

Chapter 7 - Pointers

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Objectives

- In this chapter, you will learn:
 - To be able to use pointers.
 - To be able to use pointers to pass arguments to functions using call by reference.
 - To understand the close relationships among pointers and arrays.
 - To understand the use of pointers to functions.



7.1 Introduction

- Pointers
 - Powerful, but difficult to master
 - Simulate call-by-reference
 - Close relationship with arrays and strings

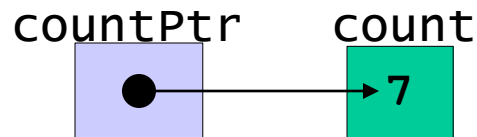


7.2 Pointer Variable Definitions and Initialization

- Pointer variables
 - Contain memory addresses as their values
 - Normal variables contain a specific value (direct reference)



- Pointers contain address of a variable that has a specific value (indirect reference)
- Indirection – referencing a pointer value



7.2 Pointer Variable Definitions and Initialization

- Pointer definitions

- * used with pointer variables

```
int *myPtr;
```

- Defines a pointer to an `int` (pointer of type `int *`)
- Multiple pointers require using a `*` before each variable definition

```
int *myPtr1, *myPtr2;
```

- Can define pointers to any data type
- Initialize pointers to `0`, `NULL`, or an address
 - `0` or `NULL` – points to nothing (`NULL` preferred)



7.3 Pointer Operators

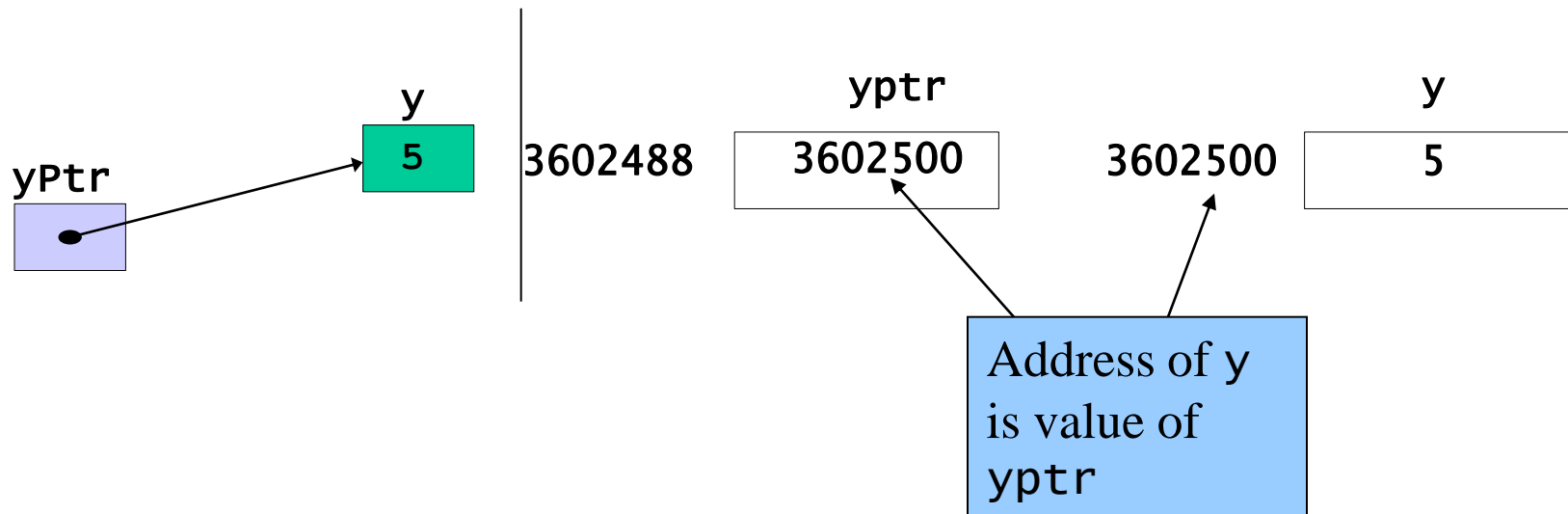
- & (address operator)
 - Returns address of operand

```
int y = 5;
```

```
int *yPtr;
```

```
yPtr = &y;    /* yPtr gets address of y */
```

```
yPtr "points to" y
```



7.3 Pointer Operators

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
int y = 5;
int *yPtr;
yPtr = &y;
printf("\ny=%d", y);
printf("\n*yPtr=%d", *yPtr);

printf("\n\n&y=%d", &y);
printf("\nyPtr=%d", yPtr);
printf("\n\n&yPtr=%d", &yPtr);
}
```

Program Output

```
y=5
*yPtr=5

&y=3602500
yPtr=3602500

&yPtr=3602488
```



7.3 Pointer Operators

- * (indirection/dereferencing operator)
 - Returns a synonym/alias of what its operand points to
 - *yPtr returns y (because yPtr points to y)
 - * can be used for assignment
 - Returns alias to an object

```
*yPtr = 7; /* changes y to 7 */
```

 - Dereferenced pointer (operand of *) must be an lvalue (no constants)
- * and & are inverses
 - They cancel each other out

```
printf("&*yPtr = %d", &*yPtr);  $\longrightarrow$  3602500
```





```
1  /*
2   Using the & and * operators */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int main()
6  {
7      int a;          /* a is an integer */
8      int *aPtr;     /* aPtr is a pointer to an integer */
9
10     a = 7;
11     aPtr = &a;     /* aPtr set to address of a */
12
13     printf( "The address of a is %p"
14            "\nThe value of aPtr is %p", &a, aPtr );
15
16     printf( "\n\nThe value of a is %d"
17            "\nThe value of *aPtr is %d", a, *aPtr );
18
19     printf( "\n\nShowing that * and & are complements of "
20            "each other\n&*aPtr = %p"
21            "\n*&aPtr = %p\n", &*aPtr, *&aPtr );
22
23     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
24
25 } /* end main */
```

The address of a is the value of aPtr.

The * operator returns an alias to what its operand points to. aPtr points to a, so *aPtr returns a.

Notice how * and & are inverses

```
The address of a is 0012FF7C  
The value of aPtr is 0012FF7C
```

```
The value of a is 7  
The value of *aPtr is 7
```

```
Showing that * and & are complements of each other.  
&*aPtr = 0012FF7C  
*&aPtr = 0012FF7C
```



Outline



Program Output

7.4 Calling Functions by Reference

- Call by reference with pointer arguments
 - Pass address of argument using & operator
 - Allows you to change actual location in memory
 - Arrays are not passed with & because the array name is already a pointer
- * operator
 - Used as alias/nickname for variable inside of function

```
void double( int *number )
{
    *number = 2 * ( *number );
}
```
 - `*number` used as nickname for the variable passed





Outline



fig07_06.c

```
1  /*
2     cube a variable using call-by-value */
3  #include <stdio.h>
4
5  int cubeByValue( int n ); /* prototype */
6
7  int main()
8  {
9     int number = 5; /* initialize number */
10
11    printf( "The original value of number is %d", number );
12
13    /* pass number by value to cubeByValue */
14    number = cubeByValue( number );
15
16    printf( "\nThe new value of number is %d\n", number );
17
18    return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
19
20 } /* end main */
21
22 /* calculate and return cube of integer argument */
23 int cubeByValue( int n )
24 {
25     return n * n * n; /* cube local variable n and return result */
26
27 } /* end function cubeByValue */
```



Outline



Program Output

```
The original value of number is 5  
The new value of number is 125
```



```
1  /*  
2     cube a variable using call-by-reference with a pointer argument */
```

Notice that the function prototype takes a pointer to an integer.

```
3  
4  #include <stdio.h>  
5  
6  void cubeByReference( int *nPtr ); /* prototype */  
7  
8  int main()  
9  {  
10     int number = 5; /* initialize number */  
11  
12     printf( "The original value of number is %d", number );  
13  
14     /* pass address of number to cubeByReference */  
15     cubeByReference( &number );  
16  
17     printf( "\nThe new value of number is %d\n", number );  
18  
19     return 0; /* indicates successful termination */  
20  
21 } /* end main */
```

Notice how the address of number is given - cubeByReference expects a pointer (an address of a variable).

```
22  
23 /* calculate cube of *nPtr; modifies variable number in main */  
24 void cubeByReference( int *nPtr )  
25 {  
26     *nPtr = *nPtr * *nPtr * *nPtr; /* cube *nPtr */  
27 } /* end function cubeByReference */
```

Inside cubeByReference, *nPtr is used (*nPtr is number).



Outline



Program Output

```
The original value of number is 5  
The new value of number is 125
```

Before main calls cubeByValue :

```
int main()
{
  int number = 5;
  number=cubeByValue(number);
}
```

number
5

```
int cubeByValue( int n )
{
  return n * n * n;
}
```

n
undefined

After cubeByValue receives the call:

```
int main()
{
  int number = 5;
  number = cubeByValue( number );
}
```

number
5

```
int cubeByValue( int n )
{
  return n * n * n;
}
```

n
5

After cubeByValue cubes parameter n and before cubeByValue returns to main :

```
int main()
{
  int number = 5;
  number = cubeByValue( number );
}
```

number
5

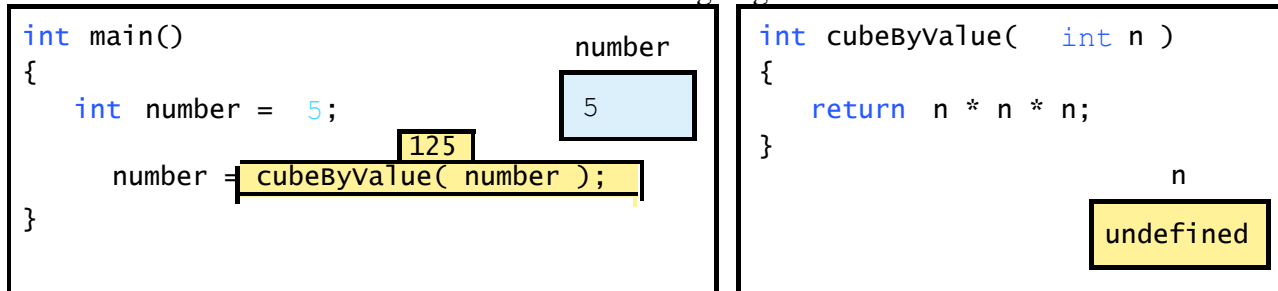
```
int cubeByValue( int n )
{
  return n * n * n;
}
```

125
n * n * n
n
5

Fig. 7.8 Analysis of a typical call-by-value. (Part 1 of 2.)



After `cubeByValue` returns to `main` and before assigning the result to `number`:



After `main` completes the assignment to `number`:

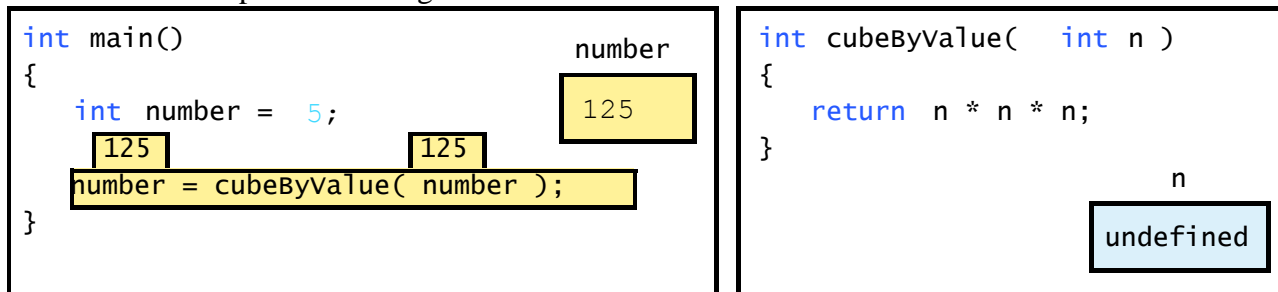
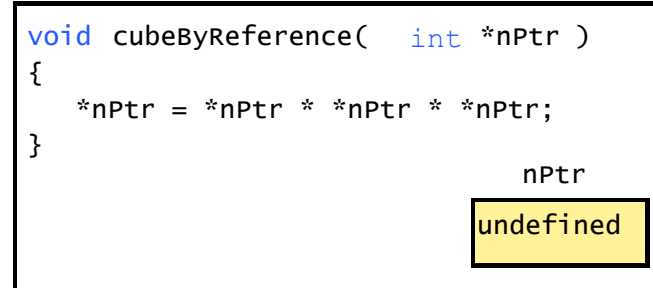
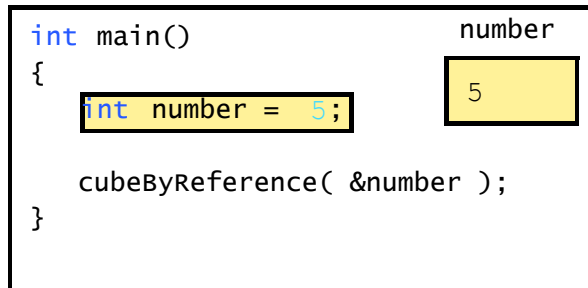


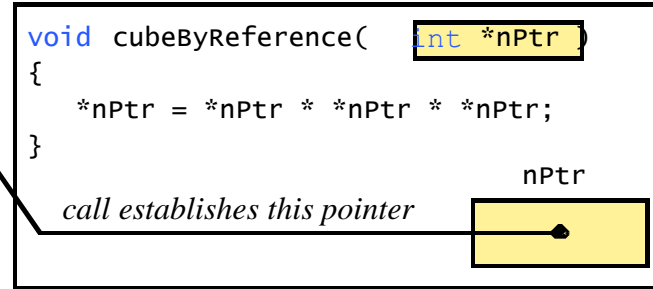
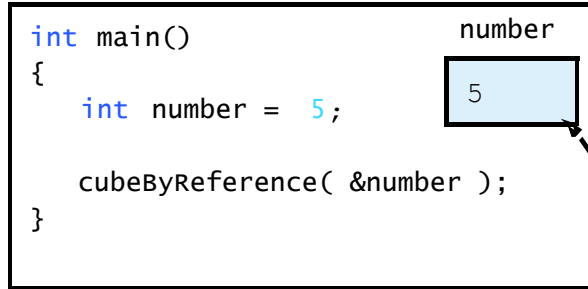
Fig. 7.8 Analysis of a typical call-by-value. (Part 2 of 2.)



Before main calls cubeByReference :



After cubeByReference receives the call and before *nPtr is cubed:



After *nPtr is cubed and before program control returns to main :

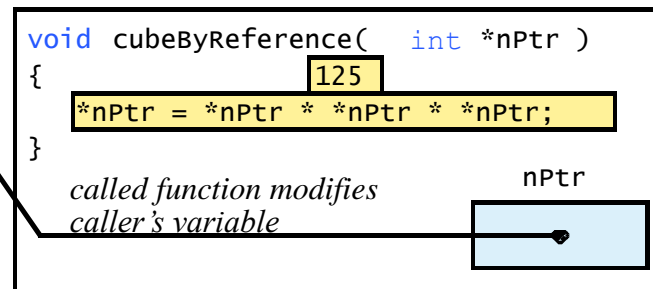
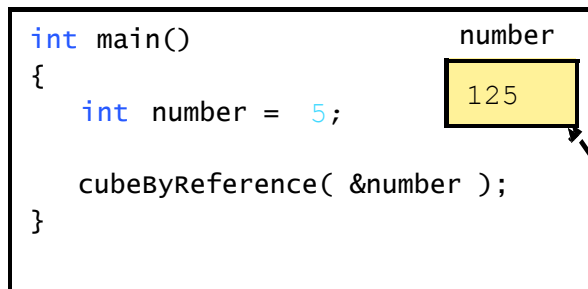


Fig. 7.9 Analysis of a typical call-by-reference with a pointer argument.



7.5 Bubble Sort Using Call-by-reference

- Implement bubblesort using pointers
 - Swap two elements
 - swap function must receive address (using `&`) of array elements
 - Array elements have call-by-value default
 - Using pointers and the `*` operator, swap can switch array elements



```

#include "stdafx.h"
void swap(int *p)
{
    int temp,i,j;
    for (i = 1; i < 7; i++)
    {
        for (j = 0; j < 6; j++)
        {
            if (*(p+j) > *(p+j+1))
            {
                temp = *(p + j);
                *(p + j) = *(p + j + 1);
                *(p + j + 1) = temp;
            }
        }
    }
}

```

Original Values

64 34 25 12 22 11 90

Sorted Values

11 12 22 25 34 64 90

```

void main()
{
    int arr[7] = { 64, 34, 25, 12, 22, 11, 90 }, i;
    printf("\nOriginal Values\n");
    for (i = 0; i < 7; i++)
        printf("%4d", arr[i]);
    swap(arr);
    printf("\nSorted Values\n");
    for (i = 0; i < 7; i++)
        printf("%4d", arr[i]);
}

```



7.6 Pointer Expressions and Pointer Arithmetic

- Arithmetic operations can be performed on pointers
 - Increment/decrement pointer (++ or --)
 - Add an integer to a pointer(+ or += , - or -=)
 - Operations meaningless unless performed on an array

`*p+=1;`
`++*p;`
`*p++;`

} all of them increments the value of the address in p by 1

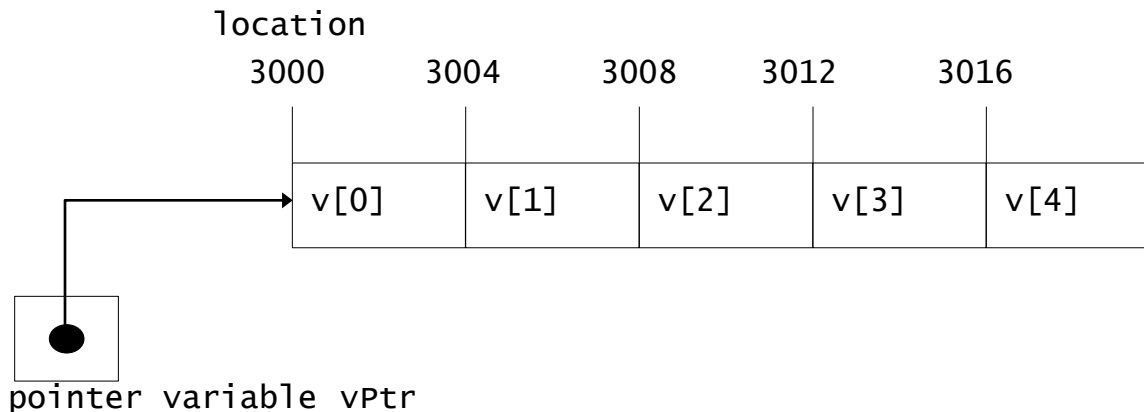
`*(p++);`

} is indicating the value of the NEXT address which p has



7.6 Pointer Expressions and Pointer Arithmetic

- 5 element `int` array on machine with 4 byte `ints`
 - `vPtr` points to first element `v[0]`
 - at location 3000 (`vPtr = 3000`)
 - `vPtr += 2;` sets `vPtr` to 3008
 - `vPtr` points to `v[2]` (incremented by 2), but the machine has 4 byte `ints`, so it points to address 3008



7.7 The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

- Arrays and pointers closely related
 - Array name like a constant pointer
 - Pointers can do array subscripting operations
- Define an array `b [5]` and a pointer `bPtr`
 - To set them equal to one another use:
 - `bPtr = b;`
 - The array name (`b`) is actually the address of first element of the array `b [5]`
 - `bPtr = &b [0]`
 - Explicitly assigns `bPtr` to address of first element of `b`



7.7 The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

- Element `b[3]`
 - Can be accessed by `*(bPtr + 3)`
 - Where `n` is the offset. Called pointer/offset notation
 - Can be accessed by `bptr[3]`
 - Called pointer/subscript notation
 - `bPtr[3]` same as `b[3]`
 - Can be accessed by performing pointer arithmetic on the array itself
 - `*(b + 3)`



7.7 The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

Given the declarations on the page 22

Elements / Values	
Array Notation	Pointer Notation
b[0]	*bPtr
b[1]	*(bPtr + 1)
b[2]	*(bPtr + 2)
b[3]	*(bPtr + 3)
b[4]	*(bPtr + 4)



7.7 The Relationship Between Pointers and Arrays

Given the declarations on the page 22

Addresses	
Array Notation	Pointer Notation
&b[0]	bPtr
&b[1]	(bPtr + 1)
&b[2]	(bPtr + 2)
&b[3]	(bPtr + 3)
&b[4]	(bPtr + 4)



```

1  /* Fig. 7.20: fig07_20.cpp
2     Using subscripting and pointer notations with arrays */
3
4  #include <stdio.h>
5
6  int main()
7  {
8     int b[] = { 10, 20, 30, 40 }; /* initialize array b */
9     int *bPtr = b;                /* set bPtr to point to array b */
10    int i;                          /* counter */
11    int offset;                     /* counter */
12
13    /* output array b using array subscript notation */
14    printf( "Array b printed with:\nArray subscript notation\n" );
15
16    /* loop through array b */
17    for ( i = 0; i < 4; i++ ) {
18        printf( "b[ %d ] = %d\n", i, b[ i ] );
19    } /* end for */
20
21    /* output array b using array name and pointer/offset notation */
22    printf( "\nPointer/offset notation where\n"
23           "the pointer is the array name\n" );
24

```



Outline



fig07_20.c (Part 1 of 2)

```

25  /* loop through array b */
26  for ( offset = 0; offset < 4; offset++ ) {
27      printf( "( b + %d ) = %d\n", offset, *( b + offset ) );
28  } /* end for */
29
30  /* output array b using bPtr and array subscript notation */
31  printf( "\nPointer subscript notation\n" );
32
33  /* loop through array b */
34  for ( i = 0; i < 4; i++ ) {
35      printf( "bPtr[ %d ] = %d\n", i, bPtr[ i ] );
36  } /* end for */
37
38  /* output array b using bPtr and pointer/offset notation */
39  printf( "\nPointer/offset notation\n" );
40
41  /* loop through array b */
42  for ( offset = 0; offset < 4; offset++ ) {
43      printf( "( bPtr + %d ) = %d\n", offset, *( bPtr + offset ) );
44  } /* end for */
45
46  return 0; /* indicates successful termination */
47
48 } /* end main */

```



Outline



fig07_20.c (Part 2 of 2)

Array b printed with:
Array subscript notation

```
b[ 0 ] = 10  
b[ 1 ] = 20  
b[ 2 ] = 30  
b[ 3 ] = 40
```

Pointer/offset notation where
the pointer is the array name

```
*( b + 0 ) = 10  
*( b + 1 ) = 20  
*( b + 2 ) = 30  
*( b + 3 ) = 40
```

Pointer subscript notation

```
bPtr[ 0 ] = 10  
bPtr[ 1 ] = 20  
bPtr[ 2 ] = 30  
bPtr[ 3 ] = 40
```

Pointer/offset notation

```
*( bPtr + 0 ) = 10  
*( bPtr + 1 ) = 20  
*( bPtr + 2 ) = 30  
*( bPtr + 3 ) = 40
```



Outline



Program Output

7.9 Exercises

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int x = 1, y = 2;
    int *ip;
    ip = &x;
    y = *ip;
    *ip = 3;
    printf("x=%d\ny=%d\n*ip=%d",x,y,*ip);
}
```

Answer: x=3 y=1 *p=3



```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int x=1,*p;
    p=&x;
    *p=*p+10;
    printf("x=%d *p=%d\n",x,*p);
}
```

Answer: x=11 *p=11



```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int a=3,b,*pa,*pb;
    pa=&a;
    b=*pa;
    pb=&b;
    printf("a=%d\nb=%d\n*pa=%d\n*pb=%d\n",a,b,*pa,*pb);

}
```

Answer: a=3 b=3 *pa=3 *pb=3




```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int a,b,c=3,*p;
    p=&c;
    a=2*(c+*p);
    b=*p+4;
    printf("a=%d b=%d\n",a,b);
}
```

Answer: a=12 b=7



```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int a=1,b=2,*p;
    printf("a=%d b=%d\n",a,b);
    p=&a;
    *p=6;
    printf("a=%d b=%d\n",a,b);
    p=&b;
    *p=0;
    printf("a=%d b=%d\n",a,b);
}
```

Answer:

a=1 b=2

a=6 b=2

a=6 b=0



```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int myarray[4] = {1,2,3,0};
    int *ptr = myarray;
    printf("*ptr=%d\n", *ptr);
}
```

Answer: *ptr=1



```
void main()
{
    int a[]={2,4,3,1,6,7},i,*p;
    p=a;

    for(i=0;i<6;i++)
    printf("%4d",a[i]);
    printf("\n\n");

    p=p+2;
    *p=*a+3;
    for(i=0;i<6;i++)
    printf("%4d",*(a+i));
    printf("\n\n");

    *(p+2)=*(a+1) * 2;
    for(i=0;i<6;i++)
    printf("%4d",*(a+i));
    printf("\n\n");
}
```

2	4	3	1	6	7
2	4	5	1	6	7
2	4	5	1	8	7



```
include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int myarray[4]= {1,2,3,0}, *p, *x;
    p = myarray;
    x = p;
    p = p + 1;
    printf("*p = %d, *x = %d\n", *p, *x);
}
```

Answer: *p = 2, *x = 1



CALL BY VALUE

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void func(int p)
{
    p=p+2;
}
void main()
{

    int x=5;
    printf("before x=%d\n",x);
    func(x);
    printf("after x=%d\n",x);
}
```

CALL BY REFERENCE

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void func(int *p)
{
    *p=*p+2;
}
void main()
{

    int x=5;
    printf("before x=%d\n",x);
    func(&x);
    printf("after x=%d\n",x);
}
```

before x=5
after x=5

before x=5
after x=7



```

#include "stdafx.h"
void func(int *p)
{
    for(int i=0;i<5;i++)
        *(p+i)=*(p+i)*2;
}
void main()
{
    int x[]={5,6,7,8,9};
    printf("before \n");
    for(int i=0;i<5;i++)
        printf("%4d", *(x+i));
    func(x);
    printf("\nafter \n");
    for(int i=0;i<5;i++)
        printf("%4d", *(x+i));
}

```

before

5 6 7 8 9

after

10 12 14 16 18



What will be the output?

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void test(int *px, int *py, int pz)
{
    *px+=5;
    printf("%3d + %3d + %3d = %3d\n",*px,*py,pz, *px+*py+pz);
    *py+=(*px)++;
    printf("%3d + %3d + %3d = %3d\n",*px,*py,pz, *px+*py+pz);
    pz=((*py)+=2)*3;
    printf("%3d + %3d + %3d = %3d\n",*px,*py,pz, *px+*py+pz);
}

void main()
{
    int x=-3,y=6,z=2;
    printf("%3s%6s%6s%9s\n","x","y","z","x+y+z");
    printf("-----\n");
    printf("%3d + %3d + %3d = %3d\n",x,y,z,x+y+z);
    test(&x,&y,z);
    printf("%3d + %3d + %3d = %3d\n",x,y,z,x+y+z);
    getch();
}
```



What will be the output?

```
#include "stdafx.h"
void main()
{
    int u1,u2,i;
    int list[5]={10,15,20,25,30};
    int *ip;
    ip=list+2;
    printf("The Address of ip : %d \t ",ip);
    printf("Value of ip : %d \n ",*ip);
    for (int i=0;i<5;i++)
        printf("LIST [%d]:%d \t ",i,list[i]);
    ip=ip-1;
    printf("\n\nThe Address of ip : %d \t ",ip);
    printf("Value of ip : %d \n ",*ip);

    *(ip+2)=*ip;
    printf("\n\nThe Address of ip : %d \t ",ip);
    printf("Value of ip : %d \n ",*ip);

    for (i=0;i<5;i++)
        printf("LIST [%d] :%d \t ",i,list[i]);
    *(list+4)=*(ip-1)+2;
    printf("\n \n The Address of ip : %d \t ",ip);
    printf("Value of ip : %d \n ",*ip);

    for (i=0;i<5;i++)
        printf("LIST [%d] :%d \t ",i,list[i]);
}
```

