Linked List

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Contents



- Linked List Concepts.
- Linked List Operations.
- Linked List Improvement.



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Linked List Concepts



Limitations of Array:

Characteristics:

> Continuous memory storage.

Advantages:

- > Random element access by indexing.
- Very efficient for fix-sized storage.

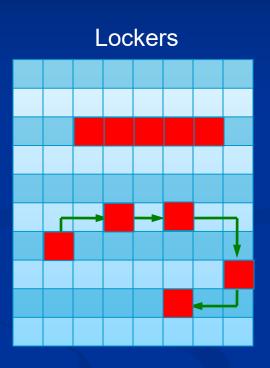
Disadvantages:

- > Resize array requires memory reallocation.
- Add or remove element need element shifted.
- Allocate large continuous memory is difficult.

Linked List Concepts



- Linked list solution:
 - Locker renting problem:
 - > Need to rent lockers to store N items.
 - > Each locker keeps only 1 item.
 - Continuous solution → Array.
 - Dis-continuous solution:
 - > Rent N arbitrary lockers.
 - Each locker keeps:
 - > 1 items.
 - > Address of next locker.
 - Only keep address of first locker.



Linked List Concepts



Singly linked list:

- A discontinuous data structure.
- Element = Data + Link to next element.
- Last element link to NULL.
- Head: link to first element.



C declaration:

```
struct Node struct List
{
 int data; Node *next; };
}
```

Contents



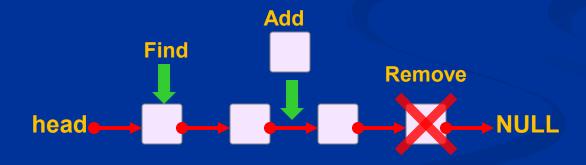
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Operations on linked list:

- Initialize.
- Check empty.
- Find element.
- Add element.
- Remove element.





- Initialize list:
 - At first, list has no element.

head NULL

- Check empty list:
 - An empty list has no element.

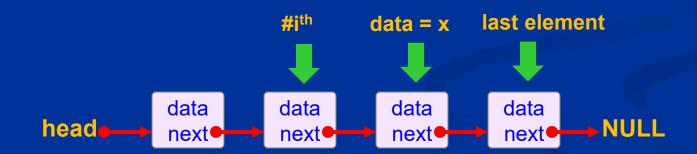
head → NULL ???





Find element:

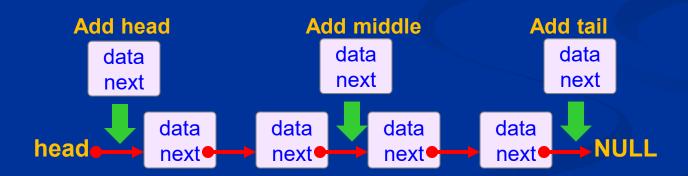
- Find #ith element.
- Find element has data x.
- Find last element.





Add element:

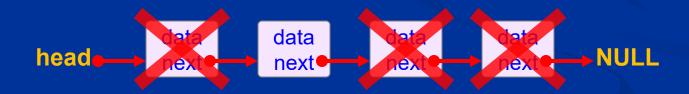
- Add head.
- Add tail.
- Add middle:
 - > After #ith element.
 - Keep order (ascending).





Remove element:

- Remove head.
- Remove tail.
- Remove middle:
 - > #ith element.
 - > Element has data x.
- Remove all.



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Singly linked list vs. Dynamic array:

	Dynamic array	Singly linked List
Organization	Continuous	Dis-continuous
Resize	Require re-allocation Complexity: O(n)	No re-allocation Complexity: O(1)
Access element	Random access Complexity: O(1)	Sequential access Complexity: O(n)
Search	Forward/Backward Complexity: O(n)	Forward only Complexity: O (n)
Add/Remove element	Require element shifting Complexity: O(n)	No shifting Complexity: O(1)
Memory cost	No extra memory	Require extra memory Cost: 8 * n bytes

→ Efficient way to store **sequential** and **variable-size** data.



Doubly linked list:

- Element = Data + Link to next + Link to previous.
- Head: forward traverse.
- Tail: backward traverse.



C declaration:

```
struct DNode struct DList
{
    int data; DNode *head;
    DNode *next; DNode *tail;
};
```



Doubly linked list vs. Dynamic array:

	Dynamic array	Doubly linked list
Organization	Continuous	Dis-continuous
Resize	Require re-allocation Complexity: O(n)	No re-allocation Complexity: O(1)
Access element	Random access Complexity: O(1)	Sequential access Complexity: O(n)
Search	Forward/Backward Complexity: O(n)	Forward/Backward Complexity: O (n)
Add/Remove element	Require element shifting Complexity: O(n)	No shifting Complexity: O(1)
Memory cost	No extra memory	Require extra memory Cost: 16 * n bytes

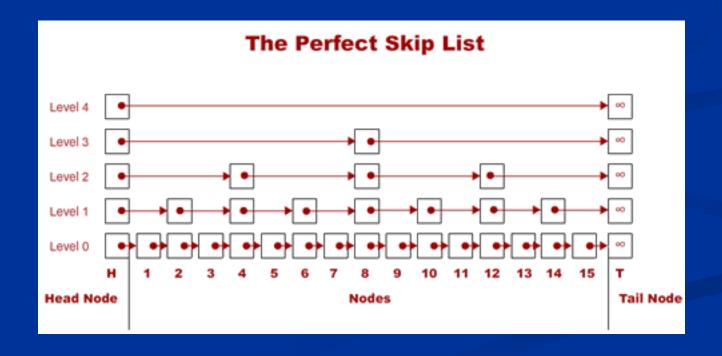
→ Good for *two-directional traverse*, *variable-size* data.





Skip list:

- Set of singly linked lists organized in layers.
- Lower layer: fine-grained nodes, slower "lane".
- > Higher layer: coarse-grained nodes, faster "lane".







Skip list vs. Ordered array:

	Ordered Array	Skip List
Organization	Continuous	Dis-continuous
Resize	Require re-allocation Complexity: O(n)	No re-allocation Complexity: O(1)
Access element	Random access Complexity: O(1)	Sequential access Complexity: O(log(n))
Binary search	Forward/Backward Complexity: O(n*log(n))	Forward only Complexity: O (n*log(n))
Add/Remove element	Require element shifting Complexity: O(n)	No shifting Complexity: O(1)
Memory cost	No extra memory	Require extra memory Cost: log(n) * 4 * n bytes

→ Efficient way to store *variable-size* and *ordered* data.

Summary



- Singly linked list concepts:
 - Dis-contiguous storage.
 - Node = data + next.
 - Last node points to NULL.
- Singly linked list operations:
 - Initialize, check empty.
 - Find, add, remove.
- Singly linked list improvements:
 - Doubly linked list.
 - Skip list.



Practice



Practice 10.1:

Write C/C++ program to implement operations on Doubly linked list.



Practice



Practice 10.2:

Write C/C++ program to do the following on Singly linked list:

- Add new node (keep order).
- Reverse list.
- Remove duplicated nodes (keep one node).
- Remove kth node from tail.
- Check if list is symmetric.

