# Topic 10

INHERITANCE

# Intro to Inheritance

OSTREAM & OSTRINGSTREAM

## ostream & ostringstream

When we think about our print header function

What is different between this and when we output our function to the screen?

```
oFile << vs cout <<
```

Remember oFile and cout are variables

• Why can't we pass them in as arguments?

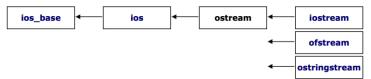
#### **BECAUSE THEY ARE DIFFERENT DATA TYPES!**

There are two solutions to writing 2 separate functions

- ostream or
- ostringstream

### **Output Stream**

Output stream datatype can be used to represent different types of output objects such as files, console and output string



We can use an ostream datatype to allow a function to output either to a file or to console (cout)

### Ostream

oFile is datatype ofstream cout is datatype ostream ofstream is a subtype of ostream

So, we can pass an ofstream variable into an ostream parameter

- But we can't pass an ostream variable into an ofstream parameter
- Why not? → ostream is not a file variable it can't open or close

We can declare our function like this:

void PrintHeader(ostream &output,...

And then we have two options for how we can call the function:

- PrintHeader (cout, ...
- PrintHeader (oFile, ...

Hence, the calling function decides where the output will go!!!

# Ostringstream

Another option is to return the header as a string

```
string PrintHeader(string asName, char asType, int asNum);
```

How can we do that? If we have this in our code:

```
output << "\n* " << setw(14)
```

Insertion operators and therefore output manipulators only work with output stream variables

The ostringstream datatype solves this

- · Acts like a stream
- Easily converts to a string with .str()

You will need to #include <sstream>

## Ostringstream (2)

```
In the function declare an ostringstream variable
```

```
ostringstream output;
```

Use it as you would an ostream variable

```
output << "\n* " << setw(14)
```

And return it as a string by using .str()

return output.str();

This converts the oss to a string

And now we can call it like this:

cout << PrintHeader("Functions", 'L', 1);</pre>

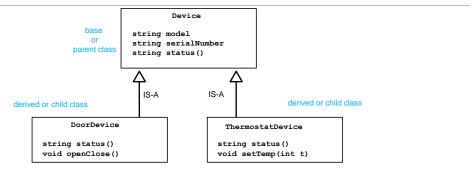
We could have specfied oFile

### Inheritance Basics

Inheritance is the process by which a new class, called a derived class, is created from another class, called the base class

- · A derived class automatically has all the member variables and functions of the base class
- A derived class can have additional member variables and/or member functions
- The derived class is a child of the base or parent class

# Example Inheritance Hierarchy for Home Automation Devices



An object of type <code>DoorDevice</code> of <code>ThermostatDevice</code> includes functions and variables defined in <code>Device</code>, such as <code>model</code> and <code>serialNumber</code>.

The status() function can be overridden. If a <code>DoorDevice</code> object is treated like a <code>Device</code> object, then calling status() will invoke <code>DoorDevice</code>'s status() function, not <code>Device</code>'s status() function. This is necessary when the <code>Device</code> class doesn't know what to return as a status and only the derived classes can return the information.

# **Employee Classes**

To design a record-keeping program with records for salaried and hourly employees...

- Salaried and hourly employees belong to a class of people who share the property "employee"
- A subset of employees are those with a fixed wage
- · Another subset of employees earn hourly wages

All employees have a name and SSN

• Functions to manipulate name and SSN are the same for hourly and salaried employees

### A Base Class

We will define a class called Employee for all employees

 The Employee class will be used to define subclasses for hourly and salaried employees

```
class Employee
public:
       Employee();
       Employee(string the_name,
                string the_ssn);
       string get_name() const;
       string get_ssn() const;
       double get_net_pay() const;
       void
              set_name(string new_name);
       void
              set_ssn(string new_ssn);
       void
              set_net_pay(double new_net_pay);
       void
              print_check() const;
private:
       string name;
       string ssn;
       double net_pay;
};
```

```
//This is the file: employee.cpp
//Implementation file for Base Class Employee
#include <string>
#include <cstdlib>
#include <iostream>
#include "employee.h"
using namespace std;
Employee::Employee(): name("No name yet"), ssn("No number yet"), net_pay(0)
{}
Employee::Employee(string the_name,
                  string the_number): name(the_name), ssn(the_number), net_pay(0)
{}
string Employee::get_name() const
        return name;
string Employee::get_ssn() const{
{
        return ssn;
}
```

```
double Employee::get_net_pay() const
{
         return net_pay;
}
void Employee::set_name(string new_name)
         name = new_name;
void Employee::set_ssn(string new_ssn)
         ssn = new_ssn;
void Employee::set_net_pay(double new_net_pay)
{
         net_pay = new_net_pay;
}
void Employee::print_check() const
         cout << "\nError: print_check FUNCTION CALLED FOR AN \n"</pre>
              << "UNDIFFERENTIATED EMPLOYEE. Aborting the program.\n"</pre>
              << "Check with the author of the program about this bug.\n";</pre>
         exit(1);
}
```

# Function print\_check

Function **print\_check** will have different definitions to print different checks for each type of employee

- An **Employee** object lacks sufficient information to print a check
- Each derived class will have sufficient information to print a check

# Class HourlyEmployee

HourlyEmployee is derived from Class Employee

- HourlyEmployee inherits all member functions and member variables of Employee

  Shows that HourlyEmployee is derived
- The class definition begins

class HourlyEmployee : public Employee

- HourlyEmployee declares additional member variables:
  - wage\_rate
  - hours

```
#ifndef HOURLYEMPLOYEE_H
#define HOURLYEMPLOYEE_H
#include <string>
#include "employee.h"
using namespace std;
class HourlyEmployee: public Employee
public:
        HourlyEmployee();
        HourlyEmployee(string the_name,
                       string the_ssn,
                       double the_wage_rate,
                       double the_hours);
        void set_rate(double new_wage_rate);
        double get_rate() const;
        void set_hours(double hourse_worked);
        double get_hours() const;
        void print_check();
private:
        double wage_rate;
        double hours;
#endif //HOURLYEMPLOYEE_H
```

### Inherited Members

A derived class inherits all the members of the parent class

- The derived class does not re-declare or re-define members inherited from the parent, except...
  - The derived class re-declares and re-defines member functions of the parent class that will have a different definition in the derived class
  - The derived class can add member variables and functions

## Implementing a Derived Class

Any member functions added in the derived class are defined in the implementation file for the derived class

• Definitions are not given for inherited functions that are not to be changed

```
void HourlyEmployee::set_hours(double hours_worked)
        hours = hours_worked;
}
double HourlyEmployee::get_hours() const
        return hours;
}
void HourlyEmployee::print_check()
        set_net_pay(hours * wage_rate);
        cout << "Pay to the order of " << get_name() << endl;</pre>
        cout << "The sum of " << get_net_pay() << " Dollars\n";</pre>
        cout << "\n_
        cout << "Check Stub: NOT NEGOTIABLE\n";</pre>
        cout << "Employee Number: " << get_ssn() << endl;</pre>
        cout << "Hourly Employee. \nHours worked: " << hours;</pre>
              << " Rate: " << wage_rate << " Pay: " << get_net_pay() << endl;</pre>
        cout << "_
}
```

# Class SalariedEmployee

The class **SalariedEmployee** is also derived from Employee

- Function print\_check is redefined to have a meaning specific to salaried employees
- SalariedEmployee adds a member variable salary

```
#ifndef SALARIEDEMPLOYEE_H
#define SALARIEDEMPLOYEE_H
#include <string>
#include "employee.h"
using namespace std;
class SalariedEmployee : public Employee
{
public:
    SalariedEmployee();
    SalariedEmployee(string the_name,
                      string the_ssn,
                      double the_weekly_salary);
    double get_salary() const;
          set_salary(double new_salary);
    void
           print_check();
private:
    double salary; //weekly
};
#endif
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include "salariedemployee.h"
using namespace std;
SalariedEmployee::SalariedEmployee() : Employee(), salary(0)
SalariedEmployee::SalariedEmployee(string the_name,
                                   string the_number,
                                   double the_weekly_salary)
                                    :Employee(the_name, the_number), salary(the_weekly_salary)
{}
double SalariedEmployee::get_salary() const
{
    return salary;
}
void SalariedEmployee::set_salary(double new_salary)
    salary = new_salary;
```

```
void SalariedEmployee::print_check()
{
    set_net_pay(salary);

    cout << "\n_______\n";
    cout << "Pay to the order of " << get_name() << endl;
    cout << "The sum of " << get_net_pay() << " Dollars\n";
    cout << "\n______\n";
    cout << "Check Stub: NOT NEGOTIABLE\n";
    cout << "Employee Number: " << get_ssn() << endl;
    cout << "Salaried Employee. \nRegular Pay: " << salary;
    cout << "______\n";
}</pre>
```

### Parent and Child Classes

Recall that a child class automatically has all the members of the parent class

The parent class is an ancestor of the child class

The child class is a descendent of the parentclass

The parent class (Employee) contains all the code common to the child classes

You do not have to re-write the code for each child

# **Derived Class Types**

An hourly employee is an employee

- In C++, an object of type HourlyEmployee can be used where an object of type Employee can be used
- An object of a class type can be used wherever any of its ancestors can be used
- An ancestor cannot be used wherever one of its descendants can be used

### **Derived Class Constructors**

#### A base class constructor is not inherited in a derived class

- Base class constructor can be invoked by the constructor of the derived class
- Constructor of a derived class begins by invoking the constructor of the base class in the initialization section:
- HourlyEmployee::HourlyEmployee : Employee(), wage\_rate(0), hours(0){}

  Any Employee constructor could be invoked

### **Default Initialization**

If a derived class constructor does not invoke a base class constructor explicitly, the base class default constructor will be used

If class B is derived from class A and class C is derived from class B

- When a object of class C is created
  - The base class A's constructor is the first invoked
  - Class B's constructor is invoked next
  - C's constructor completes execution

### Private is Private

A member variable (or function) that is private in the parent class is not accessible to the child class

- The parent class member functions must be used to access the private members of the parent
- This code would be illegal:

```
void HourlyEmployee::print_check( )
{
    net_pay = hours * wage_rage;
```

• net\_pay is a private member of Employee!

# The protected Qualifier

protected members of a class appear to be private outside the class, but are accessible by derived classes

o If member variables name, net\_pay, and ssn are listed as protected (not private) in the Employee
class, this code, illegal on the previous slide, becomes legal:
 HourlyEmployee::print\_check( )
 {
 net\_pay = hours \* wage\_rage;

# Programming Style

Using protected members of a class is a convenience to facilitate writing the code of derived classes.

Protected members are not necessary

· Derived classes can use the public methods of their ancestor classes to access private members

Many programming authorities consider it bad style to use protected member variables

### Redefinition of Member Functions

When defining a derived class, only list the inherited functions that you wish to change for the derived class

- The function is declared in the class definition.
- HourlyEmployee and SalariedEmployee each have their own definitions of print\_check

```
#include <iostream>
#include "hourlyemployee.h"
#include "salariedemployee.h"
using namespace std;
int main()
    HourlyEmployee joe;
    joe.set_name("Mighty Joe");
    joe.set_ssn("123-45-6789");
    joe.set_rate(20.50);
    joe.set_hours(40);
    cout << "Check for " << joe.get_name()</pre>
         << " for " << joe.get_hours() << " hours.\n";
    joe.print_check();
    cout << endl;</pre>
    SalariedEmployee boss("Mr. Big Shot", "987-65-4321", 10500.50);
    cout << "Check for " << boss.get_name() << endl;</pre>
    boss.print_check();
    return 0;
}
```

Check for Might Joe for 40 hours.

Pay to the order of Mighty Joe The sum of 820 Dollars

Check Stub: NOT NEGOTIABLE Employee Number: 123-45-6789

Hourly Employee.

Hours worked: 40 Rate: 20.5 Pay: 820

Check for Mr. Big Shot

Pay to the order of Mr. Big Shot The sum of 10500.5 Dollars

Check Stub NOT NEGOTIABLE Employee Number: 987-65-4321

Salaried Employee. Regular Pay: 10500.5

# Redefining or Overloading

A function redefined in a derived class has the same number and type of parameters

• The derived class has only one function with the same name as the base class

An overloaded function has a different number and/or type of parameters than the base class

- The derived class has two functions with the same name as the base class
  - One is defined in the base class, one in the derived class

## Function Signatures

A function signature is the function's name with the sequence of types in the parameter list, not including any const or '&'

An overloaded function has multiple signatures

Some compilers allow overloading based on including const or not including const

### Access to a Redefined Base Function

When a base class function is redefined in a derived class, the base class function can still be used

• To specify that you want to use the base class version of the redefined function:

```
HourlyEmployee sally_h;
sally_h.Employee::print_check( );
```

INHERITANCE DETAILS

### Inheritance Details

Some special functions are, for all practical purposes, not inherited by a derived class

- Some of the special functions that are not effectively inherited by a derived class include
  - Destructors
  - Copy constructors
  - The assignment operator

## Copy Constructors and Derived Classes

If a copy constructor is not defined in a derived class, C++ will generate a default copy constructor

- This copy constructor copies only the contents of member variables and will not work with pointers and dynamic variables
- The base class copy constructor will not be used

# Operator = and Derived Classes

If a base class has a defined assignment operator = and the derived class does not:

· C++ will use a default operator that will have nothing to do with the base class assignment operator

## Destructors and Derived Classes

A destructor is not inherited by a derived class

The derived class should define its own destructor

# The Assignment Operator

In implementing an overloaded assignment operator in a derived class:

- It is normal to use the assignment operator from the base class in the definition of the derived class's assignment operator
- Recall that the assignment operator is written as a member function of a class

## The Operator = Implementation

This code segment shows how to begin the implementation of the = operator for a derived class:

```
Derived& Derived::operator=(const Derived& rhs)
{
    Base::operator=(rhs)
```

- This line handles the assignment of the inherited member variables by calling the base class assignment operator
- · The remaining code would assign the member variables introduced in the derived class

### The Copy Constructor

Implementation of the derived class copy constructor is much like that of the assignment operator:

Derived::Derived(const Derived& object):Base(object), <other initializing> {...}

- Invoking the base class copy constructor sets up the inherited member variables
  - Since object is of type Derived it is also of type Base

### Destructors in Derived Classes

If the base class has a working destructor, defining the destructor for the defined class is relatively easy

- When the destructor for a derived class is called, the destructor for the base class is automatically called
- The derived class destructor need only use delete on dynamic variables added in the derived class, and data they may point to

### **Destruction Sequence**

If class B is derived from class A and class C is derived from class B...

- When the destructor of an object of class C goes out of scope
  - The destructor of class C is called
  - Then the destructor of class B
  - Then the destructor of class A
- Notice that destructors are called in the reverse order of constructor calls