

Creating an already-completed asynchronous activity in C++/WinRT, part 1

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When working with asynchronous code, you may need to create an asynchronous activity that has already completed, because you already know the answer. For example, you may be implementing a method whose signature is

```
IAsyncOperation<int> ComputeAsync();
```

but you already have the result and don't need to compute it. How can you return an `IAsyncOperation<int>` that represents the already-computed result?

C# has `Task.FromResult()` and `Task.CompletedTask`. JavaScript has `Promise.resolve()`. The Parallel Patterns Library (PPL) has `task_from_result()`. What about C++/WinRT?

The simplest way is to just `co_return` the result into a coroutine.

```
windows::Foundation::IAsyncOperation<int>  
  ComputeAsync()  
{  
  co_return 42;  
}
```

Similarly, C# has `Task.FromException()`, JavaScript has `Promise.reject()`, and PPL has `task_from_exception()`. The simple C++/WinRT version is to throw the exception from the coroutine.

But wait, this doesn't do what you think:

```
winrt::Windows::Foundation::IAsyncOperation<int>  
    ComputeAsync()  
{  
    throw winrt::hresult_access_denied();  
}
```

There is no `co_await` or `co_return` statement in the function body, so this is not a coroutine: Instead of returning a failed coroutine, this function fails to return a coroutine! When you call it, it throws an exception.

We'll look at ways of making this a coroutine next time.