Programming 2 (5 EC version) Practicals Manual (v19.1)

Robotics and Mechatronics, Radio Systems (since 2019)

March 2, 2020

Introduction

0.1 Context

The goal of this practical work is to train yourself in software development using C++, focusing on the essentials of the language and learning good programming practices. This implies that structuring and documenting the delivered software is as important as its performance (that is, computing the correct answers reasonably fast).

To reach this goal, the exercises start as training exercises and end with a somewhat larger project. You need to have a C++ development environment installed on your *own* laptop. See Appendix B for more detailed information on what to use and how to install it.

0.2 Organisation

The practical assignments consist of two weekly blocks of 4 hours for nine weeks. During the first six weeks, each group (2 persons) must complete and submit the practical assignments. Each assignments is described in a separate chapter in this document. During weeks 7-10, you will work on the seventh assignment being the final project; Chapter 7 describes this.

0.3 Equipment / Textbook

You have to use your 'own' computer / laptop. Next to this handout, we will use the textbook by Deitel and Deitel (2017). The assignments in this handout are based on the assignments in this textbook.

0.3.1 Assignments

This document contains multiple assignments, growing in creativity/freedom and complexity. The subjects of the assignments are based on the content of the lectures. Next to the programming assignments, the exercises also have questions to be answered as part of each exercise.

0.3.2 Planning

0.3.3 Recording Intermediate Progress

Show your work to one of the TAs (Teaching Assistants) before the end of the last practical half-day of each exercise. You also have to submit your work (sources etc, and answers to

| Week | Practicals | $\mid Subject \mid$ | Deitel & Deitel | Submission deadline |
|------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 6 | 6 Feb, 7 Feb | Installation & Get Familiar | Chap. 1, 2, 3 | 18:00, 7 Feb |
| 7 | 13 Feb, 14 Feb | Imperative constructs | Chap. $4, 5, 6$ | 18:00, 14 Feb |
| 8 | | Holidays | | |
| 9 | 27 Feb, 28 Feb | Arrays, Pointers, Recursion | Chap. 6, 7, 8 | 18:00, 28 Feb |
| 10 | 4 Mar | Object orientation | Chap. 9, 11, 12 | 18:00, 6 Mar |
| 11 | 9 Mar, 10 Mar | Lists & Trees | Chap 19 | 18:00, 13 Mar |
| 12 | 19 Mar, 20 Mar | Sorting/Multi-threading | Chap. 20 | 18:00, 20 Mar |
| 13 | 26 Mar, 27 Mar | Memory Management | - | - |
| | | Software Engineering | - | _ |
| | | Final Assignment | - | - |
| 14 | 2 Apr, 3 Apr | Final Assignment | - | _ |
| 15 | 6 Apr, 9 Apr | Final Assignment | _ | 18:00, 10 Apr |

questions) via Canvas. The submission deadline for each assignment is at the end of the last day scheduled for each assignment (usually 18:00 Friday).

Each submission will be graded. At the end of the course, the mean of all these marks, determines your final grade. All assignments are weighed the same and should be marked as 5 or higher, except for the final assignment which weighs three times as much as it is larger and must be graded at least 5.5. The overall grade must also be least 5.5. Finally, the TA or lecturer might differentiate grades within a group. In the event of any fail, the lecturer will provide you with additional work and a timeframe in which a satisfactory solution must be shown.

0.4 Responsibility and fraud

All group members share responsibility for the work handed in. When you distribute work among group members, check each other's work, discuss the work among all group members, do you understand it all? A practical implication is that you can be asked questions about your group partner's work. We expect you to be able to answer these questions, a mere "I don't know, because my lab partner worked on this one" consitutes an immediate fail.

You must submit original work.

Plagiarism, i.e. copying of someone else's work without proper reference, is a serious offense which in all cases will be reported to the Examination Board. Refer to the Student Charter (2017).

In cases where a non-trivial amount of work is copied *with* proper reference, indicate which parts are copied and which parts are your own original work. The copied work will not be considered for grading. This also holds for the assignments where code is explicitly provided (e.g. Assignments 5 and 7): only your extensions are considered.

0.4.1 What constitutes fraud?

When it comes down to handing in assignments, every year there are students who do not understand the borderline between, on the one hand, cooperating and discussing solutions between groups (which is allowed), and on the other, copying or sharing solutions (which is forbidden and counted as fraudulent behaviour). Here are some scenarios which may help in making this distinction.

• Scenario. Peter and Lisa are quite comfortable with programming and have pretty much finished the assignment. Mark and Wouter, on the other hand, are struggling and ask Lisa

how she has solved it. Lisa, a friendly girl, shows her solution and takes them through it line by line. Mark and Wouter think they now understand and go off to create their own solution, based on what they saw. Is this allowed or not?

Verdict. No problem here, everything is in the green. It is perfectly fine and allowed for Lisa to explain her solution, even very thoroughly. The important point is that in implementing it themselves and testing their own solution, Mark and Wouter are still forced to think about what is happening and will gain the required understanding, though probably they will not get as much out of it as Lisa (explaining stuff to others is about the best possible way to learn it better yourself!).

- Scenario. The start is as in the previous case. However, while Mark and Wouter implement their own solution, inspired by that of Lisa, some error crops up which they do not understand. Lisa has left by now; after they mail her, still trying to be helpful she sends them her solution for them to inspect. They inspect it so closely that in the end their solution is indistinguishable from Peter and Lisa's, except for the choice of some variable names and the comments they added themselves. Is this allowed or not?

 Verdict. This is now a case of fraud. Three are at fault: Lisa for enabling fraud by sending her files (even if it was meant as a friendly gesture) and Mark and Wouter for copying the code. Peter was not involved, developed his own solution (together with Lisa) and is innocent.
- Scenario. Alexandra and Nahuel are not finished, and the deadline is very close. The same holds for Simon and Jaco. On the Friday night train home, Jaco and Nahuel meet and during the 2-hour train ride work it out together. They type in the same solution and hand it in on behalf of their groups. Is this allowed or not?

 Verdict. This is also a case of fraud. Actually there are two problems here. The first

Verdict. This is also a case of fraud. Actually there are two problems here. The first is that both Nahuel and Jaco handed in code on behalf of their groups that had been developed by them alone, without their partners. This is unwise and against the spirit of the assignment (Alexandra and Simon also need to master this stuff!) but essentially undetectable and not fraudulent. The second problem is that the solution was developed, and shared, in collaboration between two groups; this is definitely forbidden. All four students are culpable; Alexandra and Simon cannot hide behind the fact that they did not partake in the collaboration, as they were apparently happy enough to have their name on the solutions and pretend they worked on it, too.

Note that we are not on a witch-hunt here: let us stress again that cooperating and discussing assignments is OK, even encouraged; it is at the point where you start copying or duplicating pieces of code that you cross the border.

0.5 Quality of the results

The quality of the code will be judged, implying:

- The code must compute the correct values in reasonable time.
- The structure of the code must be clear, and easily understandable by the TAs. You can use *pseudo code* to structure your design, see Deitel and Deitel (2017, Sec 4.3).
- Names of identifiers must follow an appropriate naming scheme. Follow the examples as given in Deitel and Deitel (2017).

• The code must contain effective comments. Follow the style as shown in Deitel and Deitel (2017), and explained in their Chapter 2. No comments or irrelevant comments lead to an insufficient mark.

See also tips and hints on the slides dealing with programming style and design decisions.

0.6 Document History and Disclaimer

When you find a mistake or have remarks about this document, please contact one of the TAs. As we also continuously improve this document, newer versions appear regularly, see its date and version number. Changes are summarized in the Changelog, in Appendix A. The latest version can be found on Canvas. Be sure to always use the latest version of this guide.

This document has seen many versions over the years. Contributors to this document: Wolfgang Baumgartner, Jan Broenink, Johan Engelen, Sander Grimm, Silke Hofstra, Karim Kok, Frits Kuipers, Laurie Overbeek, Chris Zeinstra. Special thanks to Arend Rensink for the subsection "What constitutes fraud?".

First Assignment

At the start of every file you create, make sure you use the standard comment header, see Appendix C.

1.1 BMI Calculator

To determine whether a person is overweight or obese, you can use a measure called the Body Mass Index (BMI). The formula for calculating the BMI is:

$$BMI = \frac{\text{weight in kilograms}}{(\text{height in meters})^2}$$
 (1.1)

- 1. Create a BMI calculator application that reads the user's weight in kilograms and height in meters, and then calculates and displays the user's body mass index. Structure your program well, use functions!
- 2. Create a function called evaluateAndPrintBMI that displays the category of the calculated BMI according to the table below. For example, when the calculated BMI is 21, the application should say something like "Your weight is normal.".
- 3. The application should display the following information from the Department of Health and Human Services/National Institutes of Health so the user can evaluate his/her BMI. You should create a separate function called printInfo for this.

BMI Values:

Underweight: less than 18.5

Normal: between 18.5 and 24.9 Overweight: between 25 and 29.9

Obese: 30 or greater

1.2 Heart Rates

While exercising, you can use a heart-rate monitor to check that your heart rate stays within a safe range suggested by your trainers and doctors. According to the American Heart Association (AHA), the formula for calculating your maximum heart rate in beats per minute is 220 minus your age in years. Your target heart rate is a range that is 50-85% of that age-specific maximum.

- 1. Create a class to store information about humans: the class attributes should include the person's first name, last name and date of birth (consisting of separate attributes for the month, day and year of birth).
- 2. The class should have a constructor that receives this data (first name, last name, birth-day, birth month, birth year) as parameters. Provide set and get functions where they make sense (for example, it's nice to be able to get a person's first name, but it does not make much sense to set a person's first name separate from the last name). The set function for the date of birth should check that the day (1-31, let's simplify) and month (1-12) are in the correct range.
- 3. The class also should include a function getAge that calculates and returns the person's age (in years). If you do not know how to obtain the current date from the computer, you should prompt the user to enter the current month, day and year before calculating the person's age.
- 4. Create a function calculateMaximumHeartRate that calculates and returns the person's maximum heart rate and a function calculateTargetHeartRates that calculates and returns the person's minimum and maximum target heart rate.
- 5. Write an application that prompts for the person's information and uses your class for human info (instantiate an object). Next, the application should show the full name, date of birth, the person's age (years), maximum heart rate, and target heart rate range. Test your program; for example, test that it validates the dates entered by the user.

1.3 Submission and Questions

After you are done with both exercises, show your work to one of the TAs.

Hand in your work via Canvas with the two projects above in a zip called [Group number]-5ECAssignment1.zip (eg. 01-5ECAssignment1.zip for Group 1). Don't add the object files (*.o, *.obj) or executable files to the zip file; only the *.cpp and *.h files is enough. Next to this zip file hand in a single A4 page *PDF file* with explanations of the design choices you made in the exercises and the answers to the following questions:

- 1. Why did you have to include iostream in your code?
- 2. What is the difference between private and public access specifiers in a C++ class?
- 3. Explain the purpose of data hiding.
- 4. How can a program use the standard library class string without using a using namespace directive? What is problematic about putting a using namespace directive at the start of your code?
- 5. Give the output of the following code and explain.

```
#include <iostream>
void function();
int a = 20;
int main() {
```

```
int a = 10;
  function();
  std::cout << a;
  return 0;
}

void function() {
  std::cout << a << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

Imperative constructs

2.1 if/else and while

- 1. Make book exercise 4.15.
- 2. Make book exercise 4.18. Do it twice, once with a while and once with a for loop.

2.2 The dangling if/else problem

- 1. Make book exercise 4.23
- 2. Make book exercise 4.24

2.3 Do-while loop

An often overlooked loop structure is the do while loop. It is equivalent to a while loop, except when the loop condition is checked. The while loop checks the condition before its body is executed, a do-while loop checks the condition at the end of its body. If the loop condition is initially false, the body of the while loop is never executed and the body of the do-while loop is executed once.

Suppose you need to read a string from a resource (for example a file or some network connection). Since the operating system cannot guarantee that it is able to provide the full string at once you typically ask the resource how large the total string is and repeatably read from the resource until you have reached the expected length. Download Resource.zip from Canvas and augment main.cp such that it retrieves the full string correctly from the resource.

2.4 Logical conditions

Logical conditions like !(a && b) and !(a || b) occur frequently in code. Find the "De Morgan" laws online to rewrite these two conditions without parentheses and demonstrate that they yield exactly the same values in a C++ program.

2.5 Weird year

A weird year is a year that is divisible by 4 and division by 3 yields a remainder of 1, or year is a multiple of 7.

- 1. Implement a function bool is Weird Year (int year) in a C++ program. Hint: the % operator can be of good use here.
- 2. If we start counting from year 1, what would be the 1000th weird year?

2.6 Submission and Questions

After you are done with both exercises, show your work to one of the TAs.

Hand in your work via Canvas with the two projects above in a zip called [Group number]-5ECAssignment2.zip (eg. 01-5ECAssignment2.zip for Group 1). Don't add the object files (*.o, *.obj) or executable files to the zip file; only the *.cpp and *.h files is enough. Also include the answers to the following questions:

- 1. How can you replace a while(true) loop with a for loop?
- 2. How can you replace a for loop with a while loop?

The Maze

The grid of hashes and dots in Figure 3.1 is a two-dimensional 12-by-12 array representation of a maze. In this two-dimensional array, the hashes represent the walls of the maze and the dots represent squares in the possible paths through the maze. The x marks the maze entrance. Moves can be made only to a location in the built-in array that contains a dot.

There is a simple algorithm for walking through a maze that guarantees finding the exit (assuming there is an exit). If there is no exit, you'll arrive at the starting location again. Place your right hand on the wall. If the maze turns to the right, you follow the wall to the right. As long as you do not remove your hand from the wall, eventually you'll arrive at the exit of the maze. There might be a shorter path than the one you've taken, but you are guaranteed to get out of the maze if you follow this algorithm.

Figure 3.1: Two-dimensional array representation of maze.

3.1 Arrays

- 1. To store the maze fields you can use a two dimensional-array using std::array from the standard library. To use std::array you need to include <array>. To see how a such an array is made look at Chapter 7 of Deitel and Deitel (2017) and http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/container/array. Initialize a maze with the maze in Figure 3.1.
- 2. Make a function that prints all the elements of the maze, just as in Figure 3.1.

3.2 Recursion

- 1. Write a recursive function traverseMaze to walk through the maze. As traverseMaze attempts to locate the exit from the maze, it should place the character 'X' in each square of the path. The function should display the maze after each move, so the user can watch as the maze is solved. When the maze is solved the program should print a text that the maze is solved and exit the program.
 - Recursion is not really an appropriate mechanism for the right-hand-on-the-wall solving algorithm. (Why not? How about using recursion for finding the shortest path?) We force you to apply recursion here for the sake of exercise.
- 2. Make a function that determines the start position of the maze by searching the array for the starting 'x'. Use this function to start your recursive traversal function.

3.3 Submission and Questions

After you are done with both exercises, show your work to one of the TAs.

As in the previous assignment, hand in your workspace with the two projects above in a zip called [Group number]-5ECAssignment3.zip (eg. 01-5ECAssignment3.zip for Group 1). Next to this zip file hand in a single-page PDF file with explanations of the choices you made in the exercises (include this file in the zip file). This document should explain how your maze traversal solution works. Also include the answers to the following questions:

- 1. Explain in your own words what recursion is.
- 2. Create a range-based loop using the *auto* keyword to loop trough the values of array **a** of type std::array.
- 3. When would you use the const keyword?
- 4. What is the advantage of the std::array type in comparison to built-in arrays (e.g. int a[]).
- 5. Find the error, and explain why it is wrong:

```
(a) #include "array"
```

```
(b)

if (a = 1) {
    b = 10;
}
```

```
(c)
  int b[10] = {};
  for (int i = 0; i <= 10; ++i)
    b[i] = 1;</pre>
```

(d)

```
const int arraySize = 20;
// ...
arraySize = 10;
```

Object orientation

4.1 Package Inheritance Hierarchy

Package-delivery services, such as DHL® and UPS®, offer a number of different shipping options, each with specific associated costs and other attributes. For example, there are the TwoDayPackage and OvernightPackage package options. The cost of shipping a package depend on the type of package. The cost of a TwoDayPackage is 2.50 euro per kg, with a flat fee of 5 euro. The cost of an OvernightPackage is equal to a TwoDayPackage but with the additional cost of the weight squared times 1.10 euro/kg².

Your task is to write an object-oriented program that creates a few packages with different shipping options (can be hard-coded). This set of packages should then be passed to a function printCosts that loops over this set of packages and prints the cost of shipping for each package. The cost for each package must obtained by calling the package's member function calculateCost.

- Create a class hierarchy (inheritance) to represent the various types of packages. Use Package as the base class name.
- At least the following information should be stored for each package: name, address, city, state and ZIP code for both the sender and the recipient of the package; and the package's weight.
- Note that the function printCosts does not need to know about the different types of packages. If a new package type is added, the printCosts function should not need to be modified at all!

4.2 Submission and Questions

After you are done with the exercises, show your work to one of the TAs and hand in a zip file named "[Group number]-5ECAssignment4.zip" as before. Next to the zip file hand in a PDF file explaining your design choices and include answers to the questions below.

- 1. Explain why inheritance is used in this assignment.
- 2. In the first assignment you have explained the difference between private and public access specifiers. What is the difference between them and the protected access specifier?
- 3. Why should you be careful when using multiple inheritance?

- 4. Explain composition and inheritance in common words, using the topic "computer". (as a start: what classes/objects are related to a computer?)
- 5. The compiler "inserts" calls to destructors in your code. Where are these calls to destructors inserted? (in other words, when are they called during program execution?)
- 6. What is a virtual destructor, when is it necessary and why?

Lists and searching

Download the example code of the textbook via the following link:

http://media.pearsoncmg.com/ph/esm/deitel/cpp_htp_9/code_examples/code_examples.html

The code of chapter 19 is used in this exercise.

Note that in this assignment, the List and Tree code is in header files and not in separate implementation (.cpp) files. If you have time left after finishing the assignment, try to find the answer to why this is necessary (hint: templates and separate compilation).

5.1 Linked List

- 1. Start from the LinkedList starterkit provided on Canvas. Use the main.cpp file and include the header file needed to use the linked list List class. Instantiate two empty linked lists (the type of the list elements should be char).
- 2. Create a function fillList which takes a string and a char list as argument and fills that list with the chars from the string.
- 3. Use fillList to fill the two lists instantiated in the main function with two strings "singlylinkedlist" and "abcdefg". Print the two lists to the screen using their print method.
- 4. Extend the List class (so edit List.h) with a function concatenate which takes a List as argument. This function should concatenate the list in the argument to the current list. The argument list needs to be emptied. You may not use the insert* and remove* functions from the List class.
- 5. In your main function, create two new lists and fill them with "hijklmnop" and "qrstuvw". Use your concatenate method to append these two lists to the list that contains "abcdefg". Print the appended list.

5.2 Tree

- 1. Start from the Tree starterkit provided on Canvas. Use the main.cpp file. Instantiate a tree of integers and fill it with 10 different predefined integers (unsorted!).
- 2. Create a search function in the Tree class that attempts to locate a specified value in a binary search tree object. The search function should take the search key to locate as argument. You can choose between a recursive search implementation (create a search

helper function) or an iterative search implementation. If the node containing the search key is found, the function should return a pointer to that node; otherwise, the function should return nullptr.

- 3. Extend your main program such that it asks the user to input a number. The program should search your predefined array for the user's number using the **search** function created previously. The program should output whether the number was found or not.
- 4. Create a member function outputTree to display a binary tree object on the screen. The function should output the tree row by row, with the top of the tree at the left of the screen and the bottom of the tree toward the right end of the screen. Each row is output vertically. For example, the binary tree illustrated in Figure 5.1. Use a recursive algorithm for this.

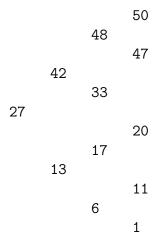


Figure 5.1: Example output of output Tree function.

5.3 Submission and Questions

After you are done with the exercises, show your work to one of the TAs and hand in a zip file named "[Group number]-5ECAssignment5.zip" as before. Next to the zip file hand in a PDF file explaining your design choices and include answers to the questions below.

- 1. What are the differences between a Linked List, a Stack, a Queue, and a Tree?
- 2. Give example usages for these four different data structures.
- 3. How do you convert a Singly Linked List to a Doubly Linked List and to a Circular Linked List?
- 4. When do you use the & sign and when do you use the * sign when using pointers?
- 5. You define a new pointer variable, but you don't have an address yet to initialize the pointer with. With what value should you initialize that pointer and why?
- 6. At the end of (or during) your Linked List program, the Lists' nodes are destroyed and the program prints the destroyed node elements. Because you instantiated more than one list, you see the order in which the lists are destroyed. Explain this order: what determines the order in which the lists are destroyed, is the order always the same? Note: this is about the destruction of the List objects themselves, not their elements.

Complexity

Consider a scalar potential field P with two potential peaks a and b:

$$P(x,y) \mapsto \frac{1}{(x-a_x)^2 + (y-a_y)^2} + \frac{1}{(x-b_x)^2 + (y-b_y)^2}$$
(6.1)

We define x = 0 and y = 0 to be the middle of the screen, and now want to display where the potential has a certain value v.

In this assignment, we'll look at different ways of doing just that. You have to implement two algorithms: "Scanning" and "Marching Squares".

There is a starter kit available on Canvas that you must use. The starter kit sets up the display, defines the potential function, and provides the logic to use an algorithm to draw a contour and switch between different algorithms. Using the starter kit, you only have to implement the algorithms themselves that determine which pixels light up.

Practical note: to best see the differences in performance of the algorithms, it may be best to turn off the compiler's optimizer (/Od or -OO).

6.1 Algorithm 1: Scanning

The "Scanning" algorithm is fairly simple. We scan the whole display area from top-left to bottom-right, horizontally or vertically. For each pixel: we calculate P(x,y) and see whether the local value is above or below the value v (thus, v can be seen as a threshold value). If the outcome (above or below) is different from the previous pixel, we know we have crossed the threshold and we draw the pixel white. If there is no difference from the previous pixel, we don't draw anything (black).

As you will see, the result displayed is not very satisfactory and the algorithm will thus need further improvement but we won't work on that in this course.

6.2 Algorithm 2: Marching Squares

The algorithm in this section is a 2D variant of the famous Marching Cubes algorithm of Lorensen and Cline (1987).

The "Scanning" algorithm is not fast enough to result in a smooth animation. In general though, there is no faster way: we have to inspect each pixel to know whether the potential field has value v there (or close to it).

However, the potential field in this assignment has a lot more structure and we can exploit that. For example, we know that P is continuous, which means that P(x,y) = v results in

continuous closed curves. You can use all other knowledge you have about the potential field of this assignment.

The fact that the pixels to be drawn are on a continuous curve helps a lot: once we have found one pixel on the curve, we only have to look at its neighbours to trace the rest of the curve. And thus we will not have to scan the whole area any more. This insight leads to the "Marching Squares" algorithm:

- 1. Find one pixel on the curve (e.g. by scanning). Add that pixel to a worklist.
- 2. While worklist is not empty do:
 - (a) Take and remove pixel p from the worklist.
 - (b) Add p to the visitedlist. If p was already in visitedlist, skip to the next iteration of the loop.
 - (c) Calculate P at the four corners of the pixel, $(x \frac{1}{2}, y \frac{1}{2}), (x \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}), (x + \frac{1}{2}, y \frac{1}{2}), (x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}),$ and check if the P = v curve crosses the line segments between these corners. In other words, check whether the P values at all corners are either above or below v. If the P = v curve crosses one of the segments: draw the pixel!
 - (d) If we had to draw the pixel, add all 8 neighbours of the pixel to the worklist.

Note that worklist and visitedlist do *not* need to be 'list' data structures! Knowing what operations are needed, what data structures should be used for them? (the worklist datastructure and the visitedlist data structure will differ)

6.3 Algorithm 2++: Improved Marching Squares

After implementing the "Marching Squares" algorithm, you'll notice that there is something wrong: it does not take into account that there may be more than one curve to be drawn! Also, the algorithm is not much faster than the scanning algorithm...

Some hints to improve your algorithm:

- 1. What is the complexity of the two phases of the algorithm: (1) finding the first pixel on the contour and (2) marching?
- 2. It is perfectly fine to add more than one pixel to the worklist in phase 1 to kick-start the marching phase.
- 3. The number of curves is less or equal to the number of potential peaks (a and b in this case).

6.4 Algorithm 1++: Multithreaded Scanning

The C++ standard library contains a std::thread class. Threads allow functions to execute concurrently. With threads you can, possibly, improve the performance of your program. A thread can be started easily by making a std::thread object. The join function of the std::thread class can be used to synchronise threads. This function returns when the thread is finished. The following code example shows the creation of one new thread.

```
#include <thread>

void threadFunction(int x)
{
     // This function runs in a separate thread!
}

int main()
{
     // Start a new thread that calls "threadFunction"
     std::thread t(threadFunction, 1);

     // Waits for the thread to finish
     t.join();
     return 0;
}
```

Add multithreading to your implementation of the scanning algorithm using std::thread. When two threads try to write and read the same memory concurrently, the behaviour of your program can be undefined. This is called a race condition. Race conditions can be prevented by defining critical sections in your code by using mutual exclusion (see std::mutex, std::lock_guard, std::mutex::lock(), std::mutex::unlock()). Keep this in mind when using shared data in threads. Synchronization is not needed if, during the multithreaded part, the program is only reading the shared data. Drawing pixels onto the screen (SDL2 function call) involves writing data, and thus synchronization is needed for multithreaded pixel drawing.

Think about the amount of threads that is likely to improve performance. Creating and stopping a thread requires some overhead time, and your CPU only has finite resources. Think about whether you need critical sections (synchronization using a mutex), and make them as small as possible. Otherwise other threads will be waiting on the one thread that locked the mutex...

Some compilers need to know your program will use threads, see Appendix B for the correct settings.

6.5 Submission and Questions

After you are done with the exercises, show your work to one of the TAs and hand in a zip file named "[Group number]-5ECAssignment6.zip" as before. Next to the zip file hand in a PDF file explaining your design choices and include answers to the questions below.

- 1. What was the complexity of your function in the Maze assignment that determines the start position of the maze by searching the maze array for the starting 'x'? Use n equal to the maze width (i.e. the maze is $n \times n$).
- 2. What data structures did you use (array, vector, list, tree, ...), and how did the complexity of the operations influence your design decisions? (For maximum points, the answer to this question should be part of your design decisions, and here you just refer to that...)
- 3. Explain the order of complexity for the scanning algorithm and the marching squares algorithm, in terms of N for a screen size of $N \times N$ pixels.

Final Assignment

This is a challenging exercise concerning messagebusses. A messagebus is a structure that can receive, store and forward messages from and to nodes that are subscribed to topics. Real messagebusses can be very advanced; in this assignment we confine ourselves to a messagebus that can register nodes, topics, subscribe nodes to topics and forward messages send to a topic to all of its subscribers. Also, messages have a priority. A typical use case is a robot that contains several sensors and actuators whose measurements and control messages are send to and from another node that acts like a logical unit. In this final assignment you have to add functionality to a baseline implementation.

We expect you to finish at least Challenges 0-4 and 5A. Challenges 5B to 5E contain various optional additions to the project. Show your work after each day to one of the TA's.

Download messagebus.zip from Canvas. It contains four versions of the project, two documents and a database.

7.1 Challenge 0A: Assess the quality of your work

Although this is the first challenge, actually you can only work on this when you are finished with your project. Assess the quality of your own work using the form SelfQualityAssessment.doc.

7.2 Challenge 0B: Assess the quality of two other project groups

Assess the quality of your own work using the form OtherQualityAssessment.doc. You have to assess the quality of two other groups that will be assigned to your group.

7.3 Challenge 1: Explain and expand given code

Copy the code in the v1 directory. The purpose of this challenge is to get acquainted with a minimalistic implementation of a messagebus and expand it a little bit.

- Add comment to each line of the cpp files, except Simulator.cpp. Use the same comment standard as in the previous assignments, see Appendix C. Throughout the project, for simplicity we assume that the name of the sender, the name of the topic and the message itself do not contain spaces.
- What is a priority queue?

- Why would the writer of the code of MessageBus.h have chosen for storage of TextMessage *, instead of TextMessage? Use object slicing and polymorphism in your explanation.
- Explain how TextMessageCompare is used in the priority queue. Note that this is an example of operator overloading.
- One could argue that code is missing as we are allocating memory from the heap (that is, we use new). Explain why this is a problem. Add/change code for memory management.

7.4 Challenge 2: Three message types

Copy your final code of Challenge 1 in a new directory and then copy all code from v2, replacing a few files here and there. TextMessage is a very specific message type. The purpose of this challenge is to introduce three other message types. For each of the message types we would to have a toString() methode that returns a string with the format: priority sender topic messagetype and a string representation of the message content.

- TextMessage is a message that only carries a text, its messagetype is T and is already implemented.
- MeasurementMessage is a message that only carries a double measurement, its messagetype is M.
- ImageMessage is a message that only carries an image, its messagetype is I. The image itself can have any format (like png or jpg) and is send as a string in Base64 encoding¹. Base64 encoding maps chunks of bits to characters and can be used to send any type of content over a text based channel. Use the provided base64.h and base64.cpp.
- Message is the superclass of these three concrete messages. Make the appropriate changes to the given code such that it can handle any of the three message type in a proper manner.
- Explain again why using a pointer to instead of an object itself in a storage structure is beneficial.
- Add/change code for memory management.

7.5 Challenge 3: Threading

Copy your final code of Challenge 2 in a new directory and then copy all code from v3, replacing a few files here and there. The purpose of this challenge is to add threading.

- Add a private run method and a public start method to MessageBus.h. Following the Java idiom, the start method should call the run method in a seperate thread². Add std::this_thread::sleep_for(100ms) in the run method of MessageBus to avoid locking. If you want to call a parameterless method M within a class C using a thread, use (&C::X, this) in the thread constructor.
- Would you use join or a detach in the start method, considering the fact that in Simulator.cpp a getline is explicitly used? Explain your choice.

 $^{^{1}\}mathrm{There}$ are more efficient methods to do this, but Base64 is straightforward to use.

²Java is a popular OO language heavily inspired by C++, see https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/essential/concurrency/runthread.html for an example where start automatically calls run. In your implementation you have to call run explicitly.

- Given the implementation of Simulator.cpp in Challenge 2, you should be able to figure out what Nodes.h and Nodes.cpp should contain. Use threading in your implementation.
- Add/change code for memory management.

7.6 Challenge 4: SQL storage

Copy your final code of Challenge 3 in a new directory and then copy all code from v4, replacing a few files here and there. The purpose of this challenge is to add an alternative way to store data.

SQL (Structured Query Language) is a standard way of storing and retrieving tabular like data through a query. Often a database management system like Oracle or Microsoft SQL Server is used to manage data and to execute queries. In a C++ program, you often have to use special software called a driver to communicate to this database management system. Another, popular, alternative in resource constrainted environments like Android or embedded systems is SQLite in which all the database management functionality is contained in the driver itself. We have included sqlite3.h, sqllitext.h and sqlite3.c. Also, we have included an empty "clean" node-clean.db database file that can be read and written by SQLite. Visit https://sqlitebrowser.org/ for a program to easily inspect the contents of node-clean.db. When you want to read/write the node-clean.db file from C++, make sure you close the DB browser as it locks this file.

- What is a callback function?
- Implement NodeConfigWriter. The method clear clears the contents of the database, the three write methods insert data into the appropriate tables, see https://www.tutorialspoint.com/sqlite/sqlite_c_cpp.htm for some interesting examples. Before you implement this, find out what a void * (void pointer) is and how it can be used here in the current project.
- Implement NodeConfigReader. This class is used by MessageBus to read the contents of the tables.
- What is a database index and name one advantage and one disadvantage of its usage; use complexity in your argumentation.
- Add/change code for memory management.

7.7 Challenge 5A: Implementation of nodes

This challenge can be done independently of challenges 5B and 5C. Until now, we have only focussed on the messaging itself and not so much on the functionality of the nodes. Assume we have a robot with four nodes: camera, temperature, servo and logic and three topics: measurement, servo and logic. Camera and temperature are subscribed to measurement, servo to servo and logic to logic. Logic sends message to measurement; camera and temperature respond independently to logic, returning a webcam snaphot and a fake temperature, respectively. If logic has received both messages and saves both of them to an image and text file, it will send some command to the servo to change position. You have to use OpenCV for the camera snapshot functionality.

7.8 Challenge 5B: Real network communication (hard!)

This challenge can be done independently of challenges 5A and 5C. Until now, all components are part of a single simulation. In a real world situation nodes and the messagebus will reside at physically different locations. Introduce sockets to enable communication between the nodes and the messagebus. You have to use <boost/asio.hpp> (requires installation of Boost), boost::asio::io_service, tcp::acceptor and tcp::socket.

7.9 Challenge 5C: Implementation of nodes and real network communication (hard!)

This challenge combines challenges 5A and 5B.

7.10 Challenge 5D: Smart pointers

- What are smart pointers and what is the advantage of using them?
- Make the appropriate changes to the given code such that all (raw) pointers in all files are replaced by smart pointers.

7.11 Challenge 5E: Use your creativity

If you have a great idea that you want to implement, write a short proposal and ask the lecturer or TA for permission to implement it.

7.12 Submission

After you are finished or the time is up, show your work to one of the TAs. Furthermore, hand in your workspace with the projects above in a zip called [Group number]-5ECAssignment7.zip (eg. 01-5ECAssignment7.zip). Include Challenge 0A and the answers to all non programming questions as a seperate document in this zip file. After handing in your work, you will receive the code of two other groups whose code you will assess. Upload your quality assessments as [Your group number]-OtherQualityAssessment[Other group number].doc to Canvas.

Appendix A

Change Log

- version 2019.1, Nov 2019.
 - Updated text, links and changed included packages. Created two separate documents for 3EC and 5EC students. New 5EC project.
- version 2018.3, 05-02-2019.
 - Updated labels and in-document references
- version 2018.2, 05-02-2019.
 - Updated rule on submission of the work.
- version 2018.1, 01-02-2019.
 - First version Programming 2 for EE, 2019

Appendix B

Installation of C++ development environment

B.1 Introduction

As always, the installation of the tools is straightforward but you need to be very precise.

We recommend you to use the 'system' C++ compiler. Because you have to hand-in portable C++ software (meaning that it will compile and run on any of the OSses used), any compiler fully compliant with C++14 can be used. However if you want support of the TAs you will need to use software that they also know. Appendix D provides guidance on what folder structure to use for your work. Further instructions about how to set up your environment for the final assignment are in the README.md of the pacmanLib starterkit.

B.1.1 Windows

Download and install Visual Studio Community (it's free). https://www.visualstudio.com/vs/community/ During installation, select for "workload" the "Desktop development with C++"; that should install all needed components. Create your project as an 'empty project' and check the common issues in Appendix B.5. Visual Studio's built-in debugger is great: try it out! Have a look at "The Cherno" YouTube channel (Appendix E) for some excellent Visual Studio and C++ guidance.

B.1.2 macOS

Start the App Store and install Xcode (it's free). Start Xcode after the installation has finished. Xcode asks if you want to install the developer tools, install them. In the terminal, run the following command:

```
xcode-select --install
```

and check that the following commands work:

```
clang++ --version
g++ --version
```

XCode has a built-in debugger. Note: For the Networks part a copy of Eclipse can be used, with its own GUI library, as that is different from the GUI library used for Programming 2. If you choose to use Eclipse for Programming 2, it is best to have a separate Eclipse installation for the network part of the course.

B.1.3 Ubuntu (Linux)

Most Linux distributions already have the GNU GCC compiler installed. Check in the terminal that the following command works:

```
g++ --version
```

For debugging, you can use the famous commandline tool gdb. Note: For the Networks part a copy of Eclipse can be used, with its own GUI library, as that is different from the GUI library used for Programming 2. If you choose to use Eclipse for Programming 2, it is best to have a separate Eclipse installation for the network part of the course.

B.2 Enable C++11 or newer

You have to make sure that the C++11 dialect of the language standard is chosen, or a newer dialect (C++14 is recommended). **Windows:** Recent versions of Visual Studio default to C++14, excellent. **macOS:** XCode may default to C++14, but on the commandline you have to specify -std=c++14. **Ubuntu, Linux:** GCC may or may not default to C++14, probably on the commandline you have to specify -std=c++14 (requires GCC >= 5).

B.3 Compiler settings for C++11 threads

Windows: There are no extra settings needed to use threads with Visual Studio. macOS: There are no extra settings needed to use threads with the macOS compiler (clang). Ubuntu, Linux: On Linux, you probably need to add -pthread -lpthread to the compiler command line.

B.4 The test case

After installing and setting up your development environment, you should be able to compile and run this example code and see an output of "The answer is 42".

```
#include <iostream>
#include <thread>

int globalVar = 1;

void threadFunction(int x)
{
    globalVar = x;
}

int main()
{
    // Start a new thread that calls "threadFunction"
    std::thread t(threadFunction, 42);

    // Waits for the thread to finish
    t.join();
```

B.5 Common issues

B.5.1 Windows/Visual Studio

The build completes, but the program disappears

Configure Visual Studio to use *console* output: Open the project properties and navigate to Linker -> System, set "SubSystem" to Console (/SUBSYSTEM:CONSOLE). Run using *Start Without Debugging* (ctrl+F5). Alternatively, set a break point at the end of the program and run using *Start Debugging* (F5).

I have included stdafx.h or Visual Studio asks me to

Change the following project properties:

- Linker -> System: set "SubSystem" to Console (/SUBSYSTEM:CONSOLE).
- C/C++ -> Precompiled Headers: set "Precompiled Header" to "Not Using Precompiled Headers".

The compile_and_run.bat file doesn't work

Open the x64 Native Tools Command Prompt for VS 2017 (or equivalent), navigate to your project directory (using cd) and run the script, eg:

```
cd Study\Projects\Prog2EE\assignmentX
.\compile_and_run.bat
```

Appendix C

Standard comment header

For the assignments it is important that each source file contains a header with the group number and the names of the group members. Use the following header:

Appendix D

Program directory structure

Common advice is to write your code as a library. When writing a library, it is convenient and common to split the source code into separate directories for *header files* and *implementation files*. The header files (extension .h) contain the declarations that are implemented in the implementation files (.cpp). When shipping your library to the users, they only need the header files, and the compiled library of object code (for example a .a file).

The practical assignments are too small to make this split, but for the final assignment, create the src and include folders in your project and use this structure (the provided starterkit already has that structure).

Appendix E

Useful resources

E.1 Books

There are many bad C++ books, in the sense of for example containing incorrect information or teaching very bad programming style and design. A complete list is https://stackoverflow.com/questions/388242/the-definitive-c-book-guide-and-list.

E.2 Online

- C++ language FAQ: https://isocpp.org/faq
- C++ standard library: http://www.cplusplus.com/reference
- C++ tutorial http://www.cplusplus.com/doc/tutorial
- C++ Core Guidelines: https://isocpp.github.io/CppCoreGuidelines/CppCoreGuidelines
- C++ "The Cherno" on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18c3MTXOPK0&list=PLlrATfBNZ98dudnM48yfGUldqGD0S4FFb

References

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