

Strings and Pointers

Ahsan Ayub

Ph.D. Student, Department of Computer Science

Graduate Research Assistant, CEROC

CSC 1300: Introduction to Programming

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Introducing Strings

A sequence of characters in memory. In other words, a string is simply a character array and can be manipulated as such.

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char s1[] = {'H', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o', '\0'};
    char s2[3] = {'H', 'i', '\0'};
    char s3[] = "Hey";

    cout << s1 << endl;
    cout << s2 << endl;
    cout << s3 << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
Hello
Hi
Hey
```

Introducing Strings

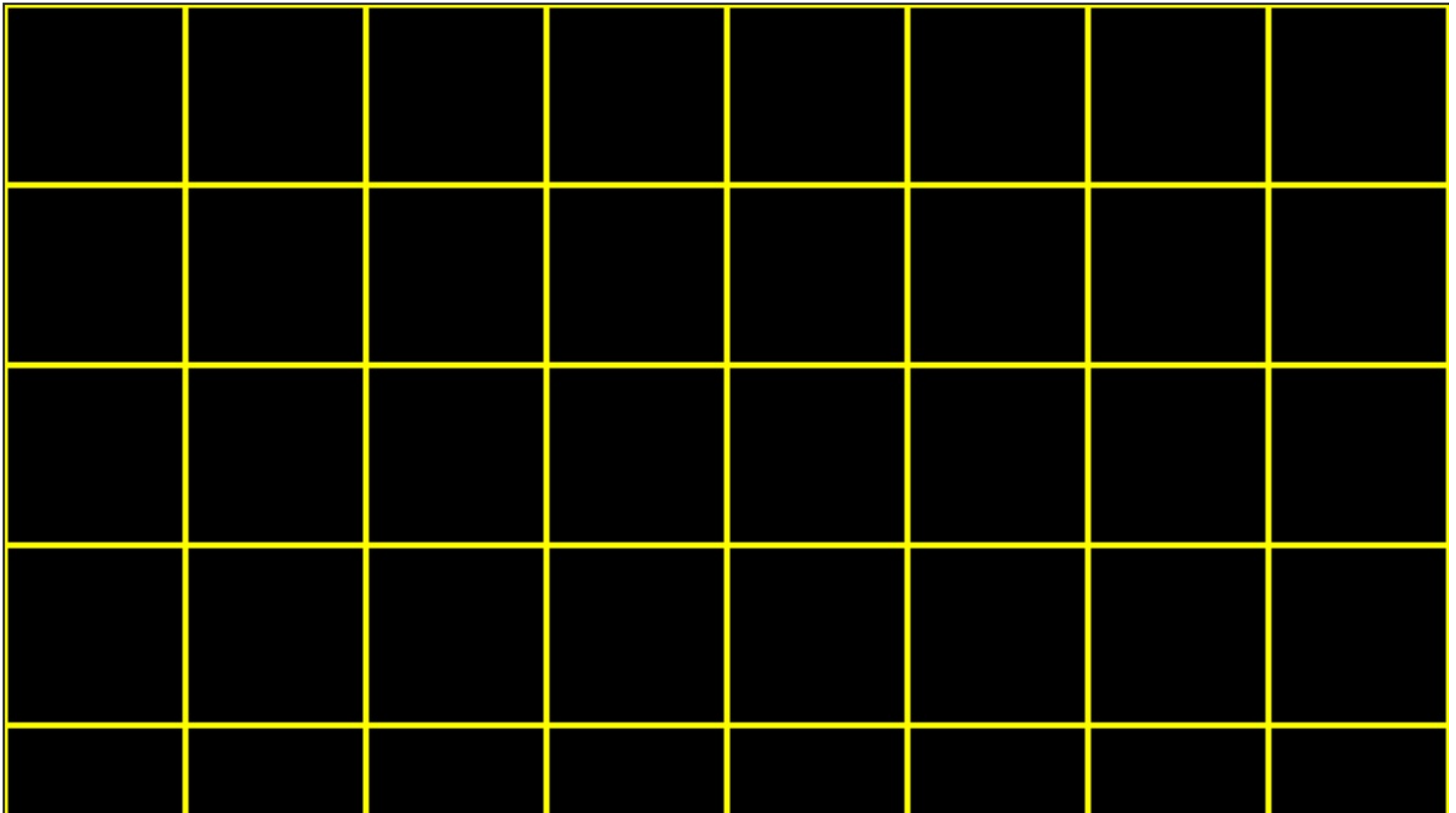
```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char s[] = "HI!";

    cout << s<< endl;

    return 0;
}
```

HI!



H I !							
	s						

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]					

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]	\0 s[3]				

72 s[0]	73 s[1]	33 s[2]	0 s[3]				

H	I	!	\0				
s							

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    // Declare a string of size 10
    char myString[10];

    char letter = 'A';
    // Initializing the array with alphabets values
    for (int i = 0; i < 9; i++)
    {
        myString[i] = letter;
        letter += 1;
    }
    myString[9] = '\0';
    cout << myString << endl;
}
```

??

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    // Declare a string of size 10
    char myString[10];

    char letter = 'A';
    // Initializing the array with alphabets values
    for (int i = 0; i < 9; i++)
    {
        myString[i] = letter;
        letter += 1;
    }
    myString[9] = '\0';
    cout << myString << endl;
}
```

ABCDEFGHI

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    // Declare a string of size 10
    char myString[] = "United States of America";

    unsigned int stringLength = 0;
    while(myString[stringLength] != '\0')
        stringLength += 1;

    cout << stringLength << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

??

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    // Declare a string of size 10
    char myString[] = "United States of America";

    unsigned int stringLength = 0;
    while(myString[stringLength] != '\0')
        stringLength += 1;

    cout << stringLength << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

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Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    // Declare a string of size 10
    char myString[] = "United States of America";

    unsigned int stringLength = 0;
    while(myString[stringLength])
        stringLength += 1;

    cout << stringLength << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

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Character Handling

- ctype library (in C++; ctype.h for C language) is used to manipulate characters inside a string.
- Common functions include –
 - Boolean return function types: isalpha, isupper, islower, ispunct, isspace, etc.
 - Character conversion function types: toupper and tolower

```
#include <iostream>
#include <ctype>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char s[] = "hello";
    int i = 0;
    while(s[i])
    {
        s[i] = toupper(s[i]);
        i++;
    }
    cout << s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

HELLO

Reference (further read): <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/ctype/>

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    char messyString[] = "t6H0I9s6.iS.999a9.STRING";

    char current = messyString[0];
    for(int i = 0; current != '\0'; current = messyString[++i])
    {
        if(isalpha(current))
            cout << (char)(isupper(current) ? tolower(current) : current);
        else if(ispunct(current))
            cout << ' ';
    }
    cout << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

?? this is a string

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    char messyString[] = "t6H0I9s6.iS.999a9.STRING";

    char current = messyString[0];
    for(int i = 0; current != '\0'; current = messyString[++i])
    {
        if(isalpha(current))
            cout << (char)(isupper(current) ? tolower(current) : current);
        else if(ispunct(current))
            cout << ' ';
    }
    cout << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

this is a string

String Handling

- cstring library (in C++; string.h for C language) is used to manipulate strings.
- Common functions include –
 - Copy string: strcpy.
 - Concatenate strings: strcat
 - Compare two strings: strcmp
 - Get string length: strlen

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstring>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char s1[100] = "CSC 1300-001";
    char s2[100];
    char s3[] = " Intro to Programming"

    strcpy(s2, s1);
    strcat(s1, s3);

    cout << s2 << endl;
    cout << s1 << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
CSC 1300-001
CSC 1300-001 Intro to Programming
```

Reference (further read): <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/cstring/>

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    char fragment1[] = "I'm a s";
    char fragment2[] = "tring";
    char fragment3[20];
    char finalString[20] = "";

    strcpy(fragment3, fragment1);
    strcat(finalString, fragment3);
    strcat(finalString, fragment2);

    cout << finalString << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

??

Output Tracing

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    char fragment1[] = "I'm a s";
    char fragment2[] = "tring";
    char fragment3[20];
    char finalString[20] = "";

    strcpy(fragment3, fragment1); // fragment3 -> "I'm a s"
    strcat(finalString, fragment3); // finalString -> "I'm a s"
    strcat(finalString, fragment2); // finalString -> "I'm a string"

    cout << finalString << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

I'm a string

Read a “word” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;

    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Enter a string: _

Read a “word” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;

    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Enter a string: CSC1300-001

Read a “word” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;

    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
Enter a string: CSC1300-001
CSC 1300-001
Enter another string: _
```

Read a “word” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;

    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
Enter a string: CSC1300-001
CSC 1300-001
Enter another string: CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming
```


Read a “word” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;

    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin >> word;
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Enter a string: CSC1300-001

CSC 1300-001

Enter another string: CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming

CSC1300-001

Read a “line of text” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char word[100];
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    cin.get(word, 100);
    cout << word << endl;
    cin.ignore(); // To clear the buffer for the next input
    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    cin.get(word, 100);
    cout << word << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
Enter a string: CSC1300-001
CSC 1300-001
Enter another string: CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming
CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming
```

Strings

- In C++, we can also create a string object to work with strings.
- Unlike using character arrays, it has got no fixed length.

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s1= "Hello";
    string s2 = "Hi";
    string s3 = "Hey";

    cout << s1 << endl;
    cout << s2 << endl;
    cout << s3 << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
Hello
Hi
Hey
```

Strings Object

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";

    cout << s << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

HI!

H	I	!					
	s						

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]					

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]	\0 s[3]				

72 s[0]	73 s[1]	33 s[2]	0 s[3]				

H I ! \0 s							

Strings Object

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";
    string t = "BYE!";

    cout << s << endl;
    cout << t << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
HI!
BYE!
```

H I ! \0				B Y E !			
s				t			
\0							

H s[0]	I s[1]	! s[2]	\0 s[3]	B t[0]	Y t[1]	E t[2]	! t[3]
\0 t[4]							

Read a “line of text” from the user

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string message;
    cout << "Enter a string: ";
    getline(cin, message);
    cout << message << endl;
    cin.clear(); // To clear the buffer for the next input
    cout << "Enter another string: ";
    getline(cin, message);
    cout << message << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
Enter a string: CSC1300-001
CSC 1300-001
Enter another string: CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming
CSC1300-001 Introduction to Programming
```

String Functionalities

- Common functions include –
 - Convert string to integer: `stoi`
 - Convert string to unsigned integer: `stoul`
 - Convert string to long int: `stol`
 - Convert string to double: `stod`
 - Convert to string: `to_string`

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string str1 = "104";
    int val1 = stoi(str1);

    long long val2 = -2153156942601347941;
    string str2 = to_string(val2);

    cout << val1 << endl;
    cout << str2 << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
104
-2153156942601347941
```

Reference (further read): <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/string/>

String Operations

- Common functions include –
 - Copy sequence of characters from string: `copy`
 - Find content in string: `find`
 - Find last occurrence of content in string: `rfind`
 - Generate substring: `substr`
 - Compare strings: `compare`

Reference (further read): <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/string/string/>

String Operations: Copy

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main ()
{
    char buffer[20];
    string str = "Test string...";
    int length = str.copy(buffer,6,5);
    buffer[length]='\0';
    cout << "buffer contains: " << buffer << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
buffer contains: string
```

Note: Returns the number of characters copied to the array.

String Operations: Find

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main () {
    string str1 = "There are two needles in this haystack with needles.";
    string str2 = "needle";

    int found = str1.find(str2);
    if (found > 0)
        cout << "first 'needle' found at: " << found << endl;

    found = str1.find("haystack");
    if (found > 0)
        cout << "'haystack' also found at: " << found << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
first 'needle' found at: 14
'haystack' also found at: 30
```

Note: Returns the position of the first character of the first match.

String Operations: Substring

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main ()
{
    string str = "We think in generalities, but we live in details.";
    string str2 = str.substr(3,5);    // "think"

    int pos = str.find("live");      // position of "live" in str
    string str3 = str.substr(pos);   // get from "live" to the end

    cout << str2 << ' ' << str3 << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

think live in details.

String Operations: Compare

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main () {
    string str1 = "Apple", str2 = "apple";
    if (str1.compare(str2) == 0)
        cout << str1 << " is " << str2 << endl;
    else
        cout << str1 << " is not " << str2 << endl;

    if (str1.compare("Apple") == 0)
        cout << str1 << " is Apple" << endl;
    else
        cout << str1 << " is not Apple" << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
Apple is not apple
Apple is Apple
```

String Operations: Compare

value	relation between <i>compared string</i> and <i>comparing string</i>
0	They compare equal
<0	Either the value of the first character that does not match is lower in the <i>compared string</i> , or all compared characters match but the <i>compared string</i> is shorter.
>0	Either the value of the first character that does not match is greater in the <i>compared string</i> , or all compared characters match but the <i>compared string</i> is longer.

Image Source: <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/string/string/compare/>

Passing String to a Function: Pass by Value

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void DisplayMessage(string msg)
{
    cout << msg << endl;
}
int main()
{
    string str = "This is CSC 1300-01";
    DisplayMessage(str);
    return 0;
}
```

??

Passing String to a Function: Pass by Value

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void DisplayMessage(string msg)
{
    cout << msg << endl;
}

int main()
{
    string str = "This is CSC 1300-01";
    DisplayMessage(str);
    return 0;
}
```

This is CSC 1300-001

Passing String to a Function: Pass by Value

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void DisplayMessage(string msg)
{
    cout << msg << endl;
}

string BuildString(string name)
{
    string str = "My name is " + name;
    return str;
}

int main()
{
    string str = BuildString("Ahsan");
    DisplayMessage(str);
    return 0;
}
```

??

Passing String to a Function: Pass by Value

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void DisplayMessage(string msg)
{
    cout << msg << endl;
}

string BuildString(string name)
{
    string str = "My name is " + name;
    return str;
}

int main()
{
    string str = BuildString("Ahsan");
    DisplayMessage(str);
    return 0;
}
```

My name is Ahsan

Let's dig deep into Strings now...

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";
    // Printing out a string
    cout << s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

HI!

Print the address of a string

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";
    // Printing out a string
    cout << &s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
0x7ff7b20ed3b0
```

Print the address of a string (in C language)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";
    // Printing out a string
    printf("%p\n", &s);
    return 0;
}
```

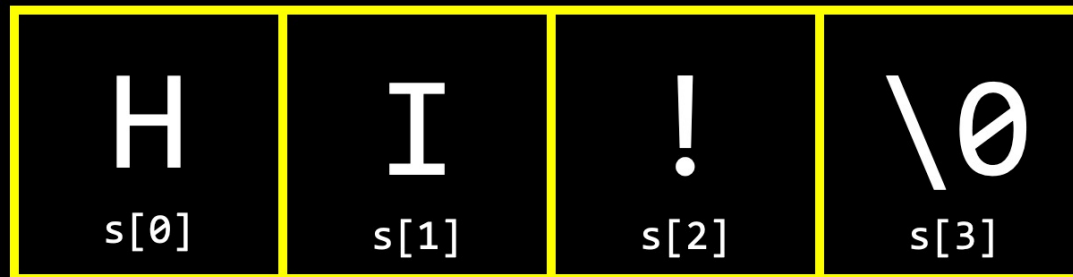
```
0x7ff7b20ed3b0
```

Print the addresses of all the elements (in C)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string s = "HI!";
    // Printing out the elements' addresses
    printf("%p\n", &s[0]);
    printf("%p\n", &s[1]);
    printf("%p\n", &s[2]);
    return 0;
}
```

```
0x7ff7b20ed3b1
0x7ff7b20ed3b2
0x7ff7b20ed3b3
```



H 0x123	I 0x124	! 0x125	\0 0x126
------------	------------	------------	-------------

0x123

s

H

0x123

I

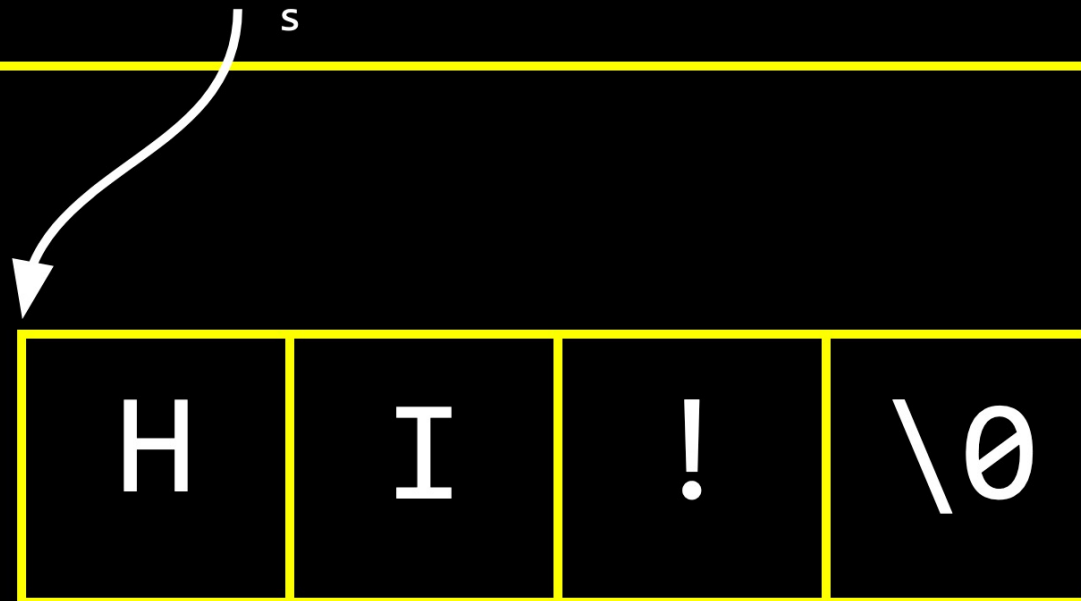
0x124

!

0x125

\0

0x126



String using Pointers

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char *s = "HI!";
    // Printing out the entire string
    cout << s << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

HI!

String using Pointers

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char *s = "HI!";
    // Printing out each element of a string
    cout << s[0] << endl;
    cout << s[1] << endl;
    cout << s[2] << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
H
I
!
```

String using Pointers

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char *s = "HI!";
    // Printing out each element of a string
    cout << *(s+0) << endl;
    cout << *(s+1) << endl;
    cout << *(s+2) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
H
I
!
```

Passing String to a Function: Pass by Reference

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cctype>
using namespace std;

void CaptilizeString(string &str)
{
    str[0] = toupper(str[0]);
}

int main()
{
    string msg = "this is CSC 1300-001";
    CaptilizeString(msg);
    cout << msg << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

This is CSC 1300-001

Strings Arrays

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    string words[2];
    words[0] = "HI!";
    words[1] = "BYE!"

    cout << words[0] << endl;
    cout << words[1] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
HI!
BYE!
```

Strings Arrays

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char *words[2];
    words[0] = "HI!";
    words[1] = "BYE!"

    cout << words[0] << endl;
    cout << words[1] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
HI!
BYE!
```

Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

\$

Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ g++ -o example example.cpp
```


Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ g++ -o example example.cpp
$ ./example hello hi hey hola
```

Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 0; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ g++ -o example example.cpp
$ ./example hello hi hey hola
./example
hello
hi
hey
hola
```

Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 1; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ g++ -o example example.cpp
$ ./example hello hi hey hola
??
```

Command Line Argument

example.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for(int i = 1; i < argc; i++)
        cout << argv[i] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ g++ -o example example.cpp
$ ./example hello hi hey hola
hello
hi
hey
hola
```

Remarks

- Reference
 - MIT 6.096 Introduction to C++
 - This is CS50x, Dr. David J. Malan. <https://cs50.harvard.edu/x/2020/>