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ECSE207L

DATA STRUCTURES

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LINKED LISTS

Issues with Arrays



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- Array size has to be fixed in the beginning.
- Sorted arrays: $O(\log n)$ time to search
- Inserting a new element
 - create a hole – shift large number of elements
 - large number of operations, worst case: $O(nm)$
- Deleting a new element
 - close a hole – shift large number of elements
 - large number of operations, worst case: $O(nm)$

Handling Lists



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- Consider a list of integers
- { 16, 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12, 32, 18, 9, 3 }
- It can be thought of as an element 16 followed by another list
- 16 --{ 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12, 32, 18, 9, 3 }
- 16 --{some list}

Handling Lists



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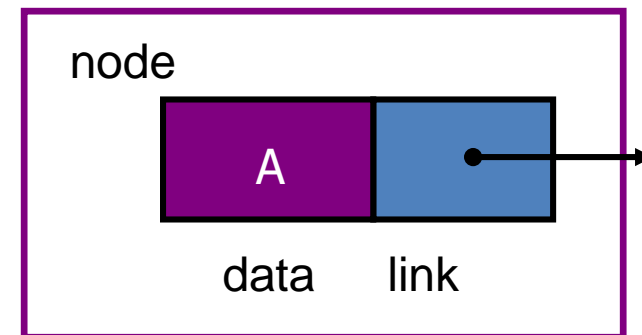
- The second list can also be thought of as an element 8 followed by a list
- 16--8-- { 10, 2, 34, 20, 12, 32, 18, 9, 3 }
- 16--8--{another list}
- Thus any list can be thought of as an **element** followed by **a list**
- We can come up with a recursive definition of a linked list where each element is linked to the next one

Linked Lists



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- A **linked list** is a linear data structure where each element is a separate object.
- Each element of such a list needs to comprise of two items
 - The **data** and
 - A **reference** to the next node.
- **Node:** object that holds the **data** and refers to the **next element**.
- **Data:** component may actually consist of several fields.
- For example in a linked list of students, the data could be student's name and CGPA.



List stored as an array A[]



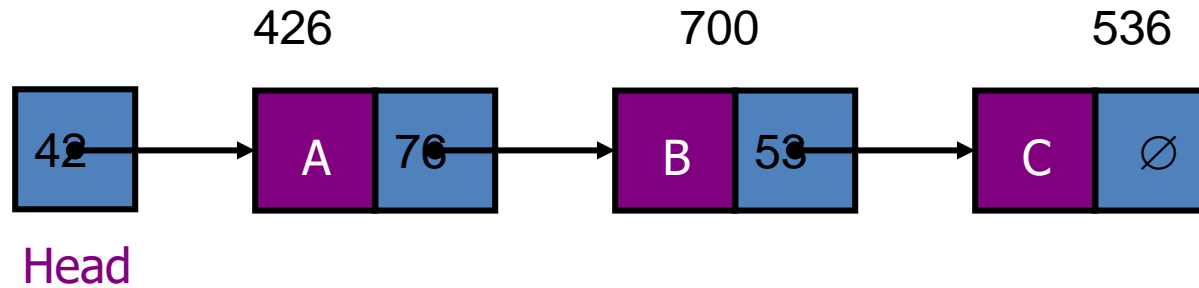
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Memory Address	Array Index	List Contents
3200	A[0]	36
3202	A[1]	42
3204	A[2]	20
3206	A[3]	16
3208	A[4]	38
3210	A[5]	40
3212	A[6]	12
3214	A[7]	54
3216	A[8]	82

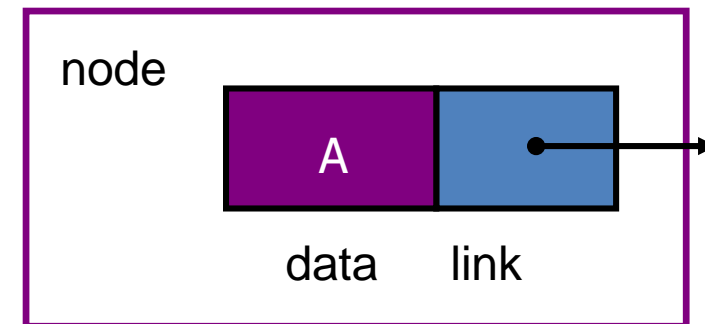
Implementing lists using Linked Lists



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- A *linked list* is a series of connected *nodes*
- Each node contains at least
 - A piece of data (any type)
 - Link to the next node in the list
- *Head*: points to the first node
- Links generated by system
- The last node points to NULL



linked list is an computer memory



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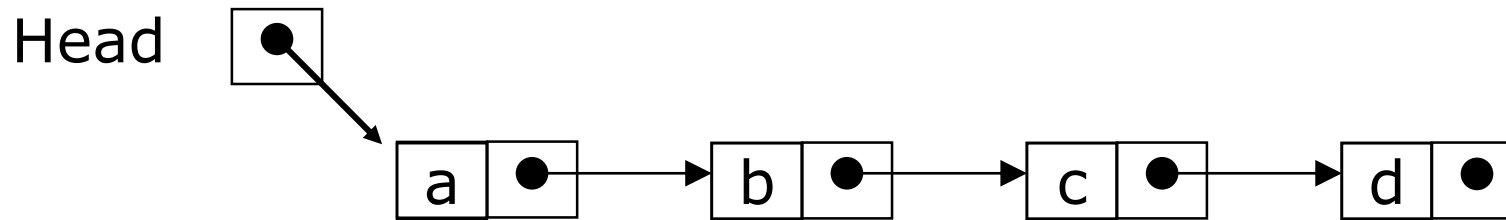
Memory Address	List contents	Next link
2020	36	450
450	42	3600
3600	20	4200
4200	16	4231
4231	38	760
760	40	5555
5555	12	X

Anatomy of a linked list



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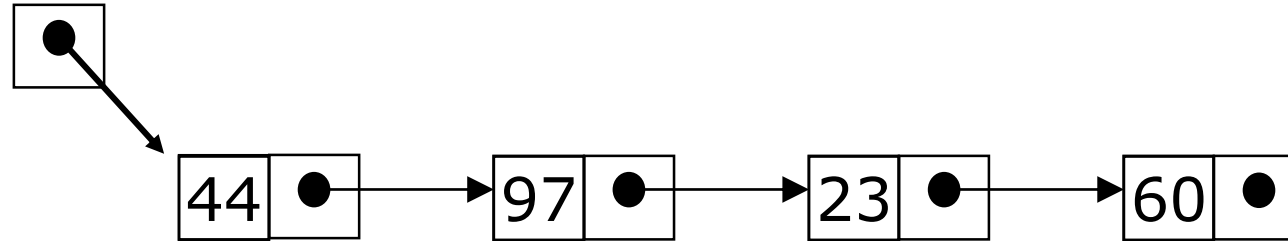
- A linked list consists of:
 - A sequence of **nodes**



- Each node contains **data** (a value) and a **link** (pointer) to the following node. The last node contains a **null link**. The list is referred to by pointer to first node, called the **head/front**.



Marks





List ADT: operations that we want to do
on a list

List ADT : popular choices



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create_list	{ 16, 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12}
Insert_front	{ 55, 16, 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12}
Insert_rear	{ 16, 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12, 55}
Delete_front	{ 8, 10, 2, 34, 20, 12}
Delete_rear	{ 16, 8, 10, 2, 34, 20 }
Delete_kth	{ 16, 8, 10, 2, 20, 12}
Print_list	16-8-10-2-34-20-12
Count_list	7
check_if_empty	No
Clear_list	{ }



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THANKYOU

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