

# Intro to C++ for programmers

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# C++ is popular

Oct 2020	Oct 2019	Change	Programming Language	Ratings	Change
1	2	⬆️	C	16.95%	+0.77%
2	1	⬇️	Java	12.56%	-4.32%
3	3		Python	11.28%	+2.19%
4	4		C++	6.94%	+0.71%
5	5		C#	4.16%	+0.30%
6	6		Visual Basic	3.97%	+0.23%
7	7		JavaScript	2.14%	+0.06%
8	9	⬆️	PHP	2.09%	+0.18%
9	15	⬆️	R	1.99%	+0.73%
10	8	⬇️	SQL	1.57%	-0.37%

<https://www.tiobe.com/tiobe-index/>

# C++

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## ▶ An Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) language

- To know more about OOP: <https://www.stroustrup.com/whatis.pdf>

## ▶ A real superset of C

## ▶ Ideal for Systems Programming

- complies to native code (OS/architecture dependent)
- great for hardware-aware programming

## ▶ Powerful, with many complicated concepts

- <http://yosefk.com/c++fqa/>

*C makes it easy to shoot yourself in the foot;  
C++ makes it harder, but when you do it blows your  
whole leg off.*

**Bjarne Stroustrup**

# Basics: Compiling and Building

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## Compiling and running programs

```
$ g++ helloworld.cpp -o helloworld  
$ ./helloworld
```

## Debugging

```
$ g++ -g helloworld.cpp -o helloworld  
$ gdb ./helloworld
```



GNU Debugger

In the assignments, you will instead invoke a build system.

- Makefile
- [CMake](#)
- [catkin\\_make](#)

# **gdb cheatsheet**

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**r** (=run)

start the program; halt when an error occurs

**break** helloworld.cpp:4 or **break** 4

halt when reaching line 4

**s** (=step)

step through the program line-wise (omitting function calls)

**n** (=next)

step inside a function

**p** var (=print)

print the value of a variable var

**c** (=continue)

continue program execution

**bt** (=backtrace)

inspect current function call stack

**frame** 3

jump to frame 3 on the stack trace

**list**

list code in the current frame

# Hello World!

```
#include "ros/ros.h"
#include "std_msgs/String.h"
#include <sstream>

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle n;
    ros::Publisher chatter_pub = n.advertise<std_msgs::String>("chatter", 1000);
    ros::Rate loop_rate(10);
    int count = 0;
    while (ros::ok())
    {
        std_msgs::String msg;
        std::stringstream ss;
        ss << "hello world " << count;
        msg.data = ss.str();
        ROS_INFO("%s", msg.data.c_str());
        chatter_pub.publish(msg);
        ros::spinOnce();
        loop_rate.sleep();
        ++count;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

# Hello World! – A Closer Look

```
#include "ros/ros.h"
#include "std_msgs/String.h" ← header files
#include <sstream>

int main(int argc, char **argv) ← pointers and arrays
{
    ros::init(argc, argv, "talker");
    ros::NodeHandle n;
    ros::Publisher chatter_pub = n.advertise<std_msgs::String>("chatter", 1000);
    ros::Rate loop_rate(10);
    int count = 0;
    while (ros::ok()) ← namespaces
    {
        std_msgs::String msg;
        std::stringstream ss; ← standard library
        ss << "hello world " << count;
        .
        .
        .
    }
}
```

# Basics: Variables, Loops, Functions

```
1  // someFunction1.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3
4  void someFunction(int n) {
5
6      int result = 0;
7
8      if (n <= 0) {
9          result = 0;
10     }
11     else {
12
13         for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
14             result += i;
15         }
16         std::cout << result << std::endl;
17     }
18
19     int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
20         someFunction (10);
21         return 0;
22     }
```



# Declaration vs Definition

```
// someFunction2.h  
int someFunction(int n);
```

```
// main.cpp  
#include <iostream>  
#include  
"someFunction2.h"  
  
int main( int argc,  
          char* argv[] ) {  
    std::cout  
        << someFunction (10)  
        << std::endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

```
// someFunction2.cpp  
#include "someFunction2.h"  
  
int someFunction(int n) {  
    int result = 0;  
    if (n <= 0) {  
        result = 0;  
    } else {  
        for (int i=1; i <= n;  
i++) {  
            result += i;  
        }  
    }  
    return result;  
}
```

```
$ g++ someFunction2.cpp main.cpp -o someFunction2
```

# Namespaces

---

```
1  // namespaces.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3
4  namespace myns {
5      int pow(int n) {
6          return n*n;
7      }
8  }
9
10 int main( int argc, char** argv ) {
11     std::cout << myns::pow(5) << std::endl;
12
13     using namespace myns;
14     using namespace std;
15
16     cout << pow(5) << endl;
17     return 0;
18 }
```

# Arrays

---

```
1  // arrays.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  using namespace std;
4
5  int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
6      int numbers[10]; // 'int[10] numbers' is WRONG
7      numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
8      for (int i = 2; i < 10; i++) {
9          numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
10     }
11
12     cout << numbers[2] << ", "
13         << numbers[3] << ", " << numbers[4] << endl;
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

# Variable-sized Arrays – I

```
1  // arrays_variable.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  #include <stdlib.h>
4  int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5      if (argc < 2) return -1;
6      int size = atoi(argv[1]); //load int from stdin
7      int numbers[size]; // not allowed in C++!
8      numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
9      for (int i = 2; i < size; i++) {
10         numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
11     }
12     std::cout << numbers[size-1] << std::endl;
13     return 0;
14 }
```

```
$ g++ -Wall -pedantic arrays_variable.cpp -o arrays_variable
$ ./arrays_variable 20
```

# Variable-sized Arrays – II

```
1  // arrays_variable.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  #include <stdlib.h>
4  int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5      if (argc < 2) return -1;
6      int size = atoi(argv[1]);//load int from stdin
7      int* numbers = new int[size];
8      numbers[0] = numbers[1] = 1;
9      for (int i = 2; i < size; i++) {
10         numbers[i] = numbers[i-1] + numbers[i-2];
11     }
12     std::cout << numbers[size-1] << std::endl;
13     delete[] numbers;
14     return 0;
15 }
```

# The Dark Side – I : Stack vs. Heap

## Stack

**Static** memory:

- Variables of size known at **compile time**
- Data is available within current scope  
{ ... }
- Managed by OS

```
int numbers[10];
```

## Heap

**Dynamic** memory:

- Variables of size only known at **run time**
- Managed by user - always available  
(memory leaks!)

```
int* numbers  
      = new int[size]  
// ...  
delete[] numbers;
```

# The Dark Side – II : Pointers

```
1 // darkside2.cpp
2     // (int size) initialized from outside
3     int* numbers = new int[size];
4     numbers[0] = 10; numbers[2] = 5;
5     cout << "A: " << numbers << endl;
6     cout << "B: " << (*numbers) << endl;
7     cout << "C: " << numbers[2] << endl;
8     cout << "D: " << ((*numbers)+2) << endl;
9     cout << "E: " << &(*numbers) << endl;
10    cout << "F: " << &size << endl;
```

A: 0x100200080

(Address of numbers on heap)

B: 10

(Value of first int at address "numbers")

C: 5

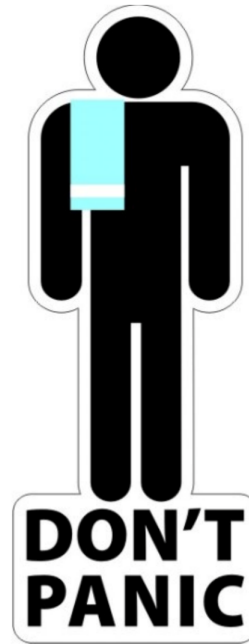
D: 12

E: 0x100200080

(Address of numbers on heap)

F: 0x7fff5fbfec64

(Address of size on stack)





# Classes: Declaration

---

```
1 // IntList.h
2 class IntList {
3 protected: //private:
4 // protected/private member variables
5 int max_size;
6 int* members;
7 int current_size; //need to store array length
8 public:
9     IntList(int max_size_); //constructor
10    virtual ~IntList(); //destructor
11    // public member functions
12    bool add(int number);
13    // more members like elem(i)
14    // ...
15 };
```

# Classes: Definition

```
1  // IntList.cpp
2  #include "IntList.h,"
3
4  IntList::IntList(int max_size_)
5      : max_size(max_size_), current_size(0) {
6      members = new int[max_size];
7  }
8
9  IntList::~~IntList() {
10     delete[] members;
11 }
12
13 bool IntList::add(int number) {
14     if (this->current_size+1 >= this->max_size) {
15         return false;
16     }
17     members[current_size] = number; // this-> is
18 optional
19     current_size++;
20     return true;
21 }
```

# Classes: Instantiating

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include "IntList.h"
3
4 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
5     IntList list(10); // declare AND init on STACK
6     list.add(5);
7     list.add(29);
8     std::cout << list.elem(0) << std::endl;
9
10    IntList* list2;           // declare pointer
11    list2 = new IntList(10);   // init on HEAP
12    (*list2).add(5);           // dereference pointer
13    list2->add(29);            // short notation
14    std::cout << list2->elem(0) << std::endl;
15
16    return 0;
17 }
```

`(*pointerToObj).method()`    =    `pointerToClass->method()`

# Classes: Inheritance and Polymorphism

```
1 // inheritance.cpp
2 class A {
3 public:
4     virtual void alpha() {
5         cout << "A:alpha" << endl;
6     }
7 };
8 class B : public A {
9 public:
10     void alpha() {
11         cout << "B:alpha" << endl;
12     }
13 };
14
15 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
16     A *class1 = new A;
17     A *class2 = new B;
18     class1->alpha();
19     class2->alpha();
20     return 0;
21 }
```

# STL – The C++ Standard Library – I

---

```
1  //stl.cpp
2  #include <iostream>
3  #include <vector>
4  #include <string>
5
6  int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
7      std::string name1("Klaus");
8      std::string name2("Peter");
9      std::vector<std::string> names;
10
11     names.push_back(name1);
12     names.push_back(name2);
13
14     std::cout << names[0] << std::endl;
15 }
```

# STL – The C++ Standard Library – II

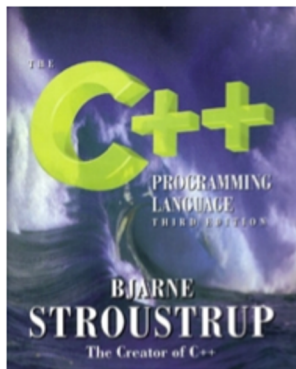
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- ▶ Use `std::string` not `char*`
- ▶ Use `std::vector` not `array`
- ▶ Many data structures (“containers”) and operations
  - Hash tables (`std::map`)
  - Sorting (`#include <algorithm>`)
  - Tuples
  - and many more
- ▶ Containers are *templated*

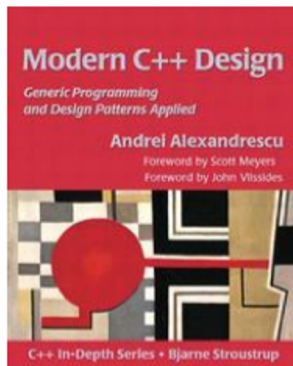
# STL – The C++ Standard Library – III

```
1 // std2.cpp
2     std::vector<std::vector<int> > int2d;
3         // vector of vectors = 2d array!
4     // ...add some elements to int2d...
5     std::cout << int2d[0][1] << std::endl;
6
```

# Books



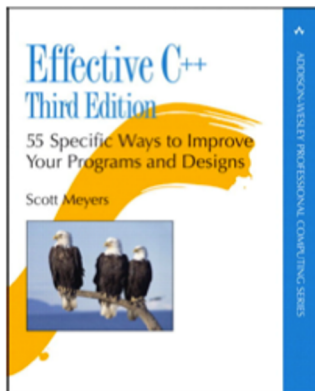
**Bjarne Stroustrup:**  
The C++ Programming  
Language (3rd Edition)



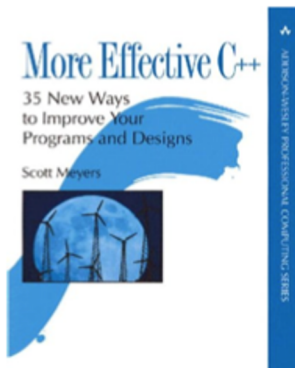
**Andrei Alexandrescu:**  
Modern C++ Design



**Erich Gamma, Richard Helm,  
Ralph Johnson, John Vlissides**  
("Gang of Four" or GoF):  
Design Patterns – Elements of  
Reusable Object-Oriented  
Software



**Scott Meyers:**  
Effective C++  
More Effective C++





# More Concepts (Not Covered Here)

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- ▶ Constants, const pointers, const methods  
[http://www.thomasstover.com/c\\_pointer\\_qualifiers.html](http://www.thomasstover.com/c_pointer_qualifiers.html)
- ▶ References (safer concept than pointers)
- ▶ OOP: Inheritance, polymorphism, abstract classes...
- ▶ C++ Styles  
<http://google-styleguide.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/cppguide.xml>
- ▶ Boost: THE C++ library  
<http://www.boost.org>
- ▶ Debugging C++: GNU Debugger (GDB)  
<http://www.sourceware.org/gdb/>
- ▶ Building libraries: static and dynamic  
<http://www.learncpp.com/cpp-tutorial/a1-static-and-dynamic-libraries/>
- ▶ Smart pointers (provide garbage collection to CPP)
- ▶ Function pointers

# Brief, Incomplete and Mostly Wrong History of Programming Languages

<http://james-iry.blogspot.de/2009/05/brief-incomplete-and-mostly-wrong.html>