The C Language

CS238P: Operating Systems - Fall '18

Aftab Hussain
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University of California, Irvine

Data and Computation

Data

Data can be of different types.

- char (1 byte)
- int, long (4/8 bytes)
- pointer (1 byte), structs, etc.

They can also be:

- constants
- variables

Data Variable

A data type therefore determines two things[1]:

- the size of the data variable
- how the data is to be interpreted.

[1] https://www.tutorialspoint.com/cprogramming/c_data_types.htm

Computation

Statements

- declarations
- assignments
- `for`, `do...while`, `while`

Hw1(xv6 shell)

- `if...else`

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- `switch...case`

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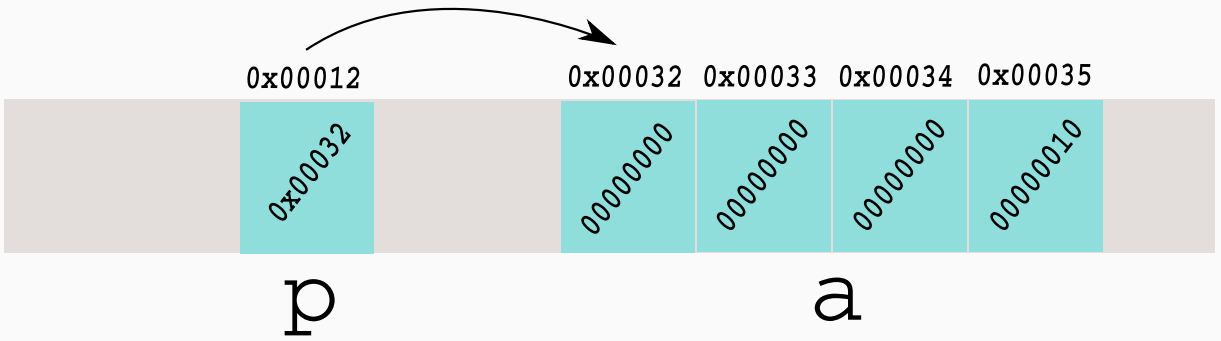
- `if...else`
- `switch...case`
- Functions
  - Process creation (`fork, exec`)
  - File I/O (`open, close, read, write`)

Pointers



(a)

```
int a = 5;
int *p = &a;
```

(b)

Fig. 1(a). Simple illustration of how a pointer points to data in the memory. (b) Corresponding C code for Fig. 1(a).

Arrays

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- Collection of objects of the same data type
- Accessed by index (`0 ... size - 1`)
- String is an array of characters

Array Intialization

Designated Initializers[2] Initialize the array elements 0x3A, 0x45, 0x46 only [3]

[2] http://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc-4.0.4/gcc/Designated-Inits.html
[3] sheet 77, xv6-rev9.pdf

Examples

(arrays-ptrs.c & arrays-strings.c)