

# INSERT ELEMENT: A POSSIBLE PERFORMANCE ISSUE

- If we have a container, like stack or queue, it seems logical that when we add a new element via an insertion function, the type of the element remains the same. However, this is not always true. Consider, for example, this code:

```
Queue<std::string> lQueue;
```

```
lQueue.enqueue( "Hello World!" );
```

- Here, the container lQueue holds elements of type `std::string`, but we have used a string literal, `"Hello World!"`, which is of type **`const char[13]`**.
- **The compiler sees a mismatch that needs to be resolved.** In this case, an implicit type conversion occurs via `std::string( "Hello World!" )`. In the context of the enqueue call, the compiler creates a temporary of type `std::string` and passes it as constant reference to enqueue to be copied into the queue. **With respect to performance, it would be better to pass the string literal directly to the queue and construct a `std::string` object in-place inside the queue.**



# EMPLACE ELEMENTS

```
template<typename... Args>
void enqueue(Args&&... args)           // allow for type deduction of arg types
{
    assert( fHead != (fTail + 1) % N );

    fElements[fTail].~T();              // free old entry using T's destructor

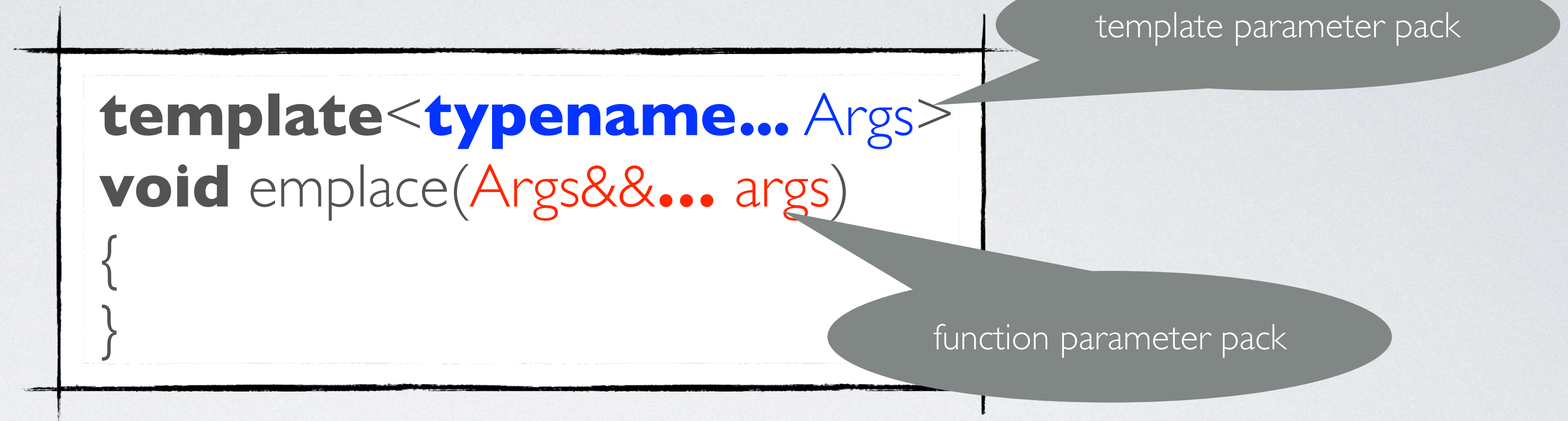
    new ( &fElements[fTail++] ) T( std::forward<Args>(args)... ); // placement new (matching constructor)

    if ( fTail == N )
    {
        fTail = 0;
    }
}
```

- The method `enqueue()` works like `enqueue`, but the new element inserted is constructed into the queue, not copied.
- We define `enqueue()` as a `variadic template method` and `construct the element in-place` via a matching element constructor `via perfect forwarding` of the arguments received by `enqueue()`.



# VARIADIC TEMPLATES



- A **variadic template** is a template function or class that can take a varying number of parameters. The varying parameters are known as a parameter pack.
- In a template parameter list, **class...** or **typename...** indicates that the following parameter represents a list of zero or more types (e.g., `Args` is a list of types).
- The name of a type followed by an ellipsis represents a list of zero or more non-type parameters of the given type (e.g., `args` is a list of non-type parameters).



# STD::FORWARD()

```
void f( const int& p ) { std::cout << "[l-value]" }  
void f ( int&& p) { std::cout << "[r-value]" }
```

```
template<typename T> void f3(T&& p)  
{  
    f( p );  
    f( std::forward<T>( p ) );  
    std::cout << std::endl;  
}
```

```
int a = 2;  
f3( a );           // [l-value][l-value]  
f3( 4 );           // [l-value][r-value]
```

- The helper function `std::forward(arg)` allows perfect forwarding on arg.
- No executable code is generated. It is a compile-time function.
- It returns an R-value reference to arg, if arg is not an L-value. If arg is an L-value reference, it returns arg unchanged.



# EMPLACE SEQUENCE

```
fElements[fTail].~T(); // free old entry using T's destructor  
new ( &fElements[fTail++]) T( std::forward<Args>(args)... ); // placement new (matching constructor)
```

- We when use `emplace`, we first need to free the object that we are `overriding`. We do not free the object itself, just the resources it uses.
- Next, we use the new in-place operator to construct the new object in-place. The new in-place operator does not acquire new memory. It simply reinitializes existing memory with new data.