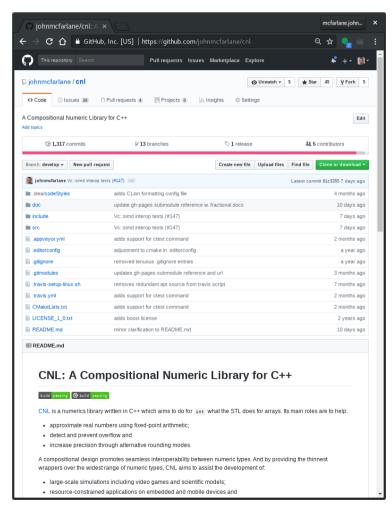
## Better Numeric Types in C++

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Dublin C/C++ User Group - 2018-04-09

# Background

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← github.com/johnmcfarlane/cnl

1. Fixed resolution

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- 2. Limited range

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- 2. Limited range
- 3. 'Interesting' arithmetic behavior

#### 1. Complicated

- ± 1.significand \* 2 exponent
- special values, denormalized values, -0

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- 4. Variable resolution

- 1. Complicated
  - ± 1.significand \* 2 exponent
  - special values, denormalized values, -0
- 2. Occasional weirdness can surprise:
  - o determinism, associativity, commutativity and ordering
- 3. <cmath> functions lack constexpr
- 4. Variable resolution
- 5. Costly in energy and silicon

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- Integers are a powerful abstraction over registers.
- But we can do a lot better.
- SO ...

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#### "Do for int what the STL did for []."

• Provide zero-cost abstractions over language-level features:

```
std::array<T, N> a; // T a[N]
std::array<T, N>::iterator i = std::begin(a); // T* i
```

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• Maintain a familiar interface:

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auto const& third = a[2];
for (auto const& element : a) { /* ... */ }
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Allow users to opt in to positive-cost functionality:

```
std::array<T, N> a;
auto const& bad_element = a.at(N); // throws std::out_of_range!
```

#### "Do for int what the STL did for []."

• Provide zero-cost abstractions over language-level features:

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Allow users to opt in to positive-cost functionality:

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std::array<T, N> a;
auto const& bad_element = a.at(N); // throws std::out_of_range!
```

• And most importantly...

"Do for int what the STL did for []."

• Compose!

```
using fs_cache = unordered_map<filesystem::path, vector<byte>>;
```

### Non-Goal

"Don't do for int what STL doesn't do for []."

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"Don't do for int what STL doesn't do for []."

• Don't make the user pay for what they don't use.

### Fixed-Point Arithmetic

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```
namespace cnl {
    template<typename Rep, int Exponent>
    class fixed_point {
        // ...
    private:
        Rep r;
    };
}
```

### Fixed-Point Arithmetic

```
namespace cnl {
    template<typename Rep, int Exponent>
    class fixed_point {
        // ...
    private:
        Rep r;
    };
}
```

#### Example usage:

```
#include <cnl/fixed_point.h>

void f() {
    auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{ 0.25 };
    std::cout << n * 5; // prints "1.25"
}</pre>
```

```
// what the programmer writes
bool foo(float f) {
    auto fixed = fixed_point<int, -16>{f};
    auto fixed_plus_one = fixed + 1;
    return fixed_plus_one > fixed;
}
```

```
// what the programmer writes
bool foo(float f) {
    auto fixed = fixed_point<int, -16>{f};
    auto fixed_plus_one = fixed + 1;
    return fixed_plus_one > fixed;
}
```

```
// what the compiler sees
bool foo(float) {
   return true;
}
```

```
// what the programmer writes
 bool foo(float f) {
      auto fixed = fixed point<int, -16>{f};
      auto fixed plus one = fixed + 1;
      return fixed plus one > fixed;
 // what the compiler sees
 bool foo(float) {
      return true;
 x86-64 gcc 4.8.1
                               -std=c++11 -O3
          .LX0:
                                       Demangle
                                                   A▼
                                                          ■ Libraries ▼
 11010
                 .text
                           \s+
                                 Intel
  1 foo(float):
  2
       mov eax, 1
        ret
+auto+fixed_plus_one+%3D+fixed+%2B+1%3B%0A++++return+fixed_plus_one+%3E+fixed%3B%0A%7D'),I:'5',n:'0',o:'C%2B%2B+source+%231',t:'0'),
5',n:'0',o:'x86-64+gcc+4.8.1+(Editor+%231,+Compiler+%231)+C%2B%2B',t:'0')),k:100,l:'4',m:99.99999999999999,n:'0',o:",s:1,t:'0')),version:4)
```

```
A▼
          Ħ Save/Load
                                                 C++
 1
      #include <https://gist.githubusercontent.com/johnmcfarla
 2
       #include <iostream>
 3
      using cnl::fixed_point;
 4
 5
      void f(float a) {
 6
 7
          auto n = fixed_point<int, -8>{ a };
           std::cout << float(n * 5); // prints "1.25"
 8
 9
      }
10
      void i(float a) {
11
12
           int n = a * 256.f;
           std::cout << (n * 5) / 256.f; // prints "1.25"
13
14
      }
%3C+float(n+*+5)%3B+//+prints+%221.25%22%0A%7D%0A%0Avoid+i(float+a)+%7B%0A++++int+n+%3D+a+*+256.f%3B%0A++++std::cout+%3C%3C+
),fontScale:0.7464959999999999,lang:c%2B%2B,libs:!(),options:'-std%3Dc%2B%2B11+-O3',source:1),l:'5',n:'0',o:'x86-64+gcc+4.8.1+
```

## The Bad

### The Bad

```
// range exceeded! (undefined behavior)
auto a = numeric_limits<int>::max() + 1;
```

```
// range exceeded! (undefined behavior)
auto a = numeric_limits<int>::max() + 1;

// also undefined behavior
auto b = numeric_limits<fixed_point<int, -16>>::max() + 1;
```

```
// range exceeded! (undefined behavior)
auto a = numeric_limits<int>::max() + 1;

// also undefined behavior
auto b = numeric_limits<fixed_point<int, -16>>::max() + 1;

// compiles
static_assert(1 == 1, "this does compile");

// error: static assertion failed: this does not compile
static_assert(1 != 1, "this does not compile");

// error: left shift count >= width of type
static_assert(1 << 1000, "this does not compile");</pre>
```

```
// range exceeded! (undefined behavior)
auto a = numeric limits<int>::max() + 1;
// also undefined behavior
auto b = numeric limits<fixed point<int, -16>>::max() + 1;
// compiles
static_assert(1 == 1, "this does compile");
// error: static assertion failed: this does not compile
static assert(1 != 1, "this does not compile");
// error: left shift count >= width of type
static_assert(1 << 1000, "this does not compile");</pre>
// compiles
static_assert(numeric limits<fixed point<int, -16>>::max() - 1, "this compiles");
// fatal error: static assert expression is not an integral constant expression
static assert(numeric limits<fixed point<int, -16>>::max() + 1, "this does not!");
```

```
// compiles
static_assert(unsigned{1} < signed{-1}, "wat?");</pre>
```

```
// compiles
static_assert(unsigned{1} < signed{-1}, "wat?");

// compiles
static_assert(fixed_point<unsigned>{1} < fixed_point<signed>{-1}, "huh?");
```

```
// compiles
static_assert(unsigned{1} < signed{-1}, "wat?");

// compiles
static_assert(fixed_point<unsigned>{1} < fixed_point<signed>{-1}, "huh?");

// compiles (C++17)
static_assert(fixed_point{1U} < fixed_point{-1});</pre>
```

```
// multiplication
auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
auto nn = n * n;  // type?
```

```
// multiplication
auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
auto nn = n * n;  // type?
```

```
// (-8) + (-8) = -16
static_assert(std::is_same_v<decltype(nn), cnl::fixed_point<int, -16>>);
```

```
x86-64 clang 5.0.0
                                                                                                                            8
                            \blacksquare
                                   -std=c++17 -O2
                                                                  ■ Libraries ▼
                           //
                                             Demangle
                                                          A▼
  11010
           .LX0:
                    .text
                               \s+
                                     Intel
   1 .LCPI0 0:
        .long 1132462080 # float 256
   3 .LCPI0 1:
       .long 931135488 # float 1.52587891E-5
   5 square(float): # @square(float)
       mulss xmm0, dword ptr [rip + .LCPI0 0]
   7
      cvttss2si eax, xmm0
   8
      imul eax, eax
      xorps xmm0, xmm0
   9
  10
     cvtsi2ss xmm0, eax
       mulss xmm0, dword ptr [rip + .LCPI0_1]
  11
  12
       ret
  13 .LCPI1 0:
  14
       .long 1132462080 # float 256
  15 .LCPI1 1:
  16
       .long 931135488 # float 1.52587891E-5
  17 the old way(float): # @the old way(float)
       mulss xmm0, dword ptr [rip + .LCPI1_0]
  19
       cvttss2si eax, xmm0
  20
       imul eax, eax
      xorps xmm0, xmm0
  21
       cvtsi2ss xmm0, eax
  22
  23
       mulss xmm0, dword ptr [rip + .LCPI1_1]
  24
       ret
t%3Cint%3E(f+*+256.f)%3B%0A++++auto+nn+%3D+n+*+n%3B%0A++++return+nn+/+65536.f%3B%0A%7D'),I:'5',n:'0',o:'C%2B%2B+source+%231',t:'0'),
```

```
constexpr auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
constexpr auto d = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{2.25};
```

```
constexpr auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
constexpr auto d = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{2.25};

// (-8) - (-8) = 0
constexpr auto q = n / d; // cnl::fixed_point<int, 0>;
```

```
constexpr auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
constexpr auto d = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{2.25};

// (-8) - (-8) = 0
constexpr auto q = n / d;  // cnl::fixed_point<int, 0>;

constexpr auto r = n % d;  // cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>;
```

```
constexpr auto n = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{1.5};
constexpr auto d = cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>{2.25};

// (-8) - (-8) = 0
constexpr auto q = n / d; // cnl::fixed_point<int, 0>;

constexpr auto r = n % d; // cnl::fixed_point<int, -8>;

// (-8) - (23)
constexpr auto q = cnl::divide(n, d); // cnl::fixed_point<long, -31>;
```

```
5.5 * 5.5 = 30.25
55. * .55 = 30.25
5.5 * 55. = 302.5
```

```
5.5 * 5.5 = 30.25
55. * .55 = 30.25
5.5 * 55. = 302.5
```

```
AAA.BBBBB * CCCCCC.DD = AAACCCCCC.BBBBBDD
```

```
5.5 * 5.5 = 30.25

55. * .55 = 30.25

5.5 * 55. = 302.5

AAA.BBBBB * CCCCCC.DD = AAACCCCCC.BBBBBDD

10 / 100 = 00.01

1 / 1000 = 0.001
```

```
5.5 * 5.5 = 30.25

55. * .55 = 30.25

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AAA.BBBBB * CCCCCC.DD = AAACCCCCC.BBBBBDD

10 / 100 = 00.01

1 / 1000 = 0.001

AAA.BBBBB / CCCCCC.DD = AAADD.BBBBBCCCCCC
```

```
5.5 * 5.5 = 30.25

55. * .55 = 30.25

5.5 * 55. = 302.5

AAA.BBBBB * CCCCCC.DD = AAACCCCCC.BBBBBDD

10 / 100 = 00.01

1 / 1000 = 0.001

AAA.BBBBB / CCCCCC.DD = AAADD.BBBBBCCCCCC
```

```
template<typename Numerator, typename Denominator>
struct fractional {
    Numerator numerator;
    Denominator denominator;
};
```

```
template<typename Numerator, typename Denominator>
struct fractional {
    Numerator numerator;
    Denominator denominator;
};
```

```
constexpr auto n = fixed_point<int16_t, -8>{1.5};
constexpr auto d = fixed_point<int16_t, -8>{2.25};
constexpr auto f = fractional{n, d};
constexpr auto q = fixed_point{f}; // fixed_point<int32_t, -15>{.66666667}
```

```
auto n = fixed_point<uint8_t, -8>{0.99609375};
auto nn = n * n;
```

```
auto n = fixed_point<uint8_t, -8>{0.99609375};
auto nn = n * n;  // fixed_point<int, -16>{0.9922027587890625};
```

```
auto n = fixed_point<uint8_t, -8>{0.99609375};
auto nn = n * n;  // fixed_point<int, -16>{0.9922027587890625};

auto n = fixed_point<int, -31>{0.99609375};
auto nn = n * n;  // fixed_point<int, -62>{?!?!?!?!?!?!};
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic_integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic_integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };
```

```
#include <cnl/elastic_integer.h>
using cnl::elastic_integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic_integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };

#include <cnl/elastic_integer.h>
using cnl::elastic_integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits

auto ee = e * e; // elastic_integer<62>{INT64_C(0x3FFFFFFF000000001)}
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic_integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };

#include <cnl/elastic_integer.h>
using cnl::elastic_integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits

auto ee = e * e; // elastic_integer<62>{INT64_C(0x3FFFFFFF000000001)}

auto _2ee = ee + ee; // elastic_integer<63>{INT64_C(0x7FFFFFFE000000002)}
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic_integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };

#include <cnl/elastic_integer.h>
using cnl::elastic_integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits

auto ee = e * e; // elastic_integer<62>{INT64_C(0x3FFFFFFFF000000001)}

auto _2ee = ee + ee; // elastic_integer<63>{INT64_C(0x7FFFFFFE000000002)}

auto fpe = fixed_point<elastic_integer<31>, -31>{0.99609375};
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };
#include <cnl/elastic integer.h>
using cnl::elastic integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits
auto ee = e * e; // elastic integer<62>{INT64 C(0x3FFFFFFF000000001)}
auto 2ee = ee + ee; // elastic integer<63>{INT64 C(0x7FFFFFE000000002)}
auto fpe = fixed point<elastic integer<31>, -31>{0.99609375};
auto sq = fpe * fpe; // fixed point<elastic integer<62>, -62>{0.9922027587890625}
```

```
template<int Digits, class Narrowest = int>
class elastic integer { WideEnoughInteger r; /* other stuff */ };
#include <cnl/elastic integer.h>
using cnl::elastic integer;
auto e = elastic_integer<31>{0x7FFFFFFF}; // r has 31 or more digits
auto ee = e * e; // elastic integer<62>{INT64 C(0x3FFFFFFF000000001)}
auto 2ee = ee + ee; // elastic integer<63>{INT64 C(0x7FFFFFE000000002)}
auto fpe = fixed point<elastic integer<31>, -31>{0.99609375};
auto sq = fpe * fpe; // fixed point<elastic integer<62>, -62>{0.9922027587890625}
auto q = fixed point{fractional{sq, sq}};
// fixed point<elastic integer<124>, -62>{1}
```

# Run-time Safety

## Run-time Safety

```
#include <cnl/safe_integer.h>
using cnl::safe_integer;
auto i = safe_integer<uint8_t>{255};
```

```
#include <cnl/safe_integer.h>
using cnl::safe_integer;
auto i = safe_integer<uint8_t>{255};
auto j = i + 1;
```

```
#include <cnl/safe_integer.h>
using cnl::safe_integer;
auto i = safe_integer<uint8_t>{255};

auto j = i + 1; // safe_integer<int>{256}
```

```
#include <cnl/safe_integer.h>
using cnl::safe_integer;
auto i = safe_integer<uint8_t>{255};

auto j = i + 1; // safe_integer<int>{256}

safe_integer<uint8_t> k = i + 1; // throw std::overflow_error
```

```
#include <cnl/safe integer.h>
 using cnl::safe integer;
 auto i = safe integer<uint8 t>{255};
 auto j = i + 1; // safe integer<int>{256}
 safe integer<uint8_t> k = i + 1; // throw std::overflow error
 constexpr safe integer<uint8_t> k = i + 1;
 static assert(cnl:: impl::identical(safe integer<int>{256}, k));
[ 29%] Building CXX object src/test/CMakeFiles/fp test.dir/cppcon2017.cpp.o
/home/john/cnl/src/test/cppcon2017.cpp:151:37: fatal error: constexpr variable 'k' must be i
    constexpr safe integer<uint8 t> k = i + 1;
/home/john/cnl/include/cnl/overflow.h:52:40: note: subexpression not valid in a constant exp
            return condition ? value : throw std::overflow error("");
and so on...
```

```
auto x = fixed_point{42UL}; // fixed_point<unsigned long, <math>0>{42}
```

```
auto x = fixed_point{42UL}; // fixed_point<unsigned long, 0>{42}
auto y = fixed_point{128}; // fixed_point<int, 0>{128}
```

```
auto x = fixed_point{42UL}; // fixed_point<unsigned long, 0>{42}

auto y = fixed_point{128}; // fixed_point<int, 0>{128}

using cnl::literals;
auto z = fixed_point{128_c}; // fixed_point<int, 7>{128}
```

```
auto c = elastic_integer{2018_c}; // elastic_integer<11>{2018}
```

```
auto c = elastic_integer{2018_c}; // elastic_integer<11>{2018}

auto e = 0x7f000_elastic; // fixed_point<elastic_integer<7>, 12>{0x7f000}
```

```
auto c = elastic_integer{2018_c}; // elastic_integer<11>{2018}

auto e = 0x7f000_elastic; // fixed_point<elastic_integer<7>, 12>{0x7f000}

auto s = e >> 1_c; // fixed_point<elastic_integer<7>, 11>{0x3f800}
```

Fixed-Point + Boost.Multiprecision:

#### Fixed-Point + Boost.Multiprecision:

• googol (10<sup>100</sup>) ✓

#### Fixed-Point + Boost.Multiprecision:

- googol  $(10^{100})$   $\checkmark$
- googolth (1 / googol) ✓

#### Fixed-Point + Boost.Multiprecision:

- googol (10<sup>100</sup>) ✓
- googolth (1 / googol) ✓
- googolplex (10<sup>googol</sup>) **X**

### Interoperability - Boost.SIMD

```
#include <cnl/auxiliary/boost.simd.h>
using boost::simd::pack;

template<class T, std::size_t N, int Exponent>
using fixed_point_pack = fixed_point<pack<T, N>, Exponent>;
```

### Interoperability - Boost.SIMD

```
#include <cnl/auxiliary/boost.simd.h>
using boost::simd::pack;

template < class T, std::size_t N, int Exponent>
using fixed_point_pack = fixed_point < pack < T, N > , Exponent>;
```

```
using fpp = fixed_point_pack<int, 4, -16>;
using initializer = initializer<fpp>;

auto expected = fpp{initializer{7.9375+-1, -8.+.125, 0+-5, 3.5+-3.5}};
auto augend = fpp{initializer{7.9375, -8., 0, 3.5}};
auto addend = fpp{initializer{-1, .125, -5, -3.5}};
auto sum = augend + addend;
```

### Interoperability - Boost.SIMD

```
11111111111111111111111111
   !"""""##$$$$%%&)
                 7$#""""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
!""""##$%*&&&&&&&.
                 ('##"""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
                 8%$#""""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
"####$$$&(3
#$#%%%&'*22
                 &$$##"""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
#$#%%%&'*22
                 &$$##"""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
                 8%$#""""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
"####$$$&(3
!""""##$%*&&&&&&.
                ('##"""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
!""""""##$$$$%%&)
                 7$#""""!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 11111111111111111111111111
```

• Arbitrary width

- Arbitrary width
- Full Support for Rounding and Overflow

```
template<class Rep = int, class RoundingTag = closest_rounding_tag>
class precise_integer;
```

- Arbitrary width
- Full Support for Rounding and Overflow

```
template<class Rep = int, class RoundingTag = closest_rounding_tag>
class precise_integer;
```

• Full complement of operators for safe\_integer and precise\_integer

- Arbitrary width
- Full Support for Rounding and Overflow

```
template<class Rep = int, class RoundingTag = closest_rounding_tag>
class precise_integer;
```

- Full complement of operators for safe\_integer and precise\_integer
- Full complement of free functions

```
add(saturated_overflow, UINT32_C(0xFFFFFFFF), UINT32_C(0x12345678))
divide(closest_rounding_tag, 2, 3);
```

- Arbitrary width
- Full Support for Rounding and Overflow

```
template<class Rep = int, class RoundingTag = closest_rounding_tag>
class precise_integer;
```

- Full complement of operators for safe\_integer and precise\_integer
- Full complement of free functions

```
add(saturated_overflow, UINT32_C(0xFFFFFFFF), UINT32_C(0x12345678))
divide(closest_rounding_tag, 2, 3);
```

Better Literals

```
auto a = 0b1111.1111_elastic; // fixed_point<elastic_integer<8>, -4>
```

### Thank You!

Now go to GitHub and try it out! github.com/johnmcfarlane/cnl

git clone https://github.com/johnmcfarlane/cnl.git

std::ratio scales things statically:

```
template<int Num, int Denom = 1> class ratio;
```

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```
template<int Num, int Denom = 1> class ratio;
```

What if Exponent was replaced with a type parameter?

```
// equivalent to fixed_point<int, -8>
using a = fixed_point<int, ratio<1, 256>>;
```

std::ratio scales things statically:

```
template<int Num, int Denom = 1> class ratio;
```

What if Exponent was replaced with a type parameter?

```
// equivalent to fixed_point<int, -8>
using a = fixed_point<int, ratio<1, 256>>;
```

This should be possible: simply separate fixed\_point's two concerns:

```
// a type which stores an integer and scales it
template<typename Rep, typename Scale>
class scaled_integer;

// a type which scales integers
template<int Base, int Power> class exponent;
```

Now fixed\_point is just one of many scaled\_integer types.

```
template<typename Rep, int Power>
using fixed_point = scaled_integer<Rep, exponent<2, Power>>

// (Decimal fixed-point is already on the to-do list.)
template<typename Rep, int Power>
using decimal_fixed_point = scaled_integer<Rep, exponent<10, Power>>
```

Now fixed\_point is just one of many scaled\_integer types.

```
template<typename Rep, int Power>
using fixed_point = scaled_integer<Rep, exponent<2, Power>>
// (Decimal fixed-point is already on the to-do list.)
template<typename Rep, int Power>
using decimal_fixed_point = scaled_integer<Rep, exponent<10, Power>>
```

And a souped-up std::ratio is another way to scale integers.

```
template<typename Rep, int Power>
using dollar = scaled_integer<Rep, ratio<1, 100>>;

template<typename Rep, int Power>
using angle = scaled_integer<Rep, ratio<1, 360>>;

// units in the range [0, 1]
template<typename Rep>
using unit = scaled_integer<Rep, ratio<1, std::numeric_limits<Rep>::max()>>;
```

And scaling of integers is just the beginning...

And scaling of integers is just the beginning...

```
// type-safety prevents units from being confused
struct length tag {};
struct time tag {};
// individual quantities
template<tvpename BaseTag, int Exponent>
struct base quantity:
// is quantity a scale, like exponent or std::ratio?
template<typename ... BaseQuantities>
struct quantity:
using time = quantity<base quantity<time tag, 1>>;
using length = quantity<base quantity<length tag, 1>>;
template<typename ... BaseQuantitiesA, typename ... BaseQuantitiesB>
auto operator/(quantity<BaseOuantitiesA...>, quantity<BaseOuantitiesB...>)
// quantity<base quantity<length tag, 1>, base quantity<time tag, -1>>
auto speed = length{} / time{};
```

Disclaimer: none of this compiles ... yet!

### Thank You!

Now go to GitHub and try it out! github.com/johnmcfarlane/cnl

git clone https://github.com/johnmcfarlane/cnl.git