

Lecture 16:

Memory access grab bag

CSE 29: Systems Programming and Software Tools
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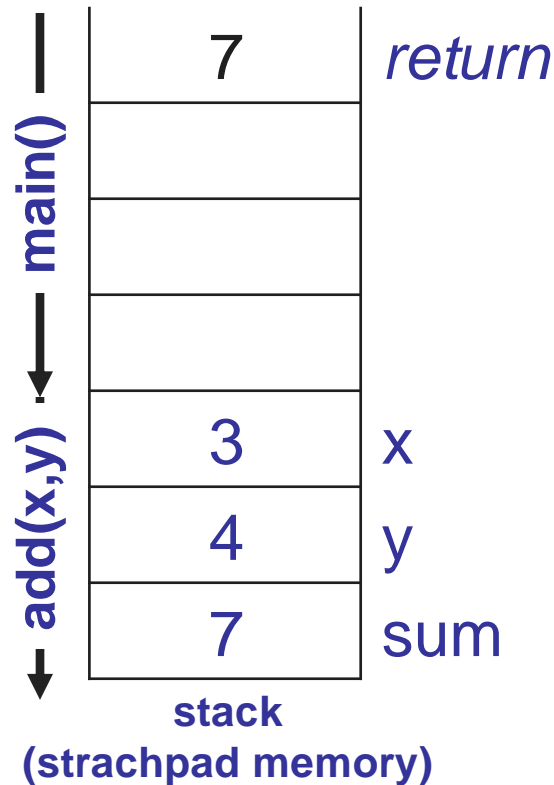




Review: How functions use memory

```
int add(int x, int y) {  
    int sum = x + y;  
    return sum;  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    int x = add(3,4);  
}
```





What kinds of structs have we seen so far?

Statically allocated struct or array of structs (on stack)

- ◆ `struct person p[10];`
 - » Puts the array in a static-sized area on the stack when a function is called.
- ◆ *Pro:* Automatically deallocates when function ends
- ◆ *Con:* Need for struct needs to be known when programmer writes the code.

Dynamically allocated struct or array of structs (on heap)

- ◆ `struct person p_ptr* = malloc(sizeof(struct person) * 10);`
 - » Puts the array in a dynamically allocated area on the heap when malloc is called.
- ◆ *Pro:* Allows you to chose an array size during program execution.
- ◆ *Con:* We can only change the size by allocating new area on the heap and copying into it.



Many ways to access a struct

```
struct person {  
    char name[100];  
    unsigned int age;  
};
```

```
struct person p;  
p.name = "Aaron";  
p.age = 55;
```

```
struct person* p_ptr = malloc(sizeof(struct person));  
p_ptr->name = "Aaron";  
p_ptr->age = 55;
```



Arrays of structs are still just arrays

```
struct person {  
    char name[100];  
    unsigned int age;  
};
```

```
struct person people[10];  
p[0].name = "Aaron";  
p[0].age = 55;
```

```
struct person* p_ptr = malloc(sizeof(struct person) * 10);  
p_ptr[0].name = "Aaron";  
p_ptr[0].age = 55;
```

A useful tool when working with structs



memcpy(): Byte-by-byte copy of memory at a pointer to another pointer

`#include <stdlib.h>`

```
struct place p1 = {10, 1000};
```

```
struct place p2;
```

```
memcpy(&p2, &p1, sizeof(struct place));
```



Functions are pointers

```
int add(int a, int b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

// Can point to any func like this

```
int (*operation)(int, int);
```

```
operation = add;
```

```
int ret = operation(1,2);
```

