Computer Programing (CP)

Lecture # 12

Topic(s)

- Const (Data Members, Member Functions, Objects)
- Static (Data Members, Member Functions)
- This Pointer

Constants

- In C++, we have
  - Const Data Members
  - Const Member Functions
  - Const Objects

- Some objects need to be modifiable and some do not.
- You may use keyword const to specify that an object is not modifiable and that any attempt to modify the object should result in a compilation error.

Const Data Members

- Const are those, that value are not changed or remain constant through out the program
- Intialize at the time of declaration only
- Never update or change value at any stage of program
- const int value1 = 5; // copy initialization

```
1  // Fig. 10.7: Increment.h
2  // Definition of class Increment.
3  #ifndef INCREMENT_H
4  #define INCREMENT_H
5
6  class Increment
7  {
8  public:
9     Increment( int c = 0, int i = 1 ); // default constructor
10
11    // function addIncrement definition
12    void addIncrement()
13    {
14       count += increment;
15    } // end function addIncrement
16
17    void print() const; // prints count and increment
18 private:
19    int count;
20    const int increment; // const data member
21 }; // end class Increment
22
23 #endif
```

```cpp
// Fig. 10.8: Increment.cpp
// Erroneous attempt to initialize a constant of a built-in data
// type by assignment.
#include <iostream>
#include "Increment.h" // include definition of class Increment
using namespace std;

// constructor; constant member 'increment' is not initialized
Increment::Increment( int c, int i )
{
   count = c; // allowed because count is not constant
   increment = i; // ERROR: Cannot modify a const object
} // end constructor Increment

// print count and increment values
void Increment::print() const
{
   cout << "count = " << count << ", increment = " << increment << endl;
} // end function print
```

```
1  // Fig. 10.9: fig10_09.cpp
2  // Program to test class Increment.
3  #include <iostream>
4  #include "Increment.h" // include definition of class Increment
5  using namespace std;
6
7  int main()
8  {
9     Increment value( 10, 5 );
10
11    cout << "Before incrementing: ";
12    value.print();
13
14    for ( int j = 1; j <= 3; j++ )
15    {
16       value.addIncrement();
17       cout << "After increment " << j << ": ";
18       value.print();
19    } // end for
20 } // end main
```

Microsoft Visual C++ compiler error messages:

```
C:\cpphtp7_examples\ch10\Fig10_07_09\Increment.cpp(10) : error C2758:
   'Increment::increment' : must be initialized in constructor base/member
   initializer list
       C:\cpphtp7_examples\ch10\Fig10_07_09\increment.h(20) : see
          declaration of 'Increment::increment'
C:\cpphtp7_examples\ch10\Fig10_07_09\Increment.cpp(12) : error C2166:
   l-value specifies const object
```

GNU C++ compiler error messages:

```
Increment.cpp:9: error: uninitialized member 'Increment::increment' with
   'const' type 'const int'
Increment.cpp:12: error: assignment of read-only data-member
   'Increment::increment'
```

Good Programming Practice(s)

Software Engineering Observation 10.3

A `const` *object cannot be modified by assignment, so it must be initialized. When a data member of a class is declared* `const`*, a member initializer must be used to provide the constructor with the initial value of the data member for an object of the class. The same is true for references.*

Common Programming Error 10.5

Not providing a member initializer for a `const` *data member is a compilation error.*

Software Engineering Observation 10.4

Constant data members (`const` *objects and* `const` *variables) and data members declared as references must be initialized with member initializer syntax; assignments for these types of data in the constructor body are not allowed.*

Correct Initialization

```
4  #include <iostream>
5  #include "Increment.h" // include definition of class Increment
6  using namespace std;
7
8  // constructor
9  Increment::Increment( int c, int i )
10    : count( c ), // initializer for non-const member
11      increment( i ) // required initializer for const member
12 {
13    // empty body
14 } // end constructor Increment
15
16 // print count and increment values
17 void Increment::print() const
18 {
19    cout << "count = " << count << ", increment = " << increment << endl;
20 } // end function print
```

Output

```
1  // Fig. 10.6: fig10_06.cpp
2  // Program to test class Increment.
3  #include <iostream>
4  #include "Increment.h" // include definition of class Increment
5  using namespace std;
6
7  int main()
8  {
9     Increment value( 10, 5 );
10
11    cout << "Before incrementing: ";
12    value.print();
13
14    for ( int j = 1; j <= 3; j++ )
15    {
16       value.addIncrement();
17       cout << "After increment " << j << ": ";
18       value.print();
19    } // end for
20 } // end main
```

```
Before incrementing: count = 10, increment = 5
After increment 1: count = 15, increment = 5
After increment 2: count = 20, increment = 5
After increment 3: count = 25, increment = 5
```

Const Objects & Const Member Function

- The keyword const can be used to specify that an object is not modifiable and that any attempt to modify the object should result in a compilation error.

- Constructors and destructors cannot be declared const.

- A const object must be initialized.

- const data member and reference data members *must* be initialized using member initializers.

Const Objects & Const Member Function

- A member function is specified as const both in its prototype and in its definition.

- Invoking a non-const member function on a const object is a compilation error

- An attempt by a const member function to modify an object of its class is a compilation error.

- *A const member function can be overloaded with a non-const version.*

Const Objects & Const Member Function

- *A const member function can be overloaded with a non-const version.*
- *The compiler chooses which overloaded member function to use based on the object on which the function is invoked.*
- *If the object is const, the compiler uses the const version.*
- *If the object is not const, the compiler uses the non-const version.*

Declaring & Initializing Const Object

```
const Date date1; // initialize using default constructor
const Date date2(2020, 10, 16); // initialize using parameterized constructor
const Date date3 { 2020, 10, 16 }; // initialize using parameterized constructor (C++11)
```

```
 7  class Time
 8  {
 9  public:
10     Time( int = 0, int = 0, int = 0 ); // default constructor
11
12     // set functions
13     void setTime( int, int, int ); // set time
14     void setHour( int ); // set hour
15     void setMinute( int ); // set minute
16     void setSecond( int ); // set second
17
18     // get functions (normally declared const)
19     int getHour() const; // return hour
20     int getMinute() const; // return minute
21     int getSecond() const; // return second
22
23     // print functions (normally declared const)
24     void printUniversal() const; // print universal time
25     void printStandard(); // print standard time (should be const)
26  private:
27     int hour; // 0 - 23 (24-hour clock format)
28     int minute; // 0 - 59
29     int second; // 0 - 59
30  }; // end class Time
```

```
 3  #include <iostream>
 4  #include <iomanip>
 5  #include "Time.h" // include definition of class Time
 6  using namespace std;
 7
 8  // constructor function to initialize private data;
 9  // calls member function setTime to set variables;
10  // default values are 0 (see class definition)
11  Time::Time( int hour, int minute, int second )
12  {
13     setTime( hour, minute, second );
14  } // end Time constructor
15
16  // set hour, minute and second values
17  void Time::setTime( int hour, int minute, int second )
18  {
19     setHour( hour );
20     setMinute( minute );
21     setSecond( second );
22  } // end function setTime
```

```
23
24  // set hour value
25  void Time::setHour( int h )
26  {
27     hour = ( h >= 0 && h < 24 ) ? h : 0; // validate hour
28  } // end function setHour
29
30  // set minute value
31  void Time::setMinute( int m )
32  {
33     minute = ( m >= 0 && m < 60 ) ? m : 0; // validate minute
34  } // end function setMinute
35
36  // set second value
37  void Time::setSecond( int s )
38  {
39     second = ( s >= 0 && s < 60 ) ? s : 0; // validate second
40  } // end function setSecond
41
```

```
42 // return hour value
43 int Time::getHour() const // get functions should be const
44 {
45    return hour;
46 } // end function getHour
47
48 // return minute value
49 int Time::getMinute() const
50 {
51    return minute;
52 } // end function getMinute
53
54 // return second value
55 int Time::getSecond() const
56 {
57    return second;
58 } // end function getSecond
59
60 // print Time in universal-time format (HH:MM:SS)
61 void Time::printUniversal() const
62 {
63    cout << setfill( '0' ) << setw( 2 ) << hour << ":"
64       << setw( 2 ) << minute << ":" << setw( 2 ) << second;
65 } // end function printUniversal
66
67 // print Time in standard-time format (HH:MM:SS AM or PM)
68 void Time::printStandard() // note lack of const declaration
69 {
70    cout << ( ( hour == 0 || hour == 12 ) ? 12 : hour % 12 )
71       << ":" << setfill( '0' ) << setw( 2 ) << minute
72       << ":" << setw( 2 ) << second << ( hour < 12 ? " AM" : " PM" );
73 } // end function printStandard
```

```
 3  #include "Time.h" // include Time class definition
 4
 5  int main()
 6  {
 7     Time wakeUp( 6, 45, 0 ); // non-constant object
 8     const Time noon( 12, 0, 0 ); // constant object
 9
10                                  // OBJECT      MEMBER FUNCTION
11     wakeUp.setHour( 18 );        // non-const   non-const
12
13     noon.setHour( 12 );          // const       non-const
14
15     wakeUp.getHour();            // non-const   const
16
17     noon.getMinute();            // const       const
18     noon.printUniversal();       // const       const
19
20     noon.printStandard();        // const       non-const
21  } // end main
```

Microsoft Visual C++ compiler error messages:

```
C:\cpphtp7_examples\ch10\Fig10_01_03\fig10_03.cpp(13) : error C2662:
   'Time::setHour' : cannot convert 'this' pointer from 'const Time' to
   'Time &'
        Conversion loses qualifiers
C:\cpphtp7_examples\ch10\Fig10_01_03\fig10_03.cpp(20) : error C2662:
   'Time::printStandard' : cannot convert 'this' pointer from 'const Time' to
   'Time &'
        Conversion loses qualifiers
```

GNU C++ compiler error messages:

```
fig10_03.cpp:13: error: passing 'const Time' as 'this' argument of
   'void Time::setHour(int)' discards qualifiers
fig10_03.cpp:20: error: passing 'const Time' as 'this' argument of
   'void Time::printStandard()' discards qualifiers
```

Static

- Static is a keyword in C++ used to give special characteristics to an element.
- Static elements are allocated storage only once in a program lifetime.
- And they have a scope till the program lifetime. Static Keyword can be used with following,

Static Data Member

- When a **data member** is declared as **static**, only one copy of the **data** is maintained for all objects of the class.
- **Static data members** are not part of objects of a given class type.
- They are shared by all instances of the class
- They do not belong to any particular instance of a class

Static Data Member

- Keyword static is used to make a data member static
- Static data member is declared inside the class
- But they are defined outside the class

```
class ClassName{
…
static DataType VariableName;
};
DataType ClassName::VariableName;
```

Initializing Static Data Member

- Static data members should be initialized once at file scope
- They are initialized at the time of definition

```
class Student{
private:
        static int noOfStudents;
public:
  …
};
int Student::noOfStudents = 0;
/*private static member cannot be accessed outside the class except for initialization*/
```

Initializing Static Data Member

- If static data members are not explicitly initialized at the time of definition then they are initialized to 0

```
int Student::noOfStudents;
```

is equivalent to

```
int Student::noOfStudents=0;
```

Accessing Static Data Member

```
class Student{
public:
        static int noOfStudents;
};
int Student::noOfStudents;

int main(){
        Student aStudent;
        aStudent.noOfStudents = 1;
        Student::noOfStudents = 1;
}
```

- To access a static data member there are two ways
  - Access like a normal data member
  - Access using a scope resolution operator ‘::’

Life of Static Data Member

```
class Student{
public:
        static int noOfStudents;
};
int Student::noOfStudents;

int main(){
    {
        Student aStudent;
        aStudent.noOfStudents = 1;
    }
Student::noOfStudents = 1;
}
```

- They are created even when there is no object of a class
- They remain in memory even when all objects of a class are destroyed
- They can be used to store information that is required by all objects, like global variables

Static Member Function

- Just like the static data members or static variables inside the class, static member functions also does not depend on object of class.
- We are allowed to invoke a static member function using the object and the (.) operator
- but it is recommended to invoke the static members using the class name and the scope resolution (::) operator.

Static Member Function

- Static member functions are allowed to access only the static data members or other static member functions

- Static member functions can not access the non-static data members or member functions of the class.

```cpp
// C++ program to demonstrate static
// member function in a class
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class GfG
{
    public:

        // static member function
        static void printMsg()
        {
            cout<<"Welcome to GfG!";
        }
};

// main function
int main()
{
        // invoking a static member function
        GfG::printMsg();
}
```

Output:

```
Welcome to GfG!
```

```
 7  #include <string>
 8  using namespace std;
 9
10  class Employee
11  {
12  public:
13     Employee( const string &, const string & ); // constructor
14     ~Employee(); // destructor
15     string getFirstName() const; // return first name
16     string getLastName() const; // return last name
17
18     // static member function
19     static int getCount(); // return number of objects instantiated
20  private:
21     string firstName;
22     string lastName;
23
24     // static data
25     static int count; // number of objects instantiated
26  }; // end class Employee
```

```
7  // define and initialize static data member at global namespace scope
8  int Employee::count = 0; // cannot include keyword static
9
10 // define static member function that returns number of
11 // Employee objects instantiated (declared static in Employee.h)
12 int Employee::getCount()
13 {
14    return count;
15 } // end static function getCount
16
17 // constructor initializes non-static data members and
18 // increments static data member count
19 Employee::Employee( const string &first, const string &last )
20    : firstName( first ), lastName( last )
21 {
22    ++count; // increment static count of employees
23    cout << "Employee constructor for " << firstName
24       << ' ' << lastName << " called." << endl;
25 } // end Employee constructor
26
```

```
27  // destructor deallocates dynamically allocated memory
28  Employee::~Employee()
29  {
30     cout << "~Employee() called for " << firstName
31        << ' ' << lastName << endl;
32     --count; // decrement static count of employees
33  } // end ~Employee destructor
34
35  // return first name of employee
36  string Employee::getFirstName() const
37  {
38     return firstName; // return copy of first name
39  } // end function getFirstName
40
41  // return last name of employee
42  string Employee::getLastName() const
43  {
44     return lastName; // return copy of last name
45  } // end function getLastName
```

```
7  int main()
8  {
9     // no objects exist; use class name and binary scope resolution
10    // operator to access static member function getCount
11    cout << "Number of employees before instantiation of any objects is "
12       << Employee::getCount() << endl; // use class name
13
14    // the following scope creates and destroys
15    // Employee objects before main terminates
16    {
17       Employee e1( "Susan", "Baker" );
18       Employee e2( "Robert", "Jones" );
19
20       // two objects exist; call static member function getCount again
21       // using the class name and the binary scope resolution operator
22       cout << "Number of employees after objects are instantiated is "
23          << Employee::getCount();
24
25       cout << "\n\nEmployee 1: "
26          << e1.getFirstName() << " " << e1.getLastName()
27          << "\nEmployee 2: "
28          << e2.getFirstName() << " " << e2.getLastName() << "\n\n";
29    } // end nested scope in main
30
31    // no objects exist, so call static member function getCount again
32    // using the class name and the binary scope resolution operator
33    cout << "\nNumber of employees after objects are deleted is "
34       << Employee::getCount() << endl;
35 } // end main
```

```
Number of employees before instantiation of any objects is 0
Employee constructor for Susan Baker called.
Employee constructor for Robert Jones called.
Number of employees after objects are instantiated is 2

Employee 1: Susan Baker
Employee 2: Robert Jones

~Employee() called for Robert Jones
~Employee() called for Susan Baker

Number of employees after objects are deleted is 0
```