

# Chapter 6. Struct and Classes

Programming Concepts in Scientific  
Programming

EPFL, Master class

October 23, 2017

# Types

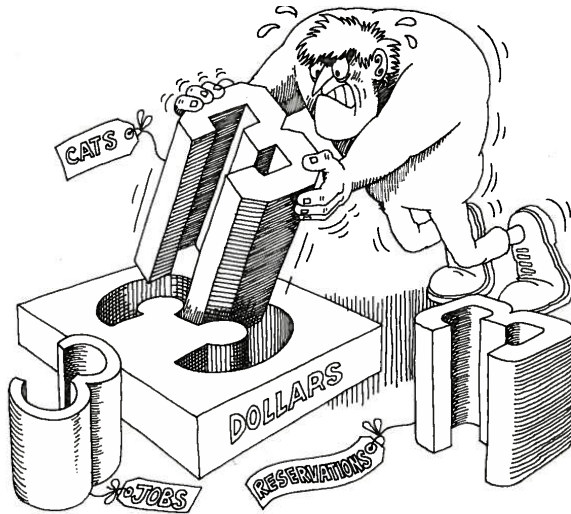
## Known types

- ▶ void
- ▶ char
- ▶ short
- ▶ int
- ▶ long int
- ▶ float
- ▶ double
- ▶ long double
- ▶ pointers

## Specifiers

- ▶ unsigned
- ▶ const

# Types



How to define new types ?

# New types

How ?

```
3 struct NameType {  
4     double a;  
5     int b;  
6 };
```

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7



# Structures

## Example

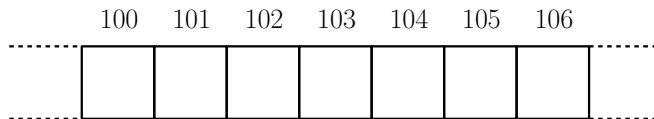
### Definition

```
8  struct Planet {  
9      double coords[3];  
10     std::string name;  
11 };
```

### Creating a variable

```
14 Planet p;
```

### How is the memory representation ?



# Structures

## Example

How to access the variables of a structure

```
14 Planet p;  
15 p.coords[0] = 10;
```

How to get the size of a structure (in bytes)

```
16 std::cout << sizeof(Planet) << std::endl;
```

What is a class ?

A type associating  
**Data** and **Functions**

What is an object ?

An **instanciation**(variable)  
of a **class/struct** type

# Classes

## Gathering data and functions

```
1 struct Planet {  
2     void move(double delta[3]);  
3     double coords[3];  
4 };
```

### Vocabulary

- ▶ variables (state): members
- ▶ functions: methods

### Usage:

```
10  
11     p.move(delta);  
12
```

## Classes

Can be done in C with  
multiple files (modules) ?

# Classes

## Encapsulation

```
1  class Planet {  
2  
3  public:  
4      Planet();                // constructor  
5      ~Planet();              // destructor  
6      void move(double delta[3]); // a method  
7  
8  private:  
9      double coords[3]; // a member  
10 };
```

# Classes

## Encapsulation

```
1  class Planet {
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3  public:
4      Planet();           // constructor
5      ~Planet();          // destructor
6      void move(double delta[3]); // a method
7
8  private:
9      double coords[3]; // a member
10 }
```



# Classes

## Encapsulation

```
1  class Planet {
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3  public:
4      Planet();                // constructor
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6      void move(double delta[3]); // a method
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8  private:
9      double coords[3]; // a member
10 };
```

# Classes

## Encapsulation

```
1  class Planet {  
2  
3  public:  
4      Planet();           // constructor  
5      ~Planet();          // destructor  
6      void move(double delta[3]); // a method  
7  
8  private:  
9      double coords[3]; // a member  
10 };
```

- ▶ It is an interface (declaration in a .hh/.hpp file)
- ▶ Methods and members are accessible/inaccessible

# Classes

Methods definitions (.cpp/.cc)

```
1
2  #include "planet.hh"
3
4  void Planet::move(double delta[3]) {
5      // DO SOME CODE
6  }
7
```

# Classes

Methods definitions (.cpp/.cc)

```
1  #include "planet.hh"
2
3  void Planet::move(double delta[3]) {
4      // DO SOME CODE
5  }
```

# Classes

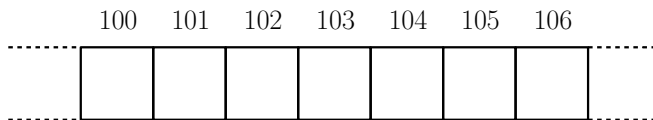
## Construction/Destruction

Constructor: set the initial state

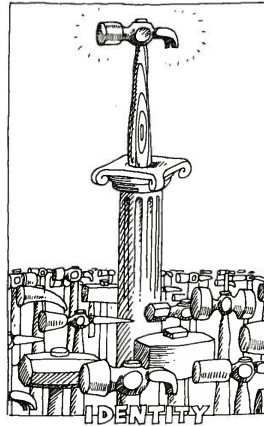
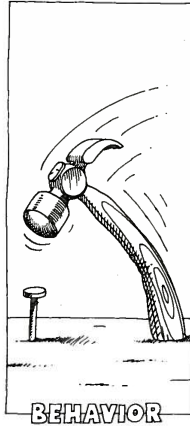
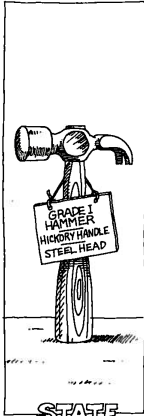
```
7 Planet::Planet() {  
8     coords[0] = 0.;  
9     coords[1] = 1.;  
10    coords[2] = 2.;  
11 }
```

Destructor

```
13 Planet::~~Planet() {}
```



# Classes&Objects



# Classes

## Constructor/Destructor

- ▶ Constructor sets the initial state
- ▶ Destructors release memory allocations

```
1  class Planet {  
2  
3  public:  
4      Planet();                // constructor  
5      ~Planet();              // destructor  
6      void move(double delta[3]); // a method  
7  
8  private:  
9      // a pointer member  
10     double *coords;  
11 };  
12
```

# Classes

## Constructor/Destructor

```
7  Planet::Planet() {  
8      coords = new double[3];  
9      coords[0] = 0.;  
10     coords[1] = 1.;  
11     coords[2] = 2.;  
12 }  
13  
14 Planet::~~Planet() {  
15     // delete memory  
16     delete[] coords;  
17 }  
18
```



# Classes

## Constructor with parameter(s)

```
1  class Planet {
2
3  public:
4      Planet();                // constructor
5      Planet(double param1, int param2);
6      Planet(const Planet &);  // copy constructor
7      ~Planet();              // destructor
8      void move(double delta[3]); // a method
9
10 private:
11     // a pointer member
12     double *coords;
13 };
```

# Classes

## Constructor with parameter(s)

```
1  class Planet {
2
3  public:
4      Planet();                // constructor
5      Planet(double param1, int param2); // second constructor
6      Planet(const Planet &);    // copy constructor
7      ~Planet();                // destructor
8      void move(double delta[3]); // a method
9
10 private:
11     // a pointer member
12     double *coords;
13 };
```

# Classes

## Copy constructor

```
3 Planet::Planet(const Planet &p) {  
4  
5     // copy pointer ?  
6     coords = p.coords;  
  
7     // or copy the content ?  
8     coords = new double[3];  
9     for (int i = 0; i < 3; ++i) {  
10         coords[i] = p.coords[i];  
11     }
```

# Objects

Pointer/reference to object

```
1 Planet p;  
2 Planet *ptr = &p;  
3 Planet &ref = p;
```

Dynamically allocate an object

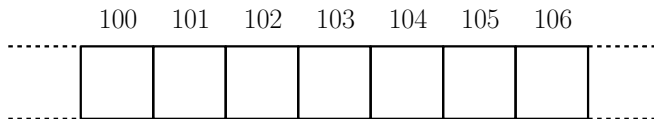
```
5 Planet *p1 = new Planet; // no parentheses!  
6 Planet *p2 = new Planet(param1, param2);  
  
8 p1->move(coords);
```

# Objects

this pointer

What is the mysterious **this** ?

```
3  struct Planet {  
4  
5      void test() { std::cout << this << std::endl; }  
6  };  
7  
8  int main() {  
9      Planet p;  
10     std::cout << &p << std::endl;  
11 }
```



## Classes friends

What happens if we do this ? (try it)

```
1  class A {  
2  
3  private:  
4      int secret;  
5  };  
6  
7  class B {  
8      int getSecret(A &a) { return a.secret; }  
9  };
```

## Classes friends

```
1  class B;
2
3  class A {
4
5  private:
6      friend B;
7      int secret;
8  };
9
10 class B {
11     int getSecret(A &a) { return a.secret; }
12 };
13
```

## Classes friends

```
1  class A;
2  int toto(A &a);
3
4  class A {
5
6  private:
7      friend int toto(A &a);
8      int secret;
9  };
10
11 int toto(A &a) { return a.secret; }
12
```



## Class operators

```
1  class A {  
2  public:  
3      int operator[](int i) {  
4          // modifies the behavior  
5          return values[i] * 2;  
6      }  
7  
8  private:  
9      int values[100];  
10 };  
11
```

## Class operators

```
1  class A {  
2  public:  
3      int operator[] (int i) {  
4          // modifies the behavior  
5          return values[i] * 2;  
6      }  
7  
8  private:  
9      int values[100];  
10 };  
11
```

You defined the operator [.]

```
14      std::cout << a[2] << std::endl;
```

# Class

## Take away message

- ▶ **Class:** A type associating **Data** and **Functions**
- ▶ **Object/Instance:** A variable of a **class/struct** type
- ▶ **Methods:** Functions in a class
- ▶ **Members:** Variables in a class
- ▶ **Encapsulation:** mechanism allowing **public** and **private** sections
- ▶ **Operators:** special functions to define operators `()[]*-/+` etc.
- ▶ **this:** pointer to current object