Array, Vector, List

Shusen Wang

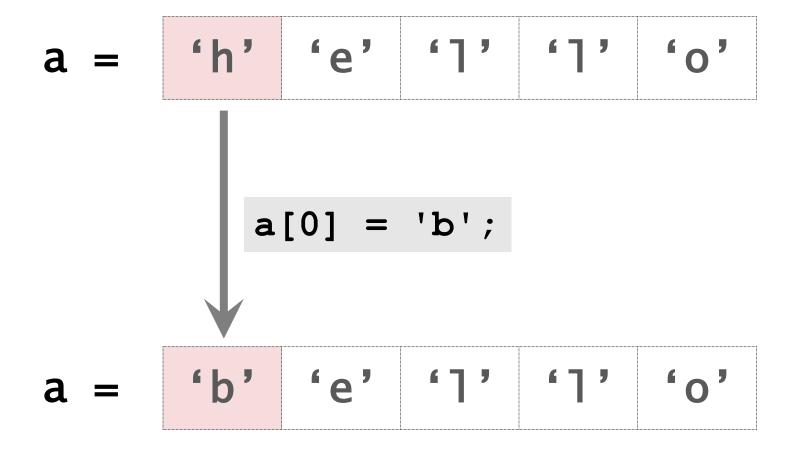
Stevens Institute of Technology

```
• char a[5] = {'h', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o'};
```

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```

Array: Fixed size, contiguous memory.

```
a = 'h' 'e' 'l' 'l' 'o'
```



• A size-*n* array can be created in this way:

```
char a[n];
```

- When writing the code, *n* must be known.
- What if n is unknown until program is running?

```
a = NULL
```

• char* a = NULL;

```
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```

- char* a = NULL;
- int n; // array size

```
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- char* a = NULL;
- int n; // array size
- •cin >> n; // read in the size, e.g., get n=5

```
a =
```

- char* a = NULL;
- int n; // array size
- cin >> n; // read in the size, e.g., get n=5
- a = new char[n];

```
a = 'h' 'e' '1' '1' 'o'
```

```
// store something in the array
•a[0] = 'h';
•a[1] = 'e';
:
•a[4] = 'o';
```

```
a = 'h' 'e' 'l' 'l' 'o'

// When done, free memory.

// Otherwise, memory leak can happen.

• delete [] a;
```

```
a = NULL
```

```
// When done, free memory.
// Otherwise, memory leak can happen.
• delete [] a;
• a = NULL;
```

Properties of Array

- 1. The size is fixed. (New elements cannot be appended.)
- 2. Random access using **a**[i] has O(1) time complexity.
- 3. Removing an element in the middle has O(n) time complexity. (Require moving the remaining items leftward.)

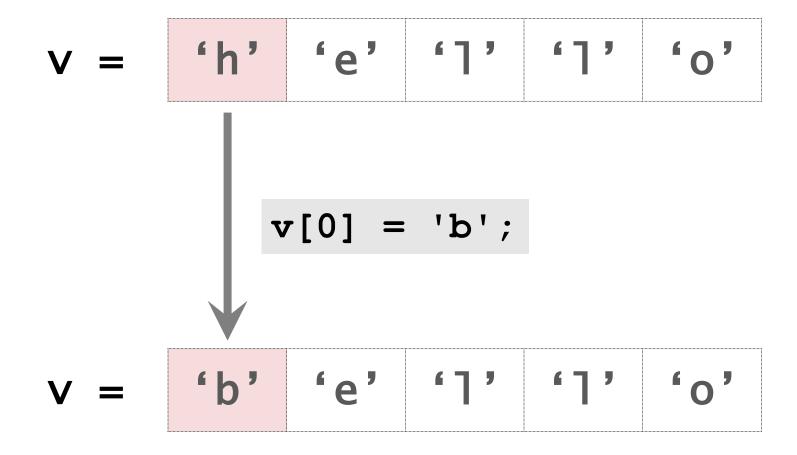
- Vector is almost the same as array.
- The main difference is that vector's capacity can automatically grow.
- New elements can be appended using $push_back()$ in O(1) time (on average).
- The last element can be removed using $pop_back()$ in O(1) time.

```
• vector<char> v = {'h', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o'};
```

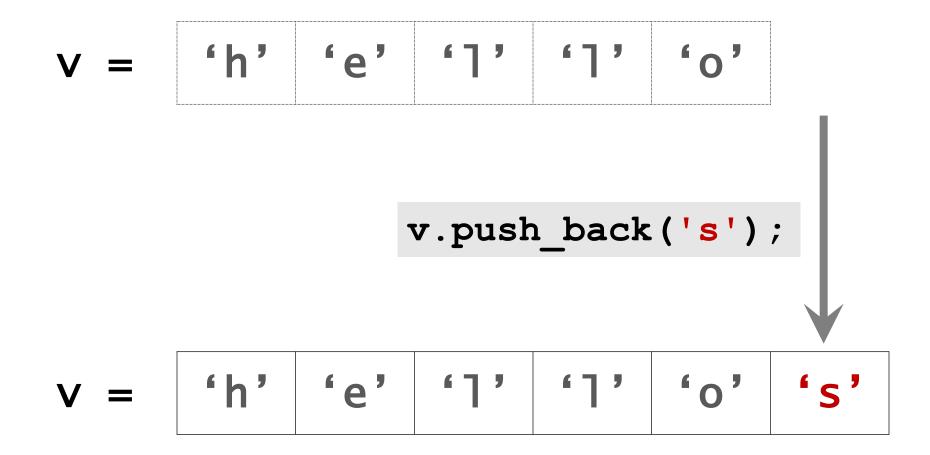
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• vector<char> v = {'h', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o'};
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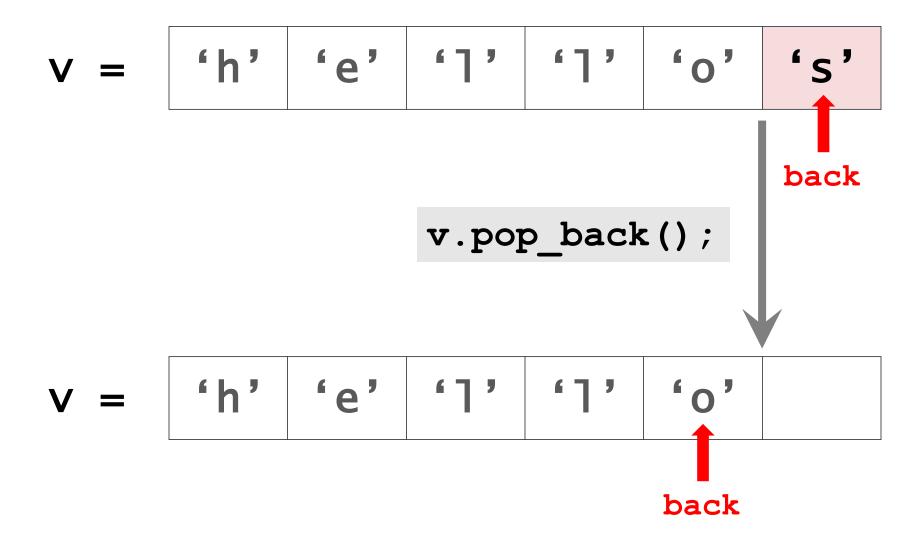
Vector: dynamic size, contiguous memory.

```
v = 'h' 'e' '1' '1' 'o'
```

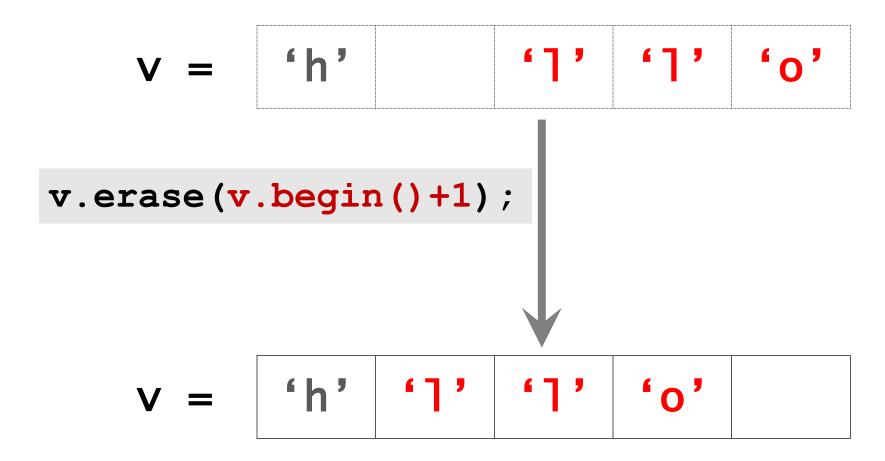


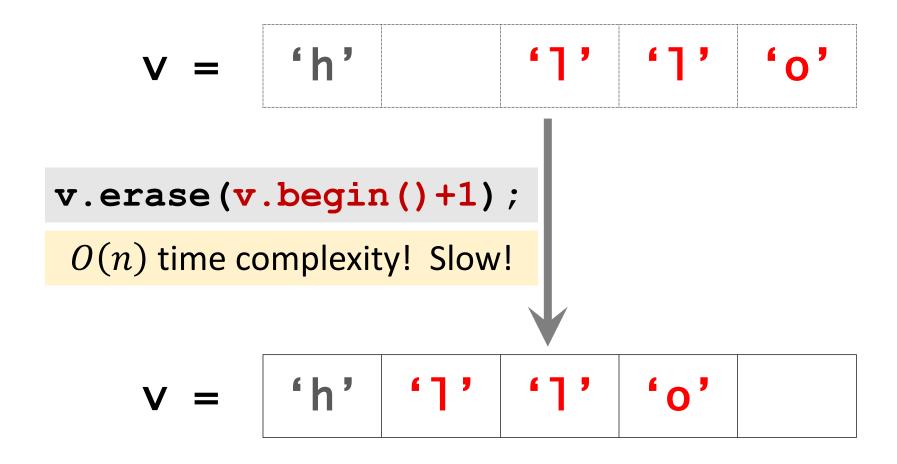
Insert





```
v.erase(v.begin()+1);
```





What happens when size is going to exceed capacity?

- Create a new array of capacity 200.
- Copy the 100 elements from the old array to the new.
- Put the new element in the 101st position.
- Free the old array from memory.

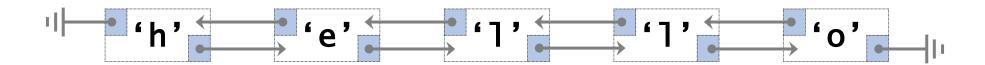
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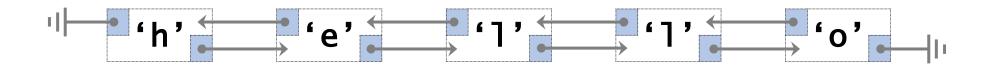
List

A Node

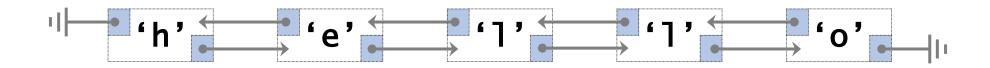




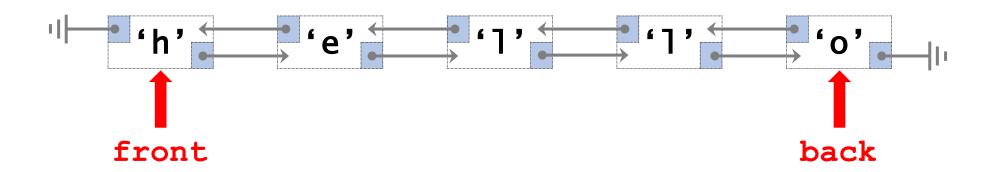
```
• list<char> 1 = {'h', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o'};
```



List: dynamic size, not contiguous memory.



```
• cout << 1[2]; // does not work
• 1[0] = 'a'; // does not work</pre>
```



• cout << 1.front(); // print 'h'

Doubly Linked List

```
• cout << 1.front(); // print 'h'
```

• cout << 1.back(); // print 'o'</pre>

- list<char>::iterator iter = l.begin();
- cout << *iter; // print 'h'</pre>

```
'h', 'e', '1', '1', 'o', 'o', 'iter
```

- list<char>::iterator iter = l.begin();
- cout << *iter; // print 'h'</pre>

• iter++;

```
'h' 'e' '1' '1' 'o' 'o' 'iter
```

- list<char>::iterator iter = l.begin();
- cout << *iter; // print 'h'</pre>

- iter++;
- cout << *iter; // print 'e'</pre>

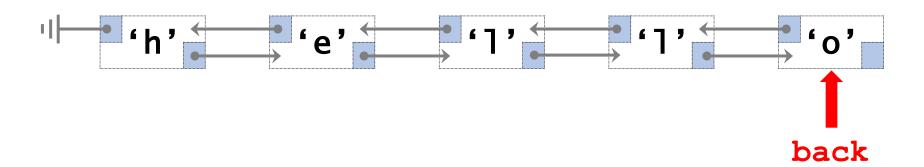
```
'h'e'e'-'1'-'0'-''

iter
```

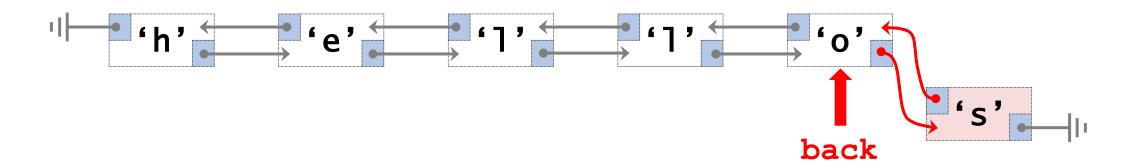
• *iter = 'a'; // change 'e' to 'a'

```
'h' 'a' '1' '1' 'o' 'o' 'iter
```

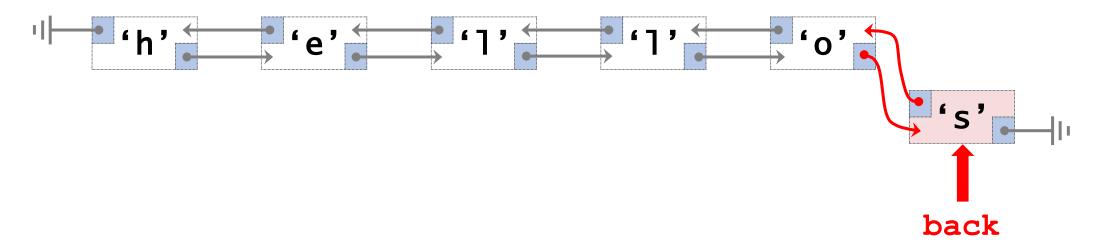
• *iter = 'a'; // change 'e' to 'a'



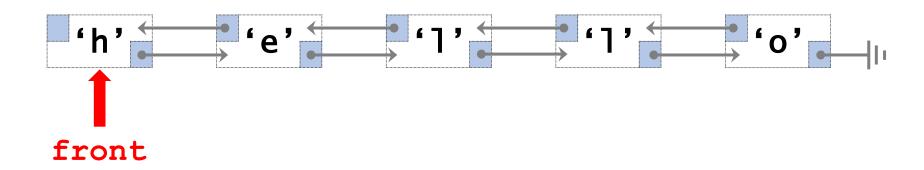
l.push_back('s');



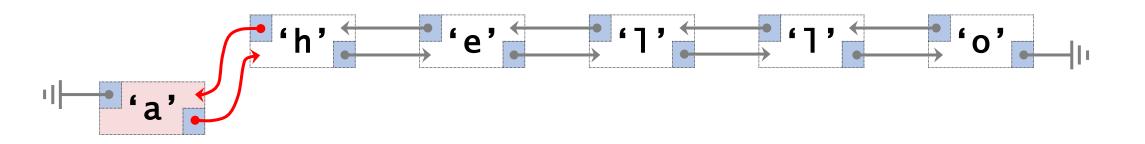
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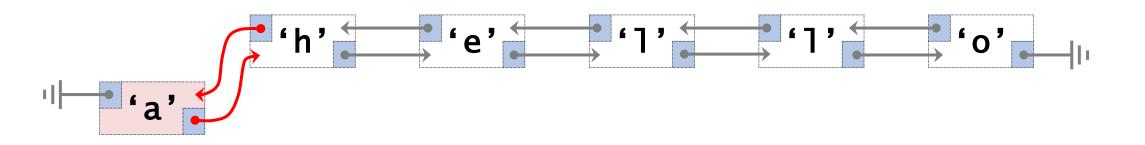
Only O(1) time.



```
l.push_front('a');
```

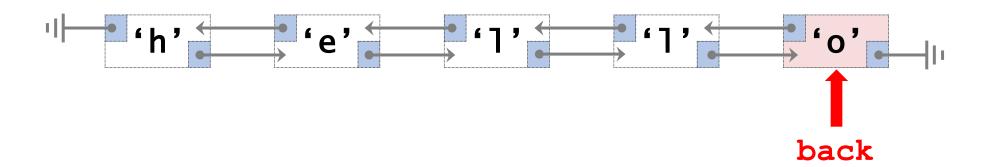


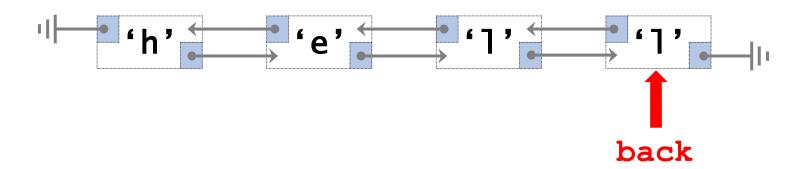
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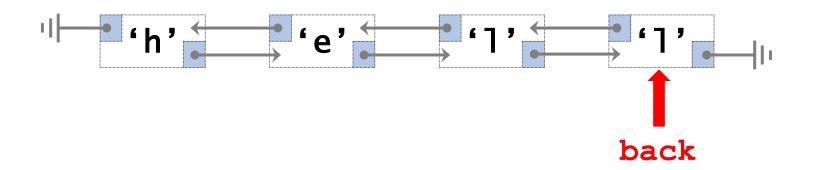
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1.push_front('a');
```

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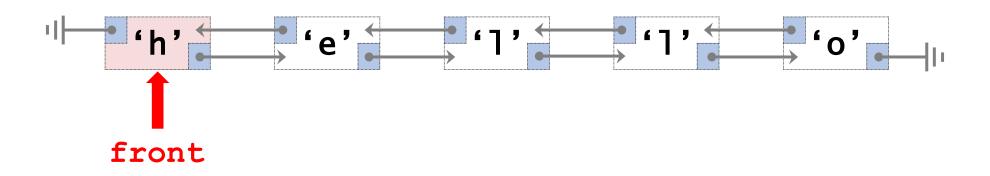


1.pop_back();

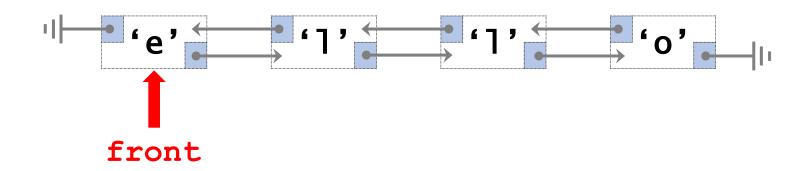


```
1.pop_back();
```

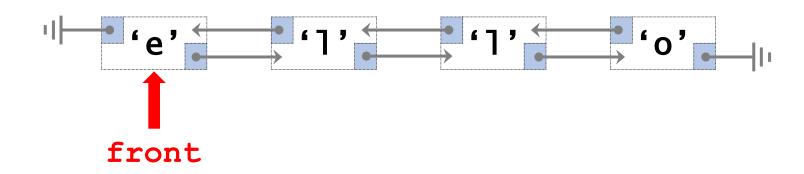
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1.pop_front();
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Summary

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Size	fixed	can increase and decrease	

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Memory	contiguous	contiguous	not contiguous

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Rand Access	0(1)	0(1)	-

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push_back()		O(1) (average)	0(1)

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Rand Access	0(1)	0(1)	
push_back()		O(1) (average)	0(1)
pop_back()		0(1)	0(1)
insert()		O(n) (average)	0(1)

	Array	Vector	List
Rand Access	0(1)	0(1)	
push_back()		O(1) (average)	0(1)
pop_back()	-	0(1)	0(1)
insert()		O(n) (average)	0(1)
erase()		O(n) (average)	0(1)

Which shall we use?

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Vector:

- Random access, i.e., read or write the i-th element for any i, is fast.
- Insertion and deletion at the end are fast.
- Insertion and deletion in the front and middle are slow.

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Vector:

- Random access, i.e., read or write the i-th element for any i, is fast.
- Insertion and deletion at the end are fast.
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• List:

- Sequentially visiting elements is fast; random access is not allowed.
- Frequent insertion and deletion at any position are OK.

Thank You!