

Lecture No.01

Data Structures

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- Prepares the students for (and is a prerequisite for) the more advanced material students will encounter in later courses.
- Cover well-known data structures such as dynamic arrays, linked lists, stacks, queues, tree and graphs.
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- Implement data structures in C++

# Grading

- Term Exam 1 20%
- Term Exam 2 20%
- Final 35%
- 8 Programming Assignments 25%
- Schedule of Topics:  
<http://www.vu.edu.pk/ds>

# Instructor

## **Sohail Aslam**

- 1998-Present: V.P. Software Development, Techlogix Pakistan Limited
- 1993-1998: Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, LUMS
- 1990-1992: CSRD, University of Illinois
- 1990: Ph.D, Computer Science, University of Illinois

# Need for Data Structures

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- More powerful computers  $\Rightarrow$  more complex applications.
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# Selecting a Data Structure

Select a data structure as follows:

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# Data Structure Philosophy

- Each data structure has costs and benefits.
- Rarely is one data structure better than another in all situations.
- A data structure requires:
  - space for each data item it stores,
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# Goals of this Course

1. Reinforce the concept that costs and benefits exist for every data structure.
2. Learn the commonly used data structures.
  - These form a programmer's basic data structure “toolkit.”
3. Understand how to measure the cost of a data structure or program.
  - These techniques also allow you to judge the merits of new data structures that you or others might invent.

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# Arrays

- Elementary data structure that exists as built-in in most programming languages.

```
main( int argc, char** argv )
{
    int x[6];
    int j;
    for(j=0; j < 6; j++)
        x[j] = 2*j;
}
```

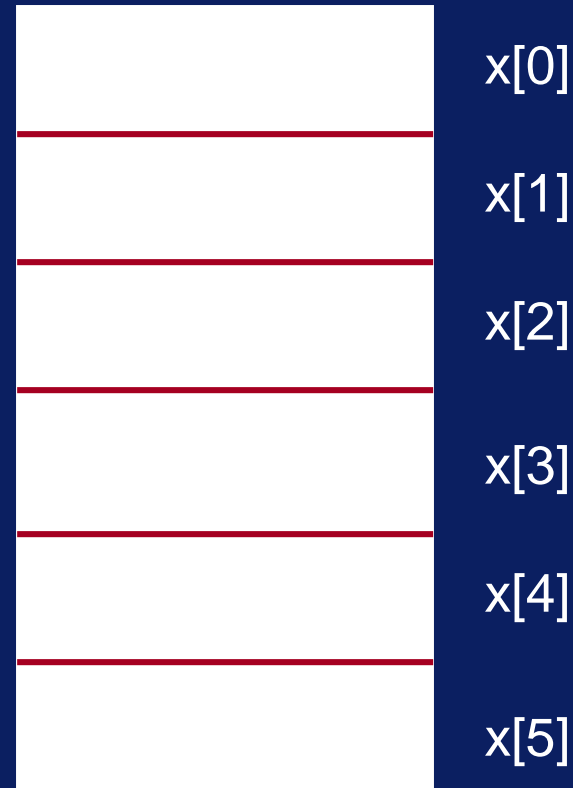
# Arrays

- Array declaration: `int x[6];`
- An array is collection of cells of the same type.
- The collection has the name 'x'.
- The cells are numbered with consecutive integers.
- To access a cell, use the array name and an index:  
`x[0], x[1], x[2], x[3], x[4], x[5]`

# Array Layout

Array cells are  
contiguous in  
computer memory

The memory can be  
thought of as an  
array



# What is Array Name?

- 'x' is an array name but there is no variable x. 'x' is not an *lvalue*.
- For example, if we have the code

```
int a, b;
```

then we can write

```
b = 2;
```

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a = b;
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a = 5;
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But we cannot write

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# Array Name

- 'x' is not an lvalue

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int x[6];  
int n;
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x[0] = 5;  
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x = 3;	// not allowed
x = a + b;	// not allowed
x = &n;	// not allowed



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# Dynamic Arrays

- You would like to use an array data structure but you do not know the size of the array at compile time.
- You find out when the program executes that you need an integer array of size  $n=20$ .
- Allocate an array using the new operator:

```
int* y = new int[20]; // or int* y = new int[n]  
y[0] = 10;  
y[1] = 15;           // use is the same
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# Dynamic Arrays

- 'y' is a lvalue; it is a pointer that holds the address of 20 consecutive cells in memory.
- It can be assigned a value. The new operator returns as address that is stored in y.
- We can write:

```
y = &x[0];
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y = x;           // x can appear on the right  
                  // y gets the address of the  
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# Dynamic Arrays

- We must free the memory we got using the new operator once we are done with the y array.

```
delete[ ] y;
```

- We would not do this to the x array because we did not use new to create it.



# The LIST Data Structure

- The List is among the most generic of data structures.
- Real life:
  - a. shopping list,
  - b. groceries list,
  - c. list of people to invite to dinner
  - d. List of presents to get

# Lists

- A list is collection of items that are all of the same type (grocery items, integers, names)
- The items, or elements of the list, are stored in some particular order
- It is possible to insert new elements into various positions in the list and remove any element of the list

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# Lists

- List is a set of elements in a linear order. For example, data values  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  can be arranged in a list:

$(a_3, a_1, a_2, a_4)$

In this list,  $a_3$ , is the first element,  $a_1$  is the second element, and so on

- The order is important here; this is not just a random collection of elements, it is an *ordered* collection

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# List Operations

## Useful operations

- `createList()`: create a new list (presumably empty)
- `copy()`: set one list to be a copy of another
- `clear()`: clear a list (remove all elements)
- `insert(X, ?)`: Insert element `X` at a particular position in the list
- `remove(?)`: Remove element at some position in the list
- `get(?)`: Get element at a given position
- `update(X, ?)`: replace the element at a given position with `X`
- `find(X)`: determine if the element `X` is in the list
- `length()`: return the length of the list.

# List Operations

- We need to decide what is meant by “particular position”; we have used “?” for this.
- There are two possibilities:
  1. Use the actual index of element: insert after element 3, get element number 6. This approach is taken by arrays
  2. Use a “current” marker or pointer to refer to a particular position in the list.



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# List Operations

- If we use the “current” marker, the following four methods would be useful:
  - **start()**: moves to “current” pointer to the very first element.
  - **tail()**: moves to “current” pointer to the very last element.
  - **next()**: move the current position forward one element
  - **back()**: move the current position backward one element