

Array Pointers (1A)

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Assumption

assume that

value(c) returns the hexadecimal number that is obtained by `printf("%p", c)`, when the variable `c` contains an address as its value

type(c) can be determined by the warning message of `printf("%d", c)`, when the variable `c` contains an address as its value

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    int c[3];
    printf ("c= %p \n", &c);
}
```

`c= 0x7fffd923487c`

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    int c[3];
    printf ("c= %d \n", &c);
}
```

t.c: In function 'main':
t.c:5:16: warning: format '%d' expects argument of type 'int',
but argument 2 has type 'int (*)[3]' [-Wformat=]
printf ("c= %d \n", &c);

Array Pointers v.s. Pointer Arrays

Array pointers and pointer arrays

1. **array pointer p** – a pointer to an array of **int [4]** type

```
int (*p) [4];
```

2. **pointer array x** – an array of pointers of **int *** type

```
int *x [4];
```

Types of array pointer **p** and pointer arrays **y**

array pointer:
a pointer to an array

int **(*p)** **[4]** ;

(*p) is an array with 4 elements
each element is an integer
p is a pointer to such an array

the type of **(*p)** : **int [4]**
the type of **p** : **int (*) [4]**

pointer array:
an array of pointers

int * **y** **[4]** ;

y is an array with 4 elements
each element is an integer pointer

the type of **y** : **int * [4]**

[] has a higher priority than *****

(*p) must be grouped with **[4]**
y must be grouped with **[4]**

Types of array elements $(*p)[i]$ and $y[i]$

array pointer:
a pointer to an array

`int (*p)[4];`

$(*p)[i]$

in a statement

$(*p)$ is an array with 4 elements
 $(*p)[0], (*p)[1], (*p)[2], (*p)[3]$
the type of elements : `int`

pointer array:
an array of pointers

`int *y[4];`

$y[i]$

in a statement

y is an array with 4 elements
 $y[0], y[1], y[2], y[3]$
the type of elements : `int *`

`int *y[4];`

$*y[i]$

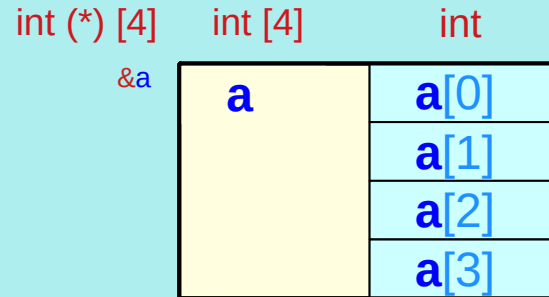
in a statement

y is an array with 4 elements
 $*y[0], *y[1], *y[2], *y[3]$
the type of dereferenced elements : `int`

Array pointer **p**, array ***p**, integer **(*p)[i]**

integer array:
an array of integers

```
int a [4];
```

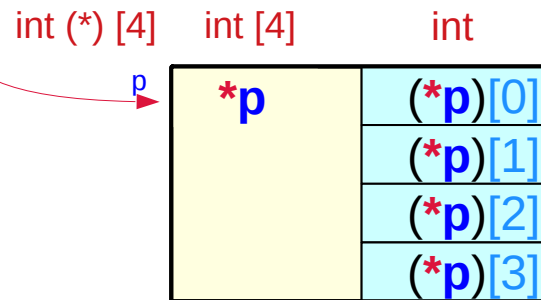
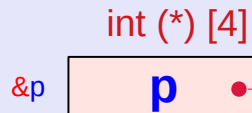


```
p = &a;
```

`*p ≡ a`

array pointer:
a pointer to an array

```
int (*p) [4];
```

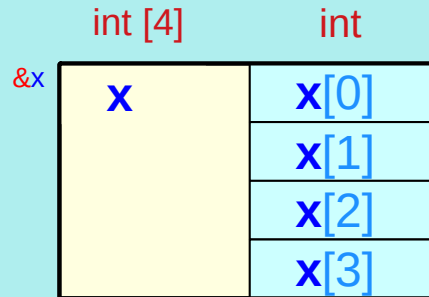


`(*p)[i] ≠ *p[i]`
parenthesis is necessary

Pointer array **y**, integer pointer **y[i]**, integer ***y[i]**

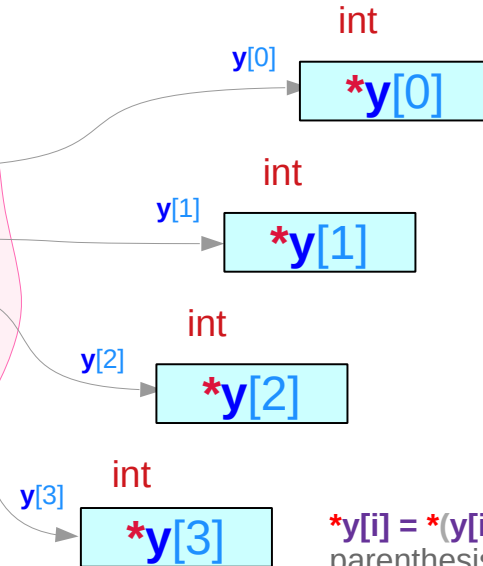
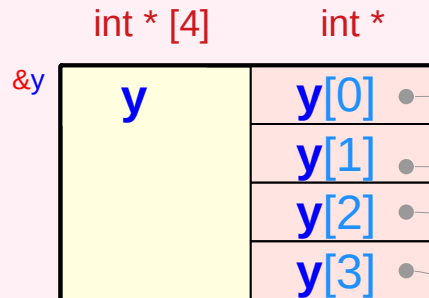
integer array:
an array of integers

```
int x[4];
```



pointer array:
an array of pointers

```
int * y[4];
```



***y[i] = *(y[i])**
parenthesis is not necessary

Array pointers **p** v.s. pointer arrays **y**

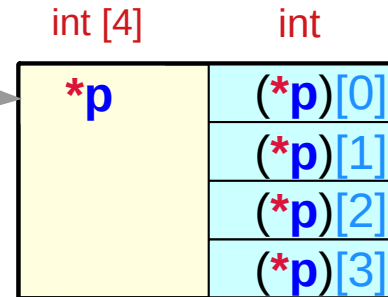
int (*) [4]
 &p **p**

array pointer:
 a pointer to an array

```
int (*p) [4];
```

p = &x; *p ≡ x

```
int x [4];
```



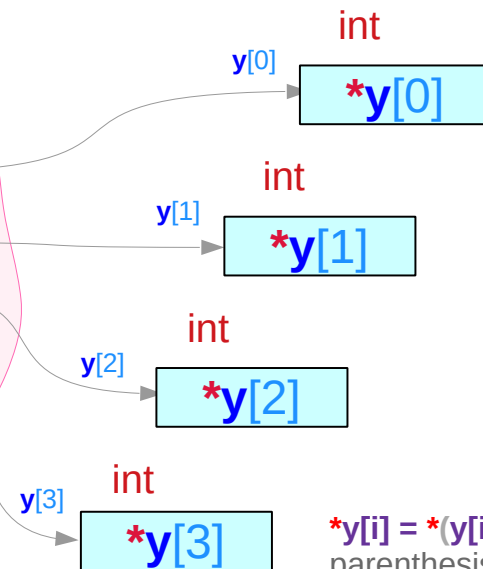
(*p)[i] ≠ *p[i]
 parenthesis is necessary

int * [4] int *

&y **y**

pointer array:
 an array of pointers

```
int * y [4];
```



*y[i] = *(y[i])
 parenthesis is not necessary

Array pointers **p** v.s. array pointer **q**

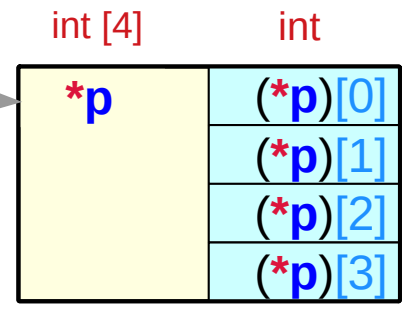
int (*) [4]
&p

p

array pointer:
a pointer to an array

int (*p) [4];

p = &x; *p ≡ x



int x [4];

(*p)[i] ≠ *p[i]
parenthesis is necessary

int * y [4];

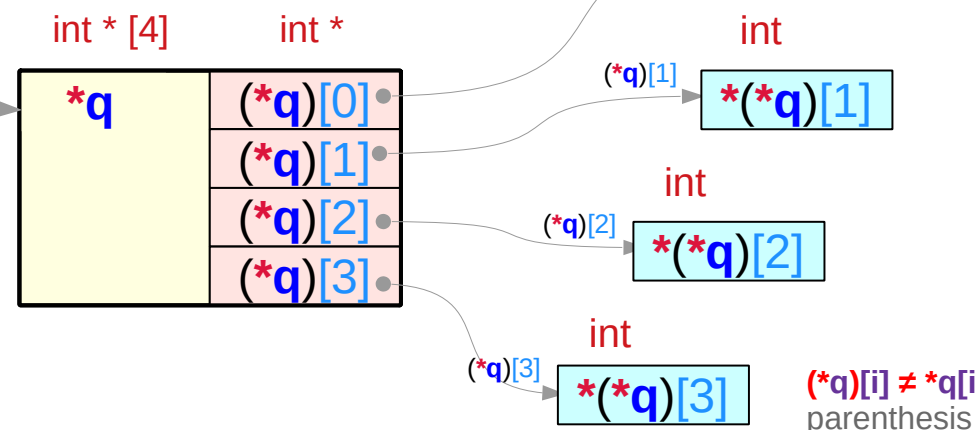
int * (*) [4]
&q

q

array pointer:
a pointer to an array

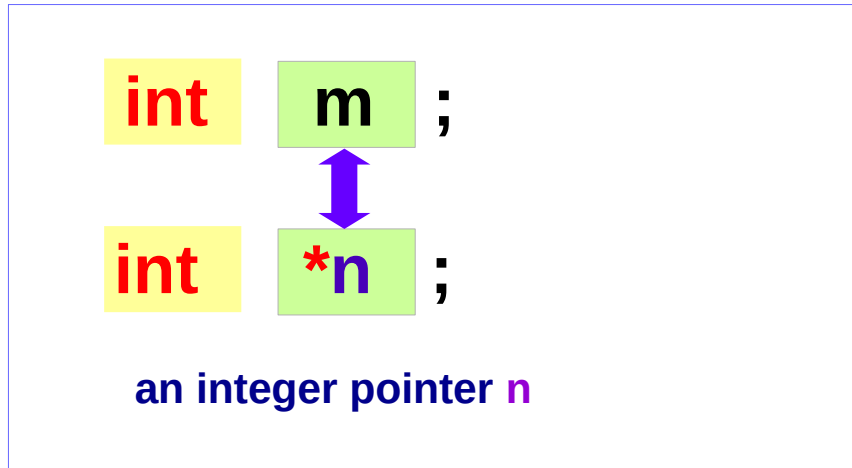
int * (*q) [4];

q = &y; *q ≡ y



(*q)[i] ≠ *q[i]
parenthesis is necessary

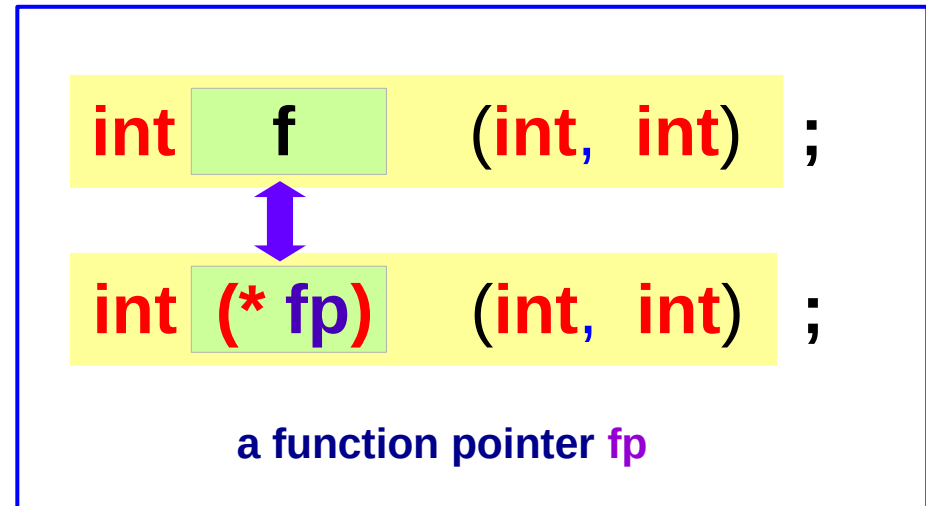
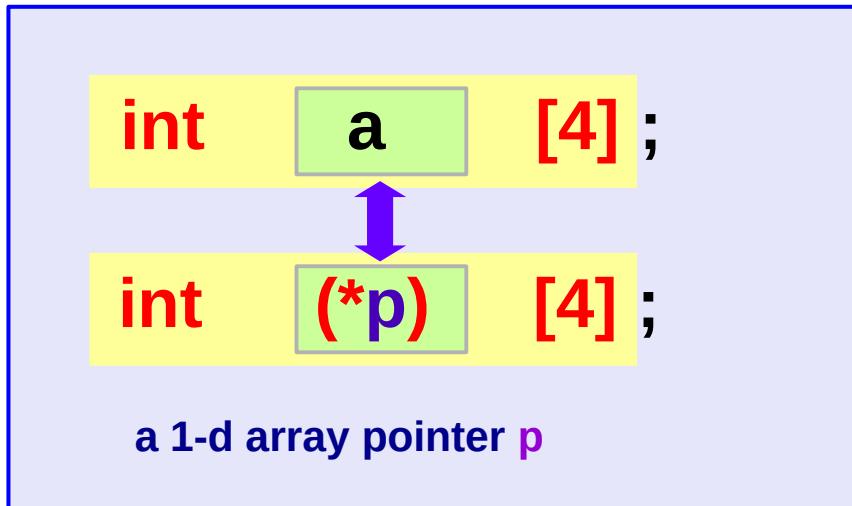
Correspondence of pointer dereference $*n$, $*p$, $*fp$



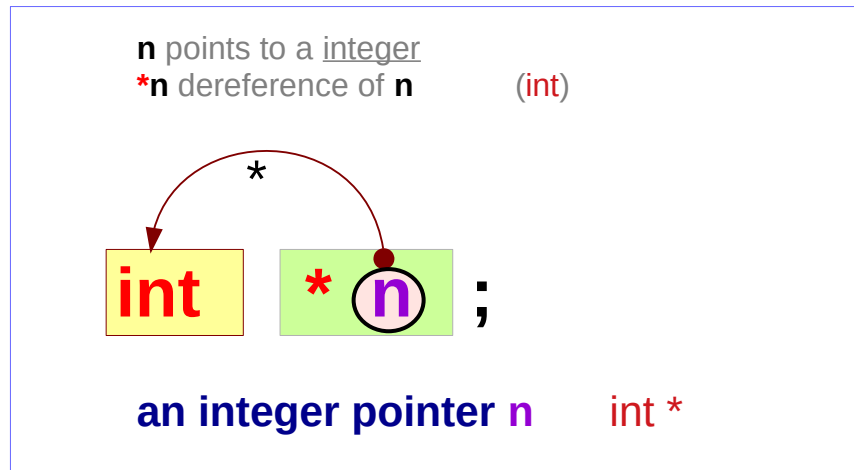
m and $*n$: an integer (`int`)

a and $*p$: a 1-d array (`int [4]`)
with 4 integer elements

f and $*fp$: a function (`int (int, int)`)
taking two integers
returning an integer



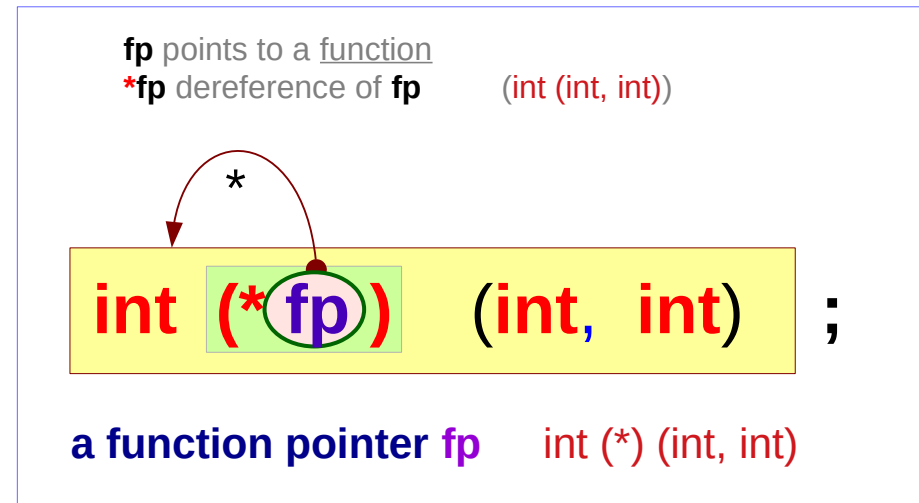
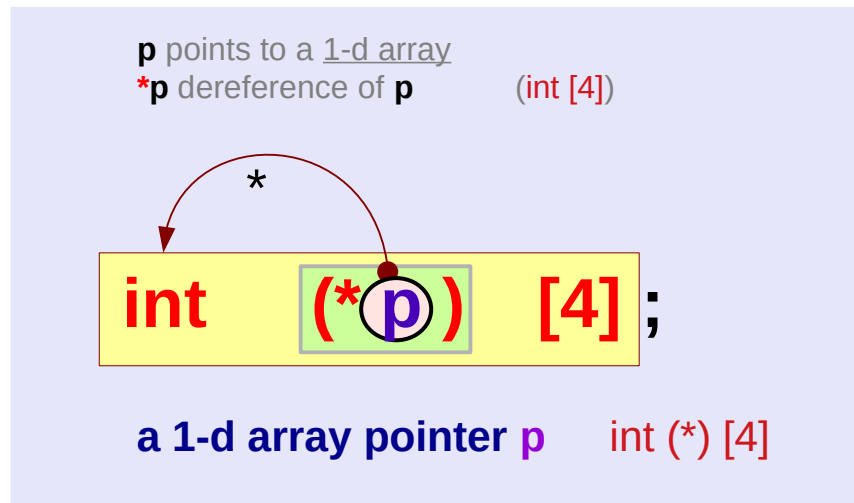
Variables and pointed types



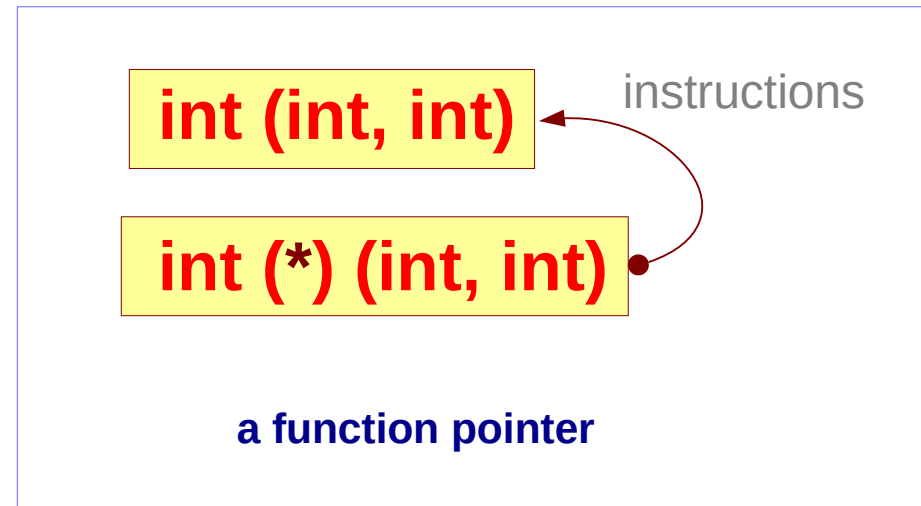
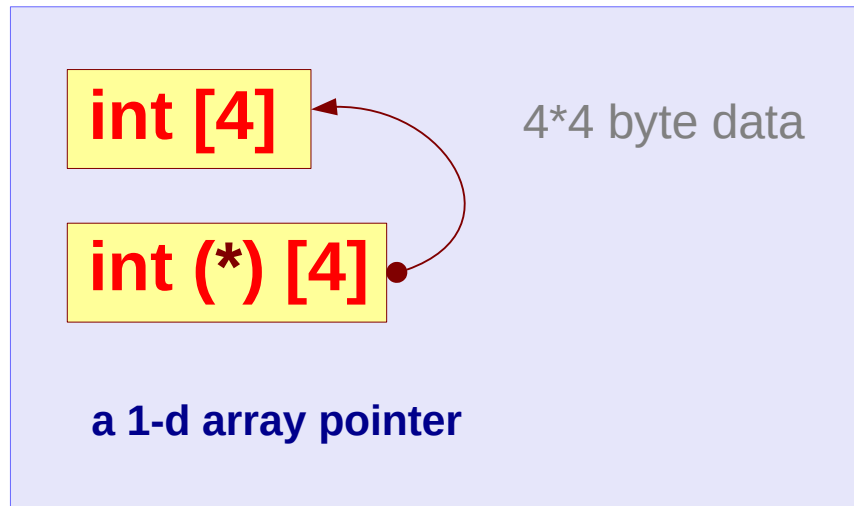
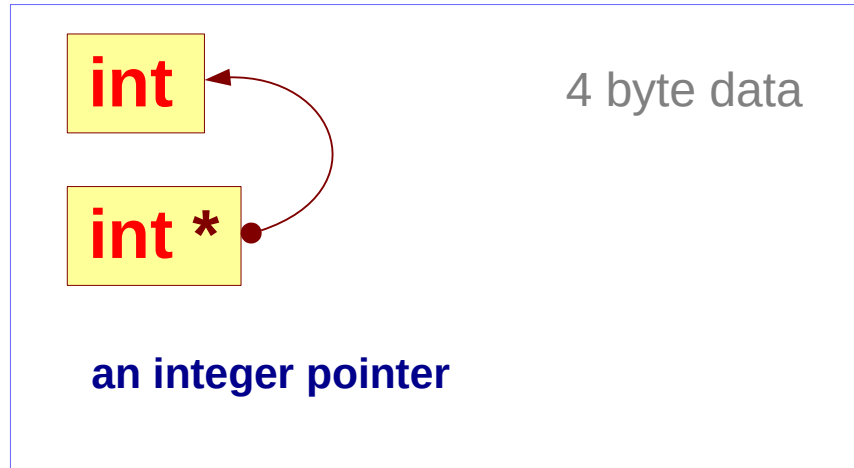
n points to an integer

p points to a **1-d array**
that has 4 integer elements

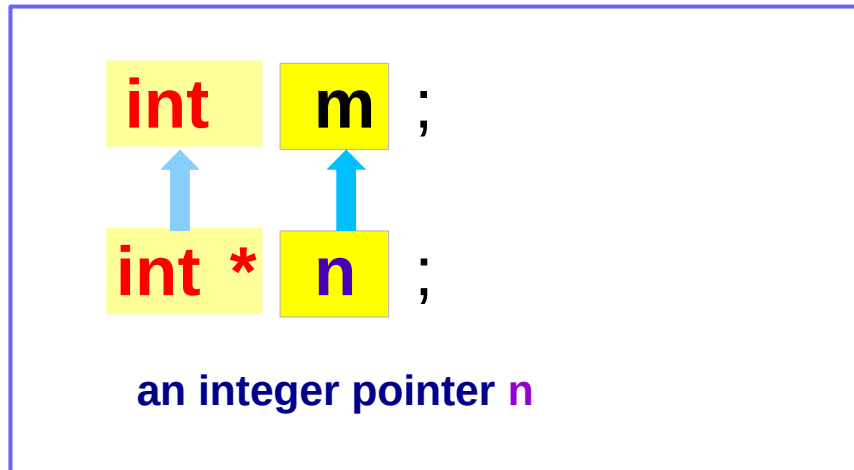
fp points to a **function**
that takes two integers
returns an integer



Referring and referenced types



Correspondence of pointer reference n , $y[i]$

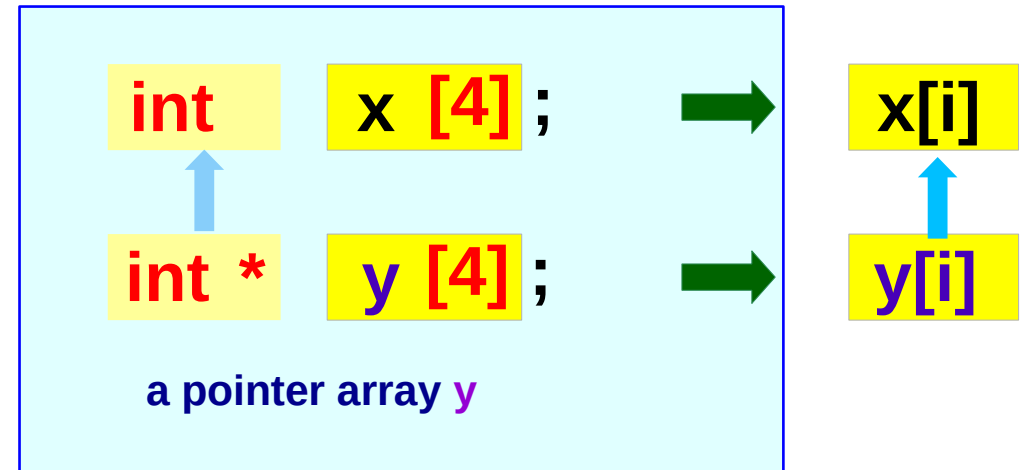


m : an integer

n : an integer pointer

n can point to m

`n = &m ;`
`*n ≡ m`



$x[i]$: an integer

$y[i]$: an integer pointer

$y[i]$ can point to $x[i]$

`y[i] = &x[i] ;`
`*y[i] ≡ x[i]`

`[]` has a higher priority than `*`

`*y[i] = *(y[i])` unnecessary parenthesis

Element types of a pointer array y

```
int * y [4];
```

`[]` has a higher priority than `*`

y must be grouped with `[4]`

```
int x [4];
```

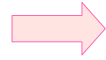


```
x[i]
```

x is a **1-d array** with 4 elements

each element $x[i]$, $i=0, 1, 2, 3$ has the type of an **integer (int)**

```
int * y [4];
```



```
y[i]
```

integer
pointer

y is a **1-d array** with 4 elements

each element $y[i]$, $i=0, 1, 2, 3$ has the type of an **integer pointer (int *)**

```
int *y [4];
```



```
*y[i]
```

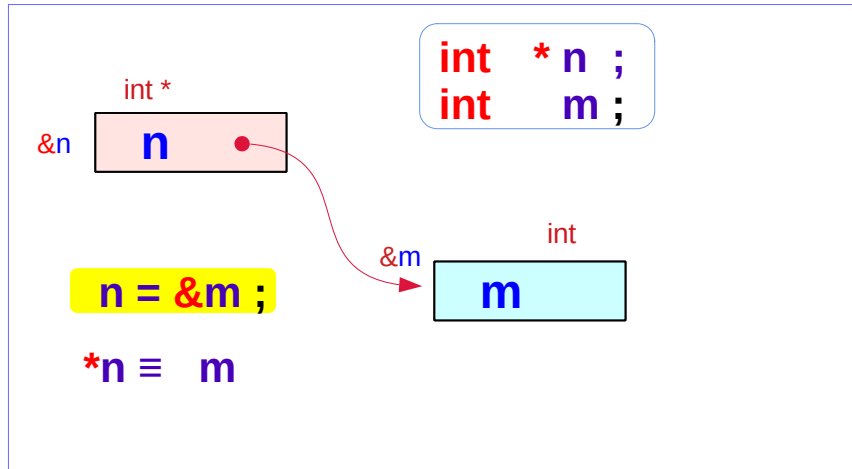
integer

y is a **1-d array** with 4 elements

the **dereference** of each element $*y[i]$, $i=0, 1, 2, 3$ is an **integer**

here, $*y[i] = *(y[i])$

Assigning pointer variables **n**, **p**, **fp**



n : a pointer to an integer

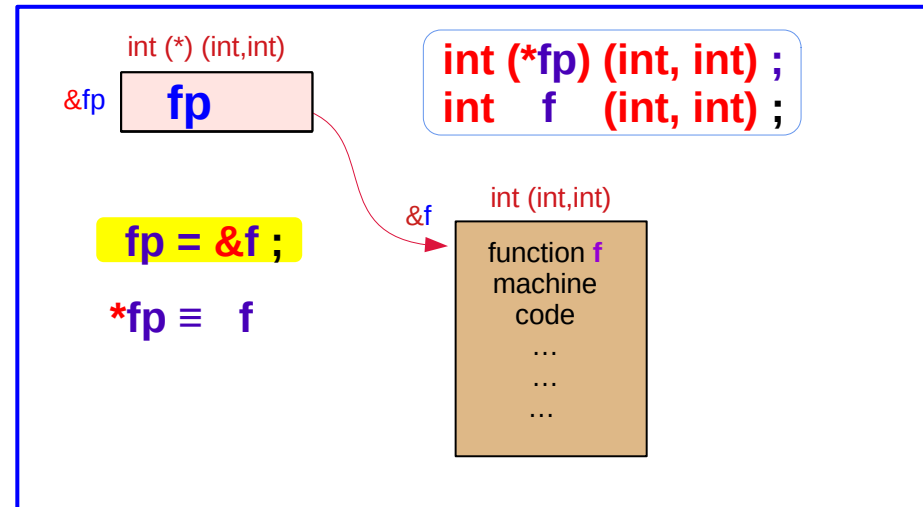
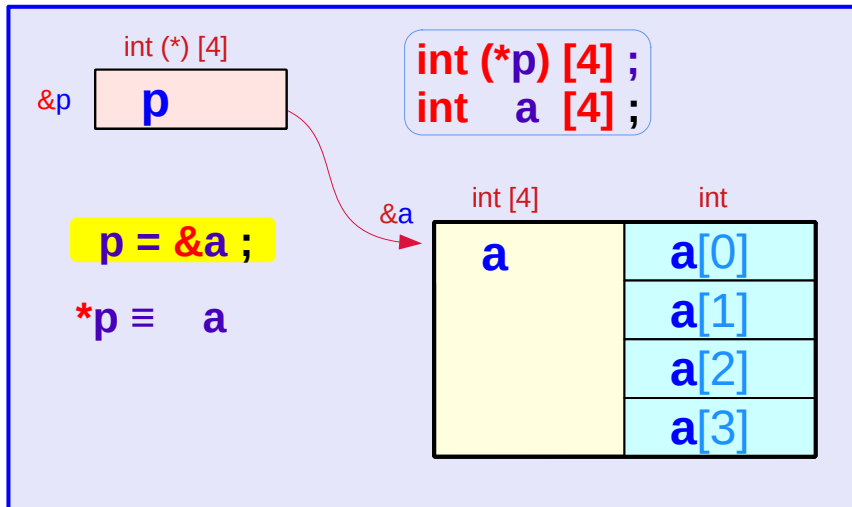
`int *`

p : a pointer to a 1-d array with 4 integer elements

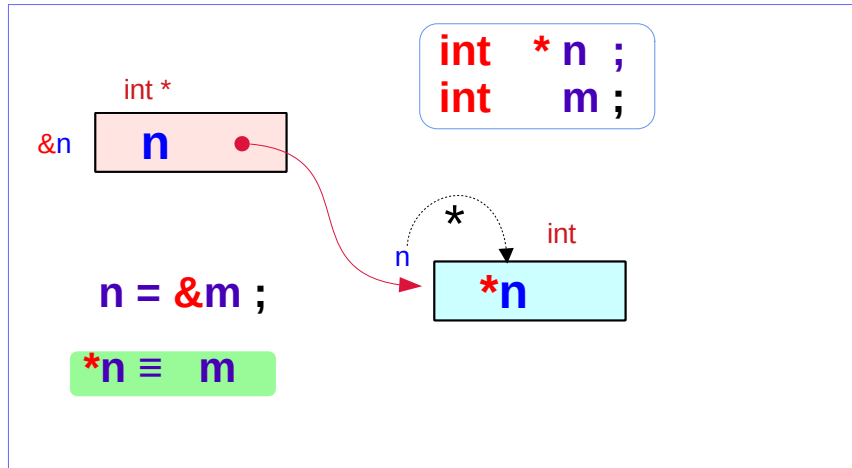
`int (*) [4]`

fp : a pointer to a function that takes two integers and returns an integer

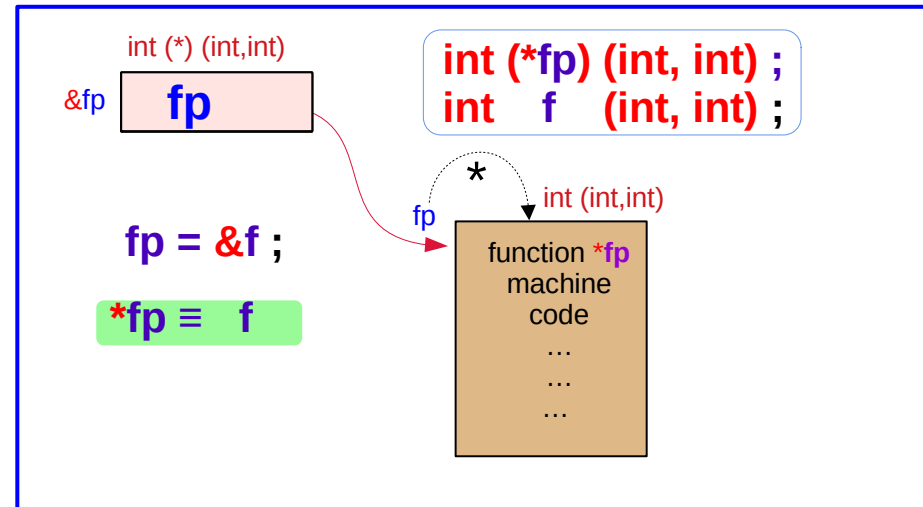
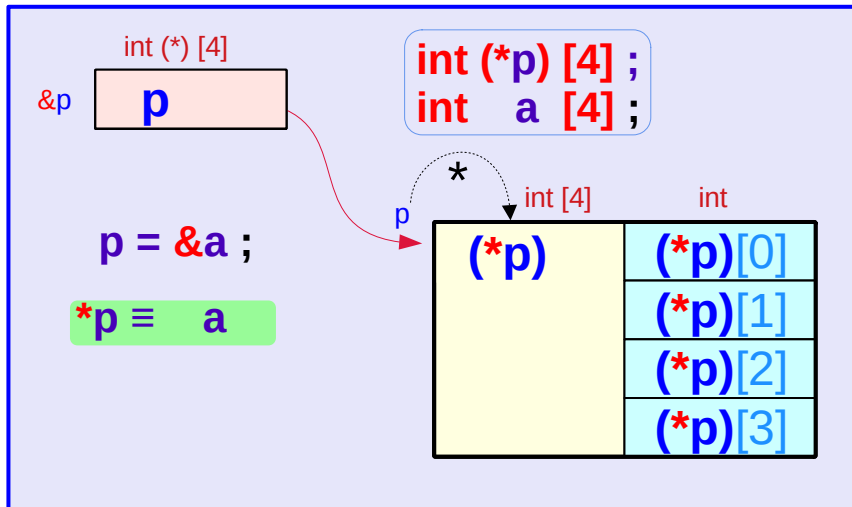
`int (*) (int, int)`



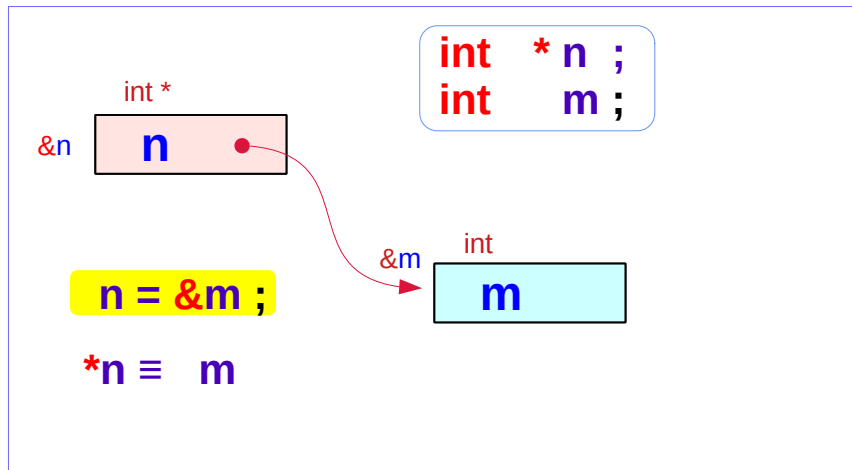
Dereferencing pointer variables **n**, **p**, **fp**



- `*n` : an integer `int`
- `*p` : a 1-d array with 4 integer elements `int [4]`
- `*fp` : a function that takes two integers and returns an integer `int (int, int)`



Assigning pointer variables **n** and **y[i]**



m : an integer

`int`

n : an integer pointer

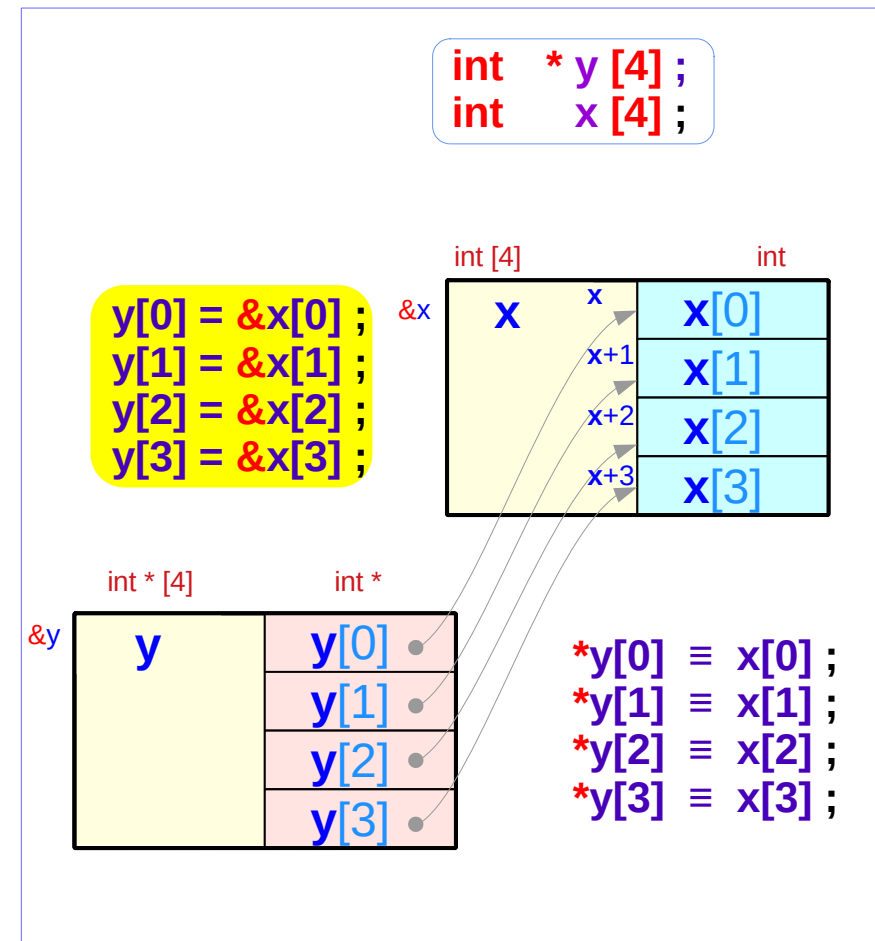
`int *`

x : a 1-d array with
4 integer elements

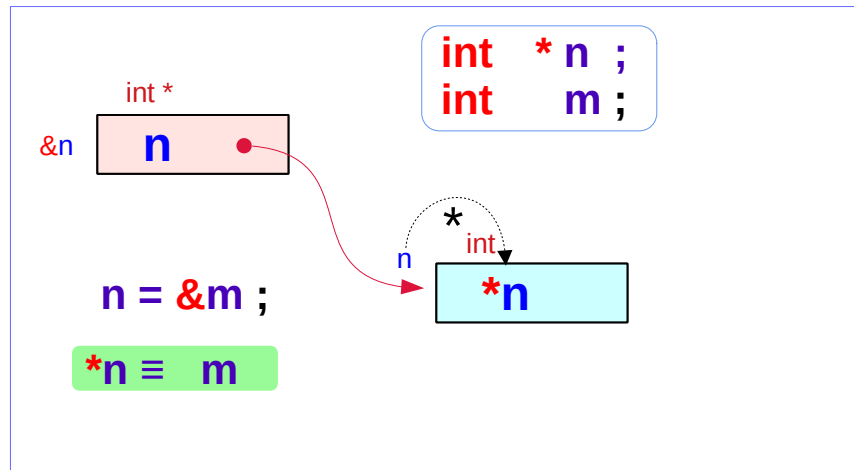
`int [4]`

y : a 1-d array with
4 integer pointer elements

`int * [4]`



Dereferencing pointer variables **n** and **y[i]**



`n` : an integer pointer

`int *`

`*n` : an integer

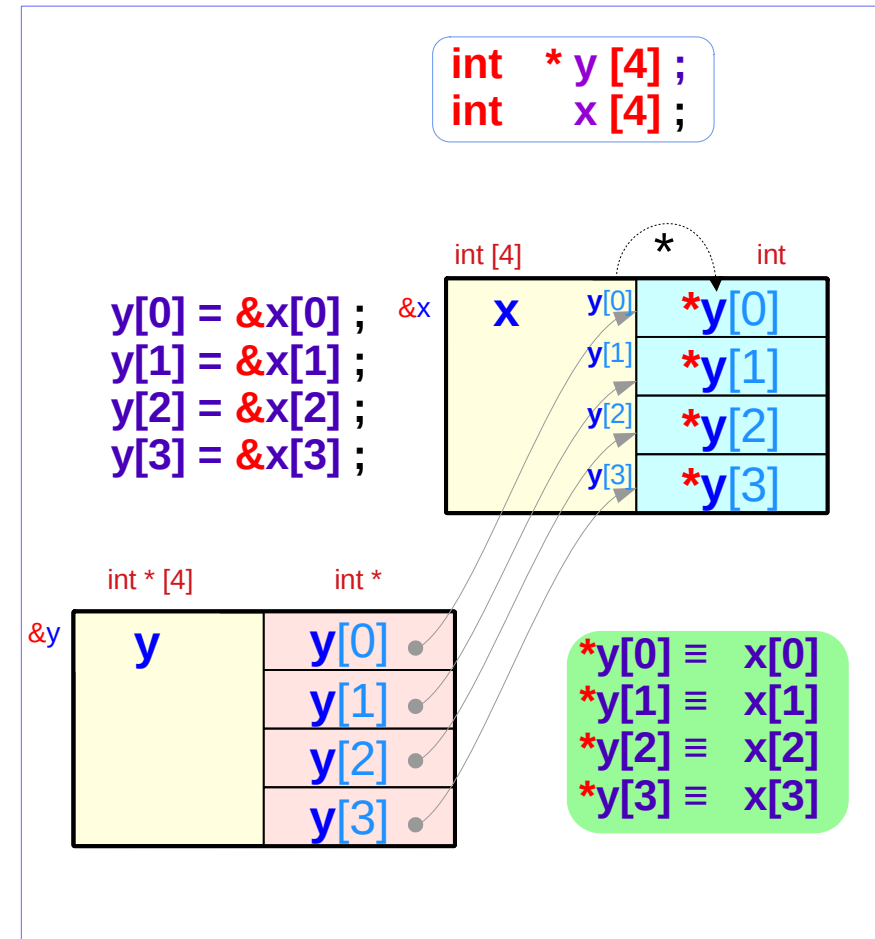
`int`

`y[i]` : an integer pointer

`int *`

`*y[i]` : an integer

`int`



Explicit and implicit array pointers

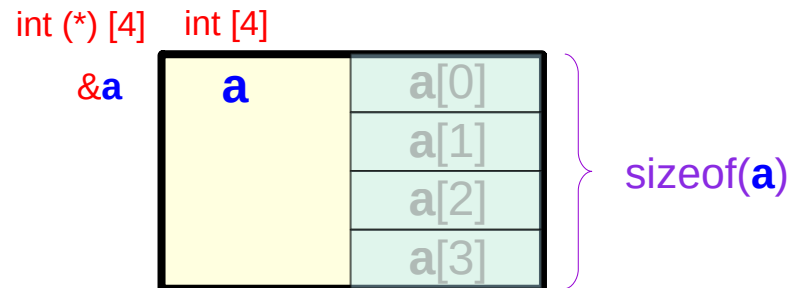
- **Explicit array pointers**
- **Implicit array pointers** in an array

- **Sizes**
- **Types**
- **Values**

Type, size, and value of **a** and **&a** for a **1-d** array **a**

```
int a [4] ;
```

*outside of an array a –
a as an abstract data*



abstract data **a**

value(**a**) = value(&**a**[0])
sizeof(**a**) = 4 * sizeof(int)
type(**a**) = int [4] (outside)
type(**a**) = int (*) (inside)

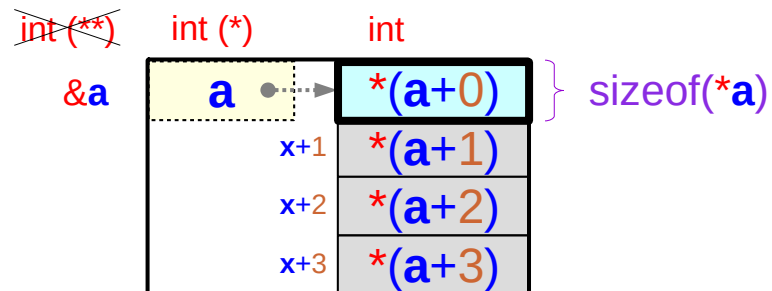
&a : the address of **a**

value(&**a**) = value(**a**)
sizeof(&**a**) = 4 or 8 bytes
type(&**a**) = int (*) [4]

Type, size, and value of `*a` and `a` for a 1-d array `a`

```
int a [4] ;
```

*inside of an array `a` –
`a` as a virtual pointer*



primitive data `*a`

```
value(*a) = value(a[0])  
sizeof(*a) = sizeof(int)  
type(*a) = int
```

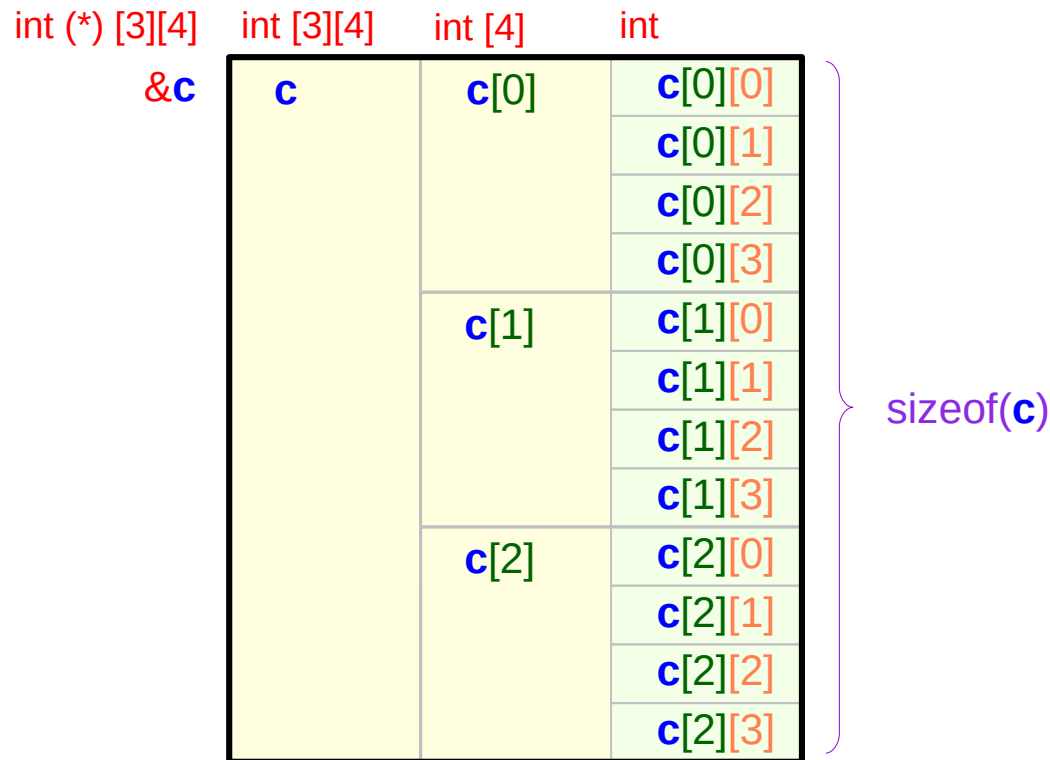
`a` : the address of `*a`

```
value(a) = value(&a[0])  
sizeof(a) = 4 * sizeof(int)  
type(a) = int [4] (outside)  
type(a) = int (*) (inside)
```

Type, size, and value of **c** and **&c** for a 2-d array **c**

```
int c [3][4] ;
```

*outside of an array c –
c as an abstract data*



outside of an array c

c : abstract data

`value(c) = value(&c[0])`
`sizeof(c) = 3 * 4 * sizeof(int)`
`type(c) = int [3][4]` (outside)
`type(c) = int (*)[4]` (inside)

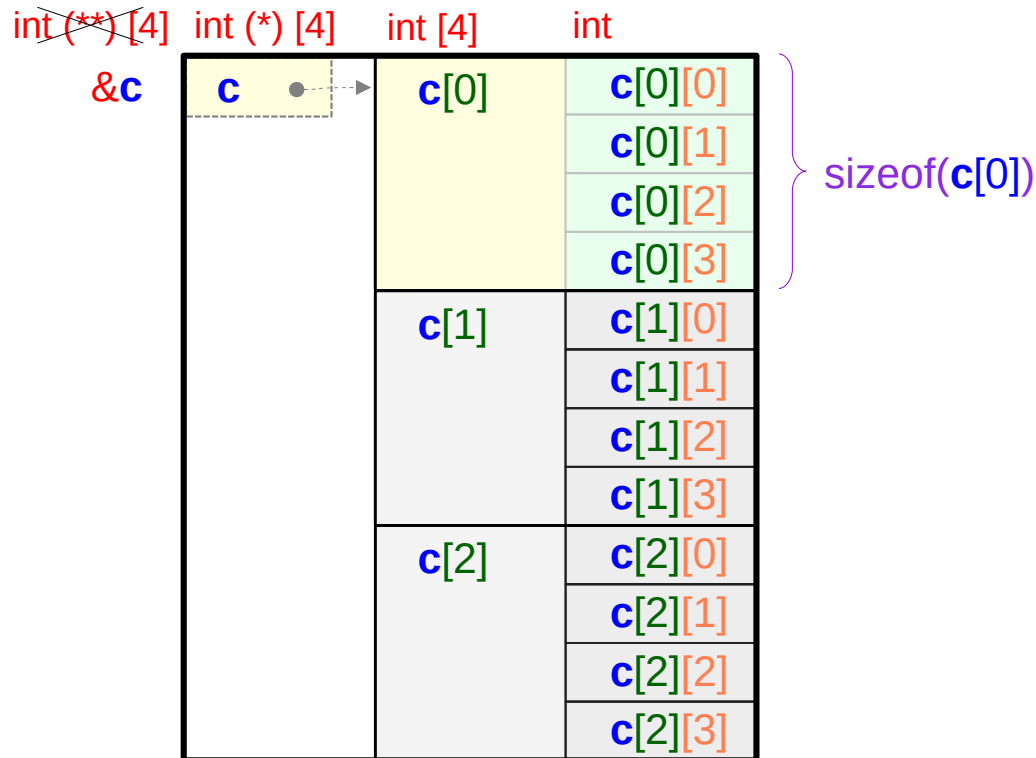
&c : the address of **c**

`value(&c) = value(c)`
`sizeof(&c) = 4 or 8 bytes`
`type(&c) = int (*) [3][4]`

Type, size, and value of `c[0]` and `c` for a 2-d array `c`

```
int c [3][4] ;
```

*inside of an array `c` –
`c` as a virtual pointer*



`c[0]` : abstract data `*c`

`value(c[0]) = value(&c[0][0])`
`sizeof(c[0]) = 4 * sizeof(int)`
`type(c[0]) = int [4]` (outside)
`type(c[0]) = int (*)` (inside)

`c` : the address of `c[0]`

`value(c) = value(&c[0])`
`sizeof(c) = 3 * 4 * sizeof(int)`
`type(c) = int [3][4]` (outside)
`type(c) = int (*)[4]` (inside)

outside of an array `c`

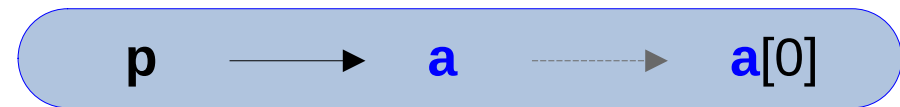
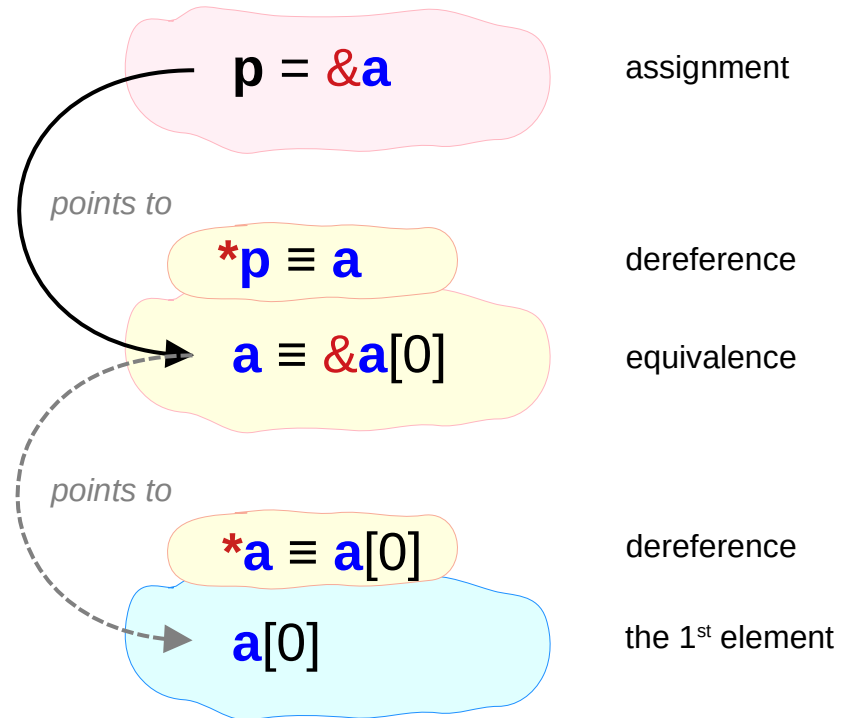
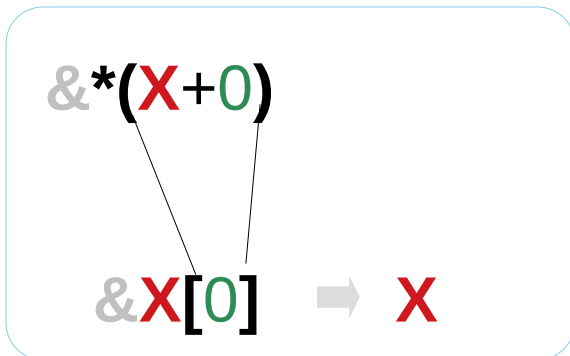
1-d array pointer **p** – (1) pointer chain

1-d array pointer

```
int (*p)[4];
```

1-d array

```
int a[4];
```



a pointer chain

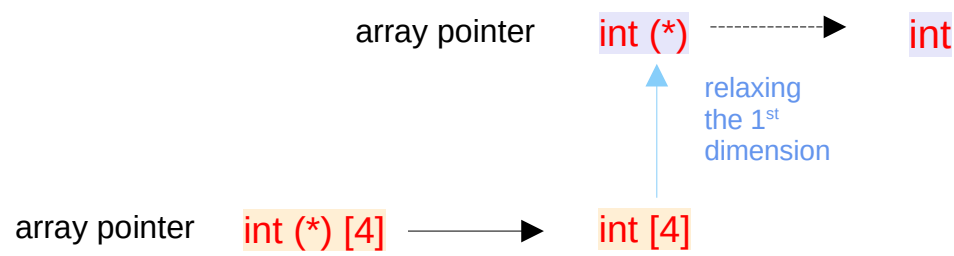
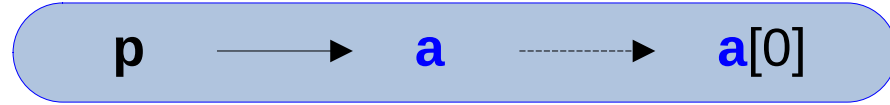
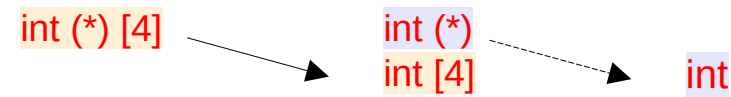
1-d array pointer **p** – (2) types in a pointer chain

1-d array pointer

```
int (*p)[4];
```

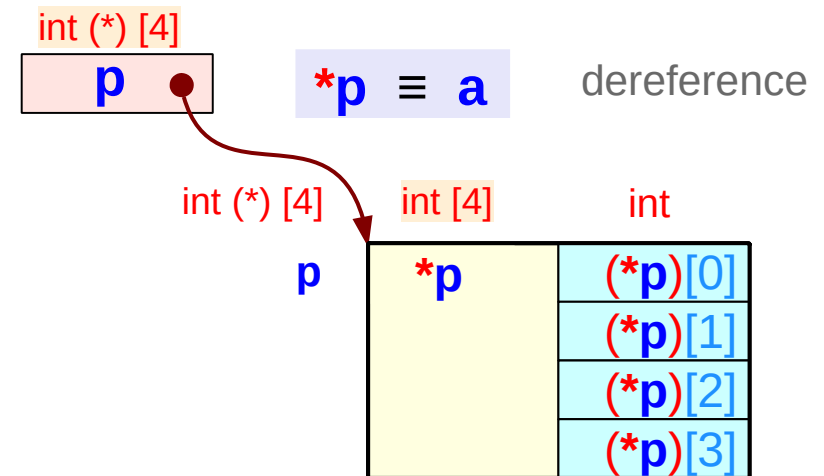
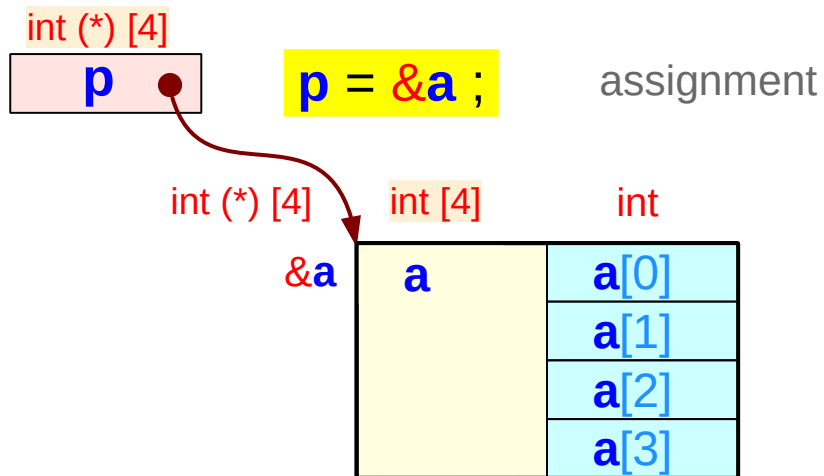
1-d array

```
int a[4];
```



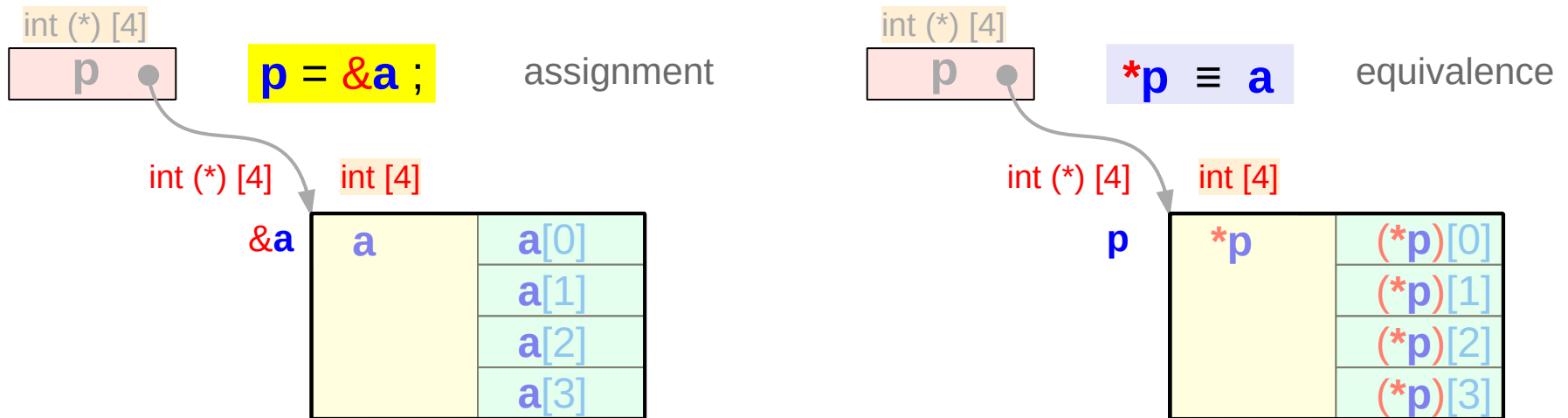
1-d array pointer **p** – (3) assignment and dereference

<code>int a [4];</code>	assignment	dereference	equivalence	dereference
<code>int (*p) [4];</code>	<code>p = &a</code>	<code>*p ≡ a</code>	<code>a ≡ &a[0]</code>	<code>*a ≡ a[0]</code>



1-d array pointer **p** – (4) abstract data **a**

outside of an array **a** (**a** as an abstract data)



`sizeof(&a)` = 4 or 8 bytes size of a pointer

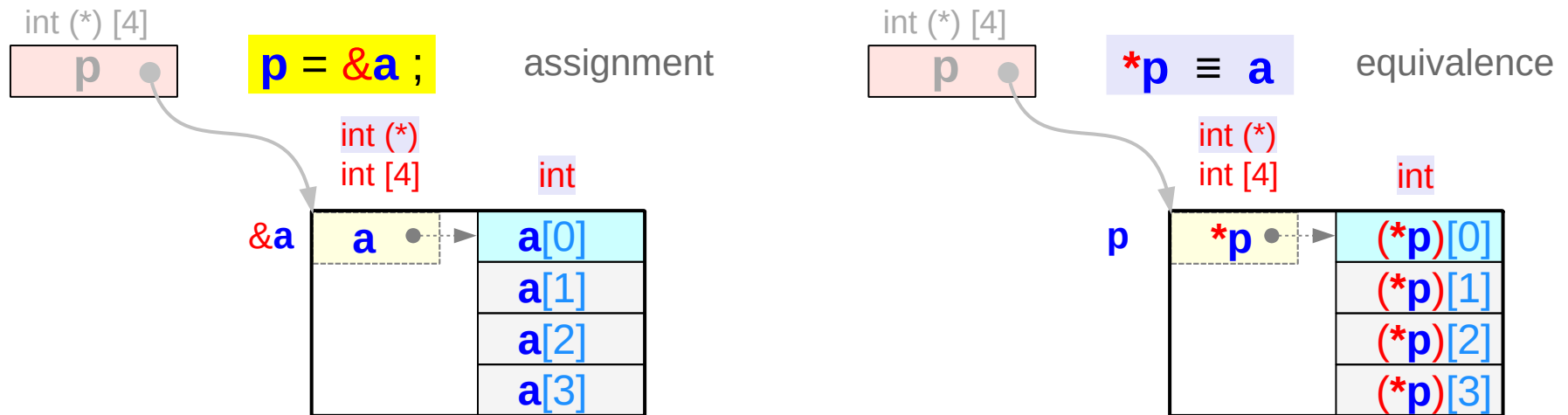
`sizeof(a)` = 4 * `sizeof(int)` size of a 1-d array

`value(&a)` address value of a 1-d array **a**

= `value(a)` data value of a 1-d array **a**

0-d array pointer **a** – (5) primitive data **a[0]**

inside of an array **a** (**a** as a virtual pointer)



`sizeof(a)` = `4 * sizeof(int)` size of a 1-d array

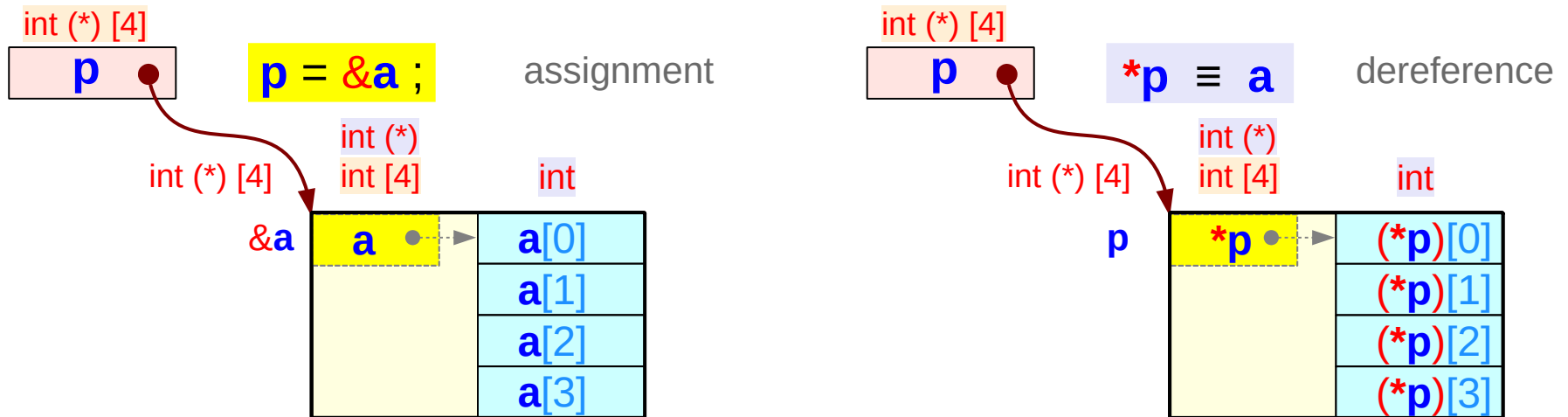
`sizeof(a[0])` = 4 bytes size of an integer

`value(a)` = `value(&a[0])` address value of an integer **a[0]**

`value(a[0])` data value of an integer **a[0]**

Overlaid representation

outside of an array a (a as an abstract data)
inside of an array a (a as a virtual pointer)



not a real pointer `a` `value(&a) = value(a)` `= value(&a[0])`

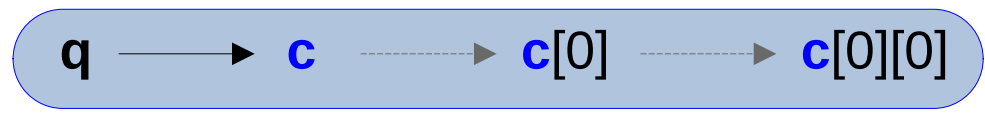
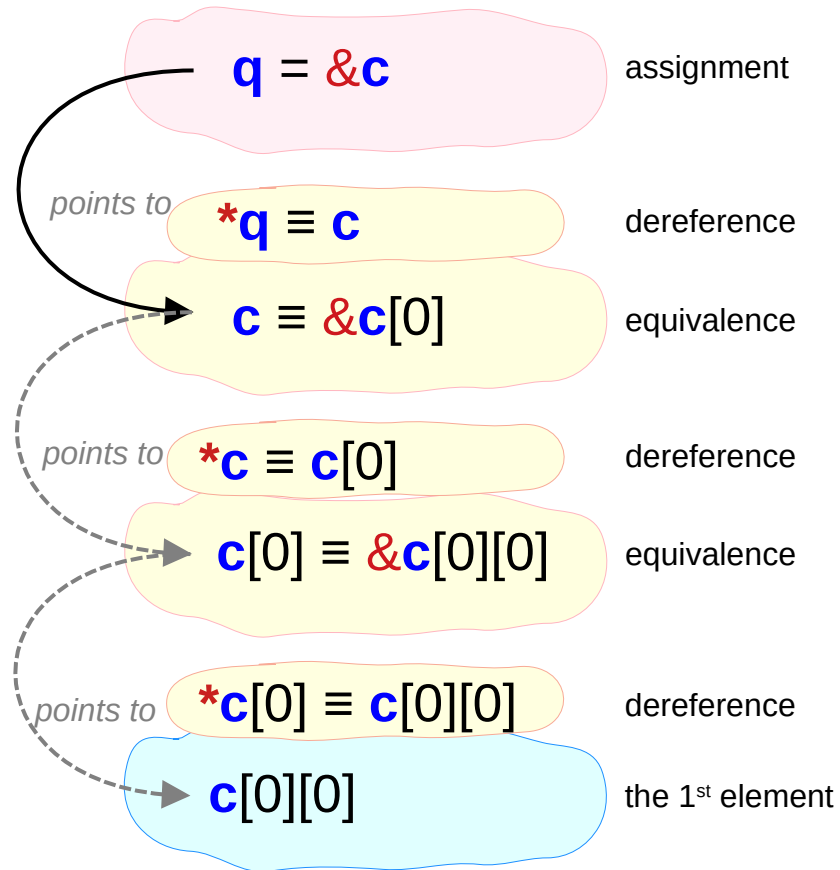
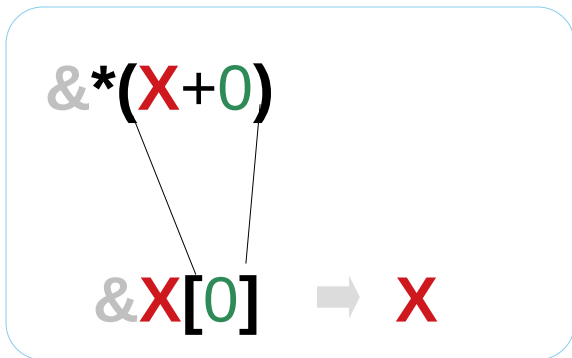
2-d array pointer q – (1) pointer chains

2-d array pointer

```
int (*q)[3][4];
```

2-d array

```
int c[3][4];
```



a pointer chain

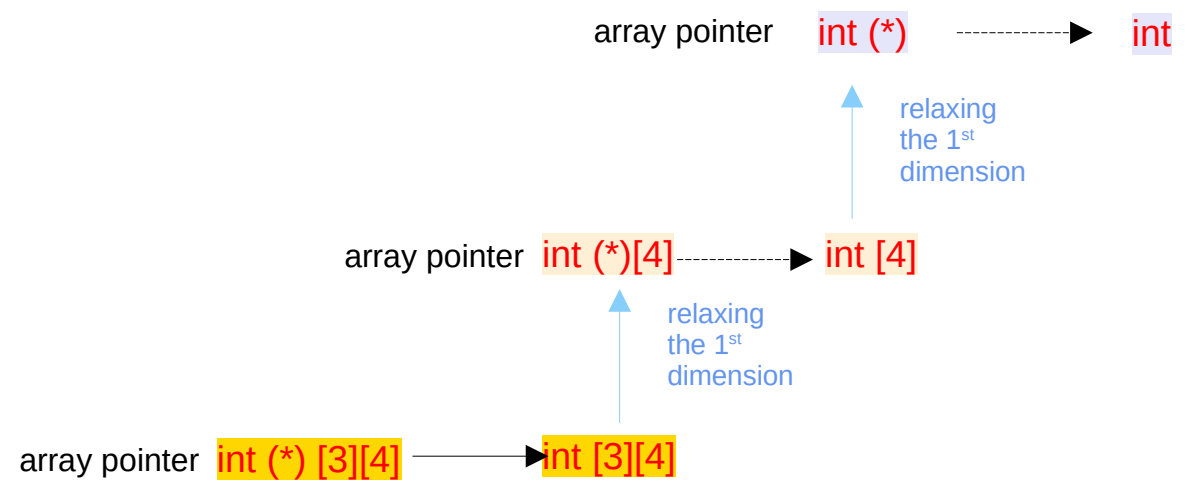
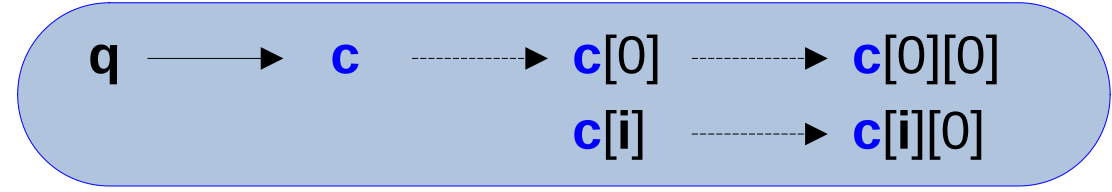
2-d array pointer q – (2) types in a pointer chain

2-d array pointer

```
int (*q) [3][4];
```

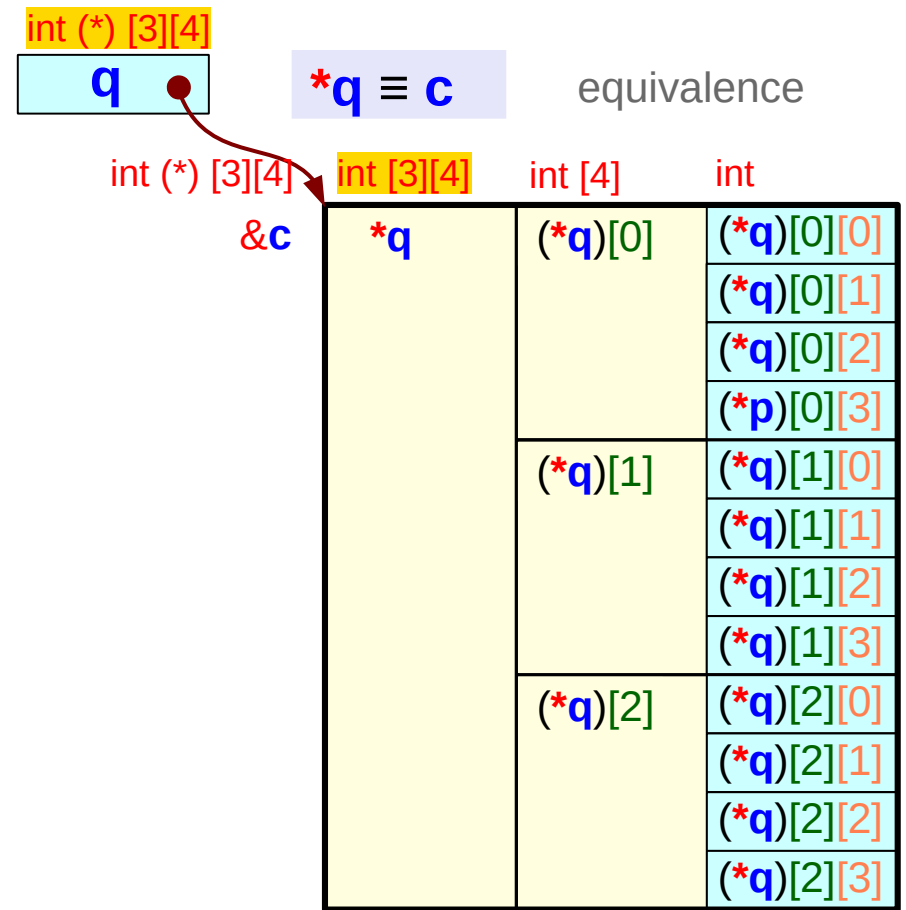
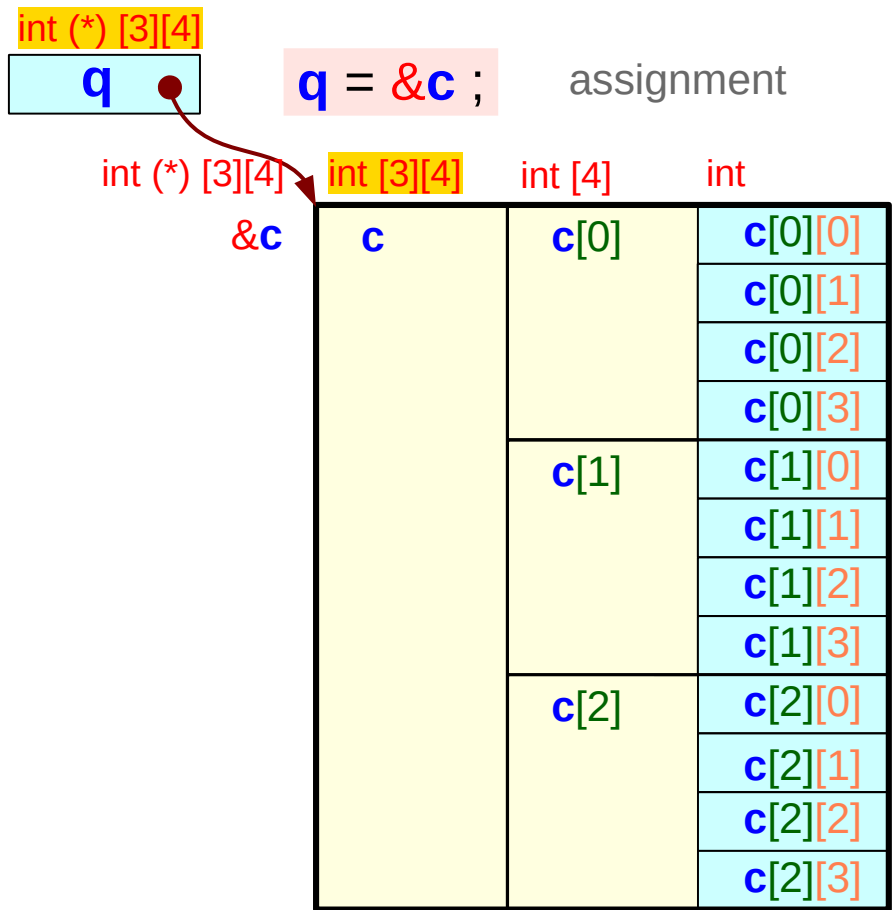
2-d array

```
int c [3][4];
```

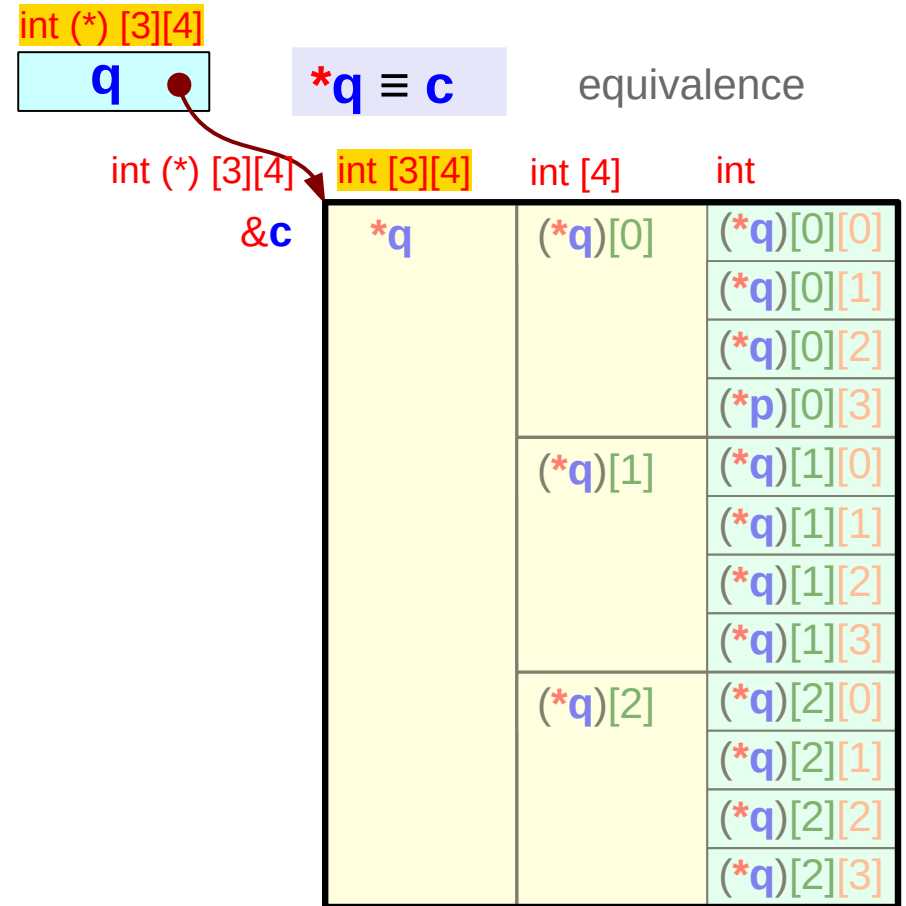
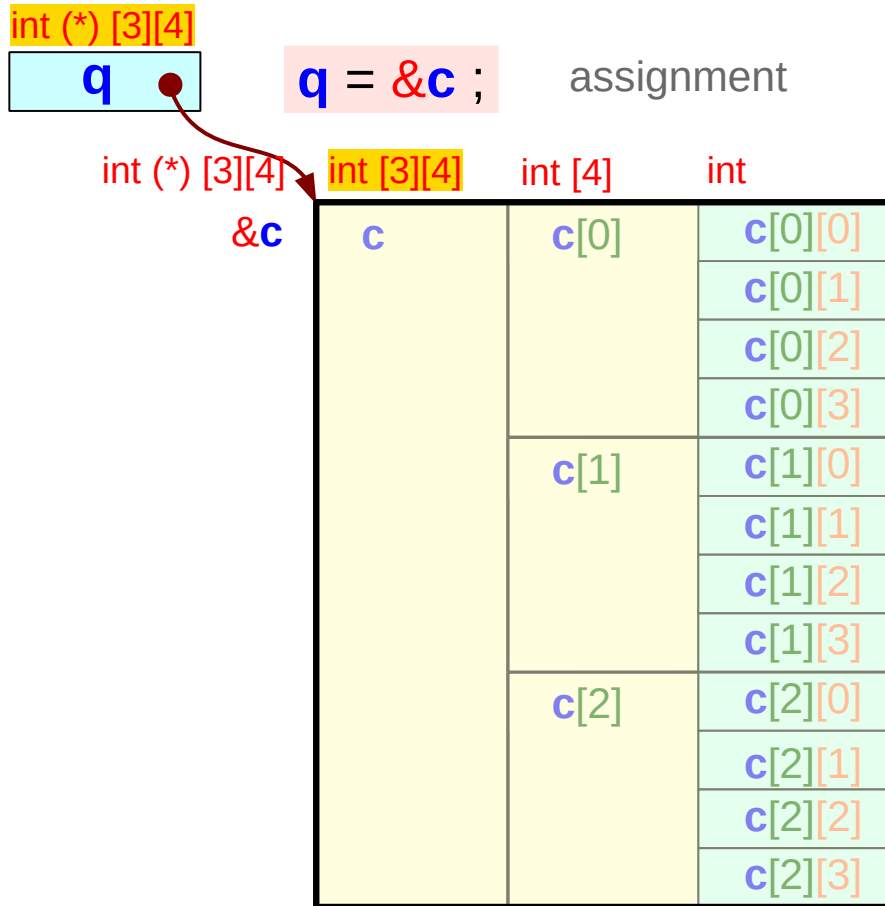


2-d array pointer q – (3) assignment and dereference

<code>int c [3][4];</code>	assignment	dereference	equivalence	equivalence
<code>int (*q) [3][4];</code>	<code>q = &c</code>	<code>*q ≡ c</code>	<code>c ≡ &c[0]</code>	<code>c[0] ≡ &c[0][0]</code>



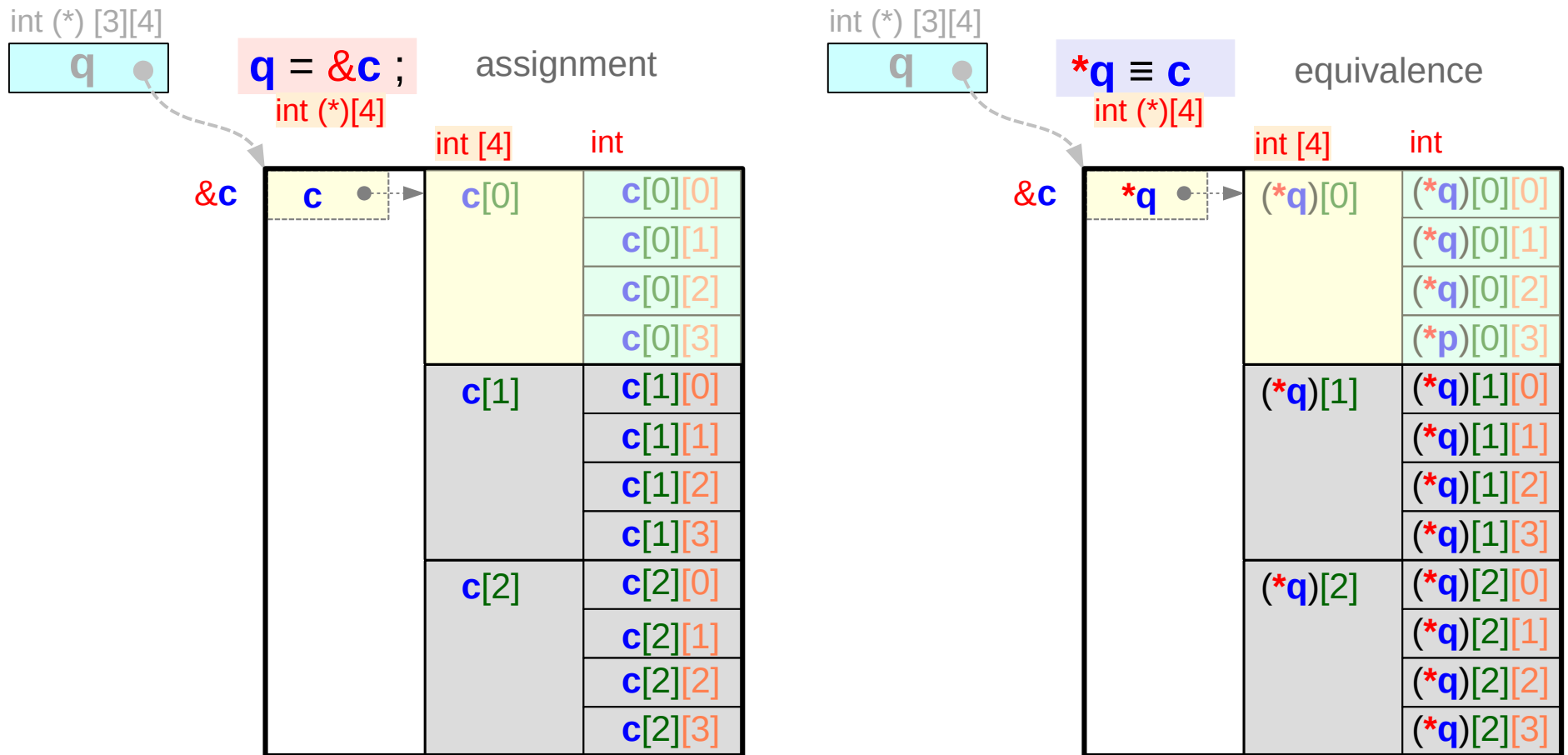
2-d array pointer **q** – (4) abstract data **c**



outside of an array **c (**c** as an *abstract data*)**

<code>sizeof(&c)</code> = 4 or 8 bytes	size of a pointer	<code>value(&c)</code> =	address value of a 2-d array c
<code>sizeof(c)</code> = 3 * 4 * <code>sizeof(int)</code>	size of a 2-d array	<code>value(c)</code>	data value of a 2-d array c

1-d array pointer **c** – abstract data **c[0]**



*inside of an array **c** (**c** as a virtual pointer, **c[i]** as an abstract data)*

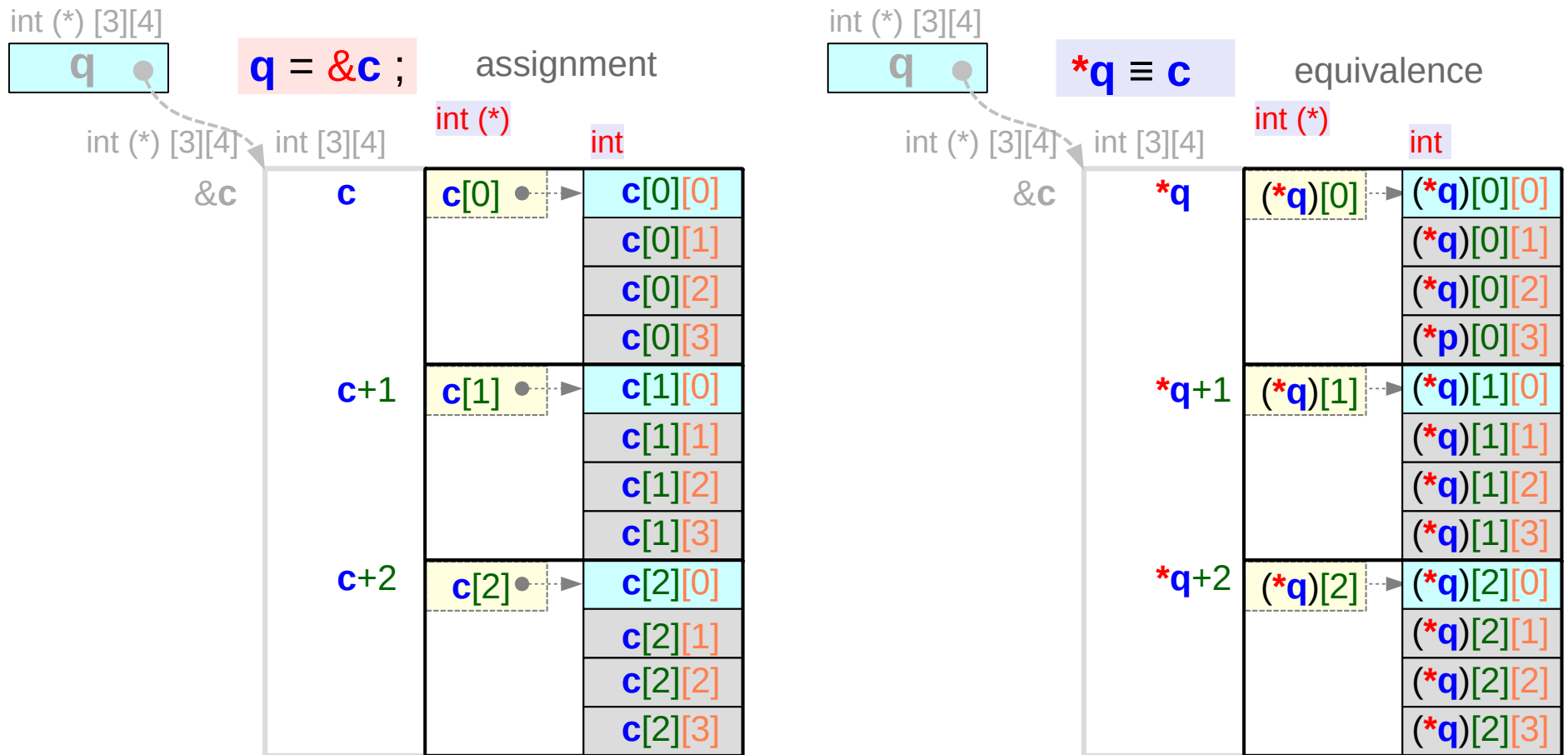
`sizeof(c) = 3 * 4 * sizeof(int)` size of a **2-d** array

`value(c) =` address value of a **1-d** array `c[0]`

`sizeof(c[0]) = 4 * sizeof(int)` size of a **1-d** array

`value(c[0])` data value of a **1-d** array `c[0]`

0-d array pointer $c[i]$ – primitive data $c[i][0]$



inside of an array $c[i]$ ($c[i]$ as a virtual pointer, $c[i][j]$ as a primitive data)

$\text{sizeof}(c[i]) = 4 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$ size of a 1-d array

$\text{value}(c[i]) = \text{value}(\&c[i][0])$ address value of an integer $c[i][0]$

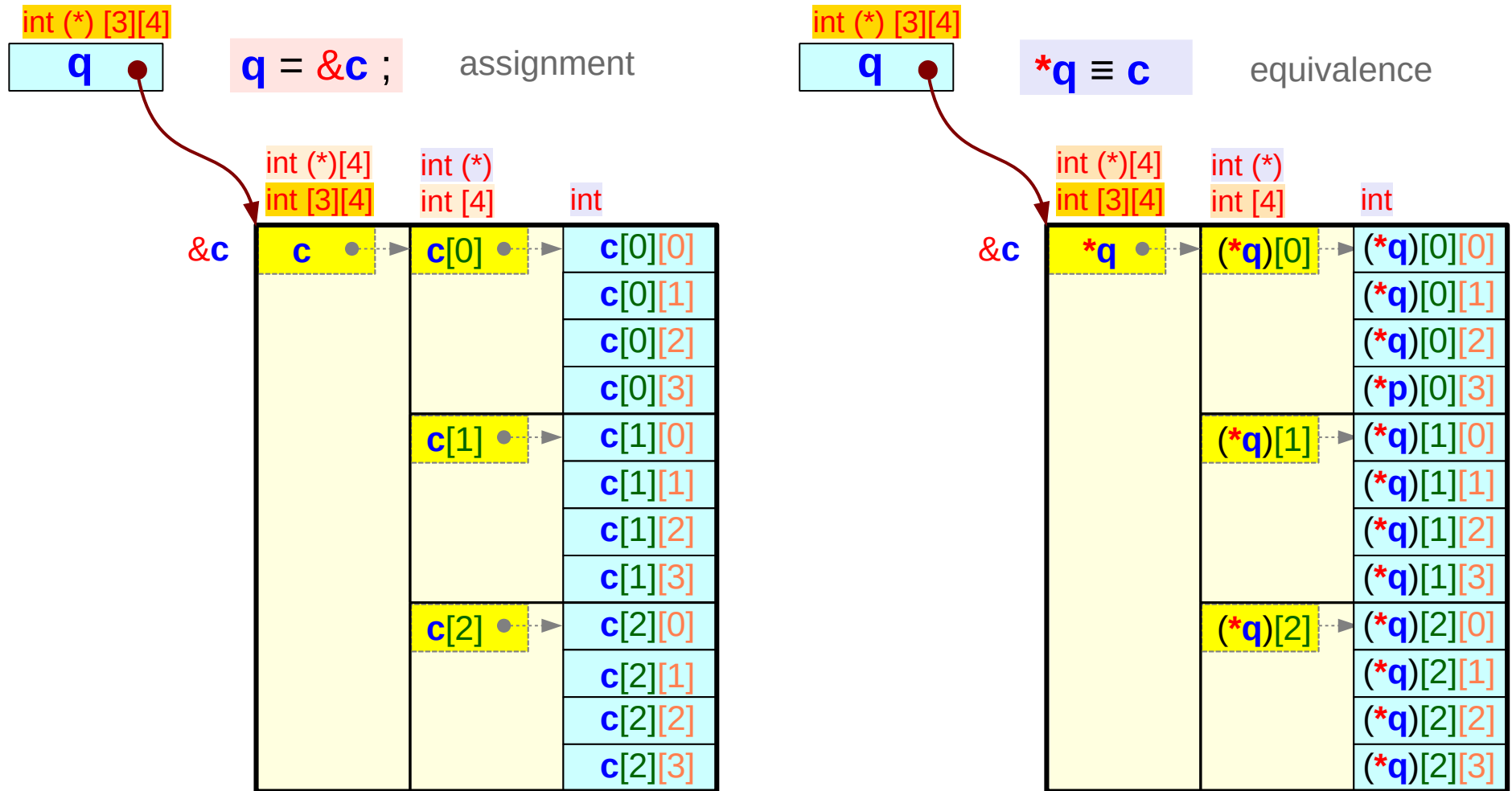
address value of an integer $c[i][0]$

$\text{Sizeof}(c[i][0]) = \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$ size of an integer

$\text{value}(c[i][0])$ data value of an integer $c[i][0]$

data value of an integer $c[i][0]$

Overlaid representation



not a real pointer `c`
not a real pointer `c[i]`

$$\text{value}(\&c) = \text{value}(c)$$

$$= \text{value}(\&c[0]) = \text{value}(c[0])$$

$$\text{value}(\&c[i]) = \text{value}(c[i])$$

$$= \text{value}(\&c[0][0])$$

$$= \text{value}(\&c[i][0])$$

Array pointers

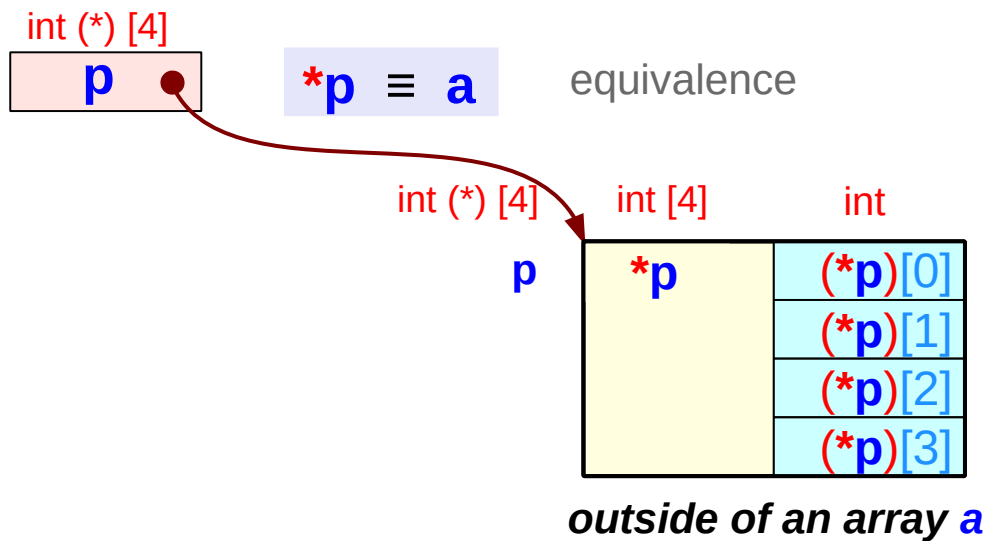
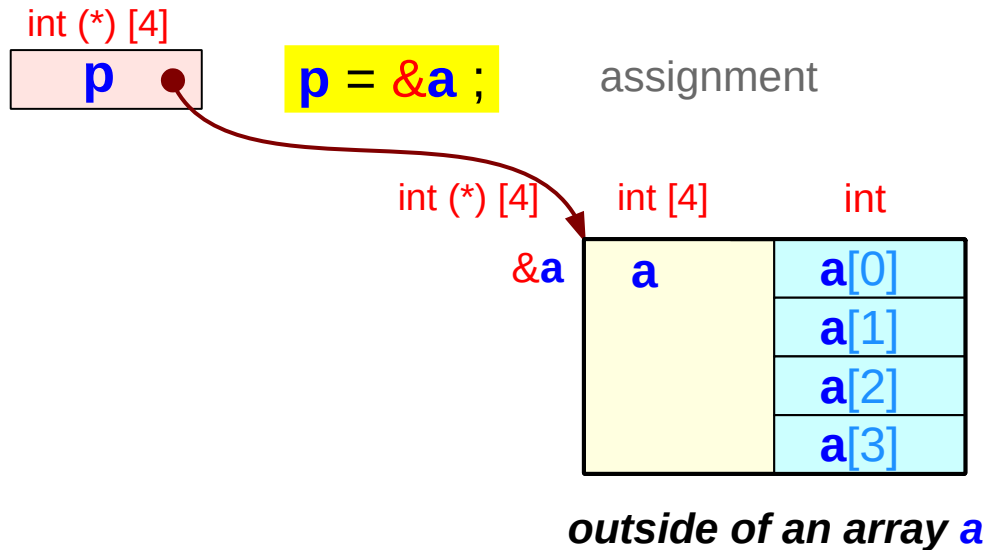
pointer to a **1-d** array **a** and its **0-d** sub-array **a[0]**

```
int (*p) [4];    (1-d array pointer)    int a [4];    (1-d array)
int (*q) ;      (0-d array pointer)
```

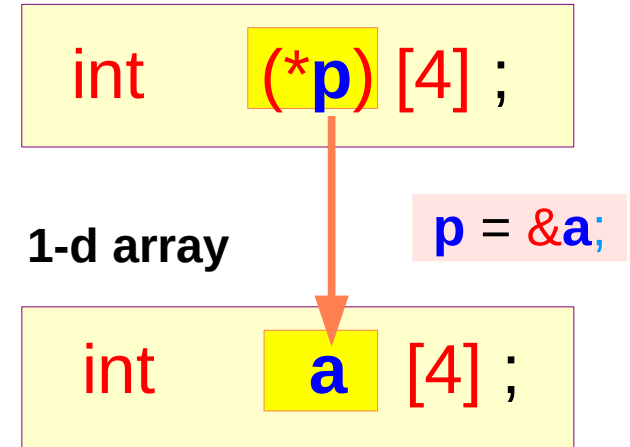
pointer to a **2-d** array **c** and its **1-d** sub-array **c[0]**

```
int (*p) [3][4] ; (2-d array pointer)    int c [3][4]; (2-d array)
int (*q) [4] ;    (1-d array pointer)
```

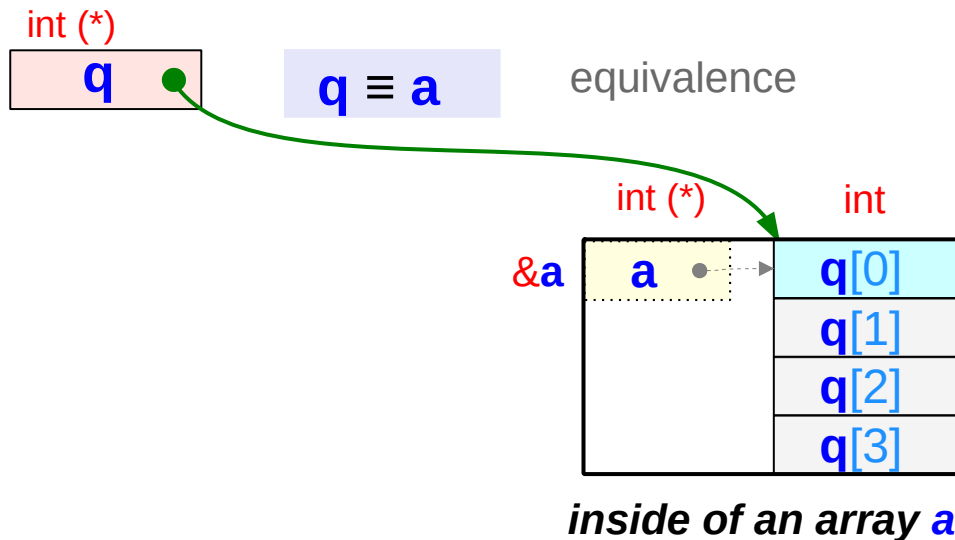
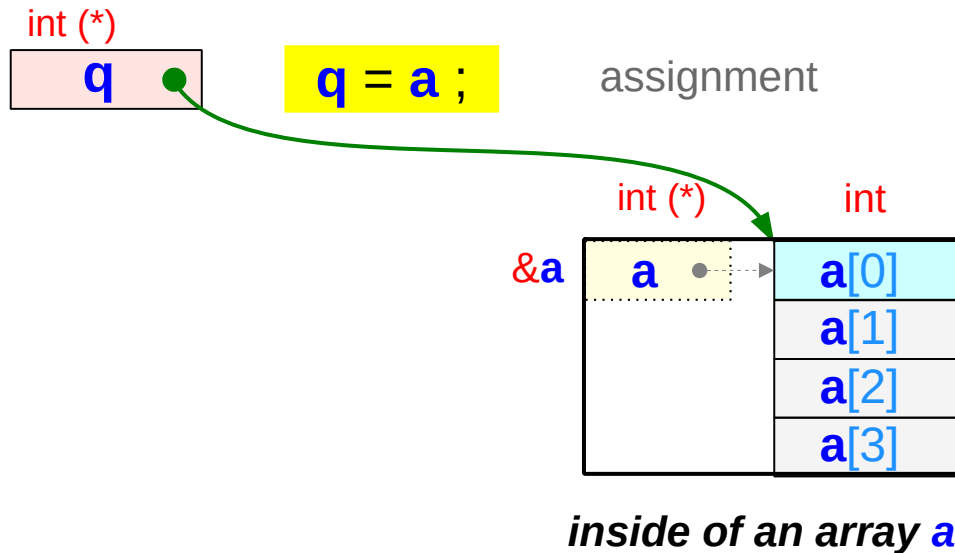
1-d array pointer **p** to a 1-d array **a**



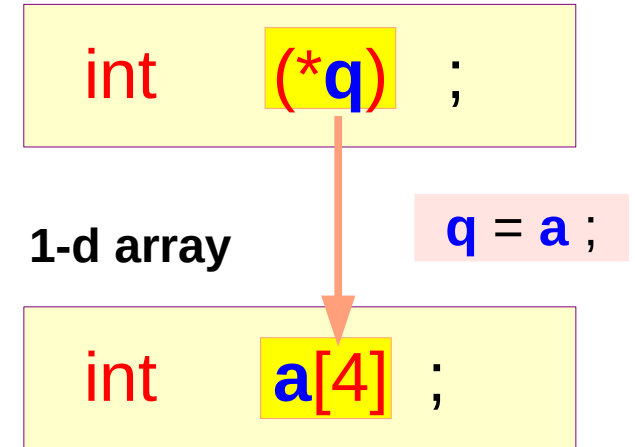
1-d array pointer



0-d array pointer q to a 0-d sub-array $a[0]$



0-d array pointer



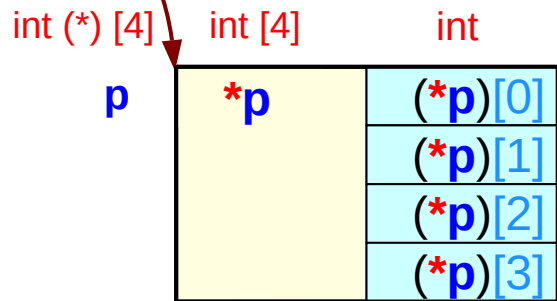
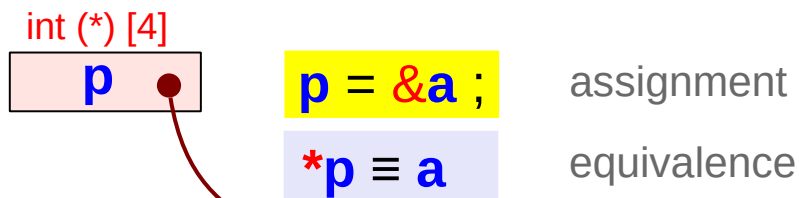
$a[i]$
 $a[0]$

$$\&a[0] = \&*(a+0) = a$$

1-d array access using **p** and **q**

```
int (*p) [4] = &a;
```

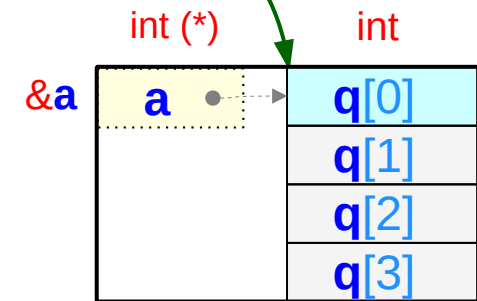
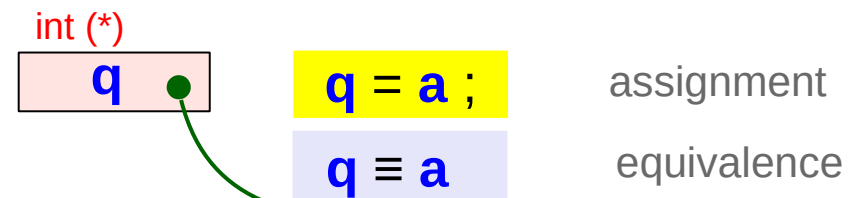
1-d array pointer



outside of an array a

```
int (*q) = a;
```

0-d array pointer

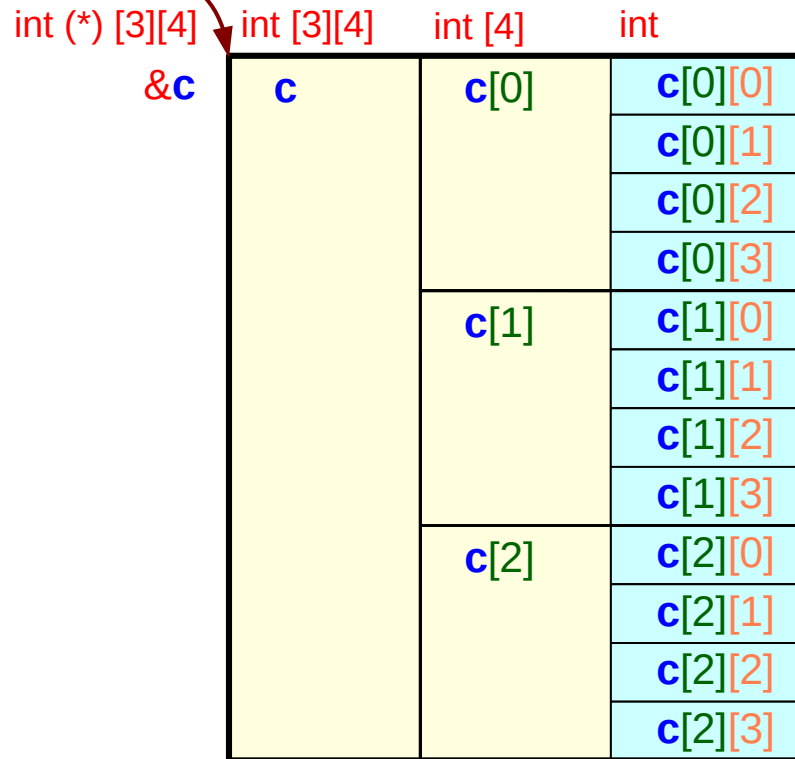


inside of an array a

2-d array pointer **p** to a 2-d array **c** – reference

2-d array pointer

`int (*) [3][4]`
`p` `p = &c ;` assignment



outside of an array c

2-d array pointer

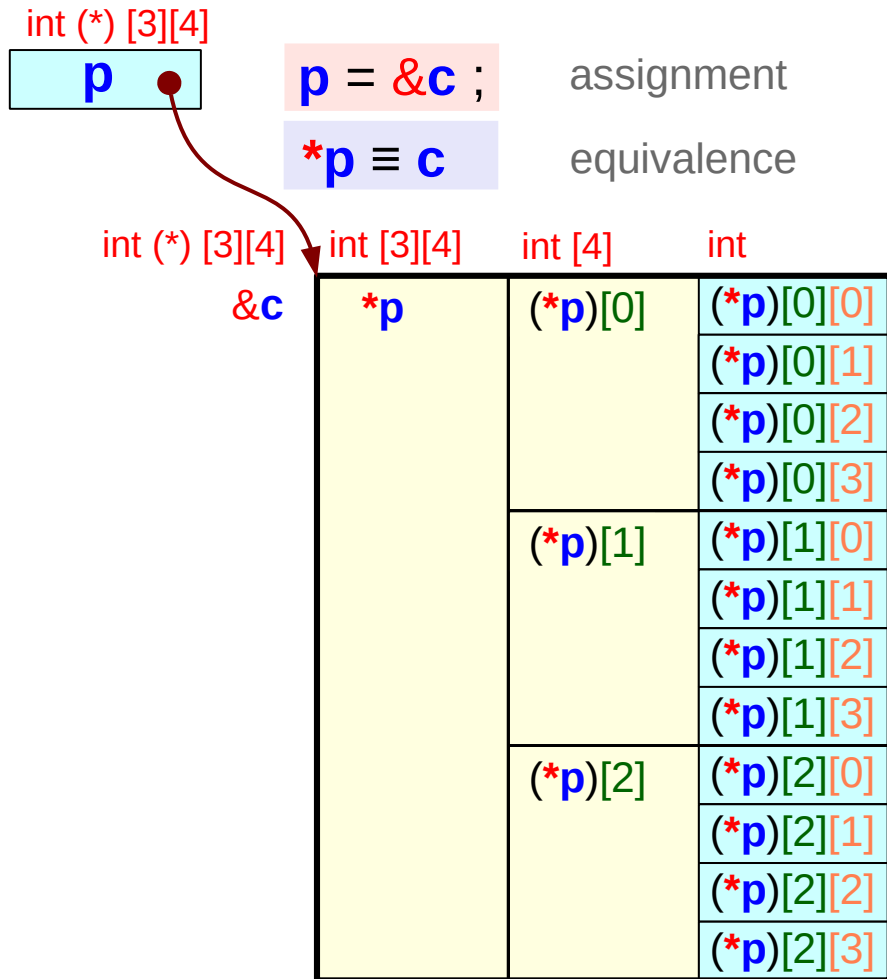
`int (*p) [3][4] ;`

2-d array

`int c [3][4] ;`

2-d array pointer **p** to a 2-d array **c** – dereference

2-d array pointer



*outside of an array **c***

2-d array pointer

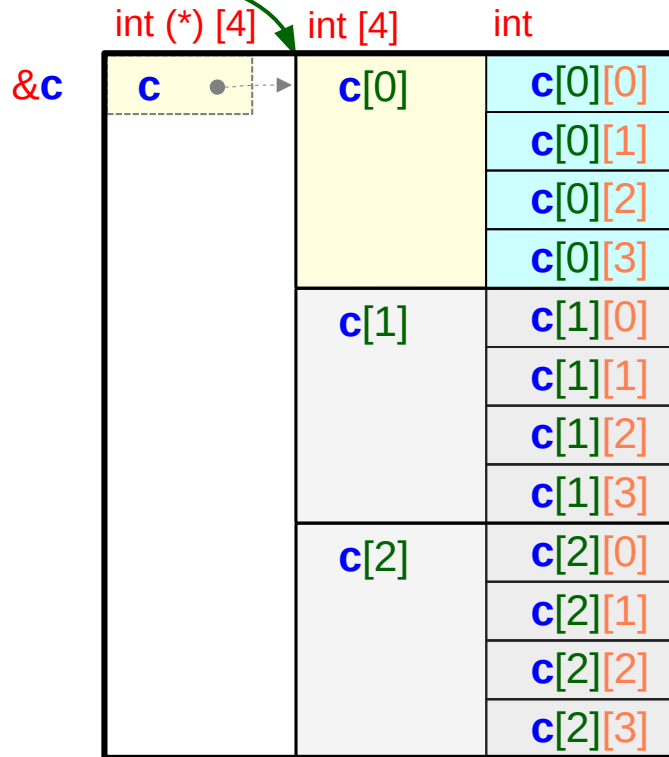
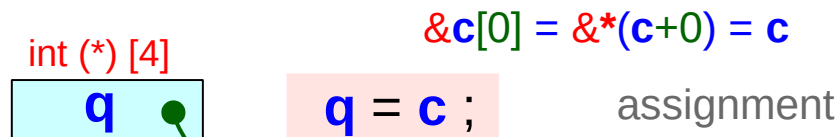
```
int (*p) [3][4] ;
```

2-d array

```
int c [3][4] ;
```

1-d array pointer q to a 1-d subarray $c[0]$ – reference

1-d array pointer



inside of an array c outside of an array $c[0]$

1-d array pointer

```
int (*q) [4] ;
```

1-d subarray

```
int c[3] [4] ;
```

Declaration:

$[3]$ means there are 3 elements

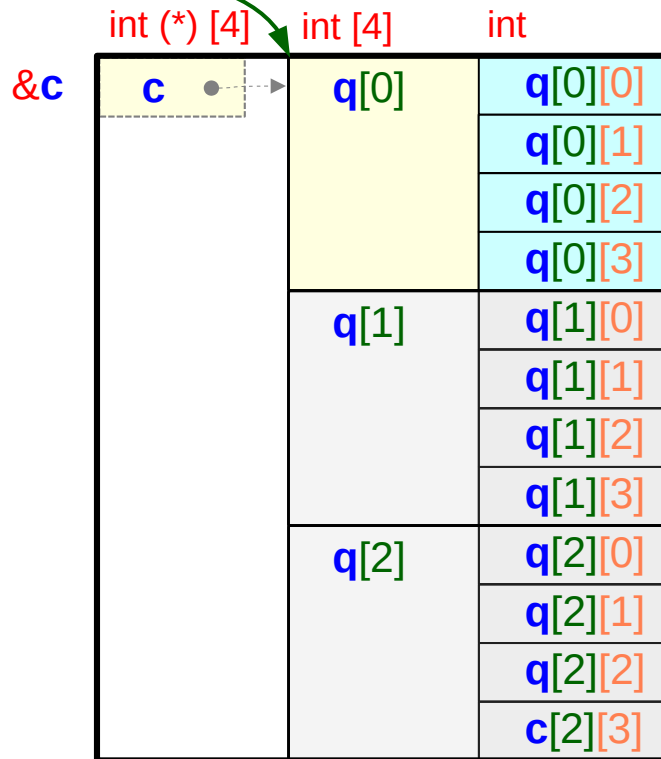
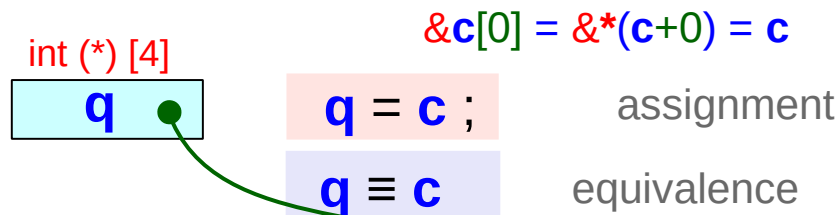
Expression:

$[0], [1], [2]$ are used

among 3 elements $c[0], c[1], c[2]$,
consider the first one $c[0]$

1-d array pointer q to a 1-d subarray $c[0]$ – dereference

1-d array pointer



inside of an array c *outside of an array $c[0]$*

1-d array pointer

```
int (*q) [4] ;
```

1-d subarray

```
int c[3] [4] ;
```

Declaration:

$[3]$ means there are 3 elements

Expression:

$[0], [1], [2]$ are used

among 3 elements $c[0], c[1], c[2]$,
 consider the first one $c[0]$

2-d array access using p and q

2-d array pointer

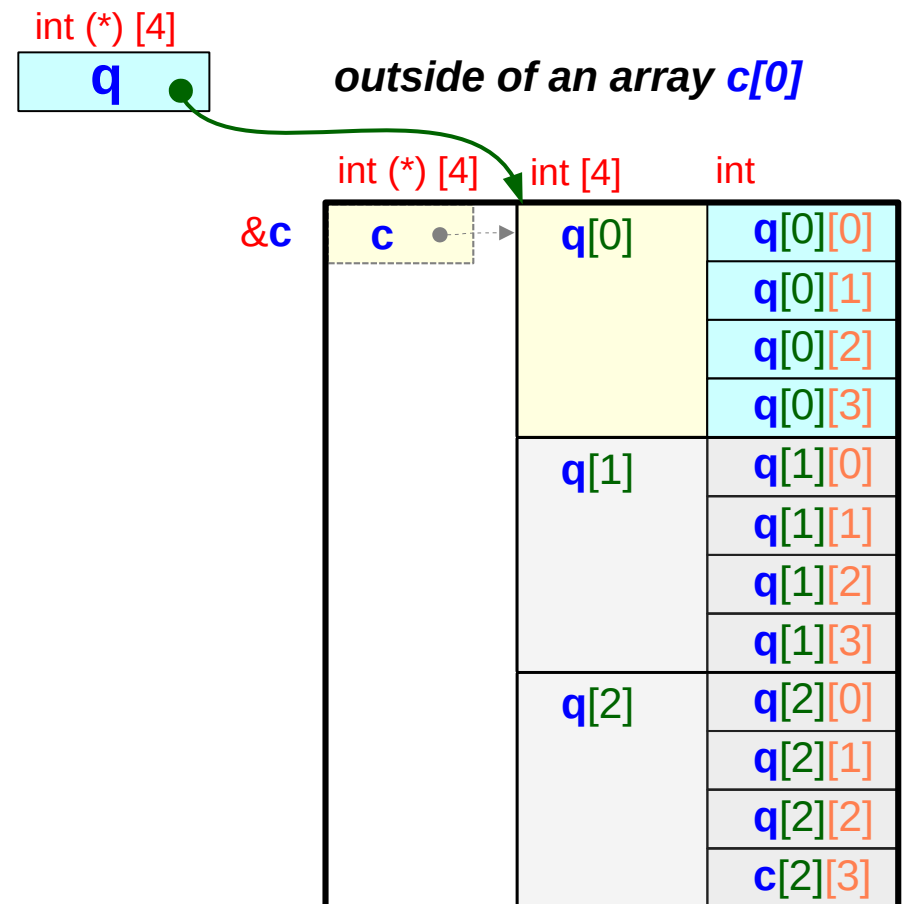
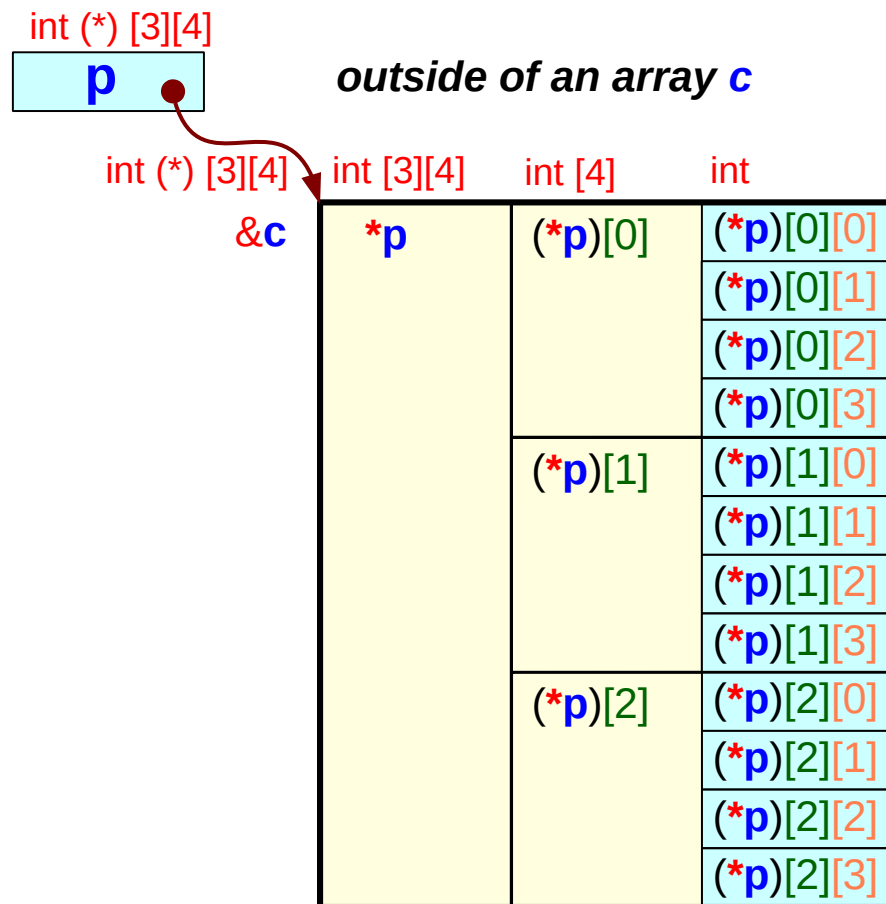
```
int (*p)[3][4] = &c;
```

```
p = &c ;  
*p ≡ c
```

1-d array pointer

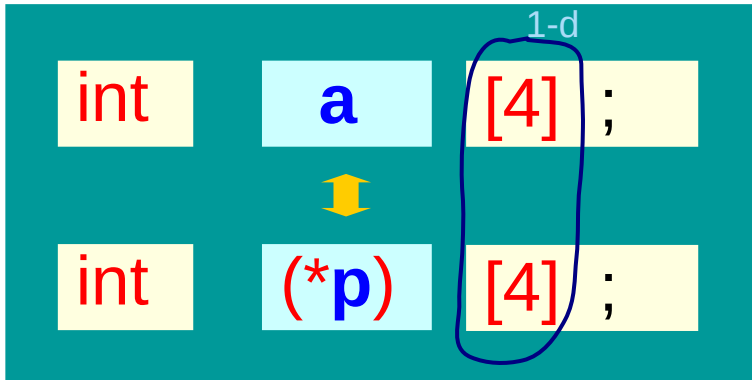
```
int (*q)[4] = c;
```

```
q = &c[0] ;  
q ≡ c
```



1-d and 0-d array pointers to an 1-d array

1-d array pointer



int (*) [4]

$*p \equiv a$

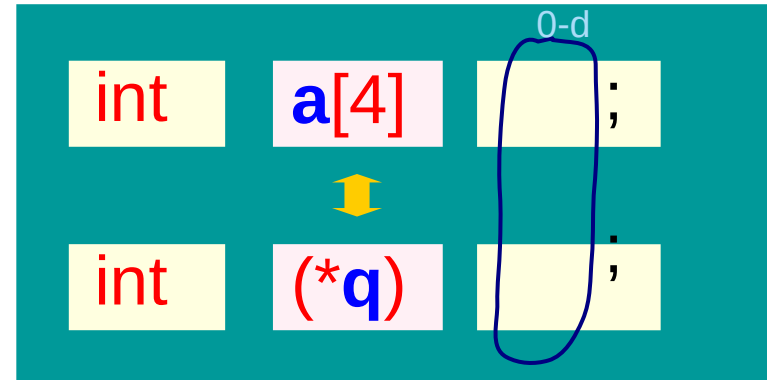
equivalence

$p = \&a;$

assignment

$(*p)[i] \equiv a[i] \equiv p[0][i]$

0-d array pointer : int pointer



int (*)

$*q \equiv a[0]$

equivalence

$q = a;$

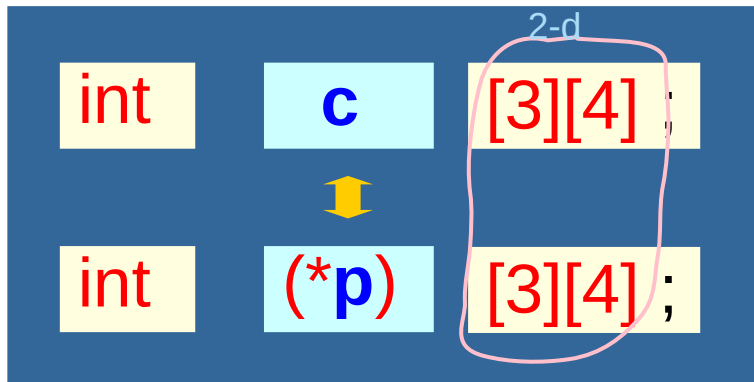
assignment

$q[i] \equiv a[i] \equiv *(q+i)$

among 4 elements $a[0]$, $a[1]$, $a[2]$, $a[3]$,
consider the first one $a[0] = *a$

2-d and 1-d array pointers to a 2-d array

2-d array pointer



int (*) [3][4]

***p** ≡ **c**

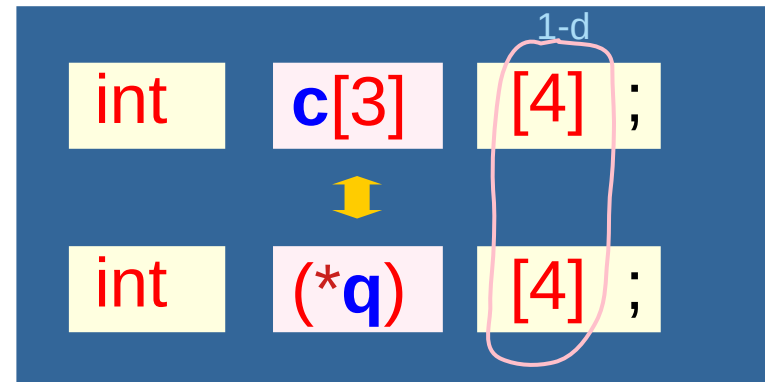
equivalence

p = **&c**;

assignment

(*p)[i][j] ≡ **c[i][j]** ≡ **p[0][i][j]**

1-d array pointer



int (*) [4]

***q** ≡ **c[0]**

equivalence

q = **c**;

assignment

q[i][j] ≡ **c[i][j]** ≡ **(* (q+i))[j]**

among 3 elements **c[0]**, **c[1]**, **c[2]**,
consider the first one **c[0]** = ***c**

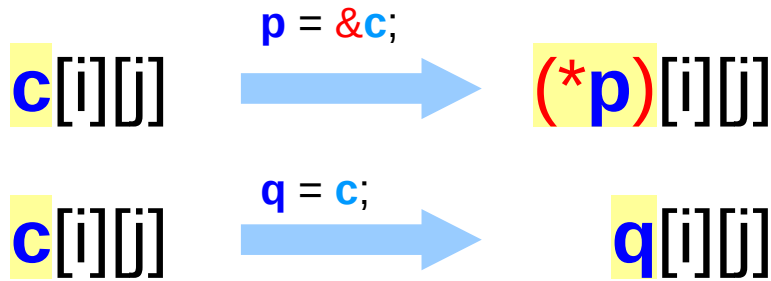
Array pointers to a 2-d array and its sub-array

```
int c [3] [4] ;  
int (*p) [3] [4] = &c ;  
int ( * q ) [4] = &c[0] ; (= c)
```

2-d array **c**

2-d array pointer **p**

1-d array pointer **q**



int [4]

array type

int (*) [4]

array pointer type

int *

integer pointer type

int **

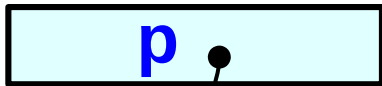
integer double pointer type

Must point to an array type (array name)

```
int (*p) [4];
```

```
p = &a ;
```

int (*) [4]



```
int a[4] ;
```

```
p = &a ;
```

```
(*p) ≡ a
```

int [4]

&a

*p

int

(*p)[0]

(*p)[1]

(*p)[2]

(*p)[3]

The array type

```
int (*p) [4];
```

```
p ≡ a ;
```

int (*) [4]



```
int a[4] ;
```

Warning!

```
p = a ;
```

The array name

int (*)

a

int

a[0]

a[1]

a[2]

a[3]

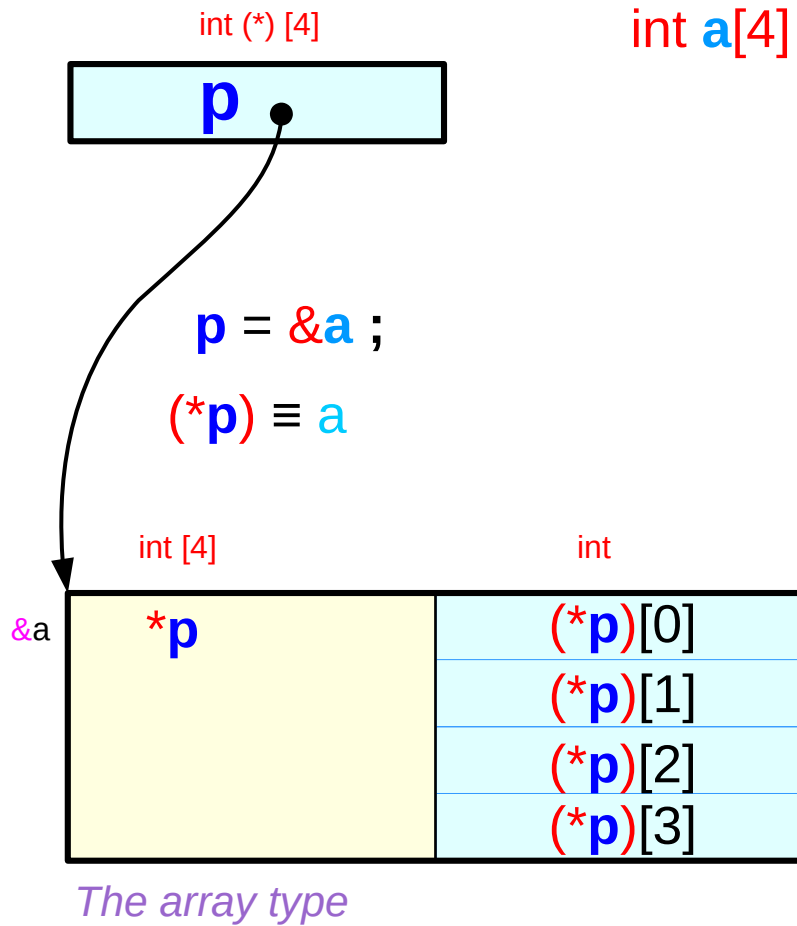
The array type

Integer pointer **p** vs. array pointer **q**

```
int (*p) [4];
```

```
p = &a ;
```

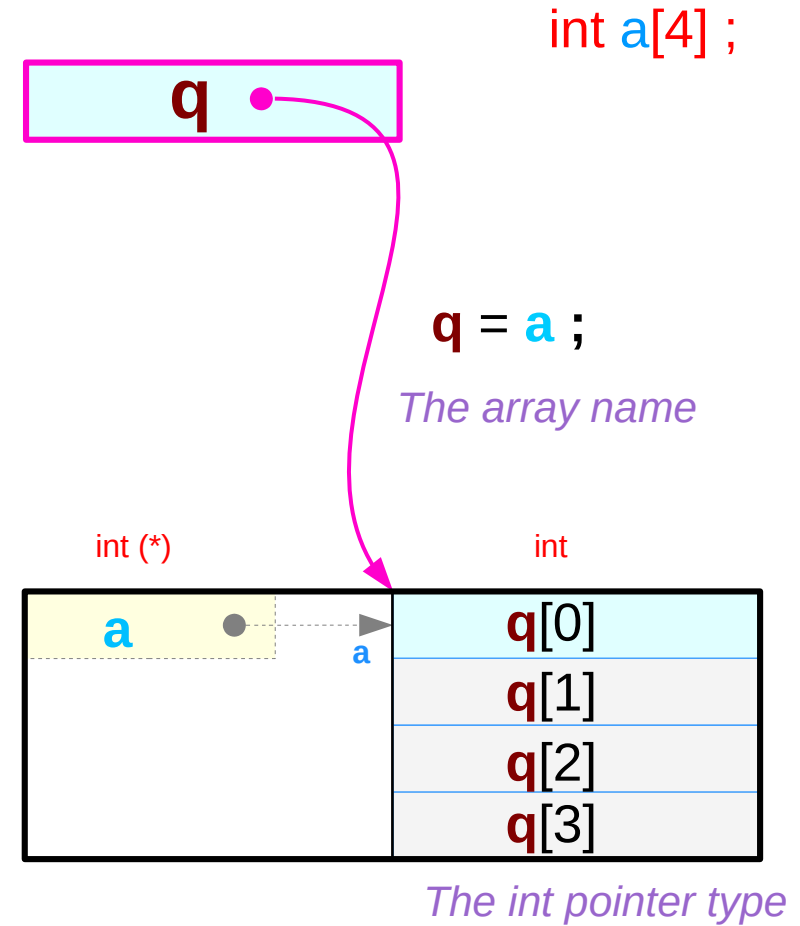
```
int a[4] ;
```



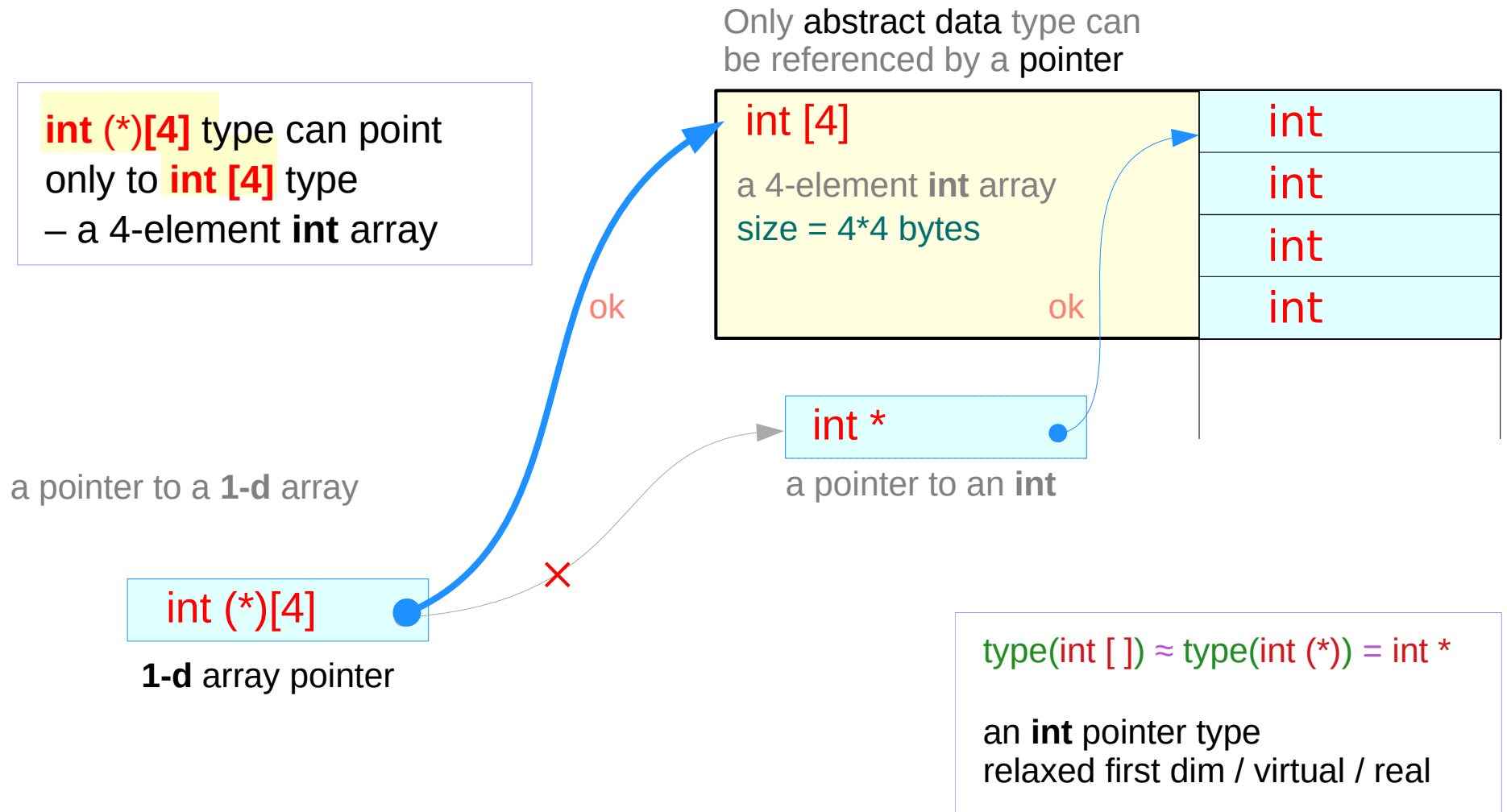
```
int *q ;
```

```
q = a ;
```

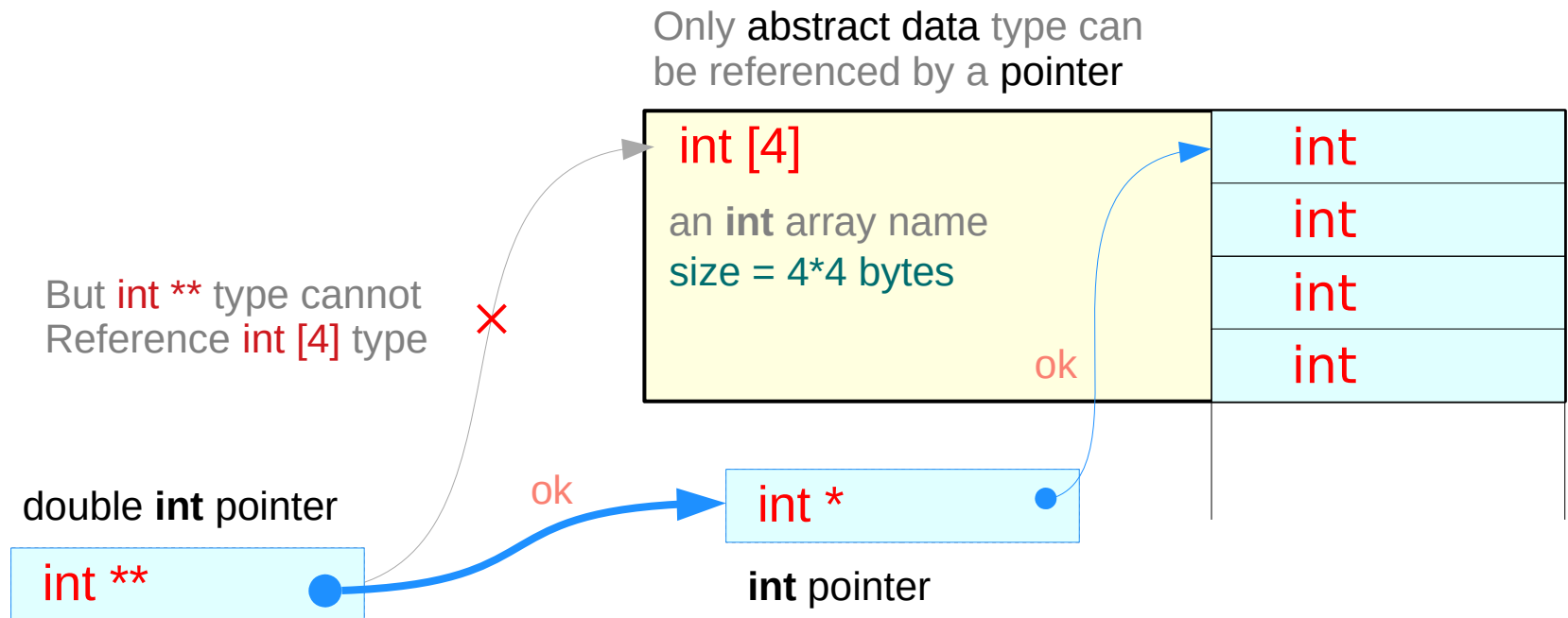
```
int a[4] ;
```



Integer array pointer type – `int (*)[4]`



Double integer pointer type – `int **`



`int **` type can point only to `int *` type – **int** pointer

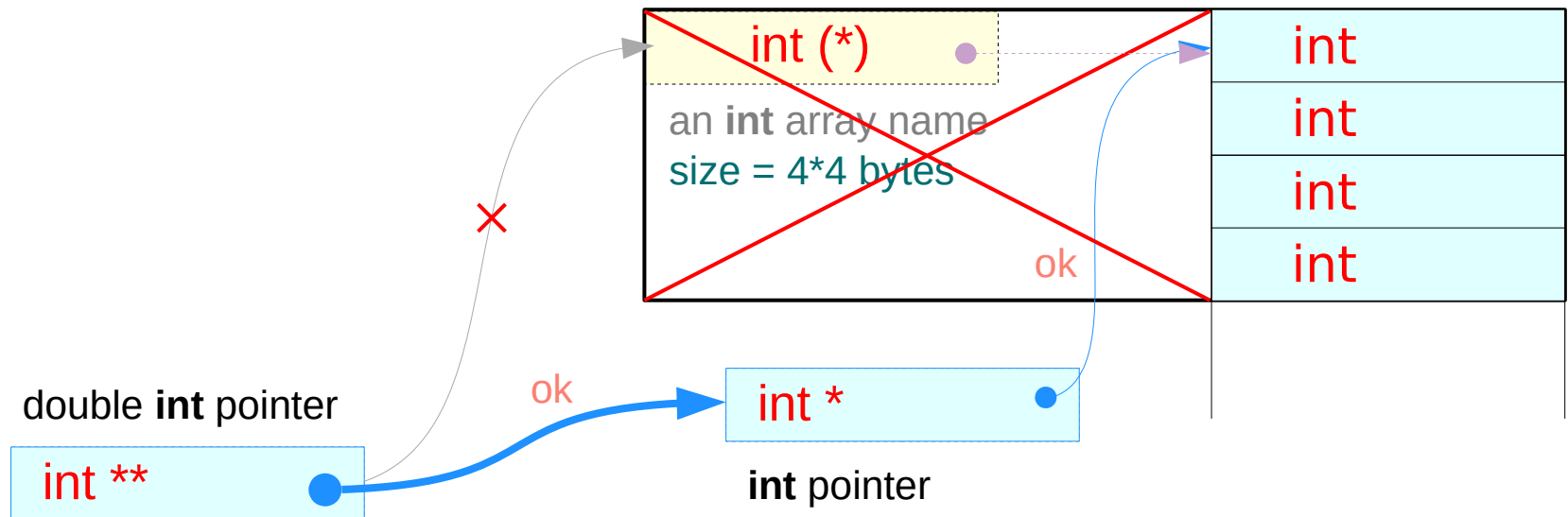
`type(int []) ≈ type(int (*)) = int *`

an **int** pointer type
relaxed first dim / virtual / real

Double integer pointer type – `int **`

Though `int **` type can reference `int *`

relaxed data types cannot be referenced by a pointer



`int **` type cannot point either `int [4]` (abstract data) nor `int (*)` (virtual pointer)

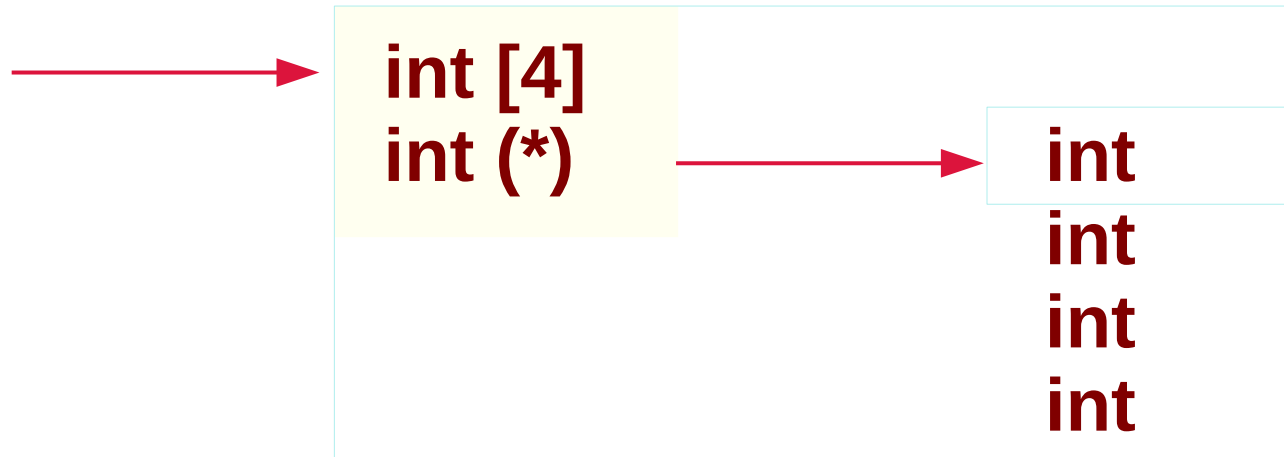
`type(int []) ≈ type(int (*)) = int *`

an `int` pointer type
relaxed first dim / virtual / real

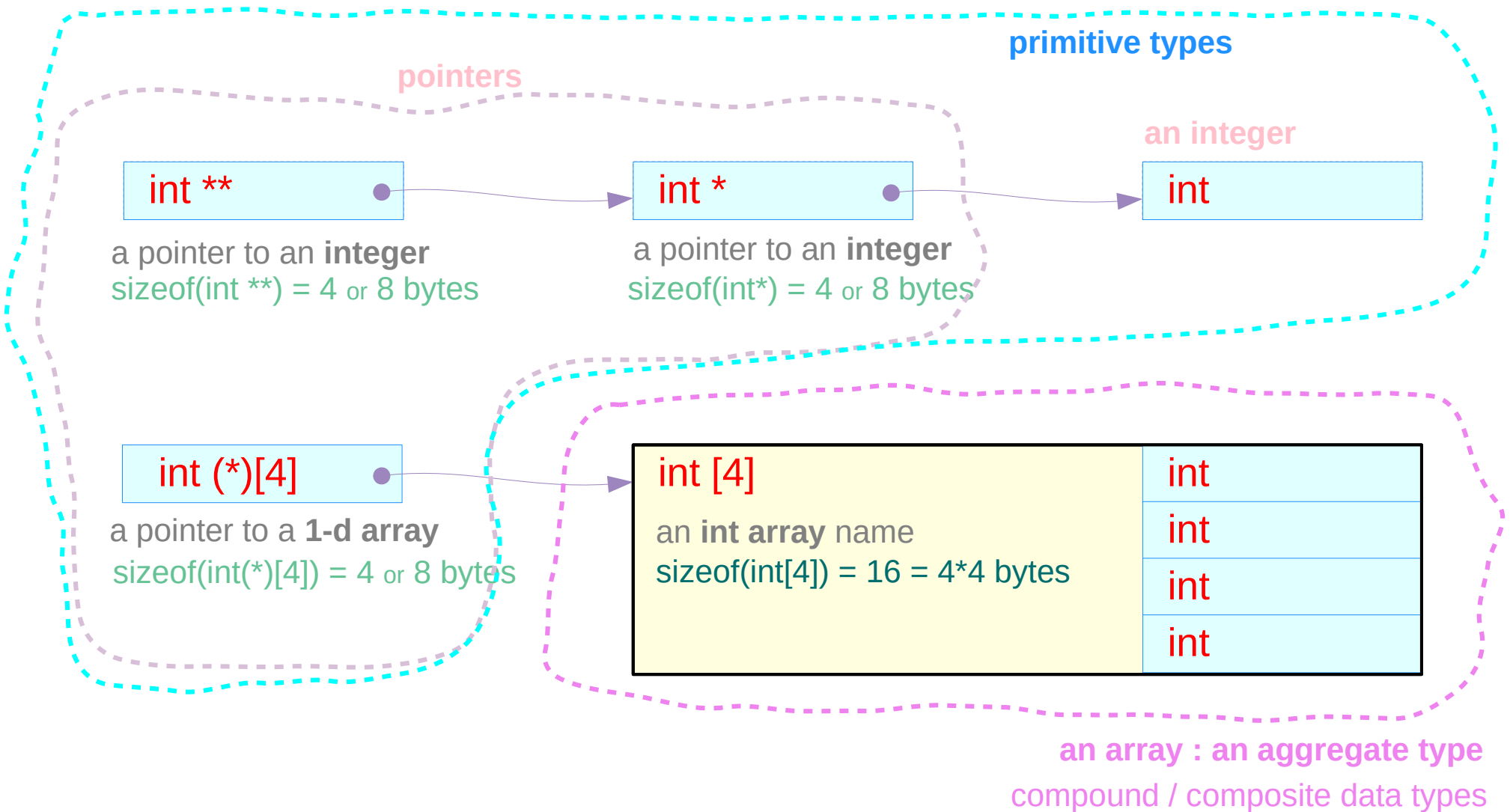
Pointer chains and nested pointers

int ** \longrightarrow **int *** \longrightarrow **int**

int (*) [4]



Types of integer pointers

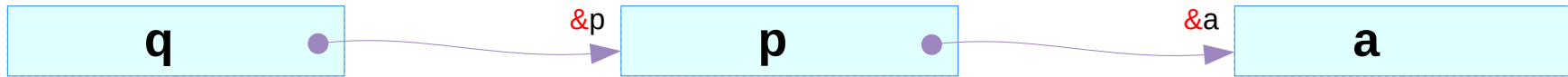


Variable declaration of integer pointers

`int **q = &p;`

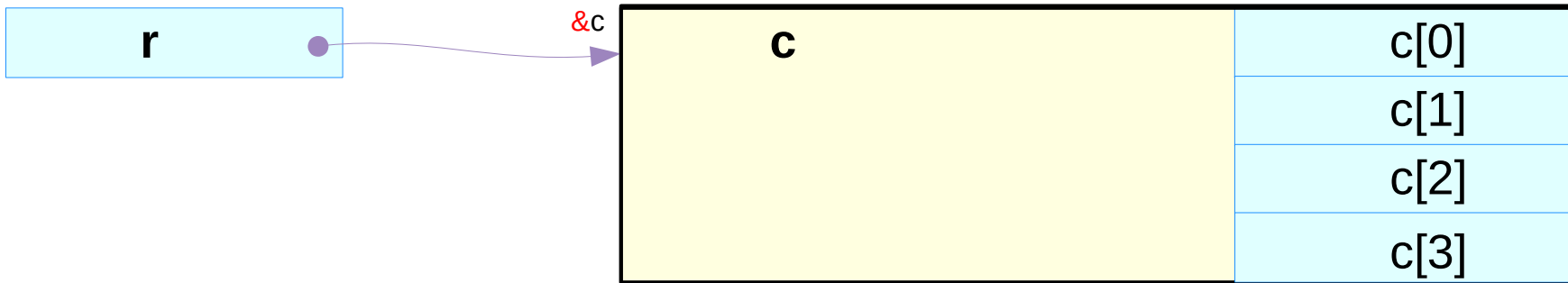
`int *p = &a;`

`int a;`



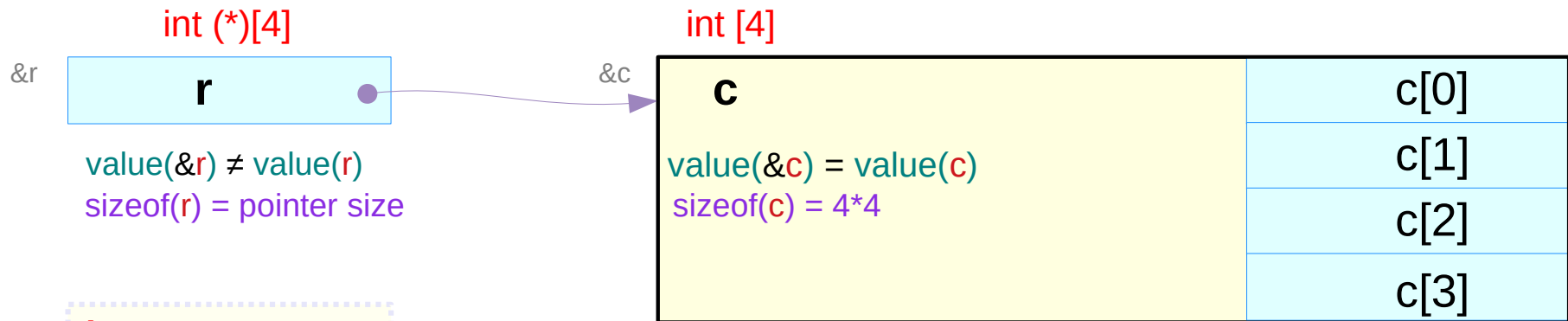
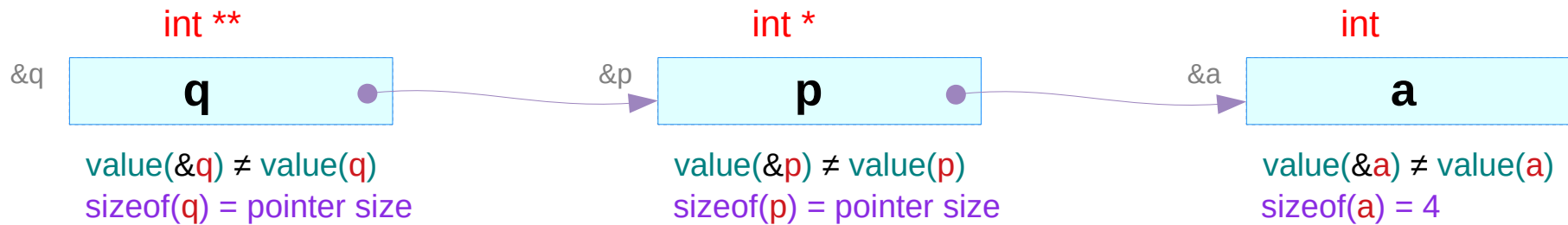
`int (*r)[4] = &c;`

`int c[4];`



<code>int (*)</code>	virtual pointers <u>cannot</u> be referenced
<code>int [4]</code>	only abstract data <u>can</u> be referenced

Types, Sizes, and Values



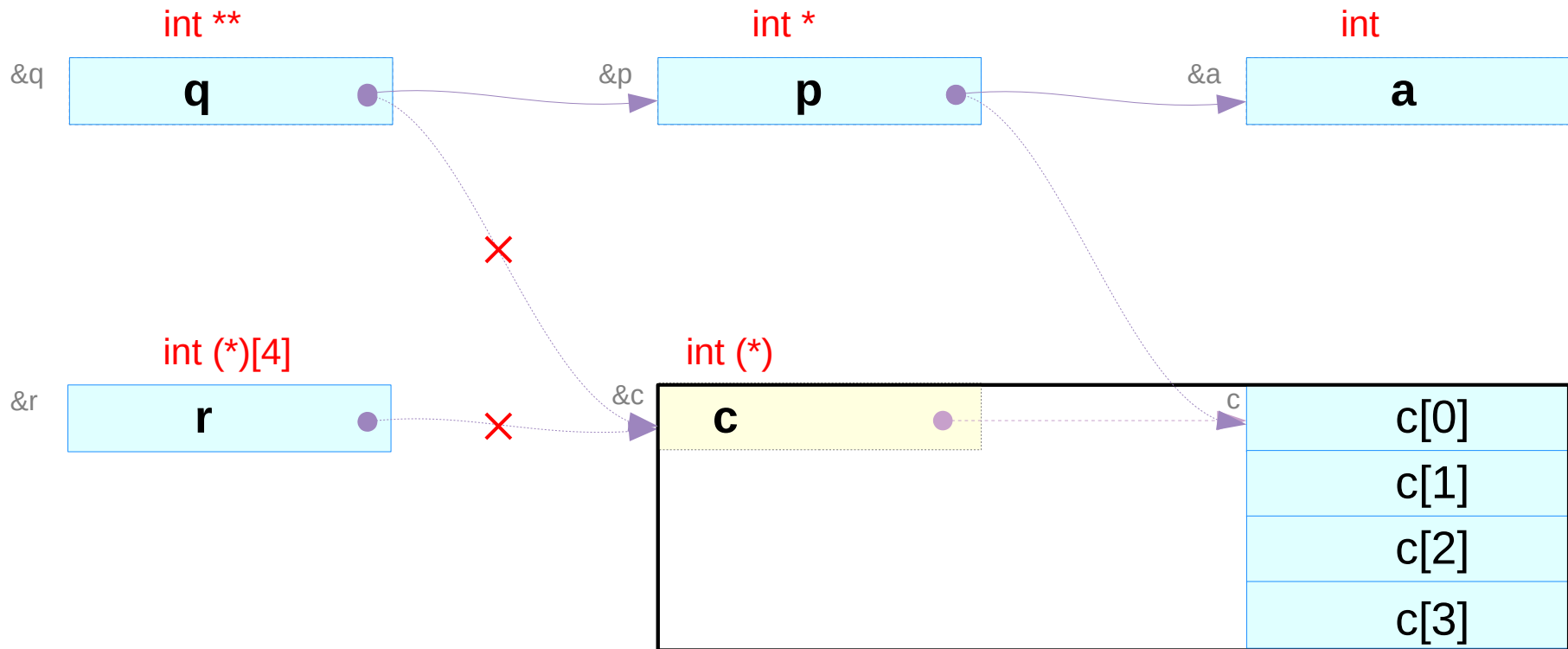
```
int a;
int *p = &a;
int *q = &p;

int c[4];
int (*r)[4] = &c;
```

$$\text{type}(\text{int}[4]) \subset \text{type}(\text{int}[\]) \approx \text{type}(\text{int}[*]) \equiv \text{int}^*$$

abstract data
relaxed data
0-d array pointer
int pointer

Array as a pointer type



<code>int (*)</code>	virtual pointers <u>cannot</u> be referenced
<code>int [4]</code>	only abstract data <u>can</u> be referenced

int * an integer pointer

int [2] a **1-d** array with 2 integer elements

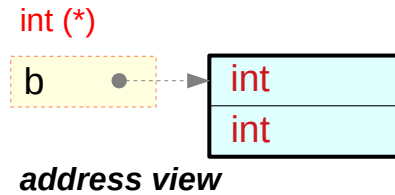
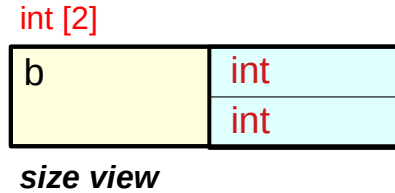
int [3] a **1-d** array with 3 integer elements

Integer pointer and array types – `int *`, `int [2]`, `int [3]`

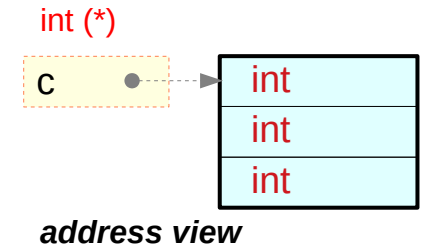
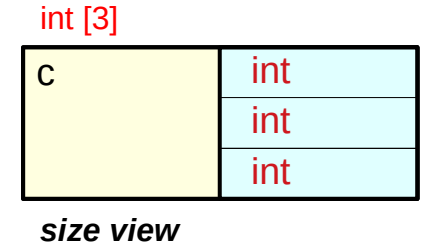
`int *a;`



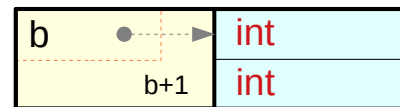
`int b[2];`



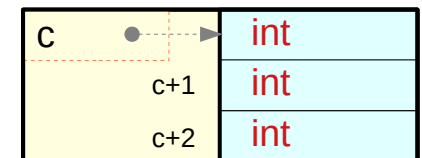
`int c[3];`



`int [2]` – size view
`int (*)` – address view

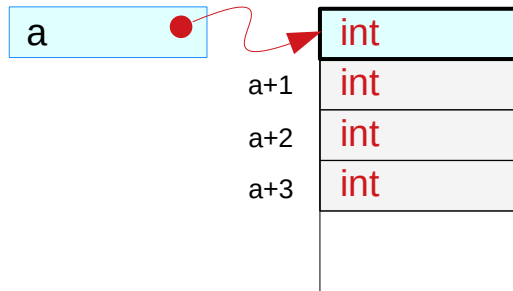


`int [3]` – size view
`int (*)` – address view



Incrementing pointers – `int *`, `int [2]`, `int [3]`

`int *a;`

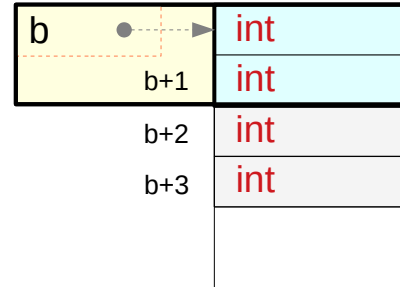


```
a[0] = *a
a[1] = *(a+1)
a[2] = *(a+2)
a[3] = *(a+3)
```

syntactically legitimate

programmers must ensure their validity

`int b[2];`

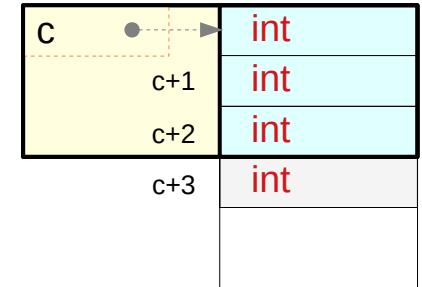


```
b[0] = *b
b[1] = *(b+1)
b[2] = *(b+2)
b[3] = *(b+3)
```

syntactically legitimate

programmers must ensure their validity

`int c[3];`



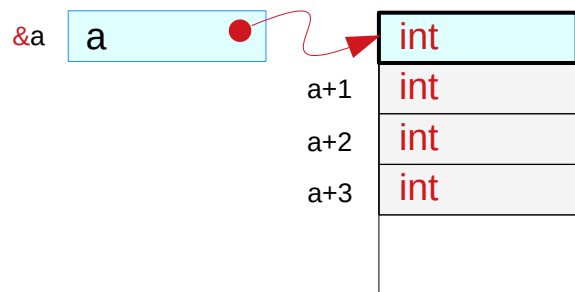
```
c[0] = *c
c[1] = *(c+1)
c[2] = *(c+2)
c[3] = *(c+3)
```

syntactically legitimate

programmers must ensure their validity

Types and sizes – `int *`, `int [2]`, `int [3]`

`int *a;`



`type(&a) = int **`

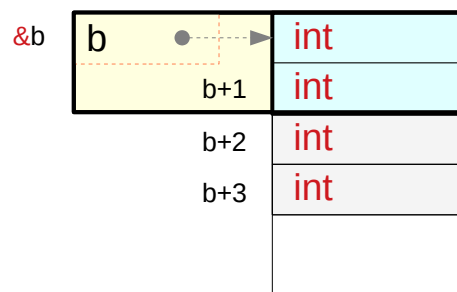
`type(a) = int *`

`type(*a) = int`

`value(&a) ≠ value(a)`

`sizeof(a)`
= pointer size
= `sizeof(int *)`

`int b[2]`



`type(&b) = int (*) [2]`

`type(b) = int (*)` gcc printing type
`int [2]`

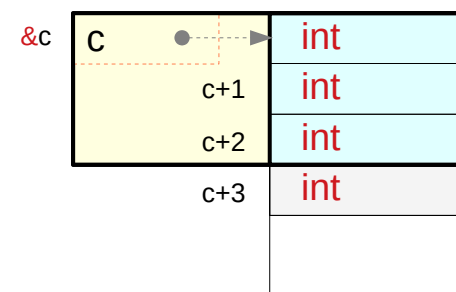
`type(*b) = int`

`value(&b) = value(b)`

`sizeof(b)`
= `sizeof(*b) * 2`
= `sizeof(int) * 2`

`&b` and `b` evaluate the same address but have different types and also different sizes

`int c[3];`



`type(&c) = int (*) [3]`

`type(c) = int (*)` gcc printing type
`int [3]`

`type(*c) = int`

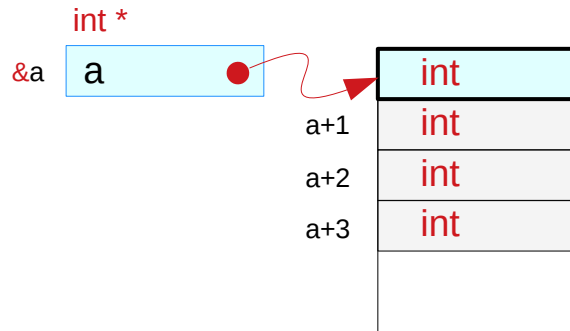
`value(&c) = value(c)`

`sizeof(c)`
= `sizeof(*c) * 3`
= `sizeof(int) * 3`

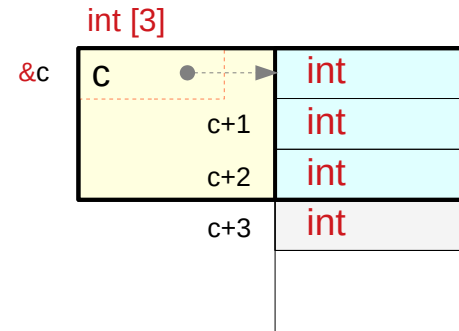
`&c` and `c` evaluate the same address but have different types and also different sizes

Real pointer and virtual pointer types – `int *`, `int [3]`

`int *a;`



`int c[3];`



`sizeof (a) = pointer size` `int *`

`value(&a) ≠ value(a)` `int *`

the address of pointer variable `a` is not equal to the pointed address

real memory location for `a`

`type(a) = int *`

`type(&a) = int **`

`sizeof (c) = sizeof(*c) * 3` `int [3]`

`value(&c) = value(c)` `int (*)`

the starting address of array variable `c` is equal to the address of the 1st element

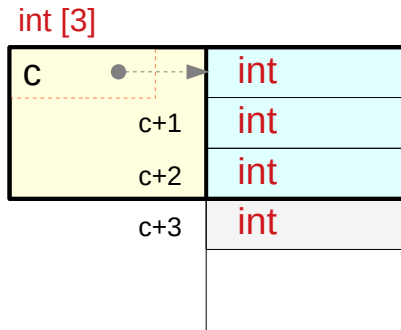
no actual memory location for `c`

`type(c) = int (*)` gcc printing type

`int [3]`
`type(&c) = int (*) [3]`

Virtual pointer types of an array– `int [3]`

```
int c[3];
```



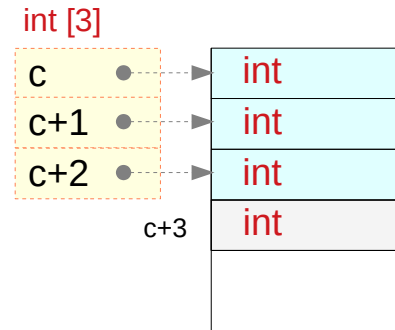
`sizeof (c) = sizeof(int) * 3`

`value(&c) = value(c)`

`type(c) = int *`

`type(&c) = int (*) [3]`

```
int c[3];
```



`sizeof (c) = sizeof(*c) * 3 ... leading element`

`sizeof (c+1) = pointer size`

`sizeof (c+2) = pointer size`

`value(&c) = value(c) ... leading element`

`value(c+1) = value(c) + sizeof(*c) *1`

`value(c+2) = value(c) + sizeof(*c) *2`

`type(c) = int *`

`type(c+1) = int *`

`type(c+2) = int *`

`type(&c) = int (*) [3]`

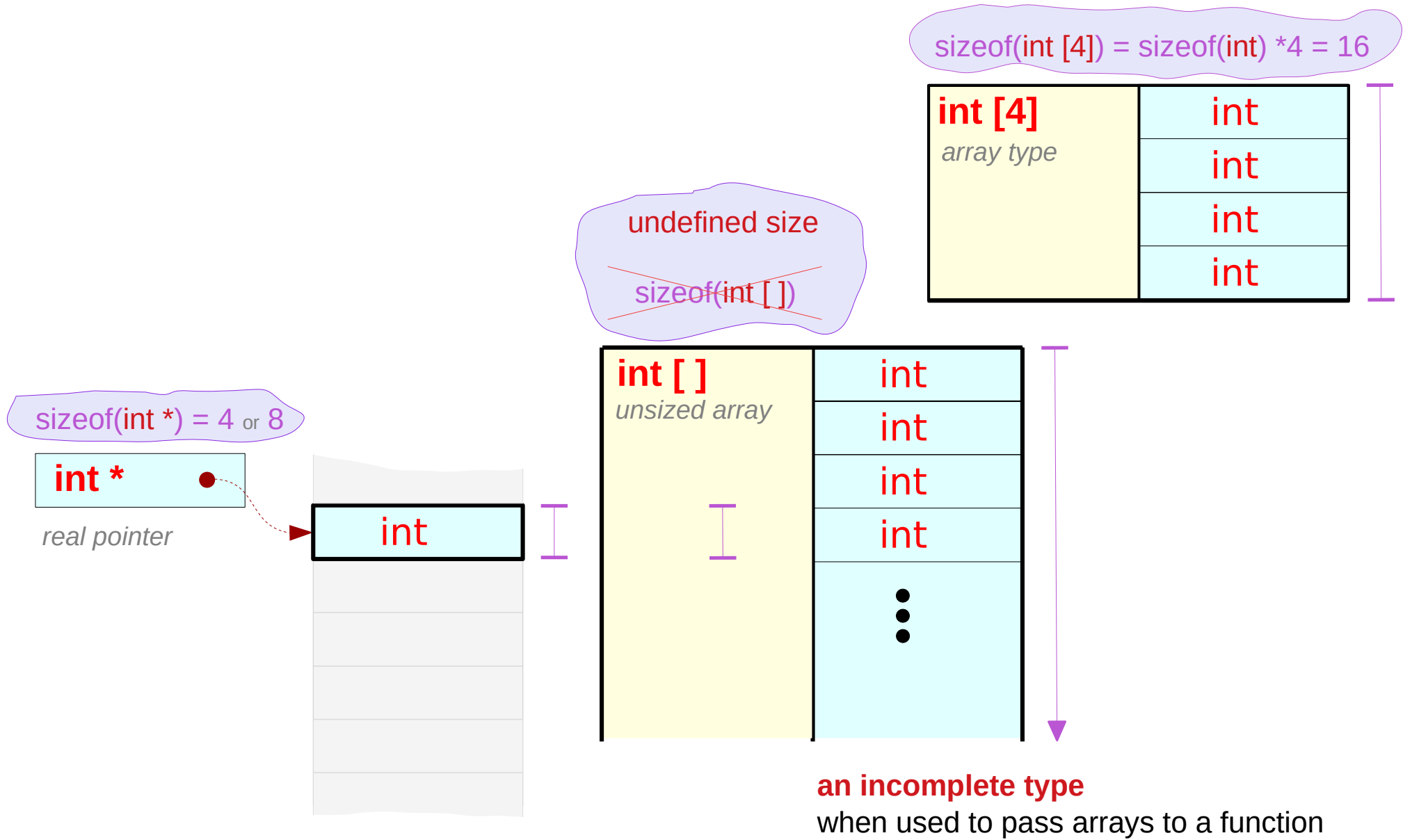
int [4] a **1-d** 4-element integer array

int [] a **1-d** unsized integer array

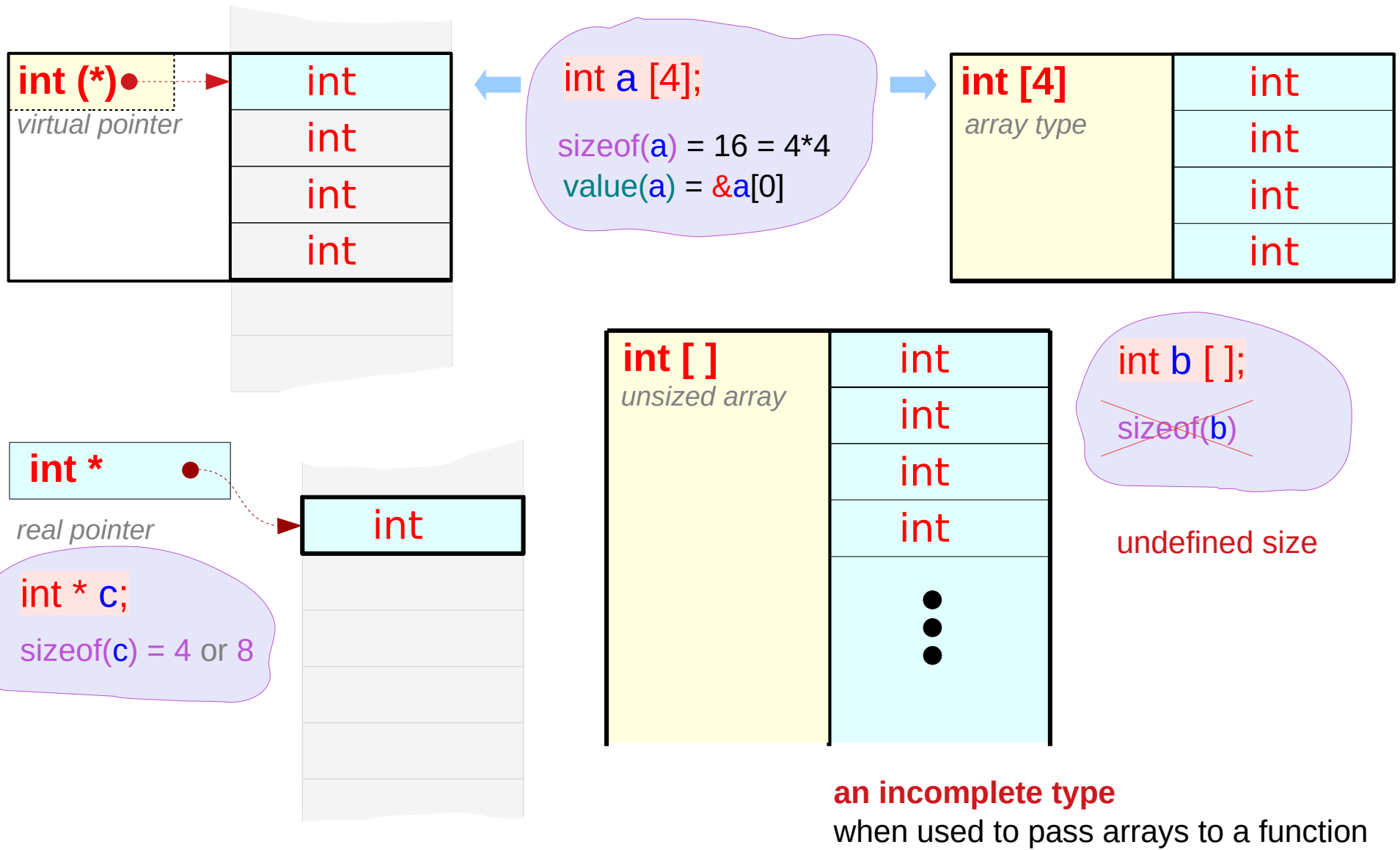
int (*) a **0-d** integer array pointer (**int ***)

int (*) [4] a **1-d** integer array pointer

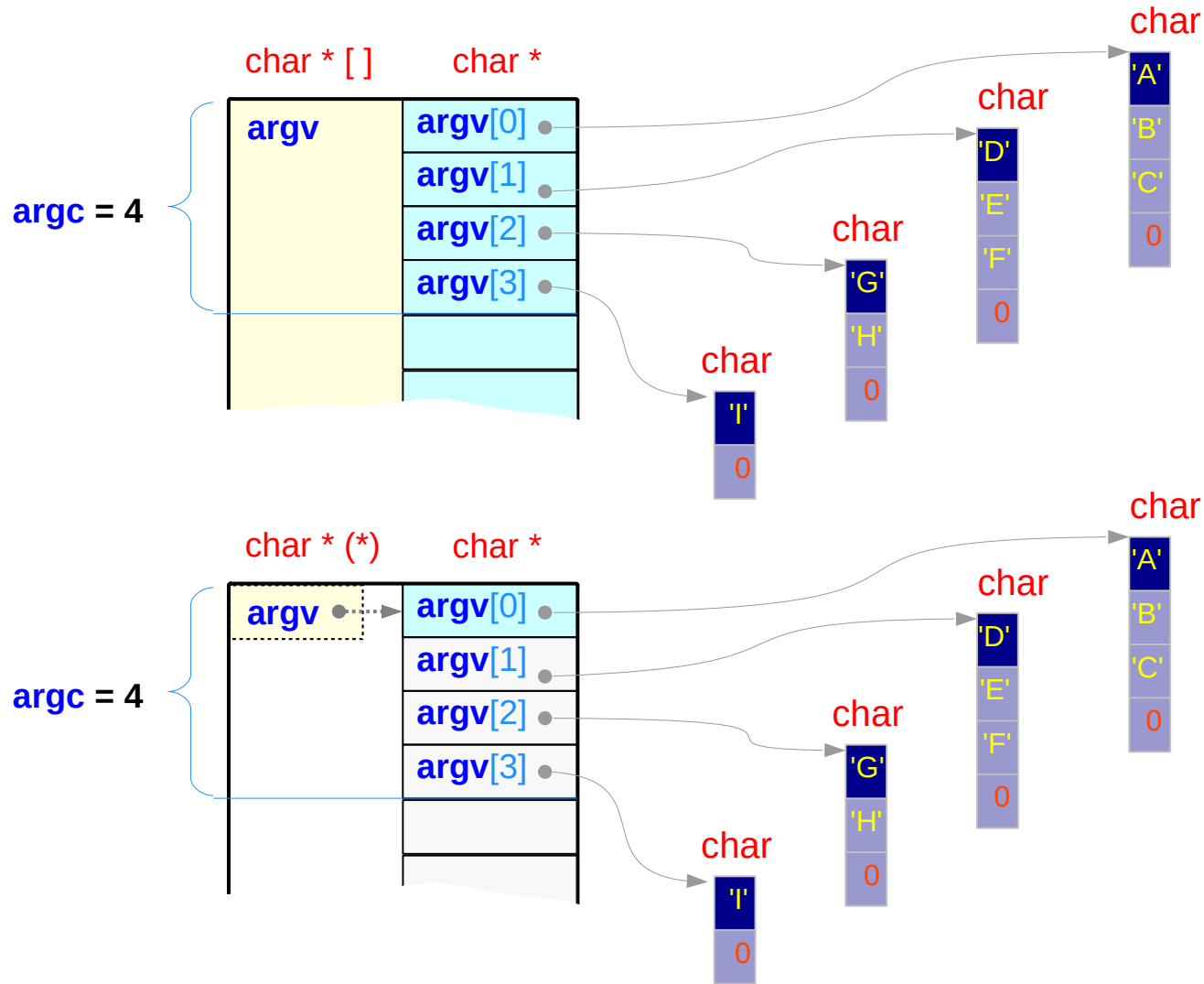
Sizes of `int [4]`, `int []`, `int *` types



Sizes of variables of `int [4]`, `int []`, `int *` types



(int argc, char * argv[]) example



MSB			LSB
0	'C'	'B'	'A'
0	'F'	'E'	'D'
'I'	0	'H'	'G'
			0

`char * []` relaxed 1st dimension
`char * (*)` array pointer
`char * *`

Relaxing the 1st dimension of an array

Multi-dimensional array types

array types

```
int a [4];
```

```
int b [4][5];
```

```
int c [4][5][6];
```

function calls

```
funa(a);
```

```
funb(b);
```

```
func(c);
```

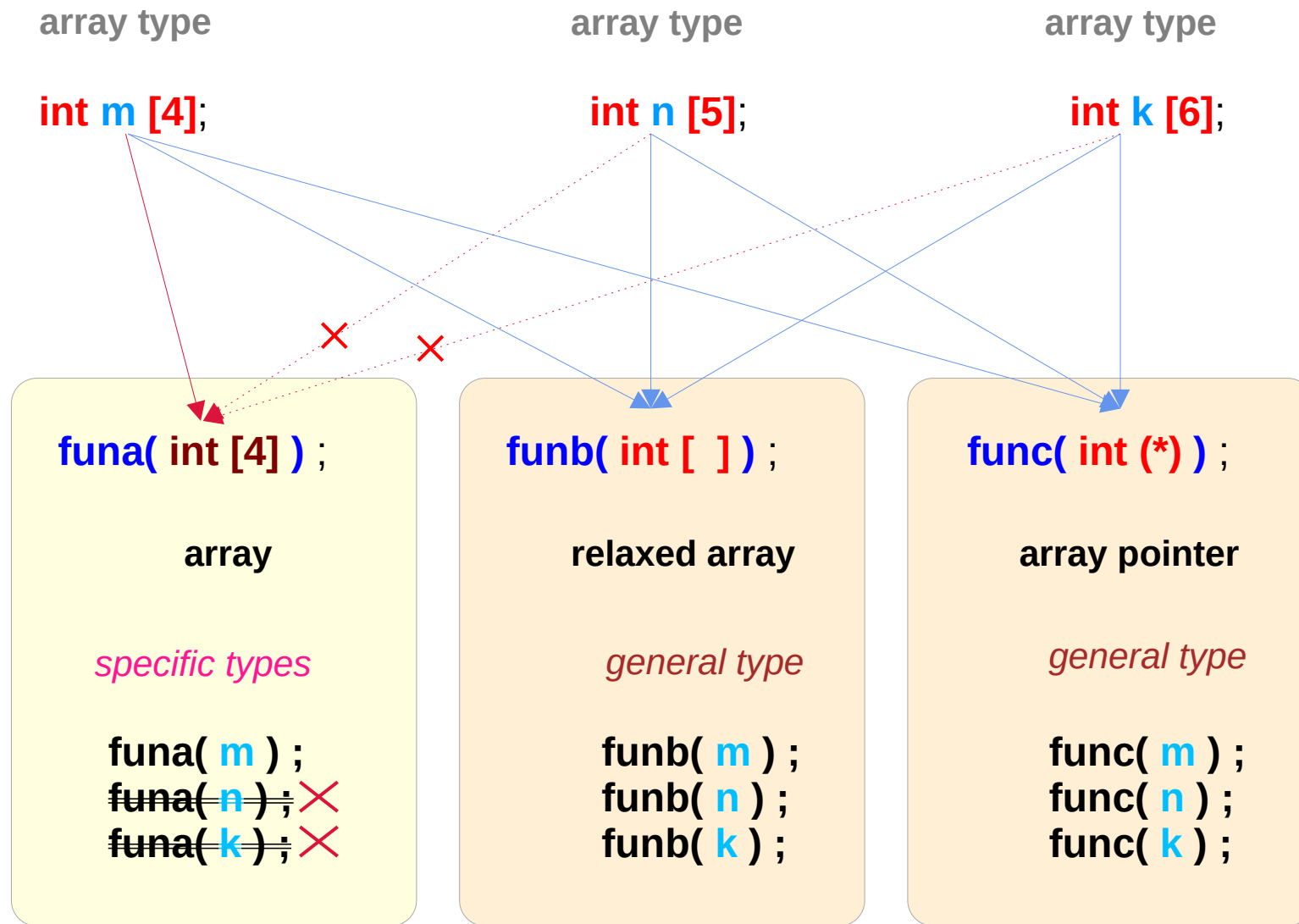
possible function prototypes

<code>funa(int [4]);</code>	array type	<i>specific type</i>
<code>funa(int []);</code>	relaxed array	<i>general type</i>
<code>funa(int (*));</code>	array pointer	<i>general type</i>

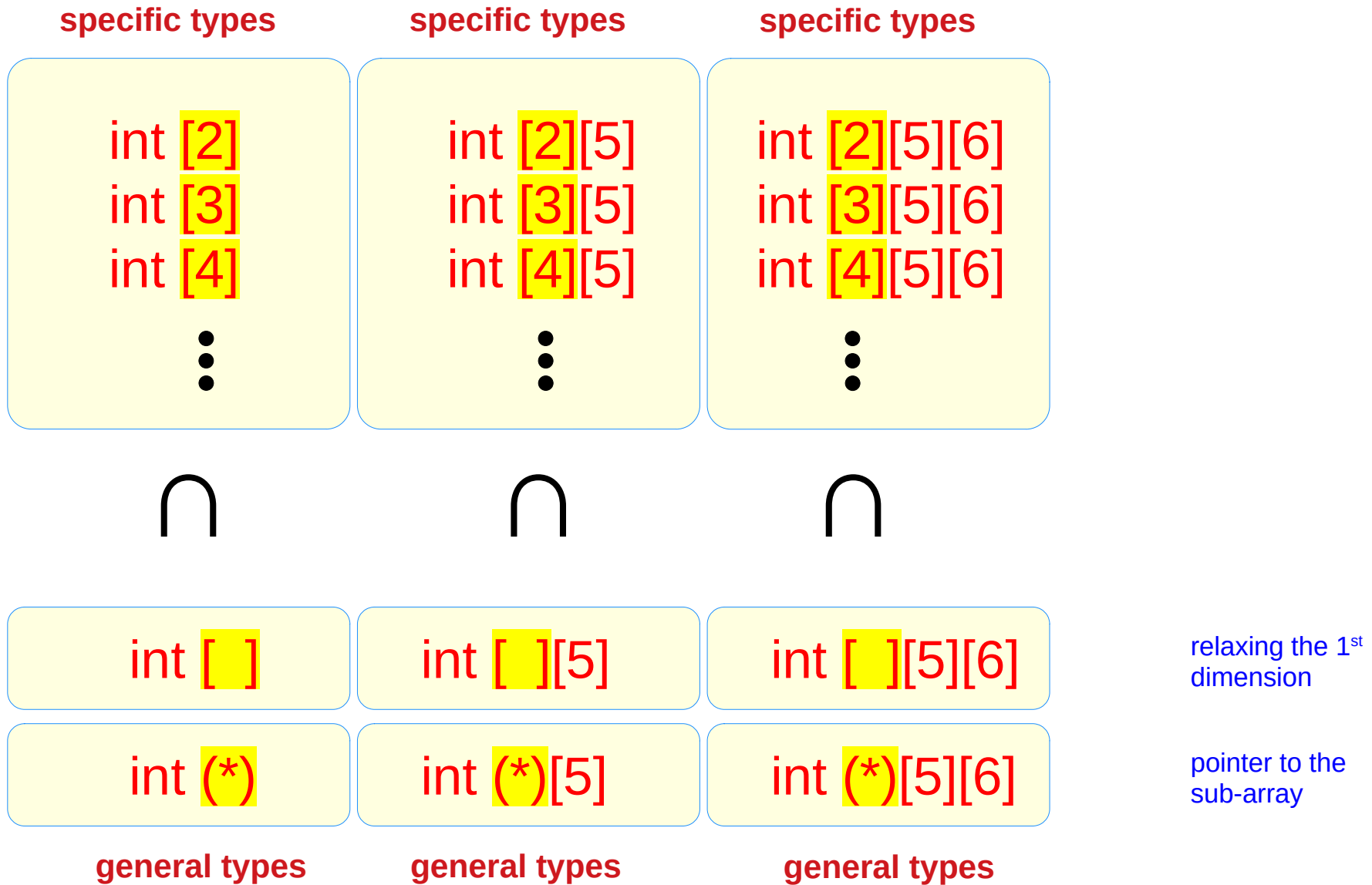
<code>funb(int [4][5]);</code>	array type	<i>specific type</i>
<code>funb(int [][5]);</code>	relaxed array	<i>general type</i>
<code>funb(int (*)[5]);</code>	array pointer	<i>general type</i>

<code>func(int [4][5][6]);</code>	array type	<i>specific type</i>
<code>func(int [][5][6]);</code>	relaxed array	<i>general type</i>
<code>func(int (*)[5][6]);</code>	array pointer	<i>general type</i>

Multi-dimensional array types



Super types and sub types



Relaxing array types

int [3][4][5]

3-d array

int [][4][5]

the 1st dimension
relaxed

int (*)[4][5]

2-d array pointer

int [4][5]

2-d array

int [][5]

the 1st dimension
relaxed

int (*)[5]

1-d array pointer

int [5]

1-d array

int []

the 1st dimension
relaxed

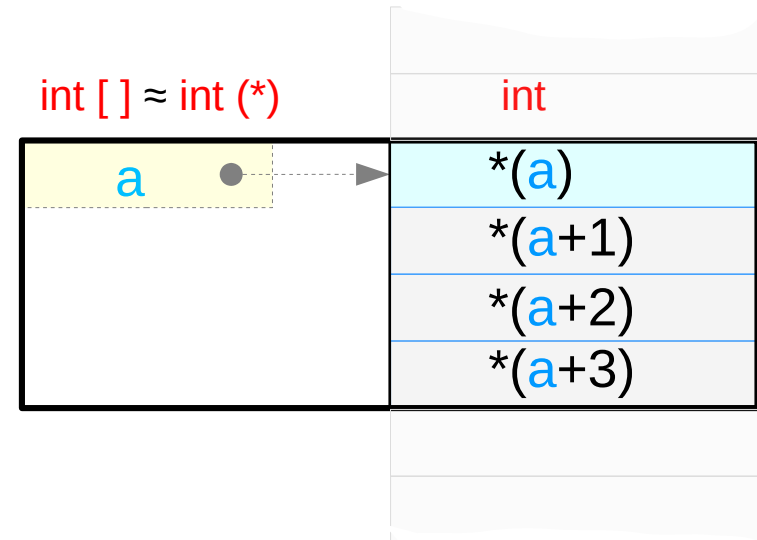
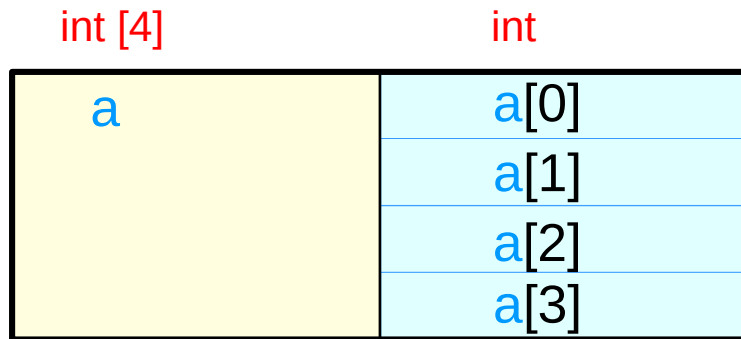
int (*)

0-d array pointer

undefined size

pointer size

Passing an individual element by reference



int [4]



int []
⇔
int (*)
|||
int *

relaxing the 1st dimension

pointer to a 0-d array

pointer to an integer

-
- Viewing an **array** as a **pointer**
 - Viewing a **pointer** as an **array**

```
int a[4];
```



```
int (*)
```

1-d array **a**

view **a** as
a 0-d array pointer

virtual pointer
- no real memory location
- constraints :
value(&a) = value(a)

```
int (*p);
```



```
int [N]
```

0-d array pointer **p**

view **p** as
a 1-d array

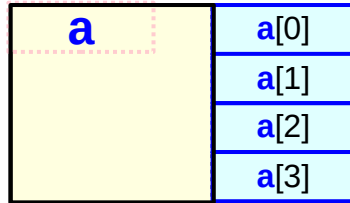
N is not fixed to 4

sizeof(p) is not
the size of the array
but the size of a
pointer variable

Array **a** and array pointer **p**

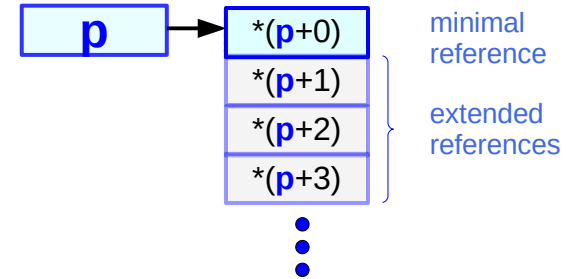
`int a[4];`

1-d array a



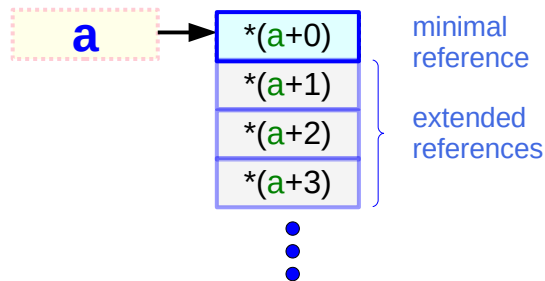
`int (*p);`

0-d array pointer p



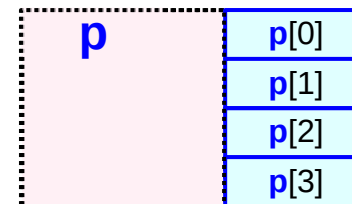
`int (*)`

a as a 0-d array pointer



`int [N]`

p as a 1-d array



Array **a** and array pointer **p**

`int a[4];` **1-d array a**

- `sizeof(a)` = an array size
= 4 * 4 bytes
- no. of elements = fixed
= 4

`int (*p);` **0-d array pointer p**

- `sizeof(p)` = a pointer size
= 4 / 8 bytes
- no. of elements = not fixed
= at least 1

`int (*)` **a as a 0-d array pointer**

a is not a real pointer

- `sizeof(a)` = an array size
- `value(a)` = `value(&a)`

`int [N]` **p as a 1-d array**

p is not a real array

- `sizeof(p)` ≠ an array size
= a pointer size
- `value(p)` ≠ `value(&p)`
= allocated address

Determining types of sub-arrays from the declaration of an array

Types of array names

```
int a[4];
```

a is the name of the 1-d array

int [4]

`sizeof(a)` = 4 * 4

[3] is declared;
[0], [1], [2] are used

```
int c[3][4];
```

c[i] is the name of the 1-d subarray

int [4]

`sizeof(c[i])` = 4 * 4

```
int c[3][4];
```

c is the name of the 2-d array

int [3][4]

`sizeof(c)` = 3 * 4 * 4

Values of array names



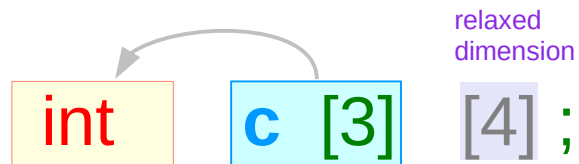
the value of **a** is the starting address of an array with 4 elements of **int** type

int (*)

a: pointer to the first element

a = &a[0]

[3] is declared;
[0], [1], [2] are used

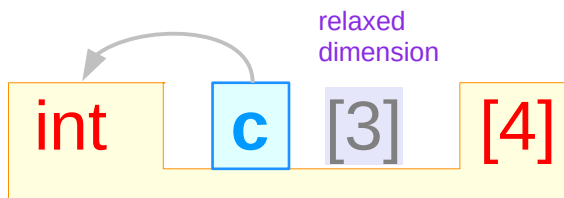


each value of **c[i]** is the starting address of an array with 4 elements of **int** type

int (*)

c[i]: pointer to the first element

c[i] = &c[i][0]



the value of **c** is the starting address of an array with 3 elements of **int [4]** type

int (*) [4]

c: pointer to the first element

c = &c[0]

Array and pointer types in a 1-d array

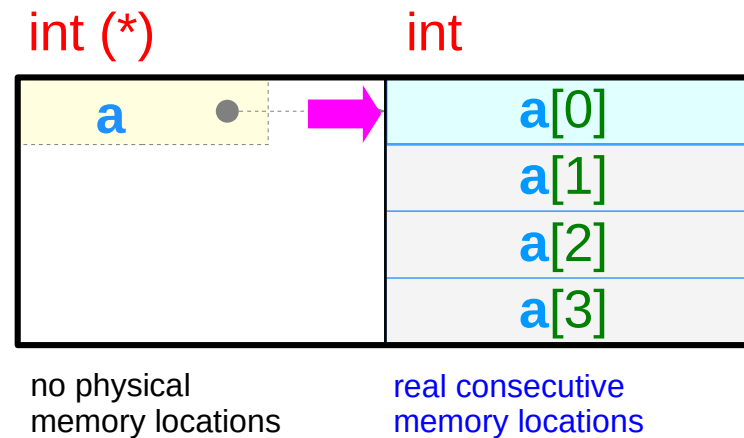
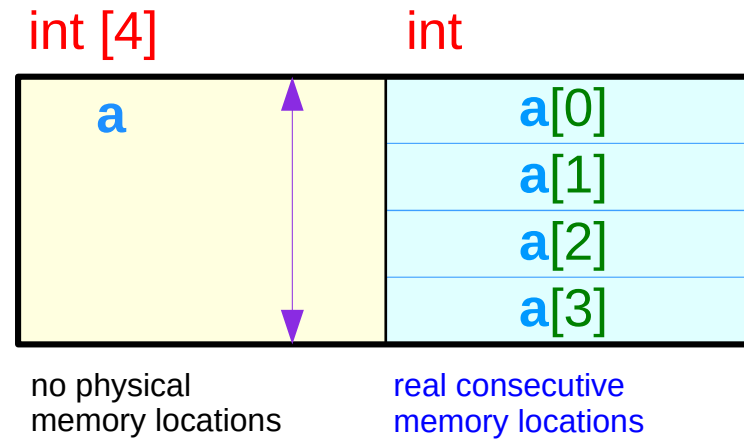
int **a** **[4]**

a 1-d array
type : **int [4]**
size : **4 * 4**

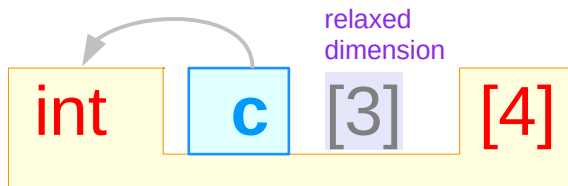
int **a** **[4]** relaxed dimension

a 0-d array pointer
type : **int (*)**
value : **&a[0]**

a points to the 1st **int** element
there are 4 **int** elements



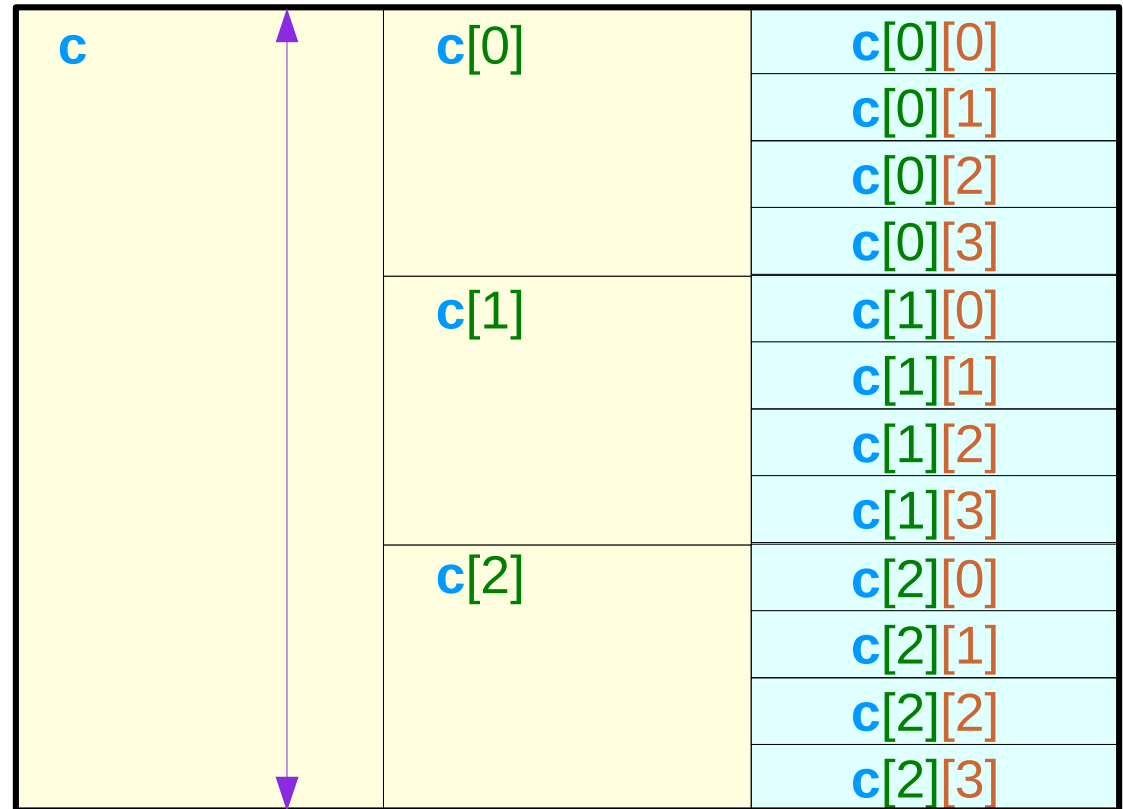
2-d array type



c 1-d array pointer
type : **int (*)** [4]
value : **c** = **&c**[0][0]

&c

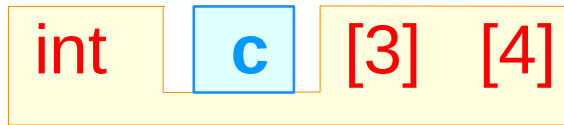
int [3][4]



no physical memory locations

real consecutive memory locations

1-d array pointer type



c 2-d array

type : `int [3][4]`

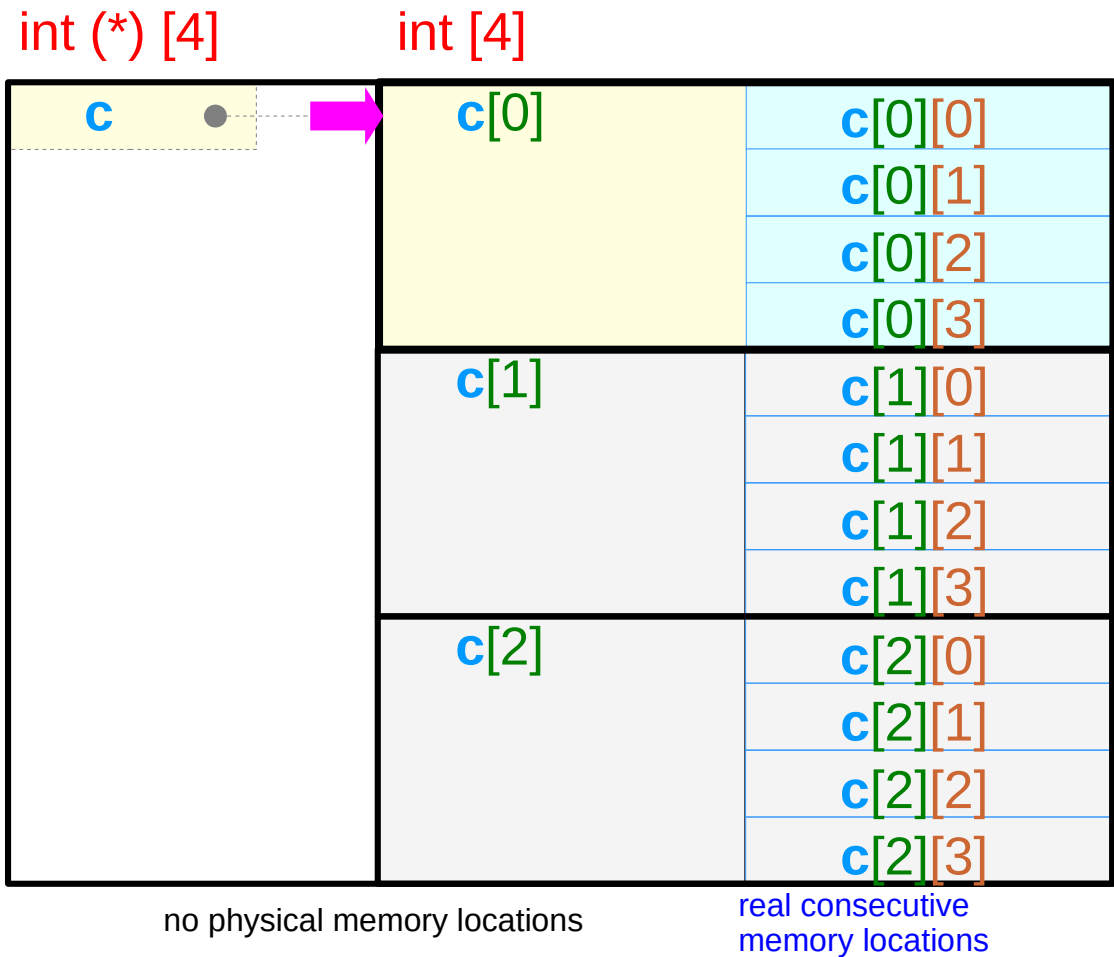
size : `3 * 4 * 4`

c 1-d array pointer

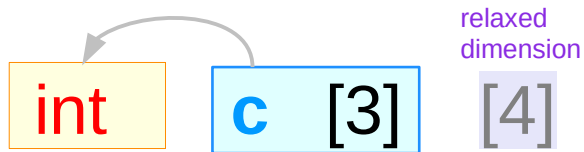
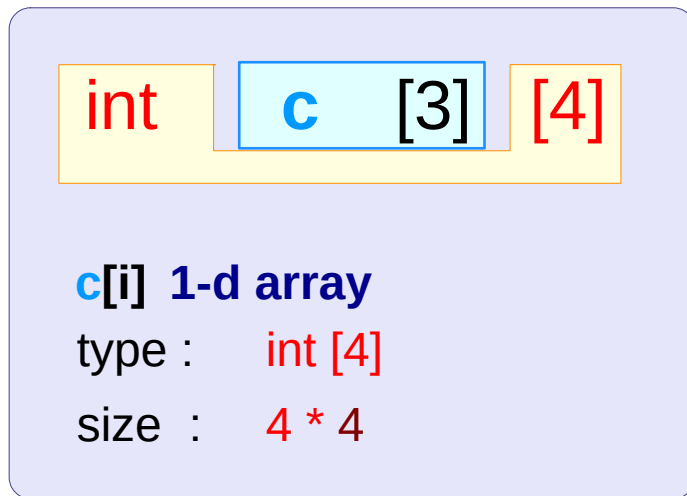
type : `int (*) [4]`

value : `c = &c[0][0]`

c points to the 1st `int [4]` element
There are 3 `int [4]` elements

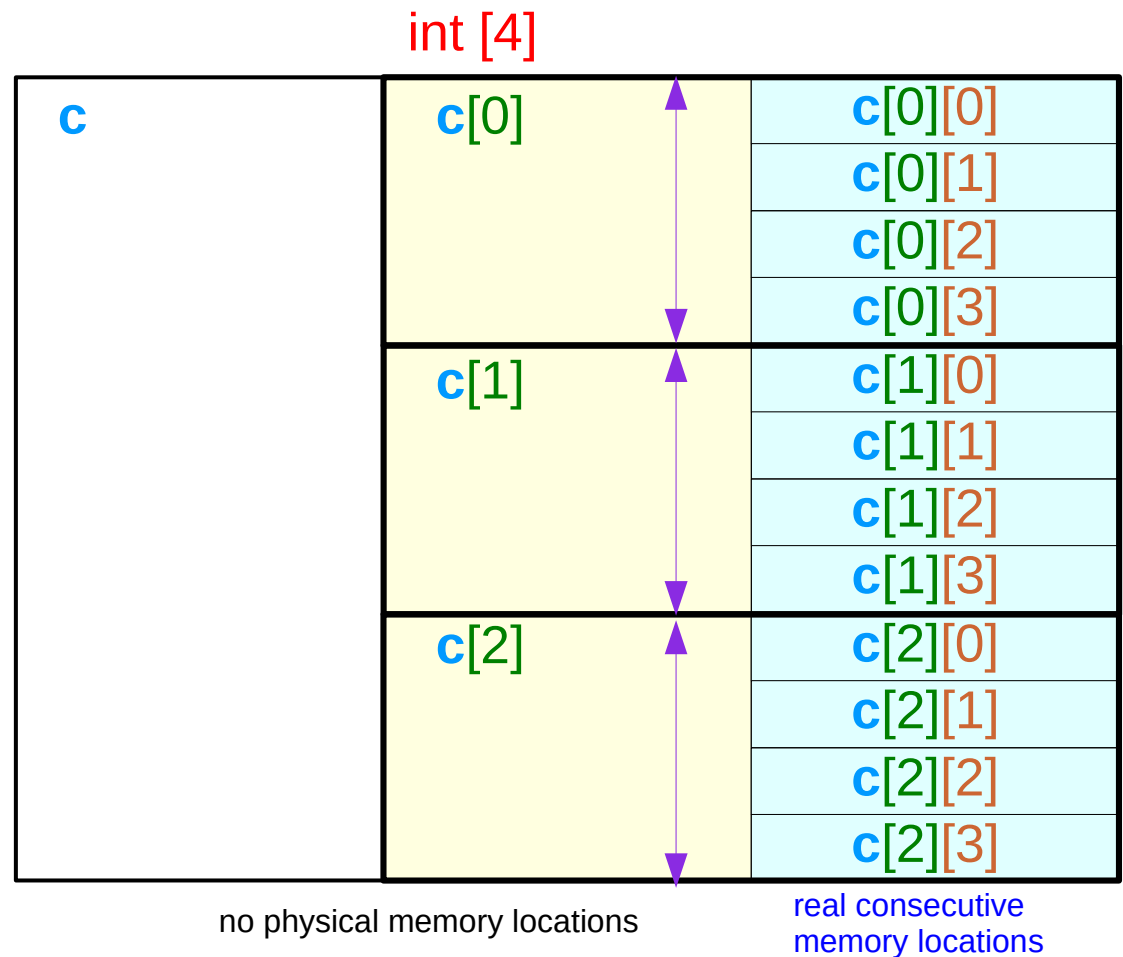


1-d array type

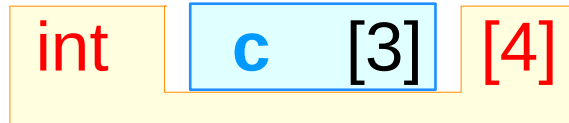


c[i] 0-d array pointer
type : **int (*)**
value : **c[i] = &c[i][0]**

c[i] points to the 1st **int** element
There are 4 **int** elements



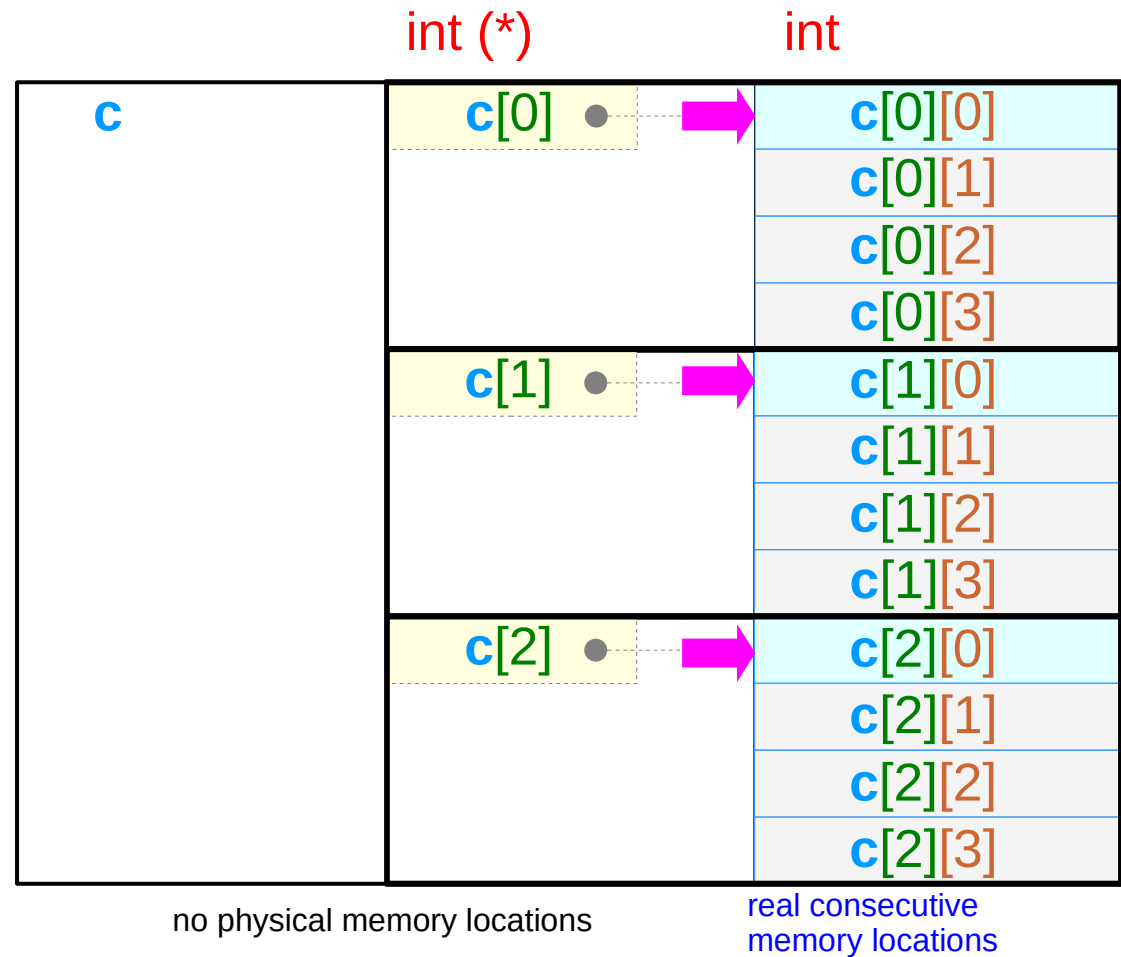
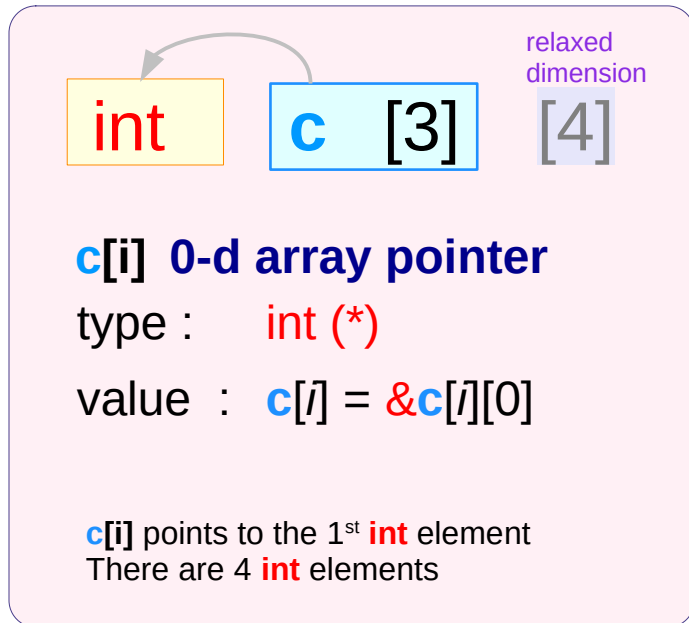
0-d array pointer type



c[i] 1-d array

type : int [4]

size : 4 * 4



Values of virtual array pointer in a 2-d array

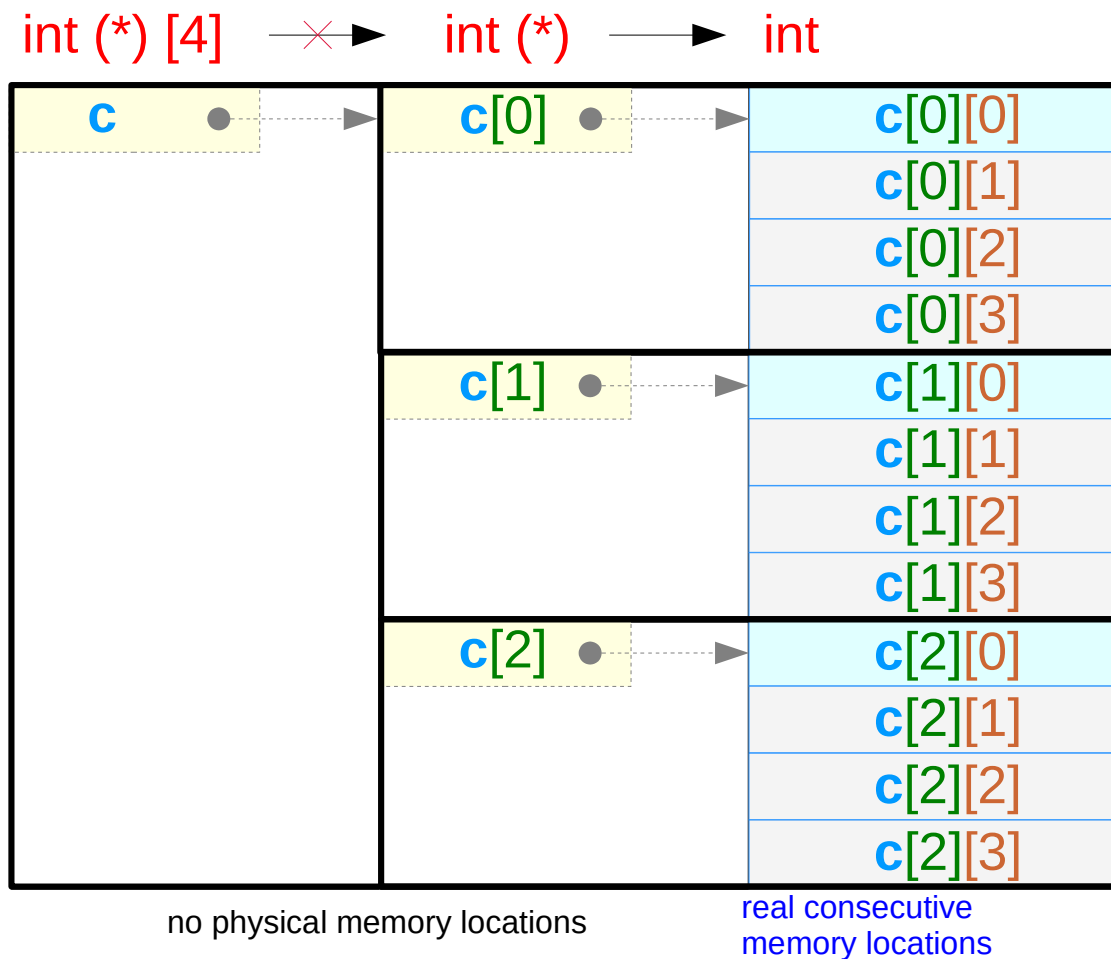
$c = c[0] = \&c[0][0]$

$c[1] = \&c[1][0]$

$c[2] = \&c[2][0]$

Only abstract data type can be referenced by a pointer

This figure shows only the same address values of pointers



Types in a 2-d array

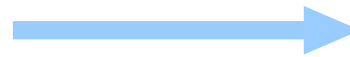
int c [3] [4]

c 2-d array

type : int [3][4]

size : 3 * 4 * 4

relaxing the 1st dimension



int c [3] [4]

relaxed dimension

c 1-d array pointer (virtual)

type : int (*) [4]

value : &c[0][0]

int c [3] [4]

c[i] 1-d array

type : int [4]

size : 4 * 4

relaxing the 1st dimension



int c [3] [4]

relaxed dimension

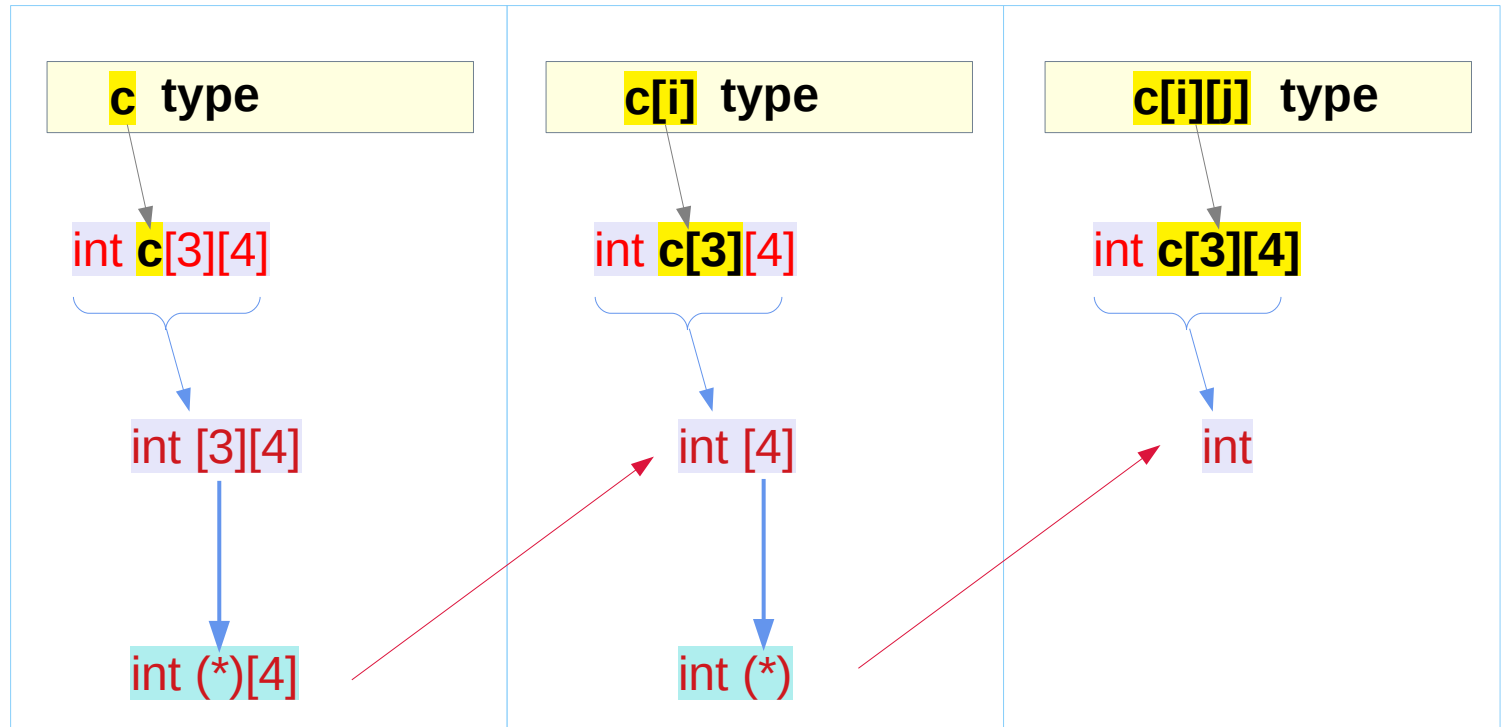
c[i] 0-d array pointer (virtual)

type : int (*)

value : &c[i][0]

Sub-array types in a 2-d array

`int c[3][4];` 2-d array `c`



Dual Types

Four cases of array pointers

Properties of array pointers

virtual pointer **c** in an array **c**

implicit array pointer

Abstract data **c**[**N**][] ... []

$$\text{sizeof}(\mathbf{c}) = \text{sizeof}(*\mathbf{c}) * \mathbf{N}$$

$$\text{sizeof}(*\mathbf{c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c}+1) - \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

Virtual pointer **(*c)**[] ... []

$$\text{value}(\&\mathbf{c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

array pointer **p**

explicit array pointer

$$\text{sizeof}(\mathbf{p}) = \text{pointer size (4/8 bytes)}$$

$$\text{sizeof}(*\mathbf{p}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{p}+1) - \text{value}(\mathbf{p})$$

$$\text{value}(\&\mathbf{p}) \neq \text{value}(\mathbf{p})$$

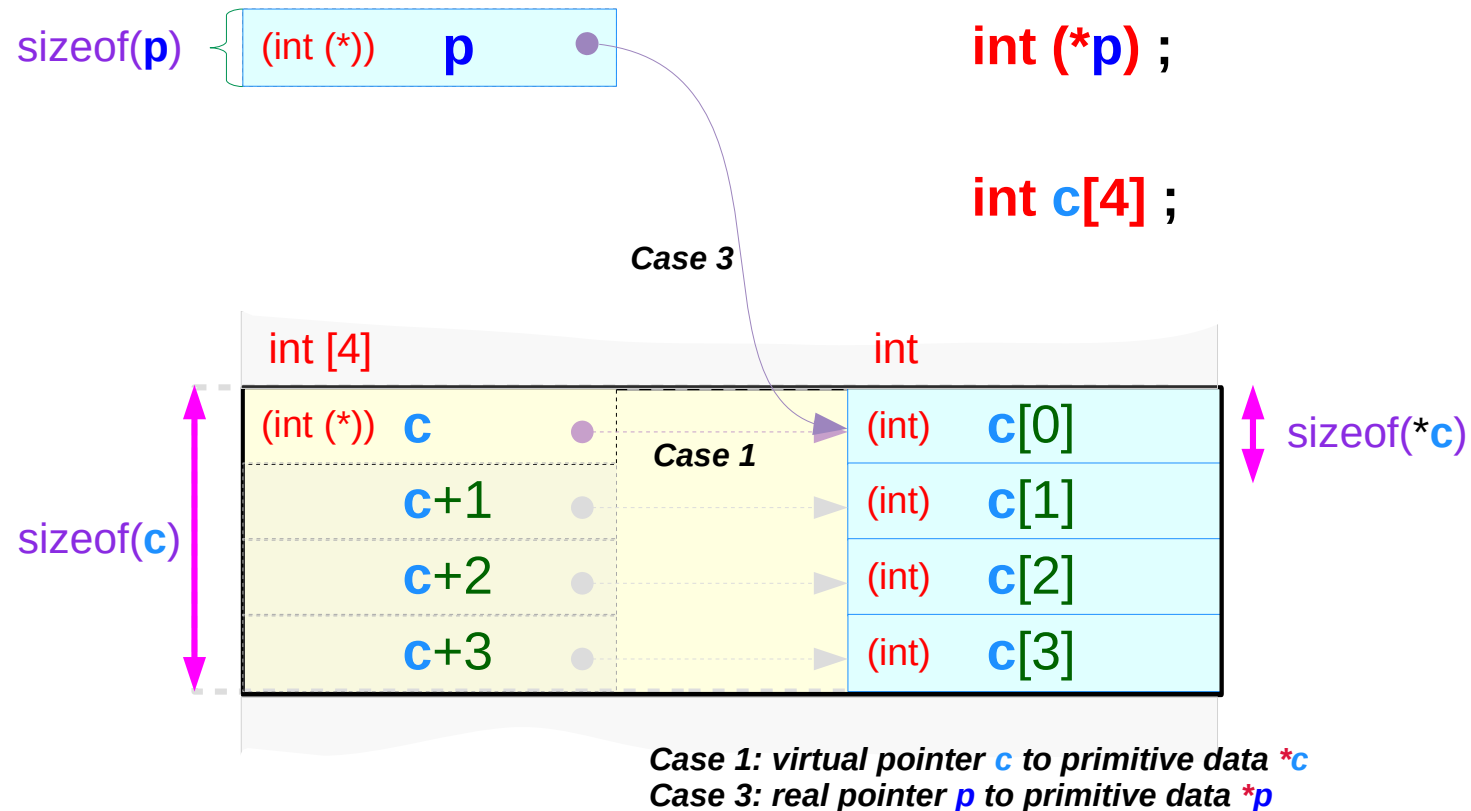
Sizes of integer pointers

a pointer to an `int`

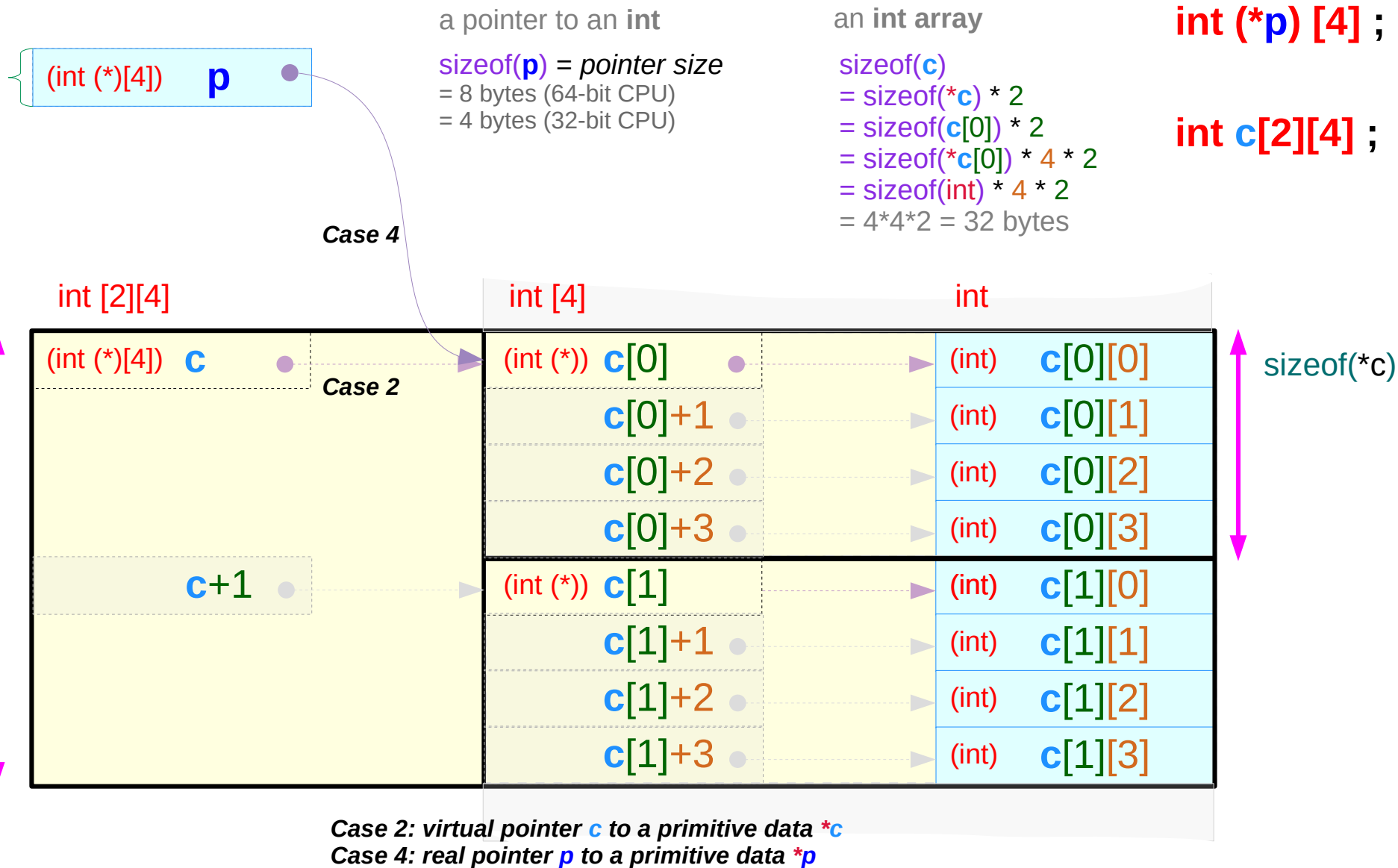
`sizeof(p)` = pointer size
= 8 bytes (64-bit CPU)
= 4 bytes (32-bit CPU)

an `int` array

`sizeof(c)`
= `sizeof(*c)` * 4
= `sizeof(int)` * 4
= 4*4 = 16 bytes



Sizes of integer pointers



Case 1

virtual pointer **c**

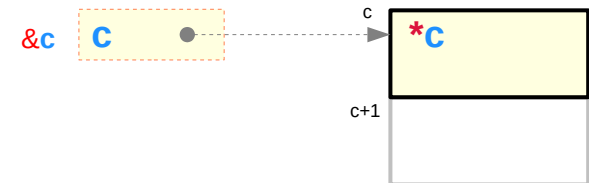
primitive data ***c**



Case 2

virtual pointer **c**

abstract data ***c**



$$\text{sizeof}(c) = \text{sizeof}(*c) * N$$

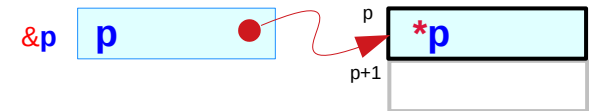
$$\text{sizeof}(*c) = \text{value}(c+1) - \text{value}(c)$$

$$\text{value}(\&c) = \text{value}(c)$$

Case 3

real pointer **p**

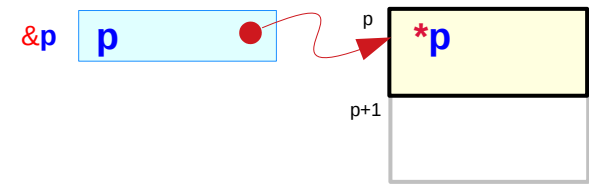
primitive data ***p**



Case 4

real pointer **p**

abstract data ***p**

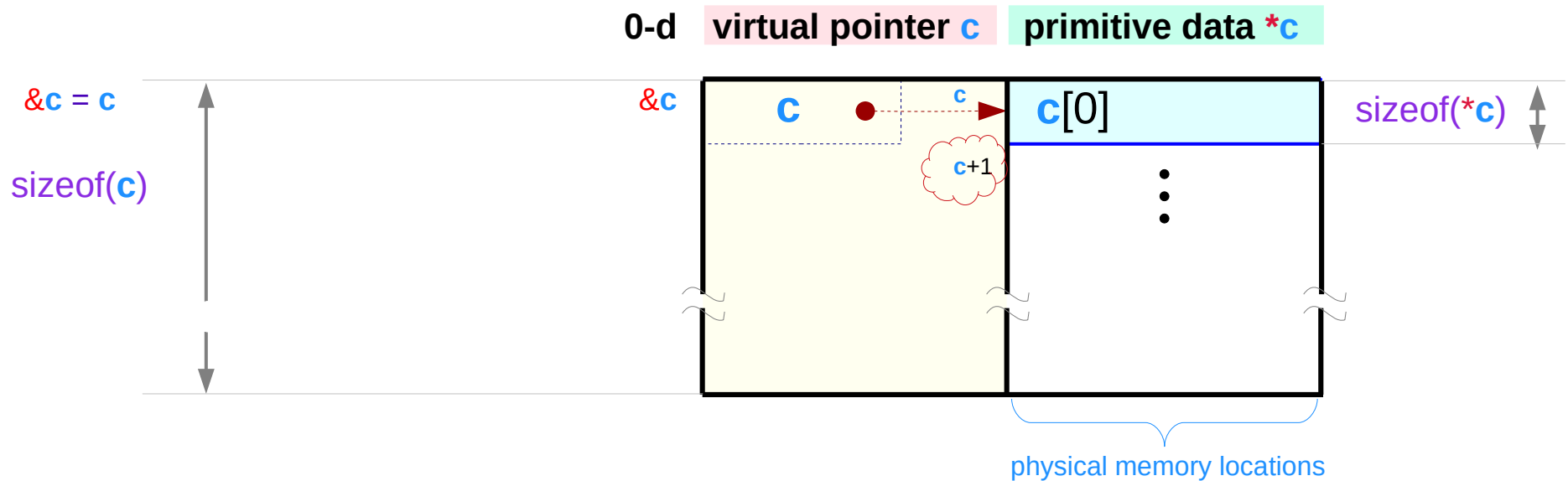


$$\text{sizeof}(p) = \text{pointer size (4/8 bytes)}$$

$$\text{sizeof}(*p) = \text{value}(p+1) - \text{value}(p)$$

$$\text{value}(\&p) \neq \text{value}(p)$$

Case 1: virtual pointer **c** to a primitive data ***c**



Abstract data **c**

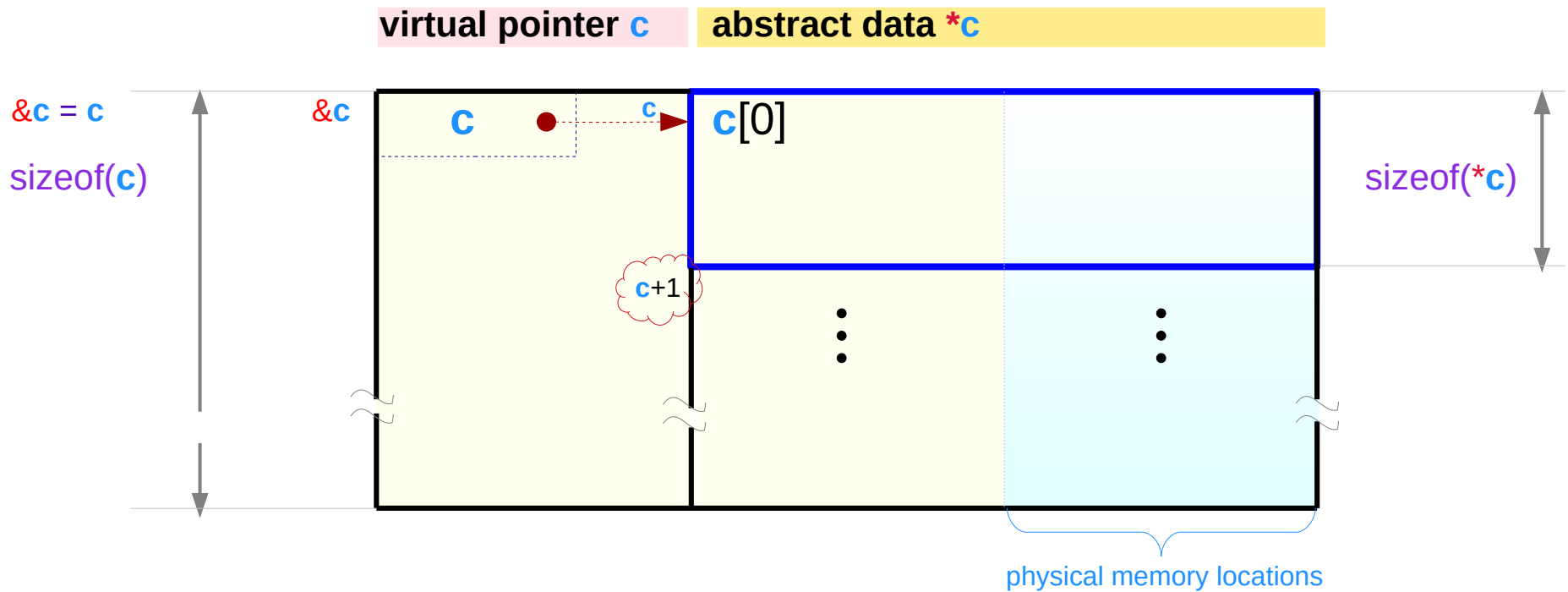
$$\text{sizeof}(\mathbf{c}) = \text{sizeof}(*\mathbf{c}) * N$$

$$\text{sizeof}(*\mathbf{c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c}+1) - \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

★ Virtual pointer **c**

$$\text{value}(\&\mathbf{c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

Case 2: virtual pointer **c** to an abstract data ***c**



Abstract data **c**, ***c**

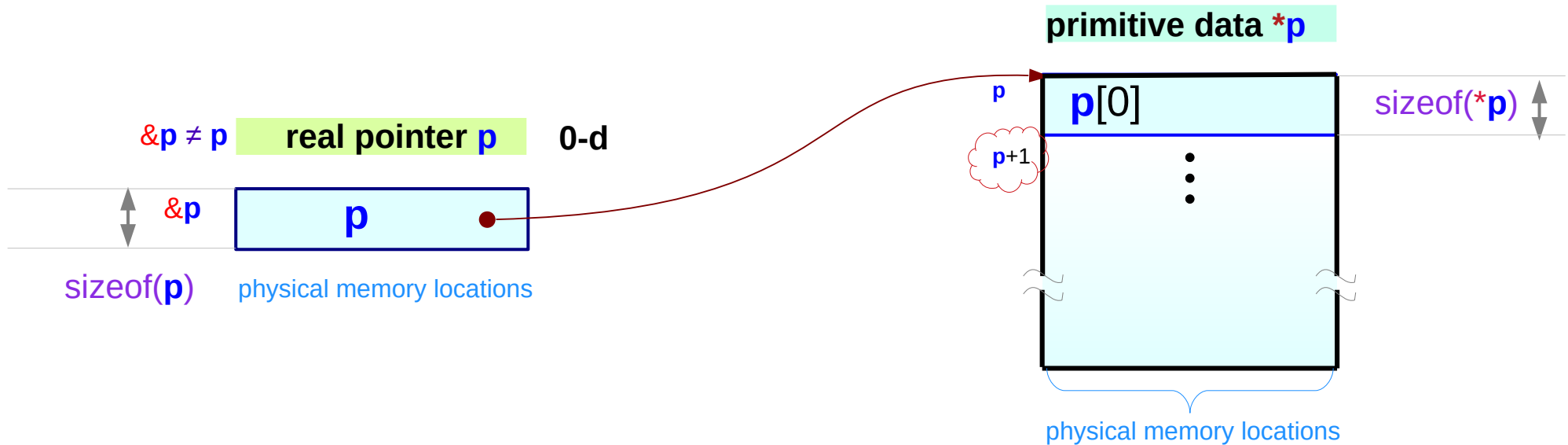
$$\text{sizeof}(\mathbf{c}) = \text{sizeof}(\mathbf{*c}) * N$$

$$\text{sizeof}(\mathbf{*c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c+1}) - \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

Virtual pointer **c**

$$\text{value}(\mathbf{\&c}) = \text{value}(\mathbf{c})$$

Case 3: real pointer p to a primitive data $*p$



real pointer size

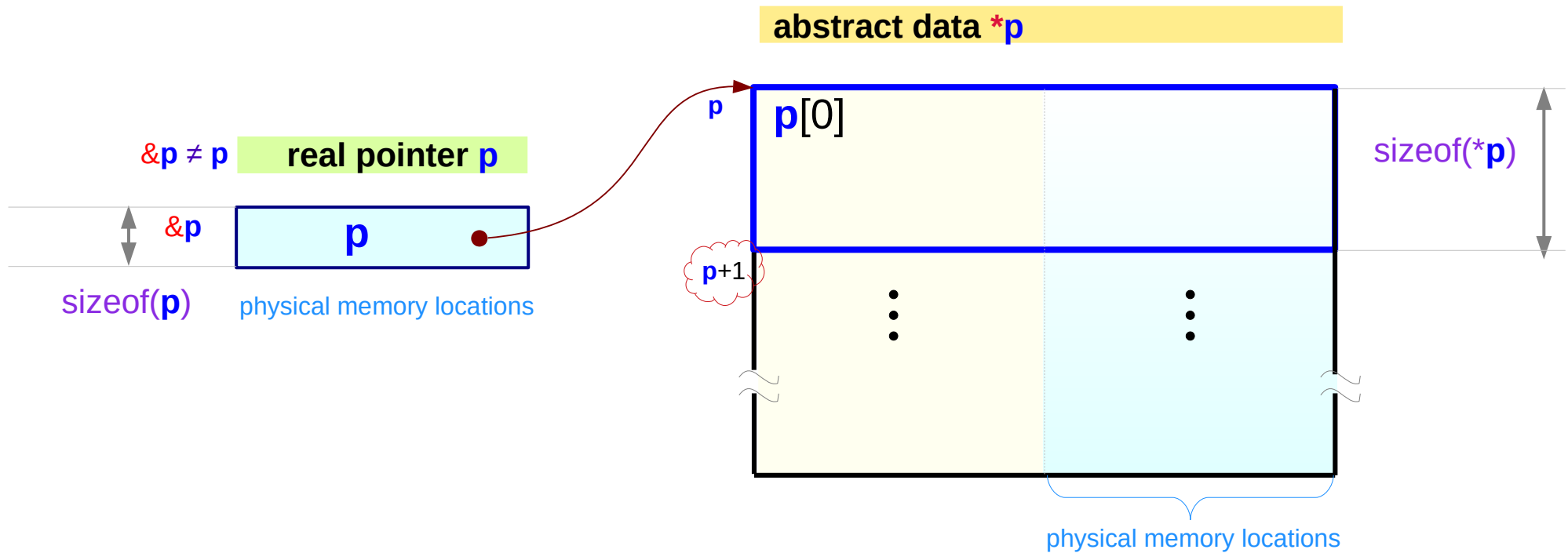
$\text{sizeof}(p)$ = pointer size (4/8 bytes)

$\text{sizeof}(*p)$ = $\text{value}(p+1) - \text{value}(p)$

unique pointer value and address

$\text{value}(\&p) \neq \text{value}(p)$

Case 4: real pointer p to an abstract data $*p$



real pointer size

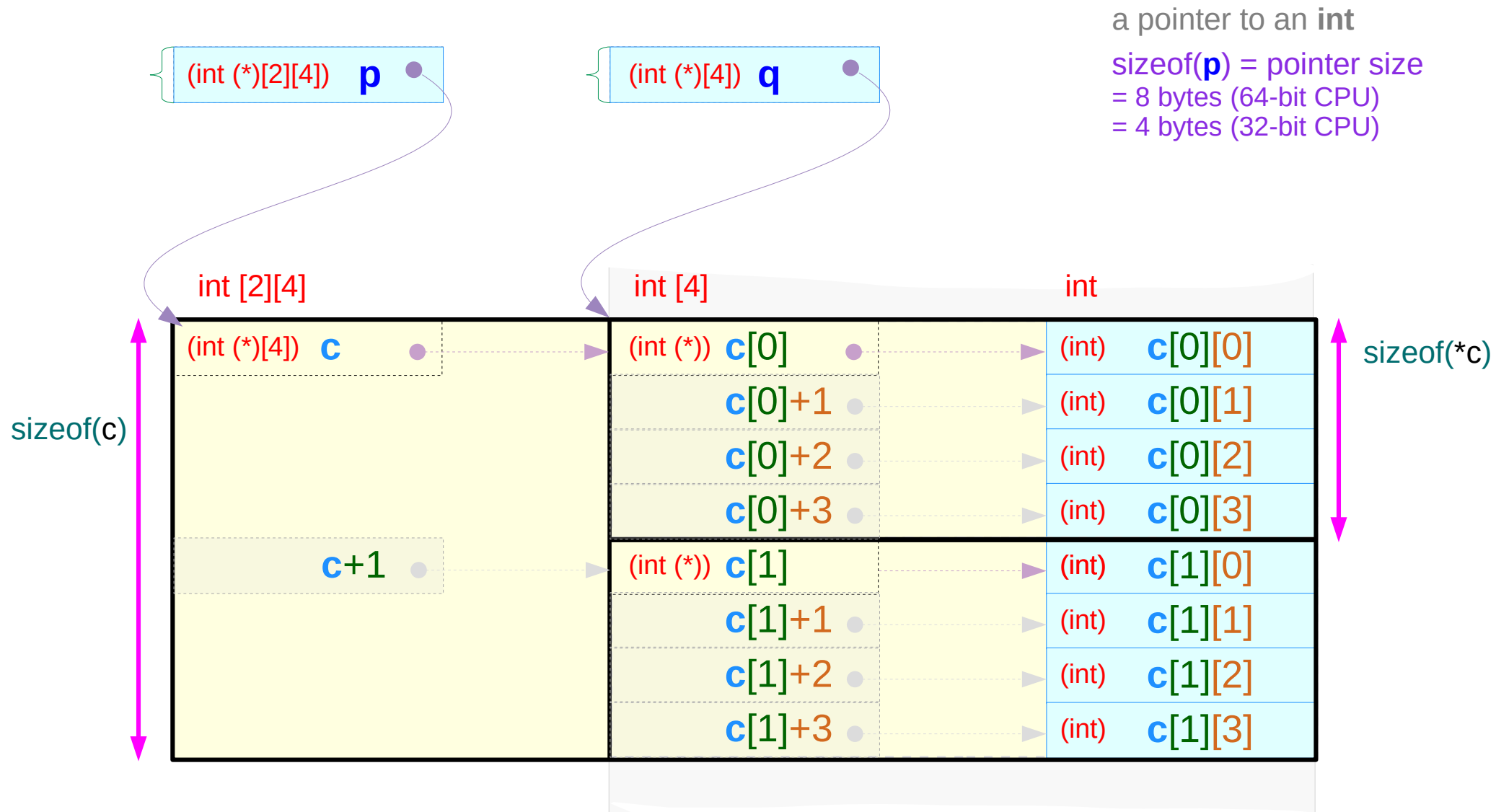
$\text{sizeof}(p) = \text{pointer size (4/8 bytes)}$

$\text{sizeof}(*p) = \text{value}(p+1) - \text{value}(p)$

unique pointer value and address

$\text{value}(\&p) \neq \text{value}(p)$

Sizes of integer pointers



Incrementing a 2-d array pointer

Incrementing a 1-d array pointer

Subarray sizes referenced by array pointers **p** and **q**

```
int (*p) [3][4] ;
```

2-d array pointer **p**

`sizeof(p)` = pointer size
4 or 8 bytes

`int (*p) [3][4]` `p[0]`
`sizeof (*p)` = `sizeof (int [3][4])`

`int (*p) [3][4]` `p[0][i]` i = 0,1,2
`sizeof (*p) [i]` = `sizeof (int [4])`

`int (*p) [3][4]` `p[0][i][j]` i = 0,1,2
j = 0,1,2,3
`sizeof (*p) [i][j]` = `sizeof (int)`

```
int (*q) [4] ;
```

1-d array pointer **q**

`sizeof(q)` = pointer size
4 or 8 bytes

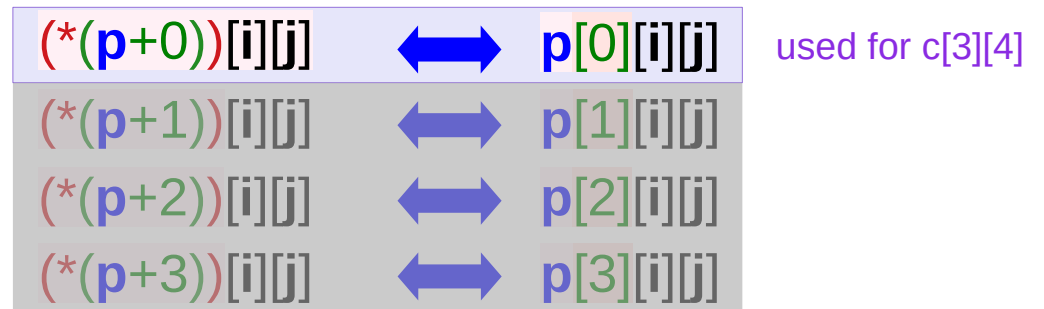
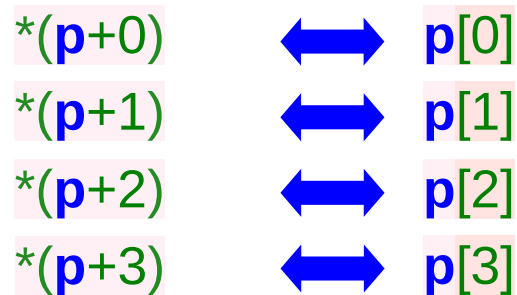
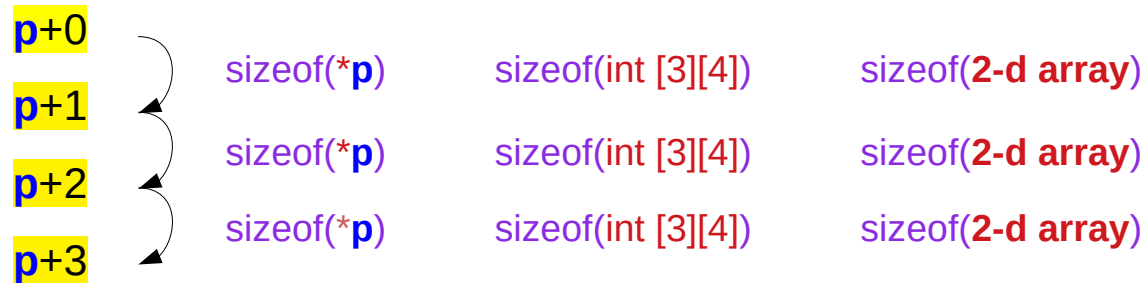
`int (*q) [4]` `q[0]`
`sizeof (*q)` = `sizeof (int [4])`

`int (*q) [j]` `q[0][j]` j = 0,1,2,3
`sizeof (*q) [j]` = `sizeof (int)`

Incrementing a 2-d array pointer **p**

```
int (*p) [3][4] = &c ;
```

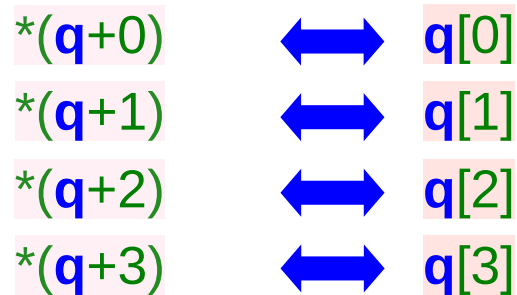
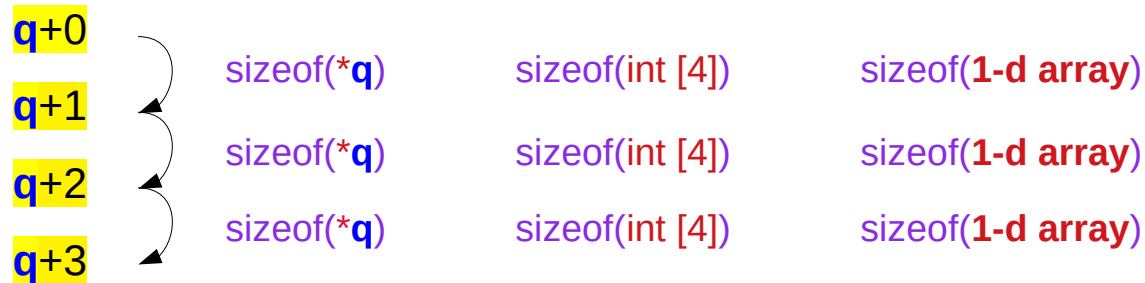
```
int c [3][4] ;
```



Incrementing a 1-d array pointer **q**

```
int (*q) [4] = c ;
```

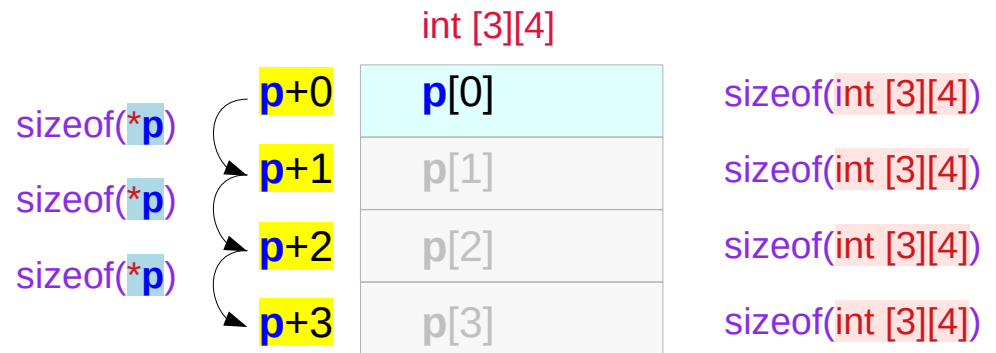
```
int c [3][4] ;
```



Subarray sizes referenced by a 2-d array pointer **p**

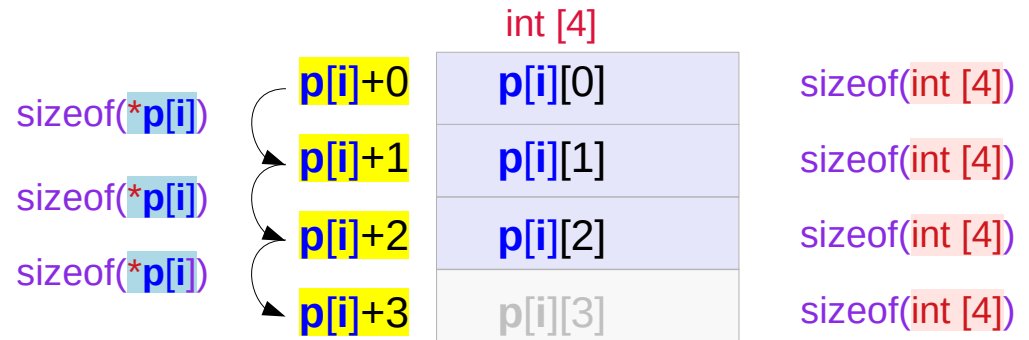
```
int (*p) [3][4] ;
```

(int [3][4]) p[i] i = 0



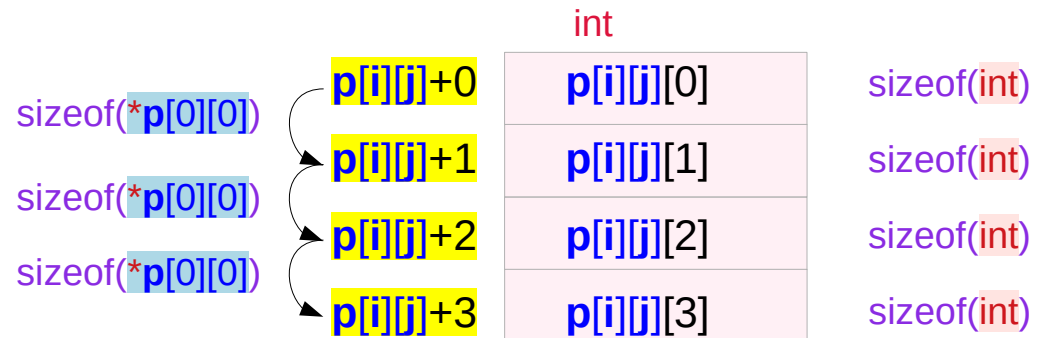
```
int (*p) [3][4] ;
```

(int [4]) p[i][j] i = 0, j = 0,1,2



```
int (*p) [3][4] ;
```

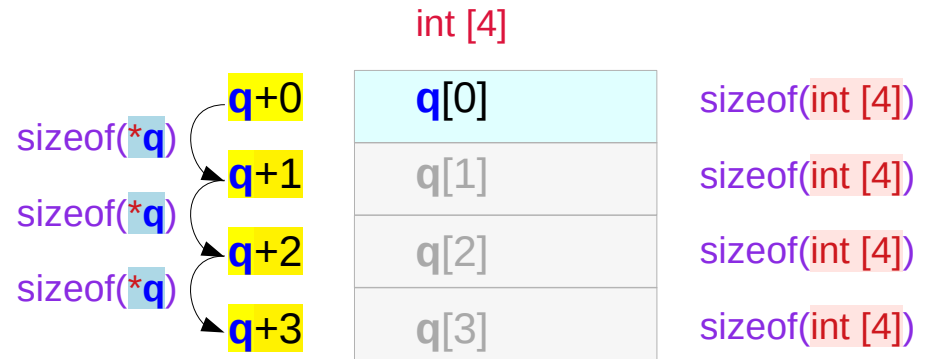
(int) p[i][j][k] i = 0, j = 0,1,2, k = 0,1,2,3



Subarray sizes referenced by a 1-d array pointer **q**

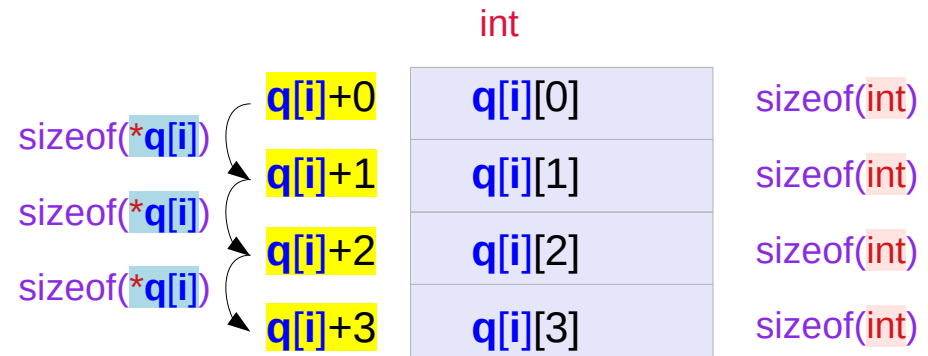
```
int (*q) [4] ;
```

(int [4]) **q[i]** i = 0,1,2



```
int (*q) [4] ;
```

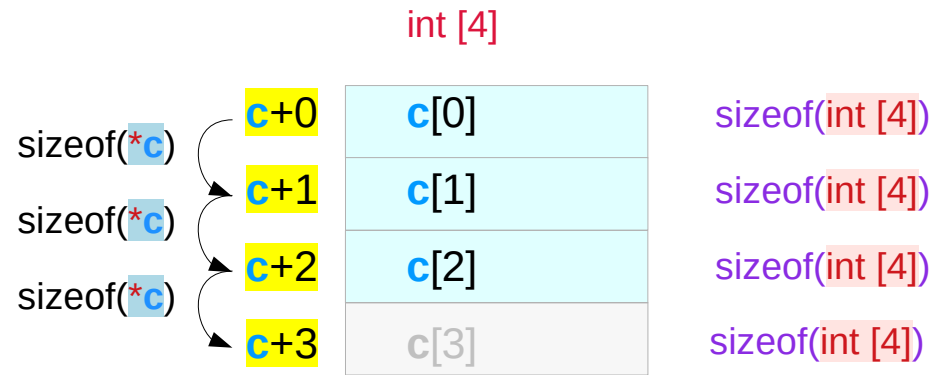
(int) **q[i][j]** i = 0,1,2
 j = 0,1,2,3



Subarray sizes in a 1-d array **c**

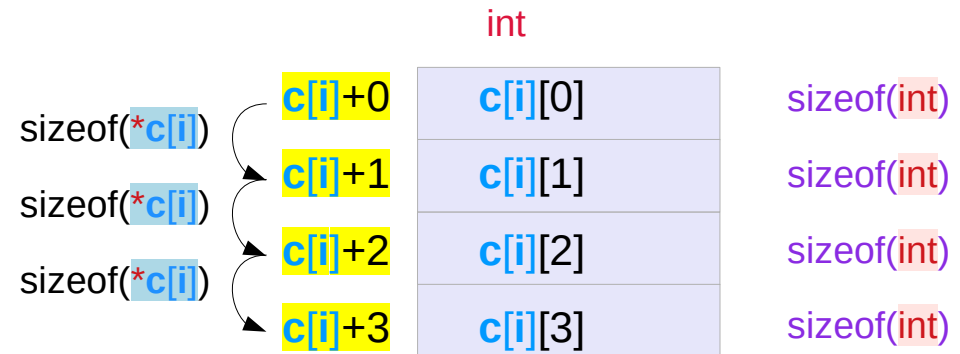
```
int c [3][4] ;
```

(int [4]) **c**[i] i = 0,1,2



```
int c [3][4] ;
```

(int) **c**[i][j] i = 0,1,2
 j = 0,1,2,3



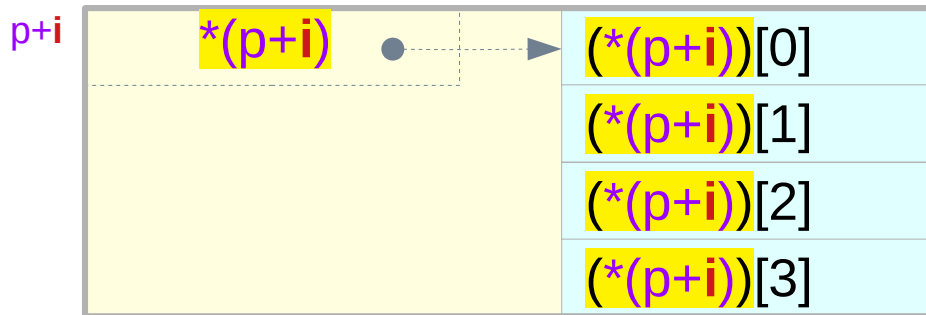
Array element notation $p[i]$

Dereference notation $*(p+i)$

<code>int a[4];</code>	<code>int (*p) [4] = &a;</code>	1-d array, 1-d array pointer
<code>int c[3][4];</code>	<code>int (*p) [3][4] = &c;</code>	2-d array, 2-d array pointer
<code>int c[3][4];</code>	<code>int (* q)[4] = c;</code>	2-d array, 1-d array pointer

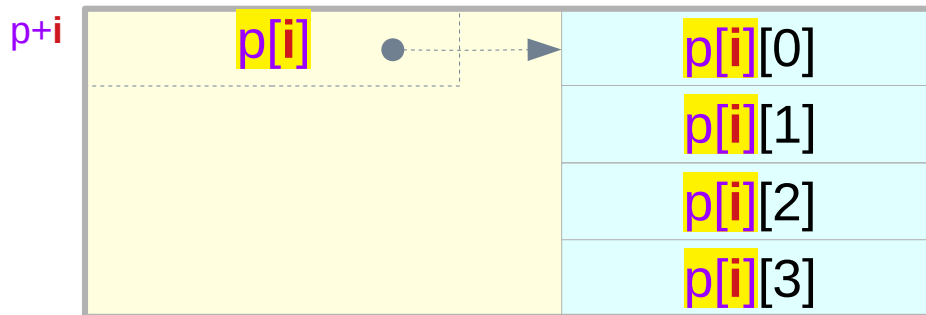
Equivalence : $*(p+i) = p[i]$

$*(p+i)$: 1-d array name

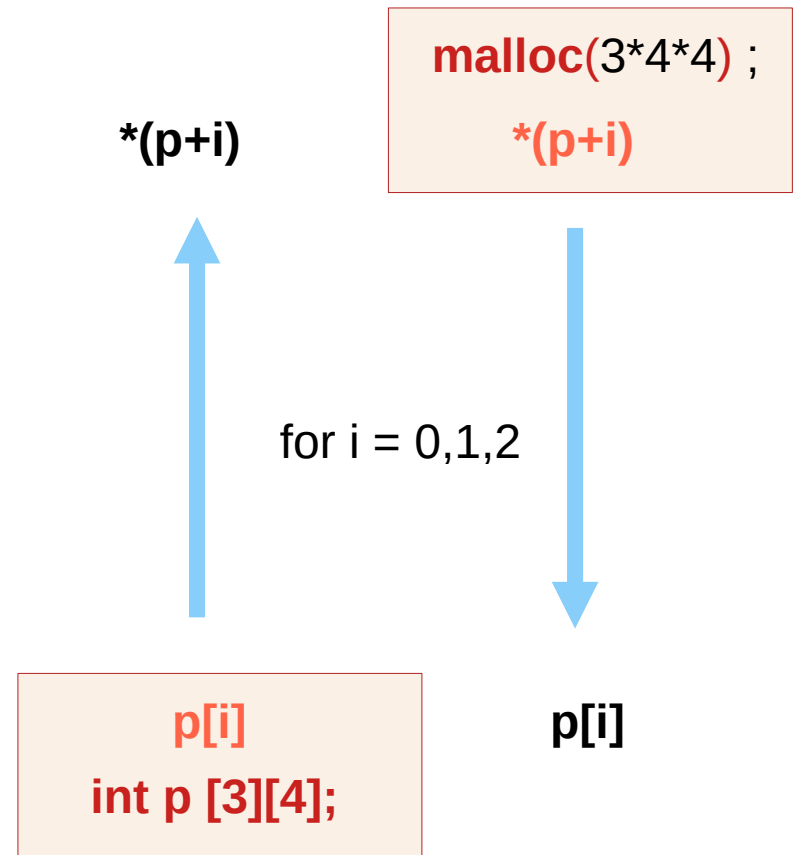


$$*(p+i) \equiv p[i]$$

||| equivalent



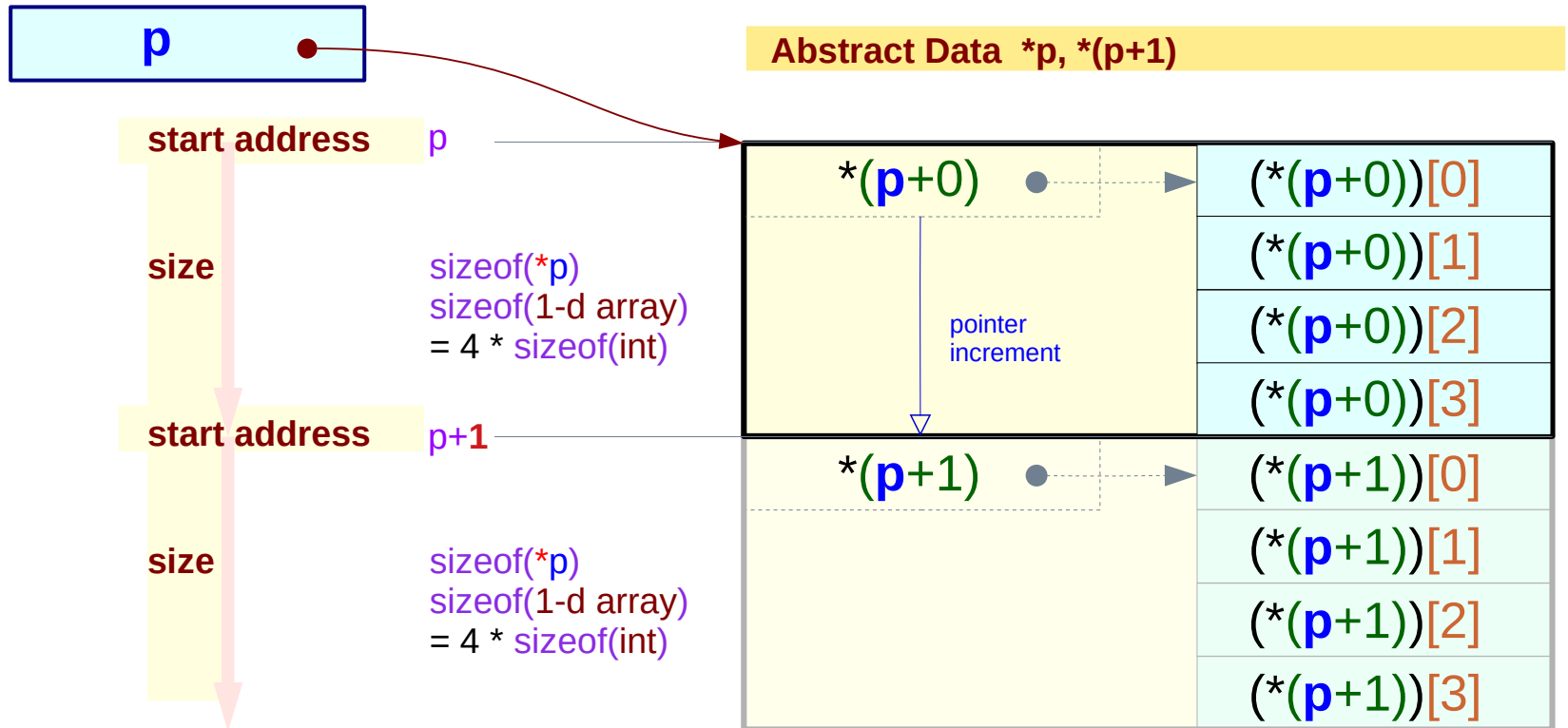
$p[i]$: 1-d array name



1-d array, 1-d array pointer **p** – using *****

```
int (*p) [4] = &a;
```

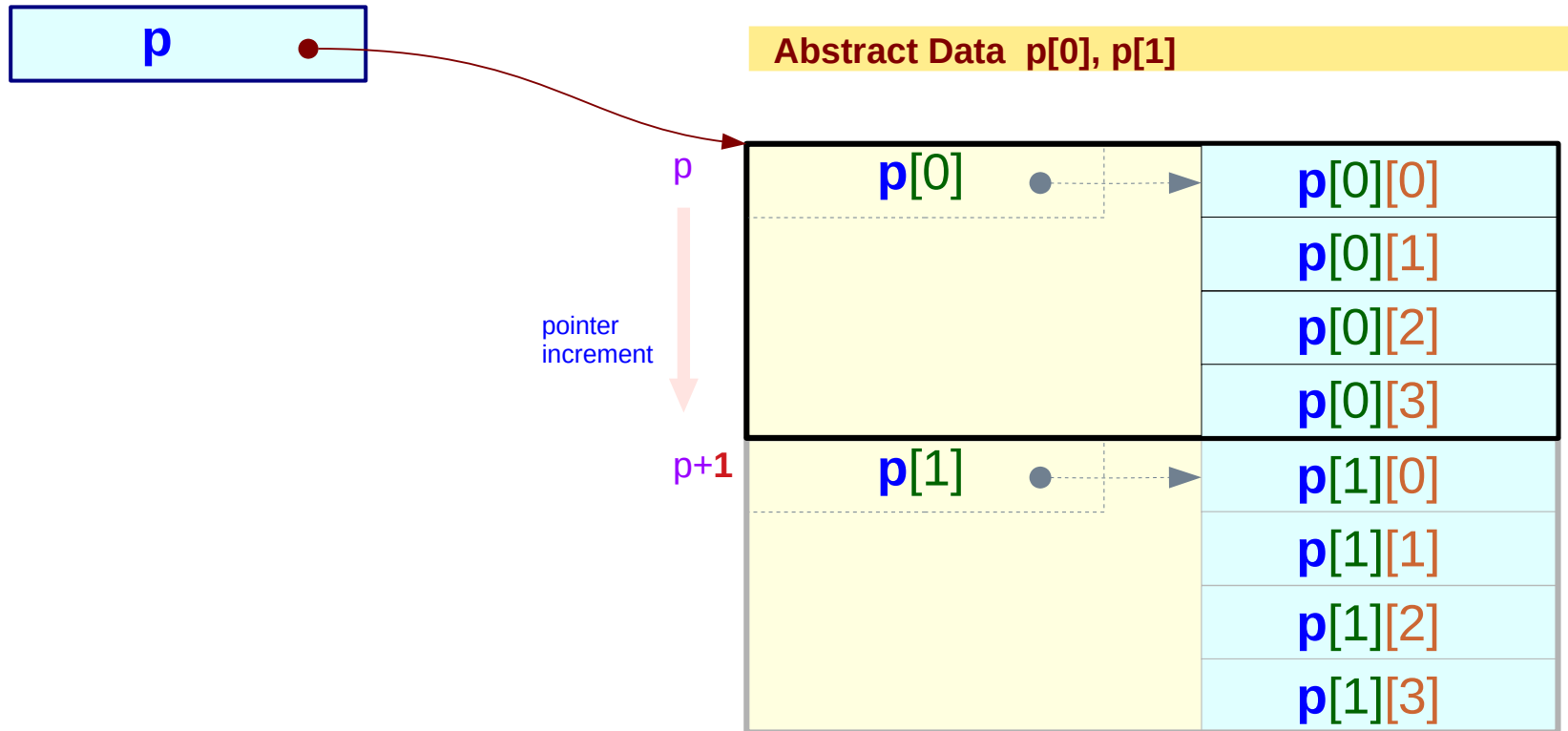
$$\begin{aligned} \text{value}(p+1) - \text{value}(p) &= \text{sizeof}(*p) \\ &= (\text{long})(p+1) - (\text{long})(p) &= 4 * \text{sizeof}(\text{int}) \end{aligned}$$



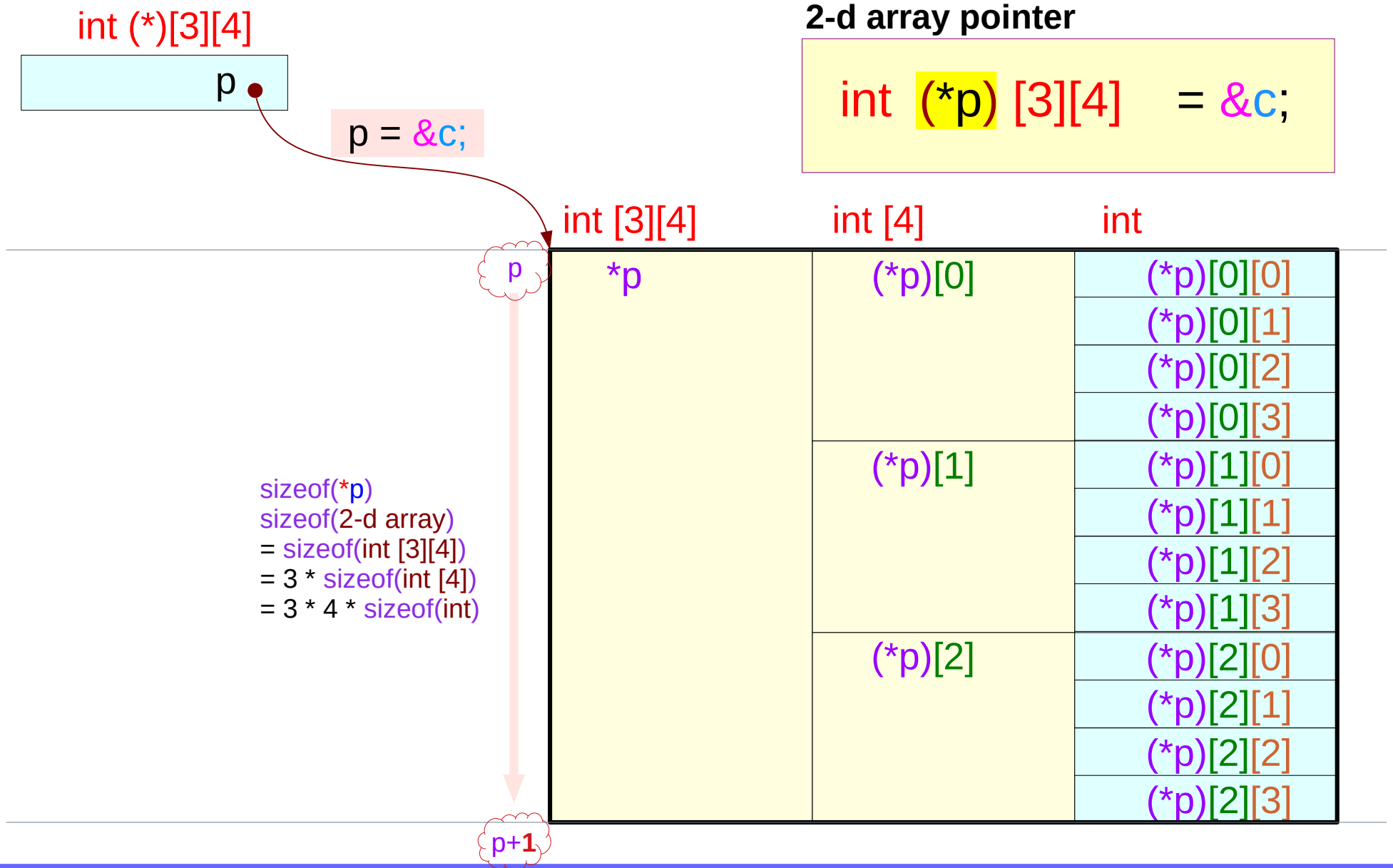
1-d array, 1-d array pointer **p** – using []

```
int (*p) [4] = &a;
```

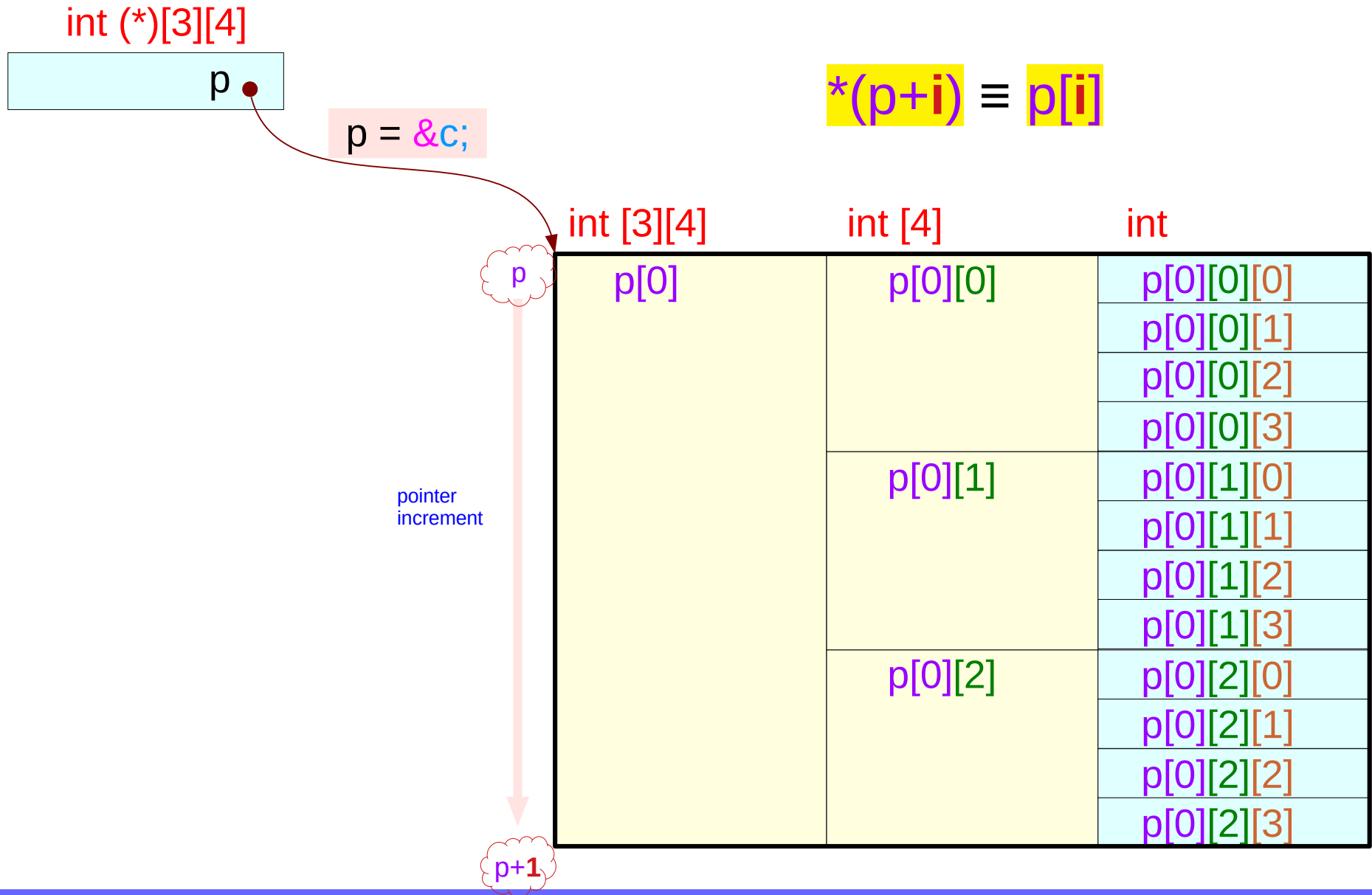
$*(p+i) \equiv p[i]$



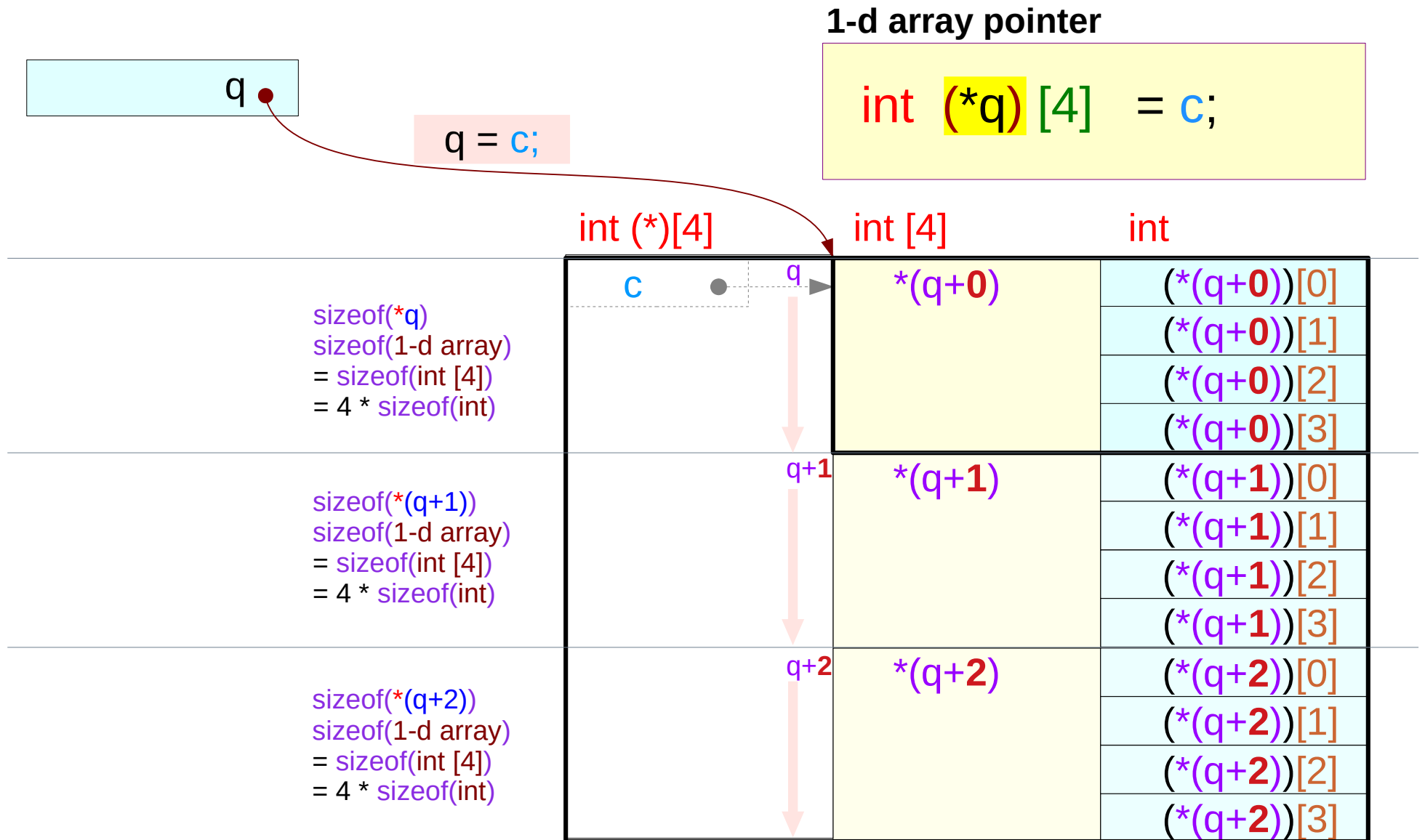
2-d array, 2-d array pointer **p** – using *****



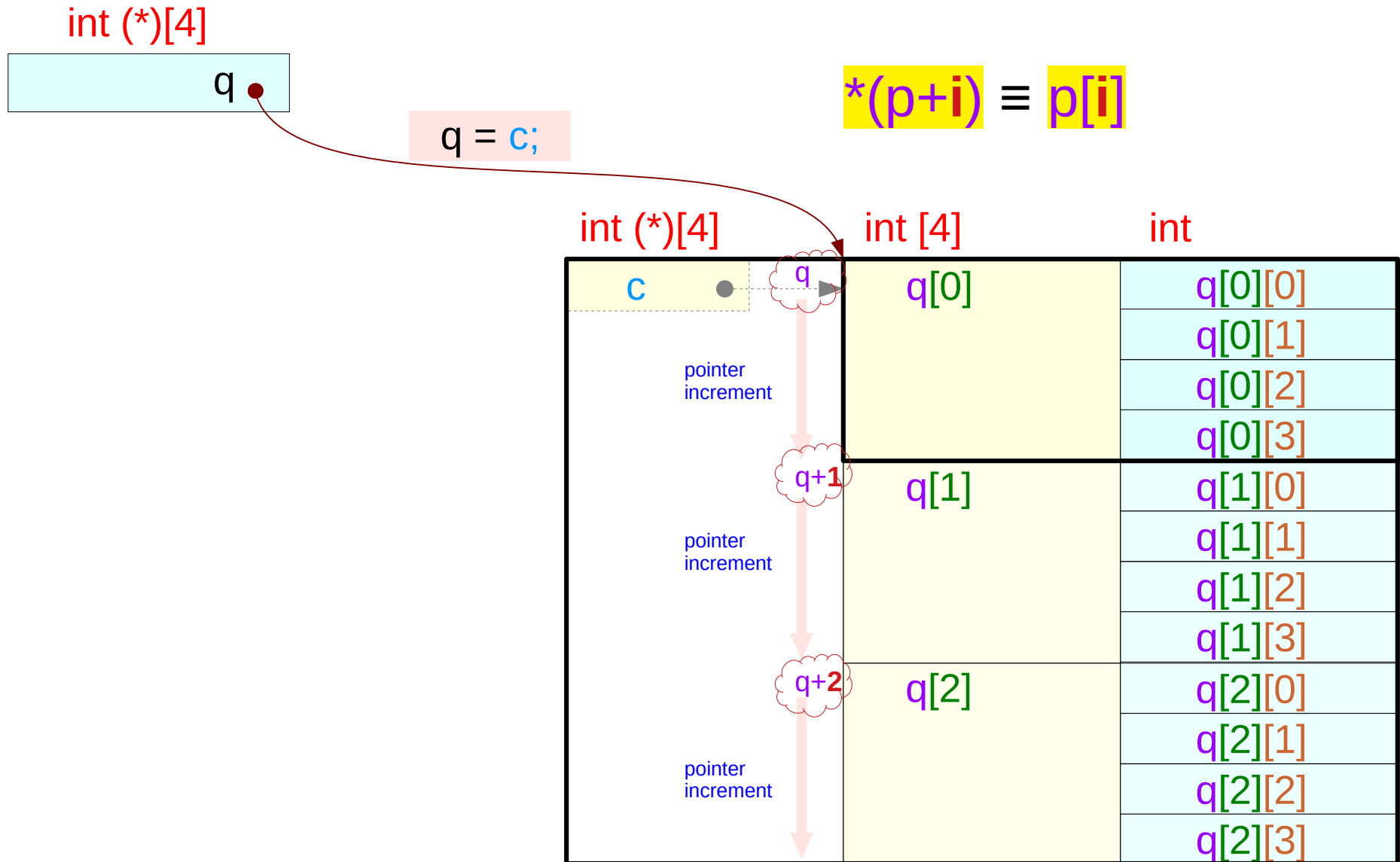
2-d array, 2-d array pointer **p** – using []



2-d array, 1-d array pointer q – using $*$



2-d array, 1-d array pointer q – using $[]$



References

- [1] Essential C, Nick Parlante
- [2] Efficient C Programming, Mark A. Weiss
- [3] C A Reference Manual, Samuel P. Harbison & Guy L. Steele Jr.
- [4] C Language Express, I. K. Chun