

TDDD38/726G82 - Advanced programming in C++

Introduction STL

Christoffer Holm

Department of Computer and information science

- 1 Introduction
- 2 IO
- 3 Sequential Containers

- 1 Introduction
- 2 IO
- 3 Sequential Containers

Introduction

What is the STL?

- Library accessible everywhere
- Solving common problems
- Modular design
- Efficiency

Introduction

What is the STL?

- Library accessible everywhere
 - Same behaviour independent of platform
 - Shipped with the compiler itself
 - ISO C++ requires the full library to be accessible
- Solving common problems
- Modular design
- Efficiency

Introduction

What is the STL?

- Library accessible everywhere
- Solving common problems
 - Having to reinvent the wheel is costly
 - There are problems most programmers face
 - Designed to be as widely usable as possible
- Modular design
- Efficiency

Introduction

What is the STL?

- Library accessible everywhere
- Solving common problems
- Modular design
 - Don't pay for what you don't use
 - Only import the parts that you need
 - All modules are compatible with each other
- Efficiency

Introduction

What is the STL?

- Library accessible everywhere
- Solving common problems
- Modular design
- Efficiency
 - Library writers are very skilled
 - Components are highly optimized
 - Maintenance is not your responsibility

Introduction

Standard Template Library

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible
- Solves common problems

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible
- Solves common problems
- The common case should be convenient

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible
- Solves common problems
- The common case should be convenient
- Must work together with user-defined code

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible
- Solves common problems
- The common case should be convenient
- Must work together with user-defined code
- Efficient enough to replace hand-written alternatives

Introduction

Design principles of STL

- Should be as general as possible
- Solves common problems
- The common case should be convenient
- Must work together with user-defined code
- Efficient enough to replace hand-written alternatives
- Should have robust error handling

Introduction

Components

- Algorithms
- Containers
- Functions
- Iterators

Introduction

Components

- Algorithms
 - General facilities for solving common problems
 - A large amount of algorithms exist in the STL
 - Highly optimized for both speed and memory
- Containers
- Functions
- Iterators

Introduction

Components

- Algorithms
- Containers
 - General data structures
 - Based on high level abstractions
 - Should not be required to understand the underlying implementation
- Functions
- Iterators

Introduction

Components

- Algorithms
- Containers
- Functions
 - General utility functions
 - Should be usable for as many types as possible
 - Solves all manner of problems
- Iterators

Introduction

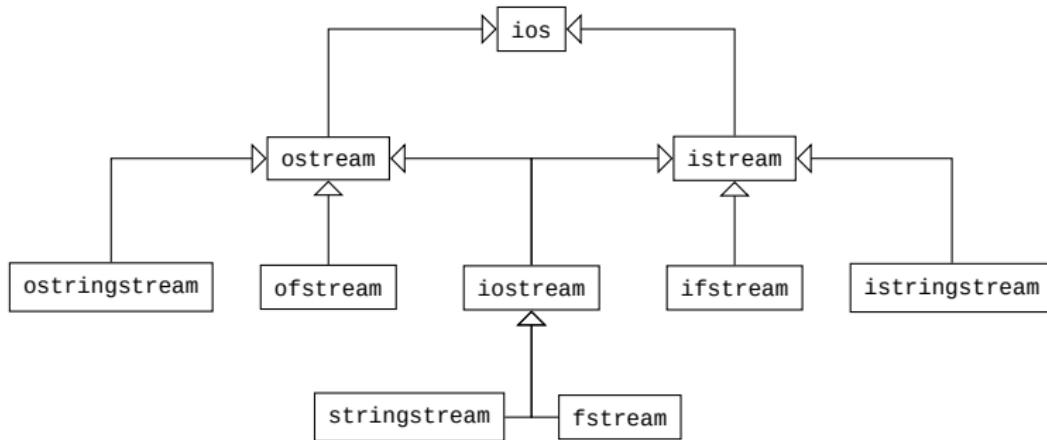
Components

- Algorithms
- Containers
- Functions
- Iterators
 - Abstraction which allows for general traversal of data
 - Used in conjunction with algorithms
 - An interface that works with all containers without the need to specify the container type

- 1 Introduction
- 2 IO
- 3 Sequential Containers

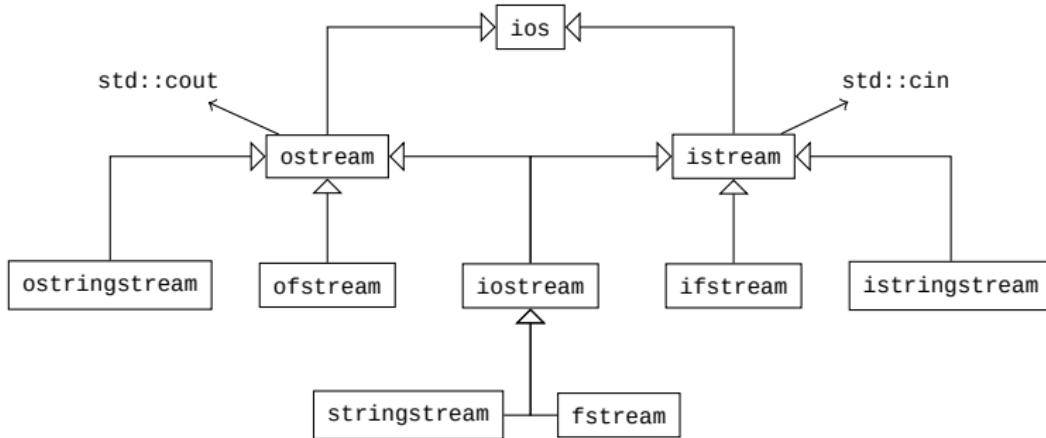
IO

Streams



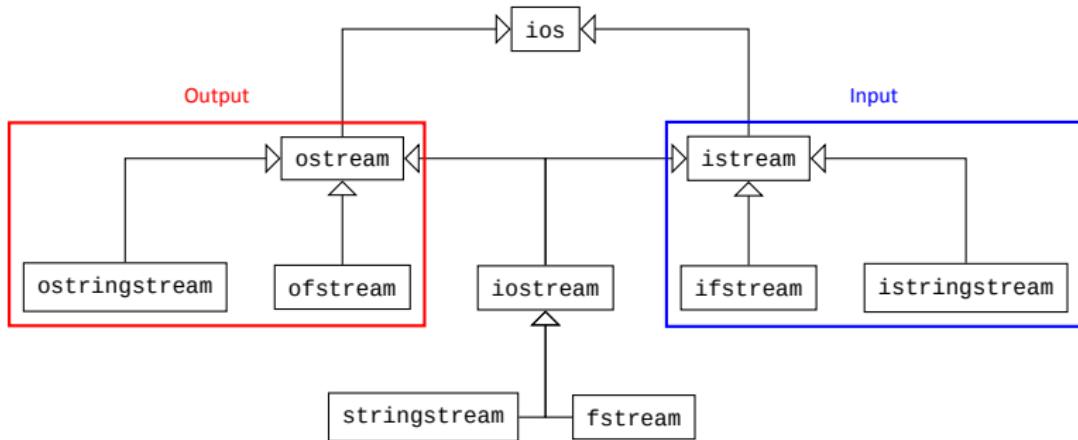
IO

Streams



IO

Streams



IO

Streams

- Represent reading and writing data to some *device*
- Example of devices;
 - a terminal
 - a file
 - a chunk of memory
 - sockets
- `operator>>` to read

IO

Stream operators

```
template <typename T>
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T& data)
{
    // write data to the device
    return os;
}
// ...
cout << 1 << 2;
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
cout << 1 << 2;
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
(cout << 1) << 2;
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
operator<<(cout, 1) << 2;
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
cout << 2;
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
(cout << 2);
```

IO

Stream operators

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);
```

```
cout;
```

IO

Chaining operators

- Stream operators return a reference to the stream
- This is done to enable *chaining*
- Since << and >> are *left associative* this will allow us to make several calls to the stream in one expression

IO

Devices

```
ostream& operator<<(ostream& os, T&& data);  
  
int main()  
{  
    ostringstream oss{};  
    ofstream ofs{"my_file.txt"};  
    cout << 1; // write to terminal  
    oss << 1; // write to string  
    ofs << 1; // write to file  
    oss.str(); // access string  
}
```

IO

Devices

```
istream& operator>>(istream& is, T& data);

int main()
{
    int x;
    istringstream iss{"1"};
    ifstream ofs{"my_file.txt"};
    cin >> x; // read from terminal
    oss >> x; // read from string
    ofs >> x; // read from file
}
```

IO

Devices

- The interface of streams are general
- Underlying devices are abstracted away
- all streams are within a (polymorphic) hierarchy
- so we can write general code that operates on arbitrary streams if we take `ostream&` or `istream&`

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs("file");
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs("file");
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:
unable to read as `int`

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:

unable to read as `int`
found end of file character

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:

- unable to read as `int`
- found end of file character
- file is corrupt

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:
fail: unable to read as int
found end of file character
file is corrupt

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:
fail: unable to read as `int`
eof: found end of file character
file is corrupt

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
while (ifs >> x)
{
    // do stuff
}
```

Exits loop if:
fail: unable to read as `int`
eof: found end of file character
bad: file is corrupt

IO

Error handling

```
int x;
ifstream ifs{"file"};
ifs >> x;
if (ifs.fail())      // unable to read as int
// ...
else if (ifs.eof()) // reached end of file
// ...
else if (ifs.bad()) // device is corrupt
// ...
```

IO

Error flags

```
istream& operator>>(istream& is, T& t)
{
    // try to read from is
    if /* unable to read as T */
    {
        is.setstate(ios::failbit);
    }
    return is;
}
```

IO

Error flags

`ios::failbit` stream operation failed

`ios::eofbit` device has reached the end

`ios::badbit` irrecoverable stream error

`ios::goodbit` no error

IO

Error flags

- Multiple flags can be set at once
- except goodbit; it is set when no other flag is set
- This means that several errors can occur at once
- Do note that these flags are set *after* a stream operation failed
- The stream does not magically detect an error if no operation has been performed

IO

Converting from strings

```
int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    int x;
    istringstream iss{argv[1]};
    if (!(iss >> x))
    {
        // error

        // reset flags
        iss.clear();
    }
    // continue
}
```

```
int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    int x;
    try
    {
        x = stoi(argv[1]);
    }
    catch (invalid_argument& e)
    {
        // error
    }
    // continue
}
```

IO

Converting from strings

`istringstream` version

- + More general
- + Cheaper error path
- Requires a stream
- Must check flags

`stoi` version

- + No extra objects
- + Easier error handling
- Expensive error path
- Only works for `int`

Prefer the `istringstream` version because of generality, but as always; there are no universal solutions

IO

What will be printed?

```
#include <sstream>
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;
int main()
{
    stringstream ss{};
    ss << "123a bc hello";
    int    n{};
    char   c{};
    string str{};

    if (ss >> n >> n >> c) cout << n << " ";
    ss.clear();
    if (ss >> c >> c) cout << c << " ";
    ss.clear();
    if (ss >> str) cout << str << " ";
}
```

- 1 Introduction
- 2 IO
- 3 Sequential Containers

Containers

Containers

- Sequential Containers
- Associative Containers
- Container Adaptors

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
 - Different containers have different models of allocation.
 - Calling `new` is **very** slow,
 - So the number of memory allocations is an important factor in the effectiveness of a container
- CPU caching
- Pointer invalidation

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
- CPU caching
 - Modern CPU:s perform what is known as caching.
 - Whenever the CPU fetch data from the RAM it will fetch a block of data and store that in the cache.
 - Accessing data in the CPU cache is several magnitudes faster than accessing data in the RAM.
- Pointer invalidation

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
- CPU caching
 - We always read data in blocks, so we know that the element after the data we just read is almost guaranteed to be in the cache.
 - So containers that read data in sequence is a lot faster than those that do not.
- Pointer invalidation

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
- CPU caching
 - On the flip side: if the elements of a container is spread all around the RAM, then it will be a lot slower since we almost always have to read the data from RAM rather than cache.
 - Usually we talk about the *cache locality* of a container: how much of the cache it can leverage for speedups.

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
- CPU caching
- Pointer invalidation
 - If we have pointers or references to data in containers we have to know whenever these gets *invalidated*.
 - A pointer (or reference) points to a specific address in memory,

Sequential Containers

Important concepts

- Memory allocations
- CPU caching
- Pointer invalidation
 - So if the container for some reason moves the element to another address in memory, then the pointer doesn't refer to the same element (and chances are it doesn't even point to a valid object)
 - This can prove to be a big impact in how we use containers.

Sequential Containers

What is a sequential container?

- Data stored in sequence
- Accessed with indices
- Ordered but not (necessarily) sorted

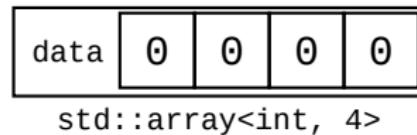
Sequential Containers

Which sequential containers are there?

- `std::array`
- `std::vector`
- `std::list`
- `std::forward_list`
- `std::deque`

Sequential Containers

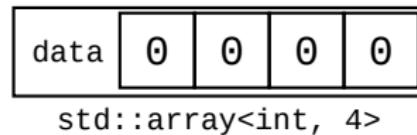
`std::array`



```
std::array<int, 4> array{};
```

Sequential Containers

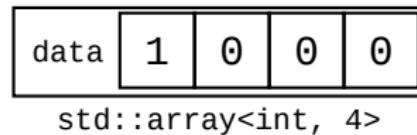
`std::array`



```
array[0] = 1;
```

Sequential Containers

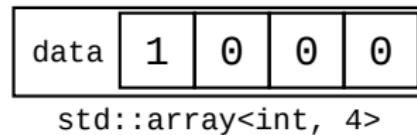
`std::array`



```
array[0] = 1;
```

Sequential Containers

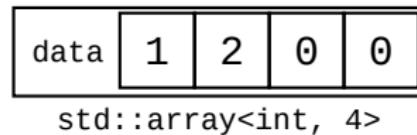
`std::array`



```
array[1] = 2;
```

Sequential Containers

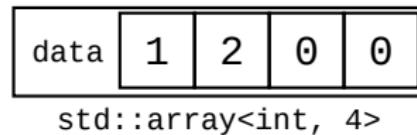
`std::array`



```
array[1] = 2;
```

Sequential Containers

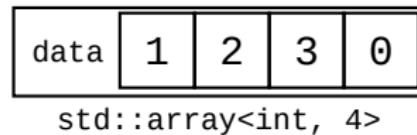
`std::array`



```
array[2] = 3;
```

Sequential Containers

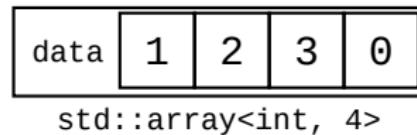
`std::array`



```
array[2] = 3;
```

Sequential Containers

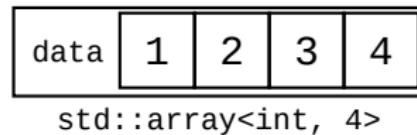
`std::array`



```
array[3] = 4;
```

Sequential Containers

`std::array`



```
array[3] = 4;
```

Sequential Containers

`std::array`

- insertion: *not applicable*
- deletion: *not applicable*
- lookup: $O(1)$

Sequential Containers

`std::array`

- + No memory allocations
- + Data never move in memory
- Fixed size
- Size must be known during compilation

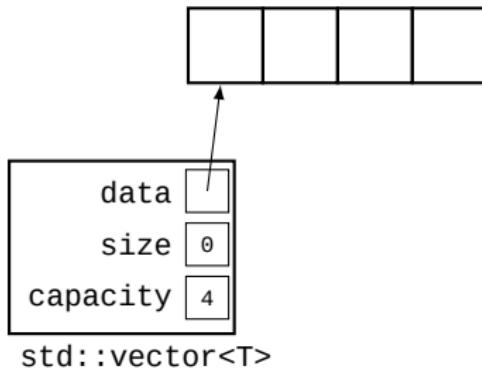
Sequential Containers

Example

```
#include <array>
// ...
int main()
{
    std::array<int, 5> data{};
    for (unsigned i{}; i < data.size(); ++i)
    {
        cin >> data.at(i);
    }
    for (auto&& i : data)
    {
        cout << i << endl;
    }
}
```

Sequential Containers

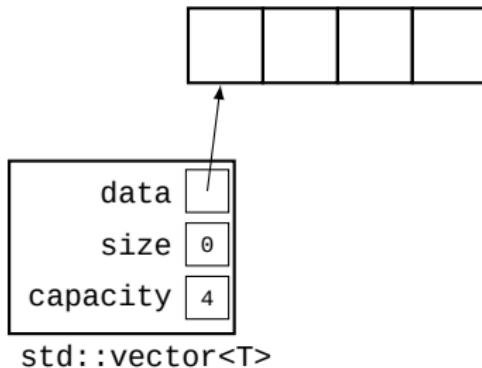
`std::vector`



```
std::vector<int> vector{};
```

Sequential Containers

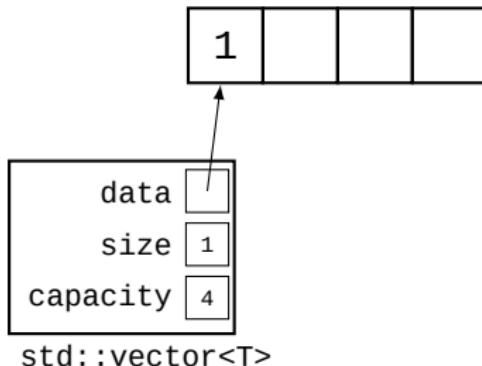
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

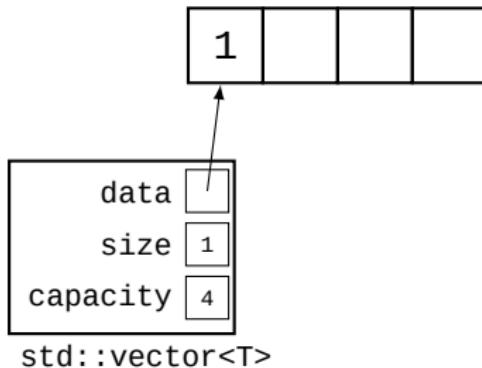
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector

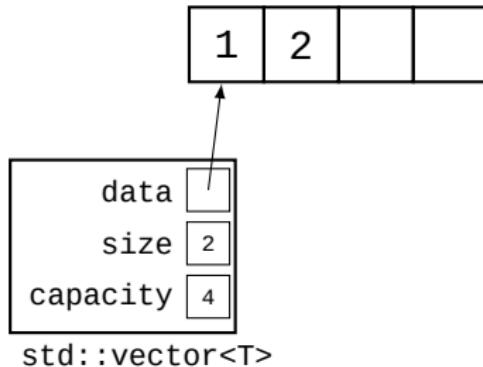


`std::vector<T>`

```
vector.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector

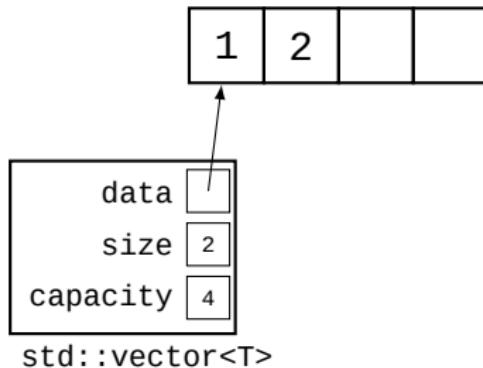


`std::vector<T>`

```
vector.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector

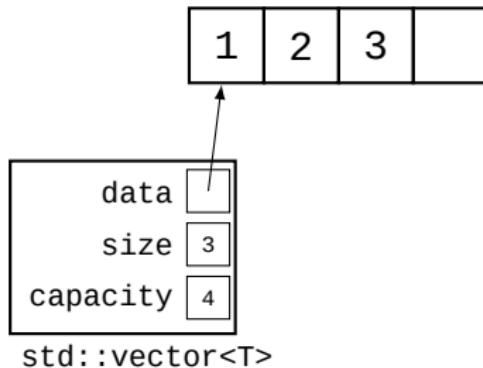


`std::vector<T>`

```
vector.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector

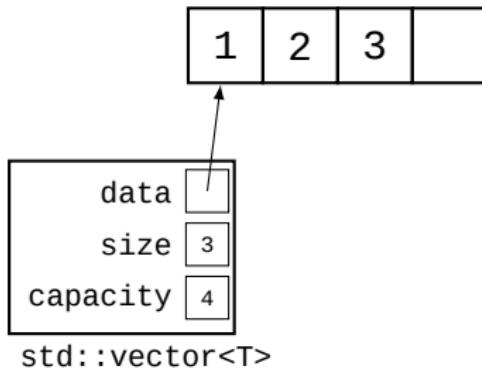


`std::vector<T>`

```
vector.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector

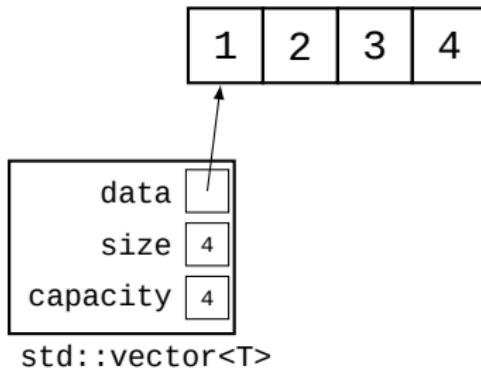


`std::vector<T>`

```
vector.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

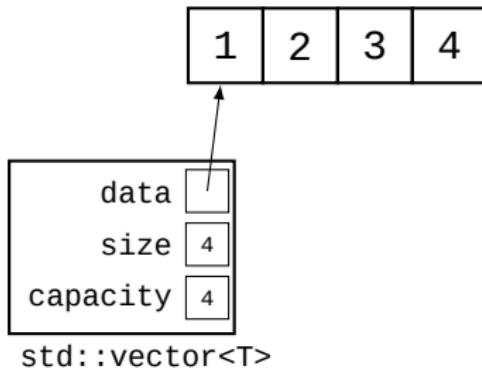
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

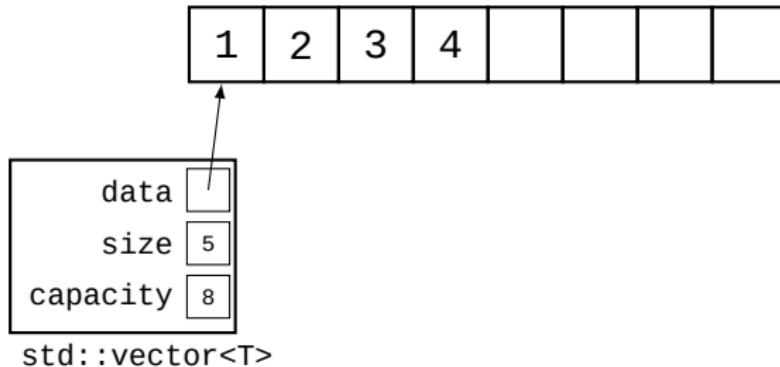
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

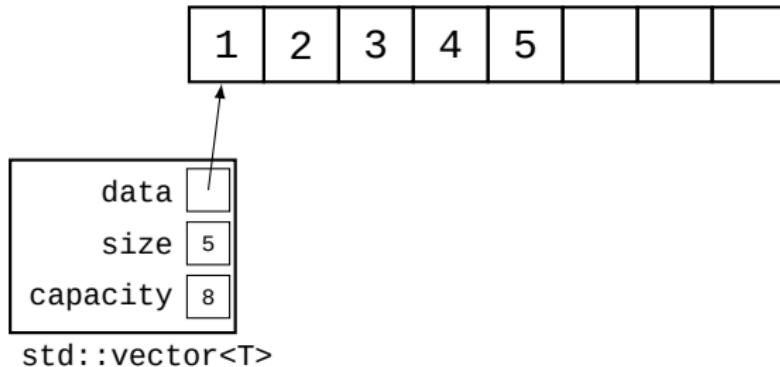
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

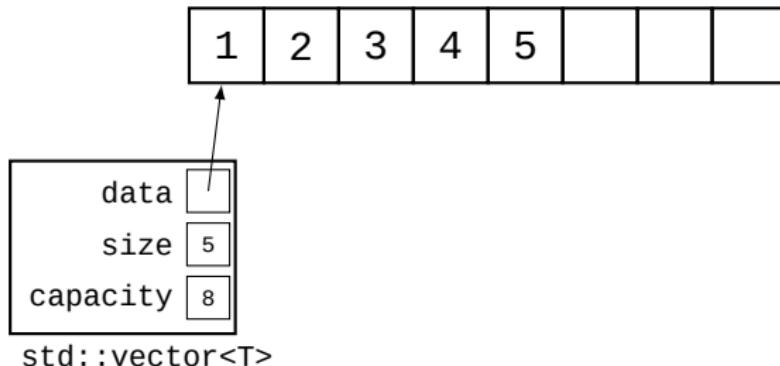
std::vector



```
vector.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

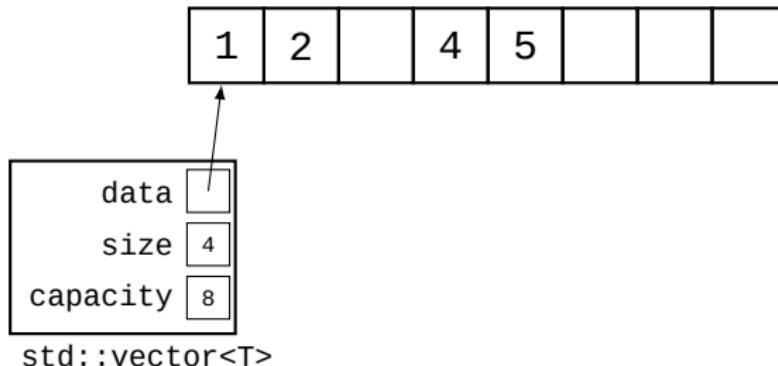
std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

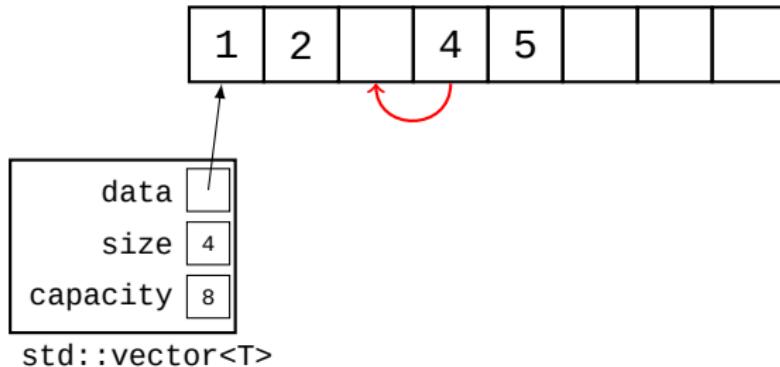
std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

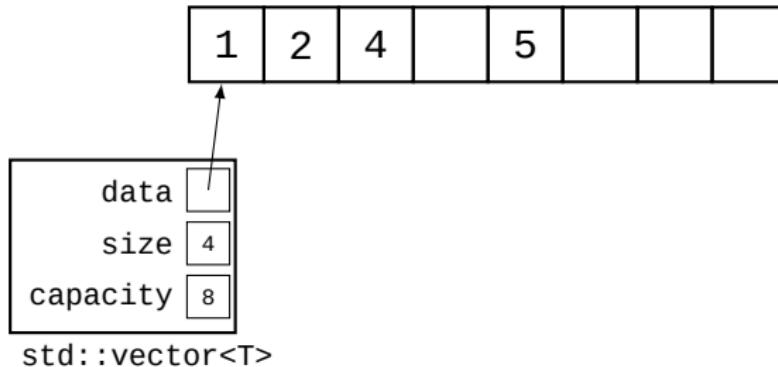
std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

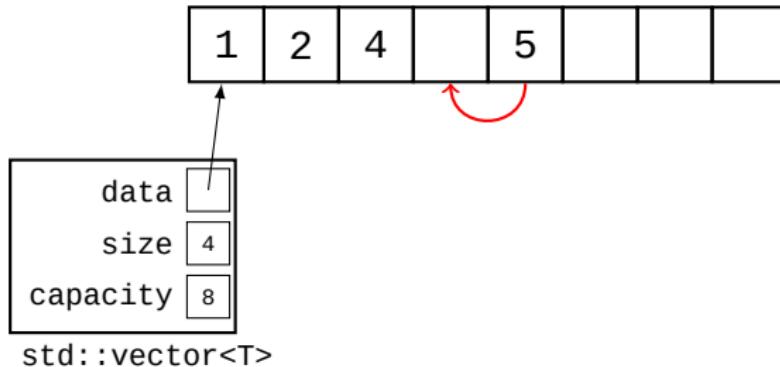
std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

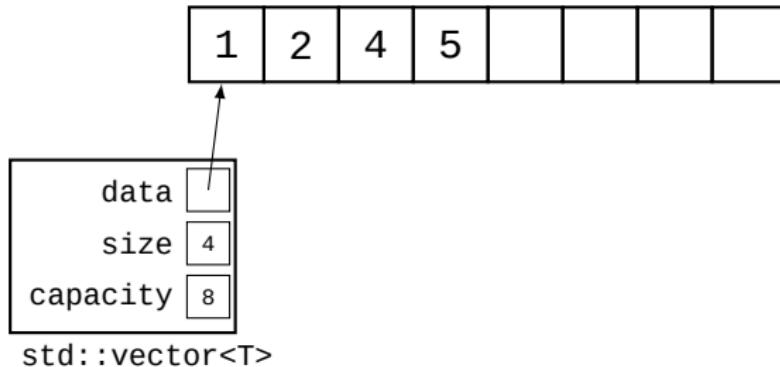
std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

std::vector



```
vector.erase(vector.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::vector`

- insertion:
 - at end: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- deletion:
 - last element: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- lookup: $O(1)$

Sequential Containers

`std::vector`

- + Data is sequential in memory
- + Dynamic size
- Entire data range can move in memory
- Dynamic allocations are slow

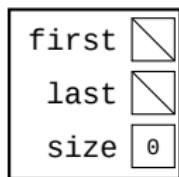
Sequential Containers

Example

```
#include <vector>
// ...
int main()
{
    std::vector<int> data{};
    int x{};
    while (cin >> x)
    {
        data.push_back(x);
    }
    for (auto&& i : data)
        cout << i << endl;
}
```

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

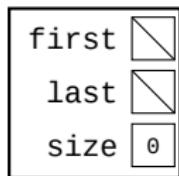


`std::list<T>`

```
std::list<int> list{};
```

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

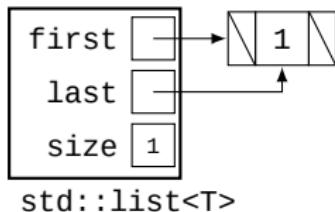


`std::list<T>`

```
list.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

std::list

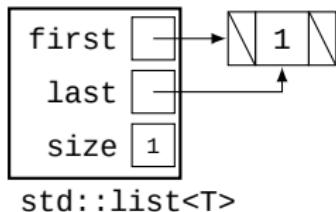


std::list<T>

```
list.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

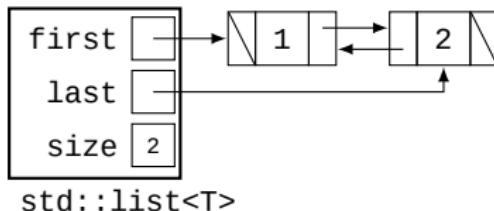


`std::list<T>`

```
list.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

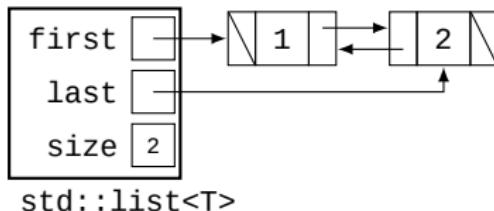
`std::list`



```
list.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

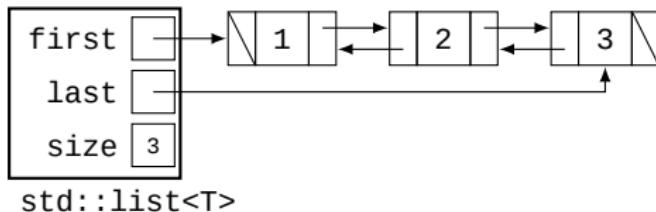
`std::list`



```
list.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

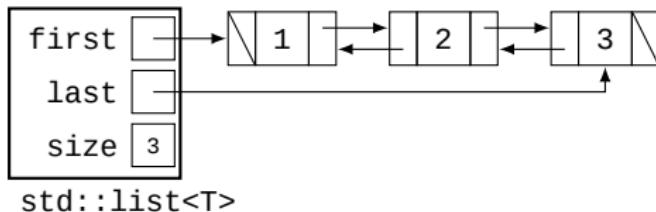
`std::list`



```
list.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

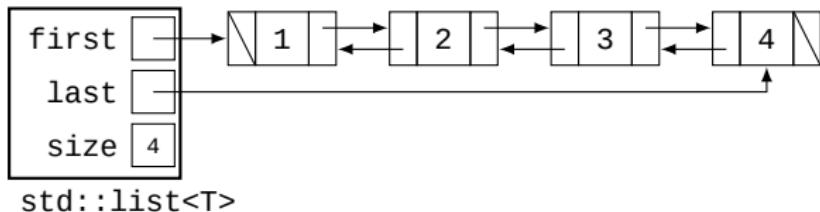
`std::list`



```
list.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::list`



```
list.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

- insertion:
 - at the ends: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- deletion:
 - first or last element: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- lookup: $O(n)$

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

- + elements never move in memory
- + Operations around a specific element is $O(1)$
- Many allocations (one for each element)
- Linear lookup

Sequential Containers

`std::list`

- + elements never move in memory
- + Operations around a specific element is $O(1)$
- Many allocations (one for each element)
- Linear lookup
- Makes the CPU cache very sad :(

Sequential Containers

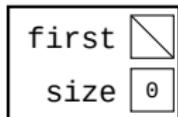
Example

```
#include <list>
#include <vector>
// ...
int main()
{
    std::list<int> data{};
    std::vector<int*> order{};

    int x;
    while (cin >> x)
    {
        data.push_back(x);
        order.push_back(&data.back());
    }
    data.sort();
    int i{0};
    for (auto&& val : data)
    {
        cout << val << ", " << *order[i++] << endl;
    }
}
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

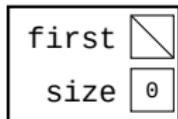


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
std::forward_list<int> list{};
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

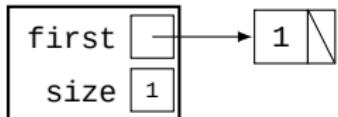


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(1);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

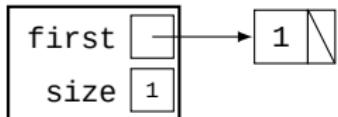


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(1);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

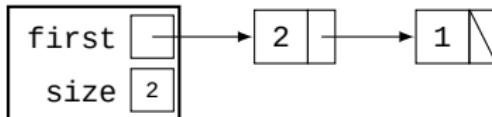


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(2);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

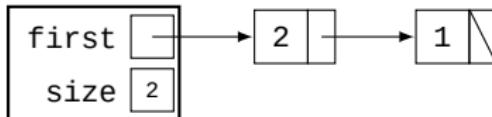


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(2);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

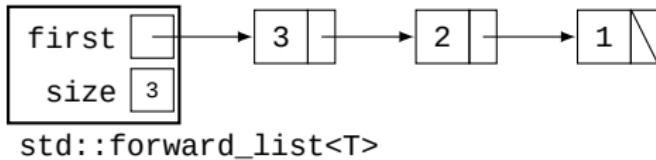


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(3);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

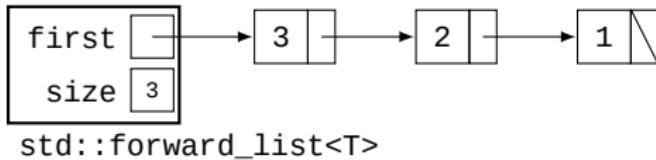


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(3);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

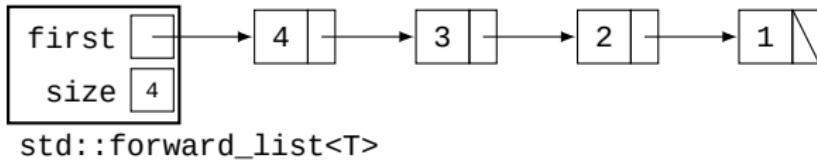


`std::forward_list<T>`

```
list.push_front(4);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`



```
list.push_front(4);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

- insertion:
 - in beginning: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- deletion:
 - first element: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- lookup: $O(n)$

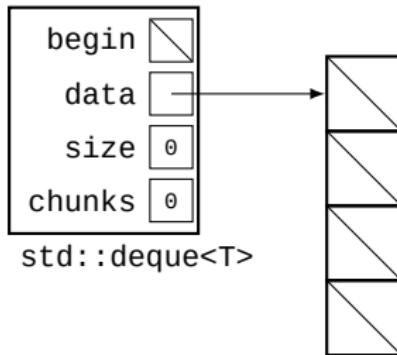
Sequential Containers

`std::forward_list`

- + Less memory per element compared to `std::list`
- No $O(1)$ operations on last element
- Unable to go backwards

Sequential Containers

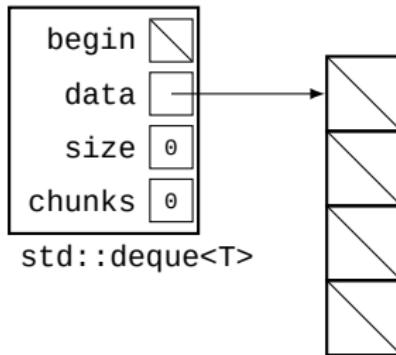
`std::deque`



```
std::deque<int> deque{};
```

Sequential Containers

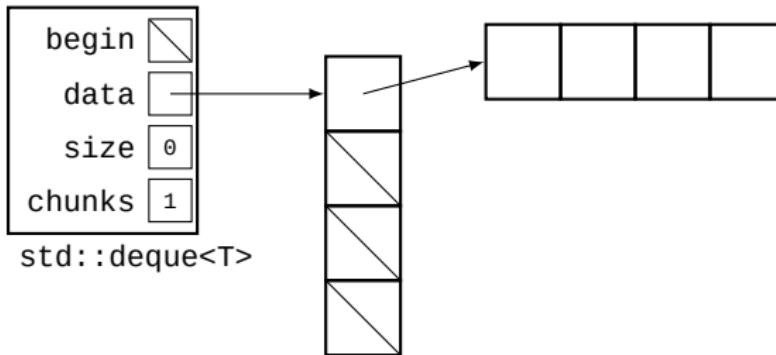
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

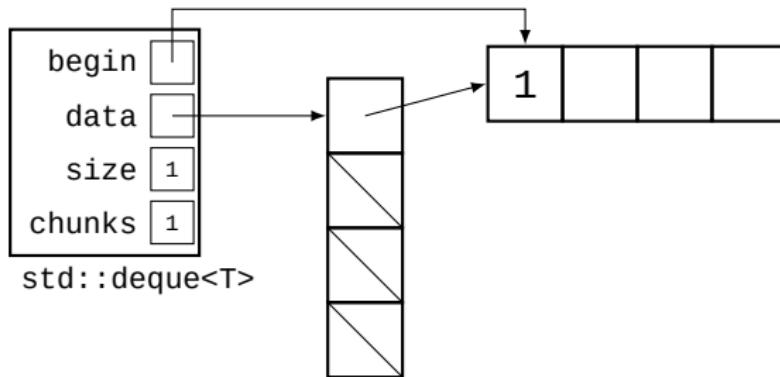
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

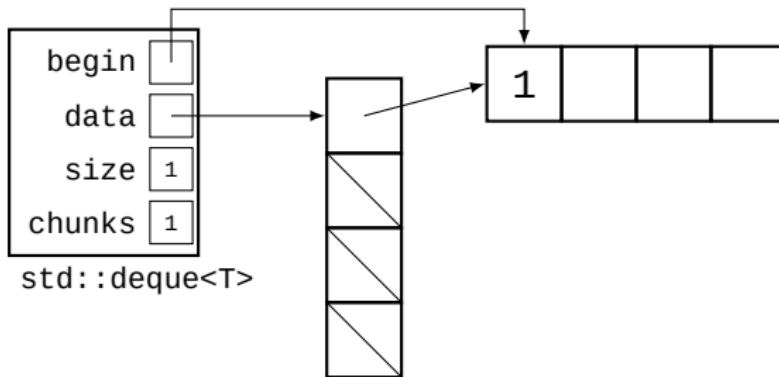
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(1);
```

Sequential Containers

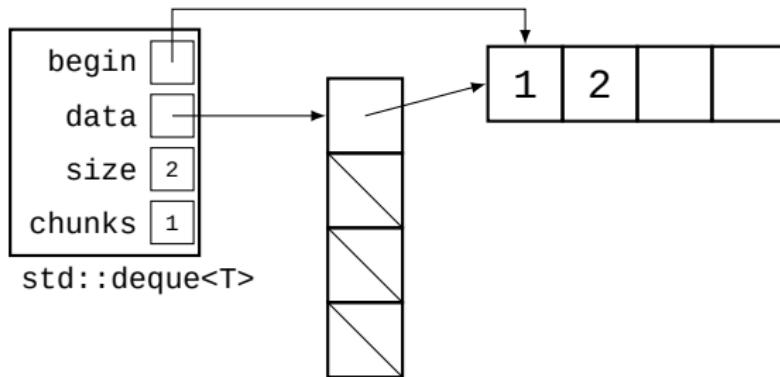
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

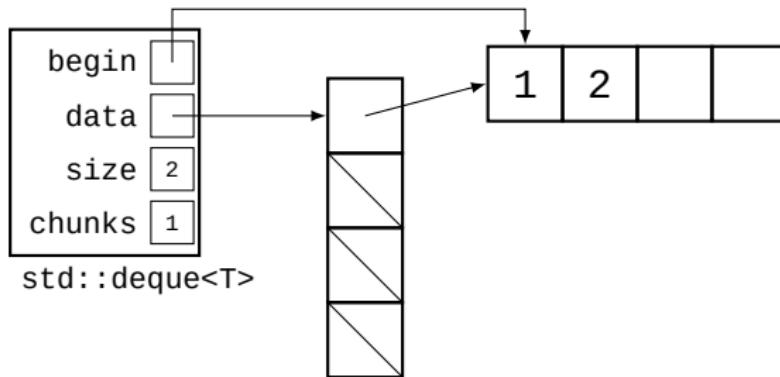
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(2);
```

Sequential Containers

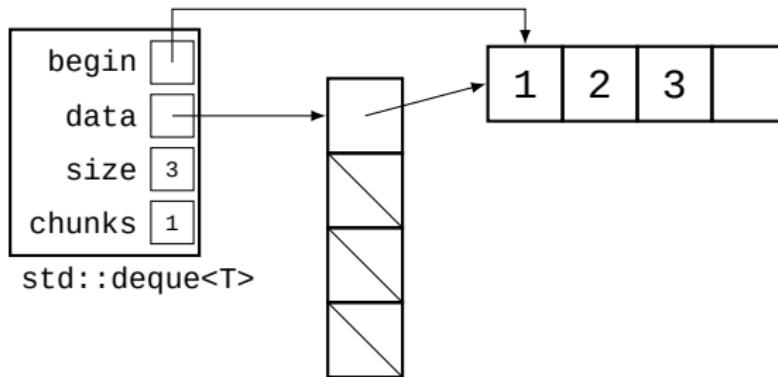
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

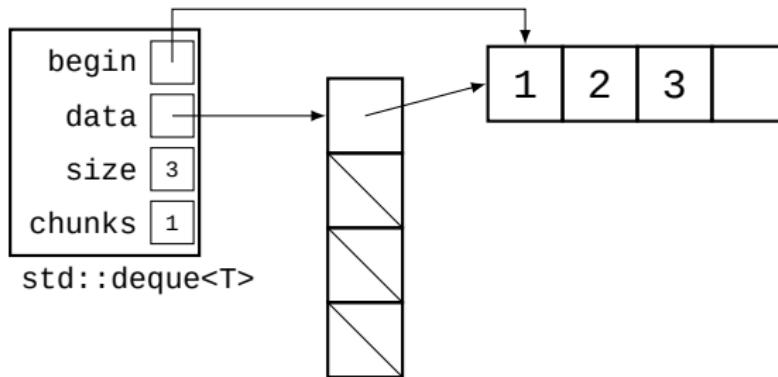
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(3);
```

Sequential Containers

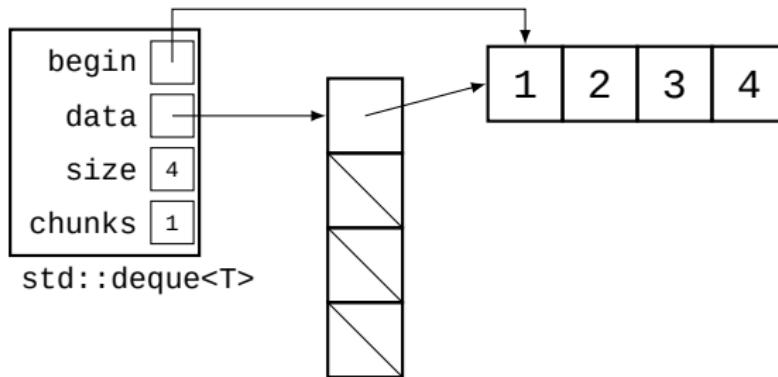
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

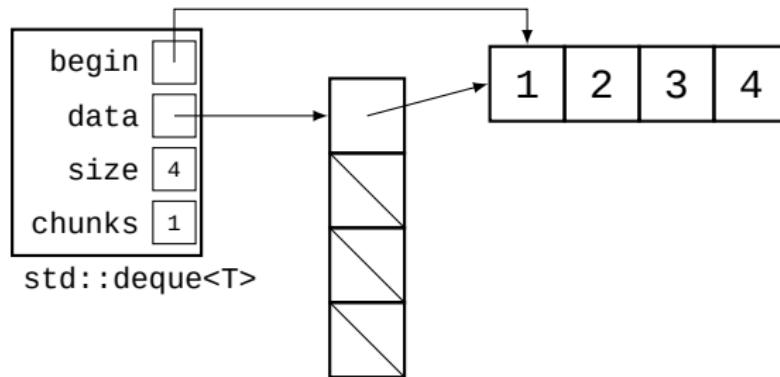
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(4);
```

Sequential Containers

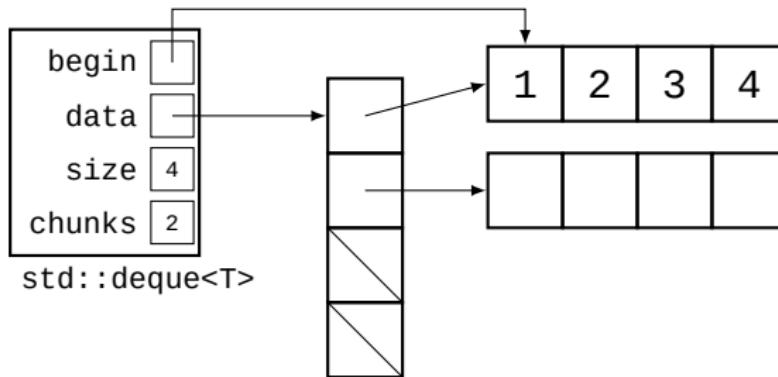
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

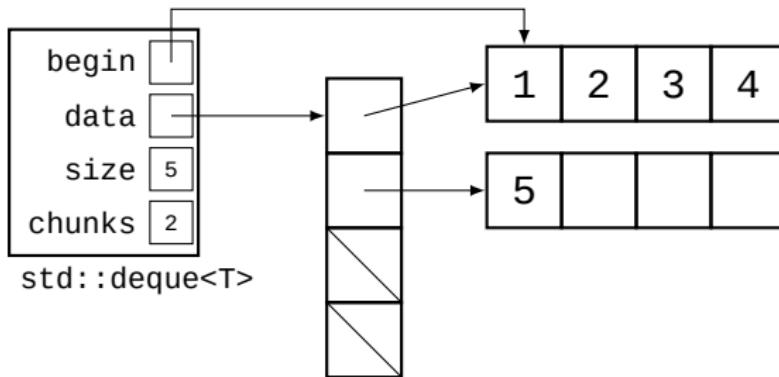
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

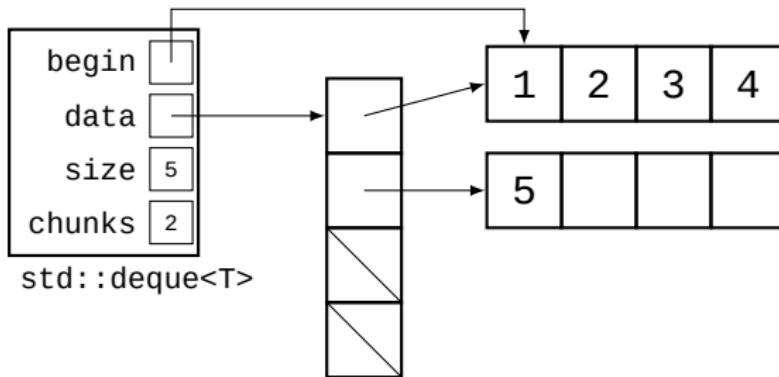
`std::deque`



```
deque.push_back(5);
```

Sequential Containers

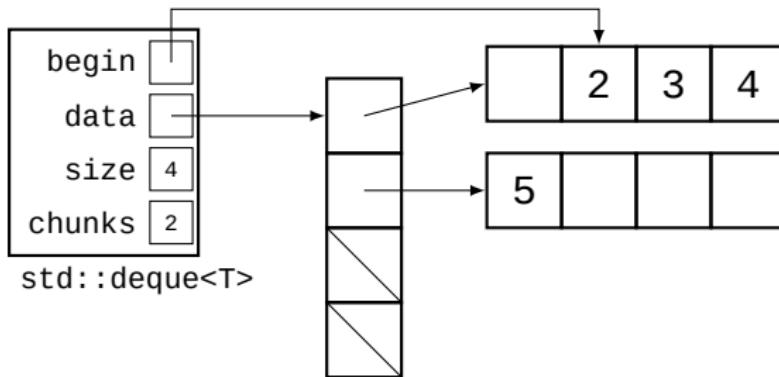
`std::deque`



```
deque.pop_front();
```

Sequential Containers

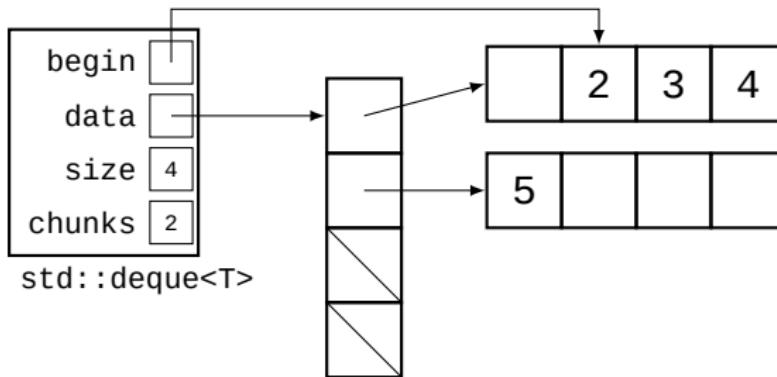
`std::deque`



```
deque.pop_front();
```

Sequential Containers

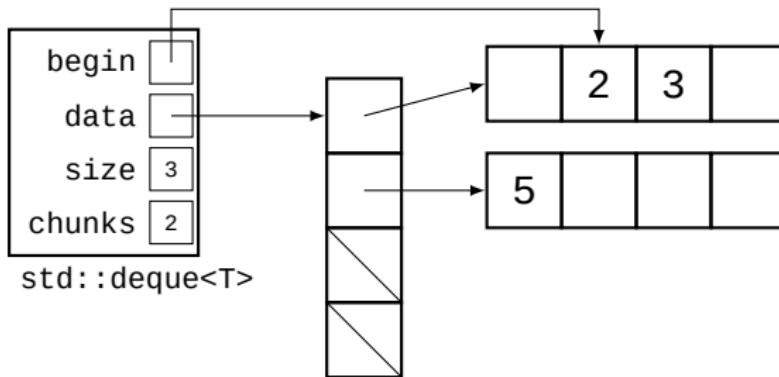
`std::deque`



```
deque.erase(deque.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

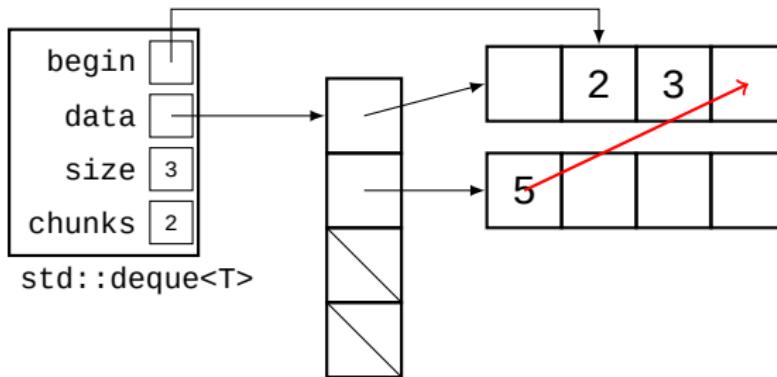
`std::deque`



```
deque.erase(deque.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

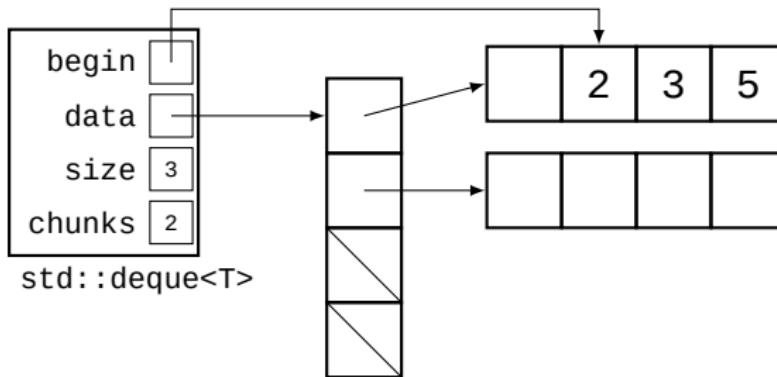
`std::deque`



```
deque.erase(deque.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

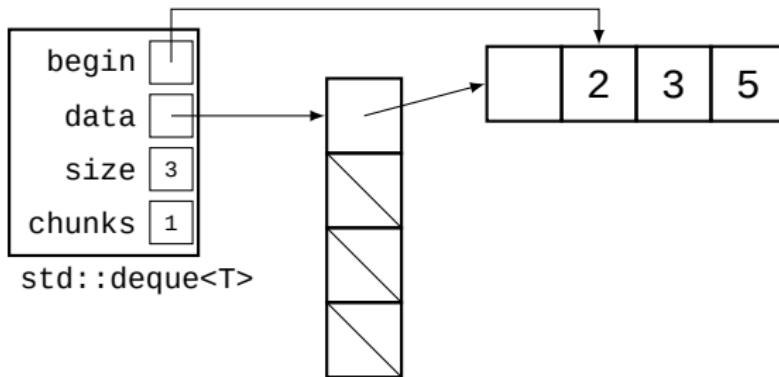
`std::deque`



```
deque.erase(deque.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::deque`



```
deque.erase(deque.begin() + 2);
```

Sequential Containers

`std::deque`

- insertion:
 - at ends: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- deletion:
 - at ends: $O(1)$
 - otherwise: $O(n)$
- lookup: $O(1)$

Sequential Containers

`std::deque`

- + Elements rarely move in memory
- + Fast operations at ends
- + More cache friendly than `std::list`
- Not contiguous in memory
- Additional complexity gives slightly worse performance

Sequential Containers

Uses

- Great for queues and stacks!
- Will automatically shrink the container so use it when there are a lot of insertions and deletions

www.liu.se

