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Project: Programming Language C++ - WG21

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Proposal of std::upto, std::indices and std::enumerate

Introduction

We propose the addition of three tiny helper functions: std::upto, std::indices and std::enumerate:

```
std::upto(n) returns a range of 0,1,2,...,n-1  
std::indices(c) returns std::upto(std::size(c))  
std::enumerate(c) returns the zipped range of std::indices(c) with c  
  
for (auto i : std::upto(5))  
    std::cout << i; // prints 0 1 2 3 4  
  
std::string fruits[] = {"apple", "orange", "banana"};  
  
for (auto i : std::indices(fruits))  
    std::cout << i; // prints 0 1 2  
  
for (const auto& [i, fruit] : std::enumerate(fruits))  
    std::cout << i << fruit; // prints 0 apple 1 orange 2 banana
```

Motivation

Zero-based indexing is an extremely common use case in C++. Based on analysis of ACTCD19, 30% of C/C++ files contain for statements, and of those 50% are zero-index-based for loops of the form:

```
for (T i = 0; i < N; i++) ...
```

It makes sense to provide a simple short-hand. For not the least of reasons that people often mess up the type of the loop variable:

```
for (int i = 0; i < vec.size(); i++) // oops, .size() is decltype(vec)::size_type not int
```

Also the end bound is evaluated once.

Design

We considered, in addition, adding more complicated forms like std::upto(a,b) and std::downfrom(n) and steps - but this created complications. Inclusive or exclusive bounds? What about if the upper bound is inclusive and is at max of the type?

We have a std::ranges library for doing all sorts of fancy things. std::upto, std::indices and std::enumerate are just about addressing tersely the simple single-step zero-indexing use case that come up the most often.

Should these be in the ranges subnamespace?

No. They should be very terse, as they come up so often.

Specification

In header <ranges>...

```
namespace std {

template<typename Int>
constexpr auto upto(Int&& i) noexcept { return std::ranges::iota_view{Int(),std::forward<Int>(i)}; }

template<typename Container>
constexpr auto indices(const Container& c) { return std::upto(std::size(c)); }

template<typename Container>
constexpr auto sindices(const Container& c) { return std::upto(std::ssize(c)); }

template<typename Container>
auto enumerate(Container&& c) { return std::ranges::zip_view(std::indices(c),c); }

template<typename Container>
auto senumerate(Container&& c) { return std::ranges::zip_view(std::sindices(c),c); }
```

```
} // namespace std
```

Outstanding Issues

- Uses zip_view from p1035r4