

Understanding &&



By Scott Schurr for C++ Now 2014

Disclaimer

- These slides are based on C++11 and C++14
- Future revisions of the standard may render these slides obsolete

Helpers

```
#include <type_traits>           // numerous helpers
#include <cassert>                 // assert
#include <string>                  // std::string
#include <vector>                  // std::vector
#include <memory>                  // std::unique_ptr<>

#define STATIC_ASSERT(...) \
    static_assert(__VA_ARGS__, #__VA_ARGS__)
```

Topics

- **Move Motivation and Background**
- Implementing Move
- Universal References and Perfect Forwarding
- Overloading With Universal References
- Summary

Mooove Motivation and Background



Why Move Semantics?

- Primarily to improve performance in specific, important cases
- Secondly allows non-copyable types to move from one scope to another
 - E.g, return an `fstream` from a function

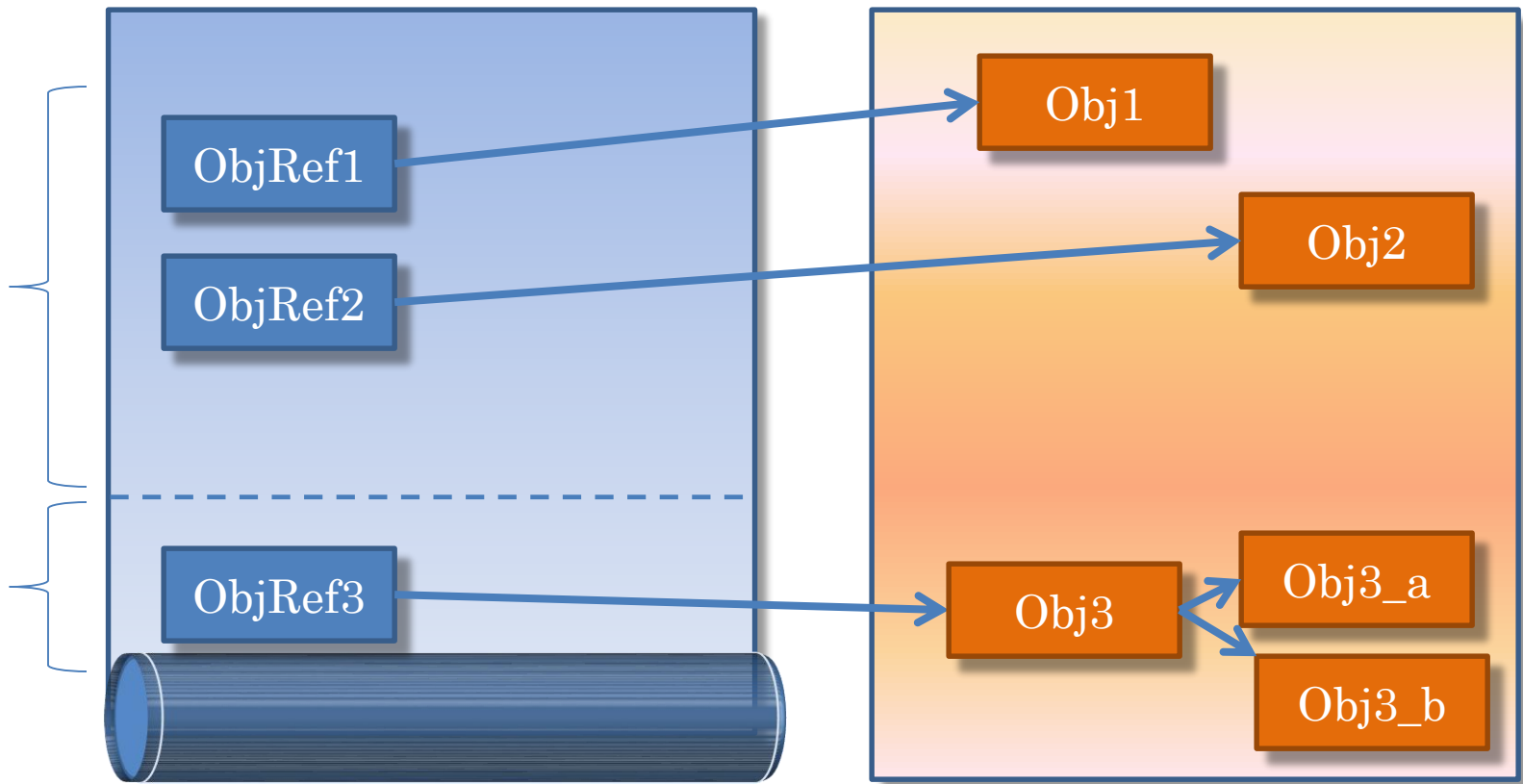
Performance in C++98

- Java released in 1995
- Java was generally slower than C++98
- Java was faster when passing big objects
- Why?

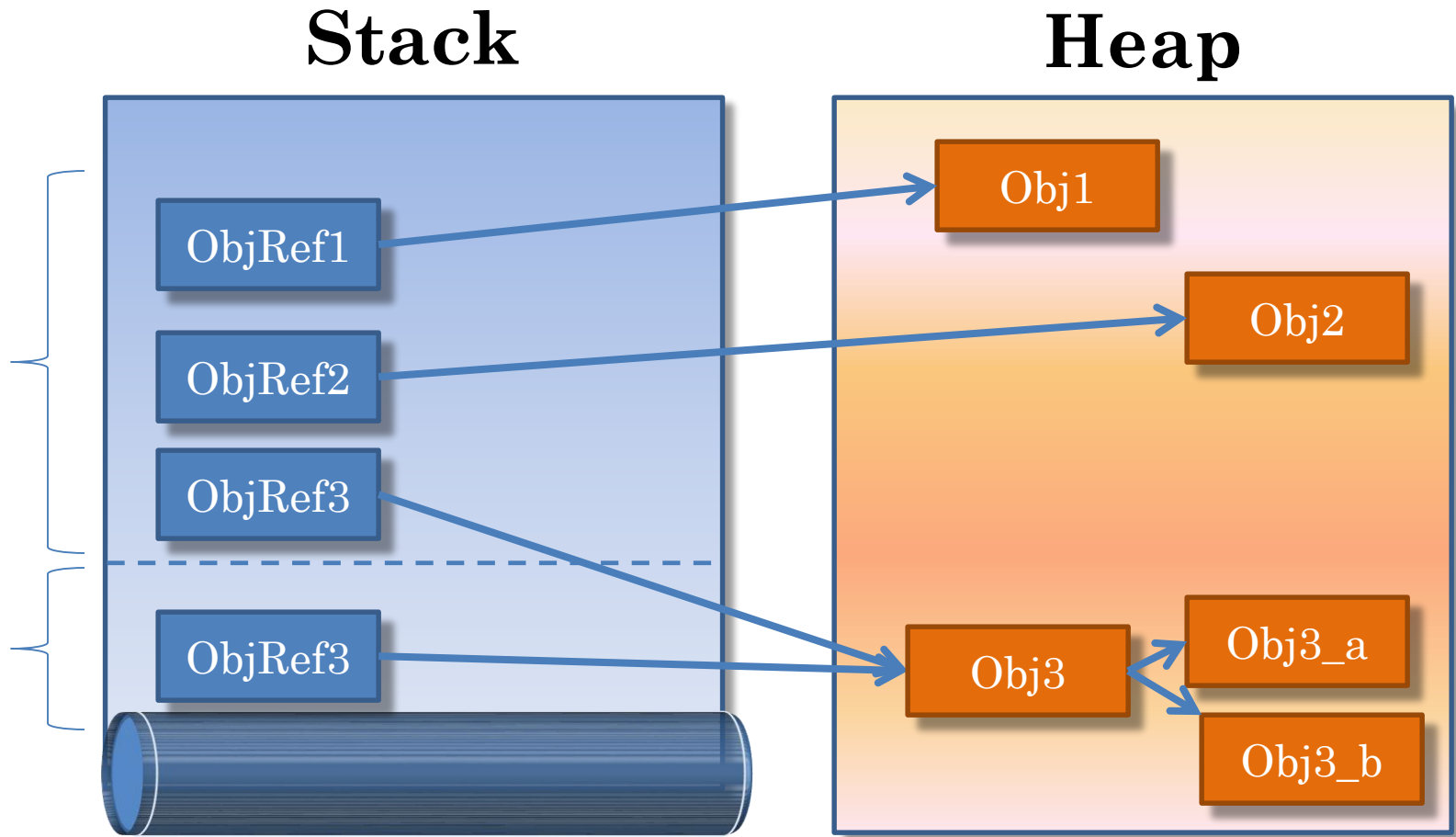
Local Java Objects

Stack

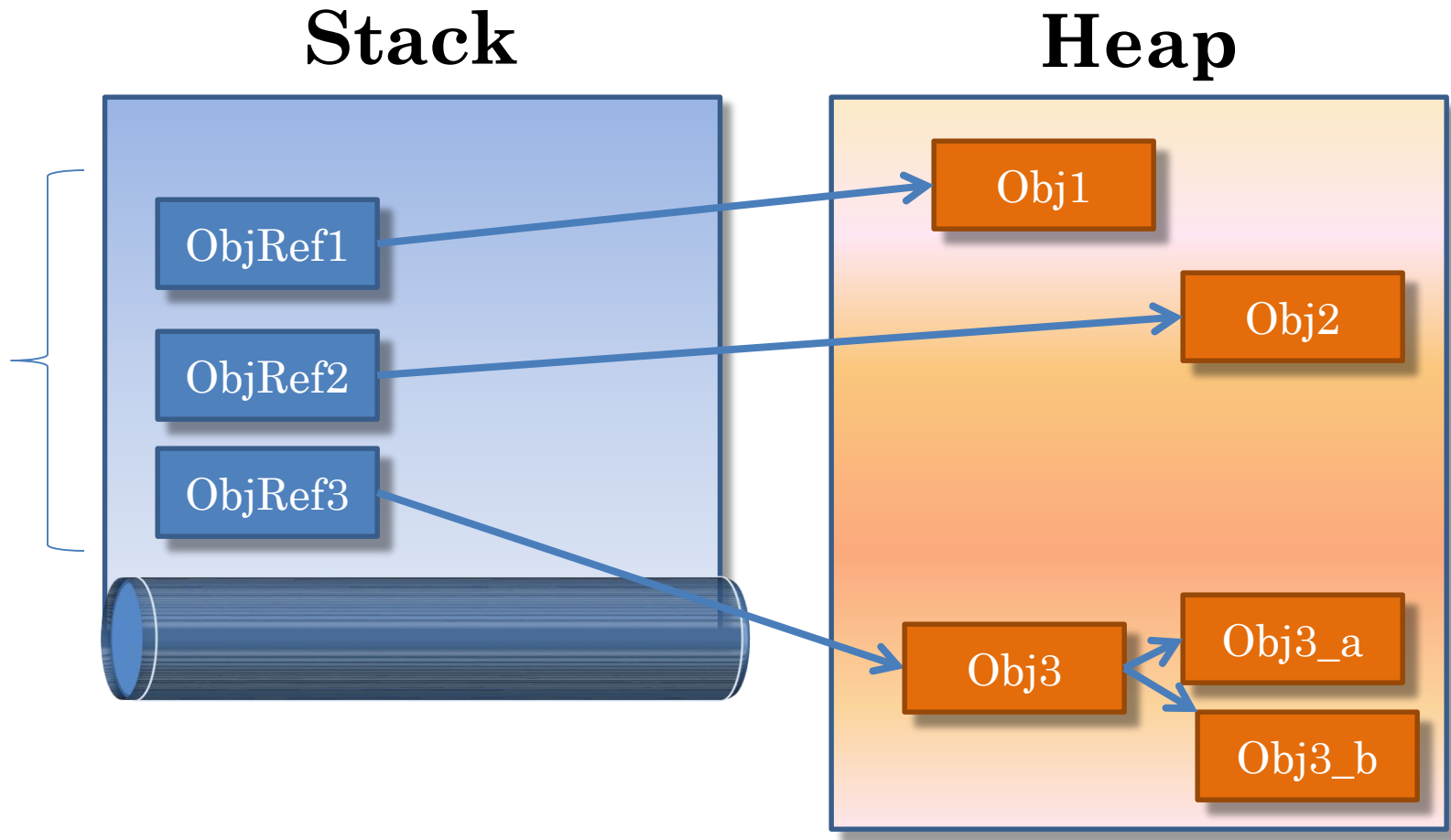
Heap



Returning a Java Object pt 1



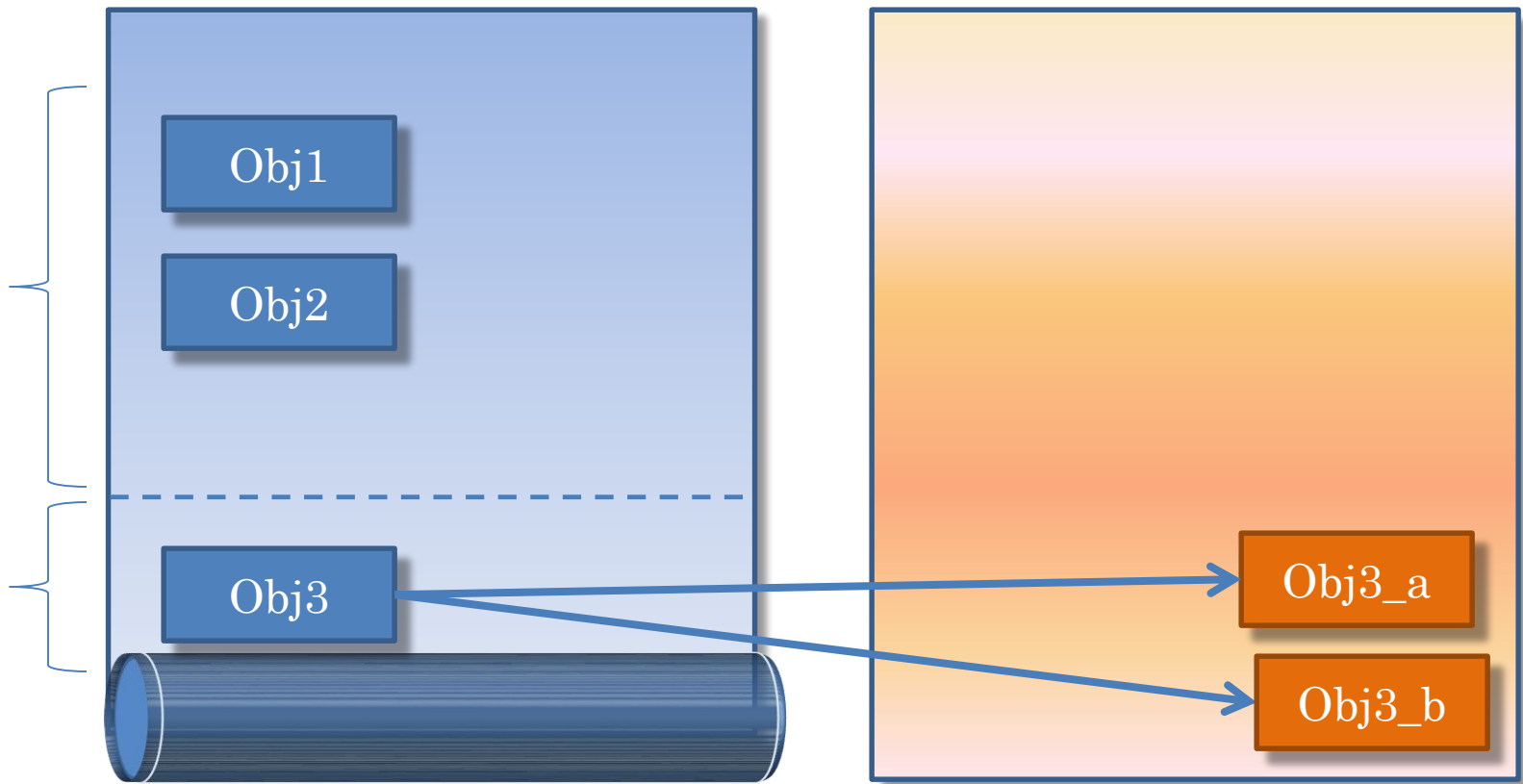
Returning a Java Object pt 2



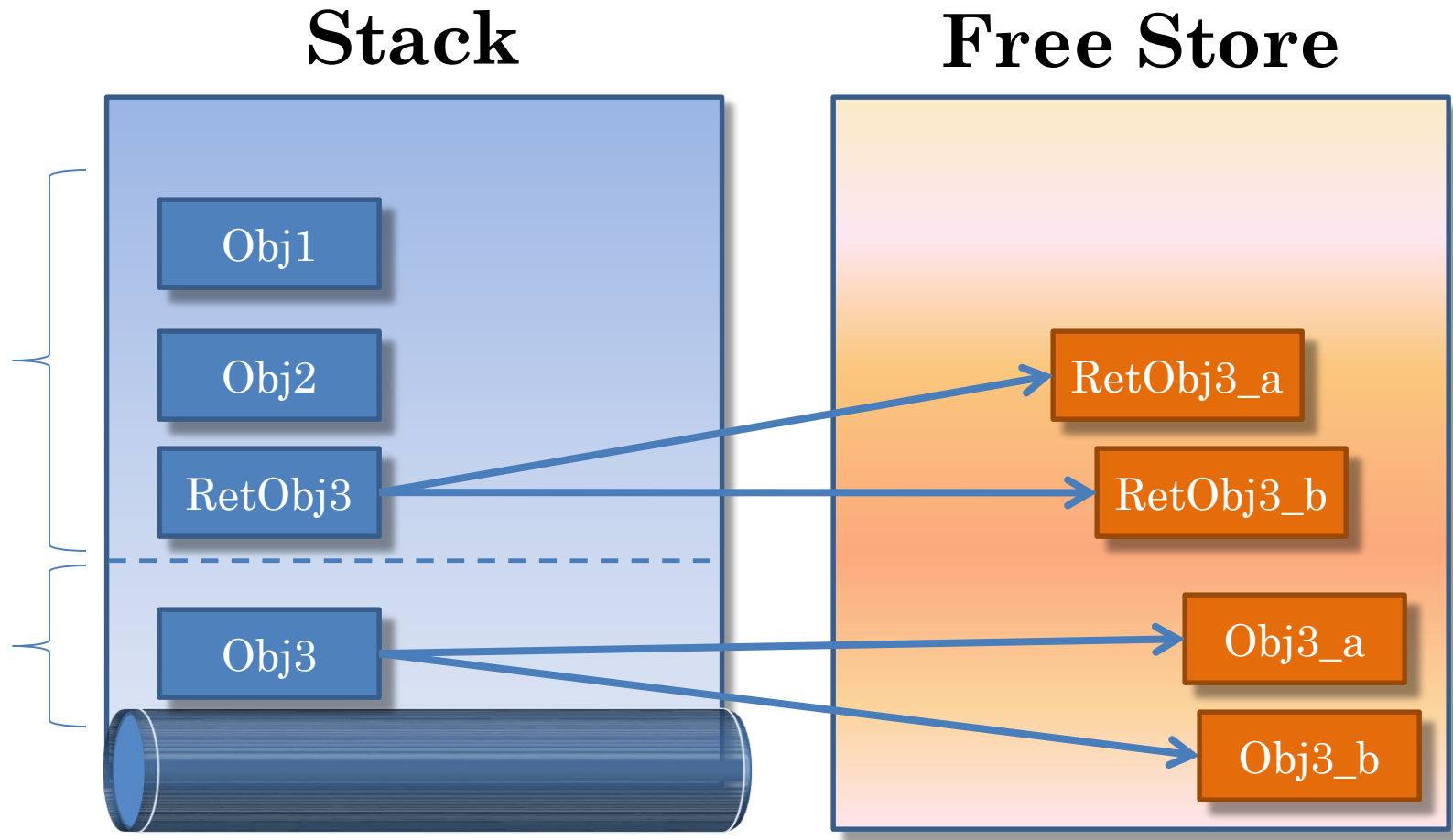
Local C++ Objects

Stack

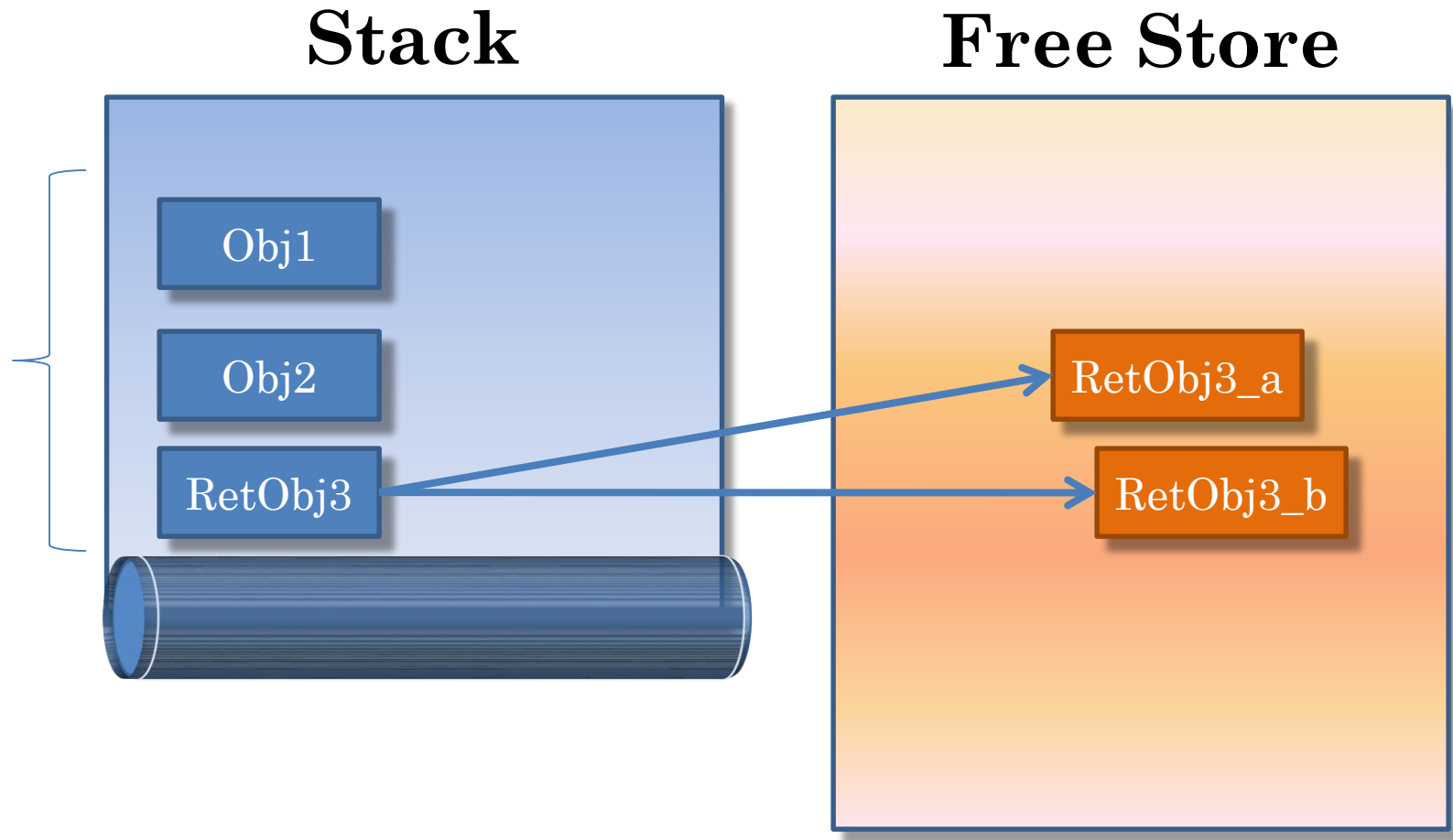
Free Store



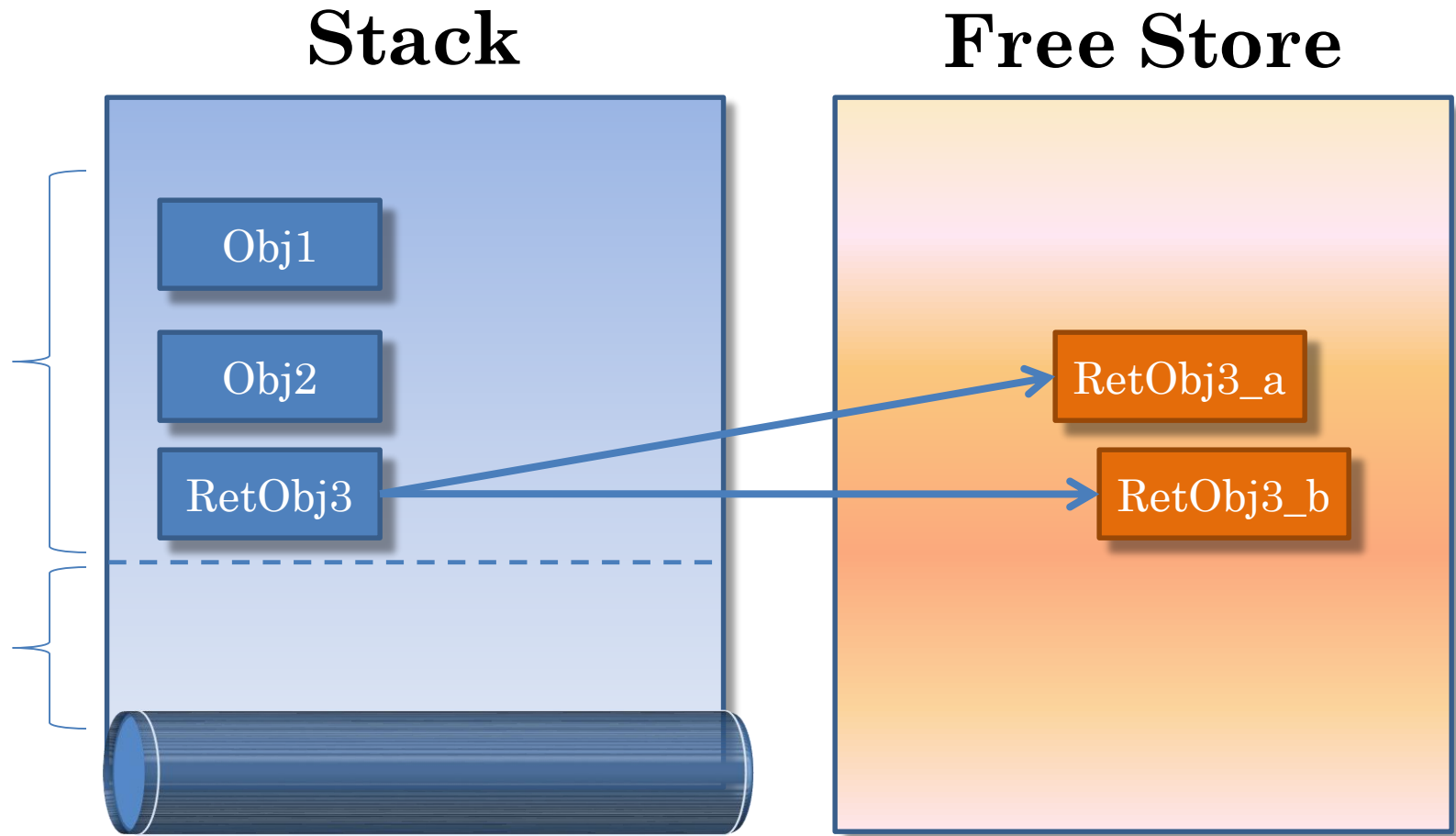
Returning a C++89 Object pt 1



Returning a C++89 Object pt 2



C++98 Return Value Optimization (RVO)

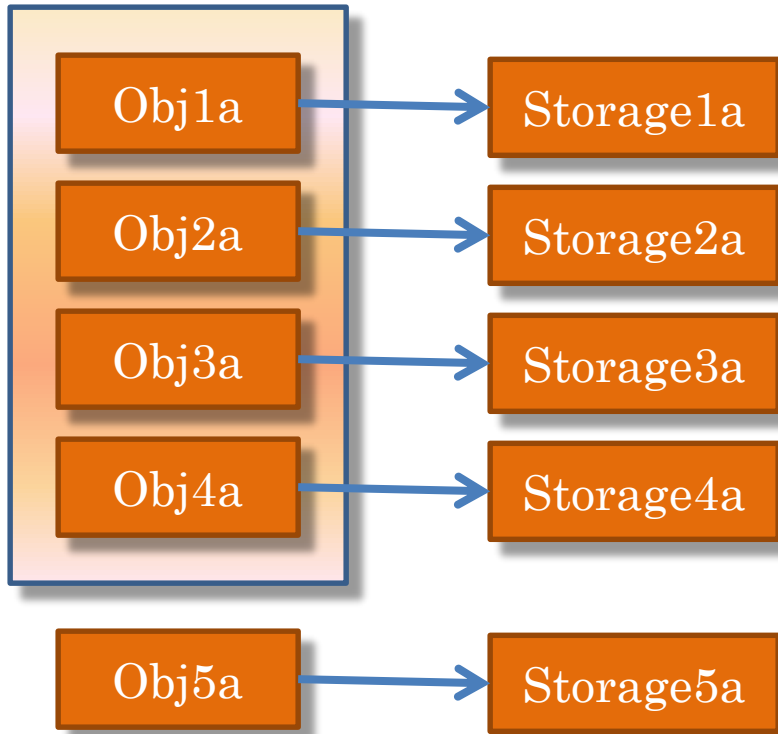


RVO Limits

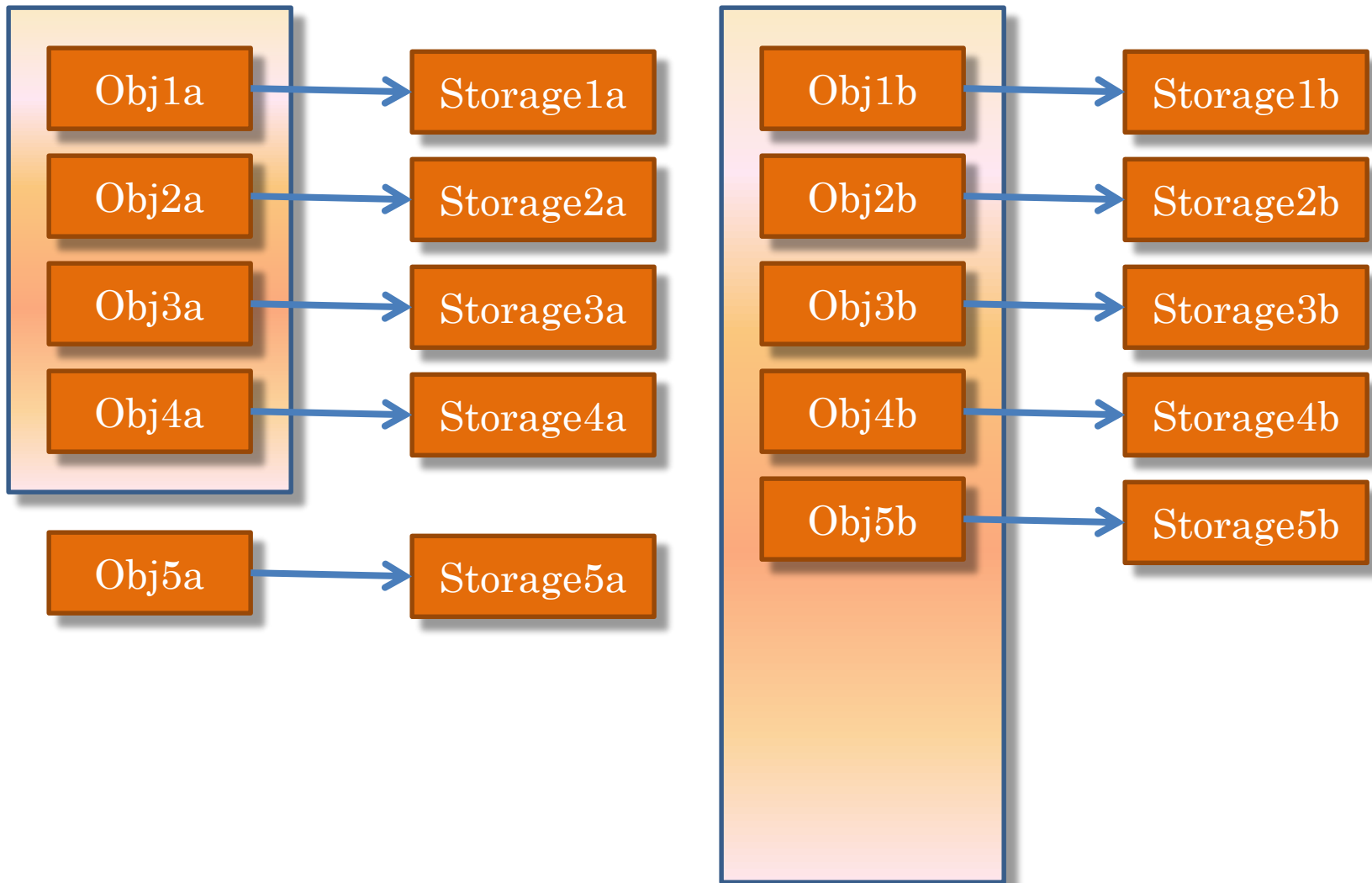
RVO does not work for conditional returns

```
std::vector<std::string> retStringVec(int w)
{
    std::vector<std::string> vA;
    std::vector<std::string> vB;
    if (w > 0) {
        return vA;
    }
    return vB;
}
```

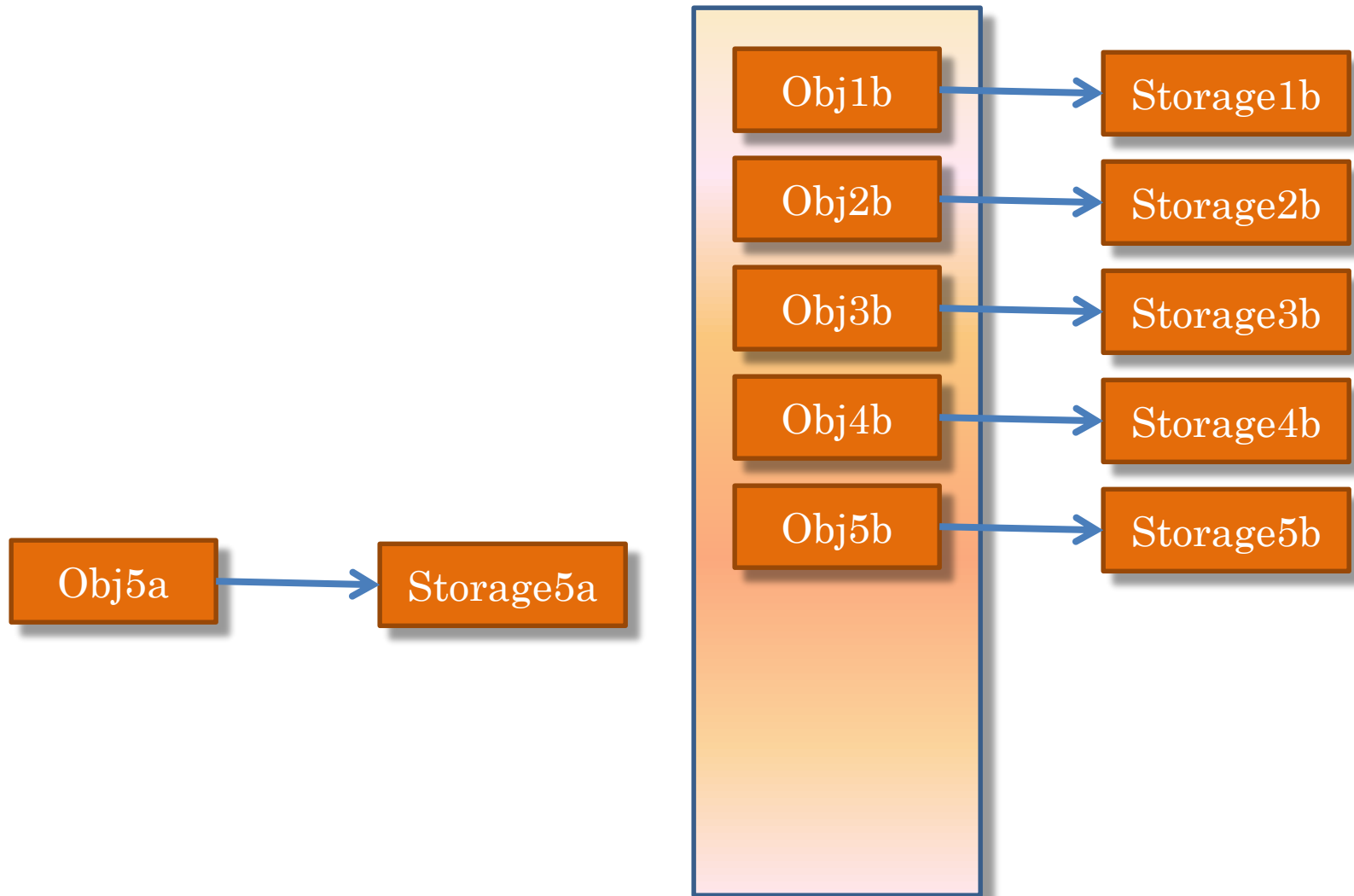
C++98 Vector push_back



C++98 Vector push_back



C++98 Vector push_back



C++11: Move Semantics

- First paper is N1377 Sept 10, 2002
 - Howard Hinnant
 - Peter Dimov
 - Dave Abrahams
- Follow-on papers: N1610, N1690, N1770, N1771, N1856-N1562, N1952, N2027, N2118, N2812, N2831, N2844, N2855, N3010, N3030

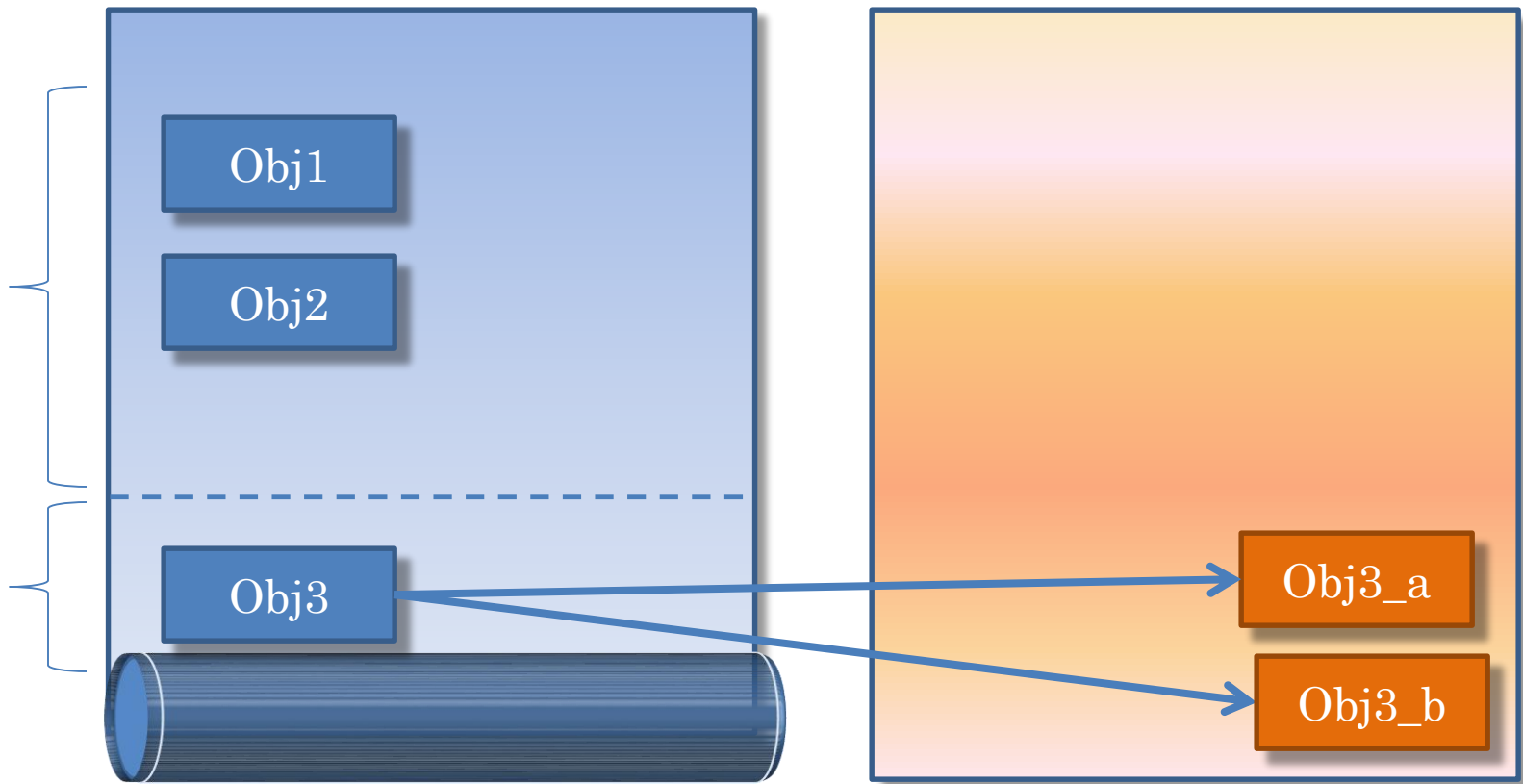
N1377

- Proposed language support to identify temporaries
- Proposed means to explicitly treat non-temporary as temporary
- Introduced terminology:
 - *rvalue reference*
 - *move*

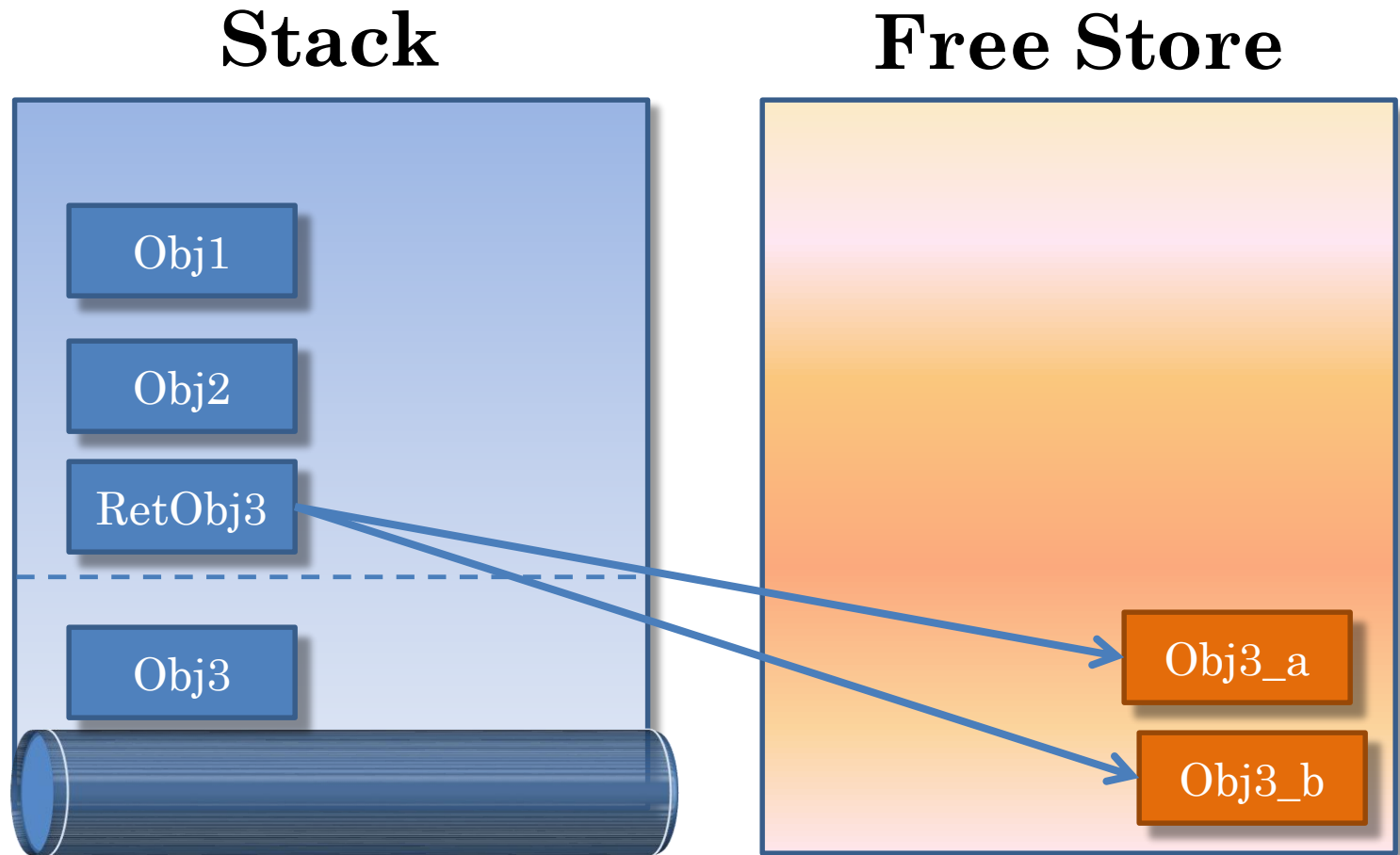
Moving Return pt 1

Stack

Free Store



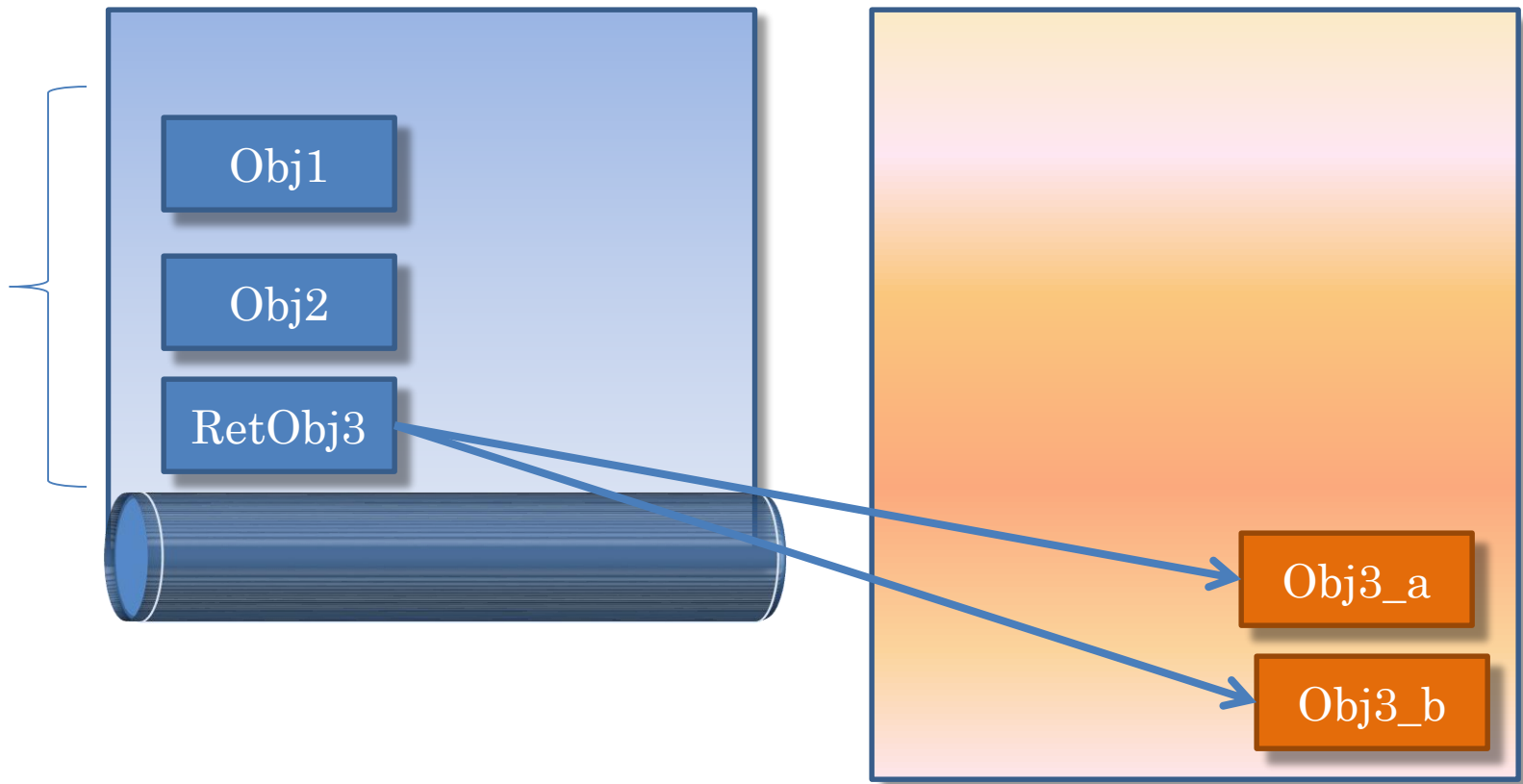
Moving Return pt 2



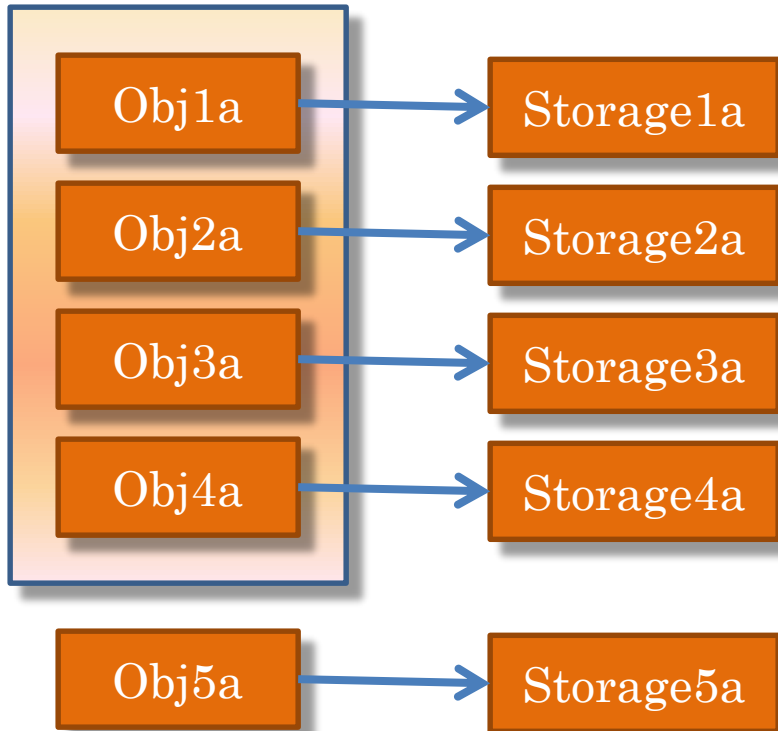
Moving Return pt 3

Stack

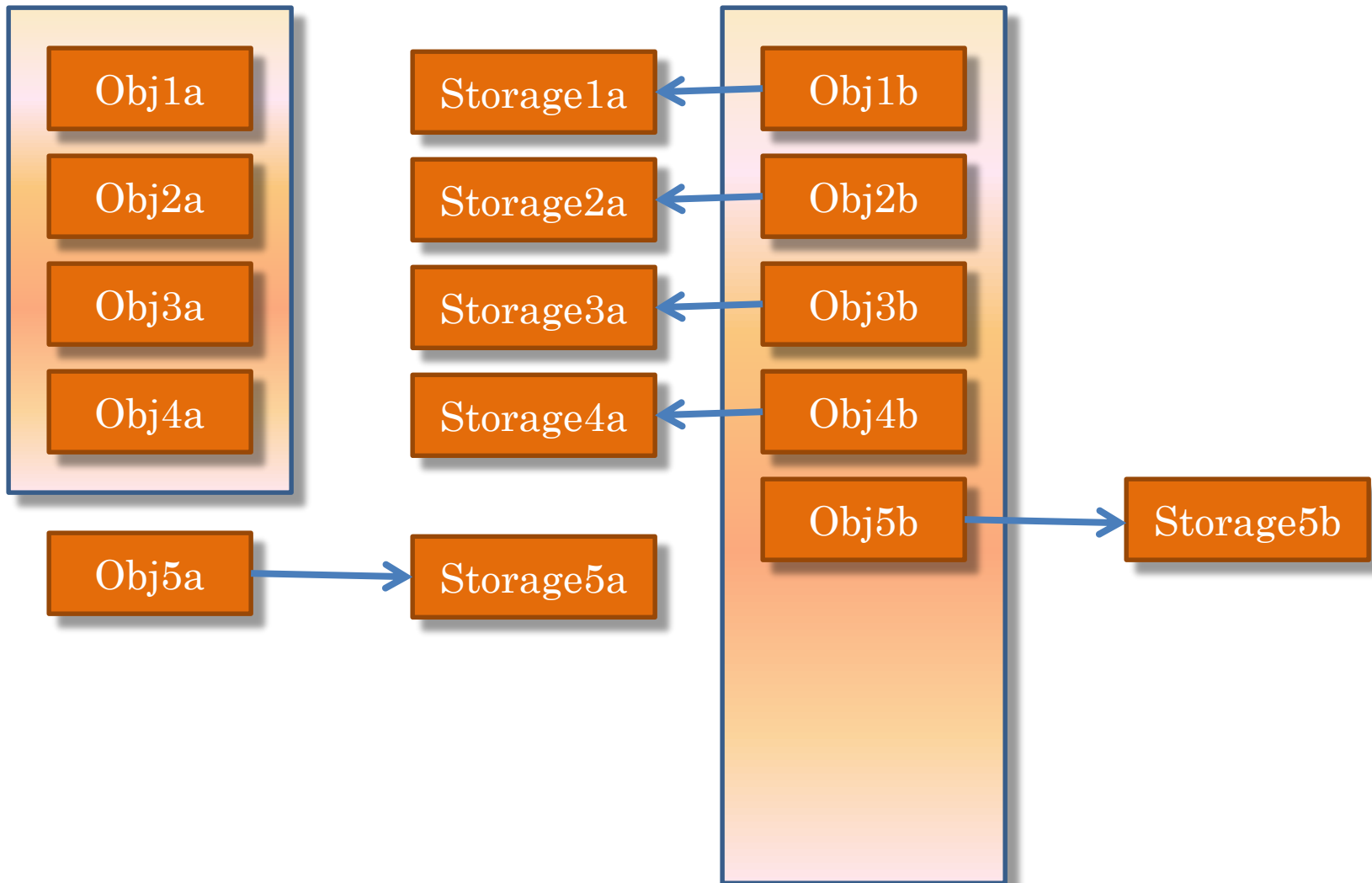
Free Store



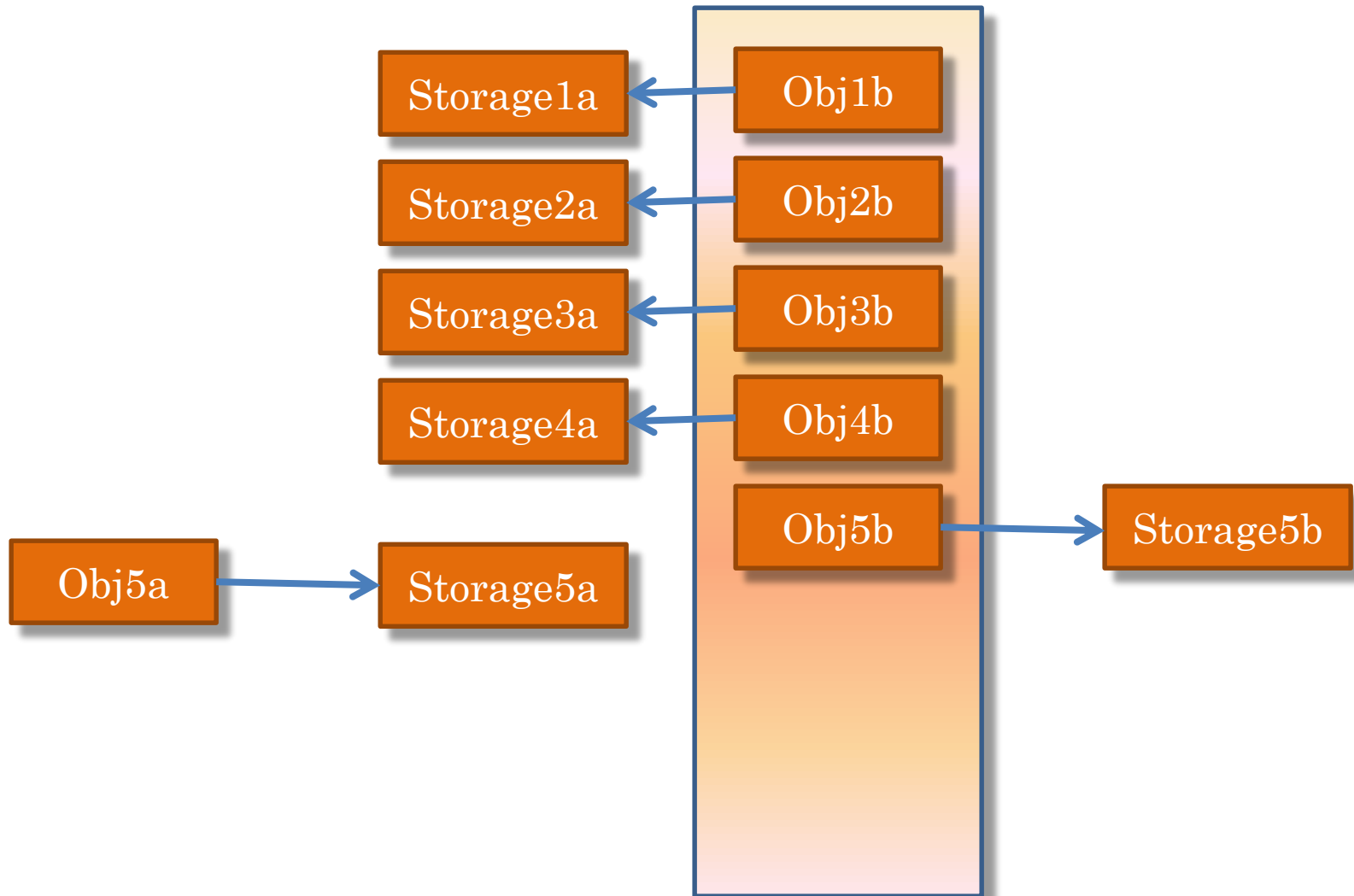
Moving push_back pt 1



Moving push_back pt 2



Moving push_back pt 3



Types That Can Move

- Must have state stored outside the object
 - Free store, referenced by pointer
 - OS object, referenced by handle
- Must have a valid moved-from state
 - Destructor runs on moved-from object

Move-Enable Your Classes?

- When you care about performance
- When your types benefit from move
 - Aggregate movable types
 - Have external (movable) state

Some `std::` Types That Move

- `pair`
- `tuple`
- `basic_string`
- `vector`
- `deque`
- `list`
- `set`
- `map`
- `unordered_set`
- `unordered_map`
- `array`
- `basic_regex`
- `istream`
- `ostream`
- `fstream`
- `basic_stringstream`
- `unique_ptr`
- `future`
- `thread`
- `promise`

`std::` Move-Only Types

- `pair`
- `tuple`
- `basic_string`
- `vector`
- `deque`
- `list`
- `set`
- `map`
- `unordered_set`
- `unordered_map`

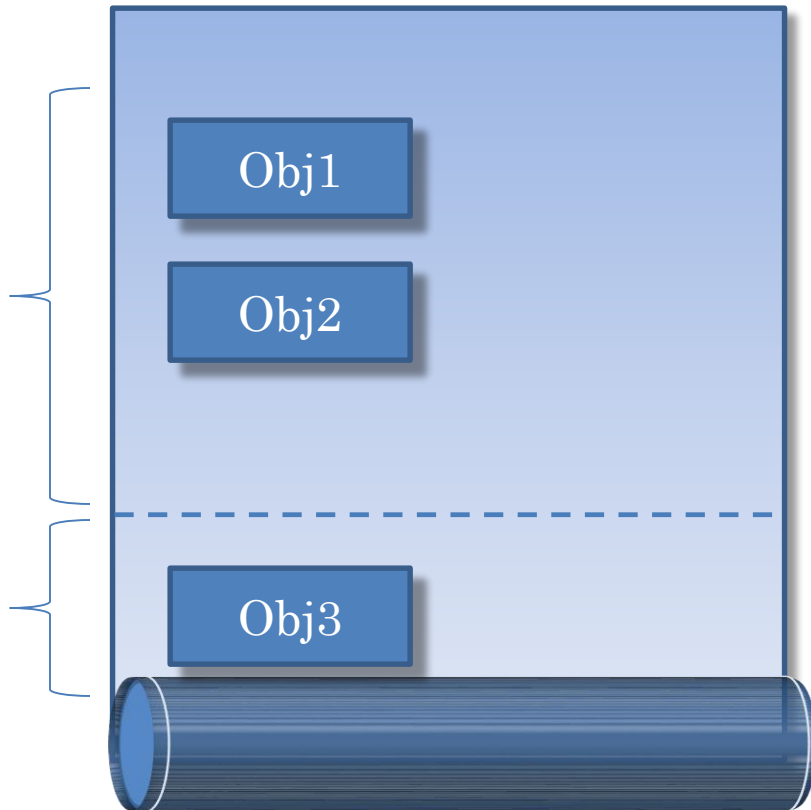
- `array`
- `basic_regex`
- `istream`
- `ostream`
- `fstream`
- `basic_stringstream`
- `unique_ptr`
- `future`
- `thread`
- `promise`

Moving Is A Euphemism

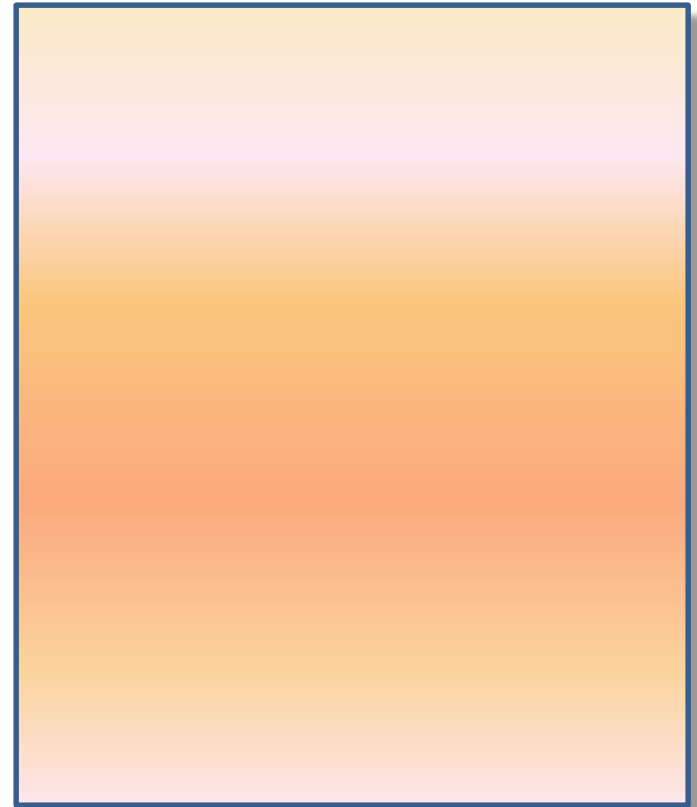
- We're **stealing** one or more parts of an object
- The parts we steal **do not move**.
 - The *address* of free store allocations is copied
 - The *FILE** or *handle* of a file is copied
 - The *handle* of a thread is copied

Not All Objects Can Move

Stack



Free Store



What Can We Move From?

- Goals when adding move semantics
 - Improve speed
 - Don't break old programs
- What can be moved from safely?
 - Stealing from most objects will break the program
 - What category of objects can we steal from?
- **Temporaries**

What is a Temporary?

- Anything that isn't an *lvalue*
- “An *lvalue* is an expression that refers to a memory location and allows us to take the address of that memory location via the *&* operator.” – Thomas Becker, C++ Rvalue References Explained



- An *rvalue*

Rvalue Examples

```
std::string a {"Hi Mom!"};    // a is an lvalue  
std::string b {"Hi Dad!"};    // b is an lvalue
```

```
// Temporaries in complex expressions are rvalues  
auto abc = a + b + "c";
```

```
// Constructed-in-place parameters are rvalues  
void takesAString(const std::string& arg);  
takesAString("d");           // "d" as a string is an rvalue
```

```
// An object returned by a function is an rvalue  
std::vector<int> returnsIntVector(); // returns rvalue  
auto v = returnsIntVector();         // v is an lvalue
```

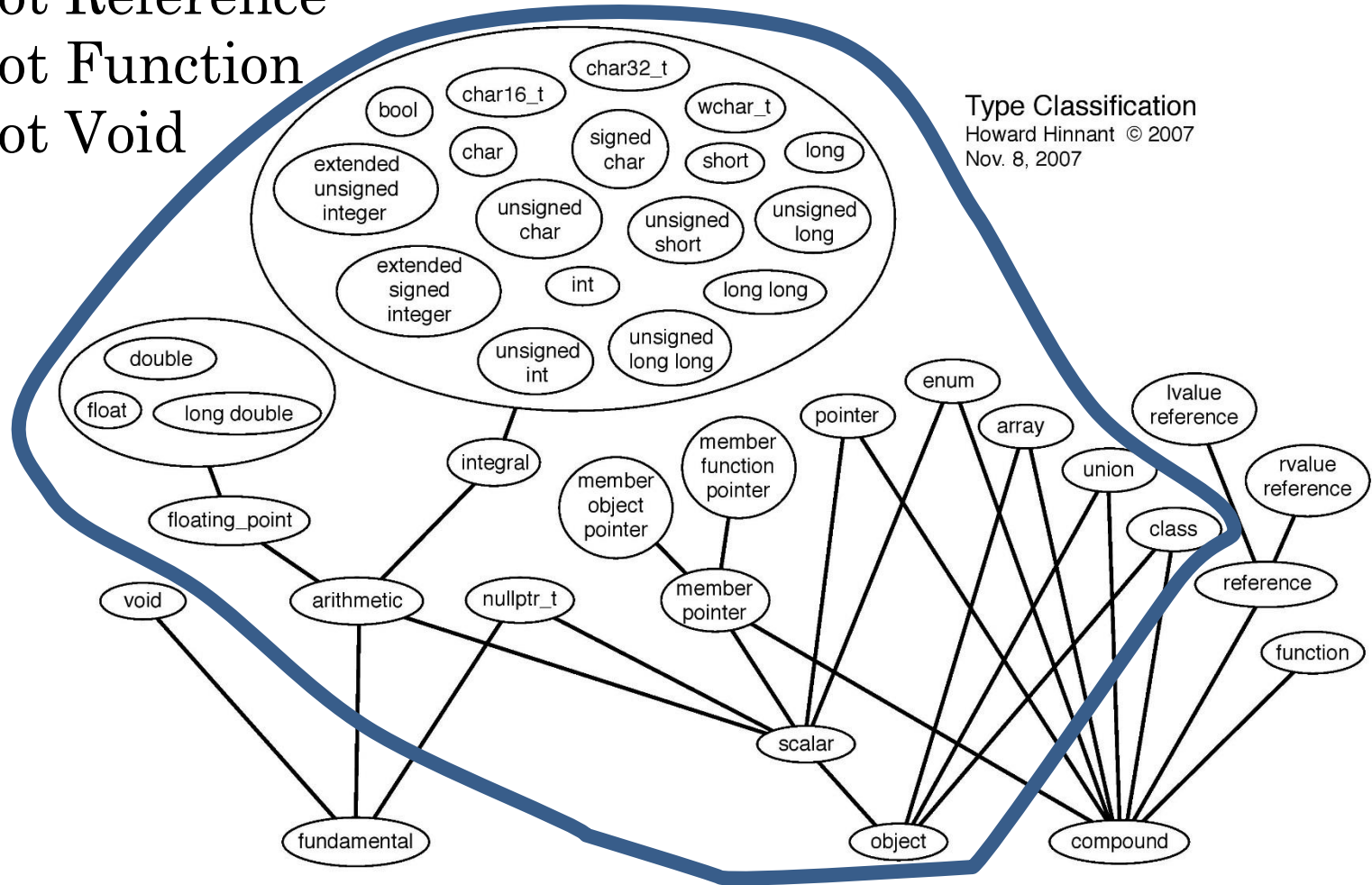
Returning Rvalues

- An *object type* returned by a function is an rvalue

```
int  getInt()    // Returns an rvalue
{
    return 2;
}
int& getIntRef() // Returns an lvalue
{
    static int i = 2;
    return i;
}
```

Object Types

- Not Reference
- Not Function
- Not Void



Used with Permission

Identifying Rvalues pt 1

- New C++11 type: rvalue reference (&&)
- C++98 reference (&) now lvalue reference
- Used for overloading

```
struct Movable1
{
    Movable1(const Movable1& rhs);           //Copy
    Movable1(Movable1&& rhs) noexcept;       //Move
    Movable1& operator=(const Movable1& rhs); //Copy
    Movable1& operator=(Movable1&& rhs) noexcept; //Move
};
```

Overload Resolution

- Rvalues...
 - *Prefer* binding to &&
 - But also bind to `const &`
- Lvalues...
 - *Never* bind to &&
 - But bind to &
- If only `const &` is provided everything still works... at C++98 speeds

Always Make && Non-Const!

- Why?
- Because we're going to modify the referred-to object – **steal** from it

Caution!

- `&&` is used primarily in signatures (and occasionally casts, `auto` and `decltype`)
- Any other use is suspect

```
std::string&& rRStr = rRefStr(); // Suspect
```

- That compiles and links
- There's probably a problem or misunderstanding

Foreshadowing

- Beware: `&&` may be more than an rvalue reference
- More later

Moving from Lvalues

- Lvalues can be moved from too!
- Appropriate when lvalue not used again before destruction
- As usual, for improved efficiency
- Common in containers
- Common in mutating algorithms

How to Move from an Lvalue

- Remove any current references
- `static_cast` to an rvalue reference

```
static_cast<typename std::remove_reference<T>::type &&>(arg)
```

- Leave this to your standard library!

- Call `std::move()`

`std::move()` Moves Nothing

- `std::move()` is just a cast to an rvalue reference.

```
template<typename _Tp>
constexpr typename std::remove_reference<_Tp>::type&&
move(_Tp&& __t) noexcept
{ return static_cast<typename
    std::remove_reference<_Tp>::type&&>(__t); }
```

- Other code must do the actual moving

noexcept Move Is Best

Move construction and move assignment are best if they are **noexcept**

- `swap()` is **noexcept** if the move ctor and move assignment are **noexcept**
- If the move ctor for a type in a **vector** is **not** **noexcept** then **vector** uses the copy ctor rather than the move ctor

Don't Return const Objects

```
const std::string cantBeMovedFrom() {  
    return "Can't move from const";  
}
```

- This was fine in C++98
- Less efficient in C++11
- Can't move from const returned objects
- Returning const lvalue references is still useful
- But you can't move from const refs

Never Return Refs to Locals

```
std::string& bad1() {  
    std::string local{ "Local" };  
    return local;           // Don't return ref to local  
}
```

```
std::string&& justAsBad1() {  
    std::string local { "Local" };  
    return std::move(local); // Don't return ref to local  
}
```

- The stack giveth and...
- The stack taketh away

Don't move() Return Values

```
std::string lessEfficient() {  
    std::string local { "Local" };  
    return std::move(local); // Less efficient!  
}
```

- Prevents Return Value Optimization
- RVO is more efficient than moving

Topics

- Move Motivation and Background
- **Implementing Move**
- Universal References and Perfect Forwarding
- Overloading With Universal References
- Summary

Implementing Moooove



Ways To Implement Move

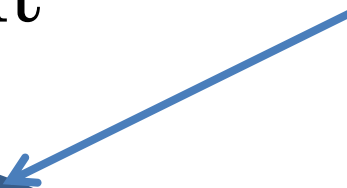
- **With compiler-provided move constructors and move assignment**
- Using movable types
- Hand coding

C++11 Special Member Functions

The compiler may silently provide:

- Default constructor
- Copy constructor
- Copy assignment
- Destructor
- Move constructor
- Move assignment

New with
C++11



Implicit Move

```
class Mov1 {    // Has an implicit move constructor!
public:
    Mov1()
    : s_ { "Avoid the small string optimization" }
    { }
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    std::string s_;
};
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_nothrow_move_constructible<Mov1>::value == true);
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_nothrow_move_assignable<Mov1>::value == true);
```

Compiler-Provided Move and `noexcept`

If all non-static data members have
`noexcept` move the compiler generates
`noexcept` move

- Move constructor
- Move assignment operator

Test Implicit Move Ctor

```
void mov1_test() {  
    {  
        Mov1 mA;                // Default construct mA  
        auto mB(mA);            // Copy construct mB  
        assert(mA.empty() == false);  
    }  
    {  
        Mov1 mC;                // Default construct mC  
        auto mD(std::move(mC)); // Move construct mD  
        assert(mC.empty() == true);  
        // mC is empty() 'cuz it's moved from  
    }  
}
```


Moving from `string`

- The standard does not guarantee a moved-from `std::string` is empty
- When move constructing, a long enough moved-from `string` is *typically* empty
- The moved-from `string` is in a valid state with an unspecified value

Losing An Implicit Move Ctor pt 1

No implicit move constructor if you declare any of...

- Copy constructor
- Copy assignment operator
- Move assignment operator
- Destructor

Losing An Implicit Move Ctor pt 2

No implicit move constructor if class:

- Has non-static data members
 - With no move constructor and
 - Non-trivially copyable
- Has a base class
 - With no move constructor and
 - Non-trivially copyable
- Has a base class with a deleted or inaccessible destructor
- Is a union with a variant member with a non-trivial copy constructor

Caution!

If you rely on the presence of an implicit move constructor or move assignment operator...

- **Guarantee** it with a `static_assert`
- Or explicitly request the default implementation

Implicit Move-Only

```
class MovOnly1 {    // Implicitly move-only
public:
    MovOnly1() : up_ { new std::string {"Mooo"} } { }
    bool empty() const { return !up_; }
private:
    std::unique_ptr<std::string> up_;
};
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_copy_constructible<MovOnly1>::value == false);
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_nothrow_move_constructible<MovOnly1>::value == true);
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_copy_assignable<MovOnly1>::value == false);
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_nothrow_move_assignable<MovOnly1>::value == true);
```

Implicit Move-Only Test

```
void movOnly1_test() {  
    {  
        MovOnly1 mA;           // Default construct mA  
        // auto mB(mA);        // Doesn't compile. No copy.  
    }  
    {  
        MovOnly1 mC;           // Default construct mC  
        assert(mC.empty() == false);  
        auto mD(std::move(mC)); // Move construct mD  
        assert(mC.empty() == true);  
    }  
}
```

Explicit Default Move Ctor

```
class Mov2a {    // Explicit default move constructor
public:
    Mov2a()
    : s { "Avoid the small string optimization" } { }
    Mov2a(Mov2a&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    std::string s_;
};
STATIC_ASSERT(
std::is_nothrow_move_constructible<Mov2a>::value == true);
```

Test Explicit Default Move

```
void mov2a_test() {  
    Mov2a mA;                // Default construct mA  
    auto mB(mA);             // Can't copy construct mB  
    assert(mA.empty() == false);  
  
    Mov2a mC;                // Default construct mC  
    auto mD(std::move(mC));   // Move construct mC  
    assert(mC.empty() == true);  
}
```

Compile Error!

```
error: use of deleted function 'Mov2a::Mov2a(const  
Mov2a&)'  
    auto mB(mA);
```


Implicit Functions Bite Again

Explicitly declaring the move constructor...
Deleted the implicit copy constructor

Suggestion:

- If you `default` or `delete` any special member functions...
- Explicitly `default` or `delete` any others you don't implement.

Explicit Defaults

```
class Mov2 {    // Explicit default move constructor
public:
    Mov2()
    : s_ { "Avoid the small string optimization" } { }
    Mov2(const Mov2& rhs) = default;
    Mov2(Mov2&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    Mov2& operator=(const Mov2& rhs) = default;
    Mov2& operator=(Mov2&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    ~Mov2() noexcept = default;
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    std::string s_;
};
```

Check Your Work

Write six `static_asserts` to verify that the special member functions are exactly what you expect

No run-time cost!

Traits for `static_assert`

```
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_default_constructible<Mov2>::value == true);  
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_copy_constructible<Mov2>::value == true);  
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_nothrow_move_constructible<Mov2>::value == true);  
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_copy_assignable<Mov2>::value == true);  
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_nothrow_move_assignable<Mov2>::value == true);  
STATIC_ASSERT(  
std::is_nothrow_destructible<Mov2>::value == true);
```

Test Explicit Defaults

```
void mov2_test() {  
    Mov2 mA;                // Default construct mA  
    auto mB(mA);            // Copy construct mB  
    assert(mA.empty() == false);  
  
    Mov2 mC;                // Default construct mC  
    auto mD(std::move(mC)); // Move construct mC  
    assert(mC.empty() == true);  
}
```

Ta dah!

Ways To Implement Move

- With compiler-provided move constructors and move assignment
- **Using movable types**
- Hand coding

Moving Movable Types Bug

```
class Mov3a {    // Explicit move constructor
public:
    Mov3a()
    : s_ { "Avoid the small string optimization" } { }
    Mov3a(const Mov3a& rhs) = default;

    Mov3a(Mov3a&& rhs) noexcept : s_(rhs.s_) { }    // Bug!

    Mov3a& operator=(const Mov3a& rhs) = default;
    Mov3a& operator=(Mov3a&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    ~Mov3a() noexcept = default;
    ...
}
```

The Move Did Not Move

```
void mov3a_copy_test() {  
    Mov3a mA;                // Default construct mA  
    auto mB(mA);              // Copy construct mB  
    assert(mA.empty() == false);  
  
    Mov3a mC;                // Default construct mC  
    auto mD(std::move(mC));    // Move construct mC  
    assert(mC.empty() == true); // FAILS!  
}
```

Runtime Error!

```
Assertion failed!  
Expression: mC.empty() == true
```


Moving Lvalues

```
...  
Mov3a(Mov3a&& rhs) noexcept : s_(rhs.s_) { } // Bug!  
...
```

- Argument `rhs` has a name
- **A named rvalue ref is an lvalue!**
- We have implemented **copy**, not move

The Fix

```
...  
Mov3b(Mov3b&& rhs) noexcept : s_(std::move(rhs.s_)) { }  
...
```

- Always call `std::move()` when moving
- It's occasionally not needed but it's never wrong and there's no run-time overhead

Moving Movable Types

```
class Mov3 {    // Explicit moves
public:
    Mov3() :s_{"Avoid the small string optimization"} { }
    Mov3(const std::string& rhs) : s_ { rhs } { }
    Mov3(const Mov3& rhs) : s_{rhs.s_} { }
    Mov3(Mov3&& rhs) noexcept : s_{std::move(rhs.s_)} { }
    Mov3& operator=(const Mov3& rhs)
        { s_ = rhs.s_; return *this; }
    Mov3& operator=(Mov3&& rhs) noexcept
        { s_ = std::move(rhs.s_); return *this; }
    ~Mov3() noexcept { }
    ...
}
```

Now The Move Works

```
void mov3a_test() {  
    Mov3a mA;                // Default construct mA  
    auto mB(mA);              // Copy construct mB  
    assert(mA.empty() == false);  
  
    Mov3a mC;                // Default construct mC  
    auto mD(std::move(mC));    // Move construct mC  
    assert(mC.empty() == true);  
}
```

Move Assignment?

```
void mov3_assign_bad_test() {  
    Mov3 mA, mB;           // Default construct mA  
    mB = std::move(mA);     // Assignment  
    assert(mA.empty() == true); // May fail  
}
```

Runtime Error!

```
Assertion failed!  
Expression: mA.empty() == true
```

What Went Wrong?

- `std::string` move assignment may be implemented with `swap()`
- We assume the moved-from object will be destroyed soon
- Not only may we steal from it...
- We may load it up with our garbage

Testing Moved-From Objects

- Tests of moved-from objects are dubious
- The destructor is guaranteed to work
- Classes that support assignment are assignable after being moved from
- Everything else is implementation (or standard) dependent
- But it may be the only way to know your moves are working

Ways To Implement Move

- With compiler-provided move constructors and move assignment
- Using movable types
- **Hand coding**

Minimize Hand Coding

- Put free store objects in `unique_ptr<T>`
- Put free store arrays in `unique_ptr<T[]>`
- Let `unique_ptr` do the moving

unique_ptr Example

```
class MovHeap {
    static std::string* dup(const MovHeap& m)
    {return m.up_ ? new std::string {*m.up_} : nullptr;}
public:
    MovHeap() : up_ { new std::string {"Mooooooooo"} } { }
    MovHeap(const MovHeap& rhs) : up_ { dup(rhs) } { }
    MovHeap(MovHeap&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    MovHeap& operator=(const MovHeap& rhs)
        { up_.reset(dup(rhs)); return *this; }
    MovHeap& operator=(MovHeap&& rhs) noexcept = default;
    bool empty() const { return !up_; }
private:
    std::unique_ptr<std::string> up_;
};
```

Let ME Do It!

```
class MovByHand {
    std::string* p_;
public:
    // ...
    MovByHand(MovByHand&& rhs) noexcept
        : p_ { rhs.p_ } { rhs.p_ = nullptr; }
    MovByHand& operator=(MovByHand&& rhs) noexcept {
        if (this != &rhs) {
            delete(p );
            p_ = rhs.p_;
            rhs.p_ = nullptr;
        }
        return *this;
    }
    // ...
};
```

Move Assignment To Self

- `std::string` is guaranteed no-op
- `std::unique_ptr` in GCC 4.8.2 is no-op
- `std::unique_ptr` is **not** guaranteed to be no-op by the standard
- In general move assignment to self may leave an empty object

Non-Free Store Moves

For non-memory moves...

- Prefer immediate delete...
 - Like `std::unique_ptr`
- Over `swap()` like behavior
 - Like some `std::string` implementations
- `swap()` like behavior postpones releasing the resource out of the immediate scope

Mooving Setter



Moving Setter / Non-Copy Ctor

```
class MyFile {  
public:  
    MyFile() noexcept { }  
    MyFile(const std::string& name) :  
        name_ { name } { }  
    MyFile(std::string&& name) noexcept :  
        name_ { std::move(name) } { }  
    void SetName(const std::string& name)  
        { name_ = name; }  
    void SetName(std::string&& name)  
        { name_ = std::move(name); }  
    bool empty() const { return name_.empty(); }  
private:  
    std::string name_;  
};
```

Multi-Argument Ctor

```
struct PathAndFile1 {  
    using string = std::string;  
    PathAndFile1(const string& p, const string& f)  
        : p_ { p },          f_ { f }          { }  
  
    PathAndFile1(        string&& p, const string& f)  
        : p_ { std::move(p) }, f_ { f }          { }  
  
    PathAndFile1(const string& p,        string&& f)  
        : p_ { p },          f_ { std::move(f) } { }  
  
    PathAndFile1(        string&& p,        string&& f)  
        : p_ { std::move(p) }, f_ { std::move(f) } { }  
private:  
    string p_, f_;  
};
```


Topics

- Move Motivation and Background
- Implementing Move
- **Universal References and Perfect Forwarding**
- Overloading With Universal References
- Summary

Universal References and Perfect Forwarding



The Trouble With Tuples

- C++11 `std::tuple` has a ctor that takes N arguments.
- Any of those arguments may be rvalues.
- What to do?
- Universal references
- Perfect forwarding



Universal References

```
template <class T> void f(T&& v);
```

- Scott Meyers calls this use of && a *universal reference*
- T&& binds to almost anything
 - lvalues
 - rvalues
- No const or volatile in T&&
- T must be locally deduced

Universal Reference Rules

Universal reference type decode:

- `T&` -> `T&`
- `T&&` -> `T`
- `const` / `volatile` preserved

Universal Reference Test

```
template<typename EXPECT, typename T>
void urefDecode(T&& t)
{ STATIC_ASSERT(std::is_same< EXPECT, T >::value); }

void urefDecode_test()
{
    using string = std::string;
    string s { "str" };
    const volatile string cv_s { "cv_str" };
    urefDecode<string&>(s);
    urefDecode<const volatile string&>(cv_s);
    urefDecode<string>(std::move(s));
    urefDecode<const volatile string>(std::move(cv_s));
}
```

C++11 Reference Collapsing

- Behavior taking a ref of ref?

- $T\& \ \& \rightarrow T\&$

- $T\&\& \ \& \rightarrow T\&$

- $T\& \ \&\& \rightarrow T\&$

- $T\&\& \ \&\& \rightarrow T\&\&$

Perfect Forwarding Test

```
template<typename EXPECT, typename T>
void fwdDecode(T&& t)
{ STATIC_ASSERT(std::is_same< EXPECT, T&&>::value); }

void fwdDecode_test()
{
    using string = std::string;
    string s { "str" };
    const volatile string cv_s { "cv_str" };
    fwdDecode<string&>(s);
    fwdDecode<const volatile string&>(cv_s);
    fwdDecode<string&&>(std::move(s));
    fwdDecode<const volatile string&&>(std::move(cv_s));
}
```


Use `std::forward<>()`

Don't do the casting yourself

- `std::forward` covers more cases
- `std::forward` is easier to read
- `std::forward` shows intent

Locally Deduced Type

```
template<typename T>
struct tClass
{
    // Not a universal ref. 'T' comes from class.
    template<typename EXPECT>
    static void notURef(T&& t)
    { STATIC_ASSERT(std::is_same<EXPECT, T&&>::value); }

    // Is a universal ref. 'U' is local to function.
    template<typename EXPECT, typename U>
    static void yesURef(U&& u)
    { STATIC_ASSERT(std::is_same<EXPECT, U&&>::value); }
};
```

Locally Deduced Test

```
void deduce_test()
{
    using string = std::string;
    string s { "str" };

    // tClass<string>::notURef<string&>(s); // Compile error
    tClass<string>::notURef<string&&>(std::move(s));

    tClass<string>::yesURef<string&>(s);
    tClass<string>::yesURef<string&&>(std::move(s));
}
```

Multi-Argument Ctor Revisited

```
struct PathAndFile {  
    // Four ctors become one templated ctor  
    template<typename P, typename F>  
    PathAndFile(P&& p, F&& f)  
        : p_ { std::forward<P>(p) }  
        , f_ { std::forward<F>(f) } { }  
private:  
    std::string p_, f_;  
};
```

Multi-Argument Ctor Test

```
void pathAndFile_test()
{
    using string = std::string;
    string pA { "pathA" };
    string fA { "fileA" };
    PathAndFile(pA, fA);
    assert((pA.empty() == false) && (fA.empty() == false));

    PathAndFile(std::move(pA), std::move(fA));
    assert((pA.empty() == true ) && (fA.empty() == true ));
}
```

- One multi-argument ctor copies or moves

A Better Multi-Argument Ctor

```
struct PathAndFile {  
    // Four ctors become one templated ctor  
    template<typename P, typename F,  
            typename = typename std::enable_if<  
                std::is_constructible<std::string, P>::value  
                && std::is_constructible<std::string, F>::value,  
                void>::type  
            >  
    PathAndFile2(P&& p, F&& f)  
        : p_ { std::forward<P>(p) }  
        , f_ { std::forward<F>(f) } { }  
private:  
    std::string p_, f_;  
}
```

Nearly Perfect Forwarding

We can't perfectly forward...

- 0 as null pointer constant (use `nullptr`),
- Braced initializer lists,
- Template names (e.g., `std::endl`),
- Non-const lvalue bitfields,
- Other odd cases.

Nearly perfect forwarding is still pretty good

Don't move() a Universal Ref

```
struct BadPathAndFile {  
    // Four ctors become one templated ctor  
    template<typename P, typename F>  
    BadPathAndFile(P&& p, F&& f)  
        : p_ { std::move(p) }           // bug  
        , f_ { std::move(f) } { }       // bug  
private:  
    string p_, f_;  
};
```


Moving a Universal Ref

```
void badPathAndFile_test()
{
    using string = std::string;
    string pA { "pathA" };
    string fA { "fileA" };
    BadPathAndFile(pA, fA);
    assert((pA.empty() == false) && (fA.empty() == false));
}
```

```
Assertion failed!
Expression: (pA.empty() == false) && (fA.empty() ==
false)
```

`std::move` moves both rvalues and lvalues

Know the Difference!

- Universal Reference:

```
template <typename T>                // T locally type deduced  
void f(T&& arg);                      // No qualifiers
```

- Any other use of unary && is an rvalue reference.

Important!

- Always use `std::forward<>()` with universal references.
- Always use `std::move()` with rvalue references.

Topics

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Overloading With Universal References



An Easy Mistake

```
class BadMov1 {
public:
    BadMov1() : s_ { "Mooooove over..." } { }
    BadMov1(const BadMov1& s) = default;
    BadMov1(BadMov1&& s) noexcept = default;
    template<typename S>
    BadMov1(const S& s) : s_ { s } { }
    template<typename S>
    BadMov1(S&& s) : s_ { std::move(s) } { } // Bug!
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    std::string s_;
};
```

Test For Easy Mistake

```
void badMov1_test()
{
    std::string badMovStr { "bmA" }; // non-const lvalue
    BadMov1 bmA { badMovStr };      // uref moved badMovStr
    assert(badMovStr.empty() == false);
}
```

Assertion failed!

Expression: badMovStr.empty() == false

The Easy Mistake?

- Recognize universal references.
- Always use `std::forward` in a universal reference.

The Next Mistake

```
class BadMov2 {  
public:  
    BadMov2() : s_ { "Mooooove over..." } { }  
    BadMov2(const BadMov2& s) = default;  
    BadMov2(BadMov2&& s) noexcept = default;  
    template<typename S>  
    BadMov2(S&& s) : s_ { std::forward(s) } { } // Bug!  
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }  
private:  
    std::string s_;  
};
```

Test For Next Mistake

```
void badMov2_test()
{
    BadMov2 bmA;           // non-const BadMov2 lvalue
    BadMov2 bmB(bmA);      // binds to universal reference
}
```

```
URef.h: In instantiation of 'BadMov2::BadMov2(S&&)
[with S = BadMov2&]':
```

```
error: no matching function for call to
'forward(BadMov2&)'
```

```
BadMov2(S&& s) : s_ { std::forward(s) } { } // Bug!
```

The Next Mistake?

- Universal references bind to anything that other overloads don't explicitly specify.
- Avoid overloads on universal references.

Another Mistake

```
class BadMov3 {
public:
    BadMov3() : s_ { "Moooove over..." } { }
    BadMov3(const BadMov3& m) = delete;           // Bug!
    BadMov3(BadMov3&& m) noexcept = delete;       // Bug!
    template<typename T>
    BadMov3(T&& t) : BadMov3 { std::forward<T>(t),
        typename std::is_same<BadMov3,
            typename std::remove_cv<
                typename std::remove_reference<T>
                    ::type>::type>::type() } { }
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    BadMov3(const BadMov3& m, std::true_type) : s_ { m.s_ } { }
    BadMov3(BadMov3&& m, std::true_type) : s_ { std::move(m.s_) } { }
    template<typename S>
    BadMov3(S&& s, std::false_type) : s_(std::forward<S>(s)) { }
    std::string s_;
};
```

Test For Another Mistake

```
void badMov3_test()
{
    BadMov3 bmA;
    BadMov3 bmB(bmA);
}
```

error: use of deleted function

'BadMov3::BadMov3(const BadMov3&)'

BadMov3 bmB(bmA);

^

URefOverload.h:96:5: error: declared here

BadMov3(const BadMov3& m) = delete; // Bug!

Another Mistake?

- You may not refer to a deleted function
- N3485 Section 8.4.3 paragraph 2:
"A program that refers to a deleted function implicitly or explicitly, other than to declare it, is ill-formed."
- We deleted our copy and move ctors

A Way Out

```
class OkayMov {
public:
    OkayMov() : s_ { "Mooooove over..." } { }
    OkayMov(const OkayMov& m) : OkayMov { m, std::true_type() } { }
    OkayMov(OkayMov&& m) noexcept
        : OkayMov {std::move(m), std::true_type()} { }
    template<typename T>
    OkayMov(T&& t) : OkayMov { std::forward<T>(t),
        typename std::is_same<OkayMov,
            typename std::remove_cv<
                typename std::remove_reference<T>
                    ::type>::type>::type() } { }
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    OkayMov(const OkayMov& m, std::true_type) : s_ { m.s_ } { }
    OkayMov(OkayMov&& m, std::true_type) : s_ { std::move(m.s_) } { }
    template<typename S>
    OkayMov(S&& s, std::false_type) : s_(std::forward<S>(s)) { }
    std::string s_;
};
```

A Shorter Way Out

```
class OkMov {
public:
    OkMov() : s_ { "Moooove over..." } { }
    OkMov(const OkMov& m) = default;
    OkMov(OkMov&& m) noexcept = default;
    template<typename T,
            typename = typename std::enable_if<
                std::is_constructible<std::string, T>::value,
                void>::type
    >
    OkMov(T&& s) : s_{ std::forward<T>(s) } { }
    bool empty() const { return s_.empty(); }
private:
    std::string s_;
};
```


A Way Out?

- OkayMov and OkMov survived my tests
- How badly do you want that universal reference overload anyway?

Topics

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- **Summary**

The End Of The Trail



Guidance

1. Don't return `const` objects
2. Use `&&` only in signatures (and maybe casts, `auto`, and `decltype`)
3. Don't use `const` in `&&` signatures
4. Prefer `noexcept` in move ctors and move assignment
5. Don't `std::move()` return values; it disables the Return Value Optimization

More Guidance

6. Use `static_asserts` to validate special member functions
7. Learn to recognize the difference between universal refs and ordinary rvalue refs
8. Use `std::move()` with rvalue refs
9. Use `std::forward<>()` with universal refs
10. Take care when overloading on universal references
- 11. Test your work**

Should I Stop Worrying And Return By Value?

- Free store access hurts efficiency
- Move semantics are not a panacea
- The most efficient designs reuse storage

Consider Eric Niebler's article:

Out Parameters, Move Semantics, and Stateful Algorithms.

<http://ericniebler.com/2013/10/13/out-parameters-vs-move-semantics/>

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All mistakes, errors, and flubs belong to Scott Schurr exclusively.

Questions?

