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COMP281 Lecture 9

Principles of C and Memory Management

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Last Lecture

- Pointer to Array
- Pointer Arithmetic
- Pointer with Functions

Today

- struct
- typedef
- union
- String

struct

struct

- `struct` is a user-defined datatype.
- It combines data of different types.
- It constructs a complex data type which is more meaningful (vs Array).
- It is a way to package primitive data objects into an aggregate data object

Defining a struct

Syntax

```
struct [struct_tag]
```



It's optional to provide the `struct` a name, but it's highly recommended.

```
{
```

```
    /* member variable 1 */
```

```
    /* member variable 2 */
```

```
    /* member variable 3 */
```



Variables of different datatypes like `int`, `float`, `char`, `array` etc

```
    ...
```

```
}[struct_variables];
```



It's optional to specify one or more `struct` variables.

Defining a struct

Syntax

```
struct [struct_tag]  
{
```

← It's optional to provide the **struct** a name, but it's highly recommended.

```
    /* member variable 1 */
```

```
    /* member variable 2 */
```

```
    /* member variable 3 */
```

} Variables of different datatypes like **int**, **float**, **char**, **array** etc

```
    ...
```

```
}[struct_variables];
```

← It's optional to specify one or more **struct** variables.

← There must be a semicolon(;)!

Defining a struct

An example

```
struct Employee
{
    char name[50];
    int age;
    char gender;
    float salary;
};
```

```
struct Employee
{
    char name[50];
    int age;
    char gender;
    float salary;
} employee1, employee2;
```

Accessing struct members

- **struct members** have no meaning individually without the **struct**.
- To assign a value to a **struct** member, the member name must be linked with the **struct variable** using a dot (.) operator.

Example 1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
struct Lecturer
{
    char name[50];
    char room[20];
    int age;
};

int main(void)
{
    struct Lecturer lec;
    strcpy(lec.name, "Phil Jimmieson");
    lec.room = "Ashton 1.20";
    printf("Name: %s\n", lec.name);
    printf("Room: %c\n", lec.room);
    return 0;
}
```


Accessing struct members

- **struct members** have no meaning individually without the **struct**.
- To assign a value to a **struct** member, the member name must be linked with the **struct variable** using a dot (.) operator.

Example 1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
struct Lecturer
{
    char name[50];
    char room[20];
    int age;
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    struct Lecturer lec;
    strcpy(lec.name, "Phil Jimmieson");
    lec.room = "Ashton 1.20";
    printf("Name: %s\n", lec.name);
    printf("Room: %c\n", lec.room);
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Name: Phil Jimmieson
Room: A1.20
```

Initialising struct

```
struct House  
{  
    int id;  
    float area;  
};
```

```
struct House h1 = {110, 89.6};
```

or

```
struct House h1;  
h1.id = 110;  
h1.area = 89.6;
```



Array of struct

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
struct Student {
    char name[10];
    int grade;
};
struct Student stu[2];
```

```
int main(void) {
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("\nEnter record of student %d:\n", i+1);
        printf("Enter name:\t");
        scanf("%s", stu[i].name);
        printf("Enter grade:\t");
        scanf("%d", &stu[i].grade);
    }
    printf("\n===== \n");
    printf("Displaying record:\n");
    printf("===== \n");
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("Student %d", i+1);
        printf("\nName is %s", stu[i].name);
        printf("\nGrade is %d\n", stu[i].grade);
        printf("----- \n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Array of struct

Example 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
struct Student {
    char name[10];
    int grade;
};
struct Student stu[2];
```

```
int main(void) {
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("\nEnter record of student %d:\n", i+1);
        printf("Enter name:\t");
        scanf("%s", stu[i].name);
        printf("Enter grade:\t");
        scanf("%d", &stu[i].grade);
    }
    printf("\n=====Displaying record=====\n");
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        printf("Student %d", i+1);
        printf("\nName is %s", stu[i].name);
        printf("\nGrade is %d", stu[i].grade);
        printf("\n-----\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Enter record of student 1:
Enter name: Alan
Enter grade: 1

Enter record of student 2:
Enter name: Blair
Enter grade: 2

=====
Displaying record:
=====
Student 1
Name is Alan
Grade is 1
-----
Student 2
Name is Blair
Grade is 2
```

Nested struct

```
struct Student {  
    char[30] name;  
    int age;  
    /* here Address is a structure */  
    struct Address {  
        char[50] locality;  
        char[50] city;  
        char[9] postcode;  
    } addr;  
};
```


struct as function arguments

- Passing a **struct** as a function argument
- Just like passing any other variable or an array as a function argument

Example 3

```
#include <stdio.h>
struct Student {
    char name[10];
    int grade;
};
void print(struct Student st) {
    printf("\nName: %s\n",st.name);
    printf("\nGrade %d\n",st.grade);
}
```

```
int main(void) {
    struct Student stu;
    printf("Enter Student record:\n");
    printf("Enter Name:\t");
    scanf("%s", stu.name);
    printf("Enter Grade:\t");
    scanf("%d", &stu.grade);
    print(stu);
    return 0;
}
```

struct as function arguments

- Passing a **struct** as a function argument
- Just like passing any other variable or an array as a function argument

Example 3

```
#include <stdio.h>
struct Student {
    char name[10];
    int grade;
};
void print(struct Student st) {
    printf("\nName: %s\n",st.name);
    printf("\nGrade %d\n",st.grade);
}
```

```
int main(void) {
    struct Student st;
    printf("Enter Student record:\n");
    scanf("%s%d",&st.name,&st.grade);
    print(st);
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Enter Student record:
Enter Name: Frans
Enter Grade: 1

Name: Frans
Grade 1
```

Pointers to struct

Example 4

```
#include <stdio.h>
struct location {
    int x;
    int y;
    double dist;
};
```

```
void init_point(struct location *p) {
    (*p).x = (*p).y = 0;
    (*p).dist = 0.0;
    /* syntactic sugar: */
    p->x = p->y = 0;
    p->dist = 0.0;
}

int main(void)
{
    struct location p;
    struct location *ptr = &p;
    init_point(ptr);
    printf("x=%d,y=%d\n", (*ptr).x, (*ptr).y);
    printf("x=%d,y=%d\n", ptr->x, ptr->y);
    return 0;
}
```

Pointers to struct

Example 4

```
#include <stdio.h>
struct location {
    int x;
    int y;
    double dist;
};
```

```
void init_point(struct location *p) {
    (*p).x = (*p).y = 0;
    (*p).dist = 0.0;
    /* syntactic sugar: */
    p->x = p->y = 0;
    p->dist = 0.0;
}

int main(void)
{
    struct location p;
    struct location *ptr = &p;
    init_point(ptr);
    printf("x=%d,y=%d\n", (*ptr).x, (*ptr).y);
    printf("x=%d,y=%d", (*ptr).x, (*ptr).y);
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
X=0, Y=0
X=0, Y=0
```

typedef

typedef

- Typing `struct X` all the time is tedious
- `typedef` provides the facility to assign alternative names to existing datatypes (type alias).
- It is mostly used with user defined datatypes, when names become complicated to use.

Defining a typedef

Syntax

```
typedef <existing_name> <alias_name>
```

For example

```
typedef unsigned long ulong;
```

- Define a term `ulong` for an `unsigned long` datatype.
- Now this `ulong` identifier can be used to define `unsigned long` type variables

```
typedef struct point Point;
```

Defining a typedef

Type component of **typedef** can also be a **struct**

```
typedef struct {    /* no name for the struct */  
    int x;  
    int y;  
    double dist;  
} Point;           /* no "struct" */
```

Note, this is an *anonymous struct*

- Now we have a type **Point** (don't need to use **struct Point**)

Typedef, Struct and Struct pointers

Example 4b

```
typedef struct { /* no name for the struct */
```

```
    int x;
```

```
    int y;
```

```
    double dist;
```

```
} Point, *PointPtr;
```

```
...
```

```
p1.x = 5; p1.y = 6;
```

```
PointPtr p = &p1;
```

```
printf("%d:%d\n", p->x, p->y);
```

A new custom type: ***Point***

A new type of pointer to the custom type: ***PointPtr***

typedef and Pointers

typedef can also be used to give an alias name to pointers.

```
/* declaring two pointers? */
```

```
int* x, y;
```



No - one pointer to Int, and one Int.

```
/* declare any number of pointers in a single statement */
```

```
typedef int* IntPtr;
```

```
IntPtr x, y, z;
```



Yes!

union

union

- `union` is a special datatype allowing us to store different datatypes in the same physical memory location.
- A `union` can have many members, but only one member can contain a value at any given time.
- `union` provides an efficient way of using the same memory location.

Defining a union

Syntax

```
union [union_tag]  
{
```

← It's optional to provide the `union` a name, but it is highly recommended.

```
    /* member variable 1 */
```

```
    /* member variable 2 */
```

```
    /* member variable 3 */
```



Variables of different types like `int`, `float`, `char`, `array` etc

```
    ...
```

```
}[union_variables];
```

← It's optional to specify one or more union variables.

union vs struct

The syntax to declare/define a **union** is similar to that of a **struct**

union Example

```
{  
    int i;  
    float f;  
    char str[20];  
} e;
```

struct Example

```
{  
    int i;  
    float f;  
    char str[20];  
} e;
```

union vs struct

But their usages of memory are different

Example 5

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data1 {
    char c; /* 1 bytes */
    int i;  /* 4 bytes */
    double d; /* 8 bytes */
};
struct Data2 {
    char c; /* 1 bytes */
    int i;  /* 4 bytes */
    double d; /* 8 bytes */
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data1 data1;
    struct Data2 data2;
    printf( "Memory size occupied
by data1 : %lu\n", sizeof(data1));
    printf( "Memory size occupied
by data2 : %lu\n", sizeof(data2));
    return 0;
}
```


union vs struct

But their usages of memory are different

Example 5

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data1 {
    char c; /* 1 bytes */
    int i; /* 4 bytes */
    double d; /* 8 bytes */
};
struct Data2 {
    char c; /* 1 bytes */
    int i; /* 4 bytes */
    double d; /* 8 bytes */
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data1 data1;
    struct Data2 data2;
    printf( "Memory size occupied
by data1 : %lu\n", sizeof(data1));
    printf( "Memory size occupied
by data2 : %lu\n", sizeof(data2));
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Memory size occupied by data1 : 8
Memory size occupied by data2 : 16
```

Accessing union members

- Similar to `struct`.
- To assign a value to a `union` member, the member name must be linked with the **union variable** using a dot (.) operator.

Example 6.1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data data;
    data.i = 66;
    data.f = 99.9;
    strcpy( data.str, "comp281");
    printf( "data.i : %d\n", data.i);
    printf( "data.f : %f\n", data.f);
    printf( "data.str : %s\n", data.str);
    return 0;
}
```

Accessing union members

- Similar to `struct`.
- To assign a value to a `union` member, the member name must be linked with the **union variable** using a dot (.) operator.

Example 6.1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data data;
    data.i = 66;
    data.f = 99.9;
    strcpy( data.str, "comp281");
    printf( "data.i : %d\n", data.i);
```

Output

```
data.i : 1886220131
data.f : 293930422431671236884166606848.000000
data.str : comp281
```

Accessing union members

- Similar to `struct`.
- To assign a value to a `union` member, the member name must be linked with the **union variable** using a dot (.) operator.

Example 6.1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data data;
    data.i = 66;
    data.f = 99.9;
    strcpy( data.str, "comp281");
    printf( "data.i : %d\n", data.i);
}
```

Output

```
data.i : 1886220131
data.f : 293930422431671236884166606848.000000
data.str : comp281
```

Accessing union members

- Similar to `struct`.
- To assign a value to a `union` member, it is linked with the **union variable** using the `.` operator.

Example 6.1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main()
{
    union Data data;
    data.i = 18862;
    data.f = 2939.14;
    data.str = "concepts of union";
    printf("data.i : %d\n", data.i);
    printf("data.f : %f\n", data.f);
    printf("data.str : %s\n", data.str);
    return 0;
}
```

The values of `i` and `f` members of `union` got corrupted because the final value assigned to the variable has occupied the memory location. This is the reason that the value of `str` member is printed correctly in this example.

Accessing union members

Example 6.2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data data;
    data.i = 66;
    printf( "data.i : %d\n", data.i);

    data.f = 99.9;
    printf("data.f : %f\n", data.f);

    strcpy(data.str, "comp281");
    printf("data.str : %s\n", data.str);
    return 0;
}
```

Accessing union members

Example 6.2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
union Data {
    int i;
    float f;
    char str[20];
};
```

```
int main(void) {
    union Data data;
    data.i = 66;
    printf( "data.i : %d\n", data.i);

    data.f = 99.9;
    printf("data.f : %f\n", data.f);

    strcpy(data.str, "comp281");
```

Output

```
data.i : 66
data.f : 99.9000002
data.str : comp281
```

string

String

- `String` is a sequence of `chars` that is treated as a single data item and terminated by an additional null char `'\0'` placed at the end.
- C does not support string as a datatype
- A string is actually an array of `chars`.

Declaring and initialising string variables

Example 7

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main (void) {
    char msg1[ ] = {'H','e','l','l','o',' ',' ','w','o','r','l','d','!','\0'};
    char msg2[ ] = "Hello, world!"; //get compiler to add the '\0'

    printf("Message 1: %s\n", msg1);
    printf("Message 2: %s\n", msg2);

    printf("Size of Message 1 is %lu.\n", sizeof(msg1) / sizeof(msg1[0]));
    printf("Size of Message 2 is %lu.\n", sizeof(msg2) / sizeof(msg2[0]));

    return 0;
}
```

Declaring and initialising string variables

Example 7

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main (void) {
    char msg1[ ] = {'H','e','l','l','o',' ',' ','w','o','r','l','d','!','\0'};
    char msg2[ ] = "Hello, world!"; //get compiler to add the '\0'

    printf("Message 1: %s\n", msg1);
    printf("Message 2: %s\n", msg2);

    printf("Size of Message 1 is %lu.\n", sizeof msg1);
    printf("Size of Message 2 is %lu.\n", sizeof msg2);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Message 1: Hello, world!
Message 2: Hello, world!
Size of Message 1 is 14.
Size of Message 2 is 14.
```



- The string “Hello, world!” contains 14 chars including '\0' char which is automatically added by the compiler at the end of the string.
- When initialising a char array by listing all of its characters separately, '\0' char must be provided explicitly.

String functions

Method	Description
<code>strcat()</code>	To concatenate(combine) two strings
<code>strcpy()</code>	To copy one string into another
<code>strlen()</code>	To show length of a string
<code>strcmp()</code>	To compare two strings
<code>strchr()</code>	To search for the first occurrence of the character

String functions

`strcat()`

To concatenate(combine) two strings

- Syntax

```
char *strcat(char *s1, const char *s2);
```

- Parameters

s1: A pointer to a string that will be modified. s2 will be copied to the end of s1.

s2: A pointer to a string that will be appended to the end of s1.

- Returns

A pointer to s1 (where the resulting concatenated string resides).

Example 8

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void) {
    /* Define a temporary variable */
    char str[100];

    /* Copy the first string into the variable */
    strcpy(str, "The University ");

    /* Concatenate the following two strings to the end of the first one */
    strcat(str, "of Liverpool ");
    strcat(str, "was established in 1882.");

    /* Display the concatenated strings */
    printf("%s\n", str);

    return 0;
}
```

Example 8

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main() {
    /* Define a temporary variable */
    char str[100];

    /* Copy the first string into the variable */
    strcpy(str, "The University ");

    /* Concatenate the following two strings to the end of the first one */
    strcat(str, "of Liverpool ");
    strcat(str, "was established in 1882.");

    /* Display the concatenated strings */
    printf("%s\n", str);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

University of Liverpool was established in 1882.

String functions

`strcpy()`

To copy one string into another

- Syntax

```
char *strcpy(char *dest, const char *src)
```

- Parameters

dest: the pointer to the destination char array where the content is to be copied.

src: the string to be copied.

- Returns

A pointer to the destination string.

Example 9

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
```

```
int main(void) {
    char src[40];
    char dest[100];

    strcpy(src, "This is COMP281.");
    strcpy(dest, src);

    printf("Final copied string : %s.\n", dest);

    return 0;
}
```

Example 9

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void) {
    char src[40];
    char dest[100];

    strcpy(src, "This is COMP281.");
    strcpy(dest, src);

    printf("Final copied string : %s.\n", dest);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Final copied string : This is COMP281
```

String functions

`strlen()`

Returns the length of a string

- Syntax

```
size_t strlen(const char *s);
```

- Parameters

s: the string whose length is to be found.

- Returns

The length of the string pointed to by s.

It does NOT include the null character in the length calculation.

`'\0'`

Example 10

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void) {
    char str[50];
    int len;

    strcpy(str, "Hello, world!");

    len = strlen(str);

    printf("Length of %s is %d\n", str, len);

    return 0;
}
```

Example 10

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int main(void) {
    char str[50];
    int len;

    strcpy(str, "Hello, world!");

    len = strlen(str);

    printf("Length of |%s| is |%d|\n", str, len);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Length of |Hello, world!| is |13|
```

String functions

`strcmp()`

To compare two strings

- Syntax

```
int strcmp(const char *str1, const char *str2)
```

- Parameters

str1: the first string to be compared

str2: the second string to be compared

- Returns

0 if s1 and s2 are the same;

Less than 0 if s1<s2;

Greater than 0 if s1>s2.

Example 11

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(void) {
    char str1[50];
    char str2[50];
    int ret;
    strcpy(str1, "012345");//starts with a zero
    strcpy(str2, "012345");//starts with a capital 0
    ret = strcmp(str1, str2);

    if(ret < 0) {
        printf("str1 is less than str2.\n");
    } else if(ret > 0) {
        printf("str2 is less than str1.\n ");
    } else {
        printf("str1 is equal to str2.\n ");
    }
    return 0;
}
```


Example 11

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(void) {
    char str1[50];
    char str2[50];
    int ret;
    strcpy(str1, "012345");//starts with a zero
    strcpy(str2, "012345");//starts with a capital 0
    ret = strcmp(str1, str2);

    if(ret < 0) {
        printf("str1 is less than str2.\n");
    } else if(ret > 0) {
        printf("str2 is less than str1.\n ");
    } else {
        printf("str1 is equal to str2.\n ");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output

str1 is less than str2.



- In other programming languages that you have used, strings are first-class types, and can be used in the way that other types are. e.g.

```
let user = "Phil"
let myLecturer = "Phil"
if user == myLecturer print("True")
```

Swift

True

- But strings in C are not first-class types, they're char arrays, and this is a cause of some problems (especially for those people who have used other programming languages). Unlike the true first-class types, Strings cannot be operated upon by the standard C operators in the way you might expect.

```
char user[10] = "Phil";
char myLecturer[10] = "Phil";
if user == myLecturer { fprints("True"); }
```

C

Note that you can't compare two strings directly in C, or, at least, you **can**, but it won't do what you think. What does the following code do?

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    char str[30] = {"Hello, World"};
    char str2[30] = {"Hello, World"};

    if (str == str2) {
        printf("The same\n");
    } else {
        printf("different\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Note that you can't compare two strings directly in C, or, at least, you **can**, but it won't do what you think. What does the following code do?

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    char str[30] = {"Hello, World"};
    char str2[30] = {"Hello, World"};

    if (str == str2) {
        printf("The same\n");
    } else {
        printf("different\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Output

different

Note that you can't compare two strings directly in C, or, at least, you **can**, but it won't do what you think. What does the following code do?

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    char str[30] = {"Hello, World"};
    char str2[30] = {"Hello, World"};
```

```
    if (str == str2) {
        printf("The same\n");
    } else {
        printf("different\n");
    }
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

warning: array comparison always evaluates to false

Output

different

String functions

`strchr()`

To search for the first occurrence of a character

- Syntax

```
char *strchr(const char *str, int c)
```

- Parameters

str: the string to be searched in

c: the character to be searched for

- Returns

A pointer to the first occurrence of the character c in the string str, or NULL if the character is not found.

Example 12

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
int main() {
    const char str[] = "https://www.liverpool.ac.uk";
    const char ch = '.';

    char *ret;

    ret = strchr(str, ch);

    printf("String after |%c| is - |%s|\n", ch, ret);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
String after |.| is - |.liverpool.ac.uk|
```

String functions

`char *strncat(char *dest, const char *src, size_t n)`

`int strcoll(const char *str1, const char *str2)`

`char *strncpy(char *dest, const char *src, size_t n)`

`char *strerror(int errnum)`

`char *strpbrk(const char *str1, const char *str2)`

`char *strrchr(const char *str, int c)`

`size_t strspn(const char *str1, const char *str2)`

`char *strtok(char *str, const char *delim)`

`size_t strxfrm(char *dest, const char *src, size_t n)`

...



Don't forget

```
#include <string.h>
```

Summary

Today

- `struct`
- `typedef`
- `union`
- `String`

Next

- Storage Classes
- Dynamic Memory Allocation
- Stack and Heap