

Exercises 2 (Values and types) – Solutions

2A. (Primitive types)

Primitive type for amounts of money up to £100,000.00 (represented as a multiple of £0.01):

- (a) In C the safest choice would be **long**. (The type **int** would not have a sufficient range if the C compiler were to choose a 16-bit representation.)
- (b) In Java the type **int** would be suitable. (A 32-bit representation is guaranteed.)

2B. (Composite types)

- (a) Set of values and cardinality of each C type:

SUIT	=	{0, 1, 2, 3}	#SUIT	=	4
CARD	=	SUIT × {0, 1, ..., 255}	#CARD	=	4 × 256
HAND	=	{0, 1, 2, ...} → CARD			
OPTION	=	{0, 1}	#OPTION	=	2
TURN	=	OPTION × CARD	#TURN	=	2 × 1024

- (b) Set of objects in the Java program:

OBJECT = ... (objects of predefined classes)
+ A (INT × FLOAT)
+ B BOOL
+ C (BOOL × CHAR)
+ ... (objects of other declared classes)

- (c) Modified set of objects in the Java program:

OBJECT = ... (objects of predefined classes)
+ A (INT × FLOAT)
+ C (BOOL × CHAR)
+ ... (objects of other declared classes)

2C. (Relationship between arrays and functions)

- (a) To implement the mapping $\{false \rightarrow true, true \rightarrow false\}$:

(i) Initialize an array a such that $a[false] = true$ and $a[true] = false$. (This is simplest in C, with $false = 0$ and $true = 1$.)

(ii) Define a function $f: \text{BOOL} \rightarrow \text{BOOL}$, such that f yields $true$ when its argument is $false$, and yields $false$ when its argument is $true$.

- (b) To implement the factorial function over the integers 0 through 10:

(i) Initialize an array a such that $a[0] = 1$, $a[1] = 1$, $a[2] = 2$, $a[3] = 6$, etc.

(ii) Define a function $f: \text{INT} \rightarrow \text{INT}$, using a loop or recursion, such that $f(0) = 1$ and $f(n) = n \times f(n-1)$ for $n > 0$.

- (c) Arrays and functions are fundamentally different in that the mapping represented by an array is stored in its entirety (and therefore must be a finite mapping), whereas a function is applied to its arguments on demand (and therefore may be an infinite mapping).

2D. (Type systems)

For example, Python:

- (a) Python's primitive types include INT, FLOAT, and STRING.

- (b) Python's composite types are:

TUPLE = {0, 1, 2, ...} → VALUE
LIST = VOID + (VALUE × LIST)
DICT = VALUE → VALUE

plus objects, which are tagged DICTs.

- (c) In Python a recursive type can be defined by declaring a class with one or more instance variables of the same class.
- (d) Python is dynamically typed.

2E. (*Static vs dynamic typing*)

[Outline answer:]

- (a) Programs most easily implemented in a dynamically-typed language include those that manipulate data whose type cannot be predicted in advance (e.g., data mined from a website or web form). In such programs, some variables will contain data of unknown type.
- (b) Programs most easily implemented in a statically-typed language include all those in which every data item has a type that can be predicted in advance. In such programs, all variables will contain data of known type.