

1. What is the physical structure of the array? How is the array stored in memory? Why is the index of the first element of the array [0] instead of [1]?
- a. In C, an array is stored as a **contiguous** block of memory. Each element of the array is placed sequentially in memory, with a fixed size per element.
- For an array:

```
int array[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
```

Assuming int takes 4 bytes, the memory layout looks like:

Index	Value	Memory Address (Example)
array[ 0 ]	1	0x1000
array[ 1 ]	2	0x1004
array[ 2 ]	3	0x1008
array[ 3 ]	4	0x100C
array[ 4 ]	5	0x1010

Each element is stored contiguously, with the next element's address being **current\_address + sizeof(data\_type)**.

- b. Arrays in C are stored in a **contiguous memory block** where:
- The **base address** is the address of the first element.
  - The next elements are stored at **sequential** memory locations.

```
// Address of arr[i] = Base Address + (i * sizeof(type))  
// for arr[2];  
// Address = 1000 + (2 * 4) = 1008
```

- c. In C, an array name is a pointer to its first element. **arr[i]** is actually computed as:

```
| *(arr + i) // Pointer arithmetic
```

If **i** started from 1, we would have to adjust the calculation. we would need to subtract **sizeof(type)** every time, making calculations slightly less efficient.

2. What happens if an array overflows? Illustration
- An array overflow (or buffer overflow) occurs when a program writes beyond the allocated memory of an array. This leads to undefined behavior (UB), which can cause various problems such as:
    - Overwriting adjacent memory** (modifying other variables or program instructions).
    - Segmentation fault (crash)** if it writes to a protected memory location.
    - Security vulnerabilities**, allowing hackers to exploit the system.
  - Illustration with Code :**

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2
3  int main() {
4      int x = 100; // Stored next to arr in memory
5      int arr[7] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
6
7      printf("\n\nBefore overflow: x = %d\n", x);
8
9      // Writing beyond the allocated memory of arr
10     arr[7] = 999; // Overflow: arr only has indexes 0 to 6!
11
12     printf("After overflow: x = %d\n\n", x); // Unexpected behavior
13
14     return 0;
15 }
16
```

**Output:**

```
Before overflow: x = 100
After overflow: x = 999
```

3. What can you learn from the following program?

```
1 int main()
2 {
3     int array[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
4     printf("%x\n", array[1]);
5     printf("%x\n", array[0]);
6     printf("%x\n", array[-1]);
7
8     printf("%x\n", array[4]);
9     printf("%x\n", array[5]);
10    return 0;
11 }
```

- a. This program provides key insights into **array indexing, memory access, and undefined behavior in C**.
  - i. **Valid Array Access**
    1. array[0], array[1], and array[4] are valid accesses within the bounds of array[5]
    2. The program correctly prints their values in hexadecimal format (%x)
  - ii. **Out-of-Bounds Access array[-1], array[5] (Undefined Behavior)**
    1. C does **not** perform bounds checking.
    2. Negative indexing accesses memory before the array, leading to undefined behavior
    3. It accesses memory beyond the allocated space, may print a random value, crash the program, or cause memory corruption.
  - iii. **Undefined Behavior (UB) in C:**
    1. Print **garbage values, Corrupt adjacent memory**,
    2. Cause **segmentation faults** in some systems.
    3. Behave **differently on different compilers and architectures**.
  - iv. **How to Avoid UB:**
    1. Always ensure array indices are within valid range
    2. Use **sizeof()** to determine array size dynamically

4. Briefly describe the storage and access of multi-dimensional arrays

- a. In C, multi-dimensional arrays (e.g. 2D arrays) are stored in row-major order, meaning that elements are stored in memory row by row. Visualization how these arrays are represented in memory and how to access them are given below:

**b. Storage & Memory Representation of Multi-Dimensional Arrays:**

- i. Consider the declaration of a 2D array:

```
int arr[2][3] = {  
    {1, 2, 3},  
    {4, 5, 6}  
};
```

- ii. **In memory**, it is stored **linearly** (as a flat array) in a single contiguous block. The elements are arranged row by row in memory. So, for a 2D array `arr[2][3]`, the memory layout will look like this:

```
arr[0][0], arr[0][1], arr[0][2], arr[1][0], arr[1][1], arr[1][2]
```

**c. Accessing Elements**

- i. One can access elements in a multi-dimensional array using the row and column indices where row and column index starts from 0.

For 2D array `arr[2][3]`, syntax for accessing 1st row 2nd column element is:

```
int x = arr[0][1]; // Accessing the element in the second row, third column  
                //(value 2 for the previous example)
```

- ii. the corresponding **linear index** can be calculated using following formulae:

```
// *(arr + i) + j // This gives the address of arr[i][j]  
// *(* (arr + i) + j) // Dereferencing it gives the value at arr[i][j]
```

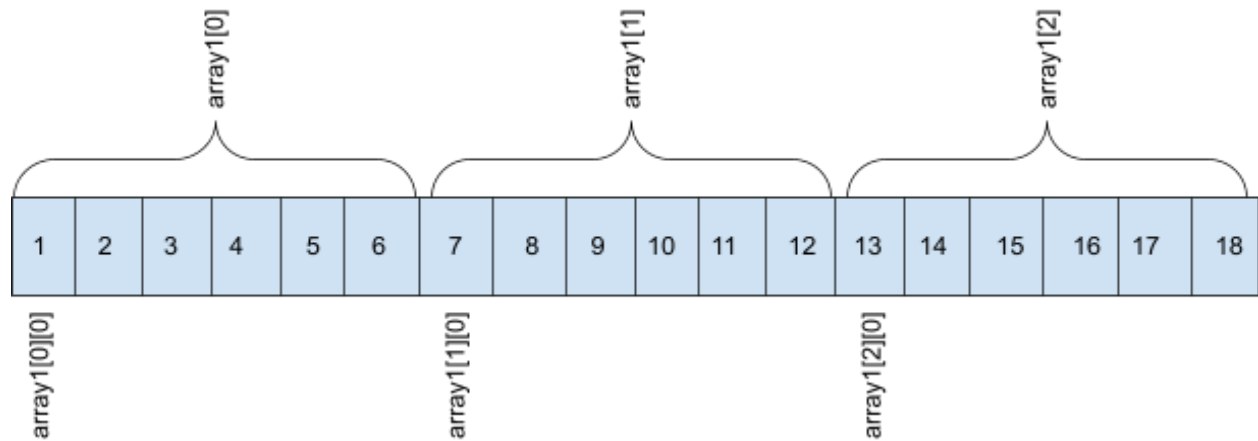
5. Draw some images to demonstrate the memory structure of array1/array2 and the output in the following program. Which can help a person know well how the memory stores an array

```

1 int main(void)
2 {
3     int array1[3][6] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18};
4     int array2[2][3][4] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18,
5         19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24};
6
7     printf("%d %d\n", array1[1][6], array1[0][15]);           // 13 16
8     printf("%d %d\n", array2[0][3][4], array2[0][2][8]);      // 17 17
9
10    return 0;
11 }

```

a.





b. Output of the Programm:

- i. Applying formulae Address for 2D array  **$arr[i][j] = (*(arr + i) + j)$**

assume base address is **100** in decimal

$$\mathbf{array1[1][6] = *((100 + 1*6*4) + 6*4) = *(148) = 13}$$

$$\mathbf{array1[0][15] = *((100 + 0*6*4) + 15*4) = *(160) = 16}$$

- ii. assume base address is **200** in decimal

Applying formulae Address for 2D array  **$arr[i][j][k] = (*(arr + i) + j) + k$**

$$\mathbf{array2[0][3][4] = (((200 + 0*3*4*4) + 3*4*4) + 4*4) = *(264) = 17}$$

$$\mathbf{array2[0][3][4] = (((200 + 0*3*4*4) + 2*4*4) + 8*4) = *(264) = 17}$$

c. Some key points which can help a person know well how the memory stores an array:

- i. Single-Dimensional Array Memory Layout
  - 1. Stored in a continuous block of memory
  - 2. Address increments by sizeof(data type),
- ii. Multi-Dimensional Array (Row-Major Storage)
  - 1. Memory is allocated row-wise in contiguous blocks

**To access an element:**

```
Address = Base_Address + (row * num_cols + col) * sizeof(data type)
```

- iii. Out-of-Bounds Access & Undefined Behavior