Engineering Queuing Solutions



Zoran Horvat
CEO at Coding Helmet

@zoranh75 https://codinghelmet.com



Introducing Queues and Stacks

Queue<T>

Exposes Enqueue() and Dequeue()

Operates in O(1) time and space per item

A.k.a. FIFO (first-in, first-out)

FIFO problems are comparatively rare

Often used as temporary storage

Queues are common in multithreading

Decouple producers from processors

Stack<T>

Exposes Push() and Pop()

Operates in O(1) time and space per item

A.k.a. LIFO (last-in, first-out)

LIFO problems are rare indeed

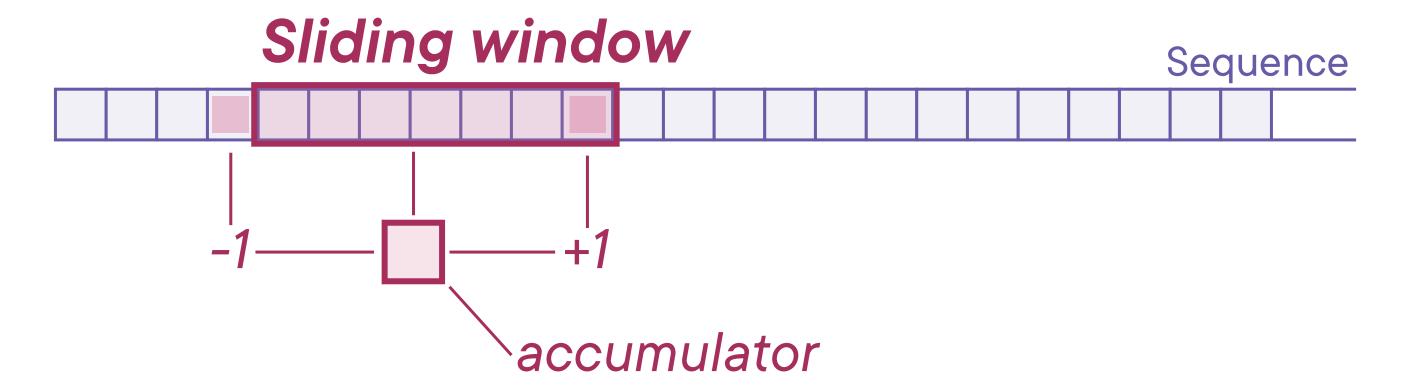
Often used as temporary storage



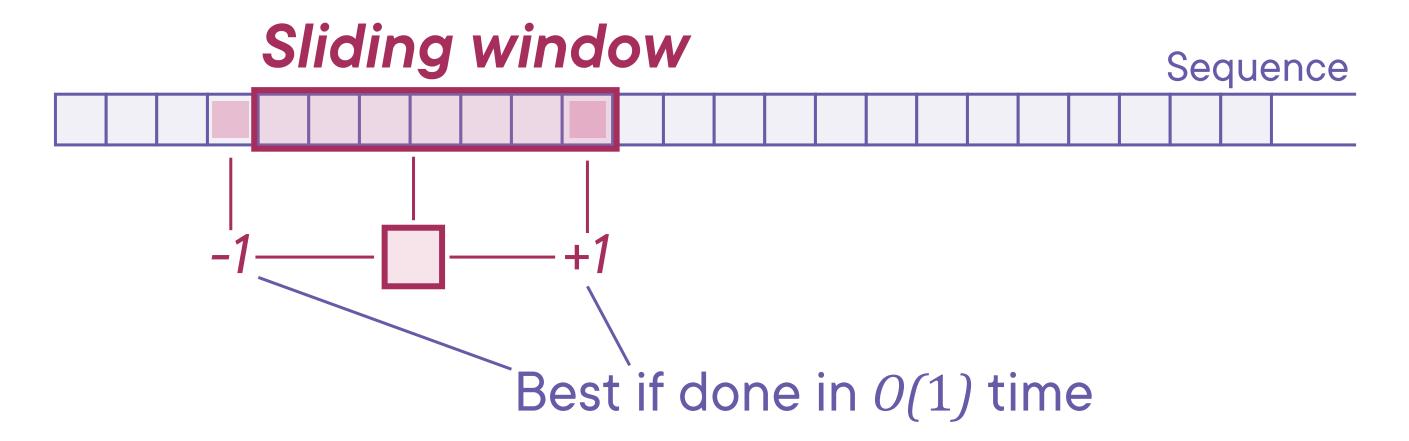
Introducing the Sliding Window Technique

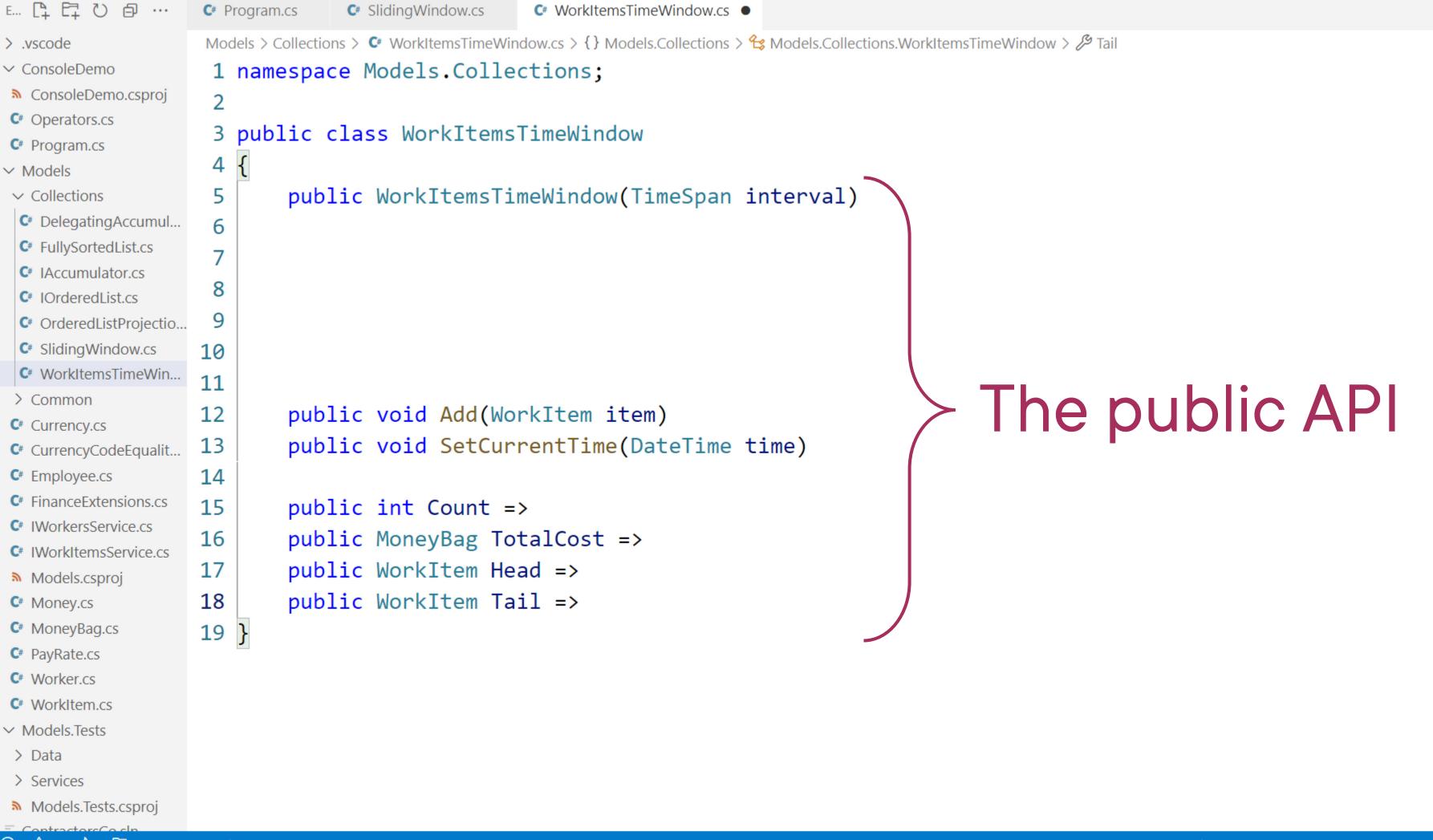


Introducing the Sliding Window Technique



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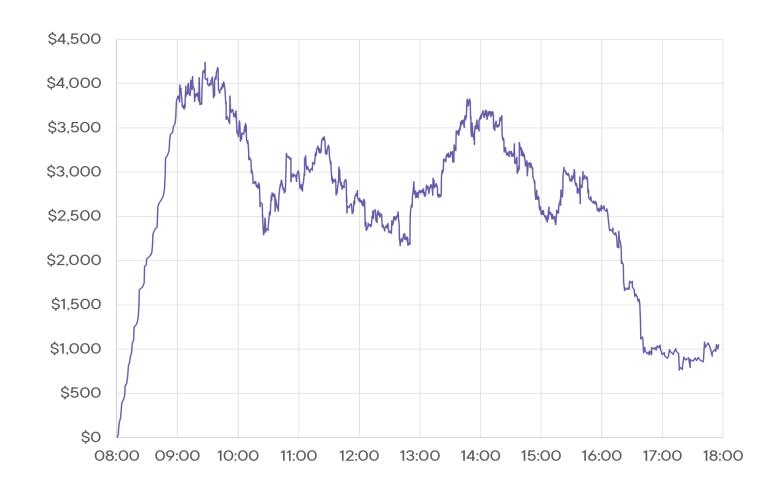












Customer's request:

At any moment, display the highest cost of any work item assigned during the last hour

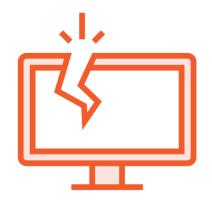


Analyzing the Request



We have the working sliding window algorithm

- We shall apply it to solve the maximum problem



There is no such accumulator that can quickly report a maximum

- When current maximum is removed, we do not know its successor

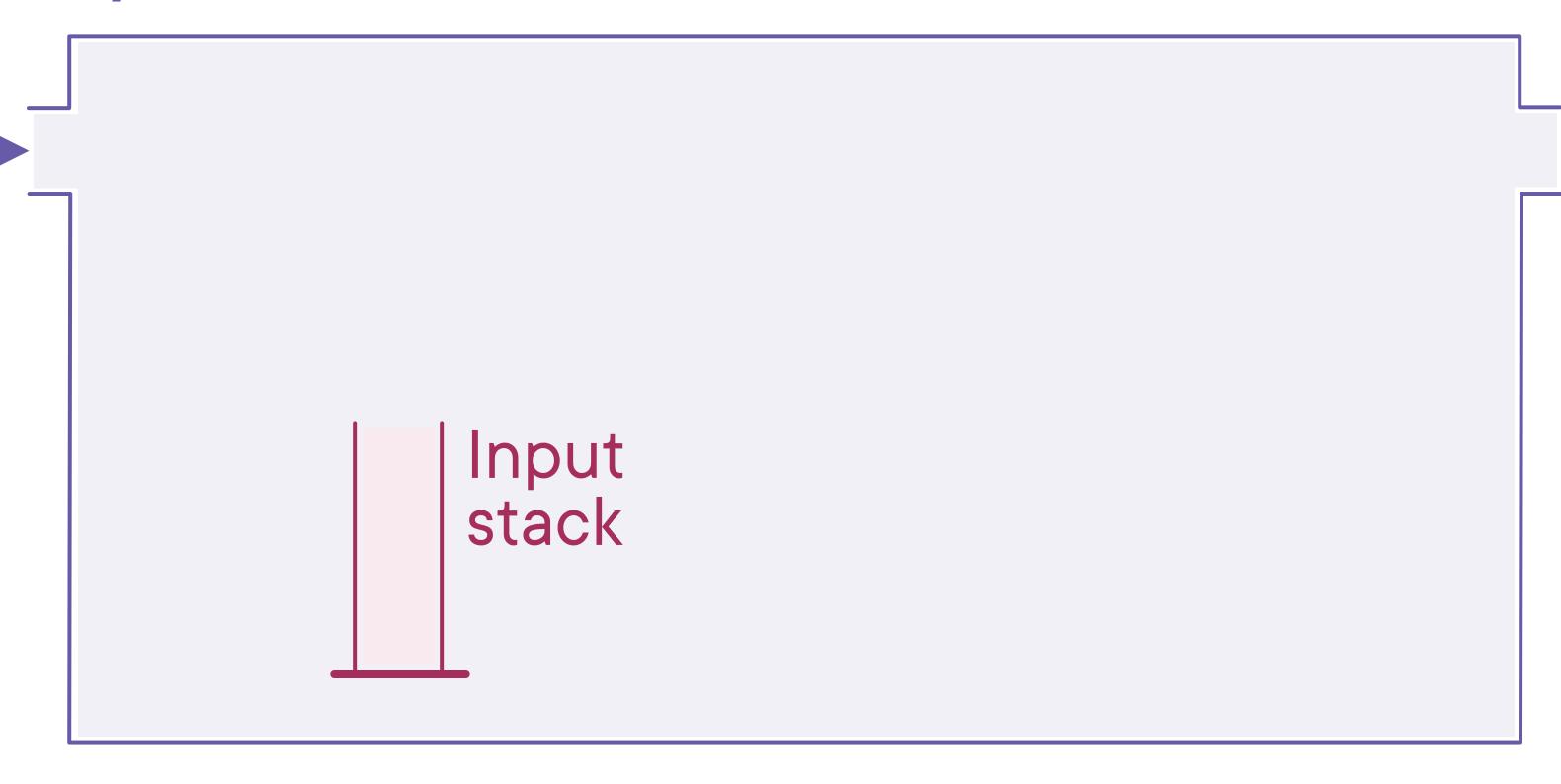


The sliding window algorithm is fine

The accumulators are not

Constructing a queue using two stacks

Enqueue



Enqueue Dequeue Input stack Output stack FIFO head

Enqueue Dequeue Output stack Input stack FIFO head



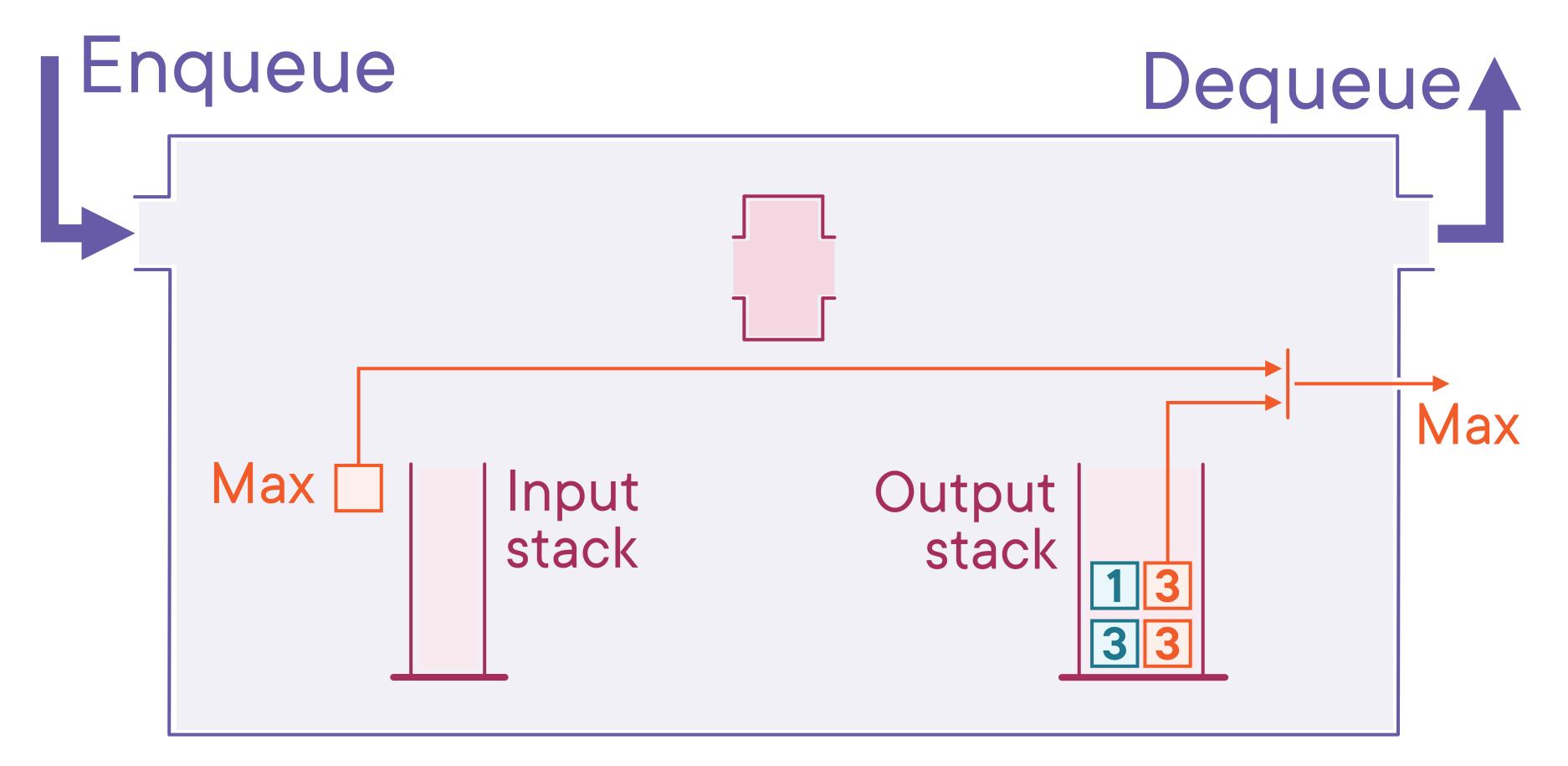


Enqueue Dequeue Output stack Max ___ Input stack

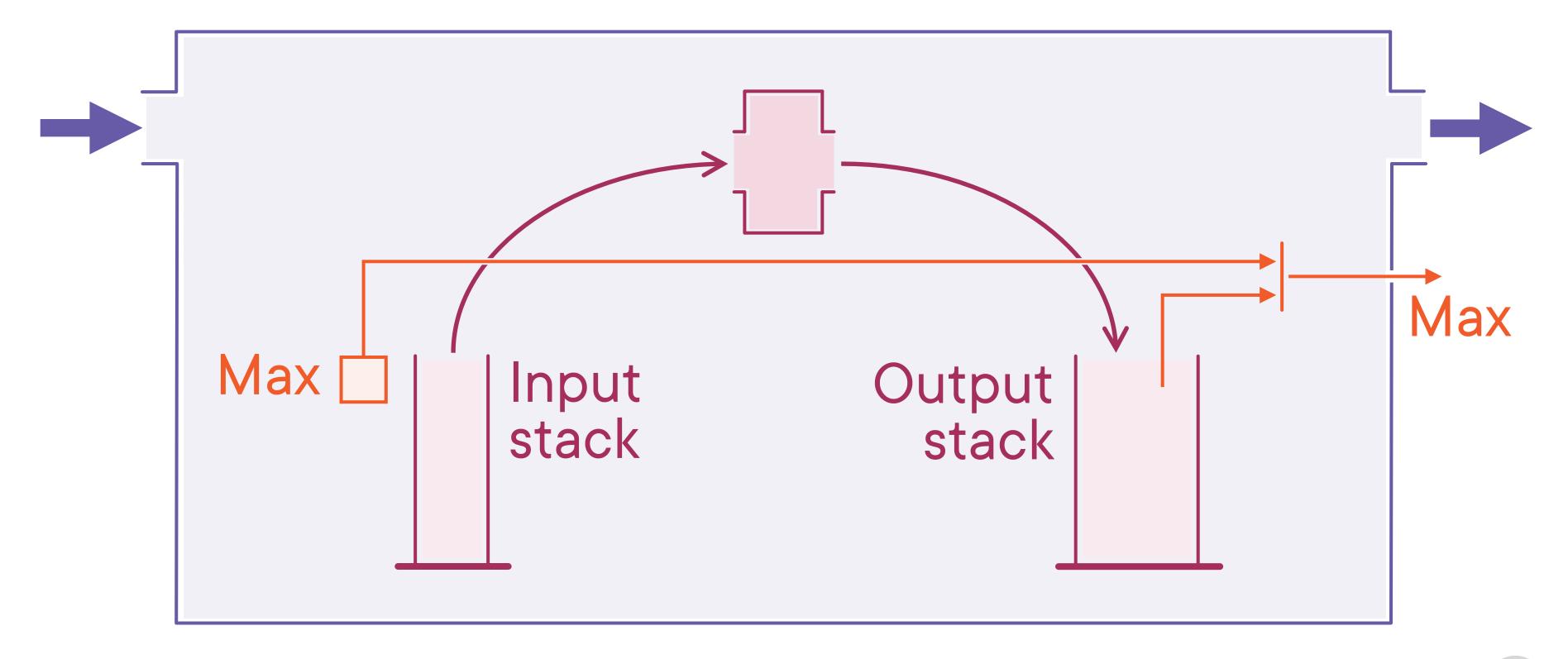


Enqueue Dequeue Current maximum Max 🔲 Output stack Input stack

Enqueue Dequeue New maximum Max ___ Output stack Input stack



A maximum queue



Summary



Covered the sliding window technique

- Used a queue to aggregate objects
- A complex analysis running in time proportional to input

Designed a maximum queue

- A queue based on two stacks

Solving a specialized problem

- Look for an appropriate collection design
- Implement the new collection



Summary



Collections applied in this course

- Common array
- List<T>
- SortedList<TKey, TValue>
- LinkedList<T>
- Dictionary<TKey, TValue>
- SortedDictionary<TKey, TValue>
- ImmutableSortedDictionary<TKey, TValue>
- Queue<T>
- Stack<T>
- Custom MaximumQueue<T>

Applied .NET generics through all examples

