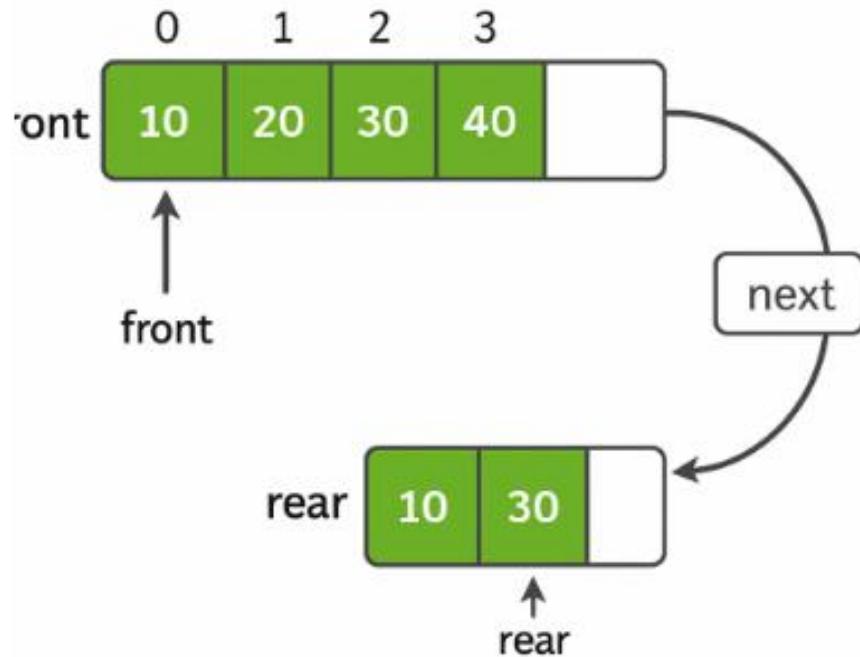


Circular Queue using Array



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:

rear = (rear + 1) % 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:

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