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Constructors and Destructors



C++ Object Oriented Programming

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NTOU CS

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House Keeping Problems

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class Array {
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private:
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House Keeping Problems

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class Array {  
public:  
    void initArray(int arraySize);  
  
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House Keeping Problems

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class Array {  
public:  
    void initArray(int arraySize);  
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```

House Keeping Problems

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class Array {  
public:  
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    int getElement(int slot) const;  
  
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void Array::initArray(int arraySize) {  
    m_arrayData = new int[arraySize];  
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Assume **insertElement()**, **getElement()**,
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In the client code: **main()**
1. **Forget** to initialize the object array
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void Array::initArray(int arraySize) {  
    m_arrayData = new int[arraySize];  
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void main() {  
    Array array;  
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}
```

In the client code: **main()**

1. **Forget** to initialize the object array
(there is no call to `initArray()`)
2. **Forget** to call `cleanUp()` code segment

Assume `insertElement()`, `getElement()`,
and `cleanUp()` are defined elsewhere.

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Array::Array(int arraySize) {  
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```
void main() {  
    Array array(20);  
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 1. new statements, 2. initialization lists, 3. temporary objects

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Purpose: to free any resource (memory, file, connection) allocated by the object.

<pre>class Array { public: ... ~Array(); ... };</pre>	<pre>Array::~~Array() { delete[] m_array; }</pre>
-------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------

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When are ctors and dtors invoked?

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- ★ ctor of a global variable is invoked before main() gets started
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**What happens if the dtor
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❖ **Dynamic** variables

```
Array *Foo(int numElements) {  
    Array *array;  
    array = new Array(numElements); // ctor invoked  
    return array;  
}  
  
void Bar() {  
    Array *mainData = Foo(20);  
    delete mainData; // dtor invoked  
}
```

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What happens if you use malloc() to get the required memory for an object?

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}
```

What happens if you use malloc() to get the required memory for an object?

What happens if we did not call delete?

Advantages Achieved by OOP

Automatic initialization

```
Array::Array(int arraySize) {  
    m_array = new int[arraySize];  
    m_arraySize = arraySize;  
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Safe client/server programming

```
void Array::insertElement(int element, int slot) {  
    if ((slot < m_arraySize) && (slot >= 0))  
        m_array[slot] = element;  
    else  
        cout << "Warning, out of range!!";  
}  
int Array::getElement(int slot) const {  
    if ((slot < m_arraySize) && (slot >= 0))  
        return m_array[slot];  
    else {  
        cout << "Warning, out of range!!";  
        return 0;  
    }  
}
```

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Better encapsulation

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cout << array.getElement(0);
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        return 0;  
    }  
}
```

Better encapsulation

```
cout << array.getElement(0);
```

Now, an array is no longer a fixed chunk of data storages. It serves data for the client codes reliably. It might even adjust its size dynamically.

Multiple Constructors

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public:  
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class Name {  
public:  
    Name();  
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
    ~Name();  
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
    void printName() const;  
private:  
    char *m_firstName;  
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```

```
Name::Name() {  
    m_firstName = 0;  
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    char *m_firstName;  
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};
```

This ctor has special name:

“default constructor”.

```
Name::Name() {  
    m_firstName = 0;  
    m_lastName = 0;  
}
```

Multiple Constructors

- ❖ A class can have more than one **constructor** (function overloading)

```
class Name {  
public:  
    Name();  
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
    ~Name();  
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
    void printName() const;  
private:  
    char *m_firstName;  
    char *m_lastName;  
};
```

VC, 『預設建構函式』

This ctor has special name:

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Name::Name() {  
    m_firstName = 0;  
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```

```
private:
```

```
    char *m_firstName;  
    char *m_lastName;
```

```
};
```

VC, 『預設建構函式』

This ctor has special name:

“**default constructor**”.

```
Name::Name() {  
    m_firstName = 0;  
    m_lastName = 0;  
}
```

```
Name::Name(char *firstName, char *lastName) {  
    setName(firstName, lastName);  
}
```

Multiple Constructors (cont'd)

```
void Name::setName(char *firstName, char *lastName) {  
    m_firstName = new char[strlen(firstName)+1];  
    m_lastName = new char[strlen(lastName)+1];  
    strcpy(m_firstName, firstName);  
    strcpy(m_lastName, lastName);  
}
```

Multiple Constructors (cont'd)

```
void Name::setName(char *firstName, char *lastName) {
    m_firstName = new char[strlen(firstName)+1];
    m_lastName = new char[strlen(lastName)+1];
    strcpy(m_firstName, firstName);
    strcpy(m_lastName, lastName);
}

Name::~Name() {
    delete[] m_firstName;
    delete[] m_lastName;
}
```

Multiple Constructors (cont'd)

```
void Name::setName(char *firstName, char *lastName) {
    m_firstName = new char[strlen(firstName)+1];
    m_lastName = new char[strlen(lastName)+1];
    strcpy(m_firstName, firstName);
    strcpy(m_lastName, lastName);
}

Name::~Name() {
    delete[] m_firstName;
    delete[] m_lastName;
}

void Name::printName() const {
    if (m_firstName) cout << m_firstName << ' ';
    if (m_lastName) cout << m_lastName << ' ';
}
```

Multiple Constructors (cont'd)

```
void Name::setName(char *firstName, char *lastName) {
    m_firstName = new char[strlen(firstName)+1];
    m_lastName = new char[strlen(lastName)+1];
    strcpy(m_firstName, firstName);
    strcpy(m_lastName, lastName);
}

Name::~Name() {
    delete[] m_firstName;
    delete[] m_lastName;
}

void Name::printName() const {
    if (m_firstName) cout << m_firstName << ' ';
    if (m_lastName) cout << m_lastName << ' ';
}
```

➤ Usage:

```
void main() {
    Name name1, name2("Mary", "Smith");
    name1.setName("Mark", "Anderson");
    name1.printName(); name2.printName();
}
```

Multiple Constructors (cont'd)

```
void Name::setName(char *firstName, char *lastName) {  
    m_firstName = new char[strlen(firstName)+1];  
    m_lastName = new char[strlen(lastName)+1];  
    strcpy(m_firstName, firstName);  
    strcpy(m_lastName, lastName);  
}
```

```
Name::~~Name() {  
    delete[] m_firstName;  
    delete[] m_lastName;  
}
```

```
void Name::printName() const {  
    if (m_firstName) cout << m_firstName << ' ';  
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Constructors and Arrays

- ✧ If you want to define an array of objects, your class **must have a default ctor.**

Constructors and Arrays

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```
class Name {  
public:  
  
    ~Name();  
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
private:  
    char *m_firstName;  
    char *m_lastName;  
};  
void main() {  
    Name names[100];  
    names[12].setName("Mark", "Anderson");  
}
```

Compiler accepts.

Constructors and Arrays

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class Name {  
public:  
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
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    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
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    char *m_firstName;  
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};  
void main() {  
    Name names[100];  
    names[12].setName("Mark", "Anderson");  
}
```

error C2512: 'Name' : no appropriate default constructor available



Constructors and Arrays

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private:  
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    char *m_lastName;  
};  
void main() {  
    Name names[100];  
    names[12].setName("Mark", "Anderson");  
}
```

Name() is the default constructor

error C2512: 'Name' : no appropriate default constructor available



Constructors and Arrays

- ❖ If you want to define an array of objects, your class **must have a default ctor.**

```
class Name {  
public:
```

`Name()` is the default constructor

```
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);
```

```
    ~Name();
```

```
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);
```

```
private:
```

```
    char *m_firstName;
```

```
    char *m_lastName;
```

```
};
```

```
void main() {
```

```
    Name names[100];
```

```
    names[12].setName("Mark", "Anderson");
```

```
}
```

error C2512: 'Name' : no appropriate default constructor available



```
Name names[2] = {Name("Mark", "Anderson"), Name("Ron", "Dale")}; // OK
```

Constructors and Arrays

- ❖ If you want to define an array of objects, your class **must have a default ctor.**

C++ compiler does not give you a 'default' if you specify any ctor.

```
class Name {                                     Name() is the default constructor
public:
```

```
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);
```

```
    ~Name();
```

```
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);
```

```
private:
```

```
    char *m_firstName;
```

```
    char *m_lastName;
```

```
};
```

```
void main() {
```

```
    Name names[100];
```

```
    names[12].setName("Mark", "Anderson");
```

```
}
```

error C2512: 'Name' : no appropriate default constructor available



```
Name names[2] = {Name("Mark", "Anderson"), Name("Ron", "Dale")}; // OK
```

Solutions to Array of Objects

- ✧ **Solution 1:** provide a ctor without arguments ... i.e. the default ctor

```
class Name {  
public:  
    Name();  
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
    ~Name();  
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);  
private:  
    char *m_firstName;  
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};
```

Solutions to Array of Objects

- ❖ **Solution 1:** provide a ctor without arguments ... i.e. the default ctor

```
class Name {
public:
    Name();
    Name(char *firstName, char *lastName);
    ~Name();
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);
private:
    char *m_firstName;
    char *m_lastName;
};
```

- ❖ **Solution 2:** have no ctor at all ... i.e. use the implicit default ctor

```
class Name {
public:
    ~Name();
    void setName(char *firstName, char *lastName);
private:
    char *m_firstName;
    char *m_lastName;
};
```


Constructors with Default Arguments

- ✧ Consider this class with two constructors

Constructors with Default Arguments

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```
class Account {  
public:  
    Account();  
    Account(double startingBalance);  
    void changeBalance(double amount);  
    void showBalance() const;  
private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

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class Account {  
public:  
    Account();  
    Account(double startingBalance);  
    void changeBalance(double amount);  
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private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

```
Account::Account() {  
    m_balance = 0.0;  
}
```

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class Account {  
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    Account();  
    Account(double startingBalance);  
    void changeBalance(double amount);  
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private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

```
Account::Account() {  
    m_balance = 0.0;  
}
```

```
Account::Account(double startingBalance) {  
    m_balance = startingBalance;  
}
```

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    void showBalance() const;  
private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

```
Account::Account() {  
    m_balance = 0.0;  
}
```

```
Account::Account(double startingBalance) {  
    m_balance = startingBalance;  
}
```

```
void main() {  
    Account client1, client2(100.0);  
    client1.showBalance();  
    client2.showBalance();  
}
```

Constructors with Default Arguments

✧ Consider this class with two constructors

```
class Account {  
public:  
    Account();  
    Account(double startingBalance);  
    void changeBalance(double amount);  
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private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

```
Account::Account() {  
    m_balance = 0.0;  
}
```

```
Account::Account(double startingBalance) {  
    m_balance = startingBalance;  
}
```

```
void main() {  
    Account client1, client2(100.0);  
    client1.showBalance();  
    client2.showBalance();  
}
```

```
Output:  
0.0  
100.0
```

Ctor with Default Arguments (cont'd)

- ❖ The class is rewritten in the following way:

```
class Account {  
public:  
    Account(double startingBalance);  
    void changeBalance(double amount);  
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    double m_balance;  
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Ctor with Default Arguments (cont'd)

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This ctor is exactly the same as before

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```

```
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    m_balance = startingBalance;  
}
```


Ctor with Default Arguments (cont'd)

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class Account {  
public:  
    Account(double startingBalance = 0.0 );  
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Account::Account(double startingBalance) {  
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- ❖ We can now declare an array of Account.

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private:  
    double m_balance;  
};
```

- ❖ We can now declare an array of Account.

```
void main() {  
    Account clients[100];  
    clients[0].changeBalance(100.0); clients[0].showBalance();  
}
```

Ctor with Default Arguments (cont'd)

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void main() {  
    Account clients[100];  
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}
```

This works fine with a fake default ctor.

Initialization Lists

✧ Consider the following class

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```
enum Breed {undefined,  
            collie, poodle,  
            coca, bulldog};  
  
class Dog {  
public:  
    Dog();  
    Dog(char *name,  
        Breed breed, int age);  
    ~Dog();  
private:  
    char *m_name;  
    Breed m_breed;  
    int m_age;  
};
```

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    int m_age;
};
```

✧ The ctor might look like:

```
Dog::Dog(char *name,
         Breed breed, int age) {
    m_name = new char[strlen(name)+1];
    strcpy(m_name, name);
    m_breed = breed;
    m_age = age;
}
```

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✧ The ctor might look like:

```
Dog::Dog(char *name,
         Breed breed, int age) {
    m_name = new char[strlen(name)+1];
    strcpy(m_name, name);
    m_breed = breed;
    m_age = age;
}
```

★ This ctor can be rewritten as:

```
Dog::Dog(char *name, Breed breed, int age)
: m_name(new char[strlen(name)+1]),
  m_breed(breed), m_age(age) {
    strcpy(m_name, name);
}
```


Constant Data Member Initialization

✧ Consider the class:

```
class Dog {  
public:  
    Dog();  
    Dog(char *name,  
        Breed breed, int age);  
    ~Dog();  
    void list();  
private:  
    char *m_name;  
    Breed m_breed;  
    int m_age;  
};
```

Constant Data Member Initialization

- ✧ Consider the class:
- ✧ The breed of the dog will not change

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```

Constant Data Member Initialization

- ✧ Consider the class:
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Let us make it a **constant variable** in the class declaration.

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```
Dog::Dog(): m_breed(undefined) {...}
```

```
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public:  
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         Breed breed, int age);  
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- ❖ Other preferred usages of **const**

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```
Dog::Dog(): m_breed(undefined) {...}
```

- ❖ Other preferred usages of **const**

```
Dog::Dog(const char *name, const Breed breed, const int age)  
: m_name(new char[strlen(name)+1]), m_breed(breed), m_age(age) {  
  strcpy(m_name, name);  
}
```

```
class Dog {  
public:  
  Dog();  
  Dog(char *name,  
        Breed breed, int age);  
  ~Dog();  
  void list() const;  
private:  
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```

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 - ★ The order of expressions in the initialization list is **NOT** the order of execution.

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- ❖ Caution:
 - ★ The order of expressions in the initialization list is **NOT** the order of execution.
 - ★ The **defining order of member variables** in the class definition defines the order of execution.

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 - ★ The **defining order of member variables** in the class definition defines the order of execution.

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Dog::Dog(const char *name, const Breed breed, const int age)
    : m_age(age) , m_name(new char[strlen(name)+1]), m_breed(breed){
    strcpy(m_name, name);
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Initialization List (cont'd)

- ❖ There are several cases where initialization list **MUST** be used
 1. **Constant data member**
 2. **Reference data member**
 3. **Non-default parent class constructor**
 4. **Non-default component object constructor**
- ❖ Coding style: use initialization list as much as possible
 - ★ initialization list is inevitable in many cases
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Diagram illustrating the execution order of initialization list members. The labels **third**, **first**, and **second** are connected by arrows to the corresponding initialization expressions in the code: **third** points to `m_name`, **first** points to `m_age`, and **second** points to `m_breed`.

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- ❖ Some people think that this is a kind of coercion like

```
x = (int) 10.3;
```

Actually the above two are not the same mechanism in C++. Each invoke different procedures, although achieving similar functions.