

11. Reference Types

Reference Types: Definition and Initialization, Pass By Value, Pass by Reference, Temporary Objects, Constants, Const-References

Swap!

```
// POST: values of x and y are exchanged
void swap (int& x, int& y) {
    int t = x;
    x = y;
    y = t;
}
int main(){
    int a = 2;
    int b = 1;
    swap (a, b);
    assert (a == 1 && b == 2); // ok! 😊
}
```

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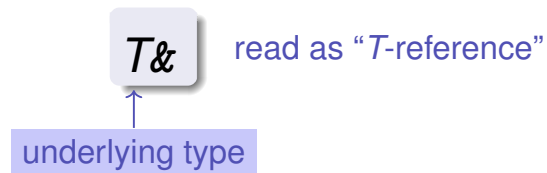
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Reference Types

- We can make functions change the values of the call arguments
- no new concept for functions, but a new class of types

Reference Types

Reference Types: Definition



- $T\&$ has the same range of values and functionality as T , ...
- but initialization and assignment work differently.

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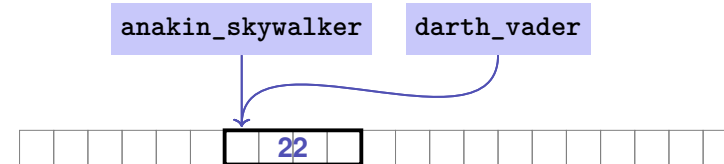
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Anakin Skywalker alias Darth Vader



Anakin Skywalker alias Darth Vader

```
int anakin_skywalker = 9;
int& darth_vader = anakin_skywalker; // alias
darth_vader = 22;
std::cout << anakin_skywalker; // 22
```



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Reference Types: Initialization and Assignment

```
int& darth_vader = anakin_skywalker;
darth_vader = 22; // anakin_skywalker = 22
```

- A variable of **reference type** (a *reference*) can only be initialized with an **L-Value**.
- The variable is becoming an *alias* of the **L-value** (a different name for the referenced object).
- Assignment to the reference is to the **object** behind the alias.

Reference Types: Implementation

Internally, a value of type $T\&$ is represented by the address of an object of type T .

```
int& j; // Error: j must be an alias of something
int& k = 5; // Error: the literal 5 has no address
```

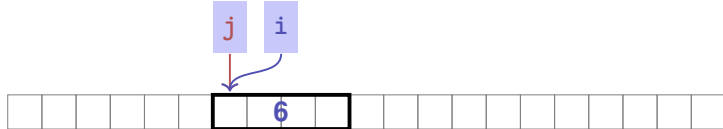
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Pass by Reference

Reference types make it possible that functions modify the value of the call arguments:

```
void increment (int& i) ← initialization of the formal arguments
{ // i becomes an alias of the call argument
  ++i;
}
...
int j = 5;
increment (j);
std::cout << j << "\n"; // 6
```



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Pass by Reference

Formal argument has reference type:

⇒ **Pass by Reference**

Formal argument is (internally) initialized with the *address* of the call argument (L-value) and thus becomes an *alias*.

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Pass by Value

Formal argument does not have a reference type:

⇒ **Pass by Value**

Formal argument is initialized with the *value* of the actual parameter (R-Value) and thus becomes a *copy*.

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References in the Context of `intervals_intersect`

```
// PRE: [a1, b1], [a2, b2] are (generalized) intervals,
// POST: returns true if [a1, b1], [a2, b2] intersect, in which case
//        [l, h] contains the intersection of [a1, b1], [a2, b2]
bool intervals_intersect (int& l, int& h,
                          int a1, int b1, int a2, int b2) {
    sort (a1, b1);
    sort (a2, b2);
    l = std::max (a1, a2); // Assignments
    h = std::min (b1, b2); // via references
    return l <= h;
}
...
int lo = 0; int hi = 0;
if (intervals_intersect (lo, hi, 0, 2, 1, 3)) // Initialization
    std::cout << "[" << lo << ", " << hi << "]" << "\n"; // [1,2]
```

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References in the Context of intervals_intersect

```
// POST: a <= b
void sort (int& a, int& b) {
    if (a > b)
        std::swap (a, b); // Initialization ("passing through" a, b
}

bool intervals_intersect (int& l, int& h,
                          int a1, int b1, int a2, int b2) {
    sort (a1, b1); // Initialization
    sort (a2, b2); // Initialization
    l = std::max (a1, a2);
    h = std::min (b1, b2);
    return l <= h;
}
```

Return by Value / Reference

- Even the return type of a function can be a reference type (return by reference)
- In this case the function call itself is an L-value

```
int& increment (int& i)
{
    return ++i;
}
```

exactly the semantics of the pre-increment

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Temporary Objects

What is wrong here?

```
int& foo (int i)
{
    return i;
}
```

Return value of type `int&` becomes an alias of the formal argument. But the memory lifetime of `i` ends after the call!

```
int k = 3;
int& j = foo (k); // j is an alias of a zombie
std::cout << j << "\n"; // undefined behavior
```

The Reference Guideline

Reference Guideline

When a reference is created, the object referred to must “stay alive” at least as long as the reference.

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Const-References

- have type `const T &`
- type can be interpreted as “(const T) &”
- can be initialized with R-Values (compiler generates a temporary object with sufficient lifetime)

```
const T& r = lvalue;
```

`r` is initialized with the address of `lvalue` (efficient)

```
const T& r = rvalue;
```

`r` is initialized with the address of a temporary object with the value of the `rvalue` (pragmatic)

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When const T& ?

Rule

Argument type `const T &` (pass by *read-only* reference) is used for efficiency reasons instead of `T` (pass by value), if the type `T` requires large memory. For fundamental types (`int`, `double`,...) it does not pay off.

Examples will follow later in the course

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What exactly does Constant Mean?

Consider an L-value with type `const T`

- Case 1: `T` is no reference type

Then the L-value is a **constant**.

```
const int n = 5;
int& i = n; // error: const-qualification is discarded
i = 6;
```

The compiler detects our attempt to cheat

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What exactly does Constant Mean?

Consider L-value of type `const T`

- Case 2: `T` is reference type.

Then the L-value is a read-only alias **which cannot be used to change the value**

```
int n = 5;
const int& i = n; // i: read-only alias of n
int& j = n;      // j: read-write alias
i = 6;          // Error: i is a read-only alias
j = 6;          // ok: n takes on value 6
```

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12. Vectors and Strings I

Vector Types, Sieve of Erathostenes, Memory Layout, Iteration, Characters and Texts, ASCII, UTF-8, Caesar-Code

Vectors: Motivation

- Now we can iterate over numbers

```
for (int i=0; i<n ; ++i) ...
```

- Often we have to iterate over *data*. (Example: find a cinema in Zurich that shows “C++ Runner 2049” today)
- Vectors allow to store *homogeneous* data (example: schedules of all cinemas in Zurich)

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Vectors: a first Application

The Sieve of Erathostenes

- computes all prime numbers $< n$
- method: cross out all non-prime numbers



at the end of the crossing out process, only prime numbers remain.

- Question: how do we cross out numbers ??
- Answer: with a *vector*.

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Sieve of Erathostenes with Vectors

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector> // standard containers with vector functionality
int main() {
    // input
    std::cout << "Compute prime numbers in {2,...,n-1} for n=? ";
    unsigned int n;
    std::cin >> n;

    // definition and initialization: provides us with Booleans
    // crossed_out[0],..., crossed_out[n-1], initialized to false
    std::vector<bool> crossed_out (n, false);

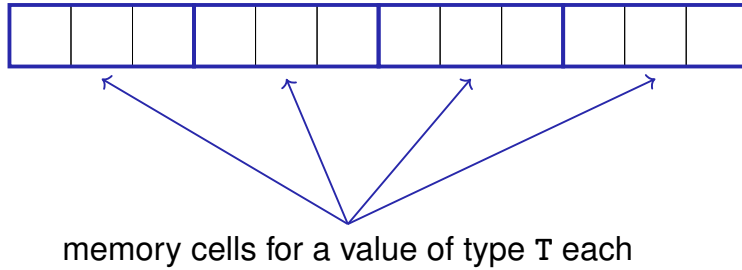
    // computation and output
    std::cout << "Prime numbers in {2,...," << n-1 << "}: \n";
    for (unsigned int i = 2; i < n; ++i)
        if (!crossed_out[i]) { // i is prime
            std::cout << i << " ";
            // cross out all proper multiples of i
            for (unsigned int m = 2*i; m < n; m += i)
                crossed_out[m] = true;
        }
    std::cout << "\n";
    return 0;
}
```

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Memory Layout of a Vector

- A vector occupies a *contiguous* memory area

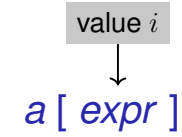
example: a vector with 4 elements



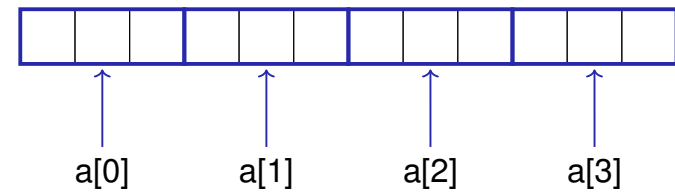
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Random Access

The L-value



has type T and refers to the i -th element of the vector a (counting from 0!)



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Random Access

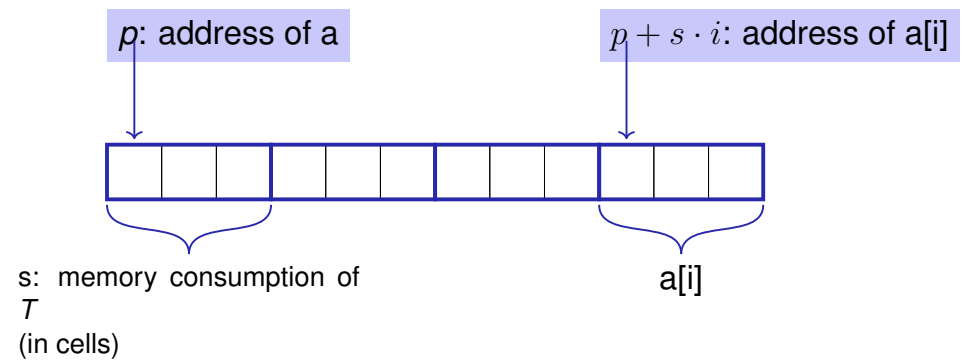
$a [expr]$

The value i of $expr$ is called *index*.
[] : subscript operator

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Random Access

- Random access is very efficient:



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Vector Initialization

- `std::vector<int> a (5);`
The five elements of `a` are zero initialized)
- `std::vector<int> a (5, 2);`
the 5 elements of `a` are initialized with 2.
- `std::vector<int> a {4, 3, 5, 2, 1};`
the vector is initialized with an *initialization list*.
- `std::vector<int> a;`
An initially empty vector is created.

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Attention

- Accessing elements outside the valid bounds of a vector leads to undefined behavior.

```
std::vector arr (10);  
for (int i=0; i<=10; ++i)  
    arr[i] = 30; // runtime error: access to arr[10]!
```

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Attention

Bound Checks

When using a subscript operator on a vector, it is the sole *responsibility of the programmer* to check the validity of element accesses.

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Vectors are Comfortable

```
std::vector<int> v (10);  
v.at(5) = 3; // with bound check  
v.push_back(8); // 8 is appended  
std::vector<int> w = v; // w is initialized with v  
int sz = v.size(); // sz = 11
```

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Characters and Texts

- We have seen texts before:

```
std::cout << "Prime numbers in {2,...,999}:\n";
```

String-Literal

- can we really work with texts? Yes:

Character: Value of the fundamental type `char`
Text: `std::string` \approx vector of `char` elements

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The type `char` (“character”)

- represents printable characters (e.g. `'a'`) and *control characters* (e.g. `'\n'`)

```
char c = 'a'
```

defines variable `c` of type `char` with value `'a'`
literal of type `char`

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The type `char` (“character”)

is formally an integer type

- values convertible to `int` / `unsigned int`
- all arithmetic operators are available (with dubious use: what is `'a'` / `'b'` ?)
- values typically occupy 8 Bit

domain:
 $\{-128, \dots, 127\}$ or $\{0, \dots, 255\}$

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The ASCII-Code

- defines concrete conversion rules
`char` \rightarrow `int` / `unsigned int`
- is supported on nearly all platforms

Zeichen \rightarrow $\{0, \dots, 127\}$
`'A'`, `'B'`, ... , `'Z'` \rightarrow 65, 66, ..., 90
`'a'`, `'b'`, ... , `'z'` \rightarrow 97, 98, ..., 122
`'0'`, `'1'`, ... , `'9'` \rightarrow 48, 49, ..., 57

- `for (char c = 'a'; c <= 'z'; ++c)`
`std::cout << c;` abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

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Extension of ASCII: UTF-8

- Internationalization of Software \Rightarrow large character sets required. Common today: unicode, 100 symbol sets, 110000 characters.
- ASCII can be encoded with 7 bits. An eighth bit can be used to indicate the appearance of further bits.

Bits	Encoding
7	0xxxxxxx
11	110xxxxx 10xxxxxx
16	1110xxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx
21	11110xxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx
26	111110xx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx
31	1111110x 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx 10xxxxxx

Interesting property: for each byte you can decide if a new UTF8 character begins.

Einige Zeichen in UTF-8

Symbol	Codierung (jeweils 16 Bit)
ن	11101111 10101111 10111001
☠	11100010 10011000 10100000
☃	11100010 10011000 10000011
☪	11100010 10011000 100111001
A	01000001

P.S.: Search for apple "unicode of death"

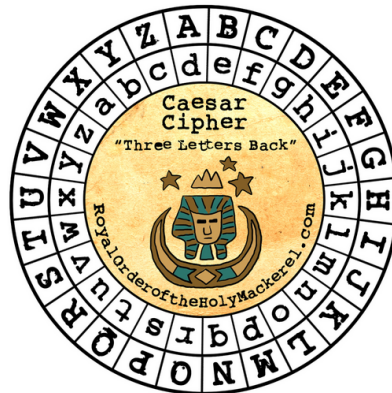
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http://t-a-w.blogspot.ch/2008/12/funny-characters-in-unicode.html
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Caesar-Code

Replace every printable character in a text by its pre-pre-predecessor.

' ' (32) \rightarrow '|' (124)
 '!' (33) \rightarrow '}' (125)
 ...
 'D' (68) \rightarrow 'A' (65)
 'E' (69) \rightarrow 'B' (66)
 ...
 '~' (126) \rightarrow '{' (123)



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Caesar-Code:

shift-Function

```
// pre: divisor > 0
// post: return the remainder of dividend / divisor
// with 0 <= result < divisor
int mod(int dividend, int divisor);

// POST: if c is one of the 95 printable ASCII characters, c is
// cyclically shifted s printable characters to the right
char shift(char c, int s) {
    if (c >= 32 && c <= 126) { // c printable
        c = 32 + mod(c - 32 + s, 95);
    }
    return c;
}
```

"- 32" transforms interval [32, 126] to [0, 94]
 "32 +" transforms interval [0, 94] back to [32, 126]
 mod(x,95) is the representative of $x \pmod{95}$ in interval [0, 94]

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Caesar-Code:

caesar-Function

```
// POST: Each character read from std::cin was shifted cyclically
//       by s characters and afterwards written to std::cout
void caesar(int s) {
    std::cin >> std::noskipws; // #include <ios>

    char next;
    while (std::cin >> next) {
        std::cout << shift(next, s),
    }
}
```

Conversion to bool: returns *false* if and only if the input is empty.

shifts only printable characters.

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Caesar-Code:

Main Program

```
int main() {
    int s;
    std::cin >> s;

    // Shift input by s
    caesar(s);

    return 0;
}
```

Encode: shift by n (here: 3)

```
3
Hello World, my password is 1234.
Koor#Zruog/#p|#sdvvzug#lv#45671
```

Encode: shift by $-n$ (here: -3)

```
-3
Koor#Zruog/#p|#sdvvzug#lv#45671
Hello World, my password is 1234.
```

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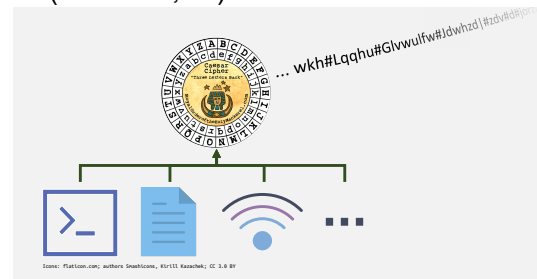
Caesar-Code: Generalisation

```
void caesar(int s) {
    std::cin >> std::noskipws;

    char next;
    while (std::cin >> next) {
        std::cout << shift(next, s);
    }
}
```

- Currently only from `std::cin` to `std::cout`

- Better: from arbitrary character source (console, file, ...) to arbitrary character sink (console, ...)



Sources: Flatiron.com, authors SneakyCode, Kirill Karachuk; CC 3.0 BY

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Caesar-Code: Generalisation

```
void caesar(std::istream& in,
            std::ostream& out,
            int s) {

    in >> std::noskipws;

    char next;
    while (in >> next) {
        out << shift(next, s);
    }
}
```

- `std::istream/std::ostream` is an *generic input/output stream* of chars
- Function is called with *specific streams*, e.g.: Console (`std::cin/cout`), Files (`std::i/ofstream`), Strings (`std::i/ostringstream`)

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Caesar-Code: Generalisation, Example 1

```
#include <iostream>
...

// in void main():
caesar(std::cin, std::cout, s);
```

Calling the generalised caesar function: from `std::cin` to `std::cout`

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Caesar-Code: Generalisation, Example 2

```
#include <iostream>
#include <fstream>
...

// in void main():
std::string from_file_name = ...; // Name of file to read from
std::string to_file_name = ...; // Name of file to write to
std::ifstream from(from_file_name); // Input file stream
std::ofstream to(to_file_name); // Output file stream

caesar(from, to, s);
```

Calling the generalised caesar function: from file to file

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Caesar-Code: Generalisation, Example 3

```
#include <iostream>
#include <sstream>
...

// in void main():
std::string plaintext = "My password is 1234";
std::istringstream from(plaintext);

caesar(from, std::cout, s);
```

Calling the generalised caesar function: from a string to `std::cout`

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