Tampereen yliopisto

Sharing data among data structures

COMP.CS.300 Data structures and algorithms 1

Matti Rintala (matti.rintala@tuni.fi)

Value semantics (C++) Reference semantics (Python...)



Case 1: no problems yet?



name: Alice

age: 31

name: Jussi

age: 32

name: Katya

age: 45

name: Samir

age: 21

name: Äijä age: 65



Case 2: Duplicating data?



name: Samir age: 21

name: Alice

age: 31

name: Jussi

age: 32

name: Katya

age: 45

name: Äijä age: 65



Case 3: Sharing data?



name: Alice

age: 31

name: Katya

age: 45

name: Jussi

age: 32

nimi: Äijä age: 65

ijä 5 name: Samir age: 21



Case 4: Referring to data?



Tampereen yliopisto Alternatives with indirect referral

- Pointers (references)
- Smart pointers (memory management)
- Indices (if data in a vector, etc.)
- Iterators (if data in a data structure)
- Any other way to easily access the data!

(Note. danger of reference invalidation!)