

## Chapter 12 Variables and Operators

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## Basic C Elements

- **Variables**
  - named, typed data items
- **Operators**
  - predefined actions performed on data items
  - combined with variables to form expressions, statements
- Rules and usage
- Implementation using LC-3 instructions

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## Data Types

- C has three basic data types
  - int** integer (at least 16 bits)
  - double** floating point (at least 32 bits)
  - char** character (at least 8 bits)
- Exact size can vary, depending on processor
  - **int** is supposed to be “natural” integer size, for LC-3 that’s 16 bits, LC-3 does not have **double**
  - **int** on a modern processor is usually 32 bits, **double** is usually 64 bits

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## Variable Names: Rules

- Any combination of letters, numbers, and underscore (`_`)
- **Case matters**
  - “sum” is different than “Sum”, “printf” is not “Printf”, and “while” is not “WHILE”.
- **Cannot begin with a number**
  - usually variables beginning with underscore are used only in special library routines
- **Restricted length?**
  - compiler dependent, older implementations recognized as few as 31 characters

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## Variable Names: Customs

- Separate words with underscores (`big_dog`) or CamelCase (`bigDog`)
- Lowercase for variables (`buffer`)
- All caps for constants (`BUFFER_LENGTH`), whether via `#define` or `const`
- Capitalized for structures (`struct Packet`)

## Examples

### ● Legal

```
i
wordsPerSecond
words_per_second
_green
aReally_longName_moreThan31chars
aReally_longName_moreThan31characters
```

*same identifier*

### ● Illegal

```
10sdigit
ten'sdigit
done?
double
```

*reserved keyword*

## Literals

### ● Integer

```
123 // decimal
-0123 // octal (leading 0)
0x123 // hexadecimal (0x)
```

### ● Floating point

```
6.023 // double
6.023e23 // double, 6.023 x 1023
5E12f // float, 5.0 x 1012
```

### ● Character

```
'c'
'\n' // newline
'\xA' // character code 10 (0xA)
```

## Scope: Global and Local

- Where is the variable accessible?
- **Global:** accessed anywhere in program
- **Local:** only accessible in a particular region
- Compiler infers scope from where variable is declared in the program
  - programmer doesn't have to explicitly state
- **Variable is local to the block in which it is declared**
  - block defined by open and closed braces { }
  - can access variable declared in any "containing" block
  - global variables are declared outside all blocks

## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
int itsGlobal = 0;

int main()
{
    int itsLocal = 1; /* local to main */
    printf("Global %d Local %d\n", itsGlobal, itsLocal);
    {
        int itsLocal = 2; /* local to this block */
        itsGlobal = 4; /* change global variable */
        printf("Global %d Local %d\n", itsGlobal, itsLocal);
    }
    printf("Global %d Local %d\n", itsGlobal, itsLocal);
}
```

### Output

```
Global 0 Local 1
Global 4 Local 2
Global 4 Local 1
```

## Operators

- Programmers manipulate variables using the **operators** provided by the high-level language.
- Variables and operators combine to form **expressions** and **statements**.
- These constructs denote the work to be done by the program.
- Each operator may correspond to many machine instructions.
  - Example: The multiply operator (\*) typically requires multiple LC-3 ADD instructions.

## Expression

- Any combination of variables, constants, operators, and function calls
  - every expression has a type, derived from the types of its components (according to C typing rules)
- Examples:
  - counter >= STOP
  - x + sqrt(y)
  - x & z + 3 || 9 - w-- % 6

## Statement

- Expresses a complete unit of work
  - executed in sequential order
- Simple statement ends with semicolon
  - z = x \* y; /\* assign product to z \*/
  - y = y + 1; /\* after multiplication \*/
  - ; /\* null statement \*/
- Compound statement groups simple statements using braces.
  - syntactically equivalent to a simple statement
  - { z = x \* y; y = y + 1; }

## Operators

Three things to know about each operator:

- **(1) Functionality**
  - what does the operator do?
- **(2) Precedence**
  - in which order are operators combined?
  - Example:  $a * b + c * d$  is the same as  $(a * b) + (c * d)$  since multiply has higher precedence than addition
- **(3) Associativity**
  - in which order are operators of the same precedence combined?
  - Example:  $a - b - c$  is the same as  $(a - b) - c$  because add and subtract associate left-to-right

## Assignment Operator

- Changes the value of a variable.

`x = x + 4;`

1. Evaluate right-hand side.

2. Set value of left-hand side variable to result.

## Assignment Operator

- All expressions evaluate to a value, even ones with the assignment operator.
- **For assignment, the result is the value assigned.**
  - usually (but not always) the value of right-hand side
  - type conversion might make assigned value different than computed value
- **Assignment associates right to left.**

`y = x = 3;`

- y gets the value 3, because  $(x = 3)$  evaluates to the value 3.

## Arithmetic Operators

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
*	multiply	$x * y$	6	l-to-r
/	divide	$x / y$	6	l-to-r
%	modulo	$x \% y$	6	l-to-r
+	add	$x + y$	7	l-to-r
-	subtract	$x - y$	7	l-to-r

- All associate left to right.
- \* / % have higher precedence than + -.
- Full precedence chart on page 602 of textbook

## Arithmetic Expressions

- If mixed types, smaller type is “promoted” to larger.

$x + 4.3$

- if x is int, converted to double and result is double

- Integer division—fraction is dropped.

$x / 3$

- if x is int and x=5, result is 1 (not 1.666666...)

- Modulo—result is remainder.

$x \% 3$

- if x is int and x=5, result is 2.

## Bitwise Operators

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
~	bitwise NOT	$\sim x$	4	r-to-l
<<	left shift	$x \ll y$	8	l-to-r
>>	right shift	$x \gg y$	8	l-to-r
&	bitwise AND	$x \& y$	11	l-to-r
^	bitwise XOR	$x \wedge y$	12	l-to-r
	bitwise OR	$x   y$	13	l-to-r

- Operate on variables bit-by-bit.
  - Like LC-3 AND and NOT instructions.
- Shift operations are logical (not arithmetic).
  - Operate on *values* -- neither operand is changed.

## Logical Operators

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
!	logical NOT	$!x$	4	r-to-l
&&	logical AND	$x \&\& y$	14	l-to-r
	Logical OR	$x    y$	15	l-to-r

- Treats entire variable (or value) as TRUE (non-zero) or FALSE (zero).
- Result of a logical operation is always either TRUE (1) or FALSE (0).

## Relational Operators

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
>	greater than	$x > y$	9	l-to-r
>=	greater or equal	$x \geq y$	9	l-to-r
<	less than	$x < y$	9	l-to-r
<=	less or equal	$x \leq y$	9	l-to-r
==	equals	$x == y$	10	l-to-r
!=	not equals	$x != y$	10	l-to-r

- Result is 1 (TRUE) or 0 (FALSE).
- **Note: Don't confuse equality (==) with assignment (=)!**

## Special Operators: ++ and --

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
++	postincrement	<code>x++</code>	2	r-to-l
--	postdecrement	<code>x--</code>	2	r-to-l
++	preincrement	<code>--x</code>	3	r-to-l
--	predecrement	<code>++x</code>	3	r-to-l

- Changes value of variable before (or after) its value is used in an expression.
  - Pre:** Increment/decrement variable **before** using its value.
  - Post:** Increment/decrement variable **after** using its value.

## Using ++ and --

`x = 4;`

`y = x++;`

- Results: `x = 5, y = 4`  
(because x is incremented after yielding a value)

`x = 4;`

`y = ++x;`

- Results: `x = 5, y = 5`  
(x is incremented before yielding a value)

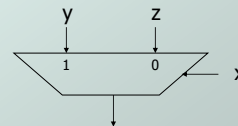
## Practice with Precedence

- Assume `a=1, b=2, c=3, d=4`.
- `x = a * b + c * d / 2; /* x = 8 */`
- same as:  
`x = (a * b) + ((c * d) / 2);`
- For long or confusing expressions, **use parentheses**, because reader might not have memorized precedence table.
- Note: Assignment operator has lowest precedence, so operations on the right-hand side are evaluated before assignment.

## Special Operator: Conditional

Symbol	Operation	Usage	Precedence	Assoc
<code>?:</code>	conditional	<code>x?y:z</code>	16	l-to-r

- If `x` is TRUE (non-zero), result is `y`; else, result is `z`.
- Like a MUX, with `x` as the select signal.



## Undefined Behavior

- `int a;`
  - `int b=5, c = b * ++b;`
  - `int d=8, e = d++ * d++;`
  - `int f=7; f = f++;`
  - `int g=3; printf("%d %d\n", ++g, ++g);`
  - `int alpha() { printf("alpha"); return 1; }`  
`int beta() { printf("beta"); return 1; }`  
`int gamma = alpha()+beta();`
- Experimentation proves *nothing!*

## Special Operators: +=, \*=, etc.

- Arithmetic and bitwise operators can be combined with assignment operator.

Statement	Equivalent assignment
<code>x += y;</code>	<code>x = x + y;</code>
<code>x -= y;</code>	<code>x = x - y;</code>
<code>x *= y;</code>	<code>x = x * y;</code>
<code>x /= y;</code>	<code>x = x / y;</code>
<code>x %= y;</code>	<code>x = x % y;</code>
<code>x &amp;= y;</code>	<code>x = x &amp; y;</code>
<code>x  = y;</code>	<code>x = x   y;</code>
<code>x ^= y;</code>	<code>x = x ^ y;</code>
<code>x &lt;&lt;= y;</code>	<code>x = x &lt;&lt; y;</code>
<code>x &gt;&gt;= y;</code>	<code>x = x &gt;&gt; y;</code>

All have same precedence and associativity as = and associate right-to-left.

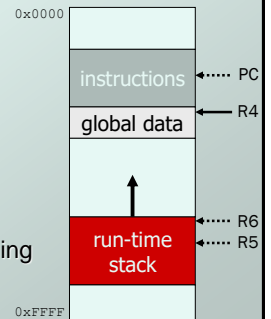
## Symbol Table

- Like assembler, compiler needs to know information associated with identifiers
  - in assembler, all identifiers were labels and information is address
- Compiler keeps more information
  - Name (identifier)
  - Type
  - Location in memory
  - Scope

Name	Type	Offset	Scope
amount	int	0	main
hours	int	-3	main
minutes	int	-4	main
rate	int	-1	main
seconds	int	-5	main
time	int	-2	main

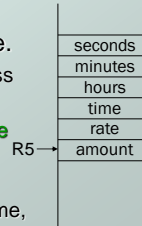
## Allocating Space for Variables

- **Global data section**
  - All global variables stored here
  - R4 points to beginning
- **Run-time stack**
  - Used for local variables
  - R6 points to top of stack
  - R5 points to top frame on stack
  - New frame for each block (goes away when block exited)
- Offset = distance from beginning of storage area
  - Global: `LDR R1, R4, #4`
  - Local: `LDR R2, R5, #-3`



## Local Variable Storage

- Local variables are stored in an **activation record**, also known as a **stack frame**.
- Symbol table “offset” gives the distance from the base of the frame.
  - R5** is the **frame pointer** – holds address of the base of the current frame.
  - A new frame is pushed on the **run-time stack** each time a block is entered.
  - Because stack grows downward, base is the highest address of the frame, and variable offsets are  $\leq 0$ .



## Variables and Memory Locations

- In our examples, a variable is always stored in memory.
- When assigning to a variable, must store to memory location.
- A real compiler would perform code optimizations that try to keep variables allocated in registers.

**Why?**

## Example: Compiling to LC-3

```
#include <stdio.h>
int inGlobal;
int main()
{
    int inLocal; /* local to main */
    int outLocalA;
    int outLocalB;
    /* initialize */
    inLocal = 5;
    inGlobal = 3;
    /* perform calculations */
    outLocalA = inLocal++ & ~inGlobal;
    outLocalB = (inLocal + inGlobal) - (inLocal -
inGlobal);
    /* print results */
    printf("The results are: outLocalA = %d, outLocalB
= %d\n", outLocalA, outLocalB);
}
```

## Example: Symbol Table

Name	Type	Offset	Scope
inGlobal	int	0	global
inLocal	int	0	main
outLocalA	int	-1	main
outLocalB	int	-2	main