

# Data Structures in Memory!

## ■ Arrays

- One-dimensional
- Multi-dimensional (nested)
- Multi-level

## ■ Structs

- Alignment

## ■ Unions

# What is memory again?

# Data Structures in Assembly...

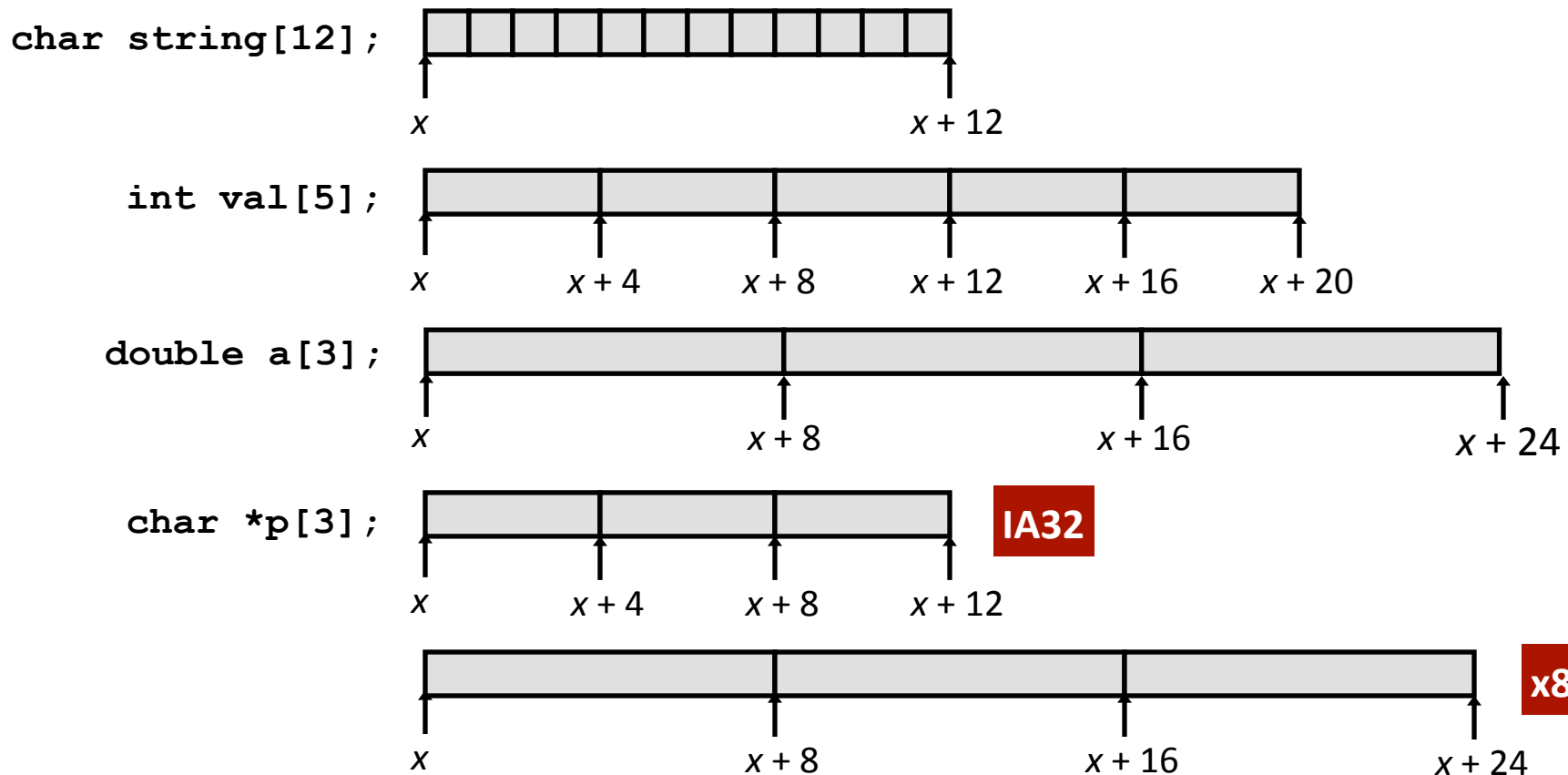
- Arrays?
- Strings?
- Structs?

# Array Allocation

## ■ Basic Principle

$T$   $A[N]$  ;

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

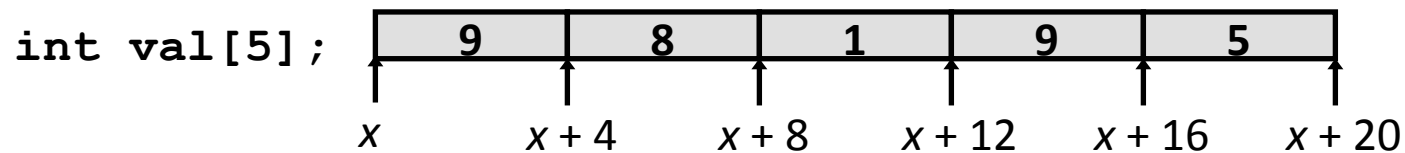


# Array Access

## ■ Basic Principle

$T \mathbf{A}[N];$

- Array of data type  $T$  and length  $N$
- Identifier  $\mathbf{A}$  can be used as a pointer to array element 0: Type  $T^*$



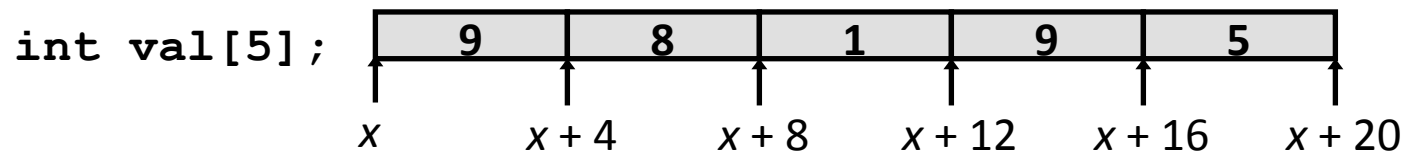
■ Reference	Type	Value
<code>val[4]</code>	<code>int</code>	
<code>val</code>	<code>int *</code>	
<code>val+1</code>	<code>int *</code>	
<code>&amp;val[2]</code>	<code>int *</code>	
<code>val[5]</code>	<code>int</code>	
<code>*(val+1)</code>	<code>int</code>	
<code>val + i</code>	<code>int *</code>	

# Array Access

## ■ Basic Principle

$T$   $\mathbf{A}[N]$  ;

- Array of data type  $T$  and length  $N$
- Identifier  $\mathbf{A}$  can be used as a pointer to array element 0: Type  $T^*$



Reference	Type	Value
<code>val[4]</code>	<code>int</code>	5
<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>	8
<code>val + i</code>	<code>int *</code>	$x+4i$

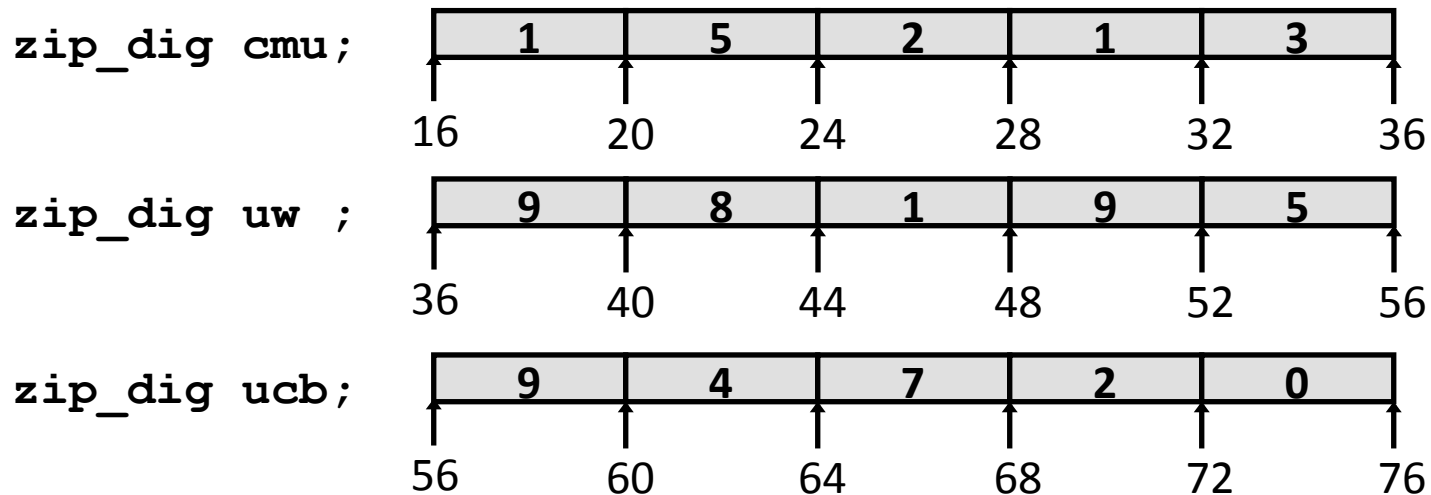
# Array Example

```
typedef int zip_dig[5];  
  
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };  
zip_dig uw  = { 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 };  
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```

# Array Example

```
typedef int zip_dig[5];

zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };
zip_dig uw  = { 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 };
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```



- Declaration “zip\_dig uw” equivalent to “int uw[5]”
- Example arrays were allocated in successive 20 byte blocks
  - Not guaranteed to happen in general



# Array Accessing Example



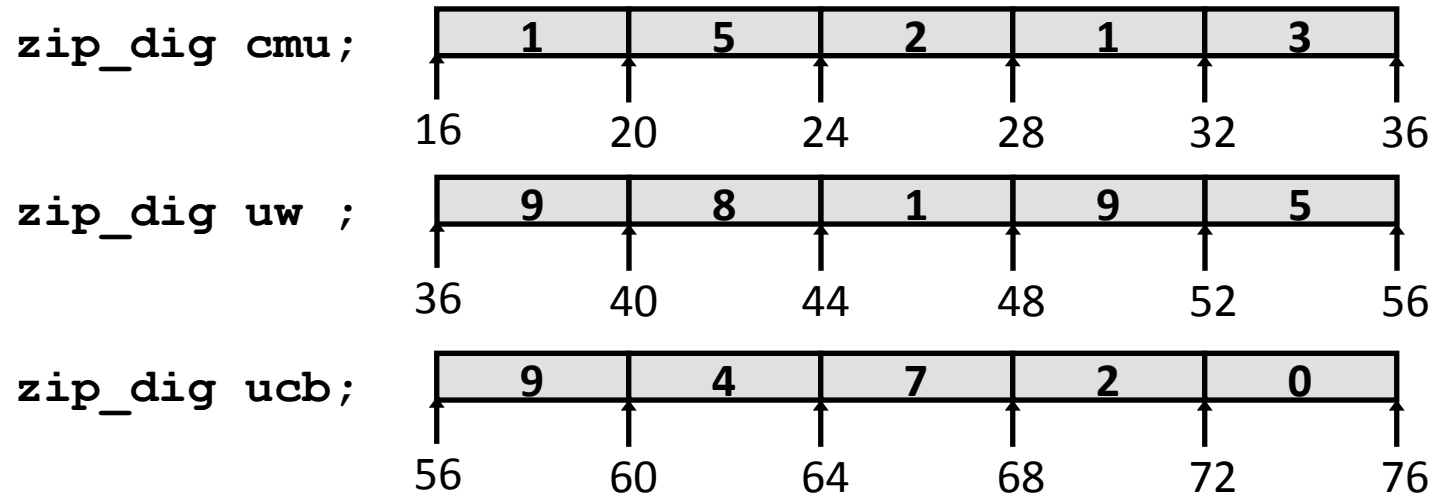
```
int get_digit
  (zip_dig z, int dig)
{
  return z[dig];
}
```

## IA32

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

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

# Referencing Examples



## ■ Reference

uw[3]

uw[6]

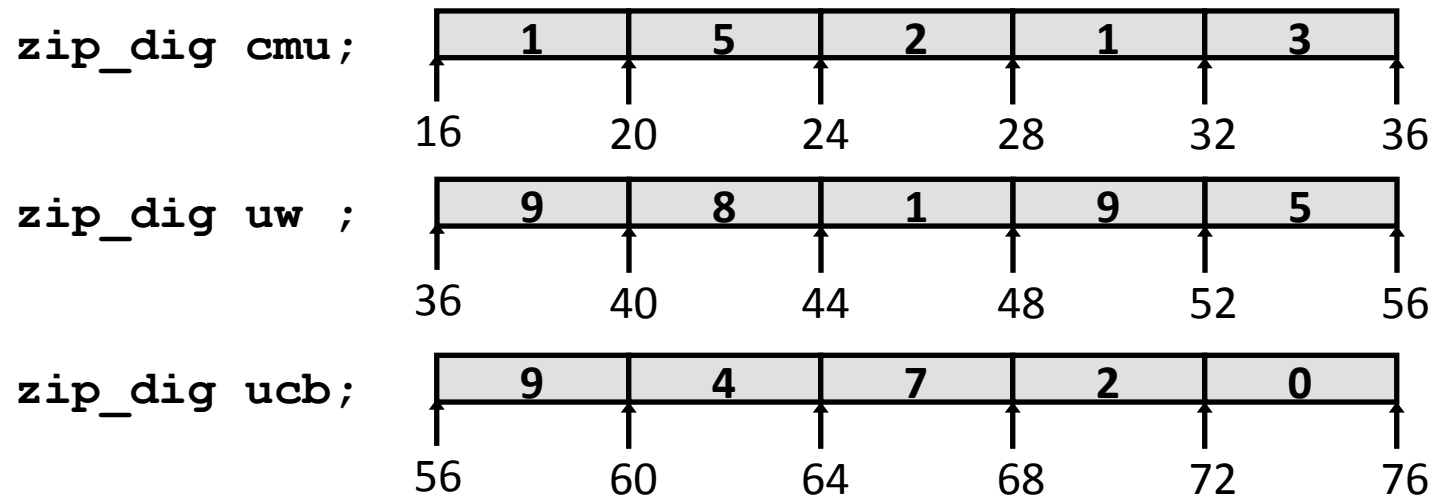
uw[-1]

cmu[15]

Address	Value	Guaranteed?
---------	-------	-------------

What are these values?

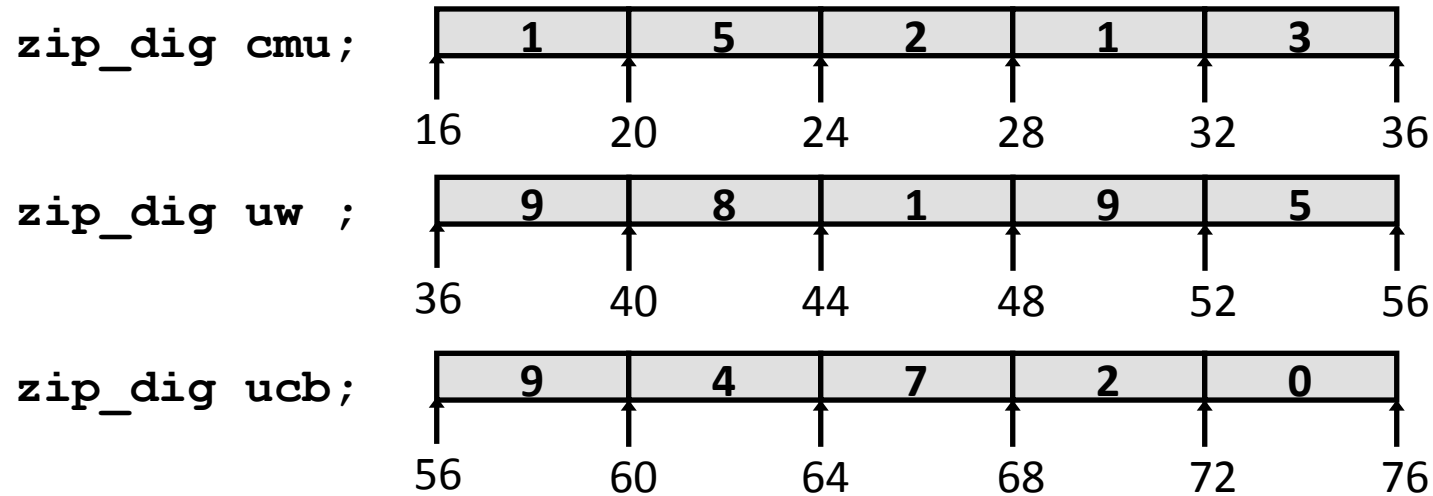
# Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>uw[3]</code>	$36 + 4 * 3 = 48$	9	
<code>uw[6]</code>	$36 + 4 * 6 = 60$	4	
<code>uw[-1]</code>	$36 + 4 * -1 = 32$	3	
<code>cmu[15]</code>	$16 + 4 * 15 = 76$	??	

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

# Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>uw[3]</code>	$36 + 4 * 3 = 48$	9	Yes
<code>uw[6]</code>	$36 + 4 * 6 = 60$	4	No
<code>uw[-1]</code>	$36 + 4 * -1 = 32$	3	No
<code>cmu[15]</code>	$16 + 4 * 15 = 76$	??	No

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

# Array Loop Example

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

# Array Loop Example

## ■ Original

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

## ■ Transformed

```
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 Example

## ■ Original

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

## ■ Transformed

- Eliminate loop variable *i*
- Convert array code to pointer code
- Express in do-while form (no 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)

```
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
leal 16(%ecx),%ebx
.L59:
leal (%eax,%eax,4),%edx
movl (%ecx),%eax
addl $4,%ecx
leal (%eax,%edx,2),%eax
cmpl %ebx,%ecx
jle .L59
```

Translation?



# Array Loop Implementation (IA32)

## ■ Registers

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

## ■ Computations

- $10 * z_i + *z$  implemented as  $*z + 2 * (z_i + 4 * z_i)$
- $z++$  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;
}
```

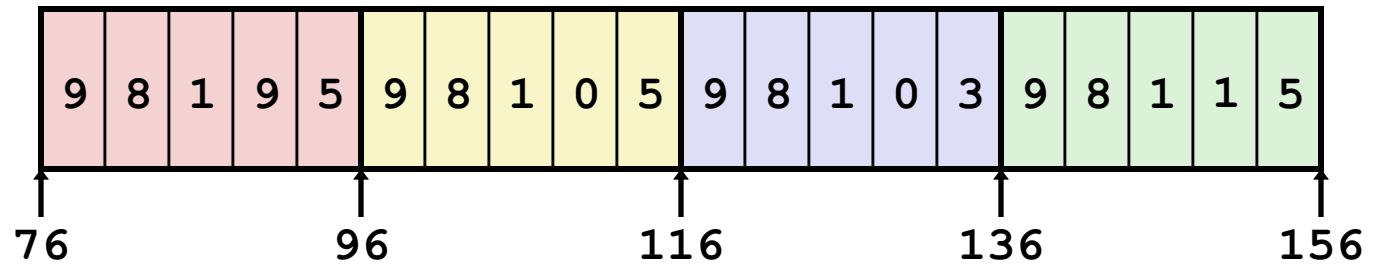
```
# %ecx = z
xorl %eax,%eax          # zi = 0
leal 16(%ecx),%ebx      # zend = z+4
.L59:
leal (%eax,%eax,4),%edx # 5*zi
movl (%ecx),%eax       # *z
addl $4,%ecx          # z++
leal (%eax,%edx,2),%eax # zi = *z + 2*(5*zi)
cmpl %ebx,%ecx       # z : zend
jle .L59            # if <= goto loop
```

# Nested Array Example

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
    {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```

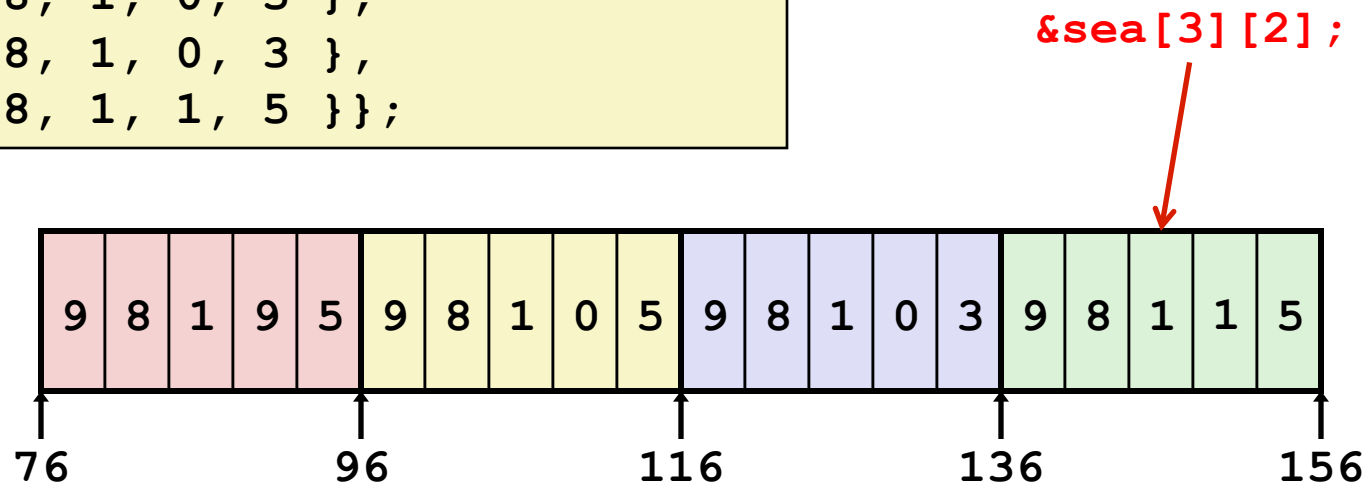
# Nested Array Example

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
  {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```



# Nested Array Example

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
  {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
   { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```



- “row-major” ordering of all elements
- Guaranteed?

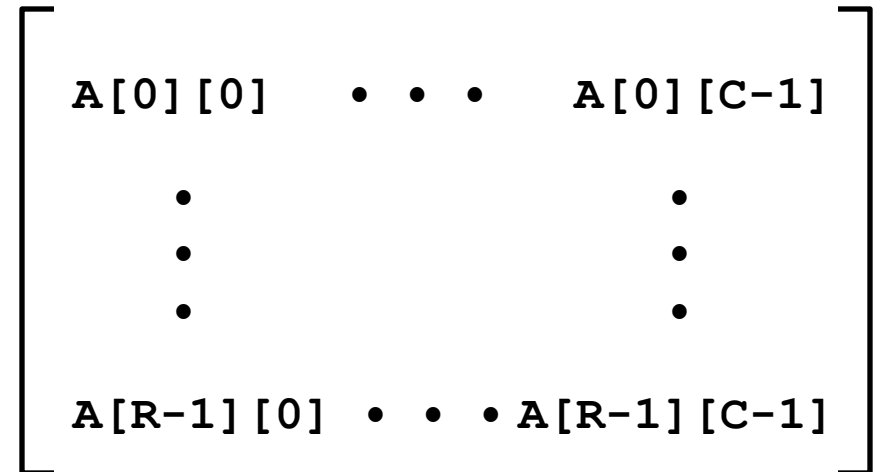
# Multidimensional (Nested) Arrays

## ■ Declaration

$T$   $A[R][C];$

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

## ■ Array size?



# Multidimensional (Nested) Arrays

## ■ Declaration

`T A[R][C];`

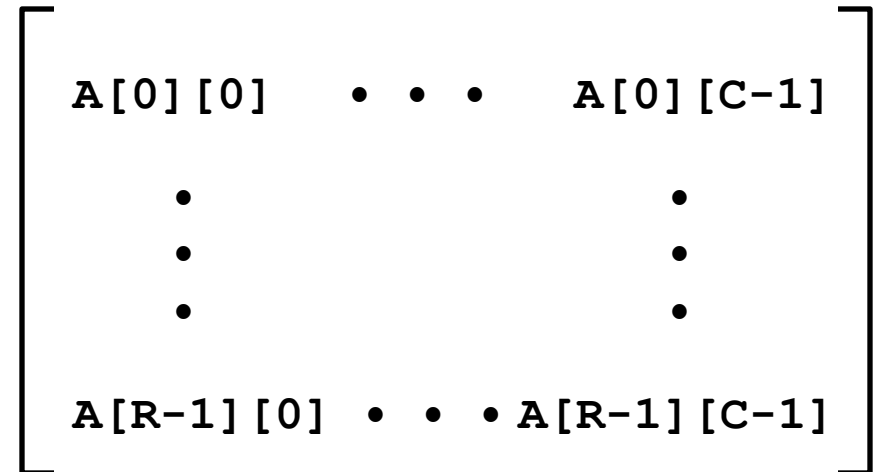
- 2D array of data type  $T$
- $R$  rows,  $C$  columns
- Type  $T$  element requires  $K$  bytes

## ■ Array size

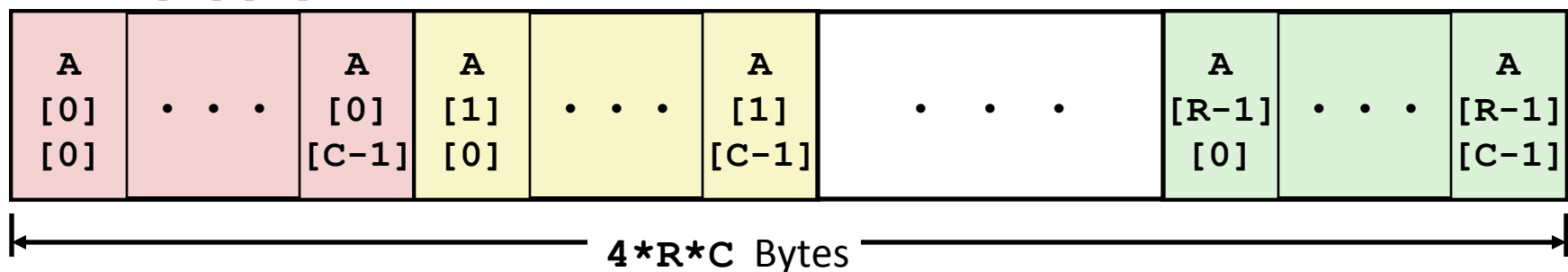
- $R * C * K$  bytes

## ■ Arrangement

- Row-major ordering

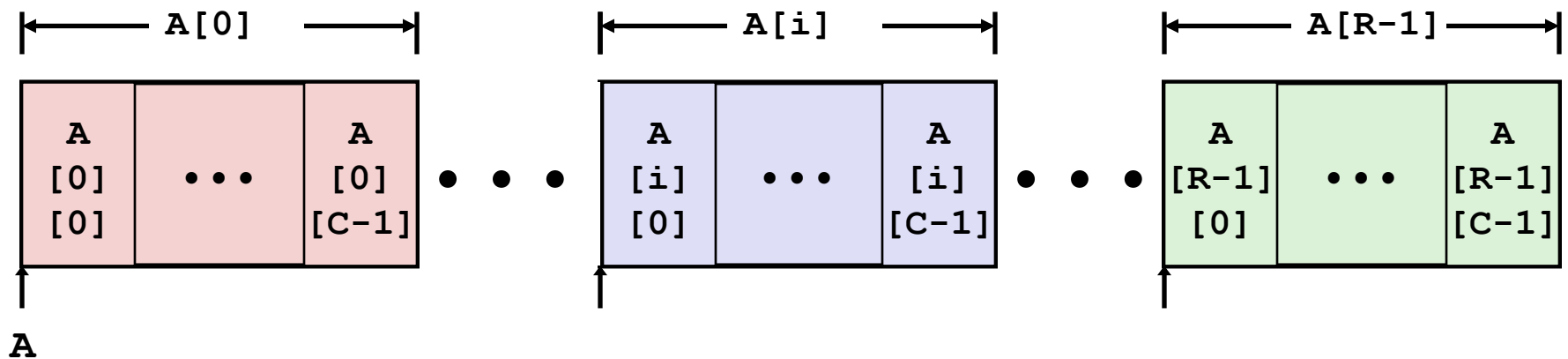


`int A[R][C];`



# Nested Array Row Access

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

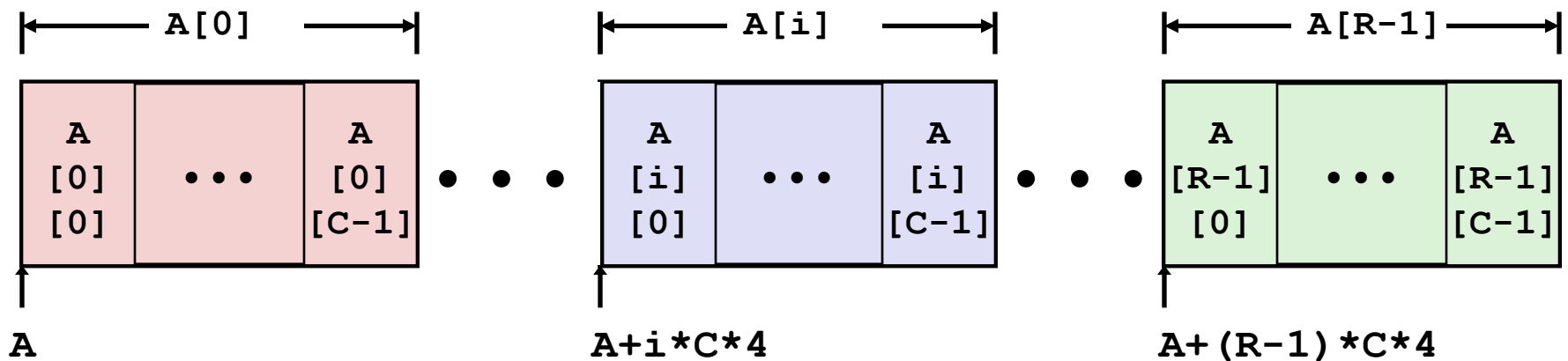


# Nested Array Row Access

## ■ Row vectors

- $\mathbf{A}[i]$  is array of  $C$  elements
- Each element of type  $T$  requires  $K$  bytes
- Starting address  $\mathbf{A} + i * (C * K)$

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





# Nested Array Row Access Code

```
int *get_sea_zip(int index)
{
    return sea[index];
}
```

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
    {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```

# Nested Array Row Access Code

```
int *get_sea_zip(int index)
{
    return sea[index];
}
```

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
    {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```

- What data type is sea[index]?
- What is its starting address?

```
# %eax = index
leal (%eax,%eax,4),%eax
leal sea(,%eax,4),%eax
```

Translation?

# Nested Array Row Access Code

```
int *get_sea_zip(int index)
{
    return sea[index];
}
```

```
#define PCOUNT 4
zip_dig sea[PCOUNT] =
    {{ 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 5 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 0, 3 },
     { 9, 8, 1, 1, 5 }};
```

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

## ■ Row Vector

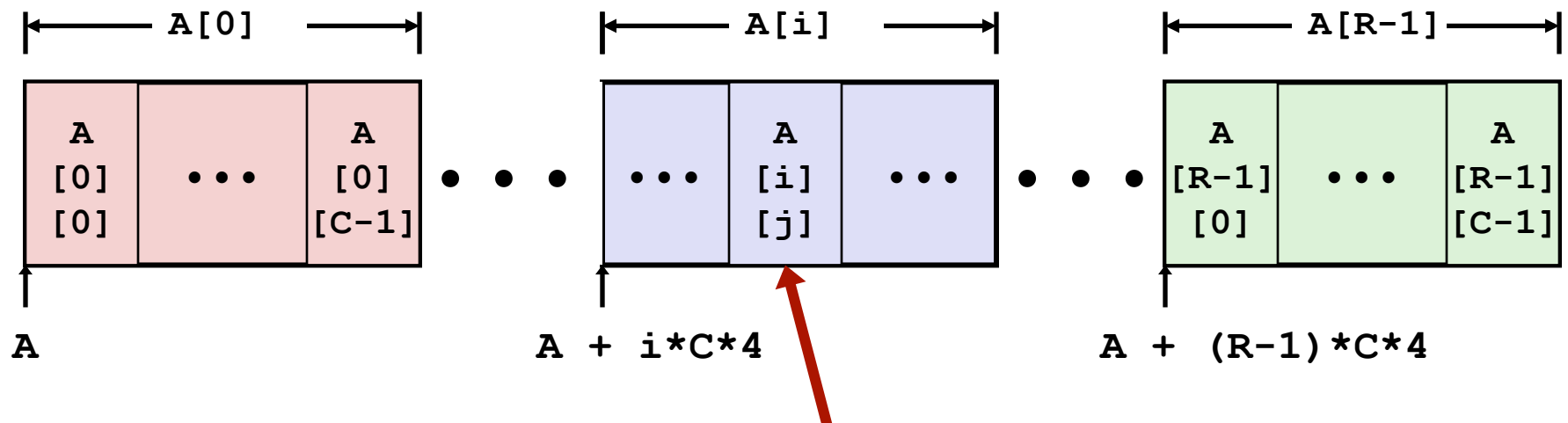
- `sea[index]` is array of 5 ints
- Starting address `sea+20*index`

## ■ IA32 Code

- Computes and returns address
- Compute as `sea+4*(index+4*index)=sea+20*index`

# Nested Array Row Access

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

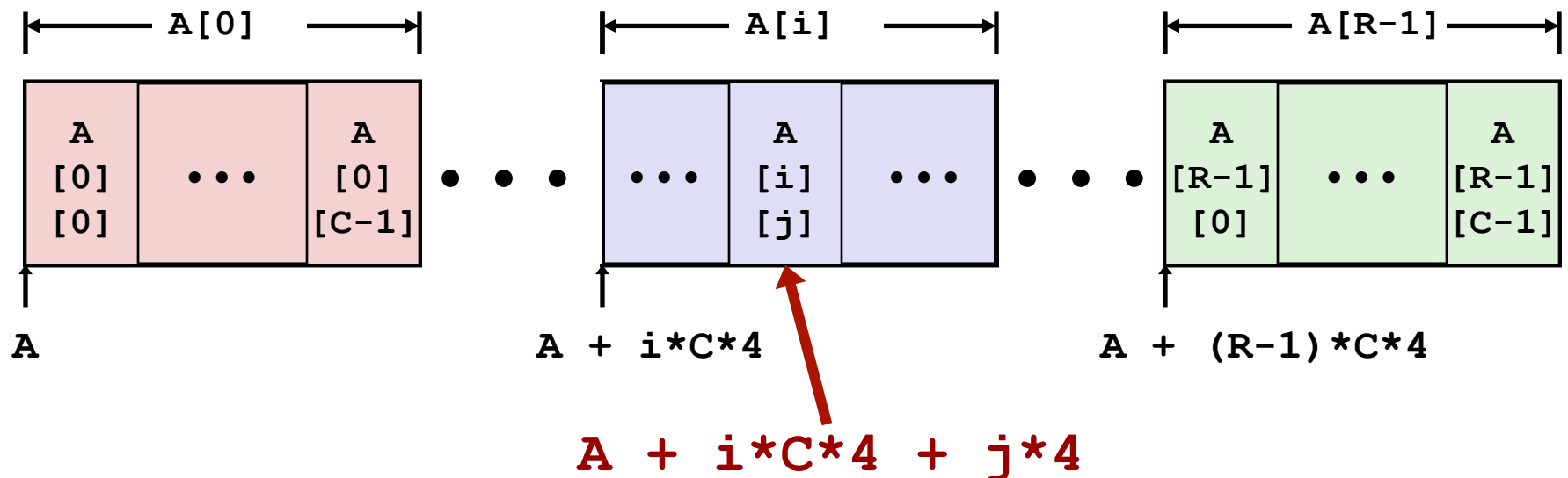


# Nested Array Row Access

## ■ Array Elements

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

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



# Nested Array Element Access Code

```
int get_sea_digit
  (int index, int dig)
{
  return sea[index][dig];
}
```

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

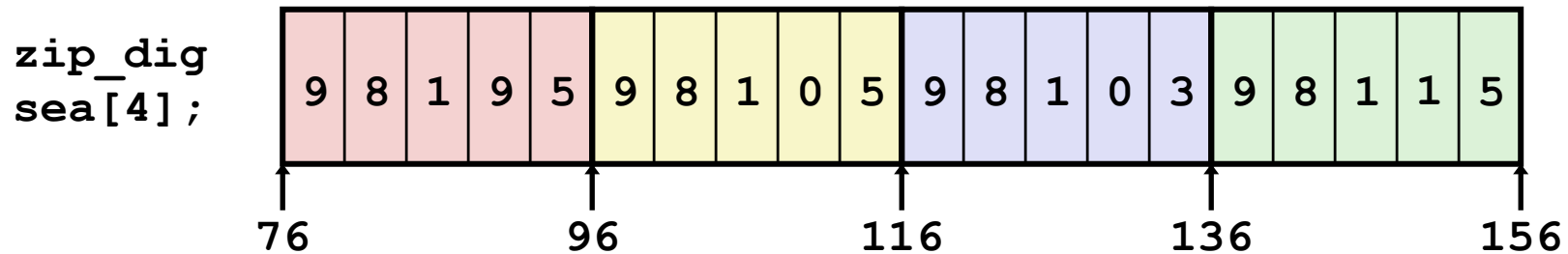
## ■ Array Elements

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

## ■ IA32 Code

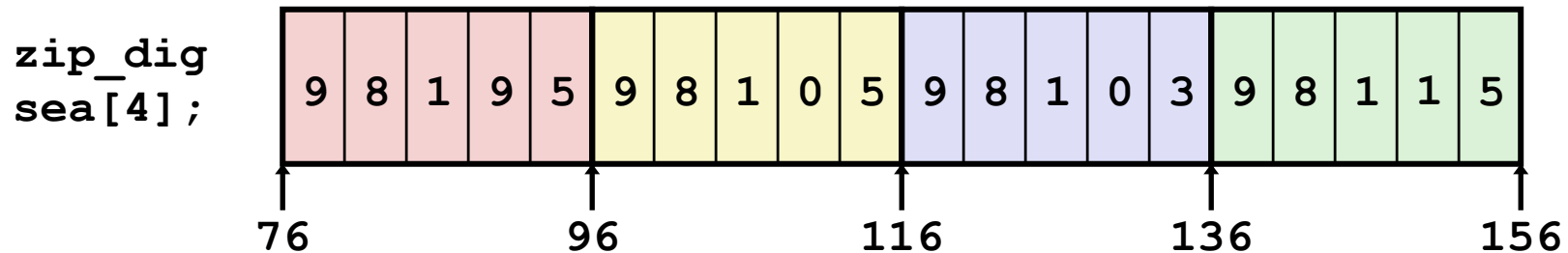
- Computes address `sea + 4*dig + 4*(index+4*index)`
- `movl` performs memory reference

# Strange Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
sea[3][3]			
sea[2][5]			
sea[2][-1]			
sea[4][-1]			
sea[0][19]			
sea[0][-1]			

# Strange Referencing Examples

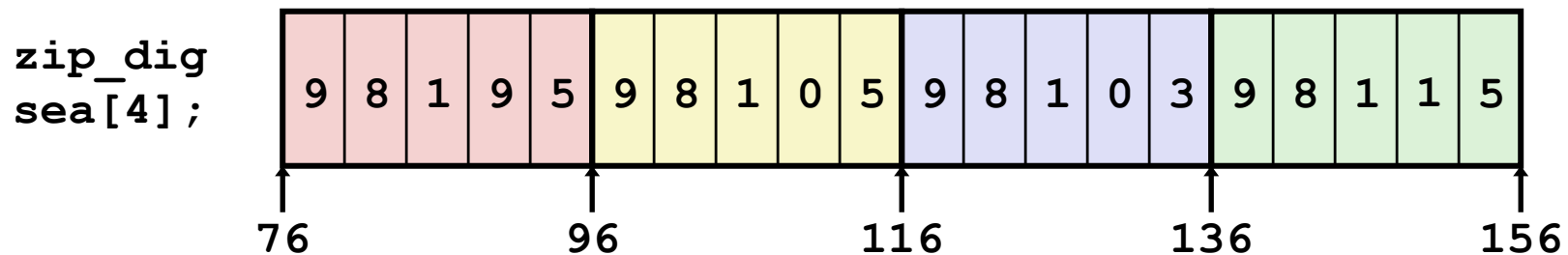


Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>sea[3][3]</code>	$76+20*3+4*3 = 148$	2	
<code>sea[2][5]</code>	$76+20*2+4*5 = 136$	1	
<code>sea[2][-1]</code>	$76+20*2+4*-1 = 112$	3	
<code>sea[4][-1]</code>	$76+20*4+4*-1 = 152$	1	
<code>sea[0][19]</code>	$76+20*0+4*19 = 152$	1	
<code>sea[0][-1]</code>	$76+20*0+4*-1 = 72$	??	

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



# Strange Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
sea[3][3]	$76+20*3+4*3 = 148$	2	Yes
sea[2][5]	$76+20*2+4*5 = 136$	1	Yes
sea[2][-1]	$76+20*2+4*-1 = 112$	3	Yes
sea[4][-1]	$76+20*4+4*-1 = 152$	1	Yes
sea[0][19]	$76+20*0+4*19 = 152$	1	Yes
sea[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

```
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };  
zip_dig uw  = { 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 };  
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```

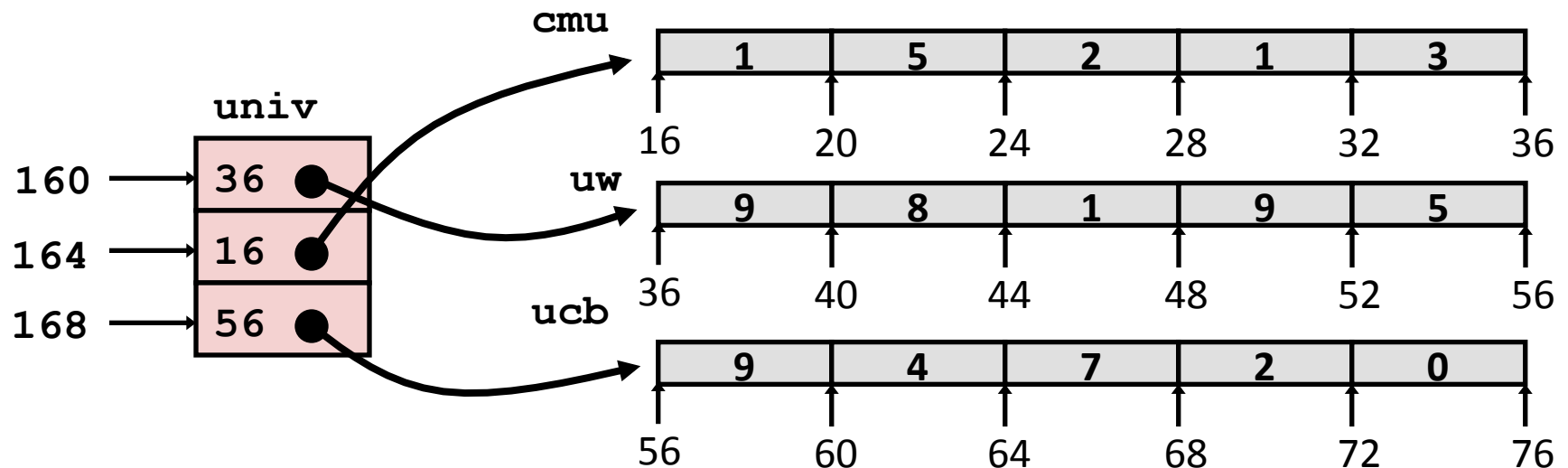
```
#define UCOUNT 3  
int *univ[UCOUNT] = {uw, cmu, ucb};
```

Same thing as Multi-level array?

# Multi-Level Array Example

```
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };
zip_dig uw  = { 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 };
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```

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

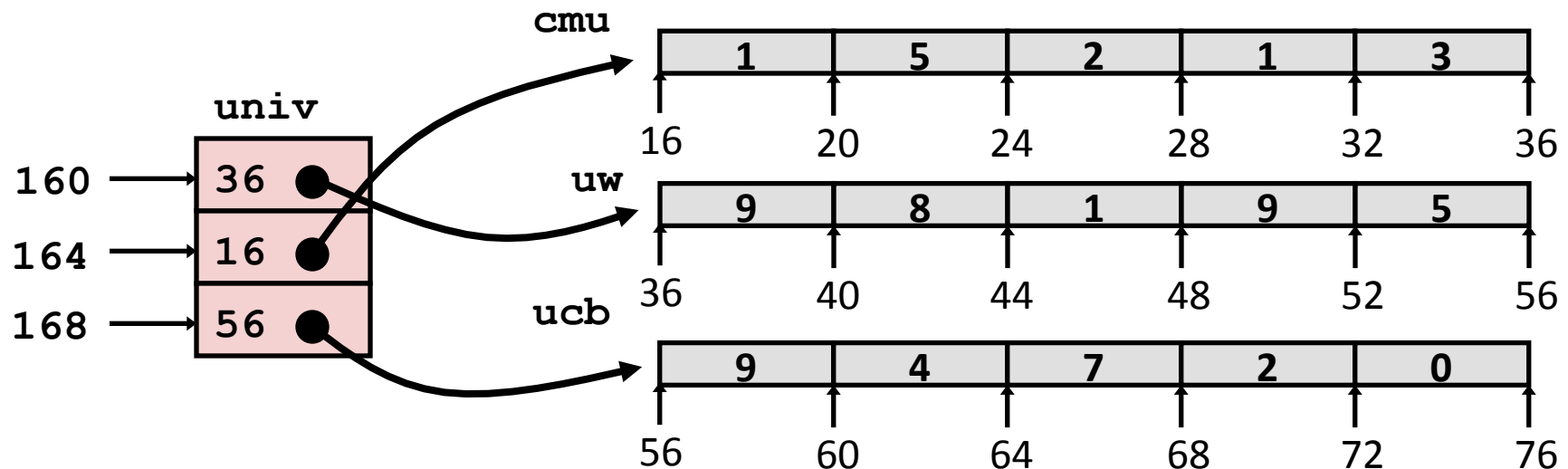


# Multi-Level Array Example

```
zip_dig cmu = { 1, 5, 2, 1, 3 };
zip_dig uw  = { 9, 8, 1, 9, 5 };
zip_dig ucb = { 9, 4, 7, 2, 0 };
```

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

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



# Element Access in Multi-Level Array

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

```
# %ecx = index
# %eax = dig
leal 0(,%ecx,4),%edx
movl univ(%edx),%edx
movl (%edx,%eax,4),%eax
```

# Element Access in Multi-Level Array

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

```
# %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]
```

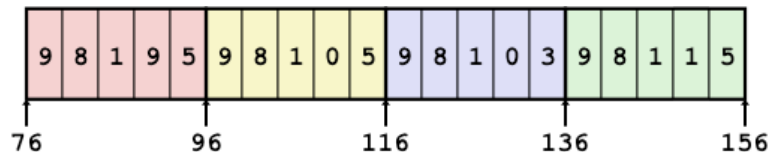
## ■ Computation (IA32)

- Element access `Mem[Mem[univ+4*index]+4*dig]`
- Must do two memory reads
  - First get pointer to row array
  - Then access element within array

# Array Element Accesses

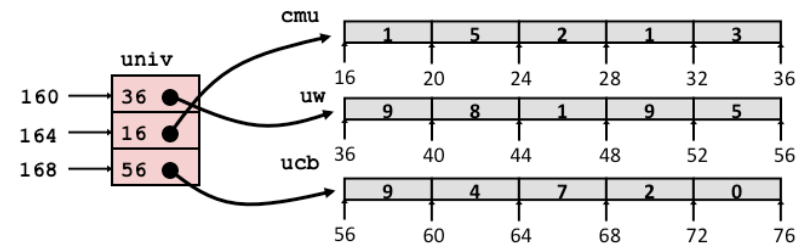
## Nested array

```
int get_sea_digit
(int index, int dig)
{
    return sea[index][dig];
}
```



## Multi-level array

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

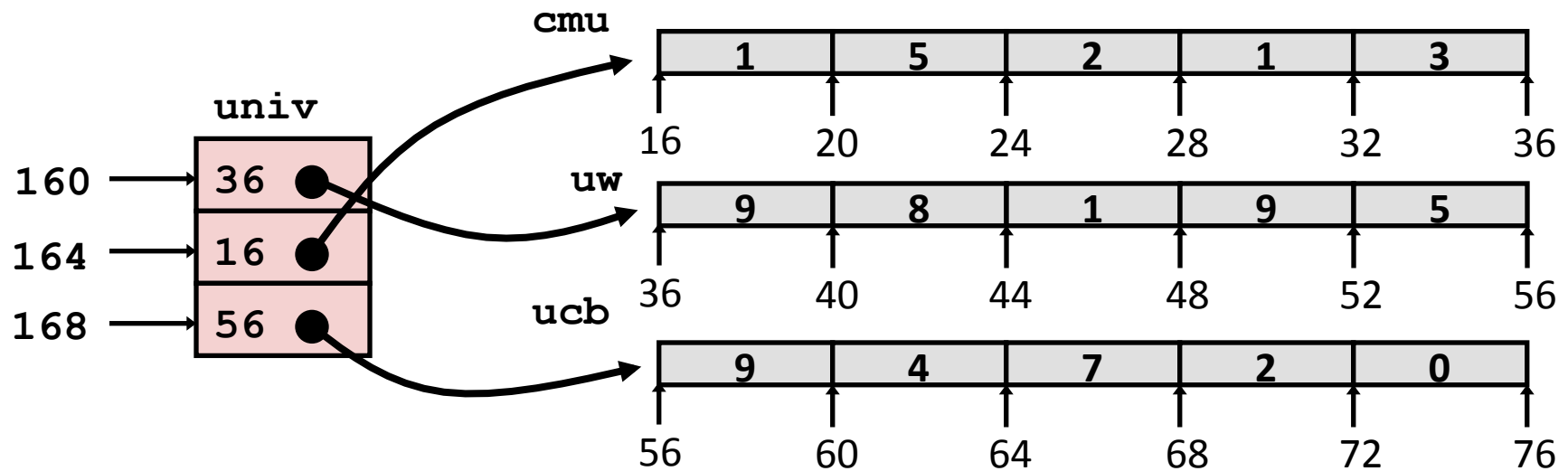


Access looks similar, but it isn't:

$\text{Mem}[\text{sea} + 20 * \text{index} + 4 * \text{dig}]$

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

# Strange Referencing Examples

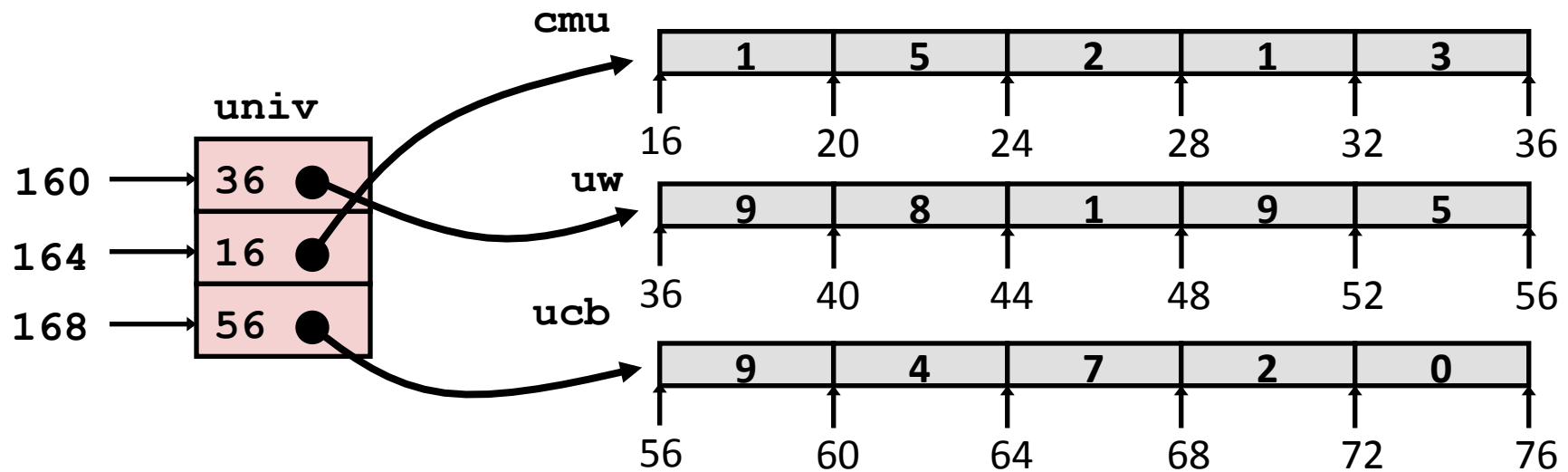


Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>univ[2][3]</code>			
<code>univ[1][5]</code>			
<code>univ[2][-1]</code>			
<code>univ[3][-1]</code>			
<code>univ[1][12]</code>			

What values go here?



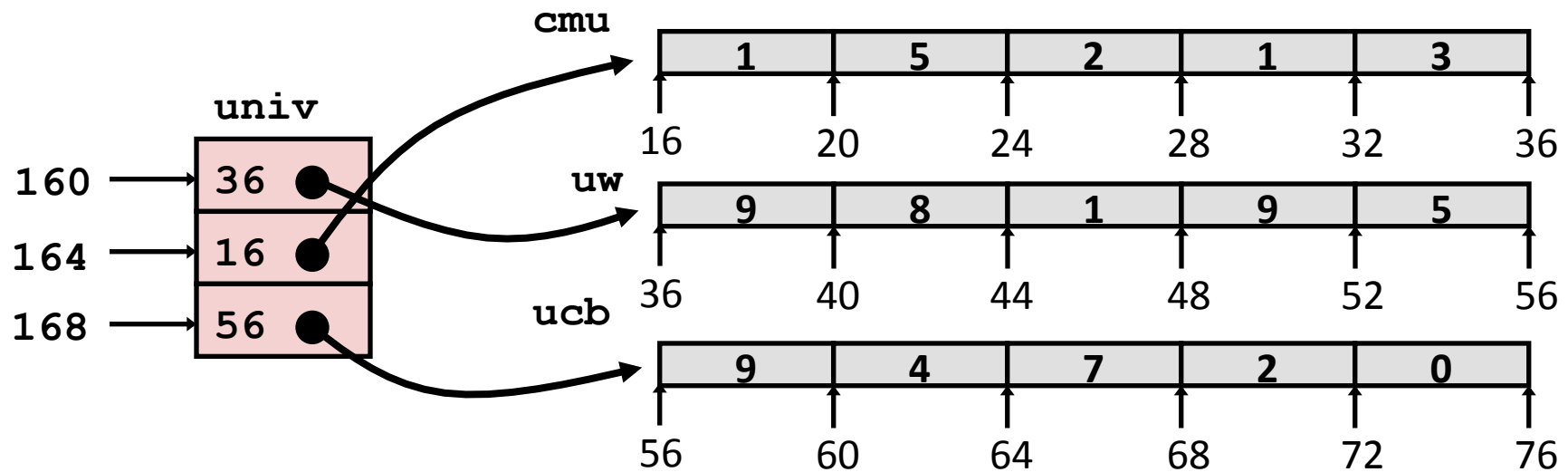
# Strange Referencing Examples



Reference	Address	Value	Guaranteed?
<code>univ[2][3]</code>	$56+4*3 = 68$	2	
<code>univ[1][5]</code>	$16+4*5 = 36$	9	
<code>univ[2][-1]</code>	$56+4*-1 = 52$	5	
<code>univ[3][-1]</code>	??	??	
<code>univ[1][12]</code>	$16+4*12 = 64$	7	

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

# Strange Referencing Examples



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

```
#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;
}
```

# Using Nested Arrays

## ■ Strengths

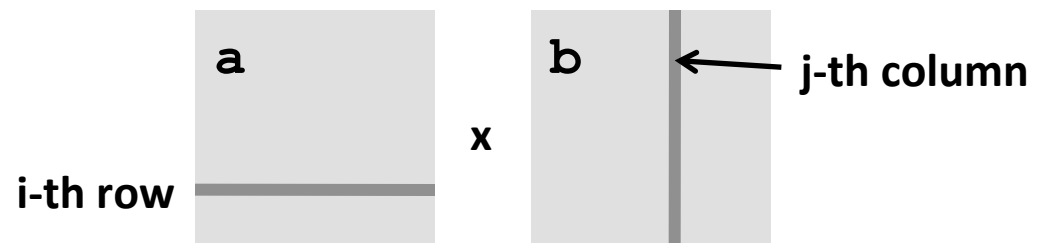
- C compiler handles doubly subscripted arrays
- Generates very efficient code
- Avoids multiply in index computation

## ■ Limitation

- Only works for 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 any 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)]
```

# Structures

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

# Structures

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

## Memory Layout



## ■ Concept

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

## ■ Accessing structure member

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

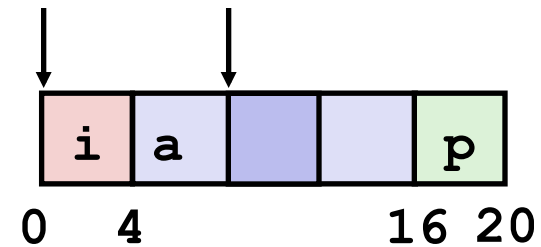
In java: `r.i = val;`

## IA32 Assembly

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

# Generating Pointer to Structure Member

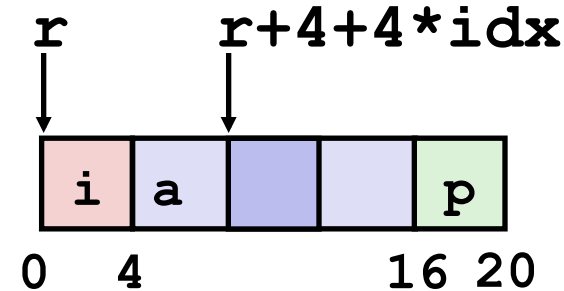
```
struct rec {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
};
```





# Generating Pointer to Structure 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 // r.a[idx]
(struct rec *r, int idx)
{
    return &r->a[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];  
    // (*r).p = &((*r).a+(*r).i);  
}
```



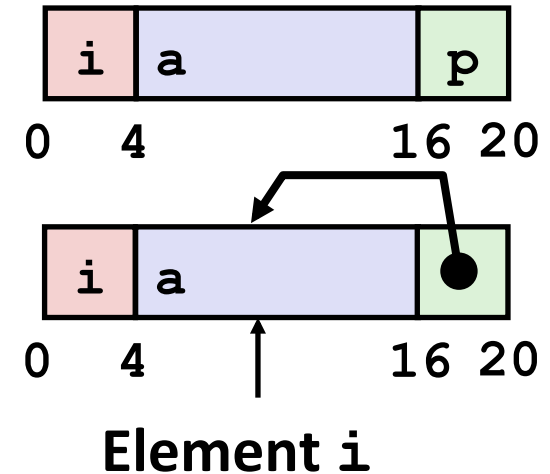
# Structure Referencing (Cont.)

## ■ C Code

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

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

## ■ What is the motivation for alignment?

# 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 two pages (later...)

## ■ Compiler

- Inserts gaps in structure to ensure correct alignment of fields

# Specific Cases of Alignment (IA32)

- **1 byte: char, ...**
  - no restrictions on address
- **2 bytes: short, ...**
  - lowest 1 bit of address must be  $0_2$
- **4 bytes: int, float, char \*, ...**
  - lowest 2 bits of address must be  $00_2$
- **8 bytes: double, ...**
  - Windows (and most other OS's & instruction sets): lowest 3 bits  $000_2$
  - 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: (same as Linux double)

# Satisfying Alignment with Structures

## ■ Within structure:

- Must satisfy element's alignment requirement

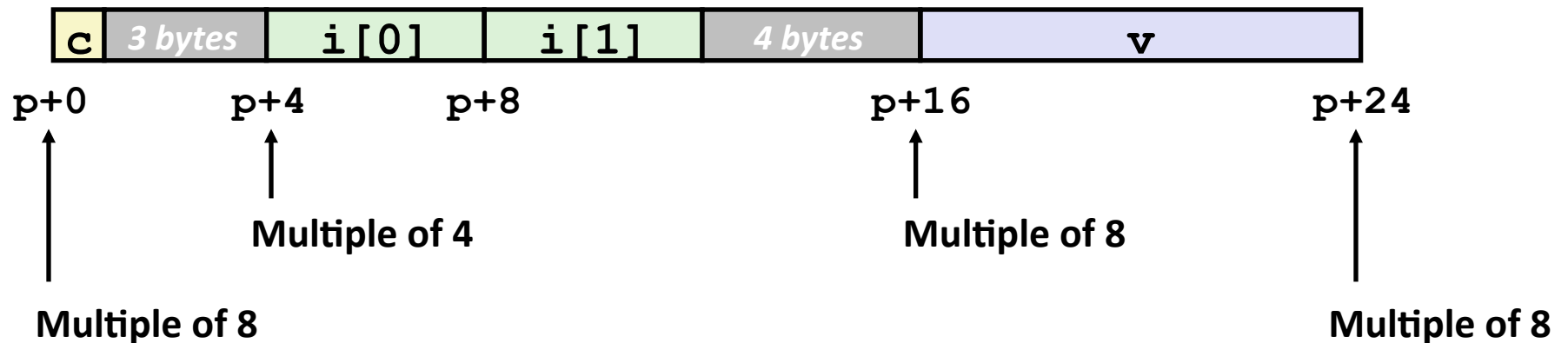
## ■ Overall structure placement

- Each structure has alignment requirement  $K$ 
  - $K =$  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):

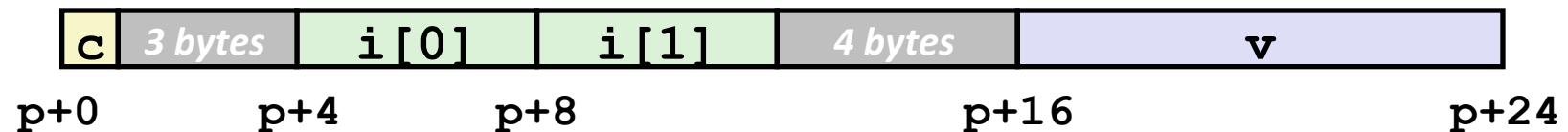
- $K = 8$ , due to `double` element



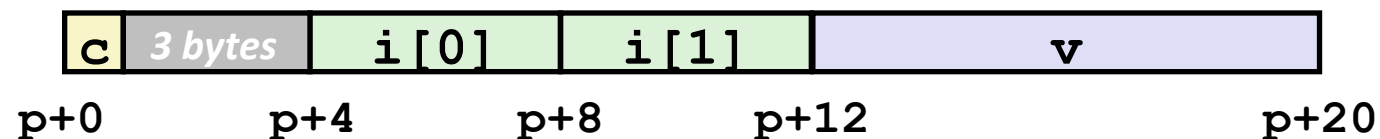
# Different Alignment Conventions

- **IA32 Windows or x86-64:**
  - $K = 8$ , due to **double** element

```
struct S1 {
    char c;
    int i[2];
    double v;
} *p;
```



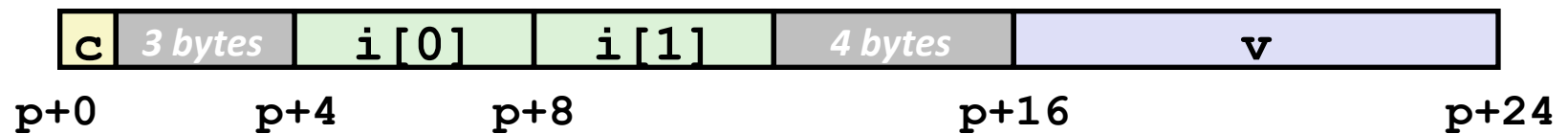
- **IA32 Linux**
  - $K = 4$ ; **double** treated like a 4-byte data type





# Saving Space

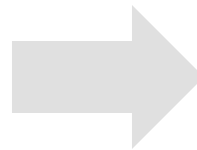
```
struct S1 {  
    char c;  
    int i[2];  
    double v;  
} *p;
```



# Saving Space

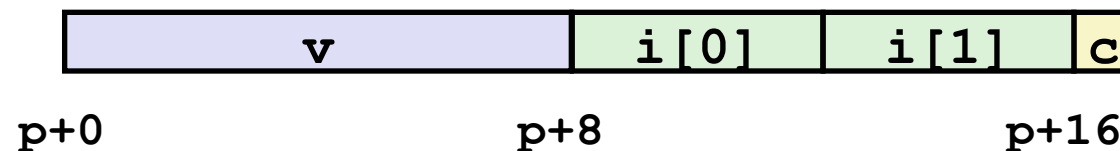
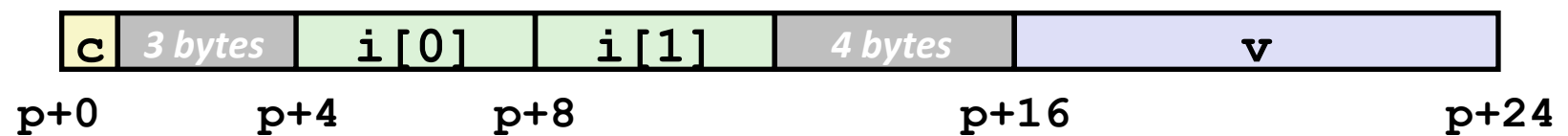
- Put large data types first

```
struct S1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *p;
```



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

- Effect (example x86-64, both have  $K=8$ )



# Arrays of Structures

- Satisfy alignment requirement for every element

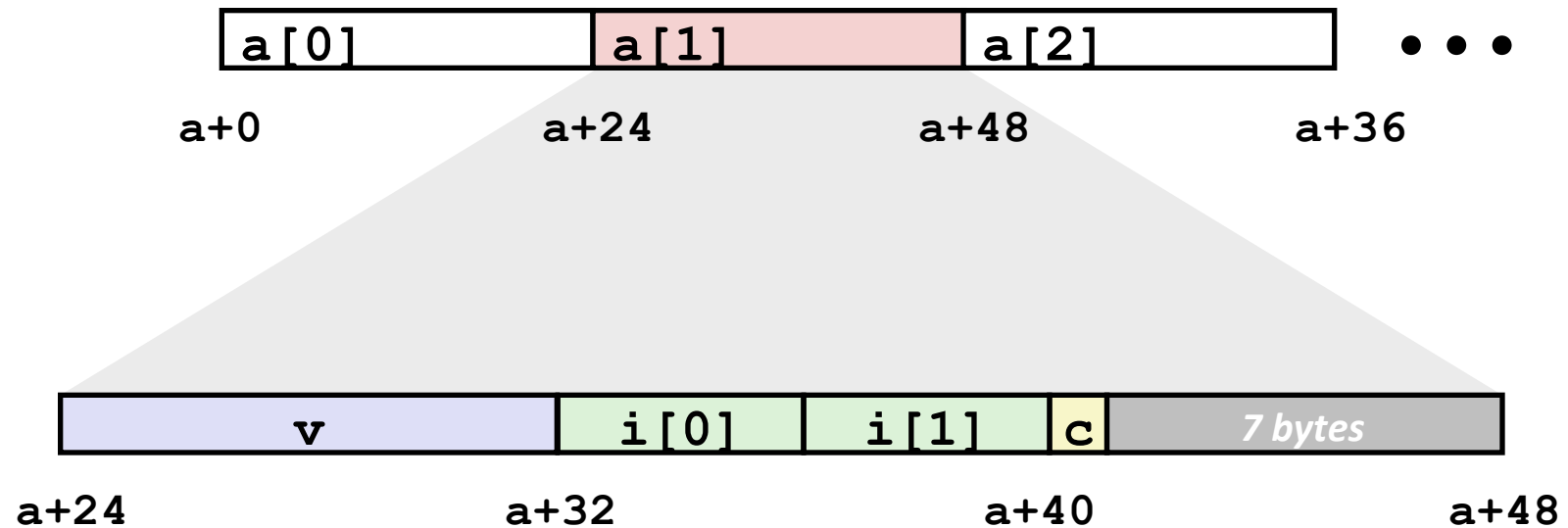
```
struct S2 {  
    double v;  
    int i[2];  
    char c;  
} a[10];
```



# Arrays of Structures

- Satisfy alignment requirement for every element

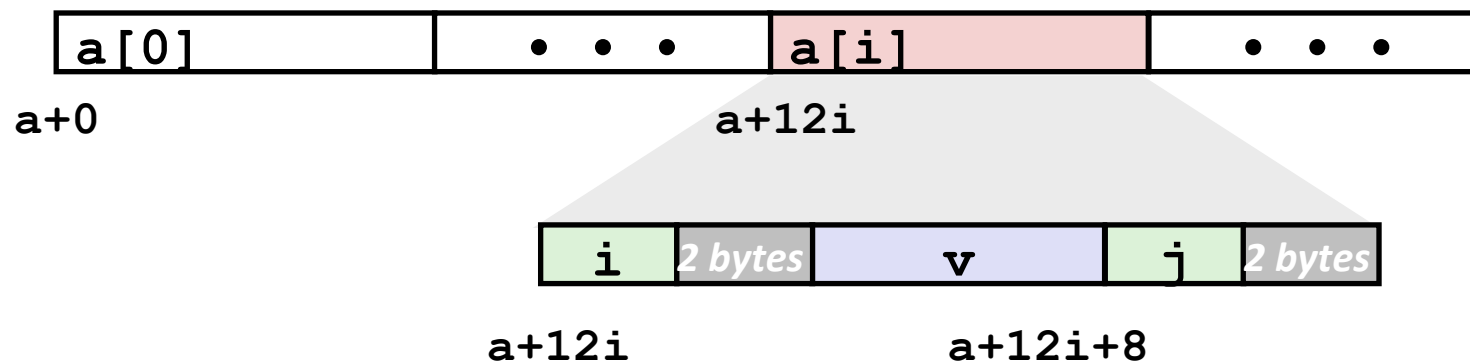
```
struct S2 {
    double v;
    int i[2];
    char c;
} a[10];
```



# Accessing Array Elements

- Compute array offset  $12i$
- Compute offset 8 with structure
- Assembler gives offset  $a+8$ 
  - Resolved during linking

```
struct S3 {
    short i;
    float v;
    short j;
} a[10];
```



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

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

# Unions

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

```
union U1 {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
} *up;
```

## ■ Concept

- Allow same regions of memory to be referenced as different types
- Aliases for the same memory location

# Unions

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

```
union U1 {  
    int i;  
    int a[3];  
    int *p;  
} *up;
```

## ■ Concept

- Allow same regions of memory to be referenced as different types
- Aliases for the same memory location

## Structure Layout



# Unions

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

```
union U1 {
    int i;
    int a[3];
    int *p;
} *up;
```

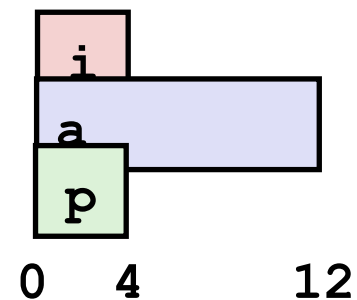
## ■ Concept

- Allow same regions of memory to be referenced as different types
- Aliases for the same memory location

## Structure Layout



## Union Layout

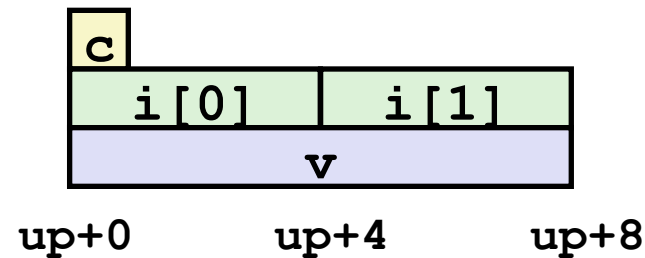




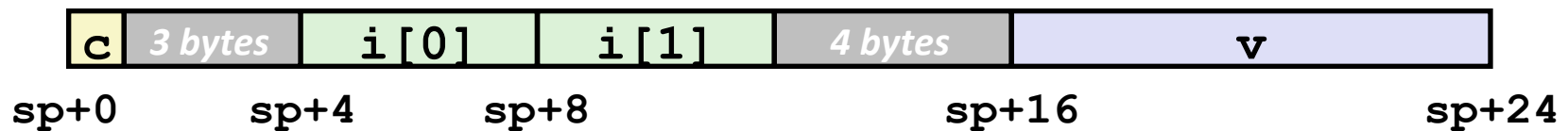
# Union Allocation

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

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

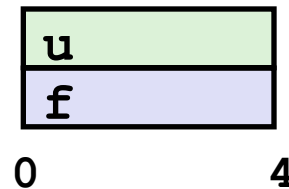


```
struct S1 {
  char c;
  int i[2];
  double v;
} *sp;
```



# 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;
}
```

Same as (float) u ?

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

Same as (unsigned) f ?

# Summary

## ■ Arrays in C

- Contiguous allocation of memory
- Aligned to satisfy every element's alignment requirement
- 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