

CS 310: Iterator

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List Implementation O(n) Summary

Implementation	get/set	add/del at end	add/del start	add/del mid	search	can grow?
Static Array	1	1	N	N	N	no
Dynamic Array	1	$\mathbf{1}^*$	N	N	N	no
Singly-Linked	N	1, N	1	N	N	yes
Doubly-Linked	N	1	1	N	N	yes

*Amortized analysis

Review: Pytania Questions

- Dynamic arrays
- Linked lists

Problem: List Iteration

```
List<Intgers> l = ...;
int sum = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < size(); i++) {
    sum += l.get(i);
}
```

- What is the complexity of this loop?
 - Array-based list
 - * $O(n)$
 - Linked list-based list
 - * $O(n^2)$
- Recall that
 - `ArrayList.get(i)`: $O(1)$
 - `LinkedList.get(i)`: $O(n)$

Iterators

- Data structures other than arrays have the following properties:
 - Nontrivial get/set
 - Must preserve some internal structure – that means controlling access
 - Element by element access takes time

- Those qualities give rise to **Iterators**
 - A view of a data structure
 - Supports efficient iterations on the collection

Java Iterators

- Interface `Iterator<E>`
 - Is in `java.util`
 - <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Iterator.html>
- Methods
 - **Required:** `.hasNext()` and `.next()`
 - Default: `.remove()` and `.forEachRemaining()`
- Any class that implements the `List<E>` interface needs to implement these methods
 - It follows then that `ArrayList`, `Vector`, and `Set` implement these

Textbook Sample

```
package weiss.util;

/**
 * Iterator interface
 */
public interface Iterator<AnyType> extends java.util.Iterator<AnyType> {
    /**
     * Tests if there are items not yet iterated over.
     */
    boolean hasNext();

    /**
     * Obtains the next (as yet unseen) item in the collection.
     */
    AnyType next();

    /**
     * Remove the last item returned by next.
     * Can only be called once after next.
     */
    void remove();
}
```

Java List Iterators

- Sub-interface of `Iterator`: give access to a position in any `Collection`
- Different and more complex semantic: put a cursor **between** list items
- Operations
 - Most important methods: `.next()` and `.hasNext()`
 - Optional for general iterator: `.remove()`, `.previous()`, `.hasPrevious()`, and `.add()`

Common Iterator Operations

- Use `.hasNext()` or `.hasPrevious()` to determine whether the end has been reached
- Use `.next()` or `.previous()` to move the position of the cursor (you can modify both to return the element that the cursor moved over)

```
List l = new List([A, B, C, D])
ListIterator itr = l.iterator() // [^A B C D]
itr.next() // [ A^B C D]
// A
itr.hasNext() // [ A^B C D]
// True
itr.next() // [ A B^C D]
// B
itr.previous() // [ A^B C D]
// B
itr.previous() // [^A B C D]
// A
itr.previous() // [^A B C D]
// NoSuchElementException
```

ListIterator Operations

- `.add(x)` add x before whatever `.next()` would return
 - Insert before the implicit cursor
- `.remove()` removes the element which was returned from the last `.next()` or `.previous()` call
 - It is **illegal** to remove an item without first calling `.next()` or `.previous()`

```
List l = new List([A, B, C, D])
ListIterator itr = l.iterator() // [^A B C D]
itr.add(X) // [X^A B C D]
itr.next() // [X A^B C D]
// A
itr.remove() // [ X^B C D]
itr.remove() // [ X^B C D]
// IllegalStateException
itr.previous() // [^X B C D]
// X
itr.add(Y) // [Y^X B C D]
```

Exercise

- Given a list and a sequence of operations, track the location of the iterator and the contents of the list

Iterator Implementation

- How do we code an iterator for a list?
 - The implementation depends on the underlying data structure
 - `ArrayList`, singly-linked list, and doubly-linked list should all provide their own unique iterator
- `interface Iterator<E>`
 - `java.util`

- `boolean hasNext()`
- `E next()`
- How does this compare with the Iterators for `ArrayList`, `LinkedList` and so on?

Java Iterators

- `interface Iterable<T>`
 - `java.lang`
 - `Iterator<T> iterator()`
 - <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/lang/Iterable.html>
 - The `List` is only one of its subinterfaces, and is implemented by `ArrayList`, `LinkedList`, and so on
- What have we been missing so far?
 - Well, when implementing our own `ArrayList` or `LinkedList`, we should have implemented `.iterator()`
 - The return of `.iterator()` must be an **object** that can perform `.next()` and `.hasNext()` on our list
 - * But an object of which class?
 - Anything that implements the iterator, so that it works for our class which will implement it
 - * How and where should we define that class?
 - We can use an anonymous class, or a static nested class (or, as a worse choice, an inner class).

Iterator as a Separate Class

```
package weiss.ds;

public class MyContainer {
    Object[] items;
    int size;

    public Iterator iterator() {
        return new MyContainerIterator(this);
    }

    // Other methods not shown
}

// An iterator class that steps through a MyContainer.

package weiss.ds;

class MyContainerIterator implements Iterator {
    private int current = 0;
    private MyContainer container;

    MyContainerIterator(MyContainer c) {
        container = c;
    }
}
```

```

    public boolean hasNext() {
        return current < container.size;
    }

    public Object next() {
        return container.items[current++];
    }
}

```

- Container class
 - Issues?
 - * It's not encapsulated properly – really, it should be a private class inside the container that it's iterating over.

Iterator as a Nested Class

```

package weiss.ds;

public class MyContainer {
    private Object[] items;
    private int size = 0;
    // Other methods for MyContainer not shown

    public Iterator iterator() {
        return new LocalIterator(this);
    }

    // The iterator class as a nested class
    private static class LocalIterator implements Iterator {
        private int current = 0;
        private MyContainer container;

        LocalIterator(MyContainer c) {
            container = c;
        }

        public boolean hasNext() {
            return current < container.size;
        }

        public Object next() {
            return container.items[current++];
        }
    }
}

```

Why use a Nested Class?

- Main issue: we don't want to expose details we don't have to to the outside world
 - The container class has to reveal details to `Iterator` (non-private data)
 - The `Iterator` class has to be accessible to the container class (package visible)

- Nested (private) iterator class: better encapsulation
 - Considered as a member of the container
 - Can access private data of the container

Iterator as an Inner Class

```
package weiss.ds;

public class MyContainer {
    private Object[] items;
    private int size = 0;
    // Other methods for MyContainer not shown

    public Iterator iterator() {
        return new LocalIterator(this);
    }

    // The iterator class as an inner class
    private class LocalIterator implements Iterator {
        private int current = 0;

        public boolean hasNext() {
            return current < MyContainer.this.size;
        }

        public Object next() {
            return MyContainer.this.items[current++];
        }
    }
}
```

Why use an Inner Class?

- Both nested and inner classes allow us to do the following:
 - Put multiple classes in a single file
 - Give access to the namespace of OuterClass
 - Have access to the private methods of OuterClass
- What's the difference between an inner class and a nested class?
 - A nested class can be **static**
 - Inner classes, upon construction, implicitly reference the instance of the outer class which caused its construction (`MyContainer.this`)
 - * The constructor can also be dropped (the `MyContainer.this` reference is optional)

```
// The iterator class as an inner class
private class LocalIterator implements Iterator {
    private int current = 0;

    public boolean hasNext() {
        return current < size;
    }
}
```

```

    public Object next() {
        return items[current++];
    }
}

```

More Textbook Examples

- Singly linked node, list, and iterator (17.1-2)
 - All classes are separate entities!
 - * `weiss.nonstandard.LinkedList`
 - * `weiss.nonstandard.ListNode`
 - * `weiss.nonstandard.LinkedListIterator`
- Doubly linked list (17.3-5)
 - `weiss.util.LinkedList`
 - `weiss.util.LinkedList.LinkedListIterator` (inner, non-**static**)
 - `weiss.util.LinkedList.Node` (nested, **static**)

Typical Anonymous Class Style

```

class MyList<T> implements Iterable<T> {
    public Iterator<T> iterator() {
        return new Iterator<T>() {
            public boolean hasNext() {
                // Implementation
            }
            public T next() {
                // Implementation
            }
        };
    }
    ...
}

```

Two Ways to use an Iterator

```

public static void main( String[] args ) {
    MyList<String> list = new MyList<>();
    list.add("Alpha");
    list.add("Bravo");
    list.add("Charlie");
    list.add("Delta");
    Iterator<String> iter = list.iterator();
    while(iter.hasNext()) {
        String item = iter.next();
        System.out.println(item);
    }
    for (String item : list) {
        System.out.println(item);
    }
}

```

ConcurrentModificationException

- Our implementation doesn't try to coordinate multiple iterators changing the structure at the same time. **Note:** this is a different issue compared to access from different threads (we will not be covering that).
- Easy for reading and viewing
- Difficult for modification

```
Iterator itr1 = list.iterator();
Iterator itr2 = list.iterator();
itr1.remove();
itr2.next(); // Error!
```

Practice Problems

- Add `.iterator()` into our class examples of `ArrayList` and `LinkedList`
 - Pay attention to the details – it's always the edge cases that'll get ya
 - * Where does it point when it is created?
 - * What about `.add()` and `.remove()`?
 - What methods might be difficult in terms of time or algorithmic complexity for a singly linked list?
 - * Any algorithms which involve adding or deleting at the end of the linked list.

Summary

- Iterators
 - Support efficient traversing of all elements in the data structure
 - Implementation details are different, but `Iterator` and `Iterable` provide a common **interface**
- Next lecture: `Stack` and `Queue`
 - Reading: Chapter 6, Chapter 16