

Introduction

So far: only data structure is array

- Two ways to use an array
 - Static fixed-size array: compile-time known size

```
int a[100];
```

- Dynamically allocated fixed-size array:

```
int n;  
cin >> n;  
int* b = new int[n]; //b will be a pointer to the first element of the  
array
```

- You can't during execution later on change the size of the array

- Another way to use an array: resizable array
 - Make it look like the array is as big as you need it to be
 - Done typically inside a class

```
Object {  
    pointer to some dynamically allocated array  
    size = 3; how many elements you are actually using  
    CAP = 5; indication of the capacity of the array  
}  
  
operation add {  
    if size is less than CAP --> there is room  
    once we put one more, failure...  
}
```

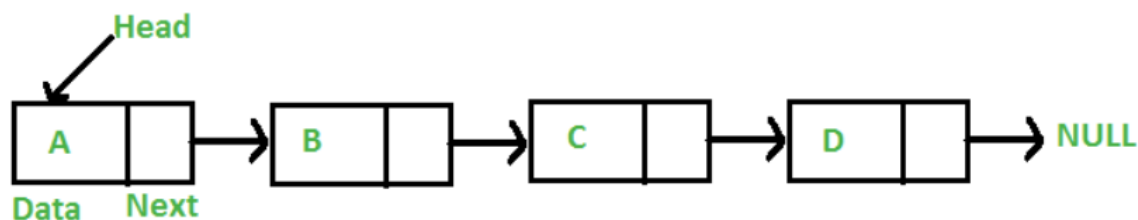
- Resizable array
 - If there is room, put element in dynamic array
 - If there is no room, allocate a new array
 - Go through old array and store everything into new array, update pointer, update capacity
 - Delete old array
- In the standard library: **vector**

- Common property for all array-like random structures: consecutive storing of elements
 - Advantage
 - Quick random access `a[3]`
 - Compiler knows: location of array `a` + type of element
 - e.g. if type is double --> 8 bytes, then compiler just does $1000 + 8*k$ for `a[k]`
 - trivial calculation
 - Disadvantage
 - Costly insertion/removal for ordered elements
 - Exception: insertion/removal at the end
 - delete/add one, change size -> cheap operation
 - do this when your items do not have to be ordered
 - If you want to add a new item between consecutive elements -> shift all elements to make room for insertion/removal
 - Insertion/removal near the beginning much more costly than end

Linked List

Goal: represent a collection of values for which inserting and removing items preserves the order of the other items, but is efficient even if the insertions are not at the end

- What if we don't require elements be stored one right after the other? (as in an array)
- Linked List General Idea
 - We can store each item in random addresses, we only follow the arrows
 - We have each item store its own value + a pointer to the next item
 - To insert: change the pointer of the previous item to point to new item, have new item's pointer point to next item
 - To remove: delete item's pointer, have previous item's pointer point to next item
 - To print: visit each item through the previous item, stop until we reach the `nullptr`
 - Our last item should point to the `nullptr` successor
 - To know our first item, we need a pointer variable `head` that points to the first item of the list
 - A list with no items: `head` points to the `nullptr`



When working with linked lists, draw pictures!!

Using a Linked List Code

- Declaration of `Node`

```
struct Node
{
    int value; //value associated with the node
    Node* next; //pointer to the next node
};

Node* head; //pointer to the first node
```

- `Node* next`: this is legal because compiler knows `Node` once it got pass first line, and it knows the size of a pointer that is enough information
 - `Node next`: this is ILLEGAL
 - how big is a node? size of `Node` = size of `Node` + size of `int` --> infinite
- Print the list in "order"
 - Idea 1 : while our head is not the `nullptr`, we print out the head's value and advance the head to the next

```
while (head != nullptr)
{
    cout << head-> value << endl;
    head = head -> next;
}
```

- Code trace: we keep keep keep moving head until head is advanced to the `nullptr`, everything is printed
 - head now points to a `nullptr`
 - PROBLEM: **memory leak**, lost access to the linked list because `head` is not pointing to the "first" node anymore, it is pointing to a null pointer

- if we can't get to the first node, we can't get to *any* node

- **Idea 2:** We don't change the **head** pointer, we use another pointer variable that is initialized to the **head** pointer

```
for (Node* p = head; p != nullptr; p = p->next)
{
    cout << p->value << endl;
}
```

- Code trace: we keep keep keep moving **p** until it points to the **nullptr**, leaves loop, local variable destroyed
 - Works for this case AND for a list with 1 item
- Note: in the for loop, do not write **p++!!**
 - the **++** operators on pointers are only well defined if the pointer is pointing into an array
 - this is undefined behavior
 - likely, if a node is x bytes, advance **p** by x bytes --> you don't know what is stored in this here --> some garbage value or random memory locations
- Note: whenever you write **p-> ...**, make sure:
 - **p** is not uninitialized
 - **p** is not a **nullptr**
- Element Accessing (find the first occurrence of a value)
 - Idea 1: find the first occurrence of 18 in the list, then exit loop

```
Node* p;
for (p = head; p->value != 18; p = p->next)
{
    ; //empty statement, do nothing
}
```

- Problem:
 - "find *the* first node that is 18" implies existence, there is a node with 18
 - what about the possibility that the list does not contain 18?
 - can I be sure **p** is uninitialized and not null?
 - for the empty list: **head** is pointing to **nullptr**, **p** is reaching for a null pointer

- end of list: null pointer as well, if **p**'s previous value is pointing to the last node, then we will get the nullptr, and try to follow the null pointer
- we are going to have a problem if the list does not have an 18

- Idea 2: Make sure that p is not the null pointer

```
for (p = head; p->value != 18 && p!=nullptr; p=p->next)
```

- if **p** is a **nullptr**, this will be false -> get out of loop with **p** pointing to the null pointer
- if before we get to the **p!=nullptr** statement, **p** is already a nullptr and we follow a nullptr when checking **p->value != 18** --> that's undefined behavior

- **Idea 3:** Check for **p** being a nullptr **first**

```
for (p = head; p != nullptr && p->value !=18; p = p->next)
{
    ;
}
```

- Insertion (after a specified value)

- **Idea 1:** Insert a node of value 54 after the 18 in the list, if present

- Check if only **p** is not a nullptr (if nullptr, then 18 is not present), now we know that **p** is a pointer to the **18** node
- Somewhere in memory create a new node
- Put it in value 54
- Set 54 pointer to point to 42 (original node that 18 points to)
- Change 18 node pointer to point to 54

```
if (p != nullptr)
{
    Node* newGuy = new Node; //dynamically allocate a new node
    //somewhere in memory, newGuy will be pointer variable pointing
    //to this node
    newGuy->value = 54; //set value
    newGuy->next = p->next; //we first set newGuy's pointer value
    p->next = newGuy; //now we have pointer
}
```

- if we do:

```
p->next = newGuy;
newGuy->next = p->next;
```

We would effectively be setting newGuy's next pointer to point to itself -> infinite, and memory leak for the rest of the list

- when we leave the curly braces:
 - the local variable `newGuy` is destroyed
 - we do not need to `delete` anything manually because the dynamically allocated node is what we inserted, the pointer just gets deleted automatically

-note: the **right order**

- Insertion at the end (node 18 is the last node)
 - Works the same!

```
if (p != nullptr)
{
    Node* newGuy = new Node;
    newGuy->value = 54; //set value
    newGuy->next = p->next; //newGuy's pointer for nullptr
    p->next = newGuy; //now we have pointer
}
```

- Remove a node after a node (get rid of the node after the 18 node)
 - We can't do:
 - First set `p's` next to 42 (`p->next->next`)
 - We now lost access to the 54 node, can't delete it
 - We also can't do:
 - First delete the 54 node (`p->next`)
 - We now lost access to the 42 node, can't make 18 node point to it
 - Idea 1:
 - Save 54 node pointer into some local variable, so we have a variable pointing to 42, delete 54 node, store local variable into 18
 - **Idea 2:**
 - Save a pointer to the 54 node
 - Change `p's` next to point to the 42
 - delete the 54 node

```
Node* toBeDeleted = p->next; //hang on to the 54 node
p->next = toBeDeleted->next; //or p->next->next is fine too
delete toBeDeleted;
```

- Remove the node itself (remove node 18)
 - We can't follow a pointer backward in a singly-linked list
 - Method 1: Find the node before the 18
 - Idea:
 - The node before 18 points to the same node that **p** points to (**p** is the node we found)
 - Write another loop that starts from the beginning to check if your next pointer the same value
 - Once we found this node, we delete node 18
 - Method 2: Two pointer variables
 - Idea:
 - **p** and another pointer variable that is following it
 - whenever you are ready to advance **p**, you store **p**'s value into the variable following **p**, then advance **p**, repeat
 - one pointer follows the other
 - once **p** is in the right place, the pointer following it is the one before
- Remove the node itself at the front of the list (Special Case)
 - We can't find a node before the first node, there is no node before it

```
//check if first node
head = p->next;
delete p;
```

Linked List Class Implementation

```
struct Node
{
    string value;
    Node *next;
}
```

The only member variable we need is a head pointer

```
class LinkedList
{
    public:
        LinkedList();
        void addToFront(string v);
        void addToRear(string v);
        void deleteItem(string v);
        bool findItem(string v);
        void printItems();
        ~LinkedList();
    private:
        Node *head;
};
```

Constructor: create an empty list (head pointer to nullptr)

```
LinkedList()
{
    head = nullptr;
}
```

Print Items in a List: loop through each of the nodes and print out values, starting with node pointed to by **head**

Linked List Traversal

```
void printItems()
{
    //Use a node pointer
    Node *p;
    p = head; //p points to 1st node

    while (p != nullptr)
    {
        cout << p->value << endl;
        p = p->next;
    }
}
```

Add an Item to a List

Add at top


```
void addToFront(string v)
{
    //allocate new node
    Node *p;
    p = new Node;

    p->value = v; //set value

    //Link new node to current top node
    p->next = head;

    //Update head pointer to new top node
    head = p;
}
```

Add at rear

- Two cases:
 - Empty list: same as adding new node to front
 - Non-empty list: traverse down links until we find the current last node
 - Use a **temp** variable to traverse to current last node
 - Allocate a new node, set value in node
 - Link the current last node to new node
 - Link last node to nullptr

```
void addToRear(string v)
{
    if (head == nullptr)
    {
        addToFront(v);
    }
    else
    {
        Node *p;
        p = head; //start at top node
        while (p->next != nullptr)
        {
            p = p->next;
        }
        Node *n = new Node;
        n->value = v;
        p->next = n;
        n->next = nullptr;
    }
}
```

Add Anywhere

- Several Cases:
 - If empty list: `addToFront()`
 - If new node belongs at top of list (sorted etc.): `addToFront()`
 - If new node belongs in middle of list
 - Use a traversal loop to find the node just ABOVE where you want to insert your new item
 - Allocate and fill new node
 - Link new node into list right after the ABOVE node

```
void AddItem(string newItem)
{
    if (head == nullptr)
    {
        AddToFront(newItem);
    }
    else if (/*decide if new item belongs at the top*/)
    {
        AddToFront(newItem);
    }
    else //new node belongs somewhere in the middle
    {
        Node *p = head;
        while (p->next != nullptr)
        {
            if (/*p points just above where to insert*/)
            {
                break;
            }
            p = p->next;
        }
        Node *latest = new Node;
        latest->value = newItem;
        latest->next = p->next;
        p->next = latest;
    }
}
```

Delete Item from the List

- Two cases:
 - Check if list is empty first -> if then return
 - Deleting the first node

- If value is value of first node
- Set node to delete = address of top node
- Update head to point to the second node in list
- Delete target node
- Return
- Deleting interior or last node
 - Traverse down the list until find node ABOVE the one to delete (so we can relink)
 - If p->next is not a nullptr and is p->next->value is the value we want
 - If found target node
 - killMe = addr of target node
 - Link node above the node below
 - Delete target node

```
void deleteItem(string v)
{
    if (head == nullptr) { return; }

    if (head->value == v)
    {
        Node *killMe = head;
        head = killMe->next;
        delete killMe;
        return
    }

    Node*p = head;
    while (p != nullptr)
    {
        if (p->next != nullptr && p->next->value == v)
        {
            break; //p points to node above
        }
        p = p->next;
    }
    if (p != nullptr) //found our value
    {
        Node *killMe = p->next;
        p->next = killMe->next;
        delete killMe;
    }
}
```

Linked List Destruction

- Traverse the list with temp variable `p`
- Before we delete the node pointed to by `p`
 - Save the location of the next node in a temp variable

```
~LinkedList()
{
    Node *p;
    p = head;
    while (p != nullptr)
    {
        Node *n = p->next;
        delete p;
        p = n;
    }
}
```

Disadvantages of Linked Lists (Singly)

- Complex to implement compared to arrays
- Element accessing
 - To access the k th item, have to traverse down $k - 1$ times from the head
- To add an item at the end \rightarrow traverse through all N existing nodes

Tail Pointers and Linked Lists

A tail pointer is a pointer that always points to the last node of the list

- We can now add new items to the end of our list without traversing

```
class LinkedList
{
public:
    LinkedList();
    void addToFront(string v);
    ...
private:
    Node *head;
    Node *tail;
};
```

New `addToRear()` function

- No longer need traversal loop, tail pointer already points to last node

```

void addToRear(string v)
{
    if (head == nullptr)
    {
        addToFront(v);
    }
    else
    {
        Node *n = new Node;
        n->value = v;
        tail->next = n; //linked prev last node to curr
        n->next = nullptr;
        tail = n;
    }
}

```

Doubly-linked lists

A doubly-linked list has both **next** and **previous** pointers in every node

```

struct Node
{
    string value;
    Node* next;
    Node* prev;
};

```

- Everytime we insert a new node or delete an existing node -> update 3 sets of pointers
 - The new nodes's next and prev pointers
 - The previous node's next pointer
 - The following node's previous pointer

Linked List Cheat Sheet

Given a pointer to a node: **Node *ptr**

NEVER access a node's data until validating its pointer

```

if (ptr != nullptr)
{
    cout << ptr->value;
}

```

To advance **ptr** to the next node/end of the list

```
if (ptr != nullptr)
{
    ptr = ptr->next;
}
```

To see if **ptr** points to the last node in a list

```
if (ptr != nullptr && ptr->next == nullptr)
{
    //then ptr points to the last node
}
```

To get to the next node's data

```
if (ptr != nullptr && ptr->next != nullptr)
{
    cout << ptr->next->value;
}
```

To get the head node's data:

```
if (head != nullptr)
{
    cout << head->value;
}
```

To check if a list is empty

```
if (head == nullptr)
{
    cout << "List is empty";
}
```

To check if a pointer points to the first node in a list

```
if (ptr == head)
{
    cout << "ptr is the first node";
}
```

Linked Lists with a Dummy Node

Replacing head pointer with a dummy node gets rid of special cases

- Steps:
 - Get rid of head pointer
 - Add a node member variable to class `dummy`
 - Hold no value
 - Update your member functions to use the dummy node
- Constructor
 - Set `dummy.next` to `nullptr`
 - Initialize node's value
- Delete Item Function
 - Find the node above the one you want to delete
 - Relink above node to node below
 - Delete the target node
- Add to End Function
 - Loop to find the last node
 - Allocate a new node
 - Initialize the new node
 - Update last node's next pointer to point to new node
- Notes:
 - Draw pictures!
 - Don't do things in the wrong order
 - Advice: set values in a new nodes first (usually)
 - Whenever you write `p->...` make sure:
 - `p` has a well-defined value (i.e. it's not uninitialized)
 - `p` is not `nullptr`
 - Boundary conditions for Linked-lists
 - An algorithm that works does not work correctly at beginning/end of list--> test!

- Trace through middle of the list, beginning, and end
- Trace through empty list
- Trace through a one-element list
 - the node itself is the front and back of the list
- End of the list : the only way to get there is to traverse all the way to the end
 - if you find that you have a lot of operations there-> let's maintain a second pointer **tail** pointing to the last node of the list
 - Add a new node
 - dynamically allocate a new node, add value, put nullptr
 - set original last node's **next** to the last node
 - set tail to point to the last node
 - Special case: list empty

```
head   tail  
[null] [null]
```

- create a new node
 - there IS NO PREVIOUS node
 - make **tail** point to the new node
 - make **head** point to the new node as well
- Doubly-linked list
 - Arrange for every node to have two pointers
 - **next** pointer
 - **previous** pointer: points to predecessor node
 - Now if we want to remove node 18:
 - 18's predecessor will point to 18's successor
 - 18's successor will point to 18's predecessor
 - delete node 18
 - Twice as many pointers