Topic 2

C++ Review Part II: More on Functions, Variables, Classes

資料結構與程式設計 Data Structure and Programming

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Key Concept #1: Global vs. Member Functions

- Global functions are defined in global scope
 - void f(...) { ... }
 - There is no so-called local functions
- Member functions are defined in class scope
 - void A::f(...) { ... }
 - A member function is called by an object of its class type

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Part I: Understanding "Functions"

- Global vs. member functions
- ◆ Function signature, prototype, definition
- ◆ Function parameters, arguments

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Key Concept #2: Function Signature

- ◆ 4 things to define "function signature"
 - 1. Function name
 - 2. Number of parameters
 - 3. Types of parameters
 - 4. Order of parameters
 - → No "return type" (why?)
- There cannot be functions with the same function signature, unless ---
 - 1. Separated by different name spaces
 - 2. Defined as "static" in different file scopes
- However, functions can have the same name, but different signature (overloading)

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Key Concept #3: Function Prototype vs. Function Definition

◆ Think, which one is better?

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Key Concept #5: Parameters in a function

- When a function is called, the caller performs "=" operations on its arguments to the corresponding parameters in the function

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Key Concept #4: Default Argument

- Note
 - void f(int x) { ... } // x is f's parameter
 - f(10); f(a); // 10, a as arguments to f()
- ◆ Parameters with default assignments → function with default arguments
 - Can be skipped when calling the function
 - e.g. void f(int x, int y = 0);
 - Can only appear towards the end of parameter list
 - (Not OK) void f(int x = 0, int y);
- Given a function, its default argument can only be defined ONCE
 - void f(int x = 0);
 void f(int x = 0) { ... } → Compilation ERROR

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Passed by Object, Pointer, and Reference

// passed by object void f(int a) { ...} int main() { int b; ...; f(b); }

Key Concept #6:

- // passed by object void h(A a) { ...} int main() { A aa; ...; f(aa); }
- // passed by pointer
 void g(int *p) { ... }
 int main() { int *q = ...; f(q); }
- // passed by reference void k(A& a) { ...} int main() { A aa; ...; k(aa); }

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Passed by Object, Pointer, and Reference

[Rule of thumb] Making an '=' (i.e. copy) from the passed argument in the caller, to the parameter of the called function.

```
void f1(int a)
                          main()
 \{ a = 20; \}
void f2(int& a)
                              int a = 10;
 \{ a = 30; \}
                              int* p = &a;
void f3(int* p)
                              int a1, a2, a3, a4, a5;
\{ *p = 40; \}
                              f1(a) : a1 = a:
void f4(int* p)
                              f2(a) : a2 = a:
 \{p = new int(50); \}
                              f3(p); a3 = *p;
void f5(int* & p)
                              f4(p); a4 = *p;
 { p = new int(60); }
                              f5(p); a5 = *p;
```

What are the values of a1, a2, a3, a4, and a5 at the end?

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Summary #1:

Passed by pointer or passed by reference

2. However, if originally the data is not a pointer type, "passed by pointers" is kind of awkward. You should use "passed by references"

```
class A {
    int _i; char _c; int *_p; ...
};
void f(A *a) { ... }
void g(A& a) { ... }
...
int main() {
    A a = ...; // an object, not a pointer
    f(&a); // Awkward!! C style ®
    g(a); // Better!!
}
```

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Summary #1:

Passed by pointer or passed by reference

 If you have some data to share among functions, and you don't want to copy (by '=') them during function calling, you can use "passed by pointers"

```
class A {
    int _i; char _c; int *_p; ...
};
void f(A *a) { ... }
...
int main() {
    A *a = ...;
    f(a);
}
```

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Summary #1:

Passed by pointer or passed by reference

3. But, sometimes we just want to share the data to another function, but don't want it to modify the data.

```
int main() {
   A a = ...;
   g(a);
}
void g(A& a) { ... }
// "a" may get modified by g()

Using "const" to constrain!!
```

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Part II: More on "Variables"

- ◆ "const" keyword
- ◆ Array vs. pointers
- Pointer arithmetic
- Memory sizes of variables
- Return value of a function
- ◆ Compilation issues
- ◆ Compiler preprocessors

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What? const *& #\$&@%#q

- ◆ Rule of thumb
 - Read from right to left
- 1 f(int* n
- Pointer to an int (integer pointer)
- 2. f(int*& p)
- Reference to an integer pointer
- f(int*const p)
 - Constant pointer to an integer
- 4. f(const int* p) = f(int const * p)
 - Pointer to a constant integer
- 5. f(const int*& p)
 - Reference to a pointer of a constant int
- 6. f(const int*const& p)
 - Reference to a constant pointer address, which points to a constant integer

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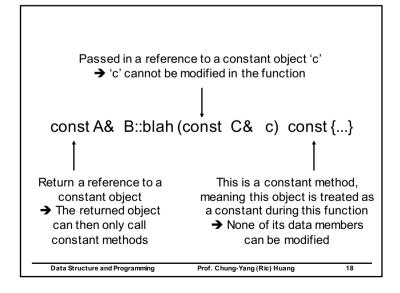
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Key Concept #1: Const

- Const is an adjective
 - When a variable is declared "const", it means it is "READ-ONLY" in that scope.
 - → Cannot be modified
- Const must be initialized
 - const int a = 10: // OK
 - const int b; // NOT OK
 - int i; // Not initialized... const int j = i; // Is this OK? const int& k = i; // Is this OK? f(j); // f(int m) { ... }; Is this OK? i = 10; // will j, k be changed? Is this OK?
- "const int" and "int const" are the same
- "const int *" and "int * const" are different!!

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Key concept #2: The Impact of const

- Supposed "_data" is a data member of class MyClass
 void MyClass::f() const
 {
 _data->g();
 }
 - Because this object is treated as a constant, its data field "_data" is also treated as a constant in this function
 - → "g()" must be a constant method too!!
 - Compiler will signal out an error if g() is NOT a const method
- [Coding tip] If we really want a member function to be a readonly one (e.g. getXX()), putting a "const" can help ensure it

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Const vs. non-const??

 Passing a const argument to a non-const parameter in a function

```
void f(A& i) { ... }
void g(A j) { ... }
int main() {
  const A a(...);
  f(a); // Error \(\rightarrow\) No backdoor for const
  g(a); // a copy of "a" is treated non-const in g()
}
```

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Const vs. non-const??

 Passing a non-const argument to a const parameter in a function

```
void f(const A& i) { ... }
void g(const A j) { ... }
int main() {
   A a; ...
   f(a); // a reference of "a" is treated const in f()
   g(a); // a copy of "a" is treated const in g()
}
```

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Const vs. non-const??

- ◆ Non-const object calling a const method
 - т э.
 - a.constMethod(); // OK
 - "a" will be treated as a const object within "constMethod()"
- ◆ Const object calling non-const method

```
const T a;
```

- a.nonConstMethod(); // not OK
- A const object cannot call a non-const method
 - → compilation error

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Casting "const" to "non-const"

```
const T a;
a.nonConstMethod();  // not OK
Trying...
```

- 1. T(a).nonConstMethod();
 - Static cast; OK, but may not be safe (why?)
 - Who is calling nonConstMethod()?
- const cast<T>(a).nonConstMethod();
 - Compilation error!!
 - "const_cast" can only be used for pointer, reference, or a pointer-to-data-member type
- const cast<T *>(&a)->nonConstMethod();
 - OK, but kind of awkward

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const class object (revisited)

- ◆ Remember:
 - const A& B::blah (const C& c) const {...}
 - When an object of class B calls this member function, this object will become a "const class object".
 - That is, the B's data members will be treated as const (i.e. can't be modified) in this function.
 - Also, "this" cannot call non-const functions in "blah()", nor can the data members call non-const functions.

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const_cast<T>() for pointer-to-const object

```
const T* p;
p->nonConstMethod(); // not OK
```

→ const_cast<T*>(p)->nonConstMethod(); A const object can now call non-const method

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Key Concept #3:

"mutable" --- a back door for const method

- ◆ However, sometimes we MUST modify the data member in a const method
 - void MyClass::f() const{
 _flags |= 0x1; // setting a bit of the _flags
 - In such case, declare "_flag" with "mutable" keyword
 - e.g.

mutable unsigned _flag;

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Key Concept #4: Array vs. Pointer

- ◆ An array variable represents a "const pointer"
 - int a[10]; ← treating "a" as an "int * const" a = anotherArr; // Error; can't reassign "a"
 - int *p = new int[10];
 p = anotherPointer; // Compile OK, but memory leak!
 p = new int(20); // also compile OK, but memory leak!
- ◆ An array variable (the const pointer) must be initialized
 - Recall: "const" variable must be initialized
 - Key: the size of the array must be known in declaration
 - int a[10]; // OK, as the memory address is assigned.
 int a[10] = { 0 }; // Initialize array variable and its content int a[]; // NOT OK; array size unknown int a[] = { 1, 2, 3 }; // OK array size determined by RHS

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More about int [] and int*

```
♦ int a[10] = { 0 }; // type of a: "int *const"
   int *p = new int[10];
   *a = 10;
   *p = 20; // OK
   *(a + 1) = 20;
   *(a++) = 30; // Compile error; explained later
   a = p; // Compile error; non-const to const
   p = a; // OK, but memory leak...
   *(p++) = 40; // OK, but what about "delete [] p"?
   int *q = a;
   q[2] = 20;
   *(q+3) = 30;
   *(q++) = 40; // OK
   delete a; // compile error/warning; runtime crash...
   delete []p; // compile OK, but runtime crash (p = a)
   delete []q; // compile OK, but may get fishy result
♦ What about:
   int a = 10; int *p = &a; ... delete p;
```

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Const pointer vs. pointer to a const

```
    int a = 10;

   const int c = 10;
   a = c: // OK
   c = a; // NOT OK; even though 10 = 10
 int a[10] = { 0 };
   int b[10];
   int *c:
   const int *d; // This is OK!
   int *const e; // Error: uninitialized
   b = a; // Error
   c = a : d = a : // OK
   e = a; // Error
♦ void f(const int* i) { ... }
   int main() {
      int * const a = new int(10);
      f(a); // Any problem?
```

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Key Concept #5: Pointer Arithmetic

- '+' / '-' operator on a pointer variable points to the memory location of the next / previous element (as in an array)
 - int*p = newint(10); int*q = p + 1; // memory addr += sizeof(int)
 - A *r = new A;
 r -= 2; // memory addr -= sizeof(A) * 2
- ◆ For an array variable "arr", "arr + i" points to the memory location of arr[i]
 - int arr[10];*(arr + 2) = 5; // equivalent to "arr[2] = 5"

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(Recapped) Key Concept #6: Memory Sizes

- ◆ Basic "memory size" unit → Byte (B)
 - 1 Byte = 8 bit
- ◆ 1 memory address → 1 Byte
 - Like same sized apartments
- ◆ Remember: the variable type determines the size of its memory
 - char, bool: 1 Byte (addr+= 1)
 - short, unsigned short: 2 Bytes(addr+= 2)
 - int, unsigned, float: 4 Bytes (addr+= 4)
 - double: 8 Bytes (addr+= 8)
 - long long: 8 Bytes(addr+= 8)

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Key Concept #8: Memory Alignment

♦ What are the addresses of these variables? int *p = new int(10); // let addr(p) = 0x7fffe84ff0e0 char c = 'a'; int i = 20; int *pp = new int(30); char cc = 'b'; int *ppp = pp; int ii = 40; char ccc = 'c'; char cccc = 'd';

→ Given a variable of predefined type with memory size S (Bytes), its address must be aligned to a multiple of S

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int iii = 30:

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Key Concept #7: Size of a Pointer

- Remember:
 - A pointer variable stores a memory address
 - What is the memory size of a memory address?
- The memory size of a memory address depends on the machine architecture
 - 32-bit machine: 4 Bytes
 - 64-bit machine: 8 Bytes
- ◆ Remember: 1 memory address → 1 Byte
 - → The memory content of the pointer variables

: For 32-bit machine, the last 2 bits are 0's

: For 64-bit machine, the last 3 bits are 0's

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Key Concept #9: Return value of a function

- ◆ Every function has a return type. At the end of the function execution, it must return a value or a variable of the return type.
 - "void f()" means no return value is needed
- 1. Return by object

```
MyClass f(...) {
    MyClass a;...; return a; }
MyClass b = f(...);
MyClass& c = f(...);
// What's the diff? Is it OK?
// The referenced object must have a
// valid memory addr outside f()
```

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Return by Object, Pointer, and Reference 2. Return by pointer

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Remember in a software project...

- ◆ Your program may have many classes...
- ◆ You should create multiple files for different class definitions ---
 - .h (header) files
 - → class declaration/definition, function prototype
 - .cpp (source) files
 - → class and function implementation
 - Makefiles
 - → scripts to build the project

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When is "return by reference" useful?

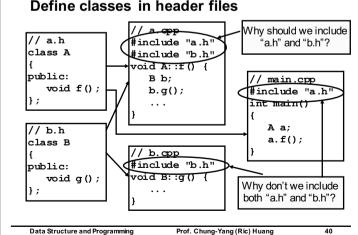
```
♦ template<class T>
                          class Array
     public:
        Array(size_t i = 0) { _data = new T[i]; }
        T& operator[] (size t i) { return data[i]; }
        const T& operator[] (size t i) const {
          return data[i]; }
        Array<T>& operator= (const Array& arr) {
        ... return (*this); }
     private:
        T * data;
   int main()
      Array<int> arr(10); // declare an array of size 10
      int t = arr[5]; // <-----
      arr[0] = 20:
                       // Which one will be called?
      Array<int> arr2; arr2 = arr;
   } // Why not "Array<int> arr2 = arr;"?
```

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Key Concept #10: Define classes in header files



Key Concept #11: "#include"

- ◆ A compiler preprocessor
 - Process before compilation
 - Perform copy-and-paste
- ◆ This is NOT OK

```
• // no #include "b.h"
  class A {
        B _b;
};
```

- ♦ This is OK
 - // no #include "b.h"
 class B; // forward declaration
 class A {
 B *_b;
 }
- → The rule of thumb is "need to know the size of the class"!!

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Key Concept #13: Undefined or Redefined Issues

- ◆ Undefined errors for variable/class/type/function
 - The following will cause errors in compiling a source file -int i = j; // If j is not declared before this point
 A a; // If class A is not defined before this point
 A *a; // If class A is not declared before this point
 goo(); // If no function prototype for goo() before this point
 - The following is OK when compiling each source file, but will cause error during linking if goo() is NOT defined in any other source file --

```
int goo(); // forward declaration
...
int b = goo();
```

- ◆ Redefined errors
 - Variable/class/function is defined in multiple places
 - May be due to multiple inclusions of a header file

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Key Concept #12: #include "" or <> ?

- ◆ Standard C/C++ header files
 - Stored in a compiler-specified directory
 - e.g. /usr/local/include/c++/8.2.0/
- #include <> will search it in the standard header files
- ◆ #include "" will search it in the current directory ('.'), or the directories specified by "-I" in g++ command line.

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Declare, Define, Instantiate, Initialize, Use

- 1. Declare a class identifier / function prototype
 - class MyClass;
 - void goo(int, char);
- 2. Define a class / function / member function
 - class MyClass { ... };
 - void goo() { ... }
 - void MyClass::goo2() { ... }
- 3. Instantiation (= Declaration + definition) (variable / object)
 - int a;
 - MvClass b:
- 4. Initialization (during instantiation) (variable / object)
 - int a = 10;
 - MyClass b(10);
- 5. Used (variable / object / function)
 - a = ...; or ... = a;
 - goo();
 - b.goo2();

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Key Concept #14: "extern" in C++

- ◆ Remember, static variables and functions can only be seen in the file scope → cannot be seen in other file
- What if we want to access (global) variables or functions across other .cpp files?

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Key Concept #15: Forward Declaration

```
[Bottom line]
Sometimes we just want to include part of the header file, or refer to some declarations

→ We don't want to include the whole header file

→ To reduce:

1. Executable file size
2. Compilation time due to dependency

e.g.

// MyClass.h
class HisClass; // forward declaration
class HerClass; // forward declaration
class MyClass
{

HisClass* _hisData; // OK
HerClass _herData; // NOT OK; why?
};
```

Using External Variables and Functions

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Key Concept #16: Namespace

```
he.g.
namespace MyNameSpace {
    int a;
    void f();
    class MyClass;
} // Note: no ';'
hamespace MyNS = MyNameSpace; // alias

Must declare in global scope
    int main()
    {
        namespace XYZ { ... } // Error!!
    }
}
```

Using namespace

```
1. void g() {
         MyNameSpace::a = 10;
     } // "::" is the scope operator
2. using MyNameSpace::a;
    void g() {
         a = 10;
     }
3. using namespace MyNameSpace;
    void g() {
         a = 10;
         f();
     }
```

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Summary #2: Declare, Define, & Use

- If something is declared, but not defined or used, that is fine. (Compilation warning)
- ◆ If something is used before it is defined or declared → compile (undefined) error.
- ◆ If something is defined in other file, you can use it only if you forward declare it in this file. BUT you cannot define it again in this file → compile (redefined) error.
 - Variable → "extern"
 - Function → prototype, with or without "extern"
- ◆ If something is declared, but not defined, in this file, you can use it and the compilation is OK. BUT if it is not defined in any other file → linking (undefined) error.

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More about namespace declaration

- Can be nested...
- The definition of a namespace can be split over several parts (e.g. 'A' above)
- 3. Order matters!! (e.g. A::g())
- Functions or classes can be defined either inside (e.g. g()) or outside (e.g. f()) "namespace {...}.

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Key Concept #17: #define

- ◆ #define is another compiler preprocessor
 - All the compiler preprocessors start with "#"
- "#define" performs pre-compilation inline string substitution
- ◆ "#define" has multiple uses in C++
 - 1. Define an identifier (e.g. #define NDEBUG)
 - Define a constant (e.g. #define SIZE 1024), or substitute a string
 - 3. Define a function (Macro)

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"#define" for an Identifier

- To avoid repeated definition of a header file in multiple C/C++ inclusions
 - #ifndef MY_HEADER_H
 #define MY_HEADER_H
 // header file body...
 // ...
 #endif
- 2. Conditional compilation
 - #ifndef NDEBUG

```
// Some code you want to compile by default
// (i.e. debug mode)
// For optimized mode,
// define "NDEBUG" in Makefile.
#endif
```

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"#define" for a MACRO function

- #define <identifier>(<argList>) [tokenString]
 - e.g. #define MAX(a, b) ((a > b)? a: b) // Why not "((a > b)? a: b)" ?
 - e.g. // Syntax error below!! Why?? #define MAX(int a, int b) ((a > b)? a: b)
- Disadvantage
 - "#define" MACRO function is difficult to debug!!
 - → Cannot step in the definition (Why??)
 - Use inline function (i.e. inline int max(int a, int b)) instead

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"#define" for a Constant or a String

- ◆ #define <identifier> [tokenString]
 - e.g.

```
#define SIZE 1024
#define CS_DEFAULT true
#define HOME_DIR "/home/ric"

(why not /home/ric?)
```

- ◆ Advantage of using "#define"
 - Correct once, fix all
- ◆ What's the difference from "const int xxx", etc?
 - Remember: "#define" performs pre-compilation inline string substitution
 - "const int xxx" is a global variable
 - → Fixed memory space
 - → Better for debugging!!

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Part III: More on "Classes"

- ◆ Class, struct, union, enum
- ◆ Bit-slicing
- ◆ Class wrapper
- "static" keyword

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Key Concept #1: "struct" in C++

- ◆ [Note] "struct" is a C construct used for "record type" data
 - Very similar to "class" in C++, but in C, there is no private/public, nor member function, etc.
- ♦ However, "struct" in C++ inherits all the features of the "class" construct
 - Can have private/public, member functions, and can be used with polymorphism
 - The only difference is: the default access privilege for "struct" is public

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Example of "union"

```
union U
private:
  int a;
  char b;
 public:
  U() \{ a = 0; \}
  int getA() const
      { return a; }
  void setA(int i)
       {a = i; }
  char getB() const
       { return b; }
  void setB(char c)
       \{ b = c; \}
```

```
int
main()
  υu;
  u.setB('a');
  cout << u.getA()
       << endl:
   return 0;
♦ What is the output???
```

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Key Concept #2: "union" in C++

- ◆ At any given time, contains only one of its data members
 - To avoid useless memory occupation
 - i.e. data members are mutual exclusive
 - Use "union" to save memory
 - size = max(size of its data members)
- ◆ A limited form of "class" type
 - Can have private/public/protected, data members, member functions
 - default = public
 - Can NOT have inheritance or static data member

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Anonymous union

- ◆ Union can be declared anonymously
 - i.e. Omit the type specifier

```
main()
     union {
         int
         char
     int i = a;
      char j = b;
   → used as non-union variables
```

```
void f() {
    if (<del>t.</del> a >
10)...
```

union == {

int

double _b;

class A {

};

→ What if it is NOT anonymous?

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Key Concept #3: Another ways to save memory: memory alignment and bit slicing

- ◆ Note: in 64-bit machine, data are 8-byte aligned What are "sizeof(A)" below?
 - class A { char a; };
 - class A { int i; bool j; int* k; }
 - class A { int i; bool j; int* k; char l; }
- ◆ Recommendation
 - Pack the data in groups of "sizeof(void*)", or ---
 - Use bit-slicing to save memory

```
class A {
   int _id: 30;
   int _gender: 1;
   int _isMember: 1;
   void f() { if (_isMember) _id += ...; }
};
```

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A Closer Look at the Previous Example

- Important concepts:
 - No extra memory usage when wrapping a pointer variable with a class
 - However, you gain the advantages in using constructor/destructor, operator overloading, etc, which are not applicable for pointer type variables.
 BddNode a, b, c;...; c = a & b;
 - The LSBs can be used as flags or stored other information.

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How about bit-slicing for pointers?

- ◆ No, size of pointers is fixed. You cannot bit slice them.
- One "tricky" way to save memory is to use the fact that pointer addresses are multiple of 8's (for 64-bit machines)

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Summary #2: "class", "struct", & "union"

- ◆ In C++, data members are encapsulated by the keywords "private" and "protected"
 - Make the interface between objects clean
 - Reduce direct data access
 - Using member functions: correct once, fix all
- Struct and class are basically the same, except for their default access privilege
- ◆ Union: no *inheritance* nor *static* data member

Class struct union

Default access private public public

Enum: user-defined type for named constants

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Key Concept #4: Enum

 A user-defined type consisting of a set of named constants called enumerators

◆ By default, first enumerator's value = 0

 Each successive enumerator is one larger than the value of the previous one, unless explicitly specified (using "=") with a value

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Common usage of "enum"

- 1. Used in function return type
 - Color getSignal() { ... }
- 2. Used as "status" and controlled by "switch-case"

```
ProcState f() { ...; return ...; }
...
ProcState state = f();
switch (state) {
   case IDLE : ...; break;
   case ACTIVE: ...; break;
} // What's the advantage??
```

3. Used as "bit-wise" mask

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Scope of "enum"

- Enumerators are only valid within the scope it is defined
 - e.g. class T { enum COLOR { RED, BLUE }; };
 - → RED/BLUE is only seen within T
 - To access enumerator outside of the class, use explicit class name qualification
 - e.g. void f() { int i = T::RED; }
 - → But in this case, the enum must be defined as public

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Bitwise Masks

```
◆ To manipulate multiple control "flags" in a single integer
```

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Key Concept #5: "#define" vs. "enum"

```
1. #define RED
   #define BLUE
   #define GREEN 5
2. enum COLOR {
      RED,
                  // value = 0
      BLUE,
                  // value = 1
      GREED = 5
   };
```

- What's the difference in terms of debugging?
 - Using "#define" → Can only display "values"
 - Using "enum" → Can display "names"

Recommendation: using "enum"

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Key Concept #6: Class Wrapper

- 1. To create a "record" type with a cleaner interface
 - e.g. When passing too many parameters to a function, creating a class to wrap them up.
 - → Making sure data integrity (checked in constructor)
 - → Creating member functions to enact assumptions, constraints, etc.

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Recall: Size of a Class

◆ The size of a class (object) is equivalent to the summation of the sizes of its data members

→ sizeof(A) = sizeof(B) + sizeof(C*);

Wrapping some variables with a class definition DOES NOT introduce any memory overhead!!

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Key Concept #6: Class Wrapper

- 2. To manage the memory allocation/deletion of pointer văriables
 - Recap: pointer data member will not be explicitly constructed in class constructor
 - Memory allocation/deletion problems for pointer variables
 - There may be many pointer variables pointing to the same piece of heap memory
 - The memory should NOT be freed until the "last" pointer variable become useless (HOW DO WE KNOW!!?)
 What about the pointer (re-)assignment?
 - Recap: The memory of an object variable is allocated when entering the scope, and released when getting out.
 - Recap: The heap memory must be explicitly allocated and deleted.

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Object-Wrapped Pointer Variables If your program contains pointer-pointed memory that is highly shared among different variables ◆Keep the reference count ◆Pointer → internal class (e.g. class NodeInt) Object → user interface (e.g. class Node) class NodeInt { // a private class friend class Node: Data data Data data: size t refCnt Node left; Node right; size t refCnt; node }; class Node { size_t _refCnt size_t _refCnt NodeInt * node; }; node node Data Structure and Programming Prof. Chung-Yang (Ric) Huang 75

Key Concept #6: Class Wrapper

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3. To keep track of certain data/flag changes and handle complicated exiting/exception conditions
void f() {
 x1.doSomething();
 if (...) x2.doSomething();
 else { x1.undo(); return; }
 ...
 x2.undo(); x1.undo();
}

>Very easy to miss some actions...
void f() {
 XKeeper xkeeper; // keep a list in xkeeper xkeeper.doSomething(x1);
 if (...) xkeeper.doSomething(x2);
 else return;
} // ~XKeeper() will be called

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Object-Wrapped Pointer Variables

```
Node::Node(...) {
    ...
    if (!_node) _ node = newNode(...);
    _node->increaseRefCnt();
}
Node::~Node() { resetNode(); }
Node::resetNode() {
    if (_node) {
        _node->decreaseRefCnt();
        if (_node->getRefCnt() == 0) delete _node;
    }
}
Node& Node::operator = (const Node& n) {
    resetNode();
    _node = n._node;
    _node->increaseRefCnt();
}
```

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Key Concept #7: "static" in C++

- As the word "static" suggests, "static xxx" should be allocated, initialized and stay unchanged throughout the program
 - → Resides in the "fixed" memory

However.

- ◆ The keyword "static" is kind of overloaded in C++
- 1. Static variable in a file
- 2. Static variable in a function
- Static function
- 4. Static data member of a class
- 5. Static member function of a class

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So, what does "static" mean anyway?

- ◆ "static" here, refers to "memory allocation" (storage class)
 - The memory of "static xxx" is allocated before the program starts (i.e. in fixed memory), and stays unchanged throughout the program

[cf] "auto" storage class

 Memory allocated is controlled by the execution process (e.g. local variables in the stack memory)

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[Note] Storage class vs. visible scope

- Remember, "static" refers to static "memory allocation" (storage class)
 - We're NOT talking about the "scope" of a variable
- ◆ The scope of a variable is determined by where and how it is declared
 - File scope (global variable)
 - Block scope (local variable)
- → However, the "static" keyword does constrains the maximum visible scope of a variable or function to be the file it is defined

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Key Concept #8: Visibility of "static" variable and function

- 1. Static variable in a file
 - It is a file-scope global variable
 - Can be seen throughout this file (only)
 - Variable (storage) remained valid in the entire execution
- 2. Static variable in a function
 - It is a local variable (in terms of scope)
 - Can be seen only in this function
 - Variable (storage) remained valid in the entire execution
- 3. Static function
 - Can only be seen in this file
- Static variables and functions can only be seen in the defined scope
 - Cannot be seen by other files
 - No effect by using "extern"

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Key Concept #9:

"static" Data Member in a Class

- Only one copy of this data member is maintained for all objects of this class
 - All the objects of this class see the same copy of the data member (in fixed memory)
 - (Common usage) Used as a counter

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Key Concept #10: "static" Member Function in a Class

- Useful when you want to access the "static" data member but do not have a class object
 - Calling static member function without an object
 e.g. T::setGlobalRef();
 - No implicit "this" argument (no corresponding object)
 - Can only see and use "static" data members, enum, or nested types in this class
 - · Cannot access other non-static data members
- ◆ Usage

```
    T::staticFunction();  // OK
    object.staticFunction();  // OK
    T::staticFunction() { ... staticMember... }  // OK
    T::staticFunction() { ... this ... }  // Not OK
    T::staticFunction() { ... nonStaticMember... }  // Not OK
    T::nonstaticFunction() { ... staticMember... }  // OK
```

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Key Concept #11: static cast<T>(a)... Cast away static?? ⊗

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Example of using "static" in a class

```
class T
{
    static unsigned _globalRef;
    unsigned _ref;

public:
    T() : _ref(0) {}
    bool isGlobalRef() { return (_ref == _GlobalRef); }
    void setToGlobalRef() { _ref = _global Ref; }
    static void setGlobalRef() { _globalRef++; }
}
```

 Use this method to replace "setMark()" functions in graph traversal problems (How??)

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