

## Re: function without arithmetic operator

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*Source:* [http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C\\_CPP/comp.lang.c/2005-08/msg00500.html](http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C_CPP/comp.lang.c/2005-08/msg00500.html)

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- *From:* [anon7843@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:anon7843@xxxxxxxxxxx) (Anonymous 7843)
  - *Date:* Tue, 02 Aug 2005 18:52:10 GMT
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In article <1122991677.514736.32910@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, <rahul8143@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

>  
>  
> hello,  
> Is it possible to write a math library function sqrt in C without  
> arithmetic operators(\*,+)?  
> can anyone give me hints to do that?  
> regards,  
> rahul

If it's in the math library it doesn't have to be implemented in C, so if the processor has a sqrt instruction you can just use that. That's cheating (kind of) because it's likely that the processor itself will do operations similar to \* and + in order to execute.

$\exp(\log(x)/2.0)$  is workable, but divide is an arithmetic operator, and although you didn't specifically mention it in your list and I can't tell from your words whether the list is meant to be exhaustive or to exemplify. Again, exp and log are likely to do some arithmetic operations behind the scenes.

It's probably possible to use shifts and bitwise operations to implement an integer sqrt function. Another integer-only solution would be something really lame like:

```
int sqrt(int x)
{
if (x < 4) return 1;
if (x < 9) return 2;
if (x < 16) return 3;
if (x < 25) return 4;
if (x < 36) return 5;
/* and so on, up to sqrt(INT_MAX) */
}
```

But perhaps you have handed in your homework by now and nothing

I have said is helpful.

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7842++

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- *Follow-Ups:*
  - ◆ **Re: function without arithmetic operator**
    - ◇ *From:* Charles M. Reinke
  
- *References:*
  - ◆ **function without arithmetic operator**
    - ◇ *From:* rahul8143
  
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