# A Quick Overview of the B-Tree Framework

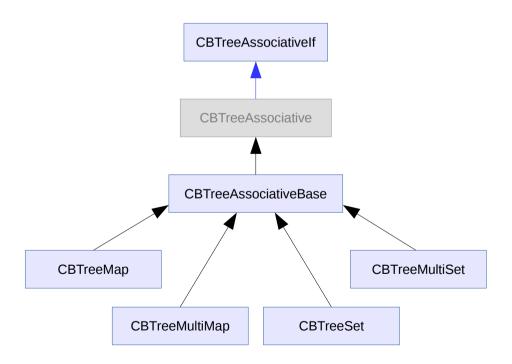
## Any Container Type Is Based on a B-Tree Structure

- the b-tree framework provides associative and linear container types with an interface equivalent to existing STL implementations
- also, this framework allows for polymorphic accesses by providing abstract container types, as oppose to any other STL implementation
- furthermore, since any other container type (e.g. array, link list, ...) can develop poor performance when it comes to large amounts of data, b-trees have been chosen as the basis for this framework
- arrays can be slow to insert data at the beginning
- link lists need to walk through a potentially high number of nodes to perform random accesses
- binary trees can end up very unbalanced if the same or similar keys are in use
- red-black trees can result in a high number of hops on access

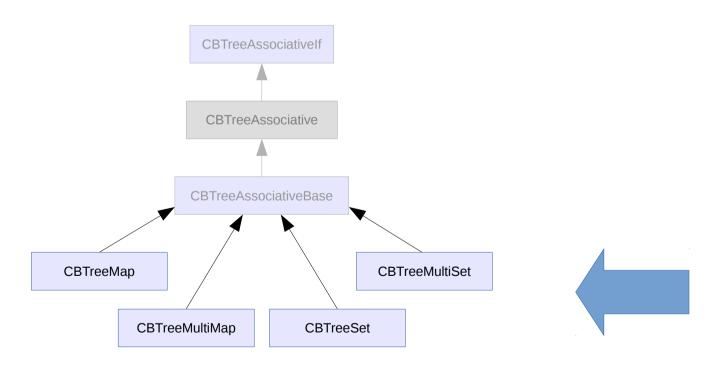
### Any Container Can Be Abstracted

- any container type provided by this framework is based on abstract types
- this can be exploited to use polymorphic accesses on different container types
- also this allows applications to create their own class hierarchies
- to some extend it is possible to create relational data base models

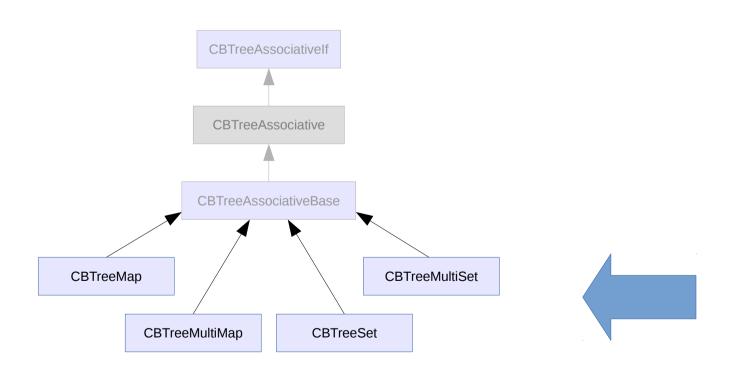
- the framework itself has a class hierarchy
- part of which can be seen below



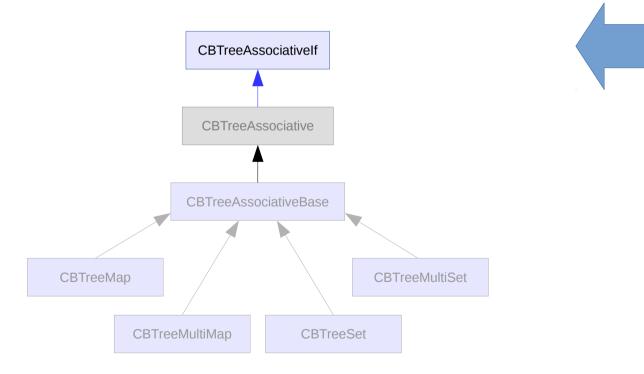
 the specific data classes provide us with a starting point for your application class hierarchy



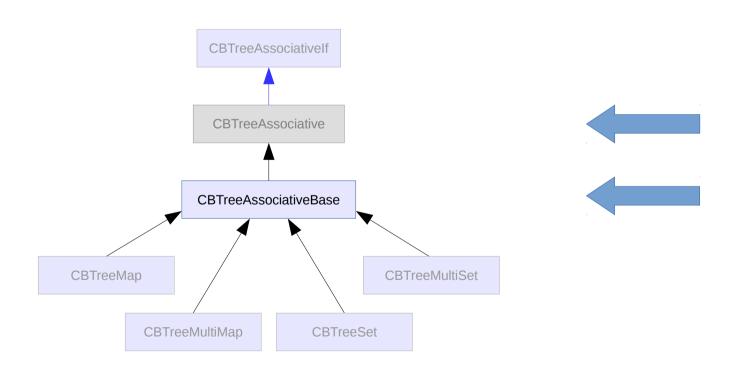
 also the specific data classes may be used directly by the application as a container type



 the abstract interface class contains virtual methods acting as an interface for the application



 the abstract data classes provide the functionality for the abstract interface class



- it is possible to support polymorphic calls
- example 1\* shows how it inserts data into a map and a multi map container via an abstract class

\* - ./src/btreetest/testbench/examples/example\_1\_polymorphic\_calls.cpp

- one could say example 1 can also be solved using a template function
- that would work unless you face a situation like the one below

```
class A
{
public:
    template<class _t_container>
    virtual    void test_fn (_t_container *pContainer);
};
```

 virtual methods involving template parameters are not possible, since templates are resolved during the compilation and virtual calls at run time

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 the b-tree framework solves that by pushing the abstraction problem to a different layer

- it is also possible to create very simple temporary data bases
- example 2\* shows code of a specific application class, that orders data using different criteria

- the different sort criteria types are then instantiated and put into an abstract type list
- this will allow us to talk to any sort containers the same way

 all b-tree framework containers use the same iterator type

```
for (i = 0; i < (sizeof (apSortCarHolders) / sizeof (*apSortCarHolders)); i++)
{
    auto sCIter = psCarHolders->cbegin ();
    auto sCIterEnd = psCarHolders->cend ();

    // feed data entries to have those sorted
    apSortCarHolders[i]->insert (sCIter, sCIterEnd);

    // Yes, you can trust your eyes!
    // Any container type within this framework uses the same iterator types...
    sCIter = apSortCarHolders[i]->cbegin ();
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 this is useful to employ iterators to insert data via a polymorphic container interface, by using a specialised call

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- to accept external iterators displaying the input, a virtual template method would be required, which is not possible
- here our abstract iterators are good enough

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- this also does allow for an iterator to be reassigned by an associative type, even if that iterator was generated by a linear type
  - which is a so called "scary assignment"

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### Can I change my address range?

 the size\_type for all b-tree containers can be modified and as a result the programmer is not bound to what size\_t is defined as

#### Conclusion

- as oppose to any existing STL implementation, polymorphic containers are possible
- therewith iterator abstraction is possible
  - allowing for so called "scary assignments"
- also applications can create their own abstraction hierarchies, allowing for even better abstract code