# CSC 211: Computer Programming Structs

### Michael Conti

Department of Computer Science and Statistics University of Rhode Island

Spring 2025



### Structures

- Definition is generally outside any function
   new 'data type' will be available to all code that follows
- Structures can be declared in the same way as basic data types
- · Can also use { } notation for initialization
- Use the **dot operator** for accessing data members

### Structures

```
struct structureName {
    member1;
    member2;
    member3;
    .
    .
    memberN;
};
```

Structures in C++ are user defined data types which are used to store multiple items (members) of possibly different data types

# Example

```
// defining the struct
struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

int main() {
    // creating a variable
    struct Point p1;
}
```

2

# Initializing ... // defining the struct struct Point { int x; int y; }; int main() { // initializing (follows order) struct Point p1 = { 10, 20 }; }

```
#include <iostream>

struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

int main() {
    struct Point p1 = { 10, 20 };
    p1.x += 5;
    std:.cout << p1.x << ' ' << p1.y << '\n';
}</pre>
```

# The dot operator

```
#include <iostream>

struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

int main() {
    struct Point p1 = { 10, 20 };
    struct Point p2 = { 30, 40 };
    struct Point p3 = { 50, 60 };
    p1.x += 5; p2.y += 10; p3.y += 15;
}
```

```
DISPLAY 10.2 Member Values
      struct CDAccount
          double balance:
          double interestRate;
          int term; //months until maturity
      int main( )
                                          balance
9
         CDAccount account;
                                                                 ?
                                          interestRate
                                                                          account
10
11
12
                                                              1000.00
                                          balance
13
         account.balance = 1000.00;
                                                                          account
14
                                          interestRate
15
                                          term
                                                             1000.00
16
         account.interestRate = 4.7;
17
                                                                 4.7
                                         interestRate
                                                                          account
18
                                                                  ?
                                                             1000.00
                                         balance
19
         account.term = 11:
20
                                         interestRate
                                                                 4.7
                                                                          account
21
                                                                  11
22
                     from: Problem Solving with C++, 10th Edition, Walter Savitch
```

# Array of structures

```
#include <iostream>
struct Point2D {
    double x;
    double y;
};
int main() {
    Point2D mypoint;
    Point2D myarray[5];
    mypoint.x = 10;
    mypoint.y = 20;
    for (int i = 0 ; i < 5 ; i ++) {
        myarray[i].x = 0;
        myarray[i].y = i;
    }
}</pre>
```

### pythontutor.com C++ (gcc 4.8, C++11) EXPERIMENTAL! known limitations Stack main 1 struct Point2D { object Point2D double x; double y; x 10 mypoint 4 }; 6 int main() { struct Point2D mypoint; struct Point2D myarray[5]; x double 0 x double 0 x 0 mypoint.x = 10; 11 mypoint.y = 20; for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) { myarray[i].x = 0; → 14 **→** 15 myarray[i].y = i; 16 } 18 }

# Arrays and Structures

- When using arrays as structs member, the index goes at the end
  - ✓ student.grades[i]
- When using structs as arrays elements, the index goes after the struct name
  - ✓ students[i].finalGrade

# **Functions**

```
// defining the struct
struct Point {
   int x;
   int y;
};

void distance(Point P1,Point P2);
```

## Passing structures to functions

• A struct can be passed as a parameter either by value or by reference

```
void incrementPoint(Point &somePoint){
    somePoint.x+=1;
    somePoint.y+=1;
};
```

· A function can return a value of type struct

```
Point incrementPoint(Point somePoint){
    somePoint.x+=1;
    somePoint.y+=1;
    return somePoint;
};
```

# Passing structures to functions

```
DISPLAY 10.1 A Structure Definition
      //Program to demonstrate the CDAccount structure type.
       #include <iostream>
                                                                                                                 void getData(CDAccount& theAccount)
                                                                                                                    cout << "Enter account balance: $":
       //Structure for a bank certificate of deposit:
                                                                                                                   cont << "Enter account balance; $";
cin >> theAccount.balance;
cout << "Enter account interest rate: ";
cin >> theAccount.interestRate;
        struct CDAccount
                                                                                                                  double interestRate:
            int term; //months until maturity
      void getData(CDAccount& theAccount):
      //Postcondition: theAccount.balance and theAccount.interestRate
//have been given values that the user entered at the keyboard.
           getData(account):
            double rateFraction, interest;
           rateFraction = account.interestRate / 100.0;
interest = account.balance * rateFraction * (account.term / 12.0);
account.balance = account.balance + interest;
            cout.setf(ios::showpoint);
          cout.precision(2);
cout << "When your CD matures in "
               << account.term << " months,\n"
<< "it will have a balance of $"</pre>
                  << account.balance << endl;
                                                    from: Problem Solving with C++, 10th Edition, Walter Savitch
```

### Be careful of same member names

```
// defining the struct
struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

struct Character {
    int x;
    int y;
    std::string name;
};

Compiler can keep track but it's harder for humans
```

### Structs and Pointers

```
struct Books {
    std::string title;
    std::string author;
    std::string subject;
    int book_id;
};
```

### Pointers and Structs

You can define pointers to structures in very similar way as you define pointer to any other variable

```
struct Books *struct_pointer;
struct Books Book1:
```

Now, you can store the address of a structure variable in the above defined pointer variable.

```
struct_pointer = &Book1;
```

# Example

- Write a Student struct that contains
  - ✓ Name
  - ✓ StudentID
  - ✓ Major
- Implement functions:
  - void buildStudent(Student &someStudent)
    - Initialize member variables of student Struct
  - void changeMajor(Student &someStudent);
    - Change the major of a student structure
  - void printStudent(Student &someStudent);
    - Prints out all member variables of student structure

### Structs and Pointers

```
void printBook( struct Books *book ) {
   std::cout << "Book title : " << (*book).title;
std::cout << "Book author : " << (*book).author;</pre>
   std::cout << "Book subject : " << (*book).subject;</pre>
   std::cout << "Book id : " << (*book).book_id;</pre>
struct Books {
    std::string title;
    std::string author;
    std::string subject;
    int book_id;
};
                                  int main(){
                                      struct Books Book1;
                                      Book1.title = "Learn C++ Programming"
                                      Book1.author = "Chand Miyan"
                                      Book1.subject = "Computer Science"
                                      printBook( &Book1 );
```