

Lecture-3

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



Inheritance

- 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

- **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:
        account ( ) { }
        account (int ssn, acctNum);
        ~account( ) { }
        void deposit (int amount)
        void withdraw (int amount);
        double computeInterest( );
};
```

■ Derived (or child) class-1

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

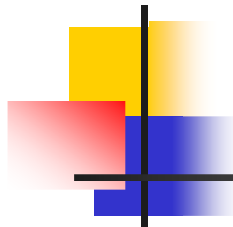
■ Derived (or child) class-2

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



Inheritance - continued.

- 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

- Valid usage in an external function
 - `account acct(123456, 5672);`
 - `checkingAccount ca;`
 - `acct.deposit (700);`
 - `acct.withdraw (300);`
 - `ca.deposit (1000);`
 - `ca.showAllChecksCleared()`
- Invalid usage in an external function
 - `acct.user_SSN = 1234; // Can't access user_SSN`
 - `acct.accountNumber = 567;`



const member functions

```
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

- 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

```
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 a)
{
    cout << a.user_SSN <<
    endl;
    cout << a.accountNumber
        << endl;
}
```

This is valid.

Friend function can access
private members.



friend class

- 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

- 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.

```
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?

- 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



Abstract classes

- 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.

- 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.