# **Overloading Operators**

## How can I do...

```
Food food1("Rice",100);
Food food2("Chicken",200);
Food food3 = food1 + food2;
```

# **Before Explaining**

```
class Food {
private:
  string name;
  int _cal;
public:
  Food() { _name = ""; _cal = 0; };
  Food(string, int);
  Food mix_food(Food& f2) {
    return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
```

```
Food Food::mix_food(Food& f2) {
   return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
}
```

```
Food food1("Fish",200);
Food food2("Icecream", 300);
food1.mix_food(food2);
```

- Will food1 be changed?
- Will food2 be changed?

```
Food Food::mix_food(Food& f2) {
   return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
}
```

```
Food food1("Fish",200);
Food food2("Icecream", 300);
Food food3 = food1.mix_food(food2);
```

- food1 and food2 will NOT be changed
- The new combined value is copied to food3

## Our mix\_food Method

```
class Food {
private:
  string name;
  int _cal;
public:
  Food() { _name = ""; _cal = 0; };
  Food(string, int);
  Food mix_food (Food& f2) {
    return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
  }
```

# Replace the Function Name Only

```
class Food {
private:
  string name;
  int _cal;
public:
  Food() { _name = ""; _cal = 0; };
  Food(string, int);
  Food operator+(Food& f2) {
    return Food( name + f2. name, cal +f2. cal);
  }
```

```
Food Food::operator+(Food& f2) {
   return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
}
```

```
Food food1("Fish",200);
Food food2("Icecream", 300);
Food food3 = food1.operator+(food2);
```

- Everything the same if we just change "mix\_food" to "operator+"
- So "operator+" is a function/method

```
Food Food::operator+(Food& f2) {
    return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
}
```

```
Food food1("Fish",200);
Food food2("Icecream", 300);
Food food3 = food1.operator+(food2);
```

 But it's very clumsy, if I want to combine a few food:

```
food4 = food3.operator+(food1.operator+(food2));
```

```
Food Food::operator+(Food& f2) {
   return Food(_name + f2._name, _cal +f2._cal);
}
```

```
Food food1("Fish",200);
Food food2("Icecream", 300);

Food food3 = food1.operator+(food2);
Food food3 = food1 + food2;
```

- They are equivalent!!
- So I can write (the one in the prev. slide)

```
food4 = food3 + food1 + food2;
```



Food food3 = food1.operator+(food2);

Food food3 = food1 + food2;

## Operator +

```
Food food3 = food1.operator+(food2);
Food food3 = food1 + food2;
```

- The two lines are equivalent
  - The first one is clumsy
- Back to our normal integer addition, we can view it as:

```
int i,j,k;
i = j.operator+(k); // same as i = j + k;
```

## Back to Our Discrete Math



- if we say 1 + 2
- "+" is a function that takes in two arguments
  - 1 and 2
  - And MAP it to 3
- In the "cheem" language of math:

"+":  $R \times R \rightarrow R$ 

## Back to Our Discrete Math



- if we say 1 + 2
- "+" is a function that takes in two arguments
  - 1 and 2
  - And MAP it to 3 (The return value)
- In which, you can redefine the "MAP" to anything else, e.g.
  - $+: \{0,1\} \times \{0,1\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

## Back to Our Discrete Math



In which, you can redefine the "MAP"

$$+: \{0,1\} \times \{0,1\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

Such that

$$0 + 0 = 0$$
 $0 + 1 = 1$ 
 $1 + 0 = 1$ 
 $1 + 1 = 0$ 

Group/Ring in Algebraic Structure



# In Alan's PhD Thesis N Years Ago

I defined arithmetic operations for spheres in any dimension

#### 3.1.1 Sphere Arithmetic

Given two spheres,  $b_i$  and  $b_j$ , and a real number c, addition, scalar multiplication, and power of spheres are defined as follows:

$$(z_i, w_i) + (z_j, w_j) = (z_i + z_j, w_i + w_j + 2\langle z_i, z_j \rangle)$$

$$c \cdot (z_i, w_i) = (c \cdot z_i, c \cdot (w_i - (1 - c) || z_i ||^2))$$

$$(z_i, w_i)^c = (z_i, c \cdot w_i).$$

The first two equations are the standard operations on vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$  under the paraboloid lifting map  $(z_i, w_i) \rightarrow (z_i, ||z_i||^2 - w_i)$ .

 Meaning, what is c = a + b, if a and b are spheres?

## We can Overload Other Operators

We can print "1" by:cout << 1;</li>

- In fact
  - cout is an instance of a class ostream (stands for "output stream")
- So the line above is equivalent to cout.operator<<(1);</li>

## We can Overload Other Operators

• We can print "1" by:

```
. cout << 1;
```

Prototype of operator "<<"</li>

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, const int& i)
{
    // the code that will print out i in the console
}</pre>
```

## So, What if ...

 If we want to print food1 (an instance of the class Food) by cout like this:

```
cout << food1;

ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, const Food& f)

{
    // the code that will print out f in the console
}</pre>
"cout <<" for the class Food

{
    // the code that will print out f in the console
}
```

Compare this to

```
"cout <<" for integers
```

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, const int& i)
{
    // the code that will print out i in the console
}</pre>
```