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# SG14

— J Guy Davidson —  
Coding Manager  
Creative Assembly

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# Summary

WG21/SG14

Don't pay for what you don't use

Containers and algorithms

Parallelism and vectorisation

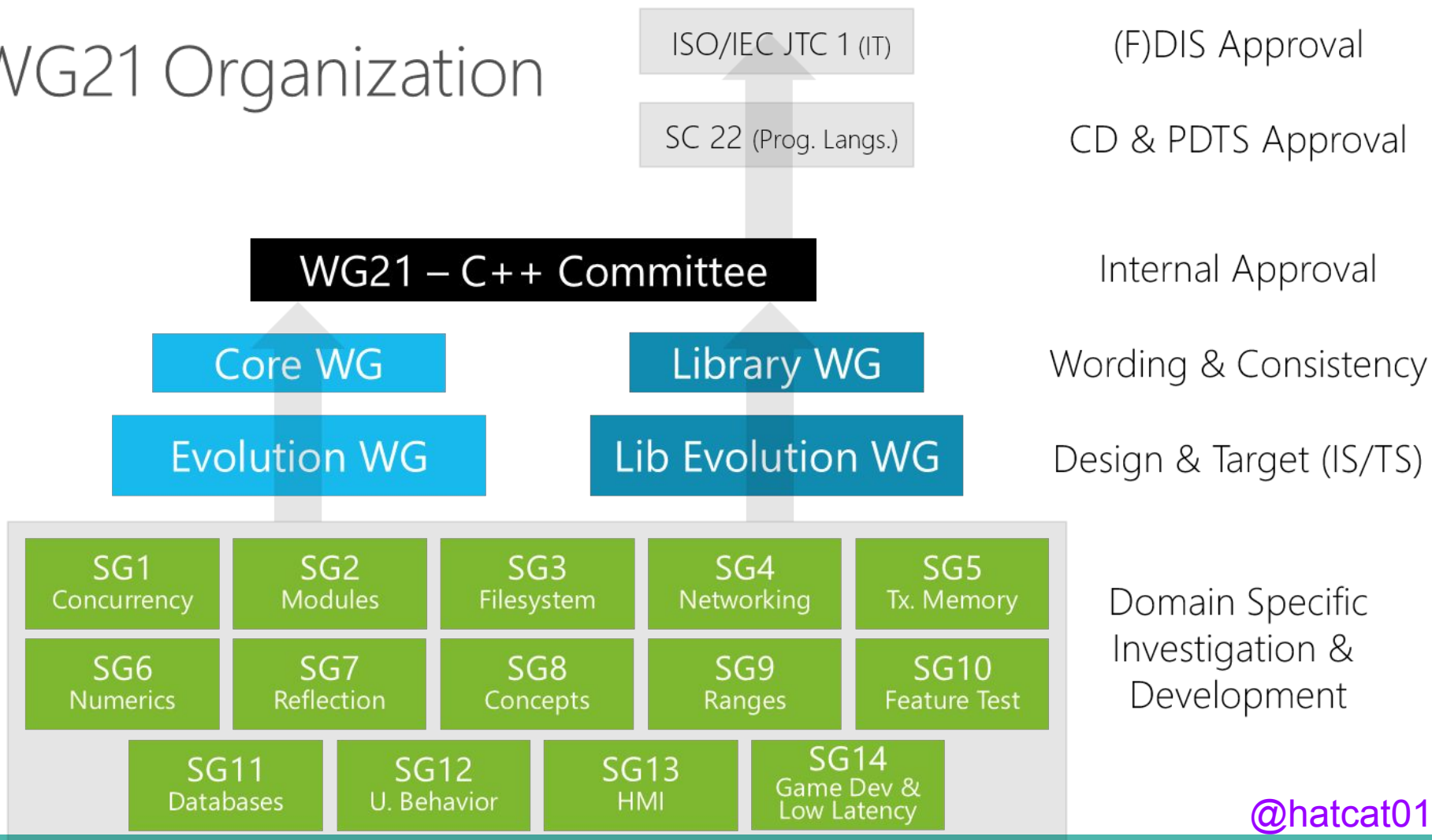
# WG21/SG14

CppCon 2014

Low latency, real time

Games, simulations, financial trading, embedded systems

# WG21 Organization



# WG21/SG14

Reflector: <https://groups.google.com/a/isocpp.org/forum/#!forum/sg14>

Papers

GitHub: <https://github.com/WG21-SG14/SG14>

Telecons



# VAMPIRE COUNTS TRAILER



TOTAL WAR  
WARHAMMER

# Some tricks

Run the world at 10Hz

Specify two cores

Use a GPU

Sound

# Further constraints

CPU, RAM, GPU

Broad hardware range/single hardware specification

All x86-64 CPUs, Nvidia/ATI/Intel graphics parts



# Don't pay for what you don't use

Exceptions

RTTI

The Standard Library

Memory constraints

Function calls

# Exception costs

Deterministic destruction

Two ways out of a function

Two ways of creating the unwinding code

Patrice Roi:

<http://h-deb.clg.qc.ca/Sujets/Developpement/Exceptions-Costs.html>



ERIC NIEBLER

## Ranges for the Standard Library

## Range of dates = ☹️

```

int main()
{
}

~/cppcon/2016 /ygyriva@users/eric/Code/range/build $ clang
$ make calendar 2>&1 | fold -w 90 -c
Scanning dependencies of target calendar
[100%] Building CXX object example/OtherFiles/calendar.dir/calendar.cpp.o
In file included from /ygyriva@users/eric/Code/range-03/example/calendar.cpp:48:
/ygyriva@users/eric/Code/range-03/include/range/utility/iterator_concepts.hpp:144:18: error:
static_assert failed "The object passed to view::data must model the weaklyIncrementable
concept; that is, it must have pre- and post-increment operators and it must have a
difference_type"
    CONCEPT_ASSERT_WEAK(weaklyIncrementable{val}),
                          ^
/ygyriva@users/eric/Code/range-03/include/range/utility/concepts.hpp:144:18: note:
expanded from macro 'CONCEPT_ASSERT_WEAK'
#define CONCEPT_ASSERT_WEAK static_assert

/ygyriva@users/eric/Code/range-03/example/calendar.cpp:61:15: note: in instantiation
of function template specialization
'range::data::view::data_fn::operator()(boost::gregorian::date, boost::gregorian::date,
date, date)' requested here
    view::data{from, to};
    ~~~~~^
1 error generated.

```

# Exception costs

Error handling comes with a cost

Non-determinism is VERY limited

Standard library has many exception-safe components

Having said all that...

# RTTI

`typeid()`, `dynamic_cast<>`

Runtime cost

Not wanted on voyage

The consumer won...

...or did it?

# The Standard Library

Exception safe

-fno\_exceptions does not mean “No exception code”

Try-catch blocks are unwelcome

```
_HAS_EXCEPTIONS = 0
```

```
namespace foo nothrow { ... }
```

# The Standard Library

Thread safe

Implemented for maintainability

Debug configuration can be slow

Roll your own containers

# Memory constraints

Heap allocation is a headache

Assign budgets to systems

Fragmentation

Partition your allocations with allocators



# Memory constraints

64 bit address space

Standard library objects

```
std::function<bool, int, size_t> func;
```

Rolling your own `std::function` is a fun hobby

# Function calls

Inline depth

Virtual dispatch

Calling virtual functions on containers of pointers

Tradeoffs

# Library extensions

Ring

Flat map and flat set

Uninitialised memory

Fixed point numbers

# Ring

By your presenter and Arthur O'Dwyer

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2016/p0059r1.pdf>

An ancient structure

A common structure

Parkinson's law of triviality

Asynchronous processing, history buffer

Contiguous

# Ring

Started after ACCU May 2015

Presented to SG14 at CppCon September 2015

Presented to committee at Kona, Hawaii October 2015

Acquired a collaborator

Presented to committee at Jacksonville, Florida March 2016

Presented to SG14 at GDC March 2016

Ready for Oulu?

# Flat map and set

By Sean Middleditch

[https://github.com/seanmiddleditch/CPlusPlus/blob/flatmap-wording/flat\\_containers\\_redux.md](https://github.com/seanmiddleditch/CPlusPlus/blob/flatmap-wording/flat_containers_redux.md)

Cache-friendly

Interface decisions

Element storage

Design-complete

# Uninitialised memory algorithms

Brittany Friedman

<http://open-std.org/JTC1/SC22/WG21/docs/papers/2016/p0040r1.html>

uninitialized\_copy and uninitialized\_copy\_n

uninitialized\_fill and uninitialized\_fill\_n

get\_temporary\_buffer and return\_temporary\_buffer

raw\_storage\_iterator

# Uninitialised memory algorithms

destroy

uninitialized\_move and uninitialized\_move\_n

uninitialized\_value\_construct

uninitialized\_default\_construct



# Uninitialised memory algorithms

P0040	Dinkumware	libstdc++	libc++	EASTL
uninitialized_move	_Uninitialized_move	__uninitialized_move_a		uninitialized_move
uninitialized_move_n				
uninitialized_value_construct	_Uninit_def_fill_n (n-variant)	__uninitialized_default	see vector::__construct_at_end	uses uninitialised_fill
uninitialized_default_construct				
destroy	_Destroy_range	_Destroy	see vector::__destruct_at_end	destruct

# Uninitialised memory algorithms

Exception handling

`move_iterator + uninitialized_copy = uninitialized_move?`

Bidirectional iterator destruction order

# Uninitialised memory algorithms

Specialised array-based containers are now possible

Array of `unique_ptr`

New type traits

Relocatable types

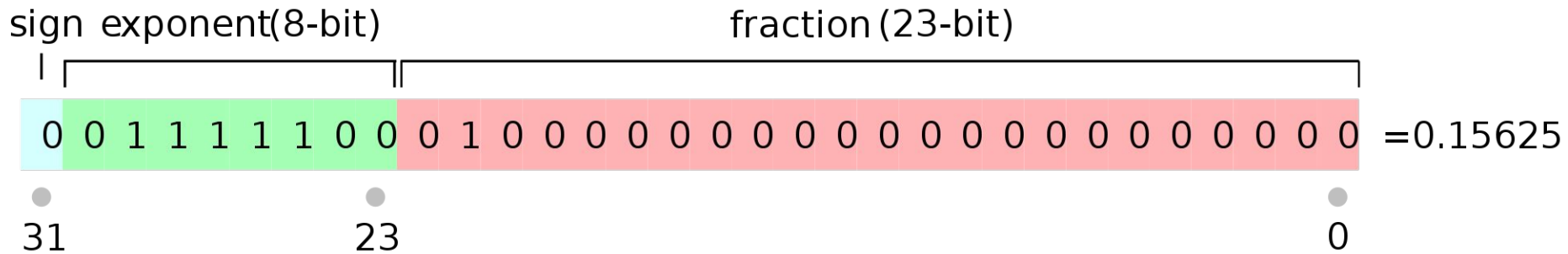
# Fixed point numbers

# Floating point numbers

binary32, binary 64

Not all processors offer native floating point registers

Uneven point distribution



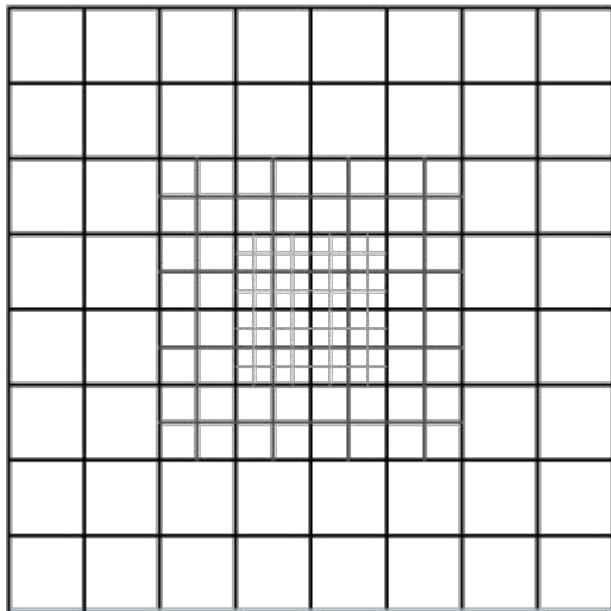
# Floating point numbers

Five decimal orders of magnitude

Everything has a position

Combat = contact

Don't fight at the edges



# Fixed point numbers

John Mcfarlane, Laurence Crowl

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2016/p0037r1.html>

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2015/p0106r0.html>

SG6: Numerics

Library extension to `<type_traits>`

`<fixed_point>`

# Fixed point numbers

```
template <class ReprType, int Exponent> class fixed_point;
```

```
template <unsigned IntegerDigits, unsigned FractionalDigits = 0,  
         class Archetype = signed>  
using make_fixed;
```

```
template <unsigned IntegerDigits, unsigned FractionalDigits = 0,  
         class Archetype = unsigned>  
using make_ufixed;
```

```
make_fixed<2,29> pi {3.141592653};
```

```
make_ufixed<4, 4> (0.006) == make_ufixed<4,4> (0)
```



# Fixed point numbers

Promotion rules for operator overloads

If both arguments are fixed point:

Result type is the size of the larger type

Is signed if either input is signed

Has the maximum integer bits of the two inputs

# Fixed point numbers

Promotion rules for operator overloads

If one argument is floating point type:

Result type is the smallest floating point type of equal or greater size than the inputs

# Fixed point numbers

Promotion rules for operator overloads

If one argument is an integral type:

Result type is the other fixed point type

# Fixed point numbers

For example:

```
make_ufixed<5, 3>{8} + make_ufixed<4, 4>{3} == make_ufixed<5, 3>{11};
```

```
make_ufixed<5, 3>{8} + 3 == make_ufixed<5, 3>{11};
```

```
make_ufixed<5, 3>{8} + float{3} == float{11};
```

# Fixed point numbers

Overflow and underflow

`make_fixed<4, 3>{15} + make_fixed<4, 3>{1}`

`make_fixed<6, 1>{15} / make_fixed<6, 1>{2}`

`make_fixed<7, 0>{15} / make_fixed<7, 0>{2}`

# Fixed point numbers

Leave it to the user. Caveat emptor.

Allow the user to provide a custom type for ReprType

Promote the result to a larger type

Adjust the exponent of the result upward

```
c = a + b;
```

```
a += b;
```

```
assert(c == a); // may fail
```

# Fixed point numbers

```
promote(make_fixed<5, 2>{15.5});
```

```
make_fixed<11, 4>{15.5};
```

```
demote(make_fixed<11, 4>{15.5});
```

# Fixed point numbers

trunc\_reciprocal, trunc\_square, trunc\_sqrt  
promote\_reciprocal, promote\_square

trunc\_add, trunc\_subtract, trunc\_multiply, trunc\_divide  
trunc\_shift\_left, trunc\_shift\_right

promote\_add, promote\_subtract, promote\_multiply, promote\_divide



# Parallelism

SIMD - Single Instruction Multiple Data

1997: MMX

1998: 3DNow!

# Parallelism

1999: SSE

2001: SSE2

2004: SSE3

2007: SSE4

2011: AVX

2013: AVX2

# Parallelism

No standard!

Boost.SIMD

Mathias Gaunard

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2016/p0203r0.html>

# Parallelism

```
template<class T, class X = /*implementation-defined ABI tag*/>  
int best_size_v = /*implementation-defined*/;
```

```
template<class T, int N = best_size_v<T>, class X = /*impl-defined ABI tag*/>  
struct simd_vector;
```

```
template <class T, int N>  
simd_vector<T, N*2> combine(simd_vector<T, N> rhs, simd_vector<T, N> lhs);
```

```
template <class T, int N>  
array<simd_vector<T, N/2>, 2> slice(simd_vector<T, N> a);
```

# Parallelism

```
simd_vector<T, N> a;  
simd_vector<U, N> b = simd_cast<U>(a);
```

```
template<int... I, class T>  
simd_vector<T, sizeof...(I)> shuffle(simd_vector<T, sizeof...(I)> a);  
template<int... I, class T>  
simd_vector<T, sizeof...(I)> shuffle(simd_vector<T, sizeof...(I)> a,  
                                     simd_vector<T, sizeof...(I)> b);
```

# Parallelism

Aliasing:

```
void foo(float* aligned_data)
{
    simd_vector<float>* my_vector_data =
        reinterpret_cast<simd_vector<float>*>(aligned_data);
    // ... do stuff
}
```

# Parallelism

Aliasing:

```
simd_vector<float> v;  
float* p = &v[0];  
p[3] = 42.0f;
```

# Parallelism

Calling conventions

Compiler support required?



# Heterogeneous computing

Massive parallelism

Head start in games...

Graphics cards

# Heterogeneous computing

Direct3D

Nvidia GeForce

ATI Radeon

# Heterogeneous computing

Agency, Jared Hoberock and Michael Garland

<https://github.com/jaredhoberock/agency>

bulk\_invoke, bulk\_async, bulk\_then

Policies for parameterising control structures

Agents which parameterise user lambdas

Executors which create execution agents

# Heterogeneous computing

```
void saxpy(float a, float* x, float* y, size_t n)
{
    using namespace agency;
    bulk_invoke(par(n), [=](parallel_agent& self)
    {
        auto i = self.index();
        x[i] = a * x[i] + y[i];
    });
}
```

# Heterogeneous computing

```
std::future<void> saxpy(float a, float* x, float* y, size_t n)
{
    using namespace agency;
    return bulk_async(par(n), [=](parallel_agent& self)
    {
        auto i = self.index();
        x[i] = a * x[i] + y[i];
    });
}
```

# Heterogeneous computing

```
std::future<void> saxpy(std::future<void>& dep, float a, float* x, float* y, size_t
n)
{
    using namespace agency;
    return bulk_then(par(n), [=](parallel_agent& self)
    {
        auto i = self.index();
        x[i] = a * x[i] + y[i];
    }, dep);
}
```

# Heterogeneous computing

Heterogeneous C++ compiler

Parallelism APIs in HPX

SYCL

Next big frontier

# Finally...

Join the subgroup

Join any subgroup

Improve the standard



**Thank you!**