

# C++ Constructs by Examples

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Lecture 11

B3B36PRG – C Programming Language

## Overview of the Lecture

- Part 1 – Quick Overview of C++ C++  
Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C  
Classes and Objects
- Part 2 – C++ constructs in `class` Matrix example  
Class and Object – Matrix  
Operators  
Inheritance  
Polymorphism


## Part I

### Part 1 – Quick Overview of C++ (for C coders)


## Resources – Books

 **The C++ Programming Language**,  
*Bjarne Stroustrup*, Addison-Wesley Professional, 2013, ISBN  
978-0321563842



 **Programming: Principles and Practice Using C++**,  
*Bjarne Stroustrup*, Addison-Wesley Professional, 2014, ISBN  
978-0321992789



 **Effective C++: 55 Specific Ways to Improve Your Programs and Designs**,  
*Scott Meyers*, Addison-Wesley Professional, 2005, ISBN  
978-0321334879



## Objects Oriented Programming (OOP)

OOP is a way how to design a program to fulfill requirements and make the sources easy maintain.

- **Abstraction** – concepts (templates) are organized into classes
  - Objects are instances of the classes
- **Encapsulation**
  - Object has its state hidden and provides **interface** to communicate with other objects by sending messages (function/method calls)
- **Inheritance**
  - Hierarchy (of concepts) with common (general) properties that are further specialized in the derived classes
- **Polymorphism**
  - An object with some interface could replace another object with the same interface

## C++ for C Programmers

- C++ can be considered as an “extension” of C with additional concepts to create more complex programs in an easier way
- It supports to organize and structure complex programs to be better manageable with easier maintenance
- **Encapsulation** supports “locality” of the code, i.e., provide only public interface and keep details “hidden”
  - Avoid unintentional wrong usage because of unknown side effects
  - Make the implementation of particular functionality compact and easier to maintain
  - Provide relatively complex functionality with simple to use interface
- Support a tighter link between data and functions operating with the data, i.e., classes combine data (properties) with functions (methods)

## From struct to class

- **struct** defines complex data types for which we can define particular functions, e.g., allocation(), deletion(), initialization(), sum(), print() etc.
- **class** defines the data and function working on the data including the initialization (**constructor**) and deletion (**destructor**) in a compact form
  - Instance of the class is an object, i.e., a variable of the class type

```
typedef struct matrix {  
    int rows;  
    int cols;  
    double *mtx;  
} matrix_s;  
  
matrix_s* allocate(int r, int c);  
void release(matrix_s **matrix);  
void init(matrix_s *matrix);  
void print(const matrix_s *matrix);  
  
matrix_s *matrix = allocate(10, 10);  
init(matrix);  
print(matrix);  
release(matrix);  
  
class Matrix {  
    const int ROWS;  
    const int COLS;  
    double *mtx;  
public:  
    Matrix(int r, int c);  
    ~Matrix(); //destructor  
    void init(void);  
    void print(void) const;  
};  
  
Matrix matrix(10, 10);  
matrix.init();  
matrix.print();  
// will call destructor
```

## Dynamic allocation

- **malloc()** and **free()** and standard functions to allocate/release memory of the particular size in C  

```
matrix_s *matrix = (matrix_s*)malloc(sizeof(matrix_s));  
matrix->rows = matrix->cols = 0; //inner matrix is not allocated  
print(matrix);  
free(matrix);
```
- C++ provides two keywords (operators) for creating and deleting objects (variables at the heap) **new** and **delete**  

```
Matrix *matrix = new Matrix(10, 10); // constructor is called  
matrix->print();  
delete matrix;
```
- **new** and **delete** is similar to **malloc()** and **free()**, but
  - Variables are strictly typed and constructor is called to initialize the object
  - For arrays, explicit calling of **delete[]** is required  

```
int *array = new int[100]; // aka (int*)malloc(100 * sizeof(int))  
delete[] array; // aka free(array)
```

## Reference

- In addition to variable and pointer to a variable, C++ supports references, i.e., a reference to an existing object
- Reference is an **alias** to existing variable, e.g.,  

```
int a = 10;  
int &r = a; // r is reference (alias) to a  
r = 13; // a becomes 13
```
- It allows to pass object (complex data structures) to functions (methods) without copying them  
*Variables are passed by value*  

```
int print(Matrix matrix)  
{ // new local variable matrix is allocated  
  // and content of the passed variable is copied  
}  
int print(Matrix *matrix) // pointer is passed  
{  
  matrix->print();  
}  
int print(Matrix &matrix)  
{  
  // reference is passed - similar to passing pointer  
  matrix.print(); //but it is not pointer and . is used  
}
```

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

## Class

Describes a set of objects – it is a model of the objects and defines:

- Interface – parts that are accessible from outside
- Body – implementation of the interface (methods) that determine the ability of the objects of the class
- Data Fields – attributes as basic and complex data types and structures (objects)
  - Instance variables – define the state of the object of the particular class
  - Class variables – common for all instances of the particular class

```
// header file - definition of the class
public, protected, private
class MyClass {
public:
    // public read only
    int getValue(void) const;
private:
    // hidden data field
    // it is object variable
    int myData;
};

// source file - implementation of the methods
int MyClass::getValue(void) const
{
    return myData;
}
```

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Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

## Object Structure

- The value of the object is structured, i.e., it consists of particular values of the object data fields which can be of different data type
  - Heterogeneous data structure unlike an array
- Object is an abstraction of the memory where particular values are stored
  - Data fields are called attributes or instance variables
- Data fields have their names and can be marked as hidden or accessible in the class definition
  - Following the encapsulation they are usually hidden

### Object:

- Instance of the class – can be created as a variable declaration or by dynamic allocation using the `new` operator
- Access to the attributes or methods is using `.` or `->` (for pointers to an object)

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Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

## Creating an Object – Class Constructor

- A class instance (object) is created by calling a **constructor** to initialize values of the instance variables
  - Implicit/default one exists if not specified
- The name of the constructor is identical to the name of the class

Class definition	Class implementation
<pre>class MyClass { public:     // constructor     MyClass(int i);     MyClass(int i, double d); private:     const int _i;     int _ii;     double _d; };</pre>	<pre>MyClass::MyClass(int i) : _i(i) {     _ii = i * i;     _d = 0.0; } // overloading constructor MyClass::MyClass(int i, double d) : _i(i) {     _ii = i * i;     _d = d; }</pre>

```
{
    MyClass myObject(10); //create an object as an instance of MyClass
} // at the end of the block, the object is destroyed
MyClass *myObject = new MyClass(20, 2.3); //dynamic object creation
delete myObject; //dynamic object has to be explicitly destroyed
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

## Part II

### Part 2 – C++ constructs in class Matrix example

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

## Class as an Extended Data Type with Encapsulation

- Data hiding is utilized to encapsulate implementation of matrix
 

```
class Matrix {
private:
    const int ROWS;
    const int COLS;
    double *vals;
};
```

  - In the example, it is shown
    - How initialize and free required memory in constructor and destructor
    - How to report an error using exception and try-catch statement
    - How to use references
    - How to define a copy constructor
    - How to define (overload) an operator for our class and objects
    - How to use C function and header files in C++
    - How to print to standard output and stream
    - How to define stream operator for output
    - How to define assignment operator

*1D array is utilized to have a continuous memory. 2D dynamic array can be used in C++11.*

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

## Example – Class Matrix – Constructor

- Class `Matrix` encapsulate dimension of the matrix
- Dimensions are fixed for the entire life of the object (const)

```
class Matrix {
public:
    Matrix(int rows, int cols);
private:
    const int ROWS;
    const int COLS;
    double *vals;
};

Matrix::Matrix(int rows, int cols) : ROWS(rows), COLS(cols)
{
    vals = new double[ROWS * COLS];
}

Matrix::~Matrix()
{
    delete[] vals;
}
```

*Notice, for simplicity we do not test validity of the matrix dimensions.*

- Constant data fields `ROWS` and `COLS` must be initialized in the constructor, i.e., in the initializer list

*We should also preserve the order of the initialization as the variables are defined*

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

## Example – Class Matrix – Hiding Data Fields

- Primarily we aim to hide direct access to the particular data fields
- For the dimensions, we provide the so-called “accessor” methods
- The methods are declared as `const` to assure they are read only methods and do not modify the object (compiler checks that)
- Private method `at()` is used to access to the particular cell at `r` row and `c` column
  - `inline` is used to instruct compiler to avoid function call and rather put the function body directly at the calling place.

```
class Matrix {
public:
    inline int rows(void) const { return ROWS; } // const method cannot
    inline int cols(void) const { return COLS; } // modify the object
private:
    // returning reference to the variable allows to set the variable
    // outside, it is like a pointer but automatically dereferenced
    inline double& at(int r, int c) const
    {
        return vals[COLS * r + c];
    }
};
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

## Example – Class Matrix – Using Reference

- The `at()` method can be used to fill the matrix randomly
- The `random()` function is defined in `<stdlib.h>`, but in C++ we prefer to include C libraries as `<cstdlib>`

```
class Matrix {
public:
    void fillRandom(void);
private:
    inline double& at(int r, int c) const { return vals[COLS * r + c]; }
};

#include <cstdlib>
void Matrix::fillRandom(void)
{
    for (int r = 0; r < ROWS; ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < COLS; ++c) {
            at(r, c) = (rand() % 100) / 10.0; // set vals[COLS * r + c]
        }
    }
}
```

*In this case, it is more straightforward to just fill 1D array of vals for i in 0..(ROWS \* COLS).*

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## Example – Class Matrix – Getters/Setters

- Access to particular cell of the matrix is provided through the so-called *getter* and *setter* methods
 

```
class Matrix {
public:
    double getValueAt(int r, int c) const;
    void setValueAt(double v, int r, int c);
};
```
- The methods are based on the private `at()` method but will throw an exception if a cell out of `ROWS` and `COLS` would be requested

```
#include <stdexcept>
double Matrix::getValueAt(int r, int c) const
{
    if (r < 0 || r >= ROWS || c < 0 || c >= COLS) {
        throw std::out_of_range("Out of range at Matrix::getValueAt");
    }
    return at(r, c);
}

void Matrix::setValueAt(double v, int r, int c)
{
    if (r < 0 || r >= ROWS || c < 0 || c >= COLS) {
        throw std::out_of_range("Out of range at Matrix::setValueAt");
    }
    at(r, c) = v;
}
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Exception Handling

- The code where an exception can be raised is put into the `try-catch` block
- The particular exception is specified in the catch by the class name
- We use the program standard output denoted as `std::cout`

*We can avoid std:: by using namespace std;  
Or just using std::cout;*

```
#include <iostream>
#include "matrix.h"

int main(void)
{
    int ret = 0;
    try {
        Matrix m1(3, 3);
        m1.setValueAt(10.5, 2, 3); // col 3 raises the exception
        m1.fillRandom();
    } catch (std::out_of_range& e) {
        std::cout << "ERROR: " << e.what() << std::endl;
        ret = -1;
    }
    return ret;
}

lec11/demo-matrix.cc
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Printing the Matrix

- We create a `print()` method to nicely print the matrix to the standard output
- Formatting is controlled by i/o stream manipulators defined in `<iomanip>` header file

```
#include <iostream>
#include <iomanip>
#include "matrix.h"

void print(const Matrix& m)
{
    std::cout << std::fixed << std::setprecision(1);
    for (int r = 0; r < m.rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < m.cols(); ++c) {
            std::cout << (c > 0 ? " " : "") << std::setw(4);
            std::cout << m.getValueAt(r, c);
        }
        std::cout << std::endl;
    }
}
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Printing the Matrix

- The variable `m1` is passed as reference to `print()` function and thus it is not copied

```
#include <iostream>
#include <iomanip>
#include "matrix.h"

void print(const Matrix& m);

int main(void)
{
    int ret = 0;
    try {
        Matrix m1(3, 3);
        m1.fillRandom();
        std::cout << "Matrix m1" << std::endl;
        print(m1);
    }
}
```

Example of the output

```
clang++ -pedantic matrix.cc demo-matrix.cc && ./a.out
Matrix m1
1.3 9.7 9.8
1.5 1.2 4.3
8.7 0.8 9.8
```

`lec11/matrix.h, lec11/matrix.cc, lec11/demo-matrix.cc`

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Copy Constructor

- We may overload the constructor to create a copy of the object

```
class Matrix {
public:
    ...
    Matrix(const Matrix &m);
    ...
};
```

- We create an exact copy of the matrix

```
Matrix::Matrix(const Matrix &m) : ROWS(m.ROWS), COLS(m.COLS)
{ // copy constructor
    vals = new double[ROWS * COLS];
    for (int i = 0; i < ROWS * COLS; ++i) {
        vals[i] = m.vals[i];
    }
}
```

- Notice, access to private fields is allowed within in the class

*We are implementing the class, and thus we are aware what are the internal data fields*

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Dynamic Object Allocation

- We can create a new instance of the object by the `new` operator
- We may also combine dynamic allocation with the copy constructor
- Notice, the access to the methods of the object using the pointer to the object is by the `->` operator

```
matrix m1(3, 3);
m1.fillRandom();
std::cout << "Matrix m1" << std::endl;
print(m1);

Matrix *m2 = new Matrix(m1);
Matrix *m3 = new Matrix(m2->rows(), m2->cols());
std::cout << std::endl << "Matrix m2" << std::endl;
print(*m2);
m3->fillRandom();
std::cout << std::endl << "Matrix m3" << std::endl;
print(*m3);

delete m2;
delete m3;
```

`lec11.cc/demo-matrix.cc`

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Sum

- The method to sum two matrices will return a new matrix

```
class Matrix {
public:
    Matrix sum(const Matrix &m2);
};
```

- The variable `ret` is passed using the copy constructor

```
Matrix Matrix::sum(const Matrix &m2)
{
    if (ROWS != m2.ROWS or COLS != m2.COLS) {
        throw std::invalid_argument("Matrix dimenstions do not match at Matrix::sum");
    }
    Matrix ret(ROWS, COLS);
    for (int i = 0; i < ROWS * COLS; ++i) {
        ret.vals[i] = vals[i] + m2.vals[i];
    }
    return ret;
}
```

*We may also implement sum as addition to the particular matrix*

- The `sum()` method can be then used as any other method

```
Matrix m1(3, 3);
m1.fillRandom();
Matrix *m2 = new Matrix(m1);
Matrix m4 = m1.sum(*m2);
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Operator +

- In C++, we can define our operators, e.g., `+` for sum of two matrices
- It will be called like the `sum()` method

```
class Matrix {
public:
    Matrix sum(const Matrix &m2);
    Matrix operator+(const Matrix &m2);
};
```

- In our case, we can use the already implemented `sum()` method

```
Matrix Matrix::operator+(const Matrix &m2)
{
    return sum(m2);
}
```

- The new operator can be applied for the operands of the `Matrix` type like as to default types

```
Matrix m1(3,3);
m1.fillRandom();
Matrix m2(m1), m3(m1 + m2); // use sum of m1 and m2 to init m3
print(m3);
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Output Stream Operator

- An output stream operator `<<` can be defined to pass `Matrix` objects to the output stream

```
#include <ostream>
class Matrix { ... };
std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& out, const Matrix& m);
```

- It is defined outside the `Matrix`

```
#include <iomanip>
std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& out, const Matrix& m)
{
    if (out) {
        out << std::fixed << std::setprecision(1);
        for (int r = 0; r < m.rows(); ++r) {
            for (int c = 0; c < m.cols(); ++c) {
                out << (c > 0 ? " " : "") << std::setw(4);
                out << m.getValueAt(r, c);
            }
            out << std::endl;
        }
        return out;
    }
}
```

*"Outside" operator can be used in an output stream pipeline with other data types. In this case, we can use just the public methods. But, if needed, we can declare the operator as a friend method to the class, which can access the private fields.*

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Example of Usage

- Having the stream operator we can use `+` directly in the output

```
std::cout << "\nMatrix demo using operators" << std::endl;
Matrix m1(2, 2);
Matrix m2(m1);
m1.fillRandom();
m2.fillRandom();
std::cout << "Matrix m1" << std::endl << m1;
std::cout << "\nMatrix m2" << std::endl << m2;
std::cout << "\nMatrix m1 + m2" << std::endl << m1 + m2;
```

- Example of the output operator

```
Matrix demo using operators
Matrix m1      Matrix m2      Matrix m1 + m2
0.8 3.1       0.4 2.3         1.2 5.4
2.2 4.6       3.3 7.2         5.5 11.8
```

`lec11/demo-matrix.cc`

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Class Matrix – Assignment Operator =

```
class Matrix {
public:
    Matrix& operator=(const Matrix &m)
    {
        if (this != &m) { // to avoid overwriting itself
            if (ROWS != m.ROWS or COLS != m.COLS) {
                throw std::out_of_range("Cannot assign matrix with
                different dimensions");
            }
            for (int i = 0; i < ROWS * COLS; ++i) {
                vals[i] = m.vals[i];
            }
        }
        return *this; // we return reference not a pointer
    };
    // it can be then used as
    Matrix m1(2,2), m2(2,2), m3(2,2);
    m1.fillRandom();
    m2.fillRandom();
    m3 = m1 + m2;
    std::cout << m1 << " + " << std::endl << m2 << " = " << std::endl << m3 << std::endl;
};
```

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example of Encapsulation

- Class `Matrix` encapsulates 2D matrix of `double` values

```
class Matrix {
public:
    Matrix(int rows, int cols);
    Matrix(const Matrix &m);
    ~Matrix();

    inline int rows(void) const { return ROWS; };
    inline int cols(void) const { return COLS; };
    double getValueAt(int r, int c) const;
    void setValueAt(double v, int r, int c);
    void fillRandom(void);
    Matrix sum(const Matrix &m2);
    Matrix operator+(const Matrix &m2);
    Matrix& operator=(const Matrix &m);

private:
    inline double& at(int r, int c) const { return vals[COLS * r + c]; };
private:
    const int ROWS;
    const int COLS;
    double *vals;
};
std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& out, const Matrix& m);
```

lec11/matrix.h

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example – Matrix Subscripting Operator

- For a convenient access to matrix cells, we can implement operator `()` with two arguments `r` and `c` denoting the cell row and column

```
class Matrix {
public:
    double& operator()(int r, int c);
    double operator()(int r, int c) const;
};

// use the reference for modification of the cell value
double& Matrix::operator()(int r, int c)
{
    return at(r, c);
}

// copy the value for the const operator
double Matrix::operator()(int r, int c) const
{
    return at(r, c);
}
```

For simplicity and better readability, we do not check range of arguments.

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example Matrix – Identity Matrix

- Implementation of the set identity using the matrix subscripting operator

```
void setIdentity(Matrix& matrix)
{
    for (int r = 0; r < matrix.rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < matrix.cols(); ++c) {
            matrix(r, c) = (r == c) ? 1.0 : 0.0;
        }
    }
}

Matrix m1(2, 2);
std::cout << "Matrix m1 -- init values: " << std::endl << m1;
setIdentity(m1);
std::cout << "Matrix m1 -- identity: " << std::endl << m1;
```

Example of output

```
Matrix m1 -- init values:
0.0 0.0
0.0 0.0
Matrix m1 -- identity:
1.0 0.0
0.0 1.0
```

lec11/demo-matrix.cc

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Inheritance

- Founding definition and implementation of one class on another existing class(es)
- Let class `B` be inherited from the class `A`, then
  - Class `B` is subclass or the derived class of `A`
  - Class `A` is superclass or the base class of `B`
- The subclass `B` has two parts in general:
  - Derived part is inherited from `A`
  - New incremental part contains definitions and implementation added by the class `B`
- The inheritance is relationship of the type `is-a`
  - Object of the type `B` is also an instance of the object of the type `A`
- Properties of `B` inherited from the `A` can be redefined
  - Change of field visibility (protected, public, private)
  - Overriding of the method implementation
- Using inheritance we can create hierarchies of objects
  - Implement general function in superclasses or creating abstract classes that are further specialized in the derived classes.

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example MatrixExt – Extension of the Matrix

- We will extend the existing class `Matrix` to have identity method and also multiplication operator
- We refer the superclass as the Base class using `typedef`
- We need to provide a constructor for the `MatrixExt`; however, we used the existing constructor in the base class

```
class MatrixExt : public Matrix {
    typedef Matrix Base; // typedef for referring the superclass
public:
    MatrixExt(int r, int c) : Base(r, c) {} // base constructor
    void setIdentity(void);
    Matrix operator*(const Matrix &m2);
};
```

lec11/matrix\_ext.h

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example MatrixExt – Identity and Multiplication Operator

- We can use only the `public` (or `protected`) methods of `Matrix` class

*Matrix does not have any protected members*

```
#include "matrix_ext.h"
void MatrixExt::setIdentity(void)
{
    for (int r = 0; r < rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < cols(); ++c) {
            (*this)(r, c) = (r == c) ? 1.0 : 0.0;
        }
    }
}

Matrix MatrixExt::operator*(const Matrix &m2)
{
    Matrix m3(rows(), m2.cols());
    for (int r = 0; r < rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < m2.cols(); ++c) {
            m3(r, c) = 0.0;
            for (int k = 0; k < cols(); ++k) {
                m3(r, c) += (*this)(r, k) * m2(k, c);
            }
        }
    }
    return m3;
}
```

lec11/matrix\_ext.cc

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example MatrixExt – Example of Usage 1/2

- Objects of the class `MatrixExt` also have the methods of the `Matrix`

```
#include <iostream>
#include "matrix_ext.h"

using std::cout;

int main(void)
{
    int ret = 0;
    MatrixExt m1(2, 1);
    m1(0, 0) = 3; m1(1, 0) = 5;

    MatrixExt m2(1, 2);
    m2(0, 0) = 1; m2(0, 1) = 2;

    cout << "Matrix m1:\n" << m1 << std::endl;
    cout << "Matrix m2:\n" << m2 << std::endl;
    cout << "m1 * m2 =\n" << m2 * m1 << std::endl;
    cout << "m2 * m1 =\n" << m1 * m2 << std::endl;
    return ret;
}
```

lec11/demo-matrix\_ext.cc

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Class and Object – Matrix Operators Inheritance Polymorphism

### Example MatrixExt – Example of Usage 2/2

- We may use objects of `MatrixExt` anywhere objects of `Matrix` can be applied.
- This is a result of the inheritance

*And a first step towards polymorphism*

```
void setIdentity(Matrix& matrix)
{
    for (int r = 0; r < matrix.rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < matrix.cols(); ++c) {
            matrix(r, c) = (r == c) ? 1.0 : 0.0;
        }
    }
}

MatrixExt m1(2, 1);
cout << "Using setIdentity for Matrix" << std::endl;
setIdentity(m1);
cout << "Matrix m1:\n" << m1 << std::endl;
```

lec11/demo-matrix\_ext.cc

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## Polymorphism

- Polymorphism can be expressed as the ability to refer in a same way to different objects  
*We can call the same method names on different objects*
- We work with an object whose actual content is determined at the runtime
- Polymorphism of objects** - Let the class **B** be a subclass of **A**, then the object of the **B** can be used wherever it is expected to be an object of the class **A**
- Polymorphism of methods** requires dynamic binding, i.e., static vs. dynamic type of the class
  - Let the class **B** be a subclass of **A** and redefines the method **m()**
  - A variable **x** is of the static type **B**, but its dynamic type can be **A** or **B**
  - Which method is actually called for **x.m()** depends on the dynamic type

## Example MatrixExt – Method Overriding 1/2

- In **MatrixExt**, we may override a method implemented in the base class **Matrix**, e.g., **fillRandom()** will also use negative values.

```
class MatrixExt : public Matrix {
    ...
    void fillRandom(void);
}

void MatrixExt::fillRandom(void)
{
    for (int r = 0; r < rows(); ++r) {
        for (int c = 0; c < cols(); ++c) {
            (*this)(r, c) = (rand() % 100) / 10.0;
            if (rand() % 100 > 50) {
                (*this)(r, c) *= -1.0; // change the sign
            }
        }
    }
}
```

lec11/matrix\_ext.h, lec11/matrix\_ext.cc

## Topics Discussed

- Quick Overview of C++ (for C coders)
- 2D Matrix – Examples of C++ constructs
  - Overloading constructors
  - References vs pointers
  - Data hiding – getters/setters
  - Exception handling
  - Operator definition
  - Stream based output

## Example MatrixExt – Method Overriding 2/2

- We can call the method **fillRandom()** of the **MatrixExt**
- However, in the case of **m2** the **Matrix::fillRandom()** is called

```
MatrixExt *m1 = new MatrixExt(3, 3);
Matrix *m2 = new MatrixExt(3, 3);
m1->fillRandom(); m2->fillRandom();
cout << "m1: MatrixExt as MatrixExt:\n" << *m1 << std::endl;
cout << "m2: MatrixExt as Matrix:\n" << *m2 << std::endl;
delete m1; delete m2;
```

lec11/demo-matrix\_ext.cc

```
m1: MatrixExt as MatrixExt:
-1.3  9.8  1.2
 8.7 -9.8 -7.9
-3.6 -7.3 -0.6

m2: MatrixExt as Matrix:
 7.9  2.3  0.5
 9.0  7.0  6.6
 7.2  1.8  9.7
```

We need a dynamic object type identification at runtime for the **polymorphism of the methods**

## Summary of the Lecture