

# Pointers

class-1

A Pointer is a variable that stores the memory address of other variable as its value.

Pointer only store the address. Any value other than address can't be stored in pointer.

A pointer variable points to a datatype (like int, char, double) of some type. & is created with the \* operator.

Q What happened in behind, when we write `int num = 10;`

A A 4 bytes space is allocate to 'num' in memory, where value '10' is stored. (int size is 4 byte so 4 byte memory space allocate)

We can access that memory location where '10' is stored is using only address of that location. In memory to access location only single way is address of that location.

`int num = 10;` → 104 ← Address of variable 'num'  
Address of 'num' is 104      10 ← value of variable stored in num ← Name of variable.      memory

## Address-of operator (&)

The address of a variable can be obtained by preceding the name of a variable with an ampersand sign (&). Known as address-of operator.

Eg:- `int num = 10;`  
`int add = &num;`

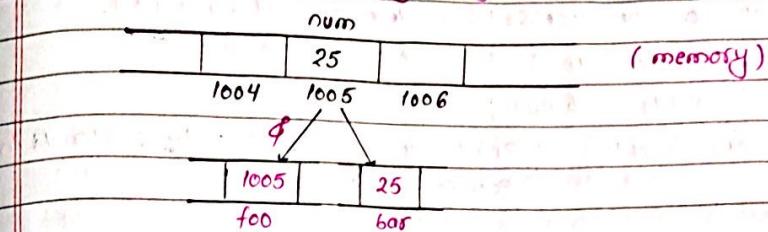
This would assign the address of variable 'num' to 'add'. We're no longer assigning the content of the variable itself to 'add', but its address.

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```
int num = 25;  
int foo = &num;  
int bar = num;
```

The values contained in each variable after the execution of this are shown in the following diagram.



- first, we've assigned the value 25 to 'num' (a variable whose address in memory assumed to be '1005').
- The 2nd statement assign 'foo' the address of 'num', which we've assumed to be '1005'.

## creation of pointer

The Pointer Variable is created by using '\*' operator ('\*' = Dereference operator)

## Syntax:

data-type \* variable name;  
(pointer name)

Eg:- `int * ptr;` → Pointer Name. } Here, we can say 'ptr' is a  
→ Pointer to Integer data. } Pointer to integer data.

`int a = 5;` → a | 5      1008 → 2016  
`int * ptr = &a;` → & memory address of variable 'a'.  
ptr

- `char * ch;` → ch is a pointer to character data.
- `bool * flag;` → flag " " " boolean " " .

'\*' = address-of operator  
'\*' = dereference operator

## Access Pointer

Accessing value stored at address stored in pointer variable.  
That value can be accessed by **dereference operator (\*)**.

Eg:- `int num = 10;`  
`int *ptr = &num`

```
cout << *ptr; // print value stored at address stored in  
pointer variable.
```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  10.

Code

```

int main() {
    int a = 10;
    cout << a << endl; // value of a. o/p => 10
    cout << &a << endl; // address of a. o/p => 0x----;

    // Create a pointer
    int * ptr = &a;
    cout << ptr << endl; // Address of a. o/p => 0x-----
    cout << *ptr << endl; // " " " ptr. o/p => 0x-----

    // Accessing value stored at address stored in pointer variable
    cout << *ptr << endl; // Print value of a, because 'ptr' stored
                           // the address of 'a' which value is '10'

    return 0;
}

```

## visualization of code

```
int a = 10;
```

$1003 \leftarrow \text{address of } 'o'$

10

9 = 10

$$\phi_0 = 100\%$$

`int *ptr = &a;`

$\_2016 \leftarrow$  address of Pointer Variable

2010 :  
1008      ptr = 1008

$$\text{ptr} \quad \& \text{ptr} = 2016$$

```
cout << *ptr << endl; // O/P => 10
```

it Go to the address stored in pointer variable 'ptr'. (1008)

iii) Access the value stored at address stored in `ptr`. (10)

Difference b/w reference variable & pointer.

Reference variable is the different name given to same memory location. It doesn't take extra space in memory, while pointer is a variable that stores the address of another variable & it takes additional space in memory.

## Size of Pointer

if int a = 5;	if char ch = 'S';
int *ptr = &a;	char *ptr = &ch;
sizeof(ptr); // 8 byte	sizeof(ptr); // 8 byte

iii) long var = 15;  
long \*ptr = &var;

Why pointer size is 8 byte?

The pointer size is typically 8 bytes (64 bits) on modern 64-bit architectures because it matches the size of memory addresses used to access the large memory space available in these systems. This allows pointers to efficiently reference memory locations within the entire addressable memory range.

## Declaration of Pointer

### Bad Practice

```
int * ptr;
cout << *ptr << endl;
```

Declaring pointer like this is a bad practice as it is trying to access a random memory location which is not allowed. Generally it gives run-time error or segmentation fault.

### Good Practice

```
int * ptr = 0;
```

```
OR, int * ptr = nullptr;
```

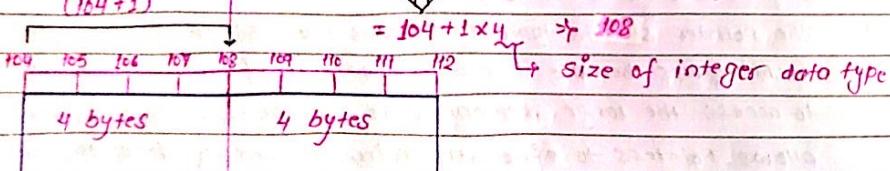
This is a good practice because it explicitly sets the pointer to a known state of pointing to nothing. It promotes code safety, readability & maintainability.

## Some practice questions of Pointer.

Guess the output of following question.

Q)   
 int a = 100; → a [100] 104 ← address of 'a'  
 int \*ptr = &a; → ptr [104] 200 ← address of 'ptr'  
 a = a+1; → a [101] 104  
 ptr = ptr+1; → ptr [108] 200

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  a = 101 }      ptr = ptr+1  
 ptr = 108 }  
 $= 104 + 1 = 108$  (Address of next memory location).



Q)

```
int a = 100;
```

```
int *ptr = &a;
```

```
a = a+1; // 101
```

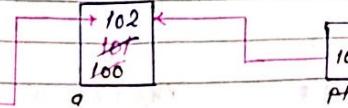
```
*ptr = *ptr+1;
```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  a = 101

\*ptr = 102

104 ← address of 'a'

2000 ← address of ptr

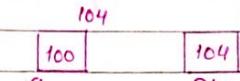


\*ptr = \*ptr+1;

value present at address stored in ptr.  
 $\Rightarrow *ptr = 101 + 1 = 102$

Q)

```
int a = 100;
```



```
int *ptr = &a;
```

104      208  
a            ptr

Find the value of following basis of above two lines.

- i) a  $\rightarrow$  100      ii) \*a  $\rightarrow$  Error      vi) \*ptr  $\rightarrow$  100
- iii) &a  $\rightarrow$  104      iv) ptr  $\rightarrow$  104      vii) &ptr  $\rightarrow$  208
- viii) (ptr)++  $\rightarrow$  ptr = ptr + 1 = 100 + 1 = 101
- ix) ++(ptr)  $\rightarrow$  \*ptr = \*ptr + 1 = 101 + 1 = 102
- x) ptr = \*ptr / 2  $\rightarrow$  \*ptr = 102 / 2 = 51
- xi) \*ptr = \*ptr - 2  $\rightarrow$  \*ptr = 51 - 2 = 49.

\*a  $\Rightarrow$  Error, a is a integer variable, & we can't dereference integer variable.

That's why \*a throw an error.

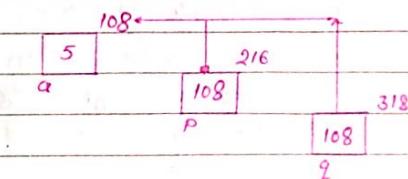
Q)

```
int a = 5;
```

```
int *p = &a;
```

```
int *q = p; (Pointer copy)
```

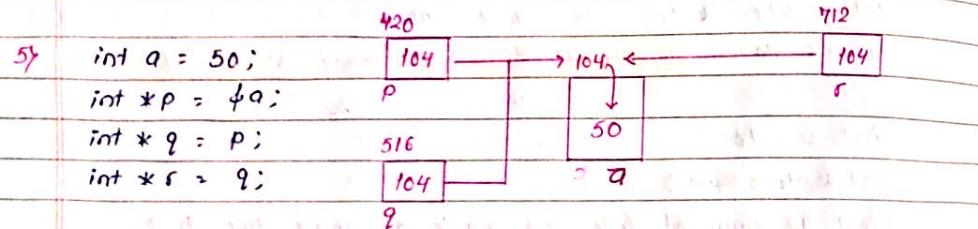
ii) a = 5



iii) $\$a \rightarrow 108$	$\text{viif } *p \rightarrow 5$ (Value present at address stored in p)
iiii) $*a \rightarrow \text{Error}$	$\text{viif } q \rightarrow 108$
iv) $p \rightarrow 108$	$\text{viif } \$q \rightarrow 318$
v) $\$p \rightarrow 216$	$\text{viif } *q \rightarrow 5$ (Value present at address stored in q)

`int *q = *p;` → error

$*P = 5$ , which is an integer value & we're trying to store integer value in pointer variable. Pointer variable stores only address of a variable, not a value of that variable.



$i)$	$a \rightarrow 50$	$ri\}$ $*P \rightarrow 50$	$*P = *P/2$	$\{ a = a/2$
$ii)$	$bq \rightarrow 104$	$vii\}$ $q \rightarrow 104$	$*q = *q/2$	
$iii)$	$*a \rightarrow \text{Error}$	$viii\}$ $bq \rightarrow 516$	$*r = *r/2$	
$iv)$	$p \rightarrow 104$	$ix\}$ $r \rightarrow 104$		
$v)$	$6P \rightarrow 420$	$x\}$ $*r \rightarrow 50$	$*P = *q/2$	$\{ a = a/2$
$vi)$	$fr \rightarrow 712$	$xii\}$ $*q \rightarrow 50$	$*r = *P/2$	
			$*q = *r/2$	

We can access 'a' by : \*P, \*q & \*r

Pointer size depends on size of computer system RAM.

4 GB RAM  $\Rightarrow$  pointer size is 4 byte

8 GB RAM ≠ " " " 8 byte

16 " " ≠ " " " 8 "

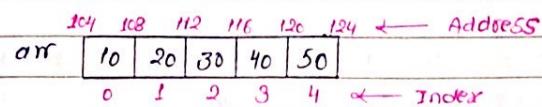
```

int main() {
    int a = 10;
    int *ptr = &a;           // Store address of 'a'
    cout << ptr << endl;    // Print address of 'a'
    cout << *ptr << endl;   // " " value of 'a' => 10
    int b = 20;
    int *ptr = &b;           // Store address of 'b'
    cout << ptr << endl;    // Print " " " 'b'
    cout << *ptr << endl;   // " " value " 'b' " => 20
    b = 30;
    cout << *ptr << endl;   // Print value of 'b' => 30
}

```

## Pointer with Array

`int arr[5] = {10, 20, 30, 40, 50};`



If `arr` → Represent the base address of array (starting address of array). When we point `'arr'` it gives `'104'` as a output.

if arr[0] + print value present at 8th index → 10

iii)  $\phi$  arr[0] → Point address of '0th' index / base address of arr → 104

int arr → Base address of arr → 104.

In the case of array → integer (Imp++)

if arr  
ii} for  
iii}  $\& \text{arr}[0]$

All statement indicates the base address of array.

500 504 508 512 516 520 ← Address  
arr = [11 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 14]  
0 1 2 3 4 ← Index

$\text{int } * \text{ptr} = \& \text{arr}[0] \rightarrow 500$  (Base address)  
 $\text{int } * \text{ptr} = \& \text{arr}[1] \rightarrow 504$  (1st index address)

arr → 500       $\text{arr} + 3 \rightarrow 512$   
 $\text{arr} + 1 \rightarrow 504$        $\text{arr} + 4 \rightarrow 516$   
 $\text{arr} + 2 \rightarrow 508$

Q If we print 'arr+2'. How computer generate the value of 'arr+2'?  
If we want to know address of 'ith' index; computer work as follow:

i<sup>th</sup> index address = Base address + i × datatype-size  
100 104 108 112 116 120 ← Address  
Eq:- arr = [20 | 25 | 80 | 45 | 90]  
0 1 2 3 4 ← Index

`Cout << arr+2 << endl;`

Procedure :

Base address + i × datatype-size  
 $\Rightarrow 100 + 2 \times 4$        $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Integer size} = 4 \text{ byte} \\ \text{Base address} = 104 \\ i = 2 \end{array} \right\}$   
 $\Rightarrow 108$   
 $\therefore (\text{arr}+2) \rightarrow 108$  (Address of 2nd index)  
 $\therefore *(\text{arr}+2) \rightarrow 30$  (Value present at 2nd index).

Q

Guess the output of the following:-

int arr[6] = {10, 20, 30, 40, 50};  
104 108 112 116 120 124  
arr = [10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50]  
0 1 2 3 4

- i) arr → 104 (Base address of array)
- ii)  $\& \text{arr} \rightarrow 104$  (" " " " )
- iii)  $\& \text{arr}[0] \rightarrow 104$  (0th index address / Base address)
- iv)  $\text{arr}[0] \rightarrow 10$  (Value at 0th index)
- v)  $* \text{arr} \rightarrow 10$  (Value at base address →  $(+104) \rightarrow 10$ )
- vi)  $* \text{arr} + 1 \rightarrow 11$  ( $* \text{arr} = 10$ ;  $* \text{arr} + 1 = 10 + 1 \rightarrow 11$ )
- vii)  $*(\text{arr} + 1) \rightarrow 20$  ( $*(\text{arr} + 1) \Rightarrow *(104 + 1 \times 4) \Rightarrow *(108) \Rightarrow 20$ )
- viii)  $*(\text{arr} + 1) \rightarrow 11$  ( $*(\text{arr}) = 10 \Rightarrow *(\text{arr}) + 1 \Rightarrow 10 + 1 \rightarrow 11$ )
- ix)  $*(\text{arr} + 2) \rightarrow 30$  ( $*(\text{arr} + 2) \Rightarrow *(104 + 2 \times 4) \Rightarrow *(112) \Rightarrow 30$ )
- x)  $*(\text{arr} + 3) \rightarrow 40$  ( $*(\text{arr} + 3 \times 4) \Rightarrow *(116) \Rightarrow 40$ )

104 108 112 116 120 124  
arr = [10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50]  
0 1 2 3 4

$* \text{arr} \leftarrow \text{OR} \rightarrow * \text{arr} + 0 \leftarrow \text{OR} \rightarrow *(\text{arr} + 0) \rightarrow 10$

They all give the same output (Value at base address).

#

$\text{arr}[0]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + 0)$   
 $\text{arr}[1]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + 1)$   
 $\text{arr}[2]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + 2)$

OR  $i[\text{arr}]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + i)$

(Imp++)

$\text{arr}[i]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + i)$

OR  $i[\text{arr}]$  equal to  $*(\text{arr} + i)$

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#  $\text{arr}[i] \rightarrow *(\text{arr} + i)$   
 $\downarrow *(\text{Base address} + i)$

} Behind the  
Scene

500	504	508	512	516	520
10	20	30	40	50	

#  $\text{arr} = \& \text{arr}[0]$   
 $= \& *(\text{arr} + 0)$   
 $= \& 10$   
 $\text{arr} = 500$   
 $500 = 500$   
 $\therefore \text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$

```
int main() {
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *ptr = arr;

    // Print the address of first element or '0th' index
    cout << arr << endl;
    cout << arr + 0 << endl;
    cout << *arr << endl;
    cout << ptr << endl;

    // Print the address of second element or '1st' index
    cout << arr + 1 << endl;
    cout << &arr[1] << endl;

    // Print the value of '0th' index
    cout << arr[0] << endl;
    cout << *arr << endl;
    cout << *(&arr[0]) << endl;
    cout << *ptr << endl;

    // Print address of all index
    for (int i=0; i<5; i++) {
        cout << arr + i << endl; OR. cout << ptr + i << endl;
    }
}
```

// Print all the value  
for (int i=0; i<5; i++) {  
 cout << \*(&arr + i) << endl; OR. cout << \*(ptr + i) << endl;  
 cout << arr[i] << endl;  
}

### Pointer Arithmetics.

if Increment of a pointer (++)

```
int arr[5] = {2, 4, 6, 8, 10};  

int *ptr = arr;  

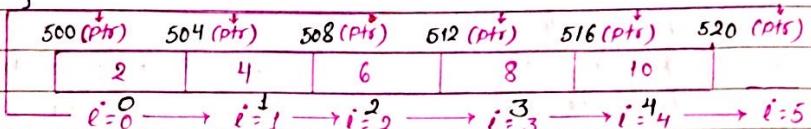
          500 504 508 512 516 520  

          2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10  

          0   1   2   3   4  
(ptr)
```

// Print all value of array using increment operator  
for (int i=0; i<5; i++) {

cout << \*ptr << endl;  
ptr++;



int \*ptr = arr; → ptr = 500 & \*ptr = 2;  
if i=0;

cout << \*ptr; → ②                              iif i=3;  
ptr++;    cout << \*ptr; → ③

ptr = 500 + 1x4 = 504                              ptr++;                                      512 + 1x4 = 516  
 ↓    ↓    ↓

iiif i=1;    cout << \*ptr; → ④                              iif i=4;  
ptr++;    cout << \*ptr; → ⑤

ptr = 504 + 1x4 = 508                              ptr++;                                      516 + 1x4 = 520  
 ↓    ↓    ↓

iiiif i=2;    cout << \*ptr; → ⑥                              iif i=5;  
ptr++;    cout << \*ptr; → ⑦

ptr = 508 + 1x4 = 512                              cout of bound. (STOP)

iii) Decrement of a pointer (--).

```
int arr[5] = { 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 };
int *ptr = arr + 4;
cout << *ptr << endl;
```

500	504	508	512	516	520
2	4	6	8	10	(ptr)

// Print all value of array using decrement operator

```
for (int i = 4; i >= 0; i--) {
    cout << *ptr << " ";
    ptr--;
}
```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  10 8 6 4 2

500(ptr)	504(ptr)	508(ptr)	512(ptr)	516(ptr)	520
2	4	6	8	10	

$i = -1 \quad i = 0 \leftarrow \quad i = 1 \leftarrow \quad i = 2 \leftarrow \quad i = 3 \leftarrow \quad i = 4$

```
int *ptr = arr + 4;      ptr = 516      *ptr = 10;
if (i = 4;
    cout << *ptr;  $\rightarrow$  10
    ptr--;      ptr = ptr - 1
    ptr = 516 - 1 * 4
    ptr = 512 //
```

ix)  $i = 1;$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\downarrow$  cout << \*ptr;  $\rightarrow$  4  
 $\downarrow$  ptr-- ;      504 = 500 =

ii)  $i = 3;$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\downarrow$  cout << \*ptr;  $\rightarrow$  8  
 $\downarrow$  ptr-- ;      512 - 1 \* 4 = 508 //

ix)  $i = 0;$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\downarrow$  cout << \*ptr;  $\rightarrow$  2  
 $\downarrow$  ptr-- ;      500 - 1 \* 4 = 496 =

iii)  $i = 2;$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\downarrow$  cout << \*ptr;  $\rightarrow$  6  
 $\downarrow$  ptr-- ;      508 - 1 \* 4 = 504 //

ix)  $i = -1$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\downarrow$  out of bound (STOP)

# int arr[5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };

int &ptr = arr;

ptr++;  $\rightarrow$  This is a valid.  
arr++;  $\rightarrow$  " " " invalid. } Why ?

Perform

Q) Why we can't perform arithmetic operation on array pointer?

In C++ & C, the name of an array like 'arr' represents the memory address of its first element. We can't directly perform arithmetic operation on array, because it is a constant pointer that points to the first element of the array, & its value can't be changed. If you try to perform arithmetic operation on array you get an error.

Q) Guess the output

int arr[4] = { 10, 20, 30, 40 };

int \*P = arr;

Pnt \*q = arr + 1;

104	108	112	116	120	104
10	20	30	40	P	420

$0 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3$

108

2

if arr  $\rightarrow$  104 (Base address)

if &arr  $\rightarrow$  104 (" ")

if arr[0]  $\rightarrow$  10 (value at 0th index)

if &arr[0]  $\rightarrow$  104 (address of 0th " )

if P  $\rightarrow$  104 (value of P)  $\rightarrow$  Base address

if &P  $\rightarrow$  512 (address of P)

if \*P  $\rightarrow$  10 (P = 104, \*P = &104  $\Rightarrow$  10)  $\rightarrow$  value of 0th index

if q  $\rightarrow$  108 (address of 1st index)

if &q  $\rightarrow$  420 (" " q)

if \*q  $\rightarrow$  20 (q = 108, \*q = &108  $\Rightarrow$  20)  $\rightarrow$  value of 1st index

if \*P+1  $\rightarrow$  11 (\*P = 10, \*P+1 = 10+1  $\Rightarrow$  11)

if \*(P)+2  $\rightarrow$  12 (\*P = 10, \*(P)+2 = 10+2  $\Rightarrow$  12)

if \*(q)+2  $\rightarrow$  22 (\*q = 20, \*(q)+2 = 20+2  $\Rightarrow$  22)

## Pointer with char array

```
char ch [5] = "1234";           → 500 501 502 503 504 505  
char *ptr = &ch;                | '1' '2' '3' '4' '\0'  
cout << ch; // O/P ≠ 1234      | 0   1   2   3   4  
cout << ptr; // O/P ≠ 1234     | 500 \0  
                                | ptr
```

**NOTE:-** When we make a pointer for char-type data & tries to print that pointer, it will print the array character/element until it found the null character (\0), rather than its address like in integer array.

character array in C/C++ are often treated as null-terminated strings. When we dereference a char pointer pointing to the start of such an array, the compiler assumes we're interested in the string data itself, not the memory address of the array. Therefore, it returns the value stored at that memory location.

# If you want to print address of array instead of value in char array, then you have to use void pointer (void\*).

```
char arr [5] = "1234";          → 500 501 502 503 504 505  
char *ptr = arr;                | '1' '2' '3' '4' '\0'  
cout << (void*) arr; // O/P ≠ 500  
cout << (void*) ptr; // O/P ≠ 500
```

#  
char ch = 'a';  
char \*ptr = &ch;  
cout << ptr; // O/P ≠ a??. (Random character with 'a')

It prints some random character with 'a' until it found a null character ('\0').

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char ch = 'a';

char \*ptr = &ch;

cout << (void\*) ptr; } In this time both statement point the  
cout << (void\*) &ch; } address of 'ch' variable.

## Guess the output

```
char ch [10] = "Pointer";  
char *ptr = ch;
```

```
→ 104  
P o i n t e r  
208  
↓ 104  
ptr
```

iif ch → Pointer

iiif &ch → 104

iiiif ch[0] → P

ivif &ptr → 208

vif \*ptr → P (\*ptr+0) ≠ ptr[0] ≠ P

viif ptr → pointer.

char ch [50] = "Statement";  
char \*ptr = &ch[0];

```
→ 104  
S t a t e m e n t  
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
216  
↓ 104  
ptr
```

iif ch → Statement

vif ptr+2 → atement

ptr

iiif &ch → 104

vif &ptr → S (\*ptr[0] ≠ \*ptr ≠ S)

ptr

iiiif \*(ch+3) → t

vif ptr+8 → t

ivif ptr → Statement

vif \* (ptr+8) → t (\*ptr[8] ≠ \*(ptr+3))

viif &ptr → 216

## # char \*ptr = "pointer"; → Bad practice

It is a bad practice, because it creates a pointer that points to a string literal, which is typically stored in 'RAM'. Which can be deleted or removed any time from 'RAM'. & can lead to undefined behaviour, including program crashes or unexpected results.

# Pointer class - 2

## Pointers to an array.

Pointer to an array is a pointer that points to first element address of an array.

Eg:- `int arr [5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4 };`

`int *ptr = arr;` // Pointer to an array which is pointing to the first element address of array.

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  3

## Array of pointer

An array of pointer is an array, where each elements is a pointer to a memory location of itself.

Eg:- `int *arr [5];` // Array of pointer

`arr`

int*	int*	int*	int*	int*
0	1	2	3	4

 $\rightarrow$  stored integer pointer data.

Every element is a pointer to itself.

0	1	2	3	4
int	int	int	int	int

Stored integer data (integer array)

# `int arr [5];`  $\rightarrow$  `arr =`

int	int	int	int	int
0	1	2	3	4

Stored integer pointer data.  
(Array of pointers)

# `int arr [5];`  
`int *ptr = arr;` pointer to an array

`int *arr [5];` Array of pointer, where every element is a pointer

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`int (*ptr) [5];` // Pointer to an array of 5 size.

# The difference b/w, `int *arr [5]` & `int (*ptr) [5]` is Parentheses, so don't confuse with these two statements.

`int *arr [5];`  $\rightarrow$  Array of pointer

`int (*ptr) [5];`  $\rightarrow$  Point to an array of 5 size

# `int *arr [4];`  $\rightarrow$  `arr =`

0	1	2	3		
int *	int *	int *	int *		
100	104	108	112		
	100	104	108	112	116

  
`int num [5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4 };`  $\rightarrow$  `num =`

0	1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4	3
0	1	2	3	3

Assigning address of array 'num' to each pointer element of array 'arr', because 'arr' is a array of pointer, which store the address of element in each memory block.

`arr[0] = &num[0];`  
`arr[1] = &num[1];`  
`arr[2] = &num[2];`  
`arr[3] = &num[3];`

} Each elements of array 'arr'  
store the address of each elements of 'num' array.

`arr[0] = 100, arr[1] = 104, arr[2] = 108, arr[3] = 112.`

Accessing the element of 'num' through 'arr' array.

`*arr[0]  $\rightarrow$  *100 = 1`

`*arr[1]  $\rightarrow$  *104 = 2`  $\rightarrow$  Element of 'num' array.

`*arr[2]  $\rightarrow$  *108 = 3`

`*arr[3]  $\rightarrow$  *112 = 4`

```

Date: .....  

Page: .....
```

```

int main () {
    int num [5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
    int * arr [5]; // Array of Pointer.
    // Print the value of 'num' using array of pointer 'arr'.
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        arr[i] = & num [i]; // Store the address of each element
        cout << * arr [i] << " "; // of array 'num'.
    }
}

```

↳ Dereferencing the address stored in each element of array 'arr'.

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  1 2 3 4 5

# NOTE: While making pointer to an array.

```

int arr [3] = { 1, 2, 3 };
int (*ptr) [3] = & arr; // Pointer to an array of 3 size

```

The Parentheses around '`*ptr`' is necessary because the de-reference operator '`*`' has lower precedence than the array subscript operator `[ ]`.

### Pointers with Functions

Q What happens when an array is passed to a function?

A When we pass an array to a function, we're passing a pointer to the first element of the array, not the whole array. That pointer allows us to access & manipulate the array's elements directly. This can be efficient for working with large arrays as it avoids unnecessary copying of data.

Eg:-

```

void solve (int arr[], int size) { → int * arr
    cout << "Size of array inside function: " << sizeof (arr) << endl;
}

```

```

Date: .....  

Page: .....
```

```

int main () {
    int arr [] = { 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 };
    cout << "Size of array in main function: " << sizeof (arr);
    solve (arr, 5);
}

```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  Size of array in main function : 20 (5x4)  
Size of array inside function : 8 (Size of pointer)

In 'solve' function array passed as a pointer. Pointer size is always '8 bytes' we learn in previous class. Pointer size doesn't depend on data type, it is depends on machine architectures.

We can write `int arr[]` in solve function as `int *arr`.

```

# int main () {
    int arr [] = { 1, 2, 3 };
    void solve (int arr[], int size) {
        cout << arr << endl;
        cout << & arr << endl;
    }
}

```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  104 (Value in 'arr' pointer)  
216 (Address of 'arr' pointer)

int arr [] = { 1, 2, 3 };	int arr (int *arr), int size
104 108 112 116	216 104 300
1   2   3	104   3
0   1   2	arr   size
arr = 104, & arr = 104.	

arr = 104, & arr = 104.

```
# void solve (int *arr, int size) {
    cout << " inside solve -> arr :" << arr << endl;
    cout << " inside solve -> &arr :" << &arr << endl;
}
} // only this value is differ,
// rest of the 3 print the same value.
```

```
int main () {
    int arr [5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
    solve (arr, 5);
    cout << " inside main -> arr :" << arr << endl;
    cout << " inside main -> &arr :" << &arr << endl;
}
```

```
# void solve (int *arr, int size) {
    *arr += 1;
}

int main () {
    int arr [3] = { 10, 20, 30 };
    solve (arr, 3);
    for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {
        cout << arr [i] << " ";
    }
}
} // O/P : 11 20 30
```

$$\begin{array}{c} 216 \qquad \qquad 316 \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ \boxed{104} \quad \boxed{108} \quad \boxed{112} \quad \boxed{116} \\ \text{arr} \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{size} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \rightarrow 104 \quad 108 \quad 112 \quad 116 \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ \boxed{1116} \quad \boxed{20} \quad \boxed{30} \\ \text{arr} \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{0} \quad 1 \quad 2 \\ \downarrow \\ *arr += 1 \\ \Rightarrow *arr = *arr + 1 \\ = *104 + 1 \\ = 10 + 1 \\ \therefore *arr = 11 \end{array}$$

# Function to double the value of array using pointer

```
void doubleValue (int *arr, int size) {
    for (int i=0; i<size; i++) {
        arr[i] = arr[i]*2;
    }
}
```

```
int main () {
    int num [5] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
    doubleValue (num, 5);
    for (int i=0; i<5; i++) {
        cout << num[i] << " ";
    }
}
```

O/P : 2 4 6 8 10

# Function to Swap the value of two variables.

```
void swapping (int *p1, int *p2) { // Pass By Pointer
```

```
    int temp = *p1;
```

```
*p1 = *p2;
```

```
*p2 = temp;
```

```
int main () {
```

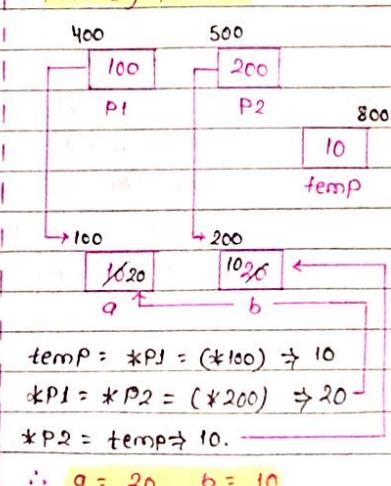
```
    int a = 10, b = 20;
```

```
    swapping (&a, &b);
```

```
    cout << a << " " << b;
```

```
    return 0;
```

O/P : 20 10



### Reference variable

```
# int main() {
    int num = 10; 10 → after temp++
    int & temp: num; // num & temp are same, 'temp' is a reference variable
    cout << temp << endl; // 10
    temp++; // temp = temp+1 = 10+1 = 11 11 ←
    cout << num << endl; // 11
    cout << & temp << endl; // 0x16b4871ec num/temp
    cout << *num << endl; // 0x16b4871ec
}
```

### # Swap two value using reference Variable

```
void swapping (int &a, int &b) { → Pass by reference
    int temp = a;
    a = b;
    b = temp;
}
```

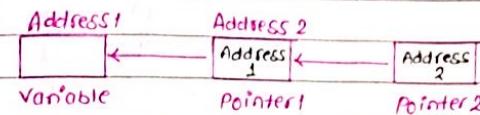
```
int main() {
    int num1 = 10;
    int num2 = 20;
    swapping (num1, num2);
    cout << num1 << endl; // 20
    cout << num2 << endl; // 10
}
```

# Solve vector & string using reference } while pass in  
# Solve integer array, character array using pointer } a function

### Pointer To Pointer

#### Double Pointer

A double pointer is a pointer that holds the address of another pointer. When we define a pointer to pointer, the first pointer is used to store the address of the variables & the second pointer stores the address of the first pointer.



Syntax: `data-type ** name-of = & normal-pointer  
of pointer variable`

Ex:- `int n = 10;`  
`int *p = &n; // Pointer to a integer.`  
`int **q = &p; // Pointer to a pointer`

```

    graph LR
        n[10] --> p[100]
        p[100] --> q[120]
        n[10] --> num[200]
        num[200] --> pptr[int *ptr = &num]
        num[200] --> dptr[int * *ptr = &ptr]
        pptr[20] --> dptr[30]
        dptr[30] --> val["∴ final value of num = 30"]
    
```

# `int num = 10; → 10 → 20 → 30`  
`int *ptr = &num; } Single pointer`  
`*ptr = 20; }`  
`int **ptr = &ptr; } Double pointer`  
`**ptr = 30; }`

∴ final value of num = 30

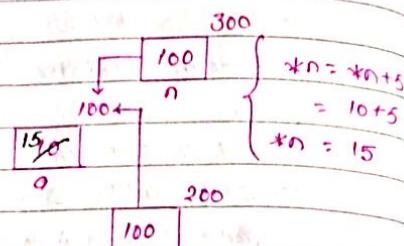
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```
# void addValue (int *n) {
    *n = *n + 5;
}

int main () {
    int a = 10;
    int *p = &a;
    addValue(p);
    cout << n;
}

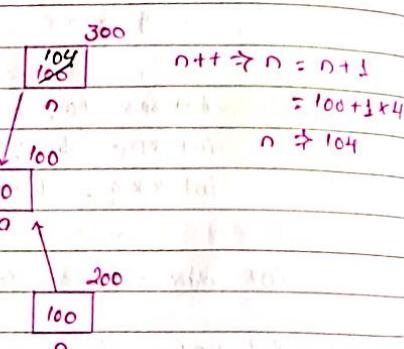
O/P → 15
```



Pointer 'n' is also store the address of variable 'a'.

```
# void fun (int *n) {
    n++;
}

int main () {
    int a = 10;
    int *p = &a;
    fun(p);
    cout << p;
}
```

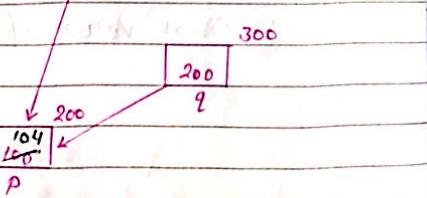
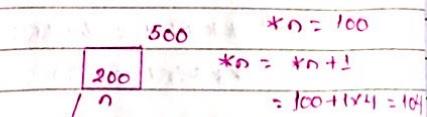


O/P ≠ 100

'n' doesn't effect the value present in pointer 'p'!

```
# void changeValue (int **n) {
    *n = *n + 1;
}
```

```
int main () {
    int a = 10;
    int *p = &a; single pointer
    int **q = &p; double pointer
    changeValue(q);
}
```

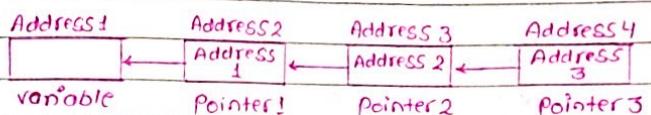


cout << p;

O/P ≠ 104

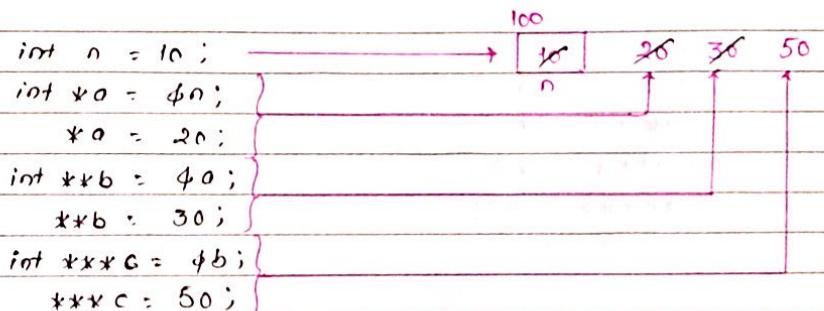
### Triple Pointer

A triple pointer is a pointer that holds the address of a double pointer. In other words, it is a pointer to a pointer to a pointer.



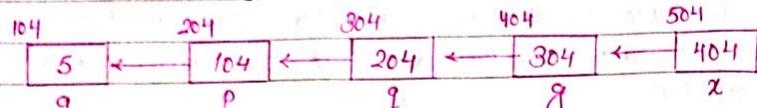
Syntax: datatype \*\*\* name of = & double- pointer  
of Pointer variable variable

Eg:- int n = 10; // Integer variable  
int \*a = &n; // Single pointer  
int \*\*b = &a; // Double " "  
int \*\*\*c = &b; // Triple "



∴ final value of n = 50

#  
int a = 5;  
int \*p = &a; // Single Pointer  
int \*\*q = &p; // Double "  
int \*\*\*g = &q; // Triple "  
int \*\*\*\*x = &g; // Multi "



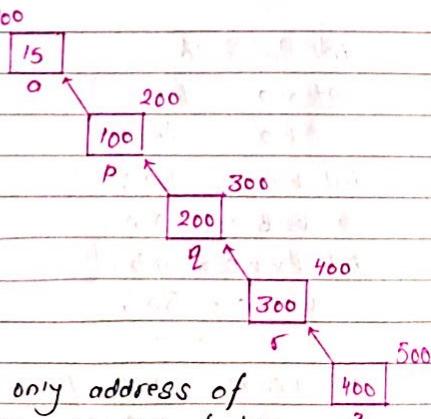
<code>*p</code>	<code>*q</code>	<code>*g</code>	<code>*x</code>
<code>**q</code>	<code>**g</code>	<code>**x</code>	can access
<code>***g</code>	<code>***x</code>	can access	pointer 'g'
<code>****x</code>	can access	Pointer 'q'	using these
can access	pointer 'p'	using these	pointer.
'o' by using these pointer	using these	pointer	
	pointer		

**If** Remember: In case of pointer, 'n' pointer always contains 'n-1' pointer address.

Eg:-

```

int a = 15;
int *p = &a;
int **q = &p;
int ***r = &q;
int ****z = &r;
    |   |   |
    |   |   |
    |   |   |
int *****n = &r;
  
```



In this eg: 'z' Pointer contain only address of 'r' pointer. It can't contains the address of 'q'

Pointer. Similarly, 'r' Pointer can contains address of 'q'  
Point. can't contains address of 'p' Pointer & so on.

code :

```
int main () {
```

```
int n = 10;
```

```
cout << p << endl; // o/p + print address of variable 'n'
```

```
cout << p2 << endl; // O/P + " " " " " Pointer 'p'.
```

`int ***P3 = &P2; // Triple pointer contain address of double`

`cout << p3 << endl;`      }    pointer 'p2'.

```
cout << &p2 << endl; } // Both print the address of 'p2'.
```

// Modify the value of 'n' using pointer

$$*P = *P + 5; \quad // \quad 10 + 5 \neq 15$$

cout << n << endl; // O/P ⇒ 15

$$**P2 = **P2 + 10; // 15+10 \neq 25$$

```
cout << n << endl; // o/p => 25
```

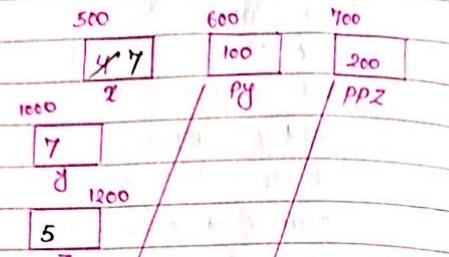
$$***P_3 = ***P_3 + 25; \quad // \quad 25 + 25 = 50$$

```
cout << n << endl; // o/p is 50
```

∴ final value of 'n' will be '50'



```
# int four (int x, int *py, int **ppz) {
    int y, z;
    *ppz += 1;
    z = **ppz;
    *py += 2;
    y = *py; x += 3;
    return x + y + z;
}
```



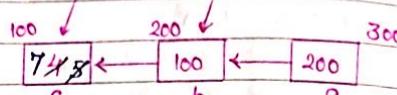
```
int main () {
    int c, *b, **a;
    c = 4, b = &c, a = &b;
    cout << four (c, b, a);
}
```

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  19.

### DRY RUN:

Inside four() function

- i)  $**ppz += 1$ ; (can access 'c' using 'ppz' pointer)  
 $*ppz = **ppz + 1$   
 $= 4 + 1 = 5$
- ii)  $z = **ppz$ ;  
 $z = 5$ ; (value of z)
- iii)  $*py += 2$ ; (can access 'c' also using 'py' pointer)  
 $*py = *py + 2$   
 $= 5 + 2$   
 $*py = 7$  (new value of c)
- iv)  $y = *py$   
 $y = 7$  (value of y)



```
# x = 3
x = x + 3
= 4 + 3
x = 7
return (x + y + z)
= (7 + 7 + 5)
= 19
```

# void five (char \*str1, char \*str2) {

```
while (*str1 == *str2) {
    str1++;
    str2++;
}
```

500

200

str1

600

300

str2

int main () {

```
char first [] = "Suraj";
char second [] = "Ramu";
five (first, second);
cout << first;
```

200 201 202 203 204 205

'S' 'u' 'r' 'a' 'j'

300 301 302 303

'R' 'a' 'm' 'u'

```
*str1 = 'R' (*str2 = R) str1++;
if str1 = 201, str2 = 301 str2++;
```

```
*str1 = 'a' (*str2 = a)
str1++, str2++;
```

str1 = 202, str2 = 302

```
*str1 = 'm' (*str2 = m)
str1++, str2++;
```

str1 = 203, str2 = 303

\*str1 = 'o'

while loop become, while (10) {
means break the loop.

O/P  $\Rightarrow$  Ramoj

### DRY RUN:

Inside five() function

```
str1 = 200, str2 = 300
while (*str1 == *str2) {
    str1++, str2++;
}
```

if \*str1 = \*str2.

Date: .....  
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# Inside while loop, when not null value pass, it run the loop & when null value is pass, it break the loop (loop terminate).  
→ Previous page code is a code of string copy? While we're to copy string value, we use this code.

# Guess the output

```
int a = 5;
int *p = &a;
int **q = &p;
```

i) a → 5  
ii) &a → 104  
iii) p → 104  
iv) &p → 204  
v) \*p → 5  
vi) q → 204  
vii) \*q → 804  
viii) \*\*q → 104  
ix) \*\*\*q → 5

# Guess the output

```
int a = 10;
int *p = &a;
int **q = &p;
int ***s = &p;
int ****t = &q;
```

i) \*s → 204  
ii) \*\*s → 10  
iii) \*\*\*s → 10  
iv) \*\*\*\*s → 10  
v) \*s → 104  
vi) \*\*s → 104  
vii) \*p → 10  
viii) \*p → 505  
ix) \*q → 404  
x) \*q → 304  
xi) \*s + 1 → 108  
xii) size of integer datatype  
xiii) \*p → 104  
xiv) \*p → 10  
xv) 104 + 1 × 4 = 108

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void solve (int \*p) {

p = p + 1;

}

int main () {

int a = 5;

int \*p = &a;

cout << p; // 104

cout << \*p; // 204

cout << \*p; // 5

solve (p);

cout << p; // 104

cout << \*p; // 204

cout << \*p; // 5

}

104

108

p

p = p + 1

p = 104 + 1 × 4

p = 108

5

a

204

p

change happen only in solve()  
function, because we pass the  
pointer by value in function.  
copy of pointer created in function  
p value change only in solve()  
function.

# void solve (int \*q) {

q = q + 1;

}

int main () {

int a = 5;

int \*p = &a;

cout << p; // 104

cout << \*p; // 204

cout << \*p; // 5

solve (p);

cout << p; // 108

cout << \*p; // 204

cout << \*p; // Garbage

}

104

p = p + 1

p

= 104 + 1 × 4

= 108

5

a

204

p / q (pass by  
reference)

108

104

= 104 + 1 × 4

= 108

q = 108

value 'p'  
store the  
address of unknown location