

# TDDD38/726G82:

## Adv. Programming in C++

Advanced Constructs I

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- 1 Forwarding references
- 2 Smart pointers
- 3 `std::unique_ptr`
- 4 `std::shared_ptr`

- 1 Forwarding references
- 2 Smart pointers
- 3 `std::unique_ptr`
- 4 `std::shared_ptr`

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

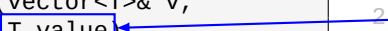
```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

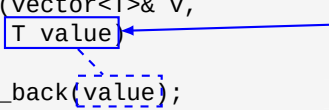
```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```



# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```



```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4  {
5  [v] push_back(value);
6  }

```

copy!

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         destroy T value)
4  {
5     v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         destroy T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello");
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3          create!
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

Annotations in the code above: "hello"s is red, "create!" is blue above line 4, and a blue box highlights "s" in line 4 and "s" in line 5. A dashed arrow points from the boxed "s" in line 4 to the "s" in line 5.

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         copy! T value)
4  {
5  [v] push_back([value]);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

copy! rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         destroy T value)
4  {
5     v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         destroy T value)
4  {
5     v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3         destroy T value)
4  {
5     v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3         destroy
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created

# Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

## Forwarding references

Opportunity for optimization

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  3 created, 2 destroyed

Must be possible to reduce!

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

copy!

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"); create!
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello");
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

create!

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

copy! rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }
```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #1

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v,
3          T const& value)
4  {
5      v.push_back(value);
6  }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  add(w, "hello"s);
3
4  string s { "bye" };
5  add(w, s);

```

destroy  
s

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created

## Forwarding references

### Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

## Forwarding references

### Attempt #1

```
1 template <typename T>
2 void add(vector<T>& v,
3         T const& value)
4 {
5     v.push_back(value);
6 }
```

```
1 vector<string> w;
2 add(w, "hello"s);
3
4 string s { "bye" };
5 add(w, s);
```

rvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

lvalue  $\Rightarrow$  2 created, 1 destroyed

The rvalue case should probably use move!

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #2

```
1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, T const& value) // #1
3  {
4      v.push_back(value);
5  }
6
7  template <typename T>
8  void add(vector<T>& v, T&& value) // #2
9  {
10     v.push_back(std::move(value));
11 }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #2

```
1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, T const& value) // #1
3  {
4      v.push_back(value);
5  }
6
7  template <typename T>
8  void add(vector<T>& v, T&& value) // #2
9  {
10     v.push_back(std::move(value));
11 }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4  // chooses #2!
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #2

```
1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, T const& value) // #1
3  {
4      v.push_back(value);
5  }
6
7  template <typename T>
8  void add(vector<T>& v, T&& value) // #2
9  {
10     v.push_back(std::move(value));
11 }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4  // chooses #2!
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7  // chooses #1!
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #2

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, T const& value) // #1
3  {
4      v.push_back(value);
5  }
6
7  template <typename T>
8  void add(vector<T>& v, T&& value) // #2
9  {
10     v.push_back(std::move(value));
11 }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4  // chooses #2!
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7  // chooses #1!
8  add(w, s);

```

Cool!

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #2

```

1  template <typename T>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, T const& value) // #1
3  {
4      v.push_back(value);
5  }
6
7  template <typename T>
8  void add(vector<T>& v, T&& value) // #2
9  {
10     v.push_back(std::move(value));
11 }

```

```

1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4  // chooses #2!
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7  // chooses #1!
8  add(w, s);

```

Cool!

But what about the duplication?

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #3

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>  
2  void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value)  
3  {  
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));  
5  }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;  
2  string s { "bye" };  
3  
4  
5  add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #3

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>  
2  void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value)  
3  {  
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));  
5  }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;  
2  string s { "bye" };  
3  
4  // Works (as expected)!  
5  add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #3

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));
5  }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;
2  string s { "bye" };
3
4  // Works (as expected)!
5  add(w, "hello"s);
6
7  // Also works?!
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

## Attempt #3

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>  
2  void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value)  
3  {  
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));  
5  }
```

```
1  vector<string> w;  
2  string s { "bye" };  
3  
4  // Works (as expected)!  
5  add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  // But s is now empty?!  
8  add(w, s);
```

# Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8
```

# Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8
```

# Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string, U = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8
```

# Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string, U = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4 void add(vector<string>& v,  
5         string&& value);  
6  
7  
8
```

## Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string, U = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7 // T = string  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4 void add(vector<string>& v,  
5         string&& value);  
6  
7  
8
```

## Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string, U = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7 // T = string, U = string& (???)  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4 void add(vector<string>& v,  
5         string&& value);  
6  
7  
8
```

## Forwarding references

What is going on?

```
1 vector<string> w;  
2 string s { "bye" };  
3  
4 // T = string, U = string  
5 add(w, "hello"s);  
6  
7 // T = string, U = string& (???)  
8 add(w, s);
```

```
1 template <typename T, typename U>  
2 void add(vector<T>& v, U&& value);  
3  
4 void add(vector<string>& v,  
5         string&& value);  
6  
7 void add(vector<string>& v,  
8         string&&& value); // ???
```

## Forwarding references

What is going on?

- Why did it choose `U = string&` in the second case?
- Well, if the compiler would have picked `U = string`, then the second parameter of `add( )` would end up being an rvalue-reference, which wouldn't have compiled (since `s` is an lvalue)
- However, the compiler knows of something called *reference collapsing* which has the consequence that whenever `U = V&` then `U&&` “collapses” into `V&`, which means that deducing `U = string&` results in the second parameter collapsing into a `string` lvalue-reference.

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

- Suppose we have a function parameter `T&` and `T = int&`, then what should happen?
- `int&&` would make no sense since that represents an *rvalue* reference.
- We have to think about the *intention* behind these decisions.
- If the parameter is `T&` then the author of the function intends to take an *lvalue* by-reference.
- If `T = int&` then the function caller also intends for the parameter to be passed as an lvalue reference.
- So both the function and the caller are in agreement, therefore the resulting parameter should be `int&`.
- This implies that some form of simplification happens with `T&` when `T = int&`. This simplification is part of a larger rule called *reference collapsing*.
- Let us investigate this further, taking both lvalue- and rvalue-references into account.

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U
T&	T = U	⇒ U&
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&
T	T = U&	⇒ U&
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

<b>T</b>	<b>T = U</b>	$\Rightarrow$ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&&	T = U	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	
T	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&&	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

<b>T</b>	<b>T = U</b>	$\Rightarrow$ U	function & caller agrees
<b>T&amp;</b>	<b>T = U</b>	$\Rightarrow$ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	
<hr/>			
T	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&&	T = U&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
<hr/>			
T	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	$\Rightarrow$ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	function & caller agrees
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	function & caller agrees
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	function & caller agrees
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	caller wins
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	function & caller agrees
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	caller wins
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

T	T = U	⇒ U	function & caller agrees
T&	T = U	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U	⇒ U&&	function wins
T	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T&	T = U&	⇒ U&	function & caller agrees
T&&	T = U&	⇒ U&	caller wins
T	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	caller wins
T&	T = U&&	⇒ U&	function wins
T&&	T = U&&	⇒ U&&	function & caller agrees

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

- Whoever (function or caller) picks lvalue reference always takes priority
- If noone picks lvalue reference, than whoever pick rvalue reference takes priority
- Finally, if both the function and the caller agrees on not having a reference, then and only then does the parameter collapses into a pass by-copy parameter

# Forwarding references

## Reference collapsing

- The intuition behind these rules is primarily based around the idea of *copy* and *move* semantics.
- Whenever a function takes an rvalue reference it is because the function intends for the object to be *moved* to someplace else within the function.
- It is also important to recall that moving an object is *destructive*, while *copying* is not, so if there is any disagreement what-so-ever whether an object should be moved or copied, the safe option is to *copy*.
- So if the function and the caller is in disagreement wheter the object should be an rvalue reference (moved) or an lvalue reference (copied), then the lvalue reference (copied) should take priority.
- The compiler should only allow rvalue references if the function and the caller agrees that moving is the better option.
- If either the function or caller doesn't specify any reference what-so-ever, then they are not considered during the decision.

# Forwarding references

Reference collapsing

**Rule of thumb:**  $\& > \&\& > \text{no reference}$

# Forwarding references

## Problem

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>  
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)  
3  {  
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));  
5  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Problem

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      v.push_back(std::move(value));
5  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Problem

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      v.push_back(std::move(value)) ← will always move
5  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Fix by duplication

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      if (std::is_lvalue_reference_v<U>)
5          v.push_back(value);
6      else
7          v.push_back(std::move(value));
8  }
```

## Forwarding references

### Fix by duplication

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      if (std::is_lvalue_reference_v<U>)
5          v.push_back(value);
6      else
7          v.push_back(std::move(value));
8  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Fix by duplication

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      if (std::is_lvalue_reference_v<U>)
5          v.push_back(value); ← value is lvalue ⇒ copy!
6      else
7          v.push_back(std::move(value));
8  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Fix by duplication

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      if (std::is_lvalue_reference_v<U>)
5          v.push_back(value); ← value is lvalue ⇒ copy!
6      else
7          v.push_back(std::move(value));
8  }
```

# Forwarding references

## Fix by duplication

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)
3  {
4      if (std::is_lvalue_reference_v<U>)
5          v.push_back(value) ← value is lvalue ⇒ copy!
6      else
7          v.push_back(std::move(value)) ← value is rvalue ⇒ move!
8  }
```

# Forwarding references

Better fix!

```
1  template <typename T, typename U>  
2  void add(vector<int>& v, U&& value)  
3  {  
4      v.push_back(std::forward<U>(value));  
5  }
```

## Forwarding references

`std::forward`

- `std::forward<U>(value)` is an expression that performs `std::move(value)` *if and only if* `U` is **NOT** an lvalue-reference
- If `U` is an lvalue-reference then `std::forward<U>(value)` is equivalent to the expression `value`

# Forwarding references

## Forwarding references

T&& is called a *forwarding reference* **if**:

1. T is an arbitrary type (template parameter or `auto`)
2. T is *deduced* by the compiler

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  struct X  
3  {  
4      static void fun(T&&);  
5  };
```

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  struct X  
3  {  
4      static void fun(T&&);  
5  };
```

No!

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(T&&);  
3  
4  
5
```

## Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(T&&);  
3  
4  int x { 5 };  
5  fun(x); // yes!
```

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(T&&);  
3  
4  int x { 5 };  
5  fun<int>(x); // no...
```

## Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(T&&);  
3  
4  int x { 5 };  
5  fun<int>(x); // no...
```

Yes, if T is not specified

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(vector<T>&& v);  
3  
4  
5
```

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1  template <typename T>  
2  void fun(vector<T>&& v);  
3  
4  
5
```

No!

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1 auto&& var = 5;  
2  
3  
4  
5
```

# Forwarding references

Examples: Is there a forwarding reference in this example?

```
1 auto&& var = 5;  
2  
3  
4  
5
```

Yes!

# Forwarding references

Rule of thumb

Use forwarding references if:

# Forwarding references

## Rule of thumb

Use forwarding references if:

- a templated parameter is passed to another function

# Forwarding references

## Rule of thumb

Use forwarding references if:

- a templated parameter is passed to another function, or
- you are writing generic code

# Forwarding references

## Rule of thumb

Use forwarding references if:

- a templated parameter is passed to another function, or
- you are writing generic code, e.g.: `for (auto&& v : c)`

- 1 Forwarding references
- 2 **Smart pointers**
- 3 `std::unique_ptr`
- 4 `std::shared_ptr`

# Smart pointers

Can we get memory problems here?

```
1  class My_Class
2  {
3  public:
4      My_Class(int x, int y);
5      ~My_Class()
6      {
7          delete p1;
8          delete p2;
9      }
10 private:
11     int* p1;
12     int* p2;
13 };
```

## Smart pointers

Can we get memory problems here?

```
1  static int* create(int n)
2  {
3      if (n >= 0)
4      {
5          return new int{n};
6      }
7      throw domain_error{"Negative"};
8  }
9
10 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y)
11     : p1{create(x)}, p2{create(y)}
12 { }
```

# Smart pointers

Yes, there are problems!

```
1 int main()  
2 {  
3     My_Class c{0, -1};  
4 }
```

# Smart pointers

Why?

- When the constructor is aborted the object will be removed without running the destructor
- All data that were allocated before the crash will therefore not be deallocated
- How can we solve this?

# Smart pointers

Solution?

```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y) try
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{create(y)}
3   { }
4 catch (domain_error& e)
5   {
6     delete p1;
7   }
8 int main()
9   {
10    My_Class c{-1, 0};
11  }
```

# Smart pointers

Solution?

```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y) try
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{create(y)}
3   { }
4 catch (domain_error& e)
5   {
6     delete p1;
7   }
8 int main()
9   {
10    My_Class c{-1, 0};
11  }
```

## Smart pointers

Why?

- Now `p1` will throw an exception
- In the catch-block we are trying to `delete` it, but it has not been allocated
- This gives us a segmentation fault

# Smart pointers

Solution?

```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y)
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{}
3   {
4     try
5     {
6       p2 = create(y);
7     }
8     catch (domain_error& e)
9     {
10      delete p1;
11      throw;
12    }
13 }
```

# Smart pointers

Solution?

```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y)
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{}
3   {
4     try
5     {
6       p2 = create(y);
7     }
8     catch (domain_error& e)
9     {
10      delete p1;
11      throw;
12    }
13 }
```

*Works...*

# Smart pointers

Solution?

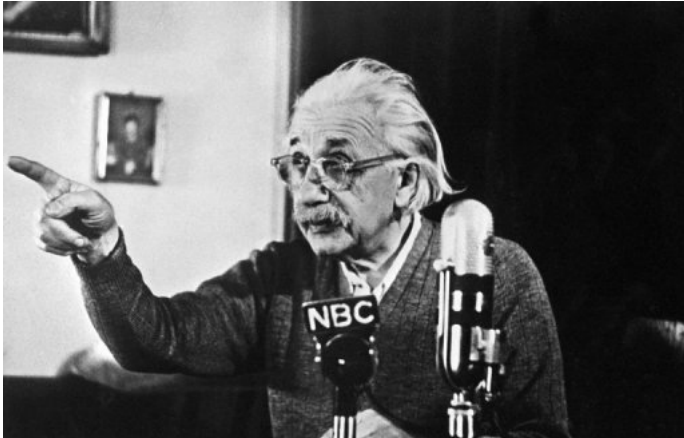
```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y)
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{}
3   {
4     try
5     {
6       p2 = create(y);
7     }
8     catch (domain_error& e)
9     {
10      delete p1;
11      throw;
12    }
13 }
```

At what cost?

## Smart pointers

It would be nice if pointers  
could deallocate  
themselves...

## Smart pointers



# Smart pointers

Let's use RAII!

```
1  template <typename T>
2  struct Smart_Pointer
3  {
4      T* data; // the data
5
6      // automatically delete (and null)
7      ~Smart_Pointer()
8      {
9          delete data;
10         data = nullptr;
11     }
12
13     // access by casting to T*
14     operator T*()
15     {
16         return data;
17     }
18 };
```

**Disclaimer:** This class has many problems, don't use it

# Smart pointers

Better solution!

```
1 class My_Class
2 {
3 public:
4     My_Class(int x, int y);
5     ~My_Class() = default;
6 private:
7     Smart_Pointer<int> p1;
8     Smart_Pointer<int> p2;
9 };
```

# Smart pointers

Better solution!

```
1 My_Class::My_Class(int x, int y)
2   : p1{create(x)}, p2{create(y)}
3   { }
```

## Smart pointers

Let's see another motivating example

## Smart pointers

Do you see any issues here?

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8
9      Image image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
18     auto s2 = create_sprite("image.png");
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

## Smart pointers

Do you see any issues here?

```
1  struct Image
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8
9      Image image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
18     auto s2 = create_sprite("image.png");
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

Segmentation fault!

# Smart pointers

## Some issues

- Each image is 1 GB large
- Whenever we create a sprite, we first load the image and then we *move* it into the sprite, making each sprite *at least* 1 GB large as well
- Note however, that *moving* doesn't help us *at all* here, since the pixel data is stored directly in the object.
- During the call to `create_sprite()` we are therefore actively using *at least* 2 GB of data, because we are holding two images at the same time in memory
- A second issue is that we are storing the sprites, and therefore the images, on the stack. The stack is typically in the range of *megabytes* not *gigabytes*, so we immediately write outside the designated memory area.
- We can solve these issues by putting the images on the heap and then just storing pointers.

## Smart pointers

Do you see any issues now?

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
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20 }
```

## Smart pointers

Do you see any issues now?

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
18     auto s2 = create_sprite("image.png");
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

Memory leaks!

# Smart pointers

## Another issue

- Now we can run the program fine
- However, each time we execute the `run ( )` function, our memory usage jumps up by 2 GB since we never deallocate the memory
- Who should be responsible for deallocating the memory?
- Probably `Sprite...?`

# Smart pointers

How about **now**?

```
1 struct Image {
2     Color data[250000000]; // 1 GB
3 };
4 Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6 struct Sprite {
7     // ...
8     ~Sprite() { delete image; }
9     Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
18     auto s2 = create_sprite("image.png");
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

# Smart pointers

How about **now**?

```
1 struct Image {
2     Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3 };
4 Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6 struct Sprite {
7     // ...
8     ~Sprite() { delete image; }
9     Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(string const& file) {
12     return Sprite { load_image(file) };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16
17     auto s1 = create_sprite("image.png");
18     auto s2 = create_sprite("image.png");
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

Wasted memory

# Smart pointers

## Wasted memory

- Now the memory is handled properly
- However, we are strictly speaking using more memory than needed since `s1` and `s2` *always* uses the same image.
- Maybe we can make them share the same image?

# Smart pointers

How about **now**?

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8      ~Sprite() { delete image; }
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
12     return Sprite { image };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

# Smart pointers

How about **now**?

```
1 struct Image {
2     Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3 };
4 Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6 struct Sprite {
7     // ...
8     ~Sprite() { delete image; }
9     Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
12     return Sprite { image };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

Double free error!

# Smart pointers

## Double free error

- Now that the sprites are sharing the same image we are getting a double free error
- This is because the destructor of s2 deletes it, and then s1 tries to delete it as well.
- How do we solve this? If we think about it, what part of the code actually is responsible for deallocating the image?

# Smart pointers

Two solutions

This problem can be solved in two ways:

- *unique ownership*
- *shared ownership*

Depending on your perspective

# Smart pointers

Important model: Ownership

Whoever is responsible for deallocating a resource is the  
*owner* of said resource

# Smart pointers

Important model: Ownership

Whoever is responsible for deallocating a resource is the  
*owner* of said resource

If done correctly *ownership* can be enforced by the compiler

# Smart pointers

Important model: Ownership

Whoever is responsible for deallocating a resource is the *owner* of said resource

If done correctly *ownership* can be enforced by the compiler

In C++ this is done through *smart pointers*

# Smart pointers

Different kinds of smart pointers

- Ownership is unique – `std::unique_ptr`
- Ownership is shared – `std::shared_ptr`

# Smart pointers

Shared properties of all smart pointers

A smart pointer:

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Shared properties of all smart pointers

A smart pointer:

- Is used like a “normal” pointer

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Shared properties of all smart pointers

A smart pointer:

- Is used like a “normal” pointer
- Deletes the memory when no owner remains

# Smart pointers

Shared properties of all smart pointers

A smart pointer:

- Is used like a “normal” pointer
- Deletes the memory when no owner remains
- Sets itself to `nullptr` once it is deleted

- 1 Forwarding references
- 2 Smart pointers
- 3 `std::unique_ptr`
- 4 `std::shared_ptr`

# std::unique\_ptr

## Unique ownership

- The key aspect of *unique ownership* is that there can only ever be one owner of a resource at any given point in time
- If the unique owner is destroyed or it deems the resource no longer needed, then the resource is deallocated
- However, unique ownership is not *static*, meaning ownership can be *transferred* (or *moved*) between objects

# std::unique\_ptr

## Identifying the *owner*

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8      ~Sprite() { delete image; } // Sprite owns it
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
12     return Sprite { image };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

## Identifying the *owner*

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8      Image* image;
9  };
10 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
11     return Sprite { image };
12 }
13
14 void run() {
15     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
16     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
17     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
18     // use s1 and s2
19     delete image; // run() owns it
20 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

## Identifying ownership

- There is no right or wrong answer on the question of *who* owns the memory
- However it can be quite confusing who is responsible since the compiler doesn't really stop us from mixing the two

# std::unique\_ptr

## Incorrect solution

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8      ~Sprite() { delete image; } // sprite owns it
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
12     return Sprite { image };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20     delete image; // run() owns it
21 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

## Incorrect solution

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[250000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  Image* load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      //
8      ~Sprite() { delete image; } // sprite owns it
9      Image* image;
10 };
11 Sprite create_sprite(Image* image) {
12     return Sprite { image };
13 }
14
15 void run() {
16     Image* image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20     delete image; // run() owns it
21 }
```

conflicting ownership!

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();  
2  
3 int main()  
4 {  
5     auto data = get_data();  
6  
7     // who is the owner?  
8  
9 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();  
2  
3 int main()  
4 {  
5     auto data = get_data();  
6  
7     // who is the owner?  
8  
9 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data()  
2 {  
3     static Data data { ... };  
4     return &data;  
5 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();
2
3 int main()
4 {
5     auto data = get_data();
6
7     // who is the owner?
8     // get_data()!
9 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data()
2 {
3     static Data data { ... };
4     return &data;
5 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();  
2  
3 int main()  
4 {  
5     auto data = get_data();  
6  
7     // who is the owner?  
8  
9 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data()  
2 {  
3     return new Data { ... };  
4 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();  
2  
3 int main()  
4 {  
5     auto data = get_data();  
6  
7     // who is the owner?  
8     // main()!  
9 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data()  
2 {  
3     return new Data { ... };  
4 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Who owns the memory?

```
1 Data* get_data();  
2  
3 int main()  
4 {  
5     auto data = get_data();  
6  
7     // who is the owner?  
8     // main()!  
9 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data()  
2 {  
3     return new Data { ... };  
4 }
```

How can we communicate this?

# std::unique\_ptr

Enter std::unique\_ptr!

```
1 // raw pointer => you are NOT the owner
2 Data* get_data()
3 {
4     static Data data { ... };
5     return &data;
6 }
```

```
1 Data* get_data();
2
3 int main()
4 {
5     // I am not owner...
6     auto data = get_data();
7
8     // ... So I don't delete it
9 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Enter std::unique\_ptr!

```
1 // smart pointer => you ARE the owner
2 std::unique_ptr<Data> get_data()
3 {
4     return new Data { ... };
5 }
6
```

```
1 std::unique_ptr<Data> get_data();
2
3 int main()
4 {
5     // I am the owner...
6     auto data = get_data();
7     // ... So it dies when I do
8     // => no need to delete!
9 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

A big **gotcha** with std::unique\_ptr

```
1 int* memory { new int { 5 } };  
2 {  
3     std::unique_ptr<int> ptr1 { memory };  
4     {  
5         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { memory };  
6     }  
7 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

A big **gotcha** with std::unique\_ptr

```
1 int* memory { new int { 5 } };  
2 {  
3     std::unique_ptr<int> ptr1 { memory };  
4     {  
5         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { memory };  
6     }  
7 }
```

*Double free error!*

## std::unique\_ptr

A big **gotcha** with std::unique\_ptr

```
1 int* memory { new int { 5 } };  
2 {  
3     std::unique_ptr<int> ptr1 { memory };  
4     {  
5         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { memory };  
6     } // ptr2 deletes the memory  
7 }
```

*Double free error!*

# std::unique\_ptr

A big **gotcha** with std::unique\_ptr

```
1 int* memory { new int { 5 } };
2 {
3     std::unique_ptr<int> ptr1 { memory };
4     {
5         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { memory };
6     } // ptr2 deletes the memory
7 } // ptr1 TRIES to delete the same memory
```

`std::unique_ptr`

**Rule of thumb:** Don't manually allocate the memory

# std::unique\_ptr

## Solution

```
1 {  
2     auto ptr1 = std::make_unique<int>(5);  
3     {  
4         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { ptr1 };  
5     }  
6 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Solution

```
1 {  
2     auto ptr1 = std::make_unique<int>(5);  
3     {  
4         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { ptr1 };  
5     }  
6 }
```

Compile error!

# std::unique\_ptr

## Solution

- When allocating memory and then passing it to a `std::unique_ptr` we are explicitly *handing over* the ownership of said memory to the smart pointer
- However, doing so doesn't explicitly *stop* us from trying to pass it to another `std::unique_ptr`, thus breaking the *uniqueness* assumption of the ownership
- Because of this, it better to never even manually handle the memory at all (because then we cannot accidentally do anything incorrectly)
- Instead we use the `std::make_unique<T>()` function which acts similar to `new`, but it instead produces a `std::unique_ptr<T>`.

# std::unique\_ptr

Why did it not compile?

std::unique\_ptr<T>:

- Represents *unique* ownership

# std::unique\_ptr

Why did it not compile?

std::unique\_ptr<T>:

- Represents *unique* ownership
- The ownership can not be *shared*

# std::unique\_ptr

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std::unique\_ptr<T>:

- Represents *unique* ownership
- The ownership can not be *shared*
- $\Rightarrow$  you are not allowed to copy it

# std::unique\_ptr

Why did it not compile?

std::unique\_ptr<T>:

- Represents *unique* ownership
- The ownership can not be *shared*
- $\Rightarrow$  you are not allowed to copy it
- You can however *move* the ownership

# std::unique\_ptr

## Solution

```
1 {  
2     auto ptr1 = std::make_unique<int>(5);  
3     {  
4         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { std::move(ptr1) };  
5         assert( *ptr2 == 5 );  
6     }  
7     assert( ptr1 == nullptr );  
8 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

## Solution

```
1 {  
2     auto ptr1 = std::make_unique<int>(5);  
3     {  
4         std::unique_ptr<int> ptr2 { std::move(ptr1) };  
5         assert( *ptr2 == 5 );  
6     }  
7     assert( ptr1 == nullptr );  
8 }
```

WORKS!

# std::unique\_ptr

## Solving our example

```
1 struct Image {
2     Color data[2500000000]; // 1 GB
3 };
4 unique_ptr<Image> load_image(string const& file);
5
6 struct Sprite {
7     // ...
8     Image const& image;
9 };
10 Sprite create_sprite(Image const& image) {
11     return Sprite { image };
12 }
13
14 void run() {
15     // run() is the owner of the image
16     auto image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(*image);
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(*image);
19     // use s1 and s2
20 }
```

# std::unique\_ptr

Solving our example

- If we are using `std::unique_ptr` then we need a *unique* owner
- The most appropriate owner in that instance (if our wish is to not duplicate the image) is to pass the ownership of the image to whomever owns the sprites
- In this instance that owner is the `run( )` function
- But how is it solved with *shared* ownership?

- 1 Forwarding references
- 2 Smart pointers
- 3 `std::unique_ptr`
- 4 `std::shared_ptr`

# std::shared\_ptr

## Shared ownership

- *Shared ownership* means that there can be many owners of the same resource, and the amount of owners can vary over time
- Once *all* owners have decided that they don't need the resource anymore, then, and only then, is the resource deallocated
- In this model ownership *can* be *copied* and *moved* between objects
- `std::shared_ptr` represents shared ownership in C++

# std::shared\_ptr

Solving our example with *shared* ownership

```
1  struct Image {
2      Color data[250000000]; // 1 GB
3  };
4  shared_ptr<Image> load_image(string const& file);
5
6  struct Sprite {
7      // ...
8      shared_ptr<Image> image;
9  };
10 Sprite create_sprite(shared_ptr<Image> image) {
11     return Sprite { image };
12 }
13
14 void run() {
15     // run() is owner #1 of the image
16     auto image = load_image("image.png");
17     auto s1 = create_sprite(image); // owner #2
18     auto s2 = create_sprite(image); // owner #3
19     // use s1 and s2
20 } // once *all* owners are destroyed, the memory is deallocated
```

# std::shared\_ptr

Notes on std::shared\_ptr

- using std::shared\_ptr  $\neq$  a garbage collector
- std::shared\_ptr cannot handle cycles
- it is *only* used for independent sharing of ownership

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
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6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

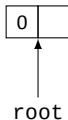
```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```

0	
---	--

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

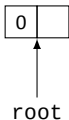
```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
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14     next->next = root;
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```



# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

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2     // make_shared requires a constructor  
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)  
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}  
5  
6     int value;  
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };  
8 };  
9  
10 int main() {  
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);  
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);  
13  
14     next->next = root;  
15     root->next = std::move(next);  
16     // next is no longer an owner  
17 }
```



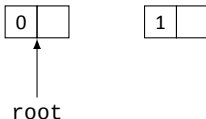
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

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1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
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13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }

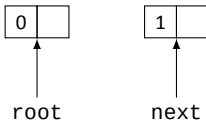
```



# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```
1 struct Node {  
2     // make_shared requires a constructor  
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)  
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}  
5  
6     int value;  
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8 };  
9  
10 int main() {  
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);  
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14     next->next = root;  
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# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

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2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```



↑  
root

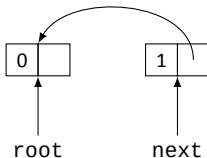


↑  
next

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```



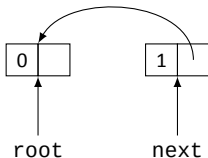
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```

1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }

```



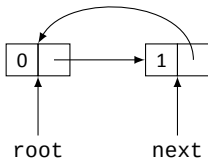
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```

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3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
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10 int main() {
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15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }

```



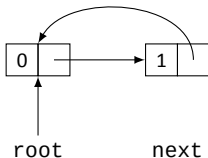
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```

1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
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10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
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13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
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17 }

```



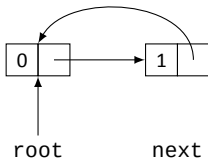
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```

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17 }

```



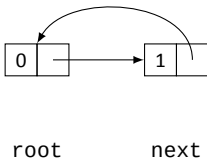
# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```

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14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }

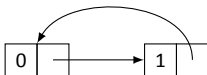
```



# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

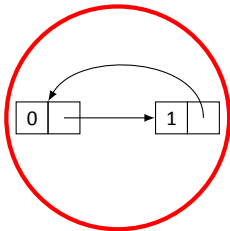
```
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2     // make_shared requires a constructor  
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)  
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}  
5  
6     int value;  
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };  
8 };  
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10 int main() {  
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);  
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15     root->next = std::move(next);  
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17 }
```



# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

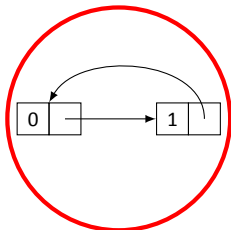
```
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4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
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15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```



# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

```
1 struct Node {
2     // make_shared requires a constructor
3     Node(int v, shared_ptr<Node> n = nullptr)
4         : value { v }, next { n } {}
5
6     int value;
7     shared_ptr<Node> next { };
8 };
9
10 int main() {
11     auto root = make_shared<Node>(0);
12     auto next = make_shared<Node>(1);
13
14     next->next = root;
15     root->next = std::move(next);
16     // next is no longer an owner
17 }
```



Keeping each other alive!

# std::shared\_ptr

## Cycles

- std::unique\_ptr is not magic
- It is implemented with a reference counter
- When that counter reaches zero, the memory is deallocated
- So when a std::shared\_ptr points to an object that implicitly is a shared owner of the same memory, then the reference counter will never reach zero...
- So we get memory leaks.

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