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Linked lists

Uses

- used to implement high-level data structures such as stack, queues and graphs
- used by O/Ss in dynamic memory allocation

Compared to arrays

- advantages
 - memory is allocated dynamically, so can be arbitrarily large
 - arrays require contiguous space: can be difficult to handle, unlike linked lists
 - can delete nodes easily/cleanly
- disadvantages
 - cannot do random access, which arrays can
 - can only sequentially access, but arrays do this faster
 - larger overhead (e.g. a *malloc()* for every *push()*)
 - an extra pointer for every element

If performance is an issue

- *binary search trees* almost always perform better than linked lists

What is a linked list?

A linked-list is a sequential collection of items that cannot be accessed randomly

- self-referential (nodes link to nodes)
- may be cyclic


A linked list consists of

- nodes
- a 'special' node that defines the **first** node, also called the **head**
- another 'special' node that acts to end the list
 - it may be NULL
 - it may be a dummy (also called sentinel) node
 - it may be the **first** node (hence the list is circular)

A **node** is a structure that contains

- data and
- a pointer to the **next** node if it is singly linked

- or pointers to the **previous** and **next** nodes if it is doubly linked

 Wikipedia's description of a linked list

There are many ways of declaring a linked list.

1. Typically:

- first declare a *struct* that contains *data* and a pointer to itself:

切换行号显示

```
1  typedef struct node ListNode;
2  struct node {
3      int data;
4      ListNode *next;
5  }
```

- then declare a *struct* containing a pointer to the first node:

切换行号显示

```
1  typedef struct FirstNode *LinkedList;
2  struct FirstNode{
3      ListNode *first;
4  }
```

2. Sedgwick:

- declares it as simply a link to a structure

切换行号显示

```
1  typedef struct node *Link;
2  struct node{
3      int data;
4      Link next;
5  }
```

3. I will use:

切换行号显示

```
1  typedef struct node {
2      int data;
3      struct node *next;
4  } List;
```

Example: a 2-node linked list

This is an illustrative example that shows basic functionality.

- it shows the simplest possible meaningful linked list being created and destroyed
- it is just a main program, no functions are used

切换行号显示

```
1  // twoNodesList.c: create a linked list of length 2 entered with prompts
2  #include <stdio.h>
3  #include <stdlib.h>
4
5  /**/ typedef struct node { /**/
6  /**/     int data; /**/
7  /**/     struct node *next; /**/
8  /**/ } List; /**/
9
10 int main(void) {
11     List *l;
12     List *m;
13
14     l = malloc(sizeof(List)); // get memory space for the first node
15     m = malloc(sizeof(List)); // get memory space for the second node
16     if (l==NULL || m==NULL){
17         fprintf(stderr, "Out of memory\n");
```

```

18     return EXIT_FAILURE;
19 }
20 printf("Enter first integer: ");
21 if (scanf("%d", &l->data) == 1) { // l's data is assigned
22     l->next = m; // l's next is assigned
23     printf("Enter second integer: ");
24     if (scanf("%d", &m->data) == 1) { // m's data is assigned
25         m->next = NULL; // m's next is assigned
26         // print the 'list'
27         printf("Element 1 is %d\n", l->data);
28         printf("Element 2 is %d\n", l->next->data); //m->data
29     }
30 }
31 // clean up: destroy both nodes
32 free(l); // give back the memory to the heap!
33 free(m);
34 l = NULL; // zap the pointer so it cannot be reused
35 m = NULL;
36 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
37 }

```

Notice:

- a *malloc* is used to create memory for each node on the heap
 - need a *free* to give the memory back to the heap when finished
 - if you don't, you will **leak memory**
 - as well the node pointers need to be *nulled*
 - if you don't, you will have **dangling pointers**

Notice as well:

- there are no loops anywhere in the program
 - as there are only 2 nodes, they can be handled individually
 - in line 28, we print *l->next->data* which is the data in node *m*
 - this is not the normal way of using links, but is allowed
 - *l->next->data* is the same as *m->data* because of line 22
- by the way: if you had at least 3 nodes, and you verify that 3 nodes exist you can operate on data using links

切换行号显示

```
1 int i = a->data + a->next->data + a->next->next->data;
```

- but it is unusual and clumsy

Example: a more general example

The previous example is very limited as there are only 2 nodes.

Here is an example of creating an arbitrarily-long linked list, printing its contents, and 'destroying' the list

- as it is arbitrarily long, we must use loops to traverse the list
 - notice in the program
 - create the list: uses a *for* loop
 - print the list: uses a *while* loop
 - free the list: uses a *while* loop

切换行号显示

```

1 // linkedFloats.c
2 // create and de-create a linked list of 10 floating-point numbers
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #include <stdlib.h>
5
6 #define MAX 10.0
7
8 /**/ typedef struct node { /**/

```

```

 9  /**/      float  ship;          /**/
10  /**/      struct node *next;    /**/
11  /**/    } List;                /**/
12
13 void print(List *start) {
14     if (start != NULL) {
15         List *p;
16         p = start;
17         while (p != NULL) {
18             printf("%.1f ", p->ship);
19             p = p->next;
20         }
21         putchar('\n');
22     }
23     return;
24 }
25
26 int main(void) {
27     List *first = NULL;          // point to first node
28     List *previous = NULL;      // point to previous node, or NULL
29     List *n;
30
31     // create a linked list of MAX float nodes
32     for (float f = 0.0; f <= MAX; f++) {
33         n = malloc(sizeof(struct node));
34         if (n == NULL) {
35             fprintf(stderr, "Out of memory\n");
36             return EXIT_FAILURE;
37         }
38         n->ship = f;              // put data in the node
39         n->next = NULL;          // assume no next (maybe last node)
40
41         if (first == NULL) { // if NULL, this is the first node
42             first = n;        // REALLY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER FIRST NODE
43         }
44         else {
45             previous->next = n; // if not first, BACKPATCH previous
46         }
47         previous = n;          // remember this node for next iteration
48     }
49     print(first);
50
51     // un-create, i.e. free, the linked list
52     n = first;                 // start at the first node
53     while (n != NULL) {        // as long as there are more nodes
54         List *tmp = n->next;    // remember next in tmp before freeing
55         free(n);                // free = put memory back on heap
56         n = tmp;                // n is now the next node
57     }
58     // print(first);            // WHAT DOES THIS DO?
59     // print(previous);         // WHAT DOES THIS DO?
60     // print(n);                // WHAT DOES THIS DO?
61
62     // don't leave anything dangling
63     first = NULL;
64     //print(first);             // WHAT DOES THIS DO?
65     previous = NULL;
66     n = NULL;
67     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
68 }

```

Compile and execute:

```

prompt$ gcc linkedFloats.c
prompt$ ./a.out
0.0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0 8.0 9.0 10.0

```

Standard linked-list functionality

List traversal

It depends on what you want to do during the traversal.

- Example 1: equivalent to *print()* in *linkedFloat.c*

切换行号显示

```
1 void printList(List *head) {
2     List *cur;
3     for (cur = head; cur != NULL; cur = cur->next) {
4         printf("%d\n", cur->data); // a newline for every element
5     }
6     return;
7 }
```

- Example 2: free all the nodes in a linked list

切换行号显示

```
1 void freeList(List *head) {
2     List *cur;
3     cur = head;
4     while (cur != NULL) {
5         List *tmp = cur->next; // save ptr to next node before free the
node
6         free(cur);
7         cur = tmp;
8     }
9     return;
10 }
```

List node creation

You can put the *malloc()* into a function

切换行号显示

```
1 List *makeNode(int v) {
2     List *new;
3     new = malloc(sizeof(List));
4     if (new == NULL) {
5         fprintf(stderr, "Out of memory\n");
6         exit(1);
7     }
8     new->data = v;
9     new->next = NULL; // play it safe and make it NULL
10    return new;
11 }
```

List node deletion

Delete a given node *n* from a linked list

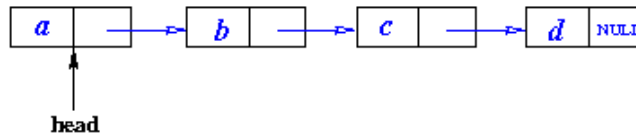
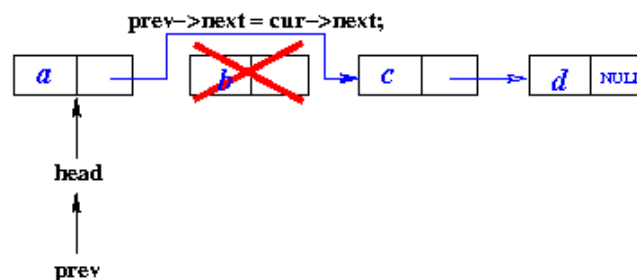
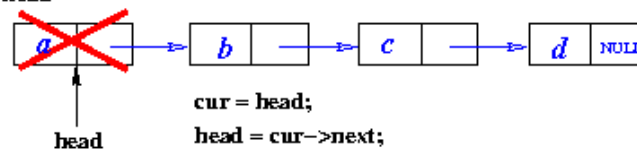
切换行号显示

```
1 List *deleteNode(List *head, List *remn) {
2     // if node remn is found it is removed and freed
3     // it is really important to make sure we do not leave the list headless
4     List *prev = NULL;
5
6     if (head == NULL) { // no list: something wrong?
7         return head; // this return is best placed here
8     }
9
10    List *cur = head;
11    while (cur != remn && cur != NULL) { // look for remn
12        prev = cur;
13        cur = cur->next;
14    }
15    if (cur != NULL) { // cur must be remn
16        if (prev == NULL) { // if prev is NULL then cur = head
17            head = cur->next; // remove head, make its next the
head
18        }
19        else { // if cur has a prev
```

```

20         prev->next = cur->next;    // jump over cur by backpatching prev
21     }
22     free(cur);                      // either way, cur is freed
23     cur = NULL;
24 }
25 // if cur==NULL then remn is not in list so nothing to do
26 return head;
27 }

```

Linked list**Delete from the 'middle' or delete the end node****Delete the head**

A linked-list based quack ADT

We must comply with the given ADT interface

- so we cannot use the functions *makeNode()* and *deleteNode()* above

The *Quack* interface was:

切换行号显示

```

1 // quack.h: an interface definition for a queue/stack
2 #include <stdio.h>
3 #include <stdlib.h>
4
5 typedef struct node *Quack;
6
7 Quack createQuack(void);    // create and return Quack
8 Quack destroyQuack(Quack); // remove the Quack
9 void push(int, Quack);     // put the given integer onto the top of the
quack
10 void qush(int, Quack);     // put the given integer onto the bottom of the
quack
11 int pop(Quack);           // pop and return the top element on the quack
12 int isEmptyQuack(Quack);  // return 1 is Quack is empty, else 0
13 void makeEmptyQuack(Quack); // remove all the elements on Quack
14 void showQuack(Quack);    // print the contents of Quack, from the top down
15

```

We implemented this interface in the ADT lecture using an array, with a maximum capacity.

We now implement it using a linked list, which has no (in-built) maximum capacity.

- each element in the *quack* is a node
- as the elements are pushed onto the quack, the list grows in length
- the length is unbounded (as an ADT)
 - *push()* cannot cause **overflow** (but a *malloc()* can fail)
 - *pop()* can still cause **underflow** of course

切换行号显示

```

1 // QuackLL.c: a linked-list-based implementation of a quack
2 #include "Quack.h"
3 #include "limits.h"
4
5 #define MARKERDATA INT_MAX // dummy data
6
7 struct node {
8     int data;
9     struct node *next;
10 };
11
12 Quack createQuack(void) {
13     Quack marker;
14     marker = malloc(sizeof(struct node));
15     if (marker == NULL) {
16         fprintf(stderr, "createQuack: no memory, aborting\n");
17         exit(1);
18     }
19     marker->data = MARKERDATA; // should never be used
20     marker->next = NULL;
21     return marker;
22 }
23
24 void push(int data, Quack qs) {
25     Quack newnode;
26     if (qs == NULL) {
27         fprintf(stderr, "push: quack not initialised\n");
28     }
29     else {
30         newnode = malloc(sizeof(struct node));
31         if (newnode == NULL) {
32             fprintf(stderr, "push: no memory, aborting\n");
33             exit(1);
34         }
35         newnode->data = data;
36         newnode->next = qs->next;
37         qs->next = newnode;
38     }
39     return;
40 }
41
42 void qush(int data, Quack qs) {
43     // code not shown
44
45     return;
46 }
47
48
49 int pop(Quack qs) {
50     int retval = 0;
51     if (qs == NULL) {
52         fprintf(stderr, "pop: quack not initialised\n");
53     }
54     else {
55         if (isEmptyQuack(qs)) {
56             fprintf(stderr, "pop: quack underflow\n");
57         }
58         else {
59             Quack topnode = qs->next; // top dummy node is always there
60             retval = topnode->data;
61             qs->next = topnode->next;
62             free(topnode);
63         }
64     }
65 }

```

```

64     }
65     return retval;
66 }
67
68 Quack destroyQuack(Quack qs) { // remove the Quack and returns NULL
69     if (qs == NULL) {
70         fprintf(stderr, "destroyQuack: quack not initialised\n");
71     }
72     else {
73         Quack ptr = qs->next;
74         while (ptr != NULL) {
75             Quack tmp = ptr->next;
76             free(ptr);
77             ptr = tmp;
78         }
79         free(qs);
80     }
81     return NULL;
82 }
83
84 void makeEmptyQuack(Quack qs) {
85     if (qs == NULL)
86         fprintf(stderr, "makeEmptyQuack: quack not initialised\n");
87     else {
88         while (!isEmptyQuack(qs)) {
89             pop(qs);
90         }
91     }
92     return;
93 }
94
95 int isEmptyQuack(Quack qs) {
96     int empty = 0;
97     if (qs == NULL) {
98         fprintf(stderr, "isEmptyQuack: quack not initialised\n");
99     }
100    else {
101        empty = qs->next == NULL;
102    }
103    return empty;
104 }
105
106 void showQuack(Quack qs) {
107     if (qs == NULL) {
108         fprintf(stderr, "showQuack: quack not initialised\n");
109     }
110     else {
111         printf("Quack: ");
112         if (qs->next == NULL) {
113             printf("<< >>\n");
114         }
115         else {
116             printf("<<"); // start with <<
117             qs = qs->next; // step over the marker link
118             while (qs->next != NULL) {
119                 printf("%d, ", qs->data); // print each element
120                 qs = qs->next;
121             }
122             printf("%d>>\n", qs->data); // last element ends with >>
123         }
124     }
125     return;
126 }

```

Note that a *createQuack()*, which takes no arguments

- creates a special *HEAD* node of the linked list
- this node is permanent and contains 'dummy' data `INT_MAX`
- it cannot be deleted
- if the quack is empty, the *HEAD* node's *next* field is `NULL`
- if the quack is not empty, the *HEAD* node *next* field points to top node
- returns the head node to the client

If the client node is

切换行号显示

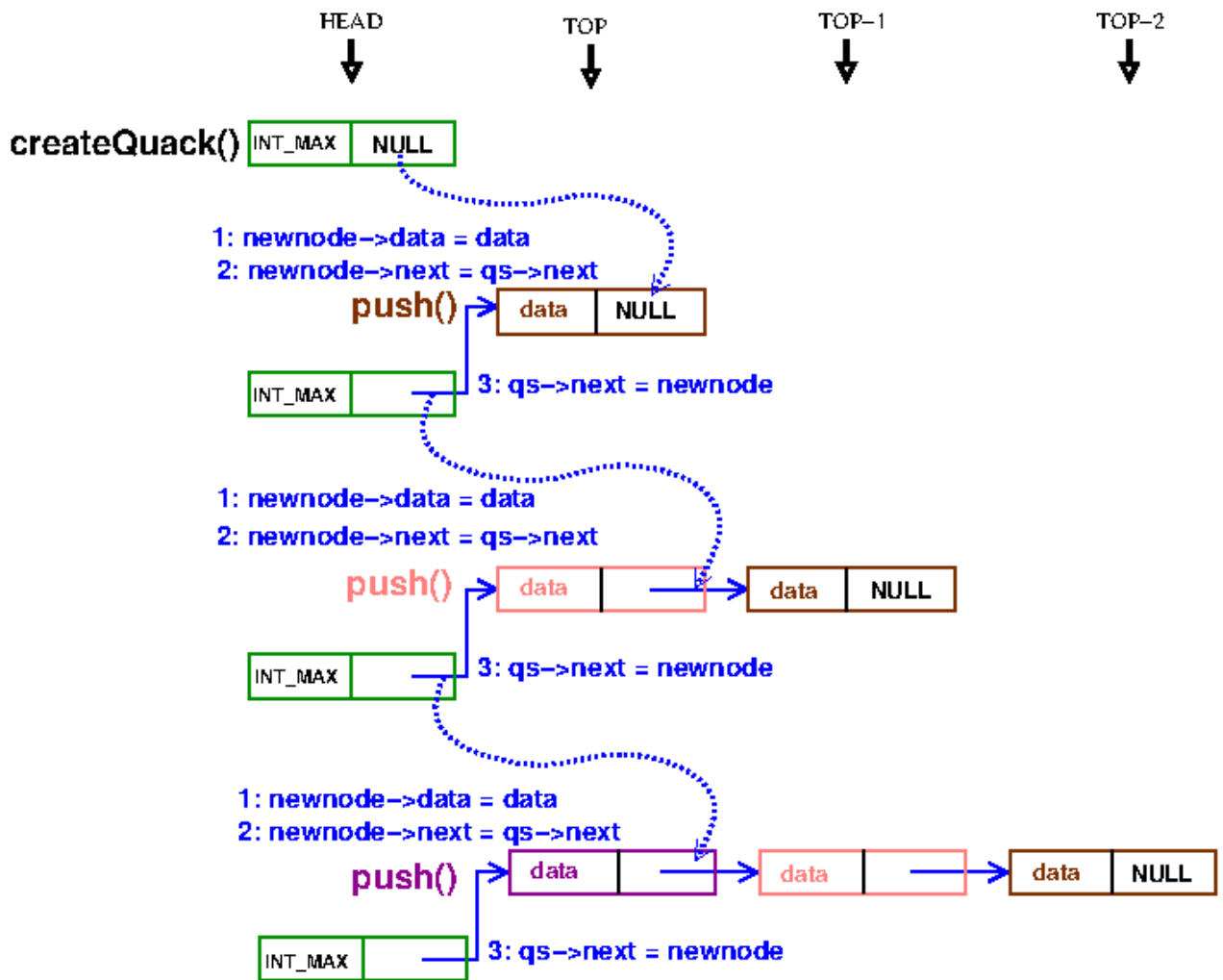
```
1 Quack qs = createQuack();
```

then every quack command uses the variable *qs* to change the quack. For example:

切换行号显示

```
1 push(123, qs);
2 int x = pop(qs);
3 makeEmptyQuack(qs);
4 showQuack(qs);
```

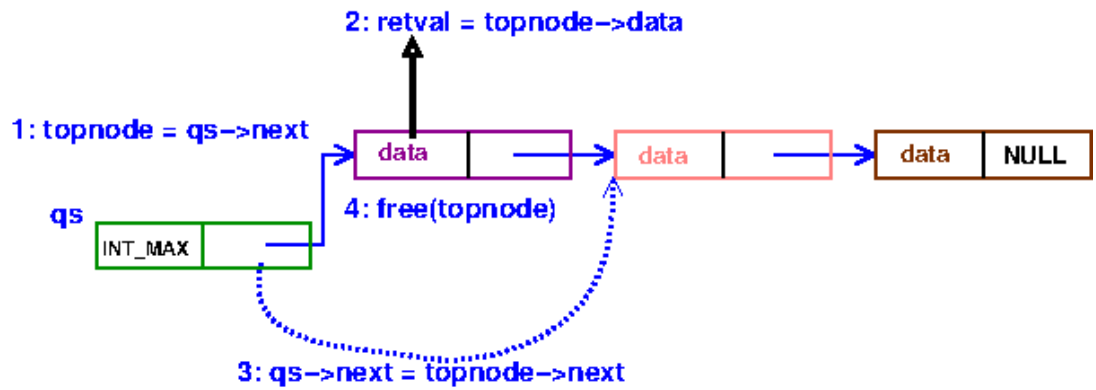
Let's create a new quack and push 3 data elements on it.



So,

- the top of quack is always the 2nd node in the linked list
- *push()* always inserts a new 2nd node in the linked list
- *pop()* always removes the 2nd node in the linked list
- *showQuack()* does not show the *HEAD* node

Here is a pop in action.

pop()

Client: reverse a string using the linked list quack

Remember the client program that reverses the string on the command line

切换行号显示

```

1 // revarg.c: reverse the chars in the first command-line argument
2 #include <stdio.h>
3 #include <stdlib.h>
4 #include "quack.h"
5
6 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
7     Quack s = NULL;
8
9     if (argc >= 2) {
10         char *inputc = argv[1];
11         s = createQuack();
12         while (*inputc != '\0') {
13             push(*inputc++, s);
14         }
15         while (!isEmptyQuack(s)) {
16             printf("%c", pop(s));
17         }
18         putchar('\n');
19     }
20     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
21 }

```

We now have two implementations of a quack ADT

- the array version *quack.c*
- the linked-list version *quackLL.c*

Both use the same interface *quack.h* (of course)

Compile and run both with the client *revarg.c*

```

prompt$ dcc quack.c revarg.c
prompt$ ./a.out 0123456789
9876543210

prompt$ dcc quackLL.c revarg.c
prompt$ ./a.out 0123456789
9876543210

```

An ADT for linked lists

It is possible to make an ADT that lets you

- put elements on a linked list
 - insert at the head or the tail
 - much like a **push** or **qush**
- get elements from a linked list

- take from the head or the tail
- much like a **pop** or **qop**
- ask whether a linked list is empty
- print a linked list

This means that a *client* program:

- puts and gets data
- cannot see the nodes or pointers between the nodes

A linked list ADT interface

切换行号显示

```

1 // LL.h
2 // ADT interface for a linked list
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #include <stdlib.h>
5
6 typedef struct node *List;
7
8 List createList(void); // creates and returns an empty linked list
9 void putHead(int, List); // inserts data at the head of the list
10 void putTail(int, List); // inserts data at the tail of the list
11 int getHead(List); // removes and returns the head of the list
12 int getTail(List); // removes and returns the tail of the list
13 int isEmptyList(List); // 0/1 if the linked list is empty or not
14 void showList(List); // prints the linked list (not the head node)
15

```

A linked-list ADT

切换行号显示

```

1 /*
2  LL.c
3  an ADT for a linked list
4  */
5
6 #include "LL.h"
7 #include <limits.h>
8
9 struct node {
10     int data;
11     struct node *next;
12 };
13
14 List createList(void) { // creates a node, fills with INT_MAX and NULL
15     List marker;
16     marker = malloc(sizeof(struct node));
17     if (marker == NULL) {
18         fprintf(stderr, "createList: no memory, aborting\n");
19         exit(1);
20     }
21     marker->data = INT_MAX; // defined in <limits.h>
22     marker->next = NULL;
23     return marker;
24 }
25
26 void putTail(int n, List marker) { // add new data to the tail
27     if (marker == NULL) {
28         fprintf(stderr, "putTail: no linked list found\n");
29     }
30     else {
31         List new = createList(); // re-use of createList to make a node
32         new->data = n; // overwrites INT_MAX with proper data
33         List p = marker;
34         while (p->next != NULL) { // find the last node
35             p = p->next;
36         }
37         p->next = new; // append new to the list
38     }
39 }

```

```

39     return;
40 }
41
42 void putHead(int n, List marker) { // insert at the head
43     // code not shown
44 }
45
46 int getTail(List marker) {          // get & delete last node
47     // code not shown
48     return 0; // here only to allow compilation
49 }
50
51 int getHead(List marker) {          // get & delete head node
52     // code not shown
53     return 0; // here only to allow compilation
54 }
55
56 int isEmptyList(List marker) {      // 0 is false, 1 is true
57     int empty = 0;
58     if (marker == NULL) {
59         fprintf(stderr, "isEmptyList: no linked list found\n");
60     }
61     else {
62         empty = marker->next == NULL;
63     }
64     return empty;
65 }
66
67 void showList(List marker) {
68     if (marker == NULL) {
69         fprintf(stderr, "showList: no linked list found\n");
70     }
71     else {
72         printf("List: ");
73         if (marker->next == NULL) {
74             printf("<< >>\n");
75         }
76         else {
77             printf("<<");
78             List p = marker->next; // get the head
79             while (p->next != NULL) {
80                 printf("%d, ", p->data); // print each element
81                 p = p->next;
82             }
83             printf("%d>>\n", p->data); // last element + >>
84         }
85     }
86     return;
87 }

```

The exercises to write the code for the missing functions in this ADT are in Week7Exercises

A test client for the linked-list ADT

切换行号显示

```

1 // testLL.c: hard-coded tester for the linked-list ADT
2 //      put testdata onto the head and tail of a linked list
3 //      get data from the head and tail of the linked list
4 //      sum the data while emptying the list
5 #include <stdio.h>
6 #include <stdlib.h>
7 #include "LL.h"
8
9 int main() {
10     int testdata[7] = {10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60}; // 1 extra for the '\0'
11     List ll = createList();
12
13     printf("Data is:\n\t"); // check what the test data is
14     for (int i = 0; i < 6; i++) {
15         printf("%d ", testdata[i]);
16     }
17     putchar('\n');
18
19     int *p = testdata;

```

```

20     printf("Test 1. Show each putHead of testdata:\n");
21     while (*p != '\0') {
22         putHead(*p++, ll);
23         putchar('\t'); showList(ll);
24     }
25
26     printf("Test 2. Show 3 getTails and putHeads:\n");
27     for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
28         putHead(getTail(ll), ll);
29         putchar('\t'); showList(ll);
30     }
31
32     printf("Test 3. Show 3 getHeads and putTails:\n");
33     for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
34         putTail(getHead(ll), ll);
35         putchar('\t'); showList(ll);
36     }
37
38     printf("Test 4. Show isEmpty working, sum from back onto front\n");
39     int oneleft = 0;
40     while (!oneleft) {
41         int tmp = getTail(ll) + getTail(ll);
42         if (isEmptyList(ll)) {
43             oneleft = 1;
44         }
45         putHead(tmp, ll);
46         putchar('\t'); showList(ll);
47     }
48
49     printf("Test 5. The final act, getHead the sum and check list
isEmpty\n");
50     int sum = getHead(ll);
51     if (isEmptyList(ll)) {
52         putchar('\t'); showList(ll);
53         printf("\tSum = %d\n", sum);
54     }
55     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
56 }

```

Output is:

```

Data is:
10 20 30 40 50 60
Test 1. Show each putHead of testdata:
List: <<10>>
List: <<20, 10>>
List: <<30, 20, 10>>
List: <<40, 30, 20, 10>>
List: <<50, 40, 30, 20, 10>>
List: <<60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10>>
Test 2. Show 3 getTails and putHeads:
List: <<10, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20>>
List: <<20, 10, 60, 50, 40, 30>>
List: <<30, 20, 10, 60, 50, 40>>
Test 3. Show 3 getHeads and putTails:
List: <<20, 10, 60, 50, 40, 30>>
List: <<10, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20>>
List: <<60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10>>
Test 4. Show isEmpty working, sum from back onto front
List: <<30, 60, 50, 40, 30>>
List: <<70, 30, 60, 50>>
List: <<110, 70, 30>>
List: <<100, 110>>
List: <<210>>
Test 5. The final act, getHead the sum and check list isEmpty
List: << >>
Sum = 210

```