

### 10.2-7.

Give a  $\Theta(n)$ -time nonrecursive procedure that reverses a singly linked list of  $n$  elements. The procedure should use no more than a constant storage beyond that needed for the list itself.

**Answer.**

The LIST-REVERSE procedure reverse a given list while walking down to its tail. We employ three auxiliary pointers so as to capture both the predecessor and successor of the currently visited object.

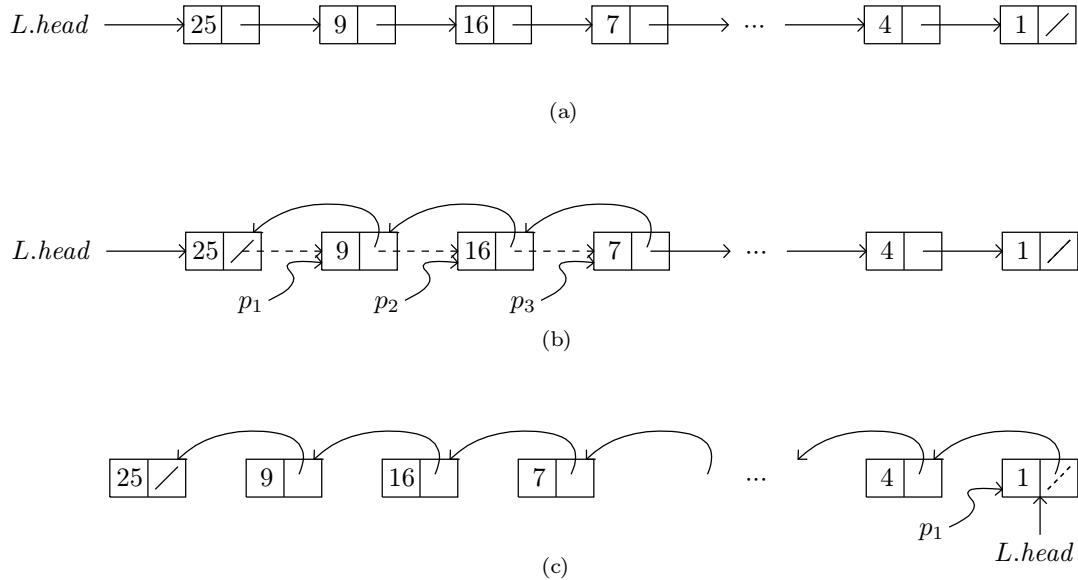
LIST-REVERSE( $L$ )

```

1  if  $L.head == \text{NIL}$ 
2      error "empty list"
3  elseif  $L.head.next == \text{NIL}$ 
4      done
5  else
6       $p_1 = L.head.next$ 
7       $L.head.next = \text{NIL}$ 
8       $p_2 = p_1.next$ 
9       $p_1.next = L.head$ 
10     while  $p_2 \neq \text{NIL}$ 
11          $p_3 = p_2.next$ 
12          $p_2.next = p_1$ 
13          $p_1 = p_2$ 
14          $p_2 = p_3$ 
15      $L.head = p_1$ 

```

Figure 1 gives a rather intuitive illustration of it while reversing a sample list. The LIST-REVERSE procedure takes  $\Theta(n)$  time to reverse a list of  $n$  elements.



**Figure 1.** (a) a singly linked list  $L$  representing the dynamic set  $\{25, 9, 16, 7, \dots, 4, 1\}$ . Each element in the list is an object with attributes for the key and pointer to the next object. (b) The list structure after the first two iterations of reversion, the dashed arrows indicates the destroyed pointers. (c) The result of the call to LIST-REVERSE( $L$ ), where  $L.head$  points to the object with key 1.

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