

Nice, this is the right thing to ask about.

Nothing here is “advanced magic” — it’s just a compact way of using very basic stuff.

Let’s completely unpack:

```
vector<array<int,3>> a(n);
a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]};
...
for (auto &x : a) cout << (char)x[2];
```

**1** What is array<int,3>?

array<int,3> is a fixed-size container of 3 integers.

Think of it as:

```
struct Triple {
    int first;
    int second;
    int third;
};
```

But instead of naming them, we access by index:

x[0] → first int

x[1] → second int

x[2] → third int

So:

```
array<int,3> x;
x[0] = 10;
x[1] = 20;
x[2] = 30;
```

is like:

```
Triple x;
x.first = 10;
x.second = 20;
```

```
x.third = 30;
```

**2** What is `vector<array<int,3>> a(n);?`

Break it:

`array<int,3>` = one “triple” of 3 ints.

`vector<array<int,3>>` = dynamic array (vector) of those triples.

`a(n)` = create a vector with n elements.

So you can think of it as a 2D array:  $n \times 3$  integers.

Visually:

`a[0] = { ?, ?, ? }`

`a[1] = { ?, ?, ? }`

`a[2] = { ?, ?, ? }`

...

`a[n-1] = { ?, ?, ? }`

Each `a[i]` is an `array<int,3>` → 3 integers.

**3** What does `a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]};` do?

This uses brace initialization to fill the 3 slots:

`a[i][0] = bal;` // prefix balance before position i

`a[i][1] = -i;` // negative index (for sorting in descending order by i)

`a[i][2] = s[i];` // character '(' or ')' stored as int (ASCII)

Note: `s[i]` is a char, but it automatically converts to int (its ASCII code).

Later we cast back to char with `(char)x[2].`

So for example, if:

`i = 3`

`bal = 2`

`s[i] = '('`

we do:

`a[3] = {2, -3, '('};`

Internally:

```
a[3][0] = 2;
a[3][1] = -3;
a[3][2] = 40; // ASCII of '('
```

**4** What is for (auto &x : a) cout << (char)x[2];?

Here:

x is a reference to each array<int,3> in the vector.

x[2] is the third element of that small array → the stored character as int.

(char)x[2] converts it back to character '(' or ')'.

So this loop prints the third component of every triple in order.

Equivalent "expanded" version:

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    array<int,3> &x = a[i]; // reference
    int code = x[2]; // integer code for char
    char c = (char)code; // convert to char
    cout << c;
}
cout << '\n';
```

**5** Why are we storing these 3 values?

From the problem/editorial, for each position i we need:

prefix balance before this character → for main sort key

position in decreasing order → tie-breaker

the character itself → what we finally print

So for each position  $i$  we conceptually store:  
(balance\_before\_ $i$ ,  $-i$ ,  $s[i]$ )

Using `array<int,3>` is just a compact way to pack those three into one object.

### 6 Why $-i$ and not $i$ ?

We want:

Sort by increasing balance.

If balances are equal  $\rightarrow$  sort by decreasing position.

But sort is ascending by default.

Trick: to simulate “position descending”, we store  $-i$ .

Example:

Positions:  $i = 2$  and  $i = 5$

store  $-2$  and  $-5$

Sort ascending numbers:  $-5 < -2$

So order becomes:  $i = 5$  then  $i = 2 \rightarrow$  correct: higher  $i$  first.

### 7 Is this some advanced data structure?

Not really. It's just:

`vector`  $\rightarrow$  dynamic array (you already know this)

`array<int,3>`  $\rightarrow$  tiny fixed array of size 3

`[ ]`  $\rightarrow$  index operator

sorting a vector of such objects

You could write the same logic using a struct if that feels clearer:

```
struct Node {  
    int bal;  
    int neg_pos;  
    char c;  
};  
  
vector<Node> a(n);  
int bal = 0;  
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
    a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]};  
    bal += (s[i] == '(' ? 1 : -1);  
}  
  
sort(a.begin(), a.end(), [](const Node &x, const Node &y){  
    if (x.bal != y.bal) return x.bal < y.bal;  
    return x.neg_pos < y.neg_pos;  
});  
  
for (auto &x : a) cout << x.c;  
cout << '\n';
```

This is exactly the same logic, just more verbose and "beginner readable".

## 8 Quick mental model

For each character index  $i$ , we build a record:  
[ balance\_before\_i ,  $-i$  ,  $s[i]$  ]

Then we:

sort all these records

read out the character field in that new order

That's the whole algorithm.

If you want, next I can:

take a small example like `s = "((())")`

build the full array step by step

show how sort reorders it

and how the final string comes out.

just rewrite that all things in good way

## Complete Explanation of the Compact C++ Code

### Original Code (Compact Version)

```
cpp

vector<array<int,3>> a(n);
a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]};
// ... (sorting happens here)
for (auto &x : a) cout << (char)x[2];
```

### 1. Understanding `array<int,3>`

#### What it is

`array<int,3>` is a fixed-size array of 3 integers. Think of it as a "triplet" or a mini-tuple that holds 3 values together.

#### Visualization

```
cpp

array<int,3> my_triplet;
my_triplet[0] = 10; // First value
```

```
my_triplet[1] = 20; // Second value
my_triplet[2] = 30; // Third value
```

## Alternative: Using a Struct (Easier to Understand)

cpp

```
struct Triple {
    int first;
    int second;
    int third;
};

// Equivalent to:
Triple my_triplet;
my_triplet.first = 10; // Like my_triplet[0]
my_triplet.second = 20; // Like my_triplet[1]
my_triplet.third = 30; // Like my_triplet[2]
```

## 2. Understanding `vector<array<int,3>> a(n)`

### Breaking it Down

- `array<int,3>` = A single triple (3 integers packed together)
- `vector<array<int,3>>` = A list/dynamic array of these triples
- `a(n)` = Create this list with `n` elements

### Visual Representation

text

```
a[0] = { value1, value2, value3 }
a[1] = { value1, value2, value3 }
a[2] = { value1, value2, value3 }
...
a[n-1] = { value1, value2, value3 }
```

Each `a[i]` contains 3 related pieces of data for position `i`.

## 3. Understanding the Assignment: `a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]};`

## What's Happening

For each position `i` in the string, we store 3 pieces of information:

cpp

```
a[i][0] = bal;      // Balance (number of '(' minus ')') before position i
a[i][1] = -i;       // Negative index (explained below)
a[i][2] = s[i];     // The character itself (stored as its ASCII code)
```

## Example

If `s = "((())")`, and we're at position `i = 3` where `bal = 2` and `s[3] = '('`:

cpp

```
a[3] = {2, -3, '('};
// Internally:
// a[3][0] = 2
// a[3][1] = -3
// a[3][2] = 40 // ASCII code for '('
```

## 4. Understanding the Print Loop:

```
for (auto &x : a) cout << (char)x[2];
```

### Breaking it Down

- `auto &x : a` = For each triple in the list
- `x[2]` = Access the third value (the character's ASCII code)
- `(char)x[2]` = Convert ASCII code back to character

### Expanded Equivalent

cpp

```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    array<int,3>& current_triple = a[i];
    int ascii_code = current_triple[2]; // Get the stored ASCII value
    char character = (char)ascii_code; // Convert to character
    cout << character;
```

```
}
```

```
cout << '\n';
```

## 5. Why Store These 3 Values?

### The Algorithm Context

From the problem (rearranging parentheses for minimum balance):

1. **Balance (a[i][0]):** Primary sorting key - positions with lower balance come first
2. **Negative Index (-i):** Secondary sorting key - when balances are equal, sort by decreasing position
3. **Character (a[i][2]):** The actual '(' or ')' we need to print

## 6. Why `-i` Instead of `i`?

### The Sorting Logic

We want: "If balances are equal, sort by position in **descending** order"

### Trick

- By storing `-i` instead of `i`, we get descending order when sorting ascending
- Example: Positions 2 and 5
  - Store `-2` and `-5`
  - Sort ascending: `-5 < -2`
  - Result: position 5 comes before position 2 ✓

## 7. Complete Beginner-Friendly Version

### Using a Struct (Most Readable)

cpp

```
struct Record {  
    int balance;  
    int negative_index;
```

```

    char character;
};

int n = s.length();
vector<Record> records(n);

int current_balance = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    // Store all needed information for position i
    records[i] = {current_balance, -i, s[i]};

    // Update balance for next position
    if (s[i] == '(') {
        current_balance++;
    } else {
        current_balance--;
    }
}

// Sort the records
sort(records.begin(), records.end(), [](const Record& a, const Record& b) {
    if (a.balance != b.balance) {
        return a.balance < b.balance; // Primary: sort by balance ascending
    }
    return a.negative_index < b.negative_index; // Secondary: sort by -i ascending
});

// Print the rearranged string
for (auto& record : records) {
    cout << record.character;
}
cout << '\n';

```

## 8. Step-by-Step Example

Let's trace through `s = "((())())"`:

### Step 1: Initial Data Collection

text

Position	Character	Balance Before	Store as (-i)	Final Triple
0	'('	0	0	{0, 0, '('}
1	'('	1	-1	{1, -1, '('}
2	')'	2	-2	{2, -2, ')'}

3	'('	1	-3	{1, -3, '('}
4	')'	2	-4	{2, -4, ')'}
5	)'	1	-5	{1, -5, ')'}

## Step 2: After Sorting

Sort by: First balance, then -i (both ascending)

text

Original: [{0,0,'('}, {1,-1,'('}, {2,-2,'')'}, {1,-3,'('}, {2,-4,'')'}, {1,-5,'')'}]

Sorted: [{0,0,'('}, ← Balance 0 (lowest)  
{1,-5,'')'}, ← Balance 1, largest -i first  
{1,-3,'('}, ← Balance 1, medium -i  
{1,-1,'('}, ← Balance 1, smallest -i  
{2,-4,'')'}, ← Balance 2, larger -i  
{2,-2,'')'}] ← Balance 2, smaller -i

## Step 3: Print Characters in Sorted Order

text

Take third value from each triple: '()' '()' '()' '()' '()' '()'

Result: "()()()" ← Minimum possible maximum balance

## 9. Key Takeaways

1. `array<int,3>` is just a compact way to group 3 integers
2. `vector<array<int,3>>` creates a table with `n` rows and 3 columns
3. **Storing `-i`** is a clever trick to get descending order with ascending sort
4. `(char)x[2]` converts the stored ASCII code back to a character
5. **The compact code** is just efficient C++ - not "advanced magic"

The algorithm's essence is simple: collect information for each position, sort using the right criteria, then output characters in the new order.

i don't know how these things works seeeing them first time  
`vector<array<int,3>> a(n);  
a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]}; //-> this way`

```
char)x[2];
```

what elements he is accesing is they are advance topics or data types or data structure ig break them down completely what they are doing here why we are using them

## Complete Breakdown for Beginners - No Prior Knowledge Needed

Let me explain **from absolute scratch**. These are **NOT** advanced topics - just C++ syntax that looks confusing at first.

### PART 1: What is `array<int,3>` ?

#### The SIMPLEST Explanation:

Think of `array<int,3>` as a "box that holds exactly 3 numbers".

text



#### Real-life Analogy:

Imagine a **locker** with **3 compartments**:

- Compartment 0: First item
- Compartment 1: Second item
- Compartment 2: Third item

#### How to Create One:

cpp

```
array<int,3> myBox; // Create a box with 3 number slots
```

#### How to Fill It:

cpp

```
// Method 1: Fill each slot separately
myBox[0] = 10; // Put 10 in first slot
myBox[1] = 20; // Put 20 in second slot
myBox[2] = 30; // Put 30 in third slot

// Method 2: Fill all at once (what the code does)
myBox = {10, 20, 30}; // Same as above!
```

## PART 2: What is `vector<array<int,3>>` ?

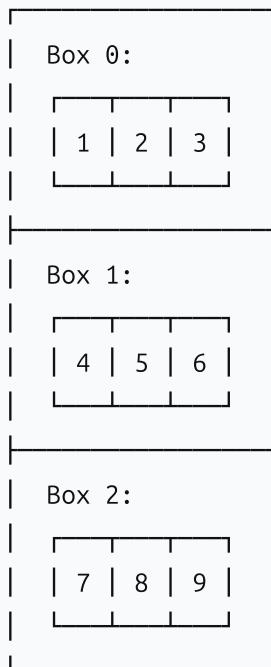
### Step-by-Step Breakdown:

1. `array<int,3>` = One box with 3 numbers
2. `vector<...>` = A **list** or **collection** of things
3. `vector<array<int,3>>` = A **list of boxes**, where each box has 3 numbers

### Visual Representation:

text

List of boxes (vector):



### Creating It:

cpp

```
int n = 5; // Let's say we want 5 boxes
vector<array<int,3>> a(n); // Create list with 5 empty boxes
```

Now `a` has 5 boxes, each with 3 slots (all initially 0):

text

```
a[0] = {0, 0, 0}
a[1] = {0, 0, 0}
a[2] = {0, 0, 0}
a[3] = {0, 0, 0}
a[4] = {0, 0, 0}
```

## PART 3: Understanding `a[i] = {bal, -i, s[i]}`;

Let's break this **word by word**:

**a[i]**

This means: "Get the i-th box from the list"

If `i = 2`, then `a[2]` is the **third box** (computers count from 0).

**= {bal, -i, s[i]}**

This means: "Fill the box with these 3 values"

text

Slot 0	Slot 1	Slot 2
bal	-i	s[i]

## Example with Actual Numbers:

cpp

```
int i = 3;           // Position 3
int bal = 2;         // Current balance
```

```

char s[] = "((())"; // Our string

// This line:
a[3] = {bal, -i, s[3]};

// Is equivalent to:
a[3][0] = 2;           // Slot 0 gets 2
a[3][1] = -3;          // Slot 1 gets -3
a[3][2] = '(';         // Slot 2 gets '(' (ASCII 40)

```

**Wait!** But `'('` is a character, not a number!

## Character to Number Trick:

In computers, every character has a **number code** (ASCII):

- `'('` = 40
- `')'` = 41

So when we store `s[i]` (which is `'('`) in an `int` slot, it automatically becomes 40.

## PART 4: Understanding `(char)x[2]`

### Step 1: What is `x`?

cpp

```
for (auto &x : a) // For each box in the list
```

`x` is **one box** (one `array<int,3>`).

### Step 2: What is `x[2]`?

This means: "Get what's in slot 2 of the box"

Remember our box structure:

text

```
x[0] = balance
x[1] = -i
```

```
x[2] = character code (40 or 41)
```

So `x[2]` gives us **40** (for '(') or **41** (for ')').

### Step 3: What is `(char)x[2]`?

This converts the number back to a character:

- `(char)40` becomes `'('`
- `(char)41` becomes `')'`

## PART 5: Complete Walkthrough with Example

Let's trace **EVERYTHING** with a tiny example.

### Example String: `s = "()"` (length 2)

#### Step 1: Create the list of boxes

cpp

```
int n = 2;
vector<array<int,3>> a(n); // Create 2 empty boxes
// Initially: a[0] = {0,0,0}, a[1] = {0,0,0}
```

#### Step 2: Fill the boxes

cpp

```
int bal = 0;

// For i = 0:
a[0] = {bal, -0, s[0]}; // s[0] = '('
// a[0] becomes: {0, 0, 40} ← 40 is '('
bal++; // bal becomes 1

// For i = 1:
a[1] = {bal, -1, s[1]}; // s[1] = ')'
// a[1] becomes: {1, -1, 41} ← 41 is ')'
bal--; // bal becomes 0
```

Now we have:

text

```
a[0] = {0, 0, 40} // Box 0
a[1] = {1, -1, 41} // Box 1
```

### Step 3: Sort the boxes (the algorithm's magic)

We sort by:

1. First value (balance)
2. Then second value (-i) if balances are equal

Sorted order:

text

```
a[0] = {0, 0, 40} ← First (balance 0 is smaller than 1)
a[1] = {1, -1, 41} ← Second
```

### Step 4: Print in sorted order

cpp

```
for (auto &x : a) {
    cout << (char)x[2];
}
```

First iteration: `x = a[0], x[2] = 40, (char)40 = '('`

Second iteration: `x = a[1], x[2] = 41, (char)41 = ')'`

Output: `()`

## PART 6: Why Do We Need All This?

### The Problem We're Solving:

We need to **rearrange parentheses** to minimize balance issues.

### What Each Slot Stores:

text

Slot 0 (balance): How many '(' minus ')' BEFORE this position  
 Slot 1 (-i): Negative position (for tie-breaking)  
 Slot 2 (s[i]): The actual '(' or ')' character

## The Sorting Strategy:

1. Put positions with low balance first (less '(' before them)
2. If balance is equal, put later positions first
3. Then print characters in this new order

## PART 7: Simple Analogies

### Analogy 1: Student Records

Think of each box as a **student's report card**:

- Slot 0: Math score (we sort by this first)
- Slot 1: Student ID (negative, for tie-breaking)
- Slot 2: Student name (what we display at the end)

### Analogy 2: Playing Cards

Think of each box as a **playing card**:

- Slot 0: Card value (Ace=1, King=13)
- Slot 1: Card suit encoded (negative)
- Slot 2: Card symbol to display

## PART 8: Complete Beginner Code with Comments

cpp

```
// This is what the compact code does, explained line by line:
```

```
int n = s.length(); // Get string length
```

```
// Create a list of boxes. Each box holds 3 numbers
vector<array<int,3>> a(n);
```

```

int balance = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    // For position i, fill a box with 3 values:
    // 1. Current balance
    // 2. Negative position (-i)
    // 3. Character at position i (as number)
    a[i] = {balance, -i, s[i]};

    // Update balance for next position
    if (s[i] == '(') {
        balance++;
    } else {
        balance--;
    }
}

// Sort all boxes
// By default, sorts by first value, then second, etc.
sort(a.begin(), a.end());

// Print result
for (auto &box : a) { // For each box in sorted order
    int characterCode = box[2]; // Get character code from slot 2
    char character = (char)characterCode; // Convert code to char
    cout << character; // Print it
}
cout << '\n';

```

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. `array<int,3>` = A box with exactly 3 number slots
2. `vector<...>` = A list/collection of things
3. `vector<array<int,3>>` = A list of 3-slot boxes
4. `{bal, -i, s[i]}` = Fill a box with these 3 values
5. `(char)x[2]` = Convert number back to character

**This is NOT advanced!** It's just:

- Creating boxes
- Filling boxes with information