CS 126 Lecture P3: Data Structures

(This is a hard lecture--study these slides after class.)

• Introduction

- Array
- Structure
- Linked list
- Implementation: C pointer

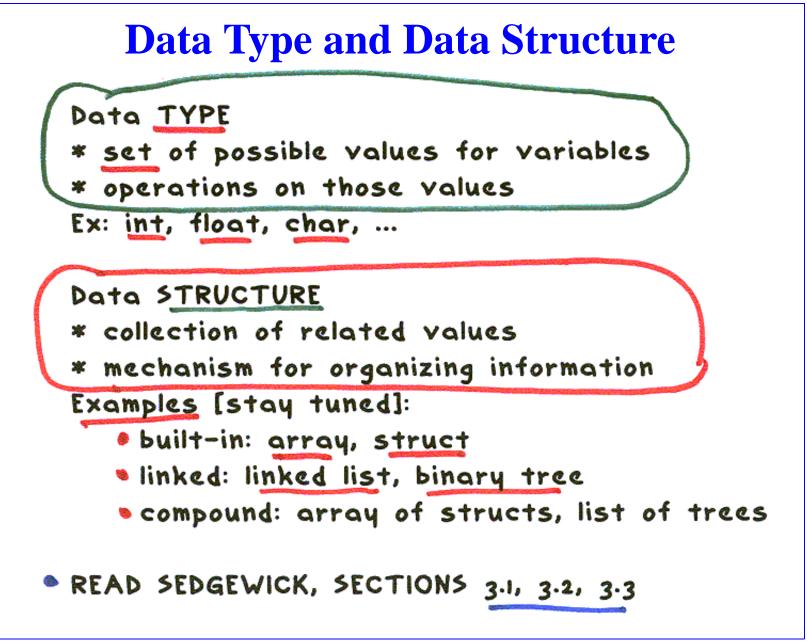
Why Data Structures?

Users' views: students, bank records, ... ???? C basics: int, float, char, ...

Memory elements

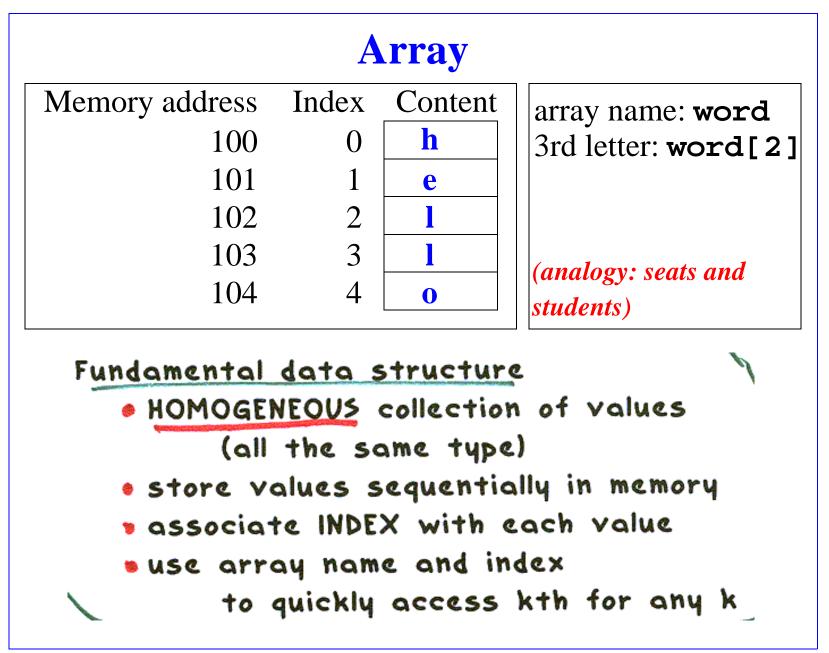
- Users' needs
 - What to do when we have a large amount of data to deal with?
 - Want to organize it in ways that are easy-to-understand
 - Want to be space-efficient
 - Want to be time-efficient
- What hardware gives us
 - Just a bunch of uniform, individually addressable storage elements
- Want to bridge the gap between the abstractions

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Array (cont.)



Most important limitation:
need to know size ahead of time

Natural applications

- vector, matrix
- spreadsheet

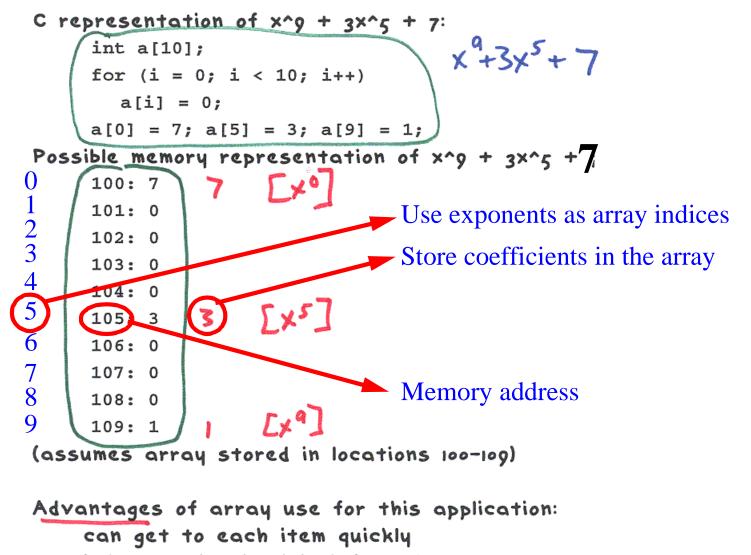
...

string of characters

Computer memory is a huge array (array abstraction is easily implemented)

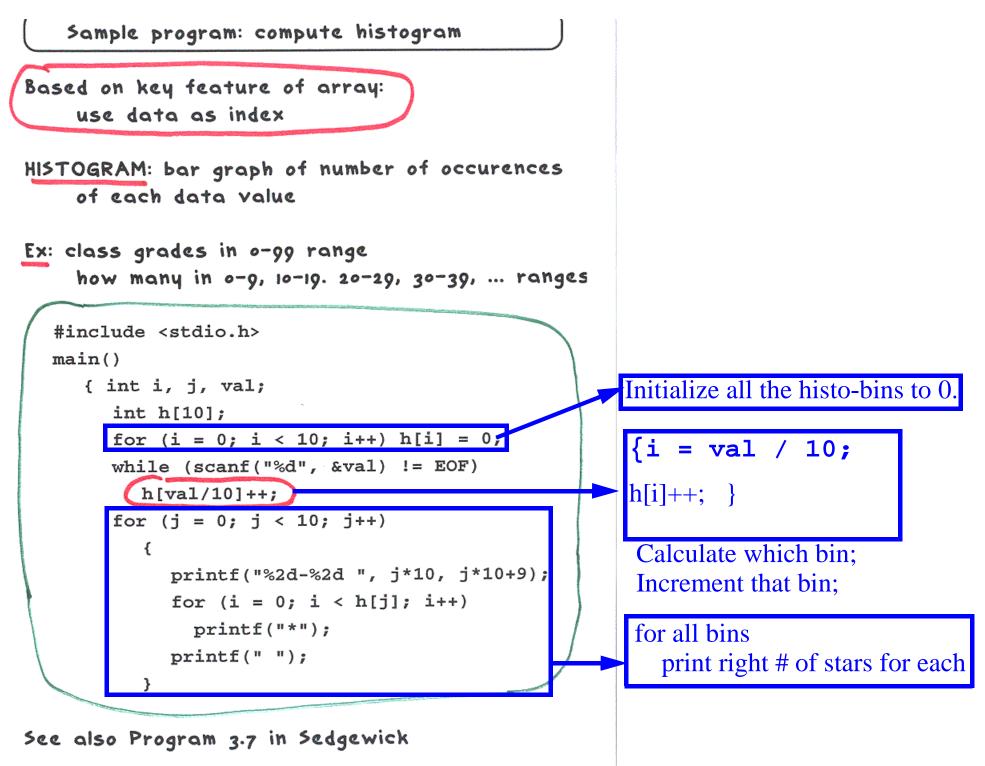
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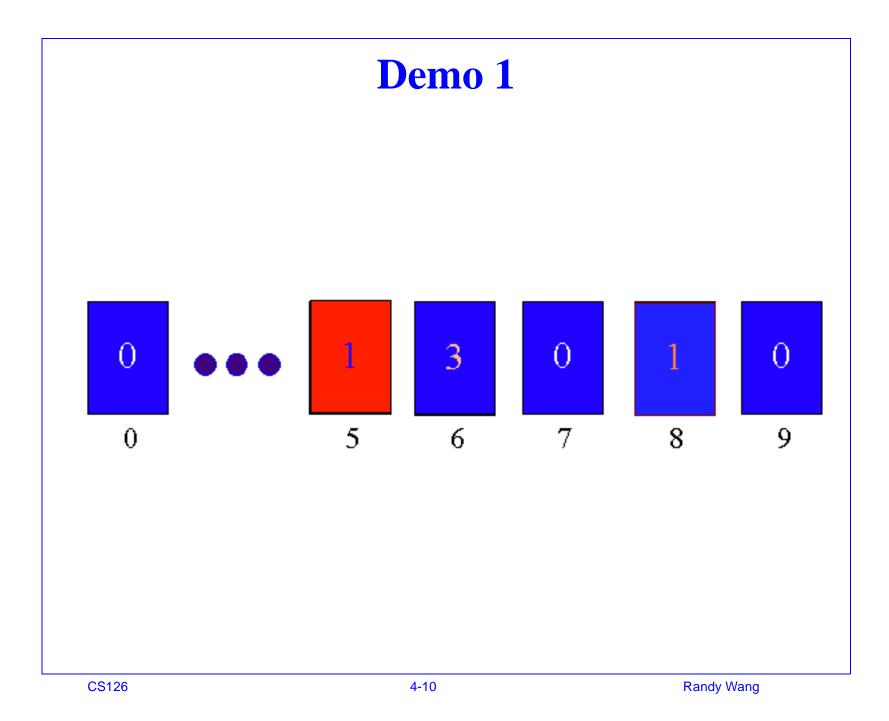
Symbolic manipulation of polynomials



index carries implicit info, takes no space Disadvantage: Uses up space for unused items Histogram of grades for a recent COS126 class

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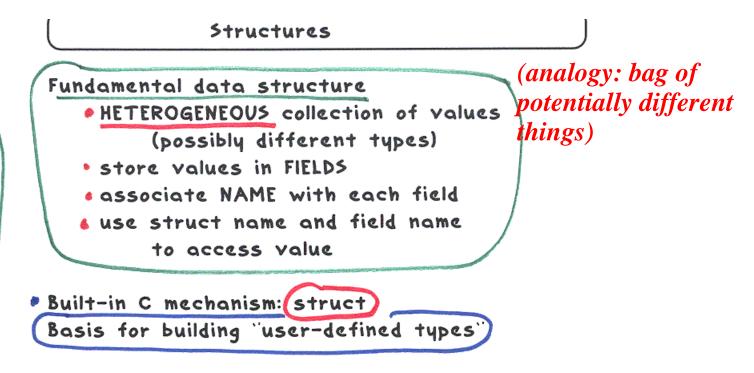


• Introduction

• Array

• <u>Structure</u>

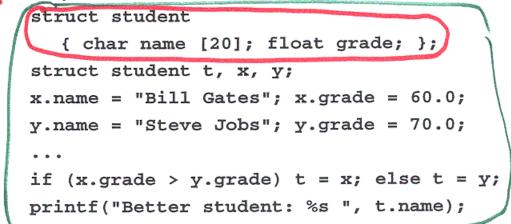
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- Applications
 - database records
 - linked list nodes (stay tuned)

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Ex: C representation of C students





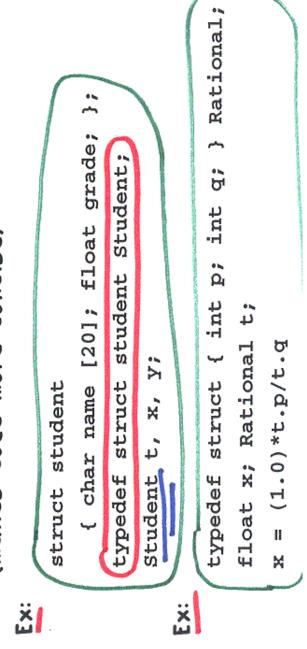
User definition of type names

Main use: put type descriptions in one place (makes code more portable)

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Common use: avoid typing 'struct' (makes code more concise)

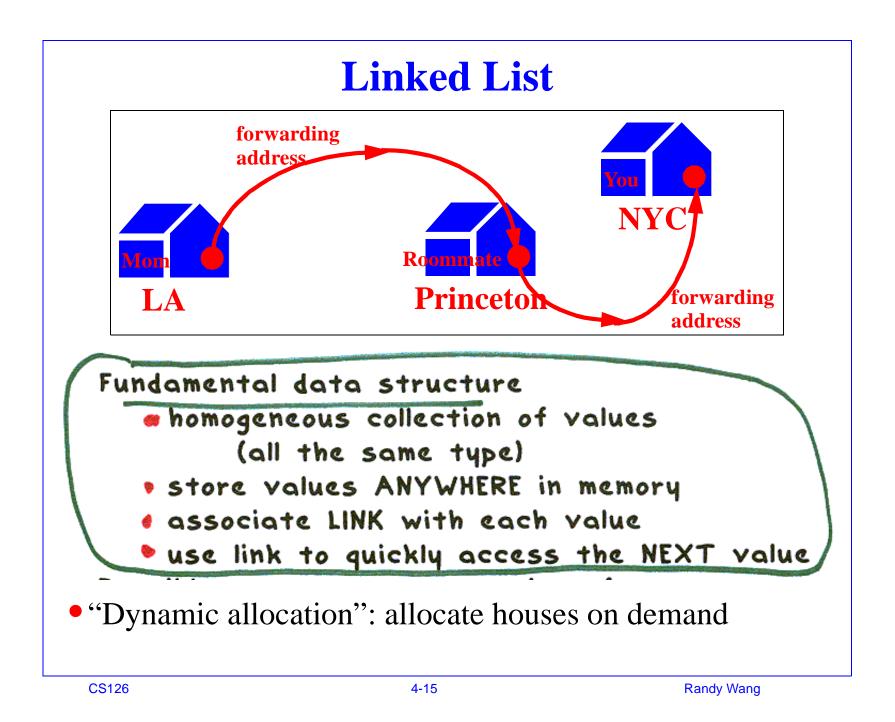


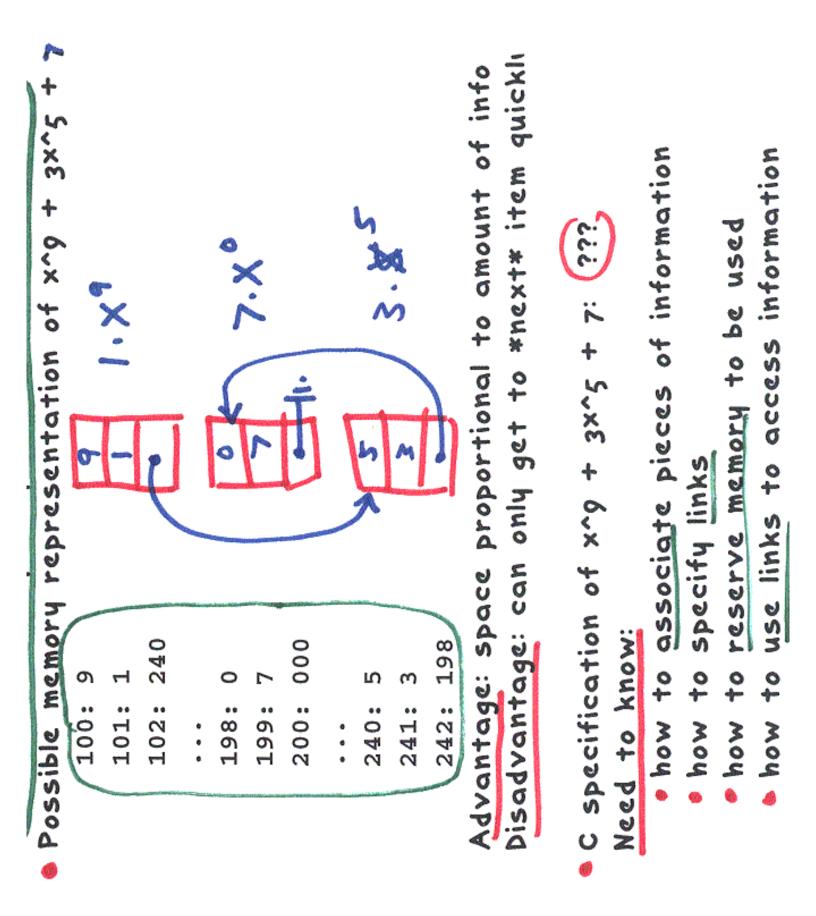
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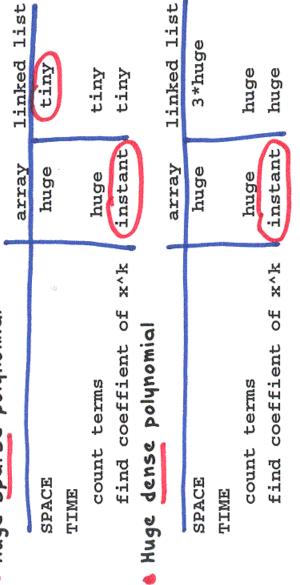




Polynomial example illustrates tradeoffs SPARSE polynomial: few terms, large exponent ex: x^1000000 + 5 x^50000 + 12 DENSE polynomial: few nonzero coefficients

ex: x~7 + x~6 + 3x~4 + 2x~3 + 1

Auge sparse polynomial



 More examples of linked vs. sequential: Programs 3.5 and 3.9 in Sedgewick

* it is easy to write programs that waste both

you will not notice until it matters

* there is never enough time or space

Digression: a few programming axioms

* know space and time costs

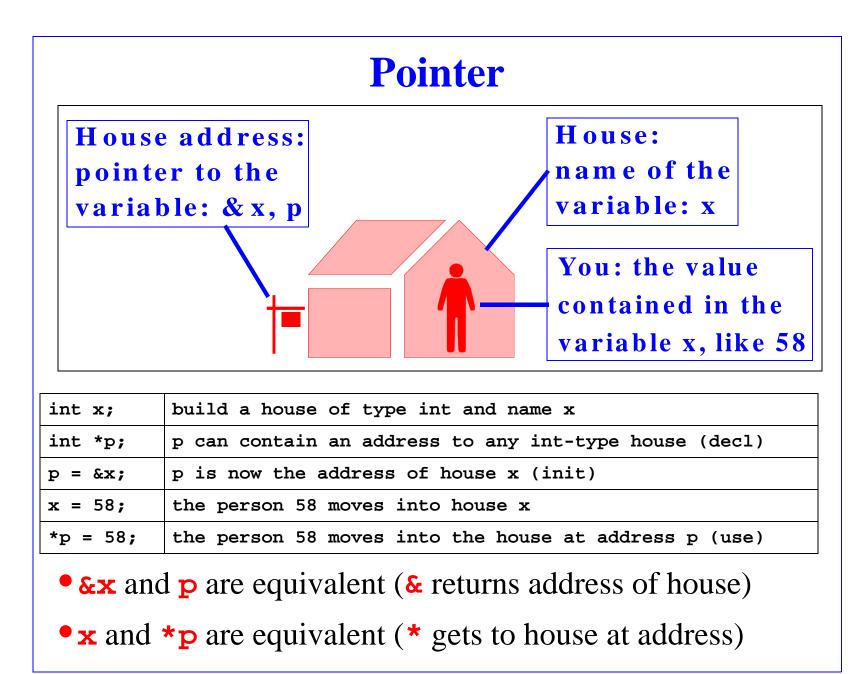
P3.9

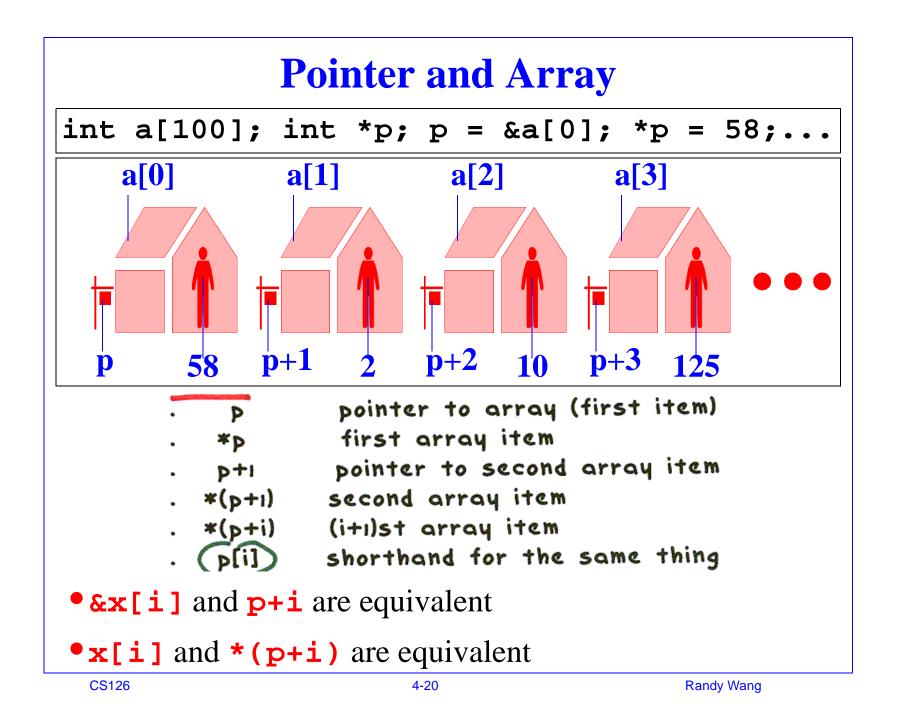
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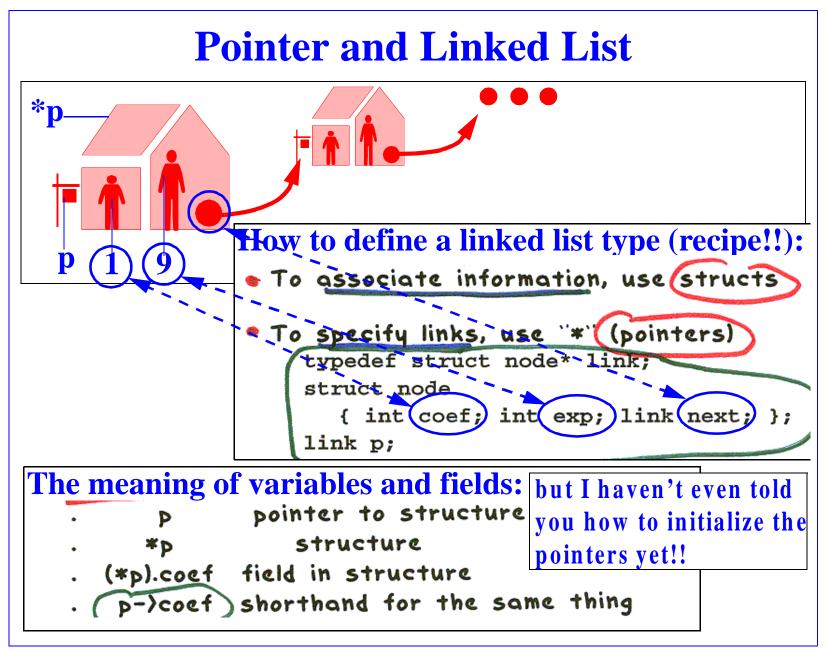
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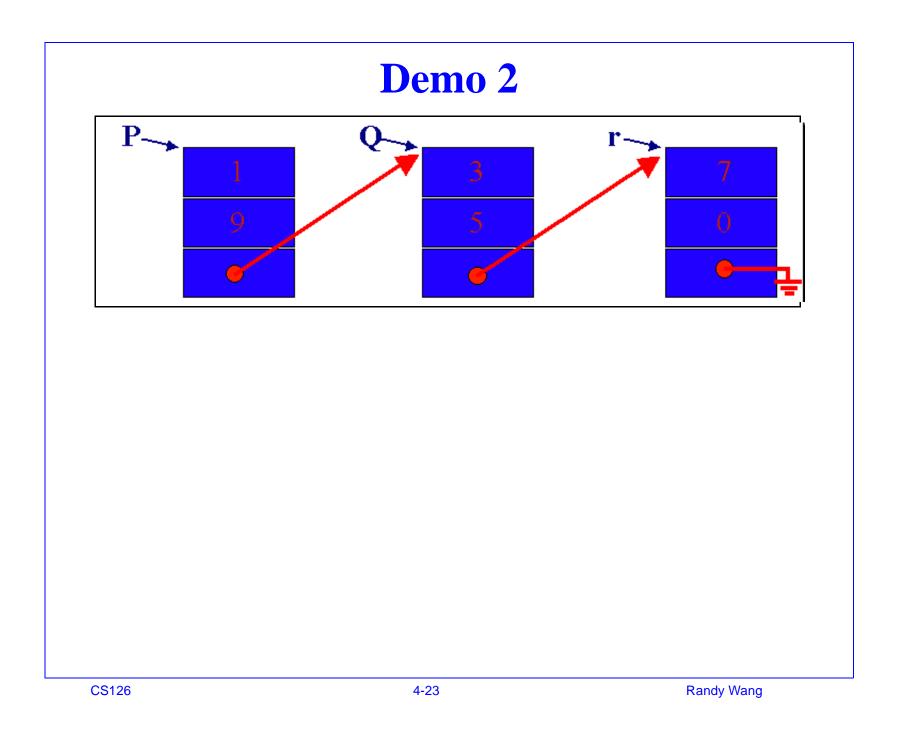
Implementation: C pointer

- pointers and simple variables
- pointers and arrays
- pointers and linked lists
- for each of these, understand how to
 - + declare the variables involved
 - + how to initialize them
 - + how to use them









Closing

- Whew!
- Lots of material in this lecture.
- Pointers are confusing.
- Study these lecture slides.