

Pointers and Memory

Ch 9: Pointers



12402

Topics

- 1) How can a program work with addresses?
- 2) How can we use pointers with functions?

Pointers

Address Of

- Variables in Memory
 - Each variable is stored in..
 - Get the address of a variable with..

```
int answer = 42;  
cout << "Value:   " << answer << endl;  
cout << "Address: " << &answer << endl;
```

Value:	42
Address:	0x7fffe3bd9fac

- Can a program work with addresses?
..

Pointers

- Pointer

- Declare a pointer by adding a star after the type:
`int* pStudentNum;`

- You should always initialize the pointer:
`float* pHeight = nullptr; // Point to nothing.`
`int answer = 42;`
`int* pAnswer = &answer;`

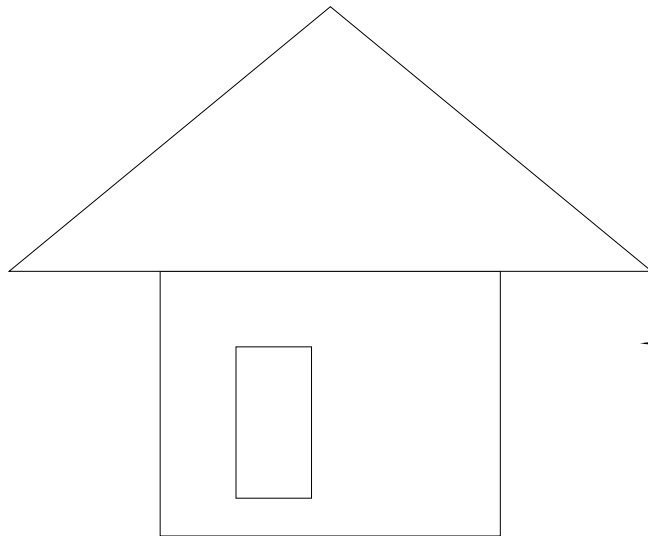
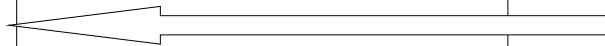
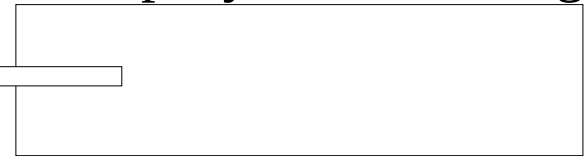
- All pointers are the same size. ..

Pointers are like House Addresses

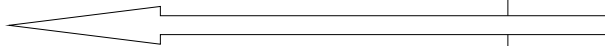
```
int age = 21;
```



```
int *pMyPointer = &age;
```



Address



Using a Pointer

- Dereference
 -
 - Add a * before the variable name.

- Example

```
int answer = 1;  
int* pAns = nullptr;
```

```
pAns = &answer;  
*pAns = 23;
```

```
Answer: 23  
*pAns: 23
```

```
cout << "Answer: " << answer << endl;  
cout << "*pAns: " << *pAns << endl;
```

Example

```
// Create a variable  
float myPi = 3.14;  
cout << "@1: myPi = " << myPi << endl;
```

```
..  
@1: myPi = 3.14
```

```
// Create pointer; point to the variable.  
float* pPi = &myPi;  
cout << "@2: pPi = " << pPi << endl;  
cout << "@2: &myPi= " << &myPi << endl;  
cout << "@2: *pPi = " << *pPi << endl;
```

```
@2: pPi = 0x7fff32b8ee44  
@2: &myPi= 0x7fff32b8ee44  
@2: *pPi = 3.14
```

```
// Change via the variable  
myPi = 13.9;  
cout << "@3: myPi = " << myPi << endl;  
cout << "@3: *pPi = " << *pPi << endl;
```

```
@3: myPi = 13.9  
@3: *pPi = 13.9
```

```
// Change via the pointer  
*pPi = 999.2;  
cout << "@4: myPi = " << myPi << endl;  
cout << "@4: *pPi = " << *pPi << endl;
```

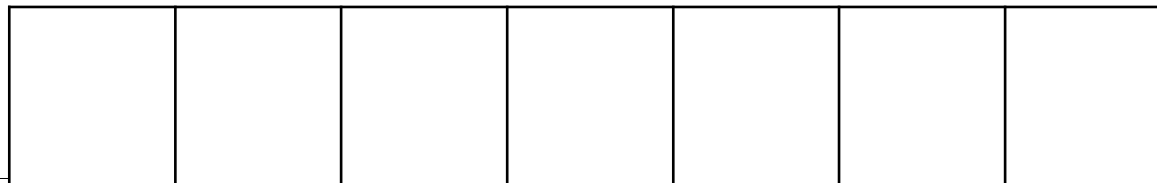
```
@4: myPi = 999.2  
@4: *pPi = 999.2
```


Pointer Operator Recap

- Uses of *
 - Multiplication `int x = 10 * 2;`
 - Pointer declaration `int *ptr = nullptr;`
 - Pointer dereferencing `*ptr = (*ptr) / 2 + 1;`
- Uses of &
 - AND `if (x > 1 && x < 10) {...}`
 - Memory Address `ptr = &x;`
 - Pass by reference `int foo(string &str);`

Address 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053

Data



Working
with
Pointers

Working
with
Variables

Review

```
// Complete questions a) through d)
```

```
void bustedCode()
```

```
{
```

```
    int age = 75;
```

```
    int* pPointer = nullptr;
```

```
    // a) What's wrong with this?
```

```
    *pPointer = &age;
```

```
    // b) What's wrong with this?
```

```
    pPointer = 42;
```

```
    // c) Change the value to which pPointer points to zero:
```

```
    // d) Change pPointer to point to zero:
```

```
}
```

Pass by Pointer

Pass by...

- Pass-by-value
 - Copies of the arguments are passed to the function.
- Pass-by-reference
 - Function works on actual argument (reference).
- Pass-by-pointer
 - ..
is passed to function.
 - Changes in the function to that location in memory..
 - Pass-by-reference is similar to pass-by-pointer, but it handles the pointer access for you.

Examples

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

```
void swapByRef(int &a, int &b) {  
    int temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
}
```

```
void swapByPtr(int* pA, int* pB) {  
    int temp = *pA;  
    *pA = *pB;  
    *pB = temp;  
}
```

```
int main()  
{  
    {  
        int mine = 1;  
        int yours = 99;  
        swapByVal(mine, yours);  
        cout << mine << " " << yours << endl;  
    }  
  
    {  
        int mine = 1;  
        int yours = 99;  
        swapByRef(mine, yours);  
        cout << mine << " " << yours << endl;  
    }  
  
    {  
        int mine = 1;  
        int yours = 99;  
        swapByPtr(&mine, &yours);  
        cout << mine << " " << yours << endl;  
    }  
}
```

Review

- Write a void function named `sort()` which:
 - takes two pointers to float's (`pX` and `pY`).
 - if `*pX > *pY`, then swap their values.

```
// Sort calling example:  
float one = 100;  
float two = 12.5;  
sort(&one, &two);  
cout << "One = " << one  
      << ", Two = " << two  
      << endl;
```

```
One = 12.5  
Two = 100
```

Summary

- Pointers point to memory locations.
 - Declare: `int* pHeight = nullptr;`
 - Set: `pHeight = &someVariable;`
 - Use: `cout << *pHeight;`
- Pass-by-pointer allows changes to the arguments.