

Pointers to Pointers



Pointers to pointers (1/4)

- ▶ Sometimes you want to have a procedure increment a variable?
- ▶ What gets printed?

```
void AddOne(int x){  
    x = x + 1;  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int y = 5;  
    AddOne( y);  
    printf("y = %d\n", y);  
}
```

Output:

y = 5



Pointers to pointers (2/4)

- ▶ Solved by passing in a **pointer** to our subroutine.
- ▶ Now what gets printed?

```
void AddOne(int *p){  
    *p = *p + 1;  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int y = 5;  
    AddOne(&y);  
    printf("y = %d\n", y);  
}
```

Output:

y = 6

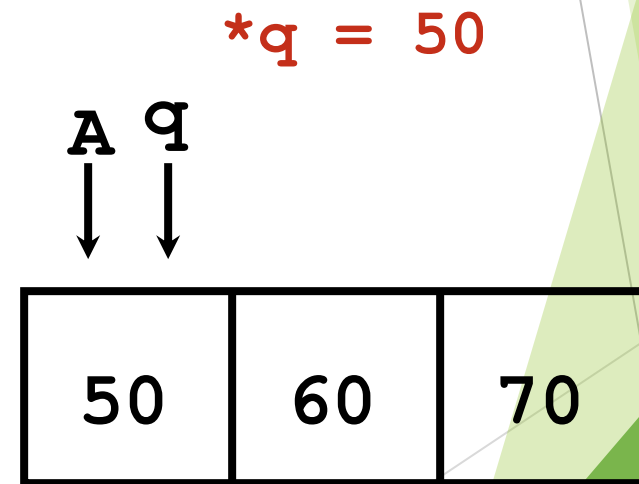


Pointers to pointers (3/4)

- ▶ But what if what you want changed is **a pointer**?
- ▶ What gets printed?

```
void IncrementPtr(int *p)
{
    p = p + 1;
}
```

```
int A[3] = {50, 60, 70};
int *q = A;
IncrementPtr( q);
printf(“*q = %d\n”, *q);
```



Pointers to pointers (4/4)

- Solution! Pass a **pointer to a pointer**, called a **handle**, declared as ****h**
- Now what gets printed?

```
void IncrementPtr(int **h) {  
    *h = *h + 1;  
}
```

```
int A[3] = {50, 60, 70};  
int *q = A;  
IncrementPtr(&q);  
printf("**q = %d\n", *q);
```

