Ch12-Vectors

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1 12 Vectors

1.1 Topics

- what is and why vectors
- how to use vectors
- various operations and methods on vectors
- applications and example codes using vectors
- sorting vectors

1.2 12.1 Vectors

- vector is a collection of values where each value is identified by a number (index)
- anything that can be done by C-array (Array chapter) can be done using vectors
 - unlike C-array, vector is an advanced type like C++ string
- vector is defined in the C++ Standard Template Library (STL)
 - vector is one of my containers library https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/container
 - array, set, map, queue, stack, priority queue are some other containers
- learning vector is similar to learning C++ string container
 - main difference is vector can store any type of element
 - learn all the operations provided by vector
 - * what they are; what they do; how to use them...
 - apply it to solve problems
- vector and other containers provided in STL are templated, hence STL
 - the actual type that you're storing in those containers need to be specified
 - very similar to template struct types covered in **Structures** chapter
 - if you're interested to learn about all these STL containers and more, there are Jupyter Notebooks you can use: https://github.com/rambasnet/STL-Notebooks
- must include <vector> header to use vector type

1.3 12.2 Vector objects

- C++ vector is a type defined in **<vector>** header
- objects must be instantiated or declared to allocate memory before we can store data into them
- since vector uses template type, you must provide the actual type of the data
- syntax:

#include <vector>

```
vector<type> objectName;
```

```
[1]: #include <iostream>
     #include <vector>
     #include <string>
     #include <sstream>
     #include <cassert>
     using namespace std;
[2]: // declare empty vectors
     vector<string> names;
     vector<float> tests;
     vector<int> numbers;
[3]: // let's see the contents
     names
[3]: {}
[4]: // declare and initialize vectors
     vector<string> words = {"i", "love", "c++", "vectors"};
     vector<float> prices = {1.99, 199, 2.99, 200.85, 45.71};
[5]: // let's see the contents
     words
[5]: { "i", "love", "c++", "vectors" }
[6]: prices
[6]: { 1.99000f, 199.000f, 2.99000f, 200.850f, 45.7100f }
    1.3.1 vectors of user-defined struct type
       • vector like array can be used to store user-defined data types using struct
[7]: // define Rectangle type
     // Note - the word Type is redundant! Rectangle by itself would mean a type
     struct RectangleType {
         float length, width;
     };
[8]: // create vector of RectangleType
     vector<RectangleType> rects;
```

[9]: // declare and initialize rectangles vector with two rectangles vector<RectangleType> rectangles = {{10, 5}, {8.5, 2.6}};

```
[10]: // define a templated Point type
template<typename T> // typename can be used as well instead of class
struct Point { // no need to say PointType
    T x, y;
};
```

```
[11]: // declare vector of Point type
vector<Point<int> > points; // Point itself is a template type!
// notice the space between >> !!required!!
// recall >> is input extraction operator
```

```
[12]: // declare and initialize vector of Point
vector<Point<int>> morePoints = {{0, 0}, {1, 1}, {2, 2}};
```

1.4 12.3 Accessing elements

- mostly using index just like in C-array or string
- index starts from 0 and goes to 1 less than the vector size or length
- at(index): access specified element with bounds checking
- operator[index] : access specified element by index
- front(): access the first element
- back(): access the last element
- sounds familiar? same way as accessing characters in string objects

```
[13]: // access elements
  // change i to I in words
  words[0] = "I";
  cout << words[1] << endl; // print 2nd word
  cout << prices.at(3) << endl;
  cout << prices.front() << endl;
  cout << prices.back() << endl;</pre>
```

love 200.85 1.99 45.71

```
[14]: // calculate area of first rectangle stored in rectangles vector
cout << "area = " << rectangles[0].length*rectangles[1].width << endl;</pre>
```

area = 26

1.5 12.4 Capacity

- unlike C-array, vector provides member functions to work with the capacity of the vector objects
- the following are the commonly used methods
- empty(): checks whether the container is empty; returns true if empty; false otherwise
- size(): returns the number of elements or length of the vector
- max size(): returns the maximum possible number of elements that can be stored

```
[15]: cout << boolalpha; // convert boolean to text true/false
    cout << "is prices vector empty? " << prices.empty() << endl;
    cout << "size of words: " << prices.size() << endl;
    cout << "size of prices: " << prices.size() << endl;
    cout << "max size of words: " << words.max_size() << endl;
    cout << "max capacity of rectangles: " << rectangles.max_size() << endl;

is prices vector empty? false
    size of words: 5
    size of prices: 5
    max size of words: 768614336404564650
    max capacity of rectangles: 2305843009213693951</pre>
```

1.6 12.5 Modifying vectors

- vectors once created can be modified using various member functions or methods
- some commonly used methods are:
- clear(): clears the contents

[19]: {}

- push_back(element): adds an element to the end
- pop_back(): removes the last element
- Note: if C-array was used, programmers would be have to implement these functions

```
[16]: vector<int> age = {21, 34, 46, 48, 46};
[17]: // see the initial contents
    age
[17]: { 21, 34, 46, 48, 46 }
[18]: // let's clear age vector
    age.clear();
[19]: // is age cleared?
    age
```

```
[20]: // double check!
      age.empty()
[20]: true
[21]: // let's add element into the empty age vector
      age.push_back(25);
[22]: age.push_back(39);
[23]: age.push_back(45.5); // can't correctly add double to int vector
     input_line_38:2:16: warning: implicit conversion from
     'double' to 'std::__1::vector<int, std::__1::allocator<int> >::value_type' (aka
     'int') changes
           value from 45.5 to 45 [-Wliteral-conversion]
      age.push_back(45.5); // can't correctly add double to int vector
[24]: age
[24]: { 25, 39, 45 }
[25]: // let's see the last element
      age.back()
[25]: 45
[26]: // let's remove the last element
      age.pop_back();
[27]: // check if last element is gone
      age
[27]: { 25, 39 }
[28]: // push_back rectangle
      rectangles.push_back({5, 2});
[29]: // instantiate r1 object
      RectangleType r1 = {100, 50};
[30]: // add r1 object into rectangles vector
      rectangles.push_back(r1);
```

```
[31]: // Jupyer doesn't know how to display rectangle objects; it displays their → addresses rectangles
```

[31]: { @0x7fb53cf2ebe0, @0x7fb53cf2ebe8, @0x7fb53cf2ebf0, @0x7fb53cf2ebf8 }

1.7 12.6 Traversing vectors

```
• similar to string and C-array, vectors can be accessed from the first to last element
        • use loop and index or iterators
[32]: for(auto val: words)
          cout << val << "; ";
     I; love; c++; vectors;
[33]: for(int i=0; i<words.size(); i++) {
          cout << words[i] << " is " << words[i].length() << " characters long." << __
       →endl;
      }
     I is 1 characters long.
     love is 4 characters long.
     c++ is 3 characters long.
     vectors is 7 characters long.
[34]: // auto also works on user-defined type
      for(auto rect: rectangles) {
          cout << "rectangle info - length x width: " << rect.length << " x " << rect.</pre>
       →width << endl;</pre>
      }
     rectangle info - length x width: 10 x 5
     rectangle info - length x width: 8.5 x 2.6
     rectangle info - length x width: 5 x 2
     rectangle info - length x width: 100 x 50
```

```
[35]: // same as above for(RectangleType rect: rectangles) { cout << "rectangle info - length x width: " << rect.length << " x " << rect. →width << endl; }
```

```
rectangle info - length x width: 10 x 5 rectangle info - length x width: 8.5 x 2.6 rectangle info - length x width: 5 x 2 rectangle info - length x width: 100 x 50
```

```
rectangle area: 10x5 = 50
rectangle area: 8.5x2.6 = 22.1
rectangle area: 5x2 = 10
rectangle area: 100x50 = 5000
```

1.8 12.7 Iterators

- similar to string iterators, vector provides various iterators
- iterators are special pointers that let you manipulate vector
- several member function of vector uses iterator to do its operation
- let's revist the iterators we went over in string chapter
- begin() returns iterator to the first element
- end() returns iterator to the end (past the last element)
- rbegin() returns reverse iterator to the last element
- rend() returns a reverse iterator to the beginning (prior to the first element)

```
[37]: // let's use iterator to traverse vectors
// very similar to using for loop with index
for(auto iter = words.begin(); iter != words.end(); iter++)
cout << *iter << "; "; // iter is a pointer; so must derefernce to access
→value pointed to by iter
```

I; love; c++; vectors;

vectors; c++; love; I;

1.9 12.8 Aggregagte operations

- some aggegate operators such as assignment (=) and comparison operators (>, ==, etc.) are overloaded and work out of the box on vector objects as a whole
- sorta! depends on what type of vector it is and is there predfined ordering of values in that type!
- input, output (<<,>>) operators do not work on vector objects as a whole

```
[39]: // create words copy vector with copy assignment
      vector<string> words_copy = words; // deep copies words into words_copy
[40]: vector<RectangleType> rectangles_copy;
[41]: rectangles_copy = rectangles; // deep copies rectangles into rectangles_copy
[41]: { @0x7fb53d544fa0, @0x7fb53d544fa8, @0x7fb53d544fb0, @0x7fb53d544fb8 }
[42]: // string can be compared out of the box
      if (words == words copy)
          cout << "two vectors are equal!";</pre>
      else
          cout << "two vectors are not equal!";</pre>
     two vectors are equal!
[43]: // each rectangle objects can't be compared.. recall struct aggregate operation
      // two struct types can't be compared out of the box; can be done, however,
      →with operator overloading!!
      if (rectangles_copy == rectangles)
          cout << "equal!";</pre>
      else
          cout << "not equal";</pre>
     In file included from input_line_5:1:
     In file included from
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/xeus/xinterpreter.hpp:13:
     In file included from
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/string:504:
     In file included from
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/string_view:175:
     In file included from
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/__string:56:
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/algorithm:678:71:
     error: invalid operands to binary expression ('const
     RectangleType' and 'const RectangleType')
         bool operator()(const _T1& __x, const _T1& __y) const {return __x == __y;}
     /Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/algorithm:1262:14:
     note: in instantiation of member function
     'std::__1::__equal_to<RectangleType, RectangleType>::operator()' requested
     here
             if (! pred(* first1, * first2))
```

```
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/algorithm:1275:19:
note: in instantiation of function template specialization
'std::__1::equal<std::__1::__wrap_iter<const RectangleType *>,
      std::__1::__wrap_iter<const RectangleType *>,
std::__1::__equal_to<RectangleType, RectangleType> >' requested here
    return _VSTD::equal(__first1, __last1, __first2, __equal_to<__v1, __v2>());
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/vector:3368:41:
note: in instantiation of function template specialization
'std::__1::equal<std::__1::__wrap_iter<const RectangleType *>,
      std::__1::__wrap_iter<const RectangleType *> >' requested here
    return __sz == __y.size() && _VSTD::equal(__x.begin(), __x.end(),
__y.begin());
input_line_63:4:21: note: in instantiation of function
template specialization 'std::__1::operator==<RectangleType,</pre>
      std::__1::allocator<RectangleType> >' requested here
if (rectangles_copy == rectangles)
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/utility:579:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match 'pair<type-
parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator==(const pair<_T1,_T2>& __x, const pair<_T1,_T2>& __y)
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/iterator:739:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'reverse_iterator<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator == (const reverse_iterator < _Iter1 > & __x, const reverse_iterator < _Iter2 > &
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/iterator:968:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'istream iterator<type-parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1,
      type-parameter-0-2, type-parameter-0-3>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator==(const istream_iterator<_Tp, _CharT, _Traits, _Distance>& __x,
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/iterator:1072:6:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'istreambuf_iterator<type-parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1>' against
      'const RectangleType'
```

```
bool operator==(const istreambuf_iterator<_CharT,_Traits>& __a,
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/iterator:1175:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'move_iterator<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator == (const move_iterator < _Iter1>& __x, const move_iterator < _Iter2>& __y)
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/iterator:1547:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'__wrap_iter<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator==(const __wrap_iter<_Iter1>& __x, const __wrap_iter<_Iter2>& __y)
_NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/tuple:1139:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match 'tuple<type-
parameter-0-0...>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator == (const tuple < Tp...>& __x, const tuple < Up...>& __y)
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:1986:6:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'allocator<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
bool operator==(const allocator<_Tp>&, const allocator<_Up>&) _NOEXCEPT {return
true;}
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:2847:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'unique_ptr<type-parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1>' against
      'const RectangleType'
operator==(const unique_ptr<_T1, _D1>& __x, const unique_ptr<_T2, _D2>& __y)
{return __x.get() == __y.get();}
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:2883:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'unique_ptr<type-parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1>' against
      'const RectangleType'
operator == (const unique_ptr<_T1, _D1>& __x, nullptr_t) _NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:2891:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'unique_ptr<type-parameter-0-0, type-parameter-0-1>' against
```

```
'const RectangleType'
operator == (nullptr_t, const unique_ptr<_T1, _D1>& __x) _NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:4667:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'shared_ptr<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator==(const shared_ptr<_Tp>& __x, const shared_ptr<_Up>& __y) _NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:4721:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'shared_ptr<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator == (const shared_ptr<_Tp>& __x, nullptr_t) _NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/memory:4729:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'shared_ptr<type-parameter-0-0>' against 'const RectangleType'
operator == (nullptr_t, const shared_ptr<_Tp>& __x) _NOEXCEPT
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/functional:2452:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'function<type-parameter-0-0 (type-parameter-0-1...)>' against
      'const RectangleType'
operator == (const function < Rp(_ArgTypes...) > & __f, nullptr_t) _NOEXCEPT {return
!__f;}
/Users/rbasnet/anaconda3/envs/cpp/include/c++/v1/functional:2457:1:
note: candidate template ignored: could not match
'function<type-parameter-0-0 (type-parameter-0-1...)>' against
      'const RectangleType'
operator==(nullptr_t, const function<_Rp(_ArgTypes...)>& __f) _NOEXCEPT {return
!__f;}
```

Interpreter Error:

1.10 12.9 Passing vectors to functions

- vector can be passed to functions by value or by reference
- unless required, it's always efficient to pass containers type such as vectors to function by

reference

 copying data can be costly (take a long time) depending on the amount of data vector has

```
[44]: // given a vector of values find and return average
      float findAverage(const vector<int> & v) {
          float sum = 0;
          for (auto val: v)
              sum += val;
          return sum/v.size();
      }
[45]: // let's see the values of age vector
      age
[45]: { 25, 39 }
[46]: cout << "average age = " << findAverage(age);</pre>
     average age = 32
[47]: // printVector function
      template<class T>
      void printVector(const vector<T>& v) {
          char comma[3] = {'\0', '', '\0'};
          cout << '[';
          for (const auto& e: v) {
              cout << comma << e;</pre>
              comma[0] = ',';
          }
          cout << "]\n";
      }
[48]: printVector(words);
     [I, love, c++, vectors]
[49]: printVector(age)
```

1.11 12.10 Returning vector from functions

[25, 39]

- since vector supports (=) copy operator, returning vector from functions is possible
- since returned vector needs to be copied (which can be costly),
 - it's best practice to use pass-by reference to get the data/results out of functions

```
[14]: // function that gets vector of integers
      void getNumbers(vector<int> & numbers) {
          cout << "Enter as many whole numbers as you wish.\nEnter 'done' when done:</pre>
       \hookrightarrow \n'';
          int num:
          while(cin >> num) // cin will return false when it fails
              numbers.push_back(num);
      }
[15]: // create an empty vector
      vector<int> my_numbers;
[16]: getNumbers(my_numbers);
     Enter as many whole numbers as you wish.
     Enter 'done' when done:
     1000
     898
     10
     345
     4232
     end
[53]: my_numbers
[53]: { 10, 99, 100, 345 }
     1.12 12.11 Two-dimensional vector
        • if we insert vectors as an element to a vector, we essentially get a 2-d vector
            - similar to 2-d array
[10]: // let's declare a 2-d vector of integers
      vector< vector<int> > matrix;
[11]: // add the first vector - first row
      matrix.push_back({1, 2, 3, 4});
[12]: matrix[0]
[12]: { 1, 2, 3, 4 }
[13]: // let's add an empty vector as the second element or 2nd row
      matrix.push_back(vector<int>());
[14]: // let's add elements to the 2nd vector or 2nd row
      matrix[1].push_back(5);
```

```
matrix[1].push_back(6);
      matrix[1].push_back(7);
      matrix[1].push_back(8);
[15]: matrix[1]
[15]: { 5, 6, 7, 8 }
[16]: // access element of vector elements
      // first row, first column
      matrix[0][0]
[16]: 1
[17]: // 2nd row, fourth column
      matrix[1][3]
[17]: 8
     1.13 12.12 Sort vector
        • vector like array needs to sorted often to solve many problems
        • let's use built-in sort function in algorithm library
```

- - way better than using bubble sort, or implementing anorther faster alogrithm such as quick sort

```
[2]: #include <vector>
      #include <algorithm> // sort()
      #include <iterator> // begin() and end()
      #include <functional> // greater<>();
      #include <iostream>
      using namespace std;
 [3]: vector<int> some_values = { 100, 99, 85, 40, 1233, 1};
 [7]: // let's sort some_values
      sort(begin(some_values), end(some_values));
 [8]: some_values
 [8]: { 1, 40, 85, 99, 100, 1233 }
[18]: // let's sort 1st row of matrix in reverse order
      matrix[0]
[18]: { 1, 2, 3, 4 }
```

```
[19]: // sort in increasing order
    sort(matrix[0].begin(), matrix[0].end());

[20]: matrix[0]

[20]: { 1, 2, 3, 4 }

[21]: // sort in on-increasing order
    sort(matrix[0].begin(), matrix[0].end(), greater<int>());

[22]: matrix[0]

[22]: { 4, 3, 2, 1 }
```

1.14 12.13 Exercises

1.14.1 Sove all exercises listed in Array chapter using vector instead.

- 1. Write a function that splits a given text/string into a vector of individual words
 - each word is sequence of characters separated by a whitespace
 - write 3 test cases

```
[23]: // Solution to Exercise 1
void splitString(vector<string> &words, string text) {
    string word;
    stringstream ss(text);
    while (ss >> word) {
        words.push_back(word);
    }
}
```

```
[24]: void test_splitString() {
          vector<string> answer;
          splitString(answer, "word");
          vector<string> actual = {"word"};
          assert(answer == actual);
          answer.clear();
          splitString(answer, "two word");
          vector<string> actual1 = {"two, word"};
          assert(answer == actual1);
          answer.clear();
          splitString(answer, "A sentence with multiple words!");
          vector<string> actual2 = {"A", "sentence", "with", "multiple", "words!"};
          assert(answer == actual2);
          answer.clear();
          cerr << "all test cases is passed for splitString()\n";</pre>
      }
```

- "to", "comprehend!" }
 - 2. Write a program that computes distance between two points in Cartesian coordinates.
 - use struct to represent Point
 - prompt user to enter two points
 - use vector to store all the entered points
 - use as many function(s) as possible
 - write at least 3 test cases for each computing functions
 - program continues to run until user wants to quit
 - most of the part is done in Jupyter Notebook demo
 - 3. Write a program to compute area and circumference of a circle using struct.
 - use struct to represent Circle
 - prompt user to enter radius of a circle
 - use vector to store all the entered circle
 - use as many function(s) as possible
 - write at least 3 test cases for each computing functions
 - program continues to run until user wants to quit
 - 4. Write a program to compute area and perimeter of a rectangle using struct.
 - use struct to represent Rectangle
 - prompt user to enter length and width of a rectangle
 - use vector to store all the entered rectangle data
 - use as many function(s) as possible
 - write at least 3 test cases for each computing functions
 - program continues to run until user wants to quit
 - 5. Write a program to compute area and perimeter of a triangle given 3 sides.
 - use struct to represent Triangle
 - prompt user to enter 3 sides of a triangle
 - use vector to store all the entered triangles data
 - use as many function(s) as possible
 - write at least 3 test cases for each computing functions
 - program continues to run until user wants to quit

1.14.2 a sample solution to exercise 4 is found here demo_programs/Ch12/triangle.cpp

1.15 12.15 Kattis problems

- problems that require to store large amount of data in sequential order in memory can use vector very effectively
- design your solutions in a way that it can be tested writing automated test cases
- 1. Dice Game https://open.kattis.com/problems/dicegame
- 2. Falling Apart https://open.kattis.com/problems/fallingapart
- 3. Height Ordering https://open.kattis.com/problems/height
- 4. What does the fox say? https://open.kattis.com/problems/whatdoesthefoxsay
- 5. Army Strength (Easy) https://open.kattis.com/problems/armystrengtheasy
- 6. Army Strength (Hard) https://open.kattis.com/problems/armystrengthhard
- 7. Black Friday https://open.kattis.com/problems/blackfriday
- 8. Bacon, Eggs and Spam https://open.kattis.com/problems/baconeggsandspam

1.15.1 sorting vectors with two keys

- 1. Roll Call https://open.kattis.com/problems/rollcall
- 2. Cooking Water https://open.kattis.com/problems/cookingwater

1.16 12.16 Summary

- this chapter covered C++ vector container STL
- vector is an easier alternative to C-array
- vector is and advanced type that you can create/instantiate bojects from
- the type of the data must be mentioned as a template parameter while declaring vectors
- provides many out-of the box common operations in the form of member functions or methods
- vector can be passed to functions; returning a large vector may not be effective due to copying
 of data
- probems and sample solutions

[]: