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The C++ 20 Masterclass: From Fundamentals to Advanced

Learn and Master Modern C++ From Beginning to Advanced in Plain English: C++11, C++14, C++17, C++20 and More!

4.7 ★★★★☆

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Section: Function Overloading

Slides

Function Overloading: Introduction

```
int max(int a, int b);
double max( double a , double b);
std::string max( const std::string& a, const std::string& b);
```

max(a,b);

Overloading with different parameters

Parameter differences Order Number Types

max() overloads

```
int max(int a, int b){
    return (a>b)? a : b;
//Can't overload on the return type. Compiler error
double max(int a, int b){
   return (a>b)? a : b;
double max(double a, double b){
    return (a>b)? a : b;
std::string_view max(std::string_view a, std::string_view b){
    return (a>b)? a : b;
```

Calling the overloads

```
int int value1{41};
int int value2{29};
double double value1{47.2};
double double value2{55.01};
std::string view first{"Hello"};
std::string view second{"World"};
std::cout << "max (" << int value1 << "," << int value2 << ") : "</pre>
            << max(int value1,int value2) << std::endl;</pre>
std::cout << "max (" << 5 << "," << 7 << ") : "
            << max(5,7) << std::endl;
std::cout << "max (" << double_value1 << "," << double_value2 << ") : "</pre>
            << max(double value1,double value2) << std::endl;</pre>
std::cout << "max (" << first << "," << second << ") : "</pre>
            << max(first, second) << std::endl;
std::cout << "max (dog,cat) : " << max("dog","cat") << std::endl;</pre>
```

Overloading with pointer parameters

Pointers to different types are different types

```
double max(double * numbers, size_t count){
    double maximum{0};
    for(size_t i{0}; i < count ;++i){</pre>
        if(numbers[i]> maximum)
            maximum = numbers[i];
    return maximum;
int max(int * numbers, size_t count){
    int maximum{0};
    for(size_t i{0}; i < count ;++i){</pre>
        if(numbers[i]> maximum)
            maximum = numbers[i];
    return maximum;
```

Equivalent declarations

```
int max(int * numbers, size_t count);
int max(int numbers[], size_t count);
int max(int numbers[10], size_t count);
```

Overloading with reference parameters

Ambiguous functions

```
//Ambiguous calls
void say_my_name(const std::string& name){
    std::cout << "Your name is (ref) : " << name << std::endl;
}

void say_my_name( std::string name){
    std::cout << "Your name is (non ref) : " << name << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

Both functions all valid. The compiler doesn't know which one to choose

Implicit conversions with references: WATCH OUT!

```
//Implicit conversions with references
double max(double a, double b){
    std::cout<< "double max called" << std::endl;
    return (a>b)?a:b;
}
int& max(int& a, int& b){
    std::cout << "int max called" << std::endl;
    return (a>b)?a:b;
}
```

Implicit conversions with references: WATCH OUT!

```
char a{45};
char b{62};

int maximum = max(a,b); // double version called
std::cout << "max : " << maximum << std::endl;</pre>
```

Potential solution

```
char a{45};
char b{62};
int int_a {static_cast<int>(a)};
int int_b {static_cast<int>(b)};

maximum = max(int_a,int_b);
std::cout << "max : " << maximum << std::endl;</pre>
```

Potential solution

```
const int& max(const int& a,const int& b){
    std::cout << "int max called" << std::endl;
    return (a>b)?a:b;
}
```

Overloading with const parameters by value

Equivalent functions: REDEFINITION!

```
int max(int a, int b){
    return (a > b)? a : b;
}
int max(const int a, const int b){
    return (a > b)? a : b;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    std::cout << "Hello World in C++20!" << std::endl;
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

const only in definition

```
//int min(const int a,const int b);
int min(int a, int b);

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    std::cout << "Hello World in C++20!" << std::endl;
    return 0;
}

int min(const int a,const int b){
    ++a; // Compiler error
    return (a < b)? a : b;
}</pre>
```

Overloading with const pointer and pointer to const parameters

Valid unique overloads. No REDEFINITION

```
int max(int*a , int* b){
    std::cout << "max with int* called" << std::endl;
    return (*a > *b)? *a : *b;
}

int max(const int* a, const int* b){
    std::cout << "max with cont int* called" << std::endl;
    return (*a > *b)? *a : *b;
}
```

Valid unique overloads. No REDEFINITION

```
int a{10};
int b{12};
const int c{30};
const int d{15};

int maximum = max(&a,&b);
std::cout << "max : " << maximum << std::endl;

maximum = max(&c,&d);
std::cout << "max : " << maximum << std::endl;</pre>
```

Equivalent in the eyes of the compiler. REDEFINITION!

```
int min(const int* a, const int* b){
    return (*a < *b)? *a : *b;
}
int min(const int* const a, const int* const b){
    return (*a < *b)? *a : *b;
}</pre>
```

```
int a{10};
int b{12};
const int* p_a {&a};
const int* p_b {&b};
int minimum = min(p_a,p_b);
std::cout << "min : " << minimum << std::endl;</pre>
```

Showing addresses where pointers live

```
int min(const int* const a, const int* const b){
    std::cout << "&a : " << &a << std::endl;</pre>
    std::cout << "&b : " << &b << std::endl;</pre>
    return (*a < *b)? *a : *b;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    int a{10};
    int b{12};
    const int* p a {&a};
    const int* p b {&b};
    std::cout << "p_a : " << p_a << std::endl;</pre>
    std::cout << "p_b : " << p_b << std::endl;</pre>
    int minimum = min(p a,p b);
    std::cout << "min : " << minimum << std::endl</pre>
    return 0;
```

Overloading with const references

Valid unique overloads. No REDEFINITION

```
//These functions retun a copy, not a reference in any way
int max(int& a, int&b){
    std::cout << "max with int& called" << std::endl;</pre>
    //Can change a and b through the reference
    a = 200;
    return (a > b)? a : b;
int max(const int& a, const int& b){
    std::cout << "max with const int& called" << std::endl;</pre>
    //Can NOT change a and b through the reference
    //a = 200; // Will give a compiler error.
    return (a > b)? a : b;
```

Valid unique overloads. No REDEFINITION

```
int a{45};
int b{85};
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
std::cout << "first call : " << std::endl;</pre>
int max1 = max(a,b);
std::cout << "max1 : " << max1 << std::endl;</pre>
const int& ref_a = a;
const int& ref b = b;
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
std::cout << "first call : " << std::endl;</pre>
int max2 = max(ref_a,ref_b);
std::cout << "max2 : " << max2 << std::endl;</pre>
```

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Overloads with default parameters

```
void print_age(int age = 33);
void print_age(long int age = 44);
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    print_age();
    return 0;
void print_age(int age ){
    std::cout << "Your age is( int version) : " << age << std::endl;</pre>
void print_age(long int age){
    std::cout << "Your age is (long int version) : " << age << std::endl;</pre>
```

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Function Overloading: Summary

```
int max(int a, int b);
double max( double a , double b);
std::string max( const std::string& a, const std::string& b);
```

max(a,b);

Overloads with different parameters

```
int max(int a, int b){
    return (a>b)? a : b;
//Can't overload on the return type. Compiler error
double max(int a, int b){
   return (a>b)? a : b;
double max(double a, double b){
    return (a>b)? a : b;
std::string_view max(std::string_view a, std::string_view b){
     return (a>b)? a : b;
```

Overloads with pointer parameters

```
double max(double * numbers, size_t count){
    double maximum{0};
    for(size_t i{0}; i < count ;++i){</pre>
        if(numbers[i]> maximum)
            maximum = numbers[i];
    return maximum;
int max(int * numbers, size_t count){
    int maximum{0};
    for(size_t i{0}; i < count ;++i){</pre>
        if(numbers[i]> maximum)
            maximum = numbers[i];
    return maximum;
```

Overloads with reference parameters

```
//Ambiguous calls
void say_my_name(const std::string& name){
    std::cout << "Your name is (ref) : " << name << std::endl;
}

void say_my_name( std::string name){
    std::cout << "Your name is (non ref) : " << name << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

Overload with reference parameters

```
//Implicit conversions with references
double max(double a, double b){
    std::cout<< "double max called" << std::endl;
    return (a>b)?a:b;
}

int& max(int& a, int& b){
    std::cout << "int max called" << std::endl;
    return (a>b)?a:b;
}
```

Overloads with const parameters by value

```
int max(int a, int b){
    return (a > b)? a : b;
}
int max(const int a, const int b){
    return (a > b)? a : b;
}
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    std::cout << "Hello World in C++20!" << std::endl;
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

Overloading with pointer to const

```
int max(int*a , int* b){
    std::cout << "max with int* called" << std::endl;
    return (*a > *b)? *a : *b;
}

int max(const int* a, const int* b){
    std::cout << "max with cont int* called" << std::endl;
    return (*a > *b)? *a : *b;
}
```

Overloading with const pointer

```
int min(const int* a, const int* b){
    return (*a < *b)? *a : *b;
}
int min(const int* const a, const int* const b){
    return (*a < *b)? *a : *b;
}</pre>
```

Overloading with const references

```
//These functions retun a copy, not a reference in any way
int max(int& a, int&b){
    std::cout << "max with int& called" << std::endl;</pre>
   //Can change a and b through the reference
    a = 200;
    return (a > b)? a : b;
int max(const int& a, const int& b){
    std::cout << "max with const int& called" << std::endl;</pre>
    //Can NOT change a and b through the reference
    //a = 200; // Will give a compiler error.
    return (a > b)? a : b;
```

Function overloads with default arguments

```
void print age(int age = 33);
void print_age(long int age = 44);
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    print_age();
    return 0;
void print_age(int age ){
    std::cout << "Your age is( int version) : " << age << std::endl;</pre>
void print_age(long int age){
    std::cout << "Your age is (long int version) : " << age << std::endl;</pre>
```

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