



CS107, Lecture 10 Extra Practice

Arrays and Pointers, Take II

Reading: K&R (5.2-5.5) or Essential C section 6

Ed Discussion: <https://edstem.org/us/courses/46162/discussion/3643757>

1. char* vs char[] exercises

Suppose we use a variable `str` as follows:

```
// initialize as below  
A str = str + 1;  
B str[1] = 'u';  
C printf("%s", str)
```

For each of the following initializations:

- Will there be a compile error/segfault?
- If no errors, what is printed?

1. `char str[7];`
`strcpy(str, "Hello1");`

2. `char *str = "Hello2";`

3. `char arr[7];`
`strcpy(arr, "Hello3");`
`char *str = arr;`

4. `char *ptr = "Hello4";`
`char *str = ptr;`



1. char* vs char[] exercises

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1. `char str[7];`
`strcpy(str, "Hello1");`

Line A: Compile error
(cannot reassign array)

3. `char arr[7];`
`strcpy(arr, "Hello3");`
`char *str = arr;`

Prints `eulo3`

2. `char *str = "Hello2";`

Line B: Segmentation fault
(string literal)

4. `char *ptr = "Hello4";`
`char *str = ptr;`

Line B: Segmentation fault
(string literal)

2. Bonus: Tricky addresses

```
1 void tricky_addresses() {
2     char buf[] = "Local";
3     char *ptr1 = buf;
4     char **double_ptr = &ptr1;
5     printf("ptr1's value:      %p\n", ptr1);
6     printf("ptr1's deref      : %c\n", *ptr1);
7     printf("      address:    %p\n", &ptr1);
8     printf("double_ptr value: %p\n", double_ptr);
9     printf("buf's address:    %p\n", &buf);
10
11     char *ptr2 = &buf;
12     printf("ptr2's value:      %s\n", ptr2);
13 }
```

What is stored in each variable?



2. Bonus: Tricky addresses

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13 }
```

| | | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 0x28 | 0x29 | 0x2a | 0x2b | 0x2c | 0x2d |
| buf | 'L' | 'o' | 'c' | 'a' | 'l' | '\0' |

ptr1 0x10
[]

double_ptr 0x18
[]

ptr2 0x20
[]

While Line 10 raises a compiler warning, functionally it will still work—because pointers are **addresses**.

Translating C into English

***** If **declaration**: "pointer"
ex: `int *` is "pointer to an int"
If **operation**: "dereference/the value at address"
ex: `*num` is "the value at address num"

& "address of"

`<ptr
name>` address

`<arr
name>` address
(except sizeof)

```
int arr[] = {3, 4, -1, 2};  
1. int *ptr0 = arr;  
2. int *elt0 = *arr;  
3. int elt = *(arr + 3);  
4. int **ptr1 = &ptr0;
```

```
// initializes stack array  
// with 4 ints
```

Type check with a diagram!



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Address arr

Value at address arr

The value at address `<3 ints
after address arr>`

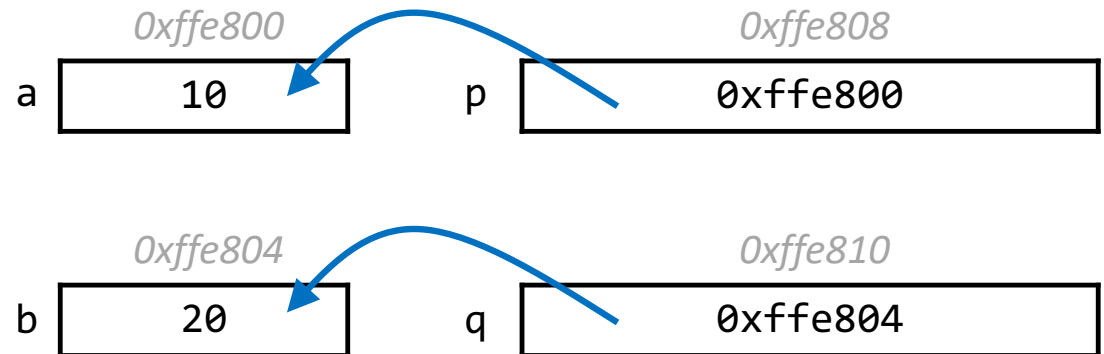
address of ptr

Type check with a diagram!

Pen and paper: A * Wars Story

```
1 void binky() {  
2     int a = 10;  
3     int b = 20;  
4     int *p = &a;  
5     int *q = &b;  
6  
7     *p = *q;  
8     p = q;  
9 }
```

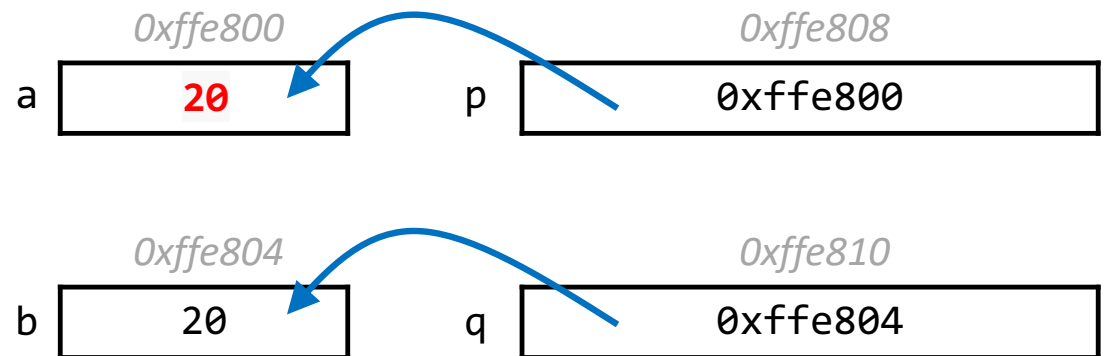
- Lines 2-5: Draw a diagram.
- Line 7: Update your diagram.
- Line 8: Update your diagram.



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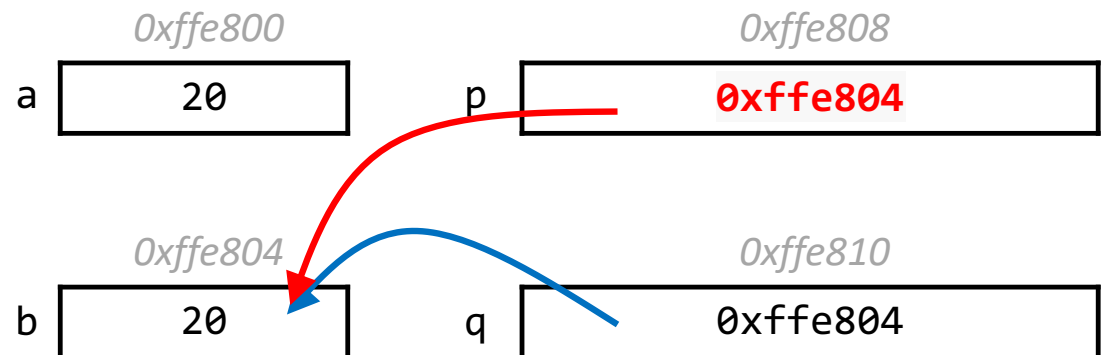
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```

- Lines 2-5: Draw a diagram.
- Line 7: Update your diagram.
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* Wars: Episode I (of 2)

In variable declaration, * creates a **pointer**.

```
char ch = 'r';
```

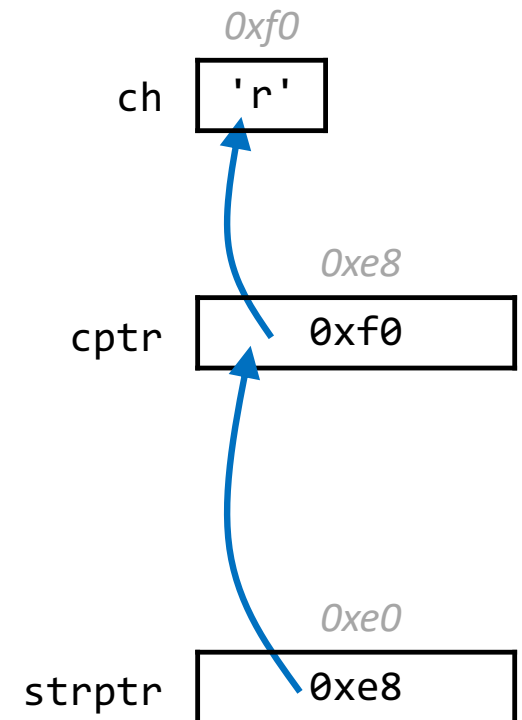
ch stores a char

```
char *_cptr = &ch;
```

cptr stores an address of a char
(**points to** a char)

```
char **_strptr = &cptr;
```

strptr stores an address of a char *
(**points to** a char *)



* Wars: Episode II (of 2)

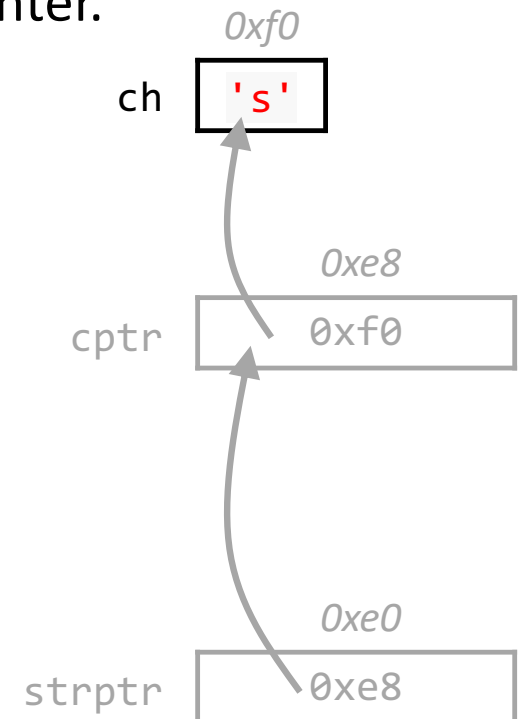
In reading values from/storing values, * dereferences a pointer.

```
char ch = 'r';  
ch = ch + 1;
```

Increment value stored in ch

```
char *cptr = &ch;
```

```
char **strptr = &cptr;
```



* Wars: Episode II (of 2)

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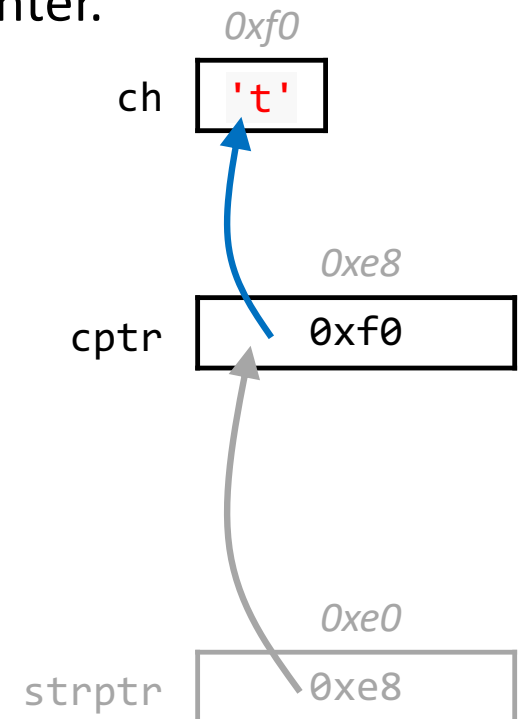
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char ch = 'r';  
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Increment value stored in ch

```
char *cptr = &ch;  
*cptr = *cptr + 1;
```

Increment value stored at
memory address in cptr
(increment char **pointed to**)

```
char **strptr = &cptr;
```



* Wars: Episode II (of 2)

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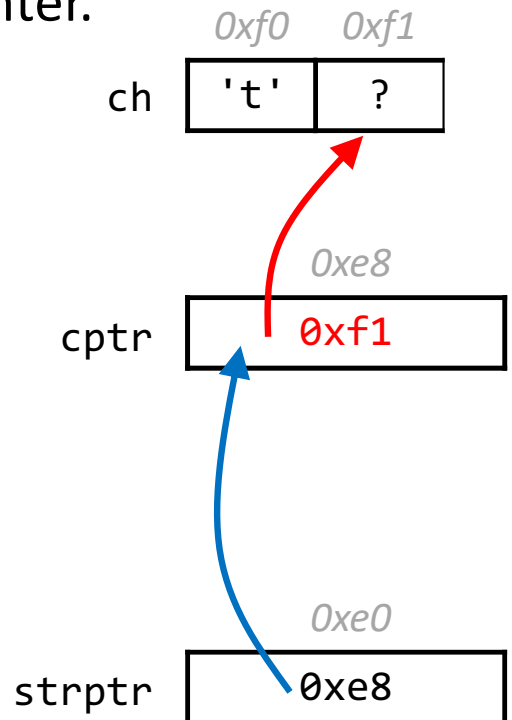
Increment value stored in ch

```
char *cptr = &ch;  
*cptr = *cptr + 1;
```

Increment value stored at memory address in cptr
(increment char **pointed to**)

```
char **strptr = &cptr;  
*strptr = *strptr + 1;
```

Increment value stored at memory address in cptr
(increment address **pointed to**)



Exercise: Implementation

The below function sums up the string lengths of the num strings in strs.

- Try both **1. array [] syntax** and **2. pointer arithmetic**!

```
1 size_t get_total_strlen(char *strs[], size_t num) {
2     size_t total_length = 0;
3     for (int i = 0; i < num; i++) {
4         // fill this in
5     }
6     return total_length;
7 }
```



Exercise: Implementation

The below function sums up the string lengths of the num strings in strs.

- Try both **1. array [] syntax** and **2. pointer arithmetic**!

```
1 size_t get_total_strlen(char *strs[], size_t num) {
2     size_t total_length = 0;
3     for (int i = 0; i < num; i++) {
4         // TODO: fill this in two ways
5     }
6     return total_length;
7 }
```

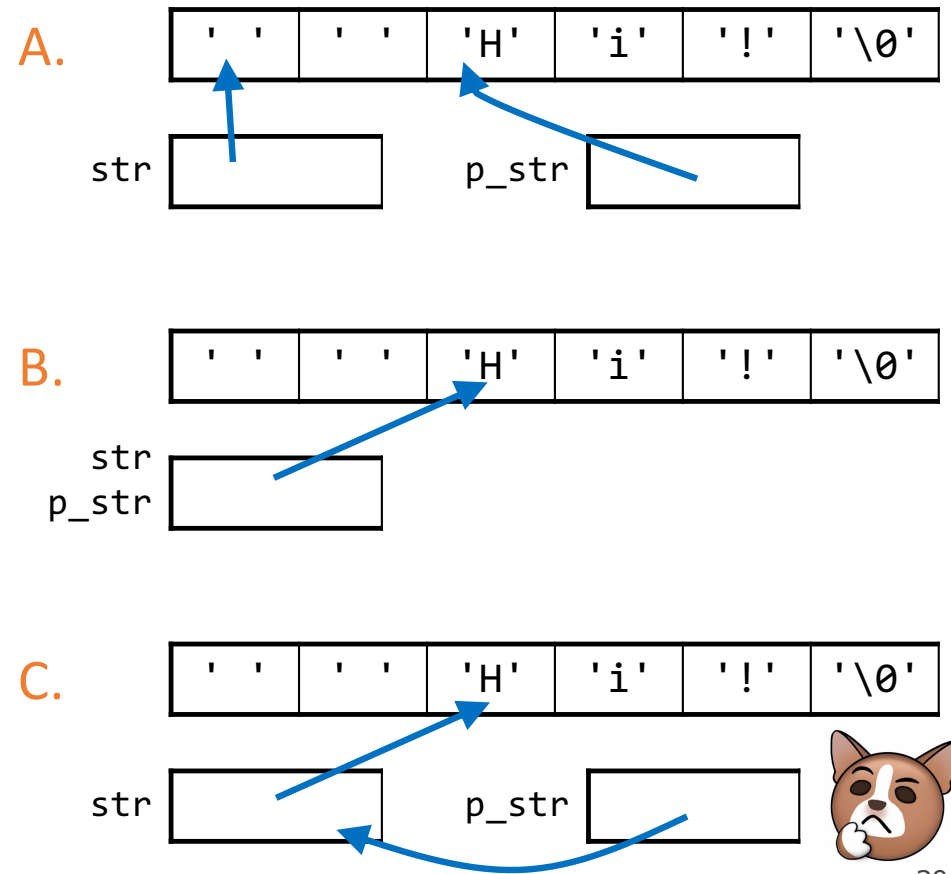
Equivalent:

- 1.** `total_length += strlen(strs[i]);`
- 2.** `total_length += strlen(*(strs + i));`

Skip spaces

```
1 void skip_spaces(char **p_str) {
2   int num = strspn(*p_str, " ");
3   *p_str = *p_str + num;
4 }
5 int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
6   char *str = "  Hi!";
7   skip_spaces(&str);
8   printf("%s", str); // "Hi!"
9   return 0;
10 }
```

What diagram most accurately depicts program state at Line 4 (before skip_spaces returns to main)?



Skip spaces

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2   int num = strspn(*p_str, " ");
3   *p_str = *p_str + num;
4 }
5 int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
6   char *str = " Hi!";
7   skip_spaces(&str);
8   printf("%s", str); // "Hi!"
9   return 0;
10 }
```

What diagram most accurately depicts program state at Line 4 (before `skip_spaces` returns to main)?

