

# Summary of C++ Constructs

Jan Faigl

Department of Computer Science

Faculty of Electrical Engineering

Czech Technical University in Prague

Lecture 12

PRG – 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



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

Classes and Objects

Constructor/Destructor

Relationship

Polymorphism

Inheritance and Composition



## Resources – Books



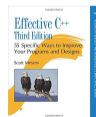
The C++ Programming Language,  
*Bjarne Stroustrup*, Addison-Wesley Professional, 2013, ISBN  
978-0321563842



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



# 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)
```



## 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

```
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
}
```

*Variables are passed by value*



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

**Classes and Objects**

Constructor/Destructor

Relationship

Polymorphism

Inheritance and Composition



# Class

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

- **Interface** – parts that are accessible from outside  
*public, protected, private*

- **Body** – implementation of the interface (methods)  
that determine the ability of the objects of the class  
*Instance vs class methods*

- **Data Fields** – attributes as basic and complex data  
types and structures (objects) *Object composition*

- 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
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

*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)



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

Class implementation

```
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	Access		
	Class	Derived Class	“World”
<b>public</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>protected</b>	✓	✓	X
<b>private</b>	✓	X	X



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

Classes and Objects

**Constructor/Destructor**

Relationship

Polymorphism

Inheritance and Composition



## Constructor and Destructor

- **Constructor** provides the way how to initialize the object, i.e., allocate resources

Programming idiom – Resource acquisition is initialization (RAII)

- **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

*However, unlike constructor, only single destructor can be specified*

  - 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
    - Classes with only constants
    - The so called singletons

*Prohibition to instantiate class*

*E.g., "object factories"*



## 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"*



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

Classes and Objects

Constructor/Destructor

**Relationship**

Polymorphism

Inheritance and Composition



## 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
  - Inheritance is foundation for the **polymorphism**

*Together with encapsulation!*



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

Classes and Objects

Constructor/Destructor

Relationship

**Polymorphism**

Inheritance and Composition





# 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;

```

```

clang++ demo-novirtual.cc
./a.out
Object of the class A
Object of the class B
Object of the class A

```



## 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;

```

```

clang++ demo-virtual.cc
./a.out
Object of the class A
Object of the class B
Object of the class B

```

lec12/demo-virtual.cc



## 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;
};
```

lec12/demo-virtual\_destructor.cc



## 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;
};
```

[lec12/demo-virtual\\_destructor.cc](#)



## Example – Virtual Destructor 3/4

- Using `virtual` destructor all allocated data are properly released

```
std::cout << "Using Derived " << std::endl;
```

```
Derived *object = new Derived(1000000);
```

```
delete object;
```

```
std::cout << std::endl;
```

```
std::cout << "Using Base" << std::endl;
```

```
Base *object = new Derived(1000000);
```

```
delete object;
```

`lec12/demo-virtual_destructor.cc`

```
clang++ demo-virtual_destructor.cc && ./a.out
```

Using Derived

Base::Base -- allocate data

Derived::Derived -- allocate data2

Derived::~Derived -- release data2

Base::~Base -- release data

Using Base

Base::Base -- allocate data

Derived::Derived -- allocate data2

Derived::~Derived -- release data2

Base::~Base -- release data

*Both destructors `Derived` and `Base` are called*





## 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;
```

- Only both constructors are called, but only destructor of the `Base` class in the second case `Base *object = new Derived(1000000);`

Using Derived

```
Base::Base -- allocate data
Derived::Derived -- allocate data2
Derived::~Derived -- release data2
Base::~Base -- release data
```

Using Base

```
Base::Base -- allocate data
Derived::Derived -- allocate data2
Base::~Base -- release data
```

*Only the destructor of `Base` is called*



# Outline

Quick Overview How C++ Differs from C

Classes and Objects

Constructor/Destructor

Relationship

Polymorphism

**Inheritance and Composition**



## 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` a `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()`*

- We create a “specialization” of the `Rectangle` as an extension `Cuboid` class

Is it really a suitable extension?

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



## Example – Inheritance Cuboid Extend Rectangle

- Class `Cuboid` extends the class `Rectangle` by the `depth`
  - `Cuboid` inherits data fields `width` a `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()`*

- We create a “specialization” of the `Rectangle` as an extension `Cuboid` class

**Is it really a suitable extension?**

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



## Example – Inheritance Cuboid Extend Rectangle

- Class `Cuboid` extends the class `Rectangle` by the `depth`
  - `Cuboid` inherits data fields `width` a `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()`*

- We create a “specialization” of the `Rectangle` as an extension `Cuboid` class

**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: with, 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?

### 1. 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*

### 2. 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.*



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

### 1. 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*

### 2. 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.*



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

### 1. 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*

### 2. 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
  - Square is a rectangle with the width same as the height

*Set the width and height in the constructor!*



## 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

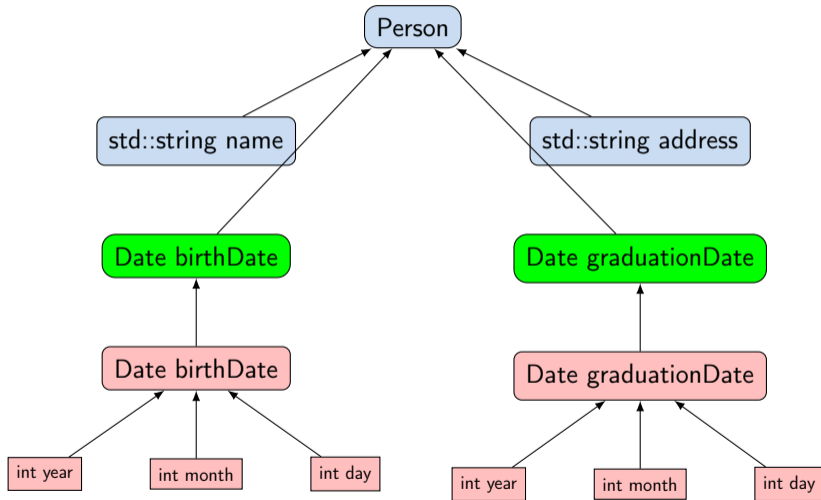
```
#include <string>
```

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

```
class Date {  
    public:  
    int day;  
    int month;  
    int year;  
};
```



## Example – Composition 3/3



## 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**)



## 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***



# Part II

## Part 2 – Standard Template Library (STL)



# Outline

Templates

Standard Template Library (STL)



# 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.*





## 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;
```



## 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;
```



# Outline

Templates

Standard Template Library (STL)



# 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/>



## 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

