

Data Structures

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Single Linked List

What is Linked List?

When we want to work with an unknown number of data values, we use a linked list data structure to organize that data. The linked list is a linear data structure that contains a sequence of elements such that each element links to its next element in the sequence. Each element in a linked list is called "Node".

What is Single Linked List?

Simply a list is a sequence of data, and the linked list is a sequence of data linked with each other.

The formal definition of a single linked list is as follows...

Single linked list is a sequence of elements in which every element has link to its next element in the sequence.



In any single linked list, the individual element is called as "Node". Every "Node" contains two fields, data field, and the next field. The data field is used to store actual value of the node and next field is used to store the address of next node in the sequence.

The graphical representation of a node in a single linked list is as follows...

Stores Address of next node

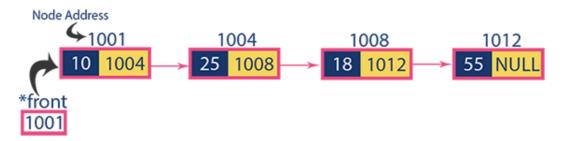


★ Importent Points to be Remembered

In a single linked list, the address of the first node is always stored in a reference node known as "front" (Some times it is also known as "head").

IC Always next part (reference part) of the last node must be NULL.

Example



Operations on Single Linked List

The following operations are performed on a Single Linked List

- Insertion
- Deletion
- Display

Before we implement actual operations, first we need to set up an empty list. First, perform the following steps before implementing actual operations.

- **Step 1 -** Include all the **header files** which are used in the program.
- Step 2 Declare all the user defined functions.
- Step 3 Define a Node structure with two members data and next
- Step 4 Define a Node pointer 'head' and set it to NULL.
- **Step 5** Implement the main method by displaying operations menu and make suitable function calls in the main method to perform user selected operation.

Insertion

In a single linked list, the insertion operation can be performed in three ways. They are as follows...

- 1. Inserting At Beginning of the list
- 2. Inserting At End of the list
- 3. Inserting At Specific location in the list

Inserting At Beginning of the list

We can use the following steps to insert a new node at beginning of the single linked list...

- Step 1 Create a newNode with given value.
- Step 2 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 3 If it is Empty then, set newNode→next = NULL and head = newNode.
- Step 4 If it is Not Empty then, set newNode→next = head and head = newNode.

Inserting At End of the list

We can use the following steps to insert a new node at end of the single linked list...

- Step 1 Create a newNode with given value and newNode \rightarrow next as NULL.
- **Step 2 -** Check whether list is **Empty** (**head** == **NULL**).

- Step 3 If it is Empty then, set head = newNode.
- Step 4 If it is Not Empty then, define a node pointer temp and initialize with head.
- Step 5 Keep moving the temp to its next node until it reaches to the last node in the list (until temp \rightarrow next is equal to NULL).
- Step 6 Set temp \rightarrow next = newNode.

Inserting At Specific location in the list (After a Node)

We can use the following steps to insert a new node after a node in the single linked list...

- Step 1 Create a newNode with given value.
- Step 2 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 3 If it is Empty then, set newNode → next = NULL and head = newNode.
- Step 4 If it is Not Empty then, define a node pointer temp and initialize with head.
- Step 5 Keep moving the temp to its next node until it reaches to the node after which we want to insert the newNode (until
- temp1 → data is equal to location, here location is the node value after which we want to insert the newNode).
- Step 6 Every time check whether temp is reached to last node or not. If it is reached to last node then display 'Given node is not found in the list!!! Insertion not possible!!!' and terminate the function. Otherwise move the temp to next node.
- Step 7 Finally, Set 'newNode \rightarrow next = temp \rightarrow next' and 'temp \rightarrow next = newNode'

Deletion

In a single linked list, the deletion operation can be performed in three ways. They are as follows...

- 1. Deleting from Beginning of the list
- 2. Deleting from End of the list
- 3. Deleting a Specific Node

Deleting from Beginning of the list

We can use the following steps to delete a node from beginning of the single linked list...

- Step 1 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 2 If it is Empty then, display 'List is Empty!!! Deletion is not possible' and terminate the function.
- Step 3 If it is Not Empty then, define a Node pointer 'temp' and initialize with head.
- Step 4 Check whether list is having only one node (temp \rightarrow next == NULL)
- Step 5 If it is TRUE then set head = NULL and delete temp (Setting Empty list conditions)
- Step 6 If it is FALSE then set head = temp \rightarrow next, and delete temp.

Deleting from End of the list

We can use the following steps to delete a node from end of the single linked list...

- Step 1 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 2 If it is Empty then, display 'List is Empty!!! Deletion is not possible' and terminate the function.
- Step 3 If it is Not Empty then, define two Node pointers 'temp1' and 'temp2' and initialize 'temp1' with head.
- Step 4 Check whether list has only one Node (temp1 \rightarrow next == NULL)
- Step 5 If it is TRUE. Then, set head = NULL and delete temp1. And terminate the function. (Setting Empty list condition)
- Step 6 If it is FALSE. Then, set 'temp2 = temp1 ' and move temp1 to its next node. Repeat the same until it reaches to the last node in the list. (until temp1 \rightarrow next == NULL)
- Step 7 Finally, Set temp2 \rightarrow next = NULL and delete temp1.

Deleting a Specific Node from the list

We can use the following steps to delete a specific node from the single linked list...

- Step 1 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 2 If it is Empty then, display 'List is Empty!!! Deletion is not possible' and terminate the function.
- Step 3 If it is Not Empty then, define two Node pointers 'temp1' and 'temp2' and initialize 'temp1' with head.
- Step 4 Keep moving the temp1 until it reaches to the exact node to be deleted or to the last node. And every time set 'temp2 = temp1' before moving the 'temp1' to its next node.
- Step 5 If it is reached to the last node then display 'Given node not found in the list! Deletion not possible!!!'. And terminate the function.
- Step 6 If it is reached to the exact node which we want to delete, then check whether list is having only one node or not
- Step 7 If list has only one node and that is the node to be deleted, then set head = NULL and delete temp1 (free(temp1)).
- Step 8 If list contains multiple nodes, then check whether temp1 is the first node in the list (temp1 == head).
- Step 9 If temp1 is the first node then move the head to the next node (head = head \rightarrow next) and delete temp1.
- Step 10 If temp1 is not first node then check whether it is last node in the list (temp1 \rightarrow next == NULL).
- Step 11 If temp1 is last node then set temp2 → next = NULL and delete temp1 (free(temp1)).
- Step 12 If temp1 is not first node and not last node then set temp2 \rightarrow next = temp1 \rightarrow next and delete temp1 (free(temp1)).

Displaying a Single Linked List

We can use the following steps to display the elements of a single linked list...

- Step 1 Check whether list is Empty (head == NULL)
- Step 2 If it is Empty then, display 'List is Empty!!!' and terminate the function.
- Step 3 If it is Not Empty then, define a Node pointer 'temp' and initialize with head.
- **Step 4** Keep displaying **temp** → **data** with an arrow (--->) until **temp** reaches to the last node
- Step 5 Finally display temp \rightarrow data with arrow pointing to NULL (temp \rightarrow data ---> NULL).

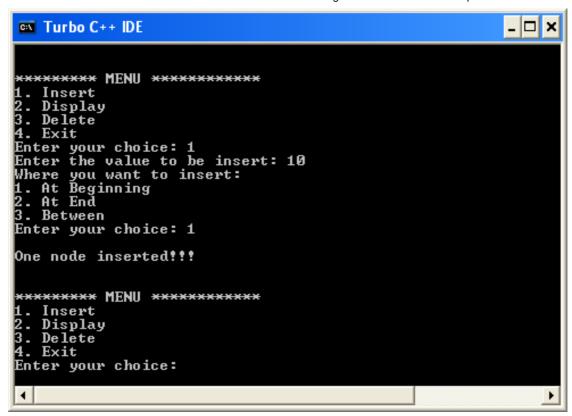
Implementation of Single Linked List using C Programming

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<conio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>
void insertAtBeginning(int);
void insertAtEnd(int);
void insertBetween(int,int,int);
void display();
void removeBeginning();
void removeEnd();
void removeSpecific(int);
struct Node
   int data;
   struct Node *next;
}*head = NULL;
void main()
   int choice, value, choice1, loc1, loc2;
   clrscr();
   while(1){
   mainMenu: printf("\n\n****** MENU ******\n1. Insert\n2. Display\n3. Delete\n4. Exit\nEnter your choice: ");
   scanf("%d",&choice);
   switch(choice)
   {
      case 1:
                printf("Enter the value to be insert: ");
                scanf("%d",&value);
                while(1){
                printf("Where you want to insert: \n1. At Beginning\n2. At End\n3. Between\nEnter your choice:
");
                scanf("%d",&choice1);
                switch(choice1)
                   case 1:
                                 insertAtBeginning(value);
                                break;
                                insertAtEnd(value);
                   case 2:
                                break;
                   case 3:
                                printf("Enter the two values where you wanto insert: ");
                                 scanf("%d%d",&loc1,&loc2);
                                 insertBetween(value,loc1,loc2);
                                 break;
                                printf("\nWrong Input!! Try again!!!\n\n");\\
                   default:
                                goto mainMenu;
                }
                goto subMenuEnd;
                subMenuEnd:
                break:
      case 2:
                display();
                break:
      case 3:
                printf("How do you want to Delete: \n1. From Beginning\n2. From End\n3. Spesific\nEnter your choi
ce: ");
                scanf("%d",&choice1);
                switch(choice1)
                   case 1:
                                removeBeginning();
                                break;
                   case 2:
                                removeEnd();
                                break:
                                printf("Enter the value which you wanto delete: ");
                   case 3:
                                 scanf("%d",&loc2);
                                removeSpecific(loc2);
                   default:
                                 printf("\nWrong Input!! Try again!!!\n\n");
                                 goto mainMenu;
                }
                break:
                exit(0);
      default: printf("\nWrong input!!! Try again!!\n\n");
```

```
void insertAtBeginning(int value)
   struct Node *newNode;
   newNode = (struct Node*)malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
   newNode->data = value;
   if(head == NULL)
      newNode->next = NULL;
     head = newNode;
  }
  else
   {
      newNode->next = head;
     head = newNode;
   printf("\nOne node inserted!!!\n");
void insertAtEnd(int value)
   struct Node *newNode;
   newNode = (struct Node*)malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
   newNode->data = value;
   newNode->next = NULL;
   if(head == NULL)
       head = newNode;
   else
      struct Node *temp = head;
     while(temp->next != NULL)
       temp = temp->next;
     temp->next = newNode;
   }
   printf("\nOne node inserted!!!\n");
void insertBetween(int value, int loc1, int loc2)
   struct Node *newNode;
   newNode = (struct Node*)malloc(sizeof(struct Node));
   newNode->data = value;
   if(head == NULL)
   {
     newNode->next = NULL;
     head = newNode;
  }
  else
   {
     struct Node *temp = head;
     while(temp->data != loc1 && temp->data != loc2)
       temp = temp->next;
     newNode->next = temp->next;
      temp->next = newNode;
   printf("\\nOne node inserted!!!\\n");\\
void removeBeginning()
   if(head == NULL)
        printf("\n\nList is Empty!!!");
   else
      struct Node *temp = head;
      if(head->next == NULL)
         head = NULL;
         free(temp);
      }
      else
```

```
head = temp->next;
        free(temp);
        printf("\nOne node deleted!!!\n\n");
}
void removeEnd()
   if(head == NULL)
   {
      printf("\nList is Empty!!!\n");
  }
  else
   {
      struct Node *temp1 = head, *temp2;
      if(head->next == NULL)
       head = NULL;
      else
         while(temp1->next != NULL)
            temp2 = temp1;
            temp1 = temp1->next;
         temp2->next = NULL;
      free(temp1);
      printf("\nOne node deleted!!!\n\n");
}
void removeSpecific(int delValue)
   struct Node *temp1 = head, *temp2;
   while(temp1->data != delValue)
     if(temp1 -> next == NULL){
        printf("\nGiven node not found in the list!!!");
        goto functionEnd;
     temp2 = temp1;
     temp1 = temp1 -> next;
  temp2 -> next = temp1 -> next;
   free(temp1);
   printf("\nOne node deleted!!!\n\n");
   functionEnd:
void display()
   if(head == NULL)
   {
     printf("\nList is Empty\n");
  }
  else
      struct Node *temp = head;
     printf("\n\nList elements are - \n");
     while(temp->next != NULL)
         printf("%d --->",temp->data);
         temp = temp->next;
     printf("%d --->NULL",temp->data);
```

Output



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