

ESc 101: FUNDAMENTALS OF COMPUTING

Lecture 11

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- Why did we end up with the messy program for something as simple as adding integers?
- We blindly started writing the program, patching it whenever we found a mistake.
- This is poor programming technique, and invariably ends up with:
 - ▶ messy programs,
 - ▶ many errors along the way, and
 - ▶ hard-too-understand programs.

REVISITING THE PROBLEM

Let us write down the steps we wish the program to perform, at a high level:

1. Read a number.
2. Read another number.
3. Add the two numbers.
4. Output the result.

FIXING DATA STRUCTURE

A **data structure** is an organization of memory locations in which we store the data needed for the program.

Let us now fix the data structure needed for storing large numbers.

FIXING DATA STRUCTURE

- Assume that the largest number will be 100 digits long.
- As we have already discussed, we can store it in an array of size 100.
- However, there are still two issues to be resolved:
 - ▶ How do we handle different number of digits in numbers?
 - ▶ In what sequence should we store the digits of a number?

HANDLING SIZE

- One way is to store the digits in sequence and then store a non-digit to signify end of number:
 - ▶ This means that we should declare an array of size **101** instead of **100**.
- Another way is to store the size in a separate variable:
 - ▶ This means that the number would require an array plus an additional variable to store.

Let us choose the first method.

MOST OR LEAST SIGNIFICANT DIGIT FIRST?

- Storing most significant digit first creates problem during addition:
 - ▶ In case the result has an extra digit, we have to shift the entire sequence by one.
 - ▶ When the number of digits are different for two numbers, we have to start the addition at different indices.
- Storing least significant digit first creates problem during input / output:
 - ▶ The input is read with most significant digit first, we have to reverse the order for storage.
 - ▶ Same issue during output.

Let us choose to store least significant digit first.

AN ADVANTAGE OF STORING LSD FIRST

- We do not need to end the digit sequence of a number with a non-digit!
- Just fill in 0's after the digits are over up to SIZE digits.
- Now the size of the array needs to be SIZE only.

BACK TO PROGRAM: DECLARATIONS

```
#define SIZE 100
main()
{
    /* Digits of numbers are stored in reverse order */
    char number1[SIZE]; /* first number */
    char number2[SIZE]; /* second number */
    char number3[SIZE]; /* stores result */
```

READING A NUMBER

```
char symbol; /* stores current input symbol */
int size; /* counts the digits in input number */
char temp[SIZE]; /* temporary storage for numbers */

symbol = getchar(); /* read first symbol */
for (size = 0; (symbol >= '0') && (symbol <= '9')
      && (size < SIZE); size++) {
    temp[size] = symbol - 48;
    symbol = getchar(); /* read next symbol */
}
```

READING A NUMBER

```
if (size == SIZE) { /* input may be too large */
    symbol = getchar();
    if ((symbol >= '0') && (symbol <= '9')) { /* too large
*/
        printf("Input too large: number should be at most
                %d digits", SIZE);
        return;
    }
}

/* store in number1 in reverse order */
int i;
for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
    number1[i] = temp[size-1-i];
for (i = size; i < SIZE; i++)
    number1[i] = 0;
```

READING A NUMBER: ALTERNATIVE

```
char symbol; /* stores current input symbol */
int size; /* counts the digits in input number */
char temp[SIZE]; /* temporary storage for numbers */

symbol = getchar(); /* read first symbol */
for (size = 0; 1; size++) {
    if ((symbol < '0') || (symbol > '9')) /* not a digit */
        break;
    if (size == SIZE) { /* number too large */
        printf("'Input too large: number should be at most
                %d digits'", SIZE);
        return;
    }
    temp[size] = symbol - 48;
    symbol = getchar(); /* read next symbol */
}
```

READING A NUMBER: ALTERNATIVE

```
/* store in number1 in reverse order */  
int i;  
for (i = 0; i < size; i++)  
    number1[i] = temp[size-1-i];  
for (i = size; i < SIZE; i++)  
    number1[i] = 0;
```

ADDING TWO NUMBERS

```
int i;
int carry; /* stores the carry value */

for (i = 0, carry = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {
    number3[i] = number1[i] + number2[i] + carry;
    if (number3[i] > 9) { /* new carry */
        number3[i] = number3[i] - 10;
        carry = 1;
    }
    else /* no carry */
        carry = 0;
}
```

ADDING TWO NUMBERS

```
if (carry == 1) { /* sum exceeds the size */  
    printf('Sum too large!\n');  
    return;  
}
```

This is better but does not take care of negative numbers!