[C++] Day41

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[Ch10] Generic Algorithms

10.4 Revisiting Iterators

The library defines several additional kinds of iterators in the iterator header. These iterators include

- Insert iterators: These iterators are bound to a container and can be used to insert elements into the container
- Stream iterators: These iterators are bound to input or output streams and can be used to iterate through an associated IO stream
- Reverse iterators: These iterators move backward, rather than forward. The library containers, other than forward_list, have reverse iterators
- Move iterators: These special-purpose iterators move rather than copy their elements. We'll cover move iterators in future lectures.

10.4.1 Insert Iterators

An inserter is an iterator adaptor that takes a container and yields an iterator that adds elements to the specified container.

When we assign a value through an insert iterator, the iterator calls a container operation to add an element at a specified position in the given container.

There are three kinds of inserters. Each differs from the other as to where elements are inserted:

- back_inserter creates an iterator that uses push_back
- front_inserter creates an iterator that uses push_front
- inserter creates an iterator that uses insert. This function takes a second argument, which must be an iterator into the given container. Elements are inserted ahead of the element denoted by the given iterator.

Note: We can use front_inserter only if the container has push_front. Similarly, we can use back_inserter only if it has push_back.

It is important to understand that when we call <code>inserter(c, iter)</code>, we get an iterator that, when used successively, inserts elements ahead of the element originally denoted by <code>iter</code>. That is, if it is an iterator generated by inserter, then an assignment such as

```
*it = val;
```

behave as

```
it = c.insert(it, val); //it points to the newly added element
++it; //increment it so that it denotes the same element as before
```

The iterator generated by front_inserter behaves quite differently from the one created
by inserter. When we use front_inserter, elements are always inserted ahead of the
then first element in the container.

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```
list<int> lst = {1, 2, 3, 4};
list<int> ls2, lst3; //empty lists
//after copy completes, lst2 is {4, 3, 2, 1}
copy(lst.begin(), lst.end(), front_inserter(lst2));
//after copy completes, lst3 is {1, 2, 3, 4}
copy(lst.begin(), lst.end(), inserter(lst3, lst3.begin());
```

10.4.2 iostream Iterators

Even though the iostream types are not containers, there are iterators that can be used with objects of the IO types.

An <u>istream_iterator</u> reads an input stream, and an <u>ostream_iterator</u> writes an output stream. These iterators treat their corresponding stream as a sequence of elements of a specified type.

Using a stream iterator, we can use generic algorithms to read data from or write data to stream objects.

```
istream iterator<T> in(is); in reads values of type T from input stream is.
istream iterator<T> end;
                                   Off-the-end iterator for an istream iterator that
                                   reads values of type T.
in1 == in2
                  in1 and in2 must read the same type. They are equal if they are both the
in1 != in2
                  end value or are bound to the same input stream.
                  Returns the value read from the stream.
*in
in->mem
                  Synonym for (*in).mem.
++in, in++
                  Reads the next value from the input stream using the >> operator for the
                  element type. As usual, the prefix version returns a reference to the
                  incremented iterator. The postfix version returns the old value.
```

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Table 10.4. ostream Iterator Operations

```
ostream_iterator<T> out (os); out writes values of type T to output stream os.
ostream_iterator<T> out (os, d); out writes values of type T followed by d to
output stream os. d points to a null-terminated
character array.

out = val Writes val to the ostream to which out is bound using the << operator.
val must have a type that is compatible with the type that out can write.

*out, ++out, These operations exist but do nothing to out. Each operator returns out.
out++
```

Operations on istream_iterators

When we create a stream iterator, we must specify the type of objects that the iterator will read or write.

An <u>istream_iterator</u> uses >> to read a stream. Therefore, the type that an <u>istream_iterator</u> reads must have an input operator defined.

When we create an <code>istream_iterator</code>, we can bind it to a stream. Alternatively, we can default initialize the iterator, which creates an iterator that we can use as the off-the-end value.

```
istream_iterator<int> int_it(cin); //reads ints from cin
istream_iterator<int> int_eof; //end iterator value
ifstream in("afile");
istream_iterator<string> str_it(in); //reads strings from "afile"
```

As an example, we can use an istream_iterator to read the standard input into a vector:

```
istream_iterator<int> in_iter(cin);
istream_iterator<int> eof;
//while there's valid input to read
//postfix increment reads the stream and returns the old value of the iterator
//we dereference taht iterator to get the previosu value read from the stream
wihle(in_iter != eof) {
   vec.push_back(*in_iter++);
}
```

What is more useful is that we can rewrite this program as

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```
istream_iterator<int> in_iter(cin), eof;
vector<int> vec(in_iter, eof);
```

Using Stream Iterators with the Algorithms

Because algorithms operate in terms of iterator operations, and the stream iterators support at least some iterator operations, we can use stream iterators with at least some of the algorithms.

As one example, we can call accumulate with a pair of istream_iterators:

```
istream_iterator<int> in(cin), eof;
cout << accumualte(in, eof, 0); << endl;</pre>
```

Operations on ostream iterators

An ostream_iterator can be defined for any type that has an output operator(the operator).

When we create an ostream_iterator, we may (optionally) provide a second argument that specifies a character string to print following each elements. That string must be a C-style character string.

We must bind an ostream_iterator to a specific stream. There is no empty or off-the-end ostream_iterator.

We can use an ostream_iterator to write a sequence of values:

```
ostream_iterator<int> out_iter(std::cout, " ");
for(auto &elem : vec)
  *out_iter++ = elem;
std::cout << endl;</pre>
```

Rather than writing the loop ourselves, we can more easily print the elements in vec by calling copy:

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```
copy(vec.begin(), vec.end(), out_iter);
cout << endl;</pre>
```

Exercise

Exercise 10.29: Write a program using stream iterators to read a text file into a vector of strings.

See 10 29.cpp for code

Exercise 10.30: Use stream iterators, sort, and copy to read a sequence of integers from the standard input, sort them, and then write them back to the standard output.

See 10 30.cpp for code

Exercise 10.31: Update the program from the previous exercise so that it prints only the unique elements. Your program should use unqiue_copy (§ 10.4.1, p. 403).

See 10_31.cpp for code

Exercise 10.33: Write a program that takes the names of an input file and two output files. The input file should hold integers. Using an <code>istream_iterator</code> read the input file. Using <code>ostream_iterators</code>, write the odd numbers into the first output file. Each value should be followed by a space. Write the even numbers into the second file. Each of these values should be placed on a separate line.

See 10_33.cpp for code

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