

Ve 280

Programming and Elementary Data Structures

Standard Template Library: Container Adaptors; Associative Containers

Learning Objectives:

Understand what is an STL container adaptor and know how to use it (for `stack` and `queue`)

Understand what is an associative container and know how to use one type called `map`

Outline

- Container Adaptors
- ADT: Dictionary
- Associative Container: `map`

Adaptor

- An adaptor is a mechanism for making one thing act like another
 - A container adaptor takes an existing container type and makes it act like a different abstract data type
- Three sequential container adaptors
 - stack ✓
 - queue ✓
 - priority_queue
- To use stack, `#include <stack>`
- To use queue, `#include <queue>`

Initializing an Adaptor

- `A a;`
 - The default adaptor. Create an empty object
 - E.g. `stack<int> stk;`
- `A a(c);`
 - Take a container and make a copy of that container as its underlying value
 - By default, both stack and queue are implemented using deque, so if you use a sequential container C to initialize, C must be a deque type

```
deque<int> deq(10, 1);  
stack<int> stk(deq);
```

Initializing an Adaptor

- How do we use a vector to initialize a stack?

```
// Assume ivec is vector<int>  
stack<int, vector<int>>> stk(ivec);
```

Note the **space**. Otherwise, treated as an extraction operator – an error!

- We can use `vector`, `list`, and `deque` to build `stack`
- We can only use `deque` and `list` to build `queue`
 - Cannot use `vector`, because `queue` adaptor requires `pop_front()`

Operations of Stack Adaptor

- `s.empty()`
 - Returns true if the stack is empty; false otherwise
- `s.size()`
 - Returns a count of the number of elements of the stack
- `s.pop()`
 - Removes, but does not return, the top element from the stack
- `s.push(item)`
 - Places a new top element of the stack
- `s.top()`
 - Returns a reference to the top element of the stack

Note: although stack is implemented using another container, you cannot use other operations. For example, cannot call `push_back()`.

Example

```
stack<int> stk;  
for(int i=0; i<5; i++)  
    stk.push(i);  
while(!stk.empty()) {  
    cout << stk.top() << endl;  
    stk.pop();  
}
```

What's the output?

Operations on Queue Adaptor

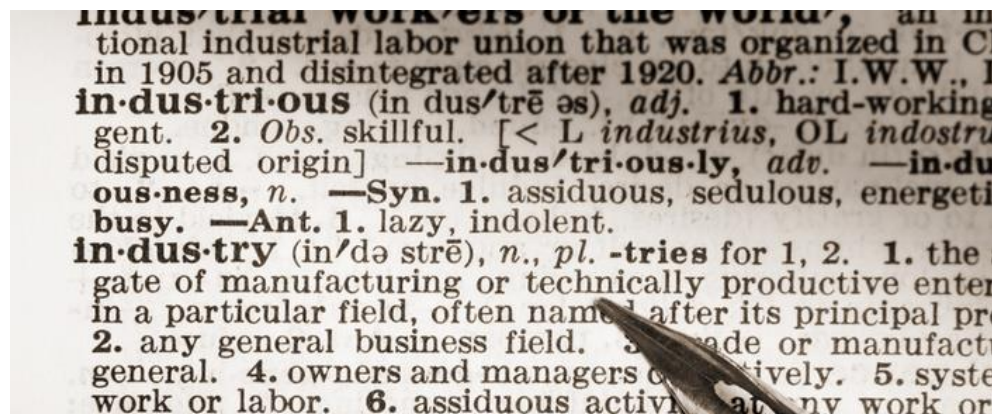
- `q.empty()`
 - Returns true if the queue is empty; false otherwise
- `q.size()`
 - Returns a count of the number of elements of the queue
- `q.push(item)`
 - Places a new element at the end of the queue
- `q.pop()`
 - Removes, but does not return, the front element from the queue
- `q.front()`
 - Returns a reference to the front element of the queue
- `q.back()`
 - Returns a reference to the back element of the queue

Outline

- Container Adaptors
- ADT: Dictionary
- Associative Container: map

Dictionary

- How do you use a dictionary?
 - Look up a “word” and find its meaning.
- We also have an **ADT** of dictionary.
 - It is a collection of pairs, each containing a **key** and an **value**
(key, value)
 - **Important**: Different pairs have different keys.



Dictionary

- Key space is usually more regular/structured than value space, so easier to search.
- Dictionary is optimized to quickly **add** (**key**, **value**) pair and **retrieve value** by key.

Methods

- **Value find(Key k)** : Return the value whose key is **k**. Return **Null** if none.
- **void insert(Key k, Value v)** : Insert a pair (**k**, **v**) into the dictionary. If the pair with key as **k** already exists, update its value.
- **Value remove(Key k)** : Remove the pair with key as **k** from the dictionary and return its value. Return **Null** if none.
- **int size()** : return number of pairs in the dictionary.

Example

- Collection of student records in the class
 - (key, value) = (student name, linear list of assignment and exam scores)
 - All keys are distinct
- Operations
 - Get the value whose key is John Adams.
 - Insert a record for the student whose name is Diana Ross.

Implementation

- Method #1: using an array
 - Just like our **IntSet**
 - The difference is that each array element is a **(key, value)** pair
 - If keys can be sorted, can use either sorted array or unsorted array on keys
- Method #2: using a linked list
 - Each node now stores both the key and value
 - The differences over **IntList** are:
 - When inserting, it needs to verify there is no duplicated key. If key already exists, update the value entry
 - It removes on key, not just the first and last element

Outline

- Container Adaptors
- ADT: Dictionary
- Associative Container: `map`

Introduction

- Elements in an associative container are stored and retrieved by a **key**, in contrast to elements in a sequential container, which are stored and accessed sequentially by their position within the container
- Two primary associative container types: `map` and `set`
 - Elements in a `map` are (key, value) pairs
 - `set` contains only a key and supports efficient queries to whether a given key is present
- Applications
 - `map`: dictionary
 - `set`: store a collection of distinct values efficiently. For example, the distinct English words in an article

Associative vs. Sequential Containers

- Associative containers share many, but not all, of the operations on sequential containers
 - They do not have the `front()`, `push_front()`, `pop_front()`, `back()`, `push_back()`, or `pop_back()` operations
- Common operations
 - `C<T> c; // creates an empty container`
 - `C<T> c1 (c2) ; // copies elements from c2 into c1`
`// c2 must be the same type as c1`
 - `C<T> c (b, e) ; // b and e are iterators denoting a`
`// sequence. Copy elements from the sequence into c`
 - `begin()`, `end()`, `size()`, `empty()`, `clear()`, `=`

Associative vs. Sequential Containers

- The associative container types define additional operations
- The big difference: for associative containers, elements' order is irrelevant to their insertion order
 - For some associative containers, elements are ordered by key

Map

- map is also known as **associative array**
- It stores (key, value) pair
- To use, `#include <map>`
- Constructors
 - `map<k, v> m; // Create an empty map named m
// with key and value types k and v.`
 - E.g., **`map<string, int> word_count`**
 - `map<k, v> m(m2); // Create m as a copy of m2;
// m and m2 must have the same key and value types`
 - `map<k, v> m(b, e); // Create m as a copy of the
// elements from the range denoted by iterators b and e`

Constraints on the Key Type

- Elements in map are ordered by keys!
 - We require that key type has an extra operation: **strict weak ordering**
- Strict weak ordering:
 - Think as less than ($<$)
- Technically
 - Yield false when we compare a key with itself
 - Given two keys, they cannot both be "less than" each other
 - Satisfy transitive property: if $k_1 < k_2$ and $k_2 < k_3$, then $k_1 < k_3$
 - If we have two keys, neither of which is "less than" the other, then they are treated as equal

Examples:

- $<$ for int
- alphabetical order for string

Preliminaries: the pair Type

- A simple companion type, holding two data values
- It is a template. Need to supply two type names
`pair<string, string> spair; // hold two strings`
- **`pair<T1, T2> p1;`**
 - Create a pair with two elements of types T1 and T2. The elements are value-initialized (use default constructor for class type; 0 for built-in type)
- **`pair<T1, T2> p1 (v1, v2) ;`**
 - Create a pair with types T1 and T2. Initialize the first member from v1 and the second from v2.
 - **`pair<string, int> count ("blue", 2) ;`**

Preliminaries: the pair Type

- We can access the two data members in the pair
 - `p.first` // return the **reference** to the first member
 - `p.second` // return the **reference** to the second member
 - They are **public**
- `make_pair(v1, v2)`
 - Create a new pair from the values `v1` and `v2`. The type of the pair is inferred from the types of `v1` and `v2`
`pair<string, string> name = make_pair("John", "Adams");`

Map Iterator

- Dereferencing a map iterator yields a **pair** in which first member holds the **const key** and second member holds the **value**

```
map<string, int>::iterator it =  
                                word_count.begin();
```

- ***it** is a reference to a **pair<const string, int>** object
 - It refers to neither the key nor the value
- To access key, use **it->first**
cout << it->first;
- However, first member is a **const key**, so we cannot change it

```
it->first = "new key"; // Error!
```

Map Iterator

```
map<string, int>::iterator it =  
    word_count.begin();
```

- To access value, use **it->second**
cout << it->second;
- We can change value through iterator
it->second = 2;

Adding Elements to a map

- There are two ways:
 - Using the subscript operator
 - Using the insert member

Insert Using Subscripting

- If key `k` is not in the map `m`, you can insert `(k, v)` using

`m[k] = v;`

- Example

```
map <string, int> word_count; // empty map
// insert element with key "Anna";
// then assign 1 to its value
word_count["Anna"] = 1;
```

- You insert a pair `("Anna", 1)` into `word_count`.

Insert Using Subscripting

```
map <string, int> word_count; // empty map
// insert element with key "Anna";
// then assign 1 to its value
word_count["Anna"] = 1;
```

- What really happens is
 - **word_count** is searched for the element whose **key** is **Anna**. The element is not found.
 - A new (key, value) pair is inserted. key = "Anna". Value is value-initialized to 0.
 - The newly inserted element is fetched and is given the value 1.

Subscripting a map

- Subscripting a map behaves quite differently from subscripting an array or vector
 - Using an index (key) that **does not exist** adds an element with that index to the map
- If the key exists, the value associated with the key is returned. We can read and write to the value

```
cout << word_count["Anna"] ;  
++word_count["Anna"] ; // fetch the element  
                        // and add one to it
```

- Subscripting a vector = dereferencing a vector iterator
- Subscripting a map \neq dereferencing a map iterator

Use Subscript Behavior in a Smart Way

```
// count #times each word occurs from input
map<string, int> word_count;
// empty map from string to int
string word;
while (cin >> word)
    ++word_count[word];
```

Question: what's the behavior for the first time we encounter a word?

- The first time we encounter a word, a new element indexed by word is created and inserted into map
 - Its value is initialized with zero
- Then, the value of that element is immediately incremented. So, the count is the (correct) value of one
- If word is already in the map, then its value is incremented.

insert()

- `m.insert(e)`
 - `e` is a (key, value) pair. If the key is not in `m`, insert the pair. If the key is in `m`, then `m` is unchanged

```
word_count.insert(make_pair("Anna", 1));
```

insert()

- `m.insert(e)`
 - Returns a pair of (map iterator, bool)
 - map iterator refers to the element with key
 - bool indicates whether the element was inserted or not.

```
// count #times each word occurs from input
map<string, int> word_count;
while (cin >> word) {
    pair<map<string, int>::iterator, bool> ret =
        word_count.insert(make_pair(word, 1));
    if (!ret.second) // word already in word_count
        ++ret.first->second; // increment count
}
```

Finding and Retrieving a map Element

- The subscript operator provides the simplest method of retrieving a value
- But, it has a side effect. What is it?
 - If that key is not already in the map, then subscript inserts an element with that key.
- How can we determine if a key is present without causing it to be inserted?
 - **`m.find(k)`**

find()

- `m.find(k)`
 - Returns an iterator to the element indexed by key `k`, if there is one
 - Otherwise, returns an off-the-end iterator (i.e., `end()`) if the key is not present

```
int occurs = 0;  
map<string,int>::iterator it =  
    word_count.find("abc");  
if (it != word_count.end())  
    occurs = it->second;
```

erase()

- `m.erase(iter)`
 - Removes element referred to by the iterator `iter` from `m`. `iter` must refer to an actual element in `m`; it must not be equal to `m.end()`.
 - Returns void.
- `m.erase(k)`
 - Removes the element with key `k` from `m` if it exists
 - Otherwise, do nothing
 - Returns the number of elements removed. For map, this is either 0 or 1

```
if (word_count.erase(rm_word)) // rm_word is a key
    cout << "ok: " << rm_word << "removed\n";
else cout << rm_word << " not found!\n";
```

Iterate across a map

- map has `begin()` and `end()`, with which we can traverse the map

- Example: print all the elements in `word_count`

```
map<string, int>::iterator it;  
for(it=word_count.begin();  
    it!=word_count.end(); ++it)  
    cout << it->first << " occurs "  
        << it->second << " times";
```

- The output prints the words in **alphabetical order**.
 - **Note**: When we use an iterator to traverse a map, the iterators yield elements in **ascending key order**.



Which of the following statements are true?

Select all the correct answers.

- **A.** A dictionary can be seen as a generalization of an array.
- **B.** A key has to be a string.
- **C.** A same key can be associated to several different values in a dictionary.
- **D.** A same value can be associated to several different keys in a dictionary.



Reference

- **C++ Primer (4th Edition)**, by *Stanley Lippman, Josee Lajoie, and Barbara Moo*, Addison Wesley Publishing (2005)
 - Chapter 10 **Associative Containers**