



Module M54

Partha Pratim
Das

Objectives &
Outlines

`=default` /
`=delete`

Control of default
move and copy

Compiler Rules
User Guidelines

Delegating
Constructors

In-class Init.

Inheriting
Constructors

Override Controls
`override`
`final`

`explicit`
Conversion
`bool`

Module Summary

Programming in Modern C++

Module M54: C++11 and beyond: Class Features

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All url's in this module have been accessed in September, 2021 and found to be functional



Module Recap

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Module Summary

- Learnt different techniques without or with `std::function` to write and use non-recursive and recursive λ expressions in C++11 / C++14
- Several practice examples to be tried and tested



Module Objectives

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Module Summary

- Introducing class features in C++11:
 - `=default` and `=delete`
 - Control of default move and copy
 - Delegating constructors
 - In-class member initializers
 - Inherited constructors
 - Override controls: `override` & `final`
 - Explicit conversion operators
- These features enhance OOP, generic programming, readability, type-safety, and performance in C++11



Module Outline

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- 2 Control of default move and copy
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default / delete Functions

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Module Summary

Sources:

- `=default` and `=delete`, isocpp.org
- C++ Class and Preventing Object Copy, ariya.io, 2015
- C++ Core Guidelines, github.com
 - C.20: If you can avoid defining default operations, do
 - C.21: If you define or `=delete` any copy, move, or destructor function, define or `=delete` them all
 - C.22: Make default operations consistent
- An Overview of the New C++ (C++11/14), Scott Meyers Training Courses

default / delete Functions



=default and =delete

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- The idiom of *prohibiting copying* (for C++03 recall **Module 25**) can now be expressed directly:

```
class X { // ...  
    X& operator=(const X&) = delete; // Disallow copying  
    X(const X&) = delete;  
};
```

- Conversely, we can also say *explicitly* that we want *default copy behavior*:

```
class Y { // ...  
    Y& operator=(const Y&) = default; // default copy semantics  
    Y(const Y&) = default;  
};
```

- Explicitly writing out the default by hand is good for *readability*, but it has two *drawbacks*:
 - it sometimes generates *less efficient code* than the compiler-generated default would, and
 - it prevents types from *being considered PODs*
- The `=default` mechanism can be used for any function that has a default
- The `=delete` mechanism can be used for any function like to eliminate an undesired conversion:

```
struct Z { // ...  
    Z(long long); // can initialize with a long long  
    Z(long) = delete; // but not anything smaller  
};
```



default Member Functions

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- The *special* member functions are implicitly generated if used:
 - **Default constructor**
 - ▷ Only if no user-declared constructors
 - **Destructor**
 - **Copy operations** (copy constructor, copy operator=)
 - ▷ Only if move operations not user-declared
 - **Move operations** (move constructor, move operator=)
 - ▷ Only if copy operations and destructor not user-declared
- Generated versions are:
 - **Public**
 - **Inline**
 - **Non-explicit**
- **defaulted** member functions have:
 - *User-specified declarations with the usual compiler-generated implementations*



default Member Functions

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- Typical use: *unsuppress* implicitly-generated functions:

```
class Widget { public:  
    Widget(const Widget&); // copy ctor prevents implicitly declared  
                           // default ctor & move ops  
    Widget() = default;    // declare default ctor, use default impl.  
    Widget(Widget&&) noexcept = default; // declare move ctor, use default impl.  
    ...  
};
```

- Or change *normal accessibility*, *explicitness*, *virtualness*:

```
class Widget { public:  
    virtual ~Widget() = default; // declare as virtual  
    explicit Widget(const Widget&) = default; // declare as explicit  
private:  
    Widget& operator=(Widget&&) noexcept = default; // declare as private  
    ...  
};
```




delete Functions

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- **deleted** functions are defined, but cannot be used
 - Most common application: prevent object copying:

```
class Widget {  
    Widget(const Widget&) = delete;           // declare and  
    Widget& operator=(const Widget&) = delete; // make uncallable  
    ...  
};
```

- Note that **Widget** is not movable, either
 - **Declaring** copy operations suppresses implicit move operations!
 - It works both ways:

```
class Gadget {  
    Gadget(Gadget&&) = delete;           // these also  
    Gadget& operator=(Gadget&&) = delete; // suppress copy operations  
    ...  
};
```



delete Functions

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- Not limited to member functions
 - Another common application: control argument conversions
 - ▷ **deleted** functions are declared, hence participate in overload resolution:

```
void f(void*);           // f callable with any ptr type
void f(const char*) = delete; // f uncallable with [const] char*
auto p1 = new std::list<int>; // p1 is of type std::list<int>*
extern char *p2;
...
f(p1);                  // fine, calls f(void*)
f(p2);                  // error: f(const char*) unavailable
f("Modern C++");        // error
f(u"Modern C++");       // fine (char16_t* != char*)
```



Control of default move and copy

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Module Summary

Sources:

- [Control of default move and copy](#), isocpp.org
- [The rule of three/five/zero](#), cppreference.com
- [C++ Core Guidelines](#), Eds. Bjarne Stroustrup and Herb Sutter, 2022
 - C.20: If you can avoid defining default operations, do
 - C.21: If you define or `=delete` any copy, move, or destructor function, define or `=delete` them all
 - C.22: Make default operations consistent
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Control of default move and copy



Control of default move and copy

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Module Summary

- We learnt in **Module 51** that *Move is an Optimization of Copy*. This is specifically true for *classes having resources* (like pointer / vector) that needs to be moved or copied
- This *needs Move and Copy operations* to be appropriately defined
- We also *need a destructor* in such cases for the release of the resources (like pointer)
- Further, the *compiler provide these functions as default* (if not provided and / or deleted by the user) so that the users do not need to write them for every class
- So there can be one of the following options for each of the *five functions in a class*:
 - [1] **[Un-declared]** Do not mention the function in the class - *implicitly default*
 - [2] **[=default]** Mention the function as **=default** - *explicitly default*
 - [3] **[Declared]** Declare the function but not define it - *prohibit use*
 - [4] **[=deleted]** Mention the function as **=deleted** - *prohibit use*
 - [5] **[Defined]** Provide a user-defined implementation of the function - *proper use*
- For [1] & [2] *compiler provides default implementation* and for [5] *user provides the same*
- In total, we have $5 \times 5 = 25$ *scenarios* but only a few of them are *semantically consistent*
- So for a proper semantics, we *need to control move / copy / destruction*:
 - **Compiler follows a set of rules**
 - **User needs to follow a set of guidelines**



Control of default move and copy: Compiler Rules

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Module Summary

• Move Rules

- If *any move, copy, or destructor is explicitly specified* (declared, defined, =default, or =delete) by the user:
 - ▷ *no move is generated by default*
 - ▷ *any declared but un-defined move is a linker error*
 - ▷ *any =default move is compiler default*
 - ▷ *any =delete move is compilation error*
 - ▷ *any un-declared move defaults to corresponding copy*
- Comment / =default / =delete different functions below to understand the rules of move as well as copy. Note that a default function will not stream any string

```
class X { public:
    X() { std::cout << "Ctor "; }
    X(const X&) { std::cout << "C-Ctor "; }
    X& operator=(const X&) { std::cout << "C= "; return *this; }
    X(X&&) { std::cout << "Mtor "; }
    X& operator=(X&&) { std::cout << "M= "; return *this; }
    ~X() { }
};
```

```
int main() {
    X x1;
    X x2 { x1 };
    x1 = x2;
    X x3 { std::move(x1) };
    x2 = std::move(x3);
}
// Ctor C-Ctor C= Mtor M=
```



Control of default move and copy: Compiler Rules

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Module Summary

• Copy Rules

- If *any copy or destructor is explicitly specified* (declared, defined, =default, or =delete) by the user:
 - ▷ *any undeclared copy operations are generated by default*
 - ▷ this is deprecated in C++11
- If *any move is explicitly specified* (declared, defined, =default, or =delete):
 - ▷ *no copy is generated by default*
- **Bad problem due to default copy in C++03 persists in C++11 onward**

```
class X { public: // copyable class
    ~X() { delete p; } // implicit invariant: p owns *p
    //... // no copy ops declared
private: int *p;
};

int main() {
    X x1;
    X x2(x1);
} // double delete! of p: run-time error: munmap_chunk(): invalid pointer in gcc
```



Control of default move and copy: User Guidelines

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Module Summary

- **C++ Core Guidelines, 2022** (Bjarne Stroustrup & Herb Sutter) provides 3 guidelines:
 - **[Rule of zero]: C.20: If you can avoid defining default operations, do**
 - ▷ Classes with custom Dtors, copy/move Ctors or assignment needs exclusive ownership
 - ▷ Other classes should not have these custom functions
 - **[Rule of five]: C.21: If you define or `=delete` any copy, move, or destructor function, define or `=delete` them all**
 - ▷ As the presence of a user-defined (or `= default` or `= delete` declared) Dtor, copy Ctor or assignment prevents implicit definition of the move Ctor and assignment, any class for which move semantics are desirable, has to declare all five special member functions
 - ▷ **[Rule of three]:** If a class requires a user-defined Dtor, a user-defined copy Ctor, or a user-defined copy assignment, it almost certainly requires all three
 - **C.22: Make default operations consistent**
 - ▷ Default operations have a matched set and interrelated semantics. It is a surprise
 - if copy/move construction and assignment do logically different things
 - if constructors and destructors do not provide a consistent view of resource mgmt.
 - if copy and move do not reflect the way constructors and destructors work



Delegating Constructors

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Module Summary

Delegating Constructors

Sources:

- [Delegating constructors](http://isocpp.org), isocpp.org
- [An Overview of the New C++ \(C++11/14\)](#), Scott Meyers Training Courses



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Module Summary

Multiple constructors with code copies

```

class Base { public:
    explicit Base(int);
    // ...
};

class Widget: public Base { public: // 4 Ctors
    Widget();
    explicit Widget(double fl);
    explicit Widget(int sz);
    Widget(const Widget& w);
private:
    static int calc(); // calculate Base value
    static constexpr double defaultFlex = 1.5;
    const int size;
    long double flex;
};

Widget::Widget(): // #1
    Base(calc()), size(0), flex(defaultFlex) {
    regObj(this);
}

Widget::Widget(double fl): // #2
    Base(calc()), size(0), flex(fl) {
    regObj(this);
}

Widget::Widget(int sz): // #3
    Base(calc()), size(sz), flex(defaultFlex) {
    regObj(this);
}

Widget::Widget(const Widget& w): Base(w), // #4
    size(w.size), flex(w.flex) { regObj(this); }

```

Refactored for better reuse with delegated constructors

```

class Widget: public Base { public: // delegation happens when one Ctor calls another - code refactored
    Widget(): Widget(defaultFlex) {} // #1: calls #2
    explicit Widget(double fl): Widget(0, fl) {} // #2: calls #5
    explicit Widget(int sz): Widget(sz, defaultFlex) {} // #3: calls #5
    Widget(const Widget& w): Base(w), size(w.size), flex(w.flex) { regObj(this); } // #4: same
private: Widget(int sz, double fl): Base(calc()), size(sz), flex(fl) { regObj(this); } // #5: new
    // ... same as above
};

```



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- Delegation is independent of constructor characteristics
 - Delegator and delegatee may each be `inline`, `explicit`, `public` / `protected` / `private`, etc.
 - Delegatees can themselves delegate
 - Delegators' code bodies execute when delegatees return:

```
class Data { int i;  
    public:  
        Data(): Data(0) { cout << "Data()" << endl; } // #1: calls delegated #2  
        Data(int i): i(i) { cout << "Data(int)" << endl; } // #2  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Data d;  
}  
  
// Data(int)  
// Data()
```



In-class Member Initializers

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In-class Member Initializers

Sources:

- [In-class member initializers](http://isocpp.org), isocpp.org
- [An Overview of the New C++ \(C++11/14\)](#), Scott Meyers Training Courses



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- In C++03, *only static const members of integral types* can be initialized in-class *only with a constant expression* so that the initialization can be done at *compile-time*:

```
int var = 7;
class X {
    static const int m1 = 7;           // okay
    const int m2 = 7;                 // error: not static
    static int m3 = 7;                // error: not const
    static const int m4 = var;         // error: initializer not constant expression
    static const string m5 = "odd";    // error: not integral type
    // ...
};
```

- In C++11 a non-static data member may be initialized where it is declared in its class. A constructor can then use the initializer when *run-time* initialization is needed:

```
class A { public: // C++03
    int a;
    A() : a(7) { }
};
```

```
class A { public: // C++11
    int a = 7;
};
```



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- This is useful for classes with multiple constructors. Often, all constructors use a common initializer for a member:

```
class A { public: int a, b; // C++03
    A(): a(7), b(5),
        h_algo("MD5"), s("Ctor run") { }
    A(int a_val): a(a_val), b(5),
        h_algo("MD5"), s("Ctor run") { }
    A(D d): a(7), b(g(d)),
        h_algo("MD5"), s("Ctor run") { }
private: HashingFunction h_algo; // Hash algo
        std::string s;          // Tracer
};
```

```
class A { public: int a, b; // C++11
    A(): a(7), b(5)
        { }
    A(int a_val): a(a_val), b(5)
        { }
    A(D d): a(7), b(g(d))
        { }
private: HashingFunction h_algo{"MD5"}; // Hash algo
        std::string s{"Ctor run"};     // Tracer
};
```

- If a member is initialized by both an in-class initializer and a constructor, only the constructor's initialization is done (it "overrides" the default). So we can simplify further:

```
class A { public: int a = 7, b = 5; // default initializers
    A() { }
    A(int a_val): a(a_val) { } // Ctor initialization overrides
    A(D d): b(g(d)) { }       // Ctor initialization overrides
private: HashingFunction h_algo{"MD5"}; // Hash algo: Crypto. hash to be applied to all A instances
        std::string s{"Ctor run"};    // Tracer: String indicating state in object lifecycle
};
```



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Inheriting Constructors

Sources:

- [Inherited constructors](https://ericniebler.com/2014/05/12/InheritedConstructors/), [isocpp.org](https://ericniebler.com/2014/05/12/InheritedConstructors/)
- [An Overview of the New C++ \(C++11/14\)](#), Scott Meyers Training Courses



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A member of a base class is not in the same scope as a member of a derived class:

```
struct B { void f(double); };  
struct D : B {  
    void f(int);  
};  
B b;    b.f(4.5); // fine  
// surprise: calls f(int) with argument 4  
D d;    d.f(4.5);
```

We can “lift” a set of overloaded functions from a base class into a derived class:

```
struct B { void f(double); };  
struct D : B {  
    using B::f; // bring all f()s from B into scope  
    void f(int); // add a new f()  
};  
B b;    b.f(4.5); // fine  
// fine: calls D::f(double) which is B::f(double)  
D d;    d.f(4.5);
```

- Stroustrup has said that *“Little more than a historical accident prevents using this to work for a constructor as well as for an ordinary member function”*
- **C++11** provides that facility to lift a base class constructor into the derived class
- We present an illustrative example for various scenarios



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```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>

class B { public: // Base class
    B()          { std::cout << "B::B() "; }
    B(int)       { std::cout << "B::B(int) "; }
    void f(int)  { std::cout << "B::f(int) "; }
};

class D : public B { public: // Derived class
    using B::f; // lift B::f into D's scope -- works in C++03 and C++11
    void f(string) { std::cout << "D::f(string) "; } // provide a new overload f
    void f(int)    { std::cout << "D::f(int) "; } // prefer this override f to B::f(int)
    using B::B; // lift B::B into D's scope -- new in C++11 -- Inheriting Constructors
    // causes implicit declaration of D::D() (or D::D(int)), which, if used, calls B::B() (or B::B(int))
    D(const string&) { std::cout << "D::D(string) "; } // provide a new overloaded constructor
    D(int): B(0)    { std::cout << "D::D(int) "; } // prefer this overloaded constructor to B::B(int)
};

int main() {
    B b(5);      std::cout << std::endl; // B::B(int)
    D d;         std::cout << std::endl; // B::B() // okay due to ctor inheritance if D::D() is undclared
    D d1(2);     std::cout << std::endl; // B::B(int) D::D(int)
    D d2("ppd"); std::cout << std::endl; // B::B() D::D(string)
    b.f(3);      std::cout << std::endl; // B::f(int)
    d1.f(1);     std::cout << std::endl; // D::f(int)
    d2.f("cd");  std::cout << std::endl; // D::f(string)
}
```

Programming in Modern C++



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```
class B: B::B(); B::B(int); B::f(int);
class D: using B::f; D::f(string); D::f(int); using B::B; D::D(const string&); D::D(int);
```

Calls	// using B::B; // D(const string&); // D(int): B(0);	// using B::B; D(const string&); // D(int): B(0);	using B::B; D(const string&); // D(int): B(0);	using B::B; D(const string&); D(int): B(0);
B b(5); D d; D d1(2); D d2("ppd");	okay okay error: D::D(int) error: D::D(const char[4]) B::B(int) hidden	okay error: D::D() error: D::D(int) okay B::B(int) hidden	B::B(int) B::B() B::B(int) B::B() D::D(string) D exposes B::B's	B::B(int) B::B() B::B(int) D::D(int) B::B() D::D(string) Overloads
Calls	// using B::f; // void f(string); // void f(int);	// using B::f; void f(string); // void f(int);	using B::f; void f(string); // void f(int);	using B::f; void f(string); void f(int);
b.f(3); d1.f(1); d2.f("cd");	okay: B::f(int) okay: B::f(int) error: D::f(const char*) D inherits B::f(int)	okay: B::f(int) error: D::f(int) okay: D::f(string) B::f(int) hidden	B::f(int) B::f(int) D::f(string) D exposes B::f(int)	B::f(int) D::f(int) D::f(string) Overload + Override



Inheriting Constructors: Member Initialization in Derived Class

Module M54

Partha Pratim Das

Objectives & Outlines

=default /
=delete

Control of default
move and copy

Compiler Rules
User Guidelines

Delegating
Constructors

In-class Init.

Inheriting
Constructors

Override Controls
override

final

explicit
Conversion

bool

Module Summary

- Inheriting constructors into classes with data members risky. Consider a base class **B**:

```
class B { public:  
    explicit B(int);  
};
```

- Derive a class **D** with data members:

Default Initialization

```
class D: public B {  
public:  
    using B::B; // Inherits B::B(int)  
private:  
    std::u16string name;  
    int x, y;  
};  
D d(10); // compiles, but  
// d.name is default-initialized, and  
// d.x and d.y are uninitialized
```

In-class Initialization

```
class D: public B {  
public:  
    using B::B; // Inherits B::B(int)  
private:  
    std::u16string name = "Uninitialized";  
    int x = 0, y = 0;  
};  
D d(10); // d.name == "Uninitialized",  
// d.x == d.y == 0
```

- Use in-class member initialization when inheriting constructor/s



Override Controls: `override` & `final`

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`override`
`final`

`explicit`
Conversion
`bool`

Module Summary

Sources:

- [Override controls: `override`](#), [isocpp.org](#)
- [Override controls: `final`](#), [isocpp.org](#)
- [An Overview of the New C++ \(C++11/14\)](#), Scott Meyers Training Courses
- [Simulating final Class in C++](#), [geeksforgeeks.org](#)
- [Virtual, final and override in C++](#), 2020
- [Why make your classes final?](#), Andrzej's C++ blog, 2012
- [In C++, when should I use final in virtual method declaration?](#), [stackexchange.com](#)

Override Controls: `override` & `final`



Override Controls: override

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Inheriting Constructors

Override Controls

override final

explicit Conversion

bool

Module Summary

```
struct B { // a base class
    virtual void f();
    virtual void g() const; // may be overridden only by const member function
    virtual void h(char);
    void k(); // not virtual
};
```

A function in a derived class overrides a function in a base class by scoping (without annotation):

May be confusing and problematic if a compiler does not warn against suspicious code:

```
struct D : B {
    void f(); // overrides B::f()
    void g(); // no override w/o const
    virtual void h(char); // overrides B::h()
    void k(); // no override: B::k() is not virtual
};
```

```
struct D : B {
    void f() override; // okay: overrides B::f()
    void g() override; // error: wrong type
    virtual void h(char); // overrides B::h(): warning?
    void k() override; // error: B::k() is not virtual
};
```

- Did the user mean to override `B::g()`? (almost certainly yes)
- Did the user mean to override `B::h(char)`? (probably not because of the redundant explicit virtual)
- Did the user mean to override `B::k()`? (probably, but that's not possible)
- Note:
 - *A declaration marked override is only valid if there is a function to override.* The problem with `h()` may not be caught (because it is correct by the language definition) but it is easily diagnosed
 - `override` is only a *contextual keyword*, so you can still use it as an identifier (not recommended)



Override Controls: final

Module M54

Partha Pratim
Das

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Module Summary

- Sometimes, a programmer wants to prevent a **virtual** function from being overridden. This can be achieved by adding the specifier **final**. For example:

```
struct B {  
    virtual void f() const final; // do not override  
    virtual void g();  
};  
struct D : B {  
    void f() const; // error: D::f attempts to override final B::f  
    void g();      // okay  
};
```

- **Why should we use final in C++?**
 - If it is performance (inlining) we want or we simply never want to override, it is typically better not to define a function to be **virtual**
 - This is in contrast to Java where all functions are **virtual** and **final** provides better performance
- It should be used sparingly with care because in a way it contradicts the polymorphic design and in C++ there are other ways to circumvent the required issues in a hierarchy
- **Note:**
 - *The **final** keyword applies to member function, but unlike override, it also applies to types:*

```
class X final { /* ... */ };
```


This prevent the type X to be inherited from
 - **final** is only a *contextual keyword*, so you can still use it as an identifier (not recommended)



explicit Conversion Operators

Module M54

Partha Pratim Das

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Module Summary

explicit Conversion Operators

Sources:

- [Explicit conversion operators](http://isocpp.org), isocpp.org
- [explicit specifier](#), cppreference
- [An Overview of the New C++ \(C++11/14\)](#), Scott Meyers Training Courses



explicit Conversion Operators

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Module Summary

```

#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;
struct Y { explicit Y(const string&) { cout << "Y(string)" << ' '; } };
struct X {
    explicit X(int i) { cout << "X(int)" << ' '; } // C++03 & C++11
    explicit operator int() const { cout << "X::operator int()" << ' '; return 0; } // C++11 only
    explicit operator Y() const { cout << "X::operator Y()" << ' '; return Y("ppd"); } // C++11 only
};
void fx(const X&) { cout << "fx()" << ' '; } // checker function for conversion to X
void fi(int) { cout << "fi()" << ' '; } // checker function for conversion to int
void fy(const Y&) { cout << "fy()" << ' '; } // checker function for conversion to Y
int main() { int i { 5 }; X x { 1 }; // X(int)
    fx(i); // X(int) fx(): error with explicit X::X(int)
    fx(static_cast<X>(i)); // X(int) fx()
    fi(x); // X::operator int() fi(): error with explicit X::operator int()
    fi(static_cast<int>(x)); // X::operator int() fi()
    fy(x); // X::operator Y() Y(string) fy(): error with explicit X::operator Y()
    fy(static_cast<Y>(x)); // X::operator Y() Y(string) fy()
}

```

- **explicit** constructors have been available in C++03
- **explicit** conversion operators are now available in C++11
- This makes conversion more type safe in C++11
- For casting between unrelated types recap **Module 26 & Module 33**



explicit Behavior Example

Post-Recording

Module M54

Partha Pratim Das

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Module Summary

```

struct A { // converting ctor & operator
    A(int) { }
    A(int, int) { } // C++11
    operator bool() const
    { return true; }
};

```

```

int main() {
    A a1 = 1;           // OK: copy-initialization selects A::A(int)
    A a2(2);           // OK: direct-initialization selects A::A(int)
    A a3 {4, 5};       // OK: direct-list-initialization selects A::A(int, int)
    A a4 = {4, 5};     // OK: copy-list-initialization selects A::A(int, int)
    A a5 = (A)1;       // OK: explicit cast performs static_cast
    if (a1);           // OK: A::operator bool()
    bool na1 = a1;     // OK: copy-initialization selects A::operator bool()
    bool na2 = static_cast<bool>(a1); // OK: static_cast performs direct-initialization
}

```

```

// B b1 = 1;           // error: copy-initialization does not consider B::B(int)
B b2(2);             // OK: direct-initialization selects B::B(int)
B b3 {4, 5};         // OK: direct-list-initialization selects B::B(int, int)
// B b4 = {4, 5};     // error: copy-list-initialization does not consider B::B(int,int)
B b5 = (B)1;         // OK: explicit cast performs static_cast
if (b2);             // OK: B::operator bool()
// bool nb1 = b2;     // error: copy-initialization does not consider B::operator bool()
bool nb2 = static_cast<bool>(b2); // OK: static_cast performs direct-initialization
}

```

Programming in Modern C++

Partha Pratim Das

M54.32



explicit Conversion Operators: bool

- `explicit` operator bool functions treated specially
- Implicit use okay when *safe* (that is, in *contextual conversions*):

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class X { int *ptr; public:
    explicit X(int *ptr = nullptr): ptr(ptr) { }
    explicit operator bool() const { cout << "X::operator bool()" << ' '; return nullptr == ptr; }
};

int main() { X x1; X x2(new int(5));
    // contextual conversions - permitted in spite of explicit
    if (x1) cout << "NULL" << endl;           // X::operator bool() NULL
    cout << (x2? "NULL": "not-NULL") << endl;  // X::operator bool() not-NULL

    // non-contextual conversions - permitted only on absence of explicit
    cout << (x1 == x2? "Equal": "not-Equal") << endl;
    // Without explicit: x1 and x2 are implicitly converted to bool and compared by bool::operator==
    // X::operator bool() X::operator bool() not-Equal
    // With explicit: implicit conversion of x1 and x2 to bool are disallowed and hence operator== fails
    // error: no match for operator== (operand types are X and X)
}
```



Module Summary

Module M54

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Module Summary

- Introducing several class features in C++11 with examples
- Explained how these features enhance OOP, generic programming, readability, type-safety, and performance in C++11