# Demystifying Value Categories in C++

#### Nis Meinert

Rostock University









#### Disclaimer

#### Disclaimer

- → This talk is mainly about hounding (unnecessary) copy ctors
- → In case you don't care:

"If you're not at all interested in performance, shouldn't you be in the Python room down the hall?" (Scott Meyer)

#### Table of Contents

#### **PART I**

- → Understanding References
- → Value Categories
- → Perfect Forwarding
- → Reading Assembly for Fun and Profit
- → Implicit Costs of const&

#### **PART II**

- → Dangling References
- → std::move in the wild
- → What Happens on return?
- → RVO in Depth
- → Perfect Backwarding

# PART I

# Understanding References

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
   class S:
       def init (self, x):
            self.x = x
   def swap(a, b):
       b, a = a, b
10
   if __name__ == '__main__':
       a, b = S(1), S(2)
11
12
       swap(a, b)
13
        print(f'{a.x}{b.x}')
```

```
#include <iostream>
    struct S {
        int x;
 5
    void swap(S& a, S& b) {
        S\& tmp = a;
        a = b;
10
        b = tmp:
11
12
13
    int main() {
14
        S a{1}; S b{2};
15
        swap(a, b);
16
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
17
```

godbolt.org/z/L6sr2B

3

6 7

```
#include <iostream>
   struct S {
        int x;
    };
5
6
   void swap(S& a, S& b) {
        S tmp = a;
        a = b;
        b = tmp;
10
11
12
   int main() {
13
14
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(a, b);
15
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/P6t\_eR

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    struct S {
        int x;
 5
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
    };
9
10
    void swap(S& a, S& b) {
        S\& tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b:
13
        b = tmp:
14
15
    int main() {
16
17
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(a, b);
18
19
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
20
```

godbolt.org/z/HV5Y4B

```
#include <iostream>
2
   struct S {
        int x;
5
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
   };
9
10
   void swap(S& a, S& b) {
        S tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b;
        b = tmp;
13
14
15
   int main() {
16
17
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(a, b);
18
19
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
20
```

godbolt.org/z/BySvgV

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    struct S {
        int x;
 5
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
    };
9
10
    void swap(S* a, S* b) {
        S* tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b:
13
        b = tmp:
14
15
    int main() {
16
17
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(&a, &b);
18
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/ynizkH

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    struct S {
        int x;
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
 5
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
    };
9
10
    void swap(S* a, S* b) {
        S* tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b:
        b = tmp;
13
14
15
    int main() {
16
17
        S a\{1\}; S b\{2\}; S* a_ptr = &a; S* b_ptr = &b;
        swap(a ptr, b ptr);
18
19
        std::cout << a ptr->x << b ptr->x;
20
```

godbolt.org/z/ssPRn7

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    struct S {
        int x;
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
 5
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
    };
9
10
    void swap(S*& a, S*& b) {
        S* tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b:
13
        b = tmp;
14
15
    int main() {
16
17
        S a\{1\}; S b\{2\}; S* a_ptr = &a; S* b_ptr = &b;
        swap(a ptr, b ptr);
18
19
        std::cout << a ptr->x << b ptr->x;
20
```

godbolt.org/z/yUnrbf

```
#include <iostream>
2
   struct S {
        int x;
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
5
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
   };
9
10
   void swap(S*& a, S*& b) {
        S* tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b:
13
        b = tmp;
14
15
   int main() {
16
17
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(&a, &b);
18
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
19
20
```

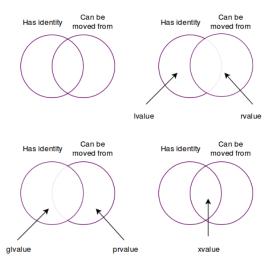
godbolt.org/z/kbRGx7

error: cannot bind non-const lvalue reference of type "S\*&" to an rvalue of type "S\*"

```
#include <iostream>
    struct S {
        int x;
        S(int x): x(x) { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S& other): x(other.x) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S& operator=(const S& other) { x = other.x; std::cout << 'c'; return *this; }
8
    };
9
10
    void swap(S*& a, S*& b) {
        S* tmp = a;
11
12
        a = b;
13
        b = tmp:
14
15
16
    int main() {
17
        S a{1}; S b{2};
        swap(&a, &b);
18
        std::cout << a.x << b.x;
19
20
```

#### godbolt.org/z/kbRGx7

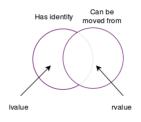
Value Categories



 $(diagrams\ shamelessly\ stolen\ from\ bajamircea.github.io/coding/cpp/2016/04/07/move-forward.html)$ 

(diagrams shamelessly stolen from bajamircea.github.io/coding/cpp/2016/04/07/move-forward.html)

```
struct S{ int x; };
S make S(int x) {
   S s\{.x = x\};
   return s; // has no name after returning
int main() {
   S = make_S(42); // `a` is an lvalue
                      // initialized with a prvalue
   S b = std::move(a); // prepare to die, `a`!
                        // now `a` became an xvalue
   auto x = a.x; // ERROR: `a` is in an undefined state
   a = make S(13);
   x = a.x; // fine!
```



6

8

10 11

13

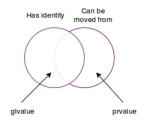
14

15

16 17

(diagrams shamelessly stolen from bajamircea.github.io/coding/cpp/2016/04/07/move-forward.html)

```
struct S{ int x; };
S make S(int x) {
   S s\{.x = x\};
   return s; // has no name after returning
int main() {
   S = make_S(42); // `a` is an lvalue
                      // initialized with a prvalue
   S b = std::move(a); // prepare to die, `a`!
                        // now `a` became an xvalue
   auto x = a.x; // ERROR: `a` is in an undefined state
   a = make S(13);
   x = a.x; // fine!
```



6

8

10 11

13

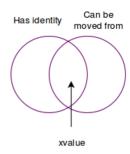
14

15

16 17

(diagrams shamelessly stolen from bajamircea.github.io/coding/cpp/2016/04/07/move-forward.html)

```
struct S{ int x; };
S make S(int x) {
   S s\{.x = x\};
   return s; // has no name after returning
int main() {
   S = make_S(42); // `a` is an lvalue
                      // initialized with a prvalue
   S b = std::move(a); // prepare to die, `a`!
                        // now `a` became an xvalue
   auto x = a.x; // ERROR: `a` is in an undefined state
   a = make S(13);
   x = a.x; // fine!
```



6 7 8

10 11

13 14

15

16 17

## Binding references to temporaries

error: cannot bind non-const lvalue reference of type "S\*&" to an rvalue of type "S\*"

- → Memory addresses are always rvalues!
- → One cannot refer to something that doesn't has a name...
- → ...except it is a const reference (lifetime extension)

# std::move

#### std::move

godbolt.org/z/tK34H9

- → std::move creates xvalues
- → Syntax:
  - → Ivalue ref.: S&
    - → rvalue ref.: S&&

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <utility>
    struct S{
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
    };
9
10
    int main() {
        S s1;
11
        S s2(s1);
12
        S s3(S{});
13
        S s4(std::move(s1));
14
15
```

godbolt.org/z/xi4DbB

#### A: abac

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <utility>
   struct S{
       S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
       S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
       S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
   };
   int main() {
       S s1;
       S s2(s1);
       S s3(S{});
       S s4(std::move(s1));
14
15
```

godbolt.org/z/xi4DbB

- → S s1: no surprise
- $\rightarrow$  S s2(s1): no surprise
- → S s3(S{}): mandatory copy elision (initializer is prvalue of the same class type)
- → S s4(std::move(s1)): forced move construction

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <utility>
    struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
    };
9
   void f(const S&) { std::cout << '1'; }</pre>
10
   void f(S&) { std::cout << '2'; }</pre>
    void f(S&&) { std::cout << '3'; }</pre>
12
13
    int main() {
14
15
        S s1;
        f(s1);
16
17
        f(S{});
        f(std::move(s1));
18
19
```

godbolt.org/z/yB5zTx

```
#include <iostream>
    #include <utility>
    struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
    };
9
    void f(const S&) { std::cout << '1'; }</pre>
10
    void f(S) { std::cout << '2'; }</pre>
    void f(S&&) { std::cout << '3'; }</pre>
12
13
    int main() {
14
15
        S s1;
        f(s1);
16
17
        f(S{});
        f(std::move(s1));
18
19
```

godbolt.org/z/MN9mQM

```
#include <iostream>
    #include <utility>
    struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
    };
    void f(const S&) { std::cout << '1'; }</pre>
    void f(S) { std::cout << '2'; }</pre>
    void f(S&&) { std::cout << '3'; }</pre>
12
13
    int main() {
14
15
        S s1:
        f(s1);
16
        f(S{});
        f(std::move(s1));
18
19
```

godbolt.org/z/MN9mQM

#### **Compile-time error** (in all three cases)

- $\rightarrow$  f(s1): ambiguity between 2 and 1
- $\rightarrow$  f(S{}): ambiguity between 2 and 3
- → f(std::move(s1): same as f(S)

```
#include <iostream>
    #include <utility>
    struct S {
 5
        ~S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
6
7
    };
    void f(const S&) { std::cout << '1'; }</pre>
    void f(S&) { std::cout << '2'; }</pre>
    void f(S&&) { std::cout << '3'; }</pre>
10
11
    int main() {
12
        S\&\& r1 = S\{\};
13
        f(r1);
14
15
        S\&\& r2 = S\{\};
16
17
        f(std::move(r2));
18
```

godbolt.org/z/ZsfzmD

#### A: 23aa

```
#include <iostream>
    #include <utility>
    struct S {
        ~S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
    };
    void f(const S&) { std::cout << '1'; }</pre>
    void f(S&) { std::cout << '2'; }</pre>
    void f(S&&) { std::cout << '3'; }</pre>
10
11
12
    int main() {
13
        S\&\& r1 = S\{\};
14
        f(r1);
15
16
        S\&\& r2 = S\{\};
        f(std::move(r2));
17
18
```

godbolt.org/z/ZsfzmD

- → S&&: object that nobody cares about anymore and which will die soon (cf. lifetime extension!)
- → std::move does not actually kill, but makes the object look like a dying object



**NB:** an rvalue ref behaves like an Ivalue ref except that it can bind to a temporary (an rvalue), whereas one cannot bind a (non const) Ivalue ref to an rvalue.

#### std::move

```
#include <type_traits>

template <typename T>
decltype(auto) move(T&& t) {
    using R = std::remove_reference_t<T>&&;
    return static_cast<R>(t);
}
```

godbolt.org/z/yp8Rpc

#### So what does std::move?

- → does not move
- → does not destroy
- → does nothing at all during runtime
- → unconditionally casts its argument to an rvalue

# Quick Bench: tinyurl.com/y67sg7to

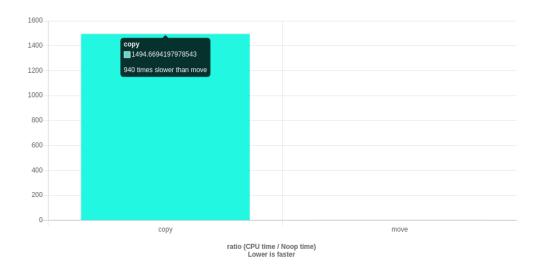
```
std::vector<int> x(1000, 42);
std::vector<int> y(1000, 42);

for (auto _ : state) {
    auto tmp = x;
    x = y;
    y = tmp;
    benchmark::DoNotOptimize(x[345] + y[678]);
}
```

```
std::vector<int> x(1000, 42);
std::vector<int> y(1000, 42);

for (auto _ : state) {
    auto tmp = std::move(x);
    x = std::move(y);
    y = std::move(tmp);
    benchmark::DoNotOptimize(x[345] + y[678]);
}
```

# Quick Bench: tinyurl.com/y67sg7to



Universal References

#### Rvalue ref. or no rvalue ref.?

Rvalue refs are declared using "&&": reasonable to assume that the presence of "&&" in a type declaration indicates an rvalue reference?

```
struct S{};
S\&\& s = S\{\};
                             // (1)
auto\&\& s2 = s;
                             // (2)
void f(S&& s);
                             // (3)
template <typename T>
void f(T\&\& t);
                             // (4)
template <typename T>
void f(const T&& t);
                             // (5)
template <typename T>
void f(std::vector<T>&& v); // (6)
```

#### Does "&&" mean rvalue reference?

- → (1): ???
- → (2): ???
- → (3): ???
- → (4): ???
- → (5): ???
- → (6): ???

#### Universal references

#### Universal references\*

- → Syntax (x is a universal reference):
  - → auto&& x
  - → template <typename T>
    f(T&& x...
- → Rule of thumb: substitute fully qualified type into auto or T and reduce:
  - $\rightarrow$  &  $\Leftrightarrow$  &
  - $\rightarrow$  &&& $\mapsto$  &
  - $\rightarrow$  &&&&  $\mapsto$  &&

```
std::vector<S> v;

auto&& s = v[0]; // S&&& -> S&

auto&& s2 = S{}; // S&&& -> S&

auto&& s3 = s2; // S&& -> S&

// S&&& -> S&

auto&& s3 = std::move(s2);
```

<sup>\*</sup> *Universal reference*: term introduced by Scott Meyers

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <type traits>
   struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
   };
9
10
   template <typename T>
   S f(T&& t) { return t; }
11
12
13
   int main() {
        S s{};
14
        f(s);
15
        f(std::move(s));
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/rYE5ny

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <type traits>
   struct S{};
 5
    void f(S&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
   void f(S&&) { std::cout << 'b': }</pre>
8
    int main() {
10
        auto&& r1 = S\{\};
        static assert(std::is_same_v<decltype(r1), S&&>);
11
12
        f(r1);
        f(static cast<S&&>(r1));
13
14
15
        Ss;
        auto\&\& r2 = s;
16
17
        static_assert(std::is_same_v<decltype(r2), S&>);
        f(r2);
18
19
```

godbolt.org/z/Lat-6T

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
   struct S{
        void f() & { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
        void f() && { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
 5
   };
    int main() {
        auto&& r1 = S{};
10
        r1.f();
        static cast<decltype(r1)>(r1).f();
11
12
13
        auto&& r2 = r1;
        r2.f();
14
15
        static_cast<decltype(r2)>(r2).f();
16
```

godbolt.org/z/ry4Ybx

## Perfect forwarding

# How do we fuse these implementations?

```
#include <type_traits>

template <typename T>
T&& forward(std::remove_reference_t<T>& t) {
    return static_cast<T&&>(t);
}
```

godbolt.org/z/k997Zh

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <type traits>
   struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
    };
9
10
   template <typename T>
   S f(T\&\& t) { return std::forward<T>(t); }
11
12
13
   int main() {
        S s{};
14
        f(s);
15
        f(std::move(s));
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/WvVBwL

#### A: abc

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <type traits>
   struct S {
        S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
8
   };
9
10
   template <typename T>
   S f(T&& t) { return std::forward<T>(t); }
11
12
   int main() {
13
        S s{};
14
        f(s);
15
        f(std::move(s));
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/WvVBwL

**Rule of thumb:** Use std::move for rvalues and std::forward for universal references

# Q: Why can't we use perfect forwarding here?

```
#include <functional>

template <typename Iter, typename Callable, typename... Args>
void foreach (Iter current, Iter end, Callable op, const Args&... args) {
    while (current != end) {
        std::invoke(op, args..., *current);
        ++current;
    }
}
```

godbolt.org/z/PZ-tqV

# Reading x86-64 Assembly ...for fun and profit

## Function Prologue & Epilogue

- → Few lines of code at the beginning (*prologue*) and end (*epilogue*) of a function, which **prepare** 
  - → the stack and
  - → registers
- → Not part of assembly: **convention** (defined & interpreted differently by different OS and compilers)

#### **Prologue**

```
push rbp
mov rbp, rsp
sub rsp, N
```

#### alternatively



(reserve N bytes on stack for local use)

#### **Epilogue**

```
1 mov rsp, rbp
2 pop rbp
3 ret
```

#### alternatively

```
leave
```

#### Stack frame for function call

- → CALL = PUSH address of next instruction + JMP target
- → RET pops return address and transfers control there
- → pass arguments 1 ...6 in registers (rsi, rdx, ...)

```
8th Argument
                (rbp + 24)
                (rbp + 16)
7th Argument
                (return address)
rip
rbp
                (rbp)
rhx
r12
r13
                (rsp)
```

(stack frame for function call with 8 arguments and local registers rbx, r12 and r13)

#### lea vs. mov

- → lea: load effective address
- → puts memory address from STC into the destination dest
- → Example: lea eax, [ebx+8]
  - → put [ebx+8] into eax
  - → value of eax after instruction: 0x00403A48
- → ...whereas: mov eax, [ebx+8]
  - → value of eax after instruction: 0x0012C140

Registers

 $EAX = 0 \times 000000000$  $EBX = 0 \times 00403A40$ 

\_\_\_\_\_

Memory

0x7C81776F 0x7C911000 0x0012C140 0x7FFDB000

0x00403A40 0x00403A44 0x00403A48 0x00403A4C

```
int f(int x, int y, int z) {
   int sum = x + y + z;
   return sum;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/GEVNy6

```
# q92 -00
    f(int, int, int):
      push rbp
     mov rbp, rsp
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-20], edi
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-24], esi
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-28], edx
     mov edx, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-24]
      add edx, eax
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-28]
      add eax, edx
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], eax
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      pop rbp
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/GEVNy6

```
int f(int x, int y, int z) {
   int sum = x + y + z;
   return sum;
}
```

#### godbolt.org/z/GEVNy6

```
# g92 -01
  | f(int, int, int):
2| add edi, esi
2| lea eax, [rdi+rdx]
4| ret
```

godbolt.org/z/RVLjZE

```
# q92 -00
    f(int, int, int):
      push rbp
     mov rbp, rsp
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-20], edi
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-24], esi
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-28], edx
     mov edx, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-24]
      add edx, eax
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-28]
      add eax, edx
     mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], eax
     mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      pop rbp
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/GEVNy6

```
int f(int x) {
    return x + 1;
}

int g(int x) {
    return f(x + 2);
}
```

godbolt.org/z/ox78bF

```
# q92 -00
    f(int):
      push rbp
      mov rbp, rsp
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], edi
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      add eax, 1
      pop rbp
      ret
    g(int):
 5|
      push rbp
 5|
      mov rbp, rsp
      sub rsp, 8
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], edi
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      add eax, 2
      mov edi, eax
      call f(int)
      leave
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/ox78bF

```
int f(int x) {
    return x + 1;
}

int g(int x) {
    return f(x + 2);
}
```

#### godbolt.org/z/ox78bF

```
# g92 -01
  | f(int):
2  | lea eax, [rdi+1]
3  | ret
  | g(int):
2  | lea eax, [rdi+3]
7  | ret
```

godbolt.org/z/Lp0c8r

```
# q92 -00
    f(int):
      push rbp
      mov rbp, rsp
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], edi
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      add eax, 1
      pop rbp
      ret
    q(int):
 5|
      push rbp
 5|
      mov rbp, rsp
      sub rsp, 8
 5 j
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], edi
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
      add eax, 2
 6 I
      mov edi, eax
 6 İ
      call f(int)
      leave
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/ox78bF

```
void side_effect();

int f(int x) {
    auto a = x;
    side_effect();
    return a - x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/HvigZu

```
# g92 -00
  | f(int):
3  | push rbp
3  | mov rbp, rsp
3  | sub rsp, 32
3  | mov DWORD PTR [rbp-20], edi
4  | mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
4  | mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], eax
5  | call side_effect()
6  | mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
6  | sub eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
7  | leave
7  | ret
```

godbolt.org/z/HvigZu

```
void side_effect();

int f(int x) {
    auto a = x;
    side_effect();
    return a - x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/HvigZu

```
void side_effect();

int f(const int& x) {
    auto a = x;
    side_effect();
    return a - x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/m26mJX

```
# g92 -00
    f(int):
 3
      push rbp
      mov rbp, rsp
      sub rsp, 32
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-20], edi
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], eax
      call side effect()
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
6 I
6
      sub eax, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
 71
      leave
 7|
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/HvigZu

```
# q92 -00
    f(int const&):
      push rbp
      mov rbp, rsp
      sub rsp, 32
      mov QWORD PTR [rbp-24], rdi
      mov rax, OWORD PTR [rbp-24]
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rax]
      mov DWORD PTR [rbp-4], eax
      call side effect()
 6 İ
      mov rax, QWORD PTR [rbp-24]
 6 I
      mov eax, DWORD PTR [rax]
      mov edx, DWORD PTR [rbp-4]
 61
      sub edx, eax
 6|
      mov eax, edx
      leave
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/m26mJX

```
# g92 -03
  | f(int):
3|    sub rsp, 8
5|    call side_effect()
7|    xor eax, eax
7|    add rsp, 8
7|    ret
```

#### godbolt.org/z/Ntkj2y

**NB #1:** adjusting rsp in function prologue necessary when function is not a leaf function since callee have to know where to start saving variables on stack. (Adjusting rsp can be ommitted in leaf functions.)

```
# q92 -03
    f(int const&):
      push rbp
      push rbx
      mov rbx, rdi
 3 İ
      sub rsp, 8
      mov ebp, DWORD PTR [rdi]
      call side effect()
 6 İ
      mov eax, ebp
 6 I
      sub eax, DWORD PTR [rbx]
      add rsp, 8
      pop rbx
      pop rbp
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/gJqDbA

```
# g92 -03
  | f(int):
3| sub rsp, 8
5| call side_effect()
7| xor eax, eax
7| add rsp, 8
7| ret
```

#### godbolt.org/z/Ntkj2y

**NB #2:** Offset x in sub rsp, x is objective of optimizations such as alignment: ABI requires stack to be aligned to 16 bytes.

```
# q92 -03
    f(int const&):
      push rbp
      push rbx
      mov rbx, rdi
 3 İ
      sub rsp, 8
      mov ebp, DWORD PTR [rdi]
      call side effect()
 6 İ
      mov eax, ebp
      sub eax, DWORD PTR [rbx]
      add rsp, 8
      pop rbx
      pop rbp
      ret
```

godbolt.org/z/gJqDbA

godbolt.org/z/3CIQW\_

```
template <std::size_t N>
constexpr span(const std::array<value_type, N>& arr) noexcept;
```

cppreference.com/w/cpp/container/span/span

godbolt.org/z/3CIQW\_

#### No!

- → Constructor takes by reference
- → References to automatic storage objects are not constant expressions!
- → Solutions?

```
template <std::size_t N>
constexpr span(const std::array<value_type, N>& arr) noexcept;
```

cppreference.com/w/cpp/container/span/span

```
#include <array>
#include <span>

int main() {
    constexpr static std::array x{
        4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42
    };
    constexpr std::span x_view{x};
}
```

godbolt.org/z/MXgBx4

#### Nota bene ...

this will work though, since reference / pointer does not escape constant expression ...

```
#include <array>
#include <span>

constexpr auto f() {
    std::array x{4, 8, 15, 16, 23, 42};
    std::span x_view{x};
    return 0;
}

int main() {
    static_assert(f() == 0);
}

#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
#include <array>
```

godbolt.org/z/CHeY7r

# PART II

Dangling References

```
struct S {
2
3
4
        int x;
    };
5
    auto f() {
        S s{.x = 42};
        return s;
8
9
10
    int main() {
11
        S\& s = f();
        return s.x;
12
13
```

godbolt.org/z/pEgJ6W

#### Will it invoke undefined behavior?

```
struct S {
    int x;
}

auto f() {
    S s{.x = 42};
    return s;
}

int main() {
    const S& s = f();
    return s.x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/85aznD

...binding a reference to a temporary???

# Temporary object lifetime extension

```
struct S {
        int x;
    };
5
    auto f() {
        S s{.x = 42};
        return s;
 8
9
10
    int main() {
        const S\& s = f();
11
12
        return s.x;
13
```

godbolt.org/z/85aznD

cppreference.com: "The lifetime of a temporary object may be extended by binding to a const lvalue reference or to an rvalue reference (since C++11)."

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    template <char id> struct Log {
        Log() { std::cout << id << 1; }
        virtual ~Log() { std::cout << id << 2; }</pre>
    };
    struct A: Log<'a'> {
        int x;
        A(int x): x(x) \{\};
10
    struct B: Log<'b'> {
11
        const A& a;
12
        B(const A& a): a(a) {}
13
    };
14
15
    int main() {
16
17
        const B& b = B\{A\{42\}\};
        std::cout << 'x';</pre>
18
19
        return b.a.x;
20
```

godbolt.org/z/\_iGynP

#### A: a1b1a2xb2

```
#include <iostream>
 3
   template <char id> struct Log {
        Log() { std::cout << id << 1; }
        virtual ~Log() { std::cout << id << 2; }</pre>
   struct A: Log<'a'> {
        int x;
        A(int x): x(x) \{\};
10
   struct B: Log<'b'> {
        const A& a;
12
        B(const A& a): a(a) {}
   };
14
15
16
   int main() {
17
        const B& b = B\{A\{42\}\};
        std::cout << 'x';
18
        return b.a.x;
20
```

#### godbolt.org/z/\_iGynP

#### Dangling reference!!!

- → lifetime extension only for result of the temporary expression, not any sub-expression
- → use address sanitizer!

# contrived?

#### Reference lifetime extension

(derived from abseil.io: Tip of the Week #107: "Reference Lifetime Extension")

```
std::vector<std::string_view> explode(const std::string& s);
for (std::string_view s: explode(str_cat("oo", "ps"))) { // WRONG!
[...]
```

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <vector>
int main() {
    std::vector<int> v;
    v.push_back(1);
    auto& x = v[0];
    v.push_back(2);
    return x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/vx9cTq

# Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <vector>

int main() {
    std::vector<int> v;
    v.push_back(1);
    auto& x = v[0];
    v.push_back(2);
    return x;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/vx9cTq

#### Dangling reference!!!

- → std::vector needs to reallocate all the space the second time an element is pushed
- → use address sanitizer!

std::move in the wild

#### Moving std::string

(derived from CppCon 2019: Ben Deane "Everyday Efficiency: In-Place Construction (Back to Basics?)")

```
static void cp_small_str(benchmark::State& state) {
   for (auto _ : state) {
      std::string original("small");
      benchmark::DoNotOptimize(original);
      std::string copied = original;
      benchmark::DoNotOptimize(copied);
   }
}
BENCHMARK(cp_small_str);
```

```
static void mv_small_str(benchmark::State& state) {
   for (auto _ : state) {
       std::string original("small");
       benchmark::DoNotOptimize(original);
       std::string moved = std::move(original);
       benchmark::DoNotOptimize(moved);
   }
}
BENCHMARK(mv_small_str);
```

### Moving std::string

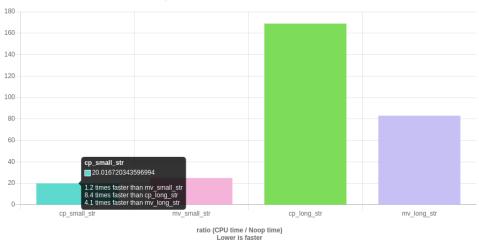
(derived from CppCon 2019: Ben Deane "Everyday Efficiency: In-Place Construction (Back to Basics?)")

```
static void cp_long_str(benchmark::State& state) {
    for (auto _ : state) {
        std::string original("this is too long for short string optimization");
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(original);
        std::string copied = original;
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(copied);
    }
}
BENCHMARK(cp_long_str);
```

```
static void mv_long_str(benchmark::State& state) {
   for (auto _ : state) {
      std::string original("this is too long for short string optimization");
      benchmark::DoNotOptimize(original);
      std::string moved = std::move(original);
      benchmark::DoNotOptimize(moved);
   }
}
BENCHMARK(mv_long_str);
```

# Moving std::string





Lower is faster

Quick Bench: tinyurl.com/yybmdngv

# Moving std::string

#### Copy small std::string

1. copy stack allocated data

#### Move small std::string

- 1. copy stack allocated data
- **2.** set string length of moved string to zero

→ moving is not necessarily better than copying!

#### Did they forget to mark the move ctor noexcept?

```
// since C++11
std:map(const std:map&&)
// until C++17
std:map& operator(std:map&&)
// since C++17
std:map& operator(std:map&&) noexcept
```

#### Did they forget to mark the move ctor noexcept? No!

```
// since C++11
std:map(const std:map&&)
// until C++17
std:map& operator(std:map&&)
// since C++17
std:map& operator(std:map&&) noexcept
```

- → Move ctor needs to allocate new sentinel node, because moved from container must still be a valid container (albeit in an unspecified state)
- → Move assignment can swap, thus no need to allocate

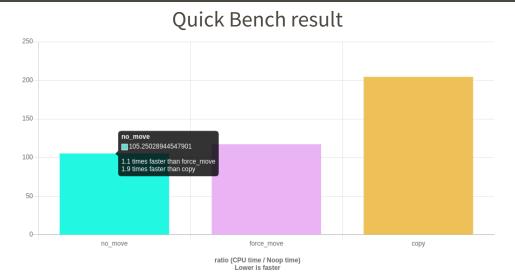
→ move ctor of std::map allocates heap space!

(Billy O'Neal: twitter.com/MalwareMinigun/status/1165310509022736384)

```
static void rvo(benchmark::State& state) {
    for (auto _ : state) {
        auto m = []() -> std::map<int, int> {
            std::map<int, int> m{{0, 42}};
            return m;
        }();
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(m);
    }
}
BENCHMARK(rvo);
```

```
static void fmove(benchmark::State& state) {
    for (auto _ : state) {
        auto m = []() -> std::map<int, int> {
            std::map<int, int> m{{0, 42}};
            return std::move(m);
        }();
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(m);
        }
    }
    BENCHMARK(fmove);
```

```
static void copy(benchmark::State& state) {
    for (auto _ : state) {
        std::map<int, int> m{{0, 42}};
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(m);
        auto m2 = m;
        benchmark::DoNotOptimize(m2);
    }
}
BENCHMARK(copy);
```



Quick Bench: tinyurl.com/y57egvjp

# Why?

#### Does this code bother anyone?

```
#include <cstddef>
   #include <type traits>
   #include <utility>
   template <typename T>
   struct Data final {
       T *data;
       explicit Data(const std::size_t size): data(new T[size]) {}
       ~Data() { delete [] data; }
10
   };
11
   auto init() {
12
       Data<int> d(3);
13
       d.data[0] = 1; d.data[1] = 2; d.data[2] = 3;
14
        return d;
15
16
17
   int main() { return init().data[2]; }
18
```

godbolt.org/z/NR2t9D

What happens on return?

Interlude

### Will it compile?

```
struct A {
        int x;
 3
4
        A(int x, int y = 0) : x(x + y) \{ \}
   };
5
6
    struct B {
        int x;
        explicit B(int x, int y = 0) : x(x + y) {}
8
   };
10
11
   template <typename T>
12
    T init() { return 42; }
13
    int main() {
14
      auto x = init < A > ().x;
15
      auto y = init<B>().x;
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/yfxxRN

### Implicit conversion to the function return type

#### **Implicit conversion**

- → ...if ctor is **not** marked explicit
- → Examples:
  - → std::optional(T&&)
  - → std::string(const char\*)

```
#include <optional>
#include <string>

std::optional<int> f() {
    return 42;
}

std::string g() {
    return "foo";
}
```

godbolt.org/z/Q7h\_RW

### Q: What is the output of the program?

#### Compiler flags: -std=c++14 -fno-elide-constructors

```
#include <iostream>
   struct S {
       S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
        S(const S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
        S &operator=(const S&) { std::cout << 'd'; return *this; }
        S &operator=(const S&&) { std::cout << 'e'; return *this; }
   };
10
   S f() { return S{}; }
11
12
13
   int main() {
       S s(S{}); std::cout << ", ";
14
       auto s1 = f(); std::cout << ", ";
15
       auto s2{f()};
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/uoUypK

# Q: What is the output of the program?

#### Compiler flags: -std=c++17

```
#include <iostream>
   struct S {
       S() { std::cout << 'a'; }
        S(const S&) { std::cout << 'b'; }
       S(const S&&) { std::cout << 'c'; }
        S &operator=(const S&) { std::cout << 'd'; return *this; }
       S & operator=(const S&&) { std::cout << 'e'; return *this; }
   };
10
   S f() { return S{}; }
11
12
13
   int main() {
       S s(S{}); std::cout << ", ";
14
       auto s1 = f(); std::cout << ", ";
15
       auto s2{f()};
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/ycZulQ

# Why?

Ben Deane: "Perhaps the most important optimization the compiler does"

#### **Copy Elision**

```
struct S {
    S() = default;
    S(const S &) = delete;
    S & operator=(const S &) = delete;
};

S f() { return S{}; }

int main() {
    S s(S{});
    auto s1 = f();
    auto s2{f()};
}
```

godbolt.org/z/jcWUdd

Mandatory elision of copy/move operations since C++17):

- → Return statement: when operand is a prvalue of same class type as return type
- → Initialization of a variable: when initializer expression is a prvalue of same class type as the variable type

...even if the copy/move constructor and the destructor has observable side-effects!

# Rule of thumb: avoid naming return values

# RVO in Depth

### C++ Objects in Assembly

```
struct S final {
        int a, b, c;
 4
        S(int a, int b, int c) noexcept:
 5
            a(a), b(b), c(c) {}
6
        ~S() noexcept {}
8
        auto sum() noexcept {
            return a + b + c;
10
11
12
    };
13
14
    int main() {
15
        S s(1, 2, 3);
        return s.sum();
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/x-qj8\_

```
main:
14|
      push rbp
141
      mov rbp, rsp
141
      sub rsp, 16
14|
      mov dword ptr [rbp - 4], 0
      lea rdi, [rbp - 16]
15 I
15 I
      mov esi, 1
15|
      mov edx, 2
15 I
      mov ecx. 3
15|
      call S::S(int, int, int)
16|
      lea rdi, [rbp - 16]
      call S::sum()
16 I
16|
      mov dword ptr [rbp - 4], eax
17 I
      lea rdi, [rbp - 16]
17 I
      call S::~S()
17 I
      mov eax, dword ptr [rbp - 4]
17 I
      add rsp, 16
17 I
      pop rbp
17|
      ret
```

# C++ Objects in Assembly

```
struct S final {
        int a, b, c;
4
        S(int a, int b, int c) noexcept:
            a(a), b(b), c(c) {}
6
        ~S() noexcept {}
8
        auto sum() noexcept {
            return a + b + c;
10
11
12
    };
13
    int main() {
14
15
        S s(1, 2, 3):
        return s.sum();
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/x-qj8\_

```
S::S(int, int, int):
     push rbp
    mov rbp, rsp
    mov gword ptr [rbp - 8], rdi
    mov dword ptr [rbp - 12], esi
5 İ
    mov dword ptr [rbp - 16], edx
5|
    mov dword ptr [rbp - 20], ecx
5 |
    mov rax, gword ptr [rbp - 8]
    mov ecx, dword ptr [rbp - 12]
5|
    mov dword ptr [rax], ecx
5
    mov ecx, dword ptr [rbp - 16]
5|
    mov dword ptr [rax + 4], ecx
    mov ecx, dword ptr [rbp - 20]
5 İ
    mov dword ptr [rax + 8], ecx
5 |
     pop rbp
51
     ret
```

# C++ Objects in Assembly

```
struct S final {
        int a, b, c;
        S(int a, int b, int c) noexcept:
            a(a), b(b), c(c) {}
        ~S() noexcept {}
8
        auto sum() noexcept {
            return a + b + c;
10
11
12
    };
13
14
    int main() {
15
        S s(1, 2, 3);
        return s.sum();
16
17
```

godbolt.org/z/x-qj8\_

```
S::sum():
      push rbp
      mov rbp, rsp
      mov gword ptr [rbp - 8], rdi
      mov rax, gword ptr [rbp - 8]
      mov ecx, dword ptr [rax]
10|
      add ecx, dword ptr [rax + 4]
10 I
10|
      add ecx, dword ptr [rax + 8]
10|
      mov eax, ecx
10 I
      pop rbp
10 I
      ret
```

```
struct S final {
        int x;
        explicit S(int x) noexcept;
        S(const S&) noexcept;
        S(S&&) noexcept;
 6
        ~S() noexcept;
 7
    };
8
9
    S f() {
        return S{42};
10
11
12
13
    auto g() {
14
        auto s = f();
15
        return s.x;
16
```

godbolt.org/z/BMgWSl

```
# a92 -fno-elide-constructors
    q():
      [...]
      lea rax, [rbp-20]
141
14|
      mov rdi, rax
      call f()
141
141
     lea rdx, [rbp-20]
14|
     lea rax, [rbp-24]
141
      mov rsi, rdx
14|
      mov rdi, rax
14|
      call S::S(S&&)
      lea rax, [rbp-20]
141
14|
      mov rdi, rax
141
      call S::~S()
15 I
      mov ebx, DWORD PTR [rbp-24]
14|
      lea rax, [rbp-24]
141
      mov rdi, rax
141
      call S::~S()
15 I
      mov eax, ebx
      [...]
```

```
struct S final {
        int x:
        explicit S(int x) noexcept;
        S(const S&) noexcept:
        S(S&&) noexcept;
 6
        ~S() noexcept;
 7
    };
8
9
    S f() {
        return S{42};
10
11
12
13
    auto g() {
        auto s = f();
14
15
        return s.x;
16
```

godbolt.org/z/BMgWSl

```
# q92 -fno-elide-constructors
    f():
      mov QWORD PTR [rbp-24], rdi
10 I
      lea rax, [rbp-4]
10|
      mov esi, 42
10 I
      mov rdi, rax
      call S::S(int)
10 I
      lea rdx, [rbp-4]
10|
      mov rax, QWORD PTR [rbp-24]
10
10|
      mov rsi, rdx
10 I
      mov rdi. rax
10 I
      call S::S(S&&)
10|
      lea rax, [rbp-4]
10 I
      mov rdi, rax
10|
      call S::~S()
      [...]
```

```
# q92 -fno-elide-constructors
   f():
      [...]
     mov QWORD PTR [rbp-24], rdi
      lea rax, [rbp-4]
     mov esi, 42
     mov rdi, rax
     call S::S(int)
     lea rdx, [rbp-4]
     mov rax, QWORD PTR [rbp-24]
10
11
     mov rsi, rdx
12
     mov rdi, rax
13
     call S::S(S&&)
      lea rax, [rbp-4]
14
15
     mov rdi, rax
     call S::~S()
16
17
     nop
     mov rax, QWORD PTR [rbp-24]
18
19
      leave
20
     ret
```

```
# q92 -fno-elide-constructors
   g():
      [...]
      lea rax, [rbp-20]
     mov rdi, rax
     call f()
     lea rdx, [rbp-20]
     lea rax, [rbp-24]
     mov rsi, rdx
     mov rdi, rax
10
11
     call S::S(S&&)
     lea rax, [rbp-20]
12
13
     mov rdi, rax
     call S::~S()
14
     mov ebx, DWORD PTR [rbp-24]
15
     lea rax, [rbp-24]
16
17
     mov rdi, rax
     call S::~S()
18
19
     mov eax, ebx
      [...]
20
```

```
# g92
g():
    [...]
    lea rax, [rbp-20]
    mov rdi, rax
    call f()
    mov ebx, DWORD PTR [rbp-20]
    lea rax, [rbp-20]
    mov rdi, rax
    call S::~S()
    mov eax, ebx
```

```
#include <utility>
struct S final {
    S() noexcept;
    S(const S&) noexcept;
    S(S&&) noexcept;
    ~S() noexcept;
    ~S() noexcept;
};

S f1() { S s; return s; }
S f2() { S s; return std::move(s); }
S f3() { const S s; return std::move(s); }
S f4() { const S s; return std::move(s); }
```

#### godbolt.org/z/ogqfb4

```
→ f1: ???→ f2: ???→ f3: ???→ f4: ???
```

8

9 10

12

13

```
1  struct S {
2     S() noexcept;
3     S(const S&) noexcept;
4     S(const S&&) noexcept;
5     ~S() noexcept;
6  };
7     8  S f1(S s) { return s; }
9  S f2(S& s) { return s; }
10  S f3(const S& s) { return s; }
```

#### godbolt.org/z/Tak\_DF

- → f1: ???
- → f2: ???
- → f3: ???

```
struct S final {
    S() noexcept;
    S(const S&) noexcept;
    S(S&&) noexcept;
    ~S() noexcept;
};

8    S f() {
    S s;
    auto& t = s;
    return t;
}
```

godbolt.org/z/ofinrc

```
1  struct S {
2     S(int) noexcept;
3     S(const S&) noexcept;
4     S(const S&&) noexcept;
5     ~S() noexcept;
6  };
7     S f1(bool x) { return x ? S{1} : S{2}; }
9     S f2(bool x) { S s{1}; return x ? s : S{2}; }
```

#### godbolt.org/z/AYeCQU

- → f1: ???
- → f2: ???

#### godbolt.org/z/Yoggsd

```
→ g1: ???→ g2: ???→ g3: ???→ g4: ???
```

(derived from CppCon 2019: Jason Turner "Great C++ is\_trivial")

#### No (N)RVO in any of these examples!

```
S g1() { auto [s1, s2] = f(); return s1; } // copy
S g2() { auto&& [s1, s2] = f(); return s1; } // copy: no implicit move yet (?)
S g3() { auto [s1, s2] = f(); return std::move(s1); } // move
S g4() { auto&& [s1, s2] = f(); return std::move(s1); } // move
```

...return std::move is not always bad

#### Why? Structured bindings:

- → Creation of temporary object e
- → Like a reference: structured binding is an alias into e

#### Implicit move

# return std::move is not yet necessarily a code smell

(use -Wpessimizing-move)

#### Automatic move from local variables and parameters if:

- → return expression names a variable whose type is either
  - → an object type or (since C++11)
  - → an rvalue reference to object type (since C++20\*)
- → ...and that variable is declared
  - → in the body or
  - → as a parameter of
- → ...the innermost enclosing function or lambda expression

<sup>\*</sup> P1825R0 (not yet implemented in GCC or Clang: cppreference.com/w/cpp/compiler\_support)

Perfect Backwarding

# Forwarding Values and Preserving Value Category

(derived from CppCon 2018: Hayun Ezra Chung "Forwarding Values... and Backwarding Them Too?")

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <memorv>
   struct Resource {}:
5
   struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b': }</pre>
9
   };
10
   auto make_target(??? resource) {
11
        return std::make unique<Target>(???);
12
13
14
15
   int main() {
16
        Resource resource;
17
        make target(resource);
                                // should print 'a'
        make target(Resource(resource)); // should print 'b'
18
        make target(std::move(resource)); // should print 'b'
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/UAUh\_2

# Forwarding Values and Preserving Value Category

(derived from CppCon 2018: Hayun Ezra Chung "Forwarding Values... and Backwarding Them Too?")

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <memorv>
3
   struct Resource {};
5
   struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
       Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b': }</pre>
9
   };
10
   template <typename T> auto make_target(T&& resource) {
11
        return std::make unique<Target>(std::forward<T>(resource));
12
13
14
15
   int main() {
16
       Resource resource;
                               // lvalue: T = Resource&
17
       make target(resource);
       make target(Resource(resource)); // prvalue: T = Resource
18
       make target(std::move(resource)); // xvalue: T = Resource
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/GL4MHb

(derived from CppCon 2018: Hayun Ezra Chung "Forwarding Values... and Backwarding Them Too?")

```
#include <iostream>
   #include <memorv>
    struct Resource {};
 5
    struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
    };
10
    auto make_target(auto&& resource) {
11
        return std::make unique<Target>(std::forward<decltype(resource));</pre>
12
13
14
15
    int main() {
16
        Resource resource;
        make target(resource);
17
        make target(Resource(resource));
18
        make target(std::move(resource));
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/YF5i-w

```
#include <iostream>
   struct Resource {};
   struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
        decltype(auto) visit(auto visitor) { return visitor(resource); }
8
   };
   struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
10
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
11
12
   };
13
   int main() {
14
15
        ResourceManager rm:
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
16
17
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource&& { return std::move(r); }));
18
19
```

godbolt.org/z/sm\_HLQ

```
#include <iostream>
   struct Resource {};
   struct ResourceManager {
5
        Resource resource:
        // what if we want to do sth. with the result before returning?
        decltype(auto) visit(auto visitor) { return visitor(resource); }
   };
   struct Target {
10
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
11
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
12
13
   };
14
15
   int main() {
16
        ResourceManager rm;
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
17
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
18
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource&& { return std::move(r); }));
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/WFk96v

#### **Q:** Why is this a bad idea?

```
auto&& visit(auto visitor) {
   auto&& result = visitor(resource);
   return result;
}
```

#### **Q:** Why is this a bad idea?

```
auto&& visit(auto visitor) {
   auto&& result = visitor(resource);
   return result;
}
```

#### A: Dangling reference for

```
visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
```

# auto&& is always a reference!

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
 5
        Resource resource:
        ??? visit(auto visitor) {
            ??? result = visitor(resource);
            return ???;
10
    };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/T638sY

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
 5
        Resource resource:
        Resource visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource result = visitor(resource);
            return result:
10
    };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/eGvxXc

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
 5
        Resource resource:
        ??? visit(auto visitor) {
            ??? result = visitor(resource);
            return ???;
10
    };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/nUaqdG

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
        Resource& visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource& result = visitor(resource);
            return result:
    };
    struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/c-ZjBA

10

11

12

17

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
 5
        Resource resource:
        ??? visit(auto visitor) {
            ??? result = visitor(resource);
            return ???;
10
    };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; };</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource\& r) -> Resource\&\& { return std::move(r); }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/b-6EBB

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
        Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource&& result = visitor(resource);
            return result:
    };
    struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; };</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource\& r) -> Resource\&\& { return std::move(r); }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/NUxJ9a

10

11

12

17

error: cannot bind rvalue reference of type "Resource&&" to Ivalue of type "Resource"

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
        Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource&& result = visitor(resource);
            return result:
10
   };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; };</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
   };
16
17
   int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm:
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource&& { return std::move(r); }));
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/NUxJ9a

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
        Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource&& result = visitor(resource);
            return std::move(result); // static cast<Resource&&>(result)
10
    };
11
    struct Target {
12
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; };</pre>
13
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
14
15
    };
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm:
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource\& r) -> Resource\&\& { return std::move(r); }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/gPjzkF

# How do we fuse these implementations?

```
Resource visit(auto visitor) {
Resource result = visitor(resource);
return result;
}

Resource& visit(auto visitor) {
Resource& result = visitor(resource);
return result;
}

Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
Resource&& result = visitor(resource);
return static_cast<Resource&&>(result);
}
```

```
Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource&& { return std::move(r); }));
```

# How do we fuse these implementations?

```
Resource visit(auto visitor) {
    Resource result = visitor(resource);
    return result;
}

Resource& visit(auto visitor) {
    Resource& result = visitor(resource);
    return result;
}

Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
    Resource&& visit(auto visitor) {
    Resource&& result = visitor(resource);
    return static_cast<Resource&&>(result);
}
```

```
decltype(auto) visit(auto visitor) {
    decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
    return static_cast<decltype(result)>(result);
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
    struct Resource {};
    struct Target {
        Target(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
        Target(Resource&&) { std::cout << 'b'; }</pre>
 6
    };
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource:
10
11
        decltype(auto) visit(auto visitor) {
12
            decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
            return static_cast<decltype(result)>(result);
13
14
15
   };
16
    int main() {
17
18
        ResourceManager rm;
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource& { return r; }));
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
20
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource\& r) -> Resource\&\& { return std::move(r); }));
21
22
```



#### Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
struct Resource {
    Resource() {}
    Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
};
struct ResourceManager {
    Resource resource;
    Resource visit(auto visitor) {
        Resource result = visitor(resource);
        return result;
};
struct Target { Target(const Resource&) {}; };
int main() {
    ResourceManager rm;
    Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
```

godbolt.org/z/07JV2m

2

5

10

11

12 13

14

15 16 17

18

19

20

#### Q: What is the output of the program?

```
#include <iostream>
 2
    struct Resource {
        Resource() {}
        Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
 5
    };
    struct ResourceManager {
        Resource resource;
10
        Resource visit(auto visitor) {
            Resource result = visitor(resource);
11
            return static cast<Resource>(result);
12
13
    };
14
    struct Target { Target(const Resource&) {}; };
15
16
17
    int main() {
18
        ResourceManager rm;
19
        Target(rm.visit([](Resource& r) -> Resource { return r; }));
20
```

godbolt.org/z/A35w4d

```
struct Resource {
    [...]
    Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }
};

Resource visit(auto visitor) {
    Resource result = visitor(resource);
    return static_cast<Resource>(result);
}
```

#### **Neither RVO nor NRVO!**

- → static\_cast is not the name of a variable (c-style cast does not work either)
- → compiler cannot elide observable side effects of copy construction
- → "Solution"
  - → remove explicit cast, or
  - → remove side effect (std::cout)

```
template <typename T>
decltype(auto) visit(T visitor) {
    decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
    if constexpr (std::is_same_v<decltype(result), Resource&&>) {
        return std::move(result);
    } else {
        return result;
    }
}
```

...works for GCC (without auto concept), not for Clang though

```
template <typename T>
   static constexpr bool returns_rref = std::is_same_v<std::invoke result t<T,</pre>

→ Resource&>, Resource&&>;

3
   template <typename T, std::enable_if_t<returns_rref<T>, int> = 0>
   decltype(auto) visit(T visitor) {
        decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
6
        return std::move(result);
8
9
10
   template <typename T, std::enable if t<not returns rref<T>, int> = 0>
   decltype(auto) visit(T visitor) {
11
        decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
12
        return result;
13
14
```

...still, no NRVO with Clang but this time due to the deduced return type!

```
template <typename T>
   static constexpr bool returns_rref = std::is_same_v<std::invoke result t<T,</pre>

→ Resource&>, Resource&&>;

3
   template <typename T, std::enable_if_t<returns_rref<T>, int> = 0>
   decltype(auto) visit(T visitor) {
        decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
6
        return std::move(result);
8
9
10
   template <typename T, std::enable if t<not returns rref<T>, int> = 0>
   auto visit(T visitor) -> decltype(visitor(resource)) {
11
12
        decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
        return result;
13
14
```

...now works for GCC and Clang!

```
#include <iostream>
struct Resource {
    Resource() {}
    Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
};
struct ResourceManager {
    Resource resource:
    template <tvpename T>
    static constexpr bool returns_rref = std::is_same_v<std::invoke_result_t<T,</pre>

→ Resource&>, Resource&&>;

    template <typename T, std::enable_if_t<returns_rref<T>, int> = 0>
    decltype(auto) visit(T visitor) {
        decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
        return std::move(result);
    template <typename T, std::enable if t<not returns rref<T>, int> = 0>
[...]
```

3

6

7

8

10

11

12 13

14

15

16 17 18

19 20

# More things that don't work

```
#include <iostream>
 3
    struct Resource {
        Resource() {}
        Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
6
    struct ResourceManager {
 8
        Resource resource:
10
        template <typename T>
        auto visit(T visitor) -> decltype(visitor(resource)) {
11
12
            using R = std::invoke result t<T, Resource&>;
13
            decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
14
            if constexpr (std::is same v<R, Resource&&>) {
15
                 return std::move(result);
16
17
            } else {
18
                return result;
19
20
    [\ldots]
```

godbolt.org/z/uAQaQW

...works with GCC, fails with Clang

```
#include <iostream>
 3
    struct Resource {
        Resource() {}
        Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
6
    struct ResourceManager {
 8
        Resource resource:
10
        template <typename T>
        auto visit(T visitor) -> decltype(visitor(resource)) {
11
12
            using R = std::invoke result t<T, Resource&>;
            if constexpr (std::is_same_v<R, Resource&&>) {
13
                decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
14
                return std::move(result):
15
            } else {
16
17
                decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
                return result;
18
19
20
    [\ldots]
```

godbolt.org/z/jpCb6h

...works with Clang, fails with GCC

```
#include <iostream>
 3
    struct Resource {
        Resource() {}
        Resource(const Resource&) { std::cout << 'a'; }</pre>
6
    struct ResourceManager {
 8
        Resource resource:
10
        template <typename T>
        auto visit(T visitor) -> decltype(visitor(resource)) {
11
12
            using R = std::invoke result t<T, Resource&>;
            if constexpr (decltype(auto) result = visitor(resource);
13
                           std::is same v<R, Resource&&>) {
14
                return std::move(result);
15
            } else {
16
17
                return result;
18
19
20
```

godbolt.org/z/6\_YwYf

...fails with GCC and Clang

#### Conclusion

(shamelessly copied from CppCon 2018: Hayun Ezra Chung "Forwarding Values... and Backwarding Them Too?")

#### **Forwarding**

- → Parameter Type: T&&
- → Function Argument: std::forward<E>(e)
- → Alternatively: static\_cast<decltype(e)&&>(e)

#### **Backwarding**

- → Parameter Type: decltype(auto)
- → Function Argument: decltype(e)(e)
- → Alternatively: static\_cast<decltype(e)>(e)\*