

# File IO part 2

# Files

- Programs and data are stored on disk in structures called files
- Examples
  - a.out – binary file
  - lab1.c - text file
  - term-paper.doc - binary file

# Overview

## File Pointer (FILE \*)

Standard: stdin, stdout, stderr

Or fopen

Usage:

```
FILE* file=fopen(filename, modes);
```

modes: “r”, “w”, or “a” : read, write, or append

```
char ch=fgetc(file);
```

```
fclose(file);
```

# File Pointers

- Each stream in C is manipulated with the file pointer type
- FILE \*stream
  - FILE is a struct type containing multiple parts
    - file for stream, current element in file, etc.
  - FILE \* is the address where the FILE type is located in memory
  - FILEs always manipulated as FILE \*

# Standard File Pointers

- `<stdio.h>` contains three standard file pointers that are created for you (each of type `FILE *`)
  - `stdin` - file pointer connected to the keyboard
  - `stdout` - file pointer connected to the output window/terminal
  - `stderr` - file pointer connected to the error window (generally the output window)/terminal

# Text Files and Binary Files

- All files are coded as long sequences of bits (0s and 1s)
- Some files are coded as sequences of ASCII character values (referred to as *text* files)
  - files are organized as bytes, with each byte being an ASCII character
- UTF-8 for unicode texts
- Other files are generally referred to as binary files

# Memory

**Figure 13.3. Binary and text output.**

```
int num = 12345;
```



stores 12345 as binary number in num



---

## Text file

```
fprintf(fp, "%d", num);
```



writes the binary codes for the characters  
'1','2','3','4','5', to the file



---

## Binary file

```
fwrite(&num, sizeof (int), 1, fp);
```



writes the binary codes for the value 12345 to the file



(this figure assumes an integer size of 16 bits)

# Structure of Files

- String of bits:

010000110110000101110100...

- Interpreted as ASCII numbers:

01000011 01100001 01110100 ...  
67 97 116

- Files as ASCII:

67 97 116 115 32 97 110 100 10 68  
111 103 115 10 0

- As characters:

Cats and\nDogs\n<EOF>

- In editor:

Cats and  
Dogs



# Structure of Text Files (cont)

- Two special characters
  - \n - end-of-line character
  - <EOF> - end-of-file marker

- File lab.data:

723 85 93 99

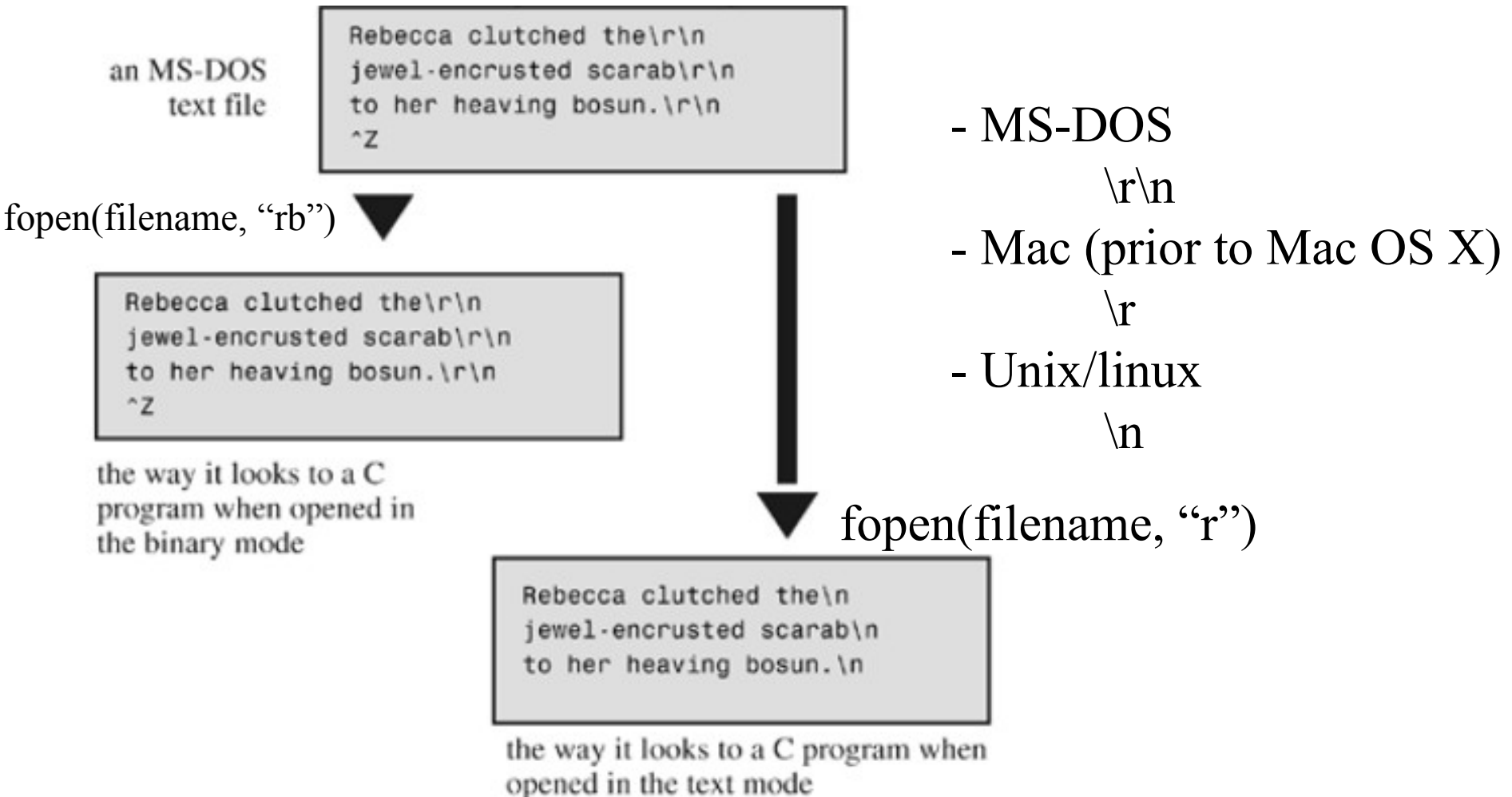
131 78 91 85

458 82 75 86

as a string of characters

723 85 93 99\n131 78 91 85\n458  
82 75 86\n<EOF>

# Windows and old mac text files are different!



# IO functions

## Text Files

### File input

fscanf(file pointer, format string, address list)

single character

getchar, getc, fgetc

ungetc

### File output

fprintf(file pointer, format string, value list)

single character

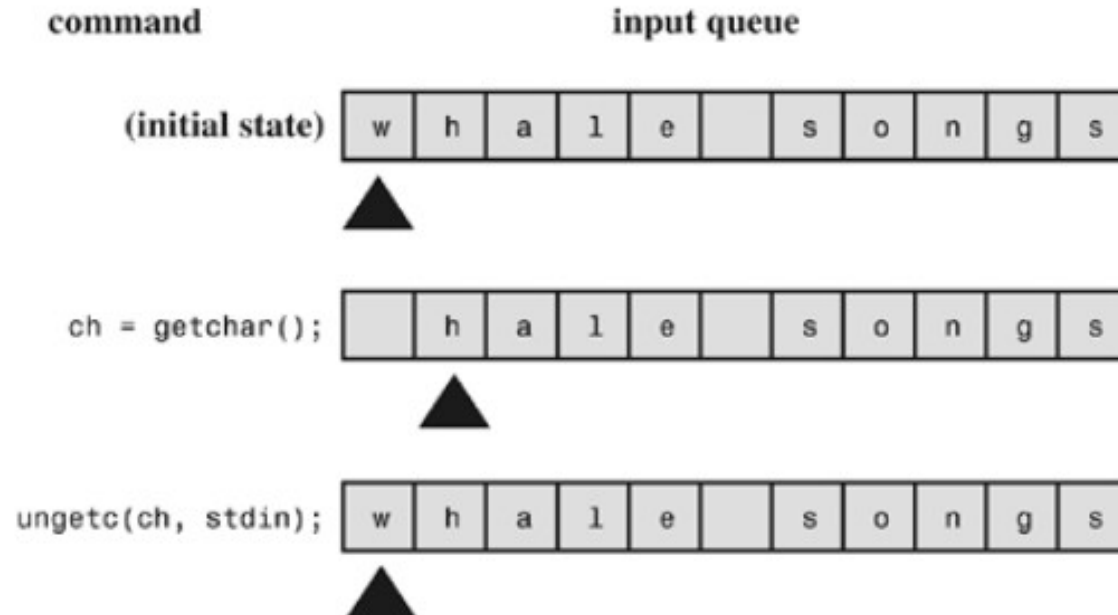
putchar, putc, fputc

# The ungetc function

- `int ungetc(int c, FILE *fp)`

pushes the character specified by `c` back onto the input stream (only one pushback is guaranteed at a time)

**Figure 13.2. The `ungetc()` function.**



# The rewind and gets function

- `void rewind(FILE * fp)`
  - Sets the file-position pointer to the start of the file
- `char * gets ( char * str );`
  - Reads characters from the standard input (stdin) and stores them into str until a newline character or the end-of-file is reached.
  - On success, the function returns str.
  - If the end-of-file is encountered while attempting to read a character, the eof indicator is set (feof). If this happens before any characters could be read, the pointer returned is a null pointer (and the contents of str remain unchanged).
  - If a read error occurs, the error indicator (ferror) is set and a null pointer is also returned (but the contents pointed by str may have changed).

# The fopen function

- Syntax: `fopen("FileName", "mode")`;
- File Name is an appropriate name for a file on the computer you are working on, example: `"C:\My Files\lab.dat"`
- Mode indicates the type of stream:
  - “r” - file is opened for reading characters
  - “w” - file is opened for writing characters (existing file deleted)
  - “a” - file opened for writing characters (appended to the end of the existing file)

# The fopen function (cont)

- fopen returns a value of type FILE \* that is a stream connected to the specified file
- if the fopen command fails, a special value, NULL is returned
- reasons for failure:
  - file doesn't exist (read)
  - can't create file (append)

# The fprintf function

- Syntax: `fprintf(filep, “Format”, ValueList);`
- Works similarly to `printf`, but data sent to file rather than screen
  - `printf(“Format”,ValueList)` is a shorthand for `fprintf(stdout,”Format”,ValueList)`
- `fprintf` returns the number of characters printed or EOF (-1) if an error occurs
- File pointer should be write/append stream



# The fscanf function

- Syntax: `fscanf(filep, “Format”, AddrList);`
- Works similarly to `scanf`, but data received from file rather than keyboard
  - `scanf(“Format”, AddrList)` is a shorthand for `fscanf(stdin, “Format”, AddrList)`
- `fscanf` returns the number of successful data conversions or EOF if end-of-file reached
- File pointer should be a read stream

# “Add a word”

- A sample run

```
$ ./addaword
```

```
Enter words to add to the file; press the Enter  
key at the beginning of a line to terminate.
```

```
The fabulous programmer[enter]
```

```
[enter]
```

```
File contents:
```

```
The
```

```
fabulous
```

```
programmer
```

```
$
```

# “Add a word”

- A sample run

```
$ ./addaword
```

```
Enter words to add to the file; press the Enter  
key at the beginning of a line to terminate.
```

```
The fabulous programmer[enter]
```

```
[enter]
```

```
File contents:
```

```
The
```

```
fabulous
```

```
programmer
```

```
$ ./addaword
```

```
Enter words to add to the file; press the Enter  
key at the beginning of a line to terminate.
```

```
enchanted the[enter]
```

```
large[enter]
```

```
[enter]
```

```
File contents:
```

```
The
```

```
fabulous
```

```
programmer
```

```
enchanted
```

```
the
```

```
large
```

```

/* addaword.c -- uses fprintf(), fscanf(), and rewind() */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#define MAX 40
int main(void)
{
    FILE *fp;
    char words[MAX];
    if ((fp = fopen("wordy", "a+")) == NULL)
    {
        fprintf(stdout, "Can't open \"words\" file.\n");
        exit(1);
    }
    puts("Enter words to add to the file; press the Enter");
    puts("key at the beginning of a line to terminate.");
    while (gets(words) != NULL && words[0] != '\0')
        fprintf(fp, "%s ", words);
    puts("File contents:");
    rewind(fp);
    /* go back to beginning of file */
    ?
    if (fclose(fp) != 0)
        fprintf(stderr, "Error closing file\n");
    return 0;
}

```

# Append mode

- By using the "a+" mode, the program can both read and write in the file
- The first time the program is used, it creates the wordy file
- When you use the program subsequently, it enables you to add (append) words to the previous contents.
- The append mode “a” only enables you to add material to
- the end of the file
- But the "a+" mode does enable you to read the whole file.

```
FILE *fp;  
char words[MAX];  
if ((fp = fopen("wordy", "a+")) == NULL)  
{  
    fprintf(stdout, "Can't open \"words\" file.\n");  
    exit(1);  
}
```

```
/* addaword.c -- uses fprintf(), fscanf(), and rewind() */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#define MAX 40
int main(void)
{
    FILE *fp;
    char words[MAX];
    if ((fp = fopen("wordy", "a+")) == NULL)
    {
        fprintf(stdout, "Can't open \"words\" file.\n");
        exit(1);
    }
    puts("Enter words to add to the file; press the Enter");
    puts("key at the beginning of a line to terminate.");
    while (gets(words) != NULL && words[0] != '\0')
        fprintf(fp, "%s ", words);
    puts("File contents:");
    rewind(fp);
    /* go back to beginning of file */
    while (fscanf(fp, "%s", words) == 1)
        puts(words);
    if (fclose(fp) != 0)
        fprintf(stderr, "Error closing file\n");
    return 0;
}
```

# The fgets function

- `char * fgets ( char * str, int num, FILE * stream );`
- Reads characters from stream and stores them as a C string into str until (num-1) characters have been read or either a newline or the end-of-file is reached, whichever happens first.
- A newline character makes fgets stop reading, but it is considered a valid character by the function and included in the string copied to str.
- On success, the function returns str.
- If the end-of-file is encountered while attempting to read a character, the eof indicator is set (feof). If this happens before any characters could be read, the pointer returned is a null pointer (and the contents of str remain unchanged).
- If a read error occurs, the error indicator (ferror) is set and a null pointer is also returned (but the contents pointed by str may have changed).

# “Parrot”

- A sample run

**The silent knight**

The silent knight


**strode solemnly down the dank and dark hall.**

strode solemnly down the dank and dark hall.

**[enter]**



# Terminating condition

```
/* parrot.c -- using fgets() and fputs() */
#include <stdio.h>
#define MAXLINE 20
int main(void)
{
    char line[MAXLINE];
    while (fgets(line, MAXLINE, stdin) != NULL &&
           )
        fputs(line, stdout);
    return 0;
}
```

# Do you notice anything odd?

```
/* parrot.c -- using fgets() and fputs() */
#include <stdio.h>
#define MAXLINE 20
int main(void)
{
    char line[MAXLINE];
    while (fgets(line, MAXLINE, stdin) != NULL &&
           line[0] != '\n')
        fputs(line, stdout);
    return 0;
}
```

# Do you notice anything odd?

```
/* parrot.c -- using fgets() and fputs() */
#include <stdio.h>
#define MAXLINE 20
int main(void)
{
    char line[MAXLINE];
    while (fgets(line, MAXLINE, stdin) != NULL &&
           line[0] != '\n')
        fputs(line, stdout);
    return 0;
}
```

The program works fine. This should seem surprising because the second line entered contains 44 characters, and the line array holds only 20, including the newline character!

# Do you notice anything odd?

```
/* parrot.c -- using fgets() and fputs() */
#include <stdio.h>
#define MAXLINE 20
int main(void)
{
    char line[MAXLINE];
    while (fgets(line, MAXLINE, stdin) != NULL &&
           line[0] != '\n')
        fputs(line, stdout);
    return 0;
}
```

```
fputs("strode solemnly dow" , stdout);
fputs("n the dank and dark hall\n", stdout);
```