

Lab 9 - Exercise – All sections

qsort()

CS 262 – Spring 2022

The purpose of this activity is to practice how to use the `qsort()` function to sort values in an array. This function implements the **Quick Sort Algorithm** for sorting.

Background:

The standard C library `<stdlib.h>` provides the `qsort()` function that can be used for sorting an array. The prototype of `qsort()` is:

```
void qsort(void* base, size_t num, size_t size,
           int(*comp)(const void*, const void*));
```

Parameters:

<code>base</code>	Pointer to the first element of the array to be sorted.
<code>num</code>	Number of elements in the array pointed by <code>base</code> .
<code>size</code>	It's the size in bytes of each element in the array
<code>comp</code>	Function that compares two elements.

Return Value

`void` It does not return any value

The comp Function

```
int comp (const void* p1, const void* p2)
```

The comparator function takes two pointers as parameters and returns an integer (**negative**, **zero** or **positive**) which indicates the result of the comparison of the elements pointed by the pointers.

<code><0</code>	The element pointed by <code>p1</code> goes before the element pointed by <code>p2</code>
<code>0</code>	The element pointed by <code>p1</code> is equivalent to the element pointed by <code>p2</code>
<code>>0</code>	The element pointed by <code>p1</code> goes after the element pointed by <code>p2</code>

Example:

How to implement `comp` to compare two `int` elements to sort them in ascending:

```
int comp(const void* p1, const void* p2){
    int element1 = *(const int*)p1;
    int element2 = *(const int*)p2;

    if(element1 < element2) return -1;
    if(element1 > element2) return 1;
    return 0;
}
```

Description of the program

Code a program that prompts the user to enter an input number (N)

Use `malloc()` or `calloc()` to create an array of N numbers, the elements will be `float`

- In a loop ask the user to input each of the elements and store them in the array
- Print the content of the array
- Call the `qsort()` function to sort the elements in descending order
- Print the content of the sorted array

Requirements:

- Use `fgets()` and `sscanf()` to get the user input.
- Use `calloc()` or `malloc()` to ask for *dynamic memory* for the array
- Free the *dynamic memory* at the end of the program
- Prints each `float` number rounded to one decimal

Example 1:

```
Enter a number: 3
Enter the element 1: 5.8
Enter the element 2: 2.3
Enter the element 3: 4.5
```

```
Original array:
5.8  2.3  4.5
```

```
Sorted array:
5.8  4.5  2.3
```

Example 2:

```
Enter a number: 4
Enter the element 1: 1
Enter the element 2: 8.2
Enter the element 3: -3.6
Enter the element 4: 100.5
```

```
Original array:
1.0  8.2  -3.6  100.5
```

```
Sorted array:
100.5  8.2  1.0  -3.6
```