

C Introduction

CS 2130: Computer Systems and Organization 1

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Announcements

- Homework 6 due tonight at 11:59pm
- Homework 7 available soon, due next Monday on Gradescope
- Midterm 2 is on April 3
 - Similar format to midterm 1
 - Schedule with SDAC early if needed

Data Types in C

Integer data types

Data type	Size (bits)	Size (bytes)
char	8	1
short	16	2
int	32	4
long	64	8
long long	64	8

Each has 2 versions: *signed* and *unsigned*

by default, short, int, long, long long are signed.

char is implementation-defined. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{char - depends on compiler/platform} \\ \text{signed char} \\ \text{unsigned char} \end{array} \right.$

Example of creating a variable: unsigned long long x = 5.

Data Types in C

Helpful Resources

- Wikipedia
- Our Reference and Summary

`sizeof()` - returns size in bytes

- `sizeof(int)` returns 4

Data Types in C (check "Readings → C Reference" for exponent bits and fraction bits)

Floating point

- float
- double

Data Types in C

We stored things like arrays of memory addresses.

We called functions by giving it the memory address.

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Data Types in C

Pointers - how C uses addresses!



Data Types in C

Pointers - how C uses addresses!

- Hold the address of a position in memory
- Need to know the kind of information stored at that location

The size of a pointer? How many bytes? — 64 bits (8 bytes) (Registers are 64 bits because we had 64-bit memory addresses)

If I want to have a pointer to an int: `int *y;`
 ↳ the star references the fact that this is not an integer, it's a pointer.

`int x=5;`  (4 bytes)
`int *y;`  (8 bytes)
`y=x;` → doesn't work

`y=&x;` It works!
`*y=25,` will change `x` to 25.

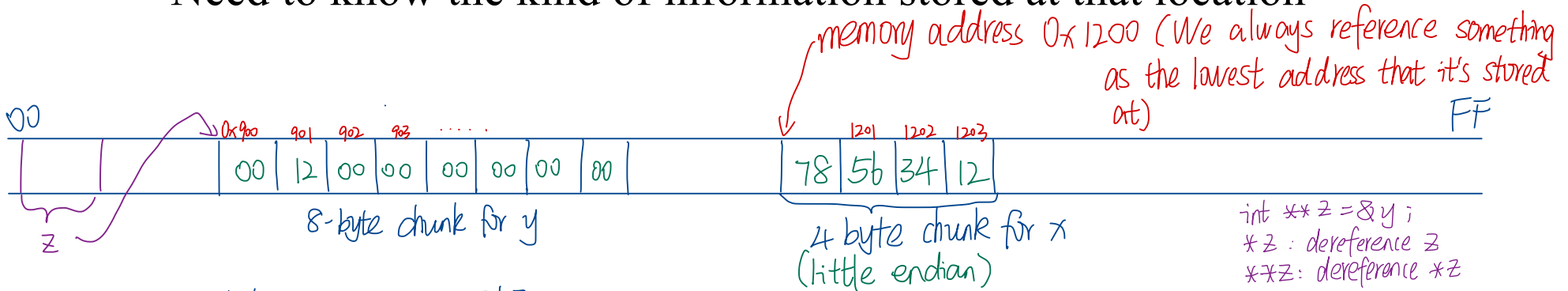
Data Types in C

`int **z = &y;` ; `z` is a pointer to a pointer to an int.
`z` has the address of `y`.

later, if I say "`*z`", that means `y`.
"`**z`": the value of `x`.

Pointers - how C uses addresses!

- Hold the address of a position in memory
- Need to know the kind of information stored at that location



`int x = 0x12345678`

`int *y;`

`y = &x;`, (I want `y` point to `x`, which means store the address of `x` in `y`).

`int **z = &y;` ;
`*z` : dereference `z`
`**z` : dereference `*z`
`**z = 0x00000000;`
(set `x` to `0x00000000`)
`*z = 25;` (Warning: you're trying to assign an integer to a pointer)
(But later, when you use it as an address, may seg fault).

`y = 0xABCDEF01;` (I'm changing the pointer) → I may don't want to do this. Sometimes seg fault?

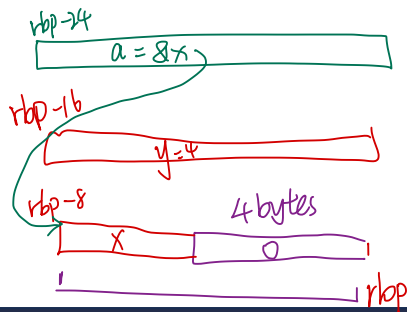
`*y = 25;` (When I use an asterisk, it will say is follow the pointer on `y`, follow the address to the place in memory that `y` points to and change that value)

Example

```
int main() {  
    int x = 3;  
    long y = 4;  
    int *a = &x;  
    long *b = &y;  
    long z = *a;  
    int w = *b;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Example

```
int main() {
    int x = 3;
    long y = 4;
    int *a = &x;
    long *b = &y;
    long z = *a;
    int w = *b;
    return 0;
}
```



```
0000000000000000 <main>:
0: 55
1: 48 89 e5
4: 31 c0
6: c7 45 fc 00 00 00 00
d: c7 45 f8 03 00 00 00
14: 48 c7 45 f0 04 00 00
1b: 00
1c: 48 8d 4d f8
20: 48 89 4d e8
24: 48 8d 4d f0
28: 48 89 4d e0
2c: 48 8b 4d e8
30: 48 63 09
33: 48 89 4d d8
37: 48 8b 4d e0
3b: 48 8b 09
3e: 89 4d d4
41: 5d
42: c3
```

```
push    %rbp
mov     %rsp,%rbp
xor     %eax,%eax
movl   $0x0,-0x4(%rbp)
movl   $0x3,-0x8(%rbp)
movq   $0x4,-0x10(%rbp)

lea    -0x8(%rbp),%rcx
mov    %rcx,-0x18(%rbp)
lea    -0x10(%rbp),%rcx
mov    %rcx,-0x20(%rbp)
mov    -0x18(%rbp),%rcx
movslq(%rcx),%rcx
mov    %rcx,-0x28(%rbp)
mov    -0x20(%rbp),%rcx
mov    (%rcx),%rcx
mov    %ecx,-0x2c(%rbp)
pop    %rbp
retq
```

(compiler knows we are working on a 64-bit machine. I'll probably try to line everything to 8 bytes if I can. to make things faster for you)

loading the addr of x into rcx

y is treated as the same way. → &x

b going from long to int.

move the value of y into rcx, but I will just read out the value of ecx.

signed extend 1 to 8 long to quad

Example

Swap Example

```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {  
    int tmp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = tmp;  
}
```



Using Compilers

Arrays

(We pick a spot in memory, and the next so many spots are our array)

Array: 0 or more values of same type stored contiguously in memory

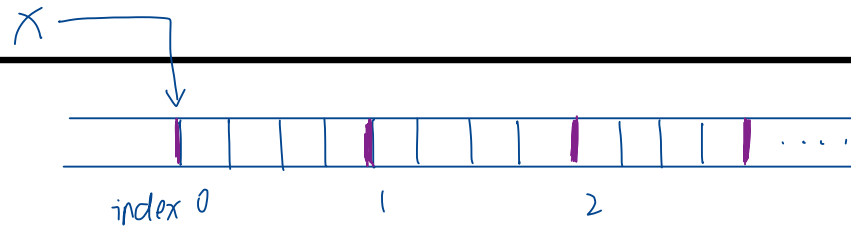
- Declare as you would use: `int myarr[100];` *(100 integers in my array)*
- `sizeof(myarr)` = 400 — 100 4-byte integers *How big is my array in bytes?*
- `myarr` treated as pointer to first element *When I create an array, it actually create a pointer to the first thing in that list.*
- Can declare array literals:
`int y[5] = {1, 1, 2, 3, 5}`

*↑
optional*

Pointers and Arrays

(dereference x will be the first element of array x)

$*x$ and $x[0]$ are equivalent



- Pointer to single value and pointer to first value in array
- Treat array as pointer to the first value (lowest address)
- Indexing into array: $x[n]$ and $*(\underline{x+n})$ → pointer arithmetic
 - If x is an `int *`, then $x+1$ points to **next int** in memory
 - Adding 1 to pointer adds `sizeof()` the type we're pointing to
Not skip 5 bytes in memory

*I know this pointer is a pointer to an integer, so I plus $5 * \text{sizeof(int)}$*