Pattern Matching

A Sneak Peek

Michael Park

Facebook

P1371R1: Pattern Matching









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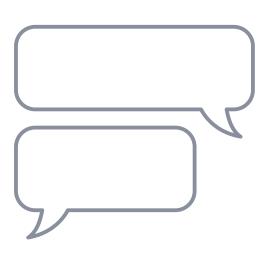
David Sankel

Dan Sarginson

GOALS







Gather Feedback

Motivation

SELECTION

Perform different actions depending on a value

DECOMPOSITION

Retrieve components of a value

Switch: Too Limited

```
std::string s = "foo";
switch (s) {
  case "foo": std::cout << "got foo\n"; break;</pre>
  case "bar": std::cout << "got bar\n"; break;</pre>
// error: statement requires expression of integer type
```

If/Else: Too Flexible

```
struct Shape { virtual ~Shape() = default; };
struct Circle : Shape { int radius; };
struct Rectangle : Shape { int width, height; };
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  if (auto circle = dynamic_cast<const Circle*>(&shape)) {
    return 3.14 * circle->radius * circle->radius;
  if (auto rectangle = dynamic_cast<const Rectangle*>(&shape)) {
    return rectangle->width * rectangle->height;
```

If/Else: Too Flexible

```
struct Shape { virtual ~Shape() = default; };
struct Circle : Shape { int radius; };
struct Rectangle : Shape { int width, height; };
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  if (auto circle = dynamic_cast<const Circle*>(&shape)) {
    return 3.14 * circle->radius * circle->radius;
  if (auto rectangle = dynamic_cast<const Rectangle*>(&shape)) {
    return rectangle->width * rectangle->height;
```

Structural Association

```
int value = /* ... */;
switch (value) {
 case c1: /* ... */; break;
 case c2: /* ... */; break;
 default: // ...
```

```
int value = /* ... */;
if (b1) {
 // . . .
} else if (b2) {
// . . .
} else {
// . . .
```

Bit Bashing

Papers About the author

std::visit is everything wrong with modern C++

Sep 14, 2017

HTTPS://BITBASHING.IO/STD-VISIT.HTML

Variant Visitation: Too Complex

```
std::variant<bool, int, std::string> v = /* ... */;
struct {
  int operator()(bool b) const {
    std::cout << "got bool: " << b << '\n';
  int operator()(int n) const {
    std::cout << "got int: " << n << '\n';
  int operator()(const std::string& s) const {
    std::cout << "got str: " << s << '\n';
} visitor;
std::visit(visitor, v);
```

Variant Visitation: Too Complex

```
std::variant<bool, int, std::string> v = /* ... */;

std::visit(overload{
   [](bool b) { std::cout << "got bool: " << b << '\n'; },
   [](int n) { std::cout << "got int: " << n << '\n'; },
   [](const std::string& s) { std::cout << "got str: " << s << '\n'; }
}, v);</pre>
```

```
template <typename... Fs>
struct overload : Fs... { using Fs::operator()...; };

template <typename... Fs>
overload(Fs... fs) -> overload<Fs...>;
```

Variant Visitation: Too Complex

```
std::variant<bool, int, std::string> v = /* ... */;
std::visit([](const auto& arg) {
  using Arg = std::remove_cvref_t<decltype(arg)>;
  if constexpr (std::is_same_v<Arg, bool>) {
    std::cout << "got bool: " << arg << '\n';</pre>
 } else if constexpr (std::is_same_v<Arg, int>) {
    std::cout << "got int: " << arg << '\n';</pre>
 } else if constexpr (std::is_same_v<Arg, std::string>) {
    std::cout << "got str: " << arg << '\n';
 } else {
    static_assert(always_false<T>::value, "non-exhaustive visitor!");
```

```
template <typename T> struct always_false : std::false_type {};
```

SELECTION

Perform different actions depending on a value

DECOMPOSITION

Retrieve components of a value

Member Access

```
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  if (auto circle = dynamic_cast<const Circle*>(&shape)) {
    return 3.14 * circle->radius * circle->radius;
  if (auto rectangle = dynamic_cast<const Rectangle*>(&shape)) {
    return rectangle->width * rectangle->height;
```

Member Access

```
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  if (auto circle = dynamic_cast<const Circle*>(&shape)) {
    return 3.14 * circle->radius * circle->radius;
  if (auto rectangle = dynamic_cast<const Rectangle*>(&shape)) {
    return rectangle->width * rectangle->height;
```

Structured Bindings

```
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  if (auto circle = dynamic_cast<const Circle*>(&shape)) {
    const auto& [r] = *circle;
    return 3.14 * r * r;
  if (auto rectangle = dynamic_cast<const Rectangle*>(&shape)) {
    const auto& [w, h] = *rectangle;
    return w * h;
```

SELECTION

Perform different actions depending on a value

DECOMPOSITION

Retrieve components of a value

```
struct Quit {};
struct Move { int x; int y; };
struct Write { std::string text; };
struct ChangeColor {
  int red; int green; int blue;
};
using Message = std::variant<Quit, Move, Write, ChangeColor>;
```

```
Message msg = ChangeColor\{0, 160, 255\};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },</pre>
  [](const Move& move) {
    const auto& [x, y] = move;
    std::cout << "Move by: " << x << ',' << y << '\n';
  [](const Write& write) {
    const auto& [text] = write;
    std::cout << "Text message: " << text << '\n';</pre>
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [r, g, b] = change_color;
    std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
}, msg);
```

```
struct Quit {};
struct Move { int x; int y; };
struct Write { std::string text; };
struct ChangeColor {
  int red; int green; int blue;
};
using Message = std::variant<Quit, Move, Write, ChangeColor>;
```

Select + Decompose: Nested

```
+ struct Rgb { int red; int green; int blue; };
+ struct Hsv { int hue; int saturation; int value; };
+ using Color = std::variant<Rgb, Hsv>;
 struct Quit {};
  struct Move { int x; int y; };
 struct Write { std::string text; };
  struct ChangeColor {
 int red; int green; int blue;
+ Color color;
 using Message = std::variant<Quit, Move, Write, ChangeColor>;
```

Select + Decompose: Nested

```
Message msg = ChangeColor{Rgb{0, 160, 255}};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },</pre>
 // . . .
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [color] = change_color;
    std::visit(overload{
      [](const Rgb& rgb) {
        const auto& [r, g, b] = rgb;
        std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
      [](const Hsv& hsv) {
        const auto& [h, s, v] = hsv;
        std::cout << "to HSV: " << h << ',' << s << ',' << v << '\n';
    }, color);
}, msg);
```

Rust

Select + Decompose: Nested

```
let msg = Message::ChangeColor(Color::Rgb(0, 160, 255));
match msg {
 Message::Quit
                                  => println!("Done"),
 Message::Move{ x, y }
                                  => println!("Move by: {},{}", x, y),
                                  => println!("Text message: {}", text),
 Message::Write(text)
 Message::ChangeColor(Color::Hsv(h, s, v)) => println!("to HSV: {},{},{}", h, s, v),
```

HTTPS://DOC.RUST-LANG.ORG/BOOK/CH18-03-PATTERN-SYNTAX.HTML

Takeaways

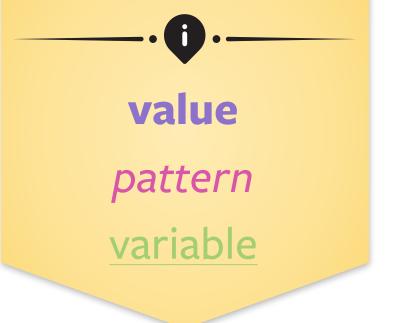
Selection / decomposition are extremely common operations

We want a general selection mechanism between switch / if-else

Selection / decomposition very often nest

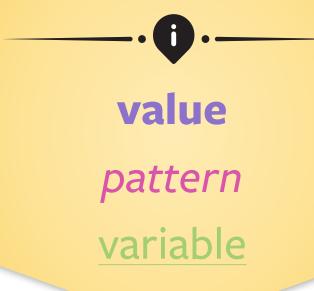
Nested selection / decomposition leads to indentation

What is Pattern Matching?



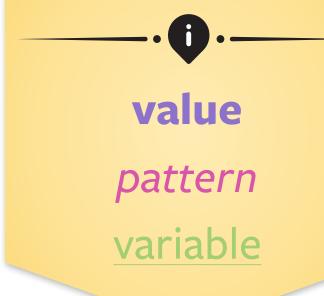
"In pattern matching, we attempt to match values against *patterns* and, if so desired, bind variables to successful matches."

HTTPS://EN.WIKIBOOKS.ORG/WIKI/HASKELL/PATTERN_MATCHING



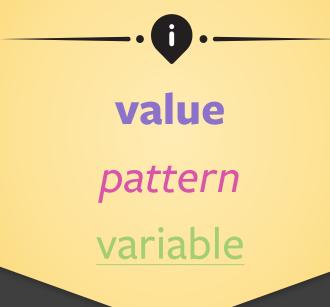
Rust

```
struct Point { x: i32, y: i32 }
let point = Point \{ x: 0, y: 7 \};
match point {
 Point \{ x, y : 0 \} =  println!("X axis: {}", x),
 Point { x: 0, y } => println!("Y axis: {}", y),
 Point { x , y } => println!("{}, {}", x, y),
// prints: "Y axis: 7"
```

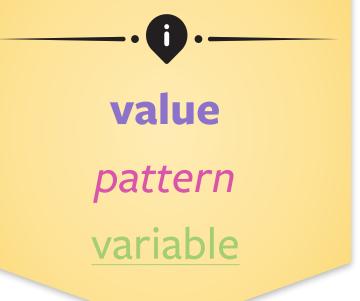


C++

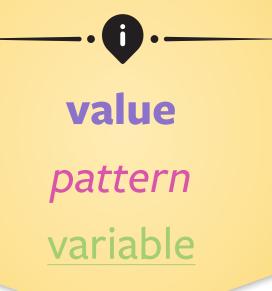
```
struct Point { int x; int y; };
auto point = Point \{ x = 0, y = 7 \};
if (point y == 0) {
  std::cout << "X axis: " << point.x << '\n';</pre>
} else if (point x == 0) {
  std::cout << "Y axis: " << point.y << '\n';</pre>
} else {
  std::cout << point.x << ", " << point.y << '\n';</pre>
// prints: "Y axis: 7"
```



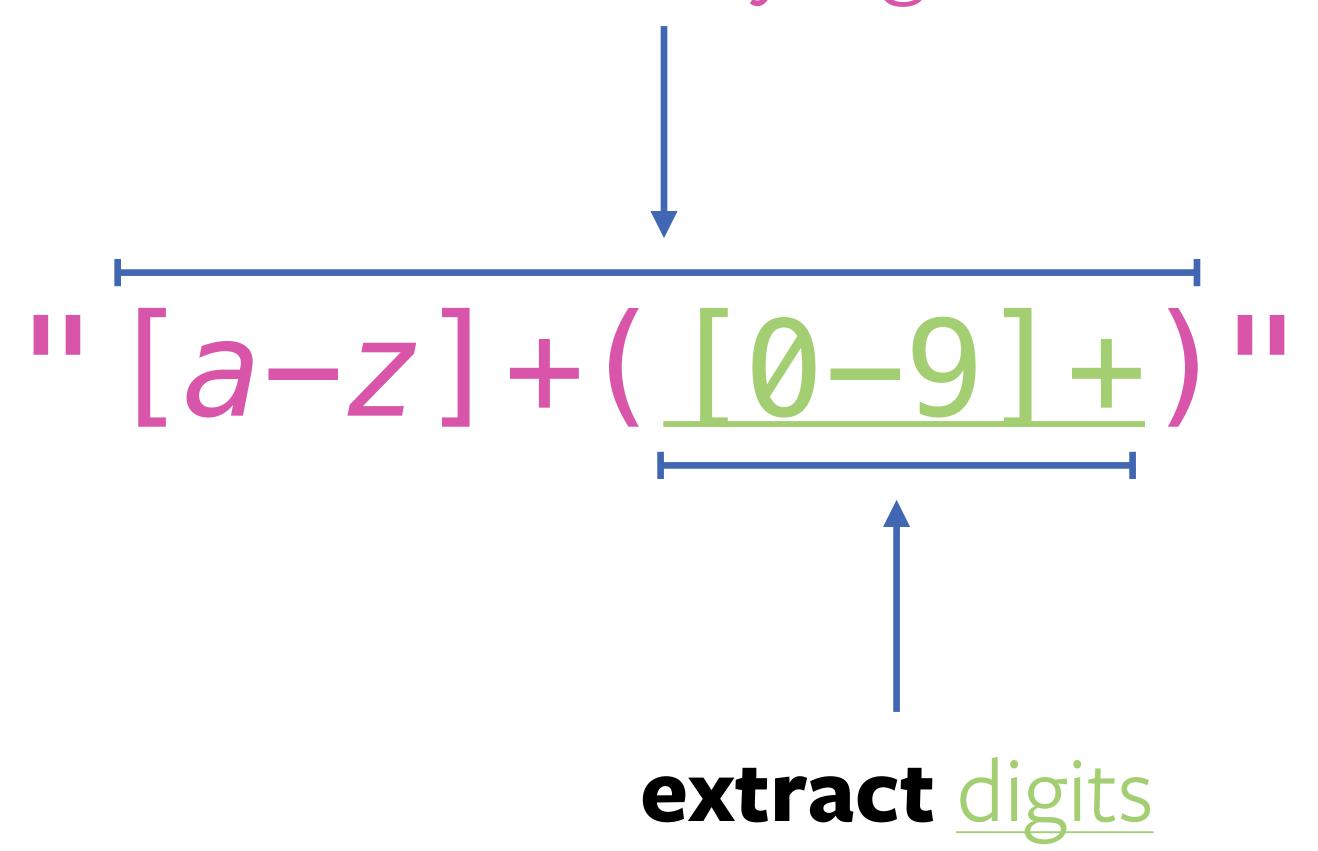
Declarative alternative to manually **testing values** with *conditionals* and **extracting** the <u>desired components</u>.

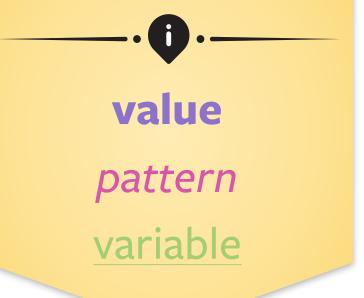


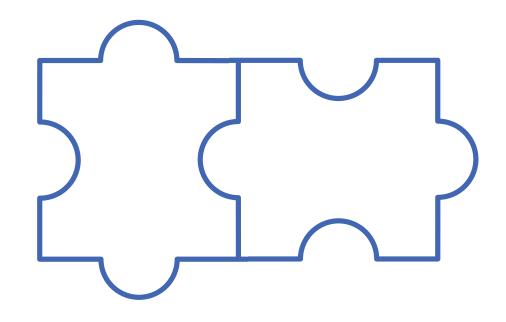
Regular Expressions

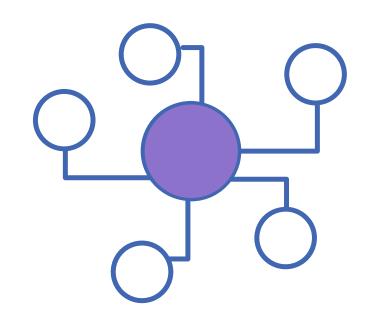


test letters followed by digits



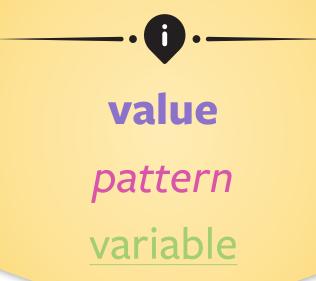




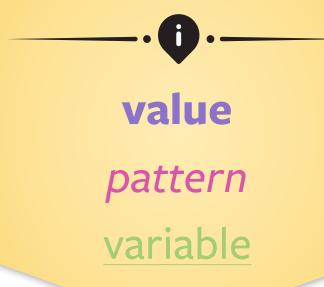


Match

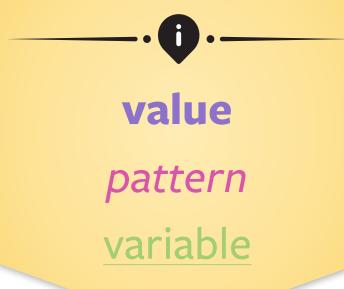
Bind



```
Message msg = ChangeColor{0, 160, 255};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },</pre>
  [](const Move& move) {
    const auto& [x, y] = move;
    std::cout << "Move by: " << x << ',' << y << '\n';
  [](const Write& write) {
    const auto& [text] = write;
    std::cout << "Text message: " << text << '\n';</pre>
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [r, g, b] = change_color;
    std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
}, msg);
```

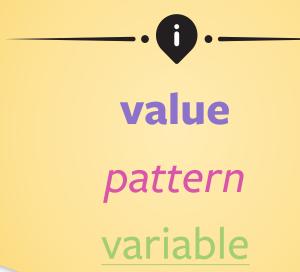


```
Message msg = ChangeColor{0, 160, 255};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit\&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },
  [](const Move& move) {
    const auto& [x, y] = move;
    std::cout << "Move by: " << x << ',' << y << '\n';
  [](const Write& write) {
    const auto& [text] = write;
    std::cout << "Text message: " << text << '\n';</pre>
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [r, g, b] = change_color;
    std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
}, msg);
```



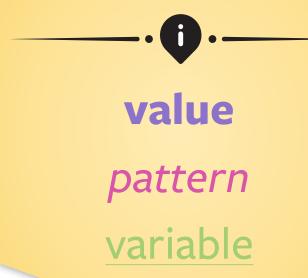
Select + Decompose

```
Message msg = ChangeColor\{0, 160, 255\};
inspect (msg) {
  <Quit> __: std::cout << "Done\n";
  < Move > [x, y]: std::cout << "Move by: " << x << ',' << y << '\n';
  <write> [text]: std::cout << "Text message: " << text << '\n';
 <ChangeColor> [r, g, b]: {
    std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
```



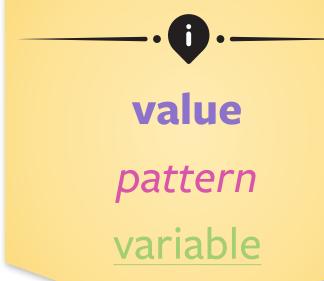
Select + Decompose: Nested

```
Message msg = ChangeColor{Rgb{0, 160, 255}};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },</pre>
 // . . .
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [color] = change_color;
    std::visit(overload{
      [](const Rgb& rgb) {
        const auto& [r, g, b] = rgb;
        std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
      [](const Hsv& hsv) {
        const auto& [h, s, v] = hsv;
        std::cout << "to HSV: " << h << ',' << s << ',' << v << '\n';
    }, color);
}, msg);
```



Select + Decompose: Nested

```
Message msg = ChangeColor{Rgb{0, 160, 255}};
std::visit(overload{
  [](const Quit&) { std::cout << "Done\n"; },
 // . . .
  [](const ChangeColor& change_color) {
    const auto& [color] = change_color;
    std::visit(overload{
      [](const Rgb& rgb) {
        const auto& [r, g, b] = rgb;
        std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
      [](const Hsv& <u>hsv</u>) {
        const auto& [h, s, v] = hsv;
        std::cout << "to HSV: " << h << ',' << s << ',' << v << '\n';
    }, color);
}, msg);
```



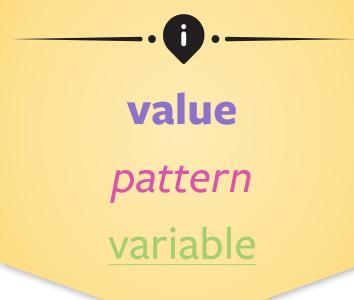
Select + Decompose: Nested

```
Message msg = ChangeColor{Rgb{0, 160, 255}};
inspect (msg) {
  <Quit> : std::cout << "Done\n";
  <\!\!Move\!\!> [x, y]: std::cout << "Move by: " << x << ',' << y << '\n';
  <Write> [text]: std::cout << "Text message: " << text << '\n';\"</pre>
  <ChangeColor> [ <Rgb> [r, g, b] ]: {
    std::cout << "to RGB: " << r << ',' << g << ',' << b << '\n';
  <ChangeColor> [ <Hsv> [h, s, v] ]: {
    std::cout << "to HSV: " << h << ',' << s << ',' << v << '\n';
```

KEY IDEA

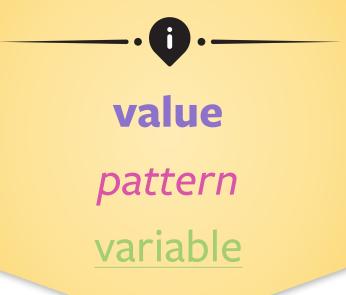
Patterns and values are both built via composition

Structure



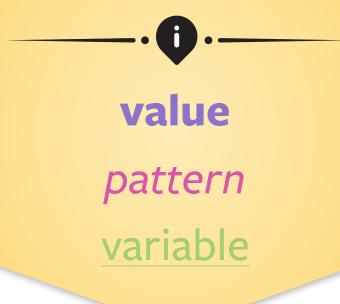
Statement Form

```
inspect constexpropt (init-statementopt value) {
  pattern guardopt: statement
  pattern guardopt : statement
```



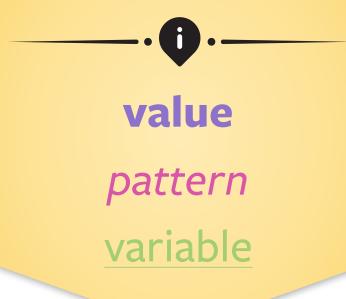
Statement Form

```
inspect (s) {
 "foo": std::cout << "got foo\n";
  "bar": std::cout << "got bar\n";
```



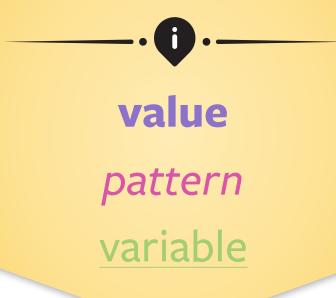
Expression Form

```
inspect constexpr<sub>opt</sub> (init-statement<sub>opt</sub> value) trailing-return-type<sub>opt</sub> {
  pattern guardopt => expression ,
  pattern guardopt => expression ,
};
```



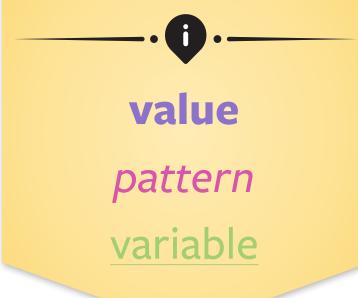
Expression Form

```
auto s = inspect (x) {
    0 => "zero"s,
    1 => "one"s,
};
```



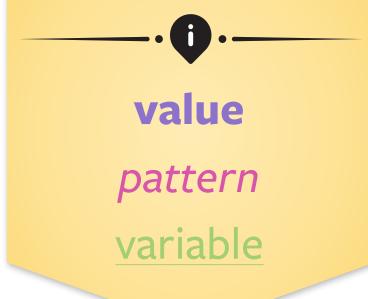
Expression Form

```
auto s = inspect (x) -> std::string {
    0 => "zero",
    1 => "one"s,
};
```



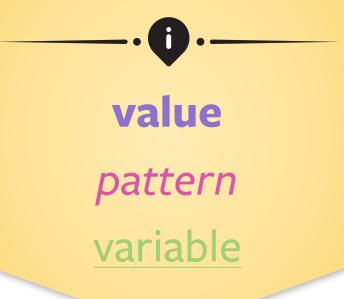
Pattern Guard

```
inspect (x) {
  [x, y] if (x == y): std::cout << "same\n";
  [x, y]: std::cout << "diff\n";</pre>
```



Pattern Guard

```
inspect (x) {
  [x, y] if (x == y): std::cout << "same\n";
  [x, y]: std::cout << "diff\n";</pre>
```



Declaration Form

```
auto pattern = value;
```

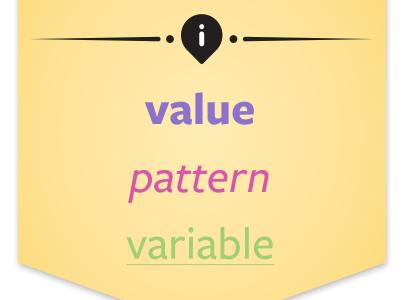
Overview of Patterns

DISCLAIMER

Details subject to change in newer revisions

Primary Patterns



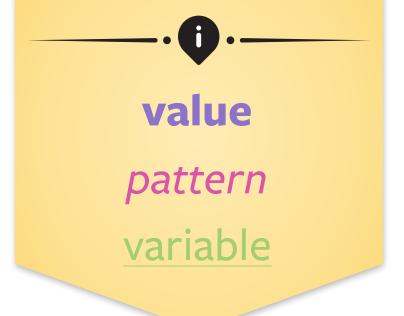


P1110, P1469

• ___ (double underscore)

```
inspect (value) {
    std::cout << "ignored\n";</pre>
// prints: "ignored"
```

```
std::lock_guard<std::mutex> __(a);
std::lock_guard<std::mutex> __(b);
auto [x, _, _] = value;
```

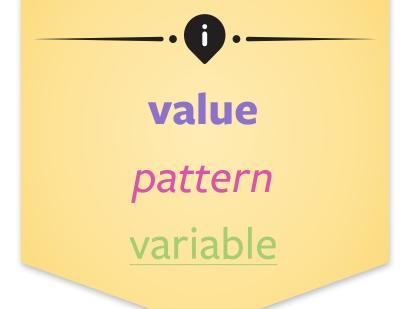


Identifier Pattern

identifier

```
int value = 42;
inspect (value) {
  x: std::cout << x << '\n';</pre>
// prints: "42"
```

```
auto x = value;
```



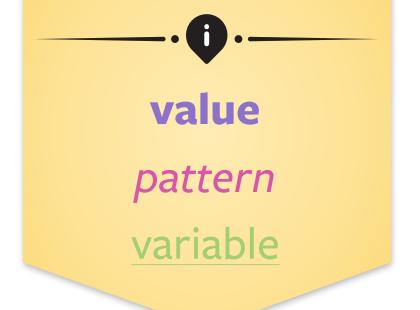
Expression Pattern

constant-expression

... except identifier!

```
int value = 0;
inspect (value) {
  0: std::cout << "zero\n";</pre>
  1: std::cout << "one\n";</pre>
// prints: "zero"
```

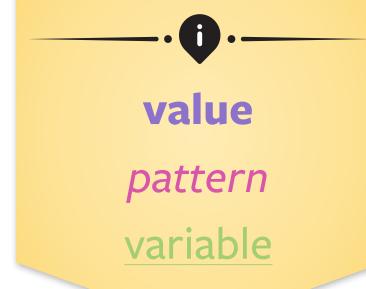
```
enum class Color { Red, Green, Blue };
Color color = Color::Red;
inspect (color) {
  Color::Red: std::cout << "red\n";</pre>
  Color::Green: std::cout << "green\n";</pre>
  Color::Blue: std::cout << "blue\n";</pre>
// prints: "red"
```



Why?

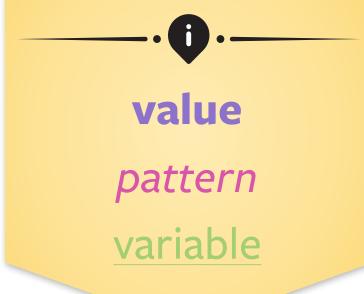
identifier

id-expression



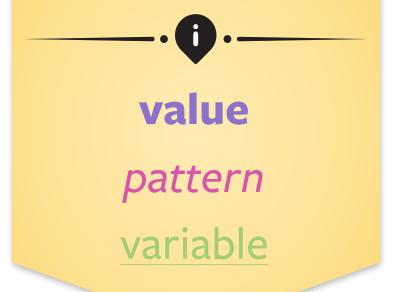
Why?

```
static constexpr int x = 101;
int value = 42;
inspect (value) {
  x: std::cout << x << '\n';</pre>
  __: std::cout << "no match\n";</pre>
// prints: ?
```



Why?

```
static constexpr int x = 101;
int value = 42;
inspect (value) {
  x: std::cout << x << '\n';
  __: std::cout << "no match\n";</pre>
// prints: ?
```



Bind Mode

- bind pattern
- Identifiers are <u>identifier</u> patterns

```
int value = 42;
inspect (value) {
   bind x: std::cout << x << '\n';
}
// prints: "42"</pre>
```

Expr Mode

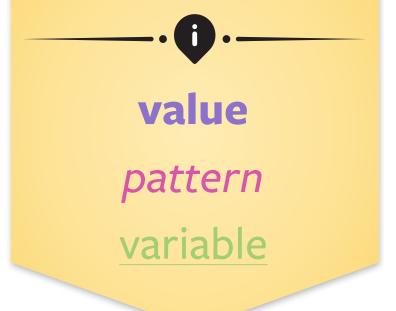
- expr pattern
- Identifiers are *id-expressions*

```
enum Color { Red, Green, Blue };

Color color = Red;

inspect (color) {
  expr Red: std::cout << "red\n";
  expr Green: std::cout << "green\n";
  expr Blue: std::cout << "blue\n";
}

// prints: "red"</pre>
```



Observation

- Existing declarations
- Identifiers are <u>identifier</u> patterns

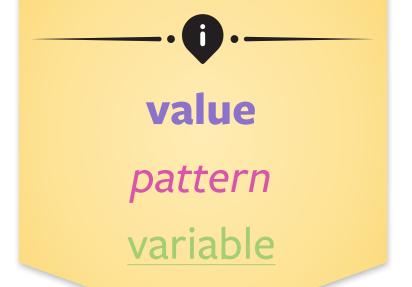
- Switch statement
- Identifiers are *id-expressions*

```
auto x = value;
auto [foo, bar] = value;
```

```
enum Color { Red, Green, Blue };

Color color = Red;

switch (color) {
  case Red: /* ... */; break;
  case Green: /* ... */; break;
  case Blue: /* ... */; break;
}
```



Let Pattern

- let pattern
- Top-level is implicitly let

```
int value = 42;
inspect (value) {
  let x: std::cout << x << '\n';</pre>
//^^^ optional
// prints: "42"
```

Case Pattern

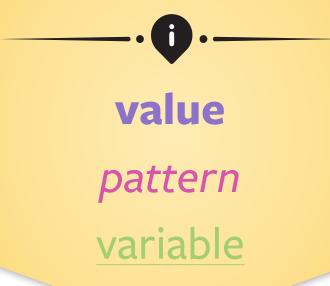
case pattern

```
enum Color { Red, Green, Blue };

Color color = Red;

inspect (color) {
   case Red: std::cout << "red\n";
   case Green: std::cout << "green\n";
   case Blue: std::cout << "blue\n";
}

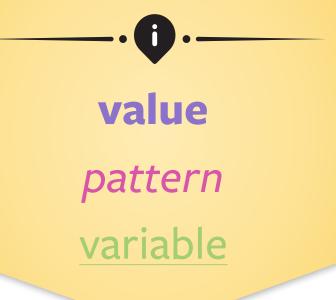
// prints: "red"</pre>
```



Putting Them Together

```
static constexpr int zero = 0, one = 1;
std::pair<int, std::pair<int, int>> p = /* ... */;
inspect (p) {
  case [zero, let [\underline{x}, \underline{y}]]: /* ... */;
  // ^^^ id-expression
  case [one , let [x, y]]: /* ... */;
                   ^ id-pattern
```

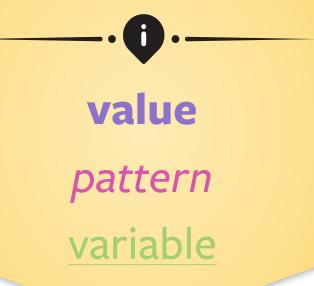
Compound Patterns



Structured Binding Pattern (1)

• [$pattern_1$, $pattern_2$, ..., $pattern_N$]

```
std::pair<int, int> p = /* ... */;
inspect (p) {
  [0, 0]: std::cout << "on origin";
  [0, y]: std::cout << "on y-axis";
  [x, 0]: std::cout << "on x-axis";
  [x, y]: std::cout << x << ',' << y;
```

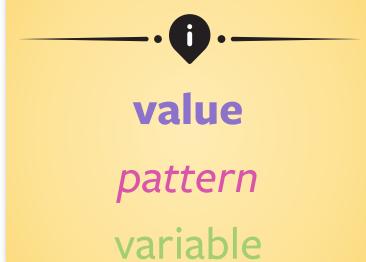


Structured Binding Pattern (2)

• [designator₁: pattern₁, designator₂: pattern₂, ..., designator_N: pattern_N]

```
struct Player { int hitpoints; int coins; };
void get_hint(const Player& player) {
  inspect (player) {
    [.hitpoints: 1]: std::cout << "You're almost destroyed!\n";
    [.hitpoints: 10, .coins: 10]: {
      std::cout << "I need the hints from you!\n";</pre>
    [.coins: 10]: std::cout << "Get more hitpoints!\n";
    [.hitpoints: 10]: std::cout << "Get more ammo!\n";
```





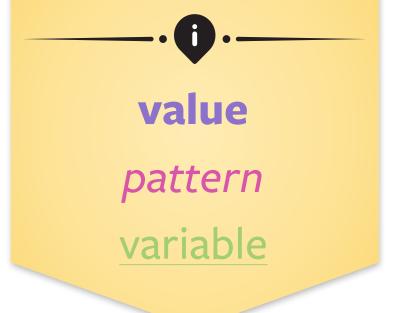
Alternative Pattern

VariantLike

```
• < type > pattern
```

```
std::variant<int, float> v = /* ... */;
inspect (v) {
  <int> i: std::cout << "got int: " << i << '\n';</pre>
 <float> f: std::cout << "got float: " << f << '\n';
```

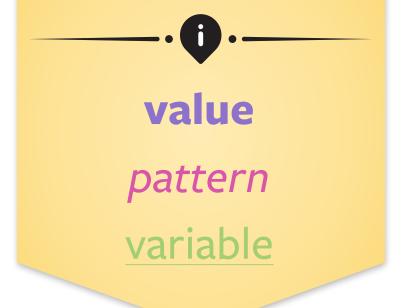




```
• < type > pattern
```

```
std::variant<int, int> v = /* ... */;
inspect (v) {
  <int> i: std::cout << "got int: " << i << '\n';</pre>
```

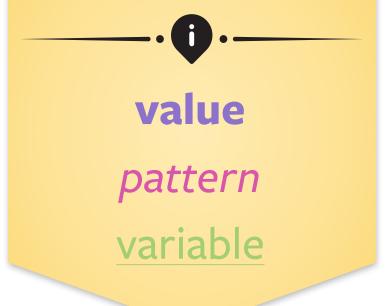




< constant-expression > pattern

```
std::variant<int, int> v = /* ... */;
inspect (v) {
  <0> first: std::cout << "got first int: " << first << '\n';</pre>
 <1> second: std::cout << "got second int: " << second << '\n';</pre>
```

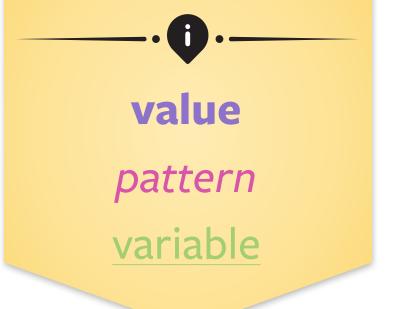




```
• < auto > pattern
```

```
std::variant<int, std::string> v = /* ... */;
inspect (v) {
  <auto> <u>x</u>: std::cout << "got: " << x << '\n';
```

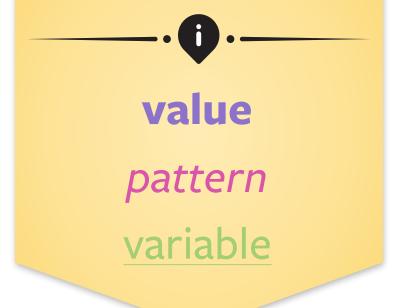




```
• < concept > pattern
```

```
std::variant<bool, char, int, float, std::string> v = /* ... */;
inspect (v) {
  <Integral> i: std::cout << "got an integral: " << i << '\n';</pre>
  <auto> x: std::cout << "got : " << x << '\n';</pre>
```

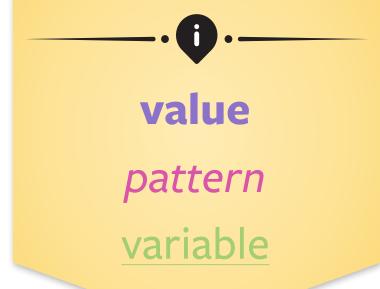




AnyLike

```
• < type > pattern
```

```
std::any a = 42;
inspect (a) {
  <int> i: std::cout << "got int: " << i << '\n';</pre>
 <float> <u>f</u>: std::cout << "got float: " << f << '\n';
```

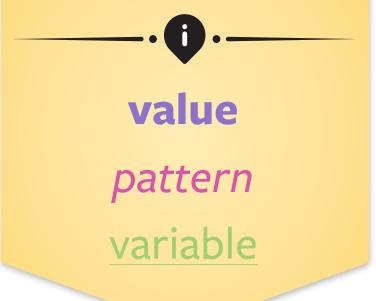


Alternative Pattern

Polymorphic Types

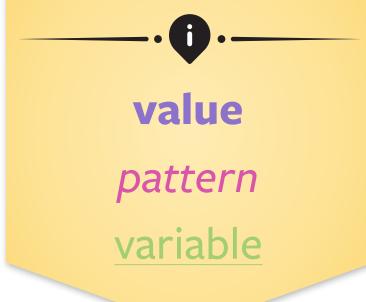
```
• < type > pattern
```

```
struct Shape { virtual ~Shape() = default; };
struct Circle: Shape { int radius; };
struct Rectangle: Shape { int width, height; };
double get_area(const Shape& shape) {
  return inspect (shape) {
    < circle > [r] => 3.14 * r * r,
    < Rectangle > [\underline{w}, \underline{h}] => w * h,
```



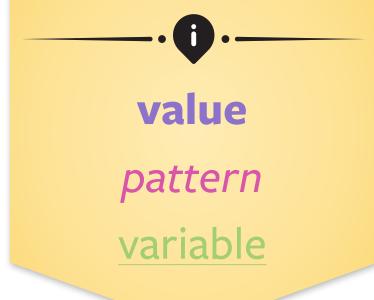
```
• *! pattern • *? pattern
```

```
auto v = \{ 3, 9, 1, 4, 2, 5, 9 \};
auto [min_iter, max_iter] = std::ranges::minmax_element(v);
std::cout << "min = " << *min_iter << ", "
          << "max = " << *max_iter << '\n';
```



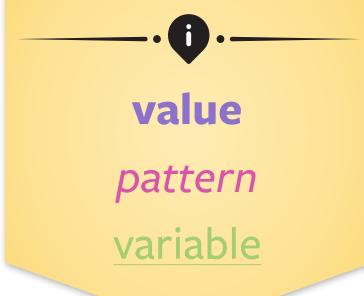
```
• *! pattern • *? pattern
```

```
auto v = \{ 3, 9, 1, 4, 2, 5, 9 \};
auto [*! min, *! max] = std::ranges::minmax_element(v);
std::cout << "min = " << min << ", max = " << max << '\n';
```



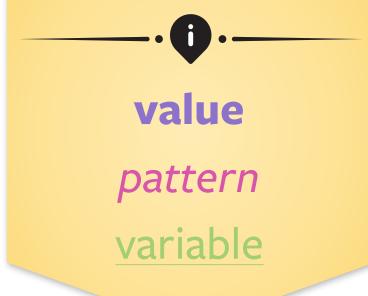
```
• *! pattern • *? pattern
```

```
struct Employee { int id; std::string name; };
std::vector<Employee> employees = /* ... */;
auto [*! [.name: min_name], *! [.name: max_name]] =
    std::ranges::minmax_element(employees, {}, &Employee::id);
std::cout << "min id employee = " << min_name << ", "</pre>
          << "max id employee = " << max_name << '\n';
```



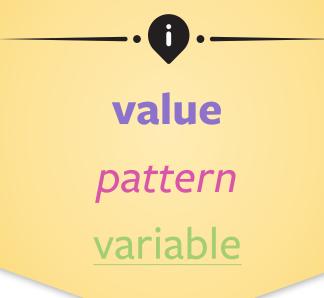
```
• *! pattern • *? pattern
```

```
struct Node {
  int value;
  std::unique_ptr<Node> next;
};
bool starts_with_two_zeros(const Node& node) {
  return inspect (node) {
    [.value: 0, .next: *? [.value: 0]] => true,
       => false,
```



```
• *! pattern • *? pattern
```

```
struct Node {
  int value;
  std::unique_ptr<Node> next;
};
bool starts_with_two_zeros(const Node& node) {
  return inspect (node) {
    [.value: 0, .next: *? [.value: 0]] => true,
       => false,
```



Extractor Pattern

- (constant-expression ! pattern)
- Unchecked extractor pattern

```
· ( constant-expression ? pattern )
```

Checked extractor pattern

```
( e! pattern ) matches value if:
auto&& x = e.extract(value);
if (pattern matches x)
```

```
( e? pattern ) matches value if:
auto&& x = e.try_extract(value);
if (x && pattern matches *x)
```

Compile-Time Regular Expressions

HTTPS://GITHUB.COM/HANICKADOT/COMPILE-TIME-REGULAR-EXPRESSIONS

CTRE: Basic Example

```
bool is_a_date(std::string_view input) noexcept {
 return ctre::match<"[0-9]{4}/[0-9]{2}/[0-9]{2}">(input);
```

ctre::match<"REGEX">

```
void f(std::string_view input) {
  constexpr auto id =
    ctre::match<"[a-z]+([0-9]+)">;
 auto result = id.try_extract(input);
 // implicitly convertible to bool
  if (result) {
   // unpack with structured bindings
    auto [whole, digits] = *result;
```

ctre::match<"REGEX">

```
void f(std::string_view input) {
  constexpr auto id =
    ctre::match<"[a-z]+([0-9]+)">;
 auto result = id.try_extract(input);
 // implicitly convertible to bool
  if (result) {
   // unpack with structured bindings
    auto [whole, digits] = *result;
```

```
( e? pattern ) matches value if:
auto&& x = e.try_extract(value);
if (x && pattern matches *x)
```

ctre::match<"REGEX">

```
void f(std::string_view input) {
  constexpr auto id =
    ctre::match<"[a-z]+([0-9]+)">;
 auto result = id.try_extract(input);
 // implicitly convertible to bool
  if (result) {
   // unpack with structured bindings
   auto [whole, digits] = *result;
```

```
( id? [w, d] ) matches input if:
auto&& x = id.try_extract(input);
if (x \& \{ w, d \}) matches *x
```

Extractor Example: CTRE

```
inline constexpr auto id = ctre::match<"[a-z]+([0-9]+)">;
inline constexpr auto date = ctre::match<"([0-9]{4})/([0-9]{2})/([0-9]{2})">;
inspect (s) {
  (id? [whole, digits]): // ...
  (date? [whole, year, month, day]): // ...
```

Thank you!

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