PhD Diary

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Part I

Chapter 1

November

1.1 November 14, 2023

1.1.1 **AOSP**

Zygote

Zygote initializes by pre-loading the entire Android framework. Unlike desktop Java, it does not load the libraries lazily; it loads all of them as part of system start up. After completely initializing, it enters a tight loop, waiting for connections to a socket. When the system needs to create a new application, it connects to the Zygote socket and sends a small packet describing the application to be started. Zygote clones itself, creating a new kernel-level process.

Memory is organized into uniformly sized **pages**. When the application refers to memory at a particular address, the device hardware reinterprets the address as an index into a **page table**. Newly cloned Zygote processes for newly started applications are simply clone of Zygote's page table, pointing to the exact same pages of physical memory. Only the pages the new application uses for its own purposes are not shared:

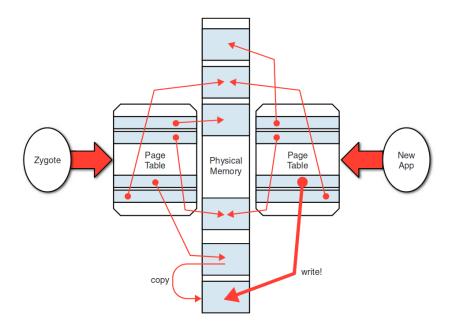


Figure 1.1: Zygote Copy-on Write

Zygote Initialization

Zygote is started by init. ro.zygote system variable set at platform build time decides which of four types of Zygotes are started and which one is "primary". Both the init and Zygote scripts are stored inside \$AOSP/system/core/rootdir. In the following init.zygote64_32.rc, 2 Zygote processes, primary and secondary, are started at 2 different sockets:

```
service zygote /system/bin/app_process64 -Xzygote \
2
            /system/bin --zygote --start-system-server --socket-name=zygote
3
        class main
4
        priority -20
5
       user root
       group root readproc reserved_disk
7
       socket zygote stream 660 root system
8
       socket usap_pool_primary stream 660 root system
9
       onrestart exec_background - system system -- /system/bin/vdc volume abort_fuse
10
       onrestart write /sys/power/state on
11
       onrestart restart audioserver
12
       onrestart restart cameraserver
13
        onrestart restart media
14
       onrestart restart media.tuner
15
       onrestart restart netd
16
       onrestart restart wificond
17
        task_profiles ProcessCapacityHigh MaxPerformance
18
        critical window=${zygote.critical_window.minute:-off} target=zygote-fatal
19
20 \quad {\tt service \ zygote\_secondary \ /system/bin/app\_process32 \ -Xzygote \ \setminus }
21
            /system/bin --zygote --socket-name=zygote_secondary --enable-lazy-preload
22
        class main
```

```
23
       priority -20
24
        user root
25
        group root readproc reserved_disk
        socket zygote_secondary stream 660 root system
26
27
       socket usap_pool_secondary stream 660 root system
28
        onrestart restart zygote
29
        {\tt task\_profiles\ ProcessCapacityHigh\ MaxPerformance}
30
        disabled
```

The actual application that is started as user root at the very highest priority by init is /system/bin/app_process64. The script requests that init create a stream socket for the process and catalog it as /dev/socket/zygote_secondary which will be used by the system to start new Android applications.

Zygote is only started once during the system startup, by app_process64 and app_process32, and is simply cloned to start subsequent applications. Zygote initialization sequence is described below:

Method	Description	Source
init.rc	Imports the init.zygote64_32.rc that contains the script that starts Zygote service.	\$AOSP/system/core/rootdir
init.zygote64 32.rc	Runs app_process64 and app_process32 which will initialize the starting of Zygote service.	\$AOSP/system/core/rootdir
app_process	Creates AppRuntime, a subclass of AndroidRuntime, that does bookkeeping, naming the process, setting up parameter, and the name of the class to run when not running Zygote, and then calls AndroidRuntime.start() to invoke the runtime.	
AppRuntime::start	Invokes startVM.startVM which invokes JNI_CreateJavaVM.	\$AOSP/frameworks/base/core/jni/Andro
JNI_CreateJavaVM	Calls Runtime::Create.	<pre>\$AOSP/art/runtime/jni/java vm_ext.cc</pre>
Runtime::Create	Initializes the ART runtime, loading the system OAT files and the libraries they contain.	\$AOSP/art/runtime/runtime.cc

Table 1.1: Zygote Initialization Sequence

The argument that app_process passed to start is com.android.internal.os.Zygote.Init, the source for which is in \$AOSP/frameworks/base/core/java/com/android/internal/os/ZygoteInit.java. app_process is the launcher for all Java programs (not

apps!) in the Android system, and Zygote is one example of the programs (system service) to be launched.

Zygote System Service

Zygote has 3 major tasks, on startup:

- Register the socket to which the system will connect to start new application.
 Handled by registerServerSocket method which creates socket using the named
 passed as parameter for init script.
- 2. Preload Android resources (classes, libraries, resources and even WebViews) with a call to preload method. After preload is finished, Zygote is fully initialized and ready to clone to new applications very quickly.
- 3. Start Android System Server. Thus, SystemServer is the first application to be cloned by Zygote.

After it has completed these three tasks, it enters a loop, waiting for connections to the socket.

1.1.2 C++ Primer

Primitive Built-in Types

Includes arithmetic types and a special type named void which has no associated values and can be used in only a few circumstances, most commonly as the return type for functions that do not return a value.

The arithmetic types are divided into two categories: **integral types** (which include character and boolean types) and floating-point types.

Type	Meaning	Minimum Size
bool	boolean (true or false)	NA
char	character	8 bits
w_char_t	wide character	16 bits
char16_t	Unicode character	16 bits
char32_t	Unicode character	32 bits
short	short integer	16 bits
int	integer	16 bits
long	long integer	32 bits
long long	long integer	64 bits
float	single-precision floating-point	6 significant digits
double	double-precision floating-point	10 significant digits

long double

Table 1.2: Zygote Initialization Sequence

Except for bool and extended character types, the integral types may be **signed** (can represent negative or positive numbers) or **unsigned**. By default, int, short, long, long long are all signed. To declare unsigned type, prepend unsigned to the type. char is signed on some machine and unsigned on others, and unsigned int is abbreviated as unsigned.

Conversions happen automatically when we use an object of one type where an object of another type is expected.

```
1 unsigned u = 10;
2 int i = -42;
3 std::cout << i + i << std::endl; // prints -84
4 std::cout << u + i << std::endl; // if 32-bit ints, prints 4294967264</pre>
```

In the above snippet, converting a negative number to unsigned will cause the value to "wrap around" because unsigned values can never be less than 0. Thus, extra care should be taken if we want to write loops with unsigned values and stopping conditions at negative values like the snippet below:

```
1 // WRONG: u can never be less than 0; the condition will always succeed
2 for (unsigned u = 10; u >= 0; --u)
3 std::cout << u << std::endl;</pre>
```

As such it is always advisable to not mix signed and unsigned types. By default, integer literals (42) are signed, while octal (024) and hexadecimal (0x14) may be signed or unsigned.

Escape sequences are used as if they were single characters:

```
1 std::cout << '\n'; // prints a newline
2 std::cout << "\tHi!\n"; // prints a tab followd by "Hi!" and a newline</pre>
```

Variables

Initialization is not assignment. Initialization happens when a variable is given a value when it is created. Assignment obliterates an object's current value and replaces that value with a new one.

Four different ways to initialize:

```
1 int units_sold = 0;
2 int units_sold = {0}; // list initialization; does not work for built-in types if
          data loss is likely
3 int units_sold{0};
4 int units_sold(0);
```

Variables defined outside any function body are initialized to zero by default. Variables of built-in type defined inside a function are **uninitialized** and therefore undefined. Objects of class type that we do not explicitly initialize have a value that is defined by the class.

A **declaration** makes a name known to the program. A file that wants to use a name defined elsewhere includes a declaration for that name. A **definition** creates the associated entity. A definition involves declaration, allocates storage and may provide the variable with an initial value.

Variables must be defined only once but can be declared several times. To use a variable in more than one file requires declarations that are separate from the variable's definition. To use the same variable in multiple files, we must define that in one - and only one - file. Other files that use that variable must declara - but not define - that variable.

1.2 November 15, 2023

1.2.1 C++ Primer

Scopes of Names

Most scopes in C++ are delimited by curly braces.

```
#include <iostream>
1
   int main() {
3
       int sum = 0;
       // sum values from 1 through 10 inclusive
       for (int val = 1; val <= 10; ++val)</pre>
5
           sum += val; // equivalent to sum=sum+val
7
       std::cout << "Sumuofu1utou10uinclusiveuisu"
8
           << sum << std::endl;
9
       return 0;
10 }
```

In above program, main - like most names defined outside a function - has **global scope** and thus, is accessible throughout the program. sum has **block scope** and is accessible from its point of declaration throughout the rest of the main function. val is defined in the scope of the for statement and can be used in that statement but not elsewhere in main.

Names declared in the outer scope can also be redefined in an inner scope although it is always a bad idea:

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 // Program for illustration purposes only: It is bad style for a function
3 // to use a global variable and also define a local variable with the same name
4 int reused = 42; // reused has global scope
5 int main() {
6    int unique = 0; // unique has block scope
7
8    // output #1: uses global reused; prints 42 0
```

```
9
        std::cout << reused << "" << unique << std::endl;
10
11
       int reused = 0; // new, local object named reused hides global reused
       // output #2: uses local reused; prints 0 0
12
13
       std::cout << reused << "" << unique << std::endl;
14
15
       // output \#3: explicitly requests the global reused; prints 42 0
       std::cout << ::reused << "" << unique << std::endl;
16
17
18
       return 0;
19
   }
```

When the scope operator (:: **operator**) has an empty LHS, it is a request to fetch the name on the RHS from the global scope.

References

A **reference** defines an alternative name for an object. A reference type can be defined by writing a declarator of the form &d where d is the name being declared:

```
1 int ival = 1024;
2 int &refVal = ival; // refVal refers to (is another name for) ival
3 int &refVal2; // error: a reference must be initialized
```

When we define a reference, instead of copying the initializer's value, we bind the reference to its initializer. Once initialized, a reference remains bound to its initial object. There is no way to rebind a reference to refer to a different object. Because there is no way to rebind a reference, references must be initialized.

A reference is not an object. Instead, a reference is just another name for an already existing object. Thus, *all* operation on that reference are actually operations on the object to which the reference is bound:

```
1 refVal = 2; // assigns 2 to the object to which refVal refers, i.e., to ival
2 int ii = refVal; // same as ii=ival
```

Becuase references are not objects, we may not define a reference to a reference. We can define references in a single definition with each identifier that is a reference being preceded by the & symbol:

```
1 int i = 1024, i2 = 2048; // i and i2 are both ints
2 int &r = i, r2 = i2; // r is a reference bound to i; r2is an int
3 int i3 = 1024, &ri = i3; // i3 is an int; riis a reference bound to i3
4 int &r3 = i3, &r4 = i2; // both r3and r4are references
```

Pointers

Like references, pointers are used for indirect access to other objects. Unlike a reference, a pointer is an object in its own right. Pointers can be assigned and copied; a single pointer can point to several different objects over its lifetime. Unlike a reference, a pointer need not be initialized at the time it is defined. Like other built-in types, pointers defined at block scope have undefined value if they are not initialized.

We define a pointer type by writing a declarator of the form *d,whered is the name being defined. The * must be repeated for each pointer variable:

```
l int *ip1, *ip2; // both ip1 and ip2 are pointers to int
double dp, *dp2; // dp2 is a pointer to double; dp is a double
```

A pointer holds the address of another object. We get the address of an object by using the address-of operator (& operator):

```
1 int ival = 42;
2 int *p = &ival; // p holds the address of ival; p is a pointer to ival
3
4 double dval;
5 double *pd = &dval; // ok: initializer is the address of a double
6 double *pd2 = pd; // ok: initializer is a pointer to double
7 int *pi = pd; // error: types of pi and pd differ
8 pi = &dval; // error: assigning the address of a doubletoapointertoint
```

We can use the dereference operator (* operator) to access that object:

```
1 int ival = 42;
2 int *p = &ival; // p holds the address of ival; p is a pointer to ival
3 cout << *p; // * yields the object to which p points; prints 42
4
5 *p = 0; // * yields the object; we assign a new value to ival through p
6 cout << *p; // prints 0</pre>
```

When we assign to *p, we are assigning to the object to which p points. We may dereference only a valid pointer that points to an object.

void* is a special pointer type that can hold the address of any object. Its useful for when the type of the object at that address is unknown:

The modifiers * and & do not apply to all variables defined in a single statement:

```
1 int* p1, p2; // p1 is a pointer to int; p2is an int
2 int *p1, *p2; // both p1and p2are pointers to int
```

As pointers are objects in memory, they also have addresses of their own. Therefore, we can store the address of a pointer in another pointer:

```
1 int ival = 1024;
2 int *pi = &ival; // pi points to an int
3 int **ppi = π // ppi points to a pointer to an int
```

We indicate each pointer level by its own *. Dereferencing a pointer to a pointer yields the pointer. So in this case, you must dereference twice to access the underlying object.

1.2.2 AOSP

Starting Android System Server and Other Apps using Zygote

During its initialization, Zygote will check for start-system-server flag, and if set, will bring up SystemServer in the following sequence:

Method	Description	Source
ZygoteInit. forkSystemServer	Runs after the Zygote process has been initialized. It is hardcoded with System Server classpath ¹ as one of the arguments to call Zygote.forkSystemServer to spawn SystemServer process.	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ ZygoteInit.java
Zygote. forkSystemServer	Zygote class wraps native methods that communicate with Android Runtime, one of whom is com_android_internal_os_nativeForkSystemServer.	AOSP/framework/base/ core/java/com/android/ internal/os/Zygote. java
com_android_in- ternal_os_native- ForkSystemServer SpecializeCommon	Calls zygote::ForkCommon and SpecializeCommon which does the actual forking. Looks at the flags and Process ID for setting up sandboxing, configuring the correct SE Linux context, and process capabilities. Afterwards, it will call Zygote methods for post-fork procedures.	AOSP/frameworks/base/ core/jni/com_android_ internal_os_Zygote.cpp AOSP/frameworks/base/ core/jni/com_android_ internal_os_Zygote.cpp
Zygote. callPostForkSystemS	Calls ZygoteHooks. java at the end ServerHeciasization procedures. Only applicable for SystemSever.	AOSP/framework/base/ core/java/com/android/ internal/os/Zygote. java
Zygote. callPostForkChildHo	Calls ZygoteHooks.java at the end poks specialization procedures. Applicable to all applications and services including SystemServer	AOSP/framework/base/ core/java/com/android/ internal/os/Zygote. java

 $^{^1 {\}rm com.android.server.SystemServer},$ the source for which is stored in AOSP/frameworks/base/services/java/com/android/server/SystemServer.java.

Method	Description	Source
and ZygoteHooks. postForkSystemServer ZygoteHooks_	Wrappers for ZygoteHooks inside the Android Runtime. They call their respective native code inside the ART via Java Native Interface. Loads the specialized class limiteraries to start the the System Server.	AOSP/libcore/dalvik/ src/main/java/dalvik/ system/ZygoteHooks. java AOSP/art/runtime/ native/dalvik_system_ ZygoteHooks.cc
ZygoteHooks_ nativePostForkChild	Loads the specialized class libraries to start the service/application.	AOSP/art/runtime/ native/dalvik_system_ ZygoteHooks.cc
handleSystemServerPr	goteInit, and finish remaining work for the newly forked system server process, and calls ZygoteInit.zygoteInit.	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ ZygoteInit.java
ZygoteInit. zygoteInit	The main function called when started through the zygote process, which calls RuntimeInit.applicationInit	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ ZygoteInit.java
RuntimeInit. applicationInit	Calls the public static void main method of the application	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ RuntimeInit.java
ZygoteServer. runSelectLoop	After forking has finished, the control enters ZygoteServer which starts an endless loop that handles incoming connections with ZygoteConnection.processCommand.	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ ZygoteServer.java
ZygoteConnection. processCommand	Calls Zygote.forkAndSpecialize which is a version of ZygoteInit.forkSystemServer for the masses.	AOSP/framework/ base/core/java/com/ android/internal/os/ ZygoteConnection.java
Zygote. forkAndSpecialize	A version of Zygote. forkSystemServer for the masses.	AOSP/frameworks/base/ core/jni/com_android_ internal_os_Zygote.cpp

Method	Description	Source
<pre>com_android_in- ternal_os_native- ForkAndSpecialize</pre>	Calls zygote::ForkCommon and SpecializeCommon which does the actual forking, and returns to ZygoteInit and immediately enters ZygoteServer.	

Table 1.3: System Server and Applications Initialization Sequence

1.3 November 17, 2023

1.3.1 AOSP Hardware Abstraction Layer

The interface to the hardware is a device drivers which are usually device specific and sometimes proprietary. A single set of C header files describes the functionality that a HAL provides to the Android system. HAL Code for a particular device is the implementation of the API defined by those header files, so that no code above the HAL needs to be changed to port Android to use the new device.

HAL Code Structure

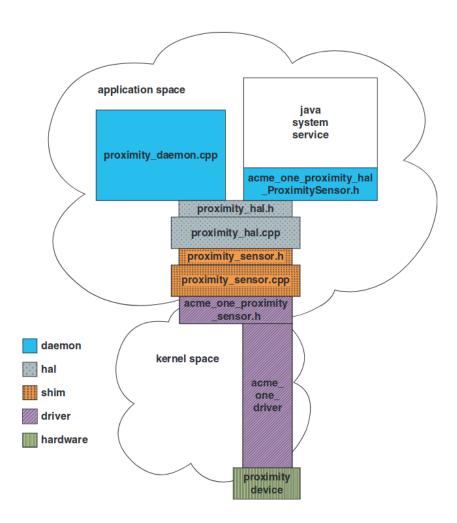


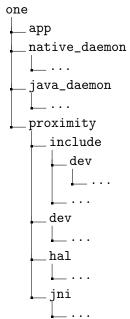
Figure 1.2: HAL Layer Structure

The code consists of four functional components as show in Figure 1.2:

- 1. **HAL code (dotted boxes):** Abstraction that separates the capabilities of hardware from its specific implementations. The .h file defines the HAL interface, and the implementation (.cpp file) specializes the Android HAL API for the target hardware.
- 2. **Shim code (dashed boxes):** Glue code that connects the HAL to a specific device hardware/driver. This code adapts the Android HAL API to the device driver for the hardware.
- 3. **Daemon (blue):** Stand-alone application that interacts with the hardware through the HAL.

4. **Java System Service (white):** System Service that Android applications will use to access the custom hardware.

The source for those components are structured like in the directory tree below:



where one is the device folder of the AOSP project. All the code implementing the HAL for the proximity sensors goes into a new subdirectory proximity.²

1.4 November 18, 2023

1.4.1 Configuring AOSP for Acme Device on Ubuntu 23

Repo Manifest

Top-level subdirectory named .repo contains the manifests repository inside manifests subdirectory. The manifests repo contain one or more manifest files named as the argument of the -m command line option. .repo/manifest file controls the structure of the rest of the repository, and includes .repo/manifests/default.xml³ which is a list of git repositories. repo program parses manifest.xml, and thus default.xml, and clone each repository into a location specified inside default.xml.

²To be a "real" HAL, the interface proxmity/include/proximity_hal.h would have to be promoted from its current directory specifically for the One device, up into the Android source tree to a location that would make it visible to other code that needed to use it. Here, it is only shared by Acme devices, so it is put under the subdirectory of the Acme device directory. If it's visible across device from multiple vendors, it might be promoted into the device directory itself.

³https://gerrit.googlesource.com/git-repo/+/master/docs/manifest-format.md

Each project element in the XML identifies a git repository by its name, relative to some base URL, its remote; and where that repository should be placed in the local workspace, its path. If the full URL for the repository is not specified, repo will use the default remote specified in the default element near the top of the manifest:

where the remote, aosp, is defined likewise in the top of of the default.xml:

```
1 <remote name="aosp"
2     fetch=".."
3     review="https://android-review.googlesource.com/" />
```

Instead of including a URL as its attribute, it includes the fetch attribute which indicatese the URL for this remote should be derived from the URL used to initialize the workspace (the argument to the -u option).

Ubuntu 23 does not have the repository for libncurses5 because they already have libncurses6, so you have to add old focal repository to your /etc/apt/sources. list:

```
1 \quad {\tt deb \ http://security.ubuntu.com/ubuntu \ focal-security \ main \ universe}
```

After including the old repo, update the repository index and install libncurses5:

```
1 sudo apt update
2 sudo apt install libncurses5
```

1.5 November 19, 2023

1.5.1 Building AOSP HAL

Implementing the HAL

Device driver and its API are usually provided by a third-party hardware provider. Shim code include .h files for one or more device drivers.

New devices can communicate with the processor via USB which is popular. Even without driver, the device can be accessed with generic USB commands. $libusb^4$ is

⁴https://libusb.info

a portable, user-mode, and USB-version agnostic library for using USB devices, and supports Android. If the device has a driver, it is likely to be a specialization of the USB command.

```
#ifndef PROXIMITY_HAL_H
1
   #define PROXIMITY_HAL_H
2
   #include <hardware/hardware.h>
   #define ACME_PROXIMITY_SENSOR_MODULE "libproximityhal"
8
   typedef struct proximity_sensor_device proximity_sensor_device_t;
10
   struct value_range {
11
       int min; int range;
12
13
14 typedef struct proximity_params {
15
        struct value_range precision;
16
        struct value_range proximity;
17
18
19
   proximity_params_t;
20
21
   struct proximity_sensor_device { hw_device_t common;
22
       int fd:
23
       proximity_params_t params;
       int (*poll_sensor)(proximity_sensor_device_t *dev, int precision);
24
  }; #endif // PROXIMITY_HAL_H
```

1.6 November 20, 2023

1.6.1 const Qualifier

When we have variables whose value we know cannot be changed, and We want to prevent code from inadvertently giving a new value to the variable, we define the variable's type as const:

```
1 const int bufSize = 512; // input buffer size
2 bufSize = 512; // error: attempt to write to const object
```

Because we can't change the value of a const object after we create it, it must be initialized:

```
const int i = get_size(); // ok: initialized at run time
const int j = 42; // ok: initialized at compile time
const int k; // error: k is uninitialized const
```

const is Local to the File

When a const object is initialized from a compile-time constant as in:

```
1 const int bufSize = 512;
```

the compiler will usually replace uses of the variable with its corresponding value during compilation. Thus, when we split a program to multiple files, every file that uses that const must have a access to its initializer. In order to see the initializer, the variable must be defined in every file that wants to use the variable's value. To support this, we define the const in one file, and declare it in other files that use that object.

```
1  // file_1.cc defines and initializes a const that is accessible to other files
2  extern const int bufSize = fcn();
3
4  // file_1.h
5  extern const int bufSize; // same bufSize as defined in file_1.cc
```

Because bufSize is const, we must specify extern in order for bufSize to be used in other files. extern signifies that bufSize is not local to this file and that its definition will occur elsewhere.

References to const

Unlike an ordinary reference, a reference to const cannot be used to change the object to which the reference is bound:

```
1 const int ci = 1024;
2 const int &r1 = ci; // ok: both reference and underlying object are const
3 r1 = 42; // error: r1is a reference to const int &r2 =
4 ci; // error: nonconstreference to a constobject
```

We can bind a reference to a const to a nonconst object, literals, or a more general expression:

```
1 int i = 42;
2 const int &r1 = i; // we can bind a const int& to a plain int object
3 const int &r2 = 42; // ok: r1 is a reference to const
4 const int &r3 = r1 * 2; // ok: r3 is a reference to
5 const int &r4 = r * 2; // error: r4is a plain, nonconst reference
```

It is important to realize that a reference to const restricts only what we can do through that reference. Binding a reference to const to an object says nothing about whether the underlying object itself is const.

Pointers and const

Like a reference to const, a pointer to const may not be used to change the object to which the pointer points. We may store the address of a const object only in a pointer to const, where we can modify the pointer itself (change the reference stored inside) but not the object (value) pointed to:

```
const double pi = 3.14; // pi is const; its value may not be changed
double *ptr = π // error: ptr is a plain pointer
const double *cptr = π // ok: cptr may point to a double that is const
*cptr = 42; // error: cannot assign to *cptr
```

Like a reference to const, a pointer to const says nothing about whether the object to which the pointer points is const, that there is no guarantee that an object pointed to by a pointer to const won't change.

We can have a pointer that is itself const, and the address it holds cannot by changed. We indicate that the pointer is const by putting the const by the const:

```
1 int errNumb = 0;
2 int *const curErr = &errNumb; // curErr will always point to errNumb
3 const double pi = 3.14159;
4 const double *const pip = π // pip is a constpointer to a const object
5
6 *pip = 2.72; // error: pip is a pointer to const and cannot be changed as the pointer is const
7 // if the object to which curErrpoints (i.e., errNumb) is nonzero
8 if (*curErr) {
9    errorHandler();
10    *curErr = 0; // ok: reset the value of the object to which curErr is bound because errNumb is not const
11 }
```

Constant Expressions

A constant expression is an expression whose value cannot change and that can be evaluated at compile time. A literal is a constant expression. A const object that is initialized from a constant expression is also a constant expression:

```
const int max_files = 20; // max_files is a constant expression
const int limit = max_files + 1; // limit is a constant expression
int staff_size = 27; // staff_size is not a constant expression
const int sz = get_size(); // sz is not a constant expression
```

Although staff_size is initialized from a literal, it is not a constant expression because it is a plain int, not a constint. Even though sz is a const, the value of its initializer is not known until run time, and thus, sz is not a constant expression.

We can ask the compiler to verify that a variable is a constant expression by declaring the variable in a constexpr declaration. Variables declared as constexpr are implicitly const and must be initiated by constant expressions:

```
1 constexpr int mf = 20; // 20 is a constant expression
2 constexpr int limit = mf + 1; // mf+1 is a constant expression
3 constexpr int sz = size(); // ok only if size is a constexpr function
```

Because a constant expression is one that can be evaluated at compile time, only literal types (arithmetic, reference, and pointer) types can be defined as constant expressions. Custom classes, library IO and string types are not literal types. We can point (or bind) to an object that remains at a fixed address.

constexpr declaration applies to the pointer, not the type to which the pointer points:

```
1 const int *p = nullptr; // pis a pointer to a constint
2 constexpr int *q = nullptr; // qis a constpointer to int
```

p is a pointer to const (low-level), whereas q is a constant pointer (top-level).

1.6.2 Rudimentary AOSP HAL Application

Create Rudimentary Service source file, rudi.cpp, in AOSP/device/generic/goldfish/app/wei_daemon

```
#include <unistd.h>
   #include <stdio.h>
3 #include <android/log.h>
5
    #define DELAY_SECS 2
    \texttt{\#define} \ \ \texttt{ALOG}(\texttt{msg}) \ \ \_\texttt{android\_log\_write}(\texttt{ANDROID\_LOG\_DEBUG}, \ \ \texttt{"WEIMINN}_{\sqcup} \texttt{PROJ"}, \ \texttt{msg})
6
    int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
8
9
          ALOG("STARTING WEIMINN PROJECT");
10
         int n = 0;
11
         while (true) {
12
13
              sleep(DELAY_SECS);
14
               n++;
15
16
               ALOG("TESTING");
17
         }
18 }
```

And create Soong build file, Android.bp in the same folder:

```
cc_binary {
       name: "weiminn_daemon",
2
       relative_install_path: "hw",
3
       init_rc: ["init.weiminn.rc"],
4
       header_libs: [
           "liblog_headers",
7
       ],
8
       srcs: [
           "weiminn.cpp"
10
11
       shared_libs: [
12
           "liblog",
            "libcutils",
13
15
       static_libs: [
16
       ],
17
       vendor: true,
       proprietary: true,
18
19 }
```

 $Add\ wei_rudi_daemon\ to\ the\ PRODUCT_PACKAGES+=\ \ attribute\ of\ AOSP/device/generic/goldfish/vendor.mk$

Add the startup script below to the end of the init.rc file:

But the service cannot start due to SE Policy not being implemented for the service yet:

```
1 11-21 02:13:54.242 1862 1862 W cp : type=1400 audit(0.0:231): avc: denied {
    getattr } for path="/vendor/bin/hw/wei_rudi_daemon" dev="dm-3" ino=110
    scontext=u:r:shell:s0 tcontext=u:object_r:vendor_file:s0 tclass=file
    permissive=0
```

1.7 November 21, 2023

1.7.1 Fixing SELinux Policy to Start System Service

Add seclabel to the startup script:

Add start weiminn_daemon under on early-init right after start ueventd.

Got a new permission denied error this time:

Adding device/generic/goldfish/sepolicy/x86/weiminn.te with following contents:

```
1 type weiminn, domain;
2 permissive weiminn;
3 type weiminn_exec, vendor_file_type, exec_type, file_type;
4
5 init_daemon_domain(weiminn)
```

and changed seclabel of the startup script to seclabel u:r:weiminn_exec:s0. And it reverts to the previous error:

1.7.2 Memory Dump

Try on Android Emulator

Set up emulator environment by appending the following inside ~/.bashrc:

```
export ANDROID_SDK_ROOT=~/Android/Sdk
  export ANDROID_HOME=~/Android/Sdk
  export ANDROID_AVD_HOME=~/.android/avd
5 PATH=$PATH:$ANDROID_SDK_ROOT/emulator
      Register the path:
1 source ~/.bashrc
```

Create new AVD, Pixel 7 Pro with Tramisu (Android 13 with Google APIs, not Google Play), via Android Studio.

Run emulator using command:

```
emulator -avd Pixel_7_Pro_API_33
```

Load APK into emulator:

```
1 adb devices # to get id of running instance
 adb root
3 adb install -r de.drmaxnix.birthdaycountdown.apk
```

Clone Fridump⁵:

```
git clone https://github.com/Nightbringer21/fridump
2 code fridump
3 pip install frida frida-tools
```

Download and Run Fridump dependencies:

```
1 git clone https://github.com/Nightbringer21/fridump
  code fridump
  adb push frida-server /data/local/tmp
  sudo sysctl kernel.yama.ptrace_scope=0 && frida-ps -D emulator-5554
5 frida-ps -D emulator-5554 | grep Birth # to get process ID of the Birthday app
  # inside emulator shell
  ./data/local/tmp/frida-server
```

Found out that Fridump doesn't support the latest Android 13 and API 34, so download Android 10 with API 29 with Pixel 3a.

Run Fridump:

```
1 python fridump.py -U -s Birthday\ Countdown
  and it works now!
```

November 22, 2023 1.8

1.8.1 C++ Data Structure

Sales_item Struct

The data structure does not support any operations⁶ any requires the user to implement the operations themselves:

⁵https://pentestcorner.com/introduction-to-fridump

⁶Basically, class with only attributes, and no methods.

```
1 struct Sales_data {
2    std::string bookNo;
3    unsigned units_sold = 0;
4    double revenue = 0.0;
5 }:
```

The names defined inside the class must be unique within the class but can reuse names defined outside the class. We define data members the same way that we define normal variables: We specify a base type followed by a list of one or more declarators.

The close curly that ends the class body must be followed by a semicolon. The semicolon is needed because we can define variables after the class body:

```
struct Sales_data { /* ... */ } accum, trans, *salesptr;
// equivalent, but better way to define these objects
struct Sales_data { /* ... */}; Sales_data accum, trans, *salesptr;
```

The semicolon marks the end of the (usually empty) list of declarators. Ordinarily, it is a bad idea to define an object as part of a class definition. Doing so obscures the code by combining the definitions of two different entities—the class and a variable—in a single statement.

We use the dot operator (.) to read into the member attributes of the object:

```
1 Sales_data data1, data2;
2 double price = 0; // price per book, used to calculate total revenue
3
4 // read the first transactions: ISBN, number of books sold, price per book
5 std::cin >> data1.bookNo >> data1.units_sold >> price;
6
7 // calculate total revenue from price and units_sold
8 data1.revenue = data1.units_sold * price;
9
10 // read the second transaction
11 std::cin >> data2.bookNo >> data2.units_sold >> price;
12 data2.revenue = data2.units_sold * price;
```

Preprocessor

In order to ensure that the class definition is the same in each file, classes are usually defined in header files. Typically, classes are stored in headers whose name derives from the name of the class. Thus, we will define our Sales_data class in a header file named Sales_data.h.

Headers often need to use facilities from other headers. For example, because our Sales_data class has a string member, Sales_data.h must #include the string header. As we've seen, programs that use Sales_data also need to include the string header in order to use the bookNo member. As a result, programs that use Sales_data will include the string header twice: once directly and once as a side effect of including Sales_data.h. Because a header might be included more than once, we need to write our headers in a way that is safe even if the header is included multiple times.

The **preprocessor** is a program that runs before the compiler and changes the source text of our programs. Our programs already rely on one preprocessor facility, #include. When the preprocessor sees a #include, it replaces the #include with the contents of the specified header.

Header guards can be defined using the preprocessor. Preprocessor variables have one of two states: defined and not defined. #define directive takes a name as a preprocessor variable. #ifdef is true if the variable has been defined, and #ifndef is true if the variable has not been defined. If the test is true, then everything following the #ifdef or #ifndef is processed up to the matching #endif:

```
1
   #ifndef SALES_DATA_H
2
   #define SALES_DATA_H
3
   #include <string>
5
   struct Sales_data {
       std::string bookNo;
8
       unsigned units_sold = 0;
9
       double revenue = 0.0;
10 };
11
   #endif
```

The first time Sales_data.h is included, the #ifndef test will succeed. The preprocessor will process the lines following #ifndef up to the #endif. As a result, the preprocessor variable SALES_DATA_H will be defined and the contents of Sales_data.h will be copied into our program. If we include Sales_data.h later on in the same file, the #ifndef directive will be false. The lines between it and the #endif directive will be ignored.

Preprocessor variables, including names of header guards, must be unique throughout the program. Typically we ensure uniqueness by basing the guard's name on the name of a class in the header. To avoid name clashes with other entities in our programs, preprocessor variables usually are written in all uppercase.

1.9 November 23, 2023

1.9.1 C++ Types and Data Structures

Aliases

Traditionally, we use typedef for synonym for another type:

```
1 typedef double wages; // wages is a synonym for double
2 typedef wages base, *p; // base is a synonym for double, p for double*
```

The new standard introduced a second way to define alias declaration type alias:

```
1 using SI = Sales_item; // SI is a synonym for Sales_item
```

It is also possible to declare "pointer to" alias:

```
typedef char *pstring;
const pstring cstr = 0; // equivalent to char *const cstr = 0;
const pstring *ps; // equivalent to const char *ps;
```

auto Type Specifier

We can let the compiler deduce the type from the initializer for us by using the auto type specifier:

```
1 // the type of item is deduced from the type of the result of adding val1 and val2 2 auto item = val1 + val2; // item initialized to the result of val1+val2
```

The initializaer for all the variables muxt have types that are consistent with each other:

```
1 auto i = 0, *p = &i; // ok: i is int and p is a pointer to int
2 auto sz = 0, pi = 3.14; // error: inconsistent types for sz and pi
```

auto ignores top-level consts, and only low-level initializer are usually kept:

```
1 auto i = 0, *p = &i; // ok: i is int and p is a pointer to int 2 auto sz = 0, pi = 3.14; // error: inconsistent types for sz and pi
```

1.10 November 25, 2023

1.10.1 Android Memory Dump

Heap Dump

```
adb shell am dumpheap <PID> <HEAP-DUMP-FILE-PATH>
   adb shell cat <HEAP-DUMP-FILE-PATH> > <LOCAL-FILE-PATH>
   strings <LOCAL-FILE-PATH> <LOCAL-FILE-PATH-FOR-STRINGS>
5 pip install objection
   frida-ps -Uai
   # objection -g de.drmaxnix.birthdaycountdown explore
   objection -g bloodpressure.bpdiary explore
10
   android hooking list classes #List all loaded classes, As the target application
       gets usedmore, this command will return more classes.
11
12 android hooking search classes bloodpressure.bpdiary
   android hooking search methods bloodpressure.bpdiary recordDbActivity
14
   android hooking watch class bloodpressure.bpdiary.recordDbActivity --dump-args --
15
       dump-return
16
17
   android hooking watch class_method bloodpressure.bpdiary.recordDbActivity.
       showWeight --dump-args --dump-backtrace --dump-return
```

1.11 November 27, 2023

1.11.1 Android Profile Guided Compilation

7 8

Baseline Profiles

Perfetto

Simpleperf

```
git clone https://android.googlesource.com/platform/system/extras

cd extras/simpleperf/demo/scripts/
python3 app_profiler.py -p simpleperf.example.java

python3 report_html.py --add_source_code --source_dirs ../demo --add_disassembly
sudo apt-get install python3-tk
./report.py

python3 app_profiler.py -p bloodpressure.bpdiary
adb shell /data/local/tmp/simpleperf record -o /data/local/tmp/perf.data -e task-
clock:u -f 1000 -g --duration 10 --log info --app bloodpressure.bpdiary
```

Profcollect

10

This is only supported by Coresight ETM-enabled ARM devices, so emulator doesn't work.

Inside ADB shell:

```
device_config put profcollect_native_boot enabled true
setprop persist.device_config.profcollect_native_boot.collection_interval 60
setprop persist.device_config.profcollect_native_boot.sampling_period 1000
setprop persist.device_config.profcollect_native_boot.max_trace_limit 53687091200
setprop persist.device_config.profcollect_native_boot.enabled true
setprop ctl.stop profcollectd
setprop ctl.start profcollectd
gs -e | grep profcollectd
```

⁷https://developer.android.com/games/agde/pgo-overview

 $^{^8}$ https://newandroidbook.com/files/ArtOfDalvik.pdf

⁹https://android.googlesource.com/platform/system/extras/+/main/simpleperf/demo/ README.md

 $^{^{10} \}mathtt{https://android.google source.com/platform/system/extras/+/master/profcollectd/}$

1.12 November 29, 2023

1.12.1 Android OAT Dump Parser

The format for OAT files is described in AOSP/art/dex2oat/linker/oat_writer.h.

.bss¹¹ is the portion of an ojbect file, executable, or assembly language code that contains statically allocated variables that are declared but not have been assigned a value yet.

```
import argparse
1
3
   # helper function
   def findLineWith(arr, s):
       for i in range(len(arr)):
            if s in arr[i]:
6
7
                return i
8
   def parse_method(method_arr):
10
       method_sig_raw = method_arr.pop(0)
11
       method_sig_raw_ = method_sig_raw[0: method_sig_raw.index(')')+1]
       method_sig_raw__ = method_sig_raw_.split(':')[1:]
12
13
       method_sig = method_sig_raw__[0].strip()
14
15
       method_arr.pop(0) # discard "DEX CODE:"
16
        endOfDex = findLineWith(method_arr, "OatMethodOffsets")
       dexCode = method_arr[0: endOfDex]
17
18
       startOfOat = findLineWith(method_arr, "CODE:")
19
20
       nativeCode = method_arr[startOfOat+1:] # Exclude "CODE: "
21
       parsed_method = {'method_sig': method_sig, 'dex': dexCode, 'native':
22
           nativeCode}
23
       # print("Parsed", method_sig)
24
25
26
        return parsed_method
27
28
   def parse_type(type_arr):
29
       method_indexes = [i for i in range(len(type_arr)) if 'method_idx' in type_arr[
            i]]
30
       if len(method_indexes) > 0:
31
            method_indexes.append(len(type_arr))
        methods_raw = [type_arr[method_indexes[i]:method_indexes[i+1]] for i in range
32
            (0, len(method_indexes)-1)]
33
34
       methods = []
35
       for mraw in methods_raw:
36
            methods.append(parse_method(mraw))
37
38
       return {'type_name': type_arr[0].split()[1], 'methods': methods}
39
40
   def load_oat_dump(p):
41
       f = open(p)
42
       lines = f.readlines()
43
```

¹¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.bss

```
# determine the start and end of DEX code
       startOfOatDex = lines.index('OatDexFile:\n')
45
       endOfOatDex = lines.index('OAT_FILE_STATS:\n')
46
       OatDex = lines[startOfOatDex:endOfOatDex]
47
48
49
       # extract the classes and types
50
       type_indexes = [i for i in range(len(OatDex)) if 'type_idx' in OatDex[i]]
51
       type_indexes.append(len(OatDex))
52
       all_types = [OatDex[type_indexes[i]:type_indexes[i+1]] for i in range(0, len(
            type_indexes)-1)]
53
54
       all_methods = []
55
       all_methods_dict = {}
57
       for t in all_types:
58
            parsed = parse_type(t)
59
            all_methods += parsed['methods']
60
61
            for m in parsed['methods']:
62
                all_methods_dict[m['method_sig']] = {}
63
                all_methods_dict[m['method_sig']]['dex'] = m['dex']
                all_methods_dict[m['method_sig']]['native'] = m['native']
64
65
       # return all_methods
66
67
       return all_methods_dict
68
   def load_schema(p):
70
       f = open(p)
71
       lines = f.readlines()
72
73
       schema = []
74
       for 1 in lines:
75
            split = 1.split('||')
76
            schema.append(split[1][:-1]) # -1 to remove \n character
77
            # print("Added schema", schema[-1])
78
       return schema
79
   parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(description='OAT_Debloation_Checker')
81
   parser.add_argument('--oat', type=str, help='OAT_Dump_TXT_file')
   parser.add_argument('--schema', type=str, help='Debloatinguschemaufile')
83
84
   try:
85
       args = parser.parse_args()
       # print("Options:", args.OAT, args.schema)
86
87
88
       # Load Debloated OAT Dump
       print("Debloated_OAT_Dump:", args.oat)
89
90
       normal_methods = load_oat_dump(args.oat)
91
       # normal_methods = load_oat_dump('prelim_results/com.storiestime/10
           min_normal_com.storiestime_oat_dump.txt')
92
93
       # Load Schema
       print("SchemauFile:", args.schema)
95
       schema = load_schema(args.schema)
       # schema = load_schema('Money_script/success_schema/169_com.
           storiestime_removed_methods.txt')
98
       # Check if debloated
       for m in schema:
```

```
100 retrieve = normal_methods[m]
101 if 'NO_CODE!' in retrieve['native'][0]:
102 print(m, '_is_debloated!')
103 else:
104 print(m, '_is_not_debloated!')
105
106 # print('test')
107 except Exception as e:
108 print("Exception!", str(e))
```

Chapter 2

December

2.1 December 01, 2023

2.1.1 C++ Strings and Vectors

Namespace using Declarations

The scope operator (::) says that the compiler should look in the scope of the left-hand operand for the name of the right-hand operand. using declaration lets us use a name from a namespace without qualifying the name with namespace:: prefix as below:

```
1 #include <iostream>
2
3 // when we use the name cin, we get the one from the namespace std
4 using namespace::name;
5
6 int main(){
7    int i;
8    cin >> i;
9    cout << i;
10    std::cout << i;
11    return 0;
12 }</pre>
```

Headers should NOT include using declarations, as the contents of a header are copied into the including program's text. As a result, a program that didn't intend to use the specified library name might encounter unexpected name conflicts.

string Type

If you include a header that includes <string> you may not have to do so explicitly. However, it is bad practice to count on this, and well-written headers include guards against multiple inclusion, so assuming you're using well-written header files, there is

no harm in including a header that was included via a previous include. 1:

Most common ways to initialize strings:

```
1  // direct initialization
2  string s1; // default initialization; s1 is the empty string
3  string s4(10, 'c'); // s4 is ccccccccc
4  string s6("hiya");
5
6  // copy initialization
7  string s2 = s1; // s2 is a copy of s1
8  string s3 = "hiya"; // equivalent to string s3("hiya");
9  string s8 = string(10, 'c') // copying initialization; s8 is ccccccccc
```

When we initialize a variable using =, we are asking the compiler to copy initialize the object by copying the initializer on the right-hand size into the object being created. When we omit the =, we use direct initialization.

string Operations:

Statement	Description
os< <s< td=""><td>Writes s onto output stream os. Return os.</td></s<>	Writes s onto output stream os. Return os.
is>>s	Reads whitespaced-separated string from is to s. Return is.
<pre>getline(is,s)</pre>	Reads a line of input from is into s. Returns is.
s.empty()	Returns true if s is empty; otherwise return false.
s.size()	Returns the number of characters in s.
s[n]	Returns a reference to the char at position n in s.
s1 + s2	Returns a string that is the concatenation of s1 and s2.
s1 += s2	Equivalent to s1 = s1 + s2.
s1 = s2	Replaces characters in s1 with a copy of s2.
s1 == s2 and s1	The strings in s1 and s2 are equal if they contain the same
!= s2	characters. The equality is case-sensitive.
<, <=, >, >=	Comparisons are case-sensitive and use dictionary ordering.

Table 2.1: string Operations

To check individual character:

Function I	Description
isalpha(c) t	true if c is a letter or a digit. true if c is a letter. true if c is a control character.

¹https://stackoverflow.com/a/73640984

Function	Description		
digit(c)	true if c is a digit.		
isgraph(c)	true if c is not a space but is printable.		
islower(c)	true if c is a lowercase letter.		
<pre>isprint(c)</pre>	true if c is a printable character (i.e., a space or a character		
	that has a visible representation).		
<pre>ispunct(c)</pre>	true if c is a punctuation character.		
isspace(c)	true if c is whitespace (i.e., a space, tab, vertical tab, return		
	newline, or formfeed).		
isupper(c)	true if c is an uppercase letter.		
<pre>isxdigit(c)</pre>	true if c is a hexadecimal digit.		
tolower(c)	If c is an uppercase letter, returns its lowercase equivalent;		
	otherwise returns c unchanged.		
toupper(c)	If c is an lower letter, returns its uppercase equivalent; oth-		
	erwise returns c unchanged.		

Table 2.2: cctype Functions

Reading an Unknown Number of strings

If the stream is valid - it hasn't hit end-of-file or encountered an invalid input - then the body of while is executed:

```
int main() {
1
        string word;
        while (cin >> word) // read until end-of-file
3
            cout << word << endl; // write each word followed by a new line</pre>
5
       \ensuremath{//} Reads the given stream up to and including the first newline
7
        string line; // read input a line at a time until end-of-file
8
        while (getline(cin, line))
9
            // The newline that causes getline to return is discarded; the newline is
                not stored in the string.
10
            cout << line << endl;</pre>
11
       while (getline(cin, line))
13
            // Only print lines that are not empty
14
            if (!line.empty())
15
                cout << line << endl;</pre>
16
17
        return 0;
18
```

Library strings and String Literals

When we mix strings and string or character literals, at least one operand to each + operator must be of string type:

```
1 string s4 = s1 + ",_{\square}"; // ok: adding a string and a literal 2 string s5 = "hello" + ",_{\square}"; // error: no string operand 3 string s6 = s1 + ",_{\square}" + "world"; // ok: each + has a string operand 4 string s7 = "hello" + ",_{\square}" + s2; // error: can't add string literals
```

For compatibility reasons with C, string literals are NOT standard library strings. It is important to remember that these types differ when you use string literals and library strings.

Characters in strings

string expression represent a sequence of characters, and to traverse every character, we can use a range for that follows the syntax:

```
for (declaration: expression)
statement

A simple example:

string str("some_string");
// print the characters in str one character to a line
for (auto c : str) // for every char in str
cout << c << endl; // print the current character followed by a newline</pre>
```

We use auto to let compiler deduce the type of c, which in this case will be char.

If we want to change the value of the character in a string, we must define the loop variable as a reference type:

The subscript operator (the [] operator) takes a string::size_type value that denotes the position of the character we want to access. The operator returns a reference to the character at the given position:

s[index] = toupper(s[index]); // capitalize the current character

vector Type

A vector is a collection² of objects, all of which have the same type, and each of which has an associated index that gives access to that object. Below is the headers to use a vector:

```
1 #include <vector>
2 user std::vector;
```

vector is not a class/type but a class template, which is a set of instructions for the compiler for generating classes/types, a process called instantiation. To specify what kind of class (what type of object we want the vector to hold) we want to instantiate, we supply additional information inside a pair of angle brackets following the template's name:

```
1 vector<int> ivec; // ivec holds objects of type
2 int vector<Sales_item> Sales_vec; // holds Sales_items
3 vector<vector<string>> file; // vector whose elements are vectors
```

Here, vector<int>, vector<Sales_item>, and vector<vector<string>> are the types generated types by the compiler.

Because references are not objects, we cannot have a vector of references.

Defining and Initializing vectors

The most common way of Initializing a vector is to initialize an empty vector. We can also perform direct and copy initialization, but the objects must be the same type:

```
vector<string> svec; // default initialization; svechas no elements
   // direct and copy initialization
   vector < int > ivec2(ivec); // copy elements of ivec into ivec2
   vector<int> ivec3 = ivec; // copy elements of ivec into ivec3
   vector<string> svec(ivec2); // error: svec holds strings, not ints
   // list initialization
9
   vector<string> articles = {"a", "an", "the"};
   vector<string> articles2{"a", "an", "the"};
   vector < string > articles3("a", "an", "the"); // error
11
12
13 vector < int > ivec(10, -1); // ten int elements, each initialized to -1
14
   vector<string> svec(10, "hi!"); // ten strings; each element is "hi!"
15
   vector < int > ivec(10); // ten elements, each initialized to 0
16
17
   vector < string > svec(10); // ten elements, each an empty string
```

Some classes require that we always supply an explicit initializer, and cannot be default initialized, in which case, we must supply the initial value/

²Often referred to as container because it "contains" other objects.

vector Operations

Two vectors are equal if they have the same number of elements, and if the corresponding elements all have the same value. If the vectors have differing sizes, but the elements that are in common are equal, then the vector with fewer elements is less than the one with more elements. If the elements have differing values, then the relationship between the vectors is determined by the relationship between the first elements that differ. We can compare two vectors only if we can compare the element in those vectors.

Methods	Description	
v.empty()	Returns true if v is empty; otherwise returns false.	
v.size()	Returns the number of elements in v.	
v.push_back(t)	Adds an element with value t to the end of v.	
v[n]	Returns a reference to the element at position n in v.	
v1 = v2	Replaces the elements in v1 with a copy of the elements in	
	v2.	
$v1 = {a, b, c,}$	Replaces the elements in v1 with a copy of the elements in	
}	the comma-separated list.	
v1 == v2 and v1	v1 and v2 are equal if they have the same number of el-	
!= v2	ements and each element in v1 is equal to corresponding	
	element in v2.	
<, <=, >, >=	Have their normal meanings using dictionary ordering.	

Table 2.3: vector Methods

As with strings, subscript for vector start at 0; the type of a subscript is the corresponding size_type; and we can write to the element returned by the subscript operator.

Subscripting a vector does NOT add elements:

```
1 vector <int > ivec; // empty vector
2 for (decltype(ivec.size()) ix = 0; ix != 10; ++ix)
3 ivec[ix] = ix; // disaster: ivec has no elements
```

It is an error to subscript an element that doesn't exist, but it is an error that the compiler is unlikely to detect. Instead, the value we get at run time is undefined³. A good way to ensure that subscripts are in range is to avoid subscripting altogether by using a range for whenever possible.

³ Buffer overflow errors are the result of subscripting elements that don't exist. Such bugs are the most common cause of security problems in PC and other applications.

2.2 December 03, 2023

2.2.1 C++ Iterator, and Arrays

Iterators

Iterators are more general mechanism than subscript operators. All of the library containers have iterators, but only a few of them support the subscript operator. Like pointers, iterators give us indirect acess to an object.

```
1 // the compiler determines the type of b and e;
2 // b denotes the first element and e denotes one past the last element in v
3 auto b = v.begin(), e = v.end(); // b and e have the same type
```

The begin member returns an iterator that denotes the first element (if there is one). The end member returns an iterator positioned "one past the end" of the associated container (or string), also referred to as the off-the-end iterator. If the container is empty, begin returns the same iterator as the one returned by end.

We do not know (or need to care about) the precise type that an iterator has, so we use auto to define b and e.

We compare two valid iterators using == or !=. Iterators are equal if they denote the same element of if they are both off-the-end iterators for the same container. Otherwise, they are unequal.

Like pointers, we can dereference a valid iterator to obtain the elemnt denoted by an iterator. Dereferencing an invalid iterator or an off-the-end iterator has undefined behavior:

```
1 string s("some_string");
2 if (s.begin() != s.end()) { // make sure s is not empty
3     auto it = s.begin(); // it denotes the first character in s
4     *it = toupper(*it); // make that character uppercase
5 }
```

Iterators also support a few other operations:

Methods	Description	
*iter	Returns a reference to the element denoted by the iterator	
	iter.	
iter->mem	Dereferences iter and fetches the member named mem from	
	the underlying element. Equivalent to (*iter).mem.	
++iter	Increments iter to refer to the next element in the container.	
-iter	Decrements iter to refer to the previous element in the con-	
	tainer.	
iter1 == iter2 and	Compares two iterators for equality. Two iterators are equal	
iter1 != iter2	if they denote the same element or if they are off-the-end	
	iterator for the same container.	

Table 2.4: Iterator operations

The increment (++) operator to move from one element to the next:

```
1 string s("some_string");
2 for (auto it = s.begin(); it != s.end() && !isspace(*it); ++it) {
3     *it = toupper(*it); // make that character uppercase
4 }
```

Because the iterator returned by end does not denote an element, it may not be incremented or dereferenced.

When we need to read but not write to an object, we ask specifically for const_iterator type:

```
1 vector < int > v;
2 auto b = v.cbegin(); // b has type vector < int >:: const_iterator
3 auto e = v.cend(); // e has type vector < int >:: const_iterator
```

Regardless of whether the container is const, they return a const_iterator.

Iterators for string and vector support additional operations that can move an iterator multiple elements at a time, often referred to as iterator arithmetic:

Iter. Arithmetic	Description
iter + n and iter - n	Adding (subtracting) an integral value n to (from) an iterator yields an iterator that many elements forward (or backward) within the container. The resulting iterator must denote elements in, or one past the end of, the same container.
iter += n and iter -= n	Compound-assignment for iterator addition and subtraction. Assigns to iter1 the value of adding n to, or subtracting n from,
iter1 - iter2	iter1. Subtracting two iterators yields the number that when added to the right-hand iterator yields the left-hand iterator. The itera-
>,>=,<,<=	tors must denote elements in, or one past the end of, the same container. Relational operators on iterators. One iterator is less than another if it refers to an element that appears in the container before the one referred to by the other iterator. The iterators must denote elements in, or one past the end of, the same container.

Table 2.5: Iterator Arithmetics

A classic algorithm that uses iterator arithmetic is binary search:

```
1 vector < int > v;
2 // text must be sorted
3 // begand end will denote the range we're searching
4 auto beg = text.begin(), end = text.end();
```

```
5 auto mid = text.begin() + (end - beg)/2; // original midpoint
6
7 // while there are still elements to look at and we haven't yet found sought
8 while (mid != end && *mid != sought) {
9     if (sought < *mid) // is the element we want in the first half?
10     end = mid; // if so, adjust the range to ignore the second half
11     else // the element we want is in the second half
12     beg = mid + 1; // start looking with the element just after mid
13     mid = beg + (end - beg)/2; // new midpoint
14 }</pre>
```

Arrays

Similar to library vector type, an array is a container of unnamed objectis of a single type that we access by position. Unlike a vector, arrays have fixed size; we cannot add elements to an array, in order to attain better runtime performance for specialize applications at the cost of flexibility.

An array declarator has the form a[d], where a is the name being defined and d is the dimension of the array which specifies the number of elements and must be greater than zero. The dimension must be known at compile time, which means that the dimension must be a constexpr:

```
unsigned cnt = 42; // not a constant expression
constexpr unsigned sz = 42; // constant expression
int arr[10]; // array of ten ints
int *parr[sz]; // array of 42 pointers to int
string bad[cnt]; // error: cnt is not a constant expression
string strs[get_size()]; // ok if get_size is constexpr, error otherwise
```

By default, the elements in an array are default initialized. As with vector, arrays hold objects. Thus, there are no arrays of references.

We can list initialize an array which allow us to omit the dimension as the compiler infers it from the number of initializers. If we specify, the number of initializers must not exceed the specified size:

```
1 const unsigned sz = 3;
2 int ia1[sz] = {0,1,2}; // array of three ints with values 0, 1, 2
3 int a2[] = {0, 1, 2}; // an array of dimension 3
4 int a3[5] = {0, 1, 2}; // equivalent to a3[] = {0, 1, 2, 0, 0}
5 string a4[3] = {"hi", "bye"}; // same as a4[] = {"hi", "bye", ""}
6 int a5[2] = {0,1,2}; // error: too many initializers
```

Character arrays can also be initialized from a string literals. It's important to remember that string literals end with a null character:

```
1 char a1[] = {'C', '+', '+'}; // list initialization, no null
2 char a2[] = {'C', '+', '+', '\0'}; // list initialization, explicit null
3 char a3[] = "C++"; // null terminator added automatically
4 const char a4[6] = "Daniel"; // error: no space for the null!
```

We cannot initialization an array as a copy of another array, nor is it legal to assign one array to another⁴:

```
1 int a[] = {0, 1, 2}; // array of three ints
2 int a2[] = a; // error: cannot initialize one array with another
3 a2 = a; // error: cannot assign one array to another
```

Defining arrays that hold pointers is fairly straightforward, defining a pointer or reference to an array is a bit more complicated:

```
1 int *ptrs[10]; // ptrs is an array of ten pointers to int
2 int &refs[10] = /* ? */; // error: no arrays of references
3 int (*Parray)[10] = &arr; // Parray points to an array of ten ints
4 int (&arrRef)[10] = arr; // arrRef refers to an array of ten ints
```

The parentheses around *Parray means that Parray is a pointer. Looking right, we see that Parray points to an array of size 10. Looking left, we see that the elements in the array are ints.. Thus, Parray is a pointer to an array of ten ints. Similarly, &arrRef says that arrRef is a reference.

We can use range for or the subscript operator to access elements of an array:

We have to use a variable to have type size_t (defined in cstddef header) which is a machine-specific unsigned type that is guaranteed to be large enough to hold the size of any object in memory.

The most common source of security problems are buffer overflow bugs. Such bugs occur when a program fails to check a subscript and mistakenly uses memory outside the range of an array or similar data structure. Nothing stops a program from stepping across an array boundary except careful attention to detail and thorough testing of the code.

We obtain a pointer to an array element by taking the address of that element:

```
1 string nums[] = {"one", "two", "three"}; // array of strings
2 string *p = &nums[0]; // p points to the first element in nums
3 string *p2 = nums; // equivalent to p2=&nums[0]
```

When we use an object of array type, we are really using a pointer to the first element in that array, as the compiler automatically substitutes a pointer to the first element.

When we use an array as an initializer for a variable defined using auto, the deduced type is a pointer, not an array:

⁴Some compilers allow array assignment as a compiler extension. It is usually a good idea to avoid using nonstandard features. Programs that use such features, will not work with a different compiler.

```
1 int ia[] = {0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9}; // ia is an array of ten ints
2 auto ia2(ia); // ia2 is an int* that points to the first element in ia
3 ia2 = 42; // error: ia2 is a pointer, and we can't assign an int to a pointer
```

Although ia is an array of ten ints, when we use ia as an initializer, the compiler treats that initialization as if we had written:

```
1 auto ia2(&ia[0]); // now it's clear that ia2 has type int*
```

This converstion does not happen when we use decltype:

```
1 // ia3 is an array of ten ints
2 decltype(ia) ia3 = {0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9};
3 ia3 = p; // error: can't assign an int* to an array
4 ia3[4] = i; // ok: assigns the value of ito an element in ia3
```

Pointers to array elements support the same operations as iterators on vectors or strings:

```
1  // ia3 is an array of ten ints
2  int arr[] = {0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9};
3  int *p = arr; // p points to the first element in arr
4  ++p; // ppoints to arr[1]
5  int *e = &arr[10]; // pointer just past the last element in arr
```

arr has 10 elements, so the last element in arr is at index 9. Like the off-the-end iterator, off-the-end pointer does not point to an element. As a result, we may not dereference or increment an off-the-end pointer.

To be safer and less error-prone, we can use begin and end functions that act like similarly named container members. However, as arrays are not class types, these are not member functions, so they take an argument that is an array:

```
1 int ia[] = {0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9}; // ia is an array of ten ints
2 int *beg = begin(ia); // pointer to the first element in ia
3 int *last = end(ia); // pointer one past the last element in ia
```

Pointers that address array elements can use all iterator operations in Table 2.4 and Table 2.5. When we add an itegral value to or from a pointer, the result is a new pointer. That new pointer points to the element the given number ahead of the original pointer:

```
1 constexpr size_t sz = 5;
2 int arr[sz] = {1,2,3,4,5};
3 int *ip = arr; // equivalent to int*ip=&arr[0]
4 int *ip2 = ip + 4; // ip2points to arr[4], the last element in arr
5
6 // ok: arris converted to a pointer to its first element; ppoints one past the end of arr int *p = arr + sz; // use caution -- do not dereference! int *p2 = arr + 10; // error: arrhas only 5 elements; p2has undefined value
```

When we add sz to arr, the compiler converts arr to a pointer to the first element in arr. As a result, we can dereference the resulting pointer:

```
int ia[] = {0,2,4,6,8}; // array with 5 elements of type int
int last = *(ia + 4); // ok: initializes last to 8, the value of ia[4]
last = *ia + 4; // ok: last=4, equivalenttoi
```

As with iterators, subtracting two pointers gives us the distance between those pointers. The pointers must point to elements in the same array:

```
1 auto n = end(arr) - begin(arr); // n is 5, the number of elements in arr
```

The result of subtracting two pointers is a library type named ptrdiff_t which is a machine-specific type and is defined in the cstddef header.

When we subscript an array, we are subscripting a pointer to an element in that array:

Unlike subscripts for vector and string, the index of the built-in subscript operator is not an unsigned type.

Modern C++ programs should use vectors and iterators instead of built-in arrays and pointers, and use strings rather than C-style array-based character strings. Pointers are used for low-level manipulations and it is easy to make bookkeeping mistakes. Other problems arise because of the syntax, particularly the declaration syntax used with pointers.

Multidimensional Arrays

Multidimensional arrays in C++ are actually arrays of arrays:

```
int ia[3][4]; // array of size 3; each element is an array of ints of size 4
   // array of size 10; each element is a 20-element array whose elements are arrays
       of 30 ints
3
   int arr[10][20][30] = {0}; // initialize all elements to 0
   int ia[3][4] = { // three elements; each element is an array of size 4
 6
       {0, 1, 2, 3}, // initializers for the row indexed by 0 \,
       \{4,\ 5,\ 6,\ 7\}, // initializers for the row indexed by 1
       \{8, 9, 10, 11\} // initializers for the row indexed by 2
8
   };
10
   // equivalent initialization without the optional nested braces for each row
11
12
   int ia[3][4] = \{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11\};
13
   // explicitly initialize only element 0 in each row
   int ia[3][4] = {{ 0 }, { 4 }, { 8 }};
15
17
   // explicitly initialize row 0; the remaining elements are value initialized
   int ix[3][4] = {0, 3, 6, 9};
19
   // assigns the first element of arr to the last element in the last row of ia
21
   ia[2][3] = arr[0][0][0]:
   int (&row)[4] = ia[1]; // binds row to the second four-element array in ia
```

2.3 December 04, 2023

2.3.1 C++ Expressions I

lvalues and rvalues

Every expression is either an rvalue or an Ivalue. Ivalues could stand on the left-hand side of an assignment where as rvalue could not. Roughly speaking, when we use an object as an rvalue, we use the object's value (its contents). When we use an object as an Ivalue, we use the object's identity (its location in memory). We can use an Ivalue when an rvalue is required, but we cannot use an rvalue when an Ivalue (i.e., a location) is required. When we use an Ivalue in place of an rvalue, the object's contents (its value) are used:

- Assignement requires a (non const) lvalue as its left-hand operand and yields its left-hand operand as an lvalue.
- The address-of operator requires an Ivalue operand and returns a pointer to its operand as an rvalue.
- The built-in dereference and subscript operators and the iterator dereference and string and vector subscript operator all yield lvalues.
- The buit-in and iterator increment and decrement operators require lvalue operands and the prefix versions also yield lvalues.

Lvalues and rvalues also differ when used with decltype. When we apply decltype to an expression, the result is a reference type if the expression yields an lvalue.

Arithmetic Operators

Division between integers returns an integer. If the quotient contains a fractional part, it is truncated toward zero:

```
1 int ival1 = 21/6; // ival1 is 3; result is truncated; remainder is discarded int
2 ival2 = 21/7; // ival2 is 3; no remainder; result is an integral value
```

For most operators, operands of type bool are promoted to int. In this case, the value of b is true, which promotes to the int value 1. That (promoted) value is negated, yielding -1. The value-1 is converted back to bool and used to initialize b2. This initializer is a nonzero value, which when converted to bool is true. Thus, the value of b2 is true!

The operands to % must have integral type:

```
1 int ival = 42;
2 double dval = 3.14;
3
4 ival % 12; // ok: result is 6
5 ival % dval; // error: floating-point operand
```

2.4 December 05, 2023

2.4.1 C++ Expressions II

Logical and Relational Operators

The relational operators take operands of arithmetic or pointer type; the logical operators take operands of any type that can be converted to bool. The operands to those operators are rvalues and the result is an rvalue.

Associativity	Operator	Function	Use
Right	!	logical NOT	!expr
Left	<	less than	expr < expr
Left	<=	less than or equal	expr <= expr
Left	>	greater than	expr > expr
Left	>=	greater than or equal	expr >= expr
Left	==	equality	expr == expr
Left	! =	inequality	expr != expr
Left	&&	logical AND	expr && expr
Left	11	logical OR	expr expr

Table 2.6: Logical and Relational Operators

Because relational operators return bools, the result of chaining these operators together is likely to be surprising:

```
1\ //\ \text{oops!} this condition compares k to the bool result of i<j 2\ if(i< j< k)\ //\ \text{true} if k is greater than 1!
```

The compiler converts val to bool:

```
1  if (val) { /* ... */} // true if val is any nonzero value
2  if (!val) { /* ... */}// true if val is zero
3  if (val == true) { /* ... */}// trueonly if valis equal to 1!
4  if (val == 1) { /* ... */}
```

If val is not bool, then true is converted to the type of val before the == operator is applied.

Assignment Operators

The left-hand operand of an assignment operator must be a modifiable lvalue. For example, given:

```
int i = 0, j = 0, k = 0;
                               // initializations, not assignment
   const int ci = i;
                               // initialization, not assignment
   1024 = k;
                               // error: literals are rvalues
4
                                   // error: arithmetic expressions are rvalues
   i + j = k;
   ci = k;
5
                               // error: ci is a const(nonmodifiable) lvalue
   k = 0;
                               // result: type int, value 0
6
   k = 3.14159;
                               // result: type int, value 3
8
   k = {3.14};
                               // error: narrowing conversion
   vector<int> vi;
                               // initially empty
   vi = {0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9}; // vi now has ten elements, values 0 through 9
10
```

Unlike the other binary operators, assignment is right associative. The right-most assignment, jval = 0, is the right-hand operand of the left-most assignment operator:

```
1 int ival, jval;
2 ival = jval = 0; // ok: each assigned 0
3 int ival, *pval; // ival is an int; pval is a pointer to int
4 ival = pval = 0; // error: cannot assign the value of a pointer to an int
5 string s1, s2;
6 s1 = s2 = "OK"; // string literal "OK"converted to string
```

Each object in a multiple assignment must have the same type as its right-hand neighbor or a type to which that neighbor can be converted.

Assignment often occur in conditions. Because assignment has relatively low precedence, we usually must parenthesize the assignment for the condition to work properly:

```
1
   // a verbose and therefore more error-prone way to write this loop
   int i = get_value(); // get the first value
2
   while (i != 42) {
      // do something
       i = get_value();
       // get remaining values
6
7
   }
8
10
   // a better way to write our loop---what the condition does is now clearer
11
12
   while ((i = get_value()) != 42) {
13
       // do something . . .
14
```

Assignment Operators

The dot and arrow operators provide for member access. The dot operator fetches a member from an object from an object of class type; arrow is defined so that *ptr->mem* is a synonym for (**ptr*).*mem*):

```
1 string s1 = "austring", *p = &s1;
2 auto n = s1.size(); // run the sizemember of the strings1
```

```
3 n = p->size();  // equivalent to (*p).size()
4 n=(*p).size();  // run size on the object to which p points
5
6 // run the size member of p, then dereference the result!
7 *p.size(); // error: p is a pointer and has no member named size
```

Because dereference has a lower precedence than dot, we must parenthesize the dereference subexpression.

Conditional Operator

The conditional (the ?: operator) lets us embed simple if-else logic inside an expression:

```
1 // cond ? expr1: expr2;
2 string final grade = (grade < 60) ? "fail": "pass";</pre>
```

where expr1 and expr2 are expressions of the same type.

An incompletely parenthesized conditional operator in an output expression can have surprising results:

```
1 cout << ((grade < 60) ? "fail" : "pass"); // prints pass or fail
2 cout << (grade < 60) ? "fail" : "pass"; // prints 1 or 0!
3 cout << grade < 60 ? "fail" : "pass"; // error: compares cout to 60</pre>
```

The second expression uses the comparison between grade and 60 as the operand to the « operator.

Bitwise Operator

Because there are no guarantees for how the sign bit is handled, it is strongly recommended to use unsigned types with the bitwise operators.

Operator	Function	Use
	bitwise NOT	expr
«	left shift	expr1 « expr2
>	right shift	expr1 » expr2
&	bitwise AND	expr1 & expr2
^	bitwise XOR	expr1 êxpr2
1	bitwise OR	expr1 expr2

Table 2.7: Bitwise Operators

The built-in menaing of the shift operators is to perform a bitwise shift on their operands. They yield a value that is a copy of the left-hand operand with the bits

shifted as directed by the right-hand operand. The right-hand operand must not be negative and must be a value that is strictly less than the number of bits in the result. Otherwise, the operation is undefined. The bits are shifted left (*) or right (*). Bits that are shifted off the end are discarded:

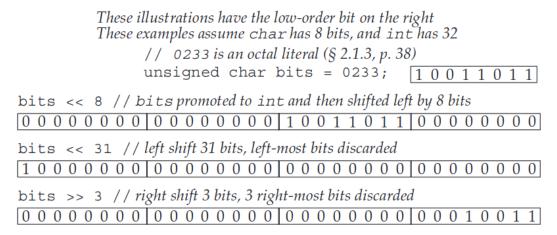


Figure 2.1: Bitwise Shift Operation

Shift operators have midlevel precedence (lower than the arithmetic operators but higher than the relational, assignment, and conditional operators):

```
1 cout << 42 + 10; // ok: + has higher precedence, so the sum is printed
2 cout << (10 < 42); // ok: parentheses force intended grouping; prints 1
3 cout << 10 < 42; // error: attempt to compare cout to 42!
```

The bitwise NOT operator generates a new value with the bits of its operand inverted:

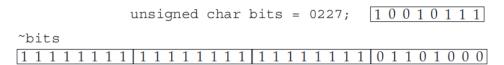


Figure 2.2: Bitwise NOT Operation

The AND, OR, and XOR operators generate new values with the bit pattern composed from its two operands:

Figure 2.3: Bitwise AND, OR, and XOR Operation

sizeof Operator

The sizeof operator returns the size, in bytes, of an expression or a type name. The operator is right associative. The result of sizeof is a constant expression of type size_t. The operator takes one of two forms:

```
1 sizeof(type)
2 sizeof expr
```

The sizeof operator is unusual in that it does not evaluate its operand:

```
Sales_data data, *p;
sizeof(Sales_data); // size required to hold an object of type Sales_data
sizeof data; // size of data's type, i.e., sizeof(Sales_data)
sizeof p; // size of a pointer
sizeof *p; // size of the type to which p points, i.e., sizeof(Sales_data)
sizeof data.revenue; // size of the type of Sales_data's revenue member
sizeof Sales_data::revenue; // alternative way to get the size of revenue
```

Dereferencing an invalid pointer as the operand to size of is safe because the pointer is not actually used, because size of does not need to dereference the pointer to know what type it will return.

The result of applying sizeof depends in part on the type involved:

- sizeof char or an expression of type char is guaranteed to be 1.
- sizeof a reference type returns the size of an object of the referenced type.
- size of a pointer returns the size needed to hold a pointer.
- sizeof a dereferenced pointer returns the size of an object of the type to which the pointer points; the pointer need not be valid.
- sizeof an array is the size of the entire array. It is equivalent to taking the sizeof the element type times the number of elements in the array. Note that sizeof does not convert the array to a pointer.
- sizeof a string or a vector returns only the size of the fixed part of these types;
 it does not return the size used by the object's elements.

Because sizeof returns the size of the entire array, we can determine the number of elements in an array by dividing the array size by the element size.

Comma Operator

The comma operator takes two operands, which it evaluates from left to right. Like the logical AND and logical OR and the conditional operator guarantees the order in which its operands are evaluated. Most common use for the comma operator is in a for loop:

```
1 vector<int>::size_type cnt = ivec.size();
2 // assign values from size...1 to the elements in ivec
3 for(vector<int>::size_type ix = 0;
4          ix != ivec.size(); ++ix, --cnt)
5     ivec[ix] = cnt;
```

The left-hand expression is evaluated and its result is discarded. The result of a comma expression is the value of its right-hand expression. The result is an Ivalue if the right-hand operand is an Ivalue.

Type Conversions

Implicit conversions are carried out automatically without programmer intervention, and are defined to preserve precision, if possible.

- In most expressions, values of integral types smaller than int are first promoted to an appropriate larger integral type.
- In conditions, nonbool expressions are converted to bool.
- In initializations, the initializer is converted to the type of the variable; in assignments, the right-hand operand is converted to the type of the left-hand.
- In arithmetic and relational expressions with operands of mixed types, the types are converted to a common type.

Conversions also happen during function calls.

Arithmetic conversions:

```
bool flag;
                    char cval;
                unsigned short usval
unsigned int uival;
unsigned long ulval;
   short sval;
                    unsigned short usval;
   int ival;
4 long lval;
   float fval;
                    double dval;
   3.14159L + 'a'; // 'a' promoted to int, then that intconverted to long double
8 dval + ival; // ival converted to double
   dval + fval; // fval converted to double
   ival = dval; // dval converted (by truncation) to int
   flag = dval; // if dval is 0, then flag is false, otherwise true
11
12 cval + fval; // cval promoted to int, then that int converted to float
```

```
13  sval + cval; // sval and cval promoted to int
14  cval + lval; // cval converted to long
15  ival + ulval; // ival converted to unsigned long
16  usval + ival; // promotion depends on the size of unsigned short and int
17  uival + lval; // conversion depends on the size of unsigned int and long
```

Array to pointer conversion:

```
1 int ia[10]; // array of ten ints
2 int* ip = ia; // convert ia to a pointer to the first element
```

This conversion is not performed when an array is used with decltype or as the operand of the address-of(&), sizeof, or typeid operators. The conversion is also omitted when we initialize a reference to an array. A similar pointer conversion happens when we use a function type in an expression.

A constant integral value of 0 and the literal nullptr can be converted to any pointer type; a pointer to any nonconst type can be converted to void*, and a pointer to any type can be converted to a const void*

There is an automatic conversion from arithmetic or pointer types to bool. If the pointer or arithmetic value is zero, the conversion yields false; any other yields true:

```
1 char *cp = get_string();
2 if (cp) /* ... */// trueif the pointer cp is not zero
3 while (*cp) /* ... */// trueif *cpis not the null character
```

We can convert a pointer to a nonconst type to a pointer to the corresponding const type, and similarly for references. That is, if T is a type, we can convert a pointer or a reference to T into a pointer or a reference to const T:

```
1 int i;
2 const int &j = i; // convert a non const to a reference to const int
3 const int *p = &i; // convert address of a non const to the address of a const
4 int &r = j, *q = p; // error: conversion from const to nonconst not allowed
```

The reverse conversion - removing a low-level const - does not exist.