C
major Programming Language Specification Version $3.3\,$

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1 Grammar Notation

The lexical and syntactical structure of Cmajor programs is presented in this text using grammars that are in extended Backus-Naur form. A grammar consists of

- 1. Terminal symbols that are the elementary symbols of the language generated by the grammar. Terminals are presented like this in a type-writer font.
- 2. Nonterminal symbols also called syntactic variables that represent sets of strings of terminal symbols. Nonterminals are presented like $\langle this \rangle$ in italic font within angle brackets.
- 3. Operators (), |, -, *, +, ?, [], and \setminus that operate on strings of terminals and nonterminals. If an operator character is ment to be a terminal symbol, it is quoted like this: '*'. The meaning of each operator appears in table 1.
- 4. Productions each of which consists of a nonterminal symbol called the *head* of the production, symbol ::= (pronounced "produces"), and a sequence of terminals, nonterminals and operators collectively called the *body* of the production.

Table 1: Grammar Operators

Expression	Meaning
$\alpha \mid \beta$	α or β
$\alpha - \beta$	α but not β
α^*	zero or more α 's
$\alpha+$	one or more α 's
α ?	zero or one α 's
$(\alpha \beta)$	grouping of α and β together
[a-z]	a terminal character in range a z
$[^\r\\$ na-c]	any terminal character except a carriage return, a newline or
	a character in range a c

2 Lexical Structure

2.1 White Space and Comments

Lexical elements in program texts can be separated by one or more instance of white space characters and comments.

```
\langle spaces-and\text{-}comments \rangle ::= (\langle space \rangle \mid \langle comment \rangle) +
\langle space \rangle ::= \text{'any ASCII character classified as space character according to C isspace function'}
\langle comment \rangle ::= \langle line\text{-}comment \rangle \mid \langle block\text{-}comment \rangle
\langle line\text{-}comment \rangle ::= // [^\r\n]^* \langle new\text{-}line \rangle
```

```
\langle new\text{-}line \rangle ::= \r\n | \n | \r
\langle block\text{-}comment \rangle ::= '/*' (\langle any\text{-}char \rangle - '*/') '*/'
\langle any\text{-}char \rangle ::= 'any  8\text{-}bit  ASCII  character'
```

2.2 Keywords

Keywords have reserved context-dependent meaning in a program and they cannot be used as identifiers.

```
\langle keyword \rangle ::= 'see table 2'
```

Table 2: Keywords

abstract	and	as	axiom	base	bool
break	byte	case	\mathbf{cast}	catch	$\operatorname{\mathbf{cdecl}}$
char	class	$\operatorname{concept}$	\mathbf{const}	construct	continue
$\operatorname{default}$	$_{ m delegate}$	delete	$\operatorname{destroy}$	do	double
else	enum	explicit	extern	false	float
\mathbf{for}	goto	if	inline	\mathbf{int}	internal
is	long	namespace	\mathbf{new}	\mathbf{not}	nothrow
null	operator	or	$\mathbf{override}$	private	protected
${f public}$	return	\mathbf{sbyte}	\mathbf{short}	size of	static
suppress	\mathbf{switch}	$ ext{this}$	\mathbf{throw}	${f true}$	\mathbf{try}
$\mathbf{typedef}$	typename	\mathbf{uint}	\mathbf{ulong}	$\mathbf{unit_test}$	ushort
using	$\mathbf{virtual}$	\mathbf{void}	where	\mathbf{while}	

2.3 Identifiers

Identifiers are used to name entities in a program. Identifiers that begin with double underscores are reserved for the compiler.

2.4 Literals

Literals are used to write values in a program.

```
 \langle literal \rangle ::= \langle boolean\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.1 \\ | \langle integer\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.2 \\ | \langle floating\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.3 \\ | \langle character\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.4 \\ | \langle string\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.5 \\ | \langle raw\text{-}string\text{-}literal \rangle 2.4.6
```

2.4.1 Boolean Literals

```
\langle boolean\text{-}literal \rangle ::= true \mid false
```

The type of a boolean literal is **bool**.

2.4.2 Integer Literals

If integer literal has no unsigned suffix, the type of the integer literal is first of the following types that can represent the value: **sbyte**, **byte**, **short**, **ushort**, **int**, **uint**, **long**, **ulong**.

If integer literal has an unsigned suffix, the type of the integer literal is first of the following types that can represent the value: **byte**, **ushort**, **uint**, **ulong**.

2.4.3 Floating Literals

```
 \langle floating\text{-}literal \rangle ::= \langle (fractional\text{-}floating\text{-}literal) | \langle exponent\text{-}floating\text{-}literal) \rangle \langle floating\text{-}suffix \rangle ? 
 \langle fractional\text{-}floating\text{-}literal \rangle ::= \langle decimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence} \rangle ? . \langle decimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence} \rangle \langle exponent\text{-}part \rangle ? 
 \langle exponent\text{-}part \rangle ::= (e \mid E) \langle sign \rangle ? \langle decimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence} \rangle 
 \langle sign \rangle ::= + \mid - 
 \langle exponent\text{-}floating\text{-}literal \rangle ::= \langle decimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence} \rangle \langle exponent\text{-}part \rangle
```

```
\langle floating\text{-}suffix \rangle ::= \text{'f'} \mid \text{'F'}
```

If a floating literal has a floating suffix, the type of it is **float**, otherwise the type of the floating literal is **double**.

2.4.4 Character Literals

```
 \begin{split} &\langle character\text{-}literal\rangle ::= \text{'}(\lceil \r \rceil \mid \langle escape \rangle) \text{'} \\ &\langle escape \rangle ::= \  \  (\langle hex\text{-}escape \rangle \mid \langle decimal\text{-}escape \rangle \mid \langle char\text{-}escape \rangle) \\ &\langle hex\text{-}escape \rangle ::= \  \  [xX] \  \langle hexadecimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence \rangle \\ &\langle decimal\text{-}escape \rangle ::= \  \  [dD] \  \langle decimal\text{-}digit\text{-}sequence \rangle \\ &\langle char\text{-}escape \rangle ::= \  \  [^dDxX\r \rceil \  \  ] \text{'see table 3'} \end{split}
```

Table 3: Character Escape Sequences

Escape Sequence	Character Name	Character Code
'\n'	new line	10
$^{\prime}ackslash \mathrm{t}^{\prime}$	horizontal tab	9
$^{\prime}\backslash \mathrm{v}^{\prime}$	vertical tab	11
'\b'	backspace	8
$^{\prime}ackslash \mathrm{r}^{\prime}$	carriage return	13
$^{\prime}ackslash \mathrm{f}^{\prime}$	form feed	12
$^{\prime}\backslash a^{\prime}$	alert	7
$' \setminus \setminus '$	backslash	92
$'\setminus 0'$	null	0
'\x'	any other character x stands for itself	

The type of a character literals is **char**.

2.4.5 String Literals

The backslash character provides an escaping mechanism for ordinary string literals.

$$\langle string\text{-}literal \rangle ::= "([^"\r] | \langle escape \rangle)^* "$$

There is no escapes in raw string literals. The content is taken literally.

$$\langle raw\text{-}string\text{-}literal \rangle ::= @ " ([^"])* "$$

The type of a string literal and raw string literal is **const char***.

2.4.6 Null-literal

$$\langle null\text{-}literal \rangle ::= null$$

The null literal can be implicitly converted to any pointer or delegate type.

3 Basic Types

Cmajor has basic types for representing Boolean, integer, floating-point and character values, and for expressing lack of type.

```
\langle basic-type \rangle ::= bool
| sbyte
| byte
| short
| ushort
| int
| uint
| long
| ulong
| float
| double
| char
| void
```

3.1 Boolean Type

The Boolean type **bool** is an 8-bit integral type with a value 1 representing **true** and value 0 representing **false**.

Operators unary !, and binary ||, && and == operate on Boolean type operands.

The default value of a **bool** type object is **false**.

A Boolean type value can be converted to an integer type, floating-point type or **char** type with an explicit **cast**.

3.2 Integer Types

sbyte is an 8-bit signed integer type for representing values in range -128...127. **byte** is an 8-bit unsigned integer type for representing values in range 0...255. **short** is a 16-bit signed integer type for representing values in range -32768...32767. **ushort** is a 16-bit unsigned integer type for representing values in range 0...65535. **int** is a 32-bit signed integer type for representing values in range -2147483648...2147483647. **uint** is a 32-bit unsigned integer type for representing values in range 0...4294967295. **long** is a 64-bit signed integer type for representing values in range -9223372036854775808...9223372036854775807. **ulong** is a 64-bit unsigned integer type for representing values in range 0...18446744073709551615.

The default value of an integer type is 0.

```
Unary operators -, +, \sim, prefix operators ++ and --, binary operators +, -, *, /, \%, ==, <, &, |, \hat{}, <<, and >> operate on integer type operands.
```

There is an implicit conversion from a signed or unsigned integer type whose bit width is smaller to a signed integer type whose bit width is larger. For example, a **sbyte** can be implicitly converted to an **int**, because the bit width of **sbyte** is 8 and the bit width of **int** is 32. There is an implicit conversion from an unsigned integer type whose bit width is smaller to an unsigned integer type whose bit width is larger. For example, a **ushort** can be implicitly

converted to an **uint**, because the bit width of **ushort** is 16 and the bit width of **uint** is 32. Other conversions between integer types are explicit (they need a **cast**).

There is an implicit conversion from integer types whose bit width is less than or equal to 32 bits to **float** floating-point type.

There is an implicit conversion from all integer types to **double** floating-point type.

An integer type value can be converted to a **char** or **bool** value with an explicit **cast**.

3.3 Floating-point Types

Floating-point type **float** is a 32-bit IEEE 754 type. The default value of a **float** type object is 0.0f.

Floating-point type **double** is a 64-bit IEEE 754 type. The default value of a **double** type object is 0.0.

There is an implicit conversion from **float** to **double**.

A double type value can be converted to float with an explicit cast.

A floating-point type value can be converted to integer type, **char** type or **bool** type with an explicit **cast**.

Operators unary -, +, binary +, -, *, /, == and < operate on floating-point type operands. A floating-point type value can be converted to an integer type with an explicit **cast** operator.

3.4 Character Type

The character type **char** is a 8-bit integral ASCII code type for representing character code values in range 0...255. The default value of a **char** type object is '\0'.

Character code values can be compared for equality with operator == and for less-than relationship with operator <.

A **char** value can be converted to an integer type, floating-point type or **bool** type with an explicit **cast**.

3.5 Void Type

The type **void** represents lack of type. It is an incomplete type that cannot be completed, meaning you cannot have an object of type **void**.

4 Expressions

An expression represents a computation that usually produces a value ¹. This grammar accepts a superset of valid expressions. The implementation contains special disambiguation rules that reject syntactically valid (according to the grammar) but meaningless expressions. The type checking phase of the compiler further rejects semantically invalid expressions.

 $\langle expression \rangle ::= \langle equivalence \rangle 4.1$

¹Calling a void function does not produce a value.

4.1 Equivalence

```
\langle equivalence \rangle ::= \langle implication \rangle 4.2 \ (\lt=\gt \langle implication \rangle)^*
```

The <=> operator is used in axioms (10.4) to state that operand expressions are logically equivalent. It groups operands from left to right.

4.2 Implication

```
\langle implication \rangle ::= \langle disjunction \rangle 4.3 \ (=> \langle implication \rangle)?
```

The => operator is used in axioms (10.4) to state that the right operand is logical implication of the left operand. It groups operands from right to left.

4.3 Disjunction

```
\langle disjunction \rangle ::= \langle conjunction \rangle 4.4 \ (|| \langle conjunction \rangle)^*
```

The || operator takes boolean operands and yields a boolean value. It groups operands from left to right. Expression a||b is **true** when a is **true**, or a is **false** and b is **true** (in the first case operand b is not evaluated); otherwise **false**.

A user-defined class cannot overload the || operator.

4.4 Conjunction

```
\langle conjunction \rangle ::= \langle bit\text{-}or\text{-}expr \rangle 4.5 \ (\&\& \langle bit\text{-}or\text{-}expr \rangle)^*
```

The && operator takes boolean operands and yields a boolean value. It groups operands from left to right. Expression a&&b is **false** when a is **false**, or a is **true** and b is **false** (in the first case operand b is not evaluated); otherwise **true**.

A user-defined class cannot overload the && operator.

4.5 Bitwise OR-expression

```
\langle bit\text{-}or\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle bit\text{-}xor\text{-}expr\rangle 4.6 \ (|\langle bit\text{-}xor\text{-}expr\rangle)^*
```

The | operator with integer operands yields an integer value. It groups operands from left to right. The result is a bitwise OR of its operands: that is, each bit of the result will be 1 if one or both of the corresponding bits of the operands is 1; 0 otherwise.

A user-defined class can overload the operator by implementing the **operator** function.

4.6 Bitwise XOR-expression

```
\langle \mathit{bit\text{-}xor\text{-}expr}\rangle ::= \langle \mathit{bit\text{-}and\text{-}expr}\rangle 4.7 \; (\hat{\ } \langle \mathit{bit\text{-}and\text{-}expr}\rangle)^*
```

The ^ operator with integer operands yields an integer value. It groups operands from left to right. The result is a bitwise XOR of its operands: that is, each bit of the result will be 1 if either but not both of the corresponding bits of the operands is 1; 0 otherwise.

A user-defined class can overload the ^ operator by implementing the **operator** function.

4.7 Bitwise AND-expression

```
\langle bit\text{-}and\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \langle equality\text{-}expr \rangle 4.8 \ (\& \langle equality\text{-}expr \rangle)^*
```

The & operator with integer operands yields an integer value. It groups operands from left to right. The result is a bitwise AND of its operands: that is, each bit of the result will be 1 if both of the corresponding bits of the operands is 1; 0 otherwise.

A user-defined class can overload the & operator by implementing the **operator**& function.

4.8 Equality-expression

```
\langle equality\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle relational\text{-}expr\rangle 4.9 \ ((== | !=) \langle relational\text{-}expr\rangle)^*
```

The == operator compares equality. It groups operands from left to right.

The compiler will automatically implement the != operator for a type if it implements the == operator. Then expression a != b will be evaluated as **operator!(operator==(a,b))**.

A user-defined class can overload the == and != operators by implementing the **operator**== function.

4.9 Relational Expression

```
\langle relational\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle shift\text{-}expr\rangle 4.10 \ ((<|>|<=|>=) \langle shift\text{-}expr\rangle)^* \ | \langle shift\text{-}expr\rangle \ ((\text{is} | \text{as}) \langle type\text{-}expr\rangle 4.21)^*
```

The < operator compares less-than relationship. It groups operands from left to right.

The compiler will automatically implement operators >, <= and >= for a type if it implements the < operator. Then expression a > b will be evaluated as **operator**<(**b**,**a**), expression a <= b as **operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**operator**<(**o**

A user-defined class can overload the < and >, <= and >= operators by implementing the **operator**< function.

4.9.1 Is and As Operators

Consider following code:

```
public class Base
1
2
        public virtual ~Base()
3
4
5
6
7
8
   public class Derived : Base
9
10
        // ...
11
12
13
   public Base* GetBasePtrFromSomewhere()
14
15 | {
```

```
return new Derived();
16
17
18
   void main()
19
20
        Base* b1 = GetBasePtrFromSomewhere();
21
        if (b1 is Derived*)
22
23
            // do something with b1
24
25
26
        Base* b2 = GetBasePtrFromSomewhere();
27
        Derived* d = b2 as Derived*;
28
        if (d != null)
29
30
            // do something with d
31
32
33
```

The **is** operator tests if the left operand can be legally casted to a pointer type on the right-hand side. That is: if the pointer b1 in fact points to a *Derived* class object or an object of class derived from *Derived*. The left operand of the **is** operator must be a pointer to a virtual class object ² and the right operand must be a pointer to virtual class type. The **is** operator yields a Boolean result.

The **as** operator tries to convert the left operand to a pointer type on the right-hand side. If the conversion succeeds you got a non-null pointer to Derived class, otherwise the result is **null**. In the case of previous example the conversion succeeds if pointer b2 in fact points to Derived class object or an object of class derived from Derived. The left operand of the **as** operator must be pointer to a virtual class object and the right operand must be a pointer to virtual class type. The **as** operator yields **null** or non-null pointer result. It performs an operation similar to C++ **dynamic cast**.

Note: in the **debug**, **release** and **profile** configurations the **is** and **as** operators generate a call to a function that traverses the class hierarchy, but in **full** configuration the class identifiers are chosen so that the **is** and **as** generate only a single modulo operation in addition to retrieving the class identifier from the run-time type information table. In the **full** configuration the compiler does a whole-program analysis and implements a scheme described in http://www.stroustrup.com/fast_dynamic_casting.pdf.

4.10 Shift Expression

```
\langle shift\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \langle additive\text{-}expr \rangle 4.11 \ ((<< \mid >>) \langle additive\text{-}expr \rangle)^*
```

The << operator with integer operands will yield an integer value. It groups operands from left to right. Expression a << b with integer operands a and b will yield a value of a shifted b bit positions left and filling the vacant bit positions of a with 0-bits from right. If a is non-negative and b small enough the result will be $2^b a$.

The >> operator with integer operands will yield an integer value. It groups operands from left to right. Expression a >> b with integer operands a and b will yield a value of a

²to a class object containing virtual, abstract or overridden member functions

shifted b bit positions right and filling the vacant bit positions of a with 0-bits from left. If a is non-negative the result will be $a/2^b$ ('/' meaning integer division).

A user-defined class can overload the << and >> operators by implementing the **operator**<< and **operator**>> functions respectively.

4.11 Additive Expression

```
\langle additive\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \langle multiplicative\text{-}expr \rangle 4.12 \ ((+ | '-') \langle multiplicative\text{-}expr \rangle)^*
```

The + and - operators with arithmetic type operands will yield same arithmetic type values. If one of the operands is integer and one is floating-point type the integer type operand will be first converted to a floating-point type. Resulting values with operands a and b will be a + b and a - b respectively, if possible overflow or loss of precision is not taken account.

For + and - operators it is also possible that the left operand is of a pointer type (p) and the right operand is of integer type (i). In that case the expression p+i yields a pointer value pointing i objects after p in memory and expression p-i yields a pointer value pointing i objects before p in memory.

For – operator it is also possible that both operands are of a pointer type (p and q). In that case the expression p-q yields an integer counting the number of objects between pointers p and q.

A user-defined class can overload the + and - operators by implement the **operator**+ and **operator**- functions respectively.

4.12 Multiplicative Expression

```
\langle multiplicative\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle prefix\text{-}expr\rangle 4.13 \ (('*' \mid / \mid \%) \langle prefix\text{-}expr\rangle)^*
```

The * and / operators with arithmetic type operands will yield same arithmetic type values. They groups operands from left to right. If one of the operands is integer and one is floating-point type the integer type operand will be first converted to a floating-point type. Resulting values with operands a and b will be ab and a/b respectively, if possible overflow or loss of precision is not taken account.

The % operator with integer operands will yield integer type values. It groups operands from left to right. The resulting value will be remainder of integer division a/b.

A user-defined class can overload the *, / and % operators by implement the **operator***, **operator**/, and **operator**% functions respectively.

4.13 Prefix Expression

```
\langle prefix-expr \rangle ::= (++ \mid -- \mid + \mid \cdot - \cdot \mid ! \mid \sim \mid \& \mid \cdot *, ) \langle prefix-expr \rangle \mid \langle postfix-expr \rangle 4.14
```

The prefix ++ and -- operators can have an integer or pointer type operand. The operand shall be an lvalue 3 . When the operand is of integer type, the ++ operator will increment its operand by 1 and the operator -- will decrement its operand by 1. When the operand is of pointer type with pointer p pointing to an object of type T, the expression ++p increments pointer p so that p points to next object of type T in memory. Correspondingly --p decrements pointer p so that p points to previous object of type T in memory. The

³A variable, a reference or a result of a dereference operator.

result of an increment or decrement operator is a value of the same type as the operand after incrementing or decrementing it.

The prefix + and - operators can have an arithmetic type operand. Expression +p will yield p and -p will yield the negation of p.

The prefix! operator can have a boolean operand. The result of !true is false and !false is true.

The \sim operator can have an integer operand. It will yield a bitwise complement of its operand.

The & operator shall have an Ivalue operand. If the operand is an object of type is T, it returns an address or memory location of the object. The resulting value will be a pointer pointing to the object and it will have a type T*.

The * operator can have a pointer operand. If the operand p is of a type pointer to T, the expression *p dereferences p yielding an Ivalue of type T.

A user-defined class can overload any prefix operator op by implement the **operator** op function.

4.14 Postfix Expression

4.14.1 Postfix Increment and Decrement Operators

The postfix ++ and -- operators can have an integer or pointer type operand. The operand shall be an Ivalue. The result of the operator is the value of the operand before incrementing or decrementing it. When the operand is of integer type, the ++ operator will increment its operand by 1 and the operator -- will decrement its operand by 1. When the operand is of pointer type with pointer p pointing to an object of type T, the expression p++ increments pointer p so that p points to next object of type T in memory. Correspondingly p-- decrements pointer p so that p points to previous object of type T in memory.

A user-defined class cannot overload the postfix forms of ++ or -- operators. They are automatically implemented by the compiler if the prefix versions of those operators are implemented.

4.14.2 Member Access Operator

The member access operator . will access the member named by the right operand from the entity specified by the left operand. The left operand can be a namespace, a class type, or an enumerated type. The type of the expression is the type of the right operand.

4.14.3 Pointer Member Access Operator

The pointer member access operator -> will access a member named by the right operand from the entity specified by the left operand. The left operand can be a pointer type or class type object. In the latter case the class type shall implement the **operator**-> function that returns a pointer or another class type object. The type of the expression is the type of the right operand.

4.14.4 Invocation Operator

The invocation operator () will invoke a function specified by the left operand with the specified list of arguments. The left operand can be a function, a member, an object of a class type that implements the **operator**() function or a type. The type of the expression is the return type of the function.

4.14.5 Indexing Operator

The the left operand of the indexing operator [] shall be of a pointer type, an array type or a class type object. When the left operand is pointer p, the expression p[i] is evaluated as (p + i). When the left operand is an array, the expression a[i] returns a reference to the i'th element of array a, where i can range 0 to N - 1, where N is the dimension of the array a (see 4.21.2). When the left operand is of a class type, it shall implement the **operator** function taking one parameter.

4.15 Primary Expression

```
 \langle primary-expr \rangle ::= '(' \langle expression \rangle 4')' \\ | \langle literal \rangle 2.4 \\ | \langle basic-type \rangle 3 \\ | \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 \\ | typename '(' \langle expression \rangle ')' \\ | this \\ | base \\ | \langle sizeof-expr \rangle 4.16 \\ | \langle cast-expr \rangle 4.17 \\ | \langle new-expr \rangle 4.18 \\ | \langle construct-expr \rangle 4.19 \\ | \langle template-id \rangle 4.20
```

An expression in parenthesis, a literal (2.4), a name of a basic type (3) and an identifier are primary expressions.

Keyword **typename** followed by an expression in parenthesis yields the full name of the dynamic type of the expression. The type of it is **const char***.

Keyword **this** represents a pointer to the current class object in class member functions. Keyword **base** represents a pointer to the base class object in class member functions.

4.16 Size-of Expression

```
\langle sizeof\text{-}expr\rangle ::= sizeof'('\langle expression\rangle 4')'
```

The operand of the **sizeof** operator can be a type or an entity having a type. If the type in question is T, the operator yields constant of type **ulong** that is equal to the size of object of type T in bytes.

4.17 Cast Expression

```
\langle cast\text{-}expr \rangle ::= cast \langle \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \rangle ' (' \langle expression \rangle 4')'
```

The **cast** operator performs explicit type conversion. In order to the cast operation to succeed, there shall be a built-in conversion, a conversion function (9.2.11) in the source type, or a converting constructor in the target type taking one parameter of type of the source expression.

4.18 New Expression

```
\langle new\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \text{new } \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \text{ '('} \langle argument\text{-}list \rangle 4.14 \text{ ')'}
```

The **new** operator reserves memory from the free store for an object of the requested type, constructs the object by issuing the **construct** operator with the specified arguments, and returns a pointer to the newly constructed object.

4.19 Construct Expression

```
\langle construct - expr \rangle ::= construct \langle \langle type - expression \rangle \rangle
'(' \langle expression \rangle 4 (, \langle expression - list \rangle 4.14)?')'
```

The **construct** operator takes a type, a generic pointer to memory and constructor arguments. It constructs an object of requested type to the memory by calling the constructor with arguments, and returns a pointer to the newly constructed object.

4.20 Template Identifier

```
\langle template-id \rangle ::= \langle function-or-class-name \rangle < \langle type-expression \rangle 4.21 \ (, \langle type-expression \rangle)^* > \langle function-or-class-name \rangle ::= \langle qualified-id \rangle 2.3
```

A template identifier is a primary expression.

4.21 Type Expression

```
\langle type\text{-}expression \rangle ::= \langle prefix\text{-}type\text{-}expr \rangle
```

4.21.1 Prefix Type Expression

```
\langle prefix-type-expr \rangle ::= const \langle postfix-type-expr \rangle
| \langle postfix-type-expr \rangle
```

A prefix type expression is either a **const** qualified postfix type expression, or sole postfix type expression.

4.21.2 Postfix Type Expression

A postfix type expression is a primary type expression optionally followed by sequence of the following: a member selection operator '.' and an identifier, an rvalue reference type operator (see 8.3), an Ivalue reference type operator (see 8.2), a pointer type operator (see 8.1), or an array type operator (see 8.4).

4.21.3 Primary Type Expression

```
\langle primary-type-expr \rangle ::= \langle basic-type \rangle 3

| \langle template-id \rangle 4.20

| \langle identifier \rangle

| '(' \langle prefix-type-expr \rangle ')'
```

A primary type expression consists of basic types, template identifiers, identifiers and parenthesized prefix type expressions.

4.22 Constant Expression

```
\langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle ::= \langle expression \rangle 4
```

A constant expression is an expression whose value can be obtained at compile time. A constant expression can contain literals, constants, enumeration constants and operators that do not involve taking an address of an object.

5 Statements

Statements control the program execution logic, declare type aliases, evaluate expressions, assign values to variables, or construct or destroy them. A statement can be labeled by an identifier.

```
 \langle statement \rangle ::= (\langle identifier \rangle :)? (\langle control\text{-}statement \rangle 5.1 \\ | \langle typedef\text{-}statement \rangle 5.2 \\ | \langle simple\text{-}statement \rangle 5.3 \\ | \langle assignment\text{-}statement \rangle 5.4 \\ | \langle construction\text{-}statement \rangle 5.5 \\ | \langle delete\text{-}statement \rangle 5.6 \\ | \langle destroy\text{-}statement \rangle 5.7 \\ | \langle throw\text{-}statement \rangle 5.8 \\ | \langle try\text{-}catch\text{-}statement \rangle 5.9 \\ | \langle assert\text{-}statement \rangle 5.10 \\ | \langle conditional\text{-}compilation\text{-}statement \rangle )5.11
```

5.1 Control Statements

The control statements control statement execution order.

```
 \begin{split} &\langle control\text{-}statement\rangle ::= \langle return\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.1 \\ &| \langle conditional\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.2 \\ &| \langle switch\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.3 \\ &| \langle while\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.4 \\ &| \langle do\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.5 \\ &| \langle range\text{-}for\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.6 \\ &| \langle for\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.7 \\ &| \langle compound\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.8 \\ &| \langle break\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.9 \\ &| \langle continue\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.10 \\ &| \langle goto\text{-}statement\rangle 5.1.11 \end{split}
```

5.1.1 Return Statement

The **return** statement returns control from a function to its caller. When the return type of the function is other than **void** the return statement is mandatory, and there shall be a return value expression, otherwise there shall be no return value expression, and the return statement is optional.

```
\langle return\text{-}statement \rangle ::= return \langle expression \rangle 4?;
```

5.1.2 Conditional Statement

The conditional statement executes a statement if its condition expression is **true**. Otherwise, if there is an else statement, it is executed. The condition shall be a Boolean expression.

```
\langle conditional\text{-}statement \rangle ::= if '(' \langle expression \rangle 4')' \langle statement \rangle 5 (else \langle statement \rangle)?
```

5.1.3 Switch Statement

The **switch** statement evaluates its condition expression and executes the matching case statement. Each control path of the **case** statement shall end with **break**, **goto case** or **goto default** statement, that is: the control is not allowed to "fall through". Multiple cases can be grouped into one **case** statement, though. The condition expression and each case expression shall evaluate to a compile time constant.

```
\langle switch\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \text{switch '('} \langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle 4.22 ')' \\ \quad \text{'} \{' (\langle case\text{-}statement \rangle \mid \langle default\text{-}statement \rangle) * '\}' \\ \langle case\text{-}statement \rangle ::= (\text{case } \langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle :) + \\ \quad ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? (\langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle \mid \langle goto\text{-}default\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle 5)^* \\ \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \text{goto } \text{case } \langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle ; \\ \langle goto\text{-}default\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \text{goto } \text{default} ; \\ \langle default\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle)^* \\ \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) \mid \langle statement \rangle ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}case\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-}statement \rangle) ::= \text{default} : ((\langle identifier \rangle :)? \langle goto\text{-
```

5.1.4 While Statement

The **while** statement repeatedly evaluates its condition expression and executes a statement as long as the condition evaluates to **true**. The condition shall be a Boolean expression.

```
\langle while\text{-}statement \rangle ::= while '(' \langle expression \rangle 4')' \langle statement \rangle 5
```

5.1.5 Do Statement

The **do** statement repeatedly executes a statement and then evaluates its condition expression until the condition evaluates to **false**. The condition shall be a Boolean expression.

```
\langle do\text{-}statement \rangle ::= do \langle statement \rangle 5 \text{ while '('} \langle expression \rangle 4 ')';
```

5.1.6 Range-for Statement

The **range-for** statement iterates through a container. For each iteration, a variable is bound to each value in the container and then a statement is executed. The *container* shall be an expression that will yield an object that is a container having Begin() and End() member functions that return iterators to the beginning and one-past-the-end of a container respectively.

```
\langle range\text{-}for\text{-}statement \rangle ::= for '(' \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 ':' \langle container \rangle ')' \langle statement \rangle 5 \langle container \rangle ::= \langle expression \rangle 4
```

5.1.7 For Statement

The **for** statement first initializes a variable and then repeatedly evaluates a condition expression and executes a statement as long as the condition evaluates to **true**. After each execution cycle an expression that typically increments a condition variable is evaluated. The condition shall be a Boolean expression. The initialization statement is optional as are the condition and increment expressions in which case they are evaluated as **true**.

```
\langle for\text{-}statement \rangle ::= for '(' \langle for\text{-}init\text{-}statement \rangle \langle expression \rangle 4? ; \langle expression \rangle ? ')' \langle statement \rangle 5 
\langle for\text{-}init\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \langle assignment\text{-}statement \rangle 5.4 \mid \langle construction\text{-}statement \rangle 5.5 \mid ;
```

5.1.8 Compound Statement

The compound statement executes a sequence of statements in order. The statement sequence can be empty.

```
\langle compound\text{-}statement \rangle ::= '\{' \langle statement \rangle 5^* '\}'
```

5.1.9 Break Statement

The **break** statement transfers control to the statement coming after its closest containing **switch**, **while**, **do** or **for** statement, if there is one; otherwise to the end of the function.

```
\langle break\text{-}statement \rangle ::= break;
```

5.1.10 Continue Statement

The **continue** statement transfers control to the end of the closest containing **while**, **do** or **for** loop.

```
\langle continue\text{-}statement \rangle ::= continue;
```

5.1.11 Goto Statement

The **goto** statement transfers control to the statement labeled with the matching identifier.

```
\langle goto\text{-}statement \rangle ::= goto \langle identifier \rangle 2.3;
```

5.2 Typedef Statement

The **typedef** statement declares an alias name to a type expression.

```
\langle typedef\text{-}statement \rangle ::= typedef \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3;
```

5.3 Simple Statement

The simple statement evaluates an expression if there is one, otherwise it does nothing. Typically the expression is a function call, or incrementation or decrementation of a variable.

```
\langle simple-statement \rangle ::= \langle expression \rangle 4?;
```

5.4 Assignment Statement

The assignment statement assign a value to an target object. The target expression shall be an lvalue expression.

```
\langle assignment\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \langle expression \rangle 4 = \langle expression \rangle;
```

5.5 Construction Statement

The construction statement constructs a local variable. If the variable is not of a class type, it fits into a register, its address is not taken, and it is not passed by reference argument, a register for the variable is allocated, otherwise space for the variable is reserved from the execution stack. If an initialization expression or expression list is given, the constructor for the variable is called with the given arguments, otherwise the variable is default-constructed.

```
\langle construction\text{-}statement \rangle ::= \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 \langle initialization \rangle ?; \langle initialization \rangle ::= '(' \langle expression\text{-}list \rangle 4.14 ')' | = \langle expression \rangle 4
```

5.6 Delete Statement

The **delete** statement calls the destructor of an object if there is one, and then releases the memory reserved for the object back to the free store. The expression shall evaluate to a pointer to the object. If the object has a virtual destructor, it is called, otherwise the destructor for the pointee type of the pointer type is called.

```
\langle delete\text{-}statement \rangle := delete \langle expression \rangle 4;
```

5.7 Destroy Statement

The **destroy** statement calls the destructor for an object but does not release memory reserved for the object. The expression shall evaluate to a pointer to the object. If the object has a virtual destructor, it is called, otherwise the destructor for the pointer type of the pointer type is called.

```
\langle destroy\text{-}statement \rangle ::= destroy \langle expression \rangle 4;
```

5.8 Throw Statement

The **throw** statement causes an exception object to be thrown. The expression shall construct a class object to throw. The exception object includes the source line number and the source file name of the throw statement.

```
\langle throw\text{-}statement \rangle ::= throw \langle expression \rangle 4;
```

5.9 Try-Catch Statement

The **try-catch** statement executes statements in a try-block and if an exception is thrown, control is transfered to a matching exception handler. Each exception handler handles exceptions that are the same type as or a type derived from the type of the variable of the exception handler. First matching handler is executed, so the handlers should be ordered from the most specific to the most general.

```
\langle try\text{-}catch\text{-}statement \rangle ::= try \langle try\text{-}block \rangle \langle exception\text{-}handler \rangle + 
\langle try\text{-}block \rangle ::= \langle compound\text{-}statement \rangle 5.1.8
\langle exception\text{-}handler \rangle ::= catch '(' \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 ')' \langle catch\text{-}block \rangle
\langle catch\text{-}block \rangle ::= \langle compound\text{-}statement \rangle
```

5.10 Assert Statement

The # assert statement tests a condition that should always be true. If the condition is false, an error message containing the failed expression, a source line number and a source file name is issued and the program is exited.

Assert statements are skipped when compiling a program using **release** configuration.

```
\langle assert\text{-}statement \rangle ::= '#' assert '(' \langle expression \rangle 4 ')' ';'
```

5.11 Conditional Compilation Statement

The conditional compilation statement makes it possible to include statements in compilation based on conditional compilation symbols.

When compiling a program using **debug** configuration (default), the symbol DEBUG is defined. When compiling a program using **release** configuration, the symbol RELEASE is defined. When compiling a program using Cmajor compiler in Windows, a symbol WINDOWS is defined. When compiling a program using Cmajor compiler in Linux, a symbol LINUX is defined.

Users can define other conditional compilation symbols in IDE or using the -D command line option.

```
\langle conditional\text{-}compilation\text{-}statement}\rangle ::= \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}if\text{-}statement}\rangle
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}if\text{-}statement}\rangle ::= '\#' \text{ if '(' cond\text{-}comp\text{-}expr ')' } \langle statement\text{-}list}\rangle
('\#' \text{ elif '(' cond\text{-}comp\text{-}expr ')' } \langle statement\text{-}list}\rangle)^*
('\#' \text{ else } \langle statement\text{-}list}\rangle)? '\#' \text{ endif}}
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}disjunction}\rangle
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}disjunction}\rangle ::= \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}conjunction}\rangle (||| \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}conjunction}\rangle)^*
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}conjunction}\rangle ::= \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}prefix}\rangle (\&\& \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}prefix}\rangle)^*
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}prefix}\rangle ::= \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}not}\rangle || \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}prefix}\rangle
\langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}prefix}\rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 || '(' \langle cond\text{-}comp\text{-}expr \rangle ')'
\langle statement\text{-}list}\rangle ::= \langle statement \rangle 5^*
```

The **cond-comp-if** statement includes a list of statements in compilation if its conditional compilation expression evaluates true, otherwise, if one of the **elif** conditional compilation expressions evaluates true, the statements in that **elif**-part is included in compilation, otherwise, if the **else**-part is given, the list of statements in **else**-part is included to compilation.

Conditional compilation disjunction expression evaluates to true, if one of conditional compilation conjunction expressions it contains evaluates to true.

Conditional compilation conjunction expression evaluates to true, if all conditional compilation prefix expressions it contains evaluate to true.

Conditional compilation prefix expression can be either conditional compilation not-expression or conditional compilation primary expression.

Conditional compilation not-expression evaluates to true if its conditional compilation prefix expression evaluates to false.

Conditional compilation primary expression can be an conditional compilation identifier or parenthesized conditional compilation expression.

Conditional compilation identifier evaluates to true if it is defined.

6 Access Specifiers

Most entities defined within a class or a namespace can be given access specifiers that grant or reject access for another entity.

- public access grants access from everywhere.
- **protected** access specifier grants access for an entity defined within the same or derived class and rejects it for other entities.

- **private** access specifier grants access for an entity defined within the same class and rejects it for other entities.
- internal access specifier grants access for an entity defined in the same program or library and rejects it for other entities.

```
\langle access-specifier \rangle ::= \langle access-specifier \rangle^*
\langle access-specifier \rangle ::= public | protected | private | internal
```

If no access specifiers are given, the default access for a namespace level entity is **internal** access, and for a class level entity it is **private** access.

7 Functions

A function represents a unit of computation that can be executed from the other parts of the program or from the function body itself. When the function is called, each of the argument expressions of the function call is evaluated and bound to the corresponding parameter of the function. Then the function body is executed and after that the control returns to the caller.

7.1 Function Specifiers

7.1.1 Inline Specifier

inline specifier is a hint to optimizer that it should replace function body in place of function call when applicable.

7.1.2 CDecl Specifier

cdecl specifier suppresses name mangling ⁴, so that the function can easily called from C language.

7.1.3 Nothrow Specifier

nothrow specifier states that the function will not throw Cmajor exceptions directly or indirectly, or that the function handles all exceptions (catches *System.Exception*) and does not deliberately throw any exception from catch blocks. ⁵

7.1.4 Throw Specifier

throw specifier emphasizes that the function might throw a Cmajor exception.

7.1.5 Unit Test Specifier

unit test specifier has a meaning in programs intended as input to the cmunit program.

7.2 Function Templates

A function that contains a template parameter list is said to be a *function template*. A function template is parameterized by one or more type parameters. An optional default value can be provided for a template parameter. There cannot be a non-default template parameter coming after a default template parameter.

7.2.1 Constrained Function Templates

A function template that has a where-constraint (10.5) is said to be a *constrained function* template. The where-constraint sets requirements for template type parameters.

7.2.2 Function Template and Overload Resolution

Function templates participate overload resolution process. In overload resolution the template parameters are deduced from the types of function call arguments. The type parameters can also be explicitly specified using a template identifier (4.20). After the type parameters are deduced or explicitly specified, the function template is instantiated, and it becomes a concrete function. The type-checking of an unconstrained function template is deferred until instantiation time.

8 Derived Types

8.1 Pointer Types

If τ is a type expression (4.21), τ * creates a new type representing a pointer to an object of type τ . The default value of a pointer type object is **null**.

⁴name mangling encodes parameter types to the function name

⁵semantics changed from version 2.0.

Unary operators * and - >, prefix operators ++ and --, binary operators +, -, == and <, and the indexing operator [] operate on pointer type operands.

A pointer type value can be implicitly converted to a generic pointer type void*.

8.1.1 Generic Pointer Type

The type **void*** represents a generic pointer to a memory location or it is **null**. The memory location can hold an object or it can be a location in the free store that may or may not hold an object. The default value of a generic pointer type object is **null**.

Generic pointers can be compared for equality using the == operator. The generic pointer type can be converted to any other pointer type with an explicit **cast**.

8.1.2 Null Pointer Type

The null pointer type represents a pointer that does not point to any object or any location in the free store. The value of a null pointer type object is **null**. Any pointer type can be compared with **null** for equality using the == operator.

8.2 Lvalue Reference Types

If τ is a type expression (4.21), τ & creates a new type representing an lyalue reference to an object of type τ . Lyalue reference type objects do not have a default value and they must be initialized to refer to an object in some memory location.

If T is an object type, type T& supports the same operators as T does.

Type T& (an lvalue reference to an object of type T) can be implicitly converted to type **const** T& (an lvalue reference to a constant object of type T).

8.3 Rvalue Reference Types

If τ is a type expression (4.21), τ && creates a new type representing an rvalue reference to an object of type τ . Rvalue references are used to implement move semantics.

8.4 Array Types

If τ is a type expression (4.21), $\tau[N]$ creates a new type representing an array whose element type is τ and dimension is N.

Currently only single-dimensional arrays whose element type is a basic type (3) or a class type (9.2) are supported. The dimension N must be a constant expression (4.22).

Indexing operator [] operates on array type operands (4.14.5).

8.5 Constant Types

If τ is a type expression, **const** τ creates a new type representing a constant object of type τ . The default value of type **const** τ is the same as the default value of type τ .

If T is an object type, type **const** T supports those operators of type T that do not change the value of object of type T.

Type T can be implicitly converted to type **const** T.

9 User-defined Types

9.1 Enumerated Types

An enumerated type is used to create an integral type with a set of named constants. Each constant will have a value of type **int** that is distinct from the values of other constants within the same enumerated type.

```
\langle enumerated\text{-}type\text{-}definition \rangle ::= \langle access\text{-}specifiers \rangle 6 \text{ enum } \langle identifier \rangle 2.3
\text{`('} \langle enumeration\text{-}constant \rangle \text{ (, } \langle enumeration\text{-}constant \rangle) * ')'}
\langle enumeration\text{-}constant \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle \text{ (= } \langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle 4.22)?}
```

The default value of an enumerated type object is 0, whether it is represented by a named constant or not.

If the first constant is not explicitly given a value, it will have a value 0. If any other constant is not explicitly given a value, it will have the value of the previous constant + 1.

9.2 Class Types

A class type is used to define a user-defined type that can contain data members, type aliases, constants, member functions and subtypes.

```
\langle class-definition \rangle ::= \langle class-specifiers \rangle class \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 \langle template-parameter-list \rangle 7?
       \langle inheritance \rangle? \langle where\text{-}constraint \rangle 10.5? '{' \langle class\text{-}content \rangle'}'
\langle class\text{-}specifiers \rangle ::= (\langle access\text{-}specifier \rangle 6 \mid static \mid abstract)^*
\langle inheritance \rangle ::= : (\langle template-id \rangle 4.20 \mid \langle qualified-id \rangle 2.3)
\langle class\text{-}content \rangle ::= (\langle static\text{-}constructor \rangle 9.2.7
       \langle constructor \rangle 9.2.8
       \langle destructor \rangle 9.2.9
       \langle member-function \rangle 9.2.10
       \langle conversion\text{-}function \rangle 9.2.11
       \langle enumerated-type-definition \rangle 9.1
       \langle constant-declaration \rangle 9.2.13
       \langle member-variable-declaration \rangle 9.2.12
       \langle typedef-declaration \rangle 9.2.14
       \langle delegate-definition \rangle 9.3.1
       \langle class-delegate-definition \rangle 9.3.2
       \langle class-definition \rangle)*
```

A class type can be regular, **static** or **abstract**.

9.2.1 Regular Class Types

A regular class can contain each kind of class content members.

9.2.2 Static Class Types

A static class can contain

- a static constructor
- static data members
- static member functions
- constants
- typedef declarations
- delegate and class delegate definitions
- subtypes

9.2.3 Abstract Class Types

A class that contains one or more abstract member functions shall be declared **abstract**. One cannot create an object of an abstract class. Each concrete class that derives from an abstract class shall override each of the abstract member functions of an abstract base class.

9.2.4 Class Templates

A class that contains a template parameter list is said to be a *class template*. A class template is parameterized by one or more type parameters. When a template name (4.20) is specified with the type argument expressions, the class template is instantiated, and becomes a concrete class. The type-checking of a class template is deferred until instantiation time.

9.2.5 Inheritance

A class or a class template can derive from a class or a class template. Derived class *inherits* members of the *base class*. A derived class can *override* virtual, overridden and abstract member functions of the base class.

9.2.6 Constrained Class Templates

A class template that has a where-constraint (10.5) is said to a *constrained class template*. The where-constraint sets requirements for template type parameters.

9.2.7 Static Constructor

The identifier of the static constructor shall be equal to the name of the class type. The purpose of the static constructor is to initialize the static member variables of a class object on its first call. The static constructor is called from each constructor and each static member function of a class type before taking other actions.

```
\langle static\text{-}constructor \rangle ::= \mathtt{static} \langle static\text{-}constructor\text{-}class\text{-}name \rangle '(' ')' (: \langle static\text{-}initializer\text{-}list \rangle)? \langle function\text{-}body \rangle7
```

```
\langle static\text{-}constructor\text{-}class\text{-}name \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle 2.3

\langle static\text{-}initializer\text{-}list \rangle ::= \langle static\text{-}initializer \rangle \text{ (',' } \langle static\text{-}initializer \rangle)^*

\langle static\text{-}initializer \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle \text{ '(' } \langle argument\text{-}list \rangle 4.14 \text{ ')'}
```

9.2.8 Constructors

The identifier of the constructor shall be equal to the name of the class type. The purpose of a constructor is to initialize non-static member variables of a class type, and to establish a class invariant.

An initializer of a constructor can delegate initialization to another constructor of the same class using the **this** keyword. The initializer can call a base class constructor using the **base** keyword.

If a non-static class has no user-defined constructor, the compiler will implement a default constructor that constructs each non-static member variable to its default value.

If a non-static class has no user-defined copy constructor, no user-defined move constructor, no user-defined copy assignment, no user-defined move assignment and no user-defined destructor, the compiler will implement a copy constructor that copy-constructs each non-static member variable from the corresponding member variable of the constructor argument. The compiler will also implement a move constructor that moves each non-static member variable from the corresponding member variable of the constructor argument in that case.

This automatic generation of default constructor, copy constructor and move constructor can be suppressed using the **suppress** keyword.

Automatic generation of default constructor, copy constructor and move constructor can be requested by using the **default** keyword.

```
// move constructor
       public Foo(Foo&& that)
11
12
13
14
15
16
   public class Bar
17
18
       default Bar();
                                      // compiler will implement memberwise
19
           default\ constructor
       default Bar(const Bar&);
                                      // compiler will implement memberwise
20
           copy constructor
                                      // compiler will implement memberwise
       default Bar (Bar&&);
21
           move constructor
22
23
   public class Baz
24
25
                                      //\ automatic\ generation\ of\ default
       suppress Baz();
26
           constructor is suppressed
                                      //\ automatic\ generation\ of\ copy
       suppress Baz(const Baz&);
27
           constructor is suppressed
                                      // automatic generation of move
       suppress Baz (Baz&&);
28
           constructor is suppressed
29
```

9.2.9 Destructor

The identifier of the destructor shall be equal to the name of the class type. The purpose of a destructor is to destroy non-static member variables of a class type, and to tear down the class invariant.

```
\langle destructor \rangle ::= \langle destructor\text{-}specifiers \rangle \sim \langle destructor\text{-}class\text{-}name \rangle '(' ')' \langle function\text{-}body \rangle7 \langle destructor\text{-}specifiers \rangle ::= (\langle access\text{-}specifier \rangle 6 \mid virtual \mid override \mid default \mid inline)^* <math>\langle destructor\text{-}class\text{-}name \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle 2.3
```

If the class type has a base class that has a virtual destructor, the destructor shall be declared with override specifier; otherwise, if the class type contains virtual functions, the destructor is automatically set virtual.

If a non-static class has no user-defined destructor, no user-defined copy constructor, no user-defined move constructor, no user-defined copy assignment, no user-defined move assignment, and (1) the class has virtual functions, or (2) at least one member variable has a non-trivial destructor, or (3) a class has a base class that has a non-trivial destructor, the compiler will implement a destructor that destroys all non-static member variables.

Automatic generation of destructor can be requested by using the **default** keyword.

```
public class Foo {
public ~Foo() // destructor
```

9.2.10 Member Functions

A member function operates on member variables a class object or class type and can call other member functions of its class. A member function can be virtual, overridden, abstract, static or regular.

A regular member function may have access specifiers but no other member function specifiers. A regular member function operates on a class object.

Member function can be declared *virtual*, in which case the actual member function called through a pointer or reference variable depends on the actual type of the class object instead of the formal type of the pointer or reference variable.

Member function can be declared *abstract*, in which case it shall not have an implementation, and it has to be overridden in each concrete class type derived from the abstract class type.

A member function of a derived class type can *override* a virtual or abstract member function of a base class type.

Member function can be declared *static*, in which case it do not operate on a class object (it has no **this** pointer). A static member function can call other static member functions of its class and can operate on static member variables of its class. A static member function is called using ClassName.StaticMemberFunc(arguments) syntax.

A member function can be declared *const*, in which case the type of the **this** pointer for a class C is "pointer to **const** C". A constant member function cannot directly alter its class object.

If a non-static class has no user-defined copy assignment, no user-defined copy constructor, no user-defined move assignment, no user-defined move constructor and no user-defined destructor, the compiler will implement a copy assignment that assigns each non-static member variable from its corresponding member variable of the function argument. The compiler will also implement a move assignment that swaps each non-static member variable with the corresponding member variable of the function argument in that case.

This automatic generation of copy assignment and move assignment can be suppressed using the **suppress** keyword.

Automatic generation of copy assignment and move assignment can be requested by using the **default** keyword.

```
public class Foo
1
2
       public void operator=(const Foo& that) // copy assignment
3
4
5
6
       public void operator=(Foo&& that)
                                             // move assignment
7
8
           // ...
9
10
12
   public class Bar
13
14
       default void operator=(const Bar&); // compiler will implement
15
          memberwise copy assignment
                                             // compiler will implement
       default void operator=(Bar&&);
16
          memberwise move assignment
17
18
   public class Baz
19
20
                                                 // automatic generation of
21
       suppress void operator=(const Baz&);
          copy assignment is suppressed
                                                 // automatic generation of
       suppress void operator=(Baz&&);
22
          move assignment is suppressed
23
```

9.2.11 Conversion Functions

A conversion function converts a class type object to the specified target type. Conversion functions participate type conversions in cast-expressions (4.17) and in function overloading.

```
 \begin{split} &\langle conversion\text{-}function\rangle ::= \langle conversion\text{-}function\text{-}specifiers\rangle \text{ operator } \langle type\text{-}expression\rangle 4.21 \text{ '('}\\ &\text{')' const? } (\langle function\text{-}body\rangle 7 \mid \text{;}) \\ &\langle conversion\text{-}function\text{-}specifiers\rangle ::= (\langle access\text{-}specifier\rangle 6 \mid \text{nothrow} \mid \text{throw} \mid \text{inline})^* \end{split}
```

9.2.12 Member Variable Declarations

A class can have non-static and static member variables.

```
\langle member-variable-declaration \rangle ::= \langle member-variable-specifiers \rangle \langle type-expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3; \langle member-variable-specifiers \rangle ::= (\langle access-specifier \rangle 6 \mid \texttt{static})^*
```

A non-static member variable is a member of each class object of its class.

A static member variable is a member of its class type.

9.2.13 Constant Declarations

A constant is an object whose value can be obtained at compile time.

```
\langle constant\text{-}declaration \rangle ::= \langle access\text{-}specifiers \rangle 6

const \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 = \langle constant\text{-}expression \rangle 4.22;
```

The type of a constant can be a basic value type or an enumerated type (see 9.1).

9.2.14 Typedef Declarations

The **typedef** declaration inserts an alias name for a type expression into its scope.

```
\langle typedef\text{-}declaration \rangle ::= \langle access\text{-}specifiers \rangle 6 \text{ type-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 ;
```

9.3 Delegate Types

Delegate types make possible to delegate execution of a function to another entity. Delegates can be passed as parameters and called much the same way ordinary functions can be called. Delegates are typically used to implement callbacks and events.

Delegate types come in two flavors: regular delegates that capture a function pointer and class delegates that capture a pointer to a class object and a pointer to a member function.

9.3.1 Delegates

A delegate type is defined using the keyword **delegate** followed by a return type, the name of the delegate type and a list of function parameters. An object of a delegate type is a pointer to a free function or to a static member function.

```
\langle \mathit{delegate-definition} \rangle ::= (\langle \mathit{access-specifier} \rangle 6 \mid \mathsf{throw} \mid \mathsf{nothrow})^* \; \mathsf{delegate} \\ \langle \mathit{type-expression} \rangle 4.21 \; \langle \mathit{identifier} \rangle 2.3 \; \langle \mathit{parameters} \rangle 7 \; ;
```

9.3.2 Class Delegates

A class delegate type is defined using the keyword pair **class delegate** followed by a return type, the name of the class delegate type and a list of member function parameters. An object of a class delegate type is a pair consisting of a pointer to a class object and a pointer to a member function.

```
\langle class-delegate-definition \rangle ::= (\langle access-specifier \rangle 6 \mid throw \mid nothrow)^* class delegate \langle type-expression \rangle 4.21 \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 \langle parameters \rangle 7;
```

10 Concepts

Concepts are used to set requirements for template type arguments in function and class templates. The concept design is influenced by the Concept Design for the STL ([6]).

A concept definition consists of the name of the concept followed by a list of type parameters. A concept body consists of syntactic requirements for type parameters that take form of constraints, and semantic requirements for type parameters that take form of axioms.

A concept can *refine* another concept by setting additional requirements and overriding existing requirements. When overriding existing requirements, the refining concept can set an associated type equal to a more constrained type, or to model a more constrained concept than in the refined concept.

```
 \langle concept - definition \rangle ::= \langle access-specifiers \rangle 6 \\  \quad concept \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 < \langle identifier \rangle \ (, \langle identifier \rangle)^* > \\  \quad \langle refinement \rangle? \langle where-constraint \rangle 10.5? \ \{ \langle concept-body \rangle \ \}   \langle refinement \rangle ::= : \langle concept-name \rangle < \langle identifier \rangle \ (, \langle identifier \rangle)^* > \\  \langle concept-name \rangle ::= \langle qualified-id \rangle 2.3   \langle concept-body \rangle ::= (\langle typename-constraint \rangle 10.1 \\  \mid \langle signature-constraint \rangle 10.2 \\  \mid \langle embedded-constraint \rangle 10.3 \\  \mid \langle axiom \rangle 10.4)^*
```

10.1 Typename Constraint

A typename constraint sets a requirement that an associated type with the specified name is found.

```
\langle typename\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \texttt{typename} \ \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 ;
```

Typically type expression is of the form < concept type parameter> . < associated type name>.

10.2 Signature Constraint

A signature constraint sets a requirement that either the first concept type parameter contains a member function with the specified signature or there exists a nonmember function with the specified signature. The signature of the function does not have to match exactly.

```
\langle signature\text{-}constraint\rangle ::= \langle constructor\text{-}constraint\rangle \\ | \langle destructor\text{-}constraint\rangle \\ | \langle member\text{-}function\text{-}constraint\rangle \\ | \langle function\text{-}constraint\rangle \\ | \langle constructor\text{-}constraint\rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 \langle parameters \rangle 7 ; \\ \langle destructor\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle '(' ')' ; \\ \langle member\text{-}function\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \\ \langle identifier \rangle . \langle function\text{-}name \rangle 7 \langle parameters \rangle ; \\ \langle function\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \langle function\text{-}name \rangle 7 \langle parameters \rangle ;
```

10.3 Embedded Constraint

An embedded constraint sets additional requirements for concept parameter types.

```
\langle \mathit{embedded\text{-}constraint} \rangle ::= \langle \mathit{where\text{-}constraint} \rangle 10.5 ;
```

10.4 Axioms

A concept can contain *axioms* that represent semantic requirements for constrained template type arguments. The axioms are not processed in any way by the compiler (except parsing their syntax). They are only documentation for the programmer.

```
\langle axiom \rangle ::= axiom \langle identifier \rangle ?2.3 \langle parameters \rangle ?7 \{ \langle axiom-body \rangle \}
\langle axiom-body \rangle ::= \langle axiom-statement \rangle^*
\langle axiom-statement \rangle ::= \langle expression \rangle 4 ;
```

10.5 Where Constraint

A where constraint sets requirements for template type arguments or concept parameter types.

```
\langle where\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= where \langle constraint\text{-}expr \rangle
\langle constraint\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \langle disjunctive\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr \rangle 10.5.1
```

10.5.1 Disjunctive Constraint Expressions

A disjunctive constraint expression states that the template type arguments and concept parameters must satisfy the requirements of one of the conjunctive constraint expressions separated by **or** connectives.

```
\langle disjunctive\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr\rangle ::= \langle conjunctive\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr\rangle 10.5.2 \text{ (or } \langle conjunctive\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr\rangle)^*
```

10.5.2 Conjunctive Constraint Expressions

A conjunctive constraint expression states that the template type arguments and concept parameters must satisfy the requirements of all primary constraint expressions separated by and connectives.

```
\langle conjunctive\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr \rangle ::= \langle primary\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr \rangle 10.5.3 \text{ (and } \langle primary\text{-}constraint\text{-}expr \rangle)^*
```

10.5.3 Primary Constraint Expressions

A primary constraint can be either an atomic constraint or a constraint expression enclosed in parenthesis.

```
\langle primary-constraint-expr \rangle ::= \langle atomic-constraint \rangle 10.5.4 \mid '(' \langle constraint-expr \rangle 10.5')'
```

10.5.4 Atomic Constraints

An atomic constraint can be either an is-constraint or a multiparameter constraint.

```
\langle atomic\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle is\text{-}constraint \rangle 10.5.5 \mid \langle multiparam\text{-}constraint \rangle 10.5.6
```

10.5.5 Is-Constraint

An is-constraint sets a requirement that a either (1) the specified type satisfies the requirements of the specified concept, or (2) the specified type is trivially convertible to another type. For example, type **const T**& is trivially convertible to type **T**. When specifying the is-constraint in case (2), the so far less constrained type should be put to the left and the more constrained type to the right.

```
\langle is\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 \text{ is } \langle concept\text{-}or\text{-}typename \rangle
\langle concept\text{-}or\text{-}typename \rangle ::= \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle
```

10.5.6 Multiparameter Constraint

A multiparameter constraint sets a requirement that the specified types satisfy the requirements of the specified concept.

```
\langle multiparam\text{-}constraint \rangle ::= \langle concept\text{-}name \rangle 10 < \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle 4.21 (, \langle type\text{-}expression \rangle)^* >
```

10.6 Built-in Concepts

There are four built-in multiparameter concepts implemented by the compiler.

10.6.1 Same Concept

The **Same**<**T**, **U**> concept sets a requirement that types T and U are exactly the same type. The so far less constrained type should be put to the left and the more constrained type to the right.

10.6.2 Derived Concept

The **Derived**<**T**, **U**> concept sets a requirement that type T is derived from type U, or in other words that the type U is the base class of type T. Type T is trivially derived from type T.

10.6.3 Convertible Concept

The Convertible < T, U > concept sets a requirement that type T is convertible to type U. Either there should be a constructor with signature U(const T&) or there should be a built-in conversion from type T to type U. Type T is trivially convertible to type T.

10.6.4 Common Concept

The **Common**<**T**, **U**> concept sets a requirement that types T and U have a common type to which they both are convertible to. The common type is inserted as a typedef *CommonType* to the scope of concept **Common**<**T**, **U**>. The common type of T and T is trivially T. The so far less constrained type should be put to the left and the more constrained type to the right.

11 Namespaces

Namespaces are used to disambiguate equal names belonging to different libraries. A namespace consists of optional using directives followed by optional definitions.

```
\langle namespace-definition \rangle ::= \text{ namespace } \langle qualified-id \rangle 2.3 \text{ '} \{' \langle namespace-content \rangle \text{ '} \}' \\ \langle namespace-content \rangle ::= \langle using-directive \rangle * \langle definition \rangle * \\ \langle using-directive \rangle ::= \langle using-alias-directive \rangle \mid \langle using-namespace-directive \rangle \\ \langle using-alias-directive \rangle ::= \text{ using } \langle identifier \rangle 2.3 = \langle qualified-id \rangle \text{ ;} \\ \langle using-namespace-directive \rangle ::= \text{ using } \langle qualified-id \rangle \text{ ;} \\ \langle definition \rangle ::= \langle enumerated-type-definition \rangle 9.1 \\ | \langle constant-declaration \rangle 9.2.13 \\ | \langle function-definition \rangle 7 \\ | \langle class-definition \rangle 9.2 \\ | \langle delegate-definition \rangle 9.3.1 \\ | \langle class-delegate-definition \rangle 9.2.14 \\ | \langle concept-definition \rangle 10 \\ | \langle namespace-definition \rangle 10 \\ | \langle namespace-definition \rangle
```

A using alias directive brings a single alias name to the current file scope.

A using namespace directive brings contents of given namespace to the current file scope.

12 Source Files

A source file consists of namespace content.

```
\langle source\text{-}file \rangle ::= \langle namespace\text{-}content \rangle 11
```

13 Programs

A Cmajor program consists of source files. One of the source files must contain a main function.

A main function can have four possible signatures:

- void main()
- int main()
- void main(int argc, const char** argv)
- int main(int argc, const char** argv)

In the two latter signatures parameter argc contains the number of program arguments, and parameter argv contains program argument strings. By convention the first argument (argv[0]) contains the name of the program.

If the main function is declared to return a value, the main function shall contain a return statement, otherwise it shall not contain a return statement.

If the main function is declared void, it returns exit code 0 to the environment.

14 Solution and Project File Formats

14.1 Solution File Format

```
\langle solution\text{-}file\rangle ::= \langle solution\text{-}declaration\rangle \langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declarations\rangle \langle project\text{-}dependencies\rangle}
\langle solution\text{-}declaration\rangle ::= solution \langle solution\text{-}name\rangle ';'
\langle solution\text{-}name\rangle ::= \langle qualified\text{-}id\rangle 2.3
\langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declarations\rangle ::= \langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declaration\rangle *
\langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declaration\rangle ::= project \langle project\text{-}file\text{-}path\rangle ';'
\langle project\text{-}file\text{-}path\rangle ::= '<' [^>]+ '>' 
\langle project\text{-}dependencies\rangle ::= \langle project\text{-}dependency\rangle *
\langle project\text{-}dependency\rangle ::= dependency \langle project\text{-}name\rangle \langle dependent\text{-}project\text{-}list\rangle ';'
\langle dependent\text{-}project\text{-}list\rangle ::= '(' \langle dependent\text{-}project\text{-}name\rangle (',' \langle dependent\text{-}project\text{-}name\rangle) * ')'
\langle dependent\text{-}project\text{-}name\rangle ::= \langle qualified\text{-}id\rangle
```

14.2 Project File Format

```
\langle project\text{-}file \rangle ::= \langle project\text{-}declaration \rangle \langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declarations \rangle
\langle project\text{-}declaration \rangle ::= project \langle project\text{-}name \rangle ';'
\langle project\text{-}name \rangle ::= \langle qualified\text{-}id \rangle 2.3
\langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declarations \rangle ::= \langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declaration \rangle *
```

```
\langle project\text{-}file\text{-}declaration \rangle ::= \langle target\text{-}declaration \rangle
        \langle assembly-declaration \rangle
        \langle library-reference \rangle
        \langle executable-declaration \rangle
        \langle c-library-declaration \rangle
        \langle source\text{-file} \rangle
        \langle asm\text{-}source\text{-}file \rangle
        \langle c\text{-}source\text{-}file \rangle
        \langle text\text{-file} \rangle
⟨target-declaration⟩ ::= target '=' (program | library) ';
\langle assembly-declaration \rangle ::= assembly \langle file-path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle library-reference \rangle ::= reference \langle file-path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle executable - declaration \rangle ::= executable \langle file-path \rangle;
\langle c	ext{-library-declaration} \rangle ::= clib \langle file	ext{-path} \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle source\text{-}file \rangle ::= source \langle file\text{-}path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle asm\text{-}source\text{-}file \rangle ::= asmsource \langle file\text{-}path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle c\text{-}source\text{-}file \rangle ::= csource \langle file\text{-}path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle text\text{-}file \rangle ::= \text{text} \langle file\text{-}path \rangle \langle properties \rangle? ';'
\langle properties \rangle ::= '[' \langle property \rangle (', ' \langle property \rangle)^* ']'
\langle property \rangle ::= \langle property-name \rangle '=' \langle property-value \rangle
\langle property-name \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle
\langle property\text{-}value \rangle ::= \langle identifier \rangle
⟨file-path⟩ ::= '<' [^>]+ '>'
```

Properties can be used to include a declaration only in selected configurations. Currently property name can be **backend** or **os**. Backend values can be **c** and **llvm**. Os values can be **windows** and **linux**.

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