

**Ticket #4399 (closed Patches: fixed)****Make the free function 'size' support the uBLAS traits system and better work with expression types**Opened **2 years** agoLast modified **23 months** ago

Reported by:	Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...>	Owned by:	david.bellot
Milestone:	<del>Boost 1.45.0</del>	Component:	uBLAS
Version:	Boost Development Trunk	Severity:	Problem
Keywords:		Cc:	

**Description**

Actually the implementation of the **size** free function has two weak points:

1. It does not make use of the new uBLAS traits system introduced by Gunter.  
E.g.: `typename ExprT::size_type` should become `typename matrix_traits<ExprT>::size_type`
2. It does not fully support expression types. The current support is error prone and not user-friendly.  
E.g.: if `ExprT` is an expression type and `e` is a variable of type `ExprT`, then one has to call `size(e())` instead of simply `size(e)`.

I suggest to change the **size** operation in order to fix the above issues.

**Attachments**

- [size-allow\\_expr\\_and\\_break\\_back\\_comp.patch](#) (32.1 KB) - added by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...> **2 years** ago.  
*Adds the use of uBLAS type traits, simplifies the interaction with expression types, replaces the 'size<tag>' function with the 'size\_by\_tag<tag>' function.*
- [size-allow\\_expr.patch](#) (18.7 KB) - added by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...> **2 years** ago.  
*Patch for size.hpp which is back compatible.*

**Change History**

Changed 2 years ago by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...>

- **attachment** [size-allow\\_expr\\_and\\_break\\_back\\_comp.patch](#) added

Adds the use of uBLAS type traits, simplifies the interaction with expression types, replaces the 'size<tag>' function with the 'size\_by\_tag<tag>' function.

Changed 2 years ago by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...>

comment:1

I've tried to change the 'size' operation without affecting its syntax but I've failed.

More specifically, the problem is given by one of the polymorphic version of `size`:

```
template <typename TagT, typename ExprT>
typename ExprT::size_type size(ExprT const& e);
```

which I've initially transformed into

```
template <typename TagT, typename MatrixExprT>
typename matrix_traits<MatrixExprT>::size_type size(matrix_expression<f
```

See the thread <http://lists.boost.org/MailArchives/ublas/2010/06/4362.php> for more details.

So, my solution is to **break back compatibility** by removing that version of **size** and introducing a new free function (e.g., **size\_by\_tag**) with the same semantic.

I attach a patch for the **size** operation and the related test suite.

Changed 2 years ago by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...>

- **attachment** [size-allow\\_expr.patch](#) added

Patch for size.hpp which is back compatible.

Changed 2 years ago by Marco Guazzone <marco.guazzone@...>

comment:2

At the end I was able to create a patch for size.hpp which does not break back compatibility. So ignore the initially submitted patch ([size-allow\\_expr\\_and\\_break\\_back\\_comp.patch](#)).

I admit the real credits go to Daniel & Stefan, two guys that suggested to me the way to go. For more info see: [http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.c++.moderated/browse\\_thread/thread/bd5080b28865f826](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.c++.moderated/browse_thread/thread/bd5080b28865f826)

Summary of changes:

- Use of ublas type-traits system (e.g. `typename matrix_traits<M>::size_type`).
- Explicit use of `matrix_/vector_expression` in function arguments (e.g. `size(matrix_expression<M> const& m)`).
- Call to `size<1>(v)`, with `v` a vector expression, is legal and returns the length of the vector-

***Do you like it?***

Changed 23 months ago by anonymous

comment:3

patch applied and committed in trunk

Changed 23 months ago by david.bellot

comment:4

- **Owner** changed from *guwi17* to *david.bellot*
- **Version** changed from *Boost 1.44.0* to *Boost Development Trunk*
- **Milestone** changed from *Boost 1.44.0* to *Boost-1.45.0*

Changed 23 months ago by david.bellot

comment:5

- **Status** changed from *new* to *closed*
- **Resolution** set to *fixed*