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Boost::accumulators

Bugsquashing Seminar 18.05.2016
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dkfz.

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KREBSFORSCHUNGSZENTRUM
IN DER HELMHOLTZ-GEMEINSCHAFT



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boost::accumulators – Introduction

- Incremental computation of statistics
- Large variety of implemented measures
- Easy to use
- boost is MITK dependency





BUT WAIT,



THERE'S

BRACEYOURSELF



DETAILS ARE COMING

imgflip.com

boost::accumulators – Advanced Example

```
using namespace boost::accumulators;

int main()
{
    // initialize accumulator
    accumulator_set <double, features<
        tag::mean,
        tag::min,
        tag::max,
        tag::tail<left>,
        tag::lazy_variance
    > > acc(tag::tail<left>::cache_size = 100);

    // initialize vector with 1 mio samples randomly drawn from [0, 100]
    long nElements = 1000000;
    double range = 100.0;
    std::vector<double> vec(nElements, 0.0);
    for (unsigned int i=0; i < nElements; i++)
    {
        vec[i] = (rand()/(double)RAND_MAX) * range;
    }

    // bad:
    acc = std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), acc);
    // good:
    std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), std::ref(acc));

    // extract results
    std::cout << mean(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << extract_result<tag::min>(acc) << std::endl;
    extractor< tag::max > max_;
    std::cout << max_(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << (max)(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << lazy_variance(acc) << std::endl;
}
```

boost::accumulators – Defining an Accumulator

```
using namespace boost::accumulators;

int main()
{
    // initialize accumulator
    accumulator_set <double, features<
        tag::mean,
        tag::min,
        tag::max,
        tag::tail<left>
        tag::lazy_variance
    > > acc(tag::tail<left>::cache_size = 100);
```

sample type statistics

```
double range = 100.0;
std::vector<double> vec(nElements, 0.0);
for (unsigned int i=0; i < nElements; i++)
{
    vec[i] = (rand()/(double)RAND_MAX) * range;
}

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acc = std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), acc);
// good:
std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), std::ref(acc));

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    tag::mean,
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> > acc(tag::tail<left>::cache_size = 100);
```

- Statistics are defined as template parameters
- boost resolves dependency tree (compile time!) between stats for efficient computation
 - lazy_variance depends on tag::moment<2> and tag::mean
 - mean depends on tag::sum (implicitly added)

boost::accumulators – Adding Samples

```
using namespace boost::accumulators;

int main()
{
    // initialize accumulator
    accumulator_set <double, features<
        tag::mean,
        tag::min,
        tag::max,
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    for (unsigned int i=0; i < nElements; i++)
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        vec[i] = (rand()/(double)RAND_MAX) * range;
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    // bad:
    acc = std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), acc);
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    std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), std::ref(acc));

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    std::cout << mean(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << extract_result<tag::min>(acc) << std::endl;
    extractor< tag::max > max_;
    std::cout << max_(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << (max)(acc) << std::endl;
    std::cout << lazy_variance(acc) << std::endl;
}
```

boost::accumulators – Adding Samples

```
acc(1.2);
```

```
std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), std::ref(acc));
```

- boost updates inner state whenever a sample is added:
 - min, max, sum, tail
- Lazy evaluation of mean and lazy_variance on request

boost::accumulators – Adding Samples

- Bad: acc is copied. Inefficient if stats such as tag::tail<left> are included

```
// add values to accumulator
// bad:
acc = std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), acc);
```

- Good: use reference of acc

```
// good:
std::for_each(vec.begin(), vec.end(), std::ref(acc));
```


boost::accumulators – Extracting Results

- Simple and sufficient for most use cases:

```
// extract results
std::cout << mean(acc) << std::endl;
```

- Being explicit:

```
std::cout << extract_result<tag::min>(acc) << std::endl;
```

- Windows <3:

```
extractor< tag::max > max_;
std::cout << max_(acc) << std::endl;
```

or

```
std::cout << (max)(acc) << std::endl;
```

(min and max are preprocessor macros defined in WinDef.h)



boost::accumulators – DIY

Writing your own accumulator

- Define accumulator itself (derive from accumulator_base):
 - constructor
 - operator()
 - result()
- Define new feature
 - Inherits from depends_on<> for dependency tree
- Define new extractor
 - extractor< tag::my_feature > const my_feature = {}

#IfboostWasItk

This one is for the typedef fanatics:

```
typedef double SampleType;  
typedef tag::tail<left> TailType;  
typedef features<tag::mean, tag::min, tag::max, TailType, tag::lazy_variance> FeaturesType;  
typedef accumulator_set<SampleType, FeaturesType> AccumulatorType;  
  
// initialize accumulator  
AccumulatorType acc(TailType::cache_size = 100);
```

(

```
// initialize accumulator  
accumulator_set < double, features <  
    tag::mean,  
    tag::min,  
    tag::max,  
    tag::tail<left>,  
    tag::lazy_variance  
> > acc(tag::tail<left>::cache_size = 100);
```

)

boost::accumulators – Summary

boost::accumulators are:

- Easy to use
- Powerful
- Fast
- Expandible

=> No reason not to use them for your statistics!



boost::accumulators – Further Reading

http://www.boost.org/doc/libs/1_60_0/doc/html/accumulators/user_s_guide.html

(boost documentation – great stuff!)

A photograph of the DKFZ building, a modern multi-story structure with a central glass tower and balconies. The sky is blue with some clouds. In the foreground, there is a paved plaza with several water fountains and orange benches.

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Auf Wiedersehen im DKFZ!

Weitere Informationen unter www.dkfz.de

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