> is an uppercase letter, <code>tolower</code> returns <i>c</i> as a lowercase letter. Otherwise, <code>tolower</code> returns the argument unchanged. |
| <code>int toupper(int c);</code> | If <i>c</i> is a lowercase letter, <code>toupper</code> returns <i>c</i> as an uppercase letter. Otherwise, <code>toupper</code> returns the argument unchanged. |
| <code>int isspace(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a white-space character—newline ('\n'), space (' '), form feed ('\f'), carriage return ('\r'), horizontal tab ('\t') or vertical tab ('\v')—and 0 otherwise. |

Fig. 8.1 | Character-handling library (<ctype.h>) functions. (Part 1 of 2.)

| Prototype | Function description |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <code>int iscntrl(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a control character and 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int ispunct(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a printing character other than a space, a digit, or a letter and returns 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int isprint(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a printing character including a space (' ') and returns 0 otherwise. |
| <code>int isgraph(int c);</code> | Returns a true value if <i>c</i> is a printing character other than a space (' ') and returns 0 otherwise. |

Fig. 8.1 | Character-handling library (<ctype.h>) functions. (Part 2 of 2.)

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- Figure 8.2 demonstrates functions `isdigit`, `isalpha`, `isalnum` and `isxdigit`.
- Function `isdigit` determines whether its argument is a digit (0–9).
- Function `isalpha` determines whether its argument is an uppercase (A–Z) or lowercase letter (a–z).
- Function `isalnum` determines whether its argument is an uppercase letter, a lowercase letter or a digit.
- Function `isxdigit` determines whether its argument is a hexadecimal digit (A–F, a–f, 0–9).

```
1  /* Fig. 8.2: fig08_02.c
2   Using functions isdigit, isalpha, isalnum, and isxdigit */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <ctype.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n", "According to isdigit: ",
9          isdigit( '8' ) ? "8 is a " : "8 is not a ", "digit",
10         isdigit( '#' ) ? "#" is a " : "#" is not a ", "digit" );
11
12     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
13         "According to isalpha:",
14         isalpha( 'A' ) ? "A is a " : "A is not a ", "letter",
15         isalpha( 'b' ) ? "b is a " : "b is not a ", "letter",
16         isalpha( '&'amp; ) ? "& is a " : "& is not a ", "letter",
17         isalpha( '4' ) ? "4 is a " : "4 is not a ", "letter" );
18 }
```

Fig. 8.2 | Using isdigit, isalpha, isalnum and isxdigit. (Part I of 3.)

```
19     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
20             "According to isalnum:",
21             isalnum( 'A' ) ? "A is a " : "A is not a ",
22             "digit or a letter",
23             isalnum( '8' ) ? "8 is a " : "8 is not a ",
24             "digit or a letter",
25             isalnum( '#' ) ? "#" is a " : "#" is not a ",
26             "digit or a letter" );
27
28     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
29             "According to isxdigit:",
30             isxdigit( 'F' ) ? "F is a " : "F is not a ",
31             "hexadecimal digit",
32             isxdigit( 'J' ) ? "J is a " : "J is not a ",
33             "hexadecimal digit",
34             isxdigit( '7' ) ? "7 is a " : "7 is not a ",
35             "hexadecimal digit",
36             isxdigit( '$' ) ? "$ is a " : "$ is not a ",
37             "hexadecimal digit",
38             isxdigit( 'f' ) ? "f is a " : "f is not a ",
39             "hexadecimal digit" );
40     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
41 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.2 | Using isdigit, isalpha, isalnum and isxdigit. (Part 2 of 3.)

According to `isdigit`:

8 is a digit
is not a digit

According to `isalpha`:

A is a letter
b is a letter
& is not a letter
4 is not a letter

According to `isalnum`:

A is a digit or a letter
8 is a digit or a letter
is not a digit or a letter

According to `isxdigit`:

F is a hexadecimal digit
J is not a hexadecimal digit
7 is a hexadecimal digit
\$ is not a hexadecimal digit
f is a hexadecimal digit

Fig. 8.2 | Using `isdigit`, `isalpha`, `isalnum` and `isxdigit`. (Part 3 of 3.)

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- Figure 8.2 uses the conditional operator (?:) to determine whether the string "is a" or the string "is not a" should be printed in the output for each character tested.
- For example, the expression
 - `isdigit('8') ? "8 is a" : "8 is not a"`indicates that if '8' is a digit, the string "8 is a" is printed, and if '8' is not a digit (i.e., `isdigit` returns 0), the string "8 is not a" is printed.

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- Figure 8.3 demonstrates functions `islower`, `isupper`, `tolower` and `toupper`.
- Function `islower` determines whether its argument is a lowercase letter (a–z).
- Function `isupper` determines whether its argument is an uppercase letter (A–Z).
- Function `tolower` converts an uppercase letter to a lowercase letter and returns the lowercase letter.

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- If the argument is not an uppercase letter, `tolower` returns the argument unchanged.
- Function `toupper` converts a lowercase letter to an uppercase letter and returns the uppercase letter.
- If the argument is not a lowercase letter, `toupper` returns the argument unchanged.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.3: fig08_03.c
2   Using functions islower, isupper, tolower, toupper */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <ctype.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
9          "According to islower:",
10         islower( 'p' ) ? "p is a " : "p is not a ",
11         "lowercase letter",
12         islower( 'P' ) ? "P is a " : "P is not a ",
13         "lowercase letter",
14         islower( '5' ) ? "5 is a " : "5 is not a ",
15         "lowercase letter",
16         islower( '!' ) ? "!" is a " : "!" is not a ",
17         "lowercase letter" );
18 }
```

Fig. 8.3 | Using functions islower, isupper, tolower and toupper. (Part I of 3.)

```
19     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
20             "According to isupper:",
21             isupper( 'D' ) ? "D is an " : "D is not an ",
22             "uppercase letter",
23             isupper( 'd' ) ? "d is an " : "d is not an ",
24             "uppercase letter",
25             isupper( '8' ) ? "8 is an " : "8 is not an ",
26             "uppercase letter",
27             isupper( '$' ) ? "$ is an " : "$ is not an ",
28             "uppercase letter" );
29
30     printf( "%s%c\n%s%c\n%s%c\n%s%c\n",
31             "u converted to uppercase is ", toupper( 'u' ),
32             "7 converted to uppercase is ", toupper( '7' ),
33             "$ converted to uppercase is ", toupper( '$' ),
34             "L converted to lowercase is ", tolower( 'L' ) );
35     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
36 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.3 | Using functions `islower`, `isupper`, `tolower` and `toupper`. (Part 2 of 3.)

```
According to islower:  
p is a lowercase letter  
P is not a lowercase letter  
5 is not a lowercase letter  
! is not a lowercase letter
```

```
According to isupper:  
D is an uppercase letter  
d is not an uppercase letter  
8 is not an uppercase letter  
$ is not an uppercase letter  
  
u converted to uppercase is U  
7 converted to uppercase is 7  
$ converted to uppercase is $  
L converted to lowercase is l
```

Fig. 8.3 | Using functions `islower`, `isupper`, `tolower` and `toupper`. (Part 3 of 3.)

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- Figure 8.4 demonstrates functions `isspace`, `iscntrl`, `ispunct`, `isprint` and `isgraph`.
- Function `isspace` determines if a character is one of the following white-space characters: space (' '), form feed ('\f'), newline ('\n'), carriage return ('\r'), horizontal tab ('\t') or vertical tab ('\v').

Character-Handling Library (Cont.)

- Function `iscntrl` determines if a character is one of the following **control characters**: horizontal tab ('`\t`'), vertical tab ('`\v`'), form feed ('`\f`'), alert ('`\a`'), backspace ('`\b`'), carriage return ('`\r`') or newline ('`\n`').
- Function `ispunct` determines if a character is a **printing character** other than a space, a digit or a letter, such as \$, #, (,), [,], {, }, ;, : or %.
- Function `isprint` determines if a character can be displayed on the screen (including the space character).
- Function `isgraph` is the same as `isprint`, except that the space character is not included.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.4: fig08_04.c
2   Using functions isspace, iscntrl, ispunct, isprint, isgraph */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <ctype.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      printf( "%s\n%s%s%s\n%s%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
9          "According to isspace:",
10         "Newline", isspace( '\n' ) ? " is a " : " is not a ",
11         "whitespace character", "Horizontal tab",
12         isspace( '\t' ) ? " is a " : " is not a ",
13         "whitespace character",
14         isspace( '%' ) ? "% is a " : "% is not a ",
15         "whitespace character" );
16
17     printf( "%s\n%s%s%s\n%s%s\n\n", "According to iscntrl:",
18         "Newline", iscntrl( '\n' ) ? " is a " : " is not a ",
19         "control character", iscntrl( '$' ) ? "$ is a " :
20         "$ is not a ", "control character" );
21 }
```

Fig. 8.4 | Using isspace, iscntrl, ispunct, isprint and isgraph. (Part I of 3.)

```
22     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n%s%s\n\n",
23             "According to ispunct:",  

24             ispunct( ';' ) ? "; is a " : "; is not a ",  

25             "punctuation character",
26             ispunct( 'Y' ) ? "Y is a " : "Y is not a ",  

27             "punctuation character",
28             ispunct( '#' ) ? "# is a " : "# is not a ",  

29             "punctuation character" );
30
31     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s%s\n\n", "According to isprint:",  

32             isprint( '$' ) ? "$ is a " : "$ is not a ",  

33             "printing character",
34             "Alert", isprint( '\a' ) ? "\a is a " : "\a is not a ",  

35             "printing character" );
36
37     printf( "%s\n%s%s\n%s%s%s\n", "According to isgraph:",  

38             isgraph( 'Q' ) ? "Q is a " : "Q is not a ",  

39             "printing character other than a space",
40             "Space", isgraph( ' ' ) ? "Space is a " : "Space is not a ",  

41             "printing character other than a space" );
42     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
43 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.4 | Using isspace, iscntrl, ispunct, isprint and isgraph. (Part 2 of 3.)

According to isspace:

Newline is a whitespace character
Horizontal tab is a whitespace character
% is not a whitespace character

According to iscntrl:

Newline is a control character
\$ is not a control character

According to ispunct:

; is a punctuation character
Y is not a punctuation character
is a punctuation character

According to isprint:

\$ is a printing character
Alert is not a printing character

According to isgraph:

Q is a printing character other than a space
Space is not a printing character other than a space

Fig. 8.4 | Using isspace, iscntrl, ispunct, isprint and isgraph. (Part 3 of 3.)

String-Conversion Functions

- This section presents the **string-conversion functions** from the **general utilities library** (`<stdlib.h>`).
- These functions convert strings of digits to integer and floating-point values.
- Figure 8.5 summarizes the string-conversion functions.
- Note the use of **const** to declare variable **nPtr** in the function headers (read from right to left as “**nPtr** is a pointer to a character constant”); **const** specifies that the argument value will not be modified.

| Function prototype | Function description |
|--|--|
| <code>double atof(const char *nPtr);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to double. |
| <code>int atoi(const char *nPtr);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to int. |
| <code>long atol(const char *nPtr);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to long int. |
| <code>double strtod(const char *nPtr, char **endPtr);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to double. |
| <code>long strtol(const char *nPtr, char **endPtr, int base);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to long. |
| <code>unsigned long strtoul(const char *nPtr, char **endPtr, int base);</code> | Converts the string nPtr to unsigned long. |

Fig. 8.5 | String-conversion functions of the general utilities library.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `atof` (Fig. 8.6) converts its argument—a string that represents a floating-point number—to a `double` value.
- The function returns the `double` value.
- If the converted value cannot be represented—for example, if the first character of the string is a letter—the behavior of function `atof` is undefined.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.6: fig08_06.c
2   Using atof */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      double d; /* variable to hold converted string */
9
10     d = atof( "99.0" );
11
12     printf( "%s%.3f\n%s%.3f\n",
13             "The string \"99.0\" converted to double is ", d,
14             "The converted value divided by 2 is ", d / 2.0 );
15
16     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
17 } /* end main */
```

```
The string "99.0" converted to double is 99.000
The converted value divided by 2 is 49.500
```

Fig. 8.6 | Using atof.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `atoi` (Fig. 8.7) converts its argument—a string of digits that represents an integer—to an `int` value.
- The function returns the `int` value.
- If the converted value cannot be represented, the behavior of function `atoi` is undefined.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.7: fig08_07.c
2   Using atoi */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      int i; /* variable to hold converted string */
9
10     i = atoi( "2593" );
11
12     printf( "%s%d\n%s%d\n",
13             "The string \"2593\" converted to int is ", i,
14             "The converted value minus 593 is ", i - 593 );
15
16 } /* end main */
```

```
The string "2593" converted to int is 2593
The converted value minus 593 is 2000
```

Fig. 8.7 | Using atoi.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `atol` (Fig. 8.8) converts its argument—a string of digits representing a long integer—to a `long` value.
- The function returns the `long` value.
- If the converted value cannot be represented, the behavior of function `atol` is undefined.
- If `int` and `long` are both stored in 4 bytes, function `atoi` and function `atol` work identically.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.8: fig08_08.c
2   Using atol */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      long l; /* variable to hold converted string */
9
10     l = atol( "1000000" );
11
12     printf( "%s%d\n%s%d\n",
13             "The string \"1000000\" converted to long int is ", l,
14             "The converted value divided by 2 is ", l / 2 );
15
16     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
17 } /* end main */
```

```
The string "1000000" converted to long int is 1000000
The converted value divided by 2 is 500000
```

Fig. 8.8 | Using atol.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `strtod` (Fig. 8.9) converts a sequence of characters representing a floating-point value to `double`.
- The function receives two arguments—a string (`char *`) and a pointer to a string (`char **`).
- The string contains the character sequence to be converted.
- The pointer is assigned the location of the first character after the converted portion of the string. Line 14
 - `d = strtod(string, &stringPtr);`
- indicates that `d` is assigned the `double` value converted from `string`, and `stringPtr` is assigned the location of the first character after the converted value (51.2) in `string`.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.9: fig08_09.c
2   Using strtod */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      /* initialize string pointer */
9      const char *string = "51.2% are admitted"; /* initialize string */
10
11     double d; /* variable to hold converted sequence */
12     char *stringPtr; /* create char pointer */
13
14     d = strtod( string, &stringPtr );
15
16     printf( "The string \"%s\" is converted to the\n", string );
17     printf( "double value %.2f and the string \"%s\"\n", d, stringPtr );
18     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
19 } /* end main */
```

The string "51.2% are admitted" is converted to the
double value 51.20 and the string "% are admitted"

Fig. 8.9 | Using strtod.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `strtol` (Fig. 8.10) converts to `long` a sequence of characters representing an integer.
- The function receives three arguments—a string (`char *`), a pointer to a string and an integer.
- The string contains the character sequence to be converted.
- The pointer is assigned the location of the first character after the converted portion of the string.
- The integer specifies the base of the value being converted.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Line 13
 - `x = strtol(string, &remainderPtr, 0);` indicates that `x` is assigned the `long` value converted from `string`.
- The second argument, `remainderPtr`, is assigned the remainder of `string` after the conversion.
- Using `NULL` for the second argument causes the remainder of the string to be ignored.
- The third argument, `0`, indicates that the value to be converted can be in octal (base 8), decimal (base 10) or hexadecimal (base 16) format.

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- The base can be specified as 0 or any value between 2 and 36.
- Numeric representations of integers from base 11 to base 36 use the characters A–Z to represent the values 10 to 35.
- For example, hexadecimal values can consist of the digits 0–9 and the characters A–F.
- A base-36 integer can consist of the digits 0–9 and the characters A–Z.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.10: fig08_10.c
2   Using strtol */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      const char *string = "-1234567abc"; /* initialize string pointer */
9
10     char *remainderPtr; /* create char pointer */
11     long x; /* variable to hold converted sequence */
12
13     x = strtol( string, &remainderPtr, 0 );
14
15     printf( "%s\"%s\"\n%s%d\n%s\"%s\"\n%s%d\n",
16             "The original string is ", string,
17             "The converted value is ", x,
18             "The remainder of the original string is ",
19             remainderPtr,
20             "The converted value plus 567 is ", x + 567 );
21
22     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
23 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.10 | Using `strtol`. (Part I of 2.)

```
The original string is "-1234567abc"
The converted value is -1234567
The remainder of the original string is "abc"
The converted value plus 567 is -1234000
```

Fig. 8.10 | Using `strtol`. (Part 2 of 2.)

String-Conversion Functions (Cont.)

- Function `strtoul` (Fig. 8.11) converts to `unsigned long` characters representing an `unsigned long` integer.
- The function works identically to function `strtol`.
- The statement
 - `x = strtoul(string, &remainderPtr, 0);`in Fig. 8.11 indicates that `x` is assigned the `unsigned long` value converted from `string`.
- The second argument, `&remainderPtr`, is assigned the remainder of `string` after the conversion.
- The third argument, 0, indicates that the value to be converted can be in octal, decimal or hexadecimal format.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.11: fig08_11.c
2   Using strtoul */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4  #include <stdlib.h>
5
6  int main( void )
7  {
8      const char *string = "1234567abc"; /* initialize string pointer */
9      unsigned long x; /* variable to hold converted sequence */
10     char *remainderPtr; /* create char pointer */
11
12     x = strtoul( string, &remainderPtr, 0 );
13
14     printf( "%s\"%s\"\n%s%lu\n%s\"%s\"\n%s%lu\n",
15         "The original string is ", string,
16         "The converted value is ", x,
17         "The remainder of the original string is ",
18         remainderPtr,
19         "The converted value minus 567 is ", x - 567 );
20     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
21 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.11 | Using strtoul. (Part 1 of 2.)

```
The original string is "1234567abc"
The converted value is 1234567
The remainder of the original string is "abc"
The converted value minus 567 is 1234000
```

Fig. 8.11 | Using strtoul. (Part 2 of 2.)

Standard Input/Output Library Functions

- This section presents several functions from the standard input/output library (`<stdio.h>`) specifically for manipulating character and string data.
- Figure 8.12 summarizes the character and string input/output functions of the standard input/output library.

| Function prototype | Function description |
|---|---|
| <code>int getchar(void);</code> | Inputs the next character from the standard input and returns it as an integer. |
| <code>char *fgets(char *s, int n, FILE *stream);</code> | Inputs characters from the specified stream into the array <code>s</code> until a newline or end-of-file character is encountered, or until <code>n - 1</code> bytes are read. In this chapter, we specify the stream as <code>stdin</code> —the standard input stream, which is typically used to read characters from the keyboard. A terminating null character is appended to the array. Returns the string that was read into <code>s</code> . |
| <code>int putchar(int c);</code> | Prints the character stored in <code>c</code> and returns it as an integer. |
| <code>int puts(const char *s);</code> | Prints the string <code>s</code> followed by a newline character. Returns a non-zero integer if successful, or <code>EOF</code> if an error occurs. |
| <code>int sprintf(char *s, const char *format, ...);</code> | Equivalent to <code>printf</code> , except the output is stored in the array <code>s</code> instead of printed on the screen. Returns the number of characters written to <code>s</code> , or <code>EOF</code> if an error occurs. |

Fig. 8.12 | Standard input/output library character and string functions. (Part I of 2.)

| Function prototype | Function description |
|--|---|
| <code>int sscanf(char *s, const char *format, ...);</code> | Equivalent to <code>scanf</code> , except the input is read from the array <code>s</code> rather than from the keyboard. Returns the number of items successfully read by the function, or <code>EOF</code> if an error occurs. |

Fig. 8.12 | Standard input/output library character and string functions. (Part 2 of 2.)

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- Figure 8.13 uses functions `fgets` and `putchar` to read a line of text from the standard input (keyboard) and recursively output the characters of the line in reverse order.
- Function `fgets` reads characters from the standard input into its first argument—an array of `chars`—until a newline or the end-of-file indicator is encountered, or until the maximum number of characters is read.
- The maximum number of characters is one fewer than the value specified in `fgets`'s second argument.

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- The third argument specifies the stream from which to read characters—in this case, we use the standard input stream (`stdin`).
- A null character ('`\0`') is appended to the array when reading terminates.
- Function `putchar` prints its character argument.
- The program calls recursive function `reverse` to print the line of text backward.
- If the first character of the array received by `reverse` is the null character '`\0`', `reverse` returns.

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- Otherwise, `reverse` is called again with the address of the subarray beginning at element `s[1]`, and character `s[0]` is output with `putchar` when the recursive call is completed.
- The order of the two statements in the `else` portion of the `if` statement causes `reverse` to walk to the terminating null character of the string before a character is printed.
- As the recursive calls are completed, the characters are output in reverse order.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.13: fig08_13.c
2   Using gets and putchar */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  void reverse( const char * const sPtr ); /* prototype */
6
7  int main( void )
8  {
9      char sentence[ 80 ]; /* create char array */
10
11     printf( "Enter a line of text:\n" );
12
13     /* use fgets to read line of text */
14     fgets( sentence, 80, stdin );
15
16     printf( "\nThe line printed backward is:\n" );
17     reverse( sentence );
18     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
19 } /* end main */
20
```

Fig. 8.13 | Using fgets and putchar. (Part I of 3.)

```
21 /* recursively outputs characters in string in reverse order */
22 void reverse( const char * const sPtr )
23 {
24     /* if end of the string */
25     if ( sPtr[ 0 ] == '\0' ) { /* base case */
26         return;
27     } /* end if */
28     else { /* if not end of the string */
29         reverse( &sPtr[ 1 ] ); /* recursion step */
30         putchar( sPtr[ 0 ] ); /* use putchar to display character */
31     } /* end else */
32 } /* end function reverse */
```

Enter a line of text:
Characters and Strings

The line printed backward is:
sgnirtS dna sretcarahC

Fig. 8.13 | Using fgets and putchar. (Part 2 of 3.)

Enter a line of text:
able was I ere I saw elba

The line printed backward is:
able was I ere I saw elba

Fig. 8.13 | Using fgets and putchar. (Part 3 of 3.)

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- Figure 8.14 uses functions `getchar` and `puts` to read characters from the standard input into character array `sentence` and print the array of characters as a string.
- Function `getchar` reads a character from the standard input and returns the character as an integer.
- Function `puts` takes a string (`char *`) as an argument and prints the string followed by a newline character.
- The program stops inputting characters when `getchar` reads the newline character entered by the user to end the line.
- A null character is appended to array `sentence` (line 19) so that the array may be treated as a string.
- Then, function `puts` prints the string contained in `sentence`.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.14: fig08_14.c
2   Using getchar and puts */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main( void )
6  {
7      char c; /* variable to hold character input by user */
8      char sentence[ 80 ]; /* create char array */
9      int i = 0; /* initialize counter i */
10
11     /* prompt user to enter line of text */
12     puts( "Enter a line of text:" );
13
14     /* use getchar to read each character */
15     while ( ( c = getchar() ) != '\n' ) {
16         sentence[ i++ ] = c;
17     } /* end while */
18
19     sentence[ i ] = '\0'; /* terminate string */
20
21     /* use puts to display sentence */
22     puts( "\nThe line entered was:" );
23     puts( sentence );
24     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
25 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.14 | Using `getchar` and `puts`. (Part I of 2.)

Enter a line of text:
This is a test.

The line entered was:
This is a test.

Fig. 8.14 | Using getchar and puts. (Part 2 of 2.)

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- Figure 8.15 uses function `sprintf` to print formatted data into array **S**—an array of characters.
- The program inputs an `int` value and a `double` value to be formatted and printed to array **S**.
- Array **S** is the first argument of `sprintf`.

```
1 /* Fig. 8.15: fig08_15.c
2  Using sprintf */
3 #include <stdio.h>
4
5 int main( void )
6 {
7     char s[ 80 ]; /* create char array */
8     int x; /* x value to be input */
9     double y; /* y value to be input */
10
11    printf( "Enter an integer and a double:\n" );
12    scanf( "%d%lf", &x, &y );
13
14    sprintf( s, "integer:%6d\ndouble:%8.2f", x, y );
15
16    printf( "%s\n%s\n",
17            "The formatted output stored in array s is:", s );
18    return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
19 } /* end main */
```

Fig. 8.15 | Using sprintf. (Part I of 2.)

```
Enter an integer and a double:
```

```
298 87.375
```

```
The formatted output stored in array s is:
```

```
integer: 298
```

```
double: 87.38
```

Fig. 8.15 | Using sprintf. (Part 2 of 2.)

Standard Input/Output Library Functions (Cont.)

- Figure 8.16 uses function `sscanf` to read formatted data from character array **s**.
- The function uses the same conversion specifiers as `scanf`.
- The program reads an `int` and a `double` from array **s** and stores the values in **x** and **y**, respectively.
- The values of **x** and **y** are printed.
- Array **s** is the first argument of `sscanf`.

```
1  /* Fig. 8.16: fig08_16.c
2   Using sscanf */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main( void )
6  {
7      char s[] = "31298 87.375"; /* initialize array s */
8      int x; /* x value to be input */
9      double y; /* y value to be input */
10
11     sscanf( s, "%d%lf", &x, &y );
12     printf( "%s\n%s%6d\n%s%8.3f\n",
13             "The values stored in character array s are:",
14             "integer:", x, "double:", y );
15     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
16 } /* end main */
```

The values stored in character array s are:
integer: 31298
double: 87.375

Fig. 8.16 | Using sscanf.