

Function things

Jonathan Windle

University of East Anglia

J.Windle@uea.ac.uk

May 30, 2017

1 Functors

- Example

2 Lambdas

- Example
- Capture by value
- Capture by reference
- Storing lambdas

Functors

- Is an object that acts like a function.
- Provides plug-in that adapts the behaviour of other methods/objects.
- E.g Print all elements in an array that have some property:
 - Problem: Don't know what kind of properties.
 - Solution: Supply an object as a parameter that has:
 - A method to determine whether an element has a property.
 - Instance variables that describe the particular property.

```
template<typename T, int N, typename F>
void display(T (&array)[N], F& hasProperty) {
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++) {
        if (hasProperty(array[i]))
            cout << array[i] << " ";
    }
}
```

Example

Determine if a number is a fixed multiple of some integer:

```
template <typename T>
class IsMultipleOf {
private:
    T n;
public:
    IsMultipleOf(T n){ this->n = n; }
    // Use object like a function
    bool operator()(T& v){
        return v%n == 0;
    }
}

int main(int argc, char* argv) {
    int array[] =
        {+2,-6,+3,-5,+7,-9,+3,-2,+4,-5,+8,-8,+9};
    IsMultipleOf<int> isMultiple(3);
    // Prints all multiples of 3
    display(array, isMultiple);
    return 0;
}
```

- Basically an anonymous function
- Alternative to functors.

```
|| [N](int n) const char* {return (n%N==0)?"even":"odd"}
```

- Have four parts:
 - Capture list: [N]
 - Parameter list: (int n)
 - Optional return type, compiler will deduce one if not specified: const char*
 - The body: {return (n%N==0)?"even":"odd"}
- Can capture local and global variables of the scope in which they are declared.

Example

- Passed to templates the same way as Functors:

```
int main(int argc, char* argv) {  
    int array[] =  
        {+2,-6,+3,-5,+7,-9,+3,-2,+4,-5,+8,-8,+9};  
  
    // Prints all even numbers  
    display(array, [](int n){return !(n%2);});  
    return 0;  
}
```

Capture by value

- Simplest/Safest way is to capture by value, therefore a copy is passed to the lambda.

```
int main(int argc, char* argv) {  
    int array[] =  
        {+2,-6,+3,-5,+7,-9,+3,-2,+4,-5,+8,-8,+9};  
    int N = 3;  
  
    // Prints all multiples of 3, captured by value  
    display(array, [N](int n){return !(n%N);});  
    return 0;  
}
```

Capture by reference

- Lambda can in turn, alter the value taken in by reference using `&`.

```
int main(int argc, char* argv) {
    int array[] =
        {+2,-6,+3,-5,+7,-9,+3,-2,+4,-5,+8,-8,+9};
    int N = 1;

    // Prints all multiples of N where n doubles each iteration?
    display(array, [&N](int n){return !(n%N*2);});
    // N is 2,4,8,16.... etc..
    return 0;
}
```

- Default is capture by value, unless specified by `&`. Can use:
 - `[&, list...]`, to capture all by reference unless otherwise specified.

Storing lambdas

- Can use `auto`, leaves to the compiler to deduce type.

```
auto multipleOfN = [N](int n){if (n%N == 0) cout << n;};
```

- Alternatively can use `std::function<R(AL)>`

- R is the return type.
- AL is comma separated list of arguments

```
std::function<boolean(int)> multipleOfN = [N](int n) boolean  
{if (n%N == 0) cout << n;};
```

The End