

Lecture #8

STL Containers (cont.)

chapter:11

Associative Containers

Associative containers are non-linear containers that can locate elements stored in the container quickly. Such containers can store sets of values or *key/value* pairs. The four associative containers are set, multiset, map, and multimap.

These containers provide fast storage and quick access to retrieve elements using *keys* (often called search *keys*). Elements in an associative container are sorted according to some sorting criterion. By default, the elements are sorted using the \leq operator.

Common Functions in Associative Containers

Functions	Description
<code>find(key)</code>	Returns an iterator that points to the element with the specified key in the container.
<code>lower_bound(key)</code>	Returns an iterator that points to the first element with the specified key in the container.
<code>upper_bound(key)</code>	Returns an iterator that points to the next element after the last element with the specified key in the container.
<code>count(key)</code>	Returns the number of occurrences of the element with the specified key in the container.

Associative Containers

The STL provides eight associative containers with either of specific features as:

- 1) The container is a set or a map
- 2) The container require unique key or allows multiple keys
- 3) The container stores elements in order or not

Pair of values in its simplest

Example1: Using pair

[PairDemo](#)

Associative Containers: map

Example1: Using map container

[MapDemo](#)

Associative Containers: map

Example2: Using map container

[MapDemo](#)

Associative Containers: multimap

Example1: Using multimap container

[MultiMapDemo](#)

[MapToMultiMapDemo](#)

Associative Containers: set

Example1: Using set container

[SetDemo](#)

Thank you