

friend

friend functions (folder 5)

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

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 IntTreeliterator;
```

```
};
```

// Treeliterator can access Tree's data members

```
IntTreeliterator& IntTreeliterator::next() {
```

```
    ...
```

```
    return *this;
```

```
}
```