

6.1. Classes

6.2. Constructors and Destructors

6.3. **this** and initializing **const** attributes

6.4. **static** members

6.5. The **string** Class

6.6. The **ifstream** and **ofstream** Classes

6.7. The **tuple** Class

## 6.1. Classes and Objects

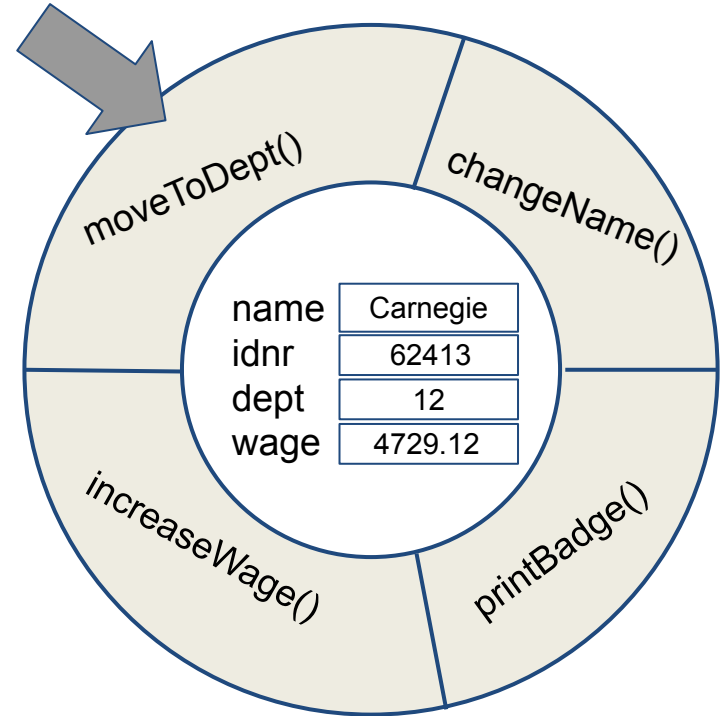
- A **class** essentially defines a new type, containing:
  - a collection of variables (data members, attributes)
  - a set of related operations (member functions, methods)
- An **object** is an instance (an entity) of a class
  - it is called object, since it usually models a real-world object
  - a class then can be viewed as a model or a blueprint for a certain class of objects

## 6.1. Classes and Objects

**Encapsulation:** The bundling together of all information, capabilities, and responsibilities (data and functions) into one single object:

```
// create a new employee:
Employee user("Carnegie", 62413,
              12, 4729.12);

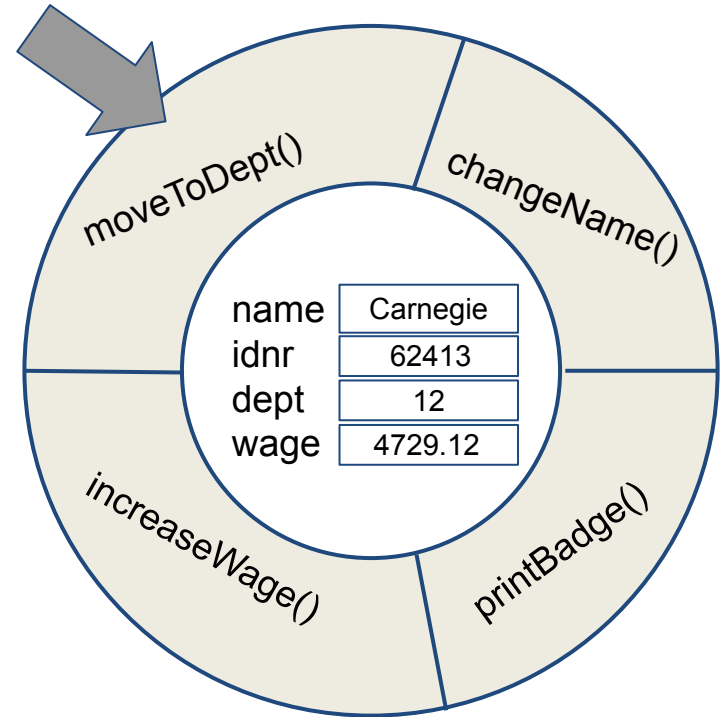
// move the user to department 17:
user.moveToDept(17);
// change the user's name:
user.changeName("Carnegie-Mellon");
```



## 6.1. Classes and Objects

**Encapsulation** has two properties:

- 1) Data protection: Attributes are **private**, access to attributes goes through the available methods
- 2) Information hiding: Internal implementation is hidden from external code, only the **public** interface of the class is accessible



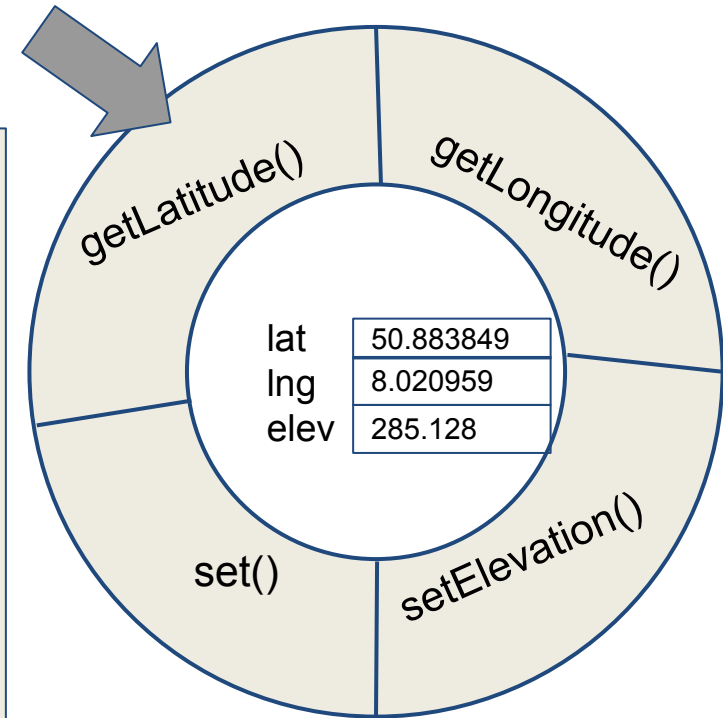
## 6.1. Classes and Objects

Access to object's attributes goes through the available methods. Example:

```
GPSCoord here; // GPS coordinate object

// we can modify latitude and
// longitude only together:
here.set(50.883849, 8.020959);

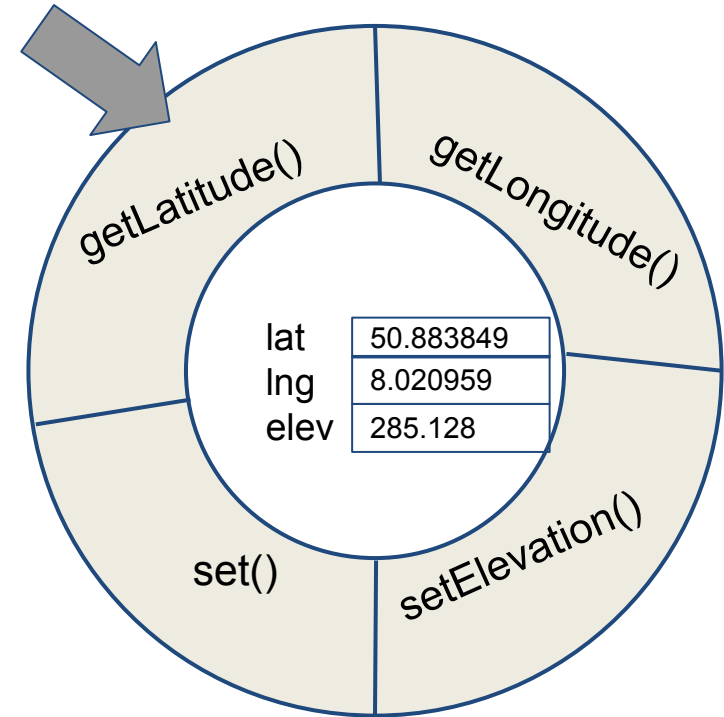
// we can modify the elevation:
here.setElevation(285.128);
// we can retrieve these attributes:
double lat = here.getLatitude();
double lng = here.getLongitude();
// .. but not elevation
```



## 6.1. Classes and Objects

Declaring a class GPSCoord:

```
// GPS coordinate class:
class GPSCoord {
    private:
        // latitude, longitude, elevation:
        double lat, lng, elev;
    public:
        // set latitude and longitude:
        void set(double la, double lo);
        void setElevation(double val);
        double getLatitude();
        double getLongitude();
};
```



## 6.1. Classes and Objects

Implementing the methods for the class GPSCoord:

```
void GPSCoord::set(double la, double lo){  
    lat = la; lng = lo;  
}  
void GPSCoord::setElevation(double val){  
    elev = val;  
}  
double GPSCoord::getLatitude(){  
    return lat;  
}  
double GPSCoord::getLongitude(){  
    return lng;  
}
```

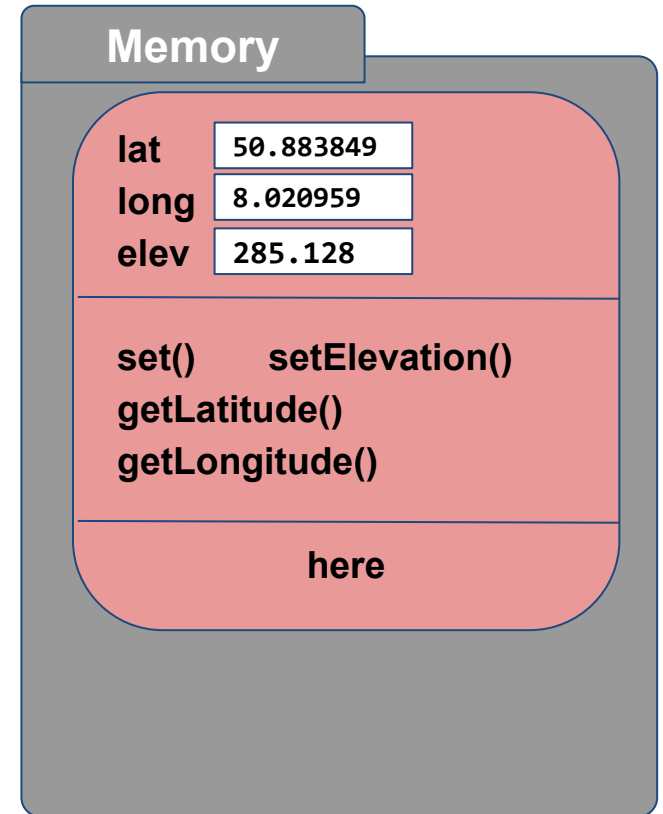
## 6.1. Classes and Objects

Creating an object of the class GPSCoord:

```
GPSCoord here; // GPS coordinate object

// we can modify latitude and
// longitude only together:
here.set(50.883849, 8.020959);

// we can modify the elevation:
here.setElevation(285.128);
// we can retrieve these attributes:
double lat = here.getLatitude();
double lng = here.getLongitude();
// .. but not elevation
```



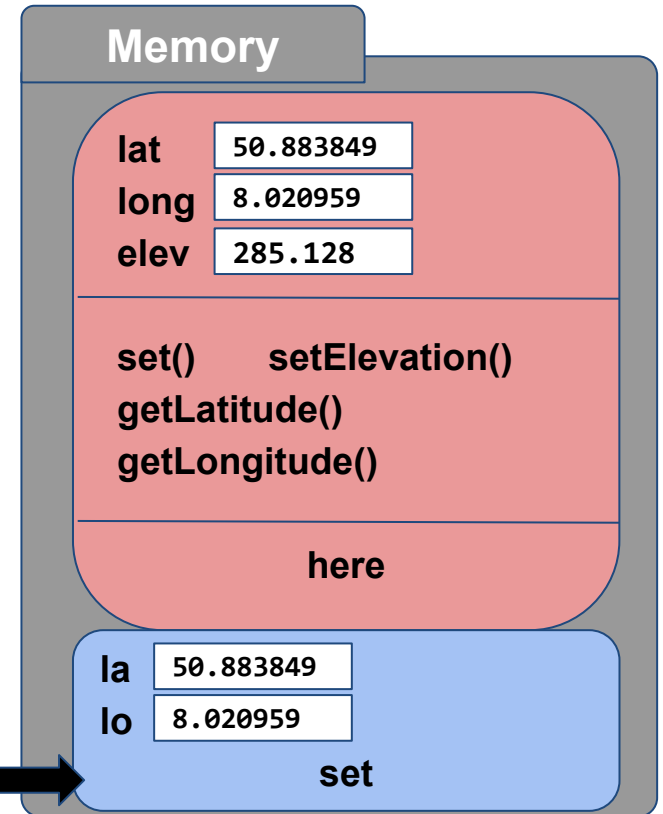


## 6.1. Classes and Objects

An object's method (member function) has access to *all* its attributes (variables) and methods

```
void GPSCoord::set(double la, double lo){  
    lat = la; long = lo; // defaults  
    // call GPSCoord methods to update:  
    lat = getLatitude();  
    lng = getLongitude();  
    setElevation(285.128);  
}
```

```
GPSCoord here; // GPS coordinate object  
// set latitude and longitude:  
here.set(50.883849, 8.020959);
```



## 6.1. Classes and Objects

! Note new suggested indentation & syntax for classes. One space should come before private or public, and a colon (':') after these keywords. Example:

```
// GPS coordinate class:
class GPSCoord {
  private:
  // latitude, longitude, elevation:
  double lat, lng, elev;
  public:
  // set latitude and longitude:
  void set(double la, double lo);
  void etElevation(double val);
  double getLatitude();
  double getLongitude();
}; // mind the semicolon after the declaration
```

## 6.1. Classes and Objects: Minor notes

Attributes could also be public (but usually aren't)

Methods can also be implemented in the class declaration

```
class Test {  
    private:  
        int attribute1; // a private attribute  
    public:  
        bool attribute2; // a public attribute  
        void method1(int parameter) { attribute1 = parameter; }; // methods implemented  
        void method2() { std::cout << attribute1 << std::endl; }; // in class declaration  
};  
  
int main(){  
    Test myTest; // create an object of class Test  
    myTest.attribute2 = false; // we can access public attributes  
    myTest.method1(21); // we can call public methods  
}
```

## 6. Objects and Classes

### 6.1. Classes and Objects: Minor notes

The class declaration is usually in the file `className.h`, the class' method implementations in the file `className.cpp`

```
class Test {  
    private:  
        int attribute1;  
    public:  
        bool attribute2;  
        void method1(int parameter);  
        void method2();  
};
```

Test.h

```
#include "Test.h"  
void Test::method1(int parameter) {  
    attribute1 = parameter;  
};  
void Test::method2() {  
    std::cout << attribute1 << std::endl;  
};
```

Test.cpp

```
#include "Test.h"  
int main(){  
    Test myTest;  
    myTest.attribute2 = false;  
    myTest.method1(21);  
}
```

mainTest.cpp

## 6.1. Classes and Objects: Minor notes: **struct**

**struct** allows to group multiple variables in C++ into one variable. All of its attributes (or members) and methods (or member functions) are public.

Since C++20, **structs** (as well as **classes**) can use **Designated Initializers**.

```
struct Key {  
    char label;  
    bool pressed;  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Key item1;  
    item1.label = 'q';  
    item1.pressed = false;  
    // initialize members to values:  
    Key item2 = {'w', true};  
}
```

```
struct Date {  
    int day, month, year;  
};  
  
int main() {  
    // Designated Initializers allow to  
    // make initialization more flexible  
    // (from C++20)  
    Date today = { .day = 9, .month = 5,  
                  .year = 2025  
    }; // or shorter:  
    Date next{.day=10,.month=5,.year=2025};  
}
```

## 6.1. Classes and Objects: Minor notes: Scope Resolution

The scope resolution operator `::` lets you access variables from other scopes:

```
#include <iostream> // std scope

auto a = 'a'; // global scope

namespace myscope { // myscope scope
    auto a = "a string!";
}

int main() {
    auto a = 7;
    std::cout << // std scope
        "a = " << a << '\n' << // local scope
        "::a = " << ::a << '\n' << // global scope
        "myscope::a = " << myscope::a << '\n'; // "myscope" scope
}
```

# 6. Objects and Classes

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

Reminder: Variables can be declared and later initialized, or they can be immediately initialized within the declaration:

```
char mySymbol = '?';
```

This declaration and initialization can be done for classes' objects as well:

```
GPSCoord myLocation(50.88385, 8.02096, 285.128); // coordinates of Siegen
```

```
Employee user("Carnegie", 62413, 12, 4729.12); // employee Carnegie
```

```
SizedSymbol bigQuestion('?', 14); // a SizedSymbol '?' with size 14
```

This requires a special method with the class' name: The constructor

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

A constructor has no return value (not even void) and is automatically called

```
class Test {  
    private:  
        int attribute1;  
    public:  
        Test(int parameter) { // this is a constructor for class Test  
            attribute1 = parameter;  
        };  
        void method2() {  
            std::cout << attribute1 << std::endl;  
        };  
};  
  
int main(){  
    Test myTest(21); // object's constructor initializes is automatically called  
    myTest.method2(); // this will print out '21' to the terminal  
}
```



## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

Constructors can be overloaded (distinguished by their parameters):

```
class Test {  
    private:  
        int attribute1, attribute2;  
    public:  
        // multiple constructors for class Test:  
        Test() { attribute1 = 0; }; // this is a default constructor  
        Test(int parameter) { attribute1 = parameter; };  
        Test(int parameter1, int parameter2) { attribute1 = parameter2; };  
        void method2() { std::cout << attribute1 << std::endl; };  
};  
  
int main(){  
    Test myTest(4, 12); // object of class Test has attribute1 initialized to 12  
    myTest.method2(); // this will print out '12' to the terminal  
}
```

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

- A class' default constructor is a constructor without parameters
- A class without declared constructors results in the compiler automatically generating a default constructor
- A default constructor is invoked when an object is created, but not initialized

```
class Test {  
    private:  
        int attribute1;  
    public:  
        // Test() {} --> an automatically generated constructor would look like this  
        void method2() { std::cout << attribute1 << std::endl; };  
};  
  
int main(){  
    Test myTest; // this object is initialized with empty default constructor  
}
```

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

A destructor is automatically called whenever an object is destroyed:

```
bool myFunction(){  
    Test myTest(17);    // this object is created and initialized here  
    return false;       // myTest's destructor is called when function returns  
}
```

This destructor is another special method with the same name as the class, starting with a ~:

```
Test::~~Test() {    // this is the destructor for class Test  
    // here come statements for application-specific clean up  
}
```

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

Example 00 (difficulty level: 🌶️)

```
/**  
    Write a program that declares, implements, and uses a class with no attributes.  
    The class should print 'hello' to the terminal when its object is created and  
    'bye' when its object is removed from memory.  
*/  
#include <iostream>          // terminal input and output classes and objects  
  
// write the class here  
  
int main() {  
    // create a class object here  
}
```

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors

Example 01 (difficulty level: 🌶️🌶️)

```
/**  
    Write a program that declares, implements, and uses a class with two attributes,  
    a boolean called 'flag' and an integer called 'number', which can only be changed  
    or read through a constructor. The class should also have a method 'get' with no  
    parameters, which returns the integer 'number' only if 'flag' is true, and  
    otherwise 0.  
*/  
// write the class here  
int main() {  
    int returnValue;  
    // create a class object here  
    // and use its get method  
    return returnValue;  
}
```

## 6.2. Constructors and Destructors: Maze Game v.4.00

Change the module into a class Maze, with `mazeGame.cpp` looking this way:

```
/* Fourth draft of Maze Game: drawing is in class "Maze" */
#include "Maze.h" // everything related to the maze
int main() {
    auto c = ' '; // used for user key input
    Maze maze(10, 5); // initialize the maze and put player at (10, 5)
    while ( c != 'q' ) { // as long as the user doesn't press q ..
        maze.draw('@', 3); // draw player as a '@' with color pair 3
        c = getch(); // capture the user's pressed key
        switch (c) {
            case 'w': maze.up(); break; // go up
            case 's': maze.down(); break; // go down
            case 'a': maze.left(); break; // go left
            case 'd': maze.right(); break; // go right
        }
    }
}
```

`mazeGame.cpp`

## 6.3. `this` and initializing `const` attributes

Class methods often reuse attribute names, leading to a problem:

```
class Maze {  
    public:  
        Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y);  
        ...  
    private:  
        int16_t x, y;  
        ...  
};
```

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) {  
    // how to assign the values of  
    // constructor parameters x and y  
    // to class attributes x and y?  
    ...  
}  
Maze::Maze() {  
    int16_t x, int16_t y;  
    // how to assign the values of  
    // constructor parameters x and y  
    // to local variables x and y?  
    ...  
}
```

## 6.3. **this** and initializing **const** attributes

One solution that works in all the class' methods is to use **this**

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) {  
    this->x = x;    // attribute x = value of constructor parameter x  
    this->y = y;    // attribute y = value of constructor parameter y  
    ...  
}
```

- Note: Each object gets its own copy of data members, all objects share a single copy of the class' methods
- **this** is an implicit pointer (see later) that is passed as a hidden parameter for all the class' methods, and is there available as another local variable

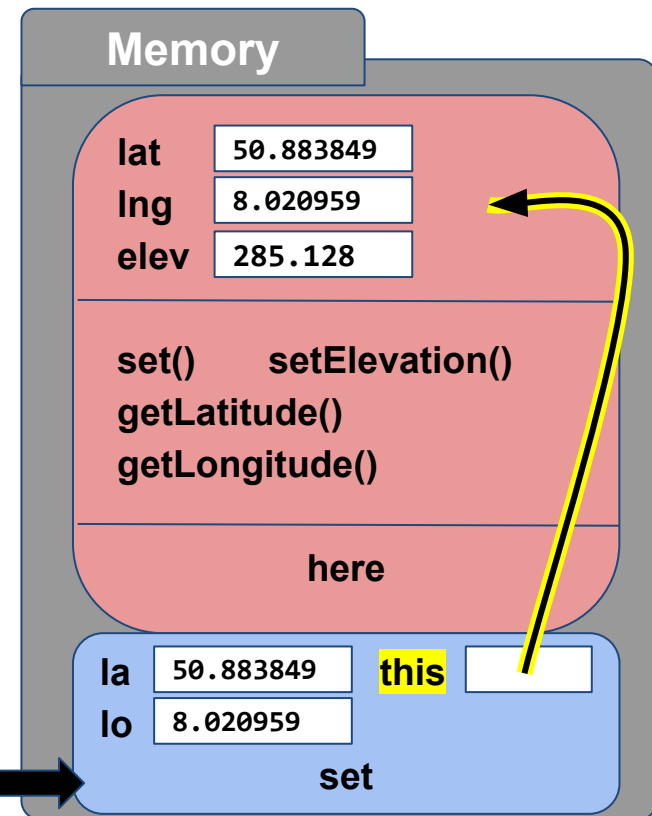


6.3. `this` and initializing `const` attributes

`this` is passed as a hidden parameter for all the class' methods, as an extra (pointer) variable

```
void GPSCoord::set(double lat, double lng){  
    this->lat = lat;  
    this->lng = lng;  
    this->lat = getLatitude();  
    this->lng = getLongitude();  
    setElevation(285.128);  
}
```

```
GPSCoord here; // GPS coordinate object  
// set latitude and longitude:  
here.set(50.883849, 8.020959);
```



## 6.3. `this` and initializing `const` attributes

Another (shorter) solution for constructors is to use this initialization syntax:

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) : x(x), y(y) {  
    // attributes x and y have now the same value as constructor  
    // parameters x and y  
}
```

This *member initializer list* syntax in constructors is not an assignment but a real initialization of the attribute. Curly braces can also be used:

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) : x{x}, y{y} {  
    // attributes x and y have now the same value as constructor  
    // parameters x and y  
}
```

## 6.3. `this` and initializing `const` attributes

This syntax addresses the problem of initializing a class' `const` attribute:

```
class Maze {  
    ...  
    private:  
        const int16_t mazeXlen;  
        const int16_t mazeYlen;  
    ...  
};
```

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) {  
    // we cannot assign to const:  
    mazeXlen = 15; // compiler error  
    mazeYlen = 10; // compiler error  
    ...  
}
```

This syntax is not an assignment but an initialization, and thus works:

```
Maze::Maze(int16_t x, int16_t y) : mazeXlen(15), mazeYlen(10) {  
    // mazeXlen is now 15, mazeYlen 10  
    ...  
}
```

## 6.3. `this` and initializing `const` attributes

This syntax similarly addresses other initialization problem, e.g. for C strings:

```
class Label {  
    ...  
    private:  
        // name is initialized:  
        char name[25] = "default";  
    ...  
};
```

```
Label::label() {  
    name = "none"; // --> compiler error  
}  
Label::label(int8_t i) {  
    name = "int8_t"; // --> compiler error  
}  
...
```

This syntax is not an assignment but an initialization, and thus works:

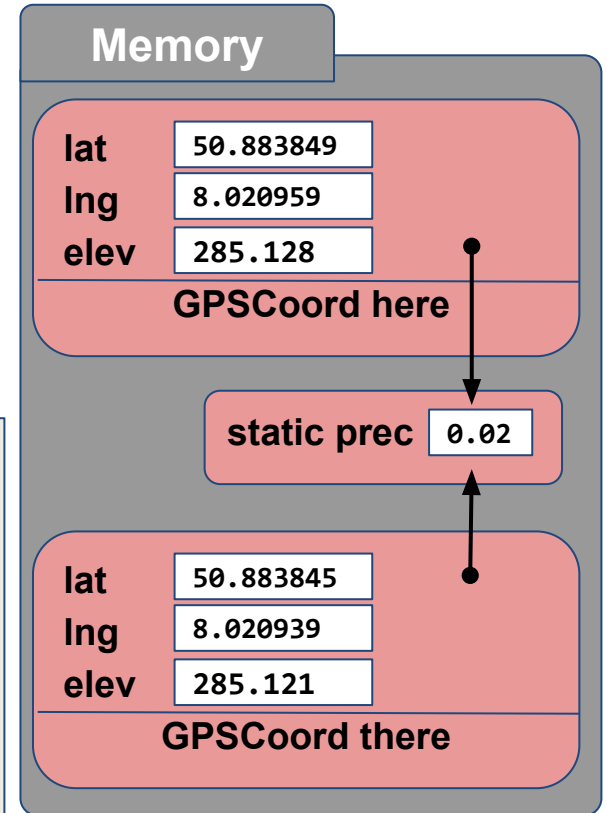
```
Label::Label() : name("none") { /* name is now "none" */ }  
Label::Label(int8_t i) : name("int8_t") { /* name is now "int8_t" */ }  
...
```

## 6.4. static members

- Each object has its own class attributes
- All objects share one copy of the class' methods
- **static** attributes, or [static members](#), are stored once across all objects. *Changing it through one object will change it for all objects.*

```
double GPSCoord::prec; // define static member once
GPSCoord here;
GPSCoord there;

there.prec = 0.02;
// the following will print out 0.02:
std::cout << here.prec;
```



## 6.4. static members

- They exist even if no objects of the class have been defined
- Static class members are declared in the class declaration, and are defined (and/or initialized) in the implementation / source file:

```

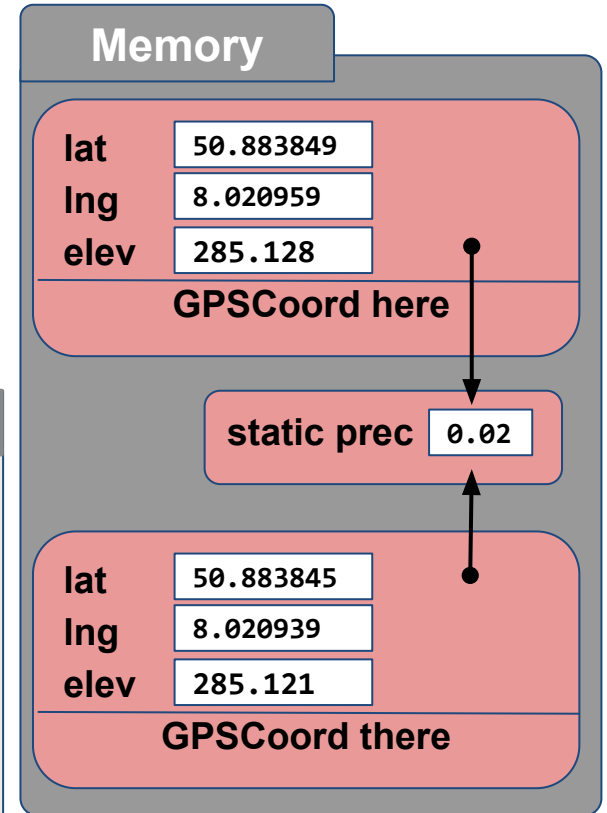
class GPSCoord {
public:
    // declaring a precision
    // attribute for all
    // GPSCoord objects:
    static double prec;
    ...
};
    
```

GPSCoord.h

```

// precision definition
// note that only here
// the variable is
// in fact created:
double GPSCoord::prec;
    ...
    
```

GPSCoord.cpp

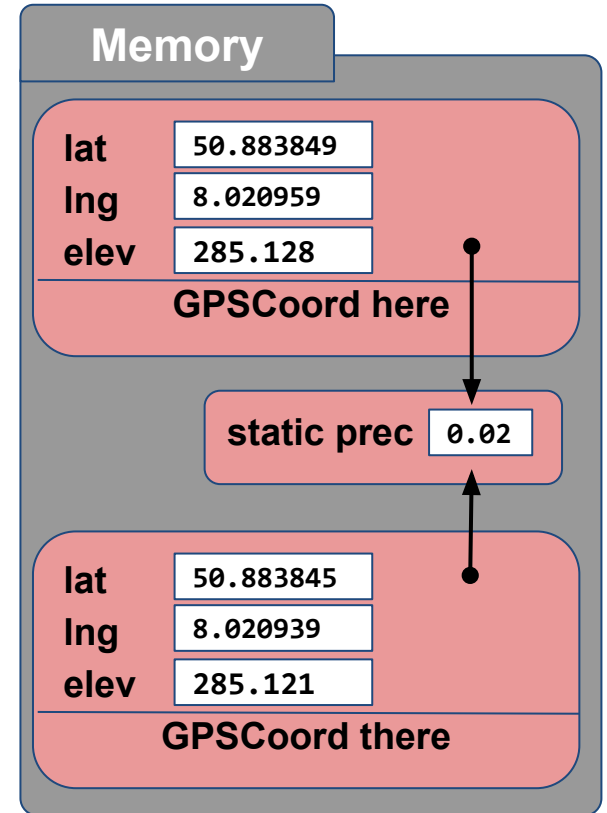


6.4. **static** members

These are not the same as **static** variables:

- Local variables that are declared as **static** are stored as global variables in the static data segment in memory
- Their size has to be known at compile time (e.g., for arrays)

```
void GPSCoord::set(){  
    // this variable will stay in memory and keep  
    // its value after the method finishes:  
    static double elevationPrec = 0.01;  
    setElevation(285.128, elevationPrec);  
}
```



## 6.4. static members

Example 02 (difficulty level: 🌶️)

```
/**
 * Create a class with just a static member, and illustrate that it exists, even
 * without any objects.
 */
#include <iostream>    // terminal output
// write the class below:

int main() {
    // do not create an object here, but assign a value to static member here
    std::cout << " The value of the static member is ";
    // print its value here:

    std::cout << '\n';
}
```



## 6.4. static members

Example 03 (difficulty level: 🌶️🌶️)

```
/**
 * Create a class Counter below with a static member "count" that holds the number of
 * objects of that class. Also, the public attribute "type" of the class should
 * contain the type of the supplied parameter to the constructor, as a C string.
 */
#include <iostream>          // terminal output
// write the class, and then define the static member below:

int main() {
    Counter c1, c2(2), c3(3.4);
    // The next line should return "void,int,double,3":
    std::cout << c1.type << ',' << c2.type << ',' << c3.type << '\n';
    // Finally, print out the count of Counter objects below:

}
```

## 6.5. The string Class

`iostream` has a class called [`std::string`](#), helping in dealing with strings:

```
#include <iostream>           // terminal input and output classes and objects
int main() {
    std::string myFirstName("John"); // initialize with constructor
    std::string myLastName = "Doe";  // initialize with assignment
    std::string myString = myFirstName + myLastName; // concatenation

    std::cout << myString << ", length = " ;
    std::cout << myString.length() << '\n'; // returns myString length

    std::cout << " Do found at = ";
    std::cout << myString.find("Do") << '\n'; // return position of "Do"

    std::cout << myString.compare(4, 3, "Do"); // is substring at position 4
    std::cout << '\n';                        // and length 3 the same as "Do"?
}
```

## 6.5. The string Class

`iostream` has a class called [`std::string`](#), helping in dealing with strings. Several `std::string` alternatives use instead of `char`:

<a href="#"><code>std::wstring</code></a>	uses <code>wchar_t</code> for <a href="#">wide strings</a>
<code>std::u8string</code> (since C++20)	uses <code>char8_t</code>
<code>std::u16string</code> (since C++11)	uses <code>char16_t</code>
<code>std::u32string</code> (since C++11)	uses <code>char32_t</code>

```
#include <iostream>           // terminal input and output classes
int main() {
    std::wcout.imbue(std::locale("en_US.UTF-8"));
    std::string myStr = "¡Hola! 日本 שלום 你好 مرحبا"; // UTF-8
    std::wstring mywStr = L"¡Hola! 日本 שלום 你好 مرحبا"; // wide chars
    std::cout << myStr << '\n' << sizeof(myStr[0]) << '\n';
    std::wcout << mywStr << '\n' << sizeof(mywStr[0]) << '\n'; // ! note wcout
    // what do sizeof(myStr) and sizeof(mywStr) return? Try it out and explain
}
```

strings.cpp

## 6.6. Operator Overloading

Classes can redefine operators for their objects. For example, the operator `+` in a `String` class can be implemented to concatenate two strings, or it can be implemented in the class `Complex` to add two complex numbers:

```
#include <iostream>

class Complex {
private:
    int real, imag;
public:
    Complex(int real=0, int imag=0): real(real), imag(imag) {} // sole constructor
    Complex operator +(Complex const & obj) { // takes the object on right of '+'
        Complex res; // this object is on the left of '+'
        res.real = real + obj.real;
        res.imag = imag + obj.imag;
        return res;
    }
}
```

Complex.cpp

## 6.6. Operator Overloading

- Note that **conversion** can also be used as an operator, *these have no return type*
- Any constructor works as **conversion constructor** (since c++11)
- A **default assignment** operator (=) is automatically made for each class

```
operator std::string() { // conversion to std::string
    return std::to_string(real)+'+'+std::to_string(imag)+'i';
}
operator float() { // conversion to float
    return (float)real+(float)imag/1000.0f;
}
}; // end of Complex class

int main() {
    Complex c1(2,3), c2(7,5), c3(3,3);
    std::cout << (std::string)(c1 + c2) << '\n'; // out: 9+8i
    c1 = 6; c2 = {7, 8}; c3 = c2; // conversion constructor, default assignment
    std::cout << c1 << ' ' << c2 << ' ' << c3 << '\n'; // out: 6 7.008 7.008
}
```

Complex.cpp

## 6.6. Operator Overloading

- The default assignment is defined to operate recursively - assigning each data element according to the appropriate rules for the type of that element. Each member of a class type is assigned by calling that member's assignment operator. Members that are of built-in type are assigned by assigning their values. [[Accelerated C++, Koenig, Hendrickson, Moo](#)]
- Some operators *cannot* be overloaded, such as: **sizeof**, scope resolution (::), class member access (or dot: . ) and the ternary operator ( ? : )
- Recommended for more information on operator overloading:  
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4421706/what-are-the-basic-rules-and-idioms-for-operator-overloading>

## 6.6. Operator Overloading

Example 04 (difficulty level: 🌶️🌶️)

```
#include <iostream>           // terminal input and output classes and objects
class GPSCoord {
private:
    double lat, lng, elv; // latitude, longitude, elevation
public:
    GPSCoord(double lat, double lng, double e=0.0): lat(lat), lng(lng), elv(e) {}
    operator std::string() {
        // convert the three attributes to a string
    }
    bool operator == (GPSCoord & obj) {
        // test whether two objects have same latitude and longitude
    }
};

int main() {
    GPSCoord point1(1.0,2.0,3.0), point2(1.0,2.0,4.0);
    // print out both points, and whether they overlap with the == operator
}
```

## 6.6. Operator Overloading

Example 05 (difficulty level: 🌶️🌶️)

```
#include <iostream>          // terminal input and output classes and objects
class GPSCoord {
private:
    double lat, lng, elv;    // latitude, longitude, elevation
public:
    GPSCoord(double lat, double lng, double e=0.0): lat(lat), lng(lng), elv(e) {}
    int operator [] (int index); // access the GPS coordinates as index
};
int GPSCoord::operator [] (int index) {
    // for index 0, 1 or 2, return the latitude, longitude, or elevation
}
int main() {
    GPSCoord point1(1.0,2.0,3.0);
    // print out the coordinates by accessing them with the [] operator
}
```



## 6.7. The `ifstream` and `ofstream` Classes

The module `fstream` contains a class [`std::ifstream`](#) for reading from a file:

```
#include <iostream>    // terminal input/output classes & objects
#include <fstream>      // input file stream class std::ifstream

int main() {
    std::ifstream myFile("fileTest.cpp"); // initialize with constructor

    auto c = ' ';
    // get a character from the file, move to next, and output it to the terminal
    while (myFile.get(c)) std::cout << c;
    std::cout << '\n';
}
```

fileTest.cpp

## 6.7. The `ifstream` and `ofstream` Classes

The module `fstream` also contains a class [`std::ofstream`](#) for writing to a file:

```
#include <iostream>    // terminal input/output classes & objects
#include <fstream>     // in/output file stream classes

int main() {
    std::ifstream myFile("copyTest.cpp");    // initialize input and output file
    std::ofstream myFileCopy("copyTest_copy.cpp"); // streams with constructors

    auto c = ' ';
    // get each character from input file stream and output to output file stream
    while (myFile.get(c)) myFileCopy << c;
    std::cout << '\n';
}
```

copyTest.cpp

## 6.7. The `ifstream` and `ofstream` Classes

Both are specific input and output streams (see later), that typically use insertion (<<) and extraction (>>) operators.

Example 06 (difficulty level: 🌶️)

```
#include <iostream>           // terminal input and output classes and objects
class GPSCoord {
private:
    double lat, lng, elv; // latitude, longitude, elevation
public:
    GPSCoord(double lat, double lng, double e=0.0): lat(lat), lng(lng), elv(e) {}
    // add the >> operator, so that the main function works as advertised
    // on any output stream. Use as a parameter: std::ostream & out
};
int main() {
    GPSCoord point1(1.0,2.0,3.0);
    // print out the coordinates with the >> operator, followed by a newline
    point1 >> std::cout;
}
```

## 6.8. The tuple Class

A `std::tuple` is a fixed-sized collection of values of various data types (preview of what is still to come, as it uses templates under the hood):

```
#include <iostream> // for std::cout and tuples functionality
int main() {
    auto myUser = std::make_tuple("James", "Smith", 187.2); // auto → std::tuple
    // get with index-based access:
    std::cout << std::get<0>(myUser) << " " << std::get<1>(myUser);
    // get with type-based access:
    std::cout << ":" << std::get<double>(myUser) << '\n';
    // output: "James Smith: 187.2" and goes to next line
}
```

- `get<0>(myUser)` accesses first element (hence index-based access, since C++11)
- `get<double>(myUser)` accesses the double (hence type-based access, since C++14)  
(works only if 1 tuple element has this type, otherwise the compiler reports an error)

## 6.8. The tuple Class

With decomposition declarations or [structured bindings](#) (since C++17), you can unpack the contents of the tuple into individual variables:

```
#include <iostream> // for std::cout and tuples functionality
int main() {
    auto myUser = std::make_tuple("James", "Smith", 187.2); // auto → std::tuple
    auto [fname, lname, height] = myUser; // decomposition declaration, C++17
    std::cout << fname << " " << lname << ":" << height << '\n';
}
```

the first **auto** above can deduce `myUser` as an **`std::tuple`** object, as that is the return type from **`std::make_tuple()`**

## 6.8. The tuple Class

One use of `std::tuple` is to return such an object from a function, bundling several values (even of different types) together:

```
#include <iostream> // for std::cout and tuples functionality

auto arithmetic(int a, int b) { // auto here is possible since C++14
    return std::make_tuple( a + b, a - b, a * b, a / b );
}

int main() {
    auto arith = arithmetic(5, 7); // arithmetic returns a 4-int tuple
    std::cout << " add: " << std::get<0>(arith) << '\n';
    std::cout << " sub: " << std::get<1>(arith) << '\n';
    std::cout << " mul: " << std::get<2>(arith) << '\n';
    std::cout << " div: " << std::get<3>(arith) << '\n';
}
```

## 6.8. The tuple Class

One use of `std::tuple` is to return such an object from a function, bundling several values (even of different types) together:

```
#include <iostream> // for std::cout and tuples functionality

auto arithmetic(int a, int b) { // auto here is possible since C++14
    return std::make_tuple( a + b, a - b, a * b, a / b );
}

int main() { // now using structured bindings, since C++17
    auto [add, sub, mul, div] = arithmetic(5, 7);
    std::cout << " add: " << add << '\n';
    std::cout << " sub: " << sub << '\n';
    std::cout << " mul: " << mul << '\n';
    std::cout << " div: " << div << '\n';
}
```