

The Heap and Structs

CSE 333

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Administrivia (1)

- ❖ HW0 due tonight @ 11:00 PM!
- ❖ Exercise 2 was due this morning.
- ❖ Yet another exercise, exercise 3, out today, due Wednesday morning
- ❖ HW1 out now, due a week from Thursday @ 11:00PM
 - Get started now! Don't want to rush at the last minute
 - Ask lots of questions at office hours and the ed board!

Git

- ❖ Proper version control use is a skill you'll use and refine throughout your career
- ❖ Start in this class
 - Gitlab is not just for turning in like gradescope
 - It's for tracking your work as you're doing it.
- ❖ Make small commits *regularly*, and label them informatively
 - Describe **what** the change was
 - When possible, describe **why** you made that change
 - Committing regularly will save you later when something breaks

Example Commits for Exercise 2

```
commit 5a6118dd96aa901952ac0e1e5ebe7341e8e8e85c
```

```
Author: Alex Sanchez-Stern <[REDACTED]>
```

```
Date: Sun Jun 29 11:09:57 2025 -0700
```

```
Add starter main from assignment webpage
```

```
diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
```

```
new file mode 100644
```

```
index 0000000..ab2562d
```

```
--- /dev/null
```

```
+++ b/ex2.c
```

```
@@ -0,0 +1,23 @@
```

```
+int main(int argc, char **argv) {
```

```
+ char char_val = '0';
```

```
+ int32_t int_val = 1;
```

```
+ float float_val = 1.0;
```

```
+ double double_val = 1.0;
```

```
+
```

```
+ typedef struct {
```

```
+ char char_val;
```

```
+ int32_t int_val;
```

```
+ float float_val;
```

```
+ double double_val;
```

```
+ } Ex2Struct;
```

```
+
```

```
+ Ex2Struct struct_val = { '0', 1, 1.0, 1.0 };
```

```
+
```

```
+ PrintBytes(&char_val, sizeof(char));
```

```
+ PrintBytes(&int_val, sizeof(int32_t));
```

```
+ PrintBytes(&float_val, sizeof(float));
```

```
+ PrintBytes(&double_val, sizeof(double));
```

```
+ PrintBytes(&struct_val, sizeof(struct_val));
```

```
+
```

```
+ return EXIT_SUCCESS;
```

```
+}
```

Commit Message:
"Add starter code from
assignment webpage"

Commit changes

Example Commits for Exercise 2

```
commit 0854ff92c98b3e29a7661a668bb693a62f0c70
```

```
Author: Alex Sanchez-Stern
```

```
Date: Sun Jun 29 11:11:08 2025 -0700
```

```
Add #includes for starter code
```

```
stdint for `int32_t` and stdlib for `EXIT_SUCCESS`
```

```
diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
```

```
index ab2562d..fcc3984 100644
```

```
--- a/ex2.c
```

```
+++ b/ex2.c
```

```
@@ -1,3 +1,6 @@
```

```
+#include <stdint.h>
```

```
+#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
+
```

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
```

```
    char    char_val = '0';
```

```
    int32_t int_val = 1;
```

More details on further
lines

Example Commits for Exercise 2

```
commit dcbb9db51dfd7fabd1b8074eaff590d401943
Author: Alex Sanchez-Stern
Date:   Sun Jun 29 11:12:54 2025 -0700

    Add declaration and dummy definition of

diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
index fcc3984..1694ec9 100644
--- a/ex2.c
+++ b/ex2.c
@@ -1,6 +1,8 @@
#include <stdint.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

+void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);
+
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    char    char_val = '0';
    int32_t  int_val = 1;
@@ -24,3 +26,6 @@ int main(int argc, char **argv) {

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
+
+void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes){
+}
```

As small as
independently
describable

Example Commits for Exercise 2

```
commit 4927076469cfcdbaf8d7cf900c11f6ff4fb2cef4
```

```
Author: Alex Sanchez-Stern
```

```
Date: Sun Jun 29 11:28:43 2025 -0700
```

Change stdint for inttypes to get the print specifiers

```
diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
```

```
index 1694ec9..fa85db3 100644
```

```
--- a/ex2.c
```

```
+++ b/ex2.c
```

```
@@ -1,4 +1,4 @@
```

```
-#include <stdint.h>
```

```
+#include <inttypes.h>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);
```

Describe **why** when not immediately obvious

Example Commits for Exercise 2

```
commit f0efb7f8b0573e0553447d717ce1664ee2576e08 (HEAD -> main)
Author: Alex Sanchez-Stern
Date: Sun Jun 29 11:29:15 2025 -0700

    Add body to PrintBytes

diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
index fa85db3..40c7396 100644
--- a/ex2.c
+++ b/ex2.c
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

@@ -28,4 +29,10 @@ int main(int argc, char **argv) {
}

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes){
+    printf("The %d bytes starting at %p are:", num_bytes, mem_addr);
+    for (int i = 0; i < num_bytes; i++) {
+        // Could also use ((uint8_t*)mem_addr)[i]
+        printf(" %02" PRIx8, *(uint8_t*)(mem_addr+i));
+    }
+    printf("\n");
}
```

Group logically
related changes

Git Tips

- ❖ Run `git diff` before anything else to see your current changes.
- ❖ Run `git diff --cached` after adding but before committing to see what you're about to commit
- ❖ Run `git status` at any time to get an overview

See extra slides for more advanced git usage if you're feeling adventurous

Lecture Outline

❖ Heap-allocated Memory

- `malloc()` and `free()`
- Memory errors

❖ `structs` and `typedef`

Memory Allocation So Far

❖ So far, we have seen two kinds of memory allocation:

```
int foo(int a) {  
    int x = a + 1;    // local var  
    return x;  
}  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    int y = foo(10);  // local var  
    printf("y = %d\n", y);  
    return 0;  
}
```

```
int counter = 0;    // global var  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    counter++;  
    printf("count = %d\n", counter);  
    return 0;  
}
```

- `a`, `x`, `y` are **automatically**-allocated
 - Allocated when function is called
 - Deallocated when function returns
- `counter` is **statically**-allocated
 - Allocated when program is loaded
 - Deallocated when program exits

Why Dynamic Allocation?

- ❖ We need memory that persists across multiple function calls but not for the whole lifetime of the program
- ❖ We need more memory than can fit on the stack
- ❖ We need memory whose size is not known in advance
 - For example, reading a file into memory....

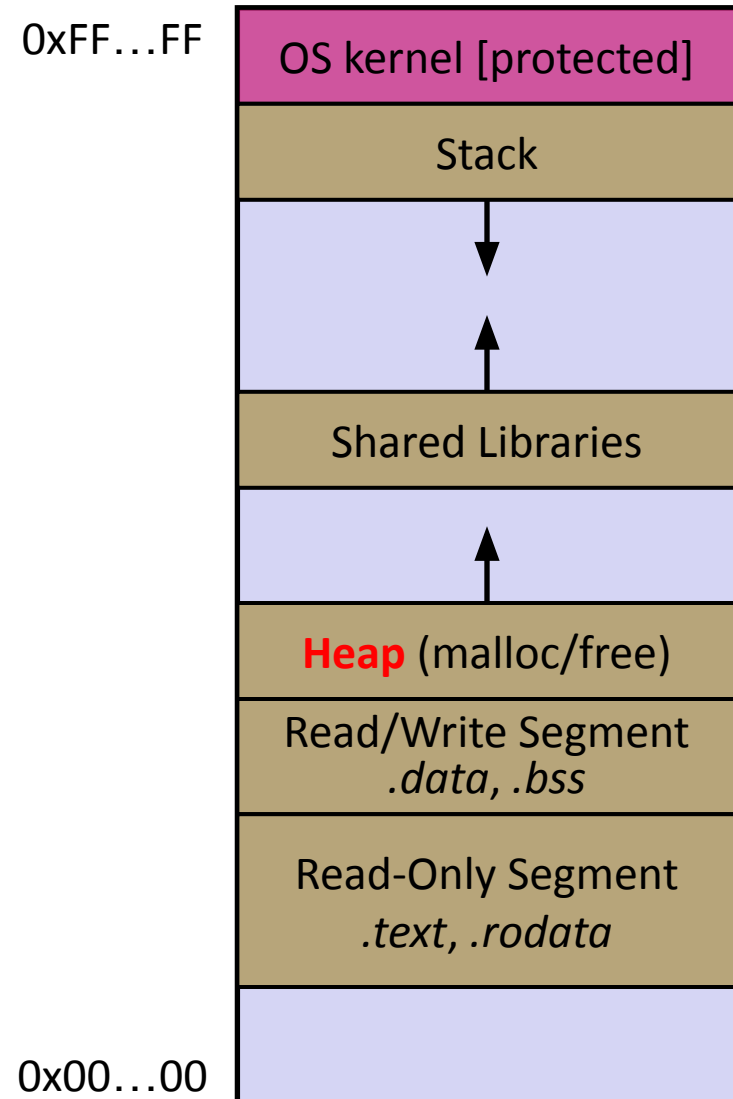
```
// this is pseudo-C code  
char* ReadFile(char* filename) {  
    int size = GetFileSize(filename);  
    char* buffer = AllocateMem(size);  
  
    ReadFileIntoBuffer(filename, buffer);  
    return buffer;  
}
```

Dynamic Allocation

- ❖ What we want is *dynamically*-allocated memory
 - Your program explicitly requests a new block of memory
 - The code allocates it at runtime, perhaps with help from OS
 - Dynamically-allocated memory persists until either:
 - Your code explicitly deallocates it (manual memory management)
 - A garbage collector collects it (automatic memory management)
 - **New**: compiler inserted code deallocates it (ownership types)
- ❖ C requires you to manually manage memory
 - Gives you more control, but causes headaches

The Heap

- ❖ The Heap is a large pool of available memory used to hold dynamically-allocated data
 - **malloc** allocates chunks of data in the Heap; **free** deallocates those chunks
 - **malloc** maintains bookkeeping data in the Heap to track allocated blocks



Aside: NULL

- ❖ NULL is a memory location that is **guaranteed to be invalid**
 - In C on Linux, NULL is 0x0 and an attempt to dereference NULL *causes a segmentation fault*
- ❖ Useful as an indicator of an uninitialized (or currently unused) pointer or allocation error
 - It's better to cause a segfault than to allow the corruption of memory!

segfault.c

```
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    int* p = NULL;  
    *p = 1; // causes a segmentation fault  
    return 0;  
}
```

Lecture Outline

- ❖ Heap-allocated Memory
 - `malloc()` and `free()`
 - Memory errors
- ❖ `structs` and `typedef`

malloc()

- ❖ General usage: `var = (type*) malloc(size in bytes)`
- ❖ **malloc** allocates a block of memory of the requested size
 - Returns a pointer to the first byte of that memory
 - And **returns NULL** if the memory allocation failed!
 - You should assume that the memory initially contains garbage
 - You'll typically use `sizeof` to calculate the size you need and cast the result to the desired pointer type

```
// allocate a 10-float array
float* arr = (float*) malloc(10*sizeof(float));
if (arr == NULL) {
    return errcode;
}
...    // do stuff with arr
```

calloc()

❖ General usage:

```
var = (type*) calloc(num, bytes per element)
```

❖ Like **malloc**, but also zeros out the block of memory

- Helpful when zero-initialization wanted (but don't use it to mask bugs – fix those)
- Slightly slower; but useful for non-performance-critical code or if you really are planning to zero out the new block of memory

```
// allocate a 10-double array
double* arr = (double*) calloc(10, sizeof(double));
if (arr == NULL) {
    return errcode;
}
...    // do stuff with arr
```

free()

❖ Usage: `free(pointer);`

All three of these functions
are in `stdlib.h`

- ❖ Deallocates the memory pointed-to by the pointer
 - Pointer *must* point to the first byte of heap-allocated memory (*i.e.* something previously returned by `malloc` or `calloc`)
 - Freed memory becomes eligible for future (re-)allocation
 - The bits in the pointer are *not changed* by calling `free`
 - Defensive programming: can set pointer to `NULL` after freeing it

```
float* arr = (float*) malloc(10*sizeof(float));  
if (arr == NULL)  
    return errcode;  
...           // do stuff with arr  
free(arr);  
arr = NULL;   // OPTIONAL
```

Heap and Stack Example

Note: Arrow points
to *next* instruction.

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

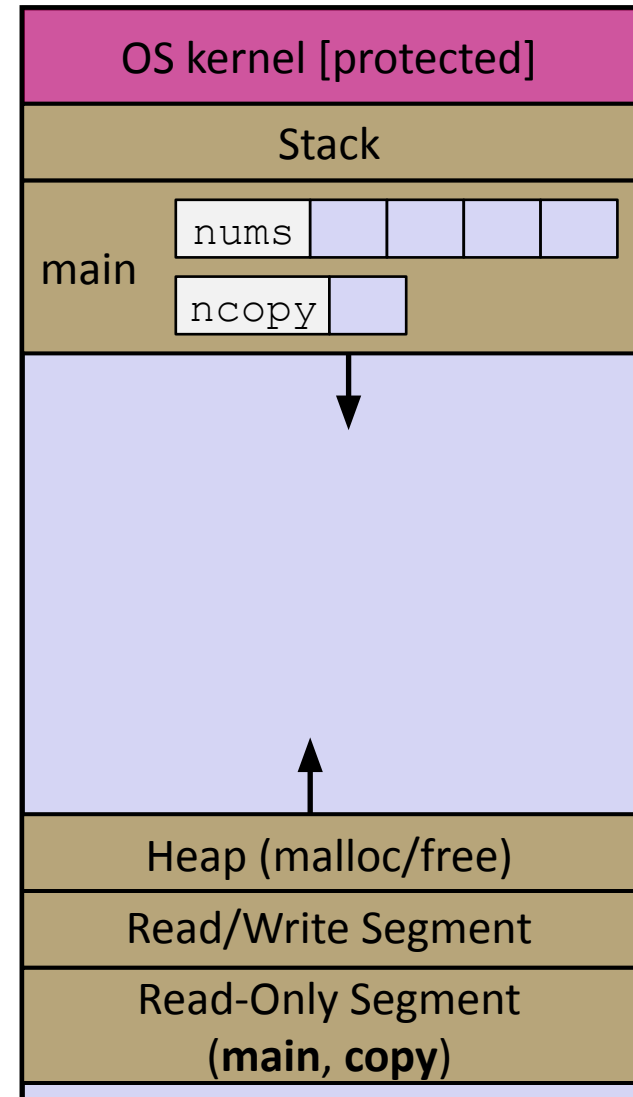
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

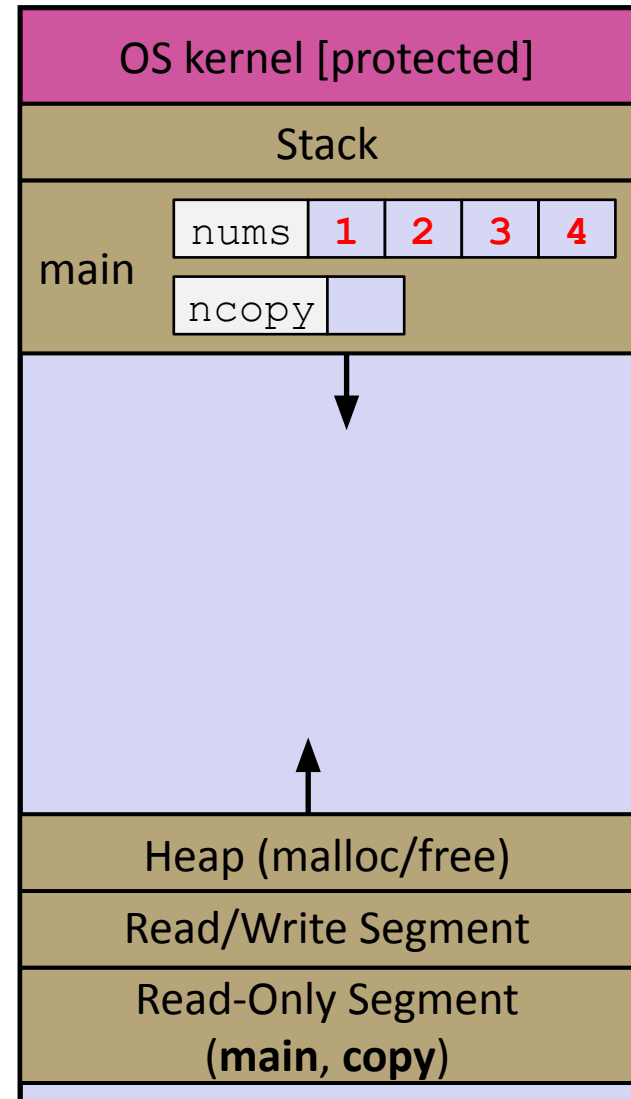
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

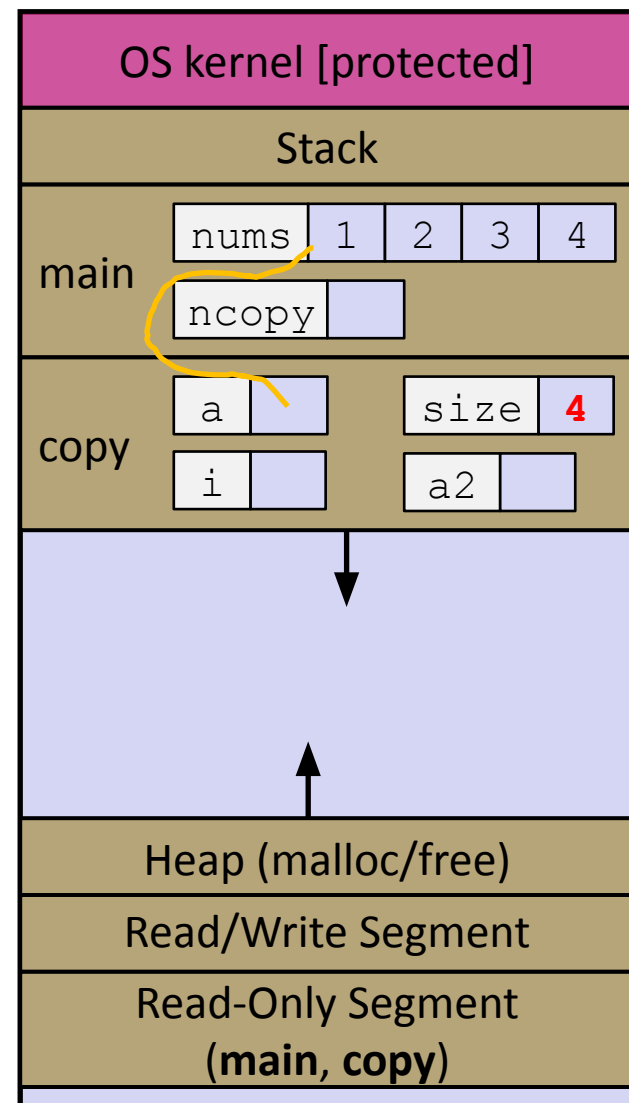
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

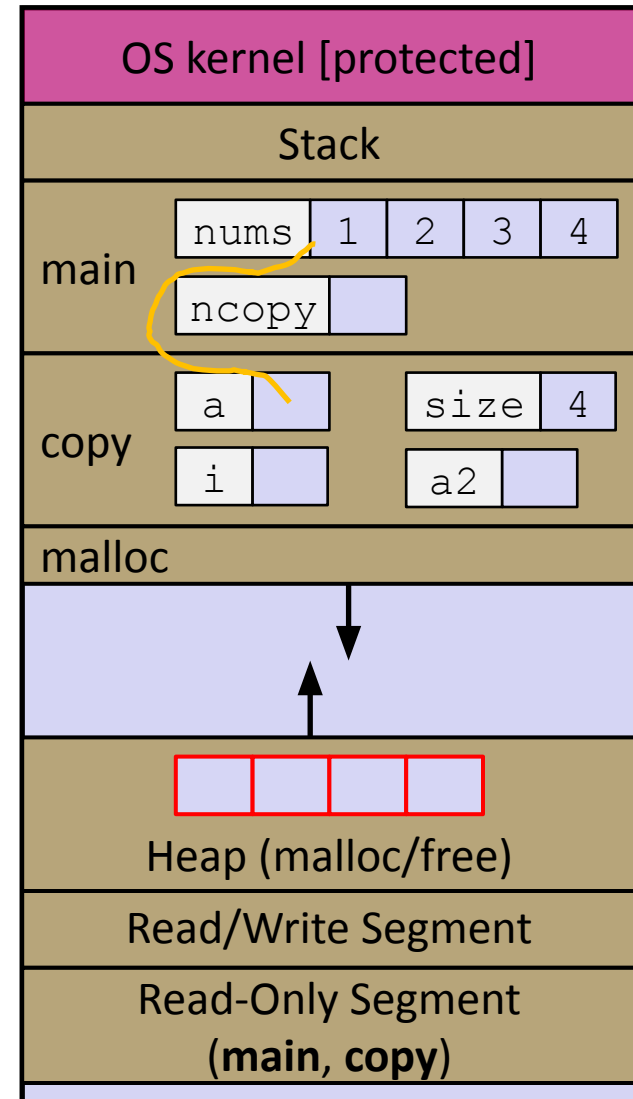
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

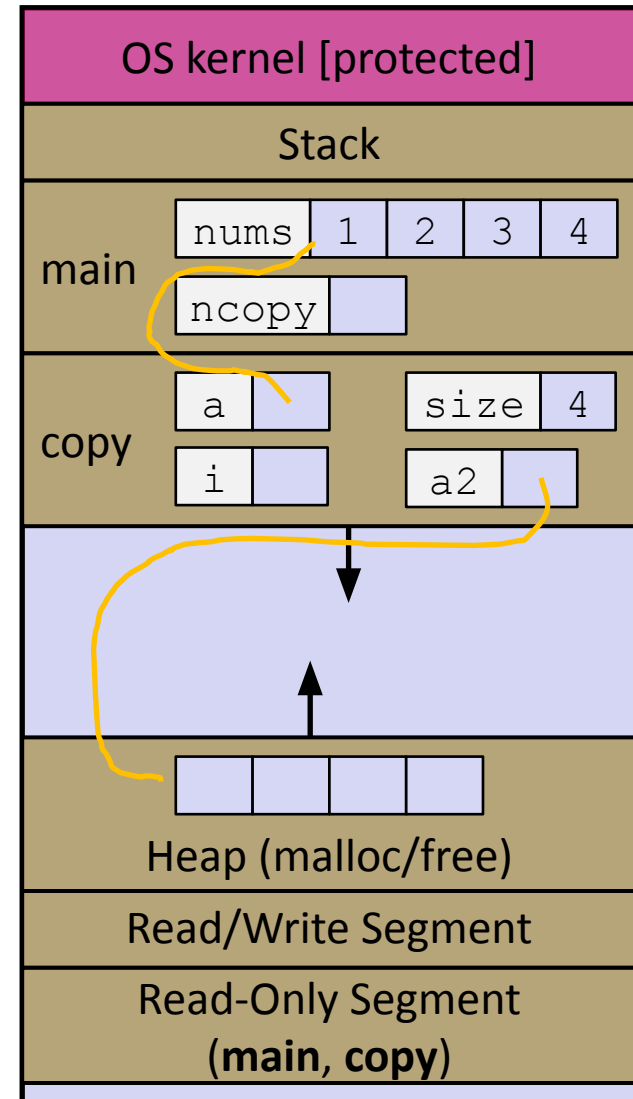
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

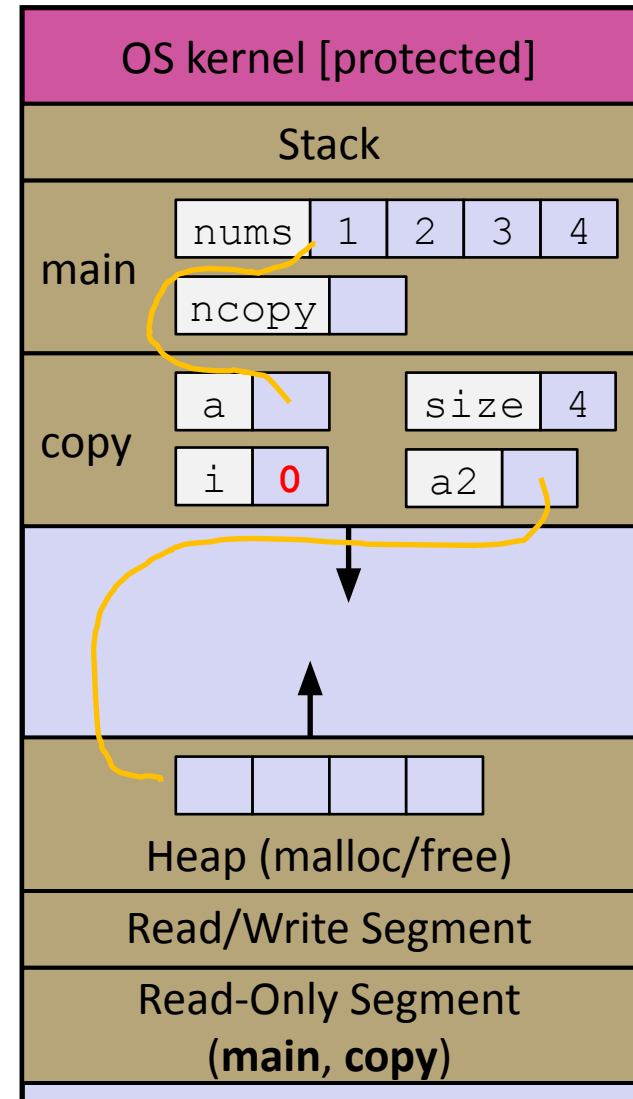
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

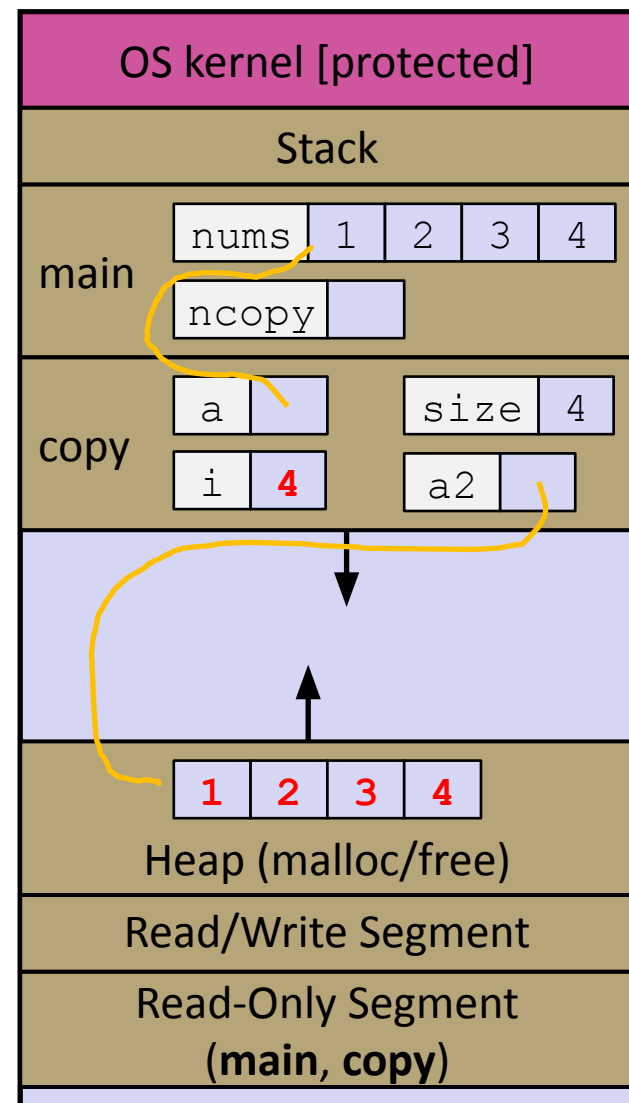
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

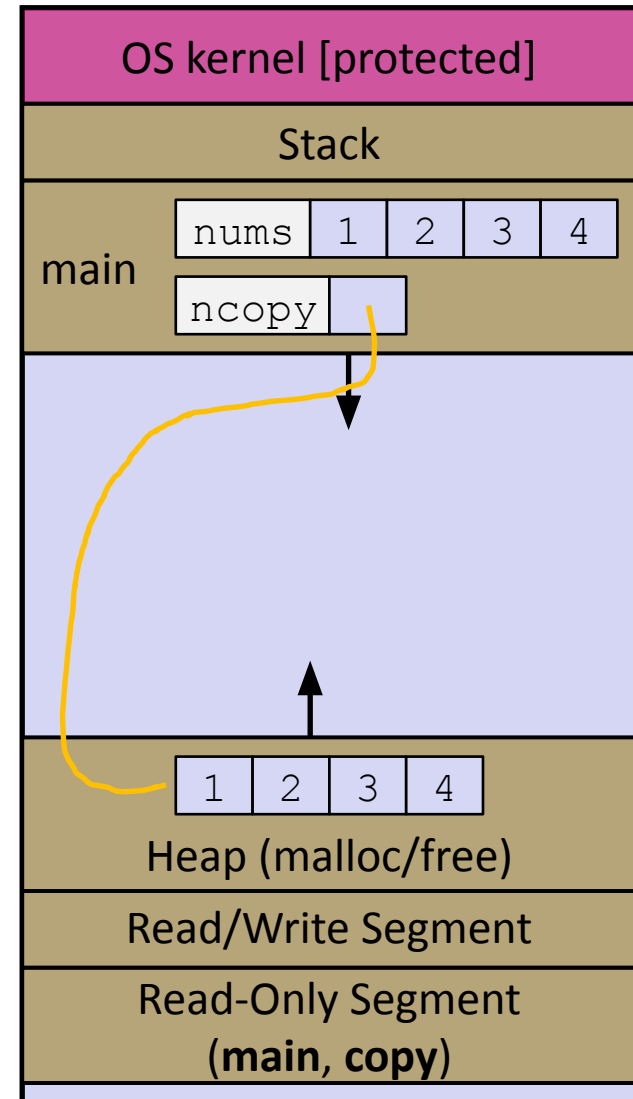
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

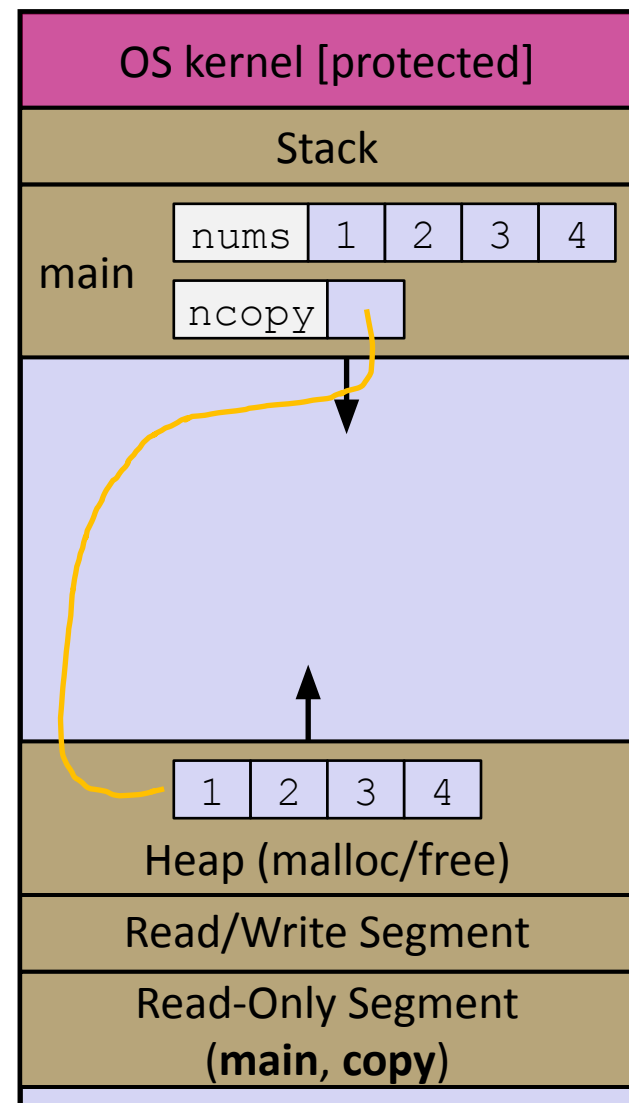
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

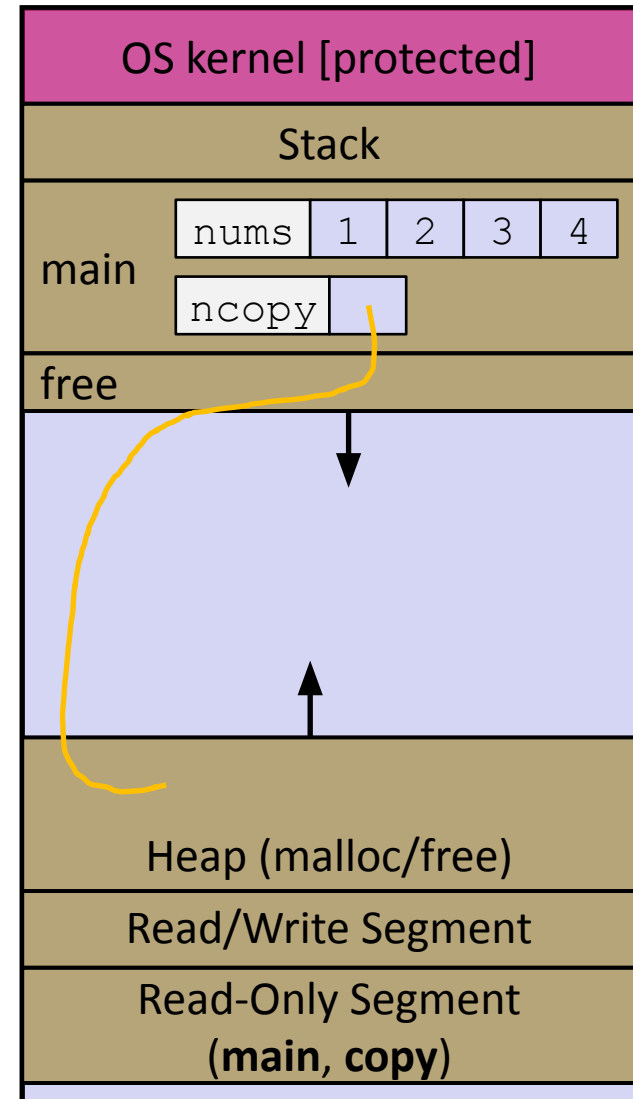
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Heap and Stack Example

arraycopy.c

```
#include <stdlib.h>

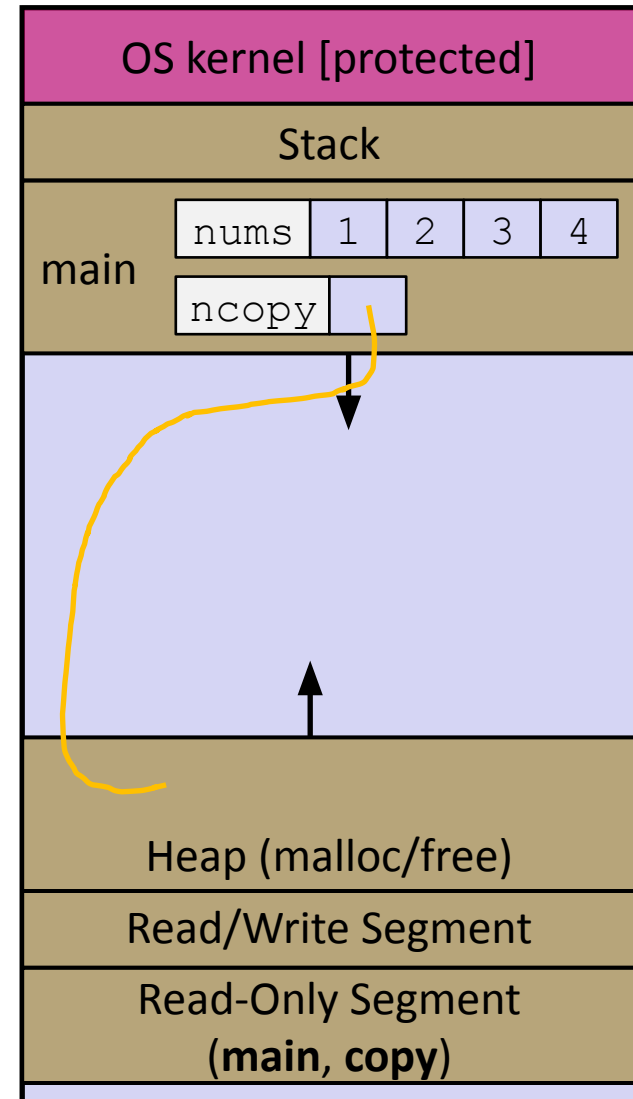
int* copy(int a[], int size) {
    int i, *a2;

    a2 = malloc(size*sizeof(int));
    if (a2 == NULL)
        return NULL;

    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
        a2[i] = a[i];

    return a2;
}

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int nums[4] = {1, 2, 3, 4};
    int* ncopy = copy(nums, 4);
    // .. do stuff with the array ..
    free(ncopy);
    return 0;
}
```



Lecture Outline

- ❖ Heap-allocated Memory
 - `malloc()` and `free()`
 - **Memory errors**
- ❖ `structs` and `typedef`

Memory Corruption

- ❖ There are all sorts of ways to corrupt memory in C

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

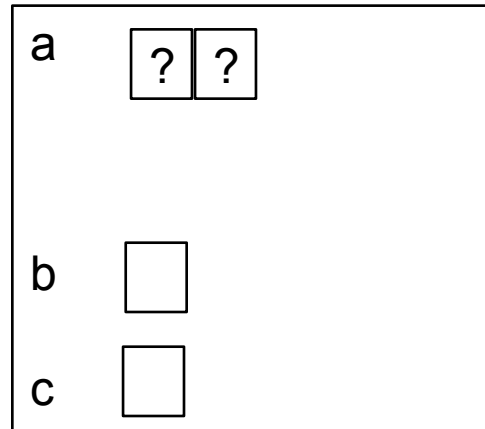
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);
    free(b);    // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;   // use a freed (dangling) pointer

    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:

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

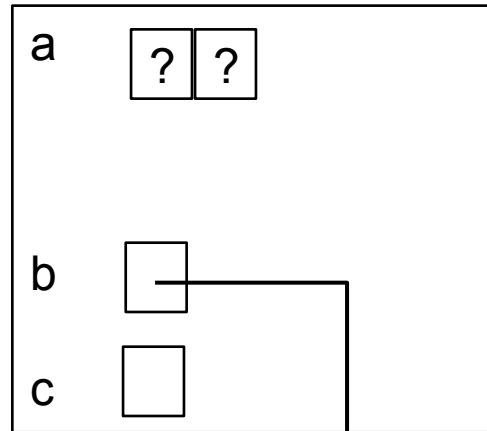
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

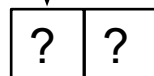
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



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

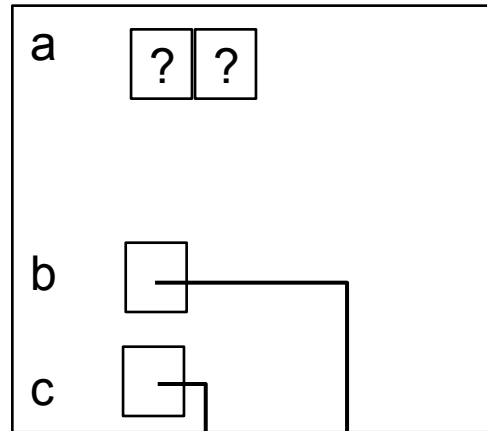
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

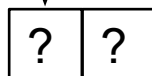
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



???

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

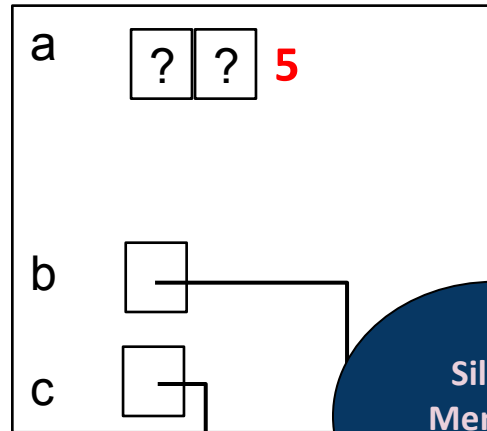
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;    // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;      // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);      // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;     // use a freed (dangling) pointer

    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:

???

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

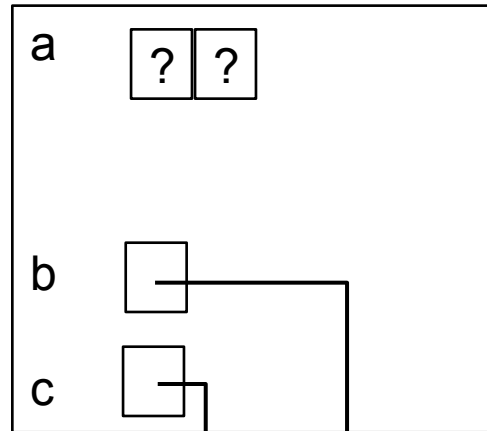
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

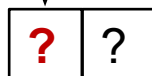
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



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

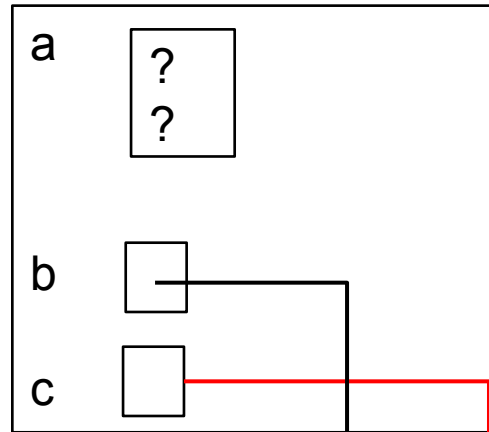
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

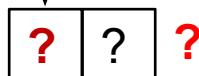
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



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

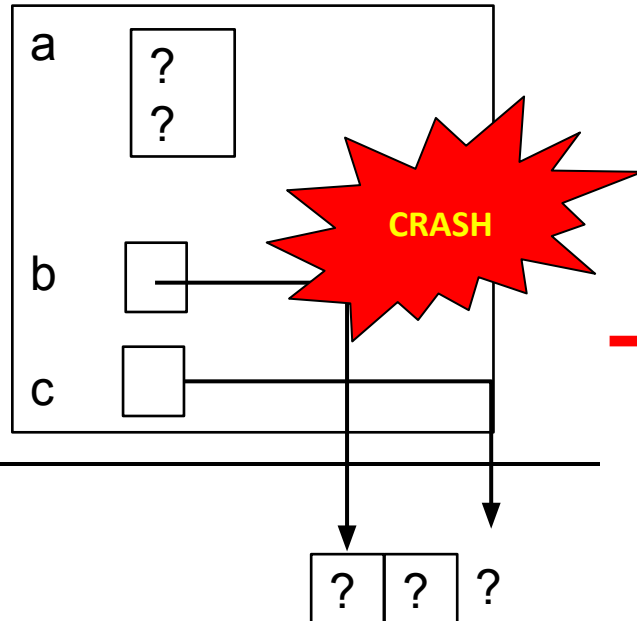
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



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

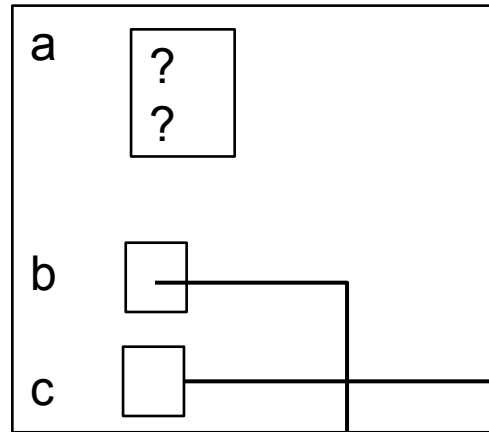
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

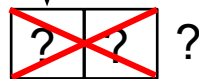
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



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

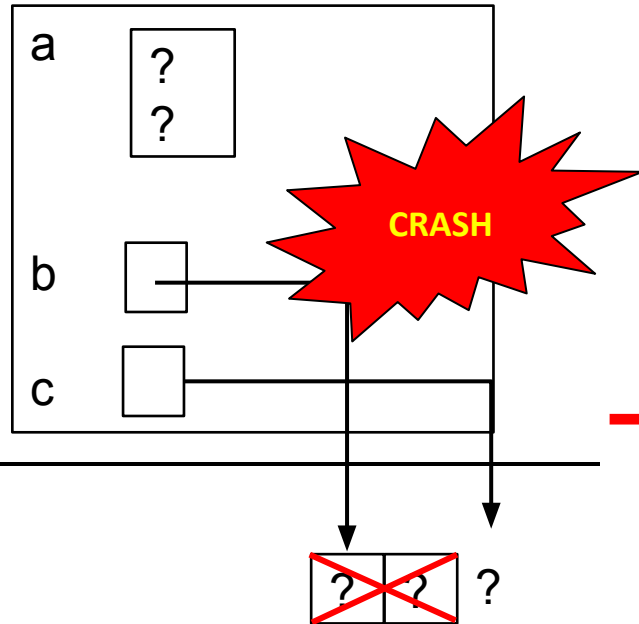
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:

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

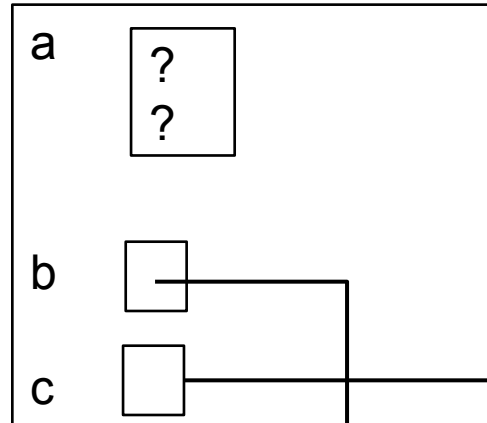
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;   // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;     // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);     // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;    // use a freed (dangling) pointer

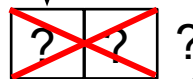
    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Corruption - What Happens?

stack: main



heap:



Silent
Memory
Corruption

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

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    int a[2];
    int* b = malloc(2*sizeof(int));
    int* c;

    a[2] = 5;    // assign past the end of an array
    b[0] += 2;    // assume malloc zeros out memory
    c = b+3;      // mess up your pointer arithmetic
    free(&(a[0])); // free something not malloc'ed
    free(b);      // double-free the same block
    b[0] = 5;     // use a freed (dangling) pointer

    // and many more!
    return 0;
}
```

Memory Leak

- ❖ A **memory leak** occurs when code fails to deallocate dynamically-allocated memory that is no longer used
 - *e.g.* forget to **free** malloc-ed block, lose/change pointer to the block
 - Takes real work to prevent – as pointers are passed around, what part of the program is responsible for freeing each malloc-ed block?
- ❖ What happens: program's memory footprint will keep growing
 - This might be OK for *short-lived* program, since all memory is deallocated when program ends
 - Usually has bad repercussions for *long-lived* programs
 - Might slow down over time (*e.g.* lead to memory thrashing)
 - Might exhaust all available memory and crash
 - Other programs might get starved of memory

Lecture Outline

- ❖ Heap-allocated Memory
 - `malloc()` and `free()`
 - Memory leaks
- ❖ **structs and typedef**

Structured Data

- ❖ A `struct` is a C datatype that contains a set of fields
 - Similar to a Java class, but with no methods or constructors
 - Useful for defining new structured types of data
 - Act similarly to primitive variables (can assign, pass by value, ...)
 - A struct *tagname* is a *tag*; **not** a full first-class type name
- ❖ Declaration template:

```
struct tagname {  
    type1 name1;  
    ...  
    typeN nameN;  
};
```

```
// the following defines a new  
// structured datatype called  
// a "struct Point"  
struct Point {  
    float x, y;  
};  
  
// declare and initialize a  
// struct Point variable  
Point origin = {0.0, 0.0};  
struct Point origin = {0.0, 0.0};
```

Using structs

- ❖ Use “.” to refer to a field in a struct
- ❖ Use “->” to refer to a field from a struct pointer
 - Shorthand for: dereference pointer first, then accesses field
 - Using p->x instead of (*p).x is standard practice – do it that way

```
struct Point {  
    float x, y;  
};  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    struct Point p1 = {0.0, 0.0}; // p1 is stack allocated  
    struct Point* p1_ptr = &p1;  
  
    p1.x = 1.0;  
    p1_ptr->y = 2.0; // equivalent to (*p1_ptr).y = 2.0;  
    return 0;  
}
```

simplestruct.c

Copy by Assignment

- ❖ You can assign the value of a struct from a struct of the same type – *this copies the entire contents byte-for-byte!*

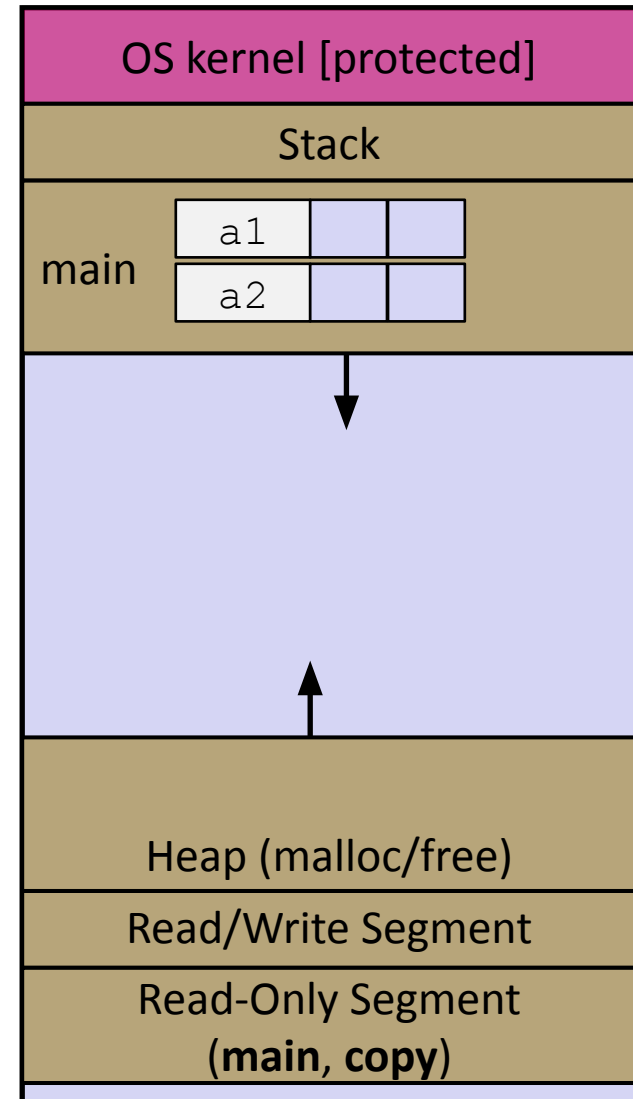
```
#include <stdio.h>

struct Point {
    float x, y;
};

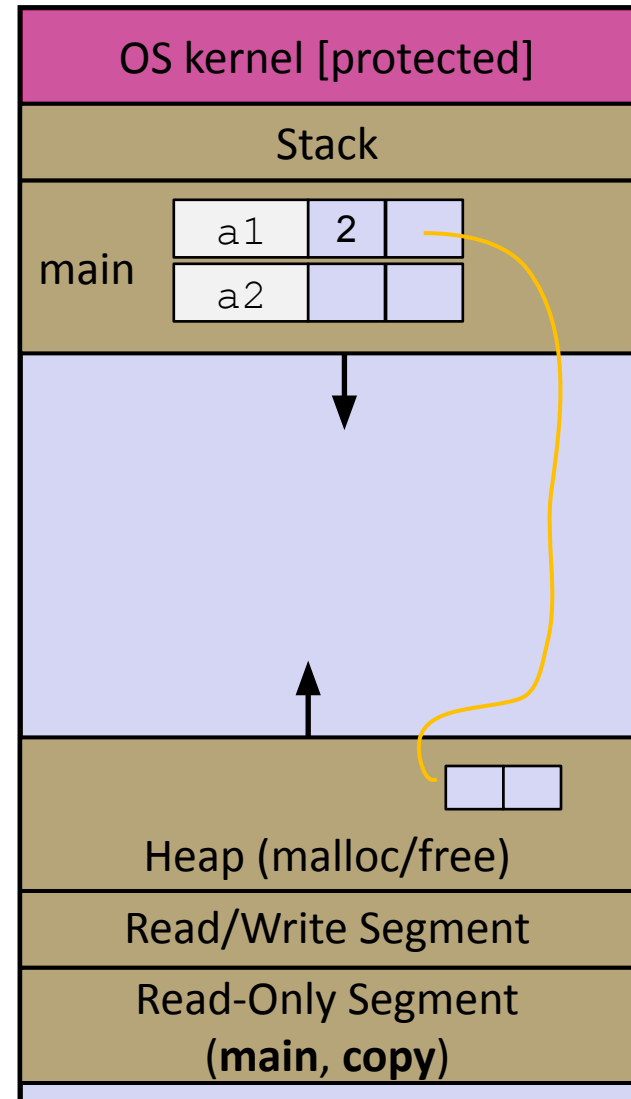
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    struct Point p1 = {0.0, 2.0};
    struct Point p2 = {4.0, 6.0};

    printf("p1: {%f,%f}  p2: {%f,%f}\n",    // p1: { 0.0, 2.0}
           p1.x, p1.y, p2.x, p2.y);         // p2: { 4.0, 6.0}
    p2 = p1;
    printf("p1: {%f,%f}  p2: {%f,%f}\n",    // p1: { 0.0, 2.0}
           p1.x, p1.y, p2.x, p2.y);         // p2: { 0.0, 2.0}
    return 0;
}
```

```
struct SmartArray {  
    int len;  
    char* arr;  
};  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    struct SmartArray a1  
        = {2, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*2)};  
    struct SmartArray a2  
        = {5, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*5)};  
    a1 = a2;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```



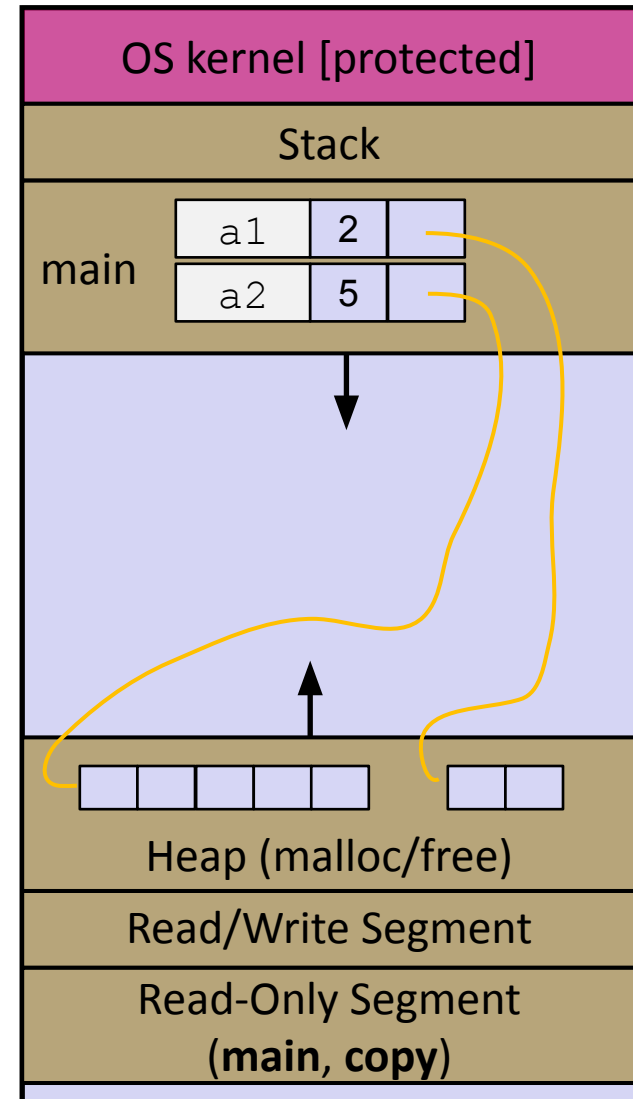
```
struct SmartArray {  
    int len;  
    char* arr;  
};  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    struct SmartArray a1  
        = {2, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*2)};  
    struct SmartArray a2  
        = {5, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*5)};  
    a1 = a2;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```



```
struct SmartArray {
    int len;
    char* arr;
};

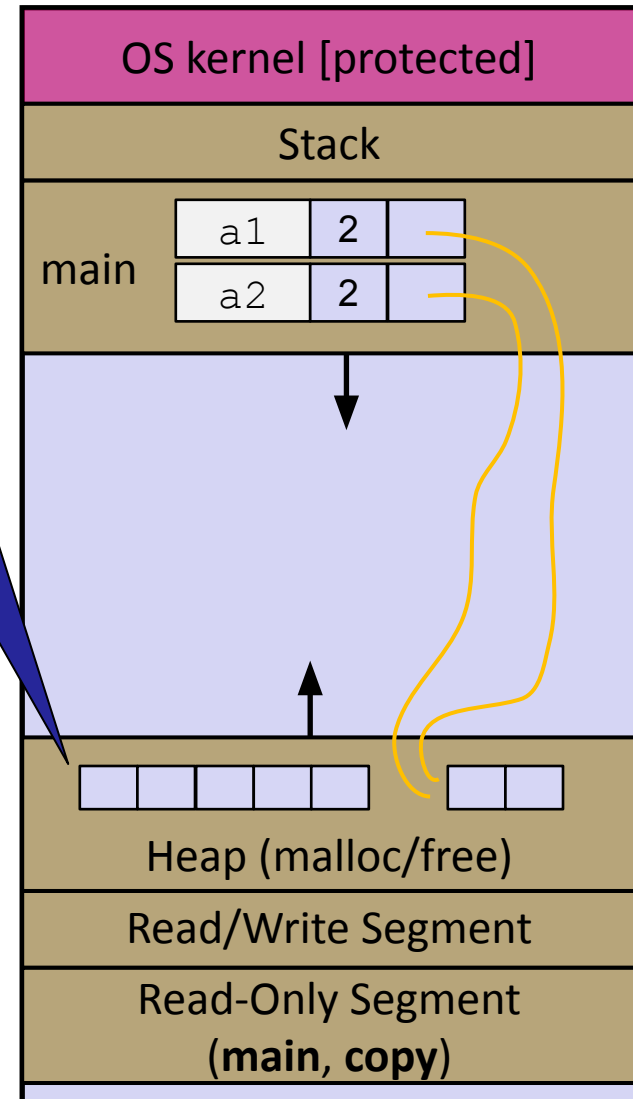
int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    struct SmartArray a1
        = {2, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*2)};
    struct SmartArray a2
        = {5, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*5)};
    → a1 = a2;

    return 0;
}
```



This memory is
unreachable now!

```
struct SmartArray {  
    int len;  
    char* arr;  
};  
  
int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
    struct SmartArray a1  
        = {2, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*2)};  
    struct SmartArray a2  
        = {5, (char*)malloc(sizeof(char)*5)};  
    a1 = a2;  
    return 0;  
}
```



Structs as Arguments

- ❖ Structs are passed by value, like everything else in C
 - Entire struct is copied to the callee's stack
 - To manipulate a struct argument, pass a pointer instead

```
struct Point{
    int x, y;
};

void DoubleXBroken(struct Point p) { p.x *= 2; }

void DoubleXWorks(struct Point* p) { p->x *= 2; }

int main(int argc, char** argv) {
    struct Point a = {1,1};
    DoubleXBroken(a);
    printf("( %d, %d) \n", a.x, a.y);    // prints: (1,1)
    DoubleXWorks(&a);
    printf("( %d, %d) \n", a.x, a.y);    // prints: (2,1)
    return 0;
}
```

Aside: typedef

- ❖ Definition template: `typedef type name;`
- ❖ Allows you to define new data type *names/synonyms*
 - Both `type` and `name` are usable and refer to the same type
 - Be careful with pointers – `*` before `name` is part of `type`!

```
// make "superlong" a synonym for "unsigned long long"
typedef unsigned long long superlong;

// make "str" a synonym for "char*"
typedef char *str;

// make "Point" a synonym for "struct point_st { ... }"
// make "PointPtr" a synonym for "struct point_st*"
typedef struct point_st {
    superlong x;
    superlong y;
} Point, *PointPtr; // similar syntax to "int n, *p;"

Point origin = {0, 0};
```

Dynamically-allocated Structs

- ❖ You can **malloc** and **free** structs, just like other data type
 - **sizeof** is particularly helpful here

```
// a complex number is a + bi
typedef struct complex_st {
    double real;    // real component
    double imag;    // imaginary component
} Complex, *ComplexPtr;

// note that ComplexPtr is equivalent to Complex*
ComplexPtr AllocComplex(double real, double imag) {
    Complex* retval = (Complex*) malloc(sizeof(Complex));
    if (retval != NULL) {
        retval->real = real;
        retval->imag = imag;
    }
    return retval;
}
```

Returning Structs

- ❖ Exact method of return depends on calling conventions
 - Often in `%rax` and `%rdx` for small structs
 - Often returned in memory for larger structs
 - The compiler will handle the details of this

```
// a complex number is a + bi
typedef struct complex_st {
    double real;      // real component
    double imag;      // imaginary component
} Complex, *ComplexPtr;

Complex MultiplyComplex(Complex x, Complex y) {
    Complex retval;

    retval.real = (x.real * y.real) - (x.imag * y.imag);
    retval.imag = (x.imag * y.real) - (x.real * y.imag);
    return retval; // returns a copy of retval
}
```

complexstruct.c

Passing Structs: Copy or Pointer?

- ❖ Cost of Copies: if the struct is smaller than a pointer type, passing by copy is cheaper
- ❖ Cost of Accesses: accesses through pointers require more "jumping around memory"; more expensive and can be harder for compiler to optimize
- ❖ Decision:
 - For small structs (like `struct complex_st`), passing a copy of the struct can be faster and often preferred if function only reads data
 - or large structs or if the function should change caller's data, use pointers

Todo

- ❖ ex3 is due Wednesday morning
- ❖ HW1 due a week from Thursday

Advanced Git: add -p

```
diff --git i/ex2.c w/ex2.c
index 1694ec9..40c7396 100644
--- i/ex2.c
+++ w/ex2.c
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

@@ -28,4 +29,10 @@ int main(int argc, char **argv) {
}

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes){
+   printf("The %d bytes starting at %p are:", num_bytes, mem_addr);
+   for (int i = 0; i < num_bytes; i++) {
+       // Could also use ((uint8_t*)mem_addr)[i]
+       printf(" %02" PRIx8, *(uint8_t*)(mem_addr+i));
+   }
+   printf("\n");
}
```

Oops, made multiple changes
at once that should be
separate commits!

Advanced Git: add -p

git add -p to the rescue:
interactive add, by pieces

```
alex@alexLaptop> git add -p
diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
index 1694ec9..40c7396 100644
--- a/ex2.c
+++ b/ex2.c
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

(1/2) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,s,e,p,]? █
```

Advanced Git: add -p

Too many changes per-piece? Use the `s` command to split

```
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

(1/2) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,s,e,p,]? s
Split into 2 hunks.
@@ -1,2 +1,2 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
(1/3) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,e,p,]? y
```

Advanced Git: add -p

```
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@  
-#include <stdint.h>  
+#include <inttypes.h>  
#include <stdlib.h>  
+#include <stdio.h>  
  
void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);  
  
(1/2) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,s,e,p,]? s  
Split into 2 hunks.  
@@ -1,2 +1,2 @@  
-#include <stdint.h>  
+#include <inttypes.h>  
#include <stdlib.h>  
(1/3) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,e,p,]? y
```

'y' for "yes" to commit the current piece

Advanced Git: add -p

```
alex@alexLaptop> git add -p
diff --git a/ex2.c b/ex2.c
index 1694ec9..40c7396 100644
--- a/ex2.c
+++ b/ex2.c
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

(1/2) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,s,e,p,]? s
Split into 2 hunks.
@@ -1,2 +1,2 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
(1/3) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,j,J,g/,e,p,]? y
@@ -2,4 +2,5 @@
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

(2/3) Stage this hunk [y,n,q,a,d,K,j,J,g/,e,p,]? q
```

'q' for "quit" when you've added what you need

Advanced Git: add -p

```
alex@alexLaptop> git diff --cached
diff --git c/ex2.c i/ex2.c
index 1694ec9..fa85db3 100644
--- c/ex2.c
+++ i/ex2.c
@@ -1,4 +1,4 @@
-#include <stdint.h>
+#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes) {
alex@alexLaptop> git diff
diff --git i/ex2.c w/ex2.c
index fa85db3..40c7396 100644
--- i/ex2.c
+++ w/ex2.c
@@ -1,5 +1,6 @@
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
+#include <stdio.h>

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes);

@@ -28,4 +29,10 @@ int main(int argc, char **argv) {
}

void PrintBytes(void* mem_addr, int num_bytes){
+   printf("The %d bytes starting at %p are:", num_b
+   for (int i = 0; i < num_bytes; i++) {
+       // Could also use ((uint8_t*)mem_addr)[i]
+       printf(" %02" PRIx8, *(uint8_t*)(mem_addr+i)
+   }
+   printf("\n");
}
```

git diff --cached
will show you the changes
you've added

git diff will show you the
changes you haven't added

Now you're ready to
git commit just the first
part of the changes.

Extra Exercise #1

- ❖ Write a program that defines:
 - A new structured type `Point`
 - Represent it with `floats` for the x and y coordinates
 - A new structured type `Rectangle`
 - Assume its sides are parallel to the x-axis and y-axis
 - Represent it with the bottom-left and top-right `Points`
 - A function that computes and returns the area of a `Rectangle`
 - A function that tests whether a `Point` is inside of a `Rectangle`

Extra Exercise #2

- ❖ Write a function that:
 - Arguments: [1] an array of ints and [2] an array length
 - Malloc's an `int*` array of the same element length
 - Initializes each element of the newly-allocated array to point to the corresponding element of the passed-in array
 - Returns a pointer to the newly-allocated array

Extra Exercise #3

- ❖ Implement `AllocSet()` and `FreeSet()`
 - `AllocSet()` needs to use `malloc` twice: once to allocate a new `ComplexSet` and once to allocate the “points” field inside it
 - `FreeSet()` needs to use `free` twice

```
typedef struct complex_st {  
    double real;    // real component  
    double imag;    // imaginary component  
} Complex;  
  
typedef struct complex_set_st {  
    double    num_points_in_set;  
    Complex* points;    // an array of Complex  
} ComplexSet;  
  
ComplexSet* AllocSet(Complex c_arr[], int size);  
void FreeSet(ComplexSet* set);
```