

Struct Address

Objective

- Learn basics of data structures
 - Learn how memory may be padded within data structures
-

Review Basics

Here is the basic use of data structures in C:

```
// Declare data structure in C using typedef
typedef struct {
    int i;
    char c;
    float f;
} my_struct_t;

// Pass data structure as a copy
void struct_as_param(my_struct_t s) {
    s.i = 0;
    s.c = 'c';
}

// Pass data structure as a pointer
void struct_as_pointer(my_struct_t *p) {
    p->i = 0;
    p->c = 'c';
}

// Zero out the struct
void struct_as_pointer(my_struct_t *p) {
    memset(p, 0, sizeof(*p));}
```

Padding

1. Use the struct below, and try this sample code
 - Note that there may be a compiler error in the snippet below that you are expected to resolve on your own
 - Struct should ideally be placed before the `main()` and the `printf()` should be placed inside of the `main()`
 - You should use your SJ embedded board because the behavior may be different on a different compiler or the board
2. Now un-comment the `packed` attribute such that the compiler packs the fields together, and print them again.

```
typedef struct {  
    float f1; // 4 bytes  
    char c1;  // 1 byte  
    float f2;  
    char c2;  
} /*__attribute__((packed))*/ my_s;  
// TODO: Instantiate a struct of type my_s with the name of "s"  
printf("Size : %d bytes\n"  
       "floats 0x%p 0x%p\n"  
       "chars  0x%p 0x%p\n",  
       sizeof(s), &s.f1, &s.f2, &s.c1, &s.c2);
```

Note:

- Important: In your submission (could be comments in your submitted code), provide your summary of the two print-outs. Explain why they are different, and try to draw conclusions based on the behavior.

Revision #3

Created 4 years ago by [Preet Kang](#)

Updated 4 years ago by [Preet Kang](#)