The Little CPPler

Elkin Cruz

## What to expect from this book

This is NOT a reference book, this is a teaching/practicing book. It is for anybody who is willing to learn C++ by practicing. This book is also an unusual book. It has taken inspiration (copied) from a great teaching book for the Scheme programming language: "The little schemer".

There is a saying in, uh, somewhere in instructional courses, it goes like: Learn like you work, i.e., you should learn in the same way that you will at some point work. For example, if you wanna be a chef then cook like a chef, not just learn the recipes! Or if you are an student of Engineering, learn to solve problems in your area like you will do in your work, not just apply the equations for the exercise.

Learning is rewarding but it is hard work! If you don't feel that it takes effort to learn, (you can recall everything) then you are not learning, you are just applying (which is not bad, it is necessary, but it's NOT learning).

## **Prerequisites**

#### **Tools**

To follow this book you will need two tools:

- A text editor
- A compiler

or, alternatively, you could install a tool that integrates those two tools into one, and IDE.

Examples of IDE's are: Code::Blocks (Dev-C++) (for windows and linux), Visual Studio (for windows), NetBeans or Eclipse (for windows, linux and macOS), Xcode (for macOS).

The rest of this guide will suppose you are using Code::Blocks.

#### Installing Code::Blocks Dev-C++

Go to http://www.codeblocks.org/, clic on Downloads, then clic on "Download the binary release", and select the download that contains mingw and setup in the name.

Once you have download it, install it like any other windows program.

#### Using the tools

I'm gonna assume that you have installed CodeBlocks Dev-C++ in your Windows computer. The procedure shown here is similar in another Operating Systems like Linux or iOS.

Open Code::Blocks and clic on the menu "File", then "New", and finally "Empty file". A space to write text should appear in the middle of the window with the name "Untitled1".

Write in the text space the following:

```
#include <iostream>
int main()
{
   std::cout << "Hello World!" << std::endl;
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

Once you have entered the text without any typos save it in a new folder with the name helloworld.cc. Note: you could get stuck if there is some typo on the text, please revise you don't have any typos.

Now clic on the menu "Build" and then the option "Build". If you go now to the folder where you saved helloworld.cc, you will find a file called  $helloworld.exe^1$ 

If you double clic the created file, you should see a window appear and dissapear in a fraction of a second. To actually see what that window was, go back to Code::Blocks and clic in the menu "Build" and then the option "Run".

Now, you should see a black window open. In it, you will see the line:

#### Hello World!

followed by some lines telling you how long did the program take to run.

Congratulations! You have compiled and executed your first program!

Now that everything is working, why don't you try fiddling with the file, change the message, or add more, repeat some lines, or something. Have fun.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>You may not see a file with that name, you may see a file without the extension .exe, only helloworld. That's ok, windows by default hides extensions. .exe is the extension that tells windows when a file is an executable, a program. If you want to see the extension of files under windows, search on the internet "displaying file extensions in windows".

## How to read this book

Yeah, you should learn first how to read this book! :P

The book is divided into three blocks, each block is divided into 4 (or 5) sub-blocks. Each (sub-)block is dependent in the previous (sub-)blocks, this means that you need to read sequentially to understand what is any block about.

Each subblock is composed of several (10 to 20) exercises. Each exercise is divided into two columns, the left column is a question and the answer is in the second column.

Because the answers to the exercises are in the same page as the questions, I recommend you to cover the answer and try to answer by yourself, when you are sure of the answer (or you don't know how to answer) look at the right column for the proposed answer.

There are some little tasks in each subblock to perform, tasks are here exercises without answers, they are possible to solve with the material covered to the point were they are presented.

## **Block 1: Basics**

#### Getting to know C++(11)

000

What do you think the following code will output after compiling and running it?

```
#include <iostream>
int main()
{
   std::cout << "Hello World!" << std::endl;
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

The output is:

Hello World!

Now, what if you compile this other file:

The output is:

```
Hello World!
I'm a program example and I'm in English.
```

Pay close attention to the output, there are three sentences surrounded by quotation marks ("), but there are only two lines in the output. Why?

If we change our example slightly (notice the added semicolon (;) at the end of line 6) what do you think it will happen?

Well, it doesn't compile! We get an error similar to:

```
:7:13: error: expected expression
<< "in English."</pre>
```

It is telling us that it was expecting something (a std::cout for example) before <<.

Try removing or adding random characters (anywhere) to the example and you will find that the compiler just admits a certain arrangement of characters and not much more. But, why? Well, the compiler just understands the grammar of C++ as we just understand the grammar of our human languages. Going a little further with the analogy, we can understand the grammar of any human language (its parts (verbs, prepositions, ...) and how are they connected) but we can only understand the meaning (semantics) of those languages we have studied (or our mother tongues).

003

Does the following program compiles. If yes, what is its output?

Yep, it in fact compiles, and its output is:

```
Hello World!
I'm a program
example and I'm
in English.
```

Notice how std::endl puts text in a new line, that's in fact its whole job.

Task for home: Write a working C++ program and add or remove some character to it so it fails to compile. Ask a fellow classmate to try to find the error and explain it

004

Well that's getting boring. What if we try something different for a change. What is the otput of this program:

Nice<sup>†</sup>

```
Adding two numbers: 5
```

 $<sup>^\</sup>dagger this$  is a footnote, read all of them, they may tell you little things that the main text won't.

Let's try something a little more complex<sup>†</sup>

```
std::cout
  << "A simple operation between " << 3
  << " " << 5 << " " << 20 << ": "
  << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;</pre>
```

 $^{\dagger}$ Here you can see only a snippet of the whole code. The complete code the snippet represents can be found in the source accompaning this book.

From now on, all code will be given on snippets for simplicity but remember that they are that, snippets, uncomplete pieces of code that need your help to get complete. A simple operation between 3 5 20: 160

006

What is the purpose of << " " << in the code?

" " << adds an space between the numbers otherwise the output would look weird.</p>

007

What if we remove all spaces from the last example?

```
std::cout
  << "A simple operation between " << 3
  << 5 << 20 << ": "
    << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;</pre>
```

A simple operation between 3520: 160

It looks aweful, doesn't it? Spaces are important as formatting!

008

Let's try it now multiline:

```
std::cout
    << "A simple operation between " << std::endl
    << 3 << std::endl
    << 5 << std::endl
    << 20 << ": " << std::endl
    << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;</pre>
```

```
A simple operation between
3
5
20:
160
```

009

Did you noticed that we only used a std::cout? What is then the output of the code below?

```
std::cout
    << "A simple operation between " << std::endl;
std::cout << 3 << std::endl;
std::cout << 5 << std::endl;
std::cout << 20 << ": " << std::endl;
std::cout << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;</pre>
```

```
A simple operation between
3
5
20:
160
```

Yeah, it's the same as before!

Notice how the semicolon (;) indicates the ending of a statement in code. The code above could all be written in a single line (and not in 6 lines) and it would output the same: $^{\dagger}$ 

```
std::cout << ... << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;
```

Remember every std::cout is always paired with a semicolon (;) which indicates the ending of its effects, like a *dot* indicates the ending of a sentence or paragraph.

<sup>†</sup>sorry, the single line is too long to show in here all at once.

What happens if you try to compile and run this faulty code?

```
std::cout
    << "A simple operation between " << std::endl;
std::cout << 3 << std::endl;
std::cout << 5 << std::endl
std::cout << 20 << ": " << std::endl;
std::cout << (3+5)*20 << std::endl;</pre>
```

It fails to compile because there is a semicolon missing in the code!

The error shown by the compiler is actually  $\dagger$  useful here, it is telling us that we forgot a ;!

```
:8:30: error: expected ';' after expression std::cout << 5 << std::endl ;
;
1 error generated.
```

<sup>†</sup>Why "actually"? Well, you will find that most of the time errors thrown by the compiler are hard to understand. It is often something that we programmers need to learn to do. We learn to understand the confusing error messages compilers give us.

011.

But what if we want to not input 5 or 20 twice? What is the output of the code below?

The output is:

```
A simple operation between 3 5 20: 160
```

012.

what is the output if you change the value 5 for 7?

The output is:

```
A simple operation between 3 7 20: 200
```

013

num\_1 is a variable and it allows us to save integers on it, you can try changing it's value for any number between -2147483648 and  $2147483647^{\dagger}$ 

What if we put -12 in the variable num\_1?

The output is:

```
A simple operation between -12 5 20: -140
```

 $<sup>^\</sup>dagger This$  numbers are based on a program compiled for a 32bit computer, the values may vary between different computers.

#### Interlude: Variables

Now, it's time to explain what are variables and what happens when we write int name = 0.

int name = 0 is equivalent to:1

```
int name;
name = 0;
```

The first instruction **declares** a space for an **int** in memory (RAM memory).

So, let's study the architecture of computers, mainly RAM and CPU. Topic to study on class. Sorry guys, I should've known it was too long to explain written, if I don't explain it to you, please tell me. Now, let's continue with the explanation

int name; is telling the compiler to reserve (declare) some space that nobody else should use. This space can have any value we want. Because this space in memory could have been used by anybody else in the past, its value is nondefined, meaning that it can be anything. Therefore we use the next line name = 0; to save a zero in the space declared.

BEWARE! name = 0; is NOT an equation!

I repeat, name = 0; is NOT an equation!, you are assigning a value to a variable, you could easily assign many different values to a variable, though just the last one will stay in memory thereafter:

```
int name;
name = 0;
name = 12;
```

The procedure of *declaring* and then *assigning* a value to a variable is so common that the designers of the language have made a shortcut:

```
int name = 0;
```

Now, let's go back to the code!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> only for the simplest values int, double, ..., but not for objects. Objects are out of the scope of this book, but it is important to know they exist.

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 6;
int var2 = 3;
int var3 = 10;

std::cout
    << (var1+var2) * var3 - var2
    << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
87
```

015.

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 6;
int var2 = 3;

std::cout
    << (var1+var2) * var3 - var2
    << std::endl;

int var3 = 10;</pre>
```

Yeah, it doesn't compile, you are trying to use a variable before declaring it (asking for a space in memory to use it). The compiler gives you the answer:

```
:9:20: error: use of undeclared identifier 'var3' << (var1+var2) * var3 - var2

1 error generated.
```

ORDER (of sentences) is key! It is not the same to say "Peter eats spaguetti, then Peter clean his teeth" than "Peter clean his teeth, then Peter eats spaguetti".

A program runs sequentially from the first line of code to the last

016.

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 6;
int var2 = 3;
int var3 = 10;

var2 = var1*3;

std::cout
    << (var1+var2) * var3 - var2
    << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
222
```

We can in fact assign to the variable (at the left of =) any int value result of any computation. In this case, the computation var1\*3 is assigned to var2

017.

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 6;
std::cout << var1 << " ";
var1 = 20;
std::cout << var1 << " ";
var1 = -5;
std::cout << var1 << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
6 20 -5
```

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 6;
std::cout << var1 << " ";
int var1 = 20;
std::cout << var1 << " ";
var1 = -5;
std::cout << var1 << std::endl;</pre>
```

It doesn't compile because you cannot ask for more space in memory (declare) with the same name variable, you gotta use a different name.

 $^{\dagger}$ This is truth, you cannot use the same name twice in the same block of code, usually called scope. With scopes we can shadow a variable name, we will do it later.

Task for home: I have two variables in memory, what should I do if I want to swap their contents?, i.e., I want the content of the first variable (say var1) inside the second variable (say var2), and I want the value of var2 to be inside var1.

Notice that the code below does NOT work, it doesn't swap the content of the variables.

```
int var1 = 4;
int var2 = 20;

var2 = var1;
var1 = var2;
```

What should I do?

019.

What is the output of:

<sup>†</sup>Notice the dots (...) in the code. This dots are just for notation, they aren't meant to be written in the file to be compiled. The dots represent a division between two different parts of code. You can see the code for this example in the source code of the book https://github.com/helq/the-little-cppler-book.

The output is:

```
var1 * pow(var2, 3) => 162
```

Remember that int var3 = var1 \* pow(var2, 3); is equivalent to int var3; var3 = var1 \* pow(var2, 3);

020

Till now we've seen just two operations (\* and +), but there are plenty more:

```
int var1 = (2 + 18 - 6 * 2) * 5;
int var2 = var1 / 3;
int var3 = var1 % 3;

std::cout << "var1 => " << var1 << std::endl;
std::cout << "var2 => " << var2 << std::endl;
std::cout << "var3 => " << var3 << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
var1 => 40
var2 => 13
var3 => 1
```

You probably know all operations here, but maybe not %. It is the *modulus* operation, or residue operation, and it symbolises the result of the residue of dividing integer numbers. For example, the result of dividing 50 by 3 can be written as:

$$50 = 3 \times 16 + 2$$

Where 50 is the dividend, 3 is the divisor, 16 the (integer) result, and 2 the modulus/remainder.

If an integer is divisible by another then the modulus of operating them must be 0, e.g.,  $21 = 7 \times 3 + 0$ .

What is the output of:

The output is:

```
2 0 1 0 3
```

Task for home: Write a program that outputs the steps to make a healthy breakfast.

022.

8 28 8

Notice how 20 - 6 \* 2 does reduce<sup>†</sup> to 8 and not to 28! (i.e.,  $20-6\times 2=20-(6\times 2)\neq (20-6)\times 2$ ). Each operator has a specific precedence that indicates if it must be applied before another operator, \* for example has a higher precedence than +

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger} \mathrm{or} \ \mathrm{compute}$ 

WHAT IF'S

#### What if's

023

What is the output of:<sup>†</sup>

```
double acction
                 = 9.8; // m/s^2 acceleration
                 = 3; // kg
double mass
                                 mass
double initial_v = 10; // m/s
                                 ini. velocity
                 = 2.3; // s
double time
                                 time passed
double final_v = initial_v + acction * time;
std::cout << "Velocity after " << time
          << "s is: " << final v << "m/s"
          << std::endl;
double momentum = mass * final_v;
std::cout << "Momentum after " << time</pre>
          << "s is: " << momentum << "kg*m/s"
          << std::endl;
```

†double allows us to declare "real" numbers (they are actually rational). And we can operate with them as we did with int's

The output is:

```
Velocity after 2.3s is: 32.54m/s
Momentum after 2.3s is: 97.62kg*m/s
```

We are using here the equation v = u + a \* t to determine the final velocity of an object (in a line) after 2.3s. The object starts with a velocity 2.3m/s, has a constant acceleration of  $9.8m/s^{2\dagger}$ , and we know the weight of the object, so we can calculate too its momentum.

```
†free fall;)
```

\_\_.

What is the output of:

The output is:

```
var1 smaller than 10
```

025

What is the output of the code above if we change var1's assignment from 8 to 19?

The output is:

```
var1 greater than or equal to 10
```

Precisely, the second line runs but not the first. The structure:

```
if (statement) {
   true branch
} else {
   false branch
}
```

runs the true branch if the statement statement evaluates to true otherwise it runs the false branch.

What about the output of

Well, that's easy:

```
var1 is equal to 7 + 3
```

Note, == is the equality operation<sup>†</sup>, and it compares any two statements as var1 or 3+2\*12 for equality.

As you expect it, there are many operations to compare between different statements, these are ==, <=, >=, <, and !=.

027

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 2*2+2;
if (var1 != 7 + 3) {
   std::cout << "2*2+2 != 7+3" << std::endl;
} else {
   std::cout << "2*2+2 == 7+3" << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

The output is:

```
2*2+2 != 7+3
```

Yeah, != is the unequality operator.

028

What is the output of:

```
int var1 = 2*2+20;
if (var1 >= 7 + 3) {
   std::cout << "i never run :(" << std::endl;
} else {
   if (var1 > 23) {
     std::cout << "hey!!" << std::endl;
} else {
     // nothing in this branch
}
}</pre>
```

The output is:

```
i never run :(
```

Usually, if we only care about the true branch of an if statement, then we simply ignore it. The code at left is equivalent then to:

```
int var1 = 2*2+20;
if (var1 >= 7 + 3) {
   std::cout << "i never run :(" << std::endl;
} else {
   if (var1 > 23) {
     std::cout << "hey!!" << std::endl;
   }
}</pre>
```

029

It's possible to put more than one statement inside the if statement. For example:

```
int var1 = 2*2+20;
if (var1 >= 7 + 3) {
 std::cout
   << "you are our visitor number 3889"
    << std::endl;
 int magicnumber = 999999;
 std::cout
   << "and your our winner! please "
   << "deposit " << magicnumber
   << " into our account and you will "
   << " receive 20x what you deposited "
   << std::endl;
}
std::cout
 << "Welcome to e-safe-comerce"
  << std::endl;
```

The output as you expected.

```
you are our visitor number 3889
and your our winner! please deposit 999999 into our acc
Welcome to e-safe-comerce
```

<sup>†</sup>take care, don't confuse it with the assignment operator =!

WHAT IF'S

030

Of course, 0 can be divided by any number, because it can be written as 0 = k \* n where k = 0 and n is an arbitrary number.

```
Every integer is a divisor of 0
```

Task for home: Write a program that outputs the steps to follow to make a healthy breakfast if there are multiple options for breakfast. You should be able to select your option for breakfast by setting a variable to one of many values (as many as you like).

031.

What is the output of:

It doesn't compile! You wanna know why? Well, keep guessing with the following exercises.

032

Does this compile? If yes, then what is its output?

It does compile, and its output is:

```
Every integer is a divisor of -2
```

But wait, what? -2 is not always divisible by any other integer!

...

Maybe, 2 and 3 are really the same thing.

The output is:

```
Every integer is a divisor of -2
```

But is the same, why? What have we changed from before? What is the difference with the code that gives us a zero?

Ok, let's stop with the silliness and try with an example that actually give us some clue of the situation.

```
int num = 20;
std::cout << num << " ";
{
   int num = 42;
   std::cout << num << " ";
   num = 3;
   std::cout << num << " ";
}
std::cout << num << " ";
num = 0;
std::cout << num << std::endl;</pre>
```

Well, the code inside the brackets ({}) acts as if it was being run alone without the intervention of the code of the outside.

```
20 42 3 20 0
```

It is effectively as if this was the code being run:

```
int num = 20;
std::cout << num << " ";
{
   int var = 42;
   std::cout << var << " ";
   var = 3;
   std::cout << var << " ";
}
std::cout << num << " ";
num = 0;
std::cout << num << std::endl;</pre>
```

035

Any time we enclose code between brackets ({}) we are defining a new **scope**. Any variable we declare inside a scope lives only in that scope, the variable *dies* once the scope is closed, is this the reason why this code

```
{
   int num = 42;
   std::cout << num << " ";
}
std::cout << num << std::endl;</pre>
```

doesn't compile. There is no num variable in the bigger scope when it wants to show it.

A rule about scopes is that they can access to variables from the outside, scopes that enclose them. For example this code, does indeed compiles:

```
int num = 42;
std::cout << num << " ";
{
   num = 1;
   std::cout << num << " ";
}
std::cout << num << std::endl;</pre>
```

What is its output?

You guessed it right! Given that num is a variable outside the inner scope, the inner scope can read and modify the variable content.

```
42 1 1
```

WHAT IF'S 21

036

What is the output of:

```
int num = 42;
std::cout << num << std::endl;
{
   int num = 1;
   std::cout << num << std::endl;
}
std::cout << num << std::endl;
{
   num = 1;
   std::cout << num << std::endl;
}
std::cout << num << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

```
42
1
42
1
1
```

Right, in the first inner scope, we declare a new space and shadow the access to the outside variable num, and in the other inner scope, we use the variable accessible from the outside scope.

037

What is the output of:

```
int a = 20;
int b = 21;
if (b-a > 0) {
   float num = -12.2;
   std::cout << num * 3 << std::endl;
} else {
   double num = -12.2;
   std::cout << num * -3 << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

<sup>†</sup>yet again another type of data. **floats** are like **doubles** but they represent numbers with less precision. Well I haven't talked what precision is, forgive me, for the time being just assume that using **double** in your code is better than using **float**.

The output is:

```
-36.6
```

038

What does this output:

```
int n = 15;
bool either = n<3;
if (either) {
   std::cout << ":P" << std::endl;
} else {
   std::cout << ":(" << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

The output is:

```
:(
```

with **bool**<sup>†</sup> we tell the compiler that it should interprete either as a boolean (either true or false).

This means that you can in fact store integer values inside a bool (i.e., bool bad = 23;) but it's consider bad practice and may result in undefined behaivor.

<sup>†</sup>True and False are the only two possible values that a statement can take in traditional logic, and so it does for us, there are only two options for bool. But modern computers are build on blocks of 32 or 64 bits and operations, therefore, with values of 32 and 64 bits are cheap to perform. Operations on single bits are not simple when you manipulate multiple bits, it is slightly more expensive to use a single bit to represent truth or false. Compilers usually use a block of memory (32 or 64 bits) to represent a boolean, the convention is for zero (all 32-64 bits in zero) to be false and anything else (eg, all bits in zero, or only one bit in zero, etc) to be true.

Let's take a look at another type of variable, char:

†you can ignore the weird (int) thing for now, it is called **cast** if you are curious, we will get to them later on.

The output isn't surprising:

```
A small integer: 23
```

char may not seem different to int, but it is. int, dependending on the system, has a size of 32 or 64, but char has always the same size 8 bits. With 8 bits we can represent 2<sup>8</sup> different states, that is 256 different numbers.

0.40

What is the output of:

```
int i = 2;
std::cout << i << " ";
i = i + 1;
std::cout << i << " ";
i = i + 1;
std::cout << i << " ";
std::cout << i << " ";</pre>
```

The output is:

```
2 3 4 12
```

041

Every compiler may define the size of int, char, double, ..., differently depending on the architecture. If you want to know how many bytes<sup>†</sup> are assigned to any variable type, you can use sizeof. An example of use:

(Hint: if a byte is 8 bits, a char is 8 bits, how many bytes are a char?)

This may look different in your computer, but mine runs on 64 bits, therefore double has 64 bits and int half of that.

```
A char is 1 bytes
A int is 4 bytes
A double is 8 bytes
A float is 4 bytes
A bool is 1 bytes
```

042

What is the output of:

Not surprising, that is the output.

```
a : 100
b : 20
a+b : 120
```

<sup>†</sup>one byte is 8 bits

WHAT IF'S

043.

What is the output of:

The output is:

```
a : 100
b : 30
a+b : -126
```

well, that's surprising! What the heck happened?

The answer lies in the 8 bit part that I was talking about. char can only hold 256 different numbers, but usually we use one of those bits to indicate the sign<sup>‡</sup>, therefore we have left only 7 bits for the number.  $2^7$  is 128, so we can store 128 positive numbers and 128 negative numbers. If we did it naïvely we could represent the numbers from 0 to 127 with 7 bits plus one bit for the sign, but that's rarely used, we would be representing 0 in two ways +0 and -0, the answer is to count from 0 to 127 and from -128 to -1, i.e., we can lay down all the representable numbers by 8 bits in the following way: -128, -127, -126, ..., -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, ..., 125, 126, 127. When you pass over the limit of what 7 bits<sup>§</sup> can store you need to go somewhere, and by convention that is going back to the first numbers is a adding numbers are by one will lead

When you pass over the limit of what 7 bits<sup>3</sup> can store you need to go somewhere, and by convention that is going back to the first number, i.e., adding numbers one by one will lead you to the beginning no matter where you start: 1 + 1 = 2, 2+1=3, ..., 125+1=126, 127+1=-128, -128+1=-127, ..., -1+1=0, 0+1=1.

044

What is the output of:

```
char i = 126;
std::cout << (int)i << " ";
i = i + 1;
std::cout << (int)i << " ";
i = i + 1;
std::cout << (int)i << " ";
std::cout << (int)i << " ";</pre>
```

The output, as you may have easily guessed is:

```
126 127 -128 -127
```

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger}$ This output may change depending on the compiler you are using, it could happened that you don't see anything wrong at all. In that case, try changing 100 for 220.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>ddagger}$  For more details look at "two's complement binary representation"  $^{\S}$  this is called overflow

Interlude: How are numbers represented?

#### What if and if and if and ...

045

What is the output of:

```
int i = 0;
if (i<3) {
   std::cout << "There is no else statement";
   i = i * 2;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
There is no else statement
```

Notice how we ignored the else statement, well that's ok, we can just do stuff for when something is true otherwise we don't do anything.

046

What is the output of:

```
int i = 0;
if (i<3) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i = i + 1;
}
if (i<3) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i = i + 1;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
0 1
```

047

What is the output of:

```
int i = 0;
if (i<3) {
  std::cout << i << " ";
  i = i + 1;
}
if (i<3) {</pre>
  std::cout << i << " ";
  i = i + 1;
}
if (i<3) {
  std::cout << i << " ";
  i = i + 1;
}
if (i<3) {</pre>
  std::cout << i << " ";
  i = i + 1;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
0 1 2
```

048.

What is the output the above if we change all appearances of i<3 for i<2 or i<4.

The outputs are:

```
0 1
```

for i<2 and

```
0 1 2 3
```

for i<4.

What is the output if we change i<3 for i<5?

Well there are only 4 ifs, the limit is 4 numbers printed on the screen:

```
0 1 2 3
```

050

What should we do to print five numbers?

Well, there are many options. We could add a std::cout << i << std::endl; line after the last if statement, or we could copy an if (and this is what I wanted you to answer)

051

What do you think this outputs?

```
int i = 0;
while (i<4) {
  std::cout << i << " ";
  i = i + 1;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
0 1 2 3
```

Nice, no repeated code!

052.

What happens if we change i<4 above for i<5?

Well, now we can see five numbers:

```
0 1 2 3
```

053.

What is the output of:

```
int i = 1;
while (i<4) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i = i + 1;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
1 2 3
```

054.

What is the output of:

```
int i = -2;
while (i<4) {
   std::cout << i*2 << std::endl;
   i = i + 1;
}</pre>
```

The output is:

```
-4
-2
0
2
4
6
```

Something a little more elaborated:

The output is:

```
-2 squared is: 4
-1 squared is: 1
0 squared is: 0
1 squared is: 1
2 squared is: 4
```

But I'm getting bored with all those i = i + 1, fortunatelly that operation is so common in day to day work that it can be written shorter: i++.

056

What is the output of:

```
-6 squared is: 36
-5 squared is: 25
-4 squared is: 16
-3 squared is: 9
-2 squared is: 4
```

057

What is happenning here?

```
Both conditions met
Both conditions met
```

058.

And here?

```
At least one condition met
```

Well, && is called the **and** operator, and || is called the **or** operator, they operate on bools only.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Well, they can actually operate in any number, any number not zero is treated as true otherwise false. This means that a && b is a valid statement above, but it is a weird one, its result is true. Such expressions, even though totally legal, are discouraged.

What is the output of:

```
5 > 2 is equal to true
```

As usual.

060

What is the output of:

It's basically the same thing from above, isn't it.

```
5 > 2 is equal to true
```

061

We have printed only **int**s and **doubles** to date, what would be the result of printing **bools**?

```
true gets printed as 1
But false gets printed as 0
```

Yep, **true** is represented as 1 always!

Moral of the fable: don't use boolean operations on variables that are not boolean! and don't use non-boolean operations on boolean variables!

062

Let's take a look at the truth table for &&:†

```
std::cout
  << "1 && 1 == " << (true && true)
  << std::endl
  << "1 && 0 == " << (true && false)
  << std::endl
  << "0 && 1 == " << (false && true)
  << std::endl
  << "0 && 0 == " << (false && false)
  << std::endl
  << "0 && 0 == " << (false && false)</pre>
```

```
1 && 1 == 1
1 && 0 == 0
0 && 1 == 0
0 && 0 == 0
```

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger}$ this is standard behaivor, because comparing true with 1 will result in true again, but it won't if you compare it to 3 even though 3 is treated as true if you use it in an if expression.

 $<sup>^\</sup>dagger the$  parenthesis around the boolean expressions are necessary, otherwise they would get confused with <<.

And the *truth table* for ! (not, negation):

```
std::cout
  << "!1 == " << !true << std::endl
  << "!0 == " << !false << std::endl;</pre>
```

```
!1 == 0
!0 == 1
```

All tables as you know them from logic, old stuff (actually, not that old, this tables were first used as tables in the 20th century, but they are so intuitive that one may think they're an older invention †).

064

Now, what should be changed in the code above (for &&) to make the  $truth\ table$  for ||. The output of the table should be:

```
1 || 1 == 1
1 || 0 == 1
0 || 1 == 1
0 || 0 == 0
```

And here is the code:

```
std::cout
  << "1 || 1 == " << (true || true)
  << std::endl
  << "1 || 0 == " << (true || false)
  << std::endl
  << "0 || 1 == " << (false || true)
  << std::endl
  << "0 || 0 == " << (false || false)
  << std::endl
  << "0 || 0 == " << (false || false)</pre>
```

065

What should be the value of c in the code below for the code to output 0 1 2 3 4?

```
int b = 10;
int c = ???;
int i = 0;

while ((i<b) && (i<c)) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

Precisely, it should be 5. Let's take a look at the code running line by line:

- 1. We declare and initialize the variables b, c and i with the values 10, 5 and 0 respectively.
- 2. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (0 < 10 and 0 < 5).
- 3. We print in the screen the value of i (0)
- 4. We increment the value of the variable i
- 5. We ask, is i content smaller than  $\mathfrak{b}$ ?, and is i content smaller than  $\mathfrak{c}$ ?, and both are truth (1 < 10 and 1 < 5).
- 6. We print in the screen the value of i (1)
- 7. We increment the value of the variable i
- 8. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (2 < 10 and 2 < 5).
- 9. We print in the screen the value of i (2)
- 10. We increment the value of the variable i
- 11. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (4 < 10 and 3 < 5).
- 12. We print in the screen the value of i (3)
- 13. We increment the value of the variable i
- 14. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (4 < 10 and 4 < 5).
- 15. We print in the screen the value of i (4)
- 16. We increment the value of the variable i
- 17. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is i content smaller than c?, one is false (5 < 10 and 5 < 5).
- 18. We get out of the while loop and go to the next line, thus we print at last a newline.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger}$  for some more history see wikipedia article  $\mathit{Truth}\ table.$ 

Describe line by line what the following code does (and its output):

```
int b = 10;
int c = 5;
int i = 0;

while ((i<b) && (2*i<c)) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The steps are:

- We declare and initialize three int variables (b, c and i with 10, 7 and 0 respectively).
- 2. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is 2\*i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (0 < 10 and 0 < 5).
- 3. We print in the screen the value of i (0)
- 4. We increment the value of the variable i
- 5. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is 2\*i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (1 < 10 and 2 < 5).
- 6. We print in the screen the value of i (1)
- 7. We increment the value of the variable i
- 8. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is 2\*i content smaller than c?, and both are truth (2 < 10 and 4 < 5).
- 9. We print in the screen the value of i (2)
- 10. We increment the value of the variable i
- 11. We ask, is i content smaller than b?, and is 2\*i content smaller than c?, and one is false (3 < 10 and 6 < 5).
- 12. We get out of the while loop and go to the next line, thus we print at last a newline.

The complete output is:

```
0 1 2
```

067

What is the output of:

```
int imzero = 0;
while (imzero < 4) {
   std::cout << imzero << " ";
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is...:

```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...
```

an unending sequence of zeros, so, what is wrong? We forgot to add the statement imzero++! Without it, well, the variable imzero never changes its state/value, and we ask *ad infinitum* if zero is smaller than four. †

068.

What should be the value of  ${\tt c}$  in the code below for the code to output 0 2 4 6 8?

```
int b = 7;
int c = ???;
int i = 0;

while ((i<b) || (i+1<c)) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i++;
   i++;
   i++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

Yep, either c should be either 10 or 11.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger} I$  actually wrote faulty code like that several times in the writing of this book XD

#### Syntactic sugar with for

069

What is the output of:

```
std::cout << "3%2 == " << (3%2) << std::endl;

std::cout << "4%2 == " << (4%2) << std::endl;

std::cout << "0%2 == " << (0%2) << std::endl;

std::cout << "7%2 == " << (7%2) << std::endl;

std::cout << "2%2 == " << (2%2) << std::endl;
```

The output is:

```
3%2 == 1
4%2 == 0
0%2 == 0
7%2 == 1
2%2 == 0
```

Notice how the odd numbers all return 1, and all even numbers return 0. Why?

070

What is the output of:

```
int a = 0;
while (a<=10) {
   if (a%2 == 0) {
      std::cout << a << " ";
   }
   a++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
0 2 4 6 8 10
```

Cool, we can skip things while we count up (or down), like –in this case– odd numbers.

071.

What is the output of:

```
int a = 0;
int b = 0;
while (a<=10) {
   if (a%2 == 0) {
      b = b + a;
   }
   std::cout << b << " ";
   a++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
0 0 2 2 6 6 12 12 20 20 30
```

072.

What should we change in the code above to print each number one time only?, i.e., what lines are needed to change or be moved (from the code above) to output this:

```
0 2 6 12 20 30
?
```

Yep, we move the printing statement (line) to inside the true branch of the if statement:

```
int a = 0;
int b = 0;
while (a<=10) {
   if (a%2 == 0) {
      b = b + a;
      std::cout << b << " ";
   }
   a++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

Say now, we want something simple, like knowing what is  $1+2+3+\cdots+10$  equal to. There are many ways to do this, for example:

But, could we code it using a while loop?

Yep, there is, for example:

Notice how this way of writing  $1+2+\cdots+10$  allows us to sum up to any number not only 10! This little piece of code is very similar at what we do in maths when we write  $\sum_{i=1}^{i=10} i$  instead of  $1+2+\cdots+10$ .

074.

And what if we wanted to calculate

$$\sum_{i=1}^{i=10} i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + 10^2$$

What should we change from the code above?

Well, that's right, sum = sum + i changes for sum = sum + i\*i.

The full code and its output:

```
int sum = 0;
int i = 1;
while (i<=10) {
    sum = sum + i*i;
    i++;
}
std::cout << "1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + ... + 10^2 == "
    << sum << std::endl;</pre>
```

#### Exercise for home:

All the multiples of 3 or 5 smaller than 20 are 0, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15 and 18, and their sum is 78. <sup>2</sup>

What is the sum of all natural numbers smaller than 1000 which are multiples of 3 or 5.

075

Writing code is often annoying because you can get errors that you didn't expect. The following code supposedly should print on the screen the numbers from 10 to 1, top-bottom. What is wrong with the code?

```
int i = 10;
while (i<=1) {
   std::cout << i << " ";
   i--;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

Precisely, the condition  $i \le 1$  is never met, all we need to do is to change "smaller than" for "larger than", i.e., change the condition for  $i \ge 1$ .

<sup>†</sup>we may calculate it using the equation  $\frac{10*11}{2}$ , thus we could write int sum = (10\*11)/2, but we are going to ignore that and try to use what we've been discussing to date to solve this problem.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> exercise extracted from project euler (https://projecteuler.net exercise 1)

Robert has written a weird piece of code, it has two loops! What is it doing? What is the output of the code below?

```
int i = 0;
while (i<=10) {
  int j = 0;
  while (j<=20) {
    std::cout << "*";
    j++;
  }
  std::cout << std::endl;
  i++;
}</pre>
```

Nice, it runs 10 times the same code, a code that prints twenty asterisks.

077

But I'm getting bored of writing so much code with the while loop. In fact, the pattern whe have been using with while is so common that there is a shorter version of it, the for. Let's see if you can guess what the following code does:

```
for (int i=0; i<=10; i++) {
  for (int j=0; j<=20; j++) {
    std::cout << "*";
  }
  std::cout << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

It does the same as the previous code!

A for loop is syntactic sugar<sup>‡</sup> for a while loop, it makes convenienent and more explicit that we want to iterate over a value.

A for loop has four different parts:

```
for (A; B; C) {
   D;
}
```

and it's equivalent to the following while loop.

```
{
    A;
    while (B) {
        D;
        C;
    }
}
```

 $<sup>^{\</sup>dagger}$ It does the same, but the two pieces of code are semantically different if we put them in a different context, like inside a block of code which has already a variable named i in it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>This word will appear many times here onward, and it means, roughly: a way to write something in a simpler way. Similar to how we write LOL or WTF, and not "that made me laught so hard, man" or "seriously, that's weird as heck!".

Write the following while loop as for loop.

```
int top = 10;
int i = 0;
while (i<top) {
   std::cout << i * top + 1 << " ";
   i++;
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

Feels good, isn't it? Simple exercises for a while.

```
int top = 10;
for (int i=0; i<top; i++) {
   std::cout << i * top + 1 << " ";
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

079.

What is the output of the following code:

```
for (int i=0; i<18; i++) {
   if ((i%3!=0) && (i%7!=0)) {
     std::cout << i << " ";
   } else {
     std::cout << ". ";
   }
}
std::cout << std::endl;</pre>
```

The output is:

```
. 1 2 . 4 5 . . 8 . 10 11 . 13 . . 16 17
```

Numbers multiple of 3 or 7 are printed as dots (.), while all others are printed as themselves.

#### Exercise for home:

The fibonacci sequence is a sequence defined by:

$$fib(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ fib(x-1) + fib(x-2) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Which gives us the sequence  $0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, \dots$  Notice how every number in the sequence (except the first two) is equal to the sum to both its predecesors.

Write a program that prints on the screen the first 20 fibonacci numbers using loops (either while or for loops).

What does the following code does?

```
= 9.8; // m/s^2 acceleration
double acction
double mass
                 = 3; // kq
                                 mass
double initial_v = 10; // m/s ini. velocity
                 = 2.3; // s
double time
                                 time passed
double final_v = initial_v + acction * time;
double momentum = mass * final_v;
std::cout << "Momentum after " << time</pre>
          << "s is: " << momentum << "kg*m/s"
          << std::endl;
time = 4.2;
final_v = initial_v + acction * time;
momentum = mass * final_v;
std::cout << "Momentum after " << time</pre>
          << "s is: " << momentum << "kg*m/s"
          << std::endl;
time = 9;
final_v = initial_v + acction * time;
momentum = mass * final_v;
std::cout << "Momentum after " << time</pre>
          << "s is: " << momentum << "kg*m/s"
          << std::endl;
```

It prints the result of applying the same formula to different values. Its output is:

```
Momentum after 2.3s is: 97.62kg*m/s
Momentum after 4.2s is: 153.48kg*m/s
Momentum after 9s is: 294.6kg*m/s
```

You see all that repeated code! Wouldn't it be cool if we could just write that once and use it many times?

081

Introducing **functions**. What do you think the following code will do?

```
#include <iostream>
void momentum(double initial v, double time) {
                   = 9.8; // m/s^2 acc
  double acction
                   = 3; // kg mass
  double mass
  double final_v = initial_v + acction * time;
  double momentum = mass * final_v;
  std::cout << "Momentum after " << time</pre>
            << "s is: " << momentum << "kg*m/s"
            << std::endl;
}
int main() {
  momentum(10, 2.3);
  momentum(10, 4.2);
  momentum(10, 9);
  return 0;
}
```

Its output is the same as the code above, but we have eliminated all the repeated code.

```
Momentum after 2.3s is: 97.62kg*m/s
Momentum after 4.2s is: 153.48kg*m/s
Momentum after 9s is: 294.6kg*m/s
```

momentum is called a function (or procedure in old people talk terms), and it consists in a piece of code that can be run by calling it with the syntax momentum(num1, num2) (where num1 and num2 are either numbers or expressions that evaluate to numbers (double)).

Functions need to be defined outside main because main itself is a function! And functions cannot be defined<sup> $\dagger$ </sup> inside a function.

<sup>†</sup>actually, it is possible to define as many functions as one may like inside another function, but requires object oriented stuff to understand. For more info see "lambda functions".

What should we be modify in the function show\_addition for it to output the right answer?

Yeah, we are using the wrong operation, it shouldn't be \*, it should be +. Also, we didn't add a newline after each new statement. The new function should be written as:

Notice how we do NOT use in show\_addition the variable names we declared in main. Remember the scope thing? Well, each function has its own variables and they are invisible to all the other. When you call/run/invoque a function, you are copying the values of the variables in your scope to a newly created scope for the function.

083.

Now, what will this code output?

The output is

```
a == 4
b == 3
c == 7
total == -2
```

weird, isn't it? No, it is not weird. When we call/run the function add\_two\_nums we copy the variables values to newly created variables a, b and c, which are only visible to the function add\_two\_nums and not to main.

Block 2: More space to play with

# Block 3: deprecated stuff that you better know cos everybody uses it

So, for historical reasons there are hundreds of things we do often that don't make any sense but we do them because of tradition, because old people refuse or don't know to let go.

This chapter discusses many features of the C++ language that come from its legacy with C. But, unlike other human traditions the things you will learn here can help you understand why the code you write behaves as it does, and you may need it because not only many people uses this features but many features are just so central to c++ and computers that you better understand them.

# Further reading