

Extra C Material

Based on material in: **The C Programming Language, Second Edition** by [Brian W. Kernighan](#) and [Dennis M. Ritchie](#). Prentice Hall, Inc., 1988.

Two dimensional array vs pointer to array

```
char *students[] = {"Fi", "April", "Raghd", "Jack", "Bobby"};
```

students:

```
char stu_arr[][10] = {"Fi", "April", "Raghd", "Jack", "Bobby"};
```

stu_arr:

students[2][3]; and stu_arr[2][3]; are both valid

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Access two dimensional array with one index

- Two dimensional arrays are stored in memory as a large one dimensional array
- Sometimes it is convenient to index into this array with a single index
- First dimension is rows
- Second dimension is columns

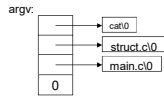
```
int a[3][4];
int x;
x = a[1][3]; // this is equivalent to
x = a[7]; // this
```

- Formula for conversion**
 - index = row index * number of columns + column index

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char *argv[]

- argv: Argument Vector
- Pointer to array of character strings
- argv[0]: name of current program
 - Number of args at least 1
- argv[1- n]: command line arguments
- Terminated by a null pointer



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Function Pointers

Functions are not variables in C

Pointers to functions are

Things you can do with a function pointer

- Assignment
- Store an array of function pointers
- Use as a function argument
- Return function pointer from a function

Ex. `int (*foo)(char *, char *);`

- foo is a pointer to a function that takes two char * arguments and returns an int;
- Parenthesis needed
 - `int * foo(char *, char *);`
 - foo is a function that takes two char * arguments and returns an int *.

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Function Pointers

Why parenthesis around function pointer name:

- precedence of * vs ()

Typedef function pointer

- `typedef int (*FOO)(int, int);`
- FOO now has the type pointer to function that takes two int arguments

Store a function in a function pointer

```
int bar(int a, int b){  
    return a + b;  
}
```

```
int (*foo)(int, int);  
foo = &bar;
```

```
typedef int (*FOO)(int, int);  
FOO f = &bar;
```

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Unions

Unions are variables that use the same memory area to hold objects of different types and possibly sizes

- Only one object can be stored at any one time
- Bits in memory do not change only how they are interpreted
- Programmers job to keep track of what type is currently being stored in the union

Same operations as a struct:

- . for union variable member
- -> for union pointer member
- Assign to
- Copy
- Take address of

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Unions

Ex.

```
int main() {
    union tag {
        float f;
        int x;
        char *s;
    } t; // all members reference the same memory/data/bits

    t.f = 999999;
    printf("%f\n", t.f); // print value of float member as a float
    printf("%d\n", t.x); // print value of int member as an int
}
```

- Can be members of structs or have structs as members
- Can only be initialized with a value of the same type as the first member
 - In this case float

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Bit Fields

Bit Fields are a way to directly access bits

- Save space
- Change individual bit values without masks
 - $x = x | xffff;$
- Implementation dependent
 - Not very portable
- Fields declared as ints
 - Specify unsigned or signed for better portability
 - Fields behave like small integers

Ex.

```
struct car{
    unsigned int ignition_on: 1;
    : 7 // unnamed fields used as padding
    unsigned int engine_status: 3; // fields can have different width
} p_car;
p_car.ignition_on = 1; // easy to change a bits value
```

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