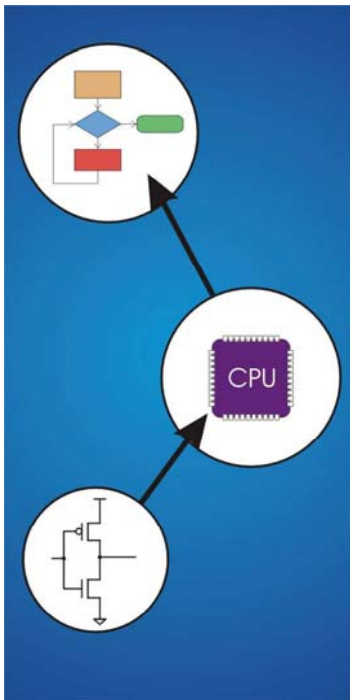




COMPSCI 210

Part II

Pointers Arithmetic

Agenda & Reading

Agenda:

- Pointers Arithmetic
- Common Mistakes
- 2D Array & Pointers
- Arrays of Strings

Exercise:

- Which of the following pointer expressions affects the value of the pointer?

II-11-2

Example: 01arithmetic.c

Pointers Arithmetic

Integer math operations can be used with pointers. But not all operations are legal.

Legal:

- Add an integer to a pointer
- Subtract 2 pointers (in the same array)
- Comparing pointers

Illegal:

- Adding 2 pointers
- Multiplying 2 pointers
- Dividing 2 pointers
- Adding float to a pointer
- Shifting pointers
- etc

Make no sense in a program

II-11-3

Pointers Arithmetic

Adding an integer (positive/negative)

- If you increment/decrement a pointer, it will be increased/decreased by the size of whatever it points to.
 - Adding one (for instance) to an address should direct it to the next object, not necessarily the next byte.
 - If the address points to integers, then it should end up pointing to the next integer, actually increase the address by four.

```
p1 = array;
*(p1+1) = 30;
```

- Subtracting one to an address should direct it to the previous object

```
p1 += 3;
*p1 = 50;
p1 -= 1;
*p1 = 60;
```

*p1	
*p2	
array	10
	20->30
	30 -> 60
	40 -> 50
	50

II-11-4

Pointer Arithmetic

***Address calculations depend on size of elements

- In our LC-3 code, we've been assuming one word per element.
 - e.g., to find element at index 4, we add 4 to base address
- It's ok, because we've only shown code for int and char, both of which take up one word.
- If double, we'd have to add **8** to find address of the element.

C does size calculations under the covers, depending on size of item being pointed to:

```
double x[10];  
double *y = x;  
*(y + 3) = 13;
```

allocates 20 words (2 per element) – LC-3 Code
Allocates 10*8 bytes (C compiler on Chaos)

same as x[3]
base address plus 6 (LC-3 code)
Base address + 3 * 8 bytes (C compiler on Chaos)

II-11-5

Pointers Arithmetic

Subtracting 2 pointers (in the same array)

- = the difference of two addresses.
- The result is interpreted as the number of objects between the two addresses

```
p1 = array;  
p2 = &array[2];  
printf("difference=%d\n", p2-p1);
```

Returns 2

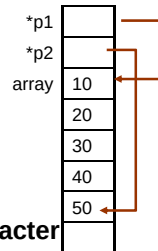
II-11-6

Comparing Pointers

Comparing Two Pointers

- Note: Only addresses within a single array should be compared.
- Example: Given an array, the size is n. We want to access element from 0 to n-1. Use a loop and test for exit by comparing to the address one element past the array

```
p1 = array;  
p2 = &array[5];  
while ( p1 != p2) {  
    printf("%d ", *p1);  
    p1++;  
}
```



Comparing value pointed by a pointer to zero

- Example: Given a string, we want to access each character

```
char string[] = "Good morning";  
cp = string;  
while (*cp) {  
    printf("%c", *cp);  
    cp++;  
}
```

If the value is nonzero, continue

Zero = Null terminator character

II-11-7

Example: 02stringExample.c

Example

Convert all characters to uppercase

- Convert all characters in a string to uppercase
- Parameter: pointer to the beginning of string
- Return: a pointer to the beginning of a string

```
char *string = "good monring";  
printf("%s\n", stringToUpper(string));
```

```
char *stringToUpper(char *string)  
{  
    char *cp;  
    cp = string;  
    while (*cp != '\0') {  
        *cp = toupper(*cp);  
        cp++;  
    }  
    return string;  
}
```

Increment the pointer

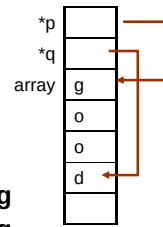
Get the character and convert it to upper case

II-11-8

Example

Reverse a string

- Reverse a string
- Parameter: pointer to the beginning of string
- Return: a pointer to the beginning of a string



```
char *string = "good" ;
printf("%s\n", stringReverse(string));
```

```
char *stringReverse(char *string)
{
    char *p, *q;
    char temp;
    p = string;
    if ( *p == '\0')
        return NULL;
```

p points to the first character

```
    q = string;
    while (*q != '\0')
        q++;
    --q;
    while (p < q) {
        temp = *p;
        *p = *q;
        *q = temp;
        p++;
        q--;
    }
    return string;
}
```

q points to the last character

Swap the values

II-11-9

Common Problem

Error 1:

- What is wrong with the following code?

```
int *p;
*p = 10;
```

- What is the address in p? (NULL)
 - Writes “10” into a random location in memory
- C defines that memory location 0 must not be a valid address for pointers

Error 2:

- What do the following statements do?

```
int *p, q;
int* p, q;
int *p; int q;
```

SAME

- Declare an integer pointer and an integer (not a pointer)
- Declare two integer pointers

```
int *p, *q;
```

```
int *p;
int *q;
```

II-11-10

Common Problem

Error 3:

- What's wrong with:

```
int* func() {
    int x = 1;
    return &x;
}
```

- Answer: Storage for “x” disappears on return, so the returned pointer is dangling.
- A dangling pointer is a pointer to storage element that is no longer allocated.

```
int *p, *q, a=100, b=100;
p = &a;
q = &b;
```

Error 4:

- Copy pointers? Copy Values?

- What does the following statement do? Copy values pointed

```
*ip = *iq;
```

- What does the following statement do? Copy the address stored

```
ip = iq;
```

II-11-11

Example: 03pointers.c

Common Problem

5:

- What do the following statements do?

```
*ptr+=1;
```

- Value pointed increment by 1

```
(*ptr)+=1;
```

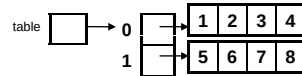
- Value pointed increment by 1

```
*(ptr+1)
```

- Address increment by 1 (e.g. next integer)

II-11-12

2D Array & Pointers



Note:

- When we create 2D array to a function we must specify the number of columns
- C needs to know how many columns in order that it can jump from row to row in memory.

Example:

Creating Pointers

- `int (*p)[4];` declares a pointer to an array of 4 ints.
 - Note: `int *p[4];` declares an array of 4 pointers to ints.

```
int table[2][4] = { {1,2,3,4}, {5,6,7,8}};
int (*p1)[4], (*p2)[4], *x;
p1 = table;
```

Addresses

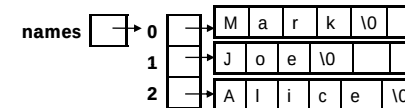
- Return the address of the first pointer (a pointer to an array of 4 ints) `p1`
- Return the address of the i^{th} pointer (i^{th} row) `p1 + i`
- Return the address of the i^{th} row and j^{th} column `*(p1 + i) + j`
- Return the value of the i^{th} row and j^{th} column `*(*(p1 + i) + j)`

II-11-13

Arrays of Strings

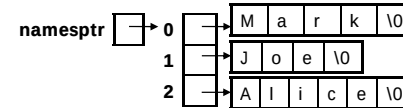
In C, you cannot store an array of strings, but you can store an array of character pointers, and each character pointer can point to a string in memory

Example: using a 2d array – waste of space



```
char names[3][6] = {"Mark", "Joe", "Alice"};
```

Example: using array of character pointers



```
char *namesptr[3] = {"Mark", "Joe", "Alice"};
```

- To print the i^{th} element

```
printf("%s", *(namesptr+i));
```

Handout 11

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Tips:

Common Programming Error

- Using pointer arithmetic on a pointer that does not refer to an element in an array.
- Subtracting or comparing two pointers that do not refer to elements in the same array.
- Running off either end of an array when using pointer arithmetic.

II-11-15