

Basics of C

Data and File Structures Laboratory

<http://www.isical.ac.in/~dfs/lab/2017/index.html>

- In-built types and operators
- Conditional statements (`if`): executing statements based on whether some condition holds or does not hold
- Loops: executing statements repeatedly
- Input and output

Variable names

■ REQUIRED

- must start with a letter or underscore (_)
- can contain only letters, underscores, digits
- cannot match *reserved* words
- case-sensitive

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■ RECOMMENDED

- use “meaningful” names
- use `under_scores` or `CamelCase` for long names
- Hungarian notation (much debated!)
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hungarian_notation
 - <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/111933/why-shouldnt-i-use-hungarian-notation>
 - <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/202107/good-examples-of-hungarian-notation>

Integer data types

Type	Size**	Minimum value	Maximum value
char	8	-2^7	$2^7 - 1$
short int	16	-2^{15}	$2^{15} - 1$
int	32	-2^{31}	$2^{31} - 1$
long int	32	-2^{31}	$2^{31} - 1$
long long int	64	-2^{63}	$2^{63} - 1$
unsigned char	8	0	$2^8 - 1$
unsigned short int	16	0	$2^{16} - 1$
unsigned int	32	0	$2^{32} - 1$
unsigned long int	32	0	$2^{32} - 1$
unsigned long long int	64	0	$2^{64} - 1$

“Real” (floating point) numbers

Type	Size
float	32
double	64
long double	128

Examples:

1.23456	3.45e67
1.	+3.45e67
.1	-3.45e-67
-0.12345	.00345e-32
+.4560	1e-15

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- Do not use commas as thousand-separators.
- At times behaviour may be counter-intuitive (more about this later).

Arithmetic operators: + - * / %

Increment decrement operator: ++ --

Relational operators: < <= == != >= >

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Boolean operators: && || !

Boolean values

Any non-zero value is **TRUE**; zero is **FALSE**

Examples:

0	False	0e10	False
1	True	'A'	True
6 - 2 * 3	False	'\0'	False
(6 - 2) * 3	True	x = 0	False
0.0075	True	x = 1	True

Conditionals: if, if-else

```
if (condition) {  
    statements  
}
```

```
if (condition) {  
    statements  
}  
else {  
    statements  
}
```

Conditionals: switch

```
switch (E) {  
    case value1 :  
        statement;  
        break;  
    case val2 :  
        statement;  
        break;  
    ...  
    case valn :  
        statement;  
        break;  
    default:  
        statement;  
}
```

Loops

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while (condition) {  
    statement;  
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    statement;  
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    statement;  
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```

```
do {  
    statement;  
} while (condition);
```

```
for ( initialisation ; condition ; update operation ) {  
    statement;  
}
```

- **break:** immediately jump to the next operation after the loop
- **continue:** do the update operation if applicable, and continue with the next iteration of the loop

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```
for (i=1; i<=100; ++i) {  
    printf("%4d",i);  
    if (i%10 != 0)  
        continue;  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

- **break:** immediately jump to the next operation after the loop
- **continue:** do the update operation if applicable, and continue with the next iteration of the loop

```
for (i=1; i<=100; ++i) {  
    printf("%4d",i);  
    if (i%10 != 0)  
        continue;  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

```
i = 0;  
while (i < 100) {  
    ++i;  
    printf("%4d",i);  
    if (i%10 != 0) continue;  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

I/O from the terminal

- **printf, scanf**
- **getchar, putchar**

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I/O from files

- File pointers: `FILE *`
- **fopen, fclose**
- **fprintf, fscanf**
- **fgetc, fputc**
- **fgets, fputs**

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- Practice reading man pages.
e.g. `$ man fopen`
- **Do not use `gets()`!**

Acknowledgements

- <http://cse.iitkgp.ac.in/~pds/notes/>
(please see the above page for many more practice problems)