

Introduction to Programming

Lecture 6 — Objects in your programs

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01 Recap'

02 Assignment review

03 Defining your own types

An example of `struct`

Let's walk through an example.

Custom types and member variables

You can create a type with `struct`.

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```
// Definition -> no instance in memory yet
```

```
struct Pixel {  
    int r,g,b;  
}; // Don't forget the semicolon here !
```

```
// Instanciation, p exists in memory
```

```
Pixel p;  
p.r = 42;
```

04 Member functions

Another cool example

You know the drill: <https://godbolt.org/z/8Khhqocc3>.

Declaring and defining member functions

A custom type can have **member functions**. You declare them in your structure body; you can put the definition either in the structure body or outside of it. In the latter case, the function's name has to be preceded by a double colon “:”.

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```
struct Foo{  
    void a_function() {}  
};
```

```
struct Foo{  
    void a_function();  
};  
void Foo::a_function() {}
```

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```
struct Number {  
    int val;  
    void increment() { val++; }  
};  
Number a {1};  
Number b {10};  
a.increment(); // a.val == 2  
b.increment(); // b.val == 10
```

Const functions 1/2

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```
struct Foo{  
    void func() const {} // func is const  
};
```

Const functions 2/2

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```
struct Song{
    std::string name;
    std::string name () const { return name; }
    void rename(const std::string new_name) { name = new_name; }
};

void display(const Song& song){
    std::cout << song.name() << std::endl; // ok
    song.rename("hello"); // not ok, rename is not const
}
```

Overloads

Just like *free* functions — regular functions —, you can *overload* member functions following the same rules as before.

```
struct RGBImage {  
    std::vector<std::vector<Pixel>> pixels;  
  
    void set_pixel(int x, int y, int r, int g, int b);  
    void set_pixel(int x, int y, Pixel pixel);  
};
```

05

**Public vs Private
members**

Abstraction needs

You may want to hide some information contained in your type. Things that should be available only inside your structure, but not outside of it should be **private**. Things available to everyone will be **public**.

```
struct MyType{
public:
    int everyone_can_see_me;
    int compute() {
        return everyone_can_see_me
            + private_part;
    }
private:
    int private_part;
};
```

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        }  
    private:  
        int private_part;  
};
```

```
MyType var;  
var.compute(); // ok  
var.private_part = 7; // not ok,  
                    won't compile
```

class **VS** struct

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Members of a `struct` are `public` by default (`strUct` → `pUblic`).

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```
struct Foo{  
    int var; // public  
};
```

```
class Foo{  
    int var; // private  
};
```

06

**Some special functions:
constructors and
destructors**

Constructors through an example

Let's dive in here: <https://godbolt.org/z/TbPvevjfc>

Constructors 1/2

A **constructor** is a function that is called whenever a variable is instantiated. The constructor that takes no argument is called the *default* constructor.

```
struct Pixel {  
    int red, green, blue;  
};  
Pixel p1; // default constructor called
```

Constructors 2/2

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```
struct Pixel {  
    int red, green, blue;  
    Pixel () = default;  
    Pixel(int r, int g, int b)  
        : red{r}, green{g}, blue {b} {}  
};  
  
Pixel p1; // default constructor called  
Pixel p2 {111, 22, 3}; // custom constructor
```

Destructors 1/2

Conversly, a **destructor** is a function that is called whenever a variable is *destroyed* (i.e it goes out of scope).

The destructor never takes any argument.

Destructors 2/2

```
struct AudioFile {  
    AudioFile(const std::string filename) {  
        m_file = sf_open(filename.c_str(), SF_READ, &m_info);  
    }  
    ~AudioFile(){  
        sf_close(m_file);  
    }  
private:  
    SF_INFO m_info;  
    SNDFILE * m_file;  
};
```

07 Abstraction

Why do we need our own types?

It's a way to group things that go together.

It's easier to manipulate variables and functions that all relate to the same thing when they're grouped in the same place.

How do we design types?

Think about how the object will be used. Think in terms of functionality.
The *public interface* should expose *what you can do* with an object; *private members* contain *how the object implements it*.
This is called **abstraction**.

Abstraction example

Without abstraction

```
std::vector<std::vector<int>>>
    bw_image = {
        {12, 125}, {45, 242}};
int height = bw_image.size();
int width = bw_image[0].size();
bw_image[0][1] = 43;
```

With abstraction

```
BWImage image;
image.height();
image.width();
image.set_pixel(0, 1, 43);
```

One class = One responsibility

You don't want to overcrowd a class code. Think in terms of what your class is responsible for, what it should represent.

In the case of an image, you split the definition of a pixel and the definition of an image.

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You don't want to overcrowd a class code. Think in terms of what your class is responsible for, what it should represent.

In the case of an image, you split the definition of a pixel and the definition of an image.

This makes your code more *maintainable*. The more modular your code, the easier it is to modify a piece without breaking every other ones.

Member function vs Free function

Member functions	Free function
Operate on private members / internals.	Whenever possible, make a function a free function. It could be used similarly on other types.

Practise time !

08

An introduction to generic programming

Making a function work on many types

An example.

Generic functions

A **generic function** is a function that can operate on values of different types within a single definition.

```
template<typename ImageType>
void print_dimensions(const ImageType& image) {
    std::cout << "width: " << image.width()
               << std::endl;
    std::cout << "height: " << image.height()
               << std::endl;
}
```

Type deduction 1/2

Type deduction happens the parameter of a generic function can be inferred by the call of the function. Type is usually deduced from passed arguments' type.

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```
template<typename T>
T add(T a, T b) { return a+b; }
add(1, 2); // T is int
add("hello ", "world"); // T is char *
```

Type deduction 2/2

A function parameter cannot be deduced from the return type alone. When type deduction is not possible, you have to specify the parameter's type yourself.

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Example.

```
template<typename Image>
Image create_image(int w, int h){
    return Image(w,h);
}

RGBImage image = create<RGBImage>(50, 50);
```

Generic functions and multiple files

You **cannot** forward declare a generic function.

If you want to share a generic function using different files, its definition will have to go into a header file.

Practise time!

See you next time!