

# Intermediate Programming

## Day 33

# Outline

- Exercise 32
- Dynamic dispatch
- Function hiding and abstract classes
- Virtual destructors
- Review questions

# Exercise 32: Fix compilation errors

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
private:  
    int a;  
  
protected:  
    double d;  
    ...
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B : public A  
{  
private:  
    int b;  
  
public:  
    B(int val = 0): b(val) { };  
    B(int bval, int aval, double dval ) :  
        A(aval, dval), b(bval)  
    {  
        d = 17;  
        a = 27;  
        ...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
  
int main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    aobj.d = 17.5;  
    ...  
    aptr->setb(15);  
    ...  
    A a5(5);  
    bobj = a5;  
    ...  
}
```

# Exercise 32: Fix compilation errors

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
private:  
    int a;  
  
protected:  
    double d;  
    ...
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B : public A  
{  
private:  
    int b;  
  
public:  
    B(int val = 0): b(val) { };  
    B(int bval, int aval, double dval ) :  
        A(aval, dval), b(bval)  
    {  
        d = 17;  
        a = 27;  
        ...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
  
int main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    aobj.d = 17.5;  
    ...  
    aptr->setb(15);  
    ...  
    A a5(5);  
    bobj = a5;  
    ...  
}
```

# Exercise 32: Fix compilation errors

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
private:  
    int a;  
  
protected:  
    double d;  
...  
}
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B : public A  
{  
private:  
    int b;  
  
public:  
    B(int val = 0): b(val) { };  
    B(int bval, int aval, double dval ) :  
        A(aval, dval), b(bval)  
    {  
        d = 17;  
        // a = 27;  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
  
int main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    aobj.d = 17.5;  
    ...  
    aptr->setb(15);  
    ...  
    A a5(5);  
    bobj = a5;  
    ...  
}
```

# Exercise 32: Fix compilation errors

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
private:  
    int a;  
  
protected:  
    double d;  
    ...
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B : public A  
{  
private:  
    int b;  
  
public:  
    B(int val = 0): b(val) { };  
    B(int bval, int aval, double dval ) :  
        A(aval, dval), b(bval)  
    {  
        d = 17;  
        // a = 27;  
        ...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
  
int main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    // aobj.d = 17.5;  
    ...  
    aptr->setb(15);  
    ...  
    A a5(5);  
    bobj = a5;  
    ...  
}
```

# Exercise 32: Fix compilation errors

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
private:  
    int a;  
  
protected:  
    double d;  
    ...
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B : public A  
{  
private:  
    int b;  
  
public:  
    B(int val = 0): b(val) { };  
    B(int bval, int aval, double dval ) :  
        A(aval, dval), b(bval)  
    {  
        d = 17;  
        a = 27;  
        ...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
  
int main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    aobj.d = 17.5;  
    ...  
    // aptr->setb(15);  
    ...  
    A a5(5);  
    bobj = a5;  
    ...  
}
```

# Exercise 32: Make `A::show` virtual

Aclass.h

```
...  
  
class A  
{  
    ...  
public:  
    void show() { std::cout << "A is " << a << std::endl; test(); }  
    ...  
}
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
  
class B  
{  
    ...  
public:  
    void show() { A::show(); std::cout << "B is " << b << std::endl; test(); }  
};  
...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    bptr = &bobj;  
    aptr = bptr;  
    aptr->seta(3);  
    aptr->show();  
    ...  
}
```

```
>> ./main  
...  
A is 3  
test A  
...
```



# Exercise 32: Make `A::show` virtual

Aclass.h

```
...  
class A  
{  
    ...  
public:  
    virtual void show() { std::cout << "A is " << a << std::endl; test(); }  
    ...  
}
```

Bclass.h

```
...  
class B  
{  
    ...  
public:  
    void show() { A::show(); std::cout << "B is " << b << std::endl; test(); }  
};  
...
```

main1.cpp

```
...  
main( void )  
{  
    A aobj(1);  
    A *aptr;  
    B bobj(2);  
    B *bptr;  
    ...  
    bptr = &bobj;  
    aptr = bptr;  
    aptr->seta(3);  
    aptr->show();  
    ...  
}
```

```
>> ./main
```

```
...  
A is 3  
test A  
B is 2  
test B  
...
```

# Outline

- Exercise 32
- **Dynamic dispatch**
- Function hiding and abstract classes
- Virtual destructors
- Review questions

# Inheritance (casting)

- We can convert from a derived class back to its base
  - The compiler casts to the derived class

*account.h*

```
#include <string>
class Account
{
public:
    ...
    double balance( void ) const { return _balance; }
private:
    double _balance;
};
class CheckingAccount : public Account
{
public:
    ...
};
```

*main.cpp*

```
#include <iostream>
#include "account.h"
using namespace std;
void PrintBalance( const Account acct )
{
    cout << "Balance: " << acct.balance() << endl;
}
int main( void )
{
    Account acct( 1000 );
    CheckingAccount cAcct( 5000 );
    PrintBalance( acct );
    PrintBalance( cAcct );
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
Balance: 1000
Balance: 5000
>>
```

# Inheritance (slicing)

- We can convert from a derived class back to its base
  - The compiler "slices out" the derived class

*account.h*

```
#include <string>
class Account
{
public:
    ...
    double balance( void ) const { return _balance; }
private:
    double _balance;
};
class CheckingAccount : public Account
{
public:
    ...
};
```

*main.cpp*

```
#include <iostream>
#include "account.h"
using namespace std;
void PrintBalance( const Account &acct )
{
    cout << "Balance: " << acct.balance() << endl;
}
int main( void )
{
    Account acct( 1000 );
    CheckingAccount cAcct( 5000 );
    PrintBalance( acct );
    PrintBalance( cAcct );
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
Balance: 1000
Balance: 5000
>>
```

# Inheritance (slicing)

- We can convert from a derived class back to its base
  - The compiler "slices out" the derived class

*account.h*

```
#include <string>
class Account
{
public:
    ...
    double balance( void ) const { return _balance; }
private:
    double _balance;
};
class CheckingAccount : public Account
{
public:
    ...
};
```

*main.cpp*

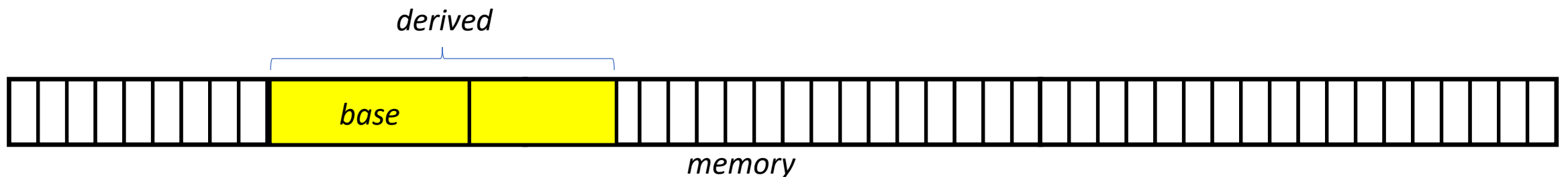
```
#include <iostream>
#include "account.h"
using namespace std;
void PrintBalance( const Account *acct )
{
    cout << "Balance: " << acct->balance() << endl;
}
int main( void )
{
    Account acct( 1000 );
    CheckingAccount cAcct( 5000 );
    PrintBalance( &acct );
    PrintBalance( &cAcct );
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
Balance: 1000
Balance: 5000
>>
```

# Inheritance

## Under the hood:

When the compiler lays out a derived object in memory, it puts the data of the base class first

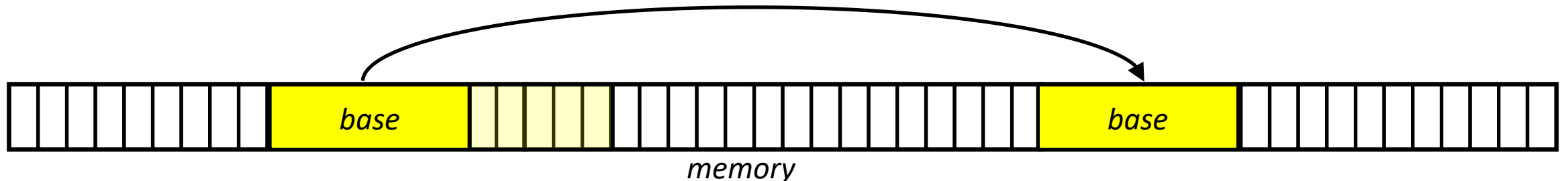


# Inheritance (casting)

## Under the hood:

When the compiler lays out a derived object in memory, it puts the data of the base class first

- To cast to the derived class, the compiler copies the contents of the base and ignores the contents of memory past the base data

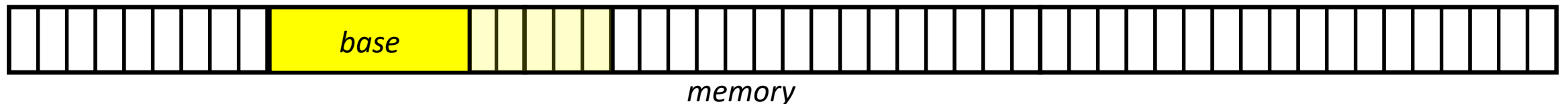


# Inheritance (slicing)

## Under the hood:

When the compiler lays out a derived object in memory, it puts the data of the base class first

- To cast to the derived class, the compiler copies the contents of the base and ignores the contents of memory past the base data
  - To slice out the derived class, the compiler ignores the contents of memory past the base data
- ⇒ The address of the derived object is the same as the address of the base  
⇒ A reference to the derived object is a reference to the base





# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

- We can tell the compiler to determine the "true" type of a class **as it invokes certain methods**, and use the implementation of that class

*account.h*

```
#include <string>
class Account
{
public:
    ...
    virtual std::string type( void ) const { return "generic"; }
};
class CheckingAccount : public Account
{
public:
    ...
    std::string type( void ) const { return "checking"; }
};
```

*main.cpp*

```
#include <iostream>
#include "account.h"
void PrintType( const Account& a )
{
    std::cout << "Type: " << a.type() << std::endl;
}
int main( void )
{
    Account acct( 1000 );
    CheckingAccount cAcct( 5000 );
    PrintType( acct );
    PrintType( cAcct );
    return 0;
}
```

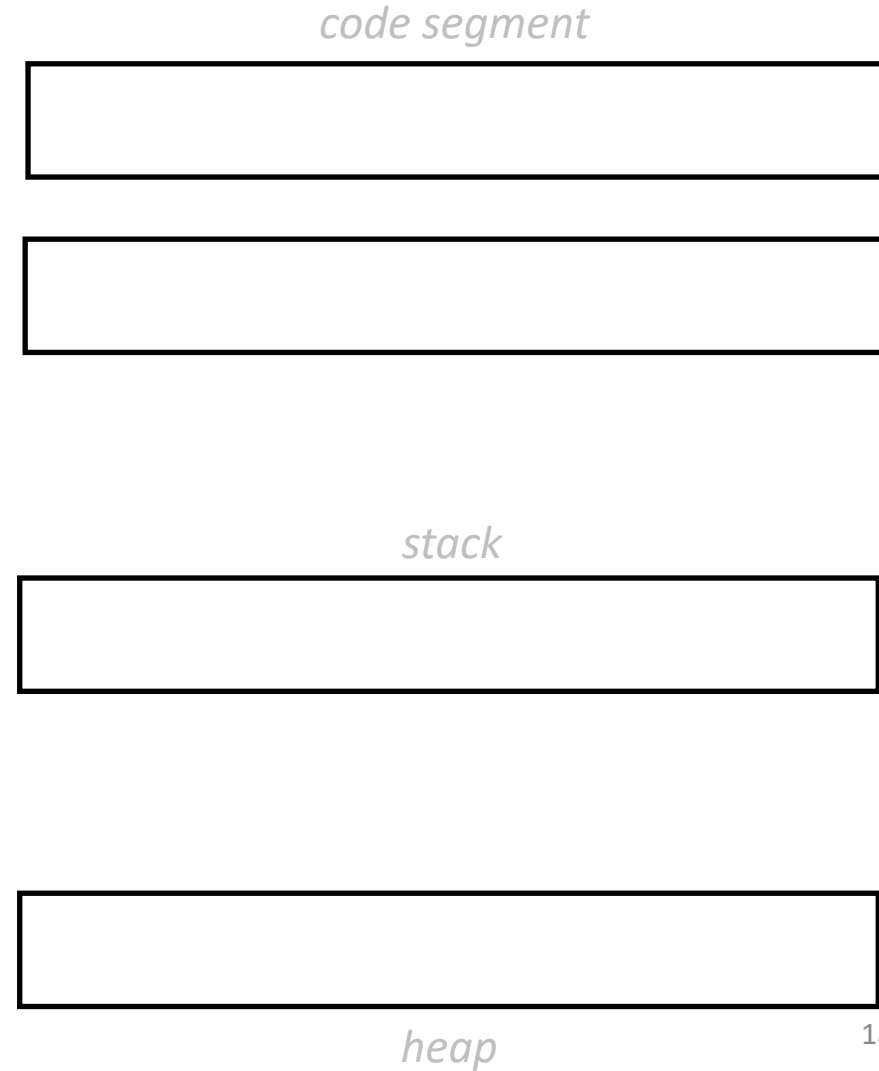
```
>> ./a.out
Type: generic
Type: checking
>>
```

# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

## Under the hood:

When we previously talked about the memory layout, we talked about the *stack* and the *heap*.

This was a little simplified. There is also the *code segment*. This is where the code resides in memory.



main.cpp (part 1)

```

#include <iostream>

class Base
{
    double _b;
public:
    void hi(){ std::cout << "hi(base)" << std::endl; }
    void bye() { std::cout << "bye(base)" << std::endl; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
    double _d;
public:
    void hi(){ std::cout << "hi(derived)" << std::endl; }
};

```

main.cpp (part 2)

```

int main( void )
{
    Derived derived;
    Base *b_ptr = &derived;
    b_ptr->hi();
    b_ptr->bye();
    return 1;
}

```

```

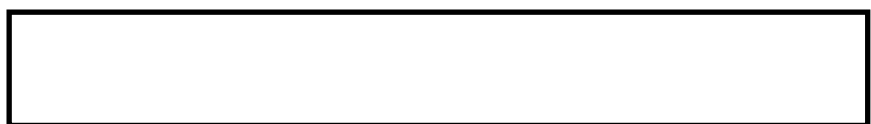
>> ./a.out
hi(base)
bye(base)
>>

```

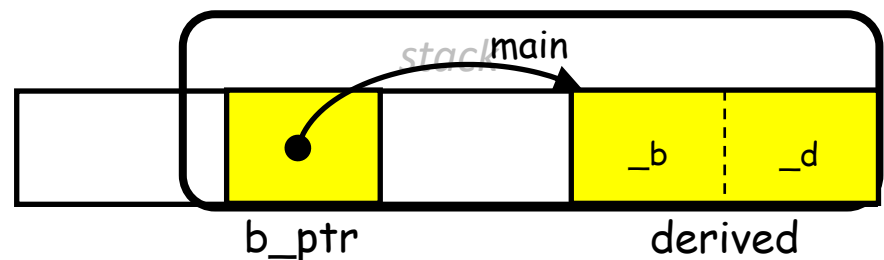
c dispatch)

ut the memory  
ck and the *heap*.  
e is also the  
code resides

code segment



stack/main



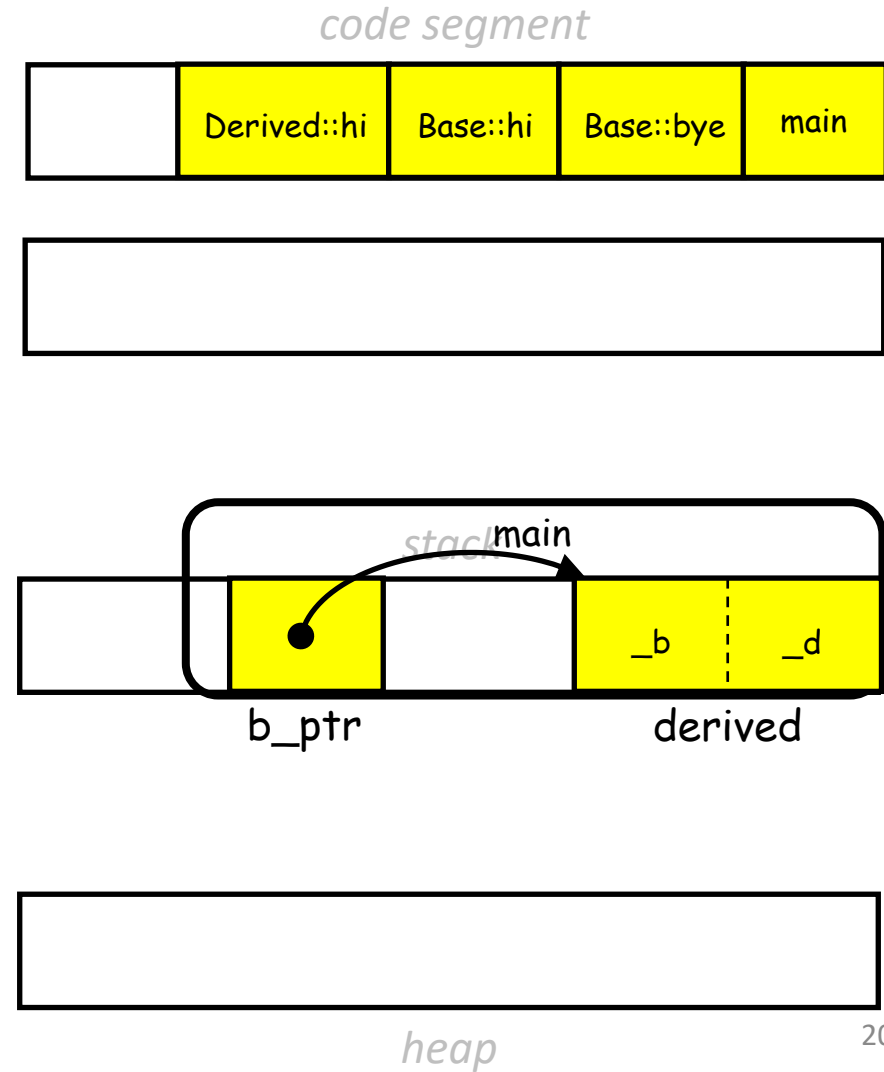
heap

# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

## Under the hood:

When a class has **virtual** member functions:

1. The compiler creates a *virtual function table* for the class listing the addresses of its **most derived virtual** functions
2. The compiler adds a (hidden) member to the base class, pointing to the class's virtual function table
3. When an object is created, the pointer points to the class's virtual function table



main.cpp (part 1)

```

#include <iostream>

class Base
{
    double _b;
public:
    virtual void hi(){ std::cout << "hi(base)" << std::endl; }
    virtual void bye() { std::cout << "bye(base)" << std::endl; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
    double _d;
public:
    void hi(){ std::cout << "hi(derived)" << std::endl; }
};

```

main.cpp (part 2)

```

int main( void )
{
    Derived derived;
    Base *b_ptr = &derived;
    b_ptr->hi();
    b_ptr->bye();
    return 1;
}

```

```

>> ./a.out
hi(derived)
bye(base)
>>

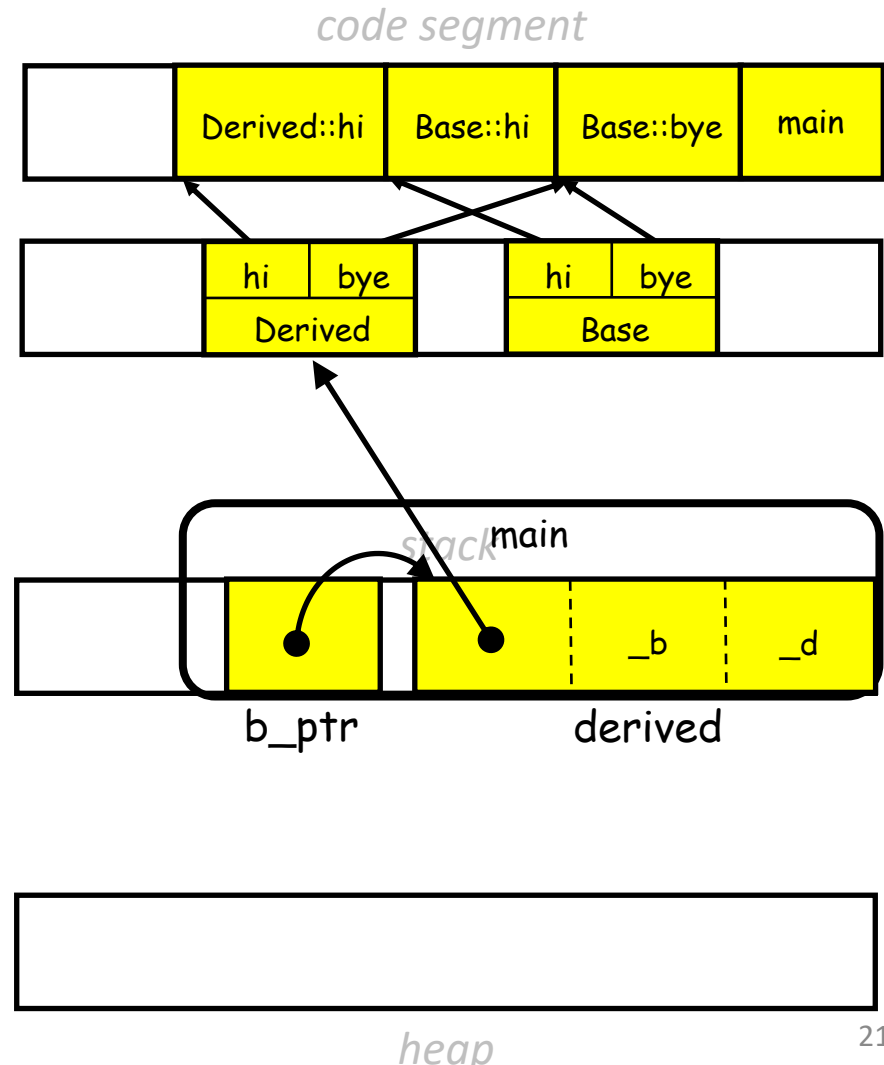
```

c dispatch)

er functions:  
l function table  
sses of its **most**

member to the  
ss's virtual

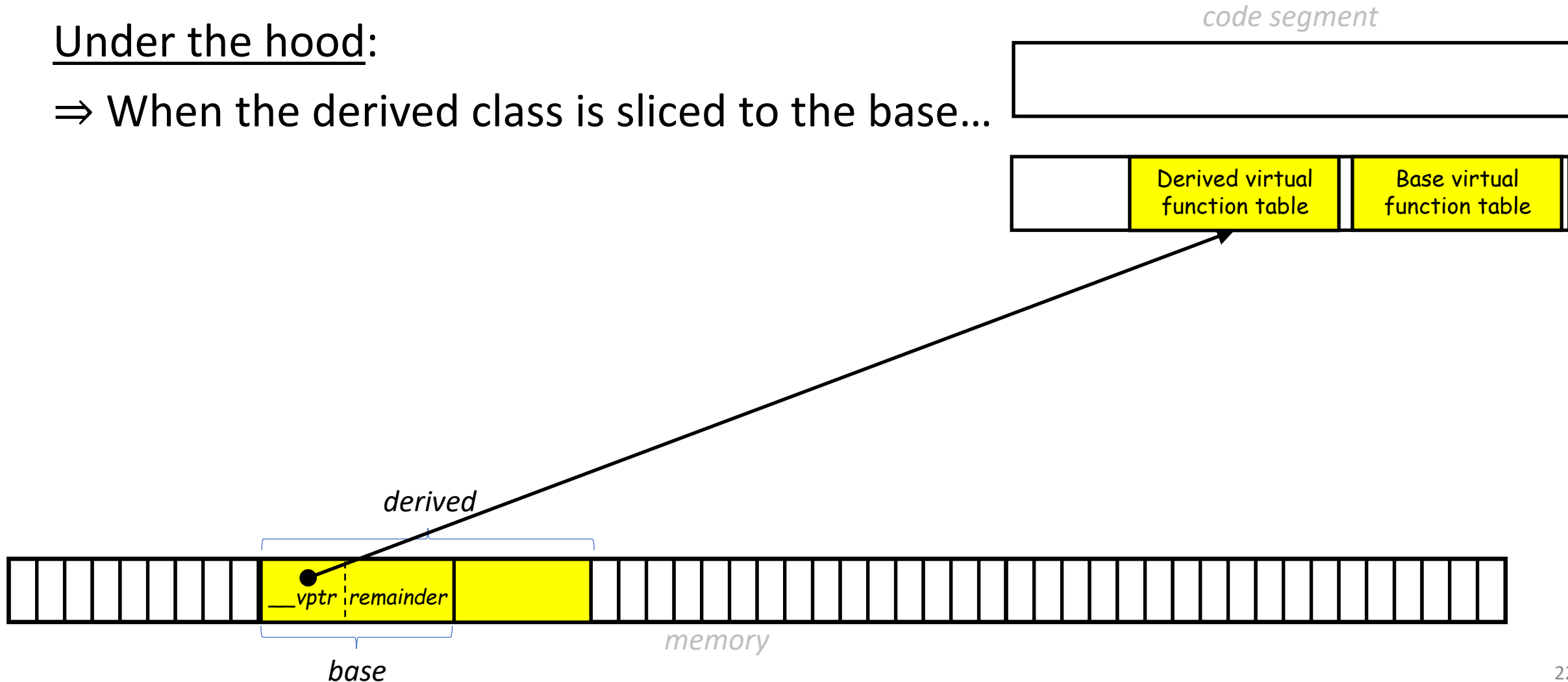
the pointer points  
table



# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

Under the hood:

⇒ When the derived class is sliced to the base...

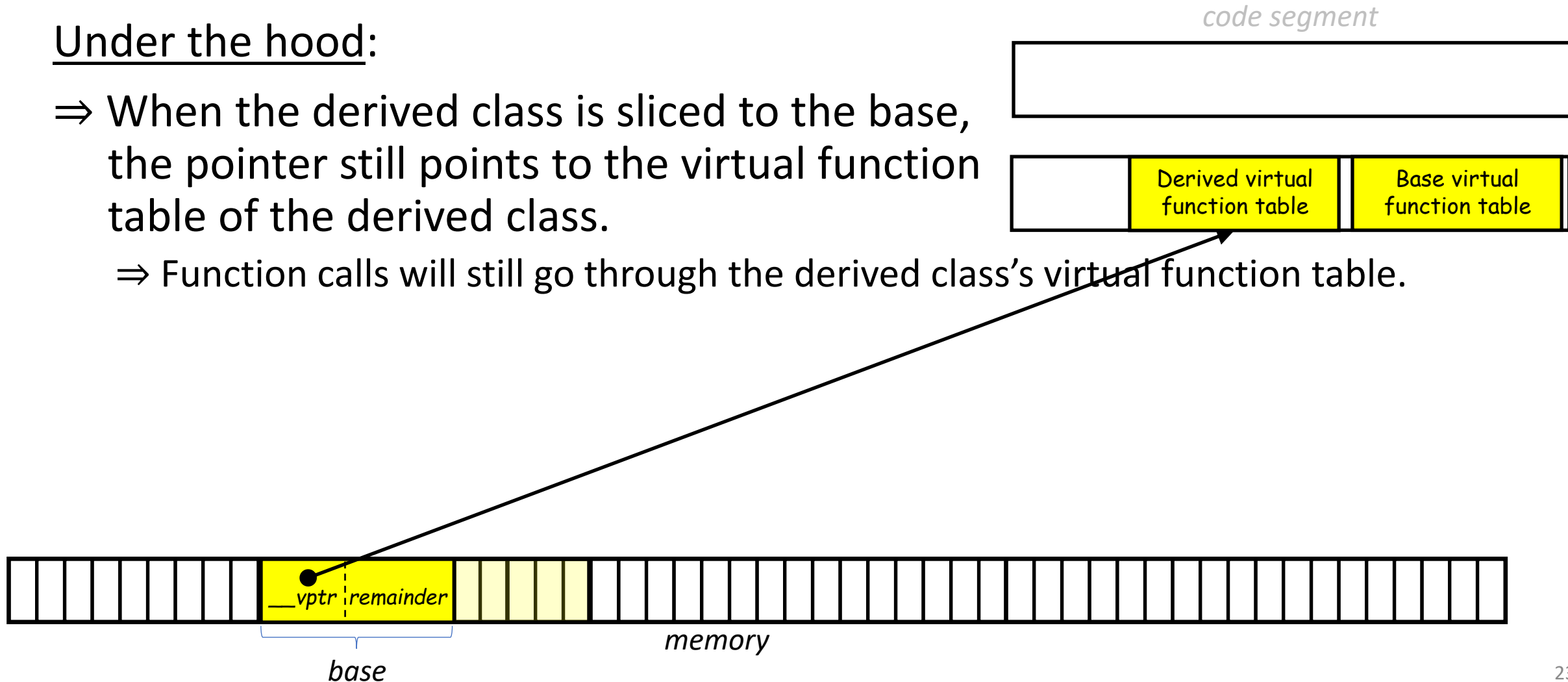


# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

## Under the hood:

⇒ When the derived class is sliced to the base, the pointer still points to the virtual function table of the derived class.

⇒ Function calls will still go through the derived class's virtual function table.



# Inheritance (dynamic dispatch)

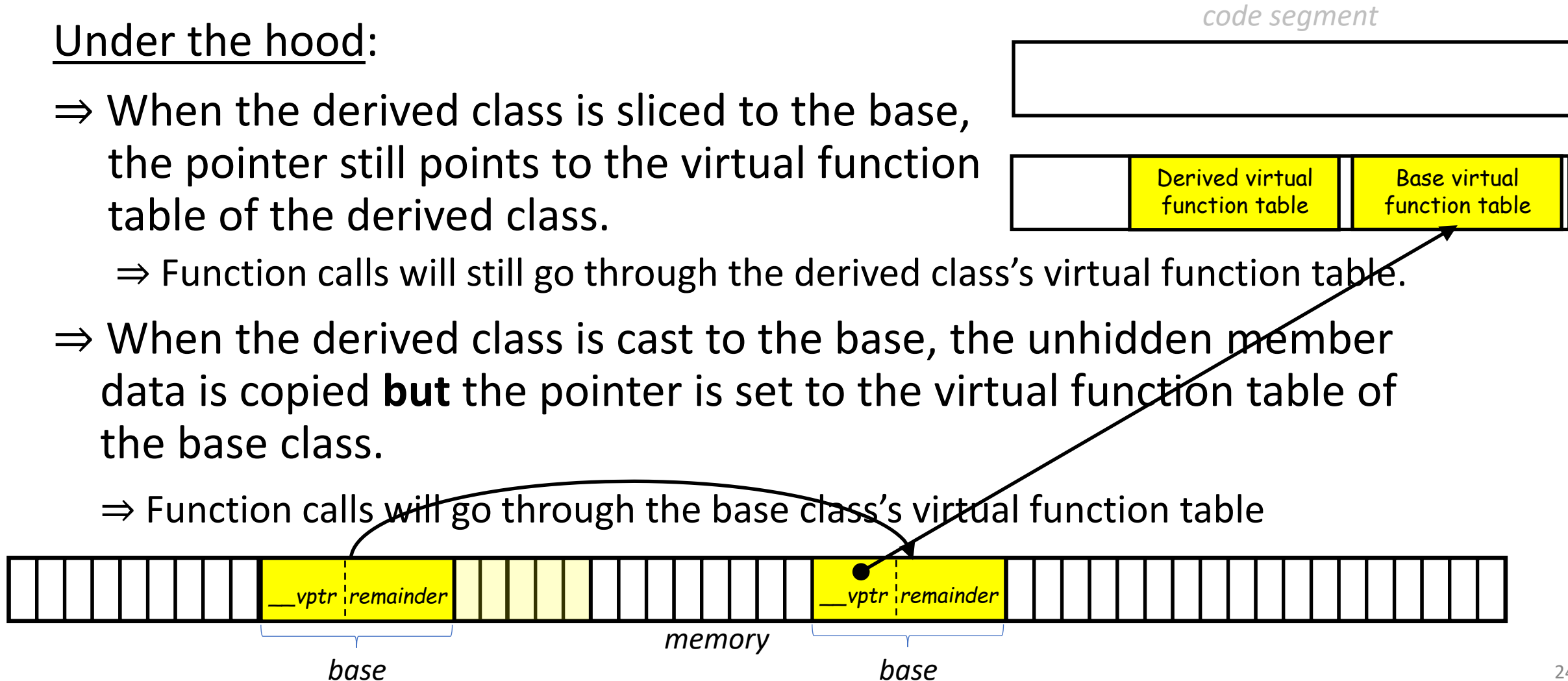
## Under the hood:

⇒ When the derived class is sliced to the base, the pointer still points to the virtual function table of the derived class.

⇒ Function calls will still go through the derived class's virtual function table.

⇒ When the derived class is cast to the base, the unhidden member data is copied **but** the pointer is set to the virtual function table of the base class.

⇒ Function calls will go through the base class's virtual function table





# Inheritance (dynamic dispa

## Warning:

To override, a base class's function the signatures (function's name, arguments, and **const** designators) have to match.

```
baseDerived.h
#include <string>

class Base
{
public:
    virtual std::string type( void ) const { return "base"; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    std::string type( void ) { return "derived"; }
};
```

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
#include "baseDerived.h"

int main( void )
{
    Derived derived;
    Base &base = derived;
    std::cout << base.type() << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
base
>>
```

# Inheritance (dynamic dispa

## Warning:

To override, a base class's function the signatures (function's name, arguments, and **const** designators) have to match.

You can protect your code by specifying that the derived method should **override** the base method.

```
baseDerived.h
#include <string>

class Base
{
public:
    virtual std::string type( void ) const { return "base"; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    std::string type( void ) override { return "derived"; }
};
```

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
#include "baseDerived.h"

int main( void )
{
    Derived derived;
    Base &base = derived;
    std::cout << base.type() << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> g++ main.cpp ...
In file included from foo.cpp:2:
baseDerived.h:12:15: error: 'std::string Derived::type()' marked 'override', but does not override
   12 |     std::string type( void ) override { return "derived"; }
      |           ^~~~~
>>
```

# Outline

- Exercise 32
- Dynamic dispatch
- **Function hiding and abstract classes**
- Virtual destructors
- Review questions

# Function hiding

- When a derived class defines a member function with the same **name** (not necessarily signature), the base class's member function becomes hidden, even if it's the better match.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

class Base
{
public:
    void foo( int ){ cout << "base" << endl; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void foo( double ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
};

int main( void )
{
    Derived d;
    d.foo( 1 );
    d.foo( 1. );
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
derived
derived
>>
```

# Function hiding

- When a derived class defines a member function with the same **name** (not necessarily signature), the base class's member function becomes hidden, even if it's the better match.
- In fact, the base class's member function becomes hidden, even if the derived class cannot match the argument list.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

class Base
{
public:
    void foo( int , int ){ cout << "base" << endl; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void foo( double ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
};

int main( void )
{
    Derived d;
    d.foo( 1 , 1 );
    return 0;
}
```

# Function hiding

- When a derived class defines a member function with the same **name** (not necessarily signature), the base class's member function becomes hidden, even if it's the better match.
- In fact, the base class's member function becomes hidden if the derived class defines the argument list.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

class Base
{
public:
    void foo( int , int ){ cout << "base" << endl; }
};

class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void foo( double ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
};
```

```
>> g++ main.cpp ...
main.cpp: In function 'int main()':
main.cpp:20:15: error: no matching function for call to 'Derived::foo(int, int)'
   20 |     d.foo( 1 , 1 );
      |           ^
main.cpp:14:8: note: candidate: 'void Derived::foo(double)'
   14 |     void foo( double ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
      |           ^~~
main.cpp:14:8: note: candidate expects 1 argument, 2 provided
>>
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
  - ⇒ You cannot create an object of the base type because it will be abstract.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
public:
    virtual void print( void ) const = 0;
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void print( void ) const
    { std::cout << "derived" << std::endl; }
};
int main( void )
{
    Base b;
    return 0;
}
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members

⇒ You cannot create an object of the base type because it will be abstract

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
public:
    virtual void print( void ) const = 0;
};
class Derived : public Base
{
```

```
>> g++ main.cpp ...
main.cpp: In function 'int main()':
main.cpp:14:6: error: cannot declare variable 'b' to be of abstract type 'Base'
```

```
   14 | Base b;
```

```
      |     ^
```

```
main.cpp:2:7: note: because the following virtual functions are pure within 'Base':
```

```
   2 | class Base
```

```
      |     ^~~~
```

```
main.cpp:5:14: note: 'virtual void Base::print() const'
```

```
   5 | virtual void print( void ) const = 0;
```

```
      |     ^~~~~
```

```
>>
```

```
    d::endl; }
```



# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
  - ⇒ You cannot create an object of the base type because it will be abstract.
  - ⇒ You can create a derived object if the derived class defines the method

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
public:
    virtual void print( void ) const = 0;
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void print( void ) const
    { std::cout << "derived" << std::endl; }
};
int main( void )
{
    Derived d;
    return 0;
}
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
  - ⇒ You cannot create an object of the base type because it will be abstract.
  - ⇒ You can create a derived object if the derived class defines the method
  - ⇒ You can have pointers and references to the base object

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
public:
    virtual void print( void ) const = 0;
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    void print( void ) const
    { std::cout << "derived" << std::endl; }
};
int main( void )
{
    Derived d;
    Base &b = d;
    return 0;
}
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
- You can also make the class abstract by making its constructor **protected**.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
protected:
    Base( void ){ std::cout << "base" << std::endl; }
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    Derived( void ) : Base()
    {
        std::cout << "derived" << std::endl;
    }
};
int main( void )
{
    Base b;
    return 0;
}
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
- You can also make the class abstract by making its constructor **protected**.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
protected:
    Base( void ){ std::cout << "base" << std::endl; }
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    Derived( void ) : Base()
    {
        std::cout << "derived" << std::endl;
    }
};

int main( void )
{
    Base b;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> g++ main.cpp ...
main.cpp: In function 'int main()':
main.cpp:17:6: error: 'Base::Base()' is protected within this context
   17 | Base b;
      |      ^
main.cpp:5:2: note: declared protected here
     5 | Base( void ){ std::cout << "base" << std::endl; }
      |      ^~~~
>>
```

# Inheritance (pure **virtual** functions)

- You can declare a function to be **pure virtual** by setting it “=0”
- This makes the class **abstract** because it has undefined function members
- You can also make the class abstract by making its constructor **protected**.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
class Base
{
protected:
    Base( void ){ std::cout << "base" << std::endl; }
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    Derived( void ) : Base()
    {
        std::cout << "derived" << std::endl;
    }
};
int main( void )
{
    Derived d;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
base
derived
>>
```

# Outline

- Exercise 32
- Dynamic dispatch
- Function hiding and abstract classes
- **Virtual destructors**
- Review questions

# Virtual destructors

- When you slice a derived class to a base class, it is the base class's destructor that is invoked when the object is deleted.

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Base
{
public:
    Base( void ){ cout << "base" << endl; }
    ~Base( void ) { cout << "~base" << endl; }
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    Derived( void ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
    ~Derived( void ){ cout << "~derived" << endl; }
};
int main( void )
{
    Base *b = new Derived();
    delete b;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
base
derived
~base
>>
```

# Virtual destructors

- When you slice a derived class to a base class, it is the base class's destructor that is invoked when the object is deleted.
- You can declare destructor of the base to be `virtual` to force the derived destructor to be used (e.g. if the derived classes needs to release resources when it is destroyed.)

```
main.cpp
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
class Base
{
public:
    Base( void ){ cout << "base" << endl; }
    virtual ~Base( void ) { cout << "~base" << endl; }
};
class Derived : public Base
{
public:
    Derived( void ){ cout << "derived" << endl; }
    ~Derived( void ){ cout << "~derived" << endl; }
};
int main( void )
{
    Base *b = new Derived();
    delete b;
    return 0;
}
```

```
>> ./a.out
base
derived
~derived
~base
>>
```



# Virtual destructors

## Rule of thumb:

If a class has virtual member functions, it should also have a virtual destructor.

Virtual member functions



The derived class could have unforeseen functionality



The derive class could acquire resources that need to be released

# Outline

- Exercise 32
- Dynamic dispatch
- Function hiding and abstract classes
- Virtual destructors
- **Review questions**

# Review questions

1. Explain what object slicing is in C++.

When a pointer/reference to a base class is used to point to/reference a derived object, the compiler “squints” and only looks at the base’s subset of the information.

# Review questions

2. What is the keyword *override* in C++?

A way to indicate that a function in a derived class is supposed to override one in a base class

# Review questions

3. Explain what function hiding is in C++?

When a function in a derived class has the same name but different parameters than one in its base class

# Review questions

4. In C++, how do you make an abstract class?

Include a pure **virtual** function, or provide a **non-public** constructor

# Review questions

5. Can we create an object from an abstract class?

No

# Exercise 33

- Website -> Course Materials -> ex33