**Error Verify\_Error System\_Error Fatal System\_Signal Excp\_Handler Jump\_Handler Hash\_Table Set Hash\_Table**<*Key*,*Value*> **Package Matrix Matrix**<*Type*> **Queue Queue**<*Type*> **Random Stack Stack**<*Type*> **Symbol Binary\_Node Binary\_Node**<*Type*> **Binary\_Tree Binary\_Tree**<*Type*> **AVL\_Tree**<*Type*> **N\_Node**<*Type*> **D\_Node**<*Type*> **N\_Tree**<*Type*,*Node,nchild*>

symbol entry, providing an efficient and convenient means for internationalizing the text messages in an application.



**Private, Protected, 14.8.3** In general, class data should be encapsulated in either the private **and Public** or protected sections. Data specific to a particular class with no use for possible derived classes should be located in the private section. Data located in the protected section might include configuration or adjustment data members that a derived class might want to monitor or change. No COOL classes contain public data, and the user should not declare such data. Aside from being bad object-oriented programming style, classes with public data may be difficult to make persistent and stored in an OODB. The one exception to this standard are the derived exception classes, which may require public data members in order to allow query or update of alternate values.

**Documentation** 14.8.4 Documentation of all files is very important. Terseness should be the general rule for all header files, and completeness the rule for all code files. Parameterized templates have a single header/source file and all documentation should be located there. If in doubt, more documentation is better than less documentation. A high-level abstract at the top of each file should provide a description of the file's functionality. Class header files should also contain a brief description of the public interface.

> Each function in a source code file should have a preceding block comment specifying the input and output parameters as well as giving a brief synopsis of the functionality. For complex inline definitions in header files, a block comment of this type should only be used when the purpose is not obvious because these comments do not appear in the code file. Since most inline functions contain trivial code (usually providing an accessor to some private data member), comment requirements for inline function can be relaxed.

> All source code should be commented every few source lines. Specifically, large block comments every 100 lines is unacceptable. No comment should contain operating system specific names or terms unless that section of code is truly specific. When this is necessary, the code should be surrounded by conditional compilation constructs. These are handled by the preprocessor relative to that specific operating system.

> Finally, documentation in the form of a man page should be written for every class. Layout and organization will be as that with the **–man** macro package available for **nroff(1)/troff(1)**. Section names and requirements for a class man page include Name, Synopsis, Base Class, Friend Classes, Description, Constructors (public or protected as necessary), Protected Member Functions (when appropriate), Public Member Functions, Files, See Also, and Bugs (when necessary). Introductory and high-level material should also be documented.

**Source Code 14.8.5** Indentation and source code structure is relaxed, but it is suggested **Indentation** that the programmer use the C++ mode available for GNU Emacs and supplied with COOL. In general, statements should be restricted to one line with indentation reflecting block and scoping visibility. Location of such items as braces, spacing around parentheses, and so on is left up to the programmer. If the C++ mode is used, whole regions can be marked and indented appropriately, providing a simple means by which all source code can be brought into the same format.

**Error Message 14.8.6** All error message text strings in an application should use the **Resource Package ERR\_MSG** package available in COOL. The COOL exception handling scheme auto-**ERR\_MSG** package available in COOL. The COOL exception handling scheme automatically uses this package ensuring that all text strings associated with error messages are stored as the value of a symbol (see Section 13). All error message symbols are automatically processed and located in one file, thus facilitating easy update or configuration. In particular, a language translation can be added to the property list of each • Constants (**const**) declarations should be uppercase:

const int FALSE=0; const int TRUE=!FALSE;

**Class Header 14.8.2** All header files defining the structure of a class or parameterized **File Organization** template should be organized into sections in the following order:

- Included files and **typedef**s necessary for the class.
- Definition of private data members.
- Declaration of private member functions and friends.
- Definition of protected data members.
- Declaration of protected member functions and friends.
- Declaration of public member functions and friends.
- Inline member functions of the class follow the class definition.
- Other member and friend function definitions are located in a separate source code file.

In general, only the data member definitions and function prototypes of the member functions and friend functions should appear in the class construct. This separates the implementation from the specification and reduces clutter. Define inline functions after the class {...}; statements. In addition, the keyword **inline** should appear in both the class definition and in the actual implementation as a documentation aid. The optional **private** keyword should be explicitly stated. Finally, avoid multiple instances of scoped sections. There should be no more than one each of the private, protected, and public labels.

- Regression test suite All modified and new C++ classes added to the COOL library should contain a complete, stand-alone test program that exercises all major features of the component and reports successes and failures via the test macros contained in the ~COOL/include/test.h header file.
- Source code system independence COOL places great importance upon systemindependent code and features. As such, system-specific functions should be surrounded with preprocessor directives where appropriate.
- Build procedure COOL contains a modified **imake** utility from the MIT X11R3 source tape that implements a system-independent build procedure. This should be used for all new classes and source code. It also provides configuration and rules files for localization or customization of system build utilities and commands to port to other operating systems and hardware platforms.

**Naming 14.8.1** A prime objective for a naming convention is to allow programmers **Conventions** to recognize what sort of component a name refers to. Another goal is using meaningful to recognize what sort of component a name refers to. Another goal is using meaningful names, which has not typically been done in C applications. The following naming conventions are used throughout the COOL source code. The reader is strongly encouraged to follow the same guidelines:

- Directory, .C, and .h filenames should be the same or close to the class being defined, and the declaration and implement files should be in a single directory. For example, the **String** class is defined and implemented in the files String.h and String.C and contained in the ~COOL/String subdirectory.
- **Class**, **struct**, and **typedef** names should be capitalized with the words separated by underscores:

```
class Generic_Window { ... };
struct String_Layout { ... };
typedef int Boolean;
```
• All function names should be lowercase with each word separated by an underscore character:

```
void my fun (int foo);
char* get_name (ostream&);
```
Predicate functions should begin with  $i$ s $\equiv$ :

```
Boolean is_type_of (int);
```
• Variable and data member names should be lowercase with words separated by underscores:

> int ref\_count; char\* name;

Global and static variables should be appended with  $\Box$ g or  $\Box$ s, respectively:

```
int node_count_g;
static char* version_s;
```
• Preprocessor statements and **MACRO** names should be uppercase:

#define ABS ((x < 0) ? (–x) : x)



The member functions added by **Generic** and the **class** macro to derived COOL classes manipulate symbols stored in the global SYM package. These symbols reflect the inheritance tree for a specific class. They may have optional property lists containing information associating supported member functions and their respective argument lists. User-defined classes derived from **Generic** are also automatically supported in an identical fashion, resulting in additional symbols in the global symbol package. As discussed earlier, these symbols must have storage allocated for them and code to initialize the package at program startup time. This is managed by the COOL file symbols.C which should be compiled and linked with every application that uses COOL. An automated method for ensuring correct package setup and symbol initialization is accomplished by establishing the correct dependency in an application make file.

## **Exceptions 14.7** In COOL, program anomalies are known as exceptions. An exception can be an error, but it can also be a problem such as impossible division or information overflow. Exceptions can impede the development of object-oriented libraries. Exception handling offers a solution by providing a mechanism to manage such anomalies and simplify program code. The COOL exception handling scheme is a raise, handle, and proceed mechanism similar to the Common Lisp Condition Handling system. When a program encounters an anomaly that is often (but not necessarily) an error, it can:

- Represent the anomaly in an object called an *exception*
- Announce the anomaly by *raising* the exception
- Provide solutions to the anomaly by defining and establishing *handlers*
- Proceed from the anomaly by invoking a *handler* function

The COOL exception handling facility provides an exception class (**Exception**), an exception handler class (**Excp\_Handler**), a set of predefined exception subclasses (**Warning**, **Error**, **Fatal**, **System\_Error**, **System\_Signal**, and **Verify\_Error**), and a set of predefined exception handler functions. In addition, the macros **EXCEPTION**, **RAISE**, **STOP**, and **VERIFY** allow the programmer to easily create and raise an exception at any point in a program.

When an exception is raised (through macros **RAISE** or **STOP**, for example), a search begins for an exception handler that handles this type of exception. An exception handler, if found, deals with the exception by calling its exception handler function. The exception handler function can correct the exception and continue execution, ignore the exception and resume execution, or end the program. In COOL, an exception handler for each of the predefined exception types exists on the global exception handler stack.

An exception handler invokes a specific exception handler function for a specific type of exception. Handling an exception means proceeding from the exception. An exception handler function could report the exception to standard error and end the program, or drop a core image for further debugging by the programmer. Another way of proceeding is to query the user for a fix, store the fix in the exception object, and return to where the exception was raised. When an exception handler object is declared, is is placed on the top of a global exception handler stack. When an exception is raised, a call searches for a handler. The handler search starts at the top of the exception handler stack.

COOL supports enhanced polymorphic management capabilities with a programmerselectable collection of macros, classes, symbolic constants, run time symbolic objects, and dynamic packages. This is facilitated by the **Generic** class that, combined with macros, symbols, and packages, provides efficient run-time object type checking, object query, and enhanced polymorphic management unavailable in the C++ language.

The **Generic** class is inherited by most other COOL classes and manipulates lists of symbols to manage type information. **Generic** adds run-time type checking and object queries, formatted print capabilities, and a describe mechanism to any derived class. The COOL **class** macro (discussed below) automatically generates the necessary implementation code for these member functions in the derived classes. A significant benefit of this common base class is the ability to declare heterogeneous container classes parameterized over the **Generic\*** type. These classes, combined with the current position and parameterized iterator class, lets the programmer manipulate collections of objects of different types in a simple, efficient manner.

One of the simplest and most useful features facilitated by **Generic** is the runtime type checking capability. The **type\_of** and **is\_type\_of** virtual member functions provide this kind of run-time type query for an object that is derived (at some point) from the COOL **Generic** class. Type determination and function dispatch can become quite tedious, however, if there are many types of objects. Ideally, each would be derived from a common base and include support for a virtual member function for each important operation that might be required. This is not always feasible, however, especially with a high number of objects obtained from several sources. An alternate scheme similar to the one mentioned above is the **type\_case** macro, analogous to the C++ switch statement. It gathers all possible type cases and allows the user to symbolically dispatch on the type of object represented by the case statements. This automates some of the symbol collection and manipulation required with the earlier mechanism.

The **class** keyword is implemented as a COOL macro to add symbolic computing abilities to class definitions. It takes a standard C++ class definition and, if the class contains **Generic** somewhere in its inheritance hierarchy, it generates member functions for support of run time type checking and query. In addition, a symbol for the derived **Generic** class type is added to the COOL global symbol package SYM. The actual code which is expanded in a class definition and after a class definition is controlled by the **classmac** macro.

The **classmac** macro provides two hooks as a customization point by user-defined macros. A combination of data members and member functions of a class definition are passed as arguments to macros that can be changed or customized by the application programmer. The COOL **Generic** class uses the data member hook to implement the **map\_over\_slots** member function. There may be more than one **classmac** macro hook specified by the programmer. COOL has several, and other user-defined macros are simply chained together in a calling sequence ordered according to the order of definition. Each **classmac** macro defines how the **class** macro should expand the class definition. The **class** macro does not actually generate the code itself. This is defined in user-modifiable header files that specify a **classmac** macro. For example, a generalpurpose mechanism that automatically creates accessor member functions to get and set each data member can be created by defining a **classmac** macro that is attached to the data member hook of the **class** macro. No changes to the COOL preprocessor are required.



The **Symbol** and **Package** classes implement the fundamental COOL symbolic computing support as standard C++ classes. The **Symbo**l class implements the notion of a symbol that has a name with an optional value and property list. Symbols are interned into a package, which is merely a mechanism for establishing separate namespaces. The **Package** class implements a package as a hash table of symbols and includes public member functions for adding, retrieving, updating, and removing symbols.

COOL supports efficient and flexible symbolic computing by providing symbolic constants and run time symbol objects. You can create symbolic constants at compile time and dynamically create and manipulate symbol objects in a package at run time by using any of several simple macros or by directly manipulating the objects. Symbols and packages in COOL manage error message textual descriptions with translations, provide polymorphic extensions to C++ for object type and contents queries, and support sophisticated symbolic computing normally unavailable in conventional languages.

**Polymorphic 14.6** C++ version 2.0 as specified in the AT&T language reference manual **Management** implements virtual member functions that delay the binding of an object to a specific implements virtual member functions that delay the binding of an object to a specific function implementation until run time. This delayed (or dynamic) binding is useful where the type of object might be one of several kinds, all derived from some common base class but requiring a specialized implementation of a function. The classic example is that of a graphics editor where, given a base class **graphic\_object** from which **square**, **circle**, and **triangle** are derived, specialized virtual member functions to calculate the area are provided. In such a system, a programmer can write a function that takes a **graphic\_object** argument and determine its area without knowing which of all the possible kinds of graphical objects the argument really is.

> This dynamic binding capability of C++, while powerful and providing greater flexibility than most other conventional programming languages, is still not enough for some types of problems. Highly dynamic languages such as SmallTalk and Lisp allow the programmer to delay almost all decisions until run time. In addition, facilities are often present for querying an object at run time to determine its type or request a list of all available member functions. These kinds of features are commonly used in many symbolic computing and complex, knowledge-intensive operations management areas tackled today.

Regardless of the type of object a parameterized class is to manipulate, the structure and organization of the class and the implementation of the member functions are the same for every version of the class. For example, a programmer providing a vector class knows that there will be several member functions such as insert, remove, print, sort, and so on that apply to every version of the class. By parameterizing the arguments and return values from the various member functions, the programmer provides only one implementation of the vector class. The user of the class then specifies the type of vector at compile time.

An important and useful type of parameterized template is known as a containerclass. A container class is a special kind of parameterized class where you put objects of a particular type. For example, the **Vector**<*Type*>, **List**<*Type*>, and **Hash\_Table**<*KType,Vtype*> classes (discussed in Sections 6 and 7) are container classes because they contain a set of programmer-defined data types. Since container classes are so commonplace in many applications and programs, parameterized container classes provide a mechanism to maintain one source base for several versions of very useful data structures. COOL supplies several common container class data structures that can be used in many typical application scenarios.

Each of the COOL parameterized container classes support the notion of a built-in iterator that maintains a current position in the container and is updated by various member functions. These member functions allow you to move through the collection of objects in some order and manipulate the element value at that position. This might be used, for example, in a function that takes a pointer to a generic object that is a type of container object. The function can iterate through the elements in the container by using the current position member functions without needing to know whether the object is a vector, a list, or a queue.

In addition to this built-in current position mechanism, COOL provides support for multiple iterators over the same class by using the **Iterator**<*Type*> class (discussed in detail in Section 5). For example, a programmer may need to write a function that moves through the elements of a container class and, at some point, needs to save the current position and begin processing elements at another location. After a period of time, the secondary processing ends, at which point flow of control returns to the previous stopping point. The current position is restored from the iterator object, and processing continues.

A programmer uses the COOL C++ Control program (**CCC**), instead of the normal **CC** procedure, to control the compilation process. This program provides all of the capabilities of the original **CC** program with additional support for the COOL preprocessor, parameterized types, and the COOL macro language. **CCC** controls and invokes the various components of the compilation process. In particular, it looks for command line arguments specific to the parameterized template process and processes them accordingly. Other options and arguments are passed on to the system C++ compiler control program.

The COOL preprocessor is supplied as part of the library and is the implementation point for all language and computing enhancements available in COOL. The draft-proposed ANSI C standard indicates that extensions and changes to the language or features implemented in a preprocessor or compiler should be made by using the **#pragma** statement. The COOL preprocessor follows this recommendation and uses this for all macro extensions.

The COOL preprocessor is derived from and based upon the DECUS ANSI C preprocessor made available by the DEC User's group in the public domain and supplied on the X11R3 source tape from MIT. It complies with the draft ANSI C specification with the exception that trigraph sequences are not implemented. In addition to support for COOL macro processing discussed previously, the preprocessor has several new command line options to support C++ comments and includes file debugging aids.

The **#pragma defmacro** statement is implemented in the COOL C/C++ preprocessor and is the single hook through which features such as the class macro, parameterized templates, and polymorphic enhancements have been implemented. The **defmacro** facility provides a way to execute arbitrary filter programs on C++ code fragments passing through the preprocessor. When a **defmacro** style macro name is found, the name and contents up to the delimiter (including all matching  $\{ \}$   $[ \ ]$  ()  $\langle \rangle$  ""  $\degree$  and comments found along the way) pipes onto the standard input stream of the indicated program or filter procedure. The preprocessor scans the procedure's standard output for further processing. The expansion replaces the macro call and is passed onto the compiler for parsing.

The implementation of a **defmacro** can be either external to the preprocessor (as in the case of files and programs) or internal to the preprocessor. For example, the **template, declare,** and **implement** macros that implement parameterized types are internal to the preprocessor, providing a more efficient implementation. The **defmacro** facility first searches for a file or program in the same search path used for include files. If a match is not found in the preprocessor table, an internal preprocessor table is searched. If a match is still not found, the error message is sent to the standard error stream: "Error: Cannot open macro file [*xxx*]", where *xxx* is the name as it appears in the source code. The fundamental COOL macros are defined with **defmacro** in the header file <COOL/ misc.h> that is included in all COOL C++ source files.

Porting COOL to a new platform or operating system starts with the preprocessor. The preprocessor contains support for the **defmacro** statement and also implements several important macros internally for efficiency and performance considerations. In addition, a powerful macro language that simplifies many library functions is available via the **MACRO** keyword (discussed in detail in Section 10). **MACRO** implements an enhanced **#define** syntax that supports multiple-line, arbitrary-length, nested macros, and preprocessor directives with positional, optional, optional keyword, required keyword, rest, and body arguments. Many of the COOL features would be very difficult, if not impossible, to implement without this enhanced macro language.

**Parameterized** 14.4 The development and successful deployment of application libraries **Templates** such as COOL is made easier and more useful by a language feature called parameterization. Parameterized templates allow a programmer to design and implement a class template without specifying the data type. The user customizes the template to produce a specific class by indicating the type in a program. Several versions of the same parameterized template (each with a different type) can exist in a single application. Parameterized templates can be thought of as metaclasses in that only one source base needs to be maintained to support numerous variations of a type of class.

# **COOL METHODOLOGY**





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