

Flat containers wording

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## Summary

This proposal is a follow-up to [P0038R0 - Flat Containers](#). Flat containers are a heterogeneous set of containers similar to `map` or `set` but which are not node-based. The primary purposes are to achieve better performance for small-medium element counts (a dozen to several hundreds) where CPU cache access patterns dominate performance and where in-order traversal of elements is essential, e.g. when algorithms like `set_union` are required. This proposal answers outstanding questions in [P0038R0](#) and provides proposed wording for `flat_multimap`, `flat_set`, `flat_multimap`, and `flat_multiset`.

## Design

### Layout

Performance measurements have indicated that a sorted layout (as opposed to a level-ordered layout) is faster for sorted flat containers, and lookup/insert are roughly equal between both approaches for the sizes of data used with flat containers.

Paul-Virak Khuong and Pat Morin performed an analysis of various layouts and search operations for flat containers in their 2015 paper [Array Layouts for Comparison-based Searching](#). Their findings are summarized by the quote

After extensive testing and tuning on a wide variety of modern hardware, we arrive at the conclusion that, for small values of  $n$ , sorted order, combined with a good implementation of binary search is best.

Further explanation and light analysis can be found in a competing proposal [Flat Containers the C++ Way](#) by “pubby”.

The sorted order provides strong performance for all important operations when the container’s key data fits in cache. When the container does not fit in cache,

level-ordered layouts will provide much more efficient insert, find, and erase operations at the expense of much slower iteration operations. As one of the primary purposes of a flat container over an unordered container is the use of algorithms requiring in-order traversal (e.g. `set_union`) this loss of iteration performance is unacceptable.

The layout choice would only affect public interface if `flat_multimap::data()`, `flat_multimap::keys()`, or `flat_multimap::values()` members were made available. Iterator access can ensure in-order iteration no matter the internal layout choice.

Such members are not proposed here, though may be proposed as a future addition. This author strongly recommends implementations to use a sorted layout.

## Non-interleaved

Non-interleaved keys and values are faster for flat maps and multimaps for larger sizes of value element. As noted in the previous section, flat containers are good fits when the total key data size fits in cache. Separating keys from values for flat map containers allows more of the keys to fit in a single cache line which in turn improves efficiency for insert, find, and erase operations.

This issue is not relevant to set containers as they only contain key data.

This paper's author has also received a number of requests both in person and via e-mail asking for this proposal to require non-interleaved flat map implementation.

A `flat_multimap::data()` member, if added, would effectively mandate interleaved storage. A `flat_multimap::keys()` or `flat_multimap::values()` member would mandate non-interleaved storage.

Non-interleaved access requires that elements be referenced as a pair of references rather than a pair of value, which does have some peculiarities not found in other standard containers. In particular, the references in this pair will be invalidated on insert or removal of elements; this is in addition to iterator invalidation. It essentially means that the following code will invoke undefined behavior:

```
auto element = *flat_container.find(key);
flat_container.insert({new_key, new_value});
auto value = element.second; // undefined behavior, element.second is invalidated
```

Given the prior feedback from committee review of P0038R0 suggesting that design decisions focus on efficiency rather than compatibility with existing containers, this proposal will require that flat map elements be represented as a pair of references.

## Bulk insert

This author has received several very strong requests to ensure that a bulk insert is available based on real-world usage scenarios from large projects, such as Chromium.

There are several possible forms of bulk insert. The first is a bulk insert of unsorted data, suitable for raw input from an untrusted source. The second is a bulk insert of pre-sorted data, which can be an efficiency improvement for certain use cases. The final is a bulk initialization from already sorted data, which is the most efficient form of all.

Additional cases can be added as a pure extension. This proposal will only suggest the most generic form of bulk insert that makes no assumptions about sorted status, which is easily represented by the standard container member `flat_multimap::insert(first, second)` or corresponding constructor.

## Adaptor vs container

The competing proposal from pubby makes some strong arguments for making flat containers a set of adaptors. Namely, this allows flat containers to layer over `vector` or the common `small_vector` types found in many applications where heap allocations are verboten or best avoided. With the appropriately loose requirements, an adaptor would also allow a flat container to be implemented over a `std::deque`, a ring buffer, or other containers.

In contrast to pubby's proposal, Chandler Carruth in his CppCon 2016 talk "[High Performance Code 201: Hybrid Data Structures](#)" makes a strong case for using real containers rather than using adaptors or allocators for `small_vector` types. Carruth argues both that adaptors won't work because they compose poorly with copy and move operations, and further illustrates that allocators *cannot* implement the semantics of `std::vector` due to the iterator invalidation rules. As invalidation has an even deeper impact on flat map containers, this author feels these same arguments will strongly apply to flat containers.

This paper - based in part on Carruth's talk, on the committee's prior feedback on P0038R0, and on the author's own experience implementing flat container - proposes that flat containers be not adaptor templates.

This paper does not propose any small flat containers, but such containers may be useful to propose in the future for all the same reasons that small vectors are useful. This author feels that the allocator model semantics could be updated to address the problems Carruth outlined for small vectors and consequently obviate the need to ever add distinct small flat containers.

## Wording

In chapter [containers] add:

Flat associative containers [flatassoc]

In general [flatassoc.general]

The header <flat\_multimap> defines the class templates flat\_multimap and flat\_multimap; the <flat\_set> defines the class templates flat\_set and flat\_multiset.

Header <flat\_multimap> synopsis [flatassoc.map.syn]

```
namespace std {
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
              class Allocator = allocator<pair<const Key&, T&>>>
    class flat_multimap;

    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator==(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator< (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                  const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator!=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator> (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                  const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator>=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator<=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
             flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
        noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));

    template <class Key, class T, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
              class Allocator = allocator<pair<const Key&, T&>>>
    class flat_multimap;
```

```

template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator< (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

```

Header <set> synopsis [flatassoc.set.syn]

```

namespace std {
    template <class Key, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
             class Allocator = allocator<Key>>
    class flat_set;

    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator==(const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                  const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator< (const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                  const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator!=(const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator> (const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                  const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
    bool operator>=(const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                   const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
}

```

```

template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
          flat_set<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));

template <class Key, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
         class Allocator = allocator<Key>>
class flat_multiset;

template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator< (const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
          flat_multiset<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

```

Class template flat\_multimap [flat\_multimap]

Class template flat\_multimap overview [flat\_multimap.overview]

A flat\_multimap is an associative container that supports unique keys (contains at most one of each key value) and provides for retrieval of values of another type T based on the keys, as well as fast iteration of the contained elements. Storage for all keys is guaranteed to be contiguous in memory and storage for all values is guaranteed to be contiguous in memory. The flat\_multimap class supports bidirectional iterators.

A `flat_multimap` satisfies all the requirements of a container and of a reversible container. A `flat_multimap` also provides most operations of an associative container and most operations for unique keys. This means that a `flat_multimap` supports the `a_uniq` operations but not the `a_eq` operations. For a `flat_multimap<Key, T>` the `key_type` is `Key` and the `value_type` is `pair<const Key&, T&>`. Descriptions are provided here only for operations on `flat_multimap` that are not described in one of those tables or for operations where there is additional semantic operation.

The basic exception guarantee is provided by `flat_multimap`. Objects of `value_type` retrieved from a `flat_multimap` contain references that are invalidated by any operation that invalidates iterators for the container.

```
namespace std {
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
              class Allocator = allocator<pair<const Key&, T&>>>
    class flat_multimap {
    public:
        using key_type = Key;
        using mapped_typed = T;
        using value_type = pair<const Key&, T&>;
        using key_compare = Compare;
        using allocator_type = Allocator;
        using size_type = implementation-defined;
        using difference_type = implementation-defined;
        using iterator = implementation-defined;
        using const_iterator = implementation-defined;
        using reverse_iterator = implementation-defined;
        using const_reverse_iterator = implementation-defined;

        flat_multimap() : flat_multimap(Compare()) {}
        explicit flat_multimap(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
        template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
        flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Compare& comp = Compare{},
                     const Allocator& = Allocator{});
        flat_multimap(const flat_multimap&);
        flat_multimap(flat_multimap&&)
            noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
                    is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
        explicit flat_multimap(const Allocator&);
        flat_multimap(const flat_multimap&, const Allocator&);
        flat_multimap(flat_multimap&&, const Allocator&);
        template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
        flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Allocator& a = Allocator{},
                     flat_multimap(first, second, Compare{}, a) {}
        ~flat_multimap();
        flat_multimap& operator=(const flat_multimap&);
    };
};
```

```

flat_multimap& operator=(flat_multimap&&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
allocator_type get_allocator() const noexcept;

// iterators:
iterator begin() noexcept;
const_iterator begin() const noexcept;
iterator end() noexcept;
const_iterator end() const noexcept;

reverse_iterator rbegin() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rbegin() const noexcept;
reverse_iterator rend() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rend() const noexcept;

const_iterator cbegin() const noexcept;
const_iterator cend() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crbegin() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crend() const noexcept;

// capacity:
bool empty() const noexcept;
size_type size() const noexcept;
size_type max_size() const noexcept;

// element access:
T& operator[](const key_type& x);
T& operator[](key_type&& x);
T& at(const key_type& x);
const T& at(const key_type& x) const;

// modifiers:
template <class... Args> pair<iterator, bool> emplace(Args&&... args);
template <class... Args> iterator emplace_hint(const_iterator position,
                                              Args&&... args);

pair<iterator, bool> insert(const value_type& x);
pair<iterator, bool> insert(value_type&& x);
template <class P> pair<iterator, bool> insert(P&& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, const value_type& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, value_type&& x);
template <class P> iterator insert(const_iterator position, P&&);
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
void insert(InputIterator first, Sentinel second);

template <class... Args>

```



```

pair<iterator, bool> try_emplace(const key_type& k, Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>
pair<iterator, bool> try_emplace(key_type&& k, Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>
iterator try_emplace(const_iterator hint, const key_type& k, Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>
iterator try_emplace(const_iterator hint, key_type&& k, Args&&... args);
template <class M>
pair<iterator, bool> insert_or_assign(const key_type& k, M&& obj);
template <class M>
pair<iterator, bool> insert_or_assign(key_type&& k, M&& obj);
template <class M>
iterator insert_or_assign(const_iterator hint, const key_type& k, M&& obj);
template <class M>
iterator insert_or_assign(const_iterator hint, key_type&& k, M&& obj);

iterator erase(iterator position);
iterator erase(const_iterator position);
size_type erase(const key_type& x);
iterator erase(const_iterator first, const_iterator last);

void swap(map&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_swappable_v<Compare>);
void clear() noexcept;

// observers:
key_compare key_comp() const;
value_compare value_comp() const;

// map operations:
iterator find(const key_type& x);
const_iterator find(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator find(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator find(const K& x) const;
size_type count(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> size_type count(const K& x) const;
iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator lower_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator lower_bound(const K& x) const;
iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator upper_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator upper_bound(const K& x) const;
pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x);

```

```

    pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x) const;
    template <class K>
    pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const K& x);
    template <class K>
    pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const K& x) const;
}

template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator< (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);

// specialized algorithms:
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

flat_multimap constructors, copy, and assignment [flat_multimap.cons]

explicit flat_multimap(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator{});

Effects: Constructs an empty flat_multimap using the specified comparison objects
and allocator.
Complexity: Constant.

template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Compare& comp = Compare{},
             const Allocator& = Allocator{});

Effects: Constructs an empty flat_multimap using the specified comparison objects and

```

allocator, and inserts elements from the range [first, last).  
Complexity: Linear in N if the range [first, last) is already sorted using comp and otherwise  $N \log N$ , where N is last - first.

flat\_multimap element access [flat\_multimap.access]

T& operator[](const key\_type& x);

Effects: Equivalent to: return try\_emplace(x).first->second;

T& operator[](key\_type&& x);

Effects: Equivalent to: return try\_emplace(move(x)).first->second;

T& at(const key\_type& x);

const T& at(const key\_type& x) const;

Returns: A reference to the mapped\_type corresponding to x in \*this.

Effects: An exception object of type out\_of\_range if no such element is present.

Complexity: Logarithmic.

flat\_multimap modifiers [flat\_multimap.modifiers]

template <class P> pair<iterator, bool> insert(P&& x);

template <class P> iterator insert(const\_iterator position, P&& x);

Effects: The first form is equivalent to return emplace(forward<P>(x)). The second form is equivalent to return emplace\_hint(position, forward<P>(x)).

Remarks: These signatures shall not participate in overload resolution unless `std::is_constructible_v<key_type, decltype(get<0>(forward<P>(x)))>` and `std::is_constructible_v<mapped_type, decltype(get<1>(forward<P>(x)))>` are true. The references in objects of type value\_type will be invalidated.

template <class... Args>

pair<iterator, bool> try\_emplace(const key\_type& k, Args&&... args);

template <class... Args>

iterator try\_emplace(const\_iterator hint, const key\_type& k, Args&&... args);

Requires: mapped\_type shall be EmplaceConstructible into map from `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...)...`.

Effects: If the flat\_multimap already contains an element whose key is equivalent to k, is no effect. Otherwise inserts an object at the key of type mapped\_type constructed with `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...)...`.

Returns: In the first overload, the bool component of the returned pair is true if and only if the insertion took place. The returned iterator points to the flat\_multimap element whose key is equivalent to k. The references in objects of

value\_type will be invalidated.

Complexity: The same as `emplace` and `emplace_hint`, respectively.

```
template <class... Args>
pair<iterator, bool> try_emplace(key_type&& k, Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>
iterator try_emplace(const_iterator hint, key_type&& k, Args&&... args);
```

Requires: `mapped_type` shall be `EmplaceConstructible` into `map` from `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...)...`.

Effects: If the `flat_multimap` already contains an element whose key is equivalent to `k`, is no effect. Otherwise inserts an object at the key of type `mapped_type` constructed with `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...)...`.

Returns: In the first overload, the `bool` component of the returned pair is true if and only if the insertion took place. The returned iterator points to the `flat_multimap` element whose key is equivalent to `k`. The references in objects of type `mapped_type` shall be invalidated.

Complexity: The same as `emplace` and `emplace_hint`, respectively.

```
template <class M>
pair<iterator, bool> insert_or_assign(const key_type& k, M&& obj);
template <class M>
iterator insert_or_assign(const_iterator hint, const key_type& k, M&& obj);
```

Requires: `is_assignable_v<mapped_type&, M&&>` and `is_constructible_v<mapped_type, M&&>` shall both be true.

Effects: If the map already contains an element `e` whose key is equivalent to `k`, assigns `forward<M>(obj)` to `e.second`. Otherwise inserts an object at the key of type `mapped_type` constructed with `forward<M>(obj)`.

Returns: In the first overload, the `bool` component of the returned pair is true if and only if the insertion took place. The returned iterator points to the `flat_multimap` element whose key is equivalent to `k`. The references in objects of type `mapped_type` shall be invalidated.

Complexity: The same as `emplace` and `emplace_hint`, respectively.

```
template <class M> pair<iterator, bool> insert_or_assign(key_type&& k, M&& obj);
template <class M> iterator insert_or_assign(const_iterator hint, key_type&& k, M&& obj);
```

Requires: `is_assignable_v<mapped_type&, M&&>` and `is_constructible_v<mapped_type, M&&>` shall both be true.

Effects: If the map already contains an element `e` whose key is equivalent to `k`, assigns `forward<M>(obj)` to `e.second`. Otherwise inserts an object at the key of type `mapped_type` constructed with `forward<M>(obj)`.

Returns: In the first overload, the `bool` component of the returned pair is true if and only if the insertion took place. The returned iterator points to the `flat_multimap` element whose key is equivalent to `k`. The references in objects of type `mapped_type` shall be invalidated.

value\_type will be invalidated.

Complexity: The same as `emplace` and `emplace_hint`, respectively.

`flat_multimap` specialized algorithms [`flat_multimap.special`]

```
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
```

Effects: As if by `x.swap(y)`.

Class template `flat_multimap` [`flat_multimap`]

Class template `flat_multimap` overview [`flat_multimap.overview`]

A `flat_multimap` is an associative container that supports equivalent keys (possibly containing multiple copies of the same key value) and provides for retrieval of values of another type based on the keys, as well as fast iteration of the contained elements. Storage for all keys is guaranteed to be contiguous in memory and storage for all values is guaranteed to be contiguous in memory. The `flat_multimap` class supports bidirectional iterators.

A `flat_multimap` satisfies all the requirements of a container and of a reversible container. A `flat_multimap` also provides most operations of an associative container and most operations for equal keys. This means that a `flat_multimap` supports the `a_eq` operations but not the `a_uniq` operations. For a `flat_multimap<Key, T>` the `key_type` is `Key` and the `value_type` is `pair<const Key&, T>`. Descriptions are provided here only for operations on `flat_multimap` that are not described in one of those tables or for operations where there is additional semantic operation.

The basic exception guarantee is provided by `flat_multimap`. Objects of `value_type` retrieved from a `flat_multimap` contain references that are invalidated by any operation that invalidates iterators for the container.

```
namespace std {
    template <class Key, class T, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
             class Allocator = allocator<pair<const Key&, T>>>
    class flat_multimap {
    public:
        using key_type = Key;
        using mapped_typed = T;
        using value_type = pair<const Key&, T>;
        using key_compare = Compare;
        using allocator_type = Allocator;
        using size_type = implementation-defined;
```

```

using difference_type = implementation-defined;
using iterator = implementation-defined;
using const_iterator = implementation-defined;
using reverse_iterator = implementation-defined;
using const_reverse_iterator = implementation-defined;

flat_multimap() : flat_multimap(Compare()) {}
explicit flat_multimap(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Compare& comp = Compare{},
              const Allocator& = Allocator{});
flat_multimap(const flat_multimap&);
flat_multimap(flat_multimap&&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
explicit flat_multimap(const Allocator&);
flat_multimap(const flat_multimap&, const Allocator&);
flat_multimap(flat_multimap&&, const Allocator&);
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Allocator& a = Allocator{},
              flat_multimap(first, second, Compare{}, a) {}
~flat_multimap();
flat_multimap& operator=(flat_multimap const&);
flat_multimap& operator=(flat_multimap&&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
allocator_type get_allocator() const noexcept;

// iterators:
iterator begin() noexcept;
const_iterator begin() const noexcept;
iterator end() noexcept;
const_iterator end() const noexcept;

reverse_iterator rbegin() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rbegin() const noexcept;
reverse_iterator rend() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rend() const noexcept;

const_iterator cbegin() const noexcept;
const_iterator cend() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crbegin() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crend() const noexcept;

// capacity:
bool empty() const noexcept;

```

```

size_type size() const noexcept;
size_type max_size() const noexcept;

// modifiers:
template <class... Args> pair<iterator, bool> emplace(Args&&... args);
template <class... Args> iterator emplace_hint(const_iterator position,
                                             Args&&... args);

iterator insert(const value_type& x);
iterator insert(value_type&& x);
template <class P> iterator insert(P&& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, const value_type& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, value_type&& x);
template <class P> iterator insert(const_iterator position, P&&);
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
void insert(InputIterator first, Sentinel second);

iterator erase(iterator position);
iterator erase(const_iterator position);
size_type erase(const key_type& x);
iterator erase(const_iterator first, const_iterator last);

void swap(map&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_swappable_v<Compare>);
void clear() noexcept;

// observers:
key_compare key_comp() const;
value_compare value_comp() const;

// map operations:
iterator find(const key_type& x);
const_iterator find(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator find(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator find(const K& x) const;
size_type count(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> size_type count(const K& x) const;
iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator lower_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator lower_bound(const K& x) const;
iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator upper_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator upper_bound(const K& x) const;
pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x);

```

```

    pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x) const;
    template <class K>
    pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const K& x);
    template <class K>
    pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const K& x) const;
}

template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator< (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y);

// specialized algorithms:
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

flat_multimap constructors, copy, and assignment [flat_multimap.cons]

explicit flat_multimap(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator{});

Effects: Constructs an empty flat_multimap using the specified comparison objects
and allocator.
Complexity: Constant.

template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
flat_multimap(InputIterator first, Sentinel second, const Compare& comp = Compare{},
             const Allocator& = Allocator{});

Effects: Constructs an empty flat_multimap using the specified comparison objects and

```



allocator, and inserts elements from the range [first, last).  
Complexity: Linear in N if the range [first, last) is already sorted using comp and otherwise  $N \log N$ , where N is last - first.

flat\_multimap modifiers [flat\_multimap.modifiers]

```
template <class P> pair<iterator, bool> insert(P&& x);  
template <class P> iterator insert(const_iterator position, P&& x);
```

Effects: The first form is equivalent to return `emplace(forward<P>(x))`. The second form is equivalent to return `emplace_hint(position, forward<P>(x))`.

Remarks: These signatures shall not participate in overload resolution unless `std::is_constructible_v<key_type, decltype(get<0>(forward<P>(x)))>` and `std::is_constructible_v<mapped_type, decltype(get<1>(forward<P>(x)))>` are true. The references in objects of type `value_type` will be invalidated.

```
template <class... Args>  
iterator try_emplace(const key_type& k, Args&&... args);
```

Requires: `mapped_type` shall be `EmplaceConstructible` into map from `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...) .`

Effects: Inserts an object at the key of type `mapped_type` constructed with `forward_as_tuple(forward<Args>(args)...) .`

Returns: The returned iterator points to the newly inserted `flat_multimap` element whose equivalent to `k`. The references in objects of type `value_type` will be invalidated.

Complexity: The same as `emplace` and `emplace_hint`, respectively.

flat\_multimap specialized algorithms [flat\_multimap.special]

```
template <class Key, class T, class Compare, class Allocator>  
void swap(flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& x,  
          flat_multimap<Key, T, Compare, Allocator>& y)  
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
```

Effects: As if by `x.swap(y)`.

Class template `flat_set` [flat\_set]

Class template `flat_set` overview [flat\_set.overview]

A `flat_set` is an associative container that supports unique keys (contains at most one of each key value) and provides for fast retrieval of the keys themselves. The `flat_set` class supports bidirectional iterators.

A `flat_set` satisfies all of the requirements of a container, of a reversible container,

of an associative container (23.2.4), and of an allocator-aware container (Table 83). A `flat_set` also provides most operations described in (23.2.4) for unique keys. This means that a `flat_set` supports the `a_uniq` operations in (23.2.4) but not the `a_eq` operations. For a `flat_set<Key>` both the `key_type` and `value_type` are `Key`. Descriptions are provided here only for operations on `flat_set` that are not described in one of these tables and for operations where there is additional semantic information.

The basic exception guarantee is provided by `flat_set`.

```
namespace std {
    template <class Key, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
              class Allocator = allocator<Key>>
    class flat_set {
    public:
        // types:
        using key_type = Key;
        using key_compare = Compare;
        using value_type = Key;
        using value_compare = Compare;
        using allocator_type = Allocator;
        using pointer = typename allocator_traits<Allocator>::pointer;
        using const_pointer = typename allocator_traits<Allocator>::const_pointer;
        using reference = value_type&;
        using const_reference = const value_type&;
        using size_type = implementation-defined;
        using difference_type = implementation-defined;
        using iterator = implementation-defined;
        using const_iterator = implementation-defined;
        using reverse_iterator = std::reverse_iterator<iterator>;
        using const_reverse_iterator = std::reverse_iterator<const_iterator>;

        // construct/copy/destroy:
        flat_set() : flat_set(Compare()) { }
        explicit flat_set(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
        template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
        flat_set(InputIterator first, Sentinel last,
                 const Compare& comp = Compare(), const Allocator& = Allocator());
        flat_set(const flat_set& x);
        flat_set(flat_set&& x);
        explicit flat_set(const Allocator&);
        flat_set(const flat_set&, const Allocator&);
        flat_set(flat_set&&, const Allocator&);
        flat_set(initializer_list<value_type>, const Compare& = Compare(),
                 const Allocator& = Allocator());
        template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
        flat_set(InputIterator first, Sentinel last, const Allocator& a)
```

```

        : flat_set(first, last, Compare(), a) { }
flat_set(initializer_list<value_type> il, const Allocator& a)
        : flat_set(il, Compare(), a) { }
~flat_set();

flat_set& operator=(const flat_set& x);
flat_set& operator=(flat_set&& x)
        noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
                 is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
flat_set& operator=(initializer_list<value_type>);

allocator_type get_allocator() const noexcept;

// iterators:
iterator begin() noexcept;
const_iterator begin() const noexcept;
iterator end() noexcept;
const_iterator end() const noexcept;

reverse_iterator rbegin() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rbegin() const noexcept;
reverse_iterator rend() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rend() const noexcept;

const_iterator cbegin() const noexcept;
const_iterator cend() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crbegin() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crend() const noexcept;

// capacity:
bool empty() const noexcept;
size_type size() const noexcept;
size_type max_size() const noexcept;

// modifiers:
template <class... Args> pair<iterator, bool> emplace(Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>
iterator emplace_hint(const_iterator position, Args&&... args);

pair<iterator, bool> insert(const value_type& x);
pair<iterator, bool> insert(value_type&& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, const value_type& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, value_type&& x);
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
void insert(InputIterator first, Sentinel last);
void insert(initializer_list<value_type>);

```

```

iterator erase(iterator position);
iterator erase(const_iterator position);
size_type erase(const key_type& x);
iterator erase(const_iterator first, const_iterator last);

void swap(flat_set&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_swappable_v<Compare>);
void clear() noexcept;

// observers:
key_compare key_comp() const;
value_compare value_comp() const;

// flat_set operations:
iterator find(const key_type& x);
const_iterator find(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator find(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator find(const K& x) const;

size_type count(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> size_type count(const K& x) const;

iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator lower_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator lower_bound(const K& x) const;

iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator upper_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator upper_bound(const K& x) const;

pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x);
pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K>
pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const K& x);
template <class K>
pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const K& x) const;
};

template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
                const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>

```

```

bool operator< (const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);

template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

```

flat\_set constructors, copy, and assignment [flat\_set.cons]

```
explicit flat_set(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
```

Effects: Constructs an empty flat\_set using the specified comparison objects and allocator.  
Complexity: Constant.

```
template <class InputIterator>
flat_set(InputIterator first, InputIterator last,
         const Compare& comp = Compare(), const Allocator& = Allocator());
```

Effects: Constructs an empty flat\_set using the specified comparison object and allocator and inserts elements from the range [first, last).

Complexity: Linear in N if the range [first, last) is already sorted using comp and otherwise  $N \log N$ , where N is last - first.

flat\_set specialized algorithms [flat\_set.special]

```
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_set<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
```

Effects: As if by x.swap(y).

Class template flat\_set [flat\_set]

Class template flat\_multiset overview [flat\_multiset.overview]

A flat\_multiset is an associative container that supports equivalent keys (possibly containing copies of the same key value) and provides for fast retrieval of the keys themselves. The flat\_multiset class supports bidirectional iterators.

A flat\_multiset satisfies all of the requirements of a container, of a reversible container, of an associative container (23.2.4), and of an allocator-aware container (Table 83). A flat\_multiset also provides most operations described in (23.2.4) for equal keys. This means that a flat\_multiset supports the a\_eq operations in (23.2.4) but not the a\_uniq operations. For a flat\_multiset<Key> both the key\_type and value\_type are Key. Descriptions are provided only for operations on flat\_multiset that are not described in one of these tables and for operations where there is additional semantic information.

The basic exception guarantee is provided by flat\_multiset.

```
namespace std {
    template <class Key, class Compare = default_order_t<Key>,
              class Allocator = allocator<Key>>
    class flat_multiset {
    public:
        // types:
        using key_type = Key;
        using key_compare = Compare;
        using value_type = Key;
        using value_compare = Compare;
        using allocator_type = Allocator;
        using pointer = typename allocator_traits<Allocator>::pointer;
        using const_pointer = typename allocator_traits<Allocator>::const_pointer;
        using reference = value_type&;
        using const_reference = const value_type&;
        using size_type = implementation-defined;
        using difference_type = implementation-defined;
        using iterator = implementation-defined;
        using const_iterator = implementation-defined;
        using reverse_iterator = std::reverse_iterator<iterator>;
        using const_reverse_iterator = std::reverse_iterator<const_iterator>;

        // construct/copy/destroy:
        flat_multiset() : flat_multiset(Compare()) { }
        explicit flat_multiset(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
        template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
        flat_multiset(InputIterator first, Sentinel last,
                     const Compare& comp = Compare(), const Allocator& = Allocator());
```

```

flat_multiset(const flat_multiset& x);
flat_multiset(flat_multiset&& x);
explicit flat_multiset(const Allocator&);
flat_multiset(const flat_multiset&, const Allocator&);
flat_multiset(flat_multiset&&, const Allocator&);
flat_multiset(initializer_list<value_type>, const Compare& = Compare(),
               const Allocator& = Allocator());
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
flat_multiset(InputIterator first, Sentinel last, const Allocator& a)
    : flat_multiset(first, last, Compare(), a) { }
flat_multiset(initializer_list<value_type> il, const Allocator& a)
    : flat_multiset(il, Compare(), a) { }
~flat_multiset();

flat_multiset& operator=(const flat_multiset& x);
flat_multiset& operator=(flat_multiset&& x)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_move_assignable_v<Compare>);
flat_multiset& operator=(initializer_list<value_type>);

allocator_type get_allocator() const noexcept;

// iterators:
iterator begin() noexcept;
const_iterator begin() const noexcept;
iterator end() noexcept;
const_iterator end() const noexcept;

reverse_iterator rbegin() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rbegin() const noexcept;
reverse_iterator rend() noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator rend() const noexcept;

const_iterator cbegin() const noexcept;
const_iterator cend() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crbegin() const noexcept;
const_reverse_iterator crend() const noexcept;

// capacity:
bool empty() const noexcept;
size_type size() const noexcept;
size_type max_size() const noexcept;

// modifiers:
template <class... Args> pair<iterator, bool> emplace(Args&&... args);
template <class... Args>

```

```

iterator emplace_hint(const_iterator position, Args&&... args);

iterator insert(const value_type& x);
iterator insert(value_type&& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, const value_type& x);
iterator insert(const_iterator position, value_type&& x);
template <class InputIterator, class Sentinel>
void insert(InputIterator first, Sentinel last);
void insert(initializer_list<value_type>);

iterator erase(iterator position);
iterator erase(const_iterator position);
size_type erase(const key_type& x);
iterator erase(const_iterator first, const_iterator last);

void swap(flat_multiset&)
    noexcept(allocator_traits<Allocator>::is_always_equal::value &&
             is_nothrow_swappable_v<Compare>);
void clear() noexcept;

// observers:
key_compare key_comp() const;
value_compare value_comp() const;

// flat_multiset operations:
iterator find(const key_type& x);
const_iterator find(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator find(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator find(const K& x) const;

size_type count(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> size_type count(const K& x) const;

iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator lower_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator lower_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator lower_bound(const K& x) const;

iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x);
const_iterator upper_bound(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K> iterator upper_bound(const K& x);
template <class K> const_iterator upper_bound(const K& x) const;

pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x);
pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const key_type& x) const;
template <class K>

```



```

    pair<iterator, iterator> equal_range(const K& x);
    template <class K>
    pair<const_iterator, const_iterator> equal_range(const K& x) const;
};

template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator==(const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator< (const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator!=(const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator> (const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
              const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator>=(const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
bool operator<=(const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
               const flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y);

template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
}

```

flat\_multiset constructors, copy, and assignment [flat\_multiset.cons]

```
explicit flat_multiset(const Compare& comp, const Allocator& = Allocator());
```

Effects: Constructs an empty flat\_multiset using the specified comparison objects and allocator.  
Complexity: Constant.

```
template <class InputIterator>
flat_multiset(InputIterator first, InputIterator last,
             const Compare& comp = Compare(), const Allocator& = Allocator());
```

Effects: Constructs an empty flat\_multiset using the specified comparison object and allocator and inserts elements from the range [first, last).

Complexity: Linear in N if the range [first, last) is already sorted using comp and otherwise N log N, where N is last - first.

flat\_multiset specialized algorithms [flat\_multiset.special]

```
template <class Key, class Compare, class Allocator>
void swap(flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& x,
         flat_multiset<Key, Compare, Allocator>& y)
    noexcept(noexcept(x.swap(y)));
```

Effects: As if by `x.swap(y)`.

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