C++ Concepts

Humayun Kabir

Professor, CS, Vancouver Island University, BC, Canada

Outline

- Constructor Function
- Destructor Function
- Const Function and Const Object
- Class and Member Function Prototyping
- Static Member Variable and Static Member Function
- Friend Function
- Friend Class
- Modular Programming



- **Constructor** function is a special *member function* of a class that is being automatically called to initialize the member variables of the class when an object is being created from the class.
- **Constructors** must have the **same name** as the class.
- Constructors have **no return type** (not even void).

```
class Account {
    private:
            string acctNumber;
            string acctOwner;
            double acctBalance;
    public:
            Account(string number, string owner, double balance):
                        acctNumber(number),
                        acctOwner(owner),
                        acctBalance(balance) {
                                     std::cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<std::endl;</pre>
};
int main() {
            Account bobAccount("10-001", "Bob", 119.0);
                                                                                      //Calling constructor
            Account* aliceAccount = new Account("10-002", "Alice", 210.0);
                                                                                      //Calling constructor
            return 0;
```

Constructor

- **Constructors** function **cannot be static** or **const**
- Member variables are initialized using **member initialization list syntax**.
- The **body** of a constructor function is often **left empty**

```
class Account {
    private:
           string acctNumber;
           string acctOwner;
           double acctBalance;
    public:
           Account(string number, string owner, double balance) :
                       acctNumber(number),
                       acctOwner(owner),
                       acctBalance(balance) {
                                  std::cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<std::endl;</pre>
};
int main() {
           Account bobAccount("10-001", "Bob", 119.0);
                                                                                //Calling constructor
           Account* aliceAccount = new Account("10-002", "Alice", 210.0);
                                                                                //Calling constructor
           return 0;
```

Constructor

- Member initialization list syntax is defined after the constructor parameters.
- Starts with a colon.
- Lists **each member variable** to **initialize** along with the **initialization value** using **direct initialization** for that variable, separated by a **comma**.
- Lists the **member variables** in the member initializer list **in the order** in which they have been **defined inside** the **class**.

Default Constructor

- **Default Constructor** is a **constructor** with **no parameter** or **argument**
- Member variables are initialized with some default values.

```
class Point {
    private:
            int x;
            int _y;
    public:
            Point():
                        x(0),
                        _y(0) {
                                    std::cout<<"Point::default-constructor()....."<<std::endl;</pre>
                        }
};
int main() {
                                                //Calling default constructor
            Point p1;
            Point* p = new Point();
                                                //Calling default constructor
            return 0;
```

Implicit Default Constructor

- **Implicit Default Constructor** is added by the compiler if no **constructor** is defined for the class
- It has empty member initialization list and empty body.

```
class Point {
    private:
        int _x;
        int _y;
    public:
        //Point(): { }
        //Point(): { }
        //Implicit default constructor will be added by compiler
    };
    int main() {
        Point p1;
        //Calling implicit default constructor
        Point* p = new Point();
        //Calling implicit default constructor
        return 0;
    }
}
```

Constructor Overloading

- Implicit default constructor **will not** be **added** by the compiler if a **constructor** is **defined** for the class.
- Default constructor is necessary if a class object is used to define a **member variable** of **another class**.
- Default constructor is also necessary to define **an array** of the **class type**.
- **Constructor** can be overloaded to define an **explicit default constructor** with one more **constructors** of the class.

Constructor with Default Arguments

• **Constructor** with **all parameters** with **default arguments** can be called without any argument, i.e. is also a substitute of an **explicit default constructor**.

```
class Point {
    private:
        int _x;
        int _y;
    public:
    Point(int x=0, int y=0) :
        __x(x),
        __y(y) {
            std::cout<<"Point::constructor()....."<<std::endl;
        }
};
</pre>
```



- **Destructor** function is a special *member function* of a class that is being automatically called to destroy an object of the class type when the object goes out of the scope or when delete is called on a class pointer.
- Destructors must have the **same name** as the **class** and precedes with **tilde**.
- Destructors have **no return type** (not even void) and **no parameter**.

```
class Account {
    private:
             string acctNumber;
             string acctOwner;
             double acctBalance;
    public:
             Account(string number, string owner, double balance):
                          acctNumber(number),
                          acctOwner(owner),
                          acctBalance(balance) {std::cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<std::endl; }</pre>
             ~Account() { std::cout<<"Account::destructor()....."<<std::endl; }
};
int main() {
             Account bobAccount("10-001", "Bob", 119.0);
                                                                               //Calling constructor
             Account* aliceAccount = new Account("10-002", "Alice", 210.0); //Calling constructor
             //destructors for bobAccount and aliceAccount being called
             delete aliceAccount:
             return 0;
```

Destructor

- **Destructor** function **cannot** be **static** and **cannot** be **const**.
- Destructor function **cannot** be **overloaded**.
- If no destructor is defined for a class an **implicit destructor** will be added by the compiler and the **body** of the implicit destructor is **empty**.

```
class Account {
    private:
             string acctNumber;
             string acctOwner;
             double acctBalance;
    public:
             Account(string number, string owner, double balance):
                          acctNumber(number),
                           acctOwner(owner),
                          acctBalance(balance) { std::cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<std::endl; }</pre>
                                        //Implicit destructor will be added by the compiler
             //~Account() { }
};
int main() {
             Account bobAccount("10-001", "Bob", 119.0);
                                                                                //Calling constructor
             Account* aliceAccount = new Account("10-002", "Alice", 210.0);
                                                                                //Calling constructor
             //destructors for bobAccount and aliceAccount being called
             delete aliceAccount;
             return 0;
```

Explicit Destructor

- Most often the body of the destructor function can be left empty.
- If class object has **dynamic memory allocation** either by its **constructors** or by other **functions** those **memory** has to be **released** by the **body** of the **destructor** function.
- An **explicit destructor** with **non empty body** is necessary to avoid **memory leak** by the class objects.

```
class GradePointAvergae{
    private:
             int _capacity;
             int count;
             double* grades;
    public:
             GradePointAvergae(int capacity):
                          _capacity(capacity),
                          count(0),
                          _grades(newdouble[_capacity]) { }
             ~GradePointAvergae () { delete [] _grades; }
};
int main() {
             GradePointAverage bobGPA(40);
                                                                 //Calling constructor
             //destructors for bobGPA being called and memory from bobGPA._grades has been released
             return 0;
```

Const Function and Const Object

- The state (member variables) of a const object of a class is initialized when it is being created and are not allowed to be modified.
- Any function of the class that is **not declared** as a **const function** in the class is **not allowed** to be **invoked** on a **const object** as it has potential to modify the state of the object.
- A function is **defined** as a **const function** by using **const keyword** after the parameter list.
- The **body** of the **const function** is **allowed to use** the **member variables** of the object **but not to modify** them.
- Only the **const functions** are **allowed** to be **invoked** on the **const object** of a class.
- A const function can also be invoked on a non-const object.

Const Function and Const Object

```
class Account {
   private:
             string acctNumber;
             string acctOwner;
             double acctBalance;
    public:
             Account(string number, string owner, double balance) :
                          acctNumber(number),
                          acctOwner(owner),
                          acctBalance(balance) {
                                       cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<endl;
             string getAcctNumber() const { return acctNumber; }
             string getAcctOwner() const { return acctOwner; }
             double getAcctBalance() const { return acctBalance; }
};
int main() {
             const Account constAccount("11-111", "Const", 119.0);
                                                                              //State is initialized
             std::cout<<constAccount.getAcctNumber()<<", "<<constAccount.getAcctOwner()<<", "<<
                          constAccount.getAcctBalance()<<std::endl;</pre>
            return 0;
```

Class and Member Functions Prototype

- Most of the examples shown so far have the member functions declared and defined within the class body. This is called **inline definition** of member functions.
- You can also declare and define your class member functions **non-inline**.
- You can declare the **prototype** of your **member functions** inside your **class body**.
- Your **class definition** will be **incomplete** unless you define or implement the prototyped member functions.
- You can **define** or implement **prototyped** member functions **outside** your **class body** within your **class scope**.
- You need to add **class name** and **scope operator** (::) before the **function name** in order to implement your member function within your **class scope**.

Prototyped Member Functions

```
class Account {
    private:
        string acctNumber;
        string acctOwner;
        double acctBalance;
    public:
        Account(string number, string owner, double balance);
        ~Account();
        string getAcctNumber() const;
        string getAcctOwner() const;
        double getAcctBalance() const;
        void deposit(double amount);
        void withdraw(double amount);
};
```

Member Functions Outside Class Body

```
Account::Account(string number, string owner, double balance):
           acctNumber(number),
           acctOwner(owner),
           acctBalance(balance) {
                     cout<<"Account::constructor()....."<<endl;
Account::~Account(){
          cout<<"Account::destructor()....."<<endl;
string Account::getAcctNumber() const {
          return acctNumber;
string Account::getAcctOwner() const {
          return acctOwner;
double Account::getAcctBalance() const {
          return acctBalance;
void Account::deposit(double amount) {
          acctBalance += amount;
void Account::withdraw(double amount) {
          acctBalance -= amount;
```

Static Member Variable

- Each **object** of a **class** has its **own copies** of the **member variables** and for this reason, modifying the member variables of one object does not modify the member variables of the other objects of the same class.
- In order to **share** a **member variable** by **all the objects** of **a class**, you can declare a member variable **static** by using **static** keyword before its type.
- A static member variable exists before any object is created from a class.
- A static member variable can be accessed either on the class or on any object of the class.
- A static member variable is usually initialized by redefining it as a global variable on the class scope.
- Any **modification** of a **static member variable** is **visible** to **all the objects** of the class.

Static Member Function

- You can also declare a **member function static** by using **static** keyword before its return type to manipulate **static member variables** of a class.
- A static member function also exists before any object is created from a class.
- A static member function can also be invoked either on the class or on any object of the class.
- A static member function body can access any static member variable but no non-static member variable of the class.
- A static member function body can invoke any other static member function but no non-static member function of the class.
- As *this* pointer is a self-reference to an object, *this* pointer is **not available** in the **body** of a **static member function**.
- A static member function of a class cannot be a const function.
- A **no-static member function** can **access** any **static member variable** and can **invoke** any **static member function**.

Static Member Variable and Static Member Function

```
class Student {
     private:
            static int id tracker;
                                                            //static member variable
            string _id;
            string __name;
            static string id(string prefix) {
                                                            //static member function
                id tracker++;
                return prefix+to_string(_id_tracker);
            string id() const { return _id; }
                                                            //Overloaded non-static id() function
            string name() const { return name; }
    public:
            Student(const string prefix, const string name): id(id(prefix)), name(name) {}
};
int Student:: id tracker = 0;
                                                //Initializing static member variable
int main() {
            string prefix = "CSCI00";
            Student student1(prefix, "Humayun");
            Student student2(prefix, "Kabir");
            std::cout<<"id: "<<student1.id()<<", name: "<<student1.name()<<std::endl;</pre>
            std::cout<<"id: "<<student2.id()<<", name: "<<student2.name()<<std::endl;</pre>
            return 0;
```

Friend Function

- You can declare a **friend function** of a class by using **friend** keyword before its return type in order to give **access** to the **private members** of the class.
- A **friend function** is **not** a **member function** of the class and does **not need** to **define** its body on the **class scope**.
- A **friend function** can be an **independent function** or a member function of another class.
- At least one **parameter** of the **friend function** must be **class type**.
- A **friend function** is **neither** private **nor** public irrespective of its position (private block or public block) inside class body

Friend Function

```
class Point {
    private:
           int _x;
          int _y;
    public:
          Point(int x=0, int y=0):
                     _x(x),
                     _y(y) {
                                 std::cout<<"Point::constructor()....."<<std::endl;</pre>
                      }
           friend void show(const Point& p);
};
void show(const Point& p) {
           std::cout<<"<"p._x<<","<<p._y<<">"<<std::endl;
}
int main() {
           Point p1(3,4);
           show(p1);
          return 0;
```

- You can **make** a **member function** of **another class** a **friend function** of your class the **same way** you make an independent function a friend function of your class.
- If you need to give access to the private members of your class to all the member functions of another class, it is better to make that class a friend class of your class.
- You can make **another class** your **friend class** using **friend** keyword.
- Your class will **not automatically** become a **friend class** of the class that you have made your friend class. That class has to make your class a friend class explicitly, if necessary.

```
class Node {
    private:
        int data;
        Node* next;
    public:
        Node():data(0), next(NULL) { }
        Node(int data): data(data), next(NULL) { }
        int getData() { return data; }
        friend class LinkedList;
}
```

```
};
```

class LinkedList {

private:

Node* head;

public:

```
LinkedList():head(new Node) { }
~LinkedList();
void append(int data);
bool remove(int data);
Node* search(int data);
void show();
```

};

```
LinkedList::~LinkedList() {
   Node* current = head->next;
   while(current!= NULL) {
      Node* temp = current;
      current = current->next;
      delete temp;
   }
   delete head;
   cout<<<"LinkedList destructor ...."<<endl;
}</pre>
```

```
void LinkedList::append(int data) {
    Node* newNode = new Node(data);
    Node* current = head->next;
    if(current == NULL) {
        head->next = newNode;
    }
    else {
        while(current->next != NULL) {
            current = current->next;
        }
        current->next = newNode;
    }
}
```

```
Node* LinkedList::search(int data) {
   Node* current = head->next;
   while(current!= NULL) {
      if(current->data == data){
        return current;
      }
      current = current->next;
   }
   return NULL;
}
```

Modular Programming

- Most of the examples shown so far have **codes** for **class declaration**, **member function definition**, and **using class objects** in the same file. This **non-modular** approach is okay with **smaller applications** with smaller number of smaller classes.
- **Real** life **applications** are **big**, they are composed of hundreds of large classes, and they have to be programmed in a **modular** approach.
- In modular approach, you can declare the **prototype** of **your class** in a **header** file.
- You can **define** or implement the **member functions** of your class in a separate **implementation file** by including the **header** file of your class.
- You can **use objects** from your **class** in a **separate file** again by including the **header** file of your class.

Modular Programming: Header File

#ifndef __CIRCLE_HEADER___
#define __CIRCLE_HEADER___

class Circle {

private:

double radious;

public:

Circle (); Circle(double radious); ~Circle(); double getCircum(); double getArea();

};

#endif

Modular Programming: Implementation File

```
#include <iostream>
#include "circle.h"
```

```
using namespace std;
```

```
Circle::Circle(): radious(0.0) { }
```

```
Circle::Circle(double radious): radious(radious) { }
```

```
Circle::~Circle() {
    cout<< "Circle destructor is being called....."<<endl;
}
```

```
double Circle::getCircum() {
    return 2.0*3.14*radious;
```

```
}
```

```
double Circle::getArea() {
    return 3.14*radious*radious;
```

Modular Programming: Application File

#include <iostream>
#include "circle.h"

using namespace std;

```
int main() {
```

Circle foo(10.0); cout<<"foo circumference: "<<foo.getCircum()<<endl; cout<<"foo area: "<<foo.getArea()<<endl; Circle bar = 20.0; cout<<"bar circumference: "<<bar.getCircum()<<endl; cout<<"bar area: "<<bar.getArea()<<endl; Circle baz {30.0}; //uniform initializer cout<<"baz circumference: "<<baz.getCircum()<<endl; cout<<"baz area: "<<baz.getArea()<<endl; Circle qux = {40.0}; //uniform initializer cout<<"qux circumference: "<<qux.getCircum()<<endl; cout<<"qux area: "<<qux.getCircum()<<endl; return 0;