

Chapter 7 – Arrays

- 7.1 Creating and Accessing Arrays
- 7.2 Using LINQ with Arrays
- 7.3 Arrays of Structures
- 7.4 Two-Dimensional Arrays
- 7.5 A Case Study: Analyze a Loan



7.1 Creating and Accessing Arrays

- Declaring an Array Variable
- The Load Event Procedure
- Implicit Array Sizing
- Calculating an Array Value with a Loop
- The ReDim Statement
- Flag Variables
- For Each Loops



7.1 Creating and Accessing Arrays (continued)

- Passing an Array to a Procedure
- User-Defined Array-Valued Functions
- Searching for an Element in an Array
- Copying an Array
- Split Method and Join Function



Simple and Array Variables

- A variable (or simple variable) is a name to which Visual Basic can assign a single value.
- An array variable is a collection of simple variables of the same type to which Visual Basic can efficiently assign a list of values.

Example

Suppose you want to evaluate the exam grades for 30 students and to display the names of the students whose scores are above average.

```
Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) _

Handles btnDisplay.Click

Dim student0 As String, score0 As Double

Dim student1 As String, score1 As Double

Dim student2 As String, score2 As Double
```

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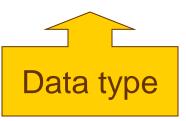


Upper bound of subscripts in the array

Dim students(29) As String

Dim scores(29) As Double







Putting Values into an Array

students(0) = "Tom Brown"



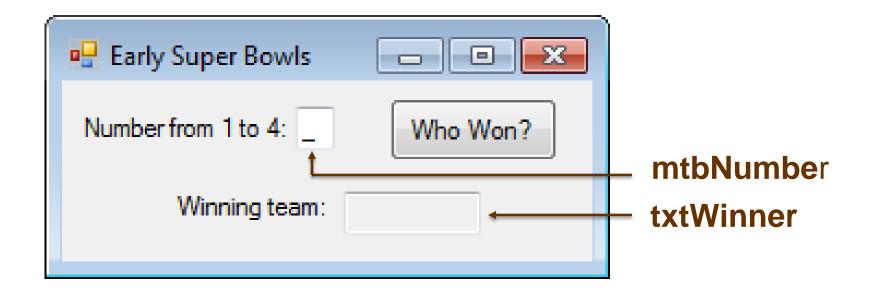
Read: "students sub zero equals Tom Brown" Which means that the string "Tom Brown" is being stored at the first location in the array called students because all arrays begin counting at 0.



Array Terminology

- Dim arrayName(n) As DataType
- 0 is the lower bound of the array
- n is the upper bound of the array—the last available subscript in this array
- The number of elements, *n* + 1, is the **size** of the array.

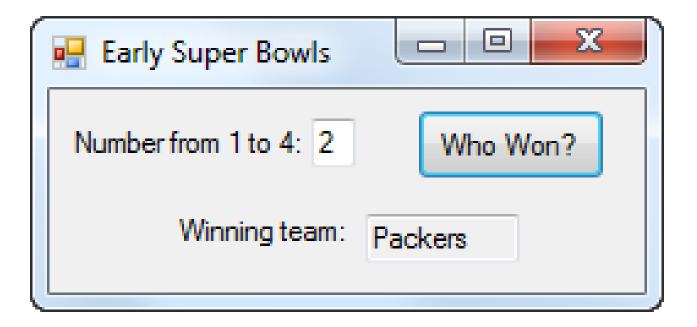
Example 1: Form



Example 1

```
Private Sub btnWhoWon_Click(...) __
                     Handles btnWhoWon.Click
 Dim teamNames(3) As String
 Dim n As Integer
  teamNames(0) = "Packers"
  teamNames(1) = "Packers"
  teamNames(2) = "Jets"
  teamNames(3) = "Chiefs"
 n = CInt(mtbNumber.Text)
  txtWinner.Text = teamName(n - 1)
End Sub
```

Example 1: Output



Load Event Procedure

Occurs as the Form loads in memory

The keyword MyBase refers to the form being loaded. This event procedure is a good place to assign values to an array.

Example 2: Code

```
Dim teamNames(3) As String
Private Sub frmBowl_Load(...) Handles MyBase.Load
  teamNames(0) = "Packers"
  teamNames(1) = "Packers"
  teamNames(2) = "Jets"
  teamNames(3) = "Chiefs"
End Sub
Private Sub btnWhoWon Click(...)
                          Handles btnWhoWon,Click
  Dim n As Integer
  n = CInt(mtbNumber.Text)
  txtWinner.Text = teamNames(n - 1)
End Sub
```

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Initializing Arrays

Arrays may be initialized when created:

declares an array having upper bound *N* and assigns *value0* to *arrayName*(0), *value1* to *arrayName*(1), ..., and *valueN* to *arrayName*(*N*).

Text Files

- Hold data to be processed by programs.
- Can be created, viewed, and managed by word processors or by the Visual Basic IDE.
- Have the extension txt
- Normally placed in the bin\Debug folder in the Solution Explorer.



A Text File Displayed in the Visual Basic IDE

The file contains the ages of the first 44 U.S. presidents when they assumed office.

```
AgesAtInaugural.txt X
      57
      61
      57
      57
      58
      57
      61
      54
```



Using a Text File to Populate a String Array

- Assume that the previous text file is in the program's bin\Debug folder.
- The text file can be used to fill a string array with the statement

```
Dim strAges() As String =
   IO.File.ReadAllLines("AgesAtInaugural.txt")
```

 The array strAges will have size 44 and upper bound 43.



Populating a Numeric Array with a Text File

```
Dim strAges() As String =
  IO.File.ReadAllLines("AgesAtInaugural.txt")
Dim ages (43) As Integer
For i As Integer = 0 To 43
  ages(i) = CInt(strAges(i))
Next
```

Array Methods

arrayName.Count	number of elements
arrayName.Max	highest value
arrayName.Min	lowest value
arrayName.First	first element
arrayName.Last	last element



Array Methods (continued)

The upper bound of arrayName is

```
arrayName.Count - 1
```

• arrayName.First is the same as arrayName(0)

Methods for Numeric Arrays

numArrayName.Average	average value of elements
numArrayName.Sum	sum of values of elements



Using Loops Instead of Methods

- In Example 4 the greatest value in a numeric array ages is determined.
- The value of the variable max is set to the first element of the array.
- Then a For...Next loop successively examines each element of the array and resets the value of *max* when appropriate.

Example 4: Code

```
Dim ages() As Integer = {55, 56, 61, 52, 69,}
       64, 46, 54, 47} 'last 9 presidents
Dim max As Integer = ages(0)
For i As Integer = 1 To ages.Count - 1
  If ages(i) > max Then
    max = ages(i)
  End If
Next
txtOutput.Text = "Greatest age: " & max
Output: Greatest age: 69
```

ReDim Statement

The size of an array may be changed after it has been created.

The statement ReDim arrayName(m), where arrayName is the name of the already declared array and m is an Integer literal, variable, or expression, changes the upper bound of the array to m.

Preserve Keyword

ReDim arrayName(m) resets all values to their default. This can be prevented with the keyword **Preserve**.

ReDim Preserve arrayName(m)

resizes the array and retains as many values as possible.



- Have type Boolean
- Used when looping through an array
- Provide information to be used after loop terminates. Or, allows for the early termination of the loop.



For Each Loops

```
For i As Integer = 1 To ages.Count - 1
  If ages(i) > max Then
    max = ages(i)
  End If
Next
can be replaced with
For Each age As Integer In ages
  If age > max Then
    max = age
  End If
Next
```



For Each Loops (continued)

- In the For...Next loop, the counter variable
 i can have any name.
- In the For Each loop, the looping variable age can have any name.
- The primary difference between the two types of loops is that in a For Each loop no changes can be made in the values of elements of the array.



Passing an Array Element

A single element of an array can be passed to a procedure just like any ordinary numeric or string variable.



Passing Arrays to Procedures

- An array declared in a procedure is local to that procedure.
- An entire array can be passed to a Sub or Function procedure.
- The calling statement uses the name of the array without parentheses.
- The header of the Sub or Function procedure uses the name with an empty set of parentheses.



Variation of Example 4

This example uses a Function procedure to find the largest number in an array.

End Sub



Variation of Example 4 (cont.)

```
Function Maximum(ByVal ages() As Integer) As
                                       Integer
  Dim max As Integer = ages(0)
  For i As Integer = 1 To ages.Count - 1
    If ages(i) > max Then
      max = ages(i)
    End If
  Next
  Return max
End Function
```

User-Defined Array-Valued Functions

Headers have the form

```
Function FunctionName(ByVal var1 As Type1,

ByVal var2 As Type2, ...) As DataType()
```



Searching for an Element in an Array

A statement of the form

```
numVar = Array.IndexOf(arrayName, value)
assigns to numVar the index of the first
occurrence of value in arrayName. Or assigns
-1 if the value is not found.
```

Copying an Array

If arrayOne and arrayTwo have been declared with the same data type, then the statement

arrayOne = arrayTwo

makes arrayOne an exact duplicate of arrayTwo. Actually, they share the same location in memory.



- Facilitates working with text files.
- Split can convert a string containing commaseparated data into a string array.
- The 0th element of the array contains the text preceding the first comma, the 1st element contains the text between the first and second commas, ..., and the last element contains the text following the last comma.

Split Example

For instance, suppose the string array *employees* has been declared without an upper bound, and the string variable *line* has the value "Bob,23.50,45".

```
employees = line.Split(","c)
```

- sets the size of employees to 3
- sets employees(0) = "Bob"
- sets employees(1) = "23.50"
- sets employees(2) = "45"

Split Comments

```
employees = line.Split(","c)
```

- In this example, the character comma is called the **delimiter** for the Split method, and the letter c specifies that the comma has data type Character instead of String
- Any character can be used as a delimiter.
 If no character is specified, the space character will be used as the delimiter.

Example

```
Private Sub btnConvert_Click(...) _
                    Handles btnConvert.Click
  Dim stateData(), line As String
  line = "California, 1850, Sacramento, Eureka"
  stateData = line.Split(","c)
  For Each entry As String In stateData
    lstOutput.Items.Add(entry)
  Next
End Sub
```



California

1850

Sacramento

Eureka

Join Function

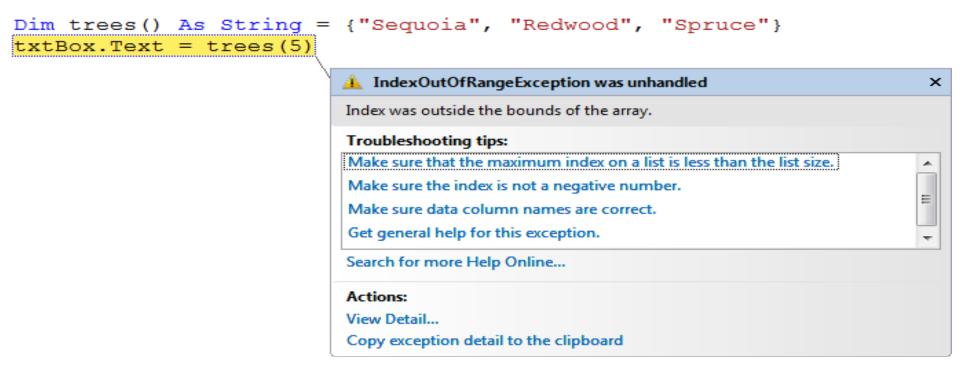
The reverse of the Split method is the Join function. Join concatenates the elements of a string array into a string containing the elements separated by a specified delimiter.

Output: Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior



Out of Range Error

The following code references an array element that doesn't exist. This will cause an error.





7.2 Using LINQ with Arrays

- LINQ Queries
- The Distinct Operator
- The ToArray Method
- Use of Function Procedures in Queries
- The Let Operator
- The OrderBy Operator
- The DataSource Property
- Binary Search

What is LINQ?

- LINQ stands for Language INtegrated Query
- A query is a request for information.
- Note: Option Infer must be set to ON in order to use LINQ



Code of the form

```
prange variable
Dim queryName = From var In arrayName source data
Where [condition on var]
query operators => Select var
```

declares the variable *queryName* and assigns to it a sequence of the values from *arrayName* that satisfy the stated condition.

LINQ Query (continued)

The values in the sequence can be converted to an array, displayed in a list box, or written to a text file.

Example 1

```
'States.txt contains names of the 50 states
Dim states() As String =
     IO.File.ReadAllLines("States.txt")
Dim stateQuery = From state In states
                 Where state.Length = 5
                 Select state
For Each state As String In stateQuery
  lstStates.Items.Add(state)
Next
Output: Maine, Texas, Idaho
```



Variation on Example 1

Replace the For Each loop with

```
lstStates.Items.Add(stateQuery.Count)
lstStates.Items.Add(stateQuery.Min)
lstStates.Items.Add(stateQuery(1))
Output: 3, Idaho, Texas
```

Example 2

```
Dim nums() As Integer = \{5, 12, 8, 7, 11\}
Dim numQuery = From num In nums
               Where num > 7
               Select num
For Each num As Integer In numQuery
  lstBox.Items.Add(num)
Next
Output: 12, 8, 11
```



Variation on Example 2

Replace the For Each loop with

```
lstBox.Items.Add(numQuery.Min)
lstBox.Items.Add(numQuery.First)
lstBox.Items.Add(numQuery.Sum)
```

Output: 8, 12, 31



Another Variation of Example 2

```
Dim nums() As Integer = \{5, 12, 8, 7, 11\}
Dim numQuery = From num In nums
               Where num > 7
               Select num * num — changed
For Each num As Integer In numQuery
  lstBox.Items.Add(num)
Next
Output: 144, 64, 121
```

Distinct Operator

```
Dim nums() As Integer = {5, 12, 5, 7, 12}
Dim numQuery = From num In nums
               Select num
               Distinct
For Each num As Integer In numQuery
  lstBox.Items.Add(num)
Next
Output: 5, 12, 7
```



ToArray Method

- A query variable is not an array variable.
- The ToArray method converts it to an array variable.

```
Dim nums() As Integer = \{5, 12, 5, 7, 12\}
Dim numQuery = From num In nums
               Select num
Dim numArray() As Integer = numQuery.ToArray
```



Function Procedures in Queries

Function procedures are commonly used in Where and Select clauses



- A Let operator gives a name to an expression and makes queries easier to read.
- In Section 7.3, situations arise that make the use of Let operators essential.



Example of Let Operator

```
Dim presQuery = From pres In presidents
                Select IncludeTitle(pres)
```

can be replaced with

```
Dim presQuery = From pres In presidents
                Let formalName =
                           Includetitle(pres)
                Select formalName
```



Order By Operator

- Sorts string values into alphabetical order (either ascending or descending)
- Sorts numbers into numeric order (either) ascending or descending)

Example 4

```
Dim nums() As Integer = \{3, 6, 4, 1\}
Dim numQuery = From num In nums
               Order By num Ascending
               Select num
For Each n As Integer In numQuery
  lstOutput.Items.Add(n)
Next
Output: 1, 3, 4, 6
```

Example 5

```
Dim states() As String =
           IO.File.ReadAllLines("States.txt")
Dim stateQuery = From state In states
                 Order By state.Length
                   Ascending, state Descending
                 Select state
For Each state As String In stateQuery
  lstStates.Items.Add(state)
Next
```

Output: Utah, Ohio, Iowa, Texas, Maine,...



DataSource Property

 The DataSource property fills a list box with the values returned by a query.

```
lstBox.DataSource = queryName.ToList
```

 The first entry will be highlighed. The highlighting can be eliminated with

```
lstBox.SelectedItem = Nothing
```



Alternative for Example 5

```
Dim states() As String =
          IO.File.ReadAllLines("States.txt")
Dim stateQuery = From state In states
              Order By state.Length
                Ascending, state Descending
              Select state
lstStates.DataSource = stateQuery.ToList
Output: Utah, Ohio, Iowa, Texas, Maine, ...
```



7.3 Arrays of Structures

- Structures
- Arrays of Structures
- The DataGridView Control
- Searching an Array of Structures
- Using General Procedures with Structures
- Displaying and Comparing Structure Values
- Complex Structures (optional)



A structure is a grouping of heterogeneous data. Also called a UDT (User Defined Type)
Sample structure definition:

```
Dim name As String
Dim continent As String
Dim population As Double 'in millions
Dim area As Double 'in square miles
End Structure
```

Structure Definition

Each subvariable in a structure is called a **member.**

To declare a variable of a structure type:

Dim country As Nation

Each member is accessed via variableName.memberName

country.continent = "Europe"

Example 1

```
Dim country As Nation
'Assign values to country's member variables
Dim line As String =
                   "China, Asia, 1332.5, 3696100"
Dim data() As String = line.Split(","c)
country.name = data(0)
country.continent = data(1)
country.population = CDbl(data(2))
country.area = CDbl(data(3))
```

Example 1 (continued)

```
'Display data in text boxes
txtName.Text = country.name
txtContinent.Text = country.continent
txtPop.Text = FormatNumber(1000000 *
                       country.population, 0)
txtArea.Text = FormatNumber(country.area, 0) &
                               square miles"
txtDensity.Text = FormatNumber(1000000 *
          country.population / country.area) &
          " people per square mile"
```

Text File: UN.txt

4 fields (name, continent, pop in millions, area in sq mi) 192 records

Sample records

Canada, North America, 32.9, 3855000

France, Europe, 63.5, 211209

New Zealand, Australia/Oceania, 4.18, 103738

Nigeria, Africa, 146.5, 356669

Pakistan, Asia, 164, 310403

Peru, South America, 27.9, 496226



Example 3: Sample Output





Example 3: Partial Code

```
Dim nations(191) As Nation 'declare array
Dim line, data() As String 'fill with UN.txt
Dim countries() As String =
               IO.File.ReadAllLines("UN.txt")
For i As Integer = 0 To 191
  line = countries(i)
  data = line.Split(","c)
  nations(i).name = data(0)
  nations(i).continent = data(1)
  nations(i).population = CDbl(data(2))
  nations(i).area = CDbl(data(3))
Next
```



Example 3: More Partial Code

```
Dim selectedContinent As String =
                           lstContinents.Text
Dim query = From country In nations
            Where country.continent =
                            selectedContinent
            Order By country.area Descending
            Select country.name
For Each countryName In query
  lstCountries.Items.Add(countryName)
Next
```

Structure College

```
Structure College
 Dim name As String
 Dim state As String 'state abbreviation
 Dim yearFounded As Integer
End Structure
```



Text File: Colleges.txt

U.S. Colleges founded before 1800 3 fields (name, state, year founded)

Sample records

```
Harvard U., MA, 1636
William and Mary, VA, 1693
Yale U., CT, 1701
U. of Pennsylvania, PA, 1740
```

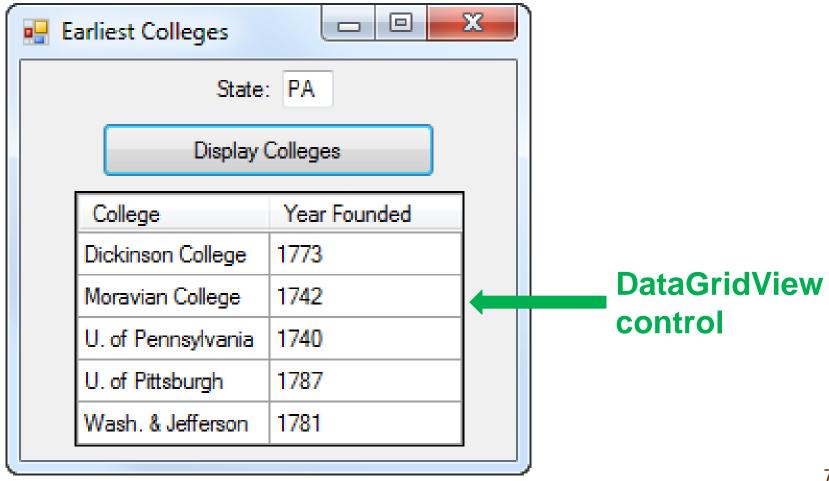


DataGridView Control

- Useful when two or more pieces of information are to be displayed.
- Found in the Data group and the All Windows Forms group of the Toolbox.
- Displays a table with column headers.



DataGridView Control (continued)





DataSource Method

When the Select clause of a query contains two or more items, the pair of statements

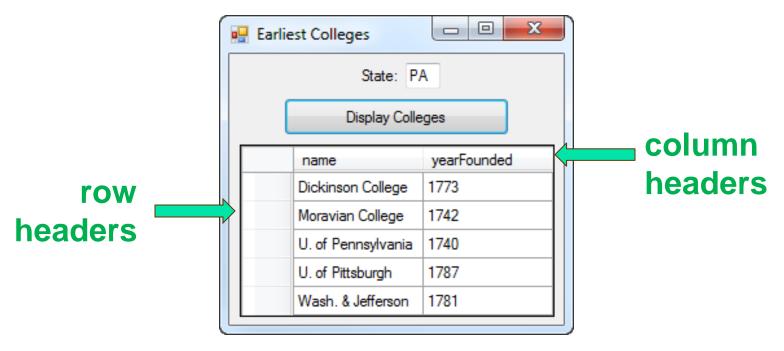
```
dgvGrid.DataSource = queryName.ToList
dgvGrid.CurrentCell = Nothing
```

displays the items of data in a DataGridView control. (The second statement, which is optional, keeps all cells unhighlighted.)



DataGridView Headers

 By default the rows have blank headers and the column headers contain the names of the items in the Select clause.



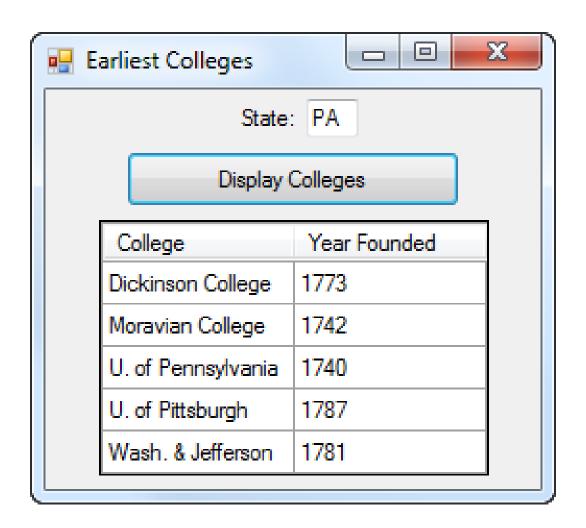


DataGridView Headers (cont.)

- Row headers can be removed by setting the RowHeadersVisible property of the DataGridView control to False.
- A column header can be customized with a statement such as



DataGridView Headers (cont.)



Searching an Array of Structures

The Where clause of a query can be used to locate specific items.

Example:

```
Dim query = From institution In colleges
            Where institution.name =
                             lstColleges.Text
            Select institution
txtState.Text = query.First.state
txtYear.Text = CStr(query.First.yearFounded)
```

Another Structure

```
Structure Grades

Dim exam1 As Double
Dim exam2 As Double
Dim final As Double
End Structure
```



Using General Procedures with Structures

A variable having a structure as data type can be passed to a Function or Sub procedure.

Example:

```
Function CurveGrades(ByVal scores As Grades)
                                     As Grades
  scores.exam1 += 3
  scores.exam2 += 4
  scores.final += 2
  Return scores
End Function
```



Complex Structures

Member Types

- Integer, String, Double, etc.
- Another User Defined Type
- Array
 - Must not specify range
 - Range must be set using ReDim

Example 7

This example gathers information about a student and determines when the student will be eligible to graduate.

Example 7

```
Structure FullName
  Dim firstName As String
  Dim lastName As String
End Structure
Structure Student
  Dim name As FullName
  Dim credits() As Integer
End Structure
```

Structure "FullName" contained, or nested, inside Student

Dim numYears As Integer
Dim person As Student

Example 7 (continued)

```
txtResult.Clear()
 person.name.firstName = InputBox("First Name:")
 person.name.lastName = InputBox("Second Name:")
 numYears = CInt(InputBox("Number of years " &
                                    "completed:"))
 ReDim person.credits(numYears - 1)
  For i As Integer = 0 To numYears - 1
    person.credits(i) =
     CInt(InputBox("Credits in year " & (i + 1)))
 Next
 DetermineStatus(person)
End Sub
```



Example 7 (continued)

```
Sub DetermineStatus(ByVal pupil As Student)
  Dim total As Integer = 0
  For i As Integer = 0 To pupil.credits.Count - 1
    total += pupil.credits(i)
 Next
  If (total >= 120) Then
    txtResult.Text = pupil.name.firstName & " " &
    pupil.name.lastName & " has enough credits"
  Else
    txtResult.Text = pupil.name.firstName & " " &
     pupil.name.lastName & " needs " &
     (120 - total) & " more credits to graduate."
  End If
End Sub
```



7.4 Two-Dimensional Arrays

- Declaring a Two-Dimensional Array Variable
- Implicit Array Sizing and Initialization
- The ReDim Statement
- Filling a Two-Dimensional Array with a Text File



Declaring a Two-Dimensional Array Variable

- One-dimensional arrays store a list of items of the same type
- Two-dimensional arrays store a table of items of the same type.
- Consider the rows of the table as numbered 0, 1, 2, ,,, *m* and the columns numbered 0, 1, 2, ..., n. Then the array is declared with

```
Dim arrayName(m, n) As DataType
```

Item in ith row, ith column: arrayName(i,j)

Implicit Array Sizing and Initialization

Arrays can be initialized when they are declared.

```
Dim arrayName(,) As DataType = \{\{ROW0\}, \{ROW1\}, \{ROW2\}, \dots, \{ROWN\}\}
```

declares a two-dimensional array where *ROW0* consists of the entries in the top row of the corresponding table delimited by commas, and so on.

Road-Mileage Table

	Chicago	LA	NY	Philly
Chicago	0	2054	802	738
LA	2054	0	2786	2706
NY	802	2786	0	100
Philly	738	2706	100	0



Road-Mileage Array

```
Dim rm(,) As Double = \{\{0, 2054, 802, 738\},
                        {2054, 0, 2786, 2706},
                        {802, 2786, 0, 100},
                        {738, 2706, 100, 0}}
```

declares and initializes an array of roadmileages. Some elements of the array are

```
rm(0,0)=0, rm(0,1)=2054, rm(1,2)=2786
```



GetUpperBound Method

After execution of the statement

```
Dim arrayName(r, s) As varType
```

the value of arrayName.GetUpperBound(0) is r, and the value of arrayName.GetUpperBound(1) is s.

Notes on Two-Dimensional Arrays

An unsized two-dimensional array can be declared with a statement of the form

Dim arrayName(,) As varType

Arrays

ReDim and Two-Dimensional

- An already-created array can be resized with ReDim arrayName(r, s)
 - which loses the current contents, or with ReDim Preserve arrayName(r, s)
- When Preserve is used, only the columns can be resized.
- ReDim cannot change the number of dimensions in the array.



Filling a Two-Dimensional Array with a Text File

Text File Distances.txt

0,2054,802,738

2054,0,2786,2706

802,2786,0,100

738,2706,100,0



Filling a Two-Dimensional Array with a Text File (cont.)

```
Dim rm(3, 3) As Double 'road mileage
Dim rowOfNums() As String =
        IO.File.ReadAllLines("Distances.txt")
Dim line, data() As String
For i As Integer = 0 To 3
  line = rowOfNums(i)
  data = line.Split(""c)
  For j As Integer = 0 To 3
      rm(i, j) = CDbl(data(j))
  Next
Next
```