

# Introduction to C++

## Computer Architecture

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# 1 Introduction to C++

- C++ language

# What is C++?

- ISO/IEC 14882:2011, ISO/IEC 14882:2014, ISO/IEC 14882:2017, ISO/IEC 14882/2020.
- “*A lightweight programming abstractions language*” (B. Stroustrup).
- Designed by Bjarne Stroustrup at Bell Labs: 1979-1983.
  - Constant evolution and improvement during last decade.
  - Evolving a language with millions lines of code is different from designing a new programming language.
- If somebody tells you that he has a perfect programming language:
  - Either he is a naïve.
  - Or he is a salesman.

# Where does it come from?

- High-level influences.
  - General purpose abstractions languages.
    - Simula.
  - Domain specific abstraction languages.
    - FORTRAN, COBOL.
- Low-level influences.
  - Direct hardware mapping.
    - Assembler.
  - Minimal hardware abstraction.
    - BCPL.
    - C.
- Influences on other programming languages.
  - Java.
  - C#.
  - C (C11).

# Evolution

- 1979: “C with classes” starts to be designed.
- 1983: First version of C++.
- 1989: C++ 2.0.
- 1998: C++98 → ISO/IEC 14882:1998
- 2003: C++03 → ISO/IEC 14882:2003.
  - Technical Corrigendum
- 2005: C++ TR1 → ISO/IEC TR 19768.
  - C++ Library Extensions
- 2011: C++11 → ISO/IEC 14882:2011.
- 2014: C++14 → ISO/IEC 14882:2014.
- 2017: C++17 → ISO/IEC 14882:2017.
- 2020: C++20 → ISO/IEC 14882:2020.

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## 2 Basic aspects

- A first program
- Basic input/output
- Vectors
- Functions and argument passing
- Exceptions



# Hello

- Header file: **iostream**.
- Main program: **main**.
  - It is program entry point.
- Import from namespace: **std**
- Standard output stream: **cout**.
  - Is a global variable
- Output operator: **<<**.
  - Operator to send data to stream.
  - Defined for most types.
- End of line: **endl** (like **"\n"**).
- Exit code: **0** (returned to OS).

## hello.cpp

```
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    using namespace std;

    cout << "Hello" << endl;
    cerr << "Error\n";

    return 0;
}
```

## 2 Basic aspects

- A first program
- Basic input/output
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# Standard input/output

- Header: **<iostream>**.
- Namespace: **std**.
- Global objects
  - **cin**: Standard input.
  - **cout**: Standard output
  - **cerr**: Standard error.
  - **clog**: Standard log.
- Operators:
  - Dump data to a stream:

```
std::cout << "Values: " << x << " , " << y << std::endl;
```
  - Value reading:

```
std::cin >> x >> y;
```

# Input/output example

## Reading a name

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>

int main() {
    std::cout << "Enter your name: \n";

    std::string name;
    std::cin >> name;

    std::cout << "Hello, " << name << "! \n";
    return 0;
}
```



# Input/output example

## Name reading

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>

int main() {
    using namespace std;
    cout << "Enter your name: \n";

    string name;
    cin >> name;

    cout << "Hello, " << name << "\n";
    return 0;
}
```

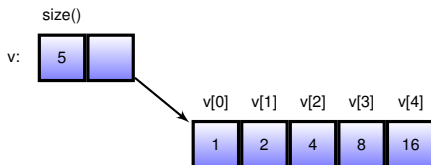
- **using namespace** avoids repeating **std::** qualifications.

## 2 Basic aspects

- A first program
- Basic input/output
- **Vectors**
- Functions and argument passing
- Exceptions

# Collection of values

- **vector** allows storing and processing a set of values from the same type.
  - C++ also has *arrays* but they are too limited and simple.
- A **vector**:
  - Has a sequence of elements.
  - Elements can be accessed by index.
  - Includes size information



- Alternative to direct use of arrays.

# Basic use

## Using a vector

```
#include <vector>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    using namespace std;

    vector<int> v(5);
    v[0] = 1;
    v[1] = 2;
    v[2] = 4;
    v[3] = 8;
    v[4] = 16;

    cout << v[3] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

- Header file: **<vector>**
- Must specify element type.
  - All from the same type.
- Constructor argument:  
**Initial size.**
- Indices beyond size  
(included) cannot be  
accessed.





## Vectors and types

```
#include <vector>
#include <string>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    using namespace std;

    vector<string> v(2);
    v[0] = "Daniel";
    v[1] = "Carlos";

    vector<int> w(2);
    w[0] = 1969;
    w[1] = 2003;

    cout << v[0] << " : " << w[0] << endl;
    cout << v[1] << " : " << w[1] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

# Vectors and initialization

- A vector with size initializes all its values to the default value for the element type.
  - Numeric values: **0**
  - String values: ""

- If no initial value is provided, vector has a size of **0**.

```
vector<double> v; // Vector with 0 elements
```

- A different initial value can be provided.

```
vector<double> v(100, 0.5); // 100 elements initialized to 0.5
```



## Initializing at definition

```
#include <vector>
#include <string>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    using namespace std;

    vector<string> v { "Daniel", "Carlos" };

    vector<int> w { 1969, 2003 };

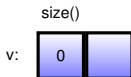
    cout << v[0] << " : " << w[0] << endl;
    cout << v[1] << " : " << w[1] << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

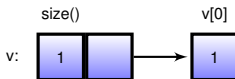
# Growing vectors

- A **vector** may *grow* when new elements are added.
  - Operation **push\_back()**: Adds an element at the end of the vector.

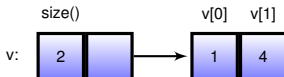
```
vector<int> v;
```



```
v.push_back(1);
```



```
v.push_back(4);
```



# Traversing a vector

- Size value can be obtained from a vector through **size** *member function*.

```
cout << v.size();
```

- **size()** allows defining a loop to traverse elements in a vector.

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

# Range based traversal

- A vector can be traversed with a range based loop.

```
vector<int> v1 { 1, 2, 3, 4 };  
for (auto x : v1) {  
    cout << x << endl;  
}
```

```
vector<string> v2 { "Carlos", "Daniel", "José", "Manuel" };  
for (auto x : v2) {  
    cout << x << endl;  
}
```

# Example: Statistics

- **Goal:** Read from standard input a sequence of students marks and dump to standard output minimum, maximum and average mark.
  - Finish reading when reaching to end-of-file.
  - Finish reading if a value cannot be correctly read (e.g. letters instead of numbers).
  - Number of values is unknown (and not asked).

## marks.cpp

```
#include <vector>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    using namespace std;

    vector<double> marks;

    double x;
    while (cin >> x) { // x OK?
        marks.push_back(x);
    }

    double average = 0.0;
    double max_val = marks[0];
    double min_val = marks[0];

    ...
```

## marks.cpp

```
...

for (auto x : marks) {
    media += x;
    max_val = (x > max_val) ? x : max_val;
    min = (x < min_val) ? x : min_val;
}
average /= marks.size();

cout << "Average: " << average << "\n";
cout << "Máx: " << max_val << "\n";
cout << "Mín: " << min_val << "\n";

return 0;
}
```



# Example: Unique words

- **Goal:** Dump the sorted list of unique words from a text.
  - Text is read from standard input until end-of-file.
  - The list of words is printed to standard output.

## unique.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
#include <string>
#include <algorithm>
```

```
int main() {
    using namespace std;
```

```
    vector<string> dic;
    string p;
```

```
    while (cin >> p) {
        dic.push_back(p);
    }
```

```
...
```

## unique.cpp

```
...
```

```
    sort(dic.begin(), dic.end());
```

```
    cout << endl;
```

```
    cout << dic[0] << endl;
```

```
    for (unsigned i=1; i<dic.size(); ++i) {
        if (dic[i-1] != dic[i]) {
            cout << dic[i] << endl;
```

```
        }
```

```
    }
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

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# Functions

- **Declaration:** Includes parameters and return type.
  - Two alternate syntaxes.

```
double area(double width, double height);  
auto area(double width, double height) -> double;
```

- **Definition:** Allows return type deduction.

```
auto area(double width, double height) {  
    return width * height;  
}
```

# Pass by value

- Only valid argument passing in C.
- Function is passes a copy from the argument in the call.

```
int increment(int n) {  
    ++n;  
    return n;  
}
```

```
void f() {  
    int x = 5;  
    int a = increment(x);  
    int b = increment(x);  
    int c = increment(42);  
}
```

# Pass by constant reference

- Passes the object address but disallows modifications within function body.
  - Conceptually equivalent to pass by value.
  - Physically equivalent to pass by pointer.

```
double maxref(const std::vector<double> &v) {  
    if (v.size() == 0) return std::numeric_limits<double>::min();  
    double res = v[0];  
    for (int i=1; i<v.size(); ++i) {  
        if (v[i]>res) res = v[i];  
    }  
    return res;  
}
```

```
void f() {  
    vector<double> vec(1000000);  
    // ...  
    cout << "Max: " << maxref(vec) << "\n";  
}
```

# Pass by reference

- Removes constraint of not modifying parameter within function.

```
void fill (std::vector<int> &v, int n) {  
    for (int i=0; i<n; ++i) {  
        v.push_back(i);  
    }  
}
```

```
void f() {  
    using namespace std;  
    vector<int> v;    // v.size() == 0  
    fill (v, 100); // v.size() == 100  
}
```

- Copy not passed, but address.
  - Access to the argument object.

## 2 Basic aspects

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# Exceptions

- C++ exception model exhibits differences with other languages.
- An exception may be any type.
- When a function detects an exceptional situation throws (**throw**) an exception.

```
class negative_time {};
```

```
void print_velocity (double s, double t) {  
    if (t > 0.0) {  
        cout << s/t << "\n";  
    }  
    else {  
        throw negative_time{};  
    }  
}
```

# Exception handling

- Caller may handle an exception with a **try-catch** block.

```
void f() {  
    double s = get_space();  
    double t = get_time();  
    try {  
        print_velocity (s,t);  
    }  
    catch (negative_time) {  
        cerr << "Error: Negative time\n";  
    }  
}
```

- If an exception is not handled → it propagates to next level.

```
void f() {  
    double s = get_space(), t = get_time();  
    print_velocity (s,t);  
}
```

# Standard exceptions

- Several predefined exceptions in the standard library.
  - **out\_of\_range**, **invalid\_argument**, ...
  - All inheriting from **exception**.
  - All have a **what()** member function.

```
int main()
try {
    f();
    return 0;
}
catch (out_of_range & e) {
    cerr << "Out of range:" << e.what() << "\n";
    return -1;
}
catch (exception & e) {
    cerr << "Exception: " << e.what() << "\n";
    return -2;
}
}
```

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### 3 Dynamic memory

- The free store

- Smart pointers

# Free store memory

- The **free store** holds the memory that can be acquired and released.
- **IMPORTANT:** C++ is not a language with automated resource management.
  - If you acquire a resource you must free it.
  - Acquired memory must be released.

*C++ is my favorite garbage collected language because it generates so little garbage.*

***Bjarne Stroustrup***

# Memory allocation operator

- Operator **new** allows allocating memory from the free store.

```
int * p = new int; // Allocates memory for an int
```

```
char * q = new char[10]; // Allocates memory for 10 char
```

- *Effect:*

- Operator **new** returns a pointer to start of allocated memory.
- An expression **new T** returns a value of type **T\***.
- An expression **new T[sz]** returns a value of type **T\***.

# Access problems

- A pointer variable is not automatically initialized to a value.
  - Dereferencing an uninitialized pointer leads to undefined behavior.

```
int * p;  
*p = 42; // Undefined behavior  
p[0] = 42; // Undefined behavior
```

- A pointer variable initialized to a sequence can only be accessed within the sequence limits.

```
int * v = new int[10];  
v[0] = 42; // OK  
x = v[-1]; // Undefined  
x = v[15]; // Undefined  
v[10] = 0; // Undefined
```



# Null pointer

- A pointer can be initialized to the *null pointer value* to signal that points to no object.

- **nullptr** literal.

```
int * p = nullptr;  
char * q = nullptr;  
if (p != nullptr) { /* ... */ }  
if (q == nullptr) { /* ... */ }
```

# Memory allocation and initialization

- Operator **new** does not initialize the allocated object.

```
int * p = new int;  
x = *p; // x has an unknown value
```

- Initial value can be specified in curly braces.

```
p = new int{42}; // *p == 42  
p = new int{}; // *p == 0
```

- If a sequence is allocated with **new**, no object is initialized.

```
int * v = new int[10];
```

- Initial values can be specified in curly braces.

```
v = new int [4]{1,2,3,4}; // v[0] = 1, v[1] = 2, v[2] = 3, v[3] = 4  
v = new int [4]{1, 2}; // v[0] = 1, v[1] = 2, v[2] = 0, v[3] = 0  
v = new int [4]{}; // v[0] = 0, v[1] = 0, v[2] = 0, v[3] = 0  
v = new int [4]{1,2,3,4,5}; // Error. Too many initializers .
```

# Memory deallocation operator

- Operator **delete** allows to release memory and mark it as non-allocated.
- It can only be applied to:
  - Memory returned by a call to operator **new** and currently allocated.
  - A null pointer value.

```
int * p = new int{10};  
*p = 20;  
delete p; // Release p
```

- It is an error to invoke twice **delete** on the same pointer value.

```
int * p = new int{10};  
delete p; // Release p  
delete p; // Undefined behavior
```

# Array deallocation

- There is a different version of **delete** to deallocate *arrays*.

```
int * p = new int{10};  
int * v = new int[10];  
delete p;    // Release p  
delete [] v; // Release v
```

- **Important:** The right deallocation version must be used.
  - If memory is allocated with **new T** it must be released with **delete**.
  - If memory is allocated with **new T[n]** it must be released with **delete[]**.

```
int * p = new int{10};  
int * v = new int[10];  
delete [] p; // Undefined behavior  
delete v;    // Undefined behavior
```

# Reasons to deallocate

- If memory is allocated and not released it remains allocated.

```
void f() {  
    int * v = new int[1024*1024];  
    // ...  
}
```

- Each time **f()** is invoked 8 MB are lost (assuming **sizeof(int)==8**).
- Problems with **memory leaks**:
  - Each memory allocation might require more time.
  - If program runs for a long time, memory could be exhausted.
- If memory is exhausted **bad\_alloc** exception is thrown.



### 3 Dynamic memory

- The free store
- Smart pointers

# Why a smart pointer?

- A **smart pointer** encapsulates a pointer and automatically manages the associated memory.
  - Its destructor automatically releases the associated memory.
- Types of smart pointers:
  - **unique\_ptr**: Pointer to object with no copying.
  - **shared\_ptr**: Pointer with associated reference counter.
  - **weak\_ptr**: Auxiliary pointer for **shared\_ptr**.

# Reference counting

- A **shared\_ptr** keeps a reference counter:
  - When pointer is copied, reference counter is incremented.
  - When pointer is destroyed, reference counter is decremented.
  - If counter reaches to zero, the pointed object is destroyed.

```
void f() {  
    shared_ptr<string> p1{new string{"Hello"}};  
    shared_ptr<string> p2{p1}; // references -> 2  
  
    auto n = p1->size(); // string :: size(). p1 used as ptr  
    *p1 = "Bye";  
    if (p2) {  
        cerr << "Busy\n";  
    }  
  
    p1 = nullptr; // references -> 1  
    // ...  
} // references -> 0 ==> Destruction
```



# Unique pointers

- **unique\_ptr** offers a non-shared pointer that cannot be copied.

```
void f( string &s, int n) {  
    unique_ptr<int> p = new int{50};  
  
    string tmp = s; // Might throw an exception  
    if (n<0) return;  
  
    *p = 42;  
} // Release p
```

# Simplified creation

## ■ Creation function:

```
auto p = std::make_shared<record>("Daniel", 42);
```

```
auto q = std::make_unique<string>("Hello");
```

## ■ Allocate object and meta-data in a single operation.



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## 4 User defined types

- Classes
- Constructors
- Destructor

# Classes in C++

- A class can be defined with **struct** or **class**.
  - The only difference is by default visibility.

```
struct date {  
    // public by default  
};
```

```
class date {  
    // private by default  
};
```

# Member functions

- Can only be invoked for an object of the defined type.

## Point

```
struct point {  
    double x, y;  
    double modulo();  
    double move_to(double cx, double cy);  
}
```

## Using a point

```
void f() {  
    point p{2.5, 3.5};  
    p.move_to(5.0, 7.5);  
    cout << p.modulo() << "\n";  
}
```

# Visibility

- Visibility levels for class members:
  - **public**: Anybody may access.
  - **private**: Only for class members.
  - **protected**: Derived classes members may also access.

```
class date{  
    public:  
        // Public members  
    protected:  
        // Protected members  
    private:  
        // Private members  
};
```



## 4 User defined types

- Classes
- Constructors
- Destructor



# Constructor

- A **constructor** is a special member function.
  - Used to initialize object from the type defined by a class.
  - Syntax ensures constructor invocation.

## Definition

```
class point {  
public:  
    point(double cx, double cy) :  
        x{cx}, y{cy} {}  
    // ...  
private:  
    double x;  
    double y;  
};
```

## Use

```
void f() {  
    point p{1.5, 1.5}; // Construct point  
    point q;           // Error: Missing args  
    point r{p};        // OK. Copy  
}
```



## 4 User defined types

- Classes
- Constructors
- Destructor

# Objects destruction

- A **destructor** is a special member function is executed **automatically** when an object exits scope.
  - Has no return type.
  - Does not take any parameter.
  - Class name with prepended `~`.

## Definition

```
class vector {  
public:  
    // ...  
  
    vector(int n) : size{n}, vec{new double[size]}  
    {}  
  
    ~vector() { delete [] vec; }  
  
private:  
    int size;  
    double * vec;  
};
```

# Destructor invocation

- Destructor is automatically invoked.

## Automatic invocation

```
void f() {  
    vector v(100);  
    for (int i=0; i<100; ++i) {  
        v[i] = i;  
    }  
    // ...  
    for (int i=0; i<100; ++i) {  
        cout << v[i] << "\n";  
    }  
} // Destructor invocation
```

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# Books

- **Programming – Principles and Practice Using C++**. 2nd Edition. Bjarne Stroustrup. Addison-Wesley, 2014.
- **A Tour of C++**. 2nd Edition. Bjarne Stroustrup. Addison-Wesley, 2018.
- **The C++ Programming Language**. 4th Edition. Bjarne Stroustrup. Addison Wesley, 2013.
- **The C++ Standard Library: A Tutorial and Reference**. 2nd Edition. Nicolai Josutis. Addison Wesley, 2012.

# Other resources

- C++ Reference. <http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp>.
- ISO C++ Foundation. <https://isocpp.org/>.
- C++ Super-FAQ. <https://isocpp.org/faq>.
- C++ Core Guidelines. <http://isocpp.github.io/CppCoreGuidelines/CppCoreGuidelines>.

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