Move Semantics

Announcements

- Fill out the survey on Piazza for an extra late day. Also vote on final lecture topics.
- I will stop at exactly 2:20 PM today. Let's do an open Q&A today about the assignment.
- You should be done with part 6 already. Get started if you haven't already!

Reminders

 We'll make sure the full lecture code is posted after lecture.

 There's no starter code today – just the full lecture code.

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recap

Member Initialization List

Prefer to use member initialization list, which constructs each member with given value.

- Faster. Why construct, then reassign?
- Some types can't be reassigned (=delete)

Special member functions are (usually) automatically generated by the compiler.

- Default construction: object created with no parameters.
- Copy construction: object is created as a copy of an existing object.
- Copy assignment: existing object replaced as a copy of another existing object.
- Destruction: object destroyed when it is out of scope.

Constructor and destructor for MyVector<T>.

```
// constructor using member initialization list
MyVector<T>::MyVector() :
          logicalSize(0),
          allocatedSize(kInitialSize),
          elems(new T[allocatedSize]) {
// destructor
MyVector<T>::~MyVector() {
     delete [] elems;
```

The copy operations must perform the following tasks.

Copy Constructor

Copy Assignment

- Clean up any resources in the existing object about to be overwritten.
- Copy members using initializer list when assignment works.
- Deep copy members where assignment does not work.

- Copy members using initializer list when assignment works.
- Deep copy members where assignment does not work.

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Copy constructor copies each member, creating deep copy when necessary.

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Copy assignment copies each member, replacing existing object.

```
// can't use initializer list — not a constructor!
MyVector<T>& MyVector::operator=(const MyVector<T>& rhs) {
  if (this != &rhs) {
     delete [] elems;
     logicalSize = rhs.logicalSize;
     allocatedSize = rhs.allocatedSize;
     elems = new T[allocatedSize];
     std::copy(rhs.begin(), rhs.end(), begin());
   return *this:
```

What members need to be deep copied?

Any member that are handles to external resources.

- Handles to memory (pointers)
- Handles to files (filestreams)
- Handles to locks (mutexes)

Rule of Three

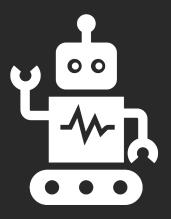
If you explicitly define (or delete) a copy constructor, copy assignment, or destructor, you should define (or delete) all three.

The fact that you defined one of these means one of your members has ownership issues that need to be resolved.

motivation

Quick quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with and without copy elision)?

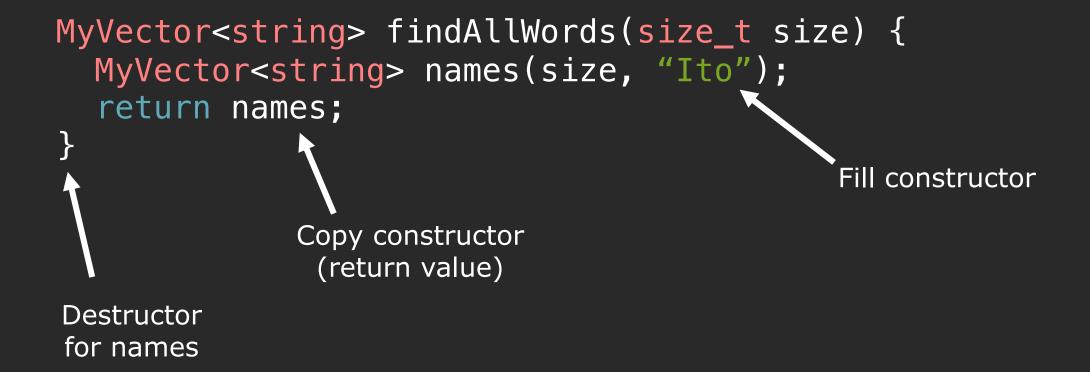
```
int main() {
  MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
  MyVector<string> names2;
  names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
  cout << "done!" << endl:
MyVector<string> findAllWords(size t size) {
  MyVector<string> names(size, "Ito");
  return names;
```



Demo

Printing all calls to special member functions

Quick quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with and without copy elision)?



Quick quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with and without copy elision)?

```
Copy constructor
      int main() {
         MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                              Destructor
         MyVector<string> names2;
                                                             (return value)
  Copy
                                          Default constructor
assignment
         names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                  Destructor
                                                (return value)
              Destructor x 2
             (names1, names2)
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```

Counts without copy elision.

findAllWords

| • | Fill constructor | x 1 |
|---|------------------|-----|
| • | Copy constructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 1 |

Counts without copy elision.

main

| • | Copy constructor | x 1 |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----|
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Copy assignment | x 1 |
| • | findAllWords | x 2 |
| | Fill constructor | x 1 |
| | Copy constructor | x 1 |
| | Destructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 4 |

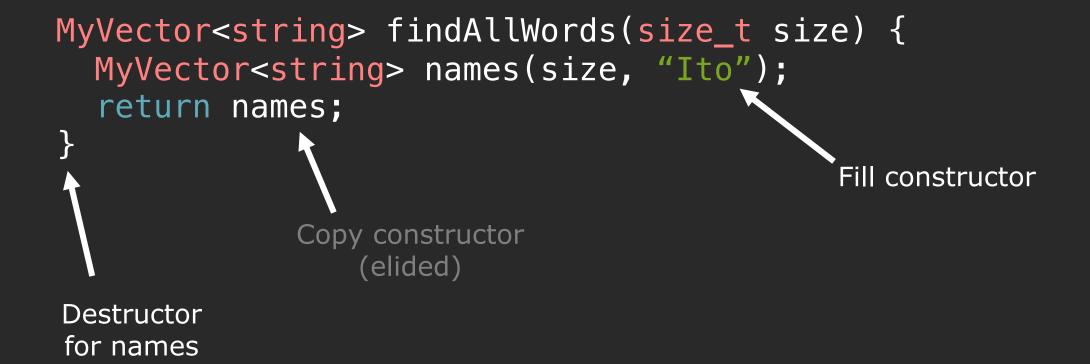
Counts without copy elision.

main

| • | Copy assignment | x 1 |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| • | Copy constructor | x 3 |
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 6 |
| • | Fill constructor | x 2 |

copy elision and return value optimization (RVO)

Quick quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with and without copy elision)?



Quick quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with and without copy elision)?

```
Copy constructor
                                                      (elided)
      int main() {
         MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                               Destructor
         MyVector<string> names2;
                                                              (return value)
  Copy
                                           Default constructor
assignment
         names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                  Destructor
                                                 (return value)
               Destructor x 2
             (names1, names2)
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```

Counts with copy elision.

findAllWords

- Fill constructor x 1
- Copy constructor x 1
- Destructor x 1

Counts with copy elision.

main

| • | Copy constructor | x 1 |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----|
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Copy assignment | x 1 |
| • | findAllWords | x 2 |
| | Fill constructor | x 1 |
| | Copy constructor | x 1 |
| | Destructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 1 |

Counts with copy elision.

main

| • | Copy assignment | x 1 |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| • | Copy constructor | x 3 |
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 3 |
| • | Fill constructor | x 2 |

Can we do better?

```
Copy constructor
      int main() {
        MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                          Destructor
        MyVector<string> names2;
                                                         (return value)
  Copy
assignment
        names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                               Destructor
                                             (return value)
```

What a shame – we copy then destruct.

```
Copy constructor
      int main() {
        MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                           Destructor
        MyVector<string> names2;
                                                         (return value)
  Copy
assignment
        names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                               Destructor
                                             (return value)
```

Let's move the wasted array to our vector!

```
Move constructor
      int main() {
        MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                                          Destructor
        MyVector<string> names2;
                                                         (return value)
  Move
assignment
        names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                                               Destructor
                                             (return value)
```

Another example!

```
Copy constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Copy constructor
  names1.push_back("Everything is fine!");
```

Can we always use the move constructor?

```
Move constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Move constructor
  names1.push_back("Everything is fine!");
```

The array was stolen from names1...that's bad!

```
Move constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Move constructor
  names1.push_back("Everything is NOT fine!");
```

Hmm...how do we distinguish between these cases?

```
Move constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Copy constructor
  names1.push_back("Everything is fine!");
```

Also...Can we force the move constructor to be called?

```
Move constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Move constructor
 // You: I promise to never use names1 again.
```

Where we are going!

- How do we distinguish between when we CAN and CANNOT move?
- How do we actually move?
- Can we force a move to occur?
- How do we apply move?
- Can we apply this to templates?

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Where we are going!

- How do we distinguish between when we CAN and CANNOT move?
- How do we actually move?
- Can we force a move to occur?
- How do we apply move?
- Can we apply this to templates?

= I vs. r-values

- = implementation
- = std::move
- = swap and insert
- = perfect forwarding

Game Plan



- Ivalues vs. rvalues
- move constructor and assignment
- std::move
- swap and insert
- perfect forwarding

Ivalues and rvalues

Note: this is a simplification of a complicated topic!

Value Categories: I-value vs. r-value

An I-value is an expression that has a name (identity).

can find address using address-of operator (&var)

An r-value is an expression that does not have a name (identity).

- temporary values
- cannot find address using address-of operator (&var)

Intuitive definition of l vs. r-values (this was technically the definition until 2011)

An I-value is an expression that can appear either left or right of an assignment.***

An r-value is an expression that can appear only on the right of an assignment.***

***technically there are these weird things called gl-values, pr-values, x-values, ...

Examples: where are the r-values?

```
int val = 2;
int* ptr = 0x02248837;
vector<int> v1{1, 2, 3};
auto v4 = v1 + v2;
auto v5 = v1 += v4;
size_t size = v.size();
val = static cast<int>(size);
v1[1] = 4*i;
ptr = &val;
v1[2] = *ptr;
```

Here are all the r-values!

```
int val = 2;
                                    Don't have a name!
int* ptr = 0x02248837;
vector<int> v1{1, 2, 3};
                                    + returns a copy to a
auto v4 = v1 + v2; \leftarrow
                                        temporary.
auto v5 = v1 += v4;
size_t size = v.size();
val = static_cast<int>(size);
v1[1] = 4*i;
ptr = &val;
                                        cast returns a
v1[2] = *ptr;
                                         copy of size.
```

Value type differences: lifetimes

An I-value's lifetime is decided by scope.

An r-value's lifetime ends on the very next line (unless you purposely extend it!)

Value type differences: lifetimes

```
vector<int> v1{1, 2, 3};
    auto v4 = v1 + v2;
    // copy constructor for v4
    // destructor on v1 + v2
} // destructor called on v1 and v4
```

Review: what is a reference?

A reference is an alias to an already existing object.

```
int main() {
    vector<int> vec;
    changeVector(vec);
}

void changeVector(vector<int>& v) {...}
```

v is another name for vec.

An I-value reference can bind to an I-value.

An r-value reference can bind to an r-value.

An I-value reference can bind to an I-value.

auto& ptr2 = (ptr += 3);

An r-value reference can bind to an r-value. auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;

An I-value reference can bind to an I-value.

auto& ptr2 = (ptr += 3);

returns I-value ref to

*this

An r-value reference can bind to an r-value.

$$auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;$$

returns copy, which is r-value.

An I-value reference can bind to an I-value.

auto& ptr2 = (ptr += 3);

A const I-value reference can bind to either I or r-value.

An r-value reference can bind to an r-value. auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;

```
An I-value reference can bind to an I-value.

auto& ptr2 = (ptr += 3);
```

```
A const I-value reference can bind to either I or r-value.

const auto& ptr2 = (ptr += 3);

const auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;
```

An r-value reference can bind to an r-value. auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;

Which ones cause compiler errors?

```
void lref(vector<int>& v);
void clref(const vector<int>& v);
void rref(vector<int>&& v);
// BTW: no one uses crref
vector < int > v1 = v2 + v3;
lref(v1);
rref(v1);
lref(v2 + v3);
clref(v2 + v3);
rref(v2 + v3);
```

Which ones cause compiler errors?

```
void lref(vector<int>& v);
void clref(const vector<int>& v);
void rref(vector<int>&& v);
// BTW: no one uses crref
vector<int> v1 = v2 + v3;
lref(v1);
                        // l-ref binds to l-v
rref(v1);
                        // r-ref no bind to l-v
lref(v2 + v3);
                 // l-ref no bind to r-v
clref(v2 + v3);
               // cl—ref binds to r—v
rref(v2 + v3);
                  // r-ref binds to r-v
```

Challenge Question

Challenge Question

const auto&& v4 = v1 + v2;

An r-value reference is an alias to an r-value

BUT the r-value reference itself is an I-value

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Challenge Question

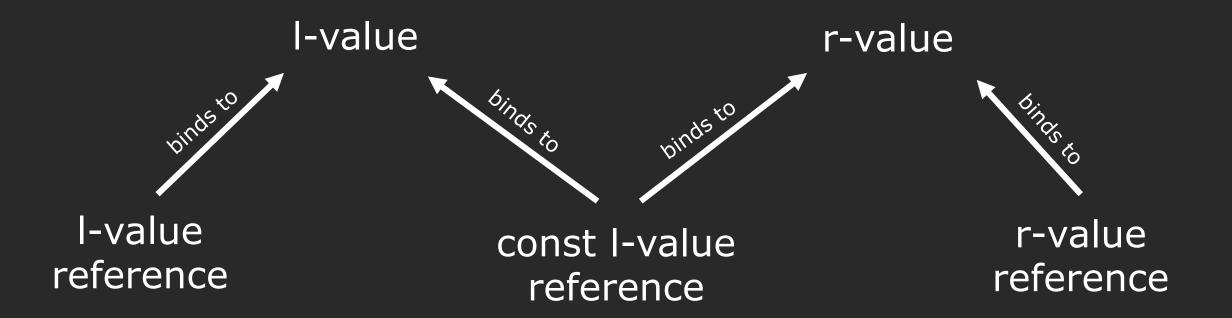
const auto&&
$$v4 = v1 + v2$$
;



Recite this one more time.

An r-value reference is an alias to an r-value

BUT the r-value reference itself is an I-value



move operations

This is pretty conceptually intense.

Please stop me at any time if you have questions!

An object that is an I-value is NOT disposable.

An object that is an r-value is disposable.

An object that is an I-value is NOT disposable, so you can copy* from, but definitely cannot move from.

An object that is an r-value is disposable.

*there exists some objects that can't be copied (eg. stream)

An object that is an I-value is NOT disposable, so you can copy* from, but definitely cannot move from.

An object that is an r-value is disposable, so you can either copy* or move from.

Why?

*there exists some objects that can't be copied (eg. stream)

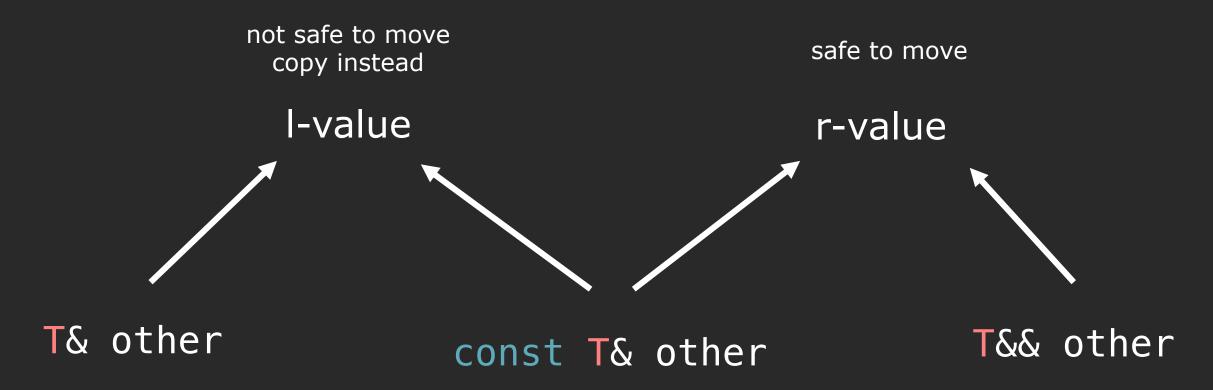
An object that is an I-value is NOT disposable, so you can copy* from, but definitely cannot move from.

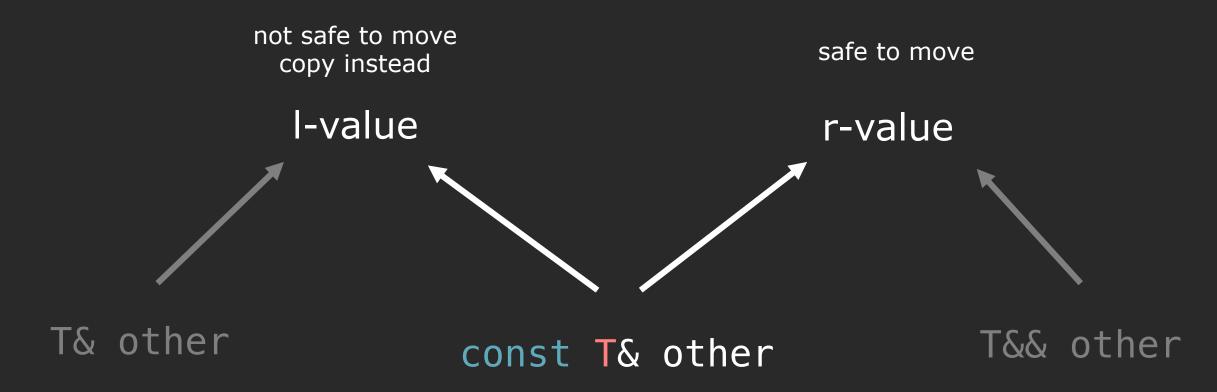
An object that is an r-value is disposable, so you can either copy* or move from.

Key insight: if an object might potentially be reused, you cannot steal its resources.

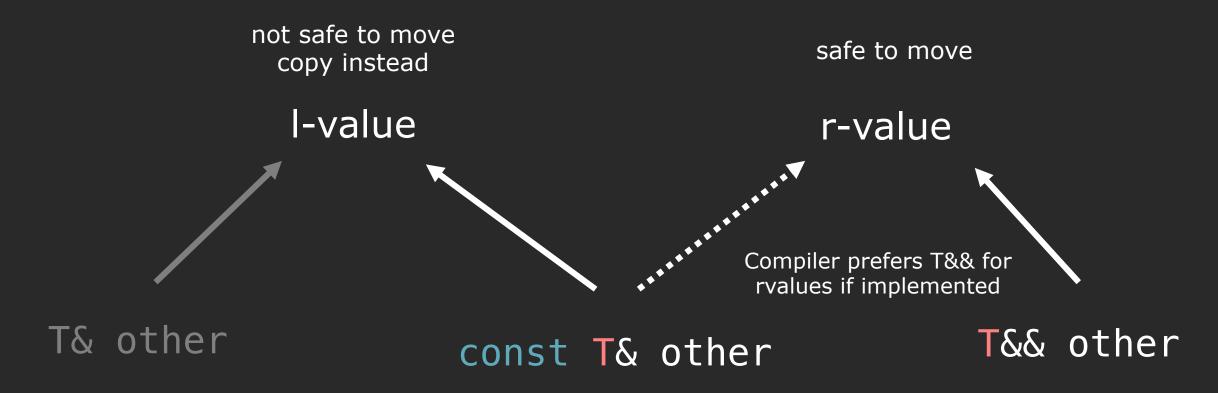
Welcome the two new special member functions!

- Default constructor
- Copy constructor (create new from existing I-value)
- Copy assignment (overwrite existing from existing I-value)
- Destructor
- Move constructor (create new from existing r-value)
- Move assignment (overwrite existing from existing r-value)





Right now your copy constructor works for both I and rvalues



Now we will implement a constructor taking an r-value reference.

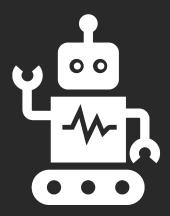
Function signatures of all our special member functions.

```
MyVector();
MyVector(const MyVector<T>& other);
MyVector<T>& operator=(const MyVector<T>& rhs);
~MyVector();

MyVector(MyVector<T>&& other);
MyVector<T>& operator=(MyVector<T>&& rhs);
```

Key steps for a move constructor

- Transfer the contents of other to this.
 - Move instead of copy whenever possible!
- Leave other in an undetermined but valid state
 - Normally: set it to the default value of class



Example Move constructor

Move constructor

(warning: this is not perfect...we'll come back to this!)

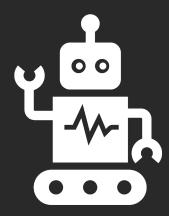
```
MyVector(MyVector<T>&& other):
    elems(other.elems),
    logicalSize(other.logicalSize),
    allocatedSize(other.allocatedSize) {
    other.elems = nullptr;
}
```

Key steps for a move constructor

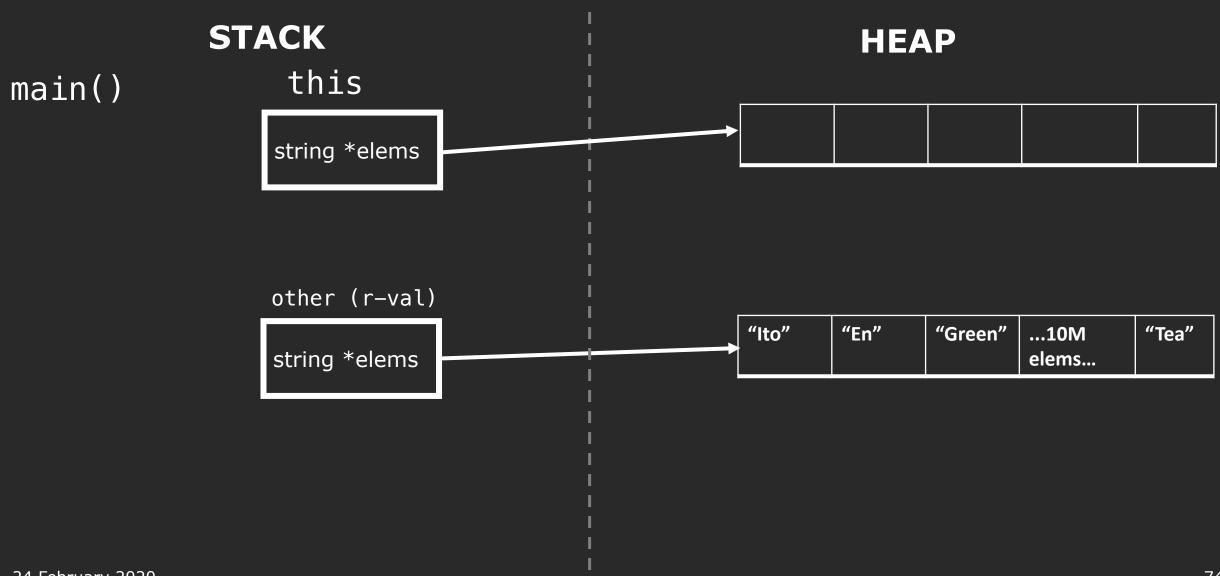
- Transfer the contents of other to this.
 - Move instead of copy whenever possible!
- Leave other in an undetermined but valid state
 - Normally: set it to the default value of class

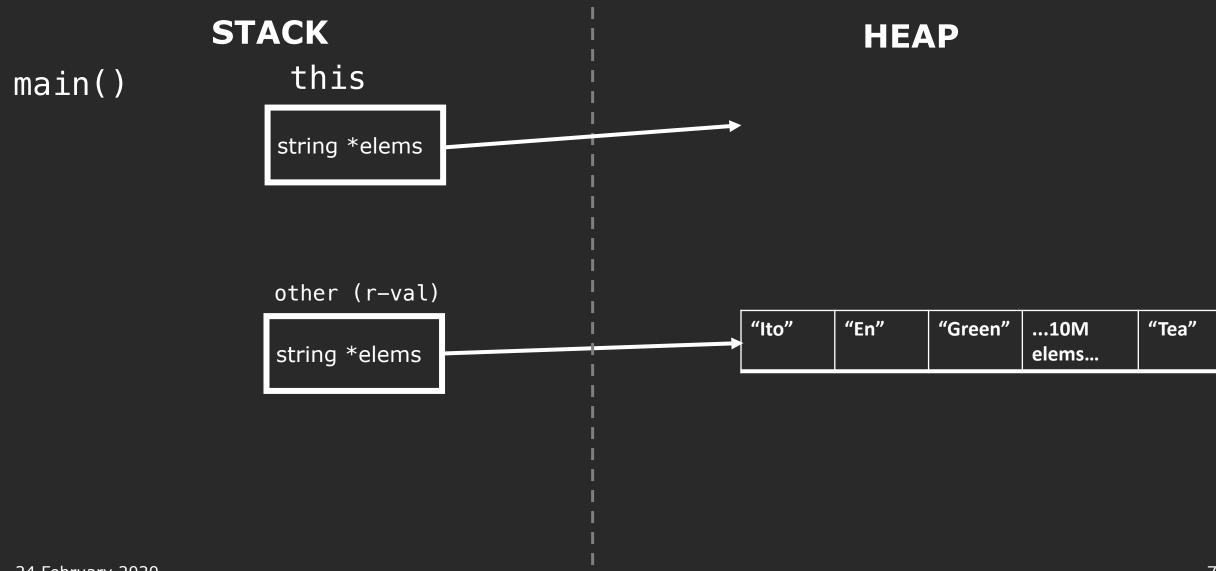
Key steps for a move assignment

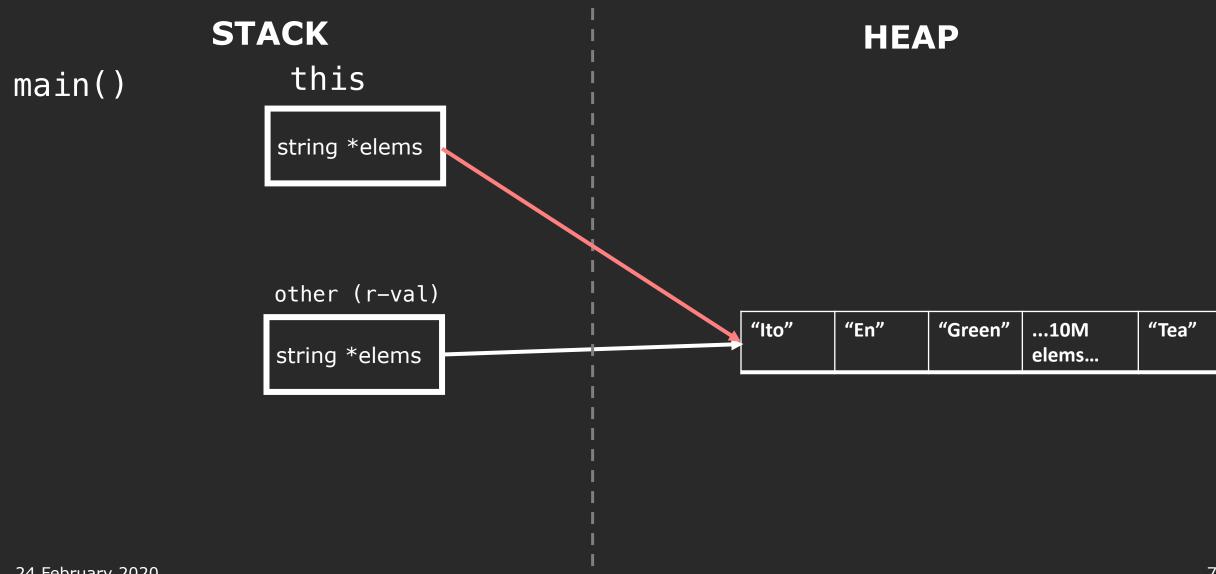
- Check self-assignment.
- Free up resources held by this.
- Transfer the contents of other to this.
 - Move instead of copy whenever possible!
- Leave other in an undetermined but valid state
 - Normally: set it to the default value of class



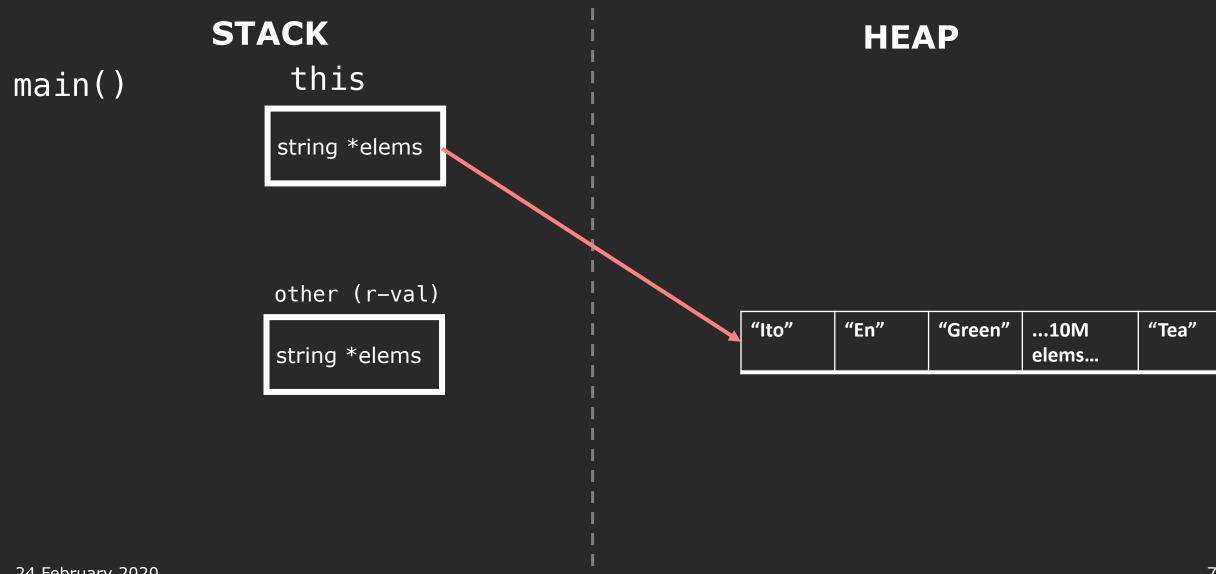
Example Move assignment



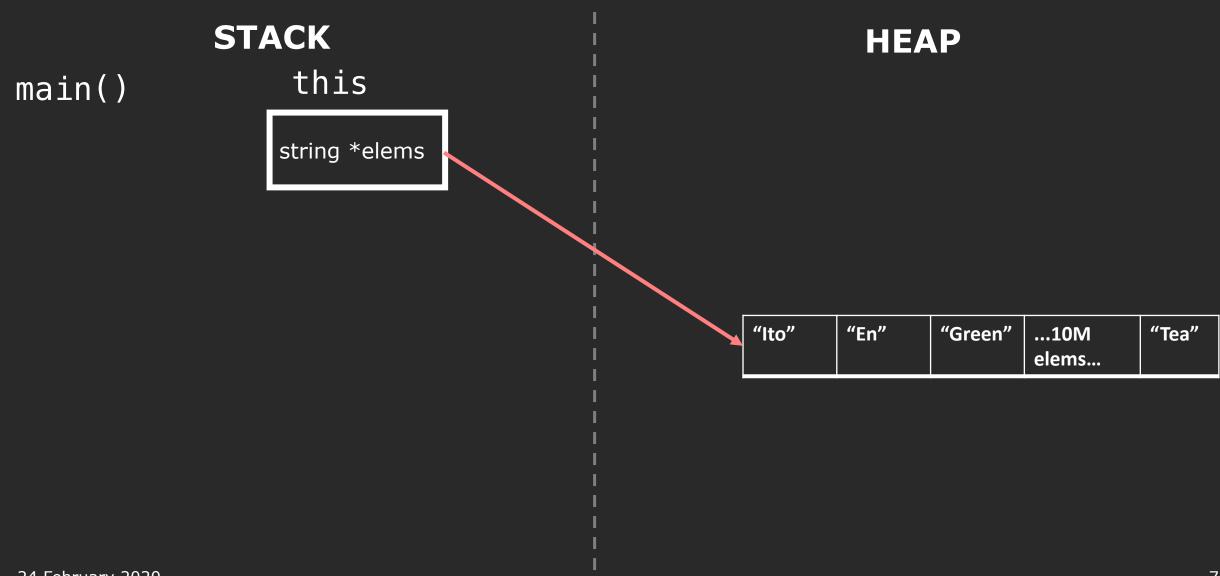




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Move assignment

(warning: this is not perfect...we'll come back to this!)

```
MyVector<T>& operator=(MyVector<T>&& rhs) {
  if (this == &rhs) {
     delete[] elems;
     allocatedSize = rhs.allocatedSize;
     logicalSize = rhs.logicalSize;
     elems = rhs.elems;
     rhs.elems = nullptr;
  return *this;
```

This is a small problem in our code.

Did we actually move all the members?

Consider this other example...from CS 106B!

```
class RandomBag {
public:
     RandomBag();
     void add(int value);
     int removeRandom();
private:
     vector<int> elems;
```

Move or copy assignment?

```
RandomBag& RandomBag::operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) {
    if (this != &rhs) {
        // no freeing needed
        elems = rhs.elems;
    return *this;
```

Recite this one more time.

An r-value reference is an alias to an r-value

BUT the r-value reference itself is an I-value

```
RandomBag& RandomBag!:operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) {
   if (this != &rhs) {
      // no freeing needed

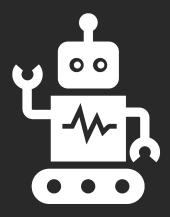
      elems = rhs.elems;
      these are I-values
```

```
}
return *this;
```

```
RandomBag& RandomBag::operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) {
    if (this != &rhs) {
         // no freeing needed
         elems = rhs.elems;
                                          can we force this to
                                             be an r-value?
     return *this;
                               rhs is going to be in
                            undetermined state anyways
```

```
RandomBag& RandomBag::operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) {
    if (this != &rhs) {
        // no freeing needed
        elems = static_cast<RandomBag&&>(rhs.elems);
                                        Now it is!
    return *this;
```

```
RandomBag& RandomBag::operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) {
    if (this != &rhs) {
         // no freeing needed
         elems = std::move(rhs.elems);
                                      Templatized version
    return *this;
                                     in the standard library
```



Example

std::move-ing all the members

Move constructor

(now it's perfect and idiomatic)

```
MyVector<T>(MyVector<T>&& other) :
    elems(std::move(other.elems)),
    logicalSize(std::move(other.logicalSize)),
    allocatedSize(std::move(other.allocatedSize)) {
    other.elems = nullptr;
}
```

Move assignment

(now it's perfect and idiomatic)

```
MyVector<T>& operator=(MyVector<T>&& rhs) {
  if (this == &rhs) {
     delete[] elems;
     allocatedSize = std::move(rhs.allocatedSize);
     logicalSize = std::move(rhs.logicalSize);
     elems = std::move(rhs.elems);
     rhs.elems = nullptr;
  return *this;
```

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Unconditional cast to an r-value.

Unconditional cast to an r-value.

Yes...there is a conditional cast that is even more poorly named!

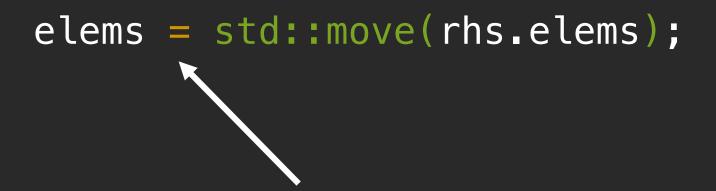
Poorly named things in C++, part 5

std::move(rhs.elems);



std::move itself doesn't move anything

Poorly named things in C++, part 5



The real move happens during assignment

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Honestly a way better name...

```
elems = std::rvalue_cast(rhs.elems);
```

std::move summary

- When declaring move operations, make sure to std::move all members.
- std::move doesn't really move anything
- Call std::move to force anything to an r-value.

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```
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2;
                                          r-value
  names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
                        r-value
```

```
Move constructor
      int main() {
        MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
        MyVector<string> names2;
  Move
assignment
        names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
```

```
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                          r-value
                                  I-value
  names1.push_back("Everything is fine!");
```

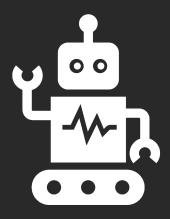
```
Move constructor
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = names1;
                                     Copy constructor
  names1.push_back("Everything is fine!");
```

```
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = std::move(names1);
                                       r-value
 // I promise to not use names1 before reassigning it
```

```
int main() {
 MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
 MyVector<string> names2 = std::move(names1);
                                   Move constructor
 // I promise to not use names1 before reassigning it
```

Final quiz: how many times is each special member function called (with copy elision and move semantics)?

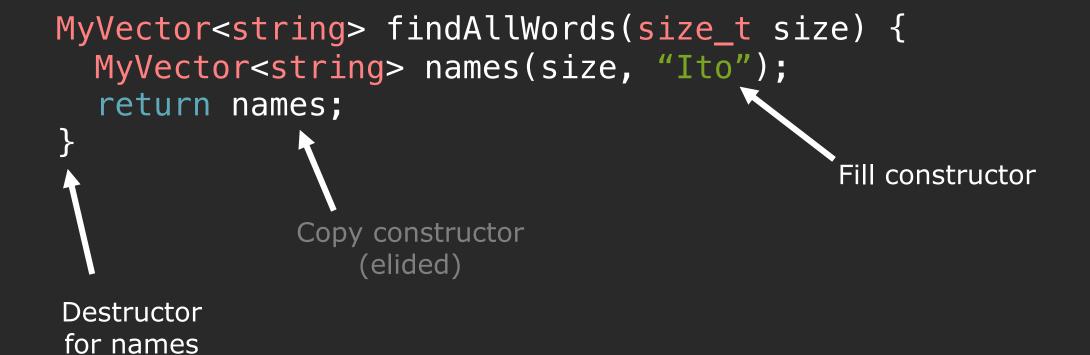
```
int main() {
  MyVector<string> names1 = findAllWords(54321234);
  MyVector<string> names2;
  names2 = findAllWords(54321234);
  cout << "done!" << endl;</pre>
MyVector<string> findAllWords(size t size) {
  MyVector<string> names(size, "Ito");
  return names;
```



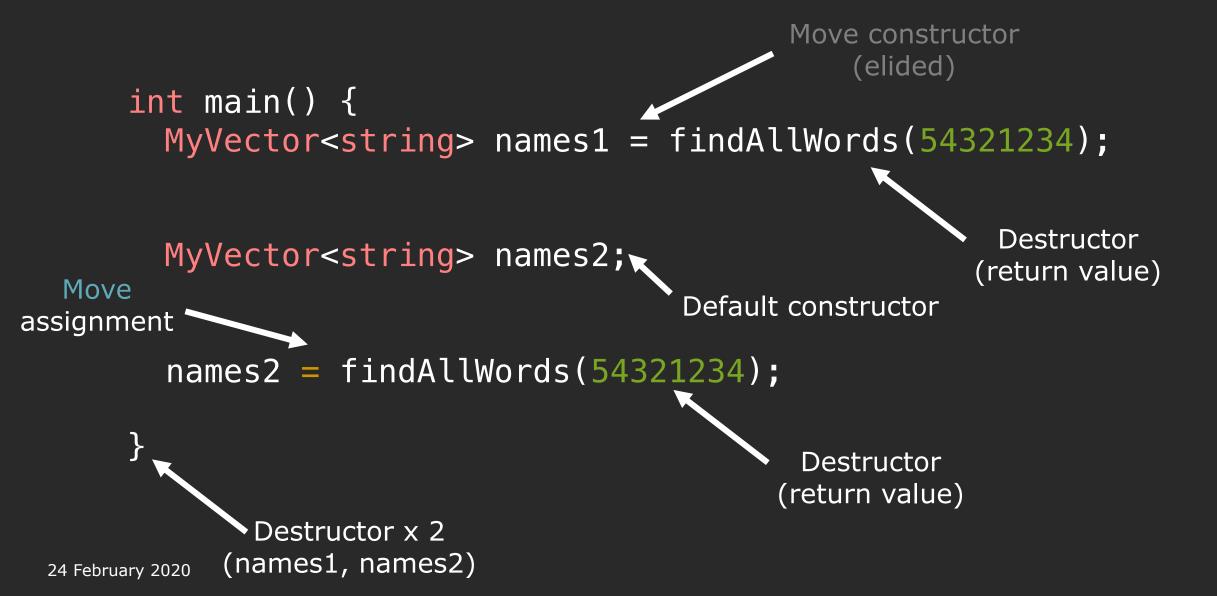
Demo

Printing and timing all calls to special member functions

With copy elision and move semantics.



With copy elision and move semantics.



Counts with copy elision.

findAllWords

- Fill constructor x 1
- Copy constructor x 1
- Destructor x 1

Counts with copy elision.

main

| • | Move constructor | x 1 |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----|
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Move assignment | x 1 |
| • | findAllWords | x 2 |
| | Fill constructor | x 1 |
| | Copy constructor | x 1 |
| | Destructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 1 |

Counts with copy elision.

main

| • | Move assignment | x 1 |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| • | Copy constructor | x 3 |
| • | Default constructor | x 1 |
| • | Destructor | x 3 |
| • | Fill constructor | x 2 |

applications

Our push_back function before.

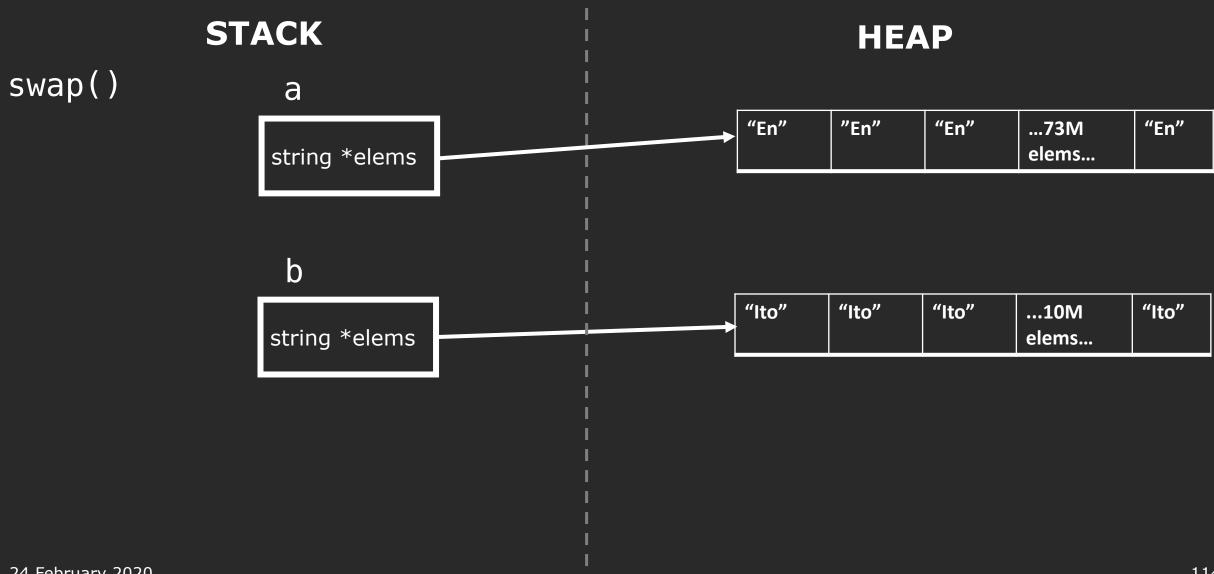
```
template <typename T>
void MyVector<T>::push_back(const T& element) {
    if (size() == allocatedSize) resize(...);
    elems[logicalSize++] = element;
}
```

Our push_back function now supports an r-value overload.

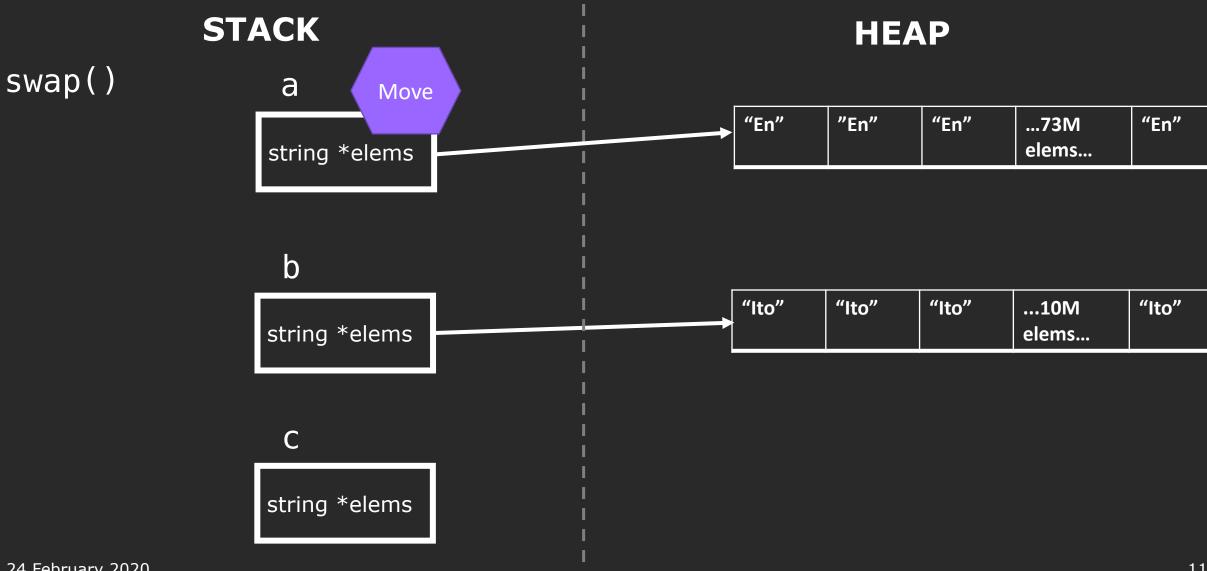
```
template <typename T>
void MyVector<T>::push_back(T&& element) {
    if (size() == allocatedSize) resize(...);
    elems[logicalSize++] = std::move(element);
}
```

Your task: write a generic swap function.

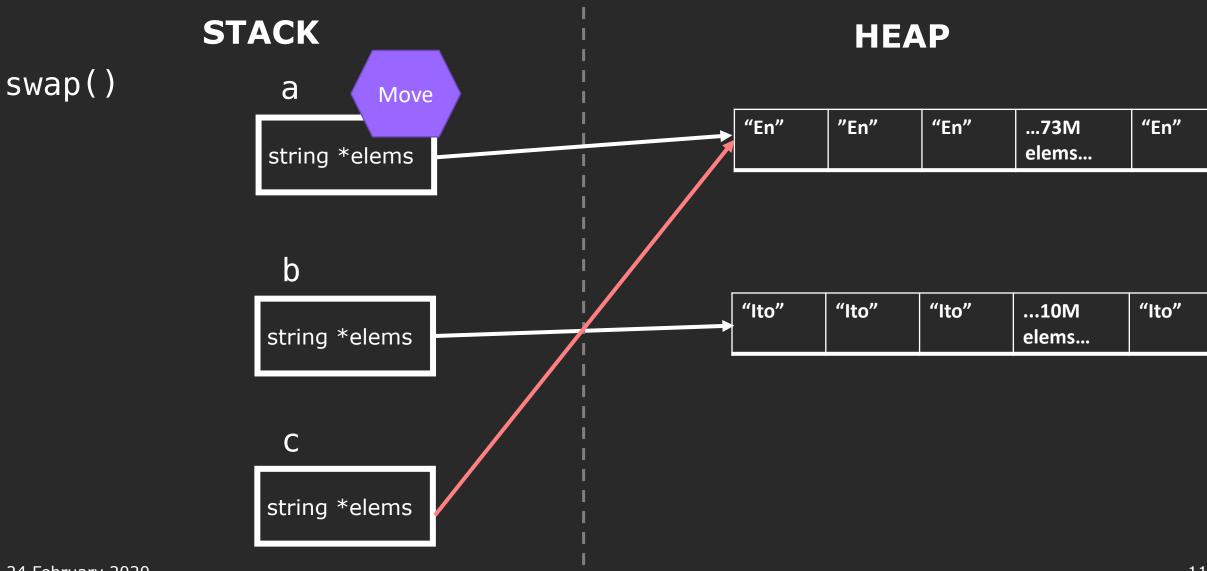
```
int main() {
  vector<string> v1("En", 73837463);
  vector<string> v2("Ito", 10000000);
  swap(v1, v2);
  Patient patient1{"Anna", 2};
  Patient patient2{"Avery", 3};
  swap(patient1, patient2);
```

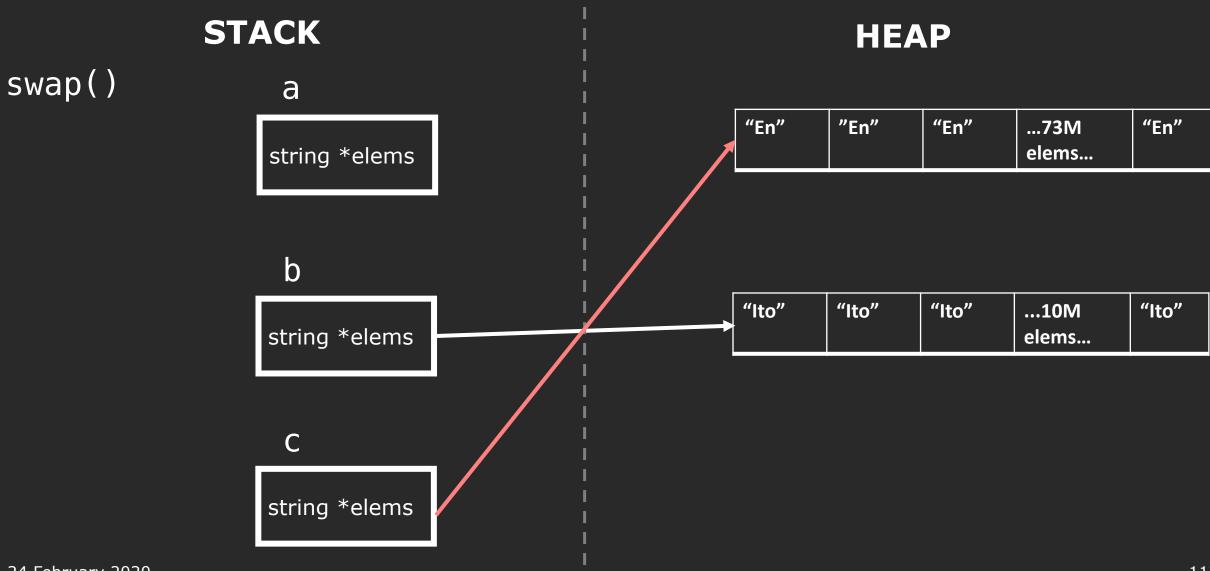


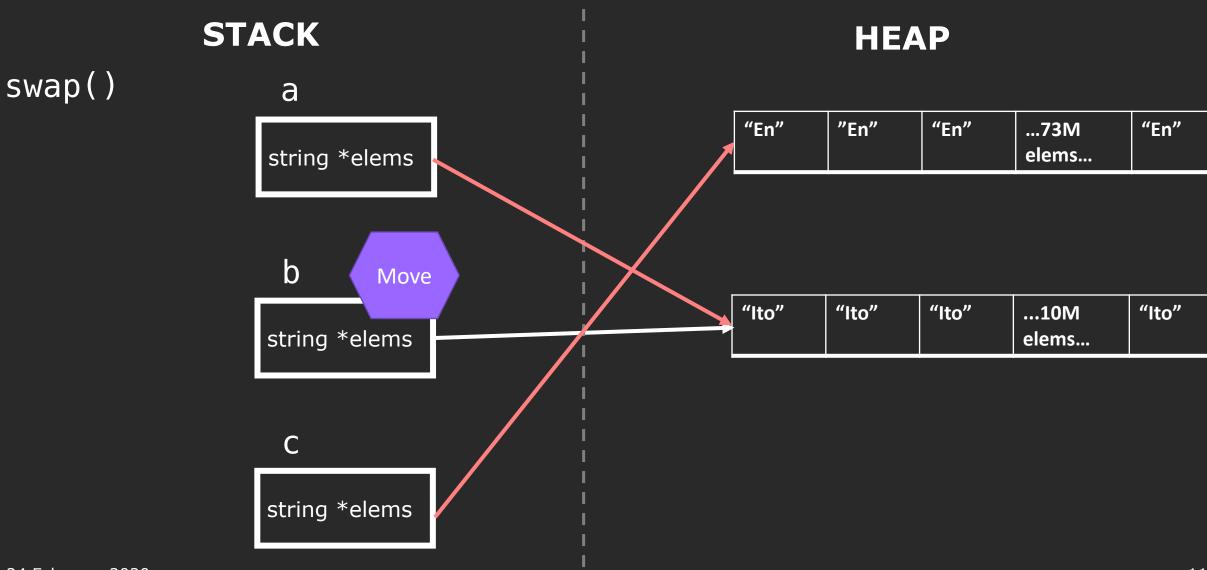
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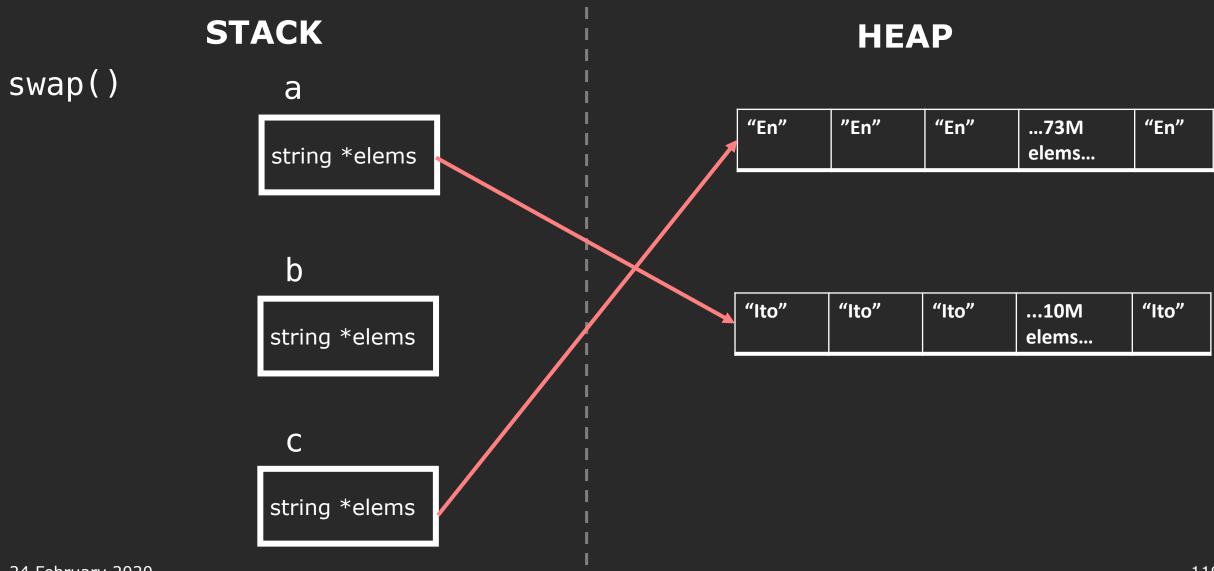


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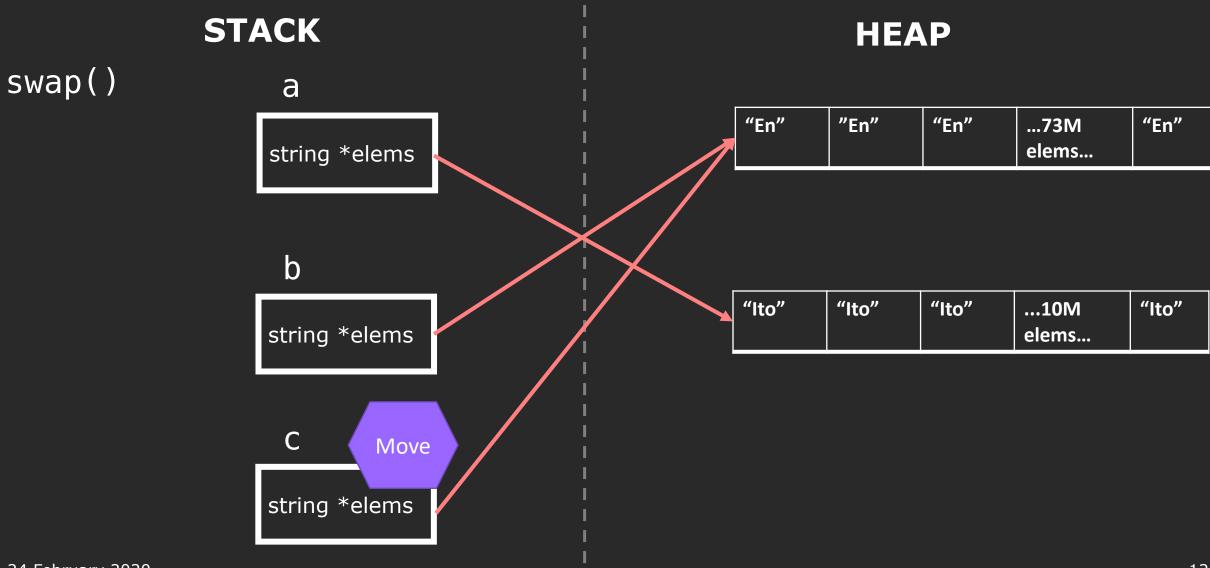


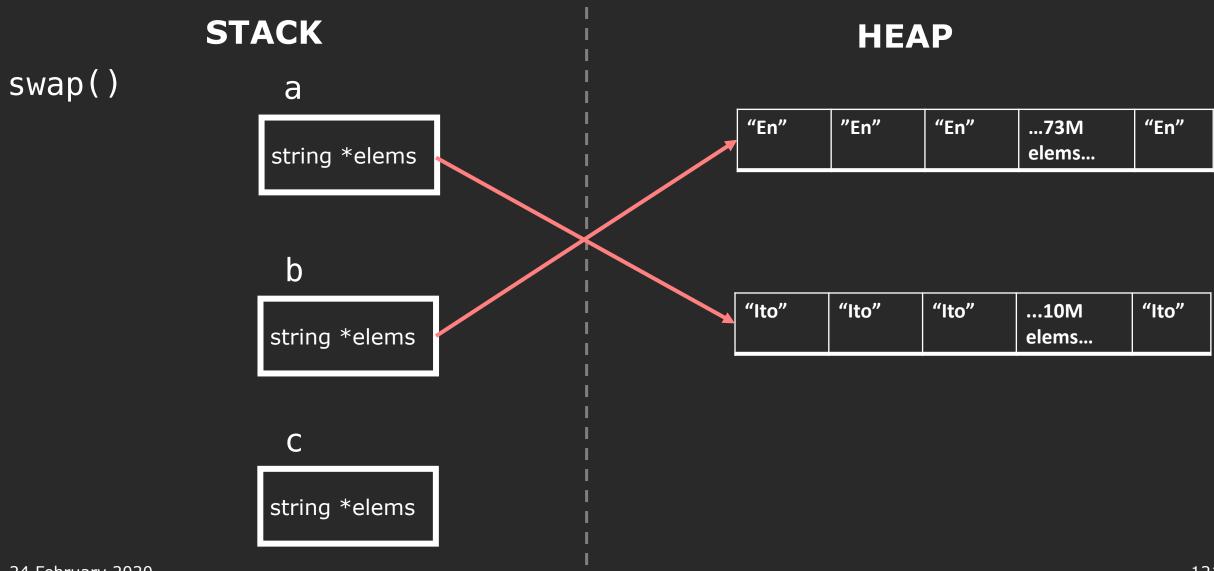


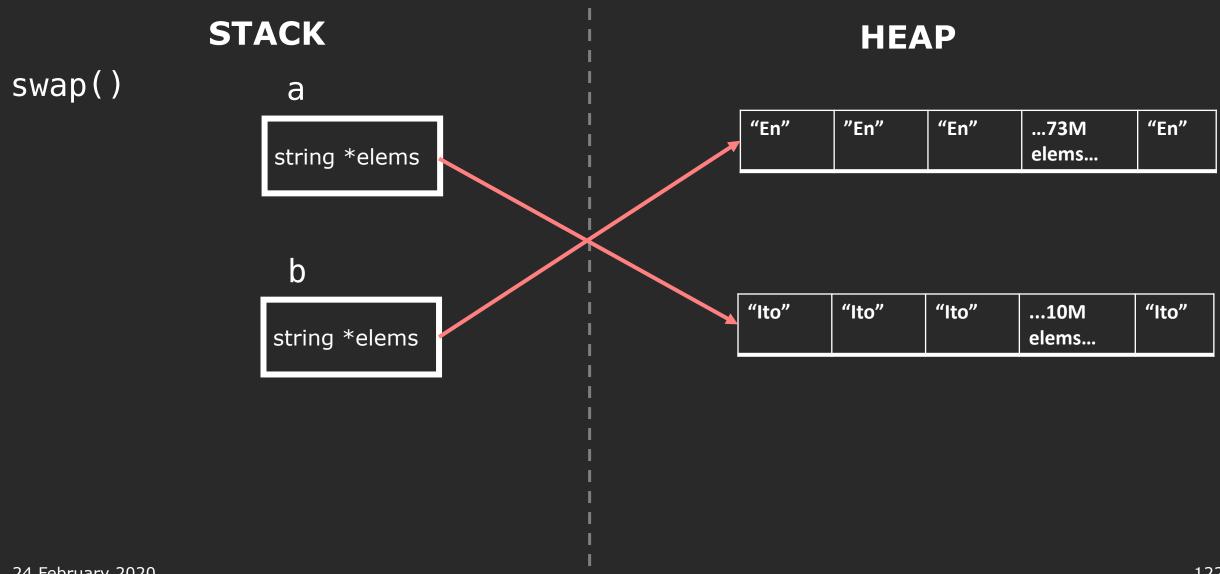




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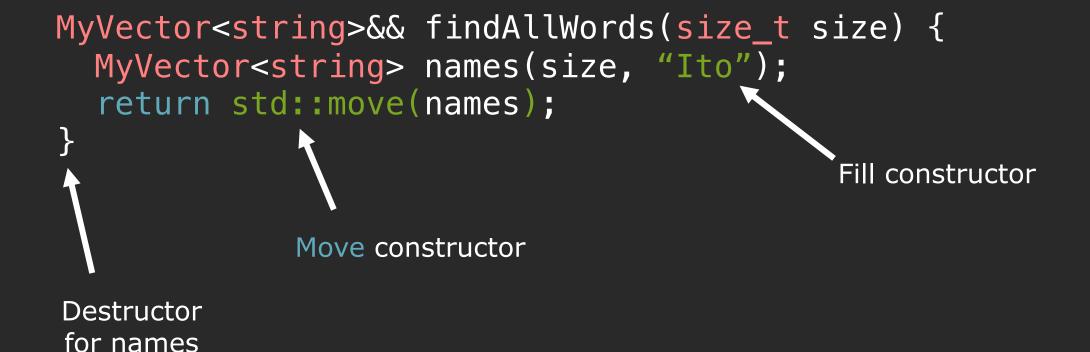




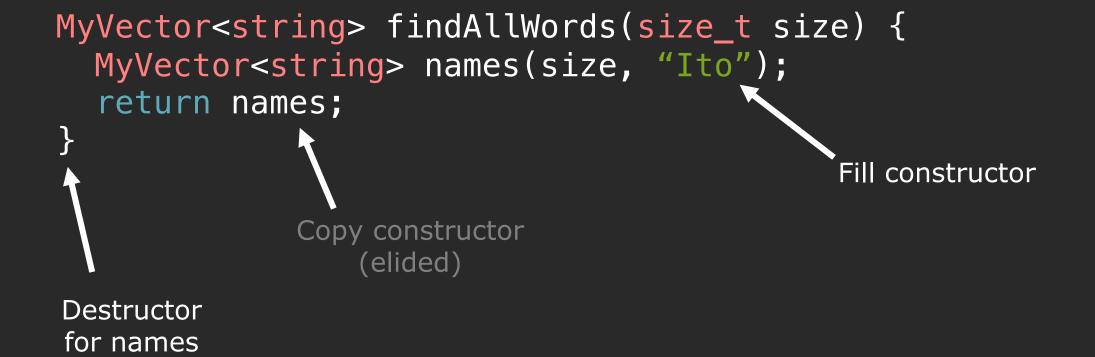


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Non-idiomatic use (do not use!) std::moving the return value



The compiler is great at optimizing return values. Don't interfere with it.



Your task: write a generic swap function.

```
template <typename T>
void swap(T& a, T& b) noexcept {
        T c(std::move(a)); // move constructor
        a = std::move(b); // move assignment
        b = std::move(c); // move assignment
}

// by the way, this is std::swap
```

Rule of Five

If you explicitly define (or delete) a copy constructor, copy assignment, move constructor, move assignment, or destructor, you should define (or delete) all five.

The fact that you defined one of these means one of your members has ownership issues that need to be resolved.

Rule of Zero

If the default operations work, then don't define your own custom ones.

You can default these operations explicitly!

```
class RandomBag {
public:
     RandomBag();
     RandomBag(const RandomBag& other) = default;
     RandomBag(RandomBag&& other) = default;
     RandomBag& operator=(const RandomBag& rhs) = default;
     RandomBag& operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) = default;
     void add(int value);
     int removeRandom();
private:
     vector<int> elems;
```

Notice for RandomBag: the default operations will move all elements – avoids the bugs we made before!

```
class RandomBag {
public:
     RandomBag();
     RandomBag(const RandomBag& other) = default;
     RandomBag(RandomBag&& other) = default;
     RandomBag& operator=(const RandomBag& rhs) = default;
     RandomBag& operator=(RandomBag&& rhs) = default;
     void add(int value);
     int removeRandom();
private:
     vector<int> elems;
```

Rule of Zero

If the default operations work, then don't define your own custom ones.

You are more likely to make a mistake if you define it when you don't need to.

Be explicit – don't trust the compiler. Default or delete them yourself.

| compiler implicitly declares | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|--|
| | | default constructor | destructor | copy constructor | copy assignment | move constructor | move assignment | | |
| | Nothing | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | | |
| (0 | Any constructor | not declared | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | | |
| declares | default constructor | user declared | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | | |
| qec | destructor | defaulted | user declared | defaulted | defaulted | not declared | not declared | | |
| user | copy constructor | not declared | defaulted | user declared | defaulted | not declared | not declared | | |
| | copy assignment | defaulted | defaulted | defaulted | user declared | not declared | not declared | | |
| | move constructor | not declared | defaulted | deleted | deleted | user declared | not declared | | |
| | move assignment | defaulted | defaulted | deleted | deleted | not declared | user declared | | |

std::forward

Conditional cast to an r-value.

std::forward(rhs.elems);



std::move itself doesn't move anything

perfect forwarding problem and emplace_back

Never mind, there's no way we are getting this far.

Ask me or ask on Piazza if you want to learn more!

This is also a final lecture topic if you want to learn!



Next time

RAII
(the single most important C++ idiom)