## Object Oriented Programming and C++

Song Liu (song.liu@bristol.ac.uk)

GA 18, Fry Building,

Microsoft Teams (search "song liu").

#### Structure in C

Define a structure "student"

```
struct student{
   int ID;
   char *name;
   int overall_grade;
};
```

Declare a structure variable and initialize it:

```
struct student song;
song.ID = 1024;
song.name = "song liu";
song.overall_grade = 70;
```

#### **Two New Structures**

Say, I would like to define a struct called cs\_student.

```
struct CSstudent{
   int ID;
   char *name;
   int overall_grade;
   int programming_grade;
};
```

Say, I would like to define a struct called Mathstudent.

```
struct Mathstudent{
   int ID;
   char *name;
   int overall_grade;
   int calculas_grade;
};
```

## Redundancy

- There are a lot of redundancies in these two definitions!
- Redundancy <=> Code is poorly reused!
- Redundancy <=> Confusion

```
struct Lawstudent{
   int ID;
   char *name;
   int final_grade;
   int law_grade;
};
```

• Wait, is final\_grade the same thing as the overall\_grade?

## **Type Hierarchy**

- The definition does not reflect that CSstudent and
   Mathstudent are sub-types of student.
- Imagine I have a function:

```
int print_overall_grade(student s){
   printf("%d\n",s.overall_grade);
}
```

By human logic, you would think the following works:

```
struct CSstudent song = {...}; //initialize "song"
print_overall_grade(song); //COMPILATION ERROR!
```

 song is a CSstudent structure. It does not match the input type in print\_overall\_grade.

## **Setting Variables in Structure**

- In C, data and the operations on data are detached.
- Imagine I have a function set\_overallscore.

```
/*set_overallscore, record student's score.
Pass by reference, do not pass by value!! */
void set_overallscore(student *ps, int score){
    //Check if score is valid or not.
    if(score <=100 && score >=0){
        ps->overall_score = score;
    }else{
        printf("Invalid Score!\n");
```

#### **Structure Pointer**

Note when you have a structure pointer, instead of using . to refer to its variables, you need to use ->.

```
student song = {...}; //initialization code
student *psong = &song;
song.ID = 1234;
psong->ID = 1234; //same as above.
```

Just remember, pointer uses "pointer" ( -> )...

### **Data Corruption**

Our set\_overallscore function works:

```
#include <stdio.h>
... //definition of student omitted
void main()
{
    struct student song = {1, "song liu", 0};
    set_overallscore(&song, -2);
    //prints out "invalid score!"
    printf("%d\n", song.overall_score);
    // prints 0
    set_overallscore(&song, 80);
    printf("%d\n", song.overall_score);
    // prints 80
```

### **Data Corruption**

 However, nothing prevents a irresponsible programmer from doing this:

```
#include <stdio.h>
... //definition of student omitted
void main()
{
    struct student song = {1, "song liu", 0};
    song.overall_score = 99999;
    printf("%d\n", song.overall_score);
    // prints 99999,
    // Now, song has an invalid score !!
    // no warning message!!
}
```

- Data and operations on data should be bound together
- Data should only be accessed and modified by using the right procedure.

## Data and Functions are naturally together

- Sometimes, it is just natural that a procedure is bound to the data it operates on.
- Say a student changes his/her name.

```
change_name(&song, "new name");
or
song.change_name("new name");
```

- The latter feels more natural and "human":
  - You can literally read your code as:
  - o song changes his name to "new name".

#### **Problems of Structure in C**

- 1. Does not reflect proper hierarchies of data
  - Code is poorly reused, which leads to redundancy and confusion.
- 2. Data and operations on data are detached.
  - Data may be corrupted by illegal access.
  - This programming style is arguably less natural and less "human".

## **Procedural Programming (PP)**

- C is a procedural programming language.
  - Your code is divided into several procedures
     (functions) and you write code for each procedure.
- Lab 7, we wrote the following functions:
  - o read\_matrix,
  - matrix\_multiplication
  - ∘ write\_matrix.
- Since the task we want to perform naturally splits into these subtasks: Read matrices, multiply them and write to a file.
  - We defined a function for each verb in the above description.

# Object Oriented Programming (OOP)

- In OOP, your code is divided into small parts called objects.
  - These parts can have hierarchies reflecting the realworld relationship between objects.
  - o If an object is a CSstudent, then it is a student.
- Objects contain data as well as procedures that operates on the data.
  - Solves the "data-operation detachment" issue.
  - The procedures in an object are called "methods".
  - The data in an object are called "fields".

#### C++

- C++ is an enhancement of C, that allows OOP.
- C++ is a superset of C.
  - C++ contains all language features in C and additional features for OOP.
  - Thus, a valid C program is also a valid C++ program, but not vice versa.

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    printf("hello world!\n").
}//A valid C++ program!
```

#### **Cautions**

- C++ is not a language for programming novice.
- C is simple and nimble, like a swiss army knife.
  - Anyone can use it.
  - If you program in a principled way, C can do everything.
- C++ is powerful and complex, like a tank.
  - It contains powerful features, but mostly geared toward large scale software development.
  - Using it in smaller projects may unnecessarily complicate things (over engineering).
  - If you abuse/misuse language features in C++, your program may be less readable and performant than using just PP in C.

## Compiler

- C++ code are contained in cpp files.
  - just like C code are contained in c files.
- C++ uses a different compiler: g++.
  - It has the same usage as gcc.
  - g++ main.cpp -o main.out compiles main.cpp to
     the executable main.out.

#### Class

- Class is the "structure" in C++.
- It groups related variables as well as procedures together in one entity.

```
#include <stdio.h>
class student{
   int ID;
   char* name;
   int grade;
};
// you do not need typedef to create an alias!
// you can use student as a type directly.
int main(){
   student song;
}
```

o song is an object or instance of class student.

#### Class

- By default, all fields (variables) in a class are private
  - You cannot access those fields.

```
student song;
song.grade = 70; //WRONG! COMPILATION ERROR
```

You need to manually declare fields as public.

```
class student{
public:
    int ID;
    char* name;
    int grade;
};
```

```
student song;
song.grade = 70; //OK!
```

#### **Methods**

Methods are functions that are "attached" to an object.

```
class student{
public:
    int ID;
    char* name;
    int grade;
    void set_grade(int score){
        if(score <= 100 && score > 0){
            grade = score;
    int get_grade(){
        return grade;
};
```

- set\_grade saves the score to the grade field.
- get\_grade returns the grade field.

#### **Methods**

Methods can be called using the "dot" notation:

```
student song;
song.set_grade(70);
printf("song's grade %d\n", song.get_grade());
//prints out 70
```

- Just like calling a regular function, you need to feed it with appropriate inputs.
- In this case, the **object** song 's grade has been modified and displayed.

## **Encapsulation**

- Exposing your fields as public variables is dangerous.
  - An irresponsible programmer can corrupt your data!
  - Recall the "student score" example.

```
student song;
song.grade = 999;
printf("song's grade %d\n", song.get_grade());
//prints out 999, which is invalid score
```

### **Encapsulation**

• To protect your data, do

```
class student{
    int ID;
    char* name;
    int grade;
public:
    void set_grade(int score){
        if(score <= 100 && score > 0){
            grade = score;
    int get_grade(){
        return grade;
```

## **Encapsulation**

Now, nobody can corrupt your data:

```
student song;
song.grade = 999; //WRONG! COMPILATION ERROR!
song.set_grade(999); // Invalid score,
// No change to the grade field.
```

They can only do it in "the right way":

```
song.set_grade(80); //the field "grade" is changed.
printf("%d\n", song.get_grade());
//prints out 80
```

- Encapsulation is an important idea in OOP. It prevents irresponsible programmers from corrupting and misusing data.
  - Wikipedia page on Data Hiding.

#### Constructor

• In C, we can initialize a structure using {...} syntax.

```
student song = {1234, "song liu", 70};
```

- How to initialize fields of an object in C++?
  - There is a more principled way to initialize fields in C, called "constructor".
  - Constructor is a public method that does NOT have a return type.
  - This method has the same name as your class.

#### Constructor

```
class student{
    int ID;
    char* name;
    int grade;
public:
    student(int newID, char* newname, int newgrade){
        ID = newID;
        name = newname;
        grade = newgrade;
    void set_grade(int score){
        if(score <= 100 && score > 0){
            grade = score;
    int get_grade(){
        return grade;
};
```

#### Constructor

Then, you can initialize an object like this

```
student song(1234, "song liu", 70);
printf("%d\n");
// prints out 70.
```

#### **Destructor**

- C++ allows you to execute a piece of code when an object is destroyed.
- This is very useful to release some resources (e.g. Heap Memory) that have been allocated in your constructor.
  - Like constructor, destructor is a public method with no return type.
  - o Syntax: ~ClassName()

#### **Destructor**

```
class Matrix{
    int numrows;
    int numcols;
    int *elements;
public:
    Matrix(int nrows, int ncols){
        numrows = nrows;
        numcols = ncols;
        //allocating heap memory for the matrix!
        printf("creating matrix...\n");
        elements = (int*) malloc(nrows*ncols*sizeof(int));
    ~Matrix(){
        //memory will be freed when
        //this matrix object is destroyed.
        printf("freeing matrix...\n");
        free(elements);
};
```

#### **Destructor**

```
int main(){
   //create a 2 by 2 matrix
   Matrix m(2,2);
   // do some matrix stuff...
   printf("doing matrix stuff\n");
   return 0;
}
```

The output of the program:

```
creating matrix...
doing matrix stuff
freeing matrix...
```

Although I never explicitly called ~Matrix(), it has been automatically called before my program exits.

## Lifespan of an object

- The lifespan of an object is a complicated topic in C++.
- We only need to remember a few things:
  - When your program finishes, all the objects you have created in the stack memory will be automatically destroyed.
  - In the same function, objects will be destroyed in the opposite order they are created.
  - Generally speaking, an object created in the stack memory of a function will be destroyed when the function exits.

## **Creating/Deleting Objects in Heap Memory**

- In C++, you can directly create objects in heap memory using the new keyword.
- They have to be manually destroyed using the delete keyword.

```
//create a matrix object in the heap memory
Matrix *pm = new Matrix(2,2);
//now, m is a pointer pointing to the matrix
//now do matrix stuff... before you go
delete pm;
//the heap memory can be released by delete
//keyword, this will trigger pm's destructor.
```

#### Inheritance

Consider the following student class:

```
class student{
    int ID;
    char* name;
    int grade;
public:
    void set_grade(int score){
        if(score <= 100 && score > 0){
            grade = score;
    int get_grade(){
        return grade;
};
```

#### Inheritance

- Now, let us create a Csstudent class.
- We want to do so without duplicating the code.
  - i.e. rewriting everything we wrote for Student class.
- We want all CSstudent objects to be recognized as a Student object by our program.

#### **Child Class**

• Create Csstudent as a child class of Student.

```
class CSstudent: public Student{
};
```

 Now, the CSstudent class has inherited all fields and methods of the Student class. It can do whatever
 Student class can do.

```
CSstudent song;
song.set_grade(70);
printf("%d\n", song.get_grade()); //prints 70.
```

 Inheritance reuses my old code for student class, and reduces the redundancy of my code.

#### **Child Class**

 You can define fields and methods that are exclusive to CSstudent.

```
class CSstudent: public Student{
    int programming_score;
public:
    int get_programming_score(){
        return programming_score;
   void set_programming_score(int score){
        if(score <= 100 && score > 0){
            programming_score = score;
```

#### **Child Class**

 Now, in addition to all fields and methods that are already in Student, CSstudent has an extra field programming\_score and two extra methods get\_programming\_score and set\_programming\_score.

For example:

```
CSstudent song;
song.set_grade(70);
printf("%d\n", song.get_grade());
//prints out 70
song.set_programming_score(80);
//prints out 80.
printf("%d\n", song.get_programming_score());
```

### **Child Class**

- Moreover, all functions that take a student object as an input will now take CSstudent as input.
  - Since the C++ knows, CSstudent is a student.
- Suppose we have a function:

```
int print_grade(student s){
    printf("%d\n", s.get_grade());
}
```

Now we can call print\_grade using song as an input:

```
CSstudent song;
song.set_grade(70);
print_grade(song);
//OK, C++ knows song is a CSstudent,
// thus is a student
//prints 70.
```

### **Child Class**

- However, once your parent class has constructors, inheritance become rather complicated.
- We will not discuss this circumstance in this unit.
- Read here for more information about inheritance.

### Conclusion

- Structure in C has some issues:
  - It can not reflect the hierarchy of data types.
  - Data and operations on data are detached.
- PP: You divide your program into sub-procedures.
- OOP: You divide your program into small "objects".
  - Objects contains "fields" and "methods".
- C++
  - It is a superset of C.

### **Homework 1 Problem with Structure**

In lab 7, we have coded structure that contains variables numrow, numcol and elements.

```
struct matrix{
   int numrow;
   int numcol;
   int *elements;
};
typedef struct matrix Matrix;
```

However anyone can modify numrow or numcol after the matrix has already been initialized. Imagine:

```
Matrix A = read_matrix("A.matrix");
A.numrow = 999999; //someone is being careless...
// a disaster waiting to happen...
multiply(A, B, C)
```

### **Homework 1 Problem with Structure**

- It is a poor design if anyone can modify your data in a way that can cause a disaster.
- numrow and numcol should be locked once the matrix has been initialized.
- Today, we are going to see how this can be done using C++'s encapsulation.

### **Homework 1 Matrix Class**

Create a **class** called Matrix. This class has the following **private fields**:

- 1. numrow, int type, the number of rows
- 2. numcol, int type, the number of columns
- 3. elements, int type, a **pointer** points to an array, storing the flattened matrix.

### **Homework 1 Indexing**

#### 4. Write a private heler method

```
int idx(int i, int j)
```

- It takes the 2D index i, j of the current matrix, and converts it to the linearized index.
- For example, if the current matrix is a 10 by 2 matrix.
   Suppose a
  - idx(0, 0) returns 0
  - idx(0, 1) returns 1
  - idx(1, 0) returns 2
  - idx(1, 1) returns 3
  - **-** ...
- The function idx should contain only one line of code.

### Homework 1 Matrix Class (submit)

#### Write public **methods**:

- 1. void zeros(int nrow, int ncol): allocate heap space for a nrow by ncol matrix, and fill it wit zeros.
  - Hint: use calloc.
- 2. void print(): print all elements in the current matrix.
- 3. void fill(int nrow, int ncol, int a[]): allocate heap space, and fill the matrix with elements in an array a. For example,

```
int a[] = {1,2,3,4};
Matrix M;
Matrix.fill(2,2,a);
//M now stores a matrix
//1 2
//3 4
```

## **Homework 1 Matrix Class (submit)**

- 4. int get\_nrow(): returns the number row of the current matrix.
- 5. int get\_ncol(): returns the number of columns of the current matrix.
- 6. void free\_mem(), releases the memory occupied by elements.
  - Do not forget to release all heap memory you have allocated!
- 7. Matrix dot(Matrix B) : computes the matrix multiplication between the current matrix (A) and the other matrix B. Return AB.

## **Homework 1 Matrix Class (submit)**

- Write test code in main, testing your methods.
  - Create a Matrix object.
  - Fill it with some elements.
  - Print out the matrix.
  - Perform Matrix Multiplication.
  - Print out the outcome of multiplication.
- In this matrix example, we have restricted the access of numrow and numcol: Once our matrix is initialized by fill method, numrow and numcol are read-only, hence they are "encapsulated" by our design.

## Homework 2 Image Class.

- Since images are essentially matrices when stored in computer, we can create a Image class using the Matrix class we have already made last week.
- Let us create a child class Image by inheriting the Matrix class.
  - o an Image is a Matrix in the same sense that CSstudent is a student,
  - The Image class inheriting the Matrix class can access all fields and functions in Matrix.

## **Homework 2 Image Class**

- Using the skeleton code provided, create a new child class called Image which inherits Matrix class.
- Write public member functions int height() and int width for the Image class, they return the height and width of the image.
  - Hint: If the image is represented by a numerical matrix, the height of the image is the number of rows of the matrix and the width of the image is the number of columns in the matrix.

## **Homework 2 Image Class**

- Write a public member function void visualize() in this Image class, visualizing the image represented by printing the matrix.
- ullet Suppose an Image object is also a matrix A,
  - $\circ$  If  $A_{i,j} \leq 85$ , print ' '.
  - $\circ$  If  $85 < A_{i,j} \le 170$ , print I .
  - $\circ$  If  $170 < A_{i,j} \leq 255$ , print M .

# **Homework 2 Image Class**

• Try to visualize the image stored in image.matrix.