# 19 - Classy Programming

Dr. Robert Lowe

Division of Mathematics and Computer Science
Maryville College



#### Outline

Objects and Classes

2 Classes and Objects in C++



# **Bundling Variables**

- structs provide us with a way to "bundle" several fields.
- This is useful for maintaining **state** of a composite type.
- But what if there was another layer of abstraction?



### **Objects**

- An object is an entity with both state and behavior.
- In addition to fields, objects have their own functions.
- The basic idea is to have something in a program that both "remembers" and "acts".
- Objects provide a way to model real world entities within a program.



### Object Example

- Suppose we encountered a soda machine.
- What could we do with it?
  - Insert Money
  - Push Buttons
  - Pull Change Return
- What sort of internal state does the machine have?
  - Money Deposited
  - Money in the Vault
  - Price, Quantity, and Brand of Each Soda



#### Classes

- Classes define objects.
- An object is an instance of a class.
- The basic elements of a class are:
  - Constructors
  - Member Variable Declarations (state)
  - Member Functions (behavior)
- Note that sometimes, member variables are called attributes and member functions are called methods.



#### Constructors

- A constructor is a block of code that is executed when we make an object.
- The job of the constructor is to initialize the class.
- In C++ a constructor has the same name as its class.
- Constructors are declared like functions, but they have no return type.
- A constructor can take parameters, just like a function.
- A class may have multiple constructors (more on this later).



#### Member Variables

- Member variables maintain the state of objects.
- Each object has its own set of member variables.
- These are somewhat analogous to the fields in a struct.
- Member variables should be accessible only to the class's code.



#### Member Functions

- Member functions provide the behavior of objects.
- Member functions operate on the member variables of an object.
- The member variables are always in scope within a member function.



### **Controlling Access**

- Classes also allow us to control who has access to the members of the class.
- In C++, the access levels are:
  - public Public members are accessible by all code.
  - private Private members are accessible only by code within the class.
  - protected Protected members are accessible only by code within the class or any subclass (more about this later).
- As a general rule, all member variables should be private.
- Constructors and member functions should usually be public.
- Why do you think this is?



#### Class Definitions in C++

```
class Name
{
public:
    //Public Members go here
private:
    //Private Members go here
};
```

- Class definitions typically go in header files.
- They contain function prototypes, constructor prototypes, and member variable declarations.
- Class names should begin with an upper case letter to set them apart from variable names.
- Defining a class creates a new type (just like with struct.)



### examples/19-Classy/soda-machine.h

```
#ifndef SODA H
#define SODA H
class Soda Machine
public:
    //constructor
   Soda Machine();
    //deposit money into the machine
   void insert_money(double amount);
    //pull the change return, returning the deposited change
   double change_return();
    //push a button, the return value is any message the machine gives
    //in response
   std::string push_button(int button);
private:
   std::vector<std::string> brand; //brands for the buttons
   std::vector<double> price; //prices of each soda
   std::vector<int> quantity; //the quantity of each soda
   double deposit;
   double vault:
    //dispense a soda
    void vend(int slot);
#endif
```



# **Conditional Compilation**

```
#ifndef SODA_H
#define SODA_H
...
#endif
```

- Multiple definition of classes (and structs) is not allowed.
- A header file may be included more than once.
- Wrapping the header contents as above makes the preprocessor include the contents only one time.
- Always do this with C/C++ header files for safety!



# Implementation of Classes

```
//deposit money into the machine
void Soda_Machine::insert_money(double amount)
{
    deposit += amount;
}
```

- Class methods are typically implemented in a cpp file.
- Method names are prefixed with the name of the class and the scope resolution modifier.
- The same is true of constructors.
- Take a look in soda-machine.cpp to see this in action.



# **Using Objects**

- Take a look at sodasim.cpp to see how we use a class.
- First, we must make an object. This is called instantiation of the class.

```
Soda_Machine machine; //the machine
```

- We can interact with the object using its member functions:
   machine.insert\_money(money);
- Take a look at the rest of the main function to see how it interacts with our machine. Isn't the realism thrilling?
- Compile the program using the following command: q++ sodasim.cpp soda-machine.cpp -o sodasim
- Play with it and see what it does.



### **Best Practices Recap**

- A class name should begin with a capital letter.
- Each class should be created in two files:
  - A header file (definition)
  - A cpp file (implementation)
- Member variables should be private.
- Member methods should usually be public.
- Constructors should usually be public.
- Always provide a constructor.



# Finishing the Program

- Make the directory labs/week12
- From your cs1 directory, copy all of the files like this: cp examples/19-Classy/\* labs/week12
- Implement the rest of the class.
- Implement button pushing in sodasim.cpp



# **Button Pushing Pseudocode**

```
push_button(button)
  if deposit >= cost of the soda
    if that soda is sold out
      return "Sold Out"
    else
      vend the soda
else if soda is sold out
    return "Sold Out"
  else
    return The brand and the cost of soda
```



### Vending Pseudocode

```
vend (soda)
```

Subtract 1 from the available quantity of soda move the cost of the soda to the vault print a message indicating vending and brand

