Core C++ 2021





C++ 20: The Big Four

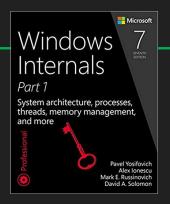
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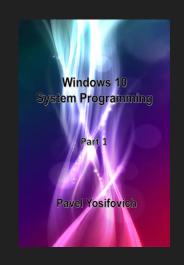
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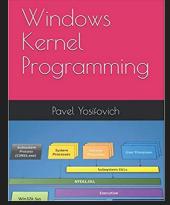
About Me

- Developer, Trainer, Author, Speaker
- Book author
 - "Windows Kernel Programming" (2019)
 - "Windows Internals 7th edition, Part 1" (co-author, 2017)
 - "Windows 10 System Programming, Part 1" (2020)
 - "Windows 10 System Programming, Part 2" (WIP)
- Pluralsight and Pentester Academy course author
- Author of several open-source tools (<u>http://github.com/zodiacon</u>)
- Website: http://scorpiosoftware.net









Agenda

- Overview
- Concepts
- Ranges
- Coroutines
- Modules
- Summary

Overview

- C++ evolution accelerated from C++ 11
- Getting started with C++ is challenging
 - So is making use of modern C++ features
- Guidelines are essential
- C++ 20 is a big release
- C++ is arguably the biggest programming language in terms of language features and paradigms
 - Just look at the standard

Concepts

Example: the sort Algorithm

The sort algorithm

```
template <typename Iterator>
constexpr void sort(const Iterator first, const Iterator last);
```

Sorting a vector

```
vector numbers{ 12, 33, 8, 55, 101, 87, 6, 16, 87, 34 };
sort(begin(numbers), end(numbers));
```

Sorting a list

```
list numbers2{ numbers };
sort(begin(numbers2), end(numbers2));
```

(a bunch of incomprehensible error messages)

C++ Functions

- Before C++ 20, functions can be either
 - Specific

```
bool IsPrime(int n) {
    auto limit = static_cast<int>(std::sqrt(n));
    for (int i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    return true;
}</pre>
```

Generic

Testing IsPrime

- cout << IsPrime(17) << endl;
 1
 cout << IsPrime((1LL << 33) 1) << endl;
 0
- cout << IsPrime(5.9) << endl;</pre>
 - error C2296: '%': illegal, left operand has type '_T0' with _T0=double
 - error C2665: 'sqrt': none of the 3 overloads could convert all the argument types
- cout << IsPrime("hello") << endl;</pre>
 - error C2296: '%': illegal, left operand has type '_T0' with T0=const char*

Concepts

- Constraints on generic types
- Makes it clear what types are expected in generic code
 - Compiler errors become comprehensible ©

```
template<typename T>
concept Integral = std::is_integral_v<T>;
```

Testing IsPrime with a Concept

```
template<Integral T>
bool IsPrime(T n) {
    auto limit = static_cast<T>(std::sqrt(n));
    for (T i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    return true;
}</pre>
```

- cout << IsPrime(5.9) << endl;</pre>
 - error C2672: 'IsPrime': no matching overloaded function found
 - error C7602: 'IsPrime': the associated constraints are not satisfied

Functions with Concepts

```
template<Integral T>
bool IsPrime(T n) {
    auto limit = static_cast<T>(std::sqrt(n));
    for (T i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    return true;
}</pre>
```

```
bool IsPrime(Integral auto n) {
   auto limit = static_cast<decltype(n)>(std::sqrt(n));
   for (Integral auto i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
   return true;
}</pre>
```

```
template<typename T>
    requires Integral<T>
bool IsPrime(T n) {
    auto limit = static_cast<T>(std::sqrt(n));
    for (T i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    return true;
}</pre>
```

Another Example

Fully generic

```
template<typename T>
auto CountPrimes(T first, T last) {
    T count = 0;
    for (auto i = first; i <= last; i++)
        if (IsPrime(i))
            count++;
    return count;
}
</pre>
auto CountPrimes(auto first, auto last) {
    decltype(last) count = 0;
    for (decltype(count) i = first; i <= last; i++)
        if (IsPrime(i))
            count++;
    return count;
}
</pre>
```

With Concepts

```
template<Integral T>
auto CountPrimes(T first, T last) {
    T count = 0;
    for (T i = first; i <= last; i++)
        if (IsPrime(i))
            count++;
    return count;
}</pre>
auto CountPrimes(Integral auto first, Integral auto last) {
    Integral auto count = 0;
    for (decltype(last) i = first; i <= last; i++)
        if (IsPrime(i))
        count++;
    return count;
}
```

More Concepts

- Many concepts defined by the standard library in the
 <concepts> header
- Functions can be overloaded on concepts
 - Compiler selects the most constrained match
- Combining concepts

```
template<typename T>
concept UnsignedIntegral = Integral<T> && !std::is_signed_v<T>;
```

```
bool IsPrime(UnsignedIntegral auto n) {
   auto limit = static_cast<decltype(n)>(std::sqrt(n));
   for (UnsignedIntegral auto i = 2; i <= limit; i++)
        if (n % i == 0)
        return false;
   return true;
}</pre>
```

(Some) Concepts in the Standard Library

- Arithmetic
 - integral, signed_integral, unsigned_integral, floating_point
- Object-related
 - is_object, movable, copyable, semiregular, regular
 - derived_from, convertible_to
- Construction
 - default_constructible, move_constructible, copy_constructible, constructible_from
- Iterators
 - forward_iterator, bidirectional_iterator, random_access_iterator,...
- sortable, mergeable, invocable, predicate

The requires Clause

Allows more powerful concepts definitions

```
template<typename T>
concept Number = requires(T a, T b) {
    { a + b } -> std::convertible_to<T>;
    { a - b } -> std::convertible_to<T>;
    { a * b } -> std::convertible_to<T>;
    { a / b } -> std::convertible_to<T>;
};
```

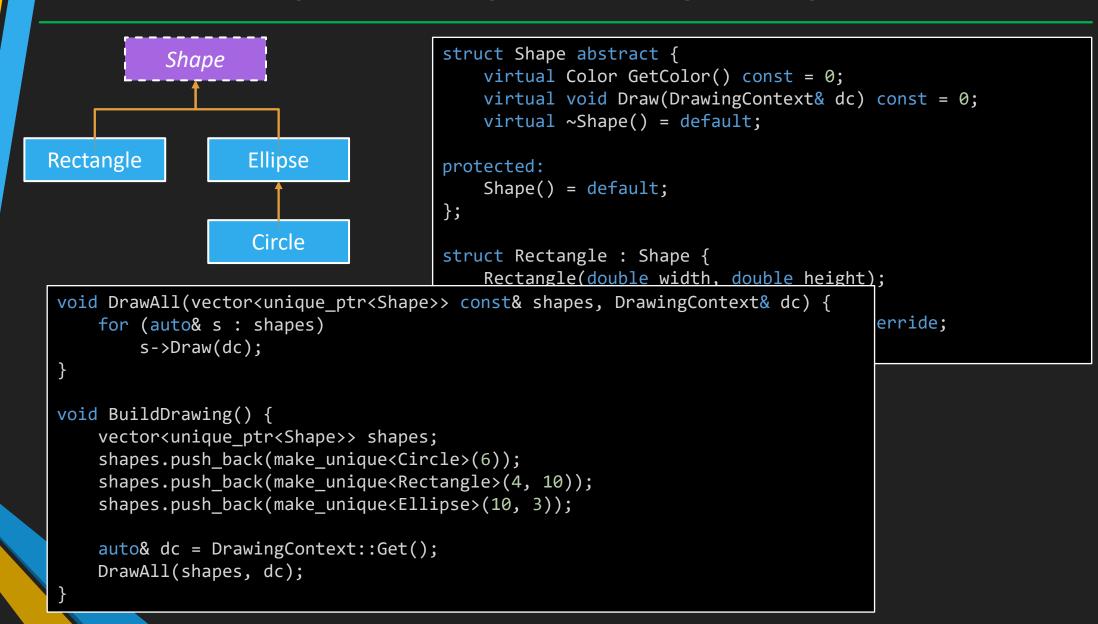
```
template<typename T>
concept Iterator = requires(T it) {
    typename T::value_type;
    { it++ } -> std::convertible_to<T>;
    { *it } -> std::convertible_to<typename T::value_type>;
};
```

```
struct MyIterator {
    using value_type = int;

    MyIterator operator++(int);
    value_type operator*() const;
    //...
};

static_assert(Iterator<MyIterator>);
```

Example: Shapes (Polymorphism)



Example: Shapes (Concepts)

```
template<typename T>
concept Shape = requires(T s) {
    { s.template GetColor() } -> std::convertible_to<Color>;
    s.template Draw();
};
```

```
struct Rectangle {
    Rectangle(double width, double height);
    Color GetColor() const;
    void Draw() const;
};

struct Ellipse {
    Ellipse(double radius1, double radius2);
    Color GetColor() const;

    void Draw() const;
};
```

```
struct Circle : Ellipse {
    Circle(double radius) : Ellipse(radius, radius) {}
    void Draw() const;
};

struct Polygon {
    Color GetColor() const;
};

static_assert(Shape<Circle>);
static_assert(Shape<Ellipse>);
//static_assert(Shape<Polygon>);
```

Example: Shapes (Concepts) (cont.)

```
void DrawShape(Shape auto const& s) {
    s.Draw();
}

Circle c1(9);
    DrawShape(c1);
    Rectangle r1(10, 4);
    DrawShape(r1);
```

```
template<size_t Index = 0, Shape... Ts>
constexpr void DrawAll(std::tuple<Ts...> const& shapes) {
   if constexpr (Index == sizeof...(Ts)) {
      return;
   }
   else {
      DrawShape(std::get<Index>(shapes));
      DrawAll<Index + 1>(shapes);
   }
}

std::tuple shapes{ c1, r1, Ellipse(7, 12), Circle(20), Rectangle(5, 6) };
   DrawAll(shapes);
   auto shapes2 = std::tuple_cat(shapes, std::make_tuple(Ellipse(100, 10)));
   DrawAll(shapes2);
```

Concepts Guidelines

- Use standard library concepts whenever possible
- Use concepts as template parameters as opposed to typename and requires
- Defining concepts is mostly useful when writing generic libraries
- Defining new concepts is harder than it looks

Ranges

Ranges

- Ranges are concepts defined in the std::ranges
 namespace
 - Represent a set of objects that can be iterated over
- The standard containers are ranges
- Most algorithms are overloaded to accept ranges

```
using namespace std;
vector numbers{ 12, 33, 8, 55, 101, 87, 6, 16, 87, 34 };

// standard sort
sort(begin(numbers), end(numbers));

// sort a range
ranges::sort(numbers);
```

Views

- A view provides operations over ranges or other views
 - Adding functional style to C++
 - Never own their elements
 - Lazily evaluated
- Views can be chained (optionally with the | operator)
- Every view is a range
 - But not necessarily vice versa

Views Examples

```
using namespace std;
        vector numbers{ 12, 33, 8, 55, 101, 87, 6, 16, 87, 34 };
               void Display(std::string view text, std::ranges::range auto& data) {
                   cout << text << endl;</pre>
                   for (const auto& value : data)
                       cout << value << " ";</pre>
                                                                     Original
                   cout << endl;</pre>
                                                                     12 33 8 55 101 88 6 16 87 34
                                                                     Sorted
                                                                     6 8 12 16 33 34 55 87 88 101
                                                                     Even numbers
                                                                     6 8 12 16 34 88
                                                                     Even numbers, squared and reversed
                                                                     7744 1156 256 144 64 36
vector numbers{ 12, 33, 8, 55, 101, 88, 6, 16, 87, 34 };
Display("Original", numbers);
ranges::sort(numbers);
Display("Sorted", numbers);
auto result = numbers | views::filter([](auto n) { return n % 2 == 0; });
Display("Even numbers", result);
auto result2 = result | views::transform([](const auto& value) { return value * value; }) | views::reverse;
Display("Even numbers, squared and reversed", result2);
```

Range Adapters

Provide functions for creating views from ranges

Range adapter function	Range adapter type	Description
views::all	all_t	Creates a view from all elements in a range
views::filter	filter_view	Filters elements based on a predicate
views::transform	transform_view	Applies a callable to every element in the range
views::take	take_view	Creates a view with the first <i>n</i> elements
views::take_while	take_while_view	Creates a view with the initial elements of the range as long as a predicate returns true
views::drop	drop_view	Creates a view by dropping the first <i>n</i> elements from the range
views::drop_while	drop_while_view	Creates a view by dropping initial elements until a predicate returns false
views::reverse	reverse_view	Creates a view that reverses the elements in the range (iterates backwards)

Chaining Views

 View chaining can be done by making function calls or using the pipe operator as syntactic sugar

```
vector numbers{ 12, 33, 8, 55, 101, 88, 6, 16, 87, 34 };
ranges::sort(numbers);
```

```
auto result2 = views::take_while(
    views::filter(numbers,
        [](int n) { return n % 2 == 1; }),
        [](int n) { return n < 100; });
Display("With function calls", result2);</pre>
```

More Examples

```
struct ProcessInfo {
    std::wstring ProcessName;
    uint32 t Threads;
    uint32 t Id;
    uint32 t Session;
    uint32 t Handles;
    int64 t CpuTime;
};
std::wostream& operator<<(std::wostream& out, ProcessInfo const& pi) {</pre>
    out << std::format(L"Name: {} PID: {} Threads: {} Session: {} Handles: {}",</pre>
        pi.ProcessName, pi.Id, pi.Threads, pi.Session, pi.Handles);
    return out;
void Display(std::wstring view text, std::ranges::range auto& data) {
    wcout << text << endl;</pre>
    for (const auto& value : data)
        wcout << value << endl;</pre>
    wcout << endl;</pre>
std::vector<ProcessInfo> EnumProcesses();
```

More Examples (cont.)

```
auto processes = EnumProcesses();
Display(L"All processes", processes);
// a filtered view
auto sessionNonZero = processes | views::filter(
    [](auto const& pi) { return pi.Session > 0; });
Display(L"Session non zero processes", sessionNonZero);
// create container based on a view
auto sessionNonZeroProcesses = vector(begin(sessionNonZero), end(sessionNonZero));
// sort by process name
ranges::sort(sessionNonZeroProcesses, {}, [](auto const& p) { return p.ProcessName; });
Display(L"Session non-zero processes - Sorted", sessionNonZeroProcesses);
auto result = processes
      views::filter([](auto const& pi) { return pi.Threads > 20; })
      views::transform([](auto const& p) { return SimpleProcess{ p.Id, p.ProcessName, p.Threads }; });
auto sp = vector(begin(result), end(result));
ranges::sort(sp, {}, [](auto const& p) { return p.Threads; });
auto result2 = sp | views::reverse | views::take(10);
Display(L"Top processes with most threads (at least 21)", result2);
```

Range Factories

Generate views producing values on demand

Туре	Function	Description
empty_view	empty	Creates an empty view
single_view	single	Creates a view with a single element
iota_view	iota	Creates a view that generates a potentially infinite sequence of integers on demand
basic_istream_view	istream_view	Creates a view that retrieves items from operator << of an input stream

```
6 12 18 24 30 36 42 48 54 60 66 72 78 84 90 96 102 108 114 120 126 132 138 144 150 156 162 168 174 180 186 192 198
```

Coroutines

Coroutines: Motivation

Example: Calculating prime numbers

• What if we want to exit the loop prematurely?

Solution: Use a Coroutine

```
#include <experimental/generator>

std::experimental::generator<int> CalcPrimes2(int first, int last) {
    for (int i = first; i <= last; i++)
        if (IsPrime(i))
            co_yield i;
}</pre>
```

```
for (auto n : CalcPrimes2(3, 100000000)) {
    std::cout << n << std::endl;
    // imagine a more complex, runtime condition for exit
    if (n > 500)
        break;
}
```

• Problem solved!

What is a Coroutine?

- Technically, any function having one of the following keywords in its body
 - co_await, co_return, co_yield
- Conceptually
 - A "resumable" function
 - Stackless (state not usually stored on the stack)
- Within a coroutine
 - Use of return is illegal
 - Constructors, destructors, constexpr and consteval functions, functions with variadic arguments – these cannot be coroutines

Another Generator Example

Fibonacci series

```
template<std::unsigned integral T = unsigned>
generator<T> Fibonacci(unsigned count) {
    if (count == 0)
        co_return;
    co yield 1;
    co_yield 1;
    T a = 1, b = 1;
    for (unsigned i = 0; i < count - 2; i++) {
        auto c = a + b;
        co_yield c;
                                 template<std::unsigned_integral T = unsigned>
        a = b;
                                 void TestFib(unsigned count) {
        b = c;
                                     for (auto n : Fibonacci<T>(count)) {
                                        if (tolower(_getch()) == 'q')
                                            break:
                                        std::cout << n << std::endl;</pre>
```

Example: Simple Generator

```
template<typename T>
struct generator {
    using promise type = promise<T>;
    generator(std::coroutine_handleomise<T>> handle() : _handle(handle) {}
    ~generator() { handle.destroy(); }
    T value() {
       return handle.promise(). value;
    std::optional<T> next() {
        handle.resume();
       if ( handle.done())
           return std::nullopt;
       return handle.promise(). value;
private:
    std::coroutine handleromise<T>> handle;
```

```
template<typename T>
struct promise {
    auto get_return_object() {
        return std::coroutine handleromise<T>>::from promise(*this);
    auto initial suspend() {
        return std::suspend always();
    auto final suspend() noexcept {
        return std::suspend_always();
    auto yield value(T t) {
       value = t;
        return std::suspend_always();
   void unhandled exception() {}
   void return void() { }
    T value;
```

Example Run with Trace

```
auto t = Fib(5);
std::optional<int> n;

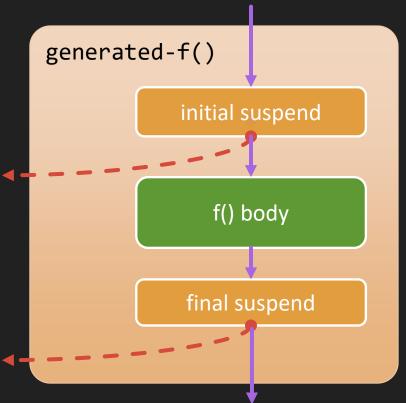
while ((n = t.next()) != std::nullopt) {
   cout << *n << endl;
}</pre>
```

```
promise<int>::promise
promise<int>::get_return_object
promise<int>::initial_suspend
generator<int>::generator
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::yield value
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::yield value
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::yield value
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::yield_value
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::yield value
generator<int>::next
promise<int>::return void
promise<int>::final_suspend
generator<int>::~generator
```

Coroutine Transformation

A contract between the compiler and implementation

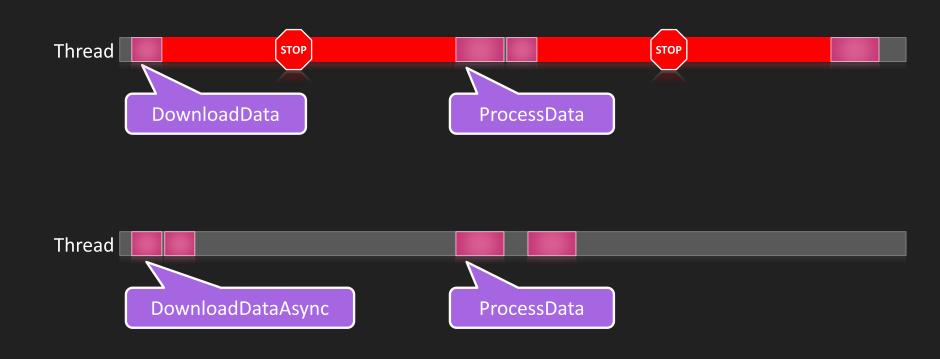
```
{
    Promise promise;
    co_await promise.initial_suspend();
    try {
        < function body uses co_await, co_yield, co_return >
    }
    catch(...) {
        promise.unhandled_exception();
    }
final_suspend:
    co_await promise.final_suspend();
}
```



Synchronous vs. Asynchronous

```
auto data = DownloadData(...);
 ProcessData(data);
Thread
                     STOP
        DownloadData
                                        ProcessData
 DownloadDataAsync(..., [](auto data) {
     ProcessData(data);
 });
Thread
         DownloadDataAsync
                                        ProcessData
```

Synchronous vs. Asynchronous



Asynchrony != Threads

Asynchronous Operations

- Server scenarios
 - Key to scalability
- Client scenarios
 - Key to responsiveness
- Writing asynchronous code is hard
 - Much more complex than the "equivalent" synchronous code

Awaitables and Awaiters

- co_await can be called on an Awaitable
 - Searches for an awaiter
- The Awaiter is any object that satisfies an interface
 - await_ready, await_suspend, await_resume member functions
- If there is an await_transform function on the promise type, it's called to obtain an awaiter
- Otherwise, if the co_await operator exists on the awaitable, it's called to get an awaiter
- Otherwise, the awaitable is the awaiter

Awaitables in the Standard Library

- Awaiter member functions
 - await_ready determines if the operation completed synchronously
 - await_suspend schedules the continuation for execution
 - await_resume returns the result of the co_await
- Awaiters in the standard library
 - suspend_always suspends the execution always
 - suspend_never never suspends
 - Convenient as a basis for custom awaiters or as return values in some cases

Example: Asynchronous Delay

```
struct DelayAwaiter : std::suspend always {
   DelayAwaiter(chrono::milliseconds ms) : ms(ms) {}
    void await suspend(std::coroutine handle<> coro) {
       thread t([coro](auto ms) {
                                              struct Delay {
            std::this thread::sleep for(ms);
                                                  Delay(chrono::milliseconds ms) : ms(ms) {}
           coro();
           }, _ms);
                                                  auto operator co await() {
       t.detach();
                                                      return DelayAwaiter( ms);
    chrono::milliseconds ms;
                                                  chrono::milliseconds _ms;
};
```

```
task TestDelay() {
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
        co_await Delay(1s);
        cout << i << endl;
    }
}</pre>
```

Example: Asynchronous I/O

```
struct AsyncIoAwaiter : suspend always {
    AsyncIoAwaiter(HANDLE hFile, DWORD offset, void* buffer, DWORD size) : hFile(hFile), buffer(buffer), size(size) {
        ov.Offset = offset;
        ov.hEvent = ::CreateEvent(nullptr, FALSE, FALSE, nullptr);
    void await suspend(std::coroutine handle<> handle) {
        ::ReadFile(_hFile, _buffer, _size, nullptr, & ov);
        ::RegisterWaitForSingleObject(& hReg, ov.hEvent, [](auto param, auto) {
            auto coro = std::coroutine handle<>::from address(param);
            coro();
            }, handle.address(), INFINITE, WT EXECUTEDEFAULT);
    };
    DWORD await resume() noexcept {
        ::UnregisterWait( hReg);
       DWORD bytes;
        ::GetOverlappedResult( hFile, & ov, &bytes, TRUE);
        ::CloseHandle( ov.hEvent);
        return bytes;
    OVERLAPPED ov{};
    HANDLE hFile;
    void* buffer;
    DWORD size;
    HANDLE hReg;
};
```

```
auto ReadFileAsync(HANDLE hFile, DWORD offset, void* buffer, DWORD size) {
    return AsyncIoAwaiter(hFile, offset, buffer, size);
```

```
task<DWORD> TestIo(PCWSTR path) {
    auto hFile = ::CreateFile(path, GENERIC READ, FILE SHARE READ, 0,
       OPEN EXISTING, FILE FLAG OVERLAPPED, nullptr);
   if (hFile == INVALID HANDLE VALUE)
        co return 0;
   auto size = ::GetFileSize(hFile, nullptr);
   cout << "File size: " << size << endl;</pre>
    auto buffer = std::make unique<BYTE[]>(size);
    auto bytes = co await ReadFileAsync(hFile, 0, buffer.get(), size);
    cout << "Bytes read: " << bytes << endl;</pre>
    co return bytes;
```

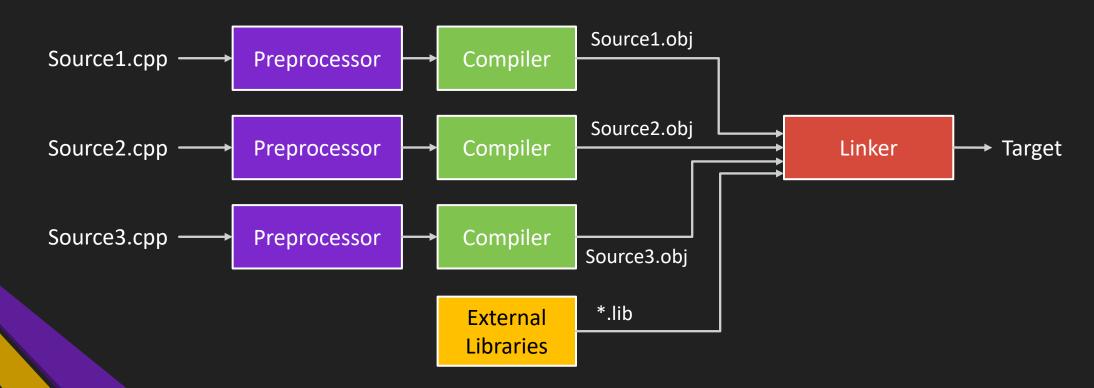
Coroutine Guidelines

- C++ 20 does not provide common coroutine implementations
- Use existing implementations unless you need something unique
 - Example: https://github.com/lewissbaker/cppcoro
- Usage of coroutines can simplify code significantly

Modules

Introduction

- The standard way of bringing in functionality from other code is to #include header files
- Recap: The build process



Modules Benefits

- Shorter compilation times each module only needs to be compiled once
 - Similar to precompiled headers
- Order of imported modules is not imported
- Macros are never leak from a module
- Express logical structure rather than physical structure
- No need to separate header (interface) and implementation

A Simple Module

```
// Math.ixx
export module Math;
namespace Math {
    export template<typename T>
        T Add(T a, T b) {
        return a + b;
                                  import Math;
                                  int main() {
                                      using std::cout, std::endl;
                                      using namespace Math;
                                       cout << Math::Add(10, 3) << endl;</pre>
                                       Point p1{ 3, 4 };
                                       Point p2{ 10, -2 };
                                       cout << Distance(p1, p2) << endl;</pre>
                                      return 0;
```

A More Complex Example

```
module;
#include <cmath>
export module Math.Simple;
#define SQR(x) ((x)*(x))
namespace Math {
    export struct Point {
       double x;
       double y;
    };
   double DistanceSquared(Point const& p1, Point const& p2);
    export template<typename T>
       T Add(T a, T b) {
       return a + b;
    export double Distance(Point const& p1, Point const& p2) {
       return std::sqrt(DistanceSquared(p1, p2));
    double DistanceSquared(Point const& p1, Point const& p2) {
       return SQR(p1.x - p2.x) + SQR(p1.y - p2.y);
```

Submodules and Partitions

Modules can be imported and re-exported

```
export module Math;

export import Math.Simple;
export import Math.Trig;
```

Modules can be further divided to partitions

```
export module Math:Simple;
export {...}

export f...}

export module Math:Trig;

export {...}
```

```
Import Math;
//...
```

Module Linkage

- C++ always had two linkage types
 - Internal linkage
 - static members and code in anonymous namespaces
 - Only visible in that translation unit
 - External linkage
 - Classes, functions, etc. (not static) accessible in other translation units
- Module linkage
 - Only accessible within the module

Importing Headers

- Header files can be imported with import
- Standard library headers are guaranteed to be imported

```
import <vector>;
import <iostream>;
import "myheader.h";
```

 Other headers have no such guarantee, and it's currently compiler dependent

Summary

- C++ 20 is a big release!
- Demos of this talk: <u>https://github.com/zodiacon/CoreCpp21Demos</u>
- Integrate C++ 20 features in existing code bases
 - Start small: concepts and ranges
 - Big benefit but more complex: coroutines
 - Difficult: modules

Thank you!

Q & A