

# Week 3: Dynamic Data Structures

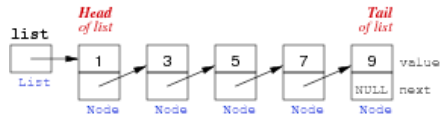
## Pointers

## Pointers

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Reminder: In a *linked list* ...

- each node contains a pointer to the next node
- the number of values can change dynamically



Benefits:

- insertion/deletion have minimal effect on list overall
- only use as much space as needed for values

In C, linked lists are implemented using *pointers* and *dynamic memory allocation*

## Sidetrack: Numeral Systems

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*Numeral system* ... system for representing numbers using digits or other symbols.

- Most cultures have developed a *decimal* system (based on 10)
- For computers it is convenient to use a *binary* (base 2) or a *hexadecimal* (base 16) system

## ... Sidetrack: Numeral Systems

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*Decimal representation*

- The **base** is 10; digits 0 - 9
- Example: decimal number 4705 can be interpreted as

$$4 \cdot 10^3 + 7 \cdot 10^2 + 0 \cdot 10^1 + 5 \cdot 10^0$$

- Place values:

...	1000	100	10	1
...	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>	10 <sup>1</sup>	10 <sup>0</sup>

## ... Sidetrack: Numeral Systems

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*Binary representation*

- The **base** is 2; digits 0 and 1
- Example: binary number 1101 can be interpreted as

$$1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$$

- Place values:

...	8	4	2	1
...	2 <sup>3</sup>	2 <sup>2</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>0</sup>

- Write number as **0b1101** (= 13)

## ... Sidetrack: Numeral Systems

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*Hexadecimal representation*

- The **base** is 16; digits 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,A,B,C,D,E,F
- Example: hexadecimal number 3AF1 can be interpreted as

$$3 \cdot 16^3 + 10 \cdot 16^2 + 15 \cdot 16^1 + 1 \cdot 16^0$$

- Place values:

...	4096	256	16	1
...	16 <sup>3</sup>	16 <sup>2</sup>	16 <sup>1</sup>	16 <sup>0</sup>

- Write number as **0x3AF1** (= 15089)

## Exercise #1: Conversion Between Different Numeral Systems

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1. Convert 74 to base 2
2. Convert 0x2D to base 10
3. Convert 0b1011111000101001 to base 16
  - Hint: 1011111000101001
4. Convert 0x12D to base 2

1. 0b1001010
2. 45
3. 0xBE29
4. 0b100101101

## Memory

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Computer memory ... large array of consecutive data cells or bytes

- char ... 1 byte    int, float ... 4 bytes    double ... 8 bytes

When a variable is declared, the operating system finds a place in memory to store the appropriate number of bytes.

If we declare a variable called `k` ...

- the place where `k` is stored is denoted by `&k`
- also called the **address** of `k`

It is convenient to print memory addresses in Hexadecimal notation

0xFFFF	High Memory
0xFFFE	
⋮	
0x0001	
0x0000	Low Memory

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... Memory

Example:

```
int k;
int m;

printf("address of k is %p\n", &k);
printf("address of m is %p\n", &m);

address of k is BFFFFB80
address of m is BFFFFB84
```

- This means that
- `k` occupies the four bytes from `BFFFFB80` to `BFFFFB83`
  - `m` occupies the four bytes from `BFFFFB84` to `BFFFFB87`

Note the use of `%p` as placeholder for an address ("pointer" value)

... Memory

When an array is declared, the elements of the array are guaranteed to be stored in consecutive memory locations:

```
int array[5];

for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    printf("address of array[%d] is %p\n", i, &array[i]);
}

address of array[0] is BFFFFB60
address of array[1] is BFFFFB64
address of array[2] is BFFFFB68
address of array[3] is BFFFFB6C
address of array[4] is BFFFFB70
```

Application: Input Using `scanf()`

Standard I/O function `scanf()` requires the *address* of a variable as argument

- `scanf()` uses a format string like `printf()`
  - use `%d` to read an integer value
- ```
#include <stdio.h>
...
int answer;
printf("Enter your answer: ");
scanf("%d", &answer);
```
- use `%f` to read a floating point value (`%lf` for double)
- ```
float e;
printf("Enter e: ");
scanf("%f", &e);
```
- `scanf()` returns a value — the number of items read
    - use this value to determine if `scanf()` successfully read a number
      - `scanf()` could fail e.g. if the user enters letters

Exercise #2: Using `scanf`

Write a program that

- asks the user for a number
- checks that it is positive
- applies Collatz's process (Exercise 3, Problem Set Week 1) to the number

```
#include <stdio.h>

void collatz(int n) {
    printf("%d\n", n);
    while (n != 1) {
        if (n % 2 == 0)
            n = n / 2;
        else
            n = 3*n + 1;
        printf("%d\n", n);
    }
}

int main(void) {
    int n;
    printf("Enter a positive number: ");
    if (scanf("%d", &n) == 1 && (n > 0)) /* test if scanf successful
                                         and returns positive number */
        collatz(n);
    return 0;
}
```

Pointers

- is a special type of variable
- storing the **address** (memory location) of another variable

A pointer occupies space in memory, just like any other variable of a certain type

The number of memory cells needed for a pointer depends on the computer's architecture:

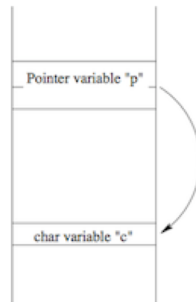
- Old computer, or hand-held device with only 64KB of addressable memory:
  - 2 memory cells (i.e. 16 bits) to hold any address from 0x0000 to 0xFFFF (= 65535)
- Desktop machine with 4GB of addressable memory
  - 4 memory cells (i.e. 32 bits) to hold any address from 0x00000000 to 0xFFFFFFFF (= 4294967295)
- Modern 64-bit computer
  - 8 memory cells (can address  $2^{64}$  bytes, but in practice the amount of memory is limited by the CPU)

## ... Pointers

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Suppose we have a pointer **p** that "points to" a **char** variable **c**.

Assuming that the pointer **p** requires 2 bytes to store the address of **c**, here is what the memory map might look like:



## ... Pointers

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Now that we have assigned to **p** the address of variable **c** ...

- need to be able to reference the data in that memory location

Operator **\*** is used to access the object the pointer points to

- e.g. to change the value of **c** using the pointer **p**:

```
*p = 'T'; // sets the value of c to 'T'
```

The **\*** operator is sometimes described as "*dereferencing*" the pointer, to access the underlying variable

## ... Pointers

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Things to note:

- all pointers constrained to point to a particular type of object

```
// a potential pointer to any object of type char
char *s;
```

```
// a potential pointer to any object of type int
int *p;
```

- if pointer **p** is pointing to an integer variable **x**  
 ⇒ **\*p** can occur in any context that **x** could

## Examples of Pointers

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```
int *p; int *q; // this is how pointers are declared
int a[5];
int x = 10, y;
```

```
p = &x;      // p now points to x
*p = 20;     // whatever p points to is now equal to 20
y = *p;      // y is now equal to whatever p points to
p = &a[2];    // p points to an element of array a[]
q = p;       // q and p now point to the same thing
```

## Exercise #3: Pointers

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What is the output of the following program?

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main(void) {
4      int *ptr1, *ptr2;
5      int i = 10, j = 20;
6
7      ptr1 = &i;
8      ptr2 = &j;
9
10     *ptr1 = *ptr1 + *ptr2;
11     ptr2 = ptr1;
12     *ptr2 = 2 * (*ptr2);
13     printf("Val = %d\n", *ptr1 + *ptr2);
14     return 0;
15 }
```

Val = 120

---

## ... Examples of Pointers

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Can we write a function to "swap" two variables?

The *wrong* way:

```
void swap(int a, int b) {
    int temp = a;           // only local "copies" of a and b will swap
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}

int main(void) {
    int a = 5, b = 7;
    swap(a, b);
    printf("a = %d, b = %d\n", a, b); // a and b still have their original values
    return 0;
}
```

---

## ... Examples of Pointers

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In C, parameters are "call-by-value"

- changes made to the value of a parameter do not affect the original
- function `swap()` tries to swap the values of `a` and `b`, but fails because it only swaps the copies, not the "real" variables in `main()`

We can achieve "simulated call-by-reference" by passing pointers as parameters

- this allows the function to change the "actual" value of the variables

---

## ... Examples of Pointers

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Can we write a function to "swap" two variables?

The *right* way:

```
void swap(int *p, int *q) {
    int temp = *p;           // change the actual values of a and b
    *p = *q;
    *q = temp;
}

int main(void) {
    int a = 5, b = 7;
    swap(&a, &b);
    printf("a = %d, b = %d\n", a, b); // a and b now successfully swapped
    return 0;
}
```

---

## Pointer Arithmetic

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A *pointer* variable holds a value which is an *address*.

C knows what type of object is being pointed to

- it knows the `sizeof` that object
- it can compute where the next/previous object is located

Example:

```
int a[6];    // assume array starts at address 0x1000
int *p;
p = &a[0];   // p contains 0x1000
p = p + 1;   // p now contains 0x1004
```

---

## ... Pointer Arithmetic

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For a pointer declared as `T *p;` (where `T` is a type)

- if the pointer initially contains address `A`
  - executing `p = p + k;` (where `k` is a constant)
    - changes the value in `p` to `A + k*sizeof(T)`

The value of `k` can be positive or negative.

Example:

```
int a[6];    (addr 0x1000)    char s[10];    (addr 0x2000)
int *p;      (p == ?)        char *q;          (q == ?)
p = &a[0];    (p == 0x1000)    q = &s[0];        (q == 0x2000)
p = p + 2;    (p == 0x1008)    q++;              (q == 0x2001)
```

---

## Pointers and Arrays

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An alternative approach to iteration through an array:

- determine the **address of the first element** in the array
- determine the **address of the last element** in the array
- set a pointer variable to refer to the first element
- use **pointer arithmetic** to move from element to element
- terminate loop when address exceeds that of last element

Example:

```
int a[6];
int *p;
p = &a[0];
while (p <= &a[5]) {
    printf("%2d ", *p);
    p++;
}
```

Pointer-based scan written in more typical style

```
int *p;
int a[6];
for (p = &a[0]; p < &a[6]; p++)
    printf("%2d ", *p);
```

address of first element  
address of last element + 1  
access current element  
pointer arithmetic (move to next element)

Note: because of pointer/array connection `a[i] == *(a+i)`

## Arrays of Strings

One common type of pointer/array combination are the *command line arguments*

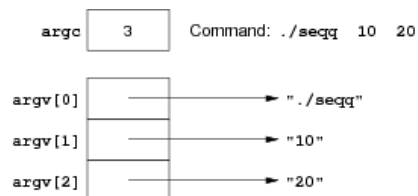
- These are 0 or more strings specified when program is run
- Suppose you have an executable program named `seqq`. If you run this command in a terminal:

```
prompt$ ./seqq 10 20
```

then `seqq` will be given 2 command-line arguments: "10", "20"

## ... Arrays of Strings

```
prompt$ ./seqq 10 20
```



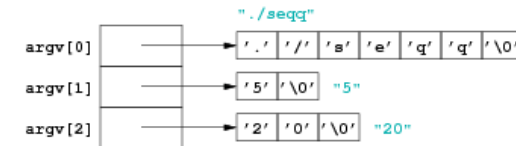
Each element of `argv[ ]` is

- a pointer to the start of a character array (`char *`)
  - containing a `\0`-terminated string

## ... Arrays of Strings

More detail on how `argv` is represented:

```
prompt$ ./seqq 5 20
```



## ... Arrays of Strings

`main()` needs different prototype if you want to access command-line arguments:

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) { ...
```

- `argc` ... stores the number of command-line arguments + 1
  - `argc == 1` if no command-line arguments
- `argv[ ]` ... stores program name + command-line arguments
  - `argv[0]` always contains the program name
  - `argv[1], argv[2], ...` are the command-line arguments if supplied

`<stdlib.h>` defines useful functions to convert strings:

- `atoi(char *s)` converts string to int
- `atof(char *s)` converts string to double (can also be assigned to float variable)

## Exercise #4: Command Line Arguments

Write a program that

- checks for a single command line argument
  - if not, outputs a usage message and exits with failure
- converts this argument to a number and checks that it is positive
- applies Collatz's process (Exercise 3, Problem Set Week 1) to the number

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
void collatz(int n) {
    ...
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    if (argc != 2) {
        printf("Usage: %s number\n", argv[0]);
        return 1;
    }
}
```

```

}
int n = atoi(argv[1]);
if (n > 0)
    collatz(n);
return 0;
}

```

## ... Arrays of Strings

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`argv` can also be viewed as *double pointer* (a pointer to a pointer)

⇒ Alternative prototype for `main()`:

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) { ...
```

Can still use `argv[0]`, `argv[1]`, ...

## Pointers and Structures

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Like any object, we can get the address of a `struct` via `&`.

```

typedef char Date[11]; // e.g. "03-08-2017"
typedef struct {
    char name[60];
    Date birthday;
    int status;      // e.g. 1 (≡ full time)
    float salary;
} WorkerT;

```

```

WorkerT w;  WorkerT *wp;
wp = &w;
// a problem ...
*wp.salary = 125000.00;
// does not have the same effect as
w.salary = 125000.00;
// because it is interpreted as
*(wp.salary) = 125000.00;

// to achieve the correct effect, we need
(*wp).salary = 125000.00;
// a simpler alternative is normally used in C
wp->salary = 125000.00;

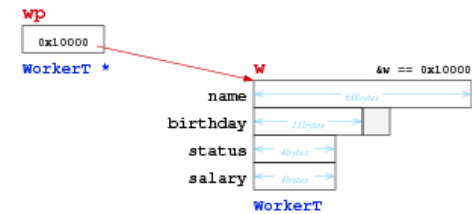
```

Learn this well; we will frequently use it in this course.

## ... Pointers and Structures

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Diagram of scenario from program above:



## ... Pointers and Structures

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General principle ...

If we have:

```

SomeStructType s;
SomeStructType *sp = &s; // declare pointer and initialise to address of s

```

then the following are all equivalent:

```

s.SomeElem    sp->SomeElem    (*sp).SomeElem

```



## Memory

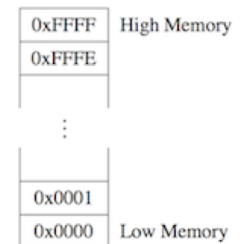
39/96

Reminder:

Computer memory ... large array of consecutive data cells or bytes

- `char` ... 1 byte
- `int, float` ... 4 bytes
- `double` ... 8 bytes
- `any_type *` ... 8 bytes (on CSE lab computers)

Memory addresses shown in Hexadecimal notation



## C execution: Memory

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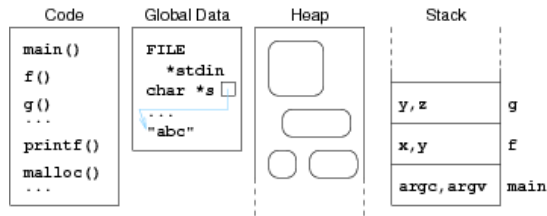
An executing C program partitions memory into:

- *code* ... fixed-size, read-only region
  - contains the machine code instructions for the program

- *global data* ... fixed-size
  - contain global variables (read-write) and constant strings (read-only)
- *heap* ... very large, read-write region
  - contains dynamic data structures created by `malloc()` (see later)
- *stack* ... dynamically-allocated data (function local vars)
  - consists of frames, one for each currently active function
  - each frame contains local variables and house-keeping info

## ... C execution: Memory

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## Exercise #5: Memory Regions

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```
int numbers[] = { 40, 20, 30 };

void insertionSort(int array[], int n) {
    int i, j;
    for (i = 1; i < n; i++) {
        int element = array[i];
        for (j = i-1; j >= 0 && array[j] > element; j--)
            array[j+1] = array[j];
        array[j+1] = element;
    }
}

int main(void) {
    insertionSort(numbers, 3);
    return 0;
}
```

Which memory region are the following objects located in?

1. `insertionSort()`
2. `numbers[0]`
3. `n`
4. `array[0]`
5. `element`

1. [code](#)
2. [global](#)
3. [stack](#)
4. [global](#)
5. [stack](#)

## Dynamic Data Structures

### Dynamic Memory Allocation

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So far, we have considered *static* memory allocation

- all objects completely defined at compile-time
- sizes of all objects are known to compiler

Examples:

```
int x; // 4 bytes containing a 32-bit integer value
char *cp; // 8 bytes (on CSE machines)
// containing address of a char
typedef struct {float x; float y;} Point;
Point p; // 8 bytes containing two 32-bit float values
char s[20]; // array containing space for 20 1-byte chars
```

### ... Dynamic Memory Allocation

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In many applications, fixed-size data is ok.

In many other applications, we need flexibility.

Examples:

```
char name[MAXNAME]; // how long is a name?
char item[MAXITEMS]; // how high can the stack grow?
char dictionary[MAXWORDS][MAXWORDLENGTH];
// how many words are there?
// how long is each word?
```

With fixed-size data, we need to guess sizes ("large enough").

### ... Dynamic Memory Allocation

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Fixed-size memory allocation:

- allocate as much space as we might ever possibly need

Dynamic memory allocation:

- allocate as much space as we actually need
- determine size based on inputs

But how to do this in C?

- all data allocation methods so far are "static"
  - however, stack data (when calling a function) is created dynamically (size is known)

## Dynamic Data Example

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Problem:

- read integer data from standard input (keyboard)
- first number tells how many numbers follow
- rest of numbers are read into a vector
- subsequent computation uses vector (e.g. sorts it)

Example input: 6 25 -1 999 42 -16 64

How to define the vector?

### ... Dynamic Data Example

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Suggestion #1: allocate a large vector; use only part of it

```
#define MAXELEMS 1000
```

```
// how many elements in the vector
int numberOfElems;
scanf("%d", &numberOfElems);
assert(numberOfElems <= MAXELEMS);
```

```
// declare vector and fill with user input
int i, vector[MAXELEMS];
for (i = 0; i < numberOfElems; i++)
    scanf("%d", &vector[i]);
```

Works ok, unless too many numbers; usually wastes space.

Recall that `assert()` terminates program with standard error message if test fails.

### ... Dynamic Data Example

50/96

Suggestion #2: create vector after count read in

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
// how many elements in the vector
int numberOfElems;
scanf("%d", &numberOfElems);
```

```
// declare vector and fill with user input
int i, *vector;
size_t numberOfBytes;
numberOfBytes = numberOfElems * sizeof(int);
```

```
vector = malloc(numberOfBytes);
assert(vector != NULL);
```

```
for (i = 0; i < numberOfElems; i++)
    scanf("%d", &vector[i]);
```

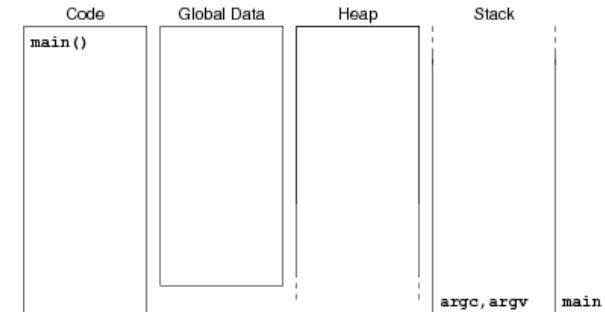
Works unless the *heap* is already full (very unlikely)

Reminder: because of pointer/array connection `&vector[i] == vector+i`

## The `malloc()` function

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Recall memory usage within C programs:



### ... The `malloc()` function

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`malloc()` function interface

```
void *malloc(size_t n);
```

What the function does:

- attempts to reserve a block of `n` bytes in the *heap*
- returns the address of the start of this block
- if insufficient space left in the heap, returns `NULL`

Note: `size_t` is essentially an unsigned `int`

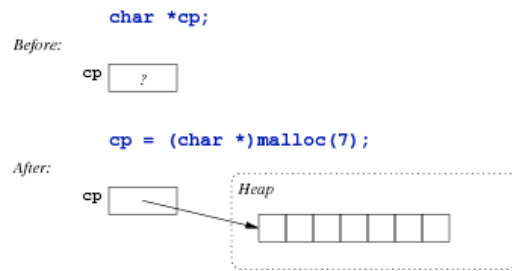
- but has specialised interpretation of applying to memory sizes measured in bytes

### ... The `malloc()` function

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Example use of `malloc`:





Note: because of `a[i] == *(a+i)` can use `cp[i]` to refer to *i*-th element of the dynamic array

## ... The `malloc()` function

54/96

Things to note about `void *malloc(size_t):`

- it is defined as part of `stdlib.h`
- its parameter is a size in units of *bytes*
- its return value is a *generic* pointer (`void *`)
- the return value must *always* be checked (may be `NULL`)

Required size is determined by `#Elements * sizeof(ElementType)`

## Exercise #6: Dynamic Memory Allocation

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Write code to

1. create space for 1,000 speeding tickets (cf. Lecture Week 1)
2. create a dynamic  $m \times n$ -matrix of floating point numbers, given  $m$  and  $n$

How many bytes need to be reserved in each case?

1. Speeding tickets:

```
typedef struct {
    int day, month; } DateT;
typedef struct {
    int hour, minute; } TimeT;
typedef struct {
    char plate[7]; double speed; DateT d; TimeT t; } TicketT;
```

```
TicketT *tickets;
tickets = malloc(1000 * sizeof(TicketT));
assert(tickets != NULL);
```

32,000 bytes allocated

2. Matrix:

```
float **matrix;
```

```
// allocate memory for m pointers to beginning of rows
matrix = malloc(m * sizeof(float *));
assert(matrix != NULL);
```

```
// allocate memory for the elements in each row
int i;
for (i = 0; i < m; i++) {
    matrix[i] = malloc(n * sizeof(float));
    assert(matrix[i] != NULL);
}
```

$8m + 4 \cdot mn$  bytes allocated

## Exercise #7: Memory Regions

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Which memory region is `tickets` located in? What about `*tickets`?

1. `tickets` is a variable located in the stack
2. `*tickets` is in the heap (after `malloc`'ing memory)

## ... The `malloc()` function

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`malloc()` returns a pointer to a data object of some kind.

Things to note about objects allocated by `malloc()`:

- they exist until explicitly removed (program-controlled lifetime)
- they are *accessible* while some variable references them
- if no active variable references an object, it is *garbage*

The function `free()` releases objects allocated by `malloc()`

## ... The `malloc()` function

60/96

Usage of `malloc()` should always be guarded:

```
int *vector, length, i;
...
vector = malloc(length*sizeof(int));
// but malloc() might fail to allocate
assert(vector != NULL);
// now we know it's safe to use vector[]
for (i = 0; i < length; i++) {
    ... vector[i] ...
}
```

Alternatively:

```
int *vector, length, i;
...
vector = malloc(length*sizeof(int));
// but malloc() might fail to allocate
if (vector == NULL) {
    fprintf(stderr, "Out of memory\n");
    exit(1);
}
// now we know its safe to use vector[]
for (i = 0; i < length; i++) {
    ... vector[i] ...
}
```

- `fprintf(stderr, ...)` outputs text to a stream called **stderr** (the screen, by default)
- `exit(v)` terminates the program with return value `v`

---

## Memory Management

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### void free(void \*ptr)

- releases a block of memory allocated by `malloc()`
- `*ptr` is a dynamically allocated object
- if `*ptr` was not `malloc()`'d, chaos will follow

Things to note:

- the contents of the memory block are not changed
- all pointers to the block still exist, but are not valid
- the memory may be re-used as soon as it is `free()`'d

---

### ... Memory Management

62/96

## Warning! Warning! Warning! Warning!

Careless use of `malloc()` / `free()` / pointers

- can mess up the data in the heap
- so that later `malloc()` or `free()` cause run-time errors
- possibly well after the original error occurred

Such errors are **very difficult** to track down and debug.

Must be **very careful** with your use of `malloc()` / `free()` / pointers.

---

### ... Memory Management

63/96

If an uninitialised or otherwise invalid pointer is used, or an array is accessed with a negative or out-of-bounds index, one of a number of things might happen:

- program aborts immediately with a "segmentation fault"

- a mysterious failure much later in the execution of the program
- incorrect results, but no obvious failure
- correct results, but maybe not always, and maybe not when executed on another day, or another machine

The first is the most desirable, but cannot be relied on.

---

### ... Memory Management

64/96

Given a pointer variable:

- you can check whether its value is `NULL`
- you can (maybe) check that it is an address
- you **cannot** check whether it is a valid address

---

### ... Memory Management

65/96

Typical usage pattern for dynamically allocated objects:

```
// single dynamic object e.g. struct
Type *ptr = malloc(sizeof(Type)); // declare and initialise
assert(ptr != NULL);
... use object referenced by ptr e.g. ptr->name ...
free(ptr);
```

```
// dynamic array with "nelems" elements
int nelems = NumberOfElements;
ElemType *arr = malloc(nelems*sizeof(ElemType));
assert(arr != NULL);
... use array referenced by arr e.g. arr[4] ...
free(arr);
```

---

## Memory Leaks

66/96

Well-behaved programs do the following:

- allocate a new object via `malloc()`
- use the object for as long as needed
- `free()` the object when no longer needed

A program which does not `free()` each object before the last reference to it is lost contains a *memory leak*.

Such programs may eventually exhaust available heap space.

---

### Exercise #8: Dynamic Arrays

67/96

Write a C-program that

- prompts the user to input a positive number  $n$
- allocates memory for two  $n$ -dimensional floating point vectors **a** and **b**
- prompts the user to input  $2n$  numbers to initialise these vectors
- computes and outputs the inner product of **a** and **b**
- frees the allocated memory

## Sidetrack: Standard I/O Streams, Redirects

68/96

Standard file streams:

- **stdin** ... standard input, by default: keyboard
- **stdout** ... standard output, by default: screen
- **stderr** ... standard error, by default: screen

- `fprintf(stdout, ...)` has the same effect as `printf(...)`
- `fprintf(stderr, ...)` often used to print error messages

Executing a C program causes `main(...)` to be invoked

- with `stdin`, `stdout`, `stderr` already open for use

## ... Sidetrack: Standard I/O Streams, Redirects

69/96

The streams `stdin`, `stdout`, `stderr` can be *redirected*

- redirecting `stdin`

```
prompt$ myprog < input.data
```

- redirecting `stdout`

```
prompt$ myprog > output.data
```

- redirecting `stderr`

```
prompt$ myprog 2> error.data
```

## Linked Lists as Dynamic Data Structure

### Sidetrack: Defining Structures

71/96

Structures can be defined in two different styles:

```
typedef struct { int day, month, year; } DateT;
// which would be used as
DateT somedate;
```

```
// or
```

```
struct date { int day, month, year; };
// which would be used as
struct date anotherdate;
```

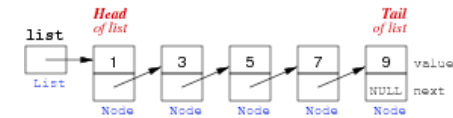
The definitions produce objects with identical structures.

It is possible to combine both styles:

```
typedef struct date { int day, month, year; } DateT;
// which could be used as
DateT date1, *dateptr1;
struct date date2, *dateptr2;
```

## Self-referential Structures

72/96



Reminder: To realise a "chain of elements", need a *node* containing

- a value
- a link to the next node

In C, we can define such nodes as:

```
typedef struct node {
    int data;
    struct node *next;
} NodeT;
```

## ... Self-referential Structures

73/96

Note that the following definition does not work:

```
typedef struct {
    int data;
    NodeT *next;
} NodeT;
```

Because `NodeT` is not yet known (to the compiler) when we try to use it to define the type of the `next` field.

The following is also illegal in C:

```
struct node {
    int data;
    struct node recursive;
};
```

Because the size of the structure would have to satisfy `sizeof(struct node) = sizeof(int) + sizeof(struct node) = ∞`.

## Memory Storage for Linked Lists

74/96

Linked list nodes are typically located in the heap

- because nodes are dynamically created

Variables containing pointers to list nodes

- are likely to be local variables (in the stack)

Pointers to the start of lists are often

- passed as parameters to function
- returned as function results

### ... Memory Storage for Linked Lists

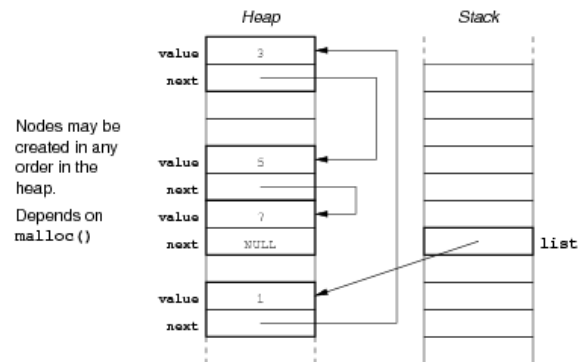
75/96

Create a new list node:

```
NodeT *makeNode(int v) {  
    NodeT *new = malloc(sizeof(NodeT));  
    assert(new != NULL);  
    new->data = v;           // initialise data  
    new->next = NULL;       // initialise link to next node  
    return new;             // return pointer to new node  
}
```

### ... Memory Storage for Linked Lists

76/96



## Iteration over Linked Lists

77/96

When manipulating list elements

- typically have pointer **p** to current node (`NodeT *p`)

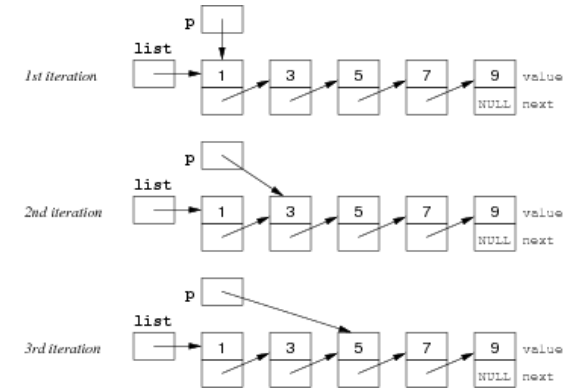
- to access the data in current node: `p->data`
- to get pointer to next node: `p->next`

To iterate over a linked list:

- set **p** to point at first node (head)
- examine node pointed to by **p**
- change **p** to point to next node
- stop when **p** reaches end of list (NULL)

### ... Iteration over Linked Lists

78/96



### ... Iteration over Linked Lists

79/96

Standard method for scanning all elements in a linked list:

```
NodeT *list; // pointer to first Node in list  
NodeT *p;    // pointer to "current" Node in list
```

```
p = list;  
while (p != NULL) {  
    ... do something with p->data ...  
    p = p->next;  
}
```

// which is frequently written as

```
for (p = list; p != NULL; p = p->next) {  
    ... do something with p->data ...  
}
```

### ... Iteration over Linked Lists

80/96

Check if list contains an element:

```
int inLL(NodeT *list, int d) {
    NodeT *p;
    for (p = list; p != NULL; p = p->next)
        if (p->data == d) // element found
            return true;
    return false;        // element not in list
}
```

Print all elements:

```
void showLL(NodeT *list) {
    NodeT *p;
    for (p = list; p != NULL; p = p->next)
        printf("%6d", p->data);
}
```

## Modifying a Linked List

81/96

Insert a new element at the beginning:

```
NodeT *insertLL(NodeT *list, int d) {
    NodeT *new = makeNode(d); // create new list element
    new->next = list;          // link to beginning of list
    return new;                // new element is new head
}
```

Delete the first element:

```
NodeT *deleteHead(NodeT *list) {
    assert(list != NULL); // ensure list is not empty
    NodeT *head = list;   // remember address of first element
    list = list->next;     // move to second element
    free(head);
    return list;          // return pointer to second element
}
```

What would happen if we didn't free the memory pointed to by head?

## Exercise #9: Freeing a list

82/96

Write a C-function to destroy an entire list.

Iterative version:

```
void freeLL(NodeT *list) {
    NodeT *p, *temp;

    p = list;
    while (p != NULL) {
        temp = p->next;
        free(p);
    }
}
```

```
        p = temp;
    }
}
```

Why do we need the extra variable `temp`?

## Abstract Data Structures: ADTs

### Abstract Data Types

85/96

Reminder: An *abstract data type* is ...

- an approach to implementing data types
- separates *interface* from *implementation*
- users of the ADT see only the interface
- builders of the ADT provide an implementation

E.g. does a client want/need to know how a Stack is implemented?

- ADO = *abstract data object* (e.g. a single stack)
- ADT = *abstract data type* (e.g. stack data type)

### ... Abstract Data Types

86/96

Typical operations with ADTs

- *create* a value of the type
- *modify* one variable of the type
- *combine* two values of the type

### ... Abstract Data Types

87/96

ADT *interface* provides

- an *opaque* user-view of the data structure (e.g. `stack *`)
- function signatures (prototypes) for all operations
- semantics of operations (via documentation)
- a contract between ADT and its clients

ADT *implementation* gives

- concrete definition of the data structure
- function implementations for all operations
- ... including for *creation* and *destruction* of instances of the data structure

ADTs are important because ...

- facilitate decomposition of complex programs
- make implementation changes invisible to clients

- improve readability and structuring of software

## Stack as ADT

88/96

Interface (in `stack.h`)

```
// provides an opaque view of ADT
typedef struct StackRep *stack;

// set up empty stack
stack newStack();
// remove unwanted stack
void dropStack(stack);
// check whether stack is empty
int StackIsEmpty(stack);
// insert an int on top of stack
void StackPush(stack, int);
// remove int from top of stack
int StackPop(stack);
```

ADT *stack* defined as a *pointer* to an *unspecified* struct named `StackRep`

## Stack ADT Implementation

89/96

Linked list implementation (`stack.c`):

Remember: `stack.h` includes `typedef struct StackRep *stack;`

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include "stack.h"

typedef struct node {
    int data;
    struct node *next;
} NodeT;

typedef struct StackRep {
    int height; // #elements on stack
    NodeT *top; // ptr to first element
} StackRep;

// set up empty stack
stack newStack() {
    stack S = malloc(sizeof(StackRep));
    S->height = 0;
    S->top = NULL;
    return S;
}

// remove unwanted stack
void dropStack(stack S) {
    NodeT *curr = S->top;
    while (curr != NULL) { // free the list
        NodeT *temp = curr->next;
        free(curr);
        curr = temp;
    }

    // check whether stack is empty
    int StackIsEmpty(stack S) {
        return (S->height == 0);
    }

    // insert an int on top of stack
    void StackPush(stack S, int v) {
        NodeT *new = malloc(sizeof(NodeT));
        assert(new != NULL);
        new->data = v;
        // insert new element at top
        new->next = S->top;
        S->top = new;
        S->height++;
    }

    // remove int from top of stack
    int StackPop(stack S) {
        assert(S->height > 0);
        NodeT *head = S->top;
        // second list element becomes new top
        S->top = S->top->next;
        S->height--;
        // read data off first element, then free
        int d = head->data;
```

```
    free(S); // free the stack rep
}

    free(head);
    return d;
}
```

## Sidetrack: Make/Makefiles

90/96

Compilation process is complex for large systems.

How much to compile?

- ideally, what's changed since last compile
- practically, recompile everything, to be sure

The **make** command assists by allowing

- programmers to document *dependencies* in code
- minimal re-compilation, based on dependencies

### ... Sidetrack: Make/Makefiles

91/96

Example multi-module program ...



### ... Sidetrack: Make/Makefiles

92/96

**make** is driven by dependencies given in a **Makefile**

A *dependency* specifies

*target* : *source*<sub>1</sub> *source*<sub>2</sub> ...  
          *commands to build target from sources*

e.g.

game : main.o graphics.o world.o

```
gcc -o game main.o graphics.o world.o
```

Rule: *target* is rebuilt if older than any *source<sub>i</sub>*

---

### ... Sidetrack: Make/Makefiles

93/96

A **Makefile** for the example program:

```
game : main.o graphics.o world.o
      gcc -o game main.o graphics.o world.o

main.o : main.c world.h graphics.h
      gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c main.c

graphics.o : graphics.c world.h
      gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c graphics.c

world.o : world.c
      gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c world.c
```

Things to note:

- A *target* (`game`, `main.o`, ...) is on a newline
  - followed by a **:**
  - then followed by the files that the target is dependent on
- The *action* (`gcc ...`) is always on a newline
  - and must be indented with a *TAB*

---

### ... Sidetrack: Make/Makefiles

94/96

If `make` arguments are targets, build just those targets:

```
prompt$ make world.o
gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c world.c
```

If no args, build first target in the Makefile.

```
prompt$ make
gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c main.c
gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c graphics.c
gcc -Wall -Werror -std=c11 -c world.c
gcc -o game main.o graphics.o world.o
```

---

### Exercise #10: Makefile

95/96

Write a Makefile for the binary conversion program (Exercise 6, Problem Set Week 1) and the new Stack ADT.

---

## Summary

96/96

- Pointers
- Memory management
  - **malloc()**
    - aim: allocate some memory for a data object
      - the location of the memory block within heap is random
      - the initial contents of the memory block are random
    - if successful, returns a pointer to the start of the block
    - if insufficient space in heap, returns NULL
  - **free()**
    - releases a block of memory allocated by `malloc()`
    - argument must be the address of a previously dynamically allocated object
- Dynamic data structures

- Suggested reading:
  - pointers ... Moffat, Ch. 6.6-6.7
  - dynamic structures ... Moffat, Ch. 10.1-10.2
  - linked lists, stacks, queues ... Sedgewick, Ch. 3.3-3.5, 4.4, 4.6

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