Unit 1. Transitioning to C++

1.1 C++ Introduced

This module of the course introduces the C++ programming language. An overview of the key features of C++ follows a discussion of its history and development as a programming language. This module also demonstrates compilation and execution of a simple C++ program.

Readings:

• Required:

Schildt, chapter 11. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

1.1.1 C++ Background

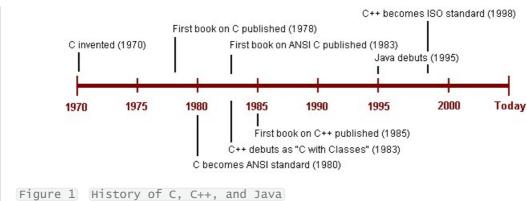
- <u>History</u>
- Key Features

History

C++ is a modern object-oriented programming language that supports many of the same features as Java, including classes, inheritance, polymorphism, and exceptions. As you know and will continue to learn, these features are excellent tools for creating and maintaining large software systems. Together they allow the software's design to follow the shape of the problem closely, which reduces the amount of code that needs to be written while at the same time maximizing the readability of the code.

C++ isn't an entirely new language. It is based on the C programming language. C was designed to be a small, simple language, which programmers could use to produce very fast code. C++ adds to C many of the Java-like features such as classes and inheritance. In doing so, C++ became a much larger language than C, but one better suited for large-scale projects. Because C++ compilers can compile C programs, C++ gained rapid acceptance in the market. Today, there are literally millions of lines of C++ code in use by a wide variety of software applications.

For those interested in the timeline, C was first invented in 1970. The language became an ANSI standard in 1980. The first book about ANSI C was published in 1983. C++, originally called "C with Classes," debuted in 1983. The name C++ was coined in 1983. The first C++ book was published in 1985. The Java programming language, in development for several years, debuted in 1995. The C++ language became an ISO standard in 1998.



Key Features

Here is a list of some of the key features of C++.

- C++ is strongly typed. This simply means that every object must belong to a certain type and that operations such as assignment or comparison are only permitted between objects of the same type.
- C++ has the concept of a class, a type of record that combines data members and the functions that operate on the data. Ignoring various minor differences, classes in C++ are very similar to classes in Java.
- C++ supports parameterized types, or templates. Templates make it possible to define, say, a single vector class that works for Booleans, characters, integers, reals, and so on. This can be done in Java by leveraging inheritance. For instance, a vector of type <code>java.lang.Object</code> can operate on other types since all classes eventually inherit from <code>java.lang.Object.This</code> Java approach, however, sacrifices static type checking. The real advantage of C++ templates is that their use does not prohibit the compiler from performing static, or compile-time, type checking.
- Similar to Java, C++ supports inheritance, a mechanism that makes it possible to build new classes (called derived classes) on top of an existing class (called the base class) without having to reiterate the base class design for each new class.
- C++ supports polymorphism. In C++, polymorphism is achieved through the use of virtual functions and pointer variables. Together with inheritance, this turns C++ into a full-fledged object-oriented language.
- C++ comes with two libraries known as the Standard Library and the Standard Template Library (STL)—both of which extend the capabilities of the base language. The Standard Library supplies all the old C libraries as well as new input and output facilities. The STL provides a library of container types (types that hold or "contain" collections of objects) as well as a set of attendant algorithms (which are general-purpose algorithms for common data structures). That is, the STL supplements the built-in types of C++ with vectors, linked lists, and other useful types.

• C++ has a very large user base. From all over the world, public and private companies, government agencies, academics, and hobbyists use C++ in all types of interesting ways and applications. A major benefit of this large user base is the wide availability of different tools, libraries, and tutorials, all related to some aspect of the language.

1.1.2 Compiling and Running a C++ Program

- Hello World!
- Phases of C++ Program Development
 - o Edit
 - o Preprocess
 - o Compile
 - o Link
 - Execute
- Compiling and Running in Cygwin

Hello World!

To get an idea of what a C++ program looks like, we can look at a very simple example. The Hello World! example remains a popular first program when learning any programming language. What follows is a C++ implementation of Hello World!

```
#include <iostream>
2
    #include <cstdlib>
3
4
   using namespace std;
 5
6 | int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
7
8
       // Say hello.
9
        cout << "Hello World!" << endl;</pre>
10
11
        /* indicate normal termination */
12
        return EXIT_SUCCESS;
13 }
```

It is important to notice that C++ source code resembles Java source code. Many of the keywords in the above listing (int, void, return) have similar meanings in Java. In C++, as in Java, a semi-colon is used to terminate the end of a line of code. Also, curly braces define the beginning and ending of functions much the same way in Java.

Source code comments look the same in C++. Actually, in the above listing, we can see two different types of C++ comments in use. The first, in line 8, uses the double slash style of comment. In line 11, we see a second style that allows a comment to span multiple lines. C++ and Java share many other similarities. In summary, we can say that C++ and Java have similar syntax. The syntax of a programming language describes the words and symbols that are important to a programming language. Syntax also describes how programmers can arrange these words and symbols to achieve some higher-level meaning. The syntax of C++ and Java Variable declaration and initialization, operators, control structures, and function declaration are areas where C++ and Java share other similarities in syntax.

Phases of C++ Program Development

C++ programmers must perform five steps, *edit*, *preprocess*, *compile*, *link*, and *execute*, to produce an executing copy of a program.

Edit

The first step involved in taking a program from source to execution is the creation of a file that contains the source code. The program that is used to create a source code file is called an editor. Editors that programmers use range from simple and generic text editors (such as Notepad in Windows or vi in UNIX) to sophisticated editors that typically come as part of Integrated Development Environments (IDEs). These sophisticated editors are quite powerful since they provide functionality that is geared towards the creation and maintenance of source code. The syntax coloring in Listing 1 is one example of the type of functionality that sophisticated editors provide.

Preprocess

Preprocessing involves the modification of C++ source code files prior to compilation. The first two lines from Listing 1 contain commands called *preprocessor directives*, which inform the *preprocessor* to perform some action. In Listing 1, the first two lines instruct the preprocessor to include the contents of files into the program source code. Preprocessing also involves the text substitution of *macros*. A more detailed discussion of the preprocessor can be found in <u>1.3.4 The Preprocessor</u>.

Compile

Preprocessing usually is performed automatically, just before the compile step. Compiling is a complex process that converts the preprocessed source code into *object code*. Part of the compile process involves verifying that the syntax of the source code is valid. Often, when a program is compiled (especially the first time it is compiled), something is wrong with the syntax. This is referred to as a "compile error." When faced with a compile error, a programmer must return to the first step of this process and edit the source code to remove the error.

The software tool used to compile source code, not surprisingly, is known as a *compiler*. An example of a C++ compiler is the GNU Compiler Collection, or GCC. The GNU Compiler Collection actually compiles many different programming languages, one of which is C++. GCC is also free software. This compiler can be obtained through the Cygwin environment.

Link

Linking is a step that is typically performed by the same tool that compiles a program. The linking process involves combining the object code produced by the compiler with other precompiled library code. The result of the operation of the linker is an executable image. This executable image is a file that contains the compiled and linked object code of the program, stored in persistent storage (the hard drive).

Execute

After the program source code has been edited, preprocessed, compiled, and linked into an executable image, the program is ready to be executed, or run. Errors encountered at this point are known as "runtime errors," and are typically more difficult to correct than compile errors, since they may involve problems in the logic of the program.

Compiling and Running in Cygwin

Quite often, however, the steps preprocess, compile, and link are often informally grouped together and referred to as "compiling." It is easy to see why this is done when we consider that the tools that programmers use often perform these groups of related tasks together. For example, using GCC through Cygwin, we can preprocess, compile, and link all in one step. The following command line assumes the source code file is named hello.cpp.

```
$ g++ hello.cpp

Example 1 Compiling hello.cpp
```

As a result of the execution of the above command, the source-code file hello.cpp will first be preprocessed, then compiled, and then linked to produce an executable image named a.exe. The default filename a.exe can be overridden using the -o compiler option.

```
$ g++ hello.cpp -o hello.exe

Example 2 Overriding the default output file name
```

Additional options (-ansi and -pedantic) inform the compiler that it should only compile programs that are <u>ANSI</u> C++ compliant and that it should issue warnings when it encounters code that violates the <u>ANSI</u> standard. Using these options helps to locate and prevent certain types of errors.

```
$ g++ -ansi -pedantic hello.cpp -o hello.exe

Example 3 Conforming to the ANSI standard
```

We can run the program now that it has been compiled into an executable. From the command shell, we issue the following command:

```
$ ./hello.exe

Example 4 Running the compiled program
```

The dot and slash preceding the filename may not be necessary. It simply instructs the command shell to look for the file hello.exe in the current directory. The following screen shot depicts the results of the compilation and execution of the program.

Figure 1 After compilation and execution

The compiling and linking of programs that consist of many files can be simplified using a makefile. A makefile is a text file that defines the relationships and dependencies between the files that are used to create a project. The main advantage of using a makefile is that they allow a programmer to compile only those source code files that have changed since the last compile. This can be very time saving when working with projects that consist of many source code files. Understanding the syntax and rules available in makefiles is beyond the scope of this course. It is important, though, to know that once a makefile is defined, the utility make is used to build the project associated with the makefile. From a command-line prompt, a programmer issues the command make to build the makefile in the current directory. As an example, you can use this Makefile to build the Hello World! project.

1.2 Data Structures and Algorithms in C++

With this module, the course introduces some of the basic concepts of data structures and algorithms.

1.2.1 What are Data Structures and Algorithms?

- Data Structures
- Algorithms

Data Structures

In just about every aspect of today's modern world, we encounter information in all shapes and sizes. The amount of information we encounter is sometimes so large that without an effective method of storage and representation, the information is rendered useless. Think of all the books contained in your local library. Without the storage system implemented by the librarians, it would be virtually impossible to find a specific book.

Even when faced with just a small amount of information, a structured representation can prove to be invaluable. For instance, think of the problems that could arise if people did not stand in line while waiting to purchase tickets at a movie theater. The line prevents the people waiting from just standing around arguing over whose turn is next. In a sense, the line serves as a way to store information.

A data structure, in the simplest terms, is a structured representation of information. Both the system used to store books in the library and the line of people at the movie theater are real world instances of data structures. Considering a larger context, data structures typically represent, or store, data to facilitate solving some problem. In the library example, the problem that the data structure helps solve is locating a specific book. At the movie theater, people wait in a line so it is easy to determine whose turn is next.

A data structure can be composed of simple pieces of data. Consider your address as a data structure. There are several items in this data structure, all of which are simple pieces of data. First, there is the street address, which is usually a number followed by a street name. Add to that the city name, the state or province abbreviation, and the postal code, and you have a very useful data structure composed simply of numbers and words.

Data structures can also be complex in that they can contain other data structures. For example, a library contains many bookcases, which in turn contain many books. Sitting on the shelf of one of these bookcases could be a cardboard box that also contains a few books. In this example, the bookcase is a data structure composed of books and boxes of books. The boxes are also data

structures, since they store books as well. Here we have a data structure (a bookcase) that is composed of another data structure (a box). Both data structures provide a way to store information (the books) to help solve some problem (finding a specific book). A filing cabinet full of folders of papers is another good example of how data structures can be composed of other data structures. In this case, the cabinet as a whole is a data structure. The cabinet is composed of cabinet drawers, which are composed of folders, which are composed of files.

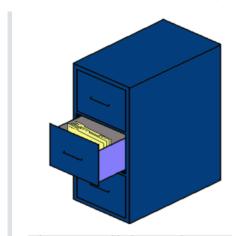


Figure 1 A filing cabinet as a data structure

Algorithms

In addition to having a data structure that represents information, some sequence of actions, or series of steps, needs to be taken to solve a problem. The series of steps that manipulate and uses a data structure to solve a problem is called an algorithm. Let's think back to the example of the line at the movie theater. Here, the problem at hand is the management of a group of people waiting to buy tickets. The data structure is a line of people. The algorithm involves removing a person from the beginning of the line (until the line is empty) when the ticket cashier becomes available.

- 1. Wait for the cashier to become available.
- 2. Remove the customer that is at the beginning of the line.
- 3. Let the cashier help this removed customer.
- 4. Go to step 1.

The steps contained in an algorithm are performed in a mechanical fashion. From the example above, first we do step 1, then we do step 2, then we do step 3, then we repeat with step 1. Algorithms can involve this type of repetition, and they can also involve simple branching or decision making (if "this," then do "that"). Since computers can perform these tasks very rapidly, it should be no surprise that algorithms play such a prominent role in computers and computer science.

A recipe for baking a cake is another good example of an algorithm. In a recipe for a cake there clearly defined steps that are followed. First, the oven has to be preheated. Then we have to mix the ingredients. The cake batter is then poured into a pan, which is then placed into the oven, and so on. The algorithm involved in baking a cake has clearly defined inputs (the ingredients) and a clearly defined output (the cake).

1.2.2 Problem Solving with Data Structures and Algorithms

- Multiple Solutions
- Multiple Representations
- Refining the Representation
- Decomposing the Representation

Multiple Solutions

One of the prevailing questions we address in this course is how do we use data structures and algorithms to solve problems? With so many different types of problems, and so many different possible representations and algorithms, finding a solution for a problem may seem like a daunting task. One fact that is on our side is that typically there is not just one solution for any given problem. Often there are many solutions to a problem, each with advantages and disadvantages. Sometimes enough solutions exist that the real problem is determining which approach to take based on these trade-offs.

A library contains an example of multiple approaches to solving a problem, and the advantages and disadvantages of each approach. Here we are faced with the problem of storing a large number of books in a way that allows users of the library to find specific books easily.

One solution to this problem involves using a hierarchical system to store together books on related topics. For example, this approach stores all books on "Politics" together. It further separates and groups books into sub-topics of "Politics." One shelf would contain the books on "History of Politics" while another shelf would contain the books on "Modern Politics." The representation continues to group the books into more detailed categories. Perhaps it divides the books in "History of Politics" into "History of Spanish Politics," "History of Brazilian Politics," "History of Italian Politics," and so on. The algorithm to find a specific book involves a person walking first to the "Politics" bookshelf, then to the "History of Politics" shelf, and so on until they find the book they seek.

Another representation involves storing books alphabetically by author. In this system, perhaps only top-level categories exist. Within these categories, the representation arranges books alphabetically by the name of the book's author. When we find the book we are looking for in this system, we would also find all the books written by the same author next to our book on the same shelf. After we found a book using the first representation, we would find the other books on the same specific topic, and not the books written by the same author. This difference could be an advantage or disadvantage, depending on the reason for locating the book in the first place. For instance, when researching a specific topic it would be helpful to see all the other books on the topic.

Multiple Representations

We can sometimes solve two (or more) very different looking problems using the same data structure and algorithm. Consider the list of the following problems and corresponding solutions:

Problem	Solution
Remembering which groceries to buy	A grocery list
Tracking inventory by category and sub- category	A category list of sub-categories
Grading students over an entire semester	A list of students each with a list of grades
Managing your work tasks	A list of tasks and priorities
Performing the pre-flight procedure for an airplane	A check- list

Each of the problems in the table above essentially is solved using some type of list to represent the data. The algorithms involved in solving the problems may vary slightly, but essentially the algorithm traverses each list and performs some action (updating a grade, marking an item as complete).

Refining the Representation

The refinement of an initial representation can often lead to a more elegant solution. Consider the problem of garbage removal from an office building. We'll add a restriction that recyclable materials (we will just consider paper) must be separated from the non-recyclable garbage.

One way to represent the problem is to simply provide a "recycle" dumpster and a garbage dumpster outside the building. The algorithm to solve the problem involves each employee carrying their garbage (with their hands!) outside to these dumpsters, where they then separate the paper from the rest of the garbage. This works, and it solves the problem, but it would probably lead to unhappy employees who will grow tired of the tedious process of walking outside and back each time they want to throw something away. We can optimize our representation slightly by placing trashcans on each floor of the office building. The algorithm for this representation requires each employee to carry their garbage and paper to the trashcan on their floor. Then, at the end of the day, someone carries the trashcans from each floor to the dumpsters outside, where they separate the paper from the garbage. This again solves the problem, and it probably will make the employees happier, but it still requires employees to carry their garbage to a central trashcan. It also is a lot of work for the person who has to empty and sort all the floor trashcans. Let's refine the representation even further by placing trashcans in each office. We'll also add wheels to the trashcans that reside on each floor. Now, each employee throws their garbage and paper into their own office trashcan and at the end of the day, one person wheels the floor trashcan from office to office, emptying the office trashcans. They then separate this garbage outside into the two dumpsters. We've reached an improved solution, but one that still involves a good deal of sorting and separating of the garbage and recyclable paper.

What if we optimized by placing, in addition to the garbage can, a recycle basket in each office? We will also attach a recycling basket to the trashcan on wheels. This basket collects the paper thrown into the office recycle baskets. In this representation, each employee throws their unneeded paper into their recycle basket and their garbage into their garbage can. At the end of the day, one person walks around each floor with the trashcan on wheels, emptying both the garbage can and the recycle basket from each office. They then empty the can and the basket into the appropriate dumpsters outside. This solution keeps the employees happy, and reduces the work of the person who takes the garbage and paper outside. Actually, this refined representation eliminates the separating of garbage altogether. This is really an optimal solution!

Decomposing the Representation

After a representation of a problem has been established, the next step that can be taken involves identifying the key entities, or objects, that make up the representation. Just as important as identifying these objects, we will try to understand the relationship between these objects. This process of identifying objects and relationships is known as decomposition. Decomposition, in the basic sense, involves the "breaking down" of a problem representation into its core components.

Looking back at our refined representation of the garbage collection problem, let's try to identify some of the key objects. There are definitely a lot of office garbage cans and recycle baskets, since every office has one of each. We also have two cans on wheels for each floor (one for regular garbage, and one for recyclable paper), and a recycle dumpster and a trash dumpster

outside the office building. Listing these objects, we can see we basically have different types of things that store garbage.

- outside garbage bin
- outside recycle bin
- garbage can on wheels
- attached recycle basket
- office garbage can
- office recycle basket

All of these objects are just bins of some sort since they essentially store materials. A bin that stores garbage is just a specific type of a bin. Likewise, a bin that stores recyclable paper is another type of bin (even though we call it a "basket"). From our list above, we can get more specific with the types of bins that our representation uses:

- GarbageBin is a type of Bin
- RecycleBin is a type of Bin
- GarbageDumpster is a type of GarbageBin
- RecycleDumpster is a type of RecycleBin
- OfficeGarbageCan is a type of GarbageBin
- OfficeRecycleBasket is a type of RecycleBin
- FloorTrashCan is a type of Bin, it contains a GarbageBin and a RecycleBin

Our decomposition now illustrates the relationships between the objects. This is an important step in solving any problem since understanding relationships helps allows us to better design a solution.

1.3 Basic C++ Programming

With this module, the course introduces some of the basic concepts and features of the C++ programming language. Whenever possible, comparisons are drawn between Java and C++ to introduce and illustrate key differences and similarities across the languages.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 2. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 12, 19 - 21. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

1.3.1 Data Types

- Fundamental Data Types
- <u>Strings</u>
- <u>Arrays</u>
- Vectors
- Creating New Data Type Names

Fundamental Data Types

As in most other programming languages including Java, C++ categorizes data objects into different types. These different data types describe not only the fundamental operations that the language performs on the data, but also the range of values that the data types accept. Since different data types have different allowable values, the language can check to ensure that a programmer only assigns appropriate values to a data object. An error occurs if a programmer assigns an inappropriate value, such as a number that is too large or too small, to a data object. This mechanism is known as type checking. C++ is considered a strongly typed language since it is very strict about checking data types and their corresponding values. In the end, this is good for the C++ programmer, since strongly typed languages can detect errors that other languages may not detect.

The fundamental data types that C++ supports are similar to the primitive data types of Java. The following table lists each of the fundamental data types of C++ and the corresponding Java primitive data type.

C++ type	Java type
bool	boolean
char	char
int	int
short	short
long	(long)
float	float
double	double

Table 1 C++ and Java data types

The space required to store variables differs across languages. In C++, the storage space requirements are left to the discretion of the compiler implementers. Unlike Java, these requirements are not specifically stated by the language standard. Therefore, on one platform a C++ int may be two bytes long, while on another it may be four bytes long. But, in Java, a variable of type int is guaranteed to require four bytes of memory to store. Usually, the size in bytes of a variable is unimportant, except that it dictates the range of values that a variable can accept. As the number of bytes that a language implementation uses to store a variable increases, so does the range of values that the variable accepts. The following example program uses the C++ sizeof operator to display the size, in bytes, of the fundamental data types of the particular C++ implementation used in compilation.

```
#include <iostream>
 3
    using namespace std;
 5
 6
   | int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
7
8
    cout << " bool: " << sizeof(bool) << endl;</pre>
9
    cout << " char: " << sizeof(char) << endl;</pre>
10 cout << " short: " << sizeof(short) << endl;</pre>
    cout << " int: " << sizeof(int) << endl;</pre>
11
    cout << " long: " << sizeof(long) << endl;</pre>
12
    cout << " float: " << sizeof(float) << endl;</pre>
13
    cout << "double: " << sizeof(double) << endl;</pre>
14
15
16
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
17 | }
```

Listing 1 Data types and the sizeof operator

Like Java, C++ contains a mechanism to create "read-only" variables. C++ uses the keyword const to allow programmers to create "read-only" variables. This keyword signals that the variable being declared cannot be modified after it is initialized. The keyword const of C++ is analogous to the keyword final in Java. Listing 2 shows the declaration and initialization of some "read-only" variables, otherwise simply known as "constant variables" or just "constants."

```
1 const int BOILING_POINT = 100;
2 const int FREEZING_POINT = 0;
3 const float PI = 3.14159;
```

Listing 2 Constant variables

In the above listing, notice that the variable names of the constants appear in uppercase. This is not required, but is a standard that professional C++ programmers tend to follow. Naming constants in all uppercase allows a programmer to easily recognize and recall that an identifier is a constant variable.

Strings

In C++, the string data type provides the necessary abstraction to allow C++ programmers to work with character strings. The Java counterpart is actually two separate classes. Class java.lang.String and class java.lang.StringBuffer provide Java programmers with character string support, or what we typically just refer to as "strings." These classes are part of the core java.lang package, and thus are available to all Java programs by default. Unlike its Java counterparts, the C++ string type is not available to all programs by default. If a C++ program requires the string type, the programmer must refer to the library that defines this type. The following listing illustrates the C++ string data type in action.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <cstdlib>

using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {

8
```

```
string s1 = "first"; // Initialization
10
     string s2;
11
     s1 += " string"; // Concatenation
12
13
     s2 = s1;
                            // Assignment
14
15
     cout << s1 << endl; // Stream output</pre>
16
     cout << s1.length() << endl; // Length</pre>
17
18
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
19 }
```

Listing 3 string variables in use

The inclusion of the preprocessor directive found in line 2 in the above listing is necessary to allow the program access to the string data type. Notice also the various methods and functionality of the string variables that the example demonstrates. In line 9, a string literal initializes a string object. Lines 12 and 13 demonstrate concatenation and assignment. To display the contents of a string variable, we can use basic console output as shown in line 15. This listing demonstrates only some basic functionality of the string data type. Many other useful functions exist.

Arrays

C++ provides basic support for a sequence of homogeneous data objects through arrays. Both similarities and differences exist between Java arrays and arrays in C++. Let us first consider the syntax for declaration and initialization of arrays. In Java, we can declare and initialize an array of ten int s using the following.

```
1  // declare and create two arrays of integers
2  int[] javaArray1 = new int[10];
3  int javaArray2[] = new int[10];
```

Listing 4 Arrays in Java

The C++ syntax equivalent to the above Java code looks similar, except for the use of the keyword new. The keyword new, in Java, creates an instance of an object. In C++, the keyword new has a different meaning, one that we address in 1.4.3 Dynamic Memory Management. The following listing demonstrates the declaration of an int array of size ten in C++.

```
1  // declare and create an array of integers
2  int cpp_array[10];
Listing 5 An array in C++
```

The double bracket ([]) in the declaration indicates that the line declares an array. Notice the placement of the double bracket ([]) in each of the examples. In Java, the double bracket can be placed after the name of the data type or after the name of the variable. In C++, it can only be placed after the name of the variable.

Accessing the elements stored in an array is done the same way in C++ as it is in Java. Both languages use the bracket operator ([]). A programmer encloses in brackets an index number of the element they wish to access. Indexing of arrays in C++, as in Java, begins with zero. This means that the first element of an array is accessed at index 0, the second element at index 1,

the third element at index [2], and so on. The following listing demonstrates accessing the elements of a C++ array.

```
#include <iostream>
 1
2
    #include <cstdlib>
 3
   using namespace std;
4
 5
 6
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
7
8
     int arr[25];
9
10
     for (int i = 0; i < 25; i++) {
         arr[i] = i;
11
12
     }
13
14
     cout << "The first element equals: " << arr[0] << endl;</pre>
     cout << "The second element equals: " << arr[1] << endl;</pre>
15
     cout << "The last element equals: " << arr[24] << endl;</pre>
16
17
18
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
19 }
```

Listing 6 Accessing elements of a C++ array

One inherent danger that exists in using C++ arrays is the lack of bounds checking. In Java, if we attempt to access an index of an array that is outside the bounds of the array, we generate an exception. This is because the language actively checks our attempts at array indexing to ensure that we access only valid array elements. This is not the case in C++, since boundary checking of arrays is not supported. If we have an array of ten elements in C++, we can attempt to access the 12th, or 20th, or even 100th index of the array. Depending on a few different things, the program may or may not "crash" as a result of our out-of-bounds access. We can be sure, however, that the data we obtain from an out of bounds access will not be meaningful. The following listing shows an out-of-bounds array access in C++.

```
1 | int arr[10];
2 | cout << arr[11] << end];</pre>
```

Listing 7 Out of bounds access

The code in the above listing, in the context of an actual C++ program, definitely compiles, and it may even run without error. What value does line 2 display? It depends on a few things, but typically, that value will be the value of another variable in the program. This is clearly a dangerous practice, and one that we will always avoid.

Vectors

The vector data type provides a much safer alternative to a basic C++ array. In C++, as in Java, vectors exist as feature-rich array. For example, unlike an array in C++ a vector has a built in function that returns the size of the vector. Vectors also provide bounds checking support, and unlike arrays, they automatically increase in size when the need arises. Page 2.2.2 Using the STL vector Container contains a complete discussion of type vector.

Creating New Data Type Names

It is possible in C++ for a programmer to create additional names for existing data types. Creating another name uses the keyword [typedef]. The syntax to create a new name is as follows.

```
1 | typedef type-expression new-name;

Example 1 Usage of typedef
```

The following listing contains a few examples of the use of the keyword typedef.

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <cstdlib>
 2
 4 using namespace std;
 6 typedef int my_int;
 7
   typedef my_int* my_int_ptr;
9
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
10
11
     my_int i = 10;
12
     my_int_ptr ptr = &i;
     cout << *ptr << endl;</pre>
13
14
15
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
16
```

Listing 8 A sample use of typedef

1.3.2 Specifying Classes

- Basic Syntax
- Constructors
- The Destructor
- <u>Declaration vs. Definition</u>

Basic Syntax

The class is the basic unit of abstraction in C++. As in Java, we can use classes to specify and then instantiate objects. The basic syntax involved in specifying a class and in instantiating an object differs between Java and C++. Let's look first at a simple class specified in Java, and then the corresponding version in C++.

```
1  /**
2  * The Java BankAccount class
3  */
4  public class BankAccount {
5     private double sum;
7     private String name;
8     public BankAccount(String nm) {
10
```

```
11
            name = nm;
12
            sum = 0;
13
        }
14
15
        public double balance() { return sum;}
16
        public void deposit(double amount) {sum += amount;}
17
        public void withdraw(double amount) {sum -= amount;}
18
        public String getName() { return name;}
19
   }
```

Listing 1 A Java BankAccount class

The above listing declares a rather basic Java class. The class represents a bank account, and provides some basic bank account related operations. The following listing shows the equivalent C++ version of class BankAccount.

```
1
   class BankAccount {
2
3
   private:
4
    double sum;
5
    string name;
6
7
    public:
8
     BankAccount(string nm) : name(nm), sum(0) {}
9
10
    double balance() { return sum;}
void deposit(double amount) {sum += amount;}
    void withdraw(double amount) {sum -= amount;}
12
13
    string getName() { return name;}
14 };
```

Listing 2 A C++ BankAccount class

A few key differences distinguish class specification in C++ and in Java. First, notice the different use of access modifiers. The Java example above repeats an access modifier for each data member and each member function. Access modifiers in C++ do not repeat for each data member. Instead, C++ uses one access modifier to delimit a section of the class definition. All data members within that section share the access level of the delimiting modifier. In the above listing, everything defined below line 3 and up until the next access modifier in line 7 has private access.

Unlike Java, there is no notion of a "public" or "private" class in C++. A C++ program can use any class as long as the class declaration is included in the program. We cover the various ways of including classes in C++ in page 1.3.4 The Preprocessor.

Another key difference in class specification is that C++ class declarations must end with a semicolon. This semicolon appears in line 14 of the above example. This is a very subtle difference from Java and one that is often the source of many cryptic compiler error messages.

Constructors

Constructors are the methods of a class that define what actions to take when creating an object. A C++ class can have multiple constructors. This allows variation in object instantiation since different numbers and types of parameters can exist in each constructor. The following listing is a modified version of the C++ BankAccount class. This modified version includes an additional constructor.

```
class BankAccount {
2
3
   private:
4
    double sum;
5
    string name;
6
7
    public:
8
     BankAccount(string nm) : name(nm), sum(0) {}
9
     BankAccount(string nm, double bal) :
10
     name(nm), sum(bal) {}
11
12
     double balance() { return sum;}
    void deposit(double amount) {sum += amount;}
13
14
    void withdraw(double amount) {sum -= amount;}
    string getName() { return name;}
15
16 };
```

Listing 3 Initializer lists and multiple constructors

The use of initializer lists in constructors is the preferred way to specify initial values for class data members. Initializer lists are comma-separated variable initializations that appear prior to the body of a constructor. An example of initializer lists appears in Listing 3. Everything in line 8 following the colon and preceding the empty curly-braces comprises the initializer list. This initializer list sets the initial value of the private data member name equal to the value of parameter nm. It also sets the initial value of the data member sum equal to zero.

In C++, objects are created, or instantiated, using a syntax similar to regular variable declaration. Unlike Java, C++ does not rely on the use of the keyword new to handle object instantiation. C++ can use the keyword new to instantiate objects, but this has a different effect, one that we explore in page 1.4.3 Dynamic Memory Management. Programmers declare and instantiate objects in C++ using syntax identical to the declaration of fundamental data types. Listing 4 demonstrates instantiation of class BankAccount.

```
BankAccount account1("checking");
BankAccount account2("savings", 200);

account2.withdraw(100);
account1.deposit(100);
```

Listing 4 Object instantiation

C++ instantiates an object when the line of code containing the object declaration executes.

Object instantiation involves the execution of a class constructor. Listing 4 declares two different

BankAccount objects. Instantiation occurs when the code contained in lines 1 and 2 executes.

The Destructor

A destructor is a special member function of a C++ class called when an object's lifetime ends. Like a copy constructor, only one destructor can exist for a class. Since they execute when an object's lifetime ends, destructors typically define the actions necessary to release any resources that an object may be using. For example, consider an object that opens a connection to a database. When this object's lifetime ends, the destructor could close the database connection.

We examine more important uses of destructors in page <u>1.4.3 Dynamic Memory Management</u> when we discuss dynamic memory management. Until then, we can look at a listing to see at least what the definition of a destructor looks like in C++.

```
1  ~BankAccount() {
2  if (balance() < 0) {
3    cout << "Warning: negative balance!" << endl;
4  }
5 }</pre>
```

Listing 5 The destructor

The difference between the definition of a destructor and a constructor is very subtle. Notice in line 1 of Listing 5 that a tilde (~) exists in front of the name of the class. This signifies that this member function is the destructor for the class.

Declaration vs. Definition

In this discussion on the specification of classes in C++, the term "definition" has been used regarding functions. When we "define" a function, we dictate the function's behavior through the code that exists within the curly braces. The "declaration" of a function, on the other hand, only specifies the interface of the function. This interface includes the function name, the return type, and the list of parameters and their types. The following listing shows both a declaration and definition of the function [average].

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <cstdlib>
4 using namespace std;
6 // function declaration
7 double average(int, int);
8
9 int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
10
    cout << average(10, 2) << endl;</pre>
11
12
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
13 }
14
15 // function definition
16 | double average(int total, int count) {
17
   return (total / count);
18 }
```

Listing 6 <u>Declaration vs. definition</u>

1.3.3 Input and Output

- Streams
- <u>Using the Standard Streams</u>
- File Input and Output
- Some Common Pitfalls

Streams

Input and output in C++ is based on the concept of a stream. A stream is a sequence of bytes that flow from something to something else. The process of output involves moving bytes, one at a time, from a program to a device. This device could be a monitor, a printer, or even a file on a hard drive. Input is the opposite. Input involves the flow bytes from a device (a keyboard, a file, a

network connection) into the program.

```
1 #include <string>
 2
   #include <cstdlib>
   #include <iostream>
 3
 5 using namespace std;
 6
 7
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
 8
9
     cout << "Enter your name: ";</pre>
10
     string name;
11
12
     cin >> name;
13
14
     cout << "Hello " << name;</pre>
15
16
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
17
18
19
```

Listing 1 Stream based output

Listing 1 is a simple example of stream based input and output. The above code first streams data (the characters in the text string "Enter your name: ") from the program to a device (the console) in line 9. Stream based output operations use the << operator to indicate the data to write to the stream. The stream used in this line is the output stream referenced by object cout. This object is of type ostream, which is short for "output stream."

The program in Listing 1 then streams data from the keyboard into the program, storing the user entered text in the variable name. Stream input operations use the >> operator to specify the variable where the program should place the data it reads from the stream. The stream used in this line is the input stream referenced by object cin. The cin object is of type istream, which is short for "input stream." The listing then again streams output to the console. In line 14, we see that we can place more than one piece of data into the stream in one statement.

We can open and use streams to read and write data to and from many devices besides the console. For example, a program can use a file output stream to write data to the file system. Network communication through sockets is also stream based.

Using the Standard Streams

Three specific streams are always available throughout the lifetime of every C++ program. These are the standard input, standard output, and standard error streams. Each of these standard streams has a specific use. The standard input stream reads data from the console, the standard output stream writes data to the console, and the standard error stream displays error messages to the console.

Programmers access the standard streams through a set of objects. Objects cin and cout provide access to the standard input and output streams, respectively. We have seen their use in previous examples. Object cerr provides access to the standard error stream. Listing 2 demonstrates use of the three standard streams.

```
1   cout << "Enter your name and age: ";
2   string name;
4   int age;
5   cin >> name >> age;
7   sif (age < 0) {
9    cerr << "\nInvalid age entered";
10   }
11   else {
12   cout << "\n" << name << " is " << age;
13   }</pre>
```

Listing 2 Standard output and the << operator

Programmers do not have to explicitly open and close the three standard streams. These streams are automatically available for use (through their respective objects) when a program begins execution. Programmer's must explicitly open and close all other input and output streams.

C++ programmers can define how the classes they create interact with streams using the << and >> operators. This is called operator overloading. Remember, stream classes define the insertion (<<) and extraction (>>) to operate in a special way, for many different data types. Whether used with integers, floating point numbers, or strings, these operators output and format data accordingly. We can also define the behavior of these operators for classes that we create. This allows input and output code for user-defined classes to resemble input and output for built-in types.

```
1 class Person {
 2 private:
3 string first_name;
4
   string last_name;
5
    string job;
6
7
   public:
     Person (string f, string l, string j):
     first_name(f), last_name(l), job(j) {}
9
10
11
    friend ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, Person const& r);</pre>
12
13
   };
14
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, Person const& r) {
    os << r.first_name << " " << r.last_name;
16
    os << " works as a " << r.job;
17
18
    return os;
19
20
21
```

Listing 3 A class that overloads <<

Listing 3 defines class Person. Since we would like to output objects of class Person the same way that we output integers or strings, we overload the << operator. Declaring this function as a "friend" function in line 11 allows the function to access private data members of class Person. This is necessary since the overloaded operator function is not a member of class Person.

```
1  Person p("Stan", "Dardeviation", "Math Teacher");
2  cout << p << endl;
Listing 4 Using class Person</pre>
```

The output of line 2 in Listing 4 follows.

```
Stan Dardeviation works as a Math Teacher

Example 1 Output of Listing 4
```

File Input and Output

File based input and output is similar to the mechanisms for keyboard and screen I/O. The main difference is that programmers must explicitly open and close files. In pseudocode, a generic program that reads input from a file might look like this.

```
open input file

while( there is input left ) {

read next input item
process it
}

close input file
```

Example 2 Pseudocode to read input from a file

Listing 5 contains a typical way to open and read a file of integers.

```
1 #include <fstream>
 2
   #include <iostream>
   #include <cstdlib>
 3
4
 5
   using namespace std;
6
7
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
9
     ifstream inf;
     inf.open("somefile.txt");
10
11
     if (! inf) { // Check to see if file opened
12
         cerr << "Could not open file!" << endl;</pre>
13
14
        return EXIT_FAILURE;
     }
15
16
17
     int x;
18
19
     // While input remains, read an integer.
     while (inf >> x) {
20
```

```
cout << x << endl;
cout << x << endl;
inf.close(); // Close the input file
return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}</pre>
```

Listing 5 File input

The object used in file input is of type <code>ifstream</code>. Since this class is not part of the C++ language by default, we must include its library in our program. This is done in line 1 in the above listing. Line 9 declares an object of type <code>ifstream</code>, and line 10 calls the member function <code>open</code> to open a file. It is good programming practice to check whether an attempt to open a file actually succeeded. Also, note the use of the extraction operator in the conditional of the while-loop in line 20. As long as the extraction attempt succeeds, <code>true</code> is returned (and the value read from the file is assigned to <code>x</code>). A failure to read another integer is signaled by a value of <code>false</code>. This terminates the while-loop.

File output resembles file input. We still need to include a reference to the fstream library, but we use an ofstream object instead of an ifstream object. Here is an example.

```
1 ofstream onf;
   onf.open("output.txt");
4 | if (! onf) { // Check to see if file opened
 5
   cerr << "Could not open file!" << endl;</pre>
6
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
 7
8
9 | for (int i = 1; i \le 10; i++) {
    onf << "This is line " << i << endl;</pre>
10
11 }
12
13
    onf.close(); // Close the output file
```

Listing 6 File output

1.3.4 The Preprocessor

- Text Substitution
- File Inclusion
- Macro Substitution
- Conditional Compilation
- An Example: Assumption Verification

Text Substitution

The preprocessor is a tool that C++ programmers use to manipulate the contents of source code files prior to compilation. In the most general sense, the preprocessor performs text substitution and text modification. Higher-level features emerge when we consider the overall effect of these rather basic manipulations. File inclusion, macro substitution, and conditional compilation are three higher-level features the preprocessor provides to a programmer.

Source code files, as authored by programmers, typically need to be modified in various ways before compilation can take place. Because programmers rely on the preprocessor to perform these modifications, knowledge of the basic use of the preprocessor is essential. Since C++ programs consist entirely of text, a programmer must use the preprocessor to include the declarations of external classes or functions. This is known as file inclusion. The use of other preprocessor features, such as macro substitution, is not necessarily required. Macros exist as a convenience to the programmer. They also provide backward compatibility with C programs.

A programmer interacts with the preprocessor through commands called preprocessor directives. Beginning with the number sign (#), preprocessor directives are single-line commands a programmer places into a source code file. Since preprocessor directives are not C++ code, they do not follow the language's scoping rules and therefore can appear on any line in a source code file. The appearance of a preprocessor directive in a source code file instructs the preprocessor to perform some action. The action the preprocessor takes depends on the directive. For some directives, the preprocessor makes exactly one modification in the source code file. An example of this is file inclusion where the preprocessor includes the contents of another file into the file being processed. Preprocessor directives used to define other tasks, such as a macro substitution, can cause the preprocessor to make several modifications in a source code file.

The Java language does not have a tool similar to the C++ preprocessor. Instead, Java provides language mechanisms that accomplish the same tasks that the C++ processor performs. One example is the <code>import</code> statement. Using <code>import</code> statements, a Java programmer specifies the external classes and packages a program requires.

File Inclusion

File inclusion is a feature of the C++ preprocessor that allows a source code file to use shared code. We consider shared code to be classes or functions declared in other files. In C++, we can only access a shared class or function by including its declaration into our program. This must be done since C++, unlike Java, shares code textually. Imagine having to include manually the declaration for every function and class used in a program. That would be quite a cumbersome task. Luckily, the preprocessor automates this through file inclusion.

A programmer issues the #include preprocessor directive to instruct the preprocessor to perform file inclusion. This directive takes a file or library name as a parameter. When processing an #include directive, the preprocessor replaces the line containing the directive with the contents of the file that the directive specifies. Listing 1 demonstrates file inclusion.

```
1 #include <string>
2 #include <cstdlib>
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <fstream>
5
6 #include "my_functions.h"
7
   #include "my_class.h"
8
9
    #include "..\another_file1.h"
10
   #include "directory\sub\another_file2.h"
11
12
   using namespace std;
13
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
14
15
16
     // Rest of program...
```

```
17
18
```

Listing 1 The #include directive

The #include directive accepts two different forms of its parameter. The above example demonstrates use of the first form in lines 1 through 4. In this form, angle brackets surround the parameter in the #include directive. This signifies that the preprocessor should search for the specified file in an implementation dependent set of places. Typically, this set of places includes system and library directories. Double quotes surround the parameter in the second form of the #include directive. In this form, the #include directive instructs the preprocessor to look for the specified file in the same directory where the file being preprocessed exists. Lines 6 through 10 of Listing 1 illustrate this form of the directive. C++ programmers typically use the first form to include libraries and the second form to include files they have created.

Macro Substitution

The C++ preprocessor can perform a programmer defined text substitution throughout an entire source code file. This is known as macro substitution. Programmers define a macro using the #define preprocessor directive, which can take the following form.

```
1 | #define identifier replacement-text
```

Example 1 General form of a #define directive

Using the #define directive, a programmer declares an identifier and specifies its replacement text. Macro substitution in a source code file involves the preprocessor replacing every occurrence of the identifier with the replacement-text. Listing 2 illustrates macro definition and usage.

```
1 #include <iostream>
    #include <cstdlib>
2
 3
   #define MAXIMUM 20
 6
    using namespace std;
7
8
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
9
     for (int i = 0; i < MAXIMUM; i++) {
10
11
         cout << i << endl;</pre>
12
     }
13
14
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
15
```

Listing 2 Macro substitution

We can use macro substitution to implement a constant variable. In the above listing, #define creates an identifier named MAXIMUM, and associates with it the replacement text 20. Anywhere in the program source code that the preprocessor finds MAXIMUM, it replaces with 20. Macro substitution, in this case, allows the identifier MAXIMUM to function as a constant variable.

C++ programmers should use the keyword const instead of macro substitution to create constant variables. Because the keyword const is part of the C++ language (and not a preprocessor feature), constants created with it support type checking better than constants created using macro substitution. Constants created with macro substitution exist in C++ to provide backward compatibility with C programs.

The C++ preprocessor also supports parameterized macros. The use of a parameterized macro looks much like a normal C++ function. The preprocessor replaces the apparent function call with the macro replacement text. A parameterized macro definition takes the following form.

```
1 \mid #define identifier(identifier, identifier, ...) replacement-text
```

Example 2 General form of a parameterized macro

The following listing demonstrates the definition and use of a parameterized macro.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
   #include <cstdlib>
3
4 #define max(x,y) ( ((x)>(y))? (x):(y))
5
6 using namespace std;
7
8
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
9
    int i = 4;
10
11
    int j = 3;
12
13
    cout \ll max(i, j) \ll endl;
14
15
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
16
   }
```

Listing 3 Parameterized macro

In Listing 3, the preprocessor replaces the identifier \max with the text " (((x)>(y)) ? (x): (y)) ". During the replacement, the preprocessor substitutes into the replacement text the text given as parameters. In line 13, the parameters given are "i" and "j". The preprocessor substitutes this text for the parameters x and y in the replacement text.

Conditional Compilation

Beyond macro substitution, a more important reason to use #define is to support conditional compilation. Using #define, and some other preprocessor directives, we can instruct the compiler to compile only certain sections of our source code. This is useful in many circumstances, one of which is for inserting debugging code that can be easily enabled and disabled. Below we see an example that uses the #define, #if, and #endif directives.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstdlib>
#define DEBUG

using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
```

```
9
10
   #if defined(DEBUG)
    cerr << "Debugging enabled" << endl;</pre>
11
12
   #endif
13
    int arr[10];
14
15
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
16
        arr[i] = i;
17
18 #if defined(DEBUG)
        cerr << "i = " << i << endl;
19
20
        cerr << "arr[i] = " << arr[i] << endl;</pre>
21 #endif
22
23
24
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
25 }
```

Listing 4 Conditional compilation

The <code>#if</code> preprocessor directive works similar to a regular if-statement, except that it has to paired with an <code>#endif</code> directive. These two directives partition a section of source code that can be conditionally compiled. The preprocessor evaluates the value that follows the <code>#if</code>. If this value evaluates to true (non-zero), the preprocessor includes the source code block. If it evaluates to false, the preprocessor omits the source code block. In the above listing, <code>defined(DEBUG)</code> follows the <code>#if</code> directives. The preprocessor evaluates this to true only if we have defined an identifier named <code>DEBUG</code>. Since we have defined <code>DEBUG</code> in line 4, the source code blocks partitioned by the <code>#if</code> and <code>#endif</code> pairs will be compiled. The power of this technique is apparent when we realize all we have to do to disable the debugging code found throughout the program is remove the definition of <code>DEBUG</code> from the program. This causes the preprocessor to omit the debugging code.

Conditional compilation is also often used to prevent multiple definitions of classes and functions that are contained in header files. Including a header file more than once in a program can cause class and function redefinition problems. We can prevent this with a technique that uses conditional compilation. Below we see in line 1 the #if directive used to check if the program has defined the identifier _PERSON_H_. If it has not been defined, then the rest of the source code in the example is processed. If it has been defined, the source code is skipped by the preprocessor. The key to this technique is in line 2, where the program defines _PERSON_H_. If we had a program that had several source code files that all included the following header file, the conditional compilation would ensure that the content of the file is included only once. The first time the file was included would result in the definition of _PERSON_H_, which would then prevent the inclusion of the contents of the file a second time.

```
#if !defined(_PERSON_H_)
#define _PERSON_H_

class Person {

// Class declaration...
};

#endif
```

Listing 5 Preventing multiple declarations

Shortcut conditional compilation constructs exist that we can use in place of the defined operator. The directive #ifdef identifier is equivalent to #if defined(identifier).

Likewise, the directive #ifndef identifier is equivalent to #if !defined(identifier).

An Example: Assumption Verification

Verifying assumptions using assertions is an example of a common use of the preprocessor and its features. An assertion is a statement placed in source code to verify an assumption. Usually, programmers place assertions at the beginning of a function definition to verify assumptions they made when designing the function. If at run-time the assumption proves to be incorrect, the assert statement displays a notification message and stops the execution of the program. Used in this manner, assertions are an excellent tool for error detection.

All kinds of assumptions are made in programs about the data contained in variables, especially those found in parameters being passed to a function. When we design and code a function, we expect the parameters to contain valid data. If the parameters do not contain valid data, this could signify that an error exists in some other area of the program. Coding around the invalid data only serves to hide the error, whereas using an assertion can detect and point out the existence of that error.

Consider the function <code>calculate_average</code> that calculates the average of a series of values. We assume the caller of the function passes two non-zero integer parameters to the function. In the context of a larger program, if the second parameter were passed as zero, a run-time error would occur as a result of the divide-by-zero. How can we handle this invalid data? One way, seen in Listing 6, involves coding defensively to detect the invalid data case.

```
double calculate_average(int total, int count) {
2
3
    // avoid divide by zero error
4
    if (count != 0) {
5
        return total / count;
6
    }
7
    else {
8
       return 0;
9
    }
10 }
```

Listing 6 Defensive coding

The above version of <code>calculate_average</code> works in that it prevents the divide-by-zero error. It does not take into consideration that a zero <code>count</code> could mean that an error occurred in another part of the program. Perhaps a bug exists in the code that reads the values from the user. Or, maybe some other code erroneously overwrote the value of <code>count</code>. We really do not know, but using this version of <code>calculate_average</code> will not help us detect and locate this error.

The following version of <code>calculate_average</code> takes a different approach. Here, the assumption of valid data is verified using an assertion. If the caller of the function passes invalid data (that is, <code>count</code> equals zero) to the function, the assertion displays an error message and stops program execution. The programmer can then find the error that caused the <code>passing</code> of invalid data to function <code>calculate_average</code>.

```
double calculate_average(int total, int count) {

// assume we are given valid data
assert (count != 0);

return total / count;
}
```

Listing 7 Verifying an assumption using an assertion

The assert statement actually is a macro. Contained in library <cassert>, this macro definition is a little complex, but worth examining since it incorporates a few different uses of the preprocessor. The following example lists the definition of the assert macro from a GNU C++ compiler.

```
1
  /*
    assert.h
2
3
   */
4
5
   #ifdef __cplusplus
6
   extern "C" {
7
   #endif
8
   #include "_ansi.h"
9
10
   #undef assert
11
12
13 #ifdef NDEBUG /* required by ANSI standard */
   #define assert(p) ((void)0)
14
   #else
15
16
17
   #ifdef __STDC__
                        ((e) ? (void)0 : __assert(__FILE__, __LINE__,
18 #define assert(e)
    #e))
   #else /* PCC */
19
    #define assert(e) ((e) ? (void)0 : __assert(__FILE__, __LINE__,
    "e"))
21 #endif
22
23
   #endif /* NDEBUG */
24
    void _EXFUN(__assert, (const char *, int, const char *));
25
26
   #ifdef ___cplusplus
27
28
   }
29
   #endif
```

Listing 8 The assert macro definition

Notice the use of conditional compilation in the definition of the <u>assert</u> macro. Including a definition of <u>NDEBUG</u> into a program would disable all the assertion checks. When releasing production versions of software, programmers typically remove assertions.

1.3.5 A Side-By-Side Example

We have seen a lot of similarities and differences between C++ and Java. Until this point in the course, C++ and Java are more similar than they are different. In <u>1.4 Memory Management</u>, we focus on some of the major differences in the languages. Before we delve into those topics, now is probably a good time to look at a full-length Java program and an equivalent C++ version.

- Java version
 - BankAccount.java
 - BankAccountDriver.java
- C++ version
 - o bankaccount.h
 - o <u>bankaccount.cpp</u>
 - o <u>main.cpp</u>
 - o <u>makefile</u>

1.4 Memory Management

With this module, the course introduces some of the basic concepts and features of the C++ programming language that are related to memory management. Whenever possible, comparisons are drawn between Java and C++ to introduce and illustrate key differences and similarities across the languages.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 1. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 13 through 15. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

1.4.1 Pointers

- Pointers and Indirection
- Basic Operations
 - Declaration and Initialization
 - o <u>Dereference</u>
 - Pointer Arithmetic

Pointers and Indirection

A pointer is a variable that stores the memory address of another variable. We have seen already in C++ that data types dictate the range and type of values a variable can store. Variables of data types that we have examined so far store values such as integer numbers, floating-point numbers, and character strings. A pointer variable is unique in that it stores the memory address of another variable. A memory address is the specific location in main memory where a variable exists during program execution.

Programmers use pointers to indirectly access and manipulate other variables. This access and manipulation is considered "indirect" since it is accomplished using a pointer instead of the actual variable being modified. Indirection allows the creation of complex data structures and powerful algorithms. For instance, without pointers and indirection it would not be possible to create a linked list data structure.

Basic Operations

Declaration and Initialization

The declaration of a pointer variable requires the use of some unfamiliar syntax. A pointer declaration must prefix its variable name with an asterisk (*). This signifies to the compiler that the variable declared is a pointer. Listing 1 demonstrates the declaration of a few pointer variables.

1.4.2 Parameter Passing Mechanisms

- Pass by Value
- Pass by Reference

Pass by Value

The Java language creates copies of variables passed to functions. Even for objects, a copy of the reference to the object is passed to the function. This parameter passing mechanism is known as pass by value since effectively, via the copy, the "value" of the parameter is passed to a function.

Pass by value is the default parameter passing mechanism in C++. Just like Java, when a parameter is passed by value to a function, a copy of the parameter is created and given to the function. This is important, since if we make a change to a parameter that is passed by value, the original variable will remain unchanged. Our change is made to a copy of the original variable. Listing 1 illustrates this point.

```
1 #include <iostream>
   #include <cstdlib>
2
 3
4 using namespace std;
 6 | void increment(int x) {
7
    x++; // Increment x by 1
8
    }
9
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
10
11
12
     int y = 10;
13
     increment(y);
14
15
     // Variable y remains unchanged.
16
     cout << y << end1;</pre>
```

```
17
18 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
19 }
```

Listing 1 Pass by value in C++

Since parameter to function increment in Listing 1 is passed by value, a copy of variable y is created and given to the function. This copy is incremented to the value of 11. Once function increment returns, the lifetime of the variable (x) that now stores the value of 11 ends. The variable y remains unchanged and the program outputs the value 10.

C++ can also pass objects by value. The following listing defines a simple class and passes an object of that class by value.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2 #include <cstdlib>
 3 #include <string>
 4 #include <cassert>
 6 using namespace std;
 7
8 class Person {
9 private:
10
    string name;
11
     int age;
12
    public:
13
    Person() : name(""), age(0) {}
14
15
     void set_age(int age) {this->age = age;}
16
17
    int get_age() { return age;}
     void set_name(string name) {this->name = name;}
18
     string get_name() { return name;}
19
   };
20
21
22  void increment_age(Person p) {
23
     p.set_age(p.get_age() + 1);
24
   }
25
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
26
27
28
     Person person;
     person.set_name("John Doe");
29
30
     person.set_age(30);
31
32
     increment_age(person);
33
     // age remains unchanged
34
35
     cout << person.get_age() << endl;</pre>
36
37
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
38
```

Listing 2 Passing an object by value

The main routine in Listing 2 passes an instance of class Person by value to the function increment_age. Inspecting the output of the example yields the result we expect to see. The code in function increment_age does not change the state of the object person in function main, since the object was passed by value.

Pass by Reference

C++ also supports the pass by reference parameter passing mechanism. Unlike pass by value, copies are not made of variables that are passed by reference. Instead, a called function receives a reference, or alias, to the actual parameter supplied by the calling function. For this reason, pass by reference is used to build functions that can modify the variables in the calling function. Even when a function does not need to modify the variables in the calling function, pass by reference is sometimes used to avoid the overhead of pass by value.

One common use of pass by reference is to create functions that can modify the variables passed to them by a calling function.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <cstdlib>
3
4 using namespace std;
6 void increment(int& x) {
7
    x++; // Increment x by 1
8
9
10
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
11
12
    int y = 10;
13
    increment(y);
14
15
    // Variable y is changed.
16
    cout << y << endl;</pre>
17
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
18
19
   }
```

Listing 3 Pass by reference

Listing 3 is the same program presented in Listing 1. The only difference is in line 6 where the parameter x is declared as a reference parameter using the syntax int& x. Do not confuse this use of the ampersand (&) with the address-of operator. Here the ampersand signals to the compiler that this parameter is to be passed by reference. Since it is passed by reference, the increment operation in line 7 affects the original variable y found in main. Therefore, this program outputs the value 11.

Passing a parameter by reference is also used as a mechanism to pass large objects to functions. When objects are large, pass by value can result in time-consuming copy operations. Pass by reference is more efficient because it does not involve copying. Even when a function does not intend to modify one of its parameters, pass by reference should be used when the parameter is a large object. We should declare parameters passed by reference that a function should not modify as constants. This is a good practice since it provides protection against accidental modification. Listing 4 demonstrates how to pass an object by reference while still preserving the safety of pass by value.

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    #include <string>
    #include <cstdlib>
 4
   using namespace std;
 6
7
   void display_letters(const string& data) {
 8
9
     for (int i = 0; i < data.length(); i++) {
10
         cout << data[i] << "\n";</pre>
11
     }
12
    }
13
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
14
15
16
     string s = "This is a demonstration";
17
     display_letters(s);
18
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
19
20 }
```

Listing 4 A constant reference

It is sometimes useful to pass a pointer by reference. This is done when a function needs to change the pointer's stored memory address. In other words, a pointer is passed to a function by reference when the function needs to reposition the pointer.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2
    #include <cstdlib>
 4 using namespace std;
 5
 6
    void find_first_greater_than(int*& ptr, int threshold) {
 7
 8
     while (*ptr <= threshold) {</pre>
 9
         ptr++;
    }
10
11
    }
12
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
13
14
     int exam_scores[] = {74, 94, 64, 77, 68,
15
16
                           99, 58, 89, 74, 88,
17
                           100, 95, 71, 81, 89,
18
                           54, 76, 83, 88, 67};
19
20
     int* score = &exam_scores[0];
21
     cout << *score << endl;</pre>
22
23
     find_first_greater_than(score, 98);
24
     cout << *score << endl;</pre>
25
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
26
27
```

Listing 5 Passing a pointer by reference

1.4.3 Dynamic Memory Management

- The Free Store
- Memory Allocation
- Memory Deallocation
- Copy Constructors
- Some Common Pitfalls
 - Memory Leaks
 - Overwrites
 - Using Deallocated Memory
 - Deallocating Memory Twice

The Free Store

Every C++ program has what is called the "free store." The free store, which is sometimes called "the heap," is an area of a program's memory that is used dynamically. Using memory dynamically means that the amount of memory needed for some task is specified at run-time, rather than at compile time. For example, imagine a program that stores in an array a list of numbers input from the user. If the maximum size of the list of numbers is known ahead of time, there is little difficulty involved in declaring an array of suitable size. But, what if the size of the list is unknown? In this situation, we could prompt the user to enter first the size of the list of numbers. Then, using dynamic memory, we can create an array of equal size.

Variables created in the free store have dynamic extent. The extent of a variable describes how long a variable stays around in a program. Another term commonly used in place of extent is lifetime. Local variables in functions have local extent; they are created when the function is called and they are destroyed when the function returns. Global variables, which have static extent, are created and available throughout the entire lifetime of a program. A variable with dynamic extent has its lifetime specified explicitly by the programmer. The programmer issues a statement to create the variable and a statement to destroy the variable. This provides a lot of flexibility in the type of solutions that programmers can create. Think back to the list of numbers example where we prompted the user for the size of the list. There is a better solution that takes advantage of the dynamic extent of variables created from the free store. Instead of prompting the user to enter the size of the list, we assume the size of the list will not exceed one hundred elements. Using dynamic memory, we create an array of one hundred elements. If, during the input process, a user enters a one hundred and first number, we dynamically create an array of two hundred elements. We copy the first one hundred elements from the first array to the new array, and then insert the one hundred and first number. After this is complete, the first array is no longer needed and we return its memory to the free store. We repeat this process of dynamically allocated memory each time the capacity of our array is exceeded.

Memory Allocation

The process of obtaining memory from the free store is called memory allocation. The operator new is used in C++ to allocate memory dynamically.

```
1 // Allocate a single integer
2 int* ptr = new int;
```

Listing 1 The new operator

The new operator always returns a memory address. Remember, pointers store memory addresses, so we must store the return value of the new operator in a pointer. Using a pointer, we can indirectly access and modify the variable that we just created.

```
1  // Allocate a single integer
2  int* ptr = new int;
3  *ptr = 10;
4  
5  cout << "Address: " << ptr << endl;
6  cout << "Value: " << *ptr << endl;</pre>
```

Listing 2 Using a variable from the free store

The new operator works for all data types. We can dynamically allocate integers, floats, strings, and other user created classes. Listing 3 shows the allocation of several different data types.

```
int* i_ptr = new int;
char* c_ptr = new char;
bool* b_ptr = new bool;
float* f_ptr = new float;
double* d_ptr = new double;
string* str_ptr = new string;
```

Listing 3 Allocating different data types

Arrays can also be dynamically allocated.

```
// Dynamically allocate an array of size 100
float* ptr1 = new float[100];

// Prompt the user for the size of the second array
int size = 0;
cin >> size;
float* ptr2 = new float[size];
```

Listing 4 Allocating arrays

Objects can also be dynamically allocated. The new operator, in addition to allocating the memory for an object, will call a constructor for the object. Listing 5 shows objects allocated using new.

```
1 #include <iostream>
   #include <cstdlib>
2
4 using namespace std;
5
6 class my_class {
7
   private:
8
    int x;
9 public:
   my_class() : x(0) {}
10
11
   my_class(int p) : x(p) {}
12
   int value() { return x;}
13
   };
14
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
15
```

```
16
17
     // Allocate a single object
     my_class* ptr1 = new my_class(4);
18
19
20
     // Allocate an array of objects
21
     my_class* ptr2 = new my_class[10];
22
23
    cout << ptr1->value() << endl;</pre>
24 cout << ptr2->value() << endl;</pre>
25
26
   return EXIT_SUCCESS;
27 }
```

Listing 5 Allocating objects

Listing 5 defines a simple class and illustrates allocation of both a single instance and an array of objects of the class. In line 18, the single instance is allocated. After allocating memory for the object, the new operator invokes the single parameter constructor. In line 21, the new operator allocates an array of ten elements of type my_class. In this case, the default constructor is called for each of the ten objects in the array.

Memory Deallocation

The delete operator deallocates memory that is allocated using the new operator.

To release, or deallocate, memory, the delete operator needs to know what location in memory we want to deallocate. To this end, we supply it with a pointer, which is really just the address that we obtained from the new operator.

```
1  // Dynamically allocate a variable.
2  double* ptr1 = new double;
3  
4  // ... use the variable ...
5  
6  // The variable is no longer needed,
7  // so we return its memory to the Free Store.
8  delete ptr1;
```

Listing 6 The delete operator

A special syntax exists for the delete operator for use in deallocating arrays. The keyword delete is followed by the double bracket ([]) operator. This signals to the run-time environment that what delete needs to deallocate is actually an array, and not just a variable.

```
// Allocate two arrays.
int* ptr1 = new int[100];

int n = 0;
cin >> n;
int* ptr2 = new int[n];

// When they are no longer needed,
// we deallocate them.
delete [] ptr1;
delete [] ptr2;
```

It might be surprising that the size of the array does not have to be specified when using delete []. This is not necessary since the run-time environment automatically maintains the size of allocated arrays.

We have already seen that the new operator invokes a constructor when used to allocate objects. Similarly, when deallocating an object the delete operator calls the object's destructor.

Copy Constructors

A copy constructor defines the actions that need to be taken to create a copy of an object. Unlike regular constructors, a class can contain only one copy constructor. If a C++ class does not define a copy constructor, the language provides to the class a default copy constructor. This default copy constructor makes a byte-by-byte copy of the object.

Copy constructors are invoked whenever a copy of an object has to be made. There are three situations when copies of objects are made.

- 1. During declaration that involves initialization
- 2. When objects are passed by value
- 3. When objects are returned by value

Using the default copy constructor provided by the runtime system can be dangerous in a program that uses dynamic memory. Situations can arise where two or more objects incorrectly maintain pointers to the same data. Consider the following listing.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2 #include <cstdlib>
 3
 4 using namespace std;
 6 class Array {
 7
8 private:
 9
    int *ptr;
10
11 public:
12  Array(void) : ptr(new int[10]) {}
    ~Array(void) {delete ptr;}
13
14
    void display_ptr(void) {cout << ptr << endl;}</pre>
15
    }:
16
17
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
18
19
    // Create two Array objects. The
20
    // second should be a copy of the
21
     // data of the first.
22
     Array arr1;
23
     Array arr2 = arr1;
24
25
     arr1.display_ptr();
26
     arr2.display_ptr();
27
28
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
29
```

The intent of function main in the above listing is to create two objects of type Array. Each of these objects is to have ten elements. The ten elements in the second object (arr1) should contain copies of the values of the ten elements from the first object (arr1). This copy takes place when arr1 is assigned to arr1. In reality, only a copy of the pointer variable ptr is made during this assignment. Since class Array does not define a copy constructor, a byte-by-byte copy of the object is made. This byte-by-byte copy of the object results in each Array object having the same value for ptr. This is not a true copy of the object since the elements in the array, since they exist in the heap, are not copied at all. This type of copy is known as a shallow copy. The opposite of a shallow copy is a deep copy.

```
#include <iostream>
2
    #include <cstdlib>
4 using namespace std;
 5
 6
   class Array {
7
8
    private:
9
    int *ptr;
10
11
    public:
12
     Array(void) : ptr(new int[10]) {}
13
     Array(const Array& src) {
14
15
16
         cout << "Copy Constructor Invoked!\n";</pre>
17
         ptr = new int[10];
18
         for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
19
20
             ptr[i] = src.ptr[i];
21
         }
22
     }
23
     ~Array(void) {delete ptr;}
24
     void display_ptr(void) {cout << ptr << endl;}</pre>
25
26
    };
27
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
28
29
30
     // Create two Array objects. The
31
     // second should be a copy of the
     // data of the first.
32
33
     Array arr1;
34
     Array arr2 = arr1;
35
36
     arr1.display_ptr();
37
     arr2.display_ptr();
38
39
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
40 }
```

Listing 9 Class Array copy constructor

A copy constructor can be used to ensure the creation of a deep copy of an object. The above listing contains a copy constructor for class Array. This copy constructor allocates a new array in memory and copies into it the values from the source array.

Some Common Pitfalls

The basic rule for dealing with dynamic allocation and deallocation is straightforward: for each call to new (which consumes memory), there must be a corresponding call to delete (which releases the memory). Moreover, if at all possible, the matching calls should be close to each other, say, in the same function. Following this principle, allocations are made in the first few lines, and all the corresponding deallocations are performed in the last few lines of the function body. In practice, however, it is often not possible to match up closely allocations and deallocations in code. But, it is always important to think carefully ahead of time about where and when memory should be allocated and deallocated. Do not allocate memory at random throughout your code or deep inside nested function calls, because doing so makes it hard to keep track of those allocations. In general, errors relating to dynamic memory allocation are hard to deal with, and it is best to avoid them from the start.

1.5 Mechanisms for Code Reuse and Abstraction

This module of the course presents the mechanisms available in the C++ language that facilitate code reuse and abstraction.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapters 3 and 4.

• Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 16 through 18.

• Remark:

Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

1.5.1 Inheritance

- A Mechanism for Abstraction and Code Reuse
- <u>C++ Syntax</u>

A Mechanism for Abstraction and Code Reuse

Inheritance is a mechanism in C++ (as well as in Java) that facilitates abstraction and code reuse. Inheritance establishes the "is-a" relationships between the classes contained in a program. Using inheritance, new classes can be built based on old classes, allowing child classes to share data members and functions of the parent class. It is through these relationships that the advantages of data abstraction (generalization and specialization) emerge.

C++ Syntax

The C++ language syntax for specifying inheritance resembles that of Java. In Java, the first line of a class declaration can specify a class to inherit. This is the same in C++, with one exception. Instead of using the keyword extends to denote the parent/child relationship, C++ uses a colon (:).

```
1 class Employee { /* declaration of parent */ };
2 class Manager : Employee { /* declaration of child */ };
```

Listing 1 C++ inheritance syntax

The above listing declares class <code>Employee</code> and class <code>Manager</code>. Programmers and literature often use the terms "parent" and "child" to refer to the classes involved in the "is-a" relationship that inheritance models. Other terms used to describe the classes are "base" and "derived," respectively. As a standard, we use the terms "parent" and "child" throughout this course.

C++ and Java differ slightly in the data members that child classes inherit from their parents. In C++, a child class inherits all non-private data members including constructors. A child class in Java, however, inherits from its parent class all non-private data members except constructors. In both languages, child classes inherit all the non-private data members. In C++, this includes public and protected data members. In Java, this includes data members declared using public, protected, and default access. Unlike Java, C++ does not have a separate, default access. In C++, data members declared without an access modifier default to use private access.

```
1
    class BankAccount {
 2
 3
   protected:
 4
    double sum;
 5
    string name;
 6
 7
    public:
 8
9
     BankAccount(string nm) : name(nm), sum(0) {}
10
     double balance() { return sum;}
11
12
     void deposit(double amount) {sum += amount;}
     void withdraw(double amount) {sum -= amount;}
13
14
     string get_name() { return name;}
15
    };
16
17
    class SavingsAccount: public BankAccount {
18
    protected:
19
    double rate;
20
21
    public:
22
     SavingsAccount(string nm)
23
             : BankAccount(nm), // Call base class constructor
```

```
24    rate(0.055) {}
25
26    void add_interest() {sum *= (1 + rate);}
27    double get_rate() { return rate;}
28    };
```

Listing 2 Invoking parent class methods

Listing 2 contains an example of C++ inheritance that demonstrates how to invoke methods of a parent class. In this listing, we have defined a class SavingsAccount that inherits from class BankAccount. Our SavingsAccount class provides a way to add interest to the money present in an account. Line 23 is interesting in that it invokes the parent class constructor. In Java, we could accomplish this same task using the keyword super(). In C++, we instead use the name of the parent class followed by the constructor's parameters in parentheses.

C++ contains three types, or levels, of inheritance: public, private, and protected. Public inheritance is the most common type of inheritance used in C++. The examples we have seen so far all use public inheritance to model the "is-a" relationship of two classes. Private and protected inheritance model a different type of relationship, namely the "uses-a" relationship. For example, to model that a car uses an engine, we could privately inherit from a class <code>Engine</code> when defining a class <code>Car</code>. The more appropriate way to model this relationship, however, would be to have our class <code>Car</code> contain an instance of class <code>Engine</code>. Modeling the "uses-a" relationship in this manner is known as composition. All uses of inheritance in this course focus on modeling "is-a" relationships. Therefore, we do not use private or protected inheritance.

1.5.2 Polymorphism

- A Mechanism for Abstraction
- Polymorphism in Java
- Polymorphism in C++

A Mechanism for Abstraction

A fundamental feature of object-oriented programming languages, polymorphism is the ability of an object to take on several different forms. Put another way, polymorphism allows a programmer to refer to an object of one class as an object of another class. This has two primary uses. First, we can create collections of heterogeneous objects. We can operate on the individual objects in these collections as if they were all of the same type, without the objects losing their real identities. Second, we can code algorithms that make only minimal assumptions about the objects they manipulate. This can allow an algorithm to continue to function correctly even when a programmer introduces new child classes into the system. Both of these uses help create more maintainable solutions.

Polymorphism in Java

Polymorphism in Java is achieved by referring to an overridden method of an object via a reference of an ancestor type. This allows simple code to replace what could be an ugly looking switch-statement. The following listing demonstrates polymorphism in Java.

```
Account[] accounts =
 2
 3
        new CheckingAccount("Fred", 500, 100),
4
        new SavingsAccount("Wilma", 1000, 0.03),
        new CheckingAccount("Barney", 200, 100),
5
        new BondAccount("Betty", 2000, 0.07)
6
7
   };
8
9 for (int i = 0; i < 4; ++i) {
10
    System.out.println(accounts[i].showBalance());
11 | }
```

Listing 1 Polymorphism in Java

The above listing assumes a definition of class Account that has immediate child classes of type CheckingAccount and SavingsAccount. Class BondAccount is a child class of class SavingsAccount. Polymorphism exists in the for-loop in the above listing where the overridden method showBalance is called for each object. Even though the array accounts is of type Account, the method showBalance that is invoked is the showBalance method for the individual child classes. Without polymorphism, the single call to showBalance in the for-loop would have to be replaced by a switch-statement that casts the Account object to the correct child class.

Polymorphism in C++

In C++, polymorphism yields the same benefit as it does in Java: programmers can refer to objects in a way that facilitates elegant solutions. The approach taken to achieve this goal in C++ is the same as in Java. Programmers invoke overridden methods of a child class via an ancestor class. In Java, this is accomplished by defining a class hierarchy and using parent class references with instances of child classes. In C++, we use virtual functions in conjunction with pointers to access objects polymorphically.

To illustrate what virtual functions are and why we need to use pointers in conjunction with them, let's step through an extended example. Suppose we wish to implement a graphics system that can display various geometric shapes on the screen. It is natural to start with a small hierarchy of graphics objects.

```
class Shape { /* ... */ };
class Circle: public Shape { /* ... */ };
class Rectangle: public Shape { /* ... */ };
```

Listing 2 A class hierarchy

We can assume that in our application we need to be able to keep track of a collection of such shape objects. Suppose we want to maintain an array of shapes of either kind. We could try an array of type shape. This is reasonable, since it is legitimate to make an assignment from a child class to a variable of the base class.

```
1 Circle C(3); // radius 3
2 Shape S[10];
3 S[0] = C; // syntactically correct, but ...
```

Listing 3 The slicing problem

Unfortunately, the additional parts of the child class are simply stripped off during the assignment. This is known as the slicing problem. We lose all the additional data members of the child class. Slicing, however, does not occur when we deal with pointers. Hence, we can salvage our project by using an array of pointers to shapes.

```
1  Shape *layout[10];
2  layout[0] = new Circle(3);  // radius 3
3  layout[1] = new Rectangle(2, 4); // width 2, height 4
```

Listing 4 Using pointers

Shapes have several methods associated with them. For example, we want be able to calculate the area a shape takes up on the screen. The Shape class, therefore, would have to contain an area() method if we wish to invoke area() from an array of Shape*. Since Shape is a "generic" class, we could define its area() method as follows.

```
1 class Shape {
2 private:
3  /* ... */
4
5 public:
6 float area(void) { return 0;}
7  /* ... */
8 };
```

Listing 5 More of the Shape class

Next we need class <code>Circle</code> and <code>Rectangle</code> to override the inherited <code>area()</code> method of class <code>Shape</code> to provide specific details on how to calculate their respective areas. Once this is done, we can try the following.

```
1 cout << layout[0]->area() << endl; // prints 0
2 cout << layout[1]->area() << endl; // prints 0</pre>
```

Listing 6 Calling the wrong area() function

This implementation doesn't work as intended. The problem is that the static type of layout[0] is Shape*, and, therefore, the area() method belonging to class Shape is invoked, rather than the specific area() method for each of those array objects. What we need is a mechanism that checks the dynamic type of layout[0], for example, determine that it is Circle*, and then call the area() method from class Circle. This is accomplished in C++ using virtual functions.

Below is the proper redefinition of the Shape class, particularly its area() method. The area() method in the child classes need not be redefined (though it is good style to attach the keyword virtual to those methods as well).

```
class Shape {
private:
    /* ... */

public:
    virtual float area(void) { return 0;}

/* ... */
};
```

Assuming that Circle and Rectangle provide their own area() method overriding the one in Shape, we obtain the correct output.

```
1 cout << layout[0]->area() << endl; // prints 28.2743
2 cout << layout[1]->area() << endl; // prints 8</pre>
```

Listing 8 Calling the correct area() function

We could also have modified Shape by making area() not just virtual but also totally undefined. A function of this sort is called a pure virtual function.

```
class Shape {
private:
    /* ... */

public:
    virtual float area(void) = 0; // totally undefined
    /* ... */
    };
```

Listing 9 A pure virtual function

A class that contains a pure virtual function is known as an abstract class. Implementations in C++ only use abstract classes in conjunction with inheritance. Put another way, programmers never create instances of abstract classes. They exist merely to specify the common interface of child classes and to access these child classes polymorphically.

By way of summary, in order to obtain polymorphic behavior, we need to:

- deal with pointers rather than direct objects because of slicing
- declare member functions to be virtual

1.5.3 Templates

- <u>Template Functions</u>
- Template Classes

Template Functions

Template functions allow a programmer to apply the logic of a function to more than one data type. An ordinary C++ function declaration dictates the data types of its parameters. There are situations, however, when the logical structure of a function makes sense for many different types. For example, to compute the maximum of two values, we perform the same type of calculation regardless of whether the values are integers, floats, or strings. Template functions allow the programmer to create functions independent of the data types of their parameters.

```
int max(int x, int y) { return x < y ? y : x;}
float max(float x, float y) { return x < y ? y : x;}
string max(string& x, string& y) { return x < y ? y : x;}</pre>
```

Listing 1 Function overloading

Listing 1 contains a valid but undesirable approach to creating a family of functions that accomplish the same logical task, yet work on different data types. In this listing, the implementations for each version of function <code>max</code> are identical. The only differences between the three function definitions are the data types of the parameters and the data types of the return values. This approach is undesirable since it is tedious and leads to serious maintenance problems. If we ever need to change the function, we have to edit every single copy by hand. If we would like the function to support additional data types other than <code>int</code>, <code>float</code>, or <code>string</code>, we have to create those versions manually.

Using a template function, a C++ programmer creates the logic of a function around a generic data type. The compiler then creates versions of the function for specific data types. Listing 2 shows a template version of function max.

```
1 template <class T>
2 T my_max(T x, T y) {
3 return x < y ? y : x;
4 }</pre>
```

Listing 2 A template function

Template functions require a new and unique syntax. In line 1 of the above listing, the keyword template specifies that the function is a template function. It is followed in the angle brackets by the keyword class and a generic data type name T. The generic data type name T is then used throughout the implementation of the function max. The compiler replaces this generic data type name with the specific data types used by the program.

Instead of the keyword class, C++ also accepts the keyword typename. To avoid confusion, this course consistently uses the keyword class when defining templates.

```
1 #include <iostream>
   #include <cstdlib>
   #include <string>
4
5 using namespace std;
6
7 template <class T>
   const T& my_max(const T& x, const T& y) {
9
    return x < y? y : x;
10 }
11
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
12
13
14
     int i1 = 1;
    int i2 = 2;
15
     cout << "Maximum is: " << my_max(i1, i2) << endl;</pre>
16
17
18
     float f1 = 34.4;
19
     float f2 = 24.2;
     cout << "Maximum is: " << my_max(f1, f2) << endl;</pre>
20
21
     string s1 = "test1";
22
23
     string s2 = "test2";
     cout << "Maximum is: " << my_max(s1, s2) << endl;</pre>
24
25
26
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
27
```

We refer to a template function as a "template" because the compiler actually creates multiple versions of the function based on the generic or "template" definition. To know which versions it needs to create, the compiler looks through the source code of a program, examining the data types of the actual parameters passed to the template function. When compiling the above example program, the compiler creates three versions of function <code>my_max</code>, one for type <code>int</code>, one for type <code>float</code>, and one for type <code>string</code>. If we included a call to function <code>my_max</code> that used variables of type <code>double</code>, the compiler would create a version of function <code>my_max</code> that supported type <code>double</code>.

When defining and using template functions, a programmer must consider that the actual data types supplied to a template function must support the operators and data members used with the generic data type. Even though the <code>my_max</code> function from Listing 3 is a template function, it will not support all possible data types. Function <code>my_max</code>, because of its implementation in line 9, can only be used with data types that define the <code><</code> operator. This is an important principle programmers must follow when designing and using template functions. Listing 4 illustrates a violation of this principle.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <cstdlib>
 3 #include <string>
5 using namespace std;
6
7 template <class GenericType>
8  void display_length(const GenericType& x) {
9
    cout << "Length is: " << x.length();</pre>
10
11
12
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
13
     string s = "string";
14
15
     int i = 0;
16
17
     display_length(s);
18
19
     // int does not support function length()
     // which results in compile error!
20
21
     display_length(i);
22
23
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
24
    }
```

Listing 4 <u>Incorrectly using a template function</u>

Template functions can utilize more than one generic data type. Listing 5 shows a template function, some_function, that has two generic types. This function takes two parameters. The first parameter is of the generic type x, and the second is of the generic type y.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <string>
3
4 using namespace std;
5
6 template <class X, class Y>
```

```
void output(X x, Y y) {
 8
     cout \ll x \ll " " \ll y \ll endl;
 9
10
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
11
12
13
     output(2, "test");
14
     output(4.5, true);
     output("test", 3);
15
16
17
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
18
    }
```

Listing 5 Multiple generic types

Template Classes

In addition to template functions, programmers can use C++ to create template classes. A template class in C++ is a class whose definition is independent of a specific data type. For example, we could define a template class Array that works for integers, floats, characters, strings, and user defined classes.

The syntax involved in a template class definition is similar to that of a template function.

```
template <class ElementType>
 2
    class Array {
 3
 4
    private:
 5
     ElementType arr[SIZE]; // fixed size array
6
7
    public:
8
    // Constructor
9
     Array(ElementType e) {
         for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++) {
10
             arr[i] = e;
11
12
         }
     }
13
14
     // Element access
15
16
     ElementType& operator[](int i) {
         assert (0 \le i \&\& i < SIZE);
17
18
         return arr[i];
19
     }
20 };
```

Listing 6 A template class

Looking at both Listing 5 and Listing 6, we can see that the syntax of a template class definition resembles the syntax of a template function definition. In both cases, a line containing the keyword template and a list of the generic data type names precedes the definition. Listing 7 demonstrates instantiation of template classes. Notice the programmer specifies the specific type of the generic class inside angle brackets.

1.5.4 Exception Handling

- C++ and Java Exception Handling
- C++ Exception Handling Fundamentals
- The C++ Standard Exception Hierarchy
- <u>Using Intermediate Handlers</u>
- Summary of Best Practices

C++ and Java Exception Handling

In many respects, exception handling in C++ closely resembles exception handling in Java. First of all, C++ uses the same try-catch block mechanism used in Java. Also, both languages also provide an exception class hierarchy that programmers can use and extend. There are a few differences, however, in C++ and Java exception handling. In this page, we examine the fundamentals of C++ exception handling, paying careful attention to the differences from Java exception handling. Also, we examine how explicit memory management complicates handling exceptions.

C++ Exception Handling Fundamentals

C++ exception handling centers around the use of the try keyword and the catch keyword. A programmer encloses code that may trigger an exception within a try block. One or more catch blocks immediately follow the try block. When an exception occurs in a try block, the program execution point is transferred to a catch block corresponding to the type of exception thrown. The catch block performs the necessary tasks to recover from the exceptional condition. In other words, it "handles" the exception. Listing 1 demonstrates the use of try and catch blocks in C++.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <cstdlib>
 3 #include <stdexcept>
4
5 using namespace std;
 6
7
   void calculate_fibonacci(int);
8
9
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
10
11
     try {
12
13
         if (argc != 2) {
             cerr << "Usage: " << argv[0] << " num" << endl;</pre>
14
15
             return EXIT_FAILURE;
16
17
         int number_fib = atoi(argv[1]);
18
         calculate_fibonacci(number_fib);
19
20
         return EXIT_SUCCESS;
21
22
23
     catch (exception& e) {
        cerr << e.what() << endl;</pre>
24
25
     }
26
```

```
27
    return EXIT_FAILURE;
28
    }
29
   void calculate_fibonacci(int number_fib) {
30
31
32
     int* array = new int[number_fib];
33
     array[0] = 1;
34
     array[1] = 1;
35
36
     // populate the elements with Fibonacci numbers
     for (int i = 2; i < number_fib; i++) {
37
38
         array[i] = array[i - 1] + array[i - 2];
39
     }
40
41
     delete [] array;
42
```

Listing 1 The try and catch blocks

C++ programmers trigger exceptions using the throw statement. In a throw statement, a programmer specifies the exception to trigger following the keyword throw. Listing 2 randomly triggers one of two exceptions using throw statements.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2
   #include <cstdlib>
   #include <stdexcept>
 3
   #include <ctime>
 6
   using namespace std;
 7
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
 9
10
     try {
11
         srand(time(0));
12
13
        if (rand() % 2 == 0) {
14
             throw out_of_range("out of range");
15
        }
16
         else {
             throw length_error("length error");
17
         }
18
19
20
         return EXIT_SUCCESS;
21
22
     catch (out_of_range e) {
23
         cerr << "caught out_of_range exception" << endl;</pre>
24
     catch (length_error e) {
25
26
         cerr << "caught length_error exception" << endl;</pre>
27
     }
28
29
     return EXIT_FAILURE;
30
    }
```

Listing 2 <u>Triggering exceptions</u>

Unit 2. Linear Structures

2.1 Using the Standard string Class

- C-style Strings
- Advanced String Operations

C-style Strings

The standard string class provides support for character strings. We have already examined the basic properties and use of the standard string class in page 1.3.1 Data Types. Before examining it in more detail, we consider another more primitive mechanism that provides support for character strings. This mechanism is C-style strings. C-style strings are neither as safe nor as easy to use as the string class. We discuss C-style strings only because they are occasionally encountered in C++ programming.

In the C programming language, arrays of type char provide support for character strings. With the introduction of C++, this mechanism became known as C-style strings. The following figure illustrates how a C-style string stores the individual characters of the "apple".

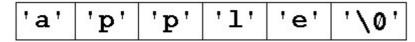


Figure 1 A C-style string is an array of type char

The null character, or null terminator, is a special character that terminates the array to indicate the end of a C-style string. C-style strings therefore require one extra byte of storage in addition to the number of characters in the string. For example, to store the five-letter word "apple", a C-style string uses a six-element array. The array uses five elements to store the letters of "apple" and one element to store the null character.

During the remainder of this course, we manipulate character strings using the standard string class. This class provides ease of use, convenience, and safety that C-style strings lack. Any discussion further into the topic of C-style strings is beyond the scope of this course, except for how to convert a C-style string to a string object. A constructor of the string class converts a C-style string into a string object. Listing 1 demonstrates the use of this constructor.

```
1
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
 2
     string s1(argv[0]); // convert from char*
 3
 4
 5
     char apple[] = "apple";
 6
     string s2(apple); // convert from char[]
 7
 8
     cout << s1 << endl:
9
     cout << s2 << end1;</pre>
10
11
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
    }
12
```

Advanced String Operations

Class string also provides advanced character string support. Beyond the basic support of initialization, concatenation, length, input and output, class string provides a set of higher-level string handling functions. While a list of some of these follows, please refer to chapter 36 of the Schildt reference for a complete list.

- erase
 - Removes a sequence of characters from a string
- find
 - Searches a string for the occurrence of another string
- substr
 - Returns, as a string, part of another string
- replace
 - Replaces a substring of characters with another string
- insert
 - Inserts a string into another string

The following listing demonstrates the above member functions.

```
1 string s1("Demonstrating all the advanced");
2
   string s2("string functions!!!");
4 // erase the exclamation marks
5 s2.erase(16, 3);
7
   // replace 'all the' with 'some'
8 s1.replace(14, 7, "some");
10 // insert a space at the beginning of s2
11 s2.insert(0, " ");
12
13 // extract everything after "some" from s1
14 | int index = s1.find("some");
15 | string s3 = s1.substr(index);
16
17 | cout << s1 << s2 << end1 << s3 << end1;
```

Listing 2 Some advanced string functions

The above listing yields the following output:

```
Demonstrating some advanced string functions some advanced
Figure 2 Output of listing 2
```

2.2 The STL and Basic Containers

With this module, the course introduces the Standard Template Library and two of its basic containers.

• Required:

Weiss, sections 1.2, 2.6. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

2.2.1 Introduction to the Standard Template Library

- STL Overview
- Containers
- <u>Iterators</u>
- Algorithms

STL Overview

Standard C++ includes a fairly extensive set of libraries and, in particular, the *Standard Template Library (STL)*. The STL provides general-purpose components for common programming tasks. These components are characterized by their flexibility, efficiency, and theoretical soundness. The library is organized into three main abstractions.

- Containers
- Iterators
- Algorithms

The containers include strings, vectors, lists, sets, stacks, and the like. The containers are organized as a collection of independent C++ classes. All the STL containers classes are template classes, and therefore can accommodate items of arbitrary types. The user interfaces of the individual container classes are surprisingly small. Instead, there is a large and well-organized collection of STL algorithms that perform many of the tasks one might expect to see handled by a member function. For example, there is a universal remove() function that works on all kinds of containers. Other examples of STL algorithms are methods for searching, sorting, replacement, and various functional operations. Another interesting conceptual feature in the STL is that iterators form the link between containers and algorithms. Access to the items held in a container is always mediated by iterators, a sort of generalized array index or pointer.

Unlike similar libraries, the STL focuses strongly on algorithmic abstractions. Its implementation relies heavily on templates, but it uses little inheritance and virtual functions. As a consequence, the efficiency of STL components often equals that of components developed using traditional C++ code.

2.2.2 Using the STL vector Container

- Vector as an Array Class
- Vector as an STL Container

Vector as an Array Class

Class vector provides a safe and feature-rich alternative to an array. Similar to an array, a vector sequentially stores a series of objects of identical data types. Since it is an STL container, class vector supports generic programming. We can create a vector that stores integers, or one that stores strings, or one that stores any other primitive or user defined type.

Arrays can be dangerous to use because they provide no functionality to the programmer. When using arrays, the programmer is responsible for creating any higher-level functionality, such as resizing or reversing the array. These implementations can be tricky and, if not coded correctly, can introduce subtle bugs into an application. Vectors provide a safer alternative to arrays since they provide member functions that implement these (and other) higher-level tasks.

```
1 #include <string>
    #include <cstdlib>
    #include <iostream>
   #include <vector>
4
6 using namespace std;
7
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
9
10
    vector<int> v1;
11
    vector<double> v2;
12
    vector<bool> v3;
13
    vector<string> v4;
14
15
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
16 }
```

Listing 1 Declaring vector objects

Listing 1 demonstrates the declaration of objects of class vector. Notice that in order to use objects of type vector, we have to include the library that defines the vector class. This is done in line 4 in the above listing.

It is interesting to note that we can also declare a vector of vector objects. This provides an implementation for a two-dimensional data structure such as a matrix. Listing 2 illustrates the declaration of a vector of vectors. To avoid confusion with the >> operator, most compilers require a space following the first greater-than symbol. This applies to any nested template declaration, not just vectors of vectors.

```
1 | vector<vector<int> > matrix;

Listing 2 A vector of vector objects
```

Class vector contains a set of constructors programmers can use to set the initial size of the vector and the initial values of the elements. Listing 3 demonstrates these constructors.

```
1 #include <string>
2 #include <cstdlib>
 3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <vector>
6 using namespace std;
7
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
9
    vector<int> v1;  // initially empty
vector<int> v2(5);  // 5 elements, init
10
11
                             // 5 elements, initialized to 0
     vector<int> v3(10, 1); // 10 elements, initialized to 1
12
     vector<int> v4(v3); // v4 is a copy of v3
13
14
15
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
16 }
```

Listing 3 <u>vector</u> constructors

We can access the elements stored in a vector in a few different ways. First, class vector overloads operator[]. This allows us to access elements using syntax similar to array subscripting. Just like array subscript access, the overloaded bracket operator of class vector does not provide out-of-bounds access checking. When bounds checking is required, we must use the at() method. There are also special access methods for the first and last element in the array, as demonstrated in Listing 4.

```
1  vector<int> v(10);
2
3  v[1] = 2;
4  v.at(2) = 45;
5  v.front() = v.back();
```

Listing 4 Element access

In addition to providing the standard member functions discussed above, class vector also supplies some other functions that you may not expect as part of an array class. For example, method push_back appends a data item to the end of the vector. This method automatically resizes the vector to accommodate the new element. Method pop_back performs the opposite task. This member function removes the last element from the vector, decreasing the size of the vector by one. The empty function returns true if the vector contains zero elements, and false otherwise.

2.2.3 Using the STL deque Container

- <u>Interface</u>
- <u>Implementation</u>

Interface

An object of type deque (pronounced "deck") can store and provide access to a linear sequence of elements. In this respect, a deque is similar to a vector. In fact, the two classes share nearly identical class interfaces.

```
1 #include <cstdlib>
 2
   #include <iostream>
   #include <vector>
 4 #include <deque>
 5
6 using namespace std;
7
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
9
10
     vector<int> v(10, 1);
     deque<int> d(10, 1);
11
12
13
     v[9] = 2;
     d[9] = 2;
14
15
     cout << v.front() << " " << v.back() << endl;</pre>
16
     cout << d.front() << " " << d.back() << endl;</pre>
17
18
19
     v.push_back(3);
20
     d.push_back(3);
21
```

```
22
     v.pop_back();
23
     d.pop_back();
24
25
     cout << v.size() << endl;</pre>
26
     cout << d.size() << endl;</pre>
27
     ostream_iterator<int> out(cout, " ");
28
29
     copy(v.begin(), v.end(), out);
    copy(d.begin(), d.end(), out);
30
31
32
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
33 }
```

Listing 1 Deques and Vectors

In the listing above, we can see that both classes provide similar constructors, element access methods, insertion and removal methods, and iterator support. Deques and vectors differ, however, in their ability to handle element insertions and removals from the front of the respective structures. In class vector, element insertion and removal from the end of the vector is accomplished using functions <code>push_back</code> and <code>pop_back</code>. For implementation reasons we examine shortly, vectors contain no corresponding <code>push_front</code> and <code>pop_front</code> methods. Instead, programmers must use vector class member functions insert and erase. As we examined in <code>2.2.2 Using the STL vector Container</code>, these functions introduce overhead of element copying. Class deque, on the other hand, does provide methods <code>push_front</code> and <code>pop_front</code>. These methods do not require the element copying overhead.

```
deque<int> d(10); // 10 elements, initialized to 0

d.push_front(2);
cout << d.front() << endl; // Outputs "2"

d.pop_front();
cout << d.front() << endl; // Outputs "0"</pre>
```

Listing 2 push_front and [pop_front]

Counting the number of items that possess certain properties can be done using the count and count_if functions. The count function accepts a range of elements in a container (through a beginning and ending iterator) and a value to count. The function returns number of occurrences of the value within the specified range. The count_if function uses a programmer supplied function to determine if an element in the specified range is counted. This programmer supplied function must take a single argument and return a value of type bool. The data type of the argument must match the type of the element stored in the specified range. The following listing demonstrates both the count and count_if functions used with a deque.

```
1 // a predicate
   bool is_odd(int i) {
    return ((i \% 2) == 1);
 3
4
    }
 5
6
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
7
 8
     deque<int> numbers;
     for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
9
10
         numbers.push_back(i);
```

Listing 3 The count and count_if functions

Implementation

Class deque and vector differ in their implementation. As we have seen in 2.2.2 Using the STL vector Container, class vector essentially wraps a C++ array, providing a safe and feature-rich interface. To accommodate efficient insertions and deletions of elements from both the front and back, a deque implementation is typically based on a series of arrays. While this implementation is interesting, we will ignore the details. Comparing element storage strategies between the two containers is enough to illustrate the main difference between deques and vectors.

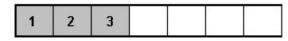


Figure 1 Element storage in a vector

Figure 1 represents how elements are stored in a vector. In this figure, the shaded squares represent the elements of the vector (the size) and the non-shaded squares represent the reserved memory (the capacity). This vector contains three elements, and has four reserved memory locations. In this arrangement, inserting an element at the beginning of the vector is not a trivial task since all the elements need to be moved to make room for the newly added element.

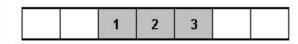


Figure 2 Element storage in a deque

Deques reserve memory locations at both the front and back of their stored elements. Figure 2 illustrates this fundamental difference between vectors and deques. Reserving memory at both the front and back of the structure allows for efficient insertion and removal of elements at both ends, at the cost of a more complex implementation.

2.3 Linked Lists

With this module, the course introduces the linked list data structure.

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 2. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

2.3.1 A Linked Structure

- A Non-Contiguous List
- Linking Elements Together

A Non-Contiguous List

A linked list stores a linear sequence of elements. Using a linked list and its associated operations, we can build, manipulate, and maintain a list of elements. Recall that vectors also store a sequence of elements. Linked lists share many of the same operations as vectors. For example, both data structures support element insertion and removal, element traversal, and other basic operations.

The efficiency of certain operations differs between linked lists and vectors. For example, the operation associated with removing the first element is more efficient in a linked list than it is in a vector. On the other hand, accessing a random element in a sequence stored in a vector is more efficient than it is in a linked list. These differences in efficiency are rooted in how each data structure stores elements in memory. Vectors use contiguous storage whereas a linked list stores elements arbitrarily in memory. All the elements in a vector, for instance, appear one after another in memory. Figure 1 illustrates the elements of a vector in memory.

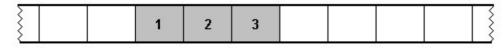


Figure 1 A vector in memory

Linked lists store elements in non-contiguous memory locations. This means that adjacent elements in the sequence the list maintains are not stored in adjacent memory locations. Figure 2 shows a linked list in memory.

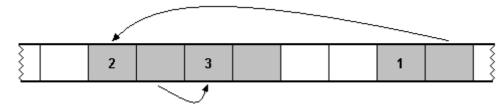


Figure 2 A linked list in memory

Storing elements in non-contiguous memory locations is only possible if each element somehow references the next element in the list. The reference from one element to the next appears in Figure 2 as an arrow. The linked list in this figure begins with the element whose value is 1. This element references the next element (value 2) which references the third element (value 3). The reference is typically known as a "link," which explains the name "linked list." It is important to notice that extra memory is required to store the link for each item in the list. This additional memory requirement per list element is a fundamental difference between linked lists and vectors.

Storing elements in contiguous or non-contiguous memory affects the efficiency of certain operations. When elements are stored in contiguous memory locations, random element access is efficient because the implementation can compute directly the location of any element. Storing elements in contiguous memory locations has an adverse impact on other operations. We have already seen the overhead involved in inserting an element in the middle of a vector. This overhead exists since the implementation must move values in memory to create "space" for the inserted item.

Non-contiguous storage also has its advantages and disadvantages. One advantage of a linked list is that we can remove or add an element by simply rearranging the links. For example, we can easily remove the second element from the list in Figure 2. To do this we update the link that points from element one to point it to element three. If the memory where element two exists was allocated dynamically (using new), then we also must deallocation this memory. This element removal process is the same regardless of the size of the list. Figure 3 represents the state of the list in Figure 2 after the removal of the second element.

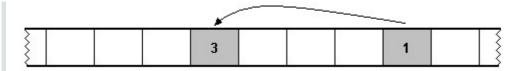


Figure 3 After removing element two

On the other hand, random element access in a linked list is not as efficient as it is in a vector. To access a specific element in a linked list, we must traverse all the elements from the beginning until we reach the item we seek. This is because the use of non-contiguous storage prevents the implementation from easily calculating where a specific element is stored.

Linking Elements Together

As we noted above, storing in memory only the element data is not sufficient to maintain the structure of a linked list. Each element must also indicate where in memory the next element is located. Since we are dealing with memory locations, linking together the elements contained in a linked list is a perfect application for pointers. With this in mind, we can build a mental model of a linked list that resembles Figure 4.

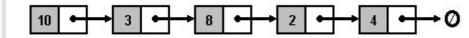


Figure 4 Pointers as links

In Figure 4 we see a linked list containing five elements. The data from each list item is paired with a pointer (represented by the arrows) that indicates the location in memory of the next element. Notice that the pointer associated with the last item is set to the null pointer. This is a standard technique used to denote the last item in a list.

A node in a linked list contains the data for one element and any bookkeeping information necessary to maintain the list representation. In the example in Figure 4, the node contains an integer (the data), and a pointer to the next node in the list. The structure represented in Figure 4 is known as a singly-linked list since only one link exists for each node. Because only one link exists for each node, we can traverse a singly-linked list only from front to back.

To facilitate traversal of a list in either direction, we can add an additional pointer to each node that points to the previous node in the list.

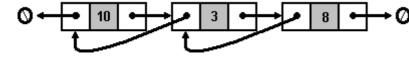


Figure 5 Doubly-linked lists

In Figure 5, one additional pointer has been added to each node. This new pointer references the previous node in the list. This type of linked list is a doubly-linked list. A doubly-linked list allows one to move forward and backward through a list.

2.3.2 A C++ Implementation

- A Template List Class
- <u>Implementation</u>
 - Node Representation
 - Simple Member Functions
 - Inserting and Removing from the Beginning
 - Inserting and Removing from the End
 - The Destructor
 - The Copy Constructor
 - Displaying the List Contents
- <u>Testing the Implementation</u>

A Template List Class

In this page, we examine the implementation of a linked list class.

We start by examining some high-level requirements that we want our class to support. Let's assume that this list class, which we name <code>LinkedList</code>, needs to support only forward traversal. For this reason, we can implement the class as a singly-linked list. We can also assume that class <code>LinkedList</code> needs to support insertion and removal of elements at both the front and back of the list. To support this requirement, our class will maintain pointers to both the beginning and end of the list. Finally, we would like to use this class to store lists of integers, floats, strings, or any data type. This requires the class to be a template class.

The following C++ declaration contains the public members of our class.

```
1 | template <class T>
   class LinkedList {
2
4 public:
    LinkedList(); // Default constructor
5
6
    LinkedList(const LinkedList<T>& src); // Copy constructor
7
    ~LinkedList(); // Destructor
8
9
    T& front(); // Element access for front of list
    T& back(); // Element access for back of list
10
11
    int size(); // count of elements in list
12
     bool empty(); // Size > 0
13
14
     void push_front(const T&); // Insert element at beginning
     void push_back(const T&); // Insert element at end
15
     void pop_front(); // Remove element from beginning
16
17
     void pop_back(); // Remove element from end
18
19
    void dump(); // Output contents of list
20 };
```

Listing 1 Public interface of class LinkedList

Implementation

Node Representation

Now that we have an idea of the member functions that the class implements, let's shift our focus and think about how we can represent a node of the linked list. We know a node must store the element data and any bookkeeping information necessary to maintain the structure of the linked list. Since this is a singly-linked list implementation, a pointer to the next node in the list is the only bookkeeping information required.

```
1 | template <class T>
2
   class LinkedList {
 3
4 private:
5 class Node {
        T data;
6
7
       Node* next;
8
    };
9
10 public:
11
   // rest of public members ...
```

Listing 2 Class Node

The above class is an adequate representation for a node in a singly-linked list. It contains a member to store the data for the node and a pointer to the next node. Within the context of our linked list class, however, class Node needs to be augmented with a few more features. First, we add a constructor that allows initialization of the data members of the class. We also add a friend statement that allows the member functions of class LinkedList to access the private data members of class Node.

2.3.3 Using the STL list Container

- The Interface
- <u>Traversing a List</u>
- Inserting and Removing Elements

The Interface

The list container is the Standard Template Library's linked list class. Page 819 of the Schildt reference book contains a complete listing of the member functions that comprise the interface of class list.

The container class <code>list</code> supports element insertion and removal from both the front and back. In class <code>list</code>, member functions <code>push_front</code>, <code>pop_front</code>, <code>push_back</code>, and <code>pop_back</code> accomplish these tasks. Class <code>list</code> also provides access to the data in the first and last elements via methods <code>front</code> and <code>back</code>. Furthermore, similar to our class <code>LinkedList</code>, method <code>size</code> returns the number of elements in a list and method <code>empty</code> reports whether or not a list is empty.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <string>
3 #include <cstdlib>
4 #include <list>
5
```

```
using namespace std;
 7
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
9
     list<int> l1;
10
11
     11.push_front(10);
12
     cout << l1.size() << endl; // count of 1</pre>
13
     list<string> 12(10);
14
15
     cout << 12.size() << end1; // count of 10</pre>
16
17
     list<double> 13(1, 2.3); // initial value of 2.3
18
     cout << 13.back() << end1;</pre>
     13.pop_back();
19
20
     cout << 13.empty() << end1;</pre>
21
22
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
23 }
```

Listing 1 The STL list container

In addition to the default constructor, the STL <code>list</code> class provides a constructor that specifies an initial number of elements in a list. Line 14 of the above listing uses this constructor to declare a list that initially contains ten elements. This constructor also has an optional second parameter. A programmer can use this second parameter to specify the default value for the initial elements. An example of this usage is demonstrated in line 17 of Listing 1. This line declares a list that initially contains one element with the value <code>2.3</code>. Omitting the second argument invokes the default constructors of the initial elements.

Traversing a List

Traversing through the elements contained in a <code>list</code> is a common application of iterators. Using the iterator returned by function <code>begin</code> and the iterator returned by function <code>end</code>, a loop construct can visit all the elements in a list.

```
1  // Populate
2  list<int> 1;
3  for (int i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
4   l.push_back(i);
5  }
6
7  // Traverse
8  list<int>::iterator it;
9  for (it = l.begin(); it != l.end(); it++) {
10  cout << *it << endl;
11  }</pre>
```

Listing 2 Traversing a list

Listing 2 works correctly because the iterator returned by function end points to the one position past the last element in the list. The iterator returned by function begin, on the other hand, points to the first element in the list.

The STL list is a doubly-linked list. This means the list should support traversal from back to front. At first thought, one might attempt the following for a reverse traversal.

```
1 // Populate
   list<int> 1;
    for (int i = 1; i \le 10; i++) {
    1.push_back(i);
 5
   }
 6
7
   // Reverse Traverse
8
    list<int>::iterator it;
9 | it = 1.end();
10 | do {
    --it;
11
12
    cout << *it << endl;</pre>
13
14 | while (it != 1.begin());
```

Listing 3 Wrong way to traverse in reverse

The code in Listing 3 does traverse the entire list in reverse, but it is clearly not as readable as the forward traverse listing. To implement a more readable version of a reverse traverse, we need iterators that point to the last element in the list and one position before the first element. These iterators exist, and are returned by functions regin and rend, respectively.

Listing 4 Reverse iterators

The iterators returned by functions <code>rbegin</code> and <code>rend</code> are reverse iterators and are used for reverse traversals. Reverse iterators operate much the same way as regular iterators, except they handle increment operations in reverse. Notice the use of the increment operator (++) in the for-loop in Listing 4. Incrementing the reverse iterator moves it backwards through the list. Reverse iterators, found also in the other STL containers (<code>string</code>, <code>vector</code>, and <code>deque</code>) that we have examined, provide an effective and intuitive way to traverse a structure in reverse order.

Inserting and Removing Elements

Linked lists perform efficient element insertions and removals, regardless of the positions of elements with the list. This is due to the linked nature of the structure. Member functions insert and erase perform this functionality in STL list class. To indicate the range of elements to insert or remove, both of these functions use iterators. Function erase either takes one argument indicating the element to remove, or two arguments that indicate the range of elements to remove. Listing 5 demonstrates the single argument use of function erase.

```
1  // Erase the second element from a list
2  list<int> 1(10);
3  list<int>::iterator second = l.begin();
4  second++;
5  l.erase(second);
```

Listing 5 Using function erase

Method insert is used similar to method erase. Listing 6 inserts an element with the value 5 after the first list element.

```
1  // Insert an element after the first element
2  list<int> 1(10);
3  list<int>::iterator it = l.begin();
4  it++;
5  l.insert(it, 5);
```

Listing 6 Function insert

Using function insert, we can insert an entire sequence of elements into a list. Listing 7 demonstrates this use of the function.

```
1  // Insert a range of elements
2  list<double> l1(10, 2.14);
3  list<double> l2(5, 0.0);
4
5  list<double>::iterator it = l1.begin();
6  it++;
7
8  l1.insert(it, l2.begin(), l2.end());
9  cout << l1.size() << endl;</pre>
```

Listing 7 Inserting a range of elements

2.4 Queues

With this module, the course introduces the queue abstract data type.

• Required:

Weiss, section 7.2.3 and chapter 16. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

2.4.1 First-In, First-Out

A queue is a linear data structure that utilizes a first-in, first-out element insertion and removal policy. First-in, first-out means that the first element added to a queue is the first element removed from a queue. Put another way, things are only removed from the beginning and only added to the end of queues.

Queues are used in the real world in many places. Remember from 1.2.1 What are Data Structures and Algorithms? we discussed a line at a movie theater as a data structure. This line is really just a queue. People enter the line at the back and leave the line only when they reach the front and buy their tickets. Airplanes waiting to land and take off from an airport also wait in queues. Anywhere a "First Come, First Served" sign is seen, a queue is at work.

Queues have many different applications in computer science and software development. A queue can be used to provide a buffer. A buffer provides temporary storage for information that needs to be processed later. Network routers buffer incoming data packets in a queue to give the routers time to process outgoing packets. Operating systems can use a queue to implement a scheduling policy that decides which program to run next. Applications that stream audio and video across the Internet buffer a certain number of packets in a queue to account for temporary slow downs in connection speeds.

2.4.2 Using the STL queue Adapter

The Standard Template Library contains adapters that provide a new, but similar interface to an existing container. The queue adapter provides the interface suitable for a queue data structure. It is based, by default, on the deque container. When an object of type queue is used, an object of type deque is actually instantiated, just with an interface more suitable for a queue. Listing 1 illustrates the entire, small interface of the queue adapter.

```
1 #include <iostream>
   #include <string>
 3 #include <cstdlib>
 4 | #include <queue>
 5
6 using namespace std;
8
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
9
10
     queue<int> q;
11
12
     // push and pop
13
     q.push(1);
14
     q.pop();
15
     // front and back
16
17
     q.push(1);
18
     q.push(2);
19
     cout << q.front() << endl;</pre>
20
     cout << q.back() << endl;</pre>
21
22
     // size and empty
23
     cout << q.size() << endl;</pre>
24
     cout << q.empty() << endl;</pre>
25
26
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
27
```

Listing 1 The queue interface

Only six member functions exist in the queue adapter interface. Methods push and pop insert and remove elements from a queue, and methods front and back provide access to the data stored in the beginning and end of a queue. Similar to the other STL containers we have examined, method size returns the number of elements stored in a queue and method empty returns true if a queue is empty and false if a queue is storing at least one element. Notice from line 4 in the above listing that inclusion of the <queue> library is necessary to use the queue adapter.

One thing that the queue adapter lacks is support for iterators. Without iterators, a method to traverse the elements stored in a queue does not exist. Essentially, a queue hides all the elements it stores except for the first and last. If an application requires a queue, but also requires access to the elements stored in the queue, a deque should be used instead. Table 1 shows the member functions of class queue and their deque equivalents.

queue member	deque equivalent
push	push_back
pop	pop_front
front	front
back	back
size	size
empty	empty

Table 1 queue member functions and their deque equivalents

2.5 Stacks

With this module, the course introduces the stack abstract data type.

• Required:

Weiss, sections 7.2.1 - 7.2.2 and chapter 16. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

2.5.1 Last-In, First-Out

- Stacks Introduced
- Applications of Stacks

Stacks Introduced

A stack is a linear data structure that provides access to only the most recently added element. In a stack, items can only be added at and removed from one end of the sequence. This amounts to a "Last-in, First-Out" element insertion and removal policy. Put another way, the next item that can be removed from a stack is always the element that was most recently added to the stack. We can always add more elements to a stack, but each time we do, the newly added element becomes the element that can be removed first.

A stack of plates or dishes in a kitchen is a real world example of a stack data structure. Consider how one uses a stack of plates. When a plate is needed for dining, one is taken from the top of the stack of plates. It is not a good idea to try to take a plate from the bottom, since this probably would topple the entire stack. When plates are put away, they are placed on top of the stack. Because we only take plates from the top, a plate placed on top of the stack becomes the next plate that we use.

Real world examples like the stack of plates make it is easy to think of a stack as a vertical structure. With this mental model in mind, let's step through adding a few elements to an initially empty stack. First we add (typically referred to as "pushing" onto the stack) an element with the value 1. Figure 1 represents our stack with this lone element.



Figure 1 After adding element 1

Things become more interesting after we push a second element onto the stack. Figure 2 shows the state of the stack after we add an element with the value [2].



Figure 2 After adding element 2

The element shaded in gray is now at the top of the stack. Adding this second element effectively hides the first element since the second element is now the only element that can be removed. Also, it is the only element in the stack whose value we can access. This is an important property of the stack data structure that differs from vectors and deques. In a stack, we have access to the number of elements stored in the data structure, but we do not have access to all the values of the elements. We can "peek" into the stack to return the value of the element that sits at the top. A peek operation performed on the stack in Figure 2 would return the value 2.



Figure 3 After adding element 3

Figure 3 shows the stack after we push a third element onto the stack. The element added contains the value [3]. If we were to remove an element from the stack (often referred to as "popping" an element), our stack would then look like Figure 2.

We have examined how stacks operate and have seen the primary operations associated with stacks. Summarizing, "pushing" adds an element to the top of a stack, "popping" removes the element at the top of a stack, and "peeking" returns the value of the element at the top of a stack.

Applications of Stacks

An important data structure in Computer Science, stacks have many different applications. These applications range from simple tasks such as reversing the characters in a string to seemingly more complex tasks such as the evaluation of arithmetic expressions or the navigation of mazes. It is important to gain a solid understanding of the concept of a stack since later in this course we encounter many uses of stacks in the context of other data structures and algorithms.

2.5.2 Using the STL stack Adapter

The STL stack adapter provides an interface suitable for use as a stack. Listing 1 demonstrates all the member functions of the stack adapter.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2 #include <string>
 3 #include <cstdlib>
 4 #include <stack>
 5
 6 using namespace std;
8 | int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
9
10
    stack<int> s;
11
12
    // push and pop
13
     s.push(1);
14
    s.pop();
15
16
    // top
17
    s.push(10);
18
    s.push(11);
19
    cout << s.top() << endl;</pre>
20
21
    // size and empty
    cout << s.size() << endl;</pre>
22
23
   cout << s.empty() << endl;</pre>
24
25
   return EXIT_SUCCESS;
26 }
```

Listing 1 The stack adapter

Only six member functions exist in the stack adapter interface. Methods push and pop insert and remove elements from a stack respectively, and method top returns a reference to the data stored at the top of the stack. As with the queue adapter, method size returns the number of elements stored in a stack and method empty returns true if a stack is empty and false if a stack is not empty.

To use the STL stack adapter in a program, a programmer must include the <stack> library. This is done in line 4 of Listing 1.

Listing 2 shows a more practical example of the stack adapter. This listing displays the lines of a text file in reverse order. A stack provides a natural data structure to solve this problem.

```
// open file specified by command-line argument
ifstream inf(argv[1]);

if (!inf) {
   cerr << "cannot open " << filename << " for input" << endl;
   return EXIT_FAILURE;
}

stack<string> s;
string line;
```

```
// read file line by line
while (getline(inf, line)) {
   s.push(line);
}

inf.close();

// print lines in reverse
while (!s.empty()) {
   cout << s.top() << endl;
   s.pop();
}</pre>
```

Listing 2 Displaying lines of a file in reverse

Unit 3. Recursion

3.1 The Basic Concept of Recursion

- Recursive Functions
- The Call Stack
- Removing Recursion
- Required:

```
Weiss, section 8.1 - 8.3.
```

• Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

Recursive Functions

A recursive function is a function that calls itself. The use of recursive functions, called recursion, can yield elegant solutions to otherwise complex problems. C++, like many other programming languages, supports recursion.

A programmer must define recursive functions carefully in order to avoid creating a function that repeatedly calls itself forever. A pseudocode version of a typical recursive function looks like the following example.

```
1  if (simplest case) then
2  solve directly
3  else
4  make recursive call to a simpler case
```

Example 1 A typical recursive function

A key to creating and using effective recursive functions is learning to think of a problem in terms of a similar, but smaller problem. Eventually, a problem becomes small enough that a function can solve it without using recursion. This is called the base case.

Calculating factorials is one example of a problem that we can solve using recursion. The factorial of a number is the product of all the integers from that number to one. For example, the factorial of five (often called "five factorial") equals 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1. This evaluates to 120. Three factorial (3 * 2 * 1) equals the value 6. An exclamation point denotes the factorial of a number. Thus, "five factorial" can be expressed as 5!. Example 2 lists some of the first several positive integers and the calculation of their factorials. The factorial for zero is a special case and is defined to equal 1.

```
1 | 5! = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 120

2 | 4! = 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 = 24

3 | 3! = 3 * 2 * 1 = 6

4 | 2! = 2 * 1 = 2

5 | 1! = 1

6 | 0! = 1
```

Example 2 Some factorials

We can express factorials recursively, that is, in terms of other factorials. Consider the factorial calculation for the value 5. From Example 2, the calculation is 5! = 5 * 4 * 3 * 2 * 1. But, from examining the factorial calculation for 4, we know that 4! = 4 * 3 * 2 * 1. Recursively then, 5! = 5 * 4!. Example 3 lists the recursive definitions of the same numbers from Example 2. Since we cannot express zero factorial recursively, it is the base case.

```
1 | 5! = 5 * 4!

2 | 4! = 4 * 3!

3 | 3! = 3 * 2!

4 | 2! = 2 * 1!

5 | 1! = 1 * 0!

6 | 0! = 1
```

Example 3 Recursive factorials

Listing 1 contains C++ code that recursively calculates factorials. Notice that function [factorial] follows the recursive function pattern outlined in Example 1.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstdlib>
#include <string>

using namespace std;

int factorial(int n) {

if (n == 0) {
```

```
10
       // base case
11
         return 1;
12
13
   else {
14
         // recursive call
15
        int value = factorial(n - 1);
16
        return n * value;
17
     }
   }
18
19
20 int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
21
22
    cout << factorial(5) << endl;</pre>
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
23
24 }
```

Listing 1 Calculating a factorial recursively

Execution of the program in Listing 1 outputs the expected value of 120. We know this is correct, but how did the function achieve this result? Adding output statements to function factorial gives us a better idea how this example works. Listing 2 contains an updated function factorial that outputs a line indicating when an instance of the function begins and when an instance of the function is about to end. This modified version also outputs the return value of function factorial.

```
1 int factorial(int n) {
 3
     cerr << "factorial(" << n << ") begin" << endl;</pre>
 4
 5
     if (n == 0) {
 6
         cerr << "factorial(" << n << ") returns 1" << endl;</pre>
 7
         return 1; // base case
8
    }
9
    else {
10
         int ret = n * factorial(n - 1); // recursive call
         cerr << "factorial(" << n << ") returns " << ret << endl;</pre>
11
12
         return ret;
13
    }
14
   }
```

Listing 2 A verbose function factorial

Example 4 contains the output of the factorial program after the addition of the output statements to function factorial.

```
factorial(5) begin

factorial(4) begin

factorial(3) begin

factorial(2) begin

factorial(1) begin

factorial(0) begin
```

```
factorial(1) returns 1

factorial(2) returns 2

factorial(3) returns 6

factorial(4) returns 24

factorial(5) returns 120

120

Example 4 Output of Listing 2
```

The output in Example 4 shows that the program first calls function factorial with the argument 5. Function main performs this initial call. During the execution of factorial(5) it makes a call to function factorial with an argument value of 4. The instance of factorial(4) then begins execution and makes a call to factorial(3), which in turn makes a call to factorial(2). This behavior continues until factorial(0) begins and returns the value 1. After this, factorial(1) returns to factorial(2) the value 1, factorial(2) returns to factorial(3) the value 2, and so on until factorial(5) returns to main the value 120.

The Call Stack

The call stack is an area of a program's memory used to manage the currently executing function and all pending function calls. Figure 3 lends some insight into what is meant by a "pending function call." Looking back at figure 3, we can see that even though the instance of function factorial with the parameter 5 was the first to begin execution, it is the last to finish execution. The program pauses the execution of factorial(5) "pending" the completion of the function call to factorial(4). Likewise, the program pauses the execution of factorial(4) pending the completion of the function call to factorial(3). This series of nested function calls is managed using the call stack. Consider the following example C++ program.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
   #include <cstdlib>
4 using namespace std;
6 | void method3(void) {
7
    cout << "Method 3" << endl;</pre>
8
9
10 | void method2(void) {
11
    method3();
12
   }
13
   void method1(void) {
14
15
     method2();
16 }
17
18
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
19
     method1();
20
     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
21
    }
```

Listing 3 A program with nested function calls

Stepping through the function calls in Listing 3 demonstrates how a program uses the call stack to manage the function calls in a program. As in all C++ programs, the first function that executes in the program in Listing 3 is function main. Figure 1(a) represents the state of the call stack after function main begins execution, but before it calls method1. Since function main is the routine currently in execution, the information needed to run this function sits on the top of the call stack. This information, which includes among other things the local variables of the function, is known as an activation record.

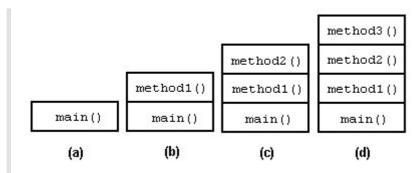


Figure 1 The call stack during various points of Listing 3

When main calls function method1, the run-time system pushes an activation record for method1 onto the top of the call stack. The run-time system then halts execution of function main, pending the completion of method1. At this point in the program, Figure 1(b) represents the state of the call stack. Function method1 then immediately calls method2. The run-time system pauses execution of method1 and pushes an activation record for method2 onto the top of the stack. This state of the call stack at this point in the program corresponds to Figure 1(c).

After function method2 calls method3, the call stack resembles Figure 1(d).

At this point during the execution of the program, function calls are nested four levels deep. The program currently is executing function <code>method3</code>, with functions <code>method2</code>, <code>method1</code>, and <code>main</code> all suspended. After the program finishes execution of function <code>method3</code>, the run-time system pops off the activation record for <code>method3</code> from the top of the stack. Execution of <code>method2</code> then resumes. The call stack would then again resemble Figure 1(c). When execution of <code>method2</code> completes, the run-time system pops it off the stack also, putting the call stack back to the state represented in Figure 1(b). As the nested functions in the program end, the call stack grows shorter and shorter. Eventually, function <code>main</code> finishes and the run-time system pops its activation record off the stack, ending the execution of the program.

The call stack operates in the same manner when dealing with recursive functions as it does with regular functions. Revisiting the factorial example, let's trace the call stack as it manages the recursive calls to function factorial. The program execution begins with function main. Function main then calls function factorial with the parameter 5. The run-time system pushes the information needed to execute factorial with the parameter 5 on top of the stack. The call stack, at this point resembles Figure 2.

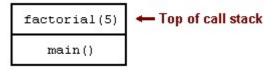


Figure 2 The call stack while factorial(5) executes

The function call factorial(5), as we know from earlier examination, makes a call to factorial(4), which makes a call to factorial(3), and so on until factorial(0) begins execution. At this point, the call stack resembles Figure 3.

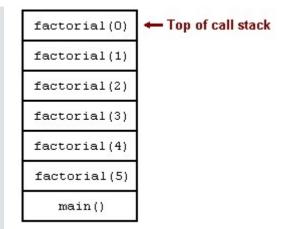


Figure 3 The call stack while factorial(0) executes

Function factorial(0) is the base case of the recursion. When this instance of the function finishes, it returns the value 1 to the function whose activation record sits below it. Then the runtime system pops the activation record for factorial(0) off the stack and resumes execution with function factorial(1). The nested functions continue to "unwind" in this manner, passing values back to their calling functions, until function main completes and the program terminates.

Debuggers often provide a feature that allows programmers to inspect the call stack of a program. This feature can prove invaluable when trying to debug a recursive function. Figure 4 shows an example call-stack window from Microsoft Visual C++.

```
Call Stack

factorial(int 0) line 14
factorial(int 1) line 17 + 12 bytes
factorial(int 2) line 17 + 12 bytes
factorial(int 3) line 17 + 12 bytes
factorial(int 4) line 17 + 12 bytes
factorial(int 5) line 17 + 12 bytes
main() line 25 + 12 bytes
main(CRTStartup() line 206 + 25 bytes
KERNEL32! 77ea847c()
```

Figure 4 Microsoft Visual C++ call stack window

Removing Recursion

Recursion comes with a price: the run time system has to maintain a complicated call stack, on top of having to perform the usual evaluations contained in the function. Often, we can eliminate recursion in favor of iteration, which does not make similar demands on the run-time system.

For example, the following loop-based factorial function is guaranteed to execute faster and consume less memory (in the call stack) than the recursive version presented earlier.

It is always possible to eliminate recursion, and it is worthwhile to think about replacing recursion by loops. In some cases, however, recursion may well be the superior method. Non-recursive versions of certain algorithms may be so much more complicated to program that the gain in efficiency is not worth the added effort.

3.2 Problem Solving with Recursion

With this module, the course introduces some problem solving techniques that use recursion. As we will see, recursion is a powerful tool that can be used to create elegant solutions.

Reading:

• Required:

Weiss, sections 8.5, 8.7. Remark: Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

3.2.1 Divide and Conquer

Divide and conquer is a problem solving technique that utilizes recursion to solve a problem by "dividing" the problem into smaller and smaller sub-problems. The base case of the recursion solves the group of the smallest sub-problems. The "conquer" portion of this problem solving technique then combines these solutions to create the solution to the original problem.

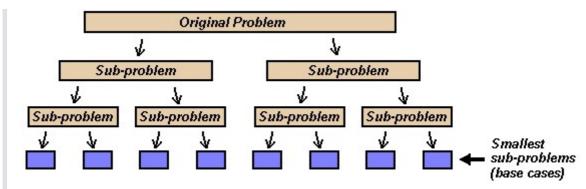


Figure 1 Dividing a problem

Generally, divide and conquer algorithms utilize two recursive function calls. Having two recursive calls continually divides the problem space into two parts. Figure 1 illustrates a typical "divide" step that uses two recursive calls. When the recursion reaches the base case, the subproblems are solved directly. The solutions to these sub-problems are then combined together (as the recursion unwinds) and eventually form the solution to the original problem. Figure 2 shows the solved sub-problems combined into a solution for the original problem.

```
Solution (combined sub-problems)
```

Figure 2 The combined solution

Consider the problem of calculating the sum of the squares of a range of integers. We can apply the divide and conquer approach to reduce the range continually until we reach a sub-problem size that is easily calculated. Listing 1 contains the source code for this recursive, divide-and-conquer based algorithm.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <cstdlib>
3
```

```
using namespace std;
 6
    int ssq(int m, int n) {
7
8
    if (m == n) {
9
        return m * m; // base case
10
    }
11
    else {
12
       int middle = (m + n) / 2;
13
        // recursive divide
        return ssq(m, middle) + ssq(middle + 1, n);
14
15
    }
16
   }
17
18
   int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
19
20
    cout << "ssq(1,10) = " << ssq(1, 10) << end];
21
22
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
23 }
```

Listing 1 Finding the sum of the squares of a range of integers

Another example of a simple and effective divide and conquer based algorithm appears in Listing 2.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
   #include <cstdlib>
 3
4 using namespace std;
6 int find_smallest(int a[], int size) {
7
8
    if (size == 1) {
9
        return a[0]; // base case
10
11
     else {
12
13
        // Search the first half of the array for the smallest element.
14
        int s1 = find_smallest(a, size / 2);
15
16
         // Search the second half of the array for the smallest element.
17
        int s2 = find_smallest(a + size / 2, size - size / 2);
18
19
        return (s1 < s2) ? s1 : s2;
20
     }
21
   }
22
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
23
24
25
     int arr[] = \{13, 19, 12, 11,
26
                  15, 19, 23, 12,
                  13, 22, 18, 19,
27
28
                  14, 17, 23, 21};
29
30
     cout << "smallest: " << find_smallest(arr, 16) << endl;</pre>
31
```

```
32   return EXIT_SUCCESS;
33 }
```

Listing 2 Finding the smallest element in an array

Function find_smallest determines the smallest element stored in an array by continually dividing the array into two smaller pieces. When these pieces are small enough that they only contain one element, the algorithm then compares the elements stored in two pieces and returns the smaller of the two elements.

3.2.2 Backtracking

- The Concept
- An Example: Eight Queens
 - The Problem
 - The Solution

The Concept

Backtracking is a problem solving technique that involves examining all possibilities in the search for a solution. An example of backtracking can be seen in the process of finding the solution to a maze. During the exploration of a maze, we have to make decisions involving which path to explore. When faced with a choice of paths to explore, we decide whether to go north, south, east, or west. A backtracking approach to find our way through a maze involves considering all possible paths until we find a solution.

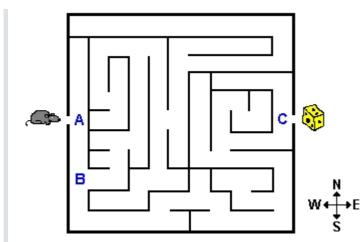


Figure 1 A maze

Backtracking involves pursuing one possible solution until the algorithm determines that it is or is not a solution. If a backtracking algorithm discovers a chosen possibility is not a solution, the algorithm "backs up" and chooses to pursue another possibility from the set of possible solutions. For example, the mouse needs to find the solution to the maze in order to get to the cheese in Figure 1. Let's place ourselves in the mouse's situation and see how we can use backtracking to find the solution. Immediately, at position A, we have a choice between moving north or south. For the sake of the example, we will choose north, but we will remember that there is another path leading south that we have not explored. Going north, we find out quickly that the path leads to a dead end. In this situation, we must backtrack to position A and visit the path we did not choose. Moving south from position A, another choice appears at position B where we can continue to move south or change direction and explore the path to the east. If we choose to go east, we will surely have to make many other decisions on which paths to take as we continue to explore. If one of these paths leads to the solution, our search is complete. If all paths branching off to the east lead to dead ends, we must backtrack to position B and explore

the path that leads south. This process is guaranteed to find a solution to the maze since it considers all possible paths.

Backtracking algorithms that use recursion operate basically the same way as other recursive algorithms. Similar to any other recursive algorithm, programmers design backtracking algorithms around base cases that are solved without recursion. In the maze example, the base case exists when the mouse is adjacent to the exit of the maze (at position C). In this situation, the choice to go east is obvious and a recursive search is not needed. Recursive backtracking algorithms also reduce a problem to a smaller sub-problem. The recursion, applied in the maze example, effectively makes the maze smaller and smaller until it reaches the base case.

An Example: Eight Queens

The Problem

A classic problem that we can solve using backtracking is the Eight Queens problem. This difficult problem deals with placing eight queens on a chessboard such that no two queens are attacking each other.

The game of chess is played on a board containing 64 squares of alternating color. Two players take turns moving a set of pieces on these squares. The object of the game is to capture the opponent's most important piece, the "king." While the king is the most important piece, the "queen" is the most powerful piece. In the game of chess, queens can "attack" or "capture" other pieces in two different ways. First, a queen can attack pieces on those squares that are in the same row or the same column as the queen. Second, a queen can attack pieces occupying the squares that run diagonally through the square that the queen occupies. Figure 2 shows the two different ways that queens attack. Note that the squares highlighted in red indicate the squares that the queen in the figure can attack.

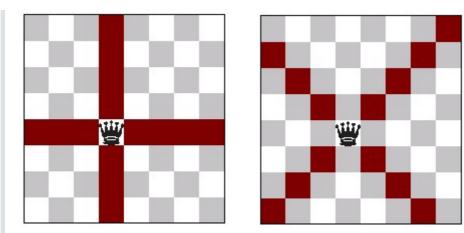


Figure 2 Queens attack in two different ways

Combining these two methods together, we see (again in red) all the squares on a chessboard that a queen can attack in Figure 3. We consider the queen in Figure 3 to be "attacking" any piece that occupies a red square.

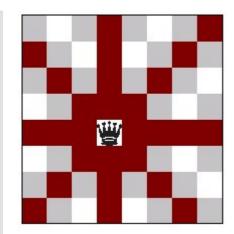


Figure 3 All the squares a queen can attack

A queen is considered the most powerful chess piece since it attacks the largest number of squares out of any other piece. Are queens so powerful that eight of them cannot be placed on a board without any two of them attacking each other? Spend some time and see if you can create a solution. If you do not have access to a chessboard, printing a copy of this page will give you, from the following figure, an empty board and eight queens.

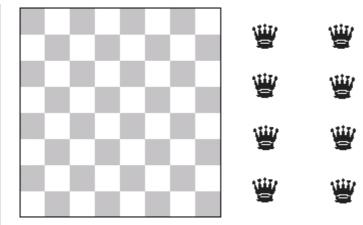


Figure 4 An empty board and eight queens

Remember, when considering a solution to this problem you must make sure not to place two queens in the same row or in the same column. To complicate matters, you also cannot place two queens on the same diagonal. An example of a non-solution appears in Figure 5. This is a non-solution since the queen in the upper left corner attacks the queen in the lower right corner, and vice-versa.

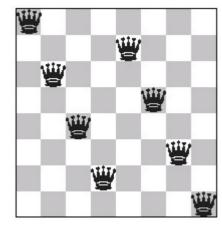


Figure 5 A non-solution

The Solution

To solve the Eight Queens problem, we use a backtracking algorithm. The algorithm involves placing queens, column by column, onto the chessboard. The algorithm terminates when it places all eight queens on the board with no two queens attacking each other. The algorithm backtracks when it reaches a situation where a new queen cannot be placed on the board without attacking a queen already on the board. When the algorithm reaches this situation, it moves the piece that it most recently added to the board to another location. The idea here is that moving this piece may create a combination that allows the algorithm to add more pieces. For example, consider the chessboard in Figure 6. Here, we have placed seven queens successfully in the first seven columns such that no two queens are attacking each other. We must backtrack, however, since no legal space in column eight exists where we can place the eighth queen.

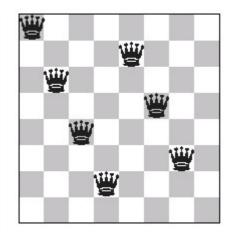


Figure 6 Seven queens placed, but we must backtrack

The backtracking portion of the algorithm would then attempt to move the seventh queen to another spot in the seventh column to open a spot in the eighth column for the eighth queen. If the seventh queen cannot be moved because no other legal spaces exist in column seven, the algorithm must remove that queen and back up and consider moving the queen in column six. Eventually, the algorithm repeats this process of placing queens and backing up until it finds a combination that solves the problem.

- <u>queens.cpp</u> Includes <u>main</u> and the backtracking algorithm
- Queenboard.h Defines a class that models a chessboard of only queens

The above implementation of the Eight Queens problem outputs the first solution it finds and then terminates. As an exercise, can you extend it to find and display all possible solutions?

Unit 4. Sorting, Searching and Complexity

4.1 Sorting and Searching

With this module, the course introduces some of the basic concepts of sorting and searching.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 9 and 20.

Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

Required:

Schildt, chapters 33 through 37. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

4.1.1 Linear vs. Binary Search

- Searching: A Common Task
- Linear Search
- Binary Search

Searching: A Common Task

Searching for data is a common task found not just in computer science but also in the real world. In the most basic sense, finding an element stored in a vector is similar to searching for a person's name in a telephone book. In both cases, we want to find one piece of data that exists somewhere in a larger set of similar data.

In both computer science and in the real world, the process involved in searching differs depending on the arrangement of the data set being searched. If a set is arranged in no particular order, the best search process we can use is a simple pass through the set. This process involves examining every item in the set until we find the item we are seeking. This is probably an adequate solution for only small sets of data. Imagine looking for a specific card from a completely shuffled deck of cards. With only fifty-two total cards in the deck, a front-to-back pass through the deck is a valid approach to finding a specific card.

Larger sets of data require a more efficient searching approach. Imagine trying to find a person's telephone number using a telephone book that lists people in random order. Examining every listing during a front-to-back pass through the book probably would take a few days. This is definitely not an efficient approach, and is the reason why telephone book listings are alphabetized. Leveraging our knowledge of how the telephone book arranges its listings, we can perform a more efficient search. This search involves opening the telephone book and comparing the listings on the page to the listing we are seeking. If we are searching for "Doe, John", and the page we opened the book to contains only listings for "Smith", we know we must flip to another page closer to listings for "Doe". We continue this approach until we reach the page containing our listing. This search probably only takes a minute to complete. This is fast compared to the time that a front-to-back pass through the book would take.

Both of these real world approaches to searching have computer-science algorithm analogues. A front-to-back pass through a data set is known as a linear search. A more formal variant of searching through the telephone book is known as a binary search.

Linear Search

A linear search is a simple search algorithm that finds an item by examining a data set in order. A linear search is sometimes known as a sequential search. In C++, we can implement a linear search as a for-loop using only a few lines of code.

```
1 // Finding an element in a vector using linear search
2 template <class T>
   int linear_search(const vector<T>& v, const T& item) {
5
    for (int i = 0; i < v.size(); i++) {
6
        if (v[i] == item) {
7
            return i; // item found
8
        }
9
    }
    return -1; // item not found
10
11 }
```

Listing 1 Finding an element in a vector using a linear search

Besides the simplicity of its implementation, the main advantage of a linear search is that it does not require sorted data. Even if the data contained in a data set is stored in random order, a linear search still works as expected. This is because a linear search makes no assumption on the arrangement of the data. It simply examines every item in a data set until it finds the desired item.

The main disadvantage of a linear search is its suitability for only small data sets. Remember, a linear search examines all items in a set until it finds the item. In the best case, this happens when the first item examined by a linear search is the item. In the worst case, the search terminates when the last item is examined. In this situation, the search examines every item in the data set. For a vector or array that contains several million elements, this could take a considerable amount of time, especially if the search is repeated many times. On average, a linear search examines half the items in a data set.

The STL find function performs a linear search on a container. This function accepts three arguments. The first two arguments are iterators that specify a range to search. The third argument is the value that the function attempts to find. This function returns an iterator to the first position that contains the value sought. If the search is unsuccessful, the find function returns an iterator equal to the second iterator. An example usage of the find function appears in find.cpp. This program populates a vector with the first twenty-five Fibonacci numbers. It then allows the user to enter a number and reports whether or not the number is one of those Fibonacci numbers.

Binary Search

A binary search is a fast search algorithm suitable for data sets of any reasonable size encountered. Unlike a linear search, it is suitable even for very large data sets because it eliminates large numbers of comparisons. A binary search differs from a linear search in that it requires sorted data to operate successfully.

We can explore how a binary search operates by considering how it would find an element in the following vector.

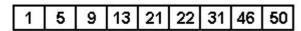


Figure 1 A vector containing nine elements

Given the vector pictured in Figure 1, we can use a binary search to find the element that contains the value 9. All binary searches begin by comparing the item being sought against the item in the middle of the data set. In this example, the middle element contains the value 21.



Figure 2 Selecting the middle element

The value we are seeking is [9]. Since [9] is less than [21], we know that [9] must be stored in an element somewhere to the left of the middle element. With this in mind, we can safely ignore the right half of the vector and continue our search, only considering the left half of the vector. Figure 3 demonstrates this partitioning of the vector.



Figure 2 Partitioning the vector

After we partition the vector, the middle element changes. We then compare the value stored here to the value we seek. Since 5 is less than 9, we know that 9 must be stored in the right half of this partition. We can then ignore the left half of this partition, and compare against the midpoint of the right half.

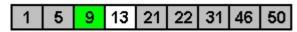


Figure 4 Partitioning the vector, again

Figure 4 highlights the midpoint of the current vector partition in green. The value stored here equals the value we seek so our search is complete. For this vector, which contains nine elements, only three comparisons were needed to find the element that stored the value 9. Starting from the left side of the vector, a linear search needs only three comparisons also to find the element that stores the value 9. The real advantage of binary search appears when we consider larger data sets. The following table lists the maximum number of comparisons a binary search algorithm has to make to find any element in vectors of various sizes.

Size of vector	Max comparisons
10	4
100	7
1,000	10
10,000	13
100,000	17
1,000,000	20
10,000,000	23
100,000,000	27
1,000,000,000	30

Table 1 Maximum comparisons of binary search

4.1.2 Basic Sorting Algorithms

- Sorting Overview
- Selection Sort

Sorting Overview

Many different basic sorting algorithms exist. Each of these algorithms has unique characteristics, behaviors, and requirements. For example, for the same set of data, one algorithm may perform far fewer comparisons than another algorithm. Similarly, during execution another algorithm may swap the positions of data items far less often than another algorithm. The behavior of some algorithms differ when presented with data that is almost sorted as opposed to data that is completely shuffled. It is the differences between the set of these properties that make each sorting algorithm unique. These characteristics also make an algorithm more or less applicable in certain situations.

Because professional programmers rarely use basic sorting algorithms, we examine only one algorithm in this page. In page <u>4.1.3 Fast Sorting Algorithms</u>, we examine a sorting algorithm that is typically faster than all basic sorting algorithms.

Selection Sort

Selection sort is a basic sorting algorithm that works by making iterations, or passes, through the data being sorted. Each pass results in the placement of one element into its correct location. As a result, each subsequent pass has to inspect one fewer item than the previous pass.

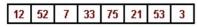
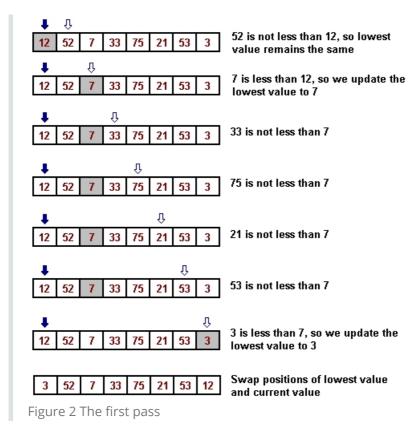
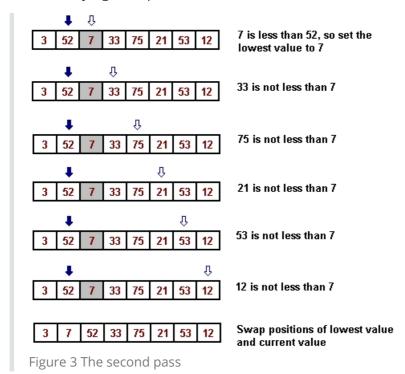


Figure 1 An unsorted array

Figure 1 contains an unsorted array. Since this array contains eight elements, a selection sort must make seven passes to sort the data. Each pass places one element into the position that will result in a sorted array. The next two figures represent the first two passes, respectively. In each figure, the filled arrow indicates the position that the pass is seeking to fill. During each pass, the algorithm looks for the smallest remaining element. The pass ends with the algorithm swapping the smallest element into the position under consideration.



After the first pass, the lowest element is placed into the first position of the array. The next pass, illustrated by Figure 3, places the second lowest element into the second position of the array.



The selection sort algorithm always makes one fewer passes than the number of elements in the array. This is true even if the original array is already sorted. The algorithm has no mechanism to detect when the array is sorted, so it must make all required passes. A C++ implementation of the selection sort appears in Listing 1.

```
// Sorting using selection sort
template <class T>
void selection_sort(vector<T>& v) {

for (int i = 0; i < v.size() - 1; i++) {
   int best = i;
}</pre>
```

```
for (int j = i + 1; j < v.size(); j++) {
               if (v[j] < v[best]) {</pre>
9
                   best = j;
10
              }
11
          }
12
13
          if (best != i) {
14
              T \text{ temp} = v[i];
15
              v[i] = v[best];
16
              v[best] = temp;
17
          }
18
19 }
```

Listing 1 Selection Sort

4.1.3 Fast Sorting Algorithms

- Basic and Fast Sorting Algorithms
- Quicksort
 - The Algorithm
 - An Implementation
- <u>Using the STL Sorting Functions</u>

Basic and Fast Sorting Algorithms

There exists a set of general-purpose sorting algorithms that typically outperform the basic algorithms we examined in <u>4.1.2 Basic Sorting Algorithms</u>. These "fast" sorting algorithms include mergesort, quicksort, and Shellsort. Since quicksort is perhaps the most widely used of the general-purpose sorting algorithms, we examine it here in detail. Chapter 9 of the Weiss textbook discusses and presents implementations of mergesort and Shellsort.

Quicksort

The Algorithm

Quicksort is a fast sorting algorithm that uses a divide-and-conquer problem solving approach. Unlike the basic sorting algorithms we have already examined, quicksort uses recursion. Given an array of elements to sort, the algorithm recursively divides the array into smaller and smaller arrays. Quicksort then sorts these very small arrays and combines the results to create a sorted version of the original array. Because of its recursive nature, the quicksort implementation can be hard to understand. Before examining an implementation, we consider the idea behind the algorithm.

The quicksort algorithm can be summarized in four basic steps. Presented in the context of sorting an array, these steps are as follows.

- 1. If the size of the array is zero or one, then return the array. This is the base case.
- 2. Select an element from the array to be used as the pivot element. This is the pivot selection step.
- 3. Create two new arrays. Place all the elements from the original array that are less than the pivot element into one of these sub-arrays and all the elements that are greater than the pivot element into the other sub-array. This is the partitioning step.

4. Return the array that contains the result of the quicksorted sub-array that contains the elements less than the pivot, followed by the pivot, followed by the result of the quicksorted sub-array that contains the elements greater than the pivot. This is the recursive divide step.

Stepping through an example illustrates how these four steps sort a set of data. Consider the array presented in Figure 1.

```
12 52 7 33 75 21 53 3
```

Figure 1 An unsorted array

Since the array in Figure 1 contains more than one element, quicksort enters step two and selects a pivot element. There are many different strategies we can use to pick this pivot element. One that is simple involves choosing the middle element of the array as the pivot element. This element contains the value [33]. After selecting the pivot element, quicksort partitions the remaining elements into two sub-arrays. One sub-array contains the elements of the partitioned array whose values are less than [33], and the other sub-array contains the elements whose values are greater than [33]. Figure 2 illustrates this first pivot and partition step. In this figure, a circle denotes the pivot element.

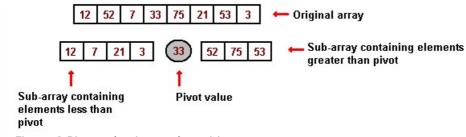


Figure 2 Pivot selection and partition

The first partition creates two smaller arrays. The quicksort algorithm then recursively calls itself on these arrays. Notice that both of these arrays contain two or more elements. Therefore, the algorithm selects pivot elements for each array and partitions their remaining elements into smaller arrays. The result of this appears in Figure 3.

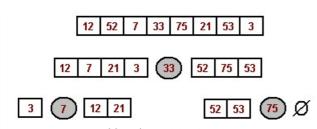


Figure 3 Second level partitioning

The quicksort algorithm only needs to select pivot elements and partition sub-arrays that contain more than one element. From Figure 3, we see after two partitions we are left with four sub-arrays. These arrays appear in the bottom row of the figure. Starting from the left side of the figure, the first sub-array contains only one element (the value 3). The second sub-array contains elements 12 and 21, and the third sub-array contains elements 52 and 53. The fourth sub-array contains zero elements. The empty set sign (a circle with a diagonal line through it) denotes that this sub-array contains zero elements. The quicksort algorithm does not need to pivot and partition the first and fourth arrays since they each contain less than two elements. At this point, these two sub-arrays are sorted. Since the second and third arrays each contain more than one element, there is the possibility they are not in sorted order. Quicksort must recursively pivot and partition these arrays. This is demonstrated in Figure 4.

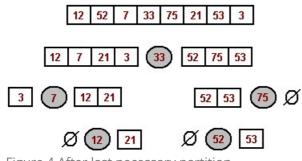


Figure 4 After last necessary partition

The recursive nature of quicksort breaks down the original array into smaller and smaller sub-arrays. The pivoting and partitioning of these sub-arrays eventually results in the sorting of the entire array. Figure 5 depicts the sorted version of the original array from our ongoing example.



Figure 5 The sorted array

An Implementation

A quicksort implementation appears in Listing 1. This quicksort implementation uses a basic pivot selection strategy of selecting the middle element. This is a simple approach to implement, but one that can lead to efficiency problems when the algorithm selects either the smallest or largest value as the pivot. In these cases, the performance of the algorithm degrades since the algorithm can only recursively quicksort one sub-array instead of two.

```
template <class T>
 2
    void quick_sort(vector<T>& v, int low, int high) {
 3
 4
     // Do not solve recursively when faced with
     // only 1 or 2 elements
 5
 6
     if (low == high) {
 7
         return ;
 8
     }
9
     else if (low + 1 == high) {
10
         if (v[low] > v[high]) {
11
              swap(v[low], v[high]);
12
              return ;
13
14
     }
15
16
     // select pivot
17
     int middle = (low + high) / 2;
18
     T pivot = v[middle];
19
     swap(v[middle], v[high]);
20
21
     // partition
     int i:
22
23
     int j;
24
     for (i = low, j = high - 1; ;) {
25
26
         while (v[i] < pivot && i < j) i++;
27
         while (pivot < v[j] \&\& i < j) j--;
28
29
         if (i < j) {
              swap(v[i], v[j]);
30
31
         }
32
         else {
```

```
33
             break;
34
         }
35
     }
36
37
     // place pivot in correct location
38
     if (i != high - 1 && j != high - 1) {
39
         swap( v[i], v[high]);
40
     }
41
42
     // quicksort sub-vectors
     if (i == low \&\& j == low) {
43
44
         quick_sort(v, low + 1, high);
45
     else if (i == high - 1 && j == high - 1) {
46
47
         quick_sort(v, low, high - 1);
48
     }
49
     else {
         quick_sort(v, low, i - 1);
50
51
         quick_sort(v, i + 1, high);
52
     }
53
54
    }
```

Listing 1

4.1.4 Using Hash Tables

- Overview of Hash Tables
- Hash Functions
- Memorizing: An Application of Hash Tables
- A Hash Table Implementation

Overview of Hash Tables

A hash table is a data structure that supports very fast element insertion, removal, and retrieval. A hash table that is properly configured for the elements it contains can support these operations in a fixed amount of time. This is unlike any other data structures and algorithms that we have examined.

A hash table is a type of map. Maps are associative structures. Conceptually, associative data structures store data in key-value pairs. This means that for every value stored there is a corresponding key used to access the value. A real world example of an associative data structure is a dictionary. In a dictionary, data is stored in key-value pairs. The keys are the words, and the values are the definitions. To access a definition, one must use the corresponding key.

Hash maps and hash sets are two different types of hash tables. Hash maps are associative structures that store key-value pairs, whereas hash sets are structures that keep track of the membership of items within a collection. Hash sets do not map keys to values. They merely store a collection of keys. A list of commonly misspelled words, for instance, could be stored using a hash set. In this example, there is no mapping of a key to a value like there was in the dictionary example. Each word serves as only a key. A hash set is then used to report whether or not a word exists in this list of words.

Hash Functions

Operations using hash tables are efficient because the position of a stored value can be calculated using the key. Hash tables are implemented typically as an array of values. A hash function is used to map a key to an index within this array. This index is where the key's corresponding value is stored. Other search algorithms, such as a linear or binary search, cannot map a key to its value's position as quickly as hash tables. These algorithms must perform more comparisons to find the index of the stored value. The time this search takes to complete increases as the number of stored items increases.

Data	Letter	Ascii	Index
Hanson, Bob	a	97	7
Adderly, Maria	d	100	0
Cruz, Jose	r	114	4
Song, Albert	0	111	1
Appleton, Mary	р	112	2

Figure 1 A sample hash function

A mapping of keys to indexes is demonstrated in Figure 1. In this figure, the hash function generates an index based on the rightmost digit of the ASCII value of the second letter of the person's last name. For example, in the name "Hanson, Bob", the second letter is an "a". The ASCII value of "a" is 97. The rightmost digit of 97 is 7. Therefore, the record for "Hanson, Bob" is stored at index 7 of the hash table.

0	Adderly, Maria
1	Song, Albert
2	Appleton, Mary
3	
4	Cruz, Jose
5	
6	
7	Hanson, Bob
8	
9	

Figure 3 A sample hash table

The hash table in Figure 2 shows each name in its mapped position. The advantage of a hash table is that to find an entry, one only has to apply the hash function to the key.

A popular method used in implementing a hash function is the division method. Like all hash functions, the division method maps a key to an index within the hash table. The division method implementation involves the conversion of a key to a variable of type unsigned int. Then, this value is divided by the size of the hash table. The remainder of this division is used as the index.

```
class hash_function {
1
 2
 3
    public:
4
 5
     unsigned int mm;
 6
 7
     hash_function(unsigned int m = 6151)
 8
             : mm(m) {}
9
     unsigned int operator()(const string& s) const {
10
11
         unsigned int res = 0;
         for (int i = 0; i < s.size(); i++) {
12
```

Listing 1 A hash function based on the division method

A problem arises when we consider that there are typically many more keys than there are locations within a hash table. This means that a hash function can potentially map two or more distinct keys to the same index. Consider if we tried to add the name "Anderson, Jeff" to the hash table pictured in Figure 2. Applying the hash function yields an index of 0. The name "Adderly, Maria", however, already exists at index 0. When a hash function maps more than one key to the same index a collision occurs.

Hash table implementations are complicated by the fact that they must handle potential collisions. These mechanisms to handle collisions are discussed in detail in chapter 20 of the Weiss textbook. Basically, collisions decrease the performance of hash table operations. The best way to reduce the number of collisions, and thus increase the efficiency of a hash table, is to use a good hash function. A good hash function evenly distributes the mapping of keys throughout the positions in the hash table.

It is good software engineering practice to separate the hash function from the implementation of the hash table. This allows a programmer to customize a hash function to the data stored by a particular instance of a hash table. Listing 1 defines a hash table as a class that overloads operator ().

Memorizing: An Application of Hash Tables

When it is computationally expensive to calculate a function value y = f(x), it may be a good idea to store the value for future use. In other words, we calculate f(x) only the first time the function value on this particular input x is required, and then store (x, f(x)) in a hash table. Any future requests for f(x) will then result in a table lookup and be much faster than a recalculation. This technique is called memoizing.

Note that we have to modify the function a bit to take advantage of the stored values. Here is the structure of a memoized function.

```
1 int f_memo(int x) {
2
3 if (there is an entry (x,y) in hash table) {
4
   return y;
5 }
6 else {
7
   compute y = f(x) directly
   store (x,y) in table
8
9
    return y;
10 }
11
   }
```

Example 1 A typical memorized function

Since the hash table has to persist between function calls, it would be natural to organize this as a class that overloads operator ().

A Hash Table Implementation

The following header file and implementation file declares and defines a template hash map class. The class takes four template parameters. The first is the key type and the second is the value type. The third parameter specifies the hash function and the fourth parameter specifies how to compare two objects of the key's data type.

- hashmap.h declaration of class HashMap
- hashmap.cpp definition of class HashMap

The return type of the search member function of class Hashmap is an STL class that we have not yet encountered. Function search returns an object of type pair. Class pair is an STL class that contains two data members. These members are named first and second. This class is used often by functions that need to return more than one piece of data. The search member function needs to return whether or not the item was found and what position it was found in. Thus, function search returns an object of type class pair sool, int.

The file hash-driver.cpp demonstrates use of class HashMap and its member functions.

4.2 Complexity

This page introduces complexity. Complexity is the measure of an algorithm's use of some resource. This resource can be storage requirements, memory requirements, or time requirements. Typically, the amount of time an algorithm takes to complete is the resource most often encountered in the context of complexity.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 6.

Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 33 through 37. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

4.2.1 Asymptotic Analysis

- Physical vs. Logical Running Time
- Determining the Logical Running Time
- Big-Oh Notation
- Basic Rules

Physical vs. Logical Running Time

Asymptotic analysis is the determination of the amount of resources used by an algorithm. Usually, this resource is the running time of the algorithm. The running time of a program is above all a physical quantity. In principle, we can use a stopwatch and determine how long the program takes to execute. In fact, all computer systems support an internal clock, and one can measure the running time even without resorting to an external timing device.

The first thing to note is that running time is not a fixed quantity; rather, the running time in almost all programs depends on the particular input given to the program. For example, a sorting algorithm will obviously take longer on a list of one million numbers than on a list of one hundred numbers. Hence, we really need to express running time as a function of input. This is much too tedious, and in practice, it is quite impossible to describe the running time of a program for all conceivable inputs. As the example of sorting algorithms shows, one can lump together a whole class of inputs, such as a list of a given length. Note also, though, that a sorting algorithm may behave quite differently when presented with an already sorted list, a reverse sorted list, or a random list. The running times may differ quite drastically. Nonetheless, it is customary to refer to the running time of a program on input of size n, meaning the worst possible running time for all such inputs. This measure is called worst case complexity. Alternatively, one can analyze the average amount of time it takes to process input of a certain size, which is called the average case complexity. Unfortunately, the latter is much harder to deal with than the former, so we will focus on worst case complexity.

Another problem with measuring running time is that it obviously depends very much on the machine used to execute the program. Additionally, it depends on the compiler used, the level of optimization, the load of the computer, and so on. In order to avoid these numerous complications, one uses a different measure: logical running time, which is the number of steps in the execution of the algorithm. By "one step," we mean essentially one CPU cycle. Assignments of built-in types, arithmetic operations, logical tests, and so on can all be performed in "one step." Filling an array with zeros, on the other hand, will take as many steps as the size of the array.

Counting the number of steps produces a good and helpful measure of running time. Nonetheless, if an algorithm is to be executed on a specific computer, it is still necessary to perform measurements of the physical running time in a few cases. In conjunction with the theoretical analysis, one can then predict the real running time on arbitrary inputs fairly accurately.

Determining the Logical Running Time

As one might imagine, counting the number of steps is a daunting task in all but the most simple-minded programs. It is important to ignore small details and look at the large-scale behavior. As an example, consider the selection sort algorithm.

Setting up the local variables takes a small, constant number of steps. The body of the outer loop is executed <code>v.size()</code> - 1 times, where <code>v.size()</code> is the number of vector elements. The number of steps performed by the inner loop decreases with each iteration of the outer loop. For the sake of this discussion, we will let n equal the number of elements in the vector. During its first execution, the inner loop iterates <code>(n - 1)</code> times. During its second execution (when i equals 1), the inner loop iterates <code>(n - 2)</code> times. The body of this inner loop contains a single if-statement. This statement can be executed in a constant amount of time. Hence, we have the following sum that represents the number of operations performed by selection sort. Each term in this sum represents the number of steps performed by each iteration of the outer loop.

The sum of this expression equals (n2 - n) / 2. We summarize this result by saying that selection sort is a quadratic algorithm. Note that quadratic means that a doubling in input size will result in a four-fold increase in running time. A ten times larger input will take a hundred times longer to process. In other words, quadratic algorithms do not scale up very well to large inputs.

The opposite of quadratic algorithms are logarithmic algorithms. In logarithmic algorithms, the number of steps required to solve a problem does not increase significantly even when the number of inputs increases dramatically. One example of a logarithmic algorithm is a binary search. In a binary search, the items to search (the input) are halved during each iteration. This allows a binary search to work very well even on very large data sets.

Big-Oh Notation

Big-Oh notation provides a good way to compare the running time of algorithms. In asymptotic analysis, we use Big-Oh notation to refer to the highest order, or most dominant term from a function's runtime analysis.

The most important property of Big-Oh notation is that it allows one to ignore lower order terms and constants, as in the following example.

```
1 | 500n3 + 10n2 + 17n + 121345 = O(n3)
```

Example 2 Using Big-Oh notation

In the above example, the highest order term in the runtime equation is 500n3. As we did the lower order terms, we can also ignore the constant in this term and state that the running time is O(n3).

Most algorithms one encounters fall into one of the following classes.

- O(1) constant time
- O(log(n)) logarithmic time
- *O(n)* linear time
- *O(n log(n))* "n-log-n" time
- *O(n2)* quadratic time
- *O(n3)* cubic time
- *O(2n)* exponential time

Algorithms that have running time up to $O(n \log(n))$ scale very well to large problem instances. Quadratic algorithms and cubic algorithms even more so, show severely degraded performance when the input becomes large. Lastly, exponential algorithms can be used only on very small inputs.

It is important to express logical running time in terms of physical time, using familiar units such as seconds, minutes, hours, and so forth to get a feel for what these characterizations really mean. First, let's consider an $O(n \log(n))$ algorithm that takes 1 second on an input of size 1000.

input size	running time
1000	1 second
2000	2.2 seconds
5000	6.2 seconds
10000	13.3 seconds
100000	2.77 minutes
106	33.3 minutes
107	6.48 hours

Table 1

An $O(n \log(n))$ algorithm that takes 1 second on an input of size 1000

By comparison, here is a quadratic algorithm that also takes 1 second on an input of size 1000.

input size	running time
1000	1 second
2000	4 seconds
5000	25 seconds
10000	1.66 minutes
100000	2.77 hours
106	11.5 days
107	3.25 years

Table 2

An *O(n2)* algorithm that takes 1 second on an input of size 1000

For very large inputs of size ten million, the quadratic algorithm becomes entirely useless. Even for one million, it may be useless: suppose it is part of some bank accounting system that needs to be updated on a daily basis. On the other hand, quadratic performance is superb when compared with exponential running time. To see how really catastrophic exponential running time is, suppose that an exponential algorithm takes 1 second on input of size 10. We then can expect approximately the following running times for larger instances.

input size	running time
10	1 seconds
15	32 seconds
20	17.1 minutes
25	9.1 hours
30	12.1 days
35	1.09 years
40	34.9 years
50	35700 years
100	4.02 1019 years

Table 3

An *O*(2*n*) algorithm that takes 1 second on an input of size 1000

The last figure greatly exceeds the age of the universe (about 15×109 years), and the algorithm is already useless at inputs of size 30. We only have acceptable performance up to size 25 or so. Thus, in some sense, an exponential algorithm is almost as bad as no algorithm at all.

Unfortunately, there are some famous computational problems that seem to require exponential running times. Finding out whether a Boolean circuit with **n** inputs can ever yield true as output is one of them: there are 2n possible input combinations, and no shortcuts are known to simplify the computation. In practice, one often has to deal with circuits of several hundred inputs.

Basic Rules

How does one determine the asymptotic running time of an algorithm? Since we ignore constants, any sequence of basic statements, such as 1) assignments of built-in types or 2) operations on built-in types (addition, multiplication, comparison, increment, decrement, Boolean operations, etc.), takes constant time (O(1)).

Note, though, that function calls have to be accounted for separately. First, there is the cost of organizing the function call. If only reference parameters are used, that cost is O(1). But, if call-by-value is used, we have to count the cost of copying the input. The same comment applies to returning the result of the computation. And, of course, we have to count the evaluation of the function body.

A for-loop takes time t(0) + t(1) + ... + t(n-1) where t(k) is the time needed by the body of the loop when i equals k, in other words, the time needed to complete iteration k of the for-loop.

```
1  for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
2  body
3  }</pre>
```

Example 3 A for-loop

If the body takes time O(1), that comes out to O(n). But, if the body takes time O(i), we get O(n2) for the whole loop. Lastly, if the body takes time O(i2), we get O(n3) for the whole loop.

Other loop constructs can be handled the same way. Add up the cost of each single execution of the loop body, taking into account that that cost may well depend on the values of some loop parameters.

Unit 5.Trees and Graphs

5.1 Trees

With this module, the course introduces trees and the tree based STL containers.

Readings:

• Required:

Weiss, chapter 18, sections 7.7 - 7.9, 19.1.

Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 33 through 37. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

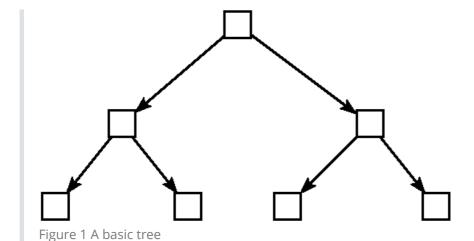
5.1.1 Introduction to Trees

- A Tree as a Data Structure
- Types of Trees
- Trees as Search Structures

A Tree as a Data Structure

A tree is a data structure that generally supports element insertion, access, and removal in less than linear time. Trees consist of an arrangement of nodes such that the following conditions hold.

- Only one node has no predecessor: the root.
- Every node other than the root has a unique predecessor.
- Starting at any node, one can reach the root by repeatedly stepping from a node to its predecessor.



All nodes other than the root node have a predecessor, or parent node. These nodes are said to be child nodes of the parent. Nodes that have no children are leaf nodes. The height of a tree is the number of levels of nodes, including the root node, which exist in the tree. The tree in Figure 1 has a height of three and contains four leaf nodes.

Trees have many applications in Computer Science. The representation of categories and subcategories for an online bookstore, for instance, is a common application of trees. Programmers use trees to represent file systems. Trees are also used in the implementation of compilers and in file compression algorithms.

Types of Trees

Tree implementations can be categorized into different types. This categorization process takes into account several properties and characteristics of trees. A property that categorizes a tree implementation is the maximum number of children that can exist in any given node. If the maximum number of children in any given node is not limited in an implementation, we consider the tree to be a general hierarchy.

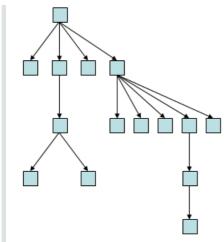
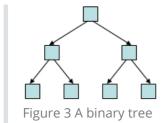


Figure 2 A general tree structure

Tree implementations that limit the number of child nodes for any given node form a separate class of trees. The most common type of these implementations limits the number of nodes to two. These types of trees are known as binary trees. Less commonly used implementations that limit the number of child nodes to three is known as a ternary trees.



Binary trees can be further categorized based on the ordering of elements within the tree. A heap is a binary tree that maintains elements in either increasing or decreasing order. At each level in a heap, the value at a node is either less than or greater than the values at all nodes below it. Two types of heaps exist: min heaps and max heaps. A min heap contains elements that always have increasingly larger values at each level in the tree. This means the root node of the tree contains the smallest element in the tree. Max heaps have their largest element stored at the root and store their remaining elements in decreasing order.

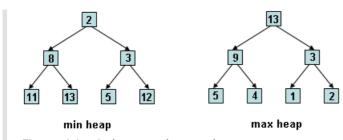


Figure 4 A min heap and a max heap

Trees as Search Structures

Binary search trees are another type of binary tree characterized by the ordering of the elements with the tree. Binary search trees maintain elements in a sorted order. Because of this, binary search trees effectively support searching for individual elements.

Binary search trees maintain items in a sorted order. All elements less than the element at the root of the tree are stored in the tree rooted at the root's left child. All elements greater than the root are stored in the tree rooted at the root's right child. This principle is applied recursively to all nodes in the tree. For any node in a binary search tree, all elements in the sub-tree in the left child are less than the element in the node. Also, all elements in the sub-tree in the right child are greater than the element in the node.

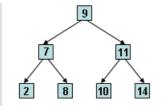


Figure 5 A binary search tree

Not all binary search trees have all leaf nodes at the same level in the tree. Binary search trees can be unbalanced. An unbalanced tree is a tree that has left and right sub-trees whose heights differ by more than one level. Binary search trees become unbalanced when elements of either increasing or decreasing size are continually added to the structure. The performance of a binary search tree approaches linear time as the structure becomes too unbalanced.

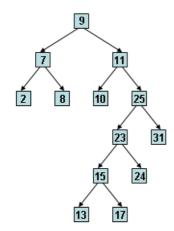


Figure 6 An unbalanced binary search tree

The nodes in a binary search tree do not have to contain two child nodes. A binary search tree limits, but does not require the number of child nodes to be two. A node in a binary search tree can contain only one child. A binary search tree that contains one or more of these types of nodes is an incomplete tree.

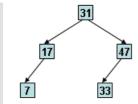


Figure 7 An incomplete binary search tree

5.1.2 Using Tree Structures

- <u>Using Binary Search Trees</u>
 - The BSTree Class Interface
 - An Application: Customer Database
- Using Heaps

Using Binary Search Trees

The BSTree Class Interface

A binary search tree is a tree based data structure that maintains an ordered collection of items. Because of how they maintain the ordering of their stored items, binary search trees can perform certain tasks more efficiently than other data structures. For example, traversing items in sorted order (or in reverse sorted order) is an efficient operation in a binary search tree. This is not the case for a hash table. The ability to search for a range of items is another task easily accomplished using a binary search tree, but not using a hash table.

The implementation of a binary search tree class is covered in chapter 19 of Weiss. This page focuses on the use of binary search trees to solve problems relating to storing a collection of items. As such, we examine the interface of an existing binary search tree class.

```
template <class T>
2
    class BSTree {
3
4 protected:
    BSTNode<T> *root; // root of tree
6
    int count;  // size of tree
7
8
   public:
9
    BSTree() : root(NULL), count(0) {}
10
     BSTree(const BSTree&);
11
    virtual ~BSTree() {if (root) delete root;}
12
13
     virtual int size() const { return count; }
     virtual bool insert( const T& x );
14
15
     virtual const T* const search( const T& x );
16
     virtual bool remove( const T& x );
17
    protected:
18
19
    virtual BSTNode<T>* copy_tree(BSTNode<T>* nodep);
20
     virtual bool insert_helper(BSTNode<T> *&nodep, const T &x);
21
    virtual const T* const search_helper(BSTNode<T> * nodep, const T &x);
22
     virtual bool remove_helper(BSTNode<T> *&nodep, const T &x);
```

```
virtual BSTNode<T>* remove_leftmost_child(BSTNode<T> *&nodep);

// 25 };
```

Listing 1 The BSTree interface

Listing 1 contains the declaration of class <code>BSTree</code>. This is a binary search tree class that supports operations for element insertion, access, and removal. It also contains a method that returns the number of elements currently stored in the binary search tree.

Class BSTree is a template class. This allows us to create instances of the class that can store different data types. There is an important consideration we must make before using this class. Internally, some of the methods of the class use operators == , < , and > to perform the element insertion, access, and removal tasks. Thus, any object we store in this binary search tree class must provide these operators.

```
1
    template <class T>
    const T* const BSTree<T>::search_helper(BSTNode<T> *nodep, const T &x)
    if (nodep == 0) {
 3
 4
         return NULL;
 5
    }
 6
7
     if (x == nodep->data) {
 8
        return &(nodep->data);
9
10
11
     if (x < nodep->data) {
12
        return search_helper(nodep->left, x);
13
    }
14
    else {
15
        return search_helper(nodep->right, x);
     }
16
17
   }
```

Listing 2 Internal use of operators of type T

The public data members of class BSTree that we use the most have rather straightforward usage. We use the insert and remove operations to add and delete elements to and from the binary search tree. Both of these functions return a bool value. The insert function returns true when the element is successfully added and false when the element already exists. The remove function returns true if the element is successfully removed and false if the element is not found in the binary search tree. Function size returns the count of the number of elements in the binary search tree.

The search function provides a way to access elements that exist in the binary search tree. If the requested element is not found in the binary search tree, the function returns the null pointer. Otherwise, the function returns a constant pointer to a constant version of the element. The pointer must be constant to prevent a user from attempting to gain access to another portion of memory through pointer arithmetic. The element the pointer points to must be constant to ensure that the integrity of the tree is maintained. Changing the value of a stored element could possibly change where the element should be stored in the binary search tree. The correct process of updating a stored element involves first removing the element, then updating a copy of the element, then inserting the updated copy.

An Application: Customer Database

The following files comprise a program that manages a list of customer contacts. A binary search tree is a good choice to use in this implementation since it allows for efficient element insertion and access.

- <u>main.cpp</u> Main application source code
- Customer.h Declaration of a customer class
- <u>Customer.cpp</u> Implementation of class Customer
- CustomerDatabase.h Declaration of a customer database class
- <u>CustomerDatabase.cpp</u> Implementation of class <u>CustomerDatabase</u>
- <u>bst.h</u> A binary search tree implementation
- contacts.dat A sample data file

Using Heaps

Heaps are often used to provide efficient access to either the minimum or maximum of a set of values. One use of this functionality is the implementation of a priority queue. A priority queue is a data structure that behaves similar to regular queue in that it provides push, pop, size, and empty methods. Priority queues differ from regular queues since the element that a priority queue pop removes depends on an assigned priority, and not the "First-In First-Out" principle. Priority queues are used often enough that STL provides a priority_queue adapter. The priority_queue adapter is covered in detail in 5.1.3 Using the Tree Based STL Containers

5.1.3 Using the Tree Based STL Containers

- Sets
- Maps
- Priority Queues

Sets

The STL set container stores unique items in an ordered collection. The tasks of element addition, removal, and access are guaranteed by the STL standard to take logarithmic time in a set. Inserting items in sorted order will not degrade these operations to linear time, as is the case with binary search trees.

Declaring objects of class set is similar to declaring other STL containers. A programmer specifies the data type that the set can contain as a template parameter. To access the set container, a programmer must include the <set> library.

```
1 | set<int> s1;
2 | set<int> s2;
```

Listing 1 Declaring set objects

Adding items to a set is done using the insert member function.

```
1  set<int> s1;
2  set<int> s2;
3
4  for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
5   s1.insert(i);
6   s2.insert(30 - i);
7  }</pre>
```

The member function size returns the number of items stored in a set.

```
1  set<int> s1;
2  set<int> s2;
3
4  for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
5   s1.insert(i);
6   s2.insert(30 - i);
7  }
8
9  cout << "size of s1: " << s1.size() << endl;
10  cout << "size of s2: " << s2.size() << endl;</pre>
```

Listing 3 Reporting the number of items stored in a set

The find function searches for an item in a set. This function returns an iterator to the found item. If the item is not found, function find returns an iterator equal to the iterator returned by function end.

```
1  if (s1.find(10) != s1.end()) {
2   cout << "s1 contains 10\n";
3  }</pre>
```

Listing 4 Searching for an item in a set

The STL set container can be used in conjunction with the STL generic algorithms. Four of the STL generic algorithms are geared specifically for use with sets. These are functions set_intersection, set_union, set_difference, and set_symmetric_difference. The following listing demonstrates the use and effect of these functions. It is important to understand that these four functions can also be used on other STL containers (such as vectors and deques). They are more efficient, however, when used with sets. This is because the STL set container maintains items in sorted order.

```
1 | ostream_iterator<int> out(cout, " ");
2
 3
   // Set intersection
    cout << "\nset intersection: ";</pre>
   set_intersection(s1.begin(), s1.end(),
 6
                   s2.begin(), s2.end(),
7
                   out);
8
9
   // Set union
10 | cout << "\nset union: ";
    set_union(s1.begin(), s1.end(),
11
           s2.begin(), s2.end(),
12
13
           out);
14
15
   // Set difference
    cout << "\nset difference: ";</pre>
16
    set_difference(s1.begin(), s1.end(),
17
                s2.begin(), s2.end(),
18
19
                out);
20
    // Set symmetric difference
```

Listing 5 The set STL algorithms

Maps

The STL map container is an associative structure that stores data in key-value pairs. The map container is considered associative since it maps, or associates, one piece of data (a key) with another piece of data (a value).

Declaring an object of type map involves specifying both the key and value data types. The key is specified with the first template parameter, and the value is specified with a second template parameter. For instance, the following listing declares two map objects. The first is a map of type string to string. The second is a map of type string to int.

```
1  // A map of strings to strings
2  map<string, string> m1;
3
4  // A map of strings to ints
5  map<string, int> m2;
```

Listing 6 Declaring STL map objects

Inserting elements into a map requires both the key and value. The following listing inserts two key-value pairs into a map. In this listing, the keys are "apple" and "orange". They map to the values "a small red fruit" and "a small orange fruit", respectively. Note that the version of the insert method used here takes only one parameter. To use this method correctly, we have to place the key and value into an object of type pair<string, string>. If we were inserting data into a map of type int to double, for instance, we would have to place our keys and values in objects of type pair<int, double> to use the insert method.

```
// A map of strings to strings
map<string, string> m1;

// A map of strings to ints
map<string, int> m2;

m1.insert(pair<string, string>("apple", "a small red fruit"));
m1.insert(pair<string, string>("orange", "a small orange fruit"));
```

Listing 7 <u>Using the insert function</u>

Using the insert method of the STL map container is an effective but cumbersome method to add data to a map. An alternative mechanism for adding items to a map is the overloaded double bracket operator. The following listing uses this operator to insert an item into a map.

```
1 | m1["banana"] = "a long yellow fruit";
```

Listing 8 A second way to add items to a map

The overloaded double bracket operator also provides a way to access values based on their keys.

```
1   cout << m1["apple"] << endl;
2   cout << m1["orange"] << endl;
3   cout << m1["banana"] << endl;</pre>
```

Listing 9 Accessing items in a map

Similar to the set container, the map container provides size, find, and count member functions. A programmer can also iterate through the items stored in a map. The implementation of a map iteration warrants examination since it is slightly more complex than a standard container iteration.

```
1  map<string, string>::iterator it = m1.begin();
2  for ( ; it != m1.end(); it++) {
3
4   cout << it->first << ": " << it->second << endl;
5  }</pre>
```

Listing 10 Traversing the items in a map

The above listing iterates through the elements of the map object m1. The important aspect to notice is how the key and value of each object is accessed. Internally, a map stores the key and value for each data item in an object of type pair<key, value>. Therefore, an iterator pointing to an item in a map points to an object of the same pair<key, value> type. To access an item's key through an iterator, one must dereference the iterator and then use the pair object's first data member. The data member second provides access to the value.

Keys stored in a map must be unique. Put another way, a key can only map to one value. There is another STL container, a multimap, which allows keys to map to more than one value.

Priority Queues

The STL priority_queue adapter provides to programmers an interface suitable for as a priority queue. As their name suggests, priority queues behave similar to regular queues. Priority queues, however, allow access to only the item with the highest priority.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 | #include <cstdlib>
3 #include <queue>
4
5 using namespace std;
6
7
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
8
9
     priority_queue<int> pq;
10
11
     pq.push(1);
12
     pq.push(4);
13
     pq.push(2);
14
     cout << pq.top() << endl; // outputs '4'</pre>
15
16
     pq.pop();
17
     cout << pq.top() << endl; // outputs '2'</pre>
18
     pq.pop();
19
     cout << pq.top() << endl; // outputs '1'</pre>
20
21
     cout << pq.size() << endl; // outputs '1'</pre>
```

```
22 | return EXIT_SUCCESS; 24 | }
```

Listing 11 Basic use of the priority_queue

The priority_queue adapter requires some mechanism to determine the relative priority of elements. By default, the priority_queue adapter uses the < operator of the elements to determine priority. Many data types and classes define this operator, but many classes, especially user-defined classes, do not. To use a priority_queue with objects that define the < operator is straightforward. The above listing does exactly this. As long as the semantics of the supplied < make sense for the application at hand, the implementation is relatively painless.

There is an alternative mechanism that a programmer can implement to use a priority_queue with objects that do not provide a < operator. This mechanism involves providing the priority_queue adapter with a compare function. This compare function dictates how the priority_queue adapter should determine the priority of the stored items.

```
1 #include <iostream>
 2
   #include <cstdlib>
 3
   #include <string>
4 #include <queue>
 6 using namespace std;
 7
8 class StringCompare {
9
   public:
10
     bool operator()(const string& s1, const string& s2) {
11
12
         if (s1.length() < s2.length()) {</pre>
13
              return true;
14
         }
15
         else {
16
             return false;
17
         }
18
     }
19
   };
20
    int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {
21
22
     // Create a priority queue that assigns longer
23
24
     // strings a higher priority.
25
     priority_queue<string, vector<string>, StringCompare> pq;
26
27
     pq.push("small string");
28
     pq.push("a slightly longer string");
29
     pq.push("another small string");
30
31
     cout << pq.top() << endl;</pre>
32
     pq.pop();
33
34
     cout << pq.top() << endl;</pre>
35
     pq.pop();
36
37
     cout << pq.top() << endl;</pre>
38
```

```
39 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
40 }
```

Listing 12 A user defined compare function

Supplying a compare function to the priority_queue is also advantageous when an existing < operator is not suitable for use in determining priority. The above listing actually demonstrates this concept since class string does provide a < operator. If the listing did not supply the user-defined compare function, the priority queue would use the < operator. This would cause the program to assign the highest priority to the string that alphabetically precedes the other strings.

5.2 Graphs

With this module, the course introduces graphs and graph algorithms.

Readings:

• Required:

```
Weiss, chapter 15.
```

Remark:

Remember that this book supplements the course's online material. You will be asked questions based on this material.

• Required:

Schildt, chapters 33 through 37. Remark: Remember that this book serves as a general reference to the C++ language, not a course textbook. Therefore, you should browse through the assigned sections in order to get a sense of what they have to offer and where and how they treat important topics. Do not study the sections assigned in this book as you would assignments from a textbook: your goal here should be familiarity, not mastery.

5.2.1 Introduction to Graphs

- Graphs in the Real World
- Graphs Defined

Graphs in the Real World

Many rich examples of graphs exist in the real world. You may be using one such example, the Internet, right now. The interconnected networks that make up the Internet are a common example of a graph. The computers form the nodes of the graph. Since not every machine is connected to every other machine, the links between machines also are part of the graph. Each such link between a pair of computers may be directed or undirected, depending on whether messages can be sent in only one direction or in both.

A similar example is traffic networks, such as railroad links between stations, or airplane flights connecting cities. The nodes here are railroad stations and cities, and the links are given by the rails and the flights.



Figure 1 Flights connecting cities as a graph

Lastly, consider a company's organizational chart. In this case, the nodes are the employees, and links indicate the supervisor-subordinate relationship. You may be tempted to think that this type of hierarchy is actually a tree, but we have to consider the fact that an employee may have more than one supervisor. For example, in the following organizational chart the "QA Manager" reports to both the "V.P. of Sales" and the "V.P. of Technology." This prohibits a tree-based representation.

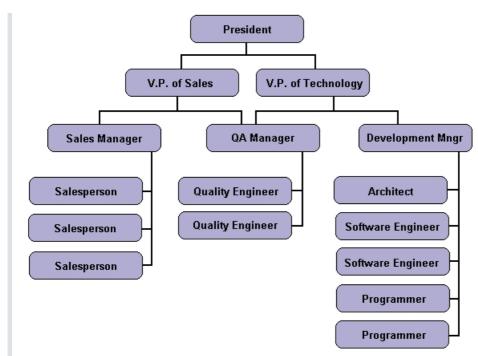


Figure 2 An organizational chart as a graph

Graphs Defined

A directed graph consists of a set \overline{V} of vertices or nodes and a set \overline{E} of edges or arcs. Each edge has a source node and a target node, and the edge can be traversed only from source to target.

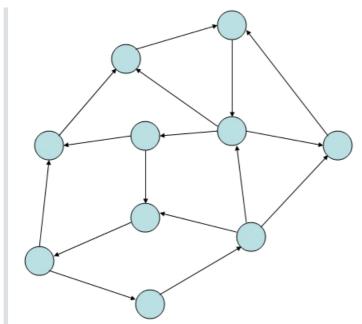


Figure 3 A directed graph

Many of the basic questions one can ask about a graph revolve around path existence. A path is any sequence of vertices connected by edges. The number of edges in a path is the length of the path.

Given two nodes s and t (the source and the target), we would like to determine whether there is a path from s to t. This is the single pair reachability problem. Closely related is the all pairs reachability problem, which asks whether there is a path between any two vertices in the graph. In terms of a computer network, this translates into the ability to send a message from any machine to any other machine (assuming some suitable forwarding mechanism).

For the sake of completeness, we mention that one often deals with undirected graphs where each edge can be traversed in either direction. An undirected edge can always be thought of as a pair of directed edges, so we will focus on the directed case.

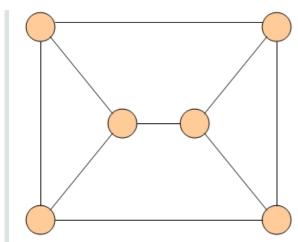


Figure 4 An undirected graph

Perhaps the most appealing feature of graphs is that they can be rendered visually, and pictures of graphs are often helpful in motivating and describing important properties. Graph algorithms usually are best understood in conjunction with a little drawing that shows what the algorithm does.

5.2.2 Fundamental Graph Algorithms

- Breadth-First Search
 - The Concept
 - An Implementation
- Depth-First Search
 - The Concept
 - An Implementation
- Shortest Path Calculation

Breadth-First Search

The Concept

A breadth-first search is an algorithm that explores the nodes in a graph in order of increasing distance from the starting node. A breadth-first search can be used to answer questions about reachability. In other words, we can perform a breadth-first search to determine which nodes can be reached from a starting node. This is an important application since graphs can contain nodes that are disconnected from other nodes.

Figures 1 through 7 demonstrate a breadth-first search of a simple graph.

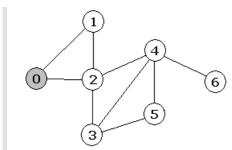


Figure 1 The start of a breadth-first search

The starting node in the breadth-first exploration is highlighted in Figure 1. The algorithm begins by examining each of the outgoing edges of this start node. New nodes are discovered when the algorithm examines these outgoing edges. These "discovered" nodes are placed into a queue. The breadth-first search algorithm then examines each discovered node in turn to determine if new nodes can be reached from the discovered node.

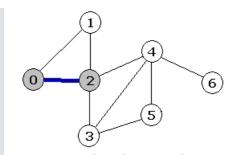


Figure 2 Node 2 discovered

In the figure above, we see that the algorithm has discovered node 2 by examining one of the edges connected to node 0. The figure shades node 2 to denote that the node has been discovered. Once a node has been discovered, it is placed into a queue of nodes that have been discovered, but not explored. The algorithm then finishes exploring the starting node by examining its remaining edge. This edge leads to node 1.

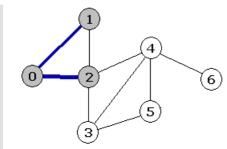


Figure 3 Node 1 discovered

A node is completely explored when all of its edges have been examined. When the exploration of a node is complete, the algorithm selects another node to explore. This selection is not arbitrary. The chosen node is the node at the front of the queue of discovered, but not explored nodes. At this point in this algorithm, this means that the algorithm considers node 2. In Figures 4 and 5, we see the algorithm explore the edges this node.

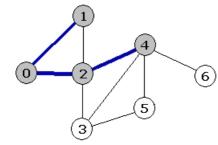


Figure 4 Node 4 discovered

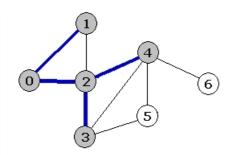


Figure 5 Node 3 discovered

After examining all the edges from node 2, the algorithm considers the edges of node 1. The edges connected to node 1, however, all lead to nodes that have already been discovered. The algorithm moves on and considers the edges connected to node 4.

Node 4 is connected to four edges. Two of these edges lead to nodes that have already been discovered. The other two edges lead to nodes 5 and 6. Both of these nodes are marked as "discovered" and placed into the queue. The algorithm then moves on to examine the edges connected to node 3.

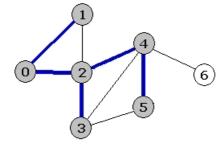


Figure 6 Node 5 discovered

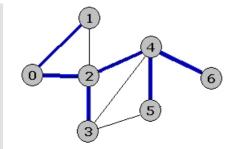


Figure 7 Node 6 discovered

At this point, the algorithm has discovered all the nodes in the graph. We can see this because all the nodes in Figure 7 are shaded. The algorithm, however, does not know this. It continues and examines the edges connected to nodes 3, 5, and 6. All of these edges lead to nodes previously discovered. The algorithm finally terminates when it runs out of nodes that need to be explored.

An Implementation

An implementation of a breadth-first search appears in Listing 1. This program explores the graph in Figures 1 through 7. Because the nodes in this graph are referenced via integers, we can use a vector of lists of type [int] to maintain adjacency lists.

```
void bfs(vector< list<int> >& adj_lists, int start_node) {
 2
 3
     queue<int> not_yet_explored;
     set<int> discovered;
 6
     // Mark the start node as being discovered,
 7
     // and place it in the queue of nodes to explore
 8
     not_yet_explored.push(start_node);
 9
     discovered.insert(start_node);
10
11
     while (! not_yet_explored.empty()) {
12
13
         // Get a node to explore.
         int node_to_explore = not_yet_explored.front();
14
         not_yet_explored.pop();
15
16
17
         // Examine all the edges of the node
         list<int>::iterator edges = adj_lists[node_to_explore].begin();
18
19
         for ( ; edges != adj_lists[node_to_explore].end(); edges++) {
20
21
             // See if the edge leads to a node that we
             // have not yet discovered
22
             if (discovered.count(*edges) == 0) {
23
24
                 // We have discovered a new node!
25
26
                 // Add this node to the queue of nodes
                 // to explore.
27
                 discovered.insert(*edges);
28
29
                 not_yet_explored.push(*edges);
30
                 cout << "Found " << *edges <<
31
                 " from " << node_to_explore << endl;</pre>
32
33
34
             }
35
36
```

Listing 1 Breadth-first search implementation

Depth-First Search

The Concept

A depth-first search is an algorithm that explores the nodes in a graph in reverse order of increasing distance from the starting node. A depth-first search explores nodes deeper into a graph and then works its way back to the nodes that are close to the starting node.

To search deeper into a maze first, a depth-first search algorithm keeps track of the nodes to be explored in a stack rather than a queue. This causes newly discovered nodes to be explored before previously discovered nodes. In a breadth-first search, we explored nodes in the order that we discovered them. In a depth-first search, we explore nodes as we discover them.

Figures 8 through 14 illustrate a depth-first search of the same graph from the breadth-first search example.

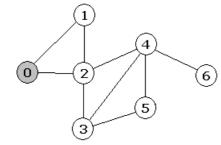


Figure 8 First step of a depth-first search

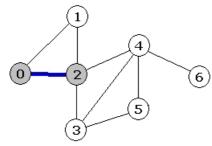


Figure 9 Second step of a depth-first search

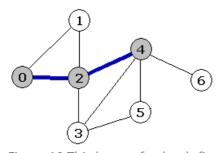


Figure 10 Third step of a depth-first search

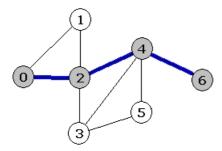


Figure 11 Fourth step of a depth-first search

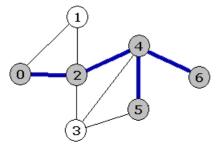


Figure 12 Fifth step of a depth-first search

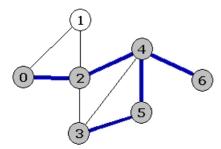


Figure 13 Sixth step of a depth-first search

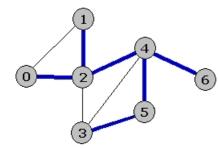


Figure 14 Final step of a depth-first search

An Implementation

A depth-first search implementation differs from a breadth-first search implementation only in the container used to store unexplored nodes. In a breadth-first search, we explore nodes in the order that they are discovered. Thus, a queue is used to maintain the discovered but not explored nodes. A depth-first search algorithm always explores the most recently discovered node. To facilitate this, a stack is used instead of a queue to store the unexplored nodes. In all actuality, though, we can leverage the fact that the run-time system maintains function calls in a stack, and code the routine recursively. This altogether eliminates the need to use a container to store unexplored nodes.

```
void dfs_helper(vector< list<int> >& adj_lists, set<int>& discovered,
    int node) {
 2
     // Examine all the edges of the node
 3
     list<int>::iterator edges = adj_lists[node].begin();
 4
 5
     for ( ; edges != adj_lists[node].end(); edges++) {
 6
 7
         // See if the edge leads to a node that we
 8
         // have not yet discovered
         if (discovered.count(*edges) == 0) {
9
10
             // We have discovered a new node!
11
             // Add this node to the queue of nodes
12
             // to explore.
13
             discovered.insert(*edges);
14
             cout << "Found " << *edges <<
15
             " from " << node << endl;</pre>
16
```

```
dfs_helper(adj_lists, discovered, *edges);
17
18
         }
19
     }
   }
20
21
22
    void dfs(vector< list<int> >& adj_lists, int start_node) {
23
24
     // Mark the start node as being discovered
25
     set<int> discovered;
26
     discovered.insert(start_node);
     dfs_helper(adj_lists, discovered, start_node);
27
28 }
```

Listing 2 Depth-first search implementation

Shortest Path Calculation

Shortest path calculations are a family of algorithms that determine the shortest distance between nodes in a graph. Different shortest path algorithms exist because different types of graphs require slightly different approaches. In an unweighted graph, for instance, a simple breadth-first search can be used to calculate the shortest path between nodes. For weighted graphs, different and slightly more complex algorithms must be used. We can use Dijkstra's algorithm if all the weights in a weighted graph are positive. An algorithm known as the Bellman-Ford algorithm solves the shortest path problem for graphs that contain edges with negative weights.

SSD5: Data Structures and Algorithms

As students work their way through this course, they will learn how to program in C++, including how to evaluate, select, and use libraries that implement a variety of algorithms and data structures—as well as familiarize themselves with some of the key principles for designing algorithms and data structures. Specifically, after successfully completing this course, students will know how to write C++ programs using templates, classes and objects, pointers and references, and C++ input and output. They will know how to write programs using binary search trees, and pointer and array representations of graphs. In addition, they will learn to use C++ and *Standard Template Library* (or STL) documentation and reference tools; they will learn about the time and space requirements of various algorithms and data structures, which will help them make sound programming choices. Students will also learn how to implement the design principles of divide-and-conquer, backtracking, and dynamic programming.

This course requires the following texts:

- Mark Allen Weiss, *Data Structures and Problem Solving Using C++*, *Second Edition*, published by Addison Wesley Longman, 2000.
 - Note: Weiss (2000) will serve as the course's textbook and will supplement the course's online materials.
- Herbert Schildt, C++: The Complete Reference, Fourth Edition, published by Osborne McGraw-Hill, 2003.

Note: Schildt (2003) will serve as a general reference tool, *not* as a course textbook. Although you are not required to learn its material as well as that of the course textbook, gaining familiarity with such a tool is still an important part of learning to program in any computer language.

Reading assignments are included at the start of each course section. Alternatively, you can refer to <u>Appendix A. Readings</u> for a consolidated list of readings.

Hardware/Software Requirements

• A C++ compiler. The examples and assessment handouts successfully compile under Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0 (Service Pack 5), Microsoft Visual C++ .NET, and the GNU C++ compiler, version 2.95.3-5. The GNU C++ compiler can be obtained free of charge through the

Cygwin

environment.

Note to users of Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0:

Certain versions of Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0 incorrectly report an error during the compilation of a class, when a "using namespace std" directive is placed before a friend operator declaration. This bug was corrected in Visual Studio 6.0 Service Pack 3. For more information about Visual Studio service packs, please see the following articles in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

194022 INFO: Visual Studio 6.0 Service Packs, What, Where, Why

194295 HOWTO: Tell That Visual Studio 6.0 Service Packs Are Installed

Outcomes

The purpose of SSD5 is for students to

- 1. Learn to program in C++
- 2. Learn to use the STL (Standard Template Library)
- 3. Learn to evaluate, select, and use libraries implementing algorithms and data structures
- 4. Learn key principles of algorithm and data structure design

Students successfully completing SSD5 will be able to

I. Produce

- 1. C++ programs using, classes, objects, templates, pointers, references and I/O
- 2. Programs using binary trees and associated algorithms, pointer and array representations of graphs, and hashing algorithms
- 3. Designs of programming solutions independent of programming languages
- 4. Classifications of program segments into logarithmic, linear, polynomial, and exponential algorithms

II. Use

- 1. C++ Standard Template Library facilities in writing large programs including sequential containers, trees, hash tables, stacks, and queues
- 2. Descriptions of the time and space requirements of algorithms and data structures to make appropriate design decisions

III. Knowledgeably Discuss

- 1. The notion of asymptotic analysis of algorithms in terms of growth rates
- 2. The concepts of search, divide-and-conquer, and memorization as algorithm design principles
- 3. The concept of templates in terms of generic programming

IV. Hold Positions as C++ Programmer

The students successfully completing the course will be able to

- 1. Participate in project design teams
- 2. Contribute to various phases of software development from requirements through implementation
- 3. Design special purpose libraries that implement particular feature sets, for example, business logic for a medical records application that maintains patient profiles
- 4. Trouble-shoot programs and implement fixes for software with performance problems
- 5. Port difficult-to-maintain legacy code to smaller, efficient, extensible code

Appendix A. Readings

- Mark Allen Weiss, Data Structures and Problem Solving Using C++, published by Addison Wesley Longman, 2000.
- Herbert Schildt, C++: The Complete Reference, Fourth Edition, published by McGraw-Hill/Osborne, 2003.

Section	Weiss	Schildt
1.1: C++ Introduced	None	Chapter 11
1.2: Data Structures and Algorithms	None	None
1.3: Basic C++ Programming	Chapter 2	Chapters 12, 19 - 21
1.4: Memory Management	Chapter 1	Chapters 13 - 15
1.5: Mechanisms for Code Reuse and Abstraction	Chapters 3, 4	Chapters 16 - 18
2.1: Using the Standard string Class	None	Chapter 36 (Reference)
2.2: The STL and Basic Containers	Sections 1.2, 2.6	Chapter 36 (Reference)
2.3: Linked Lists	Section 7.6, Chapter 17	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
2.4: Queues	Section 7.2.3, Chapter 16	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
2.5: Stacks	Sections 7.2.1 - 7.2.2, Chapter 16	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
3.1: The Basic Concept of Recursion	Sections 8.1 - 8.3	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
3.2: Problem Solving with Recursion	Sections 8.5, 8.7	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
4.1: Sorting and Searching	Chapters 9, 20	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
4.2: Complexity	Chapter 6	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
5.1: Trees	Chapter 18, Sections 7.7 - 7.9, 19.1	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)
5.2: Graphs	Chapter 15	Chapters 33 - 37 (Reference)

Appendix B. Coding Conventions

Throughout this course, unless otherwise specified by your instructor, use the conventions described in this page.

Use the following prototype for function main().

```
1 | int main(int argc, char* argv[]);
```

Listing 1 Prototype for main

Note that return type int is required for function main.

Function main should terminate specifically by executing one of the following two statements.

```
// indicates abnormal termination
return EXIT_FAILURE;

// ...
// ...
// indicates normal termination
return EXIT_SUCCESS;
```

Listing 2 Returning from function main

The constants EXIT_SUCCESS and EXIT_FAILURE are defined in library cstdlib.

Use void as the formal parameter list of any function that takes no arguments.

Use file extension .cpp for C++ source files. Use file extension .h for C++ header files.

Use object cout for normal program output. Use object cerr for error messages. Both of these objects are found in library iostream.

So that code is self-documenting, choose identifiers carefully. Provide documentation only where tricks or obscure code is used, or to delimit large code segments. The amount of documentation should not rival the amount of code.

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