

How do you add one to something?
WG14 N3297

Title: How do you add one to something?
Author, affiliation: Aaron Ballman, Intel
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Proposal category: Bug fixes
Target audience: WG14 members, C implementers

Abstract: Clarifies what “appropriate type” means for the ++ and -- operators.

How do you add one to something?

Reply-to: Aaron Ballman (aaron@aaronballman.com)

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Summary of Changes

N3297

- Initial version

Introduction and Rationale

During discussion of WG14 N3259, which allowed ++ and -- to be used on complex types, the committee observed that “the value 1 of the appropriate type” is ambiguous. Consider an example like:

```
unsigned _BitInt(12) bi = 0;
bi++;
```

Is 1 of type `int`? `_BitInt(1)`? `unsigned _BitInt(12)`? Any of these answers is at least somewhat defensible and the standard is unclear on what we want the answer to be.

Generally, we want the type for 1 to be the same type as the type of the operand. However, special provisions should exist for:

Type	Expression to yield the correct type for 1
<code><sign> _BitInt(N)</code>	<code>(<sign> _BitInt(N)) {1}</code>
<code>_Complex <type></code>	<code>(<type>) {1.0}</code>
Pointer type	<code>(int) {1}</code>
<code>_DecimalN</code>	<code>(<type>) {1.DF}</code>

Proposed Wording

The wording proposed is a diff from the committee draft of WG14 N3220 applied. **Green** text is new text, while **red** text is deleted text.

Add a new paragraph before the existing 6.5.3.5p2:

The *adjustment value* is the value used to increment or decrement the operand. If the operand has a pointer type, the adjustment value has type `int` and the value 1; if the operand has complex type, the adjustment value has the corresponding real type of the operand and the value 1.0; if the operand has decimal floating type, the adjustment value has the same type as the operand, 1 as the numerical value, and 0 as the quantum exponent; otherwise, the adjustment value has the same type as the operand and the value 1.

Modify the existing 6.5.3.5p2:

The result of the postfix ++ operator is the value of the operand. As a side effect, the value of the operand

object is incremented by the adjustment value ~~(that is, the value 1 of the appropriate type is added to it)~~.
...

Modify the existing 6.5.3.5p3:

The postfix -- operator is analogous to the postfix ++ operator, except that the value of the operand is decremented by the adjustment value ~~(that is, the value 1 of the appropriate type is subtracted from it)~~.

Modify 6.5.4.1p2:

The value of the operand of the prefix ++ operator is incremented. The result is the new value of the operand after incrementation. The expression ++E is equivalent to $(E+=1)$, where the value 1 is the adjustment value (6.5.3.5) ~~of the appropriate type~~.

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