

Chapter 15

More Inheritance

- Reading: pp. 929-945
- Good Problems to Work: pp. 917-918: 15.7, 15.8
- More Inheritance
- Polymorphism
- Virtual Functions

Polymorphism

- Code is said to be polymorphic if executing the code with different types of data (objects) produces different behavior
- Program in the general, rather than program in the specific
- *Virtual functions* make polymorphism possible

Consider

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Def1
{
    public:
        Def1() {cout << "Def1" << endl;}
        ~Def1 () {cout << "~Def1" << endl;}
        void Foo () {cout << "Def1 Foo" << endl;}
};
class Def2 : public Def1
{
    public:
        Def2 () {cout << "Def2" << endl;}
        ~Def2 () {cout << "~Def2" << endl;}
        void Foo () {cout << "Def2 Foo" << endl;}
};
```

What is the output? Why?

```
int main ()
{
    Def1 *pcDef1 = new Def1;
    Def2 *pcDef2 = new Def2;
    pcDef1->Foo();
    pcDef2->Foo();
    delete pcDef1;
    delete pcDef2;
}
```

What is the output? Why?

```
int main ()
{
    Def1 *pcDef1 = new Def1;
    Def1 *pcDef2 = new Def2; // type Def2 to Def1
    pcDef1->Foo();
    pcDef2->Foo();
    delete pcDef1;
    delete pcDef2;
}
```

Virtual Functions

- You can tell the compiler to select the more specialized version of a member function by declaring the member function to be a virtual function
- Declare a virtual function by prefixing its declaration with the word `virtual`

What is the output? Why?

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- If the following 2 changes are made to the previous program, what is the output? Why?

```
virtual void Foo () {cout << "Def1 Foo" << endl;}
```

```
virtual void Foo () {cout << "Def2 Foo" << endl;}
```

```
int main ()  
{  
    Def1 *pcDef1 = new Def1;  
    Def1 *pcDef2 = new Def2;  
    pcDef1->Foo();  
    pcDef2->Foo();  
    delete pcDef1;  
    delete pcDef2;  
}
```

Virtual Destructor

- Any potential base class should have a virtual destructor
- Why? The compiler performs static binding on any destructor not declared virtual
- If the following changes are made to the original program, what is the output? Why?

Virtual Destructor

```
virtual ~Def1 () {cout << "~Def1" << endl;}

virtual void Foo () {cout << "Def1 Foo" << endl;}

virtual void Foo () {cout << "Def2 Foo" << endl;}

int main ()
{
    Def1 *pcDef1 = new Def1;
    Def1 *pcDef2 = new Def2;
    pcDef1->Foo();
    pcDef2->Foo();
    delete pcDef1;
    delete pcDef2;
}
```