



Lecture 27: Vectors



Announcements and reminders

- Project 2 posted, due **Saturday March 23 by 6 PM**
(no early bonus aside from being a badass)
- Practicum 2 practice problems up ← **do them**
 - Both **MCQ + Coderunner**
 - Same rules as Practicum 1 (cheat sheet, Cloud9, etc...)
 - Let your TA know about any conflicts, and **include documentation**

- **Practicum 2: tonight, 5:30p**



Last time on *Intro Computing...*

We saw...

- What is this **object-oriented programming** you speak of?
- What an ***object*** and a ***class*** is!
- What makes up a class and what is **encapsulation!**
 - Member functions (**public interface**)
 - Data members (private data - encapsulated)
- Different types of member functions
 - Getters (accessors) and setters (mutators)



Arrays... some drawbacks

The size of an array **cannot be changed** after it is created

→ you need to know the size **before** you define an array

→ any function that takes the array as an input needs the **capacity/size** too

→ wouldn't it be nice if there were something we could ***dynamically*** reshape?!

Too bad there isn't. **Lecture over!**



But for real though: vectors.

Just kidding! Vectors are the answer!

You can think of vectors like a **dynamic array**:

- Not fixed in size when created → **member function: `[vector].size()`**
- Doesn't require an auxiliary variable to track the size
- Can keep adding things to it, taking things out

Super surprising header file:

`#include <vector>`



Defining vectors

When you define a vector, you must specify the **type** of the elements in angle brackets:

```
vector<double> data;
```

Default: vector is created **empty**

- Like a string is always initialized to be empty: `string yeet; // yeet = ""`

Similarities to arrays:

- Here, the **data** vector can *only contain doubles*, same way an array (`double array[10]`) could only contain doubles
- Can specify **initial size** in parentheses: `vector<double> data(10);`
- Access elements using **brackets**: `data[i] = 7.0;`

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Defining vectors -- some examples

```
vector<int> numbers(10);
```

```
vector<string> names(3);
```

```
vector<double> values;
```

```
vector<double> values();
```

```
vector<int> numbers(10);  
for (int i=0; i < numbers.size(); i++)  
{  
    numbers[i] = i+1;  
}
```

```
vector<int> numbers;  
for (int i=1; i <= 10; i++) {  
    numbers.push_back(i);  
}
```


Defining vectors -- some examples

<pre>vector<int> numbers(10);</pre>	A vector of 10 integers
<pre>vector<string> names(3);</pre>	A vector of 3 strings
<pre>vector<double> values;</pre>	A vector of size 0 (empty)
<pre>vector<double> values();</pre>	ERROR: do not use empty () to create a vector
<pre>vector<int> numbers(10); for (int i=0; i < numbers.size(); i++) { numbers[i] = i+1; }</pre>	A vector of 10 integers, filled with 1, 2, 3, ... 10 Demonstrating the .size() member function
<pre>vector<int> numbers; for (int i=1; i <= 10; i++) { numbers.push_back(i); }</pre>	Also a vector of 10 integers, filled with 1, 2, 3, ... 10 Demonstrating the .push_back() member function

Accessing elements in vectors

You access elements in a vector the same way as in an array, using an index and brackets:

```
vector<double> values(10);  
// display the fourth element  
cout << values[3] << endl;
```

But a common error is to attempt to access an element that is not there:

```
vector<double> values;  
// display the fourth element  
cout << values[3] << endl;
```

So... how do we put values into a vector?



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So... how do we put values into a vector?



Manipulating elements in vectors

Much like Salt N Pepa, we **push** it

Think of the vector a **stack of papers**

- Starts out empty `vector<int> papers;`
- Then somebody (say, the number 3) arrives
→ they go to the “back” of the line `papers.push_back(3);`
- Then the numbers 5, 1 and 8 arrive, in **that order**
→ they each go to the “back” of the line
(or *top* of the stack) `papers.push_back(5);`
`papers.push_back(1);`
`papers.push_back(8);`



Check: What now should be the elements of `papers`? `papers.size()`? What order?

Manipulating elements in vectors

We can also **remove elements** from the back: `.pop_back()`

→ removes the **last element** placed into the vector

- Starting with `papers = {3, 5, 1, 8} ...`
- We pick up paper 8 off the stack `papers.pop_back();`

→ `.pop_back()` doesn't need an argument!

Just removes the **last element**

(whatever is at the **top** of the stack)



Check: What now should be the elements of `papers`? `papers.size()`? What order?

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Just removes the **last element**

(whatever is at the **top** of the stack)

→ this is a **last in first out** method



Check: What now should be the elements of `papers`? `papers.size()`? What order?

Manipulating elements in vectors

Example: We can fill vectors from user input.

```
vector<double> values;  
double input;  
while (cin >> input) {  
    values.push_back(input);  
}
```



Using vectors

How can we visit every element in a vector?

With arrays, we could do:

```
for (int i=0; i < 10; i++) {  
    cout << values[i] << endl;  
}
```



Using vectors

How can we visit every element in a vector?

With arrays, we could do:

```
for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
    cout << values[i] << endl;  
}
```

But with vectors, we don't know if 10 is still the current size or not

→ use the **.size()** member function -- returns the current size of the vector

→ all those looping algorithms for arrays work for vectors too! Just use [vector].size()



Vectors as input parameters in functions

How can we pass vectors as parameters to functions?

... in the same way we pass arrays!

But this time there are two cases:

- (1) we do ***not*** want to change the values in the vector
- (2) we ***do*** want to change the values in the vector



Vectors as input parameters in functions -- without changing the values

Example: Write a function to add up and return the **sum** of all the elements of an input vector of doubles.

Note: this function ***visits*** each vector element but ***does not*** change them.

Vectors as input parameters in functions -- without changing the values

Example: Write a function to add up and return the **sum** of all the elements of an input vector of doubles.

```
double sum(vector<double> values) {  
    double total = 0;  
    for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
        total += values[i];  
    }  
    return total;  
}
```

Note: this function ***visits*** each vector element but ***does not*** change them.

Vectors as input parameters in functions -- ... and changing the values

Example: Write a function to multiply each element of an input vector of doubles by some factor.

Note: this function *visits* each vector element *and still does not* change them!

Vectors as input parameters in functions -- ... and changing the values

Example: Write a function to multiply each element of an input vector of doubles by some factor.

```
void multiply(vector<double> values, double factor) {  
    for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
        values[i] = values[i] * factor;  
    }  
}
```

Note: this function *visits* each vector element *and still does not* change them!

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The key with arrays was that we **passed by reference**

→ the function would know where the array is **in memory** and modify it

→ so can we do the same with vectors?

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    for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
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    }  
}
```

The key with arrays was that we **passed by reference**

→ the function would know where the array is **in memory** and modify it

→ so can we do the same with vectors?

NOPE LECTURE OVER. AGAIN.



Note: this function *visits* each vector element *and still does not* change them!

Vectors as input parameters in functions -- ... and changing the values

Example: Write a function to multiply each element of an input vector of doubles by some factor.

```
void multiply(vector<double>& values, double factor) {  
    for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
        values[i] = values[i] * factor;  
    }  
}
```

The key with arrays was that we **passed by reference**

→ the function would know where the array is **in memory** and modify it

→ so can we do the same with vectors?

→ **Yes! Slap a & after the type of variable in the function argument to pass it by reference. Can treat exactly like array input/output!**

Note: this function *visits* each vector element *and totally does* change them!



Vectors as return values from functions

Example: Write a function that will take **as input** a vector and return a vector that is the values of the input vector, **squared**

Sample input: [0, 1.5, -10, 2.3] → Sample output: [0, 2.25, 100, 5.29]

Note: this function ***returns a vector*** of same size as the input vector (which is unchanged)

Vectors as return values from functions

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Sample input: [0, 1.5, -10, 2.3] → Sample output: [0, 2.25, 100, 5.29]

```
vector<double> square(vector<double> values) {  
    vector<double> new_vec;  
    for (int i=0; i < values.size(); i++) {  
        new_vec.push_back(values[i]*values[i]);  
    }  
    return new_vec;  
}
```

Note: this function **returns a vector** of same size as the input vector (which is unchanged)

What just happened?!

We just saw... **vectors!**

- Like a 1d array whose size can change
- Get current size of vector `vec` using: `vec.size()`
- Add elements to the **back** using: `vec.push_back()`
- Remove elements from the **back** using: `vec.pop_back()`
- Passing vectors into/out of functions
- ... and using as return values

Last in first out (LIFO) →



