An Introduction to Object Oriented Programming with C++

Start with a quick look at the most important features of the C++ language. All of these will be covered in more detail as we move through the course.

A programming Language provides . . .

a vehicle for the programmer to specify actions to be executed and a set of concepts for the programmer to use when thinking about what can be done

The first requires a language that is

"close to the machine", so that all important aspects of the machine are handled:

simply and efficiently, and

in a way that is reasonably obvious to the programmer.

The second requires a language that is

"close to the problem to be solved", so that concepts of a solution can be expressed:

directly, and concisely.

Bjarne Stroustrup,

"The C++ Programming Language", 2nd Edition, 1994

Basic Aims of Object Oriented Programming

Analysis, design and coding.

In conventional (procedural) systems, there is a large semantic gap between these phases.

Classes correspond to real-world objects, so that code structure closely relates to user requirements

• Separate development of parts of an application.

Once the public interface of a class has been agreed on the development of code to support this class can proceed independently.

• Enhancement of an application.

Polymorphism, or dynamic binding, of functions allows the addition of new sub-types of objects with minimal changes to existing code

Basic Aims of Object Oriented Programming

Automatic data initialisation and clean-up.

Class *constructors* and *destructors* allow the programmer to specify, in one place, how objects of that class are to be initialised and destroyed.

Re-use of existing code.

Inheritance allows existing code to be tailored to a new application without access to its source code.

Class

- This is the basic concept in Object Oriented program development
- Most classes correspond to a type of "thing" in the problem domain, e.g.

Person,

Savings account,

Transaction, etc.

• Class encapsulates:

The type of information to be held about every object of that class (attributes, or data members).

The types of operations that may be performed on these objects (behaviour or member functions).

• Enhancement of an application.

Polymorphism, or dynamic binding of functions, allows the addition of new types of objects with minimal changes to existing code.

Declaration of a Class

In "person.h"

```
#ifndef PERSON H
#define PERSON H
#include <string>
using namespace std;
class Person
  public:
                     Person(string nameIn, int ageIn);
                     ~Person();
             void
                     GrowOlder();
             int
                     GetAge();
             string GetName();
  private:
             int
                     age;
             string name;
};
#endif
```

Implementation of a Class

In "person.cpp"

```
#include "person.h"
   Person::Person(string nameIn, int ageIn){
        name = nameIn;
        age = ageIn;
   Person:: ~Person(){};
   void Person::GrowOlder(){
        age++;
   int Person::GetAge(){
        return age;
   string Person::GetName(){
        return name;
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                                Introduction 1
```

Objects of a Class

- *Objects* of a class can be declared in a similar way to the declaration of objects of the built-in types such as *int*, *double* etc.
- Member functions can be applied to these objects.

e.g. in "main.cpp"

```
#include "person.h"
void main(){
  int w, x, y;
  Person john("John", 21); // john and jim are objects of type
  Person jim("Jim", 18); // Person. Constructors will
                           // initialise name and age
                           // with the values supplied.
  Person* pPtr;
                           // pPtr is pointer to a Person object
  pPtr = &jim;
  w = john.GetAge();  // w contains 21
  x = pPtr->GetAge();  // x contains 18
  john.GrowOlder();
                    // y contains 22
  y = john.GetAge();
};
```

Dynamic Allocation of Objects

• Objects of a class can be dynamically allocated. e.g. in "main.cpp"

```
#include "person.h"
void main()
  int y, z;
  Person* pPtr;
                       // pPtr is a pointer to a Person
  pPtr = new Person("Jill", 45);
           // pPtr points to a dynamically allocated Person
           // which has been initialised with "Jill" and 45
  y = pPtr->GetAge(); // y contains 45
  pPtr->GrowOlder();
  z = pPtr->GetAge(); // z now contains 46
};
```

Class (cont'd)

Objects can be variables in expressions –
provided that the meaning of the operators being applied to them have been
defined.

```
#include "person.h"

void main()
{
    Person jim("Jim", 22);
    Person john("John", 24);
```

```
if(jim + 4 > john)
{
    .....
}

// This is legal and meaningful once we have defined the
    // meaning of "+" and ">" in this context.
```

Inheritance - public

- A new (*derived* or *child*) class is identical to another (*base* or *parent*) class except that:
 - We wish to hold additional information about objects of the derived class and/or
 - There are operations that are appropriate for the derived class but not for the base class
- The set of objects defined by the derived class is a subset of the base class objects.
- This is by far the most important form of inheritance.
- Identification of public inheritance relationships between classes is an important part of the analysis phase.

Inheritance – public (example)

- An Employee is a Person.
- All data we wish to hold about a Person, we must hold for an Employee.
- All operations appropriate to a Person are also appropriate for an Employee.
- For an Employee we need additional data such as:
 - Employee Number
 - Salary information, etc.
- For an Employee, additional operations are necessary such as:
 - Calculate pay

There is a clear indication that Employee class should
Inherit from
The Person class.

Inheritance – public (syntax)

```
// in employee.h
          // in person.h
#ifndef PERSON H
                                    #ifndef EMPLOYEE H
#define PERSON H
                                   #define EMPLOYEE H
#include <string>
                                    #include "person.h"
class Person
                                   class Employee : public Person
  public:
                                      public:
                                              Employee(
          Person(
           char* naIn, int aIn);
                                               char* nIn, int aIn,
          ~Person();
                                               int noIn, float sIn);
          GrowOlder();
                                              ~ Employee();
    int
    string GetName();
                                        float CalcPay();
    int
          GetAge();
                                      private:
  private:
                                        int
                                              empNo;
    int
                                        float salary;
          age;
    string name;
                                    };
};
                                    #endif
#endif
```

Inheritance – public

• Every object of the Employee class will contain the data members:

```
age (inherited from Person)
```

- name (inherited from Person)
- empNo
- salary
- The following functions can be applied to any Employee object:
 - **GrowOlder()** (inherited from Person)
 - GetAge() (inherited from Person)
 - GetName() (inherited from Person)
 - CalcPay()

Inheritance – non-public

- An object of one class *bears some similarity* to objects of another class.
- Code and data structures from the base class may be useful in the implementation of the other class.
- In this case we may derive the new class from the existing class using non-public inheritance.

For example:

A dog is not a person, but certain items such as

name, age, address

and member functions to manipulate these are common to both classes.

Non-public inheritance may be useful in the implementation of a Dog class.

Polymorphism

- A variable that is declared to be *a pointer to a base class* may contain the address of:
 - An object of the base class, or
 - An object of any class which inherits publicly either directly or indirectly, from that class.
- A function may be declared to be *virtual* in the base class.
 - This function may be *over-ridden* in any of the child classes.
- If a virtual function is invoked via the pointer
 - The version of the function that will be invoked depends on the exact class of the object addressed.

The function to be called is not determined until run time.

Polymorphism – virtual functions

```
class Employee : public Person{
  public:
     virtual float CalcPay()=0; // CalcPay() is a pure virtual
                                   // function, hence Employee is
  private:
};
                                   // an abstract class
class Salaried: public
                                   class Hourly : public Employee{
  Employee{
                                      public:
  public:
                                          float CalcPay(){
     float CalcPay(){
                                               return hrlyRate
        return salary / 12;
                                                 * hrsWorked;
  private:
                                      private:
     float salary;
                                          float hrlyRate, hrsWorked;
};
```

Using Polymorphism

- The version of CalcPay() to be executed depends on whether employees[i] is a Salaried or an Hourly.
- Addition of a new type of employee requires defining a new class.
- Minimal changes to existing code are required.