



CSCI-UA.0201-003

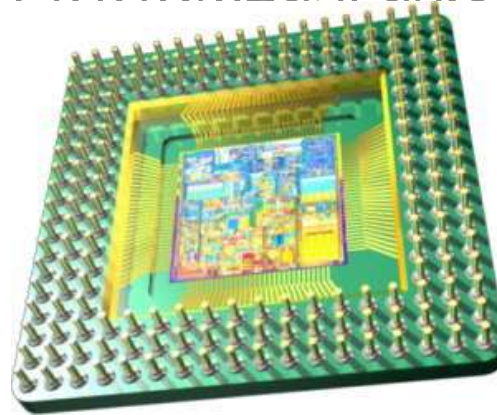
# Computer Systems Organization

## Lecture 2-3: C Programming

Mohamed Zahran (aka Z)

[mzahran@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:mzahran@cs.nyu.edu)

<http://www.mzahran.com>



Many slides of this lecture are adapted from Lewis Girod, CENS Systems Lab  
<http://lecs.cs.ucla.edu/~girod/talks/c-tutorial.ppt>  
and Clark Barrett



**Brian Kernighan**



**Dennis Ritchie**

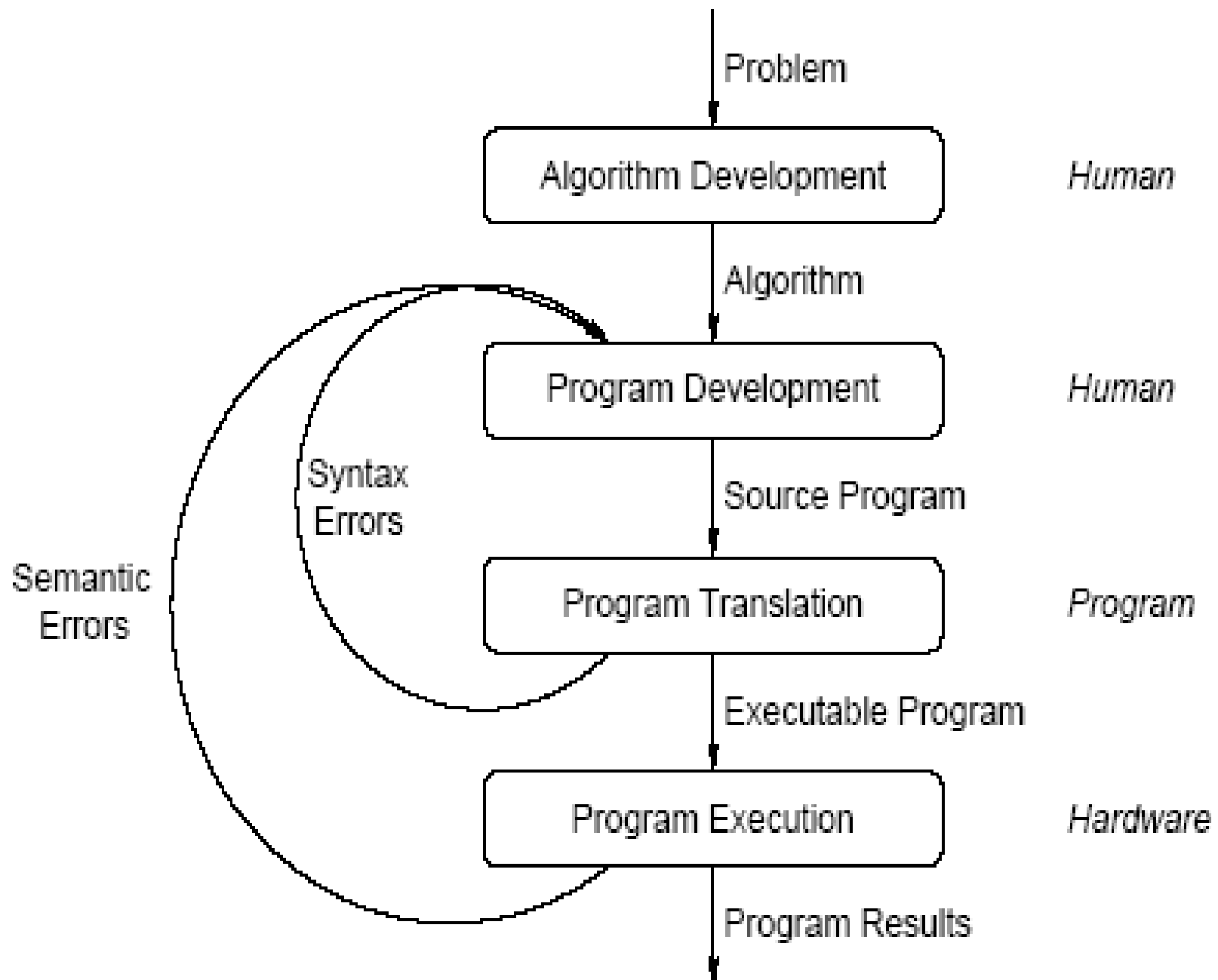
In 1972 **Dennis Ritchie** at Bell Labs writes C and in 1978 the publication of **The C Programming Language** by Kernighan & Ritchie caused a revolution in the computing world

# Why C?

- Mainly because it produces code that runs nearly as fast as code written in assembly language. Some examples of the use of C might be:
  - Operating Systems
  - Language Compilers
  - Assemblers
  - Text Editors
  - Print Spoolers
  - Network Drivers
  - Modern Programs
  - Data Bases
  - Language Interpreters
  - Utilities

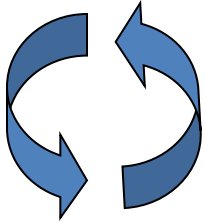
# Your first goal: Learn C!

- Resources
  - KR book: "The C Programming Language"
  - This week's lectures
  - Additional online resources linked from website
- Learning a Programming Language
  - The best way to learn is to write programs
  - Start using the virtual machine environment to play with C
  - Work your way through examples from lectures, KR, and/or additional online tutorials
  - Once you are comfortable writing simple programs in C, take a look at Lab 1



# Writing and Running Programs

```
#include <stdio.h>
/* The simplest C Program */
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    printf("Hello world\n");
    return 0;
}
```



```
$ gcc -Wall -g my_program.c -o my_program
tt.c: In function 'main':
tt.c:6: parse error before `x'
tt.c:5: parm types given both in parmlist and separately
tt.c:8: `x' undeclared (first use in this function)
tt.c:8: (Each undeclared identifier is reported only once
tt.c:8: for each function it appears in.)
tt.c:10: warning: control reaches end of non-void function
tt.c: At top level:
tt.c:11: parse error before `return'
```

1. Write text of program (source code) using an editor such as emacs, save as file e.g. my\_program.c

2. Run the compiler to convert program from source to an “executable” or “binary”:

```
$ gcc -Wall -g my_program.c -o my_program
```

-Wall -g ?

3-N. Compiler gives errors and warnings; edit source file, fix it, and re-compile

N. Run it and see if it works 😊

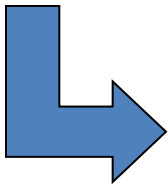
```
$ ./my_program
```

```
Hello World
```

```
$ █
```

./?

What if it doesn't work?



my\_program

# About C

- Hardware independent
- Programs portable to most computers
- Case-sensitive
- Four stages
  - **Editing**: Writing the source code by using some IDE or editor
  - **Preprocessing or libraries**: Already available routines
  - **compiling**: translates or converts source to object code for a specific platform      source code -> object code
  - **linking**: resolves external references and produces the executable module

# C Syntax and Hello World

#include inserts another file. “.h” files are called “header” files. They contain stuff needed to interface to libraries and code in other “.c” files.

Can your program have more than one .c file?

What do the < > mean?

This is a comment. The compiler ignores this.

```
#include <stdio.h>
/* The simplest C Program */
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    printf("Hello world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

The main() function is always where your program starts running.

Blocks of code (“lexical scopes”) are marked by { ... }

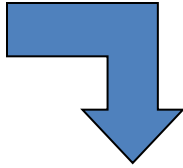
Return ‘0’ from this function

Print out a message. ‘\n’ means “new line”.

# A Quick Digression About the Compiler

```
#include <stdio.h>
/* The simplest C Program */
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    printf("Hello world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Preprocess



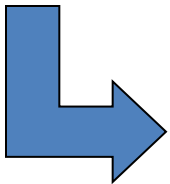
```
__extension__ typedef unsigned long long int __dev_t;
__extension__ typedef unsigned int __uid_t;
__extension__ typedef unsigned int __gid_t;
__extension__ typedef unsigned long int __ino_t;
__extension__ typedef unsigned long long int __ino64_t;
__extension__ typedef unsigned int __nlink_t;
__extension__ typedef long int __off_t;
__extension__ typedef long long int __off64_t;
extern void flockfile (FILE *__stream) ;
extern int ftrylockfile (FILE *__stream) ;
extern void funlockfile (FILE *__stream) ;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    printf("Hello world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Compilation occurs in two steps:  
“**Preprocessing**” and “**Compiling**”

In Preprocessing, source code is “expanded” into a larger form that is simpler for the compiler to understand. Any line that starts with ‘#’ is a line that is interpreted by the Preprocessor.

- Include files are “pasted in” (#include)
- Macros are “expanded” (#define)
- Comments are stripped out ( /\* \*/ , // )
- Continued lines are joined ( \ )

The compiler then converts the resulting text into binary code the CPU can run directly.



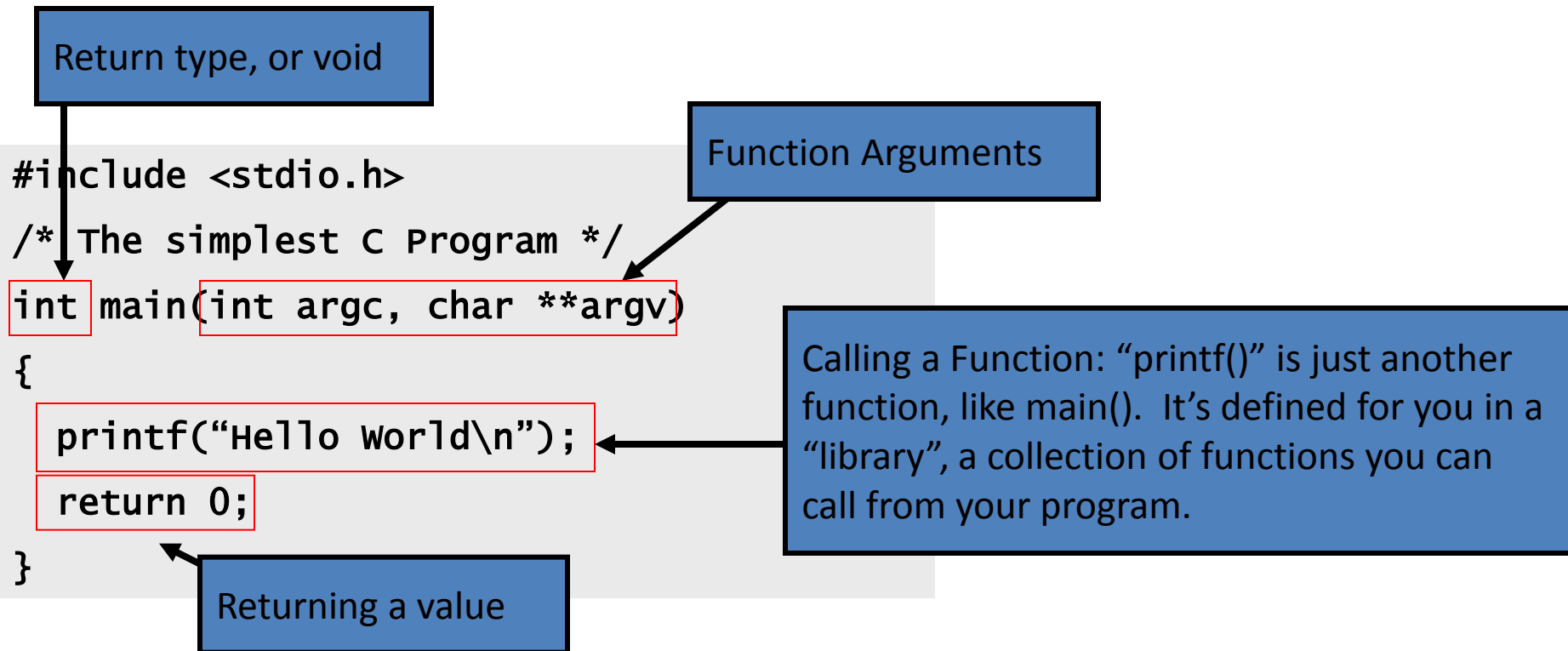
Compile

my\_program

# OK, We're Back.. What is a Function?

A **Function** is a series of instructions to run. You pass **Arguments** to a function and it returns a **Value**.

“main()” is a Function. It’s only special because it always gets called first when you run your program.



# What is "Memory"?

Memory is like a big table of numbered slots where bytes can be stored.

The number of a slot is its **Address**.  
One byte **Value** can be stored in each slot.

Some "logical" data values span more than one slot, like the character string "Hello\n"

A **Type** names a logical meaning to a span of memory. Some simple types are:

`char`  
`char [10]`  
`int`  
`float`  
`int64_t`

a single character (1 slot)  
an array of 10 characters  
signed 4 byte integer  
4 byte floating point  
signed 8 byte integer

not always...

Addr	Value
0	
1	
2	
3	
4	'H' (72)
5	'e' (101)
6	'l' (108)
7	'l' (108)
8	'o' (111)
9	'\n' (10)
10	'\0' (0)
11	
12	

# What is a Variable?

A **Variable** names a place in memory where you store a **Value** of a certain **Type**.

You first **Define** a variable by giving it a name and specifying the type, and optionally an initial value

declare vs define?

```
char x;  
char y='e';
```

Initial value of x is undefined

Initial value

Name

Type is single character (char)

extern? static? const?

The compiler puts them somewhere in memory.

Symbol	Addr	Value
	0	
	1	
	2	
	3	
x	4	?
y	5	'e' (101)
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	

# Multi-byte Variables

Different types consume different amounts of memory. Most architectures store data on “word boundaries”, or even multiples of the size of a primitive data type (int, char)

```
char x;  
char y='e';  
int z = 0x01020304;
```

0x means the constant is  
written in hex

padding

An int consumes 4 bytes

Symbol	Addr	Value
	0	
	1	
	2	
	3	
x	4	?
y	5	'e' (101)
	6	
	7	
z	8	4
	9	3
	10	2
	11	1
	12	

# Lexical Scoping

Every **Variable** is **Defined** within some scope. A Variable cannot be referenced by name (a.k.a. **Symbol**) from outside of that scope.

Lexical scopes are defined with curly braces { }.

→ The scope of Function Arguments is the complete body of the function.

→ The scope of Variables defined inside a function starts at the definition and ends at the closing brace of the containing block

→ The scope of Variables defined outside a function starts at the definition and ends at the end of the file. Called “**Global**” Vars.

(Returns nothing)

```
void p(char x)
{
    /* p,x */
    char y;
    /* p,x,y */
    char z;
    /* p,x,y,z */
}
/* p */
char z;
/* p,z */

void q(char a)
{
    char b;
    /* p,z,q,a,b */
    {
        char c;
        /* p,z,q,a,b,c */
    }
    char d;
    /* p,z,q,a,b,d (not c) */
}
/* p,z,q */
```

char b?

legal?

# Expressions and Evaluation

Expressions combine Values using Operators, according to **precedence**.

$1 + 2 * 2$	$\rightarrow 1 + 4$	$\rightarrow 5$
$(1 + 2) * 2$	$\rightarrow 3 * 2$	$\rightarrow 6$

Symbols are evaluated to their Values before being combined.

```
int x=1;
int y=2;
x + y * y      → x + 2 * 2      → x + 4      → 1 + 4      → 5
```

Comparison operators are used to compare values.  
In C, 0 means “false”, and *any other value* means “true”.

```
int x=4;
(x < 5)           → (4 < 5)           → <true>
(x < 4)           → (4 < 4)           → 0
((x < 5) || (x < 4)) → (<true> || (x < 4)) → <true>
```

↑  
Not evaluated because  
first clause was true

# Precedence

- Highest to lowest
  - $()$
  - $*, /, \%$
  - $+, -$

# Comparison and Mathematical Operators

```
== equal to
< less than
<= less than or equal
> greater than
>= greater than or equal
!= not equal
&& logical and
|| logical or
! logical not
```

+	plus	&	bitwise and
-	minus		bitwise or
*	mult	^	bitwise xor
/	divide	~	bitwise not
%	modulo	<<	shift left
		>>	shift right

The rules of precedence are clearly defined but often difficult to remember or non-intuitive. When in doubt, add parentheses to make it explicit. For oft-confused cases, the compiler will give you a warning “Suggest parens around ...” – do it!

Beware division:

- If second argument is integer, the result will be integer (rounded):  
 $5 / 10 \rightarrow 0$  *whereas*  $5 / 10.0 \rightarrow 0.5$
- Division by 0 will cause a FPE

Don't confuse & and &&..

$1 \& 2 \rightarrow 0$  *whereas*  $1 \&\& 2 \rightarrow \text{<true>}$

# Assignment Operators

<code>x = y</code>	assign <code>y</code> to <code>x</code>
<code>x++</code>	post-increment <code>x</code>
<code>++x</code>	pre-increment <code>x</code>
<code>x--</code>	post-decrement <code>x</code>
<code>--x</code>	pre-decrement <code>x</code>

<code>x += y</code>	assign <code>(x+y)</code> to <code>x</code>
<code>x -= y</code>	assign <code>(x-y)</code> to <code>x</code>
<code>x *= y</code>	assign <code>(x*y)</code> to <code>x</code>
<code>x /= y</code>	assign <code>(x/y)</code> to <code>x</code>
<code>x %= y</code>	assign <code>(x%y)</code> to <code>x</code>

Note the difference between `++x` and `x++`:

```
int x=5;
int y;
y = ++x;
/* x == 6, y == 6 */
```

```
int x=5;
int y;
y = x++;
/* x == 6, y == 5 */
```

Don't confuse `=` and `==`! The compiler will warn "suggest parens".

```
int x=5;
if (x==6)    /* false */
{
    /* ... */
}
/* x is still 5 */
```

```
int x=5;
if (x=6)     /* always true */
{
    /* x is now 6 */
}
/* ... */
```

# A More Complex Program: pow

## “if” statement

```
/* if evaluated expression is not 0 */  
if (expression) {  
    /* then execute this block */  
}  
else {  
    /* otherwise execute this block */  
}
```

Need braces?

X ? Y : Z

Tracing “pow()”:

- What does pow(5,0) do?
- What about pow(5,1)?

```
#include <stdio.h>  
#include <inttypes.h>  
  
float pow(float x, uint32_t exp)  
{  
    /* base case */  
    if (exp == 0) {  
        return 1.0;  
    }  
  
    /* “recursive” case */  
    return x*pow(x, exp - 1);  
}  
  
int main(int argc, char **argv)  
{  
    float p;  
    p = pow(10.0, 5);  
    printf(“p = %f\n”, p);  
    return 0;  
}
```

# The "Stack"

Recall lexical scoping. If a variable is valid "within the scope of a function", what happens when you call that function recursively? Is there more than one "exp"?

Yes. Each function call allocates a "stack frame" where Variables within that function's scope will reside.

float x	5.0	
uint32_t exp	0	Return 1.0
float x	5.0	
uint32_t exp	1	Return 5.0
int argc	1	
char **argv	0x2342	
float p	5.0	

↑  
Grows

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

float pow(float x, uint32_t exp)
{
    /* base case */
    if (exp == 0) {
        return 1.0;
    }

    /* "recursive" case */
    return x*pow(x, exp - 1);
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    float p;
    p = pow(5.0, 1);
    printf("p = %f\n", p);
    return 0;
}
```

# Iterative pow(): the “while” loop

Problem: “recursion” eats stack space (in C). Each loop must allocate space for arguments and local variables, because each new call creates a new “scope”.

Solution: “while” loop.

```
loop:
  if (condition) {
    statements;
    goto loop;
  }
```



```
while (condition) {
  statements;
}
```

```
float pow(float x, uint exp)
{
  int i=0;
  float result=1.0;
  while (i < exp) {
    result = result * x;
    i++;
  }
  return result;
}
```

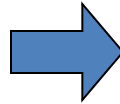
```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
  float p;
  p = pow(10.0, 5);
  printf("p = %f\n", p);
  return 0;
}
```

# The "for" loop

The "for" loop is just shorthand for this "while" loop structure.

```
float pow(float x, uint exp)
{
    float result=1.0;
    int i;
    i=0;
    while (i < exp) {
        result = result * x;
        i++;
    }
    return result;
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    float p;
    p = pow(10.0, 5);
    printf("p = %f\n", p);
    return 0;
}
```



```
float pow(float x, uint exp)
{
    float result=1.0;
    int i;
    for (i=0; i < exp; i++) {
        result = result * x;
    }
    return result;
}

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    float p;
    p = pow(10.0, 5);
    printf("p = %f\n", p);
    return 0;
}
```

# Referencing Data from Other Scopes

So far, all of our examples all of the data values we have used have been defined in our lexical scope

```
float pow(float x, uint exp)
{
    float result=1.0;
    int i;
    for (i=0; (i < exp); i++) {
        result = result * x;
    }
    return result;
}
```

Nothing in this scope

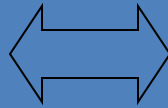
```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    float p;
    p = pow(10.0, 5);
    printf("p = %f\n", p);
    return 0;
}
```

Uses any of these variables

# Can a function modify its arguments?

What if we wanted to implement a function `pow_assign()` that *modified* its argument, so that these are equivalent:

```
float p = 2.0;
/* p is 2.0 here */
p = pow(p, 5);
/* p is 32.0 here */
```



```
float p = 2.0;
/* p is 2.0 here */
pow_assign(p, 5);
/* p is 32.0 here */
```

Would this work?

```
void pow_assign(float x, uint exp)
{
    float result=1.0;
    int i;
    for (i=0; (i < exp); i++) {
        result = result * x;
    }
    x = result;
}
```

# NO!

Remember the stack!

```
void pow_assign(float x, uint exp)
{
    float result=1.0;
    int i;
    for (i=0; (i < exp); i++) {
        result = result * x;
    }
    x = result;
}

{
    float p=2.0;
    pow_assign(p, 5);
}
```

In C, all arguments are passed as values

But, what if the argument is the *address* of a variable?

float x	32.0
uint32_t exp	5
float result	32.0
float p	2.0

↑  
Grows

# Passing Addresses

Recall our model for variables stored in memory

What if we had a way to find out the address of a symbol, and a way to reference that memory location by address?

```
address_of(y) == 5  
memory_at[5] == 101
```

```
void f(address_of_char p)  
{  
    memory_at[p] = memory_at[p] - 32;  
}
```

```
char y = 101;    /* y is 101 */  
f(address_of(y)); /* i.e. f(5) */  
/* y is now 101-32 = 69 */
```

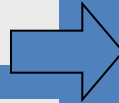
Symbol	Addr	Value
	0	
	1	
	2	
	3	
char x	4	'H' (72)
char y	5	'e' (101)
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	

# "Pointers"

This is exactly how "pointers" work.

"address of" or reference operator: &  
"memory\_at" or dereference operator: \*

```
void f(address_of_char p)
{
    memory_at[p] = memory_at[p] - 32;
}
```



```
char y = 101;      /* y is 101 */
f(address_of(y));  /* i.e. f(5) */
/* y is now 101-32 = 69 */
```

A "pointer type": pointer to char

```
void f(char * p)
{
    *p = *p - 32;
}
```

```
char y = 101;      /* y is 101 */
f(&y);             /* i.e. f(5) */
/* y is now 101-32 = 69 */
```

Pointers are used in C for many other purposes:

- Passing large objects without copying them
- Accessing dynamically allocated memory
- Referring to functions

# Pointer Validity

A **Valid** pointer is one that points to memory that your program controls. Using invalid pointers will cause non-deterministic behavior, and will often cause Linux to kill your process (SEGV or Segmentation Fault).

There are two general causes for these errors:

- Program errors that set the pointer value to a strange number
- Use of a pointer that was at one time valid, but later became invalid

Will ptr be valid or invalid?

```
char * get_pointer()
{
    char x=0;
    return &x;
}

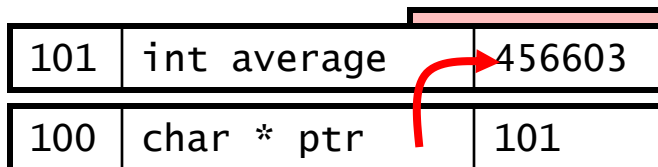
{
    char * ptr = get_pointer();
    *ptr = 12; /* valid? */
}
```

# Answer: Invalid!

A pointer to a variable allocated on the stack becomes invalid when that variable goes out of scope and the stack frame is “popped”. The pointer will point to an area of the memory that may later get reused and rewritten.

```
char * get_pointer()
{
→ char x=0;
→ return &x;
}

{
→ char * ptr = get_pointer();
→ *ptr = 12; /* valid? */
→ other_function();
}
```



Grows

But now, `ptr` points to a location that's no longer in use, and will be reused the next time a function is called!

# More on Types

We've seen a few types at this point: char, int, float, char \*

Types are important because:

- They allow your program to impose logical structure on memory
- They help the compiler tell when you're making a mistake

In the next slides we will discuss:

- How to create logical layouts of different types (structs)
- How to use arrays
- How to parse C type names (there is a logic to it!)
- How to create new types using typedef

# Structures

struct: a way to compose existing types into a structure

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

/* declare the struct */
struct my_struct {
    int counter;
    float average;
    struct timeval timestamp;
    uint in_use:1;
    uint8_t data[0];
};

/* define an instance of my_struct */
struct my_struct x = {
    in_use: 1,
    timestamp: {
        tv_sec: 200
    }
};

x.counter = 1;
x.average = sum / (float)(x.counter);

struct my_struct * ptr = &x;
ptr->counter = 2;
(*ptr).counter = 3; /* equiv. */
```

struct timeval is defined in this header

structs define a layout of typed fields

structs can contain other structs

fields can specify specific bit widths

A newly-defined structure is initialized using this syntax. All unset fields are 0.

Fields are accessed using '.' notation.

A pointer to a struct. Fields are accessed using '->' notation, or (\*ptr).counter

# Arrays

Arrays in C are composed of a particular type, laid out in memory in a repeating pattern. Array elements are accessed by stepping forward in memory from the base of the array by a multiple of the element size.

```
/* define an array of 10 chars */  
char x[5] = {'t','e','s','t','\0'};
```

Brackets specify the count of elements. Initial values optionally set in braces.

```
/* accessing element 0 */  
x[0] = 'T';
```

Arrays in C are 0-indexed (here, 0..9)

```
/* pointer arithmetic to get elt 3 */  
char elt3 = *(x+3); /* x[3] */
```

$x[3] == *(x+3) == \text{'t'}$  (NOT 's'!)

```
/* x[0] evaluates to the first element;  
 * x evaluates to the address of the  
 * first element, or &(x[0]) */
```

```
/* 0-indexed for loop idiom */  
#define COUNT 10  
char y[COUNT];  
int i;  
for (i=0; i<COUNT; i++) {  
    /* process y[i] */  
    printf("%c\n", y[i]);  
}
```

For loop that iterates from 0 to COUNT-1.  
Memorize it!

Symbol	Addr	Value
char x [0]	100	't'
char x [1]	101	'e'
char x [2]	102	's'
char x [3]	103	't'
char x [4]	104	'\0'

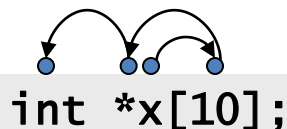
# How to Parse and Define C Types

At this point we have seen a few basic types, arrays, pointer types, and structures. So far we've glossed over how types are named.

```
int x;           /* int;                */ typedef int T;
int *x;          /* pointer to int;           */ typedef int *T;
int x[10];       /* array of ints;           */ typedef int T[10];
int *x[10];      /* array of pointers to int; */ typedef int *T[10];
int (*x)[10];    /* pointer to array of ints; */ typedef int (*T)[10];
```

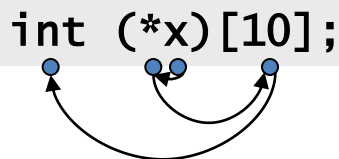
typedef defines a new type

C type names are parsed by starting at the type name and working outwards according to the rules of precedence:



int \*x[10];

x is  
an array of  
pointers to  
int



int (\*x)[10];

x is  
a pointer to  
an array of  
int

Arrays are the primary source of confusion. When in doubt, use extra parens to clarify the expression.

# Function Types

The other confusing form is the function type.

For example, qsort: (a sort function in the standard library)

For more details:  
\$ man qsort

```
void qsort(void *base, size_t nmem, size_t size,  
          int (*compar)(const void *, const void *));
```

← The last argument is a  
comparison function

```
/* function matching this type: */  
int cmp_function(const void *x, const void *y);
```

```
/* typedef defining this type: */  
typedef int (*cmp_type) (const void *, const void *);
```

← const means the function is  
not allowed to modify  
memory via this pointer.

```
/* rewrite qsort prototype using our typedef */  
void qsort(void *base, size_t nmem, size_t size, cmp_type compar);
```

↑  
size\_t is an unsigned int

↑  
void \* is a pointer to memory of unknown type.

# Dynamic Memory Allocation

So far all of our examples have allocated variables **statically** by defining them in our program. This allocates them in the stack.

But, what if we want to allocate variables based on user input or other dynamic inputs, at run-time? This requires **dynamic** allocation.

```
int * alloc_ints(size_t requested_count)
{
    int * big_array;
    big_array = (int *)calloc(requested_count, sizeof(int));
    if (big_array == NULL) {
        printf("can't allocate %d ints: %m\n", requested_count);
        return NULL;
    }

    /* now big_array[0] .. big_array[requested_count-1] are
       * valid and zeroed. */
    return big_array;
}
```

sizeof() reports the size of a type in bytes

For details:  
\$ man calloc

calloc() allocates memory for  
N elements of size k


Returns NULL if can't alloc

%m ?


It's OK to return this pointer. It  
will remain valid until it is  
freed with free()

# Caveats with Dynamic Memory


Dynamic memory is useful. But it has several caveats:



Whereas the stack is automatically reclaimed, dynamic allocations must be tracked and `free()`'d when they are no longer needed. With every allocation, be sure to plan how that memory will get freed. Losing track of memory is called a “memory leak”.



Whereas the compiler enforces that reclaimed stack space can no longer be reached, it is easy to accidentally keep a pointer to dynamic memory that has been freed. Whenever you free memory you must be certain that you will not try to use it again. It is safest to erase any pointers to it.



Because dynamic memory always uses pointers, there is generally no way for the compiler to statically verify usage of dynamic memory. This means that errors that are detectable with static allocation are not with dynamic

# Some Common Errors and Hints

sizeof() can take a variable reference in place of a type name. This guarantees the right allocation, but don't accidentally allocate the sizeof() the *pointer* instead of the *object*!

```
/* allocating a struct with malloc() */
struct my_struct *s = NULL;
s = (struct my_struct *)malloc(sizeof(*s)); /* NOT sizeof(s)!! */
if (s == NULL) {
    printf(stderr, "no memory!");
    exit(1);
}
```

malloc() allocates n bytes

Always check for NULL.. Even if you just exit(1).

```
memset(s, 0, sizeof(*s));
```

malloc() does not zero the memory, so you should memset() it to 0.

```
/* another way to initialize an alloc'd structure: */
struct my_struct init = {
    counter: 1,
    average: 2.5,
    in_use: 1
};
```

```
/* memmove(dst, src, size) (note, arg order like assignment) */
memmove(s, &init, sizeof(init));
```

memmove is preferred because it is safe for shifting buffers

```
/* when you are done with it, free it! */
free(s);
s = NULL;
```

# Dynamic Memory Allocation

- `void *malloc (size_t size);`
- `void* calloc (size_t num, size_t size);`
- `void free (void* ptr);`
- Unary operator **sizeof** is used to determine the size in bytes of any data type. Examples:
  - `sizeof(double)`
  - `sizeof(int)`

# Pointers and Arrays in C

- An array name by itself is an address, or pointer in C.
- When an array is declared, the compiler allocates sufficient space beginning with some base address to accommodate every element in the array.
- The base address of the array is the address of the first element in the array (index position 0).
  - `&num[0]` is the same as `num`

# Pointers and Arrays in C

- Suppose we define the following array and pointer:

```
int a[100], *ptr;
```

Assume that the system allocates memory bytes 400, 404, 408, ..., 796 to the array. Recall that integers are allocated 32 bits = 4 bytes.

- The two statements: `ptr = a;` and `ptr = &a[0];` are equivalent and would assign the value of 400 to `ptr`.
- Pointer arithmetic provides an alternative to array indexing in C.
  - The two statements: `ptr = a + 1;` and `ptr = &a[1];` are equivalent and would assign the value of 404 to `ptr`.

# Pointers and Arrays in C

- Assuming the elements of the array have been assigned values, the following code would sum the elements of the array:

```
sum = 0;
for (ptr = a; ptr < &a[100]; ++ptr)
    sum += *ptr;
```

- Here is a way to sum the array:

```
sum = 0;
for (i = 0; i < 100; ++i)
    sum += *(a + i);
```

`a[b]` in C is just syntactic sugar  
for  
`*(a + b)`

# Strings

- Series of characters treated as a single unit
- Can include letters, digits, and certain special characters (\*, /, \$)
- String literal (string constant) - written in double quotes
  - "Hello"
- Strings are arrays of characters
- Example:
  - `char name[] = "test";`
  - address of the above string can be expressed in two ways:
    - `&name[0]`
    - `name`

# Strings

- String declarations
  - Declare as a character array or a variable of type `char *`  
`char color[] = "blue";`  
`char *colorPtr = "blue";`
  - Remember that strings represented as character arrays end with `'\0'`
    - `color` has 5 elements
- Inputting strings
  - Use **scanf**  
`scanf("%s", word);`
    - Copies input into `word[]`, which does not need `&` (because a string is a pointer)
  - Remember to leave space for `'\0'`

# Character Handling Library

- In `<ctype.h>`

Prototype	Description
<code>int isdigit( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a digit and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isalpha( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a letter and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isalnum( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a digit or a letter and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isxdigit( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a hexadecimal digit character and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int islower( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a lowercase letter and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isupper( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is an uppercase letter; <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int tolower( int c )</code>	If <b>c</b> is an uppercase letter, <b>tolower</b> returns <b>c</b> as a lowercase letter. Otherwise, <b>tolower</b> returns the argument unchanged.
<code>int toupper( int c )</code>	If <b>c</b> is a lowercase letter, <b>toupper</b> returns <b>c</b> as an uppercase letter. Otherwise, <b>toupper</b> returns the argument unchanged.
<code>int isspace( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a white-space character—newline ( <code>'\n'</code> ), space ( <code>' '</code> ), form feed ( <code>'\f'</code> ), carriage return ( <code>'\r'</code> ), horizontal tab ( <code>'\t'</code> ), or vertical tab ( <code>'\v'</code> )—and <b>false</b> otherwise
<code>int iscntrl( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a control character and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int ispunct( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a printing character other than a space, a digit, or a letter and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isprint( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> value if <b>c</b> is a printing character including space ( <code>' '</code> ) and <b>false</b> otherwise.
<code>int isgraph( int c )</code>	Returns <b>true</b> if <b>c</b> is a printing character other than space ( <code>' '</code> ) and <b>false</b> otherwise.

Each function receives a character (an **int**) or **EOF** as an argument

# String Conversion Functions

- in `<string.h>`
- Conversion functions
  - In `<stdlib.h>` (general utilities library)
  - Convert strings of digits to integer and floating-point values

Prototype	Description
<code>double atof( const char *nPtr )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to <b>double</b> .
<code>int atoi( const char *nPtr )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to <b>int</b> .
<code>long atol( const char *nPtr )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to long <b>int</b> .
<code>double strtod( const char *nPtr, char **endPtr )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to <b>double</b> .
<code>long strtol( const char *nPtr, char **endPtr, int base )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to <b>long</b> .
<code>unsigned long strtoul( const char *nPtr, char **endPtr, int base )</code>	Converts the string <code>nPtr</code> to <b>unsigned long</b> .

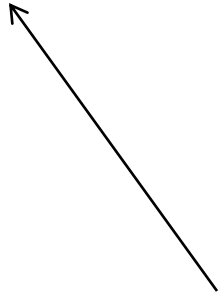
# String Manipulation Functions

- String handling library has functions to
  - Manipulate string data
  - Search strings
  - Determine string length

Function prototype	Function description
<code>char *strcpy( char *s1, const char *s2 )</code>	Copies string <b>s2</b> into array <b>s1</b> . The value of <b>s1</b> is returned.
<code>char *strncpy( char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n )</code>	Copies at most <b>n</b> characters of string <b>s2</b> into array <b>s1</b> . The value of <b>s1</b> is returned.
<code>char *strcat( char *s1, const char *s2 )</code>	Appends string <b>s2</b> to array <b>s1</b> . The first character of <b>s2</b> overwrites the terminating null character of <b>s1</b> . The value of <b>s1</b> is returned.
<code>char *strncat( char *s1, const char *s2, size_t n )</code>	Appends at most <b>n</b> characters of string <b>s2</b> to array <b>s1</b> . The first character of <b>s2</b> overwrites the terminating null character of <b>s1</b> . The value of <b>s1</b> is returned.

# String Manipulation Functions

```
int strcmp ( const char * str1,  
             const char * str2 )
```



**return value**

<0

0

>0

**indicates**

the first character that does  
not match has a lower value in  
*ptr1* than in *ptr2*

the contents of both strings  
are equal

the first character that does  
not match has a greater value  
in *ptr1* than in *ptr2*

# Macros

Macros can be a useful way to customize your interface to C and make your code easier to read and less redundant. However, when possible, use a static inline function instead.

Macros and static inline functions must be included in any file that uses them, usually via a header file. Common uses for macros:

```
/* Macros are used to define constants */  
#define FUDGE_FACTOR    45.6  
#define MSEC_PER_SEC    1000  
#define INPUT_FILENAME  "my_input_file"
```

Float constants must have a decimal point, else they are type int

```
/* Macros are used to do constant arithmetic */  
#define TIMER_VAL        (2*MSEC_PER_SEC)
```

Put expressions in parens.

```
/* Macros are used to capture information from the compiler */  
#define DBG(args...) \  
do { \  
    fprintf(stderr, "%s:%s:%d: ", \  
        __FUNCTION__, __FILE__, __LINE__); \  
    fprintf(stderr, args...); \  
} while (0)
```

Multi-line macros need \

args... grabs rest of args

```
/* ex. DBG("error: %d", errno); */
```

Enclose multi-statement macros in do{}while(0)