



NOTES

# PROGRAMMING IN 'C'

BEGINNER TO PRO

LEARN ALL THE BASICS OF C

# C Programming Notes by CodeWithHarry

## What is Programming?

Computer Programming is a medium for us to communicate with Computers. Just like we use 'Hindi' or 'English' to communicate with each other, programming is a way for us to deliver our instructions to the Computer.

## What is C?

C is a programming language.

C is one of the oldest and finest programming languages.

C was developed by Dennis Ritchie at AT&T's Bell Labs, USA in 1972.

## Uses of C

C Language is used to program a wide variety of systems. Some of the uses of C are as follows:

1. Major parts of Windows, Linux and other operating systems are written in C.
2. C is used to write driver programs for devices like Tablets, printers etc.
3. C language is used to program embedded systems where programs need to run faster in limited memory (Microwave, Cameras etc.)
4. C is used to develop games, an area where latency is very important. i.e. Computer has to react quickly on user input.

# Chapter 1: Variables, Constants & Keywords

## Variables

A Variable is a container which stores a 'Value'. In Kitchen, we have containers storing Rice, Dal, Sugar etc. Similar to that Variables in C stores Value of a constant. Example:

a = 3 ; // a is assigned "3"

b = 4.7 ; // b is assigned "4.7"

c = 'A'; // c is assigned 'A'

## Rules for naming variables in C

1. First character must be an alphabet or underscore(\_)
2. No commas, blanks allowed.
3. No special symbol other than(\_) allowed.
4. Variable names are case sensitive.

We must create meaningful variable names in our programs. This enhances readability of our programs.

## Constants

An entity whose value doesn't change is called as a Constant.

A variable is an entity whose value can be changed.

## Types of constants

Primarily, there are three types of constants:

1. Integer Constant → -1, 6, 7, 9
2. Real Constant → -322.1, 2.5, 7.0
3. Character Constant → 'a', '\$', '@' (must be enclosed within single inverted commas)

## Keywords

These are reserved words, whose meaning is already known to the compiler. There are 32 keywords available in C.

auto	double	int	struct
break	long	else	switch
case	return	enum	typedef
char	register	extern	union
const	short	float	unsigned
continue	signed	for	void
default	sizeof	goto	volatile
do	static	if	while

## Our First C Program

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

```
int main() {
    printf("Hello, I am learning C with Harry");
    return 0;
}
```

File: first.c

## Basic Structure of a C Program

All C programs have to follow a basic structure.

A C program starts with a main function and executes instructions present inside it.

Each instruction is terminated with a Semicolon ( ; )

There are some rules which are applicable to all the C programs :

1. Every program's execution starts from main() function.
2. All the statements are terminated with a Semicolon.
3. Instructions are case-sensitive.
4. Instructions are executed in the same order in which they are written.

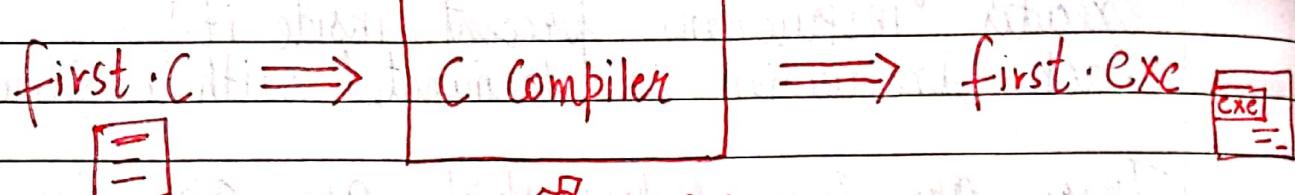
## Comments

Comments are used to clarify something about the program in plain language. It is a way for us to add notes to our program. There are two types of comments in C.

1. Single line comment : // This is a comment
2. Multi-line comment : /\* This is a multi line comment \*/

Comments in a C program are not executed and are ignored.

## Compilation and Execution



in VS Code

gcc

A compiler is a computer program which converts a C program into machine language so that it can be easily understood by the computer.

A C program is written in plain text. This plain text is combination of Instructions in a particular sequence. The compiler performs some basic checks and finally converts the program into an executable.

### Library Functions

C language has a lot of Valuable library functions which is used to carry out certain tasks. for instance printf function is used to print values on the screen

```
printf("This is %d", i);
```

%d for integers

.f for real values

%c for characters

## Types of Variables

- 1> Integer variables → `int a = 3;` ↗ Wrong as 7.7 is real
- 2> Real variables → `int a = 7.7; float a = 7.7;`
- 3> Character Variables → `char a = 'B';`

## Receiving input from the User

In order to take input from the user and assign it to a variable, we use `scanf` function

Syntax for using `scanf`:

`scanf ("%d", &i);`

↗ This & is important!

& is the "address of" operator and it means that the supplied value should be copied to the address which is indicated by variable i.

## Chapter 2 : Instructions and Operators

A C program is a set of instructions. Just like a recipe - which contains instructions to prepare a particular dish.

### Types of Instructions

- 1> Type declaration Instruction
- 2> Arithmetic Instruction
- 3> Control Instruction

#### Type declaration Instruction

```
int a;  
float b;
```

#### Other Variations :

```
int i=10; int j=i; int a=2  
int j1=a+j-i;
```

float b = a+3; float a=1.1  $\Rightarrow$  ERROR! as we are trying to use a before defining it.

```
int a, b, c, d;  
a=b=c=d=30;  $\Rightarrow$  Value of a, b, c & d will be 30 each.
```

## Arithmetic Instructions

`int i = (3 * 2) + 1`

Operands can be int / float etc.

+ - \* / are arithmetic operators

`int b = 2, c = 3;`

`int z; z = b * c;` ✓ legal

`int z; b * c = z;` ✗ Illegal (Not allowed)

`%` → Modular division operator

`%` → Returns the remainder

`./` → Cannot be applied on float

`./` → Sign is same as of numerator ( $-5 \% 2 = -1$ )

$$5 \% 2 = 1$$

$$-5 \% 2 = -1$$

Note:

1. No operator is assumed to be present

`int i = ab` → Invalid

`int i = a * b` → Valid

2. There is no operator to perform exponentiation in C.  
However we can use `pow(x, y)` from `<math.h>` (More later)

## Type Conversion

An Arithmetic operation between

Int and Int  $\rightarrow$  Int

Int and float  $\rightarrow$  float

float and float  $\rightarrow$  float

$$5/2 \rightarrow 2 \quad 5.0/2 \rightarrow 2.5$$

} Important !!

$$2/5 \rightarrow 0 \quad 2.0/5 \rightarrow 0.4$$

Note :-

`int a = 3.5;` In this case 3.5 (float) will be demoted to 3 (int) because a is not able to store floats.

`float a = 8;` a will store 8.0  
 $8 \rightarrow 8.0$  (promotion to float)

Quick Quiz:

Q `int k = 3.0/9` Value of k? And why?

S  $3.0/9 = 0.333$  but since k is an int, it cannot store floats & value 0.33 is demoted to 0.

## Operator precedence In C

$3 * x - 8 y$  is  $(3x) - (8y)$  or  $3(x - 8y)$ ?

In C language Simple mathematical rules like BODMAS, no longer applies.

The answer to the above question is provided by operator precedence & associativity.

Operator precedence  $\div$  The following table lists the operator priority in C

Priority	Operators
1 <sup>st</sup>	$*$ $/$ $%$
2 <sup>nd</sup>	$+$ $-$
3 <sup>rd</sup>	$=$ $<$ $>$ $<=$ $>=$

Operators of higher priority are evaluated first in the absence of parenthesis.

Operator Associativity  $\div$  When operators of equal priority are present in an expression, the tie is taken care of by associativity.

$$x * y / z \Rightarrow (x * y) / z$$

$$x / y * z \Rightarrow (x / y) * z$$

$*$ ,  $/$  follows left to right associativity

## Control Instructions

Determines the flow of Control in a program

Four types of Control Instructions in C are:

1. Sequence Control Instruction

2. Decision Control Instruction

3. Loop Control Instruction

4. Case Control Instruction

## Chapter 3 - Conditional Instructions

Sometimes we want to watch comedy videos on YouTube if the day is Sunday.

Sometimes we order junk food if it is our friend's birthday in the hostel.

You might want to buy an Umbrella if its raining and you have the money.

You order the meal if dal or your favorite bhindi is listed on the menu.

All these are decisions which depends on a condition being met.

In C language too, we must be able to execute instructions on a condition(s) being met.

### Decision Making Instructions in C

- If - else Statement
- Switch Statement

#### If - else Statement

The syntax of an If - else Statement in C looks like :

```
if (condition to be checked) {  
    Statements - if - condition - true ;  
}
```

```
else {  
    Statements - if - condition - false ;  
}
```

Code example:

```
int a = 23;  
if (a > 18) {  
    printf("You can drive\n");  
}
```

Note that else block is not necessary but optional.

### Relational Operators in C

Relational operators are used to evaluate conditions (true or false) inside the if statements.

Some examples of relational operators are :-

= =, > =, >, <, < =, !=

↓      ↓      ↓  
equals greater than or equal to not equal to

Important note :- '=' is used for assignment whereas ' $= =$ ' is used for equality check.

The condition can be any valid expression. In C a non-zero value is considered to be true.

### Logical Operators

&&, || and ! are three logical operators in C.

These are read as "AND", "OR" and "NOT"

They are used to provide logic to our C programs

## Usage of Logical Operators:

- (i)  $8 \& 8 \rightarrow \text{AND} \rightarrow$  is true when both the conditions are true.  
"1 and 0" is evaluated as false.  
"0 and 0" is evaluated as false.  
"1 and 1" is evaluated as true.
- (ii)  $11 \rightarrow \text{OR} \rightarrow$  is true when at least one of the conditions is true. ( $1 \text{ or } 0 \rightarrow 1$ ) ( $1 \text{ or } 1 \rightarrow 1$ )
- (iii)  $! \rightarrow$  returns true if given false and false if given true.  
 $!(3 == 3) \rightarrow$  evaluates to false  
 $!(3 > 30) \rightarrow$  evaluates to true.

As the number of conditions increases, the level of indentation increases. This reduces readability. Logical operators come to rescue in such cases.

else if clause

Instead of using multiple if statements, we can also use else if along with if thus forming an if-else-if-else ladder.

```
if {  
    // Statements;  
}
```

```
else if {  
    . . .  
}
```

```
else {  
    . . .  
}
```

Using if - else if - else reduces indents  
The last "else" is optional  
Also there can be any number of "else if"

Last else is executed only if all conditions fail.

Operator precedence

Priority      Operator

1<sup>st</sup>              !

2<sup>nd</sup>              \* / %

3              + -

4<sup>th</sup>              < , <= , > =

5              == , !=

6              &

7<sup>th</sup>              ||

8<sup>th</sup>              =

Conditional Operators

A short hand "if - else" can be written using the conditional or ternary operators

Condition ? expression-if-true : expression-if-false

Ternary operators

Switch Case Control Instruction

Switch-Case is used when we have to make a choice between number of alternatives for a given variable.

Switch (integer-expression)

{

Case C<sub>1</sub>:

Code;

Case C<sub>2</sub>:

Code;

C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> & C<sub>3</sub> → Constants

Code → Any valid C code.

Case C<sub>3</sub>:

Code;

default:

Code;

{

The value of integer-expression is matched against C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>... If it matches any of these cases, that case along with all subsequent "case" and "default" statements are executed.

- \* Quick Quiz: Write a program to find grade of a student given his marks based on below:

→ 90 - 100 → A      → < 70 → F.

→ 80 - 90 → B

→ 70 - 80 → C

→ 60 - 70 → D

## Important Notes

1. We can use switch-case statements even by writing cases in any order of our choice (not necessarily ascending)
2. char values are allowed as they can be easily evaluated to an integer
3. A switch can occur within another but in practice this is rarely done.

## Chapter 4 - Loop Control Instruction

### Why Loops

Sometimes we want our programs to execute few set of instructions over and over again for ex: printing 1 to 100, first 100 even numbers etc.

Hence Loops make it easy for a programmer to tell computer that a given set of instructions must be executed repeatedly.

### Types of Loops

Primarily, there are three types of loops in C language:

1. While loop
2. do - while loop
3. for loop

We will look into these one by one

### While loop

While (condition is true) {

// Code  
// Code

The block keeps executing  
as long as the condition  
is true.

}

An example

```
int i = 0
```

```
while (i <= 10) {
```

```
    printf ("The value of i is %d", i); i++;
```

Note : If the condition never becomes false, the while loop keeps getting executed. Such a loop is known as an infinite loop.

Quick Quiz : Write a program to print natural numbers from 10 to 20 when initial loop counter is initialized to 0.

The loop counter need not be int, it can be float as well.

Increment and decrement operators

i ++ → i is increased by 1

i -- → i is decreased by 1

```
printf ("--i = %d", --i);
```

This first decrements i and then prints it

```
printf ("i -- = %d", i--);
```

This first prints i and then decrements it

- \*  $++$  operator does not exist  $\Rightarrow$  Important
- \*  $+=$  is compound assignment operator just like  $=, +=, /= \& \% =$   $\Rightarrow$  Also Important

do - While Loop.

The syntax of do - While loop looks like this :

```
do {  
    // Code ;  
    // Code ;  
} while ( condition )
```

do - While loop works very similar to while loop.

While  $\rightarrow$  checks the condition & then executes the code

do - While  $\rightarrow$  Executes the code & then checks the condition

do - While loop = While loop which executes at least once.

→ Quick Quiz : Write a program to print first n natural numbers using do - while loop.

Input : 4

Output : 1  
2  
3  
4

for Loop

The syntax of for loop looks like this:

```
for( initialize ; test ; increment )  
{  
    // Code;  
    // Code;  
    // Code;  
}
```

Initialize → Setting a loop Counter to an initial value

Test → Checking a condition

Increment → Updating the loop Counter

An Example:

```
for( i=0 ; i<3 ; i++ ) {  
    printf("%d", i);  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

Output:

0

1

2

Quick Quiz : Write a program to print first n natural numbers using for loop

## A Case of Decrementing for loop

```
for (i=5; i; i--)
    printf ("%d\n", i);
```

This for loop will keep on running until i becomes 0.

The loop runs in following steps:

- 1> i is initialized to 5
- 2> The condition "i" (0 or non0) is tested
- 3> The code is executed
- 4> i is decremented
- 5> Condition i is checked & code is executed if its not 0.
- 6> So on until i is non0

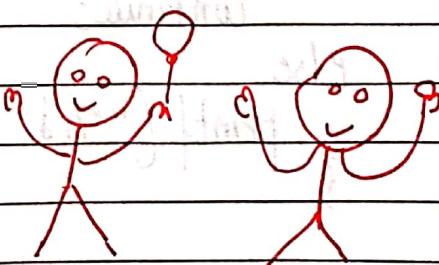
**Quick Quiz:** Write a program to print n natural numbers in reverse order.

The break Statement in C

The break statement is used to exit the loop irrespective of whether the condition is true or false.

Whenever a "break" is encountered inside the loop, the control is sent outside the loop.

Let us see this with the help of an Example



```

for (i=0; i<1000; i++) {
    printf ("%d\n", i);
    if (i == 5) {
        break;
    }
}

```

Output  $\Rightarrow$  0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
and not 0 to 100 😊

The Continue statement in C  
The Continue statement is used to immediately move to the next iteration of the loop.

The control is taken to the next iteration thus skipping everything below "continue" inside the loop for that iteration and so on.

Let us look at an example

```

int skip = 5;
int i=0;
while (i < 10) {
    if (i != skip)
        continue;
    else
        printf ("%d", i);
}

```

Output  $\Rightarrow$  5  
and not 0 ... 9

Notes :

To add - it added

1. Sometimes, the name of the variable might not indicate the behaviour of the program.
2. break Statement completely exits the loop.
3. Continue Statement skips the particular iteration of the loop.

## Chapter 5 - Functions and Recursion

Sometimes our program gets bigger in size and it's not possible for a programmer to track which piece of code is doing what. Function is a way to break our code into chunks so that it is possible for a programmer to reuse them.

What is a function?

A function is a block of code which performs a particular task. A function can be reused by other programmer in a given program any number of times.

Example and Syntax of a Function

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

Void display();  $\Rightarrow$  Function prototype

```
int main()
```

```
{ int a;
```

```
    display();  $\Rightarrow$  Function call
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Void display() {  $\Rightarrow$  function definition

```
    printf("Hi I am display");
```

```
}
```

Function prototype  
 Function prototype is a way to tell the compiler about the function we are going to define in the program.  
 Here void indicates that the function returns nothing.

### Function call

Function call is a way to tell the compiler to execute the function body at the time the call is made.

Note that the program execution starts from the main function in the sequence the instructions are written.

### Function definition

This part contains the exact set of instructions which are executed during the function call. When a function is called from main(), the main function falls asleep and gets temporarily suspended. During this time the control goes to the function being called. When the function body is done executing main() resumes.

**Quick Quiz → Write a program with three functions**

- 1> Good morning function which prints "Good Morning"
- 2> Good afternoon function which prints "Good Afternoon"
- 3> Good night function which prints "Good night"

main() should call all of these in order 1 → 2 → 3

## Important Points

- Execution of a C program starts from main()
- A C program can have more than one function
- Every function gets called directly or indirectly from main()
- There are two types of functions in C. Let's talk about them

## Types of Functions

1. Library functions → Commonly required functions grouped together in a library file on disk
2. User defined functions → These are the functions declared and defined by the user.

## Why use functions?

1. To avoid rewriting the same logic again and again.
2. To keep track of what we are doing in a program.
3. To test and check logic independently.

Passing values to functions

We can pass values to a function and can get a value in return from a function.

```
int sum ( int a, int b )
```

The above prototype means that sum is a function which takes values a (of type int) and b (of type int) and returns a value of type int

function definition of sum can be:

```
int sum ( int a, int b ) {  
    int c ;  
    c = a + b ;  
    return c ;  
}
```

$\Rightarrow$  a and b are parameters

Now we can call sum ( 2, 3 ); from main to get 5 in return.

$\hookrightarrow$  Here 2 & 3 are arguments

```
int d = sum ( 2, 3 ) ;  $\Rightarrow$  d becomes 5
```

Note :

1. Parameters are the values or variable placeholders in the function definition. Ex a & b.
2. Arguments are the actual values passed to the function to make a call. Ex 2 & 3.

- 3> A function can return only one value at a time
- 4> If the passed variable is changed inside the function, the function call doesn't change the value in the calling function.

```
int change (int a) {
```

~~int a = 77;~~

~~return 0;~~

~~variable to change~~

$\Rightarrow$  Mishmash

change is a function which changes a to 77. No if we call it from main like this

```
int b = 22
```

change (b);

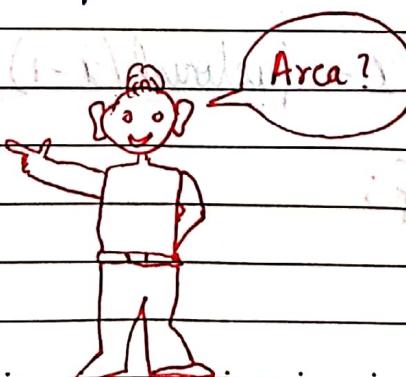
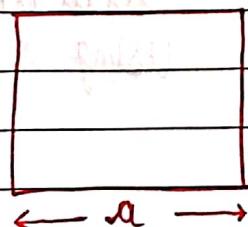
$\Rightarrow$  The value of b remains 22

printf("b is %d", b);

$\Rightarrow$  prints "b is 22"

This happens because a copy of b is passed to the change function

Quick Quiz  $\rightarrow$  Use the library functions to calculate the area of a square with side a.



## Recursion

A function defined in C can call itself.

This is called recursion.

A function calling itself is also called 'recursive' function.

### Example of Recursion

A very good example of recursion is factorial.

$$\text{factorial}(n) = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \cdots \times n$$

$$\text{factorial}(n) = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \cdots [n-1] \times n$$

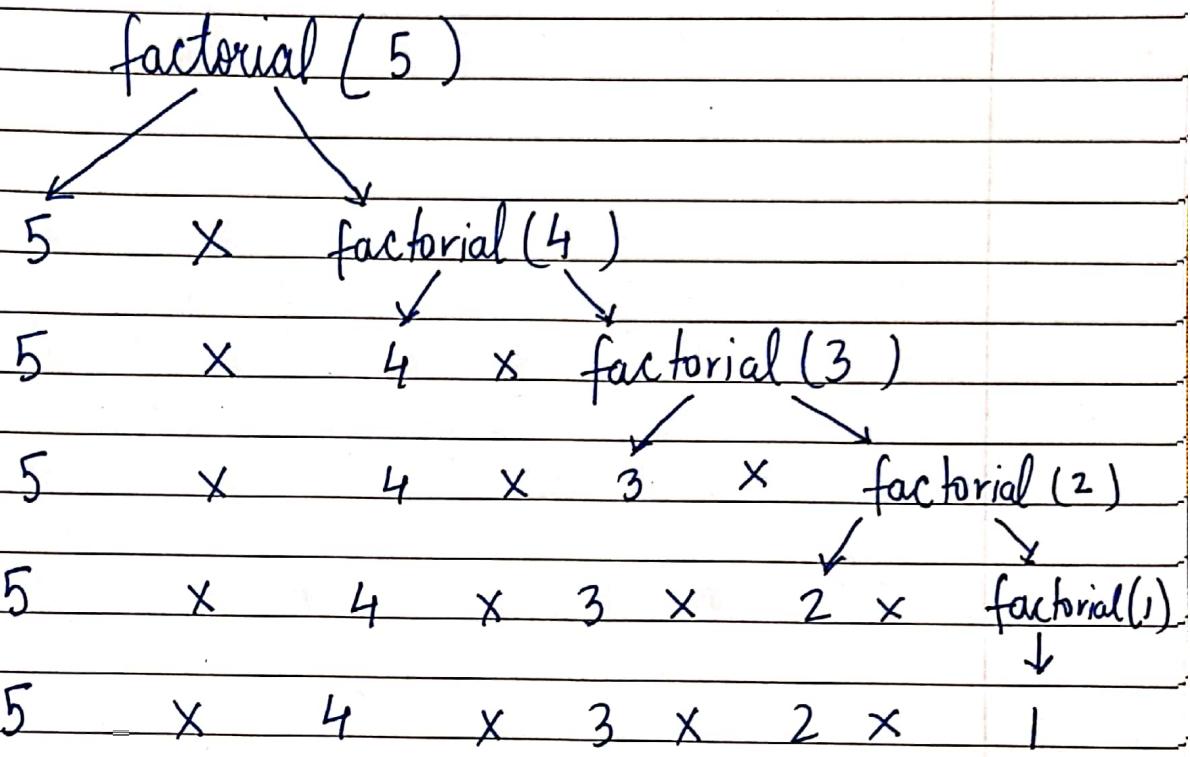
$$\text{factorial}(n) = \text{factorial}(n-1) \times n$$

Since we can write factorial of a number in terms of itself, we can program it using recursion.

```
int factorial(int x) {  
    int f;  
    if (x == 0 || x == 1)  
        return 1;  
    else  
        f = x * factorial(x-1);  
    return f;  
}
```

$\Rightarrow$  A program to calculate factorial using recursion

How does it work?

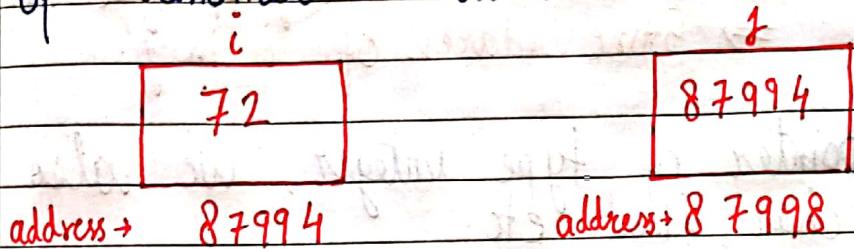


Important Notes:

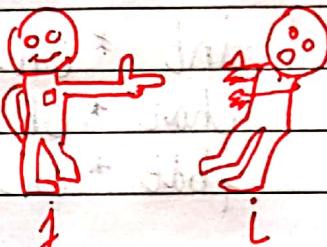
1. Recursion is sometimes the most direct way to code an algorithm.
2. The condition which doesn't call the function any further in a recursive function is called as the base condition.
3. Sometimes, due to a mistake made by the programmer, a recursive function can keep running without returning resulting in a memory error.

## Chapter 6 - Pointers

A pointer is a variable which stores the address of another variable



j is a pointer  
j points to i



The "address of" (&) operator

The address of operator is used to obtain the address of a given variable

If you refer to the diagrams above

$$\& i \Rightarrow 87994$$

$$\& j \Rightarrow 87998$$

Format specifier for printing pointer address is '%u'

The 'value at address' operator (\*)

The value at address or \* operator is used to obtain the value present at a given memory address. It is denoted by \*

$$*(\& i) = 72$$

$$*(\& j) = 87994$$

How to declare a Pointer?  
 A pointer is declared using the following Syntax

`int *j;`       $\Rightarrow$  declare a variable  $j$  of type int-pointer  
 $j = \& i$        $\Rightarrow$  store address of  $i$  in  $j$

Just like pointer of type integer, we also have pointers to char, float etc.

`int *ch_ptr;`       $\rightarrow$  Pointer to integer  
`char *ch_ptr;`       $\rightarrow$  Pointer to character  
`float *ch_ptr;`       $\rightarrow$  Pointer to float

Although its a good practice to use meaningful variable names, we should be very careful while reading & working on programs from fellow programmers.

### A Program to demonstrate pointers

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i = 8;
    int *j;
    j = &i;
    printf("Add i = %u\n", &i);
    printf("Add i = %u\n", j);
    printf("Add j = %u\n", &j);
    printf("Value i = %d\n", i);
    printf("Value i = %d\n", *j);
    printf("Value i = %d\n", *(j));
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

Add i = 87994

Add i = 87994

Add i = 87998

Value i = 8

This program sums it all. If you understand it, you have got the idea of pointers.

Pointer to a pointer

Just like j is pointing to i or storing the address of i, we can have another variable k which can further store the address of j. What will be the type of k?

```
int **k;
k = &j;
```

i	j	k
72	87994	87998
87994	87998	88004

int                  int\*                  int\*\*

We can even go further one level and create a variable l of type int\*\*\* to store the address of k. We mostly use int\* and int\*\* sometimes in real world programs.

Types of function calls  
Based on the way we pass arguments to the function, function calls are of two types.

- 1> Call by Value → Sending the values of arguments
- 2> Call by reference → Sending the address of arguments

Call by Value

Here the value of the arguments are passed to the function. Consider this example:

int c = sum(3, 4); ⇒ assume x=3 and y=4

if sum is defined as sum(int a, int b), the values 3 and 4 are copied to a and b. Now even if we change a and b, nothing happens to the variables x and y.

This is call by value.

In C we usually make a call by value.

Call by reference

Here the address of the variables is passed to the function as arguments.

Now since the addresses are passed to the function, the function can now modify the value of a variable in calling function using \* and & operators. Example:

Void Swap ( int \*x , int \*y )  
{

```
int temp ;  
temp = *x ;  
*x = *y ;  
*y = temp ;  
}
```

This function is capable of swapping the values passed to it. if  $a = 3$  and  $b = 4$  before a call to Swap( $a, b$ ),  $a = 4$  and  $b = 3$  after calling Swap.

```
int main() {
```

```
int a = 3
```

```
int b = 4  $\Rightarrow$  a is 3 and b is 4
```

```
Swap(a, b)
```

```
return 0;  $\Rightarrow$  Now a is 4 and b is 3
```

## Chapter 7 - Arrays

An array is a collection of similar, elements.

One variable  $\Rightarrow$  Capable of storing multiple values

### Syntax

The syntax of declaring an Array looks like this:

int marks[90];  $\Rightarrow$  Integer array

char name[20];  $\Rightarrow$  Character array or String

float percentile[90];  $\Rightarrow$  float array

The values can now be assigned to marks array like this:

marks[0] = 33;  $\{ \dots \} = [8]$

marks[1] = 12;  $\{ \dots \} = [12]$

Note: It is very important to note that the array index starts with 0!

Marks  $\rightarrow$ 

7	6	2	3	9	1	3	8	88	89
0	1	2	3	4	5	..	88	89	

Total = 90 elements

Accessing elements

Elements of an array can be accessed using:

`scanf ("%d", &marks[0]);`  $\Rightarrow$  Input first value

`printf ("%d", marks[0]);`  $\Rightarrow$  Output first value  
of the array

Quick Quiz  $\rightarrow$  Write a program to accept marks of five students in an array and print them to the screen.

Initialization of an Array

There are many other ways in which an array can be initialized.

`int cgpa[3] = {9, 8, 8};`  $\Rightarrow$  Arrays can be initialized while declaration  
`float marks[] = {33, 40};`

Arrays in memory

Consider this array:

`int arr[3] = {1, 2, 3};`  $\Rightarrow$  1 integer = 4 bytes

This will reserve  $4 \times 3 = 12$  bytes in memory  
4 bytes for each integer.

1	2	3
62302	62306	62310

$\Rightarrow$  arr in memory

## Pointer Arithmetic

A pointer can be incremented to point to the next memory location of that type.

Consider this example

`int i = 32;`

32

`int *a = &i;  $\Rightarrow a = 87994$  address  $\rightarrow 87994$`

`a++;  $\Rightarrow$  Now a = 87995`

`char a = 'A';`

`char *b = &a;  $\Rightarrow b = 87994$`

`b++;  $\Rightarrow$  Now b = 87995`

`float i = 1.7;`

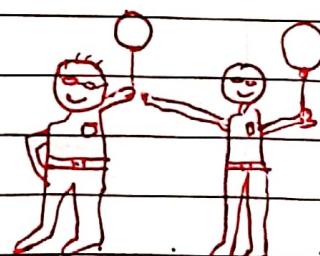
`float *a = &i;  $\Rightarrow$  Address of i or a = 87994`

`a++;  $\Rightarrow$  Now a = 87995`

Following operations can be performed on pointers:

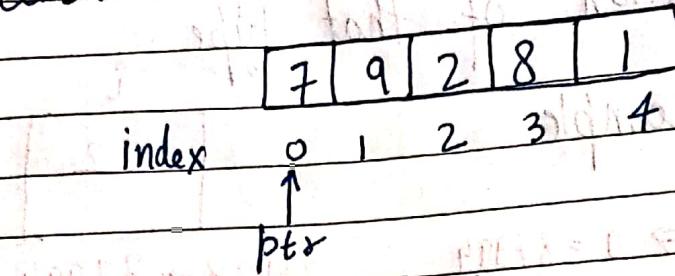
1. Addition of a number to a pointer
2. Subtraction of a number from a pointer
3. Subtraction of one pointer from another
4. Comparison of two pointer variables

Quick Quiz  $\rightarrow$  Try these operations on another variable by creating pointers in a separate program.  
Demonstrate all the four operations.



Xayl we understood  
pointer arithmetic

Accessing Arrays using pointers  
Consider this array



If ptr points to index 0,  $\text{ptr} + +$  will point to index 1 & so on ...

This way we can have an integer pointer pointing to first element of the array like this:

```
int *ptr = &arr[0]; → or simply arr  
ptr++;  
*ptr → will have 9 as its value
```

Passing Arrays to functions

Arrays can be passed to the functions like this

printArray( arr, n );  $\Rightarrow$  function call

Void printArray( int \*i, int n );  $\Rightarrow$  function prototype  
or

Void printArray( int i[], int n );

## Multidimensional Arrays

An array can be of 2 dimension / 3 dimension / n dimensions

A 2 dimensional array can be defined as:

```
int arr [3][2] = { { 1, 4 }
                    { 7, 9 }
                    { 11, 22 } };
```

We can access the elements of this array as

$\text{arr}[0][0]$ ,  $\text{arr}[0][1]$  & so on...

$\downarrow$   
Value=1

$\downarrow$   
Value=4

## 2-D arrays in Memory

A 2d array like a 1-d array is stored in contiguous memory blocks like this:

$\text{arr}[0][0]$   $\text{arr}[0][1]$  ...

1	4	7	9	11	22
---	---	---	---	----	----

87224 87228 ..

Quick Quiz: Create a 2-d array by taking input from the user. Write a display function to print the content of this 2-d array on the screen.

## Chapter 8 - Strings

A string is a 1-D character array terminated by a null ('\\0')

→ This is null character

null character is used to denote string termination  
characters are stored in contiguous memory locations

### Initializing Strings

Since string is an array of characters, it can be initialized as follows:

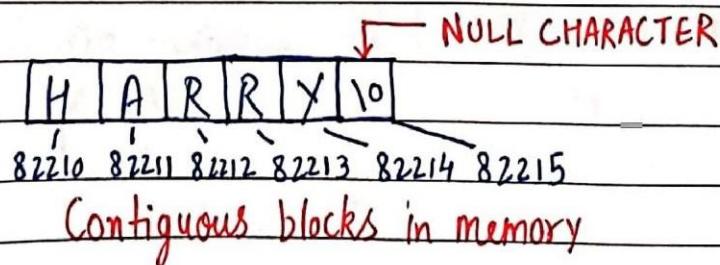
`char s[] = { 'H', 'A', 'R', 'R', 'Y', '\\0' };`

There is another shortcut for initializing strings in C language:

`char s[] = "HARRY";` ⇒ In this case C adds a null character automatically.

### Strings In Memory

A string is stored just like an array in the memory as shown below



Quick Quiz → Create a string using " " and print its content using a loop.

### Printing Strings

A string can be printed character by character using `printf` and `%c`.

But there is another convenient way to print strings in C.

```
char st[ ] = " HARRY";
```

`printf("%s", st);` ⇒ prints the entire string.

Taking string input from the user

We can use `%s` with `scanf` to take string input from the user:

```
char st[50];
```

```
scanf("%s", &st);
```

`scanf` automatically adds the null character when the enter key is pressed.

Note:

1. The string should be short enough to fit into the array
2. `scanf` cannot be used to input multi-word strings with spaces

gets() and puts()

gets() is a function which can be used to receive a multi-word string.

Char st[30];

gets(st);  $\Rightarrow$  The entered string is stored in st!

Multiple gets() calls will be needed for multiple strings

Likewise, puts can be used to output a string.

puts(st);  $\Rightarrow$  prints the string

places the cursor on the next line

Declaring a string using pointers

We can declare strings using pointers

char \*ptr = "Harry";

This tells the compiler to store the string in memory and assigned address is stored in a char pointer

Note:

1. Once a string is defined using char st[7] = "Harry", it cannot be reinitialized to something else.
2. A string defined using pointers can be reinitialized.  
 $ptr = "Rohan";$

Standard library functions for Strings

C provides a set of standard library functions for string manipulation.

Some of the most commonly used string functions are:

`strlen()`

This function is used to count the number of characters in the string excluding the null ('\0') character.

```
int length = strlen(st);
```

These functions are declared under `<string.h>` header file

`strcpy()`

This function is used to copy the content of second string into first string passed to it.

```
char source[] = "Harry";  
char target[30];
```

`strcpy(target, source);`  $\Rightarrow$  target now contains "Harry"

Target string should have enough capacity to store the source string.

Strcat()

This function is used to concatenate two strings.

char S<sub>1</sub>[5] = "Hello";

char S<sub>2</sub>[ ] = "Harry";

Strcat(S<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>2</sub>);  $\Rightarrow$  S<sub>1</sub> now contains "Hello Harry"

< No space in between >

strcmp()

This function is used to compare two strings.

It returns: 0 if strings are equal

Negative value if first string's mismatching character's ASCII value is not greater than second string's corresponding mismatching character. It returns positive values otherwise.

strcmp("Far", "Joke");

Positive Value

strcmp("Joke", "Far");

Negative Value



"Hello" = [Linear and]

[isotropof and]

linear trend  $\Leftrightarrow$  (some, together) p.d.f?

"Hello" situation

Example of different Apps such think must be kept

## Chapter 9 - Structures

Arrays and strings  $\Rightarrow$  Similar data (int, float, char)

Structures can hold  $\Rightarrow$  dissimilar data

Syntax for creating Structures

A C Structure can be created as follows:

struct employee {

    int code;

    float salary;

    char name [10];

};

$\rightarrow$  Semicolon is important

$\Rightarrow$  This declares a new user defined data-type!

We can use this user defined data type as follows:

struct employee e1;  $\Rightarrow$  Creating a structure variable

strcpy (e1.name, "Harry");

e1.code = 100;

e1.salary = 71.22;

So a structure in C is a collection of variables of different types under a single name.

Quick Quiz : Write a program to store the details of 3 employees from user defined data. Use the structure declared above.

Why use structures?

We can create the data types in the employee structure separately but when the number of properties in a structure increases, it becomes difficult for us to create data variables without structures. In a nut shell:

- (a) Structures keep the data organized.
- (b) Structures make data management easy for the programmer.

### Array of Structures

Just like an array of integers, an array of floats and an array of characters, we can create an array of structures.

`struct employee facebook[100];`  $\Rightarrow$  An array of structures

We can access the data using

`facebook[0].Code = 100;`

`facebook[1].Code = 101;`

... & so on

### Initializing Structures

Structures can also be initialized as follows:

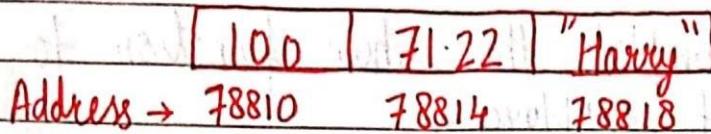
`struct employee harry = { 100, 71.22, "Harry" };`

`struct employee shubh = { 0 };`  $\Rightarrow$  All elements set to 0

Structures in memory

Structures are stored in contiguous memory locations

For the structure `e1` of type `struct employee`, memory layout looks like this:



In an array of structures, these employee instances are stored adjacent to each other.

Pointer to structures

A pointer to structure can be created as follows:

```
struct employee *ptr;  
ptr = &e1;
```

Now we can print structure elements using :

```
printf ("%d", *(ptr).Code);
```

Arrow operator

Instead of writing `*(ptr).Code`, we can use arrow operator to access structure properties as follows

```
* (ptr).Code or ptr->Code
```

Here `->` is known as the arrow operator.

Passing Structure to a function

A structure can be passed to a function just like any other data type.

Void Show (struct employee e);  $\Rightarrow$  function prototype

Quick Quiz : Complete this show function to display the content of employee.

typedef keyword

We can use the typedef keyword to create an alias name for data types in C. typedef is more commonly used with structures.

```
struct Complex {  
    float real;  
    float img;  
};
```

$\Rightarrow$  struct Complex C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> ;  
for defining Complex numbers

```
typedef struct Complex {  
    float real;  
    float img;  
} ComplexNo;
```

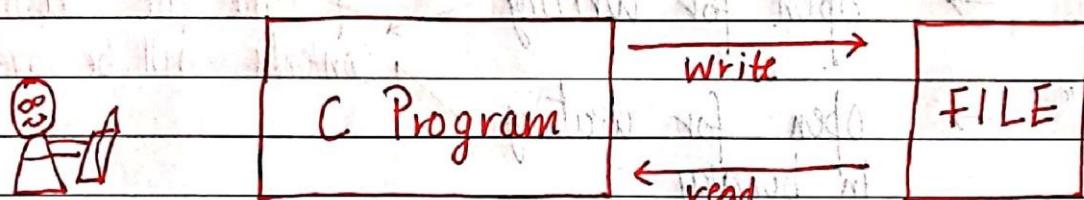
$\Rightarrow$  ComplexNo C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> ;  
for defining Complex numbers

## Chapter 10 - File I/O

The Random Access Memory is volatile and its content is lost once the program terminates. In order to persist the data forever we use files.

A file is data stored in a storage device.

A C program can talk to the file by reading content from it and writing content to it.



Programmer

FILE pointer

The "FILE" is a structure which needs to be created for opening the file.

A file pointer is a pointer to this structure of the file.

FILE pointer is needed for communication between the file and the program.

A FILE pointer can be created as follows:

```
FILE *ptr;  
ptr = fopen("filename.ext", "mode");
```

File opening modes in C

C offers the programmers to select a mode for opening a file.

Following modes are primarily used in C File I/O

"r" → open for reading → If the file does not exist, fopen returns NULL

"rb" → open for reading in binary

"w" → open for writing → If the file exists, the contents will be overwritten

"wb" → open for writing in binary

"a" → open for append → If the file does not exist, it will be created

Types of files

There are two types of files:

1. Text files (.txt, .c)

2. Binary files (.jpg, .dat)

Reading a file

A file can be opened for reading as follows:

```
FILE *ptr;
```

```
ptr = fopen("Harry.txt", "r");
```

```
int num;
```

Let us assume that "Harry.txt" contains an integer.  
We can read that integer using:

`fscanf(ptr, "%d", &num);`  $\Rightarrow$  fscanf is file counterpart of Scanf

This will read an integer from file in num variable.

Quick Quiz : Modify the program above to check whether the file exists or not before opening the file.

### CLOSING the file

It is very important to close the file after read or write. This is achieved using `fclose` as follows:

`fclose(ptr);`

This will tell the compiler that we are done working with this file and the associated resources could be freed.

### Writing to a file

We can write to a file in a very similar manner like we read the file

```
FILE *ptr;  
ptr = fopen("Harry.txt", "w");
```

```
int num = 432;
fprintf(fp, "%d", num);
fclose(fp);
```

fgetc() and fputc()

fgetc and fputc are used to read and write a character from/to a file

fgetc(ptr)  $\Rightarrow$  used to read a character from file

fputc('c', ptr);  $\Rightarrow$  used to write character 'c' to the file

EOF : End of file

fgetc returns EOF when all the characters from a file have been read. So we can write a check like below to detect end of file

while (1) {

ch = fgetc(ptr);  $\Rightarrow$  When all the content of a file has been read,  
if (ch == EOF) {  
    break;  
}

// Code

}

## Chapter 11 - Dynamic Memory Allocation

C is a language with some fixed rules of programming. For example: changing the size of an array is not allowed.

### Dynamic Memory Allocation

Dynamic memory allocation is a way to allocate memory to a data structure during the runtime. We can use DMA functions available in C to allocate and free memory during runtime.

### Functions for DMA in C

Following functions are available in C to perform Dynamic memory Allocation:

1. malloc()
2. calloc()
3. free()
4. realloc()

#### malloc() function

malloc stands for memory allocation. It takes number of bytes to be allocated as an input and returns a pointer of type void.

#### Syntax:

$\text{ptr} = (\text{int}^*) \text{malloc}(30 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int}))$

*↓ Casting void pointer to int*      *↑ space for 30 ints*      *→ returns size of 1 int*

The expression returns a null pointer if the memory cannot be allocated.

Quick Quiz : Write a program to create a dynamic array of 5 floats using malloc().

calloc() function

calloc stands for continuous allocation.

It initializes each memory block with a default value of 0.

Syntax :

`ptr = (float*) calloc(30, sizeof(float));`



Allocates contiguous space in memory for 30 blocks (floats)

If the space is not sufficient, memory allocation fails and a NULL pointer is returned.

Quick Quiz : Write a program to create an array of size n using calloc where n is an integer entered by the user.

free() function

We can use free() function to de allocate the memory.

The memory allocated using calloc/malloc is not deallocated automatically.

Syntax :

`free(ptr);`  $\Rightarrow$  Memory of ptr is released.

Quick Quiz : Write a program to demonstrate the usage of free() with malloc().

realloc() function

Sometimes the dynamically allocated memory is insufficient or more than required.

realloc is used to allocate memory of new size using the previous pointer and size.

Syntax :

`btr = realloc(ptr, newSize);`

`ptr = realloc(ptr, 3 * sizeof(int));`



ptr now points to this new block of memory capable of storing 3 integers.

NOTES

# PROGRAMMING IN C

TALK IS  
CHEAP  
SHOW ME  
THE CODE

LINUS TORVALDS

BELIEVE IN YOUR CODE  
EVEN IF IT FAILS 1000  
TIMES

COMPILED BY  
MUBSSHIR KHAN