

Games Development with C++

Basics Part 4

C++ Arrays

- **Definition:** A fixed-size collection of elements of the same data type, accessed using an index that starts from 0.
- **Advantages:**
 - Efficient for random access: You can directly jump to any element in the array using its index.
 - Cache-friendly: Elements are stored contiguously in memory, leading to faster access for sequential operations.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - Fixed-size: Once declared, the size cannot be changed during program execution.
 - Out-of-bounds access errors: If you try to access an element outside the array's bounds (index < 0 or index >= size), it can lead to crashes or unexpected behaviour.

Examples in Game Development (C++ Arrays):

1. **Level Grid:** An array of characters or integers can represent a 2D grid for a platformer or strategy game. The values could indicate different types of terrain (e.g., 'W' for wall, 'E' for empty space).

C++

```
const int levelWidth = 10;
const int levelHeight = 5;
char levelGrid[levelWidth][levelHeight] = {
    {'W', 'E', 'W', 'E', 'W', 'E', 'W', 'E', 'W', 'E'},
    {'E', 'P', 'E', 'X', 'E', ' ', 'E', ' ', 'E', ' '} // 'P' for
player, 'X' for enemy
    // ... (other rows of the grid)
};
```

2. **Sprite Animation Frames:** An array of textures or image paths can store different animation frames for a character or object.

C++

```
const int numFrames = 8;
std::string animationFrames[numFrames] = {
    "sprite_frame_1.png", "sprite_frame_2.png",
    "sprite_frame_3.png", // ... (other frames)
};
```

3. **Sound Effects:** An array of audio clips or file paths can hold different sound effects for various game events.

C++

```
#include <SFML/Audio.hpp> // Assuming an audio library

const int numSounds = 3;
```

```
sf::SoundBuffer soundBuffers[numSounds];
// ... (load sound buffers from files)
```

4. **High Scores:** An array of integers can store top high scores for a game.

```
C++
const int maxScores = 10;
int highScores[maxScores];
// ... (load or initialize high scores)
```

5. **Predefined Data Tables:** Arrays can hold pre-configured game data, like weapon stats or enemy properties.

```
C++
struct WeaponData {
    std::string name;
    int damage;
    int range;
};

const int numWeapons = 5;
WeaponData weaponData[numWeapons] = {
    {"Sword", 20, 1},
    {"Bow", 15, 5},
    // ... (other weapons)
};
```

C++ Structures

- **Definition:** A user-defined data type that groups related variables under a single name. Structures help create composite data objects, promoting code organization and readability.
- **Advantages:**
 - Bundles related data: Encapsulates different data types relevant to a single game entity or concept.
 - Improves code clarity: Makes code more readable by giving meaningful names to groups of variables.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - No built-in random access like arrays: You need to access members by name rather than an index.

Examples in Game Development (C++ Structures):

1. **Game Object:** A structure can represent a generic game object with common properties like position, velocity, and health.

```
C++
struct GameObject {
    float x, y; // Position
    float vx, vy; // Velocity
    int health;
};
```

2. **Character Stats:** A structure can hold detailed character attributes like strength, agility, and

magic power.

C++

```
struct CharacterStats {  
    int strength;  
    int agility;  
    int magicPower;  
    int defense;  
};
```

3. **Inventory Items:** A structure can describe items in a player's inventory, including name, type, and quantity.

C++

```
struct InventoryItem {  
    std::string name;  
    std::string type;}; // e.
```

Common g++ commands for compiling, linking, and running C++ code:

1. Compiling C++ Code:

To compile a C++ source file (e.g., `example.cpp`) into an object file (e.g., `example.o`):

...

```
g++ -c example.cpp -o example.o
```

...

This command compiles the source file `example.cpp` into an object file named `example.o`.

2. Linking Object Files:

To link one or more object files (e.g., `example.o`) into an executable (e.g., `example`):

...

```
g++ example.o -o example
```

Executable

EG: g++ .\basics_parthThree.cpp -o basicThree

...

This command links the object file(s) into an executable named `example`.

3. Running Executable:

To run the compiled executable:

```
...
```

```
./example
```

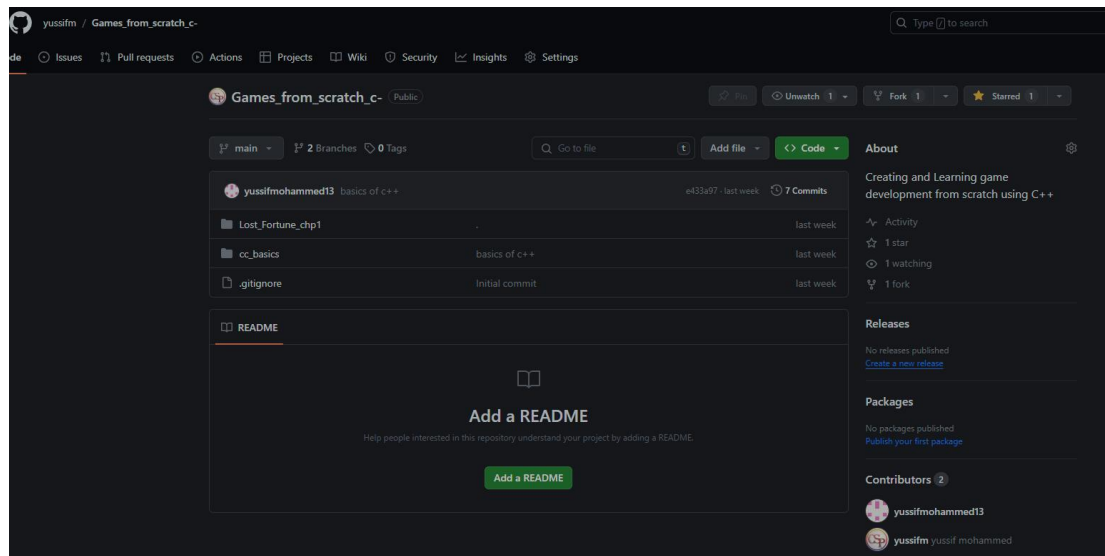
```
...
```

This command executes the compiled executable named `example`.

Here's a summary:

- **`g++`**: This is the GNU Compiler Collection for compiling C++ programs.
- **`-c`**: This option tells `g++` to compile the source file(s) into object file(s) without linking.
- **`-o`**: This option specifies the output file name.
- **`./`**: This notation is used to execute the compiled executable from the current directory.

You can adjust the filenames (`example.cpp`, `example.o`, `example`) according to your actual source code file(s) and desired executable name.



```
15
16
17 impl Network <'a>{
18
19     pub fn new_net<'a>(layers: Vec<usize>, learning_rate: f64, activation: Activation<'a>) -> Network {
20         let mut weights: Vec<Matrix> = vec![];
21         let mut biases: Vec<Matrix> = vec![];
22
23
24         for i in 0..layers.len() - 1 {
25             weights.push(Matrix::random_fnc(rows: layers[i+1], cols: layers[i]));
26             biases.push(Matrix::random_fnc(rows: layers[i+1], cols: 1));
27         }
28     }
29 }
```



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