

Today: C

Why C?

- mostly different paradigm from Scheme (imperative language)
 - no garbage collection
 - not object oriented
 - different memory model than other Carleton CS languages
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Two main different memory models that languages adopt

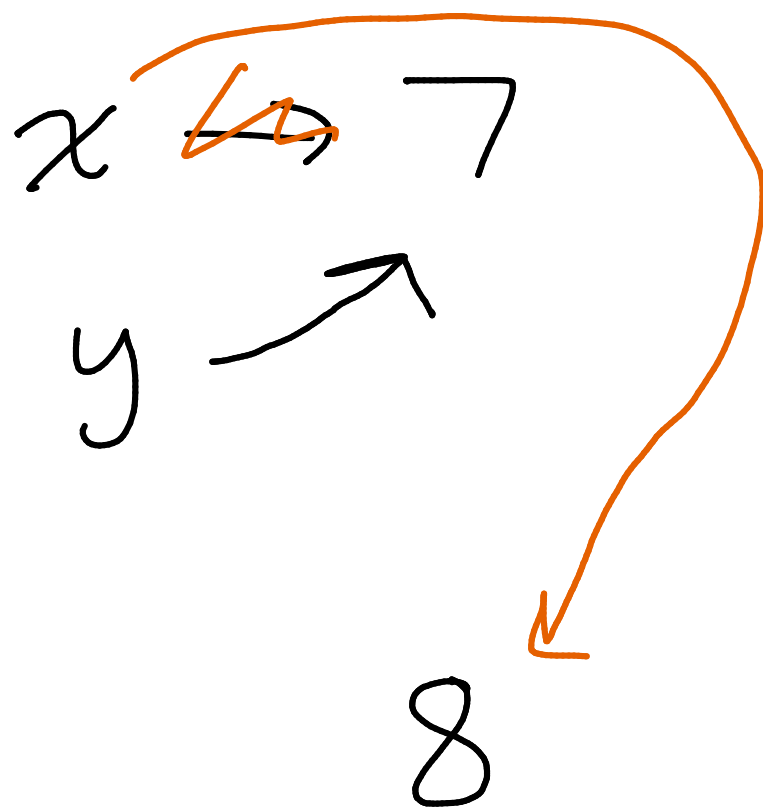
Reference model (Python, Scheme)

A variable is a reference to an object/data

An assignment statement copies the reference, not the data

$$x = 7$$

$$y = x$$



$$x = x + 1$$

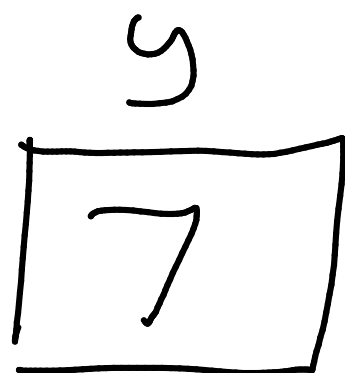
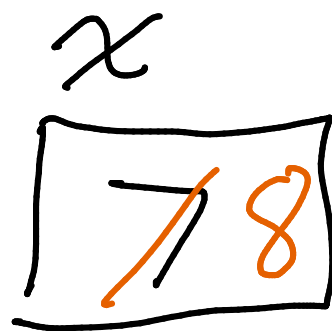
Value model (C)

A variable is a named container (box) for an object / data

An assignment statement copies the object / data from one container to another

$$x = 7$$

$$y = x$$



$$x = x + 1$$

```
x = ['hello']
```

```
y = x
```

```
x[0] = 'friend'
```

```
print(y)
```

In Python

x → ~~['hello']~~
 0 'friend'

y →

print(y) prints ['friend']

If this were a value model language
(If this were C)

x

~~['hello']~~

'friend']

y

['hello']

print ['hello']

```
// ContainerExample.java
class Container {
    public int value;
}

public class ContainerExample {

    public static void main (String[] args) {

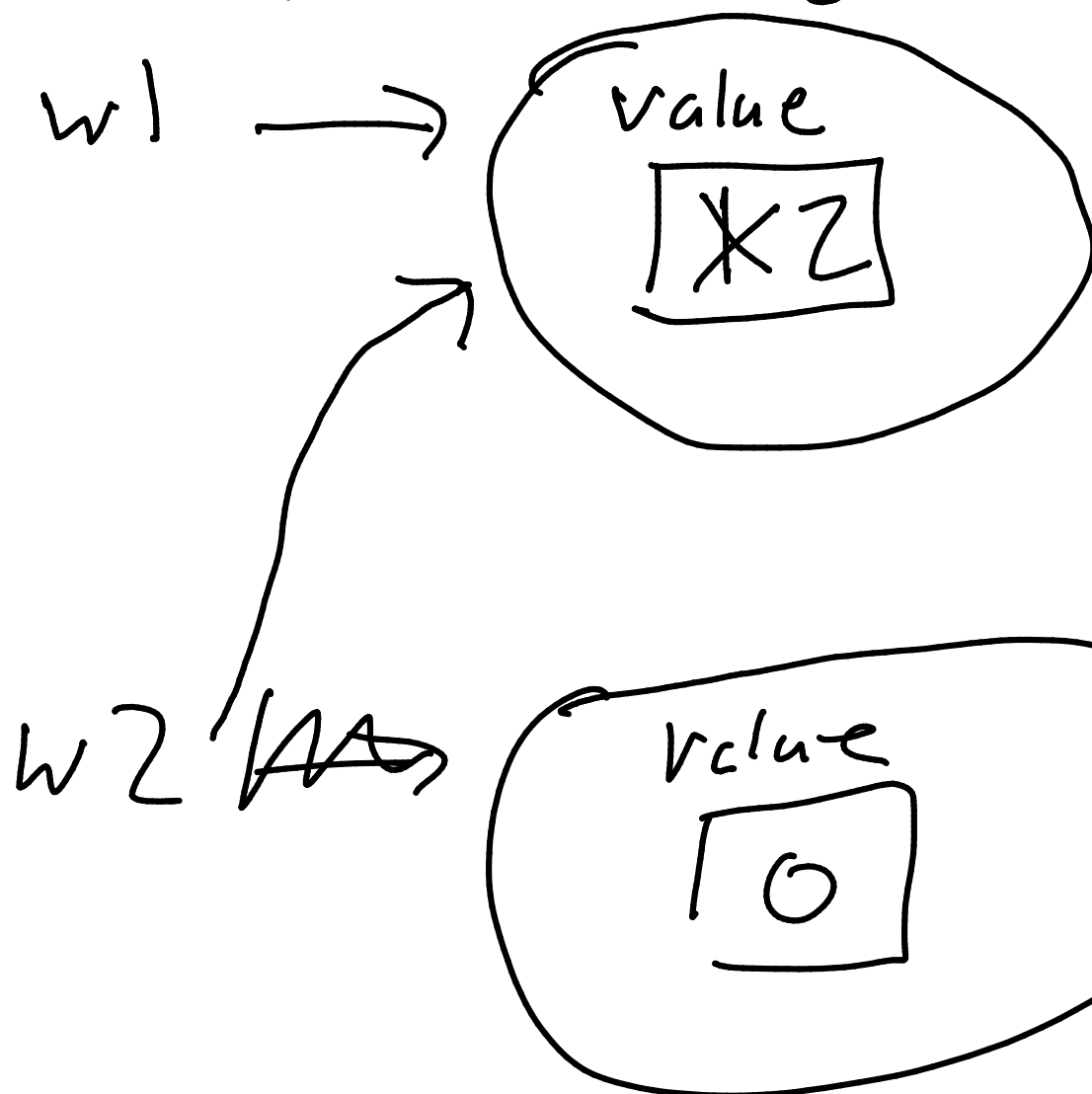
        Container w1 = new Container();
        Container w2 = new Container();
        w1.value = 1;
        w2 = w1;
        System.out.println(w1.value + " " + w2.value);
        w2.value = 2;
        System.out.println(w1.value + " " + w2.value);
    }
}
```

Handwritten annotations on the code:

- Under `w1.value` in the first `println`: `1`
- Under `w2.value` in the first `println`: `1`
- Under `w1.value` in the second `println`: `2`
- Under `w2.value` in the second `println`: `2`

Java is a reference model language

w/ regards to objects



Java is a
value lang
w/ regard to
primitives

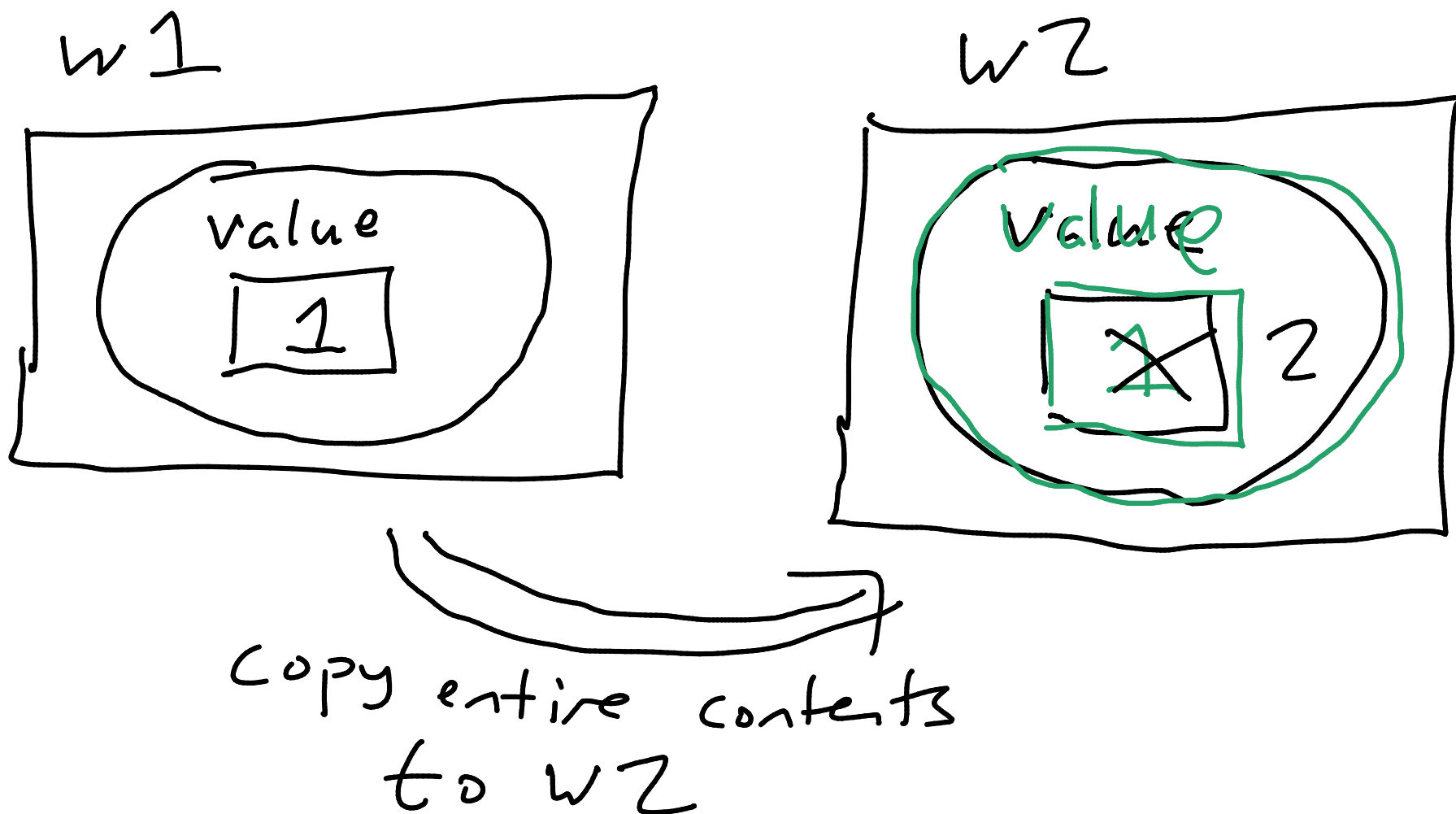
(Python is same)

```
// container_example.c  
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
struct Container {  
    int value;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    struct Container w1;  
    struct Container w2;  
    w1.value = 1;  
    w2 = w1;  
    printf("%i %i\n", w1.value, w2.value);  
    w2.value = 2;  
    printf("%i %i\n", w1.value, w2.value);  
}
```

C is a value model language



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

```
struct Container {
    int value;
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    struct Container *w1 = malloc(sizeof(struct Container));
```

```
    struct Container *w2 = malloc(sizeof(struct Container));
```

```
    (*w1).value = 1;
```

```
    w2 = w1; COPY pointer
```

```
    printf("%i %i\n", (*w1).value, (*w2).value);
```

```
    (*w2).value = 2;
```

```
    printf("%i %i\n", (*w1).value, (*w2).value);
```

```
}
```

w1 is of type
struct Container *

"pointer"
↓

*w1 → follow the pointer
to the
memory
(get on
water
slide)

2

2

struct Container *w1

w1 is a pointer variable

