

## Summary of C++ Constructs

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Lecture 12

PRG(A) – Programming in C


## Overview of the Lecture

- Part 1 – Summary of C++ Constructs
  - Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C
  - Classes and Objects
  - Constructor/Destructor
  - Relationship
  - Polymorphism
  - Inheritance and Composition
- Part 2 – Standard Template Library (in C++)
  - Templates
  - Standard Template Library (STL)


## Part I

### Part 1 – Summary of C++ Constructs


## 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



## 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
```

## 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

## 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)
```

## 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)

## 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  
}
```

## 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
type
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;
}
```

## 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
- 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

*Heterogeneous data structure unlike an array*  
*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)

## Creating an Object – Class Constructor

- A class instance (object) is created by calling a **constructor** to initialize values of the instance variables
- The name of the constructor is identical to the name of the class

```
class MyClass {
public:
    // constructor
    MyClass(int i);
    MyClass(int i, double d);
private:
    const int _i;
    int _ii;
    double _d;
};

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;
}

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
```

## Relationship between Objects

- Objects may contain other objects
- Object aggregation / composition
- Class definition can be based on an existing class definition – so, there is a relationship between classes
  - Base class (super class) and the derived class
  - The relationship is transferred to the respective objects as instances of the classes

*By that, we can cast objects of the derived class to class instances of ancestor*
- Objects communicate between each other using methods (interface) that is accessible to them

## Access Modifiers

- Access modifiers allow to implement **encapsulation** (information hiding) by specifying which class members are private and which are public:
  - **public**: – any class can refer to the field or call the method
  - **protected**: – only the current class and subclasses (derived classes) of this class have access to the field or method
  - **private**: – only the current class has the access to the field or method

Modifier	Class	Derived Class	"World"
public	✓	✓	✓
protected	✓	✓	✗
private	✓	✗	✗

## Constructor and Destructor

- **Constructor** provides the way how to initialize the object, i.e., allocate resources
- **Destructor** is called at the end of the object life
  - It is responsible for a proper cleanup of the object
  - Releasing resources, e.g., freeing allocated memory, closing files
- Destructor is a method specified by a programmer similarly to a constructor
  - The name of the destructor is the same as the name of the class but it starts with the character **~** as a prefix

## Constructor Overloading

- An example of constructor for creating an instance of the complex number
- Only a real part or both parts can be specified in the object initialization

```
class Complex {
public:
    Complex(double r)
    {
        re = r;
    }
    Complex(double r, double i)
    {
        re = r;
        im = i;
    }
    ~Complex() { /* nothing to do in destructor */ }
private:
    double re;
    double im;
};
```

Both constructors shared the duplicate code, which we like to avoid!

## Example – Constructor Calling 1/3

- We can create a dedicated initialization method that is called from different constructors

```
class Complex {
public:
    Complex(double r, double i) { init(r, i); }
    Complex(double r) { init(r, 0.0); }
    Complex() { init(0.0, 0.0); }
private:
    void init(double r, double i)
    {
        re = r;
        im = i;
    }
private:
    double re;
    double im;
};
```

## Example – Constructor Calling 2/3

- Or we can utilize default values of the arguments that are combined with initializer list here

```
class Complex {
public:
    Complex(double r = 0.0, double i = 0.0) : re(r), im(i) {}
private:
    double re;
    double im;
};

int main(void)
{
    Complex c1;
    Complex c2(1.);
    Complex c3(1., -1.);
    return 0;
}
```

### Example – Constructor Calling 3/3

- Alternatively, in C++11, we can use [delegating constructor](#)

```
class Complex {
public:
    Complex(double r, double i)
    {
        re = r;
        im = i;
    }
    Complex(double r) : Complex(r, 0.0) {}
    Complex() : Complex(0.0, 0.0) {}
private:
    double re;
    double im;
};
```

### Constructor Summary

- The name is identical to the class name
- The constructor does not have return value *Not even void*
- Its execution can be prematurely terminated by calling `return`
- It can have parameters similarly as any other method (function)
- We can call other functions, but they should not rely on initialized object that is being done in the constructor
- Constructor is usually **public**
- (private) constructor can be used, e.g., for:
  - Classes with only class methods *Prohibition to instantiate class*
  - Classes with only constants
  - The so called singletons *E.g., "object factories"*

### Relationship between Objects

- Objects can be in relationship based on the
  - Inheritance – is the relationship of the type **is** *Object of descendant class is also the ancestor class*
  - One class is derived from the ancestor class *Objects of the derived class extends the based class*
  - Derived class contains all the field of the ancestor class *However, some of the fields may be hidden*
  - New methods can be implemented in the derived class *New implementation override the previous one*
  - Derived class (objects) are specialization of a more general ancestor (super) class
- An object can be part of the other objects – it is the **has** relation
  - Similarly to compound structures that contain other struct data types as their data fields, objects can also compound of other objects
  - We can further distinguish
    - Aggregation** – an object is a part of other object
    - Composition** – inner object exists only within the compound object

### Example – Aggregation/Composition

- Aggregation – relationship of the type “has” or “it is composed”
  - Let **A** be aggregation of **B C**, then objects **B** and **C** are contained in **A**
  - It results that **B** and **C** cannot survive without **A**

*In such a case, we call the relationship as composition*

#### Example of implementation

```
class GraphComp { // composition
private:
    std::vector<Edge> edges;
};

class GraphComp { // aggregation
public:
    GraphComp(std::vector<Edge>& edges) : edges(edges) {}
private:
    const std::vector<Edge>& edges;
};

struct Edge {
    Node v1;
    Node v2;
};

struct Node {
    Data data;
};
```

### Categories of the Inheritance

- Strict inheritance** – derived class takes all of the superclass and adds own methods and attributes. All members of the superclass are available in the derived class. It strictly follows the **is-a** hierarchy
- Nonstrict inheritance** – the subclass derives from the a superclass only certain attributes or methods that can be further redefined
- Multiple inheritance** – a class is derived from several superclasses

### Inheritance – Summary

- Inheritance is a mechanism that allows
  - Extend data field of the class and modify them
  - Extend or modify methods of the class
- Inheritance allows to
  - Create hierarchies of classes
  - “Pass” data fields and methods for further extension and modification
  - Specialize (specify) classes
- The main advantages of inheritance are
  - It contributes essentially to the code reusability *Together with encapsulation!*
  - Inheritance is foundation for the **polymorphism**

### 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

### Virtual Methods – Polymorphism and Inheritance

- We need a dynamic binding for polymorphism of the methods
- It is usually implemented as a **virtual method** in object oriented programming languages
- Override methods that are marked as **virtual** has a dynamic binding to the particular dynamic type

### Example – Overriding without Virtual Method 1/2

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class A {
public:
    void info()
    {
        cout << "Object of the class A" << endl;
    }
};
class B : public A {
public:
    void info()
    {
        cout << "Object of the class B" << endl;
    }
};
A* a = new A(); B* b = new B();
A* ta = a; // backup of a pointer
a->info(); // calling method info() of the class A
b->info(); // calling method info() of the class B
a = b; // use the polymorphism of objects
a->info(); // without the dynamic binding, method of the class A is called
delete ta; delete b;
```

### Example – Overriding with Virtual Method 2/2

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class A {
public:
    virtual void info() // Virtual !!!
    {
        cout << "Object of the class A" << endl;
    }
};
class B : public A {
public:
    void info()
    {
        cout << "Object of the class B" << endl;
    }
};
A* a = new A(); B* b = new B();
A* ta = a; // backup of a pointer
a->info(); // calling method info() of the class A
b->info(); // calling method info() of the class B
a = b; // use the polymorphism of objects
a->info(); // the dynamic binding exists, method of the class B is called
delete ta; delete b;
```

### Derived Classes, Polymorphism, and Practical Implications

- Derived class inherits the methods and data fields of the superclass, but it can also add new methods and data fields
  - It can extend and specialize the class
  - It can modify the implementation of the methods
- An object of the derived class can be used instead of the object of the superclass, e.g.,
  - We can implement more efficient matrix multiplication without modification of the whole program

*We may further need a mechanism to create new object based on the dynamic type, i.e., using the newInstance virtual method*
- Virtual methods are important for the polymorphism
  - It is crucial to use a virtual destructor for a proper destruction of the object

*E.g., when a derived class allocate additional memory*

### Example – Virtual Destructor 1/4

```
#include <iostream>
class Base {
public:
    Base(int capacity) {
        std::cout << "Base::Base -- allocate data" << std::endl;
        data = new int[capacity];
    }
    virtual ~Base() { // virtual destructor is important
        std::cout << "Base::~Base -- release data" << std::endl;
        delete[] data;
    }
protected:
    int *data;
};
```

### Example – Virtual Destructor 2/4

```
class Derived : public Base {
public:
    Derived(int capacity) : Base(capacity) {
        std::cout << "Derived::Derived -- allocate data2" << std::endl;
        data2 = new int[capacity];
    }
    ~Derived() {
        std::cout << "Derived::~Derived -- release data2" << std::endl;
        delete[] data2;
    }
protected:
    int *data2;
};
```

### Example – Virtual Destructor 3/4

```
Using Derived
std::cout << "Using Derived " << std::endl;
Derived *object = new Derived(1000000);
delete object;
std::cout << std::endl;

Using Base
std::cout << "Using Base" << std::endl;
Base *object = new Derived(1000000);
delete object;
```

### Example – Virtual Destructor 4/4

```
Without virtual destructor, e.g.,
class Base {
...
    ~Base(); // without virtualdestructor
};
Derived *object = new Derived(1000000);
delete object;
Base *object = new Derived(1000000);
delete object;
```

### Inheritance and Composition

- A part of the object oriented programming is the object oriented design (OOD)
  - It aims to provide "a plan" how to solve the problem using objects and their relationship
  - An important part of the design is identification of the particular objects
  - their generalization to the classes
  - and also designing a class hierarchy
- Sometimes, it may be difficult to decides
  - What is the common (general) object and what is the specialization, which is important step for class hierarchy and applying the inheritance
  - It may also be questionable when to use composition
- Let show the inheritance on an example of geometrical objects

### Example – Is Cuboid Extended Rectangle? 1/2

```
class Rectangle {
public:
    Rectangle(double w, double h) : width(w), height(h) {}
    inline double getWidth(void) const { return width; }
    inline double getHeight(void) const { return height; }
    inline double getDiagonal(void) const
    {
        return sqrt(width*width + height*height);
    }
protected:
    double width;
    double height;
};
```

### Example – Is Cuboid Extended Rectangle? 2/2

```
class Cuboid : public Rectangle {
public:
    Cuboid(double w, double h, double d) :
        Rectangle(w, h), depth(d) {}
    inline double getDepth(void) const { return depth; }
    inline double getDiagonal(void) const
    {
        const double tmp = Rectangle::getDiagonal();
        return sqrt(tmp * tmp + depth * depth);
    }
protected:
    double depth;
};
```

### Example – Inheritance Cuboid Extend Rectangle

- Class **Cuboid** extends the class **Rectangle** by the depth
  - Cuboid** inherits data fields **width** and **height**
  - Cuboid** also inherits „getters“ **getWidth()** and **getHeight()**
  - Constructor of the **Rectangle** is called from the **Cuboid** constructor
- The descendant class **Cuboid** extends (override) the **getDiagonal()** methods  
*It actually uses the method **getDiagonal()** of the ancestor **Rectangle::getDiagonal()***

Is it really a suitable extension?

What is the cuboid area? What is the cuboid circumference?

### Example – Inheritance – Rectangle is a Special Cuboid 1/2

```

■ Rectangle is a cuboid with zero depth
class Cuboid {
public:
    Cuboid(double w, double h, double d) :
        width(w), height(h), depth(d) {}

    inline double getWidth(void) const { return width; }
    inline double getHeight(void) const { return height; }
    inline double getDepth(void) const { return depth; }
    inline double getDiagonal(void) const
    {
        return sqrt(width*width + height*height + depth*depth);
    }
protected:
    double width;
    double height;
    double depth;
};

```

### Example – Inheritance – Rectangle is a Special Cuboid 2/2

```

class Rectangle : public Cuboid {
public:
    Rectangle(double w, double h) : Cuboid(w, h, 0.0) {}
};

```

- Rectangle is a “cuboid” with zero depth
- Rectangle** inherits all data fields: **width**, **height**, and **depth**
- It also inherits all methods of the ancestor  
*Accessible can be only particular ones*
- The constructor of the **Cuboid** class is accessible and it used to set data fields with the zero **depth**
- Objects of the class **Rectangle** can use all variable and methods of the **Cuboid** class

### Should be Rectangle Descendant of Cuboid or Cuboid be Descendant of Rectangle?

- Cuboid is descendant of the rectangle
  - “Logical” addition of the depth dimensions, but methods valid for the rectangle do not work of the cuboid  
*E.g., area of the rectangle*
- Rectangle as a descendant of the cuboid
  - Logically correct reasoning on specialization  
*“All what work for the cuboid also work for the cuboid with zero depth”*
  - Inefficient implementation – every rectangle is represented by 3 dimensions  
**Specialization is correct**  
*Everything what hold for the ancestor have to be valid for the descendant*  
*However, in this particular case, usage of the inheritance is questionable.*

### Relationship of the Ancestor and Descendant is of the type “is-a”

- Is a straight line segment descendant of the point?
  - Straight line segment does not use any method of a point  
**is-a?:** segment is a point ? → **NO** → segment is not descendant of the point
- Is rectangle descendant of the straight line segment?  
**is-a?: NO**
- Is rectangle descendant of the square, or vice versa?
  - Rectangle “extends” square by one dimension, but it is not a square  
*Set the width and height in the constructor!*
  - Square is a rectangle with the width same as the height

### Substitution Principle

- Relationship between two derived classes
- Policy
  - Derived class is a specialization of the superclass  
*There is the is-a relationship*
  - Wherever it is possible to sue a class, it must be possible to use the descendant in such a way that a user cannot see any difference  
*Polymorphism*
  - Relationship **is-a** must be permanent

### Composition of Objects

- If a class contains data fields of other object type, the relationship is called **composition**
- Composition creates a hierarchy of objects, but not by inheritance  
*Inheritance creates hierarchy of relationship in the sense of descendant / ancestor*
- Composition is a relationship of the objects – **aggregation** – **consists / is compound**
- It is a relationship of the type “has”

### Example – Composition 1/3

- Each person is characterized by attributes of the **Person** class
  - name** (string)
  - address** (string)
  - birthDate** (date)
  - graduationDate** (date)
- Date is characterized by three attributes Datum (class **Date**)
  - day** (int)
  - month** (int)
  - year** (int)

### Example – Composition 2/3

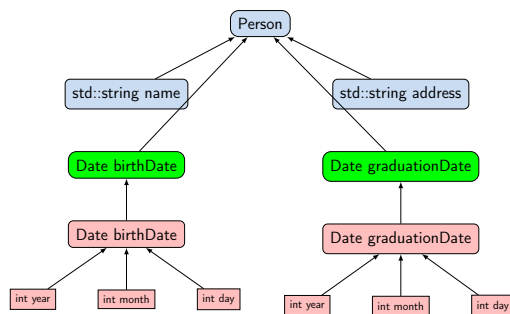
```

#include <string>
class Date {
public:
    int day;
    int month;
    int year;
};

class Person {
public:
    std::string name;
    std::string address;
    Date birthDate;
    Date graduationDate;
};

```

### Example – Composition 3/3



## Part II

### Part 2 – Standard Template Library (STL)

### Example – Template Function

- Templates can also be used for functions to specify particular type and use type safety and typed operators

```

template <typename T>
const T & max(const T &a, const T &b)
{
    return a < b ? b : a;
}
    
```

```

double da, db;
int ia, ib;
std::cout << "max double: " << max(da, db) << std::endl;
std::cout << "max int: " << max(ia, ib) << std::endl;
//not allowed such a function is not defined
std::cout << "max mixed " << max(da, ib) << std::endl;
    
```

### Inheritance vs Composition

- Inheritance objects:
  - Creating a derived class (descendant, subclass, derived class)
  - Derived class is a specialization of the superclass
    - May add variables (data fields) *Or overlapping variables (names)*
    - Add or modify methods
  - Unlike composition, inheritance changes the properties of the objects
    - New or modified methods
    - Access to variables and methods of the ancestor (base class, superclass) *If access is allowed (public/protected)*
- Composition of objects is made of attributes (data fields) of the object type *It consists of objects*
- A distinction between composition and inheritance
  - „Is” test – a symptom of inheritance (is-a)
  - „Has” test – a symptom of composition (has)

### Templates

- Class definition may contain specific data fields of a particular type
- The data type itself does not change the behavior of the object, e.g., typically as in
  - Linked list or double linked list
  - Queue, Stack, etc.
  - data containers
- Definition of the class for specific type would be identical except the data type
- We can use **templates** for later specification of the particular data type, when the instance of the class is created
- Templates provides **compile-time polymorphism** *In contrast to the run-time polymorphism realized by virtual methods.*

### STL

- Standard Template Library (STL) is a library of the standard C++ that provides efficient implementations of the data **containers**, algorithms, functions, and iterators
- High efficiency of the implementation is achieved by templates with compile-type polymorphism
- Standard Template Library Programmer's Guide – <https://www.sgi.com/tech/stl/>

### Inheritance and Composition – Pitfalls

- Excessive usage of composition and also inheritance in cases it is not needed leads to complicated design
- Watch on literal interpretations of the relationship **is-a** and **has**, sometimes it is not even about the inheritance, or composition *E.g., Point2D and Point3D or Circle and Ellipse*
- Prefer composition and not the inheritance *One of the advantages of inheritance is the **polymorphism***
- Using inheritance violates the **encapsulation** *Especially with the access rights set to the **protected***

### Example – Template Class

- The template class is defined by the **template** keyword with specification of the type name
 

```

template <typename T>
class Stack {
public:
    bool push(T *data);
    T* pop(void);
};
            
```
- An object of the template class is declared with the specified particular type
 

```

Stack<int> intStack;
Stack<double> doubleStack;
            
```

### std::vector – Dynamic "C" like array

- One of the very useful data containers in STL is **vector** which behaves like C array but allows to add and remove elements

```

#include <iostream>
#include <vector>

int main(void)
{
    std::vector<int> a;
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; ++i) {
        a.push_back(i);
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < a.size(); ++i) {
        std::cout << "a[" << i << "] = " << a[i] << std::endl;
    }
    std::cout << "Add one more element" << std::endl;
    a.push_back(0);
    for (int i = 5; i < a.size(); ++i) {
        std::cout << "a[" << i << "] = " << a[i] << std::endl;
    }
    return 0;
}
    
```

lec12/stl-vector.cc

## Summary of the Lecture

## Topics Discussed

- Classes and objects
- Constructor/destructor
- Templates and STL
- Relationship between objects
  - Aggregation
  - Composition
- Inheritance – properties and usage in C++
- Polymorphism – dynamic binding and virtual methods
- Inheritance and Composition