COMP1521 Week 1

Welcome!!!

Please sit down we shall start at 11:05am

Try and disperse yourselves amongst the tables

Icebreaker questions

- Highlight of the day?
- Course you are doing
- Most recently watched youtube video 👀

Admin stuff

- Course website (https://cgi.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs1521/23T1/)
- HELPLINES:
  - course forum
  - course admins cs1521@cse.unsw.edu.au
  - me (z5362344@unsw.edu.au)
- Tutorial files (https://github.com/abbylxt/COMP1521-23T1-Tut)
- Email is the best form of contact to me (response rate is within 24hrs normally, max 48hrs)

Overview

- Ice breaker
- How C programs store data in memory
- Revise with C (Trivia)

Ice breaker

Ice breaker

1. Introduce yourself to everyone in the class
    a. name
    b. Choose one of the below
        i. Worst/best tutorial experience you had
        ii. Highlight of the day?
        iii. Most recently watched youtube video 👀
2. Come up with a team name for the table (5 mins)
    a. https://www.name-generator.org.uk/team/ (if you are struggling)
3. Have one person per table to BuzzIn.live when you are ready

Little self intro

Name: Abby

Degree: Food Science/CompSci

Worst/best tutorial experience you had:

best: Not when I was a student but as an lab assist one of tutors spent an hour explaining in depth how unicode worked to a student to make sure they knew how it worked

worst: Every week they would take ½ hour to get bb to work and start the tutorial

How today’s Revision Trivia will work

As today is mostly revision of C and transferring the understanding of memory in C to mips, I’ve decided to create trivia is so you can meet your classmates and revise at the same time :DDD

- I will show a question on the board
- On the count of three I will unlock the buzzer
- If you get the question wrong the next group on the list will get to answer
- Questions starting with (Code) so having a code editor up and ready will be convenient

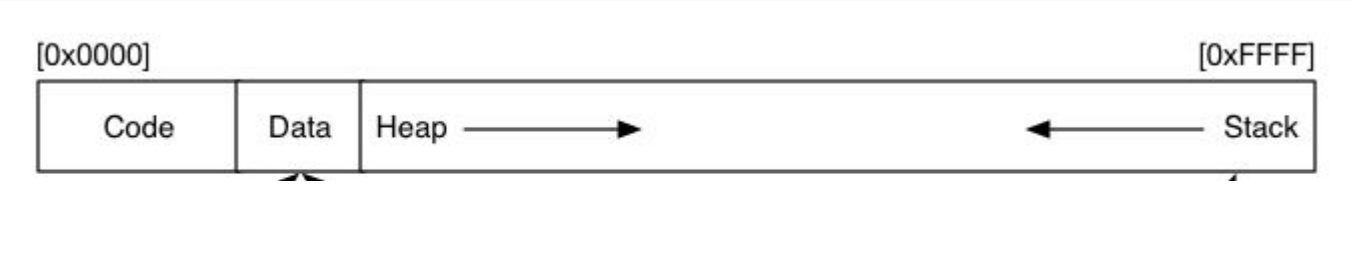
How C programs store data in memory

C vs mips/assembly memory

- C manages memory allocation for us, in the sense that it decides where to store data used for the programs in the computer
- In mips you have to do it yourself (manually)
- Hypothetically you can store it anywhere you like, but in the context of this course will be following a similar structure to C programs

Memory in C

- Most programs we write first year uni courses the data is short-lived
- Therefore most of the data will be stored in the RAM (Random-access memory)
- RAM is essential a huge array which is divided into 4 segments: Text, Data, Heap, Stack



```c
#include <stdio.h>

void iEquals5();


int main(void) {
    iEquals5();

    printf("%d\n", i);
    return 0;
}


void iEquals5() {
    int i = 5;
}
```

Revision C

Q1

What is the difference between s1 and s2 in the following program fragment? (1pt)

Where is each variable and the strings located in memory? (1pt)

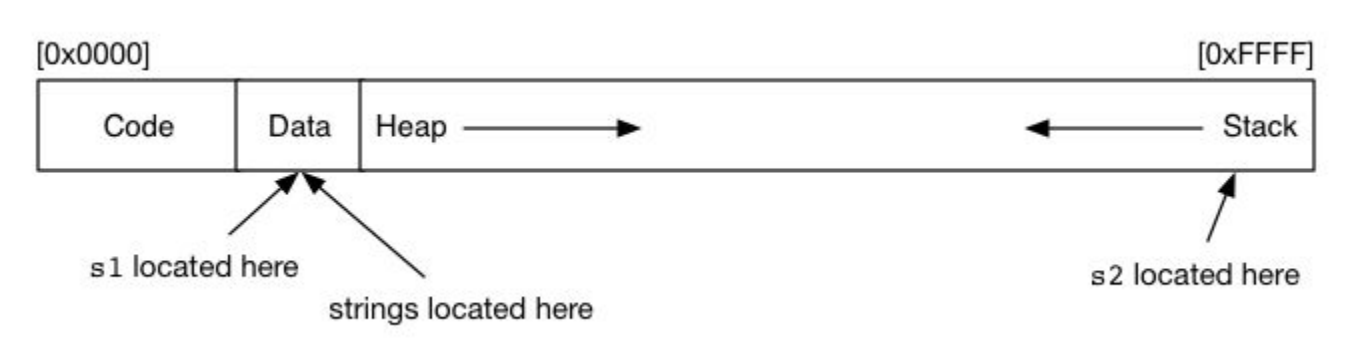

```c
#include <stdio.h>

char *s1 = "abc";

int main(void) {
    char *s2 = "def";
    // ...
}
```

Global Variable

- The s1 variable is a global variable
- Accessible from any function in this .c file
- Accessible from other .c files that referenced it as an extern'd variable.
- C implementations typically store global variables in the data segment (region of memory).

Local Variable

- The s2 variable is a local variable
- Only accessible within the main() function.
- C implementations typically store local variables on the stack, in a stack frame created for function — in this case, for main().



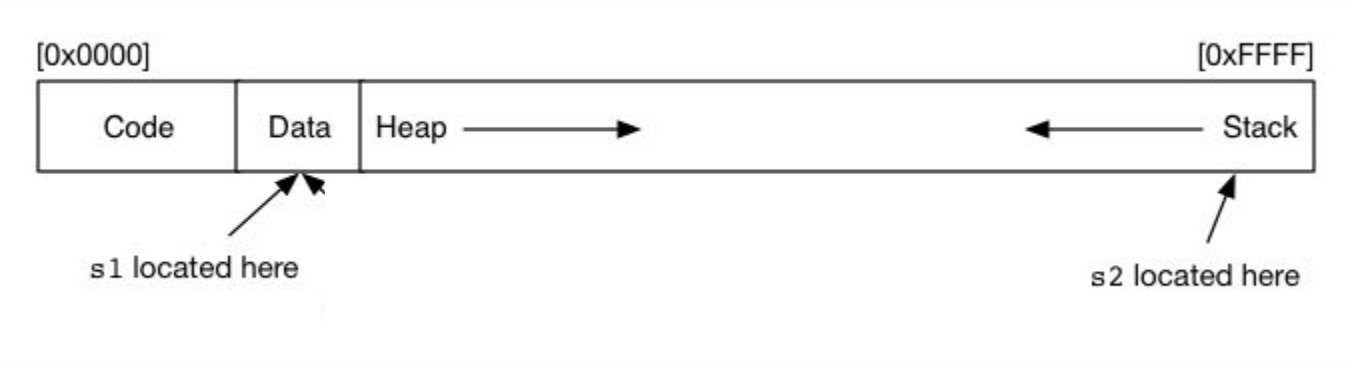
Q2

What is wrong with the following code? (1pt)

If we still want get_num_ptr to return a pointer, how can we fix this code? (1pt)

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int *get_num_ptr(void);

int main(void) {
    int *num = get_num_ptr();

    printf("%d\n", *num);
}

int *get_num_ptr(void) {
    int x = 42;
    return &x;
}
```

In context of memory



Q3

Find the errors in this code (each error is 1pt)

```
struct node *a = NULL:
struct node *b = malloc(sizeof b);
struct node *c = malloc(sizeof struct node);
struct node *d = malloc(8);
c = a;
d.data = 42;
c->data = 42;
```

Q4

How can you fix this program? (1pt)

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void) {
    char str[10];
    str[0] = 'H';
    str[1] = 'i';
    printf("%s", str);
    return 0;
}
```

What would have happened if you ran the code?

Many C library functions like printf expects strings to be null-terminated (indicates the end of the string). Therefore it will try and read the string until it reaches ‘\0’

DCC: Code produced by dcc will then stop with an error because str[2] is uninitialized.

GCC: The code with gcc will keep executing and printing element from str until it encounters one containing '\0'. Often str[2] will by chance contain '\0' and the program will work correctly.

Another common behaviour will be that the program prints some extra "random" characters.

Q5

In the following program, what are argc and argv? (1pt)

What will be the output of the following commands?

```
$ dcc -o print_arguments print_arguments.c
$ print_arguments I love MIPS
```

```c
#include <stdio.h>

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

Q6

(Code)

Define a struct that might store information about a pet.

- The information should include the pet's name, type of animal, age and weight. (2pts)
- Create a variable of this type and assign information to it to represent an axolotl named "Fluffy" of age 7 that weighs 300grams. (2pts)

Q7

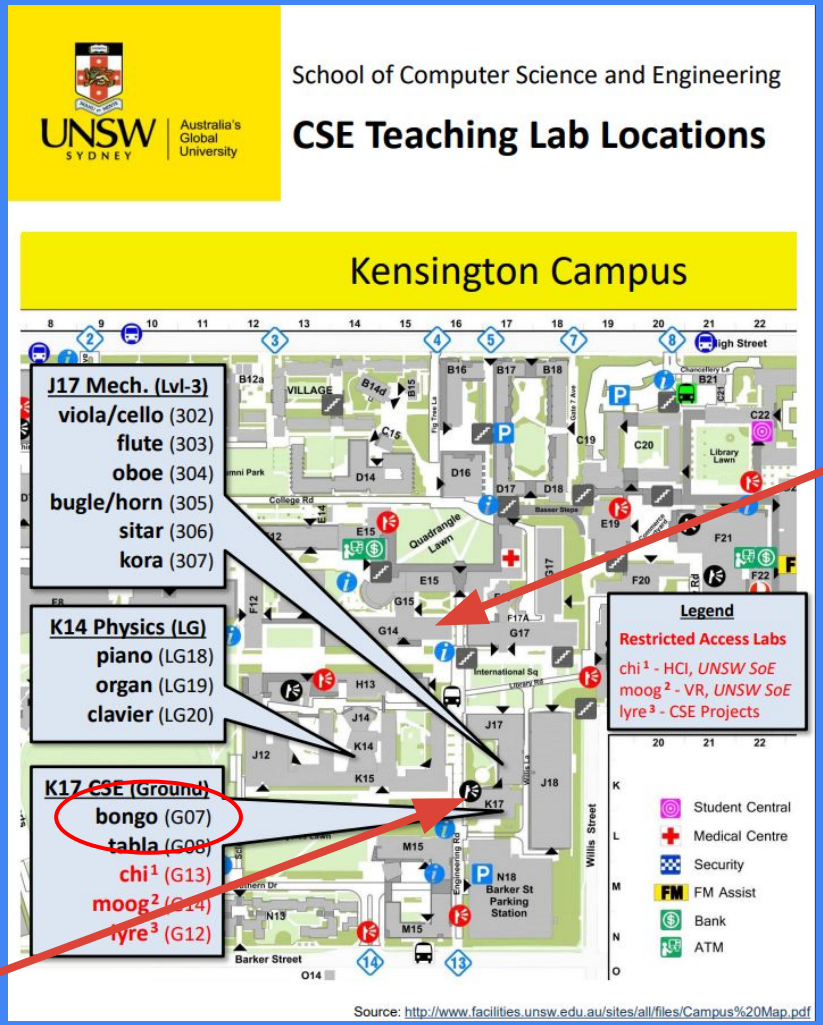
Why do we need the function atoi in the following program?

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

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < argc; i++) {
        sum += atoi(argv[i]);
    }
    printf("sum of command-line arguments = %d\n", sum);
    return 0;
}
```

Q8

(Code) Rewrite this program using a recursive function (4pts)

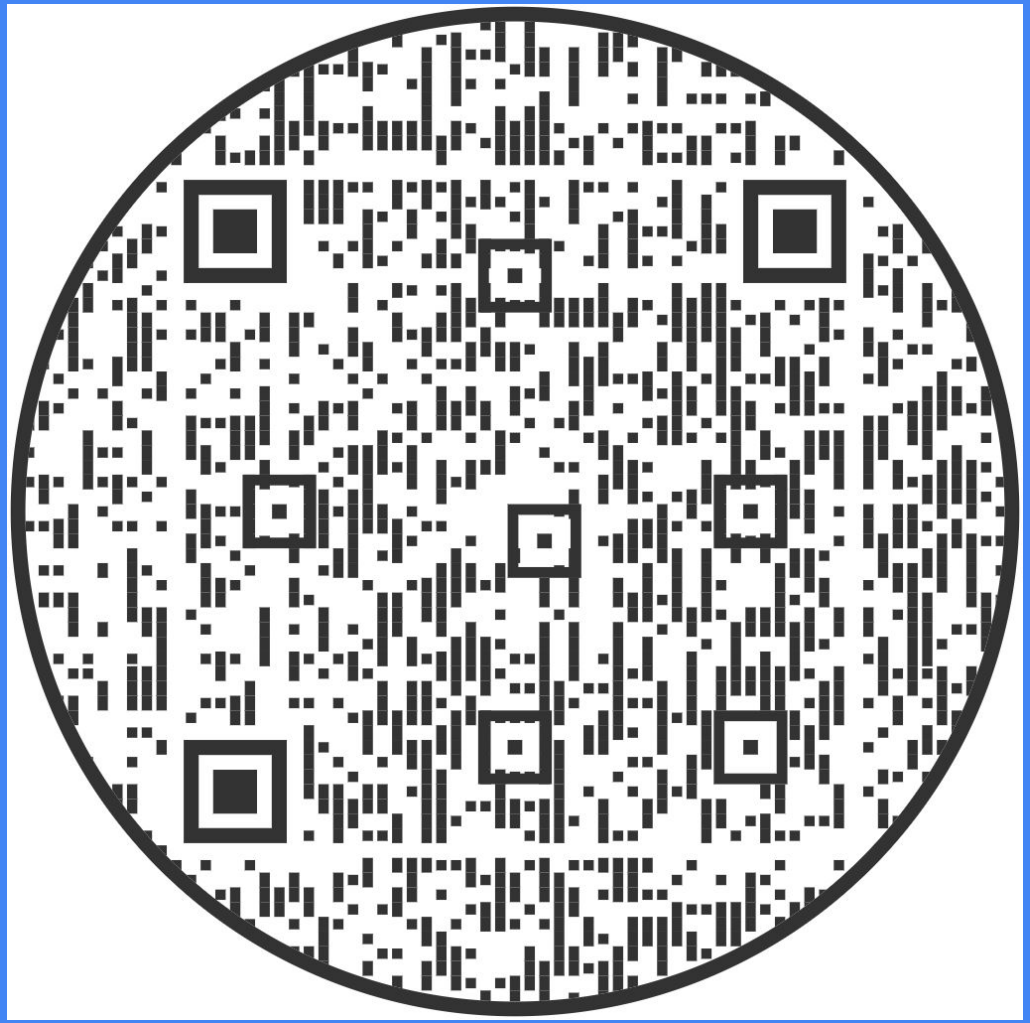
```c
#include <stdio.h>

void print_array(int nums[], int len) {
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", nums[i]);
    }
}

int main(void)
{
    int nums[] = {3, 1, 4, 1, 5, 9, 2, 6, 5, 3};
    print_array(nums, 10);

    return 0;
}
```



WE ARE HERE

LAB ON GROUND LEVEL

LEFT TO THE LIFTS



Code: Pineapples