

# Arrays & Pointers

## Characters & strings

Jinyang Li

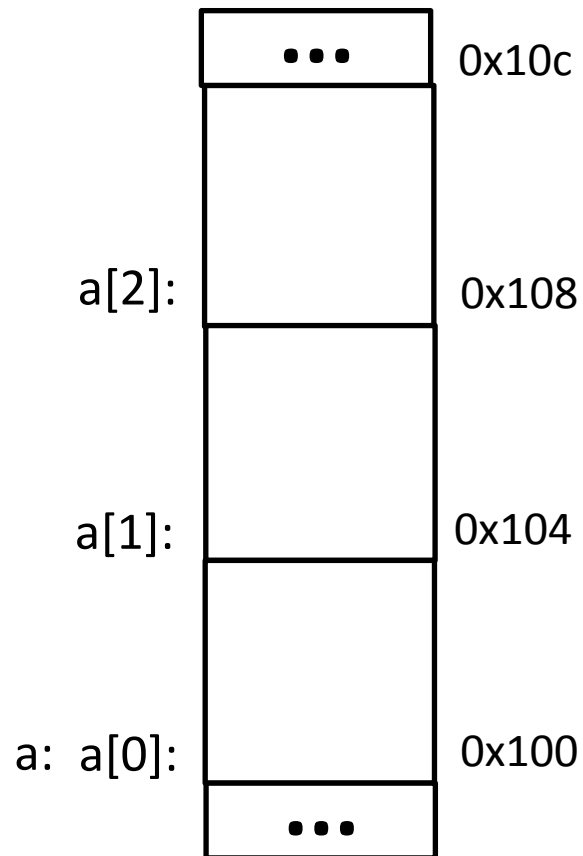
# What we've learnt and today's plan

- Bitwise operations
- Pointers
  - Pointers are addresses
  - With pointers arguments, a callee can modify local variables in the caller.
- Today's lesson:
  - Array and its relationship with pointer
  - Pointer casting
  - Characters & strings

Array: a collection of contiguous  
objects with the same type

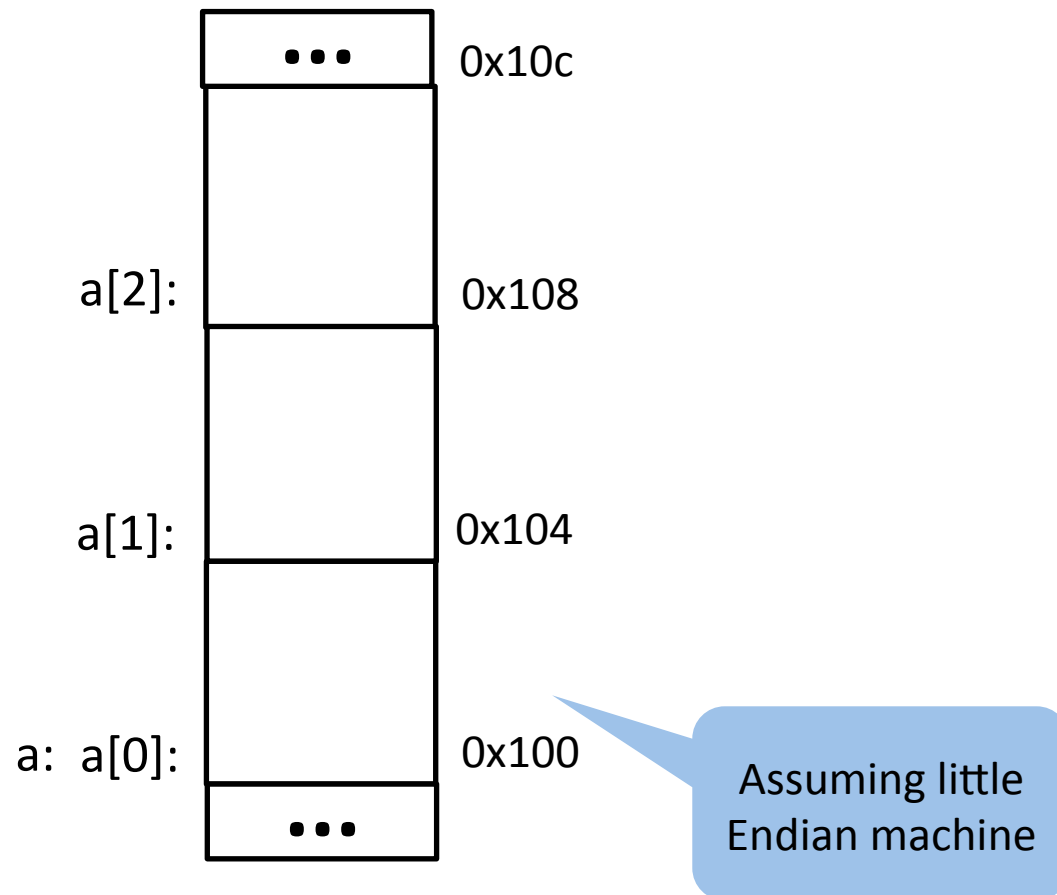
# Array

```
int a[3];
```



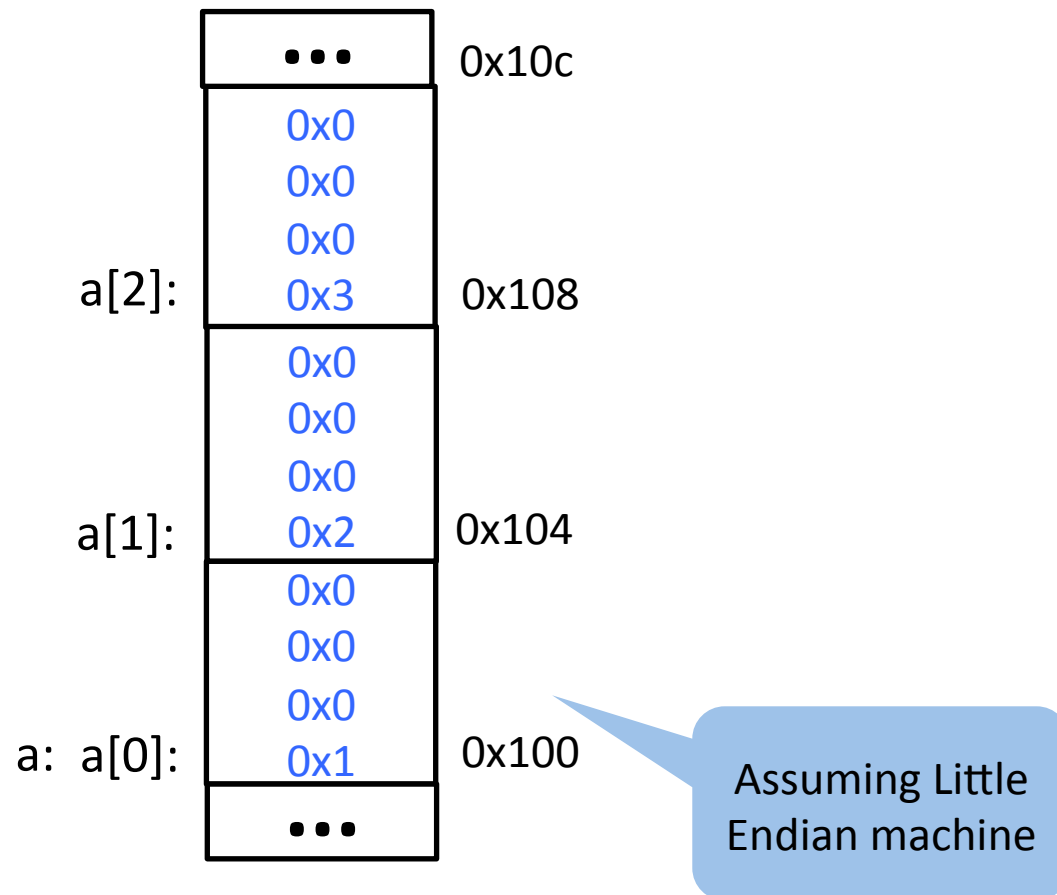
# Array

```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

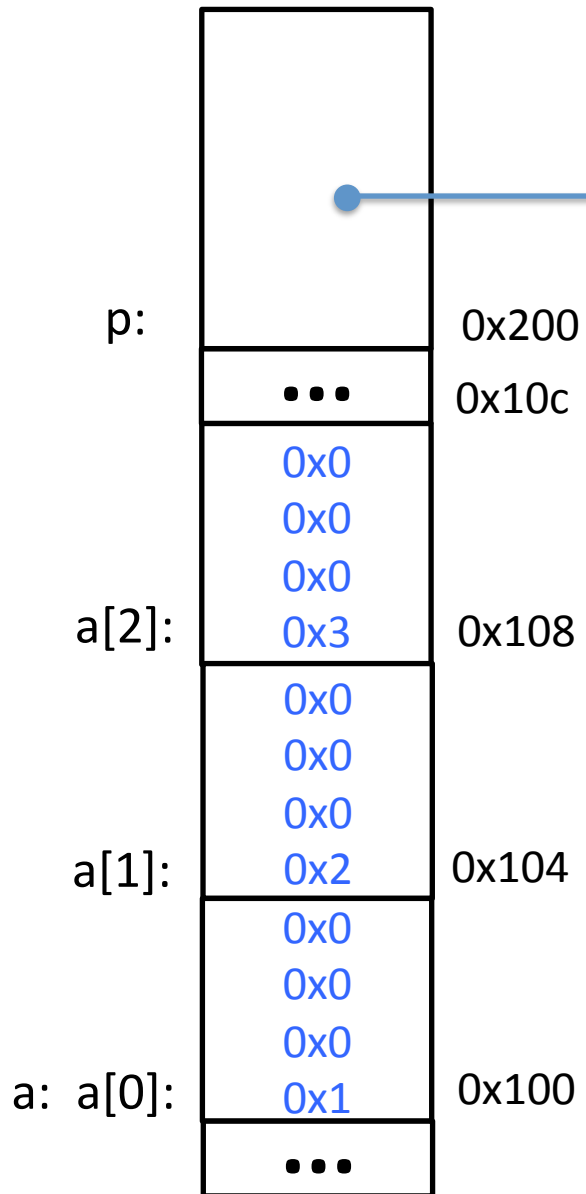


# Array

```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```



# Array



```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

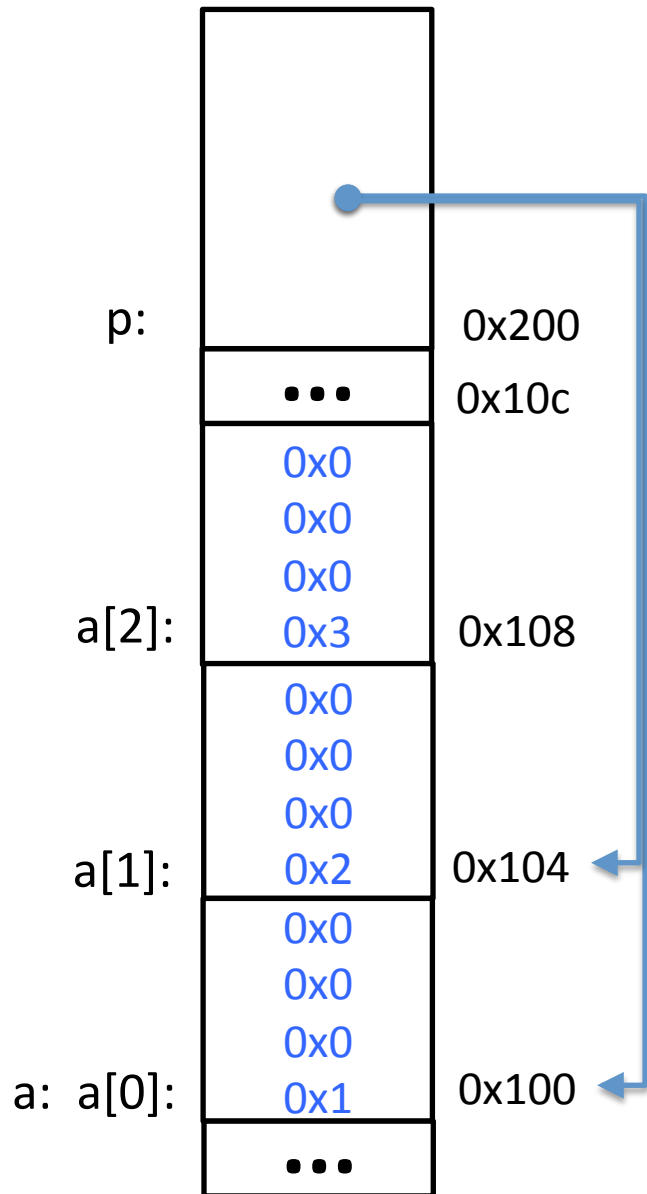
```
int *p;
```

```
p = &a[0]; //equivalent to p = a;
```

```
printf("%p\n", p); //output? 0x100
```

```
printf("%d\n", *p); //output? 1
```

# Pointer arithmetic



```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

```
int *p;  
p = &a[0];
```

```
p = p + 1; //equivalent to p++
```

```
printf("%p\n", p); //output? 0x104
```

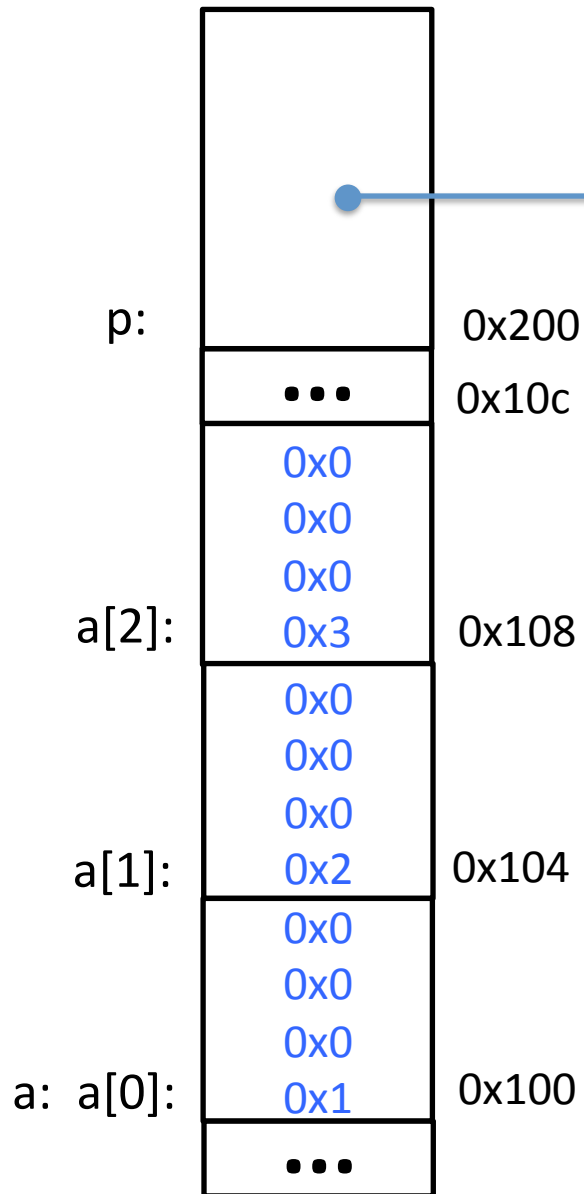
```
printf("%d\n", *p); //output? 2
```

Rule of pointer arithmetic:

$p+i$  has address of  $i$ -th object after  $p$ , i.e.  
 $p+i$ 's value is  $p$ 's value plus  $i \times \text{sizeof}(\text{object})$



# Pointer arithmetic



```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

```
int *p;  
p = &a[0];
```

```
printf("%p\n", p+2); //output? 0x108
```

```
printf("%d\n", *(p+2)); //output? 3
```

Rule of pointer arithmetic:

$p+i$  has address of  $i$ -th object after  $p$ , i.e.

$p+i$ 's value is  $p$ 's value plus  $i \times \text{sizeof}(\text{object})$

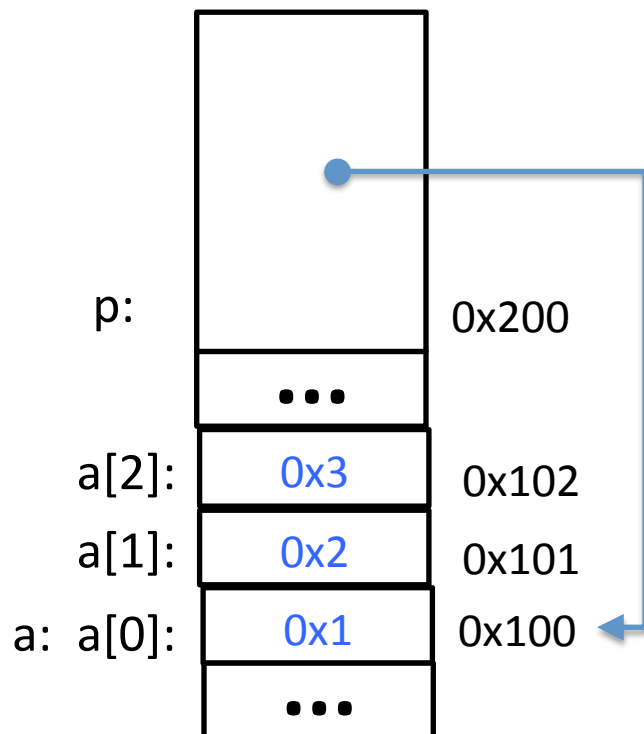
# Pointer arithmetic

```
char a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

```
char *p;  
p = &a[0];
```

```
printf("%p\n", p+2); //output? 0x102
```

```
printf("%d\n", *(p+2)); //output? 3
```



Rule of pointer arithmetic:

$p+i$  has address of  $i$ -th object after  $p$ , i.e.  
 $p+i$ 's value is  $p$ 's value plus  $i \times \text{sizeof}(\text{object})$

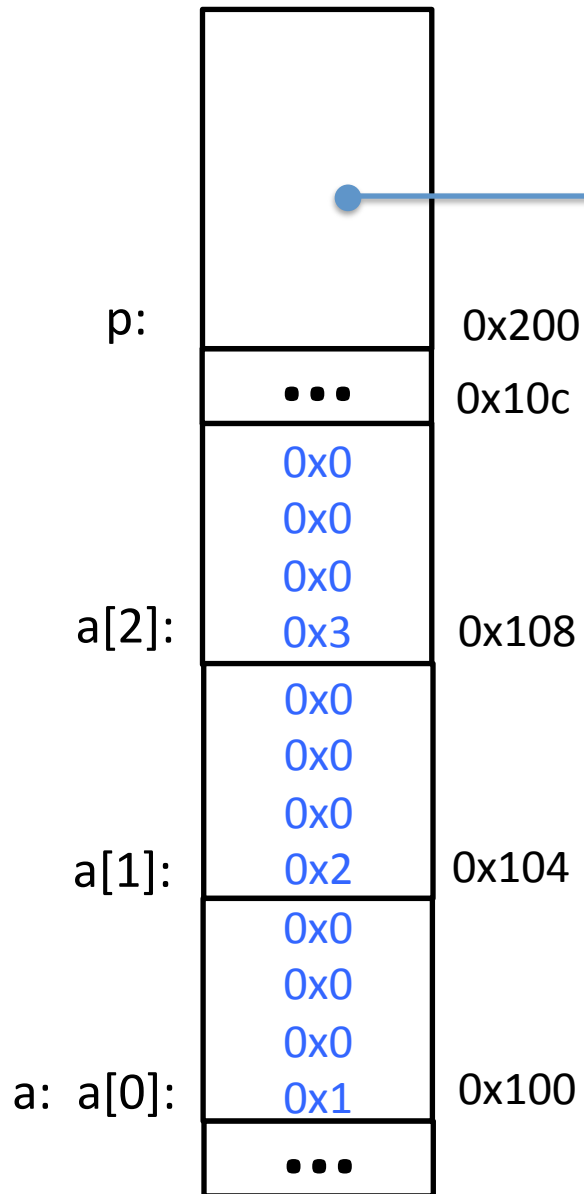
# Array and pointer

```
int a[10];  
int *p;  
  
p = &a[0]; // a is alias for &a[0];  
  
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
    *(p+i) = 0; // p[i] is alias for *(p+i)  
}
```

# Array and pointer

```
int a[10];  
int *p;  
  
p = a;    // a is alias for &a[0];  
  
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
    p[i] = 0;    // p[i] is alias for *(p+i)  
}
```

# Out of bound access?



```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
```

```
int *p;  
p = &a[0];
```

```
printf("%p\n", p+3); //output? 0x10c
```

```
printf("%d\n", *(p+3)); //output?
```

??  
can be any value  
or segmentation fault

```
printf("%p\n", &a[3]); //output? 0x10c
```

```
printf("%d\n", a[3]); //output?
```

??  
can be any value  
or segmentation fault

# Example

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

```
int main() {  
    int a[3] = {100, 200, 300};  
    int *p = a;  
    *p = 400;  
    for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {  
        printf("%d ", a[i]);  
    }  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

same as:  
int \*p;  
p = a;

same as:  
p[0] = 400;

Output? 400 200 300

# Another Example

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

```
int main() {  
    int a[3] = {100, 200, 300};  
    int *p = a;  
    p++;  
    *p = 400;  
    for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {  
        printf("%d ", a[i]);  
    }  
    printf("\n");  
}
```

equivalent to  
`*(&+p) = 400;`

Output? 100 400 300

# Pass array to function via pointer

```
// multiply every array element by 2
void multiply2(int *a) {
    for (int i = 0; i < ???; i++) {
        a[i] *= 2;
    }
}
```

```
int main() {
    int a[2] = {1, 2};
    multiply2(a);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("a[%d]=%d", i, a[i]);
    }
}
```



# Pass array to function via pointer

```
// multiply every array element by 2
void multiply2(int *a, int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        a[i] *= 2; // (*(a+i)) *= 2;
    }
}
```

```
int main() {
    int a[2] = {1, 2};
    multiply2(a, 2);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("a[%d]=%d", i, a[i]);
    }
}
```

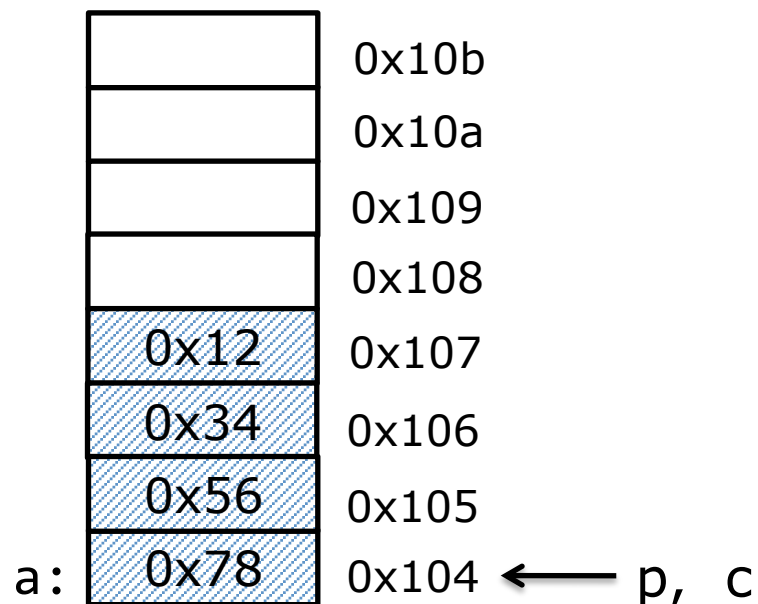
# Pointer casting

```
int a = 0x12345678;  
int *p = &a;  
char *c = (char *)p;  
printf("%x\n", *c);
```

**Output?** (when running on Intel laptop)

# Pointer casting

```
int a = 0x12345678;  
int *p = &a;  
char *c = (char *)p;
```

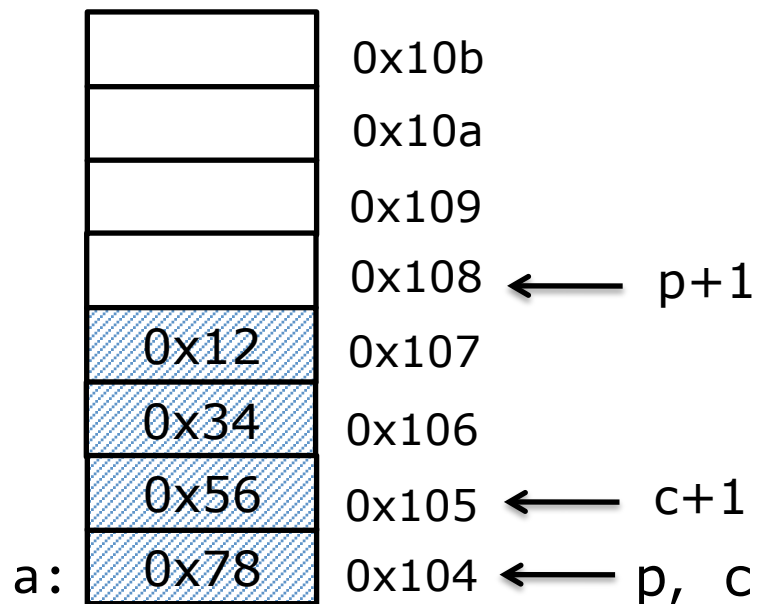


Intel laptop is small endian  
\*c is 0x78

What is c+1? p+1?

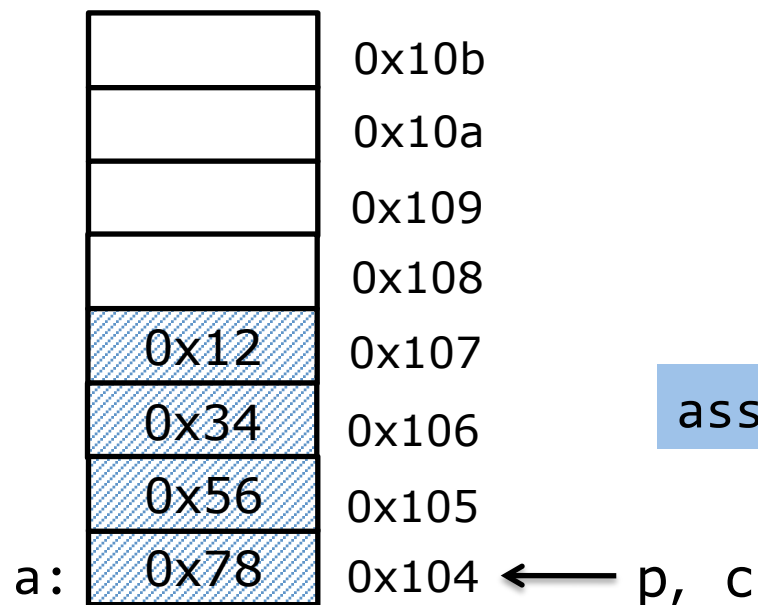
# Pointer casting

```
int a = 0x12345678;  
int *p = &a;  
char *c = (char *)p;
```



# Pointer casting

```
int a = 0x12345678;  
int *p = &a;  
char *c = (char *)p;
```

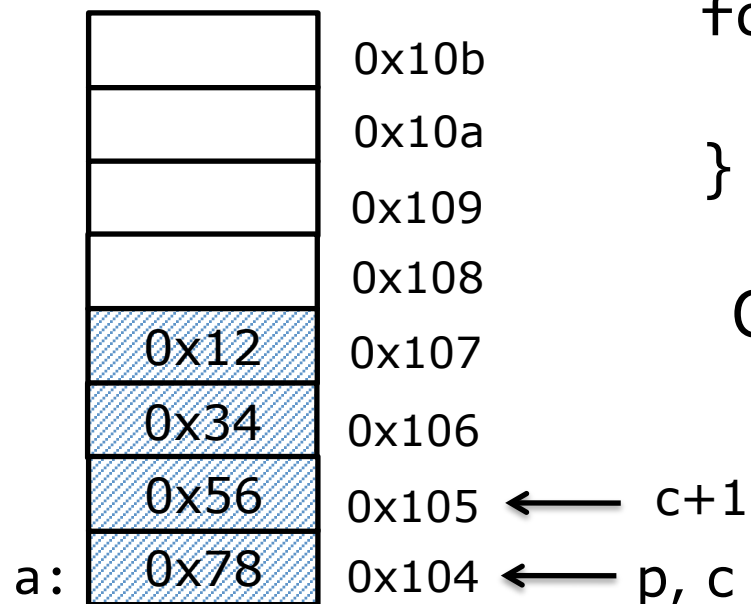


```
assert(p+i == (char *)p + i*sizeof(*p))
```

`sizeof(*p)`, or `sizeof(int)` is a C built-in that returns size of object/expression

# Pointer casting

```
int a = 0x12345678;  
int *p = &a;  
char *c = (char *)p;
```



```
for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++) {  
    print("%x ", c[i]);  
}
```

Output: 0x78 0x56 0x34 0x12

What about big endian?

# Another example of pointer casting

```
bool is_normalized_float(float f)
{

}
}
```

# Another example of pointer casting

```
bool is_normalized_float(float f)
{
    unsigned int i;
    i = *(unsigned int *)&f;

    unsigned exp = (i&0x7fffffff)>>23;
    return (exp != 0 && exp != 127);
}
```



# function *sizeof*

`sizeof(type)`

- Returns size in bytes of the object representation of type

`sizeof(expression)`

- Returns size in bytes of the type that would be returned by expression, if evaluated.

# function *sizeof*

sizeof()	result (bytes)
sizeof(int)	
sizeof(long)	
sizeof(float)	
sizeof(double)	
sizeof(int *)	

64 bits machine

# function *sizeof*

sizeof()	result (bytes)
sizeof(int)	4
sizeof(long)	8
sizeof(float)	4
sizeof(double)	8
sizeof(int *)	8

64 bits machine

# function *sizeof*

expr	sizeof()	result (bytes)
int a = 0;	sizeof(a)	
long b = 0;	sizeof(b)	
int a = 0; long b = 0;	sizeof(a + b)	
char c[10];	sizeof(c)	
int arr[10];	sizeof(arr)	
	sizeof(arr[0])	
int *p = arr;	sizeof(p)	

64 bits machine

# function *sizeof*

expr	sizeof()	result (bytes)
int a = 0;	sizeof(a)	4
long b = 0;	sizeof(b)	8
int a = 0; long b = 0;	sizeof(a + b)	8
char c[10];	sizeof(c)	10
int arr[10];	sizeof(arr)	$10 * 4 = 40$
	sizeof(arr[0])	4
int *p = arr;	sizeof(p)	8

64 bits machine

# Undefined behavior

In computer programming, undefined behavior (UB) is the result of executing computer code whose behavior is not prescribed by the language specification.

# Classic undefined behaviors

- Use an uninitialized variable

```
int a;  
int b = a + 1;
```

- out of bound array access

```
int a[2] = {1, 2};  
int *p = a  
*(p+3) = 3;
```

- Divide by zero

```
int a = 1 / 0;
```

- integer overflow

```
int a = 0x7fffffff  
int b = a + 1
```

# Why does C have undefined behavior?

Simplify compiler's implementation

Enable better performance



# Classic undefined behaviors

- Use uninitialized variables
  - Avoid memory write
- Out-of-bound array access
  - Avoid runtime bound checking
- Divided by zero
- integer overflow



# Classic undefined behaviors

At instruction set level, different architectures handle them in different ways:

Divided by zero

- X86 raises an exception
- MIPS and PowerPC silently ignore it.

integer overflow

- X86 wraps around (with flags set)
- MIPS raises an exception.

## Classic undefined behaviors

Assumption: Unlike Java, C compilers trust the programmer not to submit code that has undefined behavior

The compiler optimizes this code under this assumption

→ Compiler may remove the code or rewrite the code in a way that programmer did not anticipate

# Classic undefined behaviors

```
#include <stdio.h>

void foo(int a) {
    if(a+100 < a) {
        printf("overflowed\n");
        return;
    }

    printf("normal is boring\n");
}

int main() {
    foo(100);
    foo(0x7fffffff);
}
```

# Classic undefined behaviors

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

```
void foo(int a) {  
    if(a+100 < a) {  
    printf("overflowed\n");  
    return;  
    }  
  
    printf("normal is boring\n");  
}
```

**gcc removes the check with O3**

```
int main() {  
    foo(100);  
    foo(0x7fffffff);  
}
```

Characters

# How to represent text characters?

- How to associate bit patterns to integers?
  - base 2
  - 2's complement
- How to associate bit patterns to floats?
  - IEEE floating point representation (based on normalized scientific notation)
- How to associate bit patterns to characters?
  - by convention
  - ASCII, UTF

# ASCII: American Standard Code for Information Exchange

- Developed in 60s, based on the English alphabet
- use one byte (with MSB=0) to represent each character
- How many unique characters can be represented?

128



# ASCII TABLE

Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char
0	0	[NULL]	32	20	[SPACE]	64	40	@	96	60	`
1	1	[START OF HEADING]	33	21	!	65	41	A	97	61	a
2	2	[START OF TEXT]	34	22	"	66	42	B	98	62	b
3	3	[END OF TEXT]	35	23	#	67	43	C	99	63	c
4	4	[END OF TRANSMISSION]	36	24	\$	68	44	D	100	64	d
5	5	[ENQUIRY]	37	25	%	69	45	E	101	65	e
6	6	[ACKNOWLEDGE]	38	26	&	70	46	F	102	66	f
7	7	[BELL]	39	27	'	71	47	G	103	67	g
8	8	[BACKSPACE]	40	28	(	72	48	H	104	68	h
9	9	[HORIZONTAL TAB]	41	29	)	73	49	I	105	69	i
10	A	[LINE FEED]	42	2A	*	74	4A	J	106	6A	j
11	B	[VERTICAL TAB]	43	2B	+	75	4B	K	107	6B	k
12	C	[FORM FEED]	44	2C	,	76	4C	L	108	6C	l
13	D	[CARRIAGE RETURN]	45	2D	-	77	4D	M	109	6D	m
14	E	[SHIFT OUT]	46	2E	.	78	4E	N	110	6E	n
15	F	[SHIFT IN]	47	2F	/	79	4F	O	111	6F	o
16	10	[DATA LINK ESCAPE]	48	30	0	80	50	P	112	70	p
17	11	[DEVICE CONTROL 1]	49	31	1	81	51	Q	113	71	q
18	12	[DEVICE CONTROL 2]	50	32	2	82	52	R	114	72	r
19	13	[DEVICE CONTROL 3]	51	33	3	83	53	S	115	73	s
20	14	[DEVICE CONTROL 4]	52	34	4	84	54	T	116	74	t
21	15	[NEGATIVE ACKNOWLEDGE]	53	35	5	85	55	U	117	75	u
22	16	[SYNCHRONOUS IDLE]	54	36	6	86	56	V	118	76	v
23	17	[ENG OF TRANS. BLOCK]	55	37	7	87	57	W	119	77	w
24	18	[CANCEL]	56	38	8	88	58	X	120	78	x
25	19	[END OF MEDIUM]	57	39	9	89	59	Y	121	79	y
26	1A	[SUBSTITUTE]	58	3A	:	90	5A	Z	122	7A	z
27	1B	[ESCAPE]	59	3B	;	91	5B	[	123	7B	{
28	1C	[FILE SEPARATOR]	60	3C	<	92	5C	\	124	7C	
29	1D	[GROUP SEPARATOR]	61	3D	=	93	5D	]	125	7D	}
30	1E	[RECORD SEPARATOR]	62	3E	>	94	5E	^	126	7E	~
31	1F	[UNIT SEPARATOR]	63	3F	?	95	5F	_	127	7F	[DEL]

# C exercise 1: tolower

```
// tolower returns the corresponding  
// lowercase character for c if c is an  
// uppercase letter. Otherwise, it returns c.  
char tolower(char c) {
```

```
}  
int main() {  
    char c = 'A';  
    c = tolower(c);  
    ...  
}
```

# C exercise 1: tolower

```
// tolower returns the corresponding
// lowercase character for c if c is an
// uppercase letter. Otherwise, it returns c.
char tolower(char c) {

    // test if c is an uppercase letter
    if (c < 'A' || c > 'Z') {
        return c;
    }

}
```

# C exercise 1: tolower

```
// tolower returns the corresponding
// lowercase character for c if c is an
// uppercase letter. Otherwise, it returns c.
char tolower(char c) {

    // test if c is an uppercase letter
    if (c < 'A' || c > 'Z') {
        return c;
    }

    return c + ('a' - 'A');
}
```

C's standard library includes  
tolower, toupper

## C exercise 2: toDigit

```
// toDigit returns the corresponding integer for c  
// if c is a valid digit character, e.g '1', '2',  
// Otherwise, it returns -1.
```

```
int toDigit(char c) {
```

```
}
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    int d = toDigit('8');
```

```
    printf("int is %d, multiply-by-2 %d\n", d, 2*d);
```

```
}
```

## C exercise 2: toDigit

```
// toDigit returns the corresponding integer for c
// if c is a valid digit character, e.g '1', '2',
// Otherwise, it returns -1.
int toDigit(char c) {
    // test if c is a valid character
    if (c < '0' || c > '9') {
        return -1;
    }
}

int main() {
    int d = toDigit('8');
    printf("int is %d, multiply-by-2 %d\n", d, 2*d);
}
```

## C exercise 2: toDigit

```
// toDigit returns the corresponding integer for c
// if c is a valid digit character, e.g '1', '2',
// Otherwise, it returns -1.
int toDigit(char c) {
    // test if c is a valid character
    if (c < '0' || c > '9') {
        return -1;
    }
    return c - '0';
}
int main() {
    int d = toDigit('8');
    printf("int is %d, multiply-by-2 %d\n", d, 2*d);
}
```

# The Modern Standard: UniCode

- ASCII can only represent 128 characters
  - How about Chinese, Korean, all of the worlds languages? Symbols? Emojis?
- Unicode standard represents >135,000 characters

<a href="#">U+1F600</a>		grinning face
<a href="#">U+1F601</a>		beaming face with smiling eyes
<a href="#">U+1F602</a>		face with tears of joy
<a href="#">U+1F923</a>		rolling on the floor laughing
<a href="#">U+1F603</a>		grinning face with big eyes



# UTF-8

- UTF-8 is one encoding form for Unicode
  - use 1, 2, or 4 byte to represent a character
  - Unicode for ASCII characters have the same ASCII value → UTF-8 one byte code is the same as ASCII
- C has no primitive support for Unicode

# C Strings

# Strings

- String is represented as an array of chars.
  - Array has no space to encode its length.
- How to determine string length?
  - explicitly pass around an integer representing length

```
// tolower_string turns every character in character array s
// into lower case
void tolower_string(char *s, int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        s[i] = tolower(s[i]);
    }
}
```

# Strings

- String is represented as an array of chars.
  - Array has no space to encode its length.
- How to determine string length?
  - explicitly pass around an integer representing length
  - C string stores a NULL character to mark the end (by convention)

```
void tolower_string(char *s) {  
  
  
  
  
  
  
}
```

# Strings

- String is represented as an array of chars.
  - Array has no space to encode its length.
- How to determine string length?
  - explicitly pass around an integer representing length
  - C string stores a NULL character to mark the end (by convention)

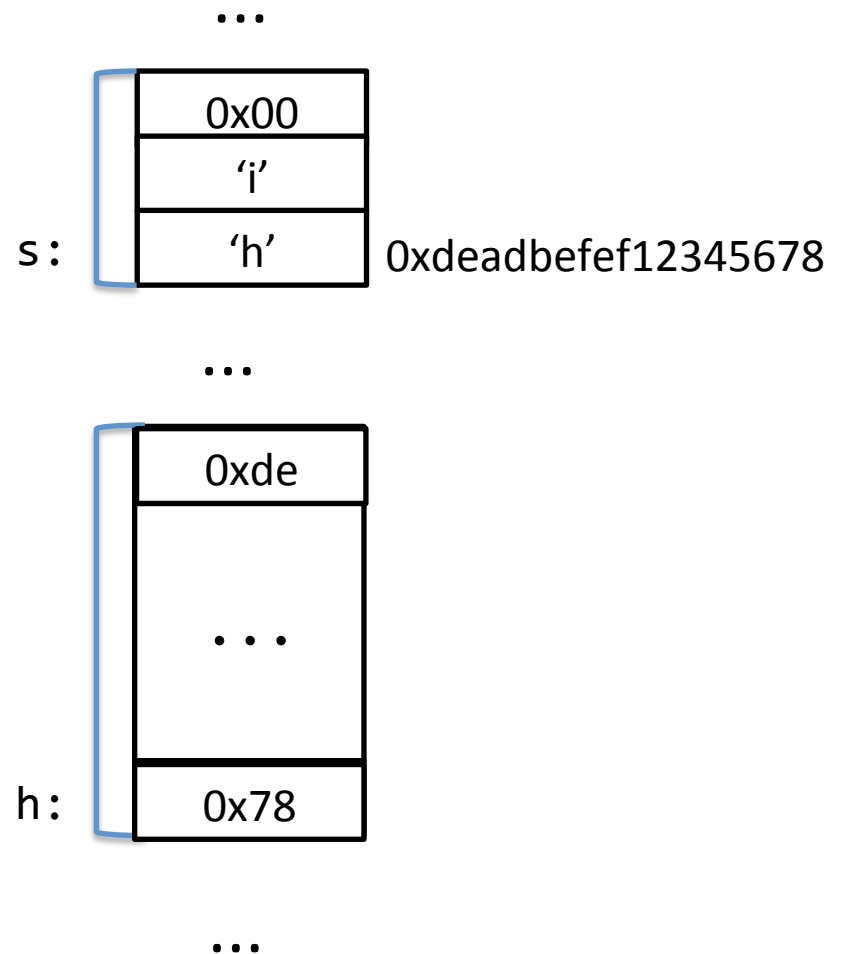
```
void tolower_string(char *s) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (s[i] != '\0') {  
        s[i] = tolower(s[i]);  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

# Copying string?

does this make a copy of "hi"?

```
char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};  
char *h;  
h = s;  
h[0] = 'H';
```

```
printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);
```



# Copying string?

does this make a copy of "hi"?

```
char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};
```

```
char h[3];
```

```
h = s;
```

```
h[0] = 'H';
```

```
printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);
```

# Copying string

```
void strcpy(char *dst, char *src)
{

}
```

```
int main()
{
    char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};
    char h[3];
    strcpy(h, s);
    h[0] = 'H';

    printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);
}
```



# Copying string

```
void strcpy(char *dst, char *src) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (src[i] != '\0') {  
        dst[i] = src[i];  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

strcpy is included in C std library.

```
int main() {  
    char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};  
    char h[3];  
    strcpy(h, s);  
    h[0] = 'H';  
  
    printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);  
}
```

# Copying string

```
void strcpy(char *dst, char *src) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (src[i] != '\0') {  
        dst[i] = src[i];  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};  
    char h[2];  
    strcpy(h, s);  
    h[0] = 'H';
```

Results in out-of-bound write!  
Buffer overflow!

```
    printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);  
}
```

# Copying string

```
void strncpy(char *dst, char *src, int n) {  
    int i = 0;  
    while (src[i] != '\0' && i < n) {  
        dst[i] = src[i];  
        i++;  
    }  
}
```

strncpy is included in C std library.

```
int main() {  
    char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};  
    char h[2];  
    strncpy(h, s, 2);  
    h[0] = 'H';  
  
    printf("s=%s h=%s\n", s, h);  
}
```

# A different way of initializing string

...

```
char s1[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};
```

```
//equivalent to
```

```
//char s1[3] = "hi";
```

```
char *s2 = "bye";
```

```
s1[0] = 'H';
```

← OK

```
s2[0] = 'B';
```

← Segmentation fault (bus error)

```
printf("s1=%s s2=%s\n", s1, s2);
```

# A different way of initializing string

```
char s1[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};
```

```
//equivalent to
```

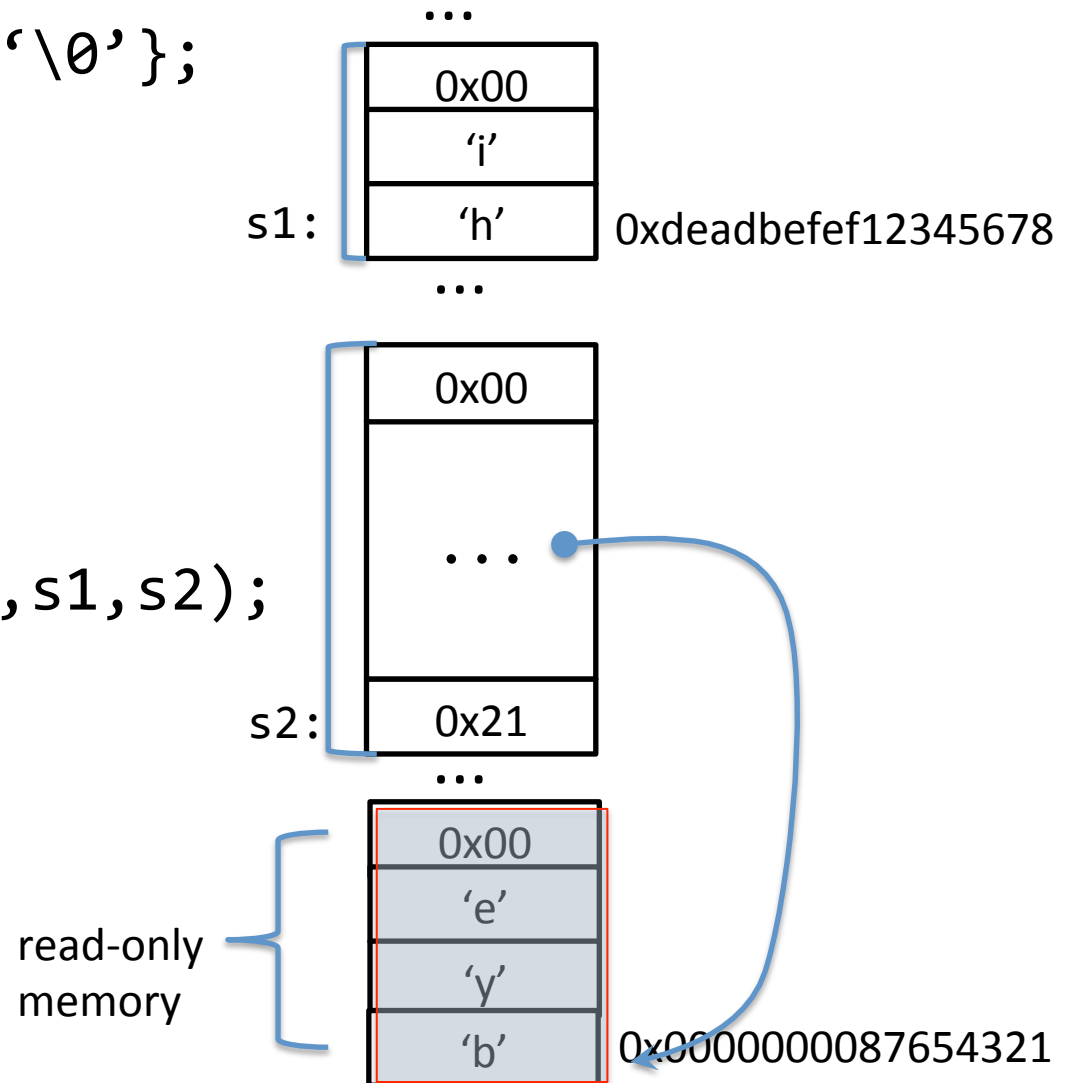
```
//char s1[3] = "hi";
```

```
char *s2 = "bye";
```

```
s1[0] = 'H';
```

```
s2[0] = 'B';
```

```
printf("s1=%s s2=%s\n", s1, s2);
```



# The Atoi function

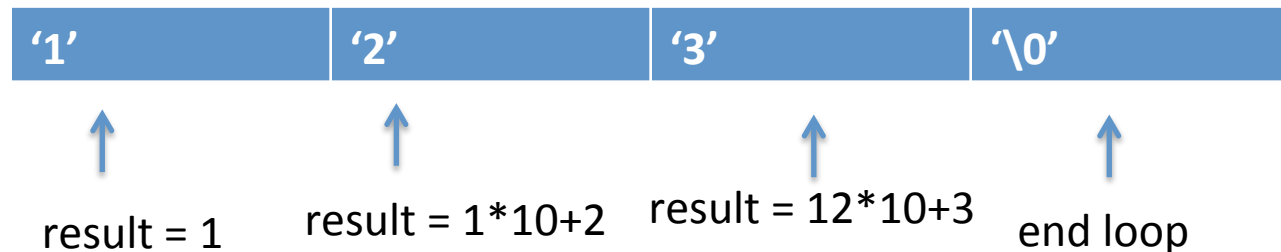
```
// atoi returns the integer  
// corresponding to the string of digits
```

```
int atoi(char *s)  
{  
  
}
```

```
int main()  
{  
    char *s= "123";  
    printf("integer is %d\n", atoi(s));  
}
```

# The Atoi function

```
// atoi returns the integer
// corresponding to the string of digits
int atoi(char *s) {
    int result = 0;
    int i = 0;
    while (s[i] >= '0' && s[i] <= '9') {
        result = result * 10 + (s[i] - '0');
        i++;
    }
    return result;
}
```

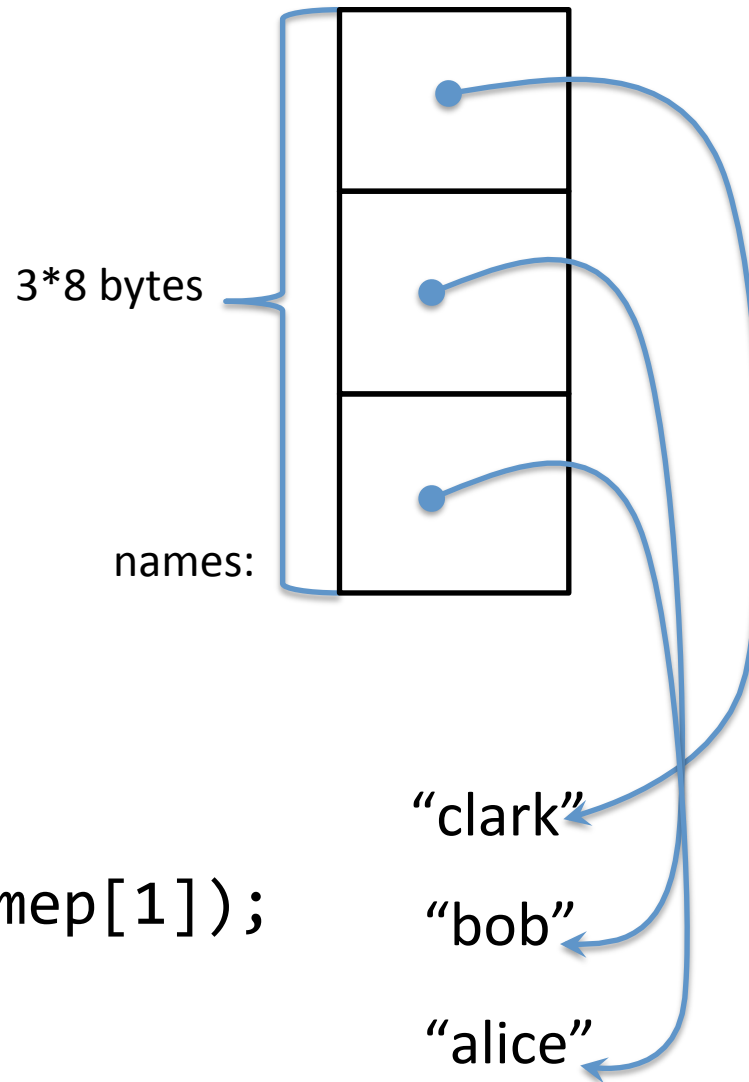


# Array of pointers

```
char* names[3] = {  
    "alice",  
    "bob",  
    "clark"  
};
```

```
char **namep;  
namep = names;
```

```
printf("name is %s", namep[1]);
```





# The most commonly used array of pointers: argv

```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    for (int i = 0; i < argc; i++) {
        printf("%s\n", argv[i]);
    }
}
```

```
$ ./a.out 1 2 3
./a.out 1 2 3
```



argv[0] is the name of the executable

# Structs

Struct stores fields of different types  
contiguously in memory

# Structure

- Array: a block of  $n$  consecutive elements of the same type.
- Struct: a collection of elements of different types.

# Structure

```
struct student {  
    int id;  
    char *name;  
};
```

Fields of a struct are allocated next to each other, but there may be gaps (padding) between them.

# Structure

```
struct student {  
    int id;  
    char *name;  
};
```

```
struct student t; ← define variable t with  
                    type "struct student"
```

# Structure

```
struct student {  
    int id;  
    char *name;  
};
```

```
struct student t;
```

```
t.id = 1024;  ← Access the fields of this struct  
t.name = "alice";
```

# Typedef

```
typedef struct {  
    int id;  
    char *name;  
} student;
```

```
struct student t;
```

# Pointer to struct

```
typedef struct {  
    int id;  
    char *name;  
} student;
```

```
student t = {1023, "alice"};  
student *p = &t;
```

```
p->id = 1023;  
p->name = "bob";  
printf("%d %s\n", t.id, t.name\n");
```



# Mallocs

Allocates a chunk of memory dynamically

# Recall memory allocation for global and local variables


- **Global** variables are allocated space before program execution.
- **Local** variables are allocated when entering a function and de-allocated upon its exit.

# Malloc

Allocate space dynamically and flexibly:

- malloc: allocate storage of a given size
- free: de-allocate previously malloc-ed storage

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




*A void pointer is a pointer that has no associated data type with it. A void pointer can hold address of any type and can be casted to any type.*

```
void free(void *ptr);
```

# Malloc

Malloc is implemented as a C library

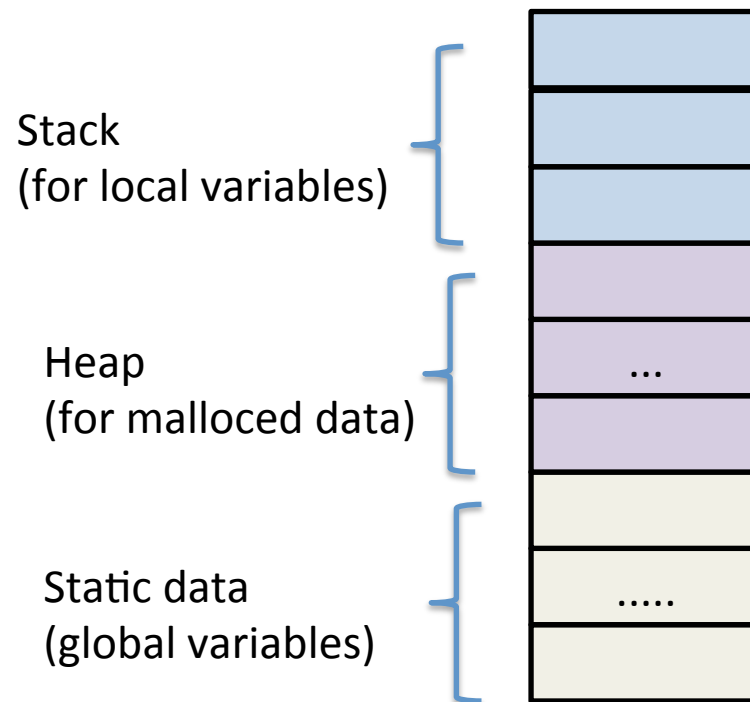


```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
int *newArray(int n) {  
    int *p;  
    p = (int*)malloc(sizeof(int) * n);  
    return p;  
}
```

# Conceptual view of a C program's memory at runtime

- Separate memory regions for global, local, and malloc-ed.



We will refine this simple view in later lectures

# Linked list in C: insertion

```
typedef struct {  
    int val;  
    struct node *next;  
}node;
```

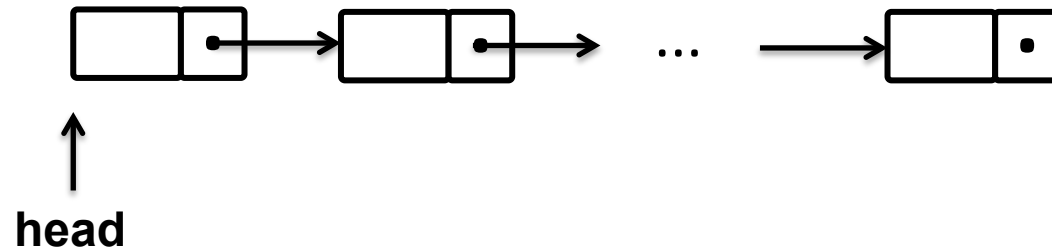
```
// insert val into linked list to the head  
// of the linked list and return the new  
// head of the list.
```

```
node*  
insert(node *head, int val) {  
  
}
```

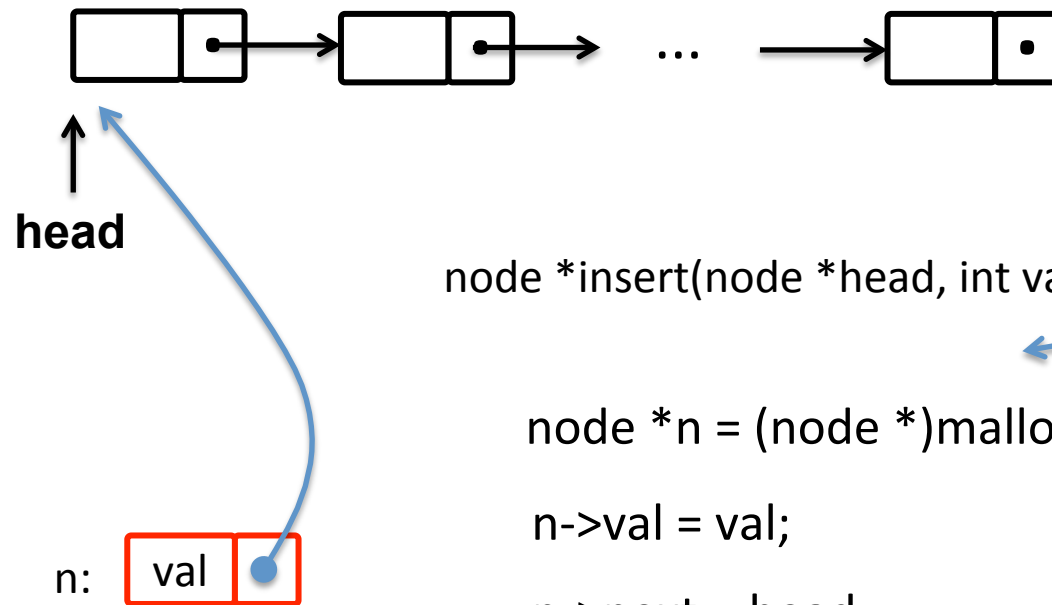
```
int main() {  
    node *head = NULL;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++)  
        head = insert(head, i);  
}
```

\* this linked list implementation  
is different from Lab1

# Inserting into a linked list



# Inserting into a linked list



```
node *insert(node *head, int val) {
```

```
node nn;  
node *n = &nn;
```

```
node *n = (node *)malloc(sizeof(node));
```

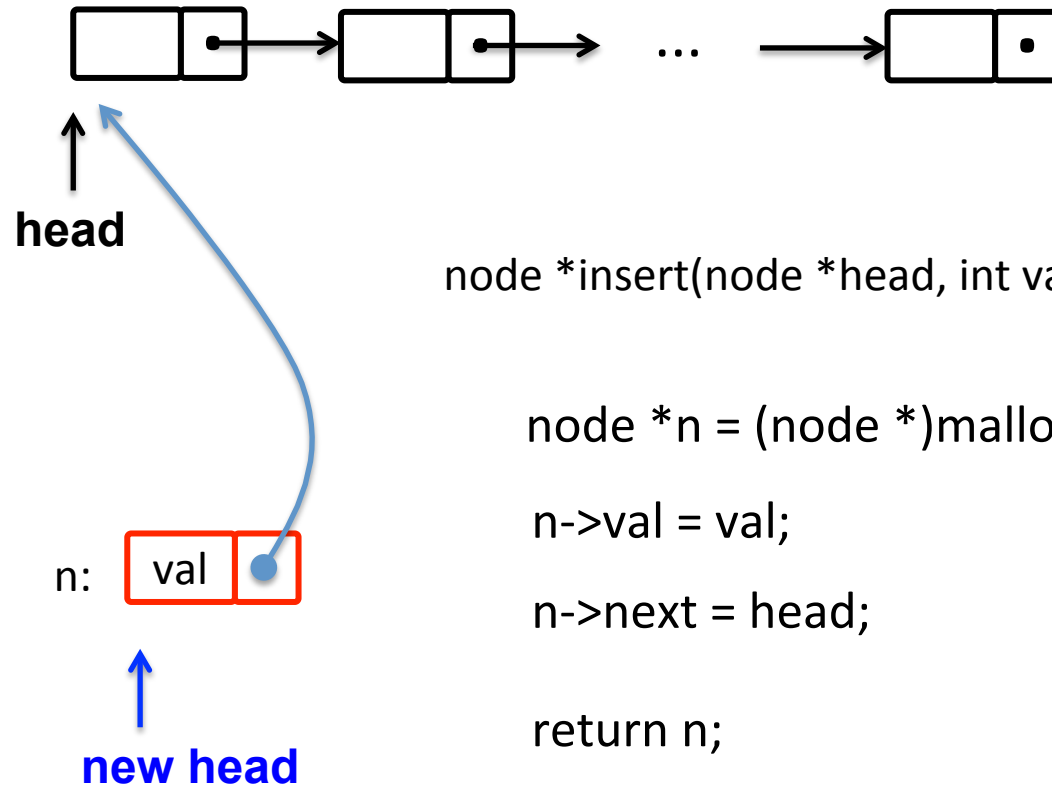
```
n->val = val;
```

```
n->next = head;
```

```
}
```



# Inserting into a linked list



```
node *insert(node *head, int val) {
```

```
    node *n = (node *)malloc(sizeof(node));
```

```
    n->val = val;
```

```
    n->next = head;
```

```
    return n;
```

```
}
```