

CS 50: Software Design and Implementation

Pointers

Agenda

- 
- 1. You've seen the *idea* of pointers in Java
 - 2. C pointers
 - 3. Pass by value
 - 4. Activity

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {
9     //declare Blob objects
10    Blob alice = new Blob();
11    Blob bob; //notice no new keyword
12    bob = alice; //bob equals alice
13    Blob charlie = new Blob();
14    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+
15                      " bob.x="+bob.x);
16
17    //update alice's x
18    alice.setX(3);
19    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+
20                      " bob.x="+bob.x);
21
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);
25 }
26 }
```



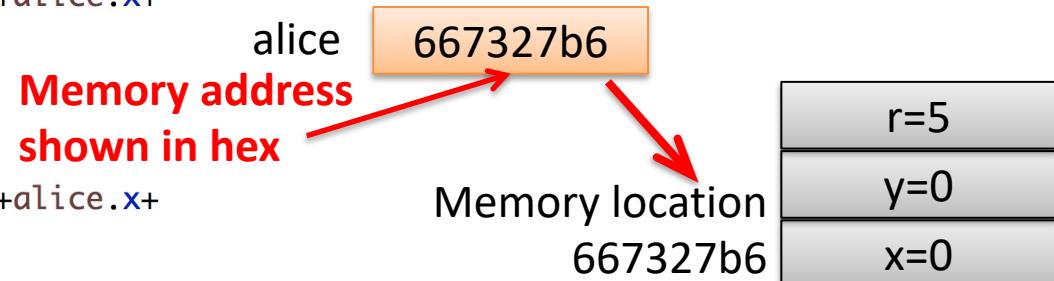
Stack

Heap

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
11    Blob bob; //notice no new keyword  
12    bob = alice; //bob equals alice  
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14    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
15                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
  
16    //update alice's x  
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18    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
19                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);  
25 }  
26 }
```

Stack Heap



- After line 10, stack holds memory address of object (with primitives, stack holds variable's value)
- Memory address tells Java where to find the “alice” object in memory
- Object itself allocated elsewhere in memory (in heap, not on stack)
- OS chooses where to allocate

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
11    Blob bob; //notice no new keyword  
12    bob = alice; //bob equals alice  
13    Blob charlie = new Blob();  
14    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
15                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
16  
17    //update alice's x  
18    alice.setX(3);  
19    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
20                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
21  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);  
25 }  
26 }
```

Stack

bob
alice

null
667327b6

Heap

Memory location
667327b6

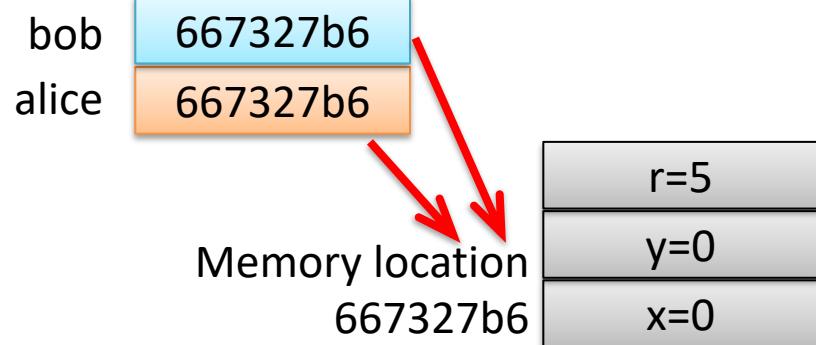
r=5
y=0
x=0

- After line 11, “bob” is allocated on the stack, but is null (points nowhere)
- This is because bob did not use the “new” keyword
- Null pointer exception if try to use bob now

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
11    Blob bob; //notice no new keyword  
12    bob = alice; //bob equals alice  
13    Blob charlie = new Blob();  
14    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
15                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
16  
17    //update alice's x  
18    alice.setX(3);  
19    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
20                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
21  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);  
25 }  
26 }
```

Stack Heap



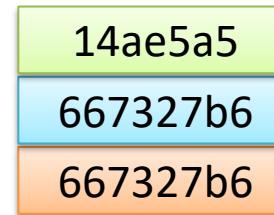
- Line 12, bob set equal to alice
- bob gets same value on stack that alice holds
- bob now points to the exact same memory location as alice
- bob and alice are “aliases” of each other

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

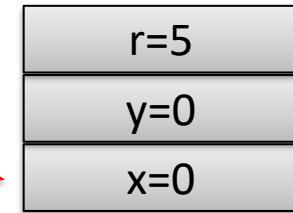
```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
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16  
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19    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
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21  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);  
25 }  
26 }
```

Stack

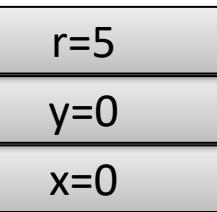
charlie
bob
alice



Heap



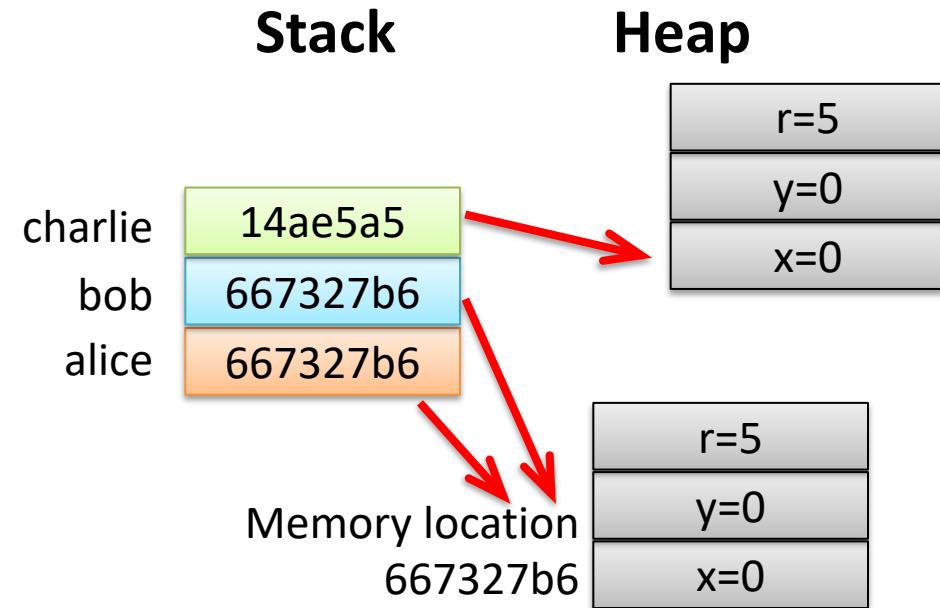
Memory location
667327b6



Charlie object gets new allocation elsewhere in memory because “new” keyword used

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
11    Blob bob; //notice no new keyword  
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21  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
24                      " bob="+bob+" charlie="+charlie);  
25 }  
26 }
```



x value for alice and bob is the same because stored at the exact same memory address

```
Problems @ Javadoc Declaration Console Debug Expressions Error Log Call Hierarchy  
<terminated> MemoryAllocationObjects [Java Application] /Library/Java/JavaVirtualMachines/jdk1.8.0_112.jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java (Dec  
alice.x=0.0 bob.x=0.0
```

Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

```
8 public static void main(String[] args) {  
9     //declare Blob objects  
10    Blob alice = new Blob();  
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15                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
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17    //update alice's x  
18    alice.setX(3);  
19    System.out.println("alice.x="+alice.x+  
20                      " bob.x="+bob.x);  
21  
22    //printing objects implicitly calls toString()  
23    System.out.println("alice="+alice+  
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25 }  
26 }
```

Stack

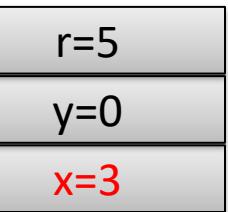
charlie
bob
alice



Heap



Memory location
667327b6



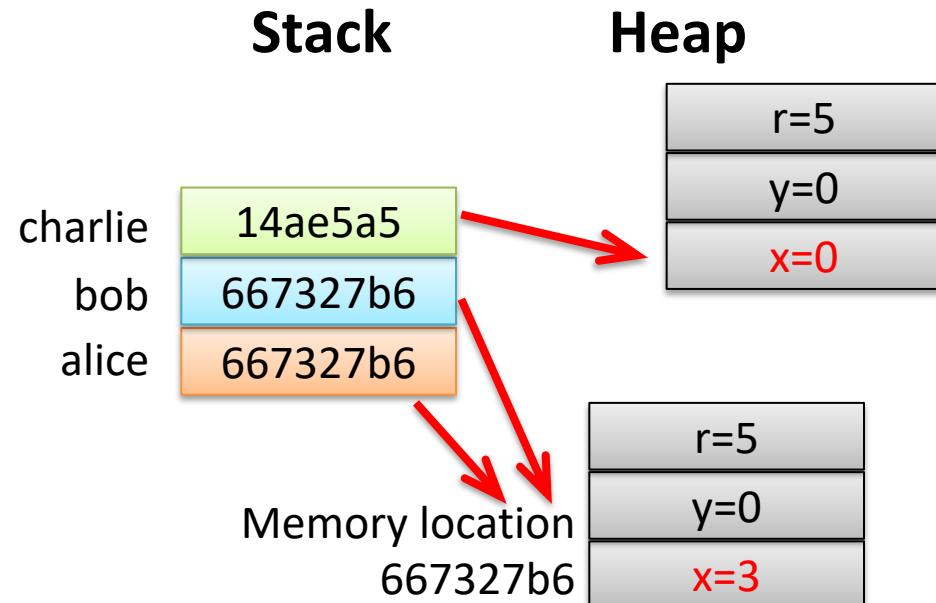
- **alice.x set to 3**
- **What is bob.x?**

Problems @ Javadoc Declaration Console Debug Expressions Error Log Call Hierarchy
<terminated> MemoryAllocationObjects [Java Application] /Library/Java/JavaVirtualMachines/jdk1.8.0_112.jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java (Dec
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Declaring objects makes pointer on the stack, but object itself is elsewhere

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Problems @ Javadoc Declaration Console Debug Expressions Error Log Call Hierarchy  
<terminated> MemoryAllocationObjects [Java Application] /Library/Java/JavaVirtualMachines/jdk1.8.0_112.jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java (Dec  
alice.x=0.0 bob.x=0.0  
alice.x=3.0 bob.x=3.0
```



- **x is the same for both alice and bob objects because they point to the same memory address (called alias)**
- **Like Python setting two lists equal to each other, change one list, change the other also**
- **Charlie's x is still 0**

Agenda

1. You've seen the *idea* of pointers in Java
2. C pointers
3. Pass by value
4. Activity

Pointers can also act as an alias. We saw something similar in CS 10

```
#include<stdio.h>                                alias.c
int main() {
    int x = 8;
    int *ptr = &x;      //ptr get address of x
    printf("x value: %d addr: %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
    printf("ptr points to %p addr: %p value: %d\n",
           (void *)ptr, (void *)&ptr, *ptr);

    //increment ptr by 1
    *ptr = 9;

    printf("x value %d\n",x);
    printf("ptr value %d\n",*ptr);

    return 0;
}
```

ptr holds
address of x

Pointers can also act as an alias. We saw something similar in CS 10

Stack grows

0x7fff14ec2bd0
↓
0x7fff14ec2bcc

alias.c

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 8;
    int *ptr = &x;      //ptr get address of x
    printf("x value: %d addr: %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
    printf("ptr points to %p addr: %p value: %d\n",
           (void *)ptr, (void *)&ptr, *ptr);

    //increment ptr by 1
    *ptr = 9;

    printf("x value %d\n",x);
    printf("ptr value %d\n",*ptr);

    return 0;
}
```

\$ mygcc -o alias alias.c
\$./alias
x value: 8 addr: 0x7fff14ec2bcc

Heap grows

Pointers can also act as an alias. We saw something similar in CS 10

The diagram illustrates the memory layout and pointer aliasing. On the left, a stack grows downwards from address `0x7fff14ec2bd0` to `0x7fff14ec2bcc`. A variable `x` is located at address `0x7fff14ec2bcc` with a value of `8`. On the right, a heap grows upwards. A pointer `ptr` is declared and initialized to point to `x`. The code then prints the values and addresses of `x` and `ptr`, showing that they both point to the same memory location.

Stack grows
↓
`0x7fff14ec2bd0`
↓
`0x7fff14ec2bcc`

alias.c

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 8;
    int *ptr = &x;      //ptr get address of x

    printf("x value: %d addr: %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
    printf("ptr points to %p addr: %p value: %d\n",
           (void *)ptr, (void *)&ptr, *ptr);

    //increment ptr by 1
    *ptr = 9;

    printf("x value %d\n",x);
    printf("ptr value %d\n",*ptr);

    return 0;
}
```

\$ mygcc -o alias alias.c
\$./alias
x value: 8 addr: 0x7fff14ec2bcc
ptr points to 0x7fff14ec2bcc addr: 0x7fff14ec2bd0 value: 8

Pointers can also act as an alias. We saw something similar in CS 10

The diagram illustrates the memory layout and pointer manipulation. On the left, a stack grows downwards from address 0x7fff14ec2bd0 to 0x7fff14ec2bcc. An orange box labeled 'x' contains the value 9. A pointer variable 'ptr' (at address 0x7fff14ec2bcc) points to the memory location of 'x'. On the right, the code 'alias.c' shows the creation of an integer 'x' with value 8, allocation of memory for 'ptr' at address 0x7fff14ec2bcc, and printing of 'x' and 'ptr' values. It then increments 'ptr' by 1 to address 0x7fff14ec2bd0 and prints the value 9 at that location. A red arrow points from the line '*ptr = 9;' to the text 'Set value of defferenced memory location to 9 by using *p'.

Stack grows
0x7fff14ec2bd0
0x7fff14ec2bcc

alias.c

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 8;
    int *ptr = &x;      //ptr get address of x
    printf("x value: %d addr: %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
    printf("ptr points to %p addr: %p value: %d\n",
           (void *)ptr, (void *)&ptr, *ptr);

    //increment ptr by 1
    *ptr = 9;           ← Set value of defferenced memory location to 9 by using *p
    printf("x value %d\n",x);
    printf("ptr value %d\n",*ptr);

    return 0;
}
```

Heap grows

```
$ mygcc -o alias alias.c
$ ./alias
x value: 8 addr: 0x7fff14ec2bcc
ptr points to 0x7fff14ec2bcc addr: 0x7fff14ec2bd0 value: 8
```

Pointers can also act as an alias. We saw something similar in CS 10

Stack grows

0x7fff14ec2bd0
0x7fff14ec2bcc

Heap grows

Because ptr points to x, changing the value of ptr (using *ptr) changes x also!

#include<stdio.h>

```
int main() {
    int x = 8;
    int *ptr = &x;      //ptr get address of x

    printf("x value: %d addr: %p\n", x, (void *)&x);
    printf("ptr points to %p addr: %p value: %d\n",
           (void *)ptr, (void *)&ptr, *ptr);

    //increment ptr by 1
    *ptr = 9;           ← Set value of
                        → deferenced
                        → memory
                        → location to 9
                        → by using *p

    printf("x value %d\n", x);
    printf("ptr value %d\n", *ptr);

    return 0;
}
```

\$ mygcc -o alias alias.c
\$./alias
x value: 8 addr: 0x7fff14ec2bcc
ptr points to 0x7fff14ec2bcc addr: 0x7fff14ec2bd0 value: 8
x value 9
ptr value 9

Agenda

1. You've seen the *idea* of pointers in Java
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C passes values to by using “pass by value”, creates a copy of parameters on the stack

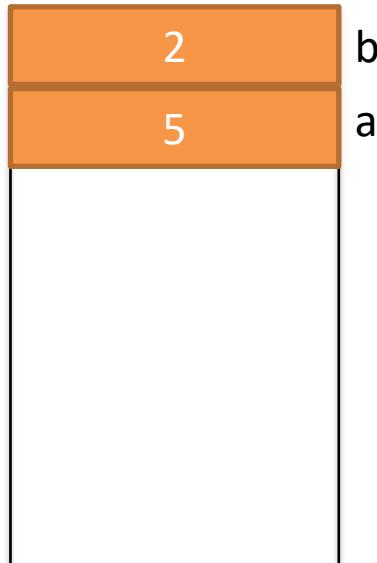
Goal call swap and exchange values in a and b

```
void swap (int a, int b) {  
    int temp;  
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");  
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",  
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);  
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",  
          a, b, temp);  
    temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
  
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int a = 5;  
    int b = 2;  
    printf("In main\n");  
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",  
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);  
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);  
  
    printf("Calling swap function\n");  
    swap(a, b);  
  
    printf("Back in main\n");  
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",  
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);  
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Local variables a and b in main pushed onto stack

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
↓
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a, b, temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n", a, b);

    return 0;
}
```

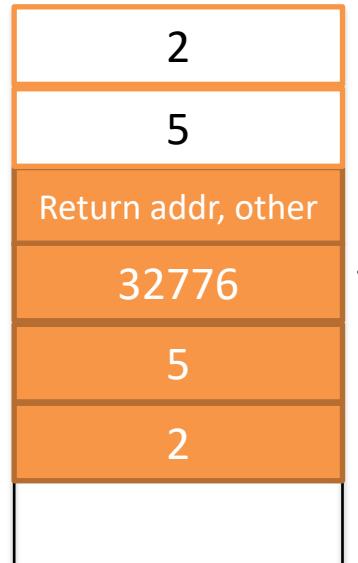
A red arrow points from the command line output to the call to the swap function in the main code, indicating the flow of execution.

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
```

Calling swap passes copy of a and b to func, values pushed onto stack

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

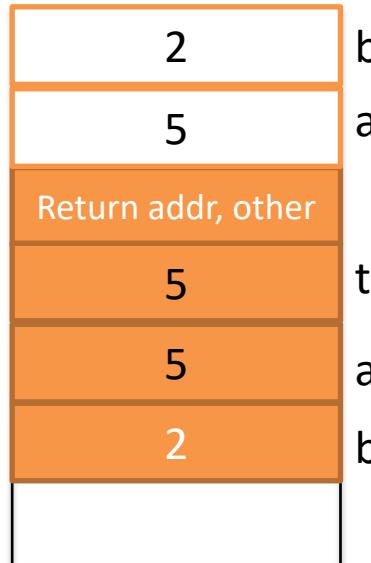
**Local variables are not initialized
Temp holds random value**

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
```

Swap works as expected in func, exchanging local copy of a and b

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

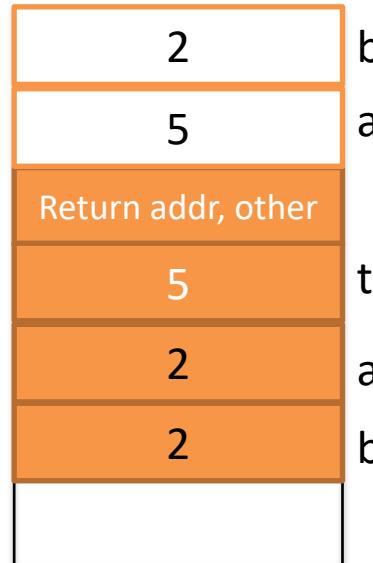
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
```

Swap works as expected in func, exchanging local copy of a and b

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
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swap0.c

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void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
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    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

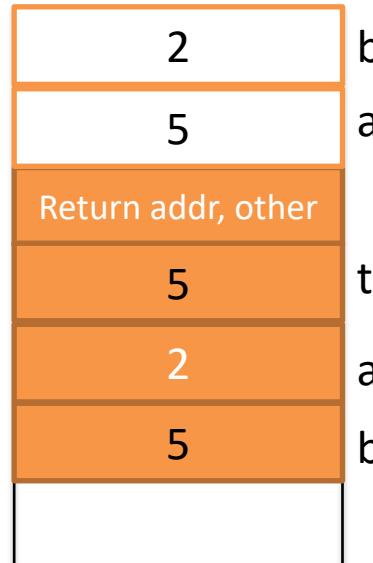
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
```

Swap works as expected in func, exchanging local copy of a and b

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
0x7ffe847ded20



```
swap0.c
```

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

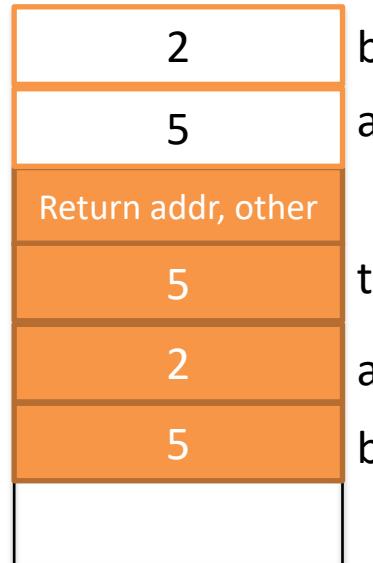
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
```

Swap works as expected in func, exchanging local copy of a and b

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

return 0;
```

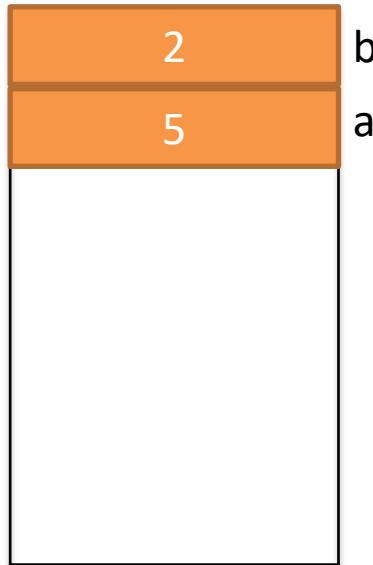
Red arrows point from the stack diagram to the printf statements in the swap function code, and from the swap function code to the printf statements in the main function code.

Swap worked as expected!

When function ends, pop stack to remove local variables, return address, parameters

Stack grows

0x7ffe847ded24
↓
0x7ffe847ded20



```
swap0.c
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

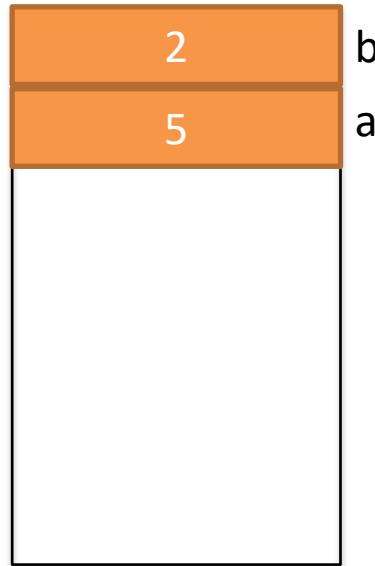
Stack popped execution returns to main

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
swapped values: a=2 and b=5
```

Variables a and b have their original values, swap fails

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
↓
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
swapped values: a=2 and b=5
Back in main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
```



Variables a and b have their original values, swap fails

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffe847ded24
↓
0x7ffe847ded20



swap0.c

```
void swap (int a, int b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          a,b,temp);
    temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(a, b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffe847decfc, b=0x7ffe847decf8,
temp=0x7ffe847ded04
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32766
swapped values: a=2 and b=5
Back in main
addresses a=0x7ffe847ded20, b=0x7ffe847ded24
values a=5 and b=2
```



Try passing address of a and b to func, then swap using pointers

There is a subtle problem with this code, let's find it!

Use pointer to hold address of a and b

Pass address of a and b to func instead of value

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

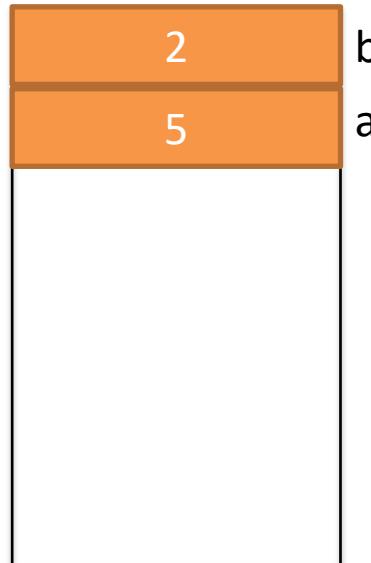
    return 0;
}
```

swap1.c

Try passing address of a and b to func, then swap using pointers

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00



```
swap1.c
```

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

Pass address of a and b by using &a and &b

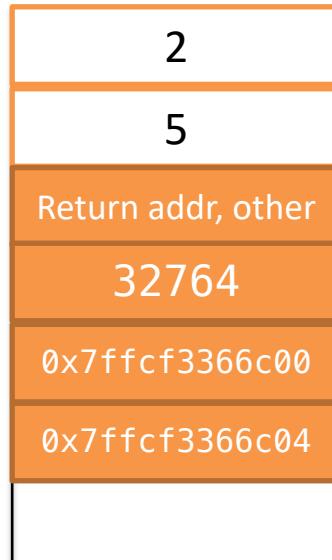
Calling swap function

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
```

Push address of a and b onto stack, also create local variable temp on stack

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
0x7ffcf3366c00



```
swap1.c
```

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

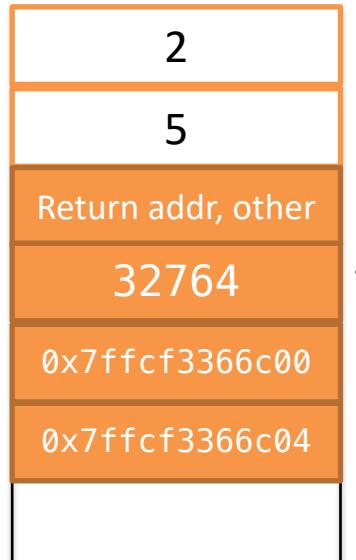
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
```

Push address of a and b onto stack, also create local variable temp on stack

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
0x7ffcf3366c00



```
swap1.c
```

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

Receive parameters as pointers, so they store the memory addresses passed

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
```

Set temp to value of a by derefencing with *a to get value

Stack grows

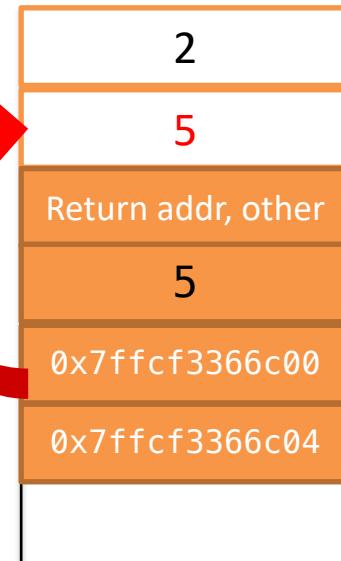
0x7ffcf3366c04

0x7ffcf3366c00

0x7ffcf3366be4

0x7ffcf3366bd8

0x7ffcf3366bd0



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

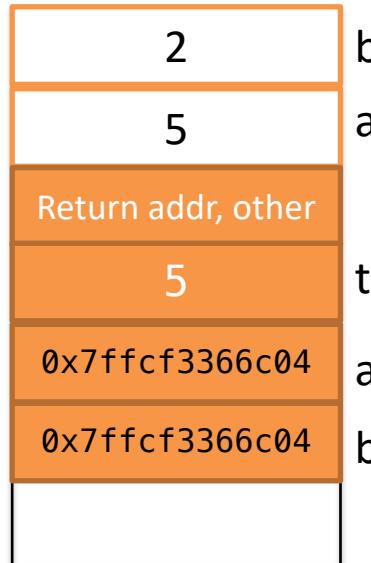
Temp get value of a by dereferencing with *a

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Set a = b, is this what we want?

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
0x7ffcf3366c00



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

a set equal b
Is this what we want?

Red arrows point from the stack diagram to the variable declarations in the swap function and from the swap function back to the main function's printf statements.

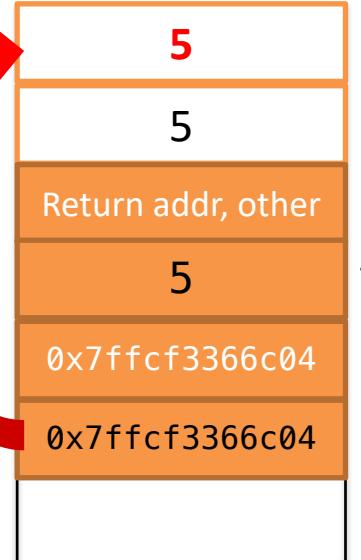
```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Set b value to temp by using *b

Stack grows

0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00

0x7ffcf3366be4
0x7ffcf3366bd8
0x7ffcf3366bd0



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp; Value of b set to temp (5)
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

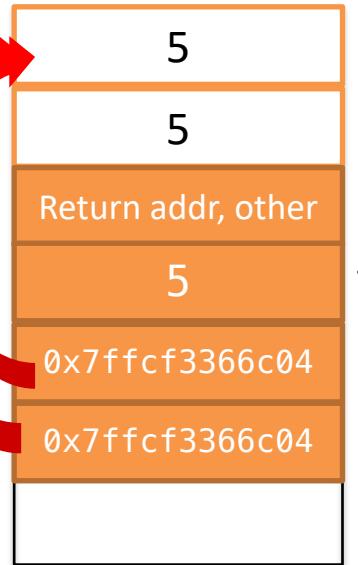
    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Deference a and b to get values, looks like a problem!

Stack grows

0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

Deference pointers to get values for a and b

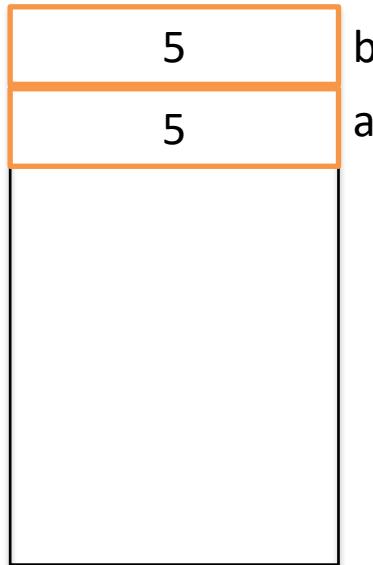
```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
swapped values: a=5 and b=5
```

Wait, what!?!?!

Problem persists in main, what went wrong?

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00



```
swap1.c
```

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

What went wrong?

A red arrow points from the text "Back in main" in the terminal output to the line "printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);" in the code.

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
swapped values: a=5 and b=5
Back in main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=5
```

Problem persists in main, what went wrong?

Set value of a
to value of b
with $*a = *b$

Previously set
 $a = b$ so a got
b's memory
address
instead of its
value!

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

swap2.c

Set temp to value of a by derefencing with *a to get value

Stack grows

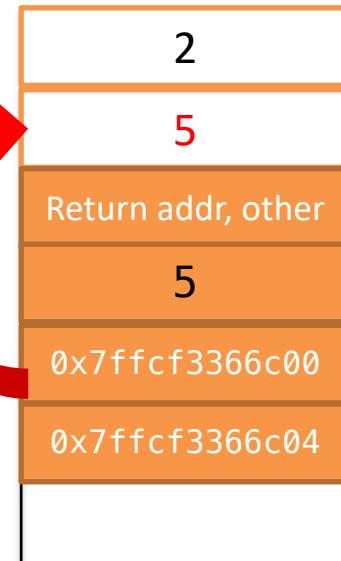
0x7ffcf3366c04

0x7ffcf3366c00

0x7ffcf3366be4

0x7ffcf3366bd8

0x7ffcf3366bd0



swap2.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

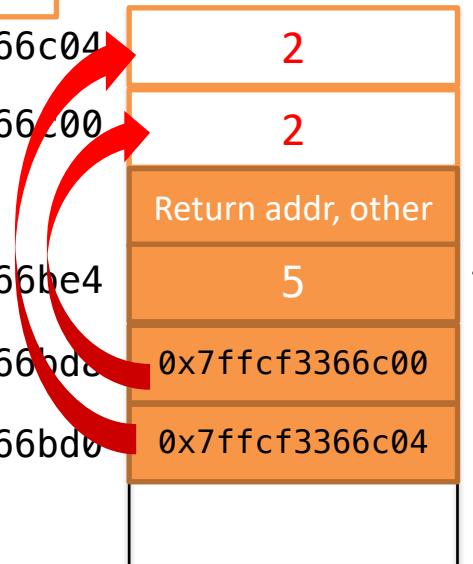
Temp get value of a by dereferencing with *a

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Set a = b, is this what we want?

Stack grows

0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

Set value of a = value b by dereferencing

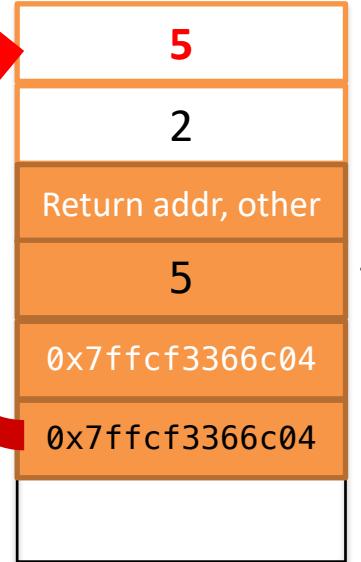
```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Set b value to temp by using *b

Stack grows

0x7ffcf3366c04
↓
0x7ffcf3366c00

0x7ffcf3366be4
0x7ffcf3366bd8
0x7ffcf3366bd0



swap1.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp; Value of b set to temp (5)
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
```

Deference a and b to get values, looks like it worked!

Stack grows

swap2.c

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

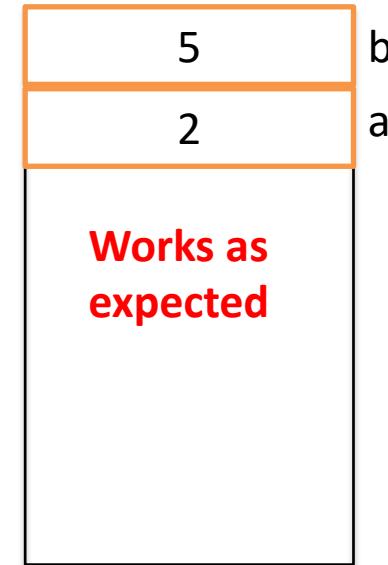
\$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
\$./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
swapped values: a=2 and b=5

Deference pointers to get values for a and b

Returning to main, all is well, swap worked!

Stack grows

↓
0x7ffcf3366c04
0x7ffcf3366c00



```
swap1.c
```

```
void swap (int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    printf("In swap, before making swap\n");
    printf("\taddresses: a=%p, b=%p, temp=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b, (void *)&temp);
    printf("\tparameters values: a=%d, b=%d, temp=%d\n",
          *a,*b,temp);
    temp = *a;
    a = b;
    *b = temp;

    printf("\tswapped values: a=%d and b=%d\n",*a,*b);
}

int main() {
    int a = 5;
    int b = 2;
    printf("In main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    printf("Calling swap function\n");
    swap(&a, &b);

    printf("Back in main\n");
    printf("\taddresses a=%p, b=%p\n",
          (void *)&a, (void *)&b);
    printf("\tvalues a=%d and b=%d\n",a,b);

    return 0;
}
```

```
$ mygcc -o swap swap1.c
$ ./swap
In main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=5 and b=2
Calling swap function
In swap, before making swap
addresses: a=0x7ffcf3366bd8, b=0x7ffcf3366bd0,
temp=0x7ffcf3366be4
parameters values: a=5, b=2, temp=32764
swapped values: a=2 and b=5
Back in main
addresses a=0x7ffcf3366c00, b=0x7ffcf3366c04
values a=2 and b=5
```

Agenda

1. You've seen the *idea* of pointers in Java
2. C pointers
3. Pass by value
4. Activity

Stack stores local variables, grows downward

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n", x, (void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;
    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n", *p, (void *)p);
    func(a,b);
    free(p);
    return 0;
}
```

Stack stores local variables, grows downward

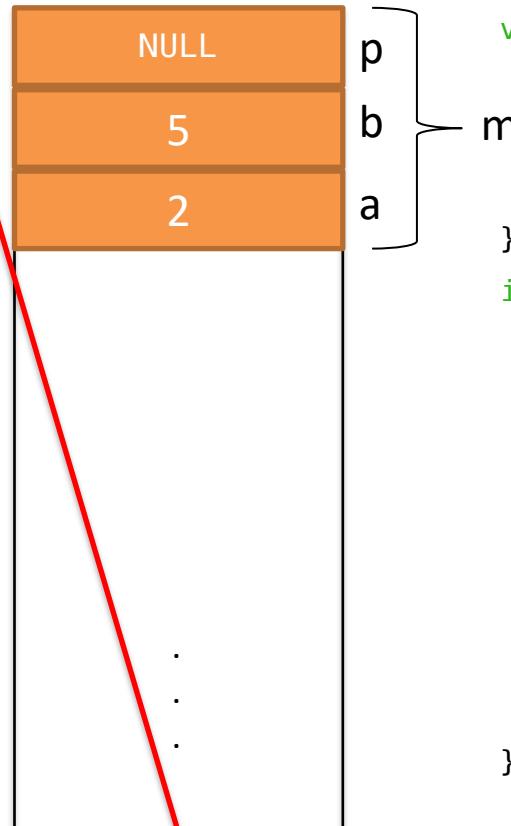
Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

Stack grows from high memory to low



Heap grows



ints are 4 bytes, so a is 4 bytes lower in memory than b

$$0x\ldots6a8 + 4 = 0x\ldots6ac$$

ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL; ← Local variables stored on stack
    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);

    return 0;
}
```

Pointers store memory address, not values like “normal” variables

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

NULL
5
2

p
b
a

* Indicates pointer variable
int *p or int* p are ok

Heap grows

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

void func(int a, int b) {
 int x = 6;
 printf("In func\n");
 printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
 printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
 printf("x: value %d at %p\n", x, (void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
 int a = 2, b = 5;
 int *p = NULL; → ← Creates entry on stack filled with NULL
 p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
 *p = 10;
 printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
 printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
 printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)p);
 printf("p: value %d at %p\n", *p, (void *)p);
 func(a,b);
 free(p);
 return 0;
}

ptr_test.c

Malloc allocates memory on heap and returns pointer to start of block allocated

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

p value set to start of allocated memory block

p points to location on heap now

Heap grows

malloc is like *new* in Java
Does not have to be freed in Java

0x558f933f5260

5

2

p

b

a

main

0x7fff7ebba6a8

?

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

malloc in stdlib.h

ptr_test.c

void func(int a, int b) {
 int x = 6;
 printf("In func\n");
 printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
 printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
 printf("x: value %d at %p\n", x, (void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
 int a = 2, b = 5;
 int *p = NULL;

malloc allocates 4 bytes on heap

p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
*p = 10;

a: value %d at %p
b: value %d at %p
p is at %p
p: value %d at %p

printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)&p);
printf("p: value %d at %p\n", *p, (void *)p);

func(a,b);
free(p);
return 0;

Malloc returns start of memory allocated as void pointer

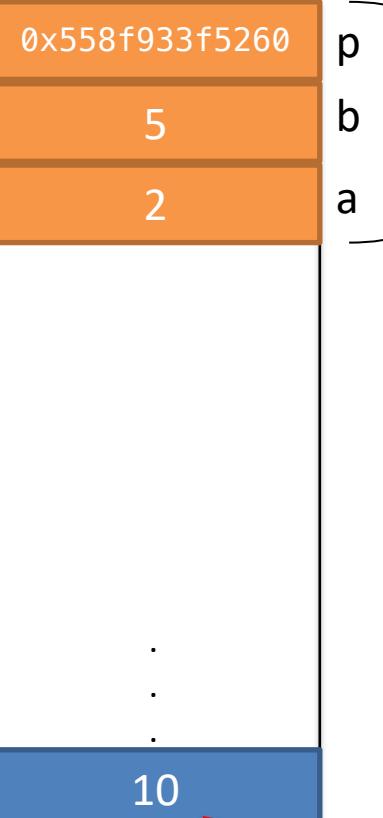
Value is whatever was left in memory

Cast as integer pointer

Deference pointers using *

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
↓
0x7fff7ebba6ac
↓
0x7fff7ebba6a8



ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;

    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n",(void *)&p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);
    return 0;
}
```

* dereferences
pointer

Go to where p
points and set
value to 10

Value on heap
now 10

& gives the address of a variable

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

Heap grows

0x558f933f5260
10

ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;

    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)&p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);

    return 0;
}

$ mygcc -o ptr_test ptr_test.c
$ ./ptr_test
a: value 2 at 0x7fff7ebba6a8
b: value 5 at 0x7fff7ebba6ac
```

Cast address to void pointer

& gives “address of” variable

Use &, *, and parameter, to get address of variable, variable value, and heap address

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

0x558f933f5260

5

2

a

b

p

main

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

0x558f933f5260

10

Heap grows

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

void func(int a, int b) {
 int x = 6;
 printf("In func\n");
 printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
 printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
 printf("x: value %d at %p\n", x, (void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
 int a = 2, b = 5;
 int *p = NULL;
 p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
 *p = 10;
 printf("a: value %d at %p\n", a, (void *)&a);
 printf("b: value %d at %p\n", b, (void *)&b);
 printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)p);
 printf("p: value %d at %p\n", *p, (void *)p);
 func(a,b);
 free(p);
}

return 0;

ptr_test.c

&p gives address of p

p's value is heap address

***p dereferences p to get value (10)**

```
$ mygcc -o ptr_test ptr_test.c
$ ./ptr_test
a: value 2 at 0x7fff7ebba6a8
b: value 5 at 0x7fff7ebba6ac
p is at 0x7fff7ebba6b0
p: value 10 at 0x558f933f5260
```

Function call pushes return address, local variables and parameters on stack

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8

0x558f933f5260
10

p
b
a

main

Function call pushes return address, parameters, and local variables onto stack

ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;

    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n",(void *)&p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);

    return 0;
}

$ mygcc -o ptr_test ptr_test.c
$ ./ptr_test
a: value 2 at 0x7fff7ebba6a8
b: value 5 at 0x7fff7ebba6ac
p is at 0x7fff7ebba6b0
p: value 10 at 0x558f933f5260
```

Function call pushes return address, local variables and parameters on stack

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8
Return addr, other
0x7fff7ebba674
0x7fff7ebba670
extra
0x7fff7ebba66c
0x7fff7ebba668
.

0x558f933f5260 10

Heap grows

p
b
a
x
a
b

main
func

Return address, local variables, and parameters pushed onto stack

ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;

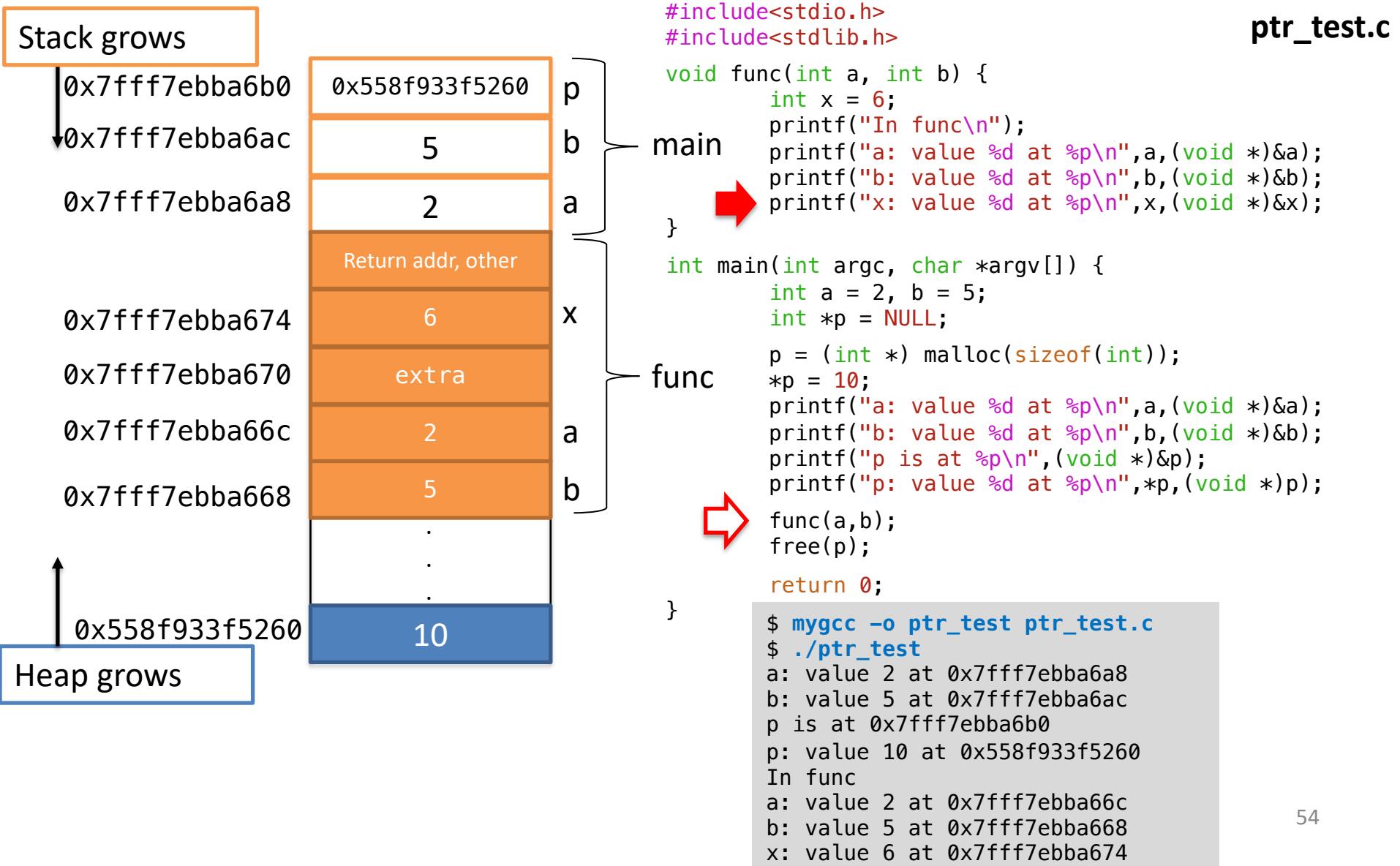
    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n",(void *)p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);
    return 0;
}
```

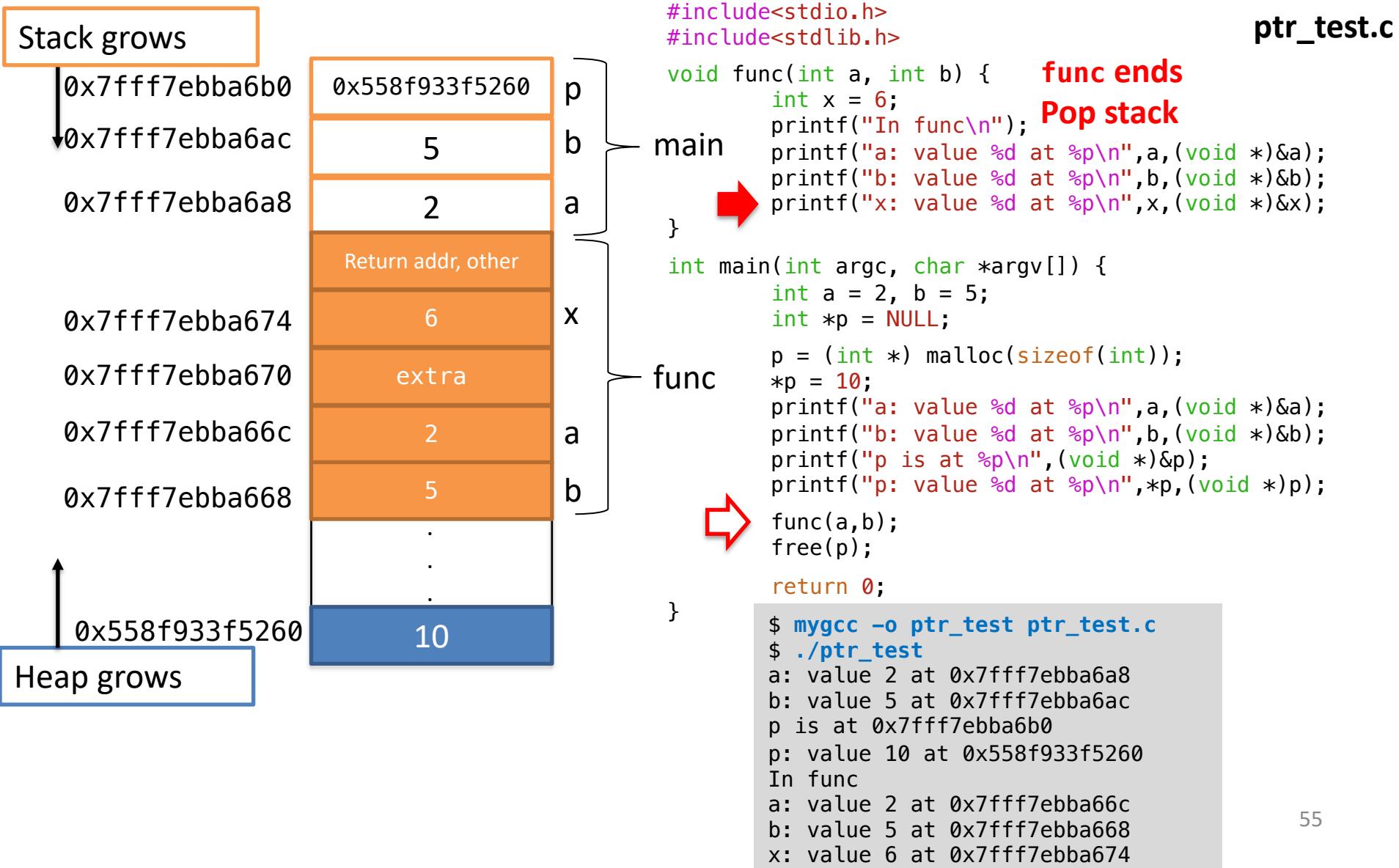
Return address is this command

```
$ mygcc -o ptr_test ptr_test.c
$ ./ptr_test
a: value 2 at 0x7fff7ebba6a8
b: value 5 at 0x7fff7ebba6ac
p is at 0x7fff7ebba6b0
p: value 10 at 0x558f933f5260
```

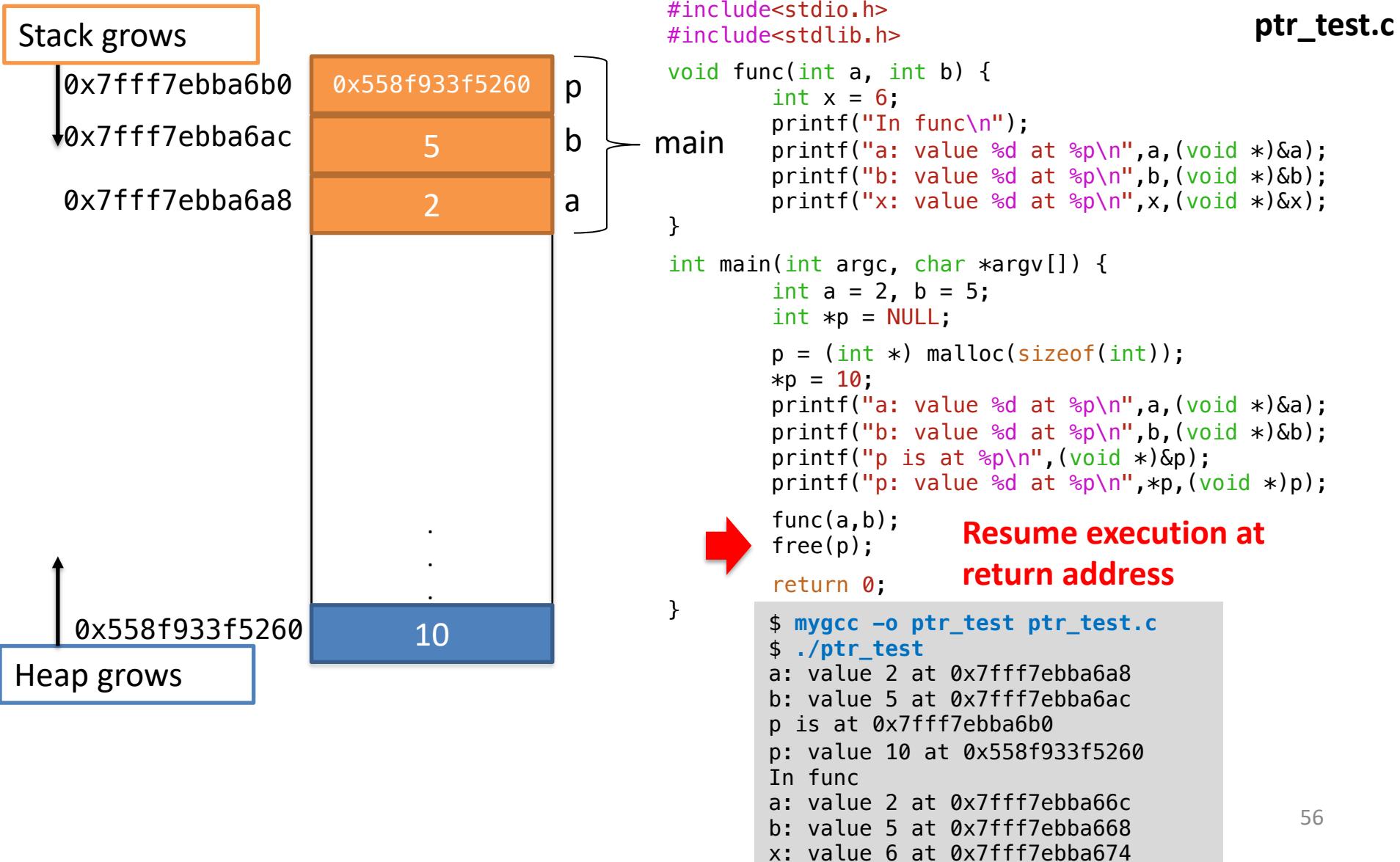
Function call pushes return address, local variables and parameters on stack



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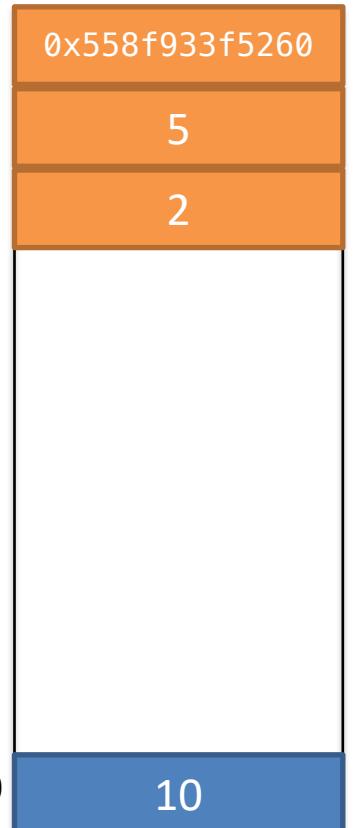
When function ends, pop stack to remove local variables, return address, parameters



Do not forget to free malloc'd memory!

Stack grows

0x7fff7ebba6b0
↓
0x7fff7ebba6ac
0x7fff7ebba6a8



ptr_test.c

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

void func(int a, int b) {
    int x = 6;
    printf("In func\n");
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("x: value %d at %p\n",x,(void *)&x);
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int a = 2, b = 5;
    int *p = NULL;

    p = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));
    *p = 10;
    printf("a: value %d at %p\n",a,(void *)&a);
    printf("b: value %d at %p\n",b,(void *)&b);
    printf("p is at %p\n",(void *)&p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

    func(a,b);
    free(p);
    return 0;
}
```

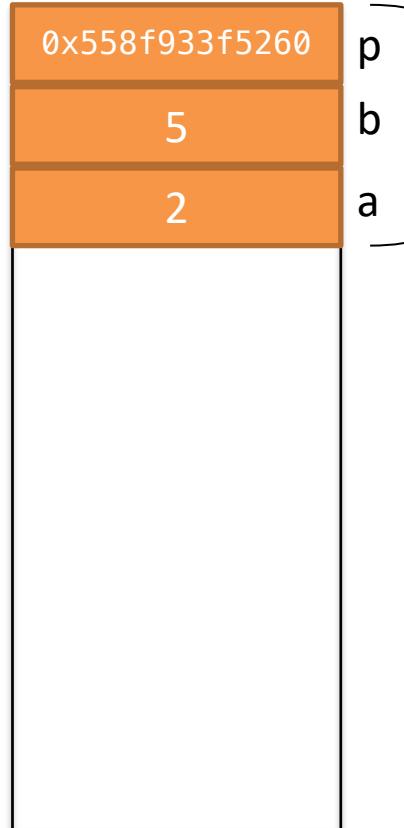
Free memory on heap
Otherwise, memory leak!

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In func
a: value 2 at 0x7fff7ebba66c
b: value 5 at 0x7fff7ebba668
x: value 6 at 0x7fff7ebba674
```

Do not forget to free malloc'd memory!

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    printf("p is at %p\n", (void *)p);
    printf("p: value %d at %p\n",*p,(void *)p);

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Heap grows