

slide 7

## Use delete to Deallocate Instances, delete[] for Arrays

Given MyClass\* m, • delete m; // deletes an instance • delete[] m; // deletes an array Before the memory is freed, destructors

(with no arguments) **are called** on all instances.

As with modern C, • deleting NULL has no effect, but • deleting a "pointer" of uninitialized bits is problematic.

ECE 220: Computer Systems & Programming

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Did you notice that I said that parentheses had to be omitted to get the constructor with no arguments? In certain cases, C++ applies "value-initialization:" int32\_t i{; int32\_t i = int32\_t (); // avoid MyClass\* m = new MyClass (); // iff default no args constructor // is available; user-def'd is called Value-initialization zeroes all non-instance fields, then calls constructors for base classes and instance fields.

Initialization Rules Can Be Convoluted