

Insight into STL containers

Let's say we want to represent a set of integers

`{3, 4, 1, 2}`

Let's consider:

- `std::vector`
- `std::set`
- `std::unordered_set`

std::vector

{3, 4, 1, 2}

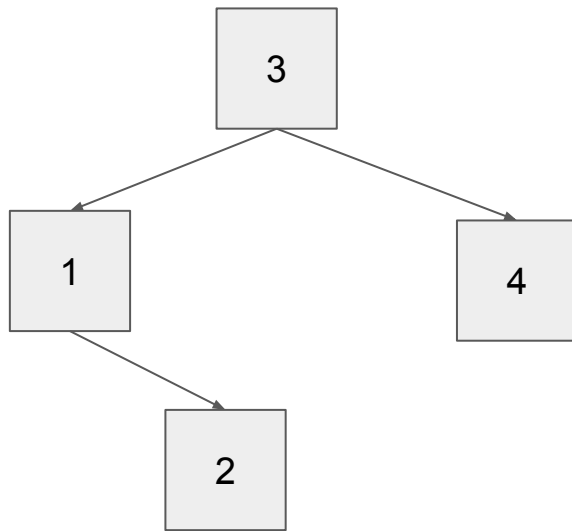
3	4	1	2
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- Linear memory
- $O(1)$ insertion
- $O(n)$ lookup
- Most efficient iteration in context of memory system

std::set

{3, 4, 1, 2}

- Binary tree
- Each element has value plus pointer to left and right nodes
- $O(\log n)$ insertion
- $O(\log n)$ lookup
- Have very little idea of memory access pattern in iteration



std::unordered_set

{3, 4, 1, 2}

- Hash table
- Values assigned to buckets based on hash function
- $O(1)$ insertion
- $O(1)$ lookup
- Have very little idea of memory access pattern in iteration

