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11.1. Motivation: Revisiting the Queue class

The concept of a queue is characterized by its interface and behavior, independent of the type (or class) of elements stored inside.

But: The **Queue** and **UQueue** classes in the previous chapter can only store integers; dealing with other types or objects in the queue would require re-writing the **QueueElement** and **Queue** or **UQueue** classes.

Templates allow implementing a container class independent of the type of data elements.





11.1. Motivation: Revisiting the Queue class

Templates are expanded at compile-time, where the compiler does type-checking before the template expansion happens. The source code contains only the function or class, the compiled code can afterwards contain multiple copies of the same function or class. For a function for example:





```
example00.cpp
template <class Data> class Queue { // Template class for a queue
 public:
 Queue(int size = 100) : maxSize(size), tail(0), head(0), filled(0) {items = new Data[size];}
 ~Queue() { delete[] items; items = nullptr; };
 void put(Data data);
 Data get();
  bool isFull() const { return filled == maxSize; }
 bool isEmpty() const { return filled == 0; }
 void clear() { filled = 0; head = 0; tail = 0; } // clear whole queue
 private:
 Data *items; // array of Data
 int maxSize; // size of items
 int tail; // position in array to put
 int head;  // position in array to get from
 int filled; // number of elements in queue
};
```





```
example00.cpp
// put element at the tail of the queue, for example put(d) updates:
          [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ d][ ] ... [ ][ ]
               head
                               \mathsf{tail} \! 	o \!
template <class Data>
void Queue<Data>::put(Data data) { // put element data at tail
  if (!isFull()) {
    items[tail] = data;
   tail = (tail+1) % maxSize;
   filled++;
 } else {
    throw std::runtime_error("queue: full on put");
```





```
example00.cpp
// gets element at the head of the queue, for example get() updates.
                head \rightarrow
                                   tail
template <class Data>
Data Queue<Data>::get() { // get and remove element from head
 Data retval;
  if (!isEmpty()) {
    retval = items[head];
    head = (head+1) % maxSize;
   filled--;
 } else {
    throw std::runtime_error("queue: empty on get");
  return retval;
```





11.1. Motivation - Template Queue Example 00

Queue are used while specifying the data type when creating the queue objects:

```
int main() {
                                                                         example00.cpp
  Queue<int> intQueue(127);
  Queue<char> charQueue(21);
  // fill int and char data in both queues:
  for (auto i = 1; i <= 9; i++) intQueue.put(i);</pre>
  for (auto i = '1'; i <= '9'; i++) charQueue.put(i);</pre>
  // get earliest data from both queues nine times:
  for (auto i = 0; i < 9; i++) {
    std::cout << intQueue.get() << ' ' << charQueue.get() << '\n';</pre>
  return 0;
```





```
example01.cpp
template <class Data> class QueueElement; // element class, hidden from users
template <class Data> class UQueue { // Template class for an unlimited queue
 public:
  UQueue() { head = tail = nullptr; }
 ~UQueue() { clear(); };
 void put(Data data);
 Data get();
  bool isEmpty() const;
 void clear();
 Data get();
 private:
 QueueElement<Data> * head; // pointer to element to put
 QueueElement<Data> * tail; // pointer to element to get from
};
```





```
example01.cpp
template <class Data> class QueueElement { // element class, hidden rrom users
 public:
 QueueElement(Data data) : data(data) , next(nullptr) {}
  Data data;
  QueueElement<Data> * next;
};
template <class Data>
void UQueue<Data>::clear() { // iteratively clear the queue of all elements
  QueueElement<Data> * elem, * elem next;
  for (elem = head; elem != nullptr; elem = elem next) {
    elem next = elem->next;
    delete elem;
  head = tail = nullptr;
```





```
example01.cpp
template <class Data>
bool UQueue < Data > :: is Empty() const { // check whether the queue is empty
  return head == nullptr;
template <class Data>
void UQueue<Data>::put(Data data) { // put in new data element at tail
  QueueElement<Data> * node = new QueueElement<Data>(data);
  if (isEmpty()) {
   head = tail = node;
  } else {
   tail = tail->next = node; // tail is guaranteed to be valid
```





```
example01.cpp
template <class Data>
Data UQueue<Data>::get() { // get and remove element from head
 Data retVal;
 if (!isEmpty()) {
    retVal = head->data;
   QueueElement<Data> * second = head->next;
   delete head;
   head = second;
 } else {
   throw std::runtime error("uqueue: empty on get");
 return retVal;
```





11.1. Motivation - Template UQueue Example 01

UQueue is used while specifying the data type when creating the queue objects:

```
int main() {
                                                                         example01.cpp
  Queue<int> intQueue(127);
  Queue<char> charQueue(21);
  // fill int and char data in both queues:
  for (auto i = 1; i <= 9; i++) intQueue.put(i);</pre>
  for (auto i = '1'; i <= '9'; i++) charQueue.put(i);</pre>
  // get earliest data from both queues nine times:
  for (auto i = 0; i < 9; i++) {
    std::cout << intQueue.get() << ' ' << charQueue.get() << '\n';</pre>
  return 0;
```





11.2. Templates

template <class Data> designates Data as the parameter. This is a placeholder for a type to be specified later, when an object of the class that follows this declaration of a template. class is almost interchangeable with typename.

The later use (e.g., instantiation) of a template is often called specialization:

UQueue<double> q; or Queue<Data> * n = new Queue<Data>(250);

or int getSize(Queue<int>& q);

Templates tell the compiler that the class will use a type that is to be specified when the objects are created, which is why templates are *put in the header file*. The compiler will create the actual class only when it is specialized.





11.3. Using templates, inheritance, friends

Templates can have more than one parameter:

```
template <class XData, class YData>
Templates can have, like functions or methods, default parameters:
template <class XData, class YData = char>
Templates can have non-type parameters, too:
template <class XData, int max>
```

Inheritance is possible:

- Templates can inherit from other templates and from non-template classes
 template <class x> class SortableQueue<x> : public UQueue<x> {
- Non-template classes can inherit from templates:
 class IntQueue : public UQueue<int> {





11.3. Using templates, inheritance, friends

Template parameters for functions can be deduced by the compiler, i.e., without specifying the type. This is possible for template classes since C++17.

```
#include <iostream>
                                                                     example06.cpp
template <class T> T maxOf(T x, T y) {
  return (x > y)? x : y;
int main() {
  std::cout << max0f<int>(12,24) << ' ';
  std::cout << maxOf<char>('d','e') << '\n';</pre>
  std::cout << maxOf(12,24) << ' '; // these two lines have the same
  std::cout << maxOf('d','e') << '\n'; // effect as above, types are deduced
  return 0;
```





11.3. Using templates, inheritance, friends

Template classes can declare a non-template friend class or function, a general template friend class or function, or a type-specific template friend class or function:

```
template <class T> class A { //
 public:
  template<class U> friend class B;
 private:
  T data;
template<class U> class B {
 public:
 B() { A<U> a; std::cout << "A's data: " << a.data << "\n"; };
};
int main() {
  B<int> b;
  return 0;
```





11.4. Templates and operator overloading

Overloading operators allows to customize the C++ operators (such as +, -, *, /, %, ^, &, |, ~, !, =, <, >, +=, -=, *=, /=, %=, ^=, &=, |=, <<, >>, >>=, <<=, ==, !=, <=, >=, &&, | |, ++, --, ,, ->*, ->, (), [], <=>(since C++20)) for operands of user-defined types. Example:

```
#include <iostream>
class A {
  public:
    char a;
    A(char a): a(a) {}
};
std::string operator + (const A & a1, const A & a2) {
    std::string s;
    s += a1.a; s += a2.a;
    return s;
}
// A a1('a'), a2('b'); std::cout << a1+a2 << '\n';</pre>
```





11.4. Templates and operator overloading -- friend methods

```
example03.cpp
class Complex;
Complex operator + ( const Complex& obj1, const Complex& obj2);
class Complex { // Class representing a complex number, e.g. 2.3 + 4.5 i
 public:
 Complex() : real(0), img(0) {}
  Complex(double real, double imag) : real(real), imag(imag){}
 friend Complex operator + ( Complex& obj1, const Complex& obj2);
 private:
 double real, imag;
};
Complex operator + ( const Complex& obj1, const Complex& obj2) {
  Complex temp;
  temp.real = obj1.real + obj2.real;
  temp.imag = obj1.imag + obj2.imag;
  return temp;
```





11.4. Templates and operator overloading -- conversions

Conversion operators can be used to convert one type to another type:

```
#include <iostream>
                                                                      example04.cpp
// class representing a fraction through numerator and denominator, e.g. 7/9
class Fraction {
 public:
  Fraction(int n, int d) : n(n), d(d) {}
  operator double() const { return double(n)/double(d); }
 private:
  int n, d;
int main() {
  Fraction frac(7, 9);
  double val = frac; // conversion to double, double val = (double) frac;
  std::cout << val << '\n';</pre>
  return retVal;
```





11.4. Templates and operator overloading

With templates, now

```
example05.cpp
#include <iostream>
template <class T> class MyClass {
 public:
 MyClass(T c) : c(c) {}
  T c;
};
template <class U>
std::ostream& operator<<(std::ostream& out, const MyClass<U>& classObj) {
 out.put(classObj.c);
  return out;
int main() {
 MyClass<char> t('?');
  std::cout << t << '\n';
  return 0;
```





11.5. Standard Template Library (STL)

STL is a set of C++ template classes that:

- implement most common data structures for containers (queues, vectors, lists, stacks, maps, arrays, etc.), algorithms (sorting, search, etc.), iterators (to go through containers), and function objects or functors
- in the form of a library of container classes, algorithms, and iterators,
- using components that are parameterized through templates.





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL) - Vector

Dynamic array that resizes when elements are added or removed

```
std::vector<double> myVector( { 2.0, 4.0, 7.0 } );
std::vector<double> largeVector( 200, 1.0 ); // 200 elements, all ones
std::vector<double> copiedVector( myVector ); // exact copy of myVector
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
int main() {
    std::vector<std::string> name( {"John", "George", "Paul", "Smith"} );
    std::cout << "name size=" << name.size() << " of " << name.max_size();
    std::cout << " capacity=" << name.capacity() << "\n";
    for (auto i = name.begin(); i < name.end(); i++) // use iterators
        std::cout << *i << '\n';
    name.insert(name.begin()+2, "Tom"); // insert another name at third element
    for (const std::string& i : name) // use range based for loop
        std::cout << i << '\n';
    return 0;
}</pre>
```





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL) - Map

Container for (key value, mapped value) pairs. Mapped values cannot have the same key values. Initialization can be done (since C++11) with initializer lists:

```
std::map<int, std::string> names = {{1, "Ann"}, {2, "Ames"}, {9, "Asa"}};
std::map<std::string, int> students;
students["Aaron"] = 173923; // insert two new map elements
students["Zachary"] = 183211;
for (auto const& x : names) // since C++11
  std::cout << "key:" << x.first << ",val:" << x.second << "\n";</pre>
for (auto const& [key, val] : students) // since C++17
  std::cout << "key:" << key << ",val:" << val << "\n";</pre>
```





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL) - Map

```
#include <iostream>
                                                                      example08.cpp
#include <map>
int main() {
  std::map<std::string, int> students;
  students["Aaron"] = 173923; // insert new map elements
  students["Zachary"] = 183211;
  students.insert( {"Patrick", 172932} );
  students.insert( std::pair<std::string,int>("Arnold", 161010) );
  for (auto const& x : names) // since C++11
    std::cout << "key:" << x.first << ",val:" << x.second << "\n";</pre>
  for (auto const& [key, val] : students) // since C++17
    std::cout << "key:" << key << ",val:" << val << "\n";
  return 0;
```





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL) - transform

Functor that allows a given operation to be done on all elements of container

```
int increase(int x) { return (x+1); } // operation to execute
int array[] = {1, 2, 3}; // a simple container
std::transform(array, array+3, array, increase);
for ( const int & i : array )
   std::cout << i << ", "; // output: 2, 3, 4,</pre>
```

Apart from the unary use above, transform also allows two input containers to be used (e.g., summing up elements of two containers)





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL) - transform

```
#include <iostream>
                                                                    example09.cpp
#include <vector>
int main() {
  std::vector a( { 16.0, 17.0, 18.0 } ); // init. lists since C++17
  std::vector b( { 10.0, 30.0, 60.0 } );
  std::vector<double> c;
  double n = 2.7;
  std::transform(a.begin(), a.end(),
                                         // iterators to input and
                 b.begin(), std::back inserter(c), // output vector elements
         [=](double x, double y) {return(x - y)/n; });
        // [=] : capture all external variables (n) in lambda by value
        // [&] : capture all external variables (n) in lambda by reference
  for (const double & i : c) {
    std::cout << i << "\n";
  return 0;
```





11.5. The Standard Template Library (STL)

More reference information about the C++ STL is given at these locations:

https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/standard_library

https://cplusplus.com/reference/stl/