

Week 12 Lecture 1

Memory Allocation

Allocating Memory in C

Requesting Memory

- To get memory, use `malloc()`
- Two ways to create a string
 - Request at compile time:
 - `char x[80];`
 - Request at run time
 - `char *s;`
 - `s = malloc(80 * sizeof(char));`

malloc

- Defined in `<stdlib.h>`
- Declaration
 - `void *malloc(size_t size);`
 - A pointer to anything: `void *`
 - An unsigned integer: `size_t`
 - The type `size_t` is used so that different sized numbers can be used for different sized memories.

free

- To release memory after you are done with it use `free()`
- Failure to free allocated memory causes a *memory leak*.
 - The computer can allocate all of its memory to variables that are no longer used.

Example

- Pointer created
- Memory allocated
- Test allocation
- Set value
- Print address
- Print value
- Free memory

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;
    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));
    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }
    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);
    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```

Example Effects 1

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;

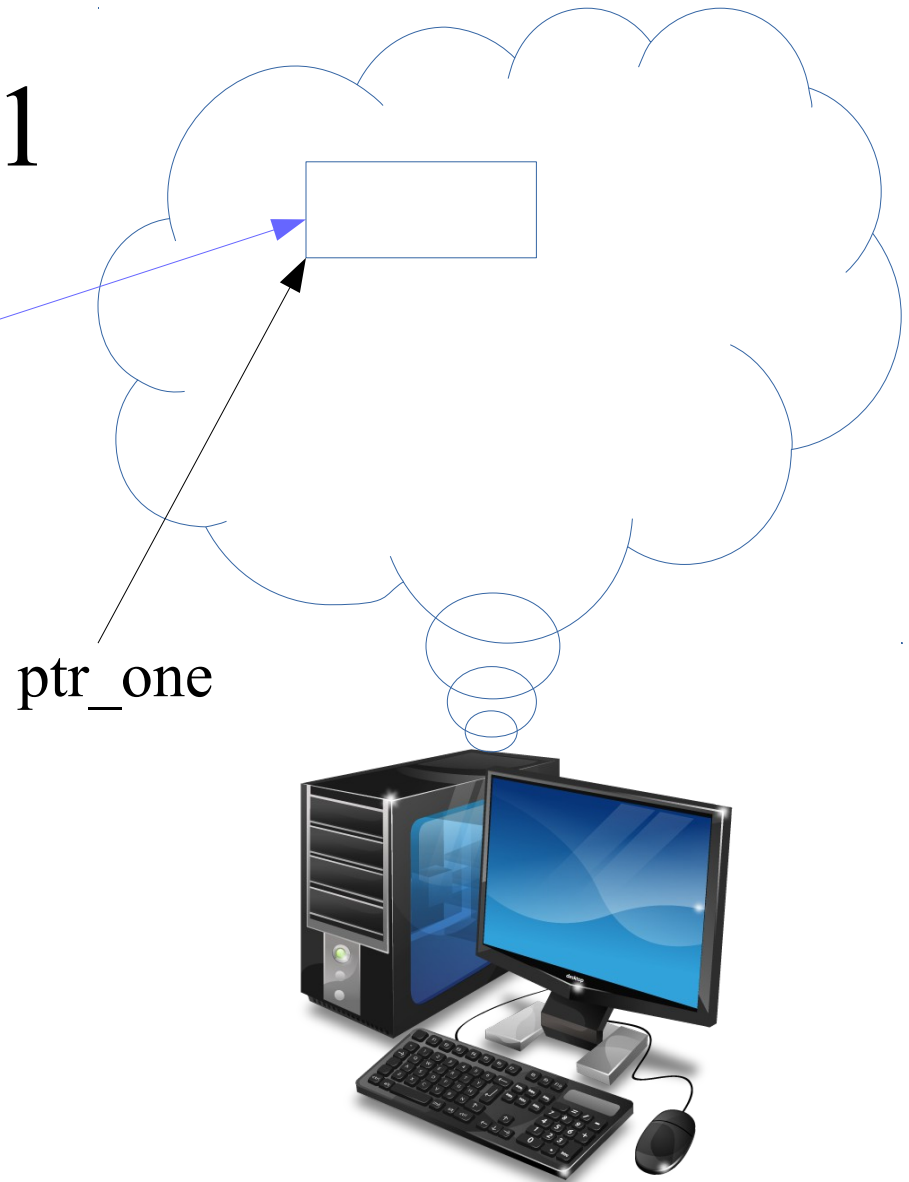
    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));

    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }

    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);

    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```



Example Effects 2

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;

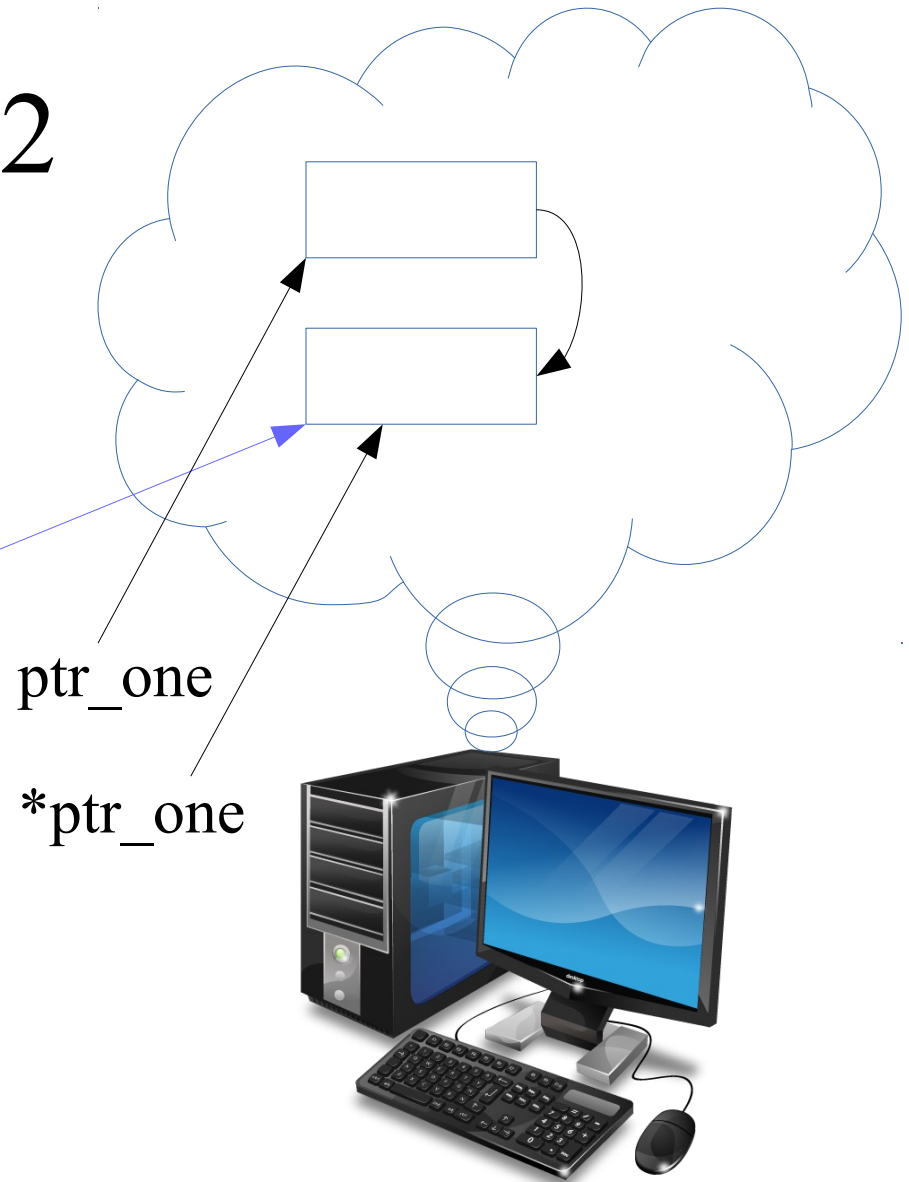
    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));

    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }

    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);

    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```



Example Effects 3

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;

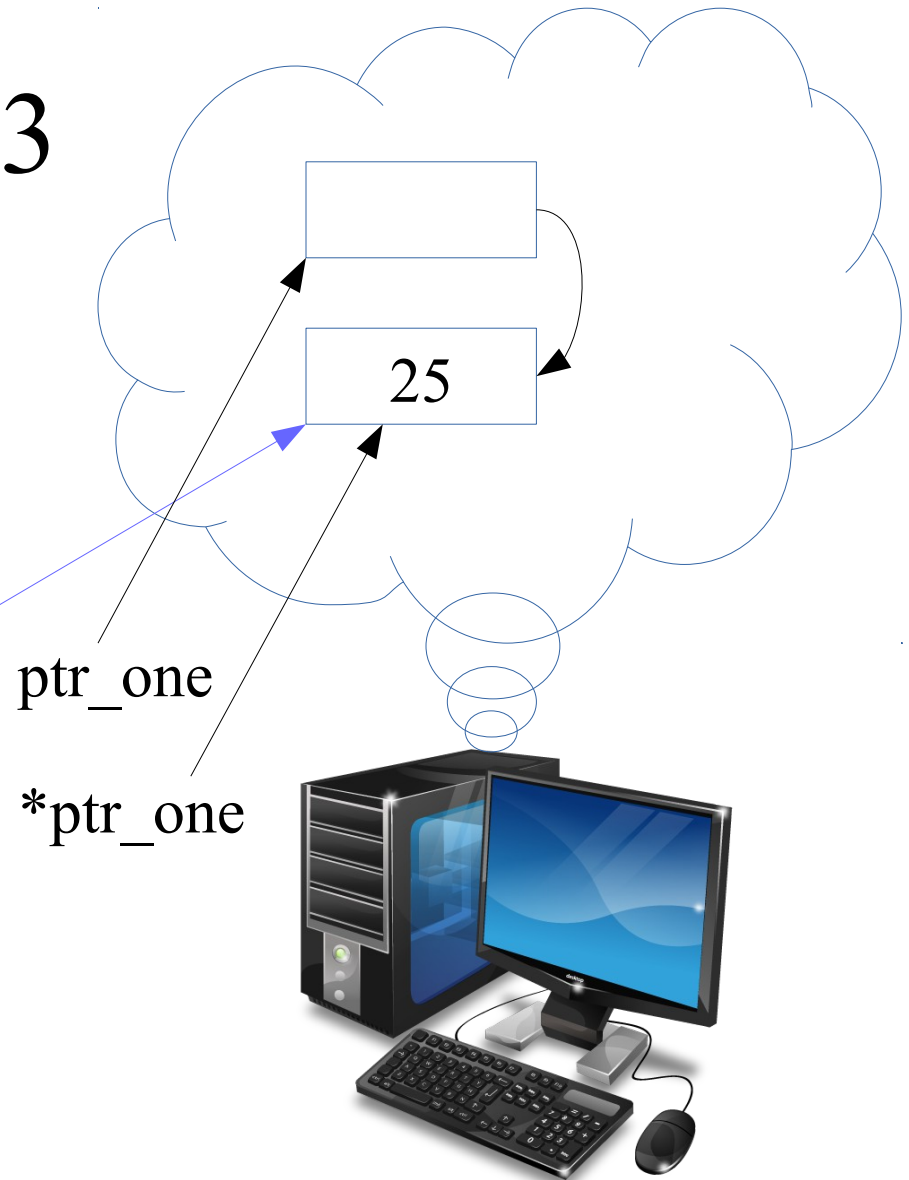
    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));

    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }

    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);

    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```



Example Output

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;

    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));

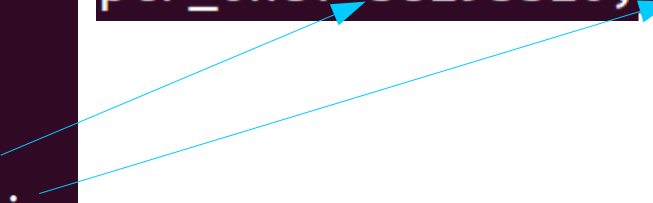
    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }

    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);

    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```

```
student:examples> ./a.out
ptr_one: 38293520; *ptr_one: 25
```



Another Example

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

int main()
{
    int *ptr_one;
    int *ptr_two;

    ptr_one = (int *)malloc(sizeof(int));
    if (NULL == ptr_one)
    {
        printf("ERROR: Out of memory\n");
        return 1;
    }
    *ptr_one = 25;
    printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);
    printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);
    ptr_two = ptr_one;
    printf("ptr_two: %d; ", ptr_two);
    printf("*ptr_two: %d\n", *ptr_two);
    free(ptr_one);

    return 0;
}
```

```
student:examples> ./malloc2
ptr_one: 22257680; *ptr_one: 25
ptr_two: 22257680; *ptr_two: 25
```

Using & operator

- The & operator gets the address of a variable

& Example

```
*ptr_one = 25;  
printf("ptr_one: %d; ", ptr_one);  
printf("*ptr_one: %d\n", *ptr_one);  
printf("&ptr_one: %d; ", &ptr_one);  
printf("&(*ptr_one): %d\n", &(*ptr_one));
```

- Address of the pointer variable
- Address of the variable pointed to

```
student:examples> ./a.out  
ptr_one: 34414608; *ptr_one: 25  
&ptr_one: -2086583744; &(*ptr_one): 34414608
```