# **Operator Overloading**

**Computer Programming for Engineers (DSAF003-42)** 

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### This Week

- Operator Overloading Basics
  - Globally overloaded "+" and "=="
  - Unary operators
  - As member functions
- More Overloading
  - Operators: << and >>
  - Operators: =
  - Operators: ++, --
  - Operators: []

### **OPERATOR OVERLOADING BASICS**

# **Operator Overloading Introduction**

- Operators +, -, %, ==, etc.
  - are really just functions!
- Simply "called" with different syntax: x + 7
  - "+" is binary operator with x and 7 as operands
  - Human-friendly notations
- Function-like notation: +(x,7)
  - "+" is the function name (later, we call "operator+")
  - x, 7 are the arguments
  - Function "+" returns "sum" of it's arguments

### **Operator Overloading Perspective**

- Built-in operators
  - **+**, -, = , %, ==, /, \*, ...
  - Already work for C++ built-in types
  - In standard "binary" notation with two operands
- We can overload them!
  - To work with OUR types!
  - To add "Chair types" or "Money types"
    - As appropriate for our needs
- Always overload with similar "actions" (meaning)!
  - An entire different meaning can lead to confusion for users.

### **Overloading Basics**

- Overloading operators
  - VERY similar to overloading functions
  - Operator itself is "name" of function

### Example Declaration:

```
const Money operator+(const Money& amount1, const Money& amount2);
```

- Overloads + for operands of type Money
- Uses constant reference parameters for efficiency
- Returned value is type Money
  - Allows addition of "Money" objects

# (global) Overloaded "+"

- Given previous example:
  - Note: overloaded "+" NOT member function
  - Definition is "more involved" than simple "add"
    - Requires issues of money type addition
    - Must handle negative/positive values
- Operator overload definitions generally very simple
  - Just perform "addition" particular to "your" type

### Overloaded "+" for Money

■ In Display 8.1 Operator Overloading

```
const Money operator+(const Money& amount1, const Money& amount2)
{
   int allCents1 = amount1.getCents( ) + amount1.getDollars( )*100;
   int allCents2 = amount2.getCents( ) + amount2.getDollars( )*100;
   int sumAllCents = allCents1 + allCents2;
   int absAllCents = abs(sumAllCents); //Money can be negative.
   int finalDollars = absAllCents / 100;
   int finalCents = absAllCents % 100;
   if (sumAllCents < 0)</pre>
      finalDollars = -finalDollars;
      finalCents = -finalCents;
   return Money(finalDollars, finalCents);
                              The return statements puzzle you.
                              A Constructor can Return an Object.
```

# (global) Overloaded "=="

- Equality operator, ==
  - Enables comparison of Money objects
  - Declaration:

```
bool operator==(const Money& amount1, const Money& amount2);
```

- Returns bool type for true/false equality
- Again, it's a non-member function (like "+" overload)

# Overloaded "==" for Money

■ In Display 8.1 Operator Overloading

### **Constructors Returning Objects**

- Recall return statement in "+" overload for Money type
  - Returns an "invocation" of Money class!
  - So constructor actually "returns" an object!

```
return Money(finalDollars, finalCents);
```

# Returning by const Value

■ Consider "+" operator overload again:

const Money operator+(const Money& amount1, const Money& amount2);

- Returns a "constant object"? Why?
- Consider impact of returning "non-const" object.
  - Consider "no const" in declaration:

```
Money operator+(const Money& amount1, const Money& amount2);
```

Consider expression that calls:

```
m1 + m2
```

- Object returned is Money object
- We can "do things" with objects! Like call member functions...

# What to do with Non-const Object

- Can call member functions:
  - We could invoke member functions on object returned by expression m1+m2:

```
(m1+m2).output(); // Legal, right?
```

Not a problem: doesn't change anything

```
(m1+m2).input(); // Legal!
```

- PROBLEM! // Legal, but MODIFIES!
- Allows modification of "anonymous" object!
- Can't allow that here!
- So we define the return object as const

### **Overloading Unary Operators**

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- C++ has unary operators:
  - Defined as taking one operand
  - e.g., (negation)
     x = -y; // Sets x equal to negative of y
  - Other unary operators:
    - **++**, --
- Unary operators can also be overloaded

# Overload "-" for Money

- Overloaded "-" function declaration
  - Placed outside class definition:

```
const Money operator-(const Money& amount);
```

- Notice: only one argument: since only 1 operand (unary)
- "-" operator is overloaded twice!
  - For one operand/argument (unary) でした ) 221 年77 110日 そ CL 名の 0子
  - For two operands/arguments (binary)
  - Definitions can exist for both

### Overloaded "-" Definition

Overloaded "-" function definition:

```
const Money operator-( const Money& amount )
{
   return Money(-amount.getDollars(), -amount.getCents());
}
```

- Applies "-" unary operator to built-in type
  - Operation is "known" for built-in types
- Returns anonymous object again

# Overloaded "-" Usage

Consider:

```
Money amount1(10), amount2(6), amount3;
amount3 = amount1 - amount2;
//Calls binary "-" overload
amount3.output(); //Displays $4.00
amount3 = -amount1;
//Calls unary "-" overload
amount3.output(); //Displays -$10.00
```

### Overloading Basics (1\_basic\_oper\_over.cpp, 1\_int~.cpp)

- We will add unary operator -.
- Error case: operator overloading with primitive types



```
class Money
  public:
 private:
    int dollars;
    int cents;
                     ) amount3 = - amount1. of 2 - purzo.
};
const Money operator-(const Money& amount)
  return Money(-amount.getDollars(), -amount.getCents());
// What happens with the following code?
const int operator+(const int num1, const int num2)
                                                      01-86~
  return num1 * num2;
```

# OVERLOADING AS MEMBER FUNCTIONS

### Overloading as Member Functions

- Previous examples: standalone global functions
  - Defined outside a class
- Can overload as "member operator"
  - Considered "member function" like others
- - Only ONE parameter, not two!
  - Calling object serves as the first parameter でき าแกก นานการาชาชาง

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'\*this' is the first parameter implicitly.

### Member Operator in Action

#### Consider:

```
Money cost(1, 50), tax(0, 15), total;
total = cost + tax;
```

- If "+" overloaded as member operator:
  - Object "cost" is calling object
  - Object "tax" is single argument
- Think of as: total = cost.+(tax);
  - Actually, total = cost.operator+(tax)
- Declaration of "+" in class definition:

```
const Money operator+(const Money& amount);
```

Notice only ONE argument

# Overloading Operators: Which Method?

- Object-Oriented-Programming
  - Principles suggest member operators
  - Many agree to maintain "spirit" of OOP
- Member operators more efficient
  - No need to call accessor & mutator functions

# Overloading Function Application ()

- Function call operator: ()
  - Must be overloaded as member function かりょうろ ちゃん overload!
  - Allows use of class object like a function
  - Can overload for all possible numbers of arguments

### Example:

```
class anObject;
anObject(42);
```

If ( ) overloaded → calls overload

### ■ 2. Overloading as Member Functions (2\_member, 2\_paren)

- We will move unary operator- from global to member.
- We will add the function call operator ().



```
class Money {
  public:
    const Money operator-();
                                                       member form. How

Les amounts a mount operator

- (amountz);
    void operator()(int theDollars);
    void operator()(int theDollars, int theCents);
  private:
    int dollars;
    int cents;
};
const Money Money::operator-(const Money& amount) {
  return Money(-amount.getDollars(), -amount.getCents());
void Money::operator()(int theDollars) { dollars = theDollars; }
                                                                       amount 3 (100, 99); Tuzar
void Money::operator()(int theDollars, int theCents) {
  dollars = theDollars; cents = theCents;
```

### **MORE OVERLOADING**

### Overloading << and >>

- Enables input and output of our objects
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- Similar to other operator overloads
- Improves readability
  - Like all operator overloads do
  - Enables:

```
std::cout << myObject;
std::cin >> myObject;
```

• Instead of need for: myObject.output(); ...

### Overloading <<

- Insertion operator, <<</p>
  - Used with cout
  - A binary operator
- Example:

```
std::cout << "Hello";
```

- Operator is <<</p>
- 1st operand is predefined object cout コゼルルキ (out
  - From library <iostream>
  - It makes operator<< not to be a member of a class.
- 2nd operand is literal string "Hello"

### Overloading <<

- Recall Money class
  - Used member function output()
  - Nicer if we can use << operator:</p>

```
Money amount(100);
cout << "I have " << amount << endl;</pre>
```

// instead of:

```
cout << "I have ";
amount.output()</pre>
```

# Overloaded << and >> Example (3\_io~)



■ Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (1 of 7)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstdlib>
#include <cmath>
using namespace std;
//Class for amounts of money in U.S. currency
class Money
public:
   Money();
   Money(double amount);
   Money(int theDollars, int theCents);
   Money(int theDollars);
   double getAmount( ) const;
   int getDollars( ) const;
   int getCents( ) const;
```

■ Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (2 of 7)

```
friend const Money operator+( const Money& amount1,
                const Money& amount2);
friend const Money operator-( const Money& amount1,
                const Money& amount2);
friend bool operator==( const Money& amount1,
                const Money& amount2);
friend const Money operator-(const Money& amount);
friend ostream& operator<<(ostream& outputStream,</pre>
                const Money& amount);
friend istream& operator>>(istream& inputStream,
                Money& amount);
```

Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (3 of 7)

```
private:
//A negative amount is represented as negative dollars
//and negative cents. Negative $4.50 is represented as
//-4 and -50.
   int dollars, cents;
   int dollarsPart(double amount) const;
   int centsPart(double amount) const;
   int round(double number) const;
};
int main()
{
   Money yourAmount, myAmount(10, 9);
   cout << "Enter an amount of money: ";</pre>
```

■ Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (4 of 7)

```
cin >> yourAmount;
cout << "Your amount is " << yourAmount << endl;</pre>
cout << "My amount is " << myAmount << endl;</pre>
if (yourAmount == myAmount)
cout << "We have the same amounts.\n";</pre>
else cout << "One of us is richer.\n";
Money ourAmount = yourAmount + myAmount;
cout << yourAmount << " + " << myAmount</pre>
   << " equals " << ourAmount << endl;</pre>
Money diffAmount = yourAmount - myAmount;
cout << yourAmount << " - " << myAmount</pre>
   << " equals " << diffAmount << endl;</pre>
return 0;
```

■ Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (5 of 7)

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& outputStream, const Money& amount)</pre>
{
                                                      In the main function,
   int absDollars = abs(amount.dollars);
                                                      cout is plugged
   int absCents = abs(amount.cents);
                                                      in for outputStream.
   if (amount.dollars < 0 || amount.cents < 0)</pre>
   //accounts for dollars == 0 or cents == 0
   outputStream << "$-";</pre>
   else outputStream << '$';</pre>
   outputStream << absDollars;</pre>
   if (absCents >= 10)
   outputStream << '.' << absCents;</pre>
   else outputStream << '.' << '0' << absCents;</pre>
   return outputStream;
                             Returns a reference
```

■ Display 8.5 Overloading << and >> (7 of 7)

```
Enter an amount of money: $123.45
Your amount is $123.45
My amount is $10.09.
One of us is richer.
$123.45 + $10.09 equals $133.54
$123.45 - $10.09 equals $113.36
```

### Assignment Operator: =

- Must be overloaded as member operator
  - Simultaneously with copy constructor
- Automatically overloaded
  - Default assignment operator:
    - Member-wise copy (i.e., shallow copy)
    - Member variables from one object → corresponding member variables from other
- Default is OK for simple classes
  - But with pointers → must write our own!
  - Implement deep copy (allocating new memory and copying the content)

### Overloading = (4\_assign~.cpp)

```
DEMO
```

```
class Money {
 public:
   const Money& operator=(const Money& theMoney);
   Money operator++(); // preifx
 // Make members public just for the example
 //private:
   int dollars;
   int cents;
};
                                                 const Money& Money::operator=(const Money& theMoney)
{
 // Just for example
 dollars = theMoney.getDollars() - 1;
 return *this; // Why should we return *this?
}
```

### Increment and Decrement

- Each operator has two versions
  - Prefix notation: ++x;
  - Postfix notation: x++;
- Must distinguish in overload

  - Add the second parameter of (dummy) type int → Postfix
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- Just a marker for compiler! It's dummy.
- Specifies postfix is allowed

```
Money& operator++(){ ... } // prefix
Money operator++(int){ ... } // postfix
```

### Overloading ++ (5\_icrement~.cpp)

```
DEMO
```

```
// Postfix version, not a member
Money operator++(Money& theMoney, int ignoreMe) {
  // We need range checks for cents. This is just for an example.
  int dollars = theMoney.dollars++, cents = theMoney.cents++;
  return Money(dollars, cents);
}
Money Money::operator++() {
 // We need range checks for cents. This is just for an example.
 return Money(++dollars, ++cents); (X) ++dollars; ++cents; Noturn xthis;
}
int main()
         amount(10);
 Money
 Money a = amount++;
  a.output(); amount.output();
  amount = Money(10);
  a = ++amount;
  a.output(); amount.output();
  return 0;
```