

### CP MODULE 3

*Pointers: Array of pointers, structures and pointers. Example programs using pointers and structures.*

### POINTERS

#### ABOUT MEMORY LOCATION AND STORAGE SPACE

Within the computer's memory, every stored data item occupies one or more contiguous memory cells (i.e., adjacent words or bytes).

Computer's memory is a sequential collection of locations where each location can store 1 byte of data.

The number of memory cells required to store a data item depends on the type of data item.

For example,

- an **integer** usually requires two contiguous bytes;
- a single **character** will typically be stored in one byte (8 bits) of memory;
- a **floating-point** number may require four contiguous bytes; and
- a **double-precision** quantity may require eight contiguous bytes.

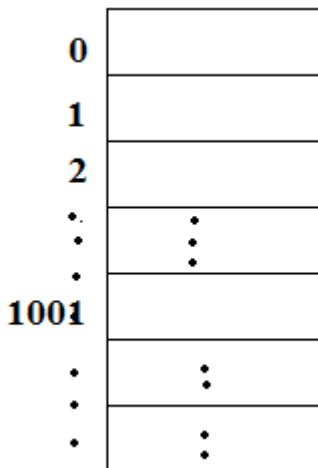
E.g.

```
int a;  
float b;  
char c;
```

Suppose integer variable **a** is stored in memory location 2000 .(It will occupy(2 bytes) locations 2000 and 2001. Address of a is represented by &a

Suppose floating point variable **b** is stored in memory location 4100.(It will occupy(4 bytes) locations 4100 to 4103. Address of b is represented by &b

Suppose character variable **c** is stored in memory location 3105.(It will occupy(1byte) locations 3105. Address of c is represented by &c

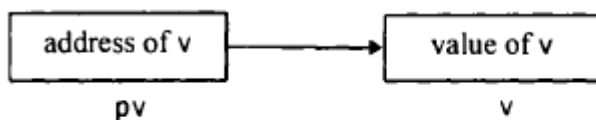


Computer memory showing location 0,1.....1001.....

## Pointers

A pointer is a variable that *represents the location* (rather than the value) *of a data items* such as a variable or an array element.

- The data item can then be accessed if we know the location (i.e., the address) of the first memory cell.
- The address of a variable  $v$ 's memory location is  $\&v$ , where  $\&$  is a unary operator, called the **address operator**, that evaluates the address of its operand.
- let us assign the address of  $v$  to another variable,  $pv$ . Thus,  
int  $v=10$ ;  
int  $*pv$ ;  
 $pv = \&v$ ;
- This new variable  $pv$  is called a pointer to  $v$ , since it “points” to the location where  $v$  is stored in memory.
- $pv$  represents  $v$ 's address, not its value.
- Thus,  $pv$  is referred to as a **pointer variable**.



### Relationship between $pv$ and $v$ (where $pv = \&v$ and $v = *pv$ )

The data item represented by  $v$  (i.e., the data item stored in  $v$ 's memory cells) can be accessed using pointer variable  $pv$  using expression  $*pv$ , where  $*$  is a unary operator, called the **indirection operator**, that operates only on a pointer.

Therefore,  $*pv$  and  $v$  both represent the same data item (i.e., the contents of the same memory cells).

### POINTER DECLARATIONS

- Pointer variables, like all other variables, must be declared before they may be used in a C program.
- When a pointer variable **variable name must be preceded by an asterisk (\*)** is declared, the .
  - This identifies the fact that the variable is a pointer.
- **A pointer declaration** may be written in general terms as  
**data- type \*ptvar;**
  - where  $ptvar$  is the name of the pointer variable, and data-type refers to the data type of the pointer's object

```
float *p;
```

This declares  $pv$  to be a pointer variable whose object is a floating-point quantity; i.e.,  $pv$  points to a floating-point quantity.  $pv$  represents an address, not a floating-point quantity.

## POINTER INITIALIZATION

Within a variable declaration, a pointer variable can be initialized by assigning it the address of another variable.

E.g;

```
int a=10;
```

```
int *p=&a;
```

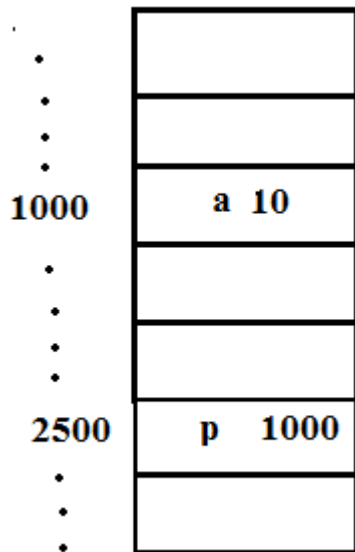
This can also be written as

```
int a=10;
```

```
int *p;
```

```
p=&a;
```

Here p is an integer pointer variable in location 2500 that stores the address of integer variable a. So integer variable a should be declared before declaring the pointer variable p.



Suppose a is stored in memory location 1000. Pointer variable p is in memory location 2500.

```
int a=10;
```

```
int * p=&a;
```

or

```
int *p;
```

```
p=&a;
```

This means that the pointer variable p stores the address of variable a.

Here the value of :

address of a            **&a is 1000**

Since p=&a            **p is also 1000**

&p is the address of p . Here **&p is 2500.**

**a is 10.** So the value of **\*p is also 10**

**E.g.**

```
#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
    int a,*p;
    a=45;
    p=&a;

    printf("The value of a is %d *p is %d\n",a,*p);
    *p=25;
    printf("The value of *p now is %d\n",*p)
    printf("The value of a now is %d\n",a);
}
```

Output is:

The value of a is 45 \*p is 45

The value of \*p now is 25

The value of a now is 25

**E.g.**

**Pointer Examples**

```
#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
    int a=10, b=20, *p, *j;
    p=&a;
    j=&b;
    printf("\nAddition a + b = %d", a + b);

    printf("\nAddition *p + b = %d", *p + b);
    printf("\nAddition *p + *j = %d", *p + *j);
    printf("\nAddition *(p) + *(j) = %d", *(p) + *(j));
    printf("\nAddition *(&a) + *(&b) = %d", *(&a) + *(&b));
}
```

OUTPUT

Addition a + b=30

Addition \*p + b=30

Addition \*p + \*j =30

Addition \*(p) + \*(j) =30

Addition \*(&a) + \*(&b) = 30

### NULL POINTER

- Null pointer does not currently point to a valid memory location. It is given the value null (which is **zero**).
- **Null pointer** does not hold the address of any element.
- A null pointer does not point to anywhere.
- One way to give a pointer a null value is to assign zero to it.

E.g.

```
#define NULL 0
```

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
    float *pv = NULL;
```

```
}
```

Here pv is declared as a pointer variable that points to a floating-point quantity. In addition, pv is initially assigned a value of 0 to indicate some special condition. pv is null pointer.

null pointer is a value whereas void pointer is a type.

### VOID POINTER

- A void pointer is a pointer that *has no associated data type* with it.
- Void pointer is a generic pointer
  - It can hold address of any type of variable.
- A void pointer is declared like a normal pointer, using the **void** keyword as the pointer's type.

```
void *vptr;
```

- pointers of one data type cannot hold the address of a variable of some other type.
- void pointer **cannot be dereferenced** *because the void pointer does not know what type of object it is pointing to*
  - To solve this type casting can be done.
  - When we assign *address of integer to the void pointer*, pointer will become **integer pointer**. To print the value using that void pointer it has to be **typecasted to (int \*)**
  - When we assign *address of character to the void pointer*, pointer will become **character pointer**. To print the value using that void pointer it has to be **typecasted to (char \*)**

- If the void pointer contains the address of a float variable, then we need to **typecast** the pointer to (float\*) before printing the variable's value.

E.g.

```
main()
{
inti=2;
void * ptr;
ptr=&i;
printf("%d ",*((int*)ptr));
}
```

ptr is a void pointer. It is type casted into integer

- **no arithmetic operations** can be performed on void pointer.

```
void *ptr = 0; // Here ptr is a void pointer that is currently a null pointer
```

## CONSTANT POINTER

A **constant pointer** is a pointer that cannot change the address it is holding. In other words, once a constant pointer points to a variable, then it cannot point to any other variable. Trying to do so will result in error.

A **constant pointer** is declared as follows :<type of pointer> \* **const**<name of pointer>

E.g. int\* constptr;

```
#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
int var1 = 0, var2 = 0;
int *constptr = &var1; //ptr is const pointer. It contains the address of var1.
ptr = &var2; //ERROR, ptr is a const pointer. The address it holds cannot be changed.
printf("%d\n", *ptr);
}
```

## OPERATIONS ON POINTERS / POINTER ARITHMETIC

```
int v=2,u=5;
```

```
int *pv;
```

```
int *pu
```

1. A pointer variable can be assigned the address of an ordinary variable (e.g., pv = &v).
2. A pointer variable can be assigned the value of another pointer variable (e.g., pv = px) provided both pointers point to objects of the same data type .
3. A pointer variable can be **assigned a null (zero) value** (e.g., pv = NULL, where NULL is a symbolic constant that represents the value 0).
4. An integer quantity can be added to or subtracted from a pointer variable (e.g., pv + 3, ++pv, etc.)

5. One pointer variable can be **subtracted** from another pointer so that both pointers point to elements of the same array.

6. Two pointer variables can be **compared** provided both pointers point to objects of the same data type.

- **Other arithmetic operations on pointers are not allowed.**

*E.g.*

- a pointer variable cannot be multiplied by a constant;
- two pointer variables cannot be added;
- Ordinary variable cannot be assigned an arbitrary address (i.e., an expression such as &x cannot appear on the left side of an assignment statement).

*E.g*

```
int a=2;
int b=3;
&a=b; // ERROR
```

## POINTERS AND ONE-DIMENSIONAL ARRAYS

If x is a one dimensional array, then

- the address of the first array element can be expressed as either &x [0] or simply as x
- The address of the second array element can be written as either &x [1] or as (x + 1), and so on.
- In general, the address of array element (i + 1) can be expressed as either &x [ i] or as (x+i).
- Since &x[i] and (x + i) both represent the address of the ith element of x,
  - x[i] and \*(x + i) both represent the contents of that address, i.e., the value of the ith element of x.

<pre>static intx[10]={10,20,25}; // x is integer array of size 10 with initial value 10,11,12                           //x[0] is 10 x[1] is 20 x[2] is 25                           //remaining spaces filled with 0</pre>	
<pre>x x+0</pre>	Address of 0th element(starting element) in array &x[0]
<pre>*x *(x+0)</pre>	Value Of 0th element(starting element) in array x[0]
<pre>x+i</pre>	Address of ith element in array &x[i]

<code>*(x+i)</code>	Value Of ith element in array <code>x[i]</code>
---------------------	--

Example Display contents in array using pointer

```
#include <stdio.h>
main()
{
static int x[10] = {10, 11 , 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19};
inti ;
    for ( i = 0; i<= 9; ++i)
    {
printf( " %d\t", * ( x+i ) );
    }
}
```

Or

```
#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
static int x[10] = {10, 11 , 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19};
inti ;
int *p;
p=x;
for( i = 0; i<= 9; ++i)
{
printf( "%d\t", *p ) ;
p++;
}
}
```

OUTPUT

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

- x is an integer array of size 10  
`intx[10];`
- x, ( x + i) and `&x [i]` cannot appear on the left side of an assignment statement.
  - Because the address of an array cannot arbitrarily be altered
  - So expressions such as `++x` are not permitted.
  - Note that the address of one array element cannot be assigned to some other array element. Thus we cannot write a statement such as  
`&line[2] = &line[1];`



- we can assign the value of one array element to another through a pointer

```

intline[80];
int *pl;
/*To assign(store) value of line[1] in line[2]*/
line[2] = line[1];
or
line[2] = *(line + 1);           // line+1 is &line[1]
                                /**(line+1) is line[1]

or
pl = &line[1];
line[2] = *pl;
Or
pl = line + 1;
*(line + 2) = *pl;

```

- If a numerical array is defined as a pointer variable, the array elements cannot be assigned initial values.

### **STRINGS and POINTERS**

- A character-type pointer variable can be assigned an entire string when it is declared.
  - So string can conveniently be represented by either a one-dimensional character array or a character pointer.

```

#include <stdio.h>
char x[] = "This string is declared externally\n";
main( )
{
static char y[] = "This string is declared within main";
printf( " % s " , x);
printf( "%s", y) ;
}

```

Here definition of y occurs within a function; therefore y[ ] must be defined as static array so that it can be initialized.

```

#include <stdio.h>
char *x = "This string is declared externally\n";
main( )
{
char *y = "This string is declared within main";
printf( " %s" , x);
}

```

```
printf( "%s", y) ;
printf( " *x= %c " , *x);
printf( " *(x+1)=%c", *(x+1)) ;
```

```
}
```

## OUTPUT

This string is declared externally

This string is declared within main

\*x=T

\*(x+1)=h

- Although x is a pointer here, no need to write \*x to print the string because x is also the name of the string.
- \*x will actually print the zeroth character of the string.]

The external pointer variable x points to the beginning of the first string, whereas the pointer variable y, declared within main, points to the beginning of the second string.

Since y is a pointer, y can be initialized without being declared static.

## e.G.input string as pointer

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

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

```
intmain(){
    char *str;
    str=(char *) malloc(sizeof(char)*12);
```

```
printf("enter the string : ");
scanf("%s", str);
printf("you entered %s\n", s);
}
```

## E.g. Input 3 strings using pointers

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

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

```
intmain(){
    char *s[3];
    intn,len,i;

    for(i=0;i<3;i++)
    {
        s[i]=(char *) malloc(sizeof(char)*12);
    }
    printf("Enter strings");
```

```

        for(i=0;i<3;i++)
        {
            scanf(" %s",s[i]);
        }
for(i=0;i<3;i++)
    {
        printf("\n %s",s[i]);
    }

}

```

E.g. **The program to finds the length of a string using pointers.**

```

#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
char *cptr,str[10];
int length=0;
printf("Enter the string\n");
scanf("%s",str);
cptr=str;                //pointer to first(0th) character in the string
while(*cptr!='\0')
{
length++;
cptr++;                /*incrementing the pointer so that it points to next character in the string*/
}
printf("The length of the string %s is %d\n",str,length);
}

```

### ***OUTPUT***

```

Enter the string
Hello
The length of the string Hello is 5

```

### **\*p++ is same as \*(p++)**

It will first compute \*p (value stored in content of p(address of an item)). Then p will be incremented to point to next location.

**Eg.**

**x=\*p++;**

**Or**

**x=\*(p++);**

is equivalent to writing

**x=\*p;**

**p=p+1;**

**But (\*p)++ will first compute \*p. Then the value of \*p is incremented by 1.**

**x>(\*p)++;**

is equivalent to

**x=\*p;**

**\*p=\*p+1;**

```
#include <stdio.h>
main()
{
intarr[] = {10, 20};
int *p = arr;
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, (*p)++ = %d", arr[0], arr[1], (*p)++);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
}
```

### **Output**

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
arr[0] = 11, arr[1] = 20, (*p)++ = 10
arr[0] = 11, arr[1] = 20, *p = 11
```

```
-----
#include <stdio.h>
main(void)
{
intarr[] = {10, 20};
int *p = arr;
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p++ = %d",arr[0], arr[1], *p++);

printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
}
```

### **Output**

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p++ = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 20
```

```
-----
#include <stdio.h>
main(void)
{
intarr[] = {10, 20};
int *p = arr;
```

```
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d",arr[0], arr[1], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *(p++) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *(p++));
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p); }
```

### Output

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *(p++) = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 20
```

---

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
intarr[] = {10, 20,30};
int *p = arr;
*++p;
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, arr[2]=%d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1],arr[2], *p);

printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, *(p++) = %d", arr[0],arr[1], arr[2], *(p++));

printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], arr[2], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p)++ = %d", arr[0], arr[1],arr[2], (*p)++);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], arr[2], *p);
return 0;
}
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, *p = 20
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, *(p++) = 20
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, (*p) = 30
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 31, (*p)++ = 30
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 31, (*p) = 31
```

## DYNAMIC MEMORY ALLOCATION

A conventional array definition results in a fixed block of memory being reserved at the beginning of program execution, whereas this does not occur if the array is represented in terms of a pointer variable.

Example:-

```
inta[10];
```

This will allot 10 spaces for storing 10 numbers in array a.

The mechanism by which *storage*/memory/cells *can be allocated to variables during the run time* is called **dynamic memory allocation**.

Dynamic memory allocation methods are

- malloc()

- free()
- calloc()

If we use pointer variable to represent an array, we have to assign required memory(storage) before processing the array elements. This is known as dynamic memory allocation.

Generally, the **malloc** library function is used for allocation required space

Suppose x is a one-dimensional, 10-element array of integers. It is possible to define x as a pointer variable rather than an array. Thus, we can write

**int \*x;**

instead of writing the following:-

intx[10];

Or

#define SIZE 10

int x[SIZE];

When x is defined as a pointer variable, x is not automatically assigned a memory block, but a block of memory large enough to store 10 integer quantities will be reserved in advance when x is defined as an array.

To assign sufficient memory for pointer variable x, we can make use of the library function **malloc**, as follows.

x = (int \*) malloc(10 \* sizeof(int));

This function reserves a block of memory whose size (in bytes) is equivalent to 10 integer quantities.

Consider double pointer y to store 10 doublenumbers:-

double \*y;

y = (double \*) malloc(10 \* sizeof(double));

Here y is a pointer to double-precision quantity and we have can enough memory to store 10 double-precision quantities.

- If the declaration is to **include the assignment of initial values**, then x must be defined as **an array** rather than a pointer variable. For example,

int x[10] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 , 6, 7, 8, 9, 10};

or

intx[] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 , 6, 7, 8, 9, 10};

- **malloc** and calloc() are library functions that allocate memory dynamically. It means that memory is allocated during runtime(execution of the program) from heap segment.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>malloc()</b> allocates memory block of given size (in bytes) and returns a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>calloc() allocates the memory and also initializes the allocates memory block to zero.</b></li> </ul>

<p>pointer to the beginning of the block. malloc() doesn't initialize the allocated memory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If we try to access the content of memory block then we'll get garbage values.</li> </ul> <pre>void * malloc( size_t size ); ptr = (cast-type*) malloc(byte-size)</pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If we try to access the content of these blocks then we'll get 0.</li> </ul> <pre>void * calloc( size_t num, size_t size );</pre> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● calloc() takes two arguments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Number of blocks to be allocated.</li> <li>2) Size of each block.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
--	--

### free(pointer variable)

free(pointer variable) is a dynamic memory management function that help to release the memory allocated using malloc() function.

**free** method is used to dynamically **de-allocate** the memory. The memory allocated using functions malloc() and calloc() are not de-allocated on their own. Hence the free() method is used, whenever the dynamic memory allocation takes place. It helps to reduce wastage of memory by freeing it.

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

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
    printf("Enter elements\n");
```

```
    int *x;
```

```
    x=(int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
```

```
    inti;
```

```
    for(i=0;i<10;i++)
```

```
    {
```

```
        scanf("%d",x+i);
```

```
    }
```

```
    printf("Elements are \n");
```

```

for(i=0;i<10;i++)
{
printf("%d\t",*(x+i));
}

```

**free(p);** // This statement frees the space allocated in the memory pointed by p.

```

}

```

## POINTERS AND MULTIDIMENSIONAL ARRAYS

- A two-dimensional array, for example, is actually a *collection of one-dimensional arrays*.
- Therefore, we can define a two-dimensional array as a **pointer to a group of contiguous one-dimensional arrays**.
- A two-dimensional array declaration can be written as

**data- type ( \*ptvar) [ expression2] ;**

instead of writing

data- type array[ expression 1] [ expression 2];

*E.g* Suppose x is a two-dimensional integer array having 10 rows and 20 columns. Instead of writing as

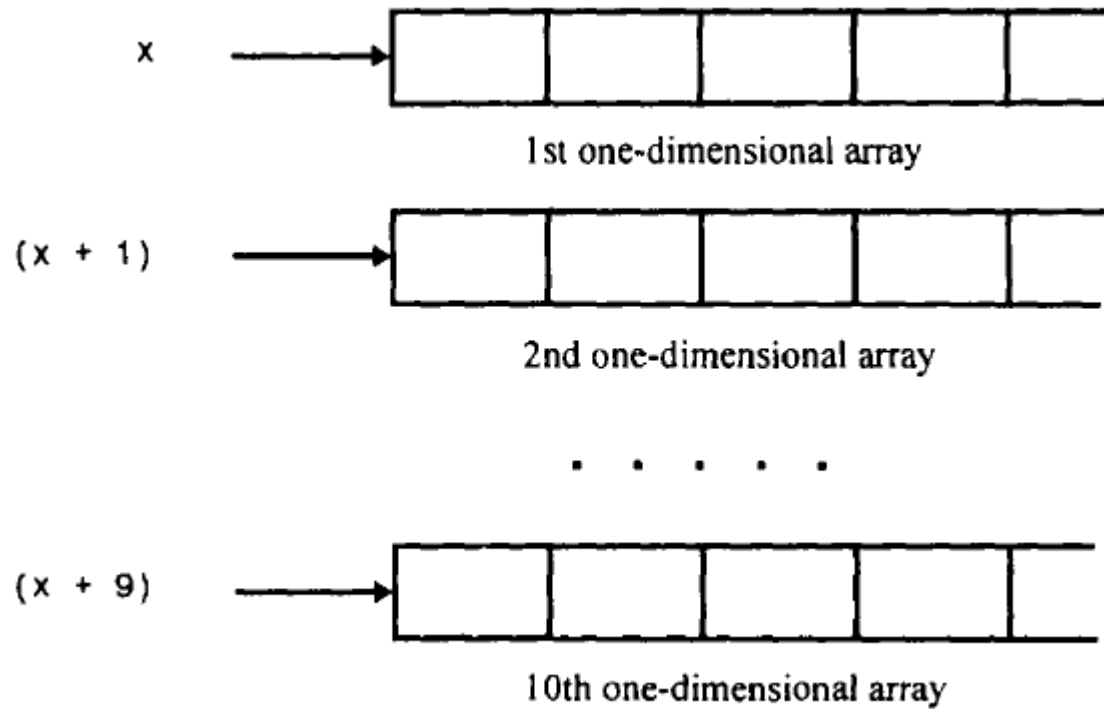
```
intx[10][20];
```

We can declare x as

**int (\*x)[20];**

- Here x is defined to be a pointer to a group of contiguous, one-dimensional, 20-element integer arrays.
- Thus, x points to the first 20-element array, which is actually the first row (i.e., row 0) of the original two-dimensional array.
- Similarly, ( x + 1) points to the second 20-element array, which is the second row (row 1) of the original two dimensional array,





```
int (*x)[20];
x is the pointer to 0th array
(x+i) is the address of x[i] .
(x+1) is &x[i]
*(x+i) is same as x[i]
>(*x+i+j) is &x[i][j]
So *(*x+i+j) is same as x[i][j]
```

Row and column number starts from 0.

Suppose  $x$  is a two-dimensional integer array having 10 rows and 20 columns, as declared in the previous example. The item in row 2, column 5 can be accessed by writing either

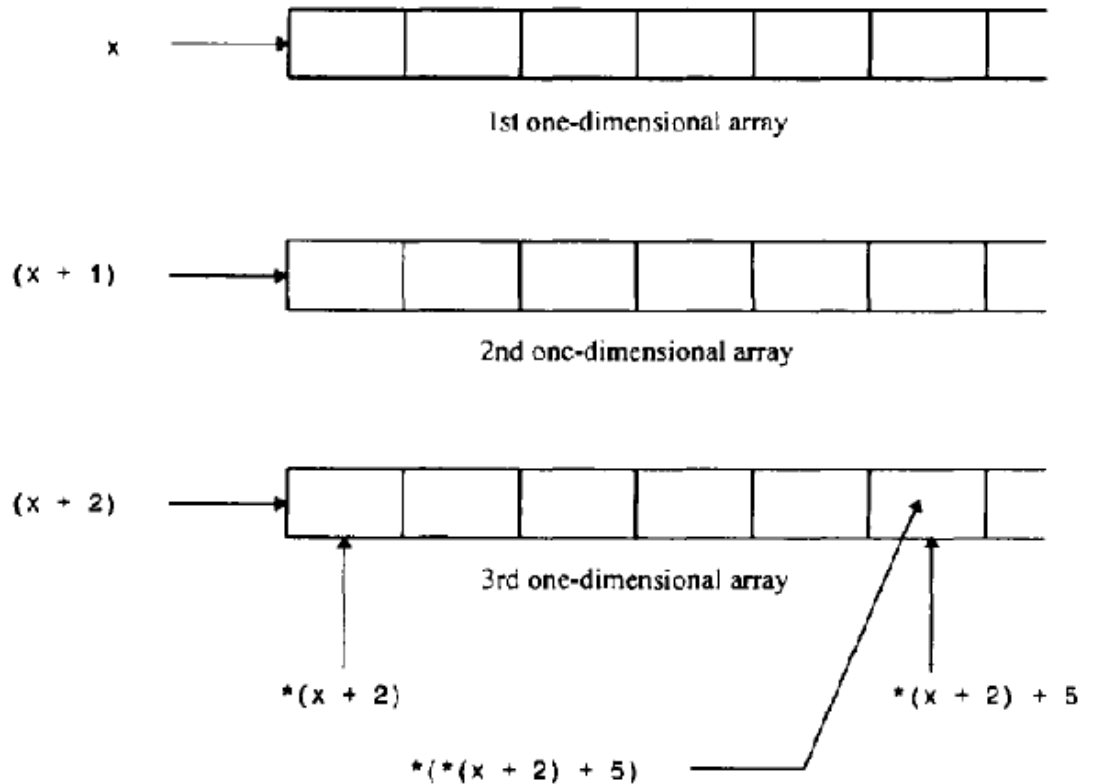
$x[2][5]$

or

$* (* (x + 2) + 5)$

- $(x + 2)$  is a pointer to row 2.
- $* (x + 2)$ , refers to the entire row.
- Since row 2 is a one-dimensional array,  $* (x + 2)$  is actually a pointer to the first element in row 2.
- We now add 5 to this pointer.

- Hence,  $(* (x + 2) + 5)$  is a pointer to element 5 (i.e., the sixth element) in row 2.
- $* (* (x + 2) + 5)$ , therefore refers to the item in column 5 of row 2, which is  $x[2][5]$



Let row be the row number and ncols is the number of columns, memory can be allocated using:-

```
x[row] = ( int *) malloc(ncols * sizeof( int ) );
```

**E.g.** allocate space for storing matrix with 10 rows and 20 columns:-

```
int (*x)[20];
```

Memory can be allocated using

```
row=10;
```

```
col=20
```

```
for(i=0;i<row;i++)
```

```
{
```

```
  a[i]= ( int *) malloc(ncols * sizeof(int ) );
```

```
}
```

Each array element can be inputted as

```
for(i = 0; i < row; ++i)
```

```
{
```

```

        for( j= 0; j <col; ++j)
        {
            scanf(“%d”, (*(a + i) + j ) ) ;
        }
    }

```

Here  $*(a + i) + j$  is the address of  $j$ th column element in  $i$ th row

Each array element can be printed as

```

for(i = 0; i <row; ++i)
{
    for( j= 0; j <col; ++j)
    {
        printf(“%d”, (*(a + i) + j ) ) ;
    }
}

```

## ARRAYS OF POINTERS

It is better to express a multidimensional array in terms of *an array of pointers* rather than a pointer to a group of contiguous arrays.

- This array will have one less dimension than the original multidimensional array.
  - If we want to represent a two dimensional array we can use one dimensional array of pointers.

A two-dimensional array can be defined as a *one-dimensional array of pointers*

**data-type \*array[ expression 1 ] ;**

than using the following conventional array definition,

data- type array[ expression 1 ] [ expression 2 ] ;

E.g.

int x[10][2];

can be written as

**int \*x[10];**

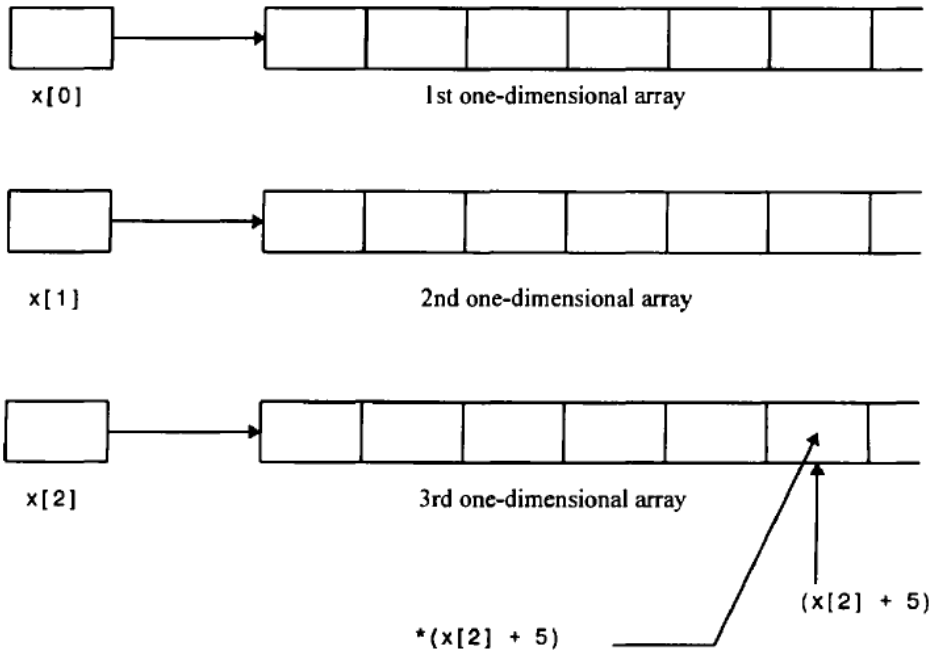
Here there are 10 pointers  $x[0]$  to  $x[9]$

$x[0]$  is a pointer that points to the beginning of 0th array

$x[1]$  is a pointer that points to the beginning of 1st array

...

$x[9]$  is a pointer that points to the beginning of 9th array



$x[2][5]$  can be accessed using  $*(x[2]+5)$   
 $x[2]$  is the address of 0th column in 2nd row  
 $x[2]+5$  is the address of 5th column in 2nd row  
 $*(x[2]+5)$  is the element in 5th column of 2nd row

Conventional array notation to store a matrix with 10 rows and 20 columns int x[10][20];	
<b>Pointer to contiguous array of size 20</b>	<b>Array of 10 pointers</b>
<b>int (*x)[20];</b> <b>x is the pointer to 0th array</b> <b>(x+i) is the address of x[i] .</b> <b>(x+1) is &amp;x[i]</b> <b>*(x+i) is same as x[i]</b> <b>*(x+i)+j is &amp;x[i][j]</b> <b>So ** (x+i)+j is same as x[i][j]</b>	<b>int *x[10];</b> <b>x[0] is the pointer to 0th array</b> <b>x[i] is the address of ith row .</b>  <b>(x[i]+j) is &amp;x[i][j]</b> <b>So *(x[i]+j) is same as x[i][j]</b>

```

int *x[20];
Memory can be allocated using
row=10;
col=20;
for(i=0;i<row;i++)

```

```

    {
    a[i]= ( int *) malloc(col * sizeof(int ) ) ;
    }

```

Each array element can be inputted as

```

for(i = 0;i <row; ++i)
{
    for( j= 0; j <col; ++j)
    {
        scanf("%d", (a[i]+ j ) ) ;
    }
}

```

Each array element can be displayed as

```

for(i = 0;i <row; ++i)
{
    for( j= 0; j <col; ++j)
    {
        printf("%d", *(a[i]+ j ) ) ;
    }
}

```

}.

### **PROGRAM TO READ AND DISPLAY MATRIX USING ARRAY OF POINTERS**

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

```
void disp(int *x[10],intr,int c)
```

```

{
inti,j;
printf("\n Matrix \n");
for(i=0;i<r;i++)
{
    printf("\n");
    for(j=0;j<c;j++)
    {
        printf("%d\t",*(x+i) +j));
    }
}
}

```

```
void read(int *x[10],intr,int c)
```

```

{
inti,j;
printf("\nEnter Matrix\n");

```

```

        for(i=0;i<r;i++)
        {
            for(j=0;j<c;j++)
            {
                scanf("%d",&(x+i+j));
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

main()
{
    int *a[10];
    inti,j,r1,c1;

```

```

printf("\nEnter number of rows and columns in matrix: \n");
scanf("%d%d",&r1,&c1);

```

```

for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
{
    a[i]=(int *) malloc(c1*sizeof(int));
}
read(a,r1,c1);
disp(a,r1,c1);
}

```

### MATRIX ADDITION USING ARRAY OF POINTERS

```

#include<stdio.h>

```

```

void readmat(int *a[10],int r1,int c1)
{
    inti,j;
    printf("\nEnter Matrix\n");
    for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
    {
        for(j=0;j<c1;j++)
        {
            scanf("%d",&(a[i]+j));
        }
    }
}

```

```

}
void printmat(int *a[10],int r1,int c1)
{
inti,j;

printf("\nMatrix\n");
    for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
    {
        printf("\n");
        for(j=0;j<c1;j++)
        {
            printf("%d\t",*(a[i]+j));
        }
    }

}

void addmat(int *a[10],int *b[10],int *c[10],int r1,int c1)
{
inti,j;
    for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
    {
        c[i]=(int *)malloc(c1*sizeof(int));
    }
printf("\nMatrix\n");
    for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
    {
        printf("\n");
        for(j=0;j<c1;j++)
        {
            *(c[i]+j)=*(a[i]+j)+*(b[i]+j);

        }
    }

}

main()
{
int *a[10],*b[10],*c[10];
inti,j,k,r1,c1,r2,c2;

```

```

printf("\nEnter rows and columns of first matrix: \n");
scanf("%d%d",&r1,&c1);
printf("\nEnter rows and columns of second matrix: \n");
scanf("%d%d",&r2,&c2);
if(r1!=r2||c1!=c2)
{
    printf("\nMatrix addition not possible\n");
}
else
{
    for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
    {
        a[i]=(int *)malloc(c1*sizeof(int));
        b[i]=(int *)malloc(c1*sizeof(int));

    }

    readmat(a,r1,c1);
    printmat(a,r1,c1);
    readmat(b,r1,c1);
    printmat(b,r1,c1);
    printf("\n Result matrix after addition\n");
    addmat(a,b,c,r1,c1);
    printmat(c,r1,c1);

}

}

```

## **PASSING POINTER TO FUNCTION**

**Pointer can be passed as function arguments. This is also called call by reference**

**Eg**

```

void swap(int *a, int *b)
{
    .....
}

```



This function is called as

```
swap(&a,&b);
```

## STRUCTURE AND POINTER

NOTE \*structpointervariable.member is wrong

variable to print rolno, use pointer variable and arrow operator to print name using pointer variable and indirection operator \* to print mark

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

```
struct student
```

```
{
```

```
introllno;
```

```
char name[20];
```

```
int mark;
```

```
}stud,*s=&stud;
```

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
printf("Enter roll number: ");
```

```
scanf("%d",&stud.rollno);
```

```
printf("Enter name: ");
```

```
scanf(" %s",&stud.name) ;
```

```
printf("Enter mark: ");
```

```
scanf("%d",&stud.mark);
```

```
printf("\nrollno=%d name=%s mark=%d ",stud.rollno,s->name>(*s).mark);
```

```
}
```

## MORE ABOUT POINTER DECLARATIONS

```
int *p; /* p is a pointer to an integer quantity */
```

```
int *p[10]; /* p is a 10-element array of pointers to integer quantities */
```

```
int (*p) [ 10]; /* p is a pointer to a 10-element integer array */
```

```
int *p (void) ; /* p is a function that returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
```

```
int p(char *a); /* p is a function that accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character and returns an integer quantity */
```

```
int *p(char a*); /* p is a function that accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
```

```

int (*p)(char *a); /* p is a pointer to a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character
returns an integer quantity */
int (*p(char * a )) [ 10 ]; /* p is a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character
returns a pointer to a 10-element integer array */
int p(char ( * a ) [ ] ); /* p is a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character array
returns an integer quantity */
int p(char * a [ ] ); /* p is a function that
accepts an argument which is an array of pointers to
characters
returns an integer quantity */
int *p(char a [ ] ); /* p is a function that
accepts an argument which is a character array
returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
int *p(char ( * a ) [ ] ); /* p is a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character array
returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
int *p(char * a [ ] ); /* p is a function that
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accepts an argument which is an array of pointers to
characters
returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
int (*p)(char ( * a ) [ ] ); /* p is a pointer to a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character array
returns an integer quantity */
int (**p)(char ( * a ) [ ] ); /* p is pointer to a function that
accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character array
returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
int (**p)(char * a [ ] ); /* p is a pointer to a function that
accepts an argument which is an array of pointers to
characters
returns a pointer to an integer quantity */
int ( * p [ 10 ] ) ( v o i d ); /* p is a 10-element array of pointers to functions;
each function returns an integer quantity */
int (*p[10])(char a); /* p is a 10-element array of pointers to functions;
each function accepts an argument which is a character, and
returns an integer quantity */
int * ( * p [ 10 ] ) ( c h a r a ); /* p is a 10-element array of pointers to functions;

```

each function accepts an argument which is a character, and returns a pointer to an integer quantity \*/  
**int \* ( \* p [ 10 ] ) ( c h a r \*a);** /\* p is a 10-element array of pointers to functions;  
each function accepts an argument which is a pointer to a character, and returns a pointer to an integer quantity \*/

## EXAMPLES

**\*p++ is same as \*(p++)**

**It will first compute \*p (value stored in content of p(address of an item)). Then p will be incremented to point to next location.**

**Eg. x=\*p++;**

**Or**

**x=\*(p++);**

**Is equivalent to**

**x=\*p;**

**p=p+1;**

**But (\*p)++ will first compute \*p. Then the value of \*p is incremented by 1.**

**x=(\*p)++;**

**is equivalent to**

**x=\*p;**

**\*p=\*p+1;**

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

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
intarr[] = {10, 20};
```

```
int *p = arr;
```

```
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
```

```
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, (*p)++ = %d", arr[0], arr[1], (*p)++);
```

```
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
```

```
}
```

## **Output**

*close*

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
```

```
arr[0] = 11, arr[1] = 20, (*p)++ = 10
```

```
arr[0] = 11, arr[1] = 20, *p = 11
```

```
-----
```

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

```
main(void)
```

```
{
```

```
intarr[] = {10, 20};
```

```
int *p = arr;
```

```
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d",
      arr[0], arr[1], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p++ = %d",arr[0], arr[1], *p++);
```

```
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p);
}
```

### Output

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p++ = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 20
```

```
-----
#include <stdio.h>
main(void)
{
intarr[] = {10, 20};
int *p = arr;
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d",arr[0], arr[1], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *(p++) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *(p++));
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1], *p); }
```

### Output

```
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p++ = 10
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, *p = 20
```

```
-----
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
intarr[] = {10, 20,30};
int *p = arr;
  *++p;
printf("arr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d, arr[2]=%d, *p = %d", arr[0], arr[1],arr[2], *p);

printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, *(p++) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], arr[2], *(p++));

printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], arr[2], *p);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p)++ = %d", arr[0], arr[1],arr[2], (*p)++);
printf("\narr[0] = %d, arr[1] = %d,arr[2] = %d, (*p) = %d", arr[0], arr[1], arr[2], *p);
  return 0;
}
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, *p = 20
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, *(p++) = 20
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 30, (*p) = 30
arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20,arr[2] = 31, (*p)++ = 30
```

arr[0] = 10, arr[1] = 20, arr[2] = 31, (\*p) = 31

### Use of pointers

- pointers can be used to pass information back and forth between a function and its reference point
- pointers provide a way to return multiple data items from a function via function arguments.
- permit references to other functions to be specified as arguments to a given function.

### EXAMPLE

#### Read and display matrix using pointer

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

```
void disp(int *x[10],intr,int c)
{
inti,j;
printf("\n Matrix r=%d c=%d\n",r,c);
for(i=0;i<r;i++)
{
    printf("\n");
    for(j=0;j<c;j++)
    {
        printf("%d\t",*(x+i +j));
    }
}
}

void read(int *x[10],intr,int c)
{
inti,j;
printf("\n Matrix\n r=%d c=%d\n",r,c);
for(i=0;i<r;i++)
{
    for(j=0;j<c;j++)
    {
```

```

        scanf("%d",*(x+i) +j));
    }
}

main()
{
int *a[10];

inti,j,r1,c1;

printf("\nEnter rows and columns of first matrix: \n");
scanf("%d%d",&r1,&c1);

printf("\nEnterfirstMatrix\n");
for(i=0;i<r1;i++)
{
    a[i]=(int *) malloc(c1*sizeof(int));
}
read(a,r1,c1);
disp(a,r1,c1);
}

```

### Pointer Examples

```

#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
int a=10, b=20, *p, *j;
p=&a;
j=&b;
printf("\nAddition *p + b = %d", *p + b);
printf("\nAddition *p + *j = %d", *p + *j);
printf("\nAddition *(p) + *(j) = %d", *(p) + *(j));
printf("\nAddition *(&a) + *(&b) = %d", *(&a) + *(&b));
}
Addition *p + b=30
Addition *p + *j =30
Addition *(p) + *(j) =30
Addition *(&a) + *(&b) = 30

```

=====

### Questions

1. A C program contains the following declaration.  
static int x[8]={11,22,33,44,55,66,77,88};  
int \*p=x;

Suppose address of starting location of array x is 2000. What is the value of the following

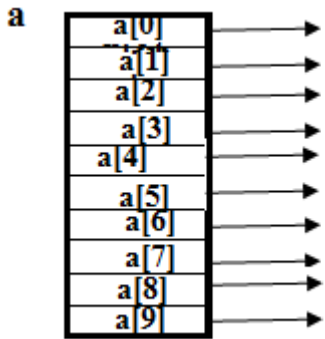
- (a) (x+2)
- (b) \*(x+2)
- (c) \*x+2

**Answer:**

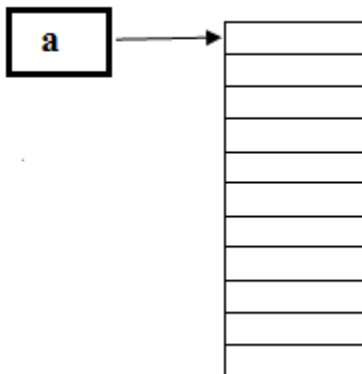
- (a) 2004 (because int need 2 bytes )
  - (b) 33
  - (c) 13
2. What is the meaning of variable a in the following declarations
- (a) float \*a;
  - (b) int \*a[10];
  - (c) int (\*a)[10];

**Answer:**

- (a) a is a floating point type pointer variable
- (b) a is an array of 10 integer pointers



- (c) a is an integer pointer to an array of 10 integers



3.

```

#include<stdio.h>
main()
{
inta[4]={10,20,30};
int *p=a;
printf("\na[0]=%d a[1]=%d a[2]=%d a[3]=%d *p++=%d", a[0],a[1],a[2],a[3],*p++);
printf("\na[0]=%d a[1]=%d a[2]=%d a[3]=%d *p=%d", a[0],a[1],a[2],a[3],*p);
}

```

Predict the output of the above code.

What will be the output if the first printf statement is replaced by the following. Write output in each of the following .

- a) **printf("\na[0]=%d a[1]=%d a[2]=%d a[3]=%d \*(p++)=%d", a[0],a[1],a[2],a[3],\*(p++));**
- b) **printf("\na[0]=%d a[1]=%d a[2]=%d a[3]=%d (\*p)++=%d", a[0],a[1],a[2],a[3],(\*p)++);**

### **Answers**

$a[0]=10$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $*p++=10$

$a[0]=10$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $*p=20$

a)  $a[0]=10$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $*(p++)=10$

$a[0]=10$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $*p=20$

b)  $a[0]=11$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $(*p)++=10$

$a[0]=11$   $a[1]=20$   $a[2]=30$   $a[3]=0$   $*p=11$

Note:  $*p++$  is same as  $*(p++)$  it is equivalent to

Taking  $*p$  then  $p=p+1$

$(*p)++$  means take  $*p$  then increment that value by 1