

Review

Chapter 7: Numbers

Chapter 8: Characters

Intro to C++ Programming

CSCI 2212 INTERMEDIATE PROGRAMMING IN C/C++

I. Numbers

CHAPTER 7

The Trouble with Numbers

Integer overflow and wrap

Floating point overflow

Floating point underflow

Floating point precision and approximate calculation

Scale of Magnitude and limits on precision

Integer Overflow and wrap

If you keep making an integer larger, eventually it will wrap around to the smallest end.

Memorize these numbers:

- short -32,768. . . 32,767 (Know exact numbers)
- unsigned short: 0. . . 65,535 (know exact numbers)
- long: -2,147,483,647. . . 2,147,483,647 (know its on the order of +/- 2 billion)
- unsigned long 0. . . 4,294,967,295 (know its in the order of 4 billion)
- Today, an int is usually the same as a long. Many years ago, it was the same as a short on some machines.

Floating-Point Numbers

- A floating point number has a sign, an exponent, and a magnitude.
- The sign is the sign of the number.
- The exponent is a positive or negative base-2 (binary) number represented in bias notation. A float has a bias-127 exponent: if it starts with a **1 bit, it represents a positive exponent**, if it starts with a **0 bit, the exponent is negative**.
- The magnitude is always kept **normalized**.
 - After every calculation, the result is shifted left or right, until the **first bit is a 1**.
 - The **exponent** is adjusted for each shift.
 - During normalization, 1 bits ,might be shifted **off the end of the register**, or 0 bits can be brought in.

Floating point precision and approximate calculation

- A **float** has **24 bits of magnitude**, equivalent to **~6 decimal digits of precision**.
- A float can **represent integers exactly**, if the integer is shorter than **24 bits** and it is directly converted to type float.
- A **double** has **36 bits of magnitude**, equivalent to **~15 decimal digits of precision**.
- A double can **represent any integer exactly** if it is directly converted to type double.
- However, most **fractional values cannot be exactly represented** because of the limited precision.
- Each time a **computation** is made, **round-off error is possible**. Over time, **it adds up**.
- A **double that is the result of computation** is **UNLIKELY to EVER exactly equal an integer**.

Floating point **overflow**

When the **exponent becomes 0 or too large to represent**, the value becomes a **NaN, that is, Not a Number**. Some systems display a special character for NaN, others just show a nonsense value. Please learn what your system does and **learn to recognize NaN**.

- The exponent of **a float** is 8 bits, able to represent base-10 exponents of **± 38**
- The exponent of **a double** is 12 bits, able to represent base-10 exponents of **± 308**
- If the **exponent of a number grows beyond that**, the number becomes a **NaN**.
- Any arithmetic done on a NaN gives the result NaN.

Floating point **underflow**

Suppose, during a calculation, an **exponent has been adjusted so that it is at the limit but the magnitude is STILL not normalized.**

- At that point, the limited precision of the float or double is decreased.
- Some systems will let you continue to use that unnormalized number.
- Others will not.

Fuzzy Comparisons

- Because the **value of a float or double is usually not accurate in its last few bits**, we **never use == to compare anything to the result of a floating computation**.
- The **method of comparison** must include a **fuzz factor**.

```
if ( fabs( answer - target ) < fuzz ) //continue to loop
```
- `fabs()` is floating point absolute value.
- **fuzz is a float or double constant such as .0001** that is appropriate for the amount of **precision** that you need.

Scale of Magnitude and limits on precision

When two floating values are **added together**,

- If they have the same exponents, they are just added and renormalized.
- If the **exponent is different**, the smaller exponent must be adjusted by **DE-normalizing the number**. Then the magnitudes are added and the result is re-normalized.
- In the **process of de-normalization**, all of **the information in the smaller number can get shifted off the end and lost**, leaving a **0 value**.
- **This happens** when the **exponents differ by too much**.

II. The char Data Types

CHAPTER 8

Char is a dual-purpose type

A **char** is a dual-purpose data type:

- Representing **characters** like 'A' and 'z' and '5' and '}'.
- Representing **very small integers**. *Note: '5' != 5.*

Note that **single quotes are used for character literals**, and **double quotes for strings**. 'A' is a char and "A" is a string and "This is a string".

There are two char types: signed char, and unsigned char.

Type char is the same as one or the other, whichever is native on your hardware / OS.

Signed and unsigned chars

Like other integer types, chars can be either signed or unsigned.

- Some operating systems use signed chars for characters, others use unsigned chars.
- Most of the time you don't know and you don't need to know.
- ASCII code can be stored in a signed char, since it is a 7-bit code, the sign bit is not important.
- International ASCII is an 8-bit code and requires unsigned char.
- Modern systems are moving to Unicode, a 16-bit character representation.

Operations on chars

You can do several kinds of computations with **characters**.

Copy them:	<code>(ch = 'A')</code>
Compare them:	<code>if (ch == 'A' ch == 'a')</code>
Add an integer:	<code>nextLetter = ch + 1</code>
Subtract a char to get an int:	<code>position = ch - 'A';</code>
Use as a subscript:	<code>counter[ch]++</code>
Use in a switch:	<code>switch(ch) { case 'A':. . .</code>

Reading and Writing Characters in C

- Use " %c" to read a character. **Note the space between the quote and the percent. This skips leading whitespace**, then reads a single keystroke.
- Use "%c" to **read the next keystroke WITHOUT skipping whitespace**.
- Use "%c" to write a character.
- Use "%i" to read a small integer into a char variable. This could read a number with more than one keystroke. It does ASCII to integer conversion.
- Use "%s" to read a to read a whitespace-delimited string.

Note: **Using " %c" is the right way to eliminate whitespace at the end of a line when the next line starts with a char.**

Two Examples

```
char ch1, ch2, response = '\n';
printf( "Please guess my secret character: " );
fflush(stdout);
scanf( "%c", &ch1 ); // Read the next keystroke.
ch2 = 'b';
printf( "Guess is %c, my secret is %c\n", ch1, ch2 );
printf( "Who was the first U.S. President?" );
printf( "W: Washington, A: Adams, J: Jefferson" );
fflush(stdout);
scanf( " %c", &response ); // Read one visible char.
if( response == 'W' ) puts("Right; good job.");
else puts( "Wrong, try again.");
```


Syntax in C++

IT'S A WHOLE NEW WORLD!

Reading and Writing Characters in C++

- Use `cin >> ch;` to read a character. This **skips leading whitespace**, then reads a single keystroke.
- Use `ch = cin.get();` to **read the next keystroke WITHOUT skipping whitespace**.
- Use `cout << ch;` to **write a character**.
- Use `cin >> str;` to **read a whitespace-delimited string**.

Two Examples in C++, this is a code fragment, not a program

```
char ch1, ch2, response = '@';
cout <<"Please guess my secret character: ";
ch1 = cin.get(); // Read the next keystroke.
cout <<"Guess is " << ch1
<<" my secret is " <<ch2 << ".\n";
cout <<"Who was the first U.S. President?\n"
<<"W: Washington, A: Adams, J: Jefferson" <<endl;
cin >> response; // Read one visible char.
if( response == 'W' ) cout <<"Right; good job.\n";
else cout <<"Wrong, try again.\n";
```

The **cctype** library: Character Processing Functions

The **cctype** library contains functions for **processing character data**. <https://cplusplus.com/reference/cctype/>
These can be used either in **C** or in **C++**:

isalpha(ch)	true for A . . Z and a . . z, false otherwise
isdigit(ch)	true for 0 . . 9, false otherwise
isalnum(ch)	same as isalpha() isdigit()
isspace(ch)	true for a whitespace character, false otherwise (space, tab, newline, CR, vertical tab or formfeed)
islower(ch)	true for a . . z, false otherwise
isupper(ch)	true for A . . Z, false otherwise
tolower(ch)	If ch is A . . Z, return a . . z. Else return ch unchanged.
toupper(ch)	If ch is a . . z, return A . . Z. Else return ch unchanged.



The End!