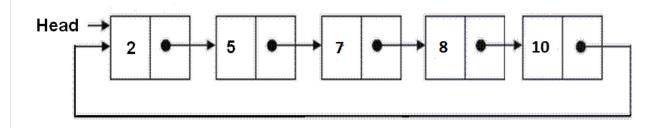
Circular Linked List I Set 1 (Introduction and Applications)

We have discussed singly and doubly linked lists in the following posts.

Introduction to Linked List & Insertion

Doubly Linked List Introduction and Insertion

Circular linked list is a linked list where all nodes are connected to form a circle. There is no NULL at the end. A circular linked list can be a singly circular linked list or doubly circular linked list.



Advantages of Circular Linked Lists:

1) Any node can be a starting point. We can traverse the whole list by starting from any point.

We just need to stop when the first visited node is visited again.

- 2) Useful for implementation of queue. Unlike this implementation, we don't need to maintain two pointers for front and rear if we use circular linked list. We can maintain a pointer to the last inserted node and front can always be obtained as next of last.
- 3) Circular lists are useful in applications to repeatedly go around the list. For example, when multiple applications are running on a PC, it is common for the operating system to put the running applications on a list and then to cycle through them, giving each of them a slice of time to execute, and then making them wait while the CPU is given to another application. It is convenient for the operating system to use a circular list so that when it reaches the end of the list it can cycle around to the front of the list. (Source http://web.eecs.utk.edu/~bvz/cs140/notes/Dllists/)
- 4) Circular Doubly Linked Lists are used for implementation of advanced data structures like Fibonacci Heap.

Circular Singly Linked List I Insertion

Please write comments if you find any bug in above code/algorithm, or find other ways to solve the same problem

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