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Library Extension Technical Report — Issues List

Revision 4: 2004-07 mid-term mailing

1 TR Introduction issues

1.1 *How to disable TR features*

Section: 1 [tr.intro]

Submitter: Matt Austern

Status: NAD

The TR says that implementers should not enable the TR by default, and should hide TR features more thoroughly than just putting them in another namespace. It's vague on exactly what implementers should do: have files in another directory (perhaps even shadow headers, like an alternate version of <functional>), or use a macro, or something else. Should we be more specific?

Resolution:

The LWG decided that the current text is satisfactory.

1.2 *Feature test macros for the TR*

Section: 1 [tr.intro]

Submitter: Beman Dawes

Status: Closed

How can users determine whether or not a particular compiler/library implementation supports the components described in the library extension TR? Should we have a coarse-grained macro (yes or not), or should we have a fine-grained facility so users can perform feature tests for individual pieces? (See <http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2003/n1558.html>)

Rationale:

There was some discomfort with putting these macros in a header that's associated so strongly with the operating system. Additionally, it isn't clear whether these macros would give us as much of a portability benefit as one might hope, and they might present a legacy issue. (If code has come to rely on their presence, there might be pressure to keep them in even after these components have been standardized.)

1.3 Reference to clause 17 should be stronger

Section: 1 [tr.intro]

Submitter: Beman Dawes

Status: TR

The TR working paper makes clear that the "Methods of description" (17.3) of the C++ Standard also apply to the TR.

But it appears to me that all of clause 17 should apply to the TR.

Proposed Resolution:

Replace:

1.1 Method of description [tr.description]

The structure of clauses in this technical report, the elements that make up the subclauses, and the editorial conventions used to describe library components, are the same as described in clause 17.3 of the C++ standard.

with:

1.1 Relation to C++ Standard Library Introduction

Unless otherwise specified, the whole of the ISO C++ Standard Library introduction (clause 17) is included into this Technical Report by reference.

2 Smart pointer issues

2.1 *shared_ptr* constructor from *auto_ptr* missing postcondition

Submitter: Beman Dawes

Section: 2.2.3 [tr.util.smartptr.shared.const]

Status: TR

For

```
template <class Y> shared_ptr<Y>(auto_ptr<Y> & r)
```

The Postcondition clause says:

```
use_count() == 1
```

Resolution:

change it to

```
use_count() == 1 && r.get() == 0
```

2.2 Error in *shared_ptr* constructor

Submitter: Pete Becker

Section: 2.2.3 [tr.util.smartptr.shared.const]

Paper: c++std-lib-11461, 11463-11510, 11512-11524

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Status: Closed

```
template<class Y> explicit shared_ptr(Y *p);
template <class Y, class D> shared_ptr(Y *, D d);
template <class Y> shared_ptr<auto_ptr<Y> & r);
```

The Effects clauses for the first two ctors say:

Constructs a shared_ptr that owns the pointer p [and the deleter d].
and their Postconditions clauses say:
use_count() == 1 && get() == p

Similarly, the Effects clause for the third ctor says:

Constructs a shared_ptr that stores and owns r.release()
and the Postcondition clause says:
use_count == 1

Issues:

- Is this the correct behavior when p or r.release() is a null pointer? Consistency with the default constructor would suggest that use_count() == 0 for a null pointer, i.e. the result is an empty shared_ptr.
- If use_count() should be 0, this raises the lesser issue of whether smart_ptr(null, Dtor) should remember _Dtor, or should be equivalent to smart_ptr(). I'm pretty sure I prefer the latter, 'cause it's the way I've implemented it. (It's also simpler and more efficient to treat all null pointers the same way).

Resolution:

Discussed at Kona. There are several ways of phrasing this issue: Do we reference-count null pointers? Are null pointers a special case? What is the deleter argument good for? There wasn't consensus for changing what the TR already says, but it was agreed that this exposed another issue (2.3, see below).

2.3 shared_ptr equality and operator<

Submitter: Beman Dawes

Section: [tr.util.smartptr.shared]

Status: Closed

When two shared_ptrs p1 and p2 are constructed from the same underlying pointer, the behavior of operator== and operator< is surprising. We will have p1 == p2, but also either p1 < p2 or p1 > p2. We thus violate the usual trichotomy condition. For example, if you have a whole bunch of shared_ptr in a set, you can't search for it by constructing a new shared_ptr.

It may seem that this is irrelevant because it's never correct to have two shared_ptr with the same underlying pointer, but that's wrong. It's valid in two cases: (1) when the underlying pointer is null; or (2) when you're using a user-defined deleter object that doesn't do deletion.

Further discussion: See N1590=04-0030, "Smart Pointer Comparison Operators", for a justification of the current behavior.

Rationale:

General agreement that this behavior is surprising. Also general agreement that (a) we're scared of violating Peter Dimov's recommendation; and (b) the proposed change hasn't been tested; and (c) the surprising behavior is only in a few corner cases. Straw poll 4-1-1: keep as is vs do the comparison based on the underlying pointer vs eliminate comparison operators entirely

2.4 shared_ptr::operator<() not a strict weak ordering

Submitter: Joe Gottman

Status: TR

According to the draft Technical Report on Standard Library Extensions, two `shared_ptr`'s are equivalent under the `!(a < b) && !(b < a)` relationship if and only if they share ownership. But an empty (default constructed) `shared_ptr` does not share ownership with anything, not even itself. This means that if `a` is an empty `shared_ptr`, it will not be equivalent to itself, so `operator<` is not a strict weak ordering. The same holds true for `weak_ptr`'s.

Peter Dimov comments (c++std-lib-12700):

Technically, this is not a defect. There is an explicit requirement in 2.2.3.6 and 2.2.4.6 for `operator<` to be a strict weak ordering. This requirement implies that every smart pointer is equivalent to itself under `!(p < q) && !(q < p)`.

In the current text, the equivalence relation is not required to yield true for two different empty pointers `p` and `q` in order to allow implementations that use several statically allocated control blocks for empty pointers. In such an implementation, two empty pointers may or may not share a control block.

The original version of the proposal allowed implementations where it is not possible to detect whether a given smart pointer is empty. The revised version in the TR, however, does not permit such implementations, since it requires `use_count()` to return zero for empty pointers. Therefore, it is possible to tighten the specification of `operator<` as proposed.

Proposed Resolution:

Change the specification of `shared_ptr::operator<()` to say two `shared_ptr`'s are equivalent if and only if they share ownership or are both empty.

Change the specification of `weak_ptr::operator<()` to say two `weak_ptr`'s are equivalent if and only if they share ownership or are both empty.

2.5 May smart pointers point to incomplete types?

Submitter: Peter Dimov

Status: Open

In clause 17 (specifically, 17.4.3.6), we say that we get undefined behavior “if an incomplete type is used as a template argument when instantiating a template component.” Should we make an explicit exception to that general rule for `shared_ptr`?

Sydney: Intuitively it makes sense to say that you should be able to have a `shared_ptr` where `T` is incomplete. However, we do not have a proposal saying what you can and can't do with such a `shared_ptr`. We can't specify that it works until we identify those limitations, and this issue has no proposed resolution. However, ruling out incomplete types is a serious limitation. There are many use cases where this feature is important.

Straw poll, close as NAD vs leave open: 2-6. Alisdair will try to come up with a proposed resolution for the Redmond meeting.

Additional comments from Peter Dimov:

All of the proposed text was written as if there were an explicit requirement that T is allowed to be incomplete. Otherwise void would not have been allowed, either.

There are no additional restrictions on what you can do with `shared_ptr<T>` (and `weak_ptr<T>`), where T is incomplete. The Boost implementation supports it fully, and this is a very important feature of `shared_ptr`

Also note that the template parameter of `enable_shared_from_this` is always incomplete, as its intended use is:

```
class X: public enable_shared_from_this<X>
{
};
```

and since `enable_shared_from_this<T>` typically contains a `weak_ptr<T>` member, it is effectively rendered useless by an implementation that does not support incomplete types.

Proposed Resolution:

Add to 2.2.3: "The template parameter T of `shared_ptr` can be an incomplete type."

Add to 2.2.4: "The template parameter T of `weak_ptr` can be an incomplete type."

Add to 2.2.5: "The template parameter T of `enable_shared_from_this` can be an incomplete type."

2.6 dynamic_ptr_cast and deleters

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: NAD

c++std-lib-12600:

The following example appears to meet the explicit requirements for 2.2.3.9. Not sure if I am missing some implicit reqs.

```
class base
{
};

class derived : public base
{
    void foo();
};
```

struct DeleteDerived

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```

{
  template< class T >
  void operator()( T *pt )
  {
    if( pt ) pt->foo();
    delete pt;
  }
};

int main()
{
  shared_ptr< base > pb;
  {
    shared_ptr< derived > pd( new derived, DeleteDerived() );
    pb = dynamic_pointer_cast< base >( Make );
  }
}

```

I suspect this kind of functor-deleter should be disallowed, but appears to pass the conditions in 2.2.3.1 Assuming DeleteDerived is rewritten as a straight function:

```

void DeleteDerived( derived *pd )
{
  if( pd ) pd->foo();
  delete pd;
};

```

What are the implications on shared_ptr< base > calling DeleteDerived? The pointer points to the correct object type, but is only known to be of base type. However, I am not clear what happens dispatching all this through a function pointer. Are the function pointer type assignment compatible?

Again, this simpler deleter appears to meet the explicit requirements in 2.2.3.9.

Rationale:

We have a pointer to the correct type internally. The control block knows the correct type internally. Even a shared pointer to void works correctly.

2.7 weak_ptr and deleters

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: NAD

c++std-lib-12601:

Deleters again: what happens in the following case?

```

void array_deleter( int *p )
{

```

```

    delete []p;
}

int main()
{
    shared_ptr<int> p1;
    {
        shared_ptr<int> p2( new int[1], &array_deleter );
        weak_ptr< int > pw( p2 );
        p1 = pw.lock();
    }
}

```

Rationale:

NAD for the same reason as issue 2.6.

2.8 Need equivalent of shared_ptr for arrays

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: NAD

The lack of shared_array is a problem, as undefined behavior storing arrays in smart pointers is a frequent problem when learning. This problem is worse when our only advice is "don't do that"

IIUC the recommended solution is to use shared_ptr with a deleter object that will delete arrays instead. Why not put that deleter into the TR as well, to make this clear?

Proposed Resolution:

Add a deleter class that's appropriate for arrays:

```

struct array_deleter
{
    template<class T>
    void operator()( T *pt ) const { delete []pt; }
};

```

Then add a non-normative example showing how this can be used:

```

struct junk {
    static int i;
    ~junk() {
        std::cout << "deleting object number "
                  << ++i
                  << std::endl;
    }
};

int junk::i = 0;
int main()
{
    std::tr1::shared_ptr<void> p(new junk[5], array_deleter());
}

```

```
    return 0;
}
```

Rationale:

The argument for it: it would be of value for users. The argument against it: it's not at all hard to do, so all we need is user education.

2.9 Proposed addition: const_pointer_cast

Submitter: Peter Dimov

Status: TR

N1450 says in III.B.11 that "reinterpret_cast and const_cast equivalents have been omitted since they have never been requested by users."

This was true at the time, but I was shown a legitimate use case for const_pointer_cast; a library returns shared_ptr<X const> "read handles" and provides a separate "lock" function that converts a read handle to a write handle (shared_ptr<X>).

On most (all?) existing implementations, shared_ptr<X const> is layout-compatible with shared_ptr<X>, so it is possible to achieve the desired effect with a reinterpret_cast, but a portable mechanism would be better.

Proposed resolution:

Add to 2.2.3.9:

```
template<class T, class U>
shared_ptr<T> const_pointer_cast(shared_ptr<U> const& r);
```

Requires: The expression const_cast<T*>(r.get()) is well-formed.

Returns: If r is empty, an empty shared_ptr<T>; otherwise, a shared_ptr<T> object that stores const_cast<T*>(r.get()) and shares ownership with r.

Throws: nothing.

Notes: the seemingly equivalent expression shared_ptr<T>(const_cast<T*>(r.get())) will eventually result in undefined behavior, attempting to delete the same object twice.

2.10 Missing converting constructor requirements

Submitter: Peter Dimov

Status: New

The following constructors:

```
template<class Y> shared_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);
template<class Y> explicit shared_ptr(weak_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

```
template<class Y> weak_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);
```



```
template<class Y> weak_ptr(weak_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

are missing a requirement that Y^* needs to be convertible to T^* .

Proposed resolution:

In 2.2.3.1, replace:

```
shared_ptr(shared_ptr const& r);  
template<class Y> shared_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

Effects: If r is empty, constructs an empty `shared_ptr`; otherwise, constructs a `shared_ptr` that shares ownership with r .

Postconditions: `get() == r.get() && use_count() == r.use_count()`.

Throws: nothing.

with:

```
shared_ptr(shared_ptr const& r);  
template<class Y> shared_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

Requires: for the second constructor Y^* shall be convertible to T^* .

Effects: If r is empty, constructs an empty `shared_ptr`; otherwise, constructs a `shared_ptr` that shares ownership with r .

Postconditions: `get() == r.get() && use_count() == r.use_count()`.

Throws: nothing.

Add:

Requires: Y^* shall be convertible to T^* .

after:

```
template<class Y> explicit shared_ptr(weak_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

In 2.2.4.1, replace:

```
template<class Y> weak_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);  
weak_ptr(weak_ptr const& r);  
template<class Y> weak_ptr(weak_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

Effects: If r is empty, constructs an empty `weak_ptr`; otherwise, constructs a `weak_ptr` that shares ownership with r and stores a copy of the pointer stored in r .

Postconditions: `use_count() == r.use_count()`.

Throws: nothing.

with:

```
weak_ptr(weak_ptr const& r);  
template<class Y> weak_ptr(shared_ptr<Y> const& r);  
template<class Y> weak_ptr(weak_ptr<Y> const& r);
```

Requires: for the second and third constructors Y^* shall be convertible to T^* .

Effects: If r is empty, constructs an empty `weak_ptr`; otherwise, constructs a `weak_ptr` that shares ownership with r and stores a copy of the pointer stored in r .

Postconditions: `use_count() == r.use_count()`.

Throws: nothing.

3 Type traits issues

3.1 *Use of Language in type transformations*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution:

Accept the proposed resolution for N1519. *[but editorial change: also add a non-normative note pointing out what it means for cv-qualified types]*

3.2 *Why three headers?*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

Three headers seems excessive. Why not put them all into `<type_traits>`? That would simplify things for users, who wouldn't have to remember which of the three headers defines the template they're interested in. Currently, `<type_traits>` has 33 templates (not counting helpers), `<type_compare>` has 3, and `<type_transform>` has 11. The classification is reasonable in itself, but I don't think it's particularly helpful.

A number of people expressed support for one header on the LWG reflector.

Resolution: Combine the three type traits headers into a single header named `<type_traits>`.

3.3 *Is integral_constant an implementation detail?*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: NAD

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution:

NAD. We accepted several changes that require `integral_constant` to be exposed explicitly.

3.4 *Revising the Unary Type Traits Requirements*

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution: Accept the proposed resolution from N1519.

3.5 *New type trait: alignment_of*

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution: Accept the proposed resolution from N1519.

3.6 New type trait: has_virtual_destructor

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution: Accept the proposed resolution from N1519, but add a proviso that **false** is the fallback position if the compiler can't determine an exact answer.

3.7 New type trait: is_safely_destructible

Submitter: Bronek Kozicki

Status: NAD

See N1508 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution: The LWG decided not to accept this proposal. If we accepted it, it would be better for the template to have two parameters: can class **D** be safely destroyed via a pointer to class **B**? But as is, the trait seems too high level: it answers a complicated compound question, not an atomic question.

3.8 New type trait: rank

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution:

Discussed at Kona. The LWG wasn't sure whether this was useful; the few people who could use it reliably for metaprogramming would probably find it just as easy to write it themselves.

3.9 New type trait: dimension

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue. At Sydney the LWG decided that this was a good idea but that "dimension" was a confusing word. We agreed to use "rank" and "extent," since those two words are unambiguous.

Resolution:

(This proposed resolution is N1620.)

4.2 Header <type_traits> synopsis:

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Add under:

```
// type properties:  
...  
template <class T> struct rank;  
template <class T, unsigned I = 0> struct extent;
```

Change:

```
template <class T> struct remove_dimension;  
template <class T> struct remove_all_dimensions;
```

to:

```
template <class T> struct remove_extent;  
template <class T> struct remove_all_extents;
```

4.3.4 Type properties

Add:

```
template <class T> struct rank {  
    static const std::size_t value = implementation_defined;  
    typedef std::size_t value_type;  
    typedef integral_constant<value_type,value> type;  
    operator type()const;  
};
```

value: An implementation-defined integer value representing the rank of objects of type T (8.3.4). [Note - the term "rank" here is used to describe the number of dimensions of an array type - end note]

[example -

```
    // the following assertions should hold:  
    assert(rank<int>::value == 0);  
    assert(rank<int[2]>::value == 1);  
    assert(rank<int[][4]>::value == 2);
```

- end example]

...

```
template <class T, unsigned I = 0> struct extent {  
    static const std::size_t value = implementation_defined;  
    typedef std::size_t value_type;  
    typedef integral_constant<value_type,value> type;  
    operator type()const;
```

```
};
```

value: An implementation-defined integer value representing the extent (dimension) of the I'th bound of objects of type T (8.3.4). If the type T is not an array type, has rank of less than I, or if I == 0 and is of type "array of unknown bound of T", then value shall evaluate to zero; otherwise value shall evaluate to the number of elements in the I'th array bound of T. [Note - the term "extent" here is used to describe the number of elements in an array type - end note]

[example -

```
// the following assertions should hold:
assert(extent<int>::value == 0);
assert(extent<int[2]>::value == 2);
assert(extent<int[2][4]>::value == 2);
assert(extent<int[][4]>::value == 0);
assert((extent<int, 1>::value) == 0);
assert((extent<int[2], 1>::value) == 0);
assert((extent<int[2][4], 1>::value) == 4);
assert((extent<int[][4], 1>::value) == 4);
```

- end example]

4.5.3 Array modifications:

Change:

```
template <class T> struct remove_dimension{
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T, std::size_t N> struct remove_dimension<T[N]>{
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T> struct remove_dimension<T[]>{
    typedefs T type;
};
```

to:

```
template <class T> struct remove_extent {
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T, std::size_t N> struct remove_extent<T[N]> {
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T> struct remove_extent<T[]> {
    typedef T type;
};
```

Change:

```
[example
// the following assertions should all hold:
assert((is_same<remove_dimension<int>::type, int>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_dimension<int[2]>::type, int>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_dimension<int[2][3]>::type,
int[3]>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_dimension<int[][3]>::type,
int[3]>::value));
Ñend example]
```

```
template <class T> struct remove_all_dimensions {
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T, std::size_t N> struct
remove_all_dimensions<T[N]> {
    typedef typename remove_all_dimensions<T>::type type;
};
template <class T> struct remove_all_dimensions<T[]> {
    typedef typename remove_all_dimensions<T>::type type;
};
```

to:

```
[example
// the following assertions should all hold:
assert((is_same<remove_extent<int>::type, int>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_extent<int[2]>::type, int>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_extent<int[2][3]>::type,
int[3]>::value));
assert((is_same<remove_extent<int[][3]>::type,
int[3]>::value));
Ñend example]
```

```
template <class T> struct remove_all_extents {
    typedef T type;
};
template <class T, std::size_t N> struct
remove_all_extents<T[N]> {
    typedef typename remove_all_extents<T>::type type;
};
template <class T> struct remove_all_extents<T[]> {
    typedef typename remove_all_extents<T>::type type;
};
```

Change:

```
[example
```

```

    // the following assertions should all hold:
    assert((is_same<remove_all_dimensions<int>::type,
int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_dimensions<int[2]>::type,
int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_dimensions<int[2][3]>::type,
int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_dimensions<int[][3]>::type,
int>::value));
    ~Nend example]

```

to:

```

[example
    // the following assertions should all hold:
    assert((is_same<remove_all_extents<int>::type, int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_extents<int[2]>::type,
int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_extents<int[2][3]>::type,
int>::value));
    assert((is_same<remove_all_extents<int[][3]>::type,
int>::value));
    ~Nend example]

```

4.5.4 Pointer modifications

Change:

```

template <class T> struct add_pointer {
    typedef typename remove_dimension<
        typename remove_reference<T>::type
        >::type*
        type;
};

```

to:

```

template <class T> struct add_pointer
{
    typedef typename remove_extent
    <
        typename remove_reference<T>::type
        >::type* type;
};

```

4.6 Implementation requirements

Change:

```

is_pod<T>::value == is_pod<remove_dimension<T>::type>::value

```

to:

```
is_pod<T>::value == is_pod<remove_extent<T>::type>::value
```

Change:

```
has_trivial_*<T>::value ==  
has_trivial_*<remove_dimension<T>::type>::value
```

to:

```
has_trivial_*<T>::value ==  
has_trivial_*<remove_extent<T>::type>::value
```

3.10 New type trait: aligned_storage

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution:

Accept the proposed resolution from N1519, but say “unspecified” instead of “implementation defined.”

3.11 New type trait: remove_all_dimensions

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

See N1519 for discussion of the issue.

Resolution:

Accept the proposed resolution from N1519.

3.12 Conversion of traits to integral_constant

Submitter: Dave Abrahams

Status: TR

Every traits class **X** has a nested typedef **type**, and has a conversion operator, **operator type() const**. Automatic conversions are useful and important, but a conversion operator is the wrong way to do it. Instead, we should say that **X** inherits from **type**. This would be consistent with actual implementation practice.

3.13 is_base_of<X,X>

Submitter: Dave Abrahams

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Status: TR

Currently, `is_base_of<X, Y>` returns false when X and Y are the same. This is technically correct (X isn't its own base class), but it isn't useful. The definition should be loosened to return true when X and Y are the same, even when the type isn't actually a class.

Note: the LWG agreed that this behavior is more useful than what's currently in the TR. We were uneasy about changing the behavior while keeping the name `is_base_of`, but nobody thought of a better name. We will consider changing the name if someone can come up with a better one.

3.14 Type traits specifications could be simpler

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: Open

In 4.4.2 (for example), we say:

```
template<class T> struct remove_const{
    typedef T type;
};
template<class T> struct remove_const<T const>{
    typedef T type;
};
```

type: defined to be a type that is the same as T, except that any top level const-qualifier has been removed....

The use of two structs is an implementation technique. The description is the actual behavior. It should be written like this:

```
template<class T> struct remove_const{
    typedef T1 type;
};
```

The type T1 is the same as T, except that any top level const-qualifier has been removed.

This form of change is needed for all of the type transformations in clause 4.4.

Status:

Agreed that this is a good idea. Pete will provide wording.

3.15 Inconsistent non-normative note for has_virtual_destructor

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: New

The entry for `has_virtual_destructor` has a non-normative note that reads: "[Note: An implementation that cannot determine whether a type has a virtual destructor, e.g. a pure library implementation with no compiler support, should return false. -end note]".

However none of the other template that require compiler support have such notes, instead they have an entry in section 4.6 (which has `_virtual_destructor` does not), we should try to be consistent.

4 Random number generator issues

4.1 *Confusing Text in Description of `v.min()`*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

In "Uniform Random Number Requirements" the text says that `v.min()` "Returns ... `l` where `l` is ...". This is the letter ell, which is too easily confused with the numeral one. Can we change it to something less confusing, like "lim"?

Resolution:

Change the first sentence of the description of `v.min()` in 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.2 (Uniform random number generator requirements) from:

Returns some `l` where `l` is less than or equal to all values potentially returned by operator().
to:

Returns a value that is less than or equal to all values potentially returned by operator().

4.2 *Confusing and Incorrect Text in Description of `v.max()`*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

In "Uniform Random Number Requirements" the text says that `v.max()` "returns `l` where `l` is less than or equal to all values...". Should this be "greater than or equal to"? And similarly, should "strictly less than" be "strictly greater than"?

Resolution:

Change the first sentence of the description of `v.max()` in 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.2 (Uniform random number generator requirements) from:

If `std::numeric_limits<T>::is_integer`, returns `l` where `l` is less than or equal to all values potentially returned by operator(), otherwise, returns `l` where `l` is strictly less than all values potentially returned by operator().
to:

If `std::numeric_limits<T>::is_integer`, returns a value that is greater than or equal to all values potentially returned by operator(), otherwise, returns a value that is strictly greater than all values potentially returned by operator().

4.3 *Table "Number Generator Requirements" Unnecessary*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The table "Number Generator Requirements" has only one entry: `X::result_type`. While it's true that random number generators and random distributions have this member, it doesn't seem like a useful basis for classification -- there's nothing in the proposal that depends on knowing that some type satisfies this requirement. I think the specification of `X::result_type` should be in "Uniform Random Number Generator Requirements" and in "Random Distribution Requirements."

Resolution:

Copy the description of `X::result_type` from 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.1 (Number generator requirements) to 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.2 (Uniform random number generator requirements) and to 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.4 (Random distribution requirements) and remove 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], Table 5.1 (Number generator requirements).

4.4 *Should a variate_generator Holding a Reference Be Assignable?*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The third paragraph says, in part:

Specializations of `variate_generator` satisfy the requirements of `CopyConstructible`. They also satisfy the requirements of `Assignable` unless the template parameter `Engine` is of the form `U&`.

This looks like an implementation artifact. Is there a reason that `variate_generators` whose engine type is a reference should not be copied?

Resolution:

Change the first two sentences of the third paragraph of 5.1.3 [tr.rand.var] from:

Specializations of `variate_generator` satisfy the requirements of `CopyConstructible`. They also satisfy the requirements of `Assignable` unless the template parameter `Engine` is of the form `U&`.

to:

Specializations of `variate_generator` satisfy the requirements of `CopyConstructible` and `Assignable`. [Note: If the template parameter `Engine` is of reference type it is the reference, not the object referred to, that is copied. —End Note]

4.5 *Normal Distribution Incorrectly Specified*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

For `normal_distribution`, the paper says that the probability density function is $1/\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} \cdot \exp(-(x - \text{mean})^2 / (2 \cdot \sigma^2))$. The references I've seen have a different initial factor, using $1/(\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \sigma)$. That is, σ is outside the square root.

Resolution:

Change the first paragraph of 5.1.7.8 [tr.rand.dist.norm] from:

A `normal_distribution` random distribution produces random numbers `x` distributed with probability density function $(1/\sqrt{2\pi\sigma})e^{-(x-\text{mean})^2/(2\sigma^2)}$, where `mean` and `sigma` are

the parameters of the distribution.

to:

A normal_distribution random distribution produces random numbers x distributed with probability density function $(1/(\text{sqrt}(2*\text{pi})*\text{sigma}))e^{-(x-\text{mean})^2/(2*\text{sigma}^2)}$, where mean and sigma are the parameters of the distribution.

4.6 *Should Random Number Initializers Take Iterators by Reference or by Value?*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

See N1547 for a full discussion. Summary: when engines are seeded, the seed may be arbitrarily large. For compound engines we use a range where the first iterator is taken by reference and updated. This is an unconventional interface and will invite bugs. The obvious solution would be to have a function that takes iterators `first` and `last` by value and returns the updated version of `first`. However, this is an awkward solution for constructors. One possibility would be to abandon range constructors, and rely instead on two-phase initialization where the iterators are passed to a member function.

Notes: Sydney: the LWG agrees that this is an improvement. The only discomfort is that it would be nice to have the glue code to turn a pair of iterators into a generator, instead of asking each user to write it for themselves. This may be a TR2 candidate.

Resolution:

In section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], replace in the paragraph before table 5.2

... `it1` is an lvalue and `it2` is a (possibly const) value of an input iterator type `It` having an unsigned integral value type, ...

by

... `g` is an lvalue of a zero-argument function object returning values of unsigned integral type, ...

In the same section, replace in table 5.2 the table row for `X(it1, it2)` by
expression: `X(g)`

return type: (none)

pre/post-condition: creates an engine with the initial internal state given by the results of successive invocations of `g`. Throws what and when `g` throws.

complexity: $O(\text{size of state})$

In the same section, replace in table 5.2 the table row for `u.seed(it1, it2)` by
expression: `u.seed(g)`

return type: void

pre/post-conditions: sets the internal state of `u` so that `u == X(g)`. If an invocation of `g` throws, that exception is rethrown, and further use of `u` (except destruction) is undefined until a seed

member function has been executed without throwing an exception.

complexity: same as `X(g)`

After table 5.2, add a new paragraph following the one starting "Additional Requirements":

For every pseudo-random number engine defined in this clause:

- the constructor

```
template<class Gen> X(Gen& g)
```

shall have the same effect as
`X(static_cast<Gen>(g))`

if `Gen` is a fundamental type.

- The member function of the form
`template<class Gen> void seed(Gen& g)`

shall have the same effect as
`X(static_cast<Gen>(g))`

if `Gen` is a fundamental type.

[Note: The casts make `g` an rvalue, unsuitable for binding to a reference.]

[Note to editor: The following changes intend to morph "dereferencing `*first`" to "invoking `g`" only. However, complete text has been given.]

In section 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong], replace the constructor `template<class In> linear_congruential(In& first, In last)` by

```
template<class Gen> linear_congruential(Gen& g)
```

Effects: If $c \bmod m = 0$ and $g() \bmod m = 0$, sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $1 \bmod m$, else sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $g() \bmod m$.

Complexity: Exactly one invocation of `g`.

Furthermore, adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

In section 5.1.4.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers], replace the description of the constructor `template<class In> mersenne_twister(In& first, In last)` by

```
template<class Gen> mersenne_twister(Gen& g)
```

Effects: Given the values $z[0] \dots z[n-1]$ obtained by successive invocations of `g`, sets $x(-n) \dots x(-1)$ to $z[0] \bmod 2w \dots z[n-1] \bmod 2w$.

Complexity: Exactly n invocations of `g`.

Furthermore, remove the description of the `seed(first, last)` function, it is subsumed by table 5.2 and the description of the constructor, and adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

In section 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], replace the description of the constructor `template<class In> subtract_with_carry(In& first, In last)` by

```
template<class Gen> subtract_with_carry(Gen& g)
```

Effects: With $n=(w+31)/32$ (rounded downward) and given the values $z[0] \dots z[n*r-1]$

obtained by successive invocations of `g`, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(z_0 * 2^{32} + \dots + z_{n-1} * 2^{32} * (n-1)) \bmod m \dots (z_{(r-1)*n} * 2^{32} + \dots + z_{r-1} * 2^{32} * (n-1)) \bmod m$. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 1$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: Exactly $r*n$ invocations of `g`.

Furthermore, remove the description of the `seed(first, last)` function, it is subsumed by table 5.2 and the description of the constructor, and adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

In section 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1], replace the description of the constructor `template<class In> subtract_with_carry_01(In& first, In last)` by

`template<class Gen> subtract_with_carry_01(Gen& g)`

Effects: With $n=(w+31)/32$ (rounded downward) and given the values $z_0 \dots z_{n*r-1}$ obtained by successive invocations of `g`, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(z_0 * 2^{32} + \dots + z_{n-1} * 2^{32} * (n-1)) * 2^{-w} \bmod 1 \dots (z_{(r-1)*n} * 2^{32} + \dots + z_{r-1} * 2^{32} * (n-1)) * 2^{-w} \bmod 1$. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 2^{-w}$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: Exactly $r*n$ invocations of `g`.

Furthermore, remove the description of the `seed(first, last)` function, it is subsumed by table 5.2 and the description of the constructor, and adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

In section 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc], replace the description of the constructor `template<class In> discard_block(In& first, In last)` by

`template<class Gen> discard_block(Gen& g)`

Effects: Constructs a `discard_block` engine. To construct the subobject *b*, invokes the `b(g)` constructor. Sets $n = 0$.

Furthermore, remove the description of the `seed(first, last)` function, it is subsumed by table 5.2 and the description of the constructor, and adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

In section 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor], replace the description of the constructor `template<class In> xor_combine(In& first, In last)` by

`template<class Gen> xor_combine(Gen& g)`

Effects: Constructs a `xor_combine` engine. To construct the subobject *b1*, invokes the `b1(g)` constructor. Then, to construct the subobject *b2*, invokes the `b2(g)` constructor.

Furthermore, remove the description of the `seed(first, last)` function, it is subsumed by table 5.2 and the description of the constructor, and adjust the class synopsis accordingly.

4.7 Are Global Operators Overspecified?

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

See N1535 for a full discussion. Summary: Do we literally want to require the existence of a namespace-scope `operator==`, or do we just want to say that when *x* and *y* are engines, $x == y$ is required to work?

Resolution:

In section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], table 5.2, replace in the pre-/post-condition column for $x == y$ `==` is an equivalence relation. The current state $x(i)$ of *x* is equal to the current state $y(j)$ of *y*.
by

`==` is an equivalence relation. Given the current state $x(i)$ of *x* and the current state $y(j)$ of *y*, returns true if $x(i+k)$ is equal to $y(j+k)$ for all integer $k \geq 0$, false otherwise.

In section 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

In section 5.1.4.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

In section 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

In section 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

In section 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

In section 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor], remove the prototypes for operator== and operator!= from the synopsis.

4.8 Should the Template Arguments Be Restricted to Built-in Types?

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR.

See N1535 for a full discussion. Summary: Generators and distributions are parameterized on arithmetic types. The TR tries to allow user defined number-like types, but it's very hard to get that sort of thing right. We should restrict it to the built-in arithmetic types.

Resolution:

Replace in 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], last paragraph

Furthermore, a template parameter named `RealType` shall denote a type that holds an approximation to a real number. This type shall meet the requirements for a numeric type (26.1 [lib.numeric.requirements]), the binary operators `+`, `-`, `*`, `/` shall be applicable to it, a conversion from `double` shall exist, and function signatures corresponding to those for type `double` in subclause 26.5 [lib.c.math] shall be available by argument-dependent lookup (3.4.2 [basic.lookup.koenig]). [Note: The built-in floating-point types `float` and `double` meet these requirements.]

by

Furthermore, the effect of instantiating a template that has a template type parameter named `RealType` is undefined unless that type is one of `float`, `double`, or `long double`.

Delete from 5.1.7 [tr.rand.dist]

A template parameter named `IntType` shall denote a type that represents an integer number. This type shall meet the requirements for a numeric type (26.1 [lib.numeric.requirements]), the binary operators `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `%` shall be applicable to it, and a conversion from `int` shall exist. [Footnote: The built-in types `int` and `long` meet these requirements.]

No function described in this section throws an exception, unless an operation on values of `IntType` or `RealType` throws an exception. [Note: Then, the effects are undefined, see [lib.numeric.requirements].]

Add after 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], last paragraph

The effect of instantiating a template that has a template type parameter named `IntType` is undefined unless that type is one of `short`, `int`, `long`, or their unsigned variants.

The effect of instantiating a template that has a template type parameter named `UIntType` is undefined unless that type is one of `unsigned short`, `unsigned int`, or `unsigned long`.

4.9 Do Engines Need Type Arguments?

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: Closed

See N1535 for a discussion. Summary: engines are parameterized by type, but this is pretty much redundant. The appropriate type can be deduced from the template arguments.

Resolution: Discussed at Kona. No consensus that this change would be a good idea. That's still the status from Sydney.

4.10 Unclear Complexity Requirements for `variate_generator`

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The specification for `variate_generator` says

Specializations of `variate_generator` satisfy the requirements of `CopyConstructible`. They also satisfy the requirements of `Assignable` unless the template parameter `Engine` is of the form `U&`. The complexity of all functions specified in this section is constant. No function described in this section except the constructor throws an exception.

Taken literally, this isn't implementable. `operator()` calls the underlying distribution's `operator()`, whose complexity isn't directly specified. The distribution's `operator()` makes an amortized constant number of calls to the generator's `operator()`, whose complexity is, again, amortized constant. So the complexity of `variate_generator::operator()` ought to also be amortized constant.

`variate_generator` also has a constructor that takes an engine and a distribution by value, and uses their respective copy constructors to create internal copies. There are no complexity constraints on those copy constructors, but given that the default constructor for an engine has complexity $O(\text{size of state})$, it seems likely that an engine's copy constructor would also have complexity $O(\text{size of state})$. This means that `variate_generator`'s complexity is at best $O(\text{size of engine's state})$, not constant.

I suspect that what was intended was that these functions would not introduce any additional complexity, that is, their complexity is the "larger" of the complexities of the functions that they call.

Resolution:

Replace in 5.1.3 [tr.rand.var]

The complexity of all functions specified in this section is constant.

by

Except where otherwise specified, the complexity of all functions specified in this section is constant.

Add for variate_generator(engine_type e, distribution_type d)

Complexity: Sum of the complexities of the copy constructors of engine_type and distribution_type.

Add for result_type operator>()

Complexity: Amortized constant.

Add for result_type operator()(T value)

Complexity: Amortized constant.

4.11 xor_combine Over-generalized?

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: Editorial

For an xor_combine engine, is there ever a case where both s1 and s2 would be non-zero? Seems like this would produce non-random values, because the low bits (up to the smaller of the two shift values) would all be 0.

If at least one has to be 0, then we only need one shift value, and the definition might look more like this:

```
template <class _Engine1, class _Engine2, int _Shift = 0> ...
```

with the output being ($_Eng1() \wedge (_Eng2() \ll _Shift)$).

Resolution: Discussed at Kona. The LWG felt that this interface is still the simplest. The right solution is to add a non-normative note advising users that only one of these parameters should be nonzero. The project editor is directed to add that note.

4.12 xor_combine::result_type Incorrectly Specified

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

xor_combine has a member

```
typedef typename base_type::result_type result_type;
```

However, it has no type named `base_type`, only `base1_type` and `base2_type`. So, what should `result_type` be?

Resolution:

In 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor] replace
 `typedef typename base_type::result_type result_type;`
by
 `typedef /* see below */ result_type;`

and add at the end of the paragraph below the class definition

 The member `result_type` is defined to that type
 of `UniformRandomNumberGenerator1::result_type`
 and `UniformRandomNumberGenerator2::result_type` that provides the most storage
 [`basic.fundamental`].

4.13 *subtract_with_carry's IntType Overpecified*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The `IntType` for `subtract_with_carry` "shall denote a signed integral type large enough to store values up to $m - 1$." The implementation subtracts two values of that type, and if the result is < 0 it adds back the m , which makes the result non-negative. In fact, this also works for unsigned types, with just a small change in the implementation: instead of testing whether the result is < 0 you test whether it's < 0 or greater than or equal to m . This works because unsigned arithmetic wraps, and it makes the template a bit easier to use.

I suggest that we loosen the constraint to allow signed and unsigned types. Thus the constraint would read "shall denote an integral type large enough to store values up to $m - 1$."

Resolution:

In 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], replace
 The template parameter `IntType` shall denote a signed integral type large enough to store values up to $m-1$.
by
 The template parameter `IntType` shall denote an integral type large enough to store values up to m .

4.14 *subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned) Missing Constraint*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The specification for `subtract_with_carry::seed(IntVal)` has a *Requires* clause which requires that the argument be greater than 0. This member function needs the same constraint.

Resolution:

Add:
 Requires: `value > 0`

to the description of `subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned)` in 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1]. (See resolution of issue 4.19, which also affects the wording in this area.)

4.15 `subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned)` Produces Bad Values

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

`subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned int)` uses a linear congruential generator to produce initial values for the fictitious previously generated values. These values are generated as $(y(i) \cdot 2^{-w}) \bmod 1$. The linear congruential generator produces values in the range $[0, 2147483564)$, which are at most 31 bits long. If the template argument w is greater than 31 the initial values generated by `seed` will all be rather small, and the first values produced by the generator will also be rather small. The Boost implementation avoids this problem by combining values from the linear congruential generator to produce longer values when w is larger than 32. Should we require something more like that?

Resolution:

In 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1] replace

```
void seed(unsigned int value = 19780503)
```

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m = 2147483563$, $a = 40014$, $c = 0$, and $l(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(l(1) \cdot 2^{-w}) \bmod 1 \dots (l(r) \cdot 2^{-w}) \bmod 1$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 2^{-w}$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: $O(r)$

With

```
void seed(unsigned long value = 19780503ul)
```

Effects: With $n = (w+31)/32$ (rounded downward) and given an iterator range $[\text{first}, \text{last})$ that refers to the sequence of values $\text{lcg}(1) \dots \text{lcg}(n \cdot r)$ obtained from a linear congruential generator $\text{lcg}(i)$ having parameters $m_{\text{lcg}} = 2147483563$, $a_{\text{lcg}} = 40014$, $c_{\text{lcg}} = 0$, and $\text{lcg}(0) = \text{value}$, invoke `seed(first, last)`.

Complexity: $O(r \cdot n)$

4.16 `subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned)` Argument Type Too Small

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

`subtract_with_carry_01::seed(unsigned)` has a default argument value of 19780503, which is too large to fit in a 16-bit unsigned int. Should this argument be unsigned long, to ensure that it's large enough for the default?

Resolution:

In 5.1.4.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers], change the signature of a constructor and a seed function from
`explicit mersenne_twister(result_type value);`
`void seed(result_type value);`

to

```
explicit mersenne_twister(unsigned long value);  
void seed(unsigned long value);
```

In 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], change the signature of a constructor and a seed function from
explicit subtract_with_carry(IntType value);
void seed(IntType value = 19780503);

to

explicit subtract_with_carry(unsigned long value);
void seed(unsigned long value = 19780503ul);

In 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1], change the signature of a constructor and a seed function from
subtract_with_carry_01(unsigned int value);
void seed(unsigned int value = 19780503);

to:

subtract_with_carry_01(unsigned long value);
void seed(unsigned long value = 19780503ul);

4.17 subtract_with_carry::seed(In&, In) Required Sequence Length Too Long

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

For both `subtract_with_carry::seed(In& first, In last)` and `subtract_with_carry_01::seed(In& first, In last)` the proposal says: "With $n=w/32+1$ (rounded downward) and given the values $z_0 \dots z_{n*r-1}$." The idea is to use n unsigned long values to generate each of the initial values for the generator, so n should be the number of 32-bit words needed to provide w bits. Looks like it should be " $n=(w+31)/32$ ". As currently written, when w is 32, the function consumes two 32-bit values for each value that it generates. One is sufficient.

Resolution:

Change

With $n=w/32+1$ (rounded downward) and given the values $z_0 \dots z_{n*r-1}$

to

With $n=(w+31)/32$ (rounded downward) and given the values $z_0 \dots z_{n*r-1}$

in the description of `subtract_with_carry::seed(In& first, In last)` in 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub] and in the description of `subtract_with_carry_01::seed(In& first, In last)` in 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1].

4.18 linear_congruential -- Giving Meaning to a Modulus of 0

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

Some linear congruential generators using an integral type `_Ty` also use a modulus that's equal to `numeric_limits<_Ty>::max() + 1` (e.g. 65536 for a 16-bit unsigned int). There's no way to write this value as a constant of the type `_Ty`, though. Writing it as a larger type doesn't work, because the `linear_congruential` template expects an argument of type `_Ty`, so you typically end up with a value that looks like 0.

On the other hand, the current text says that the effect of specifying a modulus of 0 for `linear_congruential` is implementation defined. I decided to use 0 to mean `max()+1`, as did the Boost implementation. (Internally, the implementation of `mersenne_twister` needs a generator with a modulus like this). Seems to me this is a reasonable choice, and one that users ought to be able to rely on. Is there some other meaning that might reasonably be ascribed to it, or should we say that a modulus of 0 means `numeric_limits<Ty>::max() + 1` (suitably type-cast)?

Resolution:

Replace in 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong], in the paragraph after the class definition

If the template parameter `m` is 0, the behaviour is implementation-defined.

by

If the template parameter `m` is 0, the modulus `m` used throughout this section

is `std::numeric_limits<IntType>::max()` plus 1. [Note: The result is not representable as a value of type `IntType`. —end note]

4.19 `linear_congruential::seed(IntType)` -- Modify Seed Value When `c == 0`?

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

When `c == 0` you get a generator with a slight quirk: if you seed it with 0 you get 0's forever; if you seed it with a non-0 value you never get 0. The first path, of course, should be avoided. The proposal does this by imposing a requirement on `seed(IntType x0)`, requiring that `c > 0 || (x0 % m) > 0`. The boost implementation uses asserts to check this condition. The only reservation I have about this is that it can only be checked at runtime, when the only suitable action is, probably, to abort. An alternative would be to force a non-0 seed in that case (perhaps 1, for no particularly good reason). I think the second alternative is marginally better, and I suggest we change this requirement to impose a particular seed value when a user passes 0 to a generator with `c == 0`.

Resolution:

Replace in 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong]

`explicit linear_congruential(IntType x0 = 1)`

Requires: `c > 0 || (x0 % m) > 0`

Effects: Constructs a `linear_congruential` engine with state `x(0) := x0 mod m`.
`void seed(IntType x0 = 1)`

Requires: `c > 0 || (x0 % m) > 0`

Effects: Sets the state `x(i)` of the engine to `x0 mod m`.
`template linear_congruential(In& first, In last)`

Requires: `c > 0 || *first > 0`

Effects: Sets the state `x(i)` of the engine to `*first mod m`.

Complexity: Exactly one dereference of `*first`.

by

`explicit linear_congruential(IntType x0 = 1)`

Effects: Constructs a linear_congruential engine and invokes seed(x0).

```
void seed(IntType x0 = 1)
```

Effects: If $c \bmod m = 0$ and $x0 \bmod m = 0$, sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $1 \bmod m$, else sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $x0 \bmod m$.

```
template linear_congruential(In& first, In last)
```

Effects: If $c \bmod m = 0$ and $*first \bmod m = 0$, sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $1 \bmod m$, else sets the state $x(i)$ of the engine to $*first \bmod m$.

Complexity: Exactly one dereference of $*first$.

Replace in 5.1.4.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers]

```
void seed()
```

Effects: Invokes seed(4357).

```
void seed(result_type value)
```

Requires: $value > 0$

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m_l = 232$, $a_l = 69069$, $c_l = 0$, and $l(0) = value$, sets $x(-n) \dots x(-1)$ to $l(1) \dots l(n)$, respectively.

Complexity: $O(n)$

by

```
void seed()
```

Effects: Invokes **seed(0)**.

```
void seed(result_type value)
```

Effects: If $value == 0$, sets $value$ to **4357**. In any case, with a linear congruential generator $lcg(i)$ having parameters $m_{lcg} = 232$, $a_{lcg} = 69069$, $c_{lcg} = 0$, and $lcg(0) = value$, sets $x(-n) \dots x(-1)$ to $lcg(1) \dots lcg(n)$, respectively.

Complexity: $O(n)$

Replace in 5.4.1.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub]

```
void seed(unsigned int value = 19780503)
```

Requires: $value > 0$

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m_l = 2147483563$, $a_l = 40014$, $c_l = 0$, and $l(0) = value$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $l(1) \bmod m \dots l(r) \bmod m$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $carry(-1) = 1$, else sets $carry(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: $O(r)$

by

```
void seed(unsigned long value = 19780503ul)
```

Effects: If $value == 0$, sets $value$ to **19780503**. In any case, with a linear congruential generator $lcg(i)$ having parameters $m_{lcg} = 2147483563$, $a_{lcg} = 40014$, $c_{lcg} = 0$, and $lcg(0) = value$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $lcg(1) \bmod m \dots lcg(r) \bmod m$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $carry(-1) = 1$, else sets $carry(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: $O(r)$

Replace in 5.4.1.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1]

```
void seed(unsigned int value = 19780503)
```

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m = 2147483563$, $a = 40014$, $c = 0$, and $l(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(l(1)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1 \dots (l(r)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 2^{-w}$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

Complexity: $O(r)$

by

```
void seed(unsigned long value = 19780503ul)
```

Effects: If $\text{value} == 0$, sets value to **19780503**. In any case, with a linear congruential generator $\text{lcg}(i)$ having parameters $m_{\text{lcg}} = 2147483563$, $a_{\text{lcg}} = 40014$, $c_{\text{lcg}} = 0$, and $\text{lcg}(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $\text{lcg}(1) \bmod m \dots \text{lcg}(r) \bmod m$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets

Complexity: $O(r)$

4.20 *linear_congruential -- Should the Template Arguments Be Unsigned?*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

This template takes three numeric arguments, a , c , and m , whose type is `IntType`. `IntType` is an integral type, possibly signed. These arguments specify the details of the recurrence relation for the generator:

$$x(i + 1) := (a * x(i) + c) \bmod m$$

Every discussion that I've seen of this algorithm uses unsigned values. Further, in C and C++ there is no modulus operator. The result of the `%` operator is implementation specific when either of its operands is negative, so implementing `mod` when the values involved can be negative requires a test and possible adjustment:

```
IntType res = (a * x + c) % m;
if (res < 0)
    res += m;
```

If the three template arguments can't be negative the recurrence relation can be implemented directly:

$$x = (a * x + c) \% m;$$

This makes the generator faster.

Resolution:

In clause 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong] replace every occurrence of `IntType` with `UIntType` and change the first sentence after the definition of the template from:

The template parameter `IntType` shall denote an integral type large enough to store values up to $(m-1)$.

to:

The template parameter `UIntType` shall denote an unsigned integral type large enough to store values up to $(m-1)$.

4.21 *linear_congruential::linear_congruential(In&, In) -- Garbled Requires Clause*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The **Requires** clause for the member template template <class In> linear_congruential(In& first, In last) got garbled in the translation to .pdf format.

Resolution:

Change the **Requires** clause for the member template template <class In> linear_congruential(In& first, In last) in 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong] from:

Requires: $c > 0$ — *first ≥ 0 —

to:

Requires: $c > 0 \parallel$ *first > 0

4.22 *bernoulli_distribution Isn't Really a Template*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

The text says that bernoulli_distribution is a template, parametrized on a type that is required to be a real type. Its operator() returns a bool, with the probability of returning true determined by the argument passed to the object's constructor. The only place where the type parameter is used is as the type of the argument to the constructor. What is the benefit from making this type user-selectable instead of, say, double?

Resolution:

In 5.1.7.2 [tr.rand.dist.bern], change the section heading to "Class bernoulli_distribution", remove template <class RealType = double> from the declaration of bernoulli_distribution, change the declaration of the constructor from:

explicit bernoulli_distribution(const RealType& p = RealType(0.5));

to:

explicit bernoulli_distribution(double p = 0.5);

and change the header for the subclass describing the constructor from:

bernoulli_distribution(const RealType& p = RealType(0.5))

to:

bernoulli_distribution(double p = 0.5)

4.23 *Streaming Underspecified*

Submitter: Pete Becker (see N1535)

Status: TR

See N1535 for a full discussion. Summary: the goal is for engines to be well enough specified so that the state of an engine can be streamed out on one system and read in on a different system, and so that the engine on the second system would produce the same sequence of values as it would on the first. Distributions are less clear-cut, but at least we want to be able to save and

restore on the same system for the sake of checkpointing. Given that we don't care about portability, streaming of distributions may be adequately specified. However, we may not want to call it `operator<<` and `operator>>`, because implementers will probably want to use binary formats.

Proposed resolution:

After table 5.2, add a new paragraph following the one starting "Additional Requirements":

If a textual representation was written by `os << x` and that representation was read by `is >> v`, then `x == v`, provided that no intervening invocations of `x` or `v` have occurred.

In section 5.1.4.1 [tr.rand.eng.lcong], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state `x(i)` is 1.":

The textual representation is the value of `x(i)`.

In section 5.1.4.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state `x(i)` is `n`.":

The textual representation is the values of `x(i-n)`, ..., `x(i-1)`, in that order.

In section 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state is `r`.":

The textual representation is the values of `x(i-r)`, ..., `x(i-1)`, `carry(i-1)`, in that order.

In section 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state is `r`.":

With $n = (w+31)/32$ (rounded downward) and integer numbers $z[k,j]$ such that $x(i-k)*2w = z[k,0] + z[k,1] * 232 + z[k,n-1] * 232(n-1)$, the textual representation is the values of `z[r,0]`, ... `z[r,n-1]`, ... `z[1,0]`, ... `z[1,n-1]`, `carry(i-1)*2w`, in that order. [Note: The algorithm ensures that only integer numbers representable in 32 bits are written.]

In section 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state is the size of `b` plus 1.":

The textual representation is the textual representation of `b` followed by the value of `n`.

In section 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor], remove the prototypes for `operator<<` and `operator>>` from the synopsis. Also, remove the description of `operator<<`. Add after "The size of the state is the size of the state of `b1` plus the size of the state of `b2`.":

The textual representation is the textual representation of `b1` followed by the textual representation of `b2`.

4.24 Garbled characters

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: Editorial

There are some places where the TR draft contains garbled characters. This issue points out the places where editorial changes to rectify this need to be performed.

- 5.1.4.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub], first paragraph

- 5.1.4.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1], first paragraph
- 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc], after the class definition
- 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc], effects clause of operator()

4.25 *class vs. type*

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

The wording in section 5.1.1 isn't parallel.

Resolution: Replace in section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], last paragraph

In the following subclauses, a template parameter named `UniformRandomNumberGenerator` shall denote a class **type** that satisfies all the requirements of a uniform random number generator.

4.26 *Fix section reference*

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR, Editorial

A section reference needs to be fixed.

Resolution:

Replace in section 5.1.4 [tr.rand.eng], second paragraph

The class templates specified in this section satisfy all the requirements of a pseudo-random number engine (given in tables in section ~~5.1.1~~ **5.1.1 [tr.rand.req]**), except where specified otherwise. Descriptions are provided here only for operations on the engines that are not described in one of these tables or for operations where there is additional semantic information.

4.27 *Avoid confusion for "ell" and "one"*

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

We need to be careful with subscripts: “l” and “1” look very similar in most fonts, so “l” is a poor choice for a variable that will be used in subscripts.

Resolution:

Replace in 5.4.1.2 [tr.rand.eng.mers]

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m_l = 232$, $a_l = 69069$, $c_l = 0$, and $l(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-n) \dots x(-1)$ to $l(1) \dots l(n)$, respectively.

by

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l_{\text{cg}}(i)$ having parameters $m_{\text{lcg}} = 232$, $a_{\text{lcg}} = 69069$, $c_{\text{lcg}} = 0$, and $l_{\text{cg}}(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-n) \dots x(-1)$ to $l_{\text{cg}}(1) \dots l_{\text{cg}}(n)$, respectively.

Replace in 5.4.1.3 [tr.rand.eng.sub]

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m_l = 2147483563$, $a_l = 40014$, $c_l = 0$, and $l(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $l(1) \bmod m \dots l(r) \bmod m$,

respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 1$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

by

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $\text{lcg}(i)$ having parameters $m_{\text{lcg}} = 2147483563$, $a_{\text{lcg}} = 40014$, $c_{\text{lcg}} = 0$, and $\text{lcg}(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $\text{lcg}(1) \bmod m \dots \text{lcg}(r) \bmod m$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 1$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

Replace in 5.4.1.4 [tr.rand.eng.sub1]

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $l(i)$ having parameters $m = 2147483563$, $a = 40014$, $c = 0$, and $l(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(l(1)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1 \dots (l(r)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 2^{-w}$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

by

Effects: With a linear congruential generator $\text{lcg}(i)$ having parameters $m_{\text{lcg}} = 2147483563$, $a_{\text{lcg}} = 40014$, $c_{\text{lcg}} = 0$, and $\text{lcg}(0) = \text{value}$, sets $x(-r) \dots x(-1)$ to $(\text{lcg}(1)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1 \dots (\text{lcg}(r)*2^{-w}) \bmod 1$, respectively. If $x(-1) == 0$, sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 2^{-w}$, else sets $\text{carry}(-1) = 0$.

[Note to editor: see issue 19 for another issue that touches these words.]

4.28 xor_combine: fix typo

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

Resolution:

Replace in 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor]

The template parameters `UniformRandomNumberGenerator1` and

`UniformRandomNumberGenerator2` shall denote classes that satisfy all the requirements of a uniform random number generator, ...

[Replace "1" by "2" once.]

4.29 Require additional properties for Engine result_type

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

Currently, there are no restrictions on `UniformRandomNumberGenerator::result_type`, although `variate_generator` is supposed to possibly convert between integer and floating-point types.

Proposed resolution:

In 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], replace the pre/post-condition for `result_type`:

`std::numeric_limits<T>::is_specialized` is true

by

`T` is an arithmetic type [basic.fundamental]

4.30 Garbled precondition for min()

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

Proposed resolution:

In 5.1.3 [tr.rand.var], add the highlighted text for min():

Precondition: distribution().min() is **well-formed**

4.31 xor_combine: Require additional properties for base*_type::result_type

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

There are no restrictions on UniformRandomNumberGenerator1::result_type and UniformRandomNumberGenerator2::result_type that would ensure that << and ^ are available on them. That's well defined for unsigned integral types.

Proposed resolution:

Add in 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor] in the paragraph after the class definition

Both UniformRandomNumberGenerator1::result_type and UniformRandomNumberGenerator2::result_type shall denote (possibly different) unsigned integral types. The size of the state ...

4.32 Be precise about the size of the state of xor_combine

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

It is unclear what the "size of b1" and the "size of b2" mean, we only talk about the "size of the state".

Proposed resolution:

Add in 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor] in the paragraph after the class definition:

The size of the state is the size **of the state** of b1 plus the size **of the state** of b2.

4.33 uniform_real should return open interval

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

uniform_real was specified with a closed interval [min, max] range, but it should have a half-open interval [min, max) range to avoid lots of special cases in more complex distributions. (The boost implementation and documentation does this since ever.)

Proposed resolution:

In 5.1.7.6 [tr.rand.dist.runif], replace

min <= x <= max

by

min <= x < max

4.34 No complexity specification for copy construction and copy assignment

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

In 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], add a new paragraph after table 5.3 (pseudo-random number generator):

Additional requirements: The complexity of both copy construction and assignment is $O(\text{size of state})$.

4.35 Insufficient preconditions on discard_block

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

discard_block does not have sufficient requirements on the r and p template parameters.

Proposed resolution:

Replace in 5.1.4.5 [tr.rand.eng.disc]

$r \leq q$

by

The following relation shall hold: $0 \leq r \leq p$.

4.36 Insufficient preconditions on xor_combine

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

xor_combine does not have any requirements for s1 and s2 template parameters.

Proposed resolution:

Add in 5.1.4.6 [tr.rand.eng.xor], paragraph after the class definition, before "The size of the state ..."

The following relation shall hold: $0 \leq s1$ and $0 \leq s2$.

4.37 Streaming operators must handle templated streams

Submitter: Jens Maurer

Status: TR

Section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], table 5.2, specifies that the streaming operators take `std::ostream` and `std::istream`. This does not take wide streams nor the template nature of streams into account.

Resolution:

(The proposed resolution is N1621.)

Replace in section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req] before table 5.2:

In table 5.2, [...], `os` is convertible to an lvalue of type `std::ostream`, and `is` is convertible to N1661

an lvalue of type `std::istream`.

by

In table 5.2, [...], `os` is an lvalue of the type of some class template specialization `basic_ostream<charT, traits>`, and `is` is an lvalue of the type of some class template specialization `basic_istream<charT, traits>`, where `charT` and `traits` are constrained according to [lib.strings] and [lib.input.output].

Replace in section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req] in table 5.2, in the row for `os << x`, the return type `std::ostream&`

by

reference to the type of `os`

Also, replace in the row for `is >> v`, the return type

`std::istream&`

by

reference to the type of `is`

and the pre/post-condition

sets the state `v(i)` of `v` as determined by reading its textual representation from `is`. post: The `is.fmtflags` are unchanged.

by

sets the state `v(i)` of `v` as determined by reading its textual representation from `is`. pre: The textual representation was previously written using a `os` whose imbued locale and whose type's template specialization arguments `charT` and `traits` were the same than those of `is`, respectively. post: The `is.fmtflags` are unchanged.

In section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req], add at the end of the paragraph preceding table 5.3 `os` is convertible to an lvalue of the type of some class template specialization `basic_ostream<charT, traits>`, and `is` is convertible to an lvalue of the type of some class template specialization `basic_istream<charT, traits>`, where `charT` and `traits` are constrained according to [lib.strings] and [lib.input.output].

Replace in section 5.1.1 [tr.rand.req] in table 5.3, in the row for `os << x`, the return type `std::ostream&`

by

reference to the type of `os`

Also, replace in the row for `is >> v`, the return type

`std::istream&`

by

reference to the type of `is`

and the pre/post-condition

restores the parameters and additional internal data of the distribution `u`. pre: `is` provides a textual representation that was previously written by operator<<. post: The `is.fmtflags` are unchanged.

by

restores the parameters and additional internal data of the distribution `u`. pre: `is` provides a textual representation that was previously written using a `os` whose imbued locale and whose type's template specialization arguments `charT` and `traits` were the same than those of `is`, respectively. post: The `is.fmtflags` are unchanged.

5 Special function issues

5.1 *Clean up special function names and descriptions*

Submitter: Bill Plauger, Walter Brown

Status: TR

The names of special functions should be cleaned up so they're all-lowercase and more spelled out (to make them more consistent with C naming style), there should be names with *f* and *l* suffixes for float and long double versions, and the behavior should be specified mathematically instead of by reference.

Resolution:

Accept the changes proposed in N1542, "Mathematical special functions, v3".

5.2 *Assoc_legendre incorrectly requires a domain error*

Submitter: Bill Plauger

Status: Open

assoc_legendre says "a domain error occurs if m is greater than l." But the value is well defined - zero. Hence, a domain error should **never** occur.

Status: Sydney: 5.2 through 5.6 all go together. The general principle we want: if a function is defined with a real value we should return it. If it isn't we should give a domain error. The difficulty is that some formulations of these functions are applicable to a wider domain than others.

We will leave all of these issues open for now. Bill, Walter, and Marc will come up with a proposal by Redmond.

5.3 *Assoc_legendre should require domain error when $|x| > 1$*

Submitter: Bill Plauger

Status: Open

assoc_legendre says "a domain error may occur if the magnitude of x is greater than one." But the value is always imaginary. Hence, a domain error should **always** occur.

Status: See issue 5.2

5.4 *Beta should have domain error if $x \leq 0$ or $y \leq 0$*

Submitter: Bill Plauger

Status: Open

beta says "a domain error may occur (a) if either x or y is a negative integer, or (b) if either x or y is zero." But the beta function is defined only for $x, y > 0$. Hence, a domain error should **always** occur if $x \leq 0$ or $y \leq 0$.

Status: See issue 5.2

5.5 Legendre should always have domain error if $|x| > 1$

Submitter: Bill Plauger

Status: Open

Legendre says "a domain error may occur if the magnitude of x is greater than one." But the value is always imaginary. Hence, a domain error should **always** occur.

Status: See issue 5.2

5.6 Bessel should require domain error for $x < 0$

Submitter: Bill Plauger

Status: Open

Bessel functions all say "a domain error may occur if x is less than zero." The various Bessels can generally be extended to negative real x , but the functions are arguably undefined along the negative real axis. Hence, a domain error should **always** occur.

Status: See issue 5.2

6 Unordered associative container issues

6.1 Incorrect const qualification

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: TR

The parameters to the container swap functions are const-qualified, and I don't think they should be. For example the declaration for the swap function that appears in 6.2.4.3.2 is

```
template <class Value, class Hash, class Pred, class Alloc>
void swap(const unordered_set<Value, Hash, Pred, Alloc>& x,
         const unordered_set<Value, Hash, Pred, Alloc>& y);
```

I believe that x and y can't be references to const containers because the swap function needs to be able to modify both containers.

Resolution:

In section 6.4.2 [tr.unord.unord], remove the const qualification in the parameters of the nonmember swap functions for all four unordered associative containers, both in the header synopses and in the text.

6.2 Erase takes const iterator

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: NAD

The erase member functions with iterator parameters are declared as follows


```
void erase(const_iterator position);  
void erase(const_iterator first, const_iterator last);
```

This is consistent with the requirements table, but I'm not sure that it's intentional.

Resolution: Not a defect. This was intentional. The other containers should probably be changed in a similar way in a future standard.

6.3 Bucket members not declared const

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: TR

The `bucket(...)` and `bucket_size(...)` members of each container template should be `const`, but they aren't declared `const` in the class definitions. The requirements table correctly implies that these functions are `const` members.

Resolution:

In section 6.4.2 [tr.unord.unord], in the class declarations of all four unordered associative containers, declare the `bucket` and `bucket_size` member functions as `const`.

6.4 Incorrect variable in requirements table

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: TR

All occurrences of "for const a" in the "Return Type" column of the requirements table should actually read "for const b." Also, under the the "assertion/note/pre/postcondition" column, the phrase "out of which a was constructed" should be "out of which b was constructed" for `b.hash_function()` and `b.key_eq()`. Similarly, "`a.end()`" should be "`b.end()`" for `b.find(k)`, and "`std::make_pair(a.end(), a.end())`" should be "`std::make_pair(b.end(), b.end())`" for `b.equal_range(k)`.

Resolution:

As above. (See N1549.)

6.5 Hashing strings

Submitter: Alan Stokes

Status: TR

N1518 at 6.2.3 requires the library to provide a specialisation of the hash template for `basic_string` instantiated with any valid set of `charT`, traits, and `Alloc`.

This is tricky, for two reasons:

1. `charT` can be any POD. It might therefore be a struct with padding for alignment. How does the implementation hash the value while skipping the unused bytes?
2. `hash` is required to return equal results for equal arguments. For `basic_string` equality is determined by `traits::eq`, so can be arbitrary. For example it could ignore case, or it could ignore

some components of a POD struct. So the library doesn't know, when given an argument to hash, what other arguments it might compare equal to.

These problems are not insurmountable - `hash<basic_string<...>>` could just always return 0, or could just hash the string length. But neither would be very good hash functions for use in the unordered containers.

Perhaps only `std::char_traits` should be allowed; that limits you to hashing strings of `char` and `wchar_t` (but with any allocator).

Or we could require the supplied traits class to support hashing of individual characters, and add the necessary support to `std::char_traits`.

Resolution:

(From N1622)

In 6.3.3, change "for any valid set of `charT`, traits, and `Alloc`" to "for any valid set of `charT`, traits, and `Alloc` such that `charT` is an integer type."

Rationale:

Agreed that this is a problem. Hashing of fully general strings is probably unimplementable. We considered three choices: (1) hash only string and wstring. (2) hash `basic_string` for every integer type `T`. (3) hash `basic_string` for any `T` that can be cast to unsigned long. The LWG preferred choice 2. Straw poll: 2-5-0.

6.6 Unordered assoc containers not containers

Submitter: Beman Dawes

Status: TR

The TR does not explicitly say that unordered associative containers must meet the standard's requirements for containers. The phrase "(in addition to container)" is part of the title for table 6.1, but that is not explicit enough, and fails to make clear that all of 23.1's requirements have to be met, not just table 65's.

For consistency, the proposed resolution wording is similar to the way that `std::basic_string` (21.3, paragraph 2) references the Sequence requirements.

Proposed Resolution

To section 6.2.1, Unordered associative container requirements, add:

Unordered associative containers conform to the requirements for Containers (C++ Standard, 23.1, Container requirements).

6.7 Exception safety of unordered associative container operations

Submitter: Matt Austern

Status: TR

The only unordered associative container members that provide anything other than the basic exception guarantee are `clear()`, `erase()`, `swap()`, and the single-element version of `insert()`. In

particular, `rehash()` only provides the basic guarantee. This is correct as far as it goes, but we can do better.

Proposed resolution (N1622):

Add to the list of exception safety guarantees:

"For unordered associative containers, if an exception is thrown from within a `rehash()` function other than by the container's hash function or comparison function, the `rehash()` function has no effect."

6.8 Equality-comparability of unordered associative containers

Submitter: Robert Klarer

Status: TR

The unordered associative containers were intended to satisfy all of the general container requirements, but they don't. In particular, the unordered associative containers are not equality-comparable.

Naively defining equality comparison for these containers doesn't solve this problem. According to the general Container requirements table, equality comparison for containers should work like this:

```
== is an equivalence relation.  
a.size()==b.size() && equal(a.begin(), a.end(), b.begin())
```

This definition of container equality is inadequate for unordered containers. Should an `unordered_set` A containing the elements {3, 2, 1} be considered equal to an `unordered_set` B containing the elements {1, 2, 3}? There is good reason to think so, especially since the order of the elements in a particular container will seem arbitrary to the user. This order will depend on the bucket count of the container, peculiarities of the implementation, etc. Unfortunately, if the unordered associative containers were equality-comparable in the way that is required by Container, then the containers A and B (from the examples above) will definitely not compare equal.

Resolution (N1622):

To section 6.2.1, Unordered associative container requirements, add:

Unordered associative containers conform to the requirements for Containers (C++ Standard, 23.1, Container requirements), except that the following expressions are not required to be valid, where a and b denote values of a type X, and X is an unordered associative container class:

unsupported expressions
<code>a == b</code>
<code>a != b</code>
<code>a < b</code>
<code>a > b</code>
<code>a <= b</code>
<code>a >= b</code>

Rationale:

This was discussed in Oxford. We are revisiting the issue. The fundamental problem: the equality function described in the container requirements makes no sense for hashtables. We considered N1661

four choices: close as NAD, put in a caveat saying we don't quite satisfy the container requirements, put in the operator== defined in terms of std::equal, or put in Howard's (more useful) operator==. By an 0-6-0-3 straw vote we chose the second.

6.9 Unordered_map and unordered_multimap don't have assignable value types

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: NAD

The container requirements say that a container's value type must be assignable. The value types of unordered_map and unordered_multimap violate that requirement. (note that the same problem is true of map and multimap in the standard.)

Rationale:

LWG issue 276 will remove the requirement that a container's value type be assignable.

6.10 Unordered_multimap shouldn't have operator[]

Submitter: Rober Klarer

Status: TR

According to subsection 6.3.4.6 of the TR, unordered_multimap possesses an overloaded operator []. This should be removed.

Resolution:

Remove it.

6.11 Rationale for rehash precondition

Submitter: Thomas Witt

Status: TR

I am wondering what the rationale for the rehash precondition is. It seems to be unnecessary strict to me. My naive approach would be to simply do nothing if the requested bucket number is less than size()/max_load_factor() possibly returning the resulting bucket count.

Resolution (N1622):

Page 117 in requirements table for a.rehash(n)

=====

change

```
Pre: n > a.size() /
a.max_load_factor().
Changes the number of buckets
so that it is at least n.
```

to

```
a.bucket_count() > a.size() / a.max_load_factor().
a.bucket_count() >= n.
```

6.12 Definition of load factor is overconstrained

Submitter: Bill Wade

Status: NAD Future

I suggest that implementations be allowed (not required) to define load factor in terms of the number of elements with unique hash() values and/or the number of equivalence classes in an unordered_multi{set,map}. Particularly in a multi-map or multi-set, growing the bucket count unnecessarily is an anti-optimization.

Rationale:

Unclear if this is a real problem (implementations already have a fair amount of freedom in how they use the load factor), and having the load factor be implementation defined made people uncomfortable.

6.13 When may an implementation change the bucket count?

Submitter: Bill Wade

Status: TR

Is an implementation ever allowed to reduce the bucket count (other than via swap)? Is an implementation allowed to rehash when an insertion does not cause a violation of max_load_factor? Is insert() allowed to invalidate existing iterators when no rehash occurs?

Note that one set of answers to these questions means that rehash() provides some guarantees analogous to vector::reserve().

Resolution (N1622):

In clause 6.3.1, after the first sentence of the last paragraph, add: "The insert members shall not affect the validity of iterators if $(N+n) < z * B$, where N' is the container's size, n is the number of elements inserted, B is the container's bucket count, and z is the container's maximum load factor."

6.14 Complexity of iterator increment

Submitter: Bill Wade

Status: NAD

When the current load factor is very small, $O(\text{bucket_count}())$ can be considerably worse than $O(\text{size}())$. On many implementations iterator increment (or begin()) will have this problem. Dinkum (the version with MS 7.1) keeps the iterator operations $O(1)$, but insert or erase adjacent to a range of empty buckets is expensive (linear). This means that calling rehash(n) with the current Dinkum implementation, prior to performing a large number of insertions would result in quadratic behavior.

It is straightforward to make the cost of empty-bucket ranges no more than log-time (and no more than one-bit per bucket space), but if I were happy with log time I might as well use an ordered map.

It isn't obvious to me how you can implement `iterator++`, `insert()` and `erase()` so that they are all faster than logarithmic in the number of empty buckets, but if I give you a perfect hash function and you tell me to call `rehash(1000000)` before I add a million elements, I'm going to be upset if the call to `rehash()` changes what was linear behavior to quadratic behavior. Is there any way to specify the interaction between `rehash()` and `insert()`, or will prudent programs avoid calls to `rehash()`?

Rationale:

It's amortized constant time, and it'll be bad for degenerate hash functions, and that's just a characteristic of this data structure.

6.15 Hash functions and const containers

Submitter: Robert Klarer

Status: New

Reflector message: c++std-lib-13458

Please consider:

```
#include <functional>

struct UserDefinedType { /* ... */ };

struct my_hash<UserDefinedType>
  : public std::unary_function<UserDefinedType, std::size_t>
{
  std::size_t operator()(UserDefinedType val) /* non-const!
*/;
};
```

A hash function object such as this one can't be used as the hasher to an unordered associative container. Several of the unordered associative member functions, like `find()`, `count()`, `equal_range()`, and especially `bucket()`, need to be able to call the hash object's function-call operator. When the container is `const`-qualified, these member functions are `const`, too, so a hasher with no `const` function-call semantics won't work.

I have two questions:

- is there any explicit requirement that an unordered associative container's hasher type have `const` function-call semantics (eg. must the overloaded `operator()` be `const`-qualified)?
- if not, should there be (i.e. is this an issue)?

There may be similar issues with unordered associative containers' equality function objects, and with ordinary associative containers' comparison function objects.

6.16 `Swap()` missing from header synopses

Submitter: Matt Austern

Status: New

The header synopses in 5.3.1.3 [tr.unord.syn.set] and 6.4.4.2 [tr.unord.syn.map] are supposed to contain all namespace scope declarations. The specializations of swap are missing.

Proposed resolution:

Add them.

7 Regular expression issues

7.1 *basic_regex should Not Keep a Copy of its Initializer*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1499)

Status: TR

The `basic_regex` template has a member function `str` which returns a string object that holds the text used to initialize the `basic_regex` object. It also provides a container-like interface to this text through the member functions `begin` and `end`, which return `const_iterator` objects that allow inspection of the initializer text. While it might occasionally be useful to look at the initializer string, we ought to apply the rule that you don't pay for it if you don't use it. Just as `fstream` objects don't carry around the file name that they were opened with, `basic_regex` objects should not carry around their initializer text. If someone needs to keep track of that text they can write a class that holds the text and the `basic_regex` object.

Resolution:

As described in N1551, Changes to N1540 to Implement N1499 Parts 1 and 2.

7.2 *basic_regex Should Not Have an Allocator*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1499)

Status: TR

The `basic_regex` template takes an argument that defines a type for an allocator object. The template also has several member typedefs and one member function to provide information about the allocator type and the allocator object. This is because a `basic_regex` object "is in effect both a container of characters, and a container of states, as such an allocator parameter is appropriate." Calling it a container doesn't make it one. The allocator in `basic_regex` is not very useful, and it unduly complicates the implementation.

The cost of using an allocator is high. Every type that the `basic_regex` object uses internally must have its own allocator type and its own allocator object. A node based implementation might have a dozen or more node types, requiring a dozen or more allocator objects. Allocator objects can be created as local objects when needed, which effectively precludes allocators with internal state; they can be ordinary members of the `basic_regex` object, inflating its size; or they can be implemented as a chain of base classes (to take advantage of the zero-size base optimization), with a high cost in readability and maintainability. None of these options is attractive.

Further, it's not at all clear how a user can determine that a substitute allocator is appropriate or what characteristics such an allocator should have. The STL containers have clearly spelled out

requirements for their memory usage; `basic_regex` objects have no such requirements (nor should they). The implementor of the `basic_regex` template knows best what its memory requirements are.

Resolution:

As described in N1551, Changes to N1540 to Implement N1499 Parts 1 and 2. Some memory management interface may be a good idea, but allocators aren't it.

7.3 The Interface to `regex_traits` Should Use Iterators, Not Strings

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1499)

Status: TR

The member functions of the `regex_trait` template support customization and internationalization for regular expressions. Of these, the member functions `transform`, `transform_primary`, `lookup_collatename`, and `lookup_classname` take string as input.

This interface is inherently inefficient -- it requires creating a string object from a sequence in order to pass that string to the function. Further, in the case of `transform`, the function typically extracts iterators from the string object. Passing the text as a pair of iterators avoids introducing unnecessary string objects.

Resolution:

Apply the resolution from N1623=04-0063, Resolutions to regular expression issues.

7.4 Regular expressions and internationalization

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1500)

Status: TR

See N1500 for a detailed description. Summary: We're basing regexps on ECMAScript. However, ECMAScript is entirely unicode and doesn't deal with multiple locales and such. We're using it in a non-unicode environment. Some of the lookups it's asking for, e.g. asking whether a character is a digit in a locale-dependent way, are very expensive.

We allow metacharacters to be remapped, and (via the *translate* member function) even ordinary characters may be remapped. Remapping metacharacters means you can't tell what a regexp does just be looking at it. Remapping ordinary characters means that we use an expensive code path for all matches, even ordinary case sensitive matches.

Suggestions:

- Don't use `translate` for case-sensitive matches. (Or at least only use it if we're using the *collate* option when compiling the regex string into the regex object.
- Get rid of the *syntax_type* function that allows you to remap the meaning of metacharacters.

Resolution:

Apply the resolution from N1623=04-0063, Resolutions to regular expression issues.

7.5 *Bad rationale for regex_ prefixes*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: NAD

Pete writes:

I'm not strongly for or against the regex_ prefixes. They may well be helpful in understanding code. But I'm strongly against the notion that the standard library should use prefixes because users abuse using declarations.

Resolution: NAD. The rationale isn't part of the TR. If we decide to change the names, that will be a separate issue.

7.6 *Unintended occurrence of reg_expression*

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: TR

There is a systematic error in the "proposed text" section: the various algorithms have been defined to accept a type "reg_expression" which does not in fact exist in the proposal, and which should of course be called "basic_regex". This is an editing error that crept in when the name of that class was changed from reg_expression to basic_regex.

The fix is to just replace all occurrences of "reg_expression" with "basic_regex" throughout that section.

Resolution: As above.

7.7 *Iterators have incorrect definitions of the types "reference" and "pointer"*

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: TR

In regex_iterator and regex_token_iterator the definitions given for the types "iterator" and "reference" are wrong: as given these types refer/point to the value_type of the underlying iterator type, but should of course refer/point to the actual value_type being enumerated (the two are not the same type).

Resolution:

Change:

```
typedef typename
iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::pointer
    pointer;
typedef typename
iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::reference
    reference;
```

To:

```
typedef const value_type* pointer;
typedef const value_type& reference;
```

In both the `regex_iterator` and `regex_token_iterator` definitions.

7.8 *regex_iterator does not handle zero-length matches correctly*

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: TR

There is a subtle bug in `regex_iterator::operator++`; when the previous match found matched a zero-length string, then the iterator needs to take special action to avoid going into an infinite loop, the current wording does this but gets it wrong because it does not allow two consecutive zero length matches, for example iterating occurrences of “^” in the text “\n\n” yields just one match rather than three as it should. The actual behavior should be as follows:

When the previous match was of zero length, then check to see if there is a non-zero-length match starting at the same position, otherwise move one position to the right of the last match (if such a position exists), and continue searching as normal for a (possibly zero length) match.

Resolution:

Covered by the proposed resolution to issue 7.9.

7.9 *Regex_iterator does not set match_results::position correctly*

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: TR

As currently specified, given:

```
    regex_iterator<something> i;  
then i->position() == i->prefix().length() for all matches found.
```

This is correct for the first match found, but makes little sense for subsequent matches where the result of `i->position()` is only useful if it returns the distance from the start of the string being searched to the start of the match found.

(Recall that `i->prefix()` contains everything from the end of the last match found, to the start of the current match, this allows search and replace operations to be constructed by copying `i->prefix()` unchanged to output, and then outputting a modified version of whatever matched.)

For example this problem showed up when converting a `boost.regex` example program from the `regex_grep` algorithm (not part of the proposal) to use `regex_iterator`: the example takes the contents of a C++ source file as a string, and creates an index that maps C++ class names to file positions in the form of a `std::map<std::string, int>`. In order for the program to take a `regex_iterator` and from that add an item to the index, it needs to know how far it is from the start of the text being searched to the start of the current match: that was what `regex_match::position()` was intended for, but as the proposal stands it instead returns the distance from the end of the last match to the start of the current match.

Resolution:

[Note: Discussed at Kona. General agreement that this is a real issue, also that the proposed resolution in N1507 was not the right way to resolve it. This is the new proposed resolution.]

Change:

```
private:
match_results<BidirectionalIterator> what; // exposition only
    BidirectionalIterator end; // exposition only
    const regex_type* pre; // exposition only
    match_flag_type flags; // exposition only
};
```

To:

```
private:
// these members are shown for exposition only:
BidirectionalIterator begin, end;
regex_type *pregex;
regex_constants::match_flag_type flags;
match_results<BidirectionalIterator> match;
};
```

And then add the following immediately afterwards:

A `regex_iterator` object that is not an *end-of-sequence iterator* holds a *zero-length match* if `match[0].matched == true` and `match[0].first == match[0].second`. [Note: this occurs when the part of the regular expression that matched consists only of an assertion (such as '^', '\$', '\b', '\B').]

Then change the following members as shown:

```
regex_iterator constructors [tr.re.regiter.cnstr]
regex_iterator();
```

Effects: Constructs the end-of-sequence iterator.

```
regex_iterator(BidirectionalIterator a, BidirectionalIterator b,
    const regex_type& re,
    regex_constants::match_flag_type f = regex_constants::match_default);
```

Effects: Initializes `begin` and `end` to point to the beginning and the end of the target sequence, sets `pregex` to `&re`, sets `flags` to `f`, then calls `regex_search(begin, end, match, *pregex, flags)`. If this call returns `false` the constructor sets `*this` to the *end-of-sequence iterator*.

```
regex_iterator comparisons [tr.re.regexiter.comp]
bool operator==(const regex_iterator& right);
```

Returns: `true` if `*this` and `right` are both *end-of-sequence iterators* or if `begin == right.begin`, `end == right.end`, `pregex == right.pregex`, `flags == right.flags`, and `match[0] == right.match[0]`, otherwise `false`.

```
bool operator!=(const regex_iterator& right);
```

Returns: `!(*this == right)`

```
regex_iterator dereference [tr.re.regexiter.deref]
```

```
const value_type& operator*();
```

Returns: match

```
const value_type* operator->();
```

Returns: &match

```
regex_iterator increment [tr.re.regexiter.incr]
```

```
regex_iterator& operator++();
```

Effects: Constructs a local variable start of type BidirectionalIterator and initializes it with the value of match[0].second.

If the iterator holds a *zero-length match* and start == end the operator sets *this to the *end-of-sequence iterator* and returns *this.

Otherwise, if the iterator holds a *zero-length match* the operator calls regex_search(start, end, match, *pregex, flags | regex_constants::match_not_null | regex_constants::match_continuous). If the call returns true the operator returns *this. Otherwise the operator increments start and continues as if the most recent match was not a *zero-length match*.

If the most recent match was not a *zero-length match*, the operator sets flags to flags | match_prev_avail and calls regex_search(start, end, match, *pregex, flags). If the call returns false the iterator sets *this to the *end-of-sequence iterator*. The iterator then returns *this.

In all cases in which the call to regex_search returns true match.prefix().first shall be equal to the previous value of match[0].second, and for each index i in the half-open range [0,match.size()) for which match[i].matched is true, match[i].position() shall return distance(begin, match[i].first).

[Note: this means that match[i].position() gives the offset from the beginning of the target sequence, which is often not the same as the offset from the beginning of the sequence passed in the call to regex_search.]

It is unspecified how the implementation makes these adjustments.

[Note: this means that a compiler may call an implementation-specific search function, in which case a user-defined specialization of regex_search will not be called.]

```
regex_iterator operator++(int);
```

Effects:

```
regex_iterator tmp = *this;
```

```
++(*this);
```

```
return tmp;
```

7.10 Naming of basic_regex::getflags

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

basic_regex has member functions named getflags and get_allocator. The latter is consistent with the use of the same name in STL containers. In general, it seems to me, the library tries to use an underscore to separate a verb from its object for names of this nature. That convention would mean that we should call the other one get_flags. On the other hand, we do have getline, but that's arguably different because it's not a state query. Do we have a general policy here? If so, what is it, and what should the name of getflags be?

Resolution:

Replace all occurrences of “getflags” in the document with “flags”.

7.11 Missing namespace prefix in regex_iterator description

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The definition of regex_iterator in RE.8.1 mentions
regex_iterator(BidirectionalIterator a, BidirectionalIterator b, const regex_type& re,
match_flag_type m = match_default);

And
match_flag_type flags; // for exposition only

match_flag_type and match_default are defined in the nested namespace regex_constants, so these two names need to be qualified with regex_constants::. Same thing in the first RE.8.1.1.

Resolution:

Go through the text and replace all occurrences of:

match_flag_type with regex_constants::match_flag_type,
match_default with regex_constants::match_default,
match_partial with regex_constants::match_partial,
match_prev_avail with regex_constants::match_prev_avail,
match_not_null with regex_constants::match_not_null,
format_default with regex_constants::format_default,
format_no_copy with regex_constants::format_no_copy,
format_first_only with regex_constants::format_first_only,
except in the section which defines these (RE.3.1).

7.12 Unnecessary sub-section headers in regex_iterator

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: editorial, TR

The first clause labeled RE.8.1.1 has the title "regex_iterator constructors". It contains descriptions of the constructors, plus several operators. The second clause labeled RE.8.1.1 has the title "regex_iterator dereference". It contains operator*, operator->, and the two versions of operator++. Seems like both of these labels should be removed.

Resolution:

Rename the section “RE.8.1.1 regex_iterator constructors” as “regex_iterator members”, remove the section “RE.8.1.1 regex_iterator dereference”, rename the section “RE.8.2.1 regex_iterator constructors” as “regex_token_iterator members”, remove the section: “RE.8.2.1 regex_token_iterator dereference”.

7.13 Names of symbolic constants

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

ECMAScript has five control escapes: t, n, v, f, r. The regex proposal has named constants for four of them: `escape_type_control_f`, `_n`, `_r`, and `_t`. `escape_type_control_v` seems to be missing. (Okay, that's not about names, but the next two are).

This is minor, but in C and C++ those five things are escape sequences, and using names that include 'control' is a bit confusing. Granted, it fits with the terminology in ECMAScript, but I'd lean toward more C-like names, on the line of `escape_type_f`.

And finally, there's `escape_type_ascii_control`. (For those not familiar with the details of the proposal, this refers to things that we might write in ordinary text as `<ctrl>-X`, for example.) We've pretty much avoided the term "ascii" in the standard (it's only used twice, in footnotes, apologetically), and I'm a bit uncomfortable with its use here. I'd prefer `escape_type_control_letter`, which picks up the name of the production in the ECMAScript grammar for the letter that follows the escape. I think it's pretty clear what it means, and it avoids "ascii".

Resolution:

Replace all occurrences of:

- `escape_type_control_f` with `escape_type_f`
- `escape_type_control_n` with `escape_type_n`
- `escape_type_control_r` with `escape_type_r`
- `escape_type_control_t` with `escape_type_t`
- `escape_type_ascii_control` with `escape_type_control`

Then immediately after the line:

```
static const escape_syntax_type escape_type_t;
```

add the line:

```
static const escape_syntax_type escape_type_v;
```

Then immediately after the table entry:

```
escape_type_t      t
```

Add the new table entry:

```
escape_type_v      v
```

[Kona: in addition to the proposed resolution in this issue: the LWG felt that a review of names throughout the regex clause is in order: the names tend to be verbose. See issue 7.41.]

7.14 Traits class versioning incompletely edited in.

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The paper talks about versioning of `regex_traits` classes, and RE.1.1 (in table RE2) says that a traits class shall have a member `X::version_tag` whose type is `regex_traits_version_1_tag` or a class that publicly inherits from that. Neither the `<regex>` synopsis (RE.2) nor the description of `regex_traits` (RE.3.3) mentions either of these types. I can't tell whether this was partially edited in or partially edited out. `<g>` So, is `regex_traits` versioning part of the proposal?

Resolution:

Edit this feature out, by removing the entry of `X::version_tag` in table 7.1.

7.15 Specification of `sub_match::length` incorrect

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: TR

The specification for `sub_match::length` has acquired a couple of typos (a misplaced static, and the logic in the effects clause is back-to-front)

Resolution:

Change it to:

```
difference_type length();
```

```
Effects: returns (matched ? distance(first, second) : 0).
```

[Note to editor: throughout the regex section, we see “Effects: returns...” This is unnecessarily convoluted, and should be replaced with plan “Returns: ...”]

7.16 Traits class sentry language

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The proposal says:

“An object of type `regex_traits<charT>::sentry` shall be constructed from a `regex_traits` object, and tested to be not equal to null, before any of the member functions of that object other than `length`, `getloc`, and `imbue` shall be called. Type `sentry` performs implementation defined initialization of the traits class object, and represents an opportunity for the traits class to cache data obtained from the locale object.”

The first sentence is in passive voice, and begs the question of who shall do it: the user of the `regex` instance that holds the `regex_traits` object, or the `regex` instance itself. Unless the user is hacking around with a standalone instance of `regex_traits`, it probably ought to be the `regex` object that "shall" do this.

Second, `sentry` "performs implementation defined initialization." I think this ought to be implementation specific, not implementation defined. I don't want to have to document the

details of the initialization that sentry performs.

Additional comment from Pete Becker:

I think the right answer is to remove sentry. It doesn't really do much.

It's there to provide a way for the various search functions to ensure that the traits object has done any needed initialization. It's appropriate to defer such initialization, since it can involve allocation and population of tables and perhaps other expensive operations, which would be wasted if the user subsequently imbued a different locale.

The sentry class, though, is overkill. It's there in part by analogy to iostreams, where each inserter constructs a sentry object and checks its state before inserting into the stream. But that's part of the semantics of streams: if the stream's state is bad, attempted insertions simply do nothing, and program execution continues. Regular expressions, on the other hand, don't have that requirement. (It's not clear what should happen if initialization fails; the current requirement is only that whoever constructs the sentry object should check whether it succeeded). Further, in iostreams, one of the purposes of sentry is to be able to provide thread locking, with a lock in the constructor and an unlock in the destructor. There's no analogous need in regular expressions.

I think it should be up to the traits implementor to get initialization right. That means lazy initialization, and checking flags to be sure that caches have been set up. When a new locale is imbued, cached data becomes invalid. I don't think we need a hook to tell the traits object that it's time to initialize.

Resolution:

- * Remove the entries for “X::sentry”, “X::sentry s(u);” and “X::sentry(u)” from table 7.1.
- * Remove the nested type “struct sentry” from the regex_traits class synopsis (7.7).
- * Remove the description of “struct sentry” from the regex_traits description.
- * Remove the sentence “No member functions other than length, getloc, and imbue may be called until an object of type sentry has been copy-constructed from *this.”, from the description of regex_traits::imbue (7.7).

Rationale:

From John Maddock:

It appears that the motivation for the sentry object (a means to signal to the traits class that it is about to be used, and should therefore initialize itself now, caching loaded data as appropriate), is unnecessary. There are other techniques available (such as not constructing a traits class instance until it is actually needed, or have the traits class load it's localization data on demand) that can deal with the issue just as well, I would therefore propose that we remove this type altogether:

7.17 Imprecise specification of regex_traits::char_class_type

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

Roughly speaking, there are three categories of character class: the ones that are supported by C and C++ locales (alnum, etc.), the additional ones for the regex proposal (d s w) and user-supplied character classes (through extensions to regex_traits).

Is the intent of the proposal to require that for the first category, the value returned by, for example, lookup_classname("alnum") be the value alnum as defined by ctype_base::mask? (I don't care one way or the other, but we have to be clear about what's required).

Resolution:

N1661

Replace:

“The type `char_class_type` is used to represent a character classification and is capable of holding an implementation defined superset of the values held by `ctype_base::mask` (22.2.1).”

with:

“The type `char_class_type` is used to represent a character classification and is capable of holding the implementation specific set of values returned by `lookup_classname`.”

7.18 Can anything other than `basic_regex` throw `bad_expression` objects?

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The text describing the class `bad_expressions` says it is the type of the object thrown to report errors "during the conversion from a string ... to a finite state machine." This suggests that it is not thrown by the functions that try to match a string to and a `basic_regex` object, and this is borne out by the throws clauses for the constructors and assignment operators for `basic_regex`, which say that they throw `bad_expression` if the string isn't a valid regular expression, and by the lack of throws clauses for `regex_match`, etc.

On the other hand, `error_type` has two values, `error_complexity` and `error_stack`, that only occur during matching. There's no other mention of these values, so the only thing that can be done with them is for the implementation to pass them to `regex_traits::error_string`, and the only way the user can see the resulting string is by catching an exception. This suggests that `bad_expression` can also be thrown by the match functions. And the text says, in the last paragraph of RE.4, that "the functions described in this clause can report errors by throwing exceptions of type `bad_expression`."

So: can the various match functions throw `bad_expression`, and, if so, is `bad_expression` the appropriate name?

Resolution:

Apply the resolution from N1623=04-0063, Resolutions to regular expression issues.

7.19 Unneeded `basic_regex` members

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

The following `basic_regex` members are redundant and should be removed:

```
basic_regex(const charT* p1, const charT* p2, flag_type f =
    regex_constants::normal,
            const Allocator& a = Allocator());
basic_regex& assign(const charT* first, const charT* last,
                  flag_type f =
    regex_constants::normal);
```

Resolution: As above.

7.20 *Missing basic_regex members*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The proposal has member functions named 'assign' that take argument lists that correspond to the argument lists for constructors, with two exceptions: there's `basic_regex(const charT *, size_type len, flag_type)`, but no `assign(const charT *, size_type, flag_type)`; and there's `basic_regex()`, but no `assign()`. Are these omissions intentional?

Resolution:

add the following member to the `basic_regex` class synopsis:

```
basic_regex& assign(const charT* ptr, size_type len, flag_type f = regex_constants::normal);
```

Then add the following description in the RE4.5 section:

```
basic_regex& assign(const charT* ptr, size_type len, flag_type f = regex_constants::normal);
```

Effects: Returns `assign(string_type(ptr, len), f)`.

7.21 *Types of match_results typedefs members*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The proposal says that `match_results` has a nested typedef

```
typedef const value_type& const_reference
```

Since `match_results` has an allocator, this should be

```
typedef typename allocator::const_reference const_reference
```

Resolution: As above

7.22 *What does match_results::size() return?*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The member function `size()` returns "the number of `sub_match` elements stored in `*this`". Aside from the suggested implementation above, there are the `prefix()` and `suffix()` `sub_match` elements. Is the intention that `size()` should return the number of capture groups in the original expression, and not include those two extra `sub_matches`? (I think the answer is probably yes).

Resolution:

Replace:

```
size_type size() const;
```

Effects: Returns the number of `sub_match` elements stored in `*this`.

With:

N1661

```
size_type size() const;
```

Effects: Returns one plus the number marked sub-expressions in the regular expression that was matched.

[*Note to editor: put in the missing “of”*]

7.23 What does `match_results::position` return when passed an out of range index?

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

`match_results::position()` doesn't say what happens when someone asks for the position of a non-matched group. The specification says that it's `distance(first1, first2)`, where `first1` is the beginning of the target text and `first2` is the beginning of the `n`th match. The specification for `sub_match` says that for a failed match the iterators have unspecified contents. Do we want this to be unspecified or undefined, or is there some meaningful value we can return?

Having looked ahead <g>, the match and search algorithms specify that non-matched groups hold iterators that point to the end of the target text. This conflicts with the specification for `sub_match`, which says they're undefined. Is that text in `sub_match` incorrect?

Resolution:

Changes to:

```
difference_type position(unsigned int sub = 0) const;
```

Effects: Returns `std::distance(prefix().first, (*this)[sub].first)`.

Are covered in “`Regex_iterator` does not set `match_results::position` correctly”.

Delete the following paragraphs from the `sub_match` specification:

When the marked sub-expression denoted by an object of type `sub_match<>` participated in a regular expression match then member `matched` evaluates to true, and members `first` and `second` denote the range of characters `[first, second)` which formed that match. Otherwise `matched` is false, and members `first` and `second` contained undefined values.

If an object of type `sub_match<>` represents sub-expression 0 - that is to say the whole match - then member `matched` is always true, unless a partial match was obtained as a result of the flag `match_partial` being passed to a regular expression algorithm, in which case member `matched` is false, and members `first` and `second` represent the character range that formed the partial match.

The add the following to the `match_results` specification, immediately after the sentence ending “*except that only operations defined for const-qualified Sequences are supported.*”:

The `sub_match<>` object stored at index zero represents sub-expression 0; that is to say the whole match. In this case the `sub_match<>` member `matched` is always true, unless a

partial match was obtained as a result of the flag `regex_constants::match_partial` being passed to a regular expression algorithm, in which case member `matched` is false, and members `first` and `second` represent the character range that formed the partial match.

The `sub_match<>` object stored at index `n` denotes what matched the marked sub-expression `n` within the matched expression. If the sub-expression `n` participated in a regular expression match then the `sub_match<>` member `matched` evaluates to true, and members `first` and `second` denote the range of characters `[first, second)` which formed that match. Otherwise `matched` is false, and members `first` and `second` point to the end of sequence that was searched.

7.24 What happens if `match_results::operator[]` is out of range?

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

With respect to `match_results::operator[]`: We need to say what happens for an index out of range. Seems to me there are two reasonable possibilities: undefined behavior, or returns a no-match object.

While I strongly favor undefined behavior over artificially well-defined results, I also favor well-defined behavior when it is not too artificial. Thus, the behavior of `sqrt(-2.0)` is undefined; `free(0)` does nothing. While undefined behavior provides a convenient hook for debugging implementations, that's not its purpose, and if we can specify reasonable (which includes inexpensive) behavior we ought to do it, rather than provide another place where users can go astray.

In this case, I think I prefer to view `operator[]` as indexing into an unbounded array of `sub_match` objects. The objects at `match_results.size()` and above would look like failed sub-matches: their boolean flag would be false, and both their iterators would point to the end of the target string. Since we've agreed that `sub_match` objects for failed sub-matches need not have distinct addresses, this can be implemented by simply adding one `sub_match` element beyond those needed for the actual results, and returning it for an index that's otherwise out of bounds.

Resolution:

replace:

```
const_reference operator[](int n) const;
```

Effects: Returns a reference to the `sub_match` object representing the character sequence that matched marked sub-expression `n`. If `n == 0` then returns a reference to a `sub_match` object representing the character sequence that matched the whole regular expression.

With:

```
const_reference operator[](int n) const;
```

Effects: Returns a reference to the `sub_match` object representing the character sequence that matched marked sub-expression `n`. If `n == 0` then returns a reference to a `sub_match`

object representing the character sequence that matched the whole regular expression. If `n >= size()` then returns a `sub_match` object representing an unmatched sub-expression.

7.25 *Incorrect case insensitive match specification*

Submitter: John Maddock (N1507)

Status: closed

The following wording:

"During matching of a regular expression finite state machine against a sequence of characters, comparison of a collating element range `c1-c2` against a character `c` is conducted as follows: if `getflags() & regex_constants::collate` is true, then the character `c` is matched if `traits_inst.transform(string_type(1,c1)) <= traits_inst.transform(string_type(1,c)) && traits_inst.transform(string_type(1,c)) <= traits_inst.transform(string_type(1,c2))`, otherwise `c` is matched if `c1 <= c && c <= c2`. During matching of a regular expression finite state machine against a sequence of characters, testing whether a collating element is a member of a primary equivalence class is conducted by first converting the collating element and the equivalence class to a sort keys using `traits::transform_primary`, and then comparing the sort keys for equality."

Is defective in that it does not take account of case-insensitive matches, all input characters, and all collating elements in the finite state machine should be passed through `traits_inst.translate` before being converted into a sort key.

Resolution: Closed, this is covered by the issue 7.26.

7.26 *Character class extensions to ECMAScript grammar need a formal grammar*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The regex proposal adds to ECMAScript the ability to use named character classes through "expressions of the form":

```
[[ :class-name: ]]  
[[ collating-name. ]]  
[[ =collating-name= ]]
```

This isn't sufficient. In ECMAScript the expression `[[]]` is valid, and names a character set containing the character `'[`. Similarly, `[[:]]` is also valid, and names a character set containing the characters `'[` and `'.'`. We need to say whether these two expressions (and their analogs for collating names) are still valid. I suspect the answer is that they're not -- a `'[` as the first character in a character class is a special character, which must be followed by one of `'.'`, `'.'`, or `'='`, then a name that does not contain any of `']`, `'.'`, `'.'`, or `'='` (technically we could allow `']`, but that seems unnecessarily baroque), then the appropriate close marker.

Resolution: Adopt the proposed resolution in N1507.

7.27 *Imprecise Specification of regex_replace*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

Finds all the non-overlapping matches 'm' of type `match_results<BidirectionalIterator>` that occur in the sequence `[first, last)`.

Having found them or not, it then writes stuff depending on its arguments. It's not clear, though, what "non-overlapping matches" are. It took me about five minutes to convince myself that these are matches of the complete expression, and not matches of internal capture groups (which would always overlap the full match). I think a footnote is sufficient for this. More important, though, is what happens when matches overlap. Suppose we're searching for "aba" in the text "ababa". There are two matches: the first three characters match, and the last three match. These two matches overlap. Do we discard them both? Keep the first? Keep the second? My guess is that the intention is to keep the first one, but we need to say so.

Resolution:

Replace the following clause:

Effects: Finds all the non-overlapping matches *m* of type `match_results<BidirectionalIterator>` that occur within the sequence `[first, last)`. If no such matches are found and `!(flags & format_no_copy)` then calls `std::copy(first, last, out)`. Otherwise, for each match found, if `!(flags & format_no_copy)` calls `std::copy(m.prefix().first, m.prefix().last, out)`, and then calls `m.format(out, fmt, flags)`. Finally if `!(flags & format_no_copy)` calls `std::copy(last_m.suffix().first, last_m.suffix().last, out)` where `last_m` is a copy of the last match found. If `flags & format_first_only` is non-zero then only the first match found is replaced.

With:

Effects: Constructs an `regex_iterator` object: `regex_iterator<BidirectionalIterator, charT, traits, Allocator> i(first, last, e, flags)`, and uses *i* to enumerate through all of the matches *m* of type `match_results<BidirectionalIterator>` that occur within the sequence `[first, last)`. If no such matches are found and `!(flags & format_no_copy)` then calls `std::copy(first, last, out)`. Otherwise, for each match found, if `!(flags & format_no_copy)` calls `std::copy(m.prefix().first, m.prefix().last, out)`, and then calls `m.format(out, fmt, flags)`. Finally if `!(flags & format_no_copy)` calls `std::copy(last_m.suffix().first, last_m.suffix().last, out)` where `last_m` is a copy of the last match found. If `flags & format_first_only` is non-zero then only the first match found is replaced.

7.28 *What is an invalid/empty regular expression?*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: Open

See N1507 for a full description. Summary: it's not clear what kind of regex object the default constructor returns, and how that interacts with the `empty()` test.

Resolution:

Discussed at Kona. The LWG agrees that the default constructor should be equivalent to construction from an empty string. Leaving this open for now partly because we need wording expressing that, and partly because it's not clear that there's any point to having the `empty()` member function in the first place.

7.29 Regular expression constructor language

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

For the `basic_regex` ctor that takes a `const charT *p`, the proposal says:

Effects: Constructs an object of class `basic_regex`; the object's internal finite state machine is constructed from the regular expression contained in the null-terminated string p...

p is not a null-terminated string. It is a pointer. The analogous phrasing for `basic_string` is:

Effects: Constructs an object of class `basic_string` and determines its initial string value from the array of `charT` of length `traits::length(s)` whose first element is designated by s ...

We need to maintain a similar level of formalism.

Resolution:

Replace the Effects clause for `basic_regex(const charT*, flag_type)` in `tr.re.regex.construct` with:

Effects: Constructs an object of class `basic_regex`; the object's internal finite state machine is constructed from the regular expression contained in the array of `charT` of length `char_traits<charT>::length(p)` whose first element is designated by p, and interpreted according to the flags specified in f. The postconditions of this function are indicated in Table ??.

7.30 Incorrect usage of “undefined”

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

In several places in the document the term “undefined” should be replaced by “unspecified”:

“Otherwise `matched` is false, and members `first` and `second` contained *undefined* values.”

“If the function returns false, then the effect on parameter *m* is *undefined*, otherwise the effects on parameter *m* are given in table RE18”

“If the function returns false, then the effect on parameter *m* is *undefined*, otherwise the effects on parameter *m* are given in table RE19”

Resolution: As above

7.31 Incorrect usage of “implementation defined”

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

In several places in the document the term “implementation defined” should be replaced by either “implementation specific” or “unspecified”:

“Type sentry performs *implementation defined* initialization of the traits class object, and represents an opportunity for the traits class to cache data obtained from the locale object.”

```
char_class_type lookup_classname(const string_type& name)
const;
```

Effects: returns an *implementation defined* value that represents the character classification name”

“Returns: converts f into a value m of type ctype_base::mask in an *implementation defined* manner”

“Effects: constructs an object result of type int. If first == last or if is_class(*first, lookup_classname("d")) == false then sets result equal to -1. Otherwise constructs a basic_istream<charT> object which uses an *implementation defined* stream buffer type which represents the character sequence [first,last), and sets the format flags on that object as appropriate for argument radix.”

Resolution: As above

7.32 Are sub_match objects all unique?

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: NAD

Are sub_match objects for non-matched capture groups required to be distinct? I can picture amatch_type implementation that holds sub_match objects only for the capture groups that matched, and returns a generic no-match object for others. Is this intended to be legal? (My inclination is that it ought to be allowed, because I don't see any good reason not to allow it).

Resolution:

No, match objects are not guaranteed to be unique; the lack of a guarantee was intentional. [Editorial issue: The editor should add a non-normative note pointing that out.]

7.33 How are Unicode escape sequences handled?

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

ECMA-Script supports character escapes of the form `"\uxxxx"`, where each 'x' is a hex digit. Each such escape sequence represents the character whose code point is the value of 'xxxx' translated to a number in the usual way. What do such character escapes mean when the character type for `basic_regex` is too small to hold that value? Do we intend to require multi-byte support here (I hope not)? Or is such a value invalid when the target character type is too small?

Resolution:

In `tr.re.grammar`, after the paragraph

When the sequence of characters being transformed to a finite state machine contains an invalid class name the translator shall throw an exception object of type `*bad_expression*`.

add the following paragraph:

If the *CV* of a *UnicodeEscapeSequence* is greater than the largest value that can be held in an object of type `charT` the translator shall throw an exception object of type `bad_expression`. [Note: this means that values of the form `"\uxxxx"` that do not fit in a character are invalid.]

7.34 Meaning of the `match_partial` flag

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: Open

RE.3.1.2 says that the `match_partial` flag

Specifies that if no match can be found, then it is acceptable to return a match `[from, last)` where `from!=last`, if there exists some sequence of characters `[from,to)` of which `[from,last)` is a prefix, and which would result in a full match.

Taking this literally, if I have the expression `"a(=?b)(?!b)"` and try to match it against `"a"`, the partial match must fail, because the two assertions are contradictory. Is the matcher really required to do this sort of analysis of the expression, and determine that there is no possible continuation that could succeed?

From the name, I would think that `partial_match` would mean, roughly, that if you reach the end of the search text but are only partway through the regular expression, that's okay. So in the example above, the partial match would succeed. Is that what's intended here?

Comment from John Maddock, on use cases for this feature:

- Searching "infinite" texts: for example two real world use cases that Boost.regex has been put to, are searching a multi-gigabyte server log, and filtering the data passing through a socket. In these cases you can't possibly load all of the text into memory to search it, so you load chunks into a buffer and search one chunk at a time. Then you need to know whether a match could have straddled two chunk boundaries: and that's what a partial match gives you, it tell you how much of the end of one chunk to hang onto before reading the next section.
- Data input validation: if the data in some field has to match some regex to be acceptable, some users want to check this character by character as it's entered - the question then becomes: "given some more input could we eventually match the expression," again that's what a partial match gives you.

This still doesn't give us a specification of the feature, but at least it gives us the motivation.

Resolution:

Replace the entry in the column "Effect if set" for `match_partial`, which currently reads

If no match is found, then it is acceptable to return a match `[from, last)` where `from != last`, if there exists some sequence of characters `[from, to)` of which `[from, last)` is a prefix, and which would result in a full match.

with

If no match is found, the implementation shall return the longest sequence `[from, last)`, where `*from != last*`, for which it cannot determine that there is no possible sequence of characters `[from, to)` of which `[from, last)` is a prefix, and which would result in a full match. If no such sequence exists the match fails.

7.35 Name of `regex_traits::is_class`

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

That name is confusing. I'd prefer `inclass`, or some variant. The function takes two arguments: a character and a character class, and tells you whether the character belongs to the class. `is_class` sounds too much like querying whether some object represents a character class.

Resolution:

Replace all occurrences of `"is_class"` with `"isctype"`.

7.36 Can `traits::error_string` be simplified?

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

In the proposal, the template `regex_traits` has a member function `error_string` that takes an error code that indicates what error occurred and returns a string corresponding to that error, which is then used as the argument to the constructor for an exception object. Seems to me it would be simpler to have `regex_traits` simply provide a function that throws the exception, called with the error code. Is this string needed for anything else?

Resolution:

Covered by the resolution to 7.18.

Rationale:

The sense of the LWG is that we should rethink the error reporting policy. A `bad_expression` object should contain a flag that represents the error, not a string constructed from the flag. The

string returned by `what()` should be left unspecified, and the `error_string` interface should probably be thrown away entirely. (Programmers who want to test exception objects to find out the exact cause of the error find codes easier to work with than strings. Programmers who want to print diagnostics for users can supply their own code-to-string mechanism.)

7.37 *Can traits::translate be improved?*

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

The `regex_traits` member function `'translate'` is used when comparing a character in the pattern string with a character in the target string. It takes two arguments: the character to translate, and a boolean flag that indicates whether the translation should be case sensitive. So two characters are equal if

```
translate(pch, icase) == translate(tch, icase)
```

So with pattern text of "abcde", checking for a match would look something like this:

```
for (int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
    if (translate(pch[i], icase) == translate(tch[i], icase))
        return false;
return true;
```

The implementation of `regex_traits::translate` in the library-supplied traits class is:

```
return (icase ? use_facet<ctype<charT> >(getloc()).tolower(ch)
: ch);
```

There's potential for a significant speedup, though, if case sensitive and case insensitive comparisons go through two different functions. The obvious transformation of the preceding loop would be:

```
if (icase)
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        if (translate_ic(pch[i]) == translate_ic(tch[i]))
            return false;
else
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; ++i)
        if (translate(pch[i]) == translate(tch[i]))
            return false;
return true;
```

For the default `regex_traits` class, the calls to `translate` in the second branch of the if statement would be inline calls to a `translate` function that simply returns its argument, so the loop turns into a sequence of direct comparisons, with no distractions from the possibility of case insensitivity. Further, since case sensitivity is determined by a flag that's set at the time the regular expression is compiled, one of the two branches of the outer if statement will always be unnecessary.

I made up the names `'translate_ic'` and `'translate'` for this e-mail. I'm not suggesting that we use them.

Resolution:

Closely related to issue 7.4, and covered by the resolution to that issue.

7.38 Improving on traits::toi

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: TR

It says, in part:

If first == last or if is_class(*first, lookup_classname("d")) == false then sets result equal to -1.

And "d" by default is the digits 0-9. Since the radix for the conversion can be 8, 10, or 16, the condition involving "d" isn't right. For a hex value it precludes the value 'a0'. For an octal value it allows '90', but the ensuing conversion will fail. We need to find a different way to express this. The idea is to return -1 on a failed conversion, and the appropriate unsigned value on success.

And further: I'm starting to think that toi is too high level an interface. Regular expression grammars go character by character. For example, the value of a HexEscapeSequence (xhh) is "(16 times the MV of the first hex digit) plus the MV of the second HexDigit". toi (hypertechnically) doesn't require that. In order to implement the specification literally, the regex parser needs to translate individual characters, not groups of characters, into values, and accumulate those values as appropriate. Thus, regex_traits ought to provide int value(charT ch), which returns -1 if isxdigit(ch) is false, otherwise the numeric value represented by the character.

And: I've just implemented it. Here are the changes I made:

- I removed escape_type_backref and escape_type_decimal
- I added escape_type_numeric (0-9)
- I added int regex_traits::value(charT ch, int base)

The first two aren't technically necessary for this change, but escape_type_backref is a bit misleading. ECMAScript doesn't restrict the number of capture groups, so \10 can be a valid back reference. This means that escape_type_backref alone isn't sufficient. So I figured it's enough to know that you're starting a numeric constant (i.e. escape_type_numeric), and then you can use value() == -1 to determine when you've reached the end of a constant.

The second argument to value is needed in order to decide whether the character is a valid digit for the base. value returns -1 for an invalid digit, and the (unsigned) numeric value for a valid digit.

Resolution:

In tr.re.escsyn, remove escape_type_backref from the list of constants of type escape_syntax_type and from Table 7.5 (escape_syntax_type values in the C locale).

In tr.re.escsyn, change the "Equivalent characters" entry for escape_type_decimal from "0" to "0123456789".

In tr.re.req, Table 7.1 (regular expression traits class requirements), remove

the entry for `*v.toi(I1, I2, i)*`.

In `tr.re.req`, add to Table 7.1 (regular expression traits class requirements) the following entry:

<code>v.value(c, I)</code>	<code>int</code>	Returns the value represented by the digit <code>*c*</code> in base <code>*I*</code> if the character <code>*c*</code> is a valid digit in base <code>*I*</code> ; otherwise returns -1. [Note: <code>*I*</code> will only be 8, 10, or 16.]
----------------------------	------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

In `tr.re.traits`, remove the declaration of the member function `*toi*` from the definition of `*regex_traits*`.

In `tr.re.traits`, add the following declaration to the definition of `*regex_traits*`:

```
int value(charT ch, int radix) const;
```

In `tr.re.traits`, remove the synopsis

```
template<class InputIterator>
int toi(InputIterator& first, InputIterator last, int radix) const;
```

and the three following paragraphs (labeled Preconditions, Effects, and Postconditions).

In `tr.re.traits`, add the synopsis

```
int value(charT ch, int radix) const;
```

followed by the following text:

Precondition: The value of `*radix*` shall be 8, 10, or 16.

Returns: the value represented by the digit `*ch*` in base `*radix*` if the character `*ch*` is a valid digit in base `*radix*`; otherwise returns -1.

In `tr.re.grammar`, change the sentence

Where the regular expression grammar requires the conversion of a sequence of characters to an integral value, this is accomplished by calling `*traits_inst.toi*`.

to

Where the regular expression grammar requires the conversion of a sequence of characters to an integral value, this is accomplished by calling `*traits_inst.value*`.

7.39 Improving on traits::lookup_classname

Submitter: Pete Becker (N1507)

Status: Duplicate

I think this needs a change in specification. It returns a value that identifies the named character class identified by its string argument. The cases I'm concerned about are the ones with names like `[:alnum:]`. When the code encounters the opening `[:` it has to scan ahead for the matching `:`, pick up the characters in between, stuff them into a string, and call `lookup_classname`. This is a

lot of wheel spinning. In particular, creating the string is expensive. If `lookup_classname` took two iterators instead of a string it could simply look at the characters without the intervening string object.

Resolution:

This is a subset of something the LWG already agreed on in principle: using an iterator interface instead of a string interface. There's no need to discuss this subpart by itself.

7.40 match_results element access functions have incorrect parameter types

Submitter: Robert Klarer

Status: TR

Section: 7.9.3 [tr.re.results.acc]

The subscripting operator for `match_results` is declared as follows:

```
const_reference operator[](int n) const;
```

This declaration is inconsistent with `std::vector<...>::operator[]`, and introduces the possibility that the function may be called incorrectly (using a negative argument).

A similar problem exists for the `length(...)`, `position(...)`, and `str(...)` members of `match_results`.

Proposed resolution:

change the declaration of the subscripting operator for `match_results` from

```
const_reference operator[](int n) const;
```

to

```
const_reference operator[](size_type n) const;
```

change the declaration of the `match_results` member function `length(...)` from

```
difference_type length(int sub = 0) const;
```

to

```
difference_type length(size_type sub = 0) const;
```

change the declaration of the `match_results` member function `position(...)` from

```
difference_type position(unsigned int sub = 0) const;
```

to

```
difference_type position(size_type sub = 0) const;
```

change the declaration of the `match_results` member function `str(...)` from

```
string_type str(int sub = 0) const;
```

to

```
string_type str(size_type sub = 0) const;
```

7.41 Regex names should be reviewed

Submitter: Matt Austern

Status: Closed

This is an outgrowth of the Kona discussion of issue 7.13. Names throughout the regex section are rather verbose; this is partly, but not entirely, a result of the `regex_` prefix that appears in so many places. We may want to consider a systematic renaming.

Resolution:

Possibly a good idea, but nobody has volunteered to do that review.

7.42 iterators have incorrect definition of difference_type

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

Issue 7.7 isn't quite complete. The fix that we made is to change the type of pointer from `"iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::pointer"` to `"const value_type*"`, and the corresponding change for reference. Looks like we missed `difference_type`, which needs a similar change.

Proposed resolution:

Change

```
typedef typename iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::difference_type
difference_type;
```

to:

```
typedef ptrdiff_t difference_type;
```

in both `[tr.re.regiter]` and `[tr.re.tokiter]`.

7.43 basic_regex::swap minor error

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

Postcondition: `*this` contains the characters that were in `e`, `e` contains the regular expression that was in `*this`.

Should be:

Postcondition: `*this` contains the regular expression that was in `e`, `e` contains the regular expression that was in `*this`.

7.44 Too many syntax options

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

7.5.1 provides the following syntax options: `normal`, `ECMAScript`, `JavaScript`, `JScript`, `basic`, `extended`, `awk`, `grep`, `egrep`, `sed`, `perl`.

There are three issues here:

1. The first four mean the same thing, and sed is the same as basic. I think we ought to pick one name for each option, rather than have multiple ways of saying the same thing. I suggest that we remove normal, JavaScript, and JScript (this means changing the default 'normal' in a bunch of places to 'ECMAScript', but I think that's an improvement, since it no longer suggests that UNIX stuff is abnormal), and that we remove 'sed'.

2. basic, extended, awk, grep, egrep, sed, and perl are all optional. The requirement is that if the functionality is supported, then these are the names that should be used. I think this is too unpredictable; we should decide to require them, or to say nothing about them. Again, in the spirit of not demeaning UNIX, I think they ought to be required. (But see below)

3. perl "Specifies that the grammar recognized by the regular expression is an implementation defined extension of the normal syntax." The name is misleading, since such an extension doesn't have to be anything like perl. That aside, the option itself isn't useful, since it makes no portable guarantees. Conforming implementations can provide their own extensions with their own names, so reserving that name without detailed semantics doesn't benefit users. I think we should remove it.

Further comments from Pete Becker (paraphrased from c++std-lib-12781):

ECMAScript is fundamentally different from the rest, all the others are fairly similar. Basic and extended have the same base syntax differ in a number of important ways. For example, basic has backreferences (like "\(abc\)d\1") and extended does not. Extended has alternation (like "alb") and basic does not. Extended supports "*", "+", and "?" for repetition, basic only supports "*".

Grep is a minor extension to basic, egrep and awk are minor extensions to extended. The awk extensions are conforming, however, and they're things "that most people probably assume are part of regular expressions."

Proposed resolution (N1623):

In section 7.5.1, eliminate the following syntax option types: normal, javascript, jscript, sed, perl.

7.45 Names recognized by regex_traits::lookup_classname

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

The effects clause for lookup_classname in [tr.re.traits] say, in part,

At least the names "d", "w", "s", "alnum",
"alpha", "blank", "cntrl", "digit", "graph",
"lower", "print", "punct", "space",
"upper" and "xdigit", shall be recognized.

In regex_traits<wchar_t> these names aren't valid strings. They need to be expressed as sequences of wide characters. There are two ways we can do that.

First, we can describe them as wide character strings directly. For regex_traits<wchar_t> this would be:

At least the names L"d", L"w", L"s", L"alnum",

L"alpha", L"blank", L"cntrl", L"digit", L"graph",
L"lower", L"print", L"punct", L"space",
L"upper" and L"xdigit", shall be recognized.

Second, we can describe them as char strings, translated at runtime:

At least the names "d", "w", "s", "alnum",
"alpha", "blank", "cntrl", "digit", "graph",
"lower", "print", "punct", "space",
"upper" and "xdigit", translated to wide
character strings by calling
use_facet<ctype<charT>>(getloc()).widen(name, name+strlen(name), tgt)
for a suitably sized array tgt, shall be recognized.

These mean two different things. The first is a compile-time translation, with an implementation-specific mapping. The second is, obviously, mapped according to the specified locale. The second is probably the one we want -- with the first it's hard for users to name those classes in their regular expressions.

The same thing applies to "For a character c" in the effects clauses for `regex_traits::syntax_type` and `regex_traits::escape_syntax_type`, to the class names and the '_' in the returns clause for `regex_traits::is_class`, and to the class names in the effects and postcondition clauses for `regex_traits::toi`.

Resolution (N1623):

In the entry for `*lookup_classname*` in table 7.1, remove the sentence "At least the names ... shall be recognized."

In the Effects clause for `*lookup_classname*`, replace the sentence

At least the names "d", "w", "s", "alnum", "alpha", "blank", "cntrl",
"digit", "graph", "lower", "print", "punct", "space", "upper" and
"xdigit" shall be recognized.

with:

For `*regex_traits<char>*`, at least the names "d", "w", "s", "alnum",
"alpha", "blank", "cntrl", "digit", "graph", "lower", "print", "punct",
"space", "upper" and "xdigit" shall be recognized. For `*regex_traits<wchar_t>*`,
at least the names L"d", L"w", L"s", L"alnum", L"alpha", L"blank", L"cntrl",
L"digit", L"graph", L"lower", L"print", L"punct", L"space", L"upper" and
L"xdigit" shall be recognized.

Resolution:

Basic question: how do we deal with names of character classes in the case of wide characters?
Option one: specify string literals like L"alpha". Option two: specify some kind of runtime widening with facets. Option one is preferred: use wide literals. There is no evidence of a problem that can't be solved that way.

7.46 *Name of error_subreg*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

error_subreg means that the regular expression had an invalid back reference. I just don't see how bad back reference turns into subreg. Should the name be changed to error_backref?

Proposed resolution:

Yes, make the change.

7.47 *Interpretation of match_not_bol and match_not_eol*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

The entry for match_not_bol says "The expression "^" is not matched against the subsequence [first,first)." The entry for match_not_eol is analogous. This is somewhat unclear. One problem is that it really should refer to '^' when used in an expression, not to the expression "^" (which is a really boring regular expression). Another is that "is not matched" doesn't really convey what should happen.

Proposed resolution:

Replace the entry in the column "Effect if set" for match_not_bol, which currently reads

The expression "^" is not matched against the subsequence [first,first)

with

The first character in the sequence [first, last) is treated as though it is not at the beginning of a line, so the character '^' in the regular expression shall not match [first,first).

Replace the entry in the column "Effect if set" for match_not_eol, which currently reads

The expression "^" is not matched against the subsequence [first,first)

with

The last character in the sequence [first, last) is treated as though it is not at the end of a line, so the character '\$' in the regular expression shall not match [last,last).

7.48 *Changing the value type of regex_token_iterator*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

`regex_token_iterator` splits a text sequence into subsequences, using `operator++` to move to the next subsequence. The subsequences are returned as string objects. Internally the iterator typically holds the result of the regular expression search in a `match_results` object, which has all the information about the match that's needed to manage iteration and construct results. In order to support `operator->` each iterator object must also hold a string object with the (internally redundant) value of the current subsequence, so that `operator->` can return that string object's address.

The overhead of this string object can be removed by changing the iterator's value type from string to `sub_match`, which means that `operator->` can return the address of a submatch object held in the `match_results` object., or by changing the value type to `pair<BidirectionalIterator, BidirectionalIterator>`, which is part of the corresponding submatch object. Users who need a string object can easily construct one from the pair of iterators.

Seems to me that the overhead of carrying around a redundant string object isn't justified by the ability to return a pointer to a string.

Resolution:

Rewrite 7.11.2 introduction as follows:

The class template `regex_token_iterator` is an iterator adapter; that is to say it represents a new view of an existing iterator sequence, by enumerating all the occurrences of a regular expression within that sequence, and presenting one or more sub-expressions for each match found. Each position enumerated by the iterator is a `sub_match` class template instance that represents what matched a particular sub-expression within the regular expression.

When class `regex_token_iterator` is used to enumerate a single sub-expression with index `-1`, then the iterator performs field splitting: that is to say it enumerates one sub-expression for each section of the character container sequence that does not match the regular expression specified.

After it is constructed, the iterator creates and stores a value `regex_iterator<BidirectionalIterator, charT, traits>` `position` and sets the internal count `N` to zero. It also maintains a sequence `subs` which contains a list of the sub-expressions which will be enumerated. Every time `operator++` is used the count `N` is incremented; if `N` exceeds or equals `this->subs.size()`, then the iterator increments member `position` and sets count `N` to zero.

If the end of sequence is reached (`position` is equal to the end of sequence iterator), the iterator becomes equal to the end-of-sequence iterator value, unless the sub-expression being enumerated has index `-1`: In which case the iterator enumerates one last sub-expression that contains the iterator range from the end of the last regular expression match to the end of the input sequence being enumerated, provided this would not be an empty string.

The constructor with no arguments, `regex_iterator()`, always constructs an end of sequence iterator object, which is the only legitimate iterator to be used for the end condition. The result of `operator*` on an end of sequence is not defined. For any other iterator value a `const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>&` is returned. The result of `operator->` on an end of sequence is not defined. For any other iterator value a `const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>*` is returned.

It is impossible to store things into `regex_iterator`'s. Two end-of-sequence iterators are always equal. An end-of-sequence iterator is not equal to a non-end-of-sequence iterator. Two non-end-of-sequence iterators are equal when they are constructed from the same arguments.

Change:

```
typedef basic_string<charT>
value_type;
```

To:

```
typedef sub_match<BidirectionalIterator> value_type;
```

Change:

```
private:
match_results<BidirectionalIterator> what; // exposition only
BidirectionalIterator end; // exposition only
const regex_type* pre; // exposition only
match_flag_type flags; // exposition only
basic_string<charT> result; // exposition only
std::size_t N; // exposition only
std::vector<int> subs; // exposition only
};
```

To:

```
private: // data members for exposition only:
    typedef regex_iterator<BidirectionalIterator, charT, traits> position_iterator;
    position_iterator position;
    const value_type *result;
    value_type suffix;
    std::size_t N;
    std::vector<int> subs;
};
```

And add the following immediately afterwards:

A *suffix iterator* points to a final sequence of characters at the end of the target sequence. In a suffix iterator the member `result` holds a pointer to the data member `suffix`, the value of the member `suffix.match` is true, `suffix.first` points to the beginning of the final sequence, and `suffix.second` points to the end of the final sequence.

[Note – for a suffix iterator, data member `suffix.first` is the same as the end of the last match found, and `suffix.second` is the same as the end of the target sequence – end note]

The *current match* is `(*position).prefix()` if `subs[N] == -1`, or `(*position)[subs[N]]` for any other value of `subs[N]`.

Then change member function definitions as follows:

```
regex_token_iterator constructors [tr.re.tokiter.cnstr]  
regex_token_iterator();
```

Effects: Constructs the end-of-sequence iterator.

```
regex_token_iterator(BidirectionalIterator a, BidirectionalIterator b,          const  
regex_type& re,          int submatch = 0,          regex_constants::match_flag_type f =  
regex_constants::match_default);
```

```
regex_token_iterator(BidirectionalIterator a, BidirectionalIterator b,  
                    const regex_type& re,  
                    const vector<int>& submatches,  
                    regex_constants::match_flag_type f = regex_constants::match_default);
```

```
template<std::size_t R>
```

```
regex_token_iterator(BidirectionalIterator a, BidirectionalIterator b,  
                    const regex_type& re,  
                    const int (&submatches)[R],  
                    regex_constants::match_flag_type f = regex_constants::match_default);
```

Effects: The first constructor initializes the member `subs` to hold the single value `submatch`. The second constructor initializes the member `subs` to hold a copy of the argument `submatches`. The third constructor sets the member `subs` to hold a copy of the sequence of integer values pointed to by the iterator range `[&submatches, &submatches + R)`.

Each constructor then sets `N` to 0, and `position` to `position_iterator(a, b, re, f)`. If `position` is not an end-of-sequence iterator the constructor sets `result` to the address of the current match.

Otherwise if any of the values stored in `subs` is equal to -1 the constructor sets `*this` to a suffix iterator that points to the range `[a,b)`, otherwise the constructor sets `*this` to an end-of-sequence iterator.

```
regex_token_iterator comparisons [tr.re.tokiter.comp]  
bool operator==(const regex_token_iterator& right);
```

Returns: true if `*this` and `right` are both end-of-sequence iterators, or if `*this` and `right` are both suffix iterators and `suffix == right.suffix`; it returns false if `*this` or `right` is an end-of-sequence iterator or a suffix iterator. Otherwise returns true if `position == right.position`, `N == right.N`, and `subs == right.subs`.

```
bool operator!=(const regex_token_iterator& right);
```

Returns: `!(*this == right)`;

```
regex_token_iterator dereference [tr.re.tokiter.deref]  
const value_type& operator*();
```

Returns: `*result`

```
const value_type *operator->();
```

Returns: `result`

```
regex_token_iterator increment [tr.re.tokiter.incr]
```

```
regex_token_iterator& operator++();
```

Effects: Constructs a local variable `prev` of type `position_iterator` and initializes it with the value of `position`. If `*this` is a suffix iterator, sets `*this` to an end-of-sequence iterator.

Otherwise, if $N+1 < \text{subs.size}()$, increments `N` and sets `result` to the address of the current match.

Otherwise, sets `N` to 0 and increments `position`. If `position` is not an end-of-sequence iterator the operator sets `result` to the address of the current match.

Otherwise if any of the values stored in `subs` is equal to -1 and `prev.suffix().length()` is not 0 the operator sets `*this` to a suffix iterator that points to the range `[prev.suffix().first, prev.suffix().second)`.

Otherwise sets `*this` to an end-of-sequence iterator.

7.49 Descriptions of comparison operators missing

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

The synopsis for the `<regex>` header (7.4) includes comparison operators between objects of type "specialization of `sub_match`" and objects of type "specialization of `basic_string`", for example:

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits,
          class Allocator>
bool operator == (
    const
    std::basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>
                    ::value_type,
                    traits, Allocator>& lhs,
    const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
```

However due to an editing error, detailed descriptions for these template comparison operators were omitted from the `sub_match` section (7.8.11), which is a pity, since these are the arguably more important than the comparison operators which are described in detail.

Resolution:

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator == (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
```

Returns: `lhs == rhs.str()`.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator != (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs != rhs.str().
```

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator < (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs < rhs.str().
```

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator > (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs > rhs.str().
```

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator >= (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs >= rhs.str().
```

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator <= (const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits,
Allocator>& lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs <= rhs.str().
```

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator == (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
```

```
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() == rhs.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator != (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() != rhs.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator < (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() < rhs.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator > (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() > rhs.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator >= (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() >= rhs.

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class traits, class
Allocator>
bool operator <= (const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& lhs,
const
basic_string<iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
traits, Allocator>& rhs);
```

Returns: lhs.str() <= rhs.

7.50 Convenience typedefs for regex_iterator and regex_token_iterator

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

The `match_results` class template has the following typedefs defined for it, on the grounds that these template instances are used sufficiently frequently to make them useful, indeed these particular template instances are used almost to the exclusion of all others (a bit like `std::string` and `std::wstring`):

```
typedef match_results<const char*> cmatch;
typedef match_results<const wchar_t*> wcmatch;
typedef match_results<string::const_iterator> smatch;
typedef match_results<wstring::const_iterator> wsmatch;
```

However the class templates `regex_iterator` and `regex_token_iterator` have no such typedefs defined for them, in spite of the fact that these are also almost always instantiated for the same types as `match_results` is. I would like to propose that the following typedefs are added to section 7.4:

After:

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator,
class charT =
iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
class traits = regex_traits<charT>,
class Allocator = allocator<charT> >
class regex_iterator;
```

add:

```
typedef regex_iterator<const char*>
cregex_iterator; typedef
regex_iterator<std::string::const_iterator>
sregex_iterator; typedef
regex_iterator<const wchar_t*>
wcregex_iterator; typedef
regex_iterator<std::wstring::const_iterator> wsregex_iterator;
```

after:

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator,
class charT =
iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type,
class traits = regex_traits<charT>,
class Allocator = allocator<charT> >
class regex_token_iterator;
```

add:

```
typedef regex_token_iterator<const char*> cregex_token_iterator;
typedef regex_token_iterator<std::string::const_iterator>
```

```
sregex_token_iterator;
typedef regex_token_iterator<const wchar_t*>
wcregex_token_iterator;
typedef regex_token_iterator<<std::wstring::const_iterator>
wsregex_token_iterator;
```

Finally, while we're at it, the corresponding typedefs for `sub_match` could be added as well:

```
typedef sub_match<const char*> csub_match;
typedef sub_match<const wchar_t*> wsub_match;
typedef sub_match<string::const_iterator> ssub_match;
typedef sub_match<wstring::const_iterator> wssub_match;
```

7.51 Do basic_string comparison operators mandate an inefficient implementation?

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: Closed

The current text for the `basic_string` comparison operators has definitions such as:

```
template<class charT, class traits, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const charT* lhs, const
basic_string<charT,traits,Allocator>& rhs);
Returns: basic_string<charT,traits,Allocator>(lhs) == rhs.
```

A particularly literalist interpretation of this, would result in an unnecessarily inefficient implementation which created a temporary string object, even though a more efficient iterator-based comparison (with identical comparison semantics) is possible. I believe that a specialization of `basic_string` could conceivably detect which implementation technique is used. Likewise in `<regex>` we have proposed:

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator>
bool operator == (typename
iterator_traits<BidirectionalIterator>::value_type const* lhs,
const sub_match<BidirectionalIterator>& rhs);
Returns: lhs == rhs.str().
```

Which would result in two `basic_string` temporaries being created (one by the `sub_match` comparison operator and one by the `basic_string` operator to which it delegates).

In both of these cases, I think the text is clear, concise and to the point, and I don't see any better way of expressing the semantics involved, but do we need to clarify how much latitude in interpreting the "as if" rule implementers have, or am I being unnecessarily pedantic?

Rationale:

This should be filed as an issue against clause 17. It's not really an issue with the TR, and in fact the very first example in this issue applies to clause 21 of the standard, not something in the TR.

But it also appears to be a non-issue. A "Returns" clause says what value is returned, not how to compute it. Possibly clause 17 should be clarified (with a non-normative note) to say, once more, that a "returns" clause does not require side effects. Possibly the "effects" clause isn't clear enough on whether it requires side effects, but "returns" seems adequately clear.

7.52 Resolution to DR 7.1 was incomplete

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

The resolution to issue TR.DR.7.1 was incomplete, in particular since the member functions `str()` and `size()` have been removed from `basic_regex`, then the entries for these members must be removed from the tables 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, 7.11, 7.12 and 7.13.

7.53 Resolution to DR 7.22 was incomplete

Submitter: John Maddock

Status: TR

The changes made to solve issue 7.22 were incomplete, specifically:

p175 section 7.11.1, table 7.16: the entry for `m.size()` should read:

```
1 + e.mark_count()
```

This was addressed in issue 7.22, but we missed the fact that this table also has to change to match the change for `match_results::size()`.

p177 section 7.11.2, table 7.17: the entry for `m.size()` should read:

```
1 + e.mark_count()
```

This was addressed in issue 7.22, but we missed the fact that this table also has to change to match the change for `match_results::size()`.

7.54 Format_no_copy specified incorrectly

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: New

In `[tr.re.matchflag]` (7.5.2) the specification for `format_no_copy` says:

During a search and replace operation, sections of the character container sequence being searched that do match the regular expression are not copied to the output string.

This should be "... that do **not** match ...".

7.55 *typo in regex_token_iterator::operator++*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: New

In [tr.re.tokiter.incr] (7.12.2.4), the first paragraph of the Effects: clause describes a variable of type `position_iterator` named 'prev'. In the next to last paragraph of the Effects: clause we refer to 'prev.suffix()' in three places. These should be 'prev->suffix()'.

7.56 *match_results stream inserter not specified*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: New

In [tr.re.syn] (7.2.4) the synopsis includes

```
template <class charT, class traits,
class BidirectionalIterator, class Allocator>
basic_ostream<charT, traits>&
operator << (basic_ostream<charT, traits>& os,
const match_results<BidirectionalIterator, Allocator>& m);
```

but there is no specification for this function. That's also the case in N1429. There's no obvious meaning for this function, so unless John disagrees I recommend we remove it from the synopsis.

Further comments from John Maddock:

It's worse than that: I appear to have been omitted all of the `match_results` non-members:

```
operator ==
operator !=
operator <<
and non-member swap.
```

However, having done a quick double check, it appears that containers like `vector<>` rely on the container/sequence requirements for the semantics of `operator==` and `operator!=`, and don't explicitly document them anywhere, so it appears that we can do the same here. The other two should be documented though, and semantics are straightforward:

```
template <class charT, class traits,
class BidirectionalIterator,
class Allocator>
basic_ostream<charT, traits>&
operator << (basic_ostream<charT, traits>& os,
const match_results<BidirectionalIterator, Allocator>& m);
```

Returns: `os << m.str();`

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator, class Allocator>
void swap(match_results<BidirectionalIterator, Allocator>& m1,
match_results<BidirectionalIterator, Allocator>& m2);
```

Effects: `m1.swap(m2);`

Further comments from Pete Becker:

Pete agrees with the specification of `swap`. With regards to the `match_results` inserter, however, he writes:

Well, maybe. <g> This is the one that I said doesn't have an obvious meaning. A `match_results` object holds more information than this provides. In fact this result is equivalent to `os << m[0]`. (I'm not suggesting that as an alternative formulation: if we want those semantics, `m.str()` is the right way to say it. I mention it only to emphasize what's missing.) In general we don't provide inserters for containers, in part because it's not clear what ought to be inserted. I think users would be surprised if a vector inserter, for example, inserted only the first element. That's not a perfect analogy, because the rest of the matching strings in a `match_results` object are contained in that first element. Still, I lean toward leaving this one out.

7.57 *Imprecise Specification of `match_results::size`*

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: New

TR1 currently says:

```
size_type size() const;
```

Returns: One plus the number of marked sub-expressions in the regular expression that was matched.

But `match_results` has a default constructor, with the postcondition that `size() == 0`. In that case no regular expression was matched. Also, in the phrase "the regular expression that was matched", the last word suggests that the search must have succeeded.

Proposed resolution:

In [tr.re.results.size] (7.10.2), change the Returns clause for the `size` member function from

Returns: One plus the number of marked sub-expressions in the regular expression that was matched.

to

Returns: 0 if no search was made, otherwise one plus the number of marked sub-expressions in the regular expression that was searched.

8 Fixed-size array issues

8.1 *Is "array" the right name?*

Submitter: Robert Klarer

Status: NAD

The name `array` may be confusing, since `array<T>` is not in fact an array; the `is_array` type trait, for example, will return false for `array<T>`. (As it should.) Perhaps another name would make this less surprising.

Rationale:

Very few people have reason to care about the return value of `is_array`, and those people know that they're testing for builtin arrays as used in the core section of the standard. The only other suggestion that attracted any support was "block", and, by a 6-2 straw poll, the LWG preferred to keep the name "array" instead of changing it to "block".

8.2 *Front() and back() for zero-sized arrays*

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: TR

Zero-sized arrays are explicitly legal, and `begin()` and `end()` have well-defined semantics. However, the `front()` and `back()` operations, which return the first and last elements respectively, are meaningless if there is no element to be returned. What should their behavior be for zero-element arrays? Informally, the three choices are: mandate a compile-time error (*e.g.* remove them from the specialization), mandate an exception, and allow undefined behavior.

Proposed resolution: (see N1624)

Add a clause to section 6.2.2 [tr.array.array]: "The effect of calling `front()` or `back()` for a zero-sized array is implementation defined."

Discussion:

Sydney: We considered four options: (a) compile-time error. (b) exception. (c) implementation defined (d) undefined behavior. Results: 0-1-5-2.

8.3 *Should `array<>::elems` be exposed as part of the interface?*

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: TR

The member variable containing the array elements must be public, since `array<>` is required to be a POD type. However, that doesn't necessarily mean that it has to be exposed to users. In principle, an implementation could hide it by giving it a name like `_M_elems`. Should we keep it as a public part of the interface with the name `elems`, or should we require implementers to hide it?

Proposed resolution:

Mark the name of this member variable as "exposition only" and put in a non-normative note saying that it is not part of `array<>`'s interface.

8.4 *Should `array<>` be given a tuple interface?*

Submitter: Howard Hinnant

Status: TR

Resolution: (see N1624)

6.1.1 Header `<tuple>` synopsis

Add:

```
template <class T, size_t N > struct array;

template <class T, size_t N>          struct
tuple_size<array<T, N> >;
template <int I, class T, size_t N> struct tuple_element<I,
array<T, N> >;

template <int I, class T, size_t N>    T& get(
array<T, N>&);
template <int I, class T, size_t N> const T& get(const
array<T, N>&);
```

6.1.4

Add a new section 6.1.4

`tuple_size<array<T, N> >::value`

Type: integral constant expression.
Value: N

`tuple_element<I, array<T, N> >::type`

Requires: $0 \leq I < N$. The program is ill-formed if I is out of bounds.
Value: The type T.

```
template <int I, class T, size_t N> T& get(array<T, N>& a);
```

Requires: $0 \leq I < N$. The program is ill-formed if I is out of bounds.
Return type: T&.
Returns: A reference to the Ith element of a, where indexing is zero-based.

```
template <int I, class T, size_t N> const T& get(const
array<T, N>& a);
```

Requires: $0 \leq I < N$. The program is ill-formed if I is out of bounds.
Return type: const T&.
Returns: A const reference to the Ith element of a, where indexing is zero-based.

9 Iterator concept and adapter issues

This section has been removed, because iterator concepts and adapters have been removed from the TR.

10 Function object and reference_wrapper issues

10.1 Return types of reference wrapper functions

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: TR

c++std-lib-12598:

Hopefully just picking up a couple of typos

2.1.1 function templates ref and cref do not declare return types.

2.1.2 and 2.1.2.4: member functions operator() and get() do not declare return types.

All the above require clearly defined return values in later clauses, but current drafting suggests a header that will not compile.

Resolution:

It appears that the return types were mysteriously eaten somewhere between N1436 (the original proposal, pre-Oxford) and N1453 (post-Oxford). They should be:

```
template<typename T> reference_wrapper<T> ref(T&);
template<typename T> reference_wrapper<const T> cref(const
T&);
operator T&() const;
T& get() const;
```

10.2 Swapping functions

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: TR

c++std-lib-12603:

TR 3.4.3 declares a function template to swap functions of different type, with different allocators:

```
template< typename Function1, typename Allocator1,
          typename Function2, typename Allocator2 >
void swap( function< Function1, Allocator1> &f1,
          function< Function2, Allocator2 > & f2);
```

The effects clause is that this is equivalent to f1.swap(f2);

Yet IIUC, the member function swap is only defined for functions of the same type.

N1661


```

template<...> class function
{
    ...
    void swap( function & );
    ...
};

```

Resolution:

The synopsis in 3.4.1 is correct, as is the definition in 3.4.3.5. The synopsis for swap then shows up (incorrectly, as you point out) in 3.4.3 along with the function class template definition.

10.3 Should function wrapper take allocator template argument?

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: TR

Some time back we discussed whether function objects should have allocators. In essence, the issue is that allocators are designed for use with containers, and function objects aren't containers. On the other hand, function objects typically allocate small blocks (if they allocate anything at all), and some applications could benefit from optimizing these allocations.

Proposed resolution:

Get rid of the allocators.

10.4 Argument passing for reference_wrapper::operator()

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: Open

The function call operator for class template reference_wrapper is declared as follows:

```

template <typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN>
    typename result_of<T(T1, T2, ..., TN)>::type
    operator()(T1, T2, ..., TN) const;

```

This means that arguments are copied when they are passed through reference_wrapper, which was an unintended consequence of an editorial error introduced in N1453 (relative to N1436). Class template reference_wrapper should follow the same argument-forwarding procedures as the function object binders (TR 3.3) by accepting parameters via non-const reference.

Resolution:

Replace the above declaration in 2.1.2.3 and the summary in 2.1.2 with the following declaration:

```

template <typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN>
    typename result_of<T(T1, T2, ..., TN)>::type
    operator()(T1, T2, ..., TN) const;

```

Note that if the proposed resolution to issue #10.TBD is accepted, the declaration should be replaced with:

```
template <typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN>
    typename result_of<T(T1, T2, ..., TN)>::type
    operator()(T1&, T2&, ..., TN&) const;
```

Unclear whether changing to the reference version is good enough: don't we need const reference too, to bind to rvalues? If so, doesn't this imply 2^N versions? This is an instance of the forwarding problem.

10.5 Callable definition does not match function semantics

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

In section 3.4.3, the definition of Callable uses `static_cast` in an unsafe manner, introducing unsafe downcasts. Example:

```
class A {};
class D : public A {};

A* f();
function<D*(void)> g;
g = f; // compiles, but with a dangerous cast from A* to D*
```

Resolution:

Replace the following paragraph in 3.4.3:

"A function object `f` of type `F` is Callable given a set of argument types `T1`, `T2`, ..., `TN` and a return type `R`, if the appropriate following function definition is well-formed:

```
// If F is not a pointer to member function
R callable(F& f, T1 t1, T2 t2, ..., TN tN)
{
    return static_cast<R>(f(t1, t2, ..., tN));
}

// If F is a pointer to member function
R callable(F f, T1 t1, T2 t2, ..., TN tN)
{
    return static_cast<R>(((t1).*f)(t2, t3, ..., tN));
}"
```

with

"A function object `f` of type `F` is Callback given a set of argument types `T1`, `T2`, ..., `TN` and a return type `R`, if one of the following conditions holds given rvalues `t1`, `t2`, ..., `tN` of types `T1`, `T2`, ..., `TN`, respectively:

- * If `F` is not a pointer to member function type, the expression

$f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N)$ is well-formed and is convertible to R.

* If F is a pointer to member function type, the expression `mem_fn(f)(t1, t2, ..., tN)` is well-formed and is convertible to R."

10.6 Class template function supports only unary and binary member function pointers.

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

c++std-ext-5560

In section 3.4.3, the definition of Callable supports object pointers and smart pointers when calling a target member function pointer, via the call expression "`((*t1).*f)(t2, ..., tN)`." This definition, and the use of `mem_fun` in 3.4.3.1, limit class template `function<>` to supporting member functions only when:

- 1) the `function<>` instantiation is unary or binary (`mem_fun` only supports unary and binary member function pointers).
- 2) the first function parameter of the `function<>` instantiation is a pointer (`mem_fun` requires its first parameter to be a pointer).

This formulation is overly restrictive. For instance, this formulation does not support the following usage that has been demonstrated to be useful in the Boost.Function library on which class template 'function' was modeled:

```
struct A {
    void f(int, float, double);
};

function<void(A&, int, float, double)> g;
g = &A::f; // ill-formed due to callable requires,
```

Resolution:

* In the definition of Callable in section 3.4.3, replace the expression "`((*t1).*f)(t2, ..., tN)`" with "`mem_fn(f)(t1, t2, ..., tN)`." [Note that this change propagates to the proposed resolution of issue #10.5 as well.]

* In 3.4.3.1, replace the instance of "`mem_fun`" with "`mem_fn`".

10.7 Implementations need not define the function<> conversion operator type.

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

c++std-ext-5558

Section 3.4.3.3 has the following "boolean-like" conversion operator:

```
operator implementation-defined() const;
```

This requires that implementors document the type of this conversion operator. However, this type should not be documentation because it should not be relied upon by users. There is precedent for calling this type "*unspecified-bool-type*" (see 2.2.3.5 [tr.util.smartptr.shared.assign]).

Resolution:

Replace the implementation-defined operator declaration in 3.4.3.3 and 3.4.3 with:

```
operator unspecified-bool-type() const;
```

The fundamental problem is that we're saying "implementation defined" when we don't really mean it. (Note to editor: put in a cross reference so we know what it means to say unspecified-bool-type. We use it elsewhere.)

10.8 Class template function should have null pointer assignment/comparison operations.

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: Open

Class template function should provide assignment/initialization from and comparison against the null pointer constant to achieve greater source compatibility with function pointers. For instance, the following (currently ill-formed) syntax should be legal:

```
function<void(int)> f(0); // same as default construction: no target
if (f == 0) {} // evaluates true: f has no target
f = NULL; // removes f's target. f now has no target
if (f != NULL) {} // evaluates false: f has no target
```

When this new syntax is available, the `empty` and `clear` member functions become redundant and should be removed.

Historically, the assignment/initialization from the `NULL` pointer constant was not supported because the author had not found a suitable implementation. The comparison syntax, although not explicitly supported, has been available in all known implementations due to the formulation of the `function<>` conversion operator. Assignment/initialization are now known to be implementable without any unsafe "loopholes."

Resolution:

Introduce a new constructor into 3.4.3.1, with the following description:

```
function(unspecified-null-pointer-type);
```

Postconditions: `(bool) (*this);`

Throws: will not throw.

Introduce a new assignment operator into 3.4.3.1, with the following description:

```
function& operator=(unspecified-null-pointer-type);
```

Effects: If `(bool)(*this)`, deallocates current target.

Postconditions: `!(*this)`.

Add a new subsection to 3.4.3 titled “null pointer comparison operators” containing the following:

```
template<typename R, typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN,
        typename Allocator>
    bool operator==(const function<R(T1, T2, ..., TN), Allocator>& f,
                   unspecified-null-pointer-type);
template<typename R, typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN,
        typename Allocator>
    bool operator==( unspecified-null-pointer-type,
                   const function<R(T1, T2, ..., TN), Allocator>& f);
```

Returns: `!f`

Throws: will not throw.

```
template<typename R, typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN,
        typename Allocator>
    bool operator!=(const function<R(T1, T2, ..., TN), Allocator>& f,
                   unspecified-null-pointer-type);
template<typename R, typename T1, typename T2, ..., typename TN,
        typename Allocator>
    bool operator!=( unspecified-null-pointer-type,
                   const function<R(T1, T2, ..., TN), Allocator>& f);
```

Returns: `(bool)f`

Throws: will not throw.

Introduce the above new declarations into the summary in section 3.4.3.

Remove the definitions of the `empty` and `clear` member functions from section 3.4.3.3 and 3.4.3.2, respectively, and from the summary in section 3.4.3.

Replace the string “`this->empty()`” with “`(bool)(*this)`” throughout section 3.4.3.

Replace the **Returns** clause for the conversion operator in 3.4.3.3 with:

Returns: if `*this` has a target, returns a value that will evaluate true in a boolean context; otherwise, returns a value that will evaluate false in a boolean context. The value type returned shall not be convertible to `int`.

Notes from Sydney:

The functionality is useful, but putting in an *unspecified-null-pointer-type* isn't a great idea. We need better specification. Other than the specification issue, everyone agrees that this is a good idea. We will try to fix it in Redmond.

10.9 result_of template type parameter unrelated to description

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

Section 3.1.2 should relate the template parameter "FunctionCallTypes" to the types F, T1, T2, ..., TN used in the description.

Resolution:

Introduce a comment in the class definition noting the function type F(T1, T2, ..., TN):

```
template<typename FunctionCallTypes> // F(T1, T2, ..., TN)
class result_of {
public :
    // types
    typedef unspecified type;
};
```

10.10 result_of should be based on rvalues, not lvalues

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: Open

c++std-lib-12752

In the first paragraph of section 3.1.2, the use of the word "lvalue" limits result_of's usefulness.

Resolution:

Replace each instance of "lvalue" with "rvalue", and add the phrase "reference types Ti" are treated as lvalues" to the first paragraph of section 3.1.2. The new paragraph should be:

"Given an rvalue f of type F and values t1, t2, ..., tN of types T1, T2, ..., TN, respectively, the type member type defines the result type of the expression f(t1, t2, ..., tN). The values ti are lvalues when the corresponding type Ti is a reference type, and rvalues otherwise."

This may require a change in 2.1.2.3, if the resolution to 10.4 is accepted.

In section 3.3.4, replace instances of `result_of<R(T)>::type` with `result_of<R(T&)>::type` and instances of `result_of<R(T1, T2, ..., Tn)>::type` with `result_of<R(T1&, T2&, ..., Tn&)>::type`.

Notes from Sydney:

This looks like a good idea but it's too closely related to 10.4, which we don't think we understand well enough.

10.11 result_of can not work for function and member function types

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

In section 3.1.2, bullet #1 starts with "If F is a function

type...". F can be a function pointer or function reference, but it cannot be a function type because it is encoded as the return type of a function.

In section 3.1.2, bullet #2 starts with "If F is a member function type". F cannot be a member function type.

Resolution:

Replace the first phrase in section 3.1.2, bullet #1 with "If F is a function pointer or function reference type".

Replace the first phrase of section 3.1.2, bullet #2 with "If F is a member function pointer type".

10.12 should result_of support cv-qualified class types?

Submitter: Doug Gregor

Status: TR

In section 3.1.2, bullets #4 and #5 start with "If F is a class type...", which excludes cv-qualified class types. However, cv-qualified class types are explicitly mentioned in the rationale (see N1454).

Resolution:

Replace the phrase "If F is a class type" with "If F is a possibly cv-qualified class type" in section 3.1.2, bullets #4 and #5.

10.13 Bad_function_call should inherit from std::exception, not std::runtime_error

Submitter: Howard Hinnant

Status: TR

The exception class `bad_function_call` currently derives from `runtime_error`, but has no constructor taking a client-defined string. Deriving from `runtime_error` is much more expensive than deriving from `exception` because `runtime_error` must support a general client-defined string whereas `exception` does not. Therefore I recommend that `bad_function_call` derive from `exception` (like `bad_alloc`, `bad_cast`, `bad_typeid`, etc.).

10.14 Function call limits

Submitter: Pete Becker

Status: Open

We've got several templates that deal with functions that take varying numbers of arguments:

- template class 'result_of' takes a function type argument with up to N arguments
- template function 'mem_fn' supports member functions with up to n arguments (value is implementation defined)

- template function 'bind' supports functions with up to some implementation defined number of arguments
- template class 'function' supports functions with up to Nmax arguments (value is implementation defined)
- template class 'reference_wrapper' has a function call operator that supports up to N arguments

A typical implementation will share code among these templates in various ways, with the result being that the maximum number of arguments will be the same for most or all of them. It would be easier for users if we made this a requirement: that all of these templates support the same number of function arguments, so there's only one value to specify. Is there an advantage to keeping them separate?

In the same vein, we have several different styles for describing these argument lists; we really need to describe them in the same way. One way to do this would be to put the descriptive text into a subclause with a title that's something like "function call types" and refer to that text from the appropriate places.

Proposed resolution:

Add a new subclause to Clause 1 [tr.intro]:

Forwarding Functions [tr.intro.forward]

Several of the templates defined in this Technical Report provide a set of function call operators that forward their arguments to the function call operator defined by a contained function pointer, pointer to member function, or function object. These *forwarding functions* take from 0 (or 1 in the case of an object that forwards to a member function) up to an implementation-defined maximum number of arguments. This maximum shall be no less than the value specified in Annex XX.

In Clause 2.1.2.3 [tr.util.refwfp.invoke], add the following sentence before the Effects clause:

The template member functions define a set of forwarding functions ([\ref{tr.intro.forward}](#)).

In Clause 3.1.2 [tr.func.ret.ret], after the sentence "Given an lvalue f of type F and lvalues t1, t2, ..., tN of types T1, T2, ..., TN, respectively, the *type* member type defines the return type of the expression $f(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N)$ " add the following sentence:

The value of N shall be the same as the maximum number of arguments that the implementation supports in a call to a forwarding function ([\ref{tr.intro.forward}](#)).

In Clause 3.2.2 [tr.func.memfn.memfn], change the first bullet item in the Returns clause from:

When `pm` is a pointer to a member function taking `n` arguments, a function object `f` such that the expression `f(t, a1, ..., an)` is equivalent to `(t.*pm)(a1, ..., an)` when `t` is an lvalue of type `T` or derived from `T`, `((*t).*pm)(a1, ..., an)` otherwise.

to:

When `pm` is a pointer to a member function taking `n` arguments, a function object `f` that defines a set of forwarding functions ([\ref{tr.intro.forward}](#)) such that the expression `f(t, a1, ..., an)` is equivalent to `(t.*pm)(a1, ..., an)` when `t` is an lvalue of type `T` or derived from `T`, `((*t).*pm)(a1, ..., an)` otherwise.

Remove Clause 3.2.3 [[tr.func.memfn.lim](#)].

In Clause 3.3.4 [[tr.func.bind.bind](#)], add a new opening paragraph:

The maximum number of arguments to the function template `bind`, in addition to the function object (or pointer to member), is implementation defined, and shall not be less than the value specified in Annex XX. Each function template `bind` returns a type that defines a set of forwarding functions ([\ref{tr.intro.forward}](#)).

In the same clause, remove the sentence

The maximum number of supported arguments (`N` in the synopsis) is implementation defined.

In Clause 3.4.3.4 [[tr.func.wrap.func.inv](#)], add the following sentence before the Effects clause:

The template member functions define a set of forwarding functions ([\ref{tr.intro.forward}](#)).

In Clause 4.3.2 [[tr.meta.unary.cat](#)], add the following sentence to the description of the template `is_member_function_pointer`:

The maximum number of arguments to the member function pointer type `T` is implementation defined, and shall not be less than the value specified in Annex XX for the number of arguments to a set of forwarding functions.

In Clause 4.3.2 [[tr.meta.unary.cat](#)], add the following sentence to the description of the template `is_function_pointer`:

The maximum number of arguments to the function pointer type `T` is implementation defined, and shall not be less than the value specified in Annex XX for the number of arguments to a set of forwarding functions.

Add a normative annex [limits] with the following contents:

The implementation shall support every one of the following limits:

- at least 10 arguments to a set of forwarding functions
- at least 11 arguments to a *bind* function in addition to the function object (or pointer to member)

10.15 Missing return types for functions in 2.1.1

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: Duplicate

The synopsis for the functions in 2.1.1 [tr.util.refwrp.synopsis] lacks the return types.

Proposed Resolution:

Add the missing return types, ie. replace

```
template <typename T> ref(T&);  
template <typename T> cref(const T&);
```

by

```
template <typename T> reference_wrapper<T> ref(T&);  
template <typename T> reference_wrapper<const T> cref(const T&);
```

10.16 Ref() should be overloaded for const types

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: NAD

As the TR already allows binding of reference wrappers to constant objects and supports this with the 'cref()' function, there seems to be no reason why 'ref()' should not provide a uniform approach to creating a reference wrapper, even if the argument is itself a constant. That is, it seems that there should be an additional overload for the 'ref()' function.

It is unclear whether this is an accidental omission or if the omission of the overload taking a 'T const&' is deliberate. If it is deliberate, I would be interested in the reason.

Proposed Resolution:

Add the signature

```
template <typename T> reference_wrapper<const T> ref(const T&);
```

to 2.1.1 [tr.util.refwrp.synopsis]. Also add the corresponding description to 2.1.2.4 [tr.util.refwrp.helpers], ie. add

```
template <typename T> reference_wrapper const T> ref(const T&);
```

Returns: reference_wrapper<const T>(t)

Throws: Does not throw

10.17 Unclear description of multi-argument function

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: Open

The class definition in 2.1.2 [tr.util.refwrp.refwrp] mentions a member function template with "N" parameters. As stated, the semantics is unclear to me: is the intention that there is *one* function with N parameters for a fixed N? This would be pretty useless because the user of this function would have to specify this unknown number of parameters. I guess, the notation is intended to mean that the function call operator is overloaded for 1, 2, ..., N parameters. This should, IMO, be stated explicitly.

Also, the function uses 'result_of<...>::type' rather than the already declared 'result_type'. Even worse the 'result_of<...>' class template is nowhere mentioned again.

Discussion from Sydney:

Two questions. First: does this notation imply zero or more arguments? Second: do we mean to include variadic functions? Leave open. We don't have a solution yet.

10.18 Missing return types in 2.1.2

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: TR

In the body of the 'reference_wrapper' class template various return types are missing. Also, the type 'result_type' is not at mentioned in the body. The latter may be intentional, however.

The missing return types were discussed on the mailing list. Although this was quite a while ago I don't see the correction being reflected. This should be a trivial change:

Proposed Resolution:

In the class synopsis for `reference_wrapper` in 2.1.2 [tr.util.refwrp.refwrp]:

- Add the declaration:

```
typedef ... result_type; // not always defined (see below)
```
- Add result types for the member functions in the "access" section, changing that section to:

```
// access
operator T&() const;
T& get() const;
```

10.19 Underspecification of reference wrapper assignment

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: Open

The sentence right below the class template in 2.1.2 [tr.util.refwrp.refwrp] states that ‘reference_wrapper<T>’ is an Assignable wrapper around a reference. This seems to imply that the class template stores a reference to ‘T’. This interpretation is confirmed in later sections explicitly talking of “the stored reference”. Unfortunately, there are no semantics given for the assignment operator: the generated assignment operator is not applicable if the class stores a reference.

My personal guess is that the intended semantics with respect to the assignment operator are those implemented by ‘boost::reference_wrapper<T>’: this class does not store a reference but a pointer to the object. Assigning to a ‘reference_wrapper<T>’ replaces the internally stored pointer such that the wrapper actually references a different object.

The tricky issue is that the address operator (unary &) can be overloaded. The Boost implementation avoids this problem by using ‘boost::addressof()’ which does some ugly casts to obtain the address to the actual object. If this seems to be unfit for a standard library, there are a few possible resolutions I can think of:

- Either require the type ‘T’ to have a “reasonable” address operator, ie. a non-overloaded one or an overloaded one which still does the “Right Thing”.
- The “Assignable” guarantee has to be dropped. This course of action may actually be a suitable alternative: at least with my limited fantasy I could not come up with a simple example of using the reference wrapper while also needing assignment.
- The semantics of the assignment operator can be spelled out explicitly, avoiding reliance on the generated semantics. Possible implementations include the ‘addressof()’ hack from Boost or use of explicit destruction and placement new for a nested member really storing a reference.

From a discussion on the mailing list I gather that the pointer representation seems to be the intent.

Discussion from Sydney:

We want to store a pointer, not a reference. (Or rather, we want to describe the semantics in ways that allow a pointer-based implementation; we don't want to prescribe it.) We need wording to that effect. Leave this issue open for Redmond.

10.20 Missing return types in 2.1.2.2

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: TR

The signatures in this paragraph again lack the return type. This should also be a trivial correction.

Proposed resolution:

In 2.1.2.2 [tr.util.refwrp.access] replace the [broken] signature

```
operator () const;  
by  
operator T& () const;
```

and the [broken] signature

```
get() const;  
by  
T& get() const;
```

10.21 Garbled description of reference wrapper invocation

Submitter: Dietmar Kuehl

Status: Open

This whole paragraph is entirely messed up! Here are the things I have noted:

- There is an object "f" used which is mentioned nowhere else.
- There is class template "result_of<...>" used which is nowhere defined.
- Bullet 2. in 2.1.2 [tr.util.refwrp.refwrp] seems to indicate that the reference wrapper should be applicable to member function pointers.

The notation given in 2.1.2.3 [tr.util.refwrp.invoke] is not suitable for calling member functions.

- As given, this stuff seems not to apply to functions without arguments.

I think this whole paragraph needs new wording.

There is another IMO major issue with the stuff which makes the whole approach to function forwarding somewhat questionable: the member function templates forwarding the function call to the referenced object take their parameters by value. This may yield surprising results if the called function actually takes arguments by reference:

- A function taking a reference may suddenly appear to allow calling it using a non-lvalue, for example:

```
#include <utility>  
void f(int&);  
int main() {  
    f(10);           // illegal  
    std::tr1::cref(&f)(10); // legal!  
}
```

- The function arguments are copied although the called function might accept reference and const reference arguments. Of course, this problem can be worked around using the reference wrapper...

For function pointers or member function pointers the forward problem can be solved relatively simple by accepting exactly the parameters of the given function. I don't have a solution for this problem if functors are involved because in this case the function call operator may be

overloaded or may even be a member function template. Of course, if the function call operator is overloaded, the use of a single result type may also be questionable.

I haven't provided revised wording because it is unclear to me how this should look like: the wording depends on how, if at all, the forwarding issue is resolved.

Notes from Sydney:

Part of this is a duplicate of 10.4. Part of it is related to 10.5, but it doesn't appear to be a duplicate. Leave this open for now; we can't do much with this until we get new wording.

11 Tuple issues

11.1 Implementation limits: nonexistent Annex B

Submitter: Alisdair Meredith

Status: Editorial

In the description of tuple (TR 6.1) it refers to Annex B for the recommended minimum no. of elements.

As yet the TR has no annexes, and other libraries specify recommendations directly in their descriptions.

Tuple should either make its own recommendation (10?) or we should spawn an annex and put all such recommendations in one place (as per original standard)

Resolution:

We should create an annex for implementation limits.