Lecture 2: Types and Structs

CS 106L, Fall '20

Today's Agenda

- Recap: **Types**
- Structs
- Type Deduction with Auto
- Structured Binding

Namespaces

- Some things are in the std:: namespace
 - e.g. std::cout, std::cin, std::lower_bound
- CS 106B always uses the using namespace std; declaration, which automatically adds std:: for you
- We won't (most of the time)
 - it's not good style!

Recap: Types

C++ is a static-typed language

Python

```
a = 3
b = "test"

def func(c):
    # do something
```

C++

```
int a = 3;
string b = "test";

void func(c) {
    // do something
```

More examples of typing

```
int a = 3;
string b = "test";
void func(double c) {
                                 // vars take type
    std::cout << b << std::endl; // doesn't return anything,</pre>
                                     so it's void
if (b == 3) {      // don't have to repeat types during use
   // do something
```

Why static typing?

- Better performance
- Easier to understand
- Better error checking

Catches errors at compile time

```
int add_3(int x) {
    return first + 3;
}
add_3("10");  // caught as compiler error!
```

Common Types

```
int
double 77.3
string "test"
bool
      true
size_t 5
               // non-negative
```

Answer in the chat!

```
____ a = "test";
b = 3.2 * 5 - 1;
c = 5 / 2;
  <u>_</u> d(int foo) { return foo / 2; }
    e(double foo) { return foo / 2; }
    f(double foo) { return int(foo / 2); }
  __ g(double c) {
  std::cout << c << std::endl;</pre>
```

Fill in the blanks in the chat

```
string a = "test";
double b = 3.2 * 5 - 1;
int c = 5 / 2;
                           // int/int → int, what's the value?
int d(int foo) { return foo / 2; }
double e(double foo) { return foo / 2; }
int f(double foo) { return int(foo / 2); }
void g(double c) {
   std::cout << c << std::endl;</pre>
```

Overloading

Define two functions with the same name but different call signature

```
double func(int x) { // (1)
   return (double) x + 3; // typecast: int → double
double func(double x) { // (2)
   return x * 3;
func(2) // uses version (1), returns ?
func(2.0) // uses version (2), returns?
```



Overloading

Define two functions with the same name but different call signature

```
double func(int x) { // (1)
   return (double) x + 3; // typecast: int → double
double func(double x) { // (2)
   return x * 3;
func(2) // uses version (1), returns 5
func(2.0) // uses version (2), returns 15.0
```

Example: Student Database

- Every student has:
 - A name (string)
 - A home state (string)
 - An age (int)

A bigger problem

```
___ getStudentWithID(int id) {
   // how can we return a string, a string, and an int?
// python:
// return ("a", "b", 3)
```

How can we return multiple things?

Student Database

```
void printStudentInfo(string name, string state, int age) {
    cout << name << " from " << state;</pre>
    cout << " (" << age ")" << endl;</pre>
void enrollStudent(string name, int state, int age) {
   // do something...
```

Can we group these three variables together?

Structs

A struct is a group of named variables each with their own type

Struct Example

```
struct Student {
                    // these are called fields
    string name;
    string state;
                       // separate these by semicolons
    int age;
Student s;
s.name = "Ethan"; // use the . operator to access fields
s.state = "CA";
s.age = 20;
```

Structs let you group information together.

Pass around information together

```
Student s:
s.name = "Ethan"; // use the . operator to access fields
s.state = "CA";
s.age = 20;
void printStudentInfo(Student student) {
    cout << student.name << " from " << student.state;</pre>
    cout << " (" << student.age ")" << endl;</pre>
```

Return information together

```
Student lookupStudent() {
    Student s;
    s.name = "Ethan";
    s.state = "CA";
    s.age = 20;
    return s;
Student foundStudent = lookupStudent();
cout << foundStudent.name << endl; // Ethan</pre>
```

Abbreviated Struct Notation

```
Student s;
s.name = "Ethan";
s.state = "CA";
s.age = 20;
```

```
Student s = {"Ethan", "CA", 30};
// note that order is based on the original struct order!
// generally prefer this syntax for initialization
```

Questions?

Pairs

(and maybe tuples)

A pair is a struct with two fields.

```
int main() {
    std::pair<bool, Student> query_result;
    query_result.<u>first</u> = true;
    Report current = query_result.<u>second</u>;
}
```

std::pair is a template. You can use any type inside it; type goes in the <>. (We'll learn more about templates in a future lecture.)

Common use case: return success + result

```
Student lookupStudent(string name) {
    Student blank;
    if (notFound(name)) return std::make_pair(false, blank);
    Student result = getStudentWithName(name);
    return std::make_pair(true, result);
std::pair<bool, Student> output = lookupStudent("Keith");
```

std::make_pair is a generic way to make a pair without explicitly writing a type!

A tuple is a struct with lots of fields.

```
int main() {
    std::tuple<string, int, int> query_result;
    string name = std::get<1>(query_result);
    int num = std::get<2>(query_result);
}
```

std::tuple is uncommon. We won't use it much in future lectures. (Datatypes like std::vector are generally more useful.)

Yes, std::get is a template. Don't worry too much about this.

Live Code Demo:

Quadratic.cpp

a general quadratic equation can always be written:

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

the solutions to a general quadratic equation are:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

Returning Multiple Things

Let's return a std::pair of the form <does_solution_exist, <sol1, sol2>>:

```
std::pair<bool, std::pair<double, double>> quadratic (int a, int b, int c) {
   double inside = b*b - 4*a*c:
    std::pair<double, double> blank;
    if (inside < 0) return std::make_pair(false, blank);
    std::pair<double, double> answer = std::make_pair( (-b+sqrt(inside))/2,
                                                       (-b-sqrt(inside))/2);
    return std::make_pair(true, answer);
```

Returning Multiple Things

Here's how we would use this:

```
int main() {
   int a, b, c;
   std::cin >> a >> b >> c; // this gets input
   std::pair<bool, std::pair<double, double>> = quadratic(a, b, c);
   if (result.first) {
      std::pair<double, double> solutions = result.second;
      std::cout << solutions.first << solutions.second << endl;</pre>
   } else {
      std::cout << "No solutions found!" << endl;</pre>
```

Type Deduction with auto

Type Deduction using auto

Answers: int, double, char, char* (a C string), std::pair<int, char*>

auto does not mean that the variable doesn't have a type.

It means that the type is **deduced** by the compiler.

Type Deduction using auto



Don't be ambiguous or the compiler won't get what you mean...

```
auto wrong();
                                 // this won't work
void wrong(string a, auto b) { // neither will this work
   return a * b;
```

When should we use auto?

Flashback

Typing these types out is a pain...

```
int main() {
   int a, b, c;
   std::cin >> a >> b >> c;
   std::pair<bool, std::pair<double, double>> result = quadratic(a, b, c);
   bool found = result.first;
   if (found) {
      std::pair<double, double> solutions = result.second;
      std::cout << solutions.first << solutions.second << endl;</pre>
   } else {
      std::cout << "No solutions found!" << endl;</pre>
```

Auto to the rescue!

Much easier to read.

```
int main() {
   int a, b, c;
   std::cin >> a >> b >> c;
   auto result = quadratic(a, b, c);
   bool found = result.first;
   if (result.first) {
      auto solutions = result.second;
      std::cout << solutions.first << solutions.second << endl;</pre>
   } else {
      std::cout << "No solutions found!" << endl;</pre>
```

Don't overuse auto

...but use it to shorten long types

Structured Binding

Structured binding lets you initialize directly from the contents of a struct

Before

```
auto p = std::make_pair("s", 5);
string a = s.first;
int b = s.second;
```

After

```
auto p = std::make_pair("s", 5);
auto [a, b] = p;
// a is of type string
// b is of type int

// auto [a, b] = std::make_pair(...);
```

This works for regular structs, too. Also, no nested structured binding.

A better way to use quadratic

Let's apply structured binding:

```
int main() {
                                                                 Summary:
   int a, b, c;
                                                                   1.pair
   std::cin >> a >> b >> c;
                                                             2.structured Binding
   auto [found, solutions] = quadratic(a, b, c);
   if (found) {
      auto [x1, x2] = solutions;
      std::cout << x1 << " " << x2 << endl;
   } else {
      std::cout << "No solutions found!" << endl;</pre>
```

This is better is because it's semantically clearer: variables have clear names.