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Audience: LEWG
Target: Parallelism TS 2

FINDING THE RIGHT SET OF TRAITS FOR `SIMD<T>`

[ABSTRACT](#)

This paper makes the set of traits for `simd<T>` more complete.

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1

INTRODUCTION

[N4744] defines the trait `simd_abi::deduce<T, N>`, allowing users to find an “implementation-recommended” ABI tag for a given `value_type` and number of elements. P0820R1 discusses a use for considering involved ABI tags in the “recommendation”. SG1 polled in Albuquerque about

Poll: `abi_for_size_t` (SF) vs. *implementation-defined* (SA)

SF	F	N	A	SA
1	7	7	0	0

The poll result implies that SG1 prefers users to be able to spell out the ABI tags that are determined as return types.

2

MOTIVATION

As P0820R1 shows, there is a use case for deducing an ABI tag type from a `value_type`, a width, and additionally zero or more “input” ABI tags. The latter tells the deduction logic what ABI tags are used in the input types to produce an object of the requested `value_type` and width. This enables an implementation design choice of staying within a certain SIMD register subset.

From the user’s perspective, the ABI tag deduction is most often necessary in the following two cases:

- Given a certain `simd` type, what is the best `simd` type for a different `value_type` (e.g. mixed precision calculations).
- Given a certain `simd` type, what is the best `simd` type for a different width (e.g. split, concat, shuffle).

Therefore, I propose to

1. extend `simd_abi::deduce` to consider input ABI tags in its decision,
2. introduce a new trait `rebind_simd<U, V>`, which deduces a `simd<U, Abi>` instantiation from a given `simd` type `V` and requested `value_type` `U`, and
3. introduce a new trait `resize_simd<N, V>`, which deduces a `simd<T, Abi>` instantiation from a given `simd` type `V` with `value_type` `T` and requested width `N`.

3

PROPOSED WORDING

Apply the following change to the Parallelism TS 2 [N4744]:

modify [parallel.simd.synopsis]

```

template <class T, size_t N> struct deduce { using type = see below; };
template <class T, size_t N> using deduce_t = typename deduce<T, N>::type;
template <class T, size_t N, class... Abis> struct deduce { using type = see below; };
template <class T, size_t N, class... Abis> using deduce_t = typename deduce<T, N, Abis...>::type;

```

add to [parallel.simd.synopsis]

```

inline constexpr size_t memory_alignment_v = memory_alignment<T, U>::value;

template <class T, class V> struct rebind_simd { using type = see below; };
template <class T, class V> using rebind_simd_t = typename rebind_simd<T, V>::type;
template <int N, class V> struct resize_simd { using type = see below; };
template <int N, class V> using resize_simd_t = typename resize_simd<N, V>::type;

```

modify [parallel.simd.abi]

```

template <class T, size_t N> struct deduce { using type = see below; };
template <class T, size_t N, class... Abis> struct deduce { using type = see below; };

```

12 The member type is present if and only if

- T is a vectorizable type, and
- `simd_abi::fixed_size<N>` is supported (see 9.2.1), and
- every type in the Abis pack is an ABI tag.

13 Where present, the member typedef type names an ABI tag type that satisfies

- `simd_size_v<T, type> == N`, and
- `simd<T, type>` is default constructible (see 9.3.1),

If N is 1, the member typedef type is `simd_abi::scalar`. Otherwise, if there are multiple ABI tag types that satisfy the constraints, the member typedef type is implementation-defined. [*Note:* It is expected that extended ABI tags can produce better optimizations and thus are preferred over `simd_abi::fixed_size<N>`. Implementations can base the choice on Abis, but can also ignore the Abis arguments. — *end note*]

add at the end of [parallel.simd.traits]

```

template <class T, class V> struct rebind_simd { using type = see below; };

```

15 The member type is present if and only if

- V is either `simd<U, Abi0>` or `simd_mask<U, Abi0>`, where U and Abi0 are deduced from V, and
- T is a vectorizable type, and
- `simd_abi::deduce<T, simd_size_v<U, Abi0>, Abi0>` has a member type type.

16 Let Abi1 denote the type `deduce_t<T, simd_size_v<U, Abi0>, Abi0>`. Where present, the member typedef type names `simd<T, Abi1>` if V is `simd<U, Abi0>` or `simd_mask<T, Abi1>` if V is `simd_mask<U, Abi0>`.

```

template <int N, class V> struct resize_simd { using type = see below; };

```

17 The member type is present if and only if

- 18
- V is either `simd<T, Abi0>` or `simd_mask<T, Abi0>`, where T and Abi0 are deduced from V, and
 - `simd_abi::deduce<T, N, Abi0>` has a member type `type`.

Let `Abi1` denote the type `deduce_t<T, N, Abi0>`. Where present, the member typedef `type` names `simd<T, Abi1>` if V is `simd<T, Abi0>` or `simd_mask<T, Abi1>` if V is `simd_mask<T, Abi0>`.

4

CHANGELOG

4.1

CHANGES FROM R1

Previous revision: [P0964R1].

- Editorial changes to the wording: “denotes” instead of “identify”, remove incorrect “shall”.

4.2

CHANGES FROM R0

Previous revision: [P0964R0].

- Adjusted to changes between [P0214R8] and [N4744].
- Make `resize_simd` a non-optional part of the requested changes (after SG1 discussion).
- Update motivation after resolving different naming preferences with Tim.

5

STRAW POLLS

5.1

SG1 AT JACKSONVILLE 2018

Poll: Proceed to LEWG?
→ unanimous consent

5.2

LEWG AT RAPPERSWIL 2018

Poll: Proceed to LWG?

SF	F	N	A	SA
4	5	0	0	0