



FALMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY



# COMP110: Principles of Computing

## 7: Data Structures I

# Assignments

- ▶ Peer review **next Thursday**
- ▶ Please come to the session with a **draft** of your research journal
- ▶ Worksheet 5 due **tomorrow**
- ▶ **No new worksheet** this week — work on your research journal instead

# Basic containers in Python



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- ▶ Forgetting to free a block is called a **memory leak** (not really possible in Python, but a common bug in C++)
- ▶ Blocks can be allocated and deallocated at will, but can **never grow or shrink**

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  - ▶ Bundle together the data's representation in memory along with the algorithms for accessing it



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- ▶ E.g. if the array starts at address 1000 and each element is 4 bytes, the 3rd element is at address  $1000 + 4 \times 3 = 1012$
- ▶ Accessing an array element is **constant time**  $O(1)$

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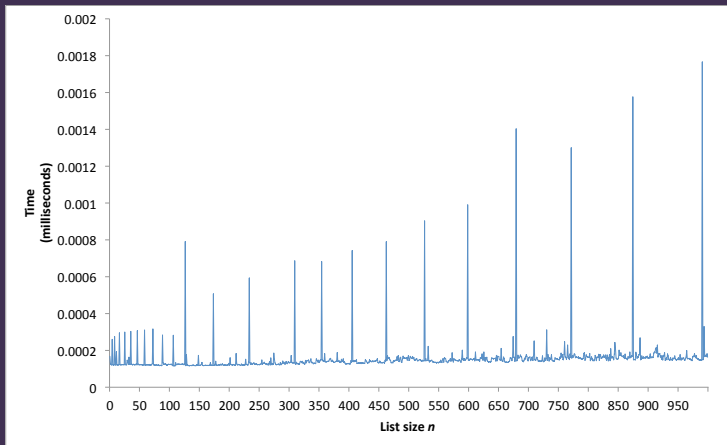
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- ▶ When the list needs to change size, it **creates** a new array, **copies** the contents of the old array, and **deletes** the old array
- ▶ Implementation details: <http://www.laurentluce.com/posts/python-list-implementation/>

# Time taken to append an element to a list of size $n$



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- ▶ Similarly, **deleting** anything other than the last element is **linear time**

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  - ▶ E.g. xy coordinates, RGB colours, ...
- ▶ Create tuples with `()`, just as you create lists with `[]`
  - ▶ Exception: a single element tuple is created as `(foo,)` because `(foo)` would be interpreted as a bracketed expression
- ▶ Can often omit the parentheses entirely, e.g.  
`my_tuple = 1,2,3`

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- Unpacking requires the number of elements to match exactly — if `foo` has more than 4 elements, the code on the left will give an error

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```
temp = a  
a = b  
b = temp
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- ▶ Hence building a long string by appending can be slow (appending strings is  $O(n)$ )



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- ▶ A dictionary is implemented as a **hash table**

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Access values using []:

```
print(age["Alice"]) # prints 23  
age["Bob"] = 40     # overwriting an existing item  
age["Denise"] = 21  # adding a new item
```

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Use `items` to get **key,value** pairs:

```
for key, value in age.items():  
    print(key, "is", age, "years old")
```

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Operation	List	Set
Add element	Append: $O(1)$ Insert: $O(n)$	$O(1)$
Delete element	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Contains element?	$O(n)$	$O(1)$

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Test membership with `in` operator

```
if 9 in numbers:  
    print("Set contains 9")
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  - ▶ All of which are  $O(1)$

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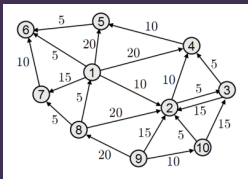
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# Graphs

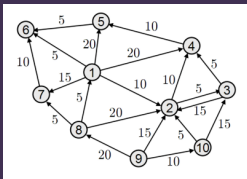


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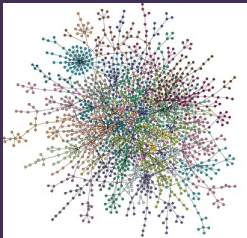
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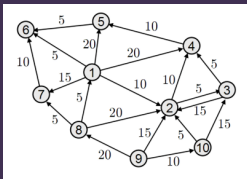
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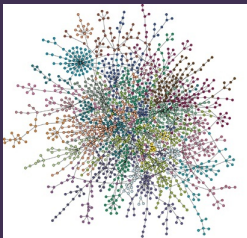
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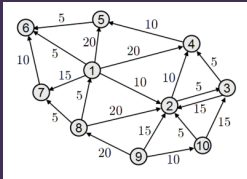
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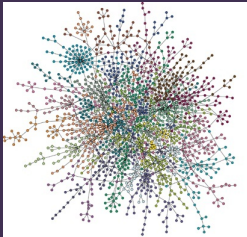
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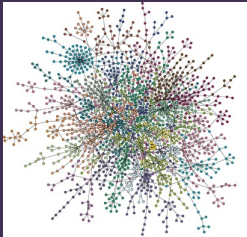
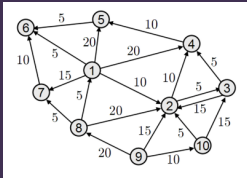
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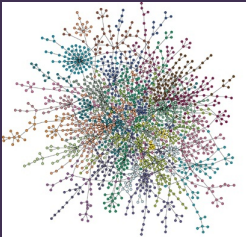
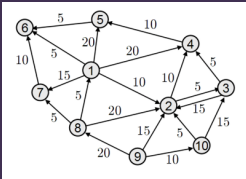
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- ▶ Often used to model **networks** (e.g. social networks, transport networks, game levels, automata, ...)

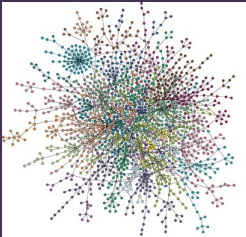
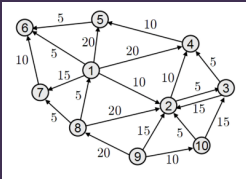


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  - ▶ A collection of **edges** or **arcs** (lines or arrows between points)
- ▶ Often used to model **networks** (e.g. social networks, transport networks, game levels, automata, ...)
- ▶ **Directed** graph: edges are arrows

# Graphs



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- ▶ Often used to model **networks** (e.g. social networks, transport networks, game levels, automata, ...)
- ▶ **Directed** graph: edges are arrows
- ▶ **Undirected** graph: edges are lines

# Implementing graphs

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# Implementing graphs

- ▶ A graph has a **set of nodes** and a **set of edges**
- ▶ Each edge has exactly **two nodes** associated with it (e.g. “from” and “to”)

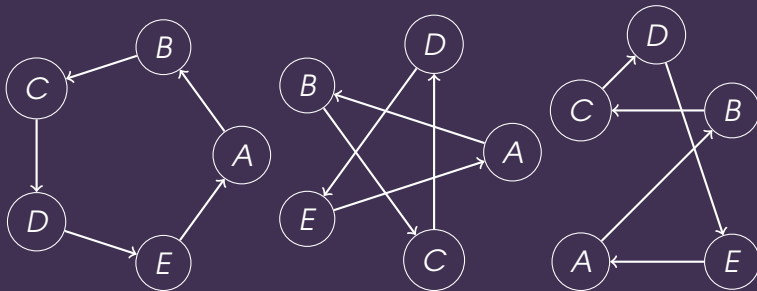
# Drawing graphs

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- ▶ E.g. these are technically the same graph:





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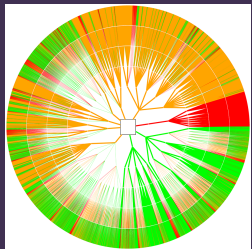
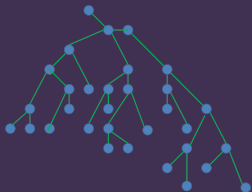
# Planar graphs

- ▶ A graph is **planar** if it can be drawn with no overlapping edges
- ▶ A region enclosed by edges is called a **faces**
- ▶ A connected planar graph obeys **Euler's formula**:

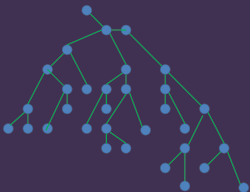
$$n_{\text{nodes}} - n_{\text{edges}} + n_{\text{faces}} = 2$$

# Trees

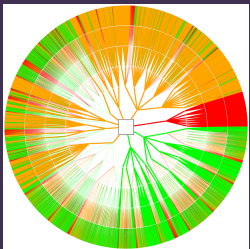
# Trees



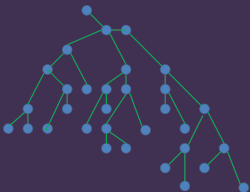
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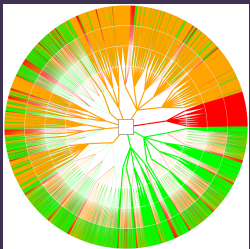
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# Trees

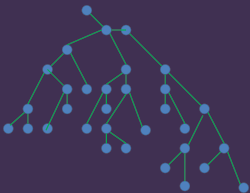


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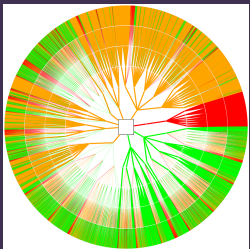




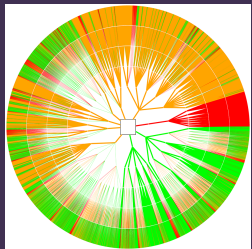
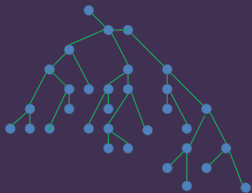
# Trees



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  - ▶ All other nodes have exactly 1 incoming edge

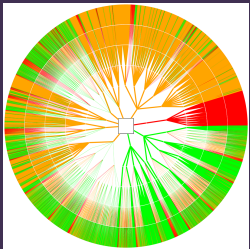
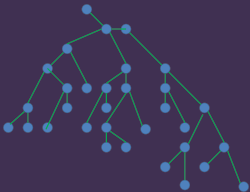


# Trees



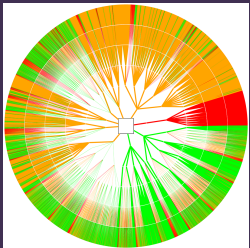
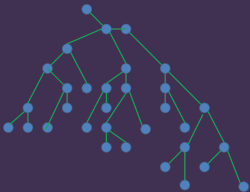
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# Trees



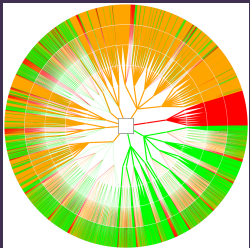
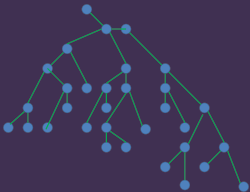
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- ▶ Edges go from **parent** to **child**
  - ▶ All nodes except the root have exactly one parent
  - ▶ Nodes can have 0, 1 or many children
- ▶ Used to model **hierarchies** (e.g. file systems, object inheritance, scene graphs, state-action trees, ...)

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- ▶ A graph has a **root node**

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- ▶ A graph has a **root node**
- ▶ Each node has a **collection of children**



# Implementing trees

- ▶ A graph has a **root node**
- ▶ Each node has a **collection of children**
- ▶ Each node other than the root has a **single parent**

# Graph traversal



# Tree traversal

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# Tree traversal



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**end procedure**

**procedure** BREADTHFIRSTSEARCH

  let  $Q$  be a queue

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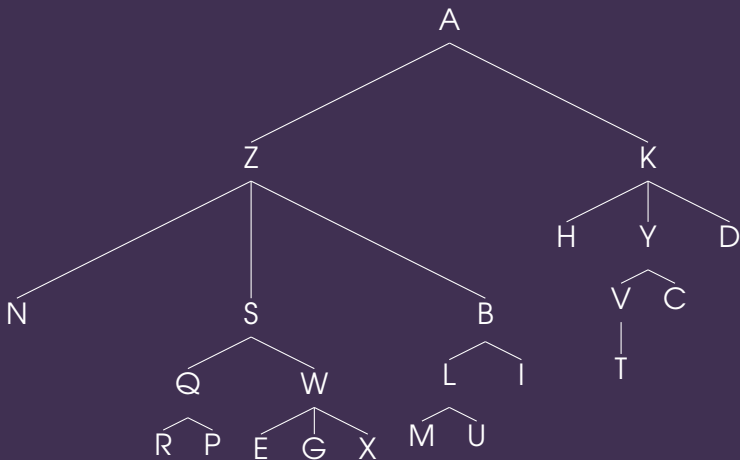
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**end procedure**



# Tree traversal example



# Recursive depth first search

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**procedure** DEPTHFIRSTSEARCH( $n$ )

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  end for  
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```

- ▶ Compare to the pseudocode on the previous slide.  
Where is the stack?



# Linked lists



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- ▶ Each node contains:

# Linked list

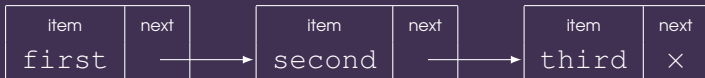
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# Linked lists vs arrays

Operation	Array	Linked list

---

<sup>1</sup>If we already have a reference to the last node

<sup>2</sup>If we already have a reference to the relevant node



# Linked lists vs arrays

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Insert	$O(n)$	$O(1)$ <sup>2</sup>
Delete	$O(n)$	$O(1)$ <sup>2</sup>

---

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# Implementing a linked list