

Data Structure

Introduction

Data Structure can be defined as the group of data elements which provides an efficient way of storing and organizing data in the computer so that it can be used efficiently. Some examples of Data Structures are arrays, Linked List, Stack, Queue, etc. Data Structures are widely used in almost every aspect of Computer Science i.e. Operating System, Compiler Design, Artificial intelligence, Graphics and many more.

Data Structures are the main part of many computer science algorithms as they enable the programmers to handle the data in an efficient way. It plays a vital role in enhancing the performance of a software or a program as the main function of the software is to store and retrieve the user's data as fast as possible.

Basic Terminology

Data structures are the building blocks of any program or the software. Choosing the appropriate data structure for a program is the most difficult task for a programmer. Following terminology is used as far as data structures are concerned.

Data: Data can be defined as an elementary value or the collection of values, for example, student's name and its id are the data about the student.

Group Items: Data items which have subordinate data items are called Group item, for example, name of a student can have first name and the last name.

Record: Record can be defined as the collection of various data items, for example, if we talk about the student entity, then its name, address, course and marks can be grouped together to form the record for the student.

File: A File is a collection of various records of one type of entity, for example, if there are 60 employees in the class, then there will be 20 records in the related file where each record contains the data about each employee.

Attribute and Entity: An entity represents the class of certain objects. it contains various attributes. Each attribute represents the particular property of that entity.

Field: Field is a single elementary unit of information representing the attribute of an entity.

Need of Data Structures

As applications are getting complex and amount of data is increasing day by day, there may arise the following problems:

Processor speed: To handle very large amount of data, high speed processing is required, but as the data is growing day by day to the billions of files per entity, processor may fail to deal with that much amount of data.

Data Search: Consider an inventory size of 106 items in a store, If our application needs to search for a particular item, it needs to traverse 106 items every time, results in slowing down the search process.

Multiple requests: If thousands of users are searching the data simultaneously on a web server, then there are the chances that a very large server can be failed during that process
in order to solve the above problems, data structures are used. Data is organized to form a data structure in such a way that all items are not required to be searched and required data can be searched instantly.

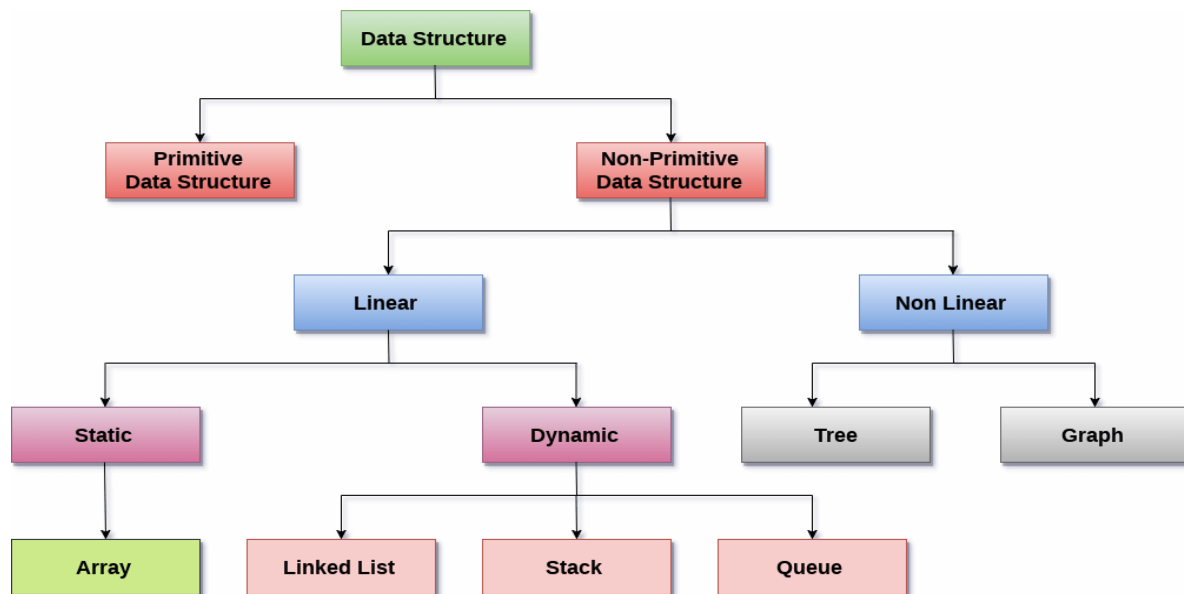
Advantages of Data Structures

Efficiency: Efficiency of a program depends upon the choice of data structures. For example: suppose, we have some data and we need to perform the search for a particular record. In that case, if we organize our data in an array, we will have to search sequentially element by element. hence, using array may not be very efficient here. There are better data structures which can make the search process efficient like ordered array, binary search tree or hash tables.

Reusability: Data structures are reusable, i.e. once we have implemented a particular data structure, we can use it at any other place. Implementation of data structures can be compiled into libraries which can be used by different clients.

Abstraction: Data structure is specified by the ADT which provides a level of abstraction. The client program uses the data structure through interface only, without getting into the implementation details.

Data Structure Classification



Linear Data Structures: A data structure is called linear if all of its elements are arranged in the linear order. In linear data structures, the elements are stored in non-hierarchical way where each element has the successors and predecessors except the first and last element.

Linear Data Structures

If a data structure organizes the data in sequential order, then that data structure is called a Linear DataStructure.

Example

1. Arrays
2. List (Linked List)
3. Stack
4. Queue

Types of Linear Data Structures are given below:

Arrays: An array is a collection of similar type of data items and each data item is called an element of the array. The data type of the element may be any valid data type like char, int, float or double.

The elements of array share the same variable name but each one carries a different index number known as subscript. The array can be one dimensional, two dimensional or multidimensional.

The individual elements of the array age are:

age[0], age[1], age[2], age[3],. . . age[98], age[99].

Linked List: Linked list is a linear data structure which is used to maintain a list in the memory. It can be seen as the collection of nodes stored at non-contiguous memory locations. Each node of the list contains a pointer to its adjacent node.

Stack: Stack is a linear list in which insertion and deletions are allowed only at one end, called **top**.

A stack is an abstract data type (ADT), can be implemented in most of the programming languages. It is named as stack because it behaves like a real-world stack, for example: - piles of plates or deck of cards etc.

Queue: Queue is a linear list in which elements can be inserted only at one end called **rear** and deleted only at the other end called **front**.

It is an abstract data structure, similar to stack. Queue is opened at both end therefore it follows First-In-First-Out (FIFO) methodology for storing the data items.

Non Linear Data Structures:

This data structure does not form a sequence i.e. each item or element is connected with two or more other items in a non-linear arrangement. The data elements are not arranged in sequential structure.

Non - Linear Data Structures

If a data structure organizes the data in random order, then that data structure is called as Non-Linear Data Structure.

Example

1. Tree
2. Graph
3. Dictionaries
4. Heaps
5. Tries, Etc.,

Types of Non Linear Data Structures are given below:

Trees: Trees are multilevel data structures with a hierarchical relationship among its elements known as nodes. The bottommost nodes in the hierarchy are called **leaf node** while the topmost node is called **root node**. Each node contains pointers to point adjacent nodes.

Tree data structure is based on the parent-child relationship among the nodes. Each node in the tree can have more than one children except the leaf nodes whereas each node can have at most one parent except the root node. Trees can be classified into many categories which will be discussed later in this tutorial.

Graphs: Graphs can be defined as the pictorial representation of the set of elements (represented by vertices) connected by the links known as edges. A graph is different from tree in the sense that a graph can have cycle while the tree can not have the one.

Operations on data structure

1) **Traversing:** Every data structure contains the set of data elements. Traversing the data structure means visiting each element of the data structure in order to perform some specific operation like searching or sorting.

Example: If we need to calculate the average of the marks obtained by a student in 6 different subject, we need to traverse the complete array of marks and calculate the total sum, then we will divide that sum by the number of subjects i.e. 6, in order to find the average.

2) **Insertion:** Insertion can be defined as the process of adding the elements to the data structure at any location.

If the size of data structure is **n** then we can only insert **n-1** data elements into it.

3) **Deletion:** The process of removing an element from the data structure is called Deletion. We can delete an element from the data structure at any random location.

If we try to delete an element from an empty data structure then **underflow** occurs.

4) **Searching:** The process of finding the location of an element within the data structure is called Searching. There are two algorithms to perform searching, Linear Search and Binary Search. We will discuss each one of them later in this tutorial.

5) **Sorting:** The process of arranging the data structure in a specific order is known as Sorting. There are many algorithms that can be used to perform sorting, for example, insertion sort, selection sort, bubble sort, etc.

6) **Merging:** When two lists List A and List B of size M and N respectively, of similar type of elements, clubbed or joined to produce the third list, List C of size (M+N), then this process is called merging

Abstract Data Type:

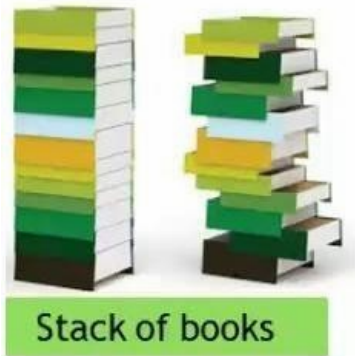
An abstract data type, sometimes abbreviated ADT, is a logical description of how we view the data and the operations that are allowed without regard to how they will be implemented. This means that we are concerned only with what data is representing and not with how it will eventually be constructed. By providing this level of abstraction, we are creating an encapsulation around the data. The idea is that by encapsulating the details of the implementation, we are hiding them from the user's view. This is called information hiding. The implementation of an abstract data type, often referred to as a data structure, will require that we provide a physical view of the data using some collection of programming constructs and primitive data types.

Stack

A Stack is linear data structure. A stack is a list of elements in which an element may be inserted or deleted only at one end, called the **top of the stack**. Stack principle is **LIFO (last in, first out)**. Which element inserted last on to the stack that element deleted first from the stack.

As the items can be added or removed only from the top i.e. the last item to be added to a stack is the first item to be removed.

Real life examples of stacks are:



Operations on stack:

The two basic operations associated with stacks are:

1. Push
2. Pop

While performing push and pop operations the following test must be conducted on the stack.

- a) Stack is empty or not
- b) stack is full or not

1. Push: Push operation is used to add new elements in to the stack. At the time of addition first check the stack is full or not. If the stack is full it generates an error message "stack overflow".

2. Pop: Pop operation is used to delete elements from the stack. At the time of deletion first check the stack is empty or not. If the stack is empty it generates an error message "stack underflow".

All insertions and deletions take place at the same end, so the last element added to the stack will be the first element removed from the stack. When a stack is created, the stack base remains fixed while the stack top changes as elements are added and removed. The most accessible element is the top and the least accessible element is the bottom of the stack.

Representation of Stack (or) Implementation of stack:

The stack should be represented in two ways:

1. Stack using array
2. Stack using linked list

1. Stack using array:

Let us consider a stack with 6 elements capacity. This is called as the size of the stack. The number of elements to be added should not exceed the maximum size of the stack. If we attempt to add new element beyond the maximum size, we will encounter a **stack overflow** condition. Similarly, you cannot remove elements beyond the base of the stack. If such is the case, we will reach a **stack underflow** condition.

1.push():When an element is added to a stack, the operation is performed by push(). Below Figure shows the creation of a stack and addition of elements using push().

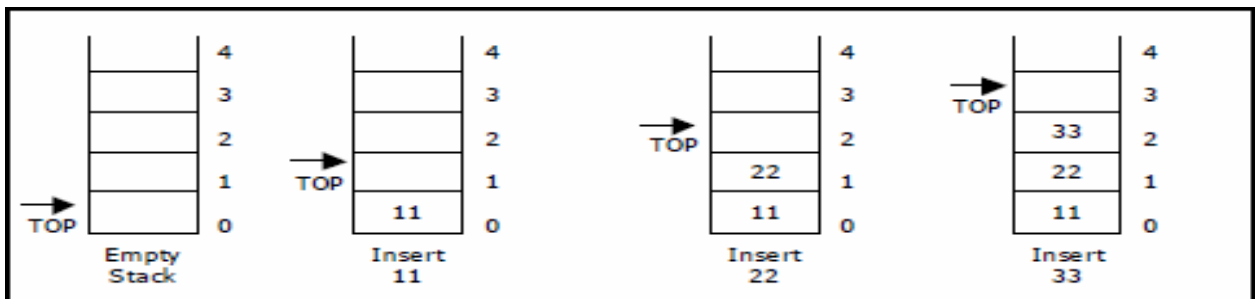


Figure . Push operations on stack

Initially **top=-1**, we can insert an element in to the stack, increment the top value i.e **top=top+1**. We can insert an element in to the stack first check the condition is stack is full or not. i.e **top>=size-1**. Otherwise add the element in to the stack.

Algorithm: Procedure for push():

Step 1: START

Step 2: if **top>=size-1** then

Write "Stack is Overflow"

Step 3: Otherwise

3.1 : read data value 'x'

3.2 : **top=top+1;**

3.3 : **stack[top]=x;**

Step 4: END

2.Pop(): When an element is taken off from the stack, the operation is performed by pop(). Below

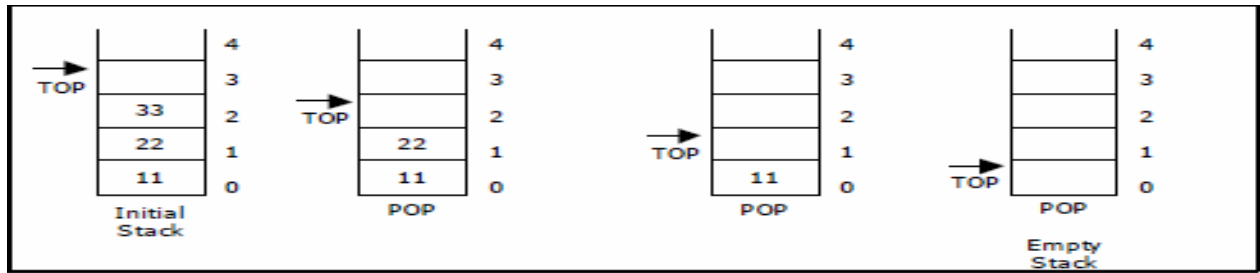


Figure Pop operations on stack

figure shows a stack initially with three elements and shows the deletion of elements using pop().

We can insert an element from the stack, decrement the top value i.e **top=top-1**.

We can delete an element from the stack first check the condition is stack is empty or not.

i.e **top== -1**. Otherwise remove the element from the stack.

Algorithm: procedure pop():

Step 1: START

Step 2: if **top== -1** then

Write "Stack is Underflow"

Step 3: otherwise

3.1 : print "deleted element"

3.2 : **top=top-1**;

Step 4: END

3.display(): This operation performed display the elements in the stack. We display the element in the stack check the condition is stack is empty or not i.e **top== -1**.Otherwise display the list of elements in the stack.



Algorithm: procedure pop():

Step 1: START

Step 2: if **top== -1** then

Write "Stack is Underflow"

Step 3: otherwise

3.1 : print "Display elements are"

3.2 : for top to 0

Print 'stack[i]'

Step 4: END

Applications of STACK:

Application of Stack :

- Recursive Function.
- Expression Evaluation.
- Expression Conversion.
 - Infix to postfix
 - Infix to prefix
 - Postfix to infix
 - Postfix to prefix
 - Prefix to infix
 - Prefix to postfix
- Reverse a Data
- Processing Function Calls

Expressions:

- An expression is a collection of operators and operands that represents a specific value.
- Operator is a symbol which performs a particular task like arithmetic operation or logical operation or conditional operation etc.,
- Operands are the values on which the operators can perform the task. Here operand can be a direct value or variable or address of memory location

Expression types:

Based on the operator position, expressions are divided into THREE types. They are as follows.

- **Infix Expression**
 - In infix expression, operator is used in between operands.
 - Syntax : operand1 operator operand2
 - Example



- **Postfix Expression**

- In postfix expression, operator is used after operands. We can say that "Operator follows the Operands".
- Syntax : operand1 operand2 operator
- Example:



- **Prefix Expression**




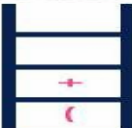
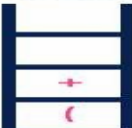








- In prefix expression, operator is used before operands. We can say that "Operands follows the Operator".
- Syntax : operator operand1 operand2
- Example:



Infix to postfix conversion using stack:

- Procedure to convert from infix expression to postfix expression is as follows:
- Scan the infix expression from left to right.
- If the scanned symbol is left parenthesis, push it onto the stack.
- If the scanned symbol is an operand, then place directly in the postfix expression (output).
- If the symbol scanned is a right parenthesis, then go on popping all the items from the stack and place them in the postfix expression till we get the matching left parenthesis.
- If the scanned symbol is an operator, then go on removing all the operators from the stack and place them in the postfix expression, if and only if the precedence of the operator which is on the top of the stack is greater than (or greater than or equal) to the precedence of the scanned operator and push the scanned operator onto the stack otherwise, push the scanned operator onto the stack.

Example-1

Reading Character	STACK	Postfix Expression
Initially	Stack is EMPTY 	EMPTY
(Push '(' 	EMPTY
A	No operation Since 'A' is OPERAND 	A
+	'+' has low priority than '(' so, PUSH '+' 	A
B	No operation Since 'B' is OPERAND 	A B
)	POP all elements till we reach '(' POP '+' POP '(' 	A B +
*	Stack is EMPTY & '*' is Operator PUSH '*' 	A B +
(PUSH '(' 	A B +
C	No operation Since 'C' is OPERAND 	A B + C
-	'-' has low priority than '(' so, PUSH '-' 	A B + C
D	No operation Since 'D' is OPERAND 	A B + C D
)	POP all elements till we reach '(' POP '-' POP '(' 	A B + C D -
\$	POP all elements till Stack becomes Empty 	A B + C D - *

A B + C D - *

Example2:

Convert $((A - (B + C)) * D) \uparrow (E + F)$ infix expression to postfix form:

SYMBOL	POSTFIX STRING	STACK	REMARKS
((
(((
A	A	((
-	A	((-	
(A	((- (
B	A B	((- (
+	A B	((- (+	
C	A B C	((- (+	
)	A B C +	((-	
)	A B C + -	(
*	A B C + -	(*	
D	A B C + - D	(*	
)	A B C + - D *		
↑	A B C + - D *	↑	
(A B C + - D *	↑ (
E	A B C + - D * E	↑ (
+	A B C + - D * E	↑ (+	
F	A B C + - D * E F	↑ (+	
)	A B C + - D * E F +	↑	
End of string	A B C + - D * E F + ↑	The input is now empty. Pop the output symbols from the stack until it is empty.	

Example3

Convert $a + b * c + (d * e + f) * g$ the infix expression into postfix form.

SYMBOL	POSTFIX STRING	STACK	REMARKS
a	a		
+	a	+	
b	a b	+	
*	a b	+ *	
c	a b c	+ *	
+	a b c * +	+	

(a b c * +	+ (
d	a b c * + d	+ (
*	a b c * + d	+ (*	
e	a b c * + d e	+ (*	
+	a b c * + d e *	+ (+	
f	a b c * + d e * f	+ (+	
)	a b c * + d e * f +	+	
*	a b c * + d e * f +	+ *	
g	a b c * + d e * f + g	+ *	
End of string	a b c * + d e * f + g * +	The input is now empty. Pop the output symbols from the stack until it is empty.	

Example 3:

Convert the following infix expression $A + B * C - D / E * H$ into its equivalent postfix expression.

SYMBOL	POSTFIX STRING	STACK	REMARKS
A	A		
+	A	+	
B	A B	+	
*	A B	+ *	
C	A B C	+ *	
-	A B C * +	-	
D	A B C * + D	-	
/	A B C * + D	- /	
E	A B C * + D E	- /	
*	A B C * + D E /	- *	
H	A B C * + D E / H	- *	
End of string	A B C * + D E / H * -	The input is now empty. Pop the output symbols from the stack until it is empty.	

Example 4:

Convert the following infix expression $A + (B * C - (D / E \uparrow F) * G) * H$ into its equivalent postfix expression.

SYMBOL	POSTFIX STRING	STACK	REMARKS
A	A		
+	A	+	
(A	+(
B	A B	+(
*	A B	+(*	
C	A B C	+(*	
-	A B C *	+(-	
(A B C *	+(- (
D	A B C * D	+(- (
/	A B C * D	+(- (/	
E	A B C * D E	+(- (/	
↑	A B C * D E	+(- (/ ↑	
F	A B C * D E F	+(- (/ ↑	
)	A B C * D E F ↑ /	+(-	
*	A B C * D E F ↑ /	+(- *	
G	A B C * D E F ↑ / G	+(- *	
)	A B C * D E F ↑ / G * -	+	
*	A B C * D E F ↑ / G * -	+ *	
H	A B C * D E F ↑ / G * - H	+ *	
End of string	A B C * D E F ↑ / G * - H * +	The input is now empty. Pop the output symbols from the stack until it is empty.	

Evaluation of postfix expression:

- The postfix expression is evaluated easily by the use of a stack.
- When a number is seen, it is pushed onto the stack;
- when an operator is seen, the operator is applied to the two numbers that are popped from the stack and the result is pushed onto the stack.
- When an expression is given in postfix notation, there is no need to know any precedence rules.

Example 1:

Evaluate the postfix expression: 6 5 2 3 + 8 * + 3 + *










SYMBOL	OPERAND 1	OPERAND 2	VALUE	STACK	REMARKS
6				6	
5				6, 5	
2				6, 5, 2	
3				6, 5, 2, 3	The first four symbols are placed on the stack.
+	2	3	5	6, 5, 5	Next a '+' is read, so 3 and 2 are popped from the stack and their sum 5, is pushed
8	2	3	5	6, 5, 5, 8	Next 8 is pushed
*	5	8	40	6, 5, 40	Now a '*' is seen, so 8 and 5 are popped as $8 * 5 = 40$ is pushed
+	5	40	45	6, 45	Next, a '+' is seen, so 40 and 5 are popped and $40 + 5 = 45$ is pushed
3	5	40	45	6, 45, 3	Now, 3 is pushed
+	45	3	48	6, 48	Next, '+' pops 3 and 45 and pushes $45 + 3 = 48$ is pushed
*	6	48	288	288	Finally, a '*' is seen and 48 and 6 are popped, the result $6 * 48 = 288$ is pushed

Example2

Infix Expression $(5 + 3) * (8 - 2)$

Postfix Expression $5\ 3\ +\ 8\ 2\ -\ *$

Above Postfix Expression can be evaluated by using Stack Data Structure as follows...

Reading Symbol	Stack Operations	Evaluated Part of Expression
Initially	Stack is Empty 	Nothing
5	push(5) 	Nothing
3	push(3) 	Nothing
+	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{result} = \text{value2} + \text{value1}$ $\text{push}(\text{result})$ 	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}; // 3$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}; // 5$ $\text{result} = 5 + 3; // 8$ $\text{Push}(8)$ $(5 + 3)$
8	push(8) 	$(5 + 3)$
2	push(2) 	$(5 + 3)$
-	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{result} = \text{value2} - \text{value1}$ $\text{push}(\text{result})$ 	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}; // 2$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}; // 8$ $\text{result} = 8 - 2; // 6$ $\text{Push}(6)$ $(8 - 2)$ $(5 + 3), (8 - 2)$
*	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}$ $\text{result} = \text{value2} * \text{value1}$ $\text{push}(\text{result})$ 	$\text{value1} = \text{pop()}; // 6$ $\text{value2} = \text{pop()}; // 8$ $\text{result} = 8 * 6; // 48$ $\text{Push}(48)$ $(6 * 8)$ $(5 + 3) * (8 - 2)$
\$ End of Expression	$\text{result} = \text{pop()}$ 	Display (result) 48 As final result

Infix Expression $(5 + 3) * (8 - 2) = 48$

Postfix Expression $5\ 3\ +\ 8\ 2\ -\ *$ value is **48**

Example 3:

Evaluate the following postfix expression: 6 2 3 + - 3 8 2 / + * 2 ↑ 3 +

SYMBOL	OPERAND 1	OPERAND 2	VALUE	STACK
6				6
2				6, 2
3				6, 2, 3
+	2	3	5	6, 5
-	6	5	1	1
3	6	5	1	1, 3
8	6	5	1	1, 3, 8
2	6	5	1	1, 3, 8, 2
/	8	2	4	1, 3, 4
+	3	4	7	1, 7
*	1	7	7	7
2	1	7	7	7, 2
↑	7	2	49	49
3	7	2	49	49, 3
+	49	3	52	52

QUEUE

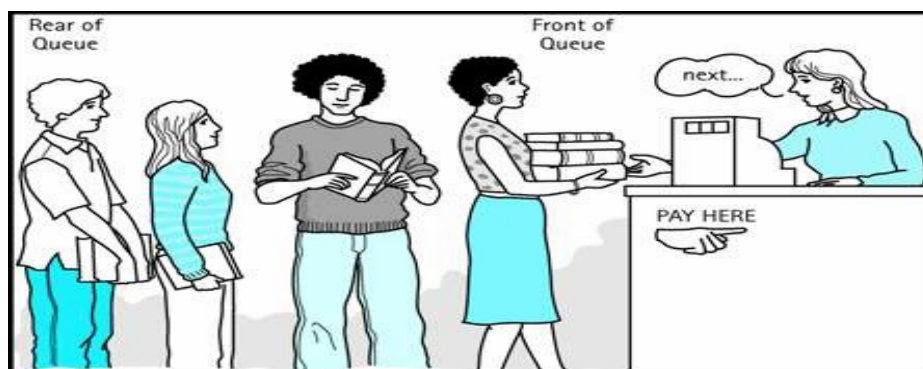
A queue is linear data structure and collection of elements. A queue is another special kind of list, where items are inserted at one end called the rear and deleted at the other end called the front. The principle of queue is a “FIFO” or “First-in-first-out”.

Queue is an abstract data structure. A queue is a useful data structure in programming. It is similar to the ticket queue outside a cinema hall, where the first person entering the queue is the first person who gets the ticket.

A real-world example of queue can be a single-lane one-way road, where the vehicle enters first, exits first.



More real-world examples can be seen as queues at the ticket windows and bus-stops and our college library.



The operations for a queue are analogues to those for a stack; the difference is that the insertions go at the end of the list, rather than the beginning.

Operations on QUEUE:

A queue is an object or more specifically an abstract data structure (ADT) that allows the following operations:

- **Enqueue or insertion:** which inserts an element at the end of the queue.
- **Dequeue or deletion:** which deletes an element at the start of the queue.

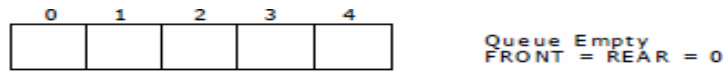
Representation of Queue (or) Implementation of Queue:

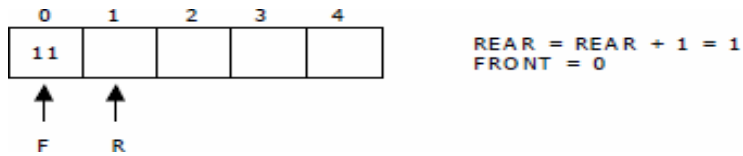
The queue can be represented in two ways:

1. Queue using Array
2. Queue using Linked List

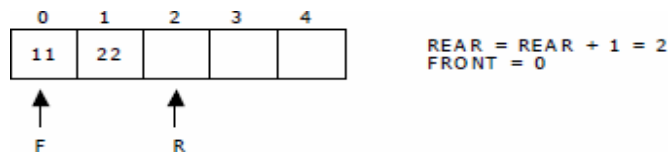
1.Queue using Array:

Let us consider a queue, which can hold maximum of five elements. Initially the queue is empty.
Now, insert 11 to the queue. Then queue status will be:

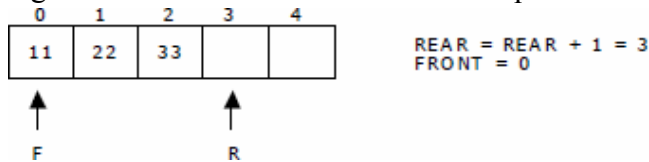




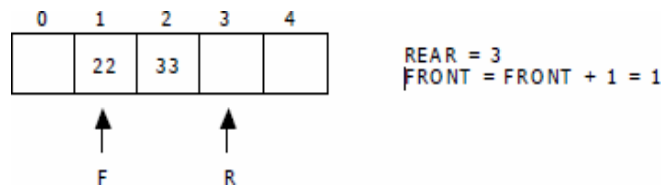
Next, insert 22 to the queue. Then the queue status is:



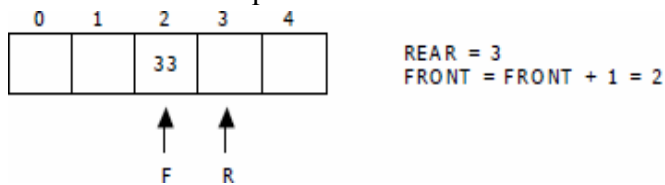
Again insert another element 33 to the queue. The status of the queue is:



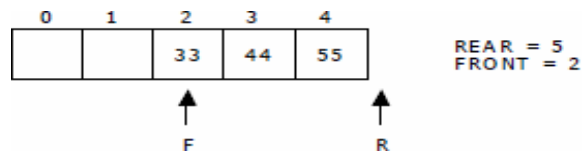
Now, delete an element. The element deleted is the element at the front of the queue. So the status of the queue is:



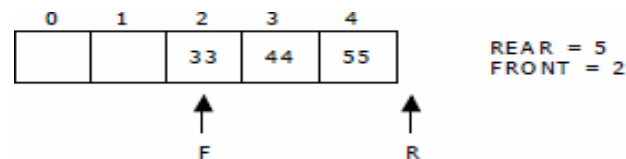
Again, delete an element. The element to be deleted is always pointed to by the FRONT pointer. So, 22 is deleted. The queue status is as follows:



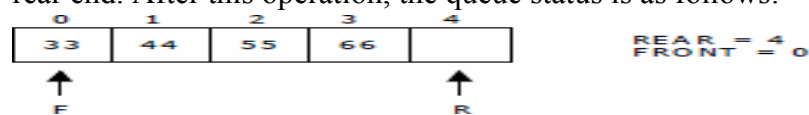
Now, insert new elements 44 and 55 into the queue. The queue status is:



Next insert another element, say 66 to the queue. We cannot insert 66 to the queue as the rear crossed the maximum size of the queue (i.e., 5). There will be queue full signal. The queue status is as follows:



Now it is not possible to insert an element 66 even though there are two vacant positions in the linear queue. To overcome this problem the elements of the queue are to be shifted towards the beginning of the queue so that it creates vacant position at the rear end. Then the FRONT and REAR are to be adjusted properly. The element 66 can be inserted at the rear end. After this operation, the queue status is as follows:



This difficulty can overcome if we treat queue position with index 0 as a position that comes after position with index 4 i.e., we treat the queue as a **circular queue**.

Algorithm to insert any element in a queue

Check if the queue is already full by comparing rear to max - 1. if so, then return an overflow error

If the item is to be inserted as the first element in the list, in that case set the value of front and rear to 0 and insert the element at the rear end.

Otherwise keep increasing the value of rear and insert each element one by one having rear as the index.

Algorithm

- **Step 1:** IF REAR = MAX - 1
Write OVERFLOW
Go to step
[END OF IF]
- **Step 2:** IF FRONT = -1 and REAR = -1
SET FRONT = REAR = 0
ELSE
SET REAR = REAR + 1
[END OF IF]
- **Step 3:** Set QUEUE[REAR] = NUM
- **Step 4:** EXIT

Algorithm to delete an element from the queue

If, the value of front is -1 or value of front is greater than rear , write an underflow message and exit.

Otherwise, keep increasing the value of front and return the item stored at the front end of the queue at each time.

Algorithm

- **Step 1:** IF FRONT = -1 or FRONT > REAR
Write UNDERFLOW
ELSE
SET VAL = QUEUE[FRONT]
SET FRONT = FRONT + 1
[END OF IF]
- **Step 2:** EXIT

display() - Displays the elements of a Queue

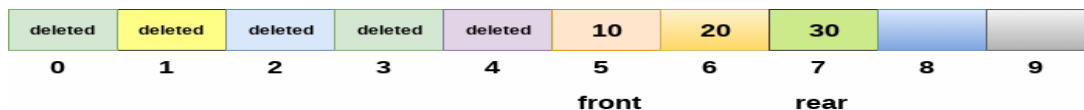
We can use the following steps to display the elements of a queue...

- **Step 1** - Check whether **queue** is **EMPTY**.
- **Step 2** - If it is **EMPTY**, then display "**Queue is EMPTY!!!**" and terminate the function.
- **Step 3** - If it is **NOT EMPTY**, then define an integer variable '**i**' and set '**i = front**'.
- **Step 4** - Display '**queue[i]**' value and increment '**i**' value by one (**i++**). Repeat the same until '**i**' value reaches to **rear** (**i <= rear**)

Drawback of array implementation of Queue

Although, the technique of creating a queue is easy, but there are some drawbacks of using this technique to implement a queue.

- **Memory wastage** : The space of the array, which is used to store queue elements, can never be reused to store the elements of that queue because the elements can only be inserted at front end and the value of front might be so high so that, all the space before that, can never be filled.



Limitation of array representation of queue

The above figure shows how the memory space is wasted in the array representation of queue. In the above figure, a queue of size 10 having 3 elements, is shown. The value of the front variable is 5, therefore, we can not reinsert the values in the place of already deleted element before the position of front. That much space of the array is wasted and can not be used in the future (for this queue).

- **Deciding the array size**

One of the most common problem with array implementation is the size of the array which requires to be declared in advance. Due to the fact that, the queue can be extended at runtime depending upon the problem, the extension in the array size is a time taking process and almost impossible to be performed at runtime since a lot of reallocations take place. Due to this reason, we can declare the array large enough so that we can store queue elements as enough as possible but the main problem with this declaration is that, most of the array slots (nearly half) can never be reused. It will again lead to memory wastage.

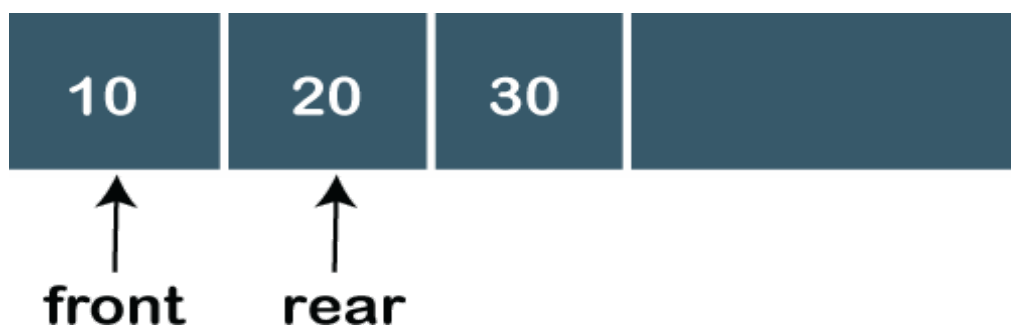
Types of Queues

There are four types of Queues:

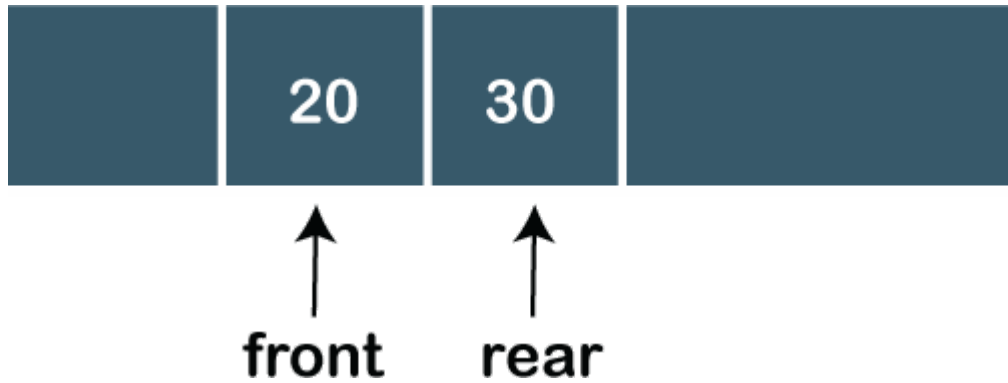
1. Linear Queue
2. Circular Queue
3. Priority Queue
4. Deque

1. Linear Queue

In Linear Queue, an insertion takes place from one end while the deletion occurs from another end. The end at which the deletion takes place is called the front and the end at which the insertion takes place is called the rear. The Linear Queue can be represented, as shown in the following figure:



The above figure shows that the elements are inserted from the rear end, and if we insert more elements in a Queue, then the rear value gets incremented on every insertion. If we want to show the deletion, then it can be represented as:

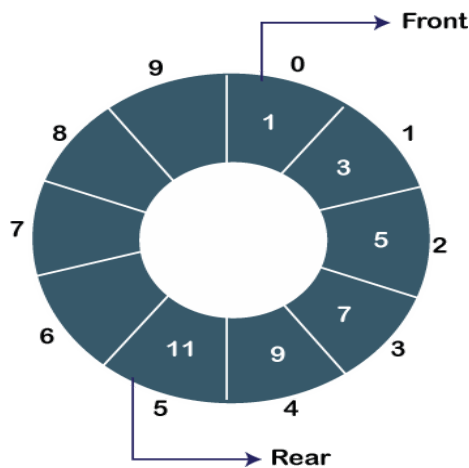


In the above figure, we can observe that the front pointer points to the next element, and the element which was previously pointed by the front pointer was deleted.

The major drawback of using a linear Queue is that insertion is done only from the rear end. If the first three elements are deleted from the Queue, we cannot insert more elements even though the space is available in a Linear Queue. In this case, the linear Queue shows the overflow condition as the rear is pointing to the last element of the Queue.

2. Circular Queue

In Circular Queue, all the nodes are represented as circular. It is similar to the linear Queue except that the last element of the queue is connected to the first element. It is also known as Ring Buffer as all the ends are connected to another end. The circular queue can be represented as:



The drawback that occurs in a linear queue is overcome by using the circular queue. If the empty space is available in a circular queue, the new element can be added in an empty space by simply incrementing the value of rear.

3. Priority Queue

A priority queue is another special type of Queue data structure in which each element has some priority associated with it. Based on the priority of the element, the elements are arranged in a priority queue. If the elements occur with the same priority, then they are served according to the FIFO principle.

In priority Queue, the insertion takes place based on the arrival while the deletion occurs based on the priority. The priority Queue can be shown as ,The above figure shows that the highest priority element comes first and the elements of the same priority are arranged based on FIFO structure.

4. Deque

Both the Linear Queue and Deque are different as the linear queue follows the FIFO principle whereas, deque does not follow the FIFO principle. In Deque, the insertion and deletion can occur from both ends.