



Compile-time type transformation

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About me

- KDAB senior software engineer
Software Experts in Qt, C++ and 3D / OpenGL
- Trainer / consultant
- KDE developer
- Author of the "Functional Programming in C++" book
- University lecturer

Disclaimer



Make your code readable. Pretend the next person who looks at your code is a psychopath and they know where you live.

Philip Wadler

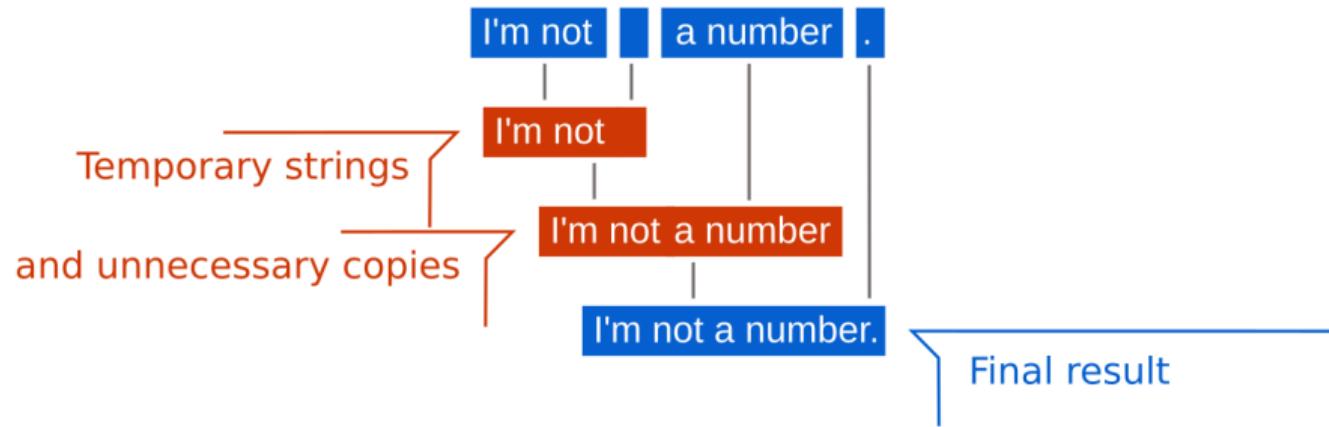
SLOW INTRODUCTION

String concatenation

```
std::string statement{"I'm not"};  
std::string number{"a number"};  
std::string space{" "};  
std::string period{". "};
```

```
std::string result = statement + space + number + period;
```

String concatenation



String concatenation

```
std::string result;
result.reserve(statement.size() + space.size()
               + number.size() + period.size());
result.append(statement);
result.append(space);
result.append(number);
result.append(period);
```

String concatenation

I'm not [] a number [].
I'm not a number.

Final result calculated directly
without any temporaries

String concatenation

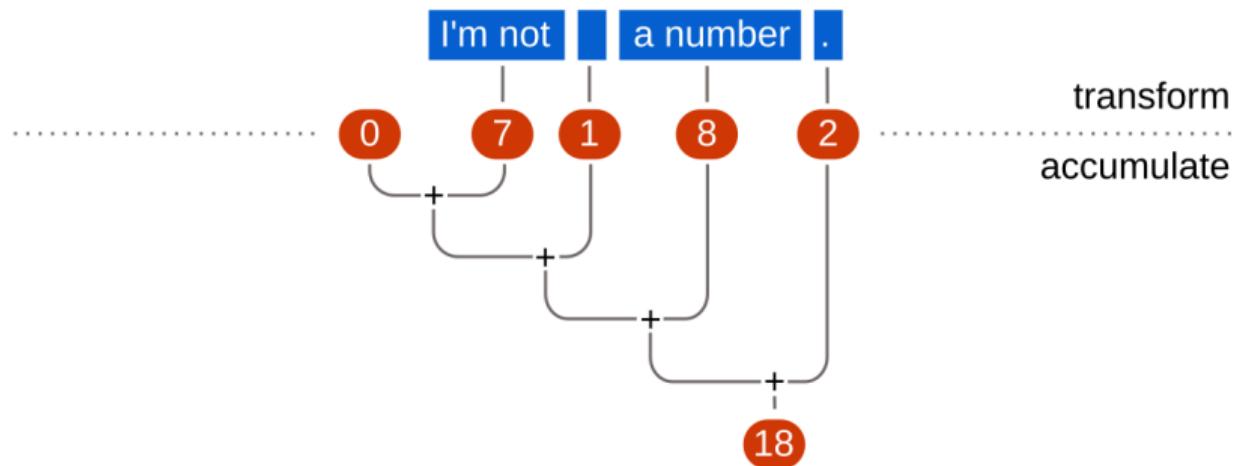
```
std::string concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    std::string result;

    result.reserve(accumulate(
        strs | transform(&std::string::size), 0));

    for (const auto& str: strs) { ... }

    return result;
}
```

String concatenation



String concatenation

```
std::string concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    std::string result;

    result.reserve(accumulate(
        strs | transform(&std::string::size), 0));

    for (const auto& str: strs) {
        result.append(str);
    }

    return result;
}
```

String concatenation

```
std::string concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    std::string result;

    result.resize(accumulate(
        strs | transform(&std::string::size), 0));

    ???

    return result;
}
```

String concatenation

```
std::string concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    std::string result;

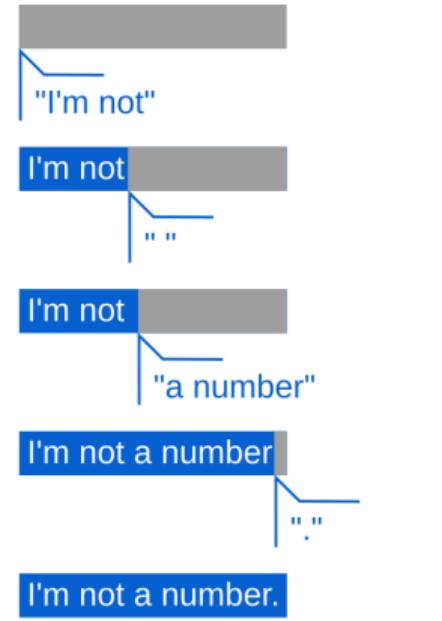
    result.resize(accumulate(
        strs | transform(&std::string::size), 0));

    accumulate(strs, result.begin(),
        [] (const auto& dest, const std::string& s) {
            return copy(s, dest);
        });

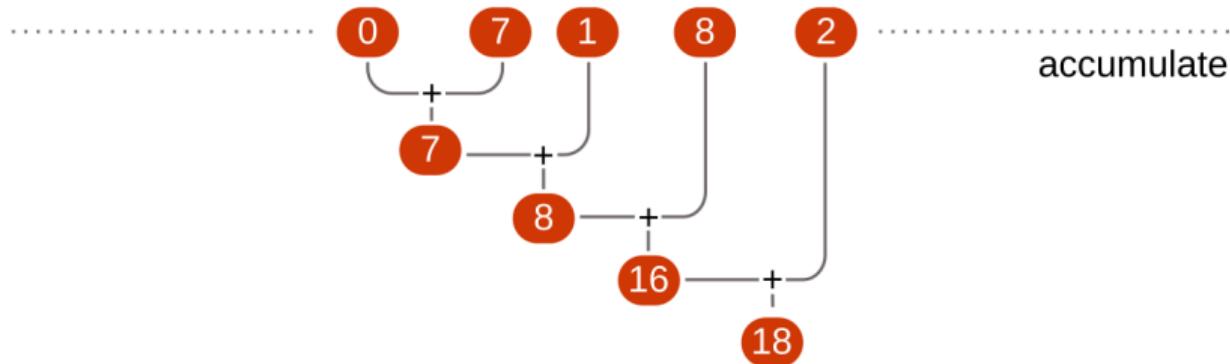
    return result;
}
```

String concatenation

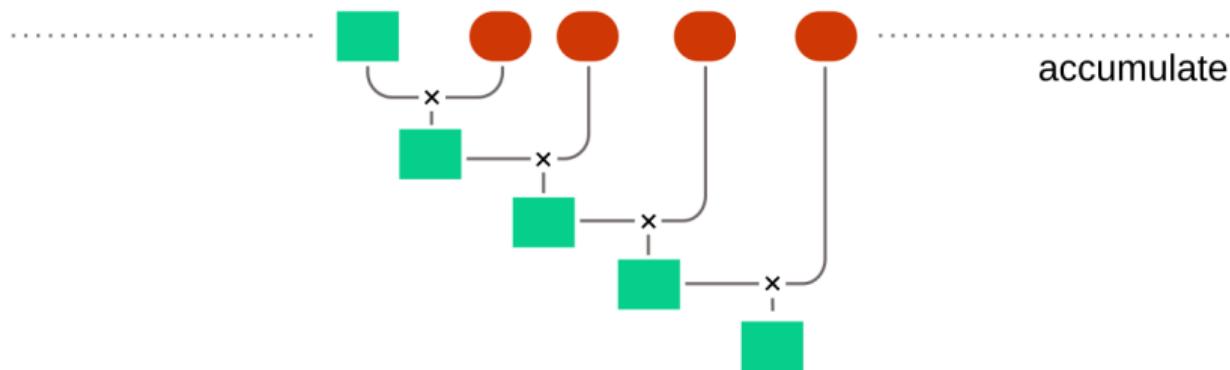
Each call to copy returns
the iterator to the place after the last
copied character -- the position that
we should copy the next string to



Accumulate



Accumulate



Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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The End

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Accumulate

What if we want to save all the intermediate iterators into a vector?

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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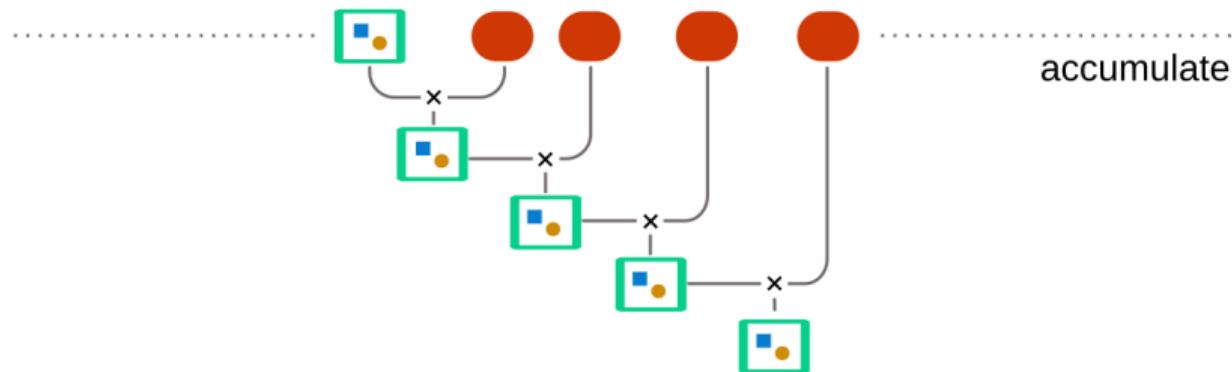
Generation

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The End

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Accumulate



Accumulate

Accumulator type:

```
struct acc_t {  
    std::string::iterator dest;  
    std::vector<std::string::iterator> points;  
};
```

Accumulate

Initial accumulator value:

```
acc_t {
    result.begin(),
    {}
};
```

Accumulate

Accumulation function:

```
[] (acc_t&& acc, const std::string& s)
{
    acc.points.push_back(acc.dest);
    return acc_t {
        copy(s, acc.dest),
        std::move(acc.points)
    };
}
```

Accumulate

```
std::string concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    ...

    struct acc_t {
        std::string::iterator dest;
        std::vector<std::string::iterator> points;
    };

    auto acc = accumulate(strs, acc_t { result.begin(), {} },
        [] (acc_t& acc, const std::string& s)
    {
        acc.points.push_back(acc.dest);
        return acc_t {
            copy(s, acc.dest),
            std::move(acc.points)
        };
    });
}

acc.dest ...
acc.points ...
}
```

Accumulate

```
std::pair<std::string, std::vector<std::string_view>>
concatenate(const std::vector<std::string>& strs)
{
    ...
}
```

Note: Beware of `string_view` and UB

COMPILE-TIME

Compile-time

```
template <typename... Strings>
auto concatenate(Strings&&... strs)
{
    result.resize(accumulate(...));
}
```

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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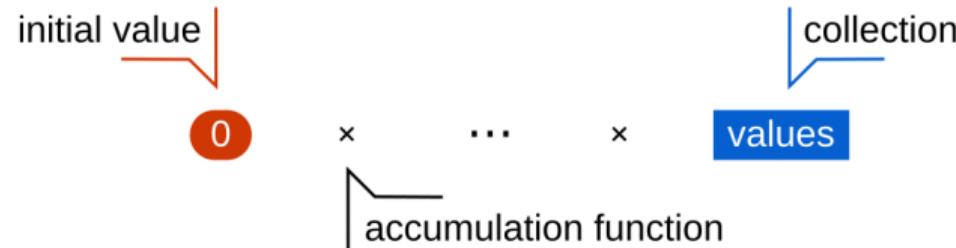
The End

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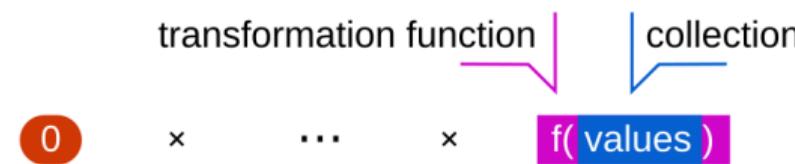
Compile-time

What is a compile-time accumulate?

Compile-time



Compile-time



Compile-time

```
template <typename... Strings>
auto concatenate(Strings&&... strs)
{
    const auto total_size = (0 + ... + strs.size());
    std::string result;
    result.resize(total_size);

    ...
}
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename... Strings>
auto concatenate(Strings&&... strs)
{
    const auto total_size = (0 + ... + strs.size());
    std::string result;
    result.resize(total_size);

    (result.begin() << ... << strs);
}
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename Dest, typename String>
auto operator<< (Dest dest, const String& string)
{
    return copy(string, dest);
}
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename Init, typename Fun>
struct accumulator_t {
    Init value;
    const Fun& f;

    accumulator_t(Init value, const Fun& f)
        : value{value}, f{f}
    {}

    ...
};

};
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename Init, typename Fun>
struct accumulator_t {

    ...

    template <typename T>
    auto operator<< (T&& t) const
    {
        return accumulator_t(
            std::invoke(f, value, std::forward<T>(t)),
            f);
    }

    ...
};

};
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename Init, typename Fun>
struct accumulator_t {

    ...

    operator Init() const
    {
        return value;
    }
};
```

Compile-time

```
( accumulator_t(0, std::plus{}) << ... << strs.size() );
```

Compile-time

```
auto add_size = [](int previous, const std::string &s)
{
    return previous + s.size();
};

(accumulator_t(0, add_size) << ... << strs);
```

Compile-time

```
template <typename Init, typename Fun, typename... Vals>
auto accumulate(Init&& init, const Fun& fun, Vals&&... vals)
{
    return (
        accumulator_t(std::forward<Init>(init), fun)
        << ...
        << std::forward<Vals>(vals)).value;
}
```

String concatenation

```
template <typename... Strings>
std::string concatenate(Strings&& strs)
{
    ...
    result.resize(accumulate(0, add_size, strs...));
    accumulate(result.begin(),
               [] (const auto& dest, const std::string& s) {
                   return copy(s, dest);
               },
               std::forward<Strings>(strs)...);
    ...
}
```

META INFORMATION

Meta information

```
print_animals(const std::vector<animal*> animals);
```

```
std::vector<dog*> dogs;
```

```
print_animals(dogs); // ERROR
```

Meta information

```
template < typename From  
          , typename To
```

```
>  
concept covariant = ...;
```

Meta information

```
template < typename From
          , typename To
          , typename FromTPtr = typename From::value_type
          , typename ToTPtr = typename To::value_type
```

>

```
concept covariant = ...;
```

Meta information

```
template < typename From
          , typename To
          , typename FromTPtr = typename From::value_type
          , typename ToTPtr = typename To::value_type
          , typename FromT = std::remove_cvref_t<
                                decltype(*std::declval<FromTPtr>())
          , typename ToT = std::remove_cvref_t<
                                decltype(*std::declval<ToTPtr>())
          >
concept covariant = std::is_base_of_v<ToT, FromT>;
```

Meta information

```
template <typename Collection>
    requires (covariant<Collection, std::vector<animal*>>)
void print_animals(const Collection& xs)
{
}

// or constexpr bool and enable_if
```

Meta information

```
void print_animals(  
    covariant<std::vector<animal*>> auto const& xs)  
{  
}
```

Meta information

```
if constexpr (std::is_array_v<T>) {  
} else {  
}
```

Meta information

```
partition(ForwardIterator first, ForwardIterator last,  
          Predicate pred, forward_iterator_tag)  
partition(ForwardIterator first, ForwardIterator last,  
          Predicate pred, bidirectional_iterator_tag)
```

GENERATION

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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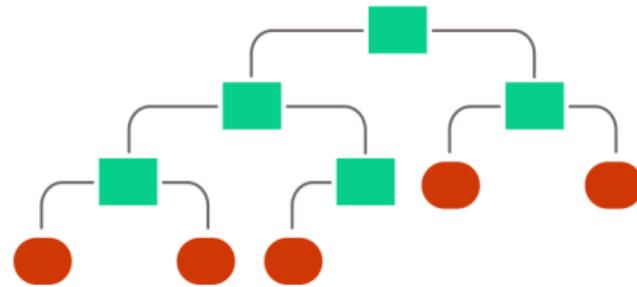
Generation

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The End

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Ropes



Ropes

- Template expressions are usually binary trees
- Rope leaves can be quite different in types and sizes
- The tree can be, but does not need to be balanced

Ropes

```
template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;
};
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_count =
        int_val<node_count_v<Left> +
        node_count_v<Right>>;
```

...

```
};
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    ...
    template <size_t I>
    const auto& node_at() const
    {
        if constexpr (I < node_count_v<Left>)
            return left.node_at<I>();
        } else {
            return right.node_at<I - node_count_v<Left>>();
        }
    }
};
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Tree, size_t... Idx>
auto tree_to_tuple_helper(
    const Tree& tree,
    std::index_sequence<Idx...>)
    return std::make_tuple(tree.node_at<Idx>(...));
}
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Tree, size_t... Idx>
auto tree_to_tuple_helper(
    const Tree& tree,
    std::index_sequence<Idx...>)
    return std::make_tuple(tree.node_at<Idx>(...));
}

template <typename Tree>
auto tree_to_tuple(const Tree& tree)
{
    tree_to_tuple_helper(
        tree,
        std::make_index_sequence<node_count_v<Tree>>());
}
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Tree, size_t... Idx>
auto process(const Tree& tree, std::index_sequence<Idx...>)
    return (init << ... << tree.node_at<Idx>());
}
```

Ropes

```
template <typename... Ts>
struct leaf {
    std::tuple<Ts...> data;

    template <size_t I>
    const auto& node_at() const
    {
        return std::get<I>(data);
    }
}
```

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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The End

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TMP

So far, nothing new. Just *normal* TMP.

Ropes

```
struct binary_node_tag;

template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_type_tag = binary_node_tag;
};

};
```

Ropes

```
struct binary_node_tag;

template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_type_tag = binary_node_tag;
    using left_t = Left;
    using right_t = Right;
};
```

Ropes

```
if constexpr (
    is_detected_exact_v<
        binary_node_tag,
        has_node_type_tag,
        T>) {
    do something with T::left_t and T::right_t ...
}
```

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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The End

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Ropes

- Unsafe
- Not scalable

Ropes

```
struct binary_node_tag;

template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_type_tag = binary_node_tag;
    // using left_t = Left;
    // using right_t = Right;
};
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct binary_node_tag { using left = Left; using right = Right; };

template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_type_tag = binary_node_tag<Left, Right>;
};

};
```

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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The End

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Ropes

Template instances as tags instead of types.

Ropes

Now, `is_detected_exact_v` is no longer an option

Ropes

```
template <typename Expected,  
         template <typename...> typename Op,  
         typename... Args>  
using is_detected_exact =  
    is_same<Expected, detected_t<Op, Args...>>;
```

Ropes

We need to check whether a given template has been used to instantiate a type:

`std::vector` is used for `std::vector<int>`

`std::basic_string` is used for `std::string`

`std::basic_string` is **not** used for `std::vector<char>`

Ropes

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,  
        typename Type>  
struct is_instance_of: ...
```

Ropes

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,  
         typename Type>  
struct is_instance_of: std::false_type {};
```

Ropes

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,  
         typename Type>  
struct is_instance_of: std::false_type {};  
  
template <template <typename...> typename Template,  
         typename... Args>  
struct is_instance_of<Template, Template<Args...>>: std::true_type {};
```

Ropes

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,
          typename Type>
struct is_instance_of: std::false_type {};
```

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,
          typename... Args>
struct is_instance_of<Template, Template<Args...>>: std::true_type {};
```

```
template <template <typename...> typename Template,
          typename Type>
constexpr bool is_instance_of_v =
    is_instance_of<Template, Type>::value;
```

Ropes

```
template <template <typename...> typename Expected,  
        template <typename...> typename Op,  
        typename... Args>  
using is_detected_instance_of =  
    is_instance_of<Expected, detected_t<Op, Args...>>;
```

Ropes

```
is_detected_instance_of<binary_node_tag,  
                      has_node_type_tag,  
                      T>
```

Ropes

```
template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct binary_node_tag { using left = Left; using right = Right; };

template <typename Left, typename Right>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using node_type_tag = binary_node_tag<Left, Right>;
};

};
```

Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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Generation

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The End

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Extensibility

- Tags are fixed
- Extending a type is difficult

Extensibility

```
template <typename Left, typename Right, typename BaseMeta>
struct node {
    Left left;
    Right right;

    using meta_t =
        tuple_prepend_t<
            binary_node_tag<Left, Right>,
            BaseMeta
        >;
};
```

Extensibility

Does a type have a specific tag?

```
(false || ... || is_instance_of<specific_tag, Ts>);
```

Extensibility

Finding a specific tag:

```
if constexpr (is_instance_of<Tag, T>) {  
    return tuple_append_t<Acc, T>{};  
} else {  
    return T{};  
}
```

Extensibility

- We have a way to check for a tag (like `is_detected_v`)
- And we can get the tag (like `detected_t`)
- Difference – multiple instances of the same tag, tag meta-data

Extensibility

```
template <typename SourceNode>
struct enriched_node {
    using meta_t =
        tuple_prepend_t<
            enriched_node_tag<SourceNode>,
            some_common_tag<42>,
            typename SourceNode::meta // inheritance?
        >;
};
```

Pipes

```
xs | filter(...) | sort | transform(...) | take(5)
```

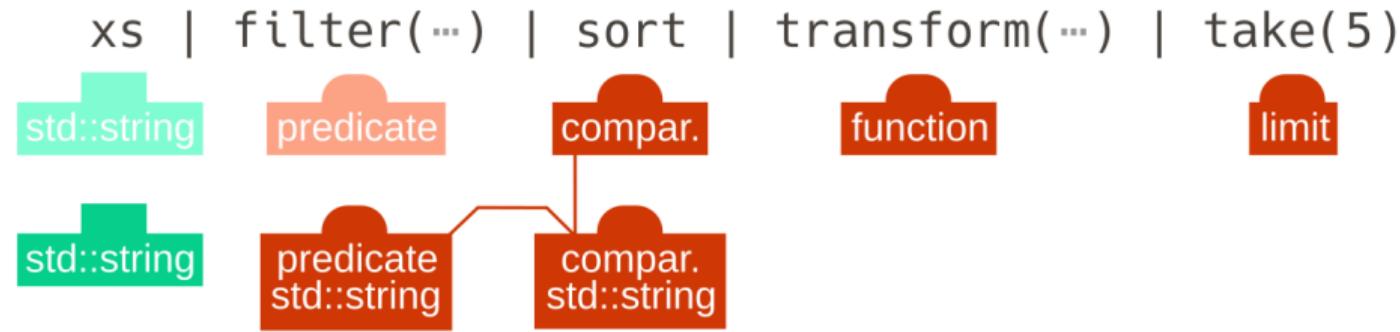
Pipes

```
xs | filter(...) | sort | transform(...) | take(5)  
std::string  predicate  compar.  function  limit
```

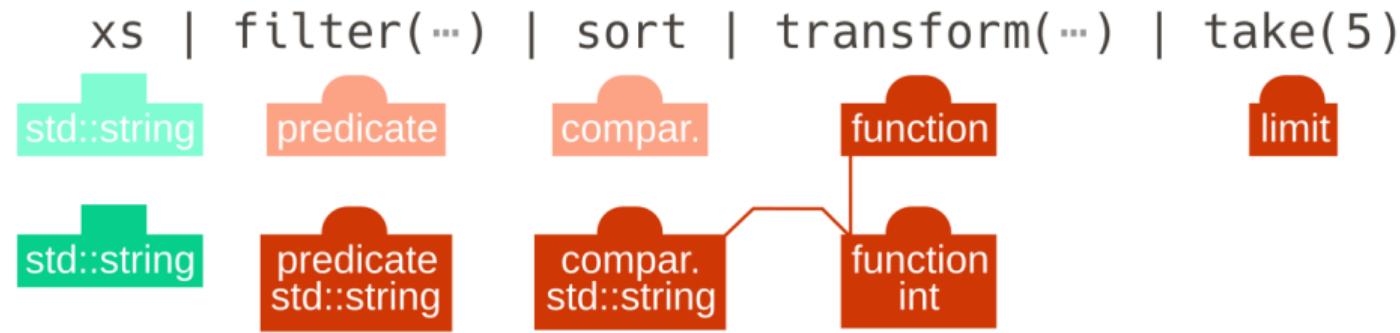
Pipes



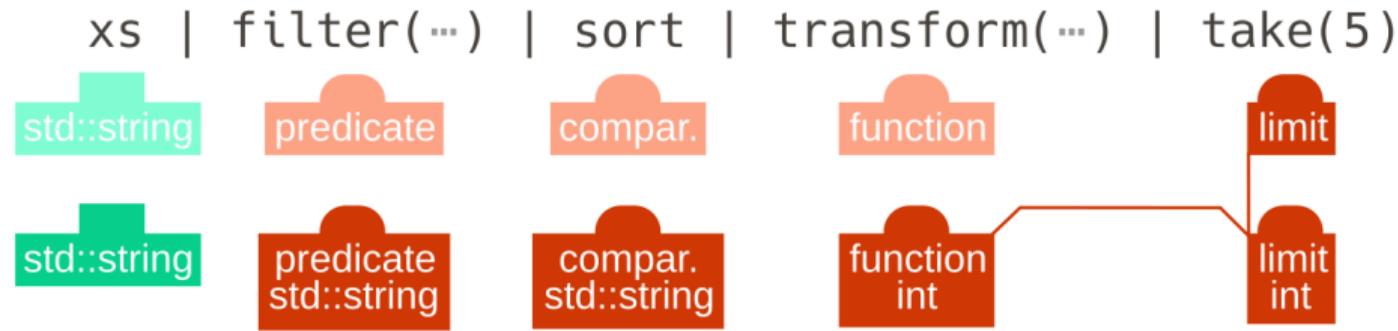
Pipes



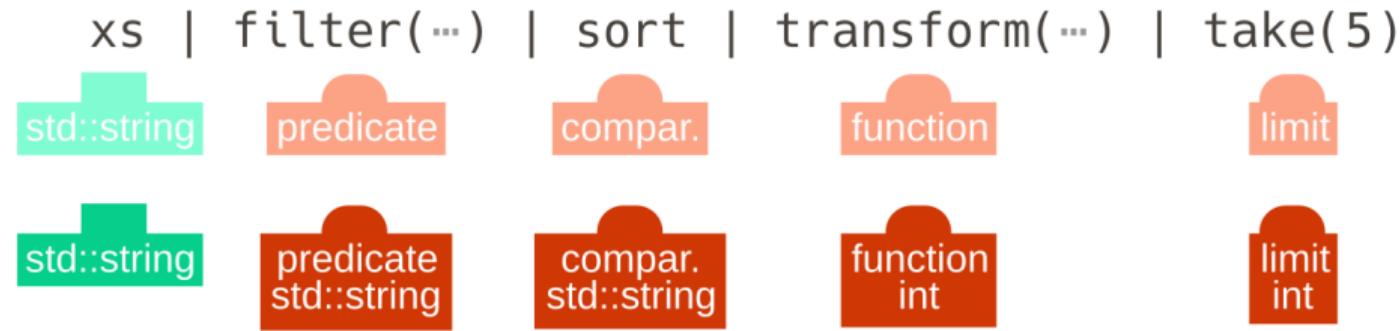
Pipes



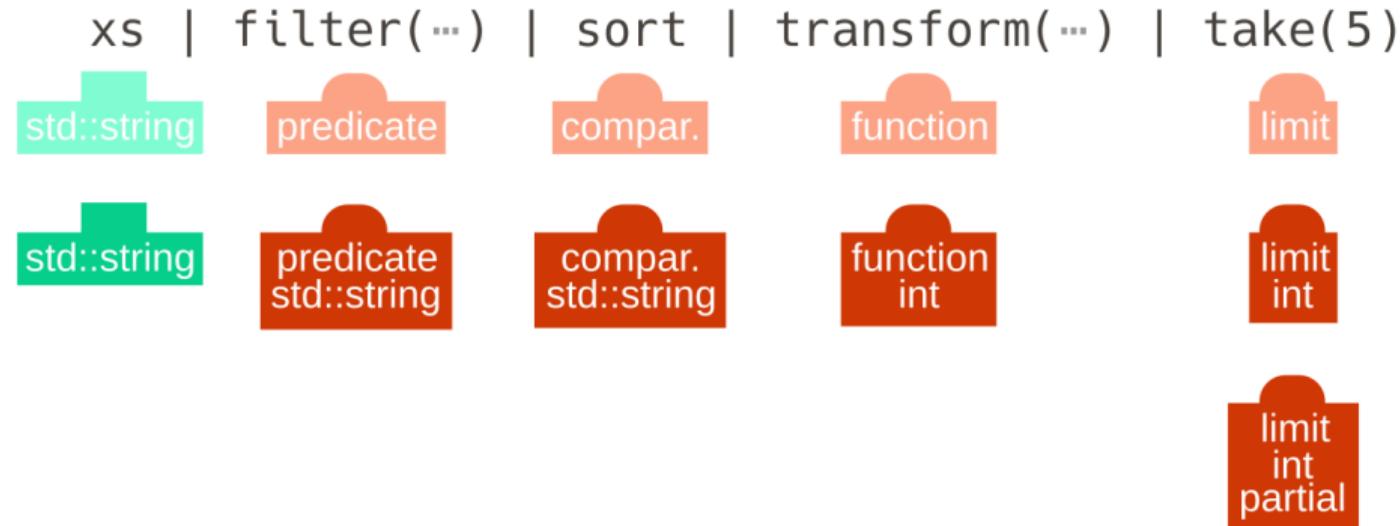
Pipes



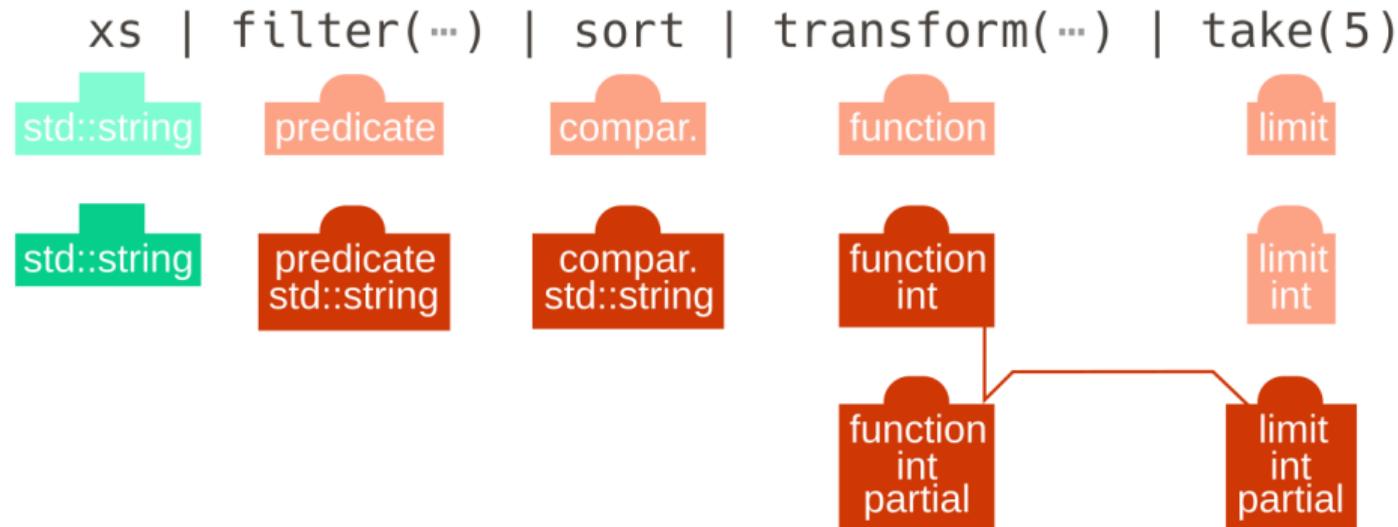
Pipes



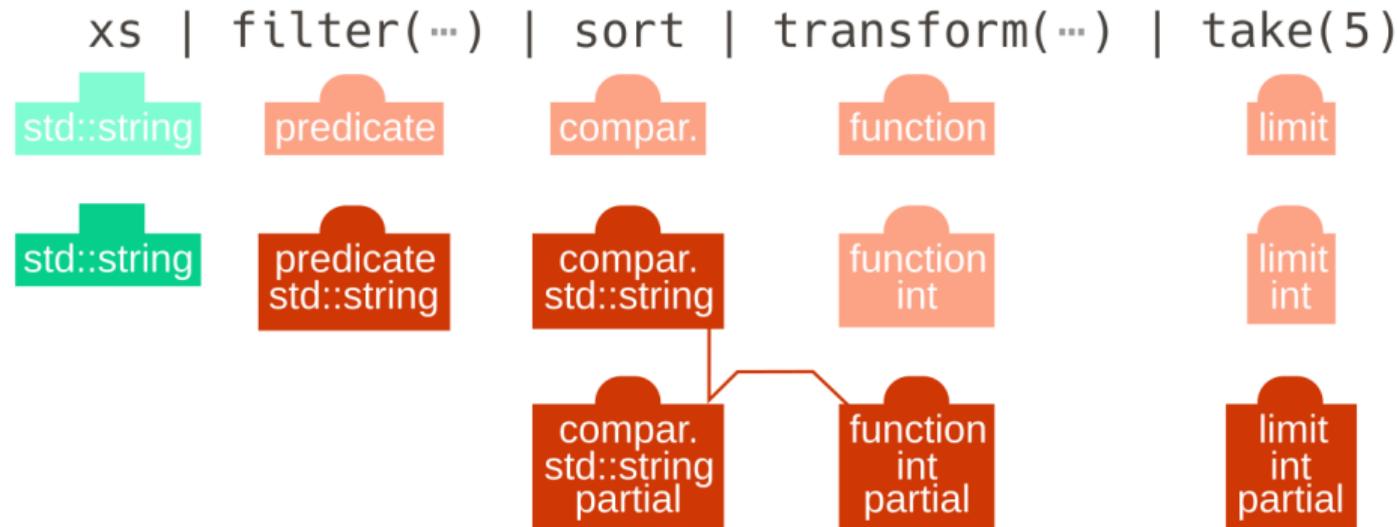
Pipes



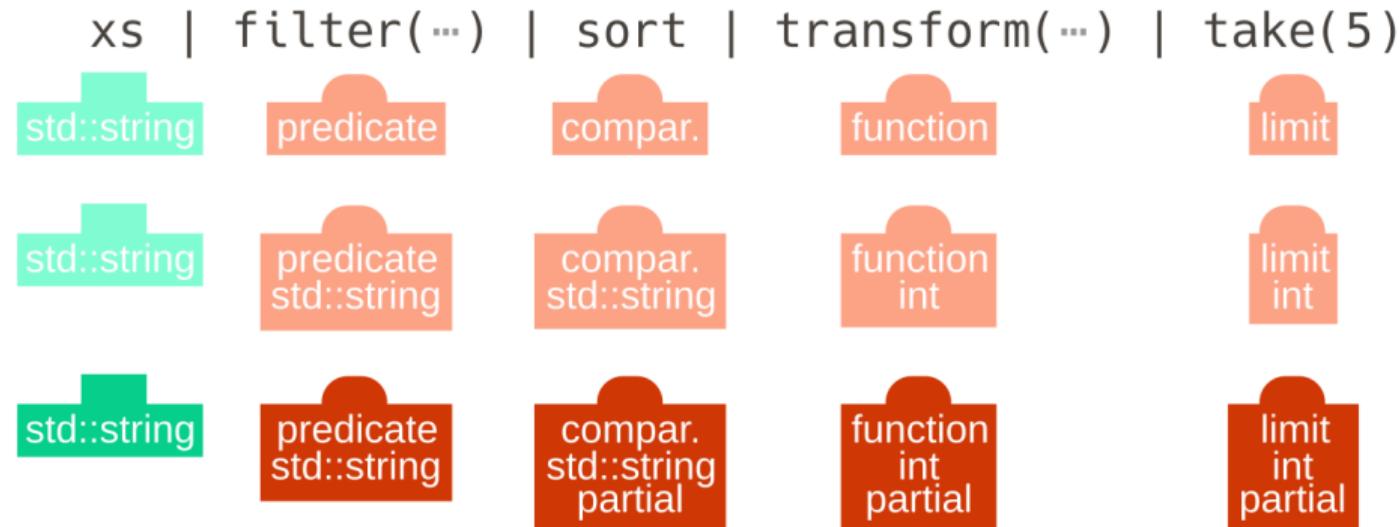
Pipes



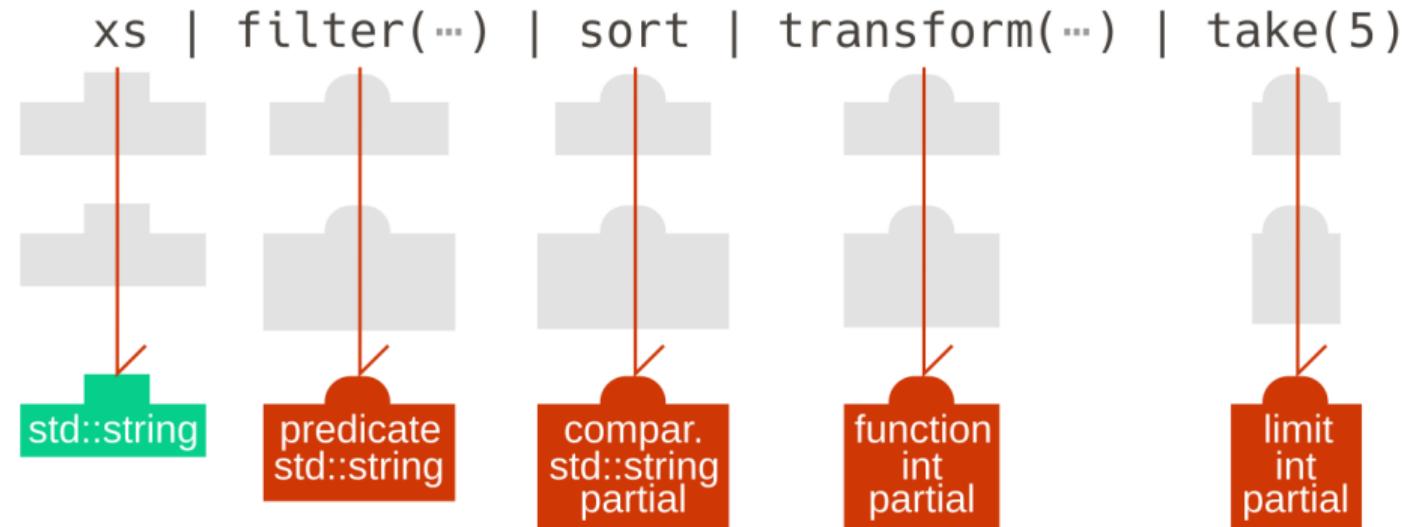
Pipes



Pipes



Pipes



Slow introduction

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Compile-time

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Meta information

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The End

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Properties

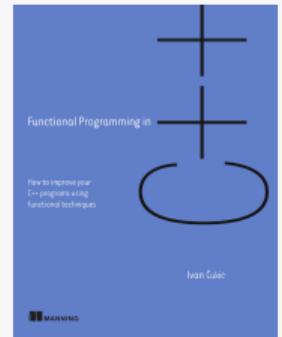
Dynamic property system...
at compile-time.

AKDAB

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Functional Programming in C++
cukic.co/to/fp-in-cpp