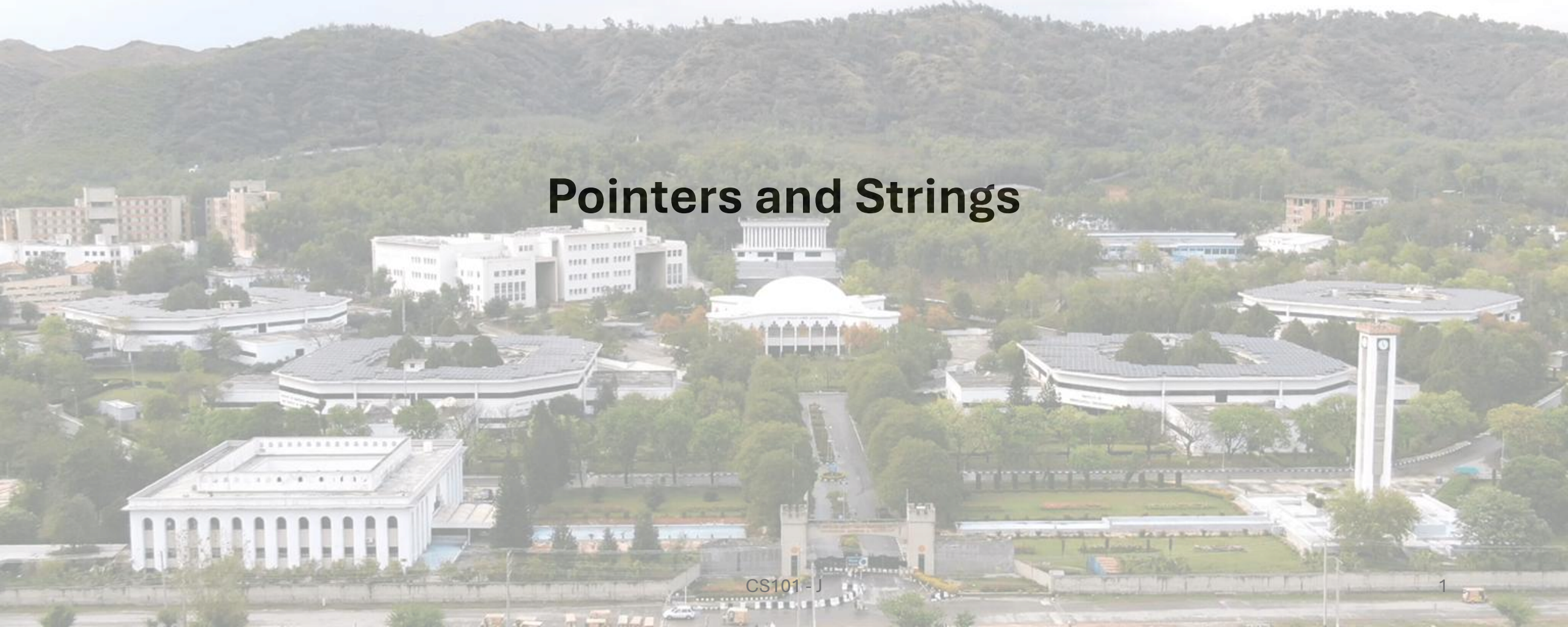


# Weeks 13 – CS 101 –J

## Pointers and Strings





# Example 1 – Simple Example of Pointer

```
int main()  
{  
    int x = 10;  
    int* y = &x;  
    cout << *y;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Prints the value 10 – the value in the variable at the address stored in **y**

In other words, the value to which **y** points

# Example 2 – Change value of variable

```
int main()
{
    int x = 10;
    int* y = &x;
    x = 20;
    cout << *y;
    return 0;
}
```

Prints the value 20

# Example 3 – Change value using pointer

```
int main()
{
    int x = 10;
    int* y = &x;
    *y = 20;
    cout<<x<<*y;
    return 0;
}
```

Prints: 20, 20 – we can use \*y as a left-hand value, which changes the contents of the address that y points to

# Example 4 – Compiler Error

```
int main()
{
    int x = 10;
    int* y = &x;
    y = 20;
    cout<<x<<*y;
    return 0;
}
```

Prints: 10 ??? – the second term will be what ever happens to be at bytes 20, 21, 22 and 23 – could be junk.

But using Dev C++ , **the code will not compile**

# Example 5 – Perfect Code (but not correct values)

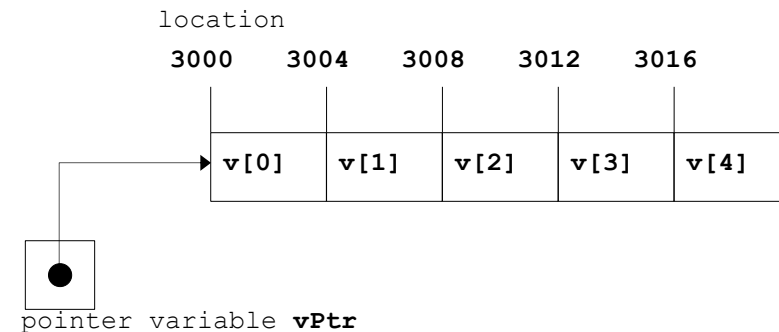
```
int main()
{
    int x = 10;
    int* y = &x;
    y++;
    cout<<x<<*y;
    return 0;
}
```

Prints: 10 ??? – the second term will be what ever happens to be at the next bytes - could be junk.

In Dev C++ , **the code will compile (Yes )**

# Pointer Expressions and Pointer Arithmetic

- Pointer arithmetic
  - Increment/decrement pointer ( $++$  or  $--$ )
  - Add/subtract an integer to/from a pointer(  $+$  or  $+=$  ,  $-$  or  $-=$ )
  - Pointers may be subtracted from each other
  - **Pointer arithmetic is meaningless unless performed on an array**
- 5 element **int** array on a machine using 4 byte **ints**
  - **vPtr** points to first element **v[ 0 ]**, which is at location 3000
    - **vPtr = 3000**
  - **vPtr += 2;** sets **vPtr** to 3008
    - **vPtr** points to **v[ 2 ]**





# Pointer Expressions and Pointer Arithmetic

- Subtracting pointers

- Returns the number of elements between two addresses

```
vPtr2 = v[ 2 ];  
vPtr = v[ 0 ];  
vPtr2 - vPtr == 2
```

- Pointer comparison

- Test which pointer points to the higher numbered array element
  - Test if a pointer points to 0 (**NULL**)

```
if ( vPtr == '0' )  
    statement
```





# Example 1

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char string1[]="GIKI";
    char *aptr;
    int i;
    aptr=&string1[0];

    for (i=0; i<4; i++)
        cout<<"The value of element wise a is "<<aptr[i]<<endl;

    cout<<"After the loop printing the array in 1 iteration"<<endl;
    cout<<"The value of a is "<<aptr<<endl;

    return 0;
}
```



# The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

- Arrays and pointers closely related
  - Array name like constant pointer
  - Pointers can do array subscripting operations
  - Having declared an array **b[ 5 ]** and a pointer **bPtr**
    - **bPtr** is equal to **b**  
`bptr == b`
    - **bptr** is equal to the address of the first element of **b**  
`bptr == &b[ 0 ]`



# The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

- Accessing array elements with pointers
  - Element `b[ n ]` can be accessed by `*( bPtr + n )`
    - Called pointer/offset notation
  - Array itself can use pointer arithmetic.
    - `b[ 3 ]` same as `*(b + 3)`
  - Pointers can be subscripted (pointer/subscript notation)
    - `bPtr[ 3 ]` same as `b[ 3 ]`



## Example 2

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char string1[]="GIKI";
    char *aptr;
    int i;
    aptr=&string1[0];

    for (i=0; i<4; i++)
        cout<<"The value of element wise a is "<<*(aptr+i)<<endl;

    cout<<"After the loop printing the array in 1 iteration"<<endl;
    cout<<"The value of a is "<<aptr<<endl;

    return 0;
}
```

- Execute wk13s13.cpp and understand it

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main()
{
    int arr[]={1,2,3,4,5};
    int x=10;
    int *ptr;

    // pointer pointing to x
    ptr=&x; // Remember: ptr=x is compiler error
    cout<<x<<" "<<*ptr<<" "<<ptr<<endl;

    // pointer pointing to array
    ptr=arr; // ptr=&arr[0] is ok
    //ptr=arr[0]; //is wrong

    cout<<ptr[0]<<" "<<ptr[1]<<" "<<ptr[4]<<endl;

    return 0;
}
```

- Understand wk13s14.cpp
- Difference between char pointer and other pointers

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main()
{
    int i_array[]={1,2,3,4,5};
    char c_array[]="FCSE";

    int *iptr;
    char *cptr;

    iptr=i_array;
    cptr=c_array;

    cout<<cptr<<endl;
    cout<<iptr<<endl;

    return 0;
}
```

# Summary

- int pointer can point to int variable or int array
  - `int *ptr; int x; ptr=&x;`
  - `int *ptr; int x[4]; ptr=x;`
- char pointer can point to char variable or char array
- But one special point about char pointer
  - `cout<<charptr` -- this displays the whole character array instead of starting address



# Example 3

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    char *sptr[4]={"GIKI","FME","FCSE","Guest House"};
    int i;
    for(i=0;i<4;i++)
        cout<<"The value is "<<*(sptr+i)<<endl;
    return 0;
}
```