

Mr C is Pointing to Something Useful

ESC101: Fundamentals of Computing

Purushottam Kar

Announcements

- Advanced Track meetings on Friday – check your mail
- Emergency joint tutorial for sections B1 and B13
 - Friday, 28 September 2018, 12noon (same time as usual)
 - L19 (not the same room)
 - Only for B1, B13 – rest of sections go as usual to TB room
 - Special arrangement only for this week – next week as usual in TB for all



The sizeof various variable types

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8 bits □ make a byte □□□□□□□□



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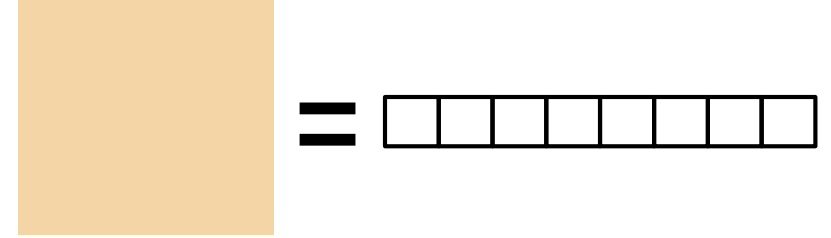


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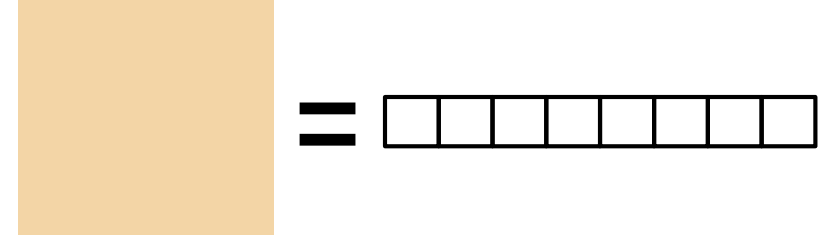
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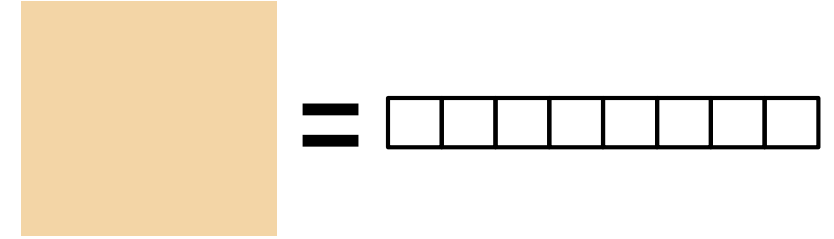
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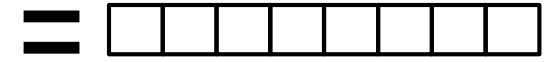
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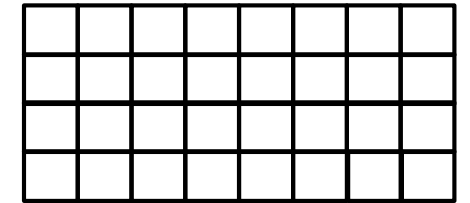
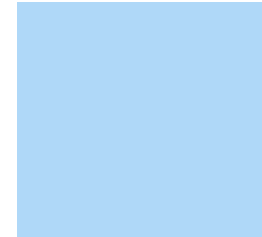
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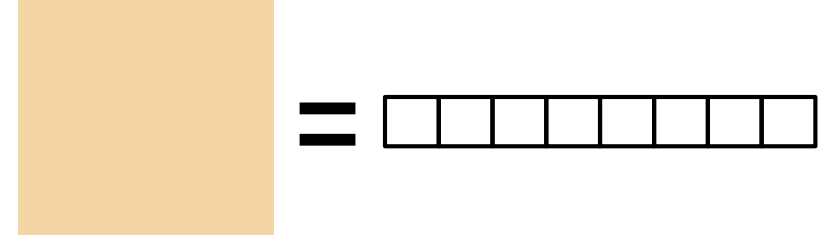
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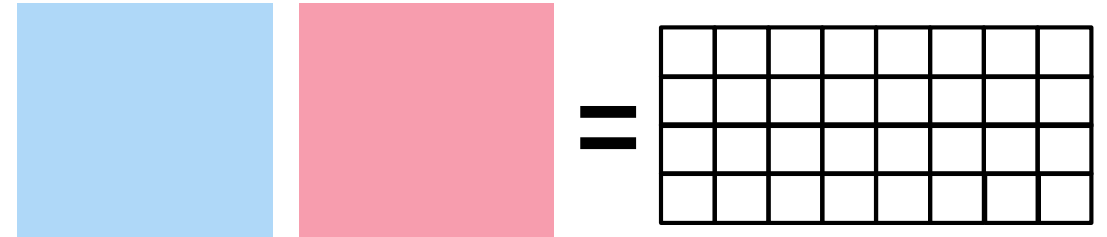
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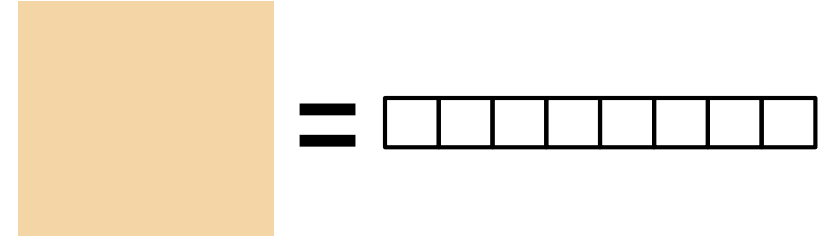
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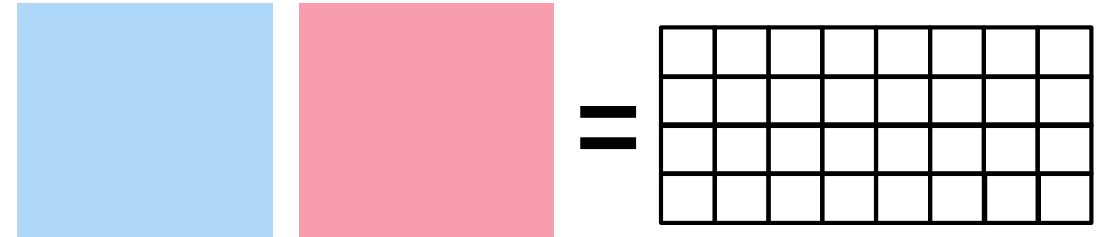
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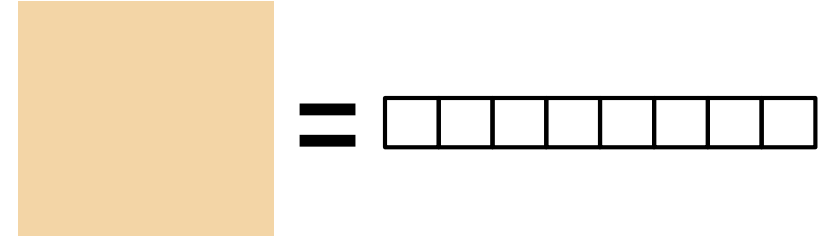
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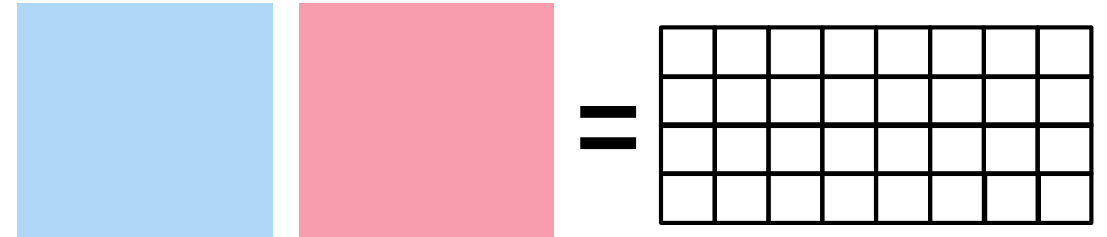
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long/double takes 8 bytes = 64 bits



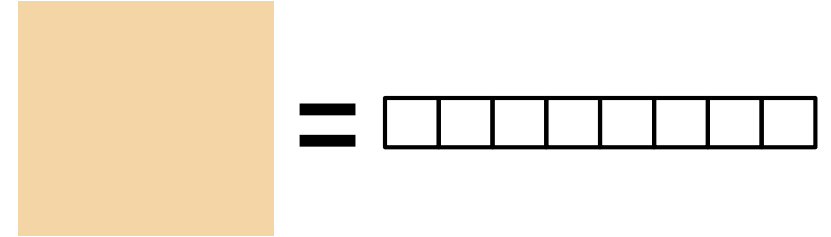
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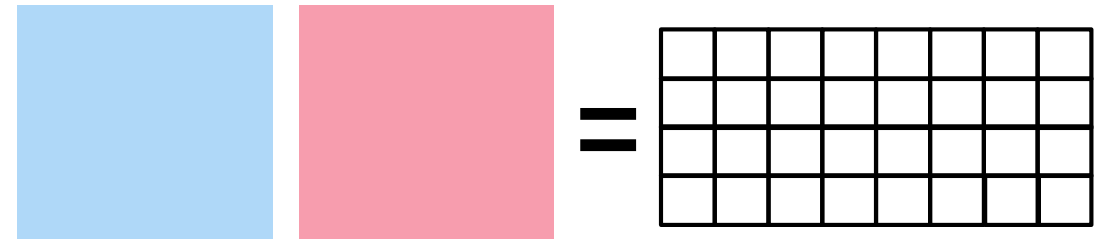
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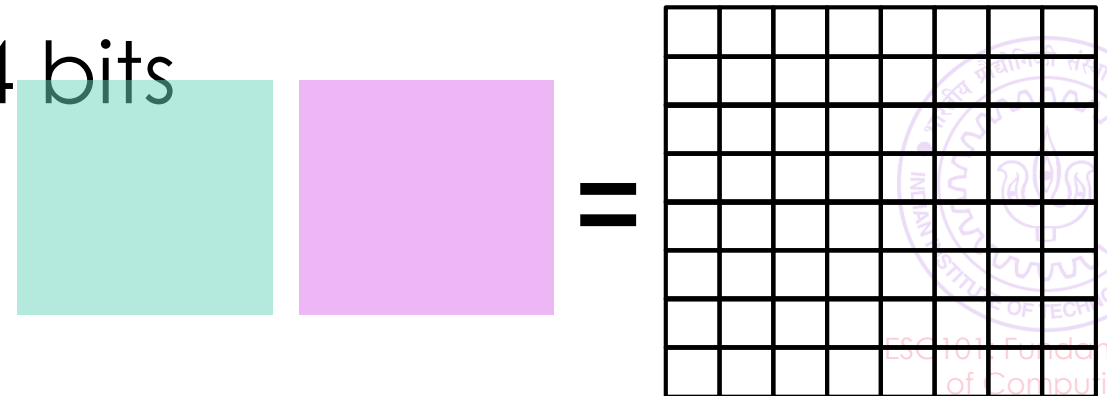
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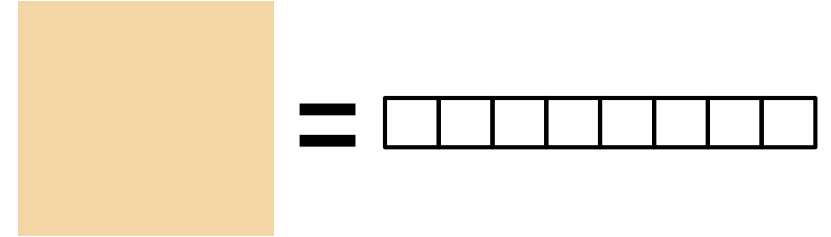
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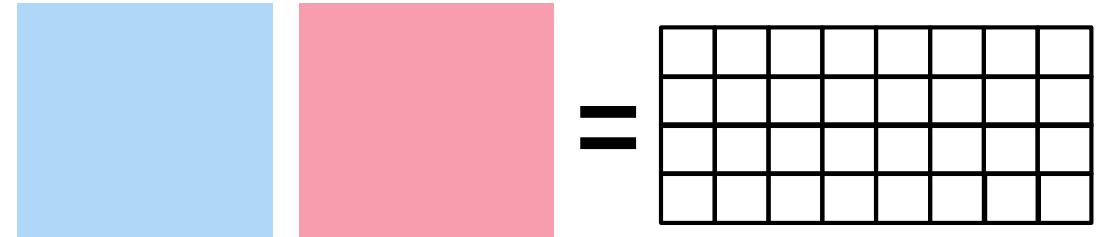
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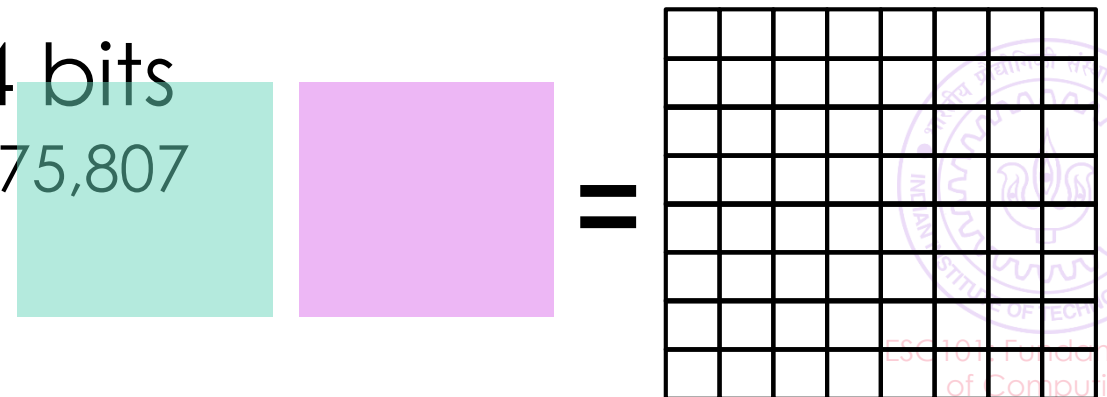
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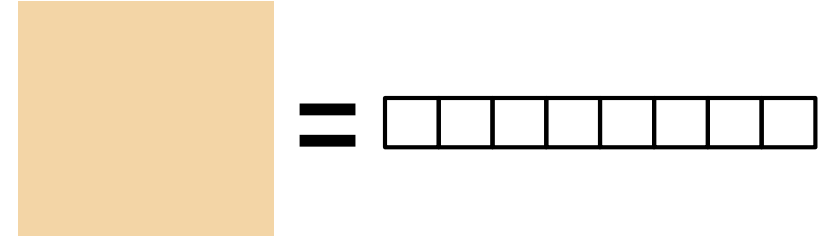
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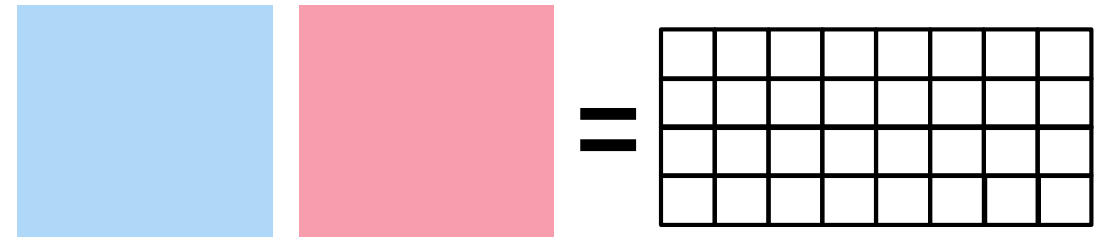
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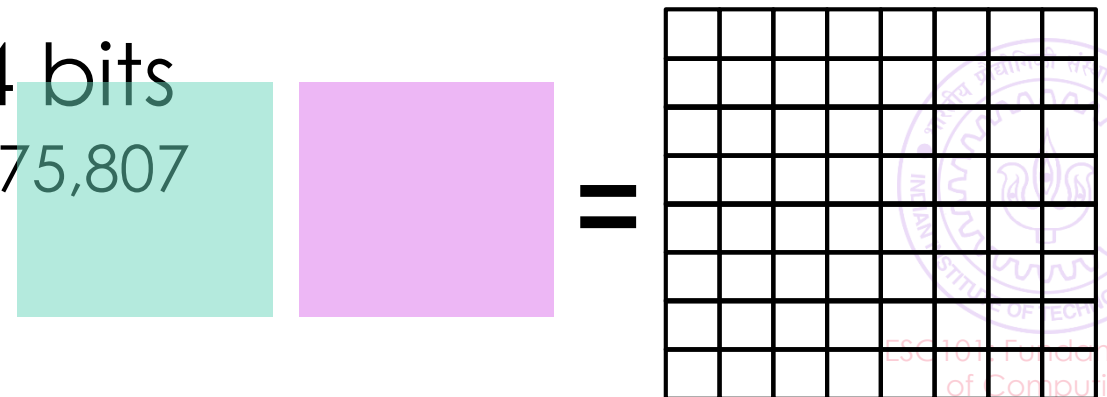
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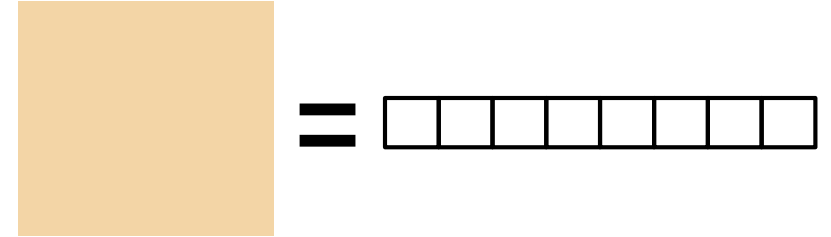
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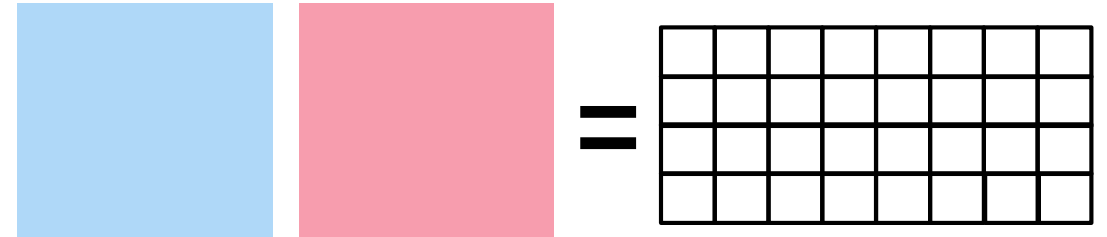
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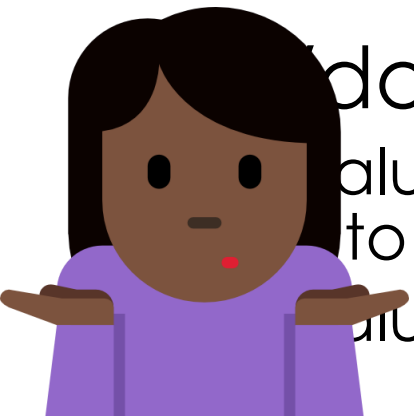
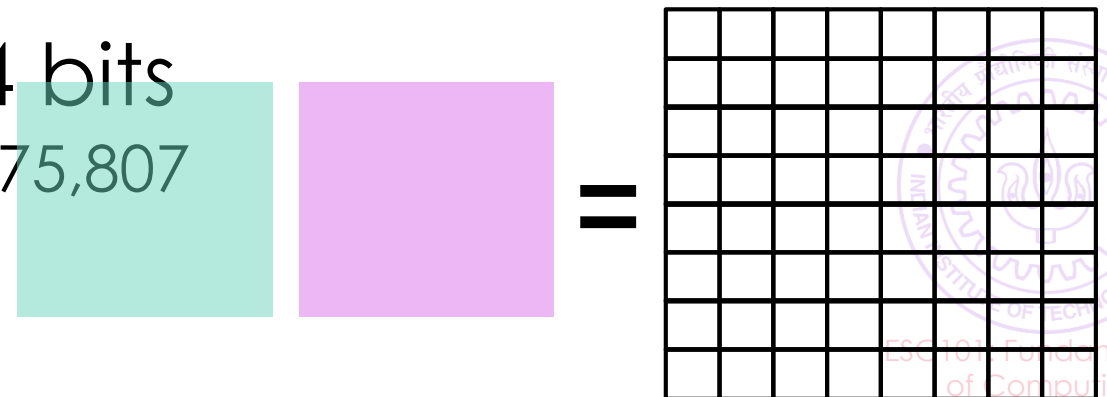
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double takes 8 bytes = 64 bits

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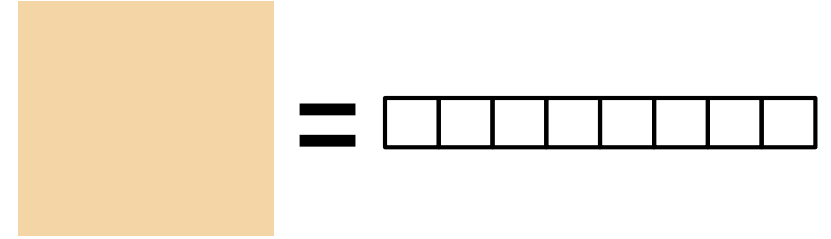
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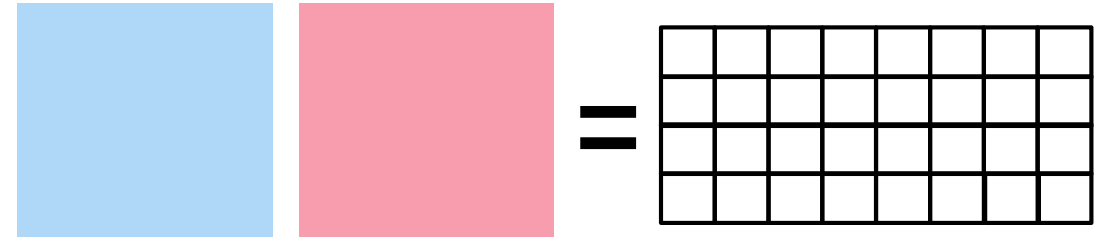
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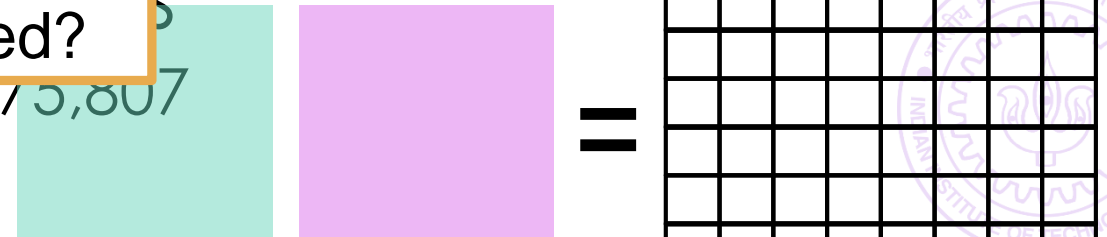


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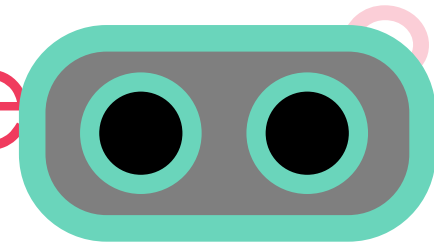
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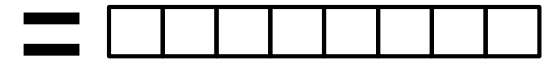
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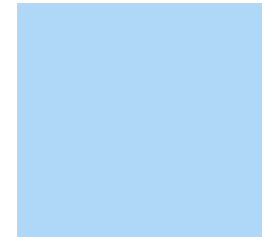
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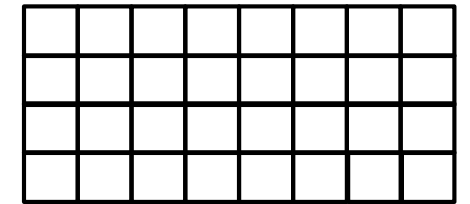
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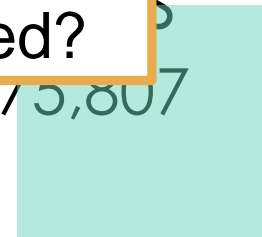
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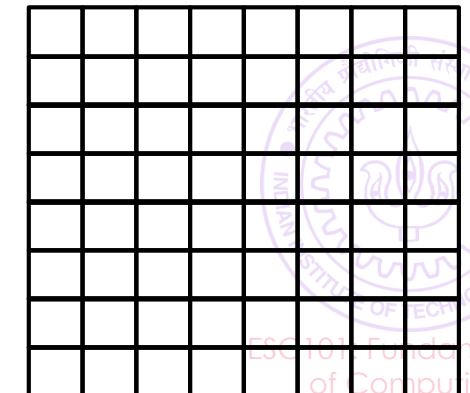
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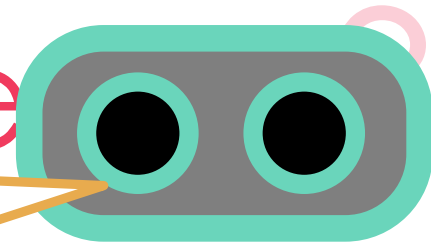
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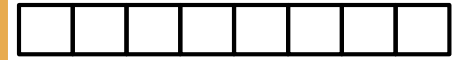
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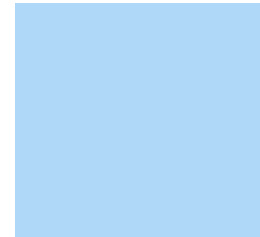


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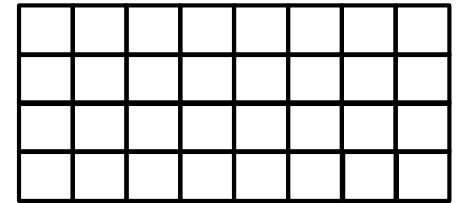
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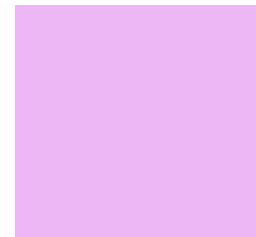
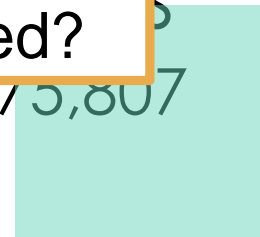
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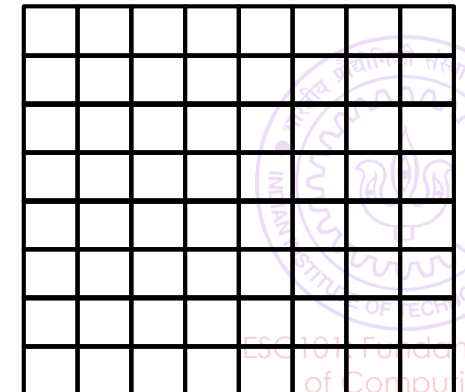
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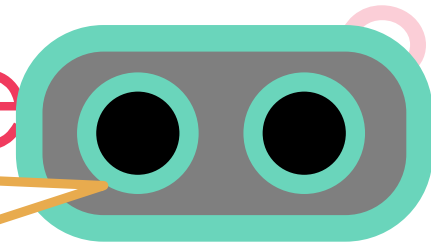
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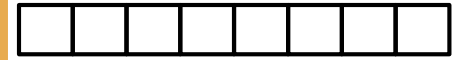
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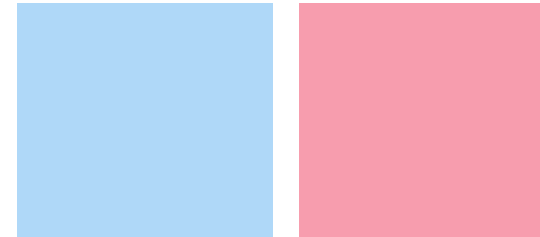


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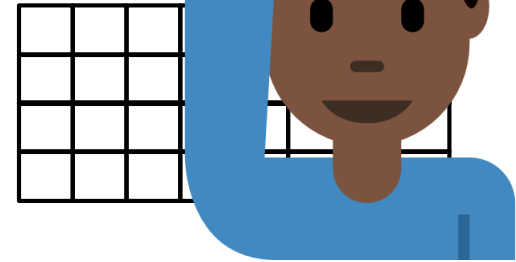
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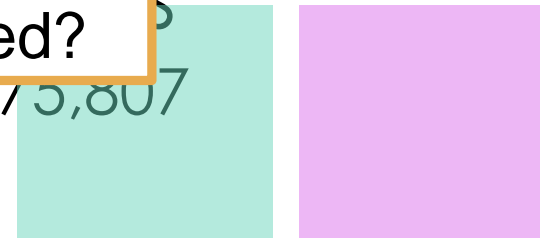


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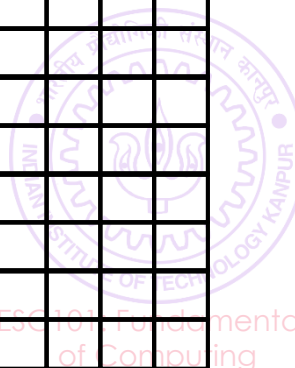
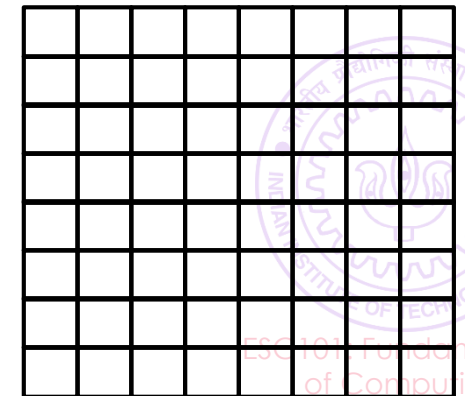
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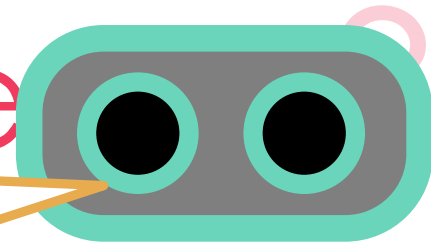
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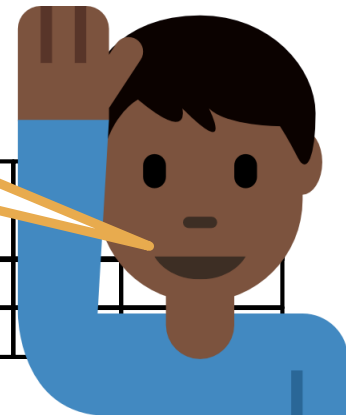
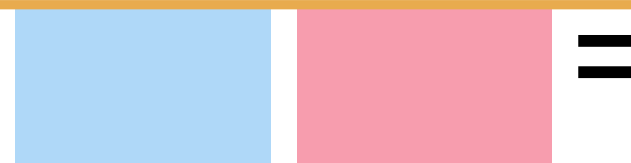
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We will wait a few weeks to learn how negative numbers are stored

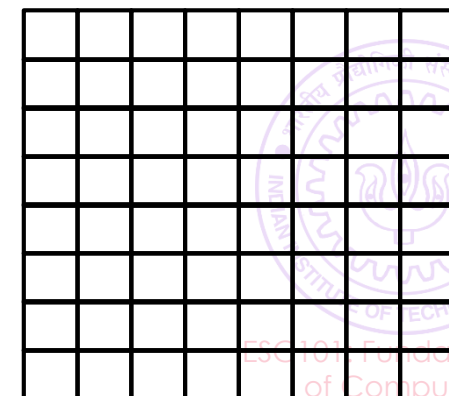
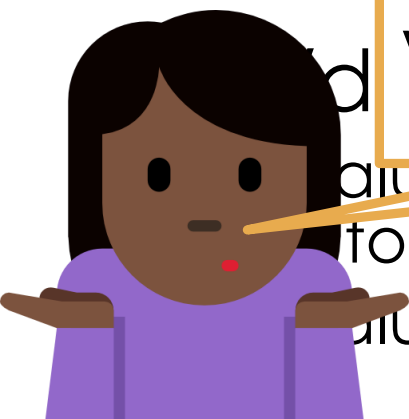
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How Mr C stores variables

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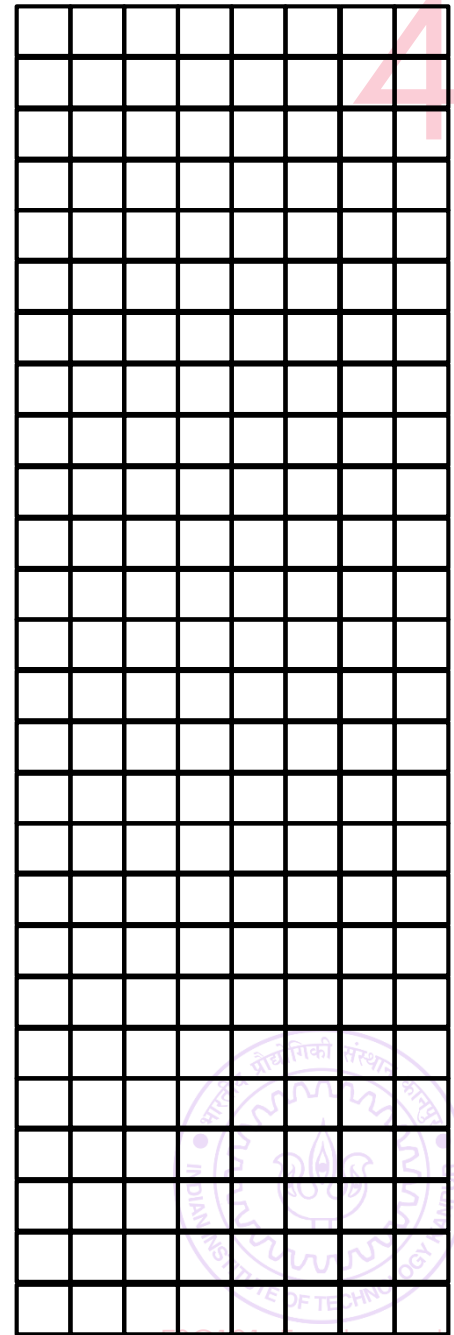
4

He has a very long chain of bytes



How Mr C stores variables

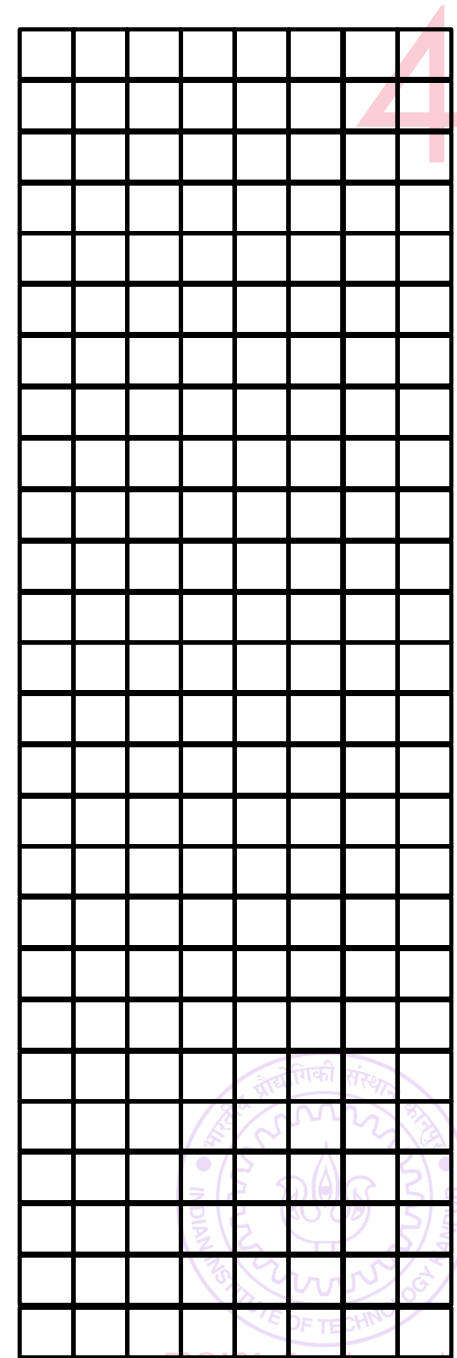
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How Mr C stores variables

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[illegible]

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All addresses can be stored within 8 bytes

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000004								
000005								
000006								
000007								
000008								
000009								
000010								
000011								
000012								
000013								
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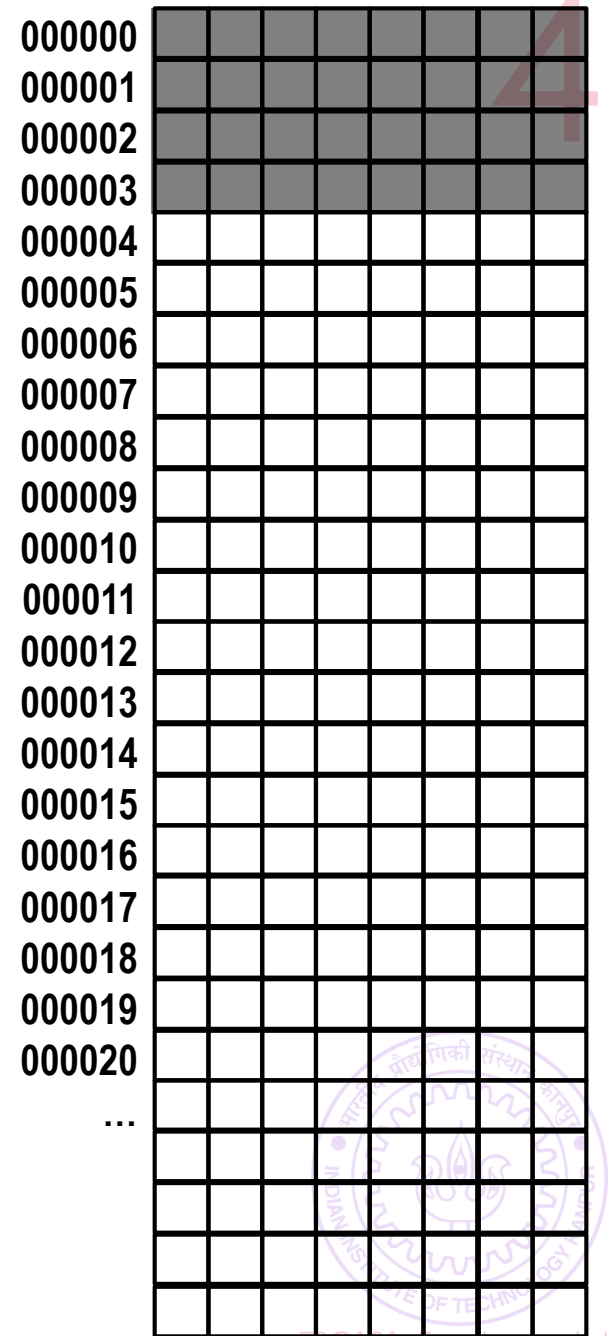
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Others can be used by you for variables

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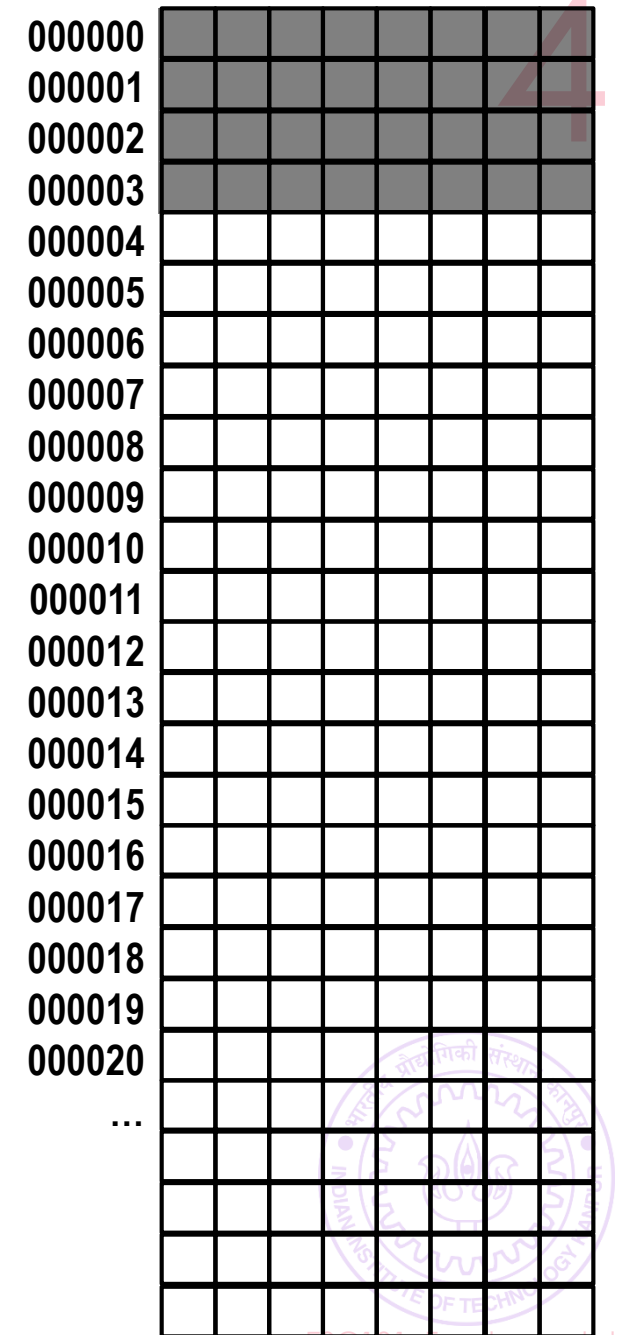
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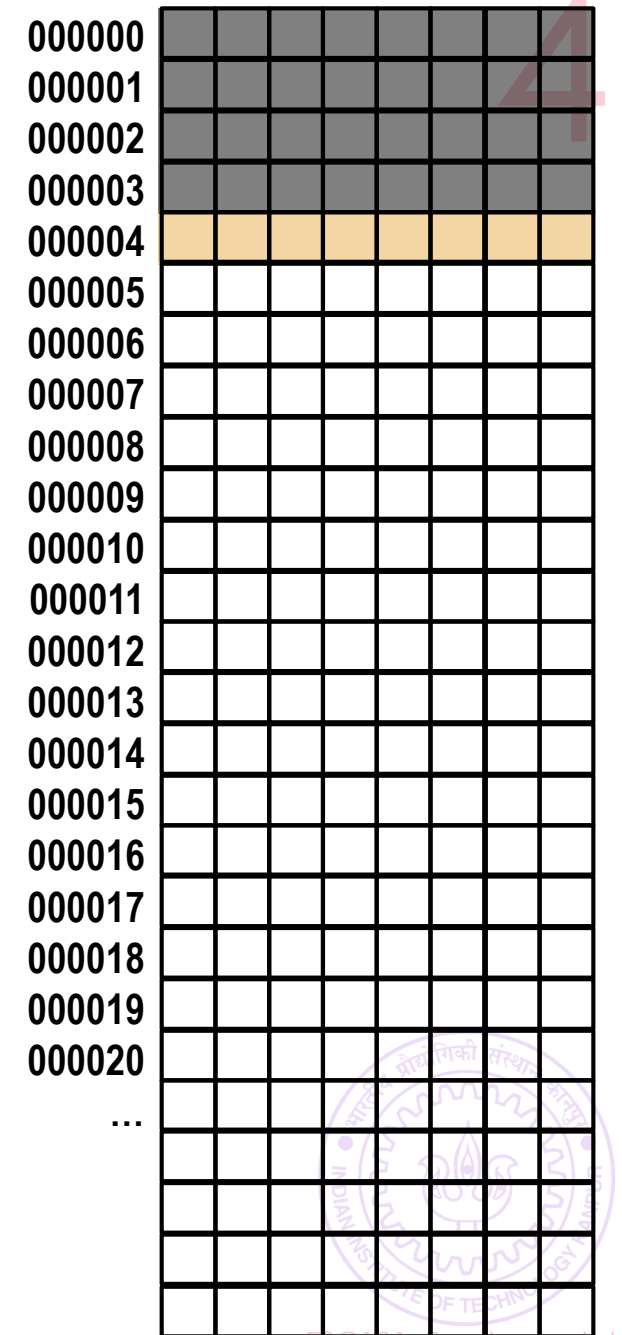
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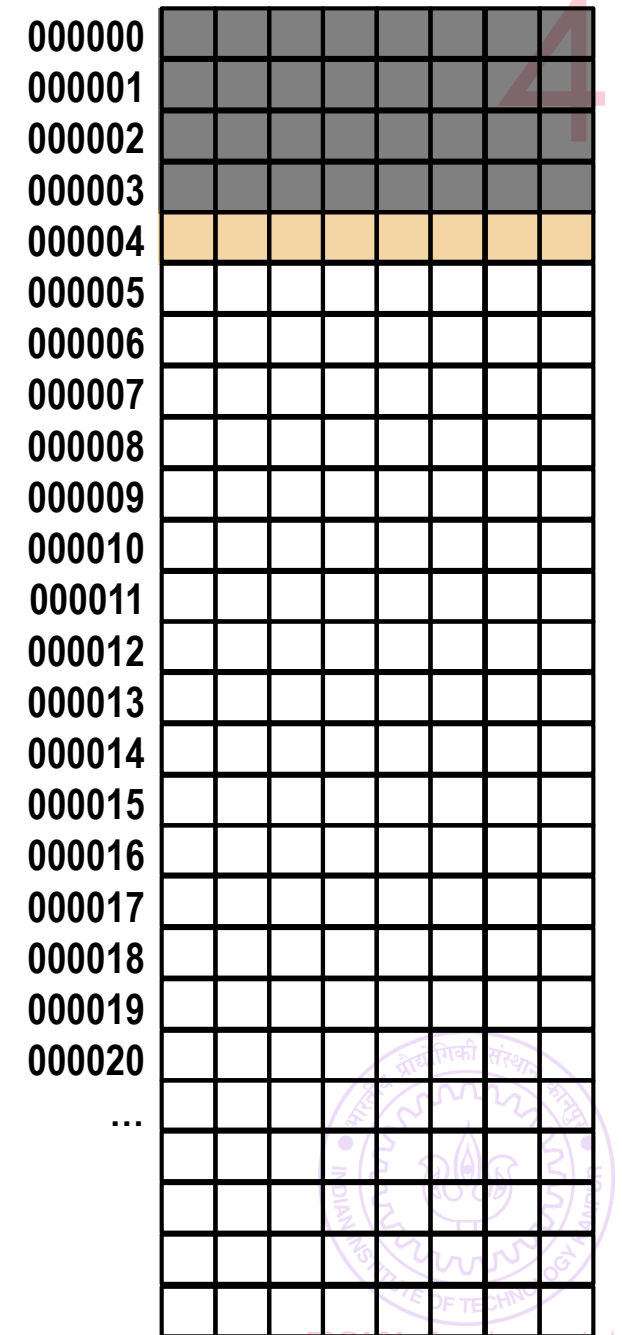
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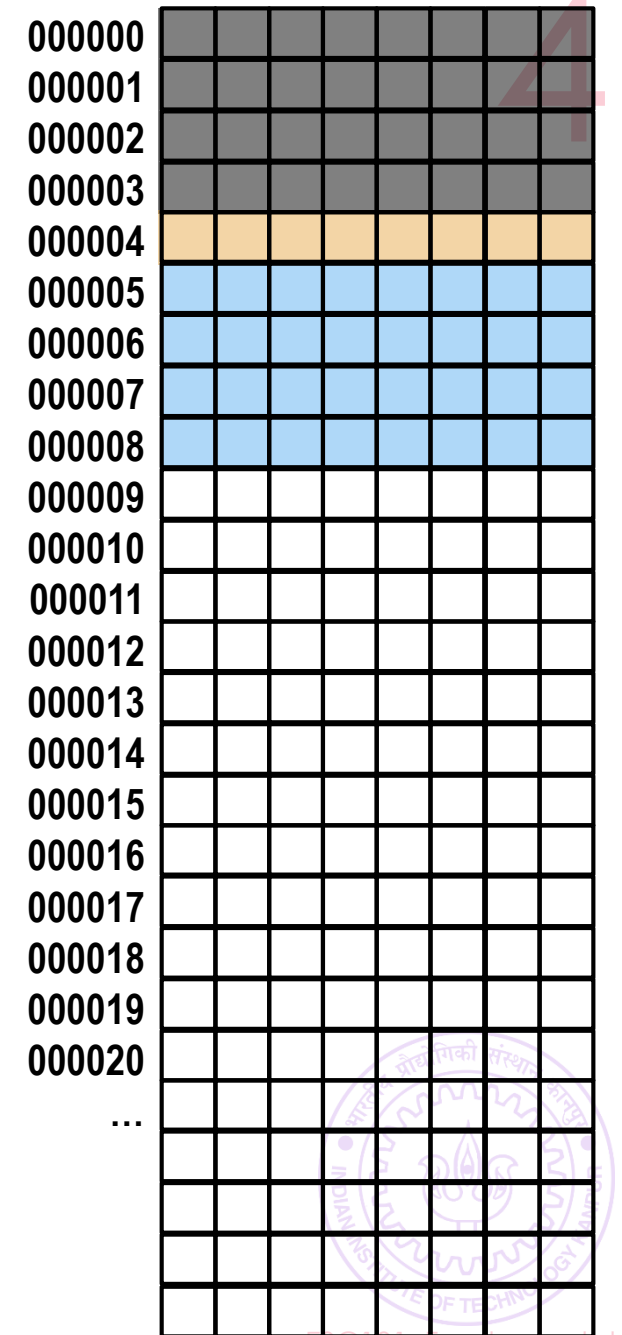
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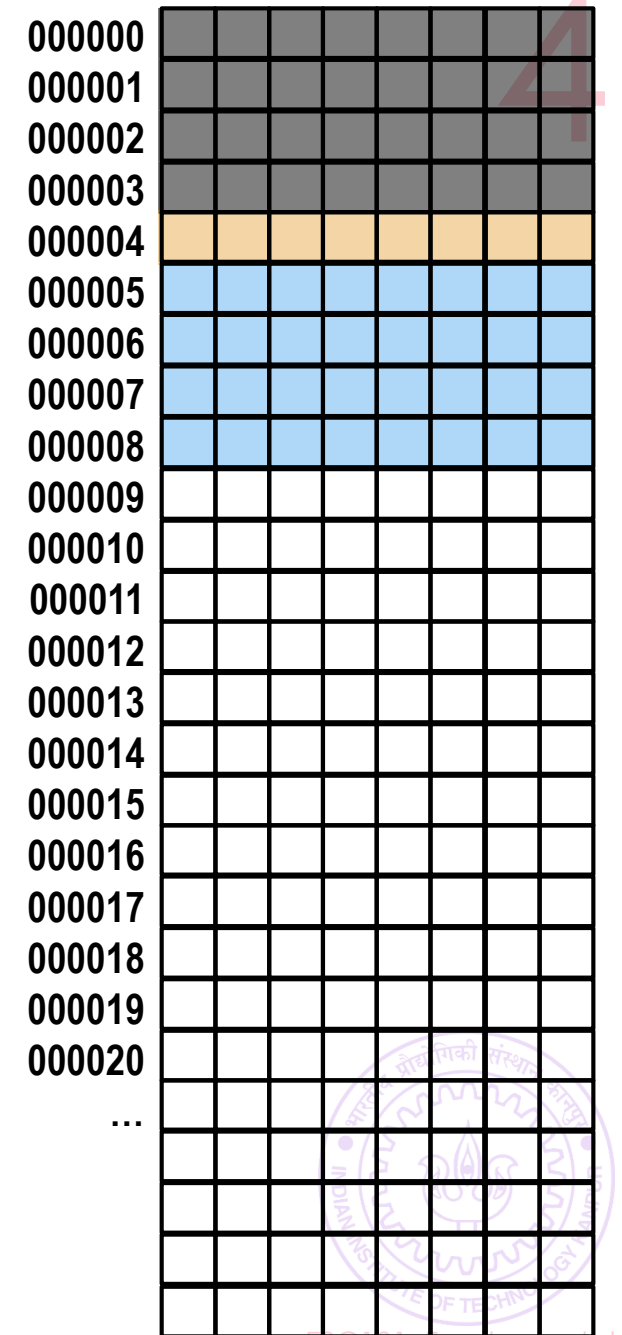
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`int a;`

`double d;`



How Mr C stores variables

He has a very long chain of bytes

Each byte has an "address"

All addresses can be stored within 8 bytes

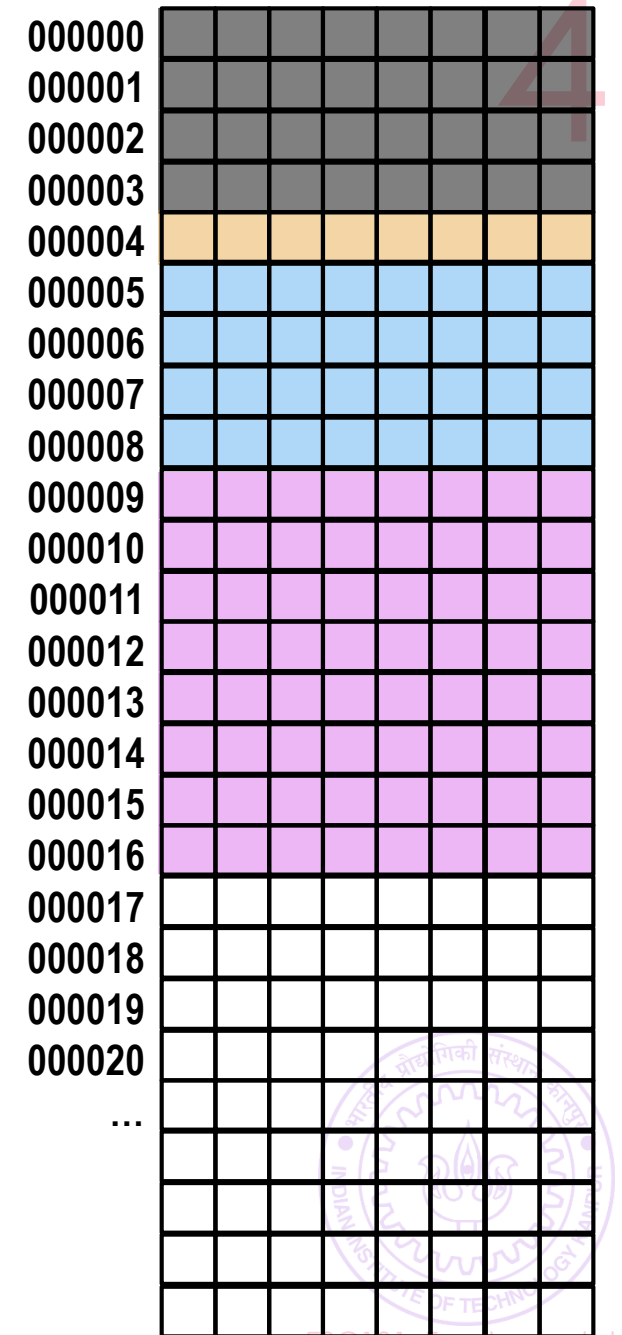
Some addresses are reserved for Mr C

Others can be used by you for variables

```
char c;
```

```
int a;
```

```
double d;
```



How Mr C stores variables

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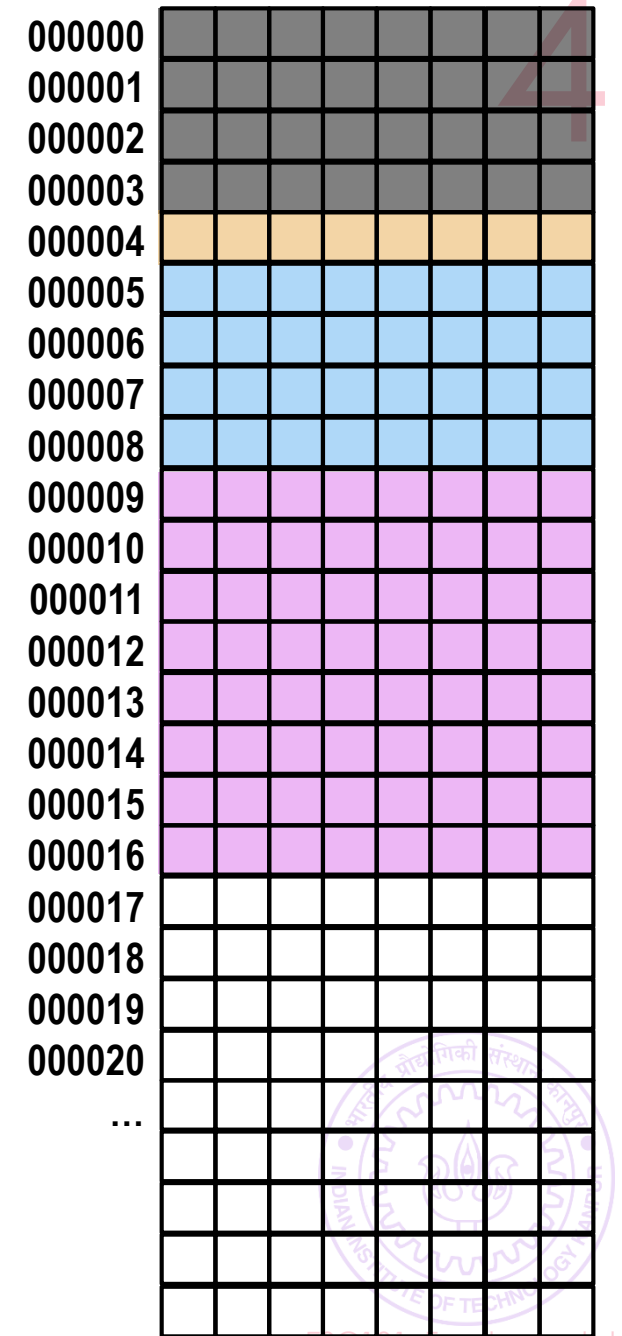
Others can be used by you for variables

`char c;`

`int a;`

`double d;`

So c is stored at address 000004, a at 000005
and d at address 000009



Pointers

5



Pointers

5

Don't let anyone scare you – pointers are just a way to store these addresses



Pointers

5

Don't let anyone scare you – pointers are just a way to store these addresses

Each pointer is a collection of 8 bytes (same size as long) that is storing one of these internal addresses



Pointers

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Each pointer is a collection of 8 bytes (same size as long) that is storing one of these internal addresses

Be careful not to confuse these internal addresses with array indices. Array indices are what **you** use to write nice code. These addresses are used by Mr C to manage stuff



Pointers

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Pointers

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Be careful not to confuse these internal addresses with array indices. Array indices are what **you** use to write nice code. These addresses are used by Mr C to manage stuff

In some sense Mr C manages a ridiculously huge array!

Pointers can allow us to write very beautiful code but it is a very powerful tool – misuse it and you may suffer ☺



Pointers

6



Pointers

6

Can have pointers to a char variable, int variable, long variable, float variable, double variable



Pointers

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Can have pointers to a char variable, int variable, long variable, float variable, double variable

Can have pointers to arrays of all kinds of variables



Pointers

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All pointers stored internally as 8 byte non-negative integers



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NULL pointer – one that stores address 00000000



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Do not try to read from/write to address 00000000

Reserved by Mr C or else the operating system

Doing so will cause a segfault and crash your program/even your computer



My first pointer

7



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

```
#include <stdio.h>  
int main(){
```



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 42;
```



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

```
    int *ptr;
```



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

```
    int *ptr;
```

```
    ptr = &a;
```



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 42;
    int *ptr;
    ptr = &a;
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```



My first pointer

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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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int main(){
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My first pointer

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My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(){
    int a = 42;
    int *ptr;
    ptr = &a;
    printf("%d", *ptr);
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```



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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    int a = 42;
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HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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    ptr = &a;
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    return 0;
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```

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

a is an int variable, value 42



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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int main(){
    int a = 42;
    int *ptr;
    ptr = &a;
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    return 0;
}
```

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

a is an int variable, value 42
ptr is a pointer that will store
address to an int variable



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

```
#include <stdio.h>

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    int a = 42;
    int *ptr;
    ptr = &a;
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    return 0;
}
```

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

a is an int variable, value 42
ptr is a pointer that will store
address to an int variable
Please store address of a in ptr



My first pointer

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

```
#include <stdio.h>

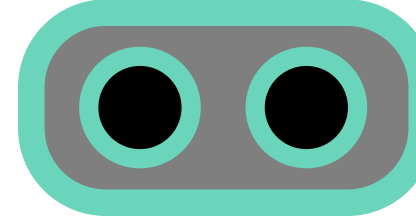
int main(){
    int a = 42;
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    ptr = &a;
    printf("%d", *ptr);
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```

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

a is an int variable, value 42
ptr is a pointer that will store
address to an int variable
Please store address of a in ptr
Please print the value of the int
stored at the address in ptr



My first pointer



7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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    int *ptr;
    ptr = &a;
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    return 0;
}
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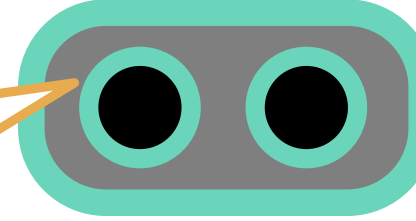
HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

a is an int variable, value 42
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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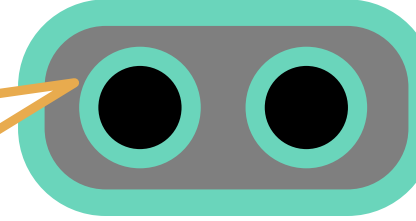
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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

```
int main(){
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```
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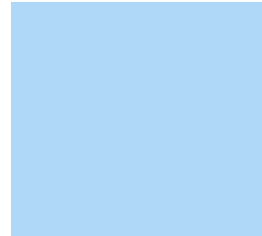
```
    int *ptr;
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000023

a

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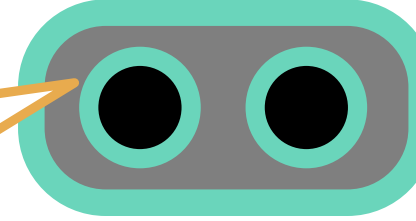
Please store address of a in ptr

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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

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```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

42

000023

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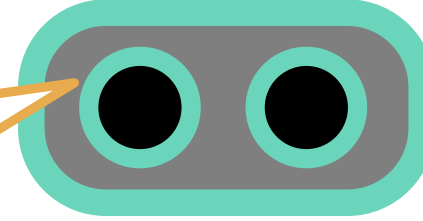
Please store address of a in ptr

Please print the value of the int
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My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.



7

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```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

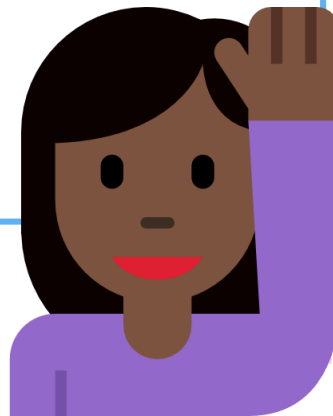
42

000023

a

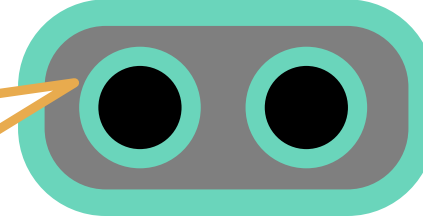
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



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```
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```

```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

42

000023

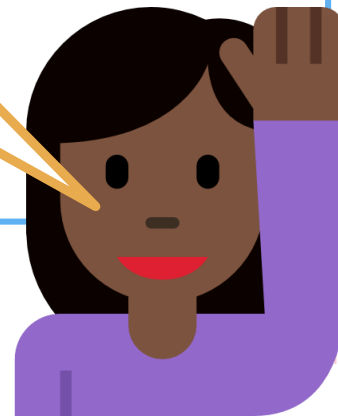
a

a is an int variable, value 42
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Please store address of a in ptr

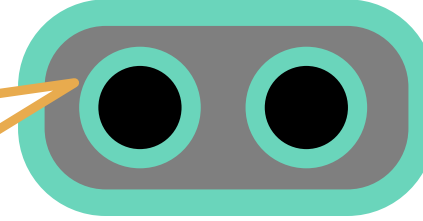
Please print the value of the int
stored at the address in ptr

a is stored at internal
location 000023



My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.



7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

```
    int *ptr;
```

```
    ptr = &a;
```

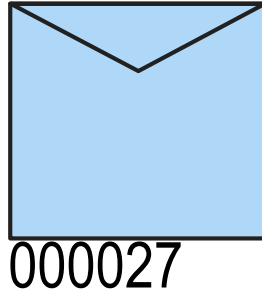
```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a



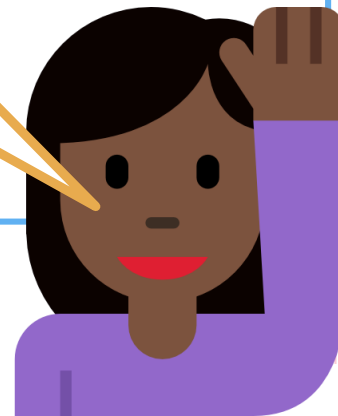
ptr

a is an int variable, value 42
ptr is a pointer that will store
address to an int variable

Please store address of a in ptr

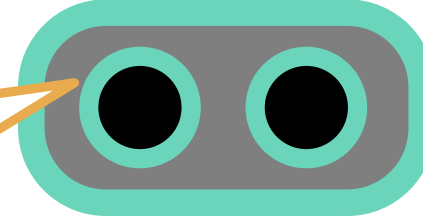
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My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.



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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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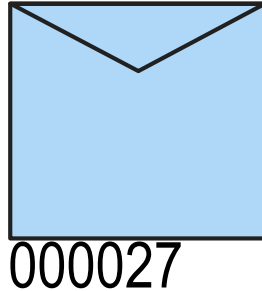
```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a



ptr

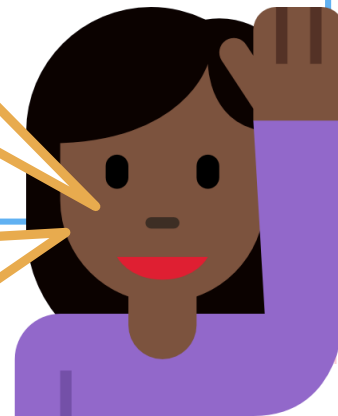
a is an int variable, value 42
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Please store address of a in ptr

Please print the value of the int
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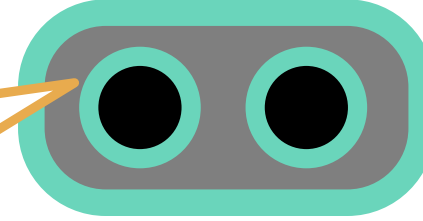
a is stored at internal
location 000023

int takes 4 bytes
to store



My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.



7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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#include <stdio.h>
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```
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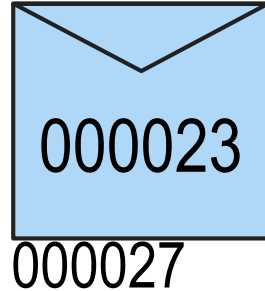
```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a



ptr

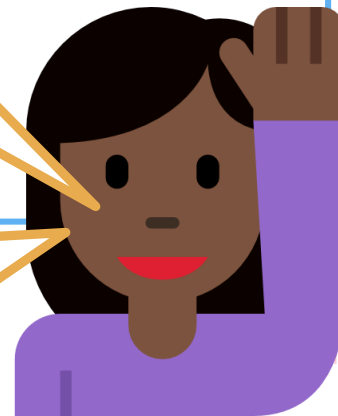
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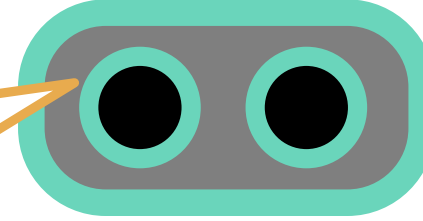
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My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.



7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

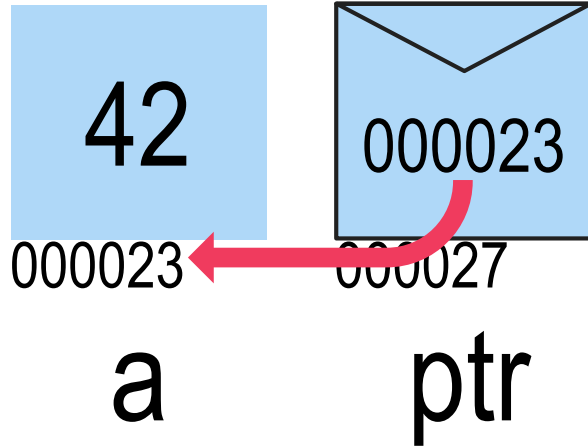
```
    int *ptr;
```

```
    ptr = &a;
```

```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
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```
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a is an int variable, value 42

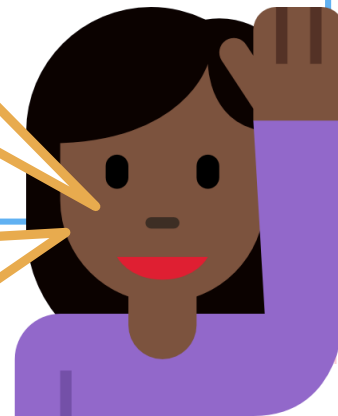
ptr is a pointer that will store
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Please store address of a in ptr

Please print the value of the int
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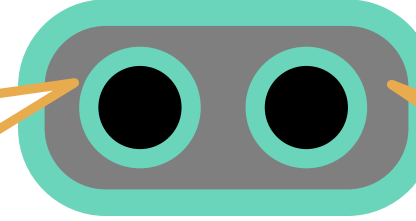
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int takes 4 bytes
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



42

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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#include <stdio.h>
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```
int main(){
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```
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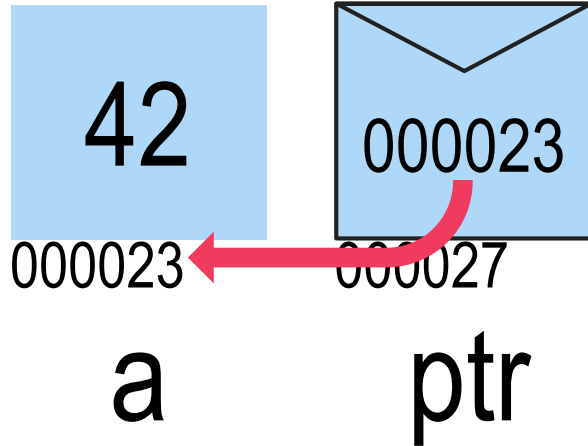
```
    int *ptr;
```

```
    ptr = &a;
```

```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a is an int variable, value 42

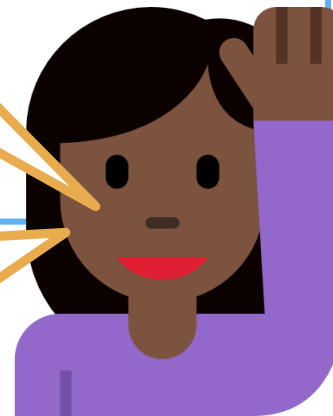
ptr is a pointer that will store
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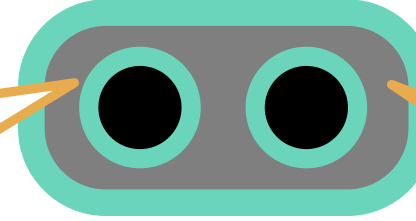
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



42

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

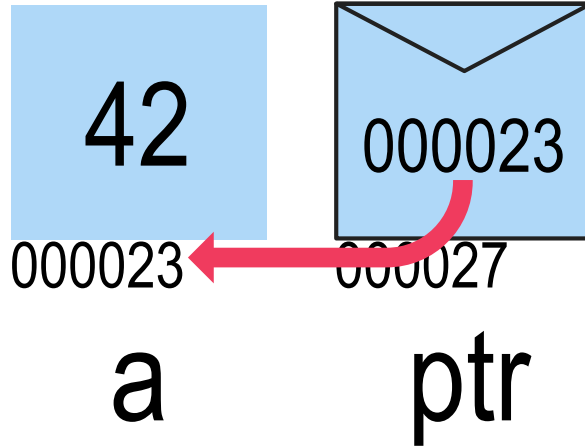
```
    int *ptr;
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```
    ptr = &a;
```

```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

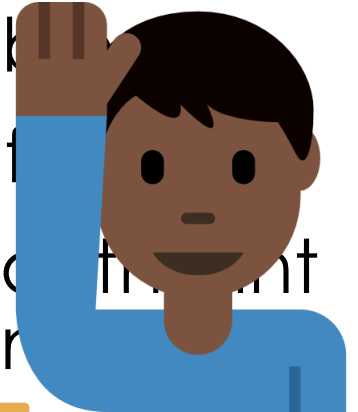
```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a is an int variable, value 42
ptr is a pointer that will store
address to an int variable

Please store address of a in ptr
Please print the value of the int
stored at the address in ptr



a is stored at internal
location 000023

int takes 4 bytes
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My first pointer

Whew!
Lets begin.

42

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

```
#include <stdio.h>
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```
int main(){
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    int a = 42;
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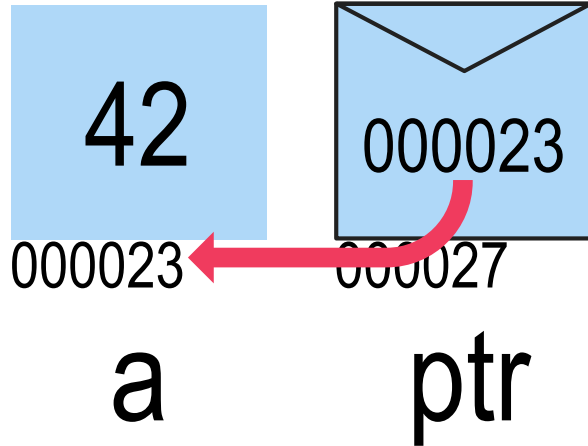
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```
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```

```
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```

```
}
```



a is an int variable, value 42

ptr is a pointer that will store

Can also have pointers to
char, long, float, double

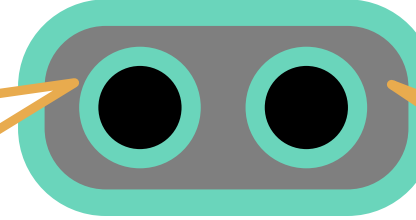
Please print the value of the int
stored at the address in

a is stored at internal
location 000023

int takes 4 bytes
to store

My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



42

7

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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

```
int main(){
```

```
    int a = 42;
```

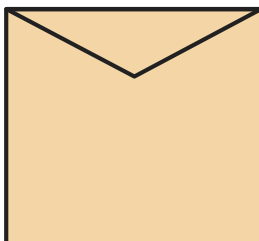
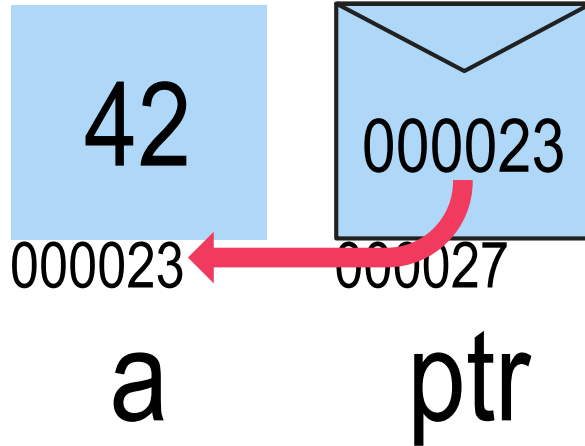
```
    int *ptr;
```

```
    ptr = &a;
```

```
    printf("%d", *ptr);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



a is an int variable, value 42

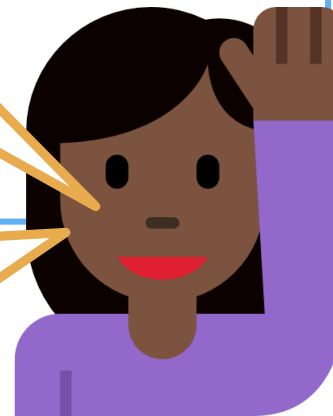
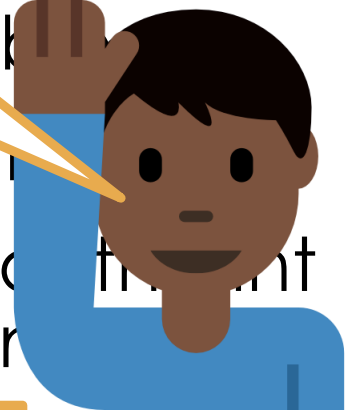
ptr is a pointer that will store

Can also have pointers to
char, long, float, double

Please print the value of the int
stored at the address in

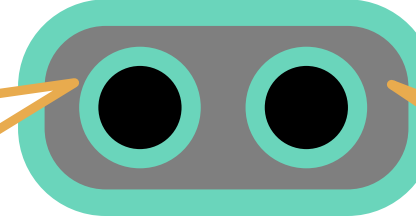
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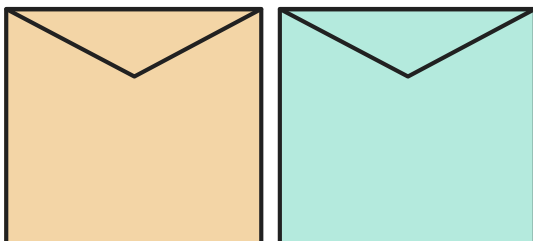
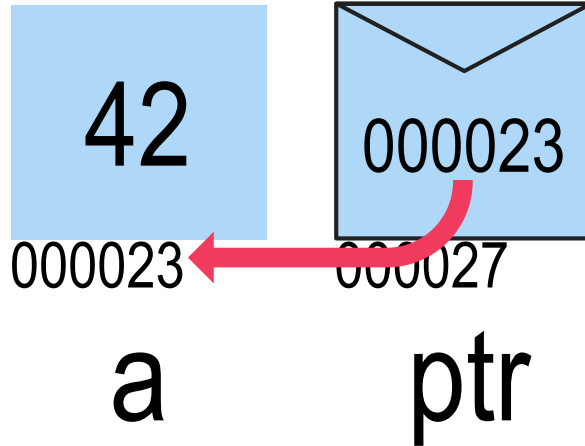
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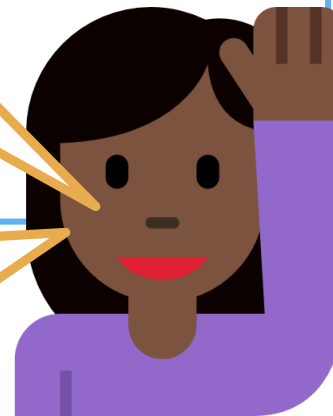
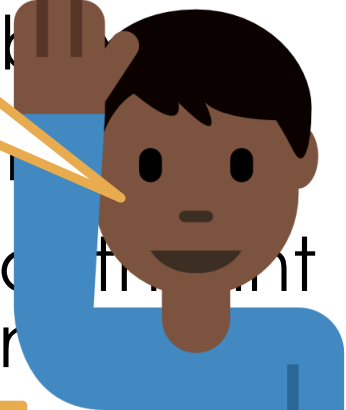
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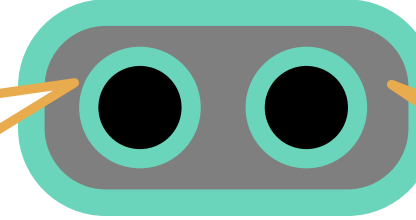
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My first pointer

Whew!
Let's begin.



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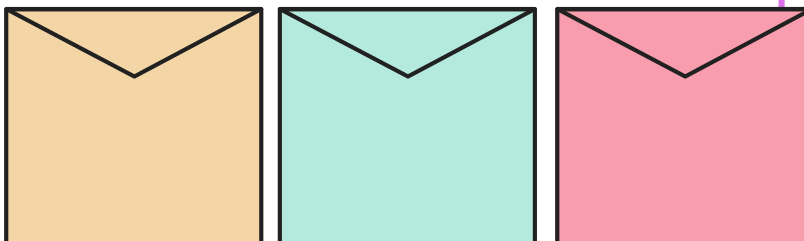
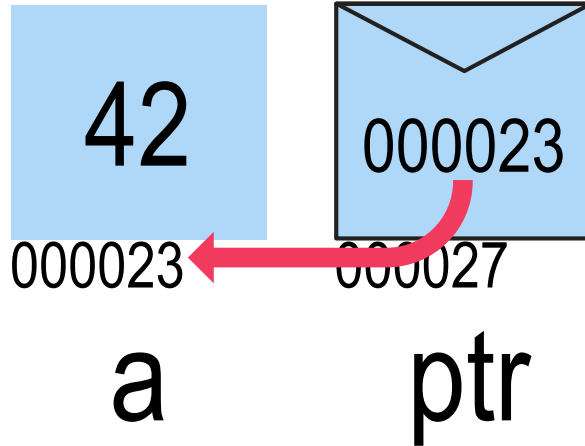
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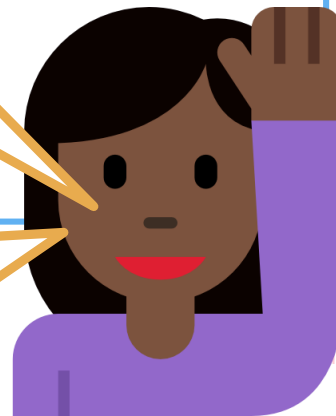
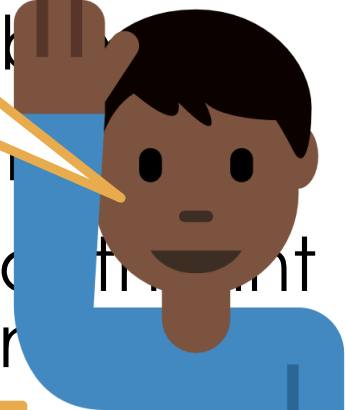
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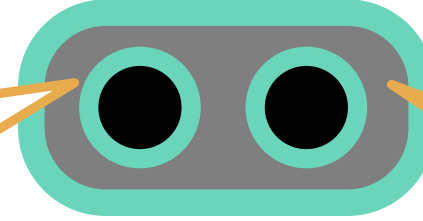
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Let's begin.



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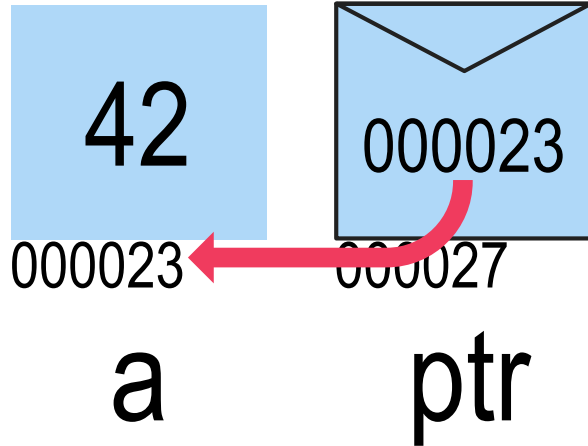
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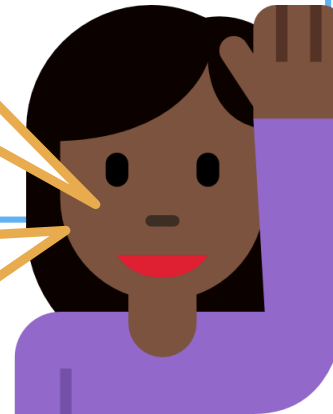
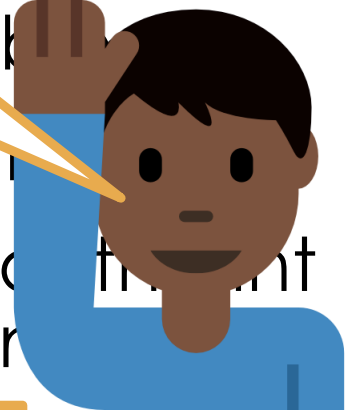
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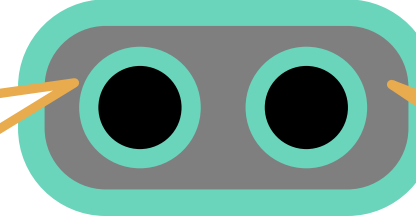
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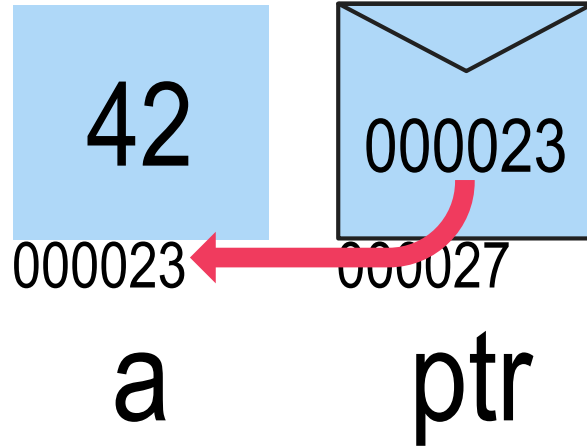
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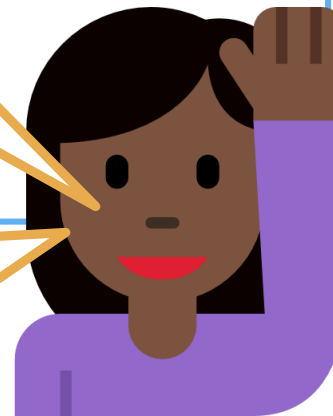
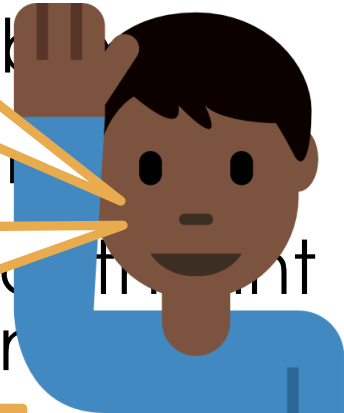
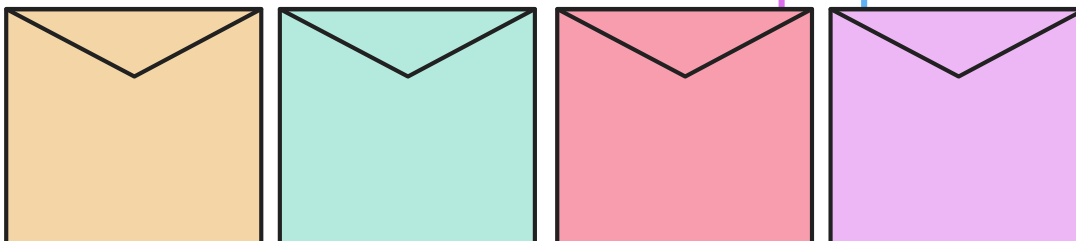
ptr is a pointer that will store

Can also have pointers to
char, long, float, double

All these envelope-like
boxes take 8 bytes

a is stored at internal
location 000023

int takes 4 bytes
to store



Pointers with printf and scanf

8



Pointers with printf and scanf

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Pointers contain addresses, so to print the address itself, use the %ld format since addresses are 8 byte long



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To print value at an address given by a pointer, first dereference the pointer using * operator



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Pointers with printf and scanf

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Scanf requires the address of the variable where input is to be stored. Can pass it the referenced address



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scanf("%d", &a);
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or else pass it a pointer



Pointers with printf and scanf

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```
scanf("%d", &a);
```

or else pass it a pointer

```
scanf("%d", ptr);
```



How Mr C stores arrays

000000							
000001							
000002							
000003							
000004							
000005							
000006							
000007							
000008							
000009							
000010							
000011							
000012							
000013							
000014							
000015							
000016							
000017							
000018							
000019							
000020							
000021							
000022							
000023							
...							

How Mr C stores arrays

If we declare an array, a sequence of addresses get allocated

000000							
000001							
000002							
000003							
000004							
000005							
000006							
000007							
000008							
000009							
000010							
000011							
000012							
000013							
000014							
000015							
000016							
000017							
000018							
000019							
000020							
000021							
000022							
000023							
...							

How Mr C stores arrays

If we declare an array, a sequence of addresses get allocated

```
char c[5];
```

000000							
000001							
000002							
000003							
000004							
000005							
000006							
000007							
000008							
000009							
000010							
000011							
000012							
000013							
000014							
000015							
000016							
000017							
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000020							
000021							
000022							
000023							
...							

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```
char c[5];
```

000000							
000001							
000002							
000003							
000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
000005							
000006							
000007							
000008							
000009							
000010							
000011							
000012							
000013							
000014							
000015							
000016							
000017							
000018							
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000000								
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000002								
000003								
000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
000005								
000006								
000007								
000008								
000009								
000010								
000011								
000012								
000013								
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	000000								
	000001								
	000002								
	000003								
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
c[0]	000005								
c[1]	000006								
c[2]	000007								
c[3]	000008								
c[4]	000009								
	000010								
	000011								
	000012								
	000013								
	000014								
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	000016								
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	000023								
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```
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```
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```

	000000								
	000001								
	000002								
	000003								
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
c[0]	000005								
c[1]	000006								
c[2]	000007								
c[3]	000008								
c[4]	000009								
	000010								
	000011								
	000012								
	000013								
	000014								
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	000016								
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	...								

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c
c[0]
c[1]
c[2]
c[3]
c[4]

000000								
000001								
000002								
000003								
000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
000005								
000006								
000007								
000008								
000009								
000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
000011								
000012								
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000009								
000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
000011								
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c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
	000014							
a[1]	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
a[2]	000019							
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c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
	000014							
a[1]	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
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c[0] is stored at address 0000005, c[1] at address 0000006, c[2] at 0000007 and so on

	000000							
	000001							
	000002							
	000003							
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
	000014							
a[1]	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
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	000020							
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	000023							
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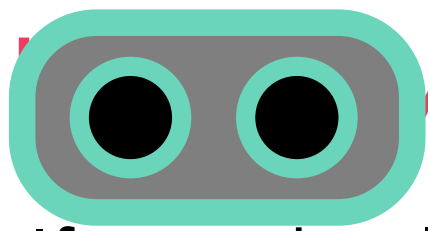
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a[0] is stored at address 000011, a[1] at address 000015 (int takes 4 bytes), a[2] at address 000019, and so on

	000000							
	000001							
	000002							
	000003							
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
a[1]	000014							
	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
a[2]	000019							
	000020							
	000021							
	000022							
	000023							
	...							



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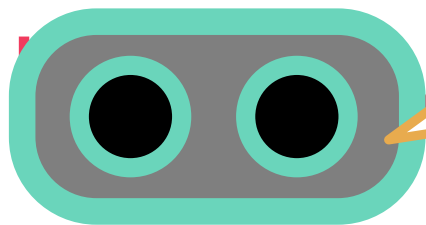
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	000000							
	000001							
	000002							
	000003							
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
a[1]	000014							
	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
a[2]	000019							
	000020							
	000021							
	000022							
	000023							
	...							



Actually, being pointers, c and a should themselves take 8 bytes to store the addresses

If we declare an array, a sequence of addresses get allocated

```
char c[5];
```

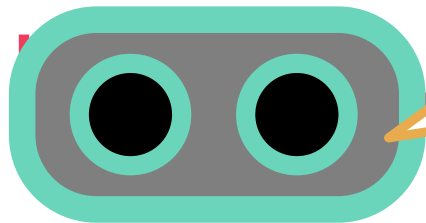
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	000000							
	000001							
	000002							
	000003							
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
	000014							
a[1]	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
a[2]	000019							
	000020							
	000021							
	000022							
	000023							
	...							



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```
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```

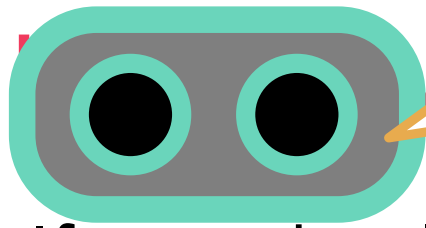


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c[0] is stored at address 000005, c[1] at address 000006, c[2] at 000007 and so on

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	000000							
	000001							
	000002							
	000003							
c	000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
c[0]	000005							
c[1]	000006							
c[2]	000007							
c[3]	000008							
c[4]	000009							
a	000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
a[0]	000011							
	000012							
	000013							
	000014							
a[1]	000015							
	000016							
	000017							
	000018							
a[2]	000019							
	000020							
	000021							
	000022							
	000023							
	...							



Actually, being pointers, c and a should themselves take 8 bytes to store the addresses

If we declare an array, the addresses get allocated

```
char c[5];  
int a[3];
```



Yes, but I ran out of space space as well as ran out of patience drawing boxes

c and a are actually pointers, c stores the address of c[0], a stores address of a[0]

c[0] is stored at address 000005, c[1] at address 000006, c[2] at 000007 and so on

a[0] is stored at address 000011, a[1] at address 000015 (int takes 4 bytes), a[2] at address 000019, and so on

c
c[0]
c[1]
c[2]
c[3]
c[4]
a
a[0]

000000								
000001								
000002								
000003								
000004	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
000005								
000006								
000007								
000008								
000009								
000010	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
000011								
000012								
000013								
000014								
000015								
000016								
000017								
000018								
000019								
000020								
000021								
000022								
000023								
...								