

# Structures in C++

## Introduction to Linked Lists

CS 16: Solving Problems with Computers I  
Lecture #14

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# Lecture Outline

## Structures (Ch. 10.1)

- Defining structures
- Member variables and functions
- Structures in functions
- Hierarchy in structures
- Initializing structures

## Linked Lists (Ch. 13.1)

- We will cover everything in this section
  - We are not covering Ch. 13.2 section!

# First... What Is a Class?

- A *class* is a data type whose variables are called *objects*
- Some pre-defined data types you have used are: **int**, **char**, **double**
- Some pre-defined classes you have used are: **ifstream**, **string**, **vector**
- You can also define your own classes as well

# Class Definitions

- To define a “class”, we need to...
  - Describe the **kinds of values** the variable can hold
    - Numbers? Characters? *Both*? Something else?
  - Describe the **member functions**
    - What can we do with these values?
- We will start by defining **structures** as a first step toward defining classes

# STRUCTURES

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# Structures

- A structure's use can be viewed as an **object**
- Let's say it does not contain any member functions (for now...)
- It does contain multiple values of possibly different types
- We'll call these **member variables**

# Structures for Data

- These multiple values are logically related to one another and come together as a single item

- Examples:

A bank Certificate of Deposit (CD) which has the following values:

a balance

an interest rate

a term (how many months to maturity)

**What kind of values  
should these  
individually be?!**

- A student record which has the following values:

the student's ID number

the student's last name

the student's first name


the student's GPA

**What kind of values  
should these  
individually be?!**

# The CD Structure Example: Definition

- The Certificate of Deposit structure can be defined as

```
struct CDAccount
{
    double balance;           // a dollar amount
    double interest_rate;    // a percentage
    int term;                 // a term amount in months
} ;
```



**Remember this semicolon!**

- Keyword **struct** begins a structure definition
- CDAccount** is the structure *tag* – this is the structure's **type**
- Member names are *identifiers* declared in the braces



## Using the Structure

- Structure definition should be placed *outside* any function definition
  - Including outside of `main( )`
  - This makes the structure type available to all code that follows the structure definition (i.e. global)

- To declare two variables of type **CDAccount**:  
`CDAccount my_account, your_account;`

`my_account` and `your_account`  
contain distinct member variables `balance`, `interest_rate`, and `term`

# Specifying Member Variables

- Member variables are specific to the structure variable in which they are declared
- Syntax to specify a member variable (note the '.')
- Given the declaration:  
`CDAccount my_account, your_account;`
- Use the **dot operator** to specify a member variable, e.g.  

<code>my_account.balance</code>	<i>is a double</i>
<code>my_account.interest_rate</code>	<i>is a double</i>
<code>my_account.term</code>	<i>is an int</i>

```
//Program to demonstrate the CDAccount structure type.  
#include <iostream>  
using namespace std;
```

```
//Structure for a bank certificate of deposit:  
struct CDAccount  
{  
    double balance;  
    double interest_rate;  
    int term;//months until maturity  
};
```

**Note the struct definition  
is placed before main()**

```
void get_data(CDAccount& the_account);  
//Postcondition: the_account.balance and the_account.interest_rate  
//have been given values that the user entered at the keyboard.
```

**Note the calculations done with the structure's member variables**

```
int main()
{
```

```
    CDAccount account;
    get_data(account);
```

**Note the declaration of CDAccount**

**We are going to "fill in" the data structure that's "account" using a function...**

```
    double rate_fraction, interest;
    rate_fraction = account.interest_rate/100.0;
    interest = account.balance*rate_fraction*(account.term/12.0);
    account.balance = account.balance + interest;
```

```
    cout.setf(ios::fixed);
    cout.setf(ios::showpoint);
    cout.precision(2);
    cout << "When your CD matures in "
          << account.term << " months,\n"
          << "it will have a balance of $"
          << account.balance << endl;
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

**Note that the structure is passed into the function as call-by-reference.**

**You can also pass a structure call-by-value.**

**Note the use of the structure's member variables with an input stream.**

```
//Uses iostream:
void get_data(CDAccount& the_account)
{
    cout << "Enter account balance: $";
    cin >> the_account.balance;
    cout << "Enter account interest rate: ";
    cin >> the_account.interest_rate;
    cout << "Enter the number of months until maturity\n"
        << "(must be 12 or fewer months): ";
    cin >> the_account.term;
}
```

### Sample Dialogue

Enter account balance: \$100.00  
Enter account interest rate: 10.0  
Enter the number of months until maturity  
(must be 12 or fewer months): 6  
When your CD matures in 6 months,  
it will have a balance of \$105.00

# Duplicate Names

- Member variable names duplicated between structure types are **not** a problem

```
struct FertilizerStock
{
    double quantity;
    double nitrogen_content;
};

FertilizerStock  super_grow;
```

```
struct CropYield
{
    int quantity;
    double size;
};

CropYield  apples;
```

- This is because we have to use the dot operator
- super\_grow.quantity** and **apples.quantity** are different variables stored in different locations in computer memory

# Structures as Return Function Types

- Structures **can also** be the type of a value *returned* by a function

Example:

```
CDAccount shrink_wrap
    (double the_balance, double the_rate, int the_term)
{
    CDAccount temp;
    temp.balance = the_balance;
    temp.interest_rate = the_rate;
    temp.term = the_term;
    return temp;
}
```

**What is this function doing?**

## Example: Using Function **shrink\_wrap**

- **shrink\_wrap** builds a complete structure value in the structure **temp**, which is returned by the function
- We can use **shrink\_wrap** to give a variable of type **CDAccount** a value in this way:

```
CDAccount  new_account;  
new_account = shrink_wrap(1000.00, 5.1, 11);
```



# Assignment and Structures

- The assignment operator (=) can also be used to give values to structure types
- Using the CDAccount structure again for example:

```
CDAccount my_account, your_account;  
my_account.balance = 1000.00;  
my_account.interest_rate = 5.1;  
my_account.term = 12;  
your_account = my_account;
```

- Note: This last line assigns all member variables in **your\_account** the corresponding values in **my\_account**

# Hierarchical Structures

- Structures **can** contain member variables that are **also structures**

```
struct Date
{
    int month;
    int day;
    int year;
};
```

```
struct PersonInfo
{
    double height;
    int weight;
    Date birthday;
};
```

- struct **PersonInfo** contains a **Date** structure

# Using PersonInfo

## *An example on “.” operator use*

- A variable of type **PersonInfo** is declared:

```
PersonInfo person1;
```

- To display the birth year of **person1**, first access the birthday member of person1

```
cout << person1.birthday...(wait! not complete yet!)
```

- But we want the **year**, so we now specify the year member of the birthday member

```
cout << person1.birthday.year;
```

```
struct PersonInfo
{
    double height;
    int weight;
    Date birthday;
};
```

```
struct Date
{
    int month;
    int day;
    int year;
};
```



# Initializing Structures

- A structure can be initialized when declared

**Example:**

```
struct Date
{
    int month;
    int day;
    int year;
};
```

*month day year*

- Can be initialized in this way – watch out for the order!

```
Date due_date = {4, 20, 2018};
Date birthday = {12, 25, 2000};
```

# Application of Structures

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## Linked Lists!

# Pointers and Linked Lists

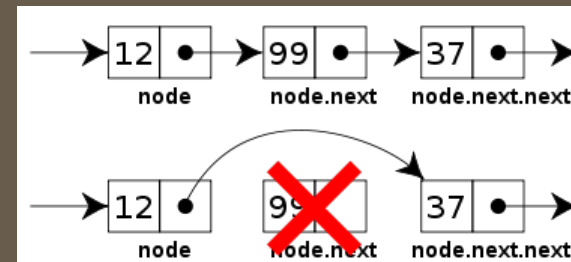
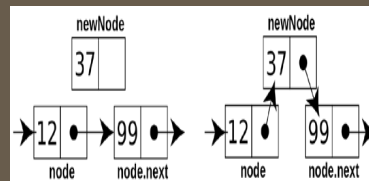
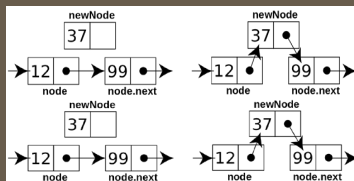
- **Definition of Linked Lists:**

Linear collection of data elements, called *nodes*, each pointing to the *next* node by means of a pointer

- List elements can easily be **inserted** or **removed** *without* reorganization of the entire structure (unlike arrays)
- Data items in a linked list do not have to be stored in one large memory block (again, unlike arrays)

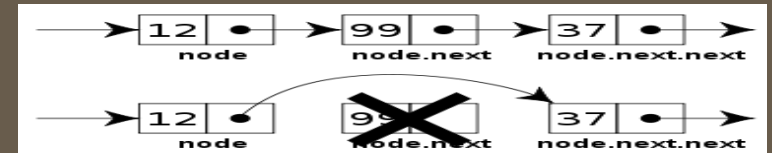
# Linked Lists

- You can build a list of “nodes” which are made up of variables and pointers to create a chain.
- Adding and deleting nodes in the link can be done by “re-routing” pointer links.





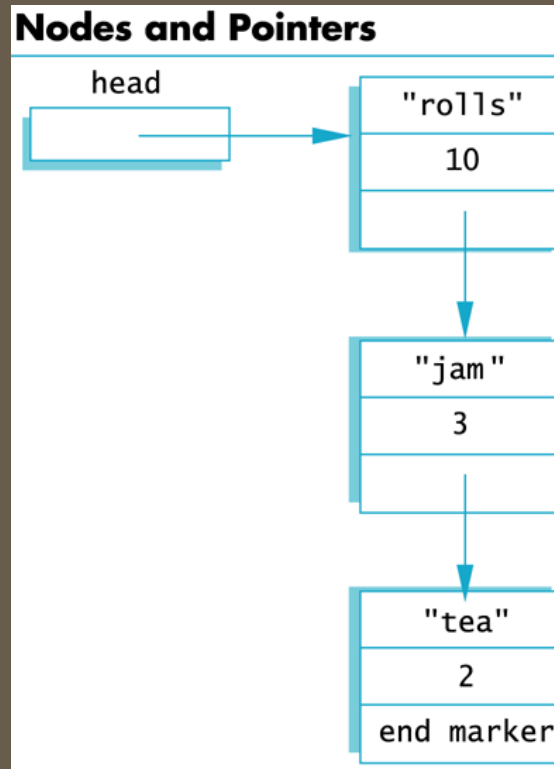
# Nodes



- The boxes in the previous drawing represent the **nodes** of a linked list
  - Nodes contain the data item(s) and a pointer that can point to another node of the same type
  - The pointers **point to an entire node**, not an individual item that might be in the node
- The arrows in the drawing represent pointers

# Nodes and Pointers – An Illustrated Example

*(shown as Display 13.1 in the textbook)*



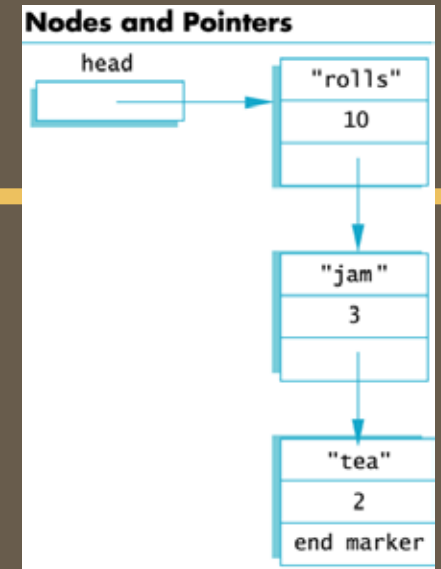
# Implementing Nodes

- Nodes are implemented in C++ as **structs** or **classes**
- *Example:* A structure to store two data items and a pointer to another node of the same type, along with a type definition might be:

```
struct ListNode
{
    string item;
    int count;
    ListNode *link;
};
```

```
typedef ListNode* ListNodePtr;
```

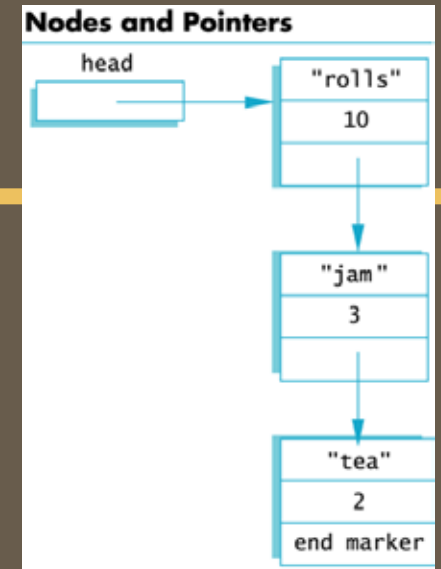
**This circular definition  
is allowed in C++**



## The head of a List

- The box labeled head, in Display 13.1, is not a node, but simply a **pointer variable** that points to a node
- Pointer variable head is declared as:

```
ListNodePtr head;
```



```
struct ListNode
{
    string item;
    int count;
    ListNode *link;
};
typedef ListNode* ListNodePtr;
ListNodePtr head;
```

# Creating a Linked List

- First create the node(s)

```
ListNode myNode1, myNode2;  
myNode1.item = "Thingamajiggie";  
myNode1.count = 5; // etc...
```

Check out demo:  
[linkedList.cpp](#)

- Then link the head pointer to the 1<sup>st</sup> node in the list

```
head = new ListNode;  
*head = myNode1;  
// i.e. "what head links to is myNode1"
```

- Then link all the other nodes to each other

```
*(myNode1.link) = myNode2; // etc...
```

# YOUR TO-DOS

- ☐ Turn in Lab 8 on Monday
- ☐ Do HW14 by **Tuesday**
- ☐ Visit TAs' office hours if you need help!
  - ☐ Prof. will not have office hours next Monday (University holiday)
- ☐ Enjoy the long weekend! 😊

**</LECTURE>**