

# **Object oriented Programming with C++**

## **Operator Overloading**



# Operator overloading

- It is one of the many **exciting** features of C++.
- Important technique that has enhanced the power of **extensibility** of C++.
- C++ tries to make the **user-defined** data types behave in much the same way as the **built-in** types.
- C++ permits us to add two variables of user-defined types with the same syntax that is applied to the basic types.

# Operator overloading

- Addition (+) operator can work on **operands** of type char, int, float & double.
- However, if s1, s2, s3 are objects of the class **string**, then we can write the statement,

s3 = s1 + s2;

- This means C++ has the **ability** to provide the operators with a **special** meaning for a data type.
- **Mechanism** of giving special meaning to an operator is known as **operator overloading**.

# Operator overloading

- **Operator** – is a symbol that indicates an operation.
- **Overloading** – assigning different meanings to an operation, depending upon the context.
- For **example**: `input(>>)/output(<<)`  
operator
  - The built-in definition of the operator `<<` is for **shifting** of bits.
  - It is also used for **displaying** the values of various data types.

# Operator overloading

- We can **overload** all C++ operator **except** the following:
  - Class member access operator (`.`, `.*`)
  - Scope resolution operator (`::`)
  - Size operator (`sizeof`)
  - Conditional operator (`?:`)





# Defining operator overloading

- The general form of an operator function is:

```
return-type class-name :: operator op (argList)
{
    function body // task defined.
}
```

- where **return-type** is the type of value returned by the specified operation.
- **op** is the operator being overloaded.
- **operator op** is the function name, where operator is a keyword.

# Operator overloading

- When an operator is overloaded, the produced symbol called **operator function** name.
- operator function should be either **member** function or **friend** function.
- Friend function requires **one** argument for unary operator and **two** for binary operators.
- Member function requires **one** arguments for binary operators and **zero** arguments for unary operators.

# Operator overloading

Process of overloading involves following steps:

1. Creates the **class** that defines the data type i.e. to be used in the overloading operation.
2. Declare the operator function **operator op()** in the **public** part of the class. It may be either a **member** function or **friend** function.
3. Define the operator **function** to implement the required operations.



## Overloading unary operator

- Overloading **devoid** of explicit argument to an operator function is called as **unary** operator overloading.
- The operator ++, -- and – are **unary** operators.
- ++ and -- can be used as **prefix** or **suffix** with the function.
- These operators have only **single** operand.

# Overloading Unary Operators (-)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class UnaryOp
{
    int x,y,z;
public:
    UnaryOp()
    {
        x=0;
        y=0;
        z=0;
    }

    UnaryOp(int a,int b,int c)
    {
        x=a;
        y=b;
        z=c;
    }

    void display()
    {
        cout<<"\n\n\t"<<x<<"  "<<y<<"  "<<z;
    }

    // Overloaded minus (-) operator
    void operator- ();
};
```

# Overloading Unary Operators (-)

```
void UnaryOp :: operator- ()
{
    x= -x;
    y= -y;
    z= -z;
}

int main()
{
    UnaryOp un(10,-40,70);
    cout<<"\n\nNumbers are ::: \n";
    un.display();
    -un;           // call unary minus operator function
    cout<<"\n\nNumbers are after overloaded minus (-) operator ::: \n";
    un.display(); // display un
    return 0;
}
```

## Output :

```
Numbers are :::
    10  -40    70
Numbers are after overloaded minus (-) operator :::
    -10  40   -70
```

# Overloading Unary Operators (++/--)

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class complex
{
    int a,b,c;
public:
    complex(){}
    void getvalue()
    {
        cout<<"Enter the Two Numbers:";
        cin>>a>>b;
    }
    void operator++()
    {
        a=++a;
        b=++b;
    }
    void operator--()
    {
        a=--a;
        b=--b;
    }
    void display()
    {
        cout<<a<<" +\t"<<b<<"i"<<endl;
    }
};
```

# Overloading Unary Operators (++/--)

```
int main()
{
    complex obj;
    obj.getvalue();
    obj++;
    cout<<"Increment Complex Number\n";
    obj.display();
    obj--;
    cout<<"Decrement Complex Number\n";
    obj.display();
    return 0;
}
```

## Output:

```
Enter the Two Numbers:
2
3
Increment Complex Number
3 +      4i
Decrement Complex Number
2 +      3i
```



# Overloading Binary Operators (+)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class Complex
{
    double real;
    double imag;
public:
    Complex () {}
    Complex (double, double);
    Complex operator + (Complex);
    void print();
};

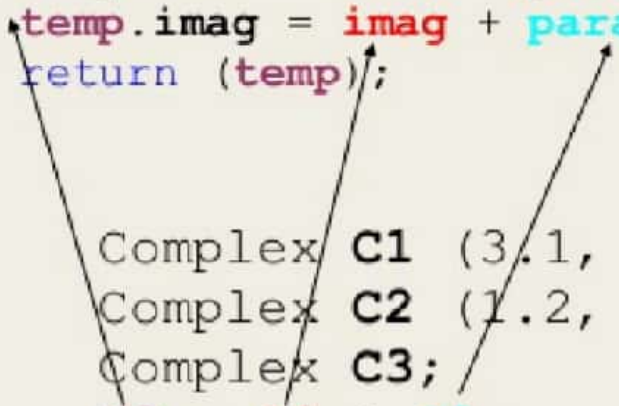
Complex::Complex (double r, double i)
{
    real = r;
    imag = i;
}

Complex Complex::operator+ (Complex param)
{
    Complex temp;
    temp.real = real + param.real;
    temp.imag = imag + param.imag;
    return (temp);
}
```

# Overloading Binary Operators (+)

```
Complex Complex::operator+ (Complex param)
{
    Complex temp;
    temp.real = real + param.real;
    temp.imag = imag + param.imag;
    return (temp);
}

Complex C1 (3.1, 1.5);
Complex C2 (1.2, 2.2);
Complex C3;
C3 = C1 + C2;
```



Two objects c1 and c2 are two passed as an argument. c1 is treated as first operand and c2 is treated as second operand of the + operator.

## Overloading Binary Operators (+) using **friend** function

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

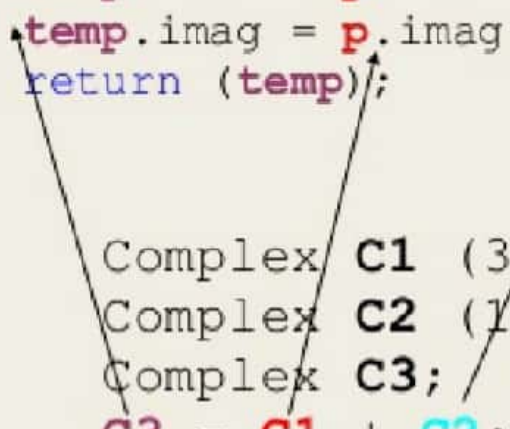
class Complex
{
    double real;
    double imag;
public:
    Complex () {}
    Complex (double, double);
    friend Complex operator + (Complex, Complex);
    void print();
};

Complex::Complex (double r, double i)
{
    real = r;
    imag = i;
}

Complex operator+ (Complex p, Complex q)
{
    Complex temp;
    temp.real = p.real + q.real;
    temp.imag = p.imag + q.imag;
    return (temp);
}
```

## Overloading Binary Operators (+) using **friend** function

```
Complex operator+ (Complex p, Complex q)  
{  
    Complex temp;  
    temp.real = p.real + q.real;  
    temp.imag = p.imag + q.imag;  
    return (temp);  
}  
  
Complex c1 (3.1, 1.5);  
Complex c2 (1.2, 2.2);  
Complex c3;  
c3 = c1 + c2;
```



The diagram consists of three arrows originating from the variables **c1** and **c2** in the main function and pointing to the parameters **p** and **q** in the `operator+` function definition. One arrow starts at **c1** and points to **p**. Another arrow starts at **c2** and points to **q**. A third arrow starts at the `+` operator in the expression **c3** = **c1** + **c2** and points to the `operator+` function name.

Two objects **c1** and **c2** are two passed as an argument. **c1** is treated as first operand and **c2** is treated as second operand of the + operator.

## Overloading Binary Operators (+) using **friend** function

```
void Complex::print()  
{  
    cout << real << " + i" << imag << endl;  
}  
  
int main ()  
{  
    Complex c1 (3.1, 1.5);  
    Complex c2 (1.2, 2.2);  
    Complex c3;  
  
    c3 = c1 + c2; //use overloaded + operator  
    //c3 = operator+(c1, c2);  
    c1.print();  
    c2.print();  
    c3.print();  
    return 0;  
}
```

### Output :

```
3.1 + i 1.5  
1.2 + i 2.2  
4.3 + i 3.7
```



## Why to use **friend** function?

- Consider a situation where we need to use two **different** types of **operands** for binary operator.
- One an **object** and another a **built-in** –type data.
- $d2 = d1 + 50;$

# Overloading Assignment(=) operator

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class dist
{
    int feet;
    int inch;
public:
    dist()
    {
        feet = 0;
        inch = 0;
    }
    dist(int a, int b)
    {
        feet = a;
        inch = b;
    }
    void operator = (dist &d)
    {
        feet = d.feet;
        inch = d.inch;
    }
    void display ()
    {
        cout << "Feet: " << feet << " Inch: " << inch << endl;
    }
};
```

# Overloading Assignment(=) operator

```
int main()
{
    dist d1(11, 10), d2(5, 11);
    cout <<"First Distance : "<< endl;
    d1.display ();
    cout <<"Second Distance : "<< endl;
    d2.display ();
    //use of asssignment operator
    d1 = d2;
    cout <<"First Distance : "<< endl;
    d1.display ();
    return 0;
}
```

## Output::

```
First Distance :
Feet: 11 Inch: 10
Second Distance :
Feet: 5 Inch: 11
First Distance :
Feet: 5 Inch: 11
```

# Overloading relational operator

- There are various **relational** operators supported by c++ language which can be used to compare c++ + **built-in** data types.
- For **Example**:
  - Equality (==)
  - Less than (<)
  - Less than or equal to (<=)
  - Greater than (>)
  - Greater than or equal to (>=)
  - Inequality (!=)
- We can **overload** any of these operators, which can be used to **compare** the **objects** of a class.

# Rules for overloading operator

- Only existing operators can be overloaded. We cannot create a **new** operator.
- Overloaded operator should contain **one** operand of **user-defined** data type.
  - Overloading operators are only for **classes**. We cannot overload the operator for **built-in** data types.
- Overloaded operators have the same **syntax** as the original operator.
- Operator overloading is applicable within the **scope** (extent) in which overloading occurs.
- Binary operators overloaded through a **member** function take **one** explicit argument and those which are overloaded through a **friend** function take **two** explicit arguments.



# Rules for overloading operator

- Overloading of an operator cannot **change** the basic **idea** of an operator.
  - For **example** A and B are objects. The following statement
  - $A+=B;$
  - assigns **addition** of objects A and B to A.
  - Overloaded operator must carry the same task like original operator according to the language.
  - Following statement must perform the same operation like the last statement.
  - $A=A+B;$
- Overloading of an operator must never **change** its natural **meaning**.
  - An overloaded operator **+** can be used for subtraction of two objects, but this type of code decreases the **utility** of the program.