Systems Programming in C++ Practical Course

Summer Term 2020

Course Goals

Learn to write good C++

- Basic syntax
- Common idioms and best practices

Learn to implement large systems with C++

- C++ standard library and Linux ecosystem
- Tools and techniques (building, debugging, etc.)

Learn to write high-performance code with C++

- Multithreading and synchronization
- Performance pitfalls

Formal Prerequisites

Knowledge equivalent to the lectures

- Introduction to Informatics 1 (IN0001)
- Fundamentals of Programming (IN0002)
- Fundamentals of Algorithms and Data Structures (IN0007)

Additional formal prerequisites (B.Sc. Informatics)

- Introduction to Computer Architecture (IN0004)
- Basic Principles: Operating Systems and System Software (IN0009)

Additional formal prerequisites (B.Sc. Games Engineering)

Operating Systems and Hardware oriented Programming for Games (IN0034)

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Practical Prerequisites

Practical prerequisites

- No previous experience with C or C++ required
- Familiarity with another general-purpose programming language

Operating System

- Working Linux operating system (e.g. Ubuntu)
 - Ideally with root access
- Basic experience with Linux (in particular with shell)
- You are free to use your favorite OS, we only support Linux
 - Our CI server runs Linux
 - It will run automated tests on your submissions

Lecture & Tutorial

- Lecture: Tuesday, 12:00 14:00, MI 02.11.018
- Tutorial: Friday, 10:00 12:00, MI 02.11.018
 - Discuss assignments and any questions
 - First two tutorials are additional lectures
- Everything will be in English
- Attendance is mandatory
- Announcements on the website

Assignments

- Brief non-coding quizzes in (random) lectures or tutorials
- Weekly programming assignments
 - No teams
 - Managed through our GitLab (more details in first tutorial)
- Final project at end of the semester
 - No teams
 - Managed through our GitLab (more details in first tutorial)
 - More extensive than assignments (several weeks of work)
 - Implementation from scratch (including infrastructure)
 - Lecture will prepare for the project

Topics

Very rough overview of topics

- C++ syntax and language features
- Common C++ programming techniques
- Proper usage of the C++ standard library
- Low-level (performance) considerations
- Systems programming on Linux
- The C++ ecosystem (building, testing, debugging, profiling, ...)
- Keeping control of large projects

Literature

Primary

- Lippman, 2013. *C++ Primer (5th edition)*. Only covers C++11.
- Stroustrup, 2013. *The C++ Programming Language (4th edition)*. Only covers C++11.
- Meyers, 2015. Effective Modern C++. 42 specific ways to improve your use of C++11 and C++14..

Supplementary

- Aho, Lam, Sethi & Ullman, 2007. Compilers. Principles, Techniques & Tools (2nd edition).
- Tanenbaum, 2006. Structured Computer Organization (5th edition).

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Contact

Important links

- Website: http://db.in.tum.de/teaching/ss20/c++praktikum
- E-Mail: freitagm@in.tum.de, sichert@in.tum.de

Register for the course through the matching platform (https://matching.in.tum.de/)

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