

Summary:

1. Pointers and Arrays in Structure:

Pointers can be used inside structures to dynamically reference data. Arrays within structures are often used to store collections of values like names or lists. When a pointer points to a structure, you can access its elements using ' \rightarrow ' operator.

2. Passing Structure to a Function:

Structures can be passed to functions by value (a copy is made) or by reference (using pointers). Passing by reference is more memory efficient and allows modification of the original structure.

3. Size of Structure:

The size of a structure is determined by the sum of the sizes of its members, including padding added by the compiler for alignment purposes.

4. Memory Padding, Aligned Memory, and Unaligned Memory:

- Memory Padding: Extra bytes added to align data in memory for faster access.
- Aligned Memory: Data members are stored at memory addresses that are multiples of their size for efficiency.
- Unaligned Memory: When data is not aligned properly, it can cause performance penalties or hardware faults.

5. Difference Between Structures and Objects (Theoretical):

- Structures (in C): Primarily used to group different data types together, no functions or methods.
- Objects (in OOP languages): Combine data (attributes) and behavior (methods), support concepts like encapsulation, inheritance, and polymorphism.