

Arrays and Structures: Structures and Unions

Joseph Chuang-Chieh Lin (林莊傑)

Department of Computer Science & Engineering,
National Taiwan Ocean University

Fall 2024

Outline

1 Arrays

2 Structures

3 Unions

Outline

1 Arrays

2 Structures

3 Unions

The Arrays as An ADT

- Arrays.
 - a set of pairs $\langle \text{index}, \text{value} \rangle$.
 - for each index, there is a value associated with that index.
 - a consecutive set of memory locations.
 - mathematical terms: *correspondence*, *mapping*, etc.

Implementation of 1-D Array

- `int list[5]`
 - Five consecutive memory locations are allocated.
 - The address of `list[0]`: **base address**.
- `int list[5], *plist[5];`
 - sample **code** for the second.

variable	memory address
<code>list[0]</code>	base address = b
<code>list[1]</code>	$b + 1 \times \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$
<code>list[2]</code>	$b + 2 \times \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$
<code>list[3]</code>	$b + 3 \times \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$
<code>list[4]</code>	$b + 4 \times \text{sizeof}(\text{int})$

Array in C

- Compare `int *list1` and `int list2[5]` in C.
 - Both `list1` and `list2` are pointers.
 - `list2` reserves **five** memory locations.
- Some notations:
 - `list2:`
 - `(list2+i):`
 - `*(list2+i):`

Array in C

- Compare `int *list1` and `int list2[5]` in C.
 - Both `list1` and `list2` are pointers.
 - `list2` reserves **five** memory locations.
- Some notations:
 - `list2:` a pointer to `list2[0]`
 - `(list2+i):` `&list2[i]`
 - `*(list2+i):` `list2[i]`

Outline

1 Arrays

2 Structures

3 Unions

Structures

- An array is a collection of data of **the same type**.
 - `int arr[] = { 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 };`
- A structure is a collection of **data items**, where each item is identified as to its type and name.

```
struct employee {  
    char name[10];  
    int age;  
    double salary;  
};  
struct employee person;
```

```
struct employee {  
    char name[10];  
    int age;  
    double salary;  
} person;
```

Usage of a struct Variable

```
struct employee {  
    char name[10];  
    int age;  
    double salary;  
} person;  
  
strcpy(person.name, "Peter");  
person.age = 10;  
person.salary = 80000;
```

```
struct employee {  
    string name; // C++  
    int age;  
    double salary;  
} person;  
  
person.name = "Peter";  
person.age = 10;  
person.salary = 80000;
```

typedef

```
typedef int COUNT;  
COUNT num1, num2;  
typedef struct employee HUMAN_BEING;  
  
HUMAN_BEING person1, person2;  
strcpy(person1.name, "Peter");  
person.age = 10;  
person.salary = 80000;
```

A structure within a structure is possible

The usage:

```
typedef struct {  
    int month;  
    int day;  
    int year;  
} date;
```

```
typedef struct {  
    char name[10];  
    int age;  
    float salary;  
    date birthday;  
} HUMAN_BEING;
```

```
HUMAN_BEING person;  
person.birthday.month = 10;  
person.birthday.day = 31;  
person.birthday.year = 1979;
```

Outline

1 Arrays

2 Structures

3 Unions

Unions

- Similar to structures.
- The fields of a union must **share their memory space**.
- Only one field of the union is **active** at any given time.

```
typedef struct {  
    int sex;  
    union {  
        int kid;  
        int beard;  
    } u;  
} SEX_TYPE;
```

Characteristics of Unions (code)

- The size of the union is the size of the **largest** member.
- Only one member can contain data at the same time.

```
union union1 {  
    int x;  
    int y;  
} U1;  
  
union union2 {  
    int arr[10];  
    char y;  
} U2;
```

```
int size1 = sizeof(U1);  
int size2 = sizeof(U2);  
printf("Sizeof U1: %d\n", size1);  
printf("Sizeof U2: %d\n", size2);
```


An Application Example

*binary tree (only leaf nodes have data)

```
struct Node {  
    bool is_leaf;  
    struct Node* left;  
    struct Node* right;  
    double data;  
};
```

```
struct Node {  
    bool is_leaf;  
    union {  
        struct {  
            struct Node* left;  
            struct Node* right;  
        } internal;  
        double data;  
    } info;  
};
```

Reference: GeeksforGeeks

Discussions