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Getting Started with Modern C++

-- A Tour of Features

-- in C++

with Mike Shah

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think-cell -

10:00 - 11:00 IST Sat, August 24, 2024 (12:30 AM - 1:30 AM EDT - Sun. August 25, 2024)

60 minutes with Q&A Introductory/Intermediate Audience Social: @MichaelShah Web:

mshah.io

Courses: courses.mshah.io



www.youtube.com/c/MikeShah http://tinyurl.com/mike-talks

Your Tour Guide for Today

Mike Shah

• Current Role: Teaching Faculty at Yale

University (Previously Teaching Faculty at Northeastern University)

 Teach/Research: computer systems, graphics, geometry, game engine development, and software engineering.

Available for:

- Contract work in Gaming/Graphics Domains
 - e.g. tool building, plugins, code review
- Technical training (virtual or onsite) in
 Modern C++, D Language, and topics in Software
 Design, Performance, or Graphics APIs

• Fun:

 Guitar, running/weights, traveling, video games, and cooking are fun to talk to me about!



Web

www.mshah.io



https://www.youtube.com/c/MikeShah

Non-Academic Courses

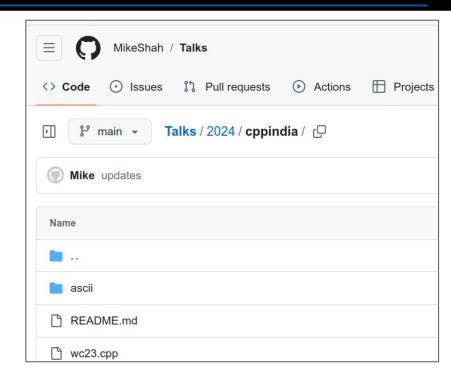
courses.mshah.io

Conference Talks

http://tinyurl.com/mike-talk3

Code and Slides for the talk

- Code Located here:
 https://github.com/MikeShah/T
 alks/tree/main/2024/cppindia
- Slides posted after conference at:
 - o <u>www.mshah.io</u>
- Live coding the examples from this (if any) posted at:
 - www.youtube.com/c/MikeShah



Abstract



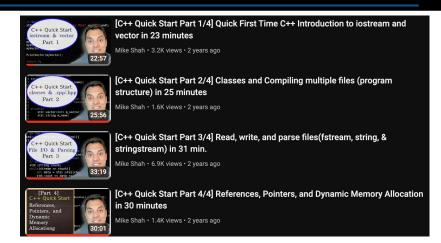
The abstract that you read and enticed you to join me here!

Talk Abstract: Modern C++ is a powerful and expressive language used by millions of programmers. The large C++ ecosystem of libraries and tooling allows C++ developers to build scalable and fast systems on multiple platforms utilizing techniques from multiple programming paradigms to conquer many domains in the software industry. That's the elevator pitch at the least -- so how does one get started in Modern C++ and utilize all these features of the language?

In this talk, I take audience members on a step-by-step journey to understand the fundamental pieces of the C++ ecosystem focusing primarily on new features of the Modern C++ language. In this talk we will focus on new language features and the STL and pointing out key parts (array, span, smart_pointers, ranges, concepts, and thread) and how these features improve upon legacy C++ code. Audience members will leave this talk excited about using a modern version of the language, and what features and libraries can enhance their experience with C++ going forward.

Prerequisites - I assume some C++ experience for this talk (1/2)

- If you have not programmed C++ you may benefit from this free Quick Start on YouTube
 - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?li st=PLvv0ScY6vfd-R9N-vIDXdd4HO9IY ATIxJ
- If you have not programmed C++, you may consider my course longer course on C++
 - https://courses.mshah.io/courses/qui ck-start-introduction-to-modern-c-i mage-loader



Free Playlist on Getting Started with C++ in about 2 hours

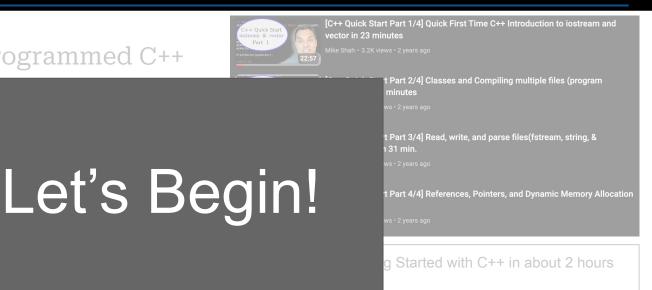
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvv0ScY6vfd-R9N-vIDXdd4HO9IYATIxJ

Prerequisites - I assume some C++ experience for this talk (2/2)

If you have not programmed C++

you may ben Quick Start o

- https://ww st=PLvv0Sc ATIxJ
- If you have n you may con longer course
 - https://courses.mshah.io/courses/qui ck-start-introduction-to-modern-c-i mage-loader



An Evolving Language (1/3)

- The C++ Language and standard library is evolving every 3 years
- As an example of the evolution -observe some different ways we can iterate through a collection over time.

These are just examples using various

- 'for-loop' constructs
 Whether a simple for-loop
 - Using an algorithm
 - Using a for-ranged loop
 - Or using other abstractions
- All of these techniques can be used
- and abstracted upon -- this is a brief example of language evolution

```
3 #include <ranges>
4 #include <algorithm>
6 int main(){
     std::vector c{1,2,3,4,5};
       // C-Style loop
       // Nothing wrong with this...
       std::cout << "C-Style Loop" << std::endl;</pre>
       for(size t i=0; i < c.capacity(); ++i){</pre>
           std::cout << c[i] << std::endl:
       // C++98 style loop with iterators
       std::cout << "C++98 Style iterator Loop" << std::endl;</pre>
                        it = c.begin();
       for(auto
                       it != c.end();
                       ++it){
           std::cout << *it << std::endl;
       // Iterators also will give us access to std::algorithm
       // std::for each available since at least c++98.
       std::cout << "std::algorithm Loop" << std::endl;</pre>
       std::for each(c.begin(),c.end(),[](auto &e){
               std::cout << e << std::endl:
       });
       // C++11 provides 'ranged-for' loop
       std::cout << "ranged-for Loop" << std::endl;</pre>
       for(const auto& e : c){
           std::cout << e << std::endl;
     // Range(s) views provided in C++20
     std::cout << "ranges view" << std::endl;</pre>
      for(const auto& e: std::views::all(c)){
          std::cout << e << std::endl;</pre>
```

An Evolving Language (2/3)

- The C++ Language and standard library is evolving every 3 years
- As an example observe some iterate throug time. So where does that leave you as a beginner getting started with modern C++?
 - 'for-loop' cor ■ Whethe
 - Using anUsing a
 - Using aOr using other abstractions

These are jus

 All of these techniques can be used and abstracted upon -- this is a brief example of language evolution

```
std::cout << e << std::endl;
std::cout << e << std::endl;

// Range(s) views provided in C++20
std::cout << "ranges view" << std::endl;
for(const auto& e: std::views::all(c)){
    std::cout << e << std::endl;
}

2
43 }</pre>
```

An Evolving Language (3/3)

- The C++ Language and standard library is evolving every 3 years
- As an example So where does that leave you as a observe some beginner getting started with **modern** iterate throug C++? time.
 - - Using a Or using other abstractions
- All of these techniques can be used and abstracted upon -- this is a brief example of language evolution

These are jus The goal of this talk is to help you

```
'for-loop' cor Whethe navigate what is important, and
    Using a what to focus on when starting C++
```

5 Questions

- This talk is titled: "Getting Started with Modern C++"
 - The landscape of computer programming has changed a great deal since I was a beginner
 - So today I really want to think hard about what it means to get started and be a beginner, and what questions I might ask.
- So today's talk will try to answer 5 questions

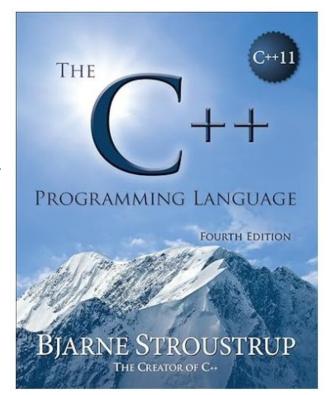
- 1. Why the C++ Programming Language?
- 2. What is the C++ Ecosystem?
- 3. Is C++ evolving for the future, and is it worth it if I invest time now?
- 4. Can you show me some Modern C++?
- 5. What Modern C++ features should I focus on?

Question #1: Why the C++ Programming Language?



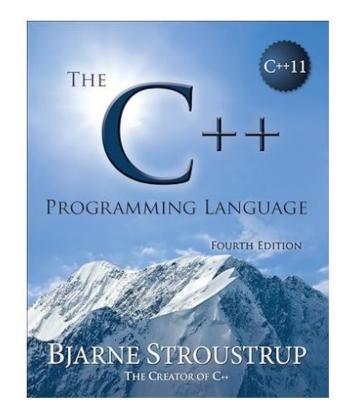
Why the C++ Programming Language? (1/2)

- C++ is a powerful, versatile, and expressive language
 - o Powerful:
 - This means in terms of speed, compiled C++
 - Versatile:
 - C++ can be found with effective use cases in nearly every domain: finance, games, business, web, networks, automotive, robotics, etc.
 - Expressive:
 - You choose the best abstraction to use in the language: procedural, object-oriented, data-oriented, generic, functional, etc.
 - C++ attempts to provide zero-cost abstractions (or <u>tries to provide</u> tools to create your own)



Why the C++ Programming Language? (2/2)

- The language has also been proven the last 40+ years -- and continues to power the software world.
 - Whether directly (i.e. applications written in C++) or otherwise using libraries created in C++ (e.g. Python bindings or wrappers of C++ code)



Why choose C++ for a new project in 2024?

Performance

- Zero-overhead Principle [cppreference]
- i.e. "Don't pay for what you do not use" and the language "values efficiency"

Ecosystem

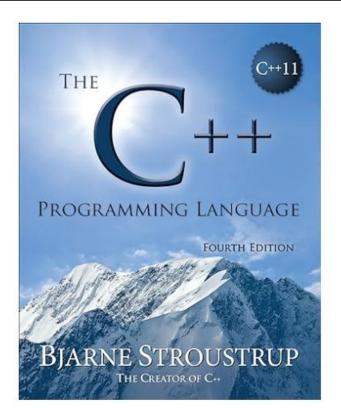
 Tooling (IDEs, static and dynamic analysis, linters, build systems, etc.) is widely invested in.

Portability

 C++ can be run on the web (wasm or emscripten), embedded (small devices, game consoles, robotics), and desktop devices.

Certification

 Various C++ compilers are certified for domains in safety critical domains (e.g. automotive and aircraft)



C++ Superpowers [from https://www.stroustrup.com/C++.html]

C++ is a general-purpose programming language with a bias towards systems programming that

- is a better C
 - a. It had time to learn!
- supports <u>data abstraction</u>
 - a. Information hiding, etc.
- supports object-oriented programming
 - a. From its Simula roots
- supports <u>generic programming</u>.
 - a. For reusable algorithms, data structures, and even compile-time programming

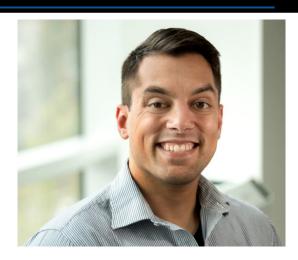


https://www.stroustrup.com/

C++ Superpowers [from Me]

I'll also go further to add that C++:

- is a productive language
 - a. lots of library support beyond the standard library
- is evolving to support safer data abstractions
 - a. smart pointers, std::optional, ranges, etc.
- supports multiple programming paradigms including:
 - a. generic programming / Object-Oriented / Procedural
 - b. functional-style programming
 - i. lambda's, const, std::function, map (std::transform), reduce (std::accumulate), filter (std::remove/copy/find_if)
- supports compile-time execution
 - a. constexpr, meta-programming through templates



What is **hard** about learning the C++ Language?

From my experience teaching and training, there are two things:

- Understanding the 'ecosystem'
 - a. This includes:
 - i. compilation process, static and dynamic linking
 - ii. How to structure large-scale and long-lived projects [Lakos]
- 2. Being disciplined about what features you use
 - a. When you are first learning the language, it can be difficult to try to do things 'the right way'
 - i. 'The right way' will depend on your domain.
 - ii. C++ does not have the same guardrails as languages like DLang, Rust, Ada, Swift, etc. for safety.
 - 1. This is a double-edged sword

Question #2: What is the C++ Ecosystem?



- Compiler
 - o g++, clang++, msvc, etc.
- Linker
 - \circ ld
- IDE / Text Editor
 - o IDE's: Visual Studio, CLion, XCode, etc.
 - Text Editor: <u>VIM</u>, VSCode, Sublime, etc.
- Build Systems
 - o Make, Ninja, etc.
 - Cmake meta-build tool
- Tooling
 - o Static Analysis (Linters like cppcheck, Misra Check, etc.)
 - Dynamic Analysis (Asan, tsan, UBsan)
 - o Debugging Tools (GDB, LLDB, <u>UDB</u> (Time Travel Debugging), etc.)
 - o Profilers (e.g. perf)
- Key Libraries to your project
 - Testing frameworks (Catch, Google Test)
 - o Domain specific frameworks (e.g. GUI library, graphics API, sound API, threading library, etc.)

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At a minimum this is all you need

- 1. A compiler
- 2. A linker
 - a. (usually 'hidden' when you're first learning)
- 3. A text editor

No need to complicate things and think you need more when you're starting out :)

- Compiler
 - o g++, clang++, msvc, etc.
- Linker
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Some tips on using your compiler to make your life easier:

- Compile with:
 - -Wall -Werror -g
 - Use the sanitizers
 - e.g. <u>-fsanitize=undefined</u>
- There are nice lesser known tools (at least with g++) such as -Weffc++ as well
 - See video here

- Compiler
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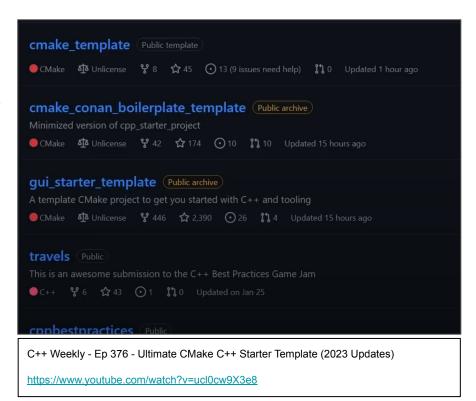
- For folks just getting started, I like concheck.
 - cppcheck will help detect bugs and help encourage you to use more modern constructs in your code.
- Linux users can immediate use:
 - sudo apt-get install cppcheck
 - cppcheck --enable=all *.cpp

- Compiler
 - o g++, clang++, msvc, etc.
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- Debugging tools (whether integrated in your IDE or the command line) are going to be your next best friend.
 - My recommendation is to at the least learn GDB (example video here)
 - Terminal based debuggers can be very powerful, scriptable and provide text-user interfaces for a nice experience

C++ Project Template

- There exist nice templates for exercising a good chunk of a modern C++ ecosystem
 - Here is one from Jason Turner for creating a CMake project
 - The latest repository is here:
 - https://github.com/cpp-best-practices/cmake template
- Use these as inspiration for creating your own
 - It may also be wise for you to create your own 'template' as you use C++ in your domain
 - Most existing templates will probably be good resources for discovering useful tools and libraries -- enough so that expert C++ programmers consider them as essential enough to put in their default templates.

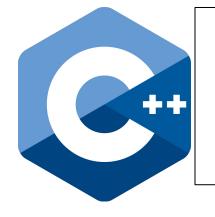


Question #3: Is C++
evolving for the future, and
is it worth it if I invest time
now?



What's *really* Important?

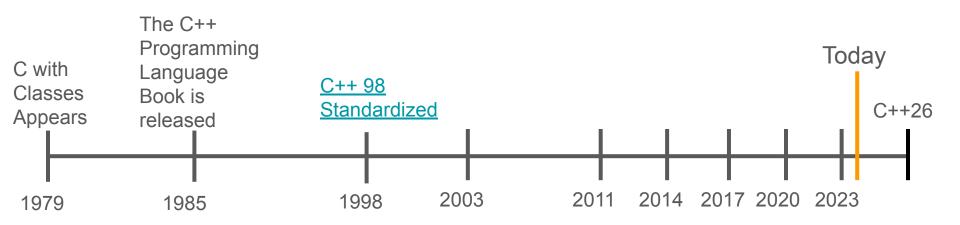
- What's really important from this timeline is that the language is evolving every 3 years
- The language (and compiler vendors) make great efforts to support backward compatibility
 - o i.e. Code that you wrote in 1998 often still compiles on compilers in 2024.
 - This can be extremely valuable when you have long lived and core infrastructure!
- Is it worth the time and effort to learn C++ and the ecosystem?
 - Yes -- I do not see C++ moving away anytime soon in performance critical domains.
 - Time spent in C++ or alongside other languages will only help you become a better programmer.



C++ History and Evolution

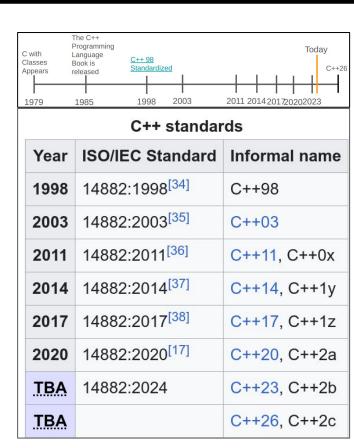
From C++98 to C++23 and Beyond

Where the language was and where the language is going



C++ Modern History (1998-Present Day)

- 1998: -- Original ISO C++ Standard officially adopted ("C++98").
 - 776 pages.
- 2003: TC1 ("Technical Corrigendum 1") published ("C++03").
 - A minor revision in 2003, primarily bug fixes for C++98.
- 2005: TR1 (Library "Technical Report 1") published.
 14 likely new components for the standard library.
- 2011: "C++0x" ratified \Rightarrow "C++11".
 - This was a **major update** that modernized C++ to its current form in September of 2011
 - o 1353 pages.
 - C++ now evolves on an ambitious 3-year schedule.
- 2014: C++14 ratified.
 - o 1372 pages -- largely minor improvements to 2011 features
- 2017: (Will visit shortly)
- 2020: (Will visit shortly)
- 2023: (Will visit shortly)
- 2026:
 - Next C++ Standard currently in the works
- Note:
 - Around 2022, what are dubbed as successor languages (cpp2, Carbon, etc.) also started exploring the evolution of the language



Question #4: Can you show me some Modern C++?

(i.e. 2003 C++ versus Modern C++)



A Classic Example - wc (word count)

- A good way to learn or practice your C++ is to implement various command line programs
 - If you're not familiar with the 'wc' program, it is a helpful utility for counting words, lines, and bytes in a file
- Let's look at a simple program and compare C++98 versus C++20 (and beyond) code
- Note:
 - If you're more senior and listening to this talk, perhaps this is an interesting 'take home' projects for interviewing candidates -- though I have many more thoughts on tech interviews:)

```
WC(1)

NAME

wc -- word, line, character, and byte count

SYNOPSIS

wc [-clmw] [file ...]

DESCRIPTION

The wc utility displays the number of lines, words, and bytes contained in each input file, or standard input (if no file is specified) to the
```

words, and bytes contained in each input <u>file</u>, or standard input (if no file is specified) to the standard output. A line is defined as a string of characters delimited by a <newline> character. Characters beyond the final <newline> character will not be included in the line count.

A word is defined as a string of characters delimited by white space characters. White space characters are the set of characters for which the iswspace(3) function returns true. If more than one input file is specified, a line of cumulative counts for all the files is displayed on a separate line after the output for the last file.

wc98 (word count, C++ 98 standard)

- (wc98.cpp)
 - o g++ -g -Wall -std=c++98 wc98.cpp -o wc98 Here's the core
 - implementation of a word count (wc) program.
 - It works, and is written in pure C++98 code.

```
wcInfo(){
           bvtes=0;
          lines=0;
           words=0;
22 }:
24 /// Helper function for returning file size
25 size t GetFileSize(const char* filename){
      std::ifstream myFile(filename, std::ios::ate | std::ios::in | std::ios::binary);
      return myFile.tellg();
      Main function for retrieving the file size
  wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
       wcInfo result;
       // Open file for input
      std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);
      // Iterate through each line and each word
       // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
```

result.bytes = GetFileSize(filename);

while(std::getline(myFile,line)){

std::stringstream s(line);

std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;

// 0-initialize everything in constructor

12 struct wcInfo{

size_t bytes;

size_t lines;
size_t words;

if(myFile.is_open()){

}else{

return result;

std::string line;

++result.lines;

std::string word;
while(s >> word){
 ++result.words;

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard) 17 18 19

- (wc23.cpp)
 g++-g-Wall-std=c++23 wc23.cpp
- o wc23
 Same program as before, but
- several improvements using
 Modern C++ 11 through C++23
 features
- I'll highlight a few for comparison

```
// Open file for input
std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);

// Helper lambda function for counting words in line
auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
    size_t count{};
    std::stringstream s(line);

std::string word{};
```

14 struct wcInfo{

};

38

62

18 }; 19 size_t lines{0};
size_t words{0};

size t bytes{0};

21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
22 wcInfo result{};

20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size

while(s >> word){
 ++count;

// Iterate through each line and each word

// using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'

while(std::getline(myFile,line)){

result.words += wordsInLine(line);

return count;

if(myFile.is_open()){

std::string line{};

++result.lines:

std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);

result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);

```
19
16
        // 0-initialize everything in constructor
                                                                     20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size
17
        wcInfo(){
                                                                     21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
18
            bytes=0;
                                                                           wcInfo result{};
19
                                                                           // Open file for input
            lines=0;
                                                                           std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);
20
            words=0;
21
                                                                           // Helper lambda function for counting words in line
22 };
                                                        .cpp
                                                                           auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
                                                                                   size_t count{};
                                                                                   std::stringstream s(line);
Observe on the the right side we can more
                                                                                   std::string word{};
                                                        ut
                                                                                   while(s >> word){
concisely default initialize members.
                                                                                      ++count;
This is useful for Plain Old Data (POD)
                                                                     33
                                                                                   return count;
data types
                                                                           };
                                                                           // Iterate through each line and each word
                                                                           // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
                                                                     38
       features
                                                                            if(myFile.is_open()){
                                                                               result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);
      I'll highlight a few for
                                                                               std::string line{};
                                                                               while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
                                                                                   ++result.lines:
       comparison
                                                                                   result.words += wordsInLine(line);
                                                                           }else{
                                                                               std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;</pre>
                                                                     48
                                                                     49
                                                                     50
                                                                           return result;
                                                                     51 }
                                                                     60
                                                                                  // structured binding
                                                                     61
                                                                                 auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);
                                                                     62
                                                                                  std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);
```

12 struct wcInfo{

size_t bytes;

size t lines;

size t words;

13

14

14 struct wcInfo{

size t lines{0};

size_t words{0};

size_t bytes{0};

15

18 }:

1d 24 1 16

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard) 17

```
24 /// Helper function for returning file size
25 size t GetFileSize(const char* filename){
     std::ifstream myFile(filename, std::ios::ate | std::ios::in | std::ios::binary);
     return myFile.tellg();
28 }
      No std::filesystem in C++98, so need
 hack for reading file size, versus a 1-line
      function call in Modern C++
```

```
features
I'll highlight a few for
comparison
```

```
auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
               size_t count{};
               std::stringstream s(line);
               std::string word{};
               while(s >> word){
                   ++count;
               return count;
       };
         Iterate through each line and each word
          using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
       if(myFile is open()){
           result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);
           std::string line{};
           while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
               ++result.lines:
               result.words += wordsInLine(line);
       }else{
           std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;</pre>
48
49
50
       return result;
51 }
```

auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);

std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);

// structured binding

14 struct wcInfo{

18 }; 19

25

60

61

62

size_t lines{0}; size t words{0}:

size t bytes{0};

21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){ wcInfo result{}; // Open file for input

20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size

std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);

// Helper lambda function for counting words in line

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard) 18 }; 19 20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size

```
wcInfo results = wc(argv[1]);
std::cout <<
         << results.lines << "\t"
         << results.words << "\t"
          << results.bytes << "\t" << std::endl;</pre>
    No structured binding
          Both a pro and con -- need to still
          be careful of ordering of struct
          Easy however to retrieve local
          variables
     Can use auto in C++11 and beyond
          Potentially more 'refactorable
          code'
```

```
Use type when there is a need to
     be explicit
Can use std::println in C++23 with
format strings
```

```
auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
               size_t count{};
29
               std::stringstream s(line);
               std::string word{};
               while(s >> word){
                   ++count;
               return count;
       };
37
       // Iterate through each line and each word
38
       // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
       if(myFile.is_open()){
           result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);
           std::string line{};
           while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
               ++result.lines:
               result.words += wordsInLine(line);
       }else{
           std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;</pre>
```

auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);

std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}",lines,words,bytes);

std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);

// Helper lambda function for counting words in line

14 struct wcInfo{

22

61

62

size t lines{0}; size t words{0}:

size t bytes{0};

wcInfo result{}; // Open file for input

return result;

// structured binding

21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard) 17 18

```
// Iterate through each line and each word
// using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
if(myFile.is_open()){
   result.bytes = GetFileSize(filename);
   std::string line;
   while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
      ++result.lines;
      std::stringstream s(line);
      std::string word;
      while(s >> word){
          ++result.words;
}else{
   std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;</pre>
     Local lambda functions
            Simplifies algorithm
                   Measure to see if performance
                   is impacted
            Use lambda if function only
            needed once, or otherwise as a tool
            for encapsulation
```

```
18 };
19
20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size
21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
22
       wcInfo result{};
       // Open file for input
        std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);
        // Helper lambda function for counting words in line
        auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
                size_t count{};
                std::stringstream s(line);
                std::string word{};
                while(s >> word){
                    ++count;
                return count;
        // Iterate through each line and each word
        // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
        if(myFile.is_open()){
           result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);
           std::string line{};
           while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
                ++result.lines:
               result.words += wordsInLine(line);
       }else{
           std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;</pre>
48
49
50
       return result;
```

// structured binding

auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);

std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);

14 struct wcInfo{

51 }

61

62

size_t lines{0};
size t words{0};

size t bytes{0};

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard)

- Full list of improvements struct with constructor needed
 - Need to carefully default initialize
 - No std::filesystem, so need hack for reading file size
 - No structured binding
 - Both a pro and con -- need to still be careful of ordering of struct
 - Easy however to retrieve local variables
 - Local lambda functions
 - Simplifies algorithm Use lambda if function only needed once, or otherwise as a tool for
 - encapsulation Can use auto in C++11 and beyond 0
 - Potentially more 'refactorable code' Use type when there is a need to be explicit
 - Can use std::println in C++23 with format strings

```
21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
      wcInfo result{};
       // Open file for input
       std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);
25
       // Helper lambda function for counting words in line
27
       auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
```

20 /// Main function for retrieving the file size

```
28
               size_t count{};
               std::stringstream s(line);
30
               std::string word{};
               while(s >> word){
                   ++count;
```

return count;

```
};
// Iterate through each line and each word
// using stringstream to parse 'whitespace'
```

result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);

```
std::string line{};
while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
    ++result.lines:
   result.words += wordsInLine(line);
```

}else{

if(myFile.is_open()){

14 struct wcInfo{

18 }; 19

37

38

47

48

49 50

51 } 60

61

62

size_t lines{0}; size_t words{0};

size_t bytes{0};

```
return result;
     // structured binding
     auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);
     std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);
```

std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl;

wc23 (word count, C++ 23 standard)

- (wc23.cpp)
 - o g++ -g -Wall -std=c++23 wc23_1.cpp -o wc23_1
- Within our word counting function, we can make a further revision by using std::tuple
 - This removes any temporary or 'one use' structs where we need to return multiple values.
 - o Furthermore, our function at this point is fully encapsulated
 - The function is merely an interface generating an output given inputs, and few details are otherwise exposed to the caller.
- 14 std::tuple<size_t,size_t,size_t> wc(const char* filename){
 15 size_t lines{};
 16 size t words{};
- 17 size_t bytes{};

Question #5: What Modern C++ features should I focus on?



What Modern C++ features should I focus on?

- The real trick is to work iteratively
 - For me, I often write code in the most simple way.
 - Then I figure out if there is some abstraction I can use to make code:
 - Safer
 - More understandable
 - More amenable to change (while designing)
 - More generic (if a library)
 - Over time your 'muscle memory' will help you exercise features correctly (for your definition of 'correct' on your project) otherwise on an earlier iteration

```
size t bytes:
    size_t lines;
    size t words:
    // 0-initialize everything in constructor
       bytes=0;
    std::ifstream myFile(filename, std::ios::ate | std::ios::in | std::ios::binary)
   return myFile.tella();
wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
    wcInfo result:
    // Open file for input
    std::ifstream myFile(filename,std::ios::in);
    // Iterate through each line and each word
    // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace
    if(myFile.is_open()){
        result.bytes = GetFileSize(filename);
         std::string line;
        while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
    ++result.lines;
             std::stringstream s(line):
             std::string word;
             while(s >> word){
                 ++result.words;
    lelse(
        std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl
    return result;
```

word counter C++98 code

```
size t lines{0}:
     size t words{0}:
     size_t bytes{0};
0 /// Main function for retrieving the file size
21 wcInfo wc(const char* filename){
     wcInfo result{};
     // Open file for input
     std::ifstream myFile(filename, std::ios::in);
     // Helper lambda function for counting words in line
      auto wordsInLine = [](auto line){
             size t count{}:
             std::stringstream s(line);
             std::string word{};
             while(s >> word){
                 ++count;
             return count:
     // Iterate through each line and each word
     // using stringstream to parse 'whitespace
     if(mvFile.is open()){
         result.bytes = std::filesystem::file_size(filename);
         std::string line{};
         while(std::getline(myFile,line)){
             ++result.lines;
             result.words += wordsInLine(line);
         std::cerr << "File could not be read: " << filename << std::endl
            // structured binding
            auto[lines, words, bytes] = wc(argv[1]);
            std::println("\t{}\t{}\t{}\",lines,words,bytes);
```

word counter C++20 code

A Very Quick Overview

- To the right you'll see a summary of just the new features in C++11!
- You can find most all of the C++11 updates here:
 - https://en.cppreference.co m/w/cpp/11
- I now want to focus on a few of the new language and library features from C++11 to 23 that I think every C++ programmer should know in this short duration
 - Note: This is not an exhaustive list
 -- but a few that I find myself
 often using!
- Headers auto and decltype defaulted and deleted functions <array> <atomic> final and override <cfenv> trailing return type <chrono> rvalue references • <cinttypes> move constructors and move assignment operators •<condition variable> scoped enums e<cstdint> <cuchar> constexpr and literal types <forward list> list initialization <future> delegating and inherited constructors •<initializer list> brace-or-equal initializers • <mutex> nullptr < random> <ratio> • long long <regex> • char16 t and char32 t •<scoped allocator> type aliases <system error> variadic templates <thread> <tuple> generalized (non-trivial) unions <typeindex> generalized PODs (trivial types and standard-layout types) •<type traits> Unicode string literals <unordered map> user-defined literals <unordered set> attributes lambda expressions noexcept specifier and noexcept operator alignof and alignas multithreaded memory model thread-local storage

• GC interface (removed in C++23)

range-for (based on a Boost library)static assert (based on a Boost library)

A Few Examples to Focus on

- While I cannot highlight everything in this duration -- here are several features I enjoy in Modern C++:
 - o C++11
 - nullptr
 - auto
 - ranged-for
 - constexpr
 - Smart Pointers
 - Move Semantics
 - Lambda's
 - thread
 - unordered_map
 - o C++20
 - Span
 - Ranges

nullptr (Introduced in -std=c++11)

• Purpose:

 Eliminate 'surprises' where nullptr can be treated as an integer -- clear when you are testing for 'null' versus testing for '0'

When to Use:

 Anywhere you previously used 'NULL'

• Example Notes:

 See Core Guideline: https://isocpp.github.io/CppCore

Guidelines/CppCoreGuidelines#es

47-use-nullptr-rather-than-0-or-n

<u>ull</u>

```
// @file nullptr.cpp
 // Compile and run: g++ -std=c++23 nullptr.cpp -o prog && ./prog
 #include <vector>
 void PointerParam(int* value){ std::print("PointerParam called"); }
8 void IntegerParam(int value){ std::print("IntegerParam called"); }
LO int main(){
     // NULL is effectively '0' (zero).
     // These are all 'equivalent'
     // 'pGood' is a nullptr, which is more 'searchable'
     // NULL may however be useful in a 'C-style API'
      int* pGood = nullptr;
      int* p0ld = NULL;
      int* pBad = 0;
      int integer = 0;
      if(integer ==0){ } // Allowed
     // Not allowed -- caught by type-system
      PointerParam(0);
      PointerParam(NULL);
     PointerParam(nullptr);
     IntegerParam(0);
      // IntegerParam(NULL); -- Some compiler *may* allow with warning -- even worse!
      return 0;
```

auto (Introduced in -std=c++11)

Purpose:

 Placeholder for a type that will be deduced later

When to Use:

- Useful when typing a long type would be redundant
- o Useful for 'generic code'
- Useful for making code more malleable
- Not useful if you need to be very specific about type

Example Notes:

- 'auto' greatly simplifies generic programming (see lines 8-10) -effectively this is the equivalent of a template.
- See video for more

```
@file auto.cpp
2 // Compile and run: g++ -std=c++23 auto.cpp -o prog && ./prog
3 #include <print>
4 #include <vector>
6 // 'auto' useful for supporting 'generic' programming
8 auto sum(const auto a, const auto b){
      return a + b;
 int main(){
      // Not a good use of auto, unclear if short, long, int, etc
     // auto integer = 7;
      std::vector v{1,3,5,7,9};
      // Use of 'auto' here useful to deduce underlying type
     // in collection
      for(auto elem: v){
          std::println("{}",sum(elem,1));
      // 'auto' useful for 'redudant' or 'long' declarations
         std::vector<int>::iterator start= v.begin();
      auto start = v.begin(); // This is fine
      return 0;
```

ranged-for (Introduced in -std=c++11)

- Purpose:
 - Iterate through a collection
- When to Use:
 - When your intent is to iterate through an entire range using iterators
- Example Notes:
 - Observe in for loop the use of '&'
 - Observe in the bottom-right that the ranged-for is transformed to use iterators
 - Video for more

```
1 // @file rangedfor.cpp
2 // Compile and run: q++ -std=c++23 rangedfor.cpp -o prog && ./prog
4 #include <vector>
6 struct Student{
       long mID;
       long mGrade;
9 };
11 int main(){
      // Use initializer list to populate vector.
      // Explicitly supply the 'type' so we don't interpret as a 'pair
      std::vector<Student> students = {{123,100},
      // The '&' is important in the ranged-for loop so that we do not
      // make a 'copy'. Generally for types less than size of a pointer
      // on your architecture this matters.
      // Note -- you can still break out of loops if needed.
      for(auto& elem : students){
          std::println("{} - {}",elem.mID, elem.mGrade);
      return 0;
```

```
mike@mike-MS-7B17:features$ g++ -std=c++23 rangedfor.cpp -o prog && ./prog
123 - 100
124 - 99
```

```
std::vector<Student, std::allocator<Student> > students = std::vector<Student, std::allocator<Student
{
    std::vector<Student, std::allocator<Student> > & __rangel = students;
    std::_wrap_iter<Student *> __begin1 = __rangel.begin();
    std::_wrap_iter<Student *> __end1 = __rangel.end();
    for(; std::operator!=(__begin1, __end1); __begin1.operator++()) {
        Student & elem = __begin1.operator*();
        std::println(std::basic_format_string<char, long &, long &>("{} - {}"), elem.mID, elem.mGrade);
    }
}
return 0:
```

constexpr (Introduced in -std=c++11)

Purpose:

 Further enable 'compile-time' computations

• When to Use:

- When you want something 'const' and also useable (if possible) at compile-time
- Can enable very powerful meta-programming

Example Notes:

- This program really just outputs a '12' (0xC)
- o <u>More introduction here</u>

```
@file constexpr.cpp
                                                                            A ▼ Output... ▼ Filter... ▼ Elbrar
     // Compile and run: g++ -std=c++23 constexpr.cpp -o prog &8
                                                                                      main:
     #include <arrav>
                                                                                       55
                                                                             401106
                                                                                       push
                                                                                              %rbp
     // 'auto' useful for supporting 'generic' programming
                                                                                       48 89 e5
        Note: Still need to add 'qualifiers' like 'const'
                                                                             401107
                                                                                              %rsp.%rbp
     constexpr auto sum(const auto a, const auto b){
                                                                                       c7 45 fc 0c 00 00 00
         return a + b;
                                                                             40110a
                                                                                              $0xc, -0x4(%rbp)
 9
                                                                                       b8 0c 00 00 00
10
                                                                             401111
                                                                                              $0xc, %eax
11
     int main(){
                                                                             401116
                                                                                       pop
                                                                                              %rbp
12
13
         // 'static' data is baked into the compiler at compile
                                                                             401117
                                                                                       ret
14
         // 'constexpr' again 'hints' data is known at compile-t
15
         // for computation
16
         static constexpr std::array a{11,33,65,77,99};
17
18
         // Computation of all compile-time data
19
         constexpr auto result = sum(1,a[0]);
20
21
         return result;
22
```

Smart Pointers (Introduced in -std=c++11)

• Purpose:

- Wrap a 'pointer' for safer C++ code and focus on 'ownership' and 'lifetime' of allocated memory
 - If you make everything std::unique_ptr -- you effectively have *much* safer code!

When to Use:

- Almost always use std::unique_ptr if only one owner
- Consider shared_ptr if managing complicated lifetimes
 - Consider std::weak_ptr when non-owner needs access when pointer is not null or otherwise expired.
- May need regular raw pointers when interfacing with C APIs

• Example Notes:

- o More on pointers
- o More on the 'why' of smart pointers
- Consider that you can also create your own 'smart pointers' as well!

```
12 #include <memory> // Access smart pointers
14 class Object{
      Object() { std::cout << "Constructor\n"; }
~Object() { std::cout << "Destructor\n"; }</pre>
  // Entry point to program 'main' shared
22 int main(int argc, char* argv[]){
       // This is how we 'always' want to create shared ptr using
           std::shared ptr<Object> mySharedObjectPtr;
               // Make a second pointer
               std::shared ptr<Object> mySharedObjectPtr2 = std::make shared<Object>()
               // Assign our shared pointer to another shared pointer
               mySharedObjectPtr = mySharedObjectPtr2;
       // At this point, mySharedObjectptr will 'die' but only because all of its
       // references have gone out of scope.
```

One example with only 'shared_ptr' which counts the number of 'strong references' (i.e. other shared_ptr) to it.

48

Move Semantics (Introduced in -std=c++11)

- Purpose:
 - For efficiency and idea of 'ownership' (safety)
- When to Use:
 - Whenever you want to avoid copies and ensure 'one' copy of data has an 'owner'
 - Think of using in tandem with std::unqiue_ptr
- Example Notes:
 - std::move does not 'move' -- but rather casts to an 'rvalue reference' that enables move assignment operator to be called.
 - If you do not have move constructor and/or move assignment operator, fallback will be to copy constructor and/or copy assignment operator.
 - <u>Video on Move</u>

```
12 #include <utility> // std::move
14 class T{
15 public:
       T(){ std::cout << "constructor" << std::endl;}</pre>
       ~T(){ std::cout << "destructor"
                                        << std::endl;}
       T(const T& copy){
           std::cout << "copy constructor" << std::endl;</pre>
       T(T&& old){
           m string = old.m string;
           old.m string = nullptr;
       T& operator=(T&& old){
           if(this!=&old){
               m string = old.m string;
               old.m string = nullptr;
   char* m string;
  void swap(T a, T b){
       T tmp{std::move(a)};
       a = std::move(b);
       b = std::move(tmp);
  int main(){
       Ta;
       Tb;
       swap(a,b);
```

Lambdas (Introduced in -std=c++11)

- Purpose:
 - Make code more beautiful -- i.e. a better syntax than a functor
 - o In many ways to encourage
- When to Use:
 - Writing smaller functions that are used in algorithms
 - As 'local' functions encapsulated in a larger function
- Example Notes:I've omitted the 'capture', but it may
 - be useful to <u>understand functors first</u> to understand how 'state' is stored as a member of a functor.
 - i.e. Lambdas in C++11 and beyond are syntactic sugar for functors.
 - More videos

```
9 int main(){
       std::vector v{1,3,5,7,9};
       // Local lambda function
       auto square = [](int x){
               return x*x;
               };
       // Anotehr local lambda function
       auto printer = [](int elem){
           std::println("{}",elem);
       };
       // Modify the 'view' of the data
       // Much of the STL uses unary or binary functions to change behavior.
       // Lambdas are thus very convenient to pass or directly instantiate.
       // Note: Use std::ranges::copy if you want to 'keep' the data
       std::ranges::for each(std::views::transform(v,square),printer);
       // Just print the original data
       std::ranges::for each(v,printer);
       return 0;
'lambda.cpp" 33L, 849B written
```

mike@mike-MS-7B17:features\$ g++ -std=c++23 lambda.cpp -o prog && ./prog

2 // Compile and run: q++ -std=c++23 lambda.cpp -o prog && ./prog

1 // @file lambda.cpp

3 #include <iostream>

4 #include <vector>
5 #include <algorithm>

Thread (Introduced in -std=c++11)

• Purpose:

 Usually for performance, but sometimes nature of task splits better into 'jobs'

When to Use:

- Again, usually for performance
- Consider using std::jthread so you don't have to worry about 'joining' threads
- Consider std::async

Example Notes:

o <u>More Videos</u>

```
Ofile thread4.cpp
 // g++-10 -std=c++20 thread4.cpp -o prog -lpthread
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <thread> // Include the thread library
5 #include <vector>
7 int main() {
     // This time create a lambda function
     auto lambda = [](int x){
          std::cout << "thread.get id:" << std::this thread::get id() << std::endl;</pre>
          std::cout << "Argument passed in:"
                                               << x << std::endl;
     };
     // Note: We now have a jthread
               No joins in the program
     std::vector<std::jthread> threads;
     // Create a collection of threads
     for(int i=0; i < 10; i++){
          threads.push back(std::jthread(lambda,i));
     // Continue executing the main thread
     std::cout << "Hello from the main thread!" << std::endl;</pre>
     return 0;
```

Unordered_map (Introduced in -std=c++11)

• Purpose:

- Improve performance of map from log₂(n) to O(1) in average case
 - unordered_set and other unordered containers also introduced
- When to Use:
 - Whenever ordering does not matter
 - structured bindings handy for iteration
 - Generally a drop-in replacement for std::map
- Example Notes:
 - More Videos (less trivial example)

```
1 // @file unordered map.cpp
 2 // Compile and run: q++ -std=c++23 unordered map.cpp -o prog && ./prog
 4 #include <string>
 6 #include <map>
 9 int main(){
       std::unordered map<int,std::string> database;
       database.insert({123, "Mike"});
       database.insert({124, "Ankur"});
      if(database.contains(123)){
           std::cout << "User 123 exists...continuing\n";</pre>
       // Insert if not existing, or otherwise update
      database[125] = "CppIndia";
       // Structured binding to extract keys and values
       for(auto const& [key,value] : database){
           std::cout << kev << " | " << value << std::endl:
       // Statistics of our unordered map's hashtable
       std::println("bucket count = {} and load factor={}",
                   database.bucket count(),database.load factor());
30
```

mike@mike-MS-7B17:features\$ g++ -std=c++23 unordered map.cpp -o prog && ./prog

User 123 exists...continuing

bucket count = 13 and load factor=0.23076923

125 | CppIndia 124 | Ankur 123 | Mike

std::span (Introduced in -std=c++20)

- Purpose:
 - Refers to an object that is contiguous (i.e. array, vector)
 - Span is a 'fat-pointer' with a 'length' and pointer to data
- When to Use:
 - It is effectively a 'view' of data that can read/write
 - Because it is a fat pointer, it prevents an array to decay to a pointer -- so size information is preserved
 - Useful if you want to pass any sized contiguous data structure into a function and not have it 'owned', but may want to read/write data.
- Example Notes:
 - More Videos

```
3 #include <iostream>
 5 #include <array>
 6 #include <vector>
8 // Will always be a dynamic extent. You can assign (or pass) a static extent to
     a dynamic one, but not the other way around.
     If you want this function to preserve 'span' extent, then make it a template
      template<typename T, int size>
      void PrintIntData(std::span<T,size> param){
L4 void PrintIntData(std::span<int> param){
      std::cout << param.extent << std::endl;</pre>
      if(param.extent == std::dynamic extent){
           std::cout << "My extent is dynamic (by default) " << std::endl;</pre>
      }else{
          std::cout << "Nt extent is static " << std::endl;</pre>
      std::cout << "My size is:" << param.size() << std::endl << "\t";</pre>
      for(auto& elem: param){
          std::cout << elem << ",";
      std::cout << "\n\n";
29 int main(){
      // Create fixed-size array
      std::array<int, 5> arr = {2,4,6,8,10};
      std::span<int,5> mySpan{arr};
      // The 'extent' is the static size.
      // If the extent is 'dynamic' it will be a large integer
      std::cout << mySpan.extent << std::endl;</pre>
      // Can pass array (of any size) or span into function
      PrintIntData(arr);
      PrintIntData(mySpan);
      PrintIntData(mySpan.subspan(1,3));
      std::vector<int> myVector = {1,2,3,4,5,6,7};
      PrintIntData(std::span(myVector.begin(),3));
      PrintIntData(myVector);
       return 0:
```

2 // Compile and run: g++ -std=c++23 span.cpp -o prog && ./prog

1 // @file span.cpp

$Ranges \ (Introduced \ in \ -std = c + + 20)$

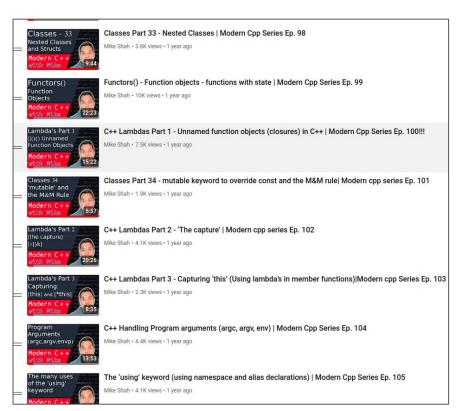
- Purpose:
- Make code more composable and less error-prone
- When to Use:
- Anywhere in the STL you were passing in two iterators to iterate over a collection
 - In combination with views, can perform 'lazy' evaluation (for infinite ranges, or otherwise optimization purposes)
- Example Notes:
 - You'll need C++20 for ranges, but generally speaking ranges are the path forward.

```
1 // @file lambda.cpp
  2 // Compile and run: q++ -std=c++23 lambda.cpp -o prog && ./prog
  3 #include <iostream>
  4 #include <vector>
  5 #include <algorithm>
  9 int main(){
        std::vector v{1,3,5,7,9};
        // Local lambda function
        auto square = [](int x){
                return x*x;
                };
        // Anotehr local lambda function
        auto printer = [](int elem){
            std::println("{}",elem);
        };
        // Modify the 'view' of the data
        // Much of the STL uses unary or binary functions to change behavior.
        // Lambdas are thus very convenient to pass or directly instantiate.
        // Note: Use std::ranges::copy 1f you want to 'keep' the data
        std::ranges::for each(std::views::transform(v,square),printer)
        // Just print the original data
        std::ranges::for each(v,printer);
        return 0;
 lambda.cpp" 33L, 849B written
mike@mike-MS-7B17:features$ g++ -std=c++23 lambda.cpp -o prog && ./prog
```

Wrapping up and More Resources

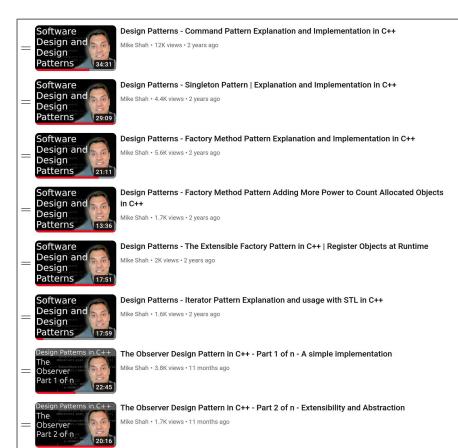
Further C++ resources and training materials

- The full C++ playlist
 - https://www.youtube.com/playlist ?list=PLvv0ScY6vfd9wBflF0f6ynlD QuaeKYzyc



Further C++ resources and training materials

- C++ Software Design & Patterns
 - https://www.youtube.com/playlist ?list=PLvv0ScY6vfd8j-tlhYVPYgiIy Xduu6m-L
- C++ Concurrency
 - https://www.youtube.com/playlist
 ?list=PLvv0ScY6vfd_ocTP2ZLicgqK
 nvq50OCXM

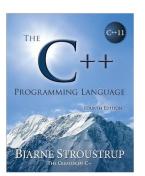


Summary

- C++ is a great language, and there is always room to grow with it
 - You do not need to learn every feature -- but using some of the modern ones will make your life easier
 - Doing small projects (e.g. building a game, an app, etc.) is how you
 will improve and see these features in context.
 - I encourage you to read as much code as you write.
- C++ I foresee continuing to be the leading language for performance-driven applications, and I think that will trend will continue to drive its evolution alongside more safety features
- C++ is here to stay, and it is a language well worth learning













Getting Started with Modern C++

Thank you CppIndia for having me!



with Mike Shah

Gold !

think-cell 4

10:00 - 11:00 IST Sat, August 24, 2024 (12:30 AM - 1:30 AM EDT - Sun. August 25, 2024)

60 minutes with Q&A Introductory/Intermediate Audience

Web: <u>mshah.io</u>

Courses: courses.mshah.io

YouTube

www.youtube.com/c/MikeShah
http://tinyurl.com/mike-talks