C Language

Pointers

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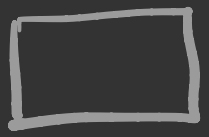
Agenda

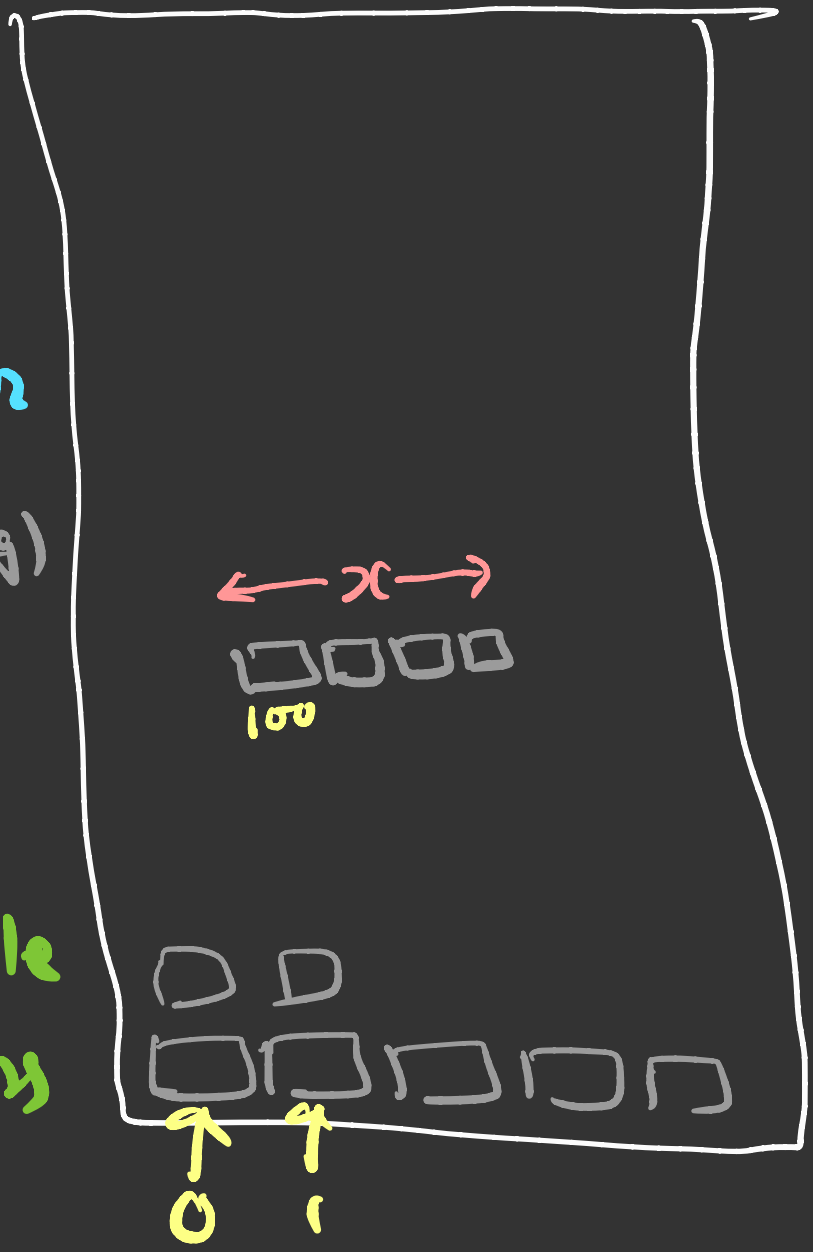
1. Introduction to memory address
2. Referencing and Dereferencing operators
3. What is pointer?

Introduction to Memory Address

```
int x;
```



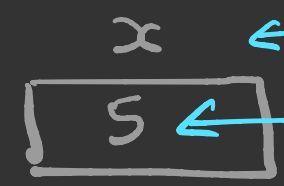
100 ← address
← reference
← position number of byte
(0 based counting)



- Address number is always whole number
- we cannot decide an address number of a variable
- we cannot change address of a variable

Referencing and Dereferencing operators

```
int x = 5;
printf("%d", x); 5
printf("%d", &x); 100
printf("%d", *&x); 5
```



x ← variable name is x

5 ← value in x is 5

100 ← address of x is 100

reference of x is 100

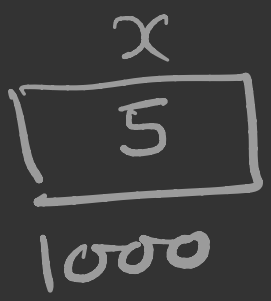
&

- 'address of' operator
- 'referencing' operator
- Unary operator
- & ..... ← variable

*

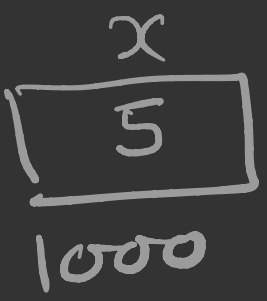
- Indirection Operator
- 'Dereferencing' operator
- Unary operator
- * ..... ← address

```
int x = 5;
&x = 7;
```



1000 = 7 x

```
int x = 5;
&x = 7;
```

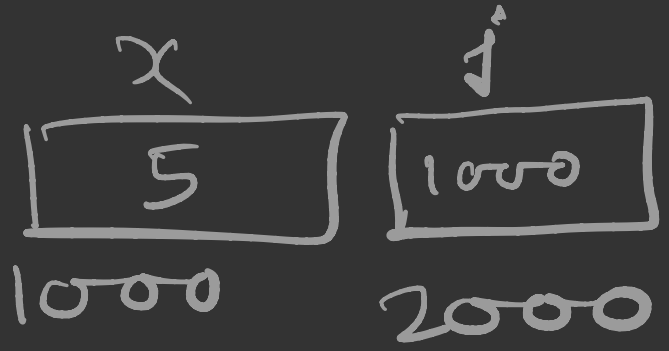


Why error?

&x is not a variable, it is just a way to represent address of variable x. Address number is a constant value.

We cannot have constant in the left hand side of assignment (=) operator.

```
int x = 5;
int *j;
j = &x;
```



j is a pointer variable