

Pointers to Functions

Function Pointers

King – Chapter 17.7

- Since a pointer is just an address, we can have pointers to functions!

```
int cube(int x) {  
    return x*x*x;  
}  
  
int (*f)(int); /*Define a function pointer*/  
f = cube;  
/* Call the function that f points to */  
printf ("%d\n", (*f)(5));
```

1

2

Example

```
void map(int *nums, int size, int (*f)(int)) {  
    int i;  
    for(i = 0; i < size; i++)  
        nums[i] = (*f)(nums[i]);  
}  
  
int square(int x) { return x*x; }  
  
int div2(int x) { return x/2; }  
  
int main() {  
    int a[8] = {2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16};  
    int i;  
    map(a, 8, square);  
    map(a, 8, div2);  
  
    for(i = 0; i < 8; i++) {  
        printf("a[%d] = %d\n", i, a[i]);  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

3

Example: qsort

- Example - generic quick sort routine:

```
void qsort(void * base, size_t nmemb, size_t size,  
          int (* compar)(const void *, const void * ) );
```
- Can use any comparison function
- Just give a pointer to a function like strcmp
- Another example: bsearch() for binary search

4