

#### EECS402 Lecture 12

Andrew M. Morgan

Savitch Ch. 10
Pointers
Addresses of Variables
Dynamic Memory Allocation



#### **Introduction To Pointers**

물론C3 402

- A pointer in C++ holds the value of a memory address
- A pointer's type is said to be a pointer to whatever type should be in the memory address it is pointing to
  - Just saying that a variable is a pointer is not enough information!
- Generic syntax for declaring a pointer:

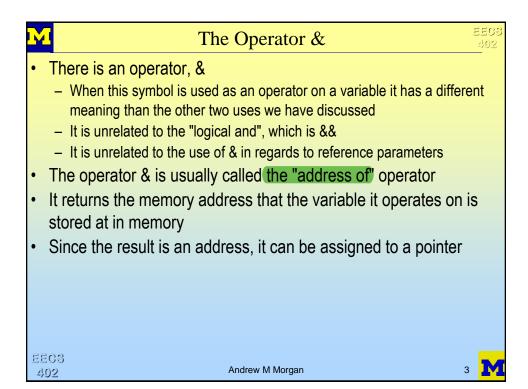
```
dataType *pointerVarName;
```

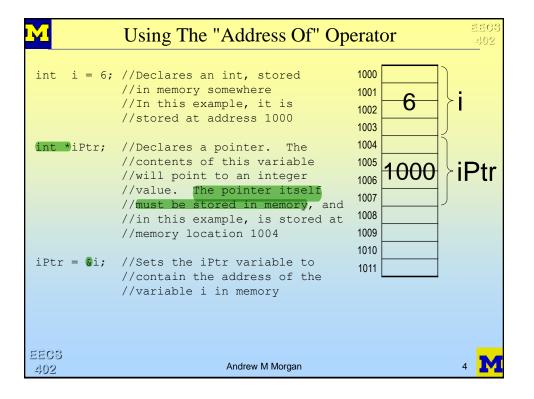
Specific examples

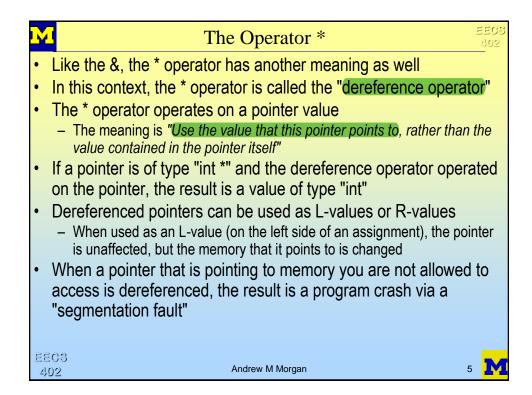
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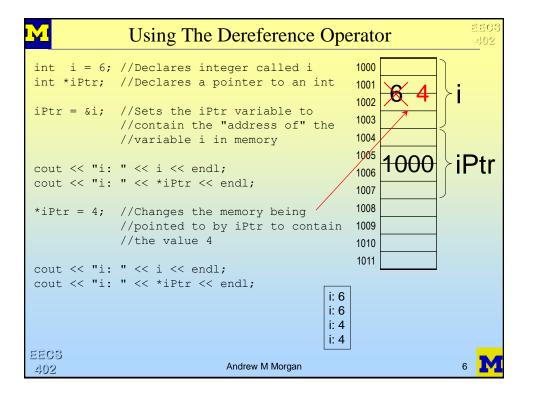
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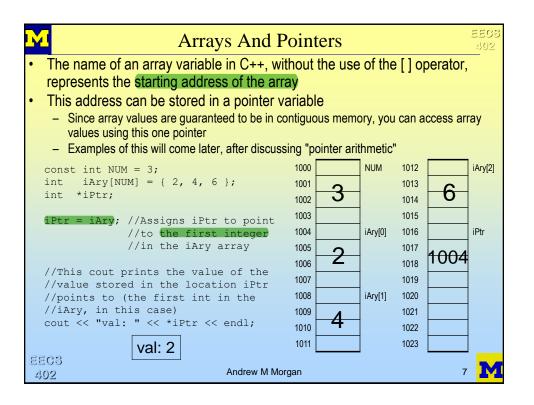


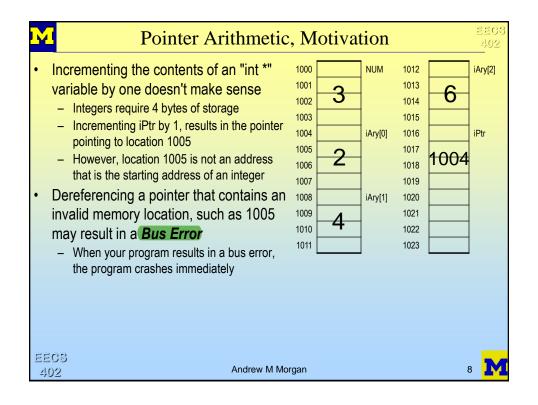














### Pointer Arithmetic, Description

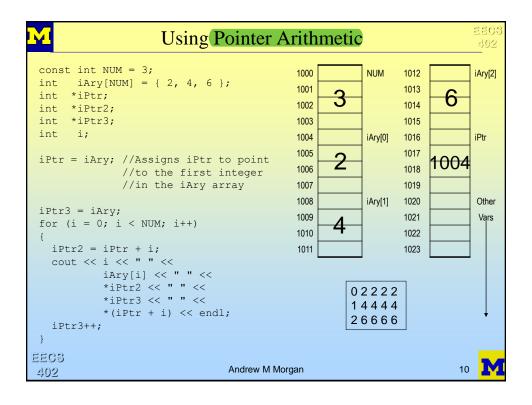


- Recall that a pointer type specifies the type of value it is pointing to
  - C++ can determine the size of the value being pointed to
  - When arithmetic is performed on a pointer, it is done using this knowledge to ensure the pointer doesn't point to intermediate memory locations
  - If an int requires 4 bytes, and iPtr is a variable of type "int \*", then the statement "iPtr++;" actually increments the pointer value by 4
  - Similarly, "iPtr2 = iPtr + 5;" stores the address "five integers worth" past iPtr in iPtr2
    - If iPtr was 1000, then iPtr2 would contain the address 1020
    - 1020 = 1000 + 5 \* 4
- Pointer arithmetic is performed automatically when arithmetic is done on pointers
  - No special syntax is required to get this behavior!

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#### Static Allocation Of Arrays

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- All arrays discussed or used thus far in the course have been "statically allocated"
  - The array size was specified using a constant or literal in the code
  - When the array comes into scope, the entire size of the array can be allocated, because it was specified
- You won't always know the array sizes when writing source code
  - Consider a program that modifies an image
  - As the developer, you won't know what image size the user will use
  - One solution: Declare the image array to be 5000 rows by 5000 columns
    - Problem #1: This likely wastes a lot of memory if the user uses an image that is 250x250, then there are 24,937,500 unused pixels. If each pixel requires 4 bytes, this is almost 100 MB (megabytes!) of wasted space
    - Problem #2: What if the user needs to edit an image that is 6000x6000? Your program will fail, and likely result in a crash
- Static arrays are allocated on the stack of local variables

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#### **Dynamic Allocation Of Arrays**

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- If an array is "dynamically allocated", then space is not reserved for the array until the size is determined
  - This may not be until the middle of a function body, using a value that is not constant or literal
  - The size may be input by the user, read from a file, computed from other variables, etc.
- As memory is "claimed" using dynamic allocation, the starting address is provided, allowing it to be stored in a pointer variable
- Since pointers can be used to access array elements, arrays can be dynamically allocated in this way
- Dynamically allocated memory is claimed from the heap, as opposed to the stack

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#### The "new" Operator

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- A new operator is used to perform dynamic allocation
  - The operator is the "new" operator
- The new operator:
  - Attempts to find the amount of space requested from the heap
  - "Claims" the memory when an appropriately sized available chunk of the heap is found
  - Returns the address of the chunk that was claimed
- "new" can be used to allocated individual variables:

```
iPtr = new int; //allocates an int variable
```

"new" can also be used to allocated arrays of variables:

```
iPtr = new int[5]; //allocates an array of 5 integers
```

 Array elements can be accessed using pointer arithmetic and dereferencing, or via the well-know [] operator, indexing an array

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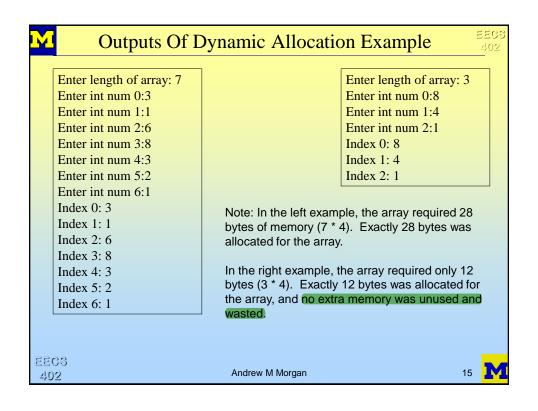
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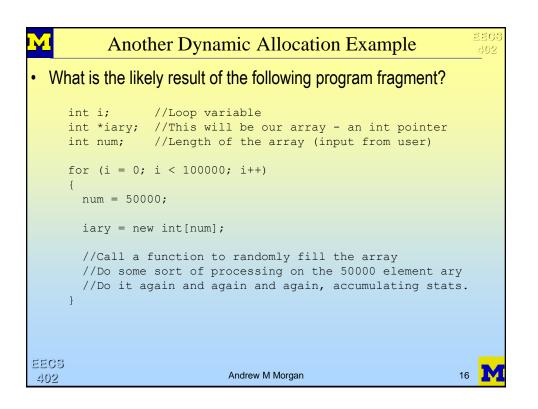


# Dynamic Allocation Of Arrays, Example

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This fragment lets the user decide how big of an array is needed







#### **Example Problem Description**

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- The likely result would be that the program would be a failure
  - The reason is that the new operator claims the memory requested each iteration of the loop
  - There is only a finite amount of memory, though, and the amount requested is likely beyond the amount available
- The problem is that while the memory is claimed, it is never released, of "freed", or "deleted"
- If you don't free the memory, but you do change the pointer pointing at it to point to a different address, then:
  - The original memory is still claimed
  - There is no way to access the original memory, since no pointers are pointing to it
  - The chunk of memory is wasted throughout the entire execution of the program
  - This is referred to as a "memory leak", and should be avoided

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#### Using The "delete" Operator

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- Dynamically allocated memory can be released back into the available memory store using the "delete" operator
- The delete operator operates on a pointer and frees the memory being pointed to
  - Recall a pointer may be pointing to a single value, or an array of values
  - Due to this, the delete operator is used differently to delete single values and arrays
- Deleting a single value being pointed to:

delete iPtr;

Deleting an array of values being pointed to:

delete [] iPtr:

- Using the delete operator on a null pointer has no effect
- Using the delete operator on a pointer pointing to memory that is not currently claimed by your program will cause a segmentation fault
  - Initialize all pointers to 0 (zero)
  - Set all pointers to 0 after using the delete operator on them

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```
Fixing The Memory Leak Program
                //Loop variable
    int *iary; //This will be our array - an int pointer
                //Length of the array (input from user)
    int num;
    for (i = 0; i < 100000; i++)
      num = 50000;
      iary = new int[num];
      //Call a function to randomly fill the array
      //Do some sort of processing on the 50000 element ary
      //Do it again and again, accumulating stats.
      delete [] iary; //No need to tell delete the size of
                      //the array. This only frees up the
                      //memory that iary is pointing to. It
                      //does NOT delete the pointer in any way
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#### **Dynamically Allocating Objects**

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- The arrow operator is another operator needed for working with pointers
  - The arrow operator is a dash and a greater than symbol:
  - It is used to access public member variables or functions of an object that is being pointed to by a pointer
  - It is used the same way the dot operator is used on an actual object, but the arrow is used on a pointer variable instead
- The arrow is used for convenience
  - Alternatively, you could deference the pointer and use the dot operator
- Since the arrow operator implies a dereference, using the arrow operator on a pointer that doesn't point to claimed memory results in a segmentation fault!

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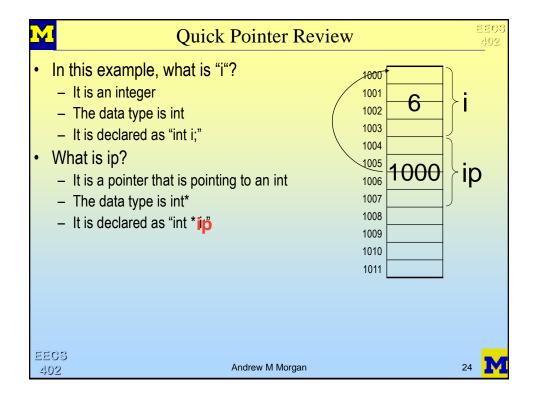
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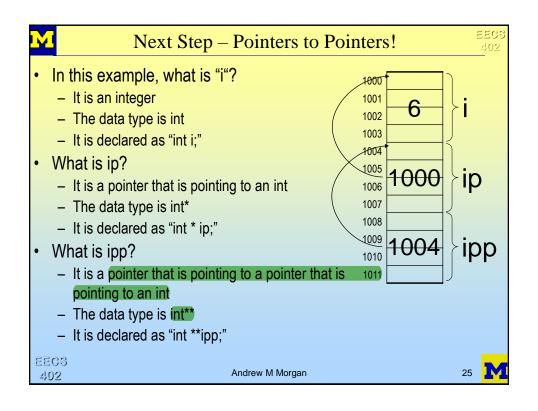
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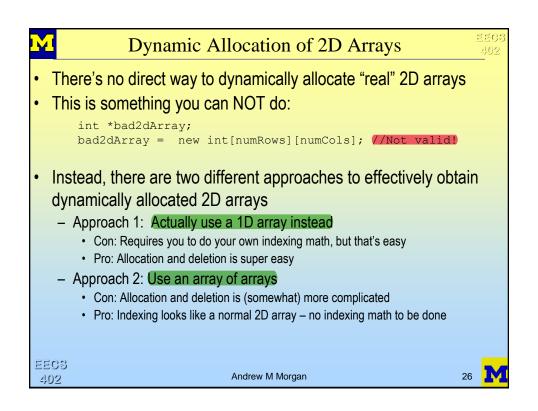
```
Using The Arrow Operator ->
  class CircleClass
    public:
      double xVal;
      double yVal;
       double zVal;
       double radius;
  };
                                   I access the same memory location using
  int main()
                                   both the actual object and a pointer to that
                                   object.
    CircleClass myObj;
    CircleClass *myPtr;
                                   The dot operator is used with the object
    myPtr = \&myObj;
    myObj.xVal = 5;
                                   The arrow operator is used with the pointer
    myPtr->yVal =<del>49</del>
    myObj.zVal = 15;
    myPtr->radius = 56.4;
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```

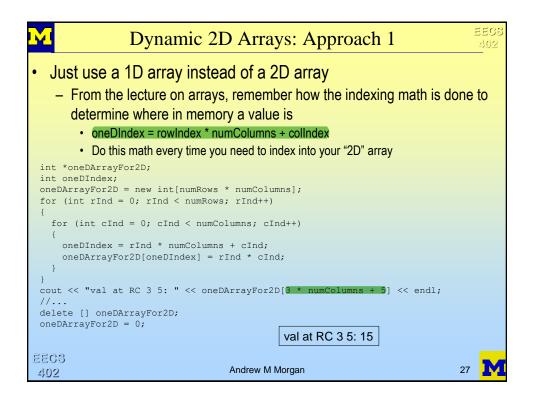
```
Dynamically Allocating Objects
  class TempClass
                                     Note: The actual object that is
    public:
                                     allocated (the memory location)
      int
              iVal;
                                     never gets a name! It is only pointed
      double dVal;
                                     to by the temp pointer!
  int main()
    TempClass *temp;
                           //4 bytes (or sizeof(tempClass*)
    temp = new TempClass; //Claims enough space for all
                            //members of a tempClass object
    temp->iVal = 16;
                            //Since temp is a pointer,
    temp->dVal = 4.5;
                            //the arrow operator is used
  delete temp;
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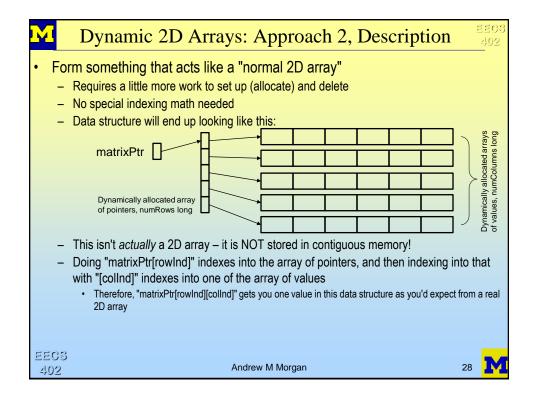
```
Using Constructors With Dynamic Allocation
  Remember – a constructor is used whenever an object is allocated, whether
  statically or dynamically
  class IntClass
   public:
     int val;
     IntClass() //Default ctor sets val to 0
       val = 0;
     IntClass(int inVal) //Initializes val to value passed in
       val = inVal;
  };
  IntClass ic; //sets ic.val to 0
                                                          Uses the
  default ctor
 IntClass ic2(6); //sets ic2.val = 6
                                                          Uses the
 IntClass *icPtr2 = new IntClass(10); //sets icPtr->val to 10 value ctor
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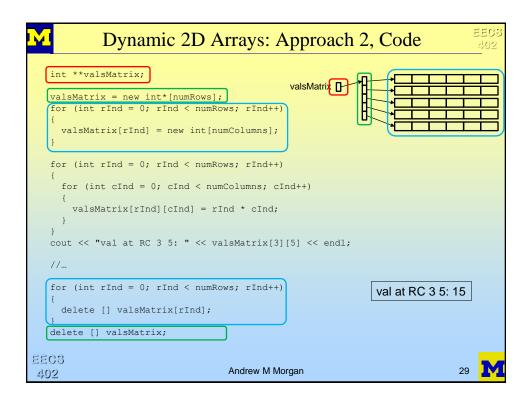


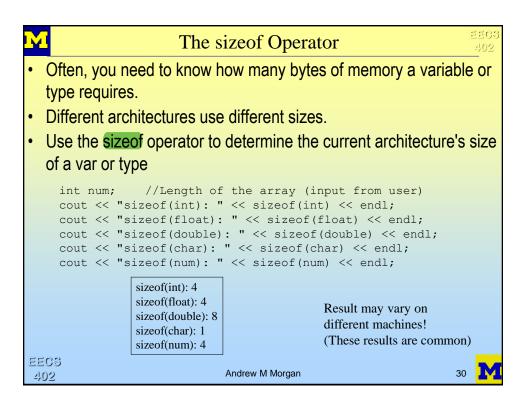












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# Dynamically Alloc Mem in C

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- Operators "new" and "delete" don't exist in C, but C programmers still need dynamic allocation.
- Three important functions for C dynamic allocation

```
//malloc takes one parameter, size, which is simply
//the number of bytes you are requesting.. Returns a
//void *, which is a generic pointer to any type.
void *malloc(size_t size);
```

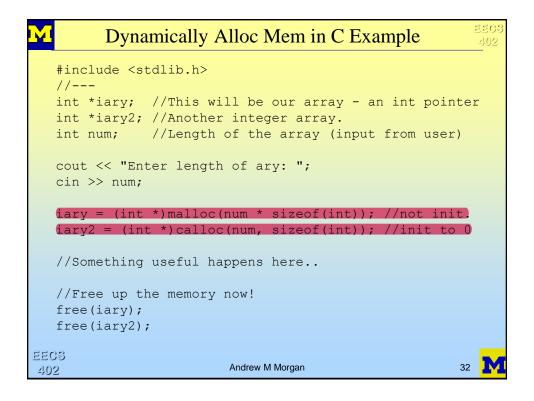
#### global functions

```
//calloc initializes each ary element to 0. nelem is
//the number of elements you are requesting, and
//elsize is the number of bytes each element requires.
void *calloc(size_t nelem, size_t elsize);

//free takes one param, which is a pointer to memory
//that was previously allocated using malloc or calloc
void free(void *ptr);

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```





#### **Using const With Pointers**

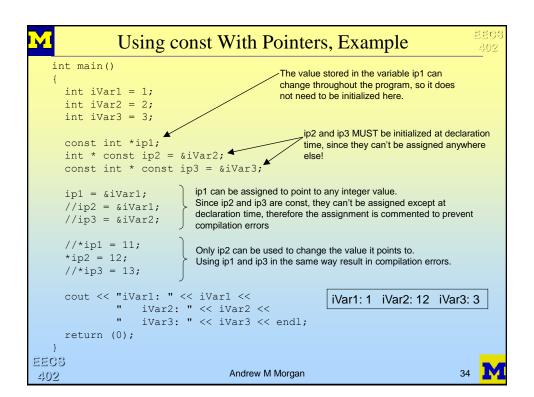
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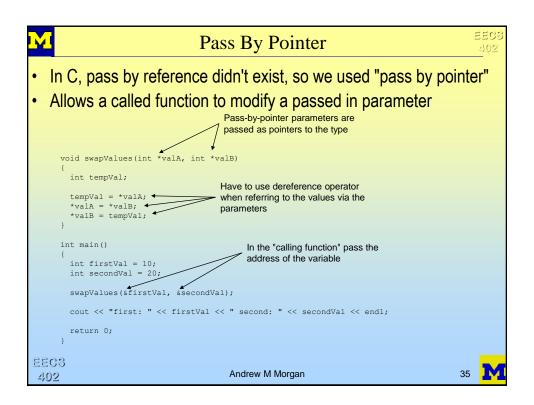
- They keyword const can mean multiple things when applied to pointer variables
- Using const to prevent the value that the pointer is pointing to from changing
  - const int \*ip1;
  - This means that ip1 points to a constant integer
- Using const to prevent the value of the pointer itself from changing
  - int \* const ip2 = &i; //Initialization required
  - This means that ip2 is a constant pointer pointing to an integer
- Technically, you can even combine these to get a pointer whose value can't change, and further can't be used to change the value it points to
  - const int \* const ip3 = &i; //Initialization required
  - This means that ip3 is a constant pointer pointing to a constant integer

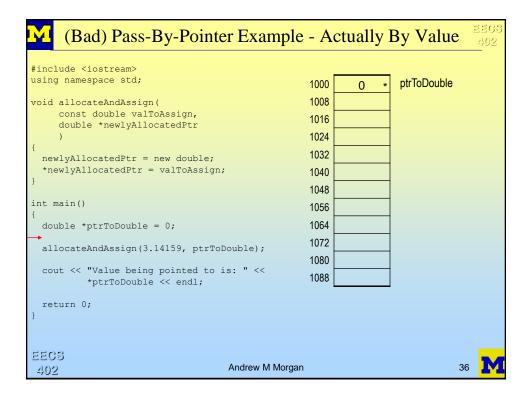
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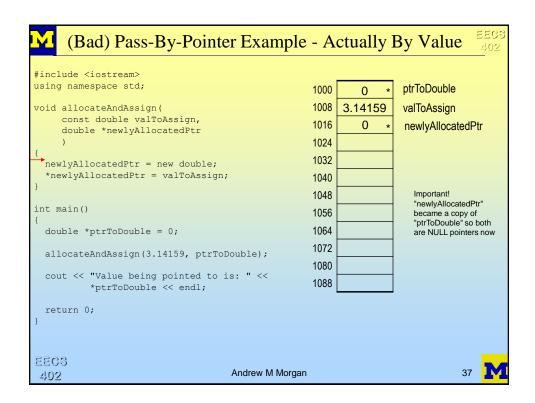
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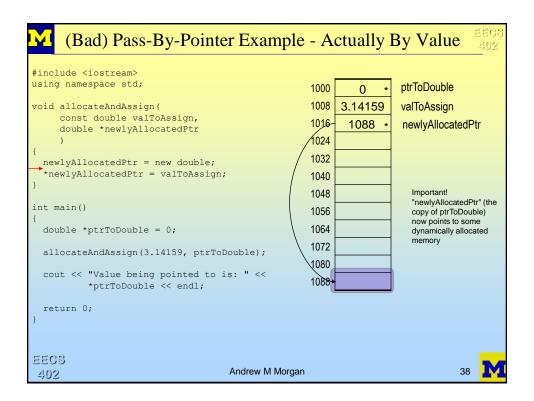
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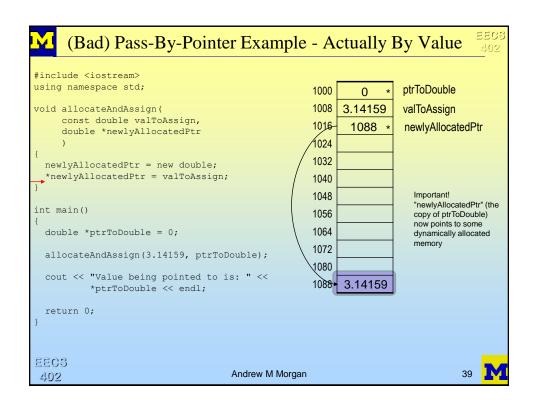


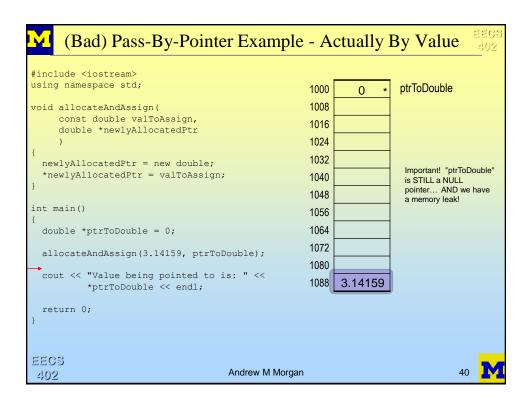


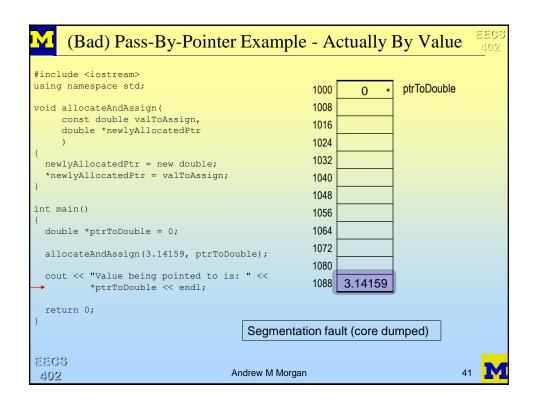


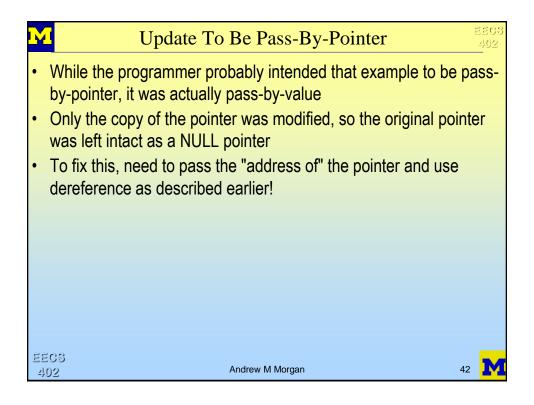












Corrected Pass-By-Pointer Example				트 <b>트CS</b> 402
#include <iostream></iostream>				
using namespace std;	1000	0 *	ptrToDouble	
void allocateAndAssign(	1008			
<pre>const double valToAssign, double **newlyAllocatedPtr</pre>	1016			
)	1024			
<pre>{   double *tempPtr;</pre>	1032			
tempPtr = new double;	1040			
<pre>*tempPtr = valToAssign; *newlyAllocatedPtr = tempPtr;</pre>	1048			
}	1056			
int main()	1064			
{	1072			
<pre>double *ptrToDouble = 0;</pre>	1080			
allocateAndAssign(3.14159, &ptrToDouble);	1088			
<pre>cout &lt;&lt; "Value being pointed to is: " &lt;&lt;</pre>				
return 0;				
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