

18 - CLASSES in C++

sexta-feira, 7 de fevereiro de 2025 07:01

- OOP is a style on how to write your code
- C++ doesn't implement certain implies but support it
- way to group data and functionalities together
- Variables made of class are called object variables
 - And a new object is an instance of that class
- Defining a class we define the visibility of the variables and functions
 - By default the visibility is private, need to specify as public to access or protected
- Functions inside classes are called methods
- USEFUL TO GROUP THINGS TOGETHER AND ADD FUNCTIONALITIES TO THE OBJECT

CLASSES in C++



CLASSES vs STRUCTS in C++

- Kinda similar one
- there is no much difference
- the main difference is the visibility options in structures (private, public, protected)
 - Class is private by default
 - struct the default is public
- But this is technically, but the use in code may differ
- struct exists by backward compatibility with previous versions
 - the compiler wouldn't know what it was in old codes
- The usage differs
 - That is not right or wrong answer, differ by opinion
- struct used just to represent variables
- Never use a structure with inheritance, go to classes

How to Write a C++ Class

- Log class to manage the log messages, used for debug process
- console is like a information dump
- Defined simple functions, member variables (public and private)
- Instantiated in main and also used the public functions

Static in C++

- 2 meanings:
 - outside of a class
 - Linkage of that symbol will be internal, only visible to that translation unit that you are working with (translation unit = file)
 - Inside of a class
 - All instances of that class will share the same memory, will only be one instance of that static variable across all instances of the class
- Focus on static outside of a class

Static for Classes and Structs in C++

- If used with a variable
 - Only one instance of that variable across all instances of that class
 - If one of the entity changes that variable, it'll affect all other instances
 - Better to update the value by its class than instance
 - By instance could cause confusion and bugs
- Static method
 - Don't have access to the class instance
 - call without a class instance
 - can't write code that refers to a class instance

```
struct StaticEntity22
{
    static int x22, y22;

    void Print()
    {
        std::cout << "Entity 22 x22 " << x22 << " y22 " << y22 << std::endl;
    }
};

// When making this variables static, we need to initialize
// them without any instantiation
int StaticEntity22::x22;
int StaticEntity22::y22;

int main()
{
    StaticEntity22 se22;
    se22.x22 = 2;
    se22.y22 = 3;
    se22.Print();
}
```

```
94     StaticEntity22 se22;
95     se22.x22 = 2;
96     se22.y22 = 3;
97     se22.Print();

98
99
100 // StaticEntity22 se22_2 = {5, 8}; // This would fail for static
101 StaticEntity22 se22_2; // This would fail for static classes
102 // se22_2.x22 = 5;
103 // se22_2.y22 = 8;
104 se22_2.Print(); // result should be the same as the other instance

105
106 // we can access them by the class and not by the instance
107 // And it'll change its value
108 StaticEntity22::x22 = 5;
109 StaticEntity22::y22 = 8;
110 StaticEntity22::Print(); // 5, 8

111
112 // Not static struct parameters
113 Entity22 e22;
114
115 e22.x22 = 2;
116 e22.y22 = 3;
117 e22.Print();

118
119 Entity22 e22_2 = { 5, 8 };

120
121 e22_2.Print();

122
```

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

Hey
Hey
Hey

```

StaticEntity22 se22;
e22.x22 = 2;
e22.y22 = 3;
e22.Print();

// StaticEntity22 se22_2 = {5, 8}; // This would fail for static classes
StaticEntity22 se22_2; // This would fail for static classes
e22.x22 = 5;
e22.y22 = 8;
e22.Print();

```

```

Hey
Hey
Hey

Hey
root@aee12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# ./HelloWorld
Static Entity 22 x22 2 Y22 3
Static Entity 22 x22 2 Y22 3
Static Entity 22 x22 5 Y22 8
Entity 22 x22 2 Y22 3
Entity 22 x22 5 Y22 8

```

Can access a non-static variable within a class, t generates na error

```

struct StaticEntity22
{
    // static int x22, y22;
    int x22, y22;

    static void Print(){
        std::cout << "Static Entity 22 x22 " << x22 << " Y22 " << y22 << std::endl;
    }
};

```

Constructors in C++

- Special type of method that runs each time we instantiate an object
- When we instantiate a class without initializing the parameters, there is no actual value and they would receive garbage
- To declare it, there is no return type and needs to match the name of the class
 - Can optionally give parameters
- Has to manually initialize the primitive values, otherwise it'll get garbage in C++
 - Other languages may have different behaviours
- We can write as many constructors as we want, but with different parameters to have different signatures
- Can define class with static properties and methods, and don't want to instantiate nothing (no constructors)
 - <Class Name>() = delete;

Destructors in C++

- Even though the destructor kkk
- Call every time when destroy an object
 - Usually free and uninitialized and clean memory that will not use anymore
 - If initialized objects with new, the destructor will delete them
- Destroyed in the end of the scope... if in a function, will be destroyed when leaving the function
- Used to delete memory allocation, in the heap for example.... or any other initialization
- But is not very common

Inheritance in C++

- Allows us to have inheritance of classes that relates with each other
- Create subclasses from a parent class
- Avoid code duplication
 - Put duplicated code into a base class
 - So we don't need to keep implementing that
- Polymorphism is the idea of having multiple types of a single type
 - We can use a sub class whenever we want to use the base class
- The subclass always has everything that the base class has
- Used all the time to extend an existing class
 - Separate responsibilities

Virtual Functions in C++

- Allows us to override methods in our derived method
- If created a virtual function in class A, we have the option to override them in the base class B
 - To do something else
- Virtual functions introduce something called dynamic dispatch
 - Based on a V table for all the virtual functions, so we can match to the correct function we desire
 - If you want to override a function, you need to mock the base function
- If not declared as virtual, the function associated with the class itself, if we call a method from a base class, the base class behavior will prevail. If virtual is defined, the vtable will determine the correct function to use based on the object calling and not just the class
- Maybe costly but the impact is minimal, don't worry

```

172 void PrintFunction26()
173 {
174     // Object will be created and deleted within this function
175     // Deleted when leaving it
176     Entity24 e24_6(10, 11);
177     e24_6.Print();
178 }
179
180 int main()
181 {
182     PrintFunction26();
183 }

```

```

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

Destroyed Entity!
Destroyed Entity!
Destroyed Entity!
● root@aee12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# ./HelloWorld
Created Entity!
Entity 24 x24 10 Y24 11
Destroyed Entity!
Created Entity!

```

```

219 class Entity27
220 {
221 public:
222     // generate a v table for this function so if it is overridden,
223     // we can call the proper function
224     virtual std::string GetName() {return "Entity27"; }
225 };
226
227 class EntitySub27 : public Entity27
228 {
229 private:
230     std::string m_Name;
231 public:
232     EntitySub27(const std::string& name)
233         : m_Name(name) {}

234     std::string GetName() {return m_Name; }
235 };
236
237
238
239
240
241 int main()
242 {
243     Entity27* e27 = new Entity27();
244     std::cout << e27->GetName() << std::endl;
245
246     EntitySub27* esub27 = new EntitySub27("Hugo");
247     std::cout << esub27->GetName() << std::endl;
248
249     // things starts to crac, this is actually a player but references the base class
250     // So we get the base class method output
251     Entity27* e27_2 = esub27;
252     // if not virtual function output is "entity27"
253     // if virtual function output is "hugo"
254     std::cout << e27_2->GetName() << std::endl;
255
256
257     std::cout << "" << std::endl;

```

Interfaces in C++ (Pure Virtual Functions)

- Pure virtual functions

- Define a function in the base class that doesn't have an implementation
- force subclasses to actually implement that function
 - No base method definitions, implement in the inherited class is not optional
- Need to define the method as virtual and add a =0 to the end of the declaration, instead of the function body
 - Also, we can't instantiate that class

Visibility in C++

- Belongs to OO
- How visible some members or methods under a class are
- No effect on how things run or in the performance,
- Just exist to write better code and organize things
 - Private
 - Only this class and friend ones can access this classmembers and methods
 - Protected
 - The base class and all the inheritance classes can access the members and methods
 - But outside of that chain is not possible
 - Public
 - Anyone can access the members and methods, no need to be in the chain of inheritance
- Where to use
 - Idea for been a developer and write code
 - code easy to maintain and understand
 - For other people to extend the code as well
 - what can be used or not
 - If something is private, the developer shouldn't access this by another class. Increase maintainability
 - If I never used a class and got some members as private, I know that I can't access or call it directly

Member Initializer Lists in C++ (Constructor Initializer List)

- Way to initialize out member from a class in a constructor
- Some way to initialize those members
- We use to do this for make it easier to write code, and make it cleaner and make it easier to ready
- If write code as before, assign them as variable. The constructor will be defined twice
 - One with the default one, with the initializer list
 - And another with the implementation assigning parameters to member variables (as usual)
 - We ended up creating 2 entities
 - In this case will waste performance

```
class Entity35
{
private:
    int m_Score; // Defined out of order, compared to the initialization
    std::string m_Name;

public:
    // same thing...
    // Some compilers will complain about this out of order thing
    // Always initialize them in the same order as we declare it
    // Entity35() : m_Name("Unknown"), m_Score(0) {}
    Entity35() : m_Score(0), m_Name("Unknown") {}
    // {
    //     m_Name = "Unknown";
    // }

    Entity35(const std::string& name) : m_Score(0), m_Name(name) {}
    // {
    //     m_Name = name;
    // }
    const std::string& GetName() const {return m_Name; }
};

int main()
{
    Entity35 e35;
    std::cout << e35.GetName() << std::endl;

    Entity35 e35_2("Hugo");
    std::cout << e35_2.GetName() << std::endl;

    std::cout << "" << std::endl;
}
```

How to CREATE/INstantiate OBJECTS in C++

- When we create a class and comes the time to use it, we usually need to instantiate it
- We have two choices, and the difference is where the memory comes from. Which memory we are going to create the object in
 - Stack
 - The lifetime is defined by the scope it's in. When the scope ends, the memory gets free

- o Heap
 - Once we allocate something there, it's gonna sit there until the end of the program
 - Only use heap if the object is really really big or if you need outside of the scope
 - This can cause memory leak... and this is bad...

```

418
● 419 int main()
420 {
421
422     // Create on the stack
423
424     // stack is usually small... if large objects are large... we need to allocate on the heap
425     // call the default constructor ( we need to have it)
426     // If we can create objects like this... do it...
427     // It's the fastest way and also the most reliable in terms of memory management
428     // Because it'll be deallocated in the end of the scope
429     Entity37 entity37;
430     Entity37 entity37_2("Hugo");
431
432     std::cout << entity37.GetName() << std::endl;
433     std::cout << entity37_2.GetName() << std::endl;
434
435     // We can't do that if we want to make the instance live outside of that particular scope
436     // Scopes can also be if statements
437     Function();
438
439     Entity37* e37;
440     {
441         Entity37 entity37_4("Hugo inside the scope");
442         e37 = &entity37_4;
443         std::cout << entity37_4.GetName() << std::endl;
444     }
445     // This entity37_4 is gone... appears trash in the console... interesting...
446     std::cout << e37->GetName() << std::endl;
447
448     Entity37* e37_2;
449     {
450         // Returns the location on the heap where the object is actually allocated
451         Entity37* entity37_5 = new Entity37("Hugo inside the 2 scope");
452         e37_2 = entity37_5;
453         std::cout << entity37_5->GetName() << std::endl;
454
455         // The same content is in the e37_2... kept for outside the scope ( when we know the location from the heap )
456         std::cout << e37_2->GetName() << std::endl;
457         delete e37_2;
458         std::cout << e37_2->GetName() << std::endl;
459
460
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
○ root@aeed748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build#
○ root@aeed748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build#
● root@aeed748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# ./HelloWorld
Unknown
Hugo
Hugo inside the scope
Hugo inside the 2 scope
Hugo inside the 2 scope
Hugo inside the 2 scope
5
-- Generating done
-- Build files have been modified since generation
Consolidating compilations
[ 20%] Building CXX object CMakeFiles/HelloWorld.dir/main.cpp.o
[ 40%] Linking CXX executable HelloWorld
[100%] Built target HelloWorld
● root@aeed748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build#
-- Source directory has changed
-- Configuring done
-- Generating done
-- Build files have been modified since generation

```

The NEW Keyword in C++

- Programming in C++ you need to care about performance
- Understand new is very important
- Not equal to C# or Java
- new allocate memory in the heap, as the necessary size in bytes of memory
 - needs to find a block in memory that has the amount of bytes in a row and return
- When call new, it takes time
- give us a pointer to that memory in the heap

```

int a38 = 2; // stack
int* b38 = new int; // 4 bytes allocated in the heap ( returns a pointer )
int* c38 = new int[5]; // 200 bytes allocated in the heap ( returns a pointer )

// new actually calls the malloc(50) function -> which allocates the amount of memory we need and return a pointer
// The only difference is that using new we call the class constructor
// Allocate the memory and call the constructor
Entity37* e37_38 = new Entity37(); // pointer to a block of heap memory

// It's an operator and we can overload it

if(a38) std::cout << a38 << std::endl;
if(b38) std::cout << b38 << std::endl;
if(c38) std::cout << c38 << std::endl;

// When we use the new keyword, we need to delete to free the heap memory
// Memory is not automatically released
delete b38;
delete[] c38;
delete e37_38;

std::cout << "" << std::endl;

```

Object Lifetime in C++ (Stack/Scope Lifetimes)

- How objects live in stack
- Can be seen as a data structure that we can stack things on top of each other
- We need to go line by line to access something in the middle
- Scope can be anything from a function scope, if statement scope, for loop, or empty scope
 - We also have a scope for classes
- In a stack, when something goes out of scope, the stack deletes it

The screenshot shows a terminal window with the following content:

```
530
531 int main()
532 {
533     // Scopes -- Out of this scope e42 will be destroyed but e42_2 won't
534     Entity42 e42;
535     Entity42* e42_2 = new Entity42();
536     if(e42_2)
537     {
538         std::cout<< "" << std::endl;
539     }
540
541
542     std::cout<< "" << std::endl;
543 }
```

TERMINAL PORTS

```
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
● root@ae12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# if(e42_2)clear
bash: syntax error near unexpected token `clear'
○ root@ae12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# if(e42_2)clear
bash: syntax error near unexpected token `clear'
● root@ae12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# ./HelloWorld
Create Entity42
Create Entity42
Delete Entity42
Delete Entity42
```

28

The screenshot shows a terminal window with the following content:

```
545 class ScopedPointer42
546 {
547     private:
548         Entity42* m_Ptr;
549     public:
550         ScopedPointer42(Entity42* e) : m_Ptr(e) {}
551         ~ScopedPointer42() { delete m_Ptr; }
552     };
553
554 int main()
555 {
556     // Scopes -- Out of this scope e42 will be destroyed but e42_2 won't
557     {
558         Entity42 e42;
559         Entity42* e42_2 = new Entity42();
560         if(e42_2)
561         {
562             // int array[4250];
563             // int a42 = CreateArray42();
564
565             // Let's go back to the e42_2 example, we want to delete it when it gets out of scope
566             // Instead of writing new Entity42 to initialize e42_2, we can do the following
567
568             ScopedPointer42 e42_3 = new Entity42();
569
570             // In this case e42_3 gets deleted since it's a scoped class in the stack.
571             // And the destructor will delete the member variable defined with the new Entity42
572         }
573
574
575         std::cout<< "" << std::endl;
576
577
578         Vector2_40 position40(4.0f, 2.0f);
579         Vector2_40 speed40(4.0f, 2.0f);
580         // ...
581     }
582 }
```

TERMINAL PORTS

```
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
● root@ae12d748e6b:/src/Dev/Helloworld/out/build# ./HelloWorld
Create Entity42
Create Entity42
Create Entity42
Delete Entity42
Delete Entity42
Delete Entity42
```

Local Static in C++

- Defining static variables in local
- Allows us to define variable that has a lifetime of our entire program
 - However, the scope is within this function only
 - Any scope
- We can achieve by other means, but this is very useful

```
710 class Singleton48
711 {
712     private:
713     static Singleton48* s_Instance;
714     public:
715     static Singleton48& Get() { return *s_Instance; }
716 
717     void Hello();
718 }
719 
720 // Exactly the same behavior but using the static instance instead of the privat definition
721 // Due to the static instance definition, the object doesn't get destroyed and every time we call the
722 // Singleton instance, we get the same one. Ensuring the singleton properties
723 class Singleton48_2
724 {
725     public:
726         static Singleton48& Get()
727         {
728             static Singleton48_2 instance;
729             return instance;
730         }
731 
732     void Hello();
733 }
734 
735 };
736 
737 Singleton48* Singleton48::s_Instance = nullptr;
738 
739 int main()
740 {
741     // The same, one with privet constructor and another with static instance
742     Singleton48::Get.Hello()
743     Singleton48_2::Get.Hello()
744 
745     // When i cal Function48 for the first time, this variable (i48) will be initialized to zero
746     // And in subsequent calls to this function, this variable will not be initialized again
747     // The lifetime of that variable will last the hole program but only inside that scope
748     Function48();
749     Function48();
750     Function48();
751     Function48();
752     Function48();
753 
754     std::cout<< "" << std::endl;
755 }
```