

Variables and Data Types

Session 2

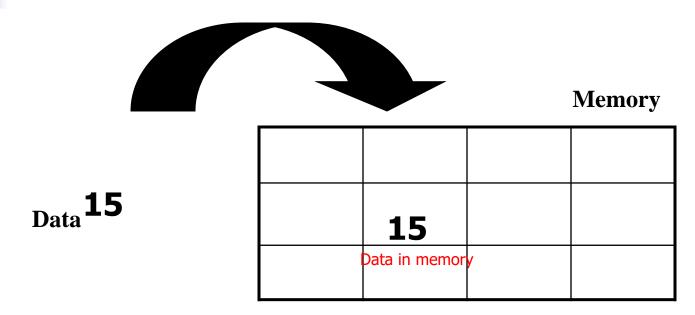


Objectives

- Discuss variables
- Differentiate between variables and constants
- List the different data types and make use of them in C programs
- Discuss arithmetic operators



Variables



Each location in the memory is unique

Variables allow to provide a meaningful name for the location in memory



Example

```
BEGIN
   DISPLAY 'Enter 2 numbers'
   INPUT A, B
   C = A + B
   DISPLAY C
END
```

- A, B and C are variables in the pseudo code
- Variable names takes away the need for a programmer to access memory locations using their address
- The operating system takes care of allocating space for the variables



Constants

A constant is a value whose worth never changes

- Examples
 - 5
 - 5.3
 - "Black"
 - 'C'

numeric / integer constant numeric / float constant string constant character constant

Variables hold constant values



Identifier Names

- The names of variables, functions, labels, and various other user-defined objects are called identifiers
- Some correct identifier names
 - arena
 - s_count
 - marks40
 - class_one
- Examples of erroneous identifiers
 - 1sttest
 - oh!god ! is invalid
 - start... end
- Identifiers can be of any convenient length, but the number of characters in a variable name that are recognized by a compiler, varies from compiler to compiler
- Identifiers in C are case sensitive



Guidelines for Naming Identifiers

Variable names should begin with an alphabet

The first character can be followed by alphanumeric characters

Proper names should be avoided while naming variables

A variable name should be meaningful and descriptive

Confusing letters should be avoided

Some standard variable naming convention should be followed while programming



Keywords

- Keywords: All languages reserve certain words for their internal use
- Keywords hold a special meaning within the context of the particular language
- No problem of conflict as long as the keyword and the variable name can be distinguished.
 For example, having integer as a variable name is perfectly valid even though it contains the keyword int



Data Types-1

- A data type describes the kind of data that will fit into a variable
- Some examples of different types of data are:
 - Numbers
 - Whole numbers. For example, 10 or 178993455
 - Real numbers. For example, 15.22 or 15463452.25
 - Positive numbers, negative numbers
 - Names. For example, John
 - Logical values. For example, Y or N



Data Types-2

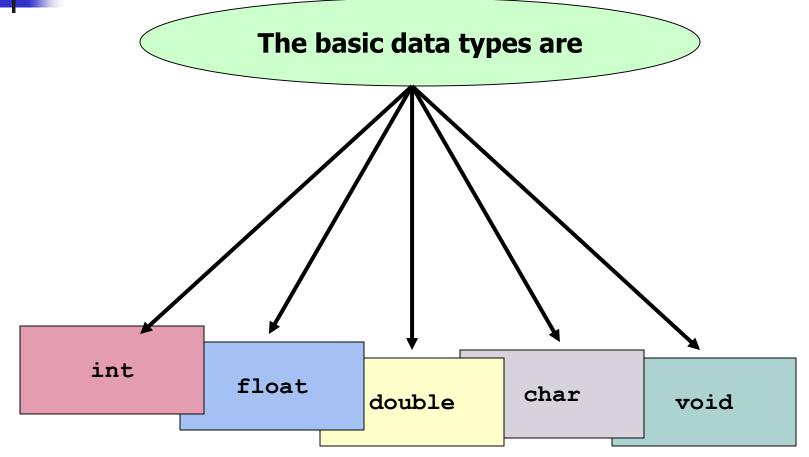
The name of the variable is preceded with the data type

```
Datatype variableName;
```

For example,

```
int total;
```







Type int

Stores numeric data

```
int num;
num = 2949;
```

- Cannot then store any other type of data like "Alan" or "abc"
- 16 bits (2 bytes)
- Integers in the range -32768 to 32767
- Examples: 12322, 0, -232



Type float

Stores values containing decimal places

```
float num;
num = 3.13;
```

- Precision of upto 6 digits
- 32 bits (4 bytes) of memory
- Examples: 23.05, 56.5, 32



Type double

Stores values containing decimal places

```
double num;
num = 12.4679;
```

- Precision of upto 10 digits
- 64 bits (8 bytes) of memory
- Examples: 23.0545, 6.54444, -67.9087



Type char

Stores a single character of information

```
char gender;
gender = 'M';
```

- 8 bits (1 byte) of memory
- Examples: `a', `m', `\$' `%', `1', '5'



Type void

- Stores nothing
- Indicates the compiler that there is nothing to expect

Derived Data Types

Data type Modifiers

+

Basic Data types

____ Deriv

Derived data type

unsigned

+

int

unsigned int

(Permits only positive numbers)

short

+

int

short int

(Occupies less memory space than int)

long

+ int /double

Long int /long double

(Occupies more space than int/double)



signed and unsigned Types

 unsigned type specifies that a variable can take only positive values

```
unsigned int varNum;
varNum = 56000;
```

- varNum is allocated 2 bytes
- modifier may be used with the int and float data types
- unsigned int supports range from 0 to 65535



long and short Types

- short int occupies 8 bits (1 byte)
 - allows numbers in the range -128 to 127
- long int occupies 32 bits (4 bytes)
 - -2,147,483,648 and 2,147,483,647
- long double occupies 128 bits (16 bytes)

Data Types and their range-1

Type	Approximate Size in Bits	Minimal Range
char	8	-128 to 127
signed char	8	Same as char
unsigned char	8	0 to 255
int	16	-32,768 to 32,767
signed int	16	Same as int
unsigned int	16	0 to 65,535
short int	8	-128 to 127
signed short int	8	Same as short int



Туре	Approximate Size in Bits	Minimal Range
unsigned short int	8	0 to 255
long int	32	-2,147,483,647 to 2,147,483,647
signed long int	32	Same as long int
unsigned long int	32	0 to 4,294,967,295
float	32	Six digits of precision
double	64	Ten digits of precision
long double	128	Ten digits of precision



Sample Declaration

```
main ()
  char abc; /*abc of type character */
  int xyz; /*xyz of type integer */
  float length; /*length of type float */
  double area; /*area of type double */
  long liteyrs; /*liteyrs of type long int */
  short arm; /*arm of type short integer*/
```