

Some Useful STL Functions*

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The Standard Template Library contains many functions working on any container. We highlight a few here.

- `find`

- `InputIterator find(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, T value)`
- returns the leftmost occurrence of value if present
- returns last if value not present
- `#include <algorithm>`

- `copy`

- `OutputIterator copy(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, OutputIterator result)`
- copies everything from `[first,last)` to the container represented by `result`
- output container must be large enough already!
- returns a pointer one past the last changed position
- `#include <algorithm>`

- `transform`

- `OutputIterator tranform(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, OutputIterator result, UnaryFunction op)`
- fills output container with result of `op` applied to each member of the input container
- output container must be large enough already!
- the input and output container can be the same
- `#include <algorithm>`

- `for_each`

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- `UnaryFunction` `for_each(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, UnaryFunction op)`
- applies `op` to each element in the input container
- the result of applying `op` is ignored. That is `op` should probably be a void function
- `#include <algorithm>`
- `sort`
 - `void sort(RandomAccessIterator first, RandomAccessIterator last)`
or
 - `void sort(RandomAccessIterator first, RandomAccessIterator last, ComparatorFunction comp)`
 - sorts the specified range
 - uses the specified comparator function `comp` if present; should be a binary function acting like `<` for any two container elements
 - uses the container elements' `<` if `comp` not specified
 - `#include <algorithm>`
- `accumulate`
 - `T accumulate(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, T init)`
 - `T accumulate(InputIterator first, InputIterator last, T init, BinaryFunction op)`
 - if `op` not specified, do `+` on all the elements starting with an initial value of `init`, e.g., 0
 - if `op` specified, do `op` on all the elements starting with an initial value of `init`
 - ex: `accumulate(v.begin(), v.end(), 0)` yields sum of all vector elements
 - ex: `accumulate(v.begin(), v.end(), 1, multiplies<int>())` yields product of all vector elements
 - `#include <numeric>`
- `inner_product`
 - `T inner_product(InputIterator1 first1, InputIterator1 last1, InputIterator2 first2, T init)`
 - computes the dot product of the two specified containers starting with value `init`
 - the second container must be at least as large as the first container
 - `#include <numeric>`