

# Standard Template Library (STL)

**Computer Programming for Engineers**  
(DASF003-41)

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# Today

## ■ Introduction

- by Example: Vector Template Class
- Introduction to STL

## ■ Iterators

- Constant, mutable, and reverse iterators

## ■ Containers and adaptors

- Sequential containers: vector
- Associative Containers: set and map

# **INTRODUCTION BY EXAMPLE: VECTOR TEMPLATE CLASS**

# Introduction to Vectors

## ■ Limitation of C-Arrays

- The size of static array is fixed, and should be known at compile time
- Dynamic array needs malloc/free/new/delete, which needs to be handled with care.

## ■ STL Vectors: "arrays that automatically grow and shrink"

- Array-like data structure dynamically resized during program execution
- However, we do not care about the memory allocation/deallocation.

## ■ Declared differently:

- Syntax:
  - `std::vector<Base_Type>`
  - Produces "new" class for vectors with that type
- Example declaration:
  - `std::vector<int> v;`

# Vector Usage

```
std::vector<int> v;
```

- "v is vector of type int"
- Calls class default constructor: empty vector object created

## ■ Usage

- Indexing: indexed like arrays for access (e.g., `v[0]`, `v[1]`, `v[k]`,...)
- Adding elements: `push_back()`
- Querying the count of elements: `size()`
- Many other convenient member functions
  - <https://www.cplusplus.com/reference/vector/vector/>

# Vector Example

## ■ Display 7.7 Using a Vector (1 of 2)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
using namespace std;
int main( )
{
    vector<int> v;
    cout << "Enter a list of positive numbers.\n"
          << "Place a negative number at the end.\n";
    int next;
    cin >> next;
    while( next > 0)
    {
        v.push_back(next);
        cout << next << " added. ";
        cout << "v.size( ) = " << v.size( ) << endl;
        cin >> next;
    }
}
```

# Vector Example

## ■ Display 7.7 Using a Vector (1 of 2)

```
cout << "You entered:\n";  
for (unsigned int i = 0; i < v.size( ); i++)  
    cout << v[i] << " ";  
cout << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

Enter a list of positive numbers.  
Place a negative number at the end.

**2 4 6 8 -1**

2 added. v.size = 1

4 added. v.size = 2

6 added. v.size = 3

8 added. v.size = 4

You entered:

2 4 6 8

# Vector Efficiency

## ■ Member function `capacity()`

- Returns memory currently allocated
- Not same as `size()`
- Typically, `capacity >= size`
  - Automatically increased as needed
  - In practice, when capacity is not enough, the capacity is doubled.

## ■ If efficiency critical:

- Can set behaviors manually

```
v.reserve(32);           // pre-set capacity to 32  
v.reserve(v.size()+10); // allocates 10 more elements
```



# ■ Vector capacity

- see how capacity increases.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <vector>
3 using namespace std;
4
5 int main(){
6
7     vector<int> v;
8     cout << "capacity: " << v.capacity() << endl;
9     int num[] = {0,1,2,3,4,5};
10
11     for(auto i : num) {
12         v.push_back(i);
13         cout << "after insert " << i << ", capacity: " << v.capacity() << endl;
14     }
15
16     for(auto i = 0; i < v.size(); i++) {
17         cout << v[i] << endl;
18     }
19
20     cout << "capacity: " << v.capacity() << endl;
21     v.reserve(100);
22     cout << "capacity: " << v.capacity() << endl;
23
24     return 0;
25 }
```

# **STANDARD TEMPLATE LIBRARY (STL)**

# Introduction

## ■ Standard Template Library (STL)

- Set of C++ template classes
- Software library for C++, having all such data structures
- Code quickly, efficiency, generic programming

## ■ Main components

- Container
- Iterator
- Algorithm
- Adaptors

# STL Components

## ■ Container

- Stores objects or data of arbitrary types

## ■ Iterator

- Step through elements in containers

## ■ Algorithm

- Performs particular tasks using iterator
- Sort, search

## ■ Adaptors

- Wrapping common container to implement data structures
- deque : stack and queue
- Vector : priority\_queue

# Standard Containers in STL

## ■ Sequence containers: ordered collections

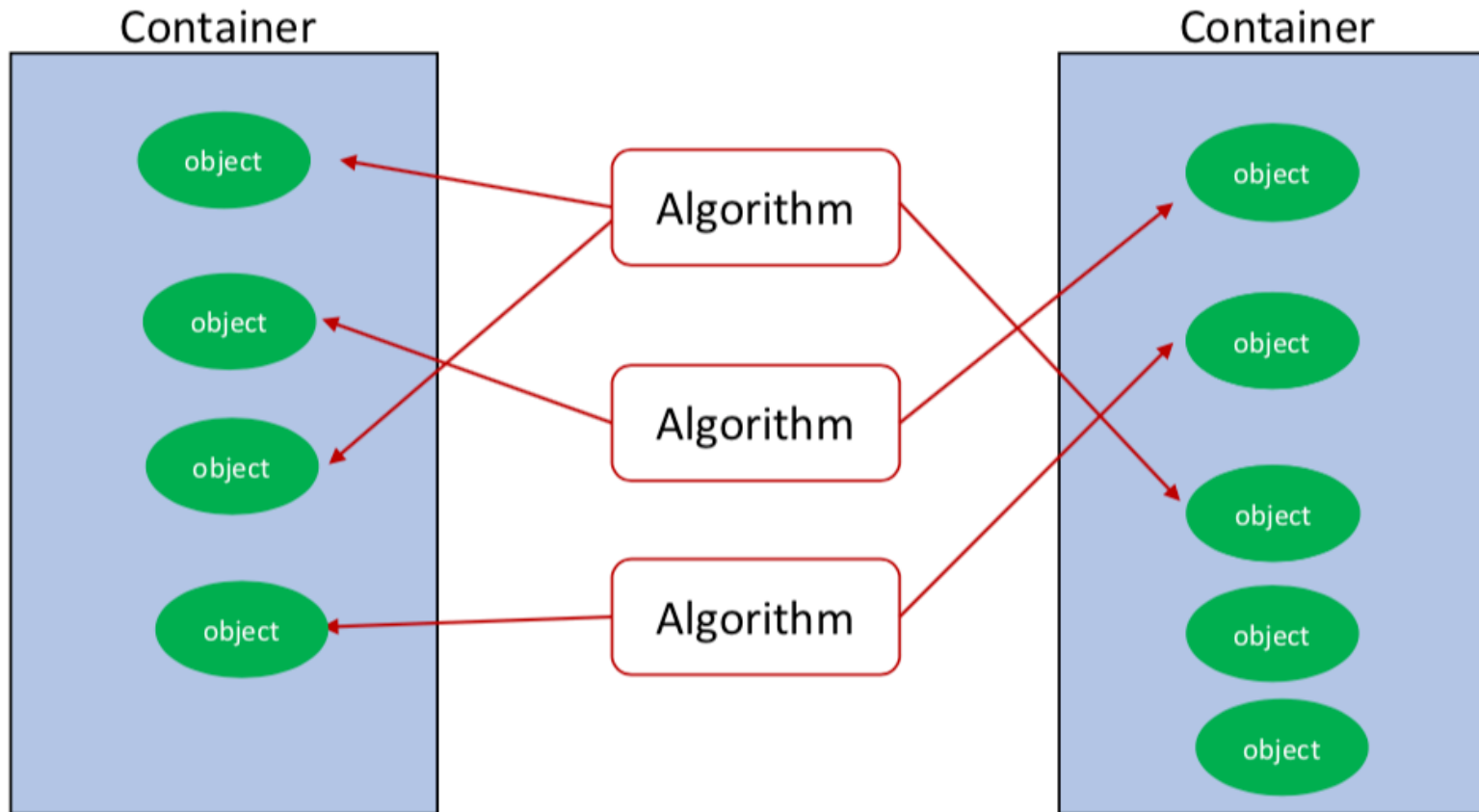
- `vector`: dynamic array
- `list`: doubly linked list
- `deque`: double-ended queue (adapted to stack and queue)

## ■ Associative containers: unordered collections

- `set`, `multiset`
- `map`: dictionary (internally ordered by balanced binary tree)
- `multimap`: similar to `map`, but with duplicate keys
- `unordered_map`: dictionary with hash

# Container, Iterators, Algorithms

- Algorithm uses iterators to access the objects in containers



# ITERATORS

# Iterators

## ■ Generalization of a pointer to STL containers/adaptors

- Typically even implemented with pointer!

## ■ "Abstraction" of iterators

- Designed to hide details of implementation
- Provide **consistent interface** across different container classes

## ■ Each container class has "own" iterator type

- Similar to how each data type has own pointer type



# Manipulating Iterators

## ■ Recall using overloaded operators:

- ++, --, ==, !=, \*
- So if `p` is an iterator variable, `*p` gives access to data pointed to by `p`

## ■ Vector template class

- Has all above overloads
- Also has members `begin()` and `end()`

```
// return iterator for the first item in c
std::vector<int>::iterator it = c.begin();
// return iterator for after-last item in c
// e.g., for size-2 vector, end() indicates index 2
auto it2 = c.end();
```

# Cycling with Iterators

## ■ Recall cycling ability:

- Using `begin()/end()`, we can write for-loop in a similar way used for arrays

```
for( auto p = c.begin(); p != c.end(); p++ )  
    process(*p); //*p is current data item
```

- Powerful usage of `auto`!

## ■ Keep in mind:

- Each container type in STL has own iterator types
- Even though they're all used similarly

# Vector Cycling Example

## ■ Display 19.1 Iterators Used with a Vector (1 of 2)

```
//Program to demonstrate STL iterators.
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
using std::cout;      // Using only a part of std
using std::endl;
using std::vector;

int main( )
{
    vector<int> container;
    for (int i = 1; i <= 4; i++) container.push_back(i);
    cout << "Here is what is in the container:\n";
    vector<int>::iterator p;
```

# Vector Cycling Example

## ■ Display 19.1 Iterators Used with a Vector (2 of 2)

```
for (p = container.begin( ); p != container.end( ); p++)  
    cout << *p << " ";  
cout << endl;  
cout << "Setting entries to 0:\n";  
for (p = container.begin( ); p != container.end( ); p++)  
    *p = 0;  
cout << "Container now contains:\n";  
for (p = container.begin( ); p != container.end( ); p++)  
    cout << *p << " ";  
cout << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

Here is what is in the container:

1 2 3 4

Setting entries to 0:

Container now contains:

0 0 0 0

# Vector Iterator Types

■ Iterators for vectors of integers are of type:

```
std::vector<int>::iterator
```

■ Iterators for lists of integers are of type:

```
std::list<int>::iterator
```

# Iterator Classifications

## ■ Forward iterators:

- ++ works on iterator

## ■ Bidirectional iterators:

- Both ++ and -- work on iterator

## ■ Random-access iterators:

- ++, --, and random access all work with iterator

## ■ These are kinds of “iterators”, not types!

# Random Access

## ■ Display 19.2

### ■ Bidirectional and Random-Access Iterator Use (1 of 3)

```
int main()
{
    vector<char> container;
    container.push_back('A');
    container.push_back('B');
    container.push_back('C');
    container.push_back('D');
    for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)
        cout << "container[" << i << "] == "
              << container[i] << endl;
    vector<char>::iterator p = container.begin();

    cout << "The third entry is " << container[2] << endl;
    cout << "The third entry is " << p[2] << endl;
    cout << "The third entry is " << *(p + 2) << endl;
```

Three different notations for the same thing.

# Random Access

## ■ Display 19.2

### ■ Bidirectional and Random-Access Iterator Use (2 of 3)

```
cout << "Back to container[0].\n";  
p = container.begin( );  
cout << "which has value " << *p << endl;  
cout << "Two steps forward and one step back:\n";  
p++;  
cout << *p << endl;  
p++;  
cout << *p << endl;  
p--;  
cout << *p << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

p++ moves the iterator.  
So, p[2] will show  
different  
Results.



# Random Access

## ■ Display 19.2

### ■ Bidirectional and Random-Access Iterator Use (3 of 3)

```
container[0] == A
container[1] == B
container[2] == C
container[3] == D
The third entry is C
The third entry is C
The third entry is C
Back to container[0].
which has value A
Two steps forward and one step back:
B
C
B
```

# Constant and Mutable Iterators

## ■ Dereferencing operator's behavior dictates

### ■ Constant iterator:

- \* produces read-only version of element
- Can use \*p to assign to variable or output, but cannot change element in container
  - \*p = <anything>; // is illegal

### ■ Mutable iterator:

- \*p can be assigned value
- Changes corresponding element in container
- i.e.: \*p returns an lvalue

# Reverse Iterators

## ■ To cycle elements in reverse order

- Requires container with *bidirectional* iterators
- Might consider:

```
for( auto p=container.end(); p!=container.begin(); p-- )  
    cout << *p << " " ;
```

- But recall: `end()` is just "sentinel", `begin()` is not!

## ■ Use reverse iterators to cycle elements in reverse order:

```
for(vector<int>::reverse_iterator rp=c.rbegin();rp!=c.rend(); rp++)  
    cout << *rp << " " ;
```

- `rbegin()`: returns iterator at last element
- `rend()`: returns sentinel "end" marker

# Reverse Iterator



```
1 #include <iostream>
2 #include <vector>
3 using namespace std;
4
5 int main(){
6
7     vector<char> container;
8     container.push_back('A');
9     container.push_back('B');
10    container.push_back('C');
11    container.push_back('D');
12
13    for (auto it = container.begin(); it != container.end(); it++)
14        cout << *it << " ";
15    cout << endl;
16
17    cout << "Print in a reverse order\n";
18    // What happens with the below line?
19    //for (auto it = container.end(); it != container.begin(); it--)
20    for (vector<char>::reverse_iterator it = container.rbegin(); it != container.rend();
it++)
21        cout << *it << " ";
22    cout << endl;
23
24    return 0;
25
26 }
```

# CONTAINERS

# Containers

## ■ Container classes in STL

- Different kinds of data structures
- Linked lists, queues, stacks

## ■ Each with parameter for particular data type to be stored

- e.g., Lists of ints, doubles or myClass types

## ■ Each has own iterators

- One might have bidirectional, another might just have forward iterators
- But all operators and members have same meaning

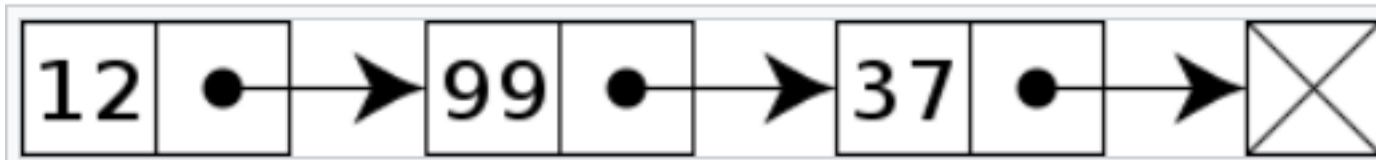
# Sequential Containers

## ■ Arranges list data

- 1<sup>st</sup> element, next element, ... to last element
- Vector is a container class

## ■ Linked list is sequential container

- Linear collection of data elements
- Each element points to the next element



- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linked\\_list](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linked_list)

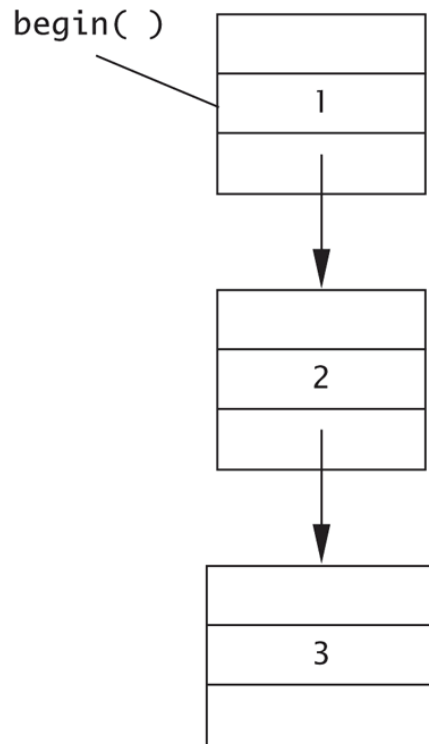
## ■ STL has no "singly linked list"

- Only "doubly linked list": template class *list*

# Display 19.4 Two Kinds of Lists

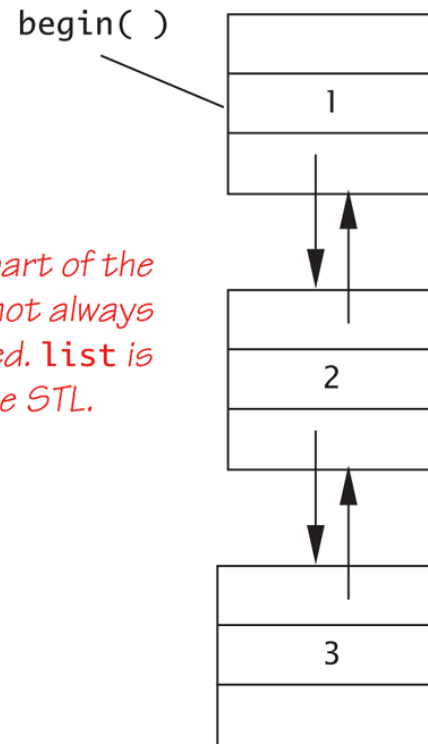
Display 19.4 Two Kinds of Lists

*slist: A singly linked list  
++ defined; -- not defined*



end( ) \_\_\_\_\_

*list: A doubly linked list  
Both ++ and -- defined*



end( ) \_\_\_\_\_

*slist is not part of the STL and may not always be implemented. list is part of the STL.*



# list Template Class

## ■ Display 19.5 Using the list Template Class(1 of 2)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <list>
using std::cout;
using std::endl;
using std::list;

int main( )
{
    list<int> listObject;
    for (int i = 1; i <= 3; i++)
        listObject.push_back(i);

    cout << "List contains:\n";
    list<int>::iterator iter;
    for (iter = listObject.begin( ); iter != listObject.end( ); iter++)
        cout << *iter << " ";
    cout << endl;
```

# list Template Class

## ■ Display 19.5 Using the list Template Class(2 of 2)

```
cout << "Setting all entries to 0:\n";  
for (iter = listObject.begin( ); iter != listObject.end( ); iter++)  
    *iter = 0;  
cout << "List now contains:\n";  
for (iter = listObject.begin( ); iter != listObject.end( ); iter++)  
    cout << *iter << " ";  
cout << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

List contains:  
1 2 3  
Setting all entries to 0:  
List now contains:  
0 0 0

## ■ List

- Source code is shown in the prior slides.



```
// Random access is not defined.  
//iter = listObject.begin();  
//cout << iter[2] << endl; // Error
```

# Associative Containers

## ■ Associative container:

- simple database or dictionary
- Store data with key: each data item has key

## ■ Example:

- data: employee's record as struct
- key: employee's SSN
- Items retrieved based on key

# set Template Class

- Simplest container possible
- Stores elements without repetition
  - 1<sup>st</sup> insertion places element in set
- Each element is own key

## Capabilities:

- Add elements
- Delete elements
- Ask if element is in set

class template  
**std::set**

<set>

```
template < class T,                // set::key_type/value_type
           class Compare = less<T>, // set::key_compare/value_compare
           class Alloc = allocator<T> // set::allocator_type
         > class set;
```

### Set

Sets are containers that store unique elements following a specific order.

In a set, the value of an element also identifies it (the value is itself the *key*, of type *T*), and each value must be unique. The value of the elements in a set cannot be modified once in the container (the elements are always *const*), but they can be inserted or removed from the container.

Internally, the elements in a set are always sorted following a specific *strict weak ordering* criterion indicated by its internal *comparison object* (of type *Compare*).

set containers are generally slower than *unordered\_set* containers to access individual elements by their *key*, but they allow the direct iteration on subsets based on their order.

Sets are typically implemented as *binary search trees*.

# More set Template Class

## ■ Designed to be efficient

- Stores values in sorted order
- Can specify order: `set<T, Ordering> s;`
  - i.e., `set<int, greater<int>>`, `set<int, CustomOrder>`
  - Ordering is well-behaved ordering relation that returns bool
  - None specified: use `<` relational operator

# set Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the set Template Class (1 of 3)

```
//Program to demonstrate use of the set template class.
#include <iostream>
#include <set>
using std::cout;
using std::endl;
using std::set;

int main( )
{
    set<char> s;
    s.insert('A');
    s.insert('D');
    s.insert('D');
    s.insert('C');
    s.insert('C');
    s.insert('B');
```

# Set Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the set Template Class (2 of 3)

```
cout << "The set contains:\n";
set<char>::const_iterator p;

for (p = s.begin( ); p != s.end( ); p++)
    cout << *p << " ";
cout << endl;

cout << "Set contains 'C': ";
if (s.find('C')==s.end( ))
    cout << " no " << endl;
else cout << " yes " << endl;

cout << "Removing C.\n";
s.erase('C');
```



# Set Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the set Template Class (3 of 3)

```
for (p = s.begin( ); p != s.end( ); p++)  
    cout << *p << " ";  
cout << endl;  
cout << "Set contains 'C': ";  
  
if (s.find('C')==s.end( ))  
    cout << " no " << endl;  
else cout << " yes " << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

The set contains:  
A B C D  
Set contains 'C': yes  
Removing C.  
A B D  
Set contains 'C': no

# Map Template Class

## ■ A function given as set of ordered pairs

- For each value *first*, at most one value *second* in map considering (*first*, *second*) pair

## ■ Example map declaration:

```
map<string, int> numberMap;
```

## ■ Can use [ ] notation to access the map

- For both storage and retrieval

## ■ Stores in sorted order, like set

- Second value can have no ordering impact

```
class template
std::map                                     <map>
template < class Key,                       // map::key_type
          class T,                          // map::mapped_type
          class Compare = less<Key>,        // map::key_compare
          class Alloc = allocator<pair<const Key, T> > // map::allocator_type
> class map;
```

**Map**  
Maps are associative containers that store elements formed by a combination of a *key* value and a *mapped* value, following a specific order.

In a `map`, the *key* values are generally used to sort and uniquely identify the elements, while the *mapped* values store the content associated to this *key*. The types of *key* and *mapped* value may differ, and are grouped together in member type `value_type`, which is a `pair` type combining both:

```
typedef pair<const Key, T> value_type;
```

Internally, the elements in a `map` are always sorted by its *key* following a specific *strict weak ordering* criterion indicated by its internal *comparison* object (of type `Compare`).

`map` containers are generally slower than `unordered_map` containers to access individual elements by their *key*, but they allow the direct iteration on subsets based on their order.

The mapped values in a `map` can be accessed directly by their corresponding key using the *bracket operator* (`operator[]`).

Maps are typically implemented as *binary search trees*.

# Map Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the map Template Class(1 of 3)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <map>
#include <string>
using std::cout;
using std::endl;
using std::map;
using std::string;

int main( )
{
    map<string, string> planets;
    planets["Mercury"] = "Hot planet";
    planets["Venus"] = "Atmosphere of sulfuric acid";
    planets["Earth"] = "Home";
    planets["Mars"] = "The Red Planet";
    planets["Jupiter"] = "Largest planet in our solar system";
```

# Map Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the map Template Class(2 of 3)

```
planets["Saturn"] = "Has rings";
planets["Uranus"] = "Tilts on its side";
planets["Neptune"] = "1500 mile-per-hour winds";
planets["Pluto"] = "Dwarf planet";

cout << "Entry for Mercury - " << planets["Mercury"]
    << endl << endl;

if (planets.find("Mercury") != planets.end( ))
    cout << "Mercury is in the map." << endl;
if (planets.find("Ceres") == planets.end( ))
    cout << "Ceres is not in the map." << endl << endl;

cout << "Iterating through all planets: " << endl;
```

# Map Template Class Example

## ■ Program Using the map Template Class(2 of 3)

```
map<string, string>::const_iterator iter;  
//The iterator will output the map in order sorted by the key.  
for (iter = planets.begin( ); iter != planets.end( ); iter++)  
{  
    cout << iter->first << " - " << iter->second << endl;  
}  
return 0;  
}
```

Entry for Mercury - Hot planet  
Mercury is in the map.  
Ceres is not in the map.  
Iterating through all planets:  
Earth - Home  
Jupiter - Largest planet in our solar system  
...

# Summary

- Vector template class
- Standard Template Library (STL)
- Iterator
- Container