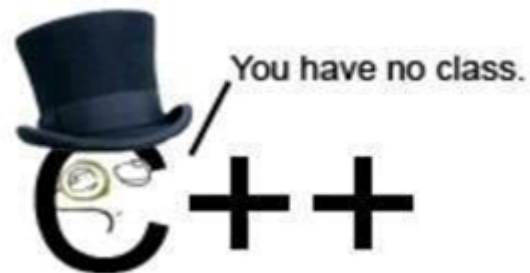


Lecture 2 - Class

Meng-Hsun Tsai
CSIE, NCKU



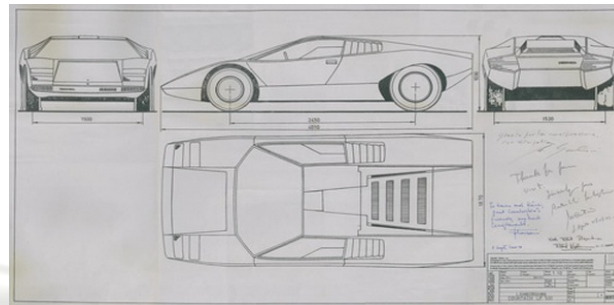
Introduction

- In this lecture, you'll begin writing programs that employ the basic concepts of **object-oriented programming**.
- Typically, the programs you develop will consist of function **main** and one or more **classes**, each containing **data members** and **member functions**.

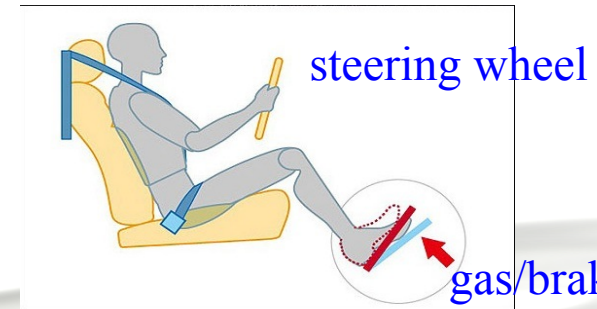
Program		
int data1; float data2; main () function1 () function2 () function3 () ...	class1	class2
	int data3; float data4; function4 () function5 ()	char data5; double data6; function6 () function7 ()

Classes, Objects, Member Functions and Data Members

- Suppose you want to drive a car and make it go faster by pressing down on its **accelerator pedal (gas pedal)**.
- Before you can drive a car, someone has to *design it and build it*.
- A car typically begins as **engineering drawings** that include the design for an accelerator pedal that makes the car go faster.
- The pedal “hides” the complex mechanisms that actually make the car go faster, just as the **brake pedal** “hides” the mechanisms that slow the car, the **steering wheel** “hides” the mechanisms that turn the car and so on.



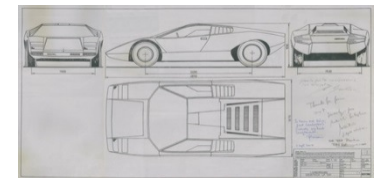
engineering drawings



Classes, Objects, Member Functions and Data Members (cont.)

- A function belonging to a class is called a **member function**.
- In a class, you provide one or more member functions that are designed to perform the class's tasks.
- Just as you cannot drive an engineering drawing of a car, you cannot “drive” a class.
- You must *create an object* of a class for your program to perform the tasks the class describes.

```
class Car {  
    accelerate();  
    brake();  
    turn();  
};
```



class



object

Classes, Objects, Member Functions and Data Members (cont.)

- You send **messages** to an object—each message is known as a **member-function call** and tells a member function of the object to perform its task.
- In addition to the capabilities a car provides, it also has many **attributes**, such as its **color**, the **number of doors** and its **current speed**.
- Every car maintains its own attributes. Similarly, an object has attributes that are carried with the object as it's used in a program.
- **Attributes** are specified by the class's **data members**.

```
class Car {  
    accelerate();  
    brake();  
    turn();  
    string color;  
};
```

```
Car NCKU;  
NCKU.accelerate();  
NCKU.brake()  
NCKU.color = "red";  
NCKU.color = "green";
```

Defining a Class with a Member Function

- We begin with an example that consists of **class Timer** used to maintain elapsed time, and a **main** function which creates a Timer object.
- Function **main** uses this object and its member function to display a message on the screen.

Class *Timer* with Member Function *hello()*

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 class Timer {
5     public:
6         void hello()
7         {
8             cout << "Hello C++ !!!" << endl;
9         }
10 };
11
12 int main()
13 {
14     Timer tmr;    // create object tmr
15     tmr.hello();  // call member function hello()
16     return 0;
17 }
```

```
> g++ -o timer1 timer1.cpp
> ./timer1
Hello C++ !!!
>
```



Outline of a Class Definition

- The Timer **class definition** (lines 4–10) begins with keyword **class** and contains a **member function** called **hello** (lines 6–9) that displays a message on the screen (line 8).
- Need to make an object of class **Timer** (line 14) and call its **hello** member function (line 15) to get line 8 to execute and display the welcome message.
- By convention, the name of a **user-defined class begins with a capital letter**, and for readability, each subsequent word in the class name begins with a capital letter.
- This capitalization style is often referred to as **camel case**.

```
4 class Superman {  
    ...  
10 };
```


Outline of a Class Definition (cont.)

- Every **class's body** is enclosed in a pair of left and right braces (**{** and **}**), as in lines 4 and 10.
- The class definition terminates with a **semicolon** (line 10).
- The **access-specifier label public:** contains the keyword **public** as an **access specifier**.
 - Indicates that the function is “available to the public”—that is, it can be called by **other functions in the program** (such as **main**), and by **member functions of other classes** (if there are any).

```
4 class Timer {  
5 public:  
6     void hello()  
7     {  
8         ...  
9     }  
10 };  
11  
12 int main()  
13 {  
14     Timer tmr;  
15     tmr.hello();  
}
```

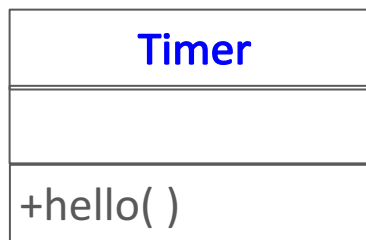
Calling a Member Function

- Typically, you cannot call a member function of a class until you create an object of that class.
- First, **create an object** of class `Timer` called `tmr`.
- Call the member function `hello` by using variable `tmr` followed by the **dot operator** (`.`), the function name `hello` and an empty set of parentheses.

```
12 int main()  
13 {  
14     Timer tmr;  
15     tmr.hello();
```

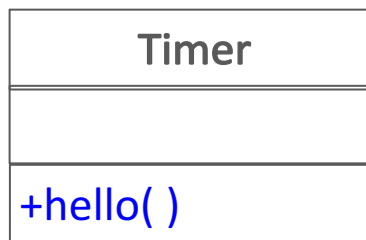
UML Class Diagram

- In the UML, each class is modeled in a **UML class diagram** as a rectangle with **three compartments**.
- The **top** compartment contains the **class's name** centered horizontally and in boldface type.
- The **middle** compartment contains the **class's attributes**, which correspond to **data members** in C++.
 - Currently empty, because class **Timer** does not have any attribute.



UML Class Diagram (cont.)

- The **bottom** compartment contains the **class's operations**, which correspond to **member functions** in C++.
- The UML models operations by listing the operation name followed by a set of parentheses.
- The **plus sign (+)** in front of the operation name indicates that **hello** is a **public** operation in the UML.



Defining a Member Function with a Parameter

- Car analogy
 - **Pressing a car's gas pedal** sends a message to the car to perform a task—make the car go faster.
 - **But how fast should the car accelerate?** As you know, the farther down you press the pedal, the faster the car accelerates.
- **Additional information** that a function needs to perform its task is known as a **parameter**.
- A function call supplies values—called **arguments**—for each of the function's parameters.



Defining *hello()* with a Parameter

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <string>
3 using namespace std;
4 class Timer {
5 public:
6     void hello(string name)
7     {
8         cout << "Hello " << name << "!!!" << endl;
9     }
10 };
11 int main()
12 {
13     Timer tmr;
14     string username;
15     cout << "Please enter your name: ";
16     getline(cin, username);
17     tmr.hello(username);
18     return 0;
19 }
```

> ./timer2

Please enter your name: **Alan Turing**

Hello Alan Turing!!!

string Class

- The new version of **hello** requires a parameter (**name** in line 6) that represents the name to output.
- A **string** is actually an object of the C++ Standard Library class **string**.
- Defined in **header file <string>** and part of namespace **std**.

```
2 #include <string>
...
6 void hello(string name)
7 {
8     cout << "Hello " << name << "!!!" << endl;
```


getline() Function

- Library function `getline` reads a line of text into a string.
- The function call `getline(cin, username)` reads characters (**including the space characters** that separate the words in the input) from the standard input stream object `cin` (i.e., the keyboard) **until the newline character is encountered**, places the characters in the string variable `username` and **discards the newline character**.
- The **<string>** header file must be included in the program to use function `getline`.

Difference Between *getline()* and *cin*

```
string str ;
```

```
getline(cin, str);
```

```
cout << "getline() get " << str  
      << "\t length = " << str.length() << endl;
```

```
cin >> str;
```

```
cout << " cin get " << str  
      << "\t length = " << str.length() << endl;
```

```
> ./getline_cin
```

```
NCKU is best!
```

```
getline() get NCKU is best !    length = 13
```

```
NCKU is best!
```

```
cin get NCKU    length = 4
```

Calling *hello()* with a Parameter

- Line 17 calls Timer's `hello` member function.
- The **username** variable in parentheses is the **argument** that is passed to member function `hello` so that it can perform its task.

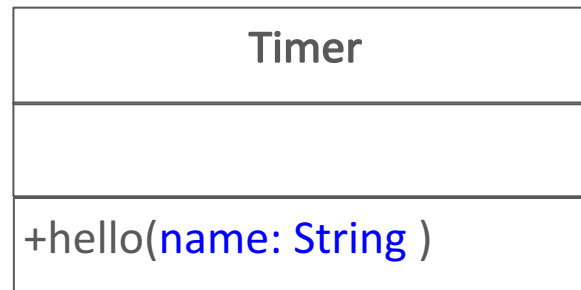
```
17    tmr.hello(username);
```

- The value of variable `username` in `main` becomes the value of member function `hello`'s **parameter name** in line 6.

```
6    void hello(string name)
7    {
8        cout << "Hello " << name << "!!!" << endl;
```

UML Class Diagram with a Parameter

- The UML models a parameter by listing the **parameter name**, followed by a **colon** and the **parameter type** in the parentheses following the operation name.
- The **UML has its own data types** similar to those of C++.
- The UML is **language independent**—it's used with many different programming languages—so its terminology does not exactly match that of C++.



Data Members

- A timer records the **starting timestamp**.
- **Every instance** (i.e., object) of a class **contains one copy** of each of the class's data members.
- A benefit of making a variable a data member is that **all the member functions of the class can manipulate any data members that appear in the class definition**.

Size of an Object

```
class Cls {  
    int x1, x2, x3;  
    int fun(int a, int b)  
    {  
        int y, z;  
        return 1;  
    }  
};  
int main()  
{  
    Cls obj;  
    cout << sizeof (Cls) << endl;  
    cout << sizeof (obj) << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

Output:

12
12

Data Members and Member Functions

- The compiler creates **only one copy of the class's member functions** and **shares that copy among all the class's objects**.
- **Each object**, of course, **needs its own copy of the class's data members**, because their contents can vary among objects.
- The **member function code**, however, **is not modifiable**, so it can be shared among all objects of the class.
- Therefore, the **size of an object depends on** the amount of memory required to store the class's **data members**.

Data Members, set Functions and get Functions

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>    // for time()
3 #include <unistd.h>  // for sleep()
4 using namespace std;
5 class Timer {
6     public:
7         void setStart(time_t ts) {
8             start_ts = ts;
9         }
10        time_t getStart() {
11            return start_ts;
12        }
13        int getElapsedTime() {
14            return time(NULL) - getStart();
15        }
16    private:
17        time_t start_ts;
18 };
```

```
19 int main() {
20     Timer tmr;
21     time_t ts;
22
23     ts = time(NULL);
24     tmr.setStart(ts);
25     sleep(2);
26
27     cout << " Start Time: " <<
28         tmr.getStart() << endl;
29     cout << "Elapsed Time: " <<
30         tmr.getElapsedTime() << endl;
31     return 0;
32 }
```

```
> ./timer3
Start Time: 1391356562
Elapsed Time: 2
```

private Access Specifier

- **Most data-member** declarations appear after the access-specifier label **private**:
- Variables or functions declared after access specifier **private** (and before the next access specifier) are accessible **only to member functions** of the class for which they're declared.
- The **default** access for class members is **private** so all members after the class header and before the first access specifier are **private**.
- The access specifiers **public** and **private** may be **repeated, but this is unnecessary** and can be confusing.

```
class Timer {  
    // private  
public:  
    // public  
private:  
    // private  
private:  
    // private  
public:  
    // public  
};
```

private Access Specifier (cont.)

- Generally, **data members** should be declared **private** and **member functions** should be declared **public**.
- **Member functions** might be **declared private** if they are **to be accessed only by other member functions** of the class.
- Despite the fact that the **public** and **private** access specifiers may be repeated and intermixed, **list all the public members of a class first in one group then list all the private members in another group**. This focuses the programmer's attention on the class' **public** interface rather than on the class's implementation.

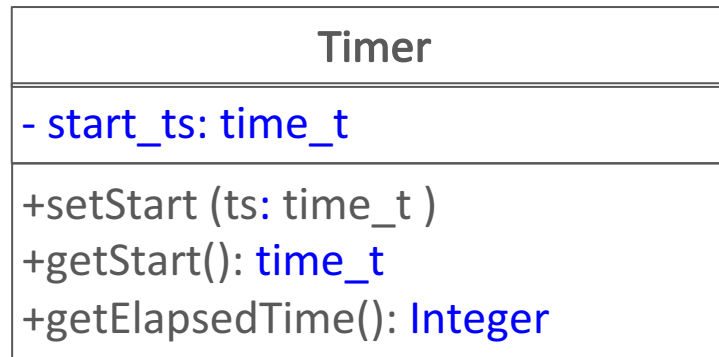
set and get Functions

- Classes often provide **public** member functions to allow functions from outside the object to **set** (i.e., assign values to) or **get** (i.e., obtain the values of) **private** data members.
- These member function names need not begin with **set** or **get**, but this naming convention is common.

```
class Point {  
    public:  
        void setX( int x_value) { ... }  
        int getX() { ... }  
        void setY( float y_value) { ... }  
        float getY() { ... }  
    private:  
        int x;  
        float y;  
};
```

UML Class Diagram for Data Members

- The UML represents **data members** as attributes by listing the attribute name, followed by a colon and the attribute type.
- The **minus sign** in the UML is equivalent to the **private** access specifier in C++.



Class *Timer* with Constructors

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>
3 #include <unistd.h>
4 using namespace std;
5 class Timer {
6     public:
7         Timer() {
8             start_ts = 0;
9         }
10        Timer(time_t s) {
11            setStart(s);
12        }
13        void start() {
14            start_ts = time(NULL);
15        }
16        void setStart(time_t ts) {
17            start_ts = ts;
18        }
19        time_t getStart() {
20            return start_ts;
21        }
```

```
22     int getElapsedTime() {
23         return time(NULL) - getStart();
24     }
25     private:
26         time_t start_ts;
27 };
28 int main() {
29     Timer tmr1;
30     Timer tmr2(time(NULL));
31
32     tmr1.start();
33     sleep(2);
34     cout << "tmr1.start=" << tmr1.getStart()
35         << ", elapsed time =" <<
36         tmr1.getElapsedTime() << endl;
37     cout << "tmr2.start=" << tmr2.getStart()
38         << ", elapsed time =" <<
39         tmr2.getElapsedTime() << endl;
40     return 0;
41 }
```

```
tmr1.start=1391358061,
elapsed time =2
tmr2.start=1391358061,
elapsed time =2
```

Initializing Objects with Constructors

- Each class can provide a **constructor** that can be used to initialize an object of the class **when the object is created**.
- A constructor is a **special member function** that must be defined **with the same name as the class**.
- An important difference between constructors and other functions is that **constructors cannot return values**, so they cannot specify a return type (**not even void**).
- Normally, constructors are declared **public**.

Initializing Objects with Constructors (cont.)

- C++ requires **a constructor** call for each object that is created, which **helps ensure that each object is initialized** before it's used in a program.
- The constructor call occurs **implicitly** when the object is created.
- If a class does not explicitly include a constructor, the compiler provides a **default constructor**—that is, a constructor with no parameters.

Initializing Objects with Constructors (cont.)

- Line 10 in the constructor's body passes the constructor's parameter **s** to member functions **setStart**, which simply assigns the value of its parameter to data member **start_ts**.

```
6   Timer() {  
7       start_ts = 0;  
8   }  
9   Timer(time_t s) {  
10      setStart(s);  
11  }
```

Initializing Objects with Constructors (cont.)

- Line 28 creates and initializes a `Timer` object called `tmr1`.
- When this line executes, the `Timer` constructor (lines 6–8) is called (implicitly by C++).
- Line 29 initializes the `Timer` object called `tmr2`, and another constructor (lines 9–11) is called with argument `time(NULL)`, which are used to initialize `tmr2`'s data members.

```
6   Timer() {  
7       start_ts = 0;  
8   }  
9   Timer(time_t s) {  
10      setStart(s);  
11  }
```

```
28   Timer tmr1;  
29   Timer tmr2(time(NULL));
```

Initializing Objects with Constructors (cont.)

- A class gets a default constructor in one of two ways:
 - The **compiler implicitly creates** a default constructor in a class that does not define a constructor.
 - **You explicitly define** a constructor that takes no arguments.
- If you define a constructor with arguments, C++ will not implicitly create a default constructor for that class.
- Data members can be initialized in a constructor, or their values may be set later after the object is created. However, **it is better to ensure that an object is fully initialized before the client code invokes the object's member functions.**

Error: Class Without Default Constructor

> cat no_def_ctor.cpp

```
...
5 class Cls {
6 public:
7     Cls(int i) { }
8 };
9 int main()
10 {
11     Cls obj1(3);
12     Cls obj2;
13     return 0;
14 }
```



```
$ g++ -o no_def_ctor no_def_ctor.cpp
no_def_ctor.cpp : In function `int main()':
no_def_ctor.cpp :12: error: no matching function for call to `Cls::Cls()'
```

Sequence of Constructor Calls in Composition

```
$ cat compo_ctor.cpp
```

```
...
class Tire {
public:
    Tire() { cout << "Tire Constructor" << endl; }
};
class Car {
public:
    Car() { cout << "Car Constructor" << endl; }
private:
    Tire tireB;
};
int main()
{
    Car objA;
    return 0;
}
```

Output:

```
Tire Constructor
Car Constructor
```

Error: Illegal Member Initialization Outside Constructor

```
$ cat -n err_init.cpp
```

```
...
4 class Cls {
5 public:
6     Cls() { x = 4; }
7 private:
8     int x = 3;
9 };
11 int main()
12 {
13     Cls obj;
14     return 0;
15 }
```

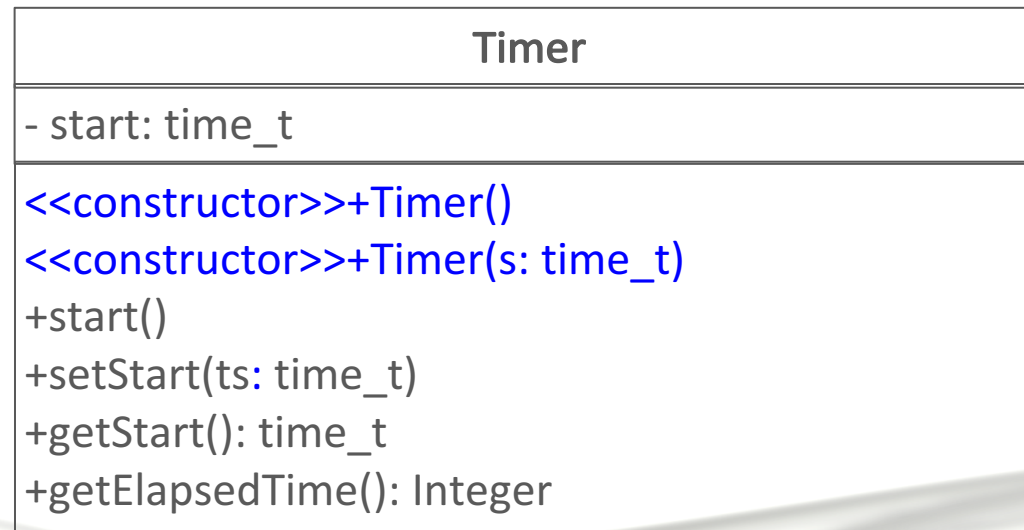


```
$ g++ -o err_init err_init.cpp
```

```
err_init.cpp:8: error: ISO C++ forbids initialization of member `x'
```


UML Class Diagram for Constructor

- To distinguish a constructor from a class's operations, the UML places the word “**constructor**” between « and » before the constructor's name.
- It's customary to list the class's **constructor before other operations** in the third compartment.



Placing a Class in a Separate File for Reusability

- One of the benefits of creating class definitions is that, **when packaged properly**, our classes **can be reused** by programmers—potentially worldwide.
- Programmers who wish to use our Timer class **cannot simply include the files shown in previous slides** in another program.

Reused.cpp

```
class Cls {  
    ...  
};  
  
int main()  
{  
  
}
```

Reusing.cpp

```
#include "Reused.cpp"  
int main()  
{  
  
}
```

Duplicate main() !!

Placing a Class in a Separate File for Reusability (cont.)

- When building an object-oriented C++ program, it's customary to define **reusable source code** (such as a class) in a file that by convention **has a .h filename** extension—known as a **header file**.
- Programs use **#include** preprocessor directives to include header files and take advantage of reusable software components.

Placing a Class in a Separate File for Reusability (cont.)

- Our next example **separates the code into two files**—**Timer5.h** and **main5.cpp**.
 - As you look at the header file in **Timer5.h**, notice that it contains only the **Timer class definition** (lines 4–29), the appropriate header files and a using declaration.
 - The **main function** that uses class **Timer** is defined in the source-code file **main5.cpp** in lines 8–18.

timer5.h

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>
3 #include <unistd.h>
4 using namespace std;
5 class Timer {
6     public:
7         Timer() {
8             start_ts = 0;
9         }
10        Timer(time_t ts) {
11            setStart(ts);
12        }
13        void start() {
14            start_ts = time(NULL);
15        }
16        void setStart(time_t ts) {
17            start_ts = ts;
18        }
19        time_t getStart() {
20            return start_ts;
21        }
22        int getElapsedTime() {
23            return time(NULL) - getStart();
24        }
25    private:
26        time_t start_ts;
27 };

```

main5.cpp

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>
3 #include "timer5.h"
4 using namespace std;
5 int main() {
6     Timer tmr1;
7     Timer tmr2(time(NULL));
8
9     tmr1.start();
10    sleep(2);
11    cout << "tmr1.start=" << tmr1.getStart()
12         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr1.getElapsedTime() << endl;
13    cout << "tmr2.start=" << tmr2.getStart()
14         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr2.getElapsedTime() << endl;
15    return 0;
16 }
```

Placing a Class in a Separate File for Reusability (cont.)

- Placing the whole class definition in a header file reveals the entire implementation of the class to the class's clients.
- However, **the client code needs to know** only **what member functions** to call, **what arguments** to provide to each member function and **what return type** to expect from each member function.
- **Hiding the class's implementation** details makes it easier to change the class's implementation while minimizing, and hopefully eliminating, changes to client code.

Separating Interface from Implementation

- **Interfaces** define and standardize the ways in which things such as people and systems interact with one another.
- The **interface of a class** describes what services a class's clients can use and how to request those services, but not how the class carries out the services.
- A class's public interface consists of the class's **public member functions**.

Separating Interface from Implementation (cont.)

- In our prior examples, each class definition contained the complete definitions of the class's **public** member functions and the declarations of its **private** data members.
- It's better software engineering **to define member functions outside the class definition**, so that their implementation details can be hidden from the client code.
- By convention, **member-function definitions** are placed **in a source-code file** of the same base name (e.g., **Timer**) as the class's header file but with a **.cpp** filename extension.

timer6.h and timer6.cpp

timer6.h

```
1 #include <ctime>
2 using namespace std;
3 class Timer {
4     public:
5         Timer();
6         Timer(time_t s);
7         void start();
8         void setStart(time_t ts);
9         time_t getStart();
10        int getElapsedTime();
11    private:
12        time_t start_ts;
13 };
```

timer6.cpp

```
1 #include "timer6.h"
2 Timer::Timer() { start_ts = 0; }
3 Timer::Timer(time_t s) {
4     setStart(s);
5 }
6 void Timer::start() {
7     start_ts = time(NULL);
8 }
9 void Timer::setStart(time_t ts) {
10     start_ts = ts;
11 }
12 time_t Timer::getStart() {
13     return start_ts;
14 }
15 int Timer::getElapsedTime() {
16     return time(NULL) - getStart();
17 }
```

timer6.h

- Header file **Timer6.h** is similar to the one in **Timer5.h**, but the **function definitions in Timer5.h are replaced** here with **function prototypes** (lines 5–10) that describe the class's public interface without revealing the class's member-function implementations.
- **A function prototype is a declaration of a function** that tells the compiler the function's name, its return type and the types of its parameters.

timer6.cpp

- Source-code file `timer6.cpp` defines class `Timer`'s member functions, which were declared in lines 5–10 of `timer6.h`.
- Notice that each member-function name in the function headers (lines 2, 3, 6, 9, 12 and 15) is preceded by the class name and `::`, which is known as the **binary scope resolution operator**.

timer6.cpp (cont.)

- To indicate that the member functions in timer6.cpp are part of class **Timer**, we must first include the **timer6.h** header file (line 1).
- This allows us to access the class name **Timer** in the timer6.cpp file.
- When compiling timer6.cpp, the compiler uses the information in timer6.h to ensure that
 - the first line of each member function matches its prototype in the timer6.h file, and that
 - each member function knows about the class's data members and other member functions

main6.cpp

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>
3 #include <unistd.h>
4 #include "timer6.h"
5 using namespace std;
6 int main() {
7     Timer tmr1;
8     Timer tmr2(time(NULL));
9
10    tmr1.start();
11    sleep(2);
12    cout << "tmr1.start=" << tmr1.getStart()
13         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr1.getElapsedTime() << endl;
14    cout << "tmr2.start=" << tmr2.getStart()
15         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr2.getElapsedTime() << endl;
16    return 0;
17 }
```

```
> g++ -c timer6.cpp
> g++ -c main6.cpp
> g++ -o timer6 main6.o timer6.o
```

Error: Mismatch of Member Function Declaration and Definition

```
> cat only_mem_function.cpp
```

```
int LaLa::func()
```

```
{  
}
```

```
> g++ -c only_mem_function.cpp
```

```
only_mem_function.cpp:1: error: `LaLa' has not been declared
```



```
> cat non_declared_member_function.cpp
```

```
class LaLa{
```

```
};
```

```
int LaLa::func()
```

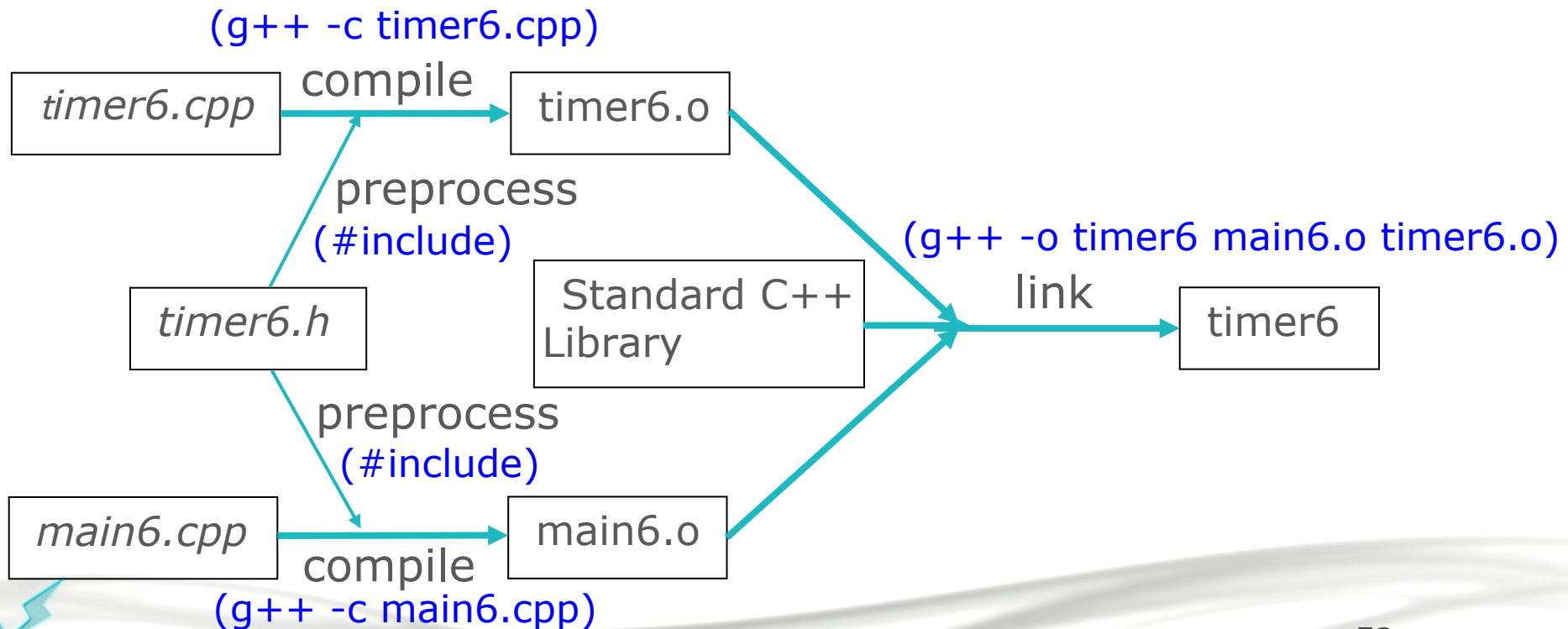
```
{  
}
```

```
> g++ -c non_declared_member_function.cpp
```

```
non_declared_member_function.cpp:6: error: no `int LaLa::func()' member  
function declared in class `LaLa'
```

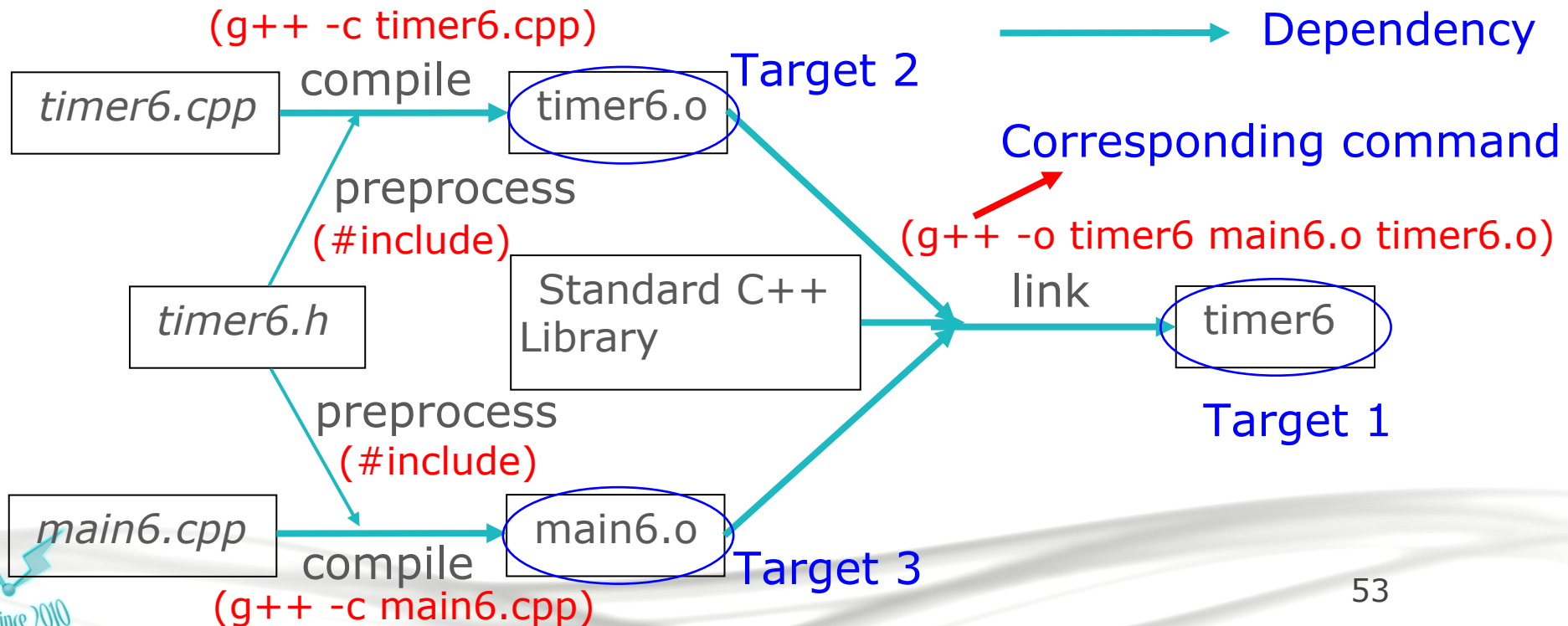
Preprocess, Compile and Link

- Before executing this program, the **source-code files** in `timer6.cpp` and `main6.cpp` **must both be compiled, then linked together**.



A Simple Makefile Example

- Step 1: Identify targets (executable program and .o files).
- Step 2: Identify dependencies of each target.
- Step 3: Write down corresponding commands (for compilation).



Makefile

```
1 timer6: timer6.o main6.o
2   g++ -o timer6 main6.o timer6.o
3
4 timer6.o: timer6.cpp timer6.h
5   g++ -c timer6.cpp
6
7 main6.o: main6.cpp timer6.h
8   g++ -c main6.cpp
9
10 clean:
11   rm timer6 *.o
```

<target1>: <dependence>

<tab><command>

<tab><command>

<target2>: <dependence>

<tab><command>

```
> make
g++ -c timer6.cpp
g++ -c main6.cpp
g++ -o timer6 main6.o timer6.o
> touch timer6.cpp
> make
g++ -c timer6.cpp
g++ -c main6.cpp
g++ -o timer6 main6.o timer6.o
> touch timer6.h
> make
g++ -c timer6.cpp
g++ -c main6.cpp
g++ -o timer6 main6.o timer6.o
> make clean
rm timer6 *.o
```

timer7.h and timer7.cpp

timer7.h

```
1 #include <ctime>
2 using namespace std;
3 class Timer {
4     public:
5         Timer();
6         Timer(time_t s);
7         void setStart(time_t start_ts);
8         time_t getStart();
9         void start();
10        int getElapsedTime();
11    private:
12        time_t start_ts;
13 };
```

timer7.cpp

```
1 #include "timer7.h"
2 Timer::Timer() { setStart(0); }
3 Timer::Timer(time_t s) {
4     setStart(s);
5 }
6 void Timer::start() {
7     setStart(time(NULL));
8 }
9 void Timer::setStart(time_t ts) {
10     start_ts = (ts>0)?ts:time(NULL);
11 }
12 time_t Timer::getStart() {
13     return start_ts;
14 }
15 int Timer::getElapsedTime() {
16     return time(NULL) - getStart();
17 }
```

main7.cpp

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <ctime>
3 #include "timer7.h"
4 using namespace std;
5 int main() {
6     Timer tmr1;
7     Timer tmr2(time(NULL));
8
9     tmr1.setStart(-3);
10    sleep(2);
11    cout << "tmr1.start=" << tmr1.getStart()
12         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr1.getElapsedTime() << endl;
13    cout << "tmr2.start=" << tmr2.getStart()
14         << ", elapsed time =" << tmr2.getElapsedTime() << endl;
15    return 0;
16 }
```

(retrieve timer7.o from the developer of Timer class)

```
> g++ -c main7.cpp
> g++ -o timer7 main7.o timer7.o
```

```
> ./timer7
tmr1.start=1391361369, elapsed time =2
tmr2.start=1391361369, elapsed time =2
```

Validating Data with *set Functions*

- Timer7.cpp **enhances** class Timer's member function **setStart** to perform **validation** (also known as **validity checking**).
- Since the interface of the class remains unchanged, clients of this class need not be changed when the definition of member function **setStart** is modified.
- The **constructor** simply calls **setStart**, rather than duplicating its validation code.