

Today: lots more C

- pointers

- stack vs heap

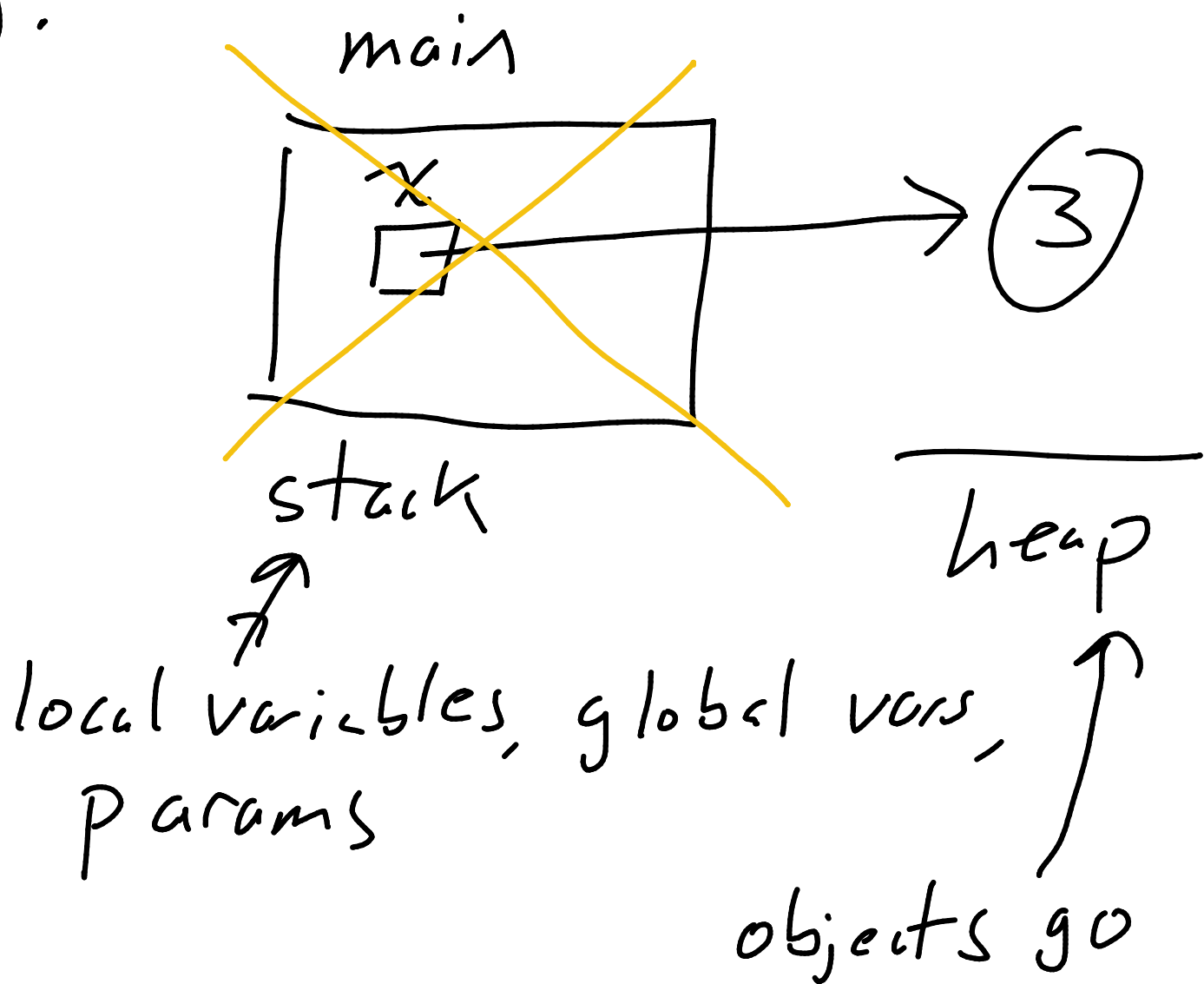
Stack vs heap memory

Python

```
def main():
```

```
    x = 3
```

```
main()
```



stack memory is allocated and deallocated automatically based on structure of your code

-e.g. when main is over, x no longer exists, because all memory in main is gone

Heap memory (in Python) sticks around as long as something still refers to it

---

Why both capabilities?

stack memory allows for local variables and recursion

heap memory allows flexibility

- pick memory sizes yourself sometimes

- allows linked lists, for example (or any object that sticks around after the function that makes it is gone)

(examples

int \*x; declares a variable named x, of type int\* (pointer to an int)

(C allows int\* x, but bad idea)

int\* x, y, z; C does

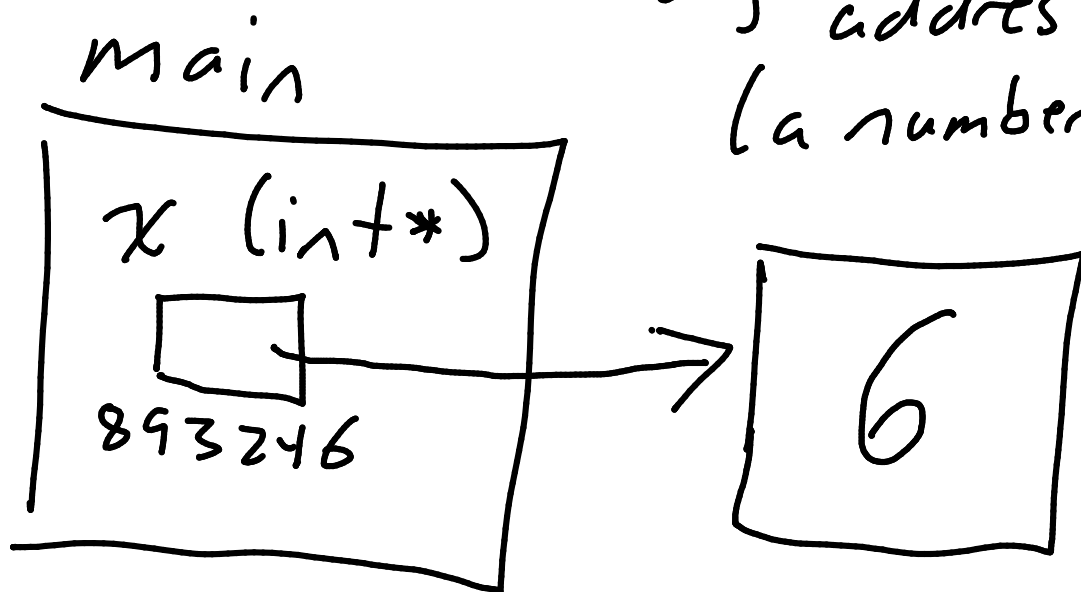
C declares x of type int\*  
y } of type int  
z }

main {

int \*x;

// a pointer in C is a memory address (a number)

memory address



x = malloc(sizeof(int))

↑  
allocated in heap bytes as indicates

\* x = 6

↑ "write slide operator"

```
int main() {  
    int *x;  
    x = malloc(sizeof(int));
```

```
✓ *x = 6;  
  printf("%i\n", *x); 6
```

```
int *y;  
• y = x;  
  printf("%i\n", *y); 6
```

```
• *x = 12;  
  printf("%i\n", *x); 12  
  printf("%i\n", *y); 12
```

```
x = (int*)19;
```

```
printf("%i\n", *x);
```

```
• int b = 7;  
  int *z = &b;
```

```
*z = 9;
```

```
printf("%i\n", b); 9
```

```
printf("%i\n", z); 6247. something
```

```
printf("%i\n", *z); 9
```

```
}
```

free(x); // clean up memory  
that was malloced

whatever is out  
there at mem  
addr 19 if I  
can even get to it

stack

heap

$x(int*)$

23896

~~12~~

23896

$y(int*)$

23896

stack

heap

$x(int*)$

~~23896~~  
19

~~12~~

23896

$y(int*)$

23896

$b(int)$

~~97~~

6248

$z(int*)$

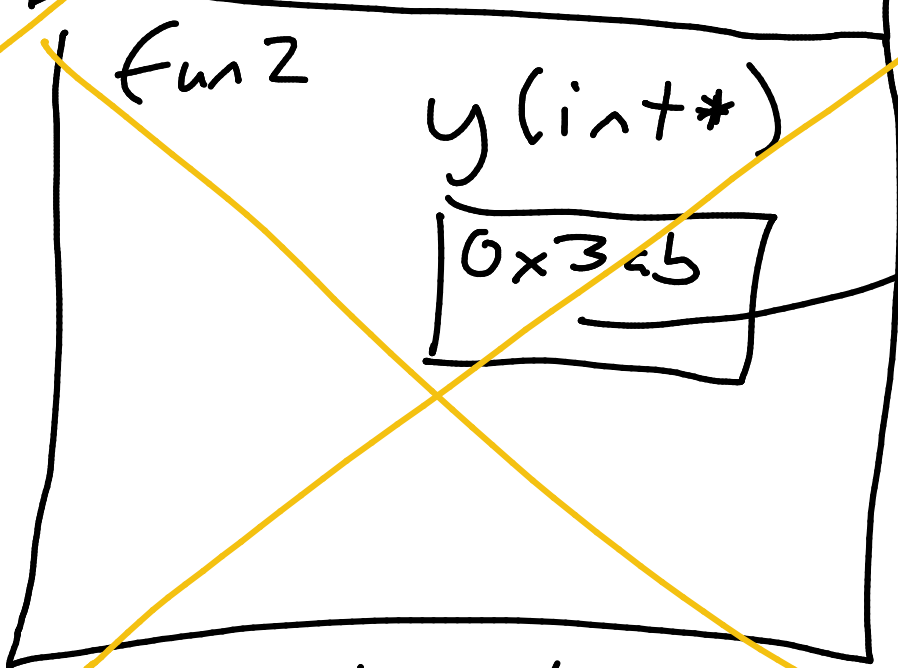
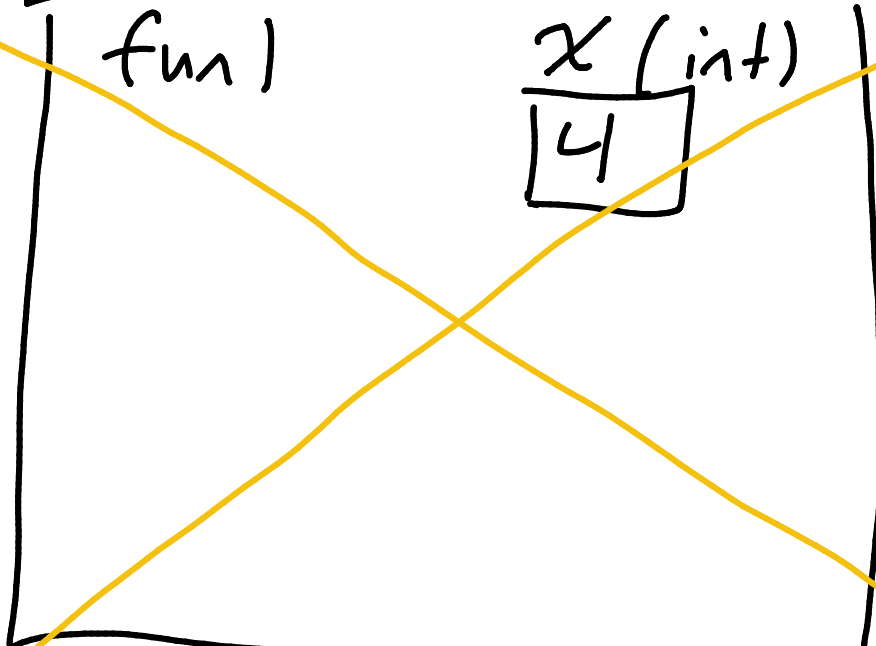
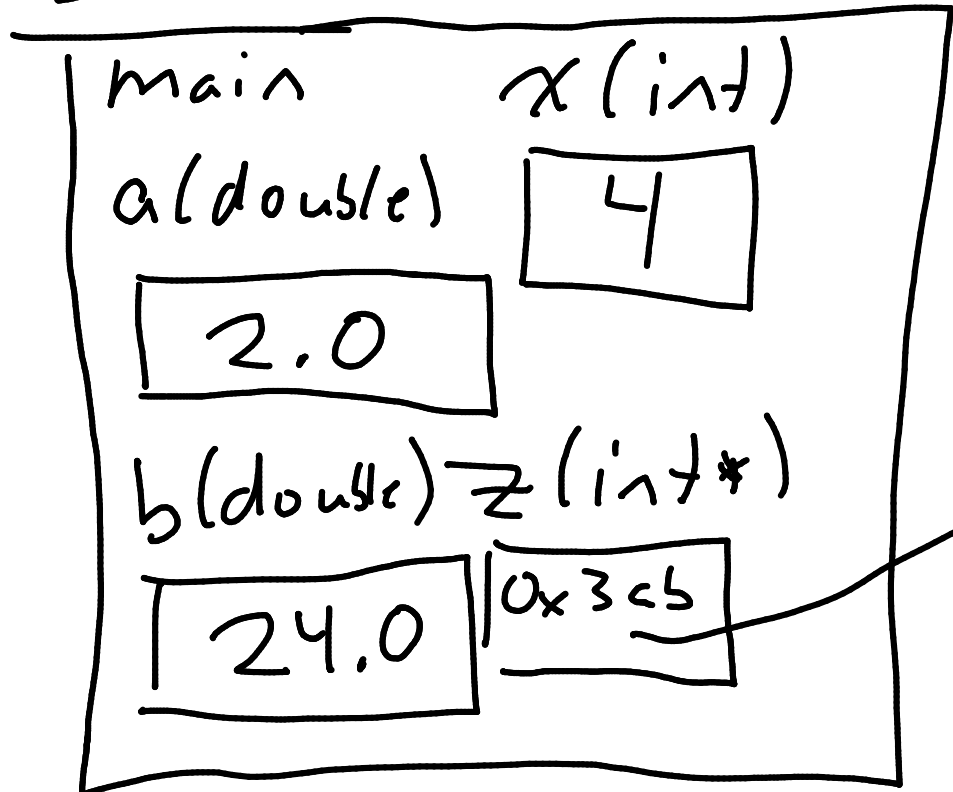
6248

stack

stack vs heap. < program

```
double fun1(int x) {  
    return x * 0.5;  
}  
  
double fun2(int *y) {  
    *y = *y * 2;  
    return *y * 1.5;  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int x = 4;  
    printf("x = %i\n", x); 4  
    double a = fun1(x);  
    printf("x = %i\n", x); 4  
    printf("a = %g\n", a); 2.0  
  
    int *z = malloc(sizeof(int));  
    *z = 8;  
    printf("z = %i\n", *z); 8  
    → double b = fun2(z);  
    printf("z = %i\n", *z); 16  
    printf("b = %g\n", b); 24.0  
    free(z);  
}
```

Stack ↓

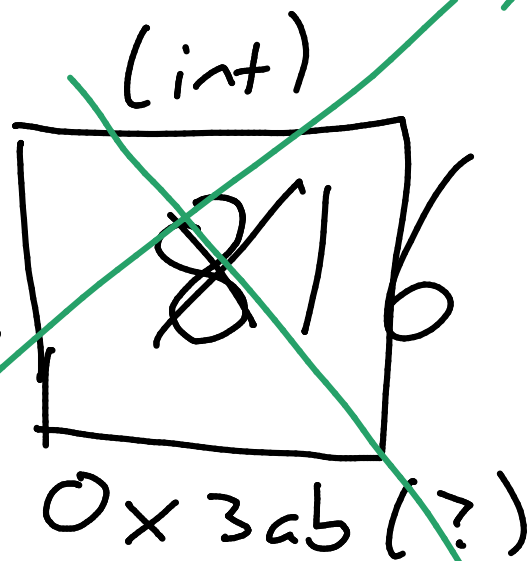


(should really  
superimpose  
where fun1 was)

2.0  
(return)

24.0  
(return)

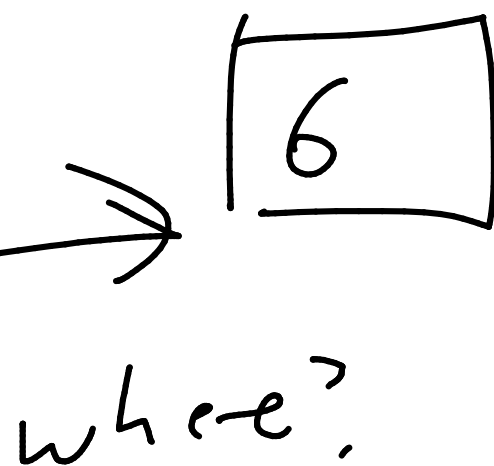
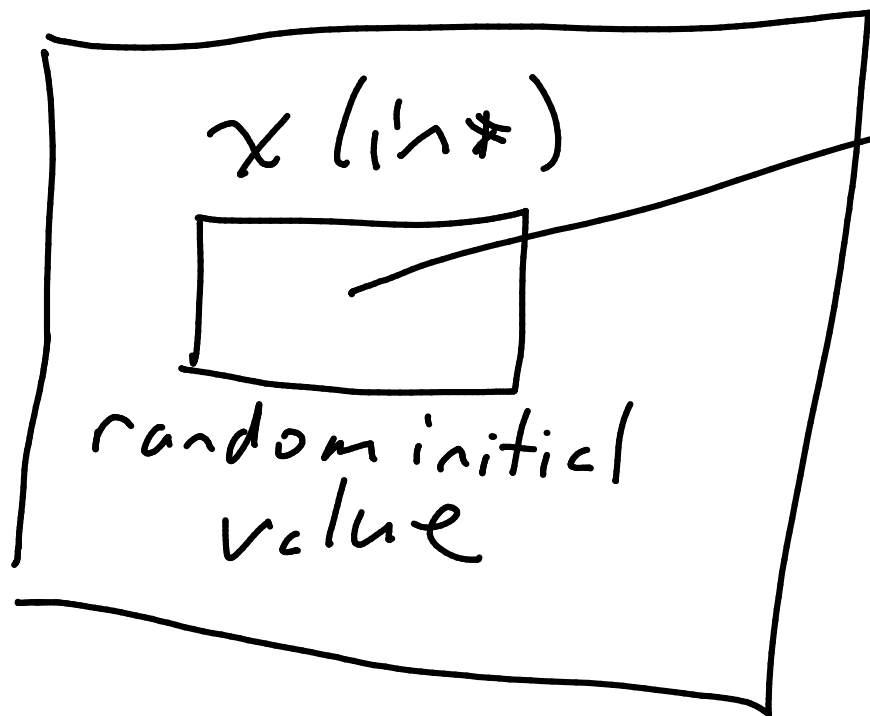
heap



# badstuff

stack

main



This program  
might unpredictably  
fail