

PY410 / 505
Computational Physics 1

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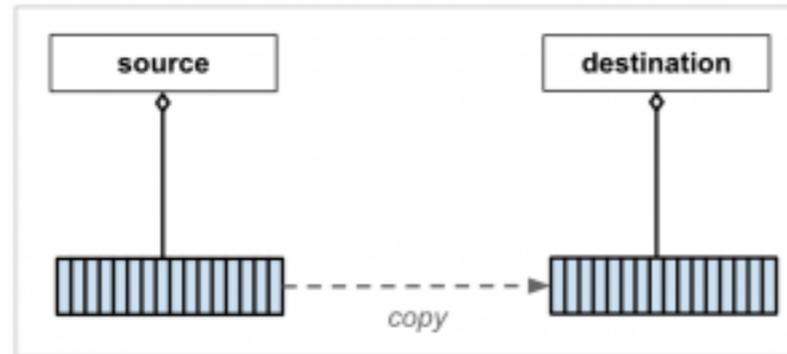
Advanced C++

- C++ underwent major revision in mid-00's
- C++0x (x was supposed to be 4, but..) turned into C++11
- There is now C++17, other updates
- Major changes in C++11

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%2B%2B11>

Advanced C++

Copy : member data is cloned

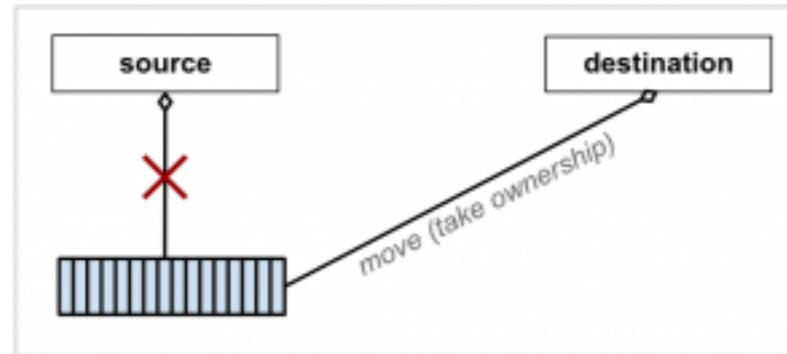


```
template <class T> swap(T& a, T& b)
{
    T tmp(a);    // now we have two copies of a
    a = b;      // now we have two copies of b
    b = tmp;    // now we have two copies of tmp (aka a)
}
```

Expensive!

Advanced C++

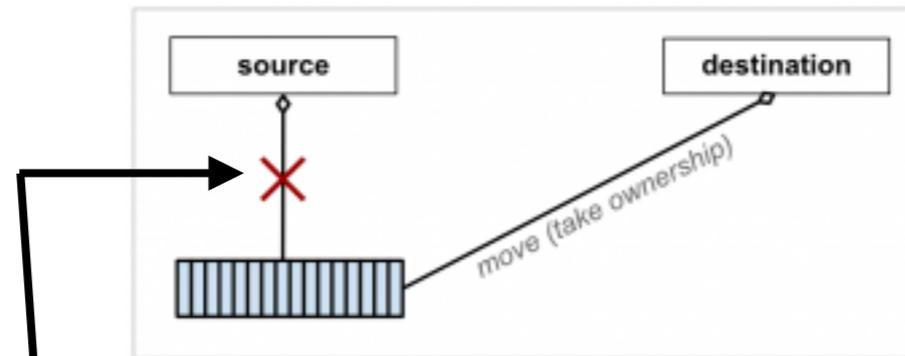
Move : member data is reassigned



Cheap!

Advanced C++

Move : member data is reassigned



Setting this to "null" is not allowed in C++03!

Cheap!

But not supported in old C++

Advanced C++

lvalue reference

```
A a;  
A& a_ref1 = a; // an lvalue reference
```

rvalue reference

```
A a;  
A&& a_ref2 = a; // an rvalue reference
```

rvalue reference can bind to a TEMPORARY variable!

```
A& a_ref3 = A(); // Error!  
A&& a_ref4 = A(); // Ok
```

After function A()'s temporary return value goes out of scope,
does not delete the memory used for it

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2006/n2027.html>

Advanced C++

- Move semantics

```
template <class T> swap(T& a, T& b)
{
    T tmp(std::move(a));
    a = std::move(b);
    b = std::move(tmp);
}
```

Moves a's member data to tmp, state of a is undefined
Moves b's member data to a, state of b is undefined
Moves tmp's member data to b, state of tmp is undefined

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2006/n2027.html>

Advanced C++

- How does this help?

Old bad way

```
A modify( A & a){  
    return A(a);  
}  
A a;  
A retval = modify( a );
```

Easy to write.
Lots of copies.
Really dumb.

Old annoying way

```
void modify( A & a){  
    ...  
}  
A a;  
A retval;  
modify( retval );
```

Performant.
Annoying to write.

New way, “explicitly”:

```
A modify( A & a){  
    return A(a);  
}  
A a;  
A && retval = modify( retval );
```

Performant.
Confusing.

New way, “implicitly”:

“A” must have a
move constructor!

```
A modify( A & a){  
    return A(a);  
}  
A a;  
A retval = modify( retval );
```

Easy to write.
Performant.



Advanced C++

- The “new way” with C++11 looks just like the “old way” how you wanted all along, but requires a “move constructor” to be guaranteed to be implemented correctly
- Move constructor example (std::vector):

```
template<typename T>
class Vector {
    // ...
    Vector(Vector&& a) noexcept : elem{a.elem}, sz{a.sz} { a.sz = 0; a.elem = nullptr; }
    Vector& operator=(Vector&& a) noexcept { elem = a.elem; sz = a.sz; a.sz = 0; a.elem = nullptr; }
    // ...
public:
    T* elem;
    int sz;
};
```

Set “this” values to those of “a”

Set “a” values to zero

(“noexcept” means it cannot throw exception... it’s complicated)

Advanced C++

- So now, to make your code performant, implement the “Rule of 5”:
 - Copy constructor
 - Move constructor
 - Copy operator=
 - Move operator=
 - Destructor

- See “AdvC++”!

Advanced C++

- “Old school” C++ (03 and earlier) :
Initializing data was annoying

Old way

```
int aa[] = {1,2,3,4};  
std::vector<int> a(aa);
```

New way

```
std::vector<int> a = {1,2,3,4};
```

Better way to initialize lists in
new standard

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%2B%2B11>

Advanced C++

- Type inference
 - Previously: had to explicitly state type
 - Now : compiler can deduce the type

Old way

```
std::vector< std::map<int,float>::const_iterator >::const_iterator i = v.begin();
```

New way

```
auto i = v.begin();
```

Can also use “decltype” (declare type) to make other variables of that type!

```
decltype(i) j = i+2;
```

Advanced C++

- Range-based for loop
 - Looked this before, can be combined with “auto” to make things very compact

```
vector<int> aa= {1,2,3,4};  
for ( auto x : aa )  
    cout << x << endl;
```

Advanced C++

- Anonymous (lambda) functions

```
[](int x, int y) -> int { return x + y; }
```

–Imagine you want to sort:

Previously:

```
// sort using a custom function object
struct {
    bool operator()(int a, int b) const
    {
        return a < b;
    }
} customLess;
std::sort(s.begin(), s.end(), customLess);
```

C++11:

```
// sort using a lambda function
std::sort(s.begin(), s.end(),
    [](int a, int b){return a < b;});
```

Lots less typing

<https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/sort>

Advanced C++

- Can allocate lists of whatever types you want (tuples)

```
typedef std::tuple <int, double, long &, const char *> test_tuple;  
long lengthy = 12;  
test_tuple proof (18, 6.5, lengthy, "Ciao!");
```

```
lengthy = std::get<0>(proof); // Assign to 'lengthy' the value 18.  
std::get<3>(proof) = " Beautiful!"; // Modify the tuple's fourth element.
```

Advanced C++

- Better pointers

- std::shared_ptr is like a regular pointer, but calls “delete” when it goes out of scope automatically:

```
shared_ptr<A> factory_for_A() {  
    return shared_ptr<A> ( new A() );  
}  
shared_ptr<A> a = factory_for_A();
```

- Can also now hold vector<shared_ptr> (in previous C++, had auto_ptr, but this was not supported)

```
std::vector< std::shared_ptr<A> > v_stuff;
```

v_stuff can hold a list of A *,
or ANYTHING derived from A!