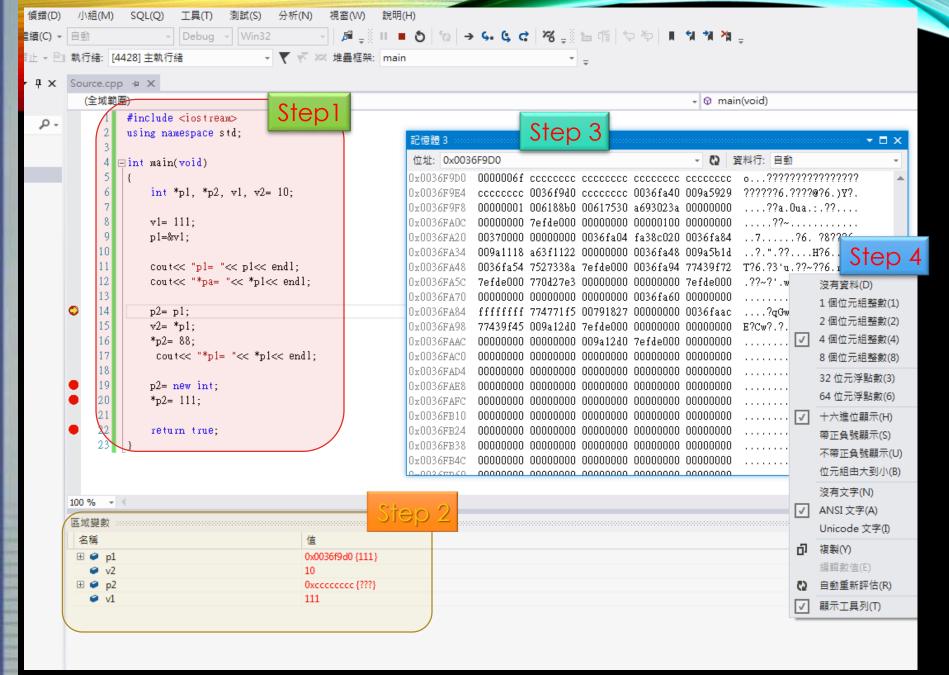
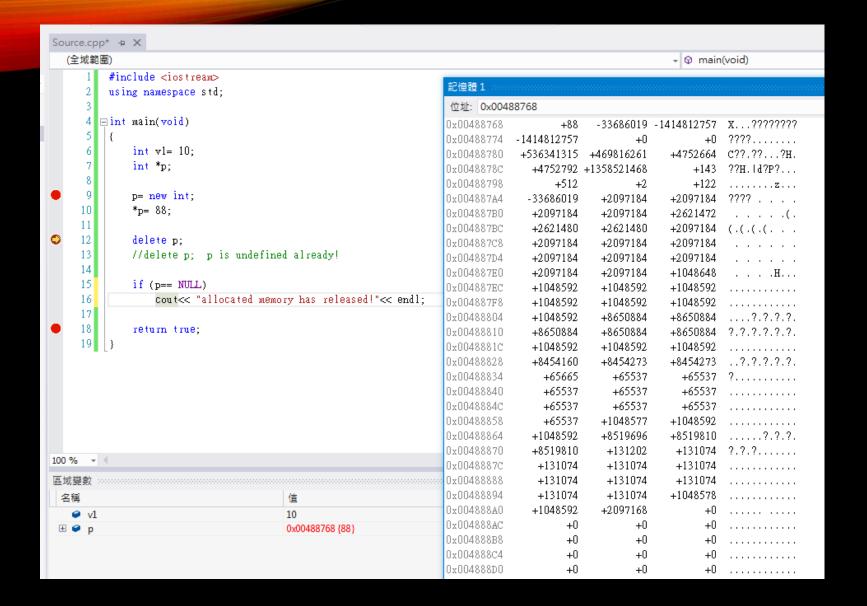
# CHAPTER 10

Pointers and Dynamic Arrays

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

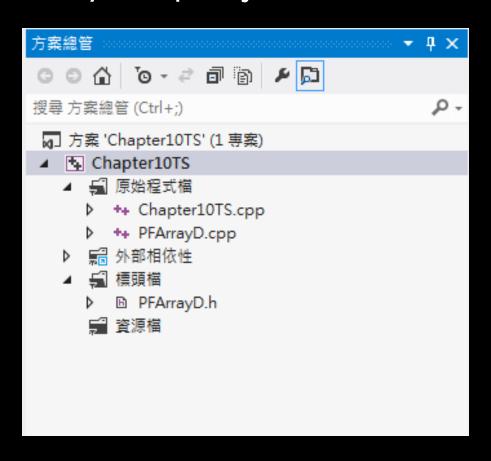
- Pointers
  - Pointer variables
  - Memory management
- Dynamic Arrays
  - Creating and using
  - Pointer arithmetic
- Classes, Pointers, Dynamic Arrays
  - The this pointer
  - Destructors, copy constructors



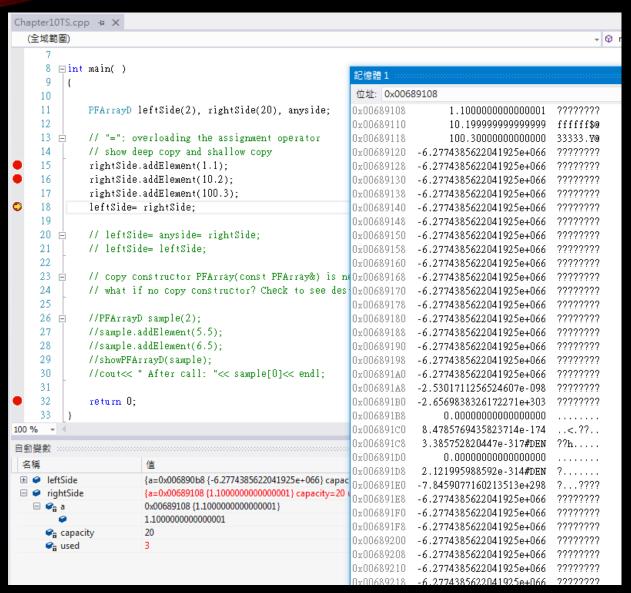


# DOWNLOAD 10-12.CPP

Please make you project like this:



# COMPILE AND RUN AS:



# POINTER INTRODUCTION

- Pointer definition:
  - Memory address of a variable
- Recall: memory divided
  - Numbered memory locations
  - Addresses used as name for variable
- You've used pointers already!
  - Call-by-reference parameters
    - Address of actual argument was passed

# POINTER VARIABLES

- Pointers are "typed"
  - Can store pointer in variable
  - Not int, double, etc.
    - Instead: A POINTER to int, double, etc.!
- Example: double \*p;
  - p is declared a "pointer to double" variable
  - Can hold pointers to variables of type double
    - Not other types! (unless typecast, but could be dangerous)

# DECLARING POINTER VARIABLES

- Pointers declared like other types
  - Add "\*" before variable name
  - Produces "pointer to" that type
- "\*" must be before each variable
- int \*p1, \*p2, v1, v2;
  - p1, p2 hold pointers to int variables
  - v1, v2 are ordinary int variables

# ADDRESSES AND NUMBERS

- Pointer is an address
- Address is an integer
- Pointer is NOT an integer!
  - Not crazy -> abstraction!
- C++ forces pointers be used as addresses
  - Cannot be used as numbers
  - Even though it "is a" number

### POINTING

- Terminology, view
  - Talk of "pointing", not "addresses"
  - Pointer variable "points to" ordinary variable
  - Leave "address" talk out
- Makes visualization clearer
  - "See" memory references
    - Arrows

# POINTING TO ...

- int \*p1, \*p2, v1, v2;p1 = &v1;
  - Sets pointer variable p1 to "point to" int variable v1
- Operator, &
  - Determines "address of" variable
- Read like:
  - "p1 equals address of v1"
  - Or "p1 points to v1"

# POINTING TO ...

- Recall: int \*p1, \*p2, v1, v2; p1 = &v1;
- Two ways to refer to v1 now:
  - Variable v1 itself: cout << v1;</li>
  - Via pointer p1: cout << \*p1;</li>
- Dereference operator, \*
  - Pointer variable "derereferenced"
  - Means: "Get data that p1 points to"

# "POINTING TO" EXAMPLE

Consider:

```
v1 = 0;
p1 = &v1;
*p1 = 42;
cout << v1 << endl;
cout << *p1 << endl;</pre>
```

- Produces output:
  - 42
  - 42
- p1 and v1 refer to same variable

# & OPERATOR

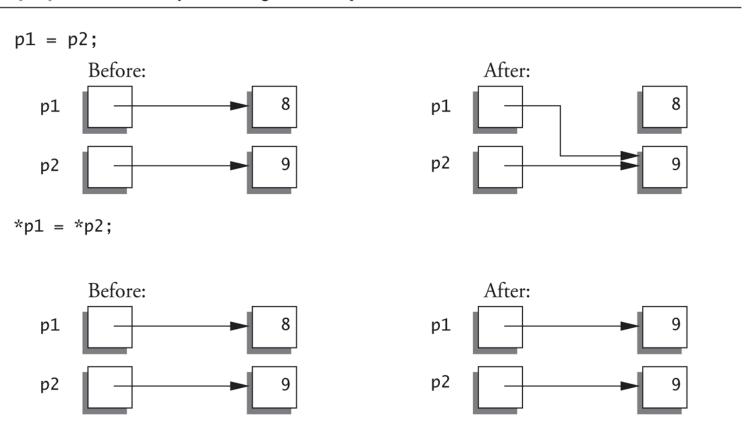
- The "address of" operator
- Also used to specify call-by-reference parameter
  - No coincidence!
  - Recall: call-by-reference parameters pass "address of" the actual argument
- Operator's two uses are closely related

# POINTER ASSIGNMENTS

- Pointer variables can be "assigned": int \*p1, \*p2; p2 = p1;
  - Assigns one pointer to another
  - "Make p2 point to where p1 points"
- Do not confuse with:
  - \*p1 = \*p2;
    - Assigns "value pointed to" by p1, to "value pointed to" by p2

# DISPLAY 10.1 USES OF THE ASSIGNMENT OPERATOR WITH POINTER VARIABLES

#### Display 10.1 Uses of the Assignment Operator with Pointer Variables



# THE NEW OPERATOR

- Since pointers can refer to variables...
  - No "real" need to have a standard identifier
- Can dynamically allocate variables
  - Operator new creates variables
    - No identifiers to refer to them
    - Just a pointer!
- p1 = new int;
  - Creates new "nameless" variable, and assigns p1 to "point to" it
  - Can access with \*p1
    - Use just like ordinary variable

```
int *p1, *p2;
3)
       p1 = new int;
4)
      *p1 = 42;
5)
       p2 = p1;
6)
       cout << "*p1 == " << *p1 << endl;
7)
       cout << "*p2 == " << *p2 << endl;
8)
      *p2 = 53;
9)
       cout << "*p1 == " << *p1 << endl;
       cout << "*p2 == " << *p2 << endl;
10)
11)
       p1 = new int;
12)
      *p1 = 88;
13)
       cout << "*p1 == " << *p1 << endl;
14)
       cout << "*p2 == " << *p2 << endl;
15)
       cout << "Hope you got the point of this example!\n";
16)
       return 0;
```

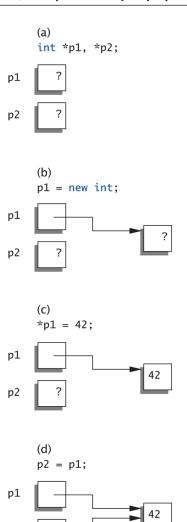
17) }

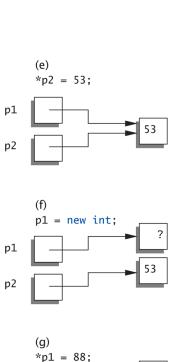
# **Basic Pointer Manipulations** Example:

SAMPLE DIALOGUE Hope you got the point of this example

# BASIC POINTER MANIPULATION S GRAPHIC: DISPLAY 10.3 EXPLANATION OF DISPLAY 10.2

#### Display 10.3 Explanation of Display 10.2





# MORE ON NEW OPERATOR

- Creates new dynamic variable
- Returns pointer to the new variable
- If type is class type:
  - Constructor is called for new object
  - Can invoke different constructor with initializer arguments:

```
MyClass *mcPtr;
mcPtr = new MyClass(32.0, 17);
```

 Can still initialize non-class types: int \*n; n = new int(17); //Initializes \*n to 17

# POINTERS AND FUNCTIONS

- Pointers are full-fledged types
  - Can be used just like other types
- Can be function parameters
- Can be returned from functions
- Example: int\* findOtherPointer(int\* p);
  - This function declaration:
    - Has "pointer to an int" parameter
    - Returns "pointer to an int" variable

# MEMORY MANAGEMENT

- Heap
  - Also called "freestore"
  - Reserved for dynamically-allocated variables
  - All new dynamic variables consume memory in freestore
    - If too many → could use all freestore memory
- Future "new" operations will fail if freestore is "full"

# CHECKING NEW SUCCESS

 Older compilers: // Test if null returned by call to new: int \*p; 2) p = new int; 3) if (p == NULL)4) { cout << "Error: Insufficient memory.\n"; 5) 6) exit(1); 7) } • If new succeeded, program continues

# NEW SUCCESS - NEW COMPILER

- Newer compilers:
  - If new operation fails:
    - Program terminates automatically
    - Produces error message
- Still good practice to use NULL check

# FREESTORE SIZE

- Varies with implementations
- Typically large
  - Most programs won't use all memory
- Memory management
  - Still good practice
  - Solid software engineering principle
  - Memory IS finite
    - Regardless of how much there is!

# DELETE OPERATOR

- De-allocate dynamic memory
  - When no longer needed
  - Returns memory to freestore
  - Example:

    int \*p;
    p = new int(5);
    ... //Some processing...
    delete p;
  - De-allocates dynamic memory "pointed to by pointer p"
    - Literally "destroys" memory

# DANGLING POINTERS

- delete p;
  - Destroys dynamic memory
  - But p still points there!
    - Called "dangling pointer"
  - If p is then dereferenced (\*p)
    - Unpredicatable results!
    - Often disastrous!
- Avoid dangling pointers
  - Assign pointer to NULL after delete:

```
delete p;
p = NULL;
```

# DYNAMIC AND AUTOMATIC VARIABLES

- Dynamic variables
  - Created with new operator
  - Created and destroyed while program runs
- Local variables
  - Declared within function definition
  - Not dynamic
    - Created when function is called
    - Destroyed when function call completes
  - Often called "automatic" variables
    - Properties controlled for you

# DEFINE POINTER TYPES

- Can "name" pointer types
- To be able to declare pointers like other variables
  - Eliminate need for "\*" in pointer declaration
- typedef int\* IntPtr;
  - Defines a "new type" alias
  - Consider these declarations:

```
IntPtr p; int *p;
```

The two are equivalent

# PITFALL: CALL-BY-VALUE POINTERS

- Behavior subtle and troublesome
  - If function changes pointer parameter itself → only change is to local copy
- Best illustrated with example...

```
typedet int* IntPointer;
2)
3)
      IntPointer p;
4)
      p = new int;
5)
      *p = 77;
6)
      cout << "Before call to function *p == " << *p << endl;
7)
      sneaky(p);
8)
      cout << "After call to function *p == " << *p << endl;
9)
10) void sneaky(IntPointer temp)
11) {
12)
      *temp = 99;
      cout << "Inside function call *temp == " << *temp << endl;
13)
14) }
```

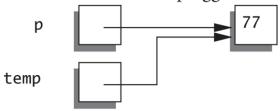
# CALL-BY-VALUE POINTERS GRAPHIC: **DISPLAY 10.5** THE FUNCTION CALL SNEAKY(P);

#### Display 10.5 The Function Call sneaky(p);

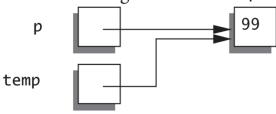
1. Before call to sneaky:



2. Value of p is plugged in for temp:



3. Change made to \*temp:



4. After call to sneaky:



# DYNAMIC ARRAYS

- Array variables
  - Really pointer variables!
- Standard array
  - Fixed size
- Dynamic array
  - Size not specified at programming time
  - Determined while program running

# ARRAY VARIABLES

- Recall: arrays stored in memory addresses, sequentially
  - Array variable "refers to" first indexed variable
  - So array variable is a kind of pointer variable!
- Example: int a[10]; int \* p;
  - a and p are both pointer variables!

# ARRAY VARIABLES -> POINTERS

- Recall previous example: int a[10]; typedef int\* IntPtr; IntPtr p;
- a and p are pointer variables
  - Can perform assignments:
     p = a; // Legal.
    - p now points where a points
      - To first indexed variable of array a
  - a = p; // ILLEGAL!
    - Array pointer is CONSTANT pointer!

### ARRAY VARIABLES -> POINTERS

- Array variable int a[10];
- MORE than a pointer variable
  - "const int \*" type
  - Array was allocated in memory already
  - Variable a MUST point there...always!
    - Cannot be changed!
- In contrast to ordinary pointers
  - Which can (& typically do) change

#### DYNAMIC ARRAYS

- Array limitations
  - Must specify size first
  - May not know until program runs!
- Must "estimate" maximum size needed
  - Sometimes OK, sometimes not
  - "Wastes" memory
- Dynamic arrays
  - Can grow and shrink as needed

#### CREATING DYNAMIC ARRAYS

- Very simple!
- Use new operator
  - Dynamically allocate with pointer variable
  - Treat like standard arrays
- Example: typedef double \* DoublePtr; DoublePtr d;
  - d = new double[10]; //Size in brackets
    - Creates dynamically allocated array variable d, with ten elements, base type double

Compare to P24

# DELETING DYNAMIC ARRAYS

- Allocated dynamically at run-time
  - So should be destroyed at run-time
- Simple again. Recall Example: d = new double[10]; .... //Processing delete [] d;
  - De-allocates all memory for dynamic array
  - Brackets indicate "array" is there
  - Recall: d still points there!
    - Should set d = NULL;

#### FUNCTION THAT RETURNS AN ARRAY

- Array type NOT allowed as return-type of function
- Example: int [] someFunction(); // ILLEGAL!
- Instead return pointer to array base type: int\* someFunction(); // LEGAL!

#### POINTER ARITHMETIC

- Can perform arithmetic on pointers
  - "Address" arithmetic
- Example:
   typedef double\* DoublePtr;
   DoublePtr d;
   d = new double[10];
  - d contains address of d[0]
  - d + 1 evaluates to address of d[1]
  - d + 2 evaluates to address of d[2]
    - Equates to "address" at these locations

#### ALTERNATIVE ARRAY MANIPULATION

- Use pointer arithmetic!
- "Step thru" array without indexing:

```
for (int i = 0; i < arraySize; i++)
cout << *(d + i) << "";
```

Equivalent to:

```
for (int i = 0; i < arraySize; i++)
cout << d[i] << "";
```

- Only addition/subtraction on pointers
  - No multiplication, division
- Can use ++ and -- on pointers

#### MULTIDIMENSIONAL DYNAMIC ARRAYS

- Recall: "arrays of arrays"
- Type definitions help "see it": typedef int\* IntArrayPtr; IntArrayPtr \*m = new IntArrayPtr[3];
  - Creates array of three pointers
  - Make each allocate array of 4 ints
- for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) m[i] = new int[4];
  - Results in three-by-four dynamic array!

### BACK TO CLASSES

- The -> operator
  - Shorthand notation
  - Combines dereference operator, \*, and dot operator
  - Specifies member of class "pointed to" by given pointer

```
Example:
    MyClass *p;
    p = new MyClass;
    p->grade = "A"; Equivalent to:
        (*p).grade = "A";
```

# THE **this** POINTER

- Member function definitions might need to refer to calling object
- Use predefined this pointer
  - Automatically points to calling object:
     Class Simple
     {
     public:
     void showStuff() const;
     private:
     int stuff;
     };

 Two ways for member functions to access: cout << stuff; cout << this->stuff;

### OVERLOADING ASSIGNMENT OPERATOR

- Assignment operator returns reference
  - So assignment "chains" are possible
  - e.g., a = b = c;
    - Sets a and b equal to c
- Operator must return "same type" as it's left-hand side
  - To allow chains to work
  - The this pointer will help with this!

## OVERLOADING ASSIGNMENT OPERATOR

- Recall: Assignment operator must be member of the class
  - It has one parameter
  - Left-operand is calling object s1 = s2;
    - Think of like: s1.=(s2);
- s1 = s2 = s3;
  - Requires (s1 = s2) = s3;
  - So (s1 = s2) must return object of s1"s type
    - And pass to " = s3";

#### OVERLOADED = OPERATOR DEFINITION

#### **Uses string Class example:**

```
StringClass& StringClass::operator=(const StringClass& rtSide)
2)
3)
                                  // if right side same as left side
        if (this == &rtSide)
4)
                 return *this;
5)
        else
6)
7)
                 capacity = rtSide.length;
8)
                 length = rtSide.length;
9)
                 delete [] a;
                 a = new char[capacity];
10)
11)
                 for (int I = 0; I < length; I++)
                          a[l] = rtSide.a[l];
12)
13)
                 return *this;
14)
15) }
```

What it means?

See stringClass

```
PFArrayD& PFArrayD::operator =(const PFArrayD& rightSide)
      if (capacity != rightSide.capacity)
3)
4)
5)
         delete [] a;
6)
         a = new double[rightSide.capacity];
7)
8)
      capacity = rightSide.capacity;
9)
      used = rightSide.used;
10)
      for (int i = 0; i < used; i++)
         a[i] = rightSide.a[i];
11)
12)
      return *this;
                                                     See PFArrayD
13) }
```

#### SHALLOW AND DEEP COPIES

- Shallow copy
  - Assignment copies only member variable contents over
  - Default assignment and copy constructors
- Deep copy
  - Pointers, dynamic memory involved
  - Must dereference pointer variables to "get to" data for copying
  - Write your own assignment overload and copy constructor in this case!

#### DESTRUCTOR NEED

- Dynamically-allocated variables
  - Do not go away until "deleted"
- If pointers are only private member data
  - They dynamically allocate "real" data
    - In constructor
  - Must have means to "deallocate" when object is destroyed
- Answer: destructor!

### **DESTRUCTORS**

- Opposite of constructor
  - Automatically called when object is out-of-scope
  - Default version only removes ordinary variables, not dynamic variables
- Defined like constructor, just add ~

```
MyClass::~MyClass()
{
    //Perform delete clean-up duties
}
```

- A destructor has no parameters
- Thus, a class can have only one destructor;
  - cannot overload the destructor for a class

```
1) PFArrayD::~PFArrayD()
2) {
3)  delete [] a;
4) }
class PFArrayD
{
  public:
```

```
PFArrayD();
  PFArrayD(int capacityValue);
  PFArrayD(const PFArrayD& pfaObject);
 ~PFArrayD();
private:
  double *a; //for an array of doubles.
  int capacity;
  int used;
};
```

```
do
3)
        testPFArrayD();
                                               What if no ur
      }while ((ans == 'y') | | (ans == 'Y'));
                                             own destructor?
    void testPFArrayD()
8)
      PFArrayD temp(cap):
                                                    Memory leak
      while ((next >= 0) && (!temp.full()))
10)
|11)
12)
        temp.addElement(next);
13)
        cin >> next;
14)
15)
      int ct = temp.getNumberUsed();
      for (i = 0; index < ct; i++) cout << temp[i] << " ";
16)
117)
18) } // calling destructor of temp
```

### COPY CONSTRUCTOR

- A copy constructor
  - A constructor has one parameter that is of the same type as the class
  - Parameter must be a call-by-reference const parameter.
  - Defined in the same way as any other constructor and can be used just like other constructors

### COPY CONSTRUCTOR EXAMPLE

```
1) PFArrayD b(20);
```

See constructor

- 2) for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++)
- 3) b.addElement(i);
- 4) PFArrayD temp(b);//Initialized by the copy constructor

```
class PFArrayD
3
     public:
                      //Initializes with a capacity of 50.
       PFArrayD();
5)
       PFArrayD(int capacityValue);
6)
       PFArrayD(const PFArrayD& pfaObject);
       void addElement(double element);
bool full() const { return (capacity == used); }
8)
       void emptyArray(){ used = 0; } //Empties the array.
       int getCapacity() const { return capacity; }
10)
       int getNumberUsed( ) const { return used; }
11)
       double & operator [] (int index);
12)
       PFArrayD& operator =(const PFArrayD& rightSide);
13)
       ~PFArrayD();
114)
     private:
15)
       double *a; //for an array of doubles.
16)
       int capacity; //for the size of the array.
l17)
       int used; //for the number of array positions currently in use.
[18]
```

58

```
PFArrayD::PFArrayD(const PFArrayD& pfaObject)
    :capacity(pfaObject.getCapacity()),
     used(pfaObject.getNumberUsed())
(3)
4)
     a = new double[capacity];
5)
     for (int i =0; i < used; i++)
       a[i] = pfaObject.a[i];
```

Why not a= pfaObject.a instead?

#### THE REASON WHY?

- 1) PFArrayD **b**(20);
- 2) for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++)
- b.addElement(i);
- 4) PFArrayD temp(b);//Initialized by the copy constructor
  - ✓ "temp" is initialized so that its array member variable is different from the array member variable of b.
  - ✓ Any change that is made to temp will have no effect on "b".

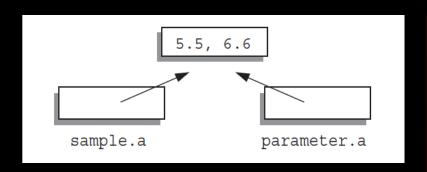
### COPY CONSTRUCTORS

- Automatically called when:
  - 1. Class object declared and initialized to other object
  - 2. When function returns class type object
  - 3. When argument of class type is "plugged in" as actual argument to **call-by-value** parameter
- Requires "temporary copy" of object
  - Copy constructor creates it
- Default copy constructor
  - Like default "=", performs member-wise copy
- Pointers (data members)
   Write own copy constructor!

```
WHY USE COPY CONSTRUCTOR FOR 2 & 3?
1) void showPFArrayD(PFArrayD parameter)
2)
3)
     cout << "The first value is: "
     << parameter[0] << endl;
4)
5) }
                                What output will be
   Main() { ...
                                if use default copy
                                   constructor?
7)
     PFArrayD sample(1);
8)
     sample.addElement(5.5);
     showPFArrayD(sample);
9)
     cout << "After call: " << sample[0] << endl;
                                              62
```

### IF USE DEFAULT COPY CONSTRUCTOR

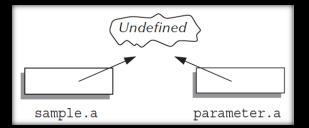
- constructor simply copies the contents of member variables, namely
  - "sample" is copied to the local variable "parameter",
  - so parameter.a= sample.a



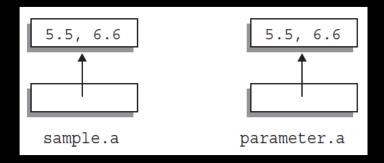
What's wrong with "copy to local variable?

#### IF USE DEFAULT COPY CONSTRUCTOR

- When the function call, showPFArrayD(), ends
  - the destructor of "parameter" is called to return the memory
- 1) PFArrayD::~PFArrayD()
- 2) {
- 3) delete [] a;
- 4) }
- "delete [] a"=> delete [] parameter.a;



### USING OUR COPY CONSTRUCTOR



- changes made to parameter.a has no effect on the argument sample
  - the destructor deletes a different dynamic array
- Similarly, a function returns a value of a class type needs your own "copy constructor"

#### THE BIG THREE

- the big three= {
   copy constructor,
   = assignment operator,
   the destructor
   }
- Need any of them, you need all three
- Any class uses pointers and the new operator, must define your own BIG THREE

#### SUMMARY 1

- Pointer is memory address
  - Provides indirect reference to variable
- Dynamic variables
  - Created and destroyed while program runs
- Freestore
  - Memory storage for dynamic variables
- Dynamically allocated arrays
  - Size determined as program runs

#### SUMMARY 2

- Class destructor
  - Special member function
  - Automatically destroys objects
- Copy constructor
  - Single argument member function
  - Called automatically when temp copy needed
- Assignment operator
  - Must be overloaded as member function
  - Returns reference for chaining

```
class StringClass
    public:
    void someProcessing();
    StringClass& operator=( const StringClass&
  rtSide);
  private:
    char *a; //Dynamic array for characters in the string
    int capacity; //size of dynamic array a
    int length; //Number of characters in a
3)};
```

```
class PFArrayD
3)
      public:
4)
        PFArrayD();
        PFArrayD(int capacityValue);
5)
6)
        PFArrayD(const PFArrayD& pfaObject); // copy constructor
7)
        void addElement(double element);
8)
        bool full() const { return (capacity == used); }
9)
        int getCapacity() const { return capacity; }
10)
        int getNumberUsed( ) const { return used; }
        void emptyArray(){ used = 0; }
11)
12)
        //Empties the array.
13)
        double & operator [] (int index);
14)
        PFArrayD& operator = (const PFArrayD& rightSide);
15)
        ~PFArrayD();
16)
      private:
17)
        double *a; //for an array of doubles.
        int capacity; //for the size of the array.
18)
19)
        int used; //for the number of array positions currently in use.
20)
```

```
PFArrayD::PFArrayD():capacity(50), used(0)
2)
3)
     a = new double[capacity];
4) }
  PFArrayD::PFArrayD(int size) :capacity(size), used(0)
     a = new double [capacity];
```