

# OPERATOR OVERLOADING RULE OF THREE

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Problem Solving with Computers-II

C++

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main(){
    cout<<"Hola Facebook\n";
    return 0;
}
```



# Will this code compile?

```
int main(){  
    Complex p;    ← Calls default  
    p.conjugate(); constructor  
    p.print();  
}
```

C call to destructor

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. I am not sure . . .

```
class Complex  
{  
private:  
    double real;  
    double imag;  
public:  
    double getMagnitude() const;  
    double getReal() const;  
    double getImaginary() const;  
    void print() const;  
    void conjugate();  
    void setReal(double r);  
    void setImag(double r);  
};
```

# Will this code compile?

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex w(1, 2); ← calls parametrized constructor
    p = w;
    p.conjugate();
    p.print();
}
```

- A. Yes
- B.** No because default constructor is no longer automatically generated by the compiler
- C. I am not sure . . .

```
class Complex
{
private:
    double real;
    double imag;
public:
    Complex(double re, double im): real(re), imag(im){}
    double getMagnitude() const;
    double getReal() const;
    double getImaginary() const;
    void print() const;
    void conjugate();
    void setReal(double r);
    void setImag(double r);
};
```

# Will this code compile?

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex w(1, 2);
    p = w;
    p.conjugate();
    p.print();
}
```

The constructor  
on the right  
works for  
box calls

```
class Complex
{
private:
    double real;
    double imag;
public:
    Complex(double re = 0, double im = 0):
real(re), imag(im){}
    double getMagnitude() const;
    double getReal() const;
    double getImaginary() const;
    void print() const;
    void conjugate();
    void setReal(double r);
    void setImag(double r);
};
```

default values  
for parameters

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. I am not sure . . .

# Operator Overloading

We would like to be able to perform operations on two objects of the class using the following operators:

<<

==

!=

+

-

and possibly others

Handout activity 1A

lhs operand      operator      rhs operand

```
cout << w;
```

ostream            complex

This is actually a call to a  
function

Select the equivalent function call:

rhs

lhs

```
w.operator<<(cout);
```

lhs

rhs

```
cout.operator<<(w);
```

.

lhs

rhs

```
operator<<(cout, w);
```

{ free·function·

A ~~member function~~

B of class  
ostream

C ↑

# Overloading the << operator

```
int main(){
    Complex w(10, -5);
    w.conjugate();
    w.print();
}
```

```
int main(){
    Complex w(10, -5);
    w.conjugate();
    cout << w;
}
.
```

Before overloading the << operator

After overloading the << operator

```
operator<<(cout, w);
```

Select the function declaration that matches the above call

A

```
void operator<<(ostream &out,  
                  const Complex &c);
```

B

```
void Complex::operator<<(ostream &out);
```

# Overloading the + operator

```
p = q + w;
```

Goal: We want to apply the + operator to Complex type objects

# New method: add()

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex q(2, 3);
    Complex w(10, -5);
    p = _____;
    p.print();
}
```

Approach 1

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex q(2, 3);
    Complex w(10, -5);
    p = _____;
    p.print()
}
```

Approach 2

# New method: add()

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex q(2, 3);
    Complex w(10, -5);
    p = add(q, w);
    p.print();
}
```

Approach 1

```
int main(){
    Complex p;
    Complex q(2, 3);
    Complex w(10, -5);
    p = q.add(w);
    p.print()
}
```

Approach 2

# Overloading the + operator for Complex objects

```
p = add(q, w);
```

very similar to call above

**operator+(q,w);**

What compiler sees

```
p = q.add(w);
```

similar to this call

**q.operator+(w)**

What compiler sees

```
p = q + w;
```

You write this  
(intuitive!)

Goal: We want to apply the + operator to Complex type objects

# Handout Activity 1B:

Implement operator+ for Complex objects as a non-member function

```
Complex operator+(const Complex& lhs, const Complex& rhs) {  
    // YOUR CODE:  
}
```

# Overloading Operators for IntList

In lab01 you will overload operators for the IntList ADT

`==`

`!=`

`+` (list concatenation)

`<<` (overloaded stream operation to print the sequence)

# RULE OF THREE

If a class defines one (or more) of the following it should probably explicitly define all three:

1. Destructor



free any dynamic (heap) memory

2. Copy constructor



initialize a new object using an existing one

3. Copy assignment



copy the data of one object into another  
(both objects already exist in memory)

Code	Function called	Memory Diagram				
Complex c1(1,2);	Parameterized constructor	C1 <table border="1"><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>real</td><td>imag</td></tr></table>	1	2	real	imag
1	2					
real	imag					
Complex c2=c1;	Copy constructor	C2 <table border="1"><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>real</td><td>imag</td></tr></table>	1	2	real	imag
1	2					
real	imag					
OR						
Complex c2(c1);	Parameterized constructor	C3 <table border="1"><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>real</td><td>imag</td></tr></table>	3	4	real	imag
3	4					
real	imag					
Complex c3(3,4);	Parameterized constructor					
c1 = c3;	Copy assignment	C1 <table border="1"><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>real</td><td>imag</td></tr></table>	3	4	real	imag
3	4					
real	imag					

---

When an ADT does not use any dynamic memory  
default copy constructor & copy assignment operator  
works just fine!

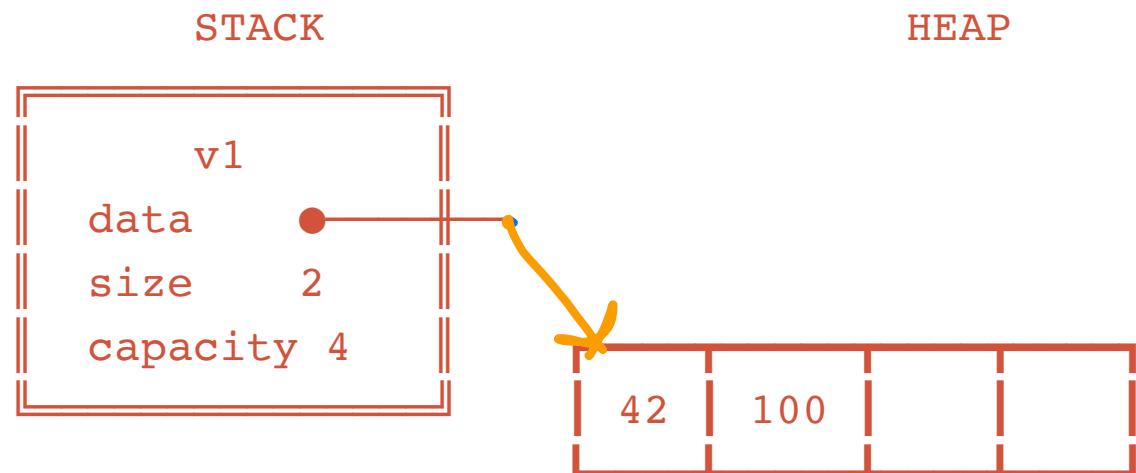
THE CODE:

---

```
CustomVector v1;  
v1.push_back(42);  
v1.push_back(100);
```

MEMORY AFTER `v1.push_back(100)`:

---



# THE PROBLEM: SHALLOW COPY WITH DYNAMIC MEMORY

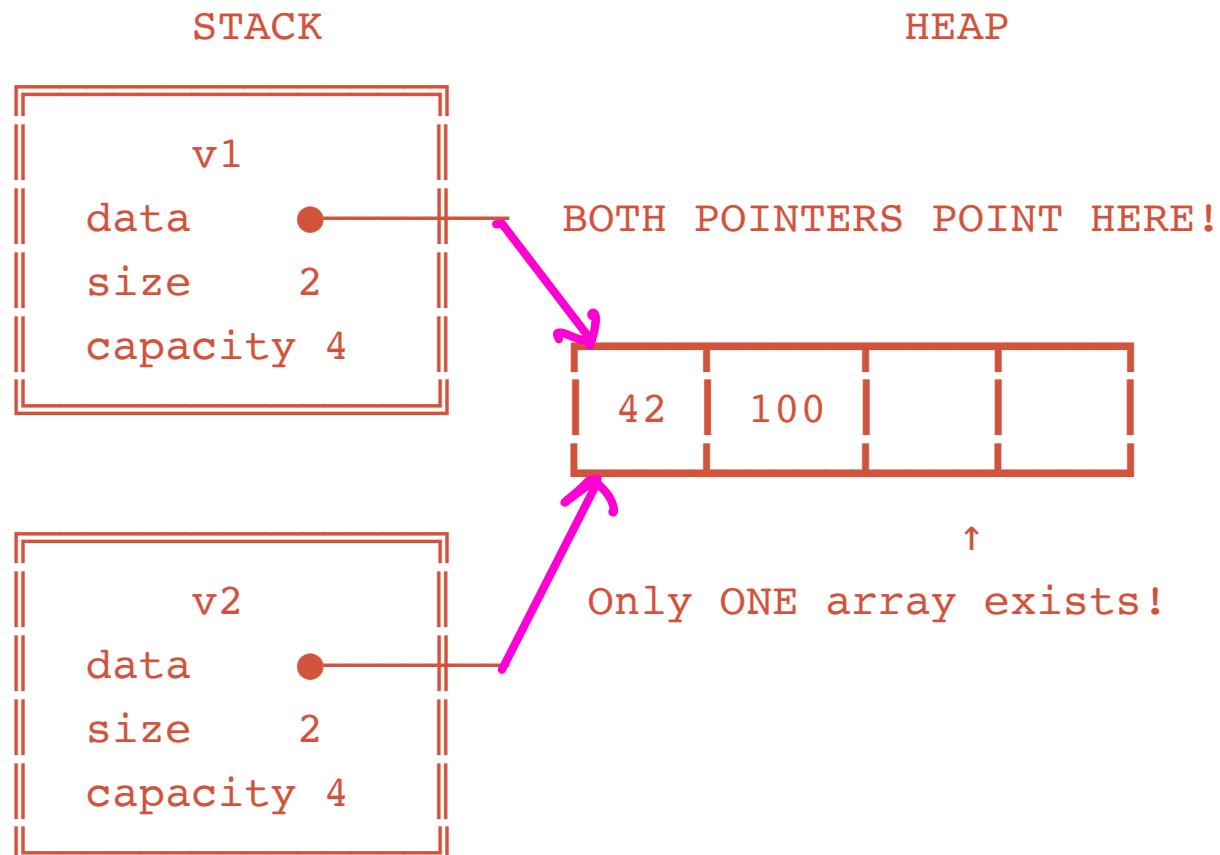
CustomVector v2 = v1

THE CODE:

```
CustomVector v1;  
v1.push_back(42);  
v1.push_back(100);  
CustomVector v2 = v1;
```

Default copy = SHALLOW  
Copies pointers,  
NOT the data!

MEMORY AFTER  $v2 = v1$ :



# THE PROBLEM: SHALLOW COPY WITH DYNAMIC MEMORY

Custom Vector

WHEN BOTH GO OUT OF SCOPE:

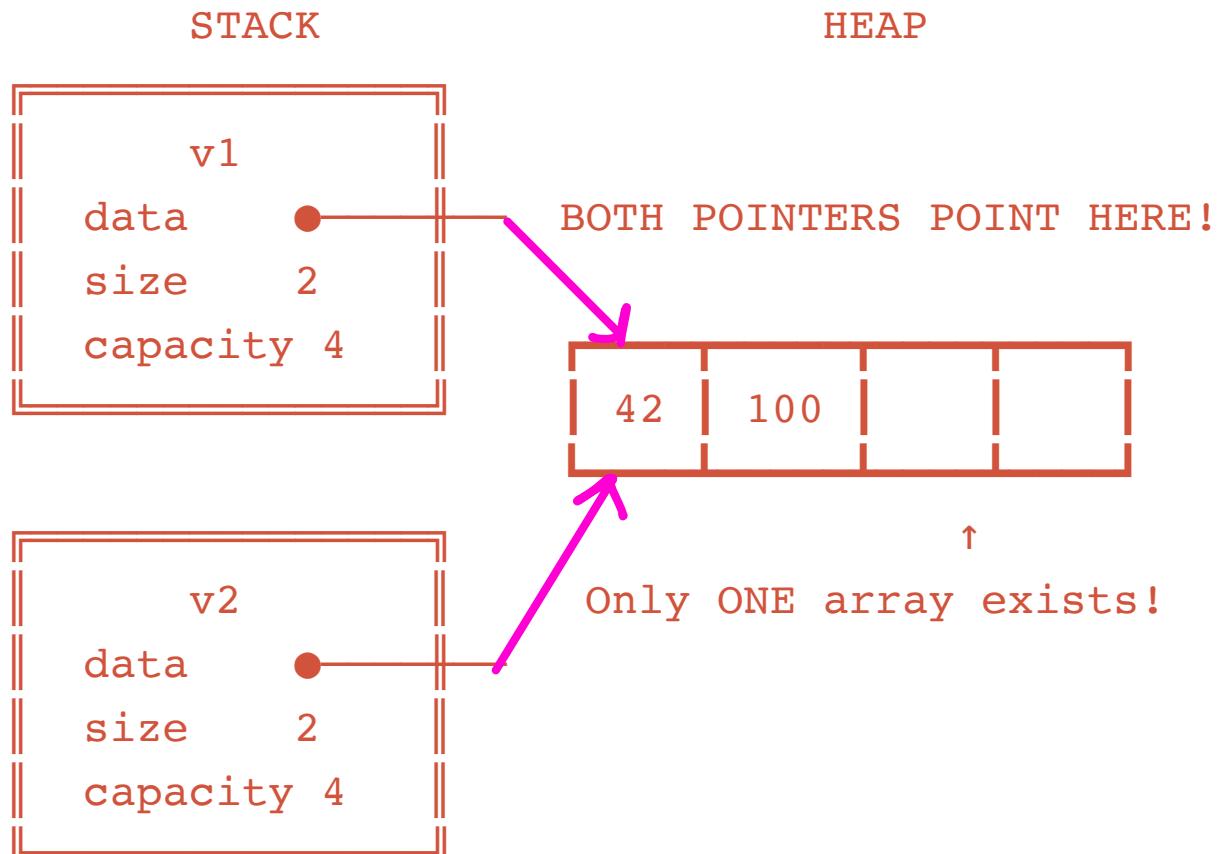
Step 1: v2's destructor  
runs → delete[] data; ✓  
Frees the array

Step 2: v1's destructor  
runs → delete[] data; ✗  
CRASH!

Already freed!

⚠ DOUBLE DELETION =  
UNDEFINED BEHAVIOR  
(crash or corruption)

MEMORY AFTER  $v2 = v1$ :



# THE PROBLEM: SHALLOW COPY WITH DYNAMIC MEMORY

THE SOLUTION:

THE BIG THREE:

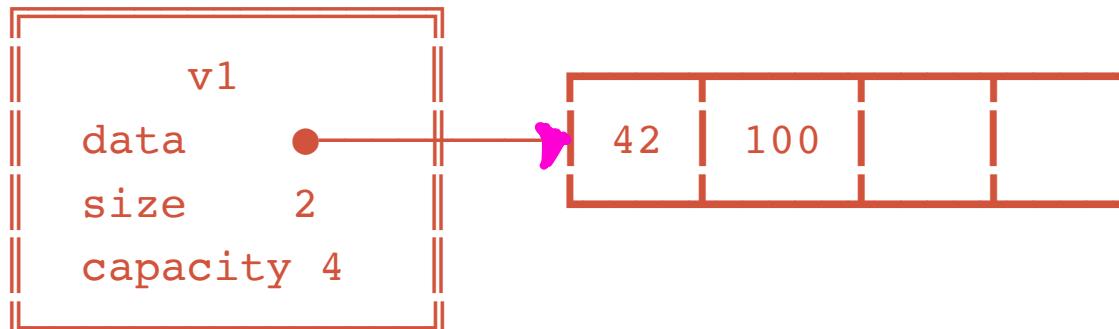
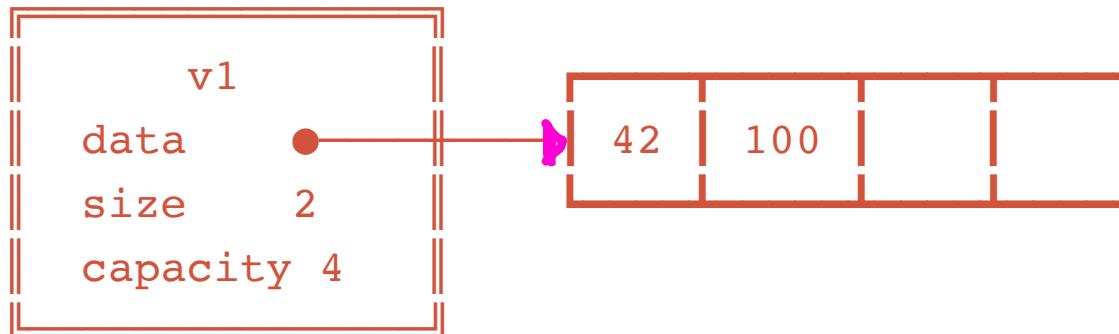
1. Destructor
2. Copy Constructor
3. Copy Assignment

(Deep copy needed!)

MEMORY AFTER  $v2 = v1$ : *If copy constructor is correctly implemented*

STACK

HEAP



# **Handout Activity Part 3:**

**Now apply the Rule of Three to CustomList!**

**This is in preparation for the upcoming lab**