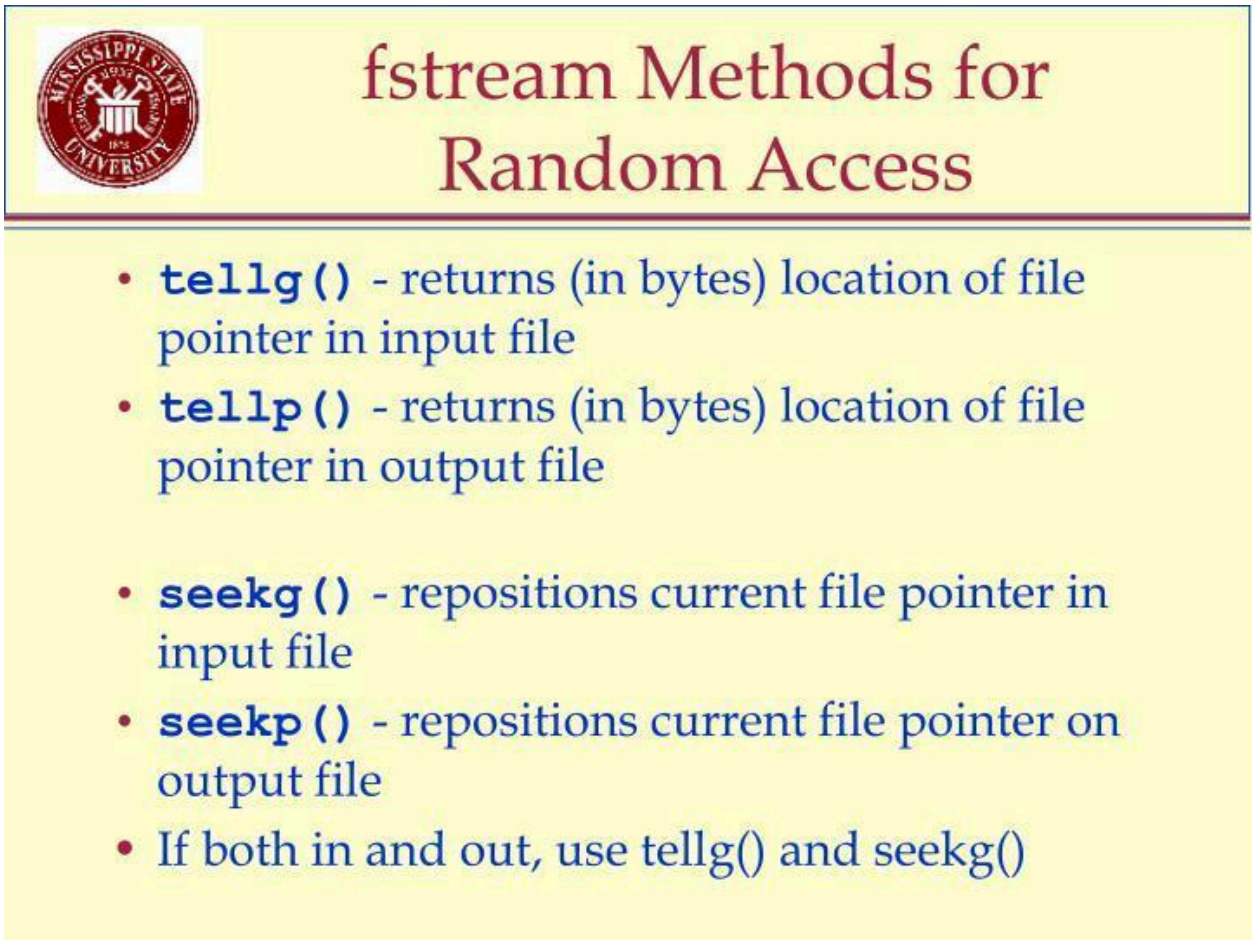
seekg(), tellg(), seekp(), tellp()



In C++ we have a get pointer and a put pointer for getting (i.e. reading) data from a file and putting(i.e. writing) data on the file respectively.

seekg() is used to move the get pointer to a desired location with respect to a reference point.

Syntax: file_pointer.seekg (number of bytes ,Reference point);

Example: fin.seekg(10,ios::beg);

tellg() is used to know where the get pointer is in a file.

Syntax: file_pointer.tellg();

Example: int posn = fin.tellg();

seekp() is used to move the put pointer to a desired location with respect to a reference point.

Syntax: file_pointer.seekp(number of bytes ,Reference point);

Example: fout.seekp(10,ios::beg);

tellp() is used to know where the put pointer is in a file.

Syntax: file_pointer.tellp();

Example: int posn=fout.tellp();

The reference points are:

ios::beg – from beginning of file

ios::end – from end of file

ios::cur – from current position in the file.

In seekg() and seekp() if we put – sign in front of number of bytes then we can move backwards.

From the examples it is clear that these functions are very much alike.