

# Copy Ctor

Weng Kai

# problem

- For the code below

```
void f() {  
    Stash students();  
    ...  
}
```

Which statement is RIGHT for the line in function f()?

1. This is a variable definition, while students is an object of Stash, initialized w/ default ctor. *with*
- ✓ 2. This is a function prototype, while students is a function returns an object of Stash. *函数原型声明*
3. This is a function call.
4. This is illegal in C++.

# Copying

- Create a new object from an existing one
  - For example, when calling a function

```
// Currency as pass-by-value argument
```

```
void func(Currency p) {  
    cout << "X = " << p.dollars();  
}
```

```
...
```

```
Currency bucks(100, 0);
```

```
func(bucks); // bucks is copied into p
```

**Example: HowMany.cpp**

# The copy constructor

- Copying is implemented by the ***copy constructor***
- Has the unique signature

```
T::T(const T&) ;
```

  - Call-by-reference is used for the explicit argument
- C++ builds a copy ctor for you if you don't provide one!
  - Copies each member variable
    - Good for numbers, objects, arrays
  - Copies each pointer
    - Data may become shared!
- Example: HowMany2.cpp

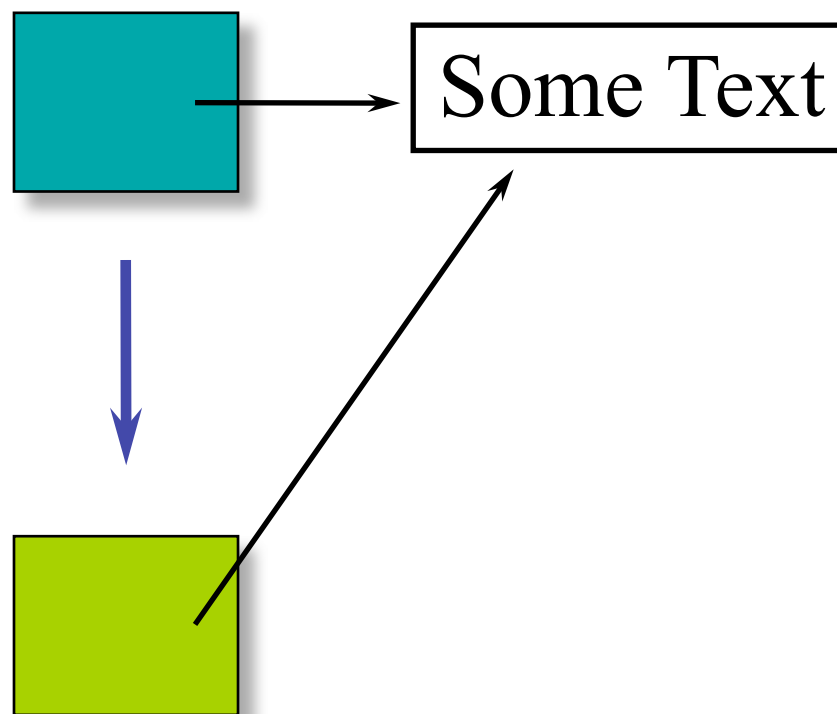
# What if class contains pointers?

```
class Person {  
public:  
    Person(const char *s);  
    ~Person();  
    void print();  
    // ... accessor functions  
private:  
    char *name;    // char * instead of string  
    //... more info e.g. age, address, phone  
};
```

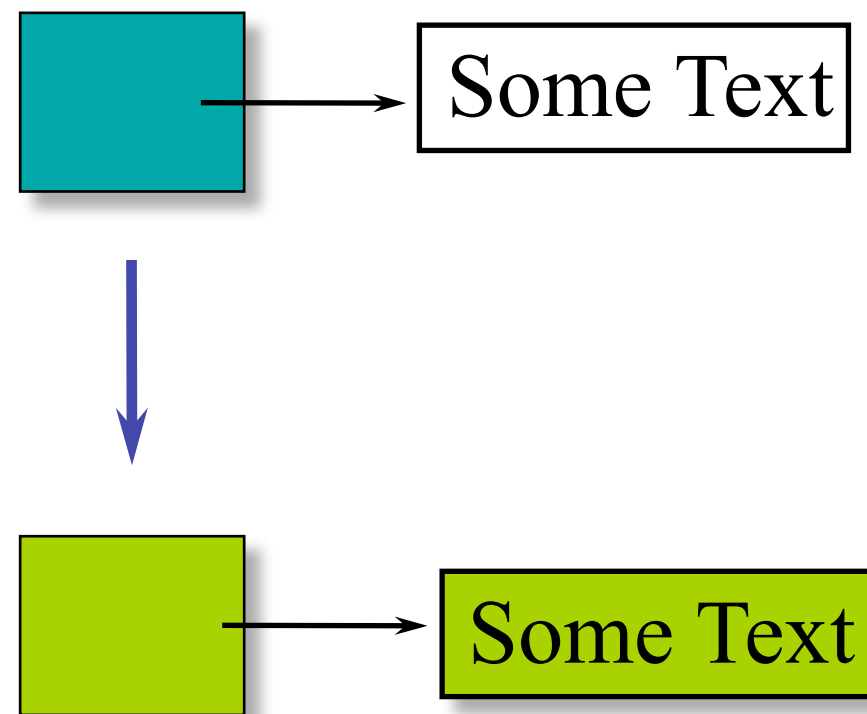
See: Person.h, Person.cpp

# Choices

*Copy pointer*

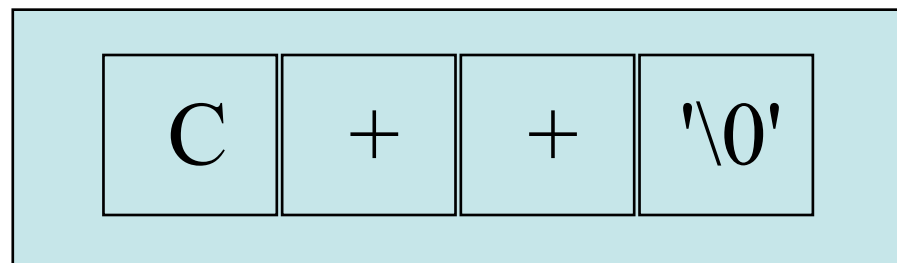


*Copy entire block*



# Character strings

- In C++, a character string is
  - An array of characters
  - With a special terminator — '\0' or ASCII null
- The string "C++" is represented, in memory, by an array of *four* (4, count'em) characters



# Standard C library String fxns

- Declared in `<cstring>`

```
size_t strlen(const char *s);
```

- s is a null-terminated string
- returns the length of s
- length does not include the terminator!

```
char *strcpy (char *dest, const char *src);
```

- Copies src to dest stopping after the terminating null-character is copied. (src should be null-terminated!)
- dest should have enough memory space allocated to contain src string.
- Return Value: returns dest



# Person (char\*) implementation

```
#include <cstring>           // #include <string.h>
using namespace std;

Person::Person( const char *s ) {
    name = new char[::strlen(s) + 1];
    ::strcpy(name, s);
}

Person::~~Person() {
    delete [] name;          // array delete
}
```

# Person copy constructor

- To Person declaration add copy ctor prototype:

```
Person( const Person& w );    // copy ctor
```

- To Person .cpp add copy ctor definition:

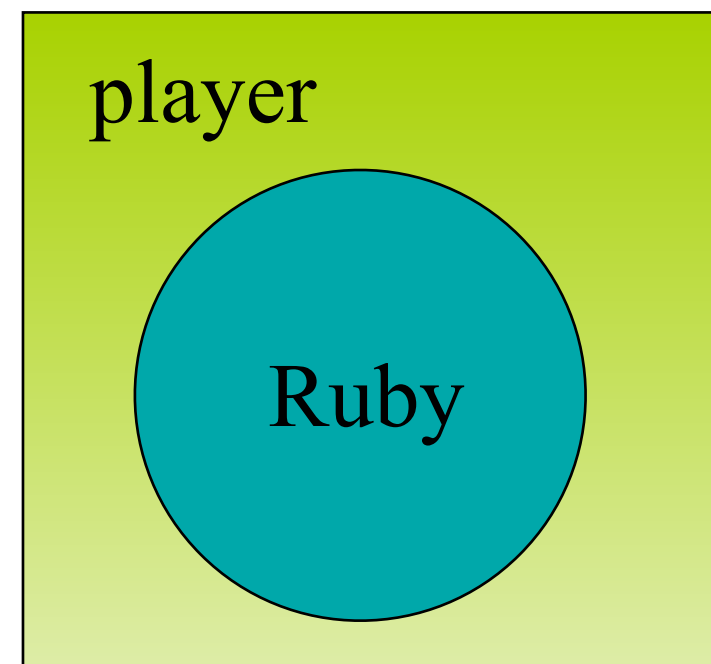
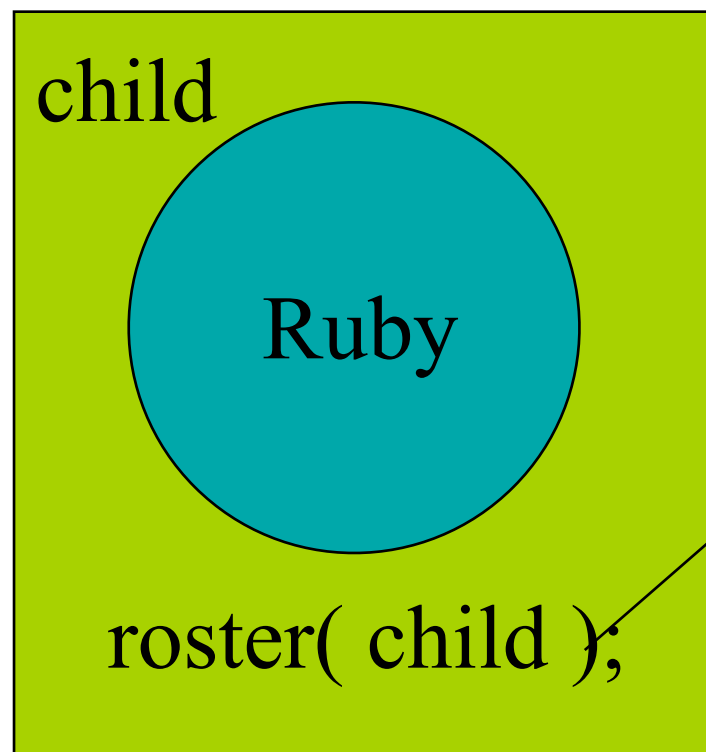
```
Person::Person( const Person& w ) {  
    name = new char[::strlen(w.name) + 1];  
    ::strcpy(name, w.name);  
}
```

- No value returned
- **Accesses** `w.name` across client boundary
- The copy ctor initializes uninitialized memory

# When are copy ctors called?

- During call by value

```
void roster( Person );           // declare  
function  
Person child( "Ruby" );         // create object  
roster( child );                 // call function  
void roster ( Person player );
```



# When are copy ctors called?

- During initialization

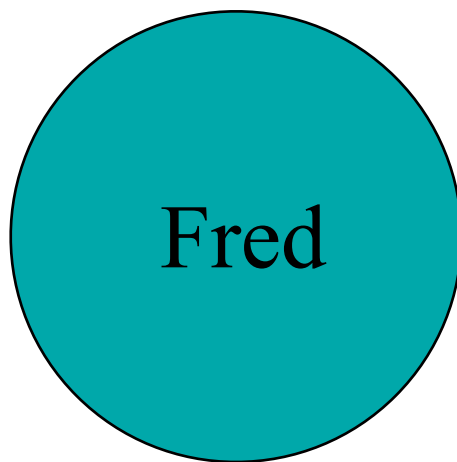
```
Person baby_a("Fred");
```

```
// these use the copy ctor
```

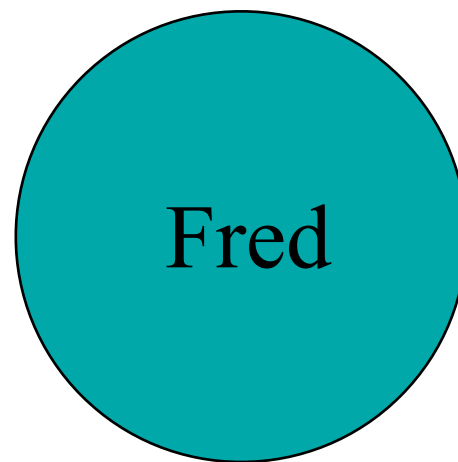
```
Person baby_b = baby_a;    // not an assignment
```

```
Person baby_c( baby_a );   // not an assignment
```

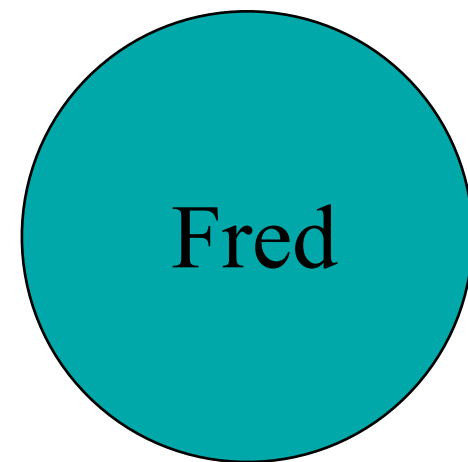
baby\_a



baby\_b



baby\_c



# When are copy ctors called?

- During function return

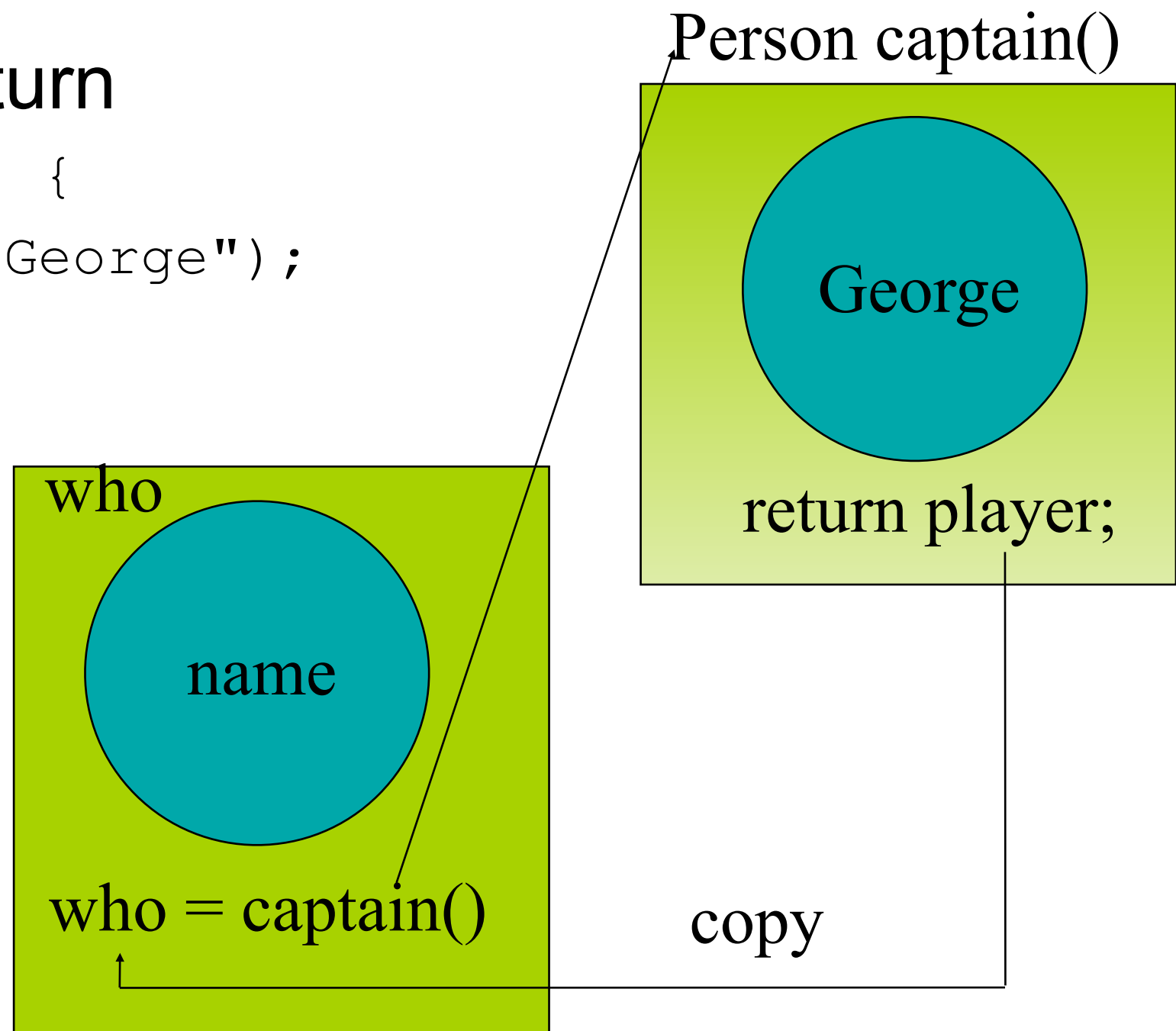
```
Person captain() {  
    Person player("George");  
    return player;  
}
```

...

```
Person who("");
```

...

Person who = captain()的话有两次拷贝构造  
who = captain()的话一次拷贝构造  
+一次拷贝赋值



# Copies and overhead

- Compilers can "optimize out" copies when safe!
- Programmers need to
  - Program for "dumb" compilers
  - Be ready to look for optimizations

# Example

```
Person copy_func( char *who ) {  
    Person local( who );  
    local.print();  
    return local; // copy ctor called!  
}
```

```
Person nocopy_func( char *who ) {  
    return Person( who );  
} // no copy needed!
```

中间没有发生变化，优化

# Constructions vs. assignment

- Every object is constructed once
- Every object should be destroyed once
  - Failure to invoke delete()
  - Invoking delete() more than once
- Once an object is constructed, it can be the target of many assignment operations



# Person: string name

- What if the name was a string (and not a char\*)

```
#include <string>
```

```
class Person {
```

```
public:
```

```
    Person( const string& );
```

```
    ~Person();
```

```
    void print();
```

```
    // ... other accessor fxns ...
```

```
private:
```

```
    string name;
```

```
    // ... other data members...
```

```
};
```

嵌入的对象

// embedded object (composition)

# Person: string name...

- In the default copy ctor, the compiler recursively calls the copy ctors for all member objects (and base classes).
- default is memberwise initialization
- Example: DefaultCopyConstructor.cpp

# Copy ctor guidelines

- In general, be explicit
  - Create your own copy ctor -- don't rely on the default
- If you don't need one declare a private copy ctor
  - prevents creation of a default copy constructor
  - generates a compiler error if try to pass-by-value
  - don't need a definition
- Example: NoCopyConstruction.cpp

# Overloaded Operators

# Overloading Operators

- Allows user-defined types to act like built in types
- Another way to make a function call.

内置

# 一元、二元 Overloaded operators

Unary and binary operators can be overloaded:

+ - \* / % ^ & | ~  
= < > += -= \*= /= %=  
^= &= |= << >> >>= <<= ==  
!= <= >= ! && || ++ --  
, ->\* -> () []

operator new          operator delete

operator new[]      operator delete[]

# Operators you can't overload

`.` `*.` `::` `?:`  
`sizeof` `typeid`  
`static_cast` `dynamic_cast` `const_cast`  
`reinterpret_cast`

# Restrictions

- Only existing operators can be overloaded (you can't create a `**` operator for exponentiation) 求幂
- Operators must be overloaded on a class or enumeration type
- Overloaded operators must
  - Preserve number of operands 保留操作数，加法是二元运算
  - Preserve precedence 保留优先级，加法和乘法



# C++ overloaded operator

- Just a function with an operator name!
  - Use the `operator` keyword as a prefix to name  
`operator * (...)`
- Can be a member function
  - Implicit first argument const, 不能作左值  
`const String String::operator +(const String& that);`
- Can be a global (free) function
  - Both arguments explicit  
`const String operator+(const String& r, const String& l);`

# How to overload

- As member function
  - Implicit first argument
  - No type conversion performed on receiver
  - Must have access to class definition

# Operators as member functions

```
class Integer {  
public:  
    Integer( int n = 0 ) : i(n) {}  
    const Integer operator+(const Integer& n) const {  
        return Integer(i + n.i);  
    }  
    ...  
private:  
    int i;  
};
```

**See: `OperatorOverloadingSyntax.cpp`**

# Member Functions

```
Integer x(1), y(5), z;
```

```
x + y;      ==> x.operator+(y);
```

- Implicit first argument
- Developer must have access to class definition
- Members have full access to all data in class
- No type conversion performed on receiver

```
z = x + y;  ✓
```

```
z = x + 3;  ✓
```

```
z = 3 + y;
```

x是receiver, y是developer

```
z = x + y;  x.operator+(y)
z = x + 3;  x.operator+(Integer(3))
z = 3 + y;
```

# Member Functions...

- For binary operators (+, -, \*, etc) member functions require one argument.
- For unary operators (unary -, !, etc) member functions require no arguments:

```
const Integer operator-() const {  
    return Integer(-i);  
}  
  
...  
z = -x;    // z.operator=(x.operator-()) ;
```

# How to overload

- As a global function
  - Explicit first argument
  - Type conversions performed on both arguments
  - Can be made a friend

# Operator as a global function

```
const Integer operator+(  
    const Integer& rhs,  
    const Integer& lhs);
```

```
Integer x, y;
```

```
x + y      ==> operator+(x, y);
```

- Explicit first argument
- Developer does not need special access to classes
- May need to be a friend
- Type conversions performed on both arguments

# Global operators (friend)

```
class Integer {  
    friend const Integer operator+ (  
        const Integer& lhs,  
        const Integer& rhs);  
  
    ...  
}  
  
const Integer operator+ (  
    const Integer& lhs,  
    const Integer& rhs) {  
    return Integer( lhs.i + rhs.i );  
}
```

friend关键字的作用是允许一个非成员函数（operator+）访问类的私有成员。



# Global Operators

- binary operators require two arguments
- unary operators require one argument
- conversion:

`z = x + y;`

`z = x + 3;`

`z = 3 + y;`

`z = 3 + 7;`

- If you don't have access to private data members, then the global function must use the public interface (e.g. accessors)

# Tips:Members vs. Free Functions

- Unary operators should be members
- `=` `()` `[]` `->` `->*` must be members
- assignment operators should be members
- All other binary operators as non-members

# Argument Passing

- if it is read-only pass it in as a const reference (except built-ins)
- make member functions const that don't change the class (boolean operators, +, -, etc)
- for global functions, if the left-hand side changes pass as a reference (assignment operators)

对于全局函数中的赋值运算符，如果你打算在函数内部修改左操作数并使其保持修改后的值，应该将左操作数声明为非常量引用（`MyClass& lhs`）。

# Return Values

- Select the return type depending on the expected meaning of the operator. For example,
  - For operator+ you need to generate a new object. Return as a const object so the result cannot be modified as an lvalue. 左值
  - Logical operators should return bool (or int for older compilers).

# The prototypes of operators

- `+ - * / % ^ & | ~`
  - `const T operatorX(const T& l, const T& r);`
- `! && || < <= == >= >`
  - `bool operatorX(const T& l, const T& r);`
- `[]` 取元素
  - `E& T::operator[](int index);`

# operators ++ and --

- How to distinguish postfix from prefix?
- postfix forms take an int argument -- compiler will pass in 0 as that int

```
class Integer {  
public:  
    ...  
    const Integer& operator++();    //prefix++  
    const Integer operator++(int); //postfix++  
    const Integer& operator--();    //prefix--  
    const Integer operator--(int); //postfix--  
    ...  
};
```

# Operators ++ and --

加const, ++a不能作为左值

```
const Integer& Integer::operator++() {  
    *this += 1;           // increment +=也是重载  
    return *this;        // fetch  
}                          ++在前, 前缀
```

```
// int argument not used so leave unnamed so  
// won't get compiler warnings  
const Integer Integer::operator++( int ) {  
    Integer old( *this );    // fetch  
    ++(*this); 调用了上面的operator // increment  
    return old;              // return  
}
```

# Using the overloaded ++ and --

```
// decrement operators similar to increment
Integer x(5);

++x;
    // calls x.operator++();

x++;
    // calls x.operator++(0);

--x;
    // calls x.operator--();

x--;
    // calls x.operator--(0);
```

- User-defined prefix is more efficient than postfix.



# Relational operators

- implement `!=` in terms of `==` 用==来实现!=
- implement `>`, `>=`, `<=` in terms of `<`

```
class Integer {  
    public:  
        ...  
    bool operator==( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
    bool operator!=( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
    bool operator<( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
    bool operator>( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
    bool operator<=( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
    bool operator>=( const Integer& rhs ) const;  
}
```

# Relational operators

```
bool Integer::operator==( const Integer& rhs ) const {  
    return i == rhs.i;  
}  
  
// implement lhs != rhs in terms of !(lhs == rhs)  
bool Integer::operator!=( const Integer& rhs ) const {  
    return !(*this == rhs);  
}  
  
bool Integer::operator<( const Integer& rhs ) const {  
    return i < rhs.i;  
}
```

# Relational Operators...

```
// implement lhs > rhs in terms of lhs < rhs
bool Integer::operator>( const Integer& rhs ) const {
    return rhs < *this;
}

// implement lhs <= rhs in terms of !(rhs < lhs)
bool Integer::operator<=( const Integer& rhs ) const {
    return !(rhs < *this);
}

// implement lhs >= rhs in terms of !(lhs < rhs)
bool Integer::operator>=( const Integer& rhs ) const {
    return !(*this < rhs);
}
```

# Operator []

- Must be a member function
- Single argument
- Implies that the object it is being called for acts like an array, so it should return a reference

```
Vector v(100);    // create a vector of size 100
```

```
v[10] = 45;
```

(Note: if returned a pointer you would need to do:

```
*v[10] = 45;
```

See: `vector.h`, `vector.cpp`