Intro to Pointers

announcements

pointer – special type of var that stores the address of a memory location

address	value	var
1012		
1013		
1014	5	x

<type> *<var name>

int *ip — integer pointer
char *cp — character pointer

using *a gets rid of address, get value instead

& gets address of a var

pictures are helpful!

```
int i = 7;
int *p = &i;
int j = *p;
*p = 8;
```

initializes value, declares it the type

p points to i, always
dereference p -> go to p, go to address, get value
go to address, change value to 8. doesn't change j

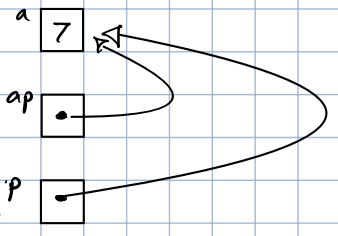
```
int a = 7, b = 7;
int *ap = &a
int *bp = &b

a = b;
ap = bp
*ap = *bp
```

follow pointer & get value

printing pointer: %d — prints as hex

2 pointers are aliases if they refer to same memory location

```
int a = 7;
int *ap = &a;
int *p = ap;
```

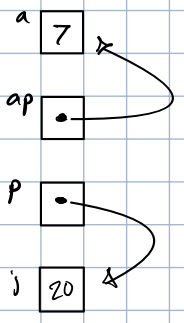


if we set *p=10, a=10, *ap=10, *ap=10

```
*ap = 3
p  = &j
```

a → 3

p = j address, now refers to new box



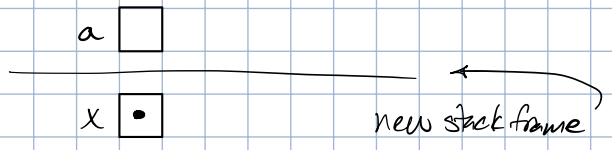
ap & p no longer aliases

recall call by value

this args. call by value

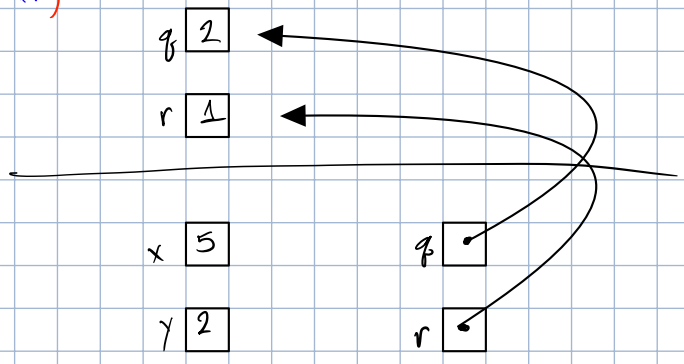
Use pointers to pass address of var to fn

(int *x)



NO expect pointer to value

```
void divide (int x, int y, int *q, int *r)
    *q = x/y
    *r = x %r

int main ()
    int q, r

    divide(5, 2, &q, &r)
```




```
void swap (int *a, int *b)
    int temp = *a
    *a = *b
    *b = temp

int main ()
    int x=5
    int y=7

    swap (&x, &y)
```

Arrays

array is data structure can be used to store values
- Homogeneous
- fixed length
- continuous & sequential in memory

```
int    a[5]                          int array w/0 values
double b[] = {1.1, 2.2, 3.3, 4.4, 5.5}   initialized w/values
```

```
double x = b[1]     x = 2.2     0 based indexing
a[0]     = 1        change value    mutable elements
```
↳ 'l-value'

C has no check bounds

segmentation fault: "hey you're writing somewhere in memory you shouldn't be!"

array variable actually just pointer to location of 1st element

```
int c = *b
int d = b+2          & b[2]
int e = *(b+2)         b[2]
```

arrays as fn parameters
passes beginning of array — not easy to get array length

```
double sum(double a[], int len)
    double rv=0
    for (int i=0; i<len; i++)
        rv += a[i]
    return rv
```

return an array
↳ return pointer

```
double* square(double a[], int len)
    double rv[len]
    for (int i=0; i<len; i++)
        rv[i] = a[i] * a[i]

    return rv
```

Wrong

don't return addresses in the stack, it goes away

need to allocate data to heap → special area of memory for dynamically stored values
use malloc from stdlib.h

```
double *cp = (double*)   malloc(len * sizeof(double))
```
↳ pointer w/var ↳ returns void*

make sure to get length correctly

always check return value

```
if ( rv == NULL )
        "not able to allocate for rv"
    exit()
```

need to deallocate heap memory

```
free( cp )
```
→ when you're done

every call to malloc should have matching call to free

```
char* cp = (char*) malloc (sizeof array)
if ( cp == NULL )
    ...
use cp
free( cp )
```

Strings!

char type used to store character

strings are stored as arrays of characters w/ sentinel '\0' to mark end

```
char s[] = "Hello"
```
'H' 'e' 'l' 'l' 'o' '\0'

Same indexing & updating as arrays
special syntax for string literals

need to include null terminator for string

```
char s2 = (char*) malloc( sizeof char (char) * 4)
s2[0] = 'H'
s2[1] = 'e'
s2[2] = 'y'
s2[3] = '\0'
```

Malloc

for SE3: don't forget null terminator '\0', allocate enough space for word + null, memory isn't default zero

only free once done

calloc (size , sizeof(int)) → allocate memory to zero
malloc (size * sizeof(int)) → allocate memory

char type used to store character or small numbers

char c = 123
char d = 'd'

man ascii in terminal

to print a char: %c , its int manipulation: %d

strings are stored as arrays of chars w/sentinel
'\0' written as 2 characters, represent 1

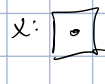
can use malloc

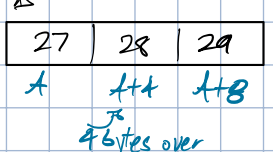
```
char* s2 = (char*) malloc( sizeof(char) * 4 )
s2[0] = 'H'
s2[1] = 'e'
s2[2] = 'y'
s2[3] = '\0'
```

special syntax for string literals
arrays (so strings too) are mutable
%s print specifier
library string.h for working w/strings

strlen (s) → length w/o null. # of chars represented
strcmp("a","b")
if "a" == "b" in lexicode, 0
if "a" > "b"
if "a" < "b"

int x[] = {27, 28, 29}

x: 



x[0]	→ 27	value
*x	→ 27	value
x+1	→ next element, 28	address
*x[1]	→ 28	address
*(x+1)	→ 28	value

```
strlen(char* s)
    char* curr
    while (*curr != '\0')
        curr++

    return curr-s
```

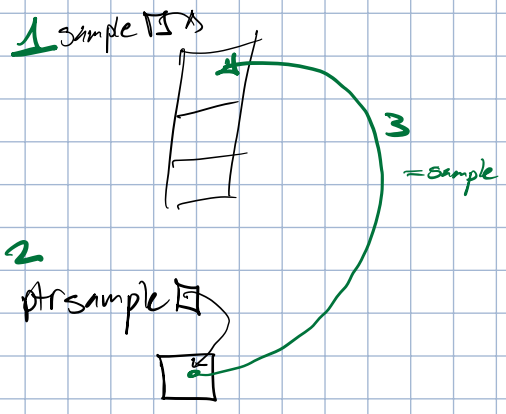
works b/c going to next element
pointer arithmetic

```
for (char *curr=s; *curr++;)
    ;
}
```

```
char *sample[n];
char **ptr_sample = sample;
```

1 2 3 → allocate array of size n
allocate to array of strings

```
ptr_sample[0] = "hello"
ptr_sample[1] = "world"
```



Struct

struct – user defined data type in C

```
struct <struct_name> {
    <fields> ;
}

struct point {
    double x;
    double y;
}

struct <struct_name> <var_name>
struct point p1 = {1.0, 2.0};
```

allocate memory
curly braces only for initializing

can use dot notation

```
p1.x = 1.1
```

l-value

can update value

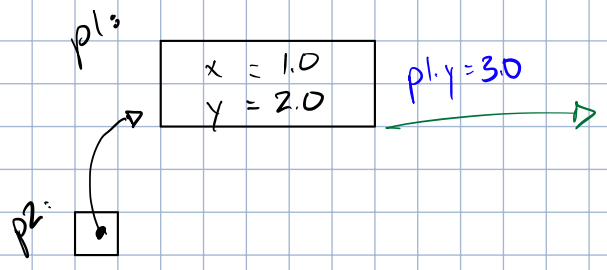
can be used anywhere

- local var
- param type
- return type (copy value)

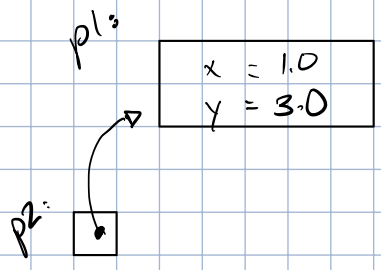
- array elements
- targets of pointers
- struct field types

f()'s call by value, not reference

```
struct point *p2 = &p1          alias for p1
struct point *p3 = (struct point *) malloc(sizeof(struct point))
```

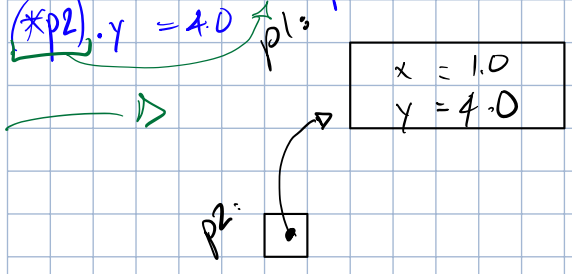


p1.y = 3.0

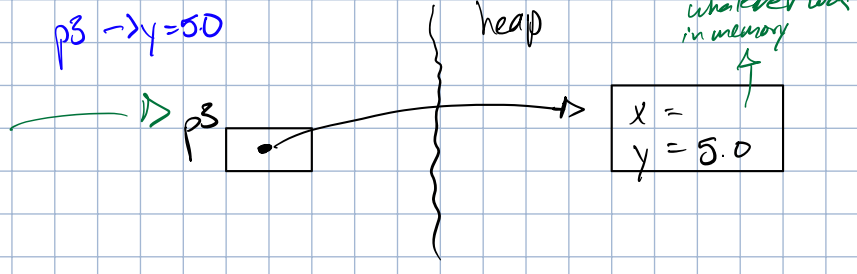


pointer to

(*p2).y = 4.0 ; same as p2->y

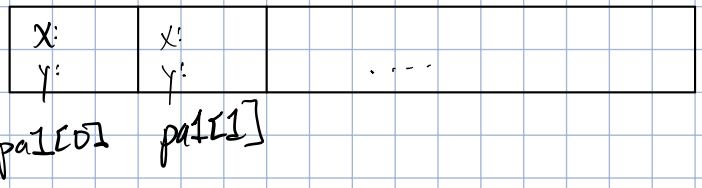


p3->y = 5.0



arrays of structs

```
struct point pa1[5]
struct point *pa2 = (struct point *) malloc(sizeof(struct point) *8)
pa1[1] = midpoint(p1, p2)
double x = pa1[1].x
```



array of struct pointers

```
struct point *ps1[5]          array of struct point *
struct point **ps2 = (struct point **) malloc(sizeof(struct point*) *8)
```

ps1	struct point *	*
ps1[1]	struct point *	
*ps1[1]	struct point	
(*ps1[1]).x	double	

dereference, follow address & get value

ps[1] -> x

Multidimensional Arrays

<type> <name> [size1][size2]...[sizeN]

```
double a[5][5]
int    b[2][3] = { {0,1,2},
                   {3,4,5} };
```

Set of curly braces for each row

bracket notation to access element

b[0][1] = 6

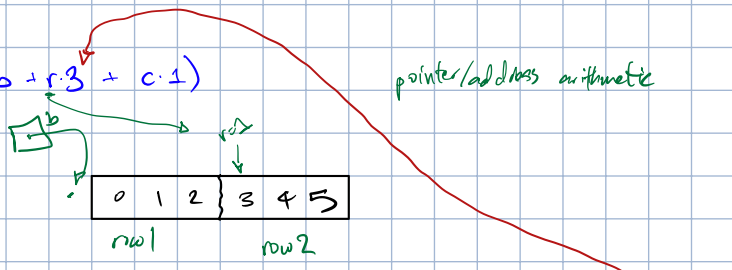
element i of array is a location

a+i = a + i*sizeof(double) same as bracket

↑ move over i doubles, address arithmetic

↑ byte arithmetic

b[r][c] = *(b + r·3 + c·1) pointer/address arithmetic



C needs to know how much needed for each row. How many columns? missing

```
void print_array( int rows, int cols, int a[rows][cols] )
                                       ^ not needed
{
    for( i=0; i<rows; i++ )        <- but need it, so good practice is to use all
        for( j=0; j<cols; j++ )
            printf( "%d ", a[i][j] );
        printf( "\n" );
}
```

for n, need n-1 dims.

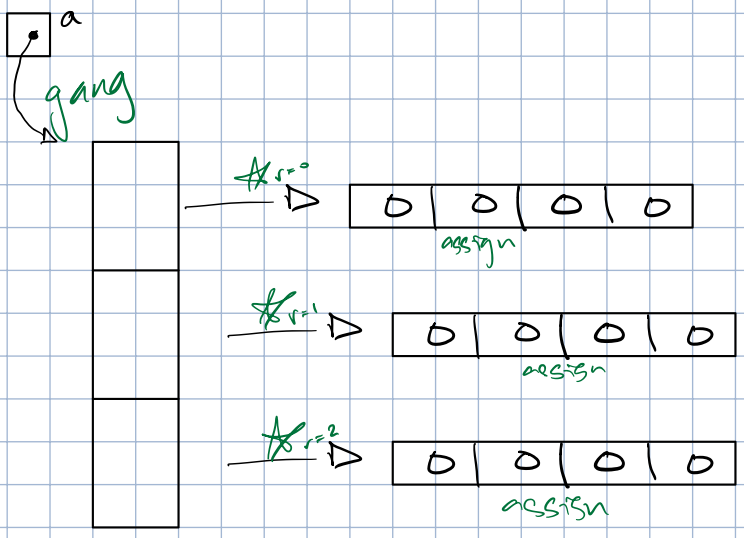
dynamically allocated!

just an array of pointers

```
int rows=3, cols=4;
int** a = (int**) malloc( rows * sizeof(int*) );   -> you're allocating pointers
                                                      gang
for( int r=0; r<rows; r++ )
    a[r] = (int*) malloc( cols * sizeof(int) );    -> you're allocating ints
    for( int c=0; c<cols; c++ )
```

a[r][c] = 0 assign

T * name = (T *) malloc(sizeof(T) * nms)



free each row explicitly, then free array holding pointers

```
for (i=0  i<rows  i++ )
    free(a[i])
free(a)
```

check malloc

```
void * ck_malloc (size_t num_bytes,
    void *star = malloc (size_t )
```

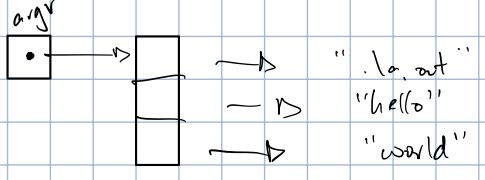
didn't get all

can make library
- header file w/ declarations
- make a seperate .c file using it # include header file

command line args

int argc, char*

argc → amount at
argv[0] → name of file



argc → # of command line args including prgrm name

argv → array of strings where each string is command arg. (including name)

Union

struct - user defined data type used to bundle items into a single type

```
struct circle
    struct point center
    double radius

struct square
    struct point topleft
    double side
```

AND

can we write single fn to calculate area?

union - user defined data type that allows different data types to be stored in same location
only 1 member can contain a value

```
union shape {
    struct circle c;
    struct square s;
};
```

OR

make a square or circle

```
union shape s1
s1.c.center = p1
s1.c.radius = 1.0
```

```
union data {
    int x
    double y
};
union data d1
d1.x = 5
union data *d2
d2 -> y = 5.5
```

allocates space for largest member

allocate pointer

can still access unused members, will give garbage value

```
struct tagged_shape
    union shape shape
    enum shape_tag tag

struct tagged_shape s1
s1.shape.c.center.x = 1
s1.shape.c.center.y = 2
s1.shape.c.radius = 5
s1.tag = CIRCLE
```

enum shape_tag = {CIRCLE, SQUARE}

```
struct tagged_shape s2
s2.shape.s.topleft.x = -1
s2.shape.s.topleft.y = -1
s2.shape.s.side = 2
s2.tag = SQUARE
```

```
double area(struct tagged_shape s)
    switch(s.tag)
        case CIRCLE
            return πr^2
        case SQUARE
            return s^2
```

typedef can rename any type

Debugging

where does it segfault?

clang -g debugging_ex.c -O debugging_ex

-g: add info; -O: name of output file; no .c

1 window for compiling → term 1
" " debugging → term 2
" " editing

term 2

lldb — goes into debugger

file debugging_example — this is program to debug

run — run program @ main & see what happens

say it fails, where it failed — the specific line

p int_ptr — print variable & amt

running a recompiled file kills current process

term 2

thread backtrace -c 5 — shows 5 frames; helps show infinite recursion

set a breakpoint

`breakpoint set --file debugging-ex.c --name fact`

`--file debugging-ex.c` — where fn is at

`--name fact` — name of fn to break @

`breakpoint list` — all breakpoints

`frame info` — wya, info

`frame variable` — variables rn

`step` / `s` — either way, step one line @ a time; execute next step. will step into fn

`next` — doesn't step into fn

`breakpoint set --file debugging-ex.c --line 18`

breakpoint stops @ another breakpoint

`continue`

lldb → really good @ seg fault

now look @ valgrind!

turn2

`valgrind mem_issues` — want to see 0 errors

says whether there are mem allocation issues

can say if there is unfreed memory

`valgrind --leak-check=full mem_issues`

says read of info on freed memory

lldb didn't fail, but valgrind brings it up