

# Variable Length Strings

append

concatenate

characterAt

# Variable Length Strings

Write heap-based implementation for three required string functions:

**append** – This function takes a string and a character and appends the character to the end of the string

**concatenate** – This function takes two strings and appends the characters of the second string onto the first

**characterAt** – This function takes a string and a number and returns the character at that position in the string (with the first character in the string numbered zero)

Assume **characterAt** will be called frequently and the others seldom.

# Setting Up a String Type

```
typedef char * arrayString;
```

# Setting Up a String Type

```
typedef char * arrayString;
```

Used to make an  
alias for a type

# Setting Up a String Type

```
typedef char * arrayString;
```

The original type

# Setting Up a String Type

```
typedef char *arrayString;
```

The new alias

# Finding the Length of the String

Where else have we needed to find the end of an arbitrary length sequence of characters?

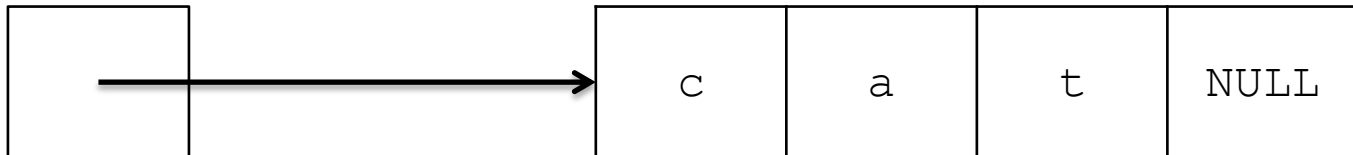


**Look for  
analogies**

# Creating a Test String

```
arrayString str = new char[4];  
string[0] = 'c';  
string[1] = 'a';  
string[2] = 't';  
string[3] = '\\0';
```

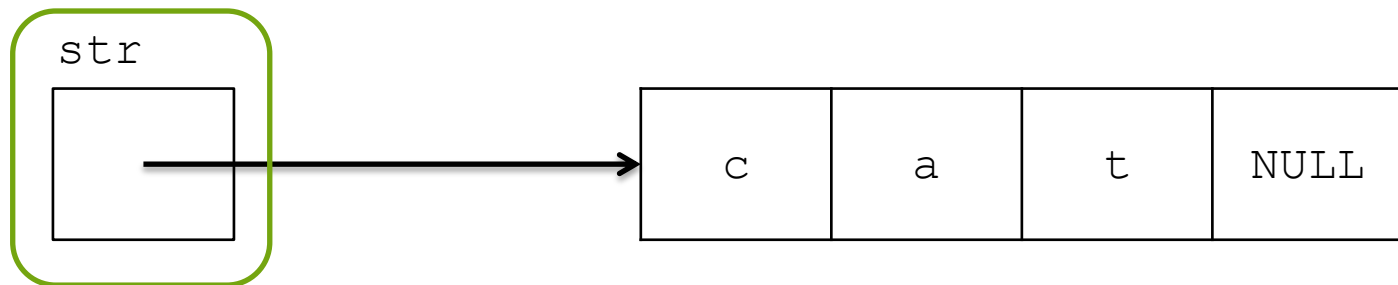
str





# Creating a Test String

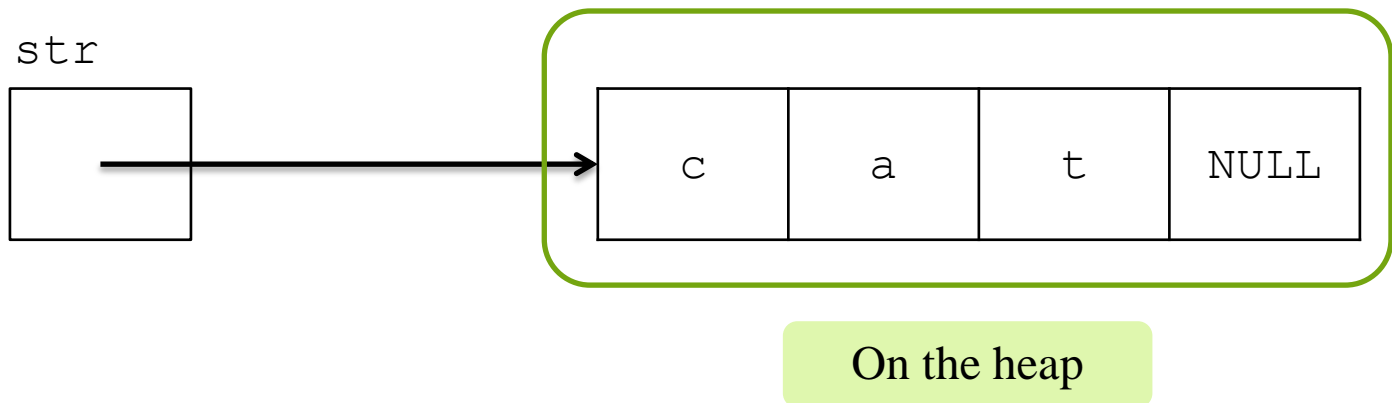
```
arrayString str = new char[4];  
string[0] = 'c';  
string[1] = 'a';  
string[2] = 't';  
string[3] = '\\0';
```



On the stack

# Creating a Test String

```
arrayString str = new char[4];  
string[0] = 'c';  
string[1] = 'a';  
string[2] = 't';  
string[3] = '\\0';
```



# characterAt

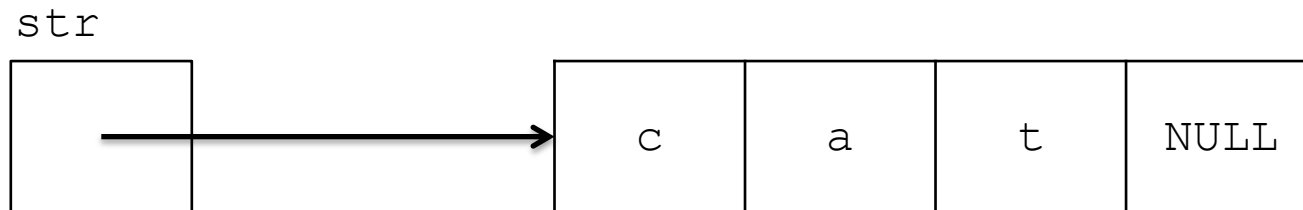
How do we get a single character from an `arrayString` variable?



Start with  
what you  
know

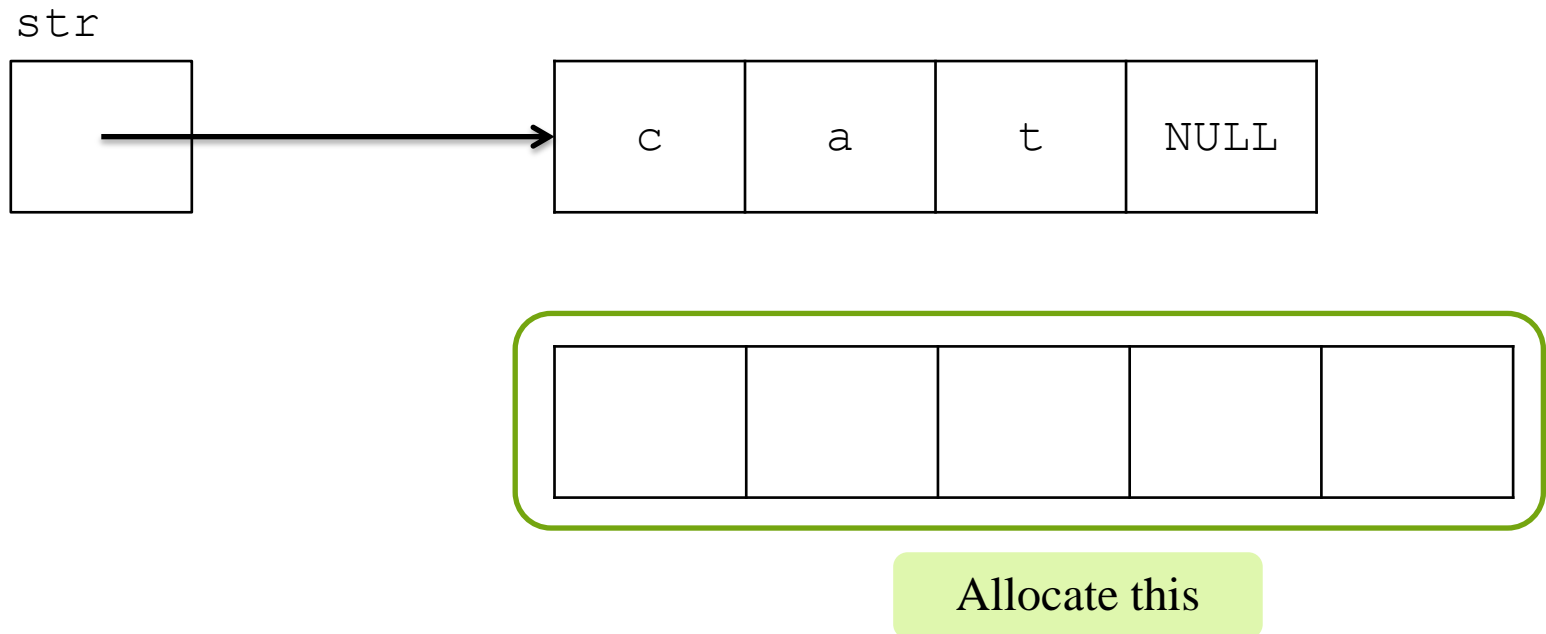
# append

Appending character s to the test string:



# append

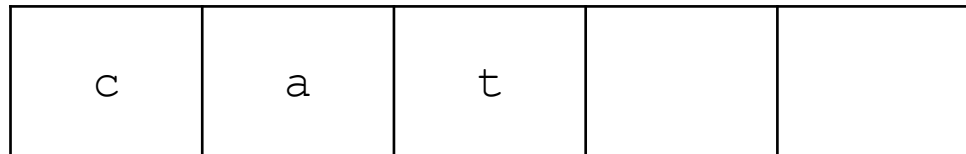
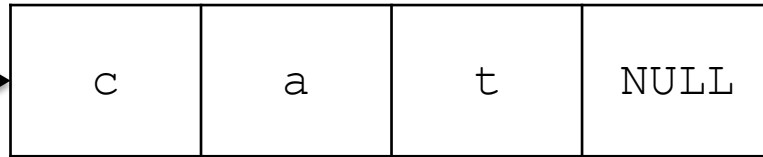
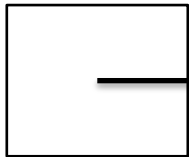
Appending character `s` to the test string:



# append

Appending character s to the test string:

str

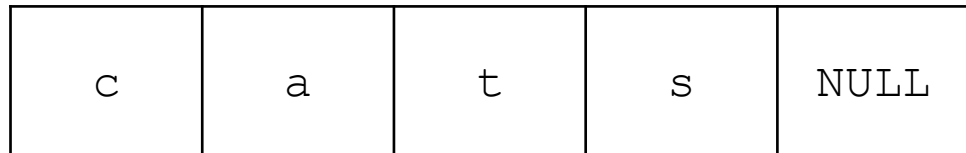
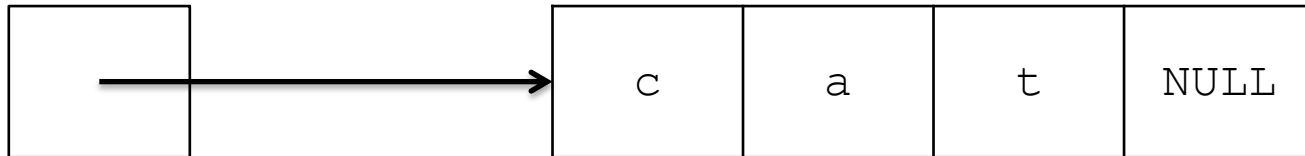


Copy the characters over

# append

Appending character s to the test string:

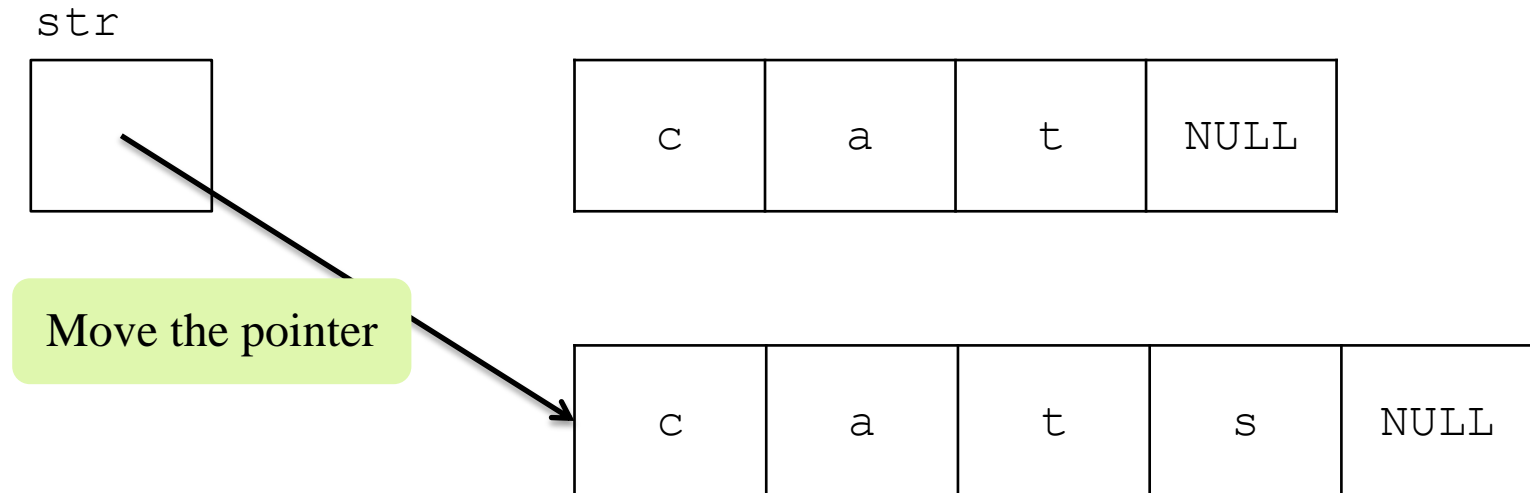
str



Add the new character and NULL terminator

# append

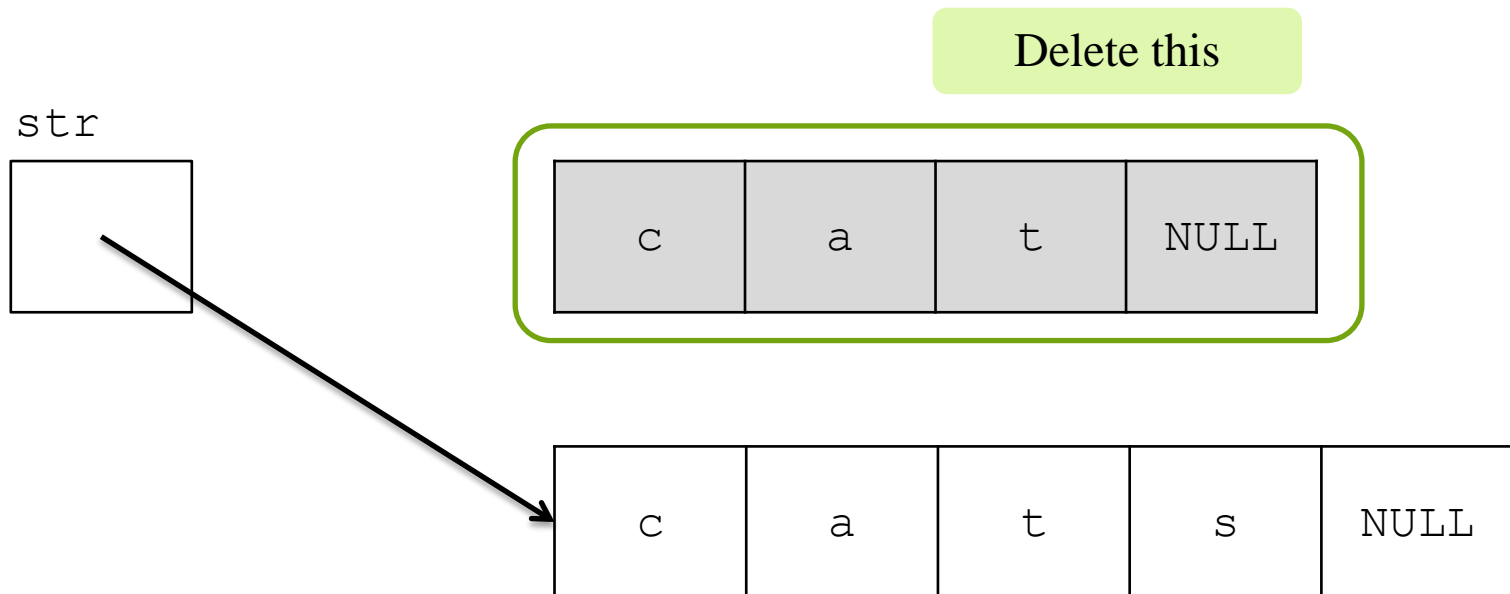
Appending character s to the test string:





# append

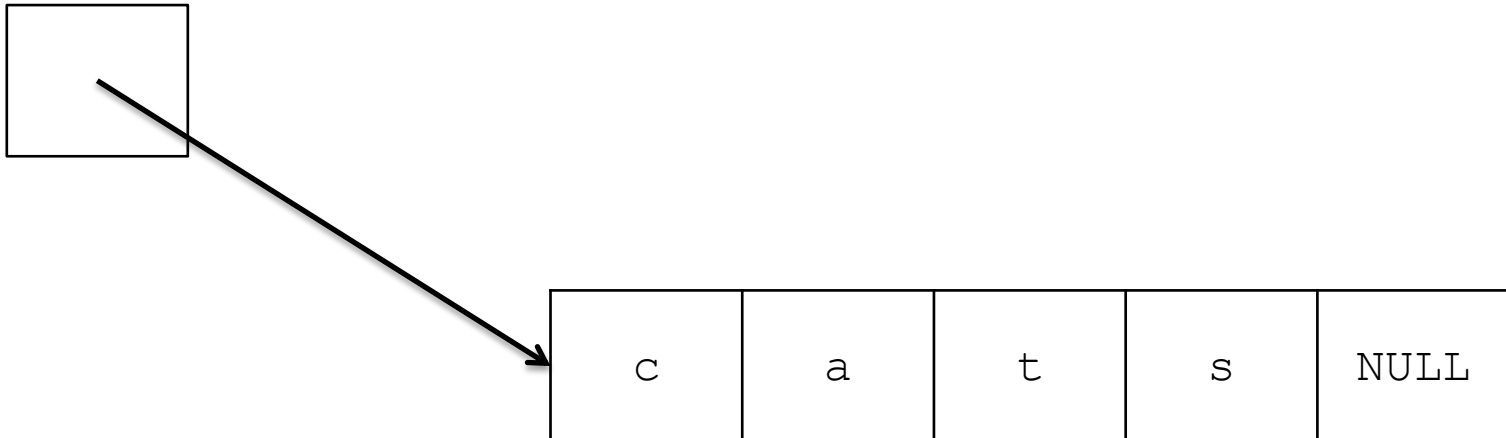
Appending character s to the test string:



# append

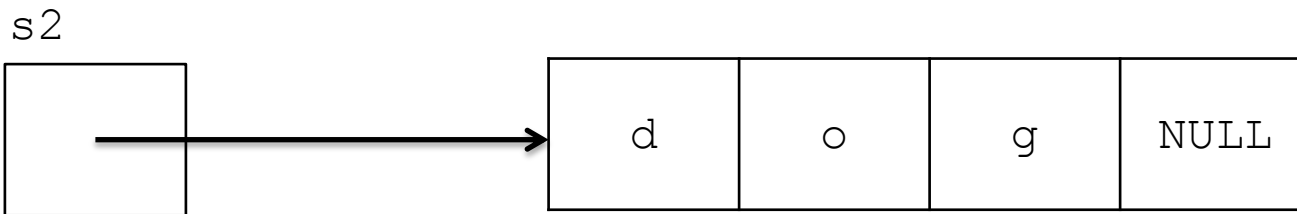
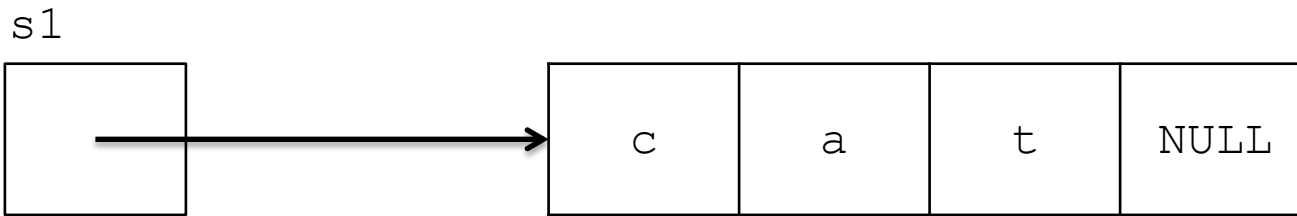
Appending character s to the test string:

str



# concatenate

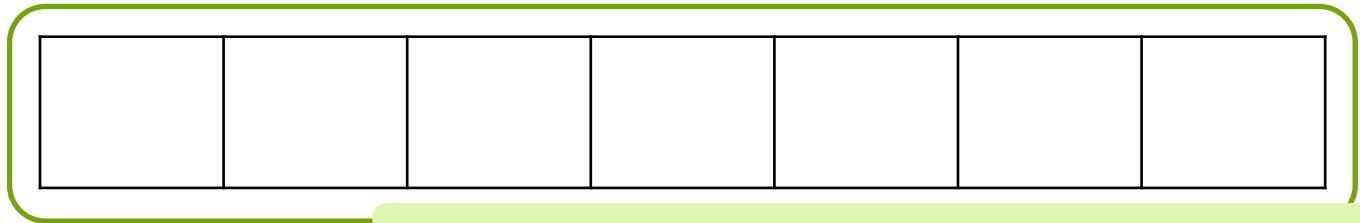
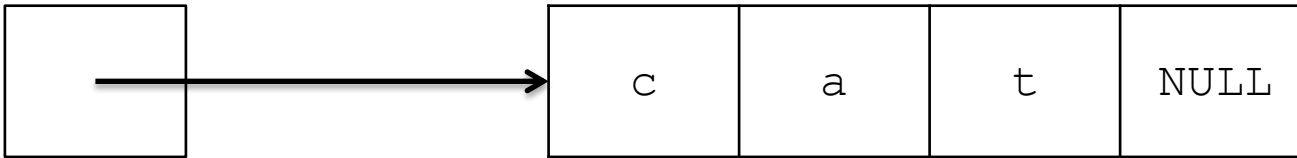
Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:



# concatenate

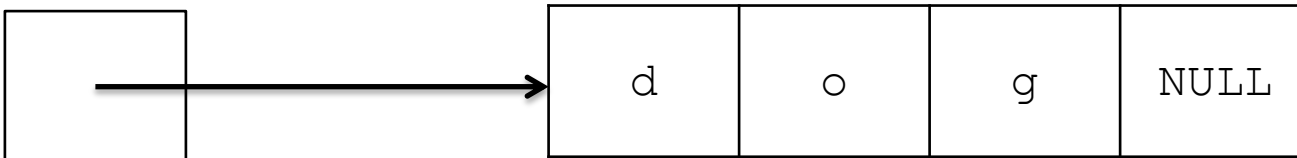
Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

s1



Allocate a new array that will fit everything

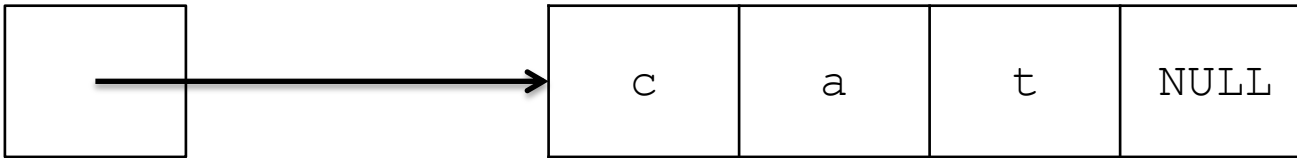
s2



# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

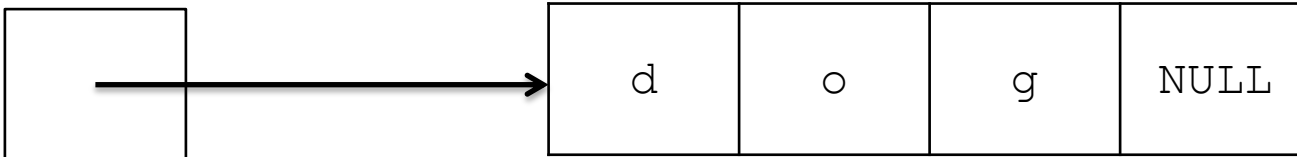
s1



Copy  
everything  
from s1  
first...



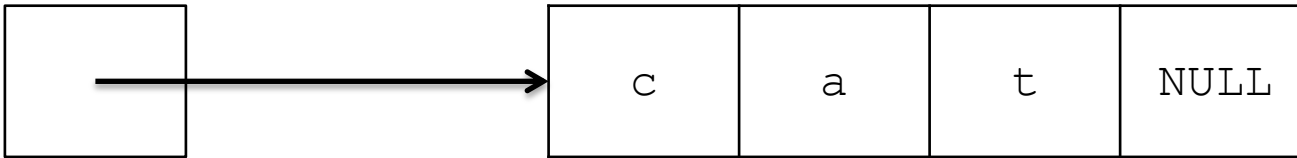
s2



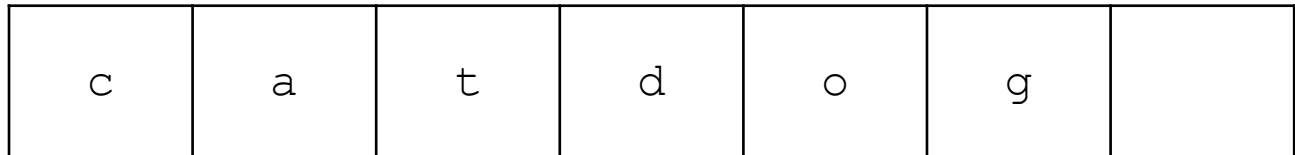
# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

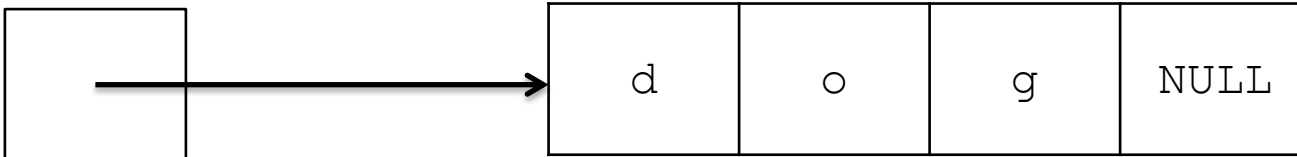
s1



...then s2...



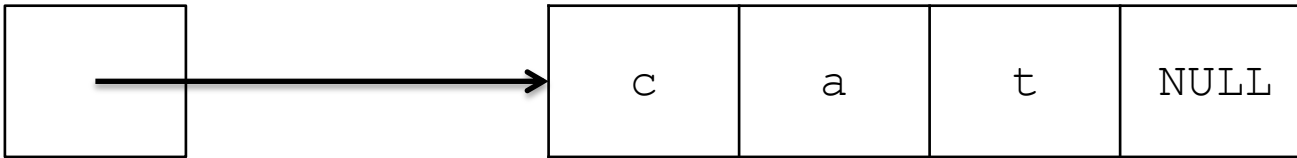
s2



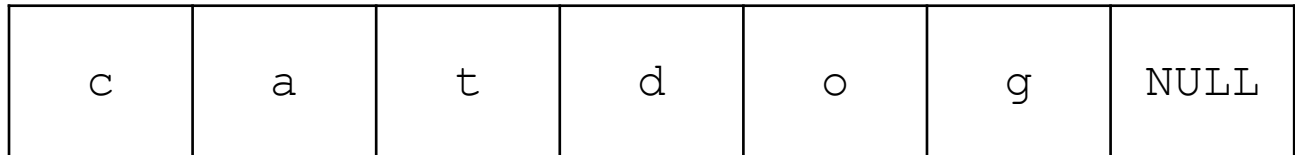
# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

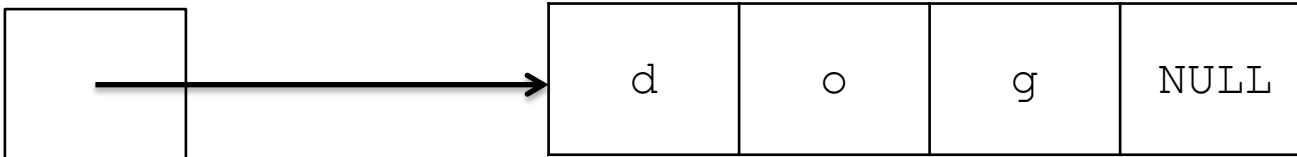
s1



...then add the  
null terminator



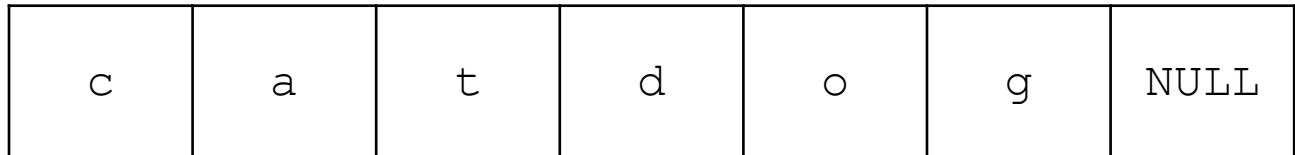
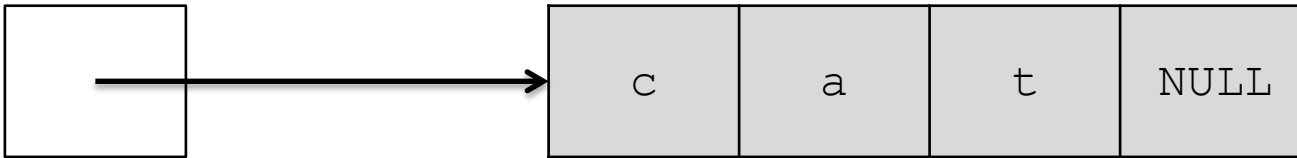
s2



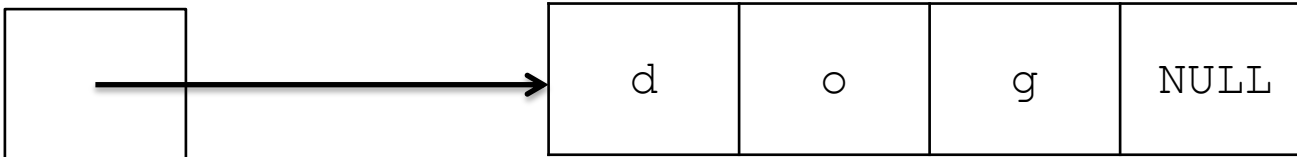
# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

s1



s2

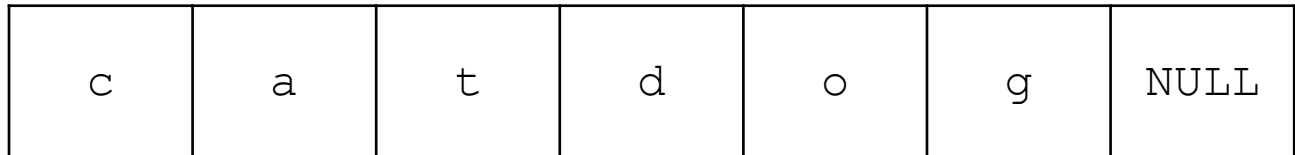




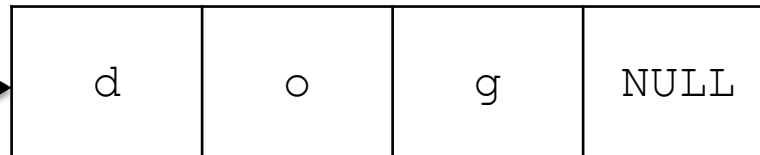
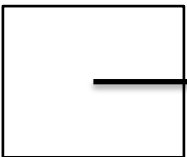
# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

s1



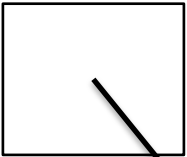
s2



# concatenate

Concatenating s2 to the end of s1:

s1



s2

