EECS 677/777
SOFTWARE SECURITY EVALUATION

2024-09-04

ADMINISTRIVIA AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don’t forget about Piazza

Project 1: Due Friday

Office hours: out soon

CLASS PROGRESS

WE'RE GEARING UP TO BUILD OUR OWN PROGRAM ANALYSES AND ABSTRACTIONS

- WORKING THROUGH A GOOD PROGRAM REPRESENTATION
- LLVM BITCODE IS A NICE "GENERIC" TARGET

LLVM BITCODE MEMORY

EECS 677: Software Security Evaluation

Drew Davidson

LAST TIME: LLVM BITCODE & REGISTERS

REVIEW: LAST LECTURE

Low-Level Language

- Targets an abstract machine
- Uses a system of (infinite) named registers to perform computation
- Registers must be in SSA format

SSA FORMAT

REVIEW: LAST LECTURE

STATIC SINGLE ASSIGNMENT

- A register may be assigned at only one program point

```
int main(int argc){
  int res = 1;
  if (argc > 1){
    res = 7;
  }
  return res;
}
```

PHI INSTRUCTIONS

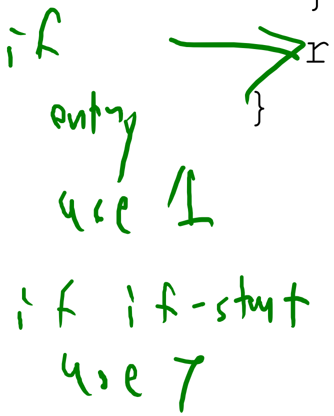
REVIEW: LAST LECTURE

```
dest = phi <type> [val1, pred1], [val2, pred2] …
```

RESOLVE THE NEED TO UNIFY REGISTERS

- Each argument is a pair [V,B] where
  - B is a predecessor basic block to the current block containing the phi instruction
  - V is a value to assign when block B is the dynamic predecessor

```
int main(int argc){
  int res = 1;
  if (argc > 1){
    res = 7;
  }
  return res;
}
```

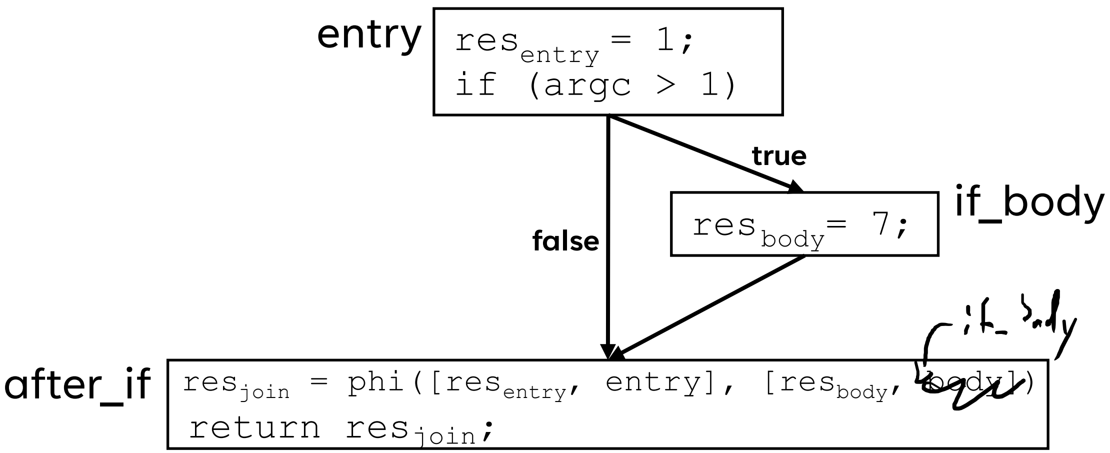


PHI INSTRUCTIONS

REVIEW: LAST LECTURE

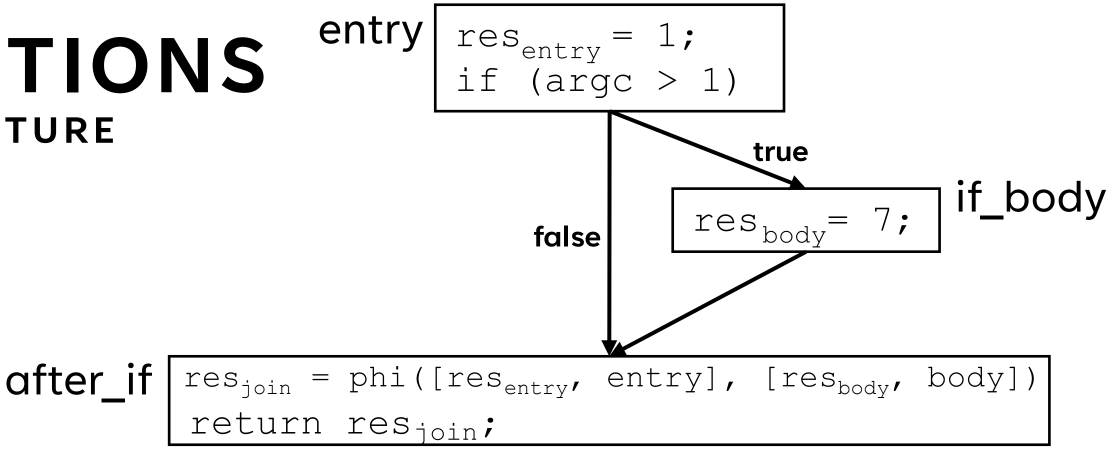
LET'S IMPLEMENT THIS CODE:

```
int main(int argc){
  int res = 1;
  if (argc > 1){
    res = 7;
  }
  return res;
}
```



PHI INSTRUCTIONS

REVIEW: LAST LECTURE



LET'S IMPLEMENT

THIS CODE:

```
int main(int argc){
  int res = 1;
  if (argc > 1){
    res = 7;
  }
  return res;
}
```

```
define i32 @main(i32 %argc) #0 {
entry:
        %res_entry = add i32 0, 1
        %cond = icmp sgt i32 %argc, 1
        br i1 %cond, label %if_body, label %after_if
if_body:
        %res_body = add i32 0, 7
        br label %after_if
after_if:
        %res_join = phi i32 [%res_entry, %entry], [%res_body, %if_body]
        ret i32 %res_join
}
```

ASIDE: FANCY SYNTAX HIGHLIGHTING

DREW'S COOL TOOLS

TIRED:

```
define i32 @main(i32 %argc) #0 {
entry:
        %res_entry = add i32 0, 1
        %cond = icmp sgt i32 %argc, 1
        br i1 %cond, label %if_body, label %after_if
if_body:
        %res_body = add i32 0, 7
        br label %after_if
after_if:
        %res_join = phi i32 [%res_entry, %entry], [%res_body, %if_body]
        ret i32 %res_join
}
```

WIRED:

```
define i32 @main(i32 %argc) #0 {
entry:
        %res_entry = add i32 0, 1
        %cond = icmp sgt i32 %argc, 1
        br i1 %cond, label %if_body, label %after_if
if_body:
        %res_body = add i32 0, 7
        br label %after_if
after_if:
        %res_join = phi i32 [%res_entry, %entry], [%res_body, %if_body]
        ret i32 %res_join
}
```

ASIDE: FANCY SYNTAX HIGHLIGHTING

DREW'S COOL TOOLS

TURNS OUT SYNTAX HIGHLIGHTERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL EDITORS

- vim (my personal choice)
- emacs
- vscode

FILES ARE IN THE GIT REPO

https://github.com/llvm/llvm-project
Under the directory llvm/utils

If you don't want to download all that code, check
https://analysis.cool/llvm_syntax.tgz

TIRED:

```
define i32 @main(i32 %argc) #0 {
entry:
        %res_entry = add i32 0, 1
        %cond = icmp sgt i32 %argc, 1
        br i1 %cond, label %if_body, label %after_if
if_body:
        %res_body = add i32 0, 7
        br label %after_if
after_if:
        %res_join = phi i32 [%res_entry, %entry], [%res_body, %if_body]
        ret i32 %res_join
}
```

WIRED:

```
define i32 @main(i32 %argc) #0 {
entry:
        %res_entry = add i32 0, 1
        %cond = icmp sgt i32 %argc, 1
        br i1 %cond, label %if_body, label %after_if
if_body:
        %res_body = add i32 0, 7
        br label %after_if
after_if:
        %res_join = phi i32 [%res_entry, %entry], [%res_body, %if_body]
        ret i32 %res_join
}
```

THIS TIME: LLVM MEMORY

LECTURE OVERVIEW

DEALING WITH MEMORY

- Ultimately we'll need to consider storage other than the infinite virtual register abstraction

Thnks
Fr th
MMRS

LECTURE OUTLINE

- LLVM Memory
- Load/Store
- The dreaded GEP

CONCRETE MEMORY

LLVM MEMORY

LLVM Bitcode attempts to represent commonalities of memory on real architectures

So, what is computer memory like (from the CS perspective)?

A 1-D array of cells

64 bit = 8 byte

Numeric addresses (of some size)

Cells contain numeric values (of some size)

1 byte
8 bits

ASCRIBED MEANING

LLVM MEMORY

3GL Language Notions are Simulated Through Convention

Functions
Variables
Complex data types (arrays, structs, classes)

0x1	0x2	0x3	0x4

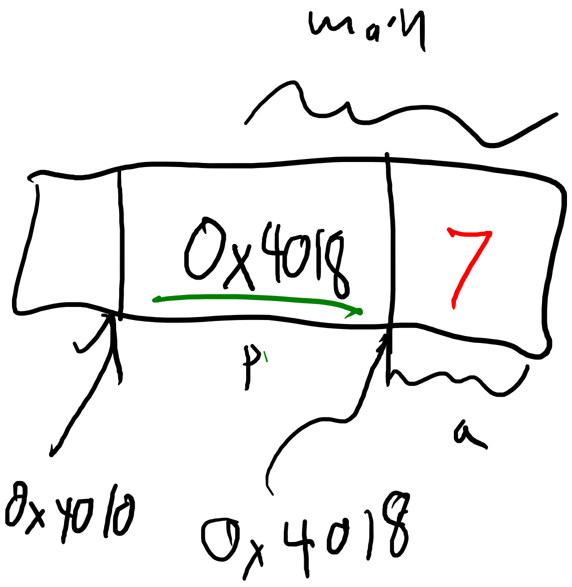
ABSTRACTING MEMORY

LLVM MEMORY

Encodes the Concepts of Local and Global Memory

- Local memory: within a function activation
- Global memory: static in the data section
- Notably absent: heap memory

With infinite registers, Why have local memory?



Because we might take the address of a local

```
int main(){
  int a;
  int * p;
  p = &a; (p points to a)
}
```

ALLOCATION
LLVM MEMORY

i32 0x4081

Allocating Global Memory

```
@glb1 = global i32 2, align 4
@cnst2 = constant i32 3 , align 4
```

Allocating Local Memory

```
%reg = alloca i64, align 8
```

Note: some architectures either require or suggest (for speed)
that memory be type aligned, e.g.:
A 4-byte type (like i32) is allocated in a memory address that is a multiple of 4
An 8-byte type (like i64) is allocated in a memory address that is a multiple of 8

To enforce this requirement, allocation can use the align <Num> argument

LECTURE OUTLINE

- LLVM Memory
- Load/Store
- The dreaded GEP

POINTER TYPES

LLVM MEMORY

MEMORY LOCATIONS ARE ACCESSED THROUGH POINTERS

Numeric types whose values are memory addressed

A pointer to a 32-bit integer has type i32*

A pointer to an 8-bit integer has type i8*

A pointer to an 8-bit integer has type i8*

```
%reg = alloca i32, align 4
```

Here, %reg has type i32* : a pointer type (a pointer that points at an i32)

Note, there is a “generic pointer” type that leaves the type being pointed to out

LLVM MEMORY: LOAD AND STORE

LLVM MEMORY

STORE

```
store <srcType> <srcOpd>, <dstType> <dstOpd>, align <align>
store     i32         1    ,   i32*      %var1ptr, align   4
```

LOAD

```
<dstOpd> = load <dstType>, <srcType> <srcOpd>, align <align>
  %reg    = load    i32,        i32*    %var1ptr, align 4
```

```
int main(){
  int val;
  val = 12;
  return val;
}
```

```
define i32 @main(){
  %valptr = alloca i32
  store i32 12, i32* %valptr
  %res = load i32, i32* %valptr
  ret i32 %res
}
```

LLVM MEMORY: GLOBAL MEMORY EXAMPLE

LLVM MEMORY

```c
int a = 2;
int main(){
  return a;
}
```

```llvm
@a = global i32 2, align 4
define i32 @main() {
  %reg = load i32, i32* @a, align 4
  ret i32 %reg
}
```

LLVM MEMORY: LOOK, NO SSA!

LLVM BITCODE

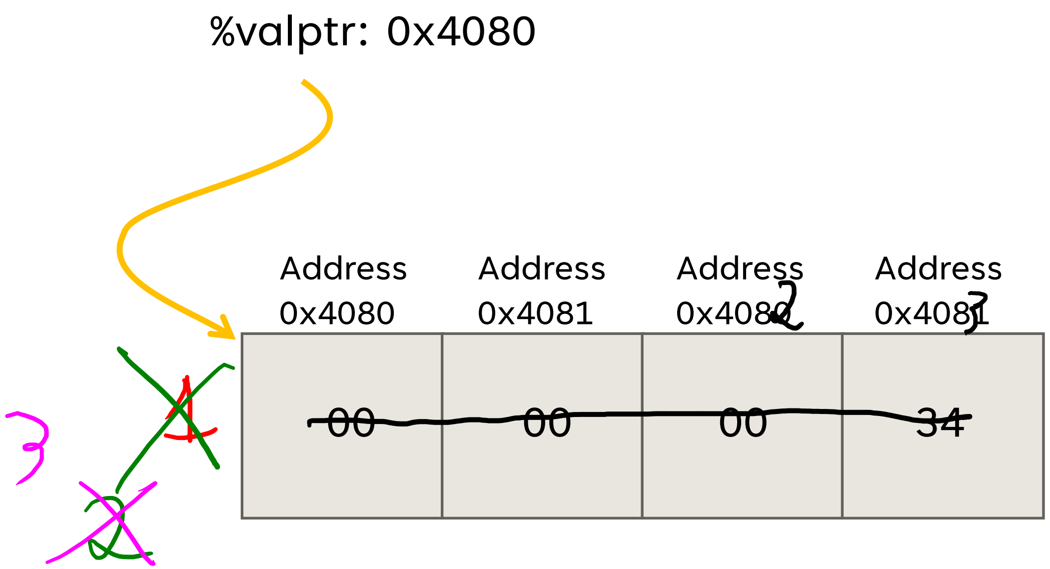
```
define i32 @main() {
  %valptr = alloca i32
  store i32 1, i32* %valptr
  store i32 2, i32* %valptr
  store i32 3, i32* %valptr
  %res = load i32, i32* %valptr
  ret i32 %res
}
```

The VALUE OF the register doesn't change
The VALUE AT the register is what changes!

LLVM MEMORY: LOOK, NO SSA!

LLVM BITCODE

```
define i32 @main() {
  %valptr = alloca i32
  store i32 1, i32* %valptr
  store i32 2, i32* %valptr
  store i32 3, i32* %valptr
  %res = load i32, i32* %valptr
  ret i32 %res
}
```



LLVM MEMORY: AGGREGATE TYPES

LLVM BITCODE

RECALL THAT BITCODE IS A TYPED LANGUAGE

Declare an aggregate type (think struct)

```
%Point = type { i32, i32 }
```

Allocate an aggregate type

```
%ptr = alloca %Point, align 4
```

Allocate an array

```
%arrayptr = alloca [8 x i32], align 16
```

Allocate a struct with an array in it

```
%ArrSize8 = type [8 x i32]
%struct = type {i32, %ArrSize8}
```

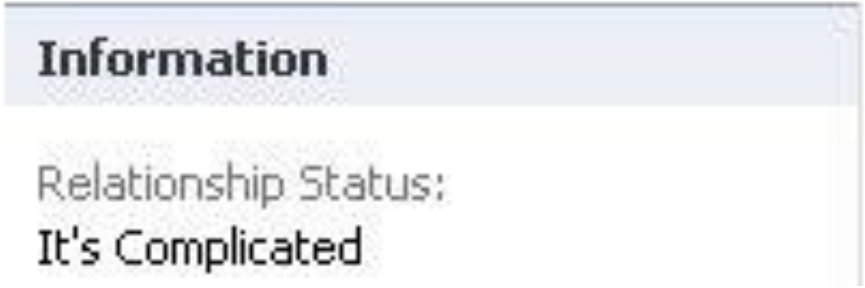
~~%ArrSize8~~ [8 x i32]

LLVM MEMORY: ACCESSING AGGREGATE MEMORY

LLVM BITCODE

AT THIS POINT, WE NEED TO DISCUSS HOW TO READ AN ARRAY INDEX OR FIELD

There is a powerful, but somewhat complicated instruction to do it, called getelementptr (GEP)



GEP never actually reads memory, it just computes what the offset from a base location would be

LECTURE OUTLINE

- LLVM Memory
- Load/Store
- The dreaded GEP

GETELEMENTPTR
THE DREADED GEP

Here is the Basic format of a GEP

```
<result> = getelementptr <ty>, ptr <ptrval>{, [inrange] <ty> <idx>}*
```

Here is a snippet of the documentation of the syntax:

The first argument is always a type used as the basis for the calculations. The second argument is always a pointer or a vector of pointers, and is the base address to start from. The remaining arguments are indices that indicate which of the elements of the aggregate object are indexed. The interpretation of each index is dependent on the type being indexed into. The first index always indexes the pointer value given as the second argument, the second index indexes a value of the type pointed to (not necessarily the value directly pointed to, since the first index can be non-zero), etc. The first type indexed into must be a pointer value, subsequent types can be arrays, vectors, and structs. Note that subsequent types being indexed into can never be pointers, since that would require loading the pointer before continuing calculation.

GETELEMENTPTR

THE DREADED GEP

Let me (maybe?) Simplify this a bit with a slight reformat of GEP

base | array index | Field traversal

```
<result> = getelementptr <ty_work>, <ty_src> <src>, <idxtype> <siblingidx>, [<idxtype> <fieldidx>]+
```

Here is my explanation of this version of GEP:

Assume **base** is a pointer into some array of somethings (possibly a nested data structure)

- Arg 1: `<ty_work>`: Specify the type of the somethings
- Arg 2: `<ty_src> <src>`: **base** address to start your computation
- Arg 3: `<idxtype> <siblingidx>`: **array index** to jump forward from the **base** address

(end of optional arguments)

- Arg 4+: `<idxtype> <fieldidx>`: **field traversal** to index into the fields of the nested data structure

GETELEMENTPTR

THE DREADED GEP

LET ME (MAYBE?) SIMPLIFY THIS A BIT WITH A SLIGHT REFORMAT OF GEP

base — array index — Field traversal

```
<result> = getelementptr <ty_work>, <ty_src> <src>, <idxtype> <siblingidx>, [<idxtype> <fieldidx>]+
```

Answer:

Very generic format to capture the large variety of ways that you need to index into memory

Basic GEP invocations handle simple cases

Complex GEP invocations handle complex cases

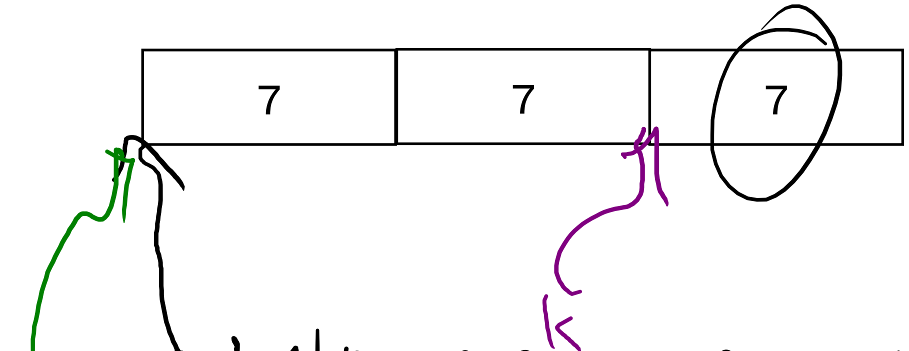
GETELEMENTPTR

THE DREADED GEP

LET ME (MAYBE?) SIMPLIFY THIS A BIT WITH A SLIGHT REFORMAT OF GEP

base | array index | Field traversal

```
<result> = getelementptr <ty_work>, <ty_src> <src>, <idxtype> <siblingidx>, [<idxtype> <fieldidx>]+
```




```
getelementptr %T2, ptr @ptr_n1, i64 0, i64 0
```

%k = getelementptr i32, i32* %ptr, i64 2

%m = getelementptr i32, i32* %ptr, i64 0

Answer:

Very generic format to capture the large variety of ways that you need to index into memory

Basic GEP invocations handle simple cases

Complex GEP invocations handle complex cases

GETELEMENTPTR: PICTORIALLY

THE DREADED GEP

Can be helpful to walk through memory as a tree

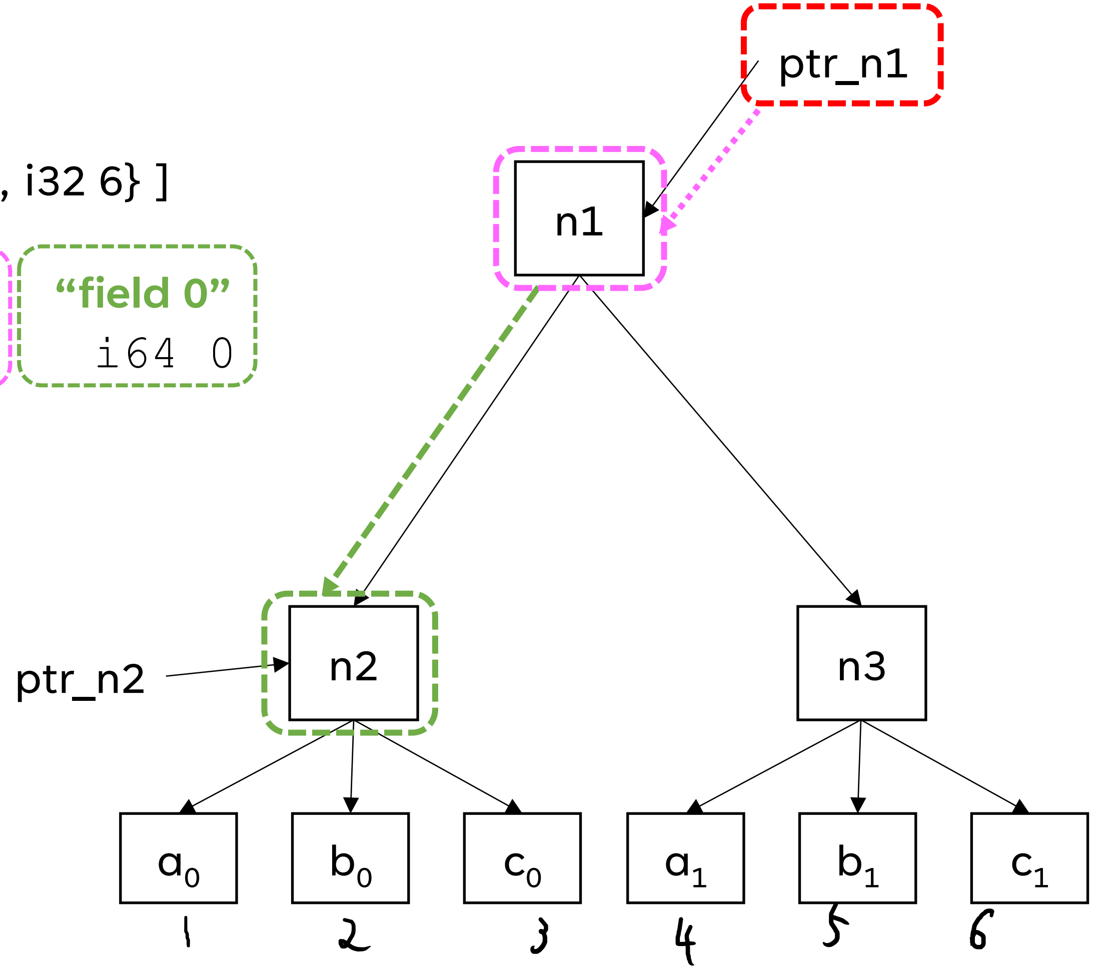
%T1 = type { i32, i32, i32 }

%T2 = type [2 x %T1]

@ptr_n1 = global %T2 [{ i32 1, i32 2, i32 3 }, { i32 4, i32 5, i32 6}]

"base addr" "sibling 0" "field 0"

```
ptr_n2 = getelementptr %T2, ptr @ptr_n1, i64 0, i64 0
```



GETELEMENTPTR: PICTORIALLY

THE DREADED GEP

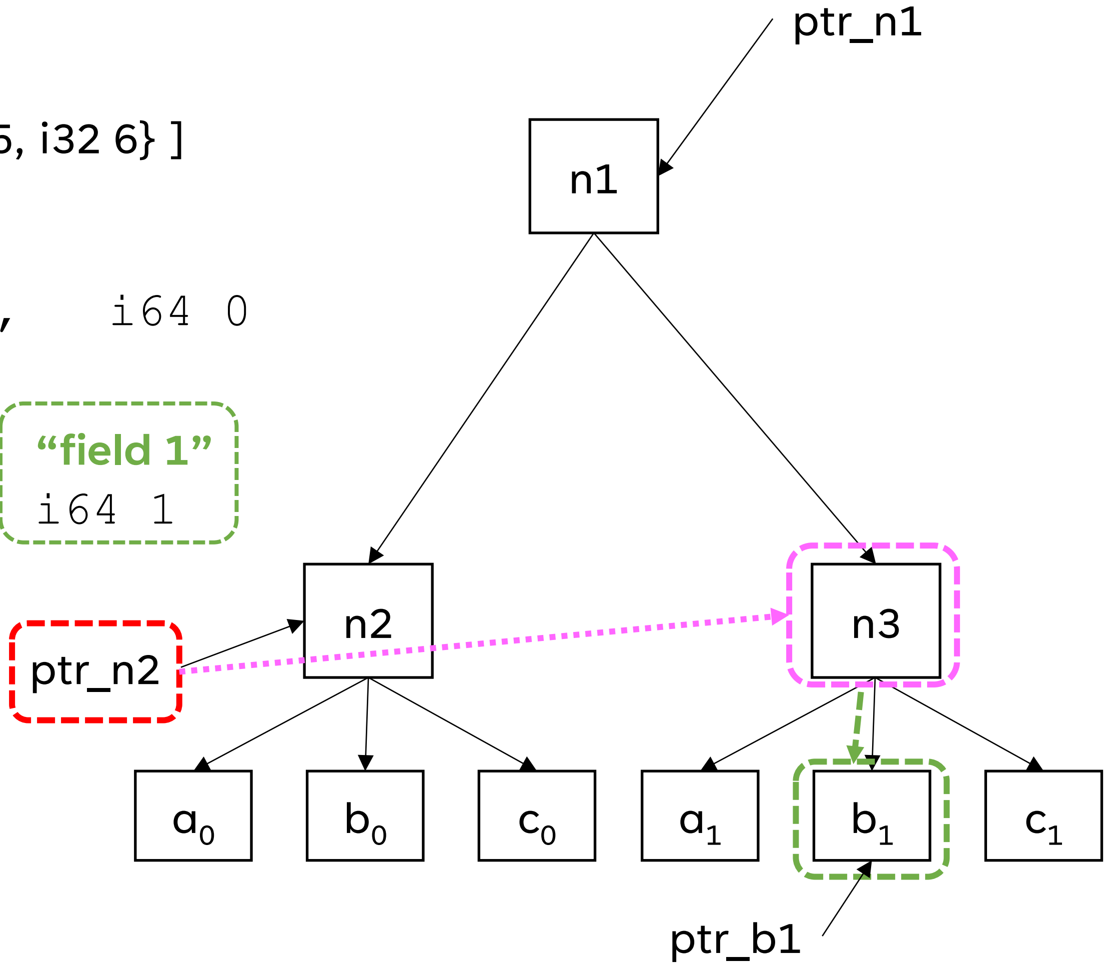
Can be helpful to walk through memory as a tree

%T1 = type { i32, i32, i32 }
%T2 = type [2 x %T1]
@ptr_n1 = global %T2 [{ i32 1, i32 2, i32 3 }, { i32 4, i32 5, i32 6}]

```
ptr_n2 = getelementptr %T2, ptr @ptr_n1,  i64 0,   i64 0
```

"base addr" "sibling 1" "field 1"

```
ptr_b1 = getelementptr %T1, ptr @ptr_n2, i64 1, i64 1
```



GETELEMENTPTR: PICTORIALLY

THE DREADED GEP

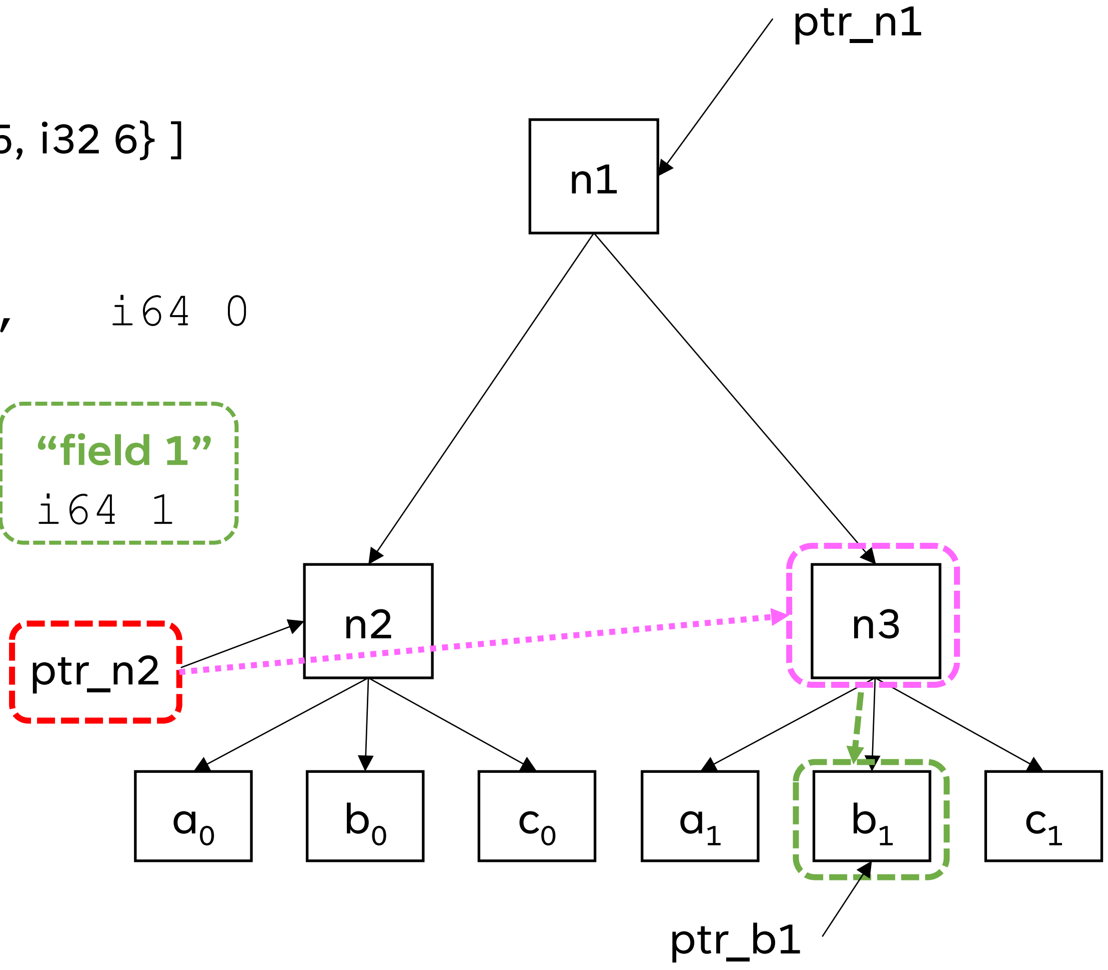
Can be helpful to walk through memory as a tree

%T1 = type { i32, i32, i32 }
%T2 = type [2 x %T1]
@ptr_n1 = global %T2 [{ i32 1, i32 2, i32 3 }, { i32 4, i32 5, i32 6}]

```
ptr_n2 = getelementptr %T2, ptr @ptr_n1,  i64 0,   i64 0
```

"base addr" "sibling 1" "field 1"

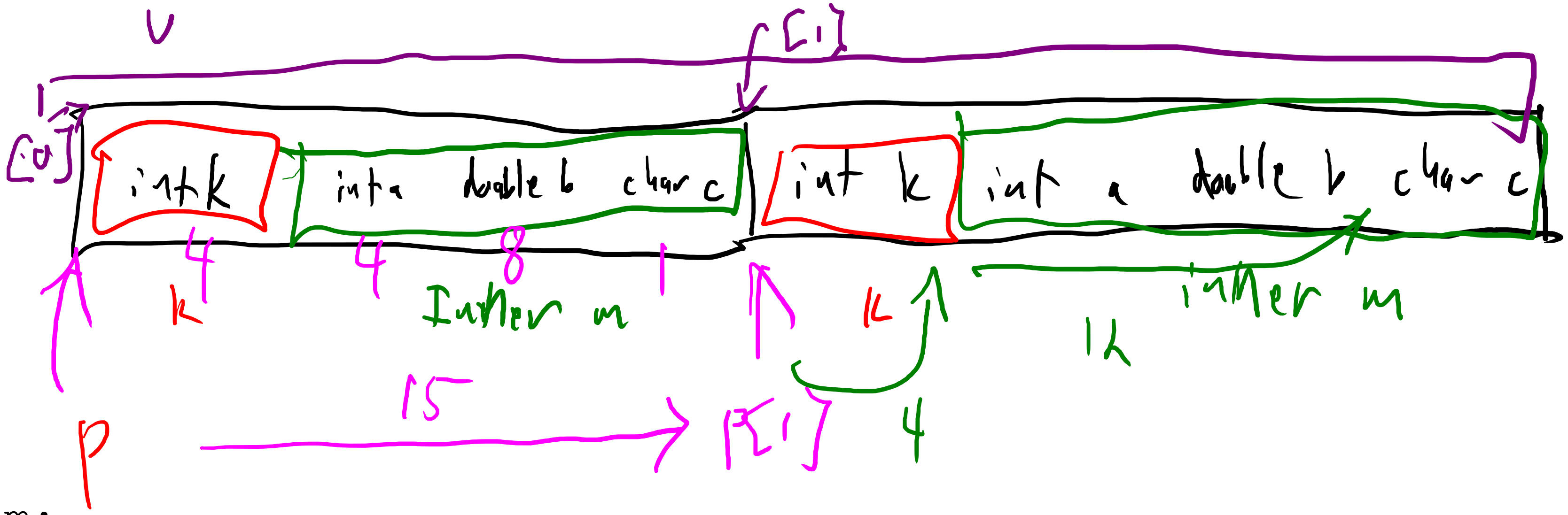
```
ptr_b1 = getelementptr %T1, ptr @ptr_n2, i64 1, i64 1
```



GETELEMENTPTR: YA GOTTA HANDLE C

THE DREADED GEP

MY THEORY: GEP IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF C SOURCE CODE




```
struct Inner {
   int a;
   double b;
   char c;
};

struct Outer{
   int k;
   struct Inner m;
};

struct Outer v[2];
void * p = &v;

int main(){
         ((struct Outer *)p)[2].m.c = 'X';
}
```

WRAP-UP

NEXT TIME

A COUPLE MORE BITCODE FEATURES

- FUNCTION CALLS & PARAMETERS