

clang-format

Automatic formatting for C++

(Daniel Jasper - djasper@google.com)

Why?

- A consistent coding style is important
- Formatting is tedious
 - Clang's source files contain ~25% whitespace characters

```
Sema::NameClassification Sema::ClassifyName(Scope *S,  
                                             CXXScopeSpec &SS,  
                                             IdentifierInfo *&Name,  
                                             SourceLocation NameLoc,  
                                             const Token &NextToken,  
                                             bool IsAddressOfOperand,  
                                             CorrectionCandidateCallback *CCC) {  
  
}
```

Why?

- A consistent coding style is important
- Formatting is tedious
 - Clang's source files contain ~25% whitespace characters

```
Sema::NameClassification Sema::ClassifySomeName(Scope *S,  
                                                CXXScopeSpec &SS,  
                                                IdentifierInfo *&Name,  
                                                SourceLocation NameLoc,  
                                                const Token &NextToken,  
                                                bool IsAddressOfOperand,  
                                                CorrectionCandidateCallback *CC) {  
}
```

Why?

- Time wasted on style discussions, e.g. in code reviews
- From cfe-commits@:

> ...

> ...

> + while(TemplateParameterDepth <= MemberTemplateDepth)

Space after "while", no spaces immediately inside parens.

...

...

Why?

- Source code becomes machine editable
 - Fully automated refactoring tools!
 - **Example:** `tools/extra/cpp11-migrate`

```
for (int i = 0; i < N; ++i) { sum += arr[i]; }
```

```
for (auto & elem : arr) { sum += elem; }
```

Why?

- Source code becomes machine editable
 - Fully automated refactoring tools!
 - Example: `tools/extra/cpp11-migrate`

```
for (int i = 0; i < N; ++i) { sum += arr[i]; }
```

```
for (auto & elem : arr) { sum += elem; }
```

Process

- Design document
- Feedback on cfe-dev@
- Key ideas / questions:
 - Indentation as well as line breaking
 - Editor integration and library for other tools
 - Only changing whitespaces
 - Parser vs. lexer
 - Style deduction
- Actual solutions might differ :-)

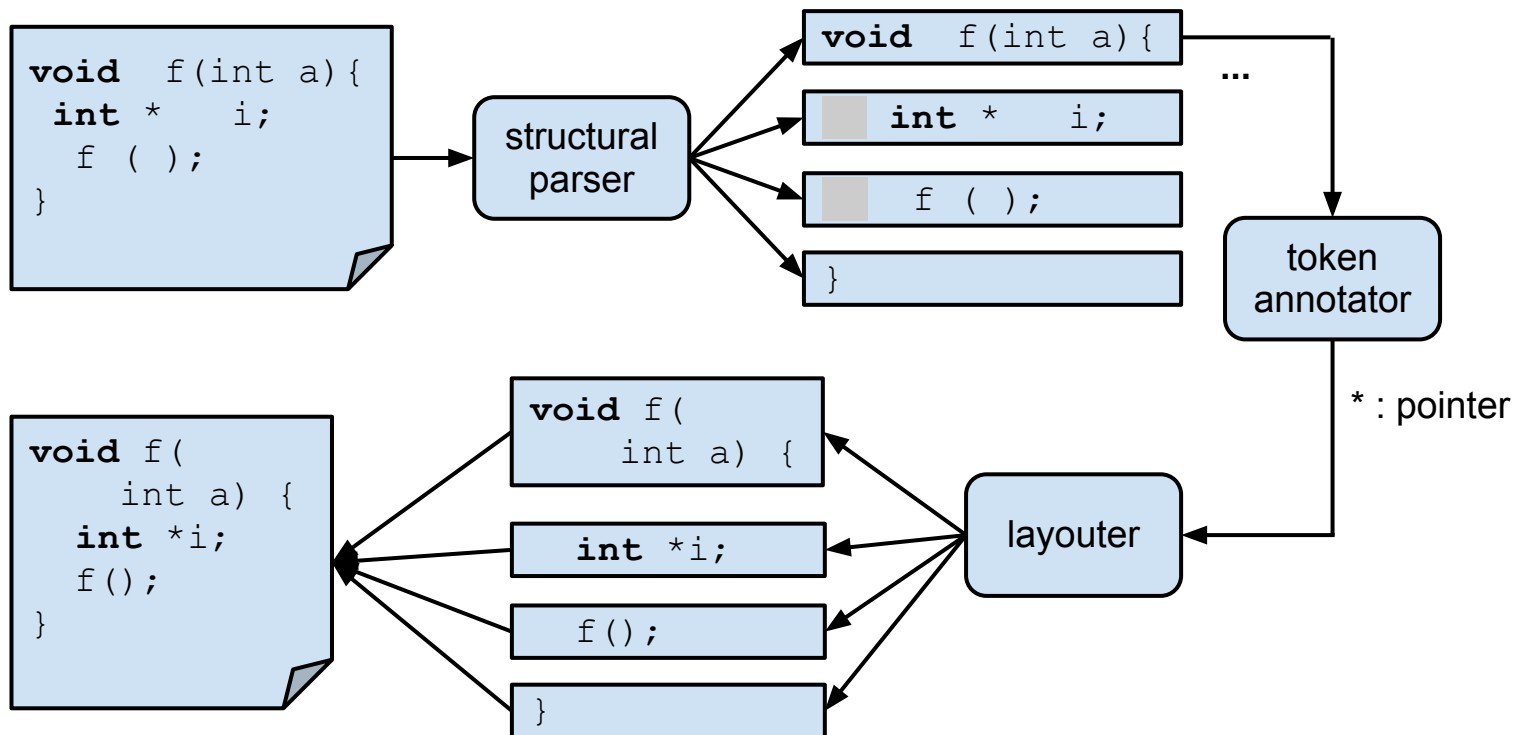
How?

- Build upon Clang component
 - Lexer: C++ token stream
 - Parser: Syntax tree

```
#define TYPE(Class, Parent) \
    case Type::Class: { \
        const Class##Type *ty = cast<Class##Type>(split.Ty); \
        if (!ty->isSugared()) \
            goto done; \
        next = ty->desugar(); \
        break; \
    }
```


Architecture

- Structural parser: Unwrapped lines
- Layouter: Arrange tokens



Unwrapped lines

- Everything we'd like to put on a single line
- One unwrapped line does not influence other unwrapped lines

```
void f() {  
    someFunction(Parameter1,  
#define A Parameter2  
                A);  
}
```

line 1

line 2

line 3

line 4

Layouter

- Every line break has a certain penalty

```
aaaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaaa, aaaaaaaaaaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa ( Penalty: 100
                                     aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa) ), Penalty: 41
          aaaaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa ( Penalty: 100
                                     aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa) ) ); Total: 241
```

- Factors
 - Nesting level
 - Token types
 - Operator precedence
 - ...
- Best formatting: Formatting with lowest penalty

Layouter

- Try "all" the **combinations**
- Clang-format can split or not split at each token

```
int x = a + b + c + d + e + f + g;
```

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

- $2^8 = 256$ combinations
- **Memoization** using an "indent state"
 - Consumed **n** Tokens
 - Currently in column **m**
 - ...
- Find cheapest state-path with **Dijkstra's** algorithm

More important problems

int *a; or **int*** a;

- Clang-format has an adaptive mode:
 - Count cases in input
 - Take majority vote

Example: for-loops (Sema.cpp)

```
for (OverloadExpr::decls_iterator It = Overloads.begin(),
      DeclEnd = Overloads.end(); It != DeclEnd; ++It) {}
for (SmallVectorImpl<sema::PossiblyUnreachableDiag>::iterator
      i = Scope->PossiblyUnreachableDiags.begin(),
      e = Scope->PossiblyUnreachableDiags.end();
      i != e; ++i) {}
for (TentativeDefinitionsType::iterator
      T = TentativeDefinitions.begin(ExternalSource),
      TEnd = TentativeDefinitions.end();
      T != TEnd; ++T) {}
for (Module::submodule_iterator Sub = Mod->submodule_begin(),
      SubEnd = Mod->submodule_end();
      Sub != SubEnd; ++Sub) {}
```

Example: Expression indentation

```
bool value = ((aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa +
              bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb +
              ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc) ==
              ((dddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddd *
              eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee) +
              ffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffff)) &&
              ((gggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggg *
              hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh) >
              iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii);
```

Example: Expression indentation

```
bool value = aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa +
             bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb +
             cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc ==
             dddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddd *
             eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee +
             ffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffff &&
             ggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggg *
             hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh >
             iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii;
```


Example: Expression indentation

```
bool value = aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa +
              bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb +
              cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc ==
              dddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddd *
              eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee +
              ffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffff &&
              ggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggg *
              hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh >
              iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii;
```

Example: Expression indentation

```
bool value = aaaaaa +
              bbbbbbbbbb +
              cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc ==
              dddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddddd *
              eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee +
              ffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffffff &&
gggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggggg *
              hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh >
              iiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiii;
```

Demo time

How can you use clang-format?

Integration into editors / workflows available:

- vim: `clang-format.py`
- emacs: `clang-format.el`
- diff: `clang-format-diff.py`

All in: `clang/tools/clang-format/`

More to come: Eclipse, TextMate, ...

How can you use clang-format?

As a library (`include/clang/Format/Format.h`):

```
tooling::Replacements reformat(const FormatStyle &Style, Lexer &Lex,  
                                SourceManager &SourceMgr,  
                                std::vector<CharSourceRange> Ranges,  
                                DiagnosticConsumer *DiagClient = 0);
```

- E.g. as postprocessing for refactoring tools
- Interface can be extended

Where are we now?

- Clang-format understands most C++ / ObjC constructs
- Three style guides supported
 - LLVM / Clang
 - Google
 - Chromium
- Clang-format can format its own source code

What next?

- Bugs and formatting improvements
- Configuration (files, command-line, ...)
- More coding styles
 - Coding styles using tabs?
 - Coding styles without column limit?
- C++ 11 features (lambdas, trailing return types, ...)
- clang-tidy
 - Based on Clang's AST
 - Find and fix stuff like:
"Don't evaluate `end()` every time through a loop"

Thank you!

clang.llvm.org/docs/ClangFormat.html