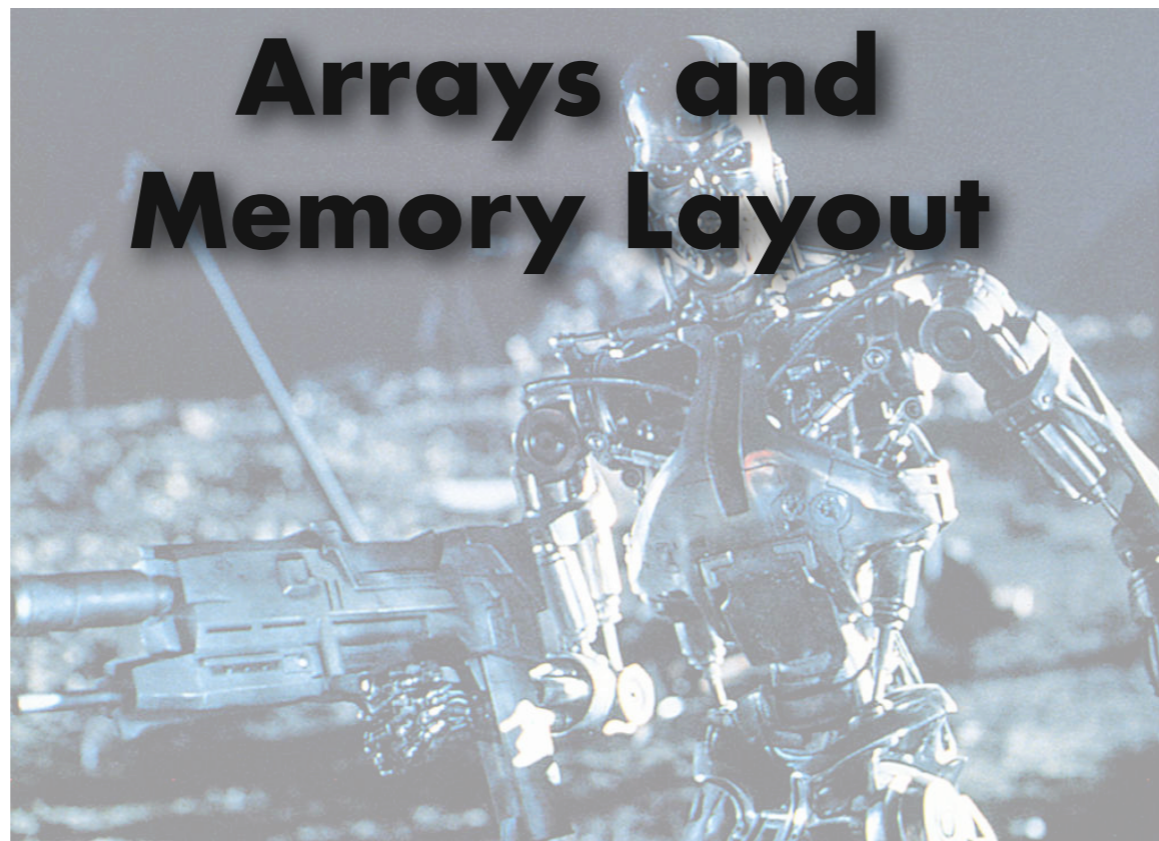




## Lecture 7

### **Arrays and Memory Layout**



# Arrays

2

```
char a[2][3];
```

Creates a two dimensional array of characters

*What is the value of a?*

*What is the address of a?*

*How is the data stored?*

*What is the relationship between arrays and pointers?*

*Can they be converted?*

# Experimenting...

3

```
char a[2][3];
```

```
printf( "%p\n", a ); 0x7fff682ba976  
printf( "%p\n", &a ); 0x7fff682ba976  
printf( "%p\n", &a[0] ); 0x7fff682ba976  
printf( "%p\n", &a[0][0] ); 0x7fff682ba976  
printf( "%p\n", &a[0][1] ); 0x7fff682ba977  
printf( "%p\n", &a[0][2] ); 0x7fff682ba978  
printf( "%p\n", &a[1][0] ); 0x7fff682ba979  
printf( "%p\n", &a[1][1] ); 0x7fff682ba97a
```

# Arrays

4

```
char a[2][3];
```

An array variable's value is the address of the array's first element

A multi-dimensional array is stored in memory as a single array of the base type with all rows occurring consecutively

There is no padding or delimiters between rows

All rows are of the same size

# Pointers and arrays

5

There is a strong relationship between pointers and arrays

```
int a[10];
```

```
int* p;
```

A pointer (e.g. `p`) holds an address while the name of an array (e.g. `a`) denotes an address

Thus it is possible to convert arrays to pointers

```
p = a;
```

Array operations have equivalent pointer operations

```
a[5] == *(p + 5)
```

Note that `a=p` or `a++` are compile-time errors.

# Pointers to arrays

6

```
char a[2][3];
```

Multi-dimensional array that stores two strings of 3 characters.  
(Not necessarily zero-terminated)

```
char a[2][3]={"ah","oh"};
```

Array initialized with 2 zero-terminated strings.

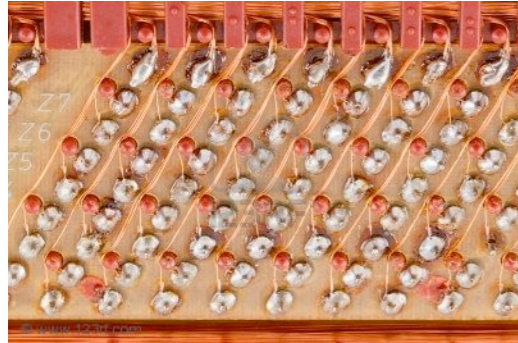
```
char *p = &a[1];
```

```
while( *p != '\0' ) p++;
```

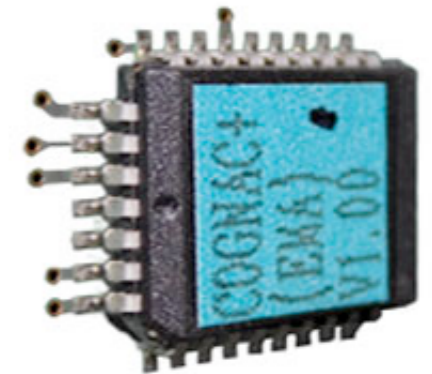
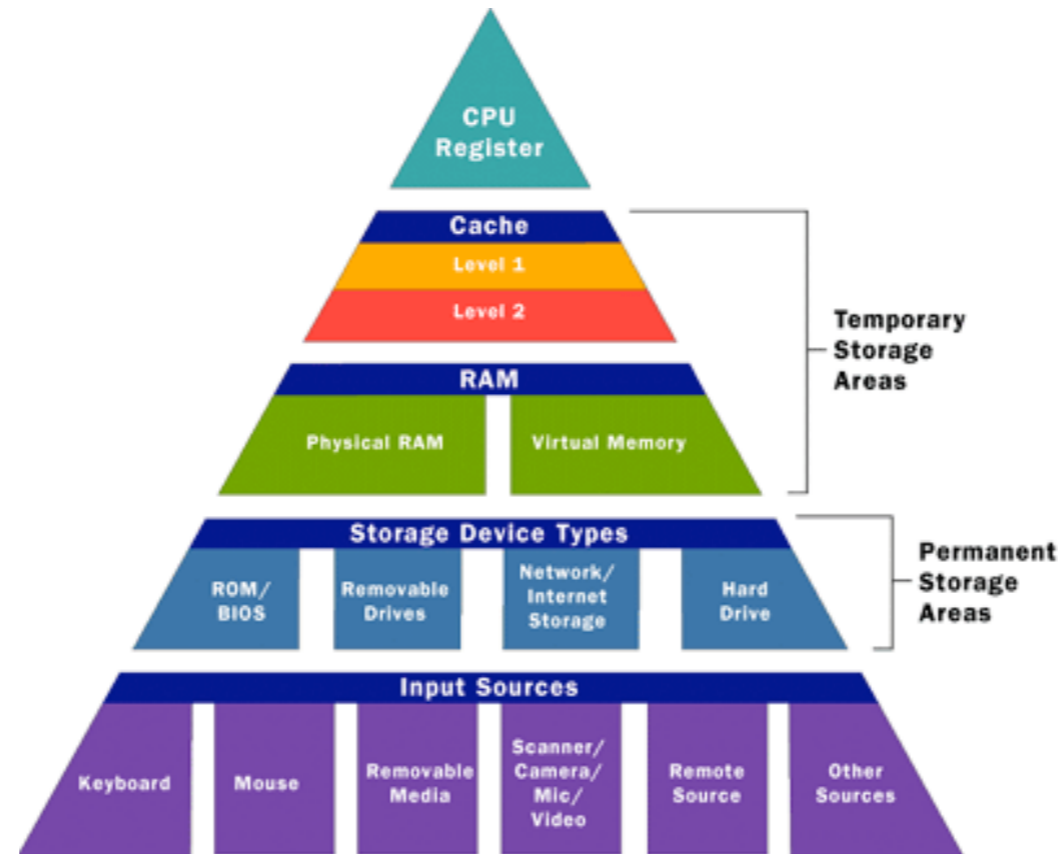
Iterate over the second string

# Memory: on the hardware side

7



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# Memory: on the software side

8

Each computer programming languages offers a *different abstraction*

The goal is to make programming easier and improve portability of the source code by hiding irrelevant hardware oddities

Each language offers a memory API – a set of operations for manipulating memory

Consider the differences between C and Java



# Memory: the C Story

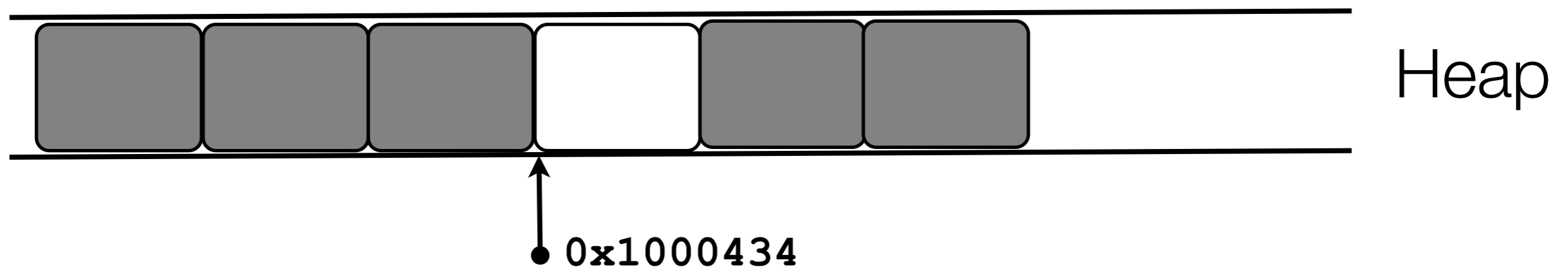
9

C offers a story both simpler and more complex than Java  
Memory is a sequence of bytes, read/written by providing an address

Addresses are values manipulated using arithmetic & logic operations

Memory can be allocated:

- Statically
- Dynamically on the **stack**
- Dynamically on the **heap**



# Memory layout

10

The OS creates a process by assigning memory and other resources

C exposes the layout as the programmer can take the address of any element (with &)

**Stack:**

- *keeps track of where each active subroutine should return control when it finishes executing; stores local variables*

**Heap:**

- *dynamic memory for variables that are created with malloc, calloc, realloc and disposed of with free*

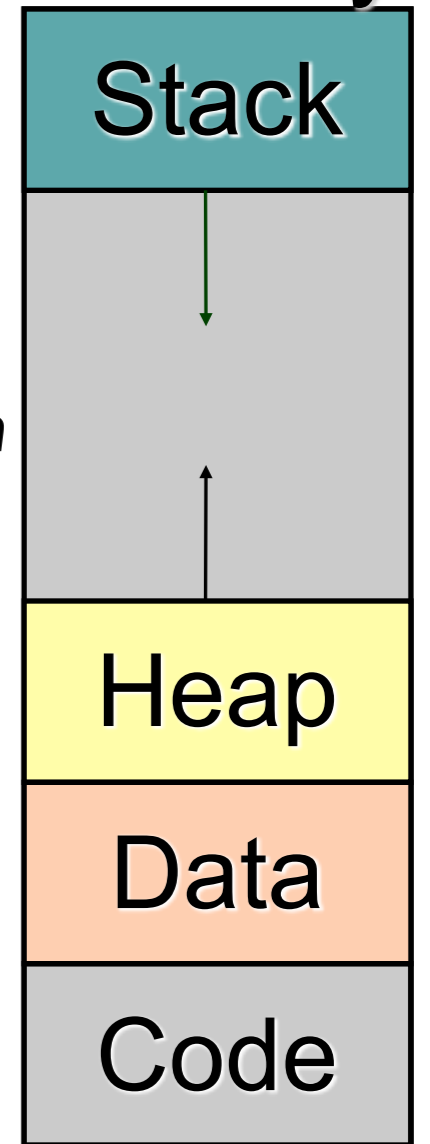
**Data:**

- *global and static variables*

**Code:**

- *instructions to be executed*

Virtual  
Memory



# Static and Stack allocation

11

Static allocation  
with the  
keyword `static`

Stack allocation  
automatic by the  
compiler for  
local variables

`printf` can  
display the  
address of any  
identifier

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
static int sx;  
static int sa[100];  
static int sy;
```

```
int main() {  
    int lx;  
    static int sz;
```

```
    printf("%p\n", &sx);      0x1029e0004  
    printf("%p\n", &sa);     0x1029e0010  
    printf("%p\n", &sy);     0x1029e01a0  
    printf("%p\n", &lx);     0x30964404c  
    printf("%p\n", &sz);     0x1029e0000  
    printf("%p\n", &main);  0x1029dbf20
```

# Static and Stack allocation

12

Any value can  
be turned into  
a pointer

Arithmetics on  
pointers  
allowed

Nothing  
prevents a  
program from  
writing all  
over memory

```
static int sx;  
static int sa[100];  
static int sy;
```

```
int main() {  
    for(p= (int*)0x100001084;  
        p <= (int*)0x100001230;  
        p++)
```

```
{  
    *p = 42;  
}
```

```
printf("%i\n", sx);
```

```
printf("%i\n", sa[0]);
```

```
printf("%i\n", sa[1]);
```

42

42

42

# Sizeof

13

In C, programmers must know the size of data structures

The compiler provides a way to determine the size of data using the sizeof function; it has no runtime effect

```
struct {  
    int i; char c; float cv;  
} C;
```

```
int x[10];  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(char));      1  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(int));       4  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(int*));      8  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(double));    8  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(double*));   8  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(x));         80  
printf("%i\n", (int) sizeof(C));         12
```