

Flattening a Linked List

Medium Accuracy: 33.91% Submissions: 61679 Points: 4

Given a Linked List of size N, where every node represents a sub-linked-list and contains two pointers:

- (i) a **next** pointer to the next node,
- (ii) a **bottom** pointer to a linked list where this node is head.

Each of the sub-linked-list is in sorted order.

Flatten the Link List such that all the nodes appear in a single level while maintaining the sorted order.

Note: The flattened list will be printed using the bottom pointer instead of next pointer.

Example 1:

Input:

```
5 -> 10 -> 19 -> 28
|      |      |      |
7      20     22     35
|              |      |
8              50     40
|                      |
30                     45
```

Output: 5-> 7-> 8-> 10-> 19-> 20->
22-> 28-> 30-> 35-> 40-> 45-> 50.

Explanation:

The resultant linked lists has every node in a single level.

(Note: | represents the bottom pointer.)

Example 2:

Input:

5 -> 10 -> 19 -> 28

|

|

7

22

|

|

8

50

|

30

Output: 5->7->8->10->19->20->22->30->50

Explanation:

The resultant linked lists has every node in a single level.

(Note: | represents the bottom pointer.)

Your Task:

You do not need to read input or print anything. Complete the function **flatten()** that takes the **head** of the linked list as input parameter and returns the head of flattened link list.

Expected Time Complexity: $O(N \cdot M)$

Expected Auxiliary Space: $O(1)$

Constraints:

$0 \leq N \leq 50$

$1 \leq M_i \leq 20$

$1 \leq \text{Element of linked list} \leq 10^3$

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