



Lesson 10

Classes and Structures



Splitting the solution into multiple files

C++ has a common project structure. For now, I'll just teach you how to split your solution into several files and organize the structure correctly without going into details.

Let's take the **vector** class we wrote in the previous lesson.

So far, our entire solution is written in one file - **main.cpp**. So far, this does not cause problems, since there is little code, but on an industrial scale, the amount of code in the repository can be several million lines of code, so it is important to be able to split the solution into separate components, and the files corresponding to them.

For example, our code now has three parts:

- The `double_cmp` function, which compares doubles, separate from the **vector** class
- The **vector** class, which is a vector in three-dimensional space, and the operators redefined to work with it
- The main function

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Each component, which is, for example, a class (just like in our case) must have two files: .h and .cpp

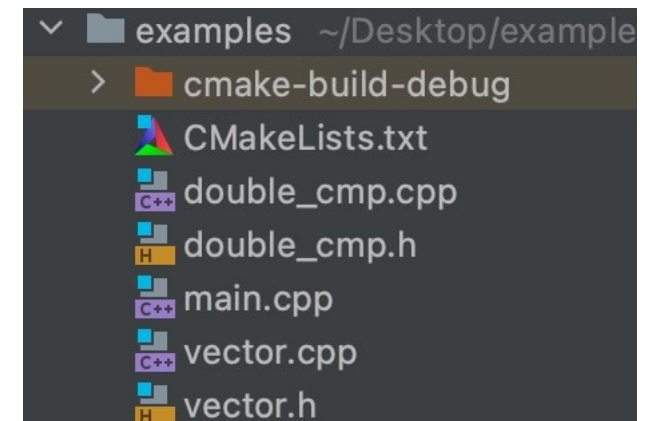
- In the .h files, we **declare** functions, classes and their methods, but we don't **define** them!
- In the .cpp files, we **define** functions and methods of the class

Both files must have the same name, but have different extensions. The name of the files must coincide with the name of the class, if the component is a class, or, otherwise, when the component contains several classes, generalize their essence.

For example, our project can be divided into 2 components:

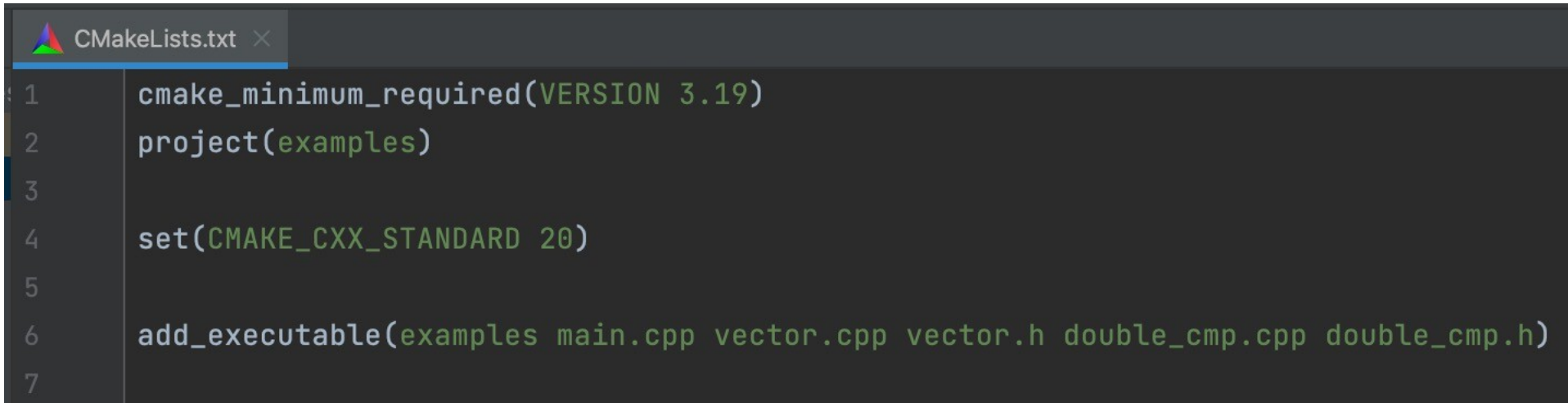
- vector: will contain class vector
- double_cmp: will contain function double_cmp

The project structure is shown on the right:



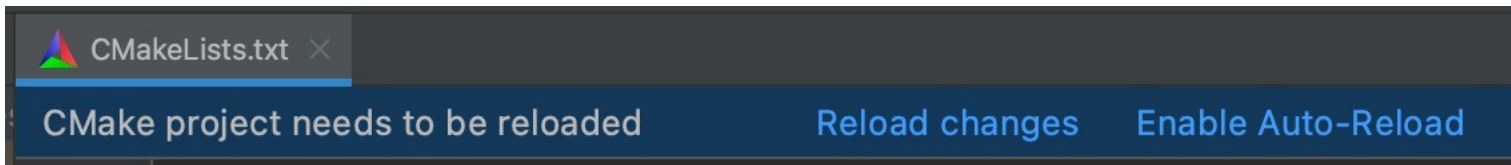
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After adding the files to the project, you will also have to add the file names to **CMakeLists.txt**

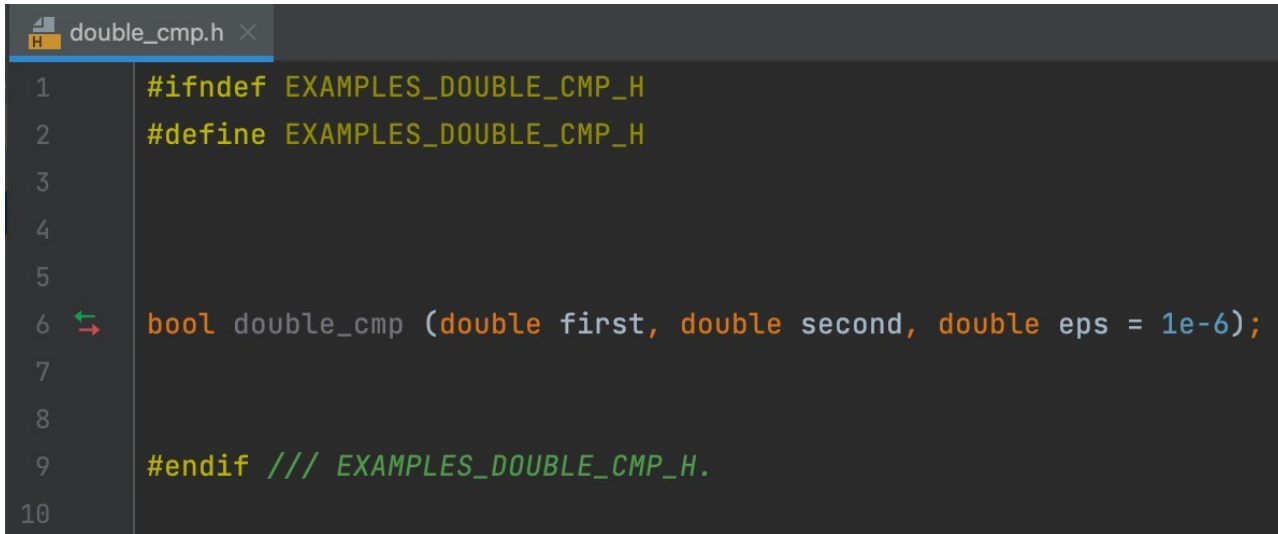
A screenshot of a code editor showing the CMakeLists.txt file. The file contains the following CMake code:

```
1 cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.19)
2 project(examples)
3
4 set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD 20)
5
6 add_executable(examples main.cpp vector.cpp vector.h double_cmp.cpp double_cmp.h)
7
```

Also, if you are working in CLion, after changing CMakeLists, you will be prompted to reload project. Obviously, this must be done in order for the compiler to update the project structure.

A screenshot of the CLion IDE showing a notification bar at the bottom. The notification bar has a dark background and contains the text "CMake project needs to be reloaded" in white. To the right of this text are two buttons: "Reload changes" and "Enable Auto-Reload", both in blue text.

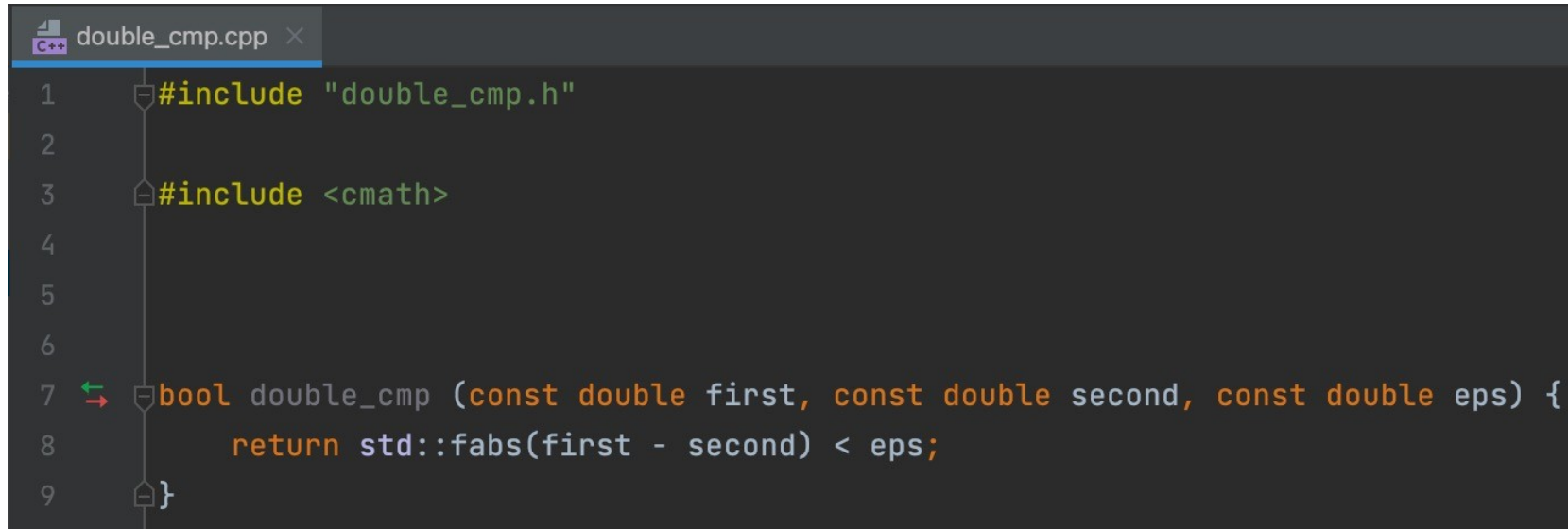
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A screenshot of a code editor window titled 'double_cmp.h'. The editor shows a C header file with the following content:

```
1  #ifndef EXAMPLES_DOUBLE_CMP_H
2  #define EXAMPLES_DOUBLE_CMP_H
3
4
5
6  bool double_cmp (double first, double second, double eps = 1e-6);
7
8
9  #endif /// EXAMPLES_DOUBLE_CMP_H.
10
```

- In `double_cmp.h` file, we declare a function `double_cmp`.
- Note that the arguments in the function declaration are not `const`-qualified, because `const` qualifier is pointless for unmodified type in declarations. In other words, `const` qualifier of unmodified type (non-pointer, non-array and non-reference type) is only valid in definitions.
- **EXAMPLES_DOUBLE_CMP_H** – is a “full name” of the file, which compiler will use in order to avoid including one file multiple times.
 - This name should be unique for every header file in your project.
 - Usually, this name is built according to the following principle:
{project_name}_{path_to_file}.
 - For example, if my project is called `geometry`, and the file path is `lib/figures/polygon.h`, then define should be: **GEOMETRY_LIB_FIGURES_POLYGON_H**

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```
double_cmp.cpp x
1  #include "double_cmp.h"
2
3  #include <cmath>
4
5
6
7  bool double_cmp (const double first, const double second, const double eps) {
8      return std::fabs(first - second) < eps;
9  }
```

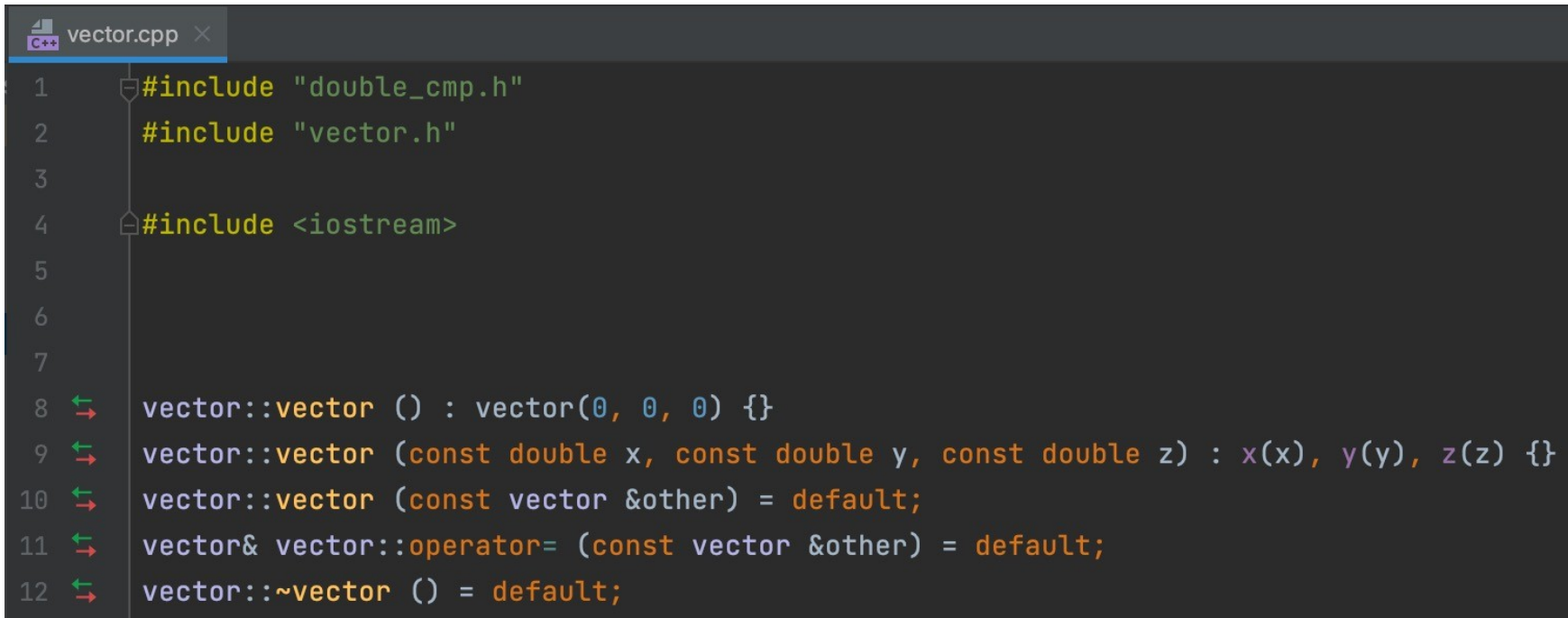
- In double_cmp.cpp file, we define a function double_cmp.
- In the definition we add const-qualifier, but we do not assign the default value for the **eps** argument (default value should be assigned in the declaration)
- It's mandatory to include the corresponding **header file** in the **source file**.
- But the opposite should never be done! In other words, never do an include of a .cpp file in your code!

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```
vector.h
1  #ifndef EXAMPLES_VECTOR_H
2  #define EXAMPLES_VECTOR_H
3
4  #include <iostream>
5
6
7  struct vector {
8      vector ();
9      vector (double x, double y, double z);
10     vector (const vector &other);
11     vector &operator= (const vector &other);
12     ~vector ();
13
14     vector& operator+= (const vector& other);
15     vector& operator-= (const vector& other);
16     vector& operator*= (double coefficient);
17     vector& operator*= (const vector& other);
18
19     const vector operator- () const;
20     const vector operator+ () const;
21
22     double x, y, z;
23 };
24
25 const vector operator+ (const vector& first, const vector& second);
26 const vector operator- (const vector& first, const vector& second);
27 const vector operator* (const vector& first, const vector& second);
28 const vector operator* (const vector& first, double second);
29 const vector operator* (double first, const vector& second);
30
31 bool operator== (const vector& first, const vector& second);
32 bool operator!= (const vector& first, const vector& second);
33
34 std::istream& operator>> (std::istream& is, vector& instance);
35 std::ostream& operator<< (std::ostream& os, const vector& instance);
36
37
38 #endif /// EXAMPLES_VECTOR_H.
```

- In the vector.h file, we only provide function declarations, even if they are methods (defined inside the class)!
- Also, don't forget about #define
- Once again, const qualifiers are absent in functions signatures for the arguments, provided by values

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```
vector.cpp x
1  #include "double_cmp.h"
2  #include "vector.h"
3
4  #include <iostream>
5
6
7
8  vector::vector () : vector(0, 0, 0) {}
9  vector::vector (const double x, const double y, const double z) : x(x), y(y), z(z) {}
10 vector::vector (const vector &other) = default;
11 vector& vector::operator= (const vector &other) = default;
12 vector::~~vector () = default;
```

- In vector.cpp we define methods and functions which are declared in vector.h
- Don't forget **#include "vector.h"**
- Using the **operator ::**, we can define methods
 - For this, before the method name, you need to add the class name and the **operator ::**
 - In the case of non-method **functions**, we don't need to do this!
 - For example, if the class is called **my_class**, and the method in it is **my_method**, then its definition might look like this: **void my_class::my_method () {}**

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Here's some more definitions of several methods:

```
vector.cpp x
C++
14 vector& vector::operator+= (const vector& other) {
15     x += other.x;
16     y += other.y;
17     z += other.z;
18     return *this;
19 }
20
21 vector& vector::operator-= (const vector& other) {
22     x -= other.x;
23     y -= other.y;
24     z -= other.z;
25     return *this;
26 }
```

```
vector.cpp x
C++
28 vector& vector::operator*= (const double coefficient) {
29     x *= coefficient;
30     y *= coefficient;
31     z *= coefficient;
32     return *this;
33 }
34
35 vector& vector::operator*= (const vector& other) {
36     const double new_x = y * other.z - z * other.y;
37     const double new_y = z * other.x - x * other.z;
38     const double new_z = x * other.y - y * other.x;
39     x = new_x;
40     y = new_y;
41     z = new_z;
42     return *this;
43 }
44
45 const vector vector::operator- () const { return vector(-x, -y, -z); }
46 const vector vector::operator+ () const { return vector(x, y, z); }
```

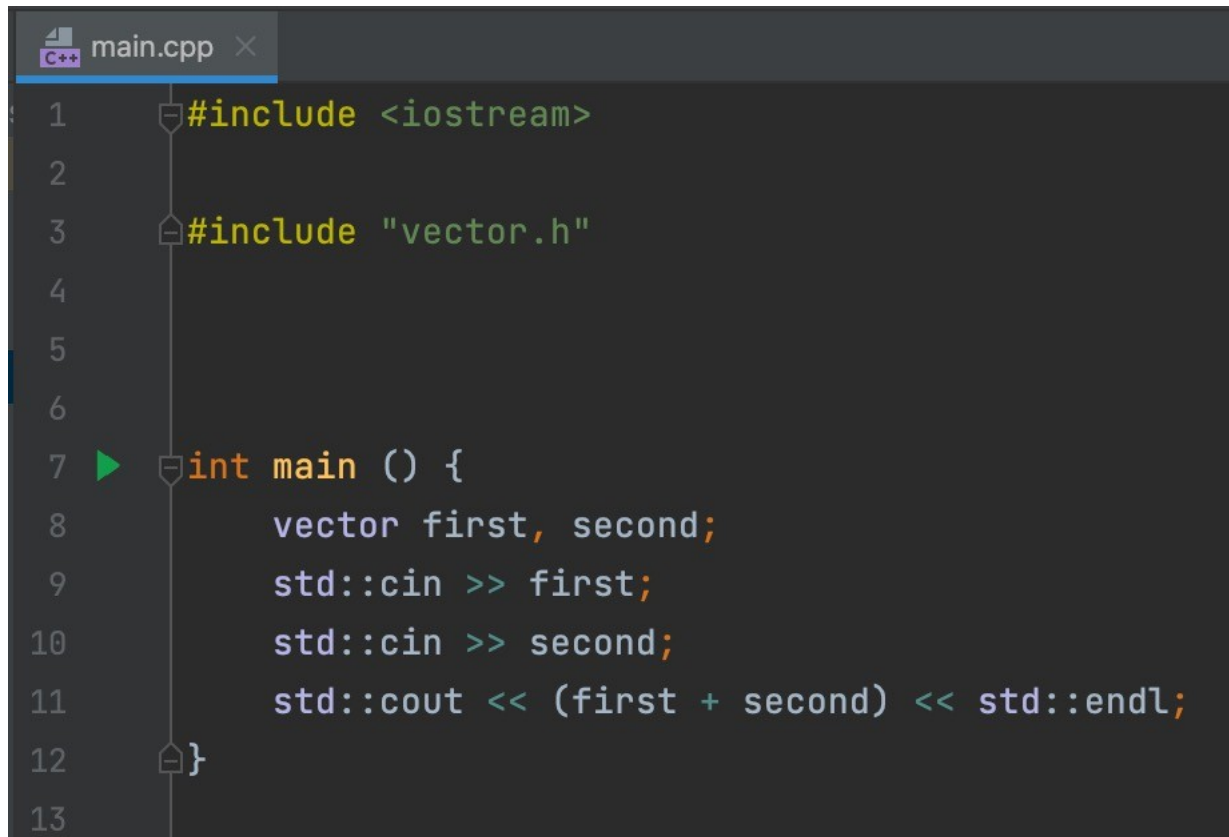
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- And finally, the definition of ordinary functions.
- By the way, note that in order to use the **double_cmp** function, we included file **double_cmp.h** in the **vector.cpp** file (but not in **vector.h**!)

```
48 → const vector operator+ (const vector& first, const vector& second) { return vector(first) += second; }
49 → const vector operator- (const vector& first, const vector& second) { return vector(first) -= second; }
50 → const vector operator* (const vector& first, const vector& second) { return vector(first) *= second; }
51 → const vector operator* (const vector& first, const double second) { return vector(first) *= second; }
52 → const vector operator* (const double first, const vector& second) { return vector(second) *= first; }
53
54 → bool operator== (const vector& first, const vector& second) {
55     return
56         double_cmp(first.x, second.x) &&
57         double_cmp(first.y, second.y) &&
58         double_cmp(first.z, second.z);
59 }
60
61 → bool operator!= (const vector& first, const vector& second) {
62     return !(first == second);
63 }
64
65 → std::istream& operator>> (std::istream& is, vector& instance) {
66     return is >> instance.x >> instance.y >> instance.z;
67 }
68
69 → std::ostream& operator<< (std::ostream& os, const vector& instance) {
70     return os << "(" << instance.x << ", " << instance.y << ", " << instance.z << ")";
71 }
```

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To use our **vector** class in the **main** function, you need to include the corresponding header in the **main.cpp** file.



```
main.cpp x
1  #include <iostream>
2
3  #include "vector.h"
4
5
6
7  int main () {
8      vector first, second;
9      std::cin >> first;
10     std::cin >> second;
11     std::cout << (first + second) << std::endl;
12 }
13
```