

The background of the slide is a photograph of a large, historic building, likely a university hall or library, with multiple stories, many windows, and a prominent clock tower on the right side. The image is tinted with a blue and purple gradient.

COMP281 Lecture 8

Principles of C and Memory Management

Dr SHI Lei

Last Lecture

- Pointer Basics

Previous Lectures

- Arrays, Arithmetic, Functions

Last Lecture

- Pointer Basics

Previous Lectures

- Arrays, Arithmetic, Functions

Recap

- Pointer Basics

- Variable
- Address &
- Pointer *
- Double Pointer **

	Name	Address	Content
int x = 9;	x	0x7ffeebee48c8	9
int *y = &x;	y	0x7ffeebee48c0	0x7ffeebee48c8
int **z = &y;	z	0x7ffeebee48b8	0x7ffeebee48c0



- Arrays
 - Declaring
 - Initialising
 - Accessing
 - 2D arrays

```
int n[10], i, j;
for(i=0; i<10; i++) {
    n[i] = i + 100;
}
for(j=0; j<10; j++) {
    printf("n[%d]=%d\n", j, n[j]);
}
```

```
for (i=0; i<4; i++) {
    for (j=0; j<3; j++) {
        arr[i][j]...;
    }
} /* 2D array */
```

- Functions
 - Declaring
 - Initialising
 - Accessing
 - Call-by-value vs call-by-reference

```
void incr(int x) {  
    x++;  
}  
  
int x = 10;  
incr(x);
```

```
void incr(int *x) {  
    (*x)++;  
}  
  
int x = 10;  
incr(&x);
```

Last Lecture

- Pointer Basics

Previous Lectures

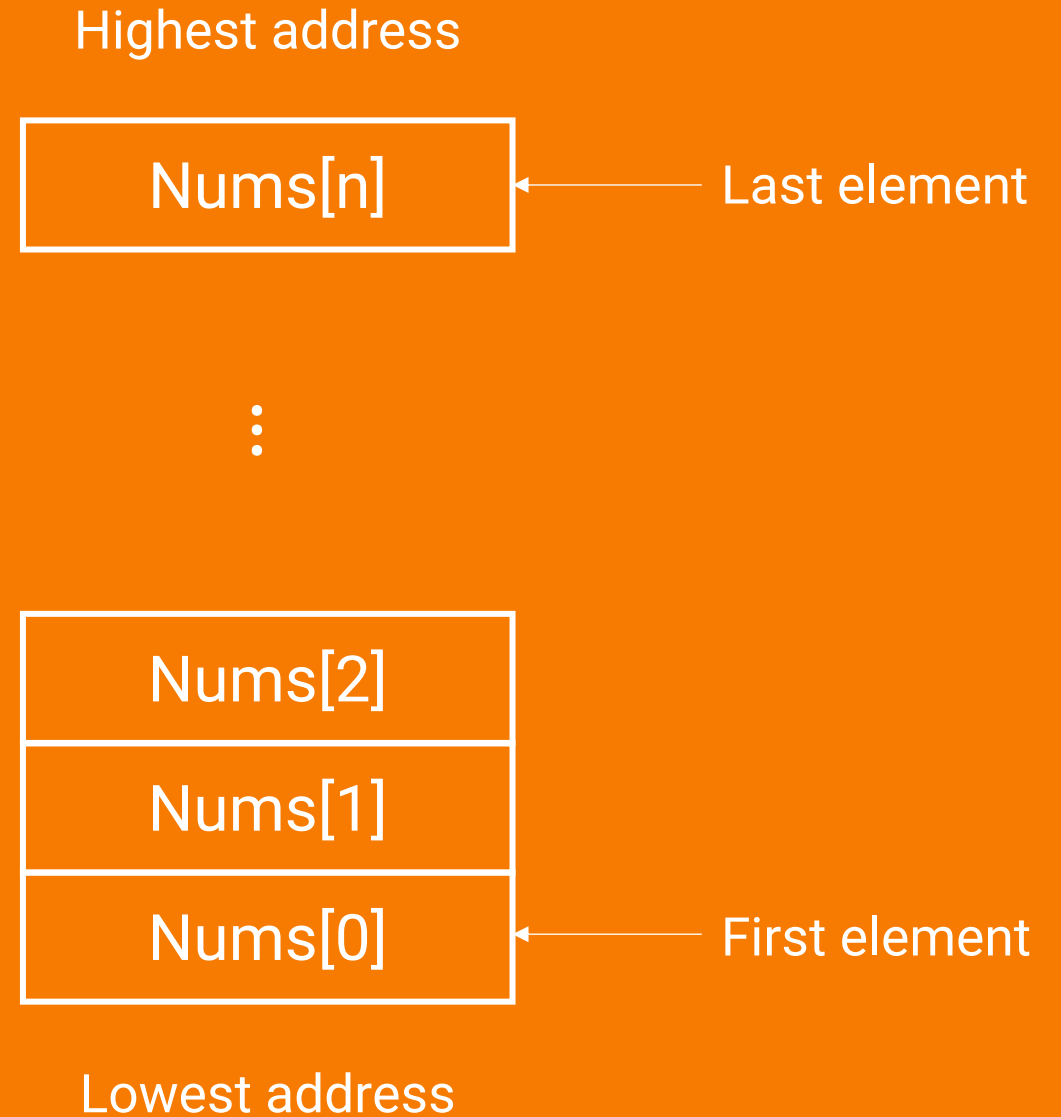
- Arrays, Arithmetic, Functions

Today

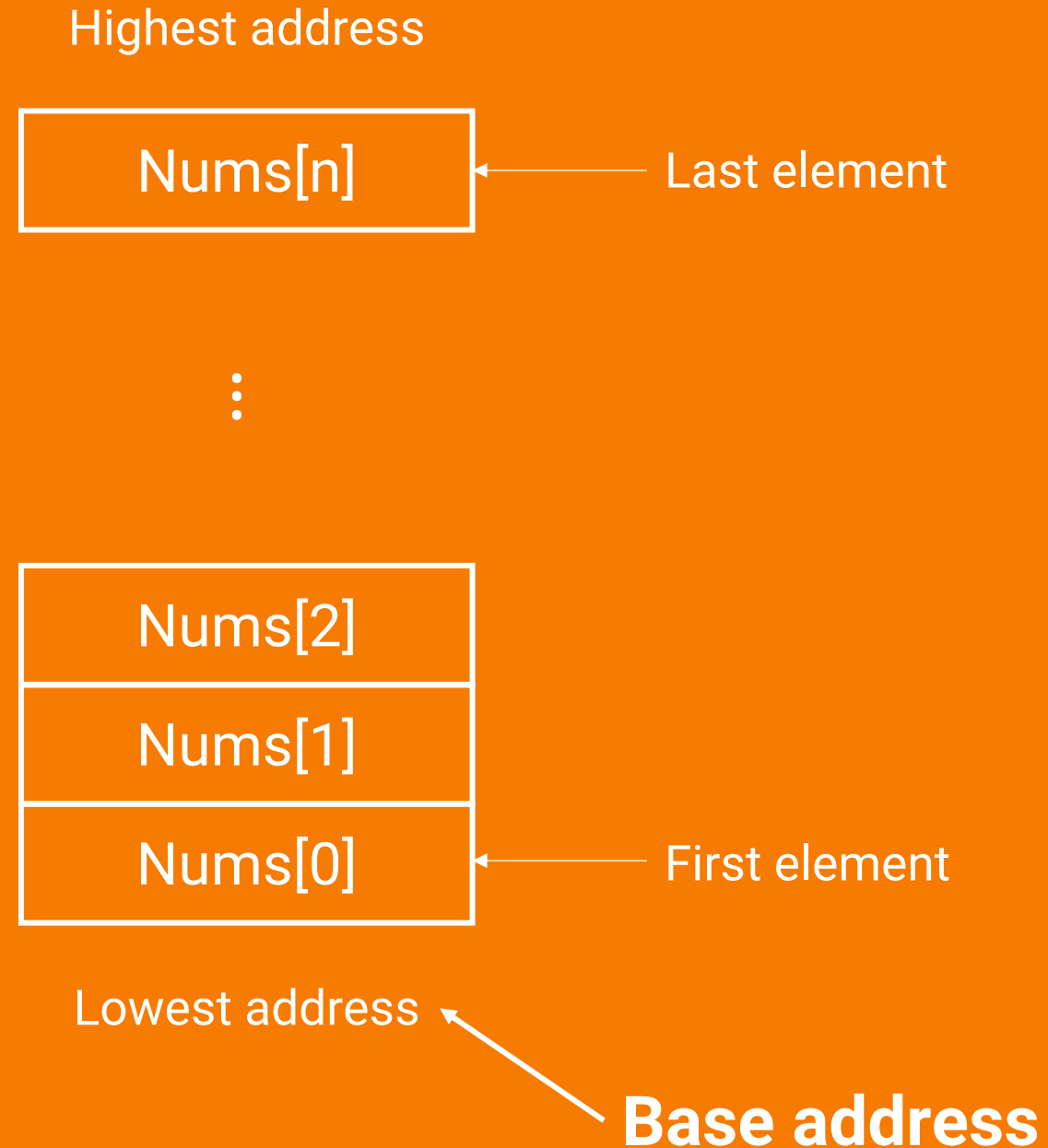
- Pointer to Array
- Pointer Arithmetic
- Pointer with Functions

Pointer to Array

- An array consist of contiguous memory locations.
- The highest address corresponds to the last element.
- The lowest address corresponds to the first element.



- When an array is declared, the Compiler allocates sufficient amount of memory to contain all the elements of the array.
- Base address i.e. address of the first element of the array is also allocated by the Compiler



Address vs pointer

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

Assuming the base address of `arr` is 1000, and each integer requires 4 bytes, the 5 elements will be stored as:

	1	2	3	4	5
element	<code>arr[0]</code>	<code>arr[1]</code>	<code>arr[2]</code>	<code>arr[3]</code>	<code>arr[4]</code>
address	1000	1004	1008	1012	1016

Address vs pointer

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

Assuming the base address of `arr` is 1000, and each integer requires 4 bytes, the 5 elements will be stored as:

	1	2	3	4	5
element	<code>arr[0]</code>	<code>arr[1]</code>	<code>arr[2]</code>	<code>arr[3]</code>	<code>arr[4]</code>
address	1000	1004	1008	1012	1016

you can not change this once you define the program

The variable `arr` gives the **Base Address**, a **Constant Pointer**, pointing to the 1st element of the array – `arr[0]`, so `arr` contains the address of `arr[0]` i.e. 1000.

`arr` has 2 purpose



- It is the name of the array
- It acts as a pointer pointing towards the 1st element in the array

`arr` is equal to `&arr[0]` by default

- We can declare a pointer of type `int` to point to the array `arr`

Example 1

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    int arr[5] = {1,2,3,4,5};

    int *p = arr;
    printf("%i\n", *p);

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

    return 0;
}
```

Example 1

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    int arr[5] = {1,2,3,4,5};

    int *p = arr;
    printf("%i\n", *p);

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

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
1
2
```



Use a pointer to point to an array, then we can use the pointer to **access** the elements of the array.

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output



```
1
2
3
4
5
```

The pointer `*p` prints all the values stored in the array one by one.

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

What if we replace

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

with

```
printf("%d", arr[i]);
printf("%d", i[arr]);
printf("%d", arr+i );
printf("%d", *(arr+i));
printf("%d", *arr);
```

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```



```
printf("%d", arr[i]);
```

Prints all array elements

```
printf("%d", i[arr]);
```

Also prints all elements of array

```
printf("%d", arr+i);
```

Prints address of array elements

```
printf("%d", *(arr+i));
```

Prints value of array elements

```
printf("%d", *arr);
```

Prints value of a[0] only

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

What about

arr++;

?

A diagram consisting of two arrows. One arrow starts at the line 'p++;' in the code block and points horizontally to the right, then diagonally up and to the right. The other arrow starts at the line 'arr++;' and points horizontally to the left, then diagonally up and to the left. The two arrows converge towards a question mark '?' located between the two lines of code.

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i;
    int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
    int *p = arr;
    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
        printf("%d\n", *p);
        p++;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

What about

arr++;

?

Compiler time error -> cannot
change **Base Address** of an array
(Constant Pointer)



Arrays are pointers in disguise.

Arrays: “syntactic sugar” for pointers.

```
int i = 0, arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};  
printf("arr[i] = %d\n", arr[i]);  
printf("arr[i] = %d\n", *(arr + i));
```

`arr[i]` and `*(arr + i)` are identical

`arr` is identical to `&arr[0]`

Pointer Arithmetic

It means we can do some calculation

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

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

```
int *p = arr;      /* (*p) == ? */
```

```
p++;              /* (*p) == ? */
```

```
p += 2;           /* (*p) == ? */
```

```
p -= 3;           /* (*p) == ? */
```

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

0x7ffeeaea8c0



Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

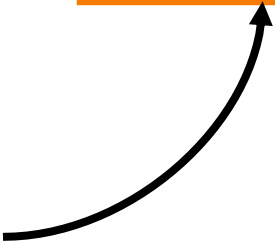
(assume 4 byte integers)

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

0x7ffeecaea8c0



arr



0x7ffeecaea8c0

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

```
int *p = arr; /* (*p)==? */
```

0x7ffeca8c0



arr

0x7ffeca8c0

p

0x7ffeca8c0

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

`p++;` `/* (*p)==? */`

0x7ffeca8c0



`arr`

0x7ffeca8c0

`p`

0x7ffeca8c4

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

```
p += 2;      /* (*p)==? */
```

0x7ffeca8c0



arr

0x7ffeca8c0

p

0x7ffeca8cc

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

```
p -= 3;      /* (*p)==? */
```

0x7ffeca8c0



arr

0x7ffeca8c0

p

0x7ffeca8c0



Note:

Pointer arithmetic does NOT add/subtract address directly but in multiplies of the size of type in bytes.

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

```
int *p = arr;
```

```
p++; /* means: p = p + sizeof(int); */
```

4

(assume 4 byte integers)

Pointer arithmetic

Add/subtract integers to/from pointers

(assume 4 byte integers)

```
int *p = arr;  
p++;
```

0x7ffeca8c0



arr

0x7ffeca8c0

p

0x7ffeca8c4 = 0x7ffeca8c0 + sizeof(int)

Note:

`sizeof()` is NOT a function

- takes a type name as an argument



Size of pointer

- On a 64 bit machine, size of all types of **pointer**, be it `int*`, `float*`, `char*`, `double*` is always **8 bytes**.
- When performing arithmetic function, e.g. increment on a pointer, changes occur as per the size of their primitive data type.

Size of pointer

long unsigned decimal integer

```
printf("sizeof(int) is %lu\n", sizeof(int));  
printf("sizeof(char) is %lu\n", sizeof(char));  
printf("sizeof(float) is %lu\n", sizeof(float));  
printf("sizeof(double) is %lu\n", sizeof(double));  
Printf("=====");  
printf("sizeof(int*) is %lu\n", sizeof(int*));  
printf("sizeof(char*) is %lu\n", sizeof(char*));  
printf("sizeof(float*) is %lu\n", sizeof(float*));  
printf("sizeof(double*) is %lu\n", sizeof(double*));
```

Output

```
sizeof(int) is 4  
sizeof(char) is 1  
sizeof(float) is 4  
sizeof(double) is 8  
=====  
sizeof(int*) is 8  
sizeof(char*) is 8  
sizeof(float*) is 8  
sizeof(double*) is 8
```


Size of pointer

```
int* p1;  
printf("%p\n", p1);  
p1++;  
printf("%p\n", p1);
```

```
0x7ffee46608f0  
0x7ffee46608f4
```

```
char* p2;  
printf("%p\n", p2);  
p2++;  
printf("%p\n", p2);
```

```
0x7ffee240c8f0  
0x7ffee240c8f1
```

```
double* p3;  
printf("%p\n", p3);  
p3++;  
printf("%p\n", p3);
```

```
0x7ffeebfe08f0  
0x7ffeebfe08f8
```

Pointer with Functions

Pointers as function arguments

- Pointer **as** a function parameter is used to hold addresses of arguments passed during function call, known as **call-by-reference**.
- When a function is called by reference any change made to the reference variable will effect the original variable.

Example 3

```
#include <stdio.h>
void swap(int *a, int *b);
int main() {
    int m = 66, n = 99;
    printf("m = %d\n", m);
    printf("n = %d\n\n", n);
    swap(&m, &n);
    printf("After swapping:\n\n");
    printf("m = %d\n", m);
    printf("n = %d\n", n);
    return 0;
}
```

```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

Example 3

```
#include <stdio.h>
void swap(int *a, int *b);
int main() {
    int m = 66, n = 99;
    printf("m = %d\n", m);
    printf("n = %d\n\n", n);
    swap(&m, &n);
    printf("After swapping:\n\n");
    printf("m = %d\n", m);
    printf("n = %d\n", n);
    return 0;
}
```

```
void swap(int *a, int *b) {
    int temp;
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

Output

```
m = 66
n = 99
```

```
After Swapping:
```

```
m = 99
n = 66
```

Functions returning pointer variables

- A function can **return** a pointer to the calling function.
- **Be careful!**
 - Local variables of function doesn't live outside of the function
 - If returning a pointer pointing to a local variable, that pointer will be pointing to nothing when the function ends.

Example 4

```
#include <stdio.h>
int* larger(int *a, int *b);
int main() {
    int m = 66, n = 99;
    int *p;

    p = larger(&m, &n);

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

    return 0;
}
```

```
int* larger(int *a, int *b) {
    if(*a > *b)
        return a;
    else
        return b;
}
```

return the pointer

Example 4

```
#include <stdio.h>
int* larger(int *a, int *b);
int main() {
    int m = 66, n = 99;
    int *p;

    p = larger(&m, &n);

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

    return 0;
}
```

```
int* larger(int *a, int *b) {
    if(*a > *b)
        return a;
    else
        return b;
}
```

Output

```
99 is larger.
```


Pointer to functions

- A pointer pointing to a function can be used as an argument in another function.

- to declare a pointer to a function:

```
type (*pointer-name)(parameter);
```

- an example

```
int (*sum)();
```

Pointer to functions

- A function pointer can point to a specific function when it is assigned the name of that function

```
int sum(int, int);  
int (*s)(int, int);  
s = sum;
```

- `s` is a pointer to a function `sum`. Now `sum` can be called using **function pointer** `s` with required argument values.

```
s(10, 20);
```

Example 5

```
#include <stdio.h>

int sum(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}

int main() {
    int (*fp)(int, int);
    fp = &sum;
    printf("Sum is %d.\n", (*fp)(6, 9));
    return 0;
}
```


Output

```
Sum is 165.
```

Example 5

```
#include <stdio.h>



int sum(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}

int main() {
    int (*fp)(int, int);
    fp = &sum;  fp = sum;
    printf("Sum is %d.\n", (*fp)(6, 9));
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Sum is 165.
```

Example 5

```
#include <stdio.h>
int sum(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}
int main() {
    int (*fp)(int, int);
    fp = &sum;  fp = sum;
    printf("Sum is %d.\n", (*fp)(6, 9));  fp(6, 9);
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Sum is 165.
```

Example 6 Passing the pointer to another function

```
#include <stdio.h>

int sum(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}

int sum6_9(int (*fp)(int,int)){
    return (*fp)(6, 9);
}

int main(){
    int (*fp)(int, int);
    fp = sum;
    printf("Sum is %d.\n", sum6_9(fp));
    return 0;
}
```

Example 7 Using function pointers in return values

```
#include <stdio.h>

int sum(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}

int (*functionFactory(int z))(int, int) {
    printf("Got parameter %d.\n", z);
    int (*fp)(int,int) = sum;
    return fp;
}

int main() {
    printf("Sum is %d.\n", functionFactory(3)(6,9));
    return 0;
}
```

Summary

Today

- Pointer to Array
- Pointer Arithmetic
- Pointer with Functions

Next

- Structure
- Union
- Typedef
- String