

EECS 204002 Data Structures 資料結構 Prof. REN-SONG TSAY 蔡仁松 教授 NTHU

# C++ STL (STANDARD TEMPLATE LIBRARY)

https://www.tutorialspoint.com/cplusplus/index.htm



# 1.6

# The Standard Template Library

## **Standard C++ Libraries**

 The C++ Standard Library: a rich set of functions manipulating files, strings, etc.

• The Standard Template Library (STL): provide general-purpose classes and functions with templates that implement many commonly used algorithms and data structures like vectors, lists, queues, and stacks.

## The STL

- An ISO C++ standard framework of about 10 containers and about 60 algorithms connected by iterators
  - Other organizations provide more containers and algorithms in the style of the STL
    - Boost.org, Microsoft, SGI, ...
- Probably the best known and most widely used example of generic programming



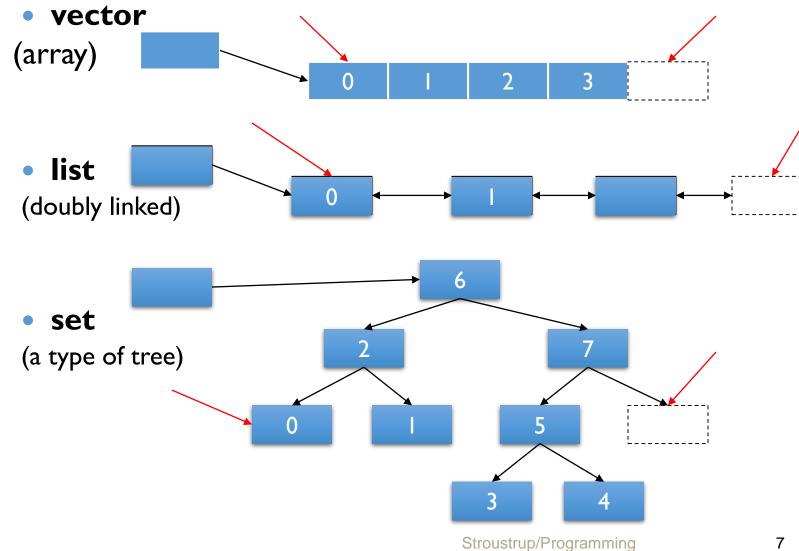
- Containers: used to manage collections of objects of a certain kind.
- Algorithms: act on containers.
  - E.g. initialization, sorting, searching....
- **Iterators**: used to step through the elements of collections of objects.
- **Functors** are objects that can be treated as though they are a function or function pointer.

#### **Containers**

- A container is an object to store data, either built-in data types like int and float, or class objects
- The STL provides several basic types of containers
  - <vector> : one-dimensional array
  - list> : double linked list
  - <deque> : double-ended queue
  - <queue> : queue
  - <stack> : stack
  - <set> : set
  - <map>: associative array

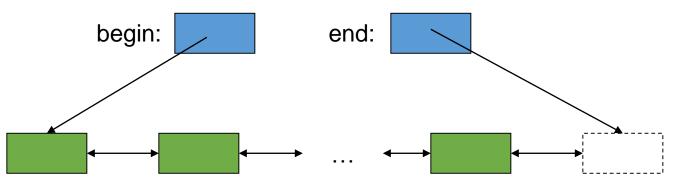
# **Containers**

(hold sequences in different ways)



## **Basic Iterator Model**

- A pair of iterators define a sequence
  - The beginning (points to the first element if any)
  - The end (points to the one-beyond-the-last element)



- An iterator is a type that supports the "iterator operations"
  - ++ Go to next element
  - \* Get value
  - == Does this iterator point to the same element?
- Some iterators support more operations (e.g. --, +, and [])



- Algorithms such as searching and sorting are provided in the STL.
- Require user to specify comparison operator < or custom comparator function.

# The simplest algorithm: find()

// Find the first element that equals a value

begin:

```
template < class In, class T >
In find(In first, In last, const T & val)
{
    while (first!=last & *first!= val) ++first;
    return first;
}
end:
```

We can ignore ("abstract away") the differences between containers

# <algorithm> sort

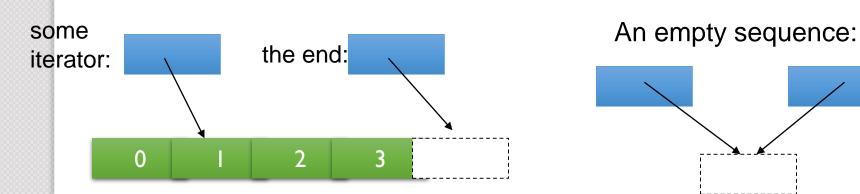
```
http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/algorithm/sort/
// sort algorithm example
#include <iostream>
                       // std::cout
#include <algorithm> // std::sort
#include <vector>
                       // std::vector
bool myfunction (int i, int j) { return (i<j); }
struct myclass {
 bool operator() (int i,int j) { return (i<j);}
 myobject;
int main () {
 int myints [] = \{32,71,12,45,26,80,53,33\};
                                                          // 32 71 12 45 26 80 53 33
 std::vector<int> myvector (myints, myints+8);
 // using default comparison (operator <): std::sort (myvector.begin(), myvector.begin()+4);
                                                          //(12 32 45 71)26 80 53 33
 // using function as comp
 std::sort (myvector.begin()+4, myvector.end(), myfunction); // 12 32 45 71(26 33 53 80)
 // using object as comp
 std::sort (myvector.begin(), myvector.end(), myobject); //(12 26 32 33 45 53 71 80)
 // print out content:
 std::cout << "myvector contains:";
 for (std::vector<int>::iterator it=myvector.begin(); it!=myvector.end(); ++it)
   std::cout << ' ' << *it:
 std::cout << '\n':
                                Output:
 return 0;
                                myvector contains: 12 26 32 33 45 53 71 80
```

# Algorithms and iterators

- The end of the sequence is "one past the last element"
  - not "the last element"
  - That's necessary to elegantly represent an empty sequence
  - One-past-the-last-element isn't an element
    - You can compare an iterator pointing to it
    - You can't dereference it (read its value)
- Returning the end of the sequence is the standard idiom for "not found" or "unsuccessful"

Stroustrup/Programming

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- A Functor can be a general function
- Functor can also be a class object, which overloads operator()
- The STL algorithm takes user's Functor to perform customized actions.
- In the std::sort, Functor Comp lets user define customized comparison function.
- One may define a complex comparison function
  - E.g. triple comparison: (1,1,3)? (1,2,1)



#### **Container adaptors**

Container adaptors provide a different interface for sequential containers.

stack	adapts a container to provide stack (LIFO data structure) (class template)
queue	adapts a container to provide queue (FIFO data structure) (class template)
priority_queue	adapts a container to provide priority queue (class template)

# Simple Sample Code : <vector> (Like Dynamic Array)

```
// vector example
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
int main ()
//initialize
std::vector<int> myVector;
// ADD ELEMENTS
int myData=9;
// add ten integer
for( int i=0; i < 10; i++) {
 myData++;
 myVector.push back(myData);
```

```
// TRAVEL ELEMENTS
// get the number of elements
int vSize = myVector.size();
for( int i=0; i < vSize; i++){
    std::cout<< myVector[i] << '\n';</pre>
// DELETE SPECIFIED ELEMENT
// get the iterator of beginning elements
auto iter = myVector.begin();
// remove 2nd element in this vector
myVector.erase(iter+1);
myVector[0] = 5;
// print out
for( int i=0 ; i < myVector.size() ; i++){</pre>
  std::cout<< myVector[i] << '\n';</pre>
```



- CPP Reference
  - http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/stl/
  - http://en.cppreference.com/w/
- M\$ Doc
  - http://msdn.microsoft.com/enus/library/c191tb28(v=vs.100).aspx
  - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard\_Template\_Library

## References

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#### References

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