

Chapter 11

File Processing

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Chapter 11 – File Processing

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11.1 Introduction

- Data files
 - Can be created, updated, and processed by C programs
 - Are used for permanent storage of large amounts of data
 - Storage of data in variables and arrays is only temporary because these are implemented in main memory (RAM)
 - Data files are used to store the data permanently
 - Examples of permanent storage devices:
 - Hard Disk, CD / DVD, Flash Memory, etc.

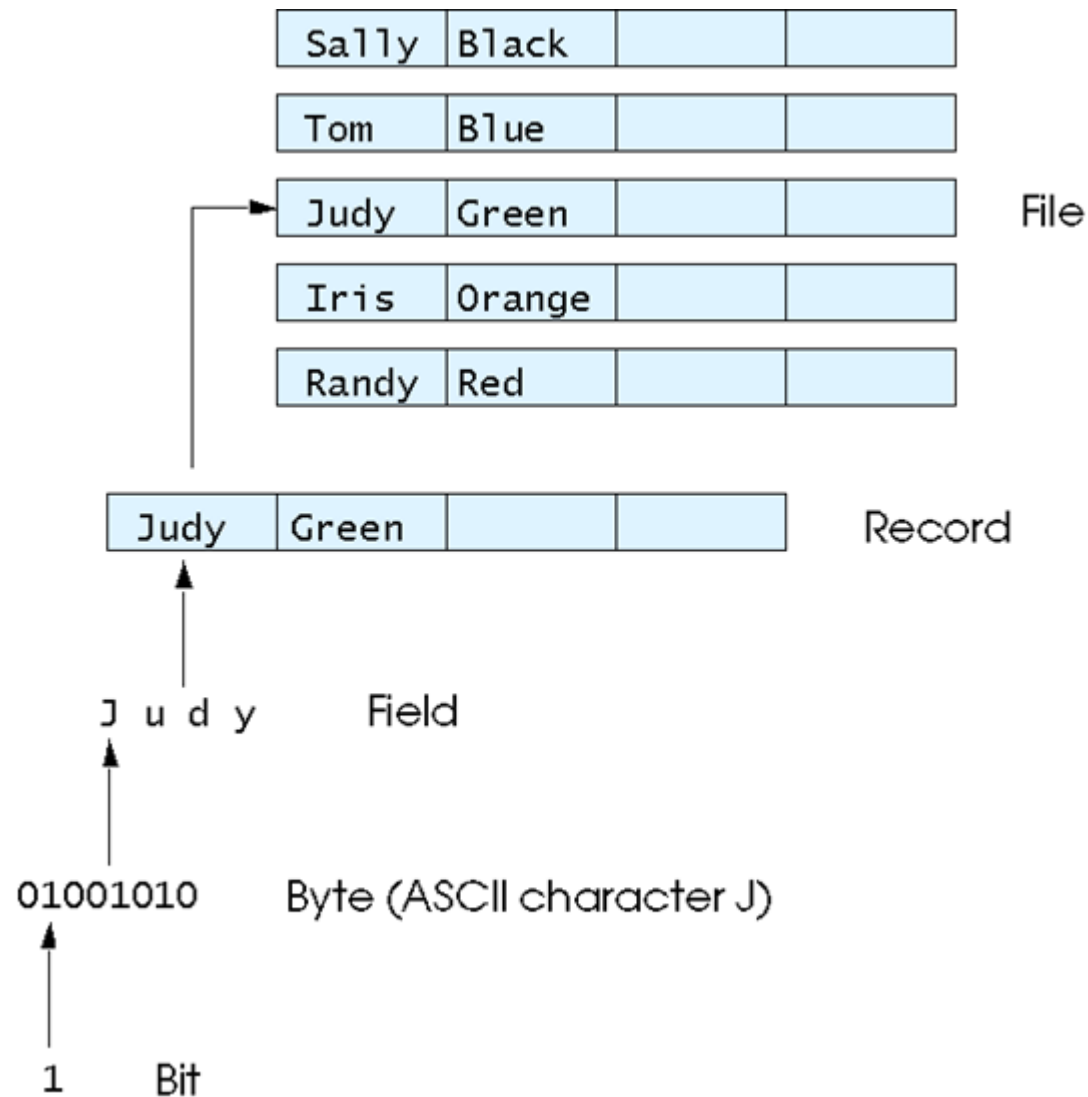
11.2 The Data Hierarchy

- **Bit** : smallest data item
 - Value of 0 or 1
- **Byte** : 8 bits
 - Used to store a character
 - Decimal digits, letters, and special symbols
- **Field** : group of characters conveying meaning
 - Example: Student name
- **Record** : group of related fields
 - Can be represented by a **struct** (in C) or a **class** (in C++)
 - Example: In a school system, a record for a particular student that contained student identification number, name, address, etc.

11.2 The Data Hierarchy

- **File** : group of related records
 - Example: Student file
- **Database** : group of related files
 - Example: School database
 - Files in a database are called tables such as followings:
 - Students, Courses, Classrooms, Teachers

11.2 The Data Hierarchy



Record Key

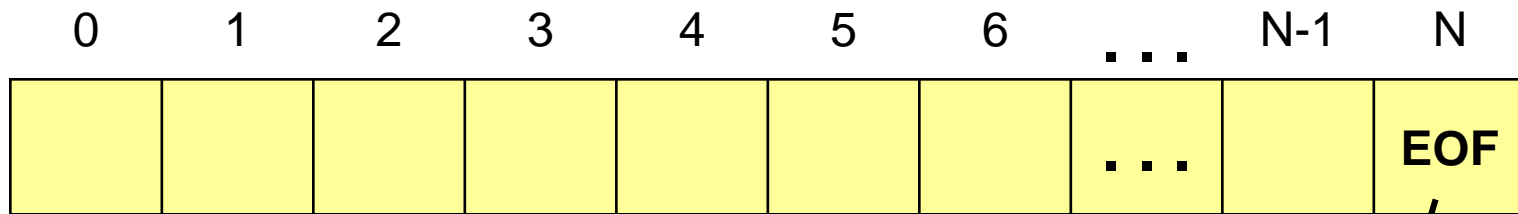
- Records typically sorted by a record key.
- Record key identifies a record to facilitate the retrieval of specific records from a file.

Example: Student number is a key field, because it is unique for a student.

11.3 Files and Streams

- C views each file as a sequence of bytes
 - File ends with the *end-of-file marker*
 - Or, file ends at a specified byte

C's view of a file of N bytes:



End-Of-File marker
such as CTL+Z

11.3 Files and Streams

- Stream created when a file is opened
 - Provide communication channel between files and programs
 - Opening a file returns a pointer to a `FILE` structure
 - Example file pointers:
 - `stdin` - standard input (keyboard)
 - `stdout` - standard output (screen)
 - `stderr` - standard error (screen)

Example: stdin and stdout

- This program uses keyboard and screen as if they were files.

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    int sayi;

    fprintf(stdout, "Enter a number : ");
    fscanf(stdin, "%d", &sayi);
    printf("Square = %d \n", sayi * sayi);
}
```

Types of Data Files

(Based on Access Method)

	Record Length	Updating	File I/O Functions
Sequential Access Files	Variable	Not suitable	fgetc, fputc, fscanf, fprintf, fgets, fputs
Random Access Files	Fixed	Always suitable	fread, fwrite

File Open Modes (Text Files)

Mode	Description
r	Open a file for reading.
w	Create a file for writing. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
a	Append; open or create a file for writing at end of file.
r+	Open a file for update (reading and writing).
w+	Create a file for update. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
a+	Append; open or create a file for update; writing is done at the end of the file.

File Open Modes (Binary Files)

Mode	Description
rb	Open a file for reading in binary mode.
wb	Create a file for writing in binary mode. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
ab	Append; open or create a file for writing at end of file in binary mode.
rb+	Open a file for update (reading and writing) in binary mode.
wb+	Create a file for update in binary mode. If the file already exists, discard the current contents.
ab+	Append; open or create a file for update in binary mode; writing is done at the end of the file.

Sequential Access Files

Functions for Sequential Access Files

- Read/Write functions in standard library `<stdio.h>`
 - **fgetc**
 - Reads one character from a file
 - Takes a `FILE` pointer as an argument
 - `fgetc(stdin)` equivalent to `getchar()`
 - **fputc**
 - Writes one character to a file
 - Takes a `FILE` pointer and a character to write as an argument
 - `fputc('a', stdout)` equivalent to `putchar('a')`
 - **fgets**
 - Reads a line from a file
 - **fputs**
 - Writes a line to a file
 - **fscanf / fprintf**
 - File processing equivalents of `scanf` and `printf`

Example: Sequential Data File

- The following is a sequential data file which can be edited with a text editor such as Notepad.
- The first line contains the count of numbers.
- The second line contains the numbers (grades).
- We want to write a C program to calculate and display the grade average.

veriler.txt file

5
73 44 100 28 92

Example: fscanf

Part 1 of 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main()
{
    int N; //Count of numbers
    int i; // Loop counter
    int sayi;
    int Total=0;

    FILE * fPtr;
    fPtr = fopen("veriler.txt", "r");

    if (fPtr == NULL)
    {
        printf("Dosya acilamadi\n");
        system("pause");
        return 0;
    }
}
```

Example: fscanf (cont.)

Part 2 of 2

```
// First, read the count of numbers:
fscanf(fPtr, "%d", &N);

// Now, read the numbers:
for (i=1; i <= N; i++)
{
    fscanf(fPtr, "%d", &sayi);
    printf("%d\n", sayi);
    Total += sayi;
}

fclose(fPtr);
printf("Ortalama = %d \n", Total / N);

} // end main
```

Example : Creating a Sequential Access File

```
// Create a sequential file
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int account;      // account number
    char name[ 30 ]; // account name
    double balance;   // account balance

    FILE *cfPtr;      // cfPtr = clients.dat file pointer
    // fopen opens file. Exit program if unable to create file
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "w" ) ) == NULL ) {
        printf( "File could not be opened\n" );
    } // end if
    else {
        printf( "Enter the account, name, and balance.\n" );
        printf( "Enter EOF to end input.\n" );
        printf( "? " );
        scanf( "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );

        // write account, name and balance into file with fprintf
        while ( !feof( stdin ) ) {
            fprintf( cfPtr, "%d %s %.2f\n", account, name, balance );
            printf( "? " );
            scanf( "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
        } // end while
        fclose( cfPtr ); // fclose closes file
    } // end else
} // end main
```

Program
Output

```
Enter the account, name, and balance.  
Enter EOF to end input.  
? 100 Jones 24.98  
? 200 Doe 345.67  
? 300 White 0.00  
? 400 Stone -42.16  
? 500 Rich 224.62  
? ^Z
```



**Control+Z then Enter Key
on keyboard
(like sentinel)**

11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File

- C imposes no file structure
 - No notion of records in a file
 - Programmer must provide file structure
- Creating a File
 - **FILE *cfPtr;**
 - Defines a FILE pointer called cfPtr
 - **cfPtr = fopen("clients.dat", "w");**
 - Function fopen returns a FILE pointer to file specified
 - Takes two arguments – file to open and file open mode
 - If open fails, NULL returned
 - We can also specify a device name and a directory path:
fopen("E:\\Accounting\\clients.dat", "w");

11.4 Creating a Sequential Access File

– `fprintf`

- Used to print to a file
- Like `printf`, except first argument is a `FILE` pointer (pointer to the file you want to print in)

– `feof(FILEpointer)`

- Returns true if end-of-file indicator (no more data to process) is set for the specified file
- Its role is similar to a sentinel

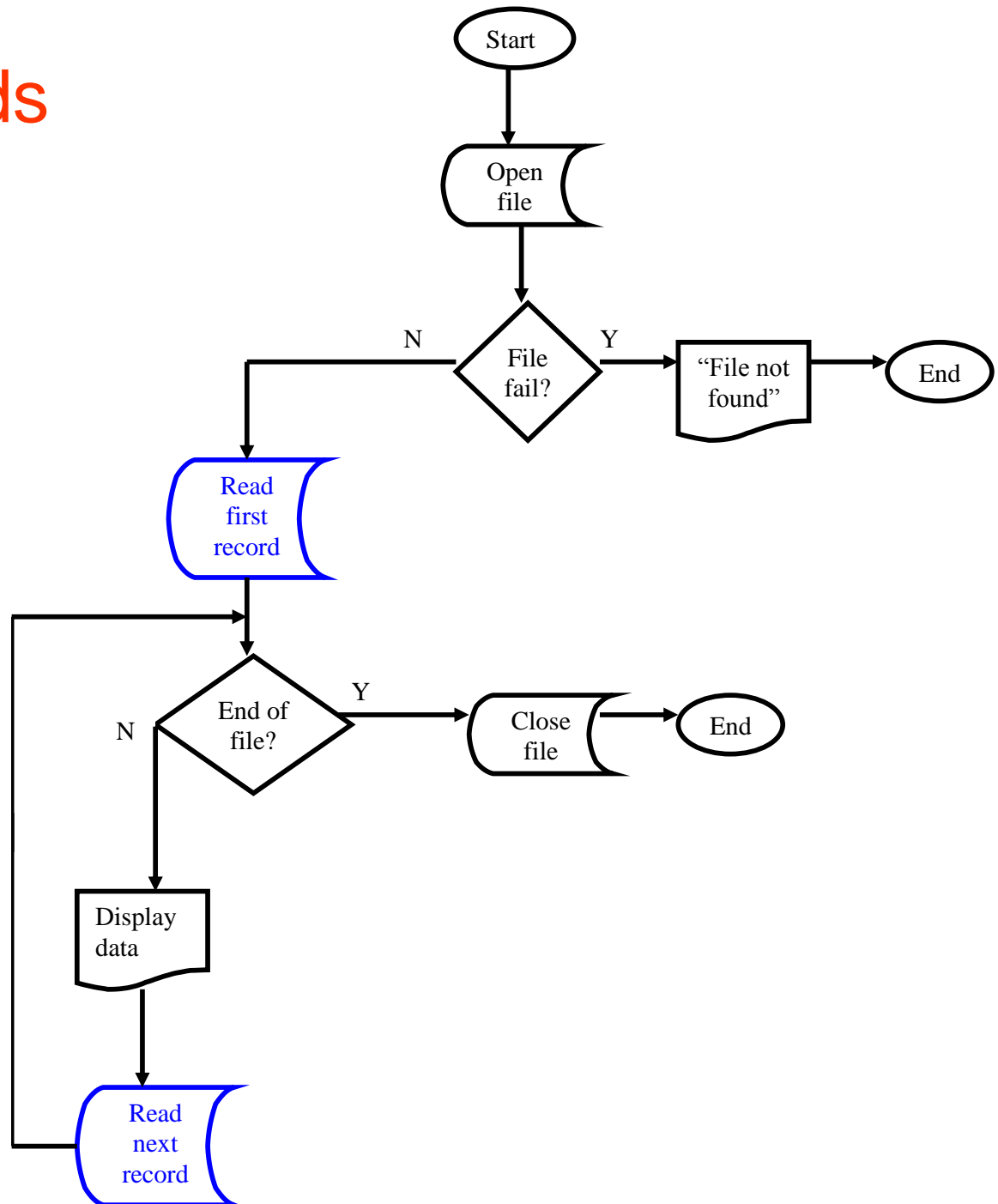
– `fclose(FILEpointer)`

- Closes specified file
- Performed automatically when program ends
- Good practice to close files explicitly

- Details

- Programs may process no files, one file, or many files
- Each file must have a unique name and should have its own pointer

Reading Records from a File (with EOF checking)



Example : Reading Data from a Sequential Access File

```
// Read a sequential file
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int account;        // account number
    char name[ 30 ];    // account name
    double balance;     // account balance

    FILE *cfPtr;        // cfPtr = clients.dat file pointer

    // fopen opens file; exits program if file cannot be opened
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "r" ) ) == NULL ) {
        printf( "File could not be opened\n" );
    } // end if
    else { // read account, name and balance from file
        printf( "%-10s%-13s%\n", "Account", "Name", "Balance" );
        fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );

        // while not end of file
        while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
            printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n", account, name, balance );
            fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%s%lf", &account, name, &balance );
        } // end while

        fclose( cfPtr ); // fclose closes the file
    } // end else
} // end main
```

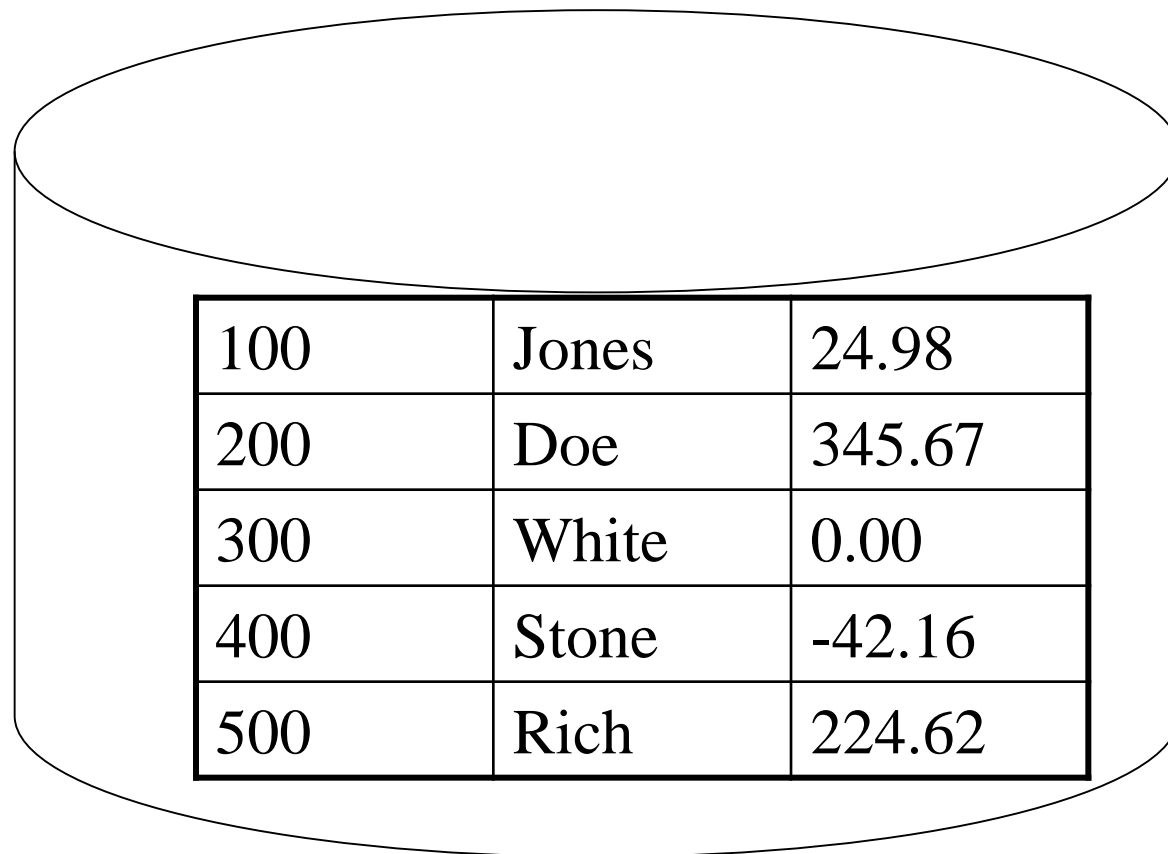

Program
Output

Account	Name	Balance
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

11.5 Reading Data from a Sequential Access File

- Reading a sequential access file
 - Create a FILE pointer, link it to the file to read
`cfPtr = fopen("clients.dat", "r");`
 - Use `fscanf` to read from the file
 - Like `scanf`, except first argument is a FILE pointer
`fscanf(cfPtr, "%d%s%f", &account, name, &balance);`
 - Data read from beginning to end
 - File position pointer
 - Indicates number of next byte to be read / written
 - Not really a pointer, but an integer value (specifies byte location)
 - Also called byte offset
 - `rewind(cfPtr)`
 - Repositions file position pointer to beginning of file (byte 0)
 - It is the same as using `fclose` followed by `fopen`.

Data File on Hard Disk



A diagram of a hard disk represented as a cylinder. Inside the cylinder is a table with five rows of data. The table has three columns: an ID column, a Name column, and a Value column.

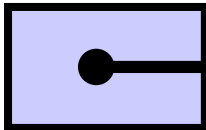
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after fopen()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance

Record



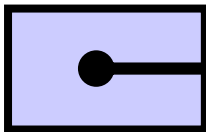
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after 1st fscanf()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance
100	Jones	24.98

Record



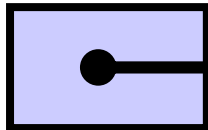
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after 2nd fscanf()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance
200	Doe	345.67

Record



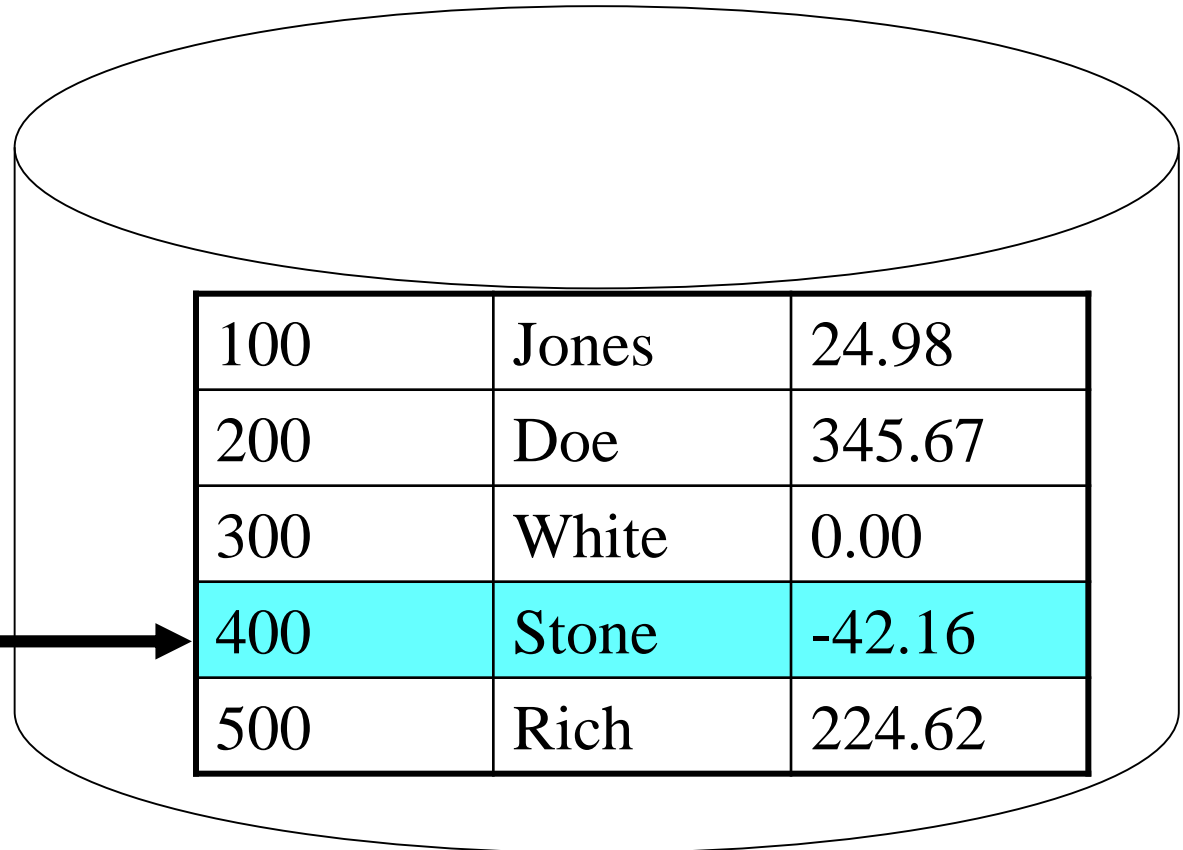
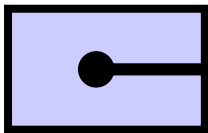
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after 3rd fscanf()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance
300	White	0.00

Record



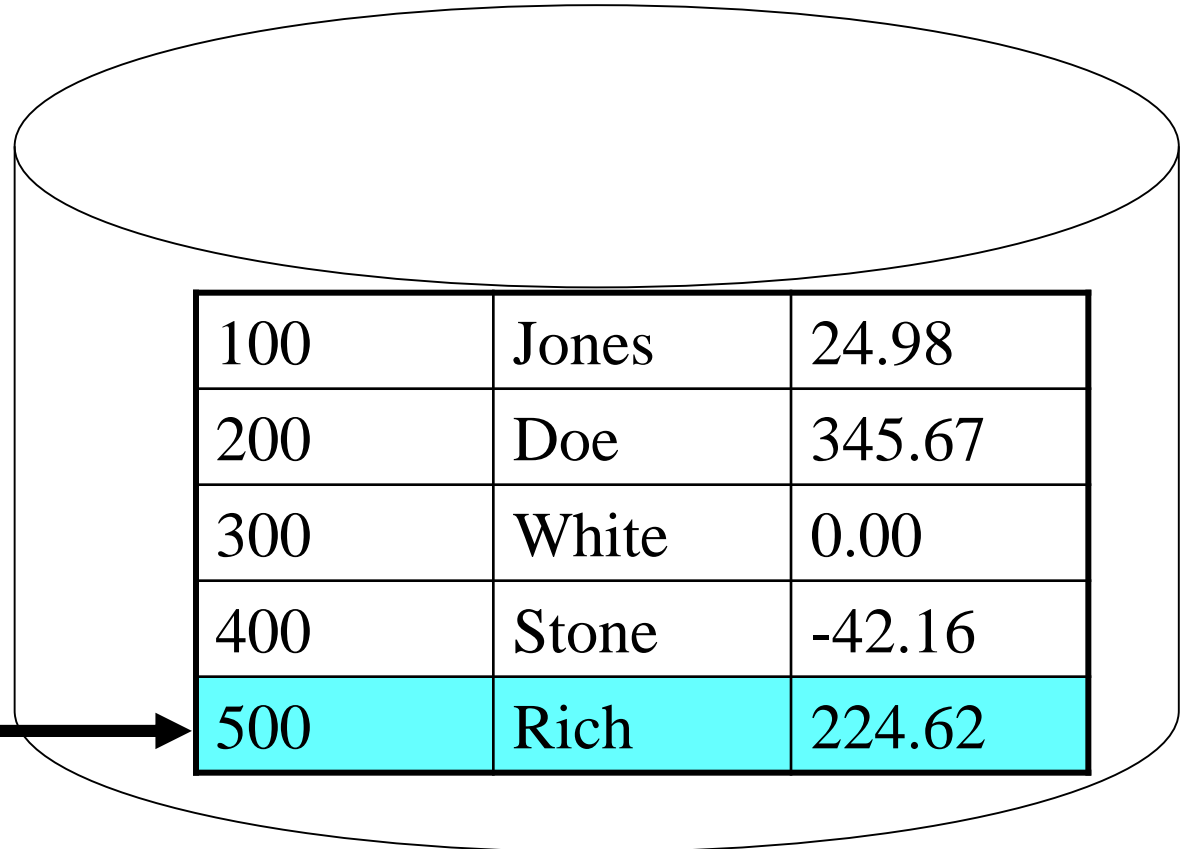
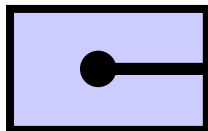
100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after 4th fscanf()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance
400	Stone	-42.16

Record

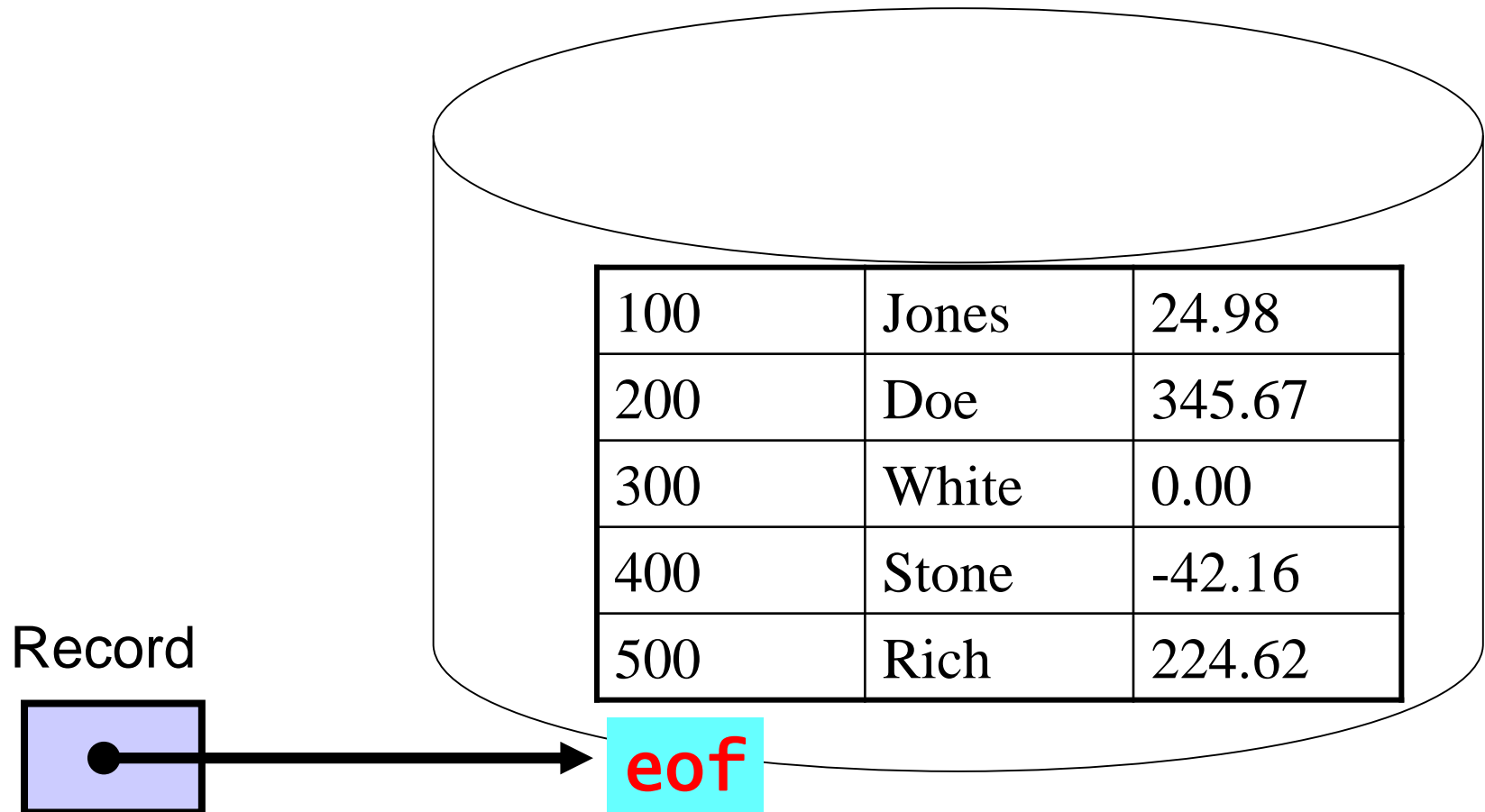


100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
300	White	0.00
400	Stone	-42.16
500	Rich	224.62

Record location after 5th fscanf()

Variables in
Memory

Account	Name	Balance
500	Rich	224.62



Example : Menu-driven Credit Inquiry Program

Part 1 of 4

```
// Fig. 11.7: fig11_07.c
// Credit inquiry program
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    unsigned int request; // request number
    unsigned int account; // account number
    double balance; // account balance
    char name[ 30 ]; // account name
    FILE *cfPtr; // clients.dat file pointer

    // fopen opens the file; exits program if file cannot be opened
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "r" ) ) == NULL ) {
        puts( "File could not be opened" );
    } // end if
    else {

        // display request options
        printf( "%s", "Enter request\n"
            " 1 - List accounts with zero balances\n"
            " 2 - List accounts with credit balances\n"
            " 3 - List accounts with debit balances\n"
            " 4 - End of run\n? " );
        scanf( "%u", &request );
    }
}
```

Part 2 of 4

```
// process user's request
while ( request != 4 ) {

    // read account, name and balance from file
    fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%29s%lf", &account, name, &balance );

    switch ( request ) {

        case 1:
            puts( "\nAccounts with zero balances:" );

            // read file contents (until eof)
            while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {

                if ( balance == 0 ) {
                    printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
                        account, name, balance );
                } // end if

                // read account, name and balance from file
                fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%29s%lf",
                    &account, name, &balance );
            } // end while

            break;
```

Part 3 of 4

case 2:

```
puts( "\nAccounts with credit balances:\n" );

// read file contents (until eof)
while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {

    if ( balance < 0 ) {
        printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
            account, name, balance );
    } // end if

    // read account, name and balance from file
    fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%29s%lf",
        &account, name, &balance );
} // end while

break;
```

Part 4 of 4

```

case 3:
    puts( "\nAccounts with debit balances:\n" );

    // read file contents (until eof)
    while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {

        if ( balance > 0 ) {
            printf( "%-10d%-13s%7.2f\n",
                    account, name, balance );
        } // end if

        // read account, name and balance from file
        fscanf( cfPtr, "%d%29s%1f",
                &account, name, &balance );
    } // end while

    break;
} // end switch

rewind( cfPtr ); // return cfPtr to beginning of file

printf( "%s", "\n? " );
scanf( "%d", &request );
} // end while

puts( "End of run." );
fclose( cfPtr ); // fclose closes the file
} // end else
} // end main

```

Program Output

Enter request

- 1 - List accounts with zero balances
- 2 - List accounts with credit balances
- 3 - List accounts with debit balances
- 4 - End of run

? 1

Accounts with zero balances:

300	white	0.00
-----	-------	------

? 2

Accounts with credit balances:

400	Stone	-42.16
-----	-------	--------

? 3

Accounts with debit balances:

100	Jones	24.98
200	Doe	345.67
500	Rich	224.62

? 4

End of run.

Trying to Modify a Sequential Access File

- Sequential access file
 - Cannot be modified without the risk of destroying other data
 - Fields can vary in size
 - Different representation in sequential files and screen than internal main memory (RAM) representation
 - Example:
 - 1, 34, -890 are all `ints`, and each takes 4 bytes in memory
 - But they have different sizes on disk
 - 1 is one byte
 - 34 is two bytes
 - 890 is four bytes

Trying to Modify a Sequential Access File

- Suppose user wants to change customer name from “White” to “Worthington”.

300 White 0.00	400 Stone -42.16
----------------	------------------

(Old data in file)

300 Worthington 0.00	one -42.16
----------------------	------------

Data gets
overwritten
onto the next
person's
record!

Trying to Modify a Sequential Access File

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    FILE *cfPtr = fopen( "clients.dat", "r+" );

    // Skip 33 bytes until beginning of customer White's record:
    fseek( cfPtr, 33, SEEK_SET );

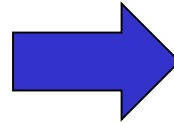
    // Write the new data values:
    fprintf( cfPtr, "%d %s %.2lf\n", 300, "Worthington", 0.0 );

    fclose( cfPtr );
} // end main
```

clients.dat File

Old

```
100 Jones 24.98  
200 Doe 345.67  
300 White 0.00  
400 Stone -42.16  
500 Rich 224.62
```



New

```
100 Jones 24.98  
200 Doe 345.67  
300 Worthington 0.00  
one -42.16  
500 Rich 224.62
```

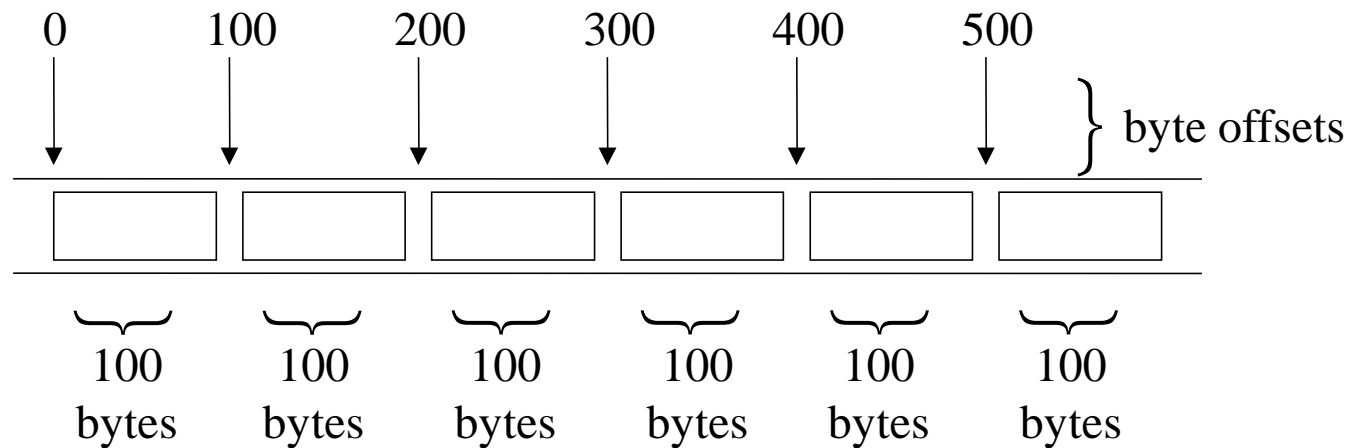
Random Access Files

11.6 Random-Access Files

- Random access files (Direct access)
 - Access individual records without searching through other records
 - Instant access to records in a file
 - Data can be inserted without destroying other data
 - Data previously stored can be updated or deleted without overwriting next record

11.6 Random-Access Files

- Random access files are implemented using fixed length records
 - Sequential files do not have fixed length records



11.7 Creating a Randomly Accessed File

- Data in random access files
 - Unformatted (stored as "raw bytes")
 - All data of the same type (**ints**, for example) uses the same amount of memory
 - Example: 1, 34, -890 are all **ints**, and each takes 4 bytes both in memory and in random access file.
 - All records of the same type have a fixed length
 - Data not human readable (especially the numerical data)

Functions for Random Access Files

- Unformatted I/O functions
 - **fread**
 - Transfer bytes from a file to a location in memory
 - **fwrite**
 - Transfer bytes from a location in memory to a file

fwrite and fread Functions

```
fwrite( &variable_name,  
        sizeof(variable),  
        number_of_blocks,  
        filePtr );
```

```
fread( &variable_name,  
        sizeof(variable),  
        number_of_blocks,  
        filePtr );
```

- **&variable_name** : Location to transfer bytes from.
- **sizeof(variable)** : Number of bytes to transfer.
- **number_of_ blocks** : For arrays, number of elements to transfer.
Usually 1 element at a time is transferred.
- **filePtr** : File pointer

11.7 Creating a Randomly Accessed File

- Example:

```
fwrite( &studentID, sizeof( int ), 1, myPtr );
```

- `&studentID` : Location to transfer bytes from
- `sizeof(int)` : Number of bytes to transfer
- `1` : For arrays, number of elements to transfer
 - In this case, "one element" of an array is being transferred
- `myPtr` : File pointer

11.7 Creating a Randomly Accessed File

- Writing structs

```
fwrite( &myObject, sizeof (struct myStruct), 1, myPtr );
```

- `sizeof` : returns size in bytes of object in parentheses

- To write several array elements
 - Pointer to array as first argument
 - Number of elements to write as third argument

Example: fwrite an array

- The following program writes (without a loop) an array to a file.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define N 5
int main()
{
    int dizi[N] = {10,20,30,40,50};
    int M;
    FILE *dosya;
    dosya = fopen("veriler.txt", "w");
    if (!dosya) {
        printf("Dosya acilamadi\n");
        return 0;
    }
    M = fwrite(dizi, sizeof(int), N, dosya);
    printf(" %d adet veri yazildi\n", M);

} //end main
```

Example: fread an array

- The following program reads (without a loop) an array from a file.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define N 5
int main()
{
    int dizi[N];
    int M, i;
    FILE *dosya;
    dosya = fopen("veriler.txt", "r");
    if (!dosya) {
        printf("Dosya acilamadi\n");
        return 0;
    }
    M = fread(dizi, sizeof(int), N, dosya);
    printf("%d adet veri okundu\n", M);

    for (i=0; i < M; i++)
        printf("%d \n", dizi[i] );
} //end main
```

Example : Creating an Empty Random Access File

Part 1 of 2

```
// Fig. 11.11: fig11_11.c
// Writing data randomly to a random-access file
#include <stdio.h>

// clientData structure definition
struct clientData {
    unsigned int acctNum; // account number
    char lastName[ 15 ]; // account last name
    char firstName[ 10 ]; // account first name
    double balance; // account balance
}; // end structure clientData

int main( void )
{
    FILE *cfPtr; // credit.dat file pointer

    // create clientData with default information
    struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };

    // fopen opens the file; exits if file cannot be opened
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "rb+" ) ) == NULL ) {
        puts( "File could not be opened." );
    } // end if
    else {
        // require user to specify account number
        printf( "%s", "Enter account number"
            " ( 1 to 100, 0 to end input )\n? " );
        scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
    }
}
```

Part 2 of 2

```

// user enters information, which is copied into file
while ( client.acctNum != 0 ) {
    // user enters last name, first name and balance
    printf( "%s", "Enter lastname, firstname, balance\n? " );

    // set record lastName, firstName and balance value
    fscanf( stdin, "%14s%9s%lf", client.lastName,
            client.firstName, &client.balance );

    // seek position in file to user-specified record
    fseek( cfPtr, ( client.acctNum - 1 ) *
            sizeof( struct clientData ), SEEK_SET );

    // write user-specified information in file
    fwrite( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, cfPtr );

    // enable user to input another account number
    printf( "%s", "Enter account number\n? " );
    scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
} // end while

fclose( cfPtr ); // fclose closes the file
} // end else
} // end main

```

PROGRAM OUTPUT :

File with 100 blank records

Acct	Last Name	First Name	Balance
0			0
0			0
0			0
0			0
0			0
...			...
...			...
...			...
0			0
0			0
0			0
0			0

- [illegible]

11.8 Writing Data to a Randomly Accessed File

- **fseek**

- Sets file position pointer to a specific position

- **fseek(*pointer*, *offset*, *symbolic_constant*);**

- *pointer* – pointer to file

- *offset* – file position pointer (**0 is first location**)

- *symbolic_constant* – specifies where in file we are reading from

- SEEK_SET – seek starts at beginning of file

- SEEK_CUR – seek starts at current location in file

- SEEK_END – seek starts at end of file

11.8 Writing Data to a Randomly Accessed File

```
fseek(cfPtr, 5, SEEK_SET);
```

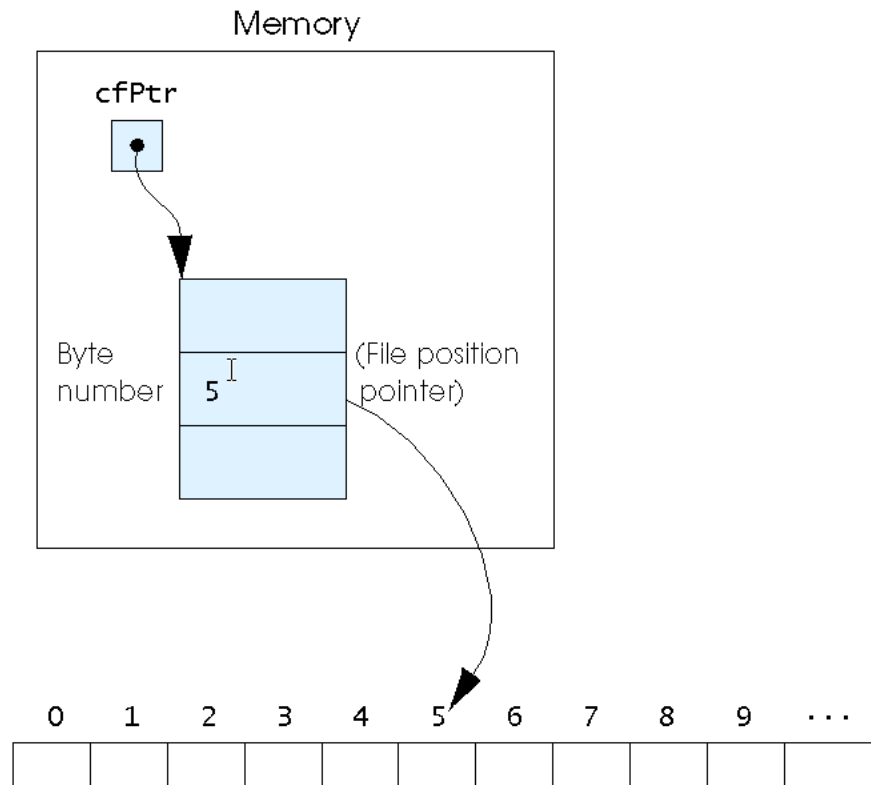


Fig. 11.14 The file position pointer indicating an offset of 5 bytes from the beginning of the file.

Example : Writing Data to a Random Access File

Part 1 of 2

```
/* Writing to a random access file */
#include <stdio.h>

struct clientData {
    int acctNum;
    char lastName[ 15 ];
    char firstName[ 10 ];
    double balance;
};

int main()
{
    FILE *cfPtr; // credit.dat file pointer

    // create clientData with default information
    struct clientData client = { 0, "", "", 0.0 };

    // fopen opens the file; exits if file cannot be opened
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "rb+" ) ) == NULL ) {
        printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
        return 0;
    } // end if

    // require user to specify account number
    printf( "Enter account number"
           " ( 1 to 100, 0 to end input )\n? " );
    scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
```

Part 2 of 2

```

// user enters information, which is copied into file
while ( client.acctNum != 0 ) {

    // user enters last name, first name and balance
    printf( "Enter lastname, firstname, balance\n? " );

    /* set record lastName, firstName and balance value */
    fscanf( stdin, "%s%s%lf", client.lastName,
            client.firstName, &client.balance );

    // seek position in file to user-specified record
    fseek( cfPtr, ( client.acctNum - 1 ) *
            sizeof( struct clientData ), SEEK_SET );

    // write user-specified information in file
    fwrite( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ), 1, cfPtr );

    // enable user to input another account number
    printf( "Enter account number\n? " );
    scanf( "%d", &client.acctNum );
} // end while

fclose( cfPtr );

} // end main

```

Program Output

```
Enter account number ( 1 to 100, 0 to end input )
? 37
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Barker Doug 0.00
Enter account number
? 29
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Brown Nancy -24.54
Enter account number
? 96
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Stone Sam 34.98
Enter account number
? 88
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Smith Dave 258.34
Enter account number
? 33
Enter lastname, firstname, balance
? Dunn Stacey 314.33
Enter account number
? 0
```

11.9 Reading Data from a Randomly Accessed File

- **fread**

- Reads a specified number of bytes from a file into memory

```
fread( &client, sizeof (struct clientData), 1, myPtr );
```

- Can read several fixed-size array elements
 - Provide pointer to array
 - Indicate number of elements to read
- To read multiple elements, specify in third argument

Example : Reading Data from a Random Access File

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Part 1 of 2

```
/* Reading a random access file sequentially */
#include <stdio.h>

struct clientData {
    int acctNum;
    char lastName[ 15 ];
    char firstName[ 10 ];
    double balance;
};

int main()
{
    FILE *cfPtr;

    // fopen opens the file; exits if file cannot be opened
    if ( ( cfPtr = fopen( "credit.dat", "rb" ) ) == NULL ) {
        printf( "File could not be opened.\n" );
        return 0;
    } // end if

    printf( "%-6s%-16s%-11s%10s\n", "Acct", "Last Name",
        "First Name", "Balance" );
}
```

Part 2 of 2

```

// read all records from file (until eof)
while ( !feof( cfPtr ) ) {
    fread( &client, sizeof( struct clientData ),
          1, cfPtr );

    // display record
    if ( client.acctNum != 0 ) {
        printf( "%-6d%-16s%-11s%10.2f\n",
               client.acctNum, client.lastName,
               client.firstName, client.balance );
    } // end if

} // end while

fclose( cfPtr );
} // end main

```

Program
Output

Acct	Last Name	First Name	Balance
29	Brown	Nancy	-24.54
33	Dunn	Stacey	314.33
37	Barker	Doug	0.00
88	Smith	Dave	258.34
96	Stone	Sam	34.98