

Expressions

Lecture 4

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Introduction

- **Expressions are the fundamental means of specifying computations in a programming language**
- **To understand expression evaluation, need to be familiar with the orders of operator and operand evaluation**
- **Essence of imperative languages is dominant role of assignment statements**

Expressions

- An *expression* is a combination of one or more operators and operands
- *Arithmetic expressions* compute numeric results and make use of the arithmetic operators:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Addition | + |
| Subtraction | - |
| Multiplication | * |
| Division | / |
| Remainder | % |

- If either or both operands used by an arithmetic operator are floating point, then the result is a floating point

Division and Remainder

- If both operands to the division operator (/) are integers, the result is an integer (the fractional part is discarded)

$$14 / 3 \quad \text{equals} \quad 4$$

$$8 / 12 \quad \text{equals} \quad 0$$

- The remainder operator (%) returns the remainder after dividing the second operand into the first

$$14 \% 3 \quad \text{equals} \quad 2$$

$$8 \% 12 \quad \text{equals} \quad 8$$

Operator Precedence

- **Operators can be combined into complex expressions**

```
result = total + count / max - offset;
```

- **Operators have a well-defined precedence which determines the order in which they are evaluated**
- **Multiplication, division, and remainder are evaluated prior to addition, subtraction, and string concatenation**
- **Arithmetic operators with the same precedence are evaluated from left to right, but parentheses can be used to force the evaluation order**

Operator Precedence

- What is the order of evaluation in the following expressions?

$$a + b + c + d + e$$

1 2 3 4

$$a + b * c - d / e$$

3 1 4 2

$$a / (b + c) - d \% e$$

2 1 4 3

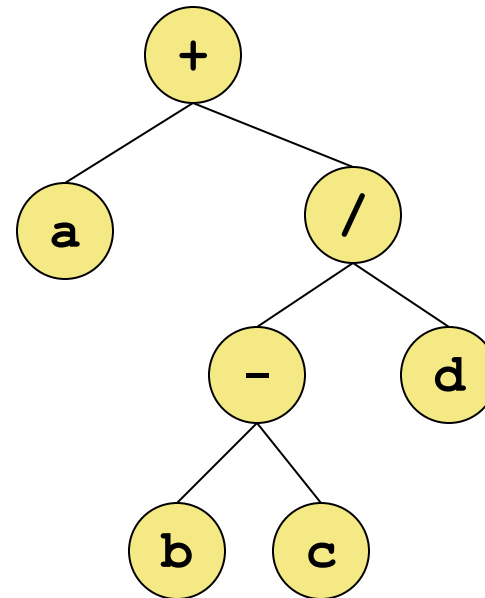
$$a / (b * (c + (d - e)))$$

4 3 2 1

Expression Trees

- The evaluation of a particular expression can be shown using an *expression tree*
- The operators lower in the tree have higher precedence for that expression

$a + (b - c) / d$



Assignment Revisited

- The assignment operator has a lower precedence than the arithmetic operators

First the expression on the right hand side of the = operator is evaluated

```
answer = sum / 4 + MAX * lowest;
```

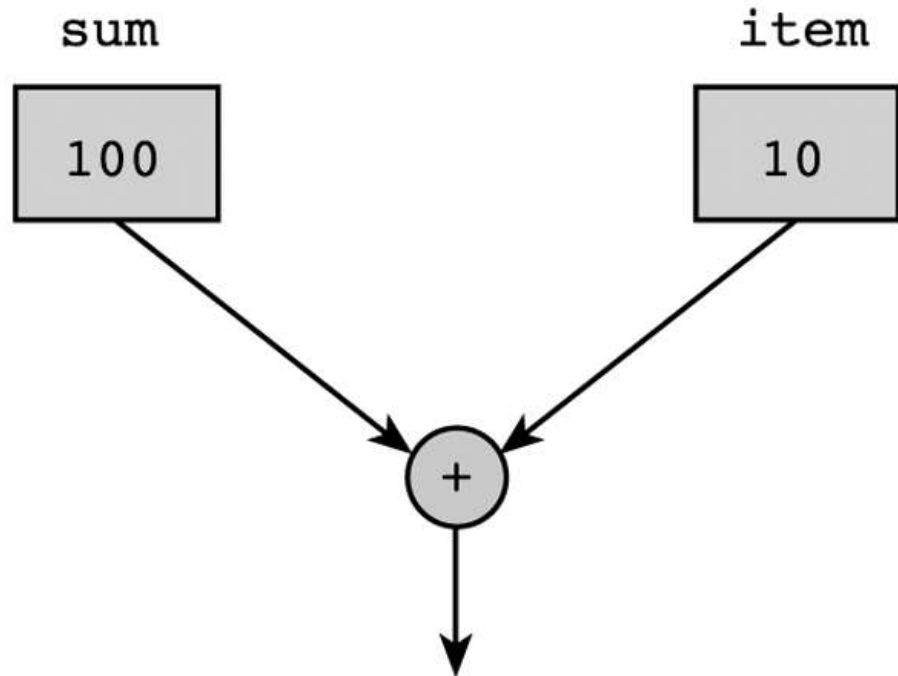
4 1 3 2



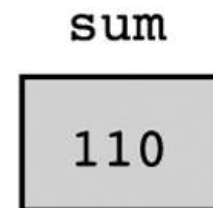
Then the result is stored in the variable on the left hand side

Effect of `sum = sum + item;`

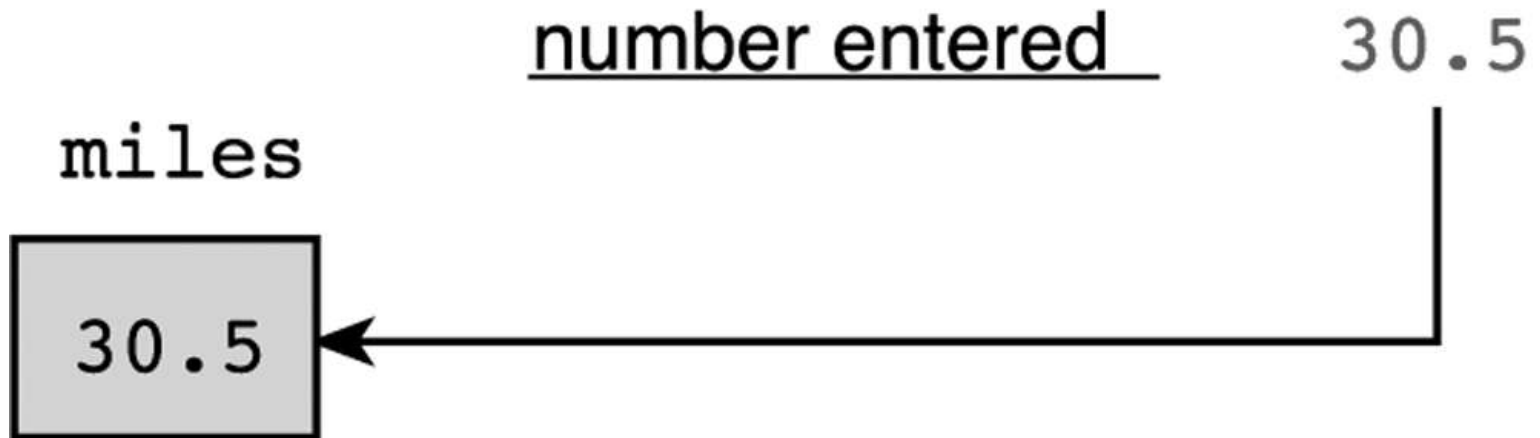
Before assignment



After assignment

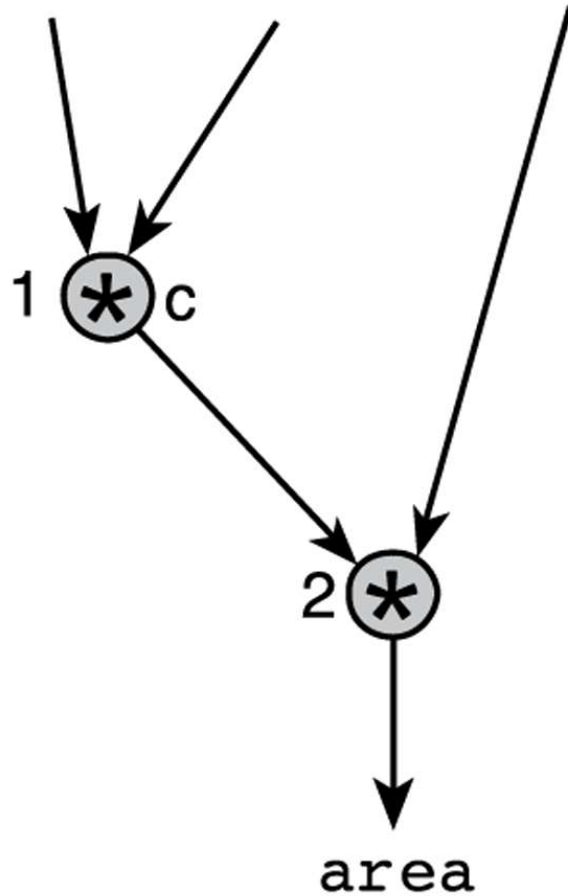


Effect of `scanf("%lf", &miles);`



Evaluation Tree for $\text{area} = \text{PI} * \text{radius} * \text{radius};$

area = PI * radius * radius

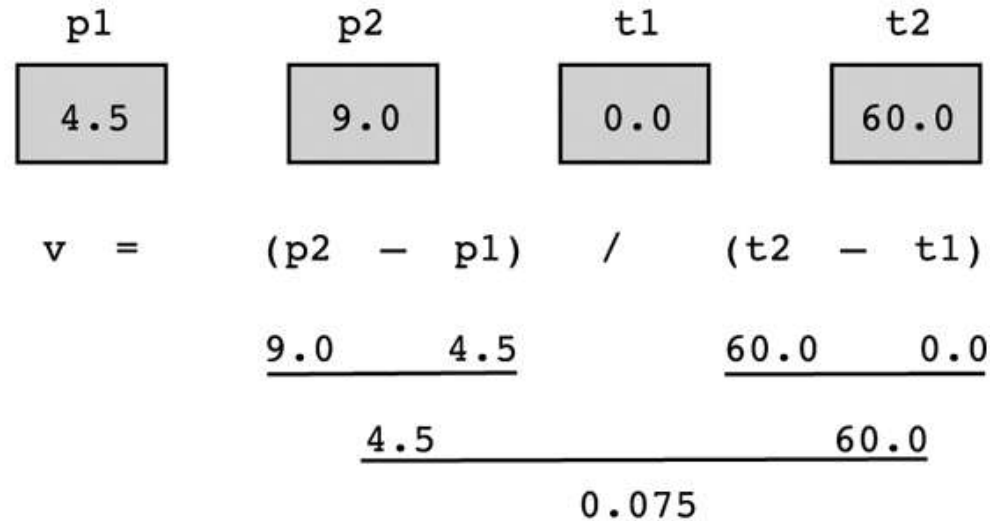
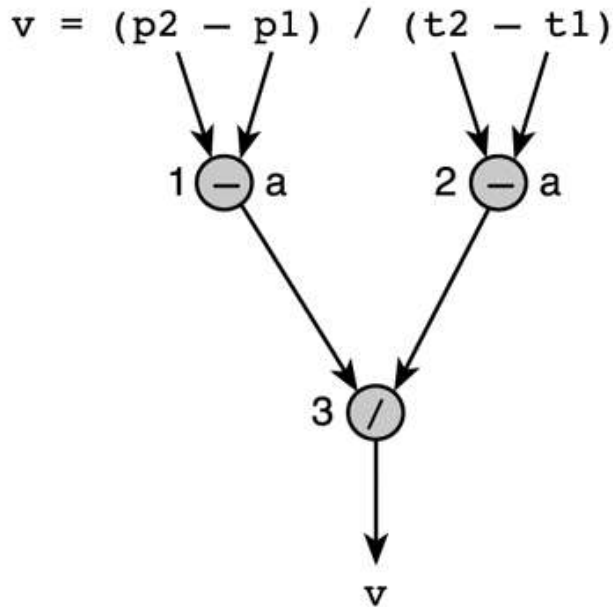


Step-by-Step Expression Evaluation

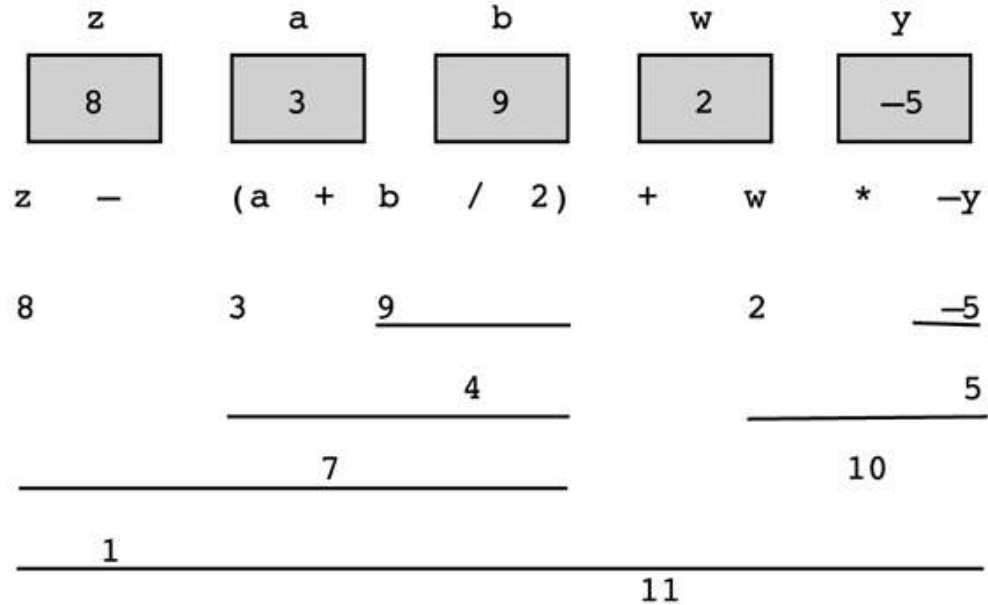
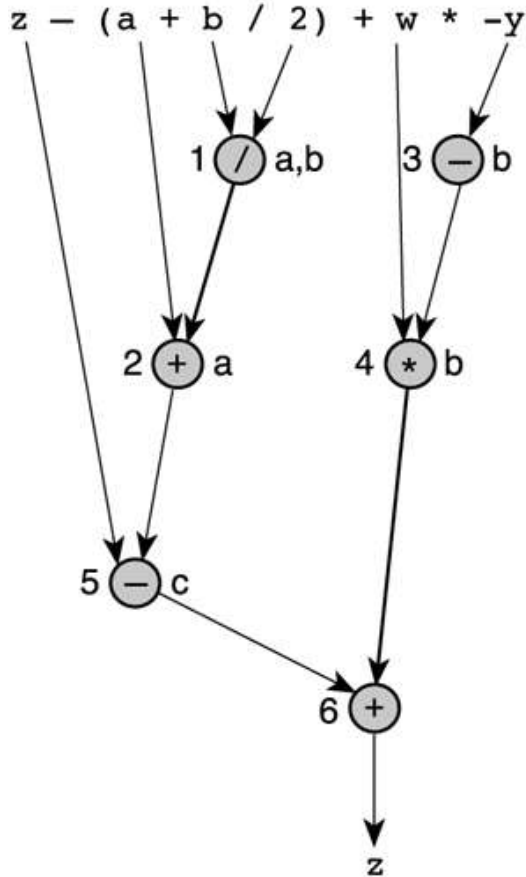
$$\begin{array}{rcccccccc} \text{area} & = & & \text{PI} & * & \text{radius} & * & \text{radius} \\ & & & 3.14159 & & 2.0 & & 2.0 \\ & & & \hline & & & 6.28318 & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \hline & & & & & & & 12.56636 \end{array}$$

Evaluation Tree and Evaluation for

$$v = (p2 - p1) / (t2 - t1);$$



Evaluation Tree and Evaluation for $z - (a + b / 2) + w * -y$



Assignment Revisited

- The right and left hand sides of an assignment statement can contain the same variable

First, one is added to the original value of count

```
count = count + 1;
```



Then the result is stored back into count (overwriting the original value)

Increment and Decrement

- The increment and decrement operators use only one operand
- The *increment operator* (++) adds one to its operand
- The *decrement operator* (--) subtracts one from its operand
- The statement

```
count++;
```

is functionally equivalent to

```
count = count + 1;
```


Increment and Decrement

- The increment and decrement operators can be applied in *postfix form*:

`count++`

- or *prefix form*:

`++count`

- When used as part of a larger expression, the two forms can have different effects
- Because of their subtleties, the increment and decrement operators should be used with care

Assignment Operators

- Often we perform an operation on a variable, and then store the result back into that variable
- C provides *assignment operators* to simplify that process
- For example, the statement

```
num += count;
```

is equivalent to

```
num = num + count;
```

Assignment Operators

- There are many assignment operators in C, including the following:

| <u>Operator</u> | <u>Example</u> | <u>Equivalent To</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| <code>+=</code> | <code>x += y</code> | <code>x = x + y</code> |
| <code>-=</code> | <code>x -= y</code> | <code>x = x - y</code> |
| <code>*=</code> | <code>x *= y</code> | <code>x = x * y</code> |
| <code>/=</code> | <code>x /= y</code> | <code>x = x / y</code> |
| <code>%=</code> | <code>x %= y</code> | <code>x = x % y</code> |

Assignment Operators

- The right hand side of an assignment operator can be a complex expression
- The entire right-hand expression is evaluated first, then the result is combined with the original variable
- Therefore

```
result /= (total-MIN) % num;
```

is equivalent to

```
result = result / ((total-MIN) % num);
```

Boolean Expressions

- A Boolean expression is an expression that has relational and/or logical operators operating on boolean variables.
- A Boolean expression evaluates to either *true* or *false*.

Boolean Operators

- The operators used with the `boolean` data type fall into two categories: relational operators and logical operators.
- There are six relational operators that compare values of other types and produce a `boolean` result:

`==` Equals

`!=` Not equals

`<` Less than

`<=` Less than or equal to

`>` Greater than

`>=` Greater than or equal to

For example, the expression `n <= 10` has the value `true` if `x` is less than or equal to 10 and the value `false` otherwise.

- There are also three logical operators:

`&&` Logical AND

`p && q` means both `p` and `q`

`||` Logical OR

`p || q` means either `p` or `q` (or both)

`!` Logical NOT

`!p` means the opposite of `p`

Logical Operators

- **C defines the following *logical operators*:**

! **Logical NOT**

&& **Logical AND**

|| **Logical OR**

- **Logical NOT is a unary operator (it operates on one operand)**
- **Logical AND and logical OR are binary operators (each operates on two operands)**

Logical NOT

- The *logical NOT* operation is also called *logical negation* or *logical complement*
- If some condition a is true, then $!a$ is false; if a is false, then $!a$ is true
- Logical expressions can be shown using a *truth table*

| a | $!a$ |
|-------|-------|
| true | false |
| false | true |

Logical AND and Logical OR

- The *logical AND* expression

`a && b`

is true if both `a` and `b` are true, and false otherwise

- The *logical OR* expression

`a || b`

is true if `a` or `b` or both are true, and false otherwise

Logical Operators

- Expressions that use logical operators can form complex conditions

```
if (total < MAX+5 && !found)
    printf ("Processing..");
```

- All logical operators have lower precedence than the relational operators
- Logical NOT has higher precedence than logical AND and logical OR

Logical Operators

- A truth table shows all possible true-false combinations of the terms
- Since `&&` and `||` each have two operands, there are four possible combinations of conditions `a` and `b`

| a | b | a && b | a b |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| true | true | true | true |
| true | false | false | true |
| false | true | false | true |
| false | false | false | false |

Boolean Expressions

- **Specific expressions can be evaluated using truth tables**

| <code>total < MAX</code> | <code>found</code> | <code>!found</code> | <code>total < MAX && !found</code> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| false | false | true | false |
| false | true | false | false |
| true | false | true | true |
| true | true | false | false |

Boolean Expressions in C

- **C does not have a boolean data type.**
- **Therefore, C compares the values of variables and expressions against 0 (zero) to determine if they are true or false.**
- **If the value is 0 then the result is implicitly assumed to be false.**
- **If the value is different from 0 then the result is implicitly assumed to be true.**
- **Java have Boolean data types.**