C++ Programming

Fold Expression 1

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Fold Expression

- Simpler code for **binary** operations over a variable number arguments
- Mainly 4 styles for the folding for the ***compiler to generate***
  - **Unary** right fold, **Unary** left fold
  - **Binary** right fold, **Binary** left fold
- Recall Binary operator: a + b
  - It takes 2 operands
  - The compiler will complaints if generation ended like:
    - 1 + 2 + 3 +
    - + 1 + 2 + 3
    - It must be proper: 1 + 2 + 3

Unary right fold

```
6  template<typename...Args>
7  auto sum_unary_right_fold(Args...args) {
8      // (1,2,3,4) => sz = 4
9      //int sz = sizeof...(args);
10
11     return (args + ...);
12
13     // Expansion (args + ...) for (1, 2, 3, 4)
14     // (1 + ...)    => replace ... with remaining (args + ...)
15     // (1 + (2 + ...))
16     // (1 + (2 + (3 + ...)))
17     // (1 + (2 + (3 + 4)))
18         // Close to Variadic Template right folding
19         // arg0 + (arg1 + (arg2 + arg3))
20     // Generation (1) => 1
21     // Generation ()  => +    CE
22 }
```

```
42
43 int main() {
44     int xr = sum_unary_right_fold(1, 2, 3, 4);  // 10
45
46     // CE: fold of empty expansion over operator+
47     //int yr = sum_unary_right_fold();
```

Binary right fold

```
35 template<typename...Args>
36 auto sum_binary_right_fold(Args...args) {
37     return (args + ... + 0);
38     // Compilation generation: (1, 2, 3, 4)
39         // 1 + (2 + (3 + (4 + 0)))
40     // Generation (1) => 1 + 0
41     // Generation ()  => 0  OK
42 }
43
44 int main() {
45     int yr = sum_binary_left_fold();     // 0
```

Left fold

```
29
30 template<typename...Args>
31 auto sum_unary_left_fold(Args...args) {
32     return (... + args);
33     // Compilation generation: (1, 2, 3, 4)
34     // ((1 + 2) + 3) + 4
35 }
36
37 template<typename...Args>
38 auto sum_binary_left_fold(Args...args) {
39     return (0 + ... + args);
40     // Compilation generation: (1, 2, 3, 4)
41     // (((0+1) + 2) + 3) + 4
42 }
```

All together

```
6  template<typename...Args>
7  auto sum_unary_right_fold(Args...args) {
8      return (args + ...);
9      // 1 + (2 + (3 + 4)))
10 }
11
12 template<typename...Args>
13 auto sum_binary_right_fold(Args...args) {
14     return (args + ... + 0);
15     // 1 + (2 + (3 + (4 + 0)))
16 }
17
18 template<typename...Args>
19 auto sum_unary_left_fold(Args...args) {
20     return (... + args);
21     // ((1 + 2) + 3) + 4
22 }
23
24 template<typename...Args>
25 auto sum_binary_left_fold(Args...args) {
26     return (0 + ... + args);
27     // (((0+1) + 2) + 3) + 4
28 }
29
```

Example: Multiplication + auto

```
 5
 6  auto multiply_unary_right_fold(auto...args) {
 7      return (args * ...);
 8      // 1 * (2 * (3 * 4)))
 9  }
10
11  auto multiply_binary_right_fold(auto...args) {
12      return (args * ... * 1);
13      // 1 * (2 * (3 * (4 * 1)))
14  }
15
16  auto multiply_unary_left_fold(auto...args) {
17      return (... * args);
18      // ((1 * 2) * 3) * 4
19  }
20
21  auto multiply_binary_left_fold(auto...args) {
22      return (1 * ... * args);
23      // (((1*1) * 2) * 3) * 4
24  }
25
26  int main() {
27      cout<<multiply_unary_left_fold(1, 2, 3, 4); // 24
28
```

Overall 4 cases: Compile time generation

The instantiation of a *fold expression* expands the expression e as follows:

1) Unary right fold $(E\ op\ ...)$ becomes $(E_1\ op\ (...\ op\ (E_{N-1}\ op\ E_N)))$

2) Unary left fold $(...\ op\ E)$ becomes $(((E_1\ op\ E_2)\ op\ ...)\ op\ E_N)$

3) Binary right fold $(E\ op\ ...\ op\ I)$ becomes $(E_1\ op\ (...\ op\ (E_{N-1}\ op\ (E_N\ op\ I))))$

4) Binary left fold $(I\ op\ ...\ op\ E)$ becomes $((((I\ op\ E_1)\ op\ E_2)\ op\ ...)\ op\ E_N)$

(where N is the number of elements in the pack expansion)

Supported 32 Operators

- + - * / % ^
- & | = ^= &= |=
- < > == != <= >=
- << >>
- += -= *= /= %=
- <<= >>=
- && || , .* ->*
- Note: In a binary fold, **both** ops must be the same.
  - CE: return (args * ... **+** 1);

Your turn

- Develop the **division** function
- Is left fold is same as right fold? why?

"Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people."

"Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave."