

# Copy versus Move: swap

```
std::vector<int> a, b;  
swap(a, b);
```

```
template <typename T>  
void swap(T& a, T& b) {  
    T tmp(a);  
    a = b;  
    b = tmp;  
}
```

```
template <typename T>  
void swap(T& a, T& b) {  
    T tmp(std::move(a));  
    a = std::move(b);  
    b = std::move(tmp);  
}
```

swap.cpp

```
T tmp(a);
```

- Allocates `tmp` and each element from `tmp`.
- Copy each element from `a` to `tmp`.
- Deallocates `tmp` and each element from `tmp`.

```
T tmp(std::move(a));
```

- Redirects the pointer from `tmp` to `a`.

# Move Semantics: `std::move`

The function `std::move` moves its resource.

- `std::move`
  - Needs the header `<utility>`.
  - Converts its argument into a rvalue reference.
  - The compiler applies move semantics.
  - Is under the hood a `static_cast` to a rvalue reference  
`static_cast<std::remove_reference<decltype(arg)>::type&&>(arg);`



Copy semantics is a fallback for move semantics.

# Move Semantics: STL

Each container of the STL and `std::string` has two new constructors:

- Move constructor
- Move assignment operator

▪ These new member functions take its arguments as **non-constant** rvalue references .

▪ **Example**

```
vector{  
    vector(vector&& vec);           // move constructor  
    vector& operator = (vector&& vec); // move assignment operator  
    vector(const vector& vec);      // copy constructor  
    vector& operator = (const vector& vec); // copy assignment operator  
    . . .
```



The classical copy constructor and copy assignment operator take its argument as **constant** lvalue reference.