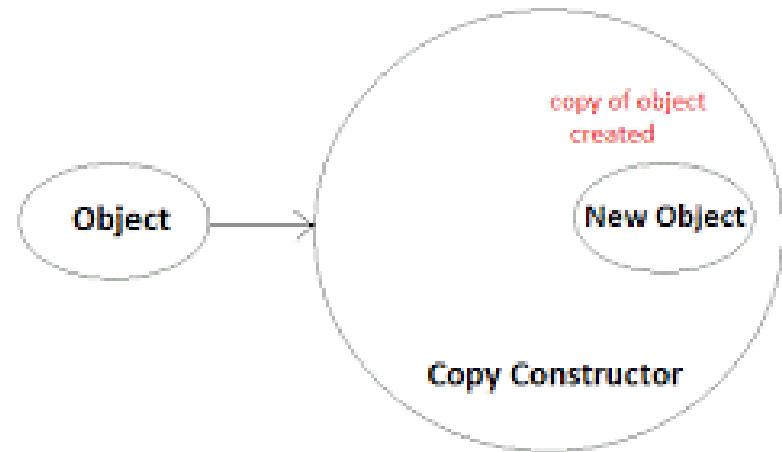


C/C++ Programming: C++ interm. (2/3)



Any question?

Relevant topics to ask questions:

- C++ Objects:
 - Constructors; destructor; static members.
 - Any nagging doubt.



Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        testobj1=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```

One Instance of class Rectangle
instantiated (created) & initialized



Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
}
```

One Instance of class Rectangle
instantiated (created) & initialized

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```
testobj0:
Rectangle ID is: 0
Rectangle side A is: 6
Rectangle side B is: 6
Rectangle area is: 36
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 1
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 1
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1
```

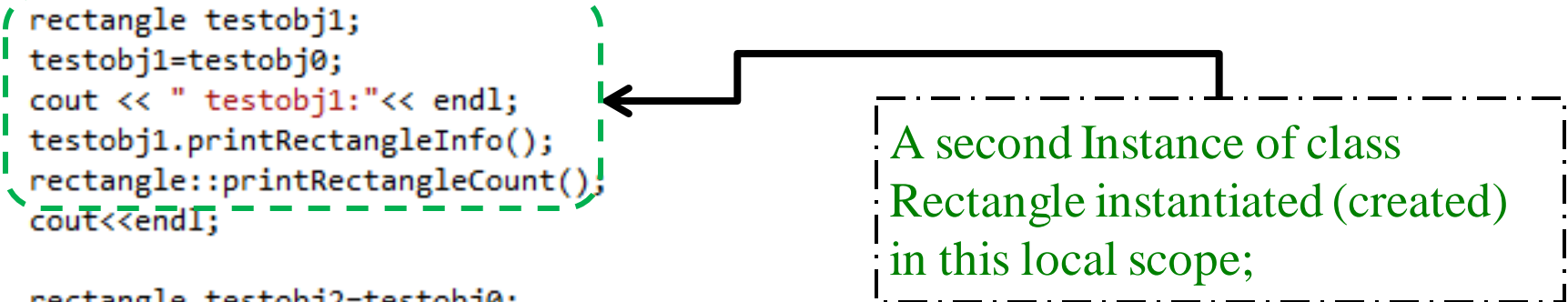
```
char final[10];
cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
cin >> final;
```

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        testobj1=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```



A second Instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) in this local scope;

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        testobj1=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```

A second Instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) in this local scope; and set “to be equal to” another object.

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        testobj1=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```

A second Instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) in this local scope; and set “to be equal to” another object. What happens?

Operators applied to objects: example

```
Entering local scope;

testobj1:
Rectangle ID is: 0
Rectangle side A is: 6
Rectangle side B is: 6
Rectangle area is: 36
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
TOT instantiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 2
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 2
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1
```

```
rectangle testobj1;
testobj1=testobj0;
cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
cout<<endl;

rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
}
rectangle::printRectangleCount();

char final[10];
cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
cin >> final;
```

A second Instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) in this local scope; and set “to be equal to” another object. What happens?

The second rectangle is a *field-by-field copy* of the first (same ID); its instantiation is accounted for; initialization is not.

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        testobj1=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;
        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```

A third instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) and immediately set “to be equal to” another object. What happens?

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()
```

```
testobj2:
Rectangle ID is: 0
Rectangle side A is: 6
Rectangle side B is: 6
Rectangle area is: 36
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
TOT instantiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 2
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 2
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1
Exiting local scope;
```

```
rectangle testobj1;
testobj1=testobj0;
cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
cout<<endl;

[rectangle testobj2=testobj0;]
cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
}
rectangle::printRectangleCount();

char final[10];
cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
cin >> final;
}
```

A third instance of class Rectangle instantiated (created) and immediately set “to be equal to” another object. What happens?

The third rectangle is directly obtained as a *field-by-field copy* of the object used to instantiate this copy; the constructor was not called (instantiation should be done at the same time as the copy).

Operators applied to objects: example

```
void test_default_operators()  
{
```

```
    rectangle testobj0;
```

```
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:  
TOT instantiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 2  
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 0  
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: -1  
Press any key then Enter to finish
```

```
{  
    cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;  
    rectangle testobj1;  
    testobj1=testobj0;  
    cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;  
    testobj1.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout<<endl;  
  
    rectangle testobj2=testobj0;  
    cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;  
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;  
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
char final[10];  
cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";  
cin >> final;
```

Exiting the local scope the destructor is called for the **two** (local) objects: the *counter of active* and the *counter of initialized rectangles* are decremented....
... but were not incremented in the first place, so the total is now wrong!

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**
`testobj1=testobj0;`
- (2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**
`rectangle testobj1=testobj0;`

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**

testobj1=**testobj0**;

start with this: write a member function that initializes **testobj1**
with the values of the sides of **testobj0**

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(    rectangle& other)
{
    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1: - - - -
        //testobj1=testobj0;
        testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
        cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
        testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();

    char final[10];
    cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
    cin >> final;
}
```


Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1: - - - -
        //testobj1=testobj0;
        testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;
    }
}
```

```
Entering local scope;

testobj1:
Rectangle ID is: 1
Rectangle side A is: 6
Rectangle side B is: 6
Rectangle area is: 36
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 2
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 2
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 2
```

```
cout << " Press any key then Enter to finish ";
cin >> final;
```

```
}
```

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(    rectangle& other)
{
    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

Interlude: the *other* object is passed by reference: this is more efficient than passing an object by value (which needs to create a copy – more on this later), but, potentially, could allow *copyFrom* to **modify its input** (*other* object).

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

Interlude: the *other* object is passed by reference: this is more efficient than passing an object by value (which needs to create a copy – more on this later), but, potentially, could allow *copyFrom* to modify its input (*other* object). If this is not the intended behaviour for the function (as in the case of *copyfrom*), then the **input reference** can be declared as **const**.

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

A member function can have a **const input reference**, in this example `copyFrom(const rectangle& other);`

This imposes that the function *copyFrom* does not modify *other* in any way;

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
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    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

A member function can have a **const input reference**, in this example `copyFrom(const rectangle& other);`

This imposes that the function *copyFrom* does not modify *other* in any way; in turn this means that *copyFrom* can call one of *other's* member functions only if that **function** is **defined** as **const**, i.e. a function that does not modify the object.

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
// gets
double getArea()(const){ ... }
double getPerimeter()(const){ ... }
bool isInitialized()(const){return init_flag;}
double getSide(int sidenum)(const){ ... }
void inputSides(double in_sideA, double in_sideB){ ... }
void inputSidesFromKeyboard(){ ... }
void printRectangleInfo()(const){ ... }
void inputRandomSides(double max_val=100){ ... }
void resetRectangle(){set_init_flag(false);}
int getRectangleID()(const){return rectangle_ID;}
int getActiveRectanglesCount()(const){return rectangle_instances_alive_count;}
int getInitializedRectanglesCount()(const){return initialized_rectangle_instances_count;}
// static function to get the
static void printRectangleCount(){ ... }
```

function is defined as const, i.e. a function that does not modify the object (the compiler issues an error if the member function modifies the object).

Operators applied to objects

Public member function of class Rectangle:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
    if(other.isInitialized())
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

A member function can have a **const input reference**, in this example `copyFrom(const rectangle& other);`

This imposes that the function *copyFrom* does not modify *other* in any way; in turn this means that *copyFrom* can call one of *other's* member functions only if that **function** is **defined** as **const**, i.e. a function that does not modify the object.

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**

```
// testobj1=testobj0;  
testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

- (2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**

```
rectangle testobj1=testobj0;
```


Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
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Let's start with “=”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**

```
// testobj1=testobj0;  
testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

- (2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**

```
rectangle testobj1=testobj0;
```

Solution: implement a ***copy constructor***

Operators applied to objects

```
void basicInitialization()
{
    // basic initialization (init_flag is still undetermined)
    init_flag=false;
    //set the ID and update the count.
    rectangle_ID=rectangle_instances_created_count++;
    rectangle_instances_alive_count++;
}

public:
    // constructor
    rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
    // destructor
    ~rectangle() { ... }
    void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
    {
        // if the input rectangle is initialized, copy its sides
        if(other.isInitialized())
        {
            resetRectangle();
            inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
        }
    }
    /**
    // copy constructor
    rectangle(const rectangle& other)
    {
        basicInitialization();
        copyFrom(other);
        // temporarily: notify this has been done
        cout << " ==> Element copied via constructor" << endl;
    }
```

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
    {
        cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        rectangle testobj1;
        //testobj1=testobj0;
        testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
        cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
        testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
        rectangle::printRectangleCount();
        cout<<endl;

        ( //rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
          rectangle testobj2(testobj0);
          cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
          testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
          rectangle::printRectangleCount();
          cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
        )
    }
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
}
```

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
```

```
{
```

```
    ====> Element copied via constructor
    testobj2:
    Rectangle ID is: 2
    Rectangle side A is: 6
    Rectangle side B is: 6
    Rectangle area is: 36
    Rectangle perimeter is: 24
    Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
    TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 3
    TOT currently Active Rectangles: 3
    TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 3
    Exiting local scope;

    Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
    TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 3
    TOT currently Active Rectangles: 1
    TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1
    Press any key then Enter to finish
```

```
    cout << "testobj1: " << endl;
```

```
    testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout<<endl;
```

```
    ( //rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
```

```
    ( rectangle testobj2(testobj0); )
```

```
    cout << "testobj2: " << endl;
```

```
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout << "Exiting local scope;" << endl << endl;
```

```
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
```

```
{  
    ====> Element copied via constructor  
    testobj2:  
    Rectangle ID is: 2  
    Rectangle side A is: 6  
    Rectangle side B is: 6  
    Rectangle area is: 36  
    Rectangle perimeter is: 24  
    Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:  
    TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 3  
    TOT currently Active Rectangles: 3  
    TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 3  
    Exiting local scope;  
  
    Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:  
    TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 3  
    TOT currently Active Rectangles: 1  
    TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1  
    Press any key then Enter to finish
```

```
    cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;  
    testobj1.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout<<endl;
```

```
    rectangle testobj2=testobj0;  
    cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;  
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

Now, this also works: the copy constructor is called

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**

```
// testobj1=testobj0;  
testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

- (2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**

```
rectangle testobj1=testobj0;
```

Solved by implementing a *copy constructor*

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “=”, “+” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “=”

(1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**
`// testobj1=testobj0; ← Can we fix this now?`
`testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);`

(2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**
`rectangle testobj1=testobj0;`

Solved by implementing a ***copy constructor***

Operators applied to objects

Tools at our disposal:

- Cpp allows to overload **operators** such as “ = ” when applied to objects, i.e. to define a member function that is called on the object when the operator is found.

Operators applied to objects

Tools at our disposal:

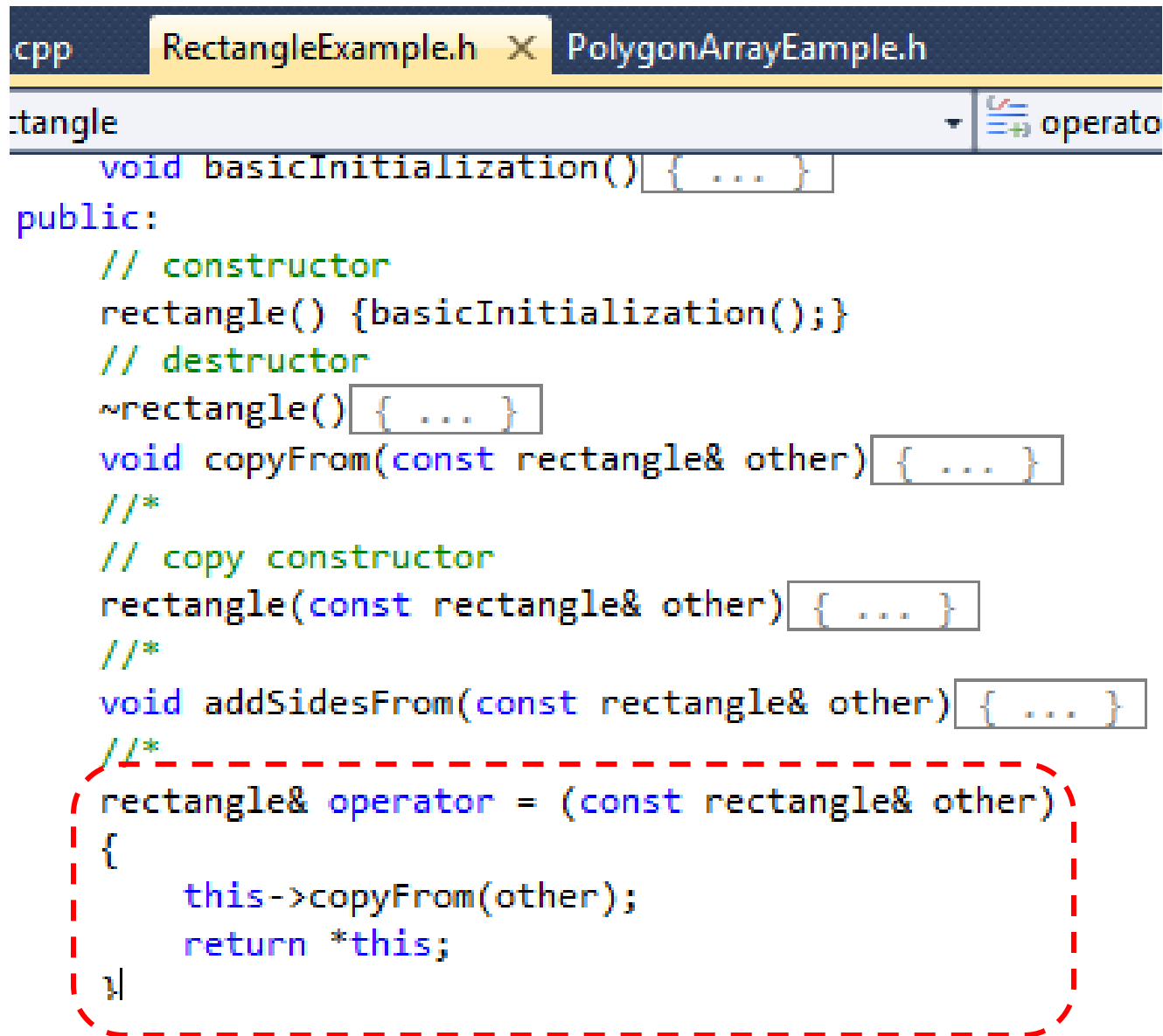
- Cpp allows to overload **operators** such as “=” when applied to objects, i.e. to define a member function that is called on the object when the operator is found.
- Given a Cpp object `my_class testobject;` We call *memberfunction()* on the object via: `testobject.memberfunction();`
Given a **pointer** to Cpp object
`my_class* testobject_ptr = &testobject;`
We call *memberfunction()* on the object via the pointer and “->” :
`testobject_ptr->memberfunction();`
(The same applies to accessing a member variable.)

Operators applied to objects

Tools at our disposal:

- Cpp allows to overload **operators** such as “=” when applied to objects, i.e. to define a member function that is called on the object when the operator is found.
- Given a Cpp object `my_class testobject;` We call *memberfunction()* on the object via: `testobject.memberfunction();`
Given a **pointer** to Cpp object
`my_class* testobject_ptr = &testobject;`
We call *memberfunction()* on the object via the pointer and “->” :
`testobject_ptr->memberfunction();`
(The same applies to accessing a member variable.)
- Any Cpp object possesses a member variable called “this”, which is a pointer to the object itself.

Operators applied to objects



The screenshot shows a code editor with two tabs: 'RectangleExample.h' (active) and 'PolygonArrayExample.h'. The code is for a 'rectangle' class. The 'operator=' function is highlighted with a red dashed box. The code includes comments for basic initialization, destructor, copy constructor, and a function to add sides from another rectangle. The 'operator=' function is defined as a non-static member function that takes a 'const rectangle& other' and returns a 'rectangle&'.

```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
    // constructor
    rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
    // destructor
    ~rectangle() { ... }
    void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
    /**
    // copy constructor
    rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
    /**
    void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
    /**
    rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
    {
        this->copyFrom(other);
        return *this;
    }
```

Operators applied to objects

```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
rectangle& operator =(const rectangle& other)
{
    this->copyFrom(other);
    return *this;
}
```

Keyword **operator**
followed by the symbol
(in this case “=“)

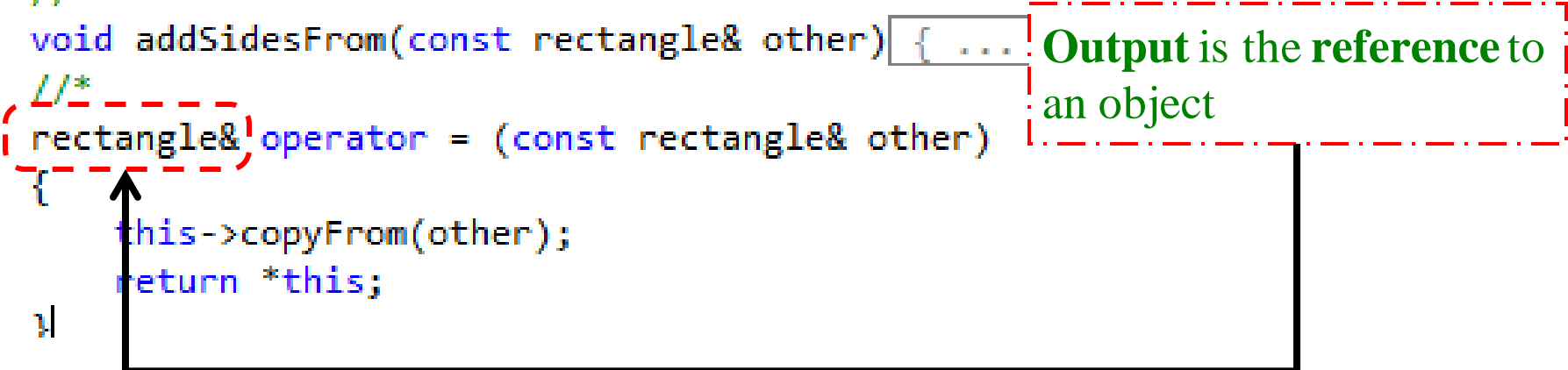
Operators applied to objects

```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
{
    this->copyFrom(other);
    return *this;
}
```

Input is an (other) object,
passed by **reference**,
declared as **const**
(appropriate whenever the
operator should not change
the “other” object)

Operators applied to objects


```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/*
rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
{
    this->copyFrom(other);
    return *this;
}
```



Output is the reference to an object

Operators applied to objects


```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
{
    (this->copyFrom(other));
    return *this;
}
```



Implementation:
call member function
copyFromOther(.) on the
current (this) object using
the “other” object as input

Operators applied to objects


```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
{
    copyFrom(other);
    return *this;
}
```



Alternative function call
(totally identical in the
result)

Operators applied to objects

```
cpp RectangleExample.h X PolygonArrayExample.h
rectangle
void basicInitialization() { ... }
public:
// constructor
rectangle() {basicInitialization();}
// destructor
~rectangle() { ... }
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
// copy constructor
rectangle(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
void addSidesFrom(const rectangle& other) { ... }
/**
rectangle& operator = (const rectangle& other)
{
    this->copyFrom(other);
    return *this;
}
```



Return the current object
(*this), after it has been
modified by copyFromOther()

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()  
{
```

```
    rectangle testobj0;  
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);  
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;  
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout<<endl;
```

```
{
```

```
    cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
    rectangle testobj1;
```

```
    // the following line works when the operator = is overloaded
```

```
    testobj1=testobj0;
```

```
    // the following line works when copyFrom is defined
```

```
    //testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

```
    cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
```

```
    testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout<<endl;
```

```
    // the following line works when the copy constructor is defined
```

```
    rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
```

```
    cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
```

```
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

Operator “=” is used and the relative **member function** is called on the object on the left side of the operator (testobj1);

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()  
{
```

```
    rectangle testobj0;  
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);  
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;  
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();  
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();  
    cout<<endl;
```

```
{
```

```
    cout << "Entering local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
    rectangle testobj1;
```

```
    // the following line works when the operator = is overloaded
```

```
testobj1=testobj0;
```

```
    // the following line works when copyFrom is defined
```

```
    //testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

```
    cout << " testobj1:"<< endl;
```

```
    testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout<<endl;
```

```
    // the following line works when the copy constructor is defined
```

```
    rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
```

```
    cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
```

```
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
    cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

Operator “=” is used and the relative **member function** is called on the object on the left side of the operator (testobj1):
testobj1 performs copyFrom(testobj0)

Operators applied to objects

```
void test_default_operators()
{
    rectangle testobj0;
    testobj0.inputSides(6,6);
    cout << " testobj0:"<< endl;
    testobj0.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout<<endl;
}
```

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```
testobj0:
Rectangle ID is: 0
Rectangle side A is: 6
Rectangle side B is: 6
Rectangle area is: 36
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 1
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 1
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 1
```

```
    cout << " testobj2:"<< endl;
    testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
    rectangle::printRectangleCount();
    cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
}
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
Entering local scope;
```

```
testobj1:
```

```
Rectangle ID is: 1
```

```
Rectangle side A is: 6
```

```
Rectangle side B is: 6
```

```
Rectangle area is: 36
```

```
Rectangle perimeter is: 24
```

```
Total numbers for Rectangle instantiations:
```

```
TOT instatntiated Rectangles (currently active or not): 2
```

```
TOT currently Active Rectangles: 2
```

```
TOT currently Initialized Rectangles: 2
```

```
testobj1=testobj0;
```

```
// the following line works when copyFrom is defined
```

```
//testobj1.copyFrom(testobj0);
```

```
cout << "testobj1:"<< endl;
```

```
testobj1.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
cout<<endl;
```

```
// the following line works when
```

```
rectangle testobj2=testobj0;
```

```
cout << "testobj2:"<< endl;
```

```
testobj2.printRectangleInfo();
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

```
cout << "Exiting local scope;"<< endl << endl;
```

```
}
```

```
rectangle::printRectangleCount();
```

Operator “=” is used and the relative member function is called on the object on the left side of the operator (testobj1): testobj1 performs copyFrom(testobj0); The result (updated testobj1) goes to testobj1

Operators applied to objects

For “simple” variables the behaviour of basic operators, such as “ = ”, “ + ” is straightforward (mostly – remember pointers?!):

```
int x, y = 5;  
x = y + 2;
```

But what happens when those are applied to objects?

Let's start with “ = ”

- (1) Initialize **one** (previously instantiated) **object** with content of **another**

```
testobj1=testobj0;
```


Solved by overloading **operator =**

- (2) Instantiate and initialize **one object** with content of **another**

```
rectangle testobj1=testobj0;
```

Solved by implementing a **copy constructor**

Observation:



```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    const rectangle* test_this=this;
    if((test_this!=other) && (other.isInitialized()))
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

This function (and others based on it) should do nothing when applied to self (A = A;)

Observation:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    const rectangle* test_this=this;
    if((test_this!=other)&& (other.isInitialized()))
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

This function (and others based on it) should do nothing when applied to self (A = A;)

Observation:

```
void copyFrom(const rectangle& other)
{
    (const rectangle* test_this=this;
    if((test_this!=other) && (other.isInitialized()))
    {
        resetRectangle();
        inputSides(other.getSide(1), other.getSide(2));
    }
}
```

Typecast (from **rectangle*** to **const rectangle***) to perform comparison with **other** (required in later versions of C++ syntax; your compiler may need it)

Any question?

