



Lecture 38: Structures



Announcements and reminders

- Project 3 due Wednesday 24 April at 11 PM
- I'm gone Monday - Thursday next week for a conference
 - **Extra office hour:** Monday 9-9:50 (T-Th office hours)
 - Available by Piazza/email
 - **TA Karthik** will cover lecture:
 - **Mon:** VScode/coding.csel.io/Python
 - **Wed:** Practicum 3 review



Last time on *Intro Computing...*

Command line arguments just happened!

- How we can supply arguments to our program directly
- No user-supplied values while the function is running
- Instead, give the values **before** the function executes
- **Great for automating code execution!**

Some encryption/decryption just happened too!

- Great for not getting murdered by your Roman friends!



Structures

A C++ **structure** is like a way to store data of different types that is all associated with a particular object.

- 1) All data members are public (by default)
- 2) Structures generally do not have member functions

We can define a structure using the **struct** reserved word similarly to how we define a class:

```
struct StreetAddress
{
    int house_number;
    string street_name;
};
```



Structures

Now we have the **StreetAddress** data type and can declare a **StreetAddress** variable in the usual way:

```
StreetAddress engCenter;
```

We use the *dot* notation to access/mutate the **StreetAddress** data **members**:

```
engCenter.house_number = 1111;  
engCenter.street_name = "Engineering Drive";
```



Structures -- *why?*

Arrays -- We use arrays to organize **data of a similar type** that belong to **different objects**

Structures -- We use structs to organize **data of different types** that all belong to **the same object**



Example: junk mail

Write a program that reads in two files: a **template** and a **database**. The template file contains text and tags. The tags have the form |1| |2| |3|... and need to be replaced with the first, second, third, ... field in the current database record. Your program should print out copies of the template with the tag fields replaced with database entries.



Example: junk mail

A typical database looks like this:

```
Mr.|Harry|Morgan|1105 Torre Ave.|Cupertino|CA|95014
Dr.|John|Lee|702 Ninth Street Apt. 4|San Jose|CA|95109
Miss|Evelyn|Garcia|1101 S. University Place|Ann Arbor|MI|48105
Hon.|Telly|Umada|123 Sesame St.|Nederland|CO|80466
```

And here is a typical template:

```
To:
|1| |2| |3|
|4|
|5|, |6| |7|
Dear |1| |3|:
You and the |3| family may be the lucky winners of $10,000,000 in
the C++ Compiler Clearinghouse sweepstakes! . . .
```


Example: junk mail

And here is a typical template:

```
To:
|1| |2| |3|
|4|
|5|, |6| |7|
Dear |1| |3|:
You and the |3| family may
be the lucky winners of
$10,000,000 in the C++
Compiler Clearinghouse
sweepstakes! . . .
```

And here is what we would want the output email to look like:

```
To:
Hon. Telly Umada
123 Sesame St.
Nederland, CO 80466
Dear Hon. Umada:
You and the Umada family may
be the lucky winners of
$10,000,000 in the C++
Compiler Clearinghouse
sweepstakes! ...
```

What just happened?!

Structures just happened!

- A way to group together ***different types of data*** that are all associated with the ***same object***

... then, we took this cool new skill and used it for ***evil***.



