CS 225

#8: Inheritance and polymorphism

February 7, 2020 · Jing Jiang

Assignment Operator – Self Destruction

- Programmers are sometimes not perfect Consider the following:

assignmentOpSelf.cpp

```
1  #include "Cube.h"
2
3  int main() {
4    cs225::Cube c(10);
5    c = c;
6    return 0;
7  }
```

- Ensure your assignment operator doesn't self-destroy:

Cube.cpp

```
1  #include "Cube.h"
…
40 Cube& Cube::operator=(const Cube &other) {
41   if (&other != this) {
42     _destroy();
43     _copy(other);
44   }
45   return *this;
46 }
```

Inheritance

In nearly all object-oriented languages (including C++), classes can be extended to build other classes. We call the class being extended the **base class** and the class inheriting the functionality the **derived class**.

Shape.h

```
class Shape {
  public:
    Shape();
    Shape(double length);
    double getLength() const;

  private:
    double length_;
};
```

Square.h

```
#include "Shape.h"

class Square : public Shape
{
  public:
    double getArea() const;

  private:
    // Nothing!
};
```

In the above code, **Square** is derived from the base class **Shape**:

- All **public** functionality of **Shape** is part of **Square**:

main.cpp

```
5  int main() {
6    Square sq;
7    sq.getLength(); // Returns 1, the len init'd
8                    // by Shape's default ctor
…    ...
```

- [Private Members of **Shape**]:

Virtual

- The **virtual** keyword allows us to override the behavior of a class by its derived type.

Example:

Cube.cpp

```
Cube::print_1() {
  cout << "Cube" << endl;
}

Cube::print_2() {
  cout << "Cube" << endl;
}

virtual Cube::print_3() {
  cout << "Cube" << endl;
}

virtual Cube::print_4() {
  cout << "Cube" << endl;
}

// In .h file:
virtual print_5() = 0;
```

RubikCube.cpp

```
// No print_1()


RubikCube::print_2() {
  cout << "Rubik" << endl;
}

// No print_3()


RubikCube::print_4() {
  cout << "Rubik" << endl;
}

RubikCube::print_5() {
  cout << "Rubik" << endl;
}
```

	Cube c;	RubikCube c;	RubikCube rc; Cube &c = rc;
c.print_1();			
c.print_2();			
c.print_3();			
c.print_4();			
c.print_5();			

Polymorphism
Object-Orientated Programming (OOP) concept that a single object may take on the type of any of its base types.

- A **RubikCube** may polymorph itself to a Cube
- A Cube cannot polymorph to be a **RubikCube** *(base types only)*

Why Polymorphism? Suppose you're managing an animal shelter that adopts cats and dogs:

Option 1 – No Inheritance

animalShelter.cpp

```
1  Cat & AnimalShelter::adopt() { ... }
2  Dog & AnimalShelter::adopt() { ... }
3  ...
```

Option 2 – Inheritance

animalShelter.cpp

```
1  Animal & AnimalShelter::adopt() { ... }
```

Pure Virtual Methods
In `Cube`, `print_5()` is a **pure virtual** method:

Cube.h

```
1  virtual Cube::print_5() = 0;
```

A pure virtual method does not have a definition and makes the class and **abstract class**.

Abstract Class:

1. [Requirement]:

2. [Syntax]:

3. [As a result]:

Abstract Class Animal
In our animal shelter, `Animal` is an abstract class:

Abstract Data Types (ADT):

List ADT - Purpose	Function Definition

List Implementation
What types of List do we want?

Templates in C++
Two key ideas when using templates in C++:

1.

2.

Templated Functions:

functionTemplate1.cpp

```
1
2  T maximum(T a, T b) {
3    T result;
4    result = (a > b) ? a : b;
5    return result;
6  }
```

CS 225 – Things To Be Doing:

1. Theory Exam #1 is ongoing; ensure you take it!
2. MP2 due Sept. 23 (10 days), EC deadline in 3 days!
3. Lab Extra Credit → Attendance in your registered lab section!
4. Daily POTDs