

Topic 2: Arrays and Lists

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Data Structures

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- We learn about different data structures, because each has its advantages and disadvantages.

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- We learn about different data structures, because each has its advantages and disadvantages.
- We can make this concrete with examples in Python...
- ...but in general we want to develop a body of knowledge about algorithms and data structures that is sufficiently abstract to serve us well in a variety of languages and problem settings.

Our first “data structure”: arrays

A sequence of **elements** a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n is called an **array** and usually denoted by something like $A[1], A[2], \dots, A[n]$ or $A[1 \dots n]$

- 1 They're in consecutive memory cells, but we (usually) don't care where exactly.
- 2 All array elements are of the same type, e.g., integer. In pseudocode (and some languages) we can declare an array of integers as `integer A[1...n]`

The fact that arrays are contiguous (1) and homogeneous (2) makes it easy to do certain operations (and difficult to do others).

Arrays

- Here is an array of chars (each value represents a single character).

Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Value	P	a	r	t	y	NULL	
Address	0x3412	0x3413	0x3414	0x3415	0x3416	0x3417	0x3418

Arrays

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- How do we **find** the i th element? How long does it take?
- What if we want to **erase** an element?
- The **size** of an array is fixed when we declare it. How big should we make it?

Linked Lists

- A **list** is made up of **nodes**. Each node stores an element (a piece of data) plus a pointer or “**link**” to another node.
- The first node is called the **head**.
- The last node, called the **tail** points to null.
- The nodes may be scattered all over the memory.

Implementing a list

Assume that for list `L` we have pointers to the first as well as the last node of list:

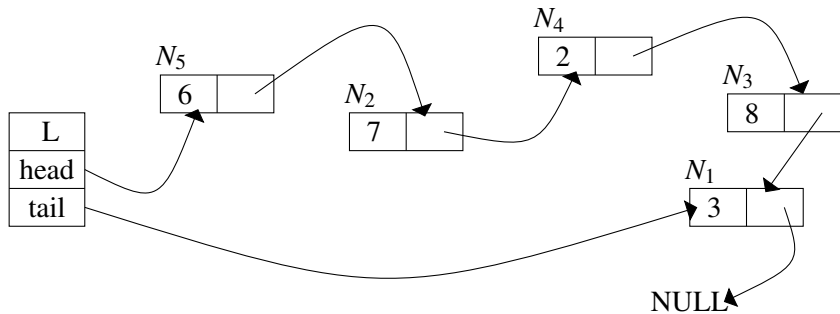
- `L.head`
- `L.tail`
- (and possibly also we have `L.size`)

May refer to node `N` using:

- `N.data`, the element
- `N.next`, the link, the next node in the list (may be `NULL`)

`NULL` means “there’s nothing there”, i.e., last element has no successor.

A linked list



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$N = L.head$

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$N = L.head$

if $i = 1$ **then**

return $N.data$

end if

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Input: list L , positive integer i

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`N = L.head`

if `i = 1` **then**

return `N.data`

end if

for `j = 2 to i` **do**

`N = N.next`

end for

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end if

for `j = 2` **to** `i` **do**

`N = N.next`

if `N = NULL` **then**

return out of range

end if

end for

return `N.data`

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Output: i th piece of data in L

```
N = L.head
```

```
if i = 1 then
```

```
    if N = NULL then
```

```
        return out of range
```

```
    end if
```

```
    return N.data
```

```
end if
```

```
for j = 2 to i do
```

```
    N = N.next
```

```
    if N = NULL then
```

```
        return out of range
```

```
    end if
```

```
end for
```

```
return N.data
```

We would like `L.find(i)` to find the i th piece of data in a list?
How can we do this? How long will it take?

Input: list `L`, positive integer i

Output: i th piece of data in `L`

if $i > L.size$ **then**

return out of range

end if

`N = L.head`

if $i = 1$ **then**

return `N.data`

end if

for $j = 2$ to i **do**

`N = N.next`

end for

return `N.data`

Welcome to Algorithms and Data Structures

The lecture will begin at 5 past the hour. While you wait consider this pseudocode and work out what it does (this is the final slide below).

Input: n numbers in array $A[0], \dots, A[n-1]$

Output: ?

```
for i = 0 to n-2 do
    e = A[i]
    p = i
    for j = i+1 to n-1 do
        if A[j] < e then
            e = A[j]
            p = j
        end if
    end for
    swap A[i] and A[p]
end for
return A
```

Try the questions at <https://pollev.com/eamonn> or eamonn on the PollEverywhere app

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Input: list L

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if L.head = NULL **then**

end if

L.head = L.head.next

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How can we alter the list? Anything that inserts or removes must fix all references to (predecessors and) successors.

Deletion of the head

Input: list L

Output: L with head deleted

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if L.head = NULL then
    return no head to delete
end if
```

L.head = L.head.next

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How can we alter the list? Anything that inserts or removes must fix all references to (predecessors and) successors.

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Input: list L

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if L.head = NULL **then**
 return no head to delete

end if

if L.head = L.tail **then**

end if

 L.head = L.head.next

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end if

if L.head = L.tail **then**
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if L.head = L.tail **then**
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end if

if L.head = L.tail **then**

 L.head = NULL

 L.tail = NULL

 L.size = L.size - 1

end if

 L.head = L.head.next

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end if

if L.head = L.tail **then**

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 L.tail = NULL

 L.size = L.size - 1

return

end if

 L.head = L.head.next

 L.size = L.size - 1

Insertion of v after N

Input: list L, data v, node N

Output: L with v inserted after N

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node M

M.data = v

Insertion of v after N

Input: list L, data v, node N

Output: L with v inserted after N

node M

M.data = v

N.next = M

M.next = N.next

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Output: L with v inserted after N

node M

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M.next = N.next

N.next = M

if L.tail = N **then**

end if

Insertion of v after N

Input: list L, data v, node N

Output: L with v inserted after N

node M

M.data = v

M.next = N.next

N.next = M

if L.tail = N **then**

 L.tail = M

end if

Arrays versus lists

	Array	Linked List
Data Access		
Insertion, Deletion		

Arrays versus lists

	Array	Linked List
Data Access	fast	
Insertion, Deletion		

Arrays versus lists

	Array	Linked List
Data Access	fast	slow
Insertion, Deletion		

Arrays versus lists

	Array	Linked List
Data Access	fast	slow
Insertion, Deletion	slow	

Arrays versus lists

	Array	Linked List
Data Access	fast	slow
Insertion, Deletion	slow	fast

Doubly Linked Lists

- A node in a **doubly** linked list stores two references:
 - a next link, which points to the next node in the list
 - a prev link, which points to the previous node in the list
- To simplify, we add two **dummy** or sentinel nodes at the ends of the doubly linked list:
 - the header has a valid next reference but a null prev reference
 - the trailer has a valid prev reference but a null next reference

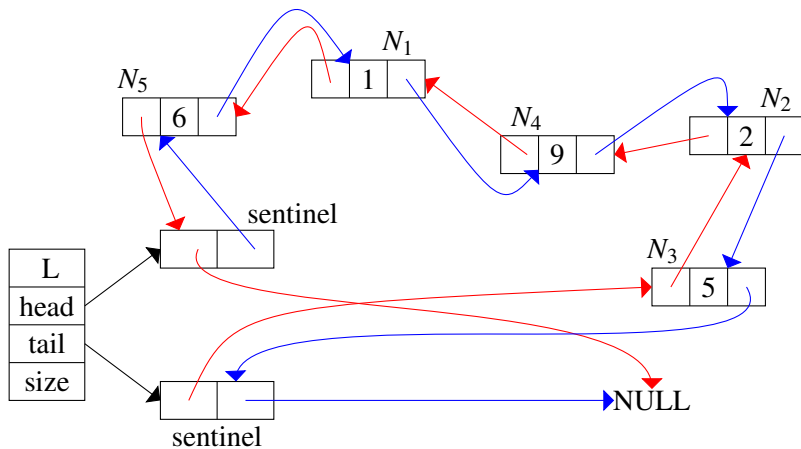
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- To simplify, we add two **dummy** or sentinel nodes at the ends of the doubly linked list:
 - the header has a valid next reference but a null prev reference
 - the trailer has a valid prev reference but a null next reference

A doubly linked list needs to store references to the two sentinel nodes and a size counter keeping track of the number of nodes in the list (not counting sentinels).

An empty list would have the two sentinel nodes pointing to each other.

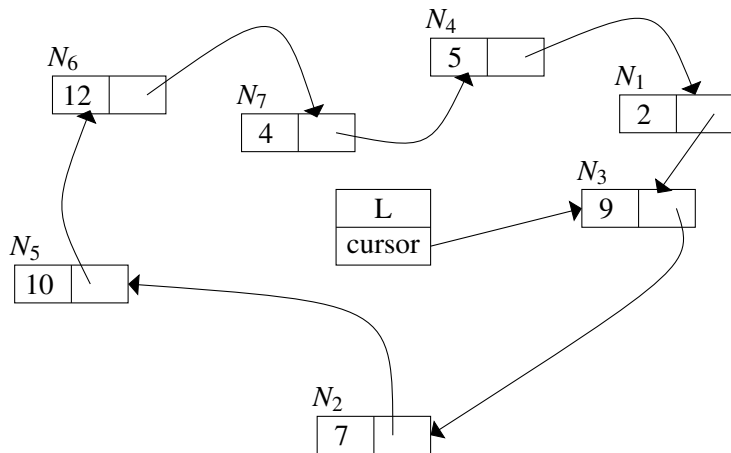
A doubly linked list



Circularly Linked Lists

- A **circularly** linked list has the same kind of nodes as a singly linked list. That is, each node has a next pointer and a reference to an element.
- The circularly linked list has no beginning or end. You can think of it as a singly linked list, where the last nodes next pointer, instead of being `NULL`, points back to the first node.
- Instead of references to the head and the tail, we mark a node of the circularly linked list as the cursor. The cursor is the starting node when we traverse the list.

A circularly linked list



Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

$M = N.\text{prev}$

Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

M = N.prev

P = N.next

Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

M = N.prev

P = N.next

M.next = P

Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

M = N.prev

P = N.next

M.next = P

P.prev = M

Deletion from doubly linked list

Input: list L, node N

Output: L with N removed

M = N.prev

P = N.next

M.next = P

P.prev = M

L.size = L.size - 1

Input: n numbers in array $A[0], \dots, A[n-1]$

Output: ?

```
for i = 0 to n-2 do
    e = A[i]
    p = i
    for j = i+1 to n-1 do
        if A[j] < e then
            e = A[j]
            p = j
        end if
    end for
    swap A[i] and A[p]
end for
return A
```

What is the output and how it is obtained. How long does this procedure take (that is, say, how many times do we make the comparison of $A[j]$ and e in the condition of the **if** statement)?