

# **(Relatively) Speedy Introduction to C**



# Rudiments

- History
- Features
- How do I use C tools?
- Programming style
- C data types
  - Basic data types
- Literals
- Storage class
- Scalar variable definitions



# History

- 1972 : Dennis Ritchie
  - developed as a convenient way of accessing the machine instruction set
  - produced efficient machine code
- 1973 : Ritchie and Ken Thompson
  - rewrite the UNIX kernel using C
  - portability of the UNIX kernel's code was a goal
- 1977 : Ritchie and Brian Kernighan
  - “The C Programming Language”
  - K&R dialect of C
- AT&T releases PCC : Portable C Compiler
  - *de facto* “standard” starts to break down as vendors begin to “extend” their C compilers in non-portable ways

# History (2)

- 1983 : James Brodie (Motorola) applies to X3 committee of ANSI to draft a C standard
  - ANSI (American National Standards Institute)
  - results in X3J11 – C Programming Language Committee
- 1985 : AT&T (Bjarne Stroustrup) and first release of C++
  - (But that's another story)
- 1987, 1989
  - ANSI Standard C defined simultaneously with ISO
  - ISO (International Standards Organization)
    - Committee JTC1 SC22 WG14
- we will be focusing on a version referred to as C11
  - GNU toolchain will be our workhorse (gcc version 9)



```
/*
 * mywc.c: not-quite-so-robust version of "wordcount"
 */

#include <ctype.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

#define MAX_LINE_LEN 256

int main (int argc, char **argv) {
    FILE *infile;
    char line[MAX_LINE_LEN];

    int num_chars = 0;
    int num_lines = 0;
    int num_words = 0;

    char *c;

    if (argc < 2) {
        fprintf(stderr, "usage: %s filename\n", argv[0]);
        exit(1);
    }

    infile = fopen(argv[1], "r");
    if (infile == NULL) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%s: cannot open %s", argv[0], argv[1]);
        exit(1);
    }

    /* continued on next slide with same indentation */
}
```

```
/* continued from previous slide */

while (fgets(line, MAX_LINE_LEN-1, infile) != NULL) {
    num_lines += 1;
    num_chars += strlen(line);
    if (strncmp(line, "", MAX_LINE_LEN) != 0) {
        num_words++;
    }
    for ( c = line; *c; c++ ) {
        /* Not quite good enough!! */
        if (isspace(*c)) {
            num_words++;
        }
    }
}

fclose(infile);

printf ("%s: %d %d %d\n", argv[1],
        num_lines, num_words, num_chars);

return 0; /* return the success code */

}
```

# Features

- A "general purpose" language equally usable for applications programming and systems
  - develop a network protocol
  - develop a database management system
  - write a compiler for another language
- It is ubiquitous: where you find UNIX you usually find C
- It provides a basis for understanding other languages, most notably C++



# Features

- Most C toolchains have a relatively small footprint
  - popular choice for developing **embedded systems**
  - operating systems research and development
  - good choice for systems programs that one expects to port
- Compile-time features
  - ANSI-compliant compilers provide extensive compile-time diagnostics
  - ANSI-compliant compilers provide a continuum of optimizations; from **none** to **conservative** to **aggressive**





# Features

- Run-time features (i.e., “pluses”):
  - easy to adapt a C compiler’s output (executables) to the execution environment on a platform: Windows, Mac, UNIX
- Run-time features missing (i.e., also could be considered as “efficiency pluses”!):
  - no native array access bounds checking
  - no native null-pointer checks (use a custom library for this)
  - no native checks on uninitialized variables (but some scenarios can be checked at compile-time)



# How do I use C tools?

- Write an application

```
$ cat > hello.c
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
}
^D
```

- Compile the source file into an object file

```
$ gcc -c hello.c
```

- Link the object file to the “Standard C Runtime Library” to produce an executable (hello)

```
$ gcc hello.o -o hello
```

```
$ gcc hello.o -o hello -lm # Version which links in math libraries
```



# How do I use C?

- Much terser syntax going from source code straight to executable (assuming executable needs to link a single object file)

```
$ gcc hello.c -o hello
```

- Assuming we want to also include debugging symbols:

```
$ gcc -g hello.c -o hello
```

- Specify some warning flags:

```
$ gcc -g -std=c11 -Wall hello.c -o hello
```



# How do I use C ?

- Run the executable:

```
$ ./hello  
Hello, World!  
$
```

- Basic rules:
  - all C stand-alone programs must have at most one function named **main()**
  - keywords are always lowercase; you cannot use a keyword as an identifier
  - statements must be terminated with a semicolon

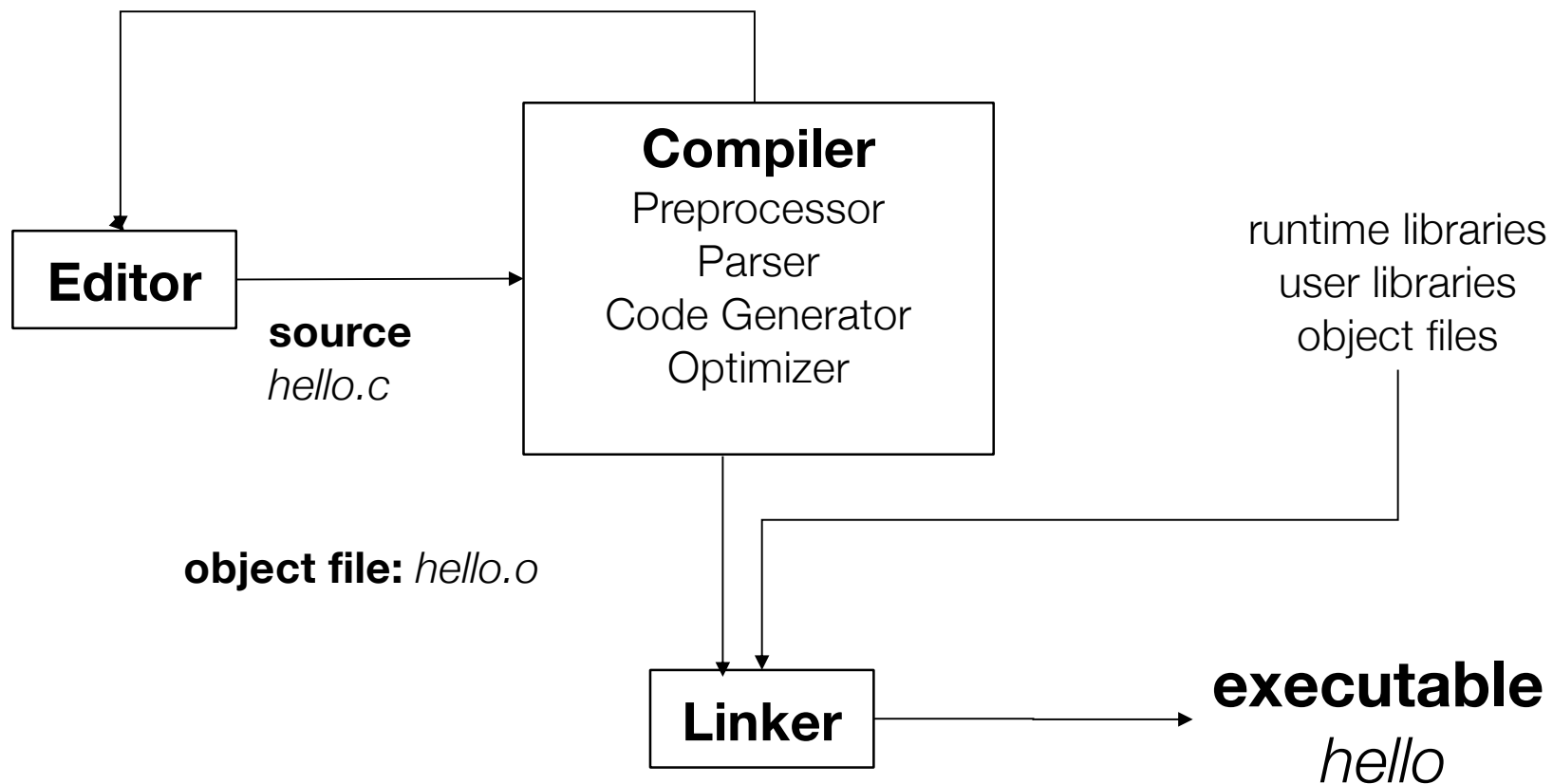


# How do I use C ?

- Basic rules (continued):
  - Comments are delimited by `/* ... */`  
**`/* Everything between "slash star" and "star slash" is a comment, even if it spans several lines. Be careful not to nest comments; some compilers are unable to handle them. */`**
  - Single line comments are not ANSI C (`//`)
- **Upcoming labs:**
  - introduce the GNU toolchain
  - aspects of the C execution model



# How do I use C ?



# A word about formatting style

- Any amount of white space is considered a single space
  - tabs and spaces can be used liberally
- White space improves code readability
- Commenting is important as a maintenance tool
- Use tabbing in conjunction with curly braces (**{ }**) to indicate different levels of nested functions.
- In C, type declarations must appear at the beginning of a scope
- Scope begins and ends with curly braces (**{ }**)
- Use **snake\_case\_variable\_names** rather than **someCamelCaseVariableNames**



# C data types

- These behave largely as you expect from other languages
  - Java integers, floats, etc.
- Because of the C language problem domain, lots of other additional terms
  - Modifiers, specifiers, storage “classes” (which are not like Java classes)
  - These terms can cause confusion...
  - ... but in this course you are not expected to master all of the terms



type	modifiers (precision / range)
char	signed, unsigned
int	signed, unsigned, short, long, long long
float	
double	long

type	purpose / intent
struct	(for heterogeneous aggregate types)
{arrays}	(for homogeneous aggregate types)
enum	(assign names to integral constants)
union	(tricky to use, but nice when needed)

storage	purpose / intent
static	controls variable "linkage"
extern	controls variable "linkage"
auto	(now assumed as default)
register	(rarely used as compiler does it better)

qualifier	purpose / intent
const	compiler enforces non-modification
volatile	compiler avoids optimizing access

# Literals: examples

```
/* Character constants in 8-bit ASCII */  
char ch = 'A';  
char bell = '\a';  
char formfeed = '\f';  
  
/* But chars are also just 8-bit bytes */  
char c = 65; /* Same as 'A' */
```

```
/* Integer literals */  
int a = 10;  
int b = 0x1CE;  
int c = 0777;  
  
unsigned int x = 0xffffU;  
long int y = 2L;
```

```
/* Floating-point literals */  
float x = 3.14159f;  
double x = 1.25, y = 2.5E10, z = -2.5e-10;  
  
long double x = 3.5e3L;
```

# Danger! String literals

- String literals

```
char *s = "unable to open file\n";
```

- We will get to C strings in due course, but here is an early warning:
  - The variable “**s**” above might appear to act like a string...
  - ... but it is actually a variable holding an address to a “static string table”
  - This part of the process's memory is read-only!



# Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    char s[50] = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";
    char *t = "zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba";

    printf("message s is: '%s'\n", s);
    s[0] = ' ';
    s[1] = ' ';
    printf("modified message s is: '%s'\n", s);

    printf("message t is: '%s'\n", t); /* next two lines will fail */
    t[0] = ' ';
    t[1] = ' ';
    printf("modified message s is: '%s'\n", t);
}
```

```
$ ./staticstring
message s is: 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
modified message s is: '  cdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
message t is: 'zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba'
Bus error: 10
```



# Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    char person_A[50] = "Anakin Skywalker";
    char *person_B = "Darth Vader";

    printf("%s; %s\n", person_A, person_B);

    person_A[1] = '\0';
    printf("%s\n", person_A);

    person_B[1] = '\0';
    printf("%s\n", person_B);
}
```

```
$ ./fubar
Anakin Skywalker; Darth Vader
A
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```



# C data types

- We will not go into all of the C type system in exhaustive detail ...
- ... but rather will examine – via examples – the way data types are used in practice.
- Deep knowledge is essential for some programmers, though!
  - For example: those who write C compilers!
- Our focus in this course is getting you comfortable with using C data types in a straightforward way during your problem solving.
  - We will return to different type-system elements and their explanation when they are needed to understand the bigger picture.

# Introduction to C Programming (cont)

- C arrays in a bit more detail
- Control flow
- A bit about functions
- User-defined types
  - Aggregate data type: structures (**struct**)
  - type synonyms (**typedef**)
  - (briefly) enumerations (**enum**)
- Simple I/O

# C Arrays

- An array is a group of data elements of the same type, accessed using the same identifier; e.g., `X[3]`, `X[11]`
- Arrays may be statically or dynamically allocated. Static arrays cannot grow at runtime. Dynamic arrays can grow at runtime (using standard library functions).
- Arrays may be multidimensional; e.g., `X[row][column]`
- Access to the elements of an array is accomplished using integer indices
- If an array is dimensioned to hold `size` elements, the elements are indexed from `0` up to `size-1`
- **C provides no array bounds checking**, so accessing elements beyond index `size-1`, or below index `0` can cause a segmentation fault
- Static arrays can be auto-initialized at runtime





# C Arrays (2)

- syntax for a one-dimensional array declaration:  
`<storage class> <type> <identifier>[<size>]`  
e.g. `double vector[3];`  
`char buffer[256];`
- `<size>` must be known at compile time
- `<size>` **is not a part of an array data structure**. Programmer has to manage correct access to array!
- Examples:

```
double f[3] = {0.1, 2.2, -100.51};

int freq[10] = {20,12}; /* freq[0] = 20,
                        freq[1] = 12,
                        freq[2] = 0,
                        freq[9] = 0 */
```



# Control Flow

- five basic flow control statements:
  - **if-then, if-then-else** (conditional)
  - **switch** (multi-branch conditional)
  - **while** loops (iteration, top-tested)
  - **do-while** loops (iteration, bottom-tested)
  - **for** loops (iteration)
- Other control flow constructs:
  - "**goto**", there are many reasons not to use this, so we won't (use "**continue**" and "**break**" instead);
  - "**setjmp/longjmp**", special functions provided by the standard library to implement non-local return from a function – these also won't be used in this course



# Control Flow: true & false?

- Plain-vanilla C **does not** have a boolean type
  - C11 does have `<stdbool.h>`, but it does not help you understand how truth and falsity work in C.
- However, to build conditional (boolean) expressions we can use the following operators:
  - relational operators: `>`, `<`, `>=`, `<=`
  - equality operators: `==`, `!=`
  - logical operators: `&&`, `||`, `!`
- Any expression that evaluates to zero is treated as **false**, otherwise it is treated as **true**

# Control Flow: beware = vs ==

- the assignment operator ("=") and equality operator ("==") have different meanings
  - legal (but possibly not what you intended):

```
int a = 20;  
if (a = 5) {  
    S;  
}
```
- One extreme approach is to write conditionals like this:
  - `if (5 == a) { ...`
- Best approach overall: use compiler to catch this
  - The "-Wall" flag works well here.



# if

```
/* A bexpr is a C expression which, if it zero, is interpreted as false.  
 * Otherwise it is interpreted as true.  
 */
```

```
/* case 1: if */  
if (bexpr) {  
    S;  
}
```

```
/* case 2: if-else*/  
if (bexpr) {  
    S;  
} else {  
    notS;  
}
```

```
/* case 3: multiway if */  
if (bexpr1) {  
    S;  
} else if (bexpr2) {  
    T;  
} else if (bexpr3) { /* Can keep on chaining more "else if" clauses */  
    U;  
} else {  
    V;  
}
```

# switch

```
switch (intexpr) {  
    case int_literal_1:  
        S1;  
        break;  
  
    case int_literal_2;  
        S2;  
        break;  
  
    /* potentially many other cases */  
  
    default:  
        Sdefault;  
        break;  
}
```

- Syntax:
  - **intexpr** is an "integer expression"
  - **intlitt** is an integer literal (i.e., it must be computable at compile time)
  - **if (intexpr == intlitt)** execute Sn;
  - **break** continues execution after the switch-statement's closing brace



# Example: char case labels

```
#include <ctype.h>
#define TRUE 1
#define FALSE 0
...

int isvowel(int ch) {
    int res;

    switch(toupper(ch)) {
        /* Note that character literals are also considered
         * integer expressions in C!
         */
        case 'A':
        case 'E':
        case 'I':
        case 'O':
        case 'U':
            res = TRUE;
            break;
        default:
            res = FALSE;
    }

    return res;
}
```

# Control Flow (**while**)

- **while** (bexpr) {  
    S;  
}
- iteration, top-tested
- keywords: **continue**, **break** have significance here
  - **continue**: start the next loop iteration by checking the while conditional
  - **break** : exit the loop immediately, resume at first instruction after the while body

```
char buf[50];
int pos = 0;

if (fgets(buf, 50, stdin) == NULL) {
    /* report an error and exit */
}

while(buf[pos] != '\0') {
    if (isvowel(buf[pos])) {
        putchar(toupper(buf[pos]));
    } else {
        putchar(buf[pos]);
    }
    pos += 1;
}
```



# Control Flow (do while)

- `do {  
    S;  
} while (bexpr);`
- iteration, bottom-tested
- keywords: **continue**, **break** also have significance here

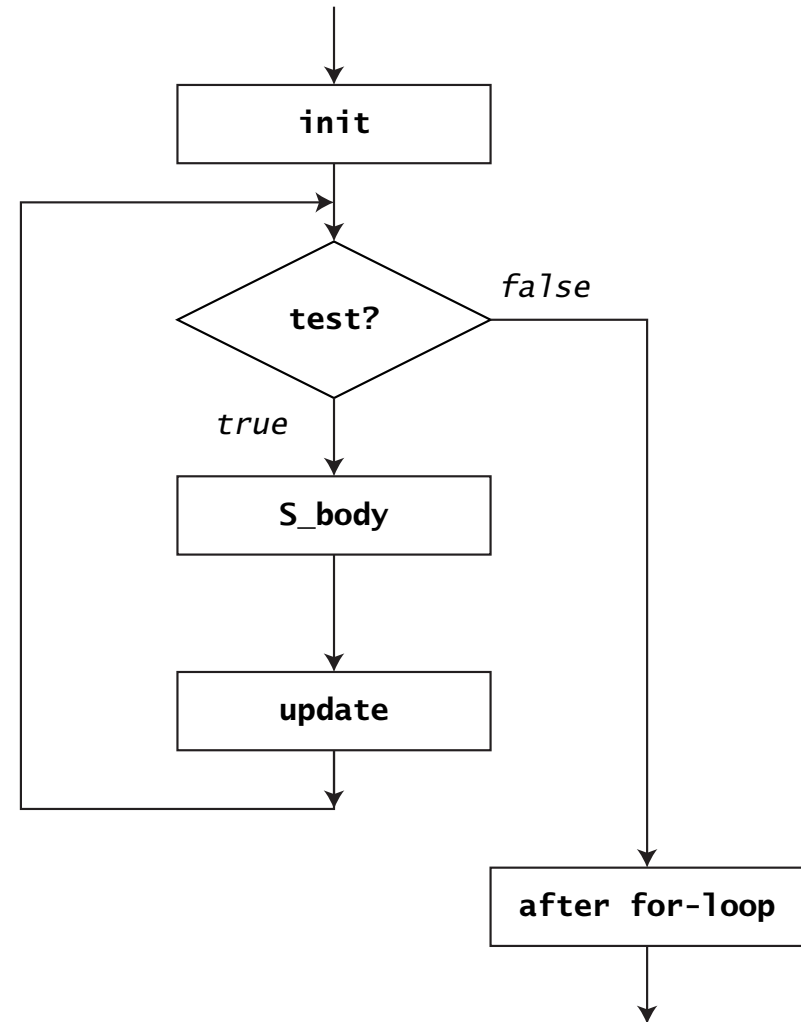
```
int ch, cnt = 0;  
  
do {  
    ch = getchar();  
    if (ch == BLANK)  
        cnt += 1;  
} while (ch != '\n');
```



# Control flow (**for**)

```
for (init; test; update) {  
    S_body;  
}
```

1. **init** is evaluated, usually variable initialization
  2. **test** is evaluated
    - a) if **test** is false, leave for-loop
    - b) if **test** is true, **S\_body** is executed
    - c) after **S\_body** is executed, **update** is evaluated, return to step 2
- iteration, top-tested
  - keywords: **continue**, **break** have significance here



# Examples

```
int i, sum;

sum = 0;

for (i = 1; i <= 20; i++) {
    sum += i;
}

printf ("Sum of first 20 integers is: %d\n", sum);
```

```
int i, sum;

for (i = 1, sum = 0; i <= 20; ++i, sum += i); /* Possibly works! */

printf ("Sum of first 20 integers is: %d\n", sum);
```



```
while (1) {  
    /* do something */  
}
```

```
for (;;) {  
    /* do something */  
}
```

# Functions

- A program is made up of one or more functions, one of which is **main()**
- Program execution always begins with **main()**
- When program control encounters a function name, the function is invoked
  - program control passes to the function
  - the function is executed
  - control is passed back to the calling function



# Functions

- function syntax:

```
[<storage class>] <return type>
    name (<parameters>) {
        <statements>
    }
```

- parameter syntax:

```
<type> varname , <type> varname , ...
```

- type **void**:

- if **<return type>** is **void** the function has no return value
- if **<parameters>** is **void** the function has no parameters
- e.g., **void f(void);**



# Functions

- example:

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    printf("Hello, world!\n");  
    return 0;  
}
```

- example:

```
double fmax(double x, double y) {  
    if (x > y) {  
        return x;  
    } else {  
        return y;  
    }  
}
```

# Parameter passing

- C implements **call-by-value** parameter passing:

```
/* Formal parameters: m, n */
```

```
int maxint(int m, int n) {  
    if (m > n) {  
        return m;  
    } else {  
        return n;  
    }  
}
```

```
/* ... more code ... */
```

```
void some_function() {  
    int a = 5;  
    int b = 10;  
    int c;  
  
    /* Actual parameters: a, b */  
    c = maxint (a, b);  
    printf ("maximum of %d and %d is: %d", a, b, c);  
}
```



# Parameter passing

- **Call-by-value semantics** copies actual parameters into formal parameters.

```
int power2( double f ) {  
    if (f > sqrt(DBL_MAX)) {  
        return 0; /* Some sort of error was detected... */  
    } else {  
        return (int) (f * f);  
    }  
}
```

```
/* ... a bunch of code intervenes ... */  
  
void some_other_function() {  
    double g = 4.0;  
    int h = power2(g);  
  
    printf( "%f %d \n", g, h );  
}
```



# Addresses and Pointers

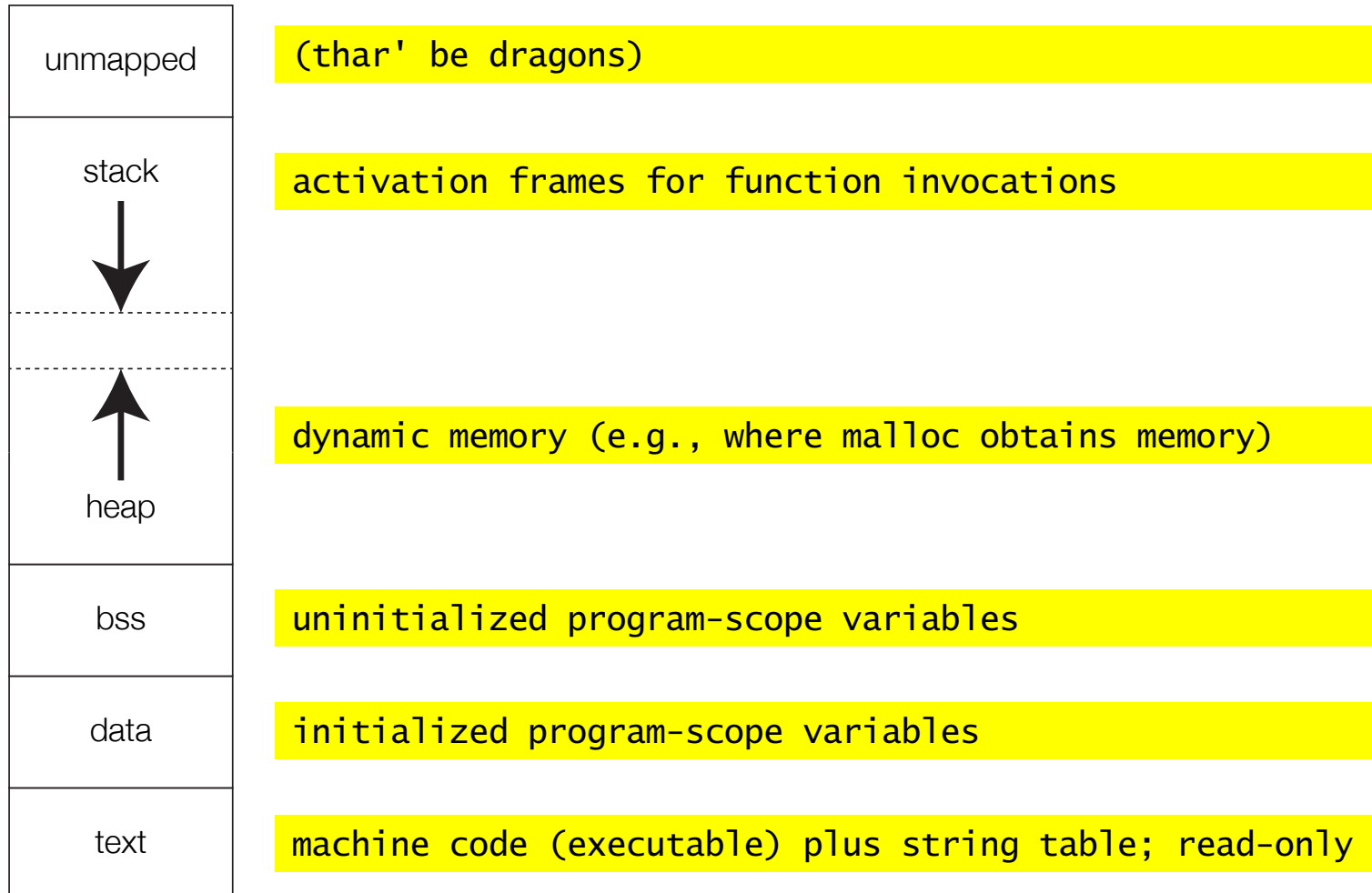
- Remember these points:
  - a) All variables refer to data.
  - b) All data resides in memory.
  - c) Every memory location has an address.
  - d) C exposes these details for us to use in our programs
- Some language systems hide these details from us
  - Java, C#, Python
- But others keep these details visible

# Pointer variables

- Holds the **address of a memory location** storing a value of **some data type**
  - Usually contains the address of a **named variable**
  - Sometimes an **anonymous variable** on the heap
- Often is an address **within an aggregate data type**, e.g. a location within a C string (which is stored in a character array)
- Can be used as a formal function parameter to receive the address of a variable (an ersatz "call-by-reference" mechanism)
  - Here the actual parameter (address) is copied to formal parameter (pointers)
- **To obtain an address:** use the **& symbol**
- **To use an address:** use the **\* symbol** (outside of a variable declaration)

# Memory model

high memory



low memory



# Notation (declaration)

- **Pointer variables** are declared in terms of other types (scalar and nonscalar)
- More accurate to read the simpler variable declarations **right-to-left**

```
int *a;  
double *f;
```

'a'

is a variable

that holds an address

to an 'int'

'f'

is a variable

that holds an address

to a 'double'



# Notation (expression)

- &x** “get the address of memory location used to store the variable x” (**referencing**)
- \*y** “read y – which contains the address to some variable – and then go to that address in order to read what is there” (**dereferencing**)

- Remember that **\*** can appear in a **variable declaration**
- **However, \* has a different meaning in a declaration!**

```
double f = 30.0;  
double *g = &f;  
printf( "%lf  %lf\n", f, *g );
```

# Addresses and Pointers

- Compare the following two code fragments

```
int x = 1;
int y = x;
x = 2;
printf("y is %d\n", y); /* "y is 1" */
```

```
int x = 1;
int *y = &x;
x = 2;
printf("*y is %d\n", *y); /* "*y is 2" */
```

- In other words, **x** is a synonym for **\*&x**

# Notation

- A little bit trickier with arrays of pointers

`char *st[10];`

“st is a variable that holds ten addresses to char”

- Note: In declarations the `*` is **beside** and **logically attached** to the variable name
  - Declaration syntax is meant to remind programmer of the result of **dereferencing** the variable





# Pointers

- Why do we need pointers?
- **Call-by-value** works well for passing parameters into functions, but:
  - What if we want values to be modified in the call function?
  - What if want to pass a large struct as a function argument?
- Functions can only return a single value in **return** statements.
  - What if we need multiple values changed (but don't want to write a struct for this)?
  - **Call-by-reference-like** semantics would get around the limitation of a "single return value".
  - **However, C only has call-by-value semantics!**
  - (C++ has call-by-value and call-by-reference)



# Example

- swap function:

```
void swap(int a, int b) {  
    int temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(x, y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */  
}
```



```
void swap(int a, int b) {  
    int temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(x, y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */  
}
```



```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}
```

	2	x	<b>blarg</b>
	1	y	
	?	a	swap
	?	b	
	?	temp	

```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}
```

	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
	<b>1</b>	y	
	<b>2</b>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<b>1</b>	b	
	<b>?</b>	temp	

```

void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}

```

```

/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}

```

	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
	<b>1</b>	y	
	<b>2</b>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<b>1</b>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	

```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}
```

	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
	<b>1</b>	y	
	<b>1</b>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<b>1</b>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	

```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}
```

	2	x	<b>blarg</b>
	1	y	
	1	a	<b>swap</b>
	2	b	
	2	temp	



```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(x, y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */
}
```

	2	x	<b>blarg</b>
	1	y	
	1	a	<b>swap</b>
	2	b	
	2	temp	

```
void swap(int a, int b) {  
    int temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(x, y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y); /* x = 2, y = 1 */  
}
```

2	x	blarg
1	y	

# Example

- swap function:

```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

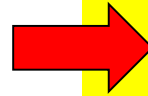
```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```



```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {
    int temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

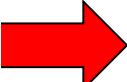
```
/* ... some code here ... */
```

```
void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;
```



```
    swap(&x, &y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);
}
```

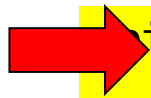
<i>0x7fffffffef434</i>	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffef430</i>	<b>1</b>	y	



```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```


<i>0x7fffffffef434</i>	2	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffef430</i>	1	y	
	?	a	<b>swap</b>
	?	b	
	?	temp	



```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffef434</i>	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffef430</i>	<b>1</b>	y	
	<i>0x7fffffffef434</i>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<i>0x7fffffffef430</i>	b	
	<b>?</b>	temp	



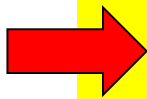
```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {
    int temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */

void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;

    swap(&x, &y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	<b>2</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	<b>1</b>	y	
	<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	

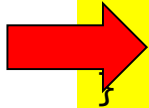


```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	<b>1</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	<b>1</b>	y	
	<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	

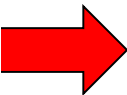




```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	<b>1</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	<b>2</b>	y	
	<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	



```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
}
```

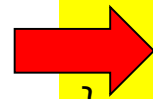
```
/* ... some code here ... */  
  
void blarg() {  
    int x = 2;  
    int y = 1;  
  
    swap(&x, &y);  
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);  
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	<b>1</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	<b>2</b>	y	
	<i>0x7fffffffefe434</i>	a	<b>swap</b>
	<i>0x7fffffffefe430</i>	b	
	<b>2</b>	temp	

```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {
    int temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

```
/* ... some code here ... */
```

```
void blarg() {
    int x = 2;
    int y = 1;
```



```
    swap(&x, &y);
    printf("x = %d, y = %d\n", x, y);
}
```

<i>0x7fffffffef434</i>	<b>1</b>	x	<b>blarg</b>
<i>0x7fffffffef430</i>	<b>2</b>	y	

# Invalid pointers

- **C does not implicitly check the validity of a pointer!**
  - The address could be to a region of memory holding complete and total garbage...
  - ... but C will dereference the (garbage) address if told to do so.
- **It is your responsibility** to ensure that a pointer contains a valid memory address
  - avoiding **dangling pointers**
  - avoid dereferencing a pointer when you're not sure of "where it has been"
- Example, what happens?:

```
int *x = NULL;  
printf("%d\n", *x);
```

  - sometimes the runtime system reports use of null pointer
  - **NULL** is defined in both “stdio.h” and “stdlib.h”

# Pointers and arrays

- Recall that arrays are an aggregate data type where each data element has the same "type":

```
int grades[10];  
struct date_record info[50];  
char buffer[100];
```

- All elements in an array occupy contiguous memory locations
- To get the address of any data element, we can use &:

```
5th element of "grades": &grades[4]  
1st element of info: &info[0]  
last element of "buffer": &buffer[99]
```



# Pointers and arrays

- An important array location is usually that of the first element
- In C, an array variable name without the subscript represents the first element; recall that each element is a character

```
char buffer[100];  
char *cursor;
```

```
cursor = &buffer[0]; /* these two lines ... */  
cursor = buffer;     /* ... have the same effect. */
```



# Pointers and arrays (3)

- Can use pointer variables and array names (sometimes) interchangeably to access array elements:

```
int X[4];  
int *p = &X[0];  
p = X; /* okay */  
p++;   /* okay */  
X = p; /* illegal */  
X++;   /* illegal */  
X[1] ~ *(p + 1);  
X[n] ~ *(p + n);
```

- Declarations: the following function declarations are equivalent:

```
extern double func(double X[]);  
extern double func(double *X);
```

- Format #1 is often preferred as it does convey more information



# Call-by-value: caution!

- Call-by-value parameter passing semantics is straightforward to understand for:
  - scalar types (e.g., int, float, char, etc.)
  - structs
- It is a bit trickier with arrays
  - Call-by-value is still used with arrays...
  - ... but what is copied (actual parameter to formal parameter) is the **address of the array's first element!**
  - This will make more sense in 15 slides.
  - Just be aware the C **does not copy** the value each element in the array from the actual parameter to the formal parameter...
- Java implements **call-by-value** for primitive types and **call-by-sharing** for object parameters.





# What is a "string"?

- "Strings" as a datatype known in Java **do not exist** in C
- Memory for strings is **not automatically allocated** on assignment.
- Concatenation via the "+" operator **is not possible**.
- The boundaries between strings **are not enforced** by the C runtime.

```
String name;
```

```
char *name;
```

```
/*  
 * time passes  
 */
```

```
name = "Rick Sanchez";
```

```
char *prefix = "/home/yuuuuuge";  
char *full;
```

```
/* ... */
```

```
full = prefix + "/" + "bin/tacos.sh";
```

```
char name[10], address[10], code[5];  
/* ... */  
strcpy(code, "1234");  
/* ... */  
strcpy(address, "abcdefghijklmnpq");  
/* ... */  
printf("%s\n", code);
```



# Strings are character arrays

- A C string is stored in a **character array**
- The **start** of a string is an **address** to a **char**
  - The start of the string need not be identical with the start of an array!
- The end of a string is indicated with a **null character** ('\0')
- The size of a string **need not necessarily be the same size** as the character array in which it is stored.
- C strings are often manipulated using special functions
  - `strncpy()`
  - `strcmp()`
  - `strncat()`
  - `strtok()`
- C strings are sometimes accessed **char** by **char**
- C strings are difficult to use at first
  - But you always have access to their underlying representation
- Mourn, and move on.



# Example

```
char words[20];  
char *pw;  
  
/* ... */  
strncpy(words, "the quick brown fox", 20);  
pw = &words[0]; /* That's the same as writing "pw = words;". */  
pw += 4;  
  
printf ("%s\n%s\n", words, pw);  
printf ("%x\n%x\n", words, pw);
```

the quick brown fox  
quick brown fox  
bffff9a8  
bffff9ac

null character

t	h	e		q	u	i	c	k		b	r	o	w	n		f	o	x	\0
---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	----



words



pw



# Example

```
/* ... continued from previous slide ... */  
  
strncpy(words, "homer simpson", 20);  
  
printf ("%s\n%s\n", words, pw);  
printf ("%x\n%x\n", words, pw);
```

```
homer simpson  
r simpson  
bffff9a8  
bffff9ac
```

h	o	m	e	r		s	i	m	p	s	o	n	\0	n		f	o	x	\0
---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	--	---	---	---	----



**words**



**pw**



# Always be aware of array-ness!

- Always be aware that C strings are, underneath, really just C char arrays
- To store a string in your program:
  - **You must have enough room in some character array** for all the string's characters **plus** one extra character for the null
  - Therefore correct program behavior often boils down to declaring (and later in the course, allocating) char arrays which have correct sizes for your purposes
- Must be scrupulous about specifying "maximum" sizes
  - Note the third parameter of "strncpy"
- Also use "strncat" to append a string to an already existing string

# Example

```
char words[20];  
char first[10];  
char second[10];  
  
strncpy(first, "aaaaa", 10);  
strncpy(second, "bbbbbb", 10);  
  
strncpy(words, first, 20);  
strncat(words, " ", 2);  
strncat(words, second, 10);  
  
printf("%s\n", words);
```

aaaaa bbbbb



# Example with serious problems

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    char s[50] = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz";
    char *t = "zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba";

    printf("message s is: '%s'\n", s);
    s[0] = ' ';
    s[1] = ' ';
    printf("modified message s is: '%s'\n", s);

    printf("message t is: '%s'\n", t); /* next two lines will fail */
    t[0] = ' ';
    t[1] = ' ';
    printf("modified message s is: '%s'\n", t);
}
```

```
$ ./staticstring
message s is: 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
modified message s is: '  cdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
message t is: 'zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba'
Bus error: 10
```



# Strings

- In C, we can manipulate pointers in many ways
- This can help us when working with strings

`char *cp = buffer` same as `cp = &buffer[0]`

`cp + n` same as `&buffer[n]`

`*(cp + n)` same as `buffer[n]`

`cp++` same as `cp = cp + 1`

`*cp++` same as `*cp, cp++`



# C string functions

## **string.h**: C string functions

- **strncpy(char \*dest, const char \*src, int length):**
  - copies the contents of string **src** to the array pointed to by **dest**. **src** and **dest** should not overlap.
- **strncmp(const char \*s1, const char \*s2, int length):**
  - compares the two strings **s1** and **s2**, returning a negative, zero, or positive integer if **s1** is lexicographically <, ==, > **s2**.
- **strlen(const char \*s):**
  - compute the length of string **s** (not counting the terminal null character ('\0')).



# Do not use strcpy()!

- **strcpy()** takes only two parameters:
  - destination char array
  - source char array
- If the string in the source array is longer than the size of the destination array:
  - then **strcpy()** will write over the end of destination array...
  - ... and this is what happens in a buffer overflow attack
- What kind of bad things can happen?
  - Overwrite data in the activation frame
  - Cause function to return to a different location
  - read: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffer\\_overflow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffer_overflow)



# Extracting words from an array

- Common problem to be solved:
  - An input line consists of individual words
  - Words are separated by "whitespace" (space character, tabs, etc.)
  - Want to get a list of the individual words
- This is called "tokenization"
  - From the word "token" used by compiler writers
  - Once streams of tokens are extracted from text, compiler operates on tokens and not the text
- We ourselves can use tokenize functionality available in the C runtime library.

# tokenize.c: global elements

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

/*
 * Compile-time constants
 */
#define MAX_WORD_LEN 20
#define MAX_WORDS 100
#define MAX_LINE_LEN 100
#define MAX_LINES 10

/*
 * Global variables
 */
int num_words = 0;
int num_lines = 0;
char lines[MAX_LINES][MAX_LINE_LEN];
char words[MAX_WORDS][MAX_WORD_LEN];

void dump_words (void);
void tokenize_line (char *);
```

The program will store lines of text.

It will also store words.

Size of global arrays is determined by the run-time constants.

The constants are not stored with the array!

Function prototypes...



# tokenize.c: easy stuff

```
void dump_words ()
{
    int i = 0;

    for (i=0; i<num_words; i++) {
        printf("%5d : %s\n", i, words[i]);
    }

    return;
}
```



# tokenize.c: easy stuff

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i;

    if (argc == 1) {
        exit(0);
    }

    for (i=0; i < argc-1; i++) {
        strncpy(lines[i], argv[i+1], MAX_LINE_LEN);
        tokenize_line (lines[i]);
    }

    dump_words();

    printf("first line: \"%s\"\n", lines[0]);

    exit(0);
}
```



# tokenize.c: hard stuff

```
void tokenize_line (char *input_line)
{
    char *t;

    t = strtok (input_line, " ");
    while (t && num_words < MAX_WORDS) {
        strncpy (words[num_words], t, MAX_WORD_LEN);
        num_words++;
        t = strtok (NULL, " ");
    }

    /* Question: What would now be the output from
     * this statement:
     *
     * printf("%s\n", input_line);
     *
     */
    return;
}
```

Note difference in the two calls to "strtok"

Second one uses "NULL" as the first parameter.

Why do we use a "while" to structure the loop?  
Or could it be converted into a "for" loop?

# Array-ness of char arrays...

```
#include <string.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>

#define MAX_WORDS 5
#define MAX_WORD_LEN 7

char w[MAX_WORDS][MAX_WORD_LEN];

...
```

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0							
1							
2							
3							
4							





# Array-ness of char arrays...

...

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
    int i;  
  
    for (i = 0; i < MAX_WORDS; i++) {  
        w[i][0] = '\\0'; /* same as strncpy(w[i], "", 1); */  
                        /* ... but avoid w[i] = ""; */  
    }  
}
```

...

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0							
1							
2							
3							
4							

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0							
1							
2							
3							
4							



# Array-ness of char arrays...

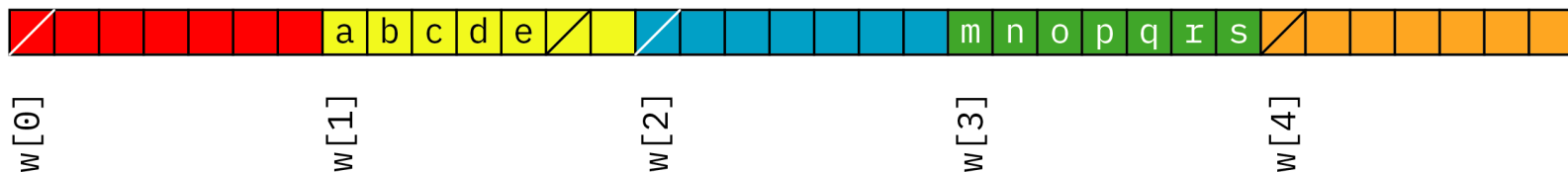
```
strncpy(w[1], "abcde", MAX_WORD_LEN);
strncpy(w[3], "mnopqrstuvwxyz", MAX_WORD_LEN);
```

```
strncpy(w[1], "abcde", MAX_WORD_LEN);
strncpy(w[3], "mnopqrstuvwxyz", MAX_WORD_LEN);
```

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0							
1	a	b	c	d	e		
2							
3	m	n	o	p	q	r	s
4							

**Two-dimensional arrays must be laid down onto main memory (which is just a massive 1D array of bytes).**

## C uses “row-major” order



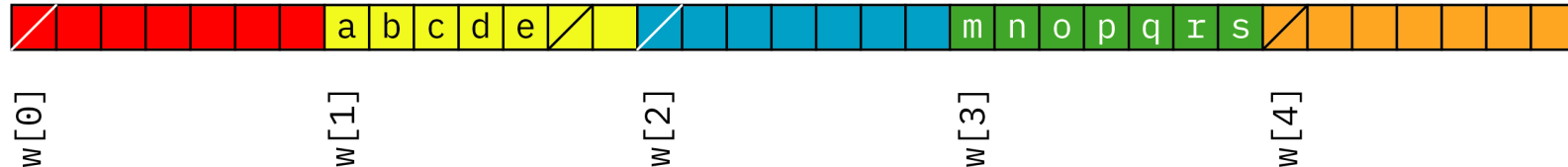
# Array-ness of char arrays...

...

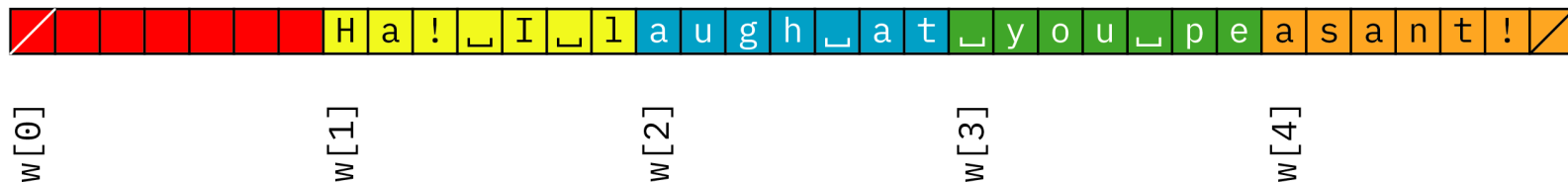
```
strcpy(w[1], "Ha! I laugh at you peasant!");
```

...

Before strcpy() ....



After strcpy() ....



# File input and output

- C, like most languages, provides facilities for reading and writing files
- files are accessed as **streams** using **FILE** objects
- the **fopen()** function is used to open a file; it returns a pointer to info about the file being opened

```
FILE *data = fopen("input.txt", "r");
```

- streams **FILE \*stdin**, **FILE \*stdout**, and **FILE \*stderr** are automatically opened by the O/S when a program starts
- But we need to unpack all this a little bit more...



# File I/O

- open modes (text): "r" for reading, "w" for writing, and "a" for appending
- open modes (binary): "rb" for reading, "wb" for writing, and "ab" for appending
  - We'll look at **fopen()** in a moment...
- the **fclose()** function is used to close a file and flush any associated buffers
- use **fgetc()** to read a single character from an open file (file was opened in "r" mode)
- similarly, **fputc()** will output a single character to the open file (file was opened in "w" mode)



# I/O functions

- **FILE \*fopen(char \*filename, char \*mode)**
  - open file corresponding to filename
  - mode can be "r" or "rw" or "rw+" (depending on flavour of Unix)
  - if an error occurs when opening file, function returns 0 (NULL)
- **char \*fgets(char \*buf, int n, FILE \*stream)**
  - read at most **n-1** characters from **stream** and copy to location **buf**; input terminates when newline encountered or n-1 characters input. Appends a null character to end of buffer.
  - returns **NULL** if error or end-of-file encountered
  - set **stream** to **stdin** to accept input from standard input
- **int scanf( char \*format, [...] )**
  - read formatted data from standard input
  - returns **EOF** when end-of-file encountered, otherwise it returns the number of fields successfully converted
  - format specifiers encoded in **format** (variable # of arguments)



# I/O functions

- **standard output (stdout)**
- **int printf( char \*format, [...])**
  - print formatted output to standard output
  - returns the number of characters printed
  - the format specifiers are encoded in the string **format**
  - takes a variable number of arguments
- Examples:
  - `printf("My name is %s\n", name); /* char array */`
  - `printf("My name is %s and my age is %d\n", name, age);  
/* name is a char array, age is an int */`
  - `printf("The temperature today is %f\n", temp_celsius);  
/* temp_celsius is a float */`
  - `printf("%d/%d/%d", year, month, day);  
/* year, month and day are ints; there is no newline */`



# I/O functions

- **int fprintf( FILE \*stream, char \*format, [...])**
  - like printf, but output goes to (already opened) stream
- **int fputc( int c, FILE \*stream)**
  - outputs a single character (indicated by ASCII code in c) to (already opened) stream
  - note that the character is stored in an integer
  - idea here is the character is a number from 0 to 255
  - (if you pass a char as the first parameter, the function will still work)
- **int fclose(FILE \*stream)**
  - closes the stream (i.e., flushes all OS buffers such that output to file is completed)
  - dissociates the actual file from the stream variable
  - returns 0 if file closed successfully.





# File I/O

```
/* charbychar.c
 * Echo the contents of file specified as the first argument,
 * char by char. */

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int ch, num_char;

    if (argc < 2) {
        fprintf(stderr, "You must provide a filename\n");
        exit(1);
    }

    FILE *data_fp = fopen(argv[1], "r");

    if (data_fp == NULL) {
        fprintf(stderr, "unable to open %s\n", argv[1]);
        exit(1);
    }

    num_char = 0;
    while ((ch = fgetc(data_fp)) != EOF) {
        num_char++;
        printf("%c", ch);
    }
    fclose(data_fp);

    fprintf(stdout, "Number of characters: %d\n", num_char);
    return 0;
}
```

```
/* linebyline.c
 * Echo the contents of file specified as the first argument, line by line. */

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#define BUFLLEN 100

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    char buffer[BUFLLEN];
    int num_lines;

    if (argc < 2) {
        fprintf(stderr, "You must provide a filename\n");
        exit(1);
    }

    FILE *data_fp = fopen(argv[1], "r");

    if (data_fp == NULL) {
        fprintf(stderr, "unable to open %s\n", argv[1]);
        exit(1);
    }

    num_lines = 0;
    while (fgets(buffer, sizeof(char) * BUFLLEN, data_fp)) {
        num_lines++;
        printf("%d: %s", num_lines, buffer);
    }
    fclose(data_fp);
    return 0;
}
```

# Structures

- Some languages refer to these as **records**
- Aggregate data type
  - Multiple variable declarations inside a single structure
  - **Variables can be of different types**
- Structure itself becomes a **new data type**
- Example:

```
struct day_of_year {  
    int    month;  
    int    day;  
    int    year;  
    float rating; /* 0.0: sucked; 1.0: great! */  
}; /* this new type is named "struct day_of_year" */
```

- Note: No methods or functions can be associated with such a datatype!



# Structures

- structures are used to create new aggregate types
- declarations come in the following forms (with the fourth being the most flexible):
  1. `struct { int x; int y; } id;`
    - `id` is a variable (anonymous `struct`)
  2. `struct point { int x; int y; };`
    - `struct point` is a new type
  3. `struct point { int x; int y; } x, y, z[10];`
    - `struct point` is a new type; `x,y,z[]` are variables
  4. `typedef struct point { int x; int y; } Point;`
    - `struct point` is a new type, `Point` is a synonym



# Structures

- To access members of a structure we employ the **member operator** (“.”) denoted by, **x.y**, and reads: “Get the value of member y from structure x”.

```
struct day_of_year today;  
today.day = 45;      /* not a real date! */  
today.month = 10;  
today.year = 2014;  
today.rating = -1.0; /* bad day, off the scale */
```

- arrays of **struct** can be defined:

```
struct day_of_year calendar[365];  
calendar[180].day = 27;  
calendar[180].month = 9;  
calendar[180].year = 2013;  
calendar[180].rating = 1.0; /* Was someone's birthday */
```

# Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MAX_NAME_LEN 20

struct body_stats_t {
    int    code;
    char   name[MAX_NAME_LEN];
    float  weight, height;
};

int main(void) {
    struct body_stats_t family[4];

    family[0].code = 10; family[0].weight = 220; family[0].height = 190;
    strncpy(family[0].name, "Michael", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    family[1].code = 21; family[1].weight = 140; family[1].height = 150;
    strncpy(family[1].name, "Susanne", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    printf("Name of member %d is %s\n", 0, family[0].name);
    printf("Name of member %d is %s\n", 1, family[1].name);

    exit(0);
}
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MAX_NAME_LEN 20

struct body_stats_t {
    int    code;
    char   name[MAX_NAME_LEN];
    float  weight, height;
};

int main(void) {
    struct body_stats_t family[4];
    struct body_stats_t *somebody;

    somebody = &family[0];      /* struct syntax involving pointers... */
    somebody->code = 10;
    somebody->weight = 220;
    somebody->height = 190;

    strncpy(somebody->name, "Michael", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    family[1].code = 21; family[1].weight = 140; family[1].height = 150;
    strncpy(family[1].name, "Susanne", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    printf("Name of member %d is %s\n", 0, somebody->name);
    printf("Name of member %d is %s\n", 1, family[1].name);

    exit(0);
}
```

# Type definitions (**typedef**)

- C allows a programmer to create their own names for data types
  - the new name is a synonym for an already defined type
  - Syntax: **typedef datatype synonym;**

- examples:

```
typedef unsigned long int ulong;  
typedef unsigned char byte;  
ulong x, y, z[10];  
byte a, b[33];
```





# Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MAX_NAME_LEN 20

typedef struct body_stats_t {
    int    code;
    char   name[MAX_NAME_LEN];
    float  weight, length;
} Body_stats;

void print_stats(Body_stats p) {
    printf("Member with code %d is named %s\n", p.code, p.name);
}

int main(void) {
    Body_stats family[4];

    family[0].code = 10; family[0].weight = 220; family[0].length = 190;
    strncpy(family[0].name, "Michael", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    family[1].code = 21; family[1].weight = 140; family[1].length = 150;
    strncpy(family[1].name, "Susanne", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    print_stats(family[0]);
    print_stats(family[1]);

    exit(0);
}
```

# Problem!

```
/*
 * stat_stuff.c
 */
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MAX_NAME_LEN 20

typedef struct body_stats_t {
    int    code;
    char   name[MAX_NAME_LEN];
    float  weight, length;
} Body_stats;

int main(void) {
    Body_stats family[4];

    family[0].code = 10; family[0].weight = 220; family[0].length = 190;
    strncpy(family[0].name, "Michael", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    family[1].code = 21; family[1].weight = 140; family[1].length = 150;
    strncpy(family[1].name, "Sus

    print_stats(family[0]);
    print_stats(family[1]);

    exit(0);
}

void print_stats(Body_stats p) {
    printf("Member with code %d is named %s\n", p.code, p.name);
}
```

Compiler will encounter a "use" of `print_stats` before the function is even defined!

# (Compiler output)

```
podatus:c_examples zastre$ gcc stat_stuff.c -o stat_stuff -ansi -Wall
```

```
stat_stuff.c: In function 'main':
stat_stuff.c:22: warning: implicit declaration of function
'print_stats'
stat_stuff.c: At top level:
stat_stuff.c:28: warning: conflicting types for 'print_stats'
stat_stuff.c:22: warning: previous implicit declaration of
'print_stats' was here
```

**On the next few slides we'll learn how to fix this.**



# Function prototypes

- A **function declaration** provides a **prototype** for a function.
- Such a declaration includes: **optional storage class, function return type, function name**, and **function parameters**
- A **function definition** is the implementation of a function; includes: function declaration, and the function body. Definitions are allocated storage.
- A function's **declaration** should be “seen” by the compiler before it is used (i.e., before the function is called)
  - Why? **Type checking** (of course)!
- ANSI compliant C compilers may refuse to compile your source code if you use a function for which you have not provided a declaration. The compiler will indicate the name of the undeclared function.



# Function prototypes (2)

- General syntax:  
`[<storage class>] <return type> name <parameters>;`
- Parameters: types are necessary, but names are optional; names are recommended (improves code readability)
- A prototype looks like a function but without the function body...
- Examples:

```
int isvowel(int ch);  
extern double fmax(double x, double y);  
static void error_message(char *m);
```



# Example (w/ prototypes)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

#define MAX_NAME_LEN 20

typedef struct body_stats_t {
    int    code;
    char   name[MAX_NAME_LEN];
    float  weight, length;
} Body_stats;

void print_stats(Body_stats);

int main(void) {
    Body_stats family[4];

    family[0].code = 10; family[0].weight = 220; family[0].length = 190;
    strncpy(family[0].name, "Michael", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    family[1].code = 21; family[1].weight = 140; family[1].length = 150;
    strncpy(family[1].name, "Susanne", MAX_NAME_LEN-1);

    print_stats(family[0]);
    print_stats(family[1]);

    exit(0);
}

void print_stats(Body_stats p) {
    printf("Member with code %d is named %s\n", p.code, p.name);
}
```

Prototype appears at start of C program.

Compiler reaches this point and knows what types of parameters are accepted by `print_stats`.

Body of `print_stats` seen here and compiled.

# Function pointers

- In your travels you may see code that looks a bit like the following:
  - **foo = (\*fp)(x, y)**
  - The function call is actually performed to whatever function is stored at the address in variable "fp"
- Strictly speaking:
  - A function is not a variable...
  - ... yet we can assign the address of functions into pointers, pass them to functions, return them from functions, etc.
- A function name used as a reference without an argument is just the function's address
- Example: qsort's use of a function pointer



# Function pointers (qsort example)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	14	15	9	26	58	53

```
#define MAX_NUMBERS 7
```

```
int numbers[MAX_NUMBERS] = {3, 14, 15, 9, 26, 58, 53};
```

0xd44	0xd48	0xd4c	0xd50	0xd54	0xd58	0xd5c
3	14	15	9	26	58	53





# Function pointers (qsort example)

```
int main() {  
    int i;  
    int numbers[MAX_NUMBERS] = {3, 14, 15, 9, 26, 58, 53};  
  
    qsort(numbers, MAX_NUMBERS, sizeof(int), compare_int);  
  
    for (i = 0; i < MAX_NUMBERS; i++) {  
        printf("%d\n", numbers[i]);  
    }  
}
```

0xd44		3		0xd48		14		0xd4c		15		0xd50		9		0xd54		26		0xd58		58		0xd5c		53
0xd44		3		0xd48		9		0xd4c		14		0xd50		15		0xd54		26		0xd58		53		0xd5c		58



# Function pointers (qsort example)

```
int compare_int(const void *a, const void *b) {  
    int ia = *(int *)a;  
    int ib = *(int *)b;  
  
    return ia - ib;  
}
```

- qsort requires:
  - parameter 1: address of memory block to be sorted
  - parameter 2: number of elements in block to be sorted
  - parameter 3: size of each element
  - parameter 4: point to function that returns the sort order of two given elements in the block



# C Preprocessor

- The C preprocessor is a separate program that runs before the compiler. The preprocessor provides the following capabilities:
  - macro processing
  - inclusion of additional C source files
  - conditional compilation



# Macro processing

- A macro is a name that has an associated text string
  - not type checked by compiler
- Macros are introduced to a program using the **#define** directive

```
#define BUFSIZE 512
#define min(x,y) ((x) < (y) ? (x) : (y))
char buffer[BUFSIZE];
int x,y;
...
int z = min(x,y);
```



# #include Directive

- You include the contents of a standard header or a user-defined source file in the current source file by writing an include directive:

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
#include <sys/file.h>
```

```
#include "bitstring.h"
```

- Note: The quoted form is used for your own '.h' files; the angle bracket form for system '.h' files.



# Some Standard Headers

Header file	Contains function prototypes for ...
<code>&lt;stdio.h&gt;</code>	The standard I/O library functions and constants/types used by them.
<code>&lt;math.h&gt;</code>	Double-precision math functions and constants (pi, e, ..).
<code>&lt;stdlib.h&gt;</code>	Memory allocation functions and general utility functions.
<code>&lt;string.h&gt;</code>	Functions to manipulate C strings.
<code>&lt;ctype.h&gt;</code>	Character testing and mapping functions.



# Conditional Compilation

The preprocessor provides a mechanism to include/exclude selected source lines from compilation:

<b>#if expr</b> <b>S1;</b> <b>#elif expr</b> <b>S2;</b> <b>#else</b> <b>S3;</b> <b>#endif</b>	<b>#ifdef expr</b> <b>S1;</b> <b>#elif expr</b> <b>S2;</b> <b>#else</b> <b>S3;</b> <b>#endif</b>	<b>#ifndef expr</b> <b>S1;</b> <b>#elif expr</b> <b>S2;</b> <b>#else</b> <b>S3;</b> <b>#endif</b>	<b>#if defined(expr)</b> <b>S1;</b> <b>#elif expr</b> <b>S2;</b> <b>#else</b> <b>S3;</b> <b>#endif</b>
---	--	---	--



# Conditional Compilation (2)

<pre>#define DEBUG 2  #if 1 // Compile S1 S1; #else // Not compiled S2; #endif  #if DEBUG == 1 S; #endif</pre>	<pre>#define DEBUG  #ifdef DEBUG S; #endif  #if defined(DEBUG) // Compile S1 S1; #else // Not compiled S2; #endif</pre>	<pre>#undef DEBUG  #ifndef DEBUG S; #endif  #if !defined(DEBUG) // Compile S1 S1; #else // Not compiled S2; #endif</pre>	
--	---	--	--

