Object Oriented Programming - Lecture 1

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Administrative issues

- Teams code: oib6l3i
- Organization
 - Lecture: 2h each week
 - Laboratory: 2h each week
 - Seminar: 2h every two weeks
- Grading
 - Laboratory: 40% 3 tests during the semester
 - Exam: 60% written exam in the session
- Bonus
 - Lecture attendance: if you attend at least 13 out of 14 lectures you will benefit from a more permissive grade rounding
 - Extra credit problems: 1 extra point at the final grade

Content

- C/C++ language
- Compilation process. Debugging
- Data types
- C/C++ lexical elements
- Statements
- Pointers
- Summary

C/C++ programming language Hall of fame

"No beard, no belly, no guru"



Dennis Ritchie



Brian Kernighan



Bjarne Stroustrup

C/C++ language

Why use C/C++?

- widely used, both in industry and in education
- **hybrid**, **multi-paradigm language**: implements all the concepts required for object oriented programming
- high-level programming language; compiled language
- many programming languages are based on C/C++ (Java, C#). Knowing C++ makes learning other programming languages.
- C ranked second in the TOBIE index as of January 2024, and C++ is ranked third https://www.tiobe.com/tiobe-index/

C/C++ language

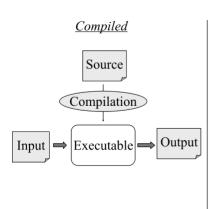
Why use C/C++?

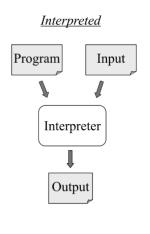
- rich library support many functionalities are already available, which helps in quickly writing code.
- **Speed**: C++ is the preferred choice when latency is a critical metric.
- C++ is an evolving, **highly standardized language**

Usage of the C/C++ programming language

- Operating Systems C/C++ is the backbone of all the well-known operating systems
- **Libraries** high-level libraries use C++ as the core programming language; e.g. *tensorflow* machine learning library
- Graphics and Web Browsers require fast rendering and C++ helps in reducing the latency
- Embedded Systems medical machines, smartwatches, etc. use C++ as it is closer to the hardware level as compared to other high-level programming languages.
- Banking Applications: process millions of transactions on a daily basis and require high concurrency and low latency support.

Compiled vs interpreted languages I





Compiled vs interpreted languages II

Compiled

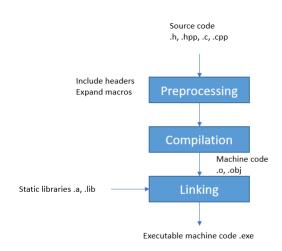
- input: takes entire program as input
- speed: executes faster
- workload doesn't need to compile every time, just once
- generates intermediate object code
- error checking at compilation the entire program is checked
- Examples: C/C++, BASIC, C# (to bitcode)

Interpreted

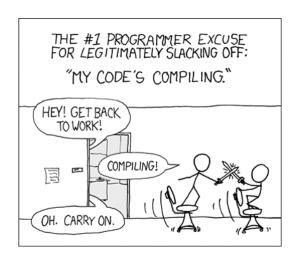
- input: takes a single instruction as input
- speed: executes slower
- workload has to convert high level languages to low level machine code at execution
- does not generate any intermediate data
- error checking displays errors when each instruction is run
- Examples: python, Matlab, javascript, Ruby



Compiled languages



Compiling...



Debugging

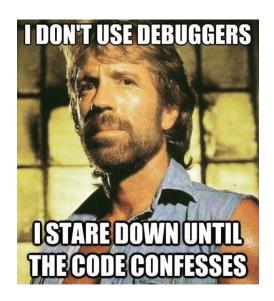
"20% of programming is writing code.
The other 80% is debugging "

Anonymous

Debugging

- allows you to step through each line of code, as the program is running
- inspect the current state of the program: variables, call stack, expressions
- breakpoint stop the program in certain points

Debugging



Structure of a simple C/C++ program

• include directives: for using other modules, libraries

```
#include <iostream>
```

 main() function - the entry point of the program, called by the operating system to run it

```
int main(){
   std::cout<<"Hello world"<<std::endl;
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

Lexical elements I

C/C++ is case sensitive.

- **Identifier**: Sequence of letters and digits, start with a letter or (underline). They are names used to identify program elements (which are not built into the language): functions, variables, constants, etc. E.g.: max_value, _parent_obj, my_function, etc.
- **Keywords** (reserved words): Identifier with a special purpose; Words with special meaning to the compiler; E.g.: int, while, class, struct.
- **Operators**: symbols that tell the compiler to perform specific mathematical or logical manipulations. E.g.: +, -, !, *, etc.

Lexical elements II

Literals: Basic constant values whose value is specified directly in the source code; E.g.: "Hello", 72, 4.6, 'c'.

Separators: Punctuation defining the structure of a program: e.g. ";", ", ", "()".

Comments: ignored by the compiler, but are used to explain the code, and to make it more readable

```
// This is a single line comment
/* This is a
multi line
comment */
```

C/C++ datatypes

The **type** of a variable determines the **domain of values** and **a set of operations** defined on these values. C/C++ are strongly typed languages.

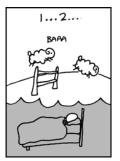
casting

Demo

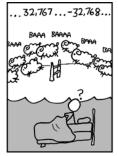
C/C++ datatypes (datatypes.cpp)

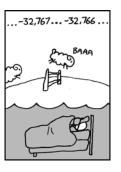
C++ datatypes

| Data type | Bytes | Range of values | |
|--------------------|--------|---------------------------------|----|
| char | 1byte | -127 to 127 or by default | |
| unsigned char | 1byte | 0 to 255 | |
| int | 4bytes | -2147483648 to 2147483647 | |
| unsigned int | 4bytes | 0 to 4294967295 | |
| short int | 2bytes | -32768 to 32767 | |
| unsigned short | 2bytes | 0 to 65,535 | |
| bool | 1byte | false or true | |
| long | 4bytes | -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647 | |
| unsigned long | 4bytes | 0 to 4,294,967,295 | |
| long long | 8bytes | -9,223,372,036,854,775,808 | to |
| | | 9,223,372,036,854,775,807 | |
| unsigned long long | 8bytes | 0 to 18,446,744,073,709,551,615 | |
| enum | varies | - | |
| float | 4bytes | 3.4E +/- 38 (7 digits) | |
| double | 8bytes | 1.7E +/- 308 (15 digits) | |









Arrays

- An array is a series of elements of the same type placed in contiguous memory locations that can be individually referenced by adding an index to a unique identifier.
- If T is an arbitrary basic C/C++ type: T arr[N]: arr is an array of length N with elements of type T;
- indexes are from 0 to n-1;
- indexing operator: [];
- multidimensional array: arr[L][C]

C string

- \bullet one-dimensional array of characters terminated by a null character $'\backslash 0'$
- standard library functions for string manipulation
 - strcpy(s1, s2) Copies string s2 into string s1.
 - strcat(s1, s2) Concatenates string s2 onto the end of string s1.
 - strlen(s1) Returns the length of string s1.
 - strcmp(s1, s2) Returns 0 if s1 and s2 are the same; less than 0 if s1<s2; greater than 0 if s1>s2.
 - strchr(s1, ch) Returns a pointer to the first occurrence of character ch in string s1.
 - strstr(s1, s2) Returns a pointer to the first occurrence of string s2 in string s1.
- None of these string routines allocate memory or check that the passed memory is the right size.

Demo

C string (cstring.cpp)

Structures

- Record/structure a linear, direct-access data structure with heterogeneous components
 - declared using struct
 - dot . operator

Demo

Structures (structures.cpp)

Pointers

- Every variable is a named memory location;
- A pointer is a variable whose value is a memory location (the address of another variable).
- Declaration same as declaring a normal variable, except an asterisk
 (*) must be added in front of the variable's identifier.

```
int *x ;
char *str ;
```

- Operators
 - address of operator & take the address of a variable;
 - dereferencing operator * get the value at the memory address pointed to.

Demo

Pointers (pointers.cpp)

Variables

- A variable is a named location in memory;
- Memory is allocated according to the type of the variable;
- The types tell the compiler how much memory to reserve;
- The value of the variable is undefined until the variable is initialized for it and what kinds of operations may be performed on it;
- It is recommended to initialise the variables (with meaningful values) at declaration;
- Use suggestive names for variables.

Constants

- Fixed values that the program may not alter during its execution;
- Can be defined using the #define preprocessor directive, or the const keyword;
- Examples

```
#define PI 3.1415 const float PI = 3.1415;
```

 $\red{?}$ What are the differences of using const vs. #define for constants?

C++ operators

- Assignment Operator: =
- Mathematical Operators: +, -, *, +=, -=, etc.
- **3** Relational Operators: <, <=, ==, >=, >
- Logical Operators: &&, ||
- Operators:
- Shift Operators: <<,>>

C++ operators

- Unary Operators: -,++,!
- Ternary Operator:

```
cond ? condition_true : condition_false
```

Ocmma Operator: to separate variable names/ expressions. (the value of last expression is produced and used)

Demo

Operators example (operators.cpp)

C++ Statements

Statement:

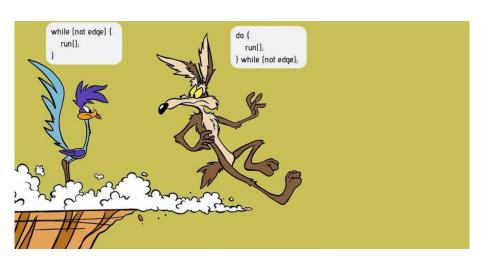
- each of the individual instructions of a program
- all statements, except the compound statement, always end with a semicolon (;)
- are executed in the same order in which they appear in a program.

Type of C++ statements:

- Empty statement
- Compound statement
- Conditional statement: if, switch
- Loops: while, do-while, for

Demo

Statements (statements.cpp)



Functions I

- **Function** group of statements that is given a name, and which can be called from some point of the program.
 - Declaration
 - Definition
 - Actual and formal parameters
 - Invocation

Demo

Functions (function.cpp)

Functions - specification

- meaningful name for the function;
- short description of the function (the problem solved by the function);
- meaning of each input parameter;
- conditions imposed over the input parameters (precondition);
- meaning of each output parameter;
- conditions imposed over the output parameters (post condition).

```
/*
Computes the maximum value of vector v.
Inputs: v - 1D array, n > 0 size of the array
Output: returns the value of the maximum element from v */
float max_val(float v[], int n);
```

Functions - design guidelines

- Single responsibility principle.
- Use meaningful names (function name, parameters, variables).
- Use naming conventions (add_rational, addRational, CONSTANT), be consistent.
- Specify and test functions.
- Use test driven development.
- Include comments in the source code.
- Avoid functions with side efects (if possible).



Pass by value vs pass by pointer

Pass by value

- Default parameter passing mechanism in C/C++.
- On function call C/C++ makes a copy of the actual parameter.
- The original variable is not affected by the changes made inside the function.

```
void byValue(int a);
```

Pass by address

- Changes made to the parameter will be reflected in the invoker.
- In C: there is no pass by reference; it is simulated with pointers;
- Pointers are passed by value;
- Arrays are passed "by reference".

```
void byPointer(int * a);
```

Variables scope and lifetime I

• **Scope**: the place where a variable was declared determines where it can be accessed from.

Local variables

- Functions have their own scopes: variables defined inside the function will be visible only in the function, and destroyed after the function call.
- Loops and if/else statements also have their own scopes.
- Cannot access variables that are out of scope (compiler will signal an error).
- A variable lifetime begins when it is declared and ends when it goes out of scope (destroyed).

Variables scope and lifetime I

Global variables

- Variables defined outside of any function. Can be accessed from any function.
- The scope is the entire application.
- Do not use global variables unless you have a very good reason to do so (usually you can find better alternatives).

Q: What's the best prefix for a global variable?

A: //

Input/Output functions

- read from the command line scanf, cin:
 http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/cstdio/scanf/
- write to the console (standard output) printf, cout
 http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/cstdio/printf/

Demo

Input-output operations (input_output.cpp)

Summary

- Both C and C++ are compiled languages.
- All C/C++ programs must contain a main function.
- All variables must have types and are recommended to be initialised.
- A variable lifetime begins when it is declared and ends when it goes out of scope (destroyed).
- C/C++ allow the use of pointers.
- Function parameters can be passed by value or by reference (C++).