

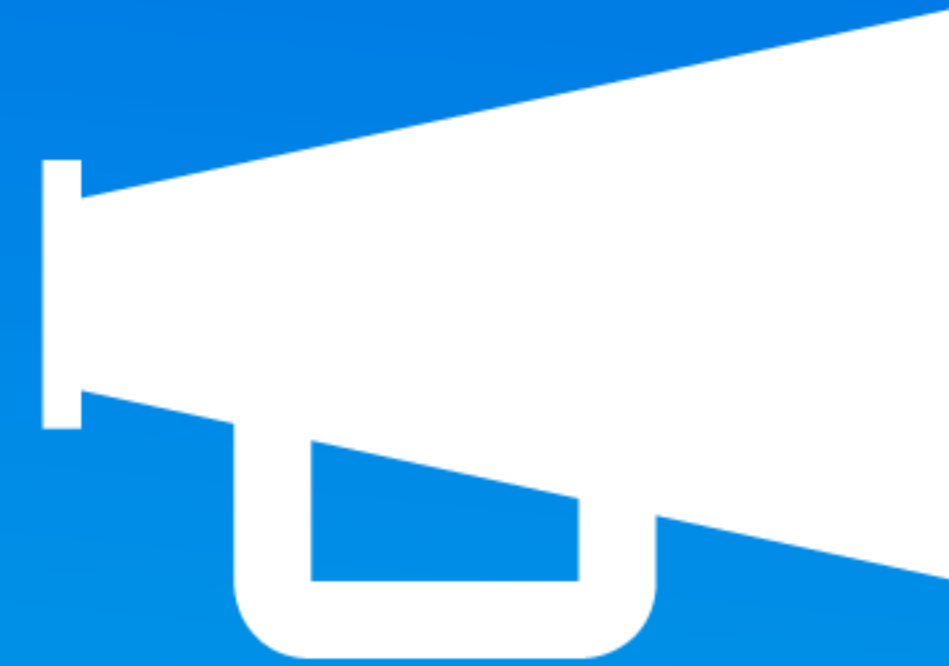
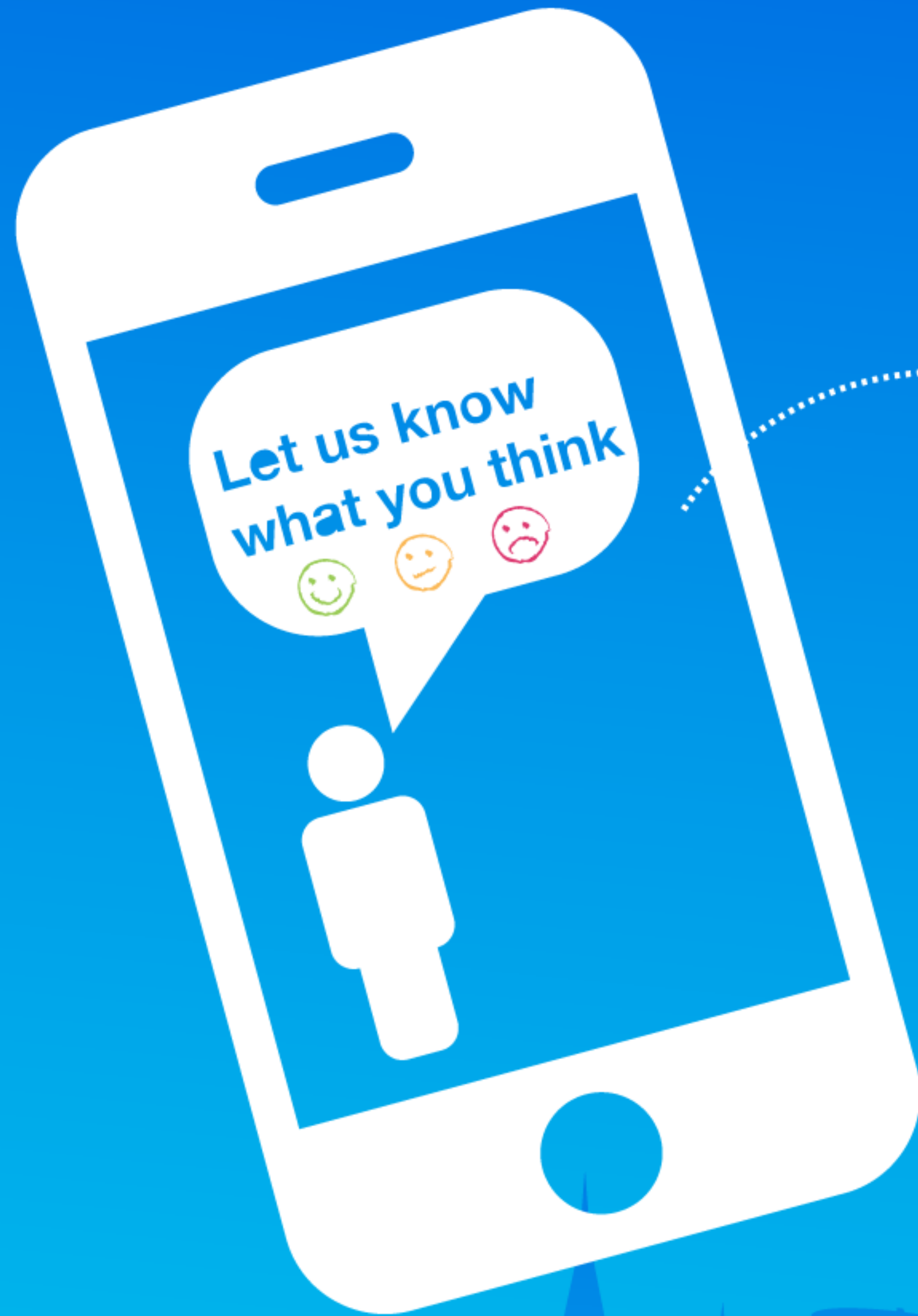
goto;

conference



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Swift Memory Layout

Mike Ash
GOTO Copenhagen 2016

About Me

mikeash.com

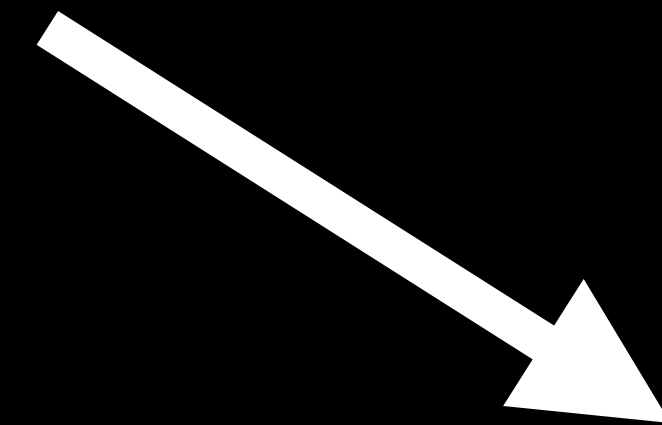
plausible.coop

NSBlog

github.com/mikeash

@mikeash

PHOTO



- What even is memory?
- Memory dumper program
- How Swift lays out data

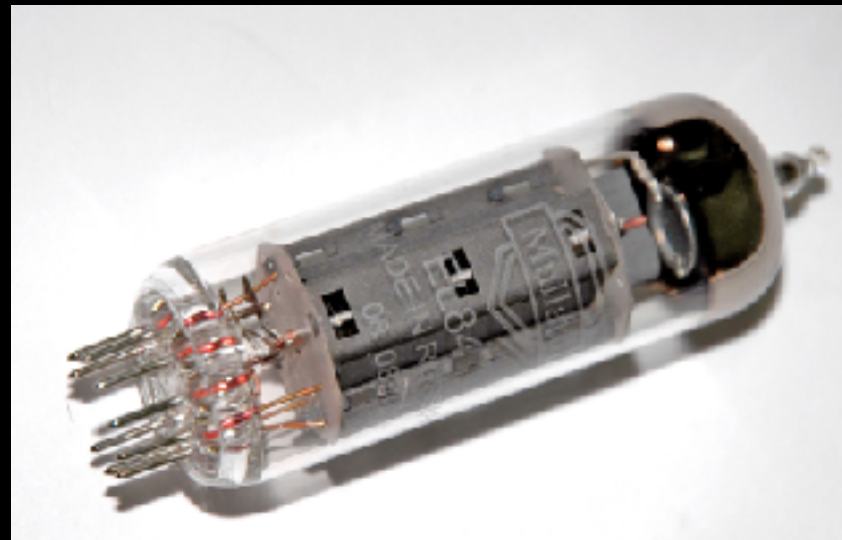
Memory

Memory



Memory

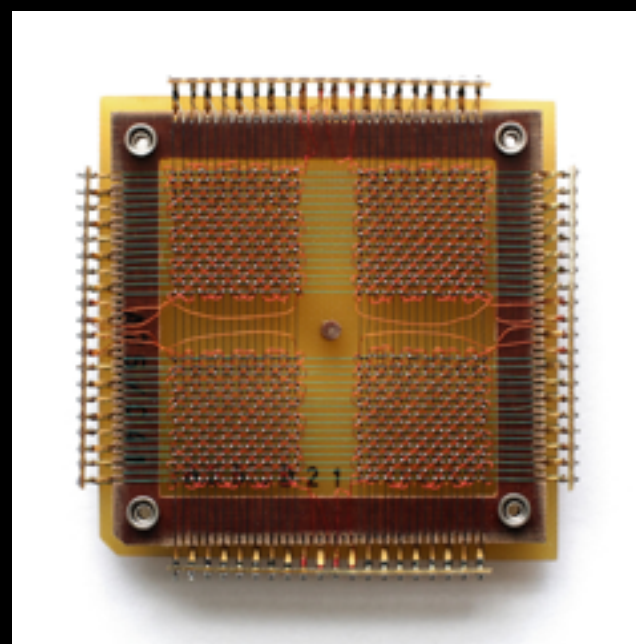
Vacuum tubes



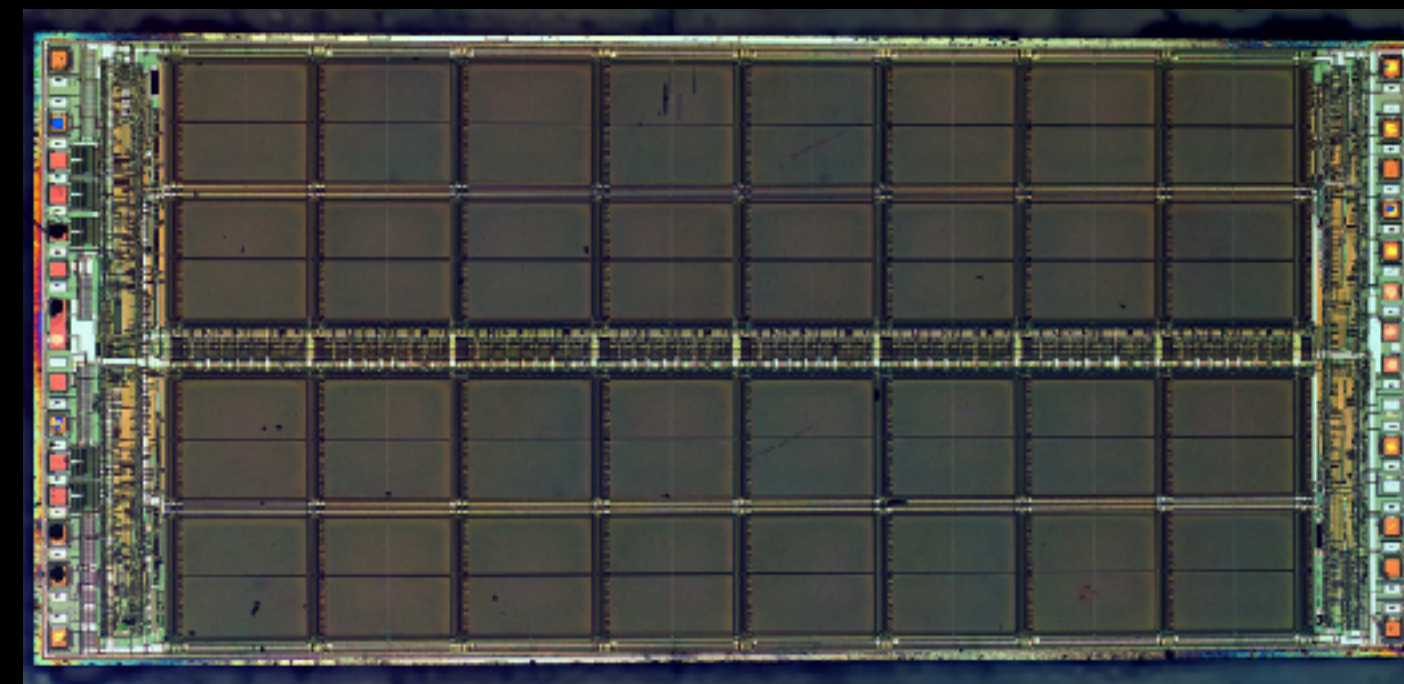
Mercury (or gin) delay line



Magnetic core



DRAM



Memory

1	0
---	---

1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

AA	1C	00	F8
----	----	----	----	-------

Memory

0	1	2	3
AA	1C	00	F8

Memory

0	01AA2C5EFF001101
8	0000000000000000
16	00000000000000FF
24	A0F31C228A177013
...	⋮

Memory

000000000000000000000000

01AA2C5EFF001101

000000000000000000000008

00000000000000000000

000000000000000000000010

000000000000000000FF

000000000000000000000018

A0F31C228A177013

...

•
•
•

Memory

...

000000001000000000

000000001000000008

000000001000000010

000000001000000018

...
01AA2C5EFF001101
0000000000000000
00000000000000FF
A0F31C228A177013
...

Memory - Big Picture

00000000000000000000

000000010000000000

00007FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

FFFF80000000000000

FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF



NOT TO SCALE

Memory

...

000000001000000000

000000001000000008

000000001000000010

000000001000000018

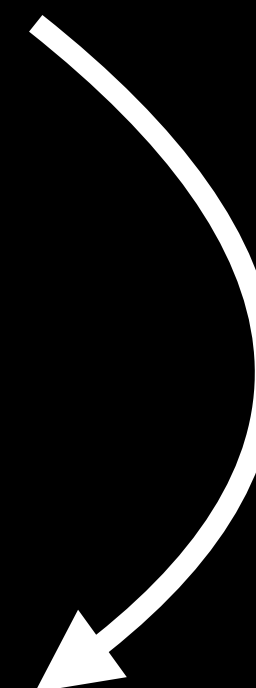
...

000000001000AE780

...
01AA2C5EFF001101
0000000000000000
00000000000000FF
000000001000AE780
...
A0F31C228A177013
001101FFAE738000

Memory

...	...
000000001000000000	01AA2C5EFF001101
000000001000000008	0000000000000000
000000001000000010	0000000000000000FF
000000001000000018	000000001000AE780
...	...
000000001000AE780	A0F31C228A177013
	001101FFAE738000



Memory

...

000000001000000000

000000001000000008

000000001000000010

000000001000000018

...

000000001000AE780

01AA2C5EFF001101

0000000000000000

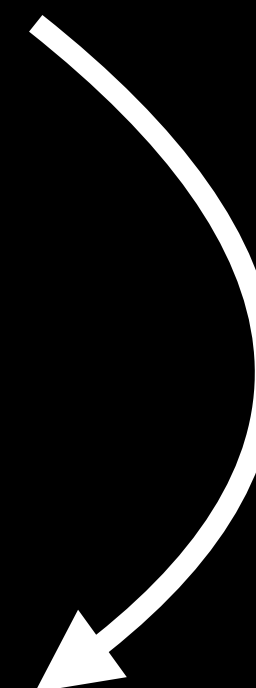
00000000000000FF

80E70A0001000000

...

A0F31C228A177013

001101FFAE738000



Memory

Stack

```
var x = ...  
var y = ...  
var z = x + y  
let string = view.text  
let text = view.string  
let count = array.count
```

Heap

```
UIView()  
NSObject()  
MyClass()  
YourClass()  
TheirClass()
```

malloc/free

Global Data

```
"string constants"  
"more string constants"  
class MyClass {}  
struct MyStruct {}  
protocol MyProtocol {}
```

Dumping Memory

```
var x = ...  
bytes(of: &x)
```

```
func bytes<T>(of value: T) -> [UInt8] {  
    ...  
}
```

Dumping Memory

<https://github.com/mikeash/memorydumper2>

<http://tinyurl.com/swmem>

<http://www.www.reallyhugeurl.com/index.php/>

[freak=no5zyn3o&ego.y=0p0iyjmf&lol=td2g2qxx&oed=gojsz0bh&oed=fheq2iqt&ego.x=g1c2s5daxsjkhf&ssn=7kegc1klfo1r0a&eat=qe4zk8hgmzvl827&oedeldritch=9qtni82cz8omnzk1x13twrw1qohhuhkrbuzr06q8ya1evomdpsaglggcyhde4ksr5](http://www.www.reallyhugeurl.com/index.php/?freak=no5zyn3o&ego.y=0p0iyjmf&lol=td2g2qxx&oed=gojsz0bh&oed=fheq2iqt&ego.x=g1c2s5daxsjkhf&ssn=7kegc1klfo1r0a&eat=qe4zk8hgmzvl827&oedeldritch=9qtni82cz8omnzk1x13twrw1qohhuhkrbuzr06q8ya1evomdpsaglggcyhde4ksr5)

Dumping Memory

Xcode 8

Swift 3

Dumping Memory

```
var x = ...  
bytes(of: &x)
```

```
func bytes<T>(of value: T) -> [UInt8] {  
    ...  
}
```

Dumping Memory

```
func bytes<T>(of value: T) -> [UInt8] {  
    var value = value  
    let size = MemoryLayout<T>.size  
    return withUnsafePointer(to: &value, {  
        $0.withMemoryRebound(  
            to: UInt8.self,  
            capacity: size,  
            {  
                Array(UnsafeBufferPointer(  
                    start: $0, count: size))  
            })  
        })  
    })  
}
```

Dumping Memory

```
let x = 0x0102030405060708  
print(bytes(of: x))  
print(bytes(of: 42))
```

```
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]  
[42, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
```


Dumping Memory

```
func hexString<Seq: Sequence>
  (bytes: Seq, limit: Int? = nil, separator: String = " ")
  -> String
where Seq.Iterator.Element == UInt8 {
  let spacesInterval = 8
  var result = ""
  for (index, byte) in bytes.enumerated() {
    if let limit = limit, index >= limit {
      result.append("...")
      break
    }
    if index > 0 && index % spacesInterval == 0 {
      result.append(separator)
    }
    result.append(String(format: "%02x", byte))
  }
  return result
}
```

Dumping Memory

```
let x = 0x0102030405060708  
print(hexString(bytes: bytes(of: x)))  
print(hexString(bytes: bytes(of: 42)))
```

```
0807060504030201  
2a00000000000000
```

Dumping Memory

let x = ...



0102030405060708...

Dumping Memory

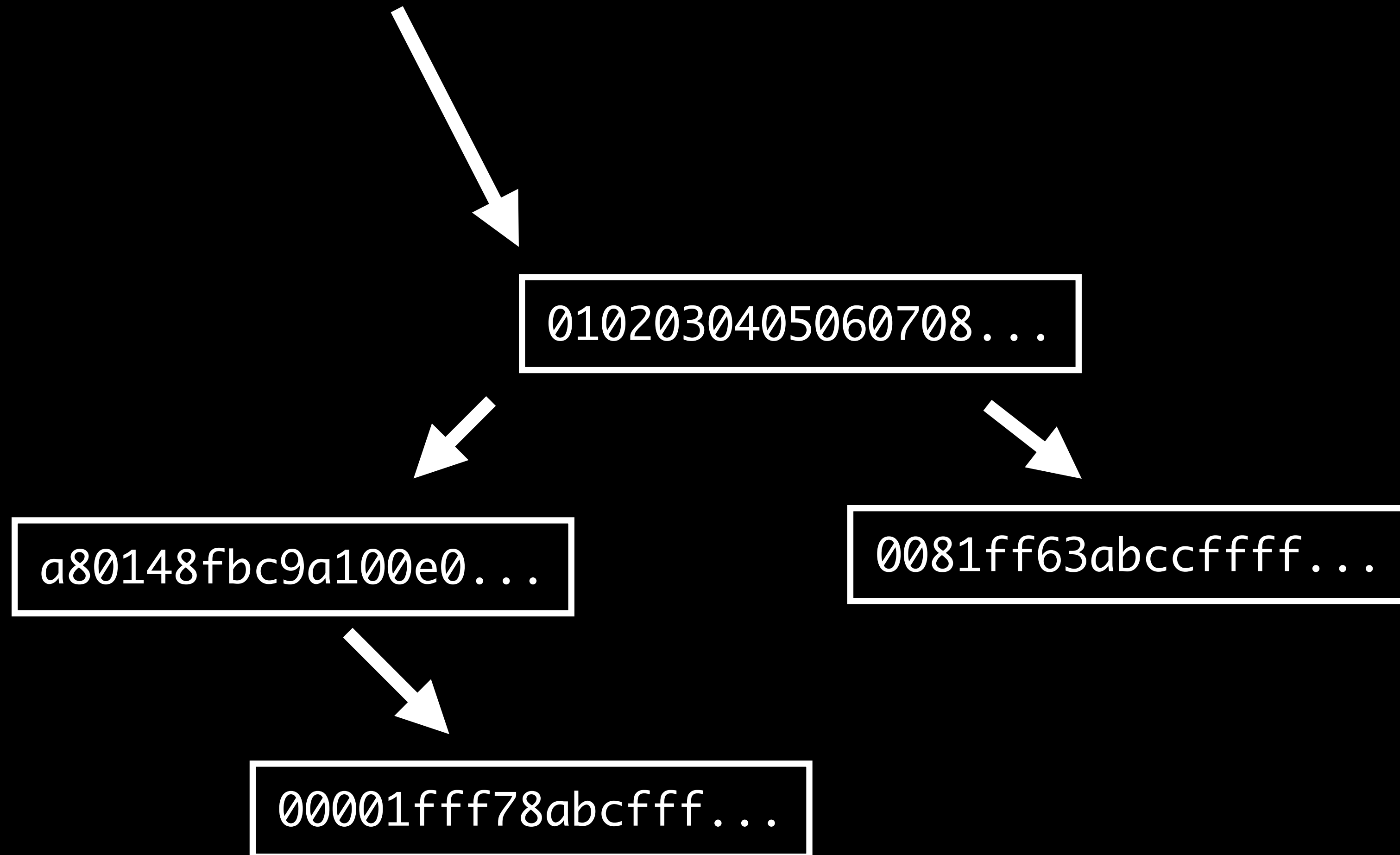
let x = ...

0102030405060708...

a80148fbc9a100e0...

0081ff63abccffff...

00001fff78abcfff...



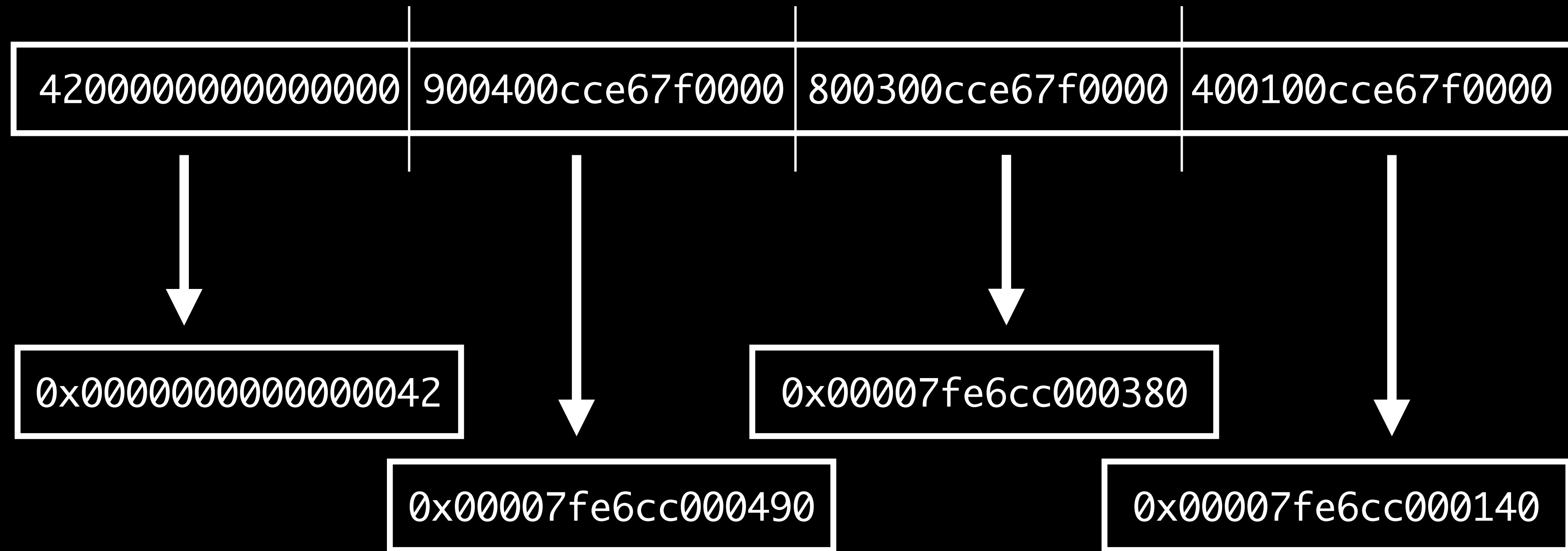
Pointers are Integers

```
struct Pointer {  
    var address: UInt  
}
```

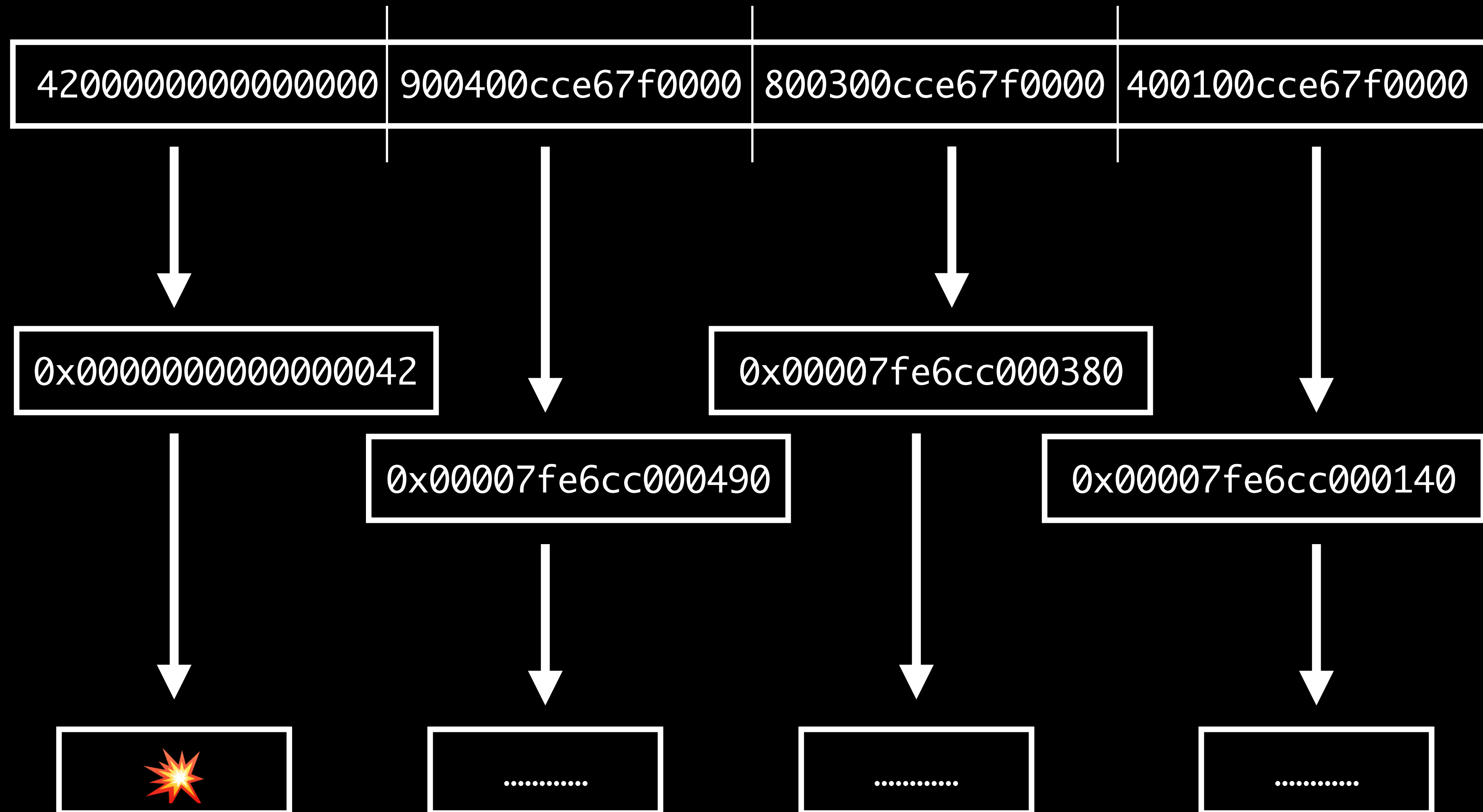
Pointers are Integers

```
buffer.withUnsafeBufferPointer({ bufferPointer in
  return bufferPointer.baseAddress?.withMemoryRebound(
    to: Pointer.self,
    capacity: bufferPointer.count / MemoryLayout<Pointer>.size,
  {
    let castBufferPointer = UnsafeBufferPointer(
      start: $0,
      count: bufferPointer.count / MemoryLayout<Pointer>.size)
    return Array(castBufferPointer)
  }) ?? []
})
```


Dumping Memory



Bad Pointers



Bad Pointers

`mach_vm_read_overwrite`

Copy N bytes from X to Y

Similar to `memcpy`

Returns an error on invalid pointers

Bad Pointers

```
public func mach_vm_read_overwrite(  
    _ target_task: vm_map_t,  
    _ address: mach_vm_address_t,  
    _ size: mach_vm_size_t,  
    _ data: mach_vm_address_t,  
    _ outsize: UnsafeMutablePointer<mach_vm_size_t>!)  
-> kern_return_t
```

Safe Reads

```
func safeRead(ptr: Pointer, into: inout [UInt8]) -> Bool {  
    let result =  
        into.withUnsafeMutableBufferPointer(  
            { bufferPointer -> kern_return_t in  
                var outSize: mach_vm_size_t = 0  
                return mach_vm_read_overwrite(  
                    mach_task_self_,  
                    mach_vm_address_t(ptr),  
                    mach_vm_size_t(bufferPointer.count),  
                    mach_vm_address_t(bufferPointer.baseAddress),  
                    &outSize)  
            })  
    return result == KERN_SUCCESS  
}
```

How Much to Read?

Initial value: `MemoryLayout<T>.size`

Heap allocations: `malloc_size`

Code and Globals: scan with `dladdr`

Bonus: `dladdr` also gives names

Name Mangling

`_TFCs23_ContiguousArrayStorage32_getNonVerbatimBridgedHeapBufferfT_GVs11_HeapBufferSiPs9Any0bject__`

→ `swift-demangle` →

`Swift._ContiguousArrayStorage
._getNonVerbatimBridgedHeapBuffer () ->
Swift._HeapBuffer<Swift.Int,
Swift.AnyObject>`

Strings

Search for printable ASCII at least 4 characters long

```
let lowerBound: UInt8 = 32
let upperBound: UInt8 = 126

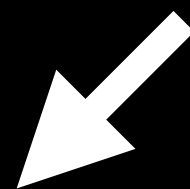
let pieces = buffer.split(whereSeparator:
    { !(lowerBound ... upperBound ~= $0) })
let sufficientlyLongPieces = pieces.filter(
    { $0.count >= 4 })
return sufficientlyLongPieces.map(
    { String(bytes: $0, encoding: .utf8)! })
```

Output

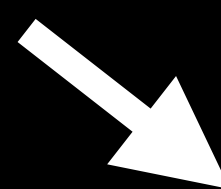
let x = ...



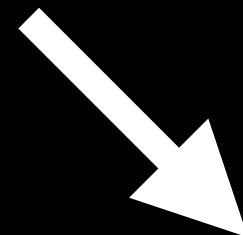
0102030405060708...



a80148fbc9a100e0...



0081ff63abccffff...

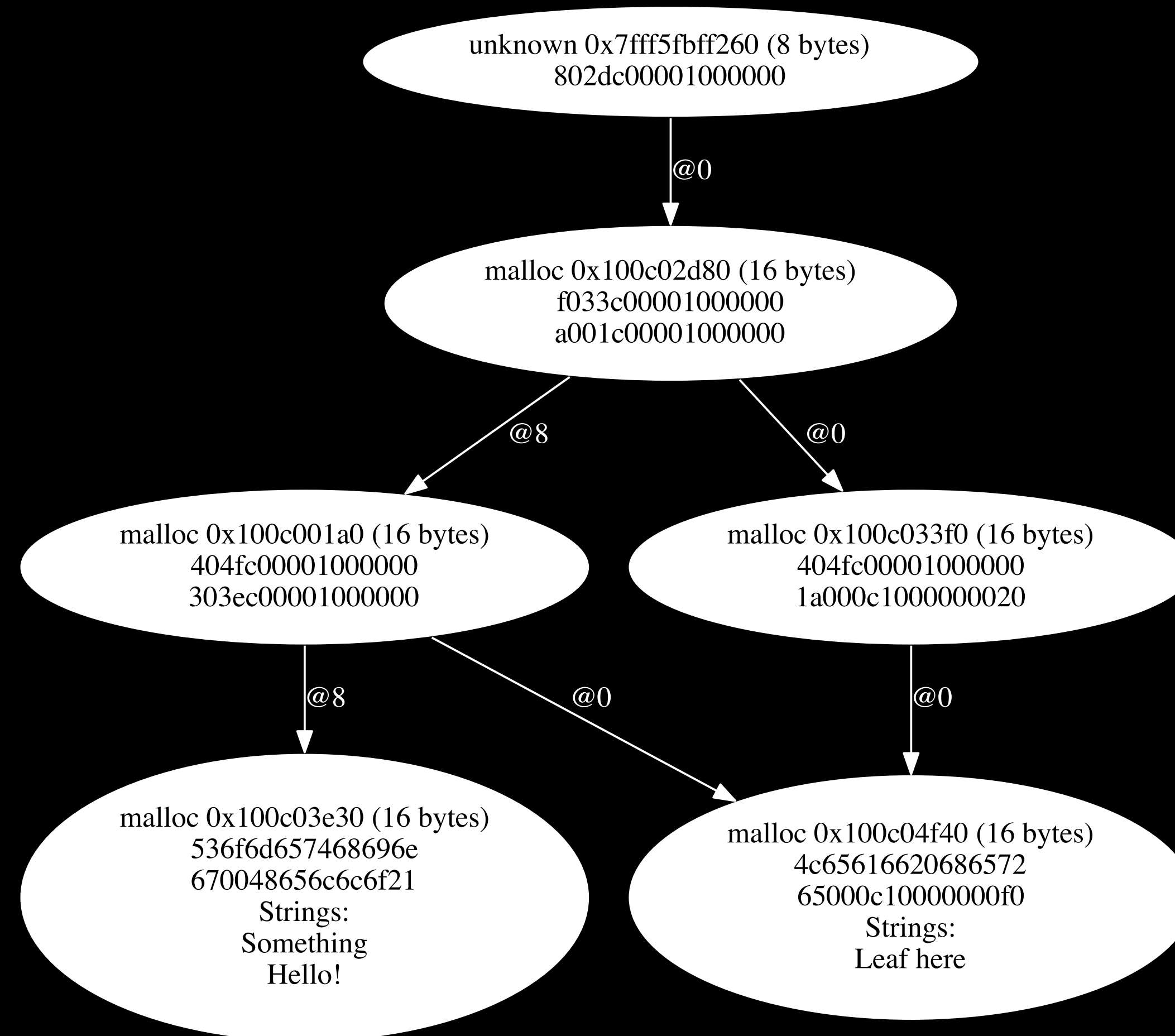


00001fff78abcfff...

Graphviz

```
_100c001a0 [label="malloc 0x100c001a0 (16 bytes)
404fc00001000000
303ec00001000000"]
_100c001a0 -> _100c04f40 [label="@0"]
_100c001a0 -> _100c03e30 [label="@8"]
_100c033f0 [label="malloc 0x100c033f0 (16 bytes)
404fc00001000000
1a000c1000000020"]
_100c033f0 -> _100c04f40 [label="@0"]
_100c03e30 [label="malloc 0x100c03e30 (16 bytes)
536f6d657468696e
670048656c6c6f21
Strings:
Something
Hello!"]
```

Output



Memory Layouts

- Arch-specific (these are x86-64)
- Swift stuff depends on the compiler version
- Offsets, sizes, contents, meaning subject to change
- Still useful for debugging, general knowledge of how things work

C structs

```
struct S {  
    long x;  
    long y;  
    long z;  
};  
S s = { 1, 2, 3 };
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff2a0 (24 bytes)

010000000000000000

020000000000000000

030000000000000000

C structs

```
struct WithPadding {
```

```
    char a;
```

```
    char b;
```

```
    char c;
```

```
    short d;
```

```
    char e;
```

```
    int f;
```

```
    char g;
```

```
    long h;
```

```
};
```

```
WithPadding withPadding =
```

```
    { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 };
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff288 (24 bytes)

0102030004000500

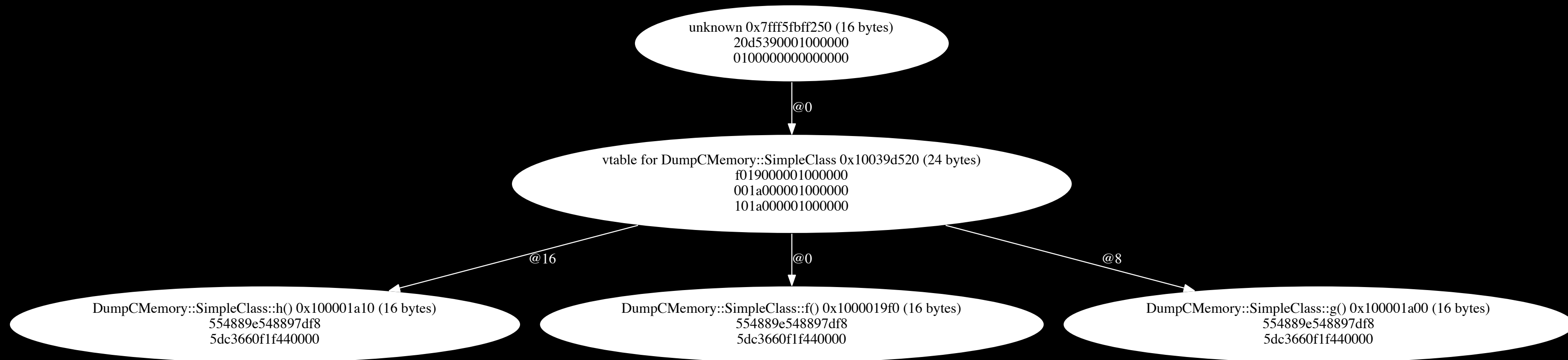
060000000007000000

080000000000000000

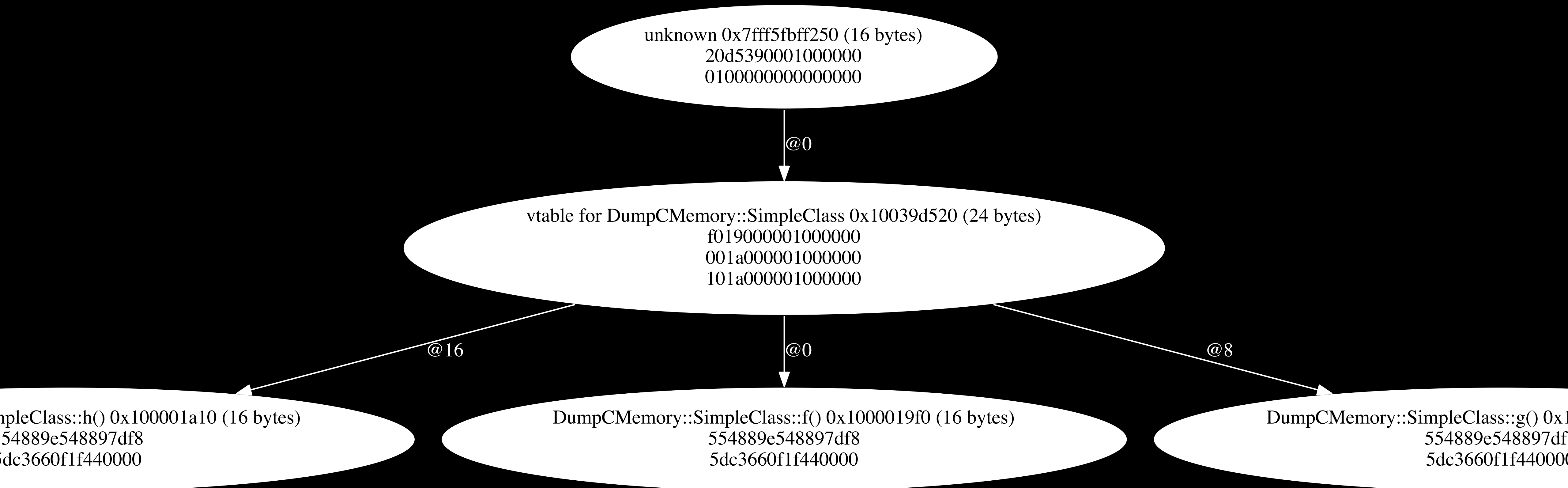
C++ classes

```
class SimpleClass {  
public:  
    long x;  
  
    virtual void f() {}  
    virtual void g() {}  
    virtual void h() {}  
};  
  
SimpleClass simpleClass;  
simpleClass.x = 1;
```

C++ classes



C++ classes

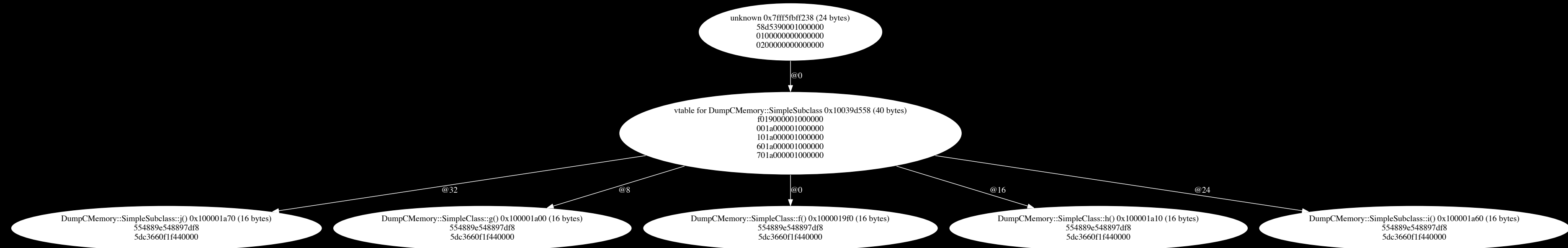


C++ classes

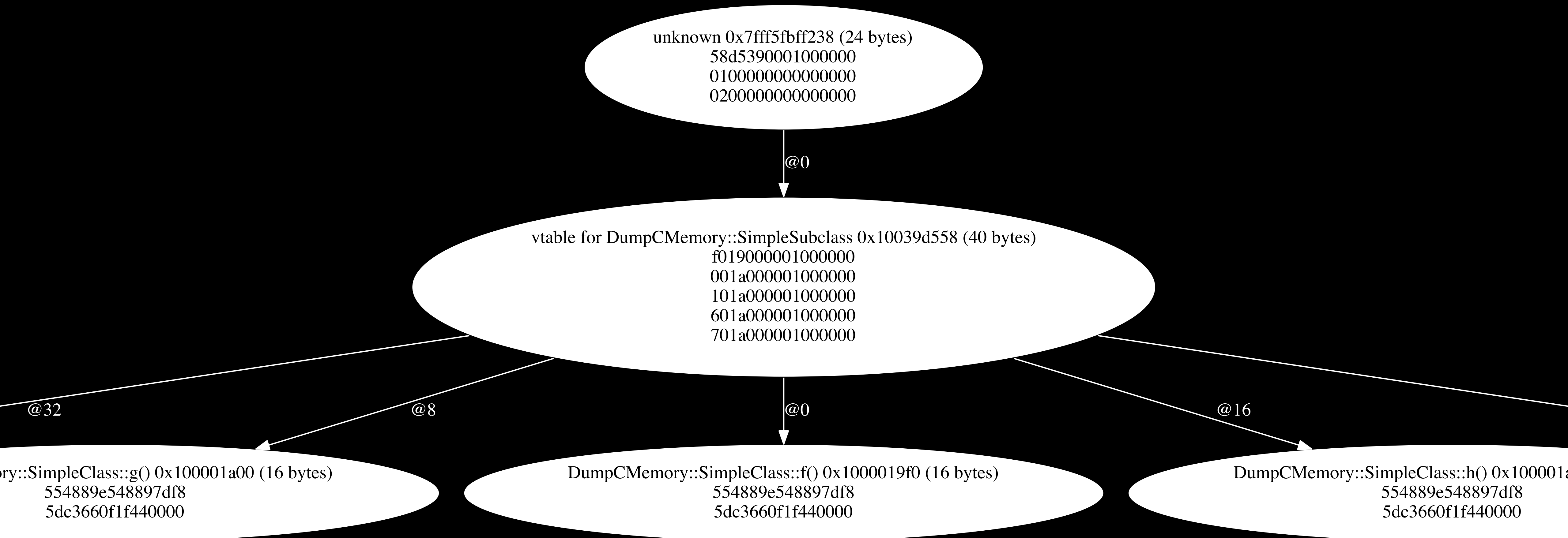
```
class SimpleSubclass: public SimpleClass {  
public:  
    long y;  
  
    virtual void i() {}  
    virtual void j() {}  
};
```

```
SimpleSubclass simpleSubclass;  
simpleSubclass.x = 1;  
simpleSubclass.y = 2;
```

C++ classes



C++ classes



C++ classes

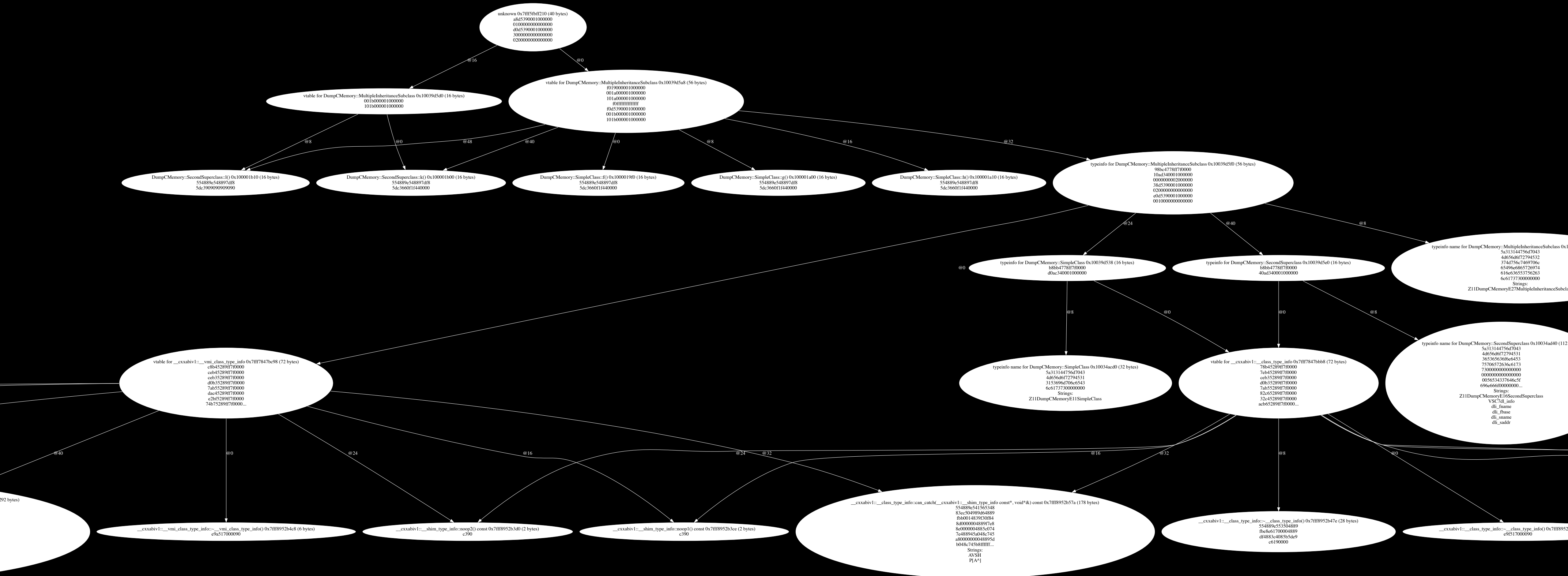
```
class SecondSuperclass {  
public:  
    long y;  
  
    virtual void k() {}  
    virtual void l() {}  
};
```

C++ classes

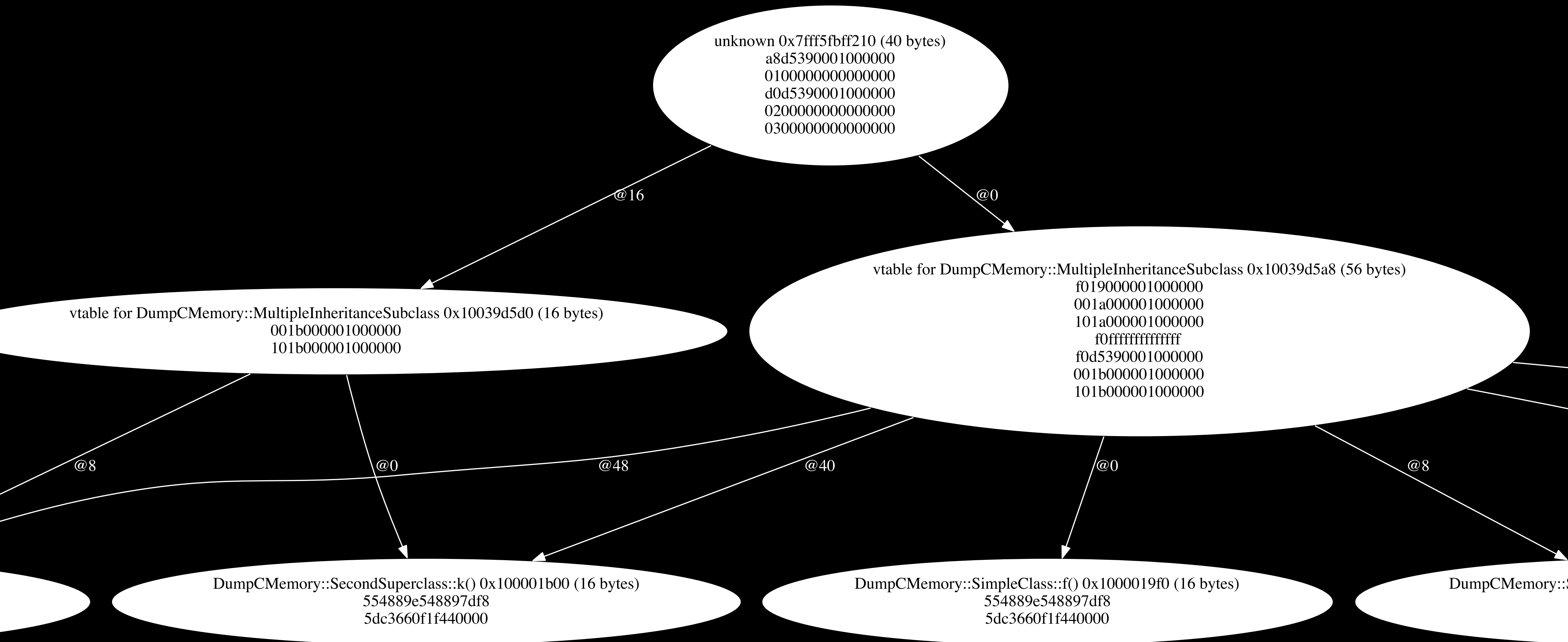
```
class MultipleInheritanceSubclass:  
    public SimpleClass, SecondSuperclass {  
public:  
    long z;  
};
```

```
MultipleInheritanceSubclass  
    multipleInheritanceSubclass;  
multipleInheritanceSubclass.x = 1;  
multipleInheritanceSubclass.y = 2;  
multipleInheritanceSubclass.z = 3;
```


C++ classes



C++ classes



Swift Types

```
struct EmptyStruct {}
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff2a0 (0 bytes)

Swift Types

```
struct SimpleStruct {  
    var x: Int = 1  
    var y: Int = 2  
    var z: Int = 3  
}
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff2a0 (24 bytes)

010000000000000000

020000000000000000

030000000000000000

Swift Types

```
struct StructWithPadding {  
    var a: UInt8 = 1  
    var b: UInt8 = 2  
    var c: UInt8 = 3  
    var d: UInt16 = 4  
    var e: UInt8 = 5  
    var f: UInt32 = 6  
    var g: UInt8 = 7  
    var h: UInt64 = 8  
}
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff2a0 (24 bytes)

0102035f04000500

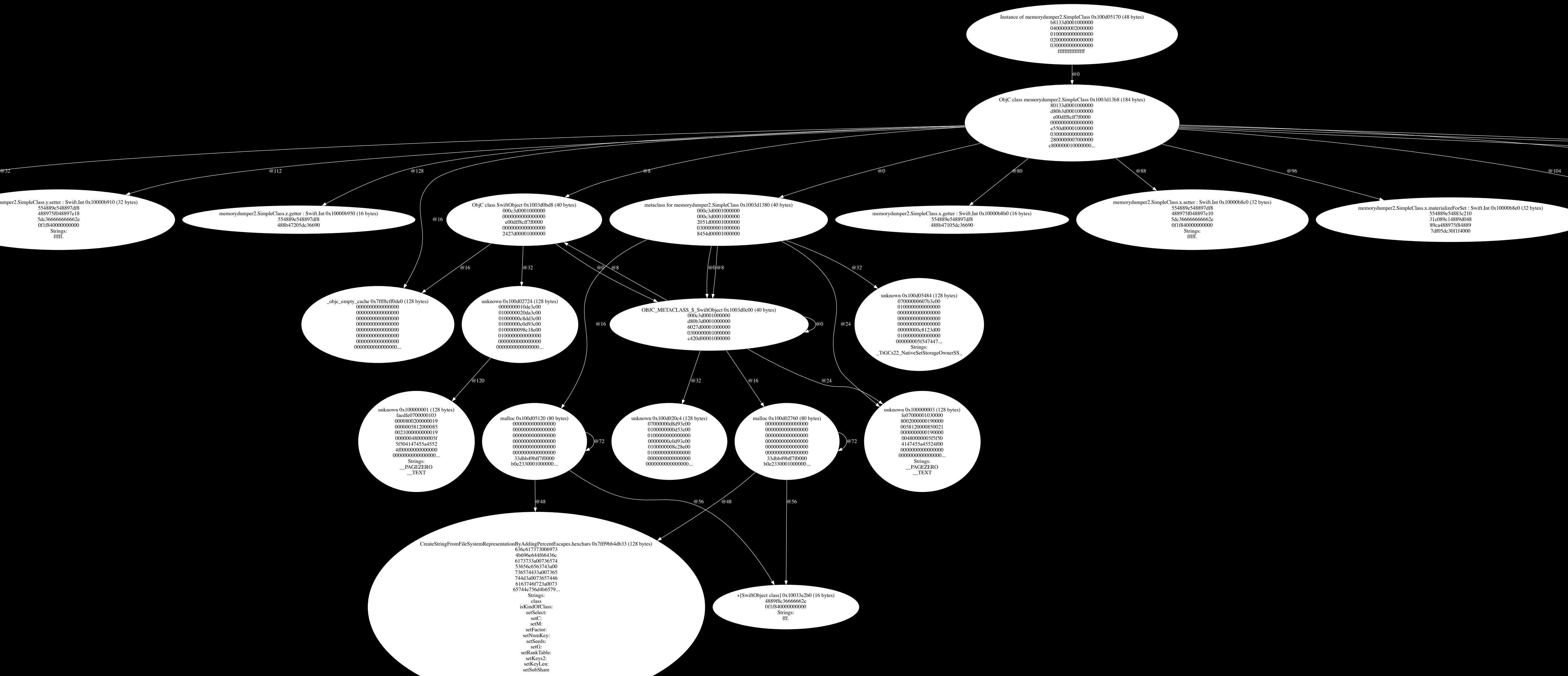
060000000077f0000

080000000000000000

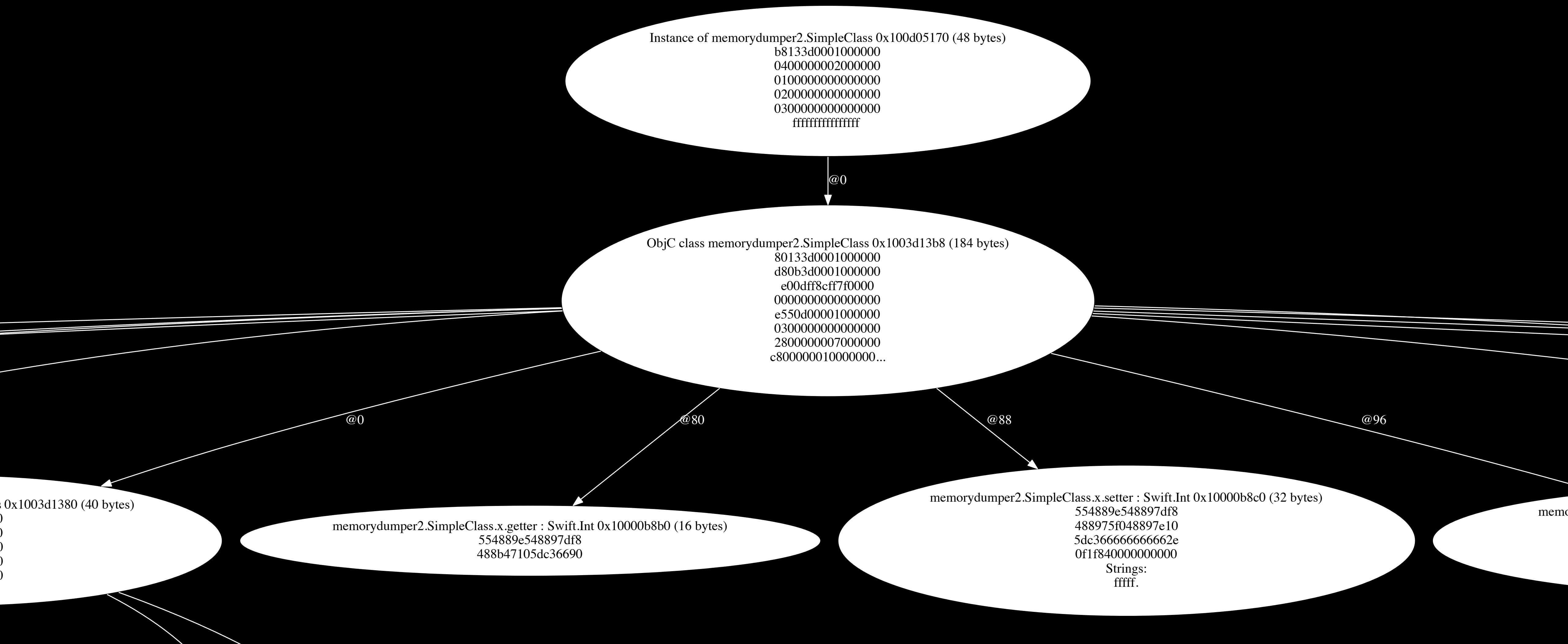
Swift Types

```
class SimpleClass {  
    var x: Int = 1  
    var y: Int = 2  
    var z: Int = 3  
}
```

Swift Types



Swift Types



Swift Types

```
class ClassWithPadding {  
    var a: UInt8 = 1  
    var b: UInt8 = 2  
    var c: UInt8 = 3  
    var d: UInt16 = 4  
    var e: UInt8 = 5  
    var f: UInt32 = 6  
    var g: UInt8 = 7  
    var h: UInt64 = 8  
}
```

Instance of memorydumper2.ClassWithPadding 0x101700c00 (48 bytes)

00063d0001000000
0400000002000000
0102030004000500
0600000007000000
0800000000000000
4f00171000000300

@0

ObjC class memorydumper2.ClassWithPadding 0x1003d0600 (344 bytes)

c8053d0001000000
30fd3c0001000000
e02d018aff7f0000
0000000000000000
950c700101000000
0300000000000000
2800000007000000
6801000010000000...

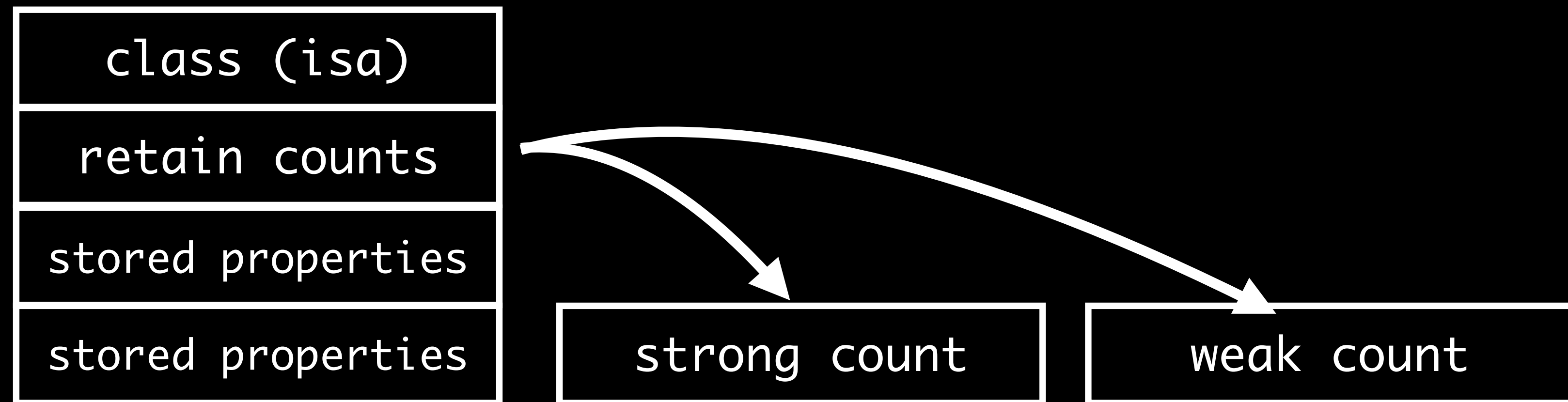
Swift Types

Object

class (isa)
retain counts
stored properties
stored properties

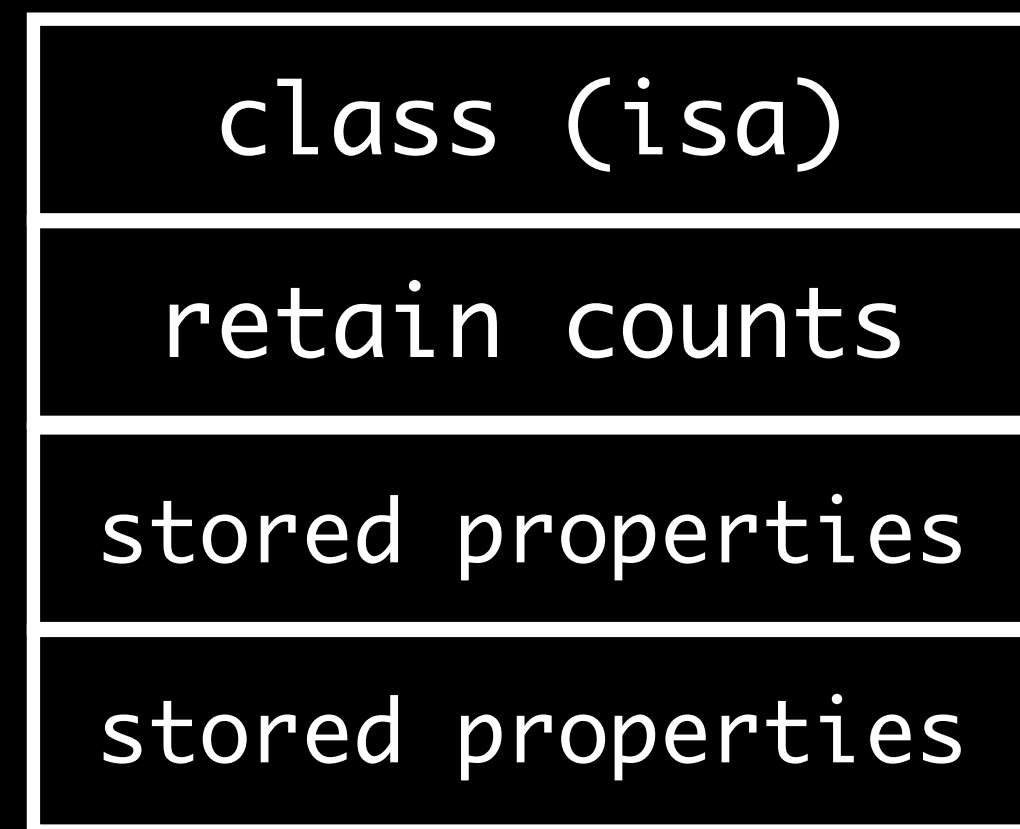
Swift Types

Object

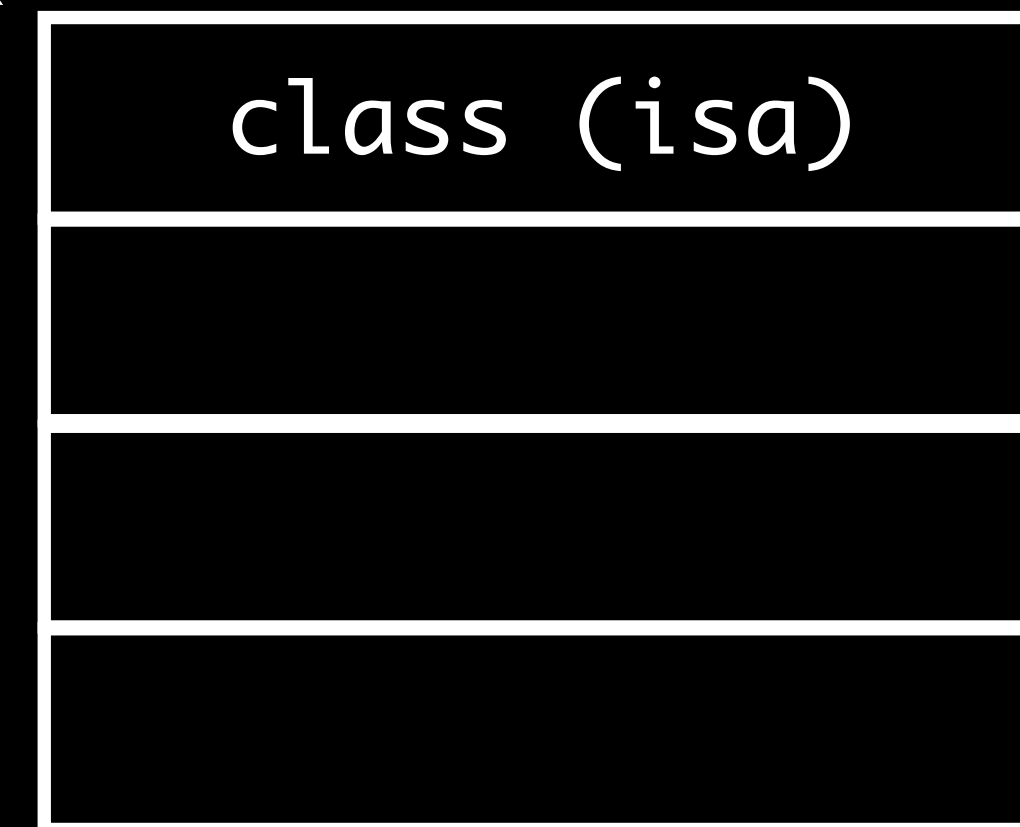


Swift Types

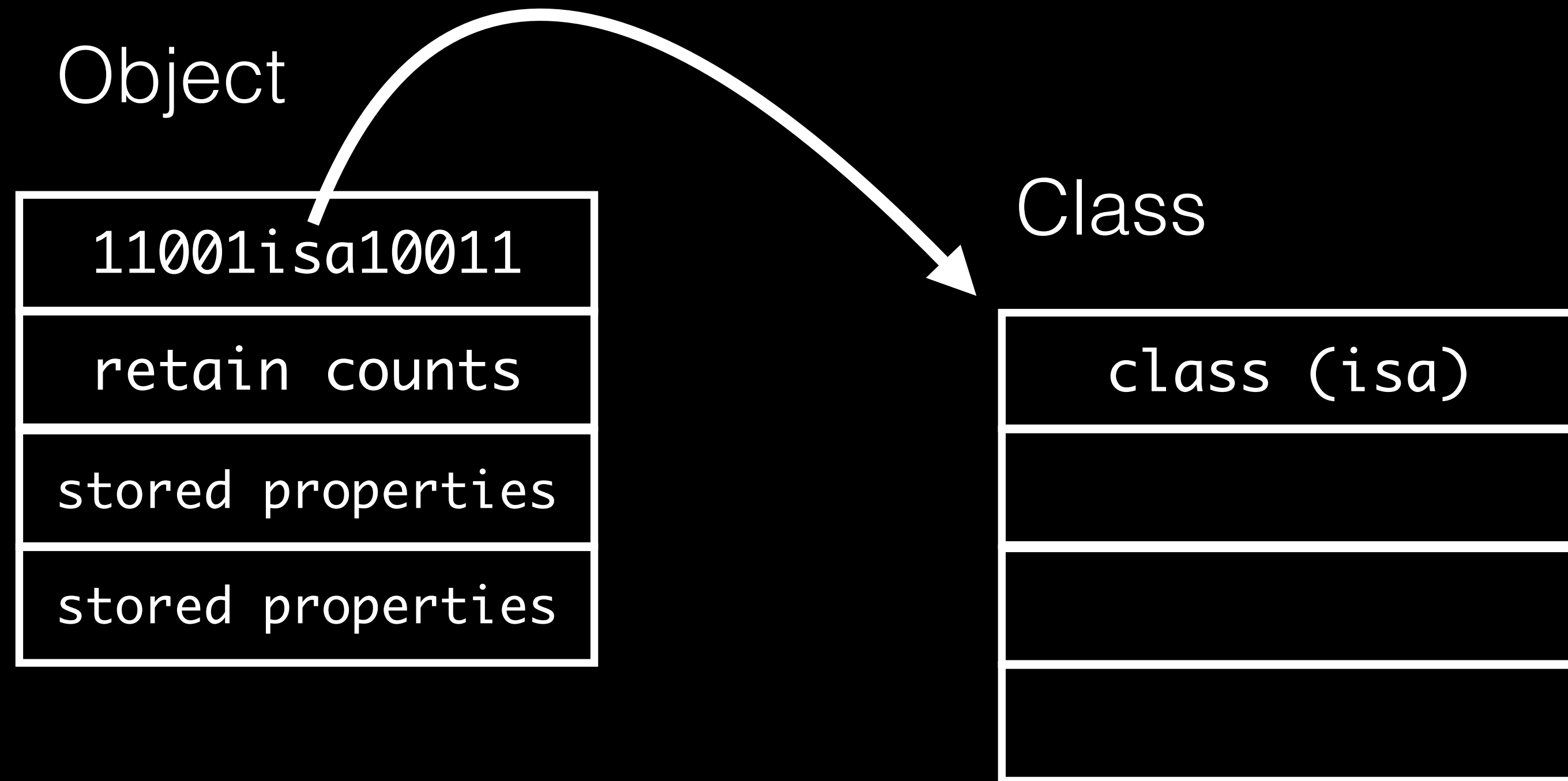
Object



Class



Swift Types



Objective-C Classes

<http://opensource.apple.com/source/objc4/>

`runtime.h`

Instance of memorydumper2.ClassWithPadding 0x101700c00 (48 bytes)

00063d0001000000
0400000002000000
0102030004000500
0600000007000000
0800000000000000
4f00171000000300

@0

ObjC class memorydumper2.ClassWithPadding 0x1003d0600 (344 bytes)

c8053d0001000000
30fd3c0001000000
e02d018aff7f0000
0000000000000000
950c700101000000
0300000000000000
2800000007000000
6801000010000000...

Objective-C Classes

```
Class isa
Class super_class
const char *name
long version
long info
long instance_size
struct objc_ivar_list *ivars
struct objc_method_list **methodLists
struct objc_cache *cache
struct objc_protocol_list *protocols
```

Swift Classes

```
uint32_t flags;  
uint32_t instanceAddressOffset;  
uint32_t instanceSize;  
uint16_t instanceAlignMask;  
uint16_t reserved;
```

```
uint32_t classSize;  
uint32_t classAddressOffset;  
void *description;
```


Swift Classes

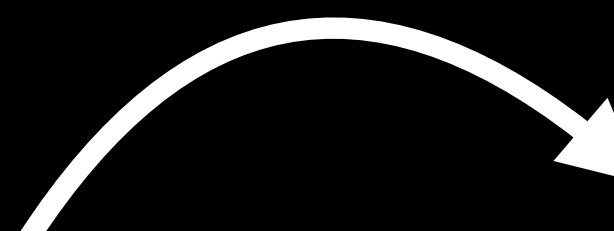
Class

class (isa)
...
...
Method 1
Method 2
Method 3
Method 4

Method Calls

`obj.method()`

```
class = obj->isa  
methodf = class[method_offset]  
methodf(obj)
```



class (isa)
...
...
Method 1
Method 2
Method 3
Method 4

Subclasses

```
class DeepClassSuper1 {  
    var a = 1  
}  
class DeepClassSuper2: DeepClassSuper1 {  
    var b = 2  
}  
class DeepClassSuper3: DeepClassSuper2 {  
    var c = 3  
}  
class DeepClass: DeepClassSuper3 {  
    var d = 4  
}
```

Subclasses

Instance of memorydumper2.DeepClass 0x101200c90 (48 bytes)

000a3d0001000000
0400000002000000
0100000000000000
0200000000000000
0300000000000000
0400000000000000

@0

ObjC class memorydumper2.DeepClass 0x1003d0a00 (216 bytes)

c8093d0001000000
10093d0001000000

Arrays

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Arrays

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

unknown 0x7fff5fbff280 (8 bytes)
5016500101000000

@0

Instance of Swift._ContiguousArrayStorage<Swift.Int> 0x101501650 (80 bytes)

40c31a0101000000
0800000002000000
0500000000000000
0a00000000000000
0100000000000000
0200000000000000
0300000000000000
0400000000000000...

@0

Protocols

```
protocol P {  
    func f()  
    func g()  
    func h()  
}
```

```
struct ProtocolHolder {  
    var a: P  
    var b: P  
    var c: P  
}
```

Protocols

```
struct StructSmallP: P {  
    func f() {}  
    func g() {}  
    func h() {}  
    var a = 0x6c6c616d73 // "small"  
}
```


Protocols

```
struct StructBigP: P {  
    func f() {}  
    func g() {}  
    func h() {}  
    var a = 0x656772616c // "large"  
    var b = 0x1010101010101010  
    var c = 0x2020202020202020  
    var d = 0x3030303030303030  
}
```

Protocols

```
struct ClassP: P {  
    func f() {}  
    func g() {}  
    func h() {}  
    var a = 0x7373616c63 // "class"  
    var b = 0x4040404040404040  
    var c = 0x5050505050505050  
    var d = 0x6060606060606060  
}
```

Protocols

```
let holder = ProtocolHolder(  
    a: StructSmallP(),  
    b: StructBigP(),  
    c: ClassP())
```

Protocols

malloc 0x10140c290 (120 bytes)

736d616c6c000000

0000000000000000

4700000000000000

50d2390001000000

60ca390001000000

10c3400101000000

45003f0001000000

ffffffffffffff...

Strings:

small

@72

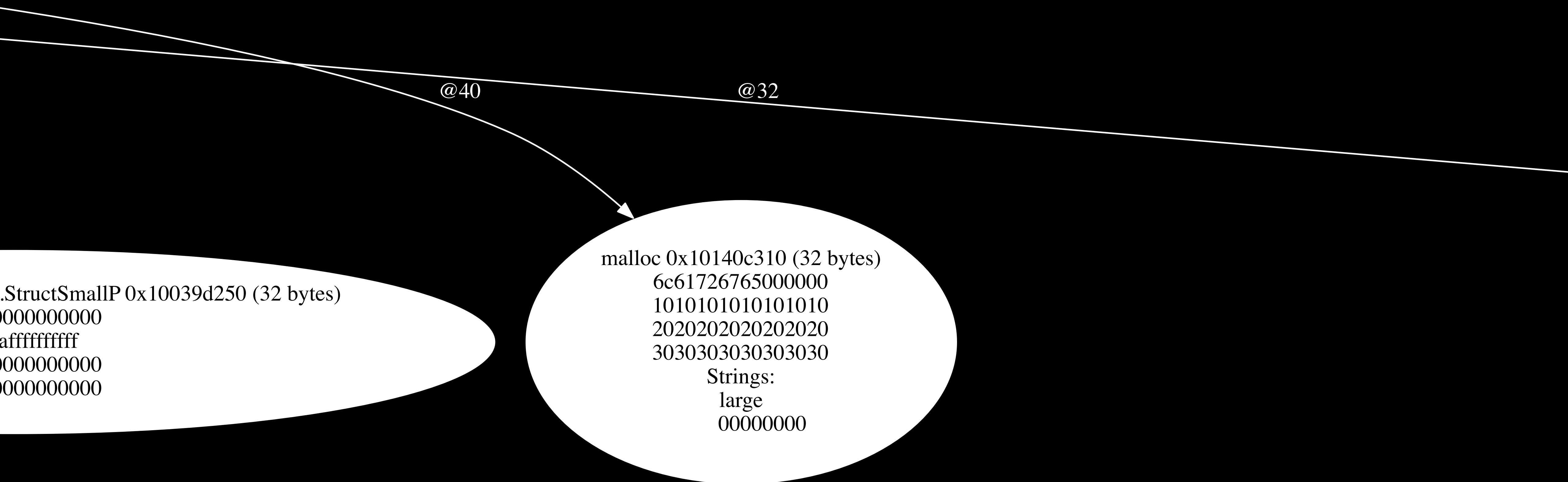
@80

@48

11 0 10140c290 (120 bytes)

gen

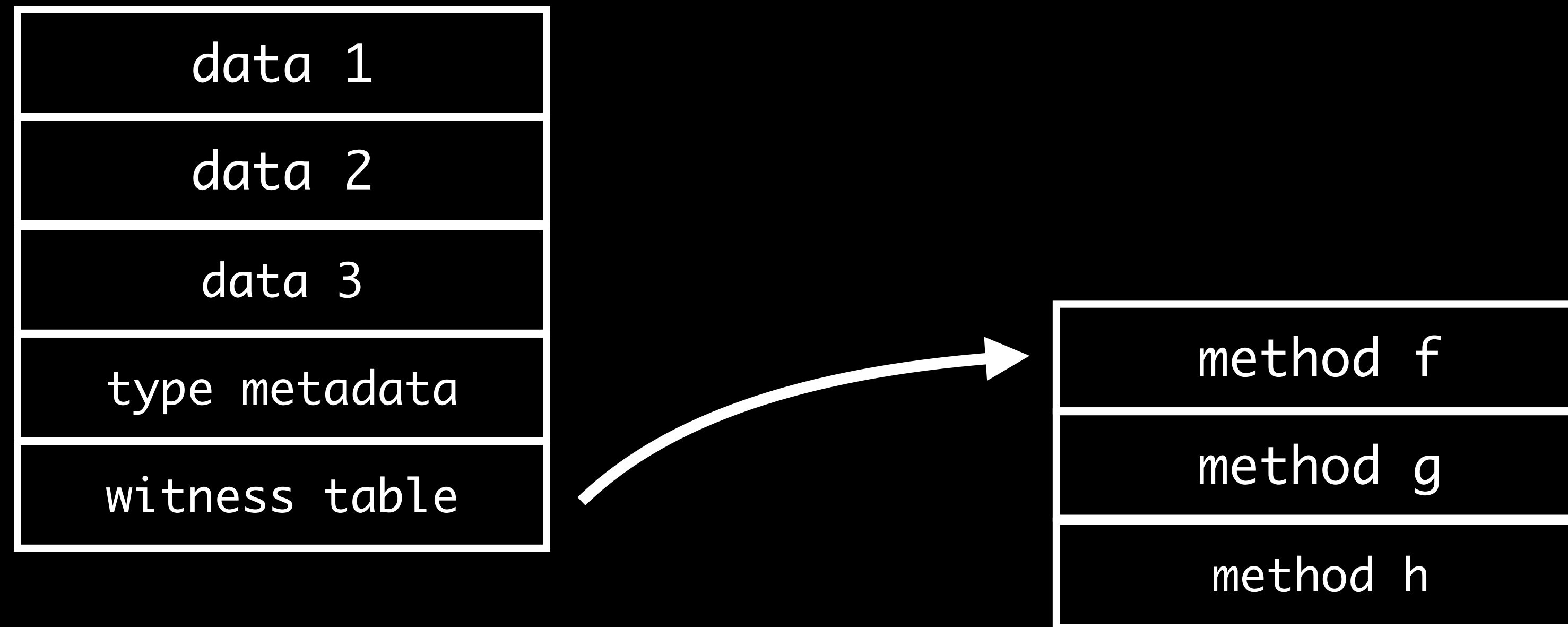
Protocols



Protocols

data 1
data 2
data 3
type metadata
witness table

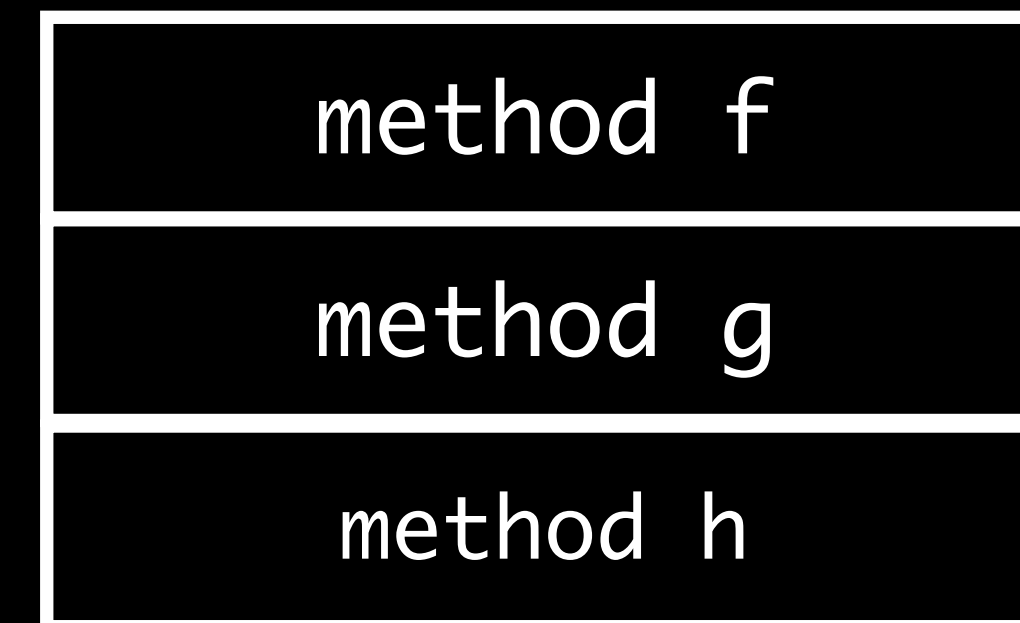
Protocols



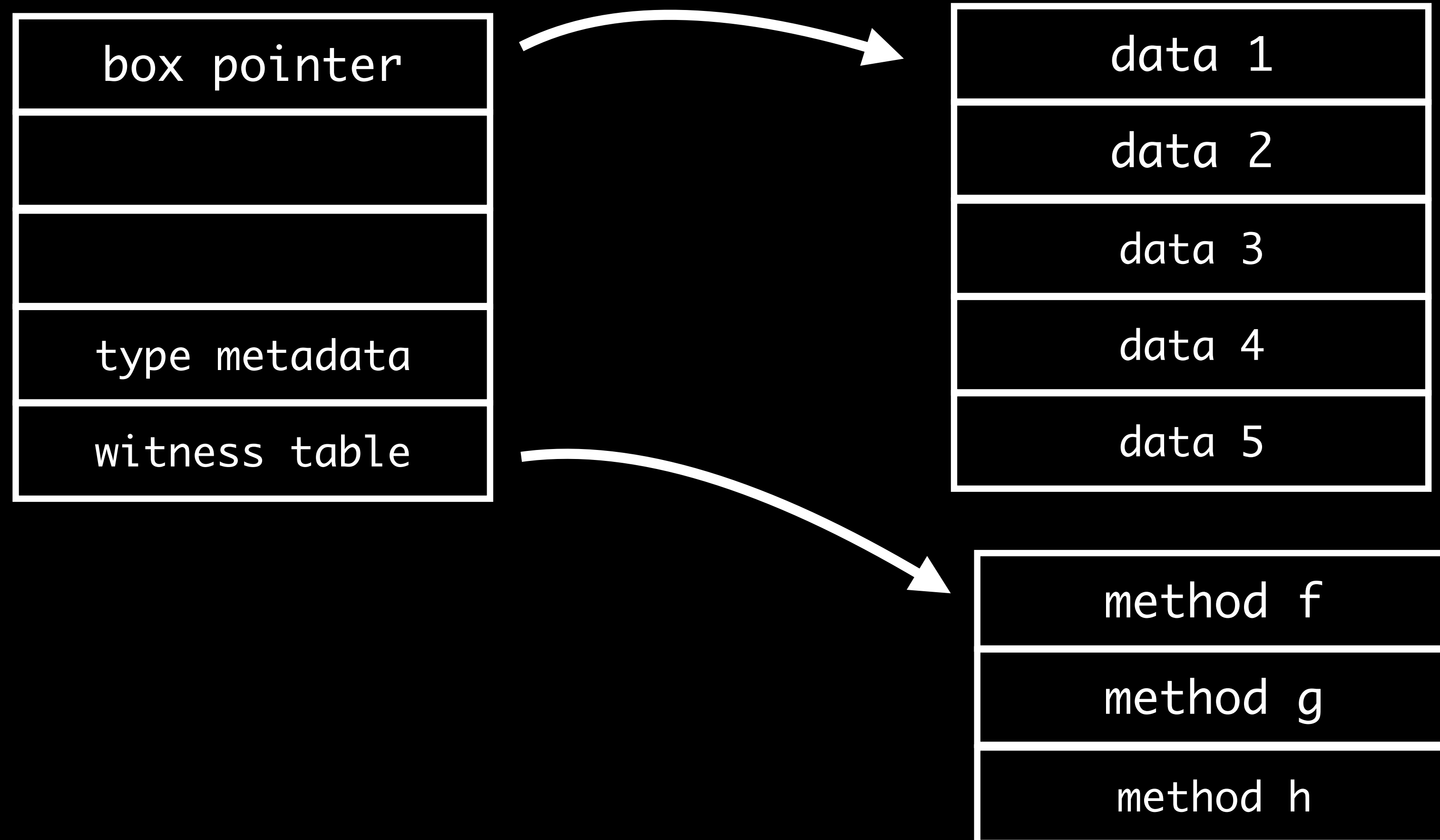
Protocol Method Call

```
let p: Protocol = ...  
p.g()
```

```
table = p[4]  
methodf = table[offset]  
methodf(p)
```



Protocols



Enums

```
enum SimpleEnum {  
    case A, B, C, D, E  
}  
  
struct SimpleEnumHolder {  
    var a: SimpleEnum  
    var b: SimpleEnum  
    var c: SimpleEnum  
    var d: SimpleEnum  
    var e: SimpleEnum  
}  
  
SimpleEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                 c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

Enums

```
enum SimpleEnum {  
    case A, B, C, D, E  
}  
struct SimpleEnumHolder {  
    var a: SimpleEnum  
    var b: SimpleEnum  
    var c: SimpleEnum  
    var d: SimpleEnum  
    var e: SimpleEnum  
}
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff250 (5 bytes)
0001020304

```
SimpleEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                 c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

Enums

```
enum IntRawVaLueEnum: Int {  
    case A = 1, B, C, D, E  
}  
struct IntRawVaLueEnumHolder {  
    var a: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var b: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var c: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var d: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var e: IntRawVaLueEnum  
}  
IntRawVaLueEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                      c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

Enums

```
enum IntRawVaLueEnum: Int {  
    case A = 1, B, C, D, E  
}
```

```
struct IntRawVaLueEnumHolder {  
    var a: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var b: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var c: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var d: IntRawVaLueEnum  
    var e: IntRawVaLueEnum  
}
```

```
IntRawVaLueEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                      c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff210 (5 bytes)
0001020304

Enums

```
enum StringRawValueEnum: String {  
    case A = "whatever", B, C, D, E  
}  
  
struct StringRawValueEnumHolder {  
    var a: StringRawValueEnum  
    var b: StringRawValueEnum  
    var c: StringRawValueEnum  
    var d: StringRawValueEnum  
    var e: StringRawValueEnum  
}  
  
StringRawValueEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                          c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

Enums

```
enum StringRawValueEnum: String {  
    case A = "whatever", B, C, D, E  
}
```

```
struct StringRawValueEnumHolder {  
    var a: StringRawValueEnum  
    var b: StringRawValueEnum  
    var c: StringRawValueEnum  
    var d: StringRawValueEnum  
    var e: StringRawValueEnum  
}
```

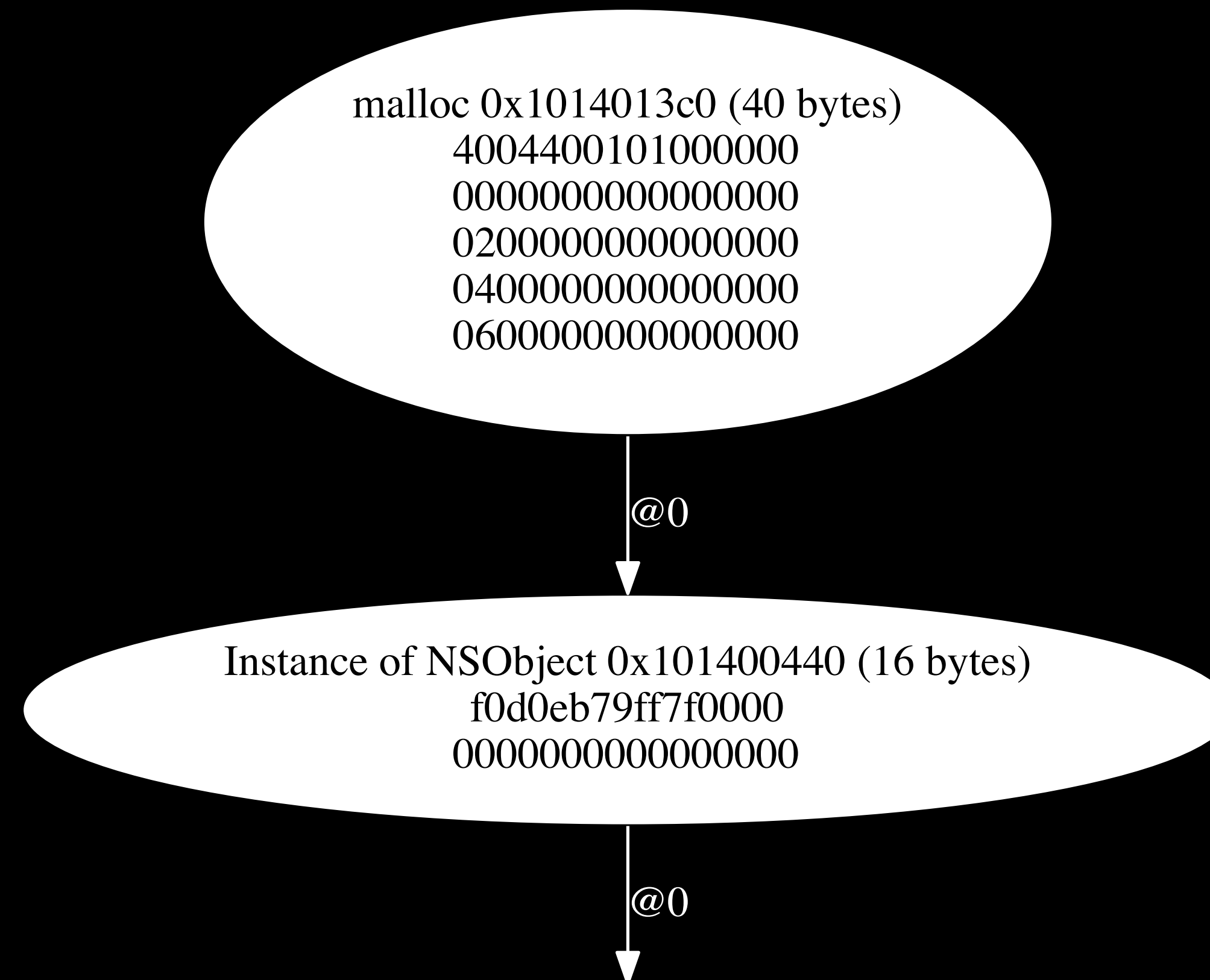
```
StringRawValueEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                          c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff1f0 (5 bytes)
0001020304

Enums

```
enum OneAssociatedObjectEnum {  
    case A(AnyObject)  
    case B, C, D, E  
}  
  
struct OneAssociatedObjectEnumHolder {  
    var a: OneAssociatedObjectEnum  
    var b: OneAssociatedObjectEnum  
    var c: OneAssociatedObjectEnum  
    var d: OneAssociatedObjectEnum  
    var e: OneAssociatedObjectEnum  
}  
  
OneAssociatedObjectEnumHolder(  
    a: .A(NSObject()),  
    b: .B, c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

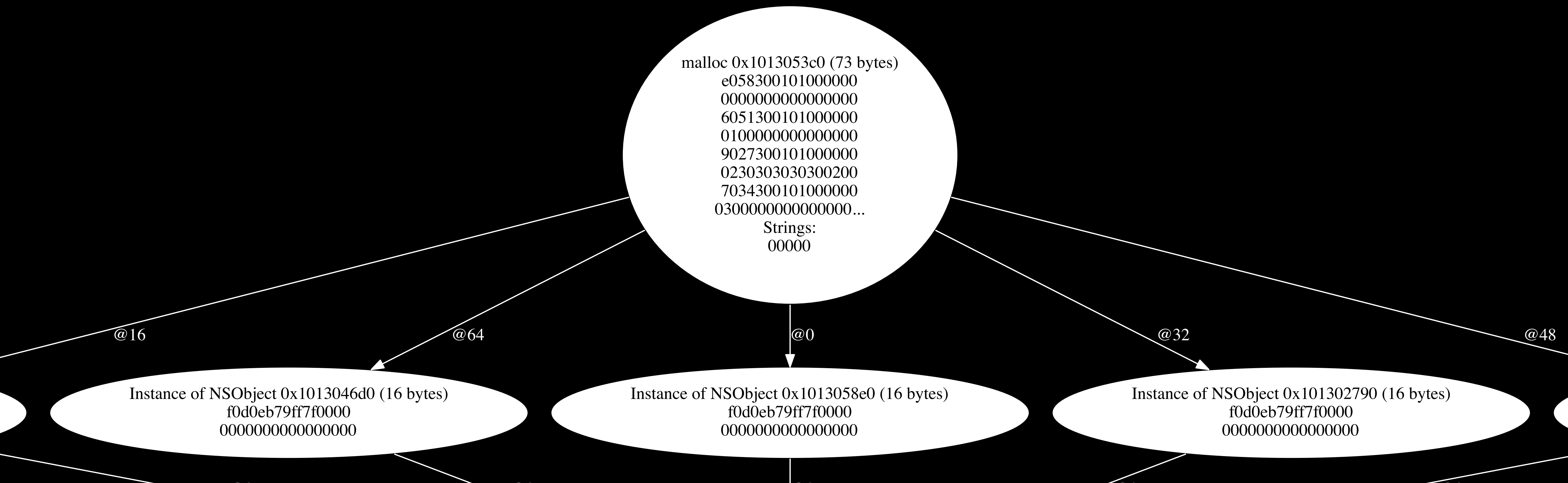

Enums



Enums

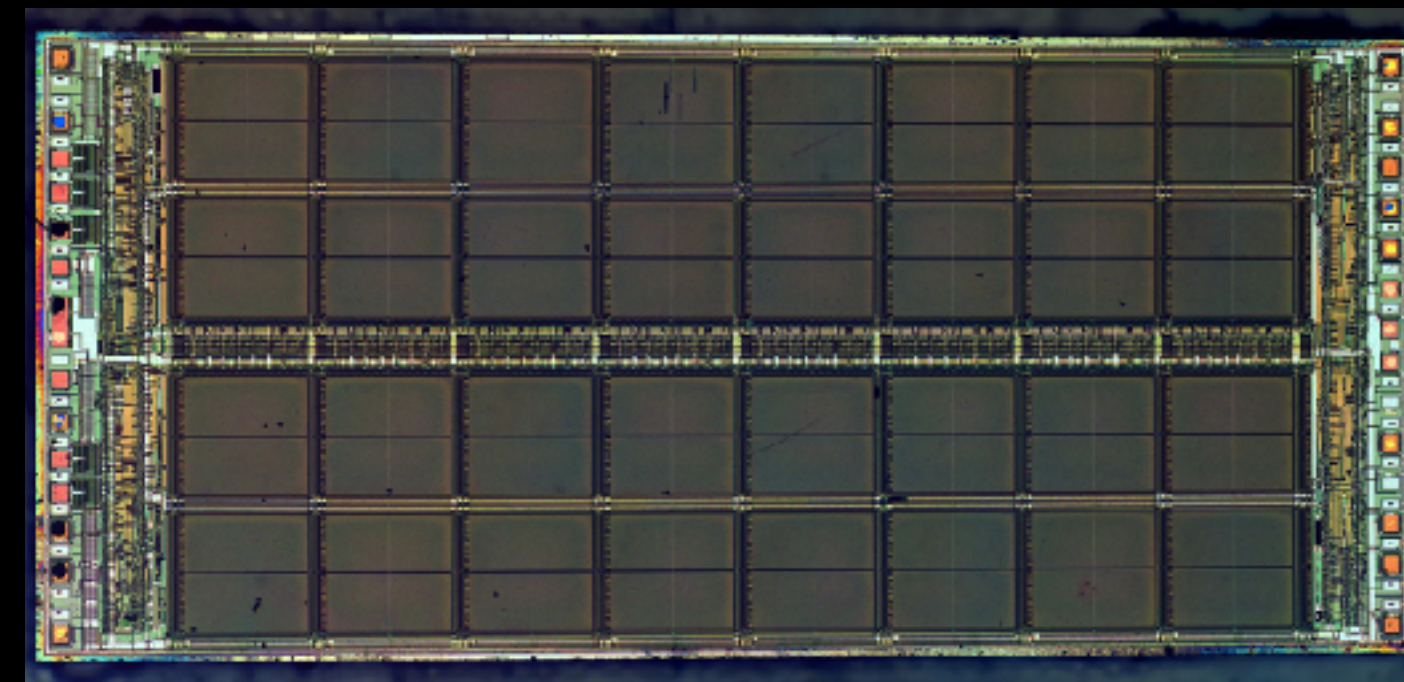
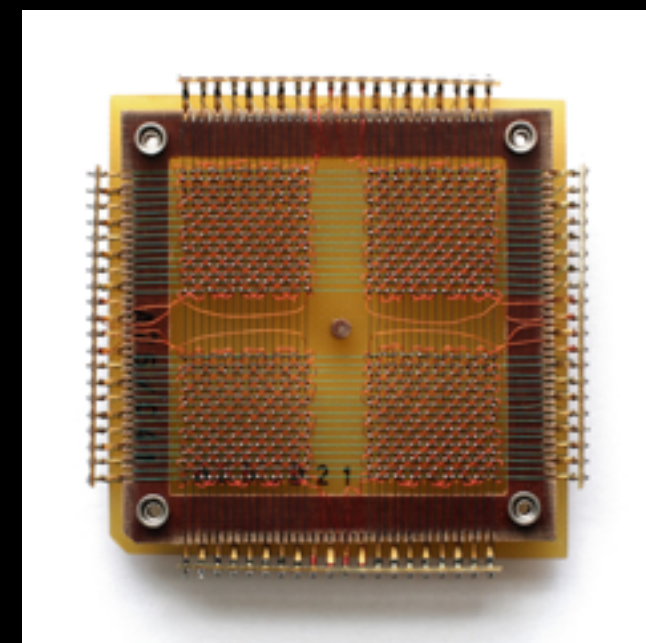
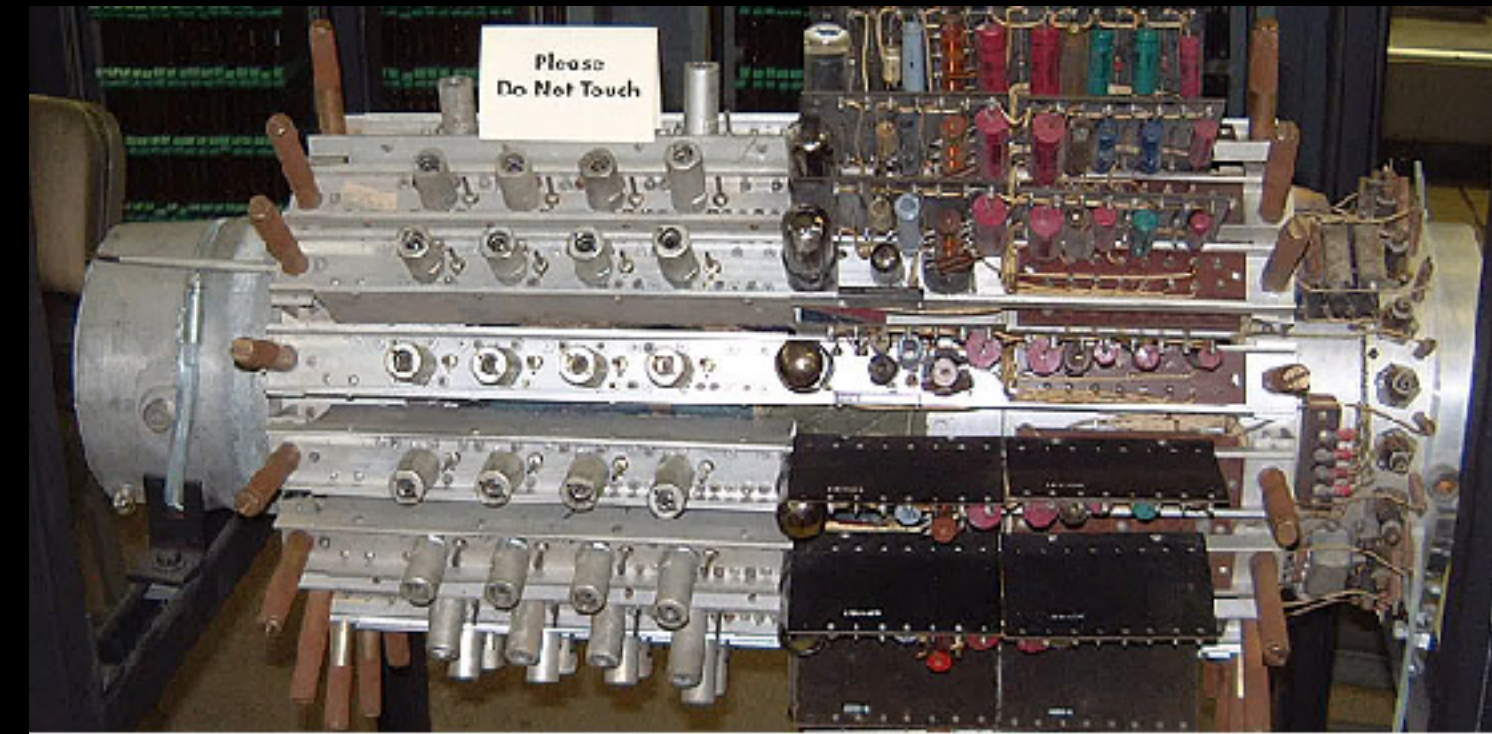
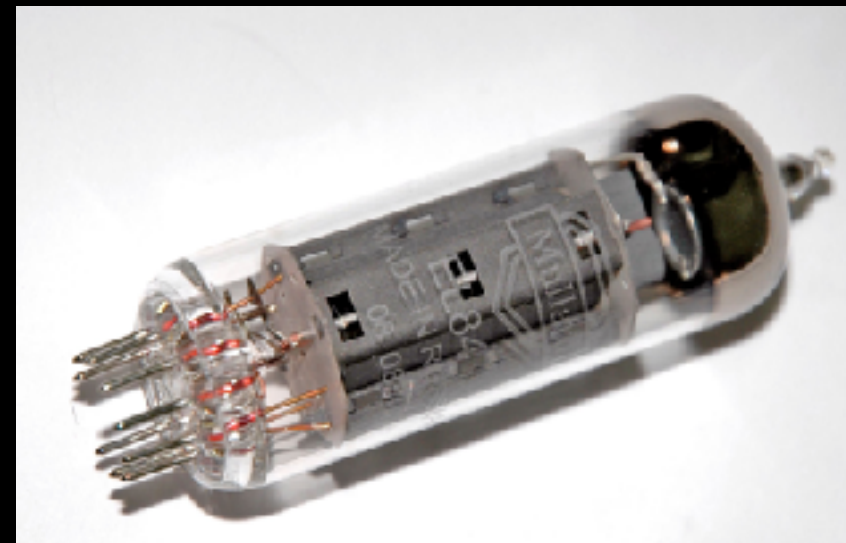
```
enum ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum {  
    case A(AnyObject)  
    case B(AnyObject)  
    case C(AnyObject)  
    case D(AnyObject)  
    case E(AnyObject)  
}  
struct ManyAssociatedObjectsEnumHolder {  
    var a: ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum  
    var b: ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum  
    var c: ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum  
    var d: ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum  
    var e: ManyAssociatedObjectsEnum  
}  
ManyAssociatedObjectsEnumHolder(  
    a: .A(NSObject()), b: .B(NSObject()),  
    c: .C(NSObject()), d: .D(NSObject()),  
    e: .E(NSObject()))
```

Enums



Wrapping Up

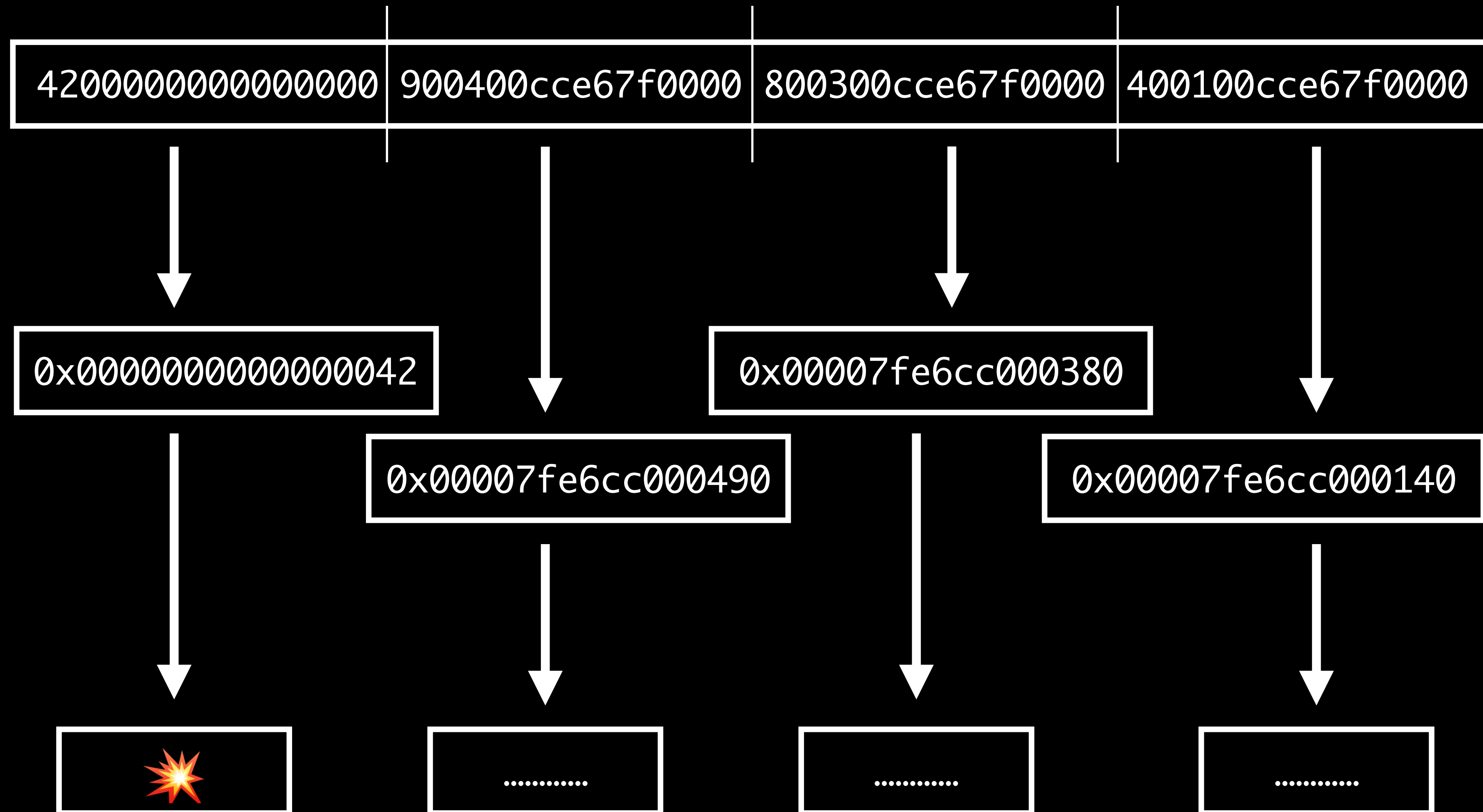
Wrapping Up



Wrapping Up

...	...
0000000100000000	01AA2C5EFF001101
0000000100000008	0000000000000000
0000000100000010	00000000000000FF
0000000100000018	A0F31C228A177013
...	...

Wrapping Up



Wrapping Up

```
struct WithPadding {  
    char a;  
    char b;  
    char c;  
    short d;  
    char e;  
    int f;  
    char g;  
    long h;  
};
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff288 (24 bytes)

0102030004000500

06000000007000000

08000000000000000

```
WithPadding withPadding =  
    { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 };
```


Wrapping Up

Object

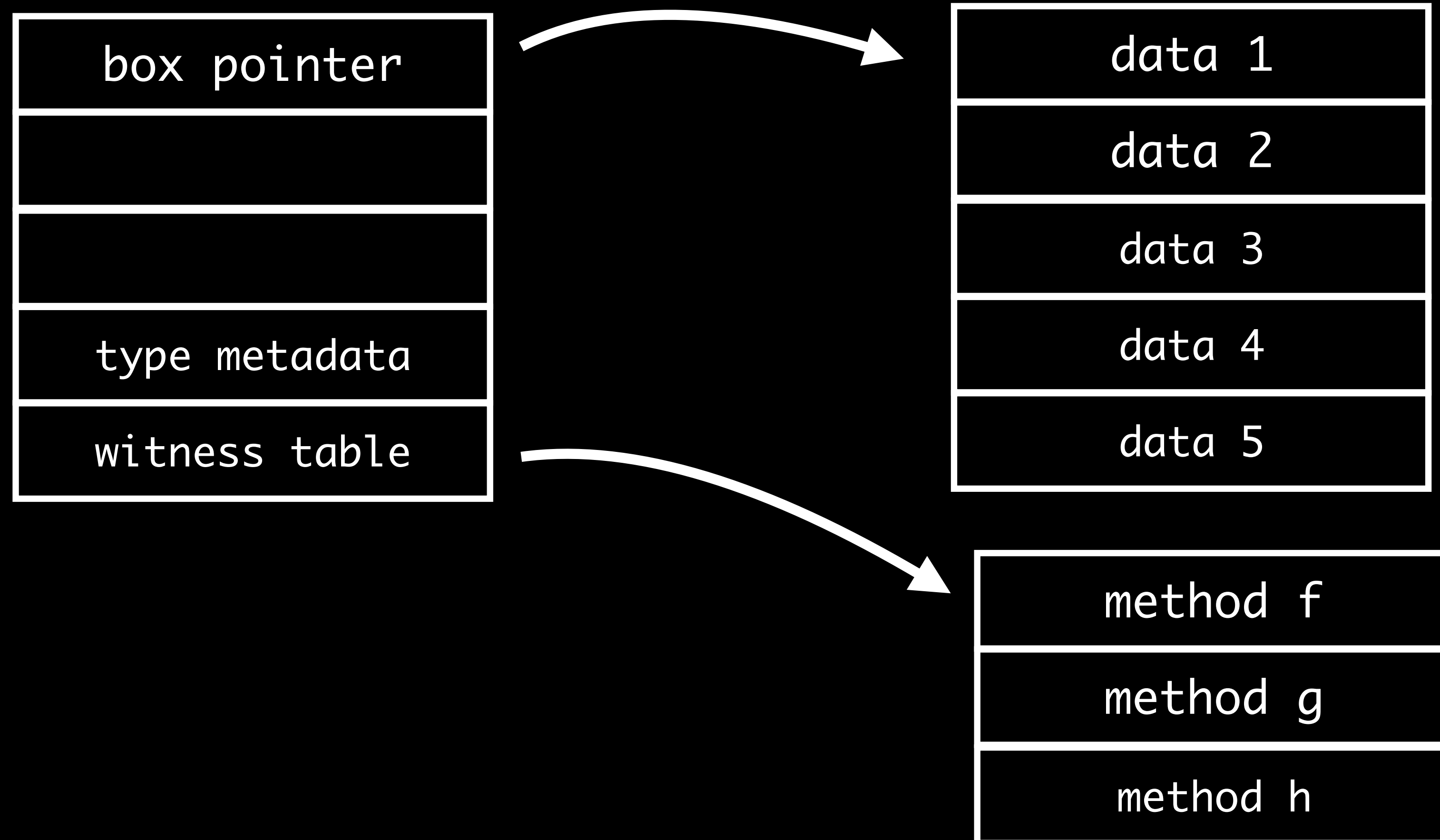
class (isa)
retain counts
stored properties
stored properties



Class

class (isa)

Wrapping Up



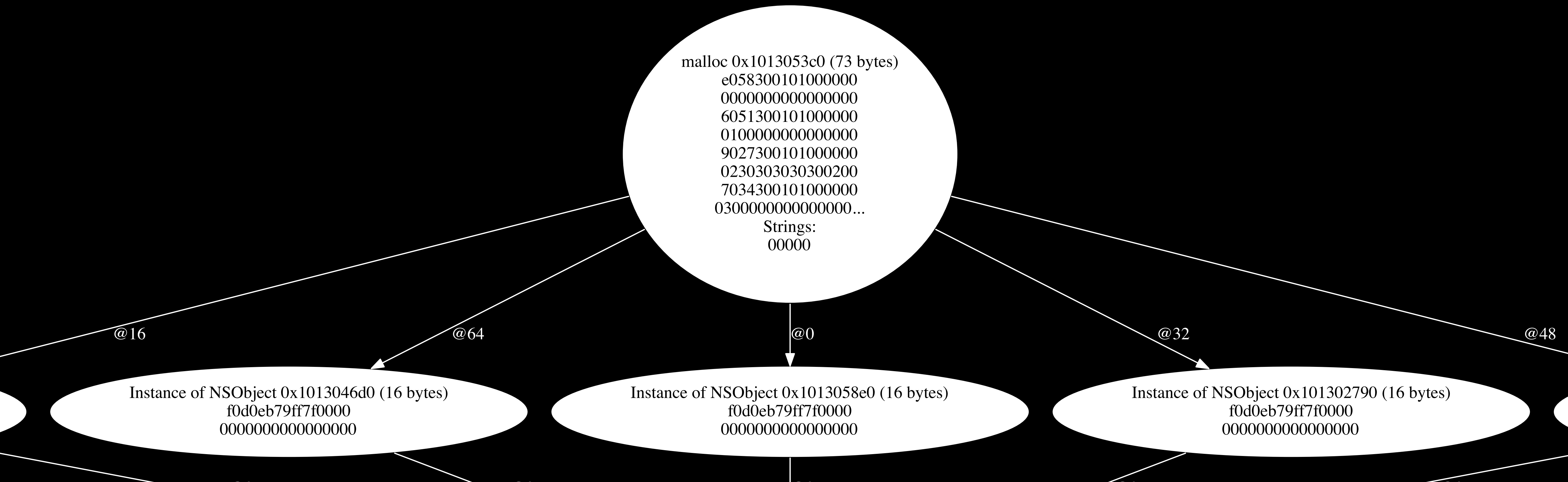
Wrapping Up

```
enum SimpleEnum {  
    case A, B, C, D, E  
}  
struct SimpleEnumHolder {  
    var a: SimpleEnum  
    var b: SimpleEnum  
    var c: SimpleEnum  
    var d: SimpleEnum  
    var e: SimpleEnum  
}
```

unknown 0x7fff5fbff250 (5 bytes)
0001020304

```
SimpleEnumHolder(a: .A, b: .B,  
                 c: .C, d: .D, e: .E)
```

Wrapping Up



Wrapping Up

- Data laid out linearly
- Padded for alignment
- Class instances have isa and refcounts first
- Protocol values have 3 words of inline data
- Larger data is boxed
- Dynamic method dispatch uses vtables
- Swift is powerful: all C-ish evil stuff available
- Can learn a lot by poking around

Wrapping Up





Please

**Remember to
rate this session**

Thank you!

