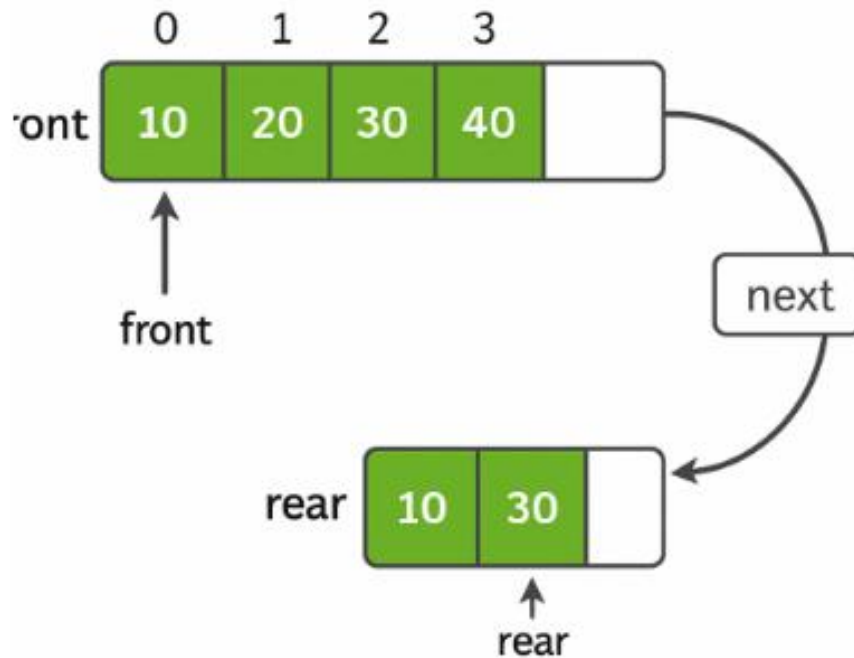


## Circular Queue using Array



### What the diagram shows

The diagram represents a **circular queue** stored inside an **array**.

Example array contents:

Index: 0 1 2 3 4  
Value: 10 20 30 40 (empty)

**front = 0**

**(pointing to 10)**

**rear = 3**

**(pointing to 40)**

---

## Why is it called “circular”?

Because when you reach the end of the array (**index 4**), the next position wraps around to index **0**.

This is done using:

**$\text{rear} = (\text{rear} + 1) \% \text{capacity}$**

So the queue behaves like a circle even though it's stored in a straight array.

---

## How enqueue works

When you do:

**enqueue(10)**

**enqueue(20)**

**enqueue(30)**

**enqueue(40)**

Array looks like this:

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 10  | 20  | 30  | 40  |   |   |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
  ↑               ↑
front = 0      rear = 3
```

If you add one more element:

**$\text{rear} = (3 + 1) \% 5 = 4$**

So the next element goes at index **4**.

If you add another:

$$\text{rear} = (4 + 1) \% 5 = 0$$

**THIS is the circular part!**

---

### How dequeue works

When you remove:

**dequeue()**

**The element at front (10) is removed.**

Then:

$$\text{front} = (\text{front} + 1) \% \text{capacity}$$

$$\text{front} = (0 + 1) \% 5 = 1$$

Now front points to 20.

---

### Why this is useful?

A circular queue:

- avoids memory waste
- reuses empty positions
- works fast ( $O(1)$  operations)
- is perfect for buffers, scheduling, and real-time systems