

Linked Lists

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What is a LinkedList?

- A collection of **nodes**, where each node consists of data and next pointer.
- The first node in a linked list is called the *head* node.
- The final node in a linked list, called the *tail*, points to null.



Linked Lists vs Arrays

- Linked Lists are dynamically sized, while the size of an array cannot be changed as easily
- Accessing the **k**th element in an array takes constant time, while it takes **k** time for a linked list
- Both take up $O(n)$ space to store n elements.
- Linked Lists take slightly more space, however, as they need to store pointers to each element



Declaring a Linked List - Python

Declaration

```
class Node:  
    def __init__(self, dataval=None):  
        self.dataval = dataval  
        self.nextval = None
```

Implementation

```
my_linked_list = Node("first element")  
my_linked_list.next = Node("second  
    element")  
my_linked_list.next.next = Node("third  
    element")
```

Declaring a Linked List - Java

Declaration

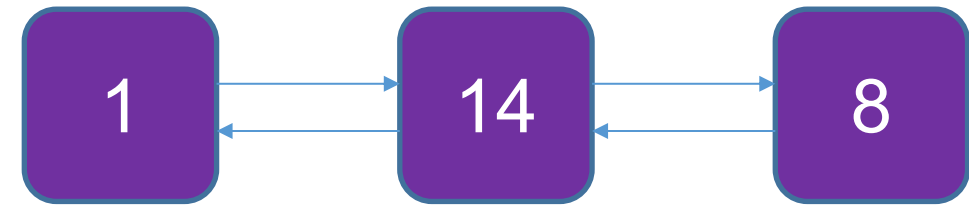
```
class LinkedList {  
    Node head; // head of the list  
    /* Linked list Node*/  
    class Node {  
        int data;  
        Node next;  
        // Constructor to create a new node, leave  
        next as null  
        Node(int d) { data = d; }  
    }  
}
```

Implementation

```
/* Start with the empty list. */  
LinkedList list = new LinkedList();  
list.head = new Node(1);
```

Types of LinkedLists

- Singly LinkedList
- Doubly LinkedList (has prev and next)
- Circular LinkedList (all nodes are connected to form a circle)
- Some LinkedLists have tail node. Useful to append to the list in $O(1)$ time
- Some lists have partial cycles and could result in an endless loop if we are not careful.



Time Complexity Table

	Singly Linked	Doubly Linked
Search		
Insertion to Sorted		
Insertion to Unsorted		
Deletion		

Time Complexity Table

	Singly Linked	Doubly Linked
Search	$O(n)$	$O(n)$
Insertion to Sorted	$O(n)$	$O(n)$
Insertion to Unsorted	$O(1)$	$O(1)$
Deletion	$O(n)$	$O(n)^*$

* $O(1)$ with reference to node

In class Assignment

Easy: [Merge 2 sorted Lists](#)

Easy: [Linked List Cycle](#)

Easy: [Reverse Linked List](#)

Medium: [Add 2 numbers](#)

Medium: [Copy List with Random Pointer](#)

Hard: [Merge k sorted Lists](#)

Homework

Easy: [Remove Duplicates from Sorted List](#)

Medium: [Reverse Linked List 2](#).

Medium: [Remove Nth from end of list](#)

Medium: [Rotate List](#)

Medium: [Swap nodes in pairs](#)

Medium: [LinkedList Cycle 2](#)

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