

DYALOG

Glasgow 2024

Interpreter Limits



John Daintree



DYALOG

Elsinore 2023

An introduction to the workspace



Richard Smith



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2m-BO19OQPU>

What you are about to see is based on the way Dyalog APL actually works.

Some dramatic licence has been taken and sequences have been shortened for simplicity.

(And not all limits and potential solutions will be discussed)

(And this is not an internal meeting)



DYALOG

Glasgow 2024

Key Technical Decisions During the Development of Dyalog APL



Geoff Streeter (Wednesday 14.25)

Limits? What limits

```
±('a'p~LWA×0.15),'←1'  
pnl 2  
1 39720486 A(39 million!)
```

- Rank of array (15)
- Size of array
- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Length of a symbol*
- Session input line / PW
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

*Only limited by MAXWS

Limits? What limits?

- Rank of array (15)
- Size of array
- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Length of a symbol*
- Session input line / PW
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)
- (32767) 'cos printers.

Limits? What limits?

- Rank of array (15)
- Size of array
- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Length of a symbol*
- Session input line / □PW
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

Limits? What limits?

- Rank of array (15)
- Length of a symbol*

(17)ρ0

LIMIT ERROR: Rank of resultant array would exceed maximum permitted

(17)ρ0

^

- Depth of an array
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

Limits? What limits?

1 `[]fx src` (15)

- Size of array
- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)

- Length of a symbol*
- Session input line / `[]PW`
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

Limits? What limits?

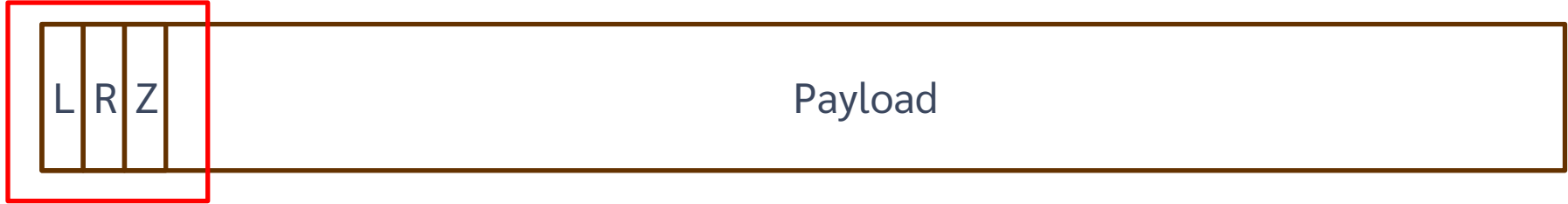
```
([fx] [ ] 1) src  
LIMIT ERROR: Function contains too many constants or symbol references  
([FX] [ ] 1) src  
^
```

- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

What can we do to change...?

RANK (15)

Allocated pockets



Allocated pockets



Allocated pockets

LENGTH	REFCOUNT	ZONES
--------	----------	-------

Allocated pockets



32 bits in a 32 bit interpreter

64 bits in a 64 bit interpreter (but, crucially only 32 are used in ZONES)

```
00007f5a7c8842f0 ffffffff2 0000000000000001 0000000000000281f
simple .....14 00000000000084738 Vc
..... 4308 0000000000000026 0020002000200020 0041239500200020
.....
..... 4320 007e2368002f0056 2374237323680027 220a003022182373
..... V / ð ~ ' ð t p t o 0 e
..... 4338 2218003000282364 00a800292355002c 0030003000382373
..... ö ( 0 o , ¤ ) " t 8 0 0
..... 4350 2395220a00270032 00000000000560041
..... 2 ' e □ A V
```



```
00007f5a7c8842f0 ffffffff2 0000000000000001 000000000000281f
simple ..... 14 0000000000084738 Vc
..... 4308 0000000000000026 0020002000200020 0041239500200020
.....
..... 4320 007e2368002f0056 2374237323680027 220a003022182373
..... V / ð ~ ' ð t p t o 0 e
..... 4338 2218003000282364 00a800292355002c 0030003000382373
..... ö ( 0 o , ¤ ) " t 8 0 0
..... 4350 2395220a00270032 0000000000560041
..... 2 ' e □ A V
```

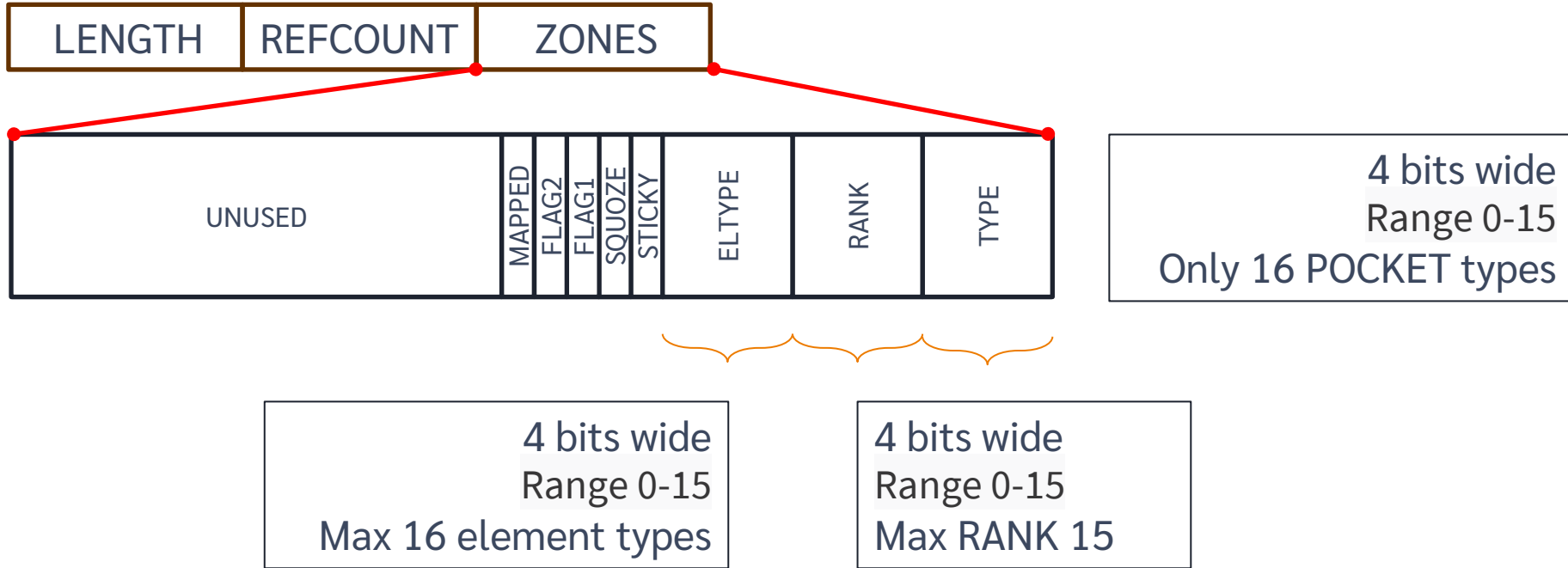
```

00007f5a7c8842f0 ffffffff2 0000000000000001 0000000000000281f
simple ..... 14 0000000000084738 Vc
..... 4308 0000000000000026 0020002000200020 0041239500200020
.....
..... 4320 007e2368002f0056 2374237323680027 220a003022182373
..... V / ~ ' ~ t p t o 0 e
..... 4338 2218003000282364 00a800292355002c 0030003000382373
..... ö ( 0 o , ¤ ) " t 8 0 0
..... 4350 2395220a00270032 0000000000560041
..... 2 ' e □ A V

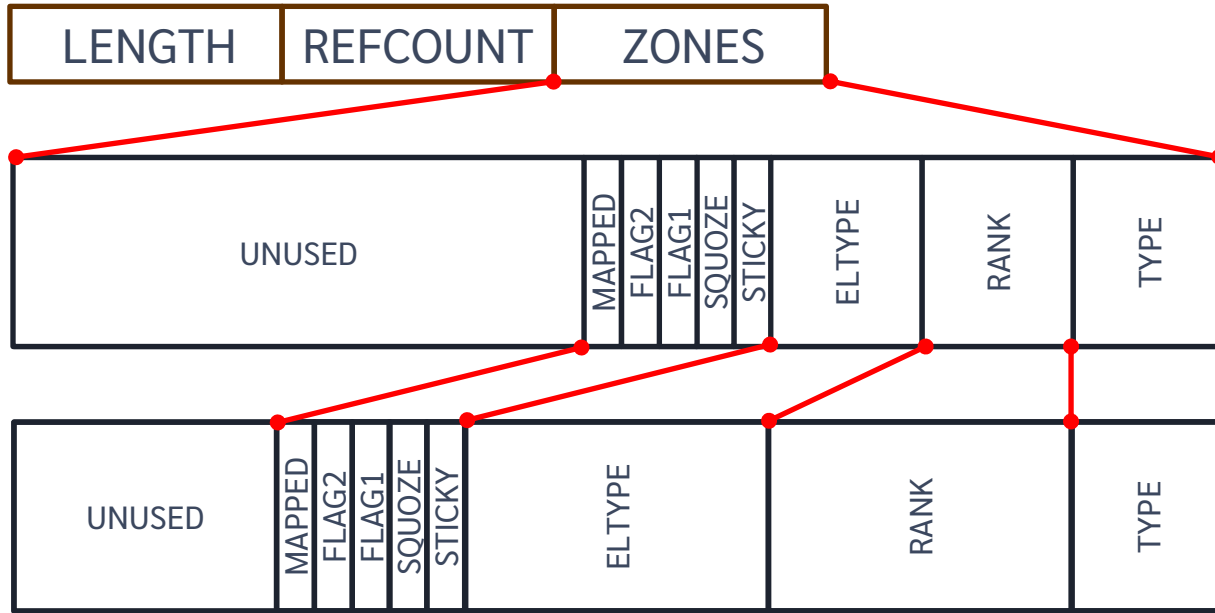
```

00007f5a7c8842f0	
LENGTH:	14
REFCOUNT:	1
TYPESIMPLE	
RANK:	1
ELTYPE:	WCHAR16
STICKY:	0
SQUOZE:	1
MMFLAG:	0
MMFLAG2:	0
MAPPED:	0
mmpad:	0
SHAPE:	38
□AV/~/~'~/~tpt=0e...	

Array pockets



Array pockets



And, we've added room for more element types

8 bits wide
Range 0-255
Max RANK 255

It's easy then, innit?

- ◆ No
 - ◆ Old Workspaces
 - ◆ Old Component Files
 - ◆ Old serialized data (sent down a socket)
 - ◆ Saving arrays to component files
 - ◆ For interpreters "from the past"

Saving arrays to component files

- ◆ Arrays on component files are interchangeable between old and new interpreters.

Saving arrays to component files

- ◆ "By default", compatible arrays on component files will be interchangeable between old and new interpreters.



Richard Smith

What can we do to change...?

Number of constants and names in code (4096)

Symbols / Constants limit

```
:if X  $\diamond$  1 2 3  $\diamond$  :endif
```

Symbols / Constants limit

```
:if X ♦ 1 2 3 ♦ :endif
```

Symbols / Constants limit

```
:if X ◇ 1 2 3 ◇ :endif
```

"Local" pocket

LENGTH	REFCOUNT	ZONES
--------	----------	-------

"Local" pocket



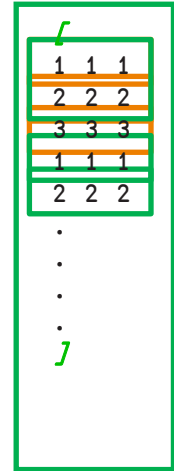
"Local" pocket

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 :endif
```



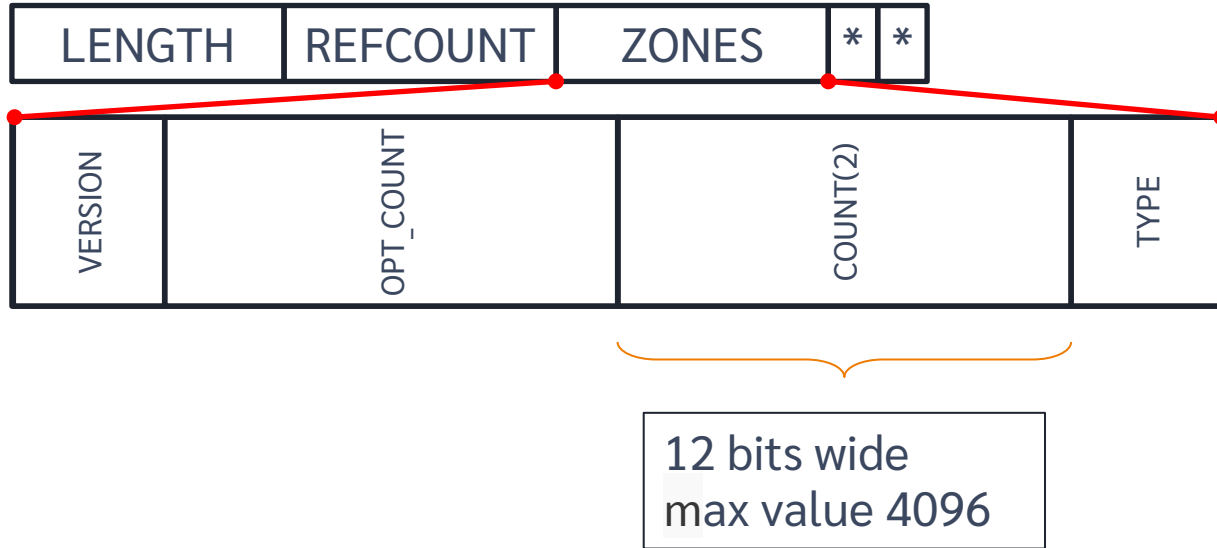
"Local" pocket

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```

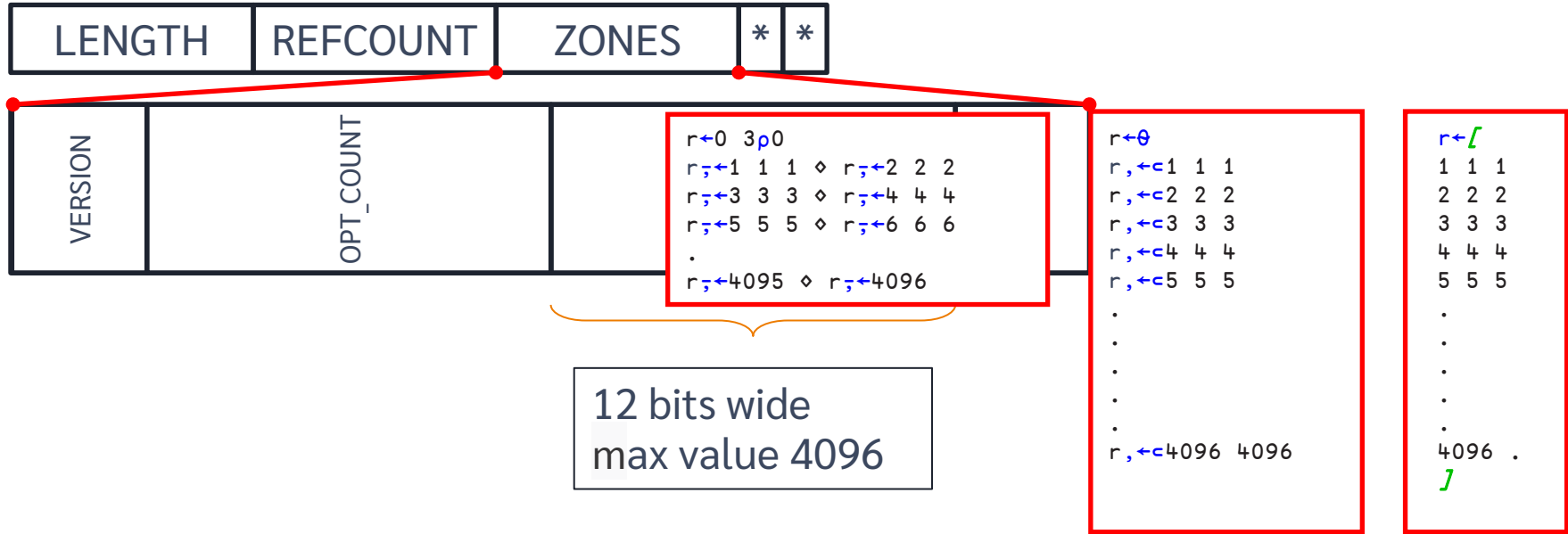


"Local" pocket

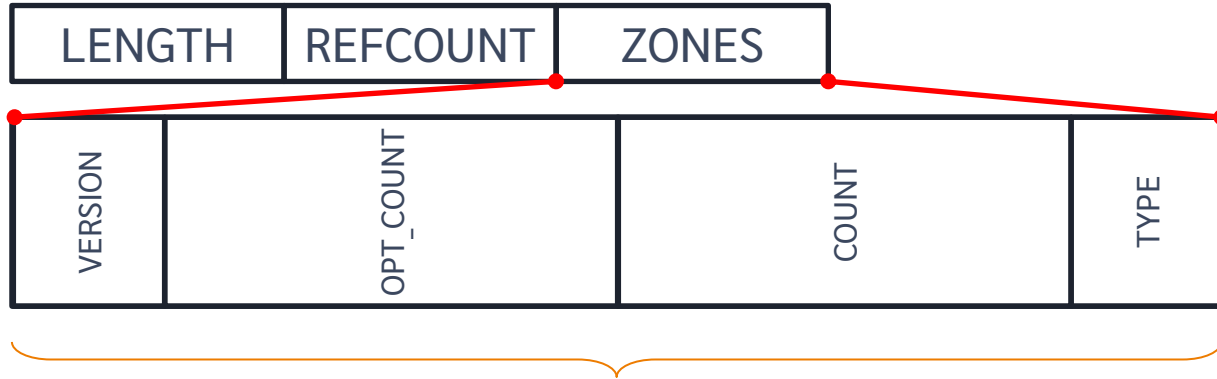
```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



"Local" pocket `:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif`

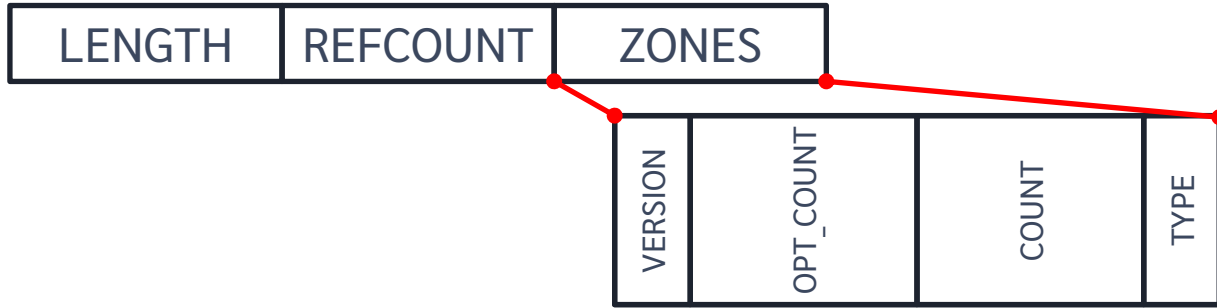


"Local" pocket

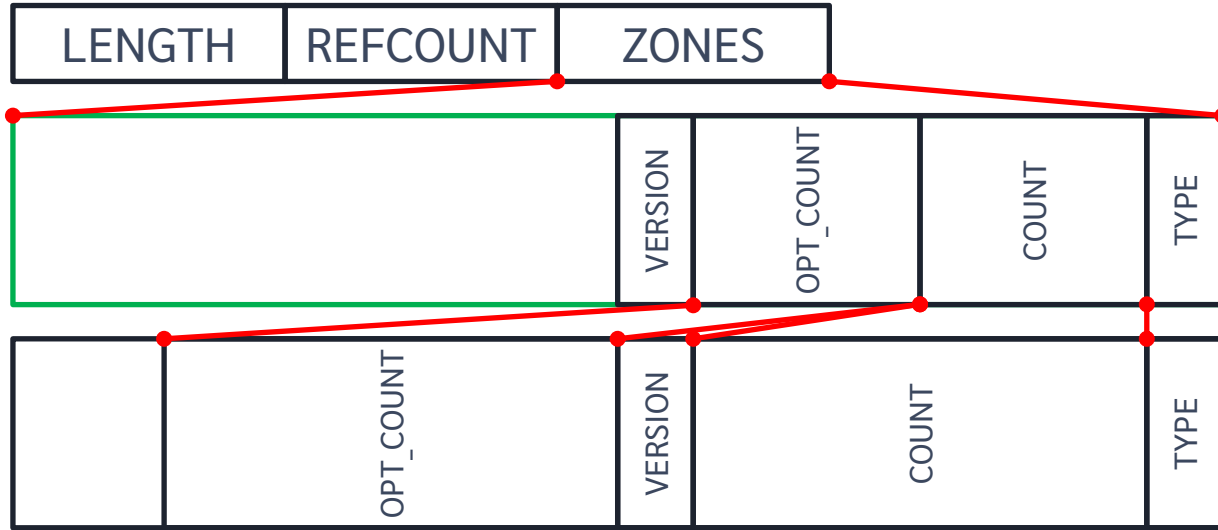


32 bits wide.
It's "full"

"Local" pocket



"Local" pocket

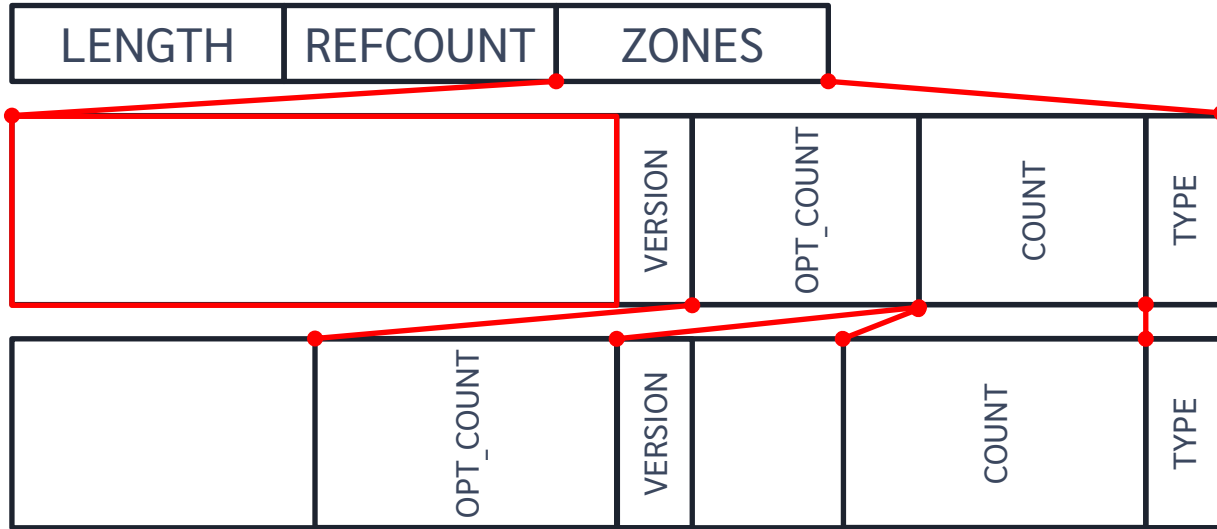


But that's "too big"
(details later)

24 bits wide
max value 16777216

"Local" pocket

```
grep ZONESBITFIELD *.h | grep -v "\<1\>" | wc  
142      752      6648
```



But 32 bit
workspaces will get
bigger.

16 bits wide
max value 65536

"Body" pocket



Number of lines in functions (4096)

12 bits wide
max value 4096

It's easy then, innit?

- ❖ No
 - ❖ Old Workspaces
 - ❖ Old Component Files
 - ❖ Old serialized data (sent down a socket)

Constants/Symbols limit

Part 2

Symbols / Constants limit

```
:if X ◇ 1 2 3 ◇ :endif
```

```
:if X ⋄ 1 2 3 ⋄ :endif
```

67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```

67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

*

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```

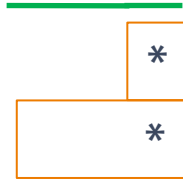
67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----



:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



16 bits wide
max index 65536




```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



16 bits wide
max index 65536

But we currently
only use 12 bits

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



16 bits wide
max index 65536



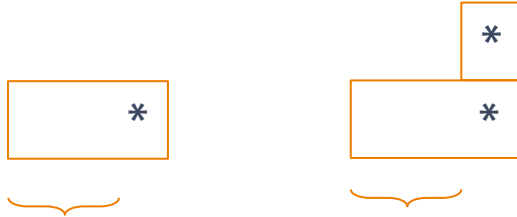
But we currently
only use 12 bits

So
4096->65536
is "doable"

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



16 bits wide
max index 65536



But we currently
only use 12 bits

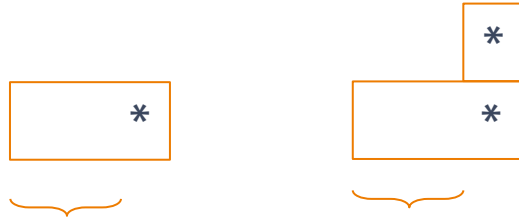
So
4096->65536
is "doable"

```
r←[  
1 1 1  
2 2 2  
3 3 3  
4 4 4  
5 5 5  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
4096 .  
]
```

```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```

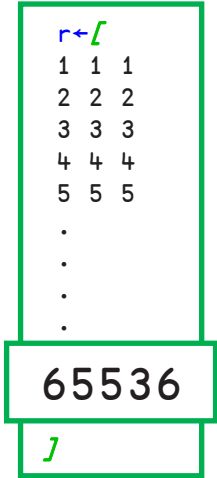


16 bits wide
max index 65536



But we currently
only use 12 bits

So
4096->65536
is "doable"



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



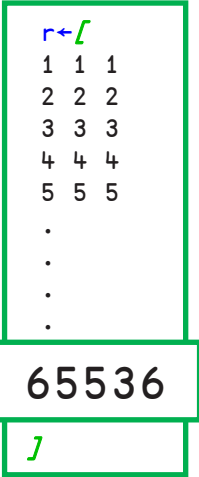
16 bits wide
max index 65536



But we currently
only use 12 bits

So
4096->65536
is "doable"

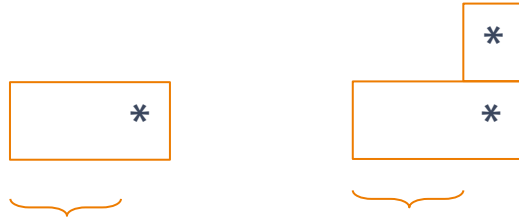
But not enough
room for more



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



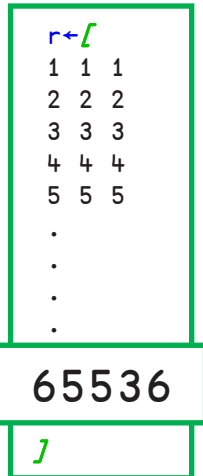
16 bits wide
max index 65536



But we currently
only use 12 bits

So
4096->65536
is "doable"

But not enough
room for more



"Migrants with functions of >9,999 lines"

Limits? What limits?

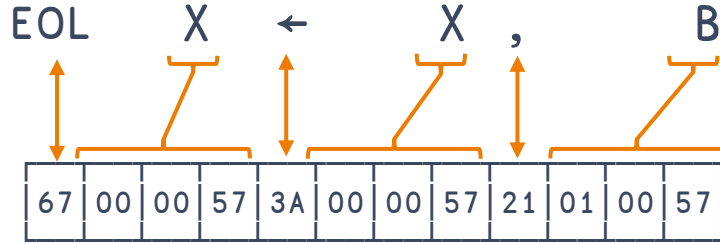
- Rank of array (15)
- Size of array
- Types of array (16)
- Depth of an array*
- Number of constants and names in code (4096)
- Function size (65536)
- Dfn depth (255)
- Number of primitives (256)
- Length of a symbol*
- Session input line / □PW
- Parentheses depth (255)
- Number of lines in functions (4096)
- Control structure depth (255)

"Body" pocket



Number of lines in functions (4096)

12 bits wide
max value 4096



- 12 tokens (bytes) for a "minimal line"
- Maximum Function size is 65536
- So, 10000 such lines is "too many tokens"

What can we do to change...?

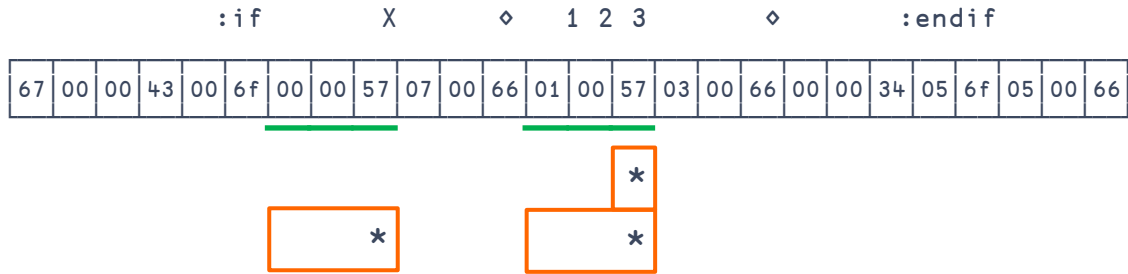
Function Too Large

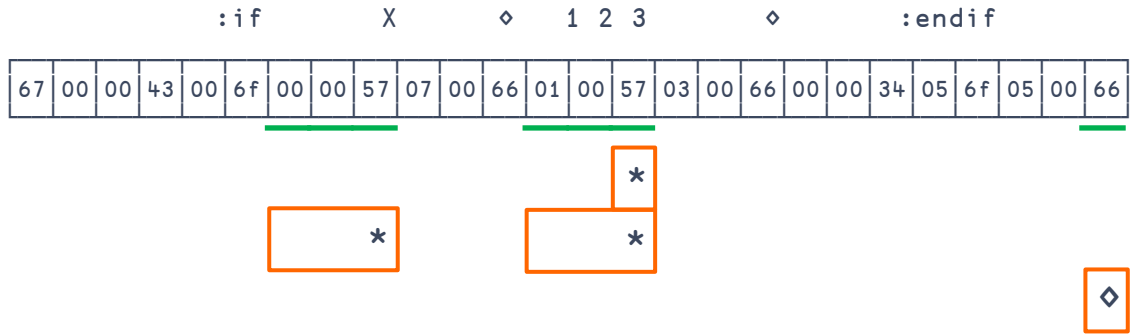
```
:if X ⋄ 1 2 3 ⋄ :endif
```

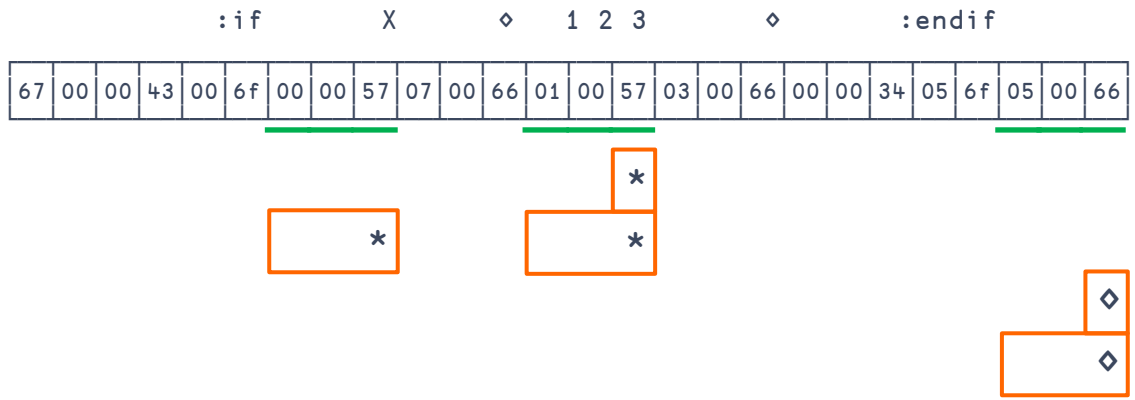
67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

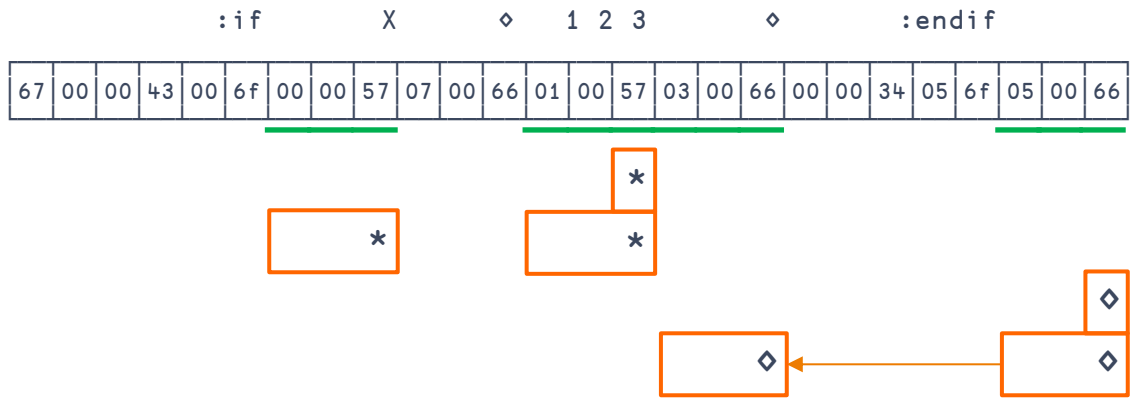
:if X ◇ 1 2 3 ◇ :endif

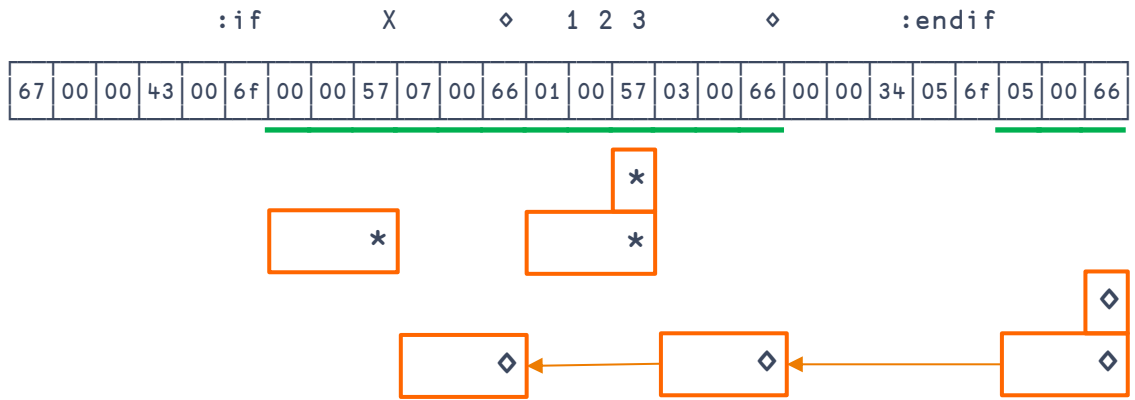
67	00	00	43	00	6f	00	00	57	07	00	66	01	00	57	03	00	66	00	00	34	05	6f	05	00	66
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

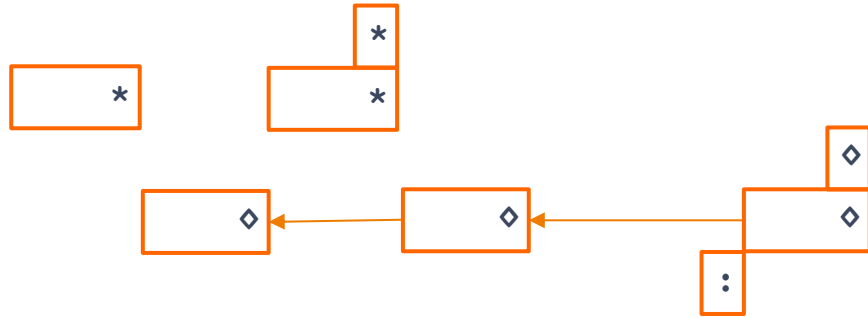
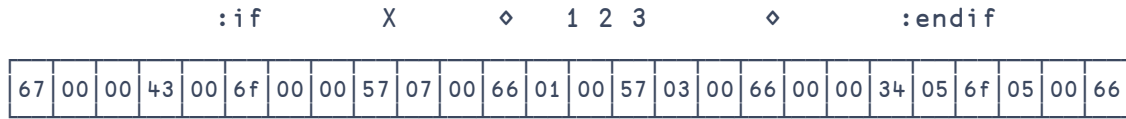


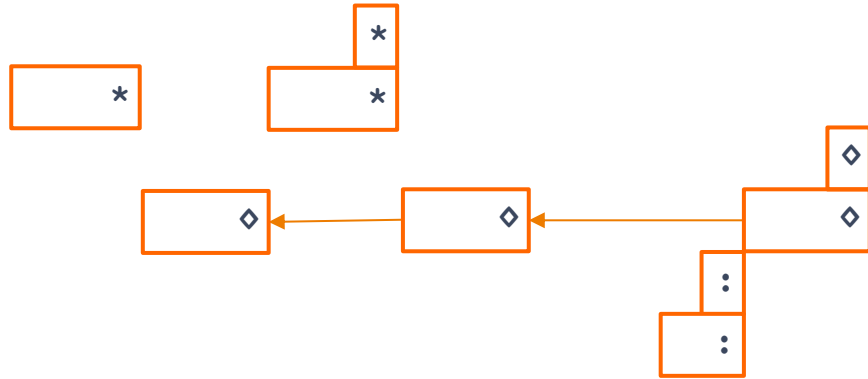
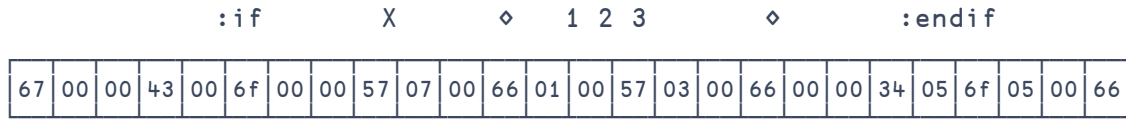


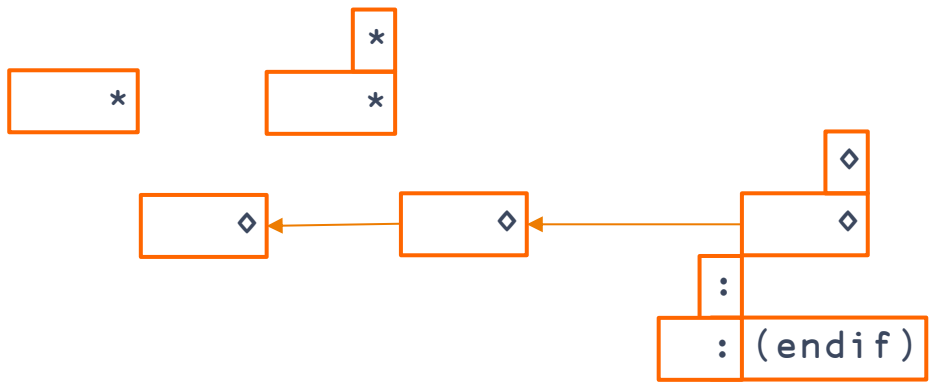
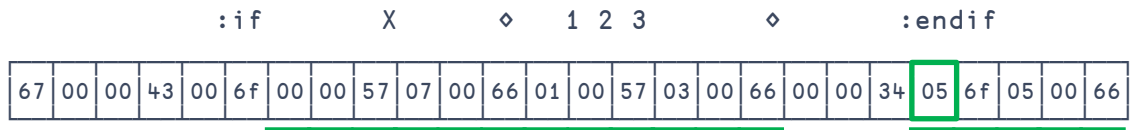








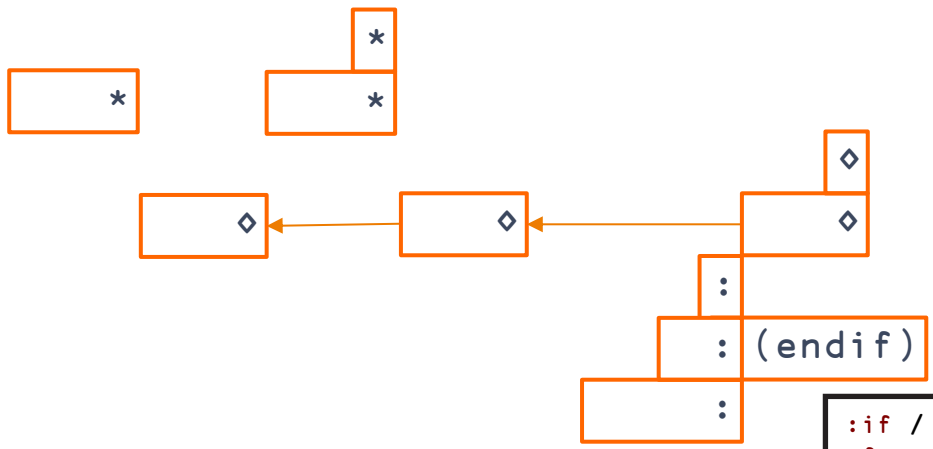
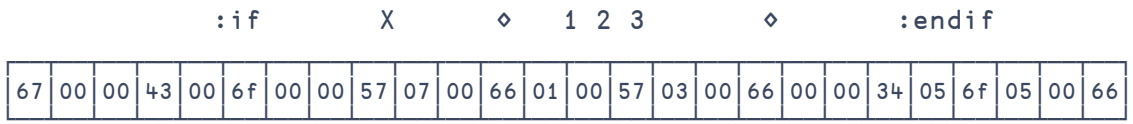




```

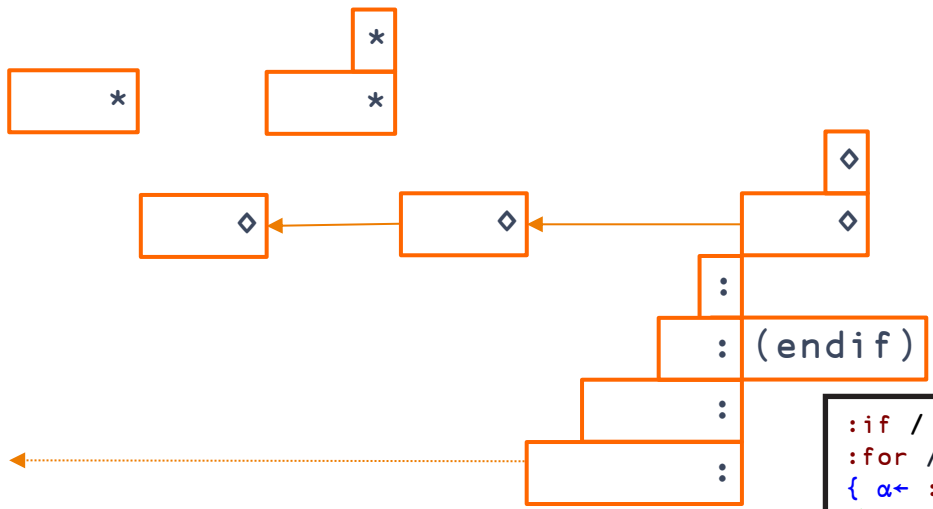
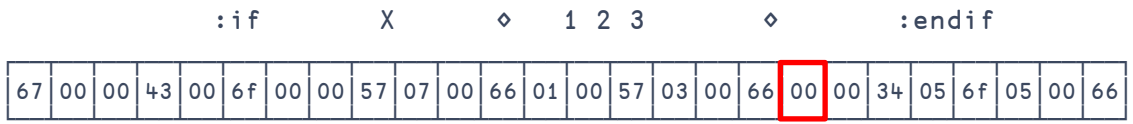
:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

```



```

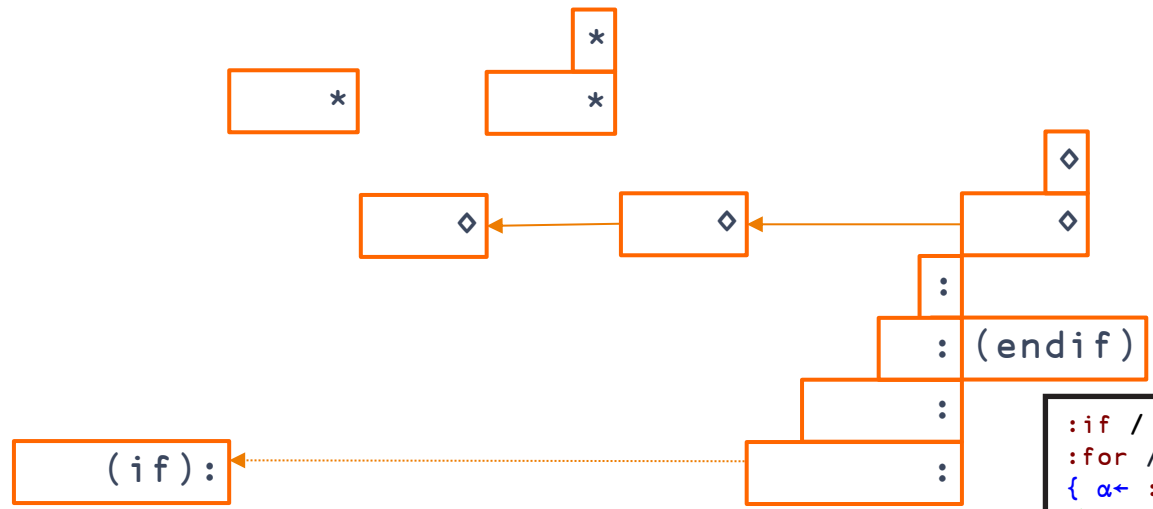
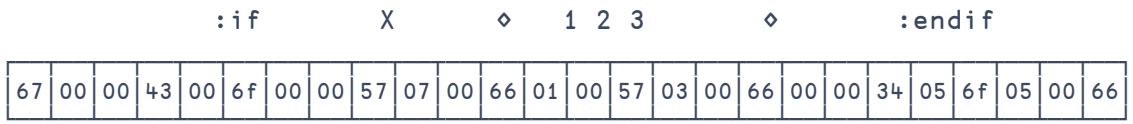
:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...
  
```



```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

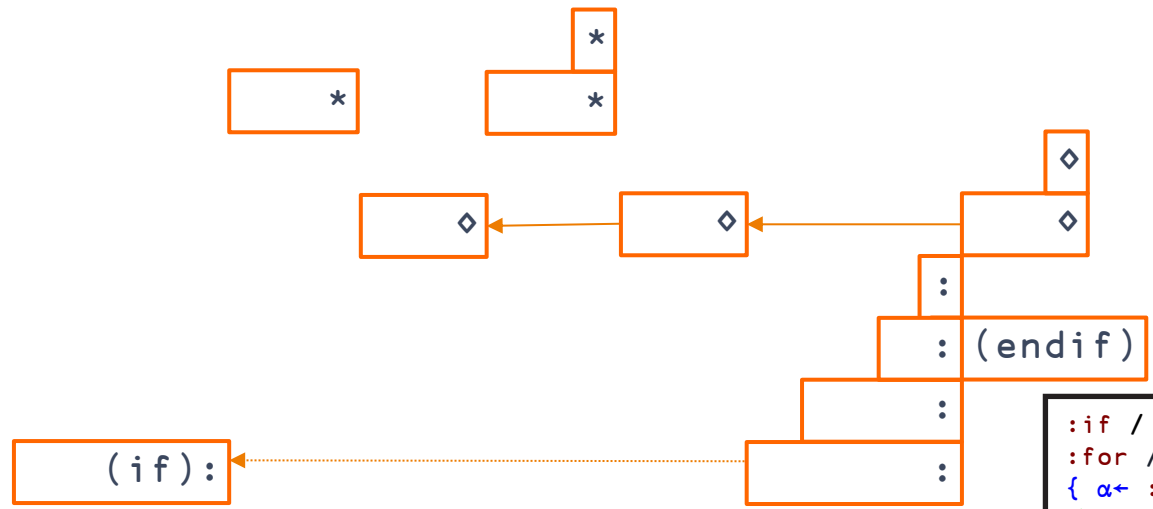
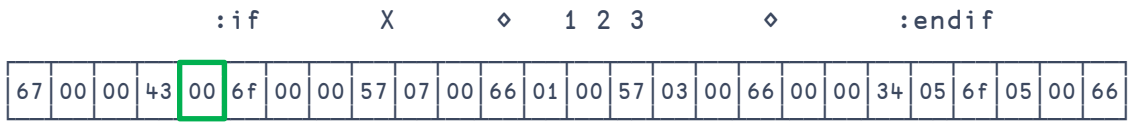
```



```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

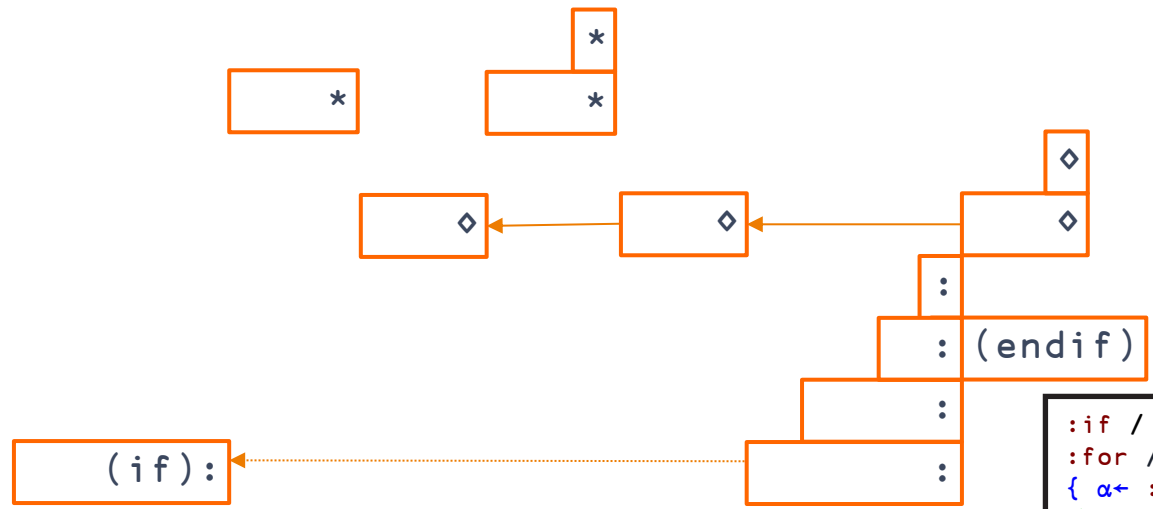
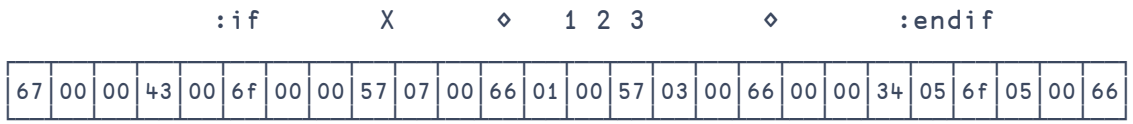
```

```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◇ }
( ◇ ; )
[ ◇ ]
...

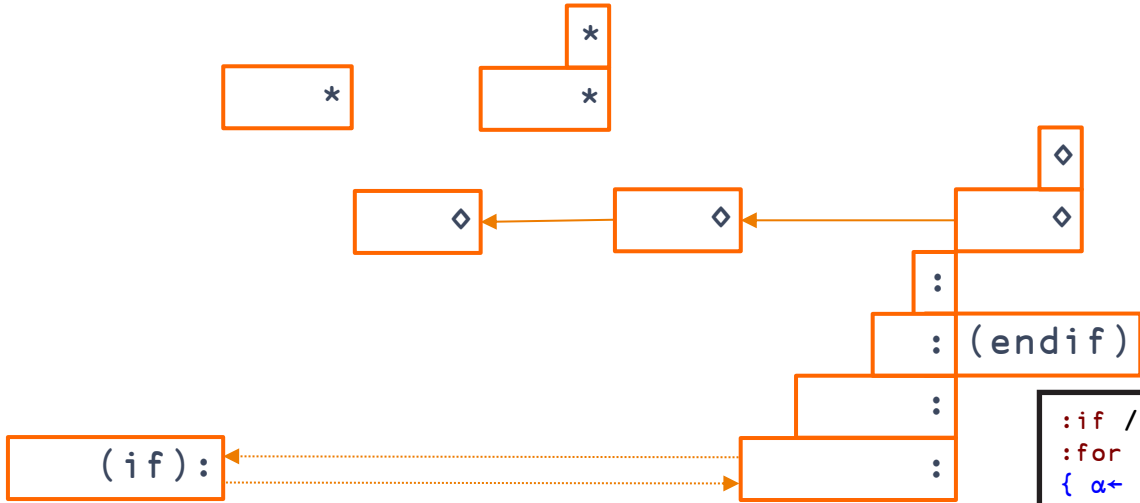
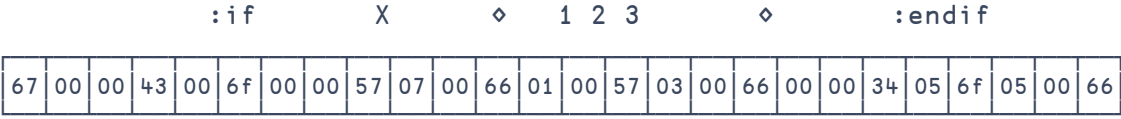
```



```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ : )
[ ◊ ]
...

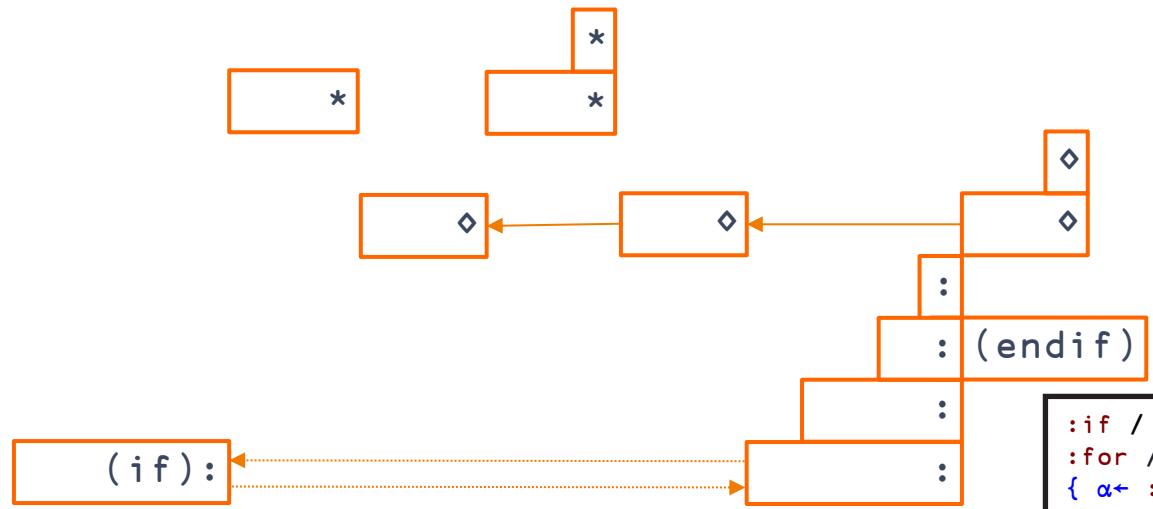
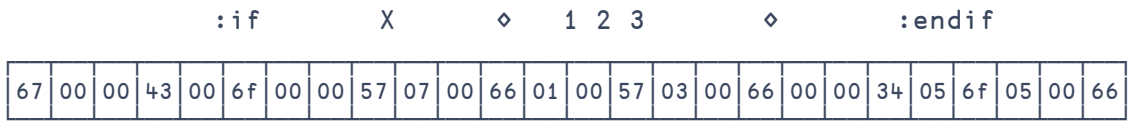
```



```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α+ : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

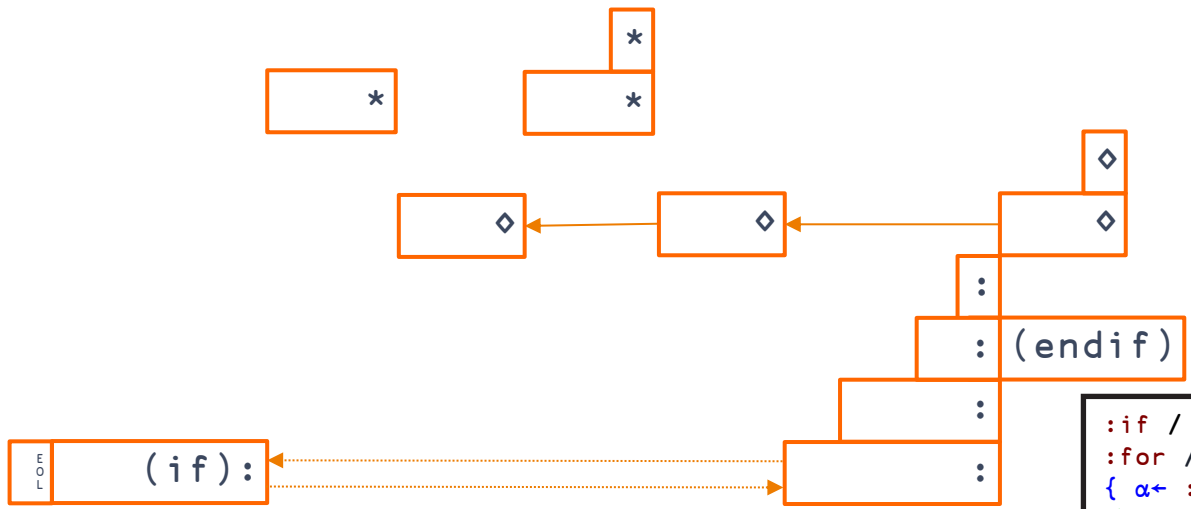
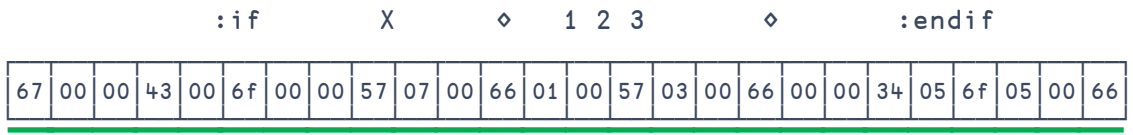
```



```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

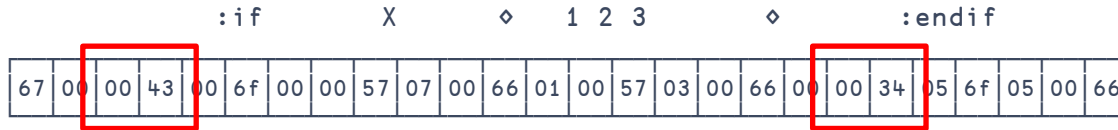
```



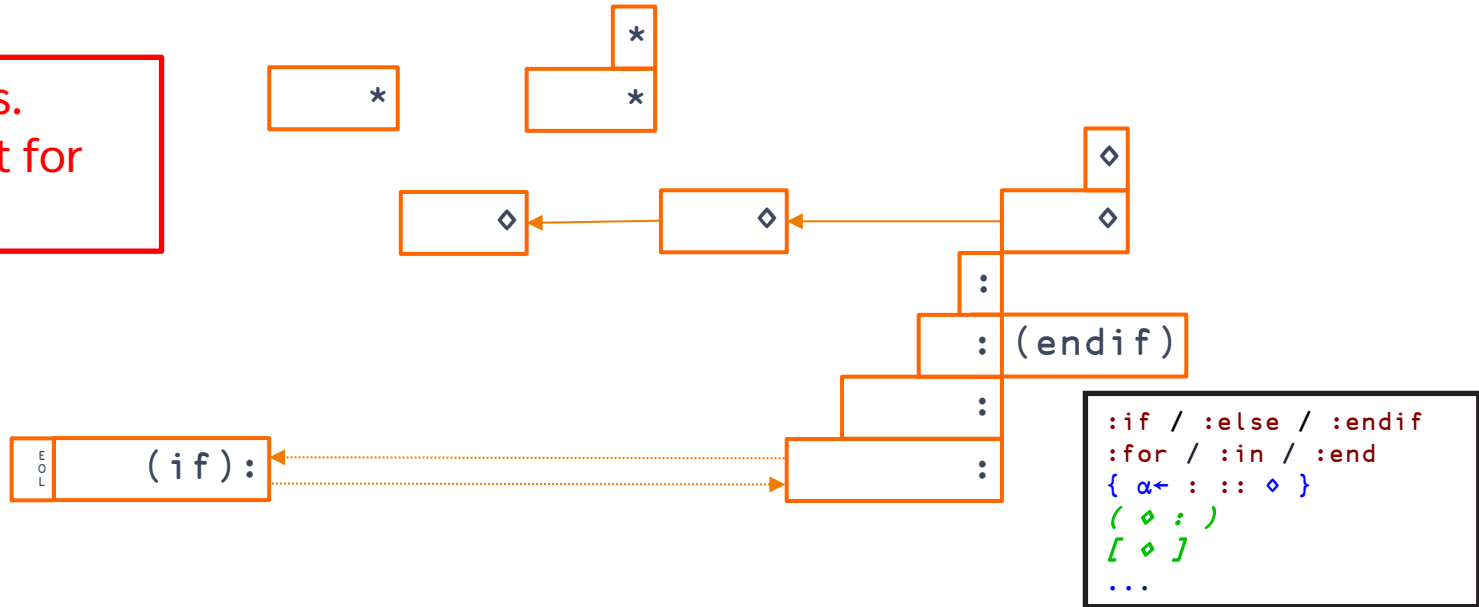
```

:if / :else / :endif
:for / :in / :end
{ α← : :: ◊ }
( ◊ ; )
[ ◊ ]
...

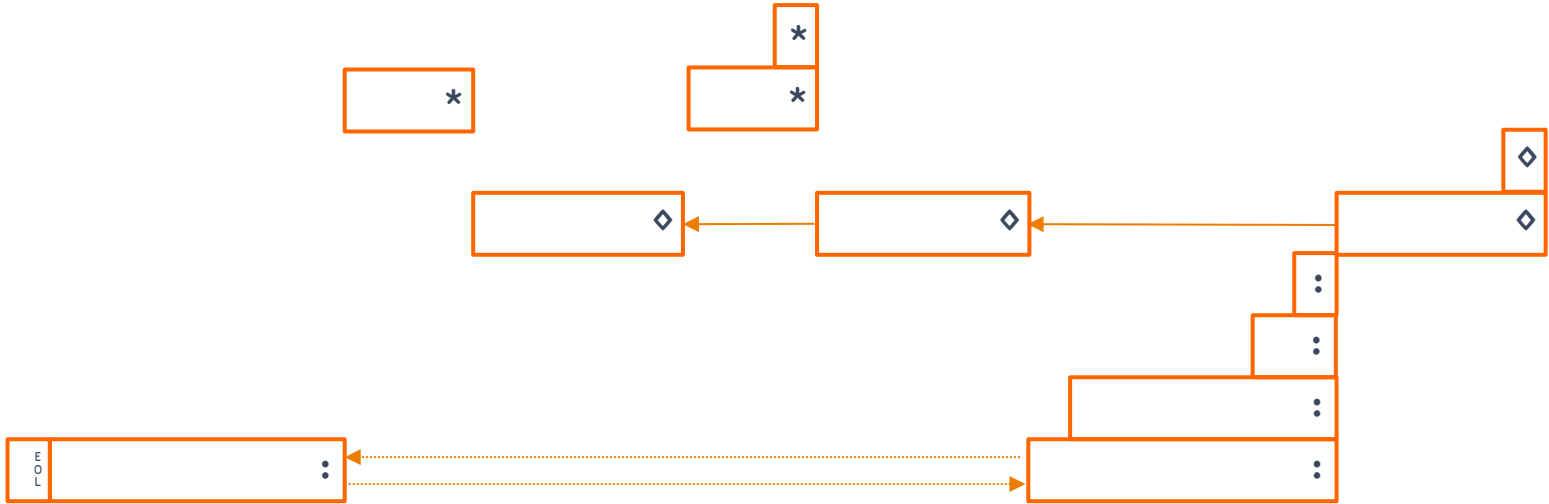
```



All 16 bit offsets.
65536 byte limit for
functions



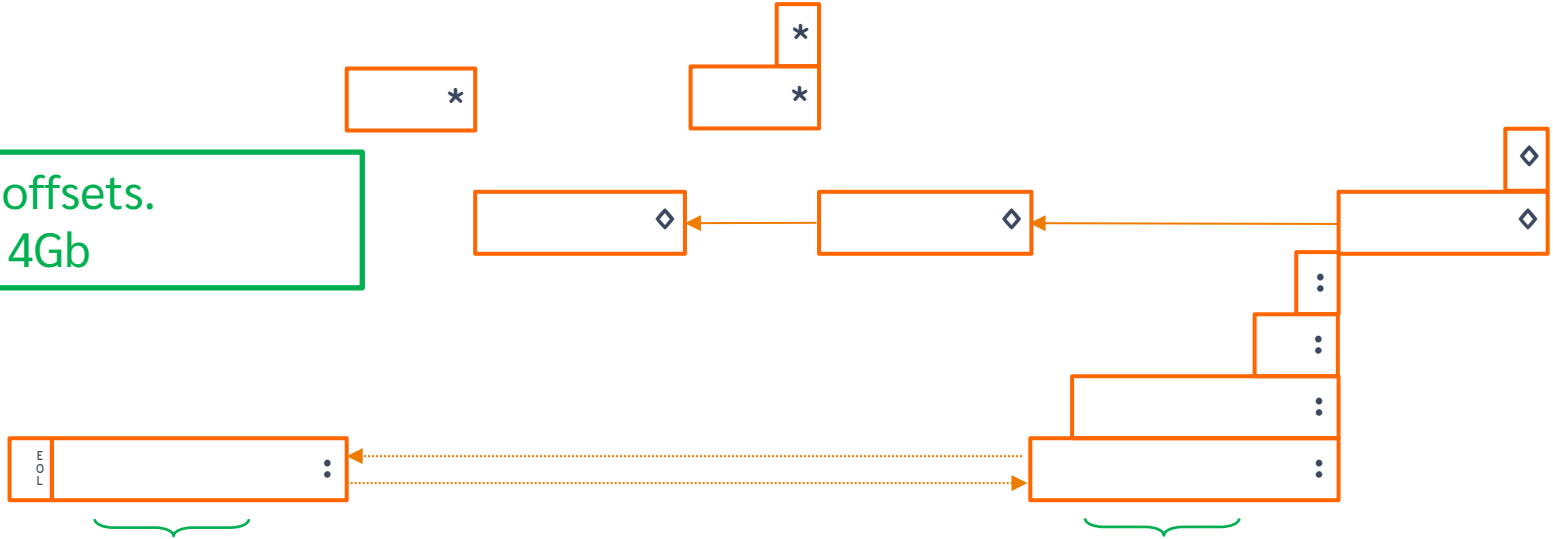
```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



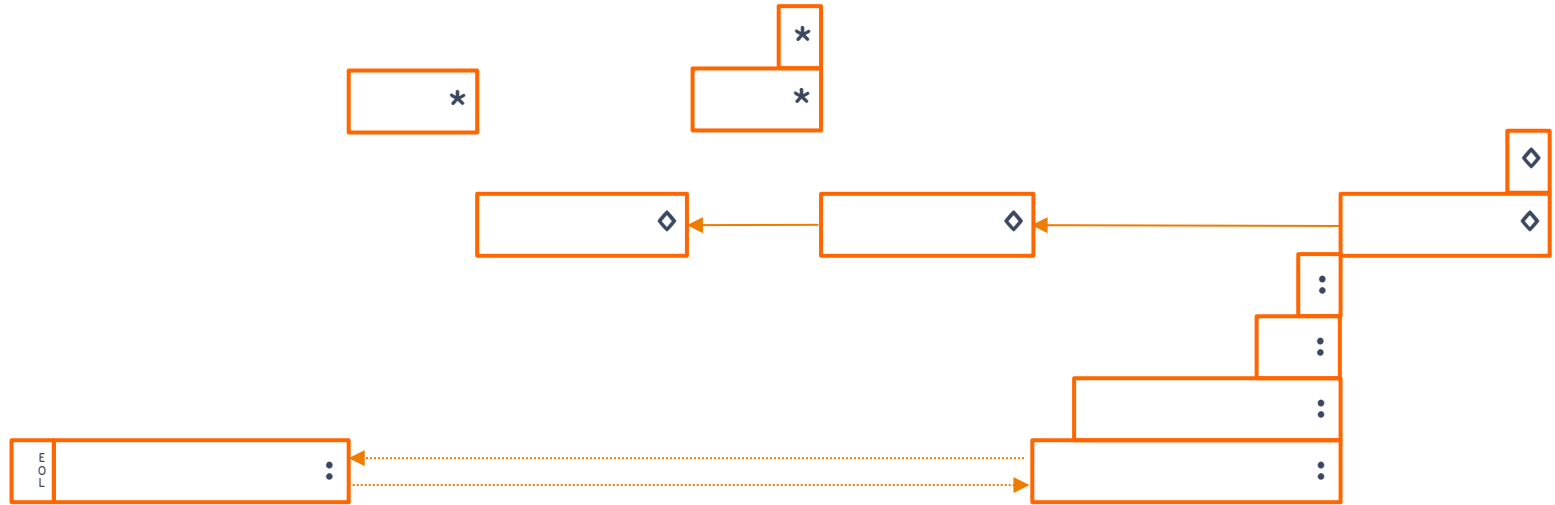
```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



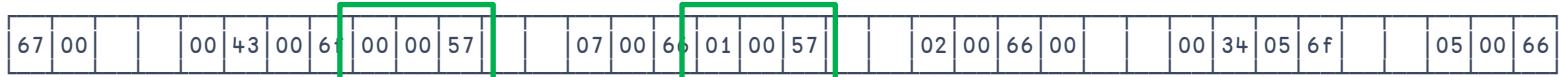
32 bit offsets.
About 4Gb



:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif

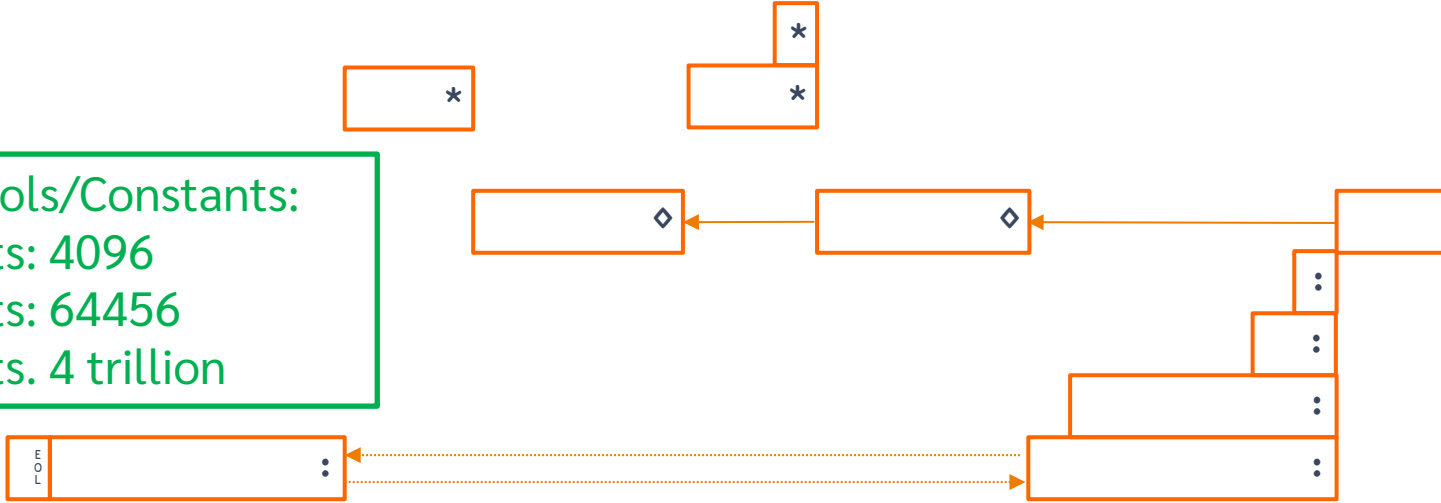


:if X ◇ 1 2 3 ◇ :endif

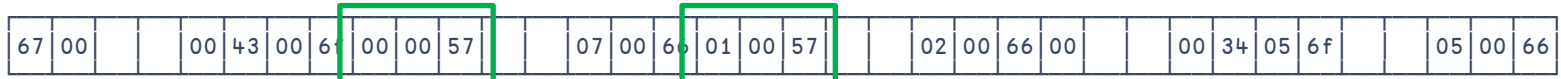


Symbols/Constants:
12 bits: 4096
16 bits: 64456
32 bits: 4 trillion

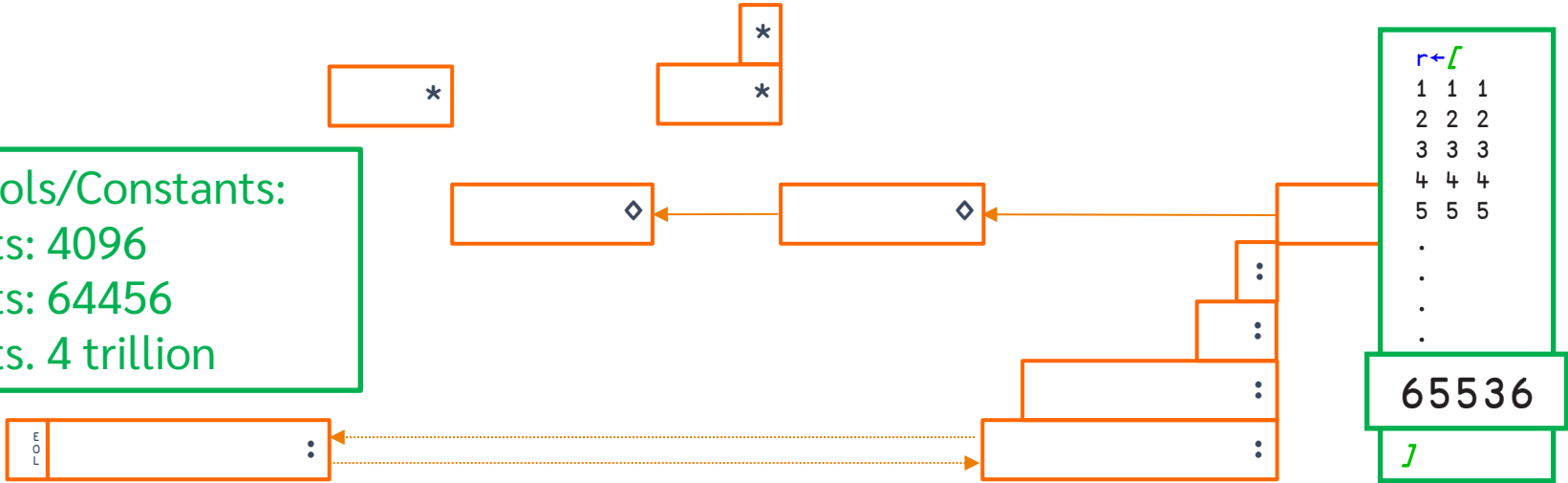
```
r←[  
1 1 1  
2 2 2  
3 3 3  
4 4 4  
5 5 5  
.  
.  
.  
.  
.  
4096 .  
]
```



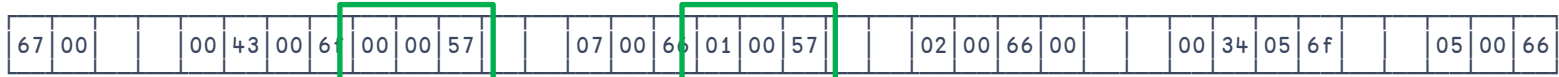
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif



Symbols/Constants:
12 bits: 4096
16 bits: 64456
32 bits: 4 trillion



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



Symbols/Constants:
 12 bits: 4096
 16 bits: 64456
 32 bits: 4 trillion

```
r←[
1 1 1
2 2 2
3 3 3
4 4 4
5 5 5
.
.
.
.
]
```

4294967296



It's easy then, innit?

- ❖ No
 - ❖ Old Workspaces
 - ❖ Old Component Files
 - ❖ Old serialized data (sent down a socket)

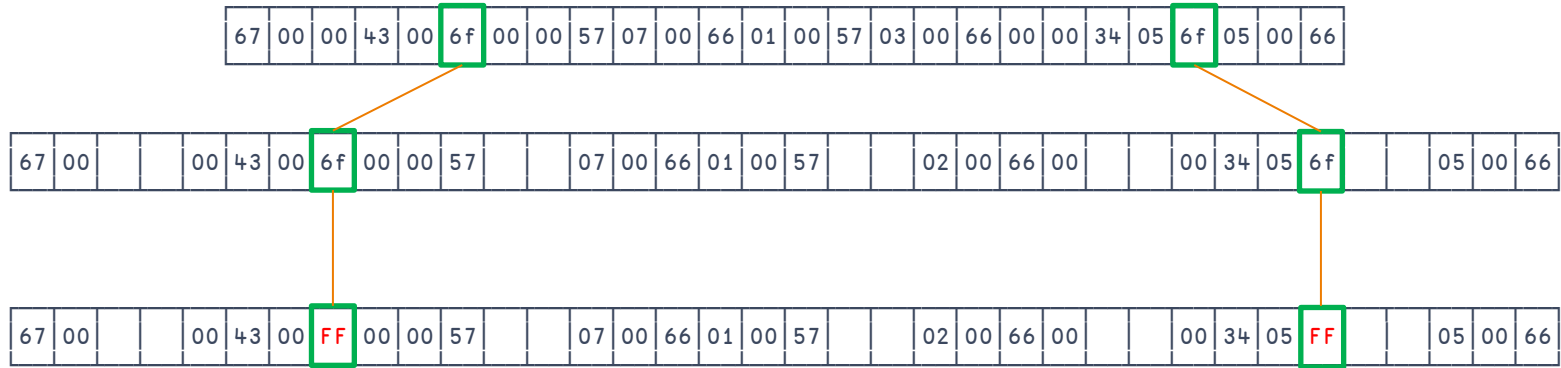
Consequences?

- Won't my workspace get larger?
- "Back of an envelope calculations"
- dfns.dws 2% larger.

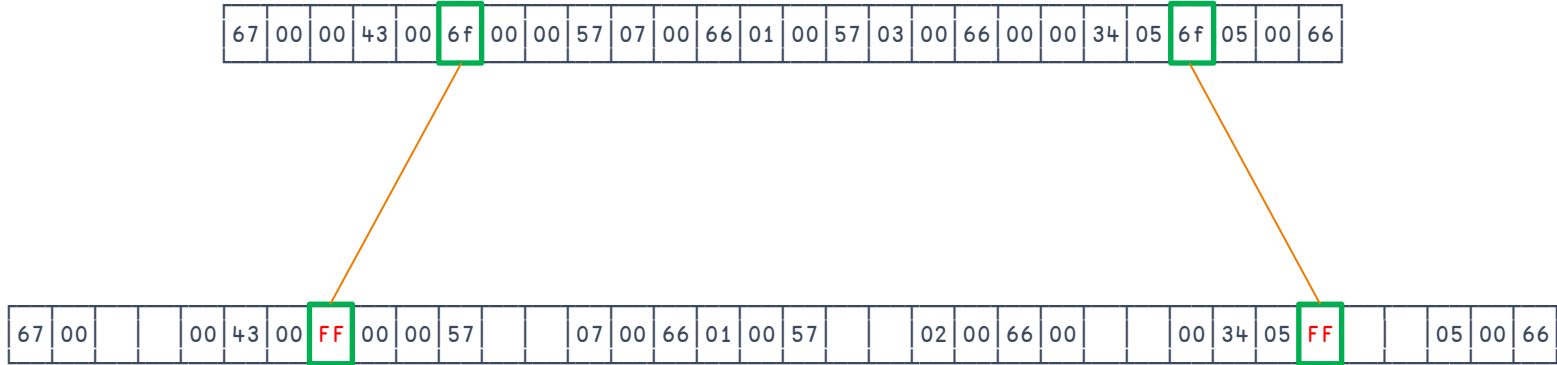
```
hex←{[CT [IO←0 A Hexadecimal from decimal.  
α← A no width specification.  
1≠Ξ,ω:α ∇"ω A simple-array-wise:  
1εω=1+ω:'Too big'[SIGNAL 11 A loss of precision.  
n←θρα,2*[2@2[16@1+[/|ω A default width.  
↓[0]'0123456789abcdef'[(n/16)↑ω] A character hex numbers.  
}
```

- 3% larger

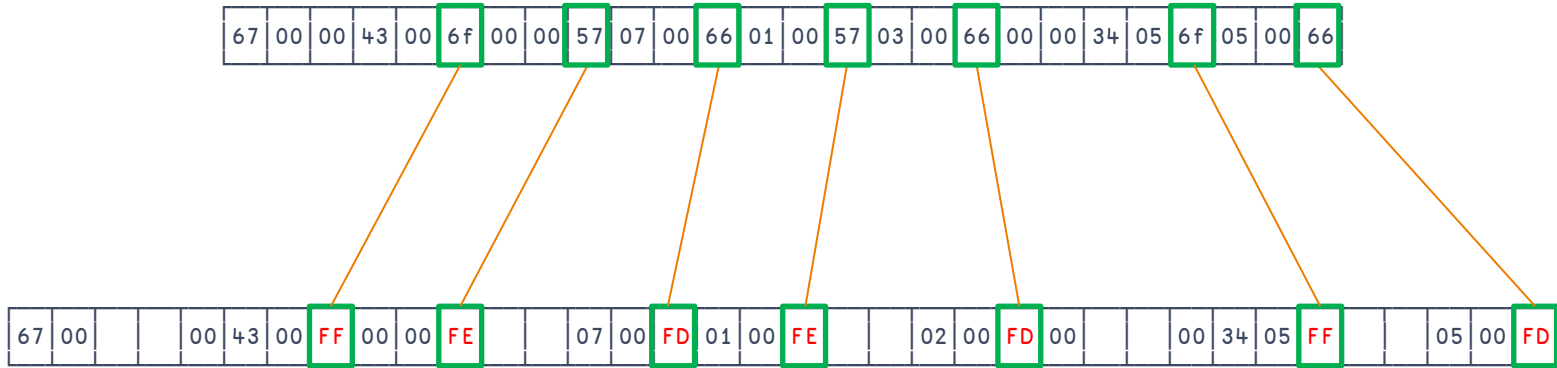
`:if X ⋄ 1 2 3 ⋄ :endif`



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif



```
:if X ◊ 1 2 3 ◊ :endif
```



Control structure depth



Number of control structure elements

It's easy then, innit?

- ◆ So there's a trade off
- ◆ Workspace size vs interpreter complexity
 - ◆ Performance
- ◆ Backwards compatibility is crucial for arrays (at least for those of compatible rank, etc)

It's easy then, innit?

- ◆ It's entirely doable
- ◆ There are many limits (I've touched on a few)
- ◆ And we can do some of them individually
- ◆ But it may be more efficient to do them "en masse"
- ◆ Backwards compatibility is crucial for arrays (at least for those of compatible rank, etc)