C Introduction

CS 2130: Computer Systems and Organization 1

March 27, 2023

Announcements

- Homework 6 Escape Room due tonight at 11pm
- If you are having `git` issues, please come to office hours!
- Exam 2 next Friday

Simple C Example

```
int main() {
    return 0;
}
```

The `main` function

- Start running the `main()` function
- `main` must return an integer - **exit code**
  - `0` = everything went okay
  - Anything else = something went wrong
- There *should* be arguments to main

Examples

C

Helpful Resources

- Wikipedia
- Our Reference and Summary

`sizeof()` - returns size in bytes

- `sizeof(int)` returns 4

Data Types in C

Integer data types

Data type	Size
char	
short	
int	
long	
long long	

Each has 2 versions: *signed* and *unsigned*

Data Types in C

Floating point

- float
- double

Data Types in C

Data Types in C

Pointers - how C uses addresses!

Data Types in C

Pointers - how C uses addresses!

- Hold the address of a position in memory
- Need to know the kind of information stored at that location

Example

```
int main() {
    int x = 3;
    long y = 4;
    int *a = &x;
    long *b = &y;
    long z = *a;
    int w = *b;
    return 0;
}
```

Example

```
int main() {
    int x = 3;
    long y = 4;
    int *a = &x;
    long *b = &y;
    long z = *a;
    int w = *b;
    return 0;
}
```

```
0000000000000000 <main>:
   0:   55                      push   %rbp
   1:   48 89 e5                mov    %rsp,%rbp
   4:   31 c0                   xor    %eax,%eax
   6:   c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00    movl   $0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
   d:   c7 45 f8 03 00 00 00    movl   $0x3,-0x8(%rbp)
  14:   48 c7 45 f0 04 00 00    movq   $0x4,-0x10(%rbp)
  1b:   00
  1c:   48 8d 4d f8             lea    -0x8(%rbp),%rcx
  20:   48 89 4d e8             mov    %rcx,-0x18(%rbp)
  24:   48 8d 4d f0             lea    -0x10(%rbp),%rcx
  28:   48 89 4d e0             mov    %rcx,-0x20(%rbp)
  2c:   48 8b 4d e8             mov    -0x18(%rbp),%rcx
  30:   48 63 09                movslq (%rcx),%rcx
  33:   48 89 4d d8             mov    %rcx,-0x28(%rbp)
  37:   48 8b 4d e0             mov    -0x20(%rbp),%rcx
  3b:   48 8b 09                mov    (%rcx),%rcx
  3e:   89 4d d4                mov    %ecx,-0x2c(%rbp)
  41:   5d                      pop    %rbp
  42:   c3                      retq
```

Arrays

Array: 0 or more values of same type stored contiguously in memory

- Declare as you would use: `int myarr[100];`
- `sizeof(myarr)` = 400 — 100 4-byte integers
- `myarr` treated as pointer to first element
- Can declare array literals:
  `int y[5] = {1, 1, 2, 3, 5}`

Pointers and Arrays

`*x` and `x[0]` are equivalent

- Pointer to single value and pointer to first value in array
- Treat array as pointer to the first value (lowest address)
- Indexing into array: `x[n]` and `*(x+n)`
  - If `x` is an `int *`, then `x+1` points to **next int** in memory
  - Adding 1 to pointer adds `sizeof()` the type we're pointing to

Pointers and Arrays

Consider: `int **a`

Example

Swap Example

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

Pointers

- All pointers are the same size: address size in underlying ISA
- Two special int types (defined using typedef)
  - `size_t` - integer the size of a pointer (unsigned)
  - `ssize_t` - integer the size of a pointer (signed)
  - With our compiler and ISA, these are both variants of `long`

Pointers

Consider the following code:

```
int x = 10;
int *y = &x;
int *z = y + 2;
long w = ((long)z) - ((long)y);
```

Why is `w` = 8?

Other Types and Values

- Literal values - integer literals are implicitly cast
  - `unsigned long very_big = 9223372036854775808uL`
  - `u` for unsigned, `L` for long
- `enum` - named integer constants (in ascending order)
  - ```
    enum { a, b, c, d=100, e };
    int foo = e;
    ```
- `void` - a byte with no meaning or ”nothing”
  - Pointers: `void *p`
  - Return values: `void myfunction();`
- Casting - changing type, converting
  - Integer: zero- or sign-extend or truncate to space
  - Int to float: convert to nearby representable value
  - Float to int: truncate remainder (no rounding)
    ```

Structures

`struct` - Structures in C

- Act like Java classes, but no methods and all public fields
- Stores fields adjacently in memory (but may have padding)
- Compiler determines padding, use `sizeof()` to get size
- Name of the resulting type includes word `struct`

```
struct foo {
    long a;
    int b;
    short c;
    char d;
};

struct foo x;
x.b = 123;
x.c = 4;
```

Structure Literals

```
struct a {
    int b;
    double c;
};

/* Both of the following initialize b to 0 and c to 1.0 */
struct a x = { 0, 1.0 };
struct a y = { .b = 0, .c = 1.0 };
```

typedef

`typedef` - give new names to any type!

- Fairly common to see several names for same data type to convey intent
- Ex: `unsigned long` may be `size_t` when used in sizes
- Examples:

```
typedef int Integer;
Integer x = 4;
typedef double ** dpp;
```

- Used with *anonymous structs*:

```
typedef struct { int x; double y; } foo;
foo z = { 42, 17.4 };
```

Struct Example