
Object-Oriented Programming (in C++)

Classes and Objects (Part II)

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Outline

- Categories of Class Members
 - ✚ const Objects, const Member Functions, and const Data Members
 - ✚ static Data Members and static Member Functions
 - ✚ mutable Data Members
- Composition: Objects as Members of Classes
 - ✚ Nested and Local Classes
- friend Functions and friend Classes
- this: A Special Pointer



Different Kinds of Members

- C++ has many choices of members
 - ◆ const members: members that require initialization and cannot be updated
 - ◆ For data members or member functions
 - ◆ static members: members that all objects of that class share
 - ◆ For data members or member functions
 - ◆ mutable data members : members that need no protection from changing any time but are encapsulated in class
 - ◆ For only data members



const (Constant) Objects

- Keyword `const`
- Specifies that an object is not modifiable
- Attempts to modify the object will result in compilation errors
- Example:

```
const Time noon(12, 0, 0);  
noon.setHour(12); // ERROR
```



- Only `const` member functions can be called for `const` objects

Declaring variables and objects `const` when appropriate can help compilers to improve performance



const (Constant) Member Functions

- Member functions declared `const` are not allowed to modify the object (its data members)
 - ✚ Compilers will report errors if they do
- `const` declarations are not allowed for constructors and destructors
- A function is specified as `const` both in its prototype and in its definition

time.h

```
int getHour() const;
```

time.cpp

```
int Time::getHour() const {
    return hour;
}
```



Using const Member Functions

- A const member function cannot call a non-const member function
 - ❖ A const member function must explicitly be declared as const
 - ❖ A member function does not modify an object is not sufficient

time.h

```
int getHour();  
void displayHour() const;
```

time.cpp

```
int Time::displayHour() const {  
    cout << "Hour is " << getHour()  
    << endl; //ERROR  
}
```



Overloading const Member Functions

- A const member function can be overloaded with a non-const version
- The compiler decides which version to use:
 - ❖ const objects call const version
 - ❖ non-const objects call non-const version

```
int Time::display() const {  
    ... // cannot modify data members  
}  
  
int Time::display() {  
    ... // can modify data members  
}
```



const Data Members

- const data members must be initialized with **member initializer**, so must data members declared as references
 - ❖ Assignments for const and reference data members in the constructor body are not allowed
- Member initializer list executes before the body of the constructor executes
 - ❖ Member initializers are separated by commas

classA.h

```
const int incrementStep;
```

classA.cpp

```
classA::classA(): incrementStep(1) {  
    ...  
}
```

copied



Increment.h

```
1 // Fig. 10.4: 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
```



Increment.cpp

Colon (:) marks the start of a member initializer list

```
1 // Fig. 10.5: Increment.cpp
2 // Member-function definitions for class Increment demonstrate using a
3 // member initializer to initialize a constant of a built-in data type.
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
```

Member initializer for non-const member count

Required member initializer for const member increment



Erroneous Increment.cpp

```
1 // Fig. 10.8: Increment.cpp
2 // Erroneous attempt to initialize a constant of a built-in data
3 // type by assignment.
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include "Increment.h" // include definition of class Increment
6 using namespace std;
7
8 // constructor; constant member 'increment' is not initialized
9 Increment::Increment( int c, int i )
10 {
11     count = c; // allowed because count is not constant
12     increment = i; // ERROR: Cannot modify a const object
13 } // end constructor Increment
14
15 // print count and increment values
16 void Increment::print() const
17 {
18     cout << "count = " << count << ", increment = " << increment << endl;
19 } // end function print
```



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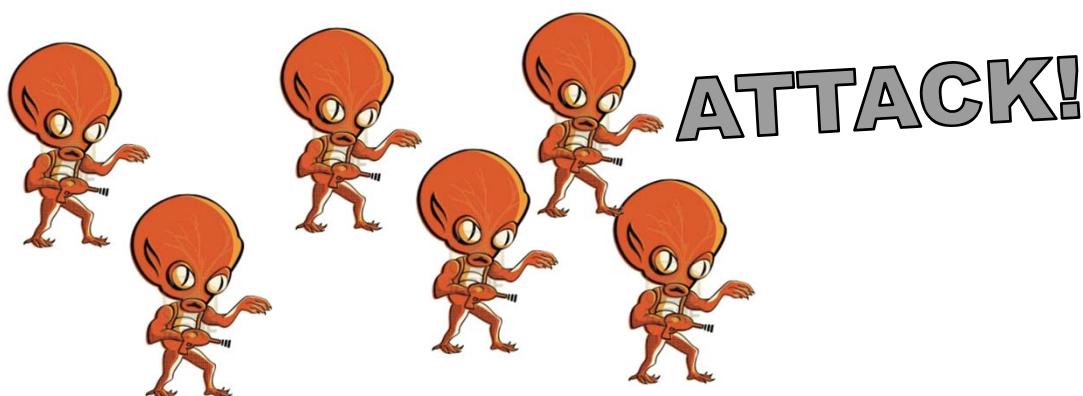
static Data Members

- Each object of a class has its own copy of all the data members of the class
 - ⊕ Each object has its own attribute values
- In certain cases, only one copy of a variable should be shared by all objects of a class
 - ⊕ A **static data member** is used for these reasons
 - ⊕ “Class-wide” data members



An Example: Designing a Video Game

- If a Martian knows there are at least five Martians, each Martian is willing to attack other space creatures

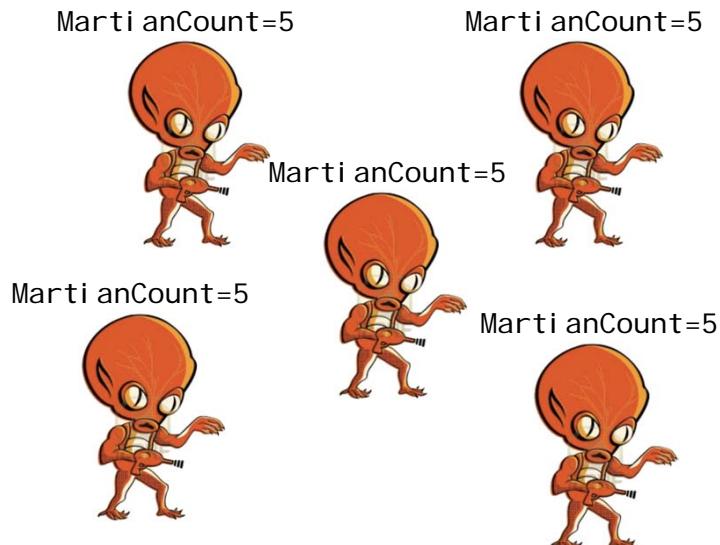


- Otherwise, each Martian becomes cowardly

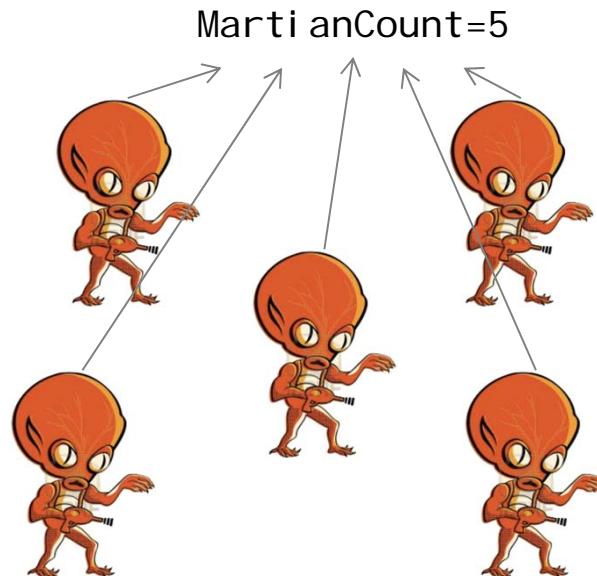


Two Ways to Design a Martian Class

```
class Martian {  
    ...  
    int Marti anCount;  
}
```



```
class Martian {  
    ...  
    static int Marti anCount;  
}
```



1. Less space required
2. Easier to maintain

Properties of static Data Members

- static data members have class scope
 - ❖ Although they may seem like global variables
- Can be public, private, or protected
- To access a public static class member when no objects of the class exist, simply prefix the class name and `::` to the name of the member
 - ❖ The member can be a data member or a member function

```
cout << Marti an::MartianCount;  
cout << Marti an::getCount();
```



Initialization of static Data Members

- Initialized to 0 by default
- A static const data member of int or enum type can be initialized in its declaration in the class definition
- All other static data members must be defined (or initialized) at global namespace scope (i.e., outside the class body)
 - ❖ Declared (without initialization) inside the class (.h)
 - ❖ Initialized outside of the class (.cpp)
- If a static data member is an object of a class that provides a default constructor, it need not be initialized
 - ❖ The default constructor will be called



Initializing static const Data Members

- Can be initialized in the interface

classA.h

```
class classA {  
    static const int RATE = 0.27;  
};
```

- Or initialized in the implementation

classA.h

```
class classA {  
    static const int RATE;  
};
```

No static keyword, why?

classA.cpp

```
const int classA::RATE = 0.27;
```



Employee.h

```
1 // Fig. 10.20: Employee.h
2 // Employee class definition with a static data member to
3 // track the number of Employee objects in memory
4 #ifndef EMPLOYEE_H
5 #define EMPLOYEE_H
6
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 getLastNames() 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
27
28 #endif
```



Employee.cpp

```
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Employee.h" // Employee class definition
5 using namespace std;
6
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
```



A Client of Class Employee

```
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Employee.h" // Employee class definition
5 using namespace std;
6
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 destroy
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
21        // using the class name and the binary
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



static Member Functions

- A member function should be declared `static` if it does not access non-`static` data members or non-`static` member functions of the class
- There is no `static const` member function
 - ◆ `const` indicates that a function cannot modify the contents of the object in which it operates, but `static` member functions exist and operate independently of any objects of the class



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mutable Data Members (1/2)

- mutable means volatile (opposite to constant)
 - ❖ A const member function cannot modify any data member which may not need protection
- mutable makes data member always changeable, even in a const member function

```
class A {  
public:  
    mutable int count;  
    void foo() const;  
};
```

```
void A::foo() const {  
    count++; // Legal  
}
```



mutable Data Members (2/2)

- Modifying a mutable data member of a const object is legal

```
class A {  
public:  
    mutable int foo;  
    int bar;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    const A a;  
    a.foo = 10; // Legal  
    a.bar = 10; // Illegal  
}
```



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Composition: Objects as Members of Classes

- Composition (a form of software reusability)
 - ✚ Sometimes referred to as a *has-a relationship*
 - ✚ A class can have objects of other classes as data members
 - ✚ Example
 - ◆ An AlarmClock class includes a Time object as a data member
- Initializing member objects
 - ✚ Member initializers pass arguments from the object's constructor to member-object constructors
 - ✚ The **copy constructor** of the member-object class is invoked



An Example of Composition

- Suppose we have defined a Date class, we are defining a Employee class
- Class Employee can contain Date objects (birthDate and hireDate) as its data members



Date.h

```
1 // Fig. 10.10: Date.h
2 // Date class definition; Member functions defined in Date.cpp
3 #ifndef DATE_H
4 #define DATE_H
5
6 class Date
7 {
8 public:
9     static const int monthsPerYear = 12; // number of months in a year
10    Date( int = 1, int = 1, int = 1900 ); // default constructor
11    void print() const; // print date in month/day/year format
12    ~Date(); // provided to confirm destruction order
13 private:
14     int month; // 1-12 (January-December)
15     int day; // 1-31 based on month
16     int year; // any year
17
18     // utility function to check if day is proper for month and year
19     int checkDay( int ) const;
20 }; // end class Date
21
22#endif
```



Date.cpp (1/3)

```
1 // Fig. 10.11: Date.cpp
2 // Date class member-function definitions.
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Date.h" // include Date class definition
5 using namespace std;
6
7 // constructor confirms proper value for month; calls
8 // utility function checkDay to confirm proper value for day
9 Date::Date( int mn, int dy, int yr )
10 {
11     if ( mn > 0 && mn <= monthsPerYear ) // validate the month
12         month = mn;
13     else
14     {
15         month = 1; // invalid month set to 1
16         cout << "Invalid month (" << mn << ") set to 1.\n";
17     } // end else
18
19     year = yr; // could validate yr
20     day = checkDay( dy ); // validate the day
21
22     // output Date object to show when its constructor is called
23     cout << "Date object constructor for date ";
```



Date.cpp (2/3)

```
24     print();
25     cout << endl;
26 } // end Date constructor
27
28 // print Date object in form month/day/year
29 void Date::print() const
30 {
31     cout << month << '/' << day << '/' << year;
32 } // end function print
33
34 // output Date object to show when its destructor is called
35 Date::~Date()
36 {
37     cout << "Date object destructor for date ";
38     print();
39     cout << endl;
40 } // end ~Date destructor
41
42 // utility function to confirm proper day value based on
43 // month and year; handles leap years, too
44 int Date::checkDay( int testDay ) const
45 {
46     static const int daysPerMonth[ monthsPerYear + 1 ] =
47         { 0, 31, 28, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31, 31, 30, 31, 30, 31 };
```



Date.cpp (3/3)

```
48 // determine whether testDay is valid for specified month
49 if ( testDay > 0 && testDay <= daysPerMonth[ month ] )
50     return testDay;
51
52 // February 29 check for leap year
53 if ( month == 2 && testDay == 29 && ( year % 400 == 0 ||
54     ( year % 4 == 0 && year % 100 != 0 ) ) )
55     return testDay;
56
57 cout << "Invalid day (" << testDay << ") set to 1.\n";
58 return 1; // leave object in consistent state if bad value
59 } // end function checkDay
```



Employee.h

```
1 // Fig. 10.12: Employee.h
2 // Employee class definition showing composition.
3 // Member functions defined in Employee.cpp.
4 #ifndef EMPLOYEE_H
5 #define EMPLOYEE_H
6
7 #include <string>
8 #include "Date.h" // include Date class definition
9 using namespace std;
10
11 class Employee
12 {
13 public:
14     Employee( const string &, const string &,
15                const Date &, const Date & );
16     void print() const;
17     ~Employee(); // provided to confirm destruction order
18 private:
19     string firstName; // composition: member object
20     string lastName; // composition: member object
21     const Date birthDate; // composition: member object
22     const Date hireDate; // composition: member object
23 }; // end class Employee
24
25 #endif
```



Employee.cpp (1/2)

```
1 // Fig. 10.13: Employee.cpp
2 // Employee class member-function definitions.
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Employee.h" // Employee class definition
5 #include "Date.h" // Date class definition
6 using namespace std;
7
8 // constructor uses member initializer list to pass initializer
9 // values to constructors of member objects
10 Employee::Employee( const string &first, const string &last,
11                      const Date &dateOfBirth, const Date &dateOfHire )
12 : firstName( first ), // initialize firstName
13   lastName( last ), // initialize lastName
14   birthDate( dateOfBirth ), // initialize birthDate
15   hireDate( dateOfHire ) // initialize hireDate
16 {
17     // output Employee object to show when constructor is called
18     cout << "Employee object constructor: "
19       << firstName << ' ' << lastName << endl;
20 } // end Employee constructor
21
```

Copied by copy constructor



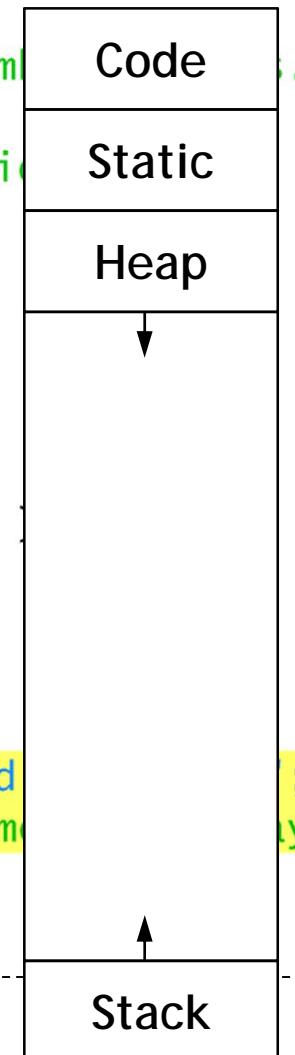
Employee.cpp (2/2)

```
22 // print Employee object
23 void Employee::print() const
24 {
25     cout << lastName << ", " << firstName << " Hired: ";
26     hireDate.print();
27     cout << " Birthday: ";
28     birthDate.print();
29     cout << endl;
30 } // end function print
31
32 // output Employee object to show when its destructor is called
33 Employee::~Employee()
34 {
35     cout << "Employee object destructor: "
36         << lastName << ", " << firstName << endl;
37 } // end ~Employee destructor
```



Using Classes Date and Employee

```
1 // Fig. 10.14: fig10_14.cpp
2 // Demonstrating composition--an object with member
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Employee.h" // Employee class definition
5 using namespace std;
6
7 int main()
8 {
9     Date birth( 7, 24, 1949 );
10    Date hire( 3, 12, 1988 );
11    Employee manager( "Bob", "Blue", birth, hire );
12
13    cout << endl;
14    manager.print();
15
16    cout << "\nTest Date constructor with invalid ";
17    Date lastDayOff( 14, 35, 1994 ); // invalid month
18    cout << endl;
19 } // end main
```



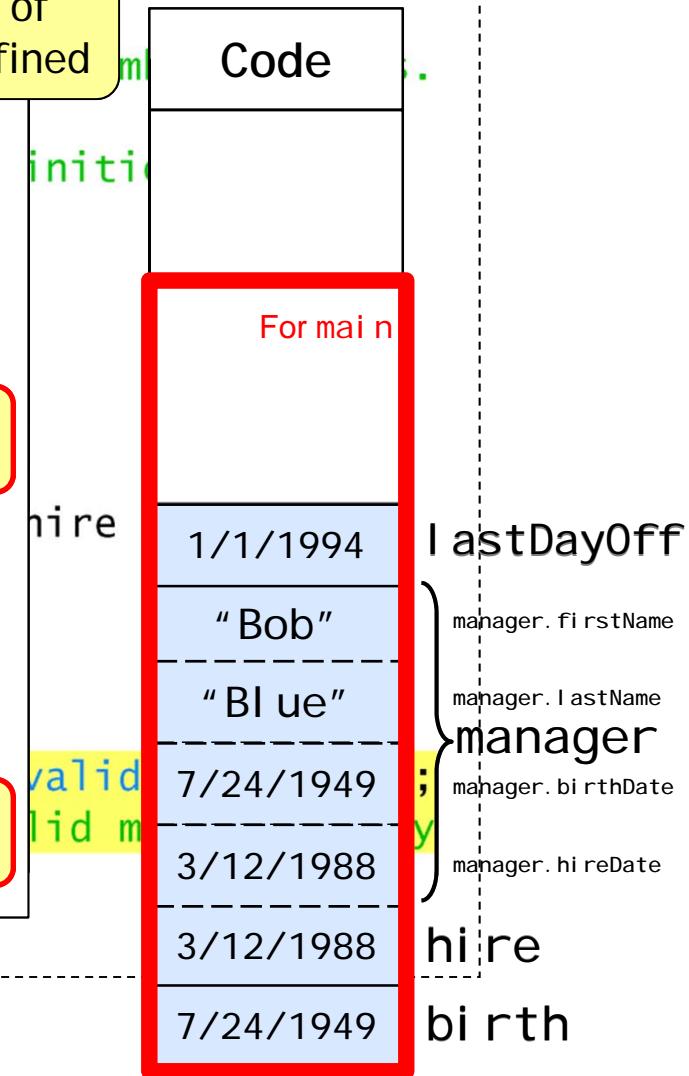
Using Classes Date and Employee

```
1. Pushing main's ARI to stack  
2. Calling constructor for birth  
3. Calling constructor for hire  
4. Creating Employee object manager  
    (1) Calling copy constructor for manager. firstName  
    (2) Calling copy constructor for manager. lastName  
    (3) Calling copy constructor for manager. birthDate  
    (4) Calling copy constructor for manager. hireDate  
5. Calling constructor for manager  
6. Calling manager.print()  
7. Calling constructor for lastDayOff  
8. Calling destructor for lastDayOff  
9. Calling destructor for manager  
    (1) Calling destructor for manager. hireDate  
    (2) Calling destructor for manager. birthDate  
    (3) Calling destructor for manager. lastName  
    (4) Calling destructor for manager. firstName  
10. Calling destructor for hire  
11. Calling destructor for birth  
12. Popping main's ARI from stack  
13.  
14.  
15.  
16.  
17.  
18.  
19. } // end main
```

Depends on the order of data members being defined

Constructed from inside out

Destructed from outside in



Using Classes Date and Employee

Date object constructor for date 7/24/1949

Date object constructor for date 3/12/1988

Employee object constructor: Bob Blue

Blue, Bob Hired: 3/12/1988 Birthday: 7/24/1949

Test Date constructor with invalid values:

Invalid month (14) set to 1.

Invalid day (35) set to 1.

Date object constructor for date 1/1/1994

Date object destructor for date 1/1/1994

Employee object destructor: Blue, Bob

Date object destructor for date 3/12/1988

Date object destructor for date 7/24/1949

Date object destructor for date 3/12/1988

Date object destructor for date 7/24/1949

There are actually five constructor calls when an **Employee** is constructed—two calls to the **string** class's constructor (lines 12–13 of Fig. 10.13), two calls to the **Date** class's default copy constructor (lines 14–15 of Fig. 10.13) and the call to the **Employee** class's constructor.



Initializing Member Objects without Member Initializer

- A member object does not need to be initialized explicitly through a member initializer
- If a member object is not initialized with a member initializer, the member object's default constructor (with no arguments) will be called implicitly
 - ◆ If the member object's class does not provide a default constructor, a compilation error occurs
 - ◆ The member object's class defines one or more constructors, but none is a default constructor
- You can **re-initialize** a member object in the constructor of the enclosing class



Double Initialization

```
1 // Fig. 10.13: Employee.cpp
2 // Employee class member-function definitions.
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Employee.h" // Employee class definition
5 #include "Date.h" // Date class definition
6 using Member initializer is not used for firstName and  
lastName, so the default constructor string() is called
7
8 // constructor uses member initializers to pass initializer
9 // values to constructors of member objects
10 Employee::Employee( const string &first, const string &last,
11                     const Date &dateOfBirth, const Date &dateOfHire )
12 : firstName( first ), // initialize firstName
13   lastName( last ), // initialize lastName
14   birthDate( dateOfBirth ), // initialize birthDate
15   hireDate( dateOfHire ) firstName = first;  
lastName = last;
16 {
17   // output Employee object is called
18   cout << "Employee object constructor:  
         << firstName << ' ' << lastName <<
19
20 } // end Employee
```

firstName and lastName are initialized again
by the memberwise assignment operator



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Nested Classes

- You can define a class within a class
 - ✚ Used when the inner (nested) class is meaningful inside the outer class
- A nested class can be either public or private
 - ✚ If a nested class is private, it cannot be used outside of the outer class
 - ✚ Whether the nested class is public or private, it can be used in the outer class
- A nested class cannot access any private member of the outer class by default



Nested Classes: An Example

```
class OuterClass {  
public:  
    class InnerClass1 {  
        ...  
    };  
private:  
    class InnerClass2 {  
        ...  
    };  
    InnerClass1 obj1;  
    InnerClass2 obj2;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    OuterClass::InnerClass1 obj1;  
  
    OuterClass::InnerClass2 obj2;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```



Local Classes

- You can also define a class within a function definition
 - The local class is confined to the function definition
 - A local class cannot contain static members

```
void function() {  
    class LocalClass {  
        ...  
    };  
    LocalClass obj;  
};
```



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friend Classes (1/2)

- If class A is a friend of class B
 - ◆ A is granted to access the **non-public** and public members of B

```
class A {  
    friend class B;  
};
```

```
class B {  
    int foo;  
};
```

- The friendship is neither symmetric or transitive
 - ◆ If A is a friend of B, and B is a friend of C, you cannot infer that
 - ◆ B is a friend of A,
 - ◆ C is a friend of B, or
 - ◆ A is a friend of C



fri end Classes (2/2)

- fri end declarations can be placed anywhere in a class definition
 - ❖ They are not relevant to member access notations of pri vate, protected, and publ i c



An Example of friend Class (1/2)

```
class CPoint {  
    friend class CLine;  
private:  
    int x, y;  
    void Offset(int diff) {  
        x += diff; y += diff;  
    }  
public:  
    CPoint() { x=0; y=0; }  
    CPoint(int a, int b) { x=a; y=b; }  
    void set(int a, int b) { x=a; y=b; }  
    void Print() {  
        cout << x << " " << y << endl;  
    }  
};
```

CPoint.h



An Example of friend Class (2/2)

```
#include "CPoint.h"
class CLine {
private:
    CPoint p1, p2;
public:
    CLine(int x, int y, int w, int z) {
        p1.x = x; p1.y = y; // access private members
        p2.x = w; p2.y = z;
    }
    void Print() {
        cout << "Point 1: "; p1.Print();
        cout << "Point 2: "; p2.Print();
    }
    void Display() {
        p2.Offset(200); // call private function
        Print();
    }
};
```

CLine.h



friend Functions (1/2)

- A friend function of a class is defined outside that class's scope, yet has the right to access the **non-public** and public members of the class
 - ❖ The prototype of the friend function must be placed in that class and preceded by reserved word friend
- friend functions are global functions with at least one argument that must be a class object or reference
 - ❖ friend functions are called using C-style function call
 - ❖ friend functions are **not member functions**
- A function can be a friend of two or more different classes



friend Functions (2/2)

- friend declarations can be placed anywhere in a class definition
 - ❖ They are not relevant to member access notations of private, protected, and public
- A friend function cannot be *inherited* (covered in Chapter 12, Inheritance)
- Necessary when you overload input and output operators for a class (will be discussed in Chapter 11, Operator Overloading)



Example of friend Function (1/2)

```
class CPoint {  
    friend void F_offset(CPoint &, int);  
    friend class CLine;  
private:  
    int x, y;  
    ...  
};  
void F_offset(CPoint &pt, int diff) {  
    pt.x += diff; pt.y += diff;  
}
```

CPoint.h

```
#include "Cpoint.h"  
int main() {  
    CPoint p1;  
    F_offset(p1, 4); // call friend function  
}
```



Example of friend Function (2/2)

```
#include "CPoint.h"
class CLine {
    friend void F_offset(Cpoint &, int);
private:
    CPoint p1, p2;
public:
    ...
    void Display() {
        p2.Offset(200); // call private function
        F_offset(p1, 200); // call friend function
        Print();
    }
};
```

CLine.h



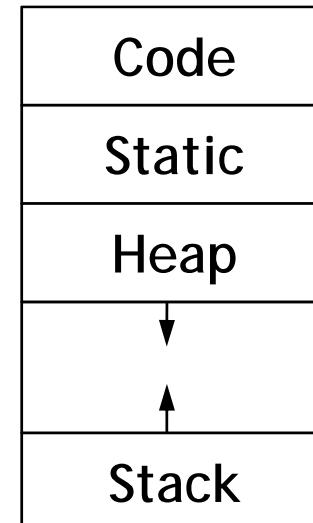
Outline

- Categories of Class Members
 - ✚ const Objects, const Member Functions, and const Data Members
 - ✚ static Data Members and static Member Functions
 - ✚ mutable Data Members
- Composition: Objects as Members of Classes
 - ✚ Nested and Local Classes
- friend Functions and friend Classes
- this: A Special Pointer



Using the `this` Pointer (1/3)

- It is a common knowledge that C++ keeps only one copy of each member function
- Member functions know which object's data members to manipulate
- Every object has access to its own address through a pointer called `this` (a C++ reserved word)



Using the `this` Pointer (2/3)

- The `this` pointer is passed (by the compiler) as an implicit argument to each of the object's non-static member functions
- A static member function does not have a `this` pointer
- The `this` pointer is not counted for calculating the size of the object (`sizeof`)



Using the this Pointer (3/3)

- Member functions use the this pointer implicitly or explicitly
 - ❖ Implicitly when accessing members directly
 - ❖ Explicitly when using keyword this
 - ❖ Example:

```
void Time::setHour(int h) { //implicitly  
    hour = h;  
}
```

```
void Time::setHour(int hour) { //explicitly  
    this->hour = hour;  
}
```



Using the this Pointer: An Example

```
1 // Fig. 10.16: fig10_16.cpp
2 // Using the this pointer to refer to object members.
3 #include <iostream>
4 using namespace std;
5
6 class Test
7 {
8 public:
9     Test( int = 0 ); // default constructor
10    void print() const; // print x using implicit and explicit this pointers;
11 private:
12     int x; // the parentheses around *this are required
13 }; // end class Test
14
15 // constructor
16 Test::Test( int value )
17     : x( value ) // initialize x
18 {
19     // empty body
20 } // end constructor Test
21
22 // print x using implicit and explicit this pointers;
23 // the parentheses around *this are required
24 void Test::print() const
25 {
26     // implicitly use the this pointer to access the member x
27     cout << "      x = " << x;
28
29     // explicitly use the this pointer and the arrow operator
30     // to access the member x
31     cout << "\n  this->x = " << this->x;
32
33     // explicitly use the dereferenced this pointer and
34     // the dot operator to access the member x
35     cout << "\n(*this).x = " << ( *this ).x << endl;
36 } // end function print
37
38 int main()
39 {
40     Test testObject( 12 ); // instantiate and initialize testObject
41
42     testObject.print();
43 } // end main
```



Enabling Cascaded Member-Function Calls

- Another use of the `this` pointer is to enable cascaded member-function calls
 - ◆ invoking multiple functions in the same statement
 - ◆ `object. foo(). bar();`



Time.h

```
6 #ifndef TIME_H
7 #define TIME_H
8
9 class Time
10 {
11 public:
12     Time( int = 0, int = 0, int = 0 ); // default constructor
13
14     // set functions (the Time & return types enable cascading)
15     Time &setTime( int, int, int ); // set hour, minute, second
16     Time &setHour( int ); // set hour
17     Time &setMinute( int ); // set minute
18     Time &setSecond( int ); // set second
19
20     // get functions (normally declared const)
21     int getHour() const; // return hour
22     int getMinute() const; // return minute
23     int getSecond() const; // return second
24
25     // print functions (normally declared const)
26     void printUniversal() const; // print universal time
27     void printStandard() const; // print standard time
28 private:
29     int hour; // 0 - 23 (24-hour clock format)
30     int minute; // 0 - 59
31     int second; // 0 - 59
32 }; // end class Time
33
34 #endif
```



Time.cpp

```
1 // Fig. 10.18: Time.cpp
2 // Time class member-function definitions.
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <iomanip>
5 #include "Time.h" // Time class definition
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 hr, int min, int sec )
12 {
13     setTime( hr, min, sec );
14 } // end Time constructor
15
16 // set values of hour, minute, and second
17 Time &Time::setTime( int h, int m, int s ) // note Time & return
18 {
19     setHour( h );
20     setMinute( m );
21     setSecond( s );
22     return *this; // enables cascading
23 } // end function setTime
```



A Client of Class Time

```
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include "Time.h" // Time class definition
5 using namespace std;
6
7 int main()
8 {
9     Time t; // create Time object
10
11    // cascaded function calls
12    t.setHour( 18 ).setMinute( 30 ).setSecond( 22 );
13
14    // output time in universal and standard formats
15    cout << "Universal time: ";
16    t.printUniversal();
17
18    cout << "\nStandard time: ";
19    t.printStandard();
20
21    cout << "\n\nNew standard time: ";
22
23    // cascaded function calls
24    t.setTime( 20, 20, 20 ).printStandard();
25    cout << endl;
26 } // end main
```

```
Universal time: 18:30:22
Standard time: 6:30:22 PM

New standard time: 8:20:20 PM
```

