

# LAB 05: Arrays and Files

Saleh AlSaleh

*salehs@kfupm.edu.sa*

King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals  
College of Computing and Mathematics  
Computer Engineering Department

COE301: Computer Architecture  
Term 222

# Agenda

① Static Allocation

② Dynamic Allocation

③ Memory Organization

④ Address Calculation

⑤ Files

⑥ Live Examples

⑦ Tasks

# Static Allocation

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- Declaration only example:

.data

secretarr: .space 100

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- Example:

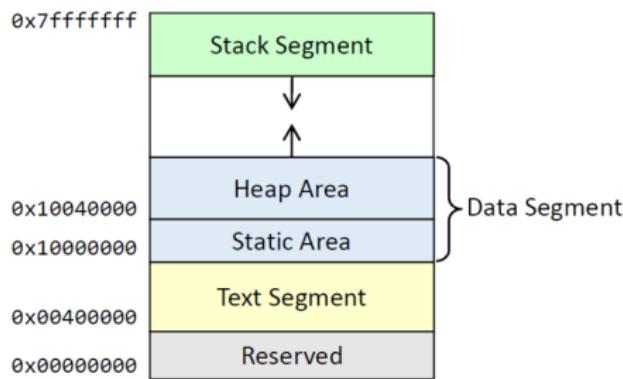
```
li $v0, 9
```

```
li $a0, 30
```

```
syscall
```

# base address will be stored in \$v0

# Memory Organization



MIPS Memory Organization

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- For a file to be used, it needs to be **opened FIRST**.
- System Call **13** is used to open a file with the following options:
  - **\$a0** address of null-terminated string containing the file name.  
Path can be relative to the location of MARS.jar file or an absolute path.
  - **\$a1** = 0 for read-only.
  - **\$a1** = 1 for write-only with truncate and create.
  - **\$a1** = 9 for write-only with create and append.
- It returns in **\$v0** a positive file descriptor if it can open the file or negative if error.
- File descriptor **NEEDS** to be saved for other system calls.

# Files

- System Call **14** is used to read file contents with the following options:
  - **\$a0** = file descriptor
  - **\$a1** = address of input buffer
  - **\$a2** = maximum number of characters to read
- It returns in **\$v0** a positive number of characters read, zero if end of file or negative if error.

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- System Call **15** is used to write contents to file with the following options:
  - **\$a0** = file descriptor
  - **\$a1** = address of output buffer
  - **\$a2** = number of characters to write
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- It returns in **\$v0** a positive number of characters written or negative if error.
- System Call **16** is used to close file with **\$a0** containing the file descriptor.

# Live Examples

# Task #1

Write a MIPS assembly program that reads the size ( $n$ ) of the message from the user. Then, the program allocates  $(n+1)$  bytes in the heap. After that, read a string of  $n$  characters from the user he/she wishes to encrypt. Next, read an encrypting key ( $e$ ) from the user [1, 25]. Encrypt the original string with the encryption key using the following code. Finally, print out the encrypted string.

Sample Run

Enter n: 11

Enter string: Hello World

Enter e: 13

Encrypted string = Uryyb Jbeyq

```
for(i=0;i<n;i++) {  
    ch = str[i];  
    if(isupper(ch)) {  
        ch = ch + e;  
        if (ch > 0x5A)  
            ch = ch - 26;  
    }  
    else if(islower(ch)) {  
        ch = ch + e;  
        if (ch > 0x7A)  
            ch = ch - 26;  
    }  
    str[i] = ch;  
}
```

Caesar Encryption Algorithm

## Task #2

Write a MIPS assembly program that asks the user for file name (max 50 chars). Open the file for reading. Next, read the file contents as characters (max 100 chars). After that, loop over each character, if the character is a digit (i.e. '0' to '9'), convert it to integer and store it in another array called "array\_int". Assume the maximum number of integers in the file is 20. Finally, print "array\_int" in reverse order.

### Sample Run

Enter filename: **numbers.txt**

Integer array reversed = **1 5 8 9 7 6 5 4 3 2 1**

### Static data segment

```
.data  
filename: .space 50  
filecontents: .space 100  
array_int: .word 0:20
```

### Sample File (numbers.txt)

```
1 2 3 4 5 6  
7 9 hello, world  
851
```