CSCI 104
Inheritance

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Inheritance Review 1

- **T/F**: A student object has a name_ and id_ member
- **T/F**: Code from the Student class can access name_ and id_
  - What could you change to flip the T/F answer?
- What would change if Student inherited Person through private inheritance?
Inheritance Review 2

• Inheritance defines an _______ relationship between classes
• Composition defines a _________ relationship between two objects
• Protected access makes members accessible to _____________ but still not to __________________
Constructor & Destructor Ordering

class A {
    int a;
public:
    A() { a=0; cout << "A:" << a << endl; }
    ~A() { cout << "~A" << endl; }
    A(int mya) { a = mya;
                cout << "A:" << a << endl; }
};
class B : public A {
    int b;
public:
    B() { b = 0; cout << "B:" << b << endl; }
    ~B() { cout << "~B " ; }
    B(int myb) { b = myb;
               cout << "B:" << b << endl; }
};
class C : public B {
    int c;
public:
    C() { c = 0; cout << "C:" << c << endl; }
    ~C() { cout << "~C " ; }
    C(int myb, int myc) : B(myb) {
        c = myc;
        cout << "C:" << c << endl; }
};

int main()
{
    cout << "Allocating a B object" << endl;
    B b1;
    cout << "Allocating 1st C object" << endl;
    B* c1 = new C;
    cout << "Allocating 2nd C object" << endl;
    C c2(4,5);
    cout << "Deleting c1 object" << endl;
    delete c1;
    cout << "Quitting" << endl;
    return 0;
}

Output

Allocating a B object
A:0
B:0
Allocating 1st C object
A:0
B:0
C:0
Allocating 2nd C object
A:0
B:4
C:5
Deleting c1 object
~C ~B ~A
Quitting
~C ~B ~A
~B ~A

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PRE-SUMMER 2021 INHERITANCE SLIDES
Recall: Constructor Initialization

You can still assign data members in the {...}

- You can still assign values in the constructor but realize that the **default constructors** will have been called already
- So generally if you know what value you want to assign a data member it's **good practice** to do it in the initialization list

```cpp
Student::Student()
{
    name = "Tommy Trojan";
    id = 12313
    scores.resize(10);
}
```

```cpp
Student::Student() :
    name(), id(), scores()
    // calls to default constructors
{
    name = "Tommy Trojan";
    id = 12313
    scores.resize(10);
}
```

This would be the preferred approach especially for any non-scalar members (i.e. an object)
Object Oriented Design Components

• Encapsulation
  – Combine data and operations on that data into a single unit and only expose a desired public interface and prevent modification/alteration of the implementation

• Inheritance
  – Creating new objects (classes) from existing ones to specify functional relationships and extend behavior

• Polymorphism
  – Using the same expression to support different types with different behavior for each type
Inheritance

• A way of defining interfaces, re-using classes and extending original functionality
• Allows a new class to inherit all the data members and member functions from a previously defined class
• Works from more general objects to more specific objects
  – Defines an "is-a" relationship
  – Square is-a rectangle is-a shape
  – Square inherits from Rectangle which inherits from Shape
  – Similar to classification of organisms:
    • Animal -> Vertebrate -> Mammals -> Primates
Base and Derived Classes

• Derived classes inherit all data members and functions of base class

• Student class inherits:
  – get_name() and get_id()
  – name_ and id_ member variables

```cpp
class Person {
public:
    Person(string n, int ident);
    string get_name();
    int get_id();
private:
    string name_; int id_; // private variables
};
class Student : public Person {
public:
    Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
    int get_major();
    double get_gpa();
    void set_gpa(double new_gpa);
private:
    int major_; double gpa_; // private variables
};
```
Base and Derived Classes

• Derived classes inherit all data members and functions of base class

• Student class inherits:
  – get_name() and get_id()
  – name_ and id_ member variables

```cpp
class Person {
    public:
        Person(string n, int ident);
        string get_name();
        int get_id();
    private:
        string name_; int id_;  
    }

class Student : public Person {
    public:
        Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
        int get_major();
        double get_gpa();
        void set_gpa(double new_gpa);
    private:
        int major_; double gpa_;  
    };

int main()
{
    Student s1("Tommy", 1, 9);
    // Student has Person functionality
    // as if it was written as part of
    // Student
    cout << s1.get_name() << endl;
}
```
Inheritance Example

- Component
  - Draw()
  - onClick()
- Window
  - Minimize()
  - Maximize()
- ListBox
  - Get_Selection()
- ScrollBox
  - onScroll()
- DropDownBox
  - onDropDown()
CONSTRUCTORS AND INHERITANCE
Constructors and Inheritance

• How do we initialize base class data members?
• Can't assign base class members if they are private

```cpp
class Person {
public:
    Person(string n, int ident);
    ...
private:
    string name_;  
    int id_; 
}; 
class Student : public Person {
public:
    Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
    ...
private:
    int major_; 
    double gpa_; 
}; 
Student::Student(string n, int ident, int mjr) 
{ 
    name_ = n;  // can we access name_ and id_? 
    id_ = ident;
    major_ = mjr;
}
```
Constructors and Inheritance

- Constructors are only called when a variable is created and cannot be called directly from another constructor
  - How to deal with base constructors?
- Also want/need base class or other members to be initialized before we perform this object's constructor code
- Use initializer format instead
  - See example below

```cpp
class Person {
    public:
        Person(string n, int ident);
        ...
    private:
        string name_
        int id_
    }

class Student : public Person {
    public:
        Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
        ...
    private:
        int major_
        double gpa_
    }

Student::Student(string n, int ident, int mjr)
{
    // How to initialize Base class members?
    Person(n, ident); // No! can't call Construct.
    // as a function
}
```

```cpp
Student::Student(string n, int ident, int mjr) :
    Person(n, ident)
{
    cout << "Constructing student: " << name_ << endl;
    major_ = mjr;  gpa_ = 0.0;
}
```
Constructors & Destructors

• Constructors
  – A Derived class will automatically call its Base class constructor **BEFORE** it's own constructor executes, either:
    • Explicitly calling a specified base class constructor in the initialization list
    • Implicitly calling the default base class constructor if no base class constructor is called in the initialization list

• Destructors
  – The derived class will call the Base class destructor automatically **AFTER** it's own destructor executes

• General idea
  – Constructors get called from base->derived (smaller to larger)
  – Destructors get called from derived->base (larger to smaller)
Constructor & Destructor Ordering

```cpp
class A {
    int a;
    public:
        A() { a=0; cout << "A:" << a << endl; }  
        ~A() { cout << "~A" << endl; }  
        A(int mya) { a = mya;  
                    cout << "A:" << a << endl; }  
};
class B : public A {
    int b;
    public:
        B() { b = 0; cout << "B:" << b << endl; } 
        ~B() { cout << "~B" ; } 
        B(int myb) { b = myb;  
                    cout << "B:" << b << endl; } 
};
class C : public B {
    int c;
    public:
        C() { c = 0; cout << "C:" << c << endl; }  
        ~C() { cout << "~C" ; }  
        C(int myb, int myc) : B(myb) { 
            c = myc;  
            cout << "C:" << c << endl; }  
};
```

```cpp
int main()
{
    cout << "Allocating a B object" << endl;  
    B b1;  
    cout << "Allocating 1st C object" << endl;  
    C* c1 = new C;  
    cout << "Allocating 2nd C object" << endl;  
    C c2(4,5);  
    cout << "Deleting c1 object" << endl;  
    delete c1;  
    cout << "Quitting" << endl;  
    return 0;
}
```

Test Program

```
Allocating a B object
A:0
B:0
Allocating 1st C object
A:0
B:0
C:0
Allocating 2nd C object
A:0
B:4
C:5
Deleting c1 object
~C ~B ~A
Quitting
~C ~B ~A
~B ~A
```

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PUBLIC, PRIVATE, PROTECTED
Protected Members

• Private members of a base class can not be accessed directly by a derived class member function
  – Code for `print_grade_report()` would not compile since ‘name_’ is private to class `Person`

• Base class can declare variables with `protected` storage class which means:
  – Private to any object or code not inheriting from the base (i.e. private to any 3rd party)
  – Public to any derived (child) class can access directly

```cpp
class Person {
    public:
        ...
    private:
        string name_; int id_
    }

class Student : public Person {
    public:
        void print_grade_report();
    private:
        int major_; double gpa_; 
    }

void Student::print_grade_report() {
    cout << "Student " << name_ << " ... 
}
```

```cpp
class Person {
    public:
        ...
    protected:
        string name_; int id_
    }
```
Public, Protected, & Private Access

- Derived class sees base class members using the base class' specification
  - If Base class said it was public or protected, the derived class can access it directly
  - If Base class said it was private, the derived class cannot access it directly

1. Private Base Members
   - Base Class
     - private: // members 
   - Derived Class
     - Regardless of public, protected, private inheritance
   - 3rd party class or function

2. Protected Base Members
   - Base Class
     - protected: // members
   - Derived Class
     - Regardless of public, protected, private inheritance
   - 3rd party class or function

3. Public Base Members
   - Base Class
     - public: // members
   - Derived Class
     - Regardless of public, protected, private inheritance
   - 3rd party class or function
Public/Private/Protected Inheritance

- **public/protected/private** inheritance before base class indicates HOW the public base class members are viewed by clients (those outside) of the derived class

  - **public**
    - public and protected base class members are accessible to the child class and grandchild classes
    - Only public base class members are accessible to 3rd party clients

  - **protected**
    - public and protected base class members are accessible to the child class and grandchild classes
    - no base class members are accessible to 3rd parties

  - **private**
    - public and protected base class members are accessible to the child class
    - No base class members are accessible to grandchild classes or 3rd party clients

```cpp
int main(){
    Student s1("Tommy", 73412, 1);
    Faculty f1("Mark", 53201, 2);
    cout << s1.get_name() << endl; // works
    cout << f1.get_name() << endl; // fails
}
```

```cpp
class Person {
    public:
        Person(string n, int ident);
        string get_name();
        int get_id();
    private: // INACCESSIBLE TO DERIVED
        string name_; int id_;
};

class Student : public Person {
    public:
        Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
        int get_major();
        double get_gpa();
        void set_gpa(double new_gpa);
    private:
        int major_; double gpa_;}

class Faculty : private Person {
    public:
        Faculty(string n, int ident, bool tnr);
        bool get_tenure();
    private:
        bool tenure_;}
```

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Inheritance Access

- Derive as public if...
  - You want users of your derived class to be able to call base class functions/methods
- Derive as private if...
  - You only want your internal workings to call base class functions/methods
- Derive as protected more rarely
  - Same reasons as private inheritance but also allow grandchild classes to use Base class methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inherited Base</th>
<th>Public</th>
<th>Protected</th>
<th>Private</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Protected</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

External client access to Base class members is always the more restrictive of either the base declaration or how the base is inherited.

```cpp
int main(){
  Student s1("Tommy", 73412, 1);
  Faculty f1("Mark", 53201, 2);
  cout << s1.get_name() << endl; // works
  cout << f1.get_name() << endl; // fails
}
```
Public/Private/Protected Cases

**Base Class**
*public*: void f1();
*protected*: void f2();
*private*: void f3();

How a **grandchild** class or 3rd party sees what is inherited is the MORE restrictive of the how the base class declared it or how the derived class inherited.

---

**Child**

class ChildA :
  *public* Base
  { /* . . . */ };

class ChildB :
  *protected* Base
  { /* . . . */ };

class ChildC :
  *private* Base
  { /* . . . */ };

---

**Grandchild**

class GCA :
  *public* ChildA
  { public:
    void g1()
    { f1(); f2(); f3(); }
  }

class GCB :
  *public* ChildB
  { public:
    void g1()
    { f1(); f2(); f3(); }
  }

class GCC :
  *public* ChildC
  { public:
    void g1()
    { f1(); f2(); f3(); }
  }

---

**3rd Party**

int main()
{ ChildA a;
  a.f1(); a.f2(); a.f3();
}

int main()
{ ChildB b;
  b.f1(); b.f2(); b.f3();
}

int main()
{ ChildC c;
  c.f1(); c.f2(); c.f3();
}
When to Inherit Privately

- If **public**: Outside user can call the base List functions and break the Queue order
- If **private**: hide the base class public function, so users can only call derived class interface
- If **protected**: hide the base class public and protected functions except to derived and friend classes
- For protected or private inheritance, "as-a" relationship or "Is-Implemented-In-Terms-Of" (IITO)
  - Queue "as-a" List / FIFO "IIITO" list

```cpp
class List{
    public:
    List();
    void insert(int loc, const int& val);
    int size();
    int& get(int loc);
    void pop(int loc);
    private:
    Item* _head;
};

Base Class

class Queue : public List // or private List
{
    public:
    Queue();
    push_back(const int& val)
    { insert(size(), val); }
    int& front();
    { return get(0); }
    void pop_front();
    { pop(0); }
};

Derived Class

Queue q1;
q1.push_back(7); q1.push_back(8);
q1.insert(0,9) // is it good this is allowed?
```
ODDS AND ENDS OF INHERITANCE
Overloading Base Functions

• A derived class may want to redefined the behavior of a member function of the base class
• A base member function can be overloaded in the derived class
• When derived objects call that function the derived version will be executed
• When a base objects call that function the base version will be executed
Scoping Base Functions

- We can still call the base function version by using the scope operator (::)
  - `base_class_name::function_name()`

```cpp
class Car{
public:
    double compute_mpg();
private:
    string make; string model;
};

double Car::compute_mpg()
{
    if(speed > 55) return 30.0;
    else return 20.0;
}

class Hybrid : public Car {
public:
    void drive_w_battery();
    double compute_mpg();
private:
    string batteryType;
};

double Hybrid::compute_mpg()
{
    if(speed <= 15) return 45; // hybrid mode
    else return Car::compute_mpg();
}
```
COMPOSITION VS. INHERITANCE
Composition

- Code reuse is a common need in (object-oriented) programming
  - We could use a pre-written List class to make a Queue class

- An easy and often preferable way is to simply use the existing class as a data member

- **Composition defines a "has-a" relationship**
  - A Queue "has-a" List in its implementation

- But could we inherit?
  - Public inheritance would mean a Queue "is-a" List and a Queue should be able to do anything a List can do, but that's not the case
  - Private inheritance could be used but is not a universal approach supported by other languages
  - Often programmers say **"prefer composition rather than inheritance"** when the goal is code reuse

```cpp
class List{
    public:
        List();
        void insert(int loc, const int& val);
        int size();
        int& get(int loc);
        void pop(int loc);
    private:
        IntItem* _head;
};
```

```cpp
class Queue{
    private:
        List mylist;
    public:
        Queue();
        push_back(const int& val)
        { mylist.insert(size(), val); }
        int& front();
        { return mylist.get(0); }
        void pop_front();
        { mylist.pop(0); }
        int size() // need to create wrapper
        { return mylist.size(); }
};
```
Inheritance vs. Composition

• Software engineers debate about using *inheritance (is-a)* vs. *composition (has-a)*
• Rather than a Hybrid "is-a" Car we might say Hybrid "has-a" car in it, plus other stuff
• While it might not make complete sense verbally, we could re-factor our code the following ways...
• Interesting article I’d recommend you read at least once:
  – [https://www.thoughtworks.com/insights/blog/composition-vs-inheritance-how-choose](https://www.thoughtworks.com/insights/blog/composition-vs-inheritance-how-choose)
Inheritance vs. Composition

- Suppose we wanted to create a variation of the `std::string` class that only allows a fixed size specified at creation (no size alteration after creation)
  - What is the best way to enforce this?

```cpp
class FixedString : public std::string
{ public:
    FixedString(size_t fixedSize) :
        string(' ', fixedSize)
    { }
};
```

**Using Public Inheritance**

```cpp
class FixedString : private std::string
{ public:
    FixedString(size_t fixedSize) :
        std::string(' ', fixedSize)
    { }
    size_t size() const { return str_.size(); }
    char const & operator[](size_t idx) const
    { return str_[idx]; }
};
```

**Using Private Inheritance**

```cpp
class FixedString
{ private:
    string str_; 
 public:
    FixedString(size_t fixedSize) :
        str_(' ', fixedSize)
    { }
    size_t size() const { return str_.size(); }
    char const & operator[](size_t idx) const
    { return str_[idx]; }
};
```

**Using Composition**

```cpp
FixedString s1(10);
s1[0] = 'a';
S1 += "abc"; // will the compiler allow this
```
Summary

- **Summary:**
  - **Public Inheritance =>** "is-a" relationship
  - **Composition =>** "has-a" relationship
  - **Private/Protected Inheritance =>** "as-a" relationship or "implemented-as" or "implemented-in-terms-of"

- **Public inheritance mainly when**
  - We want to add or specialize behavior
  - A true "is-a" relationship holds for the relationship of base and derived

- **Composition or private inheritance**
  - When reuse is the main desire

---

**Base Class**

```cpp
class List{
    public:
        List();
        void insert(int loc, const int& val);
        int size();
        int& get(int loc);
        void pop(int loc);
    private:
        IntItem* _head;
};
```

---

**Queue via Composition**

```cpp
class Queue{
    private:
        List mylist;
    public:
        Queue();
        push_back(const int& val)
            { mylist.insert(size(), val); }
        int& front()
            { return mylist.get(0); }
        void pop_front();
        int size() // need to create wrapper
            { return mylist.size(); }
};
```
Warning: Multiple Inheritance

• C++ allows multiple inheritance but it is not usually recommended
• What happens for the following code?
• Suppose in main()
  – Liger x;
  – int wt = x.getWeight();

SOLUTIONS
Inheritance Review 1

- **T/F**: A student object has a name_ and id_ member
- **T/F**: Code from the Student class can access name_ and id_
  - What could you change to flip the T/F answer? Changing Person's access specifier to protected or public. Regardless of how Student inherits, name_ and id_ will be private to the Student class.
- What would change if Student inherited Person through private inheritance?
  - External clients (like main) would not be able to access the inherited members (from Person) of a Student object.

```cpp
class Person {
public:
  Person(string n, int ident);
  string get_name();
  int get_id();
private:
  string name_; int id_;}

class Student : public Person {
public:
  Student(string n, int ident, int mjr);
  int get_major();
  double get_gpa();
  void set_gpa(double new_gpa);
private:
  int major_; double gpa_;}

int main()
{
  Student s1("Amanda", 12345, 1);
  cout << s1.get_name() << endl;
  return 0;
}
```
Inheritance Review 2

- Inheritance defines an *is-a* relationship between classes
- Composition defines a *has-a* relationship between two objects
- Protected access makes members accessible to a derived/child class but still not to external/3rd-party clients