

Polymorphism



Rupesh Nasre.
IIT Madras

Raisoni
July 2020

Agenda

- Polymorphism
- Rules for operator overloading
- Overloading simple operators
- With cin and cout
- Custom memory allocation
- Array subscript operator overloading
- Smart pointers

A Scenario

- We want to add
 - Two integers `addInt2(x, y);`
 - Multiple integers `addIntMany(x, y, z, ...);`
 - Multiple complex numbers `addComplex(c1, c2, c3, ...);`
 - An element to a set `addElement(e);`
 - A set to a set `addSet(s);`
 - ...
...

A Scenario

- We want to add
 - Two integers `add(x, y);`
 - Multiple integers `add(x, y, z, ...);`
 - Multiple complex numbers `add(c1, c2, c3, ...);`
 - An element to a set `add(e);`
 - A set to a set `add(s);`
 - ... `...`

More Scenarios

- +
 - Integer addition
 - String concatenation
 - Set union
 - Appending to a queue
 - ...
- **A[i]**
 - Element of an array
 - Student in a class
 - Participant in a marathon
 - ...
- ...

Polymorphism

- The same mnemonic appears in multiple forms:
 - Poly = multiple, morph = form
- Bears potential to tremendously improve code readability.

Function

Supported in C++, Java, ...
e.g., `add(1)`, `add(x, 4)`

Operator

Supported in C++.
e.g., `string * 2`, `obj[5]`

Overloading Example

```
#include <iostream>

class A {
public:
    void add(int x) { n += x; }
    void add(int x, int y) { n += x + y; }

    A():n(0) {}
    ~A() { std::cout << n << std::endl; }
private:
    int n;
};

void fun(A& a) {
    a.add(1);
}

void fun(A& a, int x) {
    a.add(x, 3);
}

int main() {
    A a;
    fun(a);
    fun(a, 2);
    return 0;
}
```

**Function
overloading**

```
#include <iostream>

class A {
public:
    A& operator +(int x) { n += x; }

    A():n(0) {}
    ~A() { std::cout << n << std::endl; }
private:
    int n;
};

int main() {
    A a;
    a + 2;
    return 0;
}
```

**Operator
overloading**

Classwork

- Assuming you have a class Name, overload multiplication operator to create a concatenation of Name's value.
 - e.g., If name contains “ab”, name * 3 should return a new Name object with string “ababab”.

```
#include <iostream>

class Name {
public:
    Name operator *(int n) {
        std::string retval;
        for (int ii = 0; ii < n; ++ii) retval += str;
        return Name(retval.c_str());
    }
    void print() { std::cout << str << '\n'; }
    Name(const char *s) { str = s; }

private:
    std::string str;
};
```

```
int main() {
    Name name("abc");
    Name namemult = name * 4;
    namemult.print();
    return 0;
}
```


Rules

1. Must be overloaded for a user-defined class.
 - Cannot overload for primitive types.
2. Operator associativity remains the same.
 - Name `namemult = name * 4 * 2;` // left-to-right
3. Operator precedence remains the same.
 - Name `namemult = name * 4 + 2;` // error
4. Arity remains the same.
 - Name `namemult = name ++ 4;` // error
5. Cannot define a new symbol as operator.
 - Name `namemult = name @ 4;` // error

Non-overloadable Operators

- `.` member operator (e.g., `e.g`)
- `.*` pointer to member operator (e.g., `x.*y`)
- `?:` ternary conditional operator (e.g., `a==0 ? 1 : c`)
- `::` scope resolution operator (e.g., `A::fun()`)
- **sizeof** data size operator (e.g., `sizeof(int)`)
- **typeid** data type operator (e.g., `typeid(x)`)

All other usual operators (`+`, `<<`, `-=`, `->`, `()`, `++`, `[]`, `new`, `delete`, ...) can be overloaded.

Overloading Unary Operator

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    Num operator -() {
        return Num(-n);
    }
    void print() { std::cout << n << '\n'; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
};

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    Num n2 = -n1;
    n2.print();
    return 0;
}
```

Overloading << Operator

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int operator << (int by) {
        return n << by;
    }
    void print() { std::cout << n << '\n'; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
};

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << n1 << 2 << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

What is the problem with the above code?

Overloading << Operator

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int operator << (int by) {
        return n << by;
    }
    void print() { std::cout << n << '\n'; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
};

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << (n1 << 2) << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Overloading << for cout

- We want to achieve the following:

```
Num n1; std::cout << n1;
```

- To make << operator to work, we need to define a << operator on cout's class with Num as a parameter.

```
class ostream {  
    ostream& operator << (Num &num) { ... }  
    ...  
};
```

- We cannot do this. And definitely not for every new user-defined type!

Overloading << for cout

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int getNum() { return n; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
};

std::ostream& operator << (
    std::ostream& stream, Num &num) {

    return (stream << num.getNum());
}

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << n1 << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

What is the issue with this method?

This method works if all the information to be printed is available via public methods.

Overloading << for cout

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:

    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
};

std::ostream& operator << (
    std::ostream& stream, Num &num) {

    return (stream << num.n);
}

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << n1 << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Error: operator << cannot access private member n.

Overloading << for cout

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;

friend std::ostream& operator << (
    std::ostream& stream, Num &num);
};

std::ostream& operator << (
    std::ostream& stream, Num &num) {

    return (stream << num.n);
}

int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << n1 << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

- Note that we didn't have to change ostream class.
- A global operator << like this needs to take two arguments, while that inside a class needs one explicit argument.
- A similar mechanism can be used to define other operators.

Overloading + Outside Class

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int getNum() { return n; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
// friend int operator + (Num &num, int n2);
};
int operator + (Num &num, int n2) {
    return num.getNum() + n2;
}
int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << (n1 + 3) << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

What is the issue with such a code?

Overloading + Outside Class

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int getNum() { return n; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
// friend int operator + (Num &num, int n2);
};
int operator + (Num &num, int n2) {
    return num.getNum() + n2;
}
int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << (n1 + 3) << std::endl;
    std::cout << (3 + n1) << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Error:
+ (int, Num&) is undefined.

Overloading + Outside Class

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int getNum() { return n; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;
// friend int operator + (Num &num, int n2);
};
int operator + (Num &num, int n2) {
    return num.getNum() + n2;
}
int operator + (int n2, Num &num) {
    return num + n2;
}
int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cout << (n1 + 3) << std::endl;
    std::cout << (3 + n1) << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Basic integer addition.

Overloading >> for cin

```
#include <iostream>

class Num {
public:
    int getNum() { return n; }
    Num(int ln) { n = ln; }

private:
    int n;

friend std::istream& operator >> (
    std::istream& stream, Num &num);
};
std::istream& operator >> (
    std::istream& stream, Num &num) {

    return (stream >> num.n);
}
int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cin >> n1;
    std::cout << n1.getNum() << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

With << and >>

```
#include <iostream>
class Num {
public:
    Num(int In) { n = In; }
private:
    int n;

    friend std::istream& operator >> (
        std::istream& stream, Num &num);
    friend std::ostream& operator << (
        std::ostream& stream, Num &num);
};
std::istream& operator >> (
    std::istream& stream, Num &num) {
    return (stream >> num.n);
}
std::ostream& operator << (
    std::ostream& stream, Num &num) {
    return (stream << num.n);
}
int main() {
    Num n1(5);
    std::cin >> n1;
    std::cout << n1 << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Overloading new

- For custom allocation, new can be overloaded.
- This is useful when you want to manage memory yourself (either for efficient memory usage or for efficient execution).
- Examples:
 - reusing memory of deleted nodes
 - garbage collection
 - Improved locality
- Overloading new usually requires overloading delete.

Overloading new

```
#include <iostream>
#include <stdlib.h>

class A {
public:
    void *operator new(size_t size) {
        std::cout << "in my new.\n";
        return malloc(size);
    }
    void setData(int ld) { data = ld; }
    int getData() { return data; }

private:
    int data;
};

int main() {
    std::cout << "calling overloaded new.\n";
    A *a = new A;
    a->setData(3);
    std::cout << "in main: " << a->getData() << "\n";
    return 0;
}
```


Overloading delete

```
#include <iostream>
#include <stdlib.h>

class A {
public:
    void *operator new(size_t size) {
        std::cout << "in my new.\n";
        return malloc(size);
    }
    void operator delete(void *ptr) {
        std::cout << "in my delete.\n";
        free(ptr);
    }
    void setData(int Id) { data = Id; }
    int getData() { return data; }
private:
    int data;
};

int main() {
    A *a = new A;
    a->setData(3);
    std::cout << "in main: " << a->getData() << "\n";
    delete a;
    return 0;
}
```

Overloading []

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <vector>

class Students {
public:
    Students& operator +(std::string &onemore) {
        names.push_back(onemore);
        return *this;
    }
    Students& operator +(const char *onemore) {
        std::string onemorestr(onemore);
        return *this + onemorestr;
    }
    std::string operator [] (int index) {
        return names[index];
    }
    void print() {
        for (auto it = names.begin();
             it != names.end(); ++it)
            std::cout << *it << std::endl;
    }
private:
    std::vector<std::string> names;
};
```

```
int main() {
    Students cs17;
    cs17 + "two";
    cs17 + "one";
    cs17 + "three";
    cs17 + "four";
    cs17 + "seven" + "six" +
        "nine" + "eight";
    //cs17.print();
    std::cout << cs17[6] << std::endl;
}
```

What is the issue with this code?

Needs compilation with *-std=c++11*
Or change *auto* to
std::vector<std::string>::iterator

Overloading []

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <vector>

class Students {
public:
    Students& operator +(std::string &onemore) {
        names.push_back(onemore);
        return *this;
    }
    Students& operator +(const char *onemore) {
        std::string onemorestr(onemore);
        return *this + onemorestr;
    }
    std::string operator [](int index) {
        return names[index];
    }
    void print() {
        for (auto it = names.begin();
             it != names.end(); ++it)
            std::cout << *it << std::endl;
    }
private:
    std::vector<std::string> names;
};
```

```
int main() {
    Students cs17;
    cs17 + "two";
    cs17 + "one";
    cs17 + "three";
    cs17 + "four";
    cs17 + "seven" + "six" +
        "nine" + "eight";
    //cs17.print();
    std::cout << cs17[6] << std::endl;
    cs17[6] = "NINE";
    std::cout << cs17[6] << std::endl;
}
```

We expect the output to be NINE.
But it prints nine.

Overloading []

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <vector>

class Students {
public:
    Students& operator +(std::string &onemore) {
        names.push_back(onemore);
        return *this;
    }
    Students& operator +(const char *onemore) {
        std::string onemorestr(onemore);
        return *this + onemorestr;
    }
    std::string& operator [] (int index) {
        return names[index];
    }
    void print() {
        for (auto it = names.begin();
             it != names.end(); ++it)
            std::cout << *it << std::endl;
    }
private:
    std::vector<std::string> names;
};
```

```
int main() {
    Students cs17;
    cs17 + "two";
    cs17 + "one";
    cs17 + "three";
    cs17 + "four";
    cs17 + "seven" + "six" +
        "nine" + "eight";
    //cs17.print();
    std::cout << cs17[6] << std::endl;
    cs17[6] = "NINE";
    std::cout << cs17[6] << std::endl;
}
```

Now the output is NINE.

Overloading -> (smart pointers)

- Imagine a scenario as below:
 - Roll number IT18B010 indicates a Btech student from Information Technology admitted in 2018.
 - This is done in class `RollNumber`. It supports a function `getYear()`.
 - A `Student` has a `RollNumber`.
 - An application may query a student for knowing his / her enrolling year using `stud->getYear()`.
- One way to implement is by implementing `Student::getYear()`, which internally calls `rollno->getYear()`.
- Another way is to make `->` smart.

Overloading -> (smart pointers)

```
#include <iostream>

class RollNo {
public:
    int getYear() { return 2018; }
};

class Student {
public:
    RollNo *operator ->() {
        return &rollno;
    }
private:
    RollNo rollno;
};

int main() {
    Student stud;
    std::cout << stud->getYear() << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

No *getYear()*
In *Student*

Summary

- ✓ Polymorphism
- ✓ Rules for operator overloading
- ✓ Overloading simple operators
- ✓ With cin and cout
- ✓ Custom memory allocation
- ✓ Array subscript operator overloading
- ✓ Smart pointers

Exercises

- Create a class Classroom with operator + for adding a Student and – for removing. Print all the students using cout << classroom;
- Create a polynomial class, and define operators + and – for their addition and subtraction. Next, support * operator for multiplication (it may help to use linked list rather than array or vector for representing a polynomial).

Polymorphism



Rupesh Nasre.
IIT Madras

Raisoni
July 2020