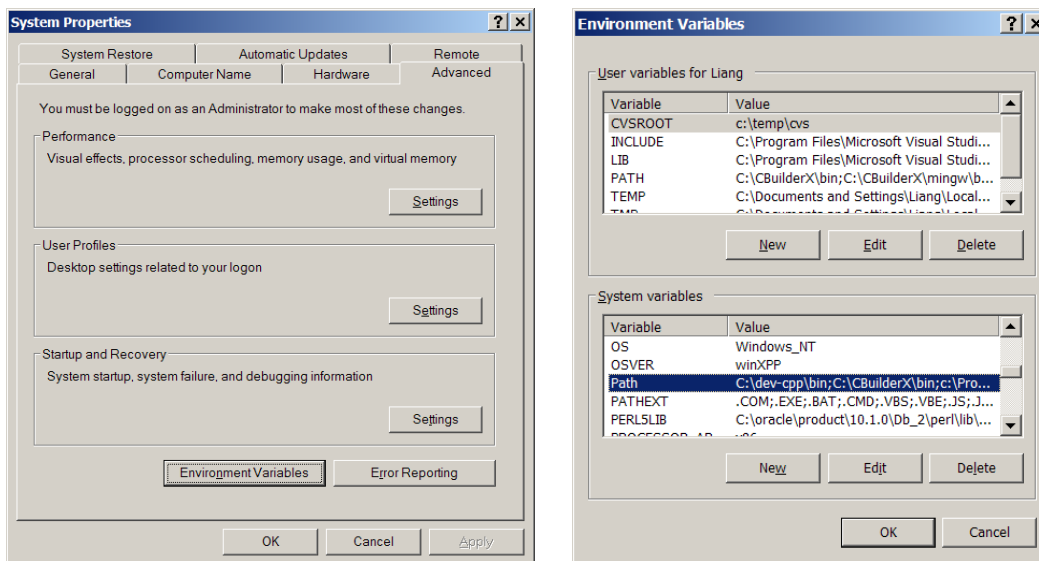# Developing C++ Programs from Command Prompt on Windows

For Introduction to C++ Programming
By Y. Daniel Liang

<Side Remark: compilers>

When you install Dev-C++ as in the previous section, a popular compiler, known as the GNU C++ compiler, is automatically installed in c:\dev-cpp\bin\g++.exe. GNU is an organization devoted to develop open-source software (see www.gnu.org). To use the compiler directly from the command line, you have to add c:\dev-cpp\bin into PATH environment variable. Here are the steps to add the new paths in Windows 2000 and Windows XP:

1. Choose Systems from the Windows Control Panel to display the System Properties dialog, as shown in Figure 1.28(a).
2. Choose the *Advanced* tab and click *Environment Variables* to display the Environment Variables dialog as shown in Figure 1.28(b).
3. Choose *Path* in the System variables section and click *Edit* to add the paths.
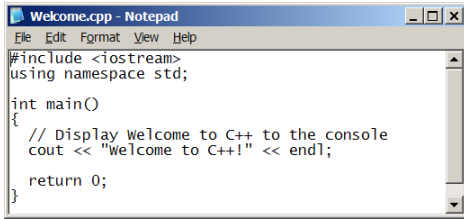

(a)   (b)

Figure 1.28
You need to add compilers in the environment path.

<Side Remark: text editor>

You can use any text editor to create and edit a C++ source-code file. Figure 1.29 shows how to use Notepad to create and edit the source-code file.

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Figure 1.29

You can create a C++ source-code file using Windows Notepad.

To compile Welcome.cpp using the GNU C++ compiler, type the command **g++ Welcome.cpp -o Welcome**, as shown in Figure 1.30. If there are no syntax errors, an executable file named Welcome.exe is created. You can run it by typing **Welcome**.

GNU
C++   ⟶

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Figure 1.30

You can compile using the GNU C++ compiler.