

Variables in C

- Integer types
 - char [default: unspecified!]
 - int [default: signed]
- Floating Point
 - float, double [always signed]
- Optional Modifiers for each base type
 - short [int]
 - long [int, double]
 - signed [char, int]
 - unsigned [char, int]
 - const: read only
- char type
 - One byte in a byte addressable memory
 - Signed vs Unsigned implementation dependent
 - Be careful char is unsigned on arm and signed on other HW like intel

C Data Type	AArch-32 contiguous Bytes	AArch-64 contiguous Bytes			
<pre>char (arm unsigned)</pre>	1	1			
short int	92hd2	2			
unsigned short int	9 hu2 0	2			
int	4 % 0	4			
unsigned int	4 9 u	4			
long int	% ld4.	8			
long long int	9.1180	8			
%ナー float	4	4			
glf double	1 8	8			
long double	15 lls	16			
pointer *	4	8			
9 12 ×					
word size is the size of the address (pointer)					

sizeof(): Variable Size (number of bytes) *Operator*

```
#include <stddef.h>
/* size_t type may vary by system but is always unsigned */
```

sizeof() operator returns a value of type size_t:

the number of bytes used to store a variable or variable type

size_t size = sizeof(variable_name); // preferred!

• The argument to sizeof() is often an expression:

```
size = sizeof(int * 10);
```

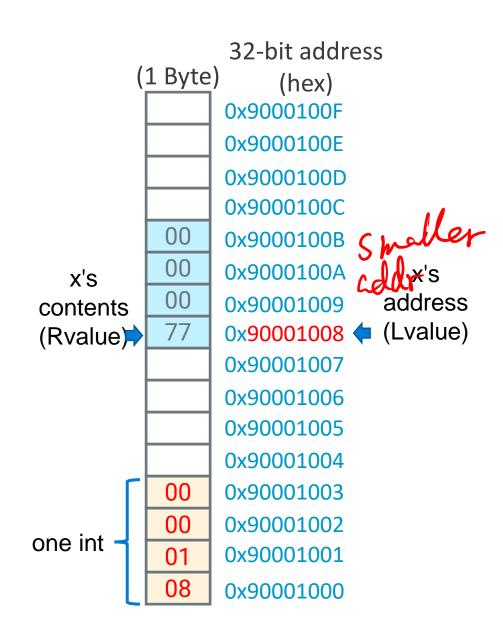
- reads as:
 - number of bytes required to store 10 integers (an array of [10])

Memory Addresses & Memory Content

```
Given int x, y; // 4 bytes on pi cluster

x = x; // Lvalue = Rvalue
```

- Variable name in a C statement evaluates to either:
 - Lvalue: when on the left side (Lside or Left value) of the = sign is the
 - address where it is stored in memory a constant
 - Address assigned to a variable cannot be changed at runtime
 - Rvalue: when on the right side (Rside or Right value)
 of an = sign is the
 - contents or value stored in the variable (at its memory address)
 - requires a memory read to obtain



Memory Addresses & Memory Content

- x on left side (**Lside**) of the assignment operator = evaluates to:
 - The address of the memory assigned to the x this is x's Lvalue
- y on right side (Rside) of the assignment operator = evaluates to:
 - READ the contents of the memory assigned to the variable y (type determines length number of bytes) this is y's Rvalue
- So x = y; is:

Read memory at y (Rvalue); write it to memory at x's address (Lvalue)

Introduction: Address Operator: &

- Unary *address operator* (&) produces the *address* of where an identifier is in memory
- Requirement: identifier must have a Lvalue
 - Cannot be used with constants (e.g., 12) or expressions (e.g., x + y)
 - &12 does not have an *Lvalue*, so &12 is **not** a legal expression
- How can I get an address for use on the Rside? Three ways:
 - &var (any variable identifier or name)
 - function_name (name of a function, not func());
 &funct_name is equivalent
 - array_name (name of the array like array_name[5]); &array_name is equivalent

Introduction: Address Operator: &

• Unary *address operator* (&) produces the *address* of where an identifier is in memory

• Example: this might print:

value of g is: 42

address of g is: 0x71a0a0

(the address will vary)

```
int g = 42;
int
main(void)
{
    printf("value of g is: %d\n", g): int t
    printf("address of g is: %p\n", &g);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

• *Tip*: printf() format specifier to display an address/pointer (in hex) is "%p"

- In C, there is a *variable type* for storing an address: a *pointer*
 - Contents of a pointer is an <u>unsigned</u> (0+, positive numbers) <u>memory address</u>
- When the Rside of a variable contains a memory address, (it evaluates to an address) the variable is called a pointer variable
- A pointer is defined by placing a star (or asterisk) (*) before the identifier (name)

type *name; // defines a pointer; name contains address of a variable of type

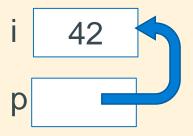
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type *name; // defines a pointer; name contains address of a variable of type

You also must specify the type of variable to which the pointer points

```
int i = 42;
int *p; /* p contains the address of an integer */
p = &i; /* p "points at" i (assign address of i to p) */
```





Recommended: be careful when defining multiple pointers on the same line:

```
int *p1, p2; is not the same as: int *p1, *p2;
```

```
Use instead: int *p1; int *p2;
```

- Pointers are typed! Why?
 - The compiler needs the size (sizeof()) of the data you are pointing at (number of bytes to access)
- A pointer definition:

```
int *p = &i; /* p points at i (assign address i to p) */
```

Is the same as writing the following definition and assignment statements

```
int *p;  /* p is defined (not initialized) */
p = &i;  /* p points at i (assign address i to p */
```

- The * is part of the definition of p and is not part of the variable name
 - The name of the variable is simply p, not *p
- C mostly ignores whitespace, so these three definitions are equivalent

 As with any variable, its value can be changed p = &j; /* p now points at j */ 42 p = &i; /* p now points at i */

Pointer variables all use the same amount of memory no matter what they
point at

```
int *iptr;
char *cptr;

printf("iptr(%u) cptr(%u)\n", sizeof(iptr), sizeof(cptr));
```

Above prints on a 32-raspberry pi iptr(4) cptr(4)

Introduction: Indirection (or dereference) Operator: *

- The *indirection operator* (*) or the *dereference operator to a variable* is the **inverse** of the *address operator* (&)
- address operator (&) can be thought of as:

"get the address of this box"

indirection operator (*) can be thought of as:

"follow the arrow to the next box and get its contents"

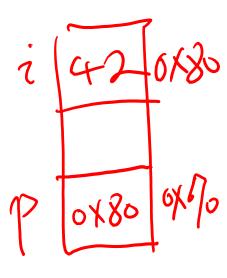
Introduction: Indirection (or dereference) Operator: *

Contents of **p** is the address of **i** (p points at i)

```
int i = 42;
int j = i;
int *p;
p = &i;

printf("*p is %d\n", *p);

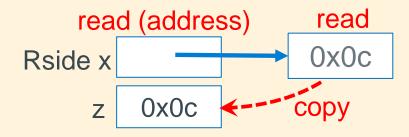
% ./a.out
*p is 42
```



Introduction: Indirection Operator Rside

- Performs the following steps when the * is on the Rside:
- 1. read the contents of the variable to get an address
- 2. read and return the contents at that address
 - (requires two reads of memory on the Rside)

z = *x; // copy the contents of memory pointed at by x to z

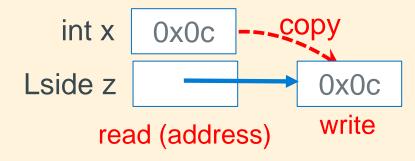


Introduction: Indirection Operator Lside

Performs the following steps when the * is on the Lside:

- 1. read the contents of the variable to get an address
- 2. write the evaluation of the Rside expression to that address
 - (requires one read of memory and one write of memory on the Lside)

*z = x; // copy the value of x to the memory pointed at by z

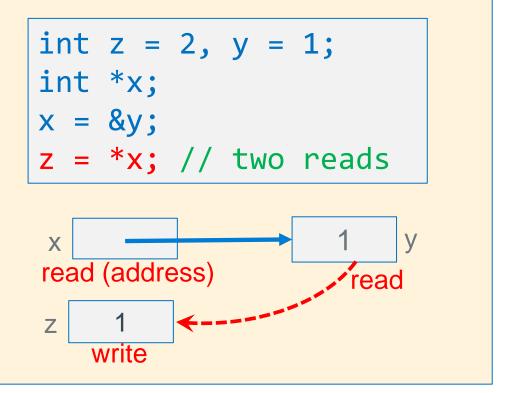


Each use of a * operator results in one additional read -1

Each * when used as a dereference operator in a statement (Lside and Rside) generates an <u>additional</u> read

```
int x = 2, y = 1;
x = y; // one read
```

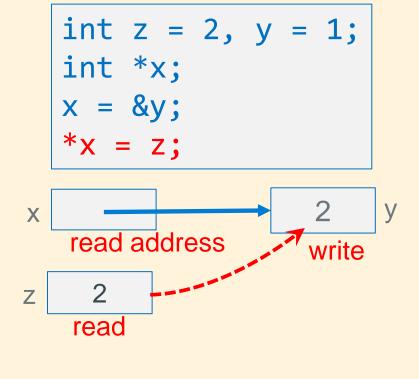


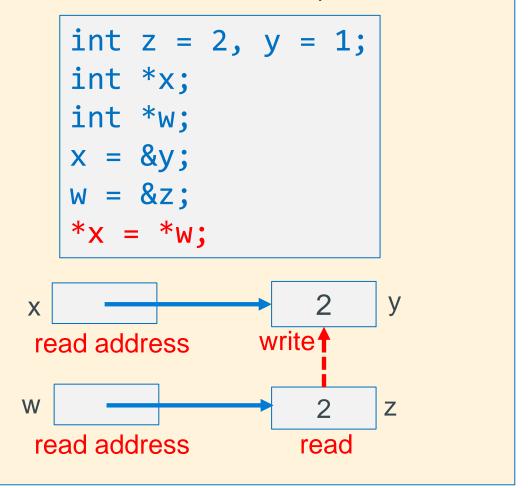


Each use of a * operator results in one additional read -2

• Each * when used as a dereference operator in a statement (Lside and

Rside) generates an <u>additional</u> read





Recap: Lside, Rside, Lvalue, Rvalue

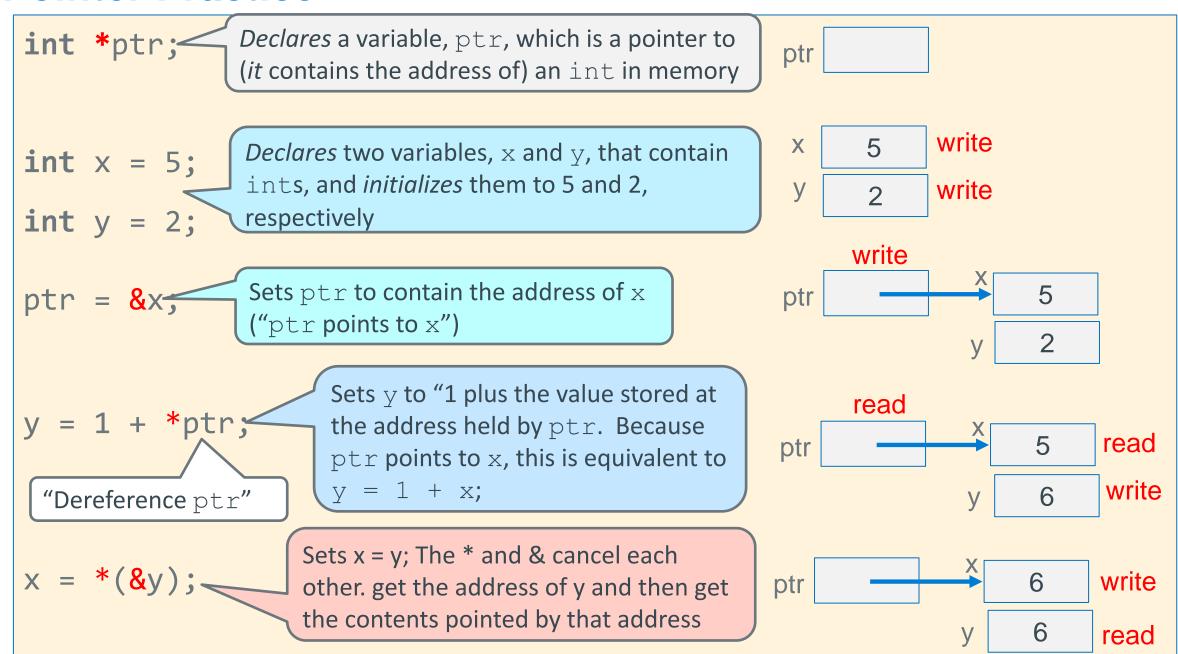
```
int x = 2, y = 1;
x = y;
```

```
int z = 2, y = 1;
int *x;
int *w;
x = &y;
w = &z;
*x = *w;
```

```
*x on Lside is 0x108
w on Rside is 0x100
*w on Rside is 2
```

Constant	Lvalue	Rvalue
Var Name	address	Contents
У	0x108	0x1 read
X	0x104	0x1 write
Constant	Lvalue	Rvalue
Var Name	address	Contents
X	0x10c	0x108 read (address)
У	0x108	0x2 write
Z	0x104	0x2 read
W	0x100	0x104 read (address)

Pointer Practice



The NULL Constant and Pointers

- NULL is a constant that evaluates to zero (0)
- You assign a pointer variable to contain NULL to indicate that the pointer does not point at anything
- A pointer variable with a value of NULL is called a "NULL pointer" (invalid address!)
- Memory location 0 (address is 0) is not a valid memory address in any C program
- Dereferencing NULL at runtime will cause a program fault (segmentation fault)!

Using the NULL Pointer

Many functions return NULL to indicate an error has occurred

```
/* these are all equivalent */
int *p = NULL;
int *p = (int *)0;  // cast 0 to a pointer type
int *p = (void *)0;  // automatically gets converted to the correct type
```

- NULL is considered "false" when used in a Boolean context
 - Remember: false expressions in C are defined to be zero or NULL
- The following two are equivalent (the second one is preferred for readability):

```
if (p) ...
if (p != NULL) ...
```

What is Aliasing?

- Two or more variables are aliases of each other when they all reference the same memory (so different names, same memory location)
- When one pointer is copied to another pointer it creates an alias
- Side effect: Changing one variables value (content) changes the value for other variables
 - Multiple variables all read and write the <u>same</u> memory location
 - Aliases occur either by accident (coding errors) or deliberate (careful: readability)

```
int i = 5;
int *p;
int *q;
p = &i;

q = p;  // *p & *q are aliases
*q = 4;  // changes i
```



Result *p, *q and i all have the value of 4

Defining Arrays

Definition: type name[count]

- efinition: type name[count] int Δηγ(η);

 "Compound" data type where each value in an array is an element of type
- Allocates name with a fixed count array elements of type type
- Allocates (count * sizeof(type)) bytes of contiguous memory
- Common usage is to specify a compile-time constant for count

```
BSZ is a macro replaced by the C
#define BSZ
                         preprocessor at compile time
int b[BSZ];
```

int n;

p. 0x5000

int b[6];

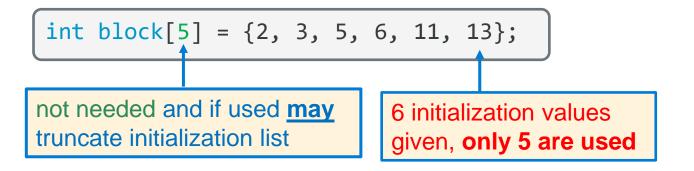
 Array names are constants and cannot be assigned (the name cannot appear on the Lside by itself)

```
a = b;  // invalid does not copy the array
           // copy arrays element by element
```

(int = 4 bytes)high memory ?? address 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 9020 b[5] ?? 9016 ?? b[4] ?? 9012 b[3] 9008 ?? b[2] ?? 9004 b[1] 9000 ?? b[0]

Array Initialization

- Initialization: type name[count] = {val0,...,valN};
 - { } (optional) initialization list can only be used at time of definition
 - If no count supplied, count is determined by compiler using the number of array initializers no initialization values given; then elements are initialized to 0
 - int block[20] = {\}; //only works with constant size arrays
 - defines an array of 20 integers each element filled with zeros
 - Performance comment: do not zero automatic arrays unless really needed!
 - When a **count** is given:
 - extra initialization values are ignored
 - missing initialization values are set to zero



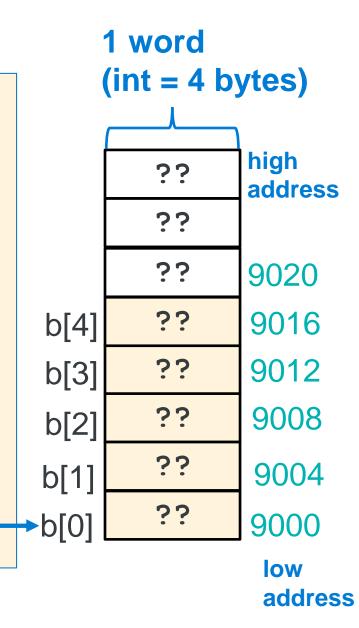
1 word (int = 4 bytes)high 33 address 33 33 33 33 33 33 33 90020 33 b[5] 90016 11 b[4] 6 90012 b[3] 5 90008 b[2] 3 90004 b[1] 90000 b[0] low address

Accessing Arrays Using Indexing

- name [index] selects the index element of the array
 index should be unsigned
 Elements range from: 0 to count 1 (int x[count];)
- Array name (by itself with no []) on the Rside evaluates to the address of the first element of the array

9000

```
int b[5];
int *p = b;
```



How many elements are in an array?

- The number of elements of space allocated to an array (called element count) and indirectly the total size in bytes of an array is not stored anywhere!!!!!!
- An array name is just the address of the first element in a block of contiguous memory
 - So an array does not know its own size!

```
1 word
    (int = 4 bytes)
                 high
                 memory
         33
                 address
         33
         33
         33
         33
         33
         33
         33
                 90020
b[5]
         33
                 90016
         33
b[4]
                 90012
         33
b[3]
                 90008
         33
b[2]
                 90004
         ??
b[1]
                 90000
         ??
b[0]
```

int b[6];

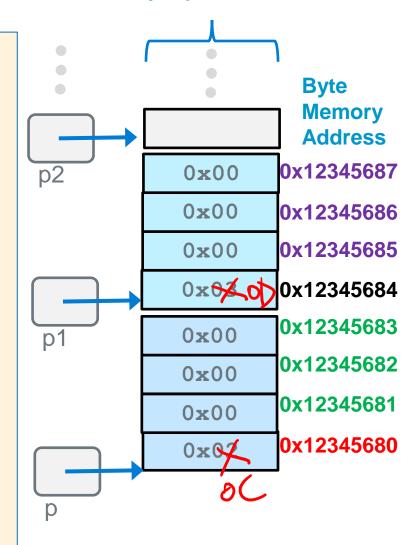
Determining Element Count for a compiler calculated array

- Programmatically determining the element count in a compiler calculated array
 sizeof(array) / sizeof(of just one element in the array)
- sizeof(array) only works when used in the SAME scope as where the array variable was defined

Pointer and Arrays - 1

- A few slides back we stated: Array name (by itself) on the Rside evaluates to the address of the first element of the array int buf[] = {2, 3, 5, 6, 11};
- Array indexing syntax ([]) an operator that performs pointer arithmetic
- buf and &buf[0] on the Rside are equivalent, both evaluate to the address of the first array element

1 byte Memory Content One byte per row



Pointer and Arrays - 2

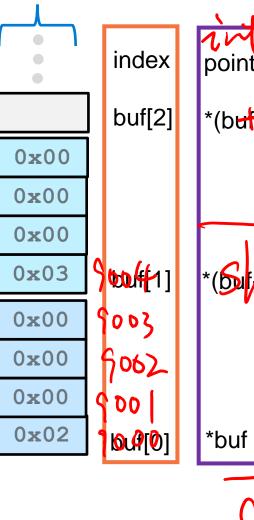
When p is a pointer, the actual value of (p+1) depends on the type that pointer p points at

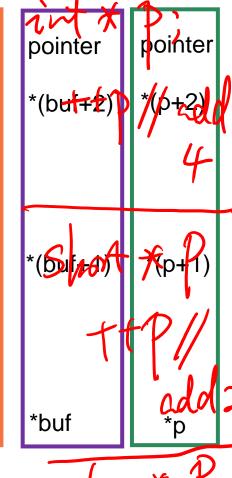
- (p+1) adds 1 x sizeof(what p points at) bytes to p
 - ++p is equivalent to p = p + 1
- Using pointer arithmetic to find array elements:
 - Address of the second element &buf[1] is (buf + 1)
 - It can be referenced as * (buf + 1) or buf[1]

```
int buf[] = {2, 3, 5, 6, 11};
int *p;
p = buf;

*p = *p + 10;
*(p + 1) = *(p + 1) + 10; // {12, 13, 5, 6, 11}
```

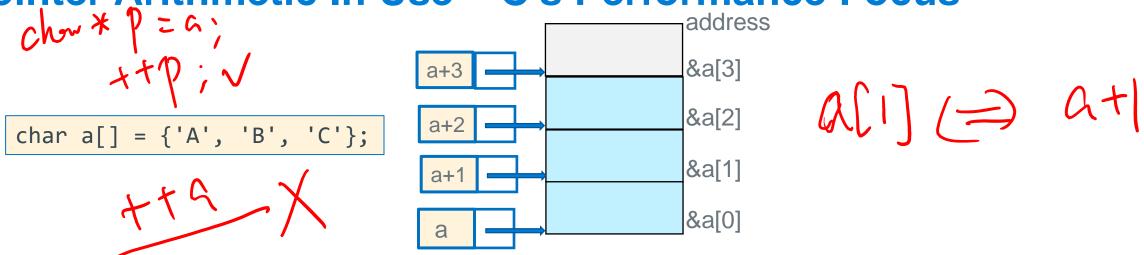
1 byte Memory Content One byte per row





t+P//add

Pointer Arithmetic In Use – C's Performance Focus



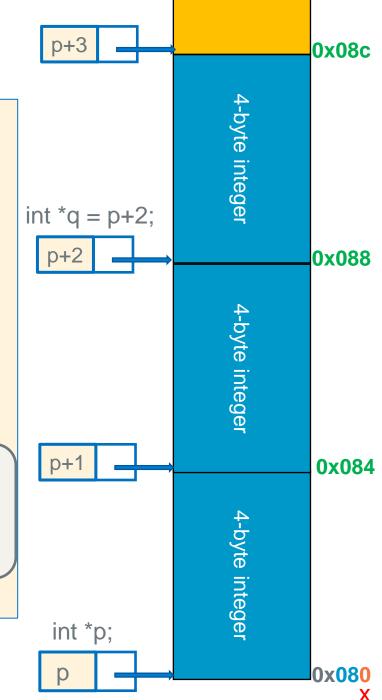
- Alert!: C performance focus <u>does</u> <u>not</u> perform any array "bounds checking"
- Performance by Design: bound checking slows down execution of a properly written program
- Example: array a of length i, C does not verify that a[j] or *(a + j) is valid (does not check: 0 ≤ j < i)
 - C simply "translates" and accesses the memory specified from: a[j] to be *(a + j) which may be outside the bounds of the array
 - OS only "faults" for an incorrect access to memory (read-only or not assigned to your process)
 - It does not fault for out of bound indexes or out of scope
- lack of bound checking is a common source of errors and bugs and is a common criticism of C

Pointer Arithmetic

- You cannot add two pointers (what is the reason?)
- A pointer q <u>can be subtracted</u> from another pointer p when the pointers are the same type – best done only within arrays!
- The value of (p-q) is the number of elements between the two pointers
 - Using memory address arithmetic (p and q Rside are both byte addresses):

```
distance in elements = (p - q) / sizeof(*p)

(p + 3) - p = 3 = (0x08c - 0x080)/4 = 3
```



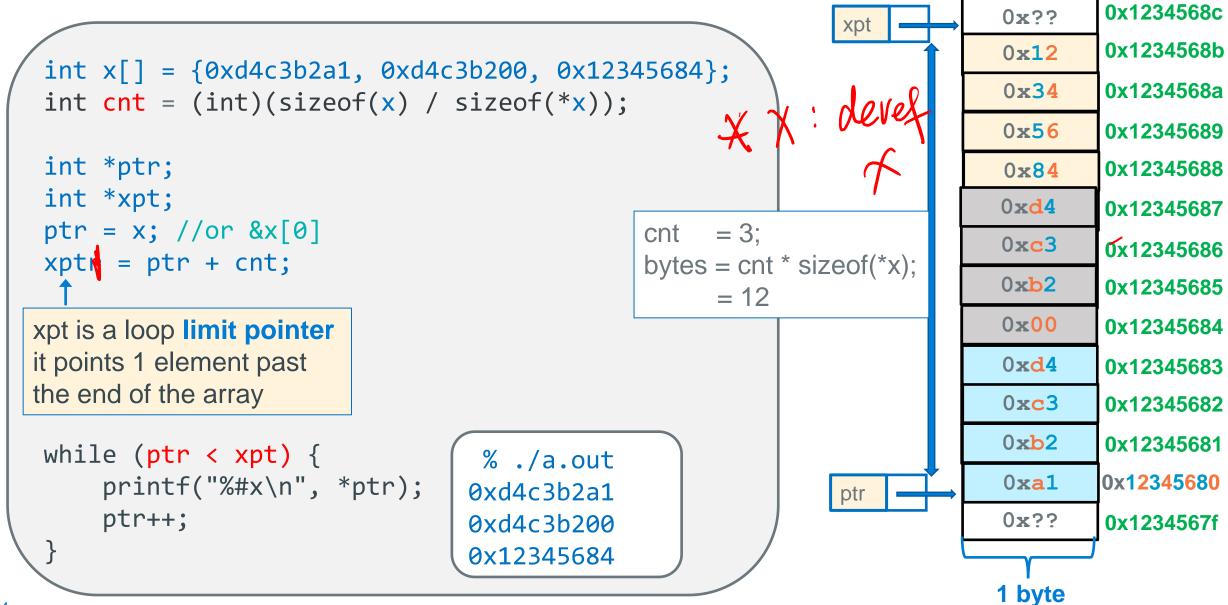
Pointer Comparisons

• Pointers (same type) can be compared with the comparison operators:

```
int numb[] = {9, 8, 1, 9, 5};
int *end;
int *a;
end = numb + (int) (sizeof(numb)/sizeof(*numb));
a = numb;
while (a < end) // compares two pointers (address)
    /* rest of code including doing an a++ */</pre>
```

- Invalid, Undefined, or risky pointer arithmetic (some examples)
 - Add, multiply, divide on two pointers
 - Subtract two pointers of different types or pointing at different arrays
 - Compare two pointers of different types
 - Subtract a pointer from an integer

Fast Ways to "Walk" an Array: Use a Limit Pointer



C Precedence and Pointers

- ++ -- pre and post increment combined with pointers can create code that is complex, hard to read and difficult to maintain
- Use () to help readability

common	With Parentheses	Meaning	
*p++	*(p++)	<pre>(1)The Rvalue is the object that p points at (2)increment pointer p to next element ++ is higher than *</pre>	
(*p)++		<pre>(1)Rvalue is the object that p points at (2)increment the object</pre>	
*++p	*(++p)	(1)Increment pointer p first to the next element(2)Rvalue is the object that the incremented pointer points at	
++*p	++(*p)	Rvalue is the incremented value of the object that p points at	

Operator	Description	Associativity
() [] -> ++	Parentheses or function call Brackets or array subscript Dot or Member selection operator Arrow operator Postfix increment/decrement	left to right
++ + - ! ~ (type) * & sizeof	Prefix increment/decrement Unary plus and minus not operator and bitwise complement type cast Indirection or dereference operator Address of operator Determine size in bytes	right to left
* / %	Multiplication, division and modulus	left to right
+ -	Addition and subtraction	left to right
<< >>	Bitwise left shift and right shift	left to right
< <= > >=	relational less than/less than equal to relational greater than/greater than or equal to	left to right
== !=	Relational equal to or not equal to	left to right
8.8.	Bitwise AND	left to right
^	Bitwise exclusive OR	left to right
I	Bitwise inclusive OR	left to right
8.8.	Logical AND	left to right
П	Logical OR	left to right
?:	Ternary operator	right to left
= += -= *= /= 0%= &= ^= = <<= >>=	Assignment operator Addition/subtraction assignment Multiplication/division assignment Modulus and bitwise assignment Bitwise exclusive/inclusive OR assignment	right to left
,	comma operator	left to right

C Strings - 1

- C does not have a dedicated type for strings
- Strings are an array of characters terminated by a sentinel termination character
- '\0' is the Null termination character; has the value of zero (do not confuse with '0')
- An array of chars contains a string only when it is terminated by a '\0'
- Length of a string is the number of characters in it, not including the '\0'
- Strings in C are <u>not</u> objects
 - No embedded information about them, you just have a name and a memory location
 - You cannot use + or += to concatenate strings in C
 - For example, you must calculate string length using code at runtime looking for the end

length of the string: number of char (= 5)

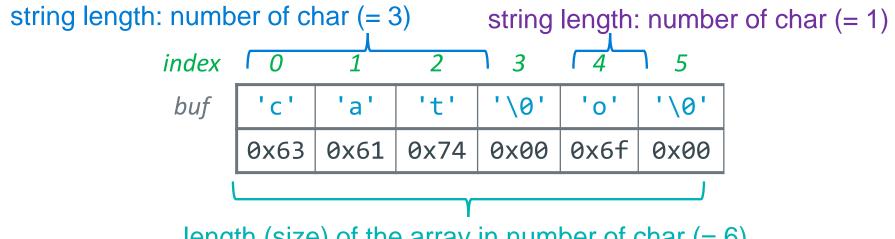
index 0 1 2 3 4 5

char 'H' 'e' '1' '1' 'o' '\0'

length (size) of the array in number of char (= 6)

C Strings - 2

- First'\0' encountered from the start of the string always indicates the end of a string
- The '\0' does not have to be in the last element in the space allocated to the array
 - But, String length is always less than the size of the array it is contained in
- In the example below, the array buf contains two strings
 - One string starts at &(buf[0]) is "cat" with a string length of 3
 - The other string starts at &(b[4]) is "o" with a string length of 1
 - "o" has two bytes: 'o' and '\0'



Defining Strings: Initialization

- When you combine the automatic length definition for arrays with double quote(") initialization
 - Compiler automatically adds the null terminator '\0' for you

Defining Strings: Initialization Equivalents

- Following definitions create equivalent 4-character arrays
 - These are all strings as they all include a null ('\0') terminator

Background: Different Ways to Pass Parameters

- Call-by-reference (or pass by reference)
 - Parameter in the called function is an <u>alias</u> (references the same memory location) for the supplied argument
 - Modifying the parameter modifies the calling argument

Call-by-value (or pass by value) (C)

- What Called Function Does
 - Passed Parameters are used like local variables
 - Modifying the passed parameter in the function is allowed just like a local variable
 - So, writing to the parameter, <u>only</u> changes the <u>copy</u>
- The return value from a function in C is by value

Passing Parameters – Call by Value Example

```
if this was an expression like inc(x+1) it
int main(void)
                                                           evaluates and stores the result in the
                                                           memory allocated for the copy
    int x = 5;
    inc(x); // makes a copy of x
    printf("%d\n", x); // 5 or 6 ?
                                                                                 scope main()
                                                       different
                                                                            copy of contents
void inc(int i)  // i is local to inc
                                                        memory
                                                       locations
    ++i;
                                                                                scope inc()
```

- when inc(x) is called, a copy of x is made to another memory location
 - inc() cannot change the variable x since inc() does not have the address of x, it is local to main() so, 5 is printed
- The inc() function is free to change it's copy of the argument (just like any local variable) remember it does NOT change the parameter in main()

Output Parameters

- Passing a pointer parameter with the <u>intent</u> that the called function will use the address it to store values for use by the <u>calling function</u>, then pointer parameter is called an <u>output parameter</u>
- To pass the address of a variable x use the address
 operator (&x) or the contents of a pointer variable that
 points at x, or the name of an array (the arrays address)
- To be receive an address in the called function, define the corresponding parameter type to be a pointer (add *)
 - It is common to describe this method as: "pass a pointer to x
- C is still using "pass by value"
 - we pass the value of the address/pointer in a parameter copy
 - The called routine uses the address to change a variable in the caller's scope

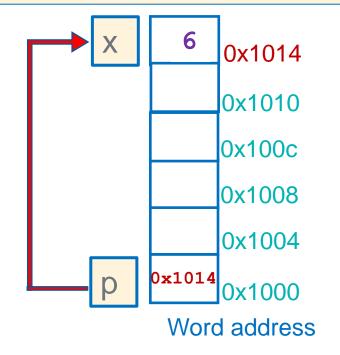
```
void inc(int *p);
int
main(void)
    int x = 5;
    inc(&x);
    printf("%d\n", x);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
void
inc(int *p)
    if (p != NULL)
        *p += 1; // or (*p)++
```

Example Using Output Parameters

```
void inc(int *p);
                   int
                   main(void)
                       int x = 5;
 Pass the
                       inc(&x);
address of x (&x)
                        printf("%d\n", x);
                       return EXIT_SUCCESS;
                   void
Receive an
                   inc(int *p)
address copy
(int *p)
                       if (p != NULL)
                            *p += 1; // or (*p)++
                     Write to the output
                      variable (*p)
43
```

At the Call to inc() in main()

- 1. Allocate space for p
- 2. Copy x's address into p



With a pointer to X,

inc() can change x in main()
this is called a side effect
p just like any other local variable

Array Parameters: Call-By-Value or Call-By-Reference?

• Type[] array parameter is automatically "promoted" to a pointer of type Type *, and a copy of the pointer is passed by value

```
int main(void)
{
  int numbers[] = {9, 8, 1, 9, 5};

  passa(numbers);
  printf("numbers size:%lu\n", sizeof(numbers)); // 20
  return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
void passa(int a[])
{
    printf("a size:%lu\n", sizeof(a)); // 4 
    return;
}
```

IMPORTANT:

See the size difference 20 in main() in passa() is 4 bytes (size of a pointer)

- Call-by-value pointer (callee can change the pointer parameter to point to something else!)
- Acts like call-by-reference (called function can change the contents caller's array)

Arrays As Parameters: What is the size of the array?

- It's tricky to use arrays as parameters, as they are passed as pointers to the start of the array
 - In C, Arrays do not know their own size and at runtime there is no "bounds" checking on indexes

```
int sumAll(int a[]); ←
                                        the name is the address, so this is
                                        passing a pointer to the start of the array
int main(void)
  int numb[] = \{9, 8, 1, 9, 5\};
  int sum = sumAll(numb);
  return EXIT SUCCESS;
                                    "inside" the body of sumAll(), the question is:
                                    how big is that array? all I have is a POINTER to
int sumAll(int a[]) ◄
                                    the first element.....
                                    sz is a 1 on 32 bit arm
  int i, sum = 0;
  int sz = (int) (sizeof(a)/sizeof(*a));
  for (i = 0; i < sz; i++) // this does not work
      sum += a[i];
```

Arrays As Parameters, Approach 1: Pass the size

Two ways to pass array size

- 1. pass the count as an additional argument
- 2. add a sentinel element as the last element

remember you can only use sizeof() to calculate element count where the array is <u>defined</u>

```
1 word content
(int = 4 bytes)
end
0x114
0x??

5 0x110
9 0x10c
1 0x108
8 0x104
0x100
numb
9 0x100
address
```

```
int sumAll(int *a, int size);
int main(void)
{
  int numb[] = {9, 8, 1, 9, 5};
  int cnt = sizeof(numb)/sizeof(numb[0]);

  printf("sum is: %d\n", sumAll(numb, cnt););
  return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
int sumAll(int *a, int size)
{
  int sum = 0;
  int *end;
  end = a + size;
  same as:
  sum = sum + *a;
  a++;
  return sum;
}
```

Arrays As Parameters, Approach 2: Use a sentinel element

- A sentinel is an element that contains a value that is not part of the normal data range
 - Forms of 0 are often used (like with strings). Examples: '\0', NULL

```
int strlen(char *a);
int main(void)
  char buf[] = {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', '\0'}; // string
  printf("Number of chars is: %d\n", strlen(buf));
  return EXIT SUCCESS;
                                                                      1 byte
/* Assumes parameter is a terminated string */`
                                                       0x105
                                                                       1/01
int strlen(char *s)
                                 same as:
                                                                             0x104
                                                                        'e'
  char *p = s;
                                 while (*p != '\0')
                                                                             0x103
                                                                        'd'
  if (p == NULL)
                                     p = p + 1;
                                                                             0x102
      return 0;
                                 return (p - s);
                                                                        1 C 1
  while (*p++)
                                                                             0x101
                                                                        'b'
                                                                             0x100
                                                     0x100
                                                                        'a'
                                                                 buf
    return (p - s - 1);
                                                                             address
                                                                       0x??
```

Do not overuse strlen()

- C string library function strlen() calculates string length at runtime
- Do not overuse strlen(), as it walks the array each time called

```
int count_e(char *s) // o(n^2) !!!
  int count = 0;
  if (s == NULL)
       return 0;
  for (int j = 0; j < strlen(s); j++) {
       if (s[j] == 'e')
           count++
  return count;
```

```
int count_e(char *s) // o(n) !!!
                         same as:
  int count = 0;
                         while (*s != '\0') {
  if (s == NULL)
                           if (*s == 'e')
       return 0;
                                count++;
  while (*s) {
                            S++;
      if (*s++ == 'e')
           count++
  return count;
```

Comparing stings

Characters can be easily compared (c1 < c2) as they are numbers, so the character
 order is determined by the ASCII values assigned to each character

•
$$65 = A$$
 $66 = B$ $67 = C$ $68 = D$ $69 = E$ $70 = F$ $71 = G$, and so on.

• Example: the following strings are in lexicographical (alphabetical) order:

```
"" "a" "az" "c" "cab" "cabin" "cat" "catastrophe"
```

Compare two strings lexicographically (i.e., comparing ASCII values), subtract one from

the other

Return Value	Comparison
< 0	s1 < s2
> 0	s1 > s2
= 0	s1 == s2

```
int strcmp(char *s1, char *s2)
{
    while (*s1 == *s2) {
        if ((*s1 == '\0') || (*s2 == '\0'))
            break;
        s1++;
        s2++;
    }
    return *s1 - *s2; // character difference
}
```

Copying Strings: Use the Sentinel; libc: strcpy(), strncpy()

- To copy an array, you must copy each character from source to destination array
- Watch overwrites: strcpy assumes the target array size is equal or larger than source array

```
index  0  1  2  3  4  5
char 'H' 'e' '1' '1' 'o' '\0'

char str1[80];
strcpy(str1, "hello");
```

```
char *strcpy(char *s0, char *s1)
{
    char *str = s0;

    if ((s0 == NULL) || (s1 == NULL))
        return NULL;
    while (*s0++ = *s1++)
        ;
    return str;
}
```

```
// strncpy adds a Length Limit on copy
char str1[6];
strncpy(str1, "hello", 5); // \0 not copied
str1[5] = '\0'; // make sure \0 terminated
```

```
char *strncpy(char *s0, char *s1, int len)
{
   char *str = s0;
   if ((s0 == NULL) || (s1 == NULL))
      return NULL;

while ((*s0++ = *s1++) && --len)
   ;
   return str;
}
```

Reference: Some String Routines in libc (#include <string.h>)

Function	Description
strlen(<i>str</i>)	returns the # of chars in a C string (before null-terminating character).
<pre>strcmp(str1, str2), strncmp(str1, str2, n)</pre>	compares two strings; returns 0 if identical, <0 if str1 comes before str2 in alphabet, >0 if str1 comes after str2 in alphabet. strncmp stops comparing after at most n characters.
strchr(str, ch) strrchr(str, ch)	character search: returns a pointer to the first occurrence of <i>ch</i> in <i>str</i> , or <i>NULL</i> if <i>ch</i> was not found in <i>str</i> . strrchr find the last occurrence.
strstr(<i>haystack</i> , <i>needle</i>)	string search: returns a pointer to the start of the first occurrence of <i>needle</i> in <i>haystack</i> , or <i>NULL</i> if <i>needle</i> was not found in <i>haystack</i> .
<pre>strcpy(dst, src), strncpy(dst, src, n)</pre>	copies characters in src to dst , including null-terminating character. Assumes enough space in dst . Strings must not overlap. strncpy stops after at most n chars, and <u>does not</u> add null-terminating char.
<pre>strcat(dst, src), strncat(dst, src, n)</pre>	concatenate <i>src</i> onto the end of <i>dst</i> . strncat stops concatenating after at most <i>n</i> characters. Always adds a null-terminating character.
strspn(str, accept), strcspn(str, reject)	strspn returns the length of the initial part of <i>str</i> which contains <u>only</u> characters in <i>accept</i> . strcspn returns the length of the initial part of <i>str</i> which does <u>not</u> contain any characters in <i>reject</i> .

2D Array of Char (where elements may contain strings)

- 2D array of chars (where rows may include strings)
- Each row has the same fixed number of memory allocated
- All the rows are the same length regardless of the actual string length)
- The column size must be large enough for the longest string

```
high
       char aos2d[3][22] = {"my", "two dimensional", "char array"};
memory
                                                '\0'
aos2d[2]
              h
                                 r
                                         a
                                            У
                  a
                       r
                          d
                                                                1
                                                                                      '\0'
                                            S
                                                        n
aos2d[1]
                  0
                                 m
                                         n
                 '\0'
aos2d[0]
              У
```

low memory

```
#define ROWS 3
char aos[ROWS][22] = { "my", "two dimensional", "char array"};
char (*ptc)[22] = aos; // ptr points at a row of 22 chars

for (int i = 0; i < ROWS; i++)
    printf("%s\n", *(ptc + i));</pre>
```

high memory

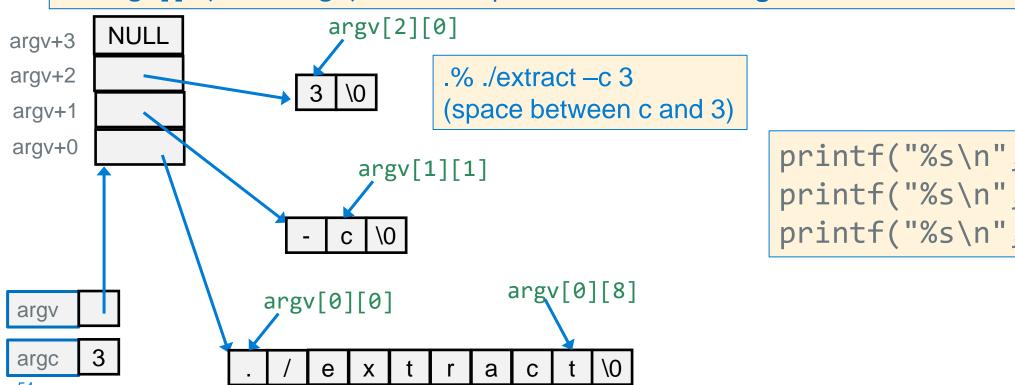
Pointer Array to Strings (This is NOT a 2D array)

- 2D char arrays are an inefficient way to store strings (wastes memory) unless all the strings are similar lengths, so 2D char arrays are rarely used with string elements
- An array of pointers is common for strings as "rows" can very in length

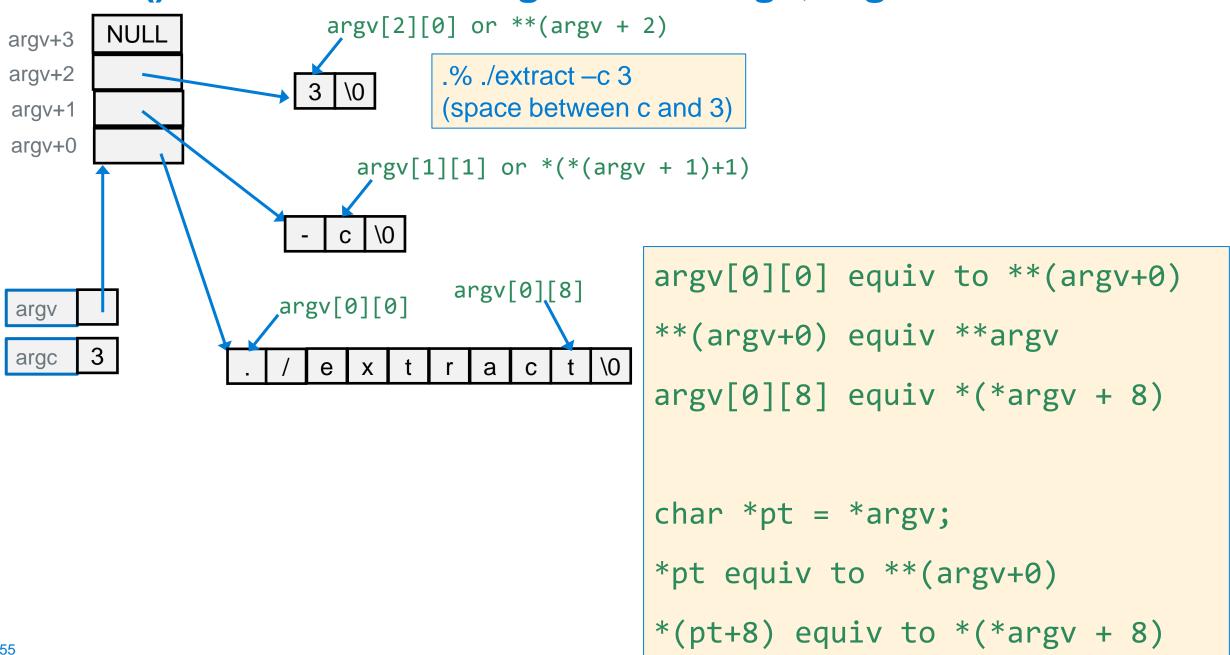


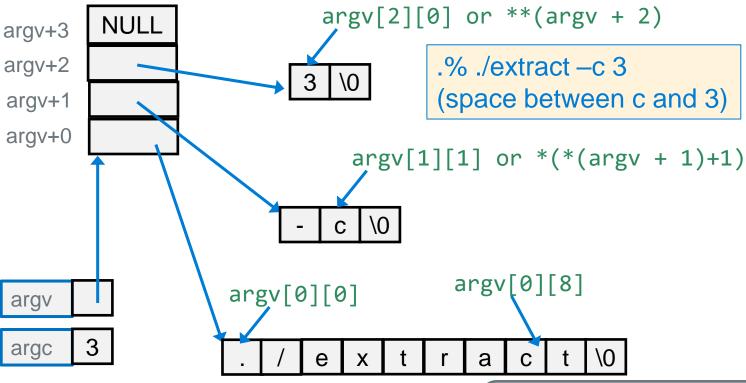
- aos is an array of pointers; each pointer points at a character array (also a string here)
- Not a 2D array, but any char can be accessed as if it was in a 2D array of chars

Arguments are passed to main() as a pointer to an array of pointers (**argv or *argv[]) Conceptually: % *argv[0] *argv[1] *argv[2] argc is the number of VALID elements (they point at something) *argv (argv[0]) is **usually** is the name of the executable file (% ./vim file.c) *(argv + argc) always contains a NULL (0) sentinel *argv[] (or **argv) elements point at **mutable strings**!



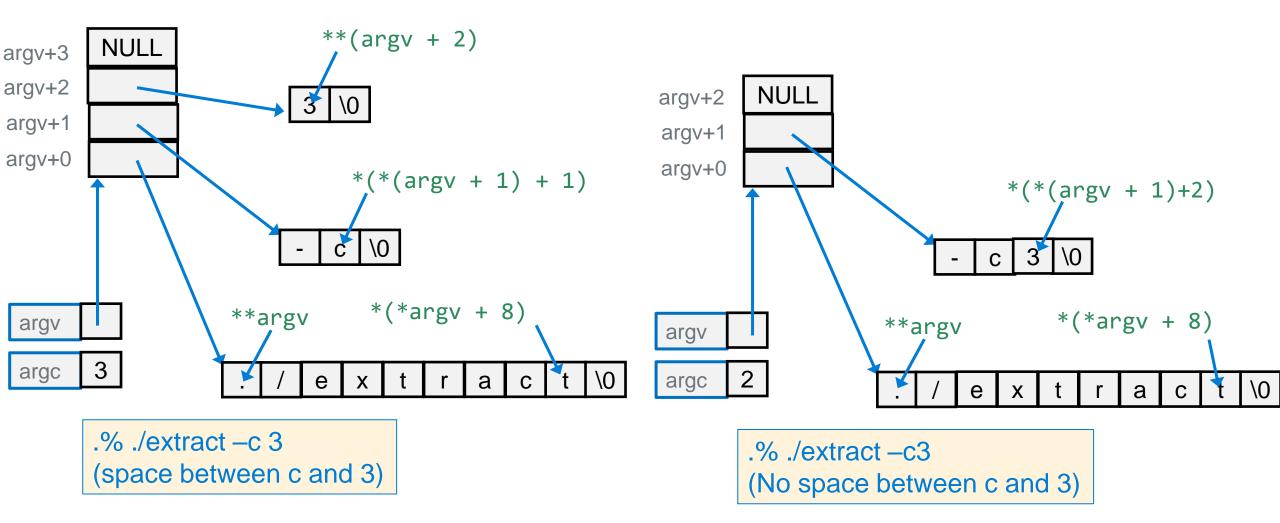
```
printf("%s\n", *(argv+0));
printf("%s\n", *(argv+1));
printf("%s\n", *(argv+2));
```





```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    for (int i = 0; argv[i] != NULL; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; argv[i][j] != '\0'; j++)
            putchar(argv[i][j]);
        putchar('\n');
    }
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

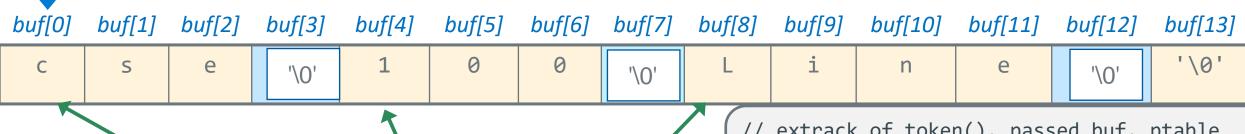
```
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    char *pt;
    while ((pt = *argv++) != NULL) {
        while (*pt != '\0')
            putchar(*pt++);
        putchar('\n');
    }
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```



 x

PA4: Creating a 2D Array of Mutable String Pointers

- 1. Break a string of comma separated words into individual strings without copying. Do This by walking the string until you see an either a comma, or a newline \n. Each points at a field or column in a record.
- 2. Record the start of each string into successive elements in an array of pointers
- 3. Replace each comma or newline with a null '\0'



char **ptable

ptable ptable+1 ptable+2

./extract -c3

```
// extrack of token(), passed buf, ptable
and cnt

char **endptr = ptable + cnt;
  *ptable = buf;
while ((ptable < endpt) && (*buf != '\0'))
{
     *ptable++ = buf;
     while (*buf != '\0') {
          /* process chars including buf++ */
     }
}
// check for too many or too few fields</pre>
```

char *buf

Review: Pointer Array to Strings

