

CS 2133

Data Abstraction & ADTs
(Abstract Data Types)

Abstraction

- **Abstraction** is the **separation** of the essential qualities of an object from the details of how it works or is composed
 - Focuses on **what, not how**
 - Is necessary for managing large, complex software projects

Data Abstraction

- **Data abstraction** separates the logical properties of a data type from its implementation

LOGICAL PROPERTIES

What are the possible values?

What operations will be needed?

IMPLEMENTATION

How can this be done in C++?

How can data types be used?

Data Abstraction

- With data abstraction we think about what **operations can be performed on a particular type of data** and not how it does
- Data abstraction is used as a tool to increase the modularity of a program
- We use it to build **new abstract data types** .

Data Abstraction

- Data Abstraction is one of the most powerful programming paradigms
- It allows us to create our own user defined data types (using the class construct) and define variables (i.e., objects) of those new data types.

Data Type



```
graph TD; A[Data Type] --> B[set of values (domain)]; A --> C[allowable operations on those values]
```

set of values
(domain)

allowable operations
on those values

FOR EXAMPLE, data type `int` has

domain

-32768 ... 32767

operations

+, -, *, /, %, >>, <<

Abstract Data Type (ADT)

- An **abstract data type** is a data type whose properties (domain and operations) are specified (*what*) independently of any particular implementation (*how*)

ADT Specification Example

TYPE

Time

DOMAIN

Each Time value is a time in hours, minutes, and seconds.

OPERATIONS

Set the time

Print the time

Increment by one second

Compare 2 times for equality

Determine if one time is “less than” another

Another ADT Specification

TYPE

ComplexNumber

DOMAIN

Each value is an ordered pair of real numbers (a, b) representing $a + bi$

OPERATIONS

Initialize the complex number

Write the complex number

Add

Subtract

Multiply

Divide

Determine the absolute value of a complex number

ADT Implementation

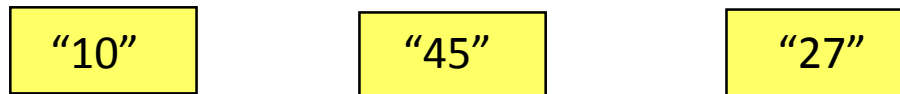
- **ADT implementation**
 - Choose a specific data representation for the abstract data using data types that already exist (built-in or programmer-defined)
 - Write functions for each allowable operation

Several Possible Representations of ADT Time

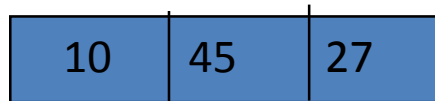
3 int variables



3 strings



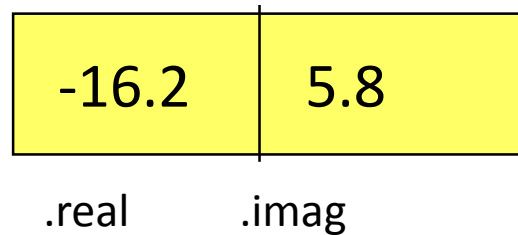
3-element int array



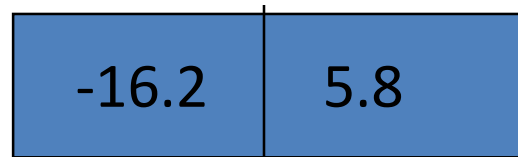
Choice of representation depends on time, space, and algorithms needed to implement operations

Some Possible Representations of ADT `ComplexNumber`

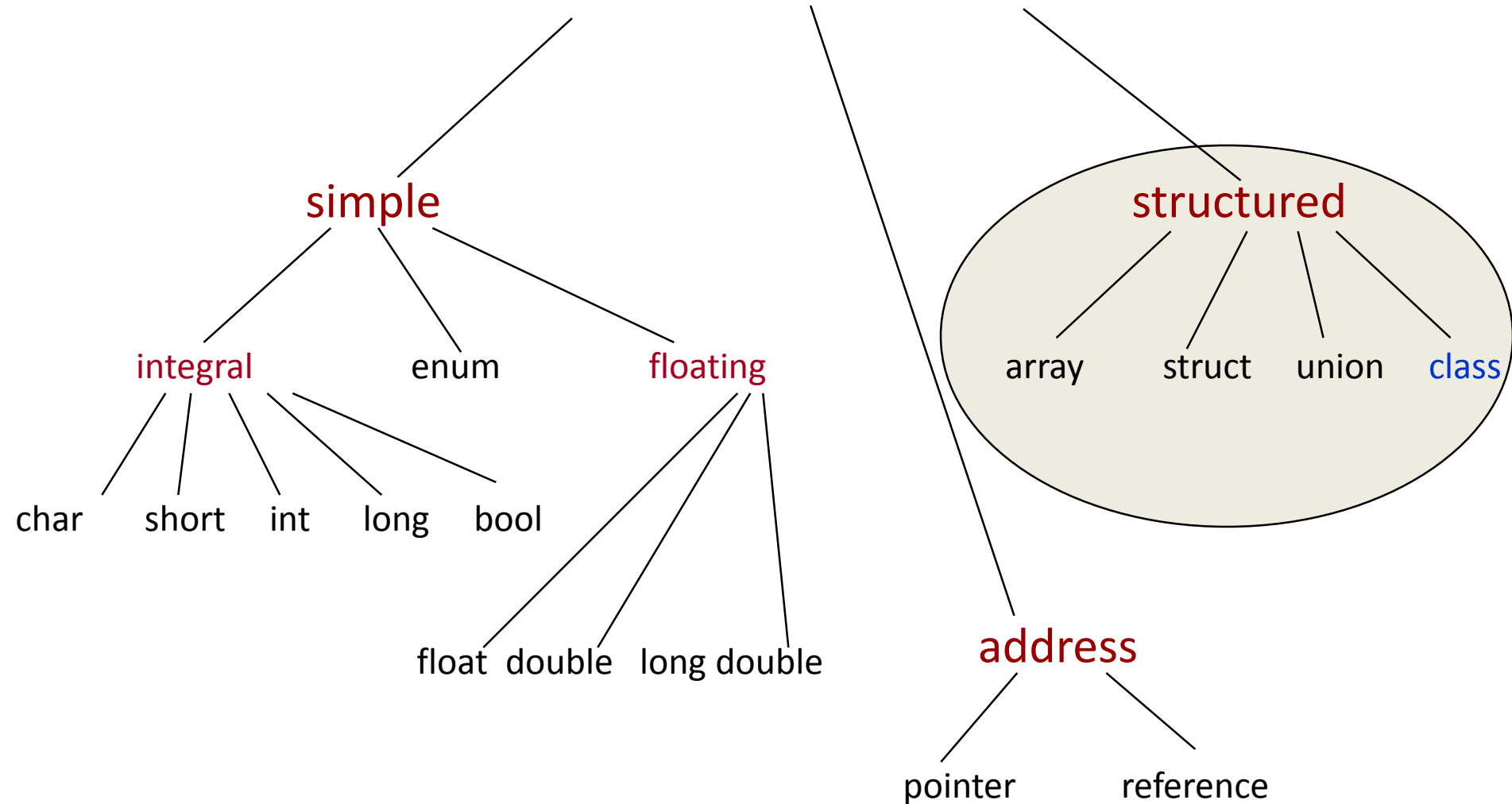
struct with 2 float members



2-element float array



C++ Data Types



Abstract Data Types in C++

- Based on C **struct** type and classes
- The *class* is the encapsulation device
 - All of the class instances of a class share a single copy of the member functions
 - Variables of the class type are called *class objects* or *class instances*
 - Each instance has own copy of class data members
 - Instances can be static, stack dynamic, heap dynamic
- Information hiding
 - *Private* clause for hidden entities
 - *Public* clause for interface entities
 - *Protected* clause for inheritance

C++ class

- Facilitates **re-use** of C++ code for an ADT
- Software that uses the class is called a **client**
- Client code uses class's **public member functions** to manipulate class objects

class Time Specification

```
// Specification file (Time.h)

class Time          // Declares a class data type
{                  // does not allocate memory
public :           // Five public function members
    void Set (int  hours , int  mins , int  secs);
    void Increment ();
    void Write ()  const;
    bool Equal (Time  otherTime)  const;
    bool LessThan (Time  otherTime)  const;
private :          // Three private data members
    int  hrs;
    int  mins;
    int  secs;
};
```


C++ (cont.)

- **Constructors:**
 - Functions to initialize the data members of instances (they do not create the objects)
 - May also allocate storage if part of the object is heap-dynamic
 - Can include parameters to provide parameterization of the objects
 - Implicitly called when an instance is created
 - Can be explicitly called
 - Name is the same as the class name

Language Examples: C++ (cont.)

- **Destructors**

- Functions to clean up after an instance is destroyed; usually just to reclaim heap storage
- Implicitly called when the object's lifetime ends
- Can be explicitly called
- Name is the class name, preceded by a tilde (~)

Member Functions Defined in Class

```
class Stack {  
    private:  
        int *stackPtr, maxLen, topPtr;  
    public:  
        Stack() { // a constructor  
            stackPtr = new int [100];  
            maxLen = 99;    topPtr = -1;    };  
        ~Stack () {delete [] stackPtr;};  
        void push (int num) {...};  
        void pop () {...};  
        int top () {...};  
        int empty () {...};  
}
```

Implicitly inlined → code
placed in caller's code

Client Code Using Time

```
#include "time.h" // Includes specification of the class
using namespace std;

int main ()
{
    Time currentTime; // Declares two objects of Time
    Time endTime;
    bool done = false;

    currentTime.Set (5, 30, 0);
    endTime.Set (18, 30, 0);
    while (! done)
    { . . .

        currentTime.Increment ();
        if (currentTime.Equal (endTime))
            done = true;
    };
}
```

User-defined Data Type

- For example, you might want to add a new type called: list
 - which maintains a list of data
 - the data structure might be an array of structures
 - operations might be to add to, remove, display all, display some items in the list

Example

- For a list of videos, we might start with a struct defining what a video is:

```
struct video {  
    char title[100];  
    char category[5];  
    int quantity;  
};
```

Recall: Data Structure

- Data structure usually refers to an organization for data in main memory.

Example

- For a list of videos data type:

```
class list {  
    public:  
        list();  
        int add (const video &);  
        int remove (char title[]);  
        int display_all();  
    private:  
        video my_list[CONST_SIZE];  
        int num_of_videos;  
};
```


Example

- For a client to create a list object:

```
main() {  
    list home_videos; //has an array of 100 videos  
    list kids_shows; //another 100 videos here...  
    ...  
    video out_of_site;  
    scanf("%s", out_of_site.title);  
    ...  
    home_videos.add(out_of_site); //use operation
```