

# Principles of Programming Languages

Module M06:  $\lambda$  in C++

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## Functors in C++

#### Functors

**Source**: Scott Meyers on C++

Functors in C++



## Callable Entities in C / C++

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Generic  $\lambda$ 

- A Callable Entity is an object that
  - Can be called using the function call syntax
  - Supports operator()
- Such objects are often called
  - A Function Object or
  - A Functor

Some authors do distinguish between Callable Entities, Function Objects and Functors.



### Several Callable Entities C++

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- Function-like Macros
- C Functions (Global or in Namespace)
- Member Functions
  - Static
  - Non-Static
- Pointers to Functions
  - C Functions
  - Member Functions (static Non-Static)
- References to functions: Acts like const pointers to functions
- Functors: Objects that define operator()



### **Function Pointers**

Function Pointers

Points to the address of a function

- Ordinary C functions
- Static C++ member functions
- Non-static C++ member functions
- Points to a function with a specific signature
  - List of Calling Parameter Types
  - Return-Type
  - Calling Convention



### Function Pointers in C

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```
int (*pt2Function) (int, char, char);
```

Calling Convention

```
int DoIt (int a, char b, char c);
int DoIt (int a, char b, char c) { printf ("DoIt\n"); return a+b+c; }
```

• Assign Address to a Function Pointer

```
pt2Function = &DoIt; // OR
pt2Function = DoIt;
```

• Compare Function Pointers

```
if (pt2Function == &DoIt) { printf ("pointer points to DoIt\n"); }
```

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• Call the Function pointed by the Function Pointer

```
int result = (*pt2Function) (12, 'a', 'b');
```



#### Function Pointers in C

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```
Direct Function Pointer
                                                                  Using typedef
#include <stdio.h>
                                                  #include <stdio.h>
// Function pointer variable
                                                  // Function pointer type alias
int (*pt2Function) (int. char. char):
                                                  typedef int (*pt2Function) (int. char. char):
int DoIt(int a, char b, char c);
                                                  int DoIt(int a, char b, char c);
int main() { pt2Function = DoIt; // &DoIt
                                                  int main() { pt2Function f = &DoIt; // DoIt
   // Paran's needed as operator() has higher
   // precedence than operator*
    int result = (*pt2Function)(12, 'a', 'b');
                                                      int result = f(12, 'a', 'b'):
                                                      printf("%d", result):
   printf("%d", result):
int DoIt(int a, char b, char c) {
                                                  int DoIt(int a, char b, char c) {
   printf ("DoIt\n"): return a + b + c:
                                                      printf ("DoIt\n"): return a + b + c:
___
                                                  Do Tt
Do Tt
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                                                  207
```



### Function Reference In C++

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Define a Function Pointer

```
int (A::*pt2Member)(float, char, char);
```

Calling Convention

```
class A {
   int DoIt (float a, char b, char c) {
      cout << "A::DoIt" << endl; return a+b+c;
   }
};</pre>
```

Assign Address to a Function Pointer

```
pt2Member = &A::DoIt;
```

• Compare Function Pointers

```
if (pt2Member == &A::DoIt) { cout <<"pointer points to A::DoIt" << endl; }
```

• Call the Function pointed by the Function Pointer

```
int result = (*this.*pt2Member)(12, 'a', 'b');
```



## Function Pointer: Operations

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Generic  $\lambda$ 

- Assign an Address to a Function Pointer
- Compare two Function Pointers
- Call a Function using a Function Pointer
- Pass a Function Pointer as an Argument
- Return a Function Pointer
- Arrays of Function Pointers



# Function Pointer: Programming Techniques

Function Pointers

Replacing switch/if-statements

• Realizing user-defined late-binding, or

- o Functions in Dynamically Loaded Libraries
- Virtual Functions
- Implementing callbacks.



Replace Switch / IF

Statements

## Function Pointers – Replace Switch/ IF Statements

#### Solution Using switch

#### Solution Using Function Pointer

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;
// The four arithmetic operations
float Plus (float a, float b) { return a+b ; }
float Minus (float a, float b) { return a-b : }
float Multiply(float a, float b) { return a*b; }
float Divide (float a, float b) { return a/b ; }
void Switch(float a, float b, char opCode) {
   float result:
    Switch(opCode) { // execute operation
      case '+': result = Plus(a, b); break;
      case '-': result = Minus(a, b); break;
      case '*': result = Multiply(a, b);break;
      case '/': result = Divide(a, b): break;
    cout << "Result of = "<< result << endl:
int main() { float a = 10.5, b = 2.5;
    Switch(a, b, '+');
    Switch(a, b, '-'):
    Switch(a, b, '*'):
    Switch(a, b, '/'):
```

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;
// The four arithmetic operations
float Plus (float a. float b)
    { return a+b; }
float Minus (float a, float b)
    { return a-b; }
float Multiply(float a, float b)
    { return a*b: }
float Divide (float a, float b)
    { return a/b; }
// Solution with Function pointer
void Switch(float a, float b,
    float (*pt2Func)(float, float)) {
    float result = pt2Func(a, b):
    cout << "Result := " << result << endl:
int main() { float a = 10.5, b = 2.5;
    Switch(a, b, &Plus);
    Switch(a. b. &Minus):
    Switch(a, b, &Multiply):
    Switch(a, b, &Divide):
```



## Function Pointers: Late Binding / Dynamically Loaded Library

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A C Feature in Shared Dynamically Loaded Libraries

#### Program Part-1

#### Program Part-2

```
#include <dlfcn.h> // Shared object connection header
                                                          #include <iostream>
                                                          using namespace std:
int main() {
    // Searching and opening shared object hello.so
                                                          // Callback function
    void* handle = dlopen("hello.so", RTLD LAZY);
                                                          extern "C" void hello() {
                                                             cout << "hello" << endl:
    // Type alias and variable for callback
   typedef void (*hello t)():
   hello t mvHello = 0:
   // Getting the pointer to callback function
   mvHello = (hello_t)dlsvm(handle, "hello");
   // Invoking the callback function
   mvHello():
    // Closing the shared object handle
    dlclose(handle):
```



# Function Pointers: Late Binding / Virtual Function

• A C++ Feature for Polymorphic Member Functions

#### Code Snippet Part-1

```
class A {
    public:
        void f():
        virtual void g():
};
class B: public A {
    public:
        void f():
        virtual void g():
};
```

#### Code Snippet Part-2

```
void main() {
   A a:
   B b;
   A *p = &b;
   a.f(): // A::f()
   a.g(); // A::g()
   p->f(); // A::f()
   p->g(); // B::g()
```



## Example: Callback, Function Pointers

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// Application extern void (\*func)(); void f() { } void main() { func = &f; g(); // Library void (\*func)(): void g() { (\*func)():

• It is a Common C Feature



# Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (Step-1)

```
Callback
```

```
// Application
extern void (*func)();
void f()
void main()
    func = \sqrt{f}
   q();
```

```
// Library
void (*func)();
void q()
    (*func)();
```



# Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (Step-2)

```
Callback
```

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```
// Library
// Application
                               void (*func)();
extern void (*func)();
void f()
                               void q()
                                   (*func)();
void main()
   func = &f:
   q();
```



# Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (Step-3)

```
// Application
                                             // Library
            extern void (*func)();
                                             void (*func)();
            void f()
                                             void q()
Callback
                                                 (*func)();
            void main()
               func = &f:
               q();
```



# Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (Step-4)

```
// Application
                                             // Library
           extern void (*func)();
           void f()
                                             void q()
             Callback
Callback
                                                 (*func)();
           void main()
               func = &f;
               q();
```

```
void (*func)();
```



# Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (Step-Final)

Callback

```
// Application
                              // Library
                               void (*func)();
extern void (*func)();
void f()
                               void q()
                                   (*func)();
void main()
   func = &f:
   q();
```



## Function Pointers: Callback Illustration (whole Process)

```
Callback
```

```
// Library
// Application
                               void (*func)();
extern void (*func)();
void f()
                               void q()
  Callback
                                   (*func)();
void main()
   func = &f:
```



# Function Pointers: Callback: Quick Sort using callback in qsort

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Seneric \(\lambda\)

```
// qsort signature in stdlib.h
void gsort(void *base,
           size t nitems.
           size t size.
           int (*compar)(const void *, const void*));
// Type unsafe compare function for int
int CmpFunc(const void* a, const void* b) {
    int ret = (*(const int*)a > *(const int*)b)? 1:
                  (*(const int*)a == *(const int*) b)? 0: -1:
    return ret:
void main() {
    int field[10]:
    for(int c = 10; c > 0; c - -)
        field[10-c] = c:
    gsort((void*) field, 10, sizeof(field[0]), CmpFunc);
```



### Function Pointers: Issues

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• No value semantics

- Weak type checking
- weak type checking
- Two function pointers having identical signature are necessarily indistinguishable
- No encapsulation for parameters



# First-Class Object

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• A First-Class Object<sup>1</sup> (FCO)<sup>2</sup> (also citizen, type, entity, or value) in a programming language is an entity which supports all the operations generally available to other entities. These operations typically include<sup>3,4</sup>

- All items can be the actual parameters of functions
- All items can be returned as results of functions
- All items can be the subject of assignment statements (copied)
- All items can be tested for equality

#### Source:

- First-class citizen, Wikipedia
- About first-,second- and third-class value, StackOverflow

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Object does not mean object in the object-oriented programming sense - it is just a thing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>In '60s, Christopher Strachey used FCO & SCO to contrast real numbers and procedures in ALGOL <sup>3</sup>Defined by Robin Popplestone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>In '90s, Raphael Finkel defined of SCO & TCO, but these definitions have not been widely adopted



## First-Class Objects: Examples

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#### First-Class Objects

- o Scalar data types, like integer and floating-point numbers, are usually FCO
- Line Numbers are FCO in Fortran
- Objects of UDTs or classes are FCO in C++ and Java
- vectors and strings (in STL) are FCO in C++. So are several data structures (containers) like list, deque, stack, queue, and map
- ∘ *Iterator* (STL) are FCO in C++
- Classes in Smalltalk, Objective-C, Ruby, Python, etc. are FCO, are instances of metaclasses
- Functions (Closures / Anonymous Functions) are FCO in Smalltalk, Scheme, ML, Haskell, Python, Javascript, etc.
- λ Functions (Closures) are FCO in C++11 and Java
- Functors are FCO in C++. For example algorithms in algorithm (STL)
- Smart Pointers in C++ / C++11 (STL)

#### Source:

- First-class citizen, Wikipedia
- First-class function, Wikipedia
- What does it mean for a function to be a first class object?, Quora



# Not First-Class Objects: Examples

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#### Not First-Class Objects

- C-Strings are not FCO in C / C++
- Arrays are not FCO in Fortran IV and C. They cannot be assigned as objects.
   When they are passed as parameters, only the position of their first element is actually passed, their size is lost
- Labels are not FCO in C / C++
- Pointers, including Function Pointers, are not FCO in C / C++
- Classes are not FCO in C++
- Functions<sup>5</sup> are not FCO in C / C++

#### Source

- First-class citizen, Wikipedia
- First-class function, Wikipedia
- What does it mean for a function to be a first class object?, Quora

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Funarg problem deals with issues surrounding functions as first class objects



## Functors or Function Objects

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Curry Functio $\,$ Generic $\,\lambda\,$ 

- Smart Functions
  - o Functors are functions with a state
  - Functors encapsulate C / C++ function pointers

    - ▷ Engages polymorphism
- Has its own Type
  - A class with zero or more private members to store the state and an overloaded operator() to execute the function
- Usually faster than ordinary Functions
- Can be used to implement callbacks
- Provides the basis for Command Design Pattern
- Functor is a first-class object



### Basic Functor

Basic Functor

• Any class that overloads the function call operator:

```
o void operator()();
 int operator()(int, int);
```

o double operator()(int, double);

0



## Functors: Elementary Example

int AdderFunction(int a, int b) {

Consider the code below

Elementary Example

return a + b; class AdderFunctor { public: int operator()(int a, int b) { return a + b; }; void main() { int x = 5: int v = 7: int z = AdderFunction(x, v): AdderFunctor aF;

int w = aF(x, y); // aF.operator()(x, y)



### Functors in STL

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• Function objects are objects specifically designed to be used with a syntax similar to that of functions. In C++, this is achieved by defining member function operator() in their class, like for example:

```
struct myclass {
    int operator()(int a) { return a; }
} myobject;
int x = myobject (0);  // function-like syntax with object myobject
They are typically used as arguments to functions, such as predicates or comparison functions passed to standard algorithms. Several such algorithms are available in STL component:
```

#include <functional>

**Source**: <functional>, cplusplus.com



## Functors in STL: Examples 1

Fill a vector with random numbers

Include headers

```
#include <vector>
#include <algorithm> // generate
```

Function Pointer rand as Function Object

```
vector<int> V(100);
generate(V.begin(), V.end(), rand);
```



## Functors in STL: Example 2

Functors in STI

• Sort a vector of double by magnitude

Include headers

```
#include <vector>
#include <algorithm> // sort
#include <functional> // binary_function
```

User-defined Functor less\_mag

```
struct less_mag: public
binary_function<double, double, bool> {
    bool operator()(double x. double y)
        { return fabs(x) < fabs(y); }
vector<double> V: //...
sort(V.begin(), V.end(), less_mag());
```



## Functors in STL: Example 3

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• Find the sum of elements in a vector

o Include headers

```
#include <vector>
#include <algorithm> // for_each
#include <functional> // unary_function
```

o User-defined Functor adder with local state

```
struct adder: public
unary_function<double, void> {
    adder() : sum(0)
    double sum;
    void operator()(double x) { sum += x; }
};

vector<double> V;
...
adder result = for_each(V.begin(), V.end(), adder());
cout << "The sum is " << result.sum << endl;</pre>
```



# $\lambda$ in C++11, C++14, C++17, C++20

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Generic 🤇

### $\lambda$ in C++11, C++14, C++17, C++20

#### Source:

- Scott Meyers on C++
- Lambda capture, cppreference.com
- Lambdas: From C++11 to C++20, Part 1
- Lambdas: From C++11 to C++20, Part 2



# $\lambda$ in C++: Closure Object

rem(23): // 2

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- Consider the  $\lambda$ -expression: define  $rem \equiv \mathcal{E} \vdash n$ : Int,  $\lambda(m:Int)$ . m % n:Int, where
  - $\circ \lambda$  variable m (type Int) is the parameter and is bound in rem
  - $\circ$  *n* (type *Int*) is *free* in rem and set from the *environment* (context)  $\mathcal{E}$
  - $\circ$  rem computes m % n, that is, m modulo n. It has type Int (return type)
- To write rem in the *Imperative & OO paradigm of C++*, we define a function / functor:

```
int rem(int m) // Function { return m % n; } int mod; // State rem(int n) : mod(n) { } // Ctor (n from context) int operator()(int m) // Function call operator { return m % mod; } // body };

λ Environment: E ⊢ n ⇒ Imperative Context: int n; n = 7;

struct remainder rem(n);

rem(23): // 2 rem(23): // 2
```

λ: auto rem = [n] (int m) -> int { return m % n; } // Captures n from context

• Note that [n] Captures n from context to close rem and create the Closure Object in C++



# $C++\lambda$ 's

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ullet C++11 introduced  $\lambda$ 's as syntactically lightweight way to define functions on-the-fly

•  $\lambda$ 's can *capture* (or close over) variables from the surrounding scope – by *value* or by *reference* 

• First consider callable things that do not capture any variables. C++ offers three alternatives:

```
o plain functions (All versions of C & C++)
o functor classes (C++03 onwards), and
○ lambdas (C++11 onwards)
#include <iostream> // cout
using namespace std:
int function (int a) { return a + 3; }
class Functor { public: int operator()(int a) { return a + 3; } };
auto lambda = [] (int a) { return a + 3; };
int main() { Functor functor;
   cout << function(5) << ' ' << functor(5) << ' ' << lambda(5) << endl:
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```

• For plain functions that capture no variables, lambdas and functors behave the same



### $C++ \lambda$ Syntax and Semantics

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• A  $\lambda$  expression consists of the following:

```
[capture list] (parameter list) -> return-type { function body }
```

• The capture list and parameter list can be empty, so the following is a valid  $\lambda$ :

```
[]() { cout << "Hello, world!" << endl; }
```

- Parameter list is a sequence of parameter types and variable names as for an ordinary function
- Function body is like an ordinary function body
- If the *function body* has only one return statement (which is very common), the *return type* is assumed to be the same as the type of the value being returned
- If there is no return statement in the function body, the return type is assumed to be void
  - $\circ$  Below  $\lambda$  has return type void can be called without any use of the return value:

```
[]() { cout << "Hello from trivial lambda!" << endl; } ();
```

• However, trying to use the return type of the call is an error:

```
cout << []() { cout << "Hello from trivial lambda!" << endl; } () << endl;</pre>
```



#### $C++\lambda$ Syntax and Semantics

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• Below  $\lambda$  returns a bool value which is true if the first param is half of the second. The compiler knows the return type as bool from the return statement:

```
if ([](int i, int j) { return 2 * i == j; } (12, 24))
    cout << "It's true!";
else
    cout << "It's false!";</pre>
```

• To specify return type:

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```
cout << "This lambda returns " << [](int x, int y) -> int
{
    if(x > 5) return x + y;
    else
        if (y < 2) return x - y; else return x * y;
} (4, 3) << endl;</pre>
```

• Below  $\lambda$ , returns an int, though the return statement provides a double:

```
cout << "This lambda returns " <<
   [](double x, double y) -> int { return x + y; } (3.14, 2.7) << endl;</pre>
```

The output is "This lambda returns 5"



#### $C++\lambda$ Syntax and Semantics

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• Below  $\lambda$  captures n by value to compute the value of remainder of m:

```
int n = 7;
```

```
auto rem = [n](int m) -> int { return m % n; };
```

- on is captured by [n] (value a copy is made from the context) at the time of constructing the closure object. Hence n must be initialized before the construction of the closure
- The value of n cannot be changed within the  $\lambda$  (for immutable  $\lambda$ 's)
- $\circ$  The changes to n after the construction of the closure object are not reflected
- Below  $\lambda$  captures s by reference to accumulate the value of m:

```
int s = 0;
```

```
auto acc = [&s](int m){ s += m; };
```

- o s is captured by [&s] (reference a reference is set to the context) at the time of constructing the closure object. Hence it is *optional to initialize* s *before the construction* of the closure. However, it must be initialized before the use of the closure
- $\circ$  The value of s can be changed within the  $\lambda$
- o The changes to s after the construction of the closure object will be reflected



#### Lambdas vs. Closures

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Closure

#### A closure (lexical / function closure), is a technique for implementing lexically scoped name binding in a language with first-class functions

- o Operationally, a closure is a *record storing a function* together with an *environment*
- The environment is a mapping associating (binding) each free variable of the function with the value or reference to which the name was bound when the closure was created
- Unlike a plain function, a closure allows the function to access captured variables through the closure's copies of their values or references, even in its invocations outside their scope
- Lambdas vs. Closures (From Lambdas vs. Closures by Scott Meyers, 2013)
  - A λ expression auto f = [&] (int x, int y) { return fudgeFactor \* (x + y); };
     exists only in a program's source code. A lambda does not exist at runtime
  - $\circ$  The runtime effect of a  $\lambda$  expression is the generation of an object, called *closure*
  - Note that f is not the closure, it is a copy of the closure. The actual closure object is a temporary that's typically destroyed at the end of the statement
  - Each  $\lambda$  expression causes a unique class to be generated (during compilation) and also causes an object of that class type a closure to be created (at runtime)
  - o Hence, closures are to lambdas as objects are to classes



### Closure Objects: Implementing $\lambda$ 's

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- A λ-expression generates a Closure Object at *run-time*
- A closure object is *temporary*
- A closure object is *unnamed*
- For a  $\lambda$ -expression, the compiler creates a *functor class* with:
  - o data members:
    - ▷ a value member each for each value capture
    - > a reference member each for each reference capture
  - o a constructor with the captured variables as parameters
    - ▷ a value parameter each for each value capture
    - > a reference parameter each for each reference capture
  - a public inline const function call operator() with the parameters of the lambda as parameters, generated from the body of the lambda
  - o copy constructor, copy assignment operator, and destructor
- A closure object is constructed as an instance of this class and behaves like a function object
- ullet A  $\lambda$ -expression without any capture behaves like a function pointer

Source: C++ Lambda Under the Hood, 2019



### Closure Objects: Implementing $\lambda$ 's: Example

#### Closure Object

```
#include <iostream> // lambda & closure object
                                                    #include <iostream> // Possible functor by compiler
                                                    using namespace std:
using namespace std:
int main() {
                                                    int main() {
    int val = 0; // for value capture init. must
                                                       int val = 0; // for value capture init. must
    int ref:
                // for ref. capture init. opt.
                                                        int ref:
                                                                   // for ref. capture init. opt.
    auto check = [val, &ref](int param){
                                                        struct check_f { // functor to show captured values
        cout << "val = " << val << ", ";
                                                            int val_f: // value member for value capture
        cout << "ref = " << ref << ". ":
                                                            int& ref_f: // ref. member for ref. capture
        cout << "param = " << param << endl:</pre>
                                                            check f(int v. int& r): // Ctor with
    };
                                                                val_f(v), ref_f(r) { } // value & ref params
                                                            void operator()(int param) const { // param
    // lambda to show captured values
    // constructed with value capture of val
                                                                cout << "val = " << val f << ", ";
    // and reference capture of ref
                                                                cout << "ref = " << ref f << ". ":
    // Also, has a parameter param
                                                                cout << "param = " << param << endl:</pre>
                                                        }:
                                                        auto check = check_f(val, ref): // Instantiation
   ref = 2: // init. will be reflected
                                                       ref = 2: // init. will be reflected
    check(5); // val = 0, ref = 2, param = 5
                                                        check(5); // val = 0, ref = 2, param = 5
    val = 3: // change will not be reflected
                                                       val = 3: // change will not be reflected
    check(5): // val = 0, ref = 2, param = 5
                                                        check(5): // val = 0, ref = 2, param = 5
   ref = 4: // change will be reflected
                                                       ref = 4: // change will be reflected
    check(5): // val = 0, ref = 4, param = 5
                                                        check(5): // val = 0, ref = 4, param = 5
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```

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#### Closure Objects: FCOs

Closure Object

```
struct trace { int i;
        trace(): i(0) { std::cout << "construct\n": }
        trace(trace const &) { std::cout << "copy construct\n"; }</pre>
        "trace() { std::cout << "destroy\n"; }
        trace& operator=(trace&) { std::cout << "assign\n"; return *this; }</pre>
    };
                     Code Snippets
                                                             Outputs
  { trace t; // t not used so not captured
                                                         construct
     int i = 8;
                                                         destrov
      auto m1 = \lceil = \rceil() { return i / 2: }:
  { trace t: // capture t by value
                                                         construct
      auto m1 = [=]() \{ int i = t.i; \};
                                                                             Closure object has
                                                         copy construct
      std::cout << "-- make copy --" << std::endl:
                                                         - make copy -
                                                                             implicitly-declared
      auto m2 = m1:
                                                         copy construct
                                                         destrov
                                                                             copy constructor /
                                                         destrov
                                                                             destructor
                                                         destrov
  { trace t; // capture t by reference
                                                         construct
      auto m1 = [\&]() \{ int i = t.i: \}:
                                                         -- make copy --
      std::cout << "-- make copy --" << std::endl:
                                                         destrov
      auto m2 = m1:
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```



#### Closure Objects: Anatomy

```
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```

Closure Object

```
    Capture Clause (introducer)
    Parameter List (Opt.) (declarator)
    Mutable Specs. (Opt.)
    Exception Specs. (Opt.)
    (Trailing) Return Type (Opt.)
    λ body
```

```
\lambda Expression:: \mathcal{E} \vdash my\_mod : Int, \lambda(v : Int). v \% my\_mod : Int Closure Object:: [my\_mod] (int v) \rightarrow int \{ return v \% my\_mod ; \}
```

- Introducer: [my\_mod]
- Capture: my\_mod
- Parameters: (int v)
- Declarator: (int v) -> int
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```
• Mutable Spec: Skipped
```

- Exception Spec: Skipped
- Return Type: -> int

```
• λ Body: { return v % my_mod; }
```



#### Closure Objects: Parameters

Parameters

```
Parameter Passing
                                                         Remarks
```

```
[](){ std::cout << "foo" << std::endl: }():</pre>
                                                                   foo
[](int v) \{ std::cout << v << "*6=" << v*6 << std::endl:\}(7):
                                                                   7*6=42
int i = 7:
[] (int & v) { v *= 6: } (i):
std::cout << "the correct value is: " << i << std::endl:
                                                                   the correct value is: 42
int i = 7:
[] (int const & v) { v *= 6; } (j):
                                                                   // error:
std::cout << "the correct value is: " << j << std::endl;
                                                                   // assignment of read-only reference 'v'
int i = 7:
[](int v) \{ v *= 6: std::cout << "v: " << v << std::endl:\{(i):}
                                                                   v: 42
int i = 7:
                                                                   // lambda parameters do not affect
[] (int & v, int j) { v *= j; } (j, 6);
                                                                   // the namespace
std::cout << "j: " << j << std::endl;
                                                                   i: 42
                                                                   // lambda expression without a
[] std::cout << "foo" << std::endl: (): is same as
[]() std::cout << "foo" << std::endl: ():
                                                                   // declarator acts as if it were ()
```



### Closure Objects: Capture

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- The captures is a comma-separated list of zero or more captures, optionally with default
- ullet The capture list defines the outside variables that are accessible from the  $\lambda$  function body
- The only capture defaults are
  - o [&] (implicitly capture the used automatic variables by reference) and
  - [=] (implicitly capture the used automatic variables by copy / value)
- The current object (\*this) can be implicitly captured if either capture default is present
- If implicitly captured, it is always captured by reference, even for [=]. Deprecated since C++20

Capture	Meaning	C++
identifier	simple by-copy capture	C++11
identifier	simple by-copy capture that is a pack expansion	C++11
identifier init	by-copy capture with an initializer	C++14
& identifier	simple by-reference capture	C++11
& identifier	simple by-reference capture that is a pack expansion	C++11
& identifier init	by-reference capture with an initializer	C++14
this	simple by-reference capture of the current object	C++11
*this	simple by-copy capture of the current object	C++17
identifier init	by-copy capture with an initializer that is a pack expansion	C++20
& identifier init	by-reference capture with an initializer that is a pack expansion	C++20

Source: Lambda capture, cppreference.com



### Closure Objects: Capture

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• Optional captures of  $\lambda$  expressions are (C++11):

```
• Default all by reference
```

```
[&](){ ...}
```

Default all by value

```
[=](){ ... }
```

List of specific identifier(s) by value or reference and/or this

```
[identifier](){ ... }
[&identifier](){ ... }
[foo,&bar,gorp](){ ... }
```

o Default and specific identifiers and/or this

```
[&,identifier](){ ... }
[=.&identifier](){ ... }
```

Source: Lambda capture, cppreference.com



# Closure Objects: Capture: Examples

```
int x = 2, y = 3; // Global Context
const auto 10 = []() { return 1; };
                                            // No capture
typedef int (*11) (int);
                                             // Function pointer
const l1 f = [](int i){ return i; };
                                            // Converts to a func. ptr. w/o capture
const auto 12 = [=]() { return x; };
                                            // All by value (copy)
const auto 13 = [&]() { return y; };
                                            // All by ref
const auto 14 = [x]() { return x; };  // Only x by value (copy)
const auto lx = [=x]() \{ return x; \};
                                            // wrong syntax, no need for
                                            // = to copy x explicitly
const auto 15 = [\&y]() { return y; }; // Only y by ref
const auto 16 = [x, &y]() return x * y; }; // x by value and y by ref
const auto 17 = [=, \&x]() \{ \text{ return } x + y; \}; // \text{ All by value except } x
                                             // which is by ref
const auto 18 = [\&, v]() { return x - v; }; // All by ref except v which
                                             // is by value
const auto 19 = [this]() { }
                                             // capture this pointer
const auto la = [*this](){ }
                                             // capture a copy of *this
                                             // since C++17
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```



# [&]()->rt{...}: Capture

[=](int i) { total\_elements \*= i; } );

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```
error C3491: 'total_elements': a by-value capture cannot be modified
in a non-mutable lambda

[](int i) { total_elements *= i; } );

error C3493: 'total_elements' cannot be implicitly captured because
no default capture mode has been specified
```



# [&]()->rt{...}: Capture: Scope & Lifetime

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#### Wrong Capture by Reference

Closures may outlive their creating function

- What are the values of a, b, c in the call?
  - o returnClosure no longer active!
- Non-static locals referenceable only if captured

#### **Correct Capture by Reference**

• This version has no such problem

- a, b, c outlive returnClosure's invocation
- Variables of static storage duration always referenceable

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# [&]()->rt{...}: Capture

Capture

```
// #include <iostream>, <algorithm>, <vector>
template < typename T >
void fill(std::vector<int>& v, T done) { int i = 0; while (!done()) { v.push_back(i++); } }
int main() {
    std::vector<int> stuff; // Fill the vector with 0, 1, 2, ... 7
    fill(stuff, [&] { return stuff.size() >= 8; }); // [=] compiles but is infinite loop
    for(auto it = stuff.begin(); it != stuff.end(); ++it) std::cout << *it << ' ';</pre>
    std::cout << std::endl:
    std::vector<int> mvvec; // Fill the vector with 0, 1, 2, ... till the sum exceeds 10
    fill(myvec, [&] { int sum = 0; // [=] compiles but is infinite loop
        std::for_each(myvec.begin(), myvec.end(), [&](int i){ sum += i; });
                                   // [=] is error: assignment of read-only variable 'sum'
        return sum >= 10:
    for(auto it = myvec.begin(); it != myvec.end(); ++it) std::cout << *it << ' ';</pre>
    std::cout << std::endl:
   2 3 4 5 6 7
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```



# [=]()->rt{...}: Capture

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• Capture default all by value

```
std::vector<int> in. out(10):
for (int i = 0; i < 10; ++i)
    in.push_back(i);
int my_mod = 3;
std::transform(in.begin(), in.end(), out.begin(),
               [=](int v) { return v % my_mod; });
for (auto it = out.begin(); it != out.end(); ++it)
    std::cout << *it << ' ':
std::cout << std::endl:
```

0 1 2 0 1 2 0 1 2 0



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```
    Consider
```

```
int h = 10;
auto two_h = [=] () { h *= 2; return h; };
std::cout << "2h:" << two_h() << " h:" << h << std::endl;
error C3491: 'h': a by-value capture cannot be modified in a non-mutable lambda</pre>
```

- ullet  $\lambda$  closure objects have a *public inline function call operator* that:
  - Matches the parameters of the lambda expression
  - Matches the return type of the lambda expression
  - Is declared const
- Make mutable

```
int h = 10;
auto two_h = [=] () mutable { h *= 2; return h; };
std::cout << "2h:" << two_h() << " h:" << h << std::endl;</pre>
```

2h:20 h:10



```
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```
int h = 10;
auto f = [=] () mutable { h *= 2; return h; }; // h changes locally
std::cout << "2h:" << f() << std::endl;
std::cout << " h:" << h << std::endl;</pre>
2h:20
h:10
```

```
int h = 10;
auto g = [&] () { h *= 2; return h; }; // h changes globally
std::cout << "2h:" << g() << std::endl;
std::cout << " h:" << h << std::endl;</pre>
```

2h:20 h:20



auto f = [i, &i, &k]() mutable

int i = 1, j = 2, k = 3; // Global i, j, k

auto m = [&i, j, &k]() mutable

Capture

```
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```

**}**; f();

**}**; m();

```
i = 4: // Local i of f
        i = 5; // Local i of m
       k = 6: // Global k
   std::cout << i << j << k; // Local i of f, Global j, Global k
std::cout << " : " << i << j << k; // Global i, j, k
```



Capture

• Will this compile? If so, what is the result?

```
struct foo {
    foo() : i(0) { }
    void amazing(){ [=]{ i = 8; }(); } // i is captured by value
    int i:
foo f;
f.amazing();
std::cout << "f.i : " << f.i:
```

Output: f.i : 8

- this implicitly captured
- i actually is this->i which can be written from a member function as a data member. So no mutable is required

// Can it be changed without mutable?



# [=,&identifer]()->rt{...}: Capture

```
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```

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```
class A { std::vector<int> values; int m_;
public: A(int mod) : m_(mod) { }
    A& put(int v) { values.push_back(v); return *this; }
    int extras() { int count = 0;
        std::for_each(values.begin(), values.end(),
            [=, &count](int v){ count += v % m_; });
        return count:
A g(4):
g.put(3).put(7).put(8);
std::cout << "extras: " << g.extras();</pre>
extras: 6
```

- Capture default by value
- Capture count by reference, accumulate, return
- How do we get m\_?
- Implicit capture of 'this' by value



### Closure Objects: Capture

```
Capture
                                                                                                 Remarks
               int i = 8: // Global context for all lambda's
                { int j = 2; auto f = [=]{ std::cout << i / j; };
                   f();
               auto f = [=]() \{ int j = 2; auto m = [=] \{ std::cout << i / i: \}: \}
                   m(): }:
               f();
                                                                                       4
               auto f = [i]() \{ int j = 2; auto m = [=] \{ std::cout << i / j: \}: \}
                   m(); };
               f():
                                                                                       4
               auto f = (1)  int i = 2; auto m = [=] std::cout << i / i; i : 1;
                                                                                       // Error C3493: 'i' cannot be implicitly
                    m(): }:
                                                                                       // captured because no default capture
               f();
                                                                                       // mode has been specified
               auto f = [=]() \{ int j = 2; auto m = [&] \{ i /= j; \}; m(); \}
                                                                                       // Error C3491: 'i': a by-value capture
                    std::cout << "inner: " << i: }:
                                                                                       // cannot be modified in a non-mutable
               f(): std::cout << " outer: " << i:
                                                                                       // lambda
Capture
               auto f = [i]() mutable { int j = 2;
                    auto m = [\&i, j]() mutable \{ i \neq j; \}; m();
                    std::cout << "inner: " << i; };
                                                                                       inner: 4
               f(): std::cout << " outer: " << i:
                                                                                       outer: 8
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```



# [=,&identifer]()->rt{...}: Capture

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Capture restrictions

```
    Identifiers must only be listed once
```

```
[i,j,&z](){...} // Okay
[&a,b](){...} // Okay
[z,&i,z](){...} // Bad, z listed twice
```

o Default by value, explicit identifiers by reference

o Default by reference, explicit identifiers by value

```
[&,j,z](){...} // Okay
[&,this](){...} // Okay
[&,i,&z](){...} // Bad, z by reference
```

#### • Scope of Capture

 Captured entity must be defined or captured in the immediate enclosing lambda expression or function



# function<R(Args...)>

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λ in C++ Closure Object Parameters Capture Examples Curry Function • Polymorphic wrapper for function objects applies to anything that can be called:

- Function pointers
- Functors (including closure objects)
- Member function pointers
- Function declarator syntax

Summary

Туре	Old School Define	std::function
Free	<pre>int(*callback)(int,int)</pre>	<pre>function&lt; int(int,int) &gt;</pre>
Functor	object_t callback	<pre>function&lt; int(int,int) &gt;</pre>
Member	<pre>int (object_t::*callback)(int,int)</pre>	<pre>function&lt; int(int,int) &gt;</pre>



# function<R(Args...)>

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Function pointers

```
int my_free_function(std::string s) { return s.size(); }
std::function< int(std::string) > f = my_free_function;
int size = f("ppd");
```

Functors

```
struct my_functor { std::string s_; my_functor(std::string const & s) : s_(s) { }
  int operator()() const { return s_.size(); }
};
my_functor mine("ppd");
std::function< int() > f = std::ref(mine);
int size = f();
```

Closure Objects

```
std::function< int(std::string const &) > f = [](std::string const & s){ return s.size(); };
int size = f("ppd");
```

• Member function pointers

```
struct my_struct { std::string s_; my_struct(std::string const & s) : s_(s) { }
   int size() const { return s_.size(); }
};
my_struct mine("ppd");
std::function< int() > f = std::bind(&my_struct::size, std::ref(mine));
int size = f();
```



# Example

Examples

#include <iostream> #include <functional> int main() { std::function<int(int)> f1: std::function<int(int)> f2 = [&](int i) { std::cout << i << " ": if (i > 5) { return f1(i - 2); } else { return 0; } **}**;  $f1 = [\&](int i) \{ std::cout << i << " ": return f2(++i); \};$ f1(10): return 0: 10 11 9 10 8 9 7 8 6 7 5 6 4 5



# Example: Factorial

```
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```

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```
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#include <functional>
int main() {
    std::function<int(int)> fact:
    fact =
         [&fact](int n) -> int
         \{ \text{ return } (n == 0) ? 1 : (n * fact(n - 1)); \}; 
    std::cout << "factorial(4) : " << fact(4) << std::endl:
    return 0:
```



# Example: Fibonacci

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```
#include <iostream>
#include <functional>
using namespace std:
int main() {
    std::function<int(int)> fibo:
   fibo =
        [&fibo](int n)->int
         { return (n == 0) ? 0 :
                  (n == 1) ? 1 :
                  (fibo(n - 1) + fibo(n - 2)); };
    cout << "fibo(8) : " << fibo(8) << endl:</pre>
    return 0;
```



#### Example: Pipeline

#include <iostream>

```
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```

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```
#include <algorithm>
#include <vector>
#include <functional>
struct machine {
    template < typename T >
    void add(T f) { to_do.push_back(f); }
    int run(int v) {
        std::for_each(to_do.begin(), to_do.end(),
            [\&v] (std::function<int(int)> f) { v = f(v); });
        return v:
    std::vector< std::function<int(int)> > to do:
};
int foo(int i) { return i + 4; }
int main() { machine m;
   m.add([](int i){ return i * 3; });
   m.add(foo):
   m.add([](int i){ return i / 5; });
    std::cout << "run(7) : " << m.run(7) << std::endl;
   return 1:
run(7):5
```



# Currying with C++ $\lambda$

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```
#include <iostream> // std::cout
#include <functional>

int main() {
    auto add = [](int x, int y) { return x + y; };
    auto add5 = [=](int y) { return add(5, y); }; // Curry

    std::cout << "W/o curry:\n" << add(5, 3);
    std::cout << "W/ curry:\n" << add5(3);
}

Output:
W/o curry:8
W/o curry:8</pre>
```

- On the 'Curry' line, we can capture also by [&], [&add], or [add]. However, it does not work without default or explicit capture as the symbol add is used in the body. So [] fails
- This is a hard-coded solution. There is built-in solution. Generic operator for Curry can be built separately using variadic templates, variadic functions and lambda functions. This is outside of our current scope.

Source: C++11: lambda, currying, StackOverflow



#### Generic $\lambda$ in C++14

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#### Generic $\lambda$ in C++14

#### Source:

- Generic lambdas, ISO
- Lambda expressions (since C++11), cppreference.com
- Scott Meyers on C++
- Lambda expressions in C++, Microsoft
- Generalized Lambda Expressions in C++14
- Generic code with generic lambda expression Principles of Programming Languages

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#### Generic / Generalized $\lambda$ in C++

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Generic \(\lambda\)

C++11 introduced λ expressions as short inline anonymous functions that can be nested inside
other functions and function calls

- ullet C++ 14 buffed up  $\lambda$  expressions by introducing Generic or Generalized  $\lambda$
- Following  $\lambda$  function returns the sum of two integers

```
[](int a, int b) -> int { return a + b; } // Return type is optional
```

ullet Whereas we need a different  $\lambda$  to obtain the sum of two floating point values:

```
[](double a, double b) -> double { return a + b; } // Return type is optional
```

ullet In C++11 we could unify these two  $\lambda$  functions using template parameters:

```
template<typename T>
[](T a, T b) -> T { return a + b } // Return type is optional - compiler may infer
```

• C++ 14 circumvent this by the keyword auto in the input parameters of the  $\lambda$  expression. Thus the compilers can now deduce the type of parameters during compile time:

```
[](auto a, auto b) { return a + b; } // Compiler must infer return type
```



#### Generic / Generalized $\lambda$ in C++

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Curry Function

Generic  $\lambda$ 

```
#include <iostream>, #include <string>, using namespace std;
// C++11 lambda's - separate lambda for every type. Return type is optional
                                                 // Compiler may infer return type
auto add_i = [](int a, int b) { return a + b; };
auto add_d = [](double a, double b) { return a + b; }; // Compiler may infer return type
auto add_s = [](string a, string b) { return a + b; }; // Compiler may infer return type
// C++11 templatized lambda - one lambda for multiple types. Return type is optional
template<typename T> auto add_t = [](T a, T b) { return a + b; }; // Compiler may infer return type
// C++14 generic lambda. Return type cannot be specified
auto add = [](auto a, auto b) { return a + b; };
                                                                // Compiler must infer return type
int main () {
   // Different name of each lambda for each type: No inference
    cout << add_i(3, 5);  // add_i for int type</pre>
    cout << add_d(2.6, 1.3);  // add_d for double type</pre>
    cout << add s("Good ". "Day"); // add s for string type converts from const char*
   // Same name of the lambda for all types, type must be specified: No inference
    cout << add_t<int>(3, 5);  // add_t<int> for int type
    cout << add t<double>(2.6, 1.3): // add t<double> for double type
    cout << add_t<string>("Good ", "Day"); // add_t<string> for string type converts from const char*
   // Same name of the lambda for all types and no type need to be specified: It is inferred
    cout << add(3, 5):
                                               // add for int type
    cout << add(2.6, 1.3):
                                              // add for double type
    cout << add(string("Good "), string("Day")); // add for string type - cannot convert from const char*
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```



#### Return Type of Generic $\lambda$ in C++

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• The return type may be inferred by the compiler from the return expression:

• The return type may be specified from the parameters:

• The return type may be explicitly specified:

```
auto add = [](auto a, auto b) -> int { return a + b; };
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```



#### Use of Generic $\lambda$ in C++

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```
// Sorting integers, floats, strings using a generalized lambda and sort function
// #include <iostream>, #include <string>, #include <vector>, #include <algorithm>, using namespace std:
// Utility Function to print the elements of a collection
void printElements(auto& C) {
   for (auto e : C) cout << e << " ":
   cout << endl:
int main() {
   // Declare a generalized lambda and store it in greater. Works for int, double, string, ...
    auto greater = [](auto a. auto b) -> bool { return a > b: }:
    vector<int> vi = { 1, 4, 2, 1, 6, 62, 636 };
                                                // Initialize a vector of integers
    vector double vd = { 4.62, 161.3, 62.26, 13.4, 235.5 }: // Initialize a vector of doubles
    vector<string> vs = { "Tom", "Harry", "Ram", "Shyam" }; // Initialize a vector of strings
    sort(vi.begin(), vi.end(), greater): // Sort integers
    sort(vd.begin(), vd.end(), greater); // Sort doubles
    sort(vs.begin(), vs.end(), greater); // Sort strings
    printElements(vi): // 636 62 6 4 2 1 1
    printElements(vd): // 235.5 161.3 62.26 13.4 4.62
   printElements(vs): // Tom Shvam Ram Harry
```



#### Generic Recursive $\lambda$

Generic  $\lambda$ 

• A  $\lambda$  does not have a named specific type. So a recursive  $\lambda$  expression needs std::function wrapper • The generic  $\lambda$  expression allows recursive  $\lambda$  functions without using std::function #include <iostream> // C++11 solution using std::function. Works for int base

```
#include <functional>
int main() {
    std::function<int(int.int)> pow: // pow recursive function. std::function used to define type of pow
    pow = [&pow](int base, int exp) { return exp==0 ? 1 : base*pow(base, exp-1): }:
    std::cout << pow(2, 10): // 2^10 = 1024
    std::cout << pow(2.71828, 10); // e<sup>10</sup> = 1024 // 2.71828 is cast to int giving 2 and wrong result
#include <iostream> // C++14 solution without using std::function. Works for any numeric base
int main() {
    auto power = [](auto self, auto base, int exp) -> decltype(base) { // any numeric 'base' type
       return exp==0 ? 1 : base*self(self, base, exp-1);
   // Wrapper of power to avoid passing power as first parameter to the call
    auto pow = [power](auto base, int exp) -> decltype(base) { return power(power, base, exp): }:
    std::cout << power(power, 2, 10); // 2^10 = 1024 // Needs to pass itself as first parameter
    std::cout << power(power, 2.71828, 10): // e^10 = 22026.3
    std::cout << pow(2, 10): // 2^10 = 1024 // Wrapper provides a clean solution
    std::cout << pow(2.71828, 10): // e^10 = 22026.3
```



#### Generic Recursive $\lambda$ : Factorial

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```
#include <iostream> // Factorial lambda in C++11 solution using std::function
#include <functional>
int main () {
    std::function < int (int) > fact:
    fact = [\&fact](int n) \rightarrow int
        { return (n == 0) ? 1 : (n * fact(n - 1));
    std::cout << "factorial(4) : " << fact(4) << std::endl:
#include <iostream> // Factorial lambda in C++14 without using std::function
int main () {
    auto factorial = [](auto self. int n) \rightarrow int
         return (n == 0) ? 1 : (n * self(self, n - 1)):
    auto fact = [factorial](int n) -> int // Wrapper of factorial to skip passing factorial
          return factorial(factorial, n);
    std::cout << "factorial(4) : " << fact(4) << std::endl:
```



#### Generic Recursive $\lambda$ : Fibonacci

```
#include <iostream> // Fibonacci lambda in C++11 solution using std::function
              #include <iostream>
              #include <functional>
              int main () {
                  std::function < int (int) > fibo:
                  fibo = [&fibo](int n) \rightarrow int {
                      return (n == 0) ? 0 : (n == 1) ? 1 : (fibo(n - 1) + fibo(n - 2)) :
                  std::cout << "fibo(8) : " << fibo(8) << std::endl:
              #include <iostream> // Fibonacci lambda in C++14 without using std::function
              int main () {
                  auto fibonacci = [](auto self, int n) -> int {
                       return (n == 0) ? 0 : (n == 1) ? 1 : (self(self, n - 1) + self(self, n - 2)):
                  };
                  auto fibo = [fibonacci](int n) -> int { // Wrapper of fibonacci to skip passing fibonacci
                       return fibonacci(fibonacci, n):
Generic \lambda
                  std::cout << "fibo(8) : " << fibo(8) << std::endl:
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```



#### Capture-less Generic $\lambda$ to Function Pointers

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A non-generic λ with an empty capture-list can be converted to a function pointer typedef int (\*fp) (int); // Function pointer const fp f = [](int i){ return i; }; // Converts to a func. ptr. w/o capture

- ullet A capture-less generic  $\lambda$  behaves in the same way
- Further, it can be converted to more than one compatible function pointers
  #include <iostream>

```
void f(void(*fp)(int)) { fp(1); /*...*/ }
void g(void(*fp)(double)) { fp(2.2); /*...*/ }

int main () {
    auto op = [](auto x) { // generic code for x
        std::cout << "x = " << x << std::endl;
    };

    // use 'op' as a generic callback function pointer
    f(op); // x = 1
    g(op); // x = 2.2
}</pre>
```