

# CSE 333

## Lecture 3 - arrays, memory, pointers

**Steve Gribble**

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

University of Washington



# Administrivia

HW 0.5 (a 4-question survey)

- out today, due Monday

HW 1.0 (a substantial programming assignment)

- out Monday, due a week later
- O(4-14) hrs of work

## Today's goals:

- functions
- arrays
- refresher on C's memory model
  - ▶ address spaces
  - ▶ the stack
  - ▶ brief reminder of pointers

# Defining a function

```
returnType name(type name, ..., type name) {  
    statements;  
}
```

```
// sum integers from 1 to max  
int sumTo(int max) {  
    int i, sum = 0;  
  
    for (i=1; i<=max; i++) {  
        sum += i;  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

# Problem: ordering

You shouldn't call a function that hasn't been declared yet

sum\_badorder.c

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("sumTo(5) is: %d\n", sumTo(5));
    return 0;
}

// sum integers from 1 to max
int sumTo(int max) {
    int i, sum = 0;

    for (i=1; i<=max; i++) {
        sum += i;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

# Problem: ordering

Solution 1: reverse order of definition

sum\_betterorder.c

```
#include <stdio.h>

// sum integers from 1 to max
int sumTo(int max) {
    int i, sum = 0;

    for (i=1; i<=max; i++) {
        sum += i;
    }
    return sum;
}

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("sumTo(5) is: %d\n", sumTo(5));
    return 0;
}
```

# Problem: ordering

Solution 2: provide a declaration of the function

- teaches the compiler the argument and return types of the function

```
#include <stdio.h>

// this function prototype is a
// declaration of sumTo
int sumTo(int);

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    printf("sumTo(5) is: %d\n", sumTo(5));
    return 0;
}

// sum integers from 1 to max
int sumTo(int max) {
    int i, sum = 0;

    for (i=1; i<=max; i++) {
        sum += i;
    }
    return sum;
}
```

sum\_declared.c

# Arrays

*type name[size];*

```
int scores[100];
```

example allocates 100 ints' worth of memory

- initially, each array element contains garbage data

an array does not know its own size

- sizeof(scores) is not reliable; only works in some situations
- recent versions of C allow the array size to be an expression

```
int n=100;  
int scores[n]; // OK in C99
```

# Initializing and using arrays

*type name[size] = {value, value, ..., value};*

- allocates an array and fills it with supplied values
- if fewer values are given than the array size, fills rest with 0

*name[index] = expression;*

- sets the value of an array element

```
int primes[6] = {2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 13};  
primes[3] = 7;  
primes[100] = 0;    // smash!
```

```
// 1000 zeroes  
int allZeroes[1000] = {0};
```

# Multi-dimensional arrays

*type name[rows][columns] = {{values}, ..., {values}};*

- allocates a 2D array and fills it with predefined values

```
// a 2 row, 3 column array of doubles
double grid[2][3];

// a 3 row, 5 column array of ints
int matrix[3][5] = {
    {0, 1, 2, 3, 4},
    {0, 2, 4, 6, 8},
    {1, 3, 5, 7, 9}
};

grid[0][2] = (double) matrix[2][4]; // which val?
```

matrix.c

# Arrays as parameters

It's tricky to use arrays as parameters

- arrays are effectively passed by reference (not copied)
- arrays do not know their own size

```
int sumAll(int a[]); // prototype declaration

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int numbers[5] = {3, 4, 1, 7, 4};
    int sum = sumAll(numbers);
    return 0;
}

int sumAll(int a[]) {
    int i, sum = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < ...????
}
```

# Arrays as parameters

Solution 1: declare the array size in the function

- problem: code isn't very flexible

```
int sumAll(int a[5]); // prototype declaration

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int numbers[5] = {3, 4, 1, 7, 4};
    int sum = sumAll(numbers);
    return 0;
}

int sumAll(int a[5]) {
    int i, sum = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        sum += a[i];
    }
    return sum;
}
```

# Arrays as parameters

Solution 2: pass the size as a parameter

```
int sumAll(int a[], int size);

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int numbers[5] = {3, 4, 1, 7, 4};
    int sum = sumAll(numbers, 5);
    printf("sum is: %d\n", sum);
    return 0;
}

int sumAll(int a[], int size) {
    int i, sum = 0;

    for (i = 0; i <= size; i++) {    // CAN YOU SPOT THE BUG?
        sum += a[i];
    }
    return sum;
}
```

# Returning an array

Local variables, including arrays, are stack allocated

- they disappear when a function returns
- therefore, local arrays can't be safely returned from functions

```
int[] copyarray(int src[], int size) {
    int i, dst[size]; // OK in C99

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++) {
        dst[i] = src[i];
    }
    return dst; // NO -- bug
}
```

buggy\_copyarray.c

# Solution: an output parameter

Create the “returned” array in the caller

- pass it as an ***output parameter*** to copyarray
- works because arrays are effectively passed by reference

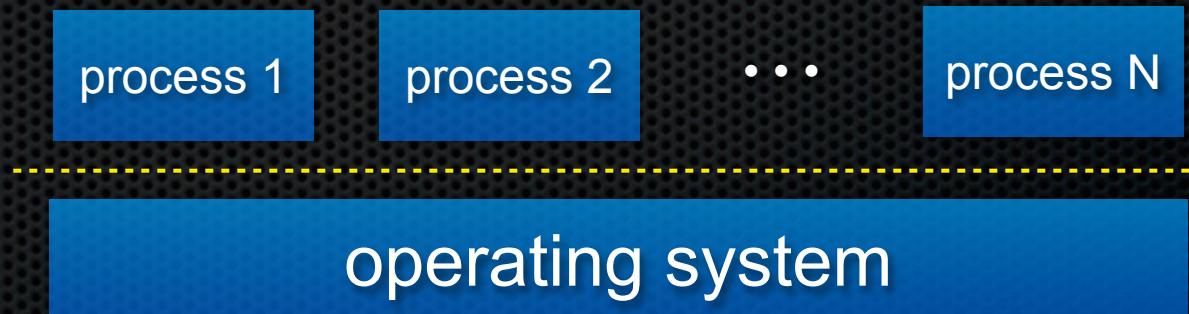
```
void copyarray(int src[], int dst[], int size) {  
    int i;  
  
    for (i = 0; i < size; i++) {  
        dst[i] = src[i];  
    }  
}
```

copyarray.c

# OS and processes

The OS lets you run multiple applications at once

- an application runs within an OS “process”
- the OS timeslices each CPU between runnable processes
  - ▶ happens very fast; ~100 times per second!



# Processes and virtual memory

OS gives each process the illusion of its own, private memory

- this is called the process' **address space**
- contains the process' virtual memory, visible only to it
- $2^{32}$  bytes on 32 bit host
- $2^{64}$  bytes on 64 bit host



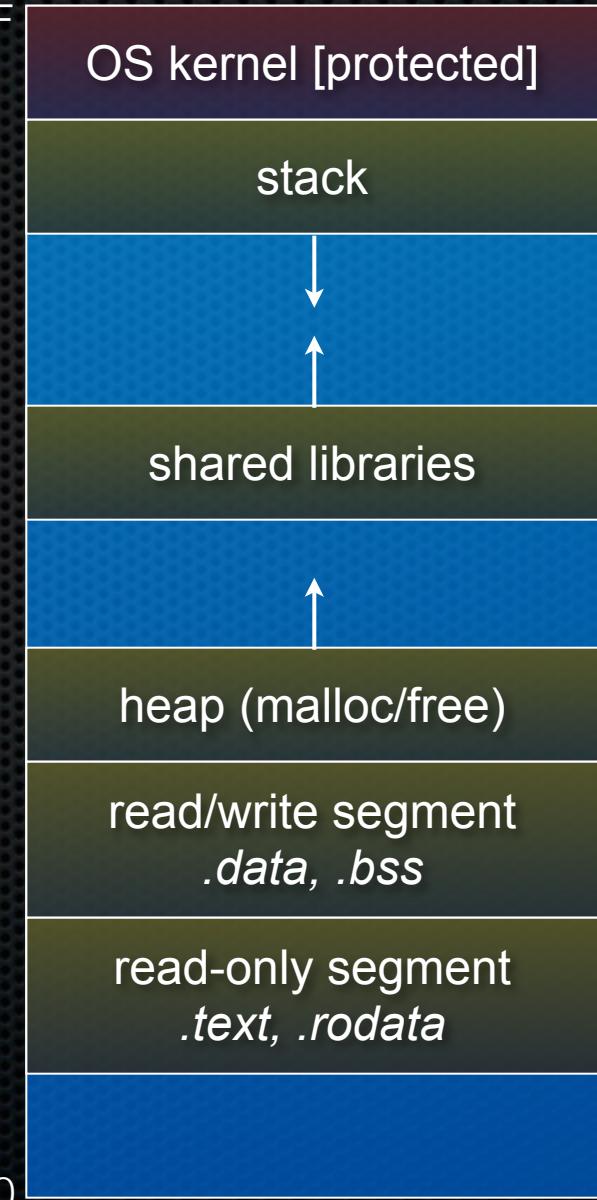
# Loading

When the OS loads a program, it:

- creates an address space
- inspects the executable file to see what's in it
- (lazily) copies regions of the file into the right place in the address space
- does any final linking, relocation, or other needed preparation

0xFFFFFFFF

0x00000000



# The stack

Used to store data associated with function calls

- when you call a function, compiler-inserted code will allocate a stack frame to store:
  - ▶ the function call arguments
  - ▶ the address to return to
  - ▶ local variables used by the function
  - ▶ a few other pieces of bookkeeping

```
int f(int p1, int p2) {  
    int x;  
    int a[3];  
    ...  
    return x;  
}
```

offset	contents
24	p2
20	p1
16	return address
12	a[2]
8	a[1]
4	a[0]
0	x

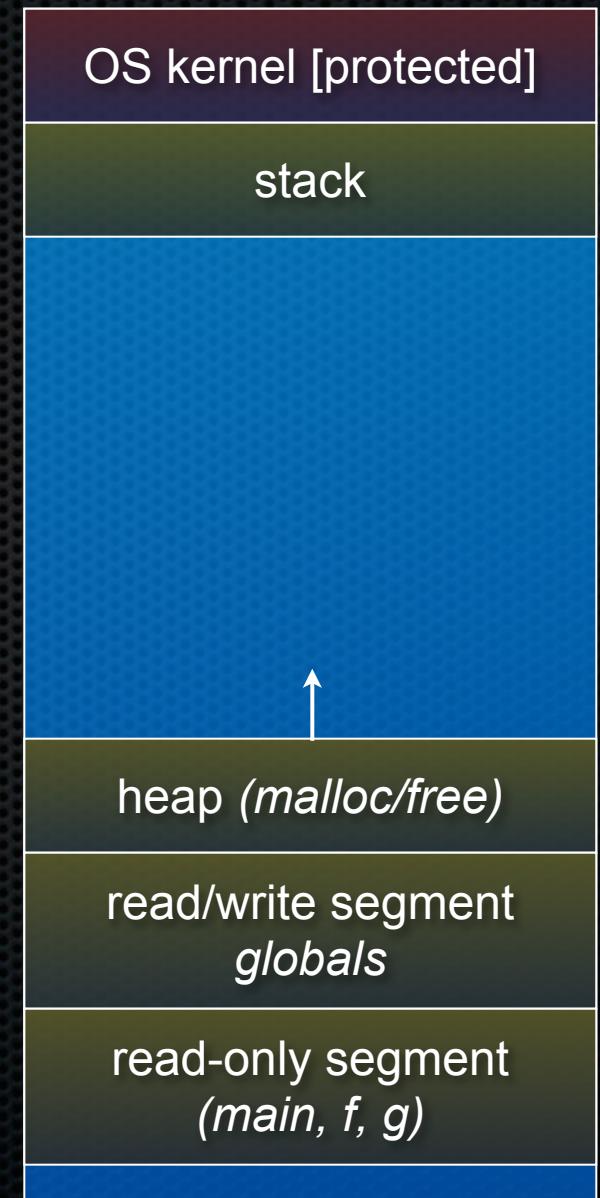
a stack frame

# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



# The stack in action



```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



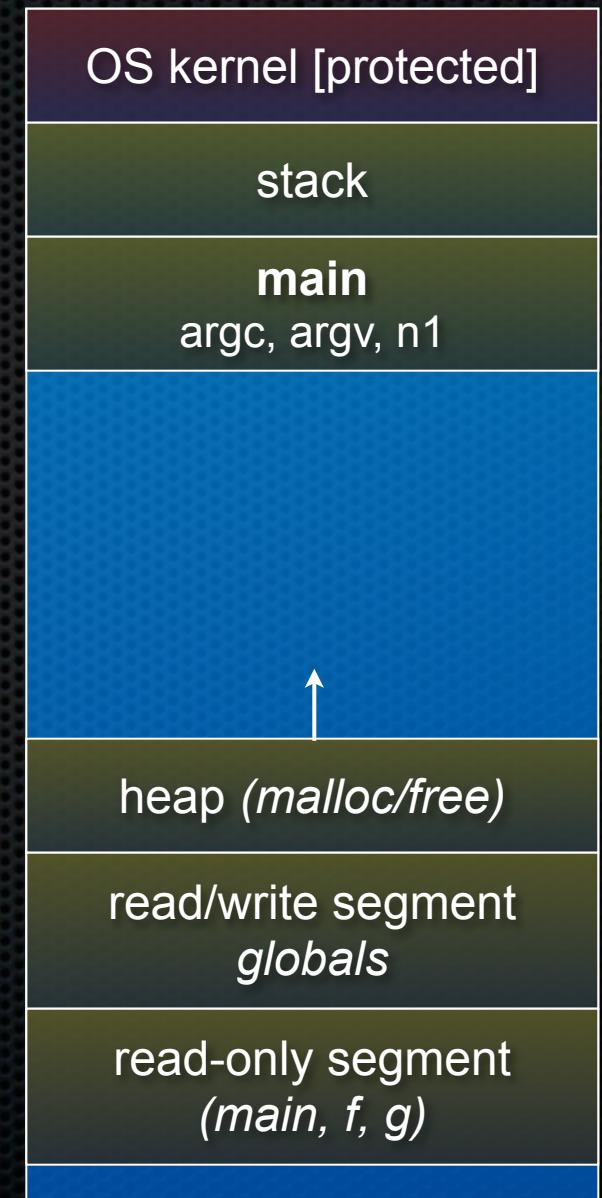
# The stack in action



```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



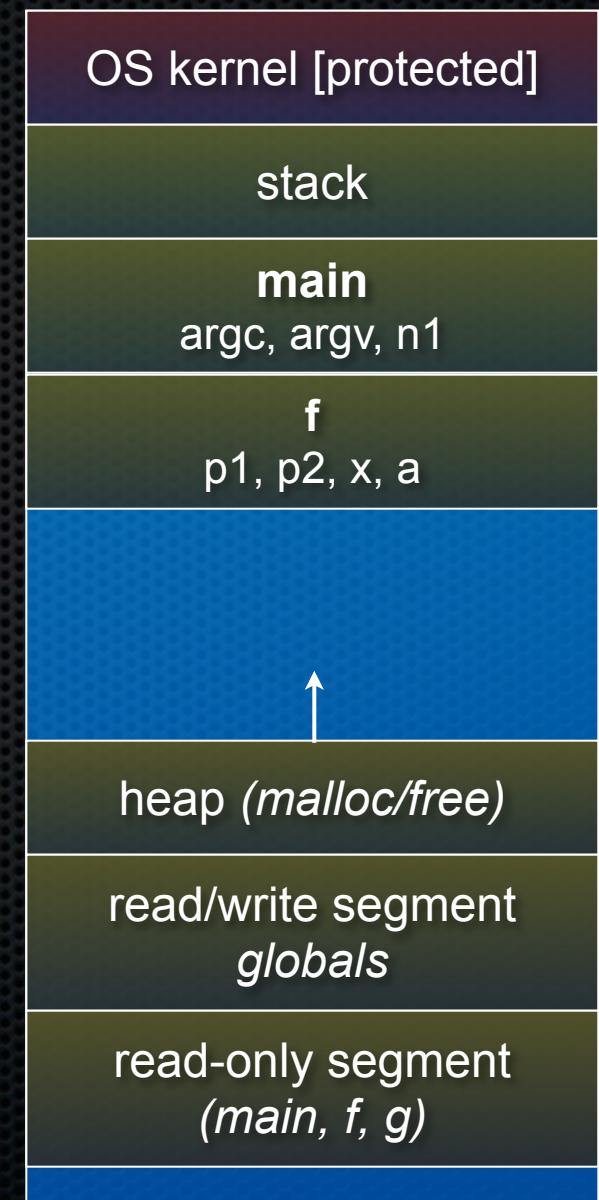
# The stack in action



```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

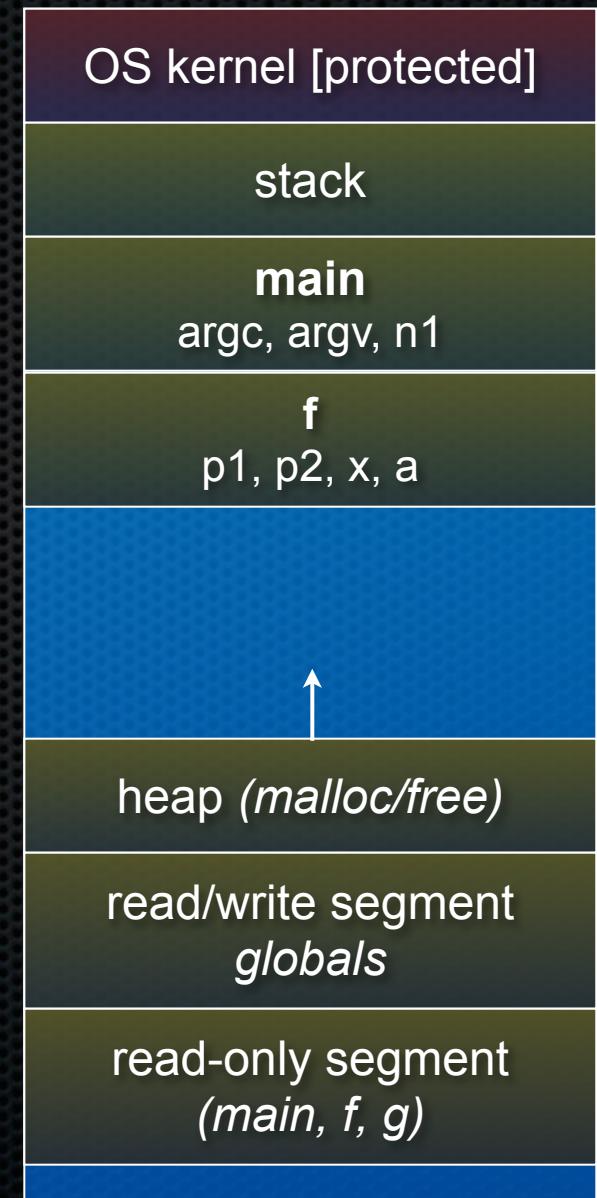


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

→ int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

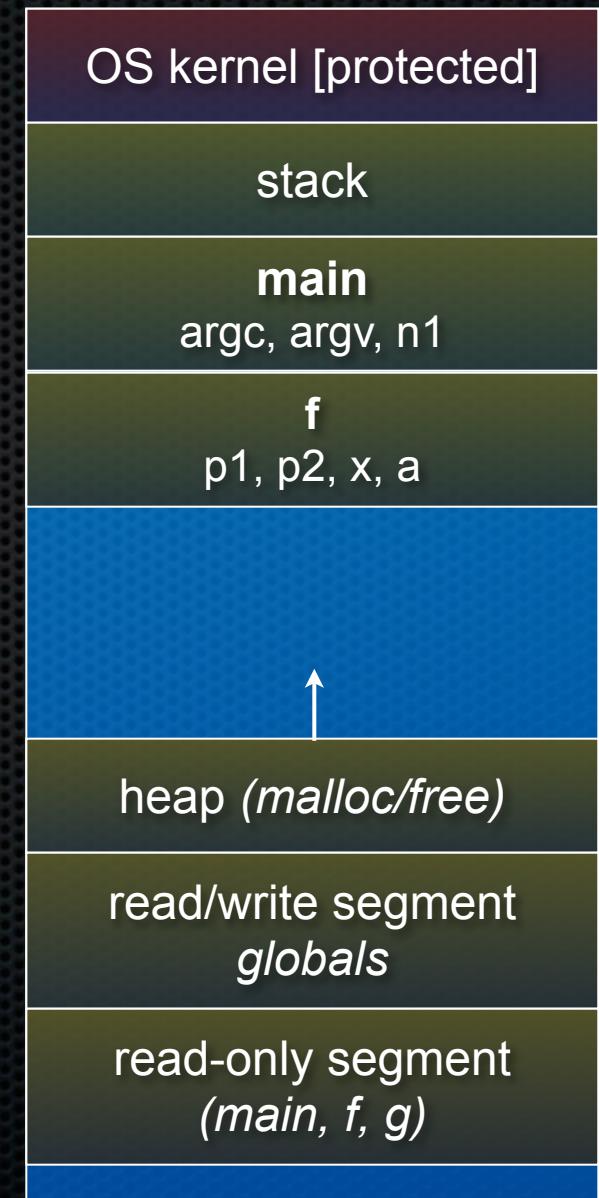


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

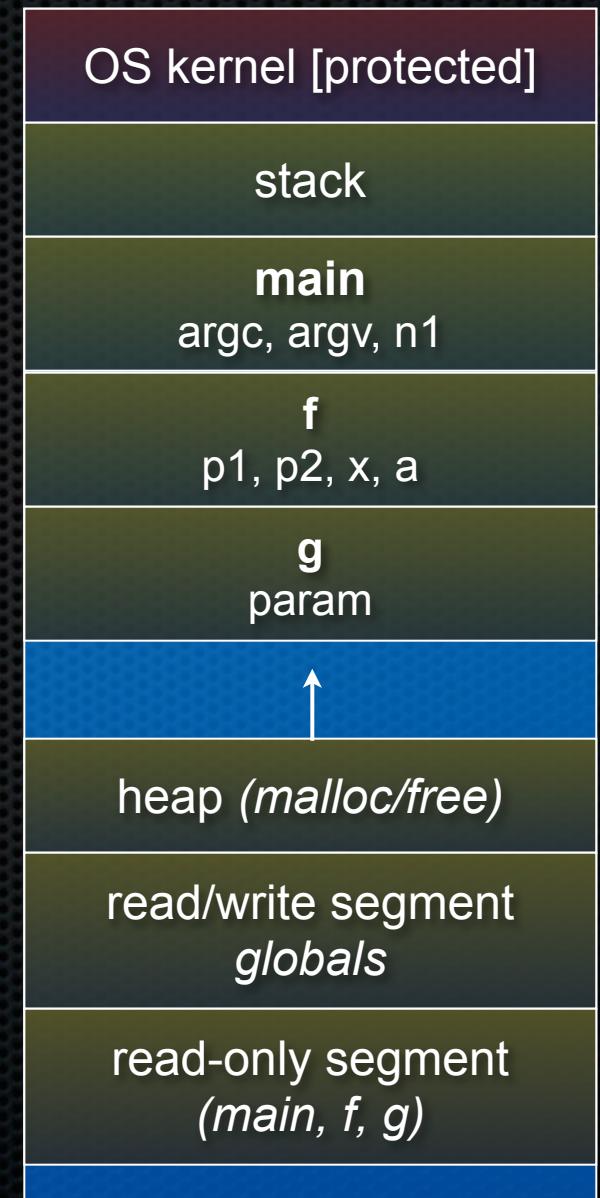


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

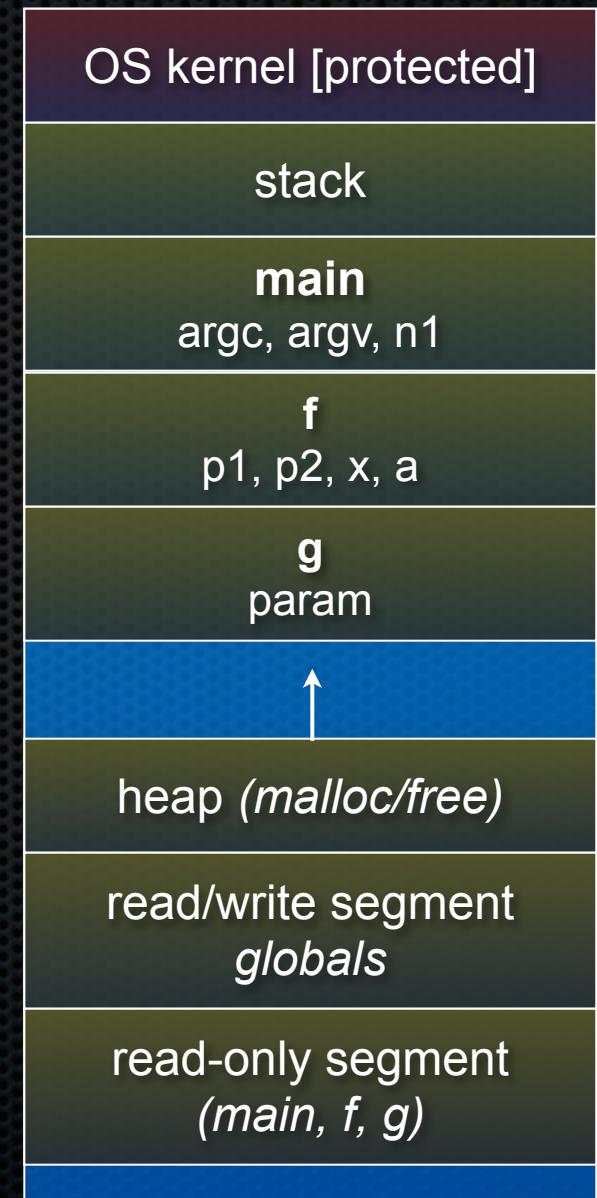


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

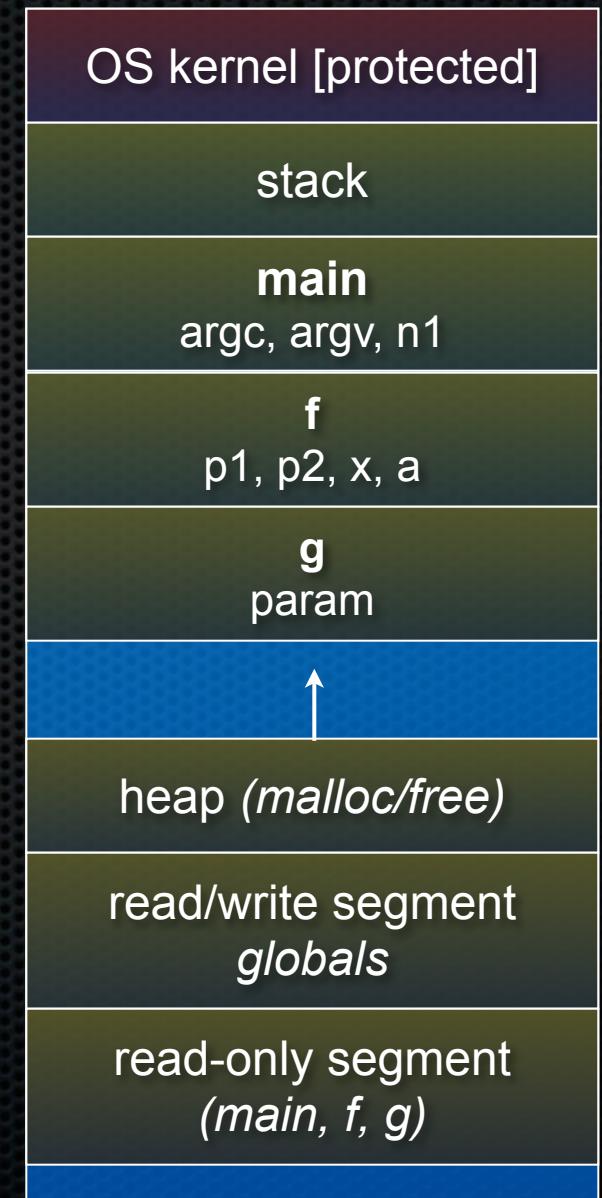


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

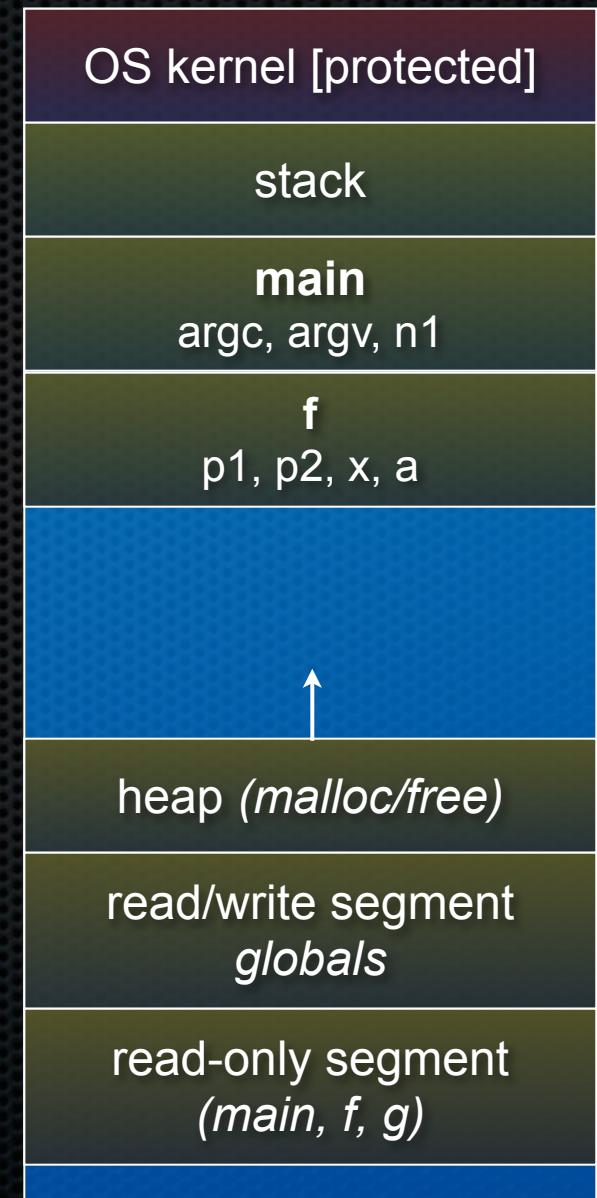


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

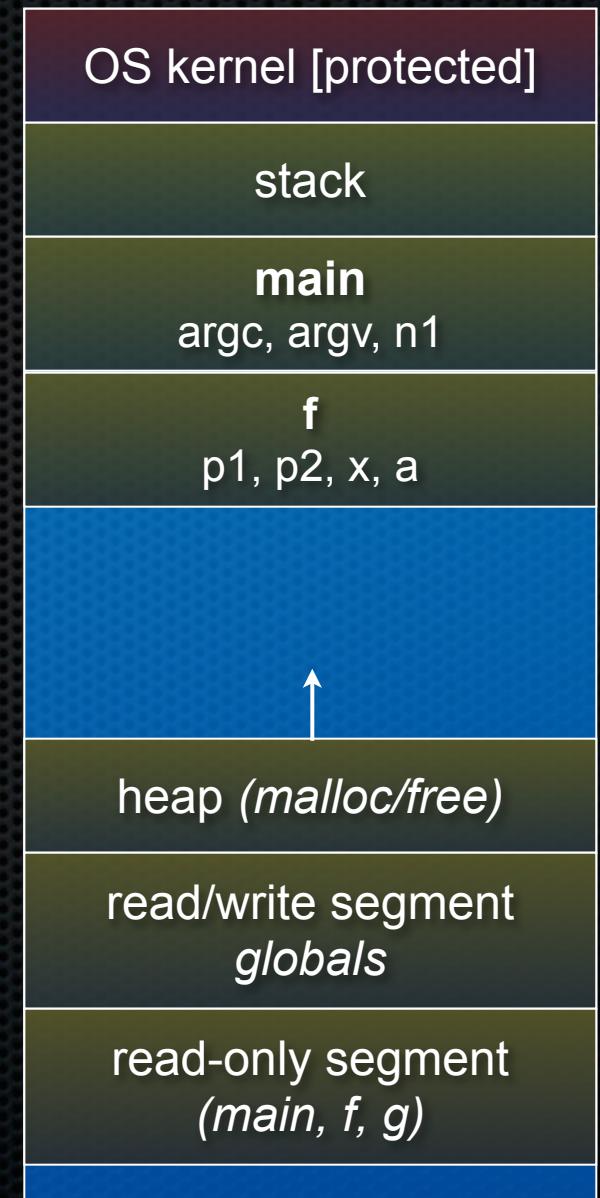


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

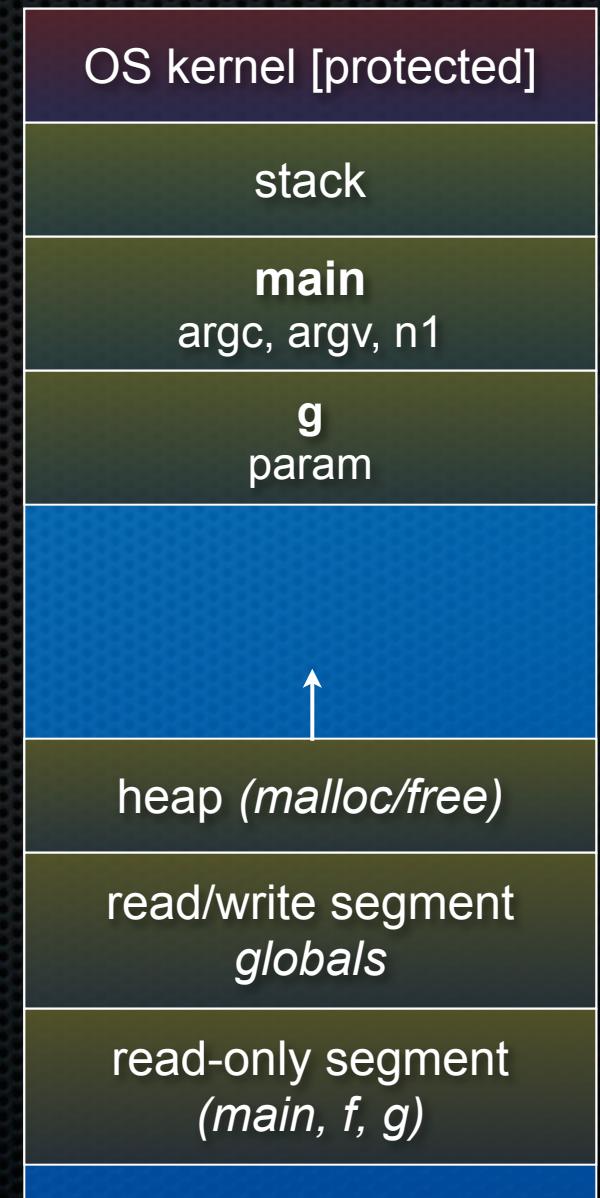


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

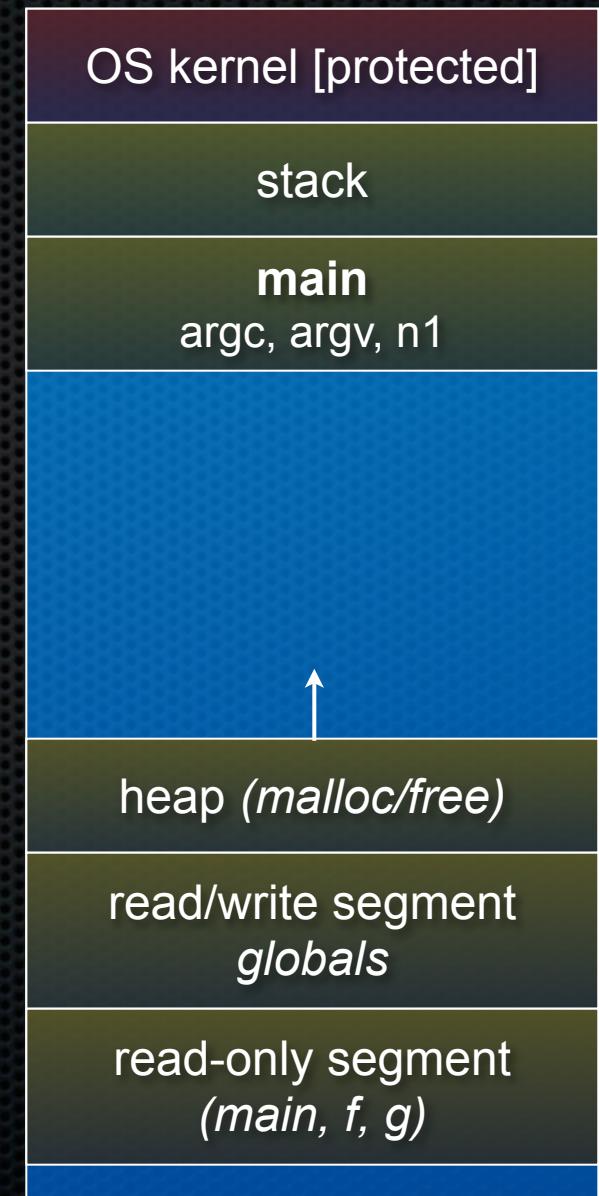


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```

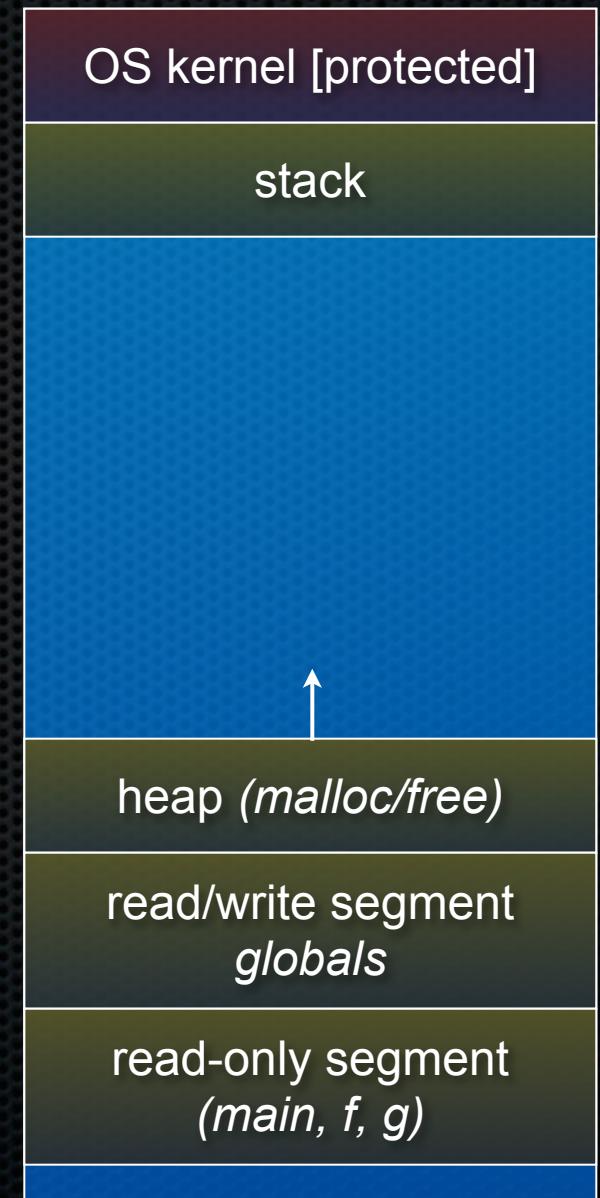


# The stack in action

```
int main(int argc,
          char **argv) {
    int n1 = f(3, -5);
    n1 = g(n1);
}

int f(int p1, int p2) {
    int x;
    int a[3];
    ...
    x = g(a[2]);
    return x;
}

int g(int param) {
    return param * 2;
}
```



# Addresses and &

`&foo` produces the virtual address of `foo`

addresses.c

```
#include <stdio.h>

int foo(int x) {
    return x+1;
}

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int x, y;
    int a[2];

    printf("x      is at %p\n", &x);
    printf("y      is at %p\n", &y);
    printf("a[0]   is at %p\n", &a[0]);
    printf("a[1]   is at %p\n", &a[1]);
    printf("foo    is at %p\n", &foo);
    printf("main   is at %p\n", &main);

    return 0;
}
```

# Pointers

```
type *name;           // declare a pointer
```

```
type *name = address; // declare + initialize a pointer
```

a pointer is a variable that contains a memory address

- it points to somewhere in the process' virtual address space

pointy.c

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int x = 42;
    int *p;          // p is a pointer to an integer

    p = &x;          // p now stores the address of x

    printf("x  is %d\n", x);
    printf("&x is %p\n", &x);
    printf("p  is %p\n", p);

    return 0;
}
```

# A stylistic choice

C gives you flexibility in how you declare pointers

- one way can lead to visual trouble when declaring multiple pointers on a single line
- the other way is what I prefer

```
int* p1;  
int *p2; // i prefer
```

```
int* p1, p2; // bug?; equivalent to int *p1; int p2;  
int* p1, * p2; // correct
```

or

```
int *p1, *p2; // correct, i prefer
```

# Dereferencing pointers

```
*pointer          // dereference a pointer  
*pointer = value; // dereference / assign
```

dereference: access the memory referred to by a pointer

deref.c

```
#include <stdio.h>  
  
int main(int argc, char **argv) {  
    int x = 42;  
    int *p;          // p is a pointer to an integer  
    p = &x;          // p now stores the address of x  
  
    printf("x is %d\n", x);  
    *p = 99;  
    printf("x is %d\n", x);  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

# Coding exercise #1

Write a function that:

- accepts an array of 32-bit unsigned integers, and a length
- reverses the elements of the array in place
- returns void (nothing)

# Coding exercise #2

Write a function that:

- accepts a function pointer and an integer as an argument
- invokes the pointed-to function
  - ▶ with the integer as its argument

# Coding exercise #3

Write a function that:

- accepts a string as a parameter
- returns
  - ▶ the first whitespace-separated word in the string (as a newly allocated string)
  - ▶ and, the size of that word

See you on Monday!