friend

friend functions

Friend function in a class:

- Not a method of the class
- Have access to the class's private and protected data members
- Defined inside the class scope

Used properly does not break encapsulation

friend functions example: Complex revisited

friend classes

- A class can allow other classes to access its private data members
- QUESTION: Is the friendship link one-sided or two-sided? I.e:
 - Suppose class A is a friend of class B.
 - Does it mean that class B is a friend of A?

```
friend classes - example
class IntTree {
    friend class IntTreelterator;
// Treelterator can access Tree's data members
IntTreelterator& IntTreelterator::operator++() {
    return *this;
```