

(1) Today:

- Topics today:
 - The pointer variable
 - Function parameters
 - pass-by-value
 - pass-by-reference parameters (new to C++)
 - pass-by-pointer
 - pass-by-array

(2) The Pointer Variable

What is a pointer?

- A variable that stores a memory address
- We specify what data type is stored *at that address*
- * is used in declaration

0x0fa6059c

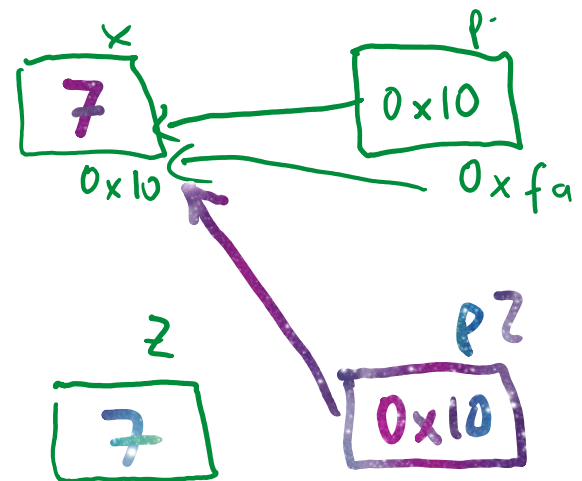
`int * p;`
→ *var name*
→ *pointer type*
→ *type pointer points to*

`double * ptr;`
`char * p0;`

How do we get the address?

Using the address-of-operator: &

```
int x; // regular int variable
p = &x;
double y;
ptr = &y;
```



How to use a pointer to access the original variable?

```
*p = 7;
int z;
z = *p;
```

Now:

```
1) cout << *p; // 7
   cout << x;  // 7
   cout << z;  // 7
```

What about ?

```
2) cout << p; // 0x10
```

```
3) cout << &p; // ? 0xfa
```

What if we want to have two pointers point to the same variable?

```
int *p2 = p;
```

(3) Pointer as function parameter

Why use a pointer?

- when we want to give a function access to a caller's local variable

Let's look at a function that sets an integer variable to zero.

```
1. // declaration: same rules as always
   void foo(int * x);

2. int main() {
3.     int y = 8;
4.     int *p;
5.     p = &y;
6.     foo(p);
7.     cout << y; // what is printed?
8.     return 0;
9. }

10. void foo(int * x) {
11.     *x = 0;
12. }
```



(4) Function Parameter: pass-by-value

Pass-by-value

```
void myPBV(int x) {  
    x = -7; //  
}  
//
```

Example:

main:

```
int a = 2;  
cout << a << ", ";  
myPBV(a);  
cout << a;
```

```
void myPBV(int x){  
    x = -7;  
}
```

Output:

\$??

(5) Function Parameter: pass-by-reference

Pass-by-reference

e.g. function:

```
void myPBR(int &x) {  
    x = -7; // will it modify the caller's variable?  
}
```

main() :

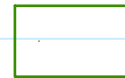
```
int a = 2;  
cout << a ;  
myPBR(a);  
cout << a;
```



Output:

\$

```
void myPBR(int &x) {  
    x = -7;  
}
```



(6) Function Parameter: pass-by-pointer

Pass-by-pointer

e.g. function:

```
void myPBP(int * x) {  
    *x = -7;  
}
```

```
// cout << x; // ?
```

main()

```
int a = 2;  
int * p = &a;  
cout << a ;  
myPBP(a) ;  
myPBP(p) ;  
cout << a;
```

console result:

\$ 2 -7

```
void myPBP(int * x) {  
    *x = -7;  
}
```

(7) Function Parameter: pass-by-array

Pass-by-array

e.g. function:

```
void myPBA(int arr[]){  
    arr[0] = -7;  
}
```

main:

```
int arr[] = {5,6};  
cout << arr[0] ;  
myPBA(arr);  
cout << arr[0];
```

console result:

\$

```
void myPBA(int arr[]){  
    arr[0] = -7;  
}
```

So what is an array, really?

(8) Arrays and pointers

```
int arr[] = {3,6};  
int * p;  
p = arr;
```

```
// allowed?  
cout << p[0] << " " << p[1] << endl;
```

```
// allowed?  
int * p1 = {7,8};
```