

# Week 3 Friday Array & Strings

Friday, April 16, 2021 4:16 PM

## What is An Array?

- collection of elements of the same type
- 1D → Vector      2D → Matrix (array of vectors)
- can have even more dimensions → tensor
- starts at  $a[0], \dots, a[n-1]$

## Declaring An Array

```
type name [count] = { initialization list }
```

- if you have an initialization list, you don't need count
- if you have count, you don't need initialization list
  - but you can have one
  - if list is too short, C will fill rest with zero

## Matrices

```
type m[3][3];
```

- elements are  $[0][0]$  to  $[3][3]$
- stores in row major order
  - one row in memory, then next, and next
  - memory is one dimensional
  - rows are layed out sequentially

## Pointers and Array

- arrays are exception to the rule that parameters are always passed by value
- arrays can be large so you don't want to copy them onto the stack
- the name of the array is pointer to element zero of an array

## & (address of) operator

- & gives the memory location (address) of a variable

## sizeof operator

- tells us the number of bytes used by a variable
- works for arrays, structures, unions, when the compiler can know how much memory is used

C doesn't know the size of the array because pointers and arrays are the same thing.

```
char *s = "Hello world";
char t[] = "Goodbye cruel world";
```

sizeof(s) = 8	sizeof(*s) = 1
sizeof(t) = 20	sizeof(*t) = 1

sizeof when applied to an array gives the size of the array  
sizeof when applied to a pointer gives the size of the pointer

Arrays and pointers in C are related in fundamental and often confusing ways.

We will talk more about this when we deal with pointers.



For a single dimensional array,

$a[i] == *(a + i)$

$a$  is the address of  $a[0]$

$a[i]$  is the array slot that is at  
 $a + i * \text{sizeof}(a[0])$

Pointers automatically do the multiplication by sizeof

## Pointers and arrays

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Slide 16 from Arrays and Strings

### Strings

- an array of characters that ends in '\0' (null zero character)
- can be written as
  - `char s[] = "Hello World!"`
  - `char *s = "Goodbye cruel world!"`
  - `char s[] = {'L', 'e', 'g', 'o', ' ', '0'}`
- a 100 character (99 printable) empty string is `char s[100]`

### Assignment and Copying

```
char *s = "Wally Wonder Badger";
char *t;
t = s;
```

\* taken from slides

- $s$  and  $t$  point to (reference) the same memory location
- doesn't make a copy of  $s$