Week 6

Exercise 50

New / delete variants

New variable or array

Allocates new memory sized appropriately to the type and dimensions specified. Thereafter it will attempt to construct and initialise these objects. Finally, it will return a pointer to the start of the memory allocated to these objects. The advantage and consideration of constructing an object (array) is that one has control over when it is deleted (if at all).

```
1
  int main()
2
  {
3
     Class *pointer;
4
     if (boolAppropriate)
5
       pointer = new Class;
6
7
     if (boolNoLongerNecessary)
8
       delete pointer;
9
  }
```

Without the use of new (i.e. Class newClass), the scope of the newly constructed class would simply be limited to within the if statement, and thereafter destroyed. However, now the object persists until manually deleted. As such, the creation and destruction do not take place unless necessary. Another example would be in the creation of arrays with dimensions that are not previously established.

Placement new

Allows for 'filling' an already allocated piece of memory, possibly with another object or objects than the one one / those that it was originally allocated for. In other words, it allows us to simply construct objects in memory previously allocated. This could be useful when imagining a shared or transient storage location in memory that can be easily located, whether it contains characters, integers, or whatever else.

```
1
   int main()
2
   {
3
     char block[10 * sizeof(ExClass)]; // Block of memory necessary later
4
5
     if (boolNeedsTypeA)
6
       for (size_t idx = 0; index != 10; ++index) // Create ten 'ExClass's in the
7
         ExClass *sEC = new(block + idx * sizeof(ExClass)) // space, using constructor
8
                             ExClass(typeA);
                                                              // A.
9
10
     if (boolNeedsTypeB)
       for (size_t idx = 0; index != 10; ++index) // Create ten 'ExClass's in the
11
12
         ExClass *sEC = new(block + idx * sizeof(ExClass)) // space, using constructor
13
                             ExClass(typeB);
14
     sEC->~ExClass();
15
                             // Destruct the data
     delete[] block;
                             // Deallocate the memory
16
17
```

In this example, we know that a block of memory sized to fit ten 'ExClass's is required, but not yet which constructor will be used to fill it. Hence, it can already be allocated, but left empty until that decision is made. In the end,

Operator new

This allocates raw memory sized to fit a specified number of specified objects.

```
1
   int main()
2
   {
3
     string *block = static_cast<string *>(operator new(8 * sizeof(std::string)));
4
5
     string *pNames = new(block + 5) std::string("John");
6
7
     pNames -> "string();
8
9
      operator delete(block);
10
   }
```

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Without actually filling this memory, it is rather useless on its own. Instead, it can be viewed as a preferable alternative to placement new discussed previously. Even without repeating/rewriting the loop, it is already obvious that the notation is simpler: there is no continuous evaluation of sizeof throughout the loop. Instead, just the offset index is used.

../53/strings/strings.h

```
1 #ifndef INCLUDED_STRINGS_
 2 #define INCLUDED_STRINGS_
 3
4 #include <iosfwd>
5
 6
   class Strings
7
8
     size_t d_capacity = 1;
9
     size_t d_size = 0;
10
     std::string **d_pPstrings = 0;
11
12
     public:
      struct POD
13
14
15
         size t
                     size:
16
         std::string **str;
17
       };
18
19
       Strings();
20
       Strings(size_t argc, char const *argv[]);
       21
22
       Strings(std::istream &in);
23
       ~Strings();
24
25
       void swap(Strings &other);
26
27
       size_t size() const;
28
       size_t capacity() const;
                                                  // New addition
29
       std::string* const *data() const;
30
       POD release();
       POD d_POD();
31
32
33
       std::string const &at(size_t idx) const;  // for const-objects
                                                  // for non-const objects
34
       std::string &at(size_t idx);
35
36
       void add(std::string const &next);
                                                  // add another element
37
38
     private:
39
       void fill(char *ntbs[]);
                                                   // fill prepared d_pPstrings
40
       void resize(size_t newSize);
                                                  // New addition
       std::string** rawPointers(size_t nNewPointers); // New addition
41
42
       void reserve(size_t newCapacity);
                                                  // New addition
43
       std::string &safeAt(size_t idx) const;
44
                                                  // private backdoor
45
       std::string *enlarge();
46
       void destroy();
47
   };
48
   inline size_t Strings::size() const
                                              // potentially dangerous practice:
49
                                               // inline accessors
50
51
     return d_size;
52
   }
53
54
   inline size_t Strings::capacity() const
55
56
     return d_capacity;
57
   }
58
59
   inline std::string const &Strings::at(size_t idx) const
60
61
     return safeAt(idx);
  }
62
```

```
63
64
   inline std::string &Strings::at(size_t idx)
65
   {
66
     return safeAt(idx);
67
   }
68
69
   #endif
                                         ../53/strings/add.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 2
 3
   void Strings::add(string const &next)
 4
      if(d_size + 1 > d_capacity) // If there is no room for the new addition
 5
 6
        reserve(d_size + 1);
                                  // Create new room
 7
 8
      d_pPstrings[d_size] = new std::string{ next }; // Add the new string
 9
      ++d_size; // Increase size
10
                                      ../53/strings/c_argcargv.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(size_t argc, char const *argv[])
 4
 5
      d_pPstrings = rawPointers(1); // Create first memory
 6
      for (size_t index = 0; index != argc; ++index)
 7
        add(argv[index]);
 8
   };
                                     ../53/strings/c_environlike.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
 1
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(char *environLike[])
 4
   {
      d_pPstrings = rawPointers(1); // Create first memory
 5
      for (size_t index = 0; environLike[index] != 0; ++index)
 6
 7
        add(environLike[index]);
 8
   };
                                       ../53/strings/c_istream.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(istream &in)
 4
   {
      d_pPstrings = rawPointers(1); // Create first memory
 5
 6
      string line;
 7
      while (getline(in, line))
 8
 9
        add(line);
10
        if (line.empty())
11
          break;
12
13
   };
                                         ../53/strings/d_tor.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
   Strings::~Strings()
```

```
4
   {
 5
      for (size_t index = 0; index != d_size; ++index) // For each element
 6
        delete d_pPstrings[index]; // Delete that element (also call its destructors)
 7
      destroy(); // Call original destroy(); one last time
 8
   }
   The destroy(); function is unchanged from ex. 52 (already checked), but included for convenience.
                                        ../53/strings/destroy.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 3
   void Strings::destroy()
 4
      delete[] d_pPstrings;
 5
 6
   }
                                      ../53/strings/rawPointers.cc
1
   #include "strings.ih"
 3
   string** Strings::rawPointers(size_t nPointers)
 4
 5
     return (new string*[nPointers]); // Return pointer to new array of raw pointers
 6
   };
                                        ../53/strings/reserve.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 3
   void Strings::reserve(size_t newCapacity)
 4
   {
      while (d_capacity < newCapacity) // Keep doubling while capacity is still low
 5
 6
 7
        size_t oldcapacity = d_capacity; // Old capacity needed to transfer pointers
 8
        d_capacity *= 2; // Double capacity when needed
9
10
        string **tmp = rawPointers(d_capacity); // Create new pointer to raw pointers
        for (size_t idx = 0; idx != oldcapacity; ++idx) // Transfer over old pointers
11
12
          tmp[idx] = d_pPstrings[idx];
13
        destroy(); // Destroy old pointer
14
15
        d_pPstrings = tmp; // Assign old pointer to new location
     }
16
17
   };
                                         ../53/strings/resize.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 3
   void Strings::resize(size_t newSize)
 4
   {
      string newAddition = ""; // Empty string to use for filling
if (newSize > d_size) // If newSize is larger than current size
 5
 6
 7
        for (size_t index = 0; index != newSize - d_capacity; ++index) // Fill
          add(newAddition);
 8
 9
      if (newSize < d_size) // If smaller</pre>
10
        for (size_t index = d_size; index != newSize - 1; index--)
11
12
          delete d_pPstrings[index]; // Delete those strings (as in d_tor)
13
      d_size = newSize; // Set new size to indicated size
14
                         // If newSize == d_size, this is SF, but better than including
15
16
                         // it in every if-statement
17 }
```

../55/strings/strings.h

```
1 #ifndef INCLUDED_STRINGS_
 2 #define INCLUDED_STRINGS_
 3
4 #include <iosfwd>
5
 6
   class Strings
7
                              // Rather start capacity at 0, see reserve
8
     size_t d_capacity = 1;
9
     size_t d_size = 0;
10
     std::string *d_pPstrings = 0;
11
12
     public:
      struct POD
13
14
15
         size t
                     size:
16
         std::string *str;
17
       };
18
19
       Strings();
20
       Strings(size_t argc, char const *argv[]);
21
       22
       Strings(std::istream &in);
23
       ~Strings();
24
25
       void swap(Strings &other);
26
27
       size_t size() const;
28
       size_t capacity() const;
                                                  // New addition
29
       std::string* const *data() const;
30
       POD release();
       POD d_POD();
31
32
33
       std::string const &at(size_t idx) const;  // for const-objects
                                                  // for non-const objects
34
       std::string &at(size_t idx);
35
36
       void add(std::string const &next);
                                                  // add another element
37
38
     private:
39
       void fill(char *ntbs[]);
                                                  // fill prepared d_pPstrings
40
       void resize(size_t newSize);
                                                  // New addition
       std::string* rawMemory(size_t nNewPointers); // New addition
41
                                                  // New addition
42
       void reserve(size_t newCapacity);
43
       std::string &safeAt(size_t idx) const;
44
                                                 // private backdoor
45
       std::string *enlarge();
46
       void destroy();
47
   };
48
   inline size_t Strings::size() const
                                              // potentially dangerous practice:
49
                                              // inline accessors
50
51
     return d_size;
52
   }
53
54
   inline size_t Strings::capacity() const
55
56
     return d_capacity;
57
   }
58
59
   inline std::string const &Strings::at(size_t idx) const
60
61
     return safeAt(idx);
  }
62
```

```
63
   inline std::string &Strings::at(size_t idx)
64
65
   {
66
     return safeAt(idx);
67
   }
68
69
   #endif
                                         ../55/strings/add.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
 2
 3
   void Strings::add(string const &next)
 4
      if(d_size + 1 > d_capacity) // If there is no room for the new addition
 5
 6
        reserve(d_size + 1);
                                  // Create new room
 7
 8
      new(d_pPstrings + d_size ) std::string{ next }; // Add the new string
 9
      ++d_size; // Increase size
10
                                      ../55/strings/c_argcargv.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
 1
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(size_t argc, char const *argv[])
 4
 5
      d_pPstrings = rawMemory(1); // Create first memory
 6
      for (size_t index = 0; index != argc; ++index)
 7
        add(argv[index]);
 8
   };
                                     ../55/strings/c_environlike.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
 1
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(char *environLike[])
 4
   {
      d_pPstrings = rawMemory(1); // Create first memory
 5
      for (size_t index = 0; environLike[index] != 0; ++index)
 6
 7
        add(environLike[index]);
 8
   };
                                       ../55/strings/c_istream.cc
 1
   #include "strings.ih"
 2
 3
   Strings::Strings(istream &in)
 4
   {
        d_pPstrings = rawMemory(1); // Create first memory
 5
 6
        string line;
 7
        while (getline(in, line))
 8
 9
        add(line);
10
        if (line.empty())
11
          break;
        }
12
13 };
                                        ../55/strings/destroy.cc
   #include "strings.ih"
   void Strings::destroy()
```

```
4
   {
5
     for (string *end = d_pPstrings + d_size; end-- != d_pPstrings; )
6
       end->~string();
7
     operator delete(d_pPstrings);
8
   }
                                        ../55/strings/d_tor.cc
1
   #include "strings.ih"
2
3
   Strings::~Strings()
4
     destroy(); // Call original destroy(); one last time
5
6
                                     ../55/strings/rawMemory.cc
1
   #include "strings.ih"
2
3
   string* Strings::rawMemory(size_t nPointers)
4
   {
     string *tmp = static_cast<string *>(operator new(nPointers * sizeof(string)));
5
     return tmp;
7
  };
                                       ../55/strings/reserve.cc
1
   #include "strings.ih"
2
3
   void Strings::reserve(size_t newCapacity)
4
   {
     while (d_capacity < newCapacity) // Keep doubling while capacity is still low
5
6
7
        d_capacity *= 2; // Double capacity when needed
8
9
        string *tmp = rawMemory(d_capacity); // Create new pointer to raw memory
        for (size_t idx = d_size; idx--; ) // Transfer over old strings
10
         new(tmp + idx) string{ d_pPstrings[idx] };
11
12
        destroy(); // Destroy old pointer
13
        d_pPstrings = tmp; // Assign old pointer to new location
14
15
     }
16
   };
                                       ../55/strings/resize.cc
1
   #include "strings.ih"
2
3
   void Strings::resize(size_t newSize)
4
     string newAddition = ""; // Empty string to use for filling
5
     if (newSize > d_size) // If newSize is larger than current size
6
7
       for (size_t index = 0; index != newSize - d_capacity; ++index) // Fill
          add(newAddition);
8
9
     if (newSize < d_size) // If smaller</pre>
10
11
        for (string *end = d_pPstrings + d_size; end-- != d_pPstrings + newSize; )
12
          end -> ~ string();
13
     d_size = newSize; // Set new size to indicated size
14
                        // If newSize == d_size, this is SF, but better than including
15
16
                        // it in every if-statement
17 }
```

Type	Time
real	0m1,401s
user	0 m1,240 s
\mathbf{sys}	0 m 0,160 s

Type	Time
real	0 m1,519 s
user	0 m1,381 s
\mathbf{sys}	0 m 0,137 s

Type	Time
real	0 m17,604 s
user	0 m 17,485 s
\mathbf{sys}	0 m 0,112 s

Table 1: Original

Table 2: Double pointers

Table 3: Placement new

Tables 1 through 3 display the time it took to run the respective programs. Note that the original implementation was timed on another machine because it was taking so long.

It is clear that using double pointers makes the program run fastest. Intuitively, this also makes sense. For both the original implementation as well as the one using placement new one, when creating room for new strings, the extant strings have to be copied entirely. The latter implementation at least uses a doubling algorithm, but still, copying strings is just not very efficient. Simply copying over pointers to already existing objects seems like a much better idea, because depending on the length of said strings, they could be very large - at least much larger than a mere pointer. z