

Assignment 5 onwards - Perfunction documentation on code

Tutorial 6 - pset 15 to 17


Lab 6 - exercise on call by reference & dynamically allocated arrays

Variables

- Location/Place in computer's memory that holds one or more variables.
- we can access variable through its memory address.

Address - of operator (&)

If x is the variable, $\&x$ is its memory address.



If x has the type T , $\&x$ has the type $\ast T$


`cs1010 - printf - pointer` prints the pointer/memory address of a particular variable

Dereference operator (*)

If x is a memory address $\ast x$ is the content at memory address x .

If x has the type $\ast T$, $\ast x$ has the type T .

```
int main() {  
    double *addr;    // pointer-to-double  
    double d = 100.0;  
    addr = &d;    // assigns memory address of d to pointer var addr  
    //   
    cs1010 - printf - double (*addr); // print value stored at memory address  
    //  addr.  
}
```

Rules of pointers

- Pointers must be of the same type as the variable it references

*void * is a pointer to anything*

- Pointer arithmetic

- addition adds multiple of the size (in bytes) of the type it is pointing to

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

*↑
a[0]*

- Points an variable to

$*T \rightarrow T$ ($*T$ is a pointer to T)

$**T \rightarrow *T$ ($**T$ is a pointer to the pointer T)

- NULL pointer, pointer that points to "nothing".

CALL BY REFERENCE

swap

```
void swap(long *a, long *b) {
```

```
    long temp = *a;
```

```
    *a = *b;
```

```
    *b = temp;
```

```
}
```

← follows pointer to a and dereferences it to obtain value stored in a. temp is initialized to hold this value

← dereferences value at b and follows pointer to mem address containing a. Assigns the value b to this address

← assigns value b is pointing at to value stored at temp.

Heap

- Program must explicitly "borrow" memory space for use
- Program must "return" the memory space after use
- Lifetime of content stored on heap can exceed the lifetime of the function that allocates it.

Limit on heap >> limit on stack

How to allocate memory from heap?

`malloc()` - memory allocation function

- allocates size bytes and returns a pointer to the allocated memory

`sizeof()` - returns "size" of type

`free()` - function that deallocates memory in heap ("returns" memory after use).

`calloc()` can also be used.

Allocate memory for array based on input

```
size_t n = cs1010_read_size_t();
```

```
double *ar = malloc(n * sizeof(double));
```

```
:
```

```
free(ar);
```

CHARACTERS & STRINGS

NULL character == `'\0'`

A string is a character array that is terminated by the special NULL character. Allocate $(n+1)$ space for n -char string.

String literals

stored in read-only region of memory

↓
"text"
region