

# C++ for Scientific Computing

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15. Oktober 2015

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# Requirements onto the programming language

- Efficiency. . .
  - of program
  - of development
- Hardware-related programming language
- Integration with existing code
- Abstraction
-

# Comparison of C++ with other languages

## Fortran & C

- + fast code
- + good optimization
- only procedural language
- low flexibility
- bad maintainability

## C++

- + good maintainability
- + fast code
- + good integration with Fortran and C libraries
- + high degree of abstraction
- difficult to optimize
- mostly more memory consumption

# Concepts of C++

## C++ is an object-oriented language

this means C++ supports

- 1 Abstraction by classes and objects,
- 2 Inheritance and
- 3 Polymorphism during runtime.

## Polymorphism means „Many Shapes“:

- A variable can change its type during runtime,
- A function with polymorphic arguments,
- A function name, that is used by functions with different implementation.

# Literature

## Literature for C++

- B. Stroustrup: C++ – The Programming Language (The Bible)
- B. Eckel: Thinking in C++, Volume 1 + 2
- A. Willms: C++ Programmierung (well for beginners!)

# Basic C++ Knowledge

To exhaust the advantages of C++ abstract techniques are necessary. The following basic concepts are as a basis imperative:

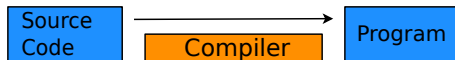
- Basic data types and control structures:
  - `int`, `double`, `bool`, `char`, ...
  - conditionals: `if`, `switch`, ...
  - loops: `for`, `while`
- Basic program structures:
  - Functions
  - Recursive and iterative programming
- Pointers and References
- Classes and Inheritance
  - `class` and `struct`
  - `private`, `public`, `protected`
  - Constructors and Destructors
  - `public`, `private` inheritance
  - (pure) virtual functions abstract base classes
- Polymorphism of functions, operator overloading
- Dynamic memory management (`new`, `delete`)
- Exception handling



# Hello World!

```
1 // include I/O-library
2 #include <iostream>
3
4 // main is always the first function to be called
5 // argc: program argument counter
6 // argv: pointer to C-Strings containing the arguments
7 int main(int argc, char** argv)
8 {
9     std::cout << "Hello, world..." << std::endl;
10
11     // return value of main
12     return 0;
13 }
```

Establishing the executable necessitates only a compiler (g++):



# Compilation with Linux

```

~/doc/iwr/lehre/spezialvorlesungen/NumSimNeuro/SS13/uebungen/c++-introduction/test: tcsh
Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Lesezeichen Einstellungen Hilfe
josh [test]194% ls -l ../Atome/codes
insgesamt 60
-rwxrwxr-x 1 stefan stefan 336 Apr 23 20:41 c_oluja.c*
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 390 Apr 23 20:41 complex.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 1311 Apr 24 10:30 fibonacci.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 305 Apr 23 20:41 hallowelt.cc
drwxrwxr-x 3 stefan stefan 4096 Apr 23 20:41 integration/
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 491 Apr 24 16:06 map.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 1315 Apr 23 20:41 maperrormessage.dat
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 168 Apr 23 20:41 pointer.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 14688 Apr 23 20:41 promotion_traits_example.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 789 Apr 23 20:41 template_arrays.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 340 Apr 23 20:41 template_function.cc
-rw-rw-r-- 1 stefan stefan 317 Apr 23 20:41 vector.cc
josh [test]195% g++ -o hallowelt hallowelt.cc
josh [test]196% ./hallowelt
Hello, world...
josh [test]197%

```

For larger projects the C++-build process is typically quite complicated.

# Compilation Process in C++

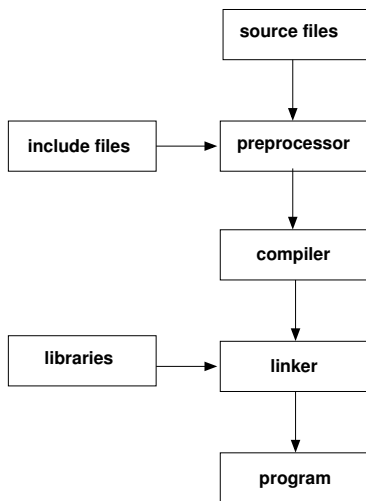
The fine granular construction of an executable program in C++ is coordinated in several steps:

## Build Process

- The **preprocessor** analyses the code and performs substitutions on textual basis (i.e. the substitution of macros and equivalent).
- The **compiler** generates herefrom the **object code**, this means, it analyzes which objects are necessary and have to be constructed.
- The object code is linked by the **linker** with other libraries and construct the executable program.
- The control of the process is performed via **makefiles**, that are however nowadays mostly hidden in the IDE.

# Compilation Process in C++

The following figure shows an overview of the steps to construct an executable program in C++:



# Data Types in C++

The elementary data types in C++ are:

int	Integers	<code>int a = 2;</code>
long	Large Integers	<code>long a = 1e15;</code>
char	Characters	<code>char a = 'b';</code>
float	Floating point numbers 4 Byte	<code>float b = 3.14;</code>
double	Floating point numbers 8 Byte	<code>double c = 3.1415;</code>
bool	boolean values	<code>bool d = false;</code>

# Branches

if-branches:

```
1  #include <iostream>
2
3  int main(int argc, char** argv)
4  {
5      int a = 5;    // an integer variable
6      if (a > 0)
7      {
8          std::cout << "Hello, World..." << std::endl;
9      }
10     else
11     {
12         return 1; // emit an error
13     }
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

# Realisation of Loops

- for loops,
- while loops,
- do..while loops.

```
1  #include <iostream>
2
3  int main(int argc, char** argv)
4  {
5      for (int i=1; i<10; ++i)
6          std::cout << "i: " << i << std::endl;
7
8      int j = 5;
9      while (j > 0)
10     {
11         std::cout << "j: " << j << std::endl;
12         j--;
13     }
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

# Functions

## Functions

Functions are needed for encapsulation of program sections and can be called when necessary.

In C++ their syntax always is

```
return-value function-name(parameter1, parameter2, ..);
```



# An Example Program with Function

```
1  #include <iostream>
2
3  using namespace std; // use namespace std globally (here ok,
4                       // avoid this in the general case)
5
6  // A function that greets everyone
7  void greet()
8  {
9      // do not need namespace-selector std:: any more
10     cout << "Hello, World." << endl;
11 }
12
13 // main function
14 int main(int argc, char** argv)
15 {
16     greet();
17     return 0;
18 }
```

# Call-by-Reference und Call-by-Value

In Call-by-Value the address of the object is passed as function parameter and no object copy is constructed:

```
1 // call-by-value
2 void swap_wrong (int a, int b)
3 {
4     int tmp = a;
5     a = b;           // does not work, a and b are local copies
6     b = tmp;       // in the scope of the function
7 }
8
9 // call-by-reference
10 void swap_right (int& a, int& b)
11 {
12     int tmp = a; // a, b are reference parameters
13     a = b;       // That means changes to them are
14     b = tmp;     // persistant after end of function call
15 }
```

# Call-by-Reference und Call-by-Value

```
1 // main function
2 int main(int argc, char** argv)
3 {
4     int a=5, b=6;
5
6     // Output 5, 6
7     swap_wrong(a, b)
8     std::cout << a << ", " << b << std::endl;
9
10    // Output 6, 5
11    swap_right(a, b)
12    std::cout << a << ", " << b << std::endl;
13
14    return 0;
15 }
```

Shall changes of a function be persistent always reference variablen have to be used (see in `swap_right`).

# Pointer and References

One of the more complicated themes in C/C++ are pointers and references.

## Pointer and the address operator &

- `int x = 12`

The variable `x` is defined by address, size (necessary storage demand), name and contents.

- To evaluate the value of the address (not the variable `x`!) the **Addressoperator** `&` is realized:

```
std::cout << &x << std::endl // Output: 0xA0000000
```

- Address values can be stored in **pointer variables**. Pointer variables have the syntax `Typ* name`, type `ist` is the type of the object, on which the pointer points:

```
int* z = &x; // z is a pointer variable
```

# Pointer and References

## The dereference operator \*

- Using the pointer variable `z`

```
int* z = &x; // z is a pointer variable
```

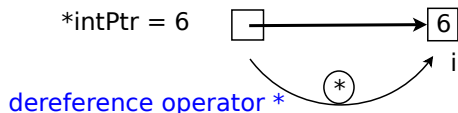
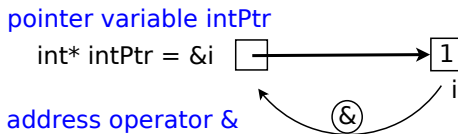
the value of the variable `x` can also be changed. Herefor exists the (**dereference operator** `*`):

```
*z = 4711; // z is dereferenced, x has now the value 4711
```

- Caution:
  - With the dereference operator the pointer `z` is not changed. (`z` points still onto the memory address of `x`).
  - The symbol `*` denotes according to the context a dereference operator or a pointer variable.

# Pointer and References

The relationship between pointer variable, address- and dereference operator is clarified in the following figure:



# Pointer and References

## References

Besides pointer variables there are *references*.

- References are internal pointers.
- References can be considered as „another name“ for a variable:

```
1  int  x = 5;  
2  int& y = x; // another name for x  
3  y = 4;      // means x = 4!
```

# Pointer and References

Example for pointer and references:

```
1  int i, j, *p, *q;
2  int &s = i, &r = j; // references have to be initialized
3
4  r = 2;           // OK, j (==r) has now value 2
5  r = &j;         // BAD, &j has wrong type 'int *' instead of 'int'
6
7  p = 2;          // BAD, 2 has wrong type 'int' instead of 'int *'
8  p = &j;         // OK, p contains now the address of j
9
10 if (p == q)     // TRUE, if p, q point to the same address
11                // the contents of the address does not matter.
12
13 if (r == s)     // TRUE, if the contents of j (reference of r) and i
14                // (reference of s) is equal. The address of the
15                // variable does not matter!
```



# Pointer and References

(Multi-dimensional) arrays are nothing else than pointer onto the first array entry:

```
1  int a[5];           // Array of 5 int variables
2
3  a[0] = 3;
4  std::cout << *a;   // output: 3 (= a[0])
5  std::cout << &a;   // output: adress of a[0]
6
7  int a[3][20];       // 3 x 20 array
```

# Pointers and References

Pointer enable arbitrary complicated constructs:

```
1  int **p;           // p contains a pointer onto variables pointing
2                        // onto type 'int'
3
4  int *p[10];        // p is an array, that contains 10 int * variables,
5                        // though the brackets [] bind stronger than *.
6                        // this means int * is the type of the array elements!
7
8  int (*p)[10];      // Now instead p is a pointer onto an array
9                        // with 10 int-components
10
11 int* f()            // f is a parameterless function, that
12                        // returns a pointer onto an int.
13                        // Rounded brackets bind stronger, as above!
```

# Memory Segments in C++ programs

In C++ there are essentially three memory segments where objects can be stored. These are:

## Memory segments in C++

- 1 The *global memory segment*. It stores all global variables and static components of classes and compiled directly into the executable file.
- 2 The *stack* contains all instances of currently executed methods and functions and their related local variables.
- 3 The *heap* provides memory, that can be allocated for dynamically allocated objects.

The management of dynamic memory is performed in C++ by the operators `new` and `delete`.

# Memory Allocation with new

Memory space can be allocated from the heap with `new`:

```
int* intPtr;  
  
intPtr = new int; // intPtr points onto the new int memory
```

With the code line `intPtr = new int`; memory space is *allocated* for a nameless object of type `int` and a pointer to it is returned.

The construct `new int`

- reserves space in the heap for an `int` value,
- provides a pointer onto the allocated memory space.

# Freeing of Memory with delete

Allocated memory space should be freed when an object is not necessary anymore. This happens with the instruction `delete`:

```
int* intPtr;  
  
intPtr = new int; // intPtr points onto the new int memory  
  
delete intPtr; // memory is freed
```

# Life Cycle of Objects

Die life time of objects depends on the structure of the program:

- Static and global variables exist during the complete run time.
- Local variables exist as long as the function, they belong to, exist. They are created and destroyed with each new instance.
- Dynamic objects in the heap exist independently of the program structure, their life time is controlled by new and delete.

# Life Cycle of Objects

The following code clarifies the different life times of dynamic and static variables:

```
int foo() {  
    int* p = new int;    // Generate an nameless variable in the heap  
    *p = 5;              // The nameless variable is initialized with 5.  
    return p;           // A pointer onto a nameless variable  
}                        // is returned. Bad!  
  
void main(void){  
    int* q = foo();      // q is generated is initialized with a pointer  
    ...                  // onto the nameless variable.  
    delete q;           // The nameless variable in the heap is destroyed  
    q = NULL;           // OK, q ist now secured (point to nothing)  
    ...  
}                        // Program end: variable q is deleted
```

# Classes and Data Types

A C++ class defines a data type. A data type is a status set with operations, that transform states into each other. Example complex numbers:

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
3 class ComplexNumber { // a class definition
4 public:
5     void print()
6     {
7         std::cout << u << " + i * " << v << std::endl;
8     }
9
10 private:
11     double u, v;
12 }; // ';' is very important!
13
14 int main(int argc, char** argv)
15 {
16     ComplexNumber a, b, c;
17     a.print(); // print uninitialized (!) number
18
19     //c = a + b; // where defined?
20
21     return 0;
22 }
```



# Classes and Data Types

- C++ enables the encapsulation of a data type, this means separation of implementation and interface.
  - `public`: Interface specification,
  - `private`: Data and implementation.
- From outside only methods and data in the `public` part can be accessed.
- Implementation of methods can happen outside of the class.

# Constructors

- The instruction `ComplexNumber a;` make the compiler generate an instance of the class.
- For initialisation the constructor is called.
- There can exist several constructors (polymorphism!).
- In certain cases the compiler generates default constructors.

# Constructors

The class `ComplexNumber` with two constructors:

```
1  class ComplexNumbers
2  {
3  public:
4      // some constructors
5      ComplexNumber() { u = 0; v = 0; }    // default
6
7      ComplexNumber(double re, double im) // initialize with
8      { u = re; v = im; }                // given numbers
9
10     void print() { ... }
11
12 private:
13     double u, v;
14 };
```

# Constructoren

```
1 // usage of the complex number class
2 int main (int argc, char** argv)
3 {
4     ComplexNumber a(3.0,4.0);
5     ComplexNumber b(1.0,2.0);
6     ComplexNumber c;
7
8     a.print();           // output: 3 + i * 4
9     c = a + b;          // where defined ?
10
11     return 0;
12 };
```

# Destructors

- Dynamic generated objects can be destructed, if they are not necessary any more.
- Deletion of objects is handled by the destructor.
- Destructors are especially to be (self)implemented, if the class contains pointer (e.g. arrays!).
- Furthermore when dynamic memory is used inside a class.
- Keywords for dynamic memory management: `new`, `delete`.

# Overloading of Operators

## Operations for abstract data types (classes)

- The instruction `a + b` is not defined for `ComplexNumber` and must be defined.
- For classes different operations e.g.  
`++`, `+`, `*`, `/`, `-`, `--`, `=`, `!=`, `!`, `==`, `[]`, ...  
can be self-implemented.
- Classes, that implement the operator `()` are called *Functors*.

# Templates

## Templates – Code Patterns

- Templates enable the parameterisation of classes and functors.
- Templates decouple functions or algorithms from data types.
- Allowed parameters:
  - Standard types like `int`, `double`, ...,
  - Own types (classes),
  - Templates.
- Templates enable static polymorphism (see later).
- Templates generalize code → „Generic Programming“.

# Example: Templated Function

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
3 // example for a function template
4 template <class T>
5 T getMax(const T& a, const T& b)
6 {
7     return (a>b) ? a : b;
8 }
9
10 int main ()
11 {
12     int    i = 5, j = 6, k;
13     double l = 10.4, m = 10.25, n;
14
15     k = getMax<int>(i,j); n = getMax<double>(l,m);
16     std::cout << k << ", " << n << std::endl;
17     // output: 6, 10.4
18
19     return 0;
20 }
```



# Example: Templated Array Class

```

1 // a class that takes a template parameter
2 template <typename T> class Array
3 {
4 public:
5     int add(const T& next, int n);           // add 'next' at data[n]
6     T& at(int n);
7     T& operator [] (int n) { return at(n); } // overloaded operator
8
9 private:
10    T data[10];
11 };
12
13 // add a new data member
14 template <class T> int Array<T>::add(const T& next, int n)
15 {
16     if (n>=0 && n<10)
17     {
18         data[n] = next; return 0;
19     }
20     else return 1;
21 }

```

# Example: Templated Array Class

```
23 // get a certain data member
24 template <class T> T& Array<T>::at(int n)
25 {
26     if (n>=0 && n<10) return data[n];
27 }
28
29 // main program
30 #include <iostream>
31 int main()
32 {
33     Array<int> c; c.add(3,0); c.add(4,5); c.add(0,1);
34     std::cout << c.at(5) << std::endl;
35     // output: 4
36
37     Array<char> d; d.add('x',9);
38     std::cout << d.at(9) << std::endl;
39     // output: x
40
41     return 0;
42 }
```

# Further on Templates

- Templates are the foundation of generic programming in C++!
- Templates can be self-specialized (for special cases).
- Further template parameter are possible.
- Parameters may have default values.

# STL – The Standard Template Library

In C++ there are many preexisting template containers, that can be used for implementation purposes. They are collected in a library, named STL.

## The STL

- is a collection of template classes and algorithms,
- provides many container classes (class, that manages a set of objects),
- has therefore standardized user interfaces for the containers,
- is contained in the C++ standard library.

# Container Types of the STL

The STL provides different kinds of containers:

- Sequential container  
Examples: Vectors, lists
- Container adapter  
Restricted Interface for arbitrary containers  
Example: Stacks, queues
- Associative container  
Key-Value Container  
Example: Maps, Multimaps

# Dis/Advantages of the STL

## Advantages and disadvantages of the STL

- + Dynamic memory management
- + Avoidance of array overruns
- + High quality of containers
- + Optimizability by static polymorphism
- Very complicated, unstructured error messages
- High demands for compiler and developer
- Not all compilers are STL-ready (despite the STL is contained in the C++ standard)

# Example for the Application of STL containers: vector

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <vector>
3
4 int main() {
5     // example usage of an STL vector
6     int result = 0;
7     std::vector<int> x(100);
8
9     for (int j=0; j<100; j++) x[j] = j;
10
11     x.push_back(100);
12
13     for (int j=0; j<x.size(); j++)
14         result += x[j];
15
16     // output: 5050
17     std::cout << result << std::endl;
18
19     return 0;
20 }
```

# The Iterator Interface

Iterators provide access onto the elements of a container. They

- iterate over the elements of a container,
- provide pointer onto container elements,
- are provided by every container class,
- have „r“- and „w“ variants,
- help to avoid array overflows.
- are used in many STL algorithms like sorting, searching and others.



# Example: Iterators over a Map

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <map>
3 #include <cstring>
4
5 int main()
6 {
7     // example usage of an STL-map
8     std::map <std::string, int> y;
9
10    y["one"] = 1; y["two"] = 2;
11    y["three"] = 3; y["four"] = 4;
12
13    std::map<std::string, int>::iterator it;
14    //std::map<std::string, double>::iterator it; // nice error message :-)
15    for (it=y.begin(); it!=y.end(); ++it)
16        std::cout << it->first << ": " << it->second << std::
17            endl;
18    // output: one: 1
19    // two: 2 ... usw.
20    return 0;
21 }
```

# An Disadvantage of the STL: The error message

If in this example the wrong type of an iterator is instantiated, the compiler returns the following error message:

```
1 map.cc: In function 'int main()':
2 map.cc:15: error: no match for 'operator=' in 'it = y.std::map<_Key,
  _Tp, _Compare, _Alloc>::begin [with _Key = std::basic_string<char,
  std::char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, _Tp = int,
  _Compare = std::less<std::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<
  char>, std::allocator<char> > >, _Alloc = std::allocator<std::
  pair<const std::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>, std::
  allocator<char> >, int> >]()'
3 /usr/include/c++/4.4/bits/stl_tree.h:154: note: candidates are: std::
  _Rb_tree_iterator<std::pair<const std::basic_string<char, std::
  char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, double> >& std::
  _Rb_tree_iterator<std::pair<const std::basic_string<char, std::
  char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, double> >::operator=(
  const std::_Rb_tree_iterator<std::pair<const std::basic_string<
  char, std::char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, double>
  >&)
4 map.cc:15: error: no match for 'operator!=' in 'it != y.std::map<_Key,
  _Tp, _Compare, _Alloc>::end [with _Key = std::basic_string<char,
  std::char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, _Tp = int,
  _Compare = std::less<std::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<
  char>, std::allocator<char> > >, _Alloc = std::allocator<std::
  pair<const std::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>, std::
  allocator<char> >, int> >]()'
5 [...]
```

# Algorithms

## Algorithms provided by the STL

The STL contains many helpful algorithms, that

- manipulate elements of data containers,
- use iterators for element access.

Examples:

- Sorting
- Searching
- Copying
- Reversing the ordering in the container
- ...

# Algorithms

## Example: Sorting-Algorithms for Vectors

- Different sorting orders for vectors are usable
- Distinction i.e. by:
  - Used comparison operators
  - Area of sorting
  - Stability
- Complexity of Standard-Sorters for Vectors:
  - $O(n \cdot \log n)$  ideal
  - $O(n^2)$  most unfavourable case
- Self-implemented comparison functions possible
- Caution: (double linked) lists are optimized for insertion and deletion of elements  $\Rightarrow$  special sorting algorithms

# Algorithms

Example: Usage of a sorting algorithm for vectors

```
1 // a vector for integers
2 vector<int> x;
3
4 x.push_back(23); x.push_back(-112);
5 x.push_back(0); x.push_back(9999);
6 x.push_back(4); x.push_back(4);
7
8 // sort the integer vector
9 sort(v.begin(), v.end());
10
11 // output: -112 0 4 4 23 9999
12 for (int i = 0; i<x.size(); i++)
13     cout << x[i] << "\t";
```

# Inheritance in C++

## Inheritance

- Data type passes its abstractions to other data types.
- „Is-an“ relation: Triangle is a geometric object, this means is to derive from class GeomObject.
- Not to interchange with a „Contains-a“ relation: A triangle contains three points (but a triangle is no point → no inheritance).

# Inheritance in C++

```
1  // example of inheritance in C++
2  class Matrix
3  {
4  public:
5      ...
6  private:
7      double data[3][3]; // (3 x 3)-Matrix
8  };
9
10 // the derived class: symmetrical matrix is a matrix
11 class SymMatrix: public Matrix
12 {
13 public:
14     double getEntry(int i, int j) { return data[i][j]; }
15         // error: data private in base class
16     ...
17     // constructor calls a constructor of base class
18     SymMatrix() : Matrix() { ... }
19 };
```

# Different Types of Inheritance in C++

In inheritance you have to take care of which members the derived class can access → different types of inheritance:

- `private` inheritance:  
all elements of the base class get private members of the derived class.
- `public` inheritance:  
`public` members of the base class get `public` members of the derived class,  
`private` gets `private`.



# Different Types of Inheritance in C++

- Private member of the base class stay always private (otherwise the encapsulation make no sense).
- Problem: `private` members are encapsulated too strong, `public` members not in anyway.
- Ausweg: `protected` members can access onto derived classes.

# Virtual Functions

Virtual Functions enable the hiding of methods of the base class by the derived class:

```
1  class GeomObject      // base class for geo objects
2  {                    // 'area' is a function member
3  public:
4
5      virtual double area() { return 0.0; }
6      ...
7  };
8
9  class Triangle : public GeomObject
10 {                    // a derived class
11 public:              // has a specific member 'area' as well
12
13     double area() { return 0.5 * a * h; }
14     ...
15 private:
16
17     double h, a;
18 };
```

# Virtual Functions

When Basis- and derived class members contain the same name – Which method is then called?

```
19 int main() {
20     GeomObject* geo;
21     Triangle t;
22
23     geo = &t;
24     std::cout << geo->area() << std::endl; // ??
25
26     return 0;
27 };
```

## Solution:

- If specified otherwise the methods of the basis object (!).
- By the keyword `virtual` the call is passed to the derived class.
- Keyphrase **Late Binding**, i.e. mapping method name  $\longleftrightarrow$  implementation during run time.

# Dynamic Polymorphism

The technique of late type-binding with virtual functions has its own name:

## Dynamic Polymorphism

- Exact type determination during runtime.
- Realisation by:
  - Virtual functions (*Function Lookup Table*),
  - Overloading of functions.

# Dynamic Polymorphism

The technique of late type-binding with virtual functions has its own name:

## Dynamic Polymorphism

- Exact type determination during runtime.
- Realisation by:
  - Virtual functions (*Function Lookup Table*),
  - Overloading of functions.

## Advantages of dynamic polymorphism

- Base class are supersets of derived classes.
- Algorithms, that operate on the base class, can operate on the derived classes as well.
- Example: List, that stores pointers onto `GeomObjects` Pointer can point onto a `Triangle-Objekt` or every other `GeomObject-Objekt`!

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

Often virtual functions are not to be define meaningful inside the base class. Then

- Declaration of function in the base clas as „pure virtual“:
- Derived class have to implement pure virtual functions.

Classes with one (or more) pure virtual functions are denoted **abstract base classes**. They are pure interface specifications.

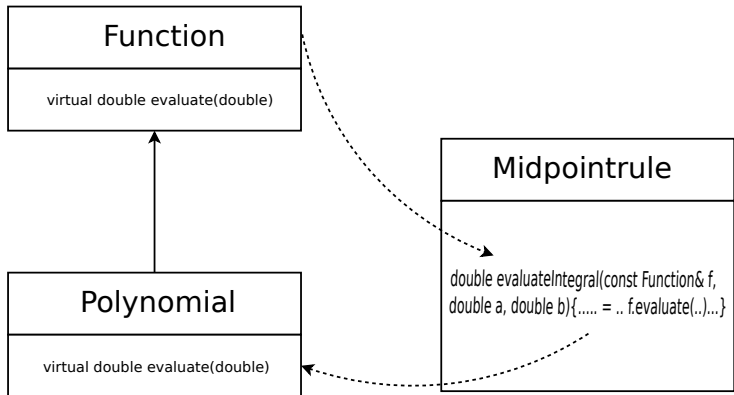
# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

## Abstract Base Classes

- Contains a base class at least on pure virtual function, the class is called abstract.
- From abstract classes no objects can be instantiated.
- An abstract base class defines a unique interface.
- Algorithms operate on this interface, this means independent of the actual implementation.

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

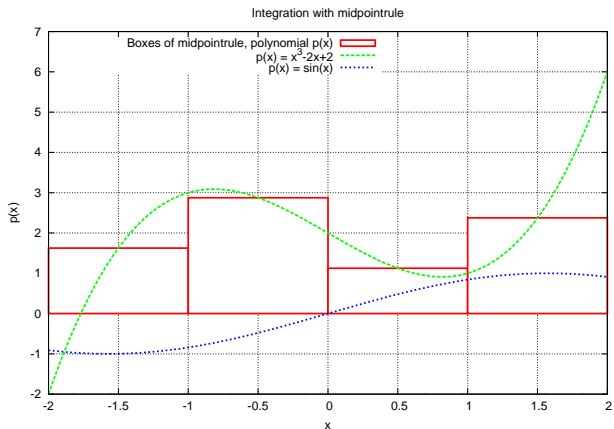
Example:





# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

Example:



# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

## Explanation of the example:

- The algorithm `Midpointrule` integrates arbitrary functions
- It exists an (evtl. abstract) base class for functions
- General functions like polynomials, Sinus, ... are derived from the base class.
- `Midpointrule` operates only on the functional interface!

It follows the code for the example, a sinus is integrated:

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

```
1 // main.cpp: Test of integration with function interface
2
3 // include system header
4 #include <cstdlib>
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cmath>
7
8 // include own header
9 #include "sinus.h"
10 #include "midpointrule.h"
11
12 // main function
13 int main(int argc, char** argv)
14 {
15     // instantiate object of class midpointrule
16     MidpointRule mipor(100);
17
18     // generate Sinus object
19     Sinus s1;
20
21     // test integration of polynomials
22     std::cout << "Integral Sinus: " << mipor.evaluateIntegral(s1, -2.0, 2.0) << std::endl;
23     std::cout << "Integral Sinus: " << mipor.evaluateIntegral(s1, -3.1415, 6.2890) << std::endl;
24     std::cout << std::endl;
25
26     return 0;
27 }
```

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

```
1 // midpointrule.h: The class midpointrule
2
3 #include "function.h"
4
5 #ifndef __MIPOREGEL_H_
6 #define __MIPOREGEL_H_
7
8 // class midpointrule
9 class MidpointRule
10 {
11 public:
12     MidpointRule(int count) : n(count) {}
13     ~MidpointRule() {};
14
15     // evaluate integral of function
16     double evaluateIntegral(Function& f, double a, double b) const
17     {
18         double res = 0.0;
19         double h = (b-a)/(1.0*n); // interval length
20
21         // sum components of individual boxes
22         for (int i=0; i<n; ++i)
23         {
24             double x = a + i*h + 0.5*h; // interval midpoint
25             res += h * f.evaluate(x); // function evaluation
26         }
27
28         return res;
29     }
30
31 private:
32     int n;
33 };
34
35 #endif
```

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

```
1 // function.h: Abstract Interface Class for Functions
2
3 // Inclusion guards
4 #ifndef __FUNCTION_H_
5 #define __FUNCTION_H_
6
7 // Abstract base class for functions
8 class Function
9 {
10 public:
11     // Constructors
12     Function() {};
13
14     // virtual destructor
15     virtual ~Function() {};
16
17     // evaluate function, purely virtual !
18     virtual double evaluate(double x) const = 0;
19
20 private:
21 };
22
23 #endif
```

# Abstract Base Classes and Interfaces

```
1 #include <cmath>
2
3 // include base class / interface
4 #include "funktion.h"
5
6 #ifndef __SINUS_H_
7 #define __SINUS_H_
8
9 // encapsulation class for Sinus
10 class Sinus : public Function
11 {
12 public :
13     Sinus() {}
14
15     // conform to interface
16     double evaluate(double x) const
17     {
18         return sin(x);
19     }
20
21 private :
22 };
23
24 #endif
```

# Static vs. Dynamic Polymorphism

## Dynamic Polymorphism

- The „completely normal“ polymorphism.
- Application: Interface definitions using abstract base classes.
- Enables exchange during runtime.
- Avoids a multiple of optimizations, i.e.
  - inlining,
  - loop unrolling.
- Additional overhead (function lookup tables).

# Static vs. Dynamic Polymorphism

## Dynamic Polymorphism

- The „completely normal“ polymorphism.
- Application: Interface definitions using abstract base classes.
- Enables exchange during runtime.
- Avoids a multiple of optimizations, i.e.
  - inlining,
  - loop unrolling.
- Additional overhead (function lookup tables).

## Static Polymorphism

- Enables exchangeability during compile time only.
- Allows all optimizations.
- Longer compile times.
- Reduces the overhead of the interface.



# Static vs. Dynamic Polymorphism

## Techniques for Realization of Polymorphisms:

static:

- Templates
- Overloading of functions
- „Engine“ techniques

dynamic:

- Virtual functions
- Overloading of functions

→ Static polymorphism enables to separate algorithms and data structures (interfaces), is evaluated during compile time and enables excessive optimization.

# Beispiel: Dynamic polymorphismus in class matrix

```
1 // base class
2 class Matrix {
3     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit();
4 };
5
6 // symmetric matrices
7 class SymmetricMatrix : public Matrix {
8     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit() { ... };
9 };
10
11 // upper triangular matrices
12 class UpperTriangularMatrix : public Matrix {
13     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit()
14     { return false };
15 };
```

The request „Is the matrix symmetric positive definite is passed from the base classe to the derived class.

# Beispiel: Dynamic polymorphismus in class matrix

```
1 // base class
2 class Matrix {
3     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit();
4 };
5
6 // symmetric matrices
7 class SymmetricMatrix : public Matrix {
8     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit() { ... };
9 };
10
11 // upper triangular matrices
12 class UpperTriangularMatrix : public Matrix {
13     virtual bool isSymmetricPositiveDefinit()
14     { return false };
15 };
```

⇒ The approach with virtual functions is in this case eventual not performant.  
Way out: Static polymorphism (here: engine concept).

# The Engine Concept

```
1 // example delegation of a method to an engine
2 template<class Engine> class Matrix {
3     Engine engineImp;
4
5     bool IsSymmetricPositiveDefinit()
6     { return engineImp.isSymPositiveDefinite(); }
7 };
8
9 // some engine classes
10 class Symmetric {
11     bool isSymPositiveDefinite()
12     { /* check if matrix is spd. */}
13 };
14
15 class UpperTriangle {
16     bool isSymPositiveDefinite(){ return false; }
17 };
```

# The Engine Concept

```
1 // usage (compiler evaluates Type of A !)  
2 UpperTriangle upper;           // create upper matrix  
3  
4 Matrix<UpperTriangle> A(upper); // pass upper to some  
5                                 // constructor of A  
6  
7 std::cout << A.isSymPositiveDefinite() << std::endl;
```

# The Engine Concept

## The Engine Approach

- Aspects of different matrices are „packed“ into the engines (`Symmetric` or `UpperTriangular`).
- `Matrix` delegates most of the operations to the engine – during compile time!
- Dynamic polymorphism is substituted by static (templates).
- Disadvantage: The base type (`Matrix`) has to contain all methods of *all* subclasses.
- The trick to avoid this is called „Barton-Nackmann-Trick“.

# The Barton-Nackmann-Trick

Also known as *Curiously Recursive Template Pattern*:

```
1  template<typename LeafType> class Matrix {
2  public :
3      LeafType& engineImp
4
5      void LeafType asLeaf()
6      { return static_cast<LeafType&>>(*this); }
7
8      bool IsSymmetricPositiveDefinit()
9      { return asLeaf().isSymPositiveDefinite(); }
10 };
11
12 // former engine classes derive from base class now!
13 class Symmetric : public Matrix{
14     bool isSymPositiveDefinite()
15     { /* check if matrix is spd. */ }
16 };
17
18 class UpperTriangle : public Matrix {
19     bool isSymPositiveDefinite(){ return false; }
20 };
```

# The Barton-Nackmann-Trick

```
1 // usage (compiler evaluates Type of A !)  
2 UpperTriangle upper; // create upper triangle matrix  
3 Symmetric      sym; // create symmetric matrix  
4  
5 Matrix<UpperTriangle> A(upper);  
6 Matrix<UpperTriangle> B(sym);  
7  
8 std::cout << A.isSymPositiveDefinite() << std::endl;  
9 std::cout << B.isSymPositiveDefinite() << std::endl;
```



# The Barton-Nackmann-Trick

What exactly happens here during the call `A.isSymPositiveDefinite()`?

- `A` is an object of the base class with template parameter of the derived class.
- Call to `A.isSymmetricPositiveDefinit()` casts `A` onto object of the derived class,
- and calls `isSymmetricPositiveDefinit()` of the derived class!

# Motivation

Templates parameterize classes and functions with types. Advanced techniques enable further parameterization:

- Traits – Meta informations of template parameters
- Policies – Behaviour modification of algorithms

# Traits

## Traits

Represent natural and additional properties of a template parameter.

Examples:

- Meta informations for grids (Is grid conforming, adaptive, ...)?
- Type promotions.

# Type Promotion Traits

Consider addition of 2 vectors:

```
template<typename T>
std::vector<T> add(const std::vector<T>& a,
                 const std::vector<T>& b);
```

Question: Return type when adding two vectors of different types:

```
template<typename T1, typename T2>
std::vector<????> add(const std::vector<T1>& a,
                    const std::vector<T2>& b);
```

Example:

```
std::vector<int> a;
std::vector<complex<double> > b;

std::vector<????> c = add(a, b);
```

# Type Promotion Traits

Der Rückgabetyt ist abhängig von den beiden Input-Typen! Das Problem kann mit Promotion-Traits gelöst werden:

```
template<typename T1, typename T2>
std::vector<typename Promotion<T1, T2>::promoted_type>
add(const std::vector<T1> &, const std::vector<T2> &);
```

Return type of promotion traits class defines:

```
template<> // promote int to double number
struct Promotion<double, int> {
    public:
        typedef double promoted_type;
};

template<> // promote int to double number
struct Promotion<double, int> {
    public:
        typedef double promoted_type;
};
```

# Type Promotion Traits

Example application:

```
std::vector<int>    a(100, 3);  
std::vector<double> b(100, 3.1415);  
  
c= add(a, b); // is equivalent to  
c= add(b, a); // !
```

# Type Promotion Traits

Are many type promotions necessary it simplifies the work of small macros:

```

1  #define DECLARE_PROMOTE(A,B,C) \
2      template<> struct Promotion<A,B> { \
3          typedef C promoted_type; \
4      }; \
5      template<> struct Promotion<B,A> { \
6          typedef C promoted_type; \
7      };
8
9  DECLARE_PROMOTE(int, char, int);
10 DECLARE_PROMOTE(double, float, double);
11 DECLARE_PROMOTE(complex<float>, float, complex<float>);
12 // and so on...
13
14 #undef DECLARE_PROMOTE

```

# Further Example for Type Promotion

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
3 using namespace std;
4
5 // start with the basic template:
6 template <typename T1, typename T2>
7 struct Promote
8 {
9 };
10
11 // the same types are the same
12 template <typename T1>
13 struct Promote<T1,T1>
14 {
15     typedef T1 type;
16 };
17
18 // specilizations for all the type promotions
19 template<> struct Promote<int,char> { typedef int type; };
20 template<> struct Promote<double,int> { typedef double type;
    };
```



# Further Example for Type Promotion

```
21 // an example function build minima of two variables with different type
22 template <typename T1, typename T2>
23 typename Promote<T1,T2>::type min( const T1 & x, const T2 &
    y )
24 {
25     return x < y ? x : y;
26 }
27
28 // main
29 int main()
30 {
31     std::cout << "min: " << min(88.9, 99) << std::endl;
32     // output: 88.9
33
34     std::cout << "min: " << min(4756, 'a') << std::endl;
35     // output: 97
36
37     return 0;
38 }
```

# Template Meta Programming

Most important technique of static polymorphism are templates. With templates a programming style for meta programs has evolved:

## Template Meta Programs

- Idea: The compiler acts as interpreter.
- Substitute control structures like `if` and loops by specialisation and recursion.
- Theoretical: Turing machine by template programming.

# Example of a Template Meta Program: Faculty (T. Veldhuizen)

```
// factorial realized as TMP
template<int N> class Factorial
{
public:
    enum { value = N * Factorial<N-1>::value };
};

// a specialization is needed to break
class Factorial<1>
{
public:
    enum { value = 1 };
};
```

⇒ the value  $N!$  is available at compile time as `Factorial<N>::value` by generation of an object of the class:

```
Factorial<12> a; // gives 12!
```

# Further Example: Fibonacci Numbers

The following listing demonstrates a program, that evaluates Fibonacci numbers at compile time and run time und measure the times:

```

1 // fibonacci.cc:
2 // Compute fibonacci numbers at run- and compile time and compare
3 // the time used for it.
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdio>
6
7 // recursive runtime variant
8 unsigned long Fibonacci_Simple(unsigned long n)
9 {
10     if (n==0) return 0;
11     else if (n==1) return 1;
12     else
13         return Fibonacci_Simple(n-1) + Fibonacci_Simple(n-2);
14 };
15
16 // recursive template instantiations
17 template<unsigned long N>
18 class Fibonacci
19 {
20 public:
21     enum { value = Fibonacci<N-1>::value +
22             Fibonacci<N-2>::value };
23 };

```

# Further Example: Fibonacci Numbers

The following listing demonstrates a program, that evaluates Fibonacci numbers at compile time and run time und measure the times:

```

25 // template specializations to abort iterative template instantiation
26 template<>
27 class Fibonacci<1> {
28 public:
29     enum { value = 1 };
30 };
31
32 template<>
33 class Fibonacci<0> {
34 public:
35     enum { value = 0 };
36 };
37
38 // main program
39 int main()
40 {
41     // call of recursive Fibonacci
42     clock_t begin_rec = clock();
43     unsigned long result = Fibonacci_Simple(45);
44     clock_t end_rec = clock();
45     printf("Recursive Fib(45) = %ld  computed in %lf secs.\n",
46           result, (double)(end_rec - begin_rec)/CLOCKS_PER_SEC);

```

## Further Example: Fibonacci Numbers

The following listing demonstrates a program, that evaluates Fibonacci numbers at compile time and run time und measure the times:

```
47
48 // call of templated Fibonacci
49 begin_rec = clock();
50 result = Fibonacci<45>::value;
51 end_rec = clock();
52 printf("Templated Fib(45) = %ld  computed in %lf secs.\n",
53        result, (double)(end_rec - begin_rec)/CLOCKS_PER_SEC);
54
55 return 0;
56 }
```

Zeiten bei mir für  $n = 45$ :

- Recursive function: 31 s (since not optimized by cached values.)
- Templates : 0 s (of course :-)).

# Template Meta Programming

## Why do we need Template Meta Programs?

- Idea: Hybrid approach, a partitioning of the program in
  - a TMP, executed at compile time
  - a „normal program“
- ⇒ Runtime enhancements (e.g. by massive inlining)
- Generic programming and TMP are used nearly always, if a library simultaneously has to be:
  - with good performance and
  - flexible!
- Specialised algorithms for „small“ classes
- Example: complex numbers, tensors, grids, ...

# Template Specialisation

An important technique when using templates is the so called „template specialisation“:

- differences to the template pattern are implemented explicitly,
- I.e. for data types that can be implemented run time and memory efficient.



# Template Specialisation

Example for specialisation of templates: Sorting

```
// a sorter class with two template parameters
template <class T, int N> class Sorter
{
    void sort(T* array) { /* sort here */ };
    ...
};

// sorting a single field array is simple...
template <class T> class Sorter<T,1>
{
    void sort(T* array) {};
    ...
};
```

# Template Specialisation

Why do we need template specialisation?

Many algorithms (also non-templated ones) can be accelerated by specialisation

Example:

```
// dot-product
double dotproduct(const double* a, const double* b, int N)
{
    double result = 0.0;
    for (int i=0; i<N; i++)
        result += a[i]*b[i];
    return result;
}

// specialization for small N (e.g. N=3) speeds up calculation
double dotproduct(const double* a, const double* b, 3)
{
    return a[0]*b[0] + a[1]*b[1] + a[2]*b[2];
}
```

# Singletons

## Singleton Classes

- secure maximal one instantiated object of a class
- substitute global variables
- can occur in different designs

Example from Scientific Computing: Quadrature formula for integration, reference elements.

# Singletons

## Design Example for Singleton Classes

- Class is created inside the class as `static` member
- Creation and Return by a function declared `static`
- Constructor is `private`, which avoids multiple instantiations
- Copy constructor is `private` to avoid copy construction by the compiler that otherwise automatically generates copy constructor.

# Singletons

## Design Example for Singleton Classes

- Class is created inside the class as `static` member
- Creation and Return by a function declared `static`
- Constructor is `private`, which avoids multiple instantiations
- Copy constructor is `private` to avoid copy construction by the compiler that otherwise automatically generates copy constructor.

# Singletons

## Simplest Realization of a Singleton Class

```
1 class Singleton
2 {
3 public:
4     static Singleton& CreateInstance()
5     {
6         if (mySingleton == NULL)
7             mySingleton = new Singleton singleton;
8         return singleton;
9     }
10    static void DeleteInstance()
11    {
12        if (mySingleton)
13            delete mySingleton;
14        mySingleton = NULL;
15    }
16    ... // other public members
```

# Singletons

## Simplest Realization of a Singleton Class

```
1  ... // other public members
2
3  private:
4  static MySingletonClass* mySingleton;
5
6  Singleton() {}; // private constructor
7  Singleton(const Singleton&); // prevent
8                                     // copy-construction
9  Singleton& operator=(const Singleton&); // prevent assignment
10 };
11 Singleton* Singleton::mySingleton = NULL;
12
13 ...
14 // somewhere in the main program:
15 // create a Singleton instance and get a pointer to it
16 Singleton* aSingleton = Singleton::CreateInstance();
```

# Exceptions

Idea of exception handling in C++:

- Occurs an error somewhere an error flag is set (error throwing).
- An error handling system guards over the error flags (error catching)
- Has an error flag been set the system starts the handling of the exception.

Advantage: An error can be thrown across function limits!



# Exceptions

## try, throw, catch

In C++ exception handling occurs with `try-throw-catch` blocks:

- `try` block: Try to execute instruction.
- A `throw` statement in a try block throws an error
- In a `catch` block the thrown error can be caught and an appropriate reaction can be implemented.

# Exceptions

```
1  try{
2    ...                               // instructions
3    throw exception();                // raise error if it occurs
4                                       // (Exception is an error class)
5    initialise();                      // error can be raised in subfunctions
6    ...
7  }
8  catch(std::exception & e)
9  {
10   ...                                // handle error
11 }
```

# Advanced Literature

There exist many books concerning with proposed optimization possibilities by the presented techniques (especially static polymorphism).

## Literature for „Scientific Computing with C++“

- N. Josuttis: C++ Templates – The Complete Guide
- T. Veldhuizen: Techniques for Scientific C++
- T. Veldhuizen: Template Metaprogramming
- E. Unruh: Prime Number Computation (historical example for Template Meta Programming)