

Object – Oriented Programming
Week 11, Spring 2009

Inheritance

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Composition

- Objects can be used to build up other objects
- Ways of inclusion
 - Fully
 - By reference
- Inclusion by reference allows sharing
- For example, an Employee has a
 - Name
 - Address
 - Health Plan
 - Salary History
 - Collection of Raise objects
 - Supervisor
 - Another Employee object!

Composition in action

Classes

Employee

— Name

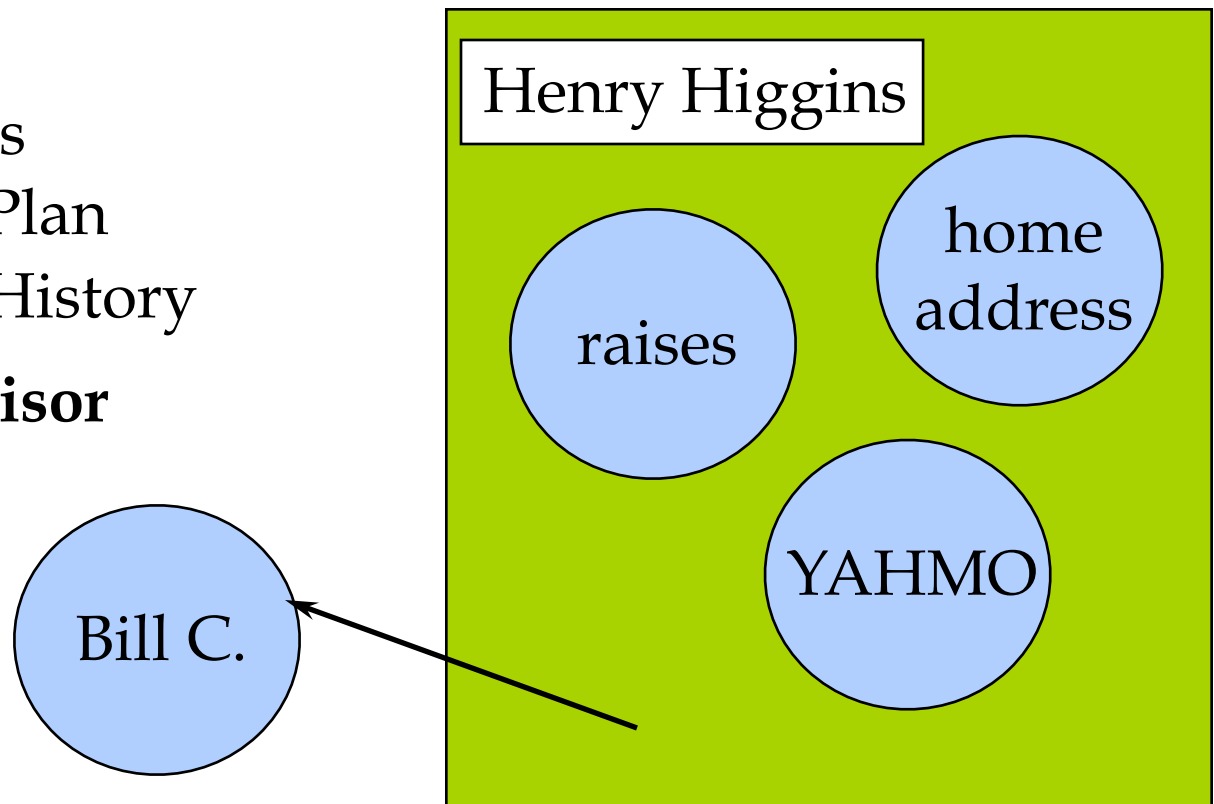
— Address

— HealthPlan

— Salary History

— **Supervisor**

Instances



Example

```
class Person { ... };
class Currency { ... };
class SavingsAccount {
public:
    SavingsAccount( const char* name,
                    const char* address, int cents );
    ~SavingsAccount();
    void print();
private:
    Person m_saver;
    Currency m_balance;
};
```

Example...

```
SavingsAccount::SavingsAccount ( const  
    char* name, const char* address,  
    int cents ) : m_saver(name, address),  
    m_balance(0, cents) {}
```

```
void SavingsAccount::print() {  
    m_saver.print();  
    m_balance.print();  
}
```

Embedded objects

- All embedded objects are initialized
 - The default constructor is called if
 - you don't supply the arguments, and there is a default constructor (or one can be built)
- Constructors can have initialization list
 - any number of objects separated by commas
 - is optional
 - Provide arguments to sub-constructors
- Syntax:

```
name ( args ) [ ':' init-list ] '{ '
```

Question

- If we wrote the constructor as (assuming we have the set accessors for the subobjects):

```
SavingsAccount::SavingsAccount ( const char* name,  
    const char* address, int cents ) {  
    m_saver.set_name( name );  
    m_saver.set_address( address );  
    m_balance.set_cents( cents );  
}
```

- Default constructors would be called

Public vs. Private

- It is common to make embedded objects private:
 - they are part of the underlying implementation
 - the new class only has part of the public interface of the old class
- Can embed as a public object if you want to have the entire public interface of the subobject available in the new object:

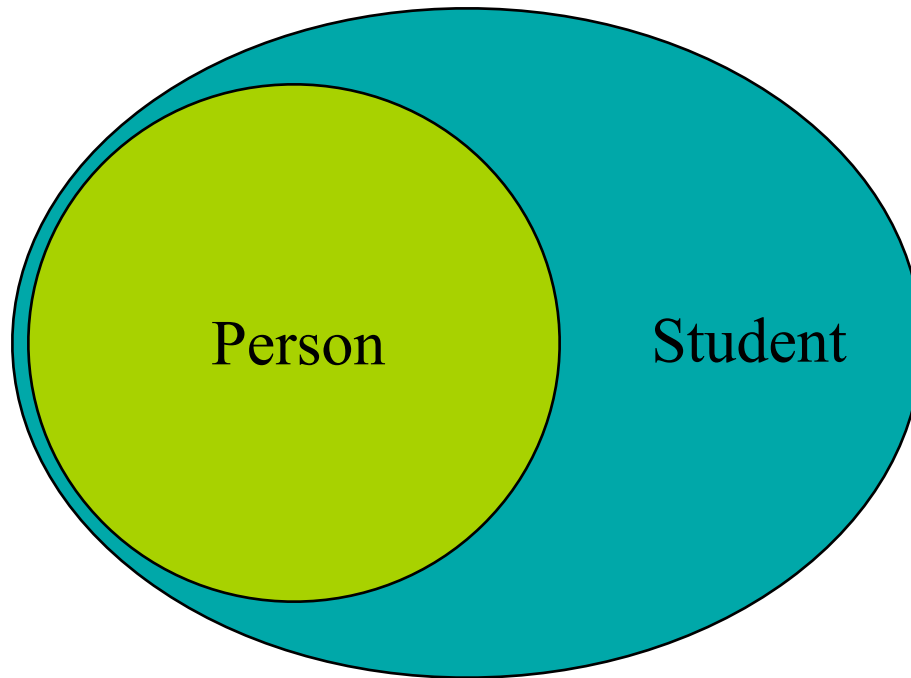
```
class SavingsAccount {  
    public:  
        Person m_saver;    ... };    // assume  
        Person class has set_name()  
    SavingsAccount  account;  
    account.m_saver.set_name("Fred" );
```


Inheritance

- Language implementation technique
- Also an important component of the OO design methodology
- Allows sharing of
 - Member data
 - Member functions
 - Interfaces
- Key technology in C++

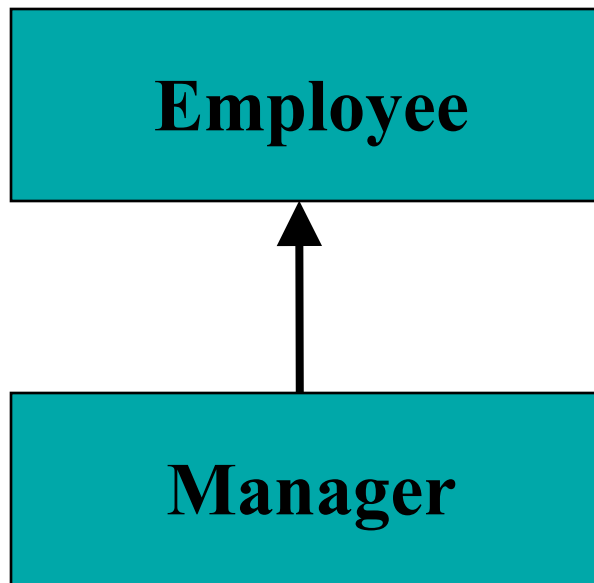
Inheritance

- The ability to define the behavior or implementation of one class as a ***superset*** of another class



Inheritance

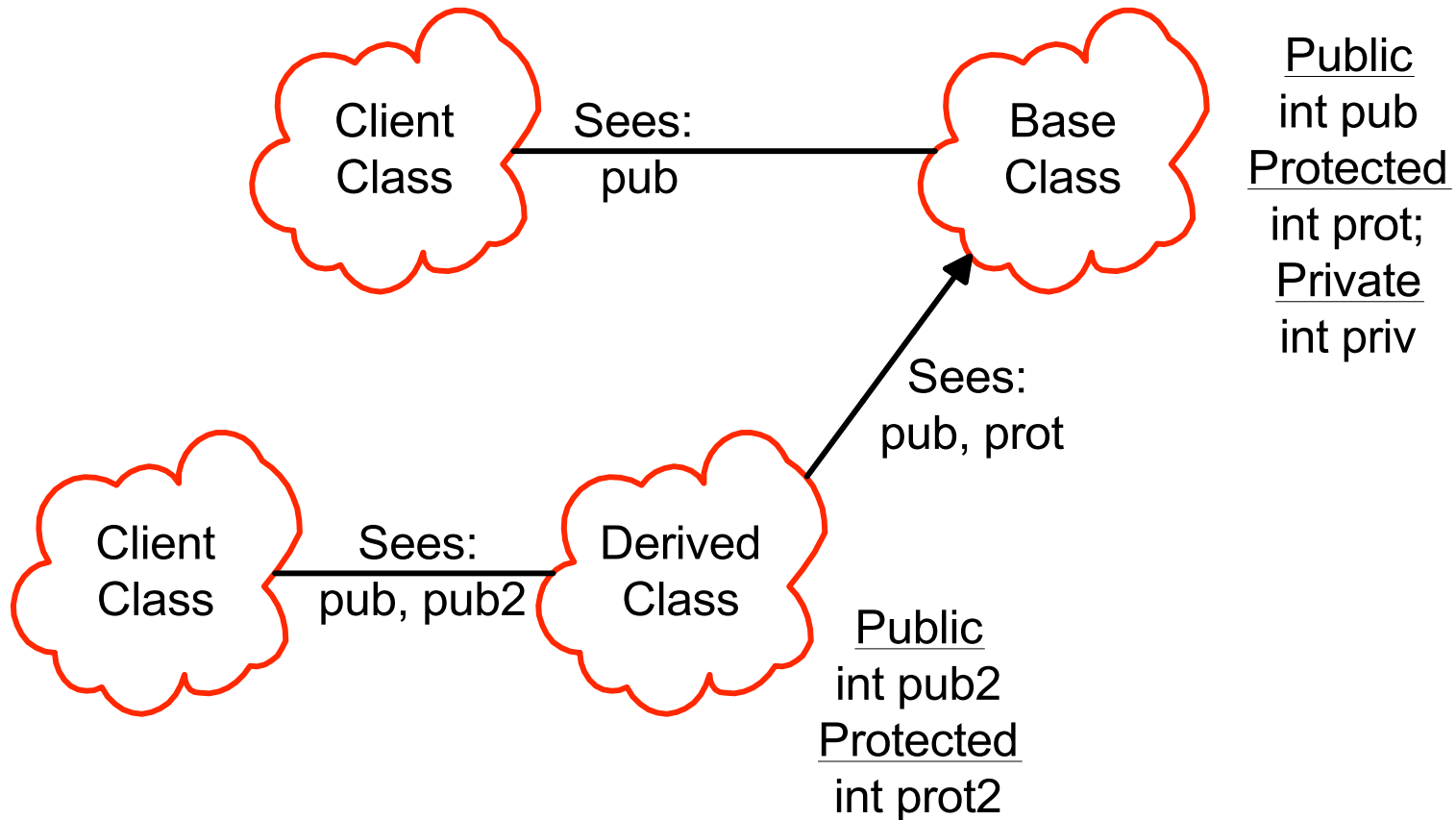
- **Class relationship: Is-A**



Base Class
Super
Parent

Derived Class
Sub
Child

Scopes and access in C++



Declare an Employee class

```
class Employee {  
public:  
    Employee( const std::string& name,  
              const std::string& ssn );  
  
    const std::string& get_name() const;  
    void print(std::ostream& out) const;  
    void print(std::ostream& out, const  
              std::string& msg) const;  
protected:  
    std::string m_name;  
    std::string m_ssn;  
};
```

Constructor for Employee

```
Employee::Employee( const string& name,  
                    const string& ssn )  
    : m_name(name), m_ssn( ssn)  
    {  
        // initializer list sets up the values!  
    }
```

Employee member functions

```
inline const std::string& Employee::get_name() const
{
    return m_name;
}

inline void Employee::print( std::ostream& out )
const {
    out << m_name << endl;
    out << m_ssn << endl;
}

inline void Employee::print(std::ostream& out, const
std::string& msg) const {
    out << msg << endl;
    print(out);
}
```

Now add Manager

```
class Manager : public Employee {  
public:  
    Manager(const std::string& name,  
            const std::string& ssn,  
            const std::string& title);  
    const std::string title_name() const;  
    const std::string& get_title() const;  
    void print(std::ostream& out) const;  
private:  
    std::string m_title;  
};
```


Inheritance and constructors

- Think of inherited traits as an embedded object
- Base class is mentioned by class name

```
Manager::Manager( const string& name, const string&  
ssn, const string& title = "" )  
    :Employee(name, ssn), m_title( title )  
{  
}
```

More on constructors

- Base class is always constructed first
- If no explicit arguments are passed to base class
 - Default constructor will be called
- Destructors are called in exactly the reverse order of the constructors.

Manager member functions

```
inline void Manager::print( std::ostream& out )
    const {
        Employee::print( out );          // call the base
        class print
        out << m_title << endl;
}

inline const std::string& Manager::get_title() const
{
    return m_title;
}

inline const std::string Manager::title_name() const
{
    return string( m_title + ": " + m_name ); //
    access base m_name
}
}
```

Uses

```
int main () {
    Employee bob( "Bob Jones", "555-44-0000" );
    Manager bill( "Bill Smith", "666-55-1234", "Important
Person" );

    string name = bill.get_name();    // okay Manager
inherits Employee
    //string title = bob.get_title();    // Error -- bob is
an Employee!
    cout << bill.title_name() << '\n' << endl;
    bill.print(cout);
    bob.print(cout);
    bob.print(cout, "Employee:");
    //bill.print(cout, "Employee:");    // Error hidden!
}
```

Name Hiding

- If you redefine a member function in the derived class, all other overloaded functions in the base class are inaccessible.
- We'll see how the keyword `virtual` affects function overloading next time.

What is not inherited?

- Constructors
 - synthesized constructors use memberwise initialization
 - In explicit copy ctor, explicitly call base-class copy ctor or the default ctor will be called instead.
- Destructors
- Assignment operation
 - synthesized operator= uses memberwise assignment
 - explicit operator= be sure to explicitly call the base class version of operator=
- Private data is hidden, but still present

Access protection

- Members
 - Public: visible to all clients
 - Protected: visible to classes derived from self
(and to friends)
 - Private: visible only to self and to friends!
- Inheritance
 - Public: `class Derived : public Base ...`
 - Protected: `class Derived : protected Base ...`
 - Private: `class Derived : private Base ...`
 - default

How inheritance affects access

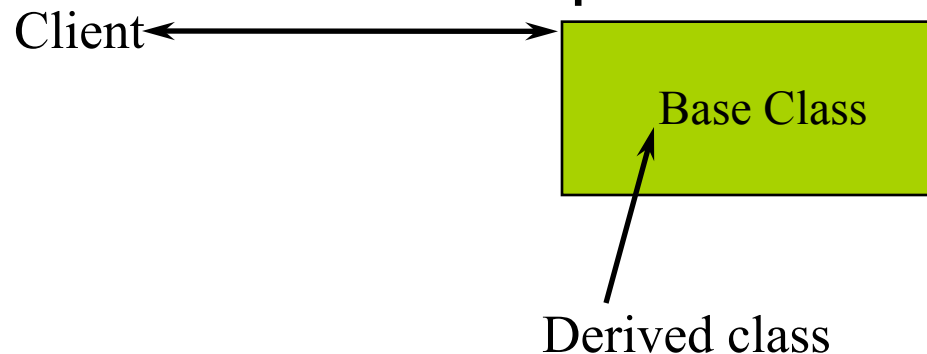
Suppose class B is derived from A. Then

Base class member access specifier

Inheritance Type (B is)	public	protected	private
public A	public in B	protected in B	hidden
private A	private in B	private in B	hidden
protected A	protected in B	protected in B	hidden

When is protected not protected?

- When your derived classes are ill-behaved!
- Protected is public to all derived classes
- For this reason
 - make member *functions* protected
 - keep member *variables* private



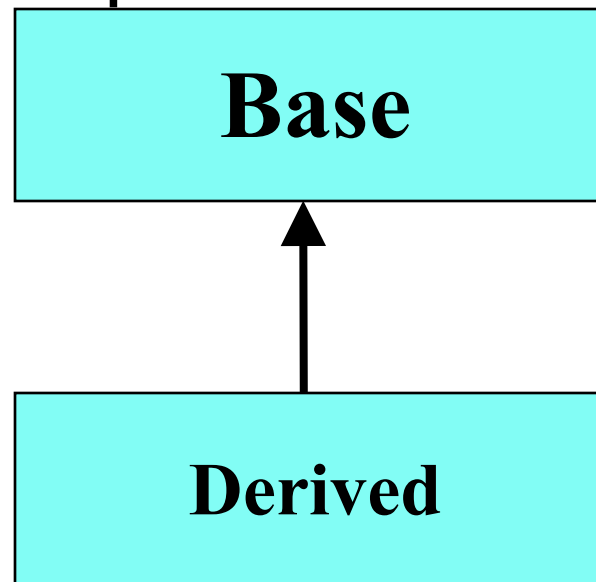
Conversions

- Public Inheritance should imply substitution
 - If *B isa A*, you can use a B anywhere an A can be used.
 - if B isa A, then everything that is true for A is also true of B.
 - Be careful if the substitution is not valid!

D is derived from B		
D	\Rightarrow	B
D*	\Rightarrow	B*
D&	\Rightarrow	B&

Upcasting

- Upcasting is the act of converting from a Derived reference or pointer to a base class reference or pointer.

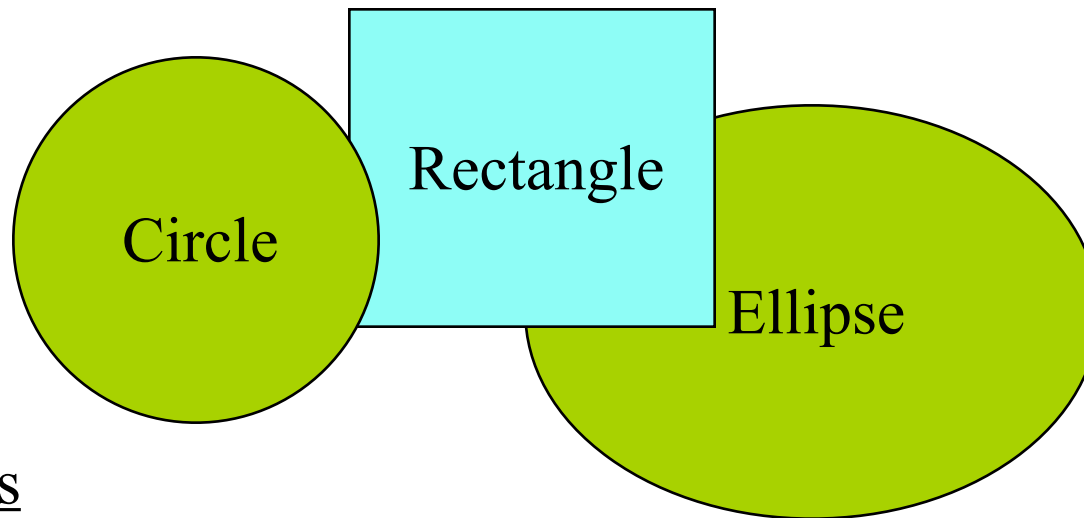


Upcasting examples

```
Manager pete( "Pete", "444-55-6666", "Bakery");  
Employee* ep = &pete; // Upcast  
Employee& er = pete;  // Upcast
```

- Lose type information about the object:
ep->print(cout); // prints base class version

A drawing program



Operations

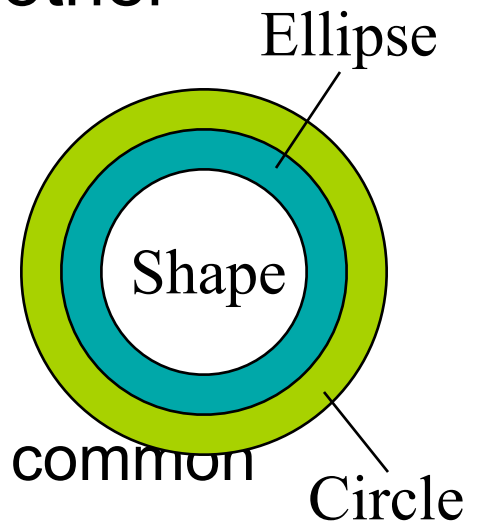
- render
- move
- resize

Data

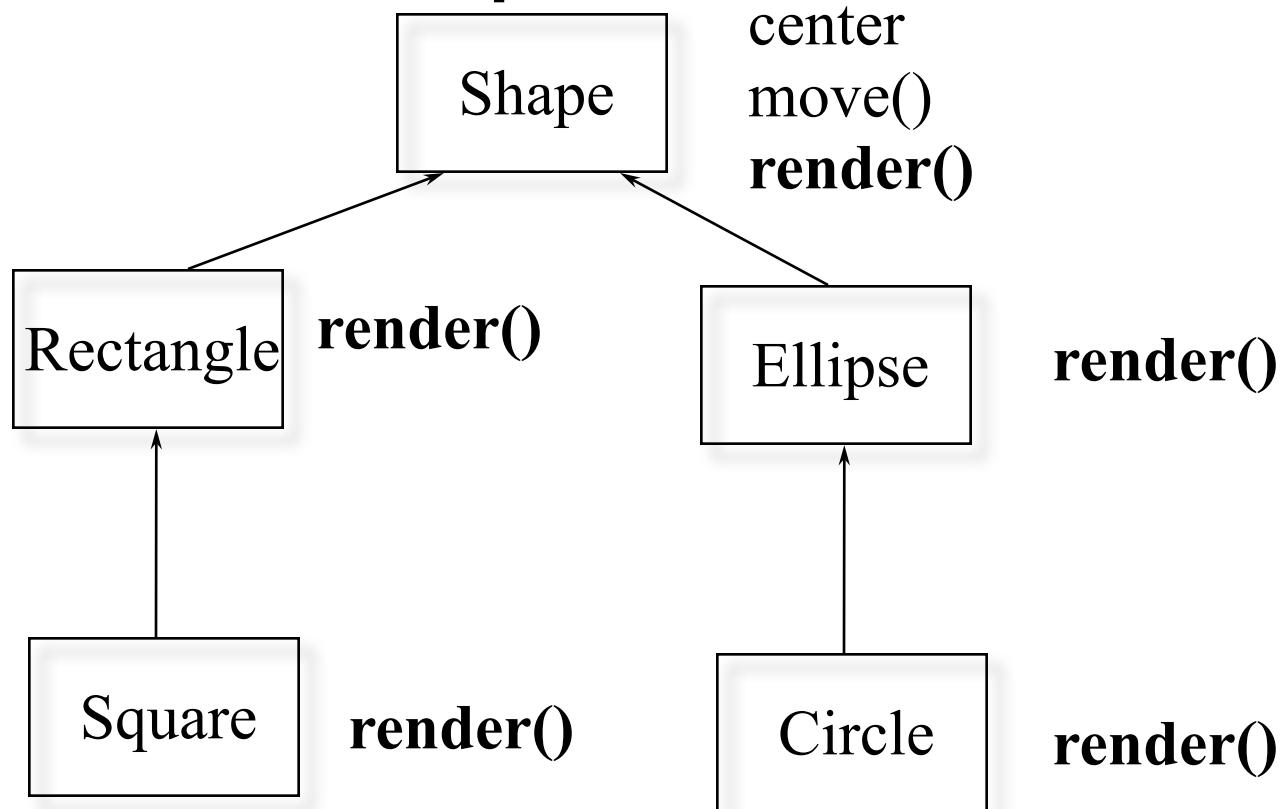
+ center

Inheritance in C++

- Can define one class in terms of another
- Can capture the notion that
 - An ellipse is a shape
 - A circle is a special kind of ellipse
 - A rectangle is a different shape
 - Circles, ellipses, and rectangles share common
 - attributes
 - services
 - Circles, ellipses, and rectangles are not identical



Conceptual model



Note: Deriving Circle from Ellipse is a poor design choice!

In C++

- Define the general properties of a Shape

```
class XYPos{ ... };    // x,y point
class Shape {
public:
    Shape();
    virtual ~Shape();
    virtual void render();
    void move(const XYPos&);
    virtual void resize();
protected:
    XYPos center;
};
```


Polymorphism

- Upcast: take an object of the derived class as an object of the base one.
 - Ellipse can be treated as a Shape
- Dynamic binding:
 - Binding: which function to be called
 - Static binding: call the function as the code
 - Dynamic binding: call the function of the object

Virtual functions

- Non-virtual functions
 - Compiler generates *static*, or direct call to stated type
 - Faster to execute
- Virtual functions
 - Can be *transparently* overridden in a derived class
 - Objects carry a pack of their virtual functions
 - Compiler checks pack and *dynamically* calls the right function
 - If compiler knows the function at compile-time, it can generate a static call

Add new shapes

```
class Ellipse : public Shape {
public:
    Ellipse(float maj, float minr);
    virtual void render(); // will define own
protected:
    float major_axis, minor_axis;
};

class Circle : public Ellipse {
public:
    Circle(float radius) : Ellipse(radius, radius){}
    virtual void render();
};
```

Example

```
void render(Shape* p) {  
    p->render();    // calls correct render function  
}                  // for given Shape!  
  
void func() {  
    Ellipse ell(10, 20);  
    ell.render();   // static -- Ellipse::render();  
  
    Circle circ(40);  
    circ.render();  // static -- Circle::render();  
  
    render(&ell);    // dynamic -- Ellipse::render();  
    render(&circ);   // dynamic -- Circle::render()  
}
```

Abstract base classes

- An *abstract base class* has pure virtual functions
 - Only interface defined
 - No function body given
- *Abstract base classes cannot be instantiated*
 - Must derive a new class (or classes)
 - Must supply definitions for all pure virtuals before class can be instantiated

In C++

- Define the general properties of a Shape

```
class XYPos{ ... };    // x,y point
class Shape {
public:
    Shape();
    virtual void render() = 0; // mark render
    () pure
    void move(const XYPos&);
    virtual void resize();
protected:
    XYPos center;
};
```

Abstract classes

- Why use them?
 - Modeling
 - Force correct behavior
 - Define interface without defining an implementation
- When to use them?
 - Not enough information is available
 - When designing for interface inheritance

Protocol/Interface classes

- Abstract base class with
 - All non-static member functions are *pure* virtual except destructor
 - Virtual destructor with empty body
 - No non-static member variables, inherited or otherwise
 - May contain static members

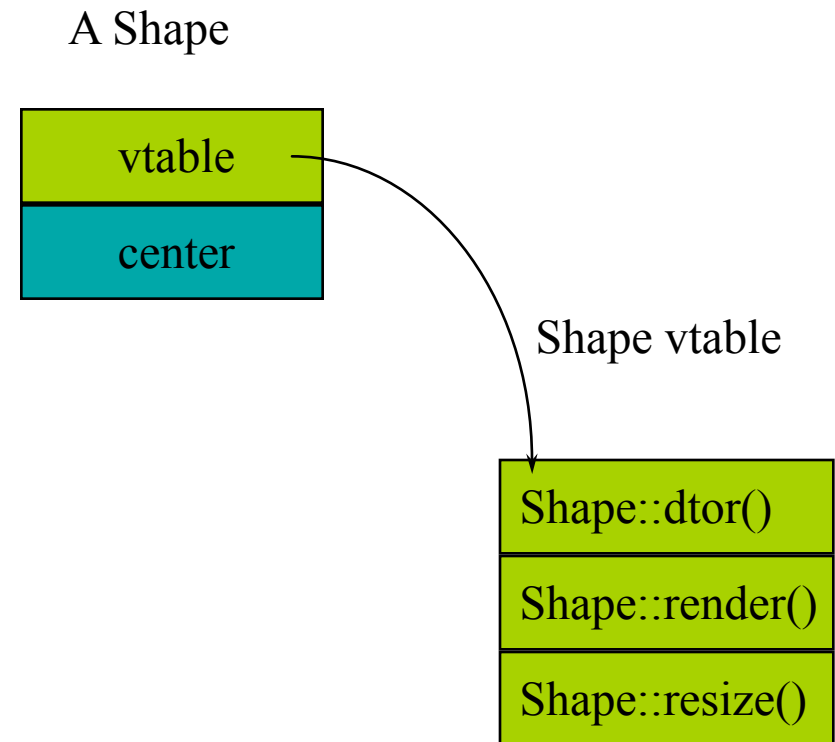
Example interface

- Unix character device

```
class CDevice {  
public:  
    virtual ~CDevice();  
  
    virtual int read(...)    = 0;  
    virtual int write(...)   = 0;  
    virtual int open(...)    = 0;  
    virtual int close(...)   = 0;  
    virtual int ioctl(...)   = 0;  
};
```

How virtuals work in C++

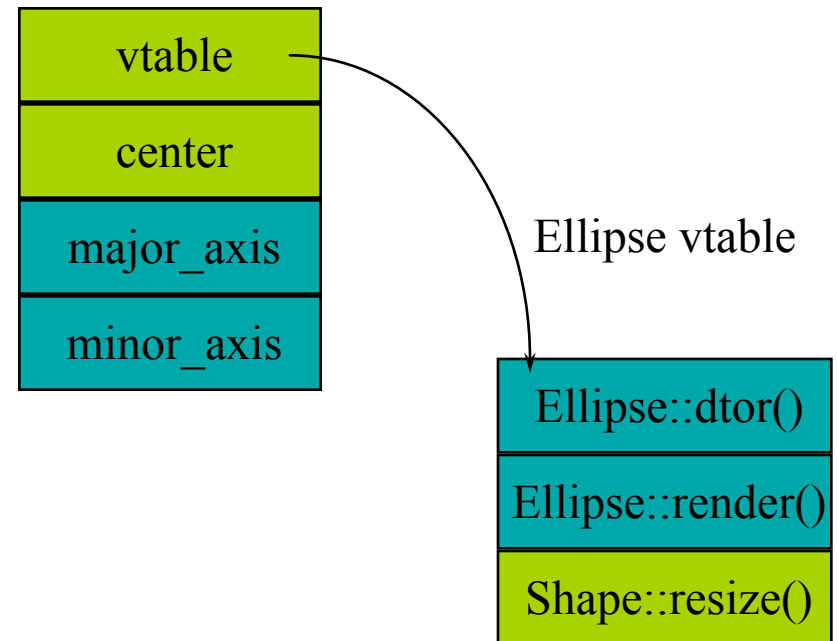
```
class Shape {  
public:  
    Shape();  
    virtual ~Shape();  
    virtual void render();  
    void move(const  
        XYPos&);  
    virtual void resize();  
protected:  
    XYPos center;  
};
```



Ellipse

```
class Ellipse :  
    public Shape  
{  
public:  
    Ellipse(float majr,  
            float minr);  
    virtual void render();  
protected:  
    float major_axis;  
    float minor_axis;  
};
```

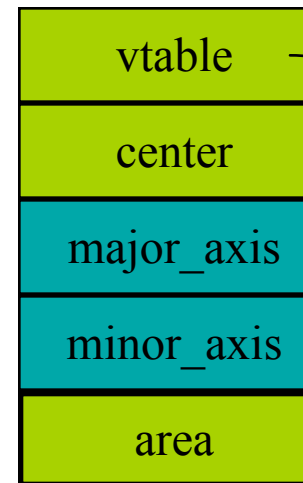
An Ellipse



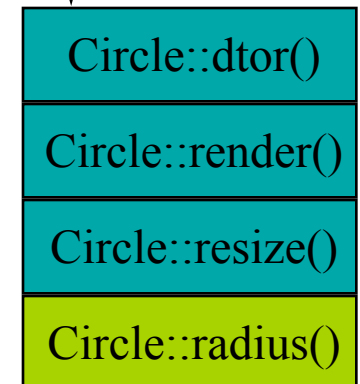
Circle

```
class Circle :  
    public Ellipse  
{  
public:  
    Circle(float radius);  
    virtual void render();  
    virtual void resize();  
    virtual float radius();  
protected:  
    float area;  
};
```

A Circle



Circle vtable



What happens if

```
Ellipse elly(20F, 40F);  
Circle  circ(60F);  
elly = circ; // 10 in 5?
```

- Area of `circ` is sliced off
 - (Only the part of `circ` that fits in `elly` gets copied)
- Vtable from `circ` is ignored; the vtable in `elly` is the Ellipse vtable

```
elly.render(); // Ellipse::render()
```

What happens with pointers?

```
Ellipse* elly = new Ellipse(20F, 40F);  
Circle*  circ = new Circle(60F);  
elly = circ;
```

- Well, the original Ellipse for `elly` is lost....
- `elly` and `circ` point to the same Circle object!

```
elly->render(); // Circle::render()
```

Virtuals and reference arguments

```
void func(Ellipse& elly) {  
    elly.render();  
}
```

```
Circle circ(60F);  
func(circ);
```

- References act like pointers
- Circle::render() is called

Virtual destructors

- Make destructors ***virtual*** if they might be inherited

```
Shape *p = new Ellipse(100.0F, 200.0F);  
...  
delete p;
```

- Want `Ellipse::~~Ellipse()` to be called
 - Must declare `Shape::~~Shape()` **virtual**
 - It will call `Shape::~~Shape()` automatically
- If `Shape::~~Shape()` is not virtual, only `Shape::~~Shape()` will be invoked!

Overriding

- Overriding redefines the body of a virtual function

```
class Base {  
public:  
    virtual void func();  
}  
class Derived : public Base {  
public:  
    virtual void func();  
    //overrides Base::func()  
}
```

Calls up the chain

- You can still call the overridden function:

```
void  
Derived::func() {  
    cout << "In Derived::func!";  
    Base::func(); // call to base class  
}
```

- This is a common way to add new functionality
- No need to copy the old stuff!

Return types relaxation (current)

- Suppose D is publicly derived from B
- $D :: f()$ can return a subclass of the return type defined in $B :: f()$
- Applies to pointer and reference types
 - e.g. $D\&$, D^*
- In most compilers now

Relaxation example

```
class Expr {  
public:  
    virtual Expr* newExpr();  
    virtual Expr& clone();  
    virtual Expr self();  
};
```

```
class BinaryExpr : public Expr {  
public:  
    virtual BinaryExpr* newExpr();    // Ok  
    virtual BinaryExpr& clone();       // Ok  
    virtual BinaryExpr self();         // Error!  
};
```

Overloading and virtuals

- Overloading adds multiple signatures

```
class Base {  
    public:  
        virtual void func();  
        virtual void func(int);  
};
```

- If you *override* an *overloaded* function, you must override all of the variants!
 - Can't override just one
 - If you don't override all, some will be hidden

Overloading example

- When you *override* an *overloaded* function, override all of the variants!

```
class Derived : public Base {  
    public:  
        virtual void func() {  
            Base::func();  
        }  
        virtual void func(int) { ... } ;  
};
```

Tips

- Never redefine an inherited non-virtual function
 - Non-virtuals are statically bound
 - No dynamic dispatch!
- Never redefine an inherited default parameter value
 - They're statically bound too!
 - And what would it mean?

Virtual in Ctor?

```
class A {  
public:  
    A() { f(); }  
    virtual void f() { cout << "A::f()"; }  
};  
class B : public A {  
public:  
    B() { f(); }  
    void f() { cout << "B::f()"; }  
};
```