

## **C Precedence and Pointers**

- ++ -- pre and post increment combined with pointers can create code that is complex, hard to read and difficult to maintain
- Use () to help readability

Operator	Description	Associativity	
() [] > ++	Brackets or array subscript Dot or Member selection operator Arrow operator		
++ + - ! ~ (type) * & sizeof	right to left		
* / %	Multiplication, division and modulus	left to right	
+ -	Addition and subtraction	left to right	
<< >>	Bitwise left shift and right shift	left to right	
< <= > >=	relational less than/less than equal to relational greater than/greater than or equal to	left to right	
== !=	Relational equal to or not equal to	left to right	
&&	Bitwise AND	left to right	
^	Bitwise exclusive OR	left to right	
I	Bitwise inclusive OR	left to right	
8,8,	Logical AND	left to right	
П	Logical OR	left to right	
?:	Ternary operator	right to left	
= += -= *= /= %= &= ^=  = <<= >>=	Assignment operator Addition/subtraction assignment Multiplication/division assignment Modulus and bitwise assignment Bitwise exclusive/inclusive OR assignment	right to left	
,	comma operator	left to right	

## **Pointer Practice**

Operator	Description	Associativity
() [] -> ++	() Parentheses or function call Brackets or array subscript Dot or Member selection operator Arrow operator Postfix increment/decrement	
++ + - ! ~ (type) * & sizeof	Prefix increment/decrement Unary plus and minus not operator and bitwise complement type cast Indirection or dereference operator Address of operator Determine size in bytes	right to left

common	Alternate	Meaning	
*p++	* (p++)	The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment pointer p to next element	
(*p)++		The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment the object	
*++p	* (++p)	Increment pointer p first to the next element; the Rvalue is the object that the incremented pointer points at	
++*p	++(*p)	The Rvalue is the incremented value of the object that p points at	

#### **Pointer Practice**

```
int x;
int *p;
x = *(p+1); //contents of p[1]
x = *p + 1; //p[0] + 1
x = (*p) ++;
  \Rightarrow x = *p ; *p = *p + 1;
x = *p++;
x = (*p++);
x = *(p)++;
x = *(p++);
  \Rightarrow x = *p ; p = p + 1;
x = *++p;
  \Rightarrow p = p + 1; x = *p;
```

Operator	Description	Associativity
() Parentheses or function call [] Brackets or array subscript . Dot or Member selection operator -> Arrow operator ++ Postfix increment/decrement		left to right
++ + - ! ~ (type) * & sizeof	Prefix increment/decrement Unary plus and minus not operator and bitwise complement type cast Indirection or dereference operator Address of operator Determine size in bytes	right to left

	common	Alternate	Meaning		
	*p++ * (p++)		The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment pointer p to next element		
	(*p)++		The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment the object		
' '		Increment pointer p first to the next element; the Rvalue is the object that the incremented pointer points at			
	++*p	++(*p)	The Rvalue is the incremented value of the object that p points at		

## **Example of a hard-to-understand pointer statement**

```
int array[] = {2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13};
int *ptr = array;
int x;
```

```
x = 1 + (*ptr++)++; // yuck!!
```

common	Alternate	Meaning		
*p++ * (p++)		The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment pointer p to next element		
(*p)++		The Rvalue is the object that p points at; then increment the object		
*++p	* (++p)	Increment pointer p first to the next element; the Rvalue is the object that the incremented pointer points at		
++*p	++(*p)	The Rvalue is the incremented value of the object that p points at		

## **Using Pointers to Traverse an array**

```
char x[] = "Word:One Two Three;
int cnt = (int)(sizeof(x) / sizeof(*x));
char *ptr;
int j = 0;
ptr = x;

while (j < cnt) {
   if (*(ptr + j++) == ':')
       break;
}
printf("%s\n", ptr + j); // One Two Three</pre>
```

Brute force translation to pointers

```
char x[] = "Word:One Two Three;
int cnt = (int)(sizeof(x) / sizeof(*x));

char *ptr;
char *xpt;
ptr = x; //or &x[0
xpt = ptr + cnt;

while (ptr < xpt) {
    if (*ptr++ == ':')
        break;
}
printf("%s\n", ptr); // One Two Three</pre>
```

More common way to use pointers

## Passing Parameters – Call by Value Example

- when inc(x) is called, a copy of x is made to another memory location
  - inc() cannot change the variable x since inc() does not have the address of x, it is local to main() so, 5 is printed
- The inc() function is free to change it's copy of the argument (just like any local variable) remember it does <a href="NOT">NOT</a> change the parameter in main()

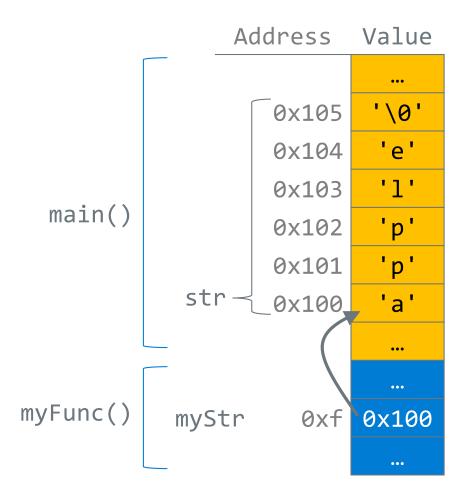
# Output Parameters (Mimics call by reference)

- Passing a pointer parameter with the <u>intent</u> that the called function will use the address it to store values for use by the <u>calling function</u>, then pointer parameter is called an <u>output parameter</u>
- To pass the address of a variable x use the address
   operator (&x) or the contents of a pointer variable that
   points at x, or the name of an array (the arrays address)
- To be receive an address in the called function, define the corresponding parameter type to be a pointer
  - It is common to describe this method as: "pass a pointer to x
- C is still using "pass by value"
  - we pass the value of the address/pointer in a parameter copy
  - The called routine uses the address to change a variable in the caller's scope

```
void inc(int *, char *, char **);
int main(void)
    int x = 5;
    char str[] = "string";
    char *ptr;
    inc(&x, str, &ptr);
    printf("%d %s\n", x, ptr );
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
void
inc(int *p, char *cp, char **pcp)
{
    *p += 1; // or (*p)++
    printf("%s\n",cp);
    *pcp = cp + 1;
}
         prints:
          string
          6 tring
```

# **Passing Arrays (Strings)**

```
void
myFunc(char *myStr) {
         ...
}
int
main(void) {
         char str[6];
         strcpy(str, "apple");
         myFunc(str);
         ...
}
```

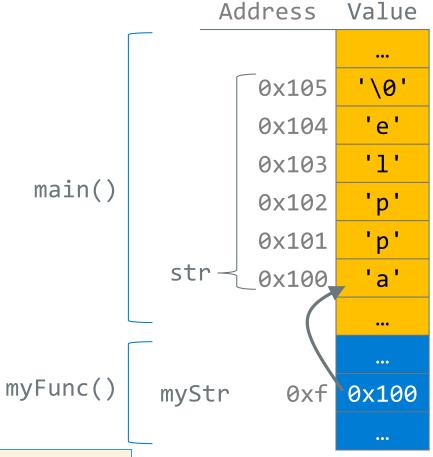


9

# **Passing Arrays (Strings)**

```
void
myFunc(char *myStr) {
          myStr[4] = 'y'; // not safe!
}

int
main(void) {
          char str[6];
          strcpy(str, "apple");
          myFunc(str);
          ...
}
myFunc(str);
```



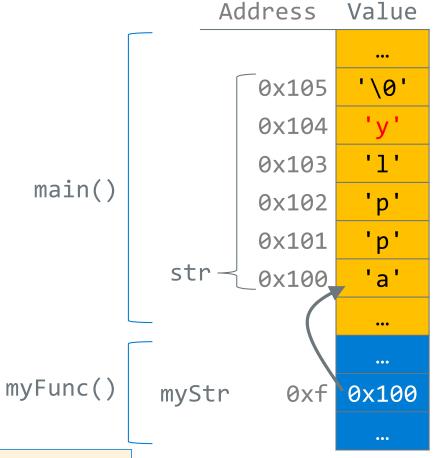
if we modify characters in **myFunc**, the changes will persist back in **main**!

# **Passing Arrays (Strings)**

```
void
myFunc(char *myStr) {
         myStr[4] = 'y'; // not safe!
}

int
main(void) {
         char str[6];
         strcpy(str, "apple");
         myFunc(str);
         ...
}
myFur

myFur
```



if we modify characters in **myFunc**, the changes will persist back in **main**!

## **Arrays As Parameters, Approach 1: Pass the size**

#### Two ways to pass array size

- 1. pass the count as an additional argument
- 2. add a sentinel element as the last element

remember you can only use sizeof() to calculate element count where the array is <u>defined</u>

#### 1 word content $(int = 4_lbytes)$ end 0x?? $0 \times 114$ 5 0x110 0x10c 9 0x108 0x104 8 a 0x100 0x100numb address 0x??

#### **Arrays do not know their own size**

```
int sumAll(int *a, int size);
int main(void)
{
  int numb[] = {9, 8, 1, 9, 5};
  int cnt = sizeof(numb)/sizeof(numb[0]);

  printf("sum is: %d\n", sumAll(numb, cnt););
  return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
int sumAll(int *a, int size)
{
  int sum = 0;
  int *end;
  end = a + size;

while (a < end)
    sum += *a++;
  return sum;
}</pre>
```

## Arrays As Parameters, Approach 2: Use a sentinel element

- A sentinel is an element that contains a value that is not part of the normal data range
  - Forms of 0 are often used (like with strings). Examples: '\0', NULL

```
int strlen(char *a);
int main(void)
  char buf[] = {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', '\0'}; // string
  printf("Number of chars is: %d\n", strlen(buf));
  return EXIT SUCCESS;
                                                                      1 byte
/* Assumes parameter is a terminated string */
                                                       0x105
                                                                       1\01
int strlen(char *s)
                                                                        'e'
                                                                             0x104
   char *p = s;
                                                                        'd'
                                                                             0x103
   if (p == NULL)
       return 0;
                                                                             0x102
                                                                        I C I
   while (*p++)
                                                                             0x101
                                                                        'b'
                                                                             0x100
                                                     0x100
                                                                 buf
                                                                        la
    return (p - s - 1);
                                                                             address
                                                                       0x??
```

## Copying Strings: Use the Sentinel; libc: strcpy(), strncpy()

- To copy an array, you must copy each character from source to destination array
- Watch overwrites: strcpy assumes the target array size is equal or larger than source array

```
char *strcpy(char *s0, char *s1)
{
    char *str = s0;

    if ((s0 == NULL) || (s1 == NULL))
        return NULL;
    while (*s0++ = *s1++)
        ;
    return str;
}
```

```
// strncpy adds a length limit on copy
char str1[6];
strncpy(str1, "hello", 5); // \0 not copied
str1[5] = '\0'; // make sure \0 terminated
```

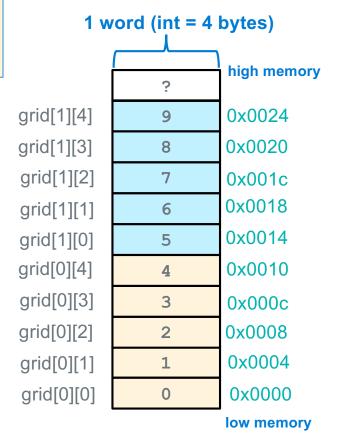
```
char *strncpy(char *s0, char *s1, int len)
{
   char *str = s0;
   if ((s0 == NULL) || (s1 == NULL))
      return NULL;

   while ((*s0++ = *s1++) && --len)
   ;
   return str;
}
```

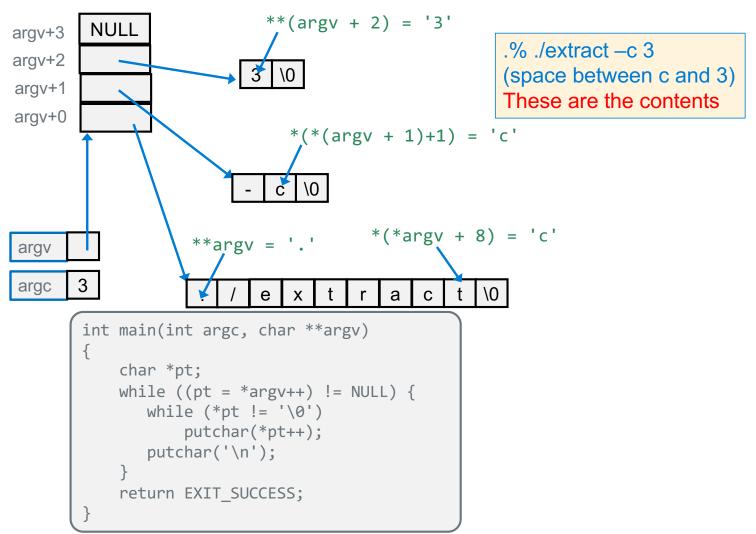
## **2D Arrays**

- Generic (uniform) 2D array format:type name[rows][cols] = {{values}, ..., {values}};
  - allocates a single, <u>contiguous</u> block of memory
  - The array is organized in row-major format

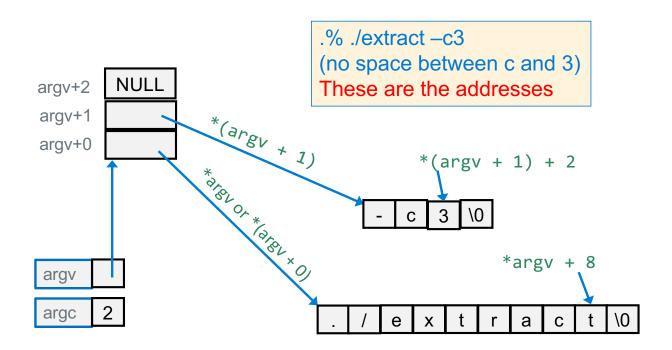
```
// a 2-row, 3-column array of char
char matrix[2][3];
// a 2-row, 5-column (row length) array of ints
// Must specify row length, compiler counts rows
int grid[][5] = {
                              [1][1]
                                    [1][2]
                                         [1][3]
                                               [1][4]
                        [1][0]
  \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\},\
                       [0][0]
                             [0][1]
                                         [0][3]
                                               [0][4]
                                    [0][2]
  {5, 6, 7, 8, 9}
};
grid[1][2] using pointers is *( *(grid + 1) + 2)
```



## **Array of Pointers: main(): argc, argv Character Content**



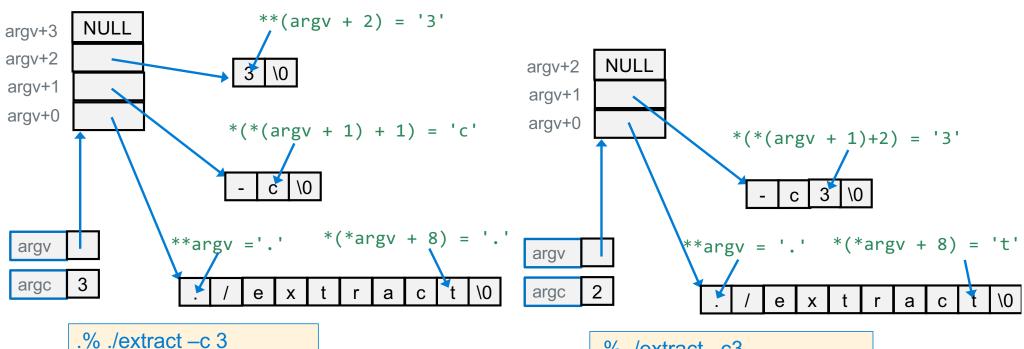
## **Array of Pointers: main(): argc, argv Character Address**



17

Χ

## main() Command line arguments: argc, argv



.% ./extract –c 3 (space between c and 3)

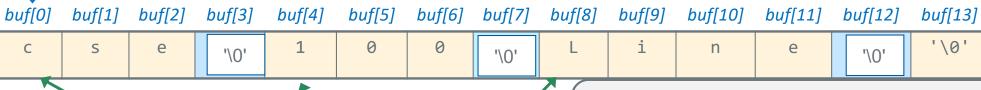
.% ./extract –c3 (No space between c and 3)

X

18

## PA4: Creating a 2D Array of Mutable String Pointers

- 1. Break a string of comma separated words into individual strings without copying. Do This by walking the string until you see an either a comma, or a newline \n. Each points at a field or column in a record.
- 2. Record the start of each string into successive elements in an array of pointers
- 3. Replace each comma or newline with a null '\0'



```
char **ptable

ptable ptable+1 ptable+2

./extract -c3
```

```
// extrack of token(), passed buf, ptable
and cnt

char **endptr = ptable + cnt;
  *ptable = buf;
while ((ptable < endpt) && (*buf != '\0'))
{
     *ptable++ = buf;
     while (*buf != '\0') {
          /* process the chars, inc buf++ */
     }
}
// check for too many or too few fields</pre>
```

char \*buf

#### strtol() and strtoul() examples of passing a pointer to a pointer

```
long int strtol(const char *str, char **endptr, int base);
unsigned long int strtoul(const char *str, char **endptr, int base);
reruns the string converted to a long or unsigned long
       str pointer to the string to convert
       endptr pass the address of a variable that is a char pointer (output variable)
       base: number base used by the string
• Example: string is to contain just positive numbers >= 0 (in ascii) with no extra stuff

    If the string is not valid, then

   • *endptr != '\0' then string contains more than just numbers (bad input)
   • *endptr stores the address of the first invalid character found in the buffer pointed (str)

    How to use endptr when it does not contain NULL:
```

• When conversion is ok, erro is unaltered (always clear it before calling these routines)

X

• If there are other conversion errors (you can read the man page) then errno != 0

#### strtol() and strtoul() examples of passing a pointer to a pointer

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <errno.h>
char *endptr;
char buf[] = "33"; // test buffer string
int number;
errno = 0; // set errno to 0 (zero) before each call
number = (int)strtol(buf, &endptr, 10)
// check if the string was a proper number
// *entpr should be at the end of the string == '\0'
if ((*endptr != '\0') || (errno != 0)) {
   // handle the error
printf("%d\n", number);
```

## String Literals (Read-Only) in Expressions

• When strings in quotations (e.g., "string") are part of an expression (i.e., not part of an array initialization) they are called string literals

```
printf("literal\n");
printf("literal %s\n", "another literal");
```

- What is a string literal:
  - Is a null-terminated string in a **const char array**
  - Located in the read-only data segment of memory
  - Is not assigned a variable name by the compiler, so it is only accessible by the location in memory where it is stored
- String literals are a type of anonymous variable
  - Memory containing data without a name bound to them (only the address is known)
- The *string literal* in the printf()'s, are replaced with the starting address of the corresponding array (first or [0] element) when the code is compiled

## String Literals, Mutable and Immutable arrays

```
char mess1[] = "Hello World";
char *ptr = mess1;
*(ptr + 5) = '\0'; // shortens string to "Hello"
```

- mess1 is a mutable array (type is char []) with enough space to hold the string + '\0'
  - You can change array contents

- In the example above, "Hello World" is immutable string literal (array)
  - "Hello World" is not associated with a variable name; anonymous variable
  - "Hello World" has space to hold the string + '\0'
  - "Hello World" is read only (immutable) and cannot be modified at runtime
- mess2 is a pointer to an immutable array with space to hold the string + '\0'

## **Be Careful with C Strings and Arrays of Chars**

mess2 pointer to an immutable array with space to hold the string + '\0'

• you cannot change array contents, but you can change what mess2 points at

- mess3 is an array but does not contain a <u>'\0'</u>
  - SO, IT IS **NOT** A VALID STRING

```
char mess3[] = {'H','e','l','l','o',' ','W','o','r','l','d'};
```

24

## Returning a Pointer To a Local Variable (Dangling Pointer)

- There are many situations where a function will return a pointer, but a function must never return a pointer to a memory location that is no longer valid such as:
- 1. Address of a passed parameter copy as the caller may or will deallocate it after the call

int \*bad idea(int n)

- 2. Address of a local variable (automatic) that is invalid on function return
- These errors are called a dangling pointer

n is a parameter with

the scope of bad idea

location after the function returns

```
it is no longer valid after
    the function returns

a is an automatic (local)
with a scope and
lifetime within
bad_idea2
a is no longer a valid

return &n; // NEVER do this

int *bad_idea2(int n)
{
    int a = n * n;
    return &a; // NEVER do this
```

```
/*
  * this is ok to do
  * it is NOT a dangling
  * pointer
  */

int *ok(int n)
{
    static int a = n * n;
    return &a; // ok
}
```



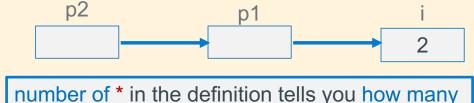
## Pointer to Pointers (Double, Triple and ... Indirection

A pointer <u>cannot</u> point at itself, why?

```
int *p = &p; /* is not legal - type mismatch */
```

- p is defined as (int \*), a pointer to an int, but
- the type of &p is (int \*\*), a pointer to a pointer to an int
- Define a pointer to a pointer (p2 below)

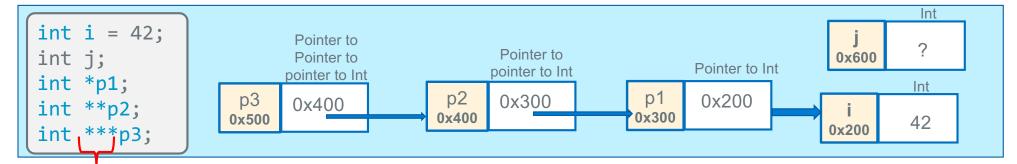
```
int i = 2;
int *p1;
int **p2;
p1 = &i;
p2 = &p1;
printf("%d\n", **p2 * **p2);
```



number of \* in the definition tells you how many reads it takes to get to the base type # reads = number of \* + 1 e.g., int \*\*p2 requires 3 reads to get to the int

- C allows any number of pointer indirections
  - more than three levels is very uncommon in real applications as it reduces readability and generates at lot of memory reads

## **Pointers to Pointers to Pointers.... Rside Practice**



number of "reads + 1" to base type on Rside

#### Rside evaluations

	Address	Contents	*contents	**contents	***contents
j	0x600	;			
i	0x200	42			
p1	0x300	0x200	42		
p2	0x400	0x300	0x200	42	
рЗ	0x500	0x400	0x300	0x200	42

```
p1 = &i;
p2 = &p1;
p3 = &p2;

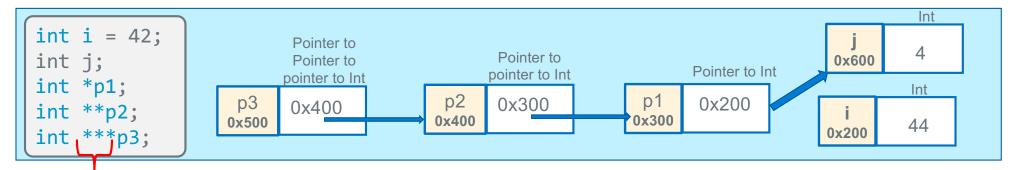
j = *p1 + 1;
**p2 = *p1 + 2;
printf("j:%d i:%d\n",j, i);

j = ***p3 + **p2 + *p1;
printf("j:%d i:%d\n",j, i);
```

Key: memory address or name Memory contents

% ./a.out j:43 i:44 j:132 i:44

## Pointers to Pointers to Pointers.... Rside Practice



number of "reads + 1" to base type on Rside

#### Rside evaluations

	Address	Contents	*contents	**contents	***contents
j	0x600	4			
i	0x200	44			
p1	0x300	0x600	4		
p2	0x400	0x300	0x600	4	
рЗ	0x500	0x400	0x300	0x600	4

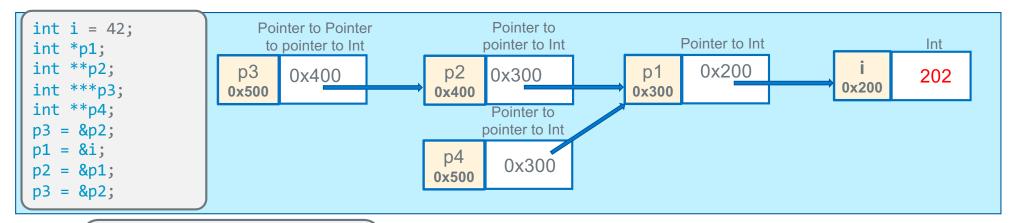
```
//continued from previous slide
p1 = &j;
***p3 = 4;
printf("*p1:%d i:%d\n",*p1, i);
```

Key: memory address or name Contents

Memory contents

```
% ./a.out
j:43 i:44
j:132 i:44
*p1:4 i:44
```

## **Pointers to Pointers to Pointers.... Lside Practice**



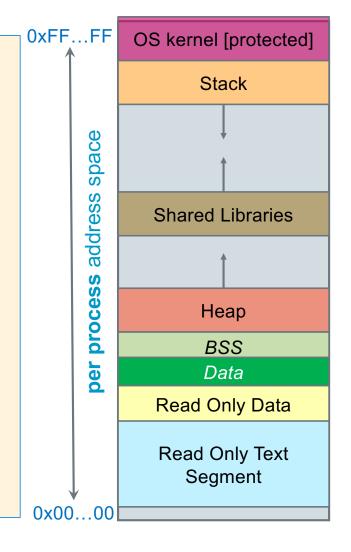
#### destination addresses for data write when on Lside

	address	variable	*variable	**variable	***variable
i	0x200	0x200			
p1	0x300	0x300	0x200		
p2	0x400	0x400	0x300	0x200	
рЗ	0x500	0x500	0x400	0x300	0x200

Key: memory address or name contents

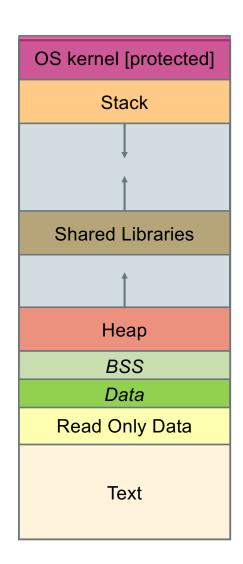
## **Process Memory Under Linux**

- When your program is running it has been loaded into memory and is called a process
- Stack segment: Stores Local variables
  - Allocated and freed at function call entry & exit
- Data segment + BSS: Stores Global and static variables
  - Allocated/freed when the process starts/exits
  - BSS Static variables with an implicit initial value
  - Static Data Initialized with an explicit initial value
- Heap segment: Stores dynamically-allocated variables
  - Allocated with a function call
  - Managed by the stdio library malloc() routines
- Read Only Data: Stores immutable Literals
- Text: Stores your code in machine language + libraries



## **The Heap Memory Segment**

- Heap: "pool" of memory that is available to a program
  - Managed by C runtime library and linked to your code; not managed by the OS
- Heap memory is dynamically "borrowed" or "allocated" by calling a library function
- When heap memory is no longer needed, it is "returned" or deallocated for reuse
- Heap memory has a lifetime from allocation until it is deallocated
  - Lifetime is independent of the scope it is allocated in (it is like a static variable)
- If too much memory has already been allocated, the library will attempt to borrow additional memory from the OS and will fail, returning a NULL



## **Heap Dynamic Memory Allocation Library Functions**

<pre>#include <stdlib.h></stdlib.h></pre>	args	Clears memory
<pre>void *malloc()</pre>	size_t size	no
void *calloc()	size_t nmemb, size_t memsize	yes
void *realloc()	void *ptr, size_size	no
void free()	void *ptr	no

- void \* means these library functions return a pointer to generic (untyped) memory
  - Be careful with void \* pointers and pointer math as void \* points at untyped memory (not allowed in C, but allowed in gcc). The assignment to a typed pointer "converts" it from a void \*
- size\_t is an unsigned integer data type, the result of a sizeof() operator

```
int *ptr = malloc(sizeof(*ptr) * 100); // allocate an array of 100 ints
```

please read: % man 3 malloc

#### **Use of Malloc**

```
void *malloc(size_t size)
```

- Returns a pointer to a contiguous block of size bytes of uninitialized memory from the heap
  - The block is aligned to an 8-byte (arm32) or 16-byte (64-bit arm/intel) boundary
  - returns NULL if allocation failed (also sets errno) always CHECK for NULL RETURN!
- Blocks returned on different calls to malloc() are not necessarily adjacent
- void \* is implicitly cast into any pointer type on assignment to a pointer variable

## **Using and Freeing Heap Memory**

- void free(void \*p)
  - Deallocates the whole block pointed to by p to the pool of available memory
  - Freed memory is used in future allocation (expect the contents to change after freed)
  - Pointer p must be the same address as originally returned by one of the heap allocation routines malloc(), calloc(), realloc()
  - Pointer argument to free() is not changed by the call to free()
- Defensive programming: set the pointer to NULL after passing it to free()

## Mis-Use of Free()

- Call free() only with only the same memory returned from the heap
  - It is NOT an error to pass free() a pointer to NULL
- Continuing to write to memory after you free() it is likely to corrupt the heap or return changed values
  - Later calls to heap routines (malloc(), realloc(), calloc()) may fail or seg fault

```
char *bytes = malloc(1024 * sizeof(*bytes));
...
    /* some code */
    free(bytes);
    strcpy(bytes, "cse30");    // INVALID! used after free
.....
```

# **Heap Memory "Leaks"**

• A memory leak is when you allocate memory on the heap, but never free it

```
void
leaky_memory (void)
{
    char *bytes = malloc(BLKSZ * sizeof(*bytes));
...
    /* code that never passes the pointer in bytes to anything */
    return;
}
```

- Your program is responsible for cleaning up any memory it allocates but no longer needs
  - If you keep allocating memory, you may run out of memory in the heap!
- Memory leaks may cause long running programs to fault when they exhaust OS memory limits
  - Make sure you free memory when you no longer need it
- Valgrind is a tool for finding memory leaks (not pre-installed in all linux distributions though!)

37

# **Dangling Pointers**

- When a pointer points to a memory location that is no longer "valid"
- Really hard to debug as the use of the return pointers may not generate a seg fault

```
char *dangling_freed_heap(void)
{
    char *buff = malloc(BLKSZ * sizeof(*buff));
...
    free(buff);
    return buff;
}
```

- dangling\_freed\_heap() type code often causes the allocators (malloc() and friends) to seg fault
  - Because it corrupts data structures the heap code uses to manage the memory pool

38

# strdup(): Allocate Space and Copy a String

```
char *strdup(char *s);
• strdup is a function that returns a null-terminated, heap-allocated
    string copy of the provided text
• Alternative: malloc and copy the string

char *str = strdup("Hello, world!");
str[0] = 'h';

free(str);
str = NULL;
```

# Calloc()

```
void *calloc(size_t elementCnt, size_t elementSize)
```

calloc() variant of malloc() but zeros out every byte of memory before returning a pointer to it (so this has a runtime cost!)

- First parameter is the number of elements you would like to allocate space for
- Second parameter is the size of each element

```
// allocate 10-element array of pointers to char, zero filled
char **arr;
arr = calloc(10, sizeof(*arr));
if (arr == NULL)
   // handle the error
```

- Originally designed to allocate arrays but works for any memory allocation
  - calloc() multiplies the two parameters together for the total size
- calloc() is more expensive at runtime (uses both cpu and memory bandwidth) than malloc() because it must zero out memory it allocates at runtime
- Use calloc() only when you need the buffer to be zero filled prior to FIRST use

#### Realloc

```
void *realloc(void *ptr, size_t size);
```

- realloc function takes an existing allocation pointer and enlarges to a new requested size, It returns the new pointer (may be same or different address)
  - If a new buffer, ptr is no longer valid!
- realloc() only accepts pointers that were previously returned my malloc etc.
- Make sure to not lose original pointer if realloc() fails (newstr versus str)

#### **Heap Allocation Routine Summary**

```
void *malloc(size_t size);
void *calloc(size_t nmemb, size_t size);
void *realloc(void *ptr, size_t size);
char *strdup(char *s);
void free(void *ptr);
```

#### Heap **memory allocation** guarantee:

- NULL on failure, so check return value
- Memory is returned is contiguous
- it is not recycled unless you call free
- realloc preserves existing data
- calloc zero-initializes bytes, malloc and realloc do not

#### **Undefined behavior** occurs:

- If you overflow (i.e., you access beyond bytes allocated)
- If you use after free, or if free is called twice on a location
- If you realloc/free non-heap address

# PA5: getopt() usage- parsing command line Arguments

int getopt(int argc, char \*argv[], const char \*optstring); / / please see man 3 getopt

- Option string describes the option flags: either a letter or a letter followed by
  - Colon (:), the flag requires an argument and then (char \*optarg) points at the argument

```
% ./extract -c 3 1 2 3
when processing -c optarg (char *) points at the 3
```

- Call getopt() in a loop; it returns the next option flag (a char in an int like getchar()):
  - · Next command line flag
  - -1 if there are none left
  - '?' indicates flag is not one specified (error) or the flag is specified but has a missing argument
    - optopt contains the flag that was detected, but is the cause for the error
- When getopt finishes, optind contains the index to the next non-flag argument to process

```
optind = 3; // int
outcols = argc - optind (# of args after the 3)
```

# getopt() sample

- For this example, the options are
- 1. a single flag x
- 2. a flag **f** with a required argument to the flag
- Additional arguments are not options flags, but filenames to process

```
% ./a.out -f file.txt a b c
```

```
optind = 3; // int
```

```
while ((opt = getopt(argc, argv, "xf:")) != -1) {
    switch (opt) {
    case 'x':
        xFlag = 1;
        printf("-x flag found\n");
        break;
    case 'f':
        datafile = optarg; // string (char *)
        printf("-f %s found\n", optarg);
        break;
    case '?':
        if (optopt == 'f')
             fprintf(stderr, "%s -f datafile is missing\n", argv[0]);
        /* fall through */
    default:
        error = 1; /* error = 0 above getopt(); have an error */
        break;
if (error != 0) {
    fprintf(stderr, "Usage: %s [-x] -f datafile\n", argv[0]);
   return EXIT FAILURE;
for (int i = optind; i < argc; i++)</pre>
     printf("argv[%d] is: %s\n", i, argv[i]); // additional args
```

#### **Struct Variable Definitions**

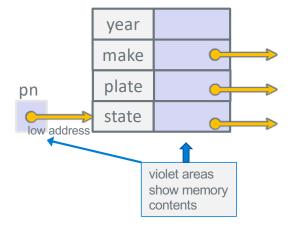
Variable definitions like any other data type:

```
type: "struct vehicle" pointer single variable instance
```

- Can combine struct and variable definition:
  - This syntax can be harder to read, though

```
struct vehicle {
  char *state;
  char *plate;
  char *make;
  int year;
} name1, *pn = &name1, ar[3];
```

```
struct vehicle {
  char *state;
  char *plate;
  char *make;
  int year;
};
struct vehicle name1;
struct vehicle *pn;
struct vehicle ar[3];
pn = &name1;
```



# **Accessing members of a struct**

- Like arrays, struct variables are aggregated contiguous objects in memory
- the . structure operator which "selects" the requested field or member

```
struct date {// defining struct type
   int month;
   int day; // members date struct
};
```

Now create a pointer to a struct

```
struct date *ptr = &bday;
```

```
struct date bday; // struct instance
bday.month = 1;
bday.day = 24;

// shorter initializer syntax
struct date new_years_eve = {12, 31};
struct date final = {.day= 24, .month= 1};
```

- Two options to reference a member via a struct pointer (. is higher precedence than \*):
- Use \* and . operators:

```
(*ptr).month = 11;
```

• Use -> operator for shorthand: ptr->month = 11;

# More to come....

# **Extra Slides**

# **Pointer Array to Mutable Strings**

- Make an array of pointers to mutable strings requires using a cast to an array (char [])
- Add a NULL sentinel at the end to indicate the end of the array

```
char *aos[] = {
  (char []) {"abcde"},
  (char []) {"fgh"},
  (char *) {NULL}
};
char **ptc = aos;
aos[0]
d
```

```
+3
printf("%c\n", *(*(aos + 1) + 1));
                                                            low
                                                                         +2
                                                            memory
                                                    ptc
                                                                         +1
while (*ptc != NULL) {
    printf("%s\n", *ptc); // prints string
                                                                         low memory
                                                          %./a.out
    for (int j = 0; *(*ptc + j); j++)
        putchar(*(*ptc + j)); // char in string
                                                          abcde
    putchar('\n');
                                                          abcde
    ptc++;
                                                          fgh
                                                          fgh
```

+3

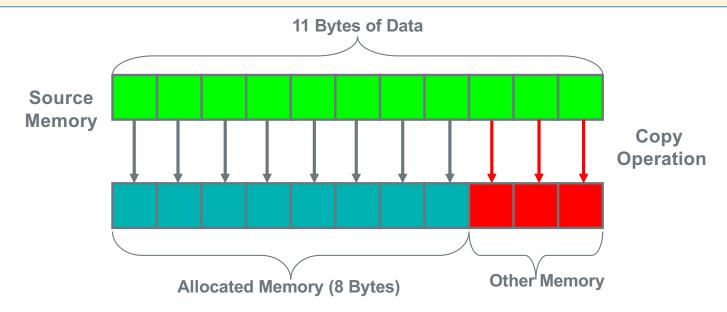
+2

+5

low memory

# string buffer overflow: common security flaw

- A buffer overflow occurs when data is written outside the boundaries of the memory allocated to target variable (or target buffer)
- strcpy() is a very common source of buffer overrun security flaws:
  - always ensure that the destination array is large enough (and don't forget the null terminator)
- strcpy() can cause problems when the destination and source regions overlap



# strcpy() buffer overflow: over-write of an adjacent variable

compile on pi-cluster with gcc test.c

```
./a.out
s1: before
s2: after
r2: xyz
s1: o
s2: after
r2: hello
```

```
s2[2] s2[3] s2[4] s2[5] r2[0] r2[1] r2[2] r2[3]
                                                                   s1[0] s1[1] s1[2] s1[3]
s2[0]
       s2[1]
                                                                                              s1[4]
                                                                                                     s1[5]
                                                                                                            s1[6]
        'f'
               '+'
                     ' و '
                            'n'
                                                ' V '
                                                                     'h'
                                                                                  'f'
                                                                                         '0'
 'a'
                                  '\0'
                                          ' x '
                                                       '7'
                                                              '\0'
                                                                            'e'
                                                                                                             '\0'
                                                                                                'r'
                                                                                                       ۱۵'
                                           before strcpy() overflow
low memory
                                                                                                        high memory
address
                                                                                                        address
s2[0] s2[1] s2[2] s2[3] s2[4] s2[5] r2[0] r2[1] r2[2] r2[3] s1[0] s1[1] s1[2] s1[3] s1[4] s1[5] s1[6]
        'f'
               '+'
                                   '\0'
                                          'h'
                                                 'e'
                                                        111
                                                              111
                                                                     '0'
                                                                           '\0'
                                                                                   '£'
 'a'
                      'e'
                                                                                         '0'
                                                                                                'r'
                                                                                                             '\0'
                            'r'
```