Session 1

Introduction to Data Structures



Overview

- Abstract data types and data structures
- Linear data structures
- Arrays
- Stacks
- Queues

Data Type

- Realization of some abstract notion.
- To the system: The way in which a particular memory chunk is interpreted.
- To the user: Data type is identified by its behaviour; the actual storage of data does not alter the behaviour.
- Example
 - Data type int in C++/Java realizes abstract notion of integers and provides operators like +, -, *, /.

Data Structures

- Conceptually similar to a data type.
- Typically, more general purpose and used to organise specific data.
- Defines set of operators and representation.
- Combines more than one simple data items or data structures.
- Relative positions of the data items are of interest.
- Example:
 - Array, matrix, list...

Data Structures

- User of a data structure(DS) is interested only in the operators provided.
- Implementation details hidden from the application program.
- Higher level of abstraction for the programmer.
- Can be used like a data type in the application.

'Structure' of a Typical DS

- DS means relative positioning of data items and their access mechanism.
- The positioning can be implicit (as in the case of arrays) or explicit, i.e. each item holds references to its neighbours.
- This gives two parts per node of a DS
 - Data (can be any data type, independent of the DS)
 - Linkages to neighbouring nodes (specific to the DS)

'Structure' of a Typical DS

- The access mechanism defines the type of DS
 - Totally ordered (linear)
 - Partially ordered (eg: trees)
 - Non-linear (eg: graphs)
- Actual representation can be different as long as access mechanism is same.

Linear DS

- Data items (or nodes) arranged in linear fashion.
- Every node has a unique next element and a unique previous element.
- Example
 - Array, linked list, stack, queue, vector.

Array

- Ordered collection of objects of same type.
- Contiguous storage allocation: enables random access.
- Linkages to neighbours are implicit through position in the memory.
- Size is fixed while constructing.
- Insertion of item at specific position may require shifting of existing items. (why?)
- Available in Java.

Stack

- An opaque pipe closed at one end.
- Only one element at a time is available, no other information is accessible.
- Addition and deletion of elements only at the open end.
- Last in first out (LIFO) behaviour.

Stack Example

Procedure invocation and return

Stack Operations

- clear() clear/empty the stack
- isEmpty() check if it is empty
- isFull() check if it is full?
- push(el) Put the element el on the top of the stack. Note: you can't put it anywhere else!
- pop() remove the topmost element from the stack. Note: can't remove any other element!
- topEl() Return the topmost element without removing it.

Stack Operations

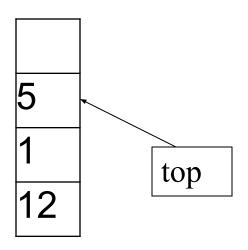
push(item) - item becomes the new top element

```
push (3) (3) push (10) (10, 3)
```

 pop() - top element removed. An error if stack is empty.

```
i = \text{pop ()} (3)
Value of i becomes 10
```

- Stack using array
 - Data items stored as an array
 - Position of 'top' maintained by an index



```
public class ArrayStack {
   private int top;

// will point to the topmost element of the stack
private Object[] storage;
public ArrayStack(int n) {
   size = n;
   storage = new Object[size];
   top = -1;
}
```

```
public void clear() \{top = -1;\}
 public boolean isFull(){
    return (top >= storage.length-1);
public boolean isEmpty() {
   return (top == -1);
public void push(Object el) {
   if (!isFull())
       {top++; storage[top] = el;}
```

```
public Object pop(){
      if(!isEmpty()){
         Object tmp = storage[top]; top--;
         return tmp;
      else
         throw new Exception ("pop on empty stack");
  public Object topEl(){
      if(!isEmpty()) { return storage[top]; }
       else return null;
```

Stacks in java.util

- Available as extension of class Vector: java.util.Stack
- Object push(Object e): returns the object which is pushed.
- Object peek(): similar to topEl();
- peek() and push() return the object on the top, not its copy.
- Intermediate elements still accessible from the Vector interface; violation of integrity of stack.

Stacks in java.util

boolean empty()

Object pop()

int Search(Object el): returns position of el in

the stack. Not a stack operation: we will ignore.

Stack(): constructor; creates an empty stack.

Stack Application

- Many cases of LIFO(last-in first-out) applications in computer science, particularly programming language implementation, algorithms and operating systems.
- We will discuss the bracket matching problem as a case study.

Bracket Matching Problem

```
    [([))] - invalid
    []()([]) - valid
    [{}([])] - valid
```

Conditions:

- Every open bracket should be closed by the appropriate close bracket.
- No extra close brackets.
- The last bracket opened should be closed first.

Pseudo Code

```
valid = true // assume string is valid so far
Stack s = new Stack(); s.clear();
while (valid & (input not over )){
  read next symbol (symb);
  if (symb is '(' or '[' or '{' ){
     s.push(symb);
   else if (symb is ')' or ']' or '}' ){
     if (s.isEmpty()) valid = false // too many closing brackets
     i = s.pop()
     if (i does not match with symb) valid = false
```

Pseudo Code

```
if (! s.isEmpty ( ) )
     valid = false; // too many open brackets
if (valid) system.out.println("String is valid");
else system.out.println("String is not valid");
```

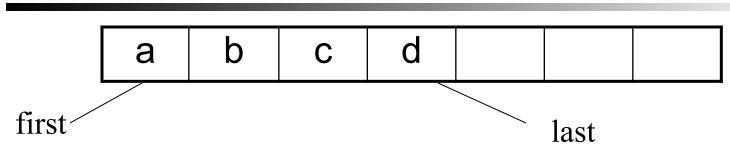
Queue

- Modeled on real queue at counters, service centers, etc.
- When input is to be processed as per arrival, but can't wait for all input to be ready before processing.
- Insertion at the tail; deletion from the front.
- Unlike real queues, for each deletion we don't want to move all the elements.

Queue Operations

- clear() Clear the queue
- isEmpty()
- isFull()
- enqueue(el) Put element el at the end of the queue
- dequeue() Remove the first element from the queue
- firstEl() Return the first element in the queue without removing it

Implementation Using Arrays



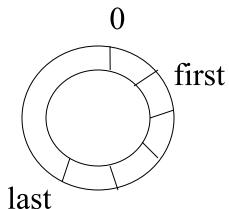
- 'last' moves right for every addition
- 'first' moves right for every deletion
- empty when first = last + 1
- full when *last* = arraysize
- but ...

Implementation Using Arrays

- Queue moves right
- Locations freed by delete not reused
- Queue may be flagged full even with a single element!

Implementation Using Circular Arrays

- View array as circular q[max +1] -> q[0]; q[0 1] -> q[max]
- last and first travels clockwise
- first need not be less than last



Implementation Using Circular Arrays

```
public class ArrayQueue{
   private int first, last, size, count;
   private Object[] storage;
   public ArrayQueue(int n) {
       first = 0; last = -1; count = 0; size = n;
     storage = new Object[n];
   public boolean isFull() {
       return count >= size;
   public boolean isEmpty() {
       return count == 0;
```

Implementation Using Circular Arrays

```
public void enqueue(Object el) {
   last = (last+1)%size; count++;
   storage[last] = el;
  //add suitable error checks
public Object dequeue() {
  Object tmp = storage[first];
  first = (first+1)%size; count--;
  return tmp;
  //add suitable error checks
```

Example

Railway Ticket Reservation

- Ten counters, all identical.
- Customers arrive Assume only one type of transaction.
- A single queue.
- When a counter falls vacant, the person at the front of the queue goes there.
- Simulate this.

Ticket Counter

- A queue structure will maintain the queue.
- An array serve[1..c] records status of the counters. -1 indicates empty; otherwise expected time of completion.
- For each time tick:
 - if any arrival, insert in the queue.
 - if any counter has serve [i] = timer, set serve[i] = -1
 - if any counter vacant, dequeue a person and send to first available counter, update serve array.
- Can extend to record max queue size, vacant counter time etc.

Summary

- Data Structures: useful abstractions for a programmer
- Arrays, Stacks and Queues: simple linear data structures
- We will discuss "better" representations for these, and introduce more sophisticated DS in subsequent sessions.