Row Major and Column Major order

Row-major order

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Column-major order

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Address Calculation in 1D Array:

Memory address calculation Address of an element of an array say A[I] is calculated using the following formula:

Address of A [I] = B + W * (I - LB)

Where,

B = Base address

W = Storage Size of one element stored in the array (in byte)

I = Subscript of element whose address is to be found

LB = Lower limit / Lower Bound of subscript, if not specified assume o (zero)

Example:

Given the base address of an array B[1300..1900] as 1020 and size of each element is 2 bytes in the memory. Find the address of B[1700].

Solution:

The given values are: B = 1020, LB = 1300, W = 2, I = 1700

Address of A
$$[I] = B + W * (I - LB)$$

$$= 1020 + 2 * (1700-1300)$$

= 1020 + 800

= 1820

Address calculation in 2-D array: suppose A is a 2D array with dimensions M1 X M2. So that here total number of elements is equal to M1 X M2. Address should be calculated using one of the two methods as the following.

a. Row-by-Row

Location (A
$$[j, k]$$
) = Base (A) + w $[N (j-1) + (k-1)]$

Here, **j** and **k** indicates index value of the element whose address you want to search. **Base (A)** is the starting address of the given array. **W** is the memory word required to store given array's element. Here, array is the of size **M(rows) X N(columns)**.

b. Column-by-Column

Here, **j** and **k** indicates index value of the element whose address you want to search. **Base (A)** is the starting address of the given array. **W** is the memory word required to store given array's element. Here, array is the of size **M(rows) X N(columns)**.

Examples:

1. Consider 30 X 4 2D arrays and base address is 200 and 1 word per memory locations. Find out the address of A (15, 3).

Base (A),
$$M = 30$$
, $N = 4$, $j = 15$, $k = 3$, $w = 1$

a. Row-by-row

Location (A [j, k]) = Base (A) + w [N (j-1) + (k -1)]
Location (A [15, 3]) =
$$200 + 1 [4 (15 - 1) + (3 - 1)]$$

= $200 + 1 [56 + 2]$
= $200 + 58$
= 258

b. Column-by-column

Location (A [j, k]) = Base (A) + w [M (k-1) + (j-1)]
Location (A [15, 3]) =
$$200 + 1 [30 (3 - 1) + (15 - 1)]$$

= $200 + 1 [30 (2) + 14]$
= $200 + 74$
= 274

Address calculation in multidimensional array: Suppose A is a 3D array of size M1 X M2 X M3. So total number if elements are M1 X M2 X M3. In 3D array lower bound (LB) is not always zero (0). It can be any number. Base address of any row of matrix is called effective address.

A [2:11, 3:15] indicates that A is a 2D array with lower bound (LB) of row is 2 and Upper Bound (UB) of row is 11. In the same way lower bound (LB) of column is 3 and upper bound (UB) of column is 15.

Length of each dimension is equal to L_i = UB - LB +1

Lower bound (LB) is not always started with zero (0). So, we have to calculate effective address of each value.

Effective Address
$$(E_i) = K_i - LB$$

Real address of any element is calculated as follows,

Row-by-Row: Base (A) + W [($E_1L_2 + E_2$) $L_3 + E_3$]

Column-by-column: Base (A) + W $[(E_3L_2 + E_2) L_1 + E_1)$

Example: Suppose multidimensional array A and B are declared using A [-2:2, 2:22] and B [1:8, -5:5, -10:5].

- 1. Find out the length of each dimension and number of elements in array A and B.
- 2. Consider B [3, 3, 3] elements in array B find effective address E1, E2 and E3. Also find out the real address of these elements. (In this case the base address of array B is 400 and W is 4)

Answer: For array A

$$L_1 = UB - LB + 1$$
 $L_2 = UB - LB + 1$
= 2 - (-2) + 1 = 22 - 2 + 1
= 21

For array B

$$L_1 = UB - LB + 1$$
 $L_2 = UB - LB + 1$ $L_3 = UB - LB + 1$ $L_3 = UB - LB + 1$ $L_4 = 10$ $L_5 = 10$ $L_7 =$

Total number of elements in array B is: $L_1 \times L_2 \times L_3 = 8 \times 11 \times 16 = 1408$.

Here in given question $K_i = 3$, 3, 3 therefore $K_1=3$, $k_2 = 3$ and $K_3 = 3$

$$LB_1 = 1$$
, $LB_2 = -5$ $LB_3 = -10$
 $E_1 = K_1 - LB_1 = 3 - 1 = 2$
 $E_2 = K_2 - LB_2 = 3 - (-5) = 8$
 $E_3 = K_3 - LB_3 = 3 - (-10) = 13$

The real address Row – by- Row:

= Base (A) + W [(
$$E_1L_2 + E_2$$
) $L_3 + E_3$]
= 400 + 4 [(2 (11) + 8) 16 + 13]
= 400 + 4 [(22+8) 16 + 13]
= 400 + 4 [(30) 16 + 13]
= 400 + 4 [480 + 13]
= 400 + 4 [493]
= 400 + 1972

= 2372

The real address Column – by – column:

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= Base (A) + W [(E<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub> +E<sub>2</sub>) L<sub>1</sub> + E<sub>1</sub>]

= 400 + 4 [(13(11) + 8) 8 + 2]

= 400 + 4 [(143 + 8) 8 + 2]

= 400 + 4[(151) 8 + 2)]

= 400 + 4[1208 + 2]

= 400 + 4840

= 5240
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Let **C** be an n-dimensional array.

The length Li of dimension i of C can be calculated by,

Li=upper bound - lower bound +1

For a given subscript $\mathbf{K}i$, the effective index $\mathbf{E}i$ of $\mathbf{L}i$ can be calculated from,

Ei=Ki - lower bound

Then address $C[K_1,K_2,...,K_n]$ of element of C is,

Base (C) +w[((.....(EnLn-1+En-1)Ln-2)+....+E3)L2+E2)L1+E1] , when C is stored in column major, and

Base (C)+w[(...((E1L2+E2)L3+E3)L4+...+En-1)Ln+En] , when C is stored in row major order.

Base (C) denotes the address of 1st element of C and w denotes the number of words per memory location.

An array Mat[3][10] is stored in the memory column wise with each element occupying 4 bytes of memory. Find out the base address and the address of element mat[20][5], if the location of mat[5][7] is stored at the address 1000.

3. Compute the location of A[10]10] if the base address of A[-15:20, 10:35] is given as 3000 and occupying 4 bytes of memory. Assume row major storage.