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# The Pattern Matching We Already Have

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25



# C++ pattern matching proposals

- Herb Sutter's P2392
- Michael Park's P2688 (follow-up to P1371)



# C++ pattern matching proposals

```
struct Shape { virtual ~Shape() = default; };  
struct Circle : Shape { int r; };  
struct Rectangle : Shape { int w, h; };
```

// With P2392

```
int get_area(const Shape &s)
```

```
return s.get_area();
```

```
    [r] {
```

```
        [w, h] {
```

```
        };
```

```
};
```

// With P2688

```
int get_area(const Shape &s)
```

```
return s.get_area();
```

```
    Circle: let [r] = s.r;
```

```
    Rectangle: let [w, h] = s.w, h;
```

```
};
```

```
}
```



# C++ pattern matching proposals

**There is no pattern matching in the language yet...**

**...right?**



# The pattern matching we already have

```
bool foo(bool x) {  
    return not x;  
}
```

```
foo(+[[]{}]);
```

```
// foo(bool)
```

```
template <class T>  
requires std::floating_point<T>  
void foo(T x) {  
    std::cout << x;  
}
```

```
foo(123);
```

```
// foo(bool)
```

```
int foo(std::unique_ptr<int> x) {  
    return x ? *x : 0;  
}
```

```
foo("abc");
```

```
// foo(bool)
```



# The pattern matching we already have

```
template <class T, class U>
struct is_same {
    static constexpr bool value = false;
};
```

```
template <class T>
struct is_same<T, T> {
    static constexpr bool value = true;
};
```

```
static_assert(is_same<int, int>::value);
```

```
static_assert(not is_same<int, int*>::value);
```



# The pattern matching we already have

- **Function overload resolution**
- **Template specializations**
- **Template argument deduction**
- **Class template argument deduction**



# Goal of this talk

- Understand basic mechanism of these facilities
- Analogue reasoning about your code
- Give insight into the logical reasoning in C++





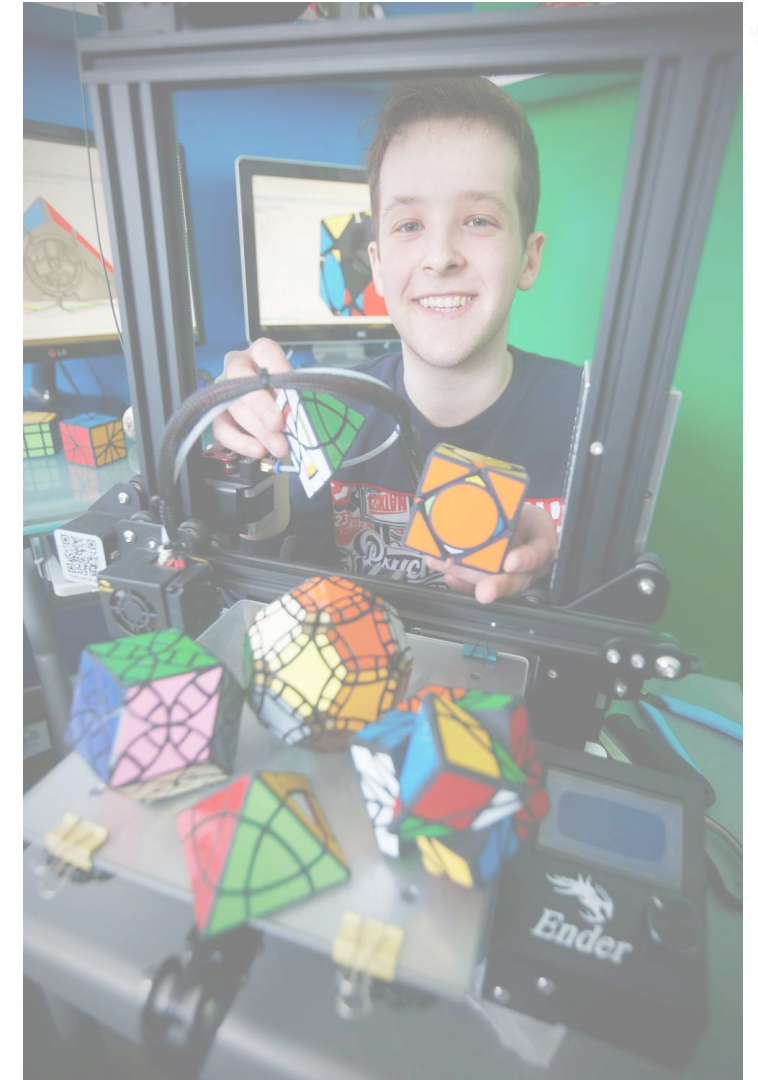
# In this talk

- Scratching the surface
- Minute details are glossed over
- Newly invented syntax for demonstration purposes
- Questions at any time!



# About me

- Canadian
- Licensed professional engineer
- I like twisty puzzles
- Working in C++ for 4 years
- On WG21 since 2023
- Run Winnipeg C++ Developers



# **Function overload resolution**

# Function overload resolution

- Since the beginning
- In the C++98 standard
- A defining feature of C++ compared to C
- Non-template pattern matching



```
#define init(p, ...) \  
    ((void)0,init(p,__VA_ARGS__+0))\  
extern void (init)(Stack*, size_t);
```

C

```
void init(Stack*);  
void init(Stack*, size_t);
```

(code adapted from <https://redd.it/r02cy4>)

C++

Look what they need to  
mimic a fraction of our power



# Function overloading

- Examples of function overloading
- How does overload resolution work?



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++ standard [basic.scope.scope]
2 using Int = int;
3 void f(int);
4 void f(Int);
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++ standard [basic.scope.scope]
2 enum E : int {};
3 void f(int);
4 void f(E);
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**





# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++98 standard [over.load]
2 void f(int);
3 void f(const int);
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 void f(int*);  
2 void f(const int*);
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++98 standard [over.load]
2 int f(char*);
3 int f(char[]);
4 int f(char[7]);
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++98 standard [over.load]
2 void f(int i, int j);
3 void f(int i, int j = 99); // OK: redeclaration of f(int, int)
4 void f(int i = 88, int j); // OK: redeclaration of f(int, int)
5
6 void f(); // OK: overloaded declaration of f
7
8 void prog ()
9 {
10     f(1, 2); // OK: call f(int, int)
11     f(1); // OK: call f(int, int)
12     f(); // Error: f(int, int) or f()?
13 }
```



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++ standard [basic.scope.scope]
2 struct X {
3     static void f();
4     void f();
5 };
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++ standard [basic.scope.scope]
2 struct X {
3     void g();
4     void g() const;
5 };
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 // From C++ standard [basic.scope.scope]
2 struct X {
3     void g();
4     void g() &;
5 };
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**



# Examples of function overloading

```
1 struct X {  
2     void g() &;  
3     void g() &&;  
4     void g() const &;  
5     void g() const &&;  
6     void g() volatile &;  
7     void g() volatile &&;  
8     void g() const volatile &;  
9     void g() const volatile &&;  
10 };
```

**redeclaration, overload, or ill-formed?**





# General mechanism

- Context of overload resolution, possible candidate functions
- List of viable candidate functions
- From the viable list, find the "best" one



# Distinct contexts of overload resolution

- Function calls
- Object `operator()`
- Operator overloading
- Constructors
- Conversion functions



# List of viable candidate functions

- **Grab all candidate functions**
- **Grab the list of arguments**
- **Remove candidates with wrong number of parameters**
- **Remove candidates with unsatisfied constraints**
- **Remove candidates with incompatible arguments**



# List of viable candidate functions

```
1 int foo();
2 int foo(double);
3 int foo(int, double = 4.0);
4 int foo(int, bool);
5 int foo(...);
6 int foo(bool);
7 int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);
8 template <class T>
9     requires (sizeof(T) == 3)
10 int foo(T);
```

```
void bar() {
    foo(nullptr);
}
```

- `int foo();`
- `int foo(double);`
- `int foo(int, double = 4.0);`
- `int foo(int, bool);`
- `int foo(...);`
- `int foo(bool);`
- `int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);`
- `int foo<T>(T);`



# List of viable candidate functions

```
1 int foo();
2 int foo(double);
3 int foo(int, double = 4.0);
4 int foo(int, bool);
5 int foo(...);
6 int foo(bool);
7 int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);
8 template <class T>
9     requires (sizeof(T) == 3)
10 int foo(T);
```

```
void bar() {
    foo(nullptr);
}
```

- `int foo();`
- `int foo(double);`
- `int foo(int, double = 4.0);`
- `int foo(int, bool);`
- `int foo(...);`
- `int foo(bool);`
- `int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);`
- `int foo<T>(T);`



# Find the best candidate function

- "Implicit conversion sequence" for each parameter-argument pair
- Rank the viable candidates based on conversions



# Find the best candidate function

```
1 int foo(...);  
2 int foo(bool);  
3 int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);
```

```
void bar() {  
    foo(nullptr);  
}
```

`int foo(...);`

`nullptr_t` to variadic

"ellipsis conversion sequence"

`int foo(bool);`

`nullptr_t` to `bool`

"standard conversion sequence"

`int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);`

`nullptr_t` to `std::unique_ptr<int>`

"user-defined conversion sequence"



# Find the best candidate function

```
1 int foo(...);  
2 int foo(bool);  
3 int foo(std::unique_ptr<int>);
```

```
void bar() {  
    foo(nullptr);  
}
```

1. "standard conversion sequence"
2. "user-defined conversion sequence"
3. "ellipsis conversion sequence"

Calls `int foo(bool);`





# Template specializations

# Template specializations

- Since the beginning
- In the C++98 standard
- Facilitate type traits in C++11
- "14.5.4.1 Matching of class template partial specializations"



# One could imagine...

```
// Syntax for demonstration purposes only
(T, U) match {
    (T, T) => true;
    _ => false;
};
```

```
// "Primary template"
template <class T, class U>
struct is_same {
    enum {
        value = (int>false
    };
};
```

```
// "Partial specialization"
template <class T>
struct is_same<T, T> {
    enum {
        value = (int>true
    };
};
```



# In C++11

```
// "Primary template"
template <class T, class U>
struct is_same {
    static constexpr bool value = false;
};
```

```
// "Partial specialization"
template <class T>
struct is_same<T, T> {
    static constexpr bool value = true;
};
```



# Backbone of the type traits

```
template <class T>
struct remove_const {
    using type = T;
};
```

```
template <class T>
struct remove_const<const T> {
    using type = T;
};
```



# Broad strokes

- **Primary template**
- **Partial specializations**
- **Explicit specializations**



# Primary template

```
template <class T>  
struct my_trait {  
    using type = T*;  
};
```



# Partial specialization

```
template <class T, class U>
struct my_trait<std::pair<T, U>> {
    using type = U*;
};
```





# Explicit specialization

```
template <>
struct my_trait<int> {
    using type = void;
};
```



# Specializations

```
template <class T>
struct my_other_trait {
    using type = T*;
};
```

```
template <>
struct my_other_trait<int*> {
    int foo() {
        return 123;
    }
};
```

```
template <class T>
struct my_other_trait<T*> {
    static constexpr bool value = true;
};
```



## [temp.expl.spec]/8

The placement of explicit specialization declarations for [...], and the placement of partial specialization declarations of [...] can affect whether a program is well-formed according to the relative positioning of the explicit specialization [...]. When writing a specialization, be careful about its location; or to make it compile will be such a trial as to kindle its self-immolation.



# Specialization matching

- Use explicit specialization if available
- Otherwise, use template argument deduction\* to match partial specializations
- If 0 matching partial specializations, use the primary
- If 1 matching partial specialization, use it
- If multiple matching partial specializations, choose the "best"



# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```



# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

A<int, int>

1, 2, or 3?



# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

A<int\*, int>

1, 2, or 3?



# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

```
A<int***, int>
```

1, 2, or 3?





# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

A<int, int\*>

1, 2, or 3?

# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

```
A<int*, int*>
```

1, 2, or 3?



# Matching against partial specialization

- Rewrite class templates as function templates
- Use template argument deduction\*, and overload resolution
- Ultimately use the specialization corresponding to the resolved function



# Rewrite class templates as function templates

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

```
// 2  
template <class T1, class T2>  
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2>) { };  
// 3  
template <class T1, class T2>  
void __imaginary_function(A<T1, T2*>) { };
```



# Rewrite class templates as function templates

```
// 2
template <class T1, class T2>
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2>) { };
// 3
template <class T1, class T2>
void __imaginary_function(A<T1, T2*>) { };
```

```
__imaginary_function(A<int*, int>{});
// Calls 2 - __imaginary_function<int, int>(A<int*, int>)
```

```
__imaginary_function(A<int, int*>{});
// Calls 3 - __imaginary_function<int, int>(A<int, int*>)
```

```
__imaginary_function(A<int*, int*>{}); // error: ambiguous
// Could be 2 - __imaginary_function<int, int*>(A<int*, int*>)
// Could be 3 - __imaginary_function<int*, int>(A<int*, int*>)
```



# Examples of specialization matching

```
1 template <class T1, class T2> struct A      {};  
2 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2> {};  
3 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1, T2*> {};
```

```
4 template <class T1, class T2> struct A<T1*, T2*> {};
```

```
// 2  
template <class T1, class T2>  
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2>) { };  
// 3  
template <class T1, class T2>  
void __imaginary_function(A<T1, T2*>) { };  
// 4  
template <class T1, class T2>  
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2*>) { };
```



# Examples of specialization matching

```
// 2
template <class T1, class T2>
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2>) { };
// 3
template <class T1, class T2>
void __imaginary_function(A<T1, T2*>) { };
// 4
template <class T1, class T2>
void __imaginary_function(A<T1*, T2*>) { };
```

```
__imaginary_function(A<int*, int*>{});
// Could be 2 - __imaginary_function<int, int*>(A<int*, int*>)
// Could be 3 - __imaginary_function<int*, int>(A<int*, int*>)
// Tie breaker - __imaginary_function<int, int>(A<int*, int*>)
```



# Template argument deduction



# Template argument deduction

```
template <class T>  
void foo(std::vector<T>);
```

```
int main() {  
    std::vector<int> vec;  
    foo(vec);  
    foo<int>(vec);  
}
```



# Template argument deduction

- Since the beginning
- In the C++98 standard
- Deduce template arguments of function templates
- Can specify some template arguments explicitly
- New semantics in C++11 with forwarding



# Template argument deduction

- General mechanism
- Non-deduced context
- Forwarding



# General mechanism

- For each function parameter-argument pair:
- Ignore top-level cv qualifiers
- Process the parameter's and argument's "special forms"
- Match the template parameters to the corresponding template arguments



# "Special forms"

- $\text{cv}_{\text{opt}} T$
- $T^*$
- $T\&$
- $T\&\&$
- $T [i_{\text{opt}}]$
- $T (U\dots) \text{noexcept}(i_{\text{opt}})$
- $T U::^*$
- $TT<\dots>$
- $TT<>$



# General mechanism examples

```
template <class T>  
void foo(T*);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
foo(&vec);
```

- Parameter `T*`, argument `std::vector<int>*`
- Match the form `T*`
- Therefore `T` is `std::vector<int>`



# General mechanism examples

```
template <class T>  
void foo(std::vector<T>*);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
foo(&vec);
```

- Parameter `std::vector<T>*`, argument `std::vector<int>*`
- Match the form `T*`
- Therefore `std::vector<T>` is `std::vector<int>`
- Match the form `TT<T>`, where `TT` is known to be `std::vector`
- Therefore `T` is `int`



# General mechanism examples

```
template <template <class...> class Vec, class T>  
void foo(Vec<T>*);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
foo(&vec);
```

- Parameter `Vec<T>*`, argument `std::vector<int>*`
- Match the form `T*`
- Therefore `Vec<T>` is `std::vector<int>`
- Match the form `TT<T>`
- Therefore `Vec` is `std::vector` and `T` is `int`





# General mechanism examples

```
template <class T, class U>  
void foo(std::vector<T>, std::pair<T, U>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
std::pair<int, float> pair;  
foo(vec, pair);
```

- Parameter `std::vector<T>`, argument `std::vector<int>`
- Match the form `TT<T>`, where `TT` is known to be `std::vector`
- Therefore `T` is `int`
- Parameter `std::pair<T,U>`, argument `std::pair<int,float>`
- Match the form `TT<T1,T2>`, where `TT` is known to be `std::pair`
- Therefore `T` is `int` and `U` is `float`



# General mechanism examples

```
template <class T, class U>  
void foo(std::vector<T>, std::pair<T, U>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
std::pair<double, float> pair;  
foo(vec, pair);
```

- Parameter `std::vector<T>`, argument `std::vector<int>`
- Match the form `TT<T1>`, where `TT` is known to be `std::vector`
- Therefore `T` is `int`
- Parameter `std::pair<T,U>`, argument `std::pair<double,float>`
- Match the form `TT<T1,T2>`, where `TT` is known to be `std::pair`
- Therefore `T` is `double` and `U` is `float`

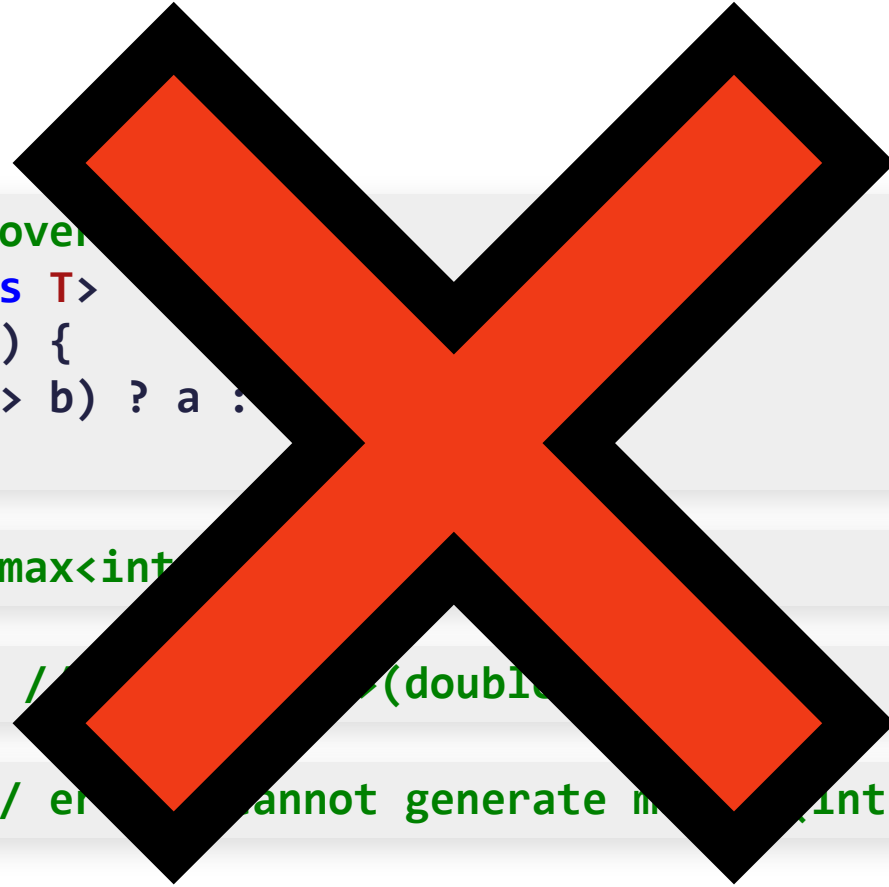
# General mechanism examples

```
// From [temp.overload_resolution]
template <class T>
T max(T a, T b) {
    return (a > b) ? a : b;
}
```

```
max(1, 2); // max<int>
```

```
max(1.0, 2.0); // max<double>
```

```
max(1, 2.0); // error: cannot generate max<int, double>
```



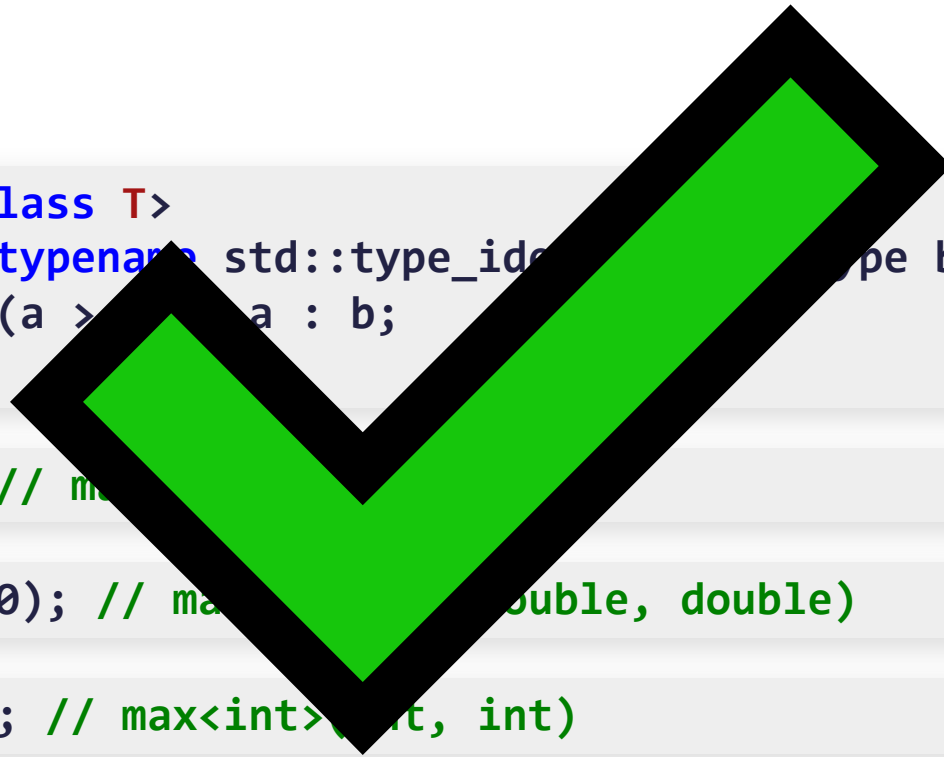
# Non-deduced context

```
template <class T>
T max(T a, typename std::type_identity<T>::type b) {
    return (a > b) ? a : b;
}
```

```
max(1, 2); // max<int>(int, int)
```

```
max(1.0, 2.0); // max<double>(double, double)
```

```
max(1, 2.0); // max<int>(int, int)
```



# Non-deduced context (most common cases)

- The "nested-name-specifier" of a qualified type name
- `decltype` expression
- Parameter is not `std::initializer_list` but the argument is a braced init list



# Non-deduced context

```
template <class T>
struct S {
    using type = int;
};
template <class T>
void foo(typename S<T>::type);
```

```
foo(123); // error, cannot deduce T
```

- Parameter `typename S<T>::type`, a qualified name
- "nested-name-specifier" `S<T>`, which is a non-deduced context
- Therefore cannot deduce `T`



# Non-deduced context

```
template <class T>
struct S {
    using type = int;
};
template <class T>
void foo(typename S<T>::type, T);
```

```
foo(123, 456);
```

- Parameter `typename S<T>::type`, a qualified name
- "nested-name-specifier" `S<T>`, which is a non-deduced context
- Therefore cannot deduce `T`
- Parameter `T`, argument `int`
- Therefore `T` is `int`



# Non-deduced context

```
template <class T>
struct S {
    using type = int;
};
template <class T>
void foo(decltype(S<T>{}));
```

```
S<double> s;
foo(s); // error, cannot deduce T
```

- Parameter `decltype(S<T>{})`
- A `decltype` expression, which is a non-deduced context
- Therefore cannot deduce `T`





# Non-deduced context

```
template <class T>  
void foo(std::vector<T>);
```

```
foo({1, 2, 3}); // error, cannot deduce T
```

- Parameter `std::vector<T>`, argument is a braced init list
- Parameter is not a `std::initializer_list`
- Braced init list argument causes a non-deduced context
- Therefore cannot deduce `T`



# Forwarding

- A special mention in the deduction rules
- "An rvalue reference to a cv-unqualified template parameter"
- i.e. `T&&`
- Must be a template parameter of the function itself



# Forwarding

```
// [temp.deduct.call]/3  
template <class T>  
int f(T&& heisenreference);  
  
int i = 0;  
f(i); // calls f<int&>(int&)  
  
f(0); // calls f<int>(int&&)
```



# Reference collapsing

- `T& &` is `T&`
- `T& &&` is `T&`
- `T&& &` is `T&`
- `T&& &&` is `T&&`



# Reference collapsing

```
using R1 = int&;  
using R2 = R1&;  
static_assert(std::same_as<R2, int&>);
```

```
using R1 = int&;  
using R2 = R1&&;  
static_assert(std::same_as<R2, int&>);
```



# Reference collapsing

```
using R1 = int&&;  
using R2 = R1&;  
static_assert(std::same_as<R2, int&>);
```

```
using R1 = int&&;  
using R2 = R1&&;  
static_assert(std::same_as<R2, int&&>);
```



# Forwarding

```
template <class T>  
void foo(T&&);
```

```
int i = 0;  
foo(i);
```

- Parameter `T&&`, argument `int&`
- Match the form `T&&`
- Remember, `int&` is `int& &&`
- Therefore `T&&` is `int& &&`
- Therefore `T` is `int&`
- `foo<int&>(int&)`



# Forwarding

```
template <class T>  
void foo(T&&);
```

```
foo(0);
```

- Parameter `T&&`, argument `int&&`
- Match the form `T&&`
- Therefore `T` is `int`
- `foo<int>(int&&)`





# **Class template argument deduction**

# Class template argument deduction

- Since C++17
- "CTAD" ("see-tad")
- Same as template argument deduction
- ...but for classes (shocking)
- "resolving a placeholder for a deduced class type"



# Class template argument deduction

```
std::pair p{ 1, 2.0 };
```

```
// Deduced as std::pair<int, double>
```

```
std::vector<int> foo() {  
    // ...  
}
```

```
std::vector v = foo();
```

```
// Deduced as std::vector<int>
```



# Class template argument deduction

- General mechanism
- Deduction guides



# General mechanism

- Create a theoretical set of function templates, the "guides"
- One for each constructor
- One for each deduction guide\*
- Then do overload resolution and template argument deduction
- The winning function's return type is chosen



# General mechanism

```
template <class T, class U>
struct MyStruct {
    MyStruct(std::vector<T>, U);
    template <class V>
    MyStruct(T, std::pair<U, V>);
};
```

```
template <class T, class U>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T>, U);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class V>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(T, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;
MyStruct s1{ vec, 1.0 };
// Deduced as MyStruct<int, double>
```

```
std::pair<char, double> p;
MyStruct s2{ 123, p };
// Deduced as MyStruct<int, char>
```



# General mechanism

```
template <class T, class U>
struct MyStruct {
    MyStruct(std::vector<T>, U);
    template <class V>
        MyStruct(T, std::pair<U, V>);
};
```

```
template <class T, class U>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T>, U);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class V>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(T, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;
std::pair<char, double> p;
MyStruct s{ vec, p };
// Deduced as MyStruct<int, std::pair<char, double>>
```



# General mechanism

```
template <class T, class U>
struct MyStruct {
    template <class A>
    MyStruct(std::vector<T, A>, U);
    template <class V>
    MyStruct(T, std::pair<U, V>);
};
```

```
template <class T, class U, class A>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T, A>, U);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class V>
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(T, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;
std::pair<char, double> p;
MyStruct s{ vec, p };
// Ambiguous!
```





# Deduction guides

- More specificity with how CTAD behaves
- Defined after the class template
- Must align with the available constructors



# Deduction guides

```
template <class T, class U> struct MyStruct {  
    template <class A> MyStruct(std::vector<T, A>, U);  
    template <class V> MyStruct(T, std::pair<U, V>);  
};  
template <class T, class U, class A, class V>  
MyStruct(std::vector<T, A>, std::pair<U, V>) -> MyStruct<T, std::pair<U, V>>;
```

```
template <class T, class U, class A>  
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T, A>, U);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class V>  
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(T, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class A, class V>  
MyStruct<T, std::pair<U, V>> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T, A>, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
std::pair<char, double> p;  
MyStruct s{ vec, p };  
// Deduced as MyStruct<int, std::pair<char, double>>
```



# Deduction guides

```
template <class T, class U> struct MyStruct {  
    template <class A> MyStruct(std::vector<T, A>, U);  
    template <class V> MyStruct(T, std::pair<U, V>);  
};  
template <class T, class U, class A, class V>  
MyStruct(std::vector<T, A>, std::pair<U, V>) -> MyStruct<T, U>;
```

```
template <class T, class U, class A>  
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T, A>, U);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class V>  
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(T, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
template <class T, class U, class A, class V>  
MyStruct<T, U> __imaginary_function(std::vector<T, A>, std::pair<U, V>);
```

```
std::vector<int> vec;  
std::pair<char, double> p;  
MyStruct s{ vec, p };  
// No matches
```



# Conclusion

# C++ has pattern matching!

- **Function overload resolution**
- **Template specializations**
- **Template argument deduction**
- **Class template argument deduction**



# I read the standard so you don't have to

- `[over.match]`
- `[temp.names]`, `[temp.spec.partial]`, `[temp.spec]`
- `[temp.deduct]`
- `[over.match.class.deduct]`, `[dcl.type.class.deduct]`,  
`[temp.deduct.guide]`
- Cppreference is also an amazing resource



# Takeaways

- We already have pattern matching!
- The general rules can be quite elegant
- ...but the edge cases can get gnarly
- Analogue reasoning about your code is a muscle
- Get curious, exercise that muscle
- Appreciate how far C++ has come



# Thank you!

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