

2D Arrays & Functions

Pass **2D** arrays to functions by address, just like **1D** arrays. The following function prints the contents of a **ROWS** × **COLS** **2D** array of **double**:

```
void print(const double m[ROWS][COLS])
{
    for (size_t row = 0; row < ROWS; ++row)
    {
        for (size_t col = 0; col < COLS; col++)
            cout << setw(5) << m[row][col];
        cout << endl;    // end of each row
    }
}
```

Of course, **this function is really quite limited** since **it can only be used** to process an array that is **exactly ROWS × COLS** elements in size.

You can make it a little more flexible by **omitting the first dimension**, and then passing the number of rows as a parameter. **You cannot**, however, leave off the number of columns. That must be a constant.

```
void print(const double m[][COLS], size_t nRows)
{
    for (size_t row = 0; row < nRows; ++row)
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

This inflexibility is one of the reasons that the built-in **2D** arrays are so limiting in C/C++.

An expression that uses just one subscript with a **2D** array **represents a single row** within the **2D** array. This row is itself a **1D** array. Thus, if **a2d** is a **2D** array and **i** is an integer, then the expression **a2d[i]** is a **1D** array representing row **i**.



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