

# Structures Lecture

CSE 1320

# Introduction to Structures

## Aggregate Types

Aggregate types are designed to hold multiple data values

Arrays can hold many data values of the same type

```
int GradeArray[10] = {100,99,98,34,89,99,70,99,88,100};
```

# Introduction to Structures

## Structure

A structure can concurrently hold multiple data values of different types.

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
};
```

# Introduction to Structures

`struct` is a keyword in C - it signals the declaration of a structure

keyword

`struct tshirt`

{

`char size[5];`

`char color[10];`

`char design[100];`

`char fittype;`

`float price;`

`int inventory_level;`

`};`

user defined

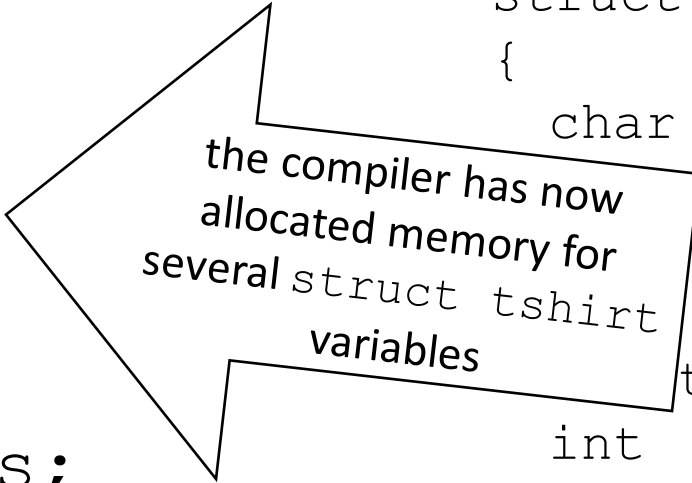
the compiler knows what  
a `struct tshirt` looks  
like but has not created  
one

`struct tshirt` has 6 members

# Introduction to Structures

`struct tshirt` is now a user-define type that can be used to declare variables of that type

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts;  
struct tshirt YourTShirts;  
struct tshirt TheirTShirts;  
struct tshirt OurTShirts;  
struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;
```



```
struct tshirt  
{  
    char    size[5];  
           color[10];  
           design[100];  
           fittype;  
           price;  
           inventory_level;  
};
```

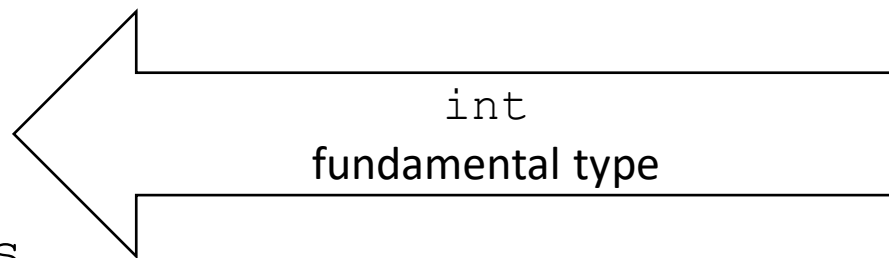
Breakpoint 1, main () at struct1Demo.c:6

```
6          int GradeArray[10] =  
{100,99,98,34,89,99,70,99,88,100};
```

(gdb) step

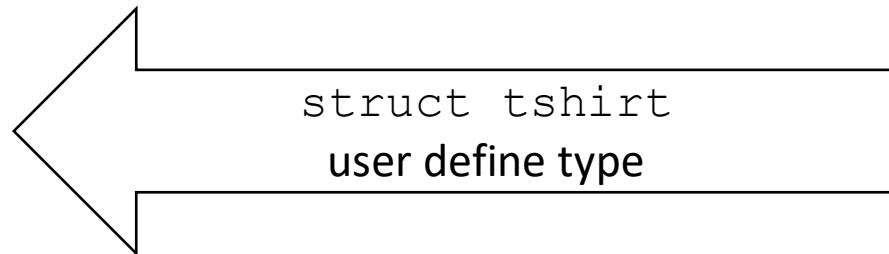
```
18          struct tshirt YourTShirts = {};
```

(gdb) ptype GradeArray  
type = int [10]



(gdb) ptype YourTShirts  
type = struct tshirt {

```
    char size[5];  
    char color[10];  
    char design[100];  
    char fittype;  
    float price;  
    int inventory_level;
```



```
}
```

# Introduction to Structures

A variable in a structure type can be initialized at the same time that the struct is declared.

```
struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;
```

```
struct tshirt YourTShirts = {};
```

```
struct tshirt TheirTShirts = {"S"};
```

```
struct tshirt OurTShirts = {"", "GREEN"};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'Y', 14.99, 1987};
```

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
};
```

```

struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;
struct tshirt YourTShirts = {};
struct tshirt TheirTShirts = {"S"};
struct tshirt OurTShirts = {" ", "GREEN"};
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'Y', 14.99, 1987};

```

**18            struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;**

```
(gdb) p NobodysTShirts
```

```

$2 = {
  size = "v\000\000\000",
  color = "\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000",
  design = '\000' <repeats 25 times>"\377,
\265\360\000\000\000\000\000\000\302\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\377\265\360\00
0\000\000\000\000\000\206\347\377\377\377\177\000\000\207\347\377\377\377\177\0
00\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\300\313!\311>\000\000\000`\006@\000\
000\000\000\000\203\003@\000\000\000\000\000\000\001\000",
  fittype = 0 '\000',
  price = 1.79079218e-38,
  inventory_level = 4195991
}

```



```
19      struct tshirt YourTShirts = {};
```

```
(gdb) p YourTShirts
```

```
$2 = {  
    size = "\000\000\000\000",  
    color = "\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000",  
    design = '\000' <repeats 99 times>,  
    fittype = 0 '\000',  
    price = 0,  
    inventory_level = 0  
}
```

```
struct tshirt  
{  
    char    size[5];  
    char    color[10];  
    char    design[100];  
    char    fittype;  
    float   price;  
    int     inventory_level;  
};
```

```
20      struct tshirt TheirTShirts = {"S"};
```

```
(gdb) p TheirTShirts
```

```
$4 = {  
    size = "S\000\000\000",  
    color = "\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000\000",  
    design = '\000' <repeats 99 times>,  
    fittype = 0 '\000',  
    price = 0,  
    inventory_level = 0  
}
```

```
21      struct tshirt OurTShirts = {"", "GREEN"};
```

```
(gdb) p OurTShirts
```

```
$4 = {
```

```
  size = " \000\000\000",
```

```
  color = "GREEN",
```

```
  design = "frenchdm@omega ~]$ gcc struct1Demo.c
```

```
  fittype = 89, 'Y',
```

```
  price = 14.98999998,
```

```
  inventory_level = 1987
```

```
}
```

```
struct tshirt
```

```
{
```

```
  size[5];
```

```
  color[10];
```

```
  design[100];
```

```
  fittype;
```

```
  price;
```

```
  inventory_level;
```

```
};
```

```
18      struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'Y', 14.99, 1987};
```

```
(gdb) p MyTShirts
```

```
$1 = {
```

```
  size = "XS\000\000",
```

```
  color = "BLUE\000\000\000\000\000\000",
```

```
  design = "DISNEY", '\000' <repeats 93 times>,
```

```
  fittype = 89 'Y',
```

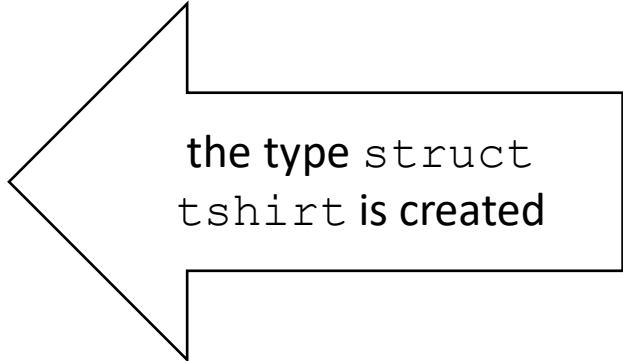
```
  price = 14.98999998,
```

```
  inventory_level = 1987
```

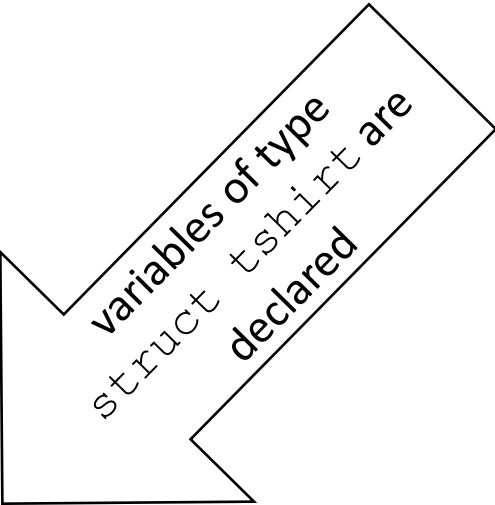
```
}
```

# Introduction to Structures

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
};
```




the type struct  
tshirt is created



variables of type  
struct tshirt are  
declared

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts, YourTShirts;
```

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
}
TheirTShirts, OurTShirts;
```



struct tshirt is declared and two  
variables are created of that type

# Introduction to Structures

```
struct tshirt  
{
```

```
    char size[5];  
    float price;
```

**reusable**

```
    float price;  
    int inventory_id;
```

```
}
```

```
MyTShirts, YourTShirts;
```

```
struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;  
struct tshirt OurTShirts;
```

```
struct  
{
```

```
    char size[5];  
    float price;
```

**one time use**

```
    float price;  
    int inventory_id;
```

```
}
```

```
TheirTShirts, OurTShirts;
```

Cannot create more variables based on this structure because the struct was not named; therefore, cannot be reused.

# Introduction to Structures

Restrictions on the types of the members of a structure

- a member of a structure cannot be a function
- a structure may not nest a structure of its own type

a member of a structure cannot be a function

```
struct tshirt
{
    int FunctionX(void);
    char  size[5];
    char  color[10];
    char  design[100];
    char  fittype;
    float price;
    int   inventory_level;
};
```

```
[frenchdm@omega ~]$ gcc struct1Demo.c -g
```

```
struct1Demo.c: In function 'main':
```

```
struct1Demo.c:15: error: field 'FunctionX' declared as a function
```

# a structure may not nest a structure of its own type

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
    struct tshirt NobodysTShirts;
}
MyTShirts, YourTShirts;
```

Compiler error because struct tshirt does not exist as a type since it is being declared here

struct2Demo.c: In function 'main':

struct2Demo.c:14: error: field 'NobodysTShirts' has incomplete type

# Introduction to Structures

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
}
```

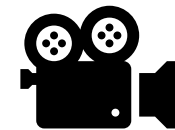
MyTShirts, YourTShirts;

MyTShirts  
has already  
been created  
so OK to use  
here

```
struct
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
    struct tshirt MyTShirts;
}
TheirTShirts, OurTShirts;
```



```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2
3 int main(void)
4 {
5
6     struct tshirt
7     {
8         char size[5];
9         char color[10] = "blue";
10        char design[100];
11        char fittype = 'Y';
12        float price = 11.99;
13        int inventory_level = 100;
14    } MyTShirts, YourTShirts;
15
16    struct tshirt hello;
17
18    struct
19    {
20        char size[5];
21        char color[10];
22        char design[100];
23        char fittype;
24        float price;
25        int inventory_level;
26        struct tshirt MyTShirts;
27    } TheirTShirts, OurTShirts;
28
29    return 0;
30 }
31
```



```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'A', 11.10, 20};
```

1-A

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5] = "XS";
    char    color[10] = "BLUE";
    char    design[100] = "DISNEY";
    char    fittype = 'A';
    float   price = 11.10;
    int     inventory_level = 20;
};
```

1-B

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];
    char    color[10];
    char    design[100];
    char    fittype;
    float   price;
    int     inventory_level;
};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", "A", 11.10, 20};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'A', 11.10, 20};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {'XS', 'BLUE', 'DISNEY', 'A', 11.10, 20};
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"XS", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'A', "11.10", "20"};
```





# Introduction to Structures

## Build a structure for a box



```
struct box
{
    int height;
    int length;
    int depth;
    float weight;
    char size[3]; // XS,S,M,L,XL
    char strength[10]; // how heavy duty
    int code; // USPS assigns codes
    int inventory_level;
};
```

# Introduction to Structures

The individual fields of a structure can be accessed with this syntax

`variable_name.member_name`

```
struct tshirt
{
    char    size[5];           MyTShirts.size
    char    color[10];         MyTShirts.color
    char    design[100];       MyTShirts.design
    char    fittype;           MyTShirts.fittype
    float    price;            MyTShirts.price
    int      inventory_level;   MyTShirts.inventory_level
};

struct tshirt MyTShirts;
```



```
printf("What size is your tshirt? ");  
scanf("%s", MyTShirts.size);
```

```
printf("What color is your tshirt? ");  
scanf("%s", MyTShirts.color);
```

```
printf("What design is your tshirt? ");  
scanf("%s", MyTShirts.design);
```

```
printf("What fit type is your tshirt? ");  
scanf(" %c", &MyTShirts.fittype);
```

```
printf("What is the price of your tshirt? ");  
scanf("%f", &MyTShirts.price);
```

```
printf("How many do you have in stock? ");  
scanf("%d", &MyTShirts.inventory_level);
```

```
printf("Tshirt size      : %s\n", MyTShirts.size);  
printf("Tshirt color     : %s\n", MyTShirts.color);  
printf("Tshirt design     : %s\n", MyTShirts.design);  
printf("Tshirt fit type    : %c\n", MyTShirts.fittype);  
printf("Tshirt price       : %.2f\n", MyTShirts.price);  
printf("Tshirt inventory : %d\n", MyTShirts.inventory_level);
```

Tshirt size	:	M
Tshirt color	:	RED
Tshirt design	:	MARVEL
Tshirt fit type	:	Y
Tshirt price	:	12.99
Tshirt inventory	:	100

# Operations on Structures

Very few operations may operate on a structure as a whole.

The following operations are allowed.

1. The selection operators access a single member from the structure
2. The assignment operator assigns the contents of one structure variable to another.
3. The address operator, `&`, can be used with a structure variable in most interfaces
4. The `sizeof()` operator is usually defined for structures



# Operations on Structures

The selection operators access a single member from the structure

```
scanf("%d", &MyTShirts.inventory);  
printf("Tshirt inventory : %d\n", YourTShirts.inventory);
```

The assignment operator assigns the contents of one structure variable to another.

```
YourTShirts = MyTShirts;
```

The address operator, &, can be used with a structure variable in most interfaces

```
printf("The address of MyTShirts is %p\n", &MyTShirts);  
printf("The address of YourTShirts is %p\n", &YourTShirts);
```

The sizeof() operator is usually defined for structures

```
printf("\n\nThe sizeof() MyTShirts is %d", sizeof(MyTShirts));  
printf("The sizeof() MyTShirts.size is %d\n", sizeof(MyTShirts.size));
```

# Using Structures with Arrays and Pointers

## Arrays of Structures

```
struct tshirt MarvelTShirts[10];  
struct tshirt DisneyTShirts[15];  
struct tshirt DCComicsTShirts[5];
```

Each cell of the array is a structure

```
struct tshirt  
{  
    char    size[5];  
    char    color[10];  
    char    design[100];  
    char    fittype;  
    float   price;  
    int     inventory;  
};
```

# Using Structures with Arrays and Pointers

## Arrays of Structures

```
struct tshirt MarvelTShirts[10];
```

	size	color	design	fittype	price	inventory
MarvelTShirts[0]						
MarvelTShirts[1]						
MarvelTShirts[2]						
MarvelTShirts[3]						
MarvelTShirts[4]						
MarvelTShirts[5]						
MarvelTShirts[6]						
MarvelTShirts[7]						
MarvelTShirts[8]						
MarvelTShirts[9]						

# Arrays of Structures

	size	color	design	fittype	price	inventory
MarvelTShirts[0]						
MarvelTShirts[1]						
MarvelTShirts[2]						
MarvelTShirts[3]						
MarvelTShirts[4]						
MarvelTShirts[5]						
MarvelTShirts[6]						
MarvelTShirts[7]						
MarvelTShirts[8]						
MarvelTShirts[9]						

**MarvelTShirts[0].color**

**MarvelTShirts[5].fittype**

**MarvelTShirts[6].size**

**MarvelTShirts[9].inventory**

# Arrays of Structures

Arrays of structures can be initialize by nesting the initial values for each structure as list elements in the braces enclosing the initial values for the array.

```
struct tshirt MarvelTShirts[10] = {};  
struct tshirt DisneyTShirts[15] = {{ "XS"},  
                                     { "S"},  
                                     { "M"},  
                                     { "L"},  
                                     { "XL"}  
                                   };  
struct tshirt DCComicsTShirts[5] = {{ "XS", "BLACK", "BATMAN", 'Y', 12.99, 198},  
                                     { "S", "BLUE", "SUPERMAN", 'M', 24.99, 34},  
                                     { "M", "RED", "WONDER WOMAN", 'W', 27.99, 87},  
                                     { "L", "YELLOW", "AQUAMAN", 'M', 26.99, 65},  
                                     { "XL", "GREEN", "GREEN LANTERN", 'Y', 15.99, 81}  
                                   };
```

# Arrays of Structures

Individual elements in an array inside the structure can be accessed the same way as regular arrays.

```
MarvelTShirts[5].color[0] = 'R';  
MarvelTShirts[5].color[1] = 'E';  
MarvelTShirts[5].color[2] = 'D';  
MarvelTShirts[5].fittype = 'Y';  
MarvelTShirts[5].inventory = 123;
```

```
printf("%s\n", MarvelTShirts[5].color);  
printf("%c\n", MarvelTShirts[5].fittype);  
printf("%d\n", MarvelTShirts[5].inventory);
```

RED
Y
123

# Pointers to Structures

In C, it is possible to declare a pointer to any type

This includes pointers to structures.

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {"M", "BLUE", "DISNEY", 'W', 29.99, 1};  
struct tshirt *tshirtptr;  
tshirtptr = &MyTShirts;
```

```
printf("MyTShirts.design\t%s\n", MyTShirts.design);  
printf("( *tshirtptr ).design\t%s\n\n", (*tshirtptr).design);
```

MyTShirts.design	DISNEY
(*tshirtptr).design	DISNEY

# Pointers to Structures

In C, it is possible to declare a pointer to any type

This includes pointers to structures in arrays.

```
struct tshirt DCComicsTShirts[5] = {{"XS", "BLACK", "BATMAN", 'Y', 12.99, 198},
                                     {"S", "BLUE", "SUPERMAN", 'M', 24.99, 34},
                                     {"M", "RED", "WONDER WOMAN", 'W', 27.99, 87},
                                     {"L", "YELLOW", "AQUAMAN", 'M', 26.99, 65},
                                     {"XL", "GREEN", "GREEN LANTERN", 'Y', 15.99, 81}
                                     };
```

```
struct tshirt *tshirtarrayptr;
tshirtarrayptr = &DCComicsTShirts[3];
```

```
printf("DCComicsTShirts[3].design\t%s\n", DCComicsTShirts[3].design);
printf("*(tshirtarrayptr).design\t%s\n", (*tshirtarrayptr).design);
```

DCComicsTShirts[3].design	AQUAMAN
(*tshirtarrayptr).design	AQUAMAN



# Pointers to Structures

The () are necessary because the dot selector has precedence over the dereferencing operator \*

```
printf("tshirtptr design\t%s\n\n", (*tshirtptr).design);  
printf("tshirtarrayptr design\t%s\n", (*tshirtarrayptr).design);
```

Without the (), the compiler complains

```
printf("tshirtptr design\t%s\n\n", *tshirtptr.design);
```

```
error: request for member 'design' in something not a structure or  
union
```

# Pointers to Structures

The concept of a pointer to structure is used so often in C that a special syntax was developed to reference the members of the target structure.

`(*struct_pointer).member` can be written as `struct_pointer->member`

```
printf("tshirtptr design\t%s\n\n", (*tshirtptr).design);
```

```
printf("tshirtptr design\t\t%s\n", tshirtptr->design);
```

```
printf("tshirtarrayptr design\t%s\n", (*tshirtarrayptr).design);
```


```
printf("tshirtarrayptr design\t%s\n", tshirtarrayptr->design);
```

# Passing Structures to and from Functions


Pointers to structures are also used to make structures available to functions.

When a pointer to a structure is passed to a function, the function can access the information in the structure and can modify the information.

```
struct tshirt *tshirtptr = &MyTShirts;  
struct tshirt *tshirtarrayptr = &DCComicsTShirts[3];  
  
UpdateInventory(tshirtarrayptr);
```

```
struct tshirt MyTShirts = {}; 
struct tshirt MarvelTShirts[10] = {};

struct tshirt DisneyTShirts[15] = { {"XS"},
    {"S"},
    {"M"},
    {"L"},
    {"XL"}
};

struct tshirt DCComicsTShirts[5] = { {"XS", "BLACK", "BATMAN", 'Y', 12.99, 198},
    {"S", "BLUE", "SUPERMAN", 'M', 24.99, 34},
    {"M", "RED", "WONDER WOMAN", 'W', 27.99, 87},
    {"L", "YELLOW", "AQUAMAN", 'M', 26.99, 65}, 
    {"XL", "GREEN", "GREEN LANTERN", 'Y', 15.99, 81}
};

struct tshirt *tshirtptr = &MyTShirts;

struct tshirt *tshirtarrayptr = &DCComicsTShirts[3];
```

## Function call passing the pointer to the structure

```
struct tshirt *tshirtarrayptr = &DCComicsTShirts[3];  
  
UpdateInventory(tshirtarrayptr);
```

## Function receiving the pointer to the structure

```
void UpdateInventory(struct tshirt *TShirtPointer)  
{  
    printf("Enter the new inventory level for the %s design TShirt ",  
           TShirtPointer->design);  
    scanf("%d", &TShirtPointer->inventory);  
  
    return;  
}
```