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1  // Lecture 87: String Stream class
2
3  #include <iostream>
4  int main(){
5      int a{5}, b{6};
6      int sum = a+b;
7      std::cout << "Sum of " << a << " & " << b << "is:
      •      " << sum << std::endl;
8  }
9  // This gives you a nicely formatted string.
10 // What if we need to display this text in a GUI
      • application – like text box?
11 // in that case we cannot just use cout because it
      • works only with console, then we may have to create
      • this string formatted with the appropriate values
      • and then display it in the textbox.
12
13 // So we may attempt to create something like
14 std::string output = "Sum of " + a + " & " + b + " is
      • " + sum;
15 // but this doesn't happen automatically (the
      • conversion from an integer to a string)
16 // this is where string streams come in – we can read
      • some input from the keyboard and write some output
      • to the console. In stringstream, we can do the
      • same thing, but instead of reading from the
      • keyboard or writing to the console, we perform
      • these operations on a string buffer.
17 // The stringstream internally maintains the string
      • buffer and all the operations are performed in this
      • string buffer.
18
19 // there are 3 classes that we can use with string
      • streams.
20 #include <sstream>
21
22 std::stringstream ss;
23
24 std::istringstream is;
25
26 std::ostringstream os;
27

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28 // These stream classes provide appropriate
  • overloaded operators for inserting or extracting
  • characters from a stream. The stringstream class
  • provides both insertion and extraction operators,
  • that means you can read from the stringstream and
  • you can also write to it.
29
30 // The istream class provides only extraction
  • operator, which means you can ONLY read from it.
31
32 // The ostream class provides only insertion
  • operator, which means you can ONLY write to it.
33
34 int main()
35 {
36     int a{5}, b{6};
37     int sum = a+b;
38     std::stringstream ss;
39     ss << "Sum of " << a << " & " << b << " is " <<
  •     sum << std::endl;
40     // So this sentence above ^ will be inserted into
  •     the stringstream.
41     // The stringstream internally manages a string
  •     buffer and we can access that buffer through a
  •     member function of the stringstream called as
  •     'str()'.
42
43     // This function has 2 overloads:
44     // 1) One overload returns the copy of the buffer
  •     as a standard string object.
45     std::string s = ss.str();
46     // 2) the other overload accepts a string
47     ss.str("Some string"); // if you want to assign
  •     some string to the internal buffer then this is
  •     the function that you can use. We will use this
  •     function later, for now we'll just print the
  •     string that was stored inside the stringstream.
48     std::cout << s << std::endl;
49
50     // This way we can create formatted strings and
  •     use them wherever we want.
51 }

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52 // Using the string stream, you can also convert a
   • primitive type into a string object:
53 int main()
54 {
55     int num = 5;
56     stringstream ss;
57     ss >> num;
58     auto ss_stream = ss.str();
59     std::cout << ss_stream << std::endl;
60 }
61 // You can see that it has also printed the earlier
   • statement, the earlier formatted string that we had
   • inserted into the string stream.
62
63 // So if we do not want that, before inserting sum
   • into a stringstream, we can clear the string
   • stream. Let's run it again.
64
65 // And this is the correct output
66
67 ////////// to_string() function
68 // C++11 contains a function called to_string() and
   • this function is overloaded for all the primitive
   • types and it returns the primitive types and it
   • returns the primitive types as string.
69
70 // so we can use that as well,
71 std::cout << to_string(5) << std::endl; // ==> 5
72 // And this would give us the same output.
73 // So internally it uses stringstream to convert the
   • integer int to a string object, and it is overloaded
   • for all the primitive types.
74
75 // READING from the string stream – this is useful
   • for parsing strings. If we have a string that
   • contains a bunch of numbers, then we can pass the
   • string and extract the individual numbers.
76 int main(void)
77 {
78     std::string data = "12 89 21";
79     int num;
80

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81     std::stringstream ss;
82     // Set data string into the string stream
83     ss.str(data);
84     while (!ss.fail())
85     {
86         ss >> num;
87         // So fail() is a member function in ss that
88         • checks for the fail bit. This bit is set
89         • when the string stream fails to read any
90         • more input, remove this and we'll also have
91         • to set the data string into the
92         • stringstream.
93         std::cout << a << std::endl;
94     }
95 }
96
97 // Notice that the last number is printed twice,
98 • because in the condition the fail bit is set only
99 • when it attempts to read the data string after the
100 • last number has been extracted. The extraction
101 • operator of the stringstream returns a reference of
102 • the stringstream object itself, and the
103 • stringstream class also contains the bool operator
104 • which is overloaded.
105
106 // We can use that bool operator to check for the
107 • fail bit.
108 int main{
109     ...
110     while (ss >> a){ // so when this expression
111     • extracts the last number and the next iteration
112     • it tries to read again, it will set the fail
113     • bit, and this expression will return the
114     • stringstream on which the bool operator will be
115     • invoked and that will return false, terminating
116     • the loop.
117     std::cout << a << std::endl;
118     }
119     // Running this now, we see the correct output.
120 }
121 // Stringstream class helps convert numbers which are
122 • the form of string objects into their equivalent

```

the form of creating objects like their equivalent

- primitive types. C++11 already provides functions
- which achieve that.

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103 // So if you want to convert a number which is in the
    • form of a string into its equivalent primitive type,
    • there are functions like std::stoi.
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105 std::stoi("5"); // 5 -> integer.
```

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106
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