

Module 1: An Overview of C++

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Course plan

Module no.	Date	Topic	Book chapter*
0 and 1	31.08	Welcome & C++ Overview	1
2	07.09	Basic $C++$ and $Data$ Types	1, 2.2 – 2.5
3	14.09	LAB DAY	C++ Practice
4	21.09	Data Types	2
-	21.09	Libraries and Interfaces	3
5	28.09	Libraries and interraces	5
6	05.10	Classes and Objects	4.1, 4.2 and 9.1, 9.2
7	12.10	Templates	4.1, 11.1
Autumn break			
8	26.10	Inheritance	14.3, 14.4, 14.5
9	02.11	Guest lecture & LAB DAY	Previous exams
10	09.11	Recursive Programming	5
11	16.11	Linked Lists	10.5
12	23.11	Trees	13
13	30.11	Conclusion & LAB DAY	Exam preparation
	05.12	Exam	

^{*} Recall that the book uses some ad-hoc libraries (e.g., for strings and vectors). We will use standard libraries

Outline

What is C++?

A brief look at C++ programs

Recommended C++ compiler and editor

Lab time & homework

What is C++?



C++ is a general-purpose programming language that extends C

- Created by Bjarne Stroustrup (beginnings: 1979)
- ▶ Now regulated by ISO C++ Standard Committee (C++98, C++03, ..., C++20, ...)

Unique combination of:

- ▶ high-level features (e.g., object oriented and generic programming)
- low-level features (manual memory management, memory pointers)

C++ vs. **Python**, **Matlab**, ...

► Statically typed, compiled, manual memory handling (no garbage collection)

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C++ vs. Python, Matlab, ...
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C++ vs. Java, C#, Visual Basic, ...
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Object-oriented, more advanced types

C++ vs. **Python**, **Matlab**, ...

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C++ vs. Java, C#, Visual Basic, ...

Manual memory handling (no garbage collection)

C++ vs. **C**

Object-oriented, more advanced types

C++ vs. Rust

Object-oriented, less advanced types, more mature, bigger ecosystem

Live coding begins now!

I will now show C++ in action, by using an **online C++ editor and compiler**

http://cpp.sh/

(there are other similar websites you can try)

Try to follow along — and raise your hand and ask questions if something is unclear!

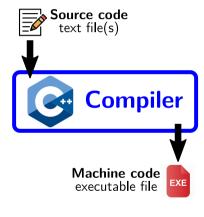
NOTE: for the next lectures, you will **need to install C++ on your computer!**

► We'll get back to it later today

An overview of C++ programs

- ► The structure of a C++ program
 - #include directives, the main function, user-defined functions
- ► Simple input/output
 - cin. cout
- ► Variables, values, and types
 - string, int. double, float
- Expressions
 - Some numeric and boolean operators and math functions
- **Statements**
 - if while for

C++ compiler(s)



A **C++ compiler** is a program that:

Recommended C++ compiler and editor

- 1. reads source code from one or more text files
- 2. generates an executable file containing machine code

You can use any text editor to write the source code

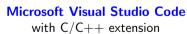
▶ ... but maybe you want syntax highlighting at least

There are many C++ compilers with various differences:

- different compatibility with C++ language standards
- different usage options
- different error messages

Recommendation for this course







GNU Compiler Collection (which includes the C++ compiler g++)

Both multi-platform & open source. g++ is standard-compliant and is used on CodeJudge

See instructions on DTU Learn

Lab time & homework

Tasks:

- 1. Install Visual Studio Code and GCC (g++) on your computer
 - ► Follow the instructions on DTU Learn
 - ► If you have trouble, ask for help
 - Mac OS users: you may have a compiler called g++ that is not GCC. It should be OK...
- 2. Try the first weekly assignment on your computer and on CodeJudge
 - ► The assignment description is available on DTU Learn
 - ► Goal: check your C++ installation and familiarise with CodeJudge
 - ► Don't worry if you don't get all exercises right :-)