# Advanced C Programming & Lab

9. Pointers

Sejong University

#### Outline

- 1) Pointers?
- 2) Arrays and Pointers
- 3) Pointer Operation
- 4) Pointer Arguments
- 5) Arrays of Pointers

#### Memory

- A place where information is stored to execute a program
- Each 1 byte (8 bits) has a physical address
- Conceptually, a series of spaces of size 1byte
- Generally, size of an address is 4 bytes, represented as a hexadecimal number

#### **Memory Address**

0x003BDC97	0x003BDC98	0x003BDC99	0x003BDCA0	0x003BDCA1	0x003BDCA2	0x003BDCA3
0000 1101	0100 1010	0000 0001	0000 0000	0001 0010	1111 1110	1110 1101

#### Value stored in a memory

Example (byte)

#### Variables and Memory

- When declaring a variable, a memory location is assigned to the variable
- &: the starting address of a variable

```
int a = 0;
printf("%d...%p", a, &a); // %#X: hexadecimal

Result:
0...003BDC98
```

Address



Variable a - memory allocation (4bytes) : once allocated, it is fixed

#### Print the address using printf()

- Address is an integer
  - ✓ Print as a decimal (%d) or hexadecimal (%x) number
  - ✓ Compilation Warning
- Conversion specification
  - √ %p : as a hexadecimal number

```
int a;
printf("%d\n", &a); // Compilation Warning
printf("%#x\n", &a); // Compilation Warning
printf("%X\n", &a); // Compilation Warning
printf("%p\n", &a);
```

#### Result

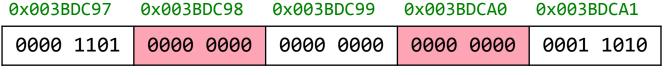
3923096 0x3bcd98 3BDC98 003BDC98

#### Meaning of variables in C

- 1. Allocated space (Not address)
  - ✓ Variables on the left side (I-value) in an assignment or declaration statement
- 2. Stored value
  - ✓ Variables on the right side (r-value) in an assignment statement or selection statement

```
char c1, c2;  // Allocate a space for c1, c2
c1 = c2;  // Store the value of c2 in the allocated space for c1
if( c1 < c2 )  // if the value of c1 is smaller than the value of c2
printf("%c",c1); // Pass the value of c1</pre>
```

Address



c1 c2

# 1) Pointers? (Practice 1)

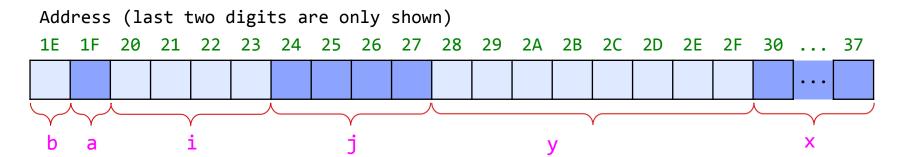
#### (Practice1) Print the address of a variable

```
char a, b;
int i, j;
double x, y;
```

#### Result

```
a: 0018F91F, b: 0018F91E
i: 0018F924, j: 0018F920
x: 0018F930, y: 0018F928
```

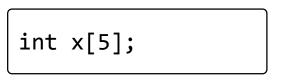
Memory



# 1) Pointers? (Practice 2)

Result

(Practice2) Print the address of the elements in an array.



x[0]: 001FFEC8 x[1]: 001FFECC x[2]: 001FFED0 x[3]: 001FFED4 x[4]: 001FFED8

Memory

Address (last two digits are only shown) C8 C9 CA CB CC CD CE CF D0 D1 D2 D3 D4 D5 D6 D7 D8 D9 DA DC x[0] x[1] x[2]x[3]x[4]

#### Pointers: Data Type

- Refer to the Address of a variable
- Point to a variable
- Address is a number, but not always int type
- Should declare as a pointer variable

#### Declaration

- data type + \* (indicate a pointer) + variable name
- int type pointer: point int type variable
- float type pointer: point float type variable

```
✓ Place *
✓ ex)

char *pch;
int *pnum;
```

- ✓ pch: character type pointer variable
- ✓ pnum: int type pointer variable
  - → pch and pnum store the address of different data types

#### Declaration

Place (\*) next to data type or variable name

- ✓ Generally, next to a variable name
- Can declare pointer variables and (normal) variables

```
int *pnum1, num1=10, *pnum2, num2, arr[10];
```

- ✓ int type pointer variable: pnum1, pnum2
- ✓ int type: num1, num2, num1 is 10
- ✓ int type array: arr

#### Initialization

```
int num, *pnum = #
```

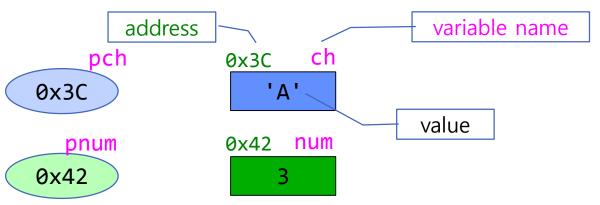
- pnum: the address of a variable num
- (Warning!!) Compilation error

```
int *pnum = &num, num;  // Compilation error
```

✓ Do not know the address of a variable num

#### Assignment

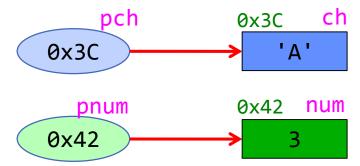
#### Address only



#### Assignment

Point a variable: Assign the address of a variable to a pointer variable (arrow →)

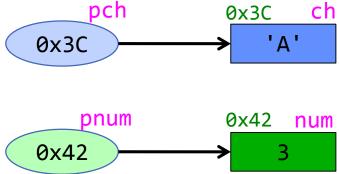
"a pointer variable pch points to a variable ch"



#### Pointer operator \*

Access to the variable pointed by a pointer variable
 ex) \*pch : a variable that is pointed by a pointer variable pch
 a value that is stored in a memory location 0x3c

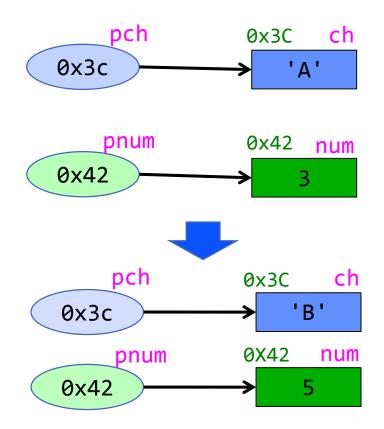
```
char ch='A', *pch;
int num=3, *pnum;
pch = \&ch;
                                      0x3C
pnum = #
printf("%c %p\n", *pch, pch);
printf("%d %p\n", *pnum, pnum);
                                      0x42
Output Display:
A 001FA03C
3 001EA042
```



#### Assignment

• Ex) ch='B' is equivalent to \*pch='B' former: **direct access**, latter: **indirect access** 

```
char ch='A', *pch;
int num=3, *pnum;
pch = \&ch;
pnum = #
*pch = 'B';
*pnum = 5;
printf("%c\n", ch);
printf("%d", num);
Output Display:
В
```



#### Example

- \*pnum points to an integer
- Precedence of operators

# 1) Pointers? (Practice 3)

#### (Practice 3) Draw a memory diagram:

- ✓ Declare int type num1, num2 and int type pointer p, initializing with the address of num1 (one statement)
- ✓ Assign 3000 to the variable pointed by p
- ✓ Assign the value that p points out to num2
- ✓ p points to num2
- ✓ Decrease the value that p points out by 1000
- ✓ Assign the value that p points out, multiplied by 2, to num1
- ✓ Pint out num1, num2, p
- ✓ Print out the address of num1, num2, p

```
int num1, num2, *p = &num1;

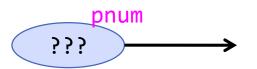
*p = 3000;
num2 = *p;
p = &num2;
*p = *p - 1000;
num1 = *p * 2; // second *: multiplication

printf("Value: num1=%d num2=%d p=%p\n", num1, num2, p);
printf("Address: num1=%p num2=%p p=%p\n", &num1, &num2, &p);
```

Do not know what a pointer is? **Draw a diagram**!!

#### Caution 1 (Initialization)

No initialization?



```
int *pnum;  // pnum: garbage value
*pnum = 9; // Runtime error
```



```
int *pnum, num;
pnum = # // assign the address of a varible
*pnum = 9;
```

#### NULL Pointers

- ✓ Do not point any variables
- ✓ In reality, it is 0. Selection statement treats it as false
- ✓ pnum = NULL;
- ✓ Likewise, a (normal) variable is initialized to 0

#### Caution 2

- &: Any variables (including pointer variables)
  - ✓ A pointer variable is a variable (allocated in a memory)
- \*: Only pointer variables

```
int num=9, *pnum = #
printf("%p %p %p\n", &pnum, pnum, *pnum);
printf("%p %p %p\n", &num, num, *num); // Compilation error
```



#### Caution 3 (Assignment)

- Variable data type and pointer data type should be the same
  - ✓ Assign char type address to int type pointer?

✓ Draw a memory diagram

- Caution 3 (Assignment)
  - Ex

```
char ch='A', *pch = &ch;
int *pnum;

pnum = pch;  // Compilation warning or error

*pnum = 1024;  // May cause runtime error

printf("%c\n", *pch);
printf("%d\n", *pnum);
```

Differing data types: no syntax error but may cause an error during execution

- Size of a pointer
  - Same as the size of the address (depending on the system)
  - sizeof()

```
char *pch;
int *pnum;
double *pdnum;

printf("%d,", sizeof(pch));
printf("%d,", sizeof(pnum));
printf("%d\n", sizeof(pdnum));

Result:
4,4,4
```

 Regardless of pointer data type, the same amount of memory space is needed

#### Outline

- 1) Pointers?
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#### Name of an array

- Name of a (normal) variable
  - ✓ Value stored in a variable
  - √ &: address

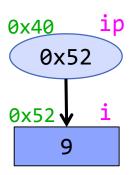
```
int a = 9;
printf("%d %p", a, &a); // value, address
```

- Name of an array: starting address of an array
  - ✓ b and &b refer to the same address

```
int b[10] = {0};
printf("%p %p", b, &b); // address of an array b
Output Display:
001ce2f0 001ce2f0
```

#### (Normal) variable and array

(Normal) Variable	Array
int i=9, *ip = &i	int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, 11};
	<pre>ar[2] : value in ar[2] ar : starting address of ar</pre>
	<pre>&amp;ar[2] : address of ar[2] &amp;ar : starting address of ar</pre>





element of an array:
 equivalent to a (normal) variable

#### Access by address

- Name of an array is an address, can use \*
  - ✓ ar : starting address of ar
  - √ \*ar : value stored in the starting address -> first element

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, 11};
printf("%p %d %d\n", ar, ar[0], *ar);
Output Display:
001E40B4 2 2
```

ar	0xB4	0xB8	0xBC	0xC0	0xC4
	2	3	5	7	11
	[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]

#### Increment/Decrement (ar: 0xB4)

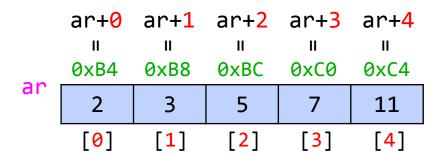
- ar+1 ? 0xB5 ? 0xB8 ?
- \*(ar+1)?

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, 11};
printf("%p %d %d\n", ar+1, ar[1], *(ar+1));
Output Display:
001E40B8 3 3
```

	0xB4	0xB8	0xBC	0xC0	0xC4
ar	2	3	5	7	11
	[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]

#### Increment/Decrement: Depending on the size of a variable

- int type array: 4
- ar+i: the address of i th element of an array ar
- \*(ar+i): the value of i th element of an array ar, i.e., ar[i]



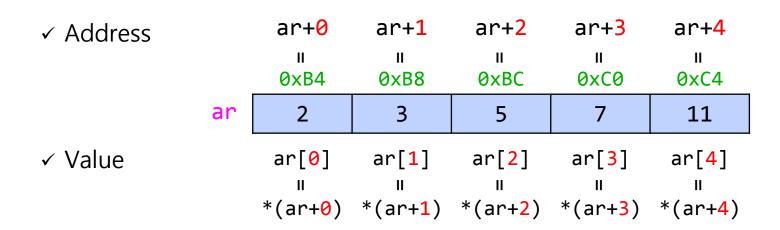
#### (Practice 4) Declare and print arrays and their elements

```
char car[5]={'H','e','l','l','o'};
double dar[5]={1.1, 2.2, 3.3, 4.4, 5.5};

✓ car, car[0], *car
✓ car+1, car[1], *(car+1)
✓ car+2, car[2], *(car+2)

✓ dar, dar[0], *dar
✓ dar+1, dar[1], *(dar+1)
✓ dar+2, dar[2], *(dar+2)
```

Pointers can be used to refer an array



Increment/decrement of an address: depending on the size of a variable

#### Assign an array to a pointer variable

• Name of an array is an address: Pointer

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, -1};
int *p = ar;

printf("%p %d\n", p, *p);

Output Display:
001E40B4 2
```



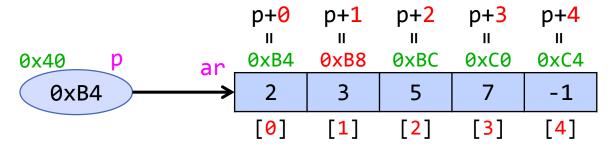
#### Increment/decrement: pointer variables

Depending on the size of a variable

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, -1};
int *p = ar;

printf("%p %d\n", p+1, *(p+1));

Output Display:
001E40B8 3
```



#### Use a pointer variable as an array

Index of an array

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, 11};
int *p = ar;

printf("%p %d %d\n", p, p[0], *p);
printf("%p %d %d\n", p+1, p[1], *(p+1));

Output Display:
001E40B4 2 2
001E40B8 3 3
```

#### (Practice 5) Declare and print pointer variables

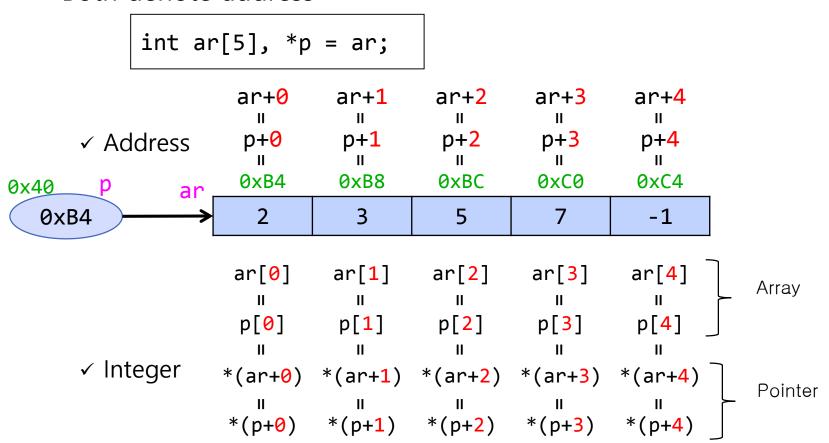
```
char car[5]={'H','e','l','l','o'}, *cp=car;
double dar[5]={1.1, 2.2, 3.3, 4.4, 5.5}, *dp=dar;

✓ cp, cp[0], *cp
✓ cp+1, cp[1], *(cp+1)
✓ cp+2, cp[2], *(cp+2)

✓ dp, dp[0], *dp
✓ dp+1, dp[1], *(dp+1)
✓ dp+2, dp[2], *(dp+2)
```

### Arrays and Pointers

Both denote address



### Arrays and Pointers

Address + 1, increase by the size of a varaible

```
\checkmark ar + 3 , p + 3 : ar, p: address
```

Access the value

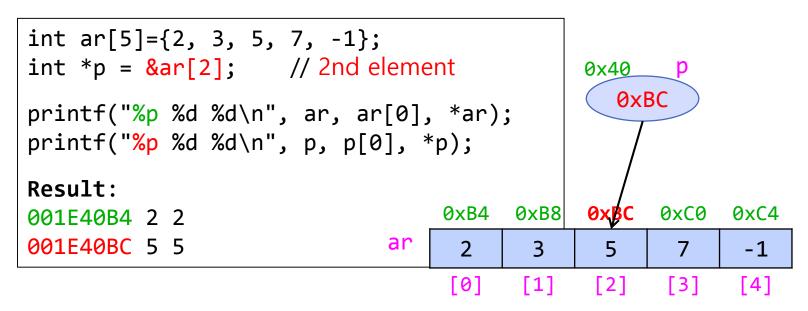
```
✓ arr[3] , p[3] : index
```

√ \*(arr+3) , \*(p+3) : pointer

Both refer to an address

#### Caution 1

Can point to any element of an array



#### Caution 2

Parenthesis

11 6

```
    *(ar+2) == ar[2] == 5
    *ar + 2 == *(ar) + 2 == ar[0]+2 == 4 (Operator precedence)

    int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, 11};
    int *p = ar;

    printf("%d %d\n", *(ar+2), *ar+2);
    printf("%d %d\n", *(p+4), *p+4);

    Output Display:
    5 4
```

#### Caution 3

- Amount of increment/decrement is determined by the data type of a pointer
- For example, Assign char \* pointer to int array
  - ✓ Increase/decrease by 1 (size of char type)

```
int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, -1}, i;
char *p = (char *) ar;

for( i=0; i < 5; ++i )
  printf("%p, %d\n", p+i, *(p+i));</pre>
```

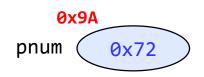
```
001E40B4, 2
001E40B5, 0
001E40B6, 0
001E40B7, 0
001E40B8, 3
```

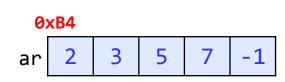
✓ Remove the second line (char \*), could cause compilation error (depending on compiler)

### Array vs Pointer

- int num;
  - ✓ Value stored in num: changeable
  - ✓ Address assigned to num: unchangeable
- int \*p;
  - √ Value(address) stored in p: changeable
  - ✓ Address assigned to p: unchangeable
- int ar[5];
  - ✓ Value stroed in ar: changeable
  - ✓ Address assigned to ar: unchangeable
    - ✓ Name of an array: constant pointer unchangeable
    - ✓ Different when it appears on the left side (I-value) and right side (r-value)





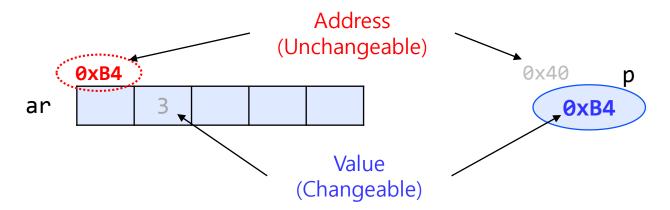


Difference between the name of an array and a pointer variable

```
int num, *p, ar[5];
num = 1; // OK
++num; // OK
&num = ar // NO (Compilation Error)
p = # // OK
++p; // OK
&p = ar;  // NO (Compilation Error)
ar = # // NO (Compilation Error)
    // NO
++ar;
&ar = # // NO (Compilation Error)
           // ar and &ar are the same
```

## Name of an array and a pointer variable

	Name of an array ( ar )	Pointer variable ( p )
r-value	Starting address of an array	Value stored in a pointer variable
1-value	Cannot change the starting address of an array	Can change the value stored in a pointer variable
	ar = ar + 1; (X)	p = p + 1; (0)



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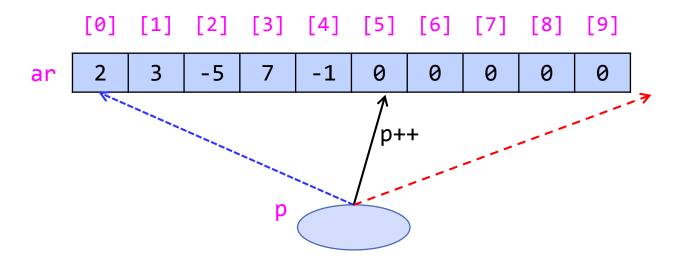
#### Addition, Subtraction

• ++, --, +=, -=

#### (Practice 6) Addition

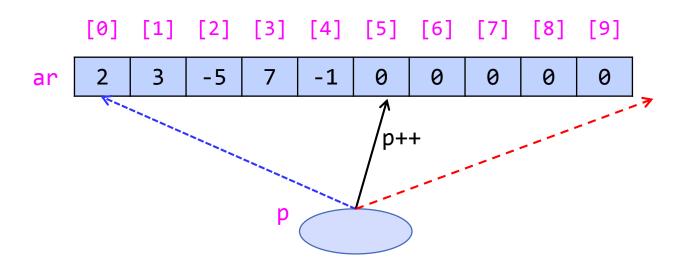
- Declare int pointer p1 and character pointer p2, Initialize them to NULL
- Print out p1 and p2
- Increase p1 and p2 by 1
- Print out p1 and p2
- Increase p1 and p2 by 2
- Print out p1 and p2
- [Check the results]
  - ✓ Check p1 and p2
  - ✓ Note: NULL denotes an address 0

- (Practice 7) Pointer operation to traverse an array
  - Declare int array ar[10], initialize it to {2, 3, 5, 7, -1}
  - Declare int variable I and int pointer p
  - p points to ar
  - for loop: increase I, repeat the following 10 times
    - ✓ Print out the value pointed by p, increase p by 1



```
int ar[10]={2, 3, 5, 7, -1};
int i, *p;

p=ar;
for(i=0;i<10;i++)
    printf("%d ", *(p++));</pre>
```



### Address comparison

```
• ==, !=, <, >, >=, <=

int ar[5]={2, 3, 5, 7, -1}, *p1, *p2;

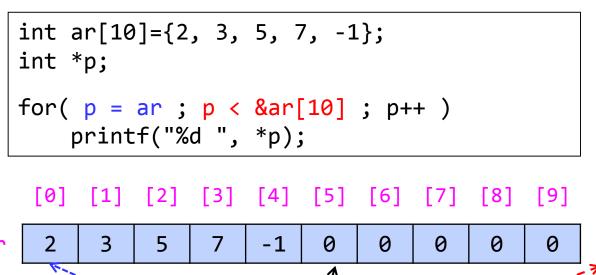
p1 = &ar[1]; p2 = &ar[4];

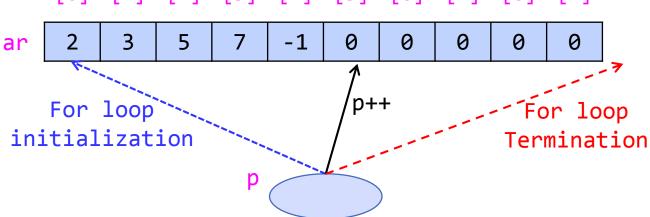
printf("%p %p\n", p1, p2);
printf("%d %d\n", p1 < p2, *p1 < *p2);

Result:
0018F9DC 0018F9E8
1 0</pre>
```

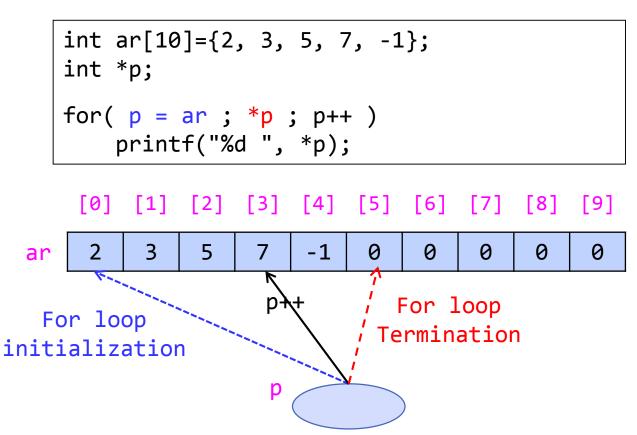
✓ Pointer operation can be used for ordinary variables, more useful for arrays

- (Example) Pointer operation to traverse an array (ver. 2)
  - Address comparison (Practice 7)





- (Example) Pointer operation to traverse an array
  - Repeat until the element of an array is 0



#### Caution

- Addition and Subtration are allowed
  - Multiplication and division are not allowed
- Only integers can be used
  - ✓ Double type and address are not allowed

```
int num1, num2;
printf("%p", &num1 * 2); // Compilation Error
printf("%p", &num1 + &num2); // Compilation Error
```

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### Function – Integer argument

Function Call: Allocate a space to a formal parameter(variable),
 Assign an integer value (actual parameter) that is passed to the function

Pass the value stored in a variable a

```
void main()
   int a = 5;
                                 void change(int i)
   change(a);
                                    i = 10;
   printf("a=%d\n", a);
                     a
                  5
                main
                                        change
                   Memory diagram: staring
                           change()
```

- Function body: Assign 10 to a local variable i
- Function termination: Eliminate the local variable (including arguments) (return allocated memory space)

```
void main()
{    int a = 5;
    change(a);
    printf("a=%d\n", a);
}
```

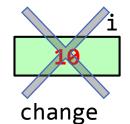
```
void change(int i)
{
   i = 10;
}
```

#### Result:

a=5

\_\_\_\_\_a \_\_\_\_5

main



Eliminate variable

Memory diagram: terminating change

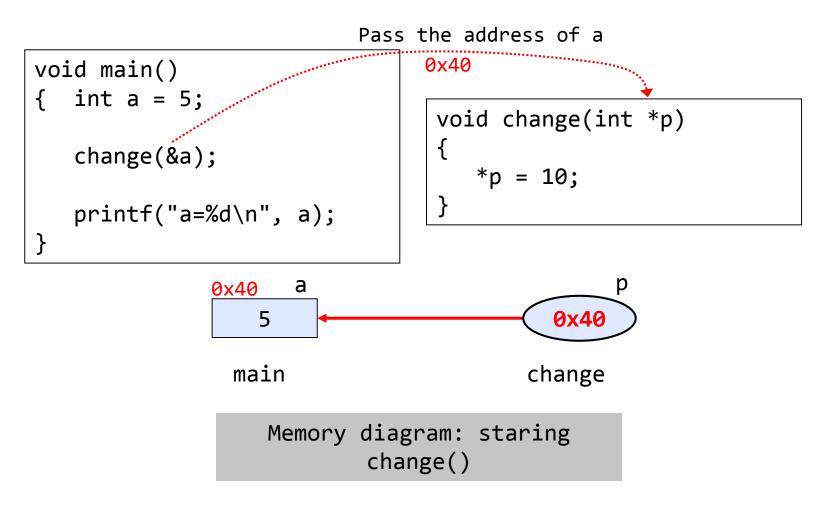
### Address as a function argument?

- Declare a pointer as an argument
- Indirect reference by a pointer variable

```
void main()
{    int a = 5;
    change(&a);
    printf("a=%d\n", a);
}
```

```
void change(int *p)
{
    *p = 10;
}
```

Function Call: Allocate a space to a formal parameter(variable),
 Assign the address to the parameter



- Function body: Assign 10 to the variable pointed by p
- Function termination: Eliminate local variables (including arguments) (return allocated memory space)

```
void main()
    int a = 5;
                                  void change(int *p)
                                  {
    change(&a);
                                      *p = 10;
    printf("a=%d\n", a);
                                                    Eliminate variable
Result:
                      a
               0x40
                   10
                                            0x40
a = 10
                 main
                                          change
                  Memory diagram: terminating
                            change()
```

### Function arguments

- Call-by-value: Call a function using the value of a variable as an argument
  - ✓ Cannot change the value of the variable
- Call-by-reference: Call a function using the address as an argument
  - ✓ Can change the value of the variable
- However, the procedure (passing argument and control) is identical

### Comparison

```
Call-by-value
                                     Call-by-reference
void change(int i)
                                    void change(int *p)
{
                                     {
   i = 10;
                                        *p = 10;
void main()
                                     void main()
  int a = 5;
                                        int a = 5;
   change(a);
                                        change(&a);
   printf("a=%d\n", a);
                                        printf("a=%d\n", a);
Result:
                                     Result:
                                     a = 10
a=5
```

### (Example)

Change the value of a local variable in change()
 The identical procedure with the previous example

```
0x40
void main()
   int a = 5;
                                 void change(int *p)
   change(&a);
                                    p = NULL;
   printf("a=%d\n", a);
                                                    Change the value
              0x40
                                                    stored in p (0x40)
                                           NULL
                  5
                                                    to NULL
                main
                                         change
                 Memory diagram: terminating
                           change()
```

#### Example

Function argument is a pointer variable (Same procedure)

```
The value of pa
void main()
   int a = 5;
                                0x40
   int *pa = &a;
                                void change(int *p)
   change(pa);
                                   *p = 10;
   printf("a=%d\n", a);
              0x40
                                          0x40
                      pa
                0x40
                                          change
                main
            Memory diagram: starting change()
```

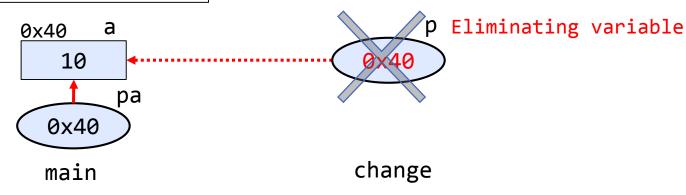
- The value of a variable a in main becomes 10
- The variable p in change is eliminated

```
void main()
{    int a = 5;
    int *pa = &a;

    change(pa);

    printf("a=%d\n", a);
}
```

```
void change(int *p)
{
    *p = 10;
}
```



Memory diagram: terminating change()

#### (Example) Swap two variable

Assign the value of a variable y to x, then lose the value of x
 Store the value of x to a temporary variable tmp

```
void main(){
  int x = 10, y = 20, tmp;

  tmp = x;
  x = y;
  y = tmp;

  printf("%d %d", x, y);
}
Result

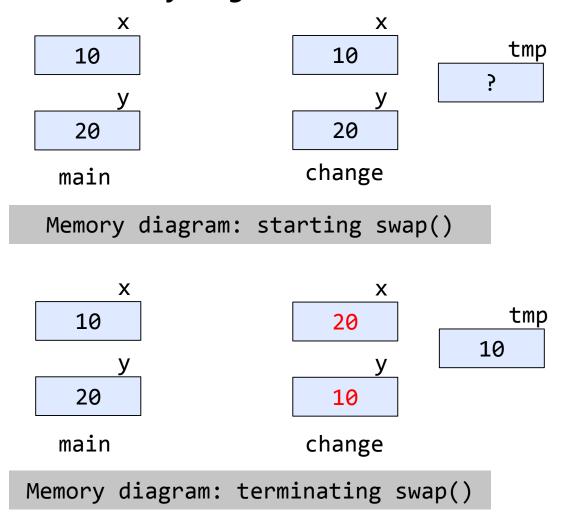
20 10
```

### Swap function

- Swap two variables
- Using swap(), does it change the values in main()?

```
void swap(int x, int y){
   int tmp;
   tmp = x;
                                           Result
   x = y;
   y = tmp;
                                            10 20
void main(){
   int x = 10, y = 20;
   swap(x, y);
   printf("%d %d", x, y);
```

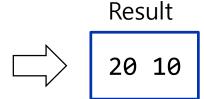
### Why not? Draw memory diagram



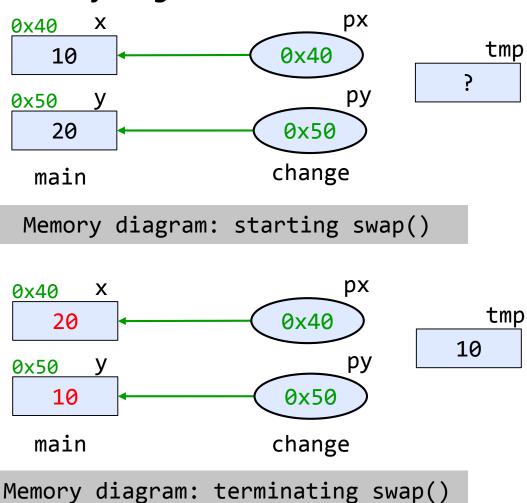
#### Use pointers

- Function arguments: int pointers
- Call-by-reference

```
void swap(int *px, int *py){
   int tmp;
   tmp = *px;
   *px = *py;
   *py = tmp;
void main(){
   int x = 10, y = 20;
   swap(&x, &y);
   printf("%d %d", x, y);
```



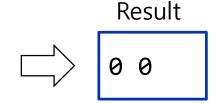
### Why? Draw memory diagram



### Use the name of an array as a function argument

- Change the values of an array in init(), also affect the array in main()
- Why? Pass the starting address of an array to the function

```
void init(int ar[]){
    ar[0] = ar[1] = 0;
}
void main(){
    int ar[2]={-2,4};
    init(ar);
    printf("%d %d",ar[0],ar[1]);
}
```



- Use the name of an array as a function argument
  - Is int ar[] in init() an array? pointer?
  - A pointer variable storing the starting address of ar in main()

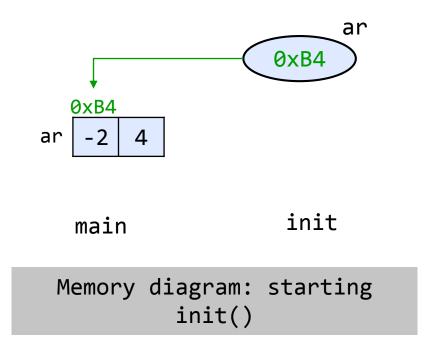
```
void init(int ar[]){
    ...
}
void init(int *ar){
    ...
}
```

Two are identical

### Draw a memory diagram?

```
void init(int ar[]){
    ar[0] = ar[1] = 0;
}
void main(){
    int ar[2]={-2,4};
    init(arr);

    printf(...); // omitted
}
```



scanf(): why do we use &?

```
int x;
scanf("%d", &x);
```

- Store the value received from a user to the variable x
- To change the value of x in scanf(), pass its address
- printf()?

```
int x = 0;
printf("%d", x);
```

Only need the value of x

- scanf(): should we always use &?
  - If it is an address, it will work

```
int x[5], *p=&x[2];

scanf("%d", &x[0]);
scanf("%d", p);
scanf("%d", p-1);

printf("%d %d %d",x[0],x[1],x[2]);
```

Input 1

1 2 3

Input 2

**-1** 4 9

Output 1

1 3 2

Output 2

-1 9 4

#### Function that returns an address

Use \* , indicating that it returns the address

```
void main(){
   int ar[5]={2,1,3,0,4};
   int *p1;

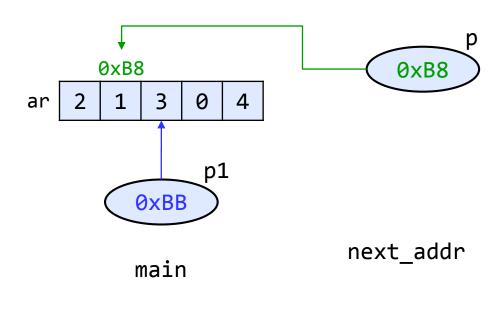
p1 = next_addr(&ar[1]);
   printf("%d",*p1);
}
```

```
int *next_addr(int *p)
{
    return p+1;
}

Result
3
```

#### Memory diagram?

```
int *next_addr(int *p)
   return p+1;
void main(){
   int ar[5]={2,1,3,0,4};
   int *p1;
   p1 = next_addr(&ar[1]);
   printf("%d",*p1);
```



#### [Practice]

 Receive the address of two int variables, Return the address of the variable that is smaller. (Assume: two values are different)
 ✓ Use main() below

```
void main(){
   int ar[5]={2,1,3,0,4};
   int *p1;

p1 = smaller(&ar[1], &ar[3]);
   printf("%d",*p1);
}
```

Result

0

### Outline

- 1) Pointers?
- 2) Arrays and Pointers
- 3) Pointer Operation
- 4) Pointer Arguments
- 5) Arrays of Pointers

### Arrays of Pointers

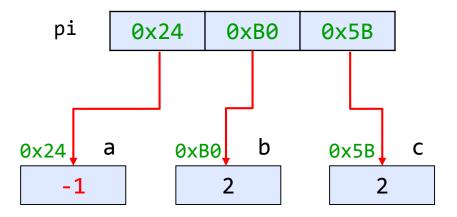
Pointer variables can be declared as an array

### Declare arrays of pointers

Pointer declaration + Array declaration

```
void main(){
   int *pi[3]; // array of pointers declaration
   int a=1, b=2, c=3, i;
   pi[0] = &a; // Element of an array is int pointer
   pi[1] = &b, pi[2] = &c;
   *pi[0] = -1; // *pi[0]은 *(pi[0]) ? (*pi)[0] ?
   for(i=0; i < 3; ++i)
      printf("%p %d\n", pi[i], *pi[i]);
```

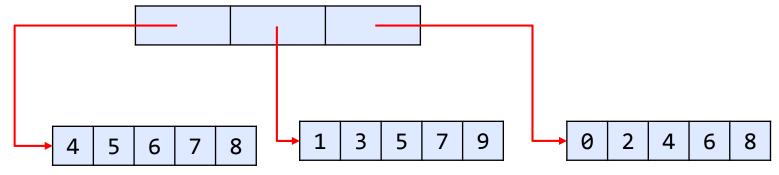
### Memory diagram



### [Practice] Write a program

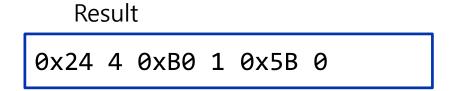
- Declare 3 int arrays (each: size 5), initialize them as shown below
- Declare 1 int array of pointers (size 3)
- Assign int array to array of pointers

#### int array of pointers

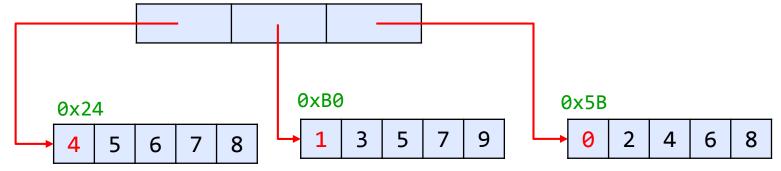


3 int arrays

- Use int array of pointers, Print the address and value of the 1<sup>st</sup> element of each int array
  - ✓ Cannot use the name of int array



#### int array of pointers



3 int arrays