

Intro to C++ For Programmers

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TIOBE Index

Sep 2019	Sep 2018	Change	Programming Language	Ratings	Change
1	1		Java	16.661%	-0.78%
2	2		C	15.205%	-0.24%
3	3		Python	9.874%	+2.22%
4	4		C++	5.635%	-1.76%
5	6	▲	C#	3.399%	+0.10%
6	5	▼	Visual Basic .NET	3.291%	-2.02%
7	8	▲	JavaScript	2.128%	-0.00%
8	9	▲	SQL	1.944%	-0.12%
9	7	▼	PHP	1.863%	-0.91%
10	10		Objective-C	1.840%	+0.33%
11	34	▲▲	Groovy	1.502%	+1.20%
12	14	▲	Assembly language	1.378%	+0.15%
13	11	▼	Delphi/Object Pascal	1.335%	+0.04%
14	16	▲	Go	1.220%	+0.14%
15	12	▼	Ruby	1.211%	-0.08%
16	15	▼	Swift	1.100%	-0.12%
17	20	▲	Visual Basic	1.084%	+0.40%
18	13	▼	MATLAB	1.062%	-0.21%
19	18	▼	R	1.049%	+0.03%
20	17	▼	Perl	1.049%	-0.02%

What is C++?

- ▶ Object-oriented programming language, used excessively for Linux and Windows
- ▶ Real superset of C
- ▶ Native = OS / architecture dependent
- ▶ Very powerful, but many complicated concepts
<http://yosefk.com/c++fqa/>
- ▶ "C makes it easy to shoot yourself in the foot; C++ makes it harder, but when you do, it blows your whole leg off."
Bjarne Stroustrup

Basics: Compiling & Building

► Compile & build:

- ❑ `$ g++ helloworld.cpp -o helloworld`
- ❑ `$./helloworld`
- ❑ `makefile`, `Cmake`, `catkin_make`
(`catkin build catkin-tools.readthedocs.io`)

► Debugging:

- ❑ `$ g++ -g helloworld.cpp -o helloworld`
- ❑ `$ gdb ./helloworld`
- ❑ On MacOS you might have to add ***-save-temps*** to `g++`

► Caveat:

- ❑ You will usually not invoke the compiler yourself but let your IDE / Makefile do it. We will use different frameworks in later assignments and talk more about compiling and building

GNU Debugger Mini-Guide

- ▶ `r` (=run)
 - start the program; halts when error occurs
- ▶ `break helloworld.cpp:4` / `break 4`
 - halt when reaching line 4 in helloworld.cpp / current file
- ▶ `s` (=step)
 - step through the program line-wise (omitting function calls)
- ▶ `n` (=next)
 - step inside a function
- ▶ `p var` (=print)
 - print value of variable var
- ▶ `c` (continue)
 - continue execution
- ▶ `bt` (=backtrace)
 - inspect current function call stack
- ▶ `frame 3`
 - jump to frame 3 on stack trace
- ▶ `list`
 - list code in current frame

Hello World!

```
#include "ros/ros.h"
#include "std_msgs/String.h"
#include <sstream>

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle n;
    ros::Publisher chatter_pub = n.advertise<std_msgs::String>("chatter", 1000);
    ros::Rate loop_rate(10);
    int count = 0;
    while (ros::ok())
    {
        std_msgs::String msg;
        std::stringstream ss;
        ss << "hello world " << count;
        msg.data = ss.str();
        ROS_INFO("%s", msg.data.c_str());
        chatter_pub.publish(msg);
        ros::spinOnce();
        loop_rate.sleep();
        ++count;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Hello World!

```
#include "ros/ros.h"
#include "std_msgs/String.h"
#include <sstream>

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle n;
    ros::Publisher chatter_pub = n.advertise<std_msgs::String>("chatter", 1000);
    ros::Rate loop_rate(10);
    int count = 0;
    while (ros::ok())
    {
        std_msgs::String msg;
        std::stringstream ss;
        ss << "hello world " << count;
        .
        .
        .
    }
}
```

← *Using header files*

← *Pointers and Arrays*

← *Namespaces*

← *Standard library*

Basics: Variables, Loops, Functions, If-else

```
1  // someFunction1.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  void someFunction(int n) {
4      int result = 0;
5      if (n <= 0) {
6          result = 0;
7      } else {
8          for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
9              result += i;
10         }
11     }
12     std::cout << result << std::endl;
13 }
14 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
15     someFunction (10);
16     return 0;
17 }
```


Headers vs. Sources: Declaration vs. Definition

```
// someFunction2.h  
int someFunction(int n);
```

```
// someFunction2_main.cpp  
#include <iostream>  
#include "someFunction2.h"  
  
int main( int argc,  
        char* argv[] ) {  
    std::cout  
        << someFunction (10)  
        << std::endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

```
// someFunction2.cpp  
#include "someFunction2.h"  
  
int someFunction(int n) {  
    int result = 0;  
    if (n <= 0) {  
        result = 0;  
    } else {  
        for (int i=1; i <= n; i++) {  
            result += i;  
        }  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

```
$ g++ someFunction2.cpp someFunction2_main.cpp -o someFunction2
```

Namespaces

```
1  // namespaces.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  namespace myns {
4      int pow(int n) {
5          return n*n;
6      }
7  }
8
9  int main( int argc, char** argv ) {
10     std::cout << myns::pow(5) << std::endl;
11     using namespace myns;
12     using namespace std;
13     cout << pow(5) << endl;
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

Arrays

```
1 // arrays.cpp
2 #include <iostream>
3 using namespace std;
4
5 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
6     int numbers[10]; // 'int[10] numbers' is WRONG
7     numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
8     for (int i = 2; i < 10; i++) {
9         numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
10    }
11
12    cout << numbers[2] << ", "
13         << numbers[3] << ", " << numbers[4] << endl;
14
15    return 0;
16 }
```

Arrays of variable size (1)

```
1 // arrays_variable.cpp
2 #include <iostream>
3 #include <stdlib.h>
4 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5     if (argc < 2) return -1;
6     int size = atoi(argv[1]); //load int from stdin
7     int numbers[size]; // not allowed in C++!
8     numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
9     for (int i = 2; i < size; i++) {
10         numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
11     }
12     std::cout << numbers[size-1] << std::endl;
13     return 0;
14 }
```

```
g++ -Wall -pedantic arrays_variable.cpp -o arrays_variable
./arrays_variable 20
```

Arrays of variable size (1)

```
1 // arrays_variable.cpp
2 #include <iostream>
3 #include <stdlib.h>
4 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5     if (argc < 2) return -1;
6     int size = atoi(argv[1]); //load int from stdin
7     int* numbers = new int[size];
8     numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
9     for (int i = 2; i < size; i++) {
10         numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
11     }
12     std::cout << numbers[size-1] << std::endl;
13     delete[] numbers;
14     return 0;
}
```

The Dark Side (1): Stack vs. Heap

Stack

Static memory:

- Variables of size known at **compile time**
- Data is available within current scope { ... }
- Managed by OS

```
int numbers[10];
```

Heap

Dynamic memory:

- Variables of size only known at **run time**
- Managed by user - always available (memory leaks!)

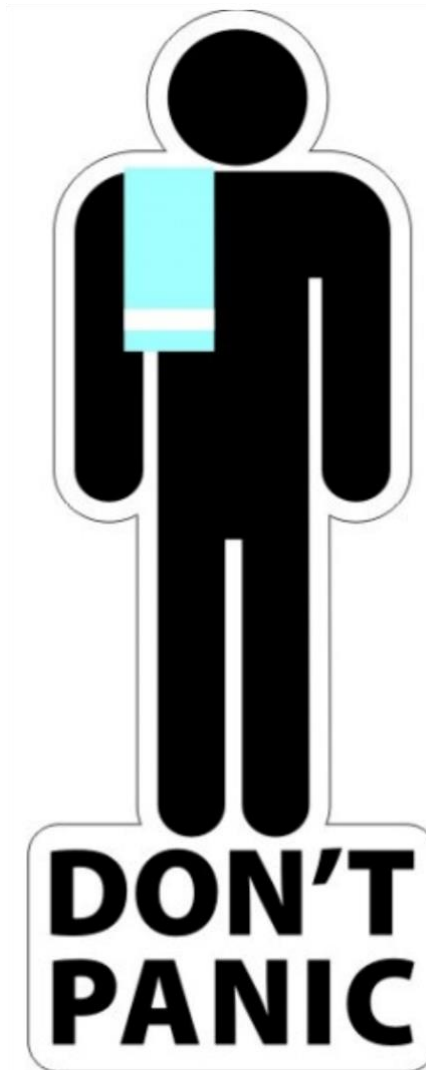
```
int* numbers  
    = new int[size]  
// ...  
delete[] numbers;
```

The Dark Side (2): Pointers

```
1 // darkside2.cpp
2 // (int size) initialized from outside
3 int* numbers = new int[size];
4 numbers[0] = 10; numbers[2] = 5;
5 cout << "A: " << numbers << endl;
6 cout << "B: " << (*numbers) << endl;
7 cout << "C: " << numbers[2] << endl;
8 cout << "D: " << ((*numbers)+2) << endl;
9 cout << "E: " << &(*numbers) << endl;
10 cout << "F: " << &size << endl;
```

A: 0x100200080 (Address of numbers on heap)
B: 10 (Value of first int at address "numbers")
C: 5
D: 12
E: 0x100200080 (Address of numbers on heap)
F: 0x7fff5fbfec64 (Address of size on stack)

Don't panic!



Classes: Declaration

```
1 // IntList.h
2 class IntList {
3 protected: //private:
4     // protected/private member variables
5     int max_size;
6     int* members;
7     int current_size; //need to store array length
8 public:
9     IntList(int max_size_); //constructor
10    virtual ~IntList(); //destructor
11    // public member functions
12    bool add(int number);
13    // more members like elem(i)
14    // ...
15 };
```

Classes: Definition

```
1  // IntList.cpp
2  #include "IntList.h"
3  IntList::IntList(int max_size_)
4      : max_size(max_size_), current_size(0) {
5      members = new int[max_size];
6  }
7
8  IntList::~IntList() {
9      delete[] members;
10 }
11
12 bool IntList::add(int number) {
13     if (this->current_size+1 >= this->max_size) {
14         return false;
15     }
16     members[current_size] = number; // this-> is optional
17     current_size++;
18     return true;
19 }
20
```

Classes: Instantiating

```
1  #include <iostream>
2  #include "IntList.h"
3
4  int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5      IntList list(10); // declare AND init on STACK
6      list.add(5);
7      list.add(29);
8      std::cout << list.elem(0) << std::endl;
9
10     IntList* list2;           // declare pointer
11     list2 = new IntList(10);   // init on HEAP
12     (*list2).add(5);           // dereference pointer
13     list2->add(29);             // short notation
14     std::cout << list2->elem(0) << std::endl;
15
16     return 0;
17 }
```

`(*pointerToObj).method()` = `pointerToClass->method()`

Classes: Inheritance & Polymorphy

```
1 // inheritance.cpp
2 class A {
3 public:
4     virtual void alpha() {
5         cout << "A:alpha" << endl;
6     }
7 };
8 class B : public A {
9 public:
10     void alpha() {
11         cout << "B:alpha" << endl;
12     }
13 };
14
15 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
16     A *class1 = new A;
17     A *class2 = new B;
18     class1->alpha();
19     class2->alpha();
20     return 0;
21 }
```

Classes: Const Methods

```
1 // const_methods.cpp
2 class A {
3     int alpha;
4 public:
5     virtual int getAlpha() const {
6         //alpha = 1; // would give a compiler error!
7         return alpha;
8     }
9     virtual void setAlpha(int a) {
10         alpha = a;
11     }
12 };
13
14 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
15     A *a;
16     a = new A;
17     a->setAlpha(5);
18     cout << a->getAlpha() << endl;
19     return 0;
20 }
```

Introducing STL – The Standard Library (1)

```
1 //stl.cpp
2 #include <iostream>
3 #include <vector>
4 #include <string>
5
6 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
7     std::string name1("Klaus");
8     std::string name2("Peter");
9     std::vector<std::string> names;
10
11     names.push_back(name1);
12     names.push_back(name2);
13
14     std::cout << names[0] << std::endl;
15 }
```

Introducing STL – The Standard Library (2)

- ▶ Use `std::string` not `char*`
- ▶ Use `std::vector` not `array`
- ▶ STL implements many data structures (“containers”) and operations
 - Hash table (`std::map`)
 - Sorting (`#include <algorithm>`)
 - Tuples (`std::map`)
 - and many more
- ▶ Containers are *templated*

Introducing STL – The Standard Library (3)

```
1 // std2.cpp
2     std::vector<std::vector<int> > int2d;
3         // vector of vectors = 2d array!
4     // ...add some elements to int2d...
5     std::cout << int2d[0][1] << std::endl;
6
```


Introducing STL – The Standard Library (4)

```
1 // std2.cpp
2     std::vector<std::vector<int> > int2d;
3         // vector of vectors = 2d array!
4     // ...add some elements to int2d...
5     std::cout << int2d[0][1] << std::endl;
6
7     std::vector<std::string> slist;
8     // ...add some elements to slist...
9
10    // using constant iterator to go through list
11    std::vector<std::string>::const_iterator it;
12    for (it=slist.begin(); it!=slist.end(); it++){
13        std::string current = *it;
14        std::cout << current << std::endl;
15    }
```

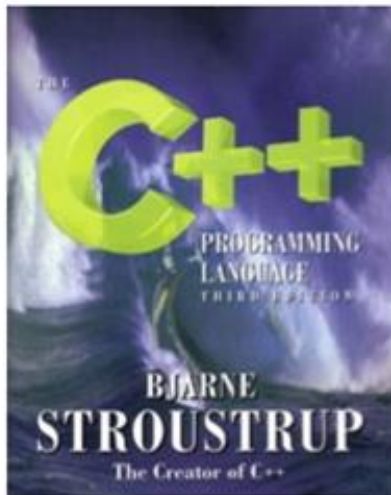
Call By Reference

```
1 // call_by_reference.cpp
2 struct Variables {//like class but all members public
3     double input;
4     double output;
5 };
6
```

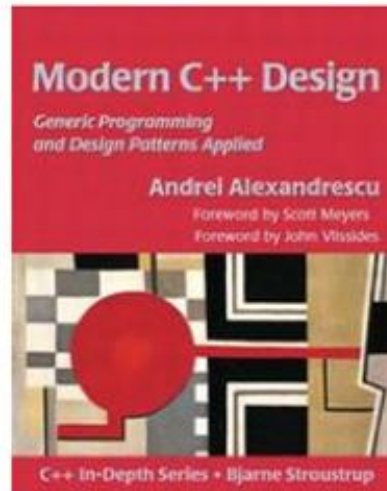
Fun with pointers

```
1 // fun_with_pointers1.cpp
2 #include <iostream>
3 using namespace std;
4
5 struct MotorVariables {
6     double output1;
7     double output2;
8 };
9
10 MotorVariables* control(const double input) {
11     MotorVariables results;
12     results.output1 = 2.*input;
13     results.output2 = 4.*input;
14     return &results;
15 }
16
17 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
18     MotorVariables* vars = NULL;
19     vars = control(10.0);
20     cout << "vars " << &vars << endl;
21     cout << vars->output1 << endl;
22 }
```

Books



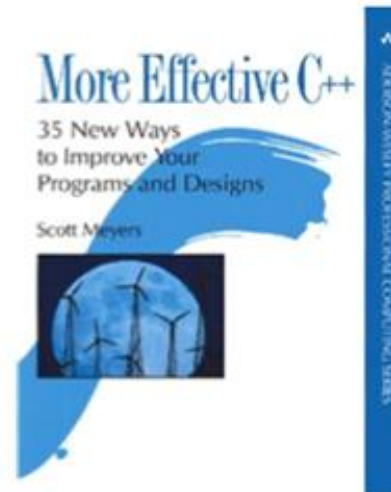
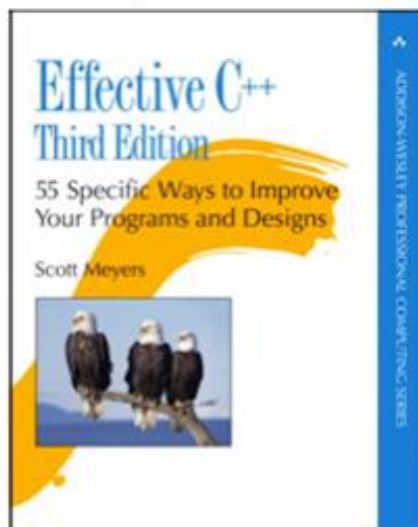
Bjarne Stroustrup:
The C++ Programming
Language (3rd Edition)



Andrei Alexandrescu:
Modern C++ Design



**Erich Gamma, Richard Helm,
Ralph Johnson, John Vlissides
("Gang of Four" or GoF):**
Design Patterns – Elements of
Reusable Object-Oriented
Software



Scott Meyers:
Effective C++
More Effective C++

Websites

► Google:
“Introduction to C++ for <your favorite lang>
Programmers”

► Concise and free introduction:
<http://www.learncpp.com/>

► Online community for
programmers:
<https://stackoverflow.com/>

More Tricky Concepts (Not Covered Here)

- ▶ Constants, const pointers, const methods

http://www.thomasstover.com/c_pointer_qualifiers.html

- ▶ References (safer concept than pointers)
- ▶ OOP: Inheritance, polymorphism, abstract classes...
- ▶ C++ Styles

<http://google-styleguide.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/cppguide.xml>

- ▶ Boost: THE C++ library

<http://www.boost.org>

- ▶ Debugging C++: GNU Debugger (GDB)

<http://www.sourceware.org/gdb/>

- ▶ Building libraries: static and dynamic

<http://www.learncpp.com/cpp-tutorial/a1-static-and-dynamic-libraries/>

- ▶ Smart pointers (provide garbage collection to CPP)
- ▶ Function pointers

Brief, Incomplete and Mostly Wrong History of Programming Languages

► <http://james-iry.blogspot.de/2009/05/brief-incomplete-and-mostly-wrong.html>