CMSC 11 Handout (Pointers) Prepared by: MAADClariño

POINTERS

A pointer is a variable that stores an address/memory location.

It provides indirect access to a value.

Example:

We can also extend this by having a pointer to another pointer.

int **c; c=&b; // c holds the address of b, which is a pointer to an integer.

VARIABLE	VALUE	ADDRESS
a	5	@31a
b	@31a	124c
С	124c	458s

Based on the diagram above: (NOTE: & - ADDRESS * - VALUE)

a - 5	b - @31a	c - 124c
&a - @31a	&b - 124c	&c - 458s
*a – INVALID since a is not a pointer	*b - 5	*c - @31a
**a – INVALID since a is not a pointer to another pointer	**b – INVALID since a is not a pointer to another pointer	**c - 5