

What is a copy constructor?

A copy constructor is a member function which initializes an object using another object of the same class. A copy constructor has the following general function prototype:

```
ClassName (const ClassName &old_obj);
```

Lab 1 Following is a simple example of copy constructor:

```
1  #include<iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class Point
5  {
6  private:
7      int x, y;
8  public:
9      Point(int x1, int y1) { x = x1; y = y1; }
10
11     // Copy constructor
12     Point(const Point &p2) {x = p2.x; y = p2.y; }
13
14     int getX()      { return x; }
15     int getY()      { return y; }
16 };
17
18 int main()
19 {
20     Point p1(10, 15); // Normal constructor is called here
21     Point p2 = p1;    // Copy constructor is called here
22
23     // Let us access values assigned by constructors
24     cout << "p1.x = " << p1.getX() << ", p1.y = " << p1.getY();
25     cout << "\np2.x = " << p2.getX() << ", p2.y = " << p2.getY();
26
27     return 0;
28 }
```

Copy constructor vs Assignment Operator

Which of the following two statements call copy constructor and which one calls assignment operator?

```
MyClass t1, t2;
MyClass t3 = t1;    // ----> (1)
t2 = t1;            // -----> (2)
```

Copy constructor is called when a new object is created from an existing object, as a copy of the existing object. Assignment operator is called when an already initialized object is assigned a new value from another existing object. In the above example (1) calls copy constructor and (2) calls assignment operator.

Lab 2 Why copy constructor argument should be const in C++?

```
1  #include<iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class Test
5  {
6  /* Class data members */
7  public:
8  Test(Test &t) { /* Copy data members from t*/}
9  Test() { /* Initialize data members */ }
10 };
11
12 Test fun()
13 {
14     cout << "fun() Called\n";
15     Test t;
16     return t;
17 }
18
19 int main()
20 {
21     Test t1;
22     Test t2 = fun();
23     return 0;
24 }
25
```

How to fix?

```
Test(const Test &t) { cout << "Copy Constructor Called\n"; }
```

OR

```
Test t2;
t2 = fun();
```

What is Operator Overloading?

Overloaded operators are functions with special names: the keyword "operator" followed by the symbol for the operator being defined. Like any other function, an overloaded operator has a return type and a parameter list.

For example, we can overload an operator '+' in a class like String so that we can concatenate two strings by just using +.

Lab 3 : Adding the boxes object value with operator+

```

1  #include <iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class Box {
5  public:
6      double getVolume(void) {
7          return length * breadth * height;
8      }
9      void setLength( double len ) {
10         length = len;
11     }
12     void setBreadth( double bre ) {
13         breadth = bre;
14     }
15     void setHeight( double hei ) {
16         height = hei;
17     }
18
19     // Overload + operator to add two Box objects.
20     Box operator+(const Box& b) {
21         Box box;
22         box.length = this->length + b.length;
23         box.breadth = this->breadth + b.breadth;
24         box.height = this->height + b.height;
25         return box;
26     }
27
28     private:
29         double length;    // Length of a box
30         double breadth;   // Breadth of a box
31         double height;    // Height of a box
32 };
33
34 // Main function for the program
35 int main() {
36     Box Box1;           // Declare Box1 of type Box
37     Box Box2;           // Declare Box2 of type Box
38     Box Box3;           // Declare Box3 of type Box
39     double volume = 0.0; // Store the volume of a box here
40
41     // box 1 specification
42     Box1.setLength(6.0);
43     Box1.setBreadth(7.0);
44     Box1.setHeight(5.0);
45     // box 2 specification
46     Box2.setLength(12.0);
47     Box2.setBreadth(13.0);
48     Box2.setHeight(10.0);
49     // volume of box 1
50     volume = Box1.getVolume();
51     cout << "Volume of Box1 : " << volume << endl;
52     // volume of box 2
53     volume = Box2.getVolume();
54     cout << "Volume of Box2 : " << volume << endl;
55
56     // Add two object as follows:
57     Box3 = Box1 + Box2;
58
59     // volume of box 3
60     volume = Box3.getVolume();
61     cout << "Volume of Box3 : " << volume << endl;
62
63     return 0;
64 }

```

C++ is able to input and output the built-in data types using the stream extraction operator >> and the stream insertion operator <<. The stream insertion and stream extraction operators also can be overloaded to perform input and output for user-defined types like an object.

Here, it is important to make operator overloading function a friend of the class because it would be called without creating an object.

Lab 4 Following example explains how extraction operator >> and insertion operator <<.

```
1  #include <iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class Distance {
5  private:
6      int feet;           // 0 to infinite
7      int inches;         // 0 to 12
8
9  public:
10     // required constructors
11     Distance() {
12         feet = 0;
13         inches = 0;
14     }
15     Distance(int f, int i) {
16         feet = f;
17         inches = i;
18     }
19     friend ostream &operator<<( ostream &output, const Distance &D ) {
20         output << "F : " << D.feet << " I : " << D.inches;
21         return output;
22     }
23
24     friend istream &operator>>( istream &input, Distance &D ) {
25         input >> D.feet >> D.inches;
26         return input;
27     }
28 };
29
30 int main() {
31     Distance D1(11, 10), D2(5, 11), D3;
32
33     cout << "Enter the value of object : " << endl;
34     cin >> D3;
35     cout << "First Distance : " << D1 << endl;
36     cout << "Second Distance : " << D2 << endl;
37     cout << "Third Distance : " << D3 << endl;
38
39     return 0;
40 }
```

Friend Function Like friend class, a friend function can be given special grant to access private and protected members. A friend function can be:

- a) A method of another class
- b) A global function

Lab 5 Example (a) - A method of another class

```
1  #include <iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class B;
5
6  class A {
7  public:
8      void showB(B&);
9  };
10
11 class B {
12 private:
13     int b;
14
15 public:
16     B() { b = 2; }
17     friend void A::showB(B& x); // Friend function
18 };
19
20 void A::showB(B& x)
21 {
22     // Since showB() is friend of B, it can
23     // access private members of B
24     std::cout << "Class B, Access b = " << x.b;
25 }
26
27 int main()
28 {
29     A a;
30     B x;
31     a.showB(x);
32     return 0;
33 }
```

Example (b) - A global function

```
4  class A {
5      int a;
6
7  public:
8      A() { a = 0; }
9      // global friend function
10     friend void showA(A&);
11 };
12
13 void showA(A& x)
14 {
15     // Since showA() is a friend, it can access
16     // private members of A
17     cout << "Class A, access of a=" << x.a;
18 }
19
20 int main()
21 {
22     A a;
23     showA(a);
24     return 0;
25 }
```

Friend Class A friend class can access private and protected members of other class in which it is declared as friend. It is sometimes useful to allow a particular class to access private members of other class.

Lab 6 Example Friend class

```
1  #include <iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3
4  class A {
5  private:
6      int a;
7
8  public:
9      A() { a = 5; }
10     friend class B; // Friend Class
11 };
12
13 class B {
14 private:
15     int b;
16
17 public:
18     void showA(A& x)
19     {
20         // Since B is friend of A, it can access
21         // private members of A
22         cout << "Class A, private member a=" << x.a;
23     }
24 };
25
26 int main()
27 {
28     A a;
29     B b;
30     b.showA(a);
31     return 0;
32 }
```