

STRO84

Stroustrup, Bjarne

Operator Overloading in C++

AT&T Bell Laboratories

Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

1984

In this paper, Stroustrup explains the notion of operator overloading, especially as it applies to his extensions to the C language, C++. In C++, classes provide the programmer with the capabilities necessary to define non-primitive objects, together with the operations to be performed on these objects. Using conventional operators and defining semantics for each one, is a more convenient and "natural" way of representing the manipulation of these objects. The paper does assume