

Overloading

- Function overloading
- Operator overloading

Function overloading

Overloading means that we reuse a function name with the following rules:

- Parameter list must be different
- Return type doesn't matter

We can overload normal functions as well as member functions

```
In [ ]: double waterVolume(long long raindrops, double dropVol); // (1)
        double waterVolume(double area, long long depth); // (2)
```

How does the compiler do the name resolution?

```
In [ ]: waterVolume(4934, 123.245); // resolves to (1)
        waterVolume(1.23, 5563); // resolves to (2)
        waterVolume(45655, 23454); // ERROR not defined
```

```
In [ ]: waterVolume(45655.0, 23454); //resolves to (2)
        waterVolume(45655, 23454ll); //resolves to (2)
```

Overloading operators

Operator overloading allows you to (re)define the behavior of operators for custom types. It enables you to use operators such as `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `==`, and others with user-defined objects, just like you would with built-in types. In this way you can make your code more intuitive, expressive, and natural to work with.

Let's see an example:

```
In [ ]: class Point2D {
    private:
        double x_=0.0, y_=0.0;
        // ...
    public:
        // ...
        Point2D(double x, double y): x_(x), y_(y) {}

        Point2D add(const Point2D & p){
            Point2D result(x_ + p.x_, y_ + p.y_);
            return result;
        }
};
```

```
In [ ]: Point2D a(5.6, 4.3), b(4.5, 0.0);
Point2D c = a.add(b);
// wouldn't it be great to use Point2D c = a + b; ?
```

We will start with the assignment operator (`operator=`) Consider this example with `int`:

```
In [ ]: int a, b, c = 4;
a = b = c; //a, b and c are now 4!
```

Why do we start with the assignment operator? It is very likely that you will need it: The assignment operator is the sibling of the copy constructor!

```
In [ ]: // restart kernel to run
#include <iostream>

class Point2D {
private:
    double x_=0.0, y_=0.0;
    // ...
public:
    // ...
    Point2D(double x, double y): x_(x), y_(y) {}
    Point2D(const Point2D & rhs): x_(rhs.x_), y_(rhs.y_) {}

    Point2D& operator=(const Point2D & rhs){
        x_ = rhs.x_;
        y_ = rhs.y_;
        return *this;
    }

    void print(){
        std::cout << "x=" << x_ << ", y=" << y_ << std::endl;
    }
};
```

```
In [ ]: Point2D p(4,5), q(2,0.8);
q.print();
q = p; // equivalent to q.operator=(p);
q.print();
```

Good programming practice: when you implement the operator=, also implement a copy constructor, and viceversa!

Question: can we use `Point2D& operator=(const Point2D & rhs)=default;` ?

✓ X

```
In [ ]: Point2D a(3.4, 20);
Point2D b = a; //calls copy constructor
b = a; // calls operator=
```

Now let's implement the operator+ function for Point2D.

```
In [ ]: #include <iostream>

class Point2D {
private:
    double x_=0.0, y_=0.0;
    // ...
public:
    // ...
    Point2D(double x, double y): x_(x), y_(y) {}
    Point2D(const Point2D & rhs): x_(rhs.x_), y_(rhs.y_) {}

    Point2D& operator=(const Point2D & rhs){
        x_ = rhs.x_;
        y_ = rhs.y_;
        return *this;
    }

    Point2D operator+(const Point2D & p){
        Point2D result(x_ + p.x_, y_ + p.y_);
        return result;
    }

    void print(){
        std::cout << "x=" << x_ << ", y=" << y_ << std::endl;
    }
};
```

```
In [ ]: Point2D p1(3,4), p2(5.5,6);
Point2D p3(0,0);

p3 = p1 + p2;
p3.print();
```

Pre and post increment

The following code:

```
i++;  
++i;
```

Sometimes results are the same, for example in:

```
for (int i =0; i < 10; i++) {  
for (int i =0; i < 10; ++i) {
```

We will overload them so, you know exactly what happens, and why

```
int a = i++;
```

is not the same as

```
int a = ++i;
```

```
In [ ]: class SpecialInt {  
public:  
    int spint;  
    SpecialInt(int myint): spint(myint);  
    SpecialInt(const SpecialInt & rhs)=default;  
    SpecialInt & operator=(const SpecialInt & rhs)=default;  
  
    SpecialInt& operator++() { // pre-increment ++i  
        spint++;  
        return *this;  
    }  
  
    SpecialInt operator++(int) { // post-increment i++  
        SpecialInt temp = *this;  
        spint++;  
        return temp;  
    }  
}  
  
SpecialInt a(3); // a = 3  
SpecialInt b = ++a; // b = 4, a = 4, "b.SpecialInt(a.operator++())"  
SpecialInt c = a++; // c = 4, a = 5, "b.SpecialInt(a.operator++(0))"
```

Question: in a for loop with SpecialInt (instead of int) which one would you use ++i ?

✓ X

In []: