Machine-Level Programming V: Advanced Topics

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CS-2011, Machine Organization and Assembly Language

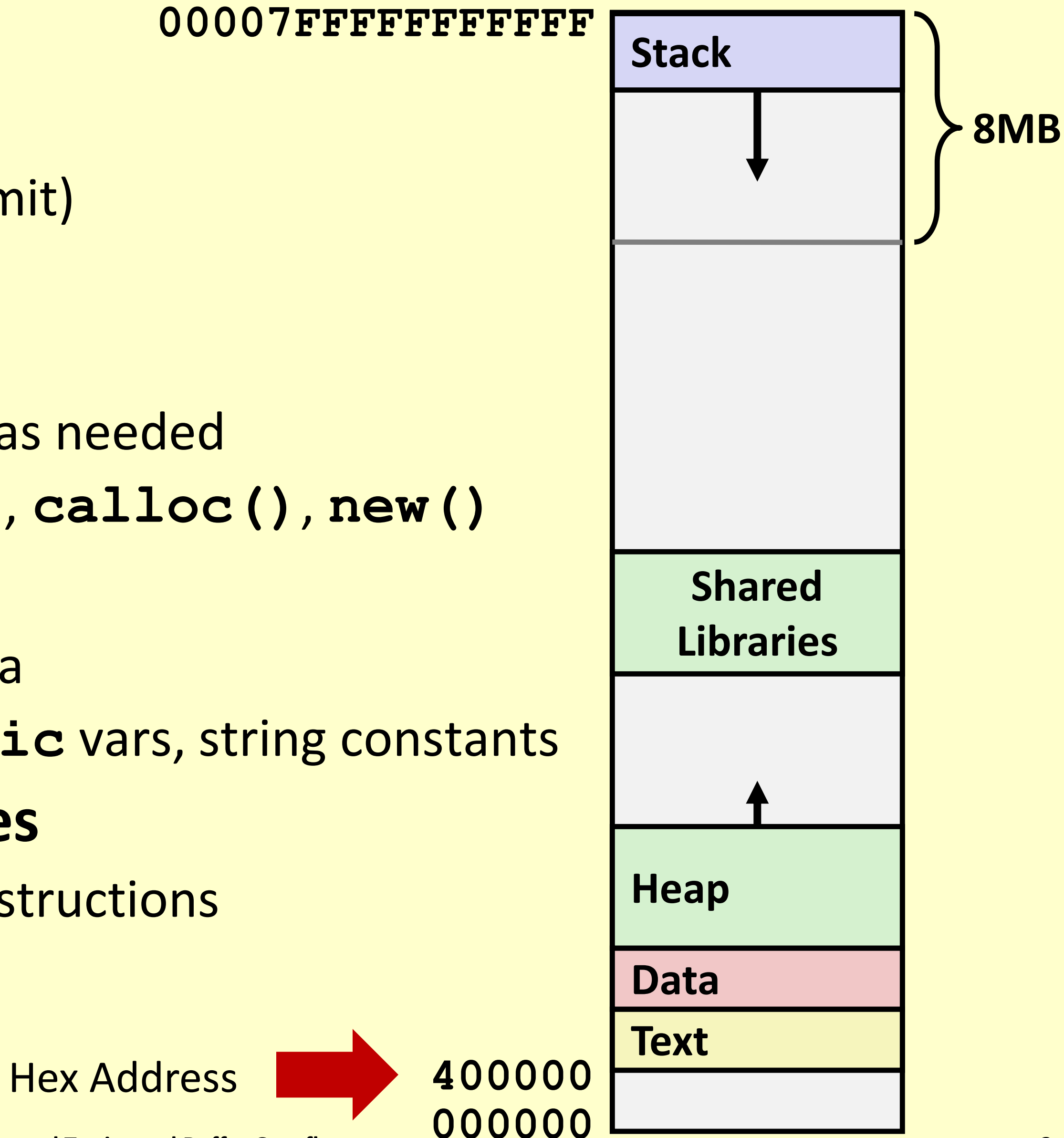
Today

- **Memory Layout**
- **Buffer Overflow**
  - Vulnerability
  - Protection
- **Unions**

x86-64 Linux Memory Layout

not drawn to scale

- **Stack**
  - Runtime stack (8MB limit)
  - E. g., local variables
- **Heap**
  - Dynamically allocated as needed
  - When call **`malloc()`**, **`calloc()`**, **`new()`**
- **Data**
  - Statically allocated data
  - E.g., global vars, **`static`** vars, string constants
- **Text / Shared Libraries**
  - Executable machine instructions
  - Read-only



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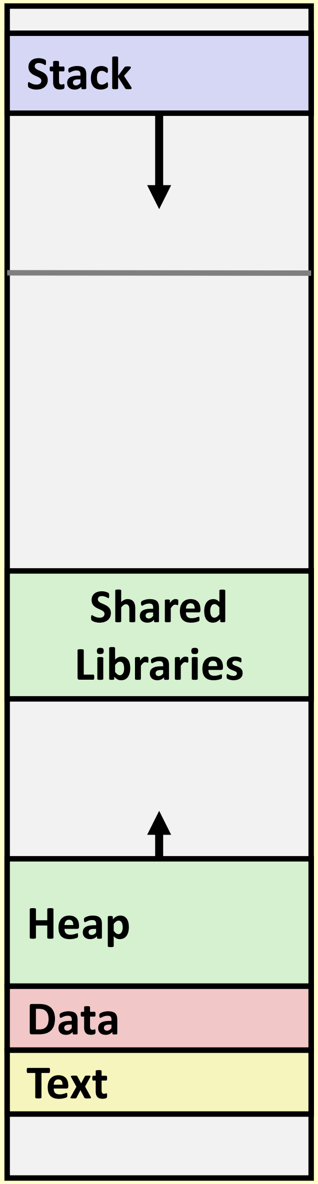
Memory Allocation Example

```
char big_array[1L<<24];  /* 16 MB */
char huge_array[1L<<31]; /*  2 GB */

int global = 0;

int useless() { return 0; }

int main ()
{
    void *p1, *p2, *p3, *p4;
    int local = 0;
    p1 = malloc(1L << 28); /* 256 MB */
    p2 = malloc(1L << 8);  /* 256  B */
    p3 = malloc(1L << 32); /*   4 GB */
    p4 = malloc(1L << 8);  /* 256  B */
 /* Some print statements ... */
}
```



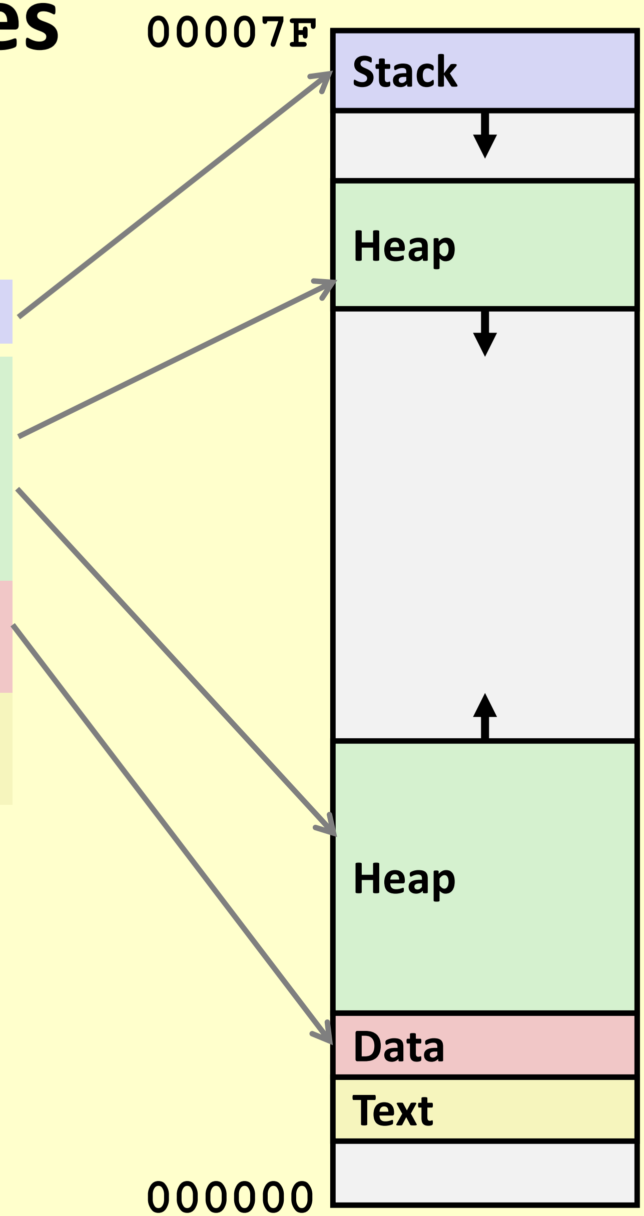
Where does everything go?

x86-64 Example Addresses

address range ~2^{47}

`local`	`0x00007ffe4d3be87c`
`p1`	`0x00007f7262a1e010`
`p3`	`0x00007f7162a1d010`
`p4`	`0x000000008359d120`
`p2`	`0x000000008359d010`
`big_array`	`0x0000000080601060`
`huge_array`	`0x0000000000601060`
`main()`	`0x000000000040060c`
`useless()`	`0x0000000000400590`

not drawn to scale



Reading Assignment: §3.10.3

Today

- Memory Layout
- **Buffer Overflow**
  - Vulnerability
  - Protection
- Unions

Recall: Memory Referencing Bug Example

```
typedef struct {
  int a[2];
  double d;
} struct_t;

double fun(int i) {
  volatile struct_t s;
  s.d = 3.14;
  s.a[i] = 1073741824; /* Possibly out of bounds */
  return s.d;
}
```

```
fun(0)  ⇒    3.14
fun(1)  ⇒    3.14
fun(2)  ⇒    3.1399998664856
fun(3)  ⇒    2.00000061035156
fun(4)  ⇒    3.14
fun(6)  ⇒    Segmentation fault
```

- Result is system specific

Memory Referencing Bug Example

```
typedef struct {
  int a[2];
  double d;
} struct_t;
```

`fun(0)`	⇒	`3.14`
`fun(1)`	⇒	`3.14`
`fun(2)`	⇒	`3.1399998664856`
`fun(3)`	⇒	`2.00000061035156`
`fun(4)`	⇒	`3.14`
`fun(6)`	⇒	Segmentation fault

Explanation:

Critical State	6
?	5
?	4
`d7 ... d4`	3
`d3 ... d0`	2
`a[1]`	1
`a[0]`	0

`struct_t`

Location accessed by `fun(i)`

Such problems are a BIG deal

- **Generally called a "buffer overflow"**
  - when exceeding the memory size allocated for an array
- **Why a big deal?**
  - It's the #1 technical cause of security vulnerabilities
    - #1 overall cause is social engineering / user ignorance
- **Most common form**
  - Unchecked lengths on string inputs
  - Particularly for bounded character arrays on the stack
    - sometimes referred to as stack smashing

String Library Code

- Implementation of Unix function `gets()`

```
/* Get string from stdin */
char *gets(char *dest)
{
    int c = getchar();
    char *p = dest;
    while (c != EOF && c != '\n') {
        *p++ = c;
        c = getchar();
    }
    *p = '\0';
    return dest;
}
```

  - No way to specify limit on number of characters to read
- Similar problems with other library functions
  - `strcpy`, `strcat`: Copy strings of arbitrary length
  - `scanf`, `fscanf`, `sscanf`, when given `%s` conversion specification

Vulnerable Buffer Code

```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];  /* Way too small! */
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}
```

← btw, how big is big enough?

```
void call_echo() {
    echo();
}
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-nsp
Type a string:012345678901234567890123
012345678901234567890123
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-nsp
Type a string:0123456789012345678901234
Segmentation Fault
```

Buffer Overflow Disassembly

echo:

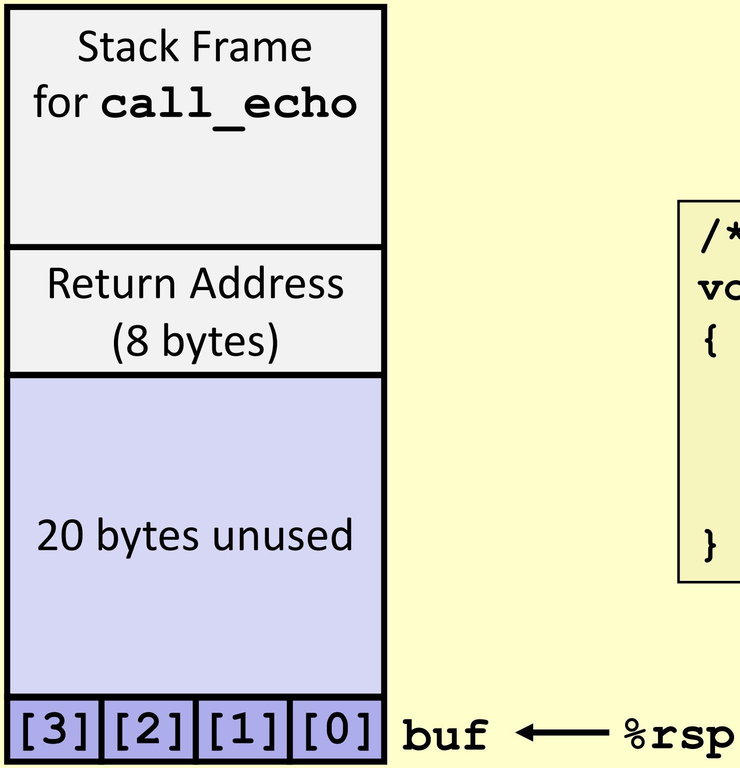
```
00000000004006cf <echo>:
 4006cf:  48 83 ec 18            sub    $0x18,%rsp
 4006d3:  48 89 e7               mov    %rsp,%rdi
 4006d6:  e8 a5 ff ff ff         callq  400680 <gets>
 4006db:  48 89 e7               mov    %rsp,%rdi
 4006de:  e8 3d fe ff ff         callq  400520 <puts@plt>
 4006e3:  48 83 c4 18            add    $0x18,%rsp
 4006e7:  c3                     retq
```

call_echo:

```
4006e8:   48 83 ec 08            sub    $0x8,%rsp
 4006ec:  b8 00 00 00 00         mov    $0x0,%eax
 4006f1:  e8 d9 ff ff ff         callq  4006cf <echo>
 4006f6:  48 83 c4 08            add    $0x8,%rsp
 4006fa:  c3                     retq
```

Buffer Overflow Stack

Before call to gets

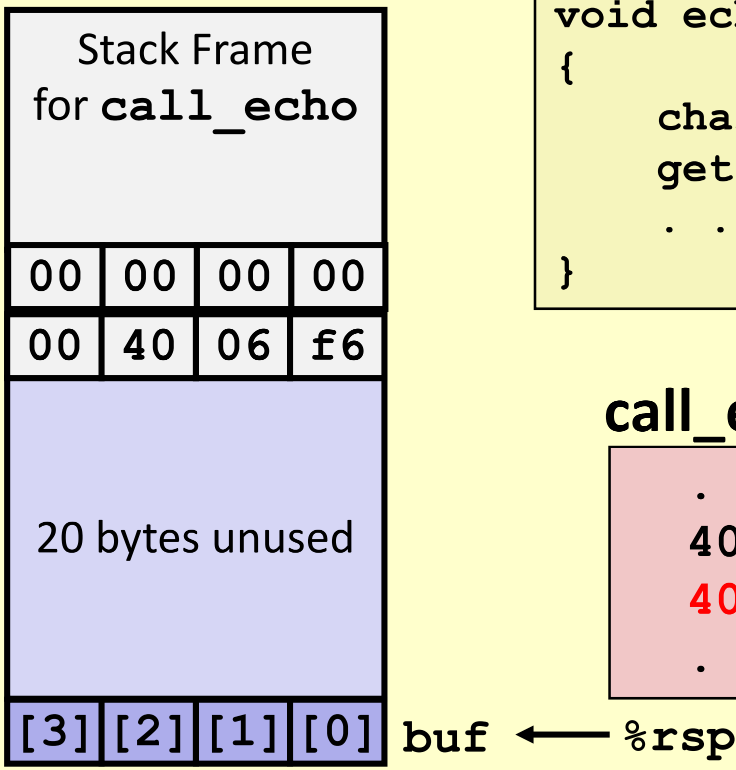



```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];  /* Way too small! */
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}
```

```
echo:
  subq  $24, %rsp
  movq  %rsp, %rdi
  call  gets
  . . .
```

Buffer Overflow Stack Example

Before call to gets




```
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];
    gets(buf);
    . . .
}
```

```
echo:
  subq   $24, %rsp
  movq   %rsp, %rdi
  call   gets
  . . .
```

call_echo:

```
 . . .
 4006f1:  callq  4006cf <echo>
 4006f6:  add    $0x8,%rsp
 . . .
```

Buffer Overflow Stack Example #1

After call to gets

Stack Frame for `call_echo`			
00	00	00	00
00	40	06	f6
00	32	31	30
39	38	37	36
35	34	33	32
31	30	39	38
37	36	35	34
33	32	31	30

buf ⟵ %rsp

```
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];
    gets(buf);
    . . .
}
```

```
echo:
  subq   $24, %rsp
  movq   %rsp, %rdi
  call   gets
  . . .
```

call_echo:

```
. . .
4006f1:  callq   4006cf <echo>
4006f6:  add     $0x8,%rsp
. . .
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-nsp
Type a string:01234567890123456789012
01234567890123456789012
```

Overflowed buffer, but did not corrupt state

Buffer Overflow Stack Example #2

After call to gets

Stack Frame for `call_echo`			
00	00	00	00
00	40	00	34
33	32	31	30
39	38	37	36
35	34	33	32
31	30	39	38
37	36	35	34
33	32	31	30

buf ⟵ %rsp

```
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];
    gets(buf);
    . . .
}
```

```
echo:
  subq   $24, %rsp
  movq   %rsp, %rdi
  call   gets
  . . .
```

call_echo:

```
  . . .
  4006f1:  callq   4006cf <echo>
  4006f6:  add     $0x8,%rsp
  . . .
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-nsp
Type a string:01234567890123456789012345678901234
Segmentation Fault
```

Overflowed buffer and corrupted return pointer

Buffer Overflow Stack Example #3

After call to gets

Stack Frame for `call_echo`			
00	00	00	00
00	40	06	00
33	32	31	30
39	38	37	36
35	34	33	32
31	30	39	38
37	36	35	34
33	32	31	30

buf ← %rsp

```
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];
    gets(buf);
    . . .
}
```

```
echo:
  subq   $24, %rsp
  movq   %rsp, %rdi
  call   gets
  . . .
```

call_echo:

```
  . . .
  4006f1:  callq   4006cf <echo>
  4006f6:  add     $0x8,%rsp
  . . .
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-nsp
Type a string:01234567890123456789012
01234567890123456789012
```

Overflowed buffer, corrupted return pointer, but program seems to work!

Buffer Overflow Stack Example #3 Explained

After call to gets

Stack Frame for `call_echo`				
00	00	00	00	
00	40	06	00	
33	32	31	30	
39	38	37	36	
35	34	33	32	
31	30	39	38	
37	36	35	34	
33	32	31	30	`buf` ← `%rsp`

register_tm_clones:

```
  . . .
400600:  mov    %rsp,%rbp
400603:  mov    %rax,%rdx
400606:  shr    $0x3f,%rdx
40060a:  add    %rdx,%rax
40060d:  sar    %rax
400610:  jne    400614
400612:  pop    %rbp
400613:  retq
```

"Returns" to unrelated code

Lots of things happen, without modifying critical state

Eventually executes `retq` back to `main`

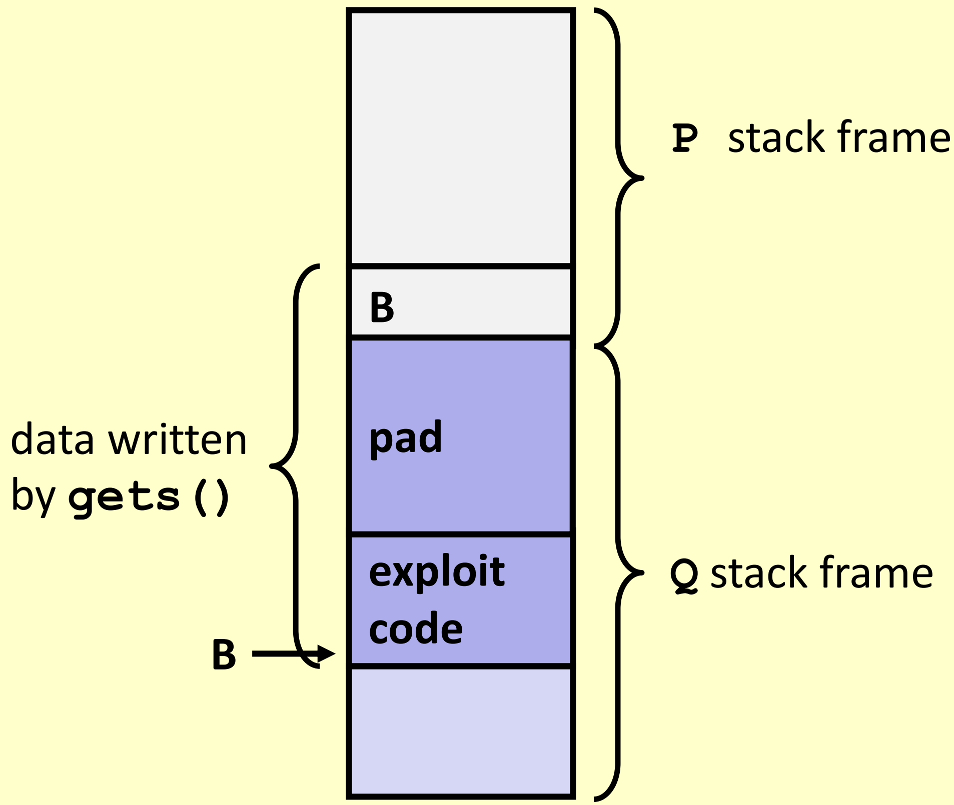
Code Injection Attacks

```
void P(){
  Q();
  ...
}
```

return address A

```
int Q() {
  char buf[64];
  gets(buf);
  ...
  return ...;
}
```

Stack after call to **`gets()`**



- **Input string contains byte representation of executable code**
- **Overwrite return address A with address of buffer B**
- **When Q executes `ret`, will jump to exploit code**

Exploits Based on Buffer Overflows

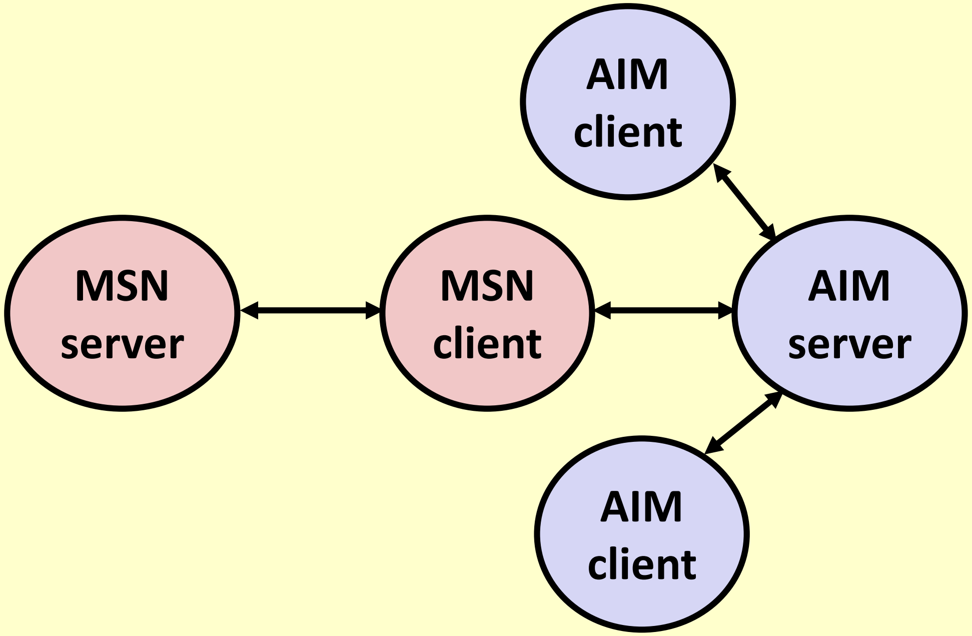
- ***Buffer overflow bugs can allow remote machines to execute arbitrary code on victim machines***
- **Distressingly common in real progams**
  - Programmers keep making the same mistakes ☹
  - Recent measures make these attacks much more difficult
- **Examples across the decades**
  - Original "Internet worm" (1988)
  - "IM wars" (1999)
  - Twilight hack on Wii (2000s)
  - … and many, many more
- **You will learn some of the tricks in `Attack Lab`**
  - Hopefully to convince you to never leave such holes in your programs!!

Example: the original Internet worm (1988)

- **Exploited a few vulnerabilities to spread**
  - Early versions of the finger server (`fingerd`) used `gets()` to read the argument sent by the client:
    - `finger droh@cs.cmu.edu`
  - Worm attacked `fingerd` server by sending phony argument:
    - `finger "`*`exploit-code  padding  new-return-address`*`"`
    - exploit code: executed a root shell on the victim machine with a direct TCP connection to the attacker.
- **Once on a machine, scanned for other machines to attack**
  - invaded ~6000 computers in hours (10% of the Internet ☺)
    - see June 1989 article in *Comm. of the ACM*
  - the young author of the worm was prosecuted…
  - and CERT was formed… still homed at CMU

Example 2: IM War

- **July, 1999**
  - Microsoft launches MSN Messenger (instant messaging system).
  - Messenger clients can access popular AOL Instant Messaging Service (AIM) servers



IM War (cont.)

- **August 1999**
  - Mysteriously, Messenger clients can no longer access AIM servers
  - Microsoft and AOL begin the IM war:
    - AOL changes server to disallow Messenger clients
    - Microsoft makes changes to clients to defeat AOL changes
    - At least 13 such skirmishes
  - What was really happening?
    - AOL had discovered a buffer overflow bug in their own AIM clients
    - They exploited it to detect and block Microsoft: the exploit code returned a 4-byte signature (the bytes at some location in the AIM client) to server
    - When Microsoft changed code to match signature, AOL changed signature location

```
Date: Wed, 11 Aug 1999 11:30:57 -0700 (PDT)
From: Phil Bucking <philbucking@yahoo.com>
Subject: AOL exploiting buffer overrun bug in their own software!
To: rms@pharlap.com

Mr. Smith,

I am writing you because I have discovered something that I think you
might find interesting because you are an Internet security expert with
experience in this area. I have also tried to contact AOL but received
no response.

I am a developer who has been working on a revolutionary new instant
messaging client that should be released later this year.
...
It appears that the AIM client has a buffer overrun bug. By itself
this might not be the end of the world, as MS surely has had its share.
But AOL is now *exploiting their own buffer overrun bug* to help in
its efforts to block MS Instant Messenger.
....
Since you have significant credibility with the press I hope that you
can use this information to help inform people that behind AOL's
friendly exterior they are nefariously compromising peoples' security.

Sincerely,
Phil Bucking
Founder, Bucking Consulting
philbucking@yahoo.com
```

It was later determined that this email originated from within Microsoft!

Aside: Worms and Viruses

- **Worm: A program that**
  - Can run by itself
  - Can propagate a fully working version of itself to other computers

- **Virus: Code that**
  - Adds itself to other programs
  - Does not run independently

Ken Thompson, 1984 Turing Award Lecture, "Reflections on Trusting Trust," CACM, August 1984, pp. 761-763

- **Both are (usually) designed to spread among computers and to wreak havoc**

OK, what to do about buffer overflow attacks

- Avoid overflow vulnerabilities

- Employ system-level protections

- Have compiler use “stack canaries”

- Lets talk about each…

1. Avoid Overflow Vulnerabilities in Code (!)

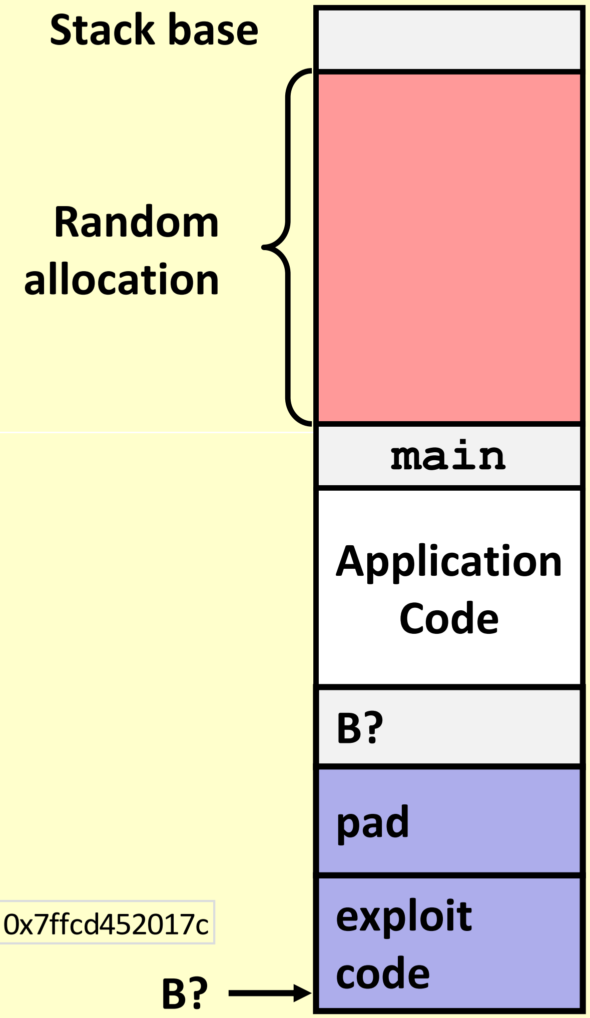
```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];  /* Way too small! */
    fgets(buf, 4, stdin);
    puts(buf);
}
```

- **For example, use library routines that limit string lengths**
  - **`fgets`** instead of **`gets`**
  - **`strncpy`** instead of **`strcpy`**
  - Don't use **`scanf`** with **`%s`** conversion specification
    - Use **`fgets`** to read the string
    - Or use **`%ns`** where **`n`** is a suitable integer

2. System-Level Protections can help

- **Randomized stack offsets**
  - At start of program, allocate random amount of space on stack
  - Shifts stack addresses for entire program
  - Makes it difficult for hacker to predict beginning of inserted code
  - E.g.: 5 executions of memory allocation code

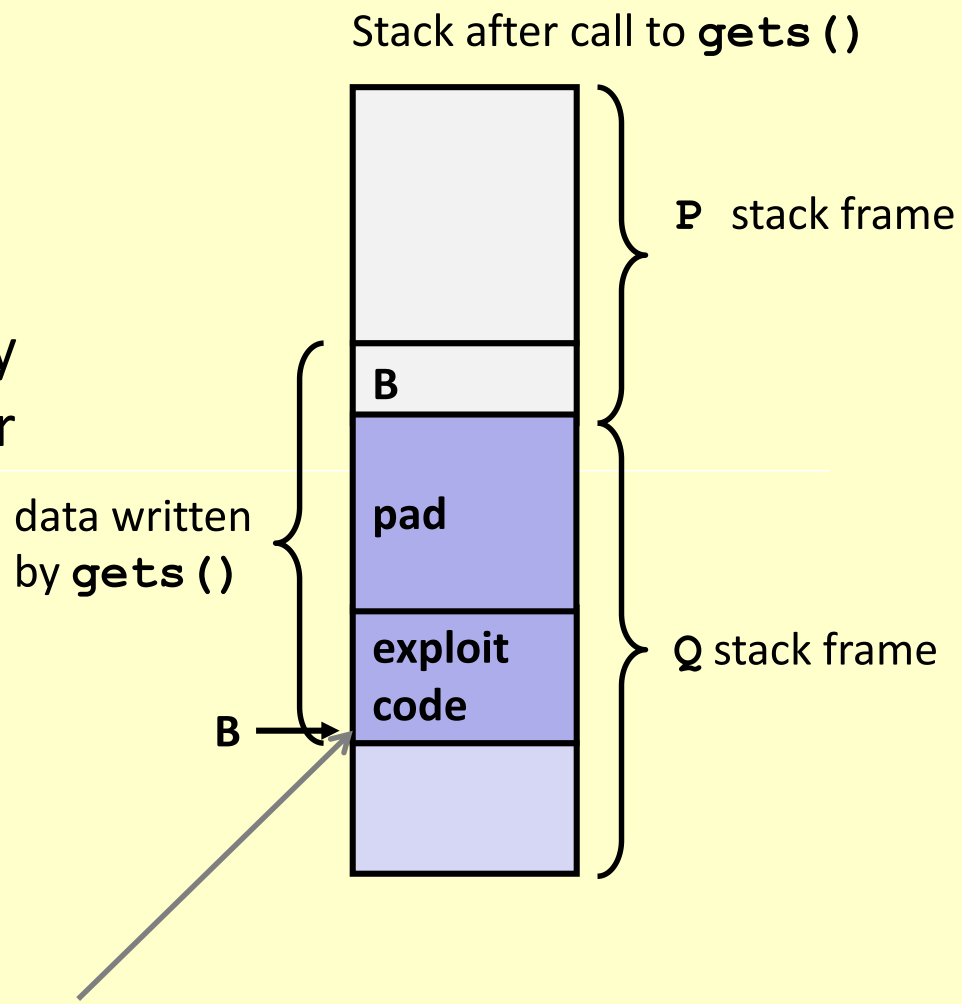
    - Stack repositioned each time program executes



local	0x7ffe4d3be87c	0x7fff75a4f9fc	0x7ffeadb7c80c	0x7ffeaea2fdac	0x7ffcd452017c

2. System-Level Protections can help

- **Nonexecutable code segments**
  - In traditional x86, can mark region of memory as either “read-only” or “writeable”
    - Can execute anything readable
  - X86-64 added explicit “execute” permission
  - Stack marked as non-executable



Any attempt to execute this code will fail

3. Stack Canaries can help

- **Idea**
  - Place special value (“canary”) on stack just beyond buffer
  - Check for corruption before exiting function
- **GCC Implementation**
  - `-fstack-protector`
  - Now the default (disabled in older versions of gcc)

```
unix>./bufdemo-sp
Type a string:0123456
0123456
```

```
unix>./bufdemo-sp
Type a string:01234567
*** stack smashing detected ***
```

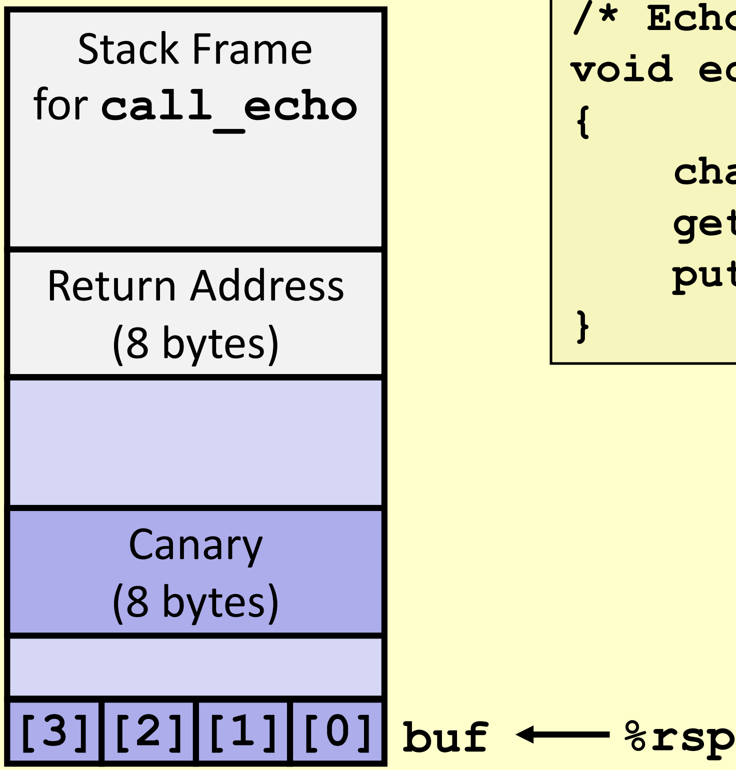
Protected Buffer Disassembly

echo:

```
40072f:  sub    $0x18,%rsp
400733:  mov    %fs:0x28,%rax
40073c:  mov    %rax,0x8(%rsp)
400741:  xor    %eax,%eax
400743:  mov    %rsp,%rdi
400746:  callq  4006e0 <gets>
40074b:  mov    %rsp,%rdi
40074e:  callq  400570 <puts@plt>
400753:  mov    0x8(%rsp),%rax
400758:  xor    %fs:0x28,%rax
400761:  je     400768 <echo+0x39>
400763:  callq  400580 <__stack_chk_fail@plt>
400768:  add    $0x18,%rsp
40076c:  retq
```

Setting Up Canary

Before call to gets

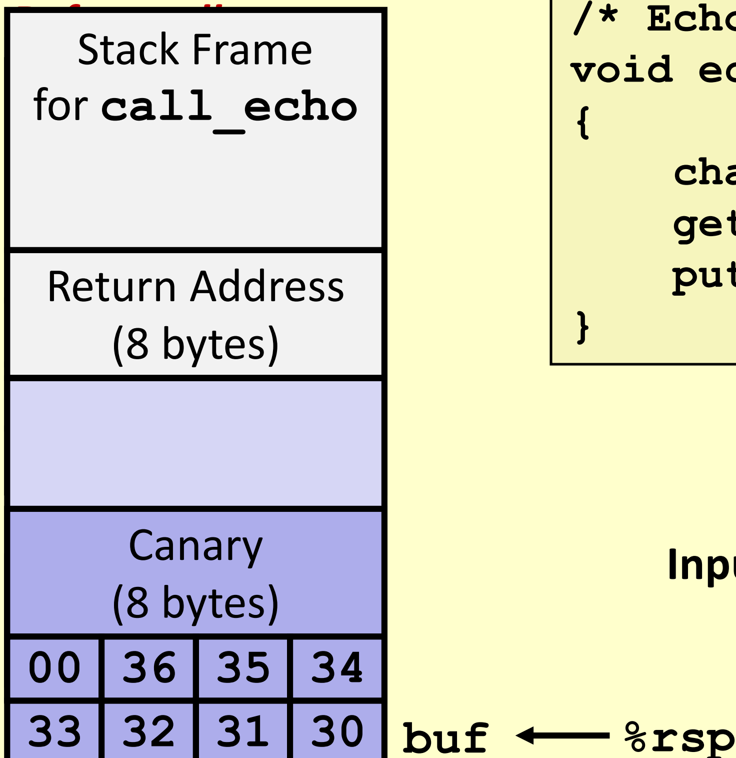



```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];  /* Way too small! */
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}
```

```
echo:
    . . .
    movq    %fs:40, %rax   # Get canary
    movq    %rax, 8(%rsp)  # Place on stack
    xorl    %eax, %eax     # Erase canary
    . . .
```

Checking Canary

After call to gets




```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4];  /* Way too small! */
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}
```

Input: ***0123456***

```
echo:
    . . .
    movq    8(%rsp), %rax        # Retrieve from stack
    xorq    %fs:40, %rax         # Compare to canary
    je      .L6                  # If same, OK
    call    __stack_chk_fail     # FAIL
.L6:        . . .
```

Return-Oriented Programming Attacks

- **Challenge (for hackers)**
  - Stack randomization makes it hard to predict buffer location
  - Marking stack non-executable makes it hard to insert binary code
- **Alternative Strategy**
  - Use existing code
    - E.g., library code from stdlib
  - String together fragments to achieve overall desired outcome
  - *Does not overcome stack canaries*
- **Construct program from *gadgets***
  - Sequence of instructions ending in `ret`
    - Encoded by single byte `0xc3`
  - Code positions fixed from run to run
  - Code is executable

Gadget Example #1

```
long ab_plus_c
  (long a, long b, long c)
{
   return a*b + c;
}
```

```
00000000004004d0 <ab_plus_c>:
  4004d0:  48 0f af fe  imul %rsi,%rdi
  4004d4:  48 8d 04 17  lea (%rdi,%rdx,1),%rax
  4004d8:  c3           retq
```

rax ← rdi + rdx

Gadget address = `0x4004d4`

- Use tail end of existing functions

Gadget Example #2

```
void setval(unsigned *p) {
    *p = 3347663060u;
}
```

Encodes `movq %rax, %rdi`

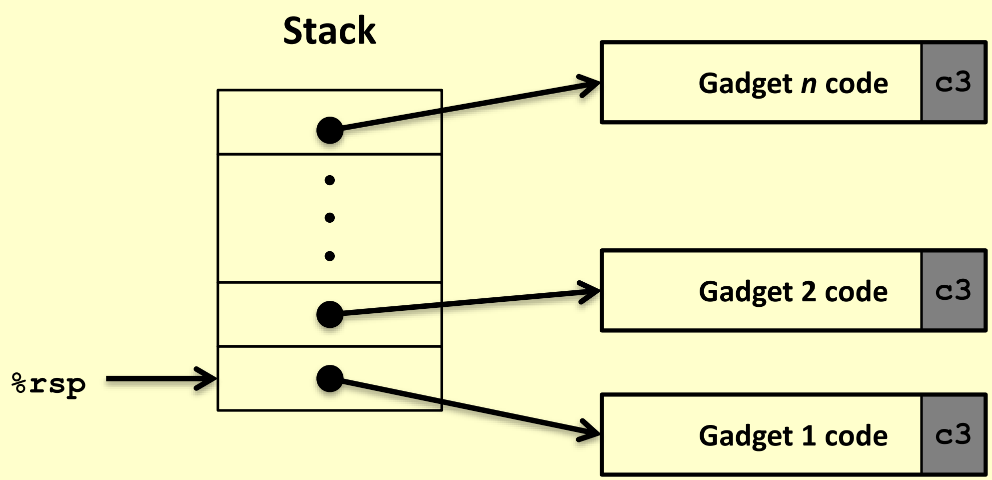
```
<setval>:
  4004d9:  c7 07 d4 48 89 c7  movl  $0xc78948d4,(%rdi)
  4004df:  c3                 retq
```

rdi ← rax

Gadget address = `0x4004dc`

- **Repurpose byte codes**

ROP Execution



- **Trigger with `ret` instruction**
  - Will start executing Gadget 1
- **Final `ret` in each gadget will start next one**

Reading Assignment: § 3.9

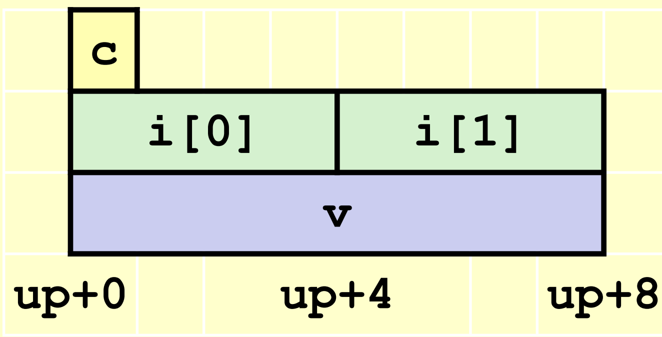
Today

- Memory Layout
- Buffer Overflow
  - Vulnerability
  - Protection
- **Unions (and structures again)**

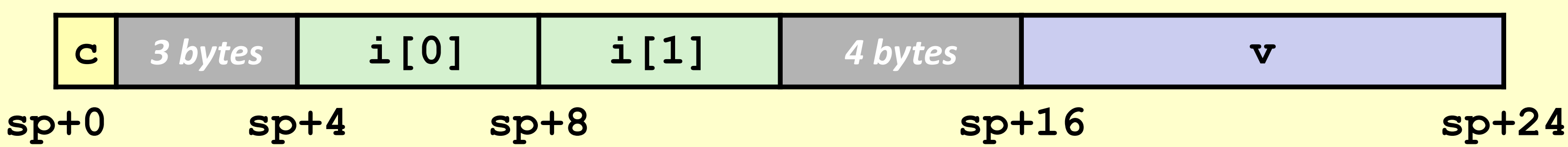
Union Allocation

- Allocate according to largest element
- Can only use one field at a time

```
union U1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *up;
```

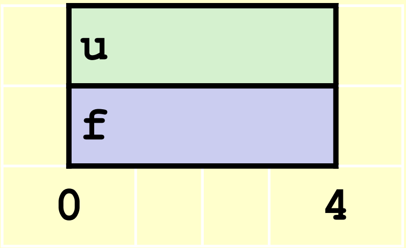



```
struct S1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *sp;
```



Using Union to Access Bit Patterns

```
typedef union {
  float f;
  unsigned u;
} bit_float_t;
```




```
float bit2float(unsigned u)
{
  bit_float_t arg;
  arg.u = u;
  return arg.f;
}
```

```
unsigned float2bit(float f)
{
  bit_float_t arg;
  arg.f = f;
  return arg.u;
}
```

Same as `(float) u` ?

Same as `(unsigned) f` ?

Byte Ordering Revisited

- **Idea**
  - Short/long/quad words stored in memory as 2/4/8 consecutive bytes
  - Which byte is most (least) significant?
  - Can cause problems when exchanging binary data between machines
- **Big Endian**
  - Most significant byte has lowest address
  - Sparc
- **Little Endian**
  - Least significant byte has lowest address
  - Intel x86, ARM Android and IOS
- **Bi Endian**
  - Can be configured either way
  - ARM

Byte Ordering Example

```
union {
  unsigned char c[8];
  unsigned short s[4];
  unsigned int i[2];
  unsigned long l[1];
} dw;
```

32-bit

<table>
<tr><td>c[0]</td><td>c[1]</td><td>c[2]</td><td>c[3]</td><td>c[4]</td><td>c[5]</td><td>c[6]</td><td>c[7]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">s[0]</td><td colspan="2">s[1]</td><td colspan="2">s[2]</td><td colspan="2">s[3]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">i[0]</td><td colspan="4">i[1]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">l[0]</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
</table>

64-bit

<table>
<tr><td>c[0]</td><td>c[1]</td><td>c[2]</td><td>c[3]</td><td>c[4]</td><td>c[5]</td><td>c[6]</td><td>c[7]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">s[0]</td><td colspan="2">s[1]</td><td colspan="2">s[2]</td><td colspan="2">s[3]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">i[0]</td><td colspan="4">i[1]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">l[0]</td></tr>
</table>

Byte Ordering Example (Cont).

```
int j;
for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
    dw.c[j] = 0xf0 + j;

printf("Characters 0-7 ==
[0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x]\n",
    dw.c[0], dw.c[1], dw.c[2], dw.c[3],
    dw.c[4], dw.c[5], dw.c[6], dw.c[7]);

printf("Shorts 0-3 == [0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x]\n",
    dw.s[0], dw.s[1], dw.s[2], dw.s[3]);

printf("Ints 0-1 == [0x%x,0x%x]\n",
    dw.i[0], dw.i[1]);

printf("Long 0 == [0x%lx]\n",
    dw.l[0]);
```

Byte Ordering on IA32

Little Endian

<table>
<tr><td>f0</td><td>f1</td><td>f2</td><td>f3</td><td>f4</td><td>f5</td><td>f6</td><td>f7</td></tr>
<tr><td>c[0]</td><td>c[1]</td><td>c[2]</td><td>c[3]</td><td>c[4]</td><td>c[5]</td><td>c[6]</td><td>c[7]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">s[0]</td><td colspan="2">s[1]</td><td colspan="2">s[2]</td><td colspan="2">s[3]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">i[0]</td><td colspan="4">i[1]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">l[0]</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
</table>

LSB MSB LSB MSB

Print

Output:

```
Characters 0-7 == [0xf0,0xf1,0xf2,0xf3,0xf4,0xf5,0xf6,0xf7]
Shorts     0-3 == [0xf1f0,0xf3f2,0xf5f4,0xf7f6]
Ints       0-1 == [0xf3f2f1f0,0xf7f6f5f4]
Long       0   == [0xf3f2f1f0]
```

Byte Ordering on Sun

Big Endian

<table>
<tr><td>f0</td><td>f1</td><td>f2</td><td>f3</td><td>f4</td><td>f5</td><td>f6</td><td>f7</td></tr>
<tr><td>c[0]</td><td>c[1]</td><td>c[2]</td><td>c[3]</td><td>c[4]</td><td>c[5]</td><td>c[6]</td><td>c[7]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">s[0]</td><td colspan="2">s[1]</td><td colspan="2">s[2]</td><td colspan="2">s[3]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">i[0]</td><td colspan="4">i[1]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">l[0]</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
</table>

MSB LSB MSB LSB

Print

Output on Sun:

```
Characters 0-7 == [0xf0,0xf1,0xf2,0xf3,0xf4,0xf5,0xf6,0xf7]
Shorts     0-3 == [0xf0f1,0xf2f3,0xf4f5,0xf6f7]
Ints       0-1 == [0xf0f1f2f3,0xf4f5f6f7]
Long       0   == [0xf0f1f2f3]
```

Byte Ordering on x86-64

Little Endian

f0	f1	f2	f3	f4	f5	f6	f7
c[0]	c[1]	c[2]	c[3]	c[4]	c[5]	c[6]	c[7]
s[0]		s[1]		s[2]		s[3]	
i[0]				i[1]			
l[0]							

LSB MSB

Print

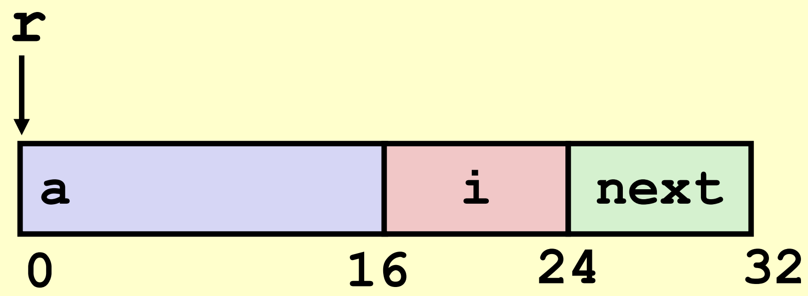
Output on x86-64:

```
Characters 0-7 == [0xf0,0xf1,0xf2,0xf3,0xf4,0xf5,0xf6,0xf7]
Shorts     0-3 == [0xf1f0,0xf3f2,0xf5f4,0xf7f6]
Ints       0-1 == [0xf3f2f1f0,0xf7f6f5f4]
Long       0   == [0xf7f6f5f4f3f2f1f0]
```

Questions?

Structure Representation (again)

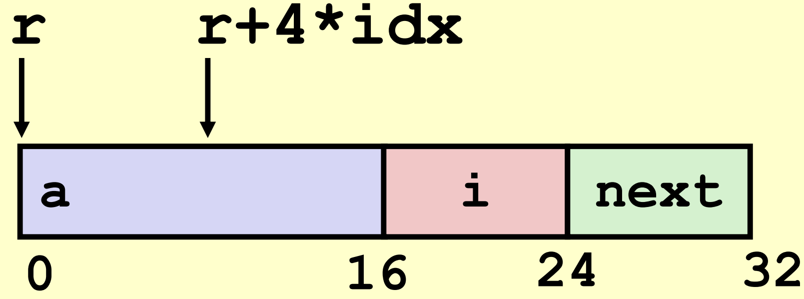
```
struct rec {
    int a[4];
    size_t i;
    struct rec *next;
};
```



- Structure represented as block of memory
  - Big enough to hold all of the fields
- Fields ordered according to declaration
  - Even if another ordering could yield a more compact representation
- Compiler determines overall size + positions of fields
  - Machine-level program has no understanding of the structures in the source code

Generating Pointer to Structure Member

```
struct rec {
    int a[4];
    size_t i;
    struct rec *next;
};
```



- **Generating Pointer to Array Element**
  - Offset of each structure member determined at compile time
  - Compute as **`r + 4*idx`**

```
int *get_ap
 (struct rec *r, size_t idx)
{
  return &r->a[idx];
}
```

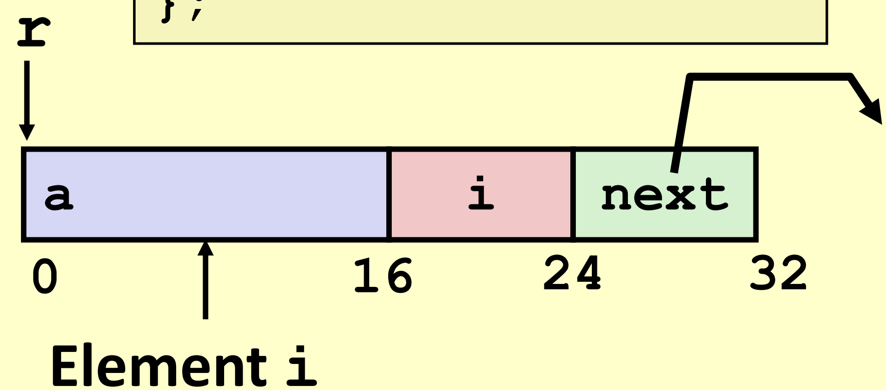
```
  # r in %rdi, idx in %rsi
  leaq  (%rdi,%rsi,4), %rax
  ret
```

Following Linked List

- **C Code**

```
struct rec {
    int a[4];
    int i;
    struct rec *next;
};
```

```
void set_val
  (struct rec *r, int val)
{
  while (r) {
    int i = r->i;
    r->a[i] = val;
    r = r->next;
  }
}
```

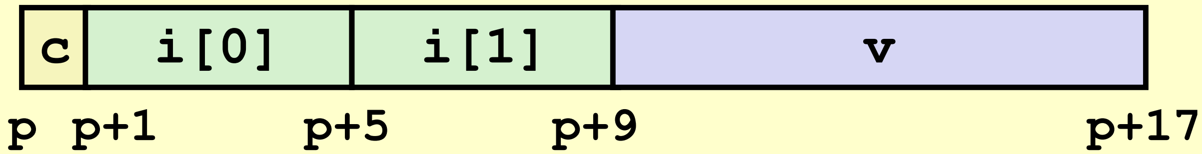


Register	Value
%rdi	r
%rsi	val

```
.L11:                          # loop:
  movslq  16(%rdi), %rax       #   i = M[r+16]
  movl    %esi, (%rdi,%rax,4)  #   M[r+4*i] = val
  movq    24(%rdi), %rdi       #   r = M[r+24]
  testq   %rdi, %rdi           #   Test r
  jne     .L11                 #   if !=0 goto loop
```

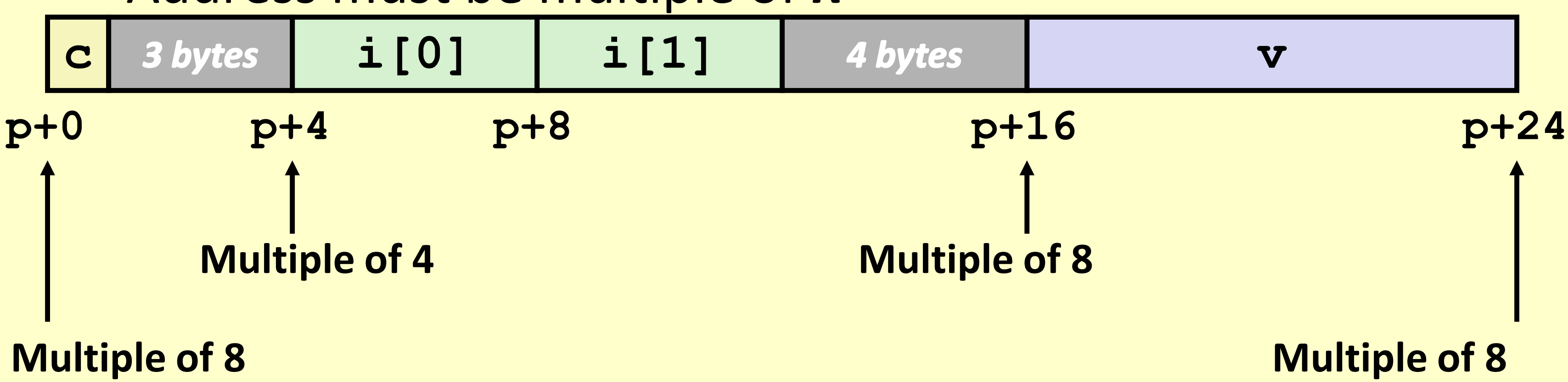
Structures & Alignment

- **Unaligned Data**




```
struct S1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *p;
```

- **Aligned Data**
  - Primitive data type requires ***K*** bytes
  - Address must be multiple of ***K***



Alignment Principles

- **Aligned Data**
  - Primitive data type requires ***K*** bytes
  - Address must be multiple of ***K***
  - Required on some machines; advised on x86-64
- **Motivation for Aligning Data**
  - Memory accessed by (aligned) chunks of 4 or 8 bytes (system dependent)
    - Inefficient to load or store datum that spans quad word boundaries
    - Virtual memory trickier when datum spans 2 pages
- **Compiler**
  - Inserts gaps in structure to ensure correct alignment of fields

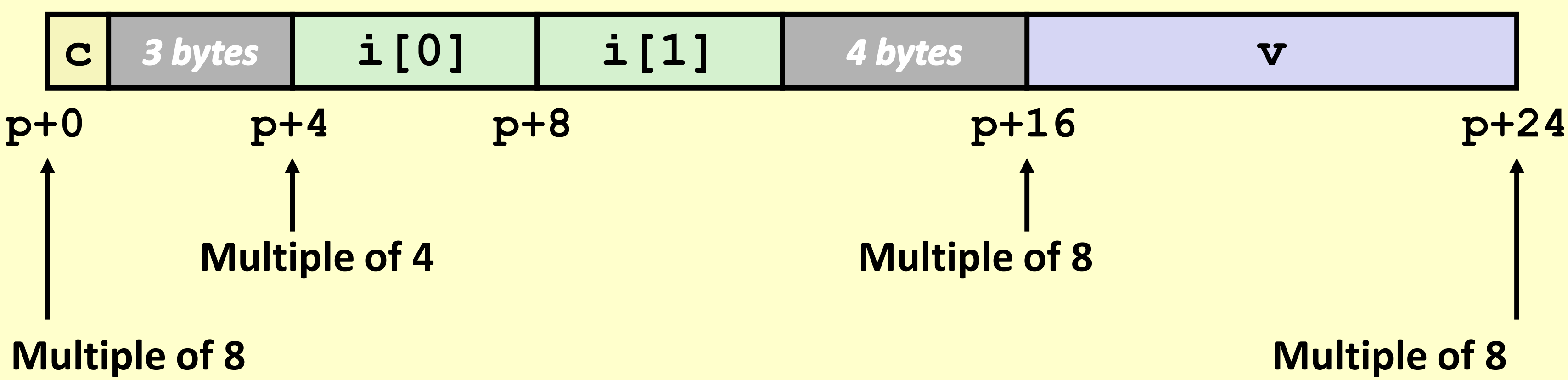
Specific Cases of Alignment (x86-64)

- **1 byte: `char`, …**
  - no restrictions on address
- **2 bytes: `short`, …**
  - lowest 1 bit of address must be 0_2
- **4 bytes: `int`, `float`, …**
  - lowest 2 bits of address must be 00_2
- **8 bytes: `double`, `long`, `char *`, …**
  - lowest 3 bits of address must be 000_2
- **16 bytes: `long double`** (GCC on Linux)
  - lowest 4 bits of address must be 0000_2

Satisfying Alignment with Structures

- **Within structure:**
  - Must satisfy each element's alignment requirement
- **Overall structure placement**
  - Each structure has alignment requirement **K**
    - **K** = Largest alignment of any element
  - Initial address & structure length must be multiples of **K**
- **Example:**
  - K = 8, due to **`double`** element

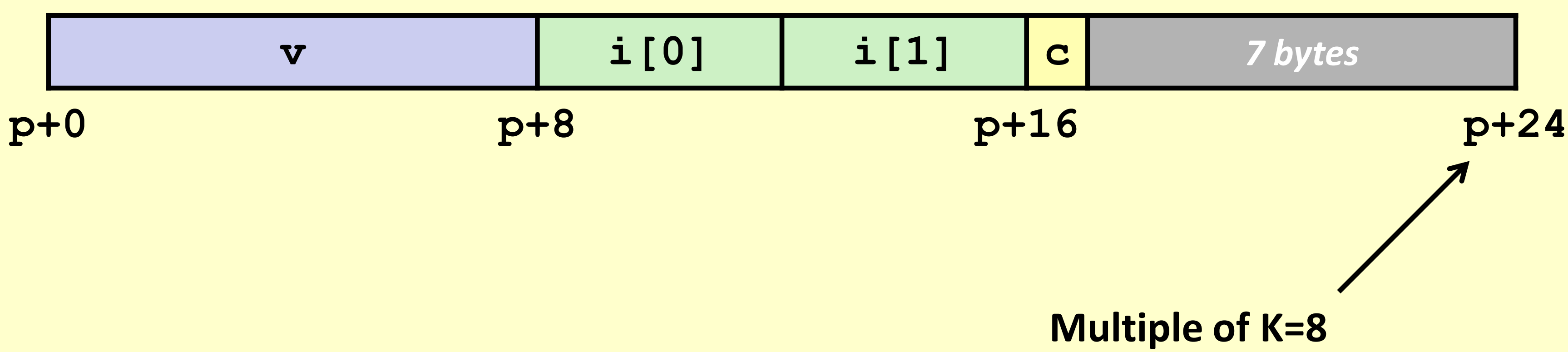
```
struct S1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *p;
```



Meeting Overall Alignment Requirement

- For largest alignment requirement K
- Overall structure must be multiple of K

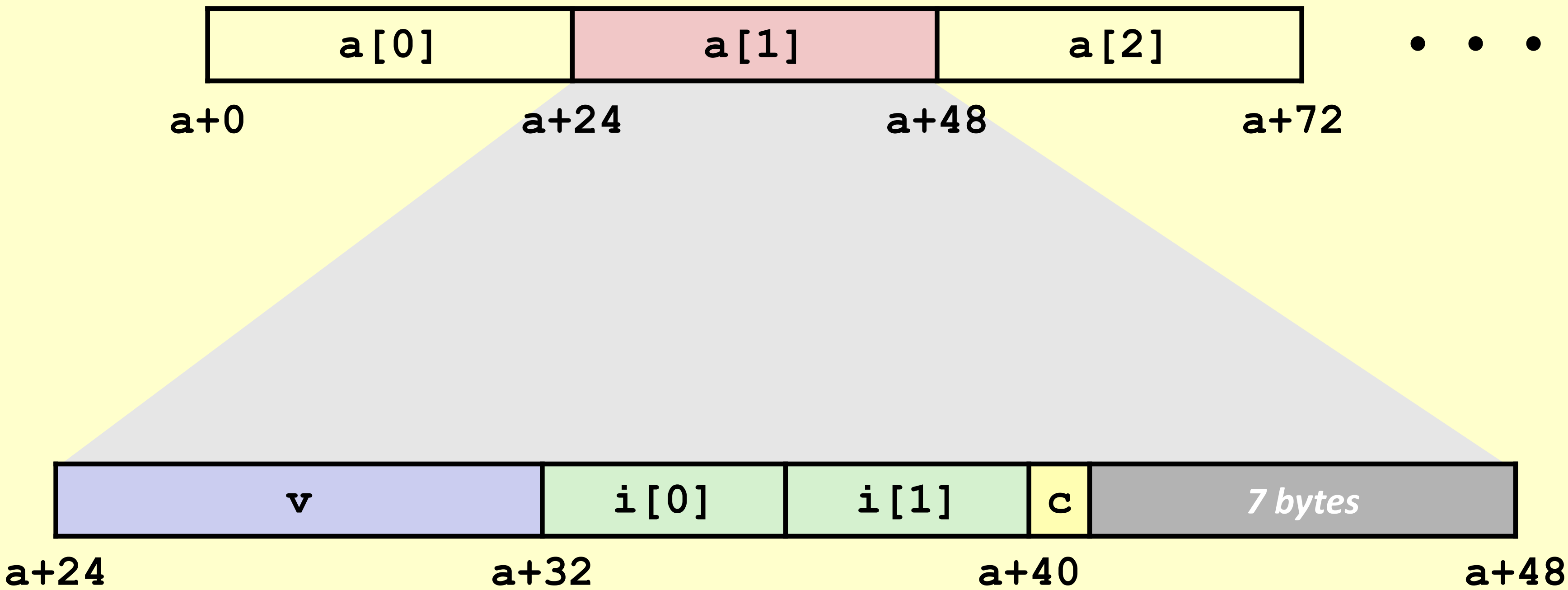
```
struct S2 {
  double v;
  int i[2];
  char c;
} *p;
```



Arrays of Structures

- Overall structure length multiple of K
- Satisfy alignment requirement for every element

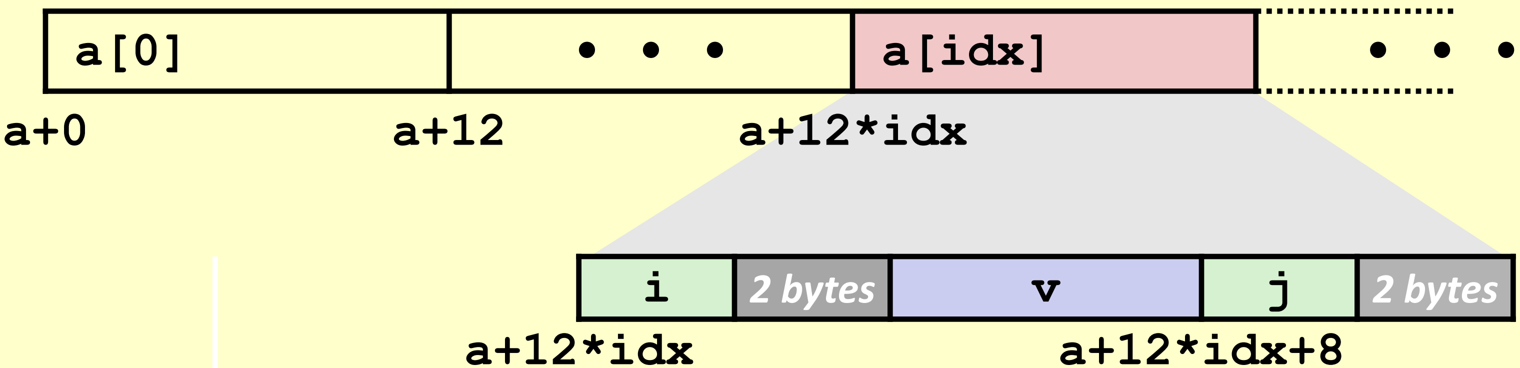
```
struct S2 {
  double v;
  int i[2];
  char c;
} a[10];
```



Accessing Array Elements

```
struct S3 {
  short i;
  float v;
  short j;
} a[10];
```

- **Compute array offset 12*idx**
  - `sizeof(S3)`, including alignment spacers
- **Element `j` is at offset 8 within structure**
- **Assembler gives offset `a+8`**
  - Resolved during linking




```
short get_j(int idx)
{
  return a[idx].j;
}
```

```
# %rdi = idx
leaq (%rdi,%rdi,2),%rax # 3*idx
movzwl a+8(,%rax,4),%eax
```

Saving Space

- Put large data types first

```
struct S4 {
  char c;
  int i;
  char d;
} *p;
```

```
struct S5 {
  int i;
  char c;
  char d;
} *p;
```

- Effect (K=4)

c	*3 bytes*	i	d	*3 bytes*

i	c	d	*2 bytes*

Summary of Compound Types in C

- **Arrays**
  - Contiguous allocation of memory
  - Aligned to satisfy every element’s alignment requirement
  - Pointer to first element
  - No bounds checking
- **Structures**
  - Allocate bytes in order declared
  - Pad in middle and at end to satisfy alignment
- **Unions**
  - Overlay declarations
  - Way to circumvent type system

Questions?