

Reverse Iterator

Author: David Abrahams, Jeremy Siek, Thomas Witt
Contact: dave@boost-consulting.com, jsiek@osl.iu.edu, witt@ive.uni-hannover.de
Organization: Boost Consulting, Indiana University Open Systems Lab, University of Hanover [Institute for Transport Railway Operation and Construction](#)
Date: 2004-11-01
Copyright: Copyright David Abrahams, Jeremy Siek, and Thomas Witt 2003.

abstract: The reverse iterator adaptor iterates through the adapted iterator range in the opposite direction.

Table of Contents

[reverse_iterator synopsis](#)
[reverse_iterator requirements](#)
[reverse_iterator models](#)
[reverse_iterator operations](#)
[Example](#)

reverse_iterator synopsis

```
template <class Iterator>
class reverse_iterator
{
public:
    typedef iterator_traits<Iterator>::value_type value_type;
    typedef iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference reference;
    typedef iterator_traits<Iterator>::pointer pointer;
    typedef iterator_traits<Iterator>::difference_type difference_type;
    typedef /* see below */ iterator_category;

    reverse_iterator() {}
    explicit reverse_iterator(Iterator x) ;

    template<class OtherIterator>
    reverse_iterator(
        reverse_iterator<OtherIterator> const& r
        , typename enable_if_convertible<OtherIterator, Iterator>::type* = 0 // exposition
    );
    Iterator const& base() const;
```

```

    reference operator*() const;
    reverse_iterator& operator++();
    reverse_iterator& operator--();
private:
    Iterator m_iterator; // exposition
};

```

If `Iterator` models Random Access Traversal Iterator and Readable Lvalue Iterator, then `iterator_category` is convertible to `random_access_iterator_tag`. Otherwise, if `Iterator` models Bidirectional Traversal Iterator and Readable Lvalue Iterator, then `iterator_category` is convertible to `bidirectional_iterator_tag`. Otherwise, `iterator_category` is convertible to `input_iterator_tag`.

reverse_iterator requirements

`Iterator` must be a model of Bidirectional Traversal Iterator. The type `iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference` must be the type of `*i`, where `i` is an object of type `Iterator`.

reverse_iterator models

A specialization of `reverse_iterator` models the same iterator traversal and iterator access concepts modeled by its `Iterator` argument. In addition, it may model old iterator concepts specified in the following table:

If I models	then reverse_iterator<I> models
Readable Lvalue Iterator, Bidirectional Traversal Iterator	Bidirectional Iterator
Writable Lvalue Iterator, Bidirectional Traversal Iterator	Mutable Bidirectional Iterator
Readable Lvalue Iterator, Random Access Traversal Iterator	Random Access Iterator
Writable Lvalue Iterator, Random Access Traversal Iterator	Mutable Random Access Iterator

`reverse_iterator<X>` is interoperable with `reverse_iterator<Y>` if and only if `X` is interoperable with `Y`.

reverse_iterator operations

In addition to the operations required by the concepts modeled by `reverse_iterator`, `reverse_iterator` provides the following operations.

```
reverse_iterator();
```

Requires: `Iterator` must be Default Constructible.

Effects: Constructs an instance of `reverse_iterator` with `m_iterator` default constructed.

```
explicit reverse_iterator(Iterator x);
```

Effects: Constructs an instance of `reverse_iterator` with `m_iterator` copy constructed from `x`.

```
template<class OtherIterator>
reverse_iterator(
```

```

    reverse_iterator<OtherIterator> const& r
    , typename enable_if_convertible<OtherIterator, Itera-
tor>::type* = 0 // exposition
);

```

Requires: OtherIterator is implicitly convertible to Iterator.

Effects: Constructs instance of reverse_iterator whose m_iterator subobject is constructed from y.base().

```
Iterator const& base() const;
```

Returns: m_iterator

```
reference operator*() const;
```

Effects:

```
Iterator tmp = m_iterator;
return *--tmp;
```

```
reverse_iterator& operator++();
```

Effects: --m_iterator

Returns: *this

```
reverse_iterator& operator--();
```

Effects: ++m_iterator

Returns: *this

```
template <class BidirectionalIterator>
reverse_iterator<BidirectionalIterator>n
make_reverse_iterator(BidirectionalIterator x);
```

Returns: An instance of reverse_iterator<BidirectionalIterator> with a current constructed from x.

Example

The following example prints an array of characters in reverse order using reverse_iterator.

```

char letters_[] = "hello world!";
const int N = sizeof(letters_)/sizeof(char) - 1;
typedef char* base_iterator;
base_iterator letters(letters_);
std::cout << "original sequence of letters:\t\t\t" << let-
ters_ << std::endl;

boost::reverse_iterator<base_iterator>
    reverse_letters_first(letters + N),
    reverse_letters_last(letters);

std::cout << "sequence in reverse order:\t\t\t";
std::copy(reverse_letters_first, reverse_letters_last,

```

```
        std::ostream_iterator<char>(std::cout));
std::cout << std::endl;

std::cout << "sequence in double-reversed (normal) order:\t";
std::copy(boost::make_reverse_iterator(reverse_letters_last),
          boost::make_reverse_iterator(reverse_letters_first),
          std::ostream_iterator<char>(std::cout));
std::cout << std::endl;
```

The output is:

```
original sequence of letters:      hello world!
sequence in reverse order:        !dlrow olleh
sequence in double-reversed (normal) order:  hello world!
```

The source code for this example can be found [here](#).