

**15-213**

# **Machine-Level Programming IV:**

## **Data**

### **Sept. 19, 2007**

#### **Structured Data**

- **Arrays**
- **Structs**
- **Unions**

#### **Data/Control**

- **Buffer overflow**

# Basic Data Types

## Integral

- Stored & operated on in general registers
- Signed vs. unsigned depends on instructions used

Intel	GAS	Bytes	C
byte	b	1	[unsigned] char
word	w	2	[unsigned] short
double word	l	4	[unsigned] int
quad word	q	8	[unsigned] long int (x86-64)

## Floating Point

- Stored & operated on in floating point registers

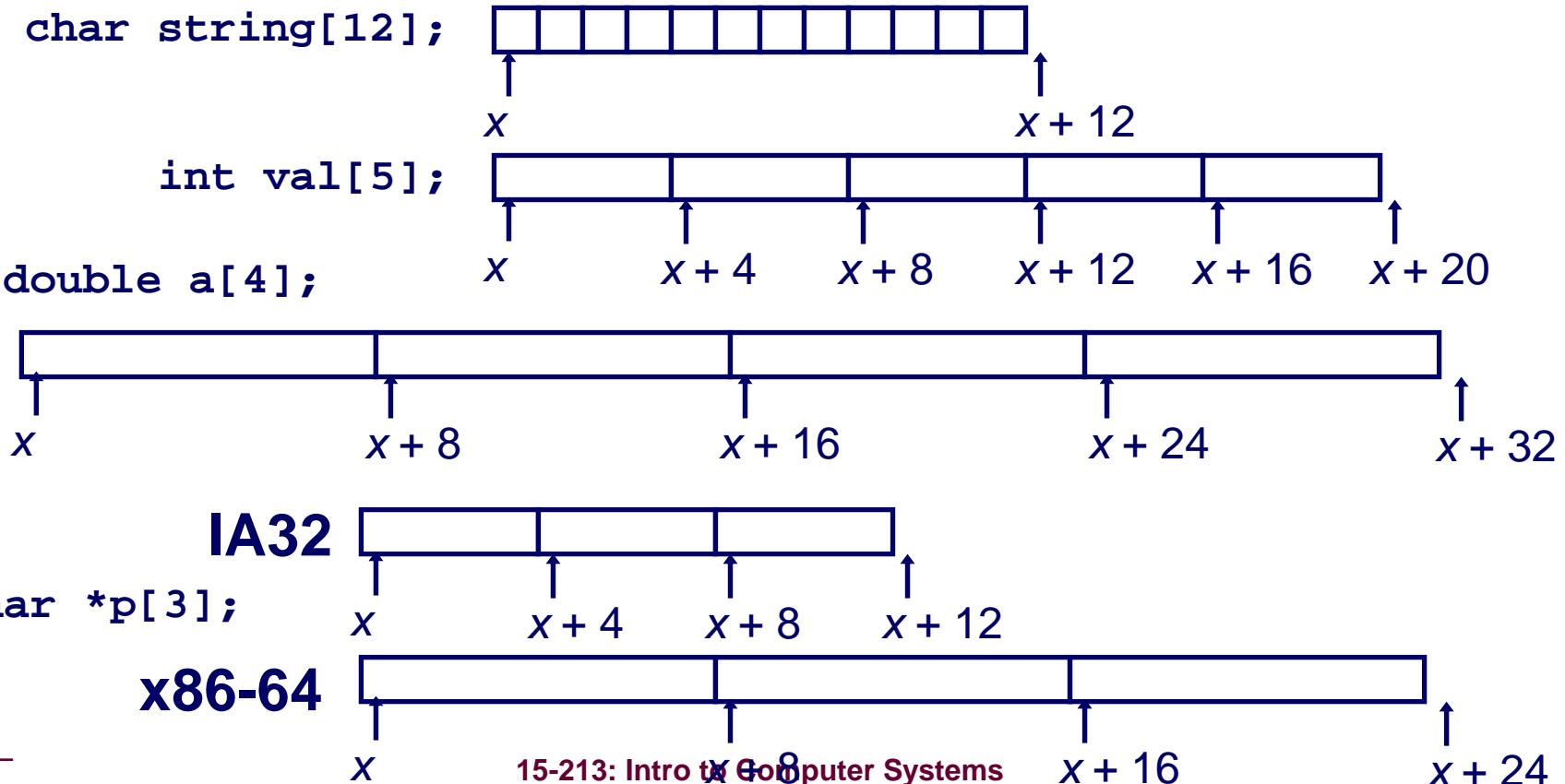
Intel	GAS	Bytes	C
Single	s	4	float
Double	l	8	double
Extended	t	10/12/16	long double

# Array Allocation

## Basic Principle

$T \ A[L];$

- Array of data type  $T$  and length  $L$
- Contiguously allocated region of  $L * \text{sizeof}(T)$  bytes

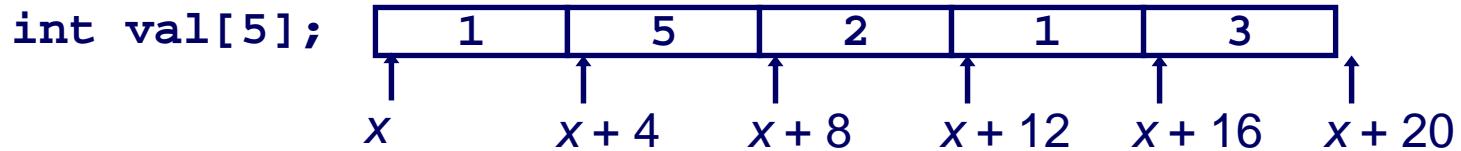


# Array Access

## Basic Principle

$T \ A[L];$

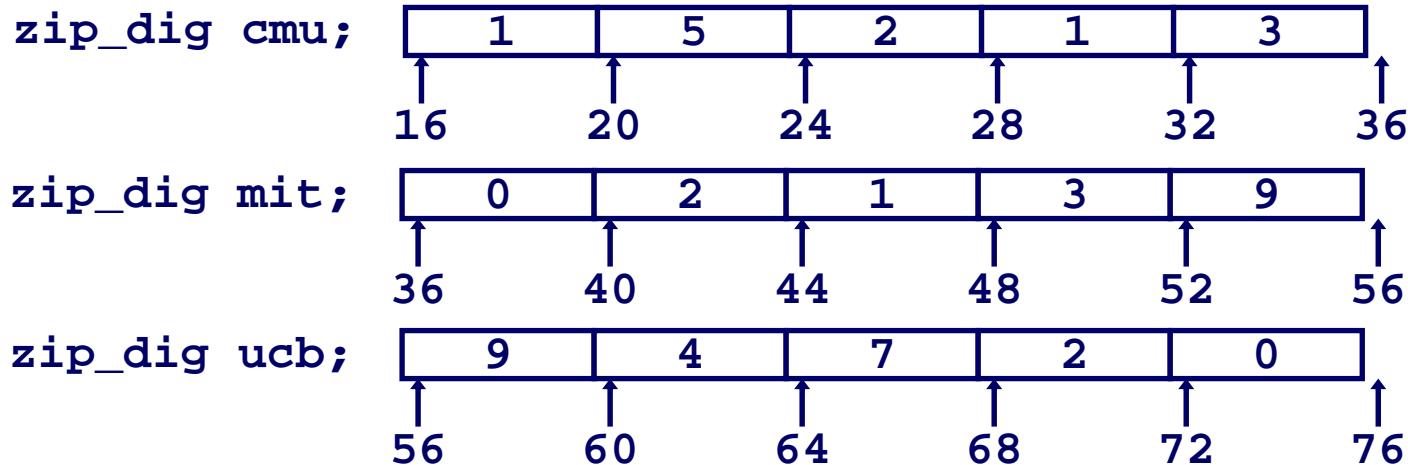
- Array of data type  $T$  and length  $L$
- Identifier  $A$  can be used as a pointer to array element 0
  - Type  $T^*$



Reference	Type	Value
<code>val[4]</code>	<code>int</code>	3
<code>val</code>	<code>int *</code>	$x$
<code>val+1</code>	<code>int *</code>	$x+4$
<code>&amp;val[2]</code>	<code>int *</code>	$x+8$
<code>val[5]</code>	<code>int</code>	??
<code>*(val+1)</code>	<code>int</code>	5
<code>- 4 - val + i</code>	<code>int *</code>	$x+4+i$

# Array Example

```
typedef int zip_dig[5];  
  
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };  
zip_dig mit = { 0, 2, 1, 3, 9 };  
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```



## Notes

- Declaration “`zip_dig cmu`” equivalent to “`int cmu[ 5 ]`”
- Example arrays were allocated in successive 20 byte blocks
  - Not guaranteed to happen in general

# Array Accessing Example

## Computation

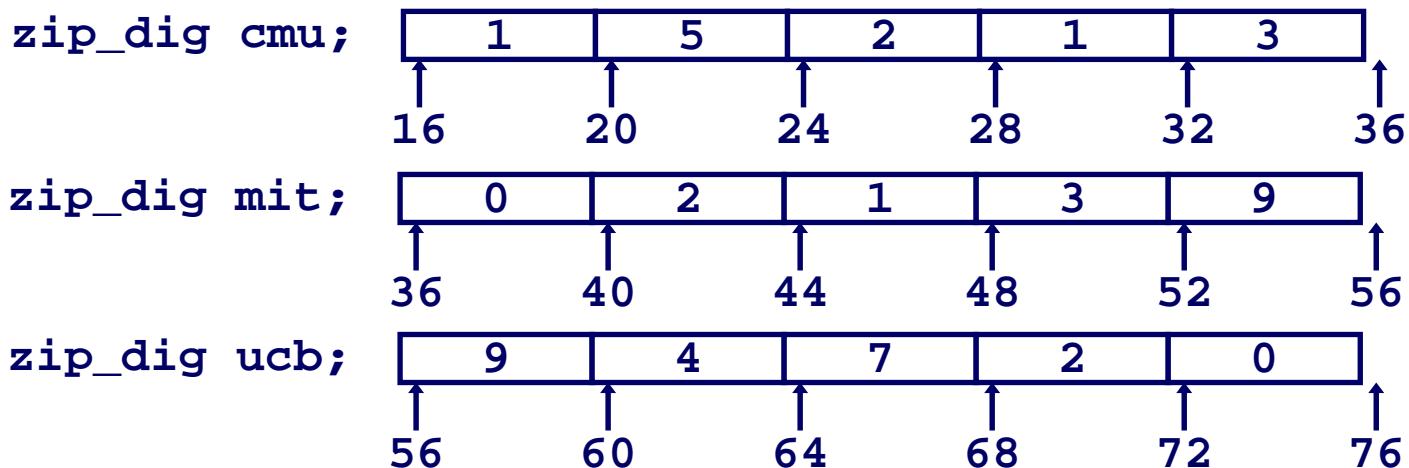
- Register %edx contains starting address of array
- Register %eax contains array index
- Desired digit at  $4 * \%eax + \%edx$
- Use memory reference  $(\%edx, \%eax, 4)$

```
int get_digit
    (zip_dig z, int dig)
{
    return z[dig];
}
```

## IA32 Memory Reference Code

```
# \%edx = z
# \%eax = dig
movl (%edx,%eax,4),%eax # z[dig]
```

# Referencing Examples



**Code Does Not Do Any Bounds Checking!**

Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
mit[3]	$36 + 4 * 3 = 48$	3	Yes
mit[5]	$36 + 4 * 5 = 56$	9	No
mit[-1]	$36 + 4 * -1 = 32$	3	No
cmu[15]	$16 + 4 * 15 = 76$	??	No

- Out of range behavior implementation-dependent
  - No guaranteed relative allocation of different arrays

# Array Loop Example

## Original Source

```
int zd2int(zip_dig z)
{
    int i;
    int zi = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        zi = 10 * zi + z[i];
    }
    return zi;
}
```

## Transformed Version

- As generated by GCC
- Eliminate loop variable *i*
- Convert array code to pointer code
- Express in do-while form
  - No need to test at entrance

```
int zd2int(zip_dig z)
{
    int zi = 0;
    int *zend = z + 4;
    do {
        zi = 10 * zi + *z;
        z++;
    } while (z <= zend);
    return zi;
}
```

# Array Loop Implementation (IA32)

## Registers

```
%ecx z  
%eax zi  
%ebx zend
```

## Computations

- $10*zi + *z$  implemented as  
 $*z + 2*(zi+4*zi)$   
 $z++$  increments by 4

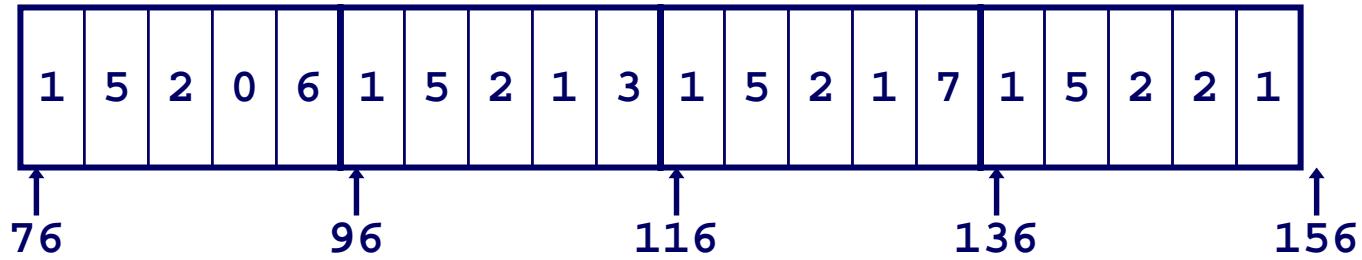
```
int zd2int(zip_dig z)  
{  
    int zi = 0;  
    int *zend = z + 4;  
    do {  
        zi = 10 * zi + *z;  
        z++;  
    } while(z <= zend);  
    return zi;  
}
```

```
# %ecx = z  
xorl %eax,%eax          # zi = 0  
leal 16(%ecx),%ebx       # zend = z+4  
.L59:  
    leal (%eax,%eax,4),%edx # 5*zi  
    movl (%ecx),%eax        # *z  
    addl $4,%ecx            # z++  
    leal (%eax,%edx,2),%eax # zi = *z + 2*(5*zi)  
    cmpl %ebx,%ecx          # z : zend  
    jle .L59                # if <= goto loop
```

# Nested Array Example

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig pgh[PCOUNT] =
{{1, 5, 2, 0, 6},
 {1, 5, 2, 1, 3 },
 {1, 5, 2, 1, 7 },
 {1, 5, 2, 2, 1 }};
```

zip\_dig  
pgh[4];



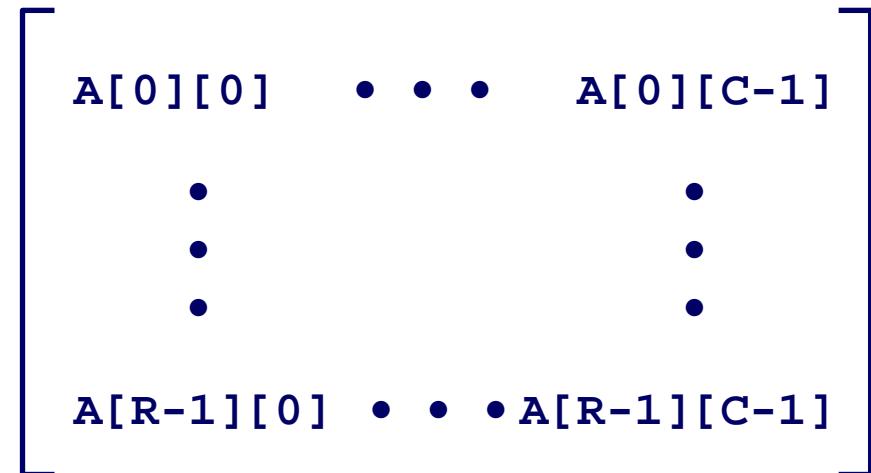
- Declaration “`zip_dig pgh[ 4 ]`” equivalent to “`int pgh[ 4 ][ 5 ]`”
  - Variable `pgh` denotes array of 4 elements
    - » Allocated contiguously
  - Each element is an array of 5 int's
    - » Allocated contiguously
- “Row-Major” ordering of all elements guaranteed

# Viewing as Multidimensional Array

## Declaration

```
T A[R][C];
```

- 2D array of data type  $T$
- $R$  rows,  $C$  columns
- Type  $T$  element requires  $K$  bytes



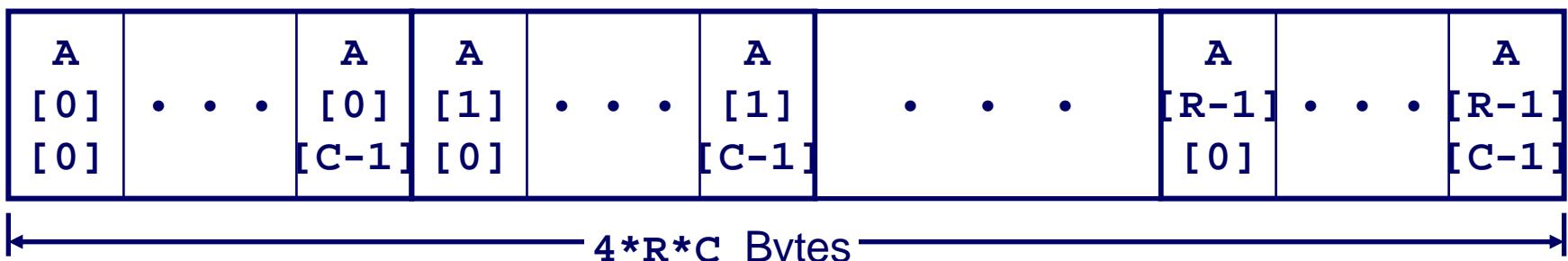
## Array Size

- $R * C * K$  bytes

## Arrangement

- Row-Major Ordering

```
int A[R][C];
```

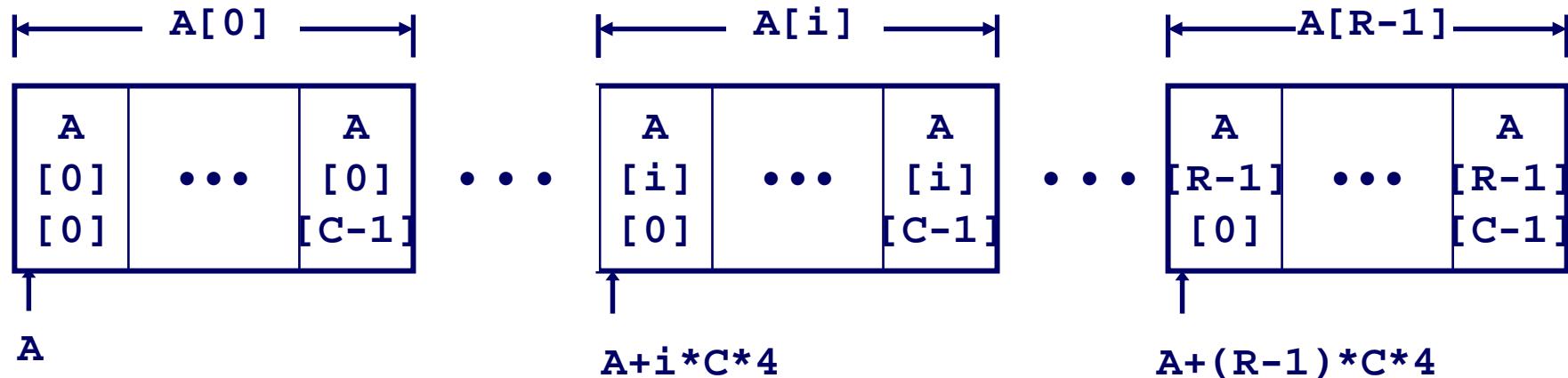


# Nested Array Row Access

## Row Vectors

- $A[i]$  is array of  $C$  elements
- Each element of type  $T$
- Starting address  $A + i * (C * K)$

```
int A[R][C];
```



# Nested Array Row Access Code

```
int *get_pgh_zip(int index)
{
    return pgh[index];
}
```

## Row Vector

- `pgh[index]` is array of 5 int's
- Starting address `pgh+20*index`

## IA32 Code

- Computes and returns address
- Compute as `pgh + 4*(index+4*index)`

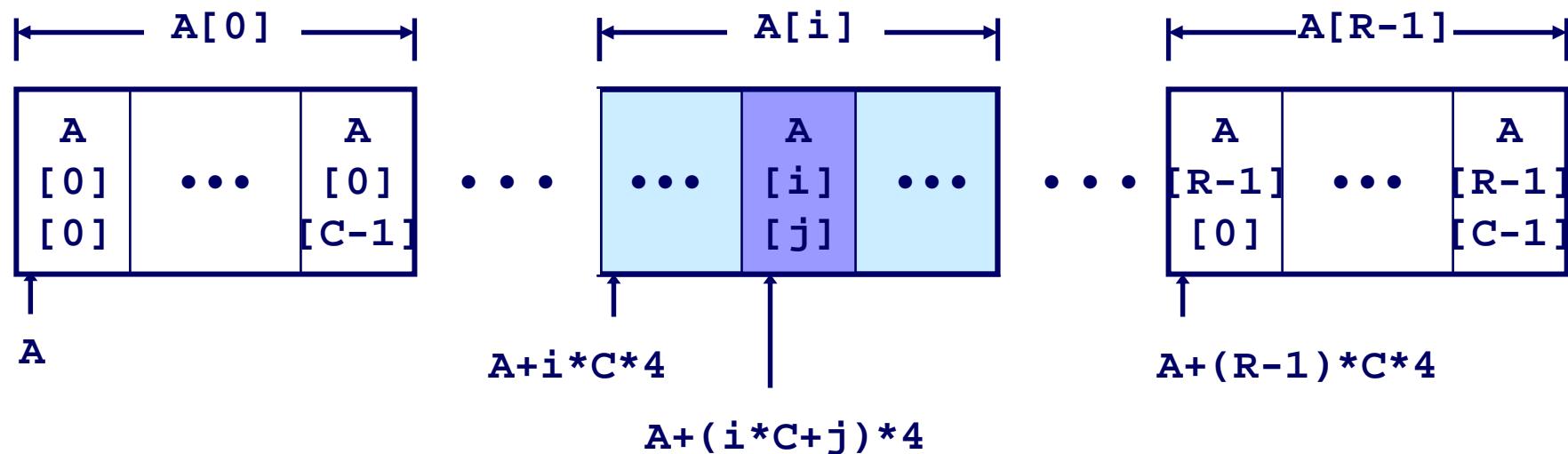
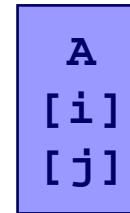
```
# %eax = index
leal (%eax,%eax,4),%eax # 5 * index
leal pgh(%eax,4),%eax   # pgh + (20 * index)
```

# Nested Array Element Access

## Array Elements

- $A[i][j]$  is element of type  $T$
- Address  $A + i * (C * K) + j * K$   
 $= A + (i * C + j) * K$

```
int A[R][C];
```



# Nested Array Element Access Code

## Array Elements

- `pgh[index][dig]` is int
- Address:  
 $pgh + 20*index + 4*dig$

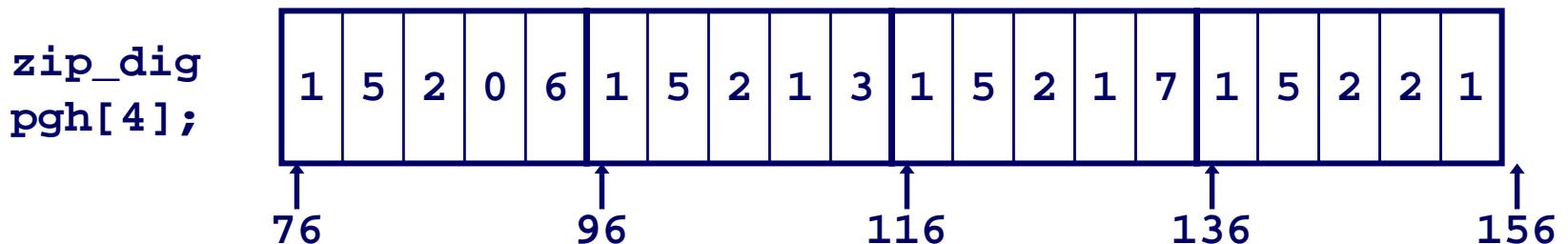
## IA32 Code

- Computes address  
 $pgh + 4*dig + 4*(index+4*index)$
- `movl` performs memory reference

```
int get_pgh_digit
    (int index, int dig)
{
    return pgh[index][dig];
}
```

```
# %ecx = dig
# %eax = index
leal 0(%ecx,4),%edx          # 4*dig
leal (%eax,%eax,4),%eax      # 5*index
movl pgh(%edx,%eax,4),%eax   # *(pgh + 4*dig + 20*index)
```

# Strange Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
pgh[3][3]	$76+20*3+4*3 = 148$	2	Yes
pgh[2][5]	$76+20*2+4*5 = 136$	1	Yes
pgh[2][-1]	$76+20*2+4*-1 = 112$	3	Yes
pgh[4][-1]	$76+20*4+4*-1 = 152$	1	Yes
pgh[0][19]	$76+20*0+4*19 = 152$	1	Yes
pgh[0][-1]	$76+20*0+4*-1 = 72$	??	No

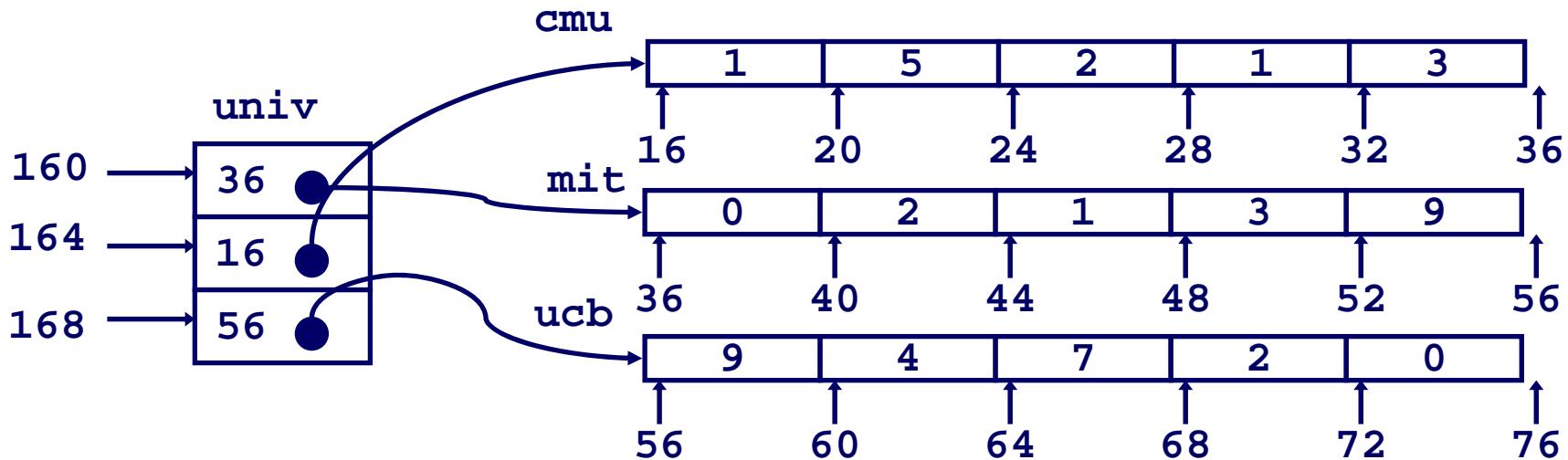
- Code does not do any bounds checking
- Ordering of elements within array guaranteed

# Multi-Level Array Example

- Variable `univ` denotes array of 3 elements
- Each element is a pointer
  - 4 bytes
- Each pointer points to array of int's

```
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };
zip_dig mit = { 0, 2, 1, 3, 9 };
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```

```
#define UCOUNT 3
int *univ[UCOUNT] = {mit, cmu, ucb};
```



# Element Access in Multi-Level Array

```
int get_univ_digit  
    (int index, int dig)  
{  
    return univ[index][dig];  
}
```

## Computation (IA32)

- Element access

$\text{Mem}[\text{Mem}[\text{univ}+4*\text{index}]+4*\text{dig}]$

- Must do two memory reads

- First get pointer to row array
- Then access element within array

```
# %ecx = index  
# %eax = dig  
leal 0(%ecx,4),%edx      # 4*index  
movl univ(%edx),%edx      # Mem[univ+4*index]  
movl (%edx,%eax,4),%eax  # Mem[...+4*dig]
```

# Array Element Accesses

- Similar C references

## Nested Array

```
int get_pgh_digit
    (int index, int dig)
{
    return pgh[index][dig];
}
```

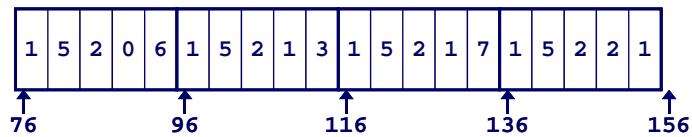
- Different address computation

## Multi-Level Array

```
int get_univ_digit
    (int index, int dig)
{
    return univ[index][dig];
}
```

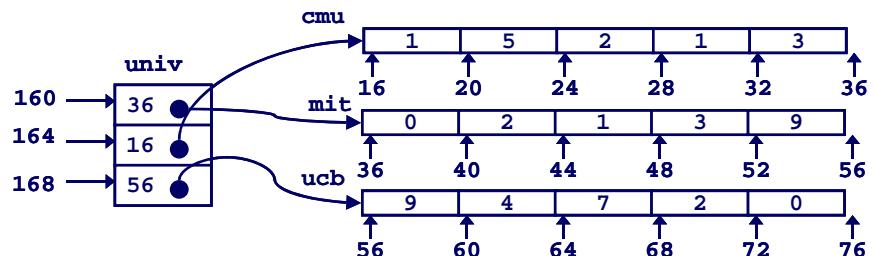
- Element at

Mem[pgh+20\*index+4\*dig]

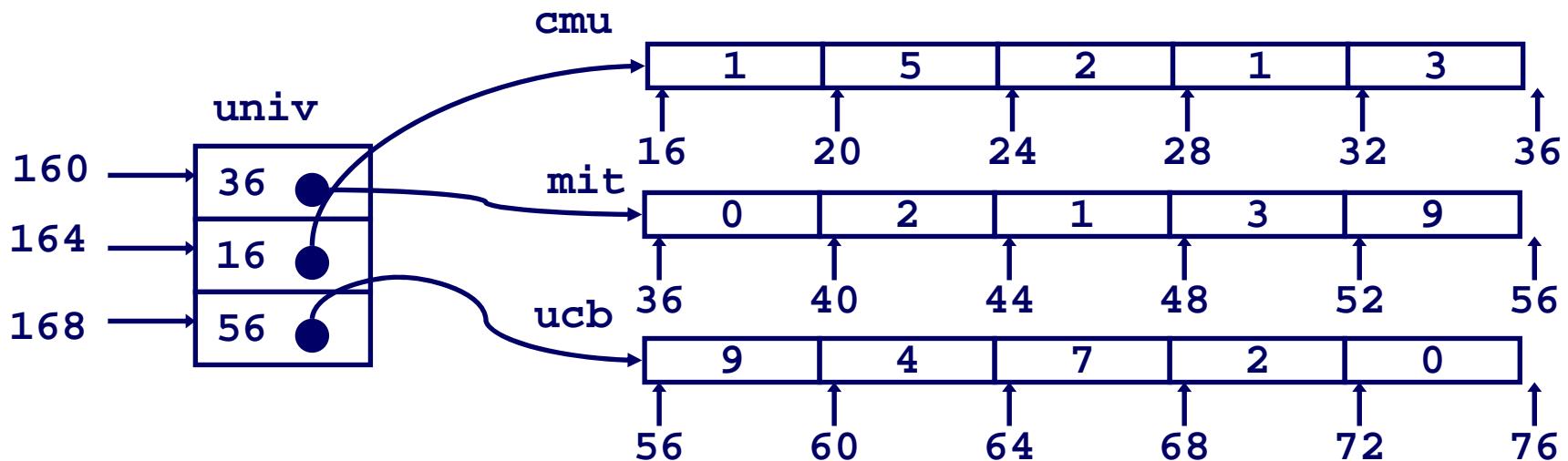


- Element at

Mem[Mem[univ+4\*index]+4\*dig]



# Strange Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>univ[2][3]</code>	$56+4*3 = 68$	2	Yes
<code>univ[1][5]</code>	$16+4*5 = 36$	0	No
<code>univ[2][-1]</code>	$56+4*-1 = 52$	9	No
<code>univ[3][-1]</code>	??	??	No
<code>univ[1][12]</code>	$16+4*12 = 64$	7	No

- Code does not do any bounds checking
- Ordering of elements in different arrays not guaranteed

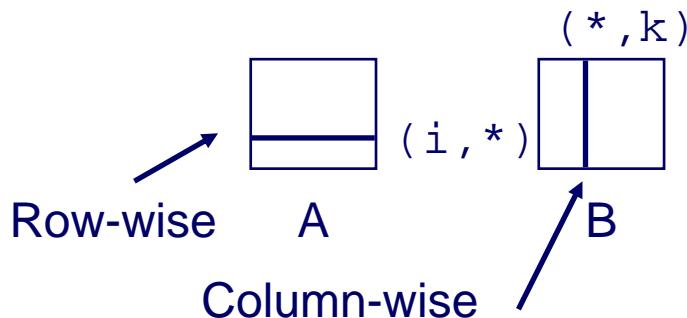
# Using Nested Arrays

## Strengths

- C compiler handles doubly subscripted arrays
- Generates very efficient code
  - Avoids multiply in index computation

## Limitation

- Only works if have fixed array size



```
#define N 16
typedef int fix_matrix[N][N];
```

```
/* Compute element i,k of
   fixed matrix product */
int fix_prod_ele
(fix_matrix a, fix_matrix b,
 int i, int k)
{
    int j;
    int result = 0;
    for (j = 0; j < N; j++)
        result += a[i][j]*b[j][k];
    return result;
}
```

# Dynamic Nested Arrays

## Strength

- Can create matrix of arbitrary size

## Programming

- Must do index computation explicitly

## Performance

- Accessing single element costly
- Must do multiplication

```
int * new_var_matrix(int n)
{
    return (int *)
        calloc(sizeof(int), n*n);
}
```

```
int var_ele
    (int *a, int i,
     int j, int n)
{
    return a[i*n+j];
}
```

```
movl 12(%ebp),%eax      # i
movl 8(%ebp),%edx       # a
imull 20(%ebp),%eax     # n*i
addl 16(%ebp),%eax      # n*i+j
movl (%edx,%eax,4),%eax # Mem[a+4*(i*n+j)]
```

# Dynamic Array Multiplication

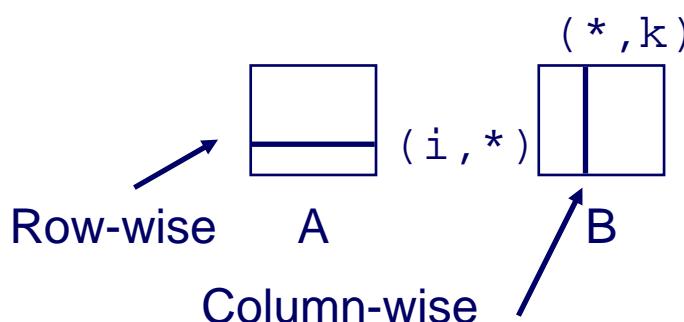
## Without Optimizations

### ■ Multiplies

- 2 for subscripts
- 1 for data

### ■ Adds

- 4 for array indexing
- 1 for loop index
- 1 for data



```
/* Compute element i,k of
   variable matrix product */
int var_prod_ele
  (int *a, int *b,
   int i, int k, int n)
{
    int j;
    int result = 0;
    for (j = 0; j < n; j++)
        result +=
            a[i*n+j] * b[j*n+k];
    return result;
}
```

# Optimizing Dynamic Array Mult.

## Optimizations

- Performed when set optimization level to -O2

## Code Motion

- Expression  $i*n$  can be computed outside loop

## Strength Reduction

- Incrementing  $j$  has effect of incrementing  $j*n+k$  by  $n$

## Performance

- Compiler can optimize regular access patterns

```
{  
    int j;  
    int result = 0;  
    for (j = 0; j < n; j++)  
        result +=  
            a[i*n+j] * b[j*n+k];  
    return result;  
}
```

```
{  
    int j;  
    int result = 0;  
    int iTn = i*n;  
    int jTnPk = k;  
    for (j = 0; j < n; j++) {  
        result +=  
            a[iTn+j] * b[jTnPk];  
        jTnPk += n;  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

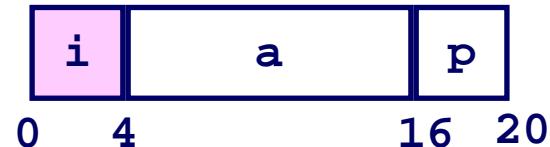
# Structures

## Concept

- Contiguously-allocated region of memory
- Refer to members within structure by names
- Members may be of different types

```
struct rec {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
};
```

### Memory Layout



## Accessing Structure Member

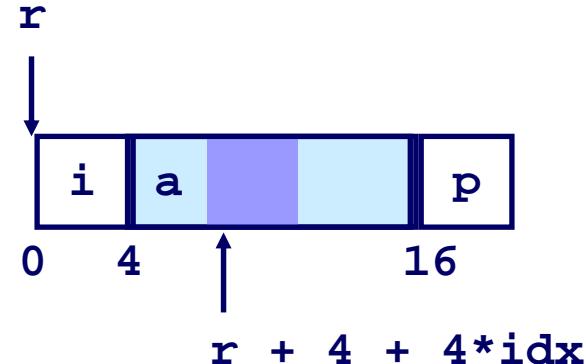
```
void  
set_i(struct rec *r,  
      int val)  
{  
    r->i = val;  
}
```

### IA32 Assembly

```
# %eax = val  
# %edx = r  
movl %eax,(%edx)    # Mem[r] = val
```

# Generating Pointer to Struct. Member

```
struct rec {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
};
```



## Generating Pointer to Array Element

- Offset of each structure member determined at compile time

```
int *  
find_a  
(struct rec *r, int idx)  
{  
    return &r->a[idx];  
}
```

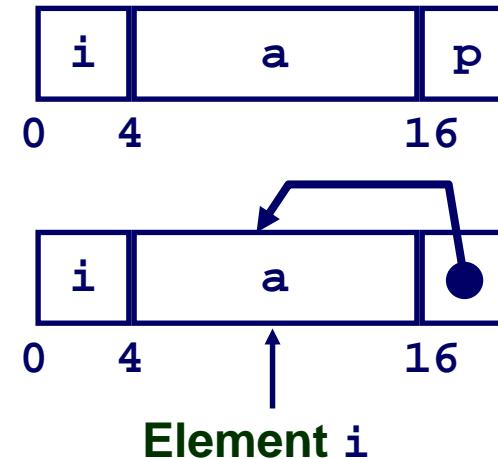
```
# %ecx = idx  
# %edx = r  
leal 0(%ecx,4),%eax    # 4*idx  
leal 4(%eax,%edx),%eax # r+4*idx+4
```

# Structure Referencing (Cont.)

## C Code

```
struct rec {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
};
```

```
void  
set_p(struct rec *r)  
{  
    r->p =  
        &r->a[r->i];  
}
```



```
# %edx = r  
movl (%edx),%ecx      # r->i  
leal 0(%ecx,4),%eax   # 4*(r->i)  
leal 4(%edx,%eax),%eax # r+4+4*(r->i)  
movl %eax,16(%edx)    # Update r->p
```

# Alignment

## Aligned Data

- Primitive data type requires K bytes
- Address must be multiple of K
- Required on some machines; advised on IA32
  - treated differently by IA32 Linux, x86-64 Linux, and Windows!

## Motivation for Aligning Data

- Memory accessed by (aligned) chunks of 4 or 8 bytes (system dependent)
  - Inefficient to load or store datum that spans quad word boundaries
  - Virtual memory very tricky when datum spans 2 pages

## Compiler

- Inserts gaps in structure to ensure correct alignment of fields

# Specific Cases of Alignment (IA32)

## Size of Primitive Data Type:

- 1 byte (e.g., `char`)
  - no restrictions on address
- 2 bytes (e.g., `short`)
  - lowest 1 bit of address must be  $0_2$
- 4 bytes (e.g., `int`, `float`, `char *`, etc.)
  - lowest 2 bits of address must be  $00_2$
- 8 bytes (e.g., `double`)
  - Windows (and most other OS's & instruction sets):
    - » lowest 3 bits of address must be  $000_2$
  - Linux:
    - » lowest 2 bits of address must be  $00_2$
    - » i.e., treated the same as a 4-byte primitive data type
- 12 bytes (`long double`)
  - Windows, Linux:
    - » lowest 2 bits of address must be  $00_2$
    - » i.e., treated the same as a 4-byte primitive data type

# Specific Cases of Alignment (x86-64)

## Size of Primitive Data Type:

- 1 byte (e.g., `char`)
  - no restrictions on address
- 2 bytes (e.g., `short`)
  - lowest 1 bit of address must be  $0_2$
- 4 bytes (e.g., `int`, `float`)
  - lowest 2 bits of address must be  $00_2$
- 8 bytes (e.g., `double`, `char *`)
  - Windows & Linux:
    - » lowest 3 bits of address must be  $000_2$
- 16 bytes (`long double`)
  - Linux:
    - » lowest 3 bits of address must be  $000_2$
    - » i.e., treated the same as a 8-byte primitive data type

# Satisfying Alignment with Structures

## Offsets Within Structure

- Must satisfy element's alignment requirement

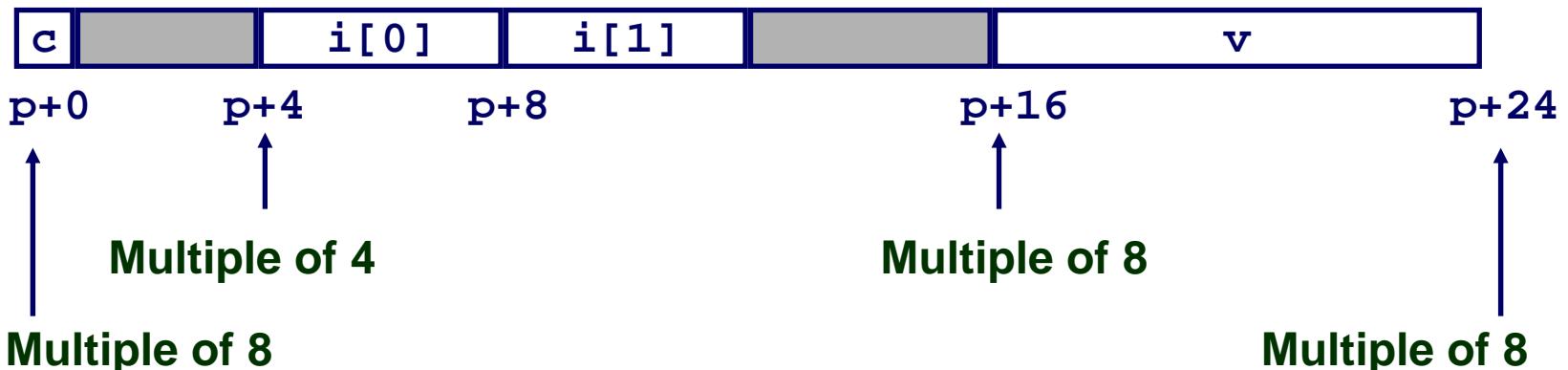
## Overall Structure Placement

- Each structure has alignment requirement K
  - Largest alignment of any element
- Initial address & structure length must be multiples of K

```
struct s1 {  
    char c;  
    int i[2];  
    double v;  
} *p;
```

## Example (under Windows or x86-64):

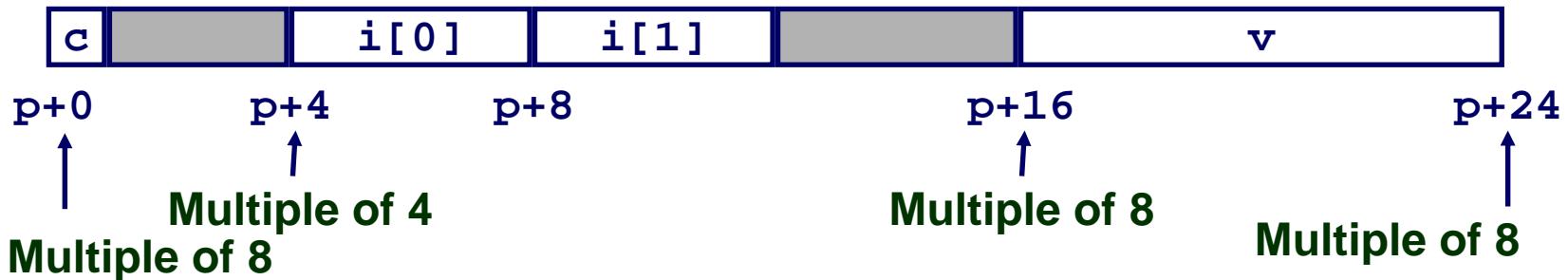
- K = 8, due to double element



# Different Alignment Conventions

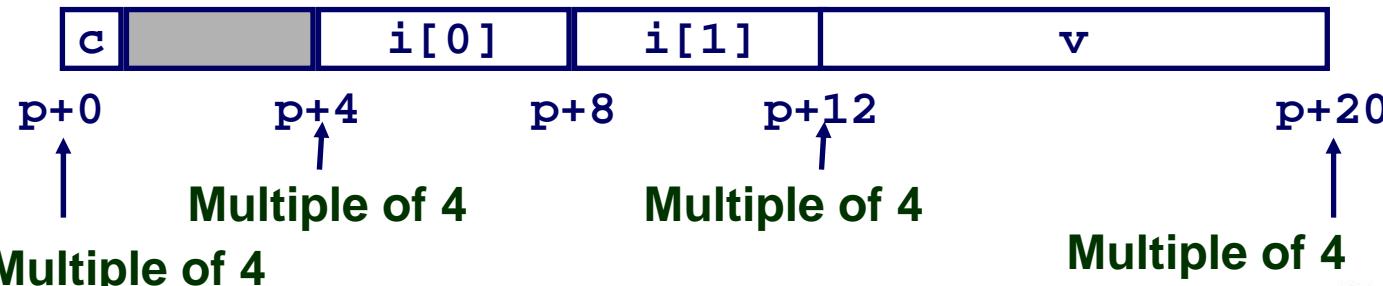
## x86-64 or IA32 Windows:

- $K = 8$ , due to double element



## IA32 Linux

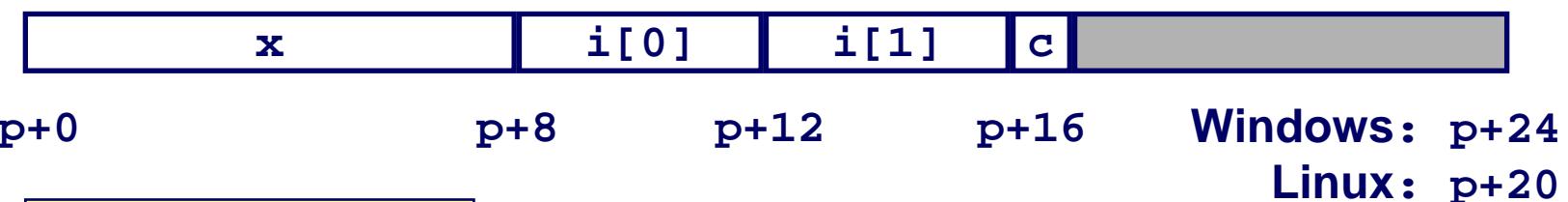
- $K = 4$ ; double treated like a 4-byte data type



# Overall Alignment Requirement

```
struct S2 {  
    double x;  
    int i[2];  
    char c;  
} *p;
```

p must be multiple of:  
8 for x86-64 or IA32 Windows  
4 for IA32 Linux



```
struct S3 {  
    float x[2];  
    int i[2];  
    char c;  
} *p;
```

p must be multiple of 4 (all cases)



# Ordering Elements Within Structure

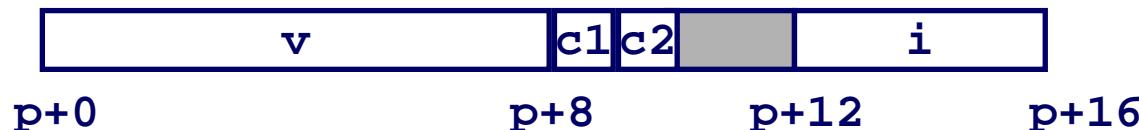
```
struct S4 {  
    char c1;  
    double v;  
    char c2;  
    int i;  
} *p;
```

10 bytes wasted space in Windows  
or x86-64



```
struct S5 {  
    double v;  
    char c1;  
    char c2;  
    int i;  
} *p;
```

2 bytes wasted space

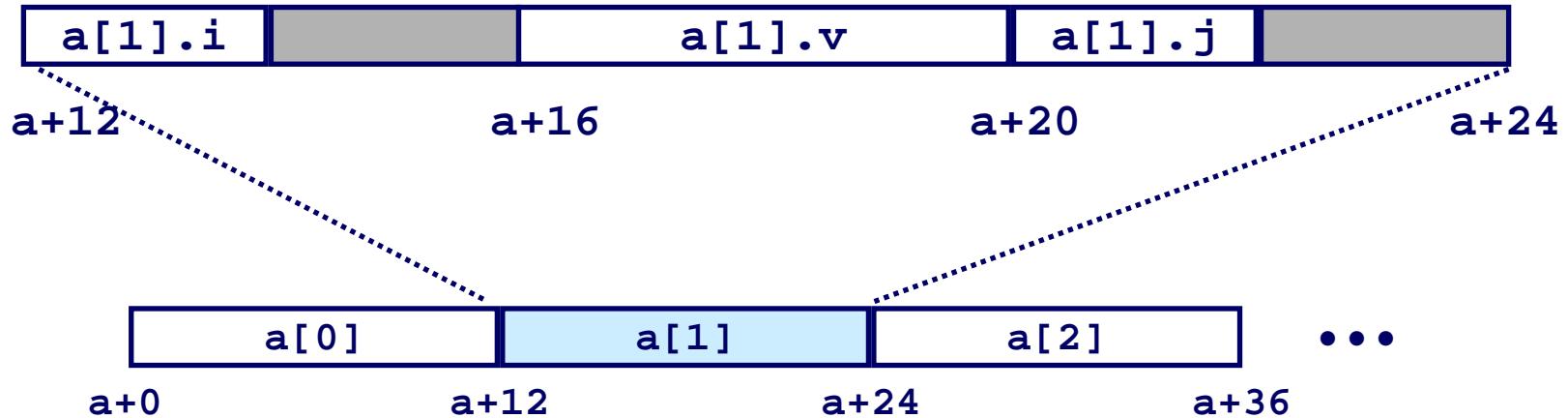


# Arrays of Structures

## Principle

- Allocated by repeating allocation for array type
- In general, may nest arrays & structures to arbitrary depth

```
struct S6 {  
    short i;  
    float v;  
    short j;  
} a[10];
```



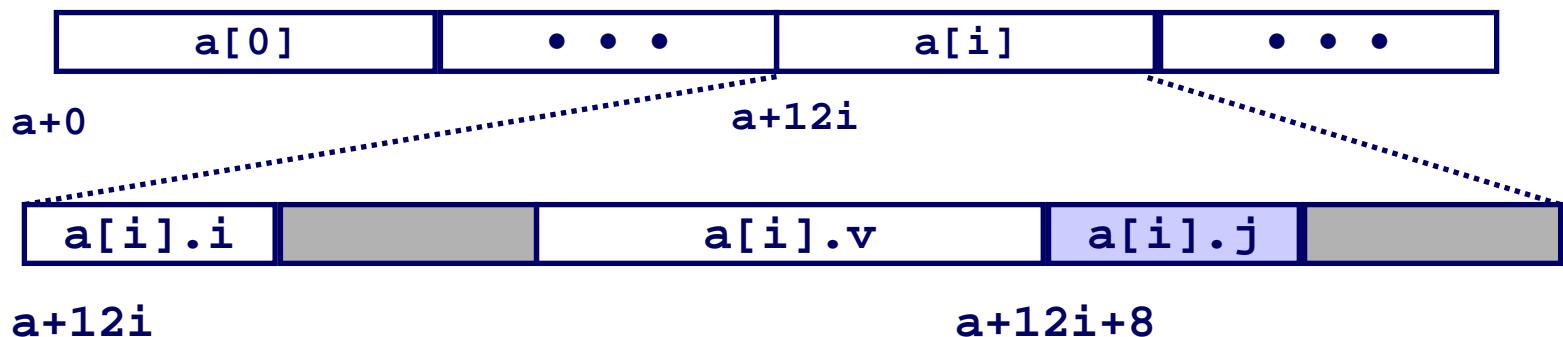
# Accessing Element within Array

- Compute offset to start of structure
  - Compute  $12*i$  as  $4*(i+2i)$
- Access element according to its offset within structure
  - Offset by 8
  - Assembler gives displacement as  $a + 8$ 
    - » Linker must set actual value

```
struct S6 {  
    short i;  
    float v;  
    short j;  
} a[10];
```

```
short get_j(int idx)  
{  
    return a[idx].j;  
}
```

```
# %eax = idx  
leal (%eax,%eax,2),%eax # 3*idx  
movswl a+8(,%eax,4),%eax
```

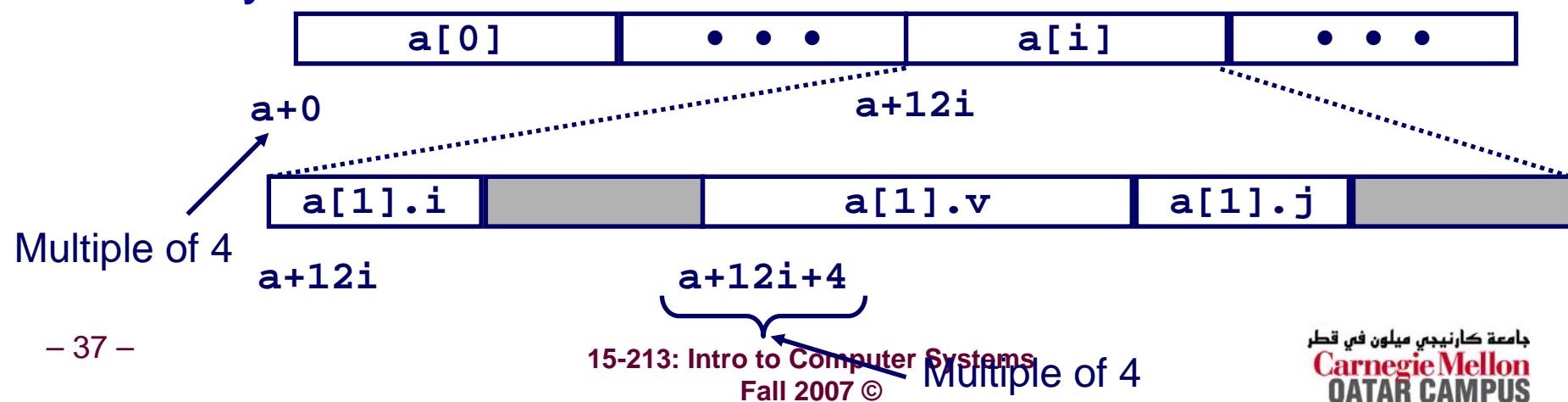


# Satisfying Alignment within Structure

## Achieving Alignment

- Starting address of structure array must be multiple of worst-case alignment for any element
  - $a$  must be multiple of 4
- Offset of element within structure must be multiple of element's alignment requirement
  - $v$ 's offset of 4 is a multiple of 4
- Overall size of structure must be multiple of worst-case alignment for any element
  - Structure padded with unused space to be 12 bytes

```
struct S6 {  
    short i;  
    float v;  
    short j;  
} a[10];
```



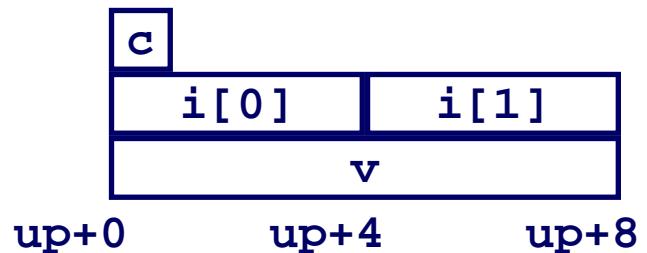
# Union Allocation

## Principles

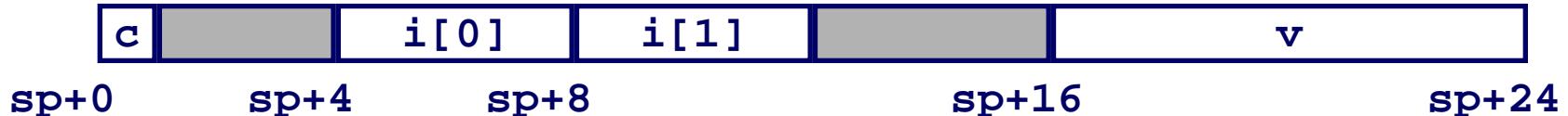
- Overlay union elements
- Allocate according to largest element
- Can only use one field at a time

```
struct s1 {  
    char c;  
    int i[2];  
    double v;  
} *sp;
```

```
union U1 {  
    char c;  
    int i[2];  
    double v;  
} *up;
```

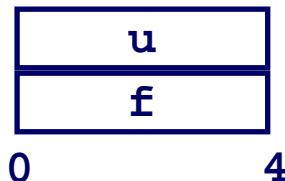


(Windows alignment)



# Using Union to Access Bit Patterns

```
typedef union {
    float f;
    unsigned u;
} bit_float_t;
```



```
float bit2float(unsigned u)
{
    bit_float_t arg;
    arg.u = u;
    return arg.f;
}
```

```
unsigned float2bit(float f)
{
    bit_float_t arg;
    arg.f = f;
    return arg.u;
}
```

- Get direct access to bit representation of float
- `bit2float` generates float with given bit pattern
  - NOT the same as `(float) u`
- `float2bit` generates bit pattern from float
  - NOT the same as `(unsigned) f`

# Byte Ordering Revisited

## Idea

- Short/long/quad words stored in memory as 2/4/8 consecutive bytes
- Which is most (least) significant?
- Can cause problems when exchanging binary data between machines

## BigEndian

- Most significant byte has lowest address
- PowerPC, Sparc

## LittleEndian

- Least significant byte has lowest address
- Intel x86

# Byte Ordering Example

```
union {
    unsigned char c[8];
    unsigned short s[4];
    unsigned int i[2];
    unsigned long l[1];
} dw;
```

c[0]	c[1]	c[2]	c[3]	c[4]	c[5]	c[6]	c[7]
s[0]		s[1]		s[2]		s[3]	
	i[0]				i[1]		
	l[0]						

# Byte Ordering Example (Cont).

```
int j;
for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
    dw.c[j] = 0xf0 + j;

printf("Characters 0-7 ==
[0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x]\n",
       dw.c[0], dw.c[1], dw.c[2], dw.c[3],
       dw.c[4], dw.c[5], dw.c[6], dw.c[7]);

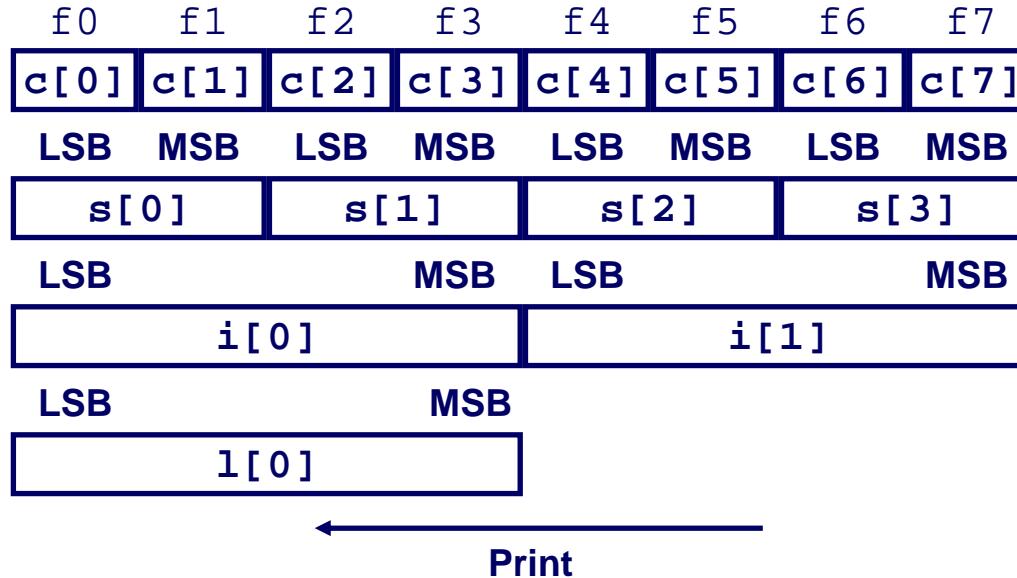
printf("Shorts 0-3 ==
[0x%x,0x%x,0x%x,0x%x]\n",
       dw.s[0], dw.s[1], dw.s[2], dw.s[3]);

printf("Ints 0-1 == [0x%lx,0x%lx]\n",
       dw.i[0], dw.i[1]);

printf("Long 0 == [0x%lx]\n",
       dw.l[0]);
```

# Byte Ordering on IA32

## Little Endian

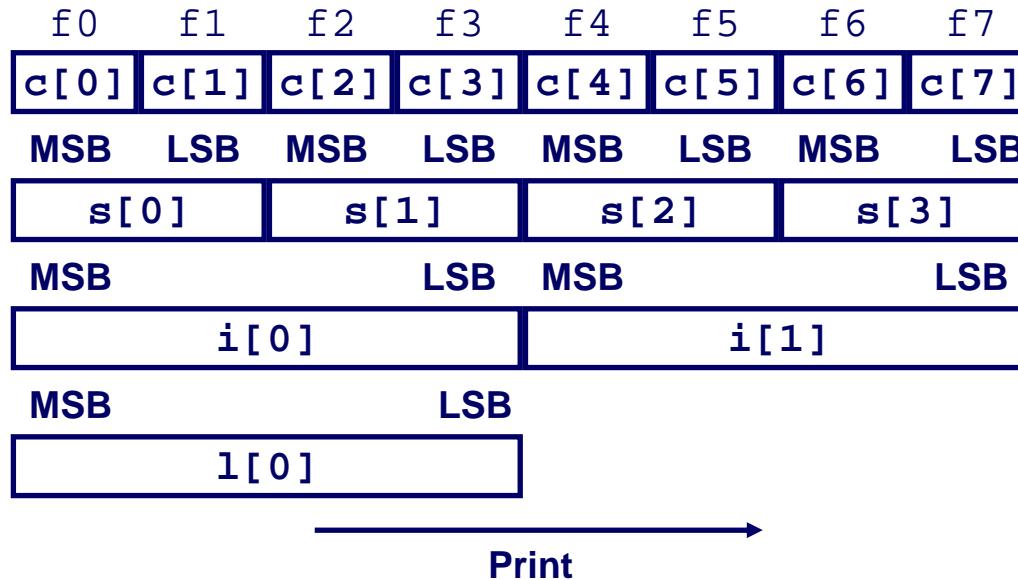


## Output on IA32:

```
Characters 0-7 == [0xf0,0xf1,0xf2,0xf3,0xf4,0xf5,0xf6,0xf7]
Shorts      0-3 == [0xf1f0,0xf3f2,0xf5f4,0xf7f6]
Ints        0-1 == [0xf3f2f1f0,0xf7f6f5f4]
Long         0    == [0xf3f2f1f0]
```

# Byte Ordering on Sun

## Big Endian

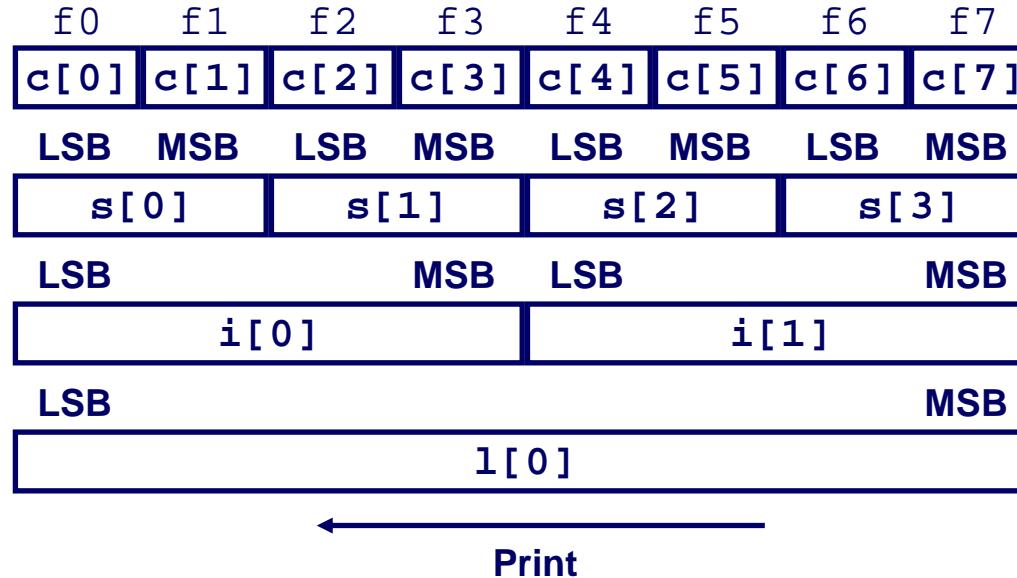


## Output on Sun:

```
Characters 0-7 == [0xf0,0xf1,0xf2,0xf3,0xf4,0xf5,0xf6,0xf7]
Shorts      0-3 == [0xf0f1,0xf2f3,0xf4f5,0xf6f7]
Ints        0-1 == [0xf0f1f2f3,0xf4f5f6f7]
Long         0    == [0xf0f1f2f3]
```

# Byte Ordering on x86-64

## LittleEndian



## Output on x86-64:

Characters	0-7 ==	[ 0xf0, 0xf1, 0xf2, 0xf3, 0xf4, 0xf5, 0xf6, 0xf7 ]
Shorts	0-3 ==	[ 0xf1f0, 0xf3f2, 0xf5f4, 0xf7f6 ]
Ints	0-1 ==	[ 0xf3f2f1f0, 0xf7f6f5f4 ]
Long	0 ==	[ 0xf7f6f5f4f3f2f1f0 ]

# Buffer Overflow Attacks

## November, 1988

- First Internet Worm spread over then-new Internet
- Many university machines compromised
- No malicious effect

## Today

- Buffer overflow is still the initial entry for over 50% of network-based attacks

# String Library Code

- Implementation of Unix function `gets()`
  - No way to specify limit on number of characters to read

```
/* Get string from stdin */
char *gets(char *dest)
{
    int c = getc();
    char *p = dest;
    while (c != EOF && c != '\n') {
        *p++ = c;
        c = getc();
    }
    *p = '\0';
    return dest;
}
```

- Similar problems with other Unix functions
  - `strcpy`: Copies string of arbitrary length
  - `scanf`, `fscanf`, `sscanf`, when given `%s` conversion specification

# Vulnerable Buffer Code

```
/* Echo Line */
void echo()
{
    char buf[4]; /* Way too small! */
    gets(buf);
    puts(buf);
}
```

```
int main()
{
    printf("Type a string:");
    echo();
    return 0;
}
```

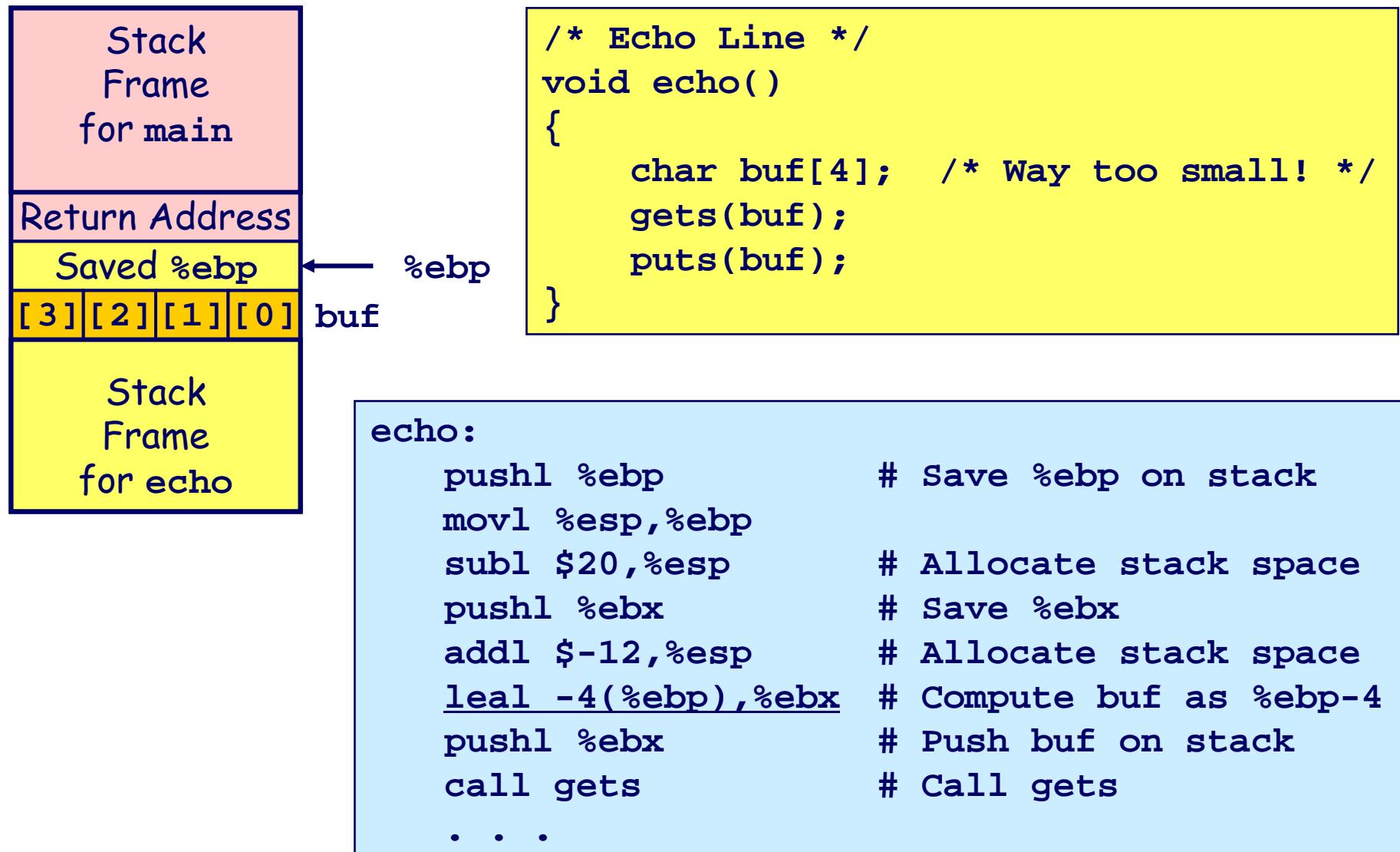
# Buffer Overflow Executions

```
unix>./bufdemo  
Type a string:123  
123
```

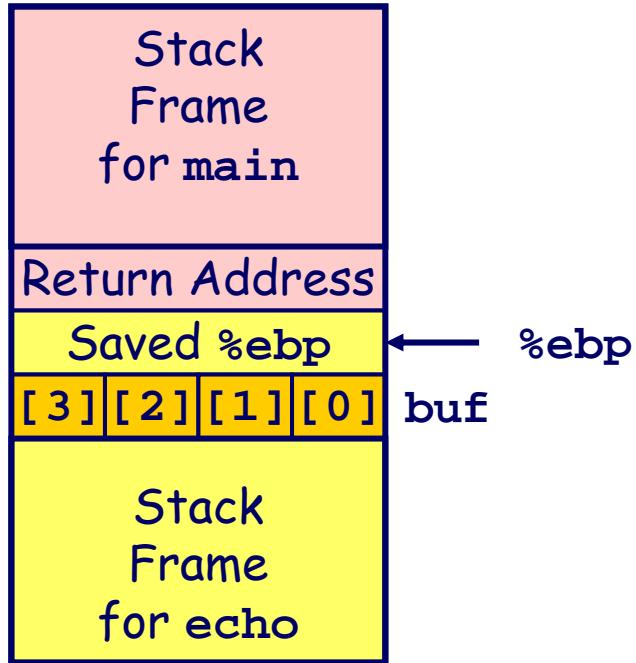
```
unix>./bufdemo  
Type a string:12345  
Segmentation Fault
```

```
unix>./bufdemo  
Type a string:12345678  
Segmentation Fault
```

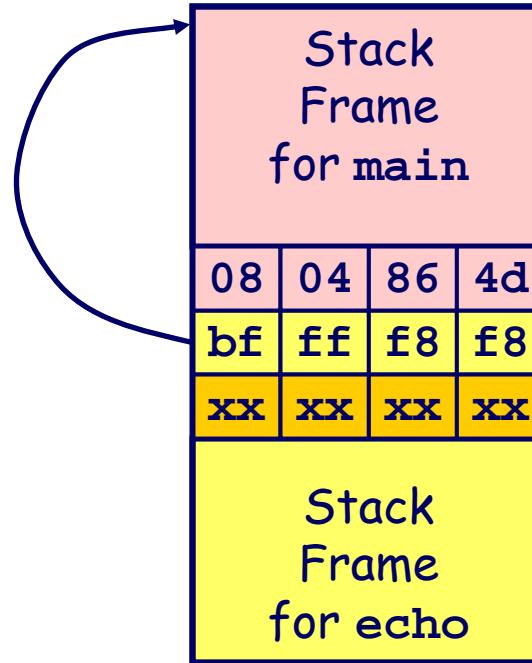
# Buffer Overflow Stack (IA32)



# Buffer Overflow Stack Example



```
unix> gdb bufdemo
(gdb) break echo
Breakpoint 1 at 0x8048583
(gdb) run
Breakpoint 1, 0x8048583 in echo ()
(gdb) print /x *(unsigned *)$ebp
$1 = 0xbffff8f8
(gdb) print /x *((unsigned *)$ebp + 1)
$3 = 0x804864d
```



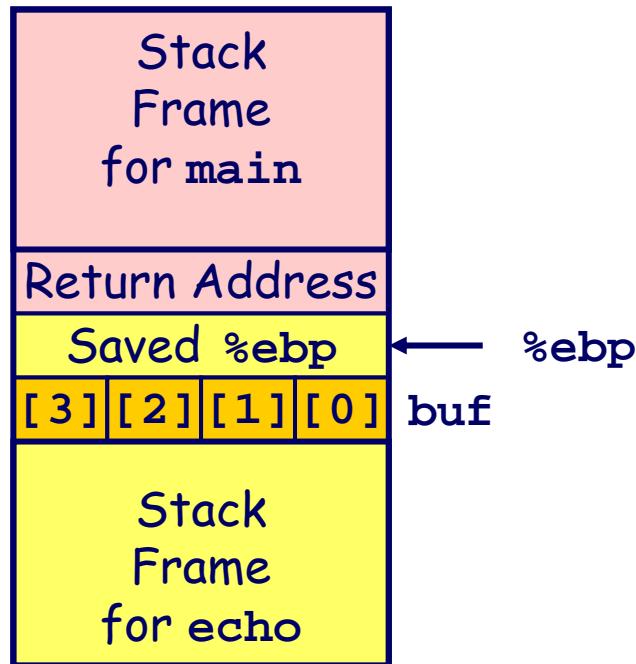
Before call to gets

0xbffff8f8  
buf

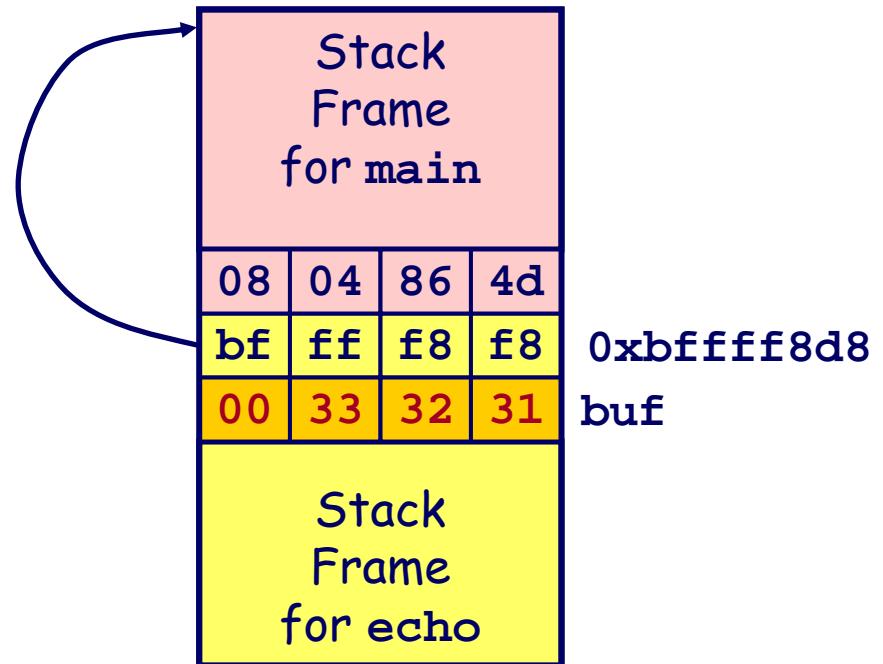
```
8048648: call 804857c <echo>
804864d: mov 0xffffffe8(%ebp),%ebx # Return Point
```

# Buffer Overflow Example #1

Before Call to gets

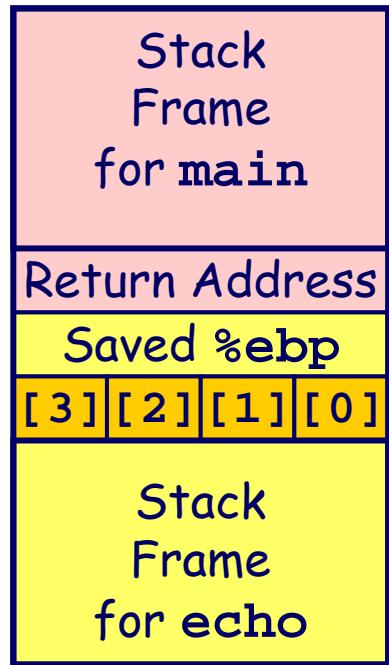


Input = "123"



No Problem

# Buffer Overflow Stack Example #2



Input = "12345"

0xfffff8d8  
buf

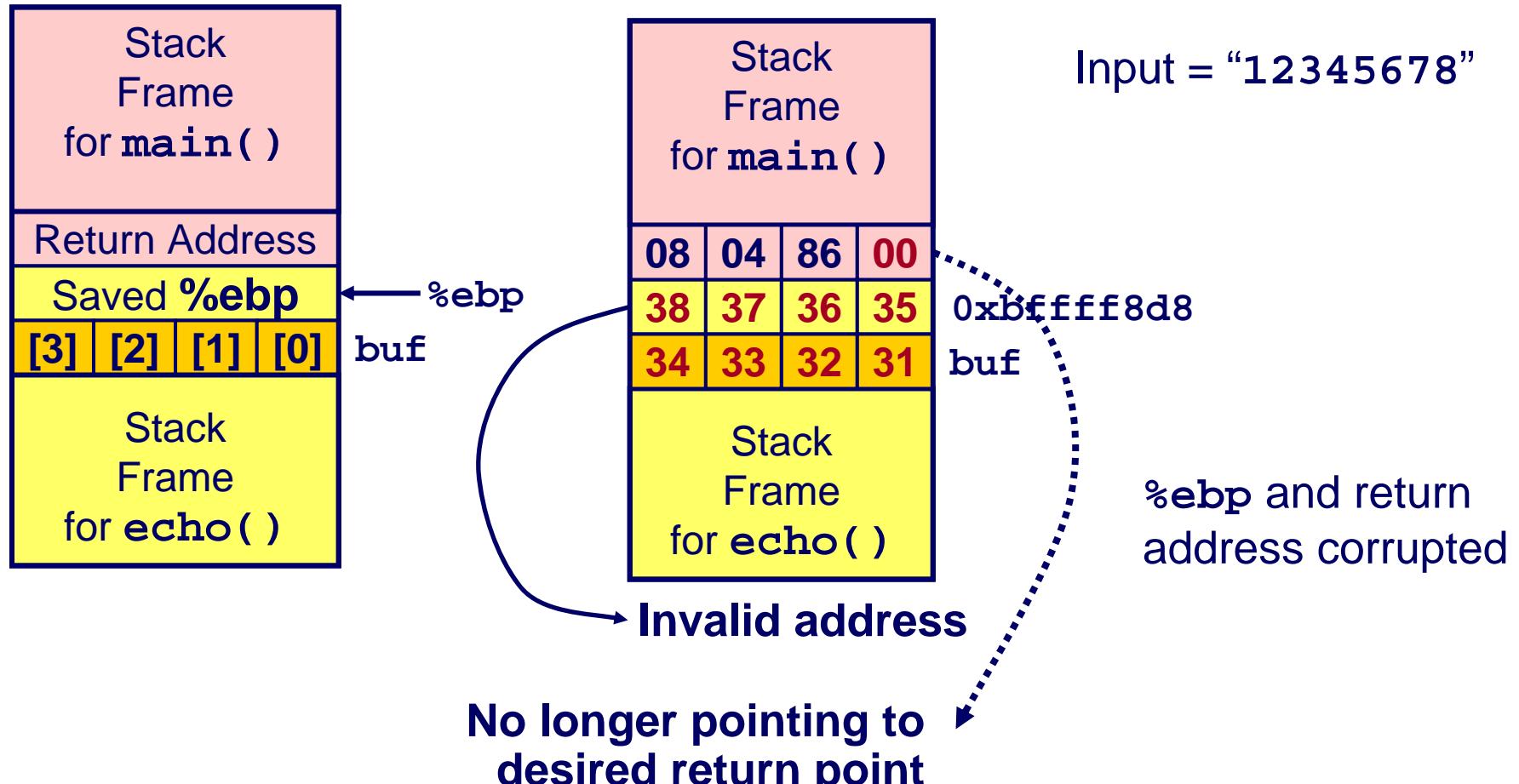
Saved value of %ebp set to  
0xfffff0035

Bad news when later  
attempt to restore %ebp

echo code:

```
8048592: push    %ebx
8048593: call    80483e4 <_init+0x50>    # gets
8048598: mov     0xffffffe8(%ebp),%ebx
804859b: mov     %ebp,%esp
804859d: pop    %ebp      # %ebp gets set to invalid value
804859e: ret
```

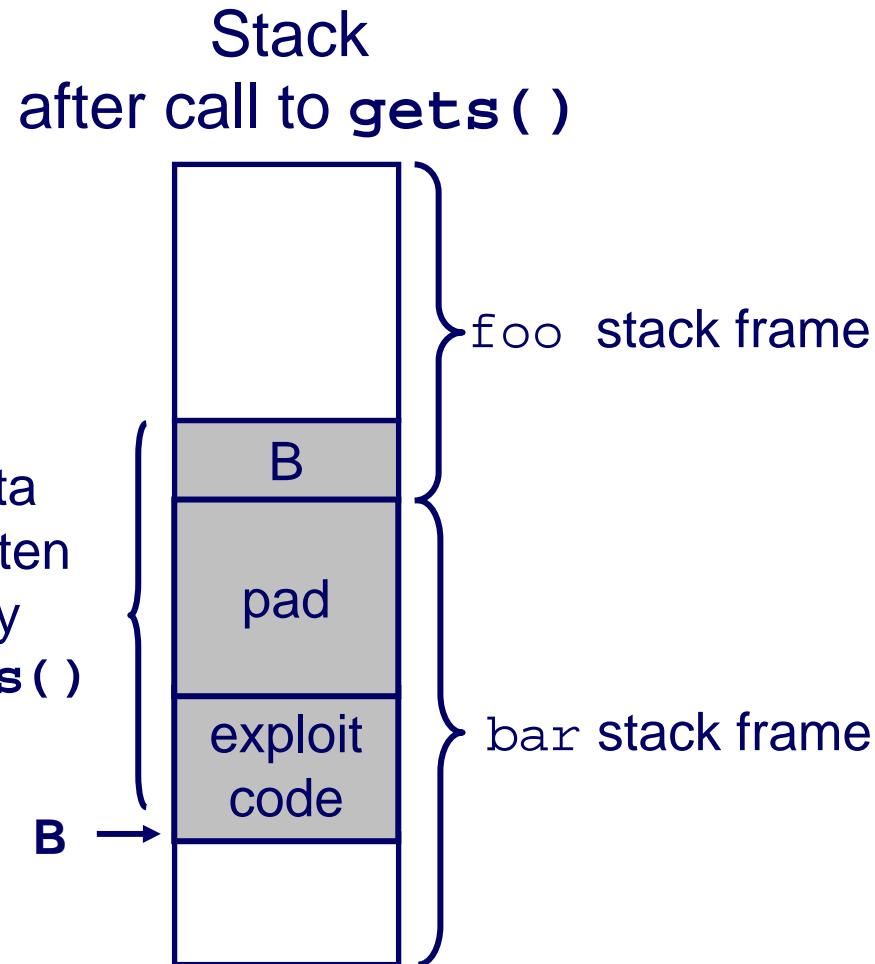
# Buffer Overflow Stack Example #3



```
8048648: call 804857c <echo>
804864d: mov 0xfffffe8(%ebp),%ebx # Return Point
```

# Malicious Use of Buffer Overflow

```
return address A → void foo(){  
    bar();  
    ...  
}  
  
void bar() {  
    char buf[64];  
    gets(buf);  
    ...  
}
```



- Input string contains byte representation of executable code
- Overwrite return address with address of buffer
- When `bar()` executes `ret`, will jump to exploit code

# Exploits Based on Buffer Overflows

***Buffer overflow bugs allow remote machines to execute arbitrary code on victim machines.***

## Internet worm

- Early versions of the finger server (fingerd) used `gets()` to read the argument sent by the client:
  - finger droh@cs.cmu.edu
- Worm attacked fingerd server by sending phony argument:
  - finger "exploit-code padding new-return-address"
  - exploit code: executed a root shell on the victim machine with a direct TCP connection to the attacker.

# Summary

## Arrays in C

- Contiguous allocation of memory
- Pointer to first element
- No bounds checking

## Structures

- Allocate bytes in order declared
- Pad in middle and at end to satisfy alignment

## Unions

- Overlay declarations
- Way to circumvent type system

## Buffer Overflow

- Overrun stack state with externally supplied data
- Potentially contains executable code