Recursive Data Structure

Dr. Youna Jung

Northeastern University

yo.jung@northeastern.edu



RECURSION

■ Mathematic notation:

■ Function:

```
factorial(0) = 1;
factorial(n) = n * factorial(n-1), n > 0
```

Calculating Factorial

Using Loop

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class JavaExample {
   public static void main(String[] args) {
       //We will find the factorial of this number
        int number;
       System.out.println("Enter the number: ");
       Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);
       number = scanner.nextInt();
        scanner.close();
       long fact = 1;
       int i = 1;
       while(i<=number)
           fact = fact * i;
            i++;
        System.out.println("Factorial of "+number+" is: "+fact);
```

■ Using Recursion

```
public static long factorial(int n) {
  if (n == 0) // Base case
    return 1;
  else
    return n * factorial(n - 1); // Recursive call
}
```

ComputeFactorial

factorial(4)

```
factorial(0) = 1;
factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
```

factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3)

```
factorial(0) = 1;
factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
```

```
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3)
= 4 * 3 * factorial(2)
```

```
factorial(0) = 1;
factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
```

```
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3) = 4 * 3 * factorial(2)= 4 * 3 * (2 * factorial(1))
```

factorial(0) = 1;

```
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3) factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
= 4 * 3 * factorial(2)
= 4 * 3 * (2 * factorial(1))
= 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0)))
```

factorial(0) = 1;

```
factorial(0) = 1;

factorial(1) = 4 * factorial(3) \frac{\text{factorial}(0) = 1}{\text{factorial}(n) = n \cdot \text{factorial}(n-1)};

= 4 * 3 * factorial(2)

= 4 * 3 * (2 * factorial(1))

= 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0)))

= 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * 1)))
```

```
factorial(0) = 1;

factorial(1) = 4 * factorial(3)

= 4 * 3 * factorial(2)

= 4 * 3 * (2 * factorial(1))

= 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0)))

= 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * 1)))

= 4 * 3 * (2 * 1)
```

```
factorial(0) = 1;
                                         factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3)
              = 4 * 3 * factorial(2)
              = 4 * 3 * (2 * factorial(1))
              = 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0)))
              = 4 * 3 * (2 * (1 * 1)))
              = 4 * 3 * (2 * 1)
              = 4 * 3 * 2
```

```
factorial(0) = 1;
                                         factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3)
              = 4 * (3 * factorial(2))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * factorial(1)))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0))))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * (1 * 1))))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * 1))
              = 4 * (3 * 2)
              = 4 * (6)
```

```
factorial(0) = 1;
                                         factorial(n) = n*factorial(n-1);
factorial(4) = 4 * factorial(3)
              = 4 * (3 * factorial(2))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * factorial(1)))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * (1 * factorial(0))))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * (1 * 1))))
              = 4 * (3 * (2 * 1))
              = 4 * (3 * 2)
              = 4 * (6)
              = 24
```

Executes factorial(4)

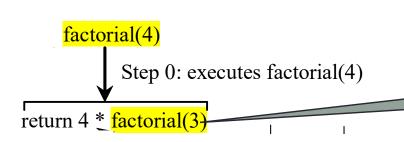
factorial(4)

```
public static long factorial(int n) {
  if (n == 0) // Base case
    return 1;
  else
    return n * factorial(n - 1); // Recursive call
}
```

Stack

Space Required for factorial(4)

Main method



```
public static long factorial(int n) {
  if (n == 0) // Base case
    return 1;
  else
    return n * factorial(n - 1); // Recursive call
}
```

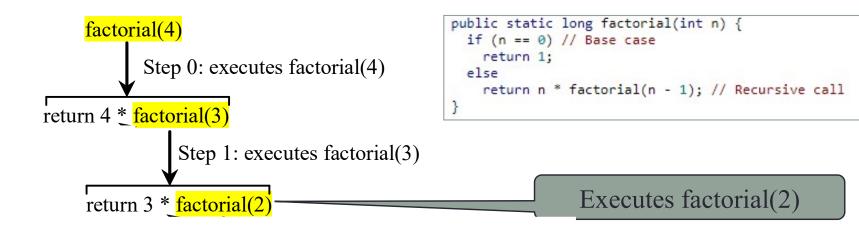
Executes factorial(3)

Stack

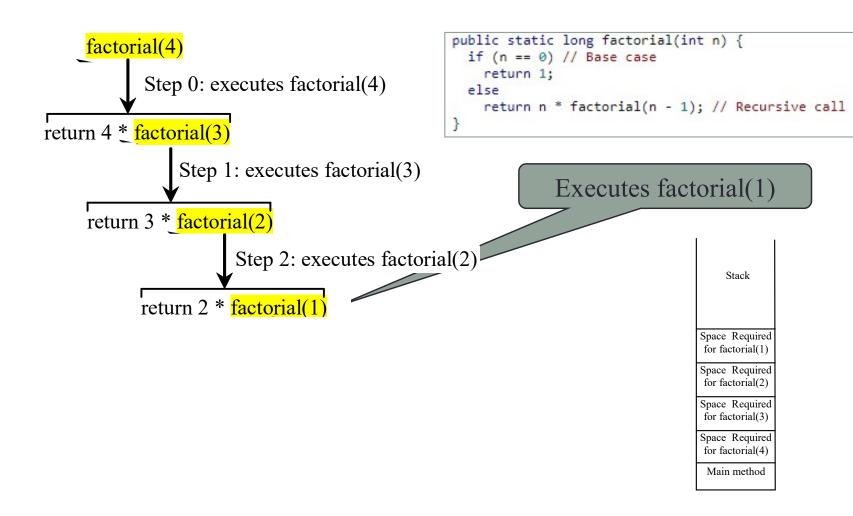
Space Required for factorial(3)

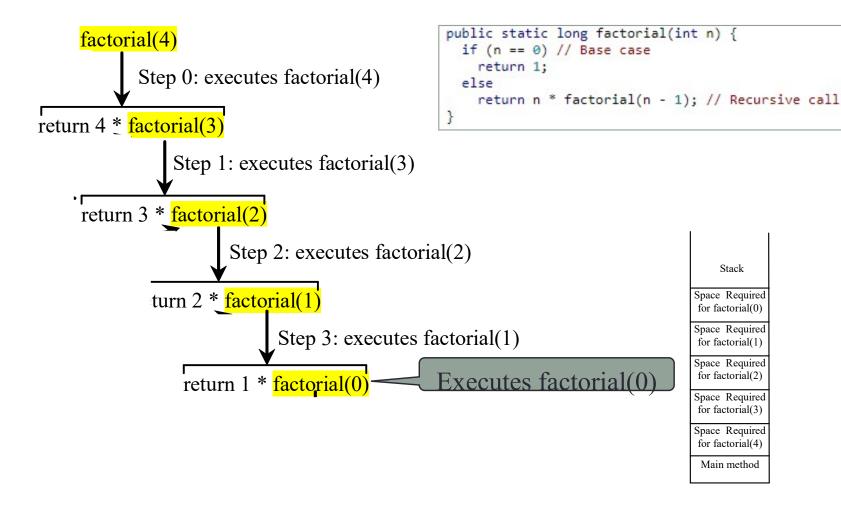
Space Required for factorial(4)

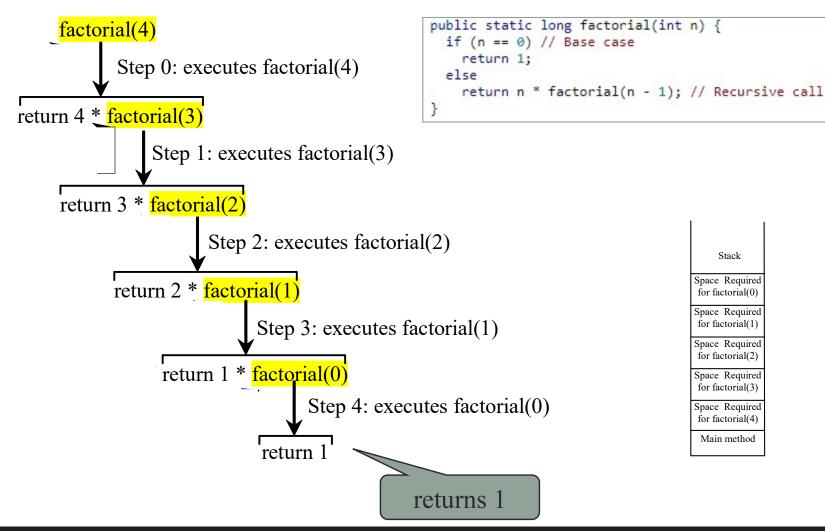
Main method

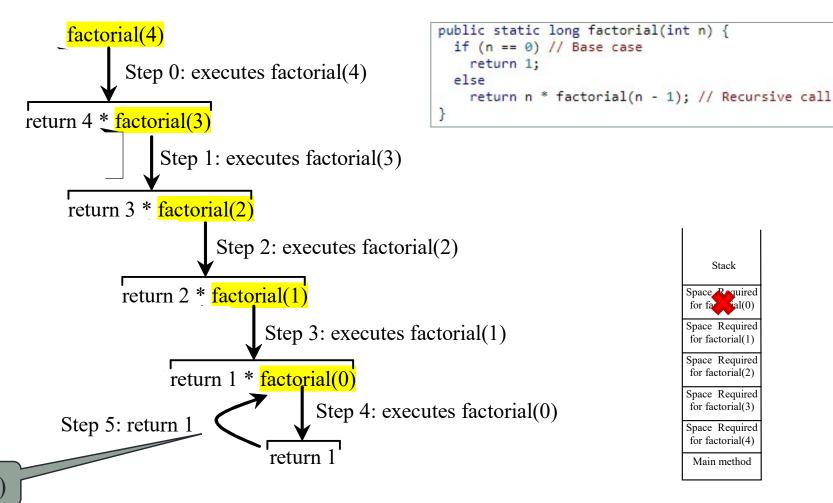


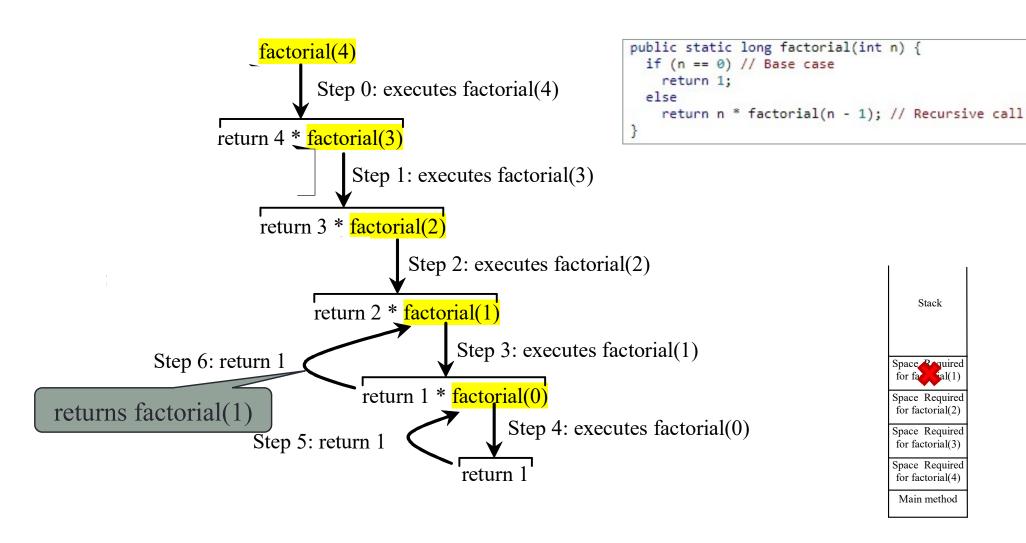
Space Required for factorial(2)
Space Required for factorial(3)
Space Required for factorial(4)
Main method

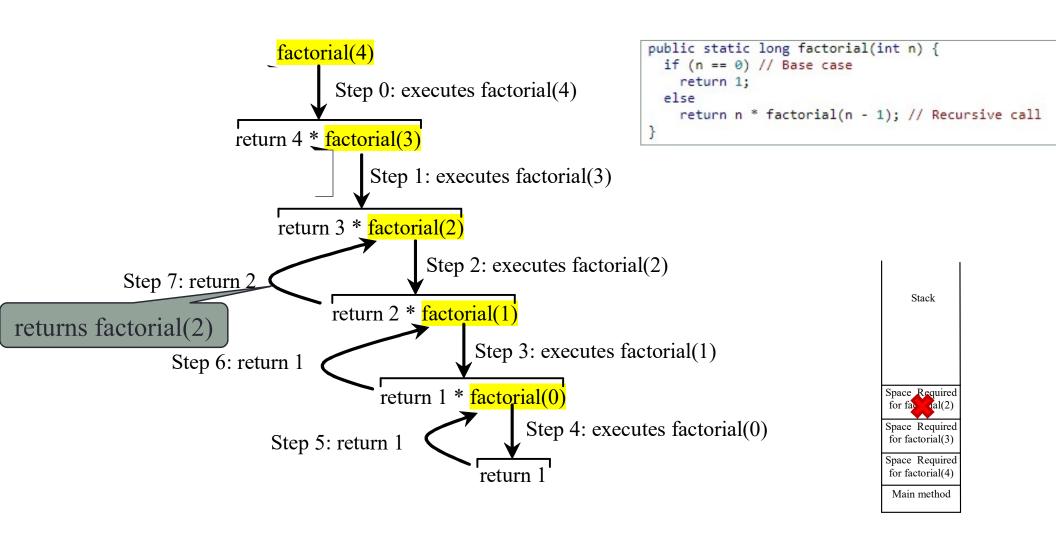


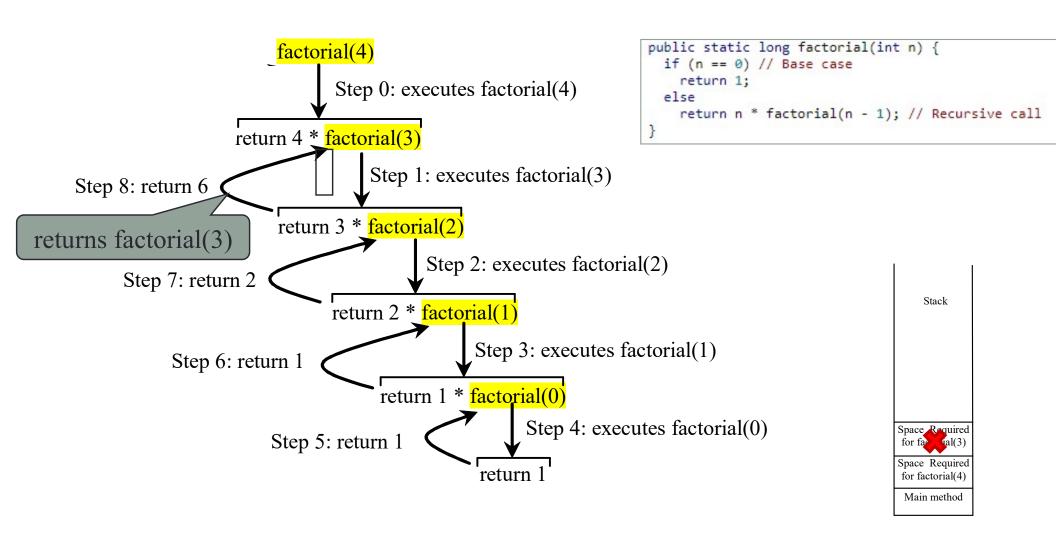


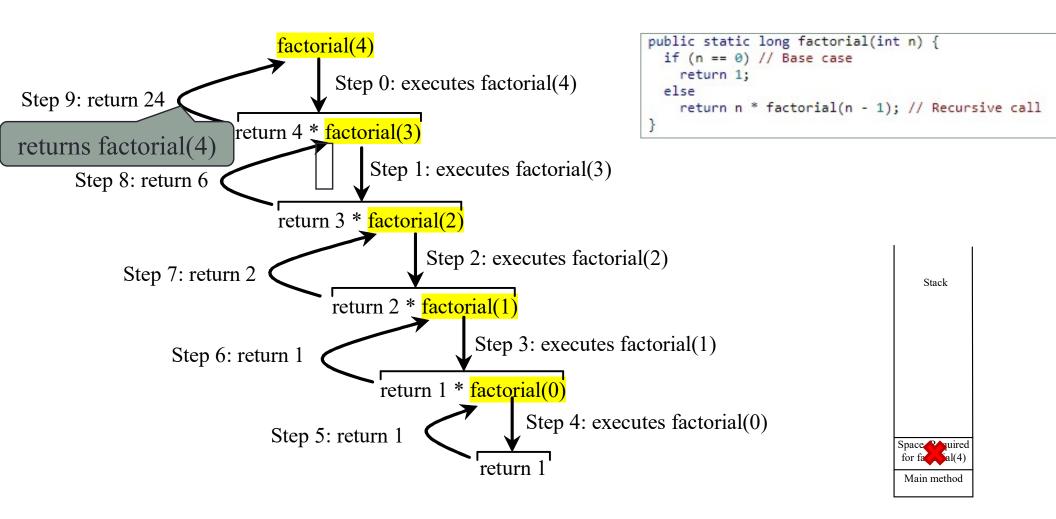




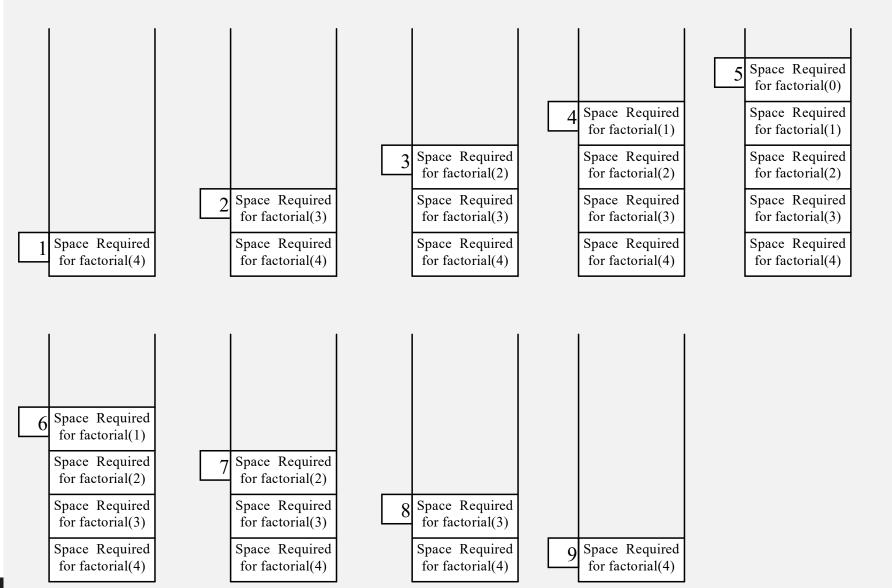








factorial (4) Stack Trace



Practice

- Write two java programs calculating Factorial
 - ✓ One using a loop
 - ✓ Another using recursion.

Fibonacci Numbers

□ Math: fib(0) = 0; fib(1) = 1; fib(index) = fib(index -1) + fib(index -2), index >=2

Fibonacci series: 0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89...
indices: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

□ Function:

$$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 1$$

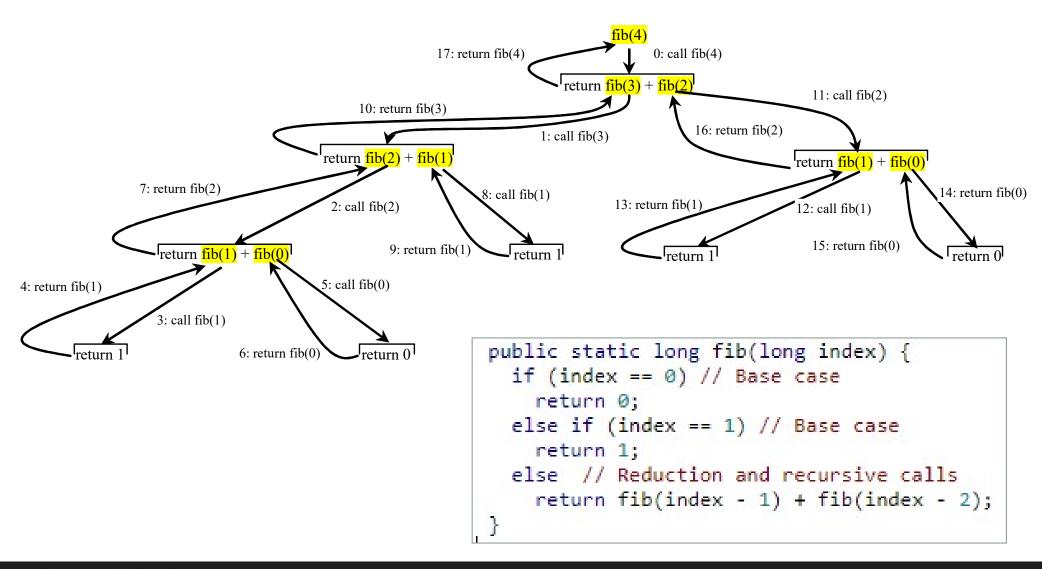
 $f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2);$

```
\checkmark Ex) fib(3) = fib(2) + fib(1)
= (fib(1) + fib(0)) + fib(1)
= (1 + 0) + fib(1)
= 1 + fib(1) = 1 + 1 = 2
```

```
public static long fib(long index) {
  if (index == 0) // Base case
    return 0;
  else if (index == 1) // Base case
    return 1;
  else // Reduction and recursive calls
    return fib(index - 1) + fib(index - 2);
}
```

ComputeFibonacci

Fibonnaci Numbers



Characteristics of Recursion

- One or more base cases (the simplest case) are used to stop recursion.
 - ✓ The method is implemented using a conditional statement that leads to base cases.

Every recursive call reduces the original problem, bringing it increasingly closer to a base case until it becomes that case.

Infinite Recursion

□If 1) recursion does not reduce the problem in a manner that allows it to eventually converge into the base case OR 2) a base case is not specified, infinite recursion can occur

```
Public static long factorial (int n) {
    Return n * factorial(n-1);
}
```

StackOverflowError

Problem Solving Using Recursion

- ■Let us consider a simple problem of printing a message for n times.
 - ✓ The base case for the problem is n==0.
 - √ You can break the problem into 2 sub-problems
 - 1) one is to print the message one time
 - 2) the other is to print the message for n-1 times.
- □ Recursive solution: nPrintln("Welcome", 5);

```
public static void nPrintln(String message, int times) {
   if (times >= 1) {
        System.out.println(message);
        nPrintln(message, times - 1);
   } // The base case is times == 0
}
```

Recursive Palindrome Solution

- ■A string is a palindrome if it is reads the same from the left and from the right ("mom" and "dad")
- □ Recursive solution
 - 1) Check whether the **first** and the **last** character of the string are **equal**
 - 2) Ignore the two end characters & check whether the rest of the substring is a palindrome

```
public static boolean isPalindrome(String s) {
  if (s.length() <= 1) // Base #1
    return true;
  else if (s.charAt(0) != s.charAt(s.length() - 1)) // Base #2
    return false;
  else
    return isPalindrome(s.substring(1, s.length()-1)); }</pre>
```

Recursive Binary Search

□Base case

- 1. If there is a match Base case #1
- 2. When the search is exhausted Base case #2

Potential cases

- 1) If the key is less than the middle element
 - recursively search the key in the first half
- 2) If the key is equal to the middle element, the search ends with a match. Base case #1
- 3) If the key is greater than the middle element
 - recursively search the key in the second half of the array.

Practice

- ■Write two java programs performs Binary Search
 - 1) One using a loop
 - 2) Another using recursion.

Note: You must submit 1) 2 java files and 2) screenshot of test results for both programs.

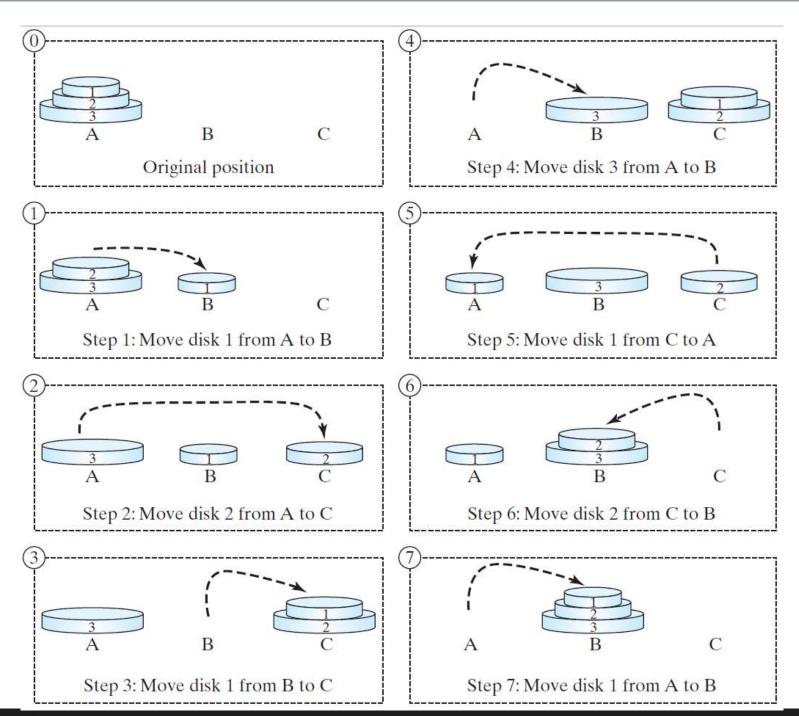
```
public class RecursiveBinarySearch {
     public static int recursiveBinarySearch(int[] list, int key) {
       int low = 0:
       int high = list.length - 1;
       return recursiveBinarySearch(list, key, low, high);
6
8
     private static int recursiveBinarySearch(int[] list, int key,
9
         int low, int high) {
10
        if (low > high) //Base case 2
          return -low - 1;
11
12
13
        int mid = (low + high) / 2;
14
        if (key < list[mid])</pre>
15
          return recursiveBinarySearch(list, key, low, mid - 1);
16
        else if (key == list[mid])
17
          return mid; //Base case 1
18
        else
19
          return recursiveBinarySearch(list, key, mid + 1, high);
20
21
```

Tower of Hanoi

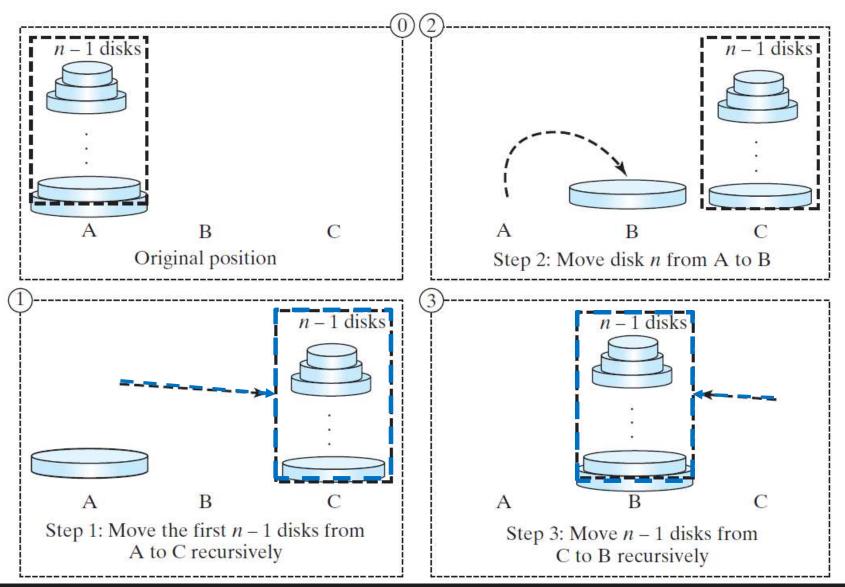


- □ There are *n* disks labeled 1, 2, 3, . . . , *n*, and three towers labeled A (from), B(to), and C(aux).
- Goal is to move all the disks from A to B
- □ 3 Rules
 - 1) No disk can be on **top** of a **smaller** disk at any time.
 - 2) All the disks are initially placed on tower A.
 - Only one disk can be moved at a time, and it must be the top disk on the tower.

Simulation



Recursive Solution to Tower of Hanoi



Solution to Tower of Hanoi

- Base case
 - 1) n ==1
 - You could simply move the disk from A to B
- Subproblems
 - 1) Move the first n 1 disks from A to C with the assistance of tower B.
 - 2) Move disk n from A to B (*Base Case*).
 - Move n 1 disks from C to B with the assistance of tower A.

TowerOfHanoi

```
import java.util.Scanner;
1
 2
    public class TowerOfHanoi {
 5
      public static void main(String[] args) {
        Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
 8
        System.out.print("Enter number of disks:
                                                                     n-1 disks
 9
        int n = input.nextInt();
10
11
        // Find the solution recursively
12
        System.out.println("The moves are:");
                                                                B
13
        moveDisks(n, 'A', 'B', 'C');
                                                         Step 2: Move disk n from A to B
14
15
      /** The method for finding the solution to move n disks
16
17
          from from Tower to to Tower with aux Tower */
18
      public static void moveDisks(int n, char fromTower,
19
          char toTower, char auxTower) {
20
        if (n == 1) // Stopping condition
21
          System.out.println("Move disk " + n + " from " +
22
            fromTower + " to " + toTower);
23
        else {
24
          moveDisks(n - 1, fromTower, auxTower, toTower);
25
          System.out.println("Move disk " + n + " from " +
26
            fromTower + " to " + toTower);
27
          moveDisks(n - 1, auxTower, toTower, fromTower); } } }
```

Recursion VS Iteration

□ Recursion

✓ An alternative form of program control. It is essentially repetition without a loop.

✓ Advantage

 enables you to specify a clear and simple solution for an inherently recursive problem

✓ Disadvantages

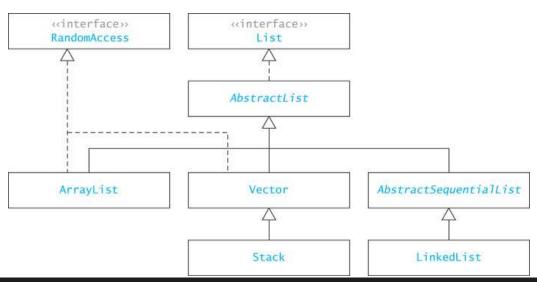
—Uses up too **much time** and too **much memory** (**overhead**).

- ☐ If the **speed** and **resource** efficiency is **critical**, use iteration
- □ However, a problem is inherently recursive and then recursion is good for solving the problem.

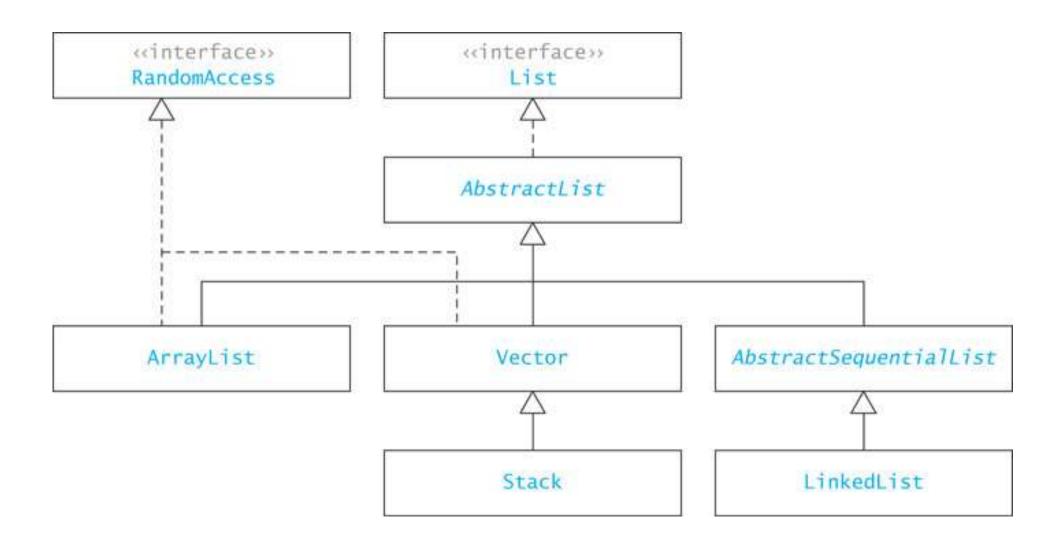
LIST

List

- □ A list is a collection of elements, each with a position or index
- □ Iterators facilitate sequential access to lists
- Classes ArrayList, Vector, and LinkedList are subclasses of abstract class AbstractList and implement the List interface



java.util.List Interface: Its Implementers



List Interface and ArrayList Class

- ☐ An array is an indexed structure
 - elements may be accessed in any order using subscript values
 - elements can be accessed in sequence using a loop that increments the subscript
- ☐ With a Java Array, you cannot
 - increase or decrease its length (length is fixed)
 - add an element at a specified position without shifting elements to make room
 - remove an element at a specified position and keep the elements contiguous without shifting elements to fill in the gap

List Interface and ArrayList Class

- □ Java provides a List interface as part of its API java.util
 - ☐ Methods in the List Interface E is a type parameter

Method	Behavior
E get(int index)	Returns the data in the element at position index
<pre>E set(int index, E anEntry)</pre>	Stores a reference to an Entry in the element at position index. Returns the data formerly at position index
int size()	Gets the current size of the List
boolean add(E anEntry)	Adds a reference to an Entry at the end of the List. Always returns true
<pre>void add(int index, E anEntry)</pre>	Adds a reference to anEntry, inserting it before the item at position index
<pre>int indexOf(E target)</pre>	Searches for target and returns the position of the first occurrence, or -1 if it is not in the List
E remove (int index)	Removes the entry formerly at position index and returns it
static of (E elements)	Creates an unmodifable list of elements. (Useful for testing)

List Interface and ArrayList Class

- □ Unlike the Array data structure, ArrayList classes that implement the List interface cannot store primitive types
 - √ Classes must store values as objects
- □ This requires you to wrap primitive types, such as int and double in object wrappers, in this case, Integer and Double

- ☐ The simplest class that implements the List interface
- □ An improvement over an array object
- Use when:
 - ✓ you will be adding new elements to the end of a list.
 - ✓ you need to access elements quickly in any order

□ To declare a List object whose elements will reference String objects:

```
List<String> myList = new ArrayList<String>();
```

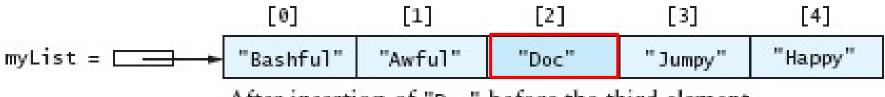
- The initial ArrayList is empty and has a default initial capacity of 10 elements
- □ To add strings to the list,

```
myList.add("Bashful");
myList.add("Awful");
myList.add("Jumpy");
myList.add("Happy");
```

```
[0] [1] [2] [3]
myList = □ → "Bashful" "Awful" "Jumpy" "Happy"
```

□ Adding an element with subscript 2:

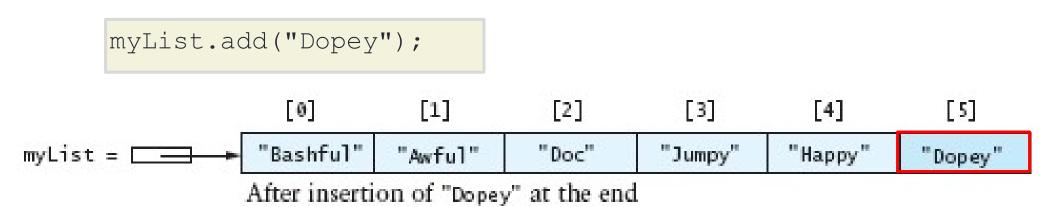
```
myList.add(2, "Doc");
```



After insertion of "Doc" before the third element

□ Notice that the subscripts of "Jumpy" and "Happy" have changed from [2],[3] to [3],[4]

■When no subscript is specified, an element is added at the end of the list:



Removing an element: [3] [1][2] [4] "Bashful" myList = ["Doc" "Jumpy" "Happy" "Awful" "Dopey" myList.remove(1); [1] 2 [3] [4] [0] "Doc" "Happy" myList = ["Bashful" "Jumpy" "Dopey" After removal of "Awful"

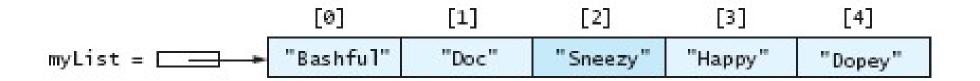
□ The subscripts strings referenced by [2] to [5] have changed to [1] to [4]

■You may also replace an element:



```
myList.set(2, "Sneezy");
```





- ■You cannot access an element using a bracket index as you can with arrays (mylist[1])
- □Instead, you must use the get() method:

```
String dwarf = myList.get(2);
```

☐ The value of dwarf becomes "Sneezy"



☐ You can also search an ArrayList:

```
myList.indexOf("Sneezy");
```

☐ This returns 2 while

```
myList.indexOf("Jumpy");
```

returns -1 which indicates an unsuccessful search

Generic Collections

□ The statements

```
List<String> myList = new ArrayList<String>();
List<Integer> myInts = new ArrayList<>();
var myFamily = new ArrayList<People>();
```

use a language feature called *generic collections* or *generics*

- ☐ The second statement uses the *diamond operator* <> to reduce redundancy
- The third statement uses the keyword var (introduced in Java 10) to simplify declarations when data type can be implied
- □ All 3 statements creates a List of objects of a specified type (String, Integer, or People);
 - only references of the specified type can be stored in the list
- The type parameter sets the data type of all objects stored in a collection

Generic Collections (cont.)

☐ The general **declaration** for generic collection is

```
CollectionClassName<E> variable = new CollectionClassName<>();
```

- □ The <E> indicates a type parameter
- Adding a noncompatible type to a generic collection will generate an error during compile time
- ☐ However, primitive types will be autoboxed:

Why Use Generics?

- Better type-checking: catch more errors, catch them earlier
- Documents intent
- □ Avoids the need to downcast from Object
- □ Can use methods of a generic class to process objects of different types by changing the type parameter for the class

LINKED LIST

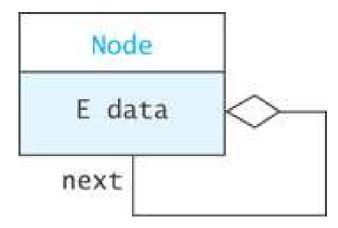
SINGLE-LINKED LISTS

Single-Linked Lists

- □ A linked list is useful for inserting and removing at arbitrary locations
- The ArrayList is limited because its add and remove methods operate in linear (O(n)) time—requiring a loop to shift elements
- □ A linked list can add and remove elements at a known location in O(1) time
- □ In a linked list, instead of an index, each element is linked to the following element

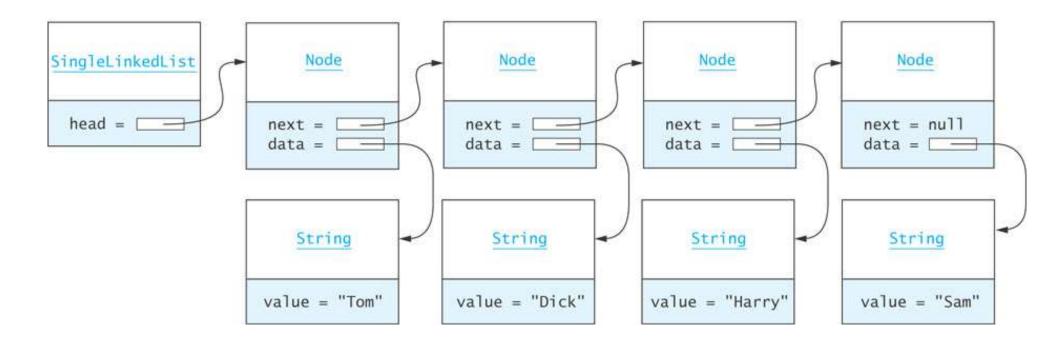
List Node

- □ A node can contain:
 - √ a data item
 - the node contains a data field named data of type E
 - √ one or more links
 - A link is a reference to a list node, the next node, named next



```
private static class Node<E> {
  private E data;
  private Node<E> next;
  /** Creates a new node with a null next field
      @param dataItem The data stored
                                                    Generally, all details of the
  */
                                                   Node class should be private.
  private Node(E data) {
                                                   This applies also to the data
    data = dataItem;
                                                      fields and constructors.
    next = null;
 /** Creates a new node that references another node
      @param dataItem The data stored
      @param nodeRef The node referenced by new node
  * /
  private Node(E dataItem, Node<E> nodeRef) {
    data = dataItem;
    next = nodeRef;
```

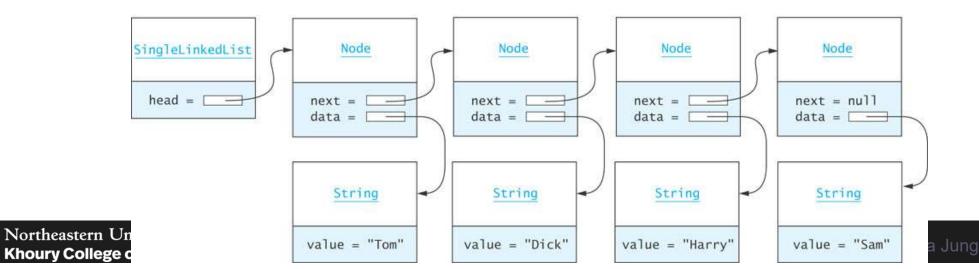
Connecting Nodes in a Single Linked List



Connecting Nodes (cont.)

```
var sLL = new KWSingleLinkedList<String>();
var tom = new Node<String>("Tom");
var dick = new Node<String>("Dick");
var harry = new Node<String>("Harry");
var sam = new Node<String>("Sam");

sLL.head = tom;
tom.next = dick;
dick.next = harry;
harry.next = sam;
```

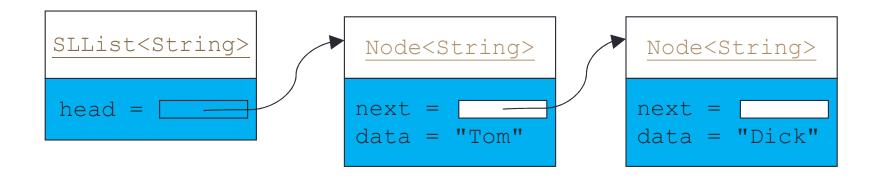


A Single-Linked List Class

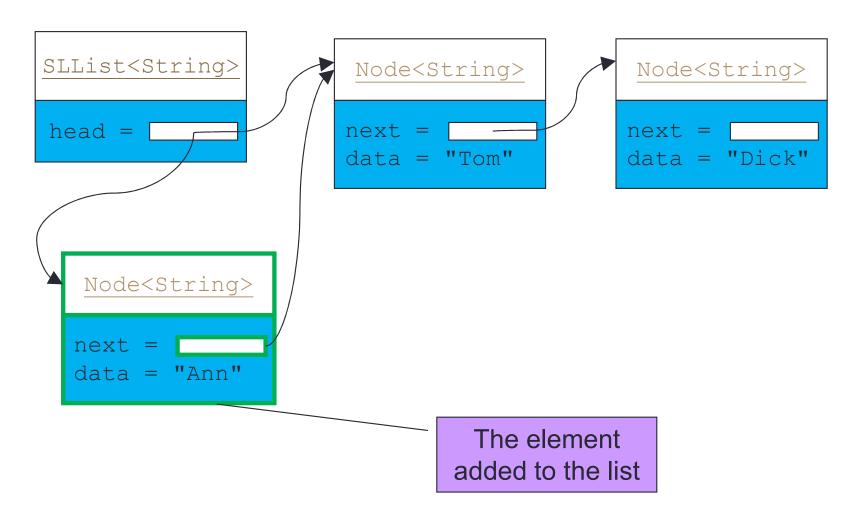
- Generally, we do not have individual references to each node.
- □ A KWSingleLinkedList object has a data field head, the *list head*, which references the first list node

```
public class KWSingleLinkedList<E> {
   private Node<E> head = null;
   private int size = 0;
   ...
}
```

KWSingleLinkedList (= SLList): Example



Implementing addFirst(E)



Implementing addFirst (E) (cont.)

```
private void addFirst (E item) {
  Node<E> temp = new Node<E>(item, head);
  head = temp;
  size++;
```

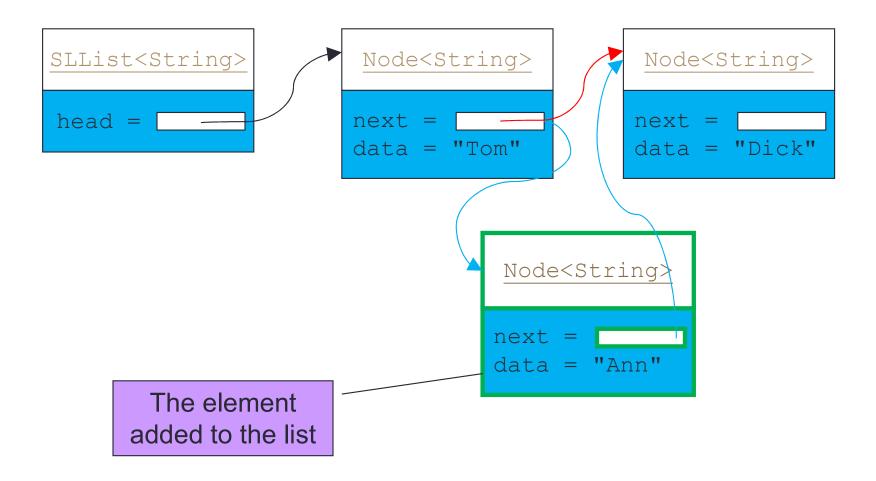
or, more simply ...

```
private void addFirst (E item) {
  head = new Node<E>(item, head);
  size++;
```

O(1)

This works even if head is null.

addAfter(Node<E>, E)



addAfter(Node<E>,E) (cont.)

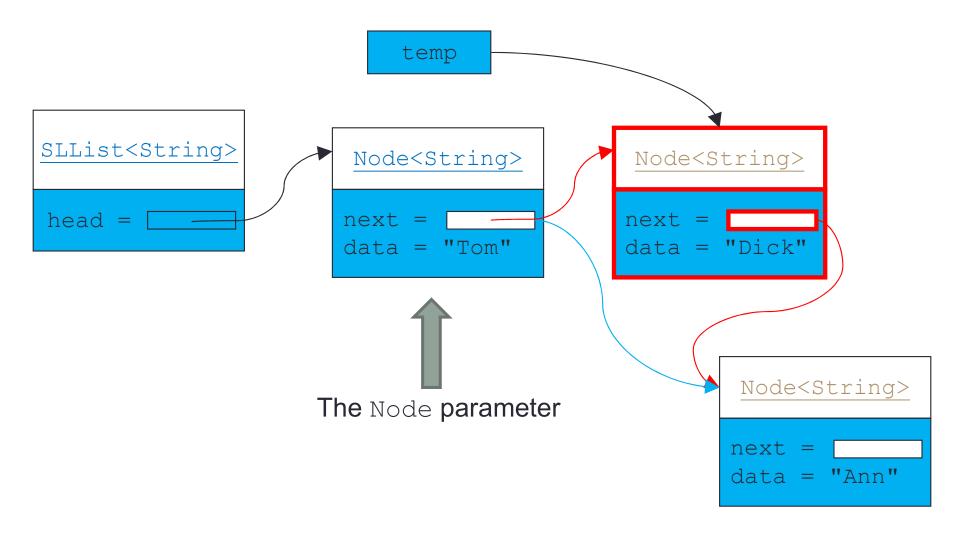
```
private void addAfter (Node<E> node, E item) {
  Node<E> temp = new Node<E>(item, node.next);
  node.next = temp;
  size++;
}
```

or, more simply ...

```
private void addAfter (Node<E> node, E item) {
   node.next = new Node<E>(item, node.next);
   size++;
}
```

We declare this method private since it should not be called from outside the class. Later we will see how this method is used to implement the public add methods

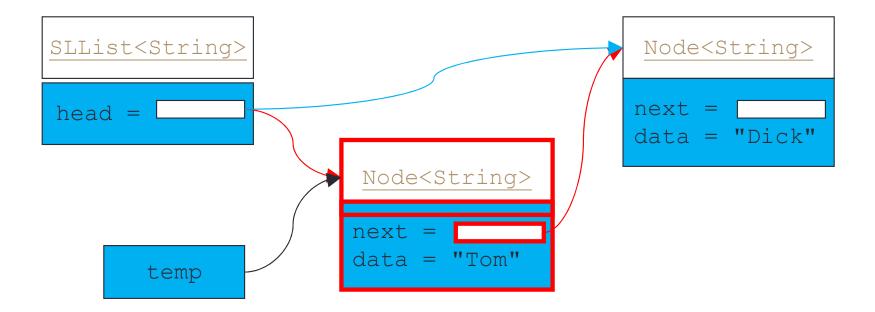
removeAfter (Node<E>)



removeAfter(Node<E>)(cont.)

```
private E removeAfter(Node<E> node) {
  Node<E> temp = node.next;
  if (temp != null) {
     node.next = temp.next;
     size--;
     return temp.data;
  } else {
     return null;
  }
}
```

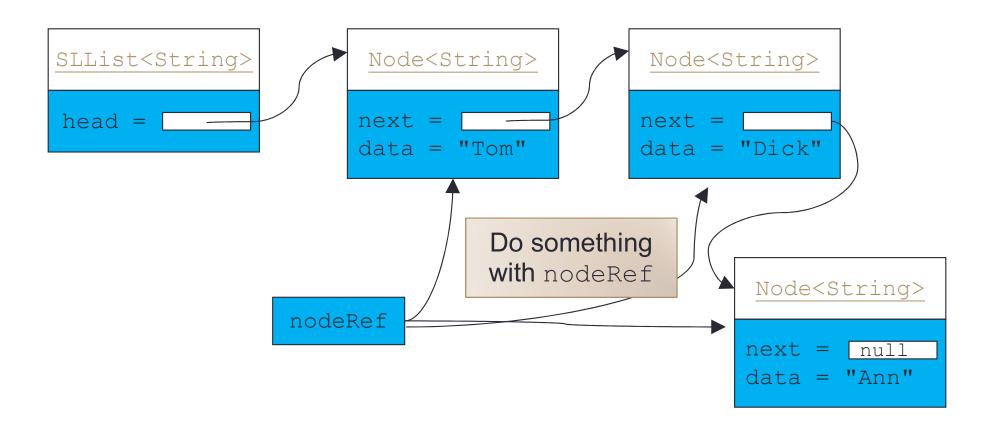
removeFirst()



removeFirst() (cont.)

```
private E removeFirst() {
  Node<E> temp = head;
  if (head != null) {
    head = head.next:
  if (temp != null) {
    size--;
    return temp.data
  } else {
    return temp;
```

Traversing a Single-Linked List



Traversing a Single-Linked List (cont.)

□ toString() can be implemented with a traversal:

```
public String toString() {
  Node<String> nodeRef = head;
  StringBuilder result = new StringBuilder();
  while (nodeRef != null) {
    result.append(nodeRef.data);
    if (nodeRef.next != null) {
      result.append(" ==> ");
    nodeRef = nodeRef.next;
  return result.toString();
```

SLList.getNode(int)

□ In order to implement methods required by the List interface, we need an additional helper method:

```
private Node<E> getNode(int index) {
  Node<E> node = head;

for (int i=0; i<index && node != null; i++) {
    node = node.next;
  }

return node;
}</pre>
```

O(N)

Table 2.5 More Methods of List<E> Interface in KWSingleLinkedList<E>

Method	Behavior
<pre>public E get(int index)</pre>	Returns a reference to the element at position index.
public E set(int index, E anEntry)	Sets the element at position index to reference anEntry. Returns the previous value.
public int size()	Gets the current size of the List.
public boolean add(E anEntry)	Adds a reference to anEntry at the end of the List. Always returns true.
public void add(int index, E anEntry)	Adds a reference to anEntry, inserting it before the item at position index.
int indexOf(E target)	Searches for target and returns the position of the first occurrence, or -1 if it is not in the List.

public E get(int index) O(N)

```
public E get (int index) {
  if (index < 0 || index >= size) {
    throw new IndexOutOfBoundsException(Integer.toString(index));
  }
  Node<E> node = getNode(index);
  return node.data;
}
```

public E set(int index, E newValue)

```
public E set (int index, E newValue) {
  if (index < 0 || index >= size) {
    throw new IndexOutOfBoundsException(Integer.toString(index));
  }
  Node<E> node = getNode(index);
  E result = node.data;
  node.data = newValue;
  return result;
}
```

O(N)

public void add(int index, E item)

```
public void add (int index, E item) {
 if (index < 0 || index > size) {
   throw new
     IndexOutOfBoundsException(Integer.toString(index));
 if (index == 0) {
   addFirst(item);
 } else {
   Node<E> node = getNode(index-1);
   addAfter(node, item);
```

public boolean add(E item)

□ To add an item to the end of the list

```
public boolean add(E item) {
   add(size, item);
   return true;
}
```

O(N)

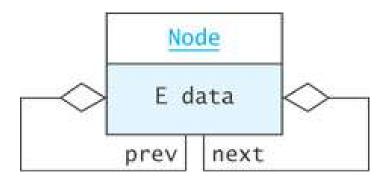
DOUBLE-LINKED LISTS AND CIRCULAR LISTS

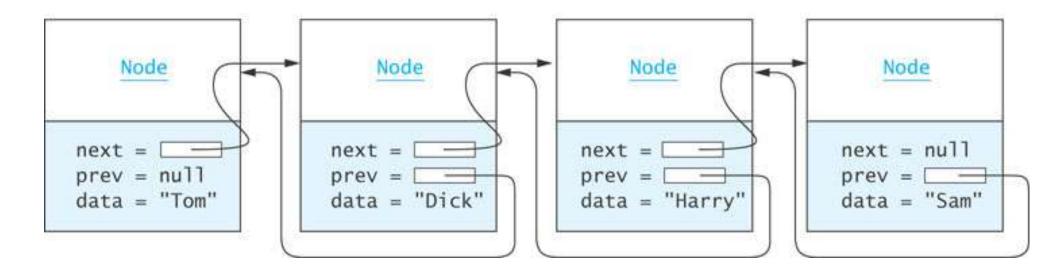
Section 2.6

Double-Linked Lists

- □Limitations of a **singly-linked list** include:
 - Insertion at the front is O(1); insertion at other positions is O(n)
 - Insertion is convenient only after a referenced node
 - Removing a node requires a reference to previous node
 - We can traverse list only in the forward direction
- ■We can overcome these limitations:
 - Add a reference in each node to the previous node, creating a double-linked list

Double-Linked Lists (cont.)

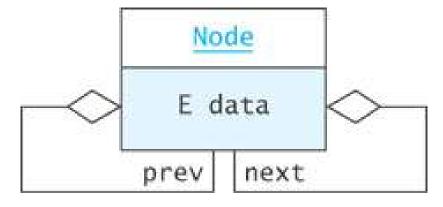




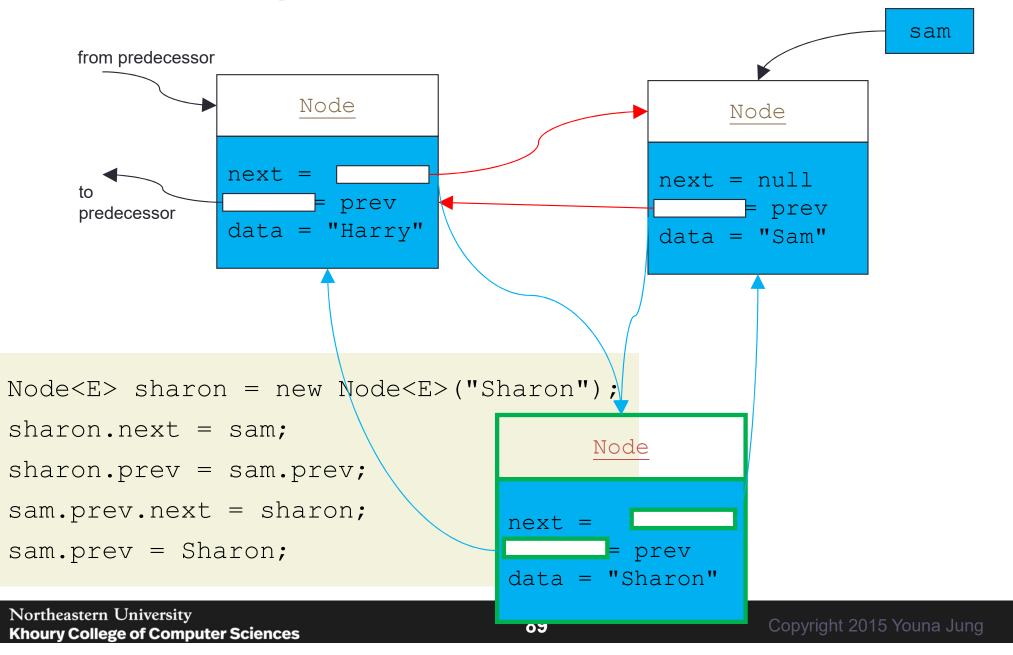
Node<E> Class

```
private static class Node<E> {
   private E data;
   private Node<E> next = null;
   private Node<E> prev = null;

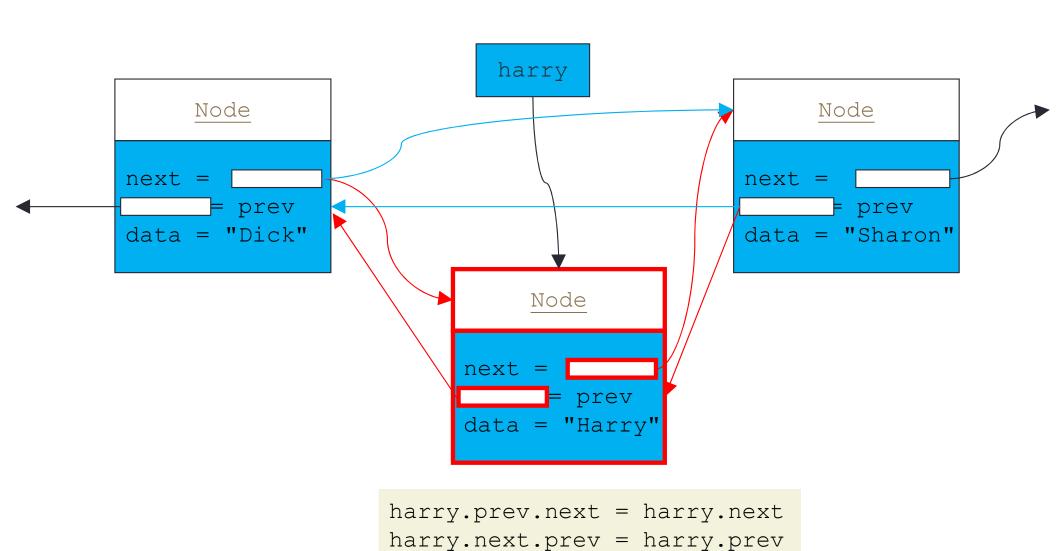
   private Node(E dataItem) {
      data = dataItem;
   }
}
```



Inserting into a Double-Linked List

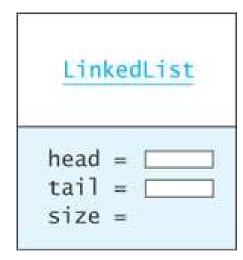


Removing from a Double-Linked List



A Double-Linked Class

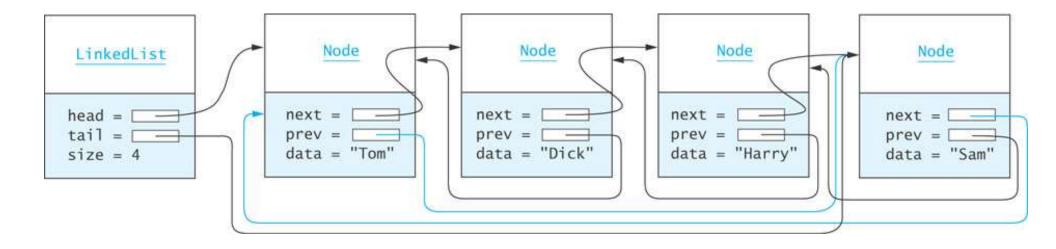
- □ A double-linked list object has data fields:
 - **head** (a reference to the first list Node)
 - tail (a reference to the last list Node)
 - **□** size
- Insertion at either end is O(1); insertion elsewhere is still O(n)



Circular Lists

- □ Circular double-linked list:
 - Link last node to the first node, and
 - Link first node to the last node
- □ We can also build singly-linked circular lists:
 - Traverse in forward direction only
- □ Advantages:
 - Continue to traverse even after passing the first or last node
 - Visit all elements from any starting point
 - Never fall off the end of a list
- □ Disadvantage: Code must avoid an infinite loop!

Circular Lists (cont.)



Methods of Class LinkedList<E>

Method	Behavior
<pre>public void add(int index, E obj)</pre>	Inserts object obj into the list at position index.
public void addFirst(E obj)	Inserts object obj as the first element of the list.
public void addLast(E obj)	Adds object obj to the end of the list.
<pre>public E get(int index)</pre>	Returns the item at position index.
<pre>public E getFirst()</pre>	Gets the first element in the list. Throws NoSuchElementException if the list is empty.
public E getLast()	Gets the last element in the list. Throws NoSuchElementException if the list is empty.
public boolean remove(E obj)	Removes the first occurrence of object obj from the list. Returns true if the list contained object obj; otherwise, returns false.
public int size()	Returns the number of objects contained in the list.