

Using Linear Collections: Lists and Arrays



Zoran Horvat

CEO at Coding Helmet

@zoranh75

<https://codinghelmet.com>



IEnumerable<T>



Collect

List<T>



Mutate



Freeze



View 1



View 2



IEnumerable<T>



Collect

List<T>

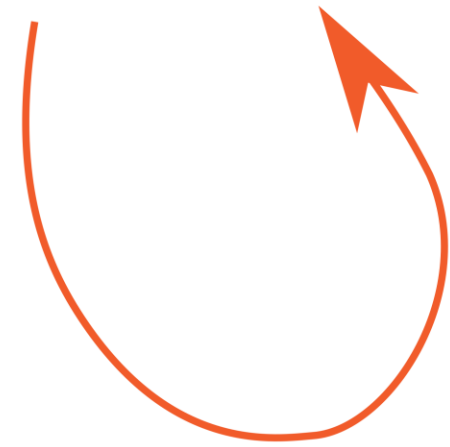


IEnumerable<T>



Collect

List<T>



Operate

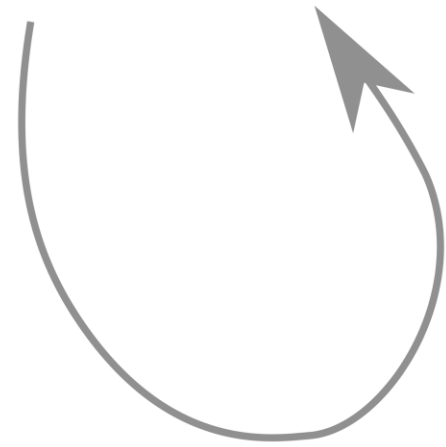


IEnumerable<T>

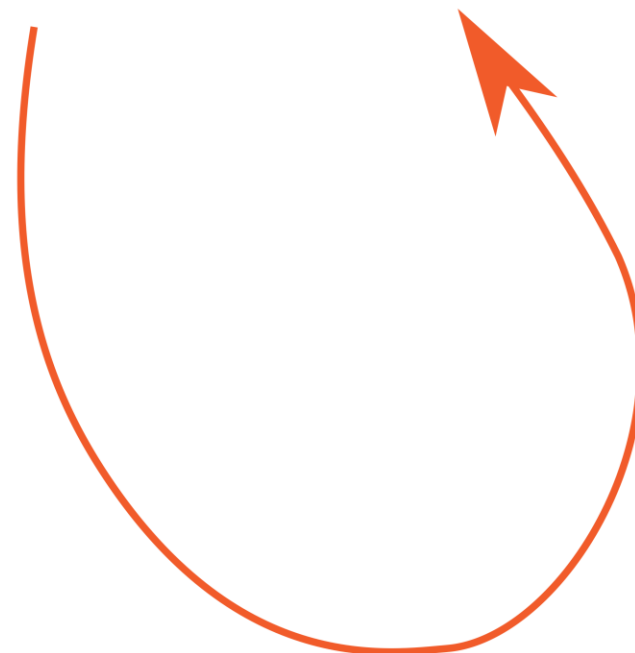


Collect

List<T>



Operate



Operate

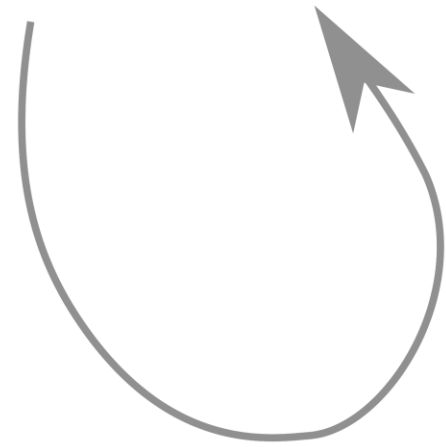


IEnumerable<T>

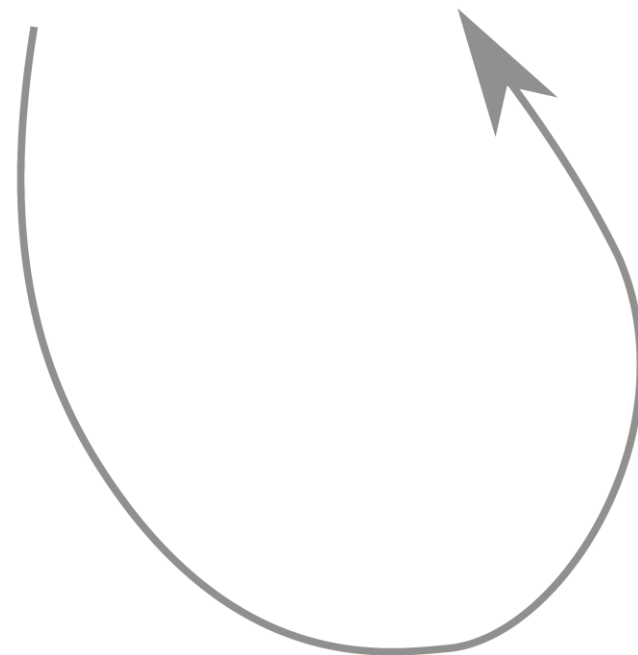


Collect

List<T>



Operate



Operate



Operate

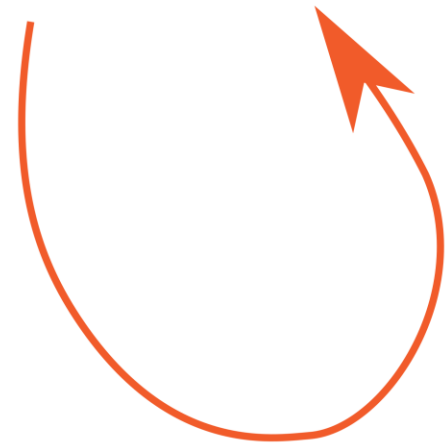


`IEnumerable<T>`

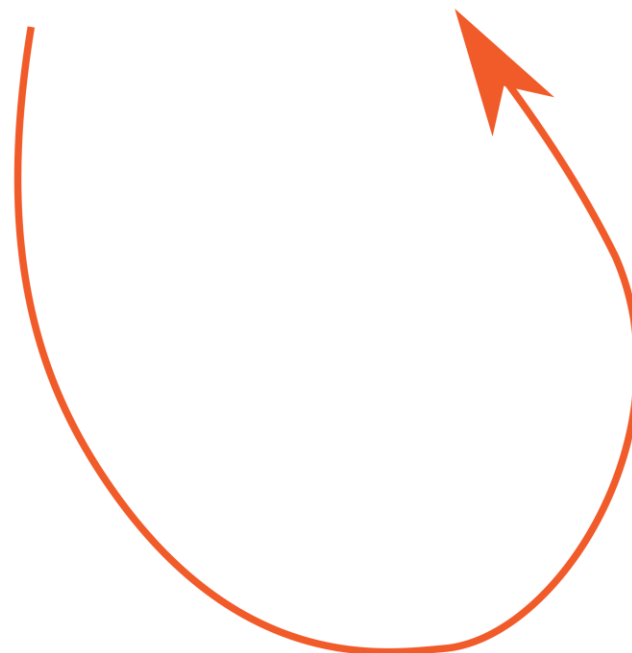


Collect

`List<T>`



Operate



Operate



Operate



The Constructor Principle*

Avoid costly work inside
a constructor without justification

* Opinionated view



The Augmented Constructor Principle*

Avoid work in a constructor
that significantly exceeds
the dimension of its arguments

* Opinionated view



- > .vscode
- ✓ ConsoleDemo
 - ConsoleDemo.csproj
 - Program.cs
- ✓ Models
 - ✓ Common
 - ArgumentExtensions.cs
 - GridFormatter.cs
 - Operators.cs
 - SinglePassSequence.cs
 - Currency.cs
 - Models.csproj
 - Money.cs
 - PayRate.cs
 - Worker.cs
- ✓ Models.Tests
 - ✓ Data
 - Currencies.cs
 - Workers.cs
 - Models.Tests.csproj
- ContractorsCo.sln

Models > Common > GridFormatter.cs > {} Models.Common > Models.Common.GridFormatter<T> > Format()

```
1 namespace Models.Common;
2
3 public class GridFormatter<T>
4 {
5     public GridFormatter(IEnumerable<T> data)
6     {
7         this.Data = new List<T>(data);
8     }
9
10    private IList<T> Data { get; }
11
12    public IEnumerable<string> Format() => Enumerable.Empty<string>();
13 }
```

- > .vscode
- ✓ ConsoleDemo
 - ConsoleDemo.csproj
 - Program.cs
- ✓ Models
 - ✓ Common
 - ArgumentExtensions.cs
 - GridFormatter.cs
 - Operators.cs
 - SinglePassSequence.cs
 - Currency.cs
 - Models.csproj
 - Money.cs
 - PayRate.cs
 - Worker.cs
- ✓ Models.Tests
 - ✓ Data
 - Currencies.cs
 - Workers.cs
 - Models.Tests.csproj
- ContractorsCo.sln

Models > Common > GridFormatter.cs > {} Models.Common > Models.Common.GridFormatter<T> > Format()

```
1 namespace Models.Common;
2
3 public class GridFormatter<T>
4 {
5     public GridFormatter(IEnumerable<T> data)
6     {
7         this.Data = new List<T>(data);
8     }
9
10    private IList<T> Data { get; }
11
12    public IEnumerable<string> Format() => Enumerable.Empty<string>();
13 }
```

Why list?

```
1 namespace Models.Common;
2
3 public class GridFormatter<T>
4 {
5     public GridFormatter(IEnumerable<T> data)
6     {
7         this.Data = new List<T>(data);
8     }
9
10    private IList<T> Data { get; }
11
12    public IEnumerable<string> Format() => Enumerable.Empty<string>();
13 }
```

Sequence of
unknown length

List expands
as needed

Supports column- and row-wise
traversal in a simulated matrix

Indexer takes $O(1)$ time

Count property takes $O(1)$ time

Comparing Lists and Arrays

List<T>

Exposes indexer with range checks

Collected using ToList() operator

ToList() collects straight into the list

Completes collecting data in one go

Half of underlying array not used

Not trimmed list wastes memory

T[]

Exposes indexer with range checks

Efficient iteration in some corner cases

Collected using ToArray() operator

ToArray() uses intermediate storage

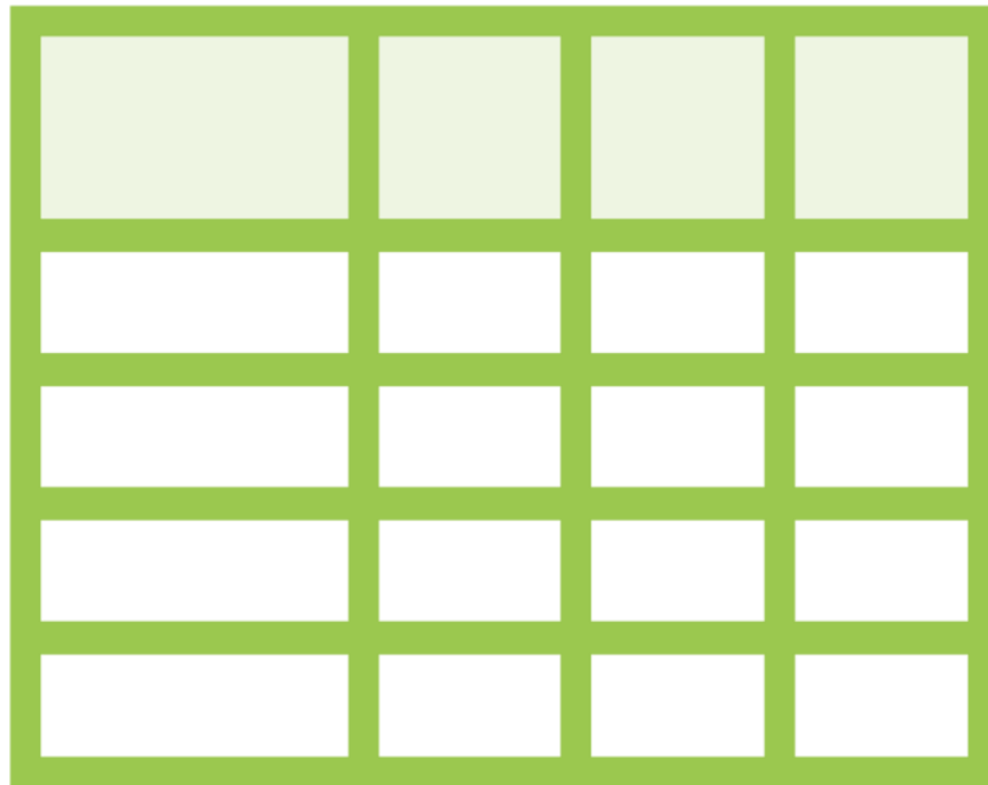
Requires one more copy operation

All array locations are used

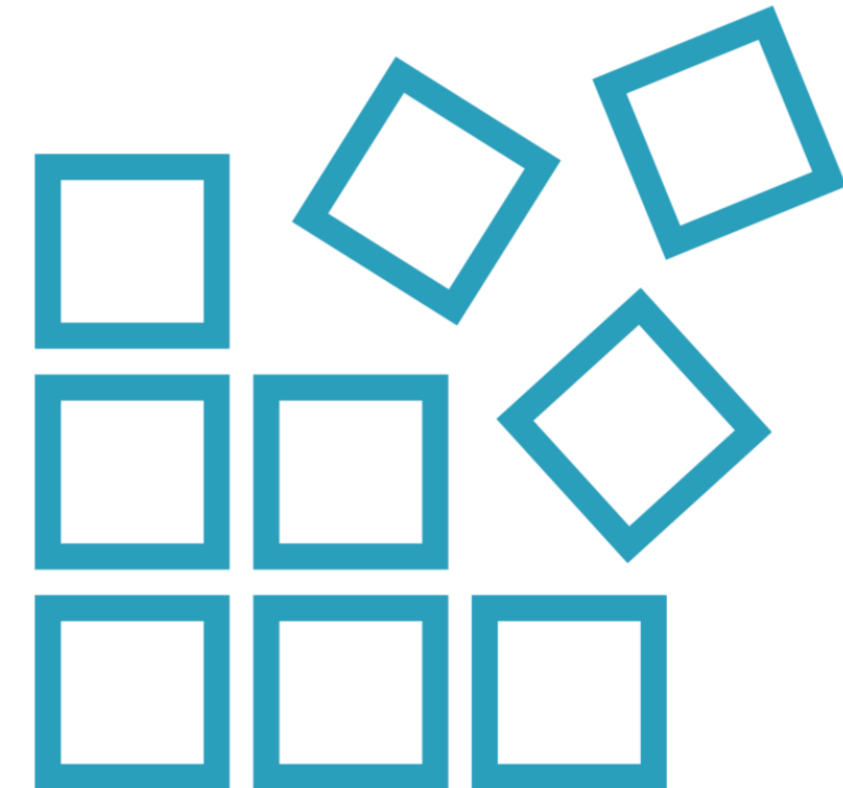
Array uses memory optimally



The New Problem Domain

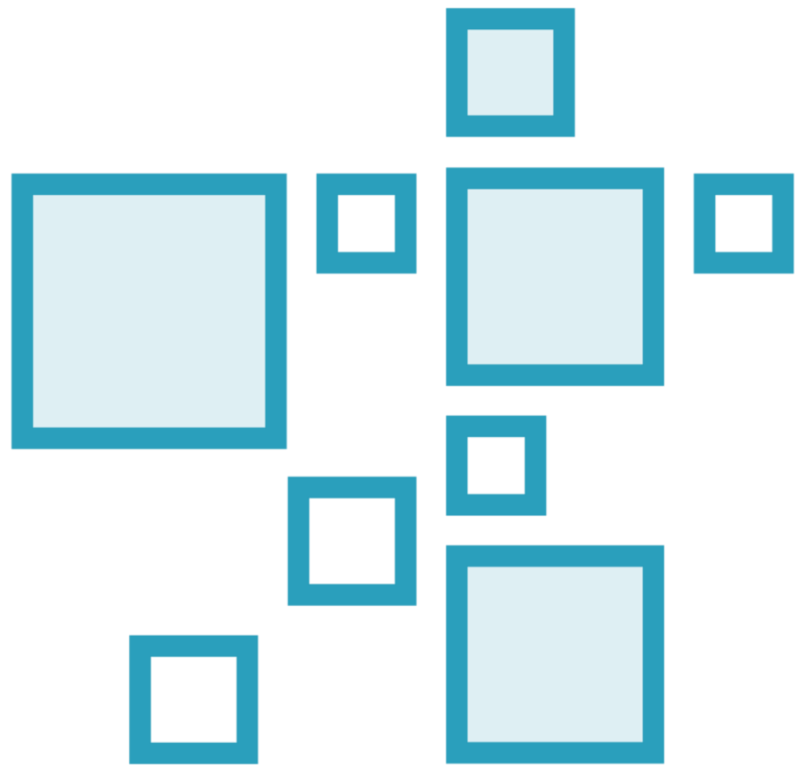


Done:
The grid formatter

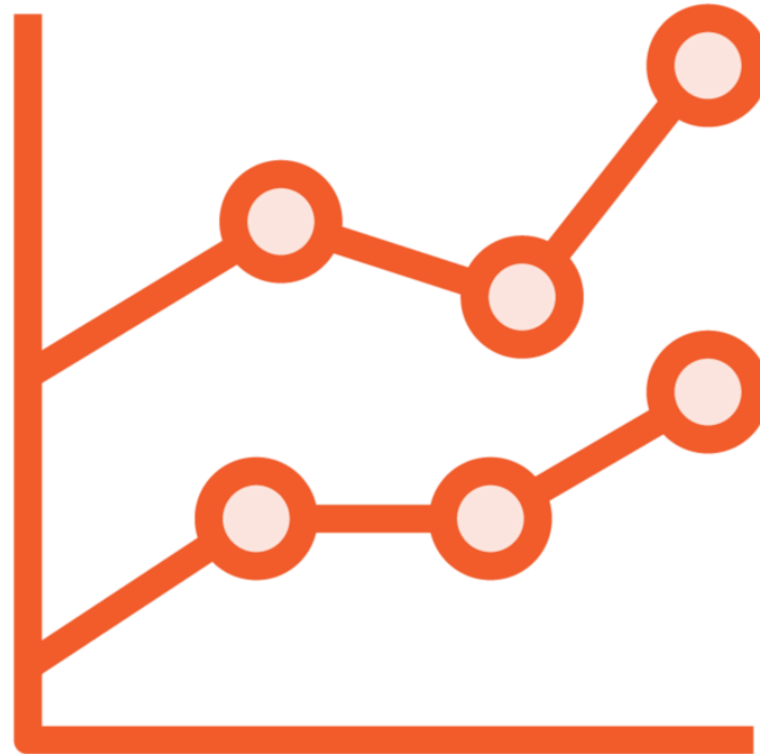


Next task:
The list randomizer

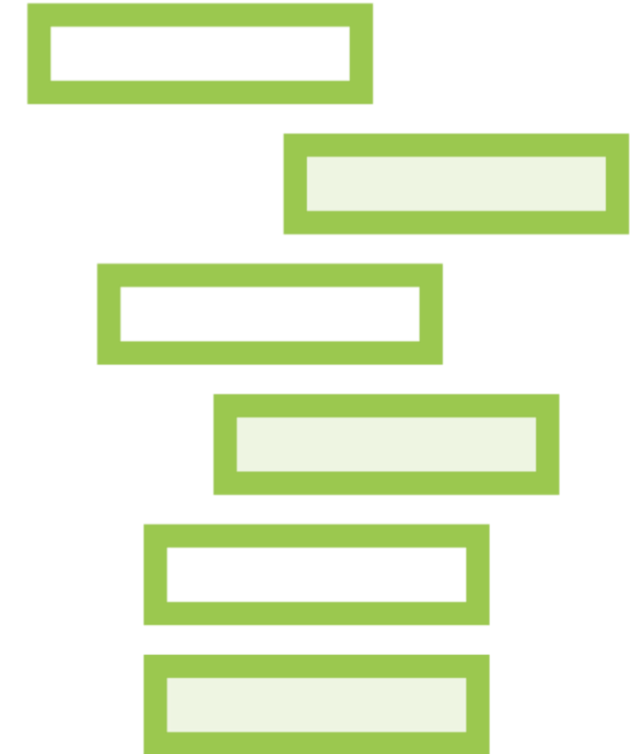
Introducing Randomized Algorithms



**Randomized
algorithms used in
business applications**



**"What if" analysis
simulates
future events**



**We shall implement
collection shuffling**

Defining Requirements

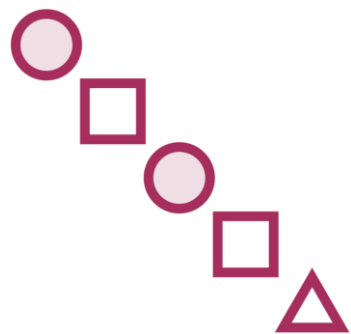


**Given a sequence,
reproduce it in shuffled order**



**Every permutation is equally
probable and independent**

```
IEnumerable<Worker> workers;
```



**Repeated reading will yield
a different order of objects**

```
var a = shuffle(workers);  
var b = shuffle(workers);
```



Inventing the Shuffling Algorithm

Theorem:

Given equally probable, independent permutations, each of the N items has uniform probability distribution of possible positions

N elements



Inventing the Shuffling Algorithm

Theorem:

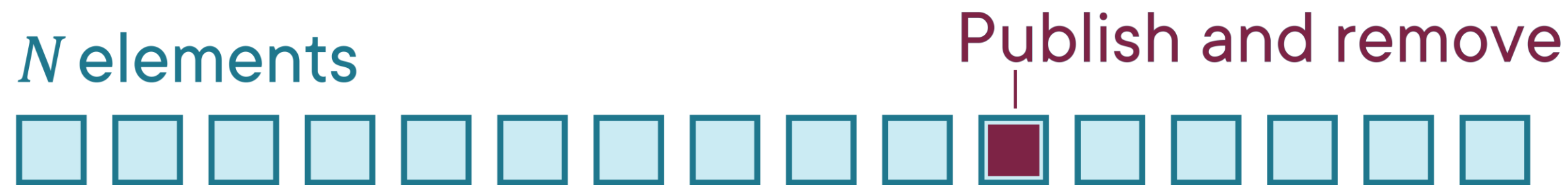
Given equally probable, independent permutations, each of the N items has uniform probability distribution of possible positions



Inventing the Shuffling Algorithm

Theorem:

Given equally probable, independent permutations, each of the N items has uniform probability distribution of possible positions



$$P_1 = \frac{1}{N} \quad P_2 = \frac{N-1}{N} \cdot \frac{1}{N-1} = \frac{1}{N}$$

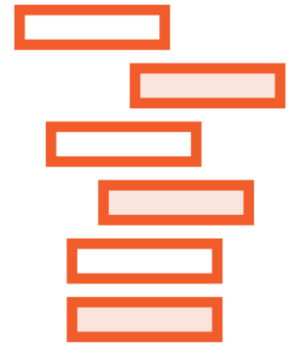
Fisher-Yates Shuffle*

$$P_k = \frac{N-1}{N} \cdot \frac{N-2}{N-1} \cdots \frac{N-k+1}{N-k+2} \cdot \frac{1}{N-k+1} = \frac{1}{N}$$

*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fisher-Yates_shuffle



Implementing the Fisher-Yates Shuffle



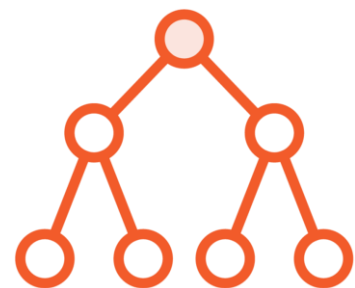
**We need to shuffle
an input sequence**

**Sequence cannot tell
number of elements**



Can we use a list/array?

No efficient item removal



Can we use a dictionary?

What would be the key?



Summary



**We have used lists and arrays
to implement complex algorithms**

**Sequence (`IEnumerable<T>`) is what
we are processing**

**Collections are required to satisfy
(often nonfunctional) requirements**



Summary



Comparing a list to an array

- List expands as we add objects to it
- Up to a half of the (untruncated) list's memory remains unused
- Array leaves no unused locations
- Collecting into an array requires one additional reallocation and copying
- Both offer efficient random access



Summary



Demo collecting sequence into a list

- Collected the sequence to ensure there will be a single iteration
- Implementation formed a hierarchy of views/queries into the collection

Demo with a mutating collection

- Successive iterations must be isolated
- Implemented `IEnumerator<T>` to ensure isolation
- Caller must Reset the enumerator before reuse



Up Next: Sorted and Partially Sorted Lists

