# **C Built-in Arrays**

#### **Arrays** - Introduction

- The definition given in your textbook:
  - An array contains objects (instances) of a given type, stored consecutively in a continuous memory block.
- An array definition has the following syntax:

```
type_name identifier [ number_of_elements ];
```

Examples of declaration of arrays with fixed length:

```
int a[3] = \{44, 66, 85\}; // declares an array of three integers char c[3] = \{'A', 'M', 'D'\}; // declares an array of three characters double z[3] = \{2.3, 5.5, 7.8\}; // declares an array of three doubles
```

a[0]	44	
a[1]	66	
a[2]	85	

c[0]	'A'
c[1]	'M'
c[2]	'D'

z[0]	2.3
z[1]	5.5
z[2]	7.8

#### **Arrays – Declaration**

- Arrays can have any storage classes:
  - Can be declared outside all function.
  - Can be declared as local variable.
  - Can be declared within a block.
  - Can be declared as other storage classes such as local or global static (we will discuss about the keyword static later in the course).
  - The only restriction is that no function parameter can be an array. We will see later that an array argument passed to a function is always converted into a pointer to the first array element.
- C99 also allows declaration of arrays with variable-length at the runtime.
  - Examples:

```
double x [5 * 2];
duble y [200 + 2];
int x = 20;
double z [ x * 5 ];
```

#### **Arrays – Access to Elements of the Array**

- Accessing array elements:
  - Puts 99 into the third element of z:

```
z[2] = 99;
```

- Displaying the element's value:
  - Displays the third element of array z

```
printf("%d", z[2]);
```

- How to display all element of z?
  - By using a for loop
- Reading and storing value into the array element:
  - Reads three integer numbers and stores into the the first three elements of the array z:

```
for(int I = 0; I < 3; i++) {
    printf( "\nEnter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &z[i]);
}</pre>
```

#### **Arrays - Initialization**

- Initializing Arrays:
  - To initialize an array explicitly when you define it, you must use an initialization list:

```
int a[5] = \{ 10, 23, 33, 44, 66 \};
```

- If you do not explicitly initialize an array variable, the usual rules apply:
  - If array has automatic storage, its elements have undefined values.
  - For other storage classes, all elements are initialized to the value 0.
- You cannot include an initialization in the definition of a variable-length array.
- You may omit the length of the array, if you supply an initialization list: int a[] = { 10, 23, 33, 44, 66};
- If array declaration contains both length and initialization list, then the length is indicated by the length between square brackets.
  - Any element with no initializer is initialized to zero.
  - If the list has more initializers than the array length, the superfluous initializers are ignored.

#### **Arrays – Copying Issues**

 Unlike data structures in some other language, arrays in C can not be copies.

```
int a [ 2];
int b [2];
a[0] = 55;
a[1] = 60;
b = a; // ERROR -- NOT allowed
```

- Unlike arrays in Processing, C arrays don't do index range checking.
  - Let's see an example:

# Array of Characters and C-Strings

#### What is Character, Character Constant, and String Constant in C

- Character in C is one byte memory space (or in fact a one byte integer).
- You can either assign an integer or a character constant in a character data type:

```
char c;
c = 65;
c = 'A';
```

• A character constant is confined between **single quotation** marks. A character constant can be a letter, a digit, or a non-printing character such as '\n'.

```
c = '3'

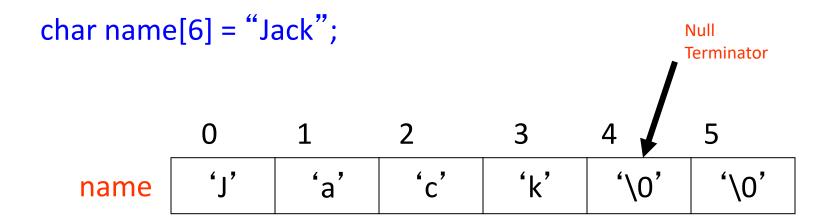
c = '\n' // non-printing – end of line
```

String constants are confined between double quotation marks:

```
"ABACDD""Judy""ENCM 339""34890"
```

#### **C-Strings**

- Basically, a string is represented by an array of characters which is terminated by a NULL ('\0') character.
- Null termination is only used for strings.
- Example:



#### **Printing Strings and Characters**

Initializing array of characters and strings in C :

```
char str1[5] = "Apple"; // OK, as an array of chars, but not C-string char str2[] = "XYZ"; // OK, as array of characters and C-string char str3[3] = "AB"; // OK, as array of characters and C-string char charArray [3] = {'X', 'Y', 'Z'};// OK as array of characters - not a C-string
```

Access to the data in an element of a string:

Displaying strings:

```
printf("%s", str2); //displays: XYZ
```

 printf displays all characters starting from element zero, that up to the last element before the element that contains '\0'.

#### Question: Draw AR diagrams at point 1, 2, and 3? What is the program output?

```
int main(){
                                                                                 stack
      char str[10];
                                                                           Str[0]
      str[0] = 'A';
     str[1] = 'B';
                                                                                   B'
                                                                           Str[1]
     str[2] = 'C';
                                                                                   'C'
     // point 1
                                                                           Str[2]
                                                                                   '\0'
                                                                           Str[3]
      str[3] = '\0'
     str[4] = '9';
                                                                                   '9'
                                                                           Str[4]
     // point 2
                                                          AR main
                                                                           Str[5]
                                                                                   'X'
     printf ("%s", str);
                                                                                   '\0'
                                                                           Str[6]
     str[5] = 'X';
                                                                                    33
                                                                          Str[7]
     str[6] = '\0';
     // point 3
                                                                                    33
                                                                           Str[8]
                                                                           Str[9]
      printf ("%s", str);
                                                                                    ??
     return 0;
                                                            Point 3
                                                                                No Args
```

# **Arrays and Pointers**

#### **Arrays and Pointers**

- The name of built-in arrays in C and C++ is treaded as a pointer
  - The name of an array holds the address of the first byte of the first element.
  - In other words the name of an array can be treated like a fixed-pointer that points always to the first element of the array (it can not hold another address).

Another Examples:

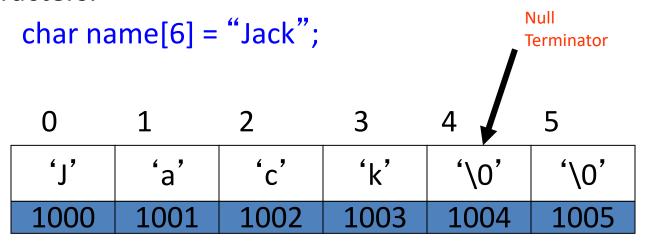
```
int a[6] = \{489, 200, 300, 100, 800, 1001\};
    int *b;
     b = a;
    printf("%d", *b);
                                  //displays 489
    printf("%d", *a);
                                  //displays 489
    printf("%d", b[4]);
                                  //displays 800
    printf("%d", a[4]);
                                  //displays 800
                                                 а
                                                       3
                                                                             5
                                 1
b
                     489
                                200
                                           300
                                                      100
                                                                 800
                                                                           1001
                     1000
                                1004
                                           1008
                                                      1012
                                                                1016
                                                                           1020
```

M. Moussavi - Fall 2021

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#### **Strings and Pointers**

 A string name is also a pointer to the first element of an array of characters.



The following statement is true:

printf displays all characters from name[0] to name[3].

## **Arrays and Functions**

#### **Passing Arrays to Functions**

- You can pass an array to a function by passing the name of the array as an argument.
- You may also need to pass the number of elements of the array to the function.
- Since the name of the array is the address of the first element of the array, a function argument must be a pointer to hold this value.
- Example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int largest (const int *arr, int n);
int main()
{
  int x[5] = {90, 3, 4, 5, 1};
  int result;
  result = largest (x, 5); //only the name of the array is passed printf("The largest value is %d.", result);
  return 0;
}
```

#### **Arrays as Function Arguments**

As a function argument you can either use a pointer notation (int\*), or array notation ([]).

- Argument arr in both cases in the following examples is a pointer, pointing to the first element of the array x in main.
- Within function largest, the value of any element of array x in main can be accessed via pointer arr.

```
int largest(const int arr[], int n)
{
    int j;
    int max = arr[0];

    for (j = 1; j < n; j++)
        if (arr[ j ] > max)
            max = arr[j];

    return max;
}
```

# Using scanf to Read Strings and Characters

#### **Reading Strings and Characters using scanf**

 scanf uses %s as a type identifier to read a string (up to a whitespace) from keyboard.

```
char lastName[25];
printf ("Enter your last name: ");
scanf ("%s", lastName);
```

- Three character: spacebar, tab and return are considered as whitespace characters.
- scanf doesn't need an address operator to read a string. Why?
- scanf uses %c as a type identifier to read a character.
   scanf ("%c", &lastName[0]);
  - Needs address operator to read a character.
- scanf is not the only library function to read strings and characters. There are other library functions such as: gets, fgets, getc, fgetc.

#### Using const keyword as a Function Argument

- When pointers are supposed to be used as read-only pointer you should use the const keyword.
- This style programming protects you data from malicious and unwanted changes.

### **Pointers to Constant Characters**

#### Using const char\* to Declare a C-string

 Another way to define a c-string in C/C++ is to use a char\*, pointing to a string constant on the static memory segment.

```
char * p = "KLH"; // bad style. Why?
const char * ptc = "CBC"; // better style – ptc is a pointer to a const
```

- How do we show this type of declaration in an AR diagram:
  - Assume the following declarations are in a main function;

```
char str[] = "Jack";
const char *ptr = "Joe";
```

