

# Data Structures and Pointers

Pointers  
Arrays, Slices and Maps

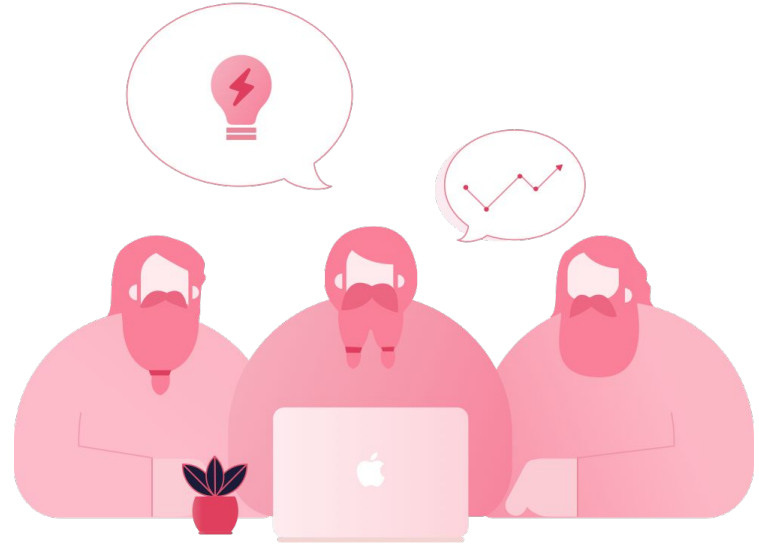


# Author Name

Hieu Phan

@hieupq

andy@dwarvesv.com



# Agenda

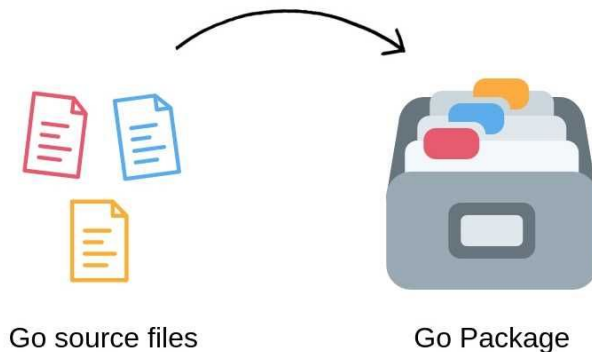
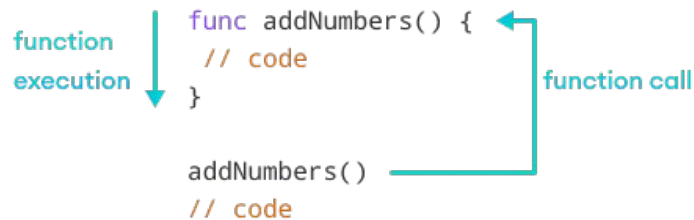
1. Introduction
2. Interface, struct
3. Arrays and Slices
4. Maps
5. Demo

# Introduction

Recap of Day 2

# Day 2

- Functions as a fundamental building block of Go programs.
- Packages as a mechanism for organizing and reusing code.



# Interface & struct

# Struct

A struct is a composite data type that groups together variables with different data types under one name.

```
main.go
1 // Define a struct type named "Person"
2 type Person struct {
3     FirstName string
4     LastName  string
5     Age       int
6     Email     string
7 }
```

# Interface

An interface defines a set of methods that a concrete type must implement to be considered as implementing that interface.

```
main.go
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5 )
6
7 // AccountOperations the interface for account operations
8 type AccountOperations interface {
9     Deposit(amount float64)
10    Withdraw(amount float64) error
11    Balance() float64
12 }
```



# Implementing Interfaces

A struct automatically satisfies an interface if it implements all the required methods.

```
1 // Define the BankAccount struct that implements the AccountOperations interface
2 type BankAccount struct {
3     accountNumber string
4     accountHolder string
5     balance        float64
6 }
7
8 // Implement methods for BankAccount to satisfy the AccountOperations interface
9 func (a *BankAccount) Deposit(amount float64) {
10     a.balance += amount
11     fmt.Printf("Deposited %.2f. Current balance: %.2f\n", amount, a.balance)
12 }
13
14 func (a *BankAccount) Withdraw(amount float64) error {
15     if a.balance >= amount {
16         a.balance -= amount
17         fmt.Printf("Withdrawn %.2f. Current balance: %.2f\n", amount, a.balance)
18         return nil
19     }
20     return fmt.Errorf("Insufficient funds. Current balance: %.2f", a.balance)
21 }
22
23 func (a *BankAccount) Balance() float64 {
24     return a.balance
25 }
```

# Best practices

- Use meaningful field names
- Use pointers for large structs or when mutation is necessary
- Name interfaces with "-er" suffix:  
Reader, Writer, Logger

```
main.go
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5 )
6
7 // Employee represents an employee's details.
8 type Employee struct {
9     ID        int
10    Name       string
11    Department string
12    Salary     float64
13 }
14
15 // EmployeeService defines the behavior for employee management.
16 type EmployeeService interface {
17     AddEmployee(employee Employee)
18     GetEmployeeByID(id int) Employee
19 }
20
21 // EmployeeManager is a concrete implementation of EmployeeService.
22 type EmployeeManager struct {
23     employees map[int]Employee
24 }
25
26 // AddEmployee adds an employee to the EmployeeManager.
27 func (em *EmployeeManager) AddEmployee(employee Employee) {
28     em.employees[employee.ID] = employee
29 }
30
31 // GetEmployeeByID retrieves an employee by their ID from the EmployeeManager.
32 func (em *EmployeeManager) GetEmployeeByID(id int) Employee {
33     return em.employees[id]
34 }
```

# Interface{}

- Hold values of any data type
- Provides flexibility and allows you to handle unknown or mixed data types

```
main.go

1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 // Function that takes an interface{} parameter and uses type switches
6 // to handle different data types
7 func process(i interface{}) {
8     switch v := i.(type) {
9         case int:
10             fmt.Println("Received an int:", v)
11         case string:
12             fmt.Println("Received a string:", v)
13         case bool:
14             fmt.Println("Received a bool:", v)
15         default:
16             fmt.Println("Received an unknown type")
17     }
18 }
19
20 func main() {
21     var x interface{}
22
23     x = 42
24     process(x) // Output: Received an int: 42
25
26     x = "Hello"
27     process(x) // Output: Received a string: Hello
28
29     x = true
30     process(x) // Output: Received a bool: true
31
32     x = 3.14
33     process(x) // Output: Received an unknown type
34 }
```

# Pointers

- A pointer holds a memory address to a value.
- Unlike C, Go has no pointer arithmetic (no ++, --, -, +, >, >=, <, <=, ==, !=)

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     i, j := 42, 2701
7
8     p := &i           // point to i
9     fmt.Println(*p)    // read i through the pointer - 42
10    *p = 21             // set i through the pointer
11    fmt.Println(i)     // see the new value of i      - 21
12
13    p = &j             // point to j
14    *p = *p / 37        // divide j through the pointer
15    fmt.Println(j)     // see the new value of j      - 73
16 }
```

# Pointers to structs

- Struct fields can be accessed through a struct pointer.
- Go permits us to write `p.X` instead of `(*p).X` for simplicity.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 type Vertex struct {
6     X int
7     Y int
8 }
9
10 func main() {
11     v := Vertex{1, 2}
12     p := &v           // p points to struct v
13     p.X = 1e9          // (*p).X also works
14     fmt.Println(v)    // {1000000000 2}
15 }
```

# Arrays

`[capacity]data_type{element_values}`

- Arrays are defined by declaring the fixed size of the array in brackets `[ ]`, followed by the data type of the elements.
- An array in Go must have all its elements be the same data type.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     var numbers [3]int
7     fmt.Println(numbers) // [0 0 0]
8
9     coral := [4]string{
10         "blue coral",
11         "staghorn coral",
12         "pillar coral",
13         "elkhorn coral",
14     }
15     fmt.Println(coral)
16     // [blue coral staghorn coral pillar coral elkhorn coral]
17 }
```

# Arrays

- You can access array items through its' discrete index
- We can update individual elements in the array
- Indexes above the capacity of the array will be out of range

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     coral := [4]string{
7         "blue coral",
8         "staghorn coral",
9         "pillar coral",
10        "elkhorn coral",
11    }
12
13    coral[1] = "foliose coral"
14
15    fmt.Println(coral[0]) // "blue coral"
16    fmt.Println(coral[1]) // "foliose coral"
17    fmt.Println(coral[2]) // "pillar coral"
18    fmt.Println(coral[3]) // "elkhorn coral"
19    fmt.Println(coral[18]) // panic: runtime error: index out of range
20 }
```

# Slices

`[]data_type{element_values}`

- Slices are like arrays, but do not require a capacity as they are variable in length
- You can instantiate empty slices of a default length
- You can append elements to slices

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     oceans := make([]string, 3)
7
8     seaCreatures := []string{
9         "shark",
10        "cuttlefish",
11        "squid",
12        "mantis shrimp",
13        "anemone",
14    }
15
16    fmt.Println(oceans) // [ ]
17    fmt.Println(seaCreatures)
18    // [shark cuttlefish squid mantis shrimp anemone]
19
20    seaCreatures = append(seaCreatures, "seahorse")
21    fmt.Println(seaCreatures)
22    // [shark cuttlefish squid mantis shrimp anemone seahorse]
23 }
```



# Slices

- Another way to initialize a slice is to specify two indices, a low and a high bound, separated by a colon (from an underlying array).

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     primes := []int{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13}
7
8     var s []int = primes[1:4]
9     fmt.Println(s) // [3 5 7]
10 }
```

# Slices are like references to arrays

- Changing the elements of a slice modifies the corresponding of its underlying array.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     names := [4]string{
7         "John",
8         "Paul",
9         "George",
10        "Ringo",
11    }
12
13    a := names[0:2]
14    b := names[1:3]
15    fmt.Println(a, b)    // [John Paul] [Paul George]
16
17    b[0] = "XXX"
18    fmt.Println(a, b)    // [John XXX] [XXX George]
19    fmt.Println(names)   // [John XXX George Ringo]
20 }
```

# Converting Arrays to Slices

- Arrays can be converted to slices for when you decide that you need it to have a variable length
- Use the ":" shorthand to convert the array into a slice
- Operations such as append will work with coralSlice

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     coral := [4]string{
7         "blue coral",
8         "staghorn coral",
9         "pillar coral",
10        "elkhorn coral",
11    }
12
13    coralSlice := coral[:]
14    fmt.Println(coralSlice)
15    // [blue coral staghorn coral pillar coral elkhorn coral]
16 }
```

# Using make

`make([]T, <len>, (<cap>))`

- The make function allocates a zeroed array and returns a slice that refers to that array.
- To specify a capacity, pass a third argument to make

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     a := make([]int, 5)
7     printSlice("a", a)    // a len=5 cap=5 [0 0 0 0 0]
8
9     b := make([]int, 0, 5)
10    printSlice("b", b)    // b len=0 cap=5 []
11
12    c := b[:2]
13    printSlice("c", c)    // c len=2 cap=5 [0 0]
14
15    d := c[2:5]
16    printSlice("d", d)    // d len=3 cap=3 [0 0 0]
17 }
18
19 func printSlice(s string, x []int) {
20     fmt.Printf("%s len=%d cap=%d %v\n",
21         s, len(x), cap(x), x)
22 }
```

# Slices and Memory Management - 1

- Slices use a shared underlying array. If multiple slices share the same array, modifying one slice will affect others.
- Care should be taken while passing slices as arguments to functions to avoid unintended **side effects**.

```
1 // Function modifying the original slice
2 func reverseOriginalSlice(slice []int) []int {
3     for i := 0; i < len(slice)/2; i++ {
4         tmp := slice[i]
5         slice[i] = slice[len(slice)-1-i]
6         slice[len(slice)-1-i] = tmp
7     }
8
9     return slice
10 }
```

# Slices and Memory Management - 2

- Avoid unintended side effects by passing a copy of the slice

```
1  import "fmt"
2
3  func SideEffect() {
4      originalSlice := []int{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
5      // The original slice remains unchanged
6      fmt.Println("Original slice:", originalSlice)
7
8      // Avoid unintended side effects by passing a copy of the slice
9      reverseOriginalSlice(append([]int{}, originalSlice...))
10
11     // The original slice remains changed
12     fmt.Println("Original slice changed:", originalSlice)
13 }
```

# len() and cap()

- The len() function returns the number of elements in the slice.
- The cap() function returns the capacity of the underlying array, starting from the first element in the slice.

```
slice.go

1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func LenCap() {
6     slice := make([]int, 3, 5)
7     fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 3
8     fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 5
9
10    slice = append(slice, 1)
11    fmt.Println(slice)
12    fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 4
13    fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 5
14
15    slice = append(slice, 2, 3)
16    fmt.Println(slice)
17    fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 6
18    fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 10
19 }
```

# Dynamic Growth of Slices

If the underlying array is full, Go will create a new array with increased capacity, copy the elements to the new array, and update the slice reference to the new array.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func LenCap() {
6     slice := make([]int, 3, 5)
7     fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 3
8     fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 5
9
10    slice = append(slice, 1)
11    fmt.Println(slice)
12    fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 4
13    fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 5
14
15    slice = append(slice, 2, 3)
16    fmt.Println(slice)
17    fmt.Println("Length of the slice:", len(slice)) // Output: 6
18    fmt.Println("Capacity of the slice:", cap(slice)) // Output: 10
19 }
```



# Dynamic Growth of Slices - 2

Understanding capacity is essential for memory optimization, as it helps to minimize the number of array reallocations when appending elements to a slice.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func LenCap() {
6     ...
7
8     initCap := 200 // 10, 100, 200
9     slice2 := make([]int, 0, initCap)
10    currCap := cap(slice2)
11    for i := 0; i < 1000; i++ {
12        slice2 = append(slice2, i)
13        if currCap != cap(slice2) {
14            fmt.Println("Reallocate new slice with capacity: ", cap(slice2))
15            currCap = cap(slice2)
16        }
17    }
18 }
```

# Using copy

`copy(destSlice, srcSlice)`

- The copy function is used to copy elements from one slice to another
- The length of the destination slice should be equal to or greater than the length of the source slice.
- If the cap(dest) < cap(src), it will allocate additional memory to accommodate the copied elements.

```
1  import "fmt"
2
3  func Copy() {
4
5      // Creating the original slice
6      originalSlice := []int{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
7
8      // Creating a new slice with the same length as the original slice
9      copiedSlice := make([]int, len(originalSlice))
10
11     // Using the copy() function to copy elements from the original
12     // slice to the new slice
13     copy(copiedSlice, originalSlice)
14
15     // Printing the original slice
16     fmt.Println("Original Slice:", originalSlice)
17     // Output: [1 2 3 4 5]
18
19     // Printing the copied slice
20     fmt.Println("Copied Slice:", copiedSlice)
21     // Output: [1 2 3 4 5]
22
23     // Modifying the first element of the copiedSlice
24     copiedSlice[0] = 100
25
26     // Printing the copied slice
27     fmt.Println("Copied Slice after changed:", copiedSlice)
28     // Output: [100 2 3 4 5]
29 }
```

# Practices

## Access item by index

- Loop variables hold the value of the elements
- Pointer to Temporary Copies

```
GO main.go
1 func main() {
2     numbers := []int{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
3
4     for _, num := range numbers {
5         // Avoid using pointer to 'num' here
6         // Instead, directly use 'num' for read-only operations
7         fmt.Println(num)
8     }
9 }
```

# Practices

- Using the make()
- Use copy() for Slice Duplication
- Prefer range loop for Iteration
- Avoid pointers from range in Loops
- Append with capacity pre-allocation
- Pass slices by VALUE if Possible
- Use append for removing elements

```
GO main.go

1 func main() {
2     numbers := []int{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
3
4     for i := 0; i < len(numbers); i++ {
5         fmt.Println(numbers[i])
6     }
7
8     for i := range numbers {
9         fmt.Println(numbers[i])
10    }
11 }
```

# Maps

# Maps

`map[key]value{element_values}`

- Maps are defined by their key data type and value data type
- A map in Go must have all its elements be the same data type.
- Map elements are accessed through their key

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     sammy := map[string]string{
7         "name": "Sammy",
8         "animal": "shark",
9         "color": "blue",
10        "location": "ocean",
11    }
12
13    fmt.Println(sammy)
14    // map[animal:shark color:blue location:ocean name:Sammy]
15
16    fmt.Println(sammy["name"]) // Sammy
17    fmt.Println(sammy["animal"]) // shark
18    fmt.Println(sammy["color"]) // blue
19    fmt.Println(sammy["location"]) // ocean
20 }
```

# Using make

`make(map[T]T, (<cap>))`

- The make function initializes an empty map that's ready to use.
- To specify a capacity, pass a second argument to make

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    m := make(map[string]int)

    m["Answer"] = 42
    fmt.Println("The value:", m["Answer"])

    m["Answer"] = 48
    fmt.Println("The value:", m["Answer"])

    delete(m, "Answer")
    fmt.Println("The value:", m["Answer"])

    v, ok := m["Answer"]
    fmt.Println("The value:", v, "Present?", ok)
}
```

# Checking if element exists in a map

- Maps return a tuple to check the value from the key
- If the value exists, the value will return the element and the boolean will return true
- If the value doesn't exist, the value will return a default value from the data type and the boolean will return false

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     counts := map[string]int{}
7     fmt.Println(counts["sammy"]) // 0
8
9     count, ok := counts["sammy"] // 0, false
10
11     if ok {
12         fmt.Printf("Sammy has a count of %d\n", count)
13     } else {
14         fmt.Println("Sammy was not found")
15     }
16     // Sammy was not found
17 }
```



# Range

- Use range form of for loop to iterate over a slice or map
- Loop through a map does NOT guarantee the order of it

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 var l = []int{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32}
6 var m = map[string]int{
7     "one": 1,
8     "two": 2,
9     "three": 3,
10    "four": 4,
11    "five": 5}
12
13 func main() {
14     for _, v := range l {
15         fmt.Printf("%d ", v) // 1 2 4 8 16 32
16     }
17     fmt.Println()
18
19     for k, v := range m {
20         fmt.Println(k, v)
21     }
22     // five 5
23     // one 1
24     // two 2
25     // three 3
26     // four 4
27 }
```

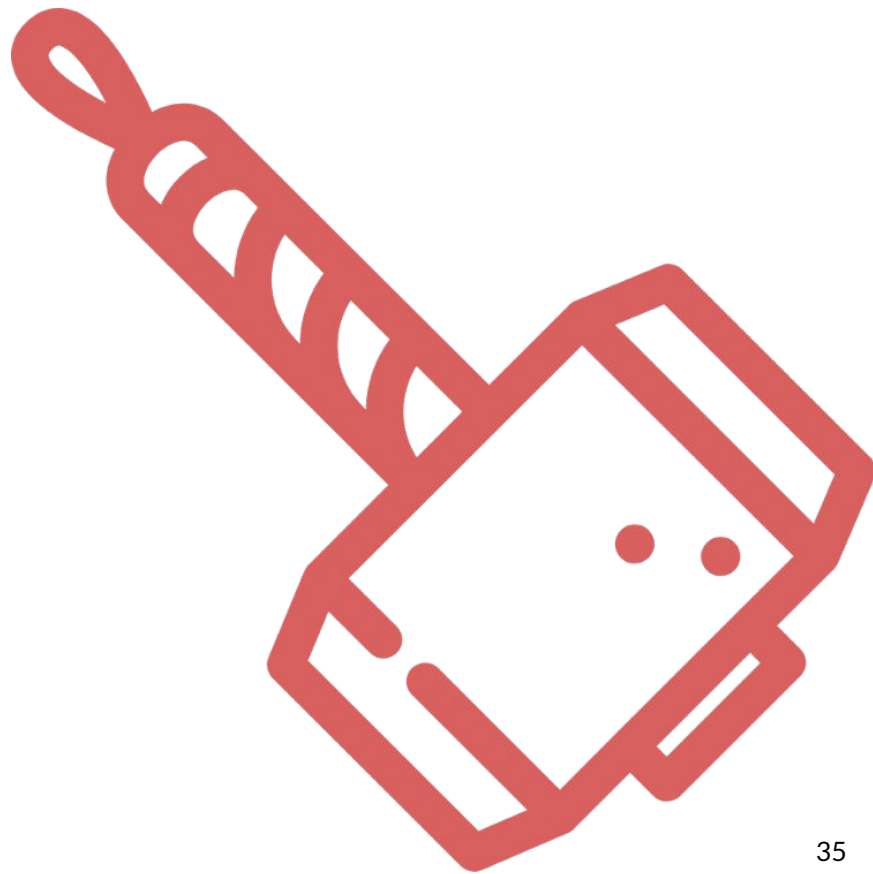
# Practices

- Using the make()
- Don't Assume Order
- Use Built-in Range Loop
- Avoid Pointers to Maps

```
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5 )
6
7 func main() {
8     // Initialize Maps
9     ages := make(map[string]int)
10    grades := map[string]string{
11        "Alice": "A",
12        "Bob":   "B",
13        "Charlie": "C",
14    }
15
16    // Check for Presence
17    age, found := ages["John"]
18    if found {
19        fmt.Printf("John's age is %d\n", age)
20    } else {
21        fmt.Println("John's age not found.")
22    }
23
24    // Use Built-in Range Loop
25    for name, grade := range grades {
26        fmt.Printf("%s got %s grade.\n", name, grade)
27    }
28    // Adding elements to the map
29    ages["Alice"] = 25
30    ages["Bob"] = 30
31
32    // Updating an existing element
33    ages["Alice"] = 26
34
35    // Deleting an element
36    delete(ages, "Bob")
37
38    // Checking for Presence after updates
39    age, found = ages["Alice"]
40    if found {
41        fmt.Printf("Alice's age is %d\n", age)
42    } else {
43        fmt.Println("Alice's age not found.")
44    }
45 }
```

# Demo - Zer0 to Hero

- New a server using gin
- Implement auth service



# Assignments

# Assignment 1

Goal: Find and count number of rectangles in a 2D array.

Inputs: An array filled with 0s and 1s.

Outputs: Number of rectangles filled with 1s

Given that rectangles are separated and do not touch each other but they can touch the boundary of the array. A single element rectangle counts.

# Assignment 1

Implement `countRectangles` to return a number of rectangles filled with 1s.

- Each cell is a rectangle '1' or empty '0', return the number of the rectangles on board.
- Each rectangle can be made in the shape of  $1 \times 1$ ,  $1 \times n$ ,  $m \times 1$ , or  $m \times n$  ( $m$  rows,  $n$  columns)
- There are no adjacent rectangles

```
package main

import "fmt"

// countRectangles returns a number of rectangles filled with 1
func countRectangles(rectangles [][]int) int {
    return -1
}

func main() {
    arr := [][]int{
        {1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0},
        {0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0},
        {0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
        {0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0},
        {0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1},
    }

    count := countRectangles(arr)
    fmt.Printf("%v", count)
}
```

# Assignment 2

Goal: Count the number of different integers in a String.

Outputs: Number of different integers

Given that a string word consists of digits and lowercase English letters, 2 integers are considered different if their decimal representation without any leading zeros are different.

E.g: "a123bc34d8ef34" => 3 (123, 34, 8)

"A1b01c001" => 1 (1)

# Assignment 2

Implement `numDifferentIntegers` to return a number of different integers in a word.

```
package main

import "fmt"

// numDifferentIntegers returns a different integers in a word
func numDifferentIntegers(word string) int {
    return 0
}

func main() {
    word := "a123bc34d8ef34"

    count := numDifferentIntegers(word)
    fmt.Printf("%v", count)
}
```



# Recap

## Interface & struct

**Pointers:** hold a memory address of a value. Just like C, except no arithmetic.

**Arrays:** a numbered sequence of elements of a single type.

**Slices:** reference to underlying arrays.

**Maps:** an unordered group of elements of one type, indexed by a set of unique keys of another type.

**Ranges:** use range form of for loop to iterate through a array/slice/map

# Reference

Resources & Reference links

- <https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/understanding-arrays-and-slices-in-go>
- <https://www.digitalocean.com/community/tutorials/understanding-maps-in-go>
- <https://www.go.dev/tour>

# Thank You



# Q&A

