

C / memory allocation / comparisons to other languages

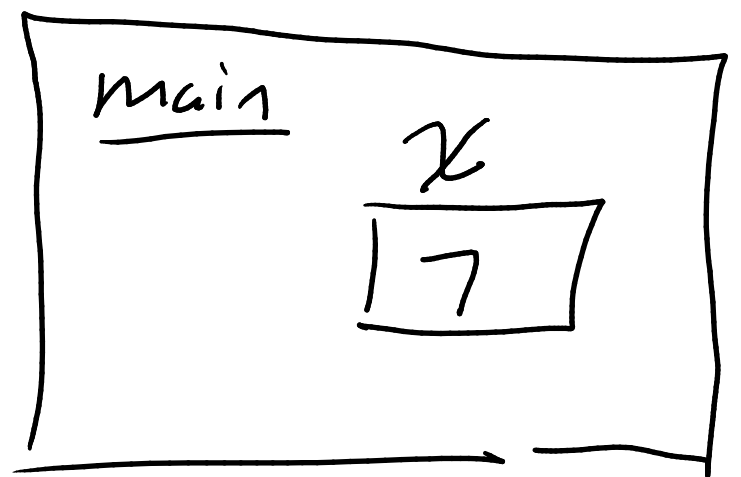
$x = 7$ where does the 7 go?

- stack?

- heap?

C int x = 7;

```
int main() {  
    int x = 7;  
}
```



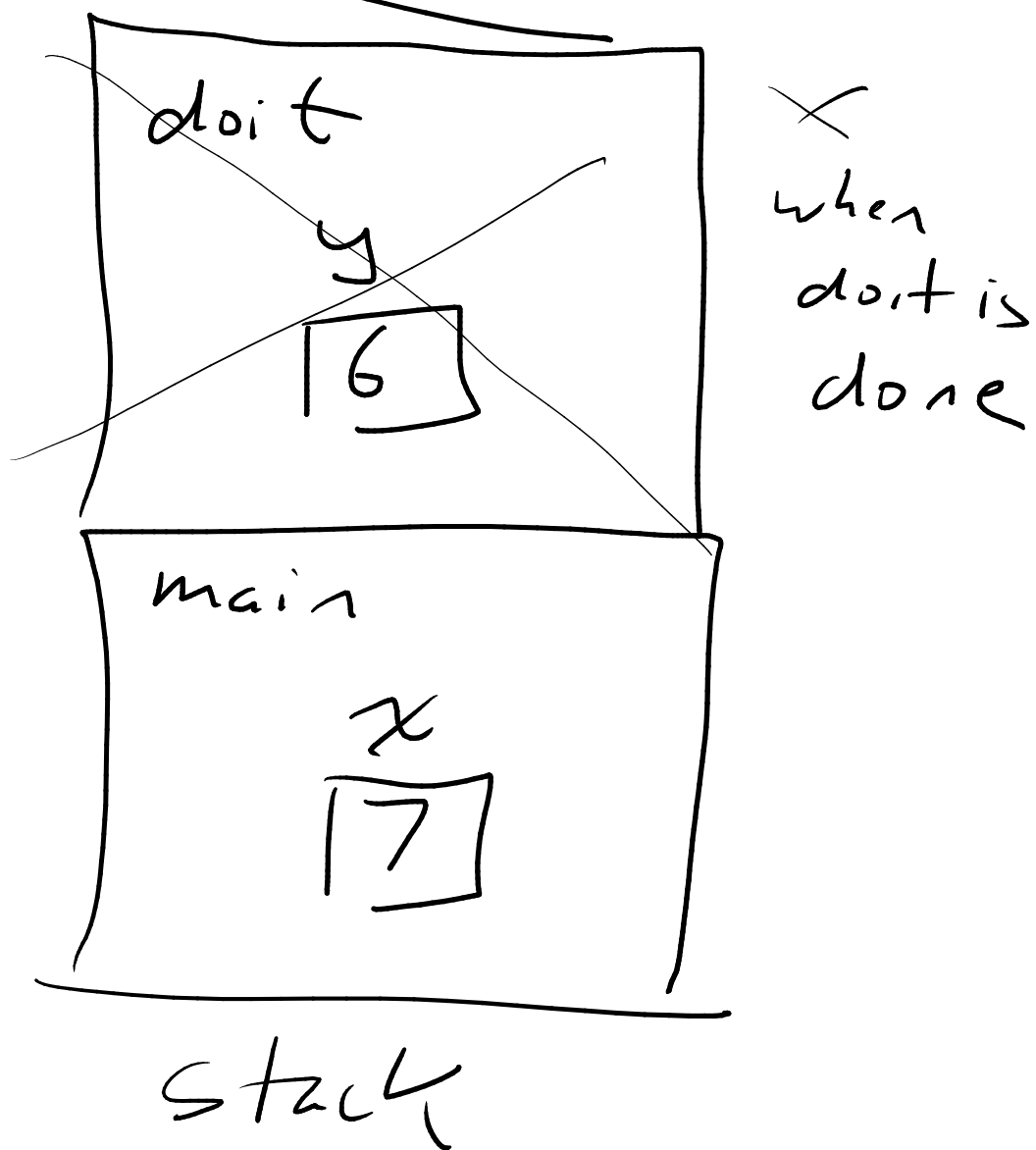
stack

These stack frames come and go as functions come and go

(olin 30618, 8-9 pm, prefect session)

```
int doit() {  
    int y = 6;  
    return y;  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    int x = 7;  
    doit();  
}
```



When a function ends, its memory is popped off the stack, and it goes away.

Another place to store data is in the "heap". Memory in the heap is allocated when you ask for it, and deallocated when you are done (either by saying so, or w/ garbage collection).

Python

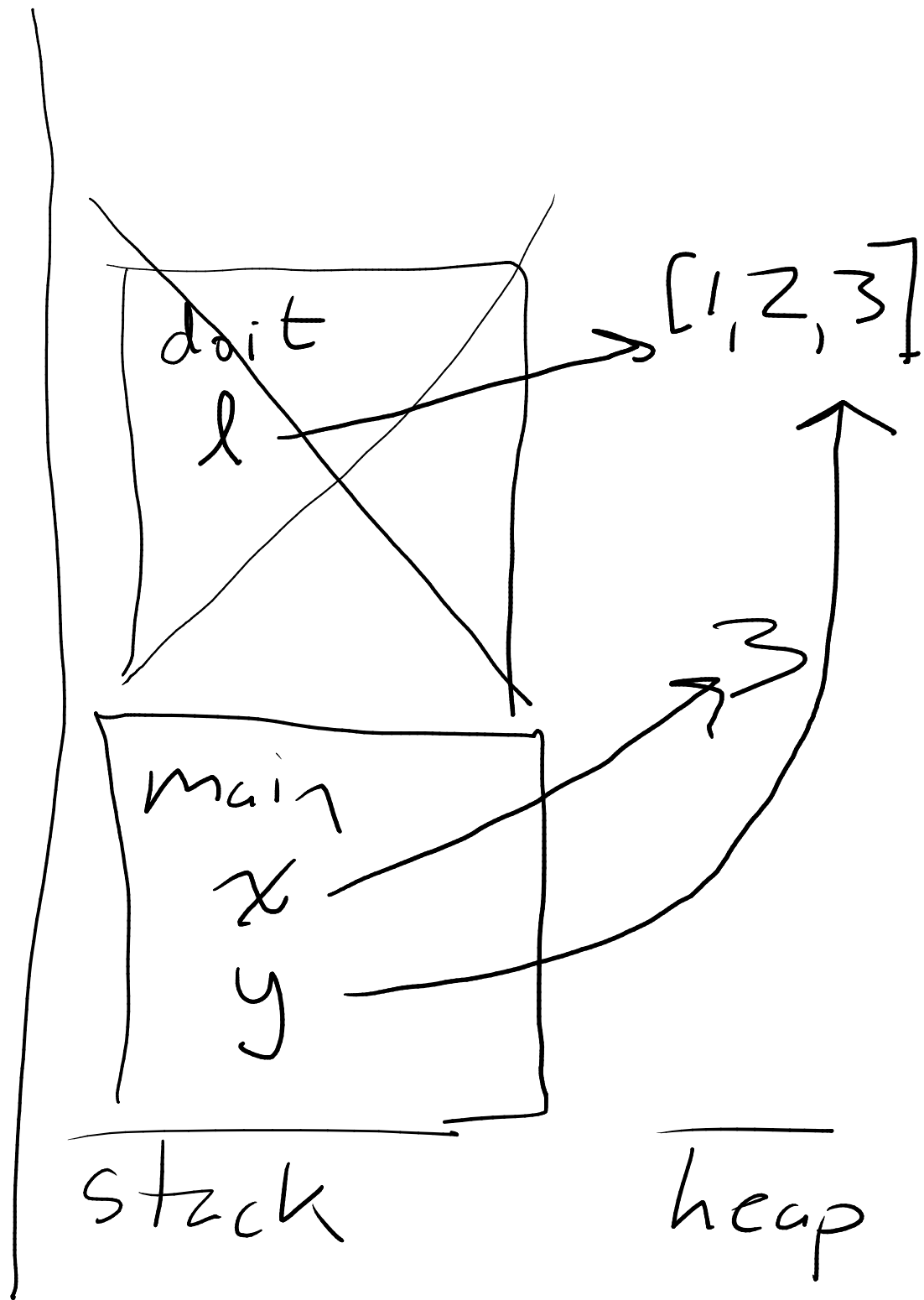
```
def doit():  
    l = [1, 2, 3]  
    return l
```

```
def main():  
    x = 3  
    y = doit()  
    print(y)
```

main()

In a ref model like Python,
variables are in the stack, but
the data is in the heap.

- variables come and go based on
the functs they're in but
heap data is "forever" except
when garbage collected.



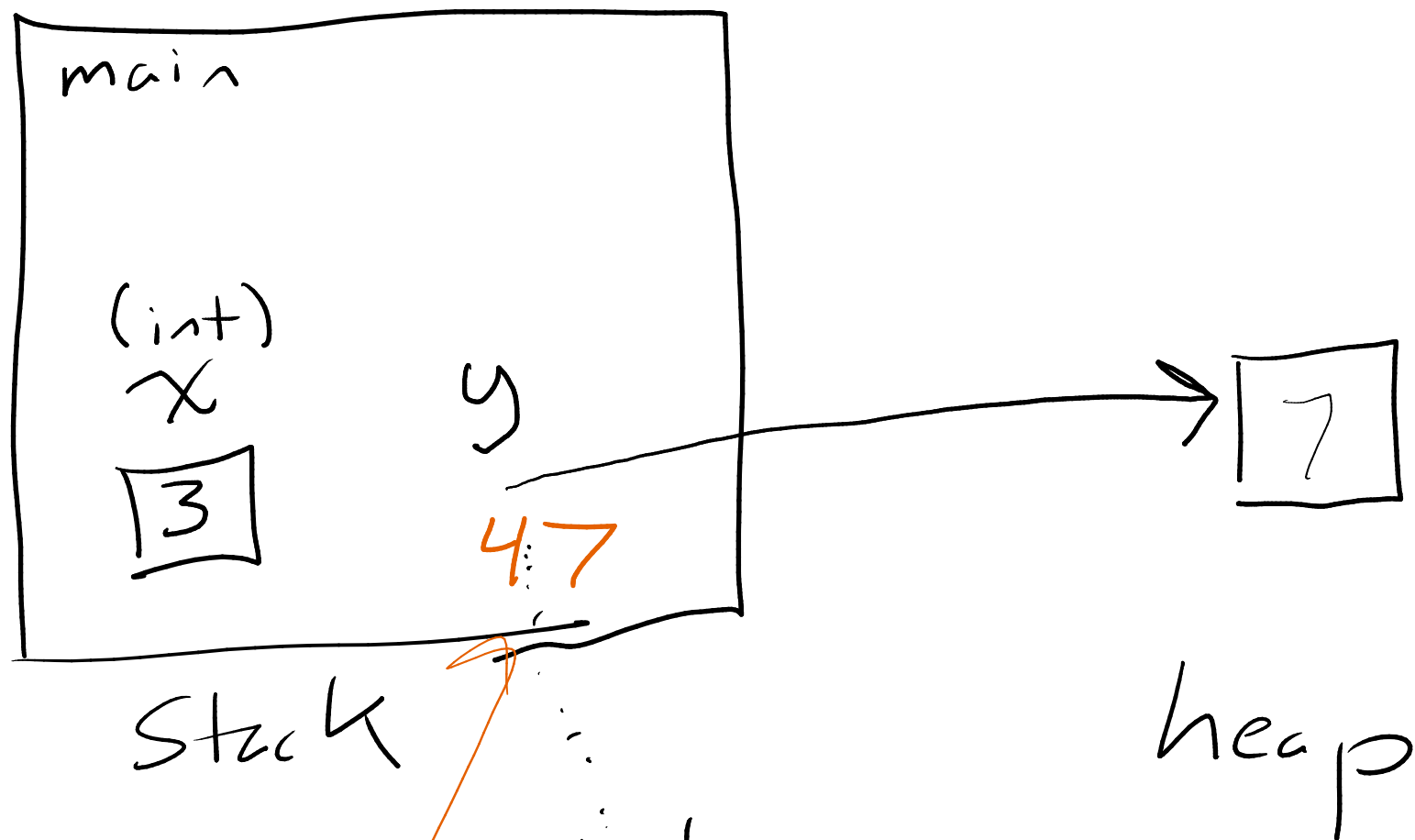
In Python,

- variables are in stack
 - data is in heap
-

In C

- variables are in stack
 - data is in stack "by default"
but you can choose to put it
in the heap
 - typically manage it via pointers
-

Memory diag for ptr fun. c



I
made
that up

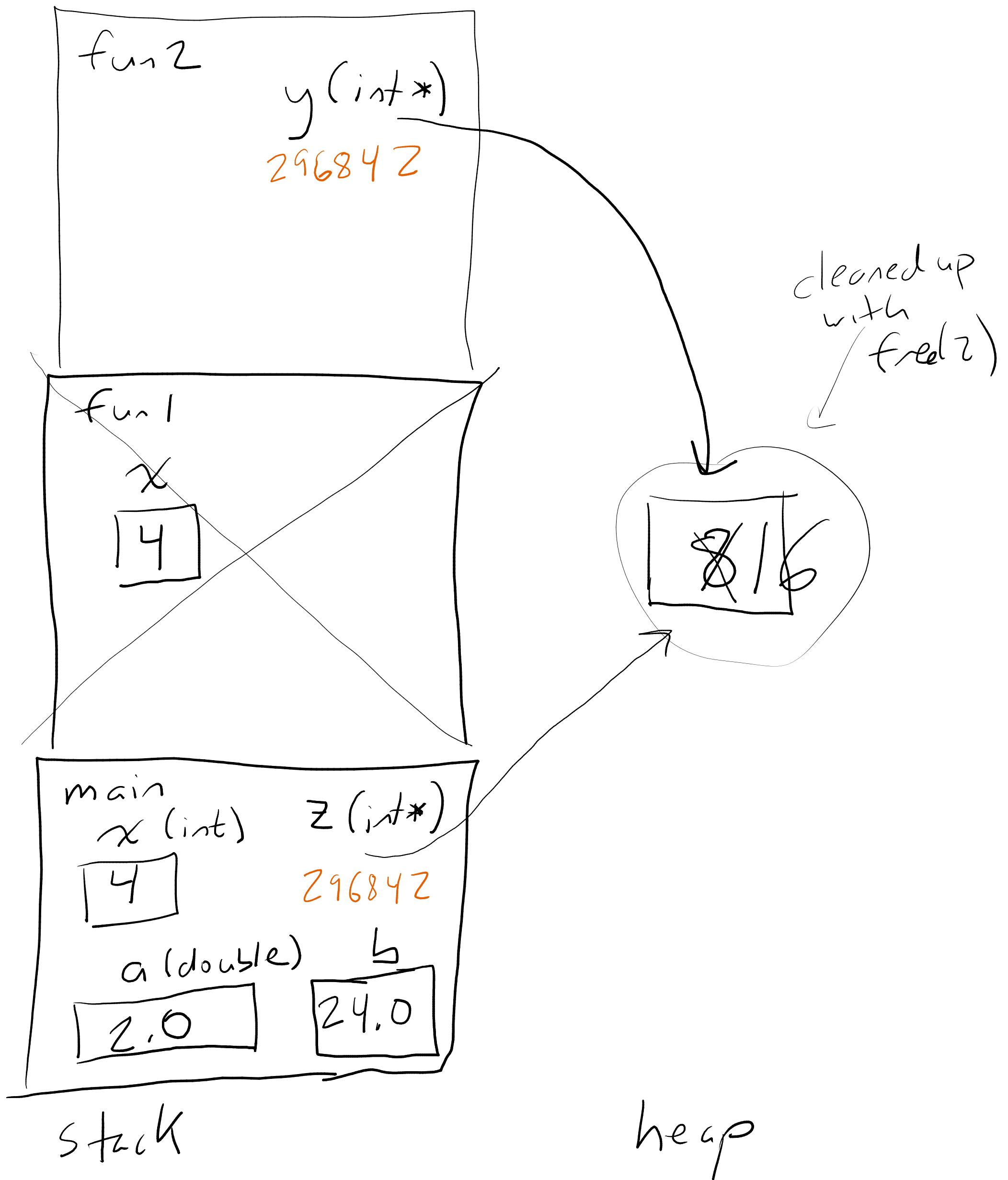
actual
memory address
where the data is
(the first mailbox number
where that data is)

int *y = malloc(sizeof(int));

y is a pointer to an int.

The type of y is int*

stack vs heap example

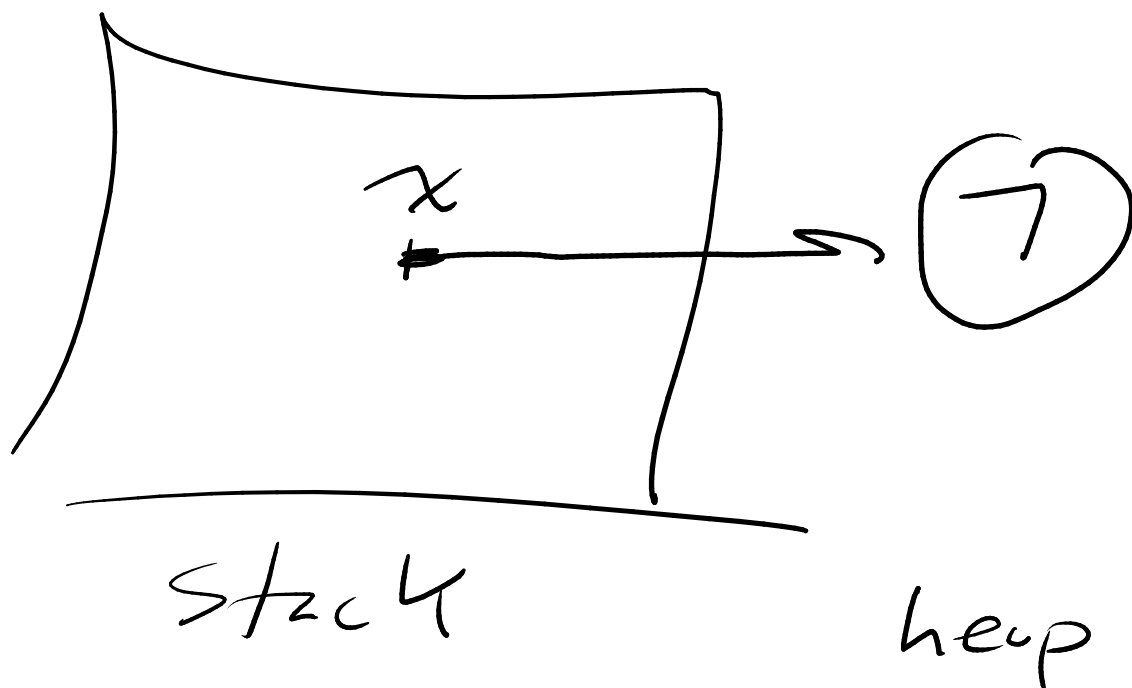


Python
def main():

x = 7

print(x)

main()



print(x)

← follow the pointer

the C "*" is implicit

In Python, how do I actually
print the memory address?

YOU CAN'T