Modern C++ for Computer Vision and Image Processing

Lecture 7: Object Oriented Design Ignacio Vizzo and Cyrill Stachniss



Inheritance



C vs C++ Inheritance Example

C Code

```
1 // "Base" class, Vehicle
2 typedef struct vehicle {
3    int seats_; // number of seats on the vehicle
4    int capacity_; // amount of fuel of the gas tank
5    char* brand_; // make of the vehicle
6 } vehicle t;
```

C++ Code

```
1 class Vehicle {
2 private:
3 int seats_ = 0; // number of seats on the vehicle
4 int capacity_ = 0; // amount of fuel of the gas tank
5 string brand_; // make of the vehicle
```

Inheritance

- Class and struct can inherit data and functions from other classes
- There are 3 types of inheritance in C++:
 - public [used in this course] GOOGLE-STYLE
 - protected
 - private
- public inheritance keeps all access specifiers of the base class

Public inheritance

Public inheritance stands for "is a" relationship, i.e. if class Derived inherits publicly from class Base we say, that Derived is a kind of Base

```
1 class Derived : public Base {
2 // Contents of the derived class.
3 };
```

- Allows Derived to use all public and protected members of Base
- Derived still gets its own special functions: constructors, destructor, assignment operators

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using std::cout; using std::endl;
3 class Rectangle {
4
  public:
5 Rectangle(int w, int h) : width {w}, height {h} {}
6 int width() const { return width ; }
7 int height() const { return height ; }
8 protected:
9
  int width = 0;
10 int height = 0;
11 };
12 class Square : public Rectangle {
13 public:
14 explicit Square(int size) : Rectangle{size, size} {}
15 };
16 int main() {
17 Square sq(10); // Short name to save space.
18 cout << sq.width() << " " << sq.height() << endl;</pre>
19 return 0;
20 }
```

Function overriding

- A function can be declared virtual
- 1 virtual Func(<PARAMS>);
- If function is virtual in Base class it can be overridden in Derived class:
- 1 Func(<PARAMS>) override;
- Base can force all Derived classes to override a function by making it pure virtual

1 virtual Func(<PARAMS>) = 0;

Overloading vs overriding

- Do not confuse function overloading and overriding
- Overloading:
 - Pick from all functions with the same name, but different parameters
 - Pick a function at compile time
 - Functions don't have to be in a class
- Overriding:
 - Pick from functions with the same arguments and names in different classes of one class hierarchy
 - Pick at runtime

Abstract classes and interfaces

- Abstract class: class that has at least one pure virtual function
- Interface: class that has only pure virtual functions and no data members

How virtual works

- A class with virtual functions has a virtual table
- When calling a function the class checks which of the virtual functions that match the signature should be called
- Called runtime polymorphism
- Costs some time but is very convenient

Using interfaces

- Use interfaces when you must enforce other classes to implement some functionality
- Allow thinking about classes in terms of abstract functionality
- Hide implementation from the caller
- Allow to easily extend functionality by simply adding a new class

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using std::cout;
3 using std::endl;
4 struct Printable { // Saving space. Should be a class.
5 virtual void Print() const = 0:
6 };
7 struct A : public Printable {
8 void Print() const override { cout << "A" << endl; }</pre>
9 };
10 struct B : public Printable {
11 void Print() const override { cout << "B" << endl; }</pre>
12 };
13 void Print(const Printable& var) { var.Print(); }
14 int main() {
15 Print(A());
16 Print(B());
17 return 0;
18 }
```

Geometry2D and Image Open3D::Geometry::Geometry2D

```
1 class Geometry2D {
2 public:
3 Geometry& Clear() = 0;
4 bool IsEmpty() const = 0;
5 virtual Eigen::Vector2d GetMinBound() const = 0;
6 virtual Eigen::Vector2d GetMaxBound() const = 0;
7 };
```

Open3D::Geometry::Image

```
1 class Image : public Geometry2D {
2 public:
3 Geometry& Clear() override;
4 bool IsEmpty() const override;
5 virtual Eigen::Vector2d GetMinBound() const override;
6 virtual Eigen::Vector2d GetMaxBound() const override;
7 };
```

Polymorphism

From Greek polys, "many, much" and morphē, "form, shape" -Wiki

Allows morphing derived classes into their base class type: const Base& base = Derived(...)

```
class Rectangle {
1
2
  public:
    Rectangle(int w, int h) : width {w}, height {h} {}
   int width() const { return width ; }
4
   int height() const { return height ; }
5
6
7 protected:
8 int width_ = 0;
9
  int height_ = 0;
10 };
  class Square : public Rectangle {
13 public:
14 explicit Square(int size) : Rectangle{size, size} {}
15 };
```

No real **Polymorphism**, just use all the objects as they are

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using std::cout;
3 using std::endl;
4 int main() {
5 Square sq(10);
6 cout << "Sq:" << sq.width() << " " << sq.height();
7
8 Rectangle rec(10, 15);
9 cout << "Rec:" << sq.width() << " " << sq.height();
10 return 0;
11 }</pre>
```

```
1 class Rectangle {
  public:
2
   Rectangle(int w, int h) : width {w}, height {h} {}
4
    int width() const { return width ; }
    int height() const { return height ; }
7
  void Print() const {
     cout << "Rec:" << width_ << " " << height_ << endl;</pre>
8
    }
 class Square : public Rectangle {
  public:
2
3
 explicit Square(int size) : Rectangle{size, size} {}
4 void Print() const {
      cout << "Sq:" << width << " " << height << endl;</pre>
6
   }
7
 };
```

Better than manually calling the getter methods, but still need to explicitly call the Print() function for each type of object. Again, no real **Polymorphism**

```
int main() {
   Square sq(10);
   sq.Print();
   Rectangle rec(10, 15);
   rec.Print();
   return 0;
}
```

```
1
   virtual void Rectangle::Print() const {
2
      cout << "Rec:" << width << " " << height << endl;</pre>
    }
    void Square::Print() const override {
      cout << "Sq:" << width_ << " " << height_ << endl;</pre>
    }
1 void PrintShape(const Rectangle& rec) { rec.Print(); }
 int main() {
    Square sq(10);
    Rectangle rec(10, 15);
4
    PrintShape(rec);
    PrintShape(sq);
8
    return 0;
9
 }
```

Now we are using **Runtime Polymorphism**, we are printing shapes to the std::cout and deciding at runtime with type of shape it is



std::vector<Rectangle>

```
1 #include <memory>
2 #include <vector>
 using std::make unique;
4
 using std::unique_ptr;
 using std::vector;
 int main() {
   vector<unique_ptr<Rectangle>> shapes;
    shapes.emplace_back(make_unique<Rectangle>(10, 15));
    shapes.emplace_back(make_unique<Square>(10));
   for (const auto &shape : shapes) {
      shape->Print();
   }
   return 0;
```

When is it useful?

- Allows encapsulating the implementation inside a class only asking it to conform to a common interface
- Often used for:
 - Working with all children of some Base class in unified manner
 - Enforcing an interface in multiple classes to force them to implement some functionality
 - In strategy pattern, where some complex functionality is outsourced into separate classes and is passed to the object in a modular fashion

Creating a class hierarchy

- Sometimes classes must form a hierarchy
- Distinguish between is a and has a to test if the classes should be in one hierarchy:
 - Square is a Shape: can inherit from Shape
 - Student is a Human: can inherit from Human
 - Car has a Wheel: should not inherit each other
- GOOGLE-STYLE Prefer composition,

i.e. including an object of another class as a member of your class

 NACHO-STYLE Don't get too excited, use it only when improves code performance/readability.

https://google.github.io/styleguide/cppguide.html#Inheritance

Casting type of variables

- Every variable has a type
- Types can be converted from one to another
- Type conversion is called type casting

Casting type of variables

There are 5 ways of type casting:

- static_cast
- reinterpret_cast
- const_cast
- dynamic_cast
- C-style cast(unsafe), will try to:
 - const_cast
 - static_cast
 - static_cast, then const_cast (change type + remove const)
 - reinterpret_cast
 - reinterpret_cast, then const_cast (change type +
 remove const)

static_cast

- Syntax: static_cast<NewType>(variable)
- Convert type of a variable at compile time
- Rarely needed to be used explicitly
- Can happen implicitly for some types,
 e.g. float can be cast to int
- Pointer to an object of a Derived class can be upcast to a pointer of a Base class
- Enum value can be caster to int or float
- Full specification is complex!

dynamic_cast

- Syntax: dynamic_cast<Base*>(derived_ptr)
- Used to convert a pointer to a variable of Derived type to a pointer of a Base type
- Conversion happens at runtime
- If derived_ptr cannot be converted to Base* returns a nullptr

GOOGLE-STYLE Avoid using dynamic casting

reinterpret_cast

Syntax:

reinterpret_cast<NewType>(variable)

- Reinterpret the bytes of a variable as another type
- We must know what we are doing!
- Mostly used when writing binary data

const_cast

- Syntax: const_cast<NewType>(variable)
- Used to "constify" objects
- Used to "de-constify" objects
- Not widely used

Google Style

- GOOGLE-STYLE Do not use C-style casts. Instead, use these C++-style casts when explicit type conversion is necessary.
- GOOGLE-STYLE Use brace initialization to convert arithmetic types (e.g. int64{x}). This is the safest approach because code will not compile if conversion can result in information loss. The syntax is also concise.

Google Style

GOOGLE-STYLE Use static cast as the equivalent of a C-style cast that does value conversion, when you need to explicitly up-cast a pointer from a class to its superclass, or when you need to explicitly cast a pointer from a superclass to a subclass. In this last case, you must be sure your object is actually an instance of the subclass.

Google Style

- GOOGLE-STYLE Use const_cast to remove the const qualifier (see const).
- GOOGLE-STYLE Use reinterpret_cast to do unsafe conversions of pointer types to and from integer and other pointer types. Use this only if you know what you are doing and you understand the aliasing issues.

Using strategy pattern

- If a class relies on complex external functionality use strategy pattern
- Allows to add/switch functionality of the class without changing its implementation
- All strategies must conform to one strategy interface

```
1 class Strategy {
 public:
2
3 virtual void Print() const = 0;
4 };
1 class StrategyA : public Strategy {
 public:
3 void Print() const override { cout << "A" << endl; }</pre>
4 };
 class StrategyB : public Strategy {
 public:
 void Print() const override { cout << "B" << endl; }</pre>
9
 };
```

So far, nothing is new with this source code. We just defined an *interface* and then we derived 2 classes from this *interface* and implemented the virtual methods.

```
1 class MyClass {
2 public:
3 explicit MyClass(const Strategy& s) : strategy_(s) {}
4 void Print() const { strategy_.Print(); }
5
6 private:
7 const Strategy& strategy_;
8 };
```

- MyClass holds a const reference to an object of type Strategy.
- The strategy will be "picked" when we create an object of the class MyClass.
- We don't need to hold a reference to all the types of available strategies.
- The Print method has nothing to do with the one we've defined in Strategy.

Create two different strategies objects

```
1 StrategyA strategy_a = StrategyA();
2 StrategyB strategy_b = StrategyB();
```

 Create 2 objects that will use the Strategy pattern. We pick which Print strategy to use when we construct these objects.

```
MyClass obj_1(strategy_a);
```

```
2 MyClass obj_2(strategy_b);
```

 Use the objects in a "polymorphic" fashion. Both objects will have a Print method but they will call different functions according to the Strategy we picked when we build the objects.

```
1 obj_1.Print();
2 obj_2.Print();
```

Do not overuse it

- Only use these patterns when you need to
- If your class should have a single method for some functionality and will never need another implementation don't make it virtual
- Used mostly to avoid copying code and to make classes smaller by moving some functionality out

Singleton Pattern

- We want only one instance of a given class.
- Without C++ this would be a if/else mess.
- C++ has a powerfull compiler, we can use it.
- We can make sure that nobody creates more than 1 instance of a given class, at compile time.
- Don't over use it, it's easy to learn, but usually hides a **design** error in your code.
- Sometimes is still necessary, and makes your code better.
- You need to use it in homework_7.

Singleton Pattern: How?

- We can delete any class member functions.
- This also holds true for the special functions:
 - MyClass()
 - MyClass(const MyClass& other)
 - MyClass& operator=(const MyClass& other)
 - MyClass(MyClass&& other)
 - MyClass& operator=(MyClass&& other)
 - ~MyClass()
- Any private function can only be accessed by member of the class.

Singleton Pattern: How?

 Let's hide the default Constructor and also the destructor.

```
1 class Singleton {
2 private:
3 Singleton() = default;
4 ~Singleton() = default;
5 };
```

This completely **disable** the possibility to create a <u>Singleton</u> object or destroy it.

Singleton Pattern: How?

And now let's delete any copy capability:

- Copy Constructor.
- Copy Assignment Operator.

```
1 class Singleton {
2 public:
3 Singleton(const Singleton&) = delete;
4 void operator=(const Singleton&) = delete;
5 };
```

 This completely **disable** the possibility to copy any existing <u>Singleton</u> object.

Singleton Pattern: What now?

- Now we need to create at least one instance of the Singleton class.
- How? Compiler to the rescue:
 - We can create **one unique** instance of the class.
 - At compile time ...
 - Using static !.

```
1 class Singleton {
2  public:
3  static Singleton& GetInstance() {
4   static Singleton instance;
5   return instance;
6  }
7 };
```

Singleton Pattern: Completed

```
class Singleton {
  private:
2
    Singleton() = default;
    ~Singleton() = default;
6
   public:
    Singleton(const Singleton&) = delete;
    void operator=(const Singleton&) = delete;
8
    static Singleton& GetInstance() {
      static Singleton instance;
      return instance;
   }
13 }:
```

Singleton Pattern: Usage

```
#include "Singleton.hpp"
3
  int main() {
    auto& singleton = Singleton::GetInstance();
4
    // ...
6
  // do stuff with singleton, the only instance.
7
  // ...
    Singleton s1;
                        // Compiler Error!
    Singleton s2(singleton); // Compiler Error!
    Singleton s3 = singleton; // Compiler Error!
    return 0;
14 }
```

CRPT Pattern

```
1 #include <boost/core/demangle.hpp>
  using boost::core::demangle;
2
  template <typename T>
4
  class Printable {
   public:
7
  explicit Printable() {
      // Always print its type when created
8
9
      cout << demangle(typeid(T).name()) << " created\n";</pre>
    }
11 };
13 class Example1 : public Printable<Example1> {};
14 class Example2 : public Printable<Example2> {};
15 class Example3 : public Printable<Example3> {};
```

CRPT Pattern

Usage:

```
1 int main() {
2   const Example1 obj1;
3   const Example2 obj2;
4   const Example3 obj3;
5   return 0;
6 }
```

Output:

- 1 Example1 Created
- 2 Example2 Created
- 3 Example3 Created

Suggested Video

Object Oriented Design

	Encapsulation
4 PILLARS	Abstraction
	Inheritance
	Polymorphism

https://youtu.be/pTB0EiLXUC8

Suggested Video

Polymorphism



https://youtu.be/bP-Trkf8hNA

Must Watch

Raw Pointers: Skip min 30



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIrOcFf2crk&t=1729s

Image Courtesy of Micriochip

References

Object Oriented Design

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Type Conversion

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Singleton Pattern

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CRPT Pattern

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curiously_recurring_template_pattern