

COMP - MEMORY LAYOUT FOR MULTI-DIMENSIONAL ARRAYS (MIEIC - Compilers - 2021)



* This form will record your name, please fill your name.

1. Each programming language has its own convention to store multi-dimensional arrays.

Suppose the following array declaration in the C programming language:

```
int A[3][2];
```

The way the elements of A are stored in memory is according to the following table :

Array element - Address position relative to the first array element

...

A[0][0]	0
A[0][1]	4
A[1][0]	8
A[1][1]	12
A[2][0]	16
A[2][1]	20
...	...

The expression to access a particular element of array A, $A[i][j]$ is given by $A + (i*2+j)*4$ (multiplied by 4 considering a representation of 'int' with 4 bytes)

2. What is the error in the following function (consider the body of the function without errors) and what is the rule a C compiler must verify? Justify why in the C programming language this function has an error.

```
int f(int A[][]) {...}
```

(1 Point)

3. Give an example of a programming language with another memory layout convention for 2D arrays.

(1 Point)

4. Why the following equivalent Java code does not have the same error?

```
int f(int[][] A) {...}
```

(1 Point)

5. What is the expression to calculate the address of an array element $B[i][j][t]$ in case of the following array declaration in the C programming language?

```
int B[3][2][4];
```

(1 Point)

6. Considering C code, what is the generic expression to calculate the address of the element position for an array A (type int) with N dimensions, with sizes S_1, S_2, \dots, S_N , considering a declaration based on the following one, and an array access like $A[i_1][i_2][i_3] \dots [i_N]$?

```
int A[S1][S2][S3]...[SN];
```

(1 Point)

7. The code in the textbox below multiplies each element of matrices A and B and the result is output to matrix C. One possible code optimization that can improve performance and save energy consumption is loop interchange (*). By interchanging the two loops, Calvin found that the execution time reduced about 3x when using the following declarations for arrays A, B, and C, compiling the code with gcc -O3 and executing it in a Windows 7, 64-bit, Intel i5-2467M @1.60 GHz, 4 GB of RAM. What is the main reason for this execution time reduction?

```
#define M1 5000
#define N1 5000

float A3[M1][N1];
float A4[M1][N1];
float C1[M1][N1];

void DotProd(float A[M1][N1], float B[M1][N1],
             float C[M1][N1], int m, int n) {
    int i, j;

    for (j = 0; j < n; j++) {
        for (i = 0; i < m; i++) {
            C[i][j] = A[i][j]*B[i][j];
        }
    }
}
```

* In loop interchange the order of two nested loops are exchanged (see, e.g., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loop_interchange (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loop_interchange)).
(1 Point)