# Arrays & Pointers Characters & strings

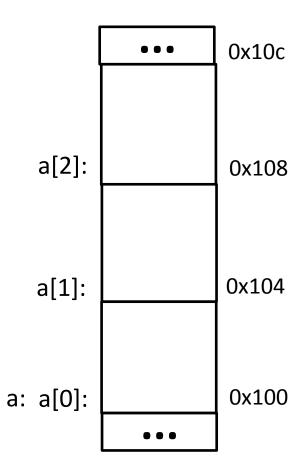
Jinyang Li

## What we've learnt and today's plan

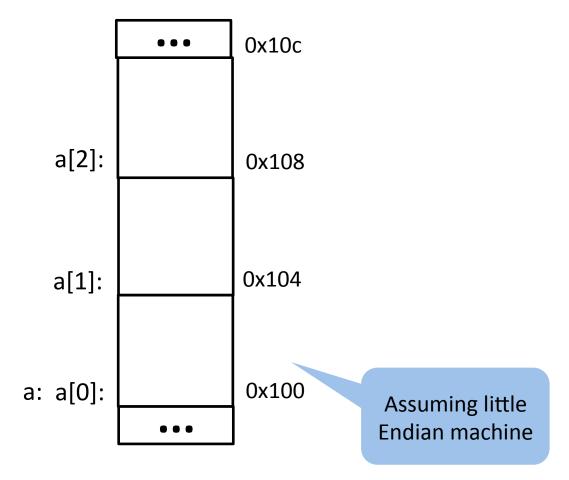
- Bitwise operations
- Pointers
  - Pointers are addresses
  - With pointers arguments, a callee can modify local variables in the caller.
- Today's lesson:
  - Array and its relationship with pointer
  - Pointer casting
  - Characters & strings

# Array: a collection of <u>contiguous</u> objects with the same type

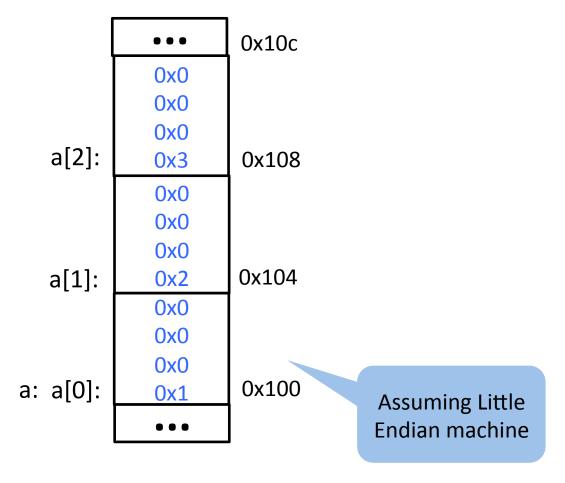
int a[3];

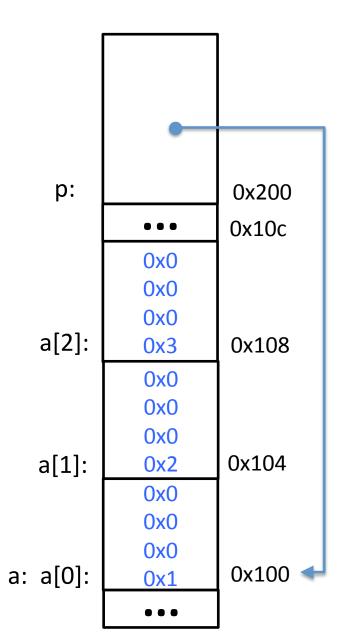


int  $a[3] = \{1, 2, 3\};$ 



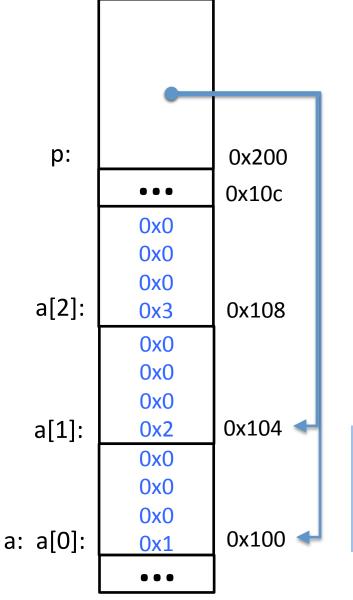
int 
$$a[3] = \{1, 2, 3\};$$





```
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



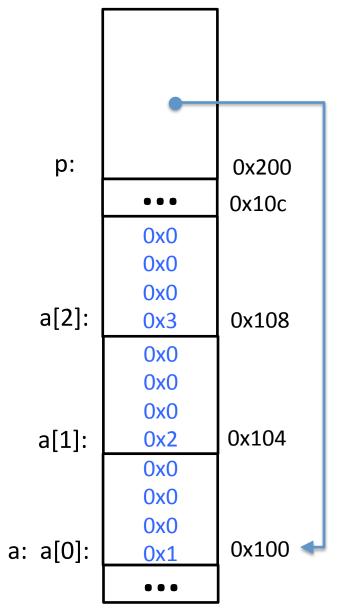
```
int a[3] = {1, 2, 3};
int *p;
p = &a[0];

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

printf("%p\n", p); //output? 0x104
printf("%d\n", *p); //output? 2
```

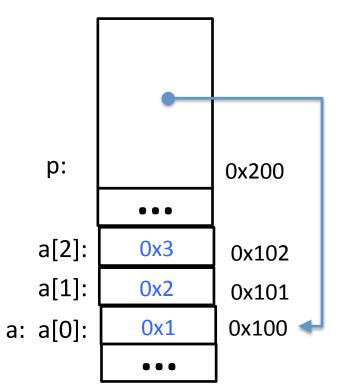
Rule of pointer arithmetic: p+i has address of *i*-th object after p, i.e. p+i's value is p's value plus i\*sizeof(object)

#### Pointer arithmetic



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#### Pointer arithmetic



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\*sizeof(object)

## Array and pointer

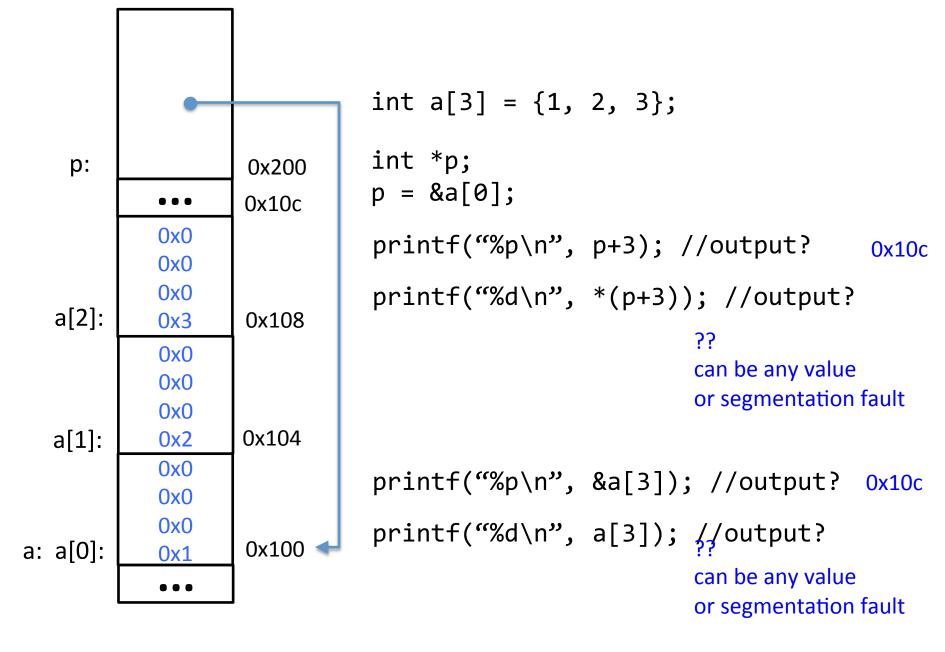
```
int a[10];
int *p;

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)
}</pre>
```

## Array and pointer

#### Out of bound access?



## Example

```
same as:
#include <stdio.h>
                              int *p;
                              p = a;
int main() {
  int a[3] = \{100, 200, 300\};
  int *p = a;
                                  same as:
  *p = 400;
                                  p[0] = 400;
  for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {
    printf("%d ", a[i]);
  printf("\n");
    Output? 400 200 300
```

## **Another Example**

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
  int a[3] = \{100, 200, 300\};
  int *p = a;
                       equivalent to
                       *(++p) = 400;
  p++;
  *p = 400;
  for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {
    printf("%d ", a[i]);
  printf("\n");
    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]);
```

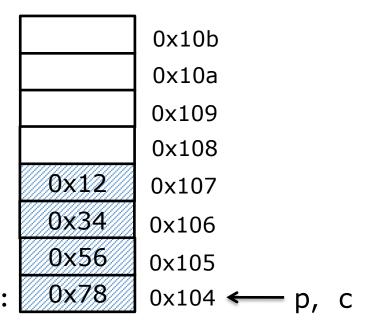
## Pass array to function via pointer

```
// 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]);
```

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

Output? (when running on Intel laptop)

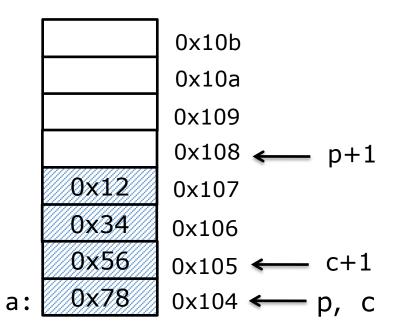
```
int a = 0x12345678;
int *p = &a;
char *c = (char *)p;
```



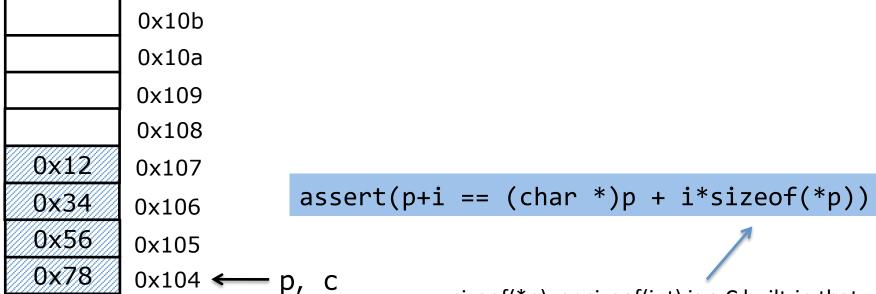
Intel laptop is small endian \*c is 0x78

What is c+1? p+1?

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



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



a:

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

```
int a = 0x12345678;
int *p = &a;
char *c = (char *)p;
                      for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++) {
          0x10b
                            print("%x ", c[i]);
          0x10a
          0x109
          0x108
                       Output: 0x78 0x56 0x34 0x12
   0x12
          0x107
   0x34
          0x106
   0x56
          0x105 \leftarrow c+1
   0x78
          0 \times 104 \leftarrow p, c 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&0x7ffffffff)>>23;
    return (exp != 0 && exp != 255);
}
```

#### 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.

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

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

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)	

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

#### Undefined behavior

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

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

- Use uninitialized variables
  - Avoid memory write
- Out-of-bound array access
  - Avoid runtime bound checking

Divided by zero



integer overflow

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.

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

```
#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) {
                               gcc removes the check with O3
 if(a+100 < a) {
printf("overflowed\n");
<del>return;</del>
  printf("normal is boring\n");
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?

## **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	1	65	41	A	97	61	a
2	2	[START OF TEXT]	34	22	III	66	42	В	98	62	b
3	3	[END OF TEXT]	35	23	#	67	43	С	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	1	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	1	105	69	i
10	Α	[LINE FEED]	42	2A	*	74	4A	J	106	6A	j
11	В	[VERTICAL TAB]	43	2B	+	75	4B	K	107	6B	k
12	С	[FORM FEED]	44	2C	,	76	4C	L	108	6C	1
13	D	[CARRIAGE RETURN]	45	2D		77	4D	M	109	6D	m
14	Е	[SHIFT OUT]	46	2E		78	4E	N	110	6E	n
15	F	[SHIFT IN]	47	2F	1	79	4F	0	111	6F	0
16	10	[DATA LINK ESCAPE]	48	30	0	80	50	P	112	70	р
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	Υ	121	79	у
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	1	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

```
// 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);
```

// tolower returns the corresponding

#### 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

U+1F600	<u></u>	grinning face
<u>U+1F601</u>		beaming face with smiling eyes
U+1F602		face with tears of joy
U+1F923	3	rolling on the floor laughing
U+1F603		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

## What we've learnt and today's plan

- Bitwise operations
- Pointers & arrays
- ASCII characters
- Today's lesson:
  - String
  - Struct
  - Malloc

## **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]);
    }
}</pre>
```

## **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++;
    }
}
```

does this make a copy of "hi"?

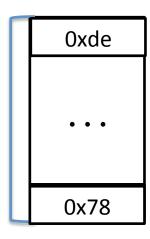
```
char s[3] = {'h', 'i', '\0'};
char *h;
h = s;
h[0] = 'H';
```

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

0x00 'i' 'h'

0xdeadbefef12345678

• •



h:

. . .

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);
```

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

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

```
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', '\wedge \alpha'\}
                         Results in out-of-bound write!
   char h[2];
                          Buffer overflow!
   strcpy(h, s);
   h[0] = 'H';
   printf("s=%s h=%s\n",s,h);
}
```

```
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', '\setminus 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

• • •

## A different way of initializing string

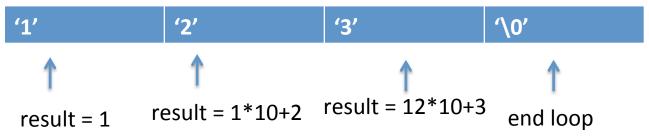
```
char s1[3] = {'h', 'i', '\setminus 0'};
                                            0x00
//equivalent to
//char s1[3] = "hi";
                                             'h'
                                     s1:
                                                  0xdeadbefef12345678
char *s2 = "bye";
s1[0] = 'H';
                                            0x00
s2[0] = 'B';
printf("s1=%s s2=%s\n",s1,s2);
                                     s2:
                                            0x21
                                            0x00
                                             'e'
                             read-only
                             memory
                                                   0x0000000087654321
```

#### 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] \ge 0' \&\& s[i] \le 9') {
           result = result * 10 + (s[i] - '0');
           i++;
   return result;
```



## Array of pointers

```
char* names[3] = {
   "alice",
   "bob",
                           3*8 bytes
   "clark"
};
                              names:
char **namep;
namep = names;
                                        "clark"
printf("name is %s", namep[1]);
                                        "bob"
                                         "alice"
```

# 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</pre>
```

argv[0] is the name of the executable

#### **Structs**

Struct stores fields of different types contiguously in memory

 Array: a block of n consecutive elements of the same type.

 Struct: a collection of elements of diffferent types.

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

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

## **Typedef**

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

#### 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);
```

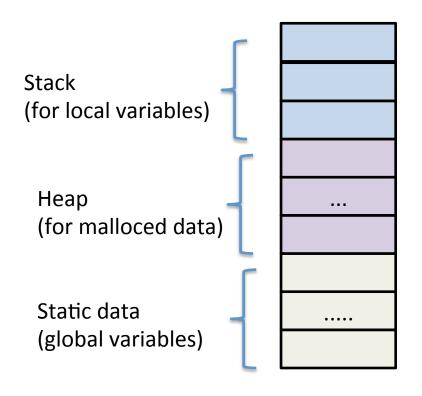
#### Malloc

```
#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.

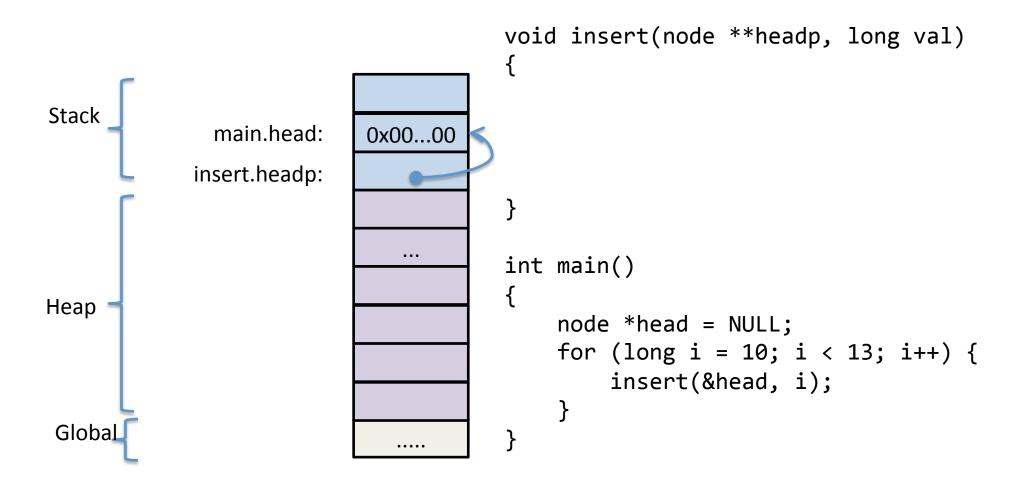


We will refine this simple view in later lectures

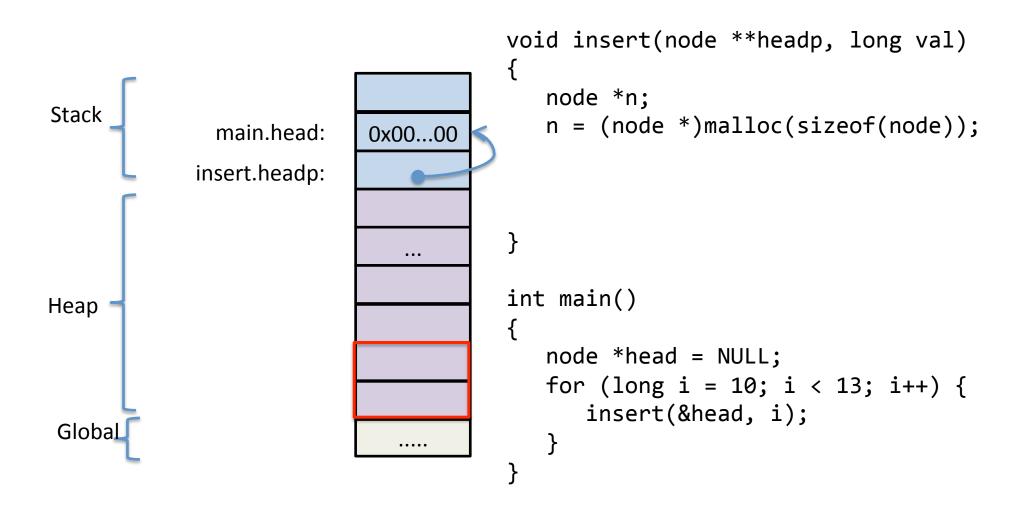
#### Linked list in C: insertion

```
typedef struct {
     long 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 in *head
void
insert(node **head, long val) {
}
int main() {
    node *head = NULL;
    for (long i = 10; i < 13; i++)
       insert(&head, i);
}
```

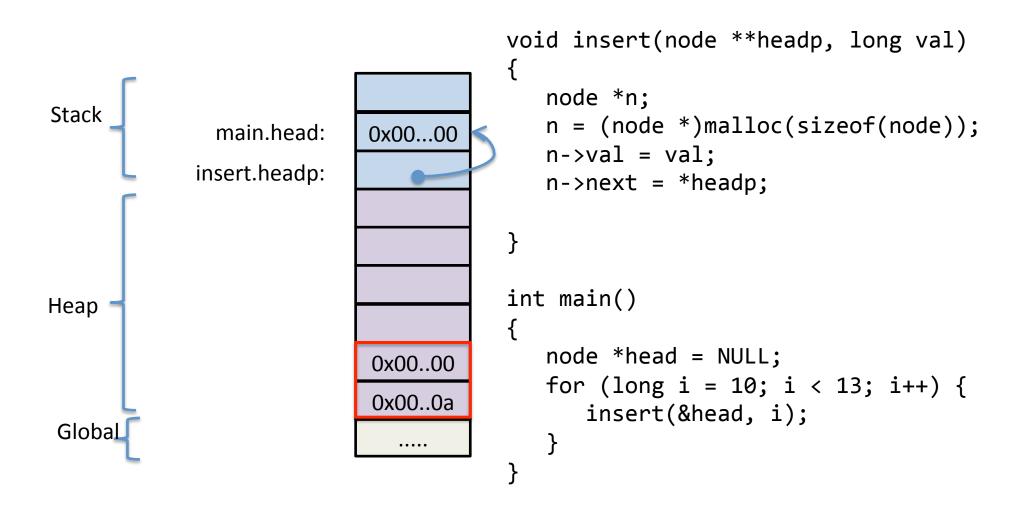
# Inserting into a linked list



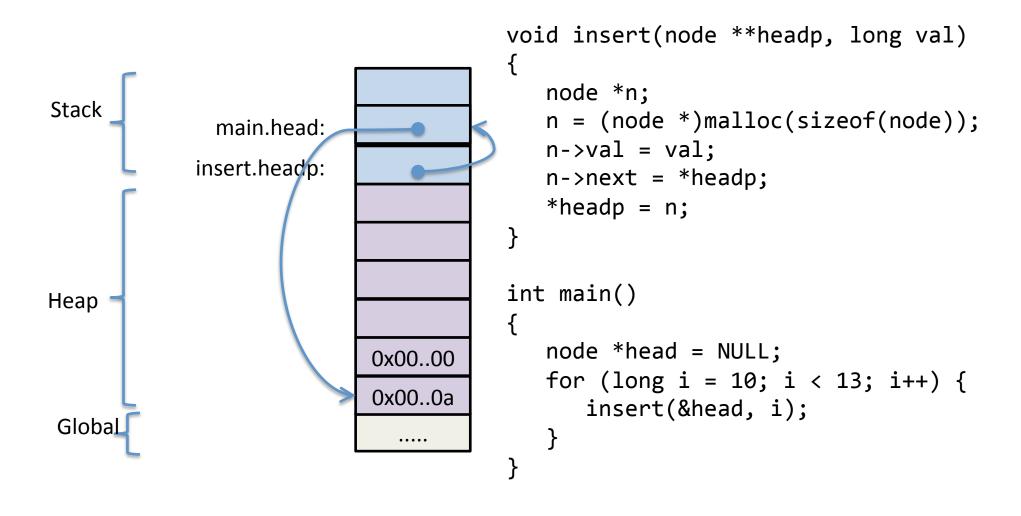
#### 1st insert call



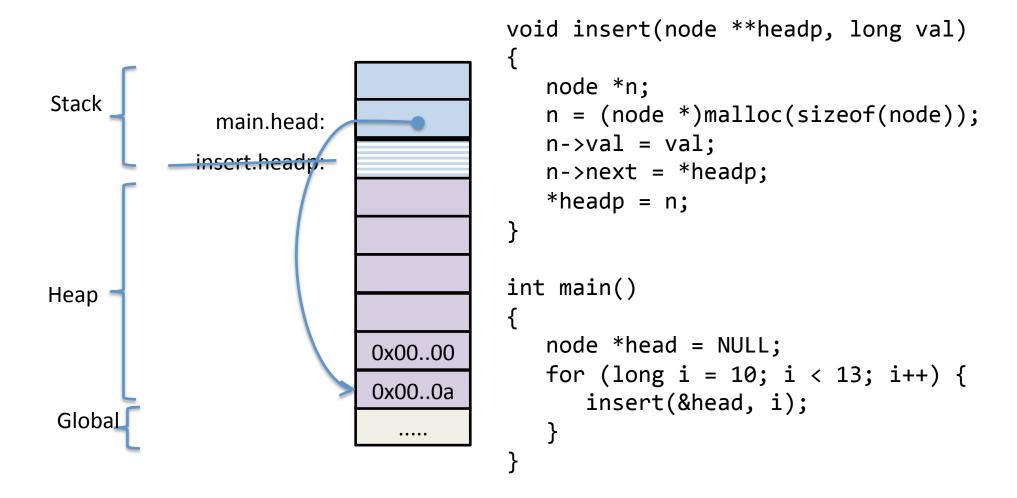
#### 1st insert call



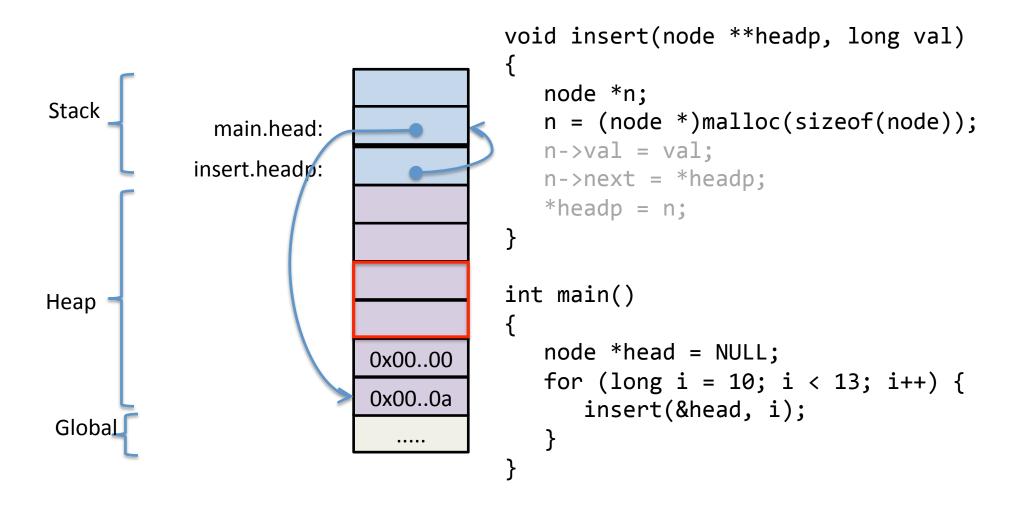
#### 1st insert call



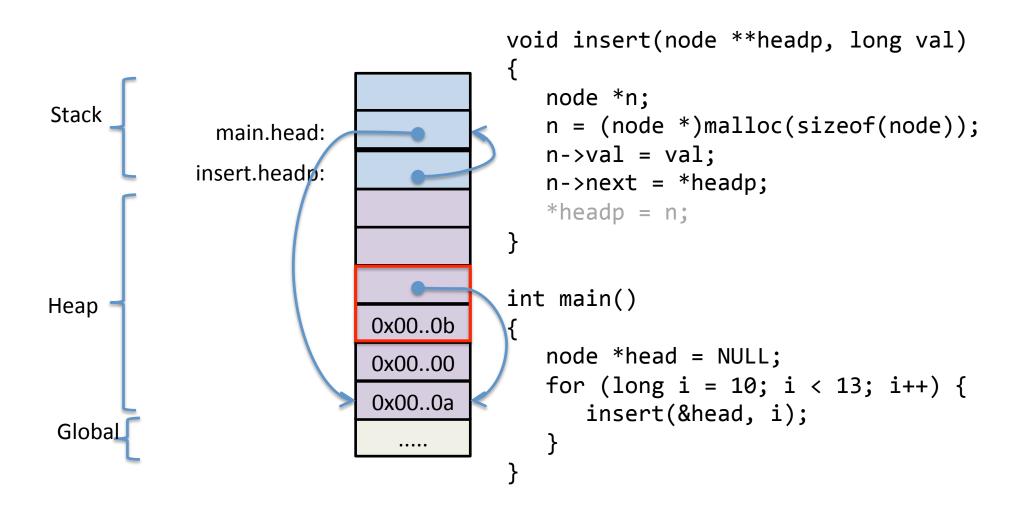
#### after 1st insert call



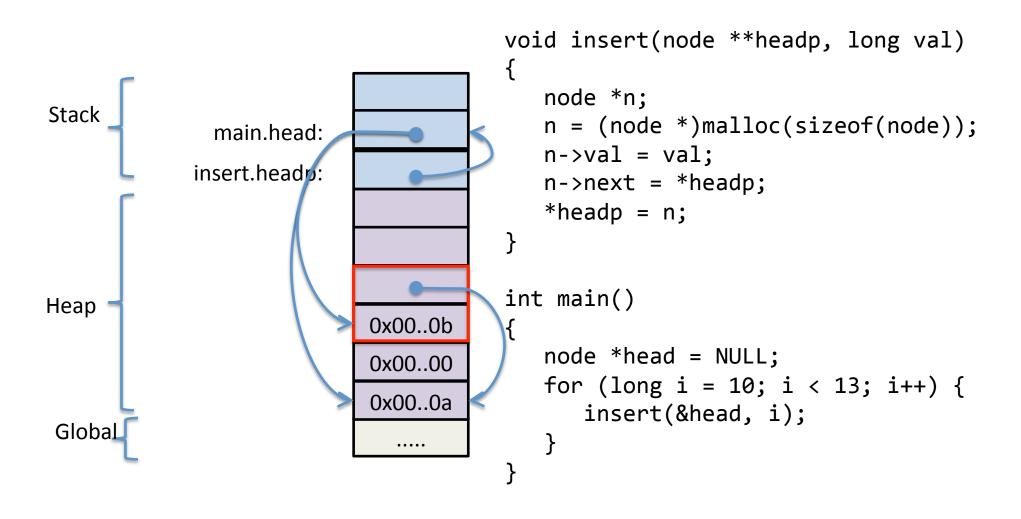
# 2<sup>nd</sup> insert call



### 2<sup>nd</sup> insert call



# 2<sup>nd</sup> insert call



### after 3rd call

