

Positional List ADT

- serves as a more general abstraction; provides a way to refer to elements anywhere in a sequence, or perform arbitrary insertions & deletions
- word processors often use a cursor to describe a position within a document w/o having to use integer indexes
- using a linked list, we can perform $O(1)$ time insertions & deletions, given a reference to a relevant node in the list

Positional List Abstract Data Type

- a position instance is a simple obj, supporting only:

$p.\text{element}()$: return element stored at p

- behaviors of a positional list

$L.\text{first}()$: return position of first element in L

$L.\text{before}(p)$: return pos. of L immediately before p

$L.\text{last}()$

last element in L

$L.\text{after}(p)$:

after p

$\text{iter}(L)$: return a forward iterator for the elements of the list

$L.\text{add-first}(e)$: insert e at front of L

$L.\text{add-before}(p, e)$: insert e before p in L

$L.\text{add-last}(e)$:

back of L

$L.\text{add-last}(p, e)$:

after p in L

$L.\text{replace}(p, e)$: replace element at p with element e

$L.\text{delete}(p)$: remove and return element at p in L

- the advantage of receiving a position means we can use it to navigate the list
example to print all elements of a positional list:

```
cursor = data.first()
```

```
while cursor is not None:
```

```
    print(cursor.element())
```

```
    cursor = data.after(cursor)
```