

OPERATORS AS MEMBER FUNCTIONS

Definition and Call



CLASS WITH AN OVERLOADED OPERATOR

UML

foo

-field: int

+operator+(right : foo) : foo

C++

```
class foo
{
    private:
        int field;
    public:
        foo operator+(foo right);
};
```



FUNCTION DEFINITION

IN CLASS

```
class foo
{
    private:
        int field;
    public:
        foo operator+(foo right)
        {
            return foo(field + right.field);
        }
};
```

EXTERNAL

```
class foo
{
    private:
        int field;
    public:
        foo operator+(foo right);
};

foo foo::operator+(foo right)
{
    return foo(field + right.field);
}
```



FUNCTION CALL NOTATIONS

```
foo foo::operator+(foo right)
{
    return foo(field + right.field);
}

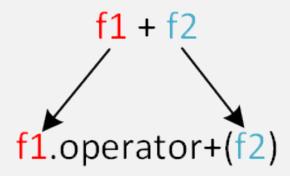
foo f1;
foo f2;
foo f3;

f3 = f1.operator+(f2);
f3 = f1 + f2;
```



THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OPERANDS AND ARGUMENTS

- The left-hand operand is always the object bound to the function call (i.e., the this or the implicit argument)
- The right-hand operand is always the argument in the parentheses (i.e., the explicit argument)





OVERLOADING OVERLOADED OPERATORS

PROBLEM: ADDING OBJECTS AND FUNDAMENTAL TYPES

f1 + 5 f1.operator+(5)

SOLUTION: OVERLOADING OVERLOADED OPERATORS

```
foo foo::operator+(int right)
{
    return foo(field + right);
}
```



THE fraction CLASS

```
class fraction
{
    private:
        int numerator;
        int denominator;

    public:
        fraction(int n = 0, int d = 1);
        fraction operator+(fraction f2);
        fraction operator+(int i);
};
```



IN-CLASS FUNCTION DEFINITION



EXTERNAL FUNCTION DEFINITION

```
fraction fraction::operator+(int i)
{
   int    n = numerator + denominator * i;
   return fraction(n, denominator);
}
```