

CS1010

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Programming Methodology

Unit 18

More about Structures



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Unit 18: More about Structures

Objectives:

- Learn how to create and use structures with strings
- Learn how to pass structures to functions
- Learn how to use an array of structures

Reference:

- Chapter 10 Structure and Union Types

Unit 18: More about Structures (1/2)

1. Structures with Strings
2. Passing Structures to Functions
3. Array of Structures
4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions
5. The Arrow Operator (->)
6. Returning Structure from Functions
7. Exercises

1. Organizing Data (4/4)

- We can also create array of *groups*
- Example: codes and enrolments for modules can be stored

- Using two parallel arrays
 - $\text{codes}[i]$ and $\text{enrolments}[i]$ are related to the same module i

codes	enrolments
CS1010	292
CS1234	178
CS1010E	358
:	:

- Using an array of “module” *group*
- Which is more logical?

modules	
CS1010	292
CS1234	178
CS1010E	358
:	

1. Structures with Strings

- Besides the primitive data types, structures may include Strings (Unit #16) as well.
- Examples of structure types:

```
typedef struct {  
    char code[8];  
    int  enrolment;  
} module_t;
```

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[12];  
    int  age;  
    char gender;  
} player_t;
```

1.1 Initializing Structures with Strings (1/2)

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[12];  
    int  age;  
    char gender;  
} player_t;
```

- Using initializers:

```
player_t player1 = { "Brusco", 23, 'M' };
```

- Using string functions:

```
player_t player2;  
  
strcpy(player2.name, "July");  
player2.age = 21;  
player2.gender = 'F';
```

1.1 Initializing Structures with Strings (2/2)

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[12];  
    int  age;  
    char gender;  
} player_t;
```

- Using scanf():

```
player_t player3;  
  
printf("Enter name, age and gender: ");  
scanf("%s %d %c", player3.name,  
      &player3.age, &player3.gender);
```

Why is there no need
for **&** to read in name?

- Using assignment:

```
player_t player4 = player3;
```

=

```
strcpy(player4.name, player3.name);  
player4.age = player3.age;  
player4.gender = player3.gender;
```

2. Passing Structures to Functions

- Passing a structure to a parameter in a function is akin to assigning the structure to the parameter.
- The entire structure is copied, i.e., members of the actual parameter are copied into the corresponding members of the formal parameter.
- We use [Unit18_Demo1.c](#) to illustrate this.

2. Demo #1: Passing a structure to a function

```
player1: name = Brusco; age = 23; gender = M  
player2: name = July; age = 21; gender = F
```

Unit18_Demo1.c

```
// #include statements and definition  
// of player_t are omitted here for brevity  
void print_player(char [], player_t);  
  
int main(void) {  
    player_t player1 = { "Brusco", 23, 'M' }, player2;  
  
    strcpy(player2.name, "July");  
    player2.age = 21;  
    player2.gender = 'F';  
  
    print_player("player1", player1);  
    print_player("player2", player2);  
  
    return 0;  
}  
  
// Print player's information  
void print_player(char header[], player_t player) {  
    printf("%s: name = %s; age = %d; gender = %c\n", header,  
        player.name, player.age, player.gender);  
}
```

Passing a
structure to a
function

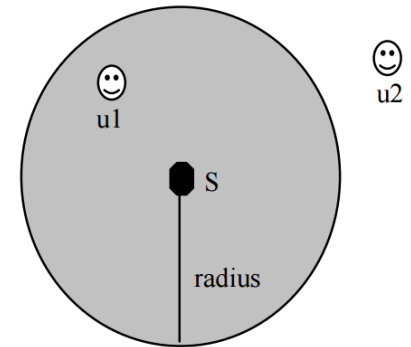
Receiving a
structure from
the caller

3. Array of Structures

- Combining structures and arrays gives us a lot of flexibility in organizing data.
 - For example, we may have a structure comprising 2 members: student's name and an array of 5 test scores he obtained.
 - Or, we may have an array whose elements are structures.
 - Or, even more complex combinations such as an array whose elements are structures which comprises array as one of the members.
- Case study:
 - A startup company decides to provide location-based services. Its customers are a list of stores.
 - Each store has a name, a location given by (x, y) coordinates, a radius that defines a circle of influence.
 - We can define a structure type `store_t` for the stores, and have a `store_t` array `store_t` variables. We call this array `storeList` and it represents the list of stores.

3. Case Study: Nearby Stores (1/4)

- Given a user's current location (x, y) and a list of stores, write a program that prints the names of stores where the user's current location is within their circles of influence.
- The diagram on the left shows the circle of influence of a store S. User u1 is within S's circle of influence while u2 is not.
- Sample run:



```
Enter number of stores: 5
Enter store information:
ABC_Store 3 4 5.0
Cheerful 1 1 3.0
Old_Papa 5 6 10.0
Seven_11 2 2 2.0
Lowson 4 1 2.5
Enter user location: 5 2
```

```
The nearby stores are:
ABC_Store
Old_Papa
Lowson
```

3. Case Study: Nearby Stores (2/4)

Unit18_NearbyStores.c

```
// Preprocessor directives and
// function prototypes omitted for brevity

typedef struct {
    char  sname[13];
    int   x, y;
    float radius;
} store_t;

int main(void) {
    store_t storeList[MAX_STORES];
    int numStore, userX, userY;

    numStore = readStores(storeList);

    printf("Enter user location: ");
    scanf("%d %d", &userX, &userY);

    printNearbyStores(userX, userY, storeList, numStore);

    return 0;
}
```

3. Case Study: Nearby Stores (3/4)

Unit18_NearbyStores.c

```
int readStores(store_t storeList[]) {
    int i, numStore;

    printf("Enter number of stores: ");
    scanf("%d", &numStore);

    printf("Enter store information:\n");

    for (i=0; i<numStore; i++)
        scanf("%s %d %d %f", storeList[i].sname,
                &storeList[i].x, &storeList[i].y,
                &storeList[i].radius);

    return numStore;
}
```

3. Case Study: Nearby Stores (4/4)

Unit18_NearbyStores.c

```
int withinRadius(int x, int y, store_t store) {
    float distance = sqrt((store.x - x)*(store.x - x) +
                          (store.y - y)*(store.y - y));

    return (distance < store.radius);
}

void printNearbyStores(int x, int y,
                      store_t storeList[], int numStore) {
    int i;

    printf("The nearby stores are:\n");

    for (i=0; i<numStore; i++)
        if (withinRadius(x, y, storeList[i]))
            printf("%s\n", storeList[i].sname);
}
```

4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions (1/5)

- Given this code, what is the output?

Unit18_Demo2.c

```
// #include statements, definition of player_t,  
// and function prototypes are omitted here for brevity  
int main(void) {  
    player_t player1 = { "Brusco", 23, 'M' };  
  
    change_name_and_age(player1);  
    print_player("player1", player1);  
    return 0;  
}
```

player1: name = Brusco; age = 23; gender = M

```
// To change a player's name and age  
void change_name_and_age(player_t player) {  
    strcpy(player.name, "Alexandra");  
    player.age = 25;  
}  
  
// Print player's information  
void print_player(char header[], player_t player) {  
    printf("%s: name = %s; age = %d; gender = %c\n", header,  
        player.name, player.age, player.gender);  
}
```

4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions (2/5)

`main()`

`change_name_and_age(player1);`

player1



`change_name_and_age(player_t player)`



player



`strcpy(player.name, "Alexandra");`
`player.age = 25;`

4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions (3/5)

- Like an ordinary variable (eg: of type int, char), when a structure variable is passed to a function, a separate copy of it is made in the called function.
- Hence, the original structure variable will not be modified by the function.
- To allow the function to modify the content of the original structure variable, you need to pass in the **address (pointer) of the structure variable** to the function.
- (Note that passing an array of structures to a function is a different matter. As the array name is a pointer, the function is able to modify the array elements.)

4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions (4/5)

- Need to pass address of the structure variable

Unit18_Demo3.c

```
// #include statements, definition of player_t,
// and function prototypes are omitted here for brevity
int main(void) {
    player_t player1 = { "Brusco", 23, 'M' };

    change_name_and_age(&player1);
    print_player("player1", player1);
    return 0;
}

// To change a player's name and age
void change_name_and_age(player_t *player_ptr) {
    strcpy((*player_ptr).name, "Alexandra");
    (*player_ptr).age = 25;
}

// Print player's information
void print_player(char header[], player_t player) {
    printf("%s: name = %s; age = %d; gender = %c\n", header,
           player.name, player.age, player.gender);
}
```

player1: name = Alexandra; age = 25; gender = M

4. Passing Address of Structure to Functions (5/5)

main()

```
change_name_and_age(&player1);
```

player1



```
change_name_and_age(player_t *player_ptr)
```

player_ptr



```
strcpy((*player_ptr).name, "Alexandra");  
(*player_ptr).age = 25;
```

5. The Arrow Operator (->) (1/2)

- Expressions like `(*player_ptr).name` appear very often. Hence an alternative “shortcut” syntax is created for it.
- The arrow operator (->)

`(*player_ptr).name`

is equivalent to

`player_ptr->name`

`(*player_ptr).age`

is equivalent to

`player_ptr->age`

- Can we write `*player_ptr.name` instead of `(*player_ptr).name`?
- No*, because `.` (dot) has higher precedence than `*`, so `*player_ptr.name` means `*(player_ptr.name)`!

5. The Arrow Operator (->) (2/2)

- Function `change_name_and_age()` in `Unit18_Demo4.c` modified to use the `->` operator.

Unit18_Demo4.c

```
// To change a player's name and age
void change_name_and_age(player_t *player_ptr) {
    strcpy(player_ptr->name, "Alexandra");
    player_ptr->age = 25;
}
```

6. Returning Structure from Functions

- As mentioned in Unit 15, a function can return a structure
 - Example: Define a function `func()` that returns a structure of type `player_t`:

```
player_t func( ... ) {  
    ...  
}
```

- To call `func()`:

```
player_t player3;  
  
player3 = func( ... );
```

6. Returning Structure from Functions

Unit18_Demo5.c

```
int main(void){
    player_t player1, player2;

    printf("Enter player 1's particulars:\n");
    player1 = scan_player();
    printf("Enter player 2's particulars:\n");
    player2 = scan_player();
    . . .
    return 0;
}

// To read in particulars of a player and return structure to caller
player_t scan_player(){
    player_t player;

    printf("Enter name, age and gender: ");
    scanf("%s %d %c", player.name, &player.age, &player.gender);

    return player;
}
```

returned structure is copied to player1

variable player temporarily stores the user's inputs

player is returned here

7. Exercise #1: Points (1/5)

- Write a program `Unit_Points.c` that includes
 1. a structure type `point_t` whose members are the x - and y -coordinates of a point. The coordinates are integers.
 2. a function `read_points()` to read the number of points and points' data into an array of points, and return the number of points read. Each point is represented by its x - and y -coordinates.
- You may assume that the input data contain at least 1 point and at most 10 points.
- An example of input data of 5 points is as shown here
(points.in)

5
3 4
-1 4
5 -2
-6 -2
0 3

7. Exercise #1: Points (2/5)

Unit18_Points.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define MAX_POINTS 10

typedef struct {
    int x, y; // x- and y-coordinates of a point
} point_t;

// Function prototypes omitted for brevity

int main(void) {
    point_t points[MAX_POINTS];
    int size; // number of points

    size = read_points(points);

    ...

    return 0;
}
```

7. Exercise #1: Points (3/5)

```
// Read input data
// Return the number of points read
int read_points(point_t points[]) {

    int size, i;

    printf("Enter number of points: ");
    scanf("%d", &size);

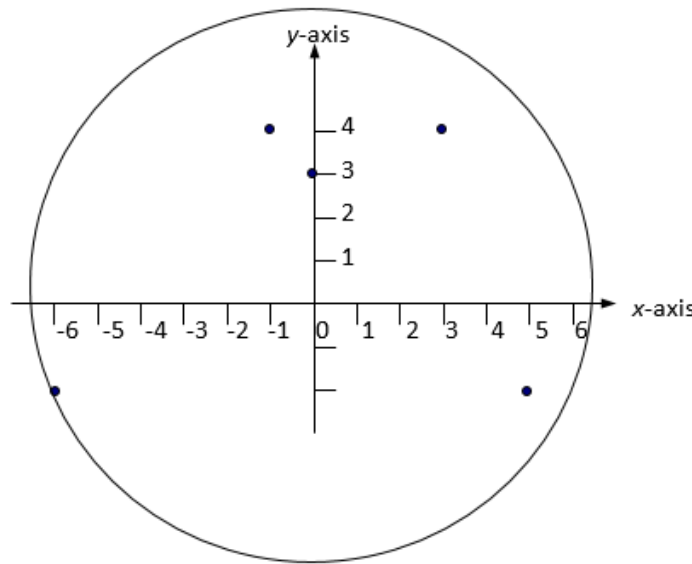
    printf("Enter data for %d points:\n", size);
    for (i=0; i<size; i++)
        scanf("%d %d", &points[i].x, &points[i].y);

    return size;

}
```

7. Exercise #1: Points (4/5)

- After reading the points, imagine that you draw the smallest circle with centre at the origin (0, 0) that encloses all the given points. Complete the function `float circle_area()` to return the area (of type `float`) of this smallest circle.
- You may assume that π is 3.14159.
- For the example input data, the area is 125.66.
- Hint: It may be useful to add a function for computing the square of distance of a point from the origin.



5
3 4
-1 4
5 -2
-6 -2
0 3

7. Exercise #1: Points (5/5)

Unit18_Points.c

```
// Compute the area of the smallest circle that
// encloses all the points.
float circle_area(point_t points[], int size) {
    int i, max_dist, dist;

    max_dist = dist_sq(points[0]);

    for (i=1; i<size; i++) {
        dist = dist_sq(points[i]);
        if (dist > max_dist)
            max_dist = dist;
    }
    return PI * max_dist;
}

// Square of distance of a point from the origin
int dist_sq(point_t pt) {
    return (pt.x * pt.x) + (pt.y * pt.y);
}
```

7. Exercise #2: Health Screening (1/2)

- Write a program [Unit18_Health_Screen.c](#) to read in a list of health screen readings
 - Each input line represents a reading consisting of 2 numbers: a float value indicating the health score, and an int value indicating the number of people with that score.
 - You may assume that there are at most 50 readings.
 - The input should end with the reading 0 0, or when 50 readings have been read. (see health.in)
- As the readings are gathered from various clinics, there might be duplicate scores in the input. You are to determine how many unique scores there are.
- A skeleton program [Unit18_Health_Screen.c](#) is given.
- This exercise is mounted on CodeCrunch.

7. Exercise #2: Health Screening (2/2)

- A sample run is shown below

```
Enter score and frequency (end with 0 0):  
5.2135 3  
3.123 4  
2.9 3  
0.87 2  
2.9 2  
8.123 6  
3.123 2  
7.6 3  
2.9 4  
0.111 5  
0 0  
Number of unique readings = 7
```

- Possible extension: Which is the score that has the highest combined frequency? (Do this on your own.)

Summary

- In this unit, you have learned about
 - How to create and use structures with strings
 - How to pass structures to functions
 - How to use an array of structures

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