SPECIFICATION AND MULTIFILE COMPILATION

Today

• Today we will look at:

– The use of UML for specification.

- Multifile compilation

• Pohl covers UML very briefly on page 381, and does not explicitly cover multifile compilation.



- The Universal Modeling Language (UML) is a technique for specifying software.
- The bit of UML that we will consider allows us to specify classes.
- For example:



- This sketches the class Contact.
- It lists a number of attributes:
 - -address
 - -city
 - province
 - country
 - -postalCode
- It is also possible to specify the methods of the class, the "operations".
- UML also specifies how private the attributes and methods are to the class.
 - The before the attribute names specifies that they are private.

• We have:

- for private attributes;
- + for public attributes; and
- # for protected attributes.
- In this case:



we have:

- A private attribute object, which is a list of Objects
- A public method getSize which and returns an integer.
- A public method set which is void and takes an int and an Object as arguments.
- A public method get which returns an Object and takes an int as an argument.
- The next piece of graphical notation relates sub-classes to super-classes (specializations to generalizations).

• In this example:



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- Client and Company are both sub-classes of Contact.
- They each have some additional attributes on top of those in Contact.
- By default sub-classes inherit everything in the parent class.
- They can also provide *redefinitions* of operations.
- Here:



the OntarioTaxCalculator *overrrides* the definition of calculateTaxes.

• Finally, we can specify the relationship between different classes that refer to one another.



says there is one Client that is the contactPerson for a Company and that a Company has zero or more employees who are Clients.

- The notation ..* is the bit that means "or more".
- Thus 1, 3..* means one, three or more.

Multifile compilation

- So far we have written all of our code in one file.
- Often it is annoying to do this.
 - Files get very big
 - We end up doing a lot of cut and paste (as with point).
- In these cases, it is often better to split the code into multiple files.
- We can do this easily it just takes a bit of care.

- Let's start by describing a common way to set this up.
- We can divide a class definition, like that for class point, into two bits.
- One is the bit that contains the class statement:

```
class point{
   :
   :
};
```

we put this in a file called point.h

• The other bit is part that contains the method/function descriptions:

```
void point::print() const{
   :
}
```

and so on.

- We put that in a file called point.cpp
- We link the two files by adding:

```
#include"point.h"
```

at the start of point.cpp

• Note the speech marks rather than the usual < and >.

- This (roughly speaking) tells the compiler to add the contents of the .h file to the .cpp file.
- (Actually it tells the *preprocessor*, but the call to the prepreocessor is done from within g++ so it is invisible to the programmer.)
- We will also need to include any libraries that are used in point.cpp.

• Now, we will typically want to use point in some program, and so we will have another file, say testpoint.cpp which contains something like:

```
int main (){
    point p;
    p.set(2, 3);
    p.print();
return 0;
}
• This clearly needs to
    #include "point.h"
```

- How do we compile these files?
- If we try to compile point.cpp:

g++ point.cpp -o point

```
we get an error message like:
```

```
/usr/lib/gcc/x86_64-linux-gnu/4.2.4/../
   ../../lib/crt1.o: In function `_start':
   (.text+0x20): undefined reference to `main'
   collect2: ld returned 1 exit status
```

and we remember that every C++ program needs to have a main.

```
• If we try to compile testpoint.cpp:
 g++ testpoint.cpp -o testpoint
 we get an error message like:
 /tmp/ccT2sdKH.o: In function `main':
 main.cpp:(.text+0x1c0):
   undefined reference to `point::print()'
 main.cpp:(.text+0x1e1):
   undefined reference to 'point::set(double, double)'
 main.cpp:(.text+0x1f9):
   undefined reference to `point::print()'
 collect2: ld returned 1 exit status
```

because testpoint.cpp doesn't include the definitions of the function members of point.cpp.

• However, if we compile everything together:

g++ testpoint.cpp point.cpp -o testpoint we get the result we want.

- There's another way to do this also, one that is better when creating programs with multiple classes (which is, of course, typical).
- Here we do the compilation in two steps:

g++ -c point.cpp -o point
g++ testpoint.cpp point -o testpoint

- The first step uses the -c switch to stop compilation before running the *linker*.
- If we do this, the compiler does everything except check that it knows how to execute all the functions in the program.
- So it is happy with compiling point.cpp because it doesn't bother to check for a definition of main.

• The check only takes place in the second step, when there *is* a main, and when the compiler also knows about the member functions of class point (from the file point).

- Now, let's assume we have a new class, line, say, which has some point members.
- There will be a file line.h which gives the class definition and a file line.cpp which defines the members.
- We will also write a file testline, which uses the line class.
- You can find these files on the web page for Unit IV.
- Since line uses point, we include:

```
#include"point.h"
```

```
in line.h.
```

• We can compile line successfully using the same approach as with point:

g++ -c line.cpp -o line

• But you can't compile testline in the same way as before. This:

g++ testline.cpp line -o testline

will cause an error.

- The reason is that testline (indirectly) needs point.
- So now we have a three step compilation process:

```
g++ -c line.cpp -o line
g++ -c testline.cpp -o testline
g++ testline line point -o testline.exe
```

• We have to use a different name than testline for the final output.

- Now let's imagine we have another file with a main program, let's call it prog.cpp.
- prog uses both line and point.
- You might naturally think that you should have:

```
#include"point.h"
#include"line.h"
```

in prog.cpp

• If you do that, you'llk get an error when you compile:

```
g++ prog.cpp line point -o prog
```

because point.h will be included twice. Once through line.h and once directly.

- We can just figure out we only need line.h, but in complex code this is hard to do.
- Instead we use one of these methods:
 - -pragma once
 - include guards
- To use the first, we put:
 - #pragma once
 - at the start of point.h.
- This tells the compiler (well, the preprocessor) to only ever include that file once in a compilation.

- Include guards a an older idea, and a bit clunkier.
- Here you wrap the definition of the point class:

```
class point {
 private:
   double x, y;
 public:
in some commands that mean the definition is only ever read
once.
```

```
#ifndef POINT_H
    #define POINT_H
    class point {
    private:
      double x, y;
    public:
       •
    };
    #endif
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```

Make

- With lots of source files, doing all the compilation can be a pain.
 - Typically it is hard to remember which files need to be recompiled when you have made changes.
- As you can see, when we start splitting programs into separate files, we tend to end up with lots of source files.
- make is a Unix tool that makes managing this a bit easier.
- To use make, you need a file called Makefile.
- A sample Makefile is on the next slide.
- Note that a "project" in Code::Blocks and other IDEs is really no more than a Makefile with a fancy front-end.

```
# A simple makefile
#
#
 Simon Parsons
# May 31st 2009
# Default target
.PHONY: all
all: craps
# A rule to build craps
craps: craps.cpp
g++ -o craps craps.cpp
# This rule tells make to delete all the output files
.PHONY: clean
clean:
rm craps
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```

- Lines beginning with # are comments.
- This is a rule:

```
craps: craps.cpp
g++ -o craps craps.cpp
```

it says:

When I tell you to make the *target* craps, you need the file craps.cpp, and you do the making by executing g++ -0 craps craps.cpp

- Note that the command part is indented one tab stop.
- To execute this rule you would type:

make craps

which tells make to look in the Makefile for a rule which starts with craps.

• The first line of the rule:

```
craps: craps.cpp
```

tells make to watch the file craps.cpp.

• It will only do the compilation in;

```
g++ -o craps craps.cpp
```

if craps.cpp has changed since the last compilation.

• Otherwise it will report:

```
make: 'craps' is up to date.
```

• This is another kind of rule:

.PHONY: all

all: craps

- This tells make that for the target all, that is if you type make all, it should make the target craps.
- The all target is typically the main thing you are writing.
- The all target is what gets made when you just type make.

• The:

.PHONY: all

says that there is no input file that is associated with the all target, so make has no need to check if the file has changed.

• The final rule:

```
.PHONY: clean
```

clean:

```
rm -f craps
```

is another typical rule to see.

- This tells make how to clean up all the results of compilation.
- We use rm -f so that we don't get an error if the file doesn't exist.
- Often make files will have an install target which moves the final object file to another part of the file system, and so a typical use of make is:

```
make all
make install
make clean
```

- The advantages of make are more obvious when you have lots of source files to manage.
- Look at the Makefile that is zipped up with the multifile examples.
- This has a rule for building:
 - -point
 - -line
 - testpoint
 - testline
 - -prog
- make keeps track of which files need to be compiled. and when you use it to compile any target, it will automatically recompile any files that need to be recompiled.

Summary

- This lecture described some aspects of UML.
- There is a lot (loooooot) more to UML than what we covered, but what we looked at should give you an idea of how to use UML to specify classes and the relationship between classes.
- We also looked at how to split source code among several files.
- Since it is a handy tool when we have lots of source files, we also briefly discussed make.
- Again, there is much to know about make that we did not have time to go into.