

12. A bit of C++

Oscar Nierstrasz

Roadmap



- > C++ vs C
- > C++ vs Java
- > References vs pointers
- > C++ classes: Orthodox Canonical Form
- > A quick look at STL — The Standard Template Library

Roadmap

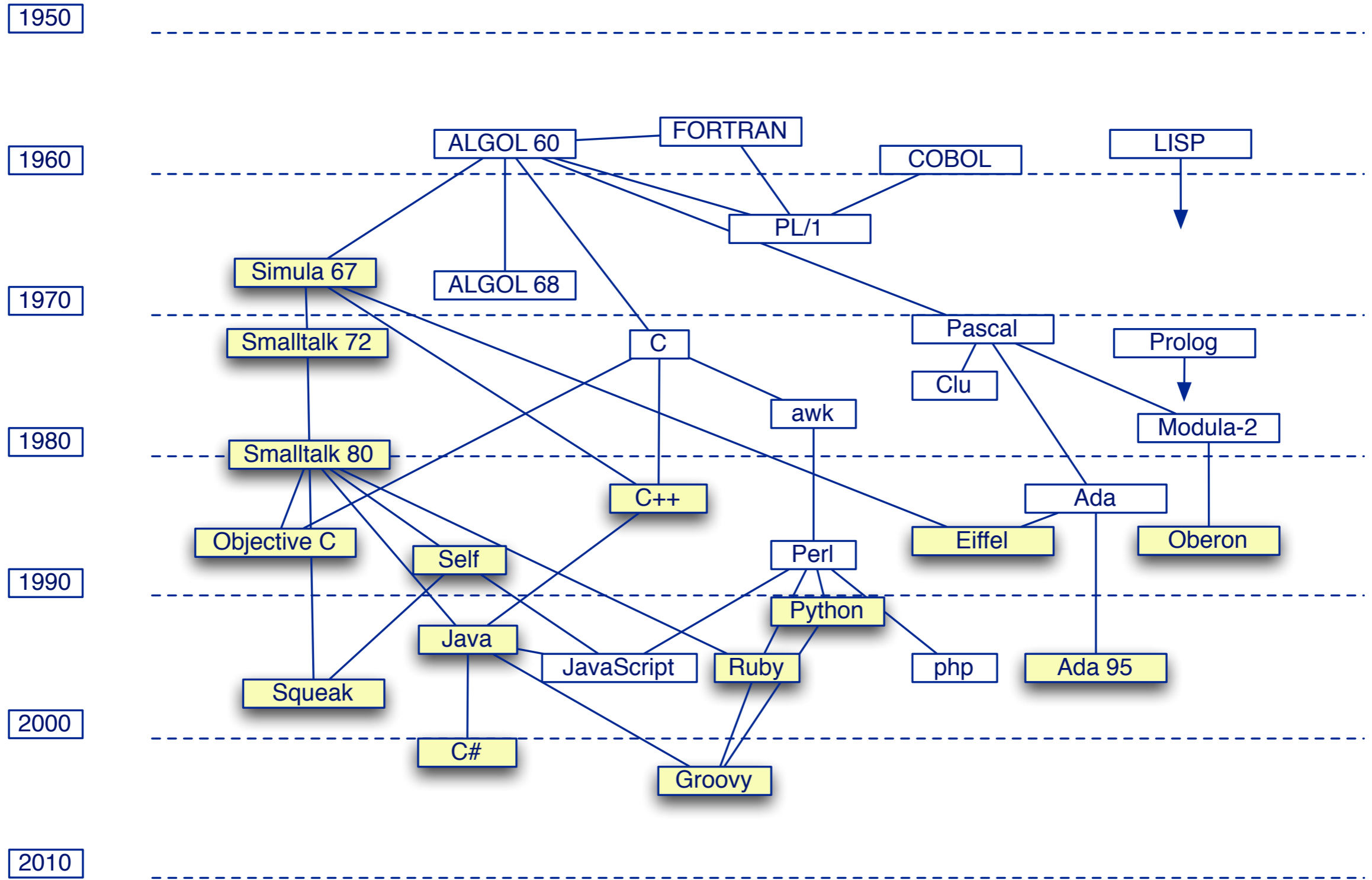


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Essential C++ Texts

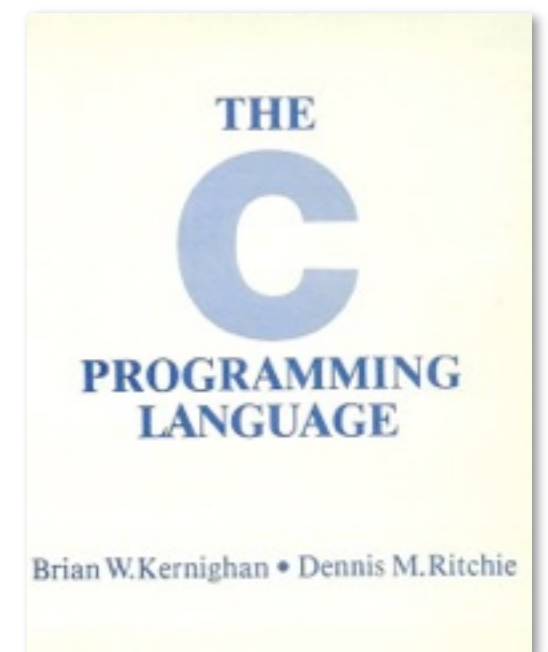
- > Bjarne Stroustrup, *The C++ Programming Language* (Special Edition), Addison Wesley, 2000.
- > Stanley B. Lippman and Josee LaJoie, *C++ Primer*, Third Edition, Addison-Wesley, 1998.
- > Scott Meyers, *Effective C++*, 2d ed., Addison-Wesley, 1998.
- > James O. Coplien, *Advanced C++: Programming Styles and Idioms*, Addison-Wesley, 1992.
- > David R. Musser, Gilmer J. Derge and Atul Saini, *STL Tutorial and Reference Guide*, 2d ed., Addison-Wesley, 2000.
- > Erich Gamma, Richard Helm, Ralph Johnson and John Vlissides, *Design Patterns*, Addison Wesley, Reading, MA, 1995.

Object-oriented language genealogy



What is C?

- > C is a general purpose, procedural, imperative language developed in 1972 by Dennis Ritchie at Bell Labs for the Unix Operating System.
 - Low-level access to memory
 - Language constructs close to machine instructions
 - Used as a *“machine-independent assembler”*



My first C Program

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void)
{
    printf("hello, world\n");
    return 0;
}
```

My first C Program

A preprocessor directive

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Write to standard output

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char array

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```

```
int main(void)
```

```
{
```

```
printf("hello, world\n");
```

```
return 0;
```

```
}
```

Write to standard output

char array

Indicate correct termination

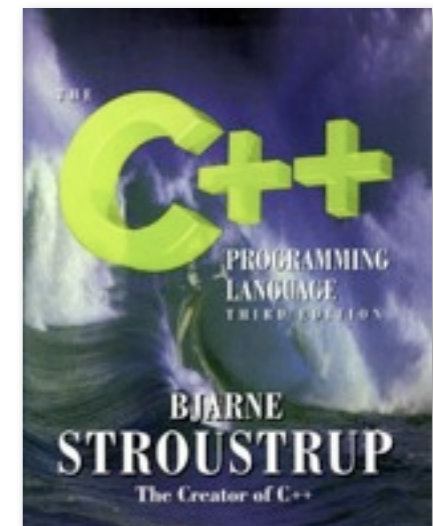
What is C++?



A “*better C*” (<http://www.research.att.com/~bs/C++.html>)

that supports:

- > Systems programming
- > Object-oriented programming (*classes & inheritance*)
- > Programming-in-the-large (*namespaces, exceptions*)
- > Generic programming (*templates*)
- > Reuse (large class & template libraries)



C++ vs C

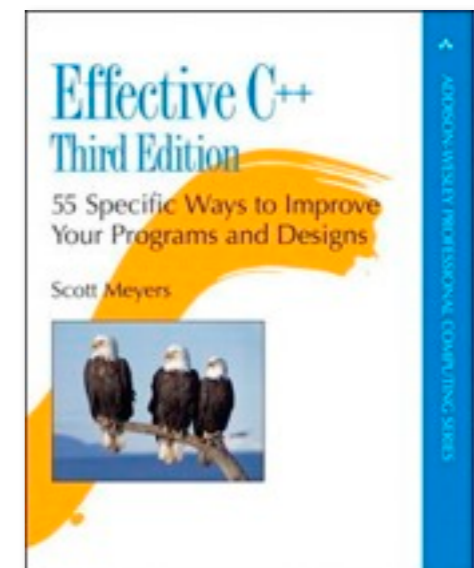
Most C programs are also C++ programs.

Nevertheless, good C++ programs usually do not resemble C:

- > avoid macros (use `inline`)
- > avoid pointers (use references)
- > avoid `malloc` and `free` (use `new` and `delete`)
- > avoid arrays and `char*` (use `vectors` and `strings`) ...
- > avoid `structs` (use `classes`)

C++ encourages a different style of programming:

- > avoid procedural programming
 - *model your domain* with `classes` and `templates`



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- > References vs pointers
- > C++ classes: Orthodox Canonical Form
- > A quick look at STL — The Standard Template Library

Hello World in Java

```
package p2;  
// My first Java program!  
public class HelloMain {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("hello world!");  
        return 0;  
    }  
}
```


“Hello World” in C++

```
using namespace std;
#include <iostream>
// My first C++ program!
int main(void)
{
    cout << "hello world!" << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

“Hello World” in C++

Use the standard namespace

```
using namespace std;
#include <iostream>
// My first C++ program!
int main(void)
{
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    return 0;
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```

“Hello World” in C++

Use the standard namespace

Include standard
iostream classes

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“Hello World” in C++

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Include standard
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A C++ comment

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using namespace std;  
#include <iostream>  
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“Hello World” in C++

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cout is an
instance of
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// My first C++ program!  
int main(void)  
{  
    cout << "hello world!" << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

cout is an
instance of
ostream

operator overloading
(two *different* argument types!)

Makefiles / Managed Make in CDT

You could compile it
all together by hand:

```
c++ helloWorld.cpp -o helloWorld
```

Makefiles / Managed Make in CDT

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```

Or you could use a *Makefile* to manage dependencies:

```
helloWorld : helloWorld.cpp  
c++ $@.cpp -o $@
```

```
make helloWorld
```


Makefiles / Managed Make in CDT

You could compile it all together by hand:

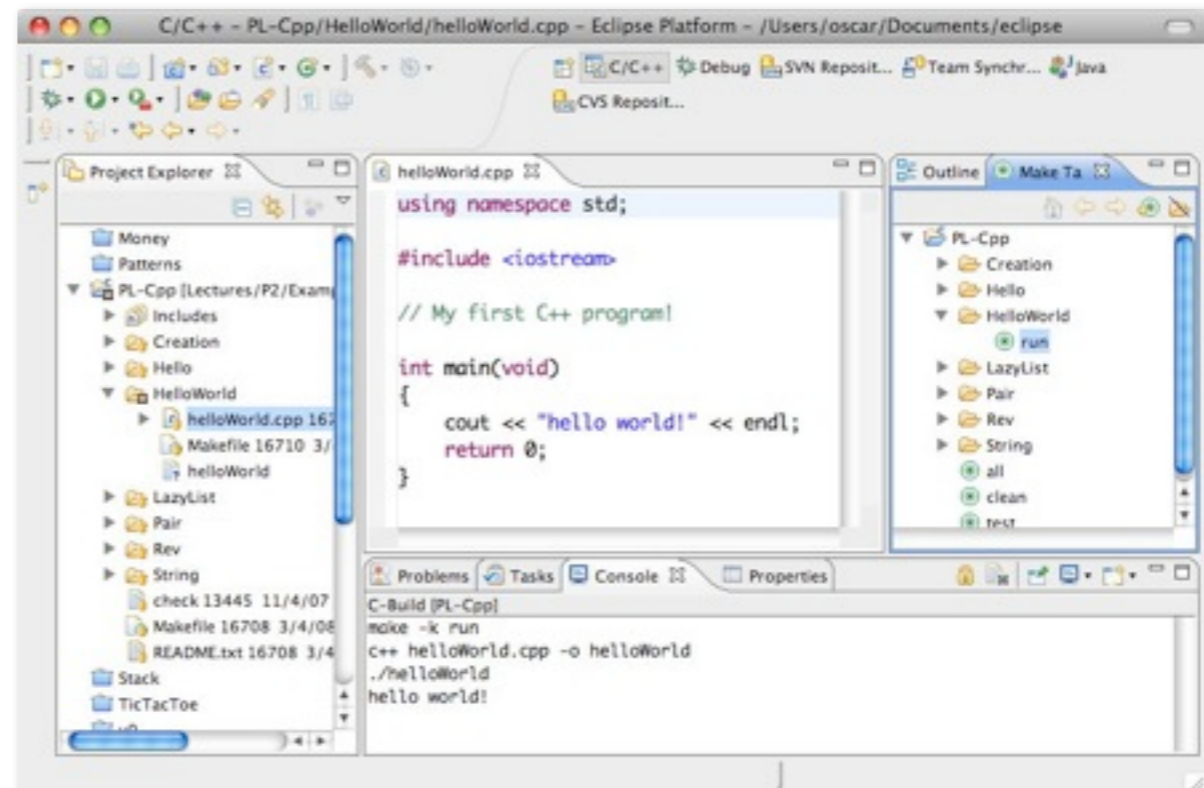
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Or you could use a *Makefile* to manage dependencies:

```
helloWorld : helloWorld.cpp  
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```
make helloWorld
```

Or you could use *cdt with eclipse* to create a standard managed make project



C++ Design Goals

“C with Classes” designed by Bjarne Stroustrup in early 1980s:

- > Originally a translator to C
 - Initially difficult to debug and inefficient
- > Mostly *upward compatible* extension of C
 - “As close to C as possible, but no closer”
 - Stronger type-checking
 - Support for object-oriented programming
- > Run-time efficiency
 - Language primitives close to machine instructions
 - Minimal cost for new features*

C++ Features

<i>C with Classes</i>	Classes as structs Inheritance; virtual functions Inline functions
<i>C++ 1.0 (1985)</i>	Strong typing; function prototypes new and delete operators
<i>C++ 2.0</i>	Local classes; protected members Multiple inheritance
<i>C++ 3.0</i>	Templates Exception handling
<i>ANSI C++ (1998)</i>	Namespaces RTTI (Runtime Type Information)

Java and C++ — Similarities and Extensions

Some Java Extensions:

- >garbage collection
- >standard abstract machine
- >standard classes (came later to C++)
- >packages (now C++ has namespaces)
- >final classes
- >autoboxing
- >generics instead of templates

Java Simplifications of C++

- > no pointers — **just references**
- > no functions — can declare **static** methods
- > no global variables — use **public static** variables
- > no destructors — **garbage collection** and **finalize**
- > no linking — **dynamic class loading**
- > no header files — can define **interface**
- > no operator overloading — **only method overloading**
- > no member initialization lists — call **super** constructor
- > no preprocessor — **static final constants** and automatic inlining
- > no multiple inheritance — **implement multiple interfaces**
- > no structs, unions — **typically not needed**

New Keywords

In addition to the keywords inherited from C, C++ adds:

<i>Exceptions</i>	<code>catch, throw, try</code>
<i>Declarations:</i>	<code>bool, class, enum, explicit, export, friend, inline, mutable, namespace, operator, private, protected, public, template, typename, using, virtual, volatile, wchar_t</code>
<i>Expressions:</i>	<code>and, and_eq, bitand, bitor, compl, const_cast, delete, dynamic_cast, false, new, not, not_eq, or, or_eq, reinterpret_cast, static_cast, this, true, typeid, xor, xor_eq</code>

(see <http://www.glenmcccl.com/glos.htm>)

Roadmap

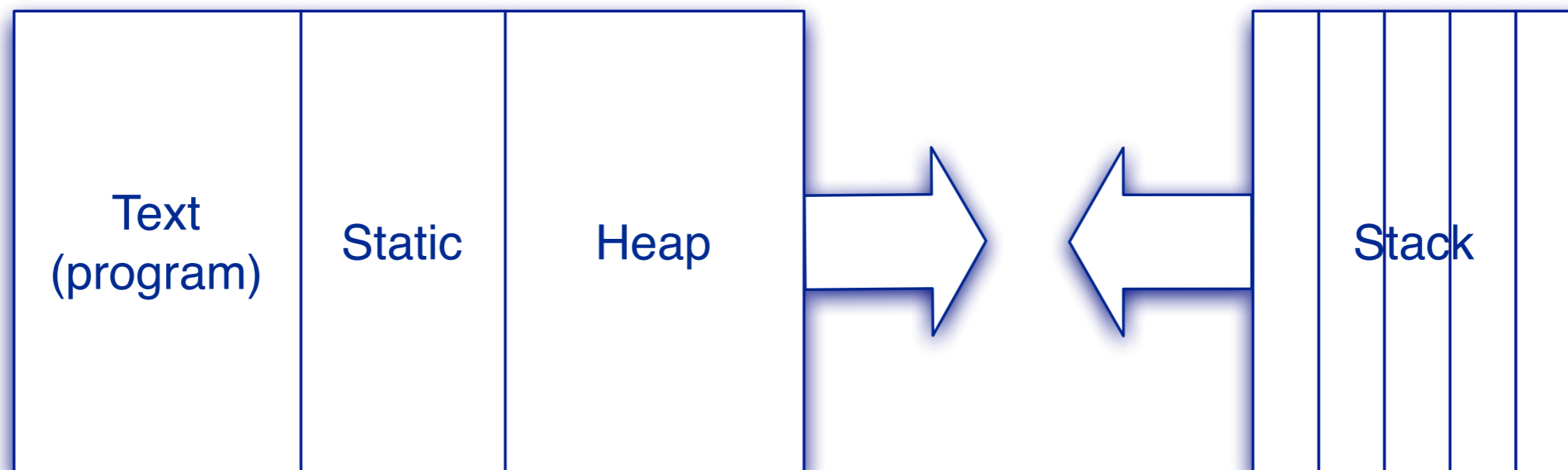


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Memory Layout

The address space consists of (at least):

Text:	executable program text (not writable)
Static:	static data
Heap:	dynamically allocated global memory (grows upward)
Stack:	local memory for function calls (grows downward)



Pointers in C and C++

```
int i;  
int *iPtr; // a pointer to an integer  
  
iPtr = &i; // iPtr contains the address of I  
*iPtr = 100;
```

variable	value	Address in hex
----------	-------	----------------

i	100	456FD4
---	-----	--------

iPtr	456FD4	456FD0
------	--------	--------

...

100

456FD4

...

456FD4

456FD0

References

A reference is an **alias** for another variable:

```
int i = 10;
int &ir = i; // reference (alias)
ir = ir + 1; // increment i
```



Once initialized, references cannot be changed.

References are especially useful in **procedure calls** to avoid the overhead of passing arguments by value, without the clutter of explicit pointer dereferencing (`y = *ptr;`)

```
void refInc(int &n)
{
    n = n+1; // increment the variable n refers to
}
```

References vs Pointers

*References should be preferred to pointers **except** when:*

- > manipulating dynamically allocated objects
 - **new** returns an object pointer
- > a variable must range over a set of objects
 - use a **pointer** to walk through the set

C++ Classes

C++ classes may be instantiated either *automatically* (on the stack):

```
MyClass oVal;           // constructor called  
                        // destroyed when scope ends
```

or *dynamically* (in the heap)

```
MyClass *oPtr;         // uninitialized pointer  
  
oPtr = new MyClass;   // constructor called  
                        // must be explicitly deleted
```

Constructors and destructors

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

using namespace std;
class MyClass {
private:
    string name;
public:
    MyClass(string name) : name(name) {           // constructor
        cout << "create " << name << endl;
    }
    ~MyClass() {
        cout << "destroy " << name << endl;
    }
};
```

Constructors and destructors

Include standard iostream
and string classes

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Use initialization
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Use initialization
list in constructor

Specify cleanup
in destructor

Automatic and dynamic destruction

```
MyClass& start() { // returns a reference
    MyClass a("a"); // automatic
    MyClass *b = new MyClass("b"); // dynamic
    return *b; // returns a reference (!) to b
} // a goes out of scope

void finish(MyClass& b) {
    delete &b; // need pointer to b
}
```

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```

```
#include "MyClass.h"
using namespace std;
int main (int argc, char **argv) {
    MyClass aClass("d");
    finish(start());
    return 0;
}
```

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create d

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```
create d
create a
create b
destroy a
destroy b
destroy d
```


Roadmap

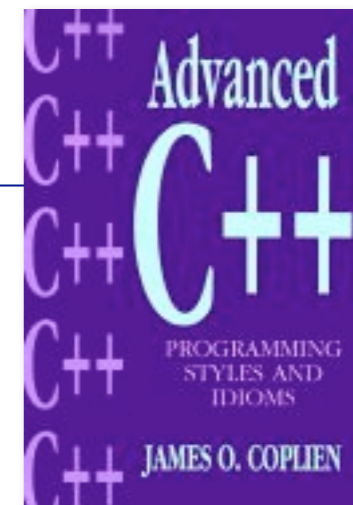


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Orthodox Canonical Form

Most of your classes should look like this:

```
class myClass {
public:
    myClass(void);                // default constructor
    myClass(const myClass& copy); // copy constructor
    ...                          // other constructors
    ~myClass(void);              // destructor
    myClass& operator=(const myClass&); // assignment
    ...                          // other public member functions
private:
    ...
};
```



Why OCF?

If you don't define these four member functions, *C++ will generate them*:

- > ***default constructor***

- will call default constructor for each data member

- > ***destructor***

- will call destructor of each data member

- > ***copy constructor***

- will *shallow copy* each data member

- pointers will be copied, not the objects pointed to!

- > ***assignment***

- will *shallow copy* each data member

Example: A String Class

We would like a `String` class that protects C-style strings:

- > strings are indistinguishable from `char` pointers
- > string updates may cause memory to be corrupted

Strings should support:

- > creation and destruction
- > initialization from `char` arrays
- > copying
- > safe indexing
- > safe concatenation and updating
- > output
- > length, and other common operations ...

A Simple String.h

```
class String
{
    friend ostream& operator<<(ostream&, const String&);
public:
    String(void);                // default constructor
    ~String(void);              // destructor
    String(const String& copy);  // copy constructor
    String(const char*s);       // char* constructor
    String& operator=(const String&); // assignment

    inline int length(void) const { return ::strlen(_s); }
    char& operator[](const int n) throw(exception);
    String& operator+=(const String&) throw(exception); // concatenation
private:
    char *_s; // invariant: _s points to a null-terminated heap string
    void become(const char*) throw(exception); // internal copy function
};
```

A Simple String.h

A friend function
prototype
declaration of the
String class

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Operator
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A Simple String.h

Returns a reference to ostream

Operator overloading

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Operator overloading of =

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```

inline

Default Constructors

Every constructor should *establish the class invariant*:

```
String::String(void)
{
    _s = new char[1];           // allocate a char array
    _s[0] = '\0';             // NULL terminate it!
}
```

The *default constructor* for a class is called when a new instance is declared without any initialization parameters:

```
String anEmptyString;        // call String::String()
String stringVector[10];     // call it ten times!
```

Default Constructors

Every constructor should *establish the class invariant*:

Allocate memory
for the string

```
String::String(void)
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    _s = new char[1]; // allocate a char array
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}
```

The *default constructor* for a class is called when a new instance is declared without any initialization parameters:

```
String anEmptyString; // call String::String()
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```

Destructors

The `String` destructor must *explicitly free* any memory allocated by that object.

```
String::~~String (void)
{
    delete [] _s;
}
```

free memory



Every new must be matched somewhere by a delete!

- > use `new` and `delete` for *objects*
- > use `new[]` and `delete[]` for *arrays*!

Copy Constructors

Our `String` copy constructor must create a *deep copy*:

```
String::String(const String& copy)
{
    become(copy._s);           // call helper
}

void String::become(const char* s) throw (exception)
{
    _s = new char[::strlen(s) + 1];
    if (_s == 0) throw(logic_error("new failed"));
    ::strcpy(_s, s);
}
```

From std

A few remarks ...

- > We **must** define a copy constructor,
... else copies of Strings will *share the same representation!*
 - Modifying one will modify the other!
 - Destroying one will invalidate the other!
- > We **must** declare copy as const,
... else we won't be able to construct a copy of a const String!
 - Only const (*immutable*) operations are permitted on const values
- > We **must** declare copy as String&, not String,
... else a *new copy* will be made before it is passed to the constructor!
 - Functions arguments are always passed by value in C++
 - The “value” of a pointer is a pointer!
- > **The abstraction boundary is a class, *not an object*. Within a class, all private members are visible** (as is `copy._s`)

Other Constructors

Class constructors may have arbitrary arguments, as long as their signatures are unique and unambiguous:

```
String::String(const char* s)
{
    become(s);
}
```

Since the argument is not modified, we can declare it as **const**. This will allow us to construct `String` instances from constant `char` arrays.

Assignment Operators

Assignment is different from the copy constructor because *an instance already exists*:

```
String& String::operator=(const String& copy)
{
    if (this != &copy) {           // take care!
        delete [] _s;
        become(copy._s);
    }
    return *this;                 // NB: a reference, not a copy
}
```

- > Return **String&** rather than void so the result *can be used in an expression*
- > Return **String&** rather than **String** so the result *won't be copied!*
- > **this** is a pseudo-variable whose value is a pointer to the current object
 - so ***this** is the value of the current object, which is *returned by reference*

Implicit Conversion

When an argument of the “wrong” type is passed to a function, the C++ compiler looks for a constructor that will convert it to the “right” type:

```
str = "hello world";
```

is implicitly converted to:

```
str = String("hello world");
```

NB: compare to autoboxing in Java

Operator Overloading (indexing)

Not only assignment, but other useful operators can be “overloaded” provided their signatures are unique:

```
char& String::operator[] (const int n) throw(exception)
{
    if ((n<0) || (length()<=n)) {
        throw(logic_error("array index out of bounds"));
    }
    return _s[n];
}
```

*NB: a non-const reference is returned, so can be used as an **lvalue** in an assignment.*

Overloadable Operators

The following operators may be overloaded:

+	-	*	/	%	^	~	!
-	!	,	=	<	>	<=	>=
++	--	<<	>>	==	!=	&&	
+=	-=	/=	%=	^=	&=	=	*=
<<=	>>=	[]	()	->	->*	new	delete

NB: arity and precedence are fixed by C++

Friends

We would like to be able to write:

```
cout << String( "TESTING ... " ) << endl;
```

But:

- It can't be a member function of `ostream`, since we can't extend the standard library.
- It can't be a member function of `String` since the target is `cout`.
- But it must have access to `String`'s **private data**

So ... we need a binary *function* `<<` that takes a `cout` and a `String` as arguments, and is a *friend* of `String`.

Friends ...

We declare:

```
class String
{
    friend ostream&
        operator<<(ostream&, const String&);
    ...
};
```

And define:

```
ostream&
operator<<(ostream& outStream, const String& s)
{
    return outStream << s._s;
}
```

Roadmap



- > C++ vs C
- > C++ vs Java
- > References vs pointers
- > C++ classes: Orthodox Canonical Form
- > **A quick look at STL — The Standard Template Library**

Standard Template Library

STL is a general-purpose C++ library of generic algorithms and data structures.

1. Containers store *collections of objects*
 - `vector`, `list`, `deque`, `set`, `multiset`, `map`, `multimap`
2. Iterators *traverse containers*
 - random access, bidirectional, forward/backward ...
3. Function Objects encapsulate *functions as objects*
 - arithmetic, comparison, logical, and user-defined ...
4. Algorithms implement *generic procedures*
 - `search`, `count`, `copy`, `random_shuffle`, `sort`, ...
5. Adaptors provide an *alternative interface* to a component
 - `stack`, `queue`, `reverse_iterator`, ...

An STL Line Reverser

```
#include <iostream>
#include <stack>           // STL stacks
#include <string>         // Standard strings












void rev(void)
{
    typedef stack<string> IOStack; // instantiate the template
    IOStack ioStack;           // instantiate the template class
    string buf;

    while (getline(cin, buf)) {
        ioStack.push(buf);
    }
    while (ioStack.size() != 0) {
        cout << ioStack.top() << endl;
        ioStack.pop();
    }
}
```







What we didn't have time for ...

- > virtual member functions, pure virtuals
- > public, private and multiple inheritance
- > default arguments, default initializers
- > method overloading
- > const declarations
- > enumerations
- > smart pointers
- > static and dynamic casts
- > Templates, STL
- > template specialization
- > namespaces
- > RTTI
- > ...

What you should know!

-  *What new features does C++ add to C?*
-  *What does Java remove from C++?*
-  *How should you use C and C++ commenting styles?*
-  *How does a reference differ from a pointer?*
-  *When should you use pointers in C++?*
-  *Where do C++ objects live in memory?*
-  *What is a member initialization list?*
-  *Why does C++ need destructors?*
-  *What is OCF and why is it important?*
-  *What's the difference between delete and delete[]?*
-  *What is operator overloading?*

Can you answer these questions?

-  *Why doesn't C++ support garbage collection?*
-  *Why doesn't Java support multiple inheritance?*
-  *What trouble can you get into with references?*
-  *Why doesn't C++ just make deep copies by default?*
-  *How can you declare a class without a default constructor?*
-  *Why can objects of the same class access each others private members?*



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