

**Lab2 – CSI2372A**  
**Thursday September 25<sup>th</sup> /Tuesday September 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**SITE - University of Ottawa Fall 2025**  
**Due ONLINE Wednesday, October 8 at midnight**  
**In groups of no more than two students**  
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- **Objectives**

- i) Pointers, Pointer/reference comparison in a function call, passing an array to a function, return of a pointer by a function.
- ii) Function pointers
- iii) The C <string.h> library

## **I. Pointers**

A pointer is a variable that represents the address of data or a set of data. It can be used to process arrays, strings, and linked lists.

### **II.a. Declaring pointers**

Example:

```
int a = 0;  
int *pa=&a;
```

### **II.b. Passing pointers to a function**

For functions that handle arguments with pass-by-value, any changes to variables local to the function do not affect variables in the calling function.

It is possible in C++ to pass pointers to a function. Consider the following example:

```
void exchange(int* pi, int* pj) {  
    int tempo = *pi;  
    *pi = *pj;  
    *pj = tempo;  
    cout << endl << *pi << endl << *pj << endl;  
    return;  
}
```

Calling this function will be done by passing addresses as arguments :

```
int main() {  
    int a = 2;  
    int b = 3;  
    cout << endl << a << endl << b << endl; // displays 2 then 3  
    exchange(&a, &b); // displays 3 then 2  
    cout << endl << a << endl << b << endl; // displays 3 then 2  
}
```

### **II.c. Passing an array to a function**

Example:

```
#include <iostream>  
#include <iomanip>  
using namespace std;
```

```

int main() {
    int n;
    float ave;
    float val[10];
    //.....
    float average(int n, const float values[]); /* Declaration of a function
    dealing with an integer and an array dynamically allocated */
    //.....
    ave = average(n, val);    /*average function call*/
    //.....
}

float average(int a, const float x[]) { /* average function definition*/}

```

Using the reserved word *const* helps prevent unwanted changes to array elements.

## II.d. Return of a pointer (\*) by a function

Consider the example of a function which compares 2 strings and which must return the string ranked first alphabetically. In this case, we write it with pointers:

```

#include <iostream>
#include <iomanip>
#include <string.h>          //for strcmp

using namespace std;

const char* comp(const char* ch1, const char* ch2); //the function return the
address of the largest string

int main(){
    const char* chain1 = "Hello";
    const char* chain2 = "Hi";
    const char* premier;

    premier = comp(chain1, chain2);
    cout << premier;
}

const char* comp(const char* ch1, const char* ch2){
    if (strcmp(ch1, ch2) < 0) return(ch1);
    else return(ch2);
}

/*OUTPUT*/
Hello

```

A function can also return a reference (&). We reserve this possibility for object programming. We will then have the same advantages as previously for the management of objects (instances of classes). An additional advantage is being able to write the function as an **L-Value** (left part) in an expression:

```

#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int val[20];

int& tab(int i){return val[i];}
int main(){
    tab(0) = 3;
    tab(1) = 4;
}

```

### III. Arrays and pointers

Since arrays and pointers are very "close", we can declare an array in the form of a pointers expression. But, in this case, no memory space is reserved for the elements and we have to reserve it with *new()*, dynamic memory allocation.

```
int* tab;
tab = new int[10];
```

 instead of 

```
int tab[10];
```

The **new()** instruction allows to reserve memory space for 10 integers and returns a pointer of type **void** which is implicitly converted to integer type ((**int \***)). After this instruction, we can then access the elements using the **tab** pointer.

If the array is no longer needed in the rest of the program, it is possible to free the reserved memory using the **delete** instruction:

```
delete tab;
```

For a **multi-dimensionnal array** :

An array with several dimensions can be expressed in terms of pointers to a group of arrays. For an array of dimension 2 of 10 by 20, we can declare this array in the form:

```
int* x[10];
```

 instead of 

```
int x[10][20];
```

### IV. Function pointers

We have seen in class that it is possible to create a pointer to a function. The declaration syntax for such a pointer is as follows:

```
type (*name) (parameters_types) ;
```

**Example:**

```
int (*adf) (double, int);
```

Here, we declare a function pointer named *adf* to a two-argument function (double and int) that provides a result of type int.

For example, if *fct* is a prototype function:

```
int fct(double, int);
```

The following assignment then makes sense:

```
adf = fct;
```

and places the address of the corresponding function *fct* in *adf*. Once *adf* is declared as a function pointer, we can use it to call the function it points to, as follows:

```
(*adf) (6.25, 8);
```

### V. C library <string.h>

The **C language** provides a library of character string manipulations: <**string.h**>. This library has been kept in the **C ++** language but it is advantageously replaced by other **C ++** libraries such as the <string> library or even the **MFC** (Microsoft Foundation Class) "**CString**" library.

We have there the functions of the C library. Some of them are in the table below. For more information on using these functions, see the compiler's online help:

Function	Role
<b>memcpy</b>	Copying characters between two memory areas
<b>memcmp</b>	Compare two memory areas
<b>memset</b>	Initializes a memory area
<b>strcpy</b>	Copying a string
<b>strcmp</b>	Compare 2 strings
<b>strcat</b>	Concatenates 2 strings

## V. Lab Assignment 2

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### Exercise 1 : (1 Mark)

Modify the following program, just by inserting the display operator, in such a way that it displays the following values::

4  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1  
1

```
/*code*/  
#include <iostream>  
using namespace std;  
  
int main(void) {  
    int tab[10];  
    int* p;  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
        tab[i] = i * i;  
    }  
    tab[2] = tab[1];  
    tab[2] = *(tab + 1);  
    *(tab + 2) = tab[1];  
    *(tab + 2) = *(tab + 1);  
    p = &tab[0];  
    p = tab + 1;  
    tab[4] = *p;  
}
```

Submit a separate file *Ex1.cpp* that contains your program.

### Exercise 2 (2 Marks)

The attached *main* program performs the "insertion" sort of an array of 10 integers. The insertion sort method is the one used by a card player when sorting the cards he has received. He takes the first card and compares it to all the following ones. If he encounters a smaller card, he places it before the reference card (all the cards between the first and the smaller one are then shifted). He repeats this operation until the last card.

The program uses a *sort* function which performs the sorting by processing 2 parameters: the number of elements and the name of the array.

- Write the *sort* function using the array formalism in a separate file (given *Ex2.cpp*).
- Complete the attached file *Ex2.h* including the declaration of the *sort* function.

/\*Example of output\*/

Displaying the unsorted array :

2 4 88 20 3 55 87 134 2 5

Displaying the sorted array :

2 2 3 4 5 20 55 87 88 134

### Exercise 3 (2 Marks)

Complete the following function, in the attached file *Ex3.cpp* at the indicated location.

```
int** triangleInf(int n);
```

*Ex3.cpp* contains the *main* program (**DO NOT MODIFY**).

The `triangleInf` function returns a "lower triangular matrix" with  $n$  rows (passed as parameter) representing a Pascal triangle. The first row of the matrix will have one element, the second two, the third three ...

The element  $(n, p)$  of Pascal's triangle can be calculated using the following properties:

Element	Value
$(n, 0)$	1
$(n, p)$	0 if $p > n$
$(n, p)$	Value of $(n-1, p-1)$ + Value of $(n-1, p)$ if $0 < p \leq n$

**Example :**

	$p = 0$	$p = 1$	$p = 2$	$p = 3$
$n = 0$	1			
$n = 1$	1	1		
$n = 2$	1	2	1	
$n = 3$	1	3	3	1

You should get the following output:

**/\*OUTPUT\*/**

```
1
1 1
1 2 1
1 3 3 1
1 4 6 4 1
1 5 10 10 5 1
1 6 15 20 15 6 1
1 7 21 35 35 21 7 1
1 8 28 56 70 56 28 8 1
1 9 36 84 126 126 84 36 9 1
```

### Exercise 4 (2 Marks)

A common application of function pointers is sorting: you can pass a function pointer to a sort function to decide whether to sort in ascending or descending order.

The code below implements the selection sort algorithm (in ascending order).

```
/* Selection sort code in ascending order */
void selectionSort(int tab[], int nb) {
    int i, j, min, tmp;
    for (i = 0; i < nb; i++) {
        min = i;
        for (j = i + 1; j < nb; j++) {
            if (tab[j] < tab[min]) {
                min = j;
            }
        }
        tmp = tab[min];
        tab[min] = tab[i];
        tab[i] = tmp;
    }
}
```

**Reminder:** Selection sort (or extraction sort) is a comparison sorting algorithm. This algorithm is simple and works as follows:

- Find the smallest element in the array and swap it with the element with index 0;
- Find the second smallest element in the array and swap it with the element with index 1;
- Continue in this manner until the array is completely sorted.

a) Define two functions, *increasing* and *decreasing* in the attached code *EX4.cpp*. Each must take two integers parameters. *increasing* must return true if the first integer parameter is less than the second and false otherwise. *decreasing* must do the opposite.

b) Extract the nested loop from the above selection sort code and place it inside a function named *sorting* (in *EX4.cpp*). This function must take three arguments: an array of integers, the length of the array, and a **function pointer**. The function pointer named *compare* must be of a type pointing to a function that takes two integers and returns a boolean. Modify the sort code snippet to use *compare* to compare values for sorting.

Complete the given *main* program and call your *sorting* function with *increasing* and *decreasing* for the given arrays. Make displays as follows.

*/\*Output\*/*

*My first array a1 sorted in ascending order:*  
*-35 0 12 51 234 1234*

*My second array a2 sorted in descending order:*  
*124 51 33 24 10 5 1 0 -14 -55*

### Exercise 5 (3 Marks)

We want to handle 5 strings declared in the form of an array of 5 pointers to characters. The program will start by entering these 5 strings (maximum string size: 20 characters). The 5 strings must be entered ending with a tab (see *cin.getline* in Lab 1). The program then displays the 5 entered strings then the following menu:

- 1) Display of character strings.
- 2) Replacement of one string by another
- 3) Sorting strings
- 4) Exit the program.

Each action offered by the menu is performed by a separate function. The menu display is also performed by a function which will return the choice entered by the user. If the choice is not known, the menu is displayed again.

Write the following functions:

- a) The function *display* which displays the strings stored in an array passed as the first parameter and its size as the 2nd parameter :

```
void display(char* tab[], int const& nbre);
```

- b) The function *sort* which sorts the strings using insertion sort. You can use for example *strcpy* and *strcmp* (explained above):

```
void sort(char* tab[], int const& nbre);
```

- c) The function *replace* which replaces a string in the table (tab of size nbre) with another string entered on the keyboard. The maximum size of the string is passed in the 3rd parameter (size):

```
void trier(char* tab[], int const& nbre);
```

For this question, 2 files are necessary:

- Ex5.h which contains the necessary header files.
- Ex5.cpp which contains the *main* program and the definition of the functions.

*/\*Example of output\*/*

*Enter the 5 character strings ending with a tab and a line return*

*Hello*

*my dear*

*how are you*

*Fine*

*Bye*

*The string 0 is : Hello*

*The string 1 is : my dear*

*The string 2 is : how are you*

*The string 3 is : Fine*

*The string 4 is : Bye*

*Menu*

*1) Strings display.*

*2) Replacement of a string by an other one*

*3) Sorting strings*

*4) Exit of the program*

*Your choice :2*

*Enter the string number to modify: 1*

*Enter the new string: Sir*

*Menu*

*1) Strings display.*

*2) Replacement of a string by an other one*

*3) Sorting strings*

*4) Exit of the program*

*Your choice :1*

*The string 0 is : Hello*

*The string 1 is : Sir*

*The string 2 is : how are you*

*The string 3 is : Fine*

*The string 4 is : Bye*

*Menu*

*1) Strings display.*

*2) Replacement of a string by an other one*

*3) Sorting strings*

*4) Exit of the program*

*Your choice :3*

*Menu*

*1) Strings display.*

*2) Replacement of a string by an other one*

*3) Sorting strings*

*4) Exit of the program*

*Your choice :1*

*The string 0 is : Bye*

*The string 1 is : Fine*

*The string 2 is : Hello*

*The string 3 is : Sir*

*The string 4 is : how are you*

*Menu*

*1) Strings display.*

*2) Replacement of a string by an other one*

*3) Sorting strings*

*4) Exit of the program*

*Your choice :4*

**Submit your work ONLINE (one zip file only) before  
Wednesday October 8<sup>th</sup> at midnight**

## **Instructions**

- Create a directory that you will name Assignment2\_ID, where you will replace ID with your student number (the one submitting the assignment).

Put all the following files in your compressed directory Assignment2\_ID.zip for submission in the Brightspace Virtual Campus.

### **Files :**

- ✓ *README.txt*
- ✓ *Ex1.cpp*
- ✓ *Ex2.cpp*
- ✓ *Ex2.h*
- ✓ *Ex3.cpp*
- ✓ *Ex4.cpp*
- ✓ *Ex5.h*
- ✓ *Ex5.cpp*

- Don't forget to add comments in each program to explain the purpose of the program, the functionality of each method and the type of its parameters as well as the result.

- In the Assignment1\_ID directory, create a text file named README.txt, which should contain **the names of the two students**, as well as a brief description of the content:

*Student Name:*

*Student Number:*

*Course Code: CSI2372A*



**Academic Fraud:**

This section of the assignment aims to raise students' awareness of the problem of academic fraud (plagiarism). Consult the following links and read both documents carefully:

<https://www.uottawa.ca/current-students/academic-regulations-explained/academic-integrity>

University regulations will apply to all cases of plagiarism. By submitting this assignment:

1. You confirm that you have read the above documents;
2. You understand the consequences of academic fraud.