

## data structures & algorithms Tutorial 3







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## Burning questions from last week?

## This week's lab

- Templates
- Memory: Stack vs Heap
- Linked Lists
- Constructors





Today we are levelling up our C++ with templates, class constructors and learning about more data structures

# Templates are like a **blueprint** where you fill in the blank

(Similar to Generics in Java, but more powerful)

## motivation Write less coce

Templates let you write a single function that supports *multiple* types

Imagine we are writing an add function

1 int add(int a, int b) {
2 return a + b;
3 }
4
5 int sum = add(1, 2);

But now we want to also add floats together...

```
1 // int implementation
 2 int add(int a, int b) {
       return a + b;
 3
 4 }
 5
 6 // float implementation
 7 float add(float a, float b) {
       return a + b;
 8
 9 }
10
   int sum1 = add(1, 2);
11
12 float sum2 = add(3.14f, 2.71f);
```



And now we want to also add doubles together ...

```
1 // int implementation
 2 int add(int a, int b) {
       return a + b;
 3
 4 }
 5
 6 // float implementation
 7 float add(float a, float b) {
       return a + b;
 8
 9 }
10
11 // double implementation
   double add(double a, double b) {
12
       return a + b;
13
14 }
15
16 int sum1 = add(1, 2);
17 \, \text{float sum2} = \text{add}(3.14f, 2.71f);
18 double sum3 = add(1.234, 5.678);
```

And what about... long, or long long or unsigned int, etc. 📦



## Ahh... much better



```
1 template <typename T>
2 T add(T a, T b) {
3     return a + b;
4 }
```

- 6 int sum1 = add(1, 2);
- 7 float sum2 = add(3.14f, 2.71f);
  - double sum3 = add(1.234, 5.678);
  - unsigned int sum4 = add(10u, 20u);

This would work too! Usually we just use T

(T stands for type)

1 template <typename Blank>
2 Blank add(Blank a, Blank b) {
3 return a + b;
4 }

- 6 int sum1 = add(1, 2);
  - float sum2 = add(3.14f, 2.71f);
  - double sum3 = add(1.234, 5.678);
  - unsigned int sum4 = add(10u, 20u);

And if you want to explicitly specify the type you can do that like so

- template <typename T> 1
- 2 T add(T a, T b) {
- return a + b; 3
- 4 }

5

- int sum1 = add < int > (1, 2);6
- float sum2 = add<float>(3.14f, 2.71f);
- double sum3 = add < double > (1.234, 5.678);
- unsigned int sum4 = add<unsigned int>(10u, 20u);

## 1 std::vector<int> {};

You've actually been using templates all along 👀



I just invented the most advanced computer language in the world ... by accident.

Templates are stupidly OP. We are only just scratching the surface here...

# Let's give the first activity a go



# Stack vs Heap





# tl;dr Stack VS Heap The stack and heap are both locations in memory were we can store data

Whenever we create a variable we put something on the stack

## tl;dr Variables

# new keyword

# Whenever we use the new keyword we put something on the Heap

tl;dr

tl;dr Dynamic Memory Whenever we need to dynamically allocate memory we need to use the Heap

tl;dr Pointers

Whenever we put something on the Heap we need to keep track of its location with a pointer



- Ordered and fast
- Used for variables and fixed memory



- Unordered and slow
- Used for dynamic memory



## We keep track of memory on the heap using pointers on the stack



## Player player1();



Player \* play Pointer to a player object



## Player \* player1 = new Player();



Player \* player1 = new Player(); this allocates memory on the heap and returns a pointer





## int \* array = new int[size \* 2]; dynamic size



## std::vector<int> vec {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6};

### Heap



## std::vector<int> vec {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}; vec.push(7); $\leftarrow$ Grows the underlying array

# Constructors and Destructors

## Constructors and Destructors

There are a lot of different types of constructors you can create in C++

Today we are learning about:

- Standard Constructor
- Destructor
- Copy Constructor
- Copy Assignent

SOMEONEADDS

ANEW CLASSING ==

IMPLEMENTS

CONSTRUCTOR AND DESTRUCTOR

IMPLEMENTS COPY-

AND MOVE-CONSTRUCTOR

OVERLOADS COPY-

AND MOVE-ASSIGNMENT

ISTIRAD-SAL

## Constructors

Constructors are all the different ways we can create a certain class

- Allocates heap memory
- sets the properties

## Destructors

Destructor is the way we destroy a class

• Frees the heap memory

## Default Constructor

class Player { public: std::string name; int health; }

Player player; // calls the default constructor player.name; // equals: "" player.health; // equals: 0

Default Constructor class Player { public: std::string name; int health; Player() { name = "Unknown"; health = 100;

### // next line overrides the default constructor



Parameterized Constructor class Player { public: std::string name; int health; // Parameterized Constructor Player(std::string playerName, int playerHealth) { name = playerName; health = playerHealth;
Initialization List class Player { public: std::string name; int health; // Constructor using an initialization list Player(std::string playerName, int playerHealth) : name(playerName), health(playerHealth) {}

## If your class doesn't deal with heap memory this is usually all you need to do

If your class has a pointer to something on the heap

## RULE OF Three

#### 1. Destructor

- 2. Copy Constructor
- 3. Copy Assignment Operator

| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

memory leak



If we use the default destructor on myVector1, the heap memory well remain on the heap. This is called a

| myVector1 |  |      |
|-----------|--|------|
|           |  |      |
|           |  |      |
|           |  | 0x0A |

## We have now lost all references to the heap memory object, so we can no longer free it.



| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

#### Instead we first need to call delete on the the array



| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

#### And then we can destruct the myVector1 object



| myVector1 |  |      |
|-----------|--|------|
|           |  |      |
|           |  |      |
|           |  | 0x0A |

#### And then we can destruct the myVector1 object



# MyVector::~MyVector() { delete[] arrayPointer\_; }

We simply need to override the default destructor and in it we delete the heap allocated array

| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

Here we have a single instance of our MyVector class. Notice we have three pieces of data. The size, the capacity and the array pointer





| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

| myVector2 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



If we make a copy using the
default copy constructor all the
values get directly copied.

(Remember that a **pointer** is just a value)

| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

| myVector2 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



## This is called a shallow copy

We are only copying the class properties, and not the data those properties point to

#### But this is what we really want. We want to copy the underlying array on the heap!

| myVector1 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

| myVector2 |               |      |
|-----------|---------------|------|
| int       | size_         | 6    |
| int       | capacity_     | 6    |
| int*      | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |





## Has no pointers to things on

### has a pointer to something the heap on the heap

MyVector::MyVector(const MyVector& other)

size\_ {other.size\_}, capacity\_ {other.capacity\_} {

// Deep copy for (int i = 0; i < size\_; ++i) {</pre>

```
: arrayPointer_ {new int[other.size_]},
```

```
arrayPointer_[i] = other.arrayPointer_[i];
```

## Copy Constructor (improved)

MyVector::MyVector(const MyVector& other)

: arrayPointer\_ {other.size\_ > 0 ? new int[other.size\_] : nullptr}, size\_ {other.size\_}, capacity\_ {other.capacity\_} {

// Deep copy for (int i = 0; i < size\_; ++i) { arrayPointer\_[i] = other.arrayPointer\_[i]; }

## Copy Assignment

MyVector& MyVector::operator=(MyVector other) {
 // other is passed by VALUE
 // So it is copied (its copy constructor is called)
 std::swap(arrayPointer\_, other.arrayPointer\_);
 std::swap(size\_, other.size\_);
 std::swap(capacity\_, other.capacity\_);
 return \*this;
}

| myVector |               |      |
|----------|---------------|------|
| int      | size_         | 4    |
| int      | capacity_     | 4    |
| int*     | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 6    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |



| myVector |               |      |
|----------|---------------|------|
| int      | size_         | 6    |
| int      | capacity_     | 4    |
| int*     | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 4    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |



|      | myVector      |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 6    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 4    |
| int  | capacity_     | 4    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |



|      | myVector      |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 6    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 4    |
| int  | capacity_     | 4    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



MyVector& MyVector::operator=(MyVector other) { std::swap(arrayPointer\_, other.arrayPointer\_); std::swap(size\_, other.size\_); std::swap(capacity\_, other.capacity\_); return \*this; // After this line other goes out of scope // so its destructor is called }

|      | myVector      |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 6    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 4    |
| int  | capacity_     | 4    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



|      | myVector      |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 6    |
| int  | capacity_     | 6    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |

|      | other         |      |
|------|---------------|------|
| int  | size_         | 4    |
| int  | capacity_     | 4    |
| int* | arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



| myVector |               |      |  |
|----------|---------------|------|--|
| int      | size_         | 6    |  |
| int      | capacity_     | 6    |  |
| int*     | arrayPointer_ | 0x0B |  |

| other         |      |
|---------------|------|
| size_         |      |
| capacity_     |      |
| arrayPointer_ | 0x0A |



## Rule of Incee

If your class has a pointer to something 2. Copy Constructor on the heap

## Implementing 1 & 2 makes implementing 3 pretty easy

- 1. Destructor
- 3. Copy Assignment Operator

## Let's try implement the constructors in the activity



### data

5

Node

a next



## struct Node { }



# struct Node { int data {}; }



# struct Node { int data {}; Node\* next = nullptr; }



# struct Node { int data {}; Node\* next = nullptr; Node(){} }



struct Node { int data {}; 5 Node\* next = nullptr; Node(){} Node(int input\_data, Node\* next\_node= nullptr) : data {input\_data}, next {next\_node} {}



## template <typename T> struct Node { T data {}; Node\* next = nullptr; Node(){} data {input\_data}, next {next\_node} {}



Node(T input\_data, Node\* next\_node= nullptr) :




#### To keep track of the start of our list we define a variable head which points to the first node



### Optionally we can also define a variable tail which points to the end of our list



push\_front(3)

Linked lists allow us to quickly push to the front of the list





### push\_front(3) First we need to create a new node







push\_front(3) Finally we update the head to point to the node we just added





If we are keeping track of the tail Linked lists allow us to quickly push to the back of the list

push\_back(5)







push\_back(5) First we create a new node











push\_back(5) Finally we update the tail to point to the node we just added





### This brings us to a pretty big downside of linked lists which is you cannot randomly access elements



#### Suppose I want to access the data at the 3rd index



### I need to start all the way at the head and keep following the next pointer

# head



# O(n)





So if we do not keep track of the tail then we need to first traverse the whole list before we can add to the end of the list





#### So how do we destruct a linked list?

### Linked List



#### We start from the front and delete each node







#### current



current temp





### But we need to keep track of the next node before we delete the current node

#### current



current temp









# But we need to keep track of the next node before we delete the current node



#### current

# If there is time have a play with the activity

# Otherwise thank you all for coming

