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CS61C : Machine Structures

Lecture 5 – C Memory Management

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The future of music! ⇒ They now have a surround format for MP3, with players to give the "surround" effect while you walk around in headphones! Walk right and it'll be louder in your right ear…cool.

www.cnn.com/2005/TECH/01/27/musics.future.ap/

Pointer Arithmetic Summary

- `x = *(p+1)` ?
  - ⇒ `x = *(p+1) ;`
- `x = *p+1` ?
  - ⇒ `x = (*p) + 1 ;`
- `x = (*p)++` ?
  - ⇒ `x = *p ; *p = *p + 1;`
- `x = *p++` ? `(*p++)` ? `*(p)++` ? `*(p++)` ?
  - ⇒ `x = *p ; p = p + 1;`
- `x = *++p` ?
  - ⇒ `p = p + 1 ; x = *p ;`
- Lesson?
  - These cause more problems than they solve!

C String Standard Functions

- `int strlen(char *string);`
  - compute the length of `string`
- `int strcmp(char *str1, char *str2);`
  - return 0 if `str1` and `str2` are identical (how is this different from `str1 == str2`?)
- `char *strcpy(char *dst, char *src);`
  - copy the contents of string `src` to the memory at `dst`. The caller must ensure that `dst` has enough memory to hold the data to be copied.

Pointers to pointers (1/4) …review…

- Sometimes you want to have a procedure increment a variable?
- What gets printed?

```
void AddOne(int  x)
{     x =  x + 1;   }

int y = 5;
AddOne( y);
printf("y = %d\n", y);
```

y = 5

Pointers to pointers (2/4) …review…

- Solved by passing in a pointer to our subroutine.
- Now what gets printed?

```
void AddOne(int *p)
{    *p = *p + 1;   }

int y = 5;
AddOne(&y);
printf("y = %d\n", y);
```

y = 6

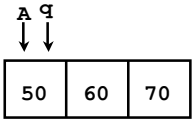
Pointers to pointers (3/4)

- But what if what you want changed is a pointer?
- What gets printed?

```
void IncrementPtr(int  *p)
{    p =  p + 1;   }

int A[3] = {50, 60, 70};
int *q = A;
IncrementPtr( q);
printf("*q = %d\n", *q);
```

*q = 50



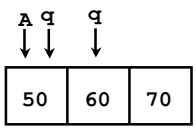
Pointers to pointers (4/4)

- Solution! Pass a pointer to a pointer, called a handle, declared as `**h`
- Now what gets printed?

```
void IncrementPtr(int **h)
{   *h = *h + 1;   }

int A[3] = {50, 60, 70};
int *q = A;
IncrementPtr(&q);
printf("*q = %d\n", *q);
```

*q = 60



Dynamic Memory Allocation (1/3)

- C has operator `sizeof()` which gives size in bytes (of type or variable)
- Assume size of objects can be misleading & is bad style, so use `sizeof(type)`
  - Many years ago an `int` was 16 bits, and programs assumed it was 2 bytes

Dynamic Memory Allocation (2/3)

- To allocate room for something new to point to, use `malloc()` (with the help of a typecast and `sizeof`):

```
ptr = (int *) malloc (sizeof(int));
```

  - Now, `ptr` points to a space somewhere in memory of size `(sizeof(int))` in bytes.
  - `(int *)` simply tells the compiler what will go into that space (called a typecast).
- `malloc` is almost never used for 1 var

```
ptr = (int *) malloc (n*sizeof(int));
```

  - This allocates an array of `n` integers.

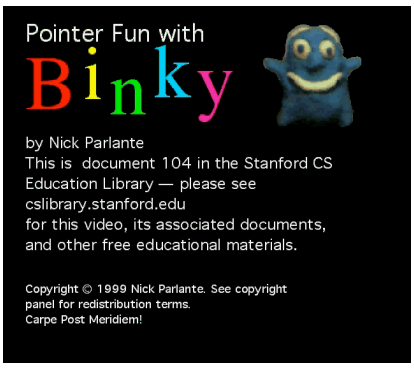
Dynamic Memory Allocation (3/3)

- Once `malloc()` is called, the memory location contains garbage, so don't use it until you've set its value.
- After dynamically allocating space, we must dynamically free it:

```
free(ptr);
```

- Use this command to clean up.

Binky Pointer Video (thanks to NP @ SU)



C structures : Overview

- A `struct` is a data structure composed for simpler data types.
  - Like a class in Java/C++ but without methods or inheritance.

```
struct point {
    int x;
    int y;
};
void PrintPoint(point p)
{
    printf("(%d,%d)", p.x, p.y);
}
```

C structures: Pointers to them

- The C arrow operator (->) dereferences and extracts a structure field with a single operator.
- The following are equivalent:

```
struct point *p;

printf("x is %d\n", (*p).x);
printf("x is %d\n", p->x);
```

How big are structs?

- Recall C operator `sizeof()` which gives size in bytes (of type or variable)
- How big is `sizeof(p)`?

```
struct p {
   char x;
   int y;
};
```

  - 5 bytes? 8 bytes?
  - Compiler may word align integer y

Peer Instruction

Which are guaranteed to print out 5?

```
I:   main() {
       int *a-ptr; *a-ptr = 5; printf("%d", *a-ptr); }

II:  main() {
       int *p, a = 5;
       p = &a; ...
       /* code; a & p NEVER on LHS of = */
       printf("%d", a); }

III: main() {
       int *ptr;
       ptr = (int *) malloc (sizeof(int));
       *ptr = 5;
       printf("%d", *ptr); }
```

	I	II	III
1:	-	-	-
2:	-	-	YES
3:	-	YES	-
4:	-	YES	YES
5:	YES	-	-
6:	YES	-	YES
7:	YES	YES	-
8:	YES	YES	YES

Bonus: Linked List Example

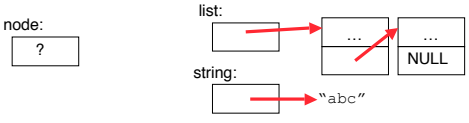
- Let's look at an example of using structures, pointers, `malloc()`, and `free()` to implement a linked list of strings.

```
struct Node {
    char *value;
    struct Node *next;
};
typedef Node *List;

/* Create a new (empty) list */
List ListNew(void)
{ return NULL; }
```

Linked List Example

```
/* add a string to an existing list */
List list_add(List list, char *string)
{
  struct Node *node =
    (struct Node*) malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
  node->value =
    (char*) malloc(strlen(string) + 1);
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```



Linked List Example

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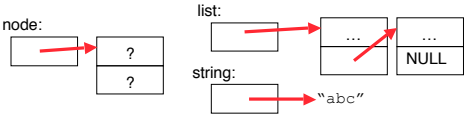
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```



Linked List Example

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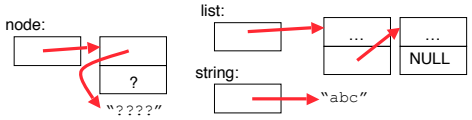
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```



Linked List Example

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List list_add(List list, char *string)
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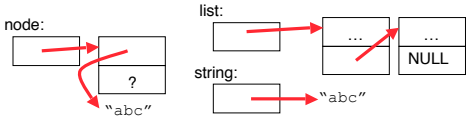
    (struct Node*) malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
  node->value =
    (char*) malloc(strlen(string) + 1);
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```



Linked List Example

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List list_add(List list, char *string)
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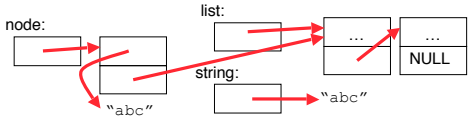
    (struct Node*) malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
  node->value =
    (char*) malloc(strlen(string) + 1);
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```



Linked List Example

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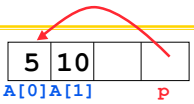
List list_add(List list, char *string)
{
  struct Node *node =
    (struct Node*) malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
  node->value =
    (char*) malloc(strlen(string) + 1);
  strcpy(node->value, string);
  node->next = list;
  return node;
}
```

"And in Conclusion…"

- Use handles to change pointers
- Create abstractions with structures
- Dynamically allocated heap memory must be manually deallocated in C.
  - Use `malloc()` and `free()` to allocate and deallocate memory from heap.

Peer Instruction

```
int main(void){
 int A[] = {5,10};
 int *p = A;
 printf("%u %d %d %d\n",p,*p,A[0],A[1]);
  p =  p + 1;
 printf("%u %d %d %d\n",p,*p,A[0],A[1]);
 *p = *p + 1;
 printf("%u %d %d %d\n",p,*p,A[0],A[1]);
 }
```



If the first `printf` outputs `100 5 5 10`, what will the other two `printf` output?

1: 101 10 5 10 then 101 11 5 11
2: 104 10 5 10 then 104 11 5 11
3: 101 <other> 5 10 then 101 <3-others>
4: 104 <other> 5 10 then 104 <3-others>
5: One of the two printfs causes an ERROR
6: I surrender!