Lesson: Structure Alignment

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- The following typical alignments are valid for compilers from Microsoft (Visual C++), ..., and GNU (GCC) when compiling for 32-bit x86:
 - A char (one byte) will be 1-byte aligned.
 - A short (two bytes) will be 2-byte aligned.
 - An int (four bytes) will be 4-byte aligned.
 - A long (four bytes) will be 4-byte aligned.

- A float (four bytes) will be 4-byte aligned.
- A double (eight bytes) will be 8-byte aligned on Windows and 4-byte aligned on Linux (8-byte with -malign-double compile time option).
- A long long (eight bytes) will be 4-byte aligned.

• ...

```
struct a_t{
                char c1;
                int i;
                char c2;
              };
              int main(void)
                struct a_t a;
                printf("Size: %d\n", sizeof(a));
                printf("Address c1: %p\n",&a.c1);
                printf("Address i: %p\n", &a.i);
                printf("Address c2: %p\n",&a.c2);
                return 0;
                                      Size: 12
                                      Address c1: 0xfff000bd0
                                      Address i: 0xfff000bd4
  padding
                                      Address c2: 0xfff000bd8
           3
                   5
                           7
               4
                       6
                               8
                                   9
                                       10
                                          11
0
                               c2
c1
```

#include <stdio.h>

```
#include <stdio.h>
              struct a_t{
                char c1;
                char c2;
                int i;
              };
              int main(void)
                struct a_t a;
                printf("Size: %d\n", sizeof(a));
                printf("Address c1: %p\n",&a.c1);
                printf("Address i: %p\n", &a.i);
                printf("Address c2: %p\n",&a.c2);
                return 0;
                                      Size: 8
                                      Address c1: 0xfff000bd0
                                      Address i: 0xfff000bd4
    padding
                                      Address c2: 0xfff000bd1
           3
               4
                   5
                      6
   c2
c1
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
// Use 1-byte alignment
#pragma pack (1)
struct a_t{
  char c1;
  int i;
  char c2;
};
int main(void)
  struct a_t a;
  printf("Size: %d\n",sizeof(a));
  printf("Address c1: %p\n",&a.c1);
  printf("Address i: %p\n", &a.i);
  printf("Address c2: %p\n",&a.c2);
  return 0;
                       Size: 6
                       Address c1: 0xfff000bd0
                       Address i: 0xfff000bd1
                       Address c2: 0xfff000bd5
```

0 1 2 3 4 5 c1 i c2

```
#include <stdio.h>
              // Use 2-byte alignment
              #pragma pack (2)
              struct a_t{
                char c1;
                int i;
                char c2;
              };
              int main(void)
                struct a_t a;
                printf("Size: %d\n",sizeof(a));
                printf("Address c1: %p\n",&a.c1);
                printf("Address i: %p\n", &a.i);
                printf("Address c2: %p\n",&a.c2);
                return 0;
                                      Size: 8
                                      Address c1: 0xfff000bd0
  padding
                                      Address i: 0xfff000bd2
                                      Address c2: 0xfff000bd6
           3
                   5
                          7
               4
                      6
                       c2
c1
```