

CS2313 Computer Programming

LT8 – Class



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Outline

- Defining classes
- Defining member functions & scope resolution operator
- Public & private members
- Accessors
- Constructors
- Friend functions
- Const modifier
- Operator overloading
- C-like Structure

Class and Object

- Class and object are important features of Object-oriented Programming Language (C++, Java, C#)
- With **class**, variables and their directly related functions can be grouped together to form a new **data type**
- It promotes reusability and object-oriented design (not covered in this course)
- **Object** is an instance of class, i.e. *class* is a blue-print and its product is its *object*.

Class and Object : Example

Without class/object

```
int radius;
int width, height;

double getCircleArea() {
    return 3.14*radius*radius;
}

double getRectangleArea() {
    return width*height;
}

double getCirclePerimeter() {
    return 2*3.14*radius;
}

double getRectanglePerimeter() {
    return 2*(width+height);
}
```

With class/object

```
class Circle {
    public:
    int radius;
    double getArea() {
        return 3.14*radius*radius;
    }
    double getPerimeter() {
        return 2*3.14*radius;
    }
}

class Rect{
    public:
    int width, height;
    double getArea() {
        return width*height;
    }
    double getPerimeter() {
        return 2*(width+height);
    }
}
```

Class and Object

```
void main() {  
    cout << "Please enter the radius of circle";  
    cin >> radius;  
    cout << getCircleArea();  
  
    cout << "Please enter the width and height of a rectangle";  
    cin >> width >> height;  
    cout << getRectangleArea();  
}
```

Without class/object

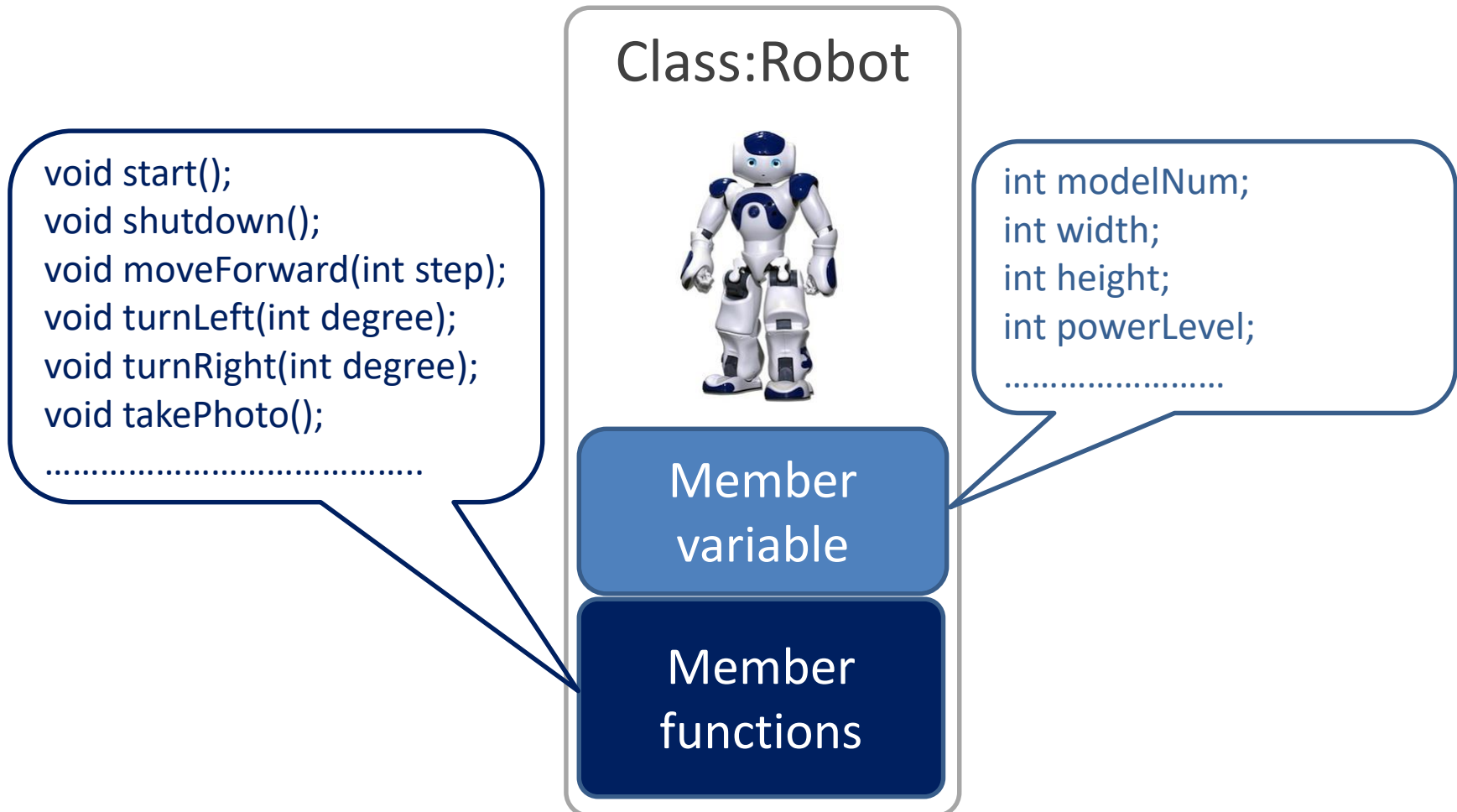
```
void main() {  
    Rect r;                //Rect is a class, r is an object of Rect  
    Circle c;  
    cout << "Please enter the radius of circle";  
    cin >> c.radius;  
    cout << c.getArea();  
  
    cout << "Please enter the width and height of a rectangle";  
    cin >> r.width >> r.height;  
    cout << r.getArea();  
}
```

With class/object

Class in Computer Programming

- An abstract view of real-world objects, e.g. car, horse
- Computer program is a model of real-world problem
- Simple problem: program with variables and functions
- Large scale program: class and object
- Class:
 - definition of program component
 - consists of member variables and member functions
 - Member variable : variable belong to class
 - Member function: function primary designed to access/manipulate the member variable of the class
- Object:
 - An instance of class / runtime representation of a class

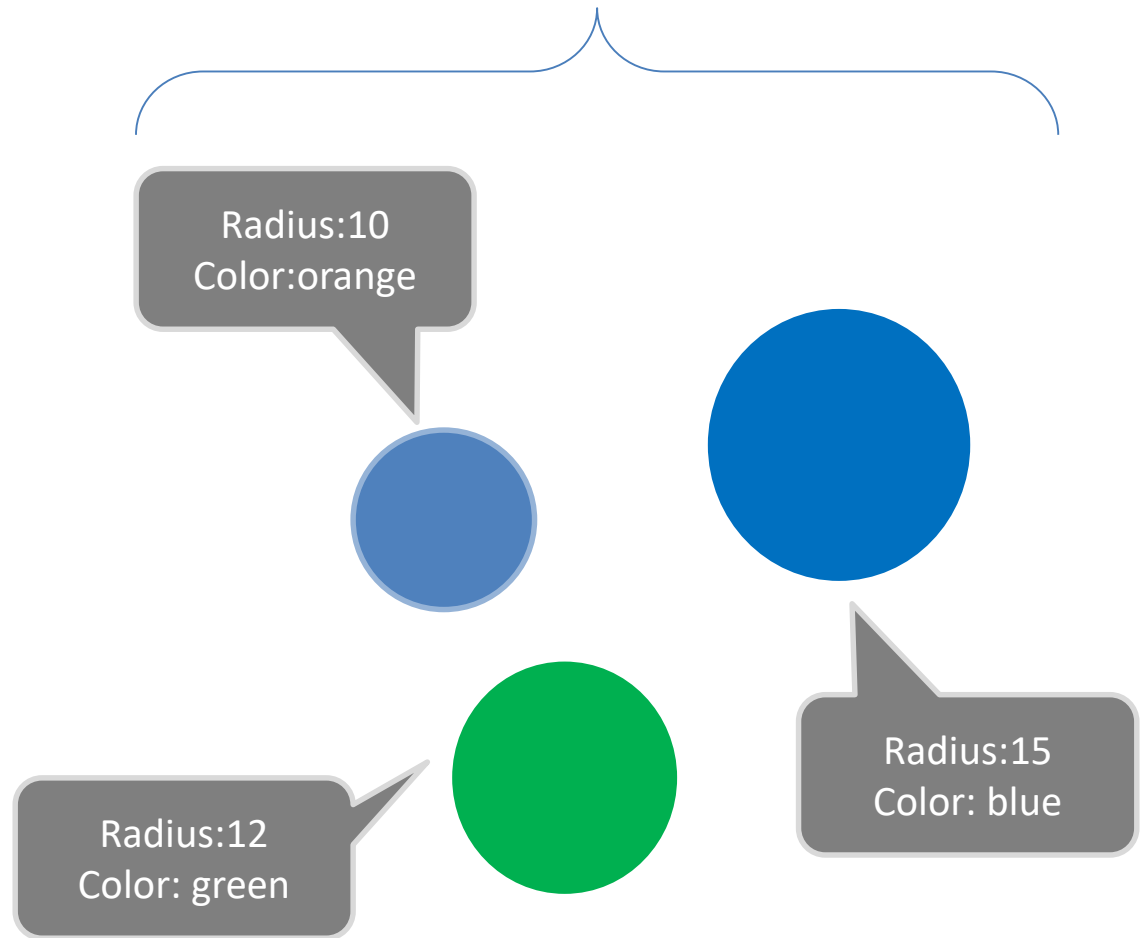
Class in programming



What is an object?



Objects of Circle



Classes and Objects in C++

- A class is a data type, objects are variables of this type
- An object is a variable with member functions and data values
- `cin, cout` are objects defined in header `<iostream>`
- C++ has great facilities for you to define your own class and objects

Defining classes

```
class class_name {  
    public / protected / private:  
    attribute1 declaration;  
    attribute2 declaration;  
    method1 declaration;  
    method2 prototype;  
};  
return_value classname::method2{  
    method body statement;  
}
```

Defining classes (example I)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class DayOfYear
{
    public:
        int month;
        int day;
        void output() {
            cout << "month = " << month;
            cout << ", day = " << day << endl;
        }
};
```

Member variables

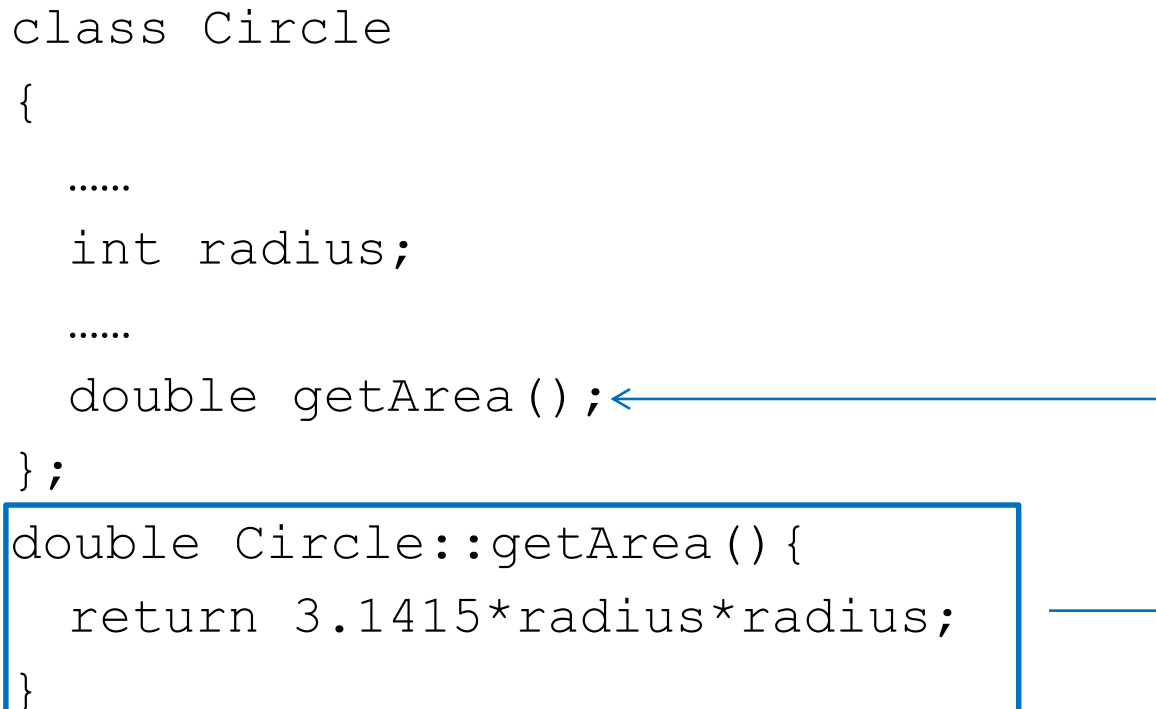
Member
method/function

Member function

- In C++, a class definition commonly contains only the prototypes of its member functions (except for *inline functions*)
- Use *classname::functionName* to define the member function (method) of particular class.

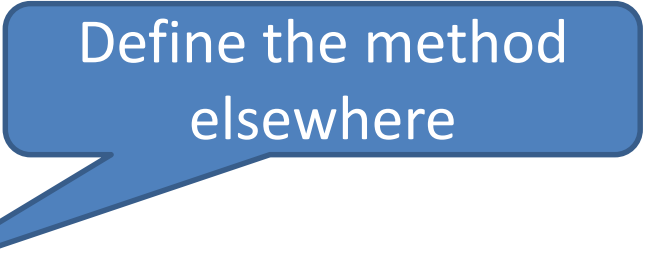
```
class Circle
{
    .....
    int radius;
    .....
    double getArea();
};

double Circle::getArea() {
    return 3.1415*radius*radius;
}
```



Defining classes (example II)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class DayOfYear
{
public:
    void output(); //member func. prototype
    int month;
    int day;
};
void DayOfYear::output()
{
    cout << "month =" << month
         << ", day =" << day << endl;
}
```



Define the method
elsewhere

Create object, access its function

- To declare an object of a class

Class_name variable_name;

Examples:

```
Circle c1, c2;
```

```
DayofYear today;
```

- A member function of an object is called using the **dot operator**:
 - `today.output()` ;
 - `c1.getArea()` ;

Main function

```
void main()
{
    DayofYear today, birthday;
    cin >> today.month >> today.day;
    cin >> birthday.month >> birthday.day;
    cout << "Today's date is: ";
    today.output();
    cout << "Your birthday is: ";
    birthday.output();
    if (today.month == birthday.month
        && today.day == birthday.day)
        cout << "Happy Birthday!\n";
}
```

Public and private members

- By default, all members of a class are private
- You can declare public members using the keyword `public`
- **Private members** can be accessed only by member functions (and *friend* functions) of that class, i.e. only from within the class, not from outside

A new class definition for DayOfYear

```
class DayOfYear
{
public:
    void input();
    void output();
    void set(int new_m, int new_d);

    int get_month();
    int get_day();
private:
    bool valid(int m, int d); // check if m,d valid
    int month;
    int day;
};
```

Member function definitions

```
bool DayOfYear::valid(int m, int d)
{
    if (m<1 || m>12 || d<1) return false;
    switch(m) {
        case 1: case 3: case 5: case 7:
        case 8: case 10: case 12:
            return d<=31; break;
        case 4: case 6: case 9: case 11:
            return d<=30; break;
        case 2:
            return d<=29; break;
    }
}
```

Member function definitions

```
void DayOfYear::input()
{
    int m, d;

    // input and validate
    do {
        cout << "Enter month and day as numbers: ";
        cin >> m >> d; // local var. of input()
    } while (!valid(m,d));

    month = m; // accessing private members
    day = d;
}
```

Member function definitions

```
void DayOfYear::set(int new_m, int new_d)
{
    if (valid(new_m, new_d)) {
        month = new_m;
        day    = new_d;
    }
}

int DayOfYear::get_month()
{ return month;
}

int DayOfYear::get_day()
{ return day;
}
```

A new main program

```
void main()
{
    DayOfYear today, birthday;

    today.input();
    birthday.input();
    cout << "Today's date is:\n";
    today.output();
    cout << "Your birthday is:\n";
    birthday.output();

    if (today.get_month()==birthday.get_month()
        &&
        today.get_day() == birthday.get_day())
        cout << "Happy Birthday!\n";
}
```

Private Variables and Access functions

- Member functions that give you access to the values of the private member variables are called *access functions*, e.g., `get_month`, `set`
- Useful for controlling access to private members:
 - E.g. Provide data validation to ensure data integrity.
- Needed when testing equality of 2 objects. (The predefined equality operator `==` does not work for objects and variables of structure type.), e.g. `obj1==obj2` (not work!)

Why private variable?

- Prevent others from accessing the variables directly, i.e. variables can be only accessed by access functions.

```
class DayOfYear
{
    .....
private:
    int month;
    int day;

    .....
};
```

```
void DayOfYear::set(int new_m, int
new_d)
{
    .....
    month = new_m;
    day   = new_d;
    .....
}

int DayOfYear::get_month()
{
    return month;
}

int DayOfYear::get_day()
{
    return day;
}
```

Why private variables?

- Change of the internal presentation, e.g. variable name, type, will not affect the how the others access the object. Caller still calling the same function with same parameters

```
class DayOfYear
{
    .....
private:
    int m;
    int d;
    .....
};
```

```
void DayOfYear::set(int new_m, int new_d)
{
    .....
    m = new_m;
    d = new_d;
    .....
}
int DayOfYear::get_month()
{
    return m;
}
int DayOfYear::get_day()
{
    return d;
}
```


Why private members?

- The common style of class definitions
 - To have all member variables **private**
 - Provide enough access functions to get and set the member variables
 - Supporting functions used by the member functions should also be made private
 - Only functions that need to interact with the outside can be made public

Assignment operator for objects

- It is legal to use assignment operator = with objects or with structures
- E.g.

```
DayOfYear due_date, tomorrow;  
tomorrow.input();  
due_date = tomorrow;
```
- This effectively makes both variables pointing to the same memory address of the object

Constructors for initialization

- Class contains variables and functions
- Variables should be initialized before use in many cases
- In C++, a constructor is designed to initialize variables
- A *constructor* is a member function that is **automatically** called when an object of that class is declared
- Special rules:
 - A constructor must have the **same** name as the class
 - A constructor definition **cannot** return a value

Example: Bank account

- E.g., Suppose we want to define a bank account class which has member variables `balance` and `interest_rate`. We want to have a constructor that initializes the member variables.

```
class BankAcc
{
public:
    BankAcc(int dollars, int cents, double rate);
    ...
private:
    double balance;
    double interest_rate;
};
...
BankAcc::BankAcc(int dollars, int cents, double rate)
{
    balance = dollars + 0.01*cents;
    interest_rate = rate;
}
```

Constructors

- When declaring BankAcc objects:

```
BankAcc account1 (10, 50, 2.0) ,  
        account2 (500, 0, 4.5) ;
```

- Note: A constructor cannot be called in the same way as an ordinary member function is called:

```
account1.BankAcc (10, 20, 1.0) ; // illegal
```

Constructors

- More than one versions of constructors are usually defined (overloaded) so that objects can be initialized in more than one way, e.g.

```
class BankAcc
{
public:
    BankAcc(int dollars, int cents, double rate);
    BankAcc(int dollars, double rate);
    BankAcc();
    ...
private:
    double balance;
    double interest_rate;
};
```

Constructors

```
BankAcc::BankAcc(int dollars, int cents, double rate)
{
    balance = dollars + 0.01*cents;
    interest_rate = rate;
}
BankAcc::BankAcc(int dollars, double rate)
{
    balance = dollars;
    interest_rate = rate;
}
BankAcc::BankAcc()
{
    balance = 0;
    interest_rate = 0.0;
}
```

Constructors

- When the constructor has no arguments, **don't** include any parentheses in the object declaration.
- E.g.

```
BankAcc acc1(100, 50, 2.0), // OK
        acc2(100, 2.3),      // OK
        acc3(),              // error
        acc4;                // correct
```

- The compiler thinks that it is the prototype of a function called `acc3` that takes no arguments and returns a value of type `BankAcc`

Constructors

- Alternative way to call a constructor:

obj = constr_name(arguments) ;

E.g., `BankAcc account1;`

`account1 = BankAcc(200, 3.5);`

- Mechanism: calling the constructor creates an anonymous object with new values; the object is then assigned to the named object
- A constructor behaves like a function that returns an object of its class type

Default constructor

- A constructor with no parameters
- Will be called when no argument is given

```
class Circle{  
    int radius;  
    Circle();  
    double getArea();  
};  
void Circle::Circle() {  
    radius=0;  
}  
double Circle::getArea() {  
    return 3.1415*radius;  
}
```

```
void main() {  
    Circle circle;  
    circle.getArea();  
}
```


Default constructors

- A default constructor will be generated by compiler automatically if NO constructor is defined.
- However, if any non-default constructor is defined, calling the default constructor will have **compilation error**.

```
class Circle{
    int radius;
    Circle(int r);
    double getArea();
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
double Circle::getArea(){
    return 3.1415*radius;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle circle; //illegal
    Circle circle(6); //OK
    circle.getArea();
}
```

Friend Function

- Not all functions could logically belong to a class, and sometimes, it is more natural to implement an operation as ordinary (nonmember) functions,
- e.g. Equality (==) function that test if 2 objects are equal
- Equality operator == cannot be applied directly on objects or structures
- Defining it as a member function will lose the symmetry
- It is more natural to define such function as an ordinary (nonmember) function

Equality testing: ordinary function

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Rectangle
{
public:
    Rectangle(int w,int h);
    int getArea();
    int getWidth();
    int getHeight();
private:
    int width;
    int height;
};
```

```
Rectangle::Rectangle(int w,int h){
    width=w;
    height=h;
}
int Rectangle::getWidth(){
    return width;
}
int Rectangle::getHeight(){
    return height;
}
int Rectangle::getArea(){
    return width*height;
}
```

Equality testing: ordinary function

```
bool equal(Rectangle r1, Rectangle r2){
    if (r1.getWidth()==r2.getWidth() &&
        r1.getHeight()==r2.getHeight())
        return true;
    else
        return false;
}

void main()
{
    Rectangle ra(10,22), rb(10,21);
    if ( equal(ra, rb) )
        cout << "They are the same\n");
}
```

Friend function

- The previous equality function needs to call access functions several times \Rightarrow not efficient
- However, declaring the member variable as public and directly accessing them are not recommended

```
class Rectangle {  
    public:  
    int width,height;  
.....  
}
```

```
bool equal(Rectangle r1, Rectangle r2){  
    if (r1.width ==r2.width && r1.height==r2.height)  
        return true;  
    else  
        return false;  
}
```

Friend function

- Solution: Define a friend function!
- A friend function of a class is *not* a member function of the class but has access to the private members of that class
- A friend function doesn't need to call access functions → more efficient
- Also the code looks simpler
- A friend function will be *public* no matter it is defined under "public:" or not

Equality testing: friend function

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Rectangle
{
public:
    Rectangle(int w,int h);
    friend bool equal(Rectangle
r1,Rectangle r2);
    int getArea();
    int getWidth();
    int getHeight();

private:
    int width;
    int height;
};
```

```
Rectangle::Rectangle(int
w,int h){
    width=w;
    height=h;
}
int Rectangle::getWidth(){
    return width;
}
int Rectangle::getHeight(){
    return height;
}
```

Equality testing: friend function

```
/*Note the friend function is not implemented in
Rectangle class*/

bool equal(Rectangle r1, Rectangle r2){
    if (r1.width ==r2.width && r1.height==r2.height)
        return true;
    else
        return false;
}

void main()
{
    Rectangle ra(10,22), rb(10,21);
    if ( equal(ra, rb) )
        cout << "They are the same\n");
}
```

const modifier revisited

- By default, parameters passed to a function could be call-by-value or call-by-reference mechanism
- Call-by-value: a copy of variable is passed.
- Call-by-reference: the original data, not the copy is passed to a function
- In call-by-reference, if the function is not supposed to change the value of the parameter, you can mark it with a const modifier
- The compiler will then complain when you modify it by mistake

const modifier revisited

- Call-by-reference:
 - the original data, not the copy is passed to a function
 - Add ‘&’ before the parameter name in function prototype and definition.

```
class Rectangle
{
    .....
    friend bool equal(Rectangle &r1, Rectangle &r2);
    .....
};

bool equal(Rectangle &r1, Rectangle &r2){
    if (r1.width ==r2.width && r1.height==r2.height)
        .....
}
```

const parameter modifier

```
class Circle
{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(Circle &c);
    double getArea();
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
void Circle::set(Circle &c){
    radius=c.radius;
}
double Circle::getArea(){
    return 3.14*radius*radius;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '\n';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

    c2.set(c1);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '\n';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

}
```

const parameter modifier

```
class Circle
{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(Circle &c);
    double getArea();
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
void Circle::set(Circle &c){
    c.radius=radius;
}
double Circle::getArea(){
    return 3.14*radius*radius;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

    c2.set(c1);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

}
```

const parameter modifier

```
class Circle
{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &c);
    double getArea();
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
void Circle::set(const Circle
    &c){
    c.radius=radius,
}
double Circle::getArea(){
    return 3.14*radius*radius;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

    c2.set(c1);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;
}
```

Compile will complain!

const modifier for function

- When you have a call to a member, the calling object behaves like a call-by-reference parameter:

```
C1.getArea();
```

- That function may change the value of the calling object

```
double Circle::getArea() {  
    return 3.1415*radius*radius++;  
}
```

- If you have a member function that is not supposed to change the calling object, you can add the `const` modifier after the function name (both prototype and definition)

```
double getArea() const;
```

```
double Circle::getArea() const{....}
```


const modifier for function

```
class Circle
{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &c);
    double getArea();
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
void Circle::set(const Circle
    &c){
    radius=c.radius;
}
double Circle::getArea() {
    return 3.14*radius*radius++;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

    c2.set(c1);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

}
```

const modifier for function

```
class Circle
{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &c);
    double getArea() const;
};
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}
void Circle::set(const Circle
    &c){
    radius=c.radius;
}
double Circle::getArea() const{
    return 3.14*radius*radius++;
}
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;

    c2.set(c1);

    cout << c1.getArea();
    cout << '=';
    cout << c2.getArea();
    cout << endl;
}
```

Compile will complain!

const all or nothing

- For each class, use `const` modifier on an all-or-nothing basis. i.e. All functions called within `const` function should be a `const` function too.

```
double Circle::getArea() const{  
    return 3.1415*getRadiusSquare();  
}
```

- `getRadiusSquare()` must define as `const` too, otherwise, compilers will complain as it assumes `getRadiusSquare()` will change the value of the calling object.

```
int getRadiusSquare() const;
```

```
int Circle::getRadiusSquare() const{  
    return radius*radius;  
}
```

Overloading operators

- An operator is really a function that is called using a different syntax for listing its arguments

- E.g.

<code>x+y</code>	<code>+(x, y)</code>	<code>add(x, y)</code>
<code>x==y</code>	<code>==(x, y)</code>	<code>equal(x, y)</code>

- Operators can be overloaded in 2 ways:

As a friend function

As a member function

Overloading operators: Friend function

```
class Circle{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &C);
    double getArea() const;
    int getRadiusSquare() const;
    friend Circle operator+(const Circle &c1,const Circle &c2);
};
```

```
Circle operator+(const Circle &c1,const Circle &c2){
    Circle c3(c1.radius+c2.radius);
    return c3;
}

void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);
    Circle c3=c1+c2;
    cout << c3.getArea();
}
```

Overloading >> and <<

```
class Circle{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &C);
    double getArea() const;
    int getRadiusSquare() const;
    friend Circle operator+(const Circle &c1,const Circle &c2);
    friend ostream &operator << (ostream &outs, const Circle &c);
};

ostream &operator << (ostream &outs, const Circle &c){
    outs << c.getArea();
    return outs;
}
```

Overloading >> and <<

- Whenever an operator (or function) returns a stream, you must add an & to the end of the name for the returned type
- Then the operator will return a reference to the stream (instead of the values of the stream)

Rules on overloading operators

- When overloading an operator, at least one argument of the resulting overloaded operator must be of a class type
- You cannot create a new operator
- You cannot change the number of arguments that an operator takes
- You cannot change the precedence of an operator
E.g., $x * y + z$ is always interpreted as $(x * y) + z$

Reference Only

- Constructors for automatic type Conversion
- Header (.h) and implementation files (.cpp)
- Namespace
- Structure

Constructors for automatic type conversion

- Consider the example:

```
Circle c1(5), c2(0);  
c2 = c1 + 25;      // c2 radius = 30;
```

- When the system sees the expression:

```
c2 = c1 + 25;
```

- it checks if `+` is overloaded for addition between `Circle` and integer.
- If not, it checks if there is a constructor that takes an integer and converts it to `Circle`

Constructors for automatic type conversion

```
class Circle{
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &C);
    double getArea() const;
    int getRadiusSquare() const;
    friend Circle operator+(const Circle &c1,const Circle &c2);
};
```

```
void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);
    Circle c3=c1+c2;
    cout << c3.getArea();
}
```

Separate compilation

- A C++ program can be divided into parts kept in separate files, compiled separately and linked when needed
- Usually, the class definition is placed in a header file (.h files)
- The member function definitions are placed in another file (.cpp files), which has to include the corresponding .h file
- The main program using the class also needs to include the .h file

Header file: circle.h

```
class Circle{
private:
    int radius;
public:
    Circle(int r);
    void set(const Circle &C);
    double getArea() const;
    int getRadiusSquare() const;
    int getRadius() const;
    friend Circle operator+(const Circle &c1,const Circle
    &c2);
    friend Circle operator-(const Circle &c1);
    friend ostream &operator << (ostream &outs, const
    Circle &c);
};
```

Implementation file: circle.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include "circle.h"
using namespace std;
Circle::Circle(int r){
    radius=r;
}

void Circle::set(const Circle &c){
    radius=c.radius;
}

double Circle::getArea() const {
    return 3.1415*getRadiusSquare();
}

int Circle::getRadius()const {
    return radius;
}

int Circle::getRadiusSquare() const
{
    return radius*radius;
}
```

```
Circle operator+(const Circle
    &c1,const Circle &c2){
    Circle c3(c1.radius+c2.radius);
    return c3;
}

Circle operator-(const Circle
    &c1){
    Circle c3(-c1.radius);
    return c3;
}

ostream &operator << (ostream
    &outs, const Circle &c){
    outs << c.getArea();
    return outs;
}
```

Application file: main.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include "circle.h"
using namespace std;

void main(){
    Circle c1(3);
    Circle c2(5);
    Circle c3(0);

    cout << c1.getArea() << '=' << c2.getArea() <<endl;
    c2.set(c1);
    cout << c1.getArea() << '=' << c2.getArea() <<endl;
    c3=c3+1;
    cout << c3;
    c3=-c3;
    cout << c3.getRadius();
}
```

Separate compilation

- Separate compilation can also be applied to ordinary functions
- The function prototypes of a group of related functions are put in a header file
- Their function definitions are placed in an implementation file (.cpp) which `#includes` the header file
- The main program is placed in an application file (.cpp) which also `#includes` the header file

Namespace

- When a program uses different classes and functions written by different programmers, there is a chance of name collision
- A namespace is a collection of name definitions, such as class definitions and variable declarations
- E.g., all name definitions in `<iostream>` (and other standard libraries) are placed in the namespace `std`
- Your program code is placed in the *global namespace* unless you specify otherwise

Namespace

- If your program (in the global namespace) wants to refer to a name in another namespace, you need to specify that namespace
- E.g., `std::cin`
- If you add the following directive:

```
using namespace std;
```

then the names in `std` are added into the global namespace, so you can simply write `cin`

Moreover, your program should not use `cin` as an identifier for other purpose

Structure type & variable definition

- Sometime, we want to have a collection of values of different types and to treat the collection as a single item
- C++ allows users to define structure data types
- Syntax:

```
struct typename{  
    type1  member_var1;  
    type2  member_var2;  
    .....  
};
```

```
struct StudentRecord{  
    char    name[51];  
    char    sid[9];  
    float   GPA;  
};
```

Structure type & variable definition

- Once a structure type is defined, variables of that type can be defined:

```
struct CS2311Student {  
    int      sid;  
    float    quiz;  
    float    asg1;  
    float    asg2;  
};  
void main(){  
    CS2311Student  student;  
    cout << "Please enter your id, quiz, a1, and a2 marks\n";  
    cin >> sr.id;  
    cin >> sr.quiz;  
    cin >> sr.asg1;  
    cin >> sr.asg2;  
    cout << sr.id <<" cw:" <<(sr.quiz+sr.asg1+sr.asg2)/3 << endl;  
}
```

Memory allocation & initialization

- When a structure type is defined, no memory is reserved until a variable of that type is declared
- When a variable is declared of a given structure type, enough memory is allocated for storing all structure members *contiguously* in the main memory
- Initializing a structure variable:

```
CS2311Student danny = {"Danny", 50123456, 80, 75, 60};
```

Accessing individual members

- A member variable can be accessed with the use of the dot operator “.” :

```
danny.quiz += 10;
```

- Two structure types can have the same member name:

```
CS2363Student peter;
```

```
cin >> peter.quiz;
```

Assignment for structures

- You can assign structure values to a structure variable:

```
danny = kitty;
```

which is equivalent to:

```
danny.id      = kitty.id;  
danny.quiz    = kitty.quiz;  
danny.asg1    = kitty.asg1;  
danny.asg2    = kitty.asg2;
```

Structures as function arguments

- A function can have parameters of structure type:

```
double overall (CS2311Student s)
{
    return (s.quiz+ s.asg1+s.asg2) /3;
}
```

- A function can return a value of structure type:

```
CS2331Student InputScore (int);
```


Hierarchical structures

- A member of a structure can be another structure:

```
struct Date{
    int month, day, year;
};
struct PersonInfo{
    double height; //in inches
    double weight; //in pounds
    Date    birthday;
};
PersonInfo peter;
peter.birthday.year=2001;
```