Inheritance I

CMSC 202

Warmup

Identify which constructor each of the following use (default, non-default, copy)

```
MyClass a;
MyClass b(a);
MyClass c(2);
MyClass* d = new MyClass;
MyClass* e = new MyClass(*d);
MyClass* f = new MyClass(4);
```

Code Reuse

How have we seen Code Reuse so far?

- Functions
  - Function Libraries
    - Ex: math -> pow, sqrt
- Classes
  - Class Libraries
    - Ex: vector, string
- Aggregation
  - Customer “has-a” DVD
  - RentalSystem “has-a” Customer

Object Relationships

"Uses a"
- Object_A "uses a" Object_B
  - Ex: Student sits in a chair

"Has a"
- Object_A "has a" Object_B
  - Ex: Student has a name

"Is a" or "Is a kind of"
- Object_A "is a" Object_B
  - Ex: Student is a kind of Person

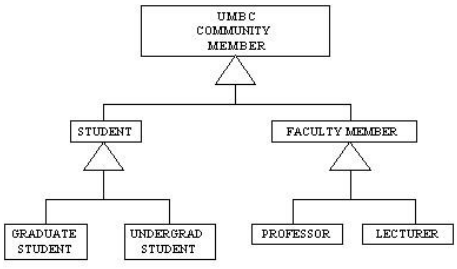
Inheritance

What is Inheritance?
- Unfortunately – not what your parents/grandparents will be giving you…

Inheritance
- "is a" or "is a kind of" relationship
- Code reuse by sharing related methods
- Specific classes "inherit" methods from general classes

Examples
- A student is a person
- A professor is a faculty member
- A lecturer is a faculty member

Inheritance Hierarchy



An Inheritance Heirarchy

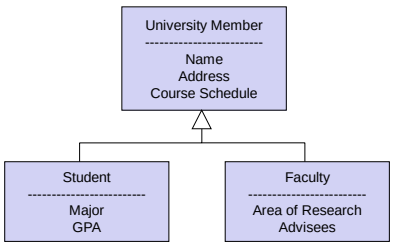
Why Inheritance?

- Abstraction for sharing similarities while retaining differences
- Group classes into related families
  - Share common operations and data
- Multiple inheritance is possible
  - Inherit from multiple base classes
  - Not advisable
- Promotes code reuse
  - Design general class once
    - Extend implementation through inheritance

Inheritance and Classes

- Base class (or superclass)
  - More general class
  - Contains common data
  - Contains common operations
- Derived class (or subclass)
  - More specific class
  - Inherits data from Base class
  - Inherits operations from Base class
  - Uses, modifies, extends, or replaces Base class behaviors

Inheritance Example

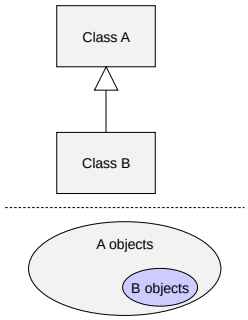


Inheritance

Assume the hierarchy on the right…

- A is Base class
- B is derived class
- B derives from A

- Every B is an A
- Every A is NOT a B
- Some A's are B's



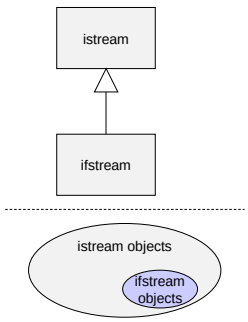
Inheritance

Assume the hierarchy on the right…

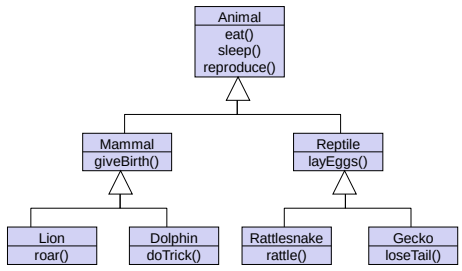
- Everywhere an A can be used, a B can be used
  - Parameters
  - Return values
  - Items in vectors
  - Items in arrays
- Reverse is not true…

Inheritance so far?

- ifstream is an istream
- ofstream is an ostream



Trip to the Zoo



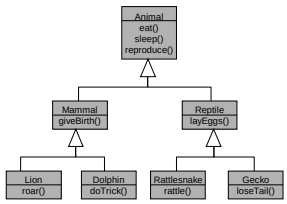
Inheritance

```
class BaseClass
{
   public:
      // operations
   private:
      // data
};

class DerivedClass : public BaseClass
{
   public:
      // operations
   private:
      // data
};
```

Indicates that this derived class inherits data and operations from this base class

Inheritance in Action

```
class Animal
{ };

class Mammal : public Animal
{ };

class Lion : public Mammal
{ };

class Dolphin : public Mammal
{ };

class Reptile : public Animal
{ };

class Gecko : public Reptile
{ };
```



Challenge

Draw the hierarchy for a Vehicle class

- What kinds of vehicles are there?
  - Personal, Commercial, etc.
- What kinds of personal vehicles are there?
  - Cars, Motorcycles, Trucks, etc.
- What kinds of commercial vehicles are there?
  - Planes, Trains, etc.