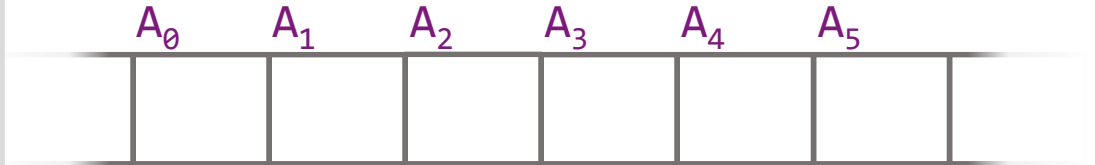
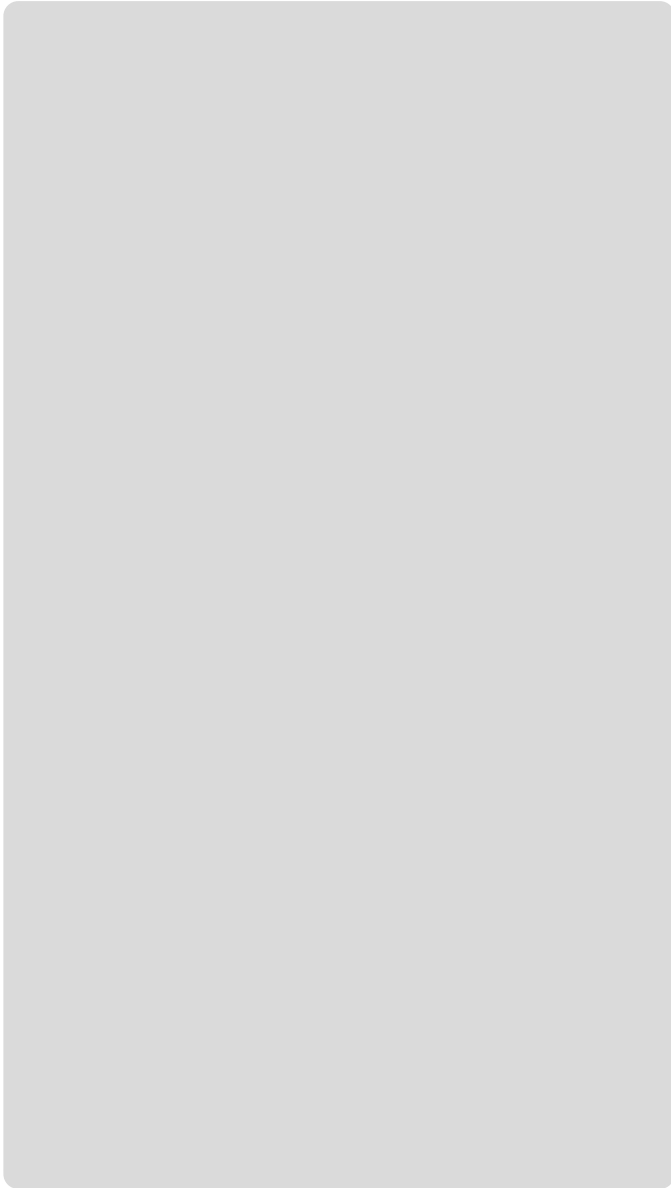


# Recap: Pointers

`int*` `int&` `*p` `&i` `&*&*` 

# Step-by-Step Example

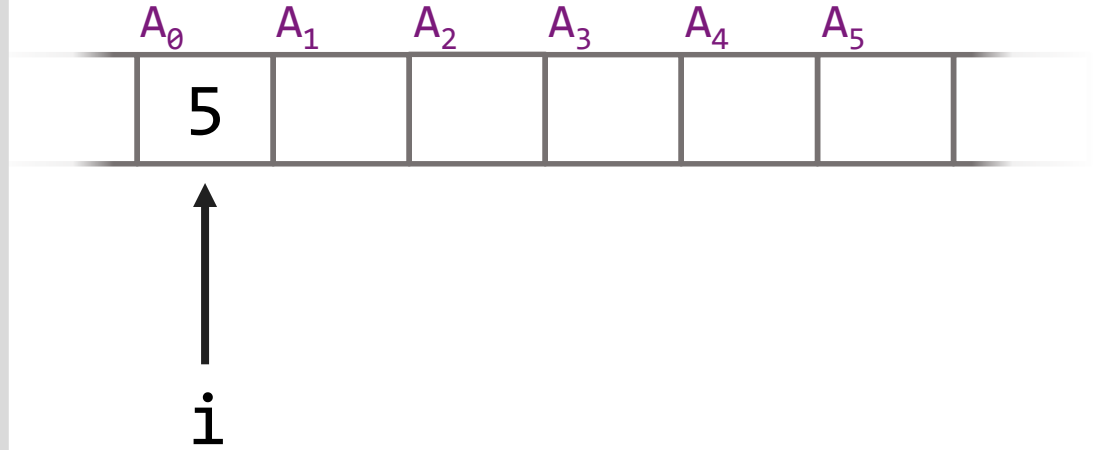
---



# Step-by-Step Example

---

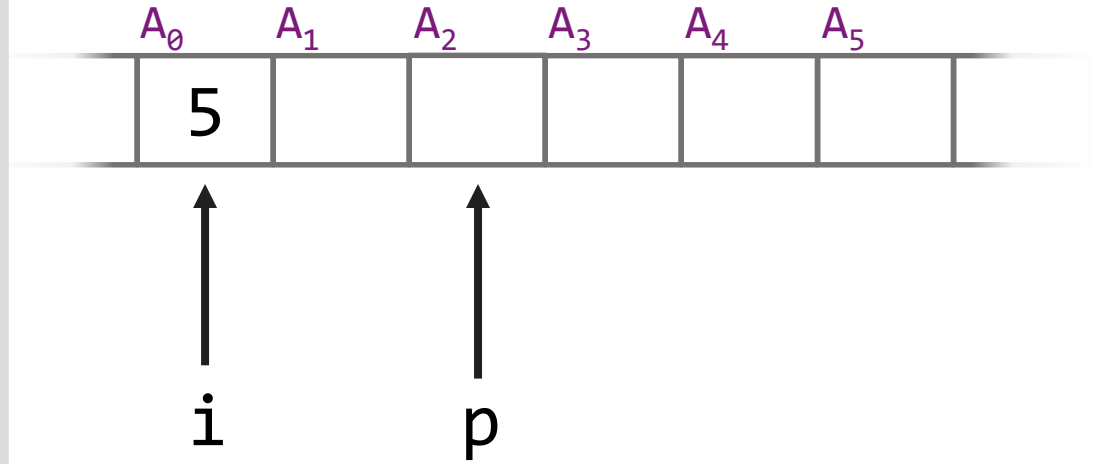
▶ `int i = 5;`



# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p;
```

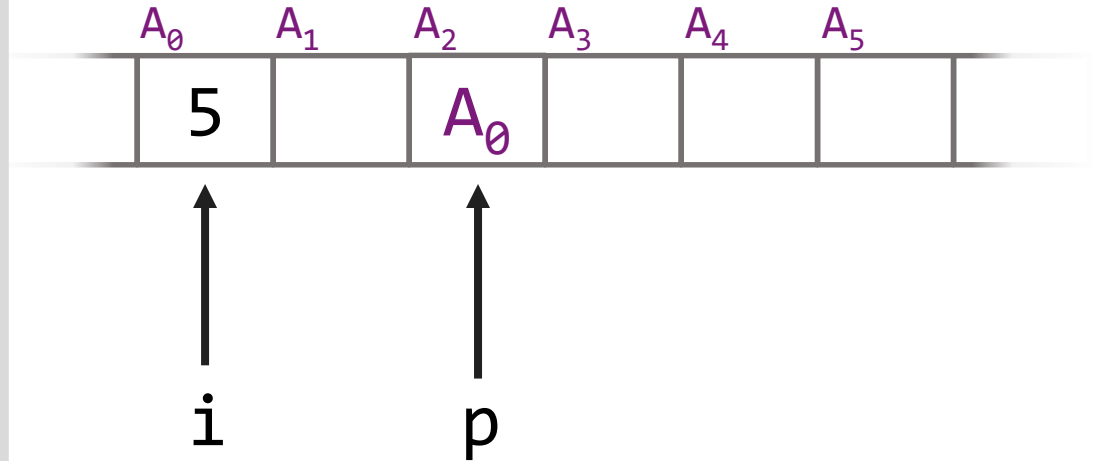


# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p;
```

```
▶ p = &i;
```



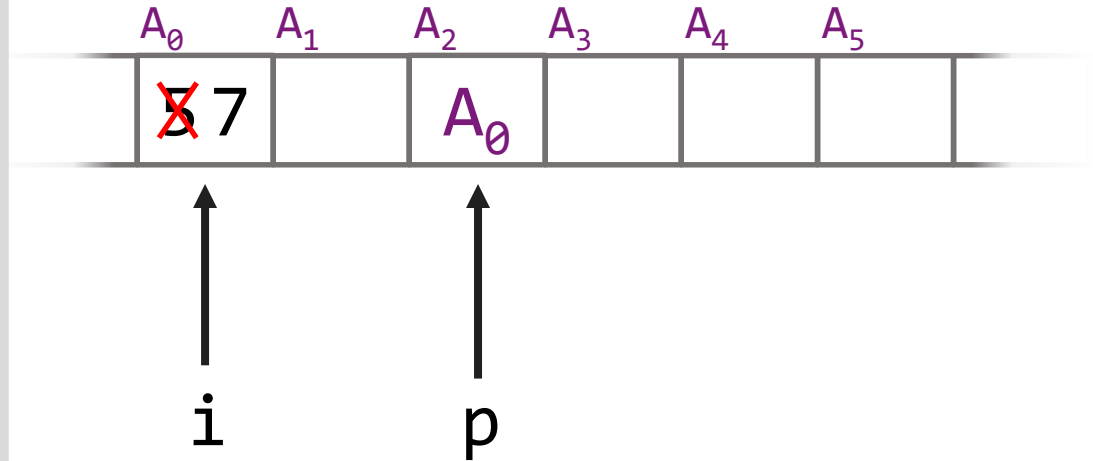
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p;
```

```
p = &i;
```

```
▶ *p = 7;
```



# Step-by-Step Example

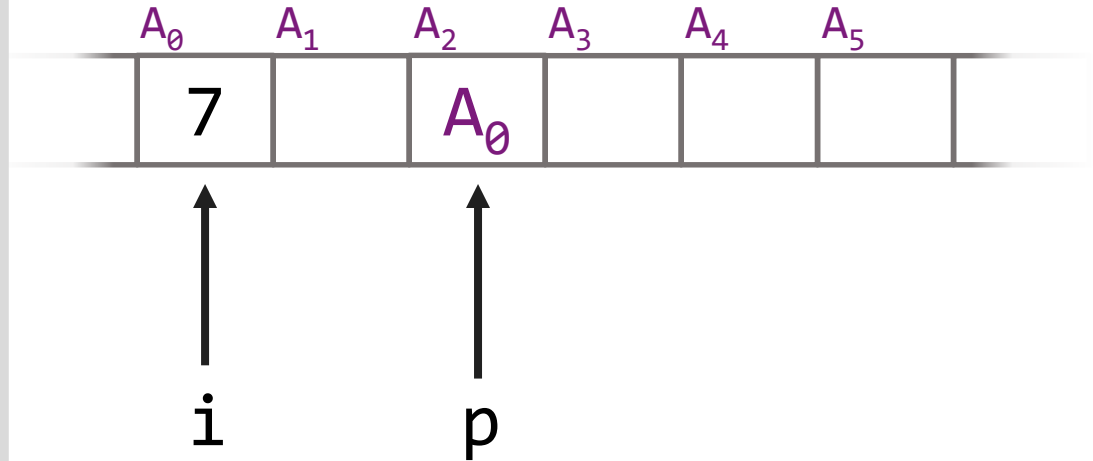
```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p;
```

```
p = &i;
```

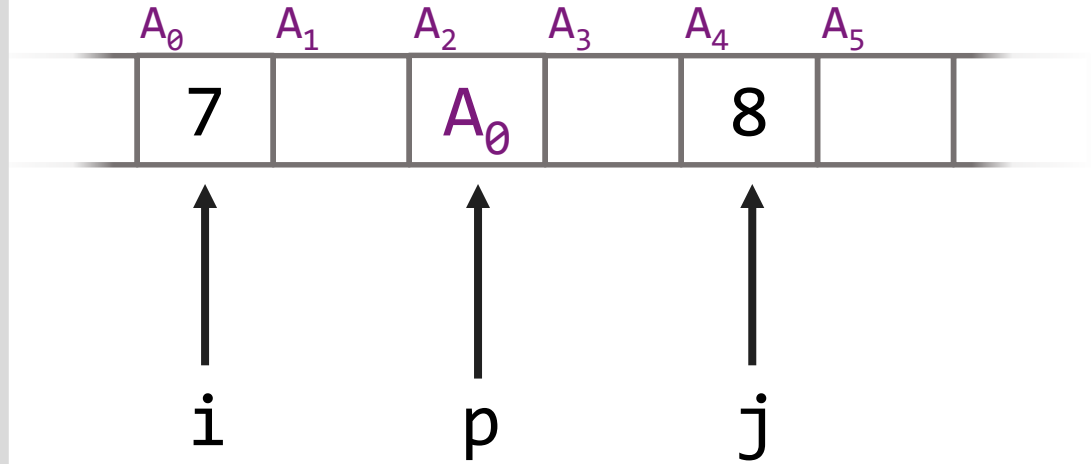
```
*p = 7;
```

```
▶ cout << i; // 7
```



# Step-by-Step Example

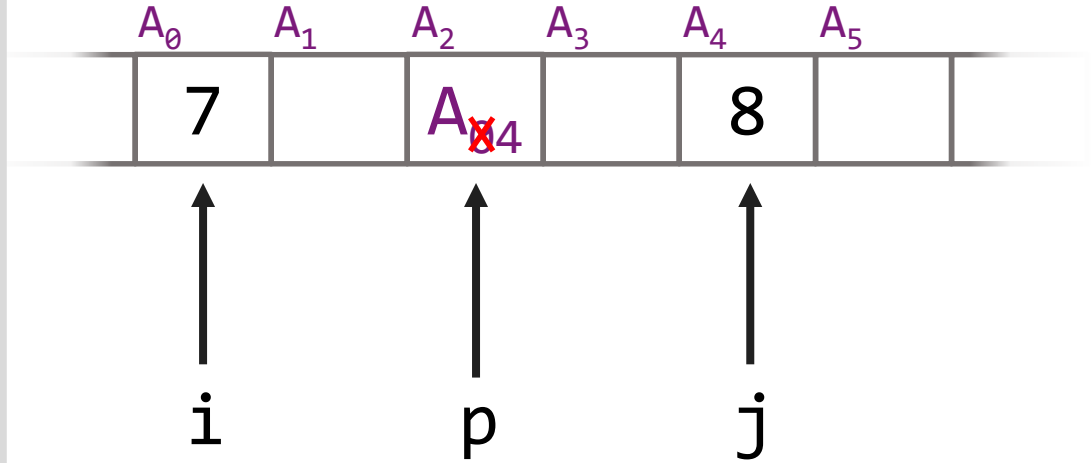
```
int i = 5;  
int* p;  
p = &i;  
*p = 7;  
cout << i; // 7  
int j = *p + 1;
```





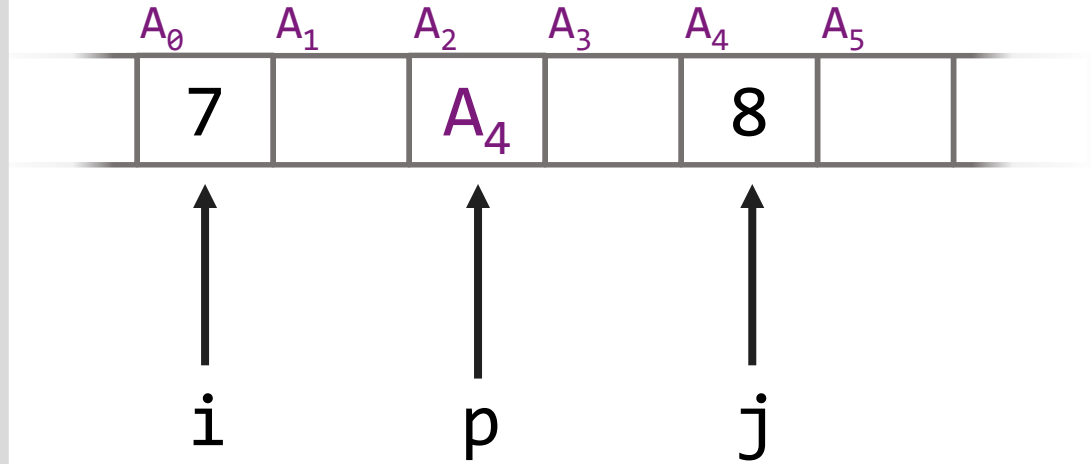
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;  
int* p;  
p = &i;  
*p = 7;  
cout << i; // 7  
int j = *p + 1;  
p = &j;
```



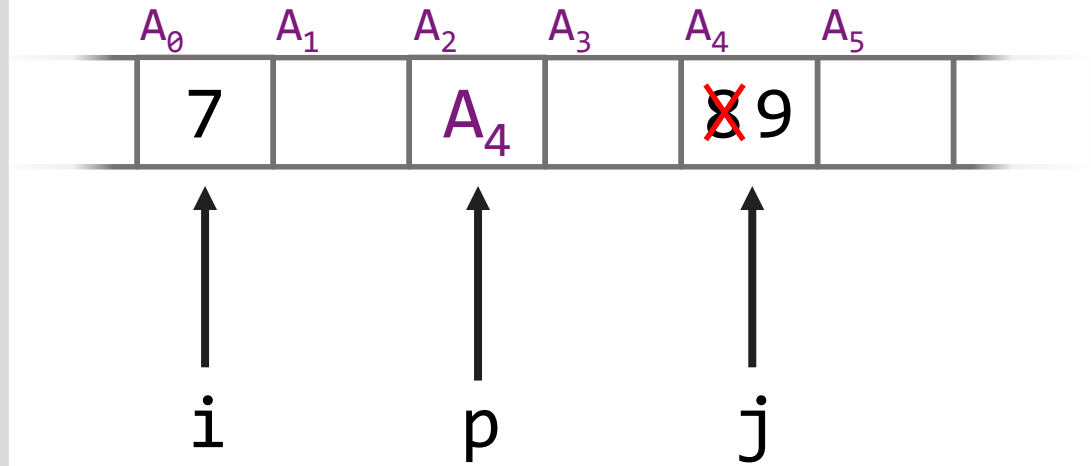
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
int* p;
p = &i;
*p = 7;
cout << i; // 7
int j = *p + 1;
p = &j;
cout << *p; // 8
```



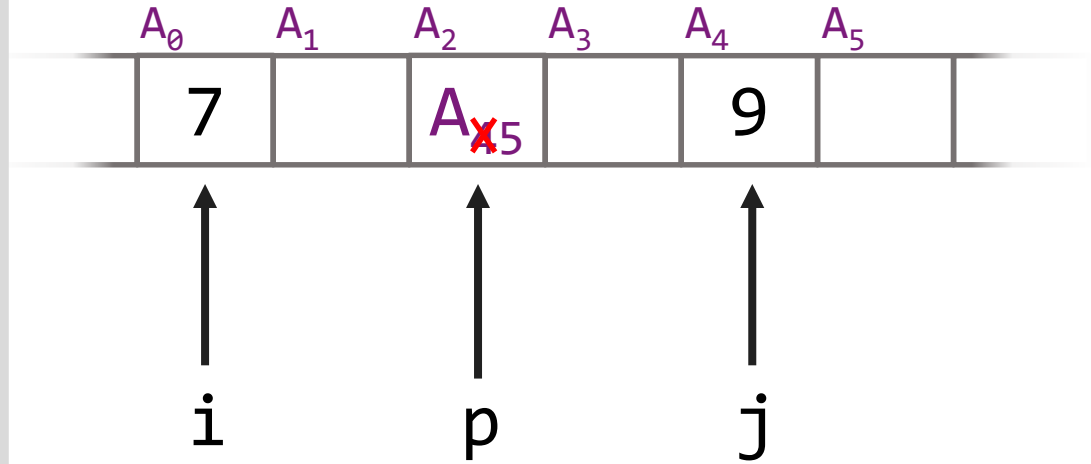
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
int* p;
p = &i;
*p = 7;
cout << i; // 7
int j = *p + 1;
p = &j;
cout << *p; // 8
(*p)++;
```



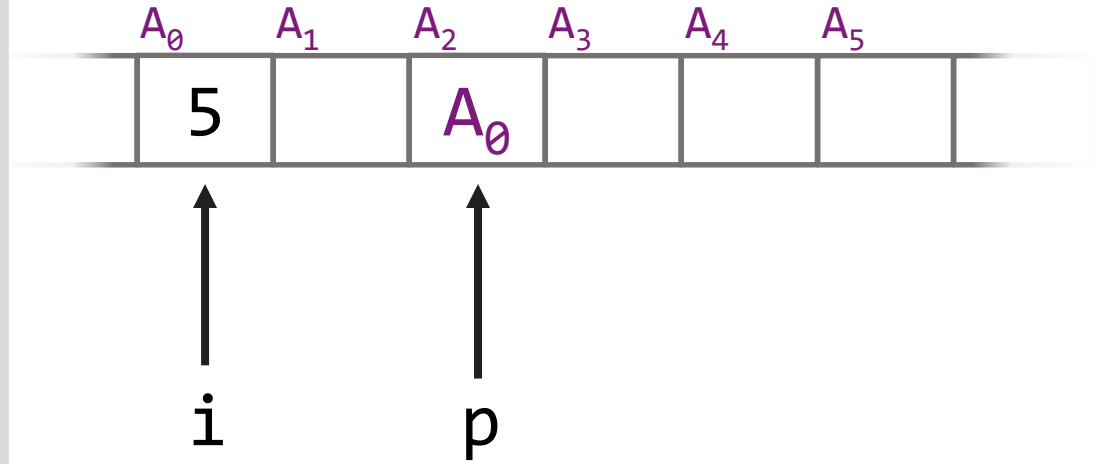
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
int* p;
p = &i;
*p = 7;
cout << i; // 7
int j = *p + 1;
p = &j;
cout << *p; // 8
(*p)++;
p++;
```



# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;  
int* p = &i;
```

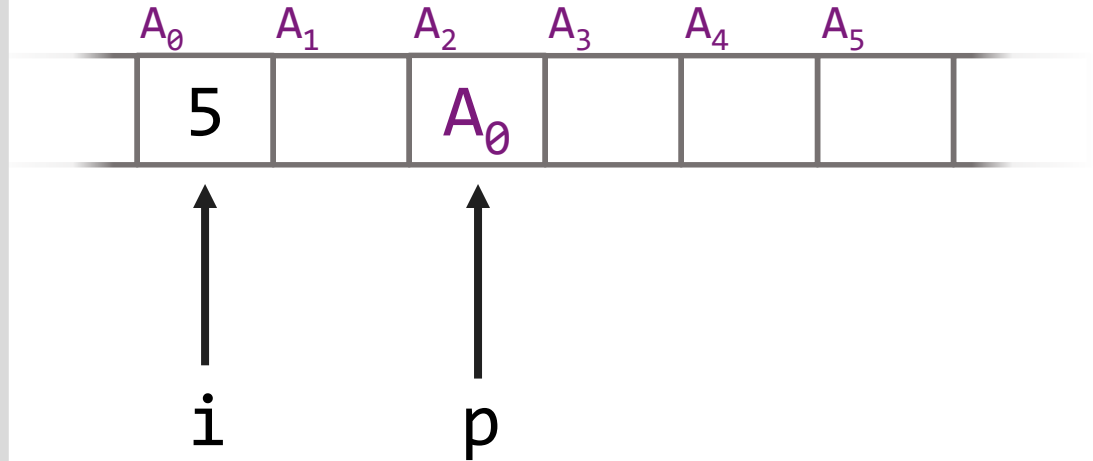


# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;
```

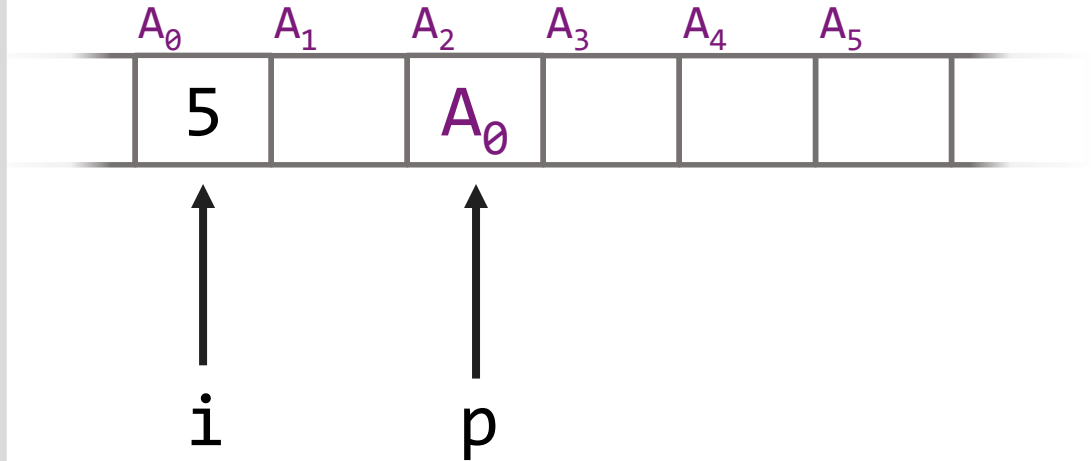
```
int* p = &i;
```

```
cout << p; // A0
```



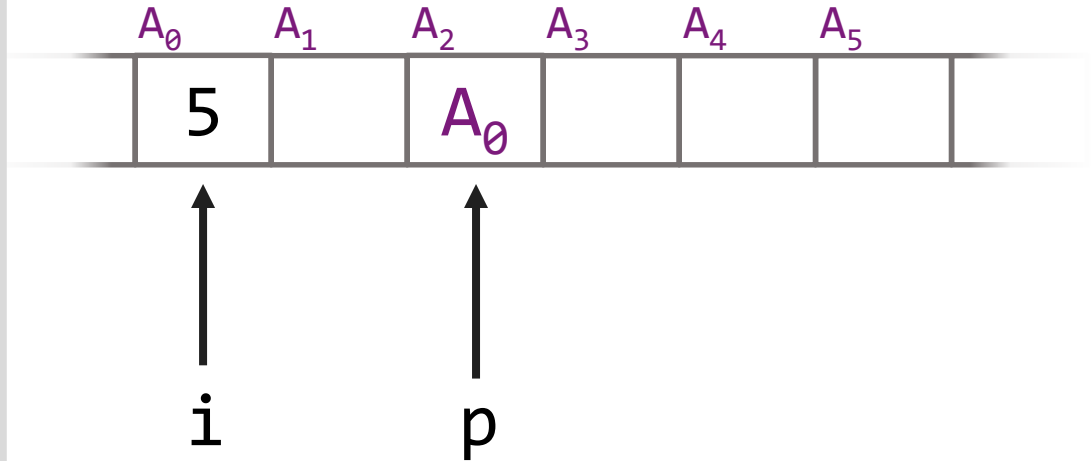
# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;  
int* p = &i;  
cout << p; // A0  
cout << *p; // 5
```



# Step-by-Step Example

```
int i = 5;  
int* p = &i;  
cout << p; // A0  
cout << *p; // 5  
cout << &p; // A2
```





**Recap:**

# **Pointers vs. References**

# Pointers vs. References

---

```
int i = 5;  
  
int* p = &i;      int& r = i;
```

Declaration and initialisation

# Pointers vs. References

---

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
*p = 0; // i = 0
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = 0; // i = 0
```

Declaration and initialisation

Writing to underlying variable

# Pointers vs. References

---

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
*p = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << *p; // 0
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << r; // 0
```

Declaration and initialisation

Writing to underlying variable

Reading underlying variable

# Pointers vs. References

---

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
*p = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << *p; // 0
```

```
int* p;  
p = &i;
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << r; // 0
```

```
int& r;  
r = i;
```

Declaration and initialisation

Writing to underlying variable

Reading underlying variable

References must be initialised immediately

# Pointers vs. References

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
*p = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << *p; // 0
```

```
int* p;  
p = &i;
```

```
int* p = &i;  
p = &j;
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << r; // 0
```

```
int& r;  
r = i;
```

```
int& r = i;  
r = j;
```

Declaration and initialisation

Writing to underlying variable

Reading underlying variable

References must be initialised immediately

References *themselves* cannot be changed (“redirected”)

# Pointers vs. References

```
int i = 5;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
*p = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << *p; // 0
```

```
int* p;
```

```
p = &i;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
p = &j;
```

```
int* p = &i;
```

```
cout << &p;
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = 0; // i = 0
```

```
cout << r; // 0
```

```
int& r;
```

```
r = i;
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
r = j;
```

```
int& r = i;
```

```
cout << &r;
```

Declaration and initialisation

Writing to underlying variable

Reading underlying variable

References must be initialised immediately

References *themselves* cannot be changed (are always const)

References don't have addresses (they are just aliases of sth. else)

# Why Pointers and References?



# Why Pointers *and* References?

---

## Historical language development:

- C: 1969; has pointers
- C++: 1983
  - Inherited pointers from C (backwards compatibility)
  - Added references to support *operator overloading* (i.e. << from streams; later in the course)

## Rule of thumb: prefer references over pointers

- References are more restricted → harder to make mistakes
- Reference syntax is nicer (r vs \*p) → easier to read

# Why Pointers *and* References?

## When do we *need* pointers?

- Fast(er) *iteration over data*: e.g. arrays (last week) and containers (today)
- *Complex data structures* that *change* over time (later in the course): e.g. graphs

