Lecture 7
Stacks and Queues

EECS 281: Data Structures & Algorithms

The Stack Container

- Supports insertion/removal in LIFO order

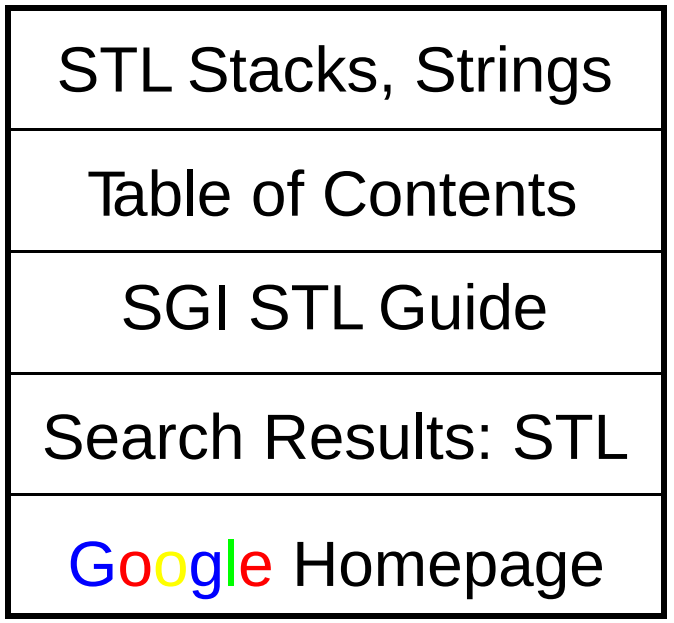
Method	Description
push(object)	Add object to top of the stack
pop()	Remove top element
object &top()	Return a reference to top element
size()	Number of elements in stack
empty()	Checks if stack has no elements

Examples

- Web browser's "back" feature
- Text editor's "Undo" feature
- Function calls in C++

Stack Example: Web Browsing

1. Open Browser to http://www.google.com
2. Search for “STL”
3. Go to SGI STL Guide
4. Click on the Table of Contents
5. Go to the stack page
6. Go back to the Table of Contents
7. Go to the basic_string page
8. Finished,close browser

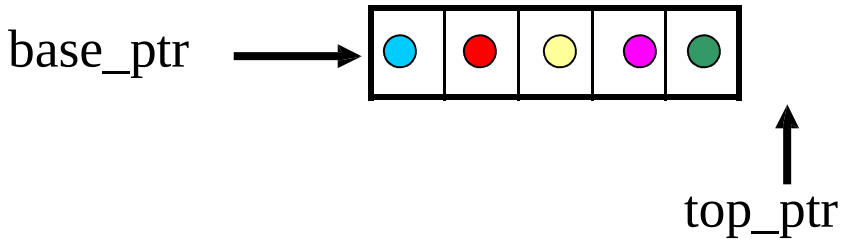


URL Stack

Should we use arrays or linked lists to implement stacks?

Stacks Using Arrays

Keep a pointer (top_ptr) to the last element of array

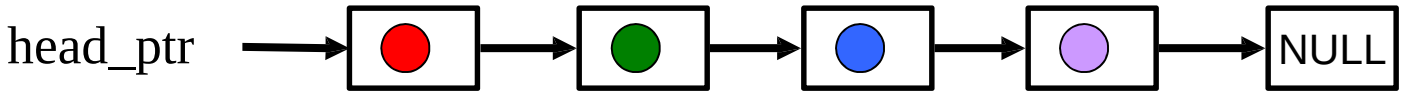


Method	Implementation
push(object)	Add new element at, and then increment top_ptr Allocate more space if necessary (requires copying)
pop()	Decrement top_ptr.
object &top()	Dereference top_ptr – 1.
size()	Subtract base_ptr from top_ptr pointer.
empty()	Are base_ptr and top_ptr equal?

What is the asymptotic runtime of each method?

Stacks Using Linked Lists

Singly-linked is sufficient



Method	Implementation
push(object)	Prepend node to list
pop()	Delete head node of list
object &top()	Return reference to data in head node
size()	Use existing LinkedList::size() method Be careful: size() in STL <slist> takes $O(n)$ time (it computes size from scratch every time)
empty()	Use existing LinkedList::empty() method

What is the asymptotic runtime of each method?

Is an array or linked list more efficient for stacks?

The Queue Container

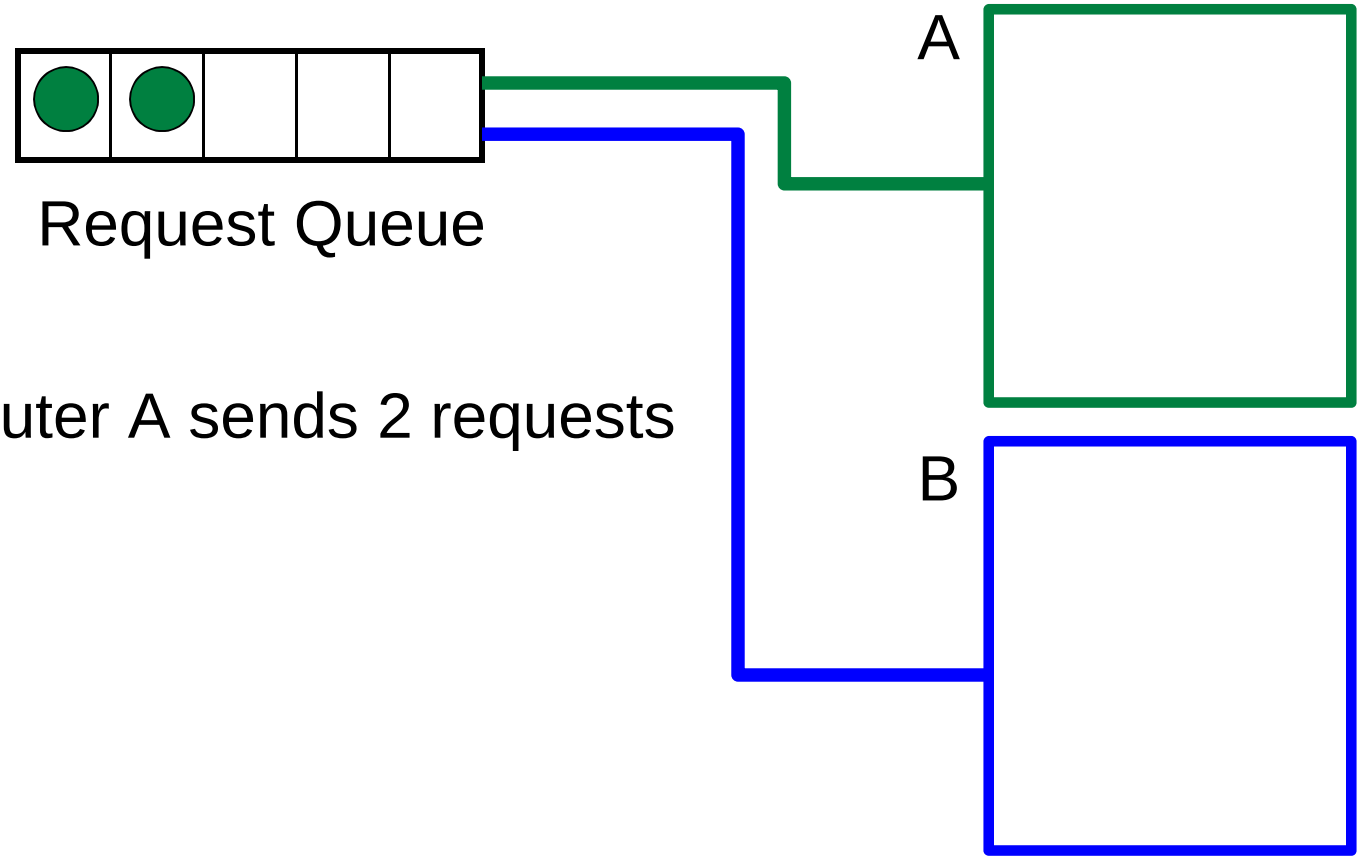
- Supports insertion/removal in FIFO order

Method	Description
push(object)	Add element to back of queue
pop()	Remove element at front of queue
object &front()	Return reference to element at front of the queue
size()	Number of elements in queue
empty()	Checks if queue has no elements

Queue Example: Web Browsing History

- The history starts empty
- **New pages are added to history on the "today" end**
- **Old pages are removed from history on the "30 days ago" end**
- *This particular kind of queue* (unlike STL queue) a*llows iterating through elements*

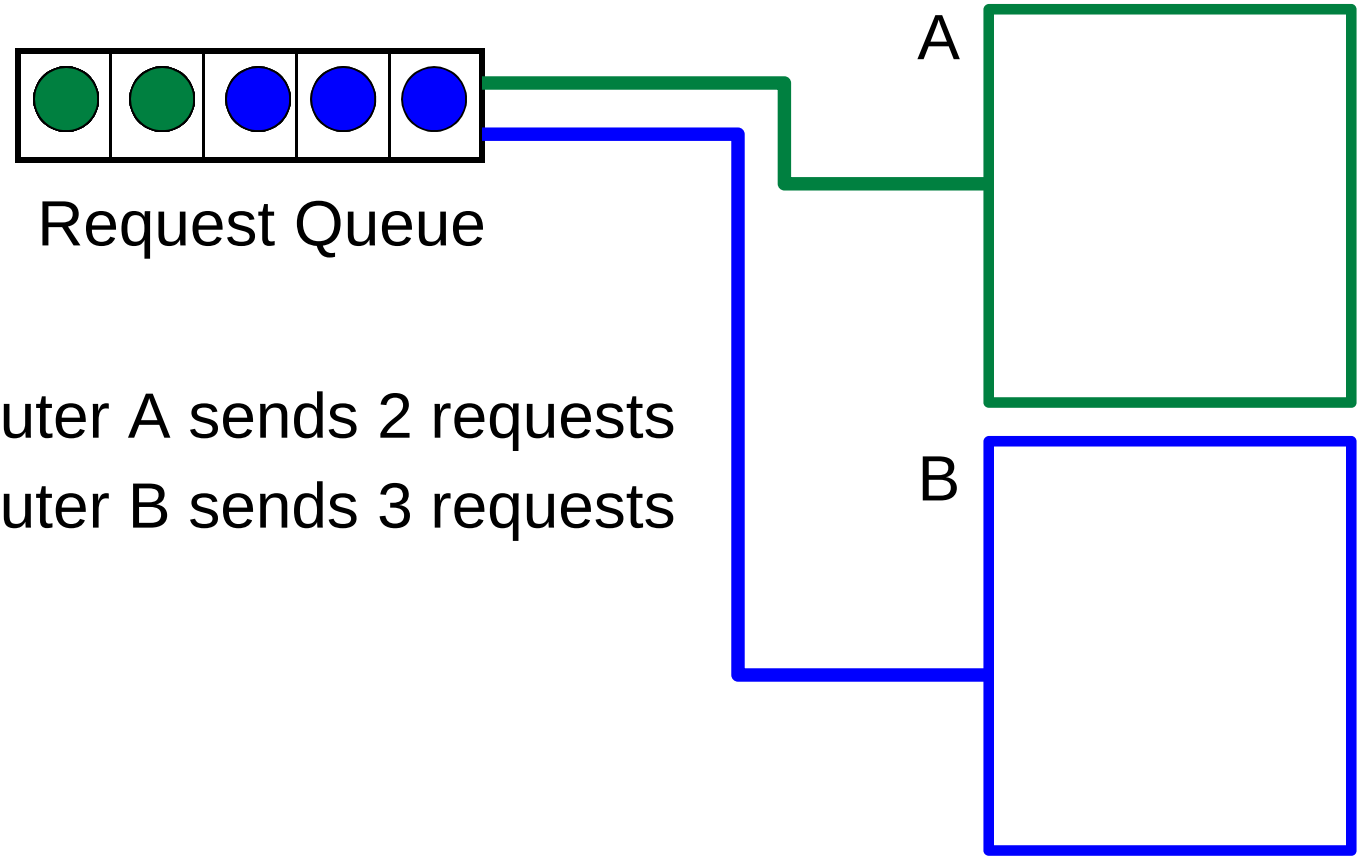
Queue Example:
Request Queue of a Web Server



1. Computer A sends 2 requests

Should we use arrays or linked lists
to implement this queue?

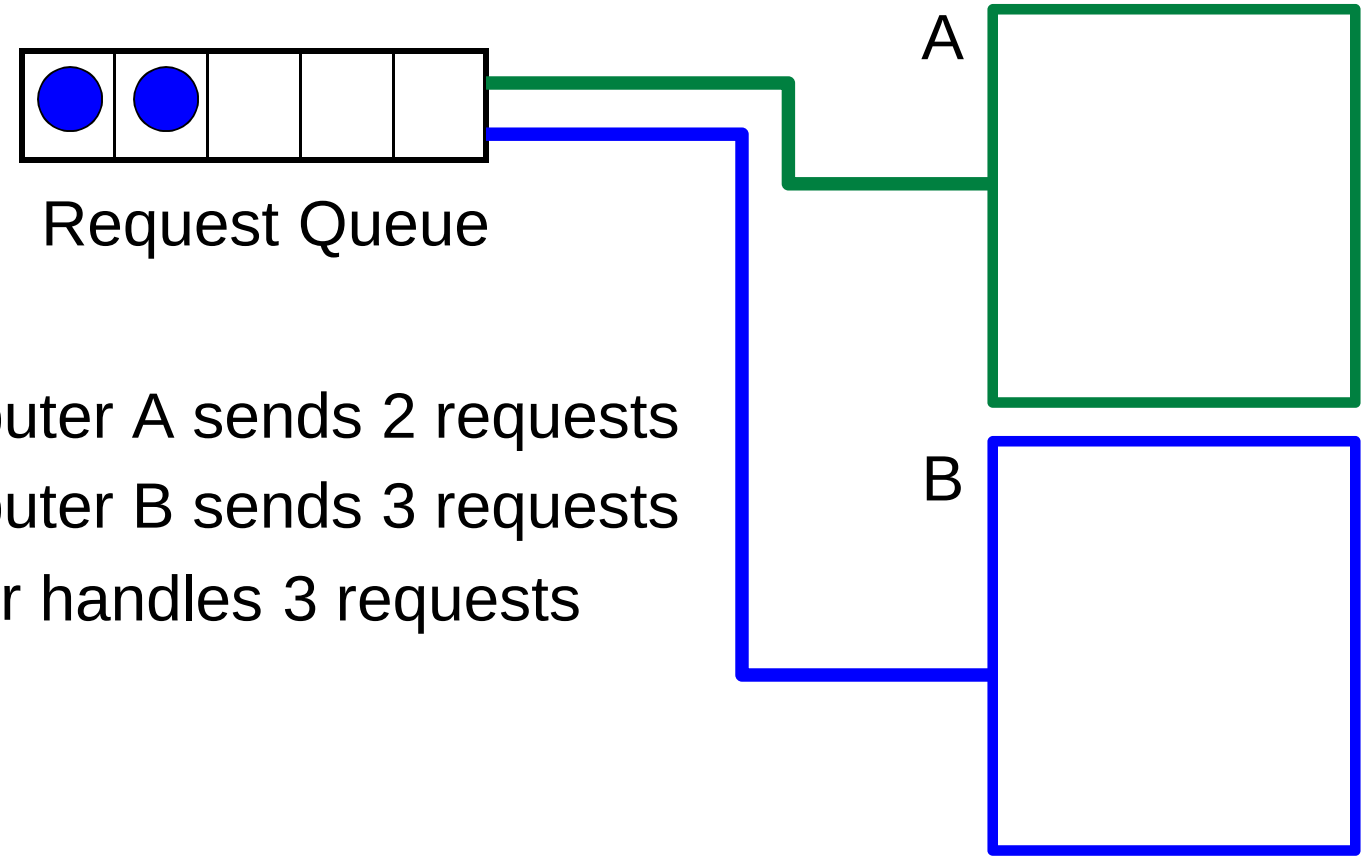
Queue Example:
Request Queue of a Web Server



1. Computer A sends 2 requests
2. Computer B sends 3 requests

Should we use arrays or linked lists
to implement this queue?

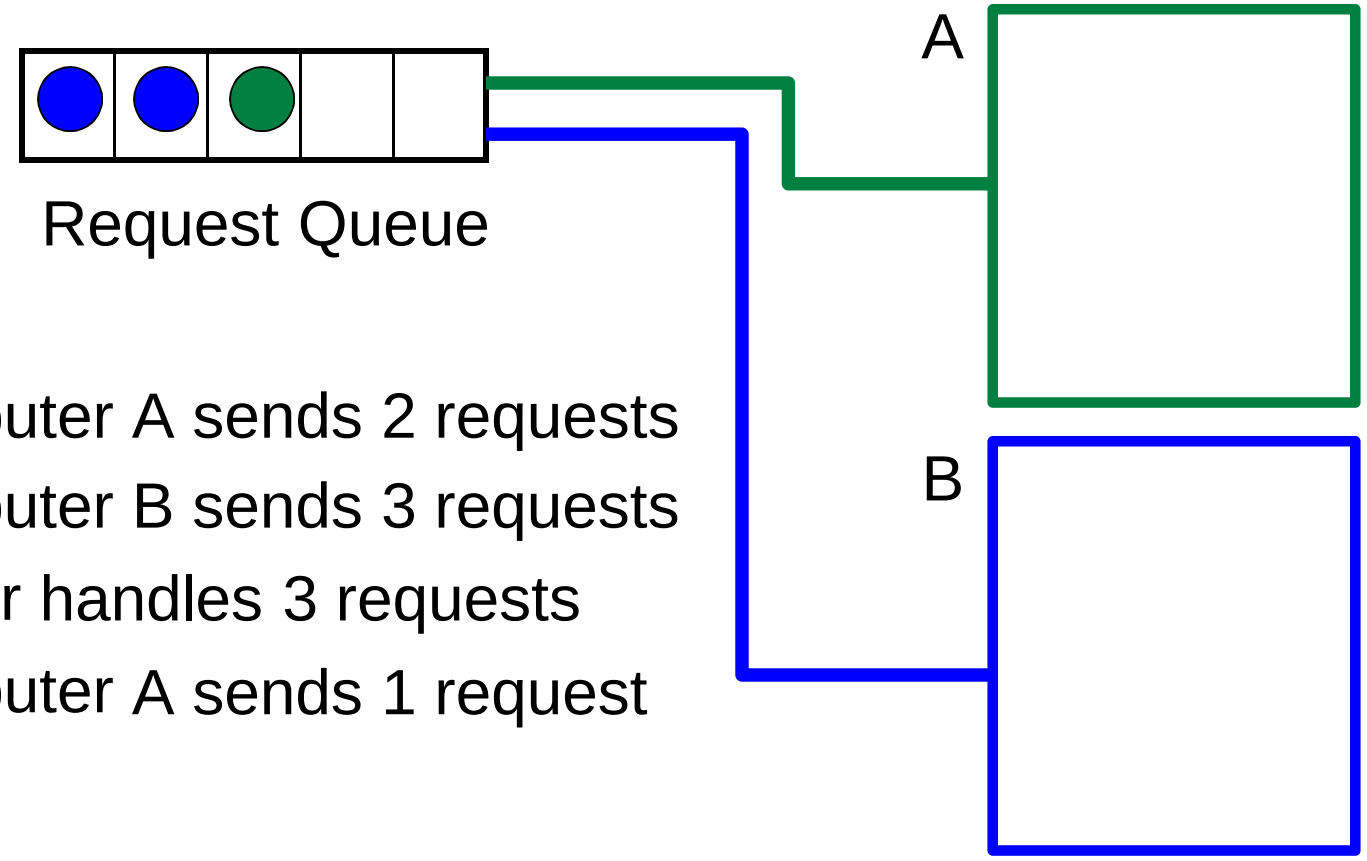
Queue Example:
Request Queue of a Web Server



1. Computer A sends 2 requests
2. Computer B sends 3 requests
3. Server handles 3 requests

Should we use arrays or linked lists
to implement this queue?

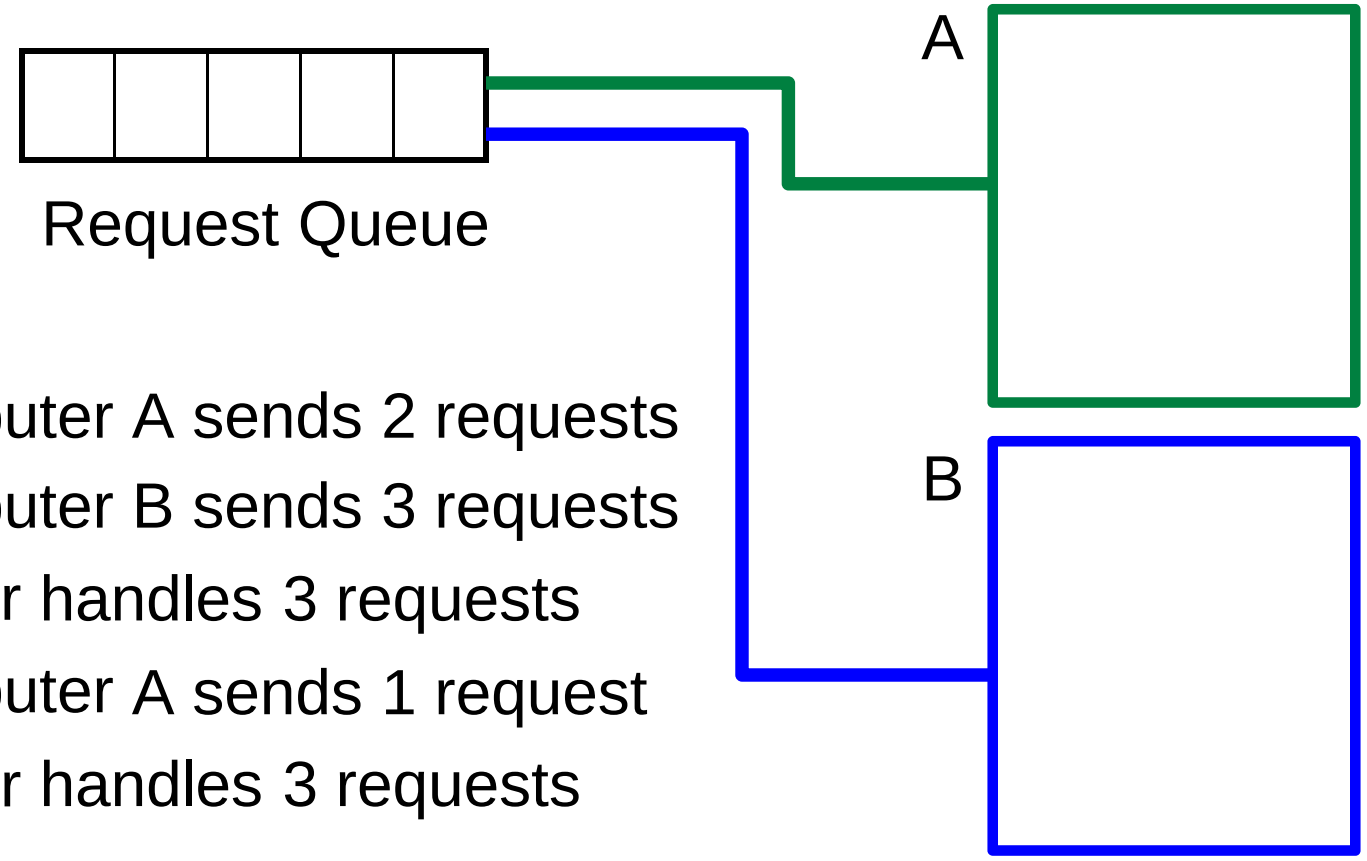
Queue Example:
Request Queue of a Web Server



1. Computer A sends 2 requests
2. Computer B sends 3 requests
3. Server handles 3 requests
4. Computer A sends 1 request

Should we use arrays or linked lists
to implement this queue?

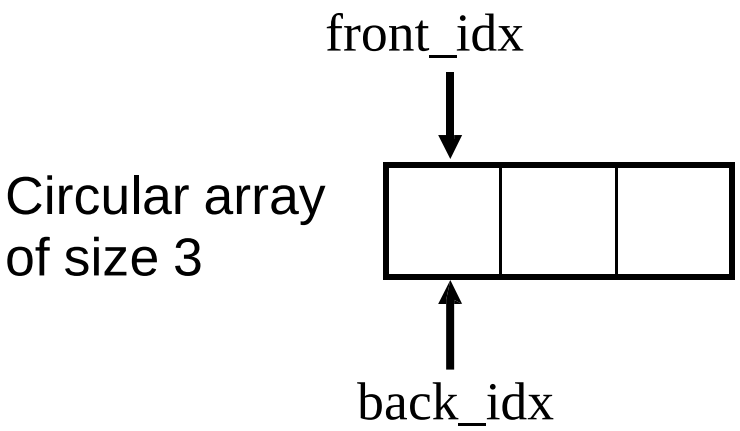
Queue Example:
Request Queue of a Web Server



1. Computer A sends 2 requests
2. Computer B sends 3 requests
3. Server handles 3 requests
4. Computer A sends 1 request
5. Server handles 3 requests

Should we use arrays or linked lists
to implement this queue?

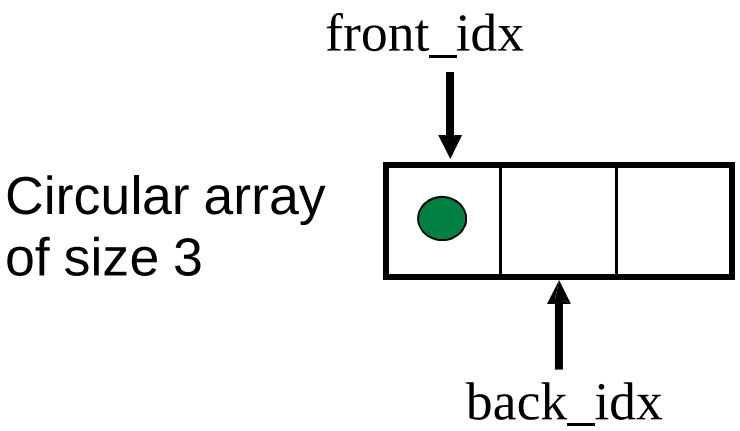
Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue



Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
since array is empty

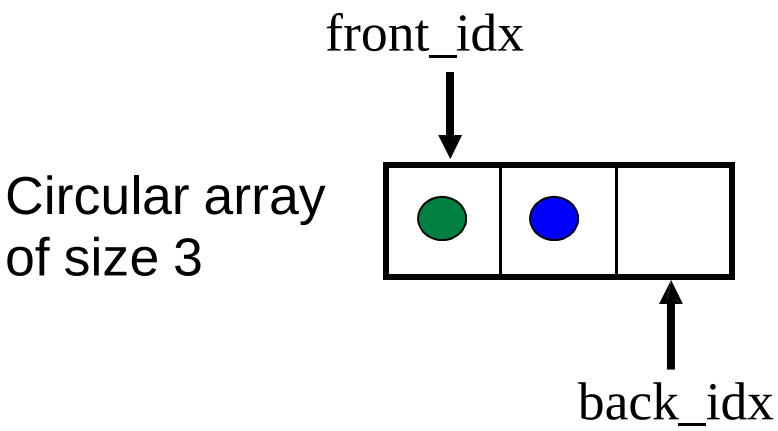
Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue



Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element

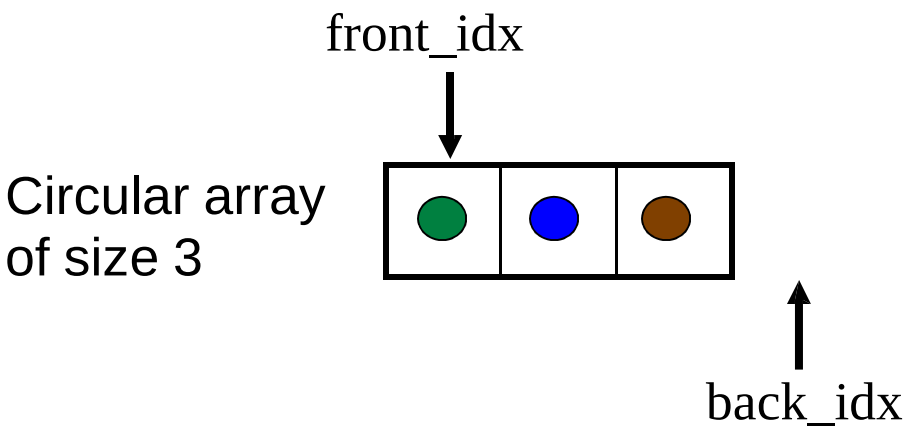
Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue



Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element
3. enqueue element

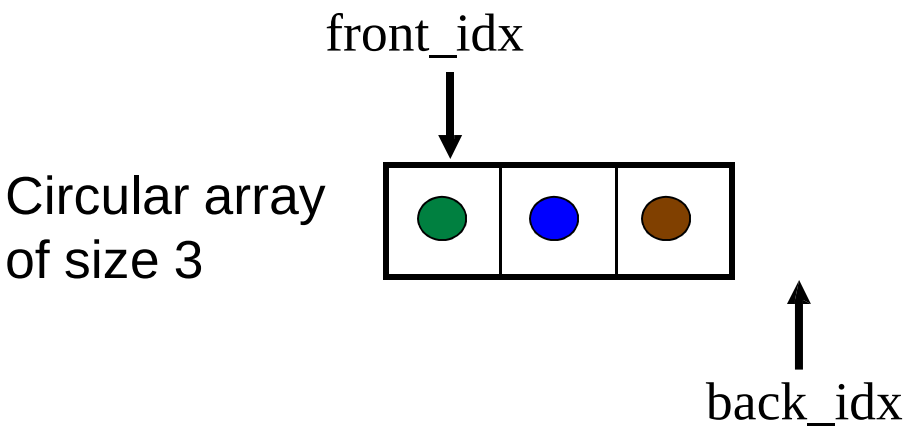
Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue

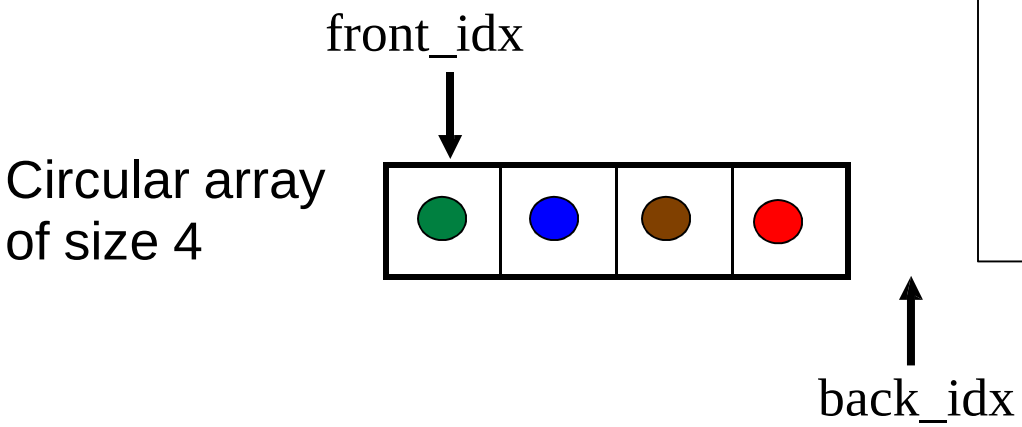


Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element
3. enqueue element
4. enqueue element

Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue



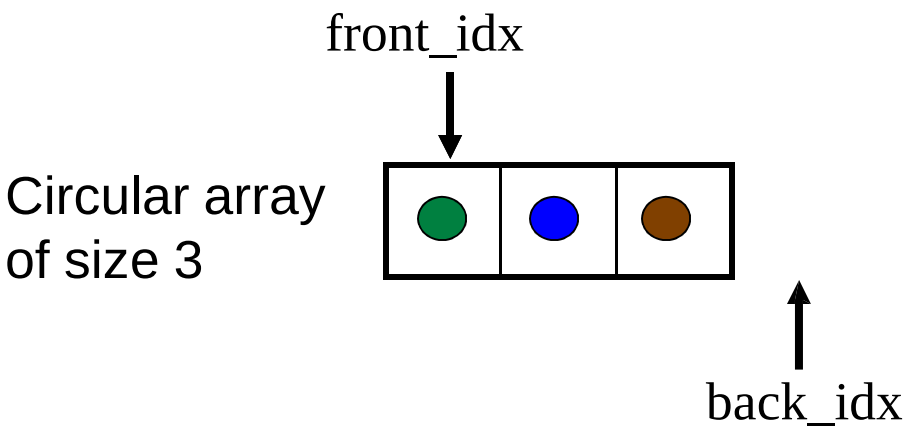


Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element
3. enqueue element
4. enqueue element
5. allocate more memory
   and enqueue element *

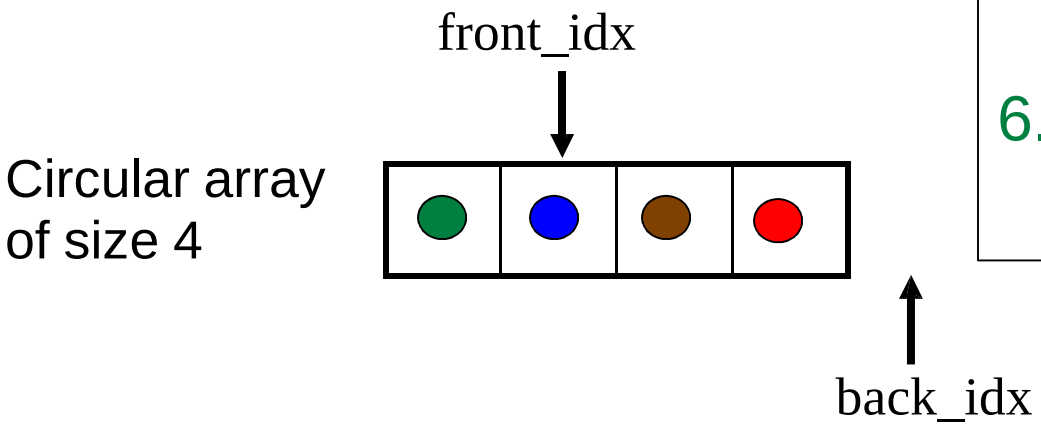
* When allocating more memory, it is more common to double memory

Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue



Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element
3. enqueue element
4. enqueue element
5. allocate more memory
   and enqueue element *
6. dequeue element



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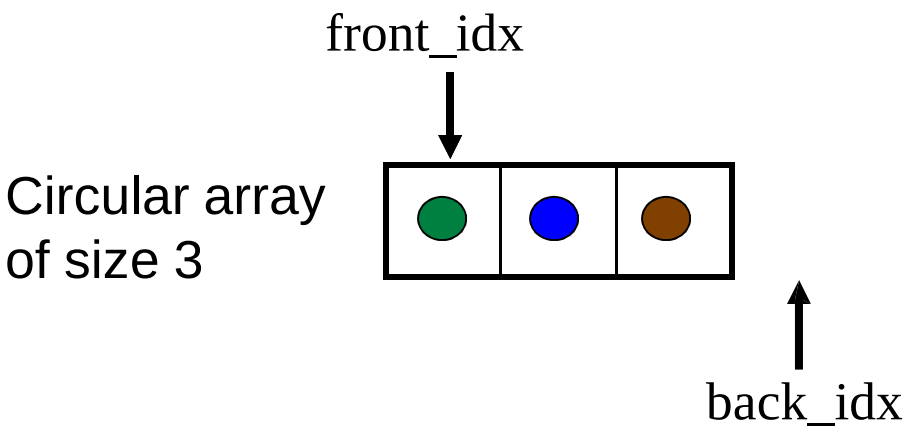
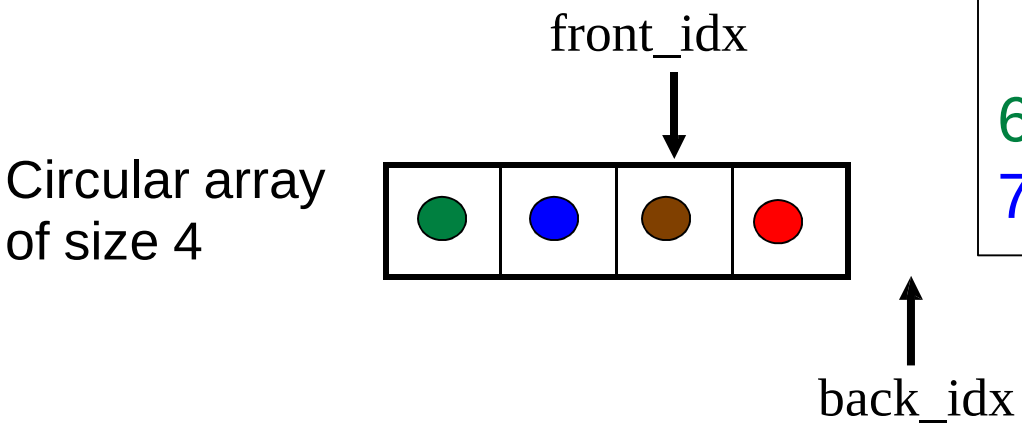
Queues Using Arrays: Enqueue and Dequeue





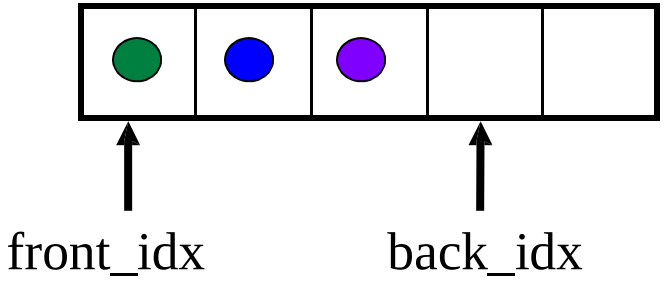
Event Sequence

1. back_idx == front_idx
   since array is empty
2. enqueue element
3. enqueue element
4. enqueue element
5. allocate more memory
   and enqueue element *
6. dequeue element
7. dequeue element

* When allocating more memory, it is more common to double memory

Queues Using Arrays

Use a circular array

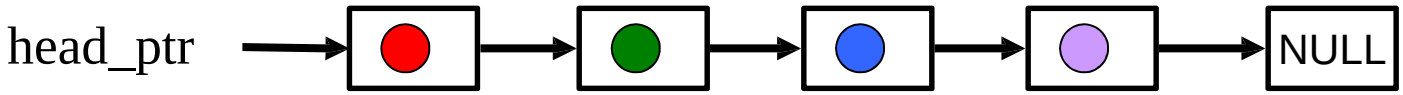


Method	Implementation
enqueue(object)	Increment back_idx, wrapping to front when end of allocated space is reached If back_idx becomes front_idx, reallocate array and unroll
dequeue()	Delete item at front_idx and increment front_idx
object &front()	Return reference to element at front_idx
size()	If (back_idx >= front_idx) returns back_idx - front_idx else returns array_size + back_idx - front_idx
empty()	returns back_idx == front_idx

What is the asymptotic runtime of each method?

Queues Using Linked Lists

Singly-linked is sufficient



Method	Implementation
push(object)	Append node to list
pop()	Delete head node of list
object &front()	Return reference to data in head node
size()	Use existing LinkedList::size() method Be careful: size() in STL <slist> takes $O(n)$ time (computes size from scratch every time)
empty()	Use existing LinkedList::empty() method

What is the asymptotic runtime of each method?

Is an array or linked list more efficient for queues?

Deque: a Queue and Stack in One (Double-ended Queue)

- Pronounced “deck”
- ADT that allows efficient insertion and removal from the front and the back
- 6 major methods
  - push_front(), pop_front(), front()
  - push_back(), pop_back(), back()
- Minor methods
  - size(), empty()
- *Can traverse using iterator*

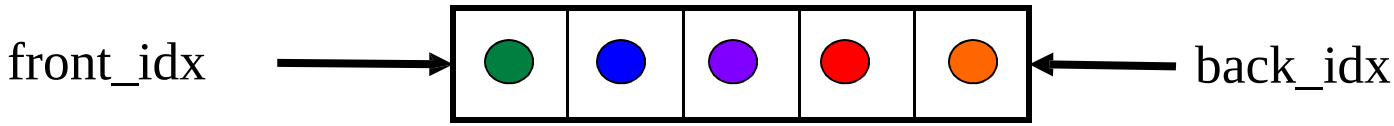
What’s another pseudo-word invented to name a data structure?

Trie (pronounced “try”) : a digital search tree

Deque Implementation

Circular Array

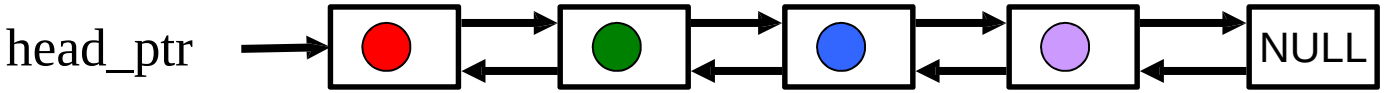
– front_idx and back_idx both get incremented/decremented



Doubly-linked list

– Singly-linked doesn't support efficient removal

– Other operations map directly to doubly-linked list operations



See details in STL header <deque> for another implementation

What is a Priority Queue?

- Each datum paired with a priority value
  - Priority values are usually numbers
  - Should be able to compare priority values (<)
- Supports insertion of data and inspection
- Supports removal of datum with highest priority
  - Largest determined by given ordering

Like a group of bikers
where the fastest ones
exit the race first

What applications may benefit from a priority queue?

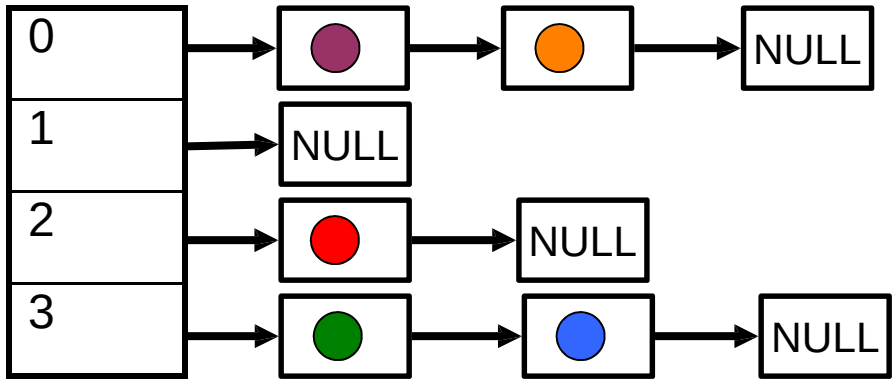
Priority Queue Implementation

STL maintains a heap on top of any random access container you choose

	Insert	Remove Max
Unsorted sequence container	$O(1)$	$O(n)$
Sorted sequence container	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Heap (covered in future lecture)	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$
Array of linked lists (for priorities of small integers)	$O(1)$	$O(1)$

Array of Linked Lists

Priority value used as index value in array

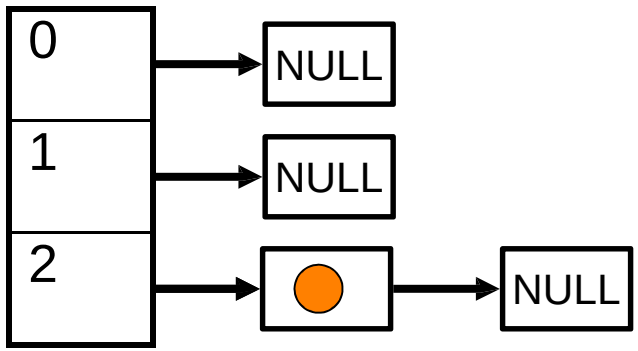


Priority Queue Example: Emergency Call Center

- Operators receive calls and assign levels of urgency
- Lower numbers indicate more urgent calls
- Calls are dispatched (or not dispatched) by computer to police squads based on urgency

---

1. Level 2 call comes in



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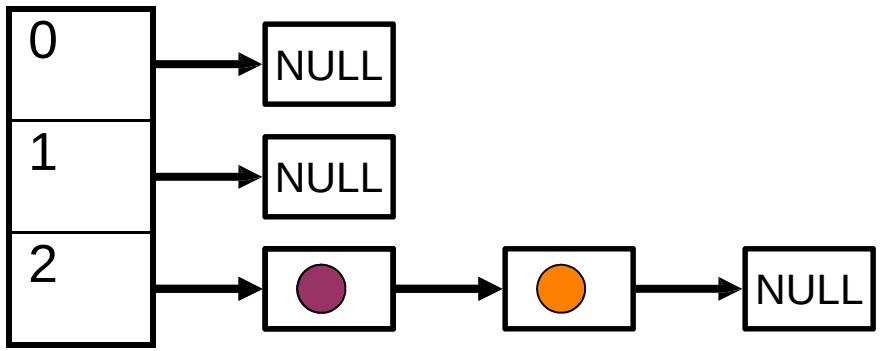
2. Level 2 call comes in



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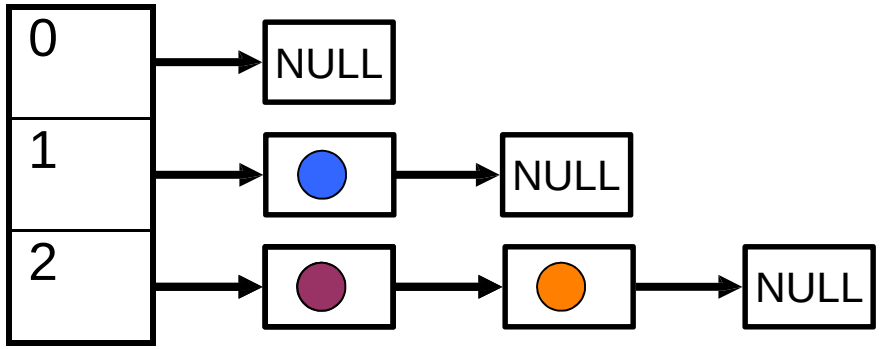

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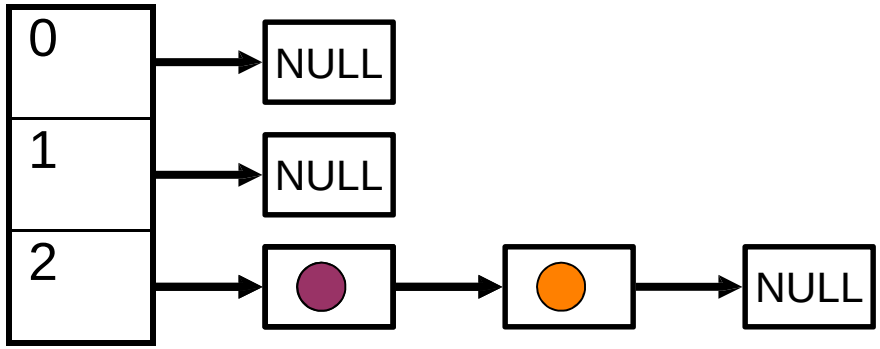
1. Level 2 call comes in
2. Level 2 call comes in
3. Level 1 call comes in
4. A call is dispatched



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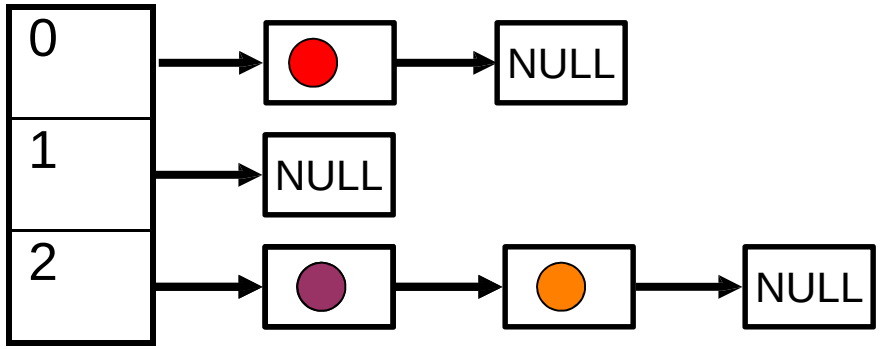
1. Level 2 call comes in
2. Level 2 call comes in
3. Level 1 call comes in
4. A call is dispatched
5. Level 0 call comes in



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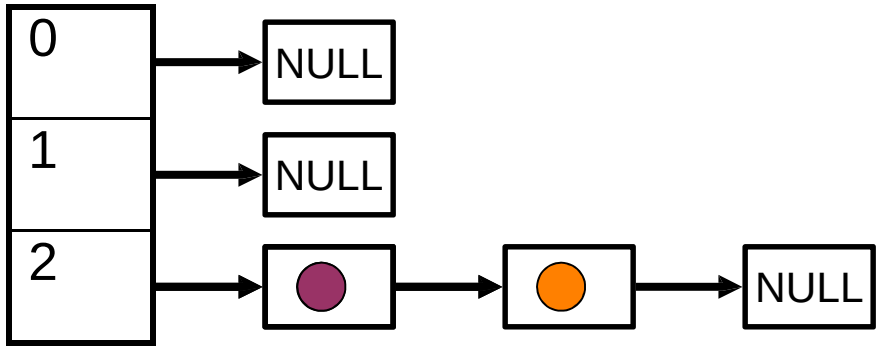
1. Level 2 call comes in
2. Level 2 call comes in
3. Level 1 call comes in
4. A call is dispatched
5. Level 0 call comes in
6. A call is dispatched



Stacks and Queues in STL

- You can choose the underlying container
- All operations are implemented generically on top of the given container
  - No specialized code based on given container

	Stack	Queue
Default Underlying Container	std::deque	std::deque
Optional Underlying Container	std::list std::vector	std::list

Note: std::list is not the same as std::slist

Choosing a Data Structure for a Given Application

- What to look for
  - The right operations (e.g., add_elt, remove_elt)
  - The right behavior (e.g., push_back, pop_back)
  - The right trade-offs for runtime complexities (empirical data will be shown soon)
  - Memory overhead

- Potential concern
  - Limiting interface to avoid problems (e.g., no insert_mid)
- Examples
  - **Order tracking at a fast-food drive-through** (pipeline)
  - **Interrupted phone calls to a receptionist**
  - **Your TODO list**

Data Structure Engineering

- Exercise 1
  - Given a stack class (e.g., from STL)
  - Build a MinStack class with the same Big-O complexities, and an additional getMin() function that runs in $O(1)$ time
  - Note: all Big-O are worst-case
- Exercise 2
  - Same for a MinQueue

Algorithm Engineering: *Juggling with Stacks and Queues*

- Task: for a given *N* generate all N-element permutations
- Ingredients of a solution
  - One recursive function
  - One stack
  - One queue
- Technique: moving elements between the two containers

Implementation: Helper Function

```
1   template <typename T>
2   ostream &operator<<(ostream &out, const stack<T> &s) {
3     // print the contents of a stack on a single line
4     // e.g., cout << mystack << endl;
5     stack<T> tmpStack = s; // deep copy
6     while (!tmpStack.empty()) {
7       out << tmpStack.top() << ' ';
8       tmpStack.pop();
9     } // while
10    return out;
11  } // operator<<()
```

Implementation

```
1   template <typename T>
2   void genPerms(queue<T> &q, stack<T> &s) {
3     // s: prefix of permutation, q: everything else
4     unsigned size = q.size();
5     if (q.empty()) {
6       cout << s << '\n';
7       return;
8     } // if
9     for (unsigned k = 0; k != size; k++) {
10      s.push(q.front());
11      q.pop(); genPerms(q,
12      s); q.push(s.top());
13      s.pop();
14    } // for
15  } // genPerms()
16
```

Better Helper Function

```
1  template <typename T>
2  ostream &operator<<(ostream &out, const vector<T> &s)        {
3     // printthe contents of a vector on a single line
4     // e.g.,cout << myvector << endl;
5     for (auto &el: s)
6        out << el << ' ';
7
8     return out;
9  } // operator<<()
```

Better Implementation

```
1   template <typename T>
2   void genPerms(deque<T> &q, vector<T> &s) {
3     // s: prefix of permutation, q: everything else
4     unsigned size = q.size();
5     if (q.empty()) {
6       cout << s << '\n';
7       return;
8     } // if
9     for (unsigned k = 0; k != size; k++) {
10      s.push_back(q.front());
11      q.pop_front(); genPerms(q,
12      s); q.push_back(s.back());
13      s.pop_back();
14    } // for
15  } // genPerms()
16
```

Implementation: Sample Driver

```
1   int main() {
2       unsigned n;
3       string junk;
4       cout << "Enter n: " << flush;
5       while (!(cin >> n)) {
6           cin.clear(); getline(cin,
7           junk);
8           cout << "Enter n: " << flush;
9       } // while
10
11      vector<unsigned> s;
12      deque<unsigned> q(n);
13      iota(q.begin(), q.end(), 1);
14      genPerms(q, s);
15      return 0;
16  } // main()
```

Implement to Test

- **Q**: how does the recursive permutation enumerator compare to STL's function next_permutation() ?

http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/algorithm/next_permutation

- **A**: each method has its advantages and can be more appropriate in some situations
- Interview brainteaser
  - You are given four digits: 3 3 8 8 (can reorder)
  - Can use any combination of +, -, * and / (no power/exp, no concatenation)
  - Find a way to express **24**
  - Examples: 22=3+3+8+8, 23=(8-3)*3+8, 25=(8-3)*(8-3)

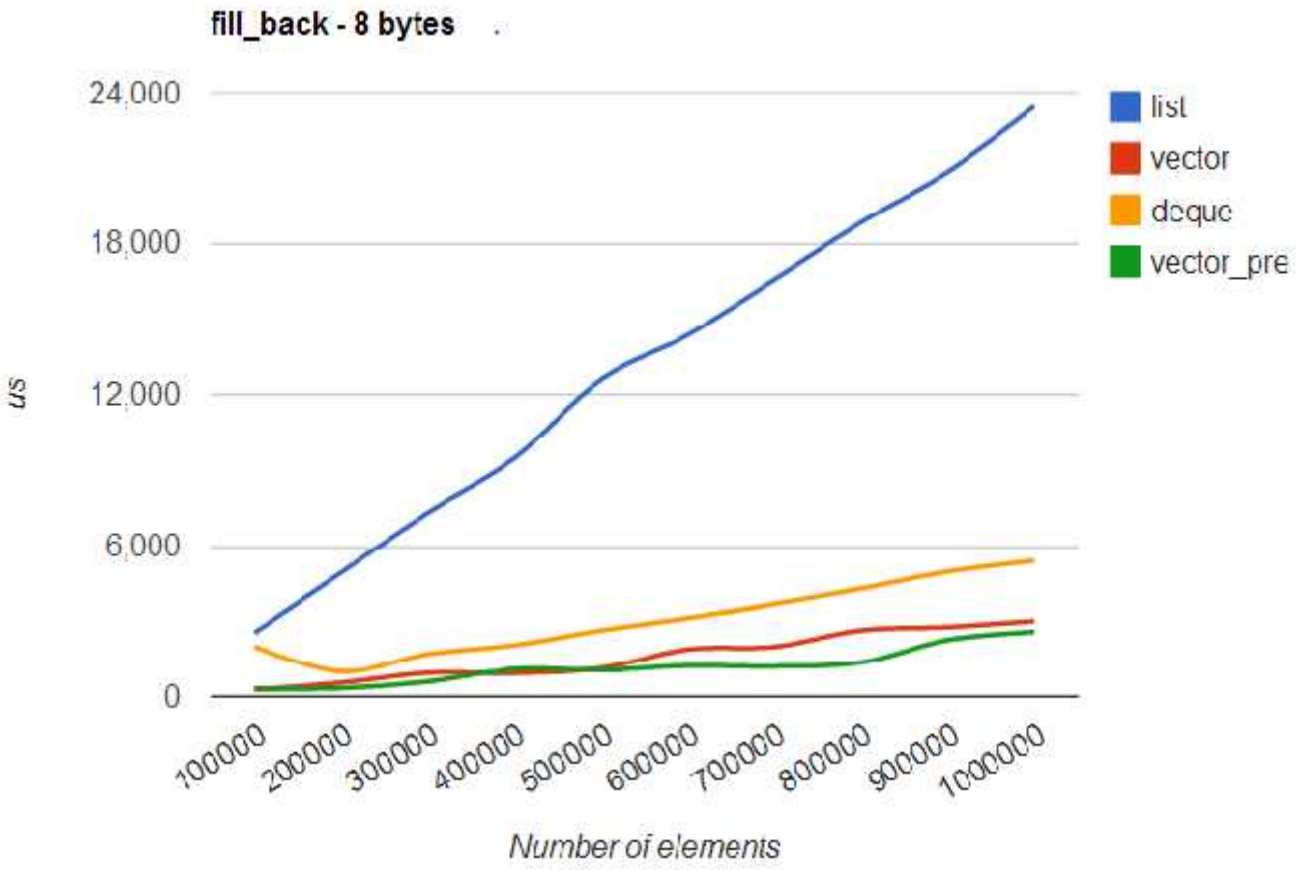
Relative Performance of STL Containers (1)

Filling an empty container with different values

vector_pre used vector::resize() (a single allocation)

Intel Core i7 Q820 @1.73GHz

GCC 4.7.2 (64b) -02 -std=c++11 -march=native

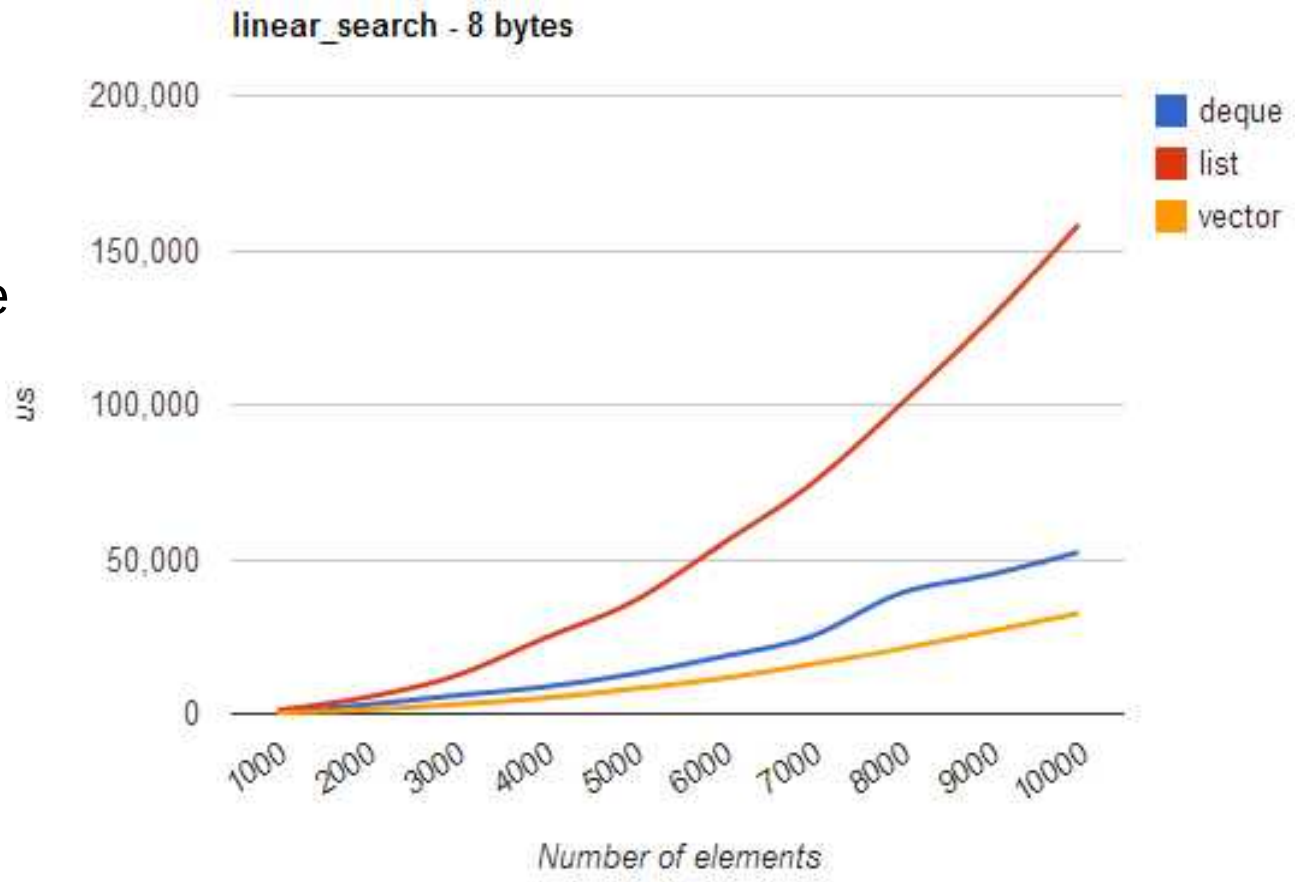


http://www.baptiste-wicht.com/2012/12/cpp-benchmark-vector-list-deque/

Relative Performance of STL Containers (2)

Fill the container with numbers [0, *N*], shuffle at random;

search for each value using std::find()



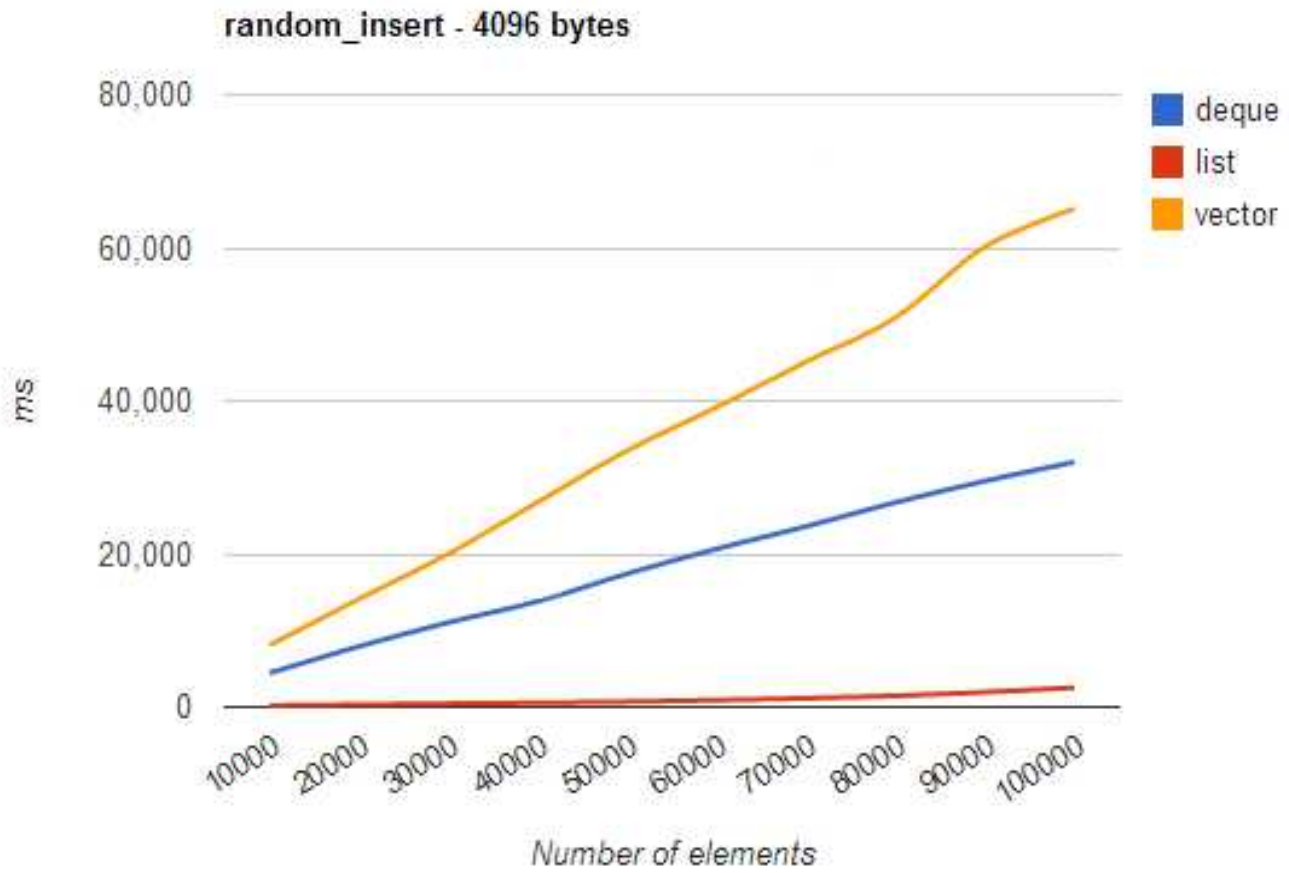
http://www.baptiste-wicht.com/2012/12/cpp-benchmark-vector-list-deque/

Relative Performance of STL Containers (3)

Fill the container with numbers [0, *N*], shuffle at random;

Pick a random position by linear search

Insert 1000 values



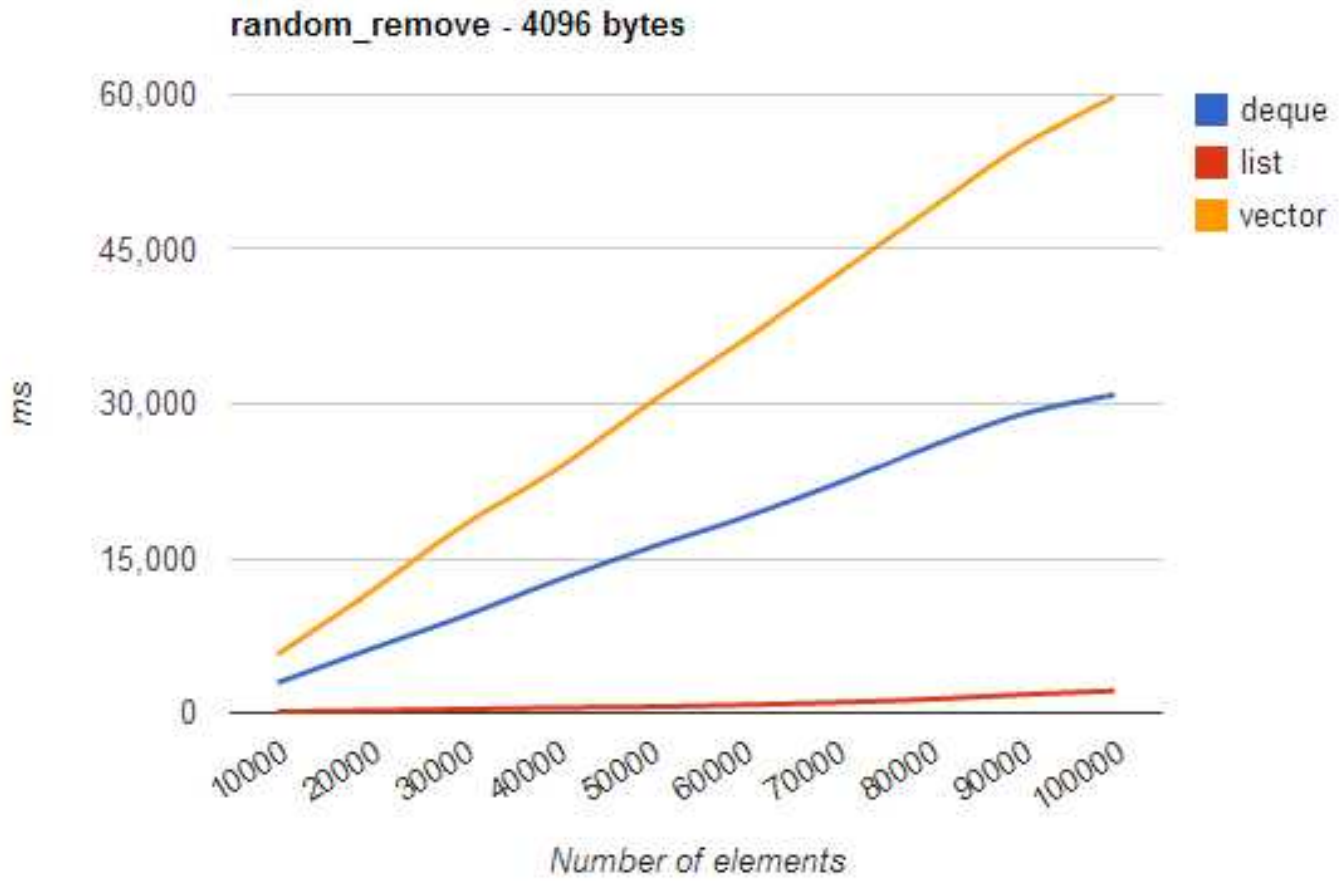
http://www.baptiste-wicht.com/2012/12/cpp-benchmark-vector-list-deque/

Relative Performance of STL Containers (4)

Fill the container with numbers [0, *N*], shuffle at random;

Pick a random position by linear search

Remove 1000 elements

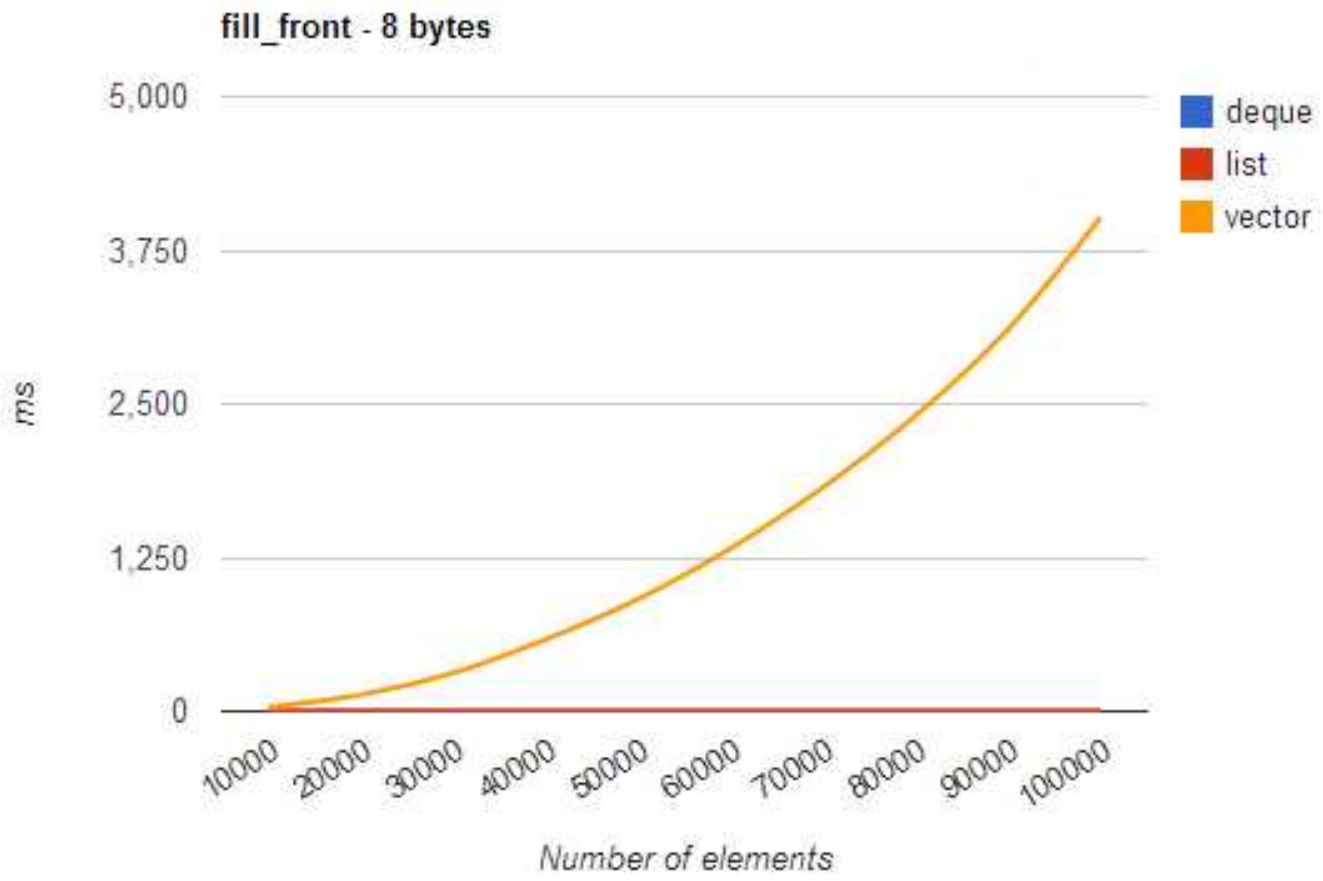


http://www.baptiste-wicht.com/2012/12/cpp-benchmark-vector-list-deque/

Relative Performance of STL Containers (5)

Insert new values at the front

A vector needs to move all prior elts, but a list does not



http://www.baptiste-wicht.com/2012/12/cpp-benchmark-vector-list-deque/

What to study?

- What is an ADT?
- Define the following:
  - Stack
  - Queue
  - Deque
  - Priority queue
- How would you implement each ADT above?
- Compare the performance of vector, deque and list classes based on their implementation
- Describe several applications where one data structure would be more relevant than another