

# Templating

Victor Eijkhout, Susan Lindsey

Fall 2023

last formatted: November 2, 2023

# 1. What's the problem?

Do you have multiple vector classes?

```
class vector_of_int {  
    public:  
    int size();  
    int at(int i);  
};
```

```
class vector_of_float {  
    public:  
    int size();  
    float at(int i);  
};
```

## 2. Templated type name

If you have multiple functions or classes that do 'the same' for multiple types, you want the type name to be a variable, a template parameter. Syntax:

```
template <typename yourtypevariable>  
// ... stuff with yourtypevariable ...
```

### 3. Example: function

Definition:

```
template<typename T>  
void function(T var) { cout << var << end; }
```

Usage:

```
int i; function(i);  
double x; function(x);
```

and the code will behave as if you had defined *function* twice, once for `int` and once for `double`.

## 4. Templated vector

The templated vector class looks roughly like:

```
template<typename T>
class vector {
private:
    T *vectordata; // internal data
public:
    T at(int i) { return vectordata[i] };
    int size() { /* return size of data */ };
    // much more
}
```

# Exercise 1

Machine precision, or 'machine epsilon', is sometimes defined as the smallest number  $\epsilon$  so that  $1 + \epsilon > 1$  in computer arithmetic.

Write a templated function *epsilon* so that the following code prints out the values of the machine precision for the `float` and `double` type respectively:

Code:

```
1 // template/eps.cpp
2 float float_eps;
3 epsilon(float_eps);
4 cout << "Epsilon float: "
5     << setw(10) <<
6     setprecision(4)
7     << float_eps << '\n';
8
9 double double_eps;
10 epsilon(double_eps);
11 cout << "Epsilon double: "
12     << setw(10) <<
13     setprecision(4)
14     << double_eps << '\n';
```

Output:

```
Epsilon float:
      1.0000e-07
Epsilon double:
      1.0000e-15
```

## 5. Class that stores one element

Code:

```
1 // template/example1.cpp
2 Store<int> i5(5);
3 cout << i5.value() << '\n';
```

Output:

5

## 6. Class definition

Template parameter is used for private data, return type, etc.

```
// template/example1.cpp
template< typename T >
class Store {
private:
    T stored;
public:
    Store(T v) : stored(v) {};
    T value() { return stored;};
};
```



## 7. Templated class as return

Methods that return a templated object:

Code:

```
1 // template/example1.cpp
2 Store<float> also314 =
    f314.copy();
3 cout << also314.value() << '\n';
4 Store<float> min314 =
    f314.negative();
5 cout << min314.value() << '\n';
```

Output:

```
3.14
-3.14
```

## 8. Class name injection

Template parameter can often be left out in methods:

```
// template/example1.cpp  
Store copy() { return Store(stored); };  
Store<T> negative() { return Store<T>(-stored); };
```

## Intermezzo: complex numbers

## 9. Complex

Code:

```
1 // complex/basic.cpp
2 #include <complex>
3 using std::complex;
4     /* ... */
5     complex<double> d(1.,3.);
6     cout << d << '\n';
7     complex<float> f;
8     f.real(1.); f.imag(2.);
9     cout << f << '\n';
```

Output:

```
(1,3)
(1,2)
```

## 10. Operations and literals

Code:

```
1 // complex/basic.cpp
2 using namespace
   std::complex_literals;
3 auto e = d*2.;
4 cout << e << '\n';
5 auto g = e + 2.5i + 3.; // note
   3dot
6 cout << g << '\n';
```

Output:

```
(2,6)
(5,8.5)
```

## Newton's method

Rewrite your Newton program so that it works for complex numbers:

```
// newton/newton-complex.cpp
complex<double> z{.5,.5};
while ( true ) {
    auto fz = f(z);
    cout << "f( " << z << " ) = " << fz << '\n';
    if (std::abs(fz)<1.e-10 ) break;
    z = z - fz/fprime(z);
}
```

You may run into the problem that you can not operate immediately between a complex number and a `float` or `double`. Use `static_cast`; see section ??.

## 11. Templatized Newton, first attempt

You can templatize your Newton function and derivative:

```
// newton/newton-double.cpp
template<typename T>
T f(T x) { return x*x - 2; };
template<typename T>
T fprime(T x) { return 2 * x; };
```

and then write

```
// newton/newton-double.cpp
double x{1.};
while ( true ) {
    auto fx = f<double>(x);
    cout << "f( " << x << " ) = " << fx << '\n';
    if (std::abs(fx)<1.e-10 ) break;
    x = x - fx/fprime<double>(x);
}
```



## Exercise 2

Update your Newton program with templates. If you have it working for `double`, try using `complex<double>`. Does it work?

## Exercise 3

Use your complex Newton method to compute  $\sqrt{2}$ . Does it work?

How about  $\sqrt{-2}$ ?

## Exercise 4

Can you templatize your Newton code that used lambda expressions? Your function header would now be:

```
// newton/lambda-complex.cpp
template<typename T>
T newton_root
    ( function< T(T) > f,
      function< T(T) > fprime,
      T init) {
```

You would for instance compute  $\sqrt{2}$  as:

```
// newton/lambda-complex.cpp
cout << "sqrt -2 = " <<
    newton_root<complex<double>>
    ( [] (complex<double> x) -> complex<double> {
        return x*x + static_cast<complex<double>>(2); },
      [] (complex<double> x) -> complex<double> {
        return x * static_cast<complex<double>>(2); },
      complex<double>{.1,.1}
    )
    << '\n';
```

## **Templates and headers**

## 12. Templated declaration

Declaration of a templated class:

```
// template/example2.cpp
template< typename T >
class Store {
private:
    T stored;
public:
    Store(T v);
    T value();
    Store copy();
    Store<T> negative();
};
```