

Programming for Engineers

Lecture 10: C Structures/Unions/Enumerates

Course ID: EE057IU

Outline

- ❑ Structure
- ❑ Union
- ❑ Enumeration



PROBLEM STATEMENT

- I need to keep track of the maintenance information about the motorbikes in my collection



Name	Honda Future
Engine_cc	124.9
Odo(km)	20000
Fuel type	RON95
Cooler	Air
Spark plug	2000



Name	Suzuki Viva
Engine_cc	109.7
Odo(km)	60000
Fuel type	RON95
Cooler	Air
Spark plug	12000



Name	Honda PCX
Engine_cc	156.9
Odo(km)	1000
Fuel type	E10
Filter	Liquid
Spark plug	1000

PROBLEM STATEMENT

CAN YOU TELL THE PROBLEM?

Storing All Information In Different Variable Consumes Time And Memory

```
float Engine = 124.9;  
unsigned int odo = 20000;  
char *Fuel = "RON95";  
char *Cooler = "Air";  
unsigned int Spark = 2000;
```

```
float Engine2 = 109.7;  
unsigned int odo2 = 60000;  
char *Fuel2 = "RON95";  
char *Cooler2 = "Air";  
unsigned int Spark2 = 12000;
```

```
float Engine3 = 156.9;  
unsigned int odo3 = 1000;  
char *Fuel3 = "E10";  
char *Cooler3 = "Liquid";  
unsigned int Spark3 = 1000;
```

Name	Honda Future
Engine_cc	124.9
Odo(km)	20000
Fuel type	RON95
Cooler	Air
Spark plug	2000

Name	Suzuki Viva
Engine_cc	109.7
Odo(km)	60000
Fuel type	RON95
Cooler	Air
Spark plug	12000

Name	Honda PCX
Engine_cc	156.9
Odo(km)	1000
Fuel type	E10
Filter	Liquid
Spark plug	1000

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- CAN WE USE ARRAYS?
- Our requirement is to store data of different types

NO! Arrays can store multiple elements
but they all must be of same type

Structure Definitions

➤ Structures are derived (**user-defined**) **data types**

- Constructed using objects of other types
- Allow the combination of different types (i.e., ints, floats, arrays)
- Keyword for defining structure: *struct*

```
struct card {  
    const char *face;  
    const char *suit;  
};
```

```
struct employee {  
    char firstname[20];  
    char lastname[20];  
    int age;  
    double hourlySalary;  
};
```

Structure Declarations

- ```
struct employee {
 char firstname[20];
 char lastname[20];
 int age;
 double hourlySalary;
};
```
- ```
struct employee employee1, employee2;
```
- ```
struct employee employees[100];
```
- ```
struct employee {  
    char firstname[20];  
    char lastname[20];  
    int age;  
    char gender;  
    double hourlySalary;  
} employee1, employee2, *employeePtr;
```

Defining Variable of *Structure* Types

- Structure does not reserve space in memory, it creates new data type

```
struct card {  
    const char *face;  
    const char *suit;  
};
```

- Defining variable using structure reserve memory

```
struct card myCard;  
struct card deck[52];  
struct card *cardPtr;
```

- Variable of *structure* can be defined in different way

```
struct card {  
    const char *face;  
    const char *suit;  
} myCard, deck[52], *cardPtr;
```



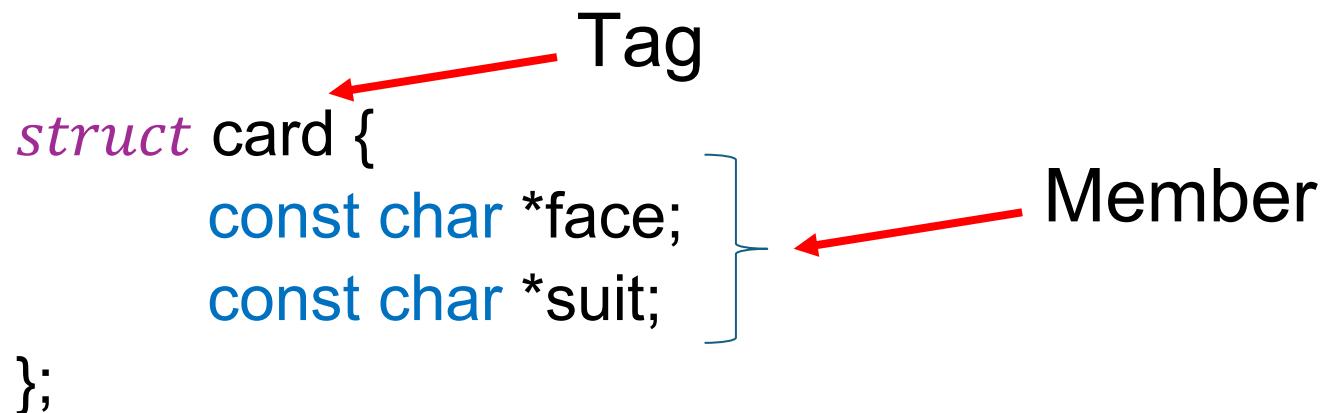
Structure Tag Name

- The structure tag name is optional.
- If a structure definition does not contain a structure tag name, we must define any variable of the type
- Always provide a structure tag name so you can declare new variables of that type later.

```
struct card {  
    const char *face;  
    const char *suit;  
};
```

Tag

Member



► Self-Referential Structure

- A structure cannot contain an instance of itself.

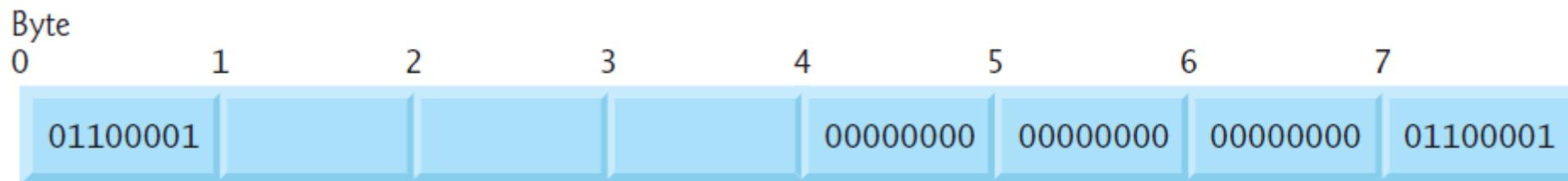
```
struct employee {  
    char firstname[20];  
    char lastname[20];  
    int age;  
    double hourlySalary;  
    struct employee *managerPtr;  
};
```

► Storage in Memory

- Structures **may not be compared** using operator == and !=
 - because structure members may not be stored in consecutive bytes of memory.
- Computers may store specific data types only on certain memory boundaries such as half-word, word or doubleword boundaries.
- A word is a standard memory unit used to store data in a computer—usually 2 bytes or 4 bytes.

► Storage in Memory

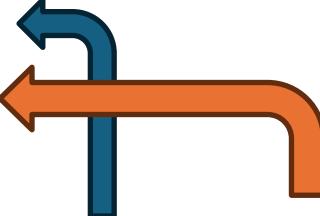
```
struct example {  
    char c;  
    int i;  
} sample1, sample2;
```



- at a word boundary, each `struct example` variable has a three-byte hole in bytes 1–3
- The hole's value is unspecified
- Holes are not likely to contain identical values in `sample1`'s and `sample2`'s member

Initialization Structure

- ```
struct card {
 const char *face;
 const char *suit;
};
```


- ```
struct card aCard = {"Three", "Heart"};
```
- If there are fewer initializers in the list than members in the structure,
 - the remaining members are automatically initialized to 0
 - or NULL if the member is a pointer.
- Assignment statement of same *struct* type
 - ```
struct card aCard1 = aCard2;
```

# Acessing *Structure* Members with . and ->

---

- *struct* card {  
    const char \*face;  
    const char \*suit;  
};
- *struct* card myCard = {"Three", "Heart"};

**Structure member operation  
a.k.a “Dot operation”**

➤ The structure member operation . or dot operator

```
printf("%s", myCard.suit); //display Hearts
```

# Acessing Structure Members with . and ->

---

- `struct card {  
 const char *face;  
 const char *suit;  
};`
- `struct card myCard = {"Three", "Heart"};`

➤ The structure member operation `->` or dot operator

- `cardPtr = &myCard`
- `printf("%s", cardPtr->suit); //display Hearts`

Following statements equivalent

- `cardPtr->suit`
- `(*cardPtr).suit`

**Structure Pointer operation  
a.k.a “Arrow operation”**

# In-class example

```
1 // fig10_01.c
2 // Structure member operator and
3 // structure pointer operator
4 #include <stdio.h>
5
6 // card structure definition
7 struct card {
8 const char *face; // define pointer face
9 const char *suit; // define pointer suit
10 };
11
12 int main(void) {
13 struct card myCard; // define one struct card variable
14
15 // place strings into myCard
16 myCard.face = "Ace";
17 myCard.suit = "Spades";
18
19 struct card *cardPtr = &myCard; // assign myCard
20
21 printf("%s of %s\n", myCard.face, myCard.suit);
22 printf("%s of %s\n", cardPtr->face, cardPtr->suit);
23 printf("%s of %s\n", (*cardPtr).face, (*cardPtr).suit);
24 }
```

```
Ace of Spades
Ace of Spades
Ace of Spades
```

**Fig. 10.1** | Structure member operator and structure pointer operator.

# Using *Structures* with Function

---

- *Structures* can pass to functions:
  - individual structure members
  - entire structure objects
  - pointer to structure object
- Individual structure members and entire structure objects are passed by value
  - Can not modify them in caller
- To pass a structure by reference, use the structure object's address

# *typedef*

Syntax:      `typedef existing_data_type new_data_type`

- The keyword **typedef** is a way to create synonyms. Let user to create their own types.
- Using **typedef** for shorter type names.
- Example:

`typedef struct card Card;`

- Example:
  - `typedef struct card{`  
          `const char *face;`  
          `const char *suit;`  
      `}` **Card;**
  - `Card myCard, *myCardPtr, deck[52];`

Existing data type

new data type

# In-class example: Card Shuffling and Dealing (1)

---

```
1 // fig10_02.c
2 // Card shuffling and dealing program using structures
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #include <stdlib.h>
5 #include <time.h>
6
7 #define CARDS 52
8 #define FACES 13
9
10 // card structure definition
11 struct card {
12 const char *face; // define pointer face
13 const char *suit; // define pointer suit
14 };
15
16 typedef struct card Card; // new type name for struct card
17
18 // prototypes
19 void fillDeck(Card * const deck, const char *faces[], const char *suits[]);
20 void shuffle(Card * const deck);
21 void deal(const Card * const deck);
22
```

# In-class example: Card Shuffling and Dealing (2)

---

```
23 int main(void) {
24 Card deck[CARDS]; // define array of Cards
25
26 // initialize faces array of pointers
27 const char *faces[] = { "Ace", "Deuce", "Three", "Four", "Five",
28 "Six", "Seven", "Eight", "Nine", "Ten", "Jack", "Queen", "King"};
29
30 // initialize suits array of pointers
31 const char *suits[] = { "Hearts", "Diamonds", "Clubs", "Spades"};
32
33 srand(time(NULL)); // randomize
34
35 fillDeck(deck, faces, suits); // load the deck with Cards
36 shuffle(deck); // put Cards in random order
37 deal(deck); // deal all 52 Cards
38 }
39
```

# In-class example: Card Shuffling and Dealing (3)

---

```
35 fillDeck(deck, faces, suits); // Load the deck with Cards
36 shuffle(deck); // put Cards in random order
37 deal(deck); // deal all 52 Cards
38 }
39
40 // place strings into Card structures
41 void fillDeck(Card * const deck, const char * faces[],
42 const char * suits[]) {
43 // Loop through deck
44 for (size_t i = 0; i < CARDS; ++i) {
45 deck[i].face = faces[i % FACES];
46 deck[i].suit = suits[i / FACES];
47 }
48 }
49
```

# In-class example: Card Shuffling and Dealing (4)

---

```
50 // shuffle cards
51 void shuffle(Card * const deck) {
52 // loop through deck randomly swapping Cards
53 for (size_t i = 0; i < CARDS; ++i) {
54 size_t j = rand() % CARDS;
55 Card temp = deck[i];
56 deck[i] = deck[j];
57 deck[j] = temp;
58 }
59 }
60
61 // deal cards
62 void deal(const Card * const deck) {
63 // loop through deck
64 for (size_t i = 0; i < CARDS; ++i) {
65 printf("%5s of %-8s%s",
66 deck[i].face, deck[i].suit,
67 (i + 1) % 4 ? " " : "\n");
68 }
```

# In-class example: Card Shuffling and Dealing (5)

|                   |                   |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Three of Hearts   | Jack of Clubs     | Three of Spades   | Six of Diamonds   |
| Five of Hearts    | Eight of Spades   | Three of Clubs    | Deuce of Spades   |
| Jack of Spades    | Four of Hearts    | Deuce of Hearts   | Six of Clubs      |
| Queen of Clubs    | Three of Diamonds | Eight of Diamonds | King of Clubs     |
| King of Hearts    | Eight of Hearts   | Queen of Hearts   | Seven of Clubs    |
| Seven of Diamonds | Nine of Spades    | Five of Clubs     | Eight of Clubs    |
| Six of Hearts     | Deuce of Diamonds | Five of Spades    | Four of Clubs     |
| Deuce of Clubs    | Nine of Hearts    | Seven of Hearts   | Four of Spades    |
| Ten of Spades     | King of Diamonds  | Ten of Hearts     | Jack of Diamonds  |
| Four of Diamonds  | Six of Spades     | Five of Diamonds  | Ace of Diamonds   |
| Ace of Clubs      | Jack of Hearts    | Ten of Clubs      | Queen of Diamonds |
| Ace of Hearts     | Ten of Diamonds   | Nine of Clubs     | King of Spades    |
| Ace of Spades     | Nine of Diamonds  | Seven of Spades   | Queen of Spades   |

# In-class practice

---

- Write a program to generate data for N students. Use structure to create numeric ID and points (max 100) as 2 separate members. Randomly generate data for N students. Display both the ID and the points of the student who has received highest point.

# Union

---

- A **union** is a derived data type - like a structure - with members that *share the same storage space*.

**Example:**

```
struct abc {
 int a;
 char b;
};
```

a's address = 6295624  
b's address = 6295628

```
union abc {
 int a;
 char b;
};
```

a's address = 6295616  
b's address = 6295616

# Union

---

- For different situations in a program, some variables may not be relevant, but other variables are — so a union shares the space **instead of wasting storage on variables that are not being used.**
- The members of a union can be of *any data type*.
- The number of bytes used to store a union must be at least *enough to hold the largest member*.

# Union Declarations

---

```
union number {
 int x;
 double y;
};
```

- In a declaration, a union may be initialized with a **value of the same type as the first union member.**
- *union* number value = {10};
- *union* number value = {1.43}; // **ERROR**

# Allowed unions Operations

---

- The operations that can be performed on a union are:
  - assigning a union to another union of the same type,
  - taking a union variable's address (&),
  - accessing union members via the structure member operator (.) and the structure pointer operator (->), and
  - zero-initializing the union.
- Two unions may not be compared using operators == and != for the same reasons that two structures cannot be compared.

# Example: Union vs Struct

How good is that if we have an array containing mixed type data?

Can we?

Yes, we can by using struct

```
typedef struct {
 int a;
 char b;
 double c;
} data;

int main()
{
 data arr[10];
 arr[0].a = 10;
 arr[1].b = 'a';
 arr[2].c = 10.178;
 //and so on
 return 0;
}
```

# Example: Union vs Struct

However, consider the size of this struct

```
sizeof(int) = 4 bytes
sizeof(char) = 1 byte
sizeof(double) = 8 bytes
```

```
typedef struct {
 int a;
 char b;
 double c; } data;

Size = 13 bytes

int main()
{
 data arr[10];
 arr[0].a = 10;
 arr[1].b = 'a';
 arr[2].c = 10.178;
 //and so on
 return 0;
}
```

# Example: Union vs Struct

Memory allocation to an **union** has the size of the largest union's member memory size

```
typedef union {
 int a;
 char b;
 double c; } data;
Size = 8 bytes

int main()
{
 data arr[10];
 arr[0].a = 10;
 arr[1].b = 'a';
 arr[2].c = 10.178;
 //and so on
 return 0;
}
```

# Example: Union vs Struct

```
typedef union {
 int a;
 char b;
 double c; } data;
Size = 8 bytes

int main()
{
 data arr[10]; Size = 80 bytes
 arr[0].a = 10;
 arr[1].b = 'a';
 arr[2].c = 10.178;
 //and so on
 return 0;
}
```

```
typedef struct {
 int a;
 char b;
 double c; } data;
Size = 13 bytes

int main()
{
 data arr[10]; Size = 130 bytes
 ↪ arr[0].a = 10;
 arr[1].b = 'a';
 arr[2].c = 10.178;
 //and so on
 return 0;
}
```

# In-class example: Union (1)

---

```
1 // fig10_03.c
2 // Displaying the value of a union in both member data types
3 #include <stdio.h>
4
5 // number union definition
6 union number {
7 int x;
8 double y;
9 };
10
11 int main(void) {
12 union number value; // define a union variable
13
14 value.x = 100; // put an int into the union
15 puts("Put 100 in the int member and print both members:");
16 printf("int: %d\ndouble: %.2f\n\n", value.x, value.y);
17
18 value.y = 100.0; // put a double into the same union
19 puts("Put 100.0 in the double member and print both members:");
20 printf("int: %d\ndouble: %.2f\n\n", value.x, value.y);
21 }
```

# In-class example: Union (2)

*Microsoft Visual Studio*

```
Put 100 in the int member and print both members:
int: 100
double: -92559592117433135502616407313071917486139351398276445610442752.00
```

```
Put 100.0 in the double member and print both members:
int: 0
double: 100.00
```

*GNU GCC and Apple Xcode*

```
Put 100 in the int member and print both members:
int: 100
double: 0.00
```

```
Put 100.0 in the double member and print both members:
int: 0
double: 100.00
```

**Fig. 10.3** | Displaying the value of a union in both member data types.

# *Enumeration constants*

---

- Keyword *enum*, is a set of integer enumeration constants represented by identifiers.
- Values in an enum start with 0, unless specified otherwise, and are incremented by 1.
- For example, the enumeration
  - `enum months {JAN, FEB, MAR, APR, MAY, JUN, JUL, AUG, SEP, OCT, NOV, DEC};`  
creates a new type, enum months, identifiers are set to the integers 0 to 11, respectively.
- Example:
  - `enum months {JAN = 1, FEB, MAR, APR, MAY, JUN, JUL, AUG, SEP, OCT, NOV, DEC};`  
○ identifiers are set to integers 1 to 12, respectively.

# In-class example: *Enum* (1)

---

```
1 // fig10_08.c
2 // Using an enumeration
3 #include <stdio.h>
4
5 // enumeration constants represent months of the year
6 enum months {
7 JAN = 1, FEB, MAR, APR, MAY, JUN, JUL, AUG, SEP, OCT, NOV, DEC
8 };
9
10 int main(void) {
11 // initialize array of pointers
12 const char *monthName[] = { "", "January", "February", "March",
13 "April", "May", "June", "July", "August", "September", "October",
14 "November", "December" };
15
16 // loop through months
17 for (enum months month = JAN; month <= DEC; ++month) {
18 printf("%2d%11s\n", month, monthName[month]);
19 }
20 }
```

# In-class example: *Enum* (2)

---

- 1 January
- 2 February
- 3 March
- 4 April
- 5 May
- 6 June
- 7 July
- 8 August
- 9 September
- 10 October
- 11 November
- 12 December

# Extra examples of Structure:

---

# Structures (1)

---

- **Structures** are C's way of grouping collections of data into a single manageable unit.
  - This is also the fundamental element of C upon which most of C++ is built (i.e., classes).
  - Similar to Java's classes.
- Example
  - Defining a structure type:

```
struct coord {
 int x;
 int y;
};
```
  - This defines a new type `struct coord`. No variable is actually declared or generated.

# Structures (2)

- Define **struct** variables:

```
struct coord {
 int x, y;
} first, second;
```

- Another approach:

```
struct coord {
 int x, y;
};
.....
struct coord first, second; /* declare variables
 */
struct coord third;
```

# Structures (3)

---

- You can even use a **typedef** if you don't like having to use the word "**struct**"

```
typedef struct coord coordinate;
```

```
coordinate first, second;
```

- In some compilers, and all C++ compilers, you can usually simply say just:

```
coord first, second;
```

# Structures (4)

- Access structure variables by the dot (.) operator
- Generic form:

structure\_var.member\_name

- For example:

first.x = 50;

second.y = 100;

- These member names are like the public data members of a class in Java (or C++).

No equivalent to function members/methods.

- **struct\_var.member\_name** can be used anywhere a variable can be used:

printf ("%d, %d", second.x , second.y );

scanf("%d, %d", &first.x, &first.y);

# Structures (5)

- You can assign structures as a unit with =

`first = second;`

instead of writing:

`first.x = second.x;`

`first.y = second.y;`

- Although the saving here is not great

- It will reduce the likelihood of errors and  
is more convenient with large structures

- This is different from Java where variables are simply  
references to objects.

`first = second;`

makes `first` and `second` refer to the same object.

# Structures Containing Structures

---

- Any “**type**” of thing can be a member of a structure.
- We can use the coord struct to define a rectangle

```
struct rectangle {
 struct coord topleft;
 struct coord bottomrt;
};
```

- This describes a rectangle by using the two points necessary:  

```
struct rectangle mybox;
```
- Initializing the points:

```
mybox.topleft.x = 0;
mybox.topleft.y = 200;
mybox.bottomrt.x = 100;
mybox.bottomrt.y = 10;
```



# An Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

struct coord {
 int x;
 int y;
};

struct rectangle {
 struct coord topleft;
 struct coord bottomrt;
};
```

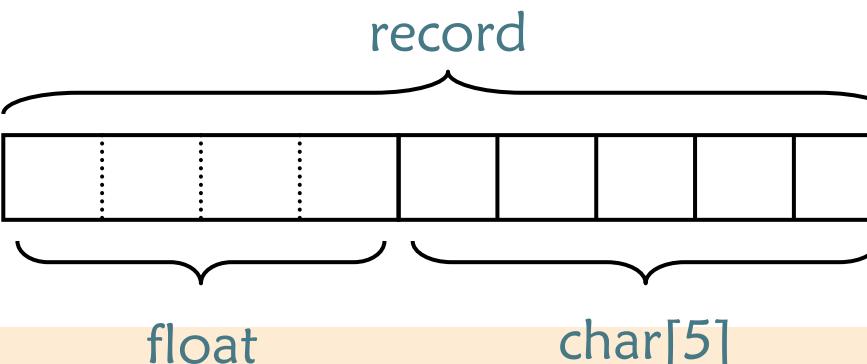
```
int main () {
 int length, width;
 long area;
 struct rectangle mybox;
 mybox.topleft.x = 10;
 mybox.topleft.y = 100;
 mybox.bottomrt.x = 150;
 mybox. bottomrt.y = 10;
 width = mybox.bottomrt.x - mybox.topleft.x;
 length = mybox.topleft.y - mybox.bottomrt.y;
 area = width * length;
 printf ("The area is %ld units. \n", area);
}
```

# Structures Containing Arrays

- **Arrays** within structures are the same as **any other member element**.
- For example:

```
struct record {
 float x;
 char y [5] ;
};
```

- Logical organization:



# An Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

struct data {
 float amount;
 char fname[30];
 char lname[30];
} rec;

int main () {
 struct data rec; //use one of two approach to define
 printf ("Enter the donor's first and last names, \n");
 printf ("separated by a space: ");
 scanf ("%s %s", rec.fname, rec.lname);
 printf ("\n Enter the donation amount: ");
 scanf ("%f", &rec.amount);
 printf ("\n Donor %s %s gave $%.2f.\n", rec.fname,
 rec.lname, rec.amount);
}
```



# Arrays of Structures

- The converse of a structure with arrays.
- Example:

```
struct entry {
 char fname [10];
 char lname [12];
 char phone [8];
};
struct entry list [1000];
```

- This creates a list of 1000 identical entry(s).
- Assignments:

```
list [1] = list [6];
strcpy (list[1].phone, list[6].phone);
list[6].phone[1] = list[3].phone[4];
```

# An Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

struct entry {
 char fname [20];
 char lname [20];
 char phone [10];
};
```

```
int main() {
 struct entry list[4];
 int i;
 for (i=0; i<4; i++) {
 printf("\n Enter first name: ");
 scanf("%os", list[i].fname);
 printf("Enter last name: ");
 scanf("%os", list[i].lname);
 printf("Enter phone in 123-4567 format: ");
 scanf("%os", list[i].phone);
 }
 printf("\n \n");
 for (i=0; i<4; i++) {
 printf ("Name: %os %os", list[i].fname, list[i].lname);
 printf ("\t \t Phone: %os \n", list[i].phone);
 }
}
```

# Initializing Structures

- Simple example:

```
struct sale {
 char customer [20];
 char item [20];
 int amount;
};
```

```
struct sale mysale = { "Acme Industries",
 "Zorgle blaster",
 1000 };
```



# Initializing Structures

- Structures within structures:

```
struct customer {
 char firm [20];
 char contact [25];
};

struct sale {
 struct customer buyer;
 char item [20];
 int amount;
} mysale =
{ { "Acme Industries", "George Adams" } ,
 "Zorgle Blaster", 1000 };
```



# Initializing Structures

- Arrays of structures

```
struct customer {
 char firm [20];
 char contact [25];
};

struct sale {
 struct customer buyer;
 char item [20];
 int amount;
};

struct sale y1990 [100] = {
 { { "Acme Industries", "George Adams"},
 "Left-handed Idiots", 1000 },

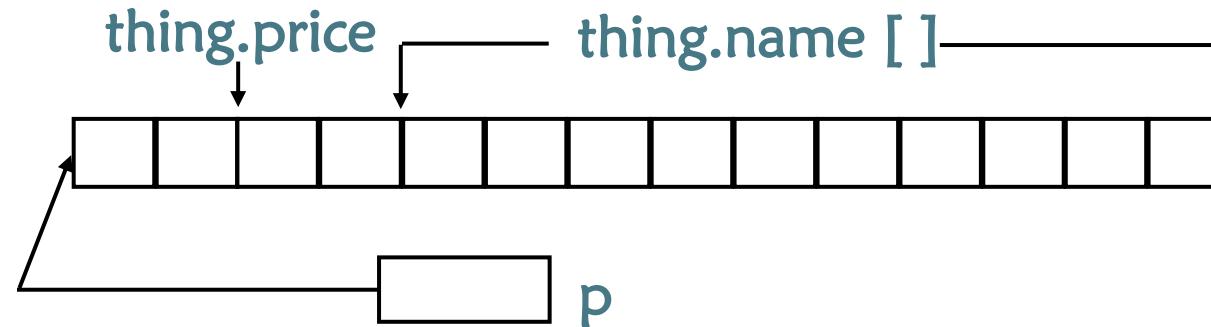
 { { "Wilson & Co.", "Ed Wilson"},
 "Thingamabob", 290 }
};
```

# Pointers to Structures

---

```
struct part {
 float price;
 char name [10];
};
struct part *p, thing;
p = &thing;
/* The following three statements are equivalent */
thing.price = 50;
(*p).price = 50; /* () around *p is needed */
p -> price = 50;
```

# Pointers to Structures



- `p` is set to point to the first byte of the `struct` variable

# Pointers to Structures

---

```
struct part * p, *q;
p = (struct part *) malloc(sizeof(struct part));
q = (struct part *) malloc(sizeof(struct part));
p -> price = 199.99 ;
strcpy(p -> name, "hard disk");
(*q) = (*p);
q = p;
free(p);
free(q); /* This statement causes a problem !!! Why? */
```

# Pointers to Structures

- You can allocate a structure array as well:

```
{
 struct part *ptr;
 ptr = (struct part *) malloc(10 * sizeof(struct part));
 for (i=0; i<10; i++)
 {
 ptr[i].price = 10.0 * i;
 sprintf(ptr[i].name, "part %d", i);
 }

 free(ptr);
}
```



# Pointers to Structures

- You can use pointer arithmetic to access the elements of the array:

```
{
 struct part *ptr, *p;
 ptr = (struct part *) malloc(10 * sizeof(struct part));
 for(i=0, p=ptr; i< 10; i++, p++)
 {
 p -> price = 10.0 * i;
 sprintf(p -> name, "part %d", i);
 }

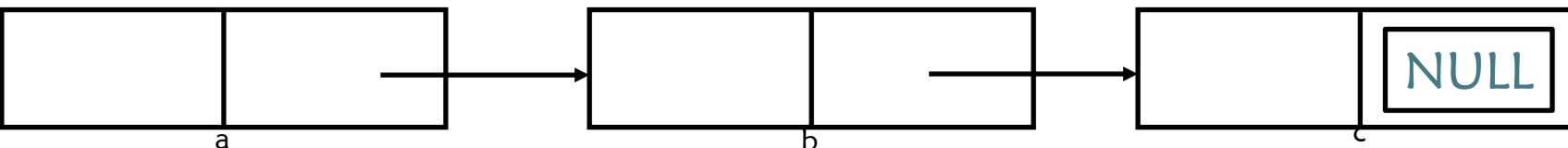
 free(ptr);
}
```

# Pointer as Structure Member

```
struct node{
 int data;
 struct node *next;
};

struct node a,b,c;
a.next = &b;
b.next = &c;
c.next = NULL;
```

a.data = 1;  
a.next->data = 2;  
/\* b.data =2 \*/  
a.next->next->data = 3;  
/\* c.data = 3 \*/  
c.next = (struct node \*)  
malloc(sizeof(struct node));  
.....



# Assignment Operator vs. memcpy

- This assign a struct to another
  - Equivalently, you can use **memcpy**
- ```
#include <string.h>
.....
{
    struct part a, b;
    b.price = 39.99;
    b.name = "floppy";
    a = b;
}
{  
    struct part a, b;  
    b.price = 39.99;  
    b.name = "floppy";  
    memcpy(&a, &b, sizeof(part));  
}
```

Array Member vs. Pointer Member

```
int main()
{
    struct book a, b;
    b.price = 19.99;
    strcpy(b.name, "C handbook");
    a = b;
    strcpy(b.name, "Unix handbook");
    puts(a.name);
    puts(b.name);
}
```

```
struct book {
    float price;
    char name[50];
};
```

Array Member vs. Pointer Member

```
struct book {  
    float price;  
    char *name;  
};
```

A function called **strdup()**
will do the **malloc()** and
strcpy() in one step for you!

```
int main()  
{  
    struct book a,b;  
    b.price = 19.99;  
    b.name = (char *) malloc(50);  
    strcpy(b.name, "C handbook");  
    a = b;  
    strcpy(b.name, "Unix handbook");  
    puts(a.name);  
    puts(b.name);  
    free(b.name);  
}
```

Passing Structures to Functions (1)

- Structures are passed by value to functions
 - The parameter variable is a local variable, which will be assigned by the value of the argument passed.
 - Unlike Java.
- This means that the structure is copied if it is passed as a parameter.
 - This can be inefficient if the structure is big.
 - In this case it may be more efficient to pass a pointer to the struct.
- A struct can also be returned from a function.

Passing Structures to Functions (2)

```
struct book {  
    float price;  
    char abstract[5000];  
};  
  
void print_abstract( struct book  
    *p_book)  
{  
    puts(p_book -> abstract);  
};
```

```
struct pairInt {  
    int min, max;  
};  
struct pairInt min_max(int x,int y)  
{  
    struct pairInt pair;  
    pair.min = (x > y) ? y : x;  
    pair.max = (x > y) ? x : y;  
    return pairInt;  
}  
int main(){  
    struct pairInt result;  
    result = min_max(3, 5);  
    printf("%d<=%d", result.min,  
        result.max);  
}
```