C++ Club Meeting Notes

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Cpp.chat Episode #29: "We've Dropped The 'M' Word"

In this episode we discuss Herb Sutter's new proposal, p0709, "Zero-overhead deterministic exceptions", a.k.a. "Static Exceptions" - and a couple of supporting proposals from Niall Douglas (p1028 and p1029).

- YouTube
- ▶ iTunes
- Overcast

The Incredible Shrinking Standard - Alisdair Meredith [ACCU 2018]

Video

Static Functions

- ► Can't be used with templates in C++98 (internal linkage)
 - C compatibility feature, deprecated in initial C++98 standard in favour of unnamed namespaces
 - ▶ Un-deprecated in C++11 (all such functions must work with templates)
- Modules: TBD

Incrementing bool

- ▶ bool++ deprecated in original C++98
- ++bool deprecated in C++03
- Added to C in C99
- ▶ Both removed in C++17

Incrementing bool

Was

```
void test(bool before, bool after) {
    ++after;
    if (after and before++) {...}
}
```

Now

```
1 void test(bool before, bool after) {
2     after = true;
3     if (after and std::exchange(before, true)) {...}
4 }
```

Decrementing bool?

- ▶ Added to C99
- ▶ Not in C++
- ► Toggles the value

export

- ► In original C++ Standard
- ► The only implementation shipped with C++03
- ▶ Many surprises due to 2-phase name lookup
- Removed from C++11 without deprecation
- Keyword reserved for future use

auto

- ► C++98: a local variable in a function
- Removed from C++11

register

- ► A hint to compiler
- No use other than C compatibility
- ▶ Modern compilers ignore it
- Deprecated in C++11
- Removed from C++17
- Keyword reserved for future use

Trigraphs

- > ??! →> #
- Translated by preprocessor ==> expanded in literals and other surprising places
- Attempted to deprecate in C++11, but national bodies objected
- ▶ Removed in C++17

Digraphs

- Alternative keywords, like and and or
- Fully supported

Exception specification

- ▶ Feature of C++98
- Deprecated in favour of noexcept in C++11
- Removed in C++17 apart from throw()
- ► Removing throw() from C++20

Implicit copy operations

- C++98 always declared copy ctor and copy assignment operator for a class (unless it had awkward bases/members)
- Members are not declared in C++11 if a move ctor/assignment operator is declared
- C++11 deprecates implicit declaration of the 2nd copy operation if just one is declared, or a dtor is declared
- C++20: no changes

char* for string literals

- ► C++98 allows this
- Plain char* binding was permitted for C compatibility, but deprecated in C++98
- ▶ Removed in C++11

Narrowing conversions

- ► C++11: Use uniform initialization
 - ► Narrowing conversions are ill-formed
- Can break aggregate initialization in legacy code

PODs

- What is it? Opinions differ
- Removed in C++20
- ▶ Removed the term from core language and deprecated is_pod trait

gets()

- No safe usage
- ▶ Deprecated in C99, removed in C11
- ▶ Removed from C++14

Ref counted strings

- C++98: basic_string supported CoW idiom ** Can be surprising, like calling begin() invalidates iterators
- ► CoW is a performance hazard in concurrent code ==> removed in C++11
- Enabled SSO instead

auto_ptr

- Added in C++98
- Deprecated in C++11 in favour of unique_ptr
- ▶ Removed in C++17

random_shuffle

- Uses poor-quality C library random function
- ▶ Deprecated in C++14 (specify a random generator, or use shuffle)
- ▶ Removed in C++17

Adaptable functions

- bind1st, bind2nd, mem_fun_ref etc.
- Rely on protocol of nested typedefs
- Superseded by std::bind, so deprecated in C++11
- ▶ Removed in C++17

Vacuous C++ headers

- <ccomplex>, <ciso646>, <cstdalign>, <cstdbool>, <ctgmath>
- Nothing but compatibility macros in C headers
- ► To be removed in C++20
- ▶ Last contention: <version>
- Detect with __has_include(<header>)

strstreams

- Older form of string streams (more performant, but harder to use)
- No templates, only supports char
- ▶ Deprecated in C++98
- No replacement yet

std::iterator

- ▶ A base class to provide typedefs for iterators
- ► Problems with 2-phase lookup not finding typedefs in dependent base class (typical usage)
- Library removed explicit dependency on this in C++11
- ▶ Deprecated in C++17

Temporary buffers

- get_temporary_buffer: nobody used it
- ► No RAII support
- Deprecated in C++17
- ► To be removed in C++20

raw_storage_iterator

- Constructs elements when assigned (useful with copy and transform)
- No safe usage if ctor throws
- Deprecated in C++17
- To be removed in C++20

Deducible members of std::allocator

- ▶ Allocators should always be accessed via traits since C++11
- ▶ Deprecated in C++17
- ▶ To be removed in C++20
- ▶ Un-deprecate size_type and difference_type in C++20

allocator<void>

- ▶ Mostly empty specialization, no allocate member
- Less needed when usage is via allocator_traits
- Explicit instantiation will fail due to allocate/deallocate
- Deprecated in C++17
- ► To be removed in C++20

is_literal

- Useless unless you know which ctors are constexpr
- Deprecated in C++17
- ► To be removed in C++20

result_of

- ► Introduced in Library TR1
- Standardised in C++11 as a simple decltype
- Could not support some use cases due to 'cute' syntax
- Deprecated in C++17, use invoke_result instead
- ► To be removed in C++20

uncaught_exception

- ► To detect an exception in-flight
- Underspecified (such as when exception is in another thread, or a try/catch that doesn't escape dtor)
- Deprecated in C++17, use uncaught_exceptions
- ▶ To be removed in C++20

Atomic API for shared_ptr

- ► Free function API to use shared_ptr atomically without synchronisation
- Easily misused (can't dereference, all operations must happen via this API)
- Deprecated in C++20 in favour of atomic<shared_ptr>

shared_ptr::unique

- Unreliable with multiple threads
- Ignored weak_ptr in other threads (can become locked)
- Deprecated in C++17
- ► To be removed in C++20

basic_string::reserve()

- ▶ Prior to C++20 allows string to shrink
- C++11 removes shrinking permission (for consistency with other containers)
- Calling reserve() becomes a no-op unique to basic_string use clear()
 or shrink_to_fit()
- ▶ Signature without parameters deprecated in C++20

Namespace relops

- Provides default implementations for comparison operators, assuming operator= and operator< are defined for a type</p>
- ▶ No tag class to derive from ==> can't be hooked with ADL
- Requires using namespace relops; to activate which is not good in a header
- Deprecated in C++20 in favour of the spaceship operator

<codecvt>

- Added for Unicode support in C++11
- Underspecified and hard to use
- ▶ Deprecated in C++17

wstring_convert

- ▶ Widens/narrows strings using streams interface
- Underspecified and awkward to use
- ▶ Deprecated in C++17 without replacement

Standard subsets

- ► C++98 -> C++14
- ▶ C++11 -> Latest

East const/Const west: Constant bikeshedding

- Post
- ► Reddit thread

Igor's C++ Grimoire

- **▶** Link
- ► Reddit thread

CppInsights

- ► Link
- Source

Facebook Infer

A static analyzer for Java, C, C++, and Objective-C

- Website
- ▶ Code

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