

Move semantics

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1. C++ provides constructor, copy constructor, = by default if user hasn't supplied

This copy constructor, = does shallow copy .. Even if user-defined to execute deep-copy, copying is expensive

2. C++ provides default move constructor, move = if class doesn't have defined copy/move methods

default move constructor/move = does same thing as copy const/=??

If u want move constructor/move = that does the move write it urself??

3. Return from function

Return from function is executed as a copy.

- Return obj is copy constructed into a temporary object.
- temporary object is assigned to caller var by copy assignment

Return from function is executed as a move.

- Return obj is move constructed into a temporary object.
- temporary object is assigned to caller var by move assignment

Rationale:

The move constructor and move assignment are called when those move functions have been defined, and the argument for construction or assignment is an r-value.

Return by reference/address ok if the variable is not in function local stack

4. Move semantics

Instead of copy, do a move/transfer of ownership.. Only one obj owns the resource b4/af move1. **Efficient than copy**

5. When to use copy/move semantics

Copy

- Construct an object / assignment where the argument is an l-value, the only thing we can reasonably do is copy the l-value.
- We can't assume it's safe to alter the l-value, because it may be used again later in the program.

Move

- Construct an object / assignment where the argument is an r-value, then we know that r-value is just a temporary object of some kind.
- Instead of copying it (which can be expensive), we can simply transfer its resources (which is cheap) to the object we're constructing or assigning.
- This is safe to do because the temporary will be destroyed at the end of the expression anyway, so we know it will never be used again!

6. Move functions should always leave both objects in a well-defined state

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7. C++ specification states automatic objects returned from a function by value can be moved even if they are l-values -> most likely when returned object's class definition has move constructs defined.

In move-enabled classes, it is sometimes desirable to delete the copy constructor and copy assignment functions to ensure copies aren't made.

8. std::move(..)

<http://bajamircea.github.io/coding/cpp/2016/04/07/move-forward.html>

- In C++11, std::move is a standard library function that casts (using static_cast) its argument into an r-value reference, so that move semantics can be invoked
- std::move doesn't move
- The idiomatic use of std::move is to ensure the argument passed to a function is an rvalue so that you can move from it (choose move semantics). By function I mean an actual function or a constructor or an operator (e.g. assignment operator). i.e. function moves.
- std::move() gives a hint to the compiler that the programmer doesn't need this object any more
- Advise: std::move() to not be used on any persistent object you don't want to modify. If used state of any objects may not be the same after they are moved!
- Trigger move versions of standard library functions if available by using std::move.
- Working
 - First of all std::move is a template with a forwarding reference argument which means that it can be called with either a lvalue or an rvalue, and the reference collapsing rules apply.
 - Because the type T is deduced, we did not have to specify when using std::move.
 - Then all it does is a static_cast.

9. std::forward<typename>(..)

<https://isocpp.org/blog/2018/02/quick-q-whats-the-difference-between-stdmove-and-stdforward>

The idiomatic use of std::forward is inside a templated function with an argument declared as a forwarding reference, used to retrieve the original value category, that it was called with, and pass it on further down the call chain (perfect forwarding)

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2009/n2951.html>

Working

- The type T is not deduced, therefore we had to specify it when using std::forward.
- Then all it does is a static_cast.

```

1 struct Y
2 {
3     Y(){}
4     Y(const Y &){ std::cout << "Copy constructor\n"; }
5     Y(Y &&) noexcept { std::cout << "Move constructor\n"; }
6 };
7
8 struct X
9 {
10     Y a_;
11     Y b_;
12
13     template<typename A, typename B>
14     X(A && a, B && b) :
15         // retrieve the original value category from constructor call
16         // and pass on to member variables
17         a_{ std::forward<A>(a) },
18         b_{ std::forward<B>(b) }
19     {
20     }
21 };
22
23 template<typename A, typename B>
24 X factory(A && a, B && b)
25 {
26     // retrieve the original value category from the factory call
27     // and pass on to X constructor
28     return X(std::forward<A>(a), std::forward<B>(b));
29 }
30
31 int main()
32 {
33     Y y;
34     X two = factory(y, Y());
35     // the first argument is a lvalue, eventually a_ will have the
36     // copy constructor called
37     // the second argument is an rvalue, eventually b_ will have the
38     // move constructor called
39 }
40
41 // prints:
42 // Copy constructor
43 // Move constructor

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