


# This is CS50

CS50's Introduction to Computer Science

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## Lecture 2

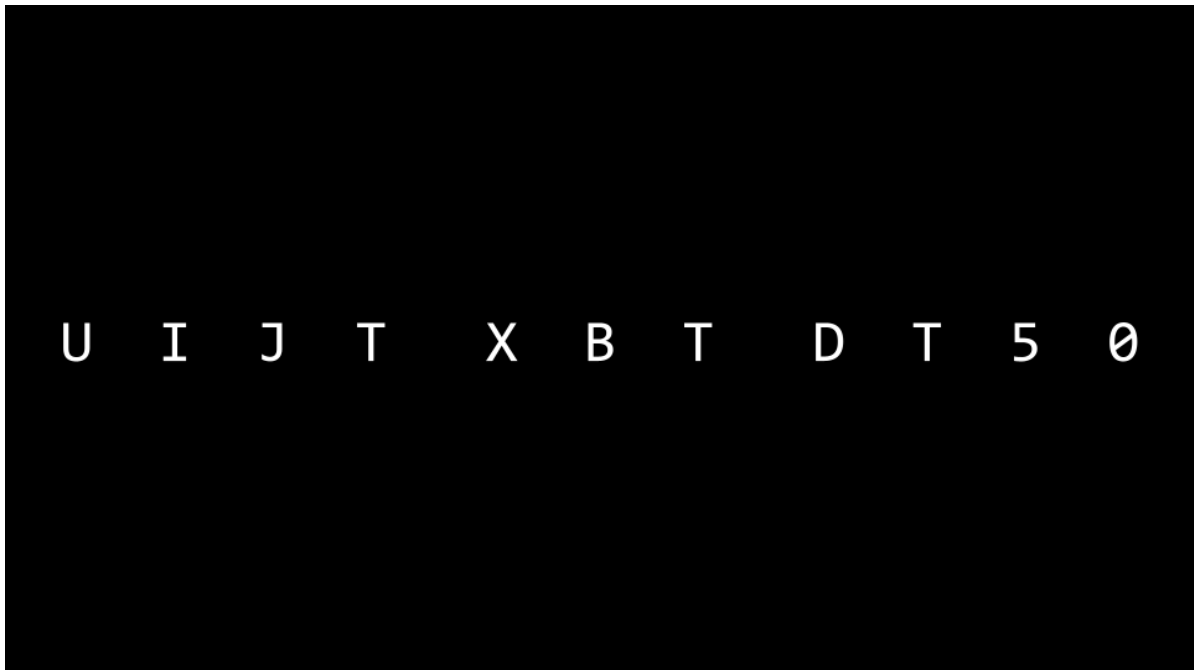
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## Welcome!

- In our previous session, we learned about C, a text-based programming language.
- This week, we are going to take a deeper look at additional building-blocks that will support our goals of learning more about programming from the bottom up.
- Fundamentally, in addition to the essentials of programming, this course is about problem-solving. Accordingly, we will also focus further on how to approach computer science problems.

## Compiling

- *Encryption* is the act of hiding plain text from prying eyes. *decrypting*, then, is the act of taking an encrypted piece of text and returning it to a human-readable form.
- An encrypted piece of text may look like the following:



- Recall that last week you learned about a *compiler*, a specialized computer program that converts *source code* into *machine code* that can be understood by a computer.
- For example, you might have a computer program that looks like this:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    printf("hello, world\n");
}
```

- A compiler will take the above code and turn it into the following machine code:

```

01111111 01000101 01001100 01000110 00000010 00000001 00000001 00000000
00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
00000010 00000000 00111110 00000000 00000001 00000000 00000000 00000000
10110000 00000101 01000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
01000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
11010000 00010011 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01000000 00000000 00111000 00000000
00001001 00000000 01000000 00000000 00100100 00000000 00100001 00000000
00000110 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000101 00000000 00000000 00000000
01000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
01000000 00000000 01000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
01000000 00000000 01000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
11111000 00000001 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
11111000 00000001 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
00001000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
00000011 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000100 00000000 00000000 00000000
00111000 00000010 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
...

```

- VS Code, the programming environment provided to you as a CS50 student, utilizes a compiler called `clang` or *c language*.
- If you were to type `make hello`, it runs a command that executes clang to create an output file that you can run as a user.
- VS Code has been pre-programmed such that `make` will run numerous command line arguments along with clang for your convenience as a user.
- Consider the following code:

```

#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    string name = get_string("What's your name? ");
    printf("hello, %s\n", name);
}

```

- You can attempt to enter into the terminal window: `clang -o hello hello.c`. You will be met by an error that indicates that clang does not know where to find the `cs50.h` library.
- Attempting again to compile this code, run the following command in the terminal window: `clang -o hello hello.c -lcs50`. This will enable the compiler to access the `cs50.h` library.
- Running in the terminal window `./hello`, your program will run as intended.
- While the above is offered as an illustration, such that you can understand more deeply the process and concept of compiling code, using `make` in CS50 is perfectly fine and the expectation!
- Compiling involves major steps, including the following:
  - First, *preprocessing* is where the header files in your code, designated by a `#`

(such as `#include <cs50.h>`) are effectively copied and pasted into your file. During this step, the code from `cs50.h` is copied into your program. Similarly, just as your code contains `#include <stdio.h>`, code contained within `stdio.h` somewhere on your computer is copied to your program. This step can be visualized as follows:

```
string get_string(string prompt);
int printf(string format, ...);

int main(void)
{
    string name = get_string("What's your name? ");
    printf("hello, %s\n", name);
}
```

- Second, *compiling* is where your program is converted into assembly code. This step can be visualized as follows:

```
...
main:                                # @main
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq    %rbp
.Ltmp0:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
.Ltmp1:
    .cfi_offset %rbp, -16
    movq     %rsp, %rbp
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_register %rbp
    subq     $16, %rsp
    xorl     %eax, %eax
    movl     %eax, %edi
    movabsq  $.L.str, %rsi
    movb     $0, %al
    callq    get_string
    movabsq  $.L.str.1, %rdi
    movq     %rax, -8(%rbp)
    movq     -8(%rbp), %rsi
    movb     $0, %al
    callq    printf
    ...
```

- Third, *assembling* involves the compiler converting your assembly code into machine code. This step can be visualized as follows:

```

0111111010001010100110001000110
0000001000000001000000010000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000100000000011111000000000
0000000100000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
1010000000000100000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0100000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000010000000000000
0000101000000000000000010000000
01010101010010001000100111100101
0100100010000011110110000010000
0011000111000001000100111000111
0100100010111110000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
1110100000000000000000000000000
0000000001001000101111100000000
0000000000000000000000000000000
0000000000000000000000001001000
...

```

- Finally, during the *linking* step, code from your included libraries are converted also into machine code and combined with your code. The final executable file is then outputted.

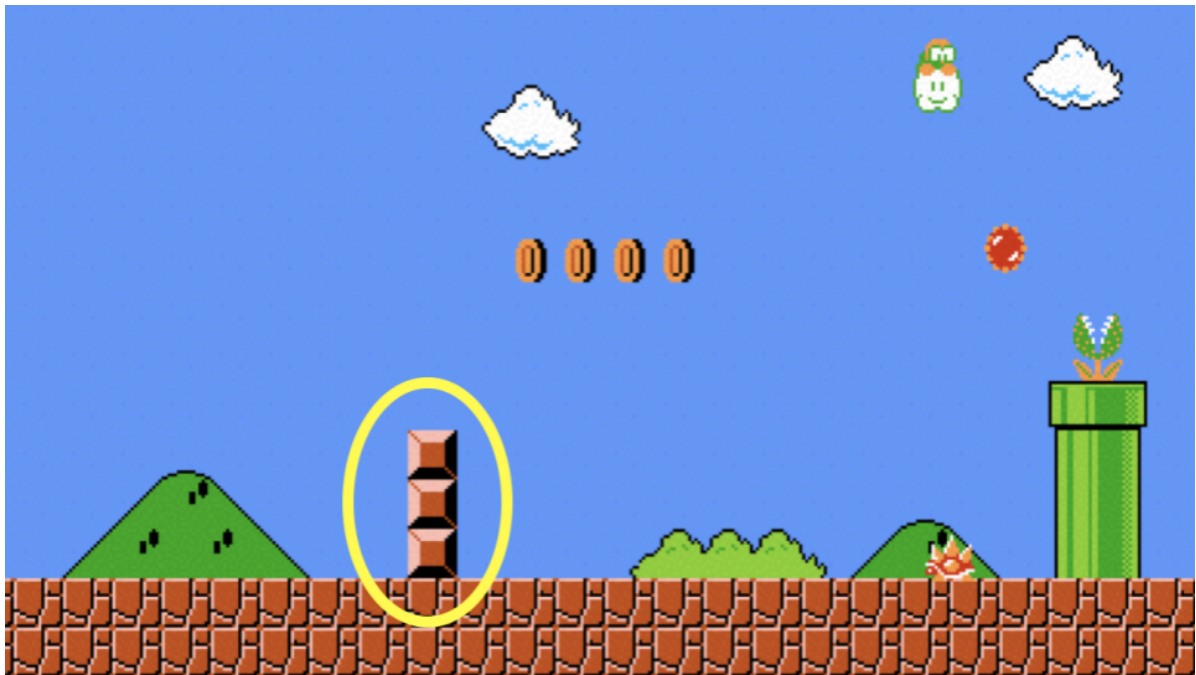
```

0111111010001010100110001000110 0111111010001010100110001000110 00101111011011000110100101100010
0000001000000001000000010000000 0000001000000001000000010000000 01100011001011100111001101101111
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 0010111000110110001000000101111
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 01110101011100110111001000101111
0000000100000000011111000000000 0000001100000000001111000000000 01101100011010010110001000101111
0000000100000000000000000000000 0000000100000000000000000000000 01111000001110000011011001011111
0000000000000000000000000000000 1100000000001111000000000000000 00110110001101000010110101101100
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 0110100101101110011101010111000
0000000000000000000000000000000 0100000000000000000000000000000 00101101011001110110111001110101
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 00101111011011000110100101100010
1010000000000100000000000000000 0010100000110010000000000000000 01100011010111110110111001101111
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 01101110011100110110100001100001
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 01110010011001010110010000101110
0100000000000000000000000000000 0100000000000000111000000000000 01100001001000000010000001000001
0000000000000000010000000000000 0000011100000000100000000000000 01000101010001000100010101000100
01010101010010001000100111100101 0000000100000000000000000000000 00100000001010000010000000101111
0100100010000011110110000010000 0000010100000000000000000000000 01101100011010010110001000101111
0011000111000001000100111000111 0000000000000000000000000000000 01111000001110000011011001011111
0100100010111110000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 00110110001101000010110101101100
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 01101001011011100111010101111000
0000000000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 00101101011001110110111001110101
1110100000000000000000000000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 00101111011011000110010000101101
0000000001001000101111100000000 0000000000000000000000000000000 01101100011010010110111001110101
0000000000000000000000000000000 0101110000100101000000000000000 0111100000101101011100000111000
00000000000000000000000001001000 0000000000000000000000000000000 00110110001011010011011000110100
...

```

## Debugging

- Everyone will make mistakes while coding.
- Consider the following image from last week:



- Further, consider the following code that has a bug purposely inserted within it:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    for (int i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
    {
        printf("#\n");
    }
}
```

- Type `code buggy0.c` into the terminal window and write the above code.
- Running this code, four bricks appear instead of the intended three.
- `printf` is a very useful way of debugging your code. You could modify your code as follows:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    for (int i = 0; i <= 3; i++)
    {
        printf("i is %i\n", i);
        printf("#\n");
    }
}
```

- Running this code, you will see numerous statements, including `i is 0`, `i is 1`, `i is 2`, and `i is 3`. Seeing this, you might realize that Further code needs to be corrected as follows:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
```



```
{
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++)
    {
        printf("#\n");
    }
}
```

Notice the `<=` has been replaced with `<`.

- This code can be further improved as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

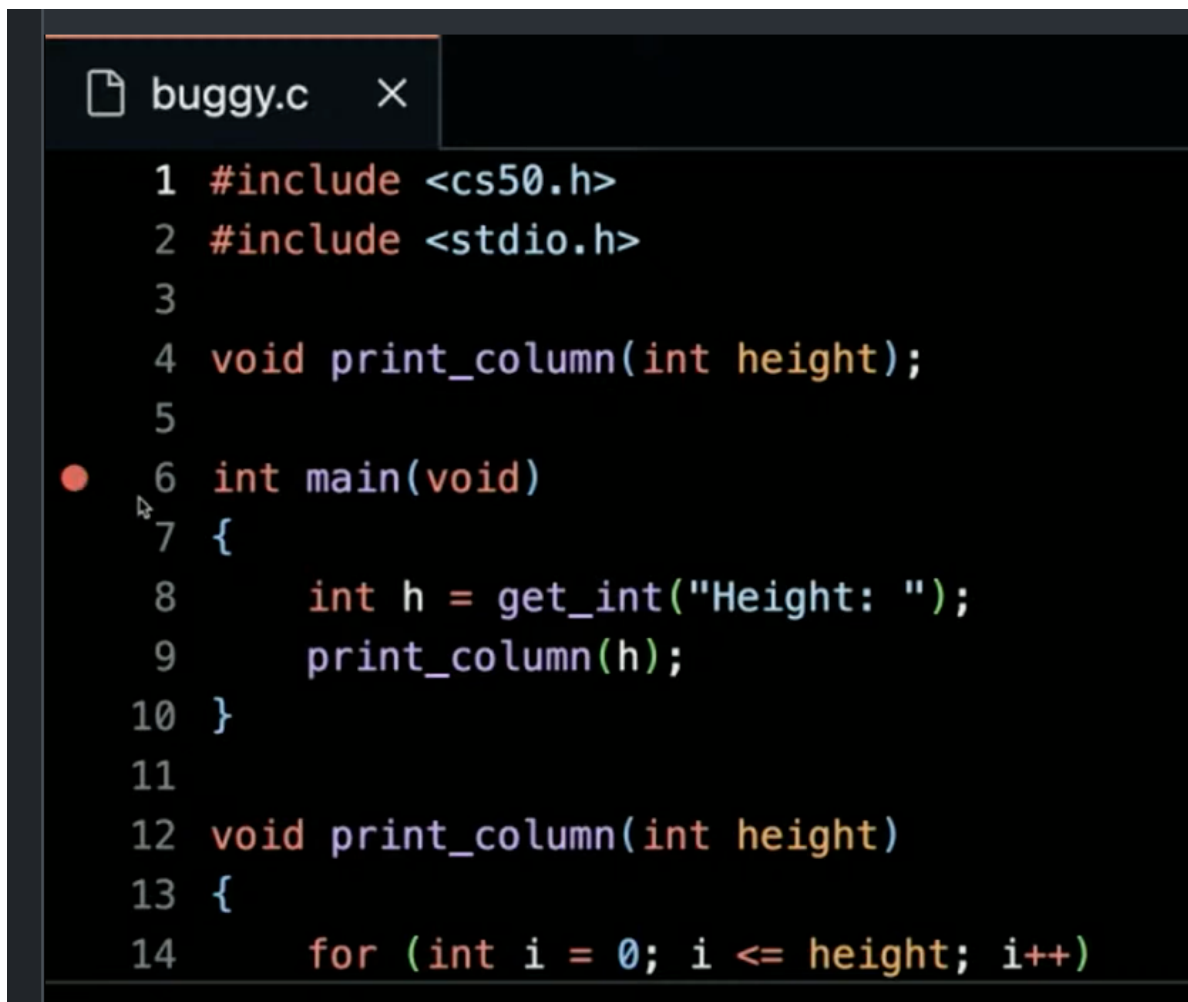
void print_column(int height);

int main(void)
{
    int h = get_int("Height: ");
    print_column(h);
}

void print_column(int height)
{
    for (int i = 0; i <= height; i++)
    {
        printf("#\n");
    }
}
```

Notice that compiling and running this code still results in a bug.

- To address this bug, we will use a new tool at our disposal.
- A second tool in debugging is called a *debugger*, a software tool created by programmers to help track down bugs in code.
- In VS Code, a preconfigured debugger has been provided to you.
- To utilize this debugger, first set a *breakpoint* by clicking to the left of a line of your code, just to the left of the line number. When you click there, you will see a red dot appearing. Imagine this as a stop sign, asking the compiler to pause such that you can consider what's happening in this part of your code.



```
1 #include <cs50.h>
2 #include <stdio.h>
3
4 void print_column(int height);
5
6 int main(void)
7 {
8     int h = get_int("Height: ");
9     print_column(h);
10 }
11
12 void print_column(int height)
13 {
14     for (int i = 0; i <= height; i++)
```

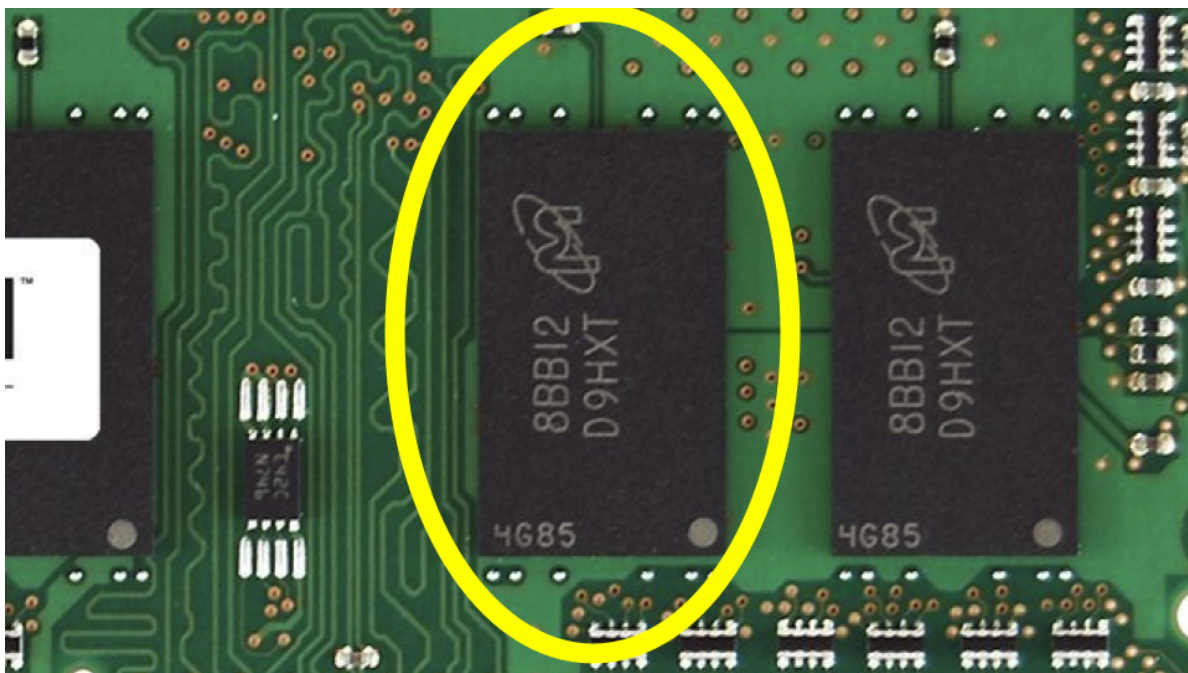
- Second, run `debug50 ./buggy0`. You will notice that after the debugger comes to life that a line of your code will illuminate in a gold-like color. Quite literally, the code has *paused* at this line of code. Notice in the top left corner how all local variables are being displayed, including `h`, which has a current value that does not have a value. At the top of your window, you can click the `step over` button and it will keep moving through your code. Notice how the value of `h` increases.
- While this tool will not show you where your bug is, it will help you slow down and see how your code is running step by step. You can use `step into` as a way to look further into the details of your buggy code.
- A final form of debugging is called *rubber duck debugging*. When you are having challenges with your code, consider how speaking out loud to, quite literally, a rubber duck about the code problem. If you'd rather not talk to a small plastic duck, you are welcome to speak to a human near you! They need not understand how to program: Speaking with them is an opportunity for you to speak about your code.

## Arrays

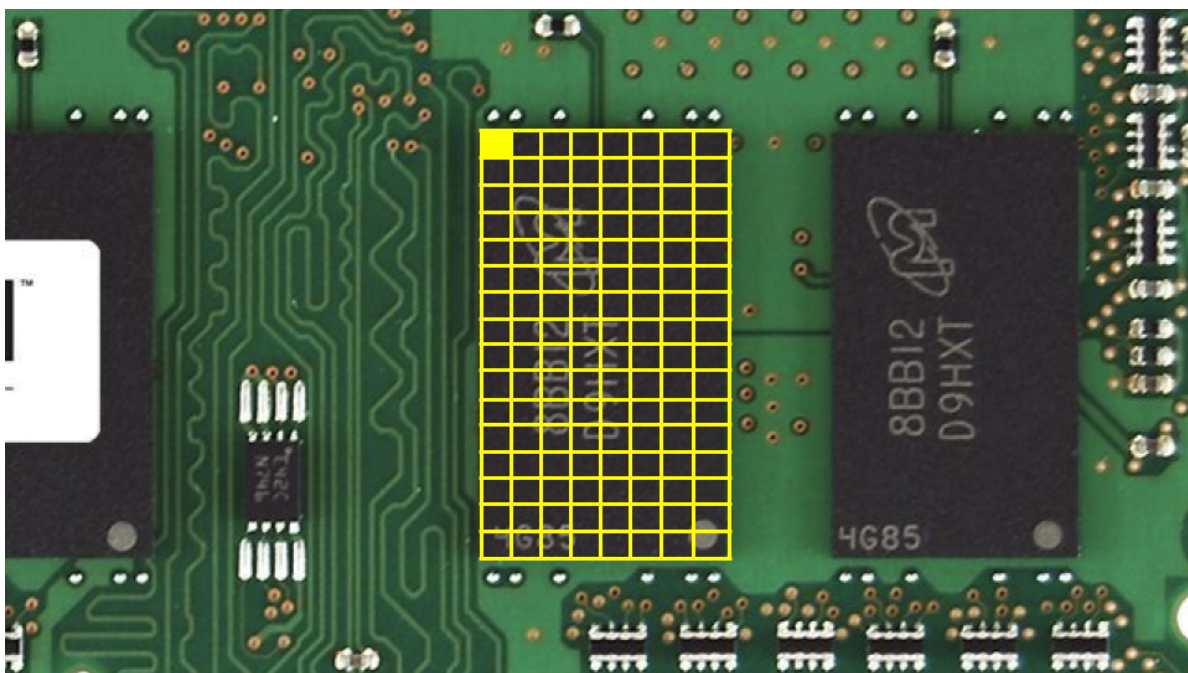
- In Week 0, we talked about *data types* such as `bool`, `int`, `char`, `string`, etc.
- Each data type requires a certain amount of system resources:
  - `bool` 1 byte



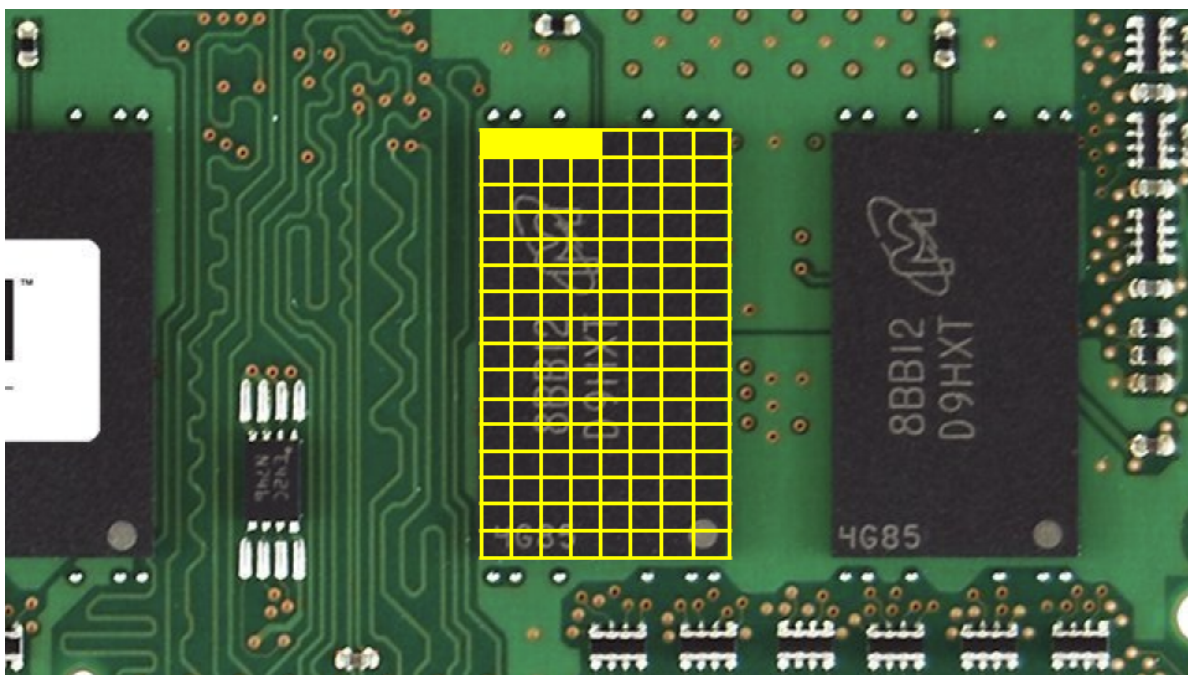
- `int` 4 bytes
  - `long` 8 bytes
  - `float` 4 bytes
  - `double` 8 bytes
  - `char` 1 byte
  - `string` ? bytes
- Inside of your computer, you have a finite amount of memory available.



- Physically, on the memory of your computer, you can imagine how specific types of data are stored on your computer. You might imagine that a `char`, which only requires 1 byte of memory, may look as follows:



- Similarly, an `int`, which requires 4 bytes might look as follows:



- We can create a program that explores these concepts. Inside your terminal, type `code scores.c` and write code as follows:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    // Scores
    int score1 = 72;
    int score2 = 73;
    int score3 = 33;

    // Print average
    printf("Average: %f\n", (score1 + score2 + score3) / 3.0);
}
```

Notice that the number on the right is a floating point value of `3.0`, such that the calculation is rendered as a floating point value in the end.

- Running `make scores`, the program runs.
- You can imagine how these variables are stored in memory:

72 score1				73 score2			
33 score3							

- *Arrays* are a way of storing data back-to-back in memory such that this data is easily accessible.
- `int scores[3]` is a way of telling the compiler to provide you three back-to-back places in memory of size `int` to store three `scores`. Considering our program, you can revise your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    // Scores
    int scores[3];
    scores[0] = get_int("Score: ");
    scores[1] = get_int("Score: ");
    scores[2] = get_int("Score: ");

    // Print average
    printf("Average: %f\n", (scores[0] + scores[1] + scores[2]) / 3.0)
}
```

Notice that `scores[0]` examines the value at this location of memory by indexing into the array called `scores` at location `0` to see what value is stored there.

- You can see how while the above code works, there is still an opportunity for improving our code. Revise your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    // Get scores
    int scores[3];
    scores[0] = get_int("Score: ");
    scores[1] = get_int("Score: ");
```

```
scores[2] = get_int("Score: ");

// Print average
printf("Average: %f\n", (scores[0] + scores[1] + scores[2]) / 3.0
}
```

Notice how we index into `scores` by using `scores[i]` where `i` is supplied by the `for` loop.

- We can simplify or *abstract away* the calculation of the average. Modify your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

// Constant
const int N = 3;

// Prototype
float average(int length, int array[]);

int main(void)
{
    // Get scores
    int scores[N];
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
    {
        scores[i] = get_int("Score: ");
    }

    // Print average
    printf("Average: %f\n", average(N, scores));
}

float average(int length, int array[])
{
    // Calculate average
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < length; i++)
    {
        sum += array[i];
    }
    return sum / (float) length;
}
```

Notice that a new function called `average` is declared. Further, notice that a `const` or constant value of `N` is declared. Most importantly, notice how the `average` function takes `int array[]`, which means that the compiler passes an array to this function.

- Not only can arrays be containers: They can be passed between functions.

## Strings

- A `string` is simply an array of variables of type `char`: an array of characters.
- Considering the following image, you can see how a string is an array of characters that begins with the first character and ends with a special character called a `NUL character`:

H	I	!	\0				
s[0]	s[1]	s[2]	s[3]				

- Imagining this in decimal, your array would look like the following:

72	73	33	0				
s[0]	s[1]	s[2]	s[3]				

- Implementing this in your own code, type `code hi.c` in the terminal window and write code as follows:

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    char c1 = 'H';
    char c2 = 'I';
    char c3 = '!';
```

```
    printf("%c%c%c\n", c1, c2, c3);  
}
```

Notice that this will output a string of characters.

- Similarly, make the following modification to your code:

```
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(void)  
{  
    char c1 = 'H';  
    char c2 = 'I';  
    char c3 = '!';  
  
    printf("%i %i %i\n", c1, c2, c3);  
}
```

Notice that that ASCII codes are printed by replacing `%c` with `%i`.

- To further understand how a `string` works, revise your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(void)  
{  
    string s = "HI!";  
    printf("%c%c%c\n", s[0], s[1], s[2]);  
}
```

Notice how the `printf` statement presents three values from our array called `s`.

- As before, we can replace `%c` with `%i` as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(void)  
{  
    string s = "HI!";  
    printf("%i %i %i %i\n", s[0], s[1], s[2], s[3]);  
}
```

Notice that this prints the string's ASCII codes, including NUL.

- Let's imagine we want to say both `HI!` and `BYE!`. Modify your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>  
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(void)  
{  
    string s = "HI!";  
    string t = "BYE!";  
  
    printf("%s\n", s);  
}
```



```
    printf("%s\n", t);
}
```

Notice that two strings are declared and used in this example.

- You can visualize this as follow:

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]	\0 s[3]	B t[0]	Y t[1]	E t[2]	! t[3]
\0 t[4]							

- We can further improve this code. Modify your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    string words[2];

    words[0] = "HI!";
    words[1] = "BYE!";

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

Notice that both strings are stored within a single array of type `string`.

## String Length

- A common problem within programming, and perhaps C more specifically, is to discover the length of an array. How could we implement this in code? Type `code length.c` in the terminal window and code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
```

```
{
    // Prompt for user's name
    string name = get_string("Name: ");

    // Count number of characters up until '\0' (aka NUL)
    int n = 0;
    while (name[n] != '\0')
    {
        n++;
    }
    printf("%i\n", n);
}
```

Notice that this code loops until the `NUL` character is found.

- This code can be improved by abstracting away the counting as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int string_length(string s);

int main(void)
{
    // Prompt for user's name
    string name = get_string("Name: ");
    int length = string_length(name);
    printf("%i\n", length);
}

int string_length(string s)
{
    // Count number of characters up until '\0' (aka NUL)
    int n = 0;
    while (s[n] != '\0')
    {
        n++;
    }
    return n;
}
```

- Since this is such a common problem within programming, other programmers have created code in the `string.h` library to find the length of a string. You can find the length of a string by modifying your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void)
{
    // Prompt for user's name
    string name = get_string("Name: ");
    int length = strlen(name);
    printf("%i\n", length);
}
```

Notice that this code uses the `string.h` library, declared at the top of the file. Further, it uses a function from that library called `strlen`, which calculates the length of the string passed to it.

- `ctype.h` is another library that is quite useful. Imagine we wanted to create a program that converted all lowercase characters to uppercase ones. In the terminal window type `code uppercase.c` and write code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void)
{
    string s = get_string("Before: ");
    printf("After: ");
    for (int i = 0, n = strlen(s); i < n; i++)
    {
        if (s[i] >= 'a' && s[i] <= 'z')
        {
            printf("%c", s[i] - 32);
        }
        else
        {
            printf("%c", s[i]);
        }
    }
    printf("\n");
}
```

Notice that this code *iterates* through each value in the string. The program looks at each character. If the character is lowercase, it subtracts the value 32 from it to convert it to uppercase.

- Recalling our previous work from last week, you might remember this ASCII values chart:

0	NUL	16	DLE	32	SP	48	0	64	@	80	P	96	`	112	p
1	SOH	17	DC1	33	!	49	1	65	A	81	Q	97	a	113	q
2	STX	18	DC2	34	"	50	2	66	B	82	R	98	b	114	r
3	ETX	19	DC3	35	#	51	3	67	C	83	S	99	c	115	s
4	EOT	20	DC4	36	\$	52	4	68	D	84	T	100	d	116	t
5	ENQ	21	NAK	37	%	53	5	69	E	85	U	101	e	117	u
6	ACK	22	SYN	38	&	54	6	70	F	86	V	102	f	118	v
7	BEL	23	ETB	39	'	55	7	71	G	87	W	103	g	119	w
8	BS	24	CAN	40	(	56	8	72	H	88	X	104	h	120	x
9	HT	25	EM	41	)	57	9	73	I	89	Y	105	i	121	y
10	LF	26	SUB	42	*	58	:	74	J	90	Z	106	j	122	z
11	VT	27	ESC	43	+	59	;	75	K	91	[	107	k	123	{
12	FF	28	FS	44	,	60	<	76	L	92	\	108	l	124	
13	CR	29	GS	45	-	61	=	77	M	93	]	109	m	125	}
14	SO	30	RS	46	.	62	>	78	N	94	^	110	n	126	~
15	SI	31	US	47	/	63	?	79	O	95	_	111	o	127	DEL

- When a lowercase character has 32 subtracted from it, it results in an uppercase version of that same character.
- While the program does what we want, there is an easier way using the `ctype.h` library. Modify your program as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <ctype.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void)
{
    string s = get_string("Before: ");
    printf("After: ");
    for (int i = 0, n = strlen(s); i < n; i++)
    {
        if (islower(s[i]))
        {
            printf("%c", toupper(s[i]));
        }
        else
        {
            printf("%c", s[i]);
        }
    }
    printf("\n");
}
```

Notice that the program iterates through each character of the string. The `toupper` function is passed `s[i]`. Each character (if lowercase) is converted to uppercase.

- It's worth mentioning that `toupper` automatically knows to uppercase only lowercase characters. Hence, your code can be simplified as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <ctype.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void)
{
    string s = get_string("Before: ");
    printf("After: ");
    for (int i = 0, n = strlen(s); i < n; i++)
    {
        printf("%c", toupper(s[i]));
    }
    printf("\n");
}
```

Notice that this code uppercases a string using the `ctype` library.

- You can read about all the capabilities of the `ctype` library on the [Manual Pages \(https://manual.cs50.io/#ctype.h\)](https://manual.cs50.io/#ctype.h).

## Command-Line Arguments

- `Command-line arguments` are those arguments that are passed to your program at the command line. For example, all those statements you typed after `clang` are considered command line arguments. You can use these arguments in your own programs!
- In your terminal window, type `code greet.c` and write code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    string answer = get_string("What's your name? ");
    printf("hello, %s\n", answer);
}
```

Notice that this says `hello` to the user.

- Still, would it not be nice to be able to take arguments before the program even runs? Modify your code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(int argc, string argv[])
{
    if (argc == 2)
    {
        printf("hello, %s\n", argv[1]);
    }
    else
    {
        printf("hello, world\n");
    }
}
```

Notice that this program knows both `argc`, the number of command line arguments, and `argv` which is an array of the characters passed as arguments at the command line.

- Therefore, using the syntax of this program, executing `./greet David` would result in the program saying `hello, David`.

## Exit Status

- When a program ends, a special exit code is provided to the computer.
- When a program exits without error, a status code of `0` is provided the computer. Often, when an error occurs that results in the program ending, a status of `1` is

provided by the computer.

- You could write a program as follows that illustrates this by typing `code status.c` and writing code as follows:

```
#include <cs50.h>
#include <stdio.h>

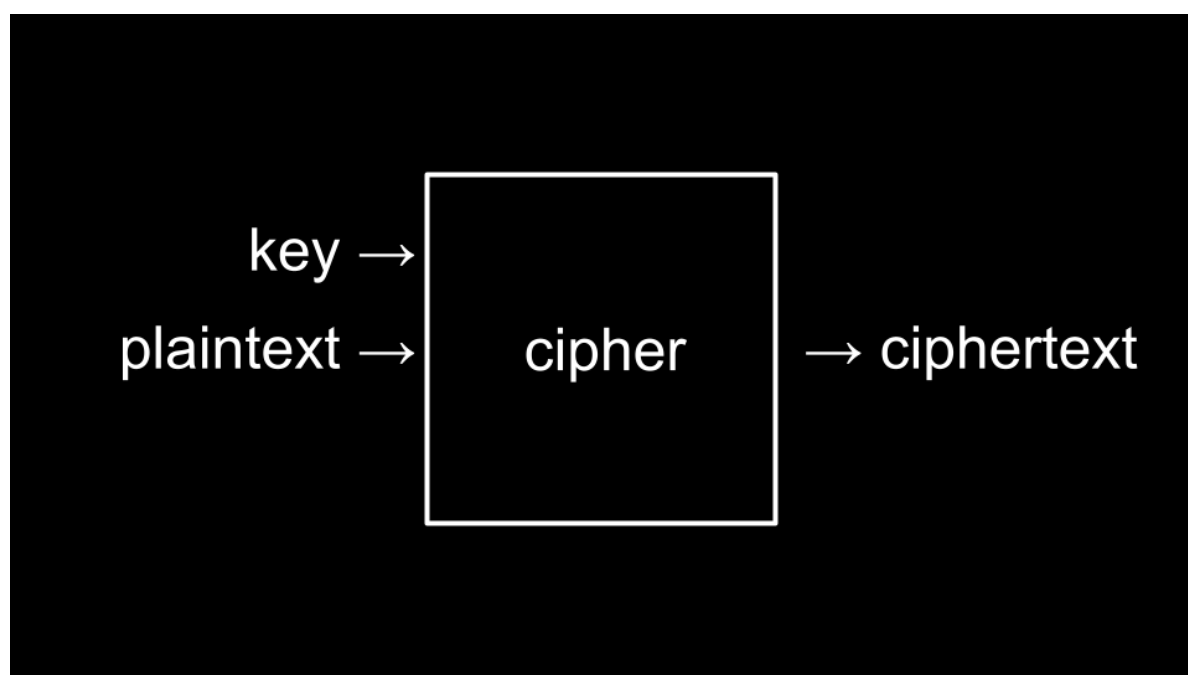
int main(int argc, string argv[])
{
    if (argc != 2)
    {
        printf("Missing command-line argument\n");
        return 1;
    }
    printf("hello, %s\n", argv[1]);
    return 0;
}
```

Notice that if you fail to provide `./status David`, you will get an exit status of `1`. However, if you do provide `./status David`, you will get an exit status of `0`.

- You can imagine how you might use portions of the above program to check if a user provided the correct number of command-line arguments.

## Cryptography

- Cryptography is the art of ciphering and deciphering a message.
- `plaintext` and a `key` are provided to a `cipher`, resulting in ciphered text.



- The key is a special argument passed to the cipher along with the plaintext. The cipher uses the key to make decisions about how to implement its cipher algorithm.



## Summing Up

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In this lesson, you learned more details about compiling and how data is stored within a computer. Specifically, you learned...

- Generally, how a compiler works.
- How to debug your code using four methods.
- How to utilize arrays within your code.
- How arrays store data in back to back portions of memory.
- How strings are simply arrays of characters.
- How to interact with arrays in your code.
- How command-line arguments can be passed to your programs.
- The basic building-blocks of cryptography.

See you next time!