

# Lecture-3

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- Inheritance
- public, private and protected members
- const member functions
- friend functions
- friend classes
- Virtual functions
- Polymorphism
- Abstract classes



# Inheritance

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- Let's take the account example again
- There are many types of accounts
  - Checking, saving, money market, IRA, etc.
- All accounts may have
  - Some common members.
    - Account number, user SSN, etc.
  - Some class specific members.
- Method implementation may be
  - Same in different classes
  - Different in different classes.



# Inheritance - base class & derived class

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- **Base class**

```
class account
{
    int user_SSN;
    int accountNumber;
    void deposit (int amount);
    void withdraw (int amount);
    double computeInterest ( );
};
```

- **Derived class or child class**

```
class checkingAccount : public account // checkingAccount is
{                                     // derived from account
    int lastCheckCleared;             // not present in account
    void showAllChecksCleared( ); // not present in account
    double computeInterest( ); // defined in both classes
};
```



# Inheritance - base class and derived classes

- **Base Class**

```
class account
{
private:
    int user_SSN;
    int accountNumber;
public:
    void deposit (int amount)
    void withdraw (int amount);
    double computeInterest( );
};
```

- **Derived (or child) class-1**

```
class checkingAccount : public
account
{
    int lastCheckCleared;
    void showChecksCleared ( );
    double computeInterest ( )
};
```

- **Derived (or child) class-2**

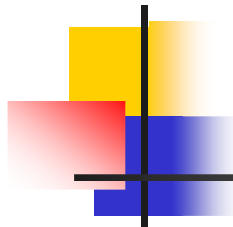
```
class IRA_account : public account
{
    void buyFund (int fund_ID);
    void sellFund (int fund_ID);
    double computeInterest ( );
};
```



# Inheritance - continued.

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- Important points to note:
  - Derived classes have access to members of base classes in this example.
  - Derived classes can have their own members.
    - E.g. `lastCheckCleared`, `showAllChecksCleared( )`, `buyFund( )`, `sellFund( )`, etc.
    - Members of one derived class are not accessible to another



# Examples

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- Valid usage in an external function
  - `account acct(123456, abc);`
  - `checkingAccount`
  - `acct.deposit (700);`
  - `acct.withdraw (300);`
  - `checkingAccount.deposit (1000);`
  - `checkingAccount`
- Invalid usage in an external function
  - `acct.user_SSN = 1234; // Can't access user_SSN`
  - `acct.accountNumber = 567;`



# const member functions

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```
class myClass
{
    int a;

    ...

    void function_1( ) const;
};
```

- **const** functions can't change any attributes of myClass.
- function\_1 can't change a in the above example



# friend functions

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- What if a function genuinely needs to have access to private data?
  - E.g. `showAccountInfo (Account acct )`
- Need to give access **ONLY** to that function, not others.
- Use **friend** function definition
- **friend** functions of a class have access to private members of the class.





# Example - friend function

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```
class account
{
private:
    int user_SSN;
    int accountNumber;
public:
    void deposit (int amount)
    void withdraw (int amount);
    double computeInterest ( );
    friend showAccountInfo
        (class Account)
};
```

```
void showAccountInfo
    (Account acct)
{
    cout << user_SSN << endl;
    cout << accountNumber
        << endl;
}
```

This is valid.  
Friend function can access  
private members.



# friend class

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- Concept of **friend** can be extended to a class from a function.
- A class gives access to its private members to its **friend** classes.

class account	class bank
{	{
...	...
friend class bank	}
}	

Members of bank have access to private members of account



# Virtual functions

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- Function “double computeInterest( )” is defined in both base and child classes.
  - Supposed to return different values
    - **virtual** double Account::computeInterest ( )  
    { return 0; }
    - double CheckingAccount::computeInterest ( )  
    { return 10.0; }
    - double IRA\_Account::computeInterest ( )  
    { return 100.0; }



## Virtual functions ... contd.

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```
main()
{
    Account *x = new CheckingAccount();
    x->computeInterest( );
    // Will this return 0 or 10.0?
}
```

- This will return
  - 0, if the function is **NOT virtual**
  - 10.0, if the function is defined **virtual**

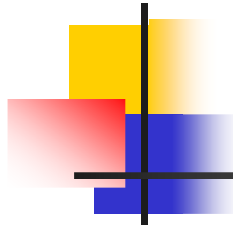


## Why are virtual functions needed?

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- Mainly to enforce class specific functional implementation.
- Should not call base class function from a child object.
- An account object may take different "forms" at different times
  - Checking account, IRA account, etc.
  - `computeInterest( )` should compute derived class specific function.

⇒ Polymorphism



# Example

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```
Account *x;  
for (each object obj)  
{  
    x = &obj;    // polymorphism  
    i->computeInterest( );  
}
```

Here computeInterest( ) of derived classes should be called.



# Abstract classes

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- Consider an object of Account.
- It makes sense to have
  - A **specific** type (e.g., checking) of account
  - Not just a generic account object.
- A user should be able to create
  - Specific object types.
  - NOT generic objects.
- An abstract class is the generic class.



# Abstract classes ... contd.

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- Properties of abstract classes.
  - Defines a generic base class
  - Class definition has attributes and methods
  - Other classes are derived from it.
  - Derived classes implement the methods defined in abstract class.
  - Can **NOT** instantiate objects of base class.
  - Can instantiate only objects of derived classes.





## How do we create abstract classes?

- Set **ANY** virtual function to 0.

```
class Account
{
    virtual double computeInterest () {} = 0;
}
class CheckingAccount : public Account
{
    double computeInterest () { ... }
}
```

Account x; // Will **NOT** work.

CheckingAccount y; // Will work.