

Getting to Know the Standard Library

Session 4

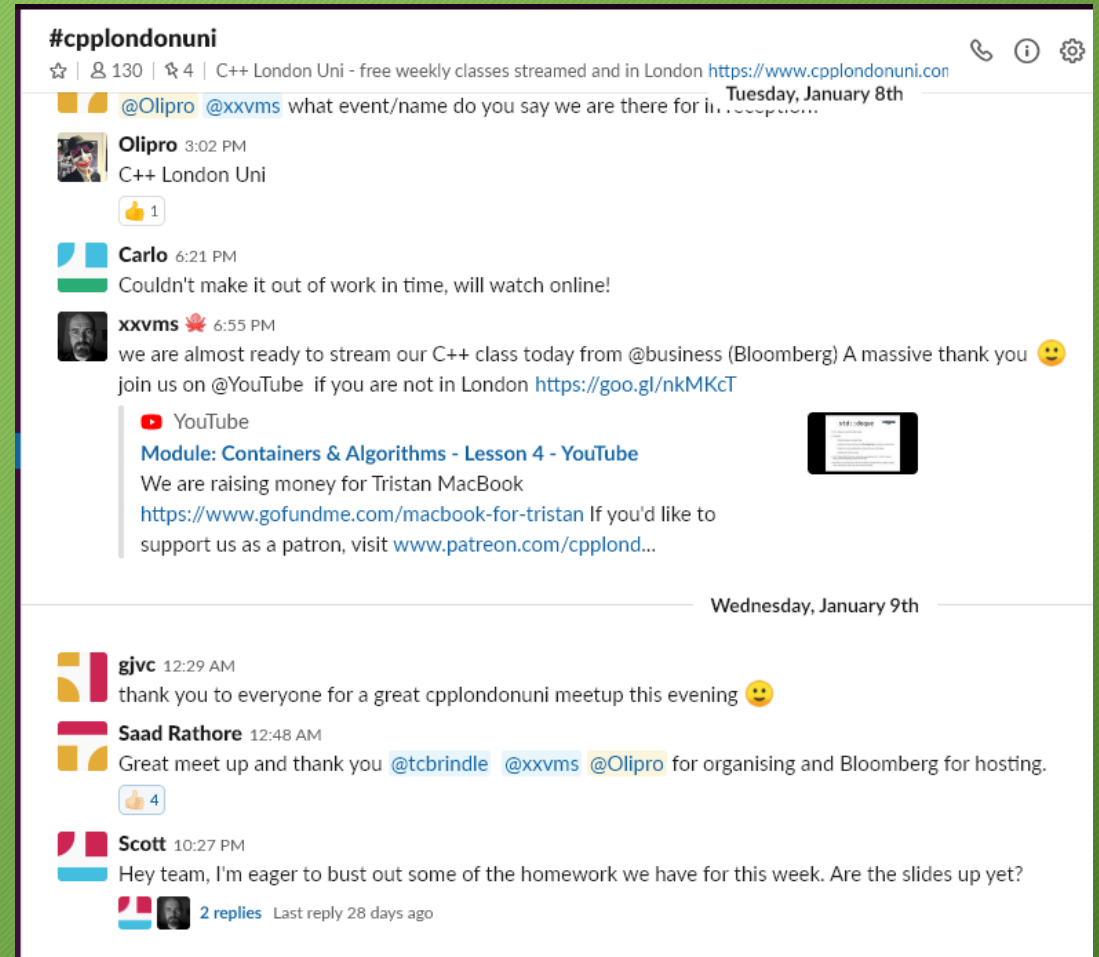


Alex Voronov

Feedback



- We'd love to hear from you!
- The easiest way is via the *CPPLang* Slack organisation. Our chatroom is #cpplondonuni
- If you already use Slack, don't worry, it supports multiple workgroups!
- Go to <https://slack.cpp.al> to register.



Getting to Know the Standard Library

1. Introduction to unit testing with Catch2
2. Basic containers
 - `std::vector`
 - `std::string`
3. Basics of the standard-library algorithms
4. Associative containers
 - `std::map` and `std::unordered_map`
 - `std::set` and `std::unordered_set`
 - Associative containers with custom types
 - Set algorithms
5. More standard-library algorithms

Introduction to standard-library algorithms

- Recap and updates
- Revision of an old problem:
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- Why do we use algorithms + quick overview
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We write unit tests instead of using `std::cout`



Catch2 is a single-header unit-testing framework

<https://github.com/catchorg/Catch2>

Download *catch.hpp* from the project page and include it in your *.cpp* file

```
std::vector<std::string> split_into_words(const std::string &input) {  
    std::vector<std::string> words;  
    size_t word_begin = 0;  
  
    while (true) {  
        const size_t space_pos = input.find(' ', word_begin);  
        const size_t word_length =  
            space_pos == std::string::npos ? input.size() - word_begin  
                                           : space_pos - word_begin;  
        std::string new_word = input.substr(word_begin, word_length);  
        if (!new_word.empty()) {  
            words.push_back(new_word);  
        }  
  
        if (space_pos == std::string::npos) {  
            break;  
        } else {  
            word_begin = space_pos + 1; // skip the space character  
        }  
    }  
  
    return words;  
}
```

Previous lesson exercise: Count substring occurrences

Write a function that given a string and a search substring returns the number of non-overlapping occurrences of the substring in the string

```
TEST_CASE("count occurrences") {  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("banana", "ban") == 1);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("banana", "band") == 0);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("banana", "a") == 3);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("banana", "an") == 2);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("banana", "") == 0);  
  
    CHECK(count_occurrences(std::string(8, 'a'), "a") == 8);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences(std::string(8, 'a'), "aa") == 4);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences(std::string(8, 'a'), "aaa") == 2);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences(std::string(8, 'a'), std::string(8, 'a')) == 1);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences(std::string(8, 'a'), std::string(9, 'a')) == 0);  
    CHECK(count_occurrences("", "a") == 0);  
}
```

Previous lesson exercise:

Possible solution

```
size_t
count_occurrences(const std::string &string, const std::string &substring) {
    if (substring.empty()) {
        return 0u;
    }

    size_t count = 0u;
    size_t start_pos = 0u;
    while (true) {
        start_pos = string.find(substring, start_pos);
        if (start_pos == std::string::npos) {
            return count;
        }
        ++count;
        start_pos += substring.size();
    }
}
```


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Back to counting positive numbers

```
size_t count_positive(const std::vector<int> &numbers) {  
    size_t count = 0u;  
    for (auto number : numbers) {  
        if (number > 0) {  
            ++count;  
        }  
    }  
  
    return count;  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("Count positive numbers") {  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 2, 3, 4, 5}) == 5);  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 0, 0, 0, 1}) == 2);  
    CHECK(count_positive({-1, -1, 0, 0, 42, 27}) == 2);  
}
```

Introduce count_if with a predicate

```
bool is_positive(int number) { return number > 0; }

size_t count_positive(const std::vector<int> &numbers) {
    return std::count_if(numbers.cbegin(), numbers.cend(),
        /*predicate*/ is_positive);
}

TEST_CASE("Count positive numbers") {
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 2, 3, 4, 5}) == 5);
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 0, 0, 0, 1}) == 2);
    CHECK(count_positive({-1, -1, 0, 0, 42, 27}) == 2);
}
```


Use a lambda function as a predicate

```
size_t count_positive(const std::vector<int> &numbers) {  
    auto is_positive = [](int number) { return number > 0; };  
    return std::count_if(numbers.cbegin(), numbers.cend(),  
        /*predicate*/ is_positive);  
}  
  
TEST_CASE("Count positive numbers") {  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 2, 3, 4, 5}) == 5);  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 0, 0, 0, 1}) == 2);  
    CHECK(count_positive({-1, -1, 0, 0, 42, 27}) == 2);  
}
```

Define the lambda function in place

```
size_t count_positive(const std::vector<int> &numbers) {  
    return std::count_if(numbers.cbegin(), numbers.cend(),  
        /*predicate*/ [](int number) { return number > 0; });  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("Count positive numbers") {  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 2, 3, 4, 5}) == 5);  
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 0, 0, 0, 1}) == 2);  
    CHECK(count_positive({-1, -1, 0, 0, 42, 27}) == 2);  
}
```

And don't forget to #include <algorithm>

```
#define CATCH_CONFIG_MAIN
#include "catch.hpp"

#include <vector>
#include <algorithm>

size_t count_positive(const std::vector<int> &numbers) {
    return std::count_if(numbers.cbegin(), numbers.cend(),
        /*predicate*/ [](int number) { return number > 0; });
}

TEST_CASE("Count positive numbers") {
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 2, 3, 4, 5}) == 5);
    CHECK(count_positive({1, 0, 0, 0, 1}) == 2);
    CHECK(count_positive({-1, -1, 0, 0, 42, 27}) == 2);
}
```


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STL algorithms: Motivation to learn

- More expressive
Most of the names describe what they do, which makes the program more readable
- More reliable
Well tested. No need to worry about correct exit conditions or handling empty containers
- Faster
Better in computational complexity than naïve implementations

STL algorithms: Motivation to learn

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- More reliable
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- Faster
Better in computational complexity than naïve implementations

```
#include <algorithm>
#include <numeric>
```


We need to know them All Well / very well.

STL algorithms make code express

Raising level of abstraction

Sometimes, it's spectacular

Avoid mistakes



@JoBoccaro

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JONATHAN BOCCARA

105 STL Algorithms in
Less Than an Hour

<https://youtu.be/2olsGf6JlKU>

CppCon.org

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Lambda expressions

A way to define an anonymous function right at the places of use. They work great with algorithms!

Couple of tips:

- Prefer smaller lambda functions for better readability
- If you need to name them, use `auto` type specifier

Lambda expressions: Introduction

```
TEST_CASE("lambda expressions introduction") {  
    auto lambda_example =  
        [/i>captures */](/* function arguments */) {/* function body */};  
    lambda_example(); // invocation  
  
    auto add = [](int left, int right) { return left + right; };  
    CHECK(add(2, 3) == 5);  
    CHECK(add(-70, 70) == 0);  
  
    // lambda return type example  
    auto wrap_into_char =  
        [](int value) -> unsigned char { return value % 256; };  
  
    CHECK(wrap_into_char(0) == 0);  
    CHECK(wrap_into_char(10) == 10);  
    CHECK(wrap_into_char(-10) == 246);  
    CHECK(wrap_into_char(600) == 88);  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("lambda captures") {  
    int number = 3;  
    SECTION("capture by value") {  
        auto capture_by_value = [number]() { return number * number; };  
        number = 7;  
        CHECK(capture_by_value() == 9);  
    }  
  
    SECTION("capture by reference") {  
        auto capture_by_reference = [&number]() { return number * number; };  
        number = 7;  
        CHECK(capture_by_reference() == 49);  
    }  
  
    SECTION("modify capture by reference") {  
        auto modify_capture = [&number] { number += 2; };  
        modify_capture();  
        CHECK(number == 5);  
    }  
}
```


Capture defaults

```
int a = 5, b = 7, c = 20;
auto default_by_value = [=] { return a + b + c; };
auto default_by_reference = [&] { return a + b + c; };
auto default_by_value_with_exceptions = [=, &a] { return a + b + c; };
auto default_by_reference_with_exceptions = [&, c] { return a + b + c; };
```

Lambda expressions: Practice

Write a function that takes a vector of integer numbers and a reference number and returns how many numbers in a vector are greater than the reference number.

Use `std::count_if` with a lambda expression

```
TEST_CASE("count greater than") {  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 0) == 3);  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 1) == 3);  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 2) == 1);  
}
```

Lambda expressions: Practice

```
size_t count_greater_than(const std::vector<int> &numbers, int reference) {  
    return std::count_if(  
        numbers.begin(), numbers.end(),  
        [reference](const int entry) { return entry > reference; });  
}  
  
TEST_CASE("count greater than") {  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 0) == 3);  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 1) == 3);  
    CHECK(count_greater_than({0, 0, 2, 2, 3}, 2) == 1);  
}
```


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Next problem: Palindrome phrases

```
TEST_CASE("is palindrome") {  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("Nurses run."));  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("A Man, A Plan, A Canal: Panama!"));  
  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("level"));  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("Level"));  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("Noon"));  
    CHECK_FALSE(is_palindrome("Persimmon"));  
  
    CHECK(is_palindrome(""));  
    CHECK(is_palindrome(" "));  
    CHECK(is_palindrome("!?"));  
}
```

Palindrome phrases: Possible solution

```
bool is_palindrome(std::string phrase) {  
    phrase.erase(  
        std::remove_if(phrase.begin(), phrase.end(),  
                        [](unsigned char c) { return !std::isalnum(c); }),  
        phrase.end());  
  
    const size_t half_length = phrase.size() / 2;  
    return std::equal(  
        phrase.cbegin(), phrase.cbegin() + half_length,  
        phrase.crbegin(), phrase.crbegin() + half_length,  
        [](unsigned char left, unsigned char right) {  
            return std::tolower(left) == std::tolower(right);  
        });  
}
```


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std::count and std::count_if

```
TEST_CASE("count and count_if") {  
    std::vector<std::string> fruit_basket{  
        "banana", "apple", "orange", "banana", "persimmon"};  
  
    CHECK(count(fruit_basket.begin(), fruit_basket.end(), "banana") == 2);  
    CHECK(count_if(fruit_basket.begin(), fruit_basket.end(),  
        [](const std::string &fruit) { return fruit.size() >= 6; })  
        == 4);  
}
```

std::find

```
TEST_CASE("find") {
    std::vector<std::string> fruit_basket{
        "banana", "apple", "orange", "banana", "persimmon"};

    auto apple_it =
        std::find(fruit_basket.cbegin(), fruit_basket.cend(), "apple");
    REQUIRE(apple_it != fruit_basket.cend());
    CHECK(*apple_it == "apple");

    auto mango_it =
        std::find(fruit_basket.cbegin(), fruit_basket.cend(), "mango");
    REQUIRE(mango_it == fruit_basket.cend());

    // There is also find_if(...) that takes a predicate instead of a value.
}
```


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Helpers: std::isalnum and std::tolower

```
TEST_CASE("isalnum") {  
    CHECK(std::isalnum('a'));  
    CHECK(std::isalnum('A'));  
    CHECK(std::isalnum('Z'));  
    CHECK(std::isalnum('7'));  
  
    CHECK_FALSE(std::isalnum(' '));  
    CHECK_FALSE(std::isalnum('-'));  
    CHECK_FALSE(std::isalnum('.'));  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("tolower") {  
    CHECK(std::tolower('a') == 'a');  
    CHECK(std::tolower('A') == 'a');  
    CHECK(std::tolower('Z') == 'z');  
    CHECK(std::tolower('7') == '7');  
  
    CHECK(std::tolower(' ') == ' ');  
    CHECK(std::tolower('-') == '-');  
    CHECK(std::tolower('.') == '.');  
}
```

More from <cctype>:

- isalnum, isalpha, isdigit, isxdigit, ispunct, isspace
- islower, isupper, tolower, toupper
- isgraph, iscntrl, isblank, isprint

std::transform

```
TEST_CASE("transform: output is same as input") {  
    std::string mixed_case{"MiXeD cAsE"};  
    auto char_tolower = [](unsigned char c) { return std::tolower(c); };  
    std::transform(mixed_case.cbegin(), mixed_case.cend(), mixed_case.begin(),  
                  char_tolower);  
  
    CHECK(mixed_case == "mixed case");  
}
```



```
TEST_CASE("transform: output is different from input") {
    const std::string mixed_case{"MiXeD cAsE"};
    auto char_tolower = [](unsigned char c) { return std::tolower(c); };

    std::string preallocated_string(mixed_case.size(), ' ');
    std::transform(mixed_case.cbegin(), mixed_case.cend(),
                  preallocated_string.begin(), char_tolower);
    CHECK(preallocated_string == "mixed case");

    std::string allocated_during_transform;
    // std::transform(mixed_case.cbegin(), mixed_case.cend(),
    //               allocated_during_transform, char_tolower);
    // would be undefined behaviour due to trying to write to an empty string

    std::transform(mixed_case.cbegin(), mixed_case.cend(),
                  std::back_inserter(allocated_during_transform),
                  char_tolower);
    CHECK(allocated_during_transform == "mixed case");
}
```

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Back to erasing persimmons

```
std::vector<std::string> erase_persimmon(std::vector<std::string> fruit) {
    for (auto it = fruit.begin(); it != fruit.end(); ) {
        if (*it == "persimmon") {
            it = fruit.erase(it);
        } else {
            ++it;
        }
    }
    return fruit;
}

TEST_CASE("erase persimmon") {
    std::vector<std::string> fruit_basket{
        "banana", "orange", "persimmon", "apple", "persimmon"};
    CHECK(erase_persimmon(fruit_basket) ==
        std::vector<std::string>{"banana", "orange", "apple"});
}
```


Remove-and-erase idiom

```
std::vector<std::string> erase_persimmon(std::vector<std::string> fruit) {  
    // Drop persimmons and group remaining fruit at the head of the container  
    auto begin_of_rubbish =  
        std::remove(fruit.begin(), fruit.end(), "persimmon");  
    // Trim the tail of the container that doesn't have any good fruit  
    fruit.erase(/*from*/ begin_of_rubbish, /*to*/ fruit.end());  
    return fruit;  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("erase persimmon") {  
    std::vector<std::string> fruit_basket{  
        "banana", "orange", "persimmon", "apple", "persimmon"};  
    CHECK(erase_persimmon(fruit_basket) ==  
        std::vector<std::string>{"banana", "orange", "apple"});  
}
```

Remove-and-erase idiom: one line

```
std::vector<std::string> erase_persimmon(std::vector<std::string> fruit) {  
    fruit.erase(  
        std::remove(fruit.begin(), fruit.end(), "persimmon"), fruit.end());  
    return fruit;  
}
```

```
TEST_CASE("erase persimmon") {  
    std::vector<std::string> fruit_basket{  
        "banana", "orange", "persimmon", "apple", "persimmon"};  
    CHECK(erase_persimmon(fruit_basket) ==  
        std::vector<std::string>{"banana", "orange", "apple"});  
}
```

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std::equal

```
TEST_CASE("equal") {  
    const std::string lowercase_word{"word"};  
    const std::string capitalised_word{"Word"};  
  
    CHECK_FALSE(std::equal(lowercase_word.cbegin(), lowercase_word.cend(),  
                           capitalised_word.cbegin(), capitalised_word.cend()));  
    CHECK(std::equal(lowercase_word.cbegin(), lowercase_word.cend(),  
                     capitalised_word.cbegin(), capitalised_word.cend(),  
                     [](unsigned char left, unsigned char right) {  
                         return std::tolower(left) == std::tolower(right);  
                     }));  
}
```

std::equal: any predicate makes sense

```
TEST_CASE("equal: predicates and size check") {
    const std::string bear{"bear"};
    const std::string duck{"duck"};
    const std::string long_cat{"loooooong cat"};

    CHECK_FALSE(
        std::equal(bear.cbegin(), bear.cend(), duck.cbegin(), duck.cend()));

    auto always_equal = [](unsigned char, unsigned char) { return true; };
    CHECK(std::equal(
        bear.cbegin(), bear.cend(), duck.cbegin(), duck.cend(), always_equal));
    CHECK_FALSE(std::equal(
        bear.cbegin(), bear.cend(), long_cat.cbegin(), long_cat.cend(),
        always_equal));
}
```

std::equal: beware of 3-iterator form

```
TEST_CASE("equal without size check") {  
    const std::string duck{"duck"};  
    const std::string duckling{"duckling"};  
  
    // 4 iterators: will check that sizes match  
    CHECK_FALSE(std::equal(duck.cbegin(), duck.cend(),  
                           duckling.cbegin(), duckling.cend()));  
    // 3 iterators: no size check  
    CHECK(std::equal(duck.cbegin(), duck.cend(), duckling.cbegin()));  
  
    // std::equal(duckling.cbegin(), duckling.cend(), duck.cbegin())  
    // is undefined behaviour because comparison will go past duck.cend()  
}
```


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Revision of palindrome phrases solution

```
bool is_palindrome(std::string phrase) {
    phrase.erase(
        std::remove_if(phrase.begin(), phrase.end(),
            [](unsigned char c) { return !std::isalnum(c); }),
        phrase.end());

    const size_t half_length = phrase.size() / 2;
    return std::equal(
        phrase.cbegin(), phrase.cbegin() + half_length,
        phrase.crbegin(), phrase.crbegin() + half_length,
        [](unsigned char left, unsigned char right) {
            return std::tolower(left) == std::tolower(right);
        });
}
```


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Summary

- Prefer algorithms over raw loops to make your code more expressive, more reliable and faster
- Lambda expressions work great with STL algorithms. They allow to declare a small function for comparison or transformation right in place of the use
- There are many algorithms, but the principles of how to use them are similar

Each time when writing a loop stop and think:
Is there an algorithm for this?

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Home exercise: Anagrams

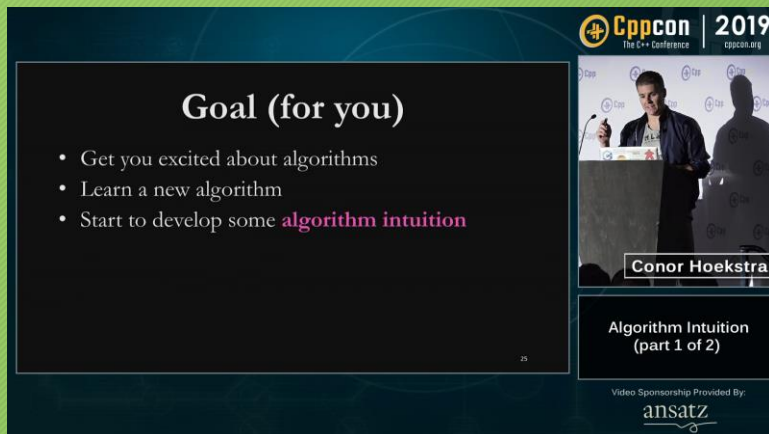
Write a function that given two strings tells that one is an anagram of the other taking into account only letters and digits

```
TEST_CASE("is anagram") {  
    CHECK(is_anagram("Tom Marvolo Riddle", "I am Lord Voldemort"));  
    CHECK(is_anagram("The Great Britain", "Tea? Bring it, heart!"));  
    CHECK_FALSE(is_anagram("Tom Marvolo Riddle", "The Great Britain"));  
}
```


More on STL algorithms



Jonathan Boccara
105 STL Algorithms in Less Than an Hour
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2olsGf6JlIU>



Conor Hoekstra
Algorithm Intuition
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUEnO6SvAMo>

Qualification Round on Saturday April, 4

Registration for Code Jam 2020 is open

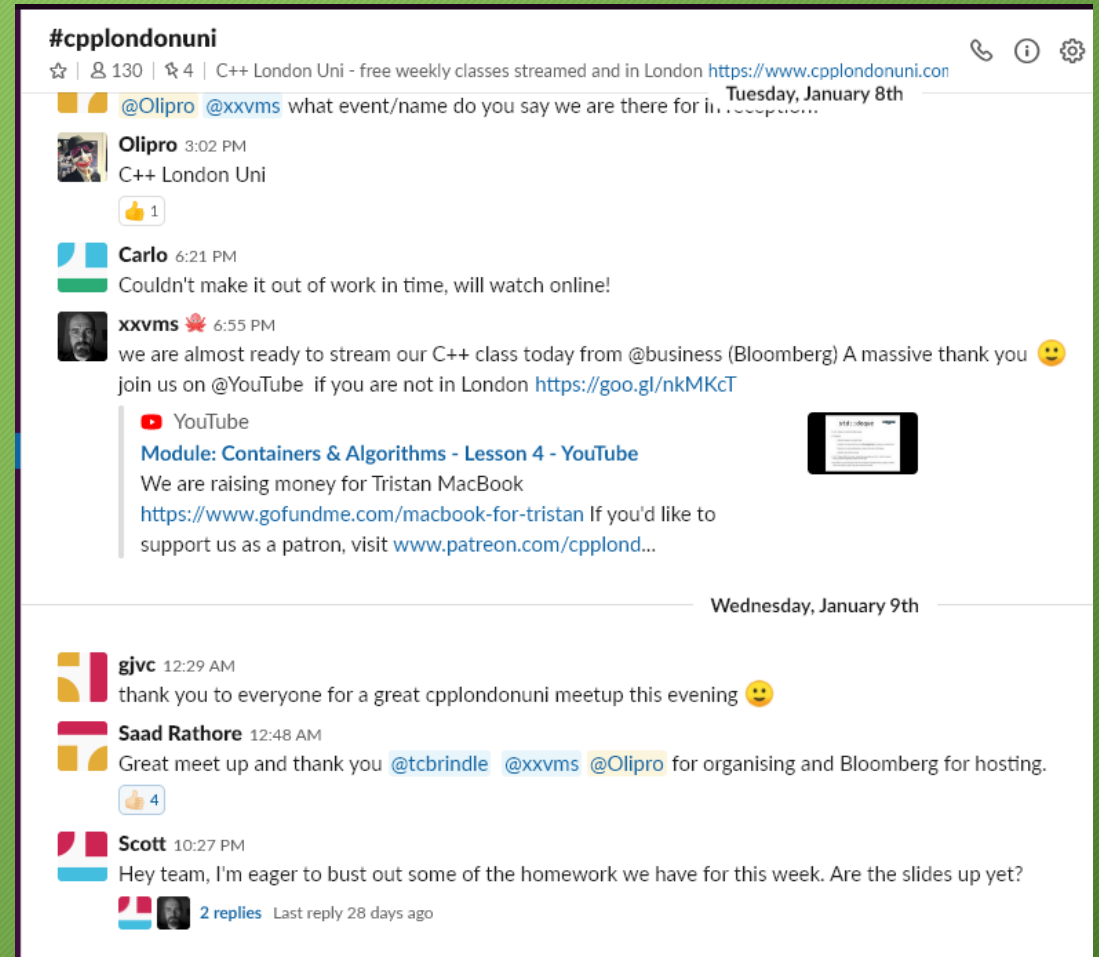
Code Jam is back for its 17th year! Join the Code Jam community and take on a series of challenging algorithmic puzzles designed by Google engineers. You'll have a chance to earn the coveted title of Code Jam Champion and win \$15,000 USD at the World Finals. Do you have what it takes?

[Register now](#)

Feedback



- We'd love to hear from you!
- The easiest way is via the *CPPLang* Slack organisation. Our chatroom is #cpplondonuni
- If you already use Slack, don't worry, it supports multiple workgroups!
- Go to <https://slack.cpp.al> to register.



Thank You!

As usual, we will be going to the pub! Support us @ <https://patreon.com/CPPLondonUni>

