Subject: Re: Why doesn't Vector have Find?
Posted by mirek on Sat, 05 Dec 2015 10:28:16 GMT

Mindtraveller wrote on Fri, 04 December 2015 19:43There is a common Find() template to achieve what you want. It is applied to a number of containers, not only Vector.
But I doubt if slow sequential search is a good idea at all. If you want Vector and you want to have quick search, make it sorted. Add items by using FindUpperBound()-like calls, then you may search with FindBinary() which costs $O(log(n))$, not $O(n)$ as for sequential search.

Actually, I think this might not be that bad idea, in fact I was thinking about it too.

Thing is that sometimes you know that you only have a limited number of elements to find, but you want to conserve memory. Index consumes quite a lot of auxiliary memory for hashing. In that case, I often use simple Vector with FindIndex. Anyway, sometimes later it is needed to convert (or copy/paste) code to Index. Having Find as method would save some typing.

BTW, if you are about to insert items by FindUpperBound, you might consider using Sorted* kind of container :)

Mirek