

# Arrays and Linked Lists

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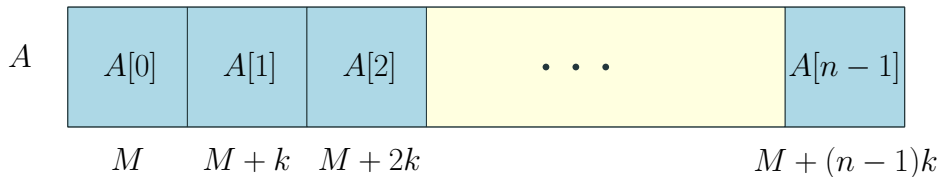
**School of Computing**  
**University of North Florida**



# What is an array?

## Definition

An array is a **contiguous** sequence of memory locations each of which can hold items of a fixed data type

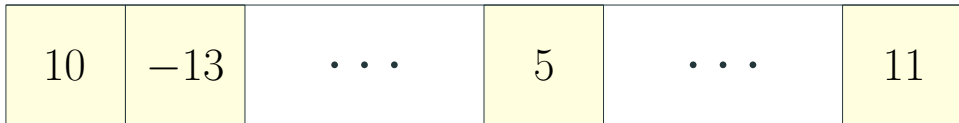


$M$  is the memory address of  $A[0]$  and  $k$  is the space occupied by an array cell

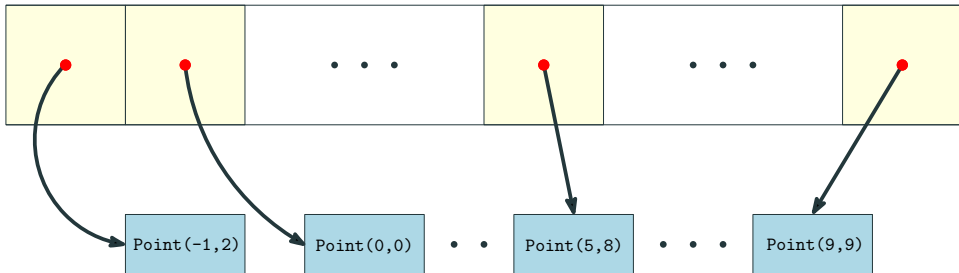
*Your first data structure!*

# Arrays of primitives vs Arrays of objects

## An array of **primitives**



## An array of **objects**



### How to create an array of **objects**?

- **Approach 1.** declaring and defining the array at the same time.

```
Point[] anArrayOfPoints = {new Point(1.1,2.1), new Point(3.1, 4.1), new Point(5.1,6.1)};
```

- **Approach 2.** allocate the array and then create the objects.

```
Point[] anArrayOfPoints = new Point[n]; // point objects are not created yet!  
// double x = anArrayOfPoints[5].getX(); <-- cannot use this; objects are not created yet; will throw a NullPointerException  
for(int i = 0; i < anArrayOfPoints.length; i++)  
    anArrayOfPoints[i] = new Point(Math.random() * 10, Math.random() * 10);
```

# Deep copy vs shallow copy

## Shallow copy: source and destination point to the same entities

```
int[] sourceArrayA = {10,20,30,40,50};  
int[] destinationArrayA = sourceArrayA; // shallow-copy; just copying references; both point to the same array in the memory
```

## Deep copy: source and destination point to different entities

```
int[] sourceArrayB = {50,60,70,80,90,100};  
int[] destinationArrayB = new int[sourceArrayB.length];  
  
for(int index = 0; index < sourceArrayB.length; index++) //deep-copy; copying stuff to the destination array  
    destinationArrayB[index] = sourceArrayB[index];  
  
// Another way to deep copy in Java  
int[] sourceArrayC = {11,21,31,41,51};  
int[] destinationArrayC = sourceArrayC.clone(); // deep-copy; beware! shallow-copy for non-primitives
```

Let us look at a demo  
Class name. **CopyingDemo**

## A few things about arrays

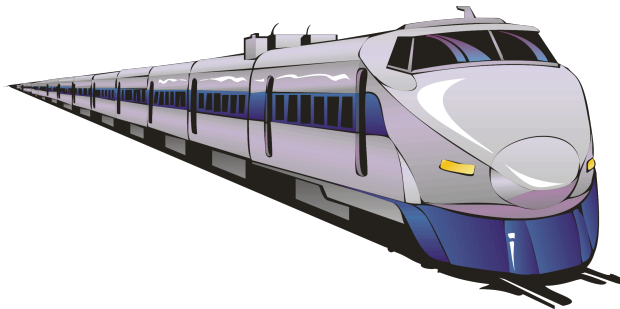
### Good things

- Fast accesses for reading and writing since every location is indexed; every access takes  $O(1)$  time (constant time)
- Once an array is allocated no more memory allocation worries!
- Super-simple coding (`arr[i] = 10; a[i] = b[j] + c[k]; x = t[i]; etc.`)

### Bad things

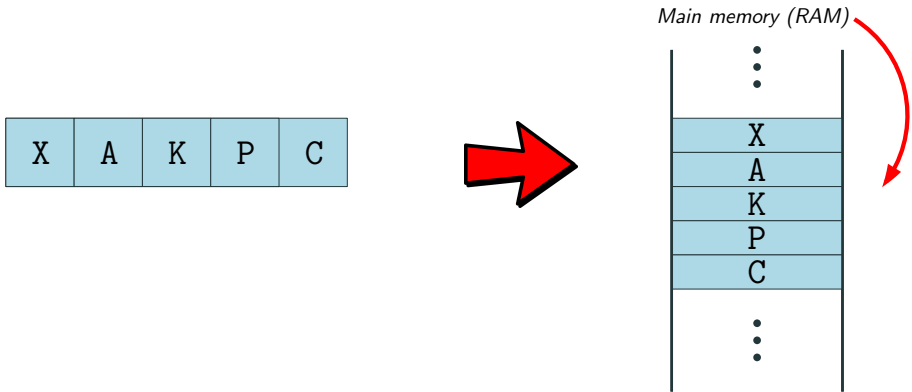
- Need to know array-size in advance otherwise, an array may run out of space for holding the incoming items; on the other hand, if too much of extra space is allocated in advance, space may remain unused (*bad memory utilization*)
- Cannot grow (arrays are **static**)
- Insertions/deletions can be expensive since right/left shifts are required which take  $O(n)$  time in the worst case

## The solution



**Linked Lists (Singly/Doubly/Circular)**  
**Our first *dynamic* data structure**

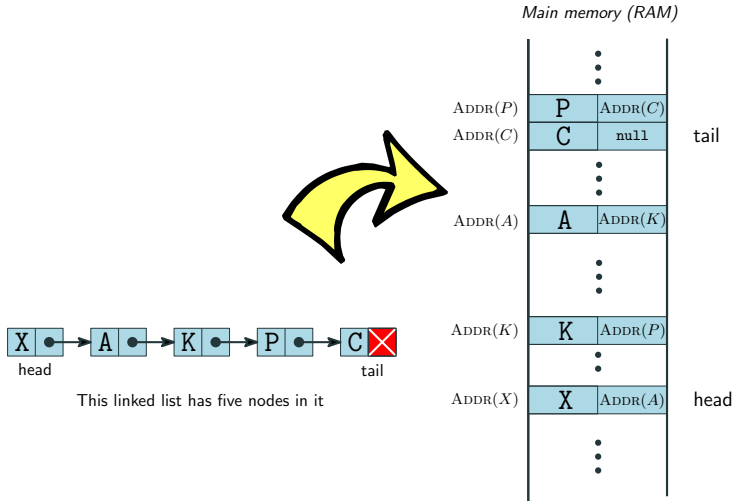
## Layouts of arrays



Layout of arrays in the main memory (RAM)



# Linked lists: what are they?



Layout of **singly** linked lists in the main memory (RAM)

## Coding the example (a very naive way of course!)

```
public class ToySinglyLinkedList {  
  
    public static class Node { // a nested node  
        Character element;  
        Node next;  
  
        public Node(Character element, Node next) {  
            this.element = element;  
            this.next = next;  
        }  
  
        public void setNext(Node next) {  
            this.next = next;  
        }  
  
        public Character getElement() {  
            return element;  
        }  
    }  
}  
// contd. on the next slide
```

## Coding the example (a very naive way of course!)

```
public class ToySinglyLinkedList {  
    // contd. from the previous slide  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Node nodeX = new Node('X',null);  
        Node nodeA = new Node('A',null);   nodeX.setNext(nodeA);  
        Node nodeK = new Node('K',null);   nodeA.setNext(nodeK);  
        Node nodeP = new Node('P',null);   nodeK.setNext(nodeP);  
        Node nodeC = new Node('C',null);   nodeP.setNext(nodeC);  
  
        Node current = nodeX;  
        while( current != null ) {  
            System.out.print(current.getElement());  
  
            if(current.next != null)  
                System.out.print(" -> ");  
  
            current = current.next;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

### Output

X -> A -> K -> P -> C

## Good things about linked lists

- No need to worry about length in advance
- Can be grown/shrunk by manipulating the links and adding/deleting nodes (linked lists are **dynamic**)

👉 You **cannot** jump to a node directly like arrays! We need to traverse the list starting at the head using a for loop or a while loop and reach that node

👉 Coding can get a bit challenging at times.  
**NullPointerException** is a common thing

## It is time to go for generics!

**public class SinglyLinkedList<E> implements  
Iterable<E>**

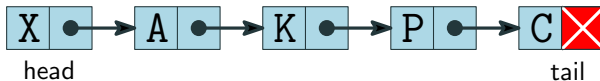
- ① **int** size() {...}
- ② **boolean** isEmpty() {...}
- ③ **E** first() {...}
- ④ **E** last() {...}
- ⑤ **void** addFirst(**E** e) {...}
- ⑥ **void** addLast(**E** e) {...}
- ⑦ **E** removeFirst() {...}
- ⑧ **boolean** addAfter(**E** predecessor, **E** incomingItem) {...}
- ⑨ **String** toString() {...}
- ⑩ **Iterator<E>** iterator() {...}

## Adding a new node after a node: addAfter('K', 'T')

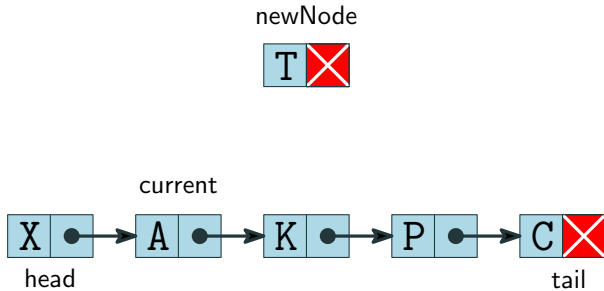
newNode



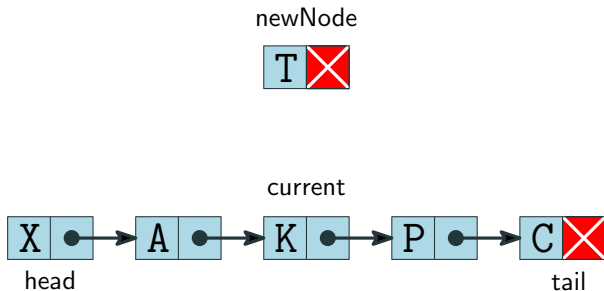
current



## Adding a new node after a node: addAfter('K', 'T')

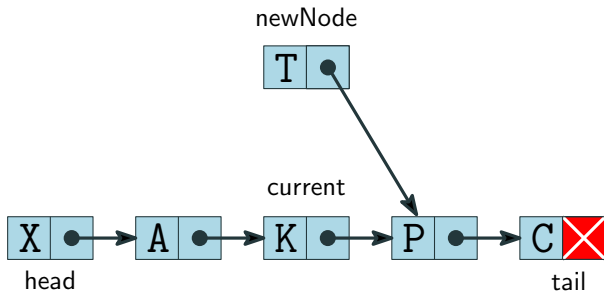


## Adding a new node after a node: addAfter('K', 'T')

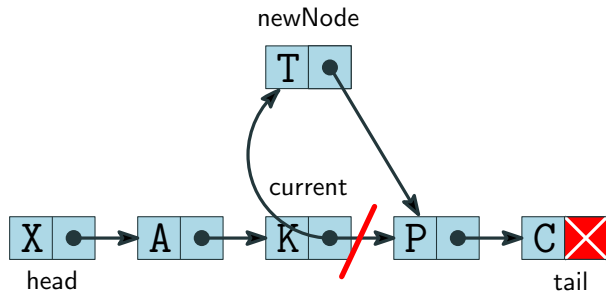




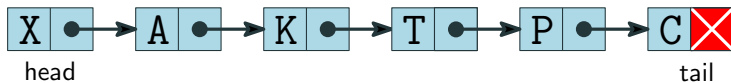
## Adding a new node after a node: addAfter('K', 'T')



## Adding a new node after a node: addAfter('K', 'T')



## Adding a new node after a node: `addAfter('K', 'T')`



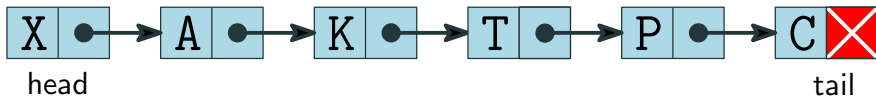
## Complexity stuff

👉 Linked list traversals take  $O(n)$  time

### SinglyLinkedList<E>

- ① `int size() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ② `boolean isEmpty() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ③ `E first() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ④ `E last() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑤ `void addFirst(E e) {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑥ `void addLast(E e) {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑦ `E removeFirst() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑧ `boolean addAfter(E predecessor, E incomingItem) {...}`,  
**Time complexity:**  $O(n)$  where  $n$  is the number of nodes in the list currently
- ⑨ `String toString() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(n)$  where  $n$  is the number of nodes in the list currently

## Limitations of singly linked lists



- Given just a reference to a node, we **cannot** efficiently delete it or add a node before it
- **Cannot** traverse from right to left just by following the links, if needed

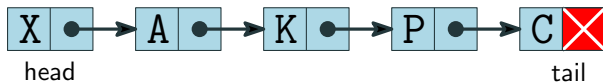
### Solution

Store two links at every node: **prev** and **next**

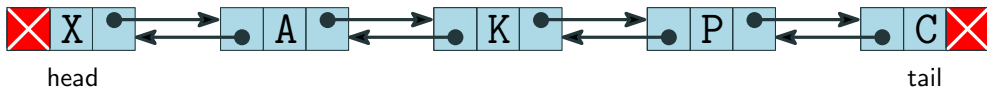
### Downside?

Use of extra space at every node and possibly more complicated code

## Doubly linked lists



A **singly** linked list

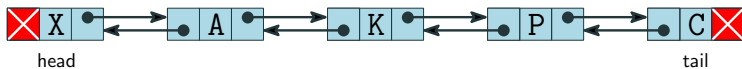


A **doubly** linked list

**public class DoublyLinkedList<E> implements  
Iterable<E>**

- ① **int** size() {...}
- ② **boolean** isEmpty() {...}
- ③ **E** first() {...}
- ④ **E** last() {...}
- ⑤ **void** addBetween(**E** e, **Node<E>** predecessor, **Node<E>** successor) {...}
- ⑥ **E** remove(**Node<E>** node) {...}
- ⑦ **void** addFirst(**E** e) {...}
- ⑧ **void** addLast(**E** e) {...}
- ⑨ **E** removeFirst() {...}
- ⑩ **E** removeLast() {...}
- ⑪ **String** toString() {...}
- ⑫ **Iterator<E>** iterator() {...}

## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)

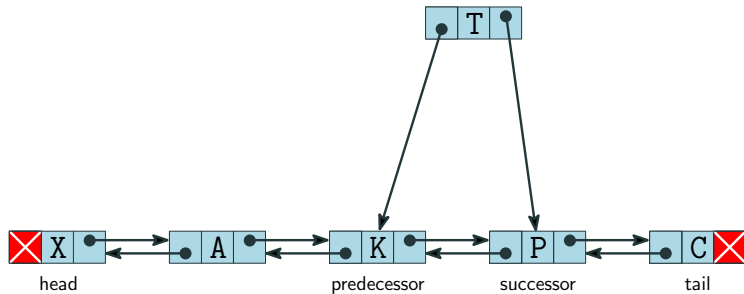




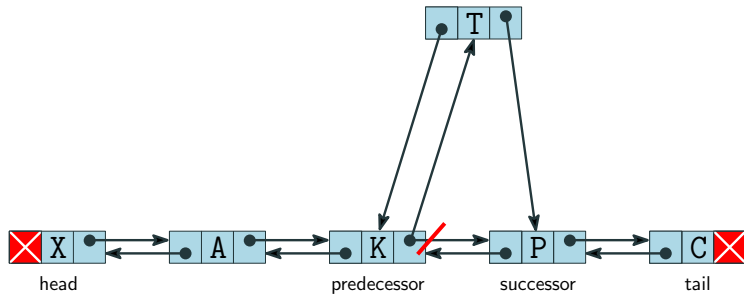
# Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



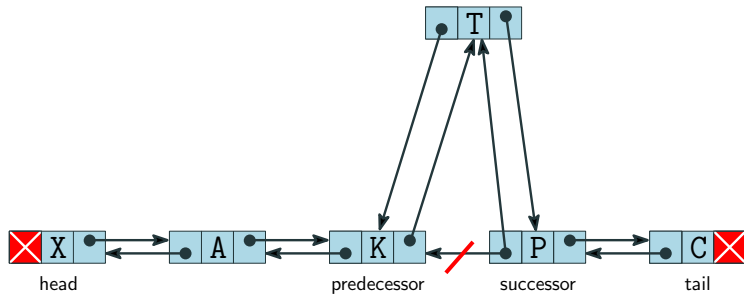
## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



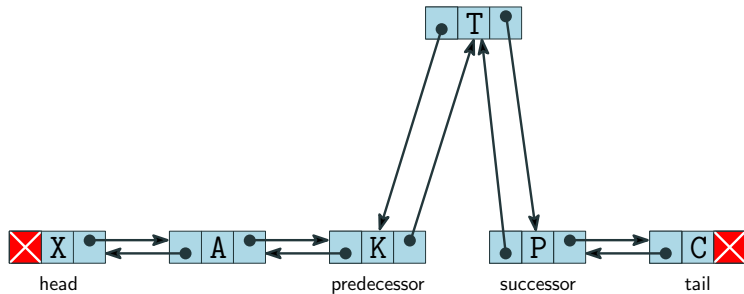
## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



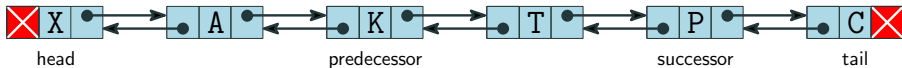
## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



## Illustrating addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor)



## Complexity stuff

### DoublyLinkedList<E>

- ① `int size() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ② `boolean isEmpty() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ③ `E first() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ④ `E last() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑤ `void addBetween(E e, Node<E> predecessor, Node<E> successor) {...}`  
**Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑥ `E remove(Node<E> node) {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑦ `void addFirst(E e) {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑧ `void addLast(E e) {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑨ `E removeFirst() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑩ `E removeLast() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑪ `String toString() {...}`, **Time complexity:**  $O(n)$  where  $n$  is the number of nodes in the list currently

For most linked list methods, traversing is required  
Two popular approaches for traversing a linked list

### Option A: while loop

```
Node<E> current = head;  
while( current != null ) {  
    // do something  
    current = current.next;  
}
```

### Option B: for loop

```
Node<E> current = head;  
for(int pos = 0; pos < size; pos++) {  
    // do something  
    current = current.next;  
}
```



## SLLs vs ArrayLists



- Linked lists can take substantially more space per data element compared to arrays and ArrayLists since every node is storing at least one link (reference to another node in the same list)
- Linked lists are slower than ArrayLists, especially when trying to execute many insertions at a go; every time an insertion is made, a memory allocation request has to be made for the new node. Further, more primitive operations need to be executed in the case of a linked list.

# SLLs vs ArrayLists

```
Random generator = new Random();

SinglyLinkedList<Integer> LL = new SinglyLinkedList<>();

int n = 1000000;

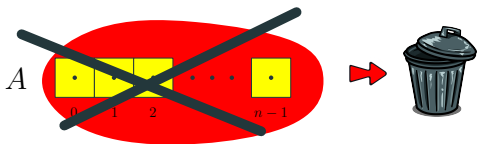
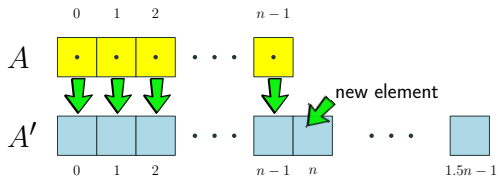
long startA = System.currentTimeMillis();
for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    Integer randomInteger = generator.nextInt();
    LL.addLast(randomInteger);
}
long timeTakenA = System.currentTimeMillis() - startA;
System.out.println("Time taken by SLL: " + timeTakenA + " ms" ); // printed 162 ms in some run

ArrayList<Integer> AL = new ArrayList<>();

long startB = System.currentTimeMillis();
for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    Integer randomInteger = generator.nextInt();
    AL.add(randomInteger);
}
long timeTakenB = System.currentTimeMillis() - startB;
System.out.println("Time taken by AL: " + timeTakenB + " ms" ); // printed 34 ms in the same run
```

# So what is so special about ArrayLists?

- They are **dynamic** arrays (can insert/delete elements) and are maintained using plain arrays
- If there is no space for inserting a new element, a new array  $A'$  is created whose length is 1.5 times that of the current array  $A$ ; the elements in  $A$  are copied to  $A'$  and then the new incoming element is inserted at the first available spot from the left. Finally,  $A$  is deleted and  $A'$  becomes the new  $A$ .



- It means that we seldom need to allocate new memory since often empty cells are available for insertion at the end of the array.
- ArrayLists are thus fast and we also get indexing support!

## How many times new array allocations are needed?

$n$ (upto)	Array reallocations required
10	1
100	7
1,000	13
10,000	19
100,000	24
1,000,000	30
10,000,000	36

Initial array size is assume to be 10

👉 Even for inserting up to  $10M$  elements, at most 35 reallocations are needed!

👉 See the class [COP3530ArrayList](#) for an implementation

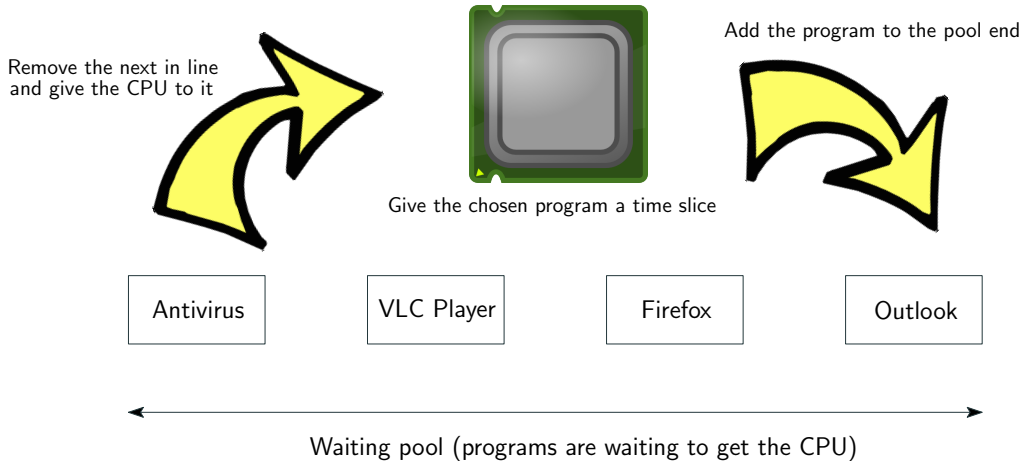
## Why is the `StringBuilder` class so much faster than `String` class?

- **StringBuilder** is implemented as **dynamic array** and its objects are **mutable**
- In this case, **mutable** means if space is available, new items can be inserted
- Recall that dynamic arrays are very fast when we need to append a large number of times; that's why `StringBuilder` beats `String` when it comes to a appending a large number of characters
- On the other hand, **String** objects are **immutable** and every time a new append is executed, the existing `String` object is discarded and a new one is created *without increasing the new array capacity by a multiplicative factor*. Of course, the old content is transferred to the new object. Therefore, for  $n$  appends, approximately,  $n$  reallocations are needed.
- Such a large number of reallocations (approximately,  $n$ ) drastically slows down `String` appends in practice!

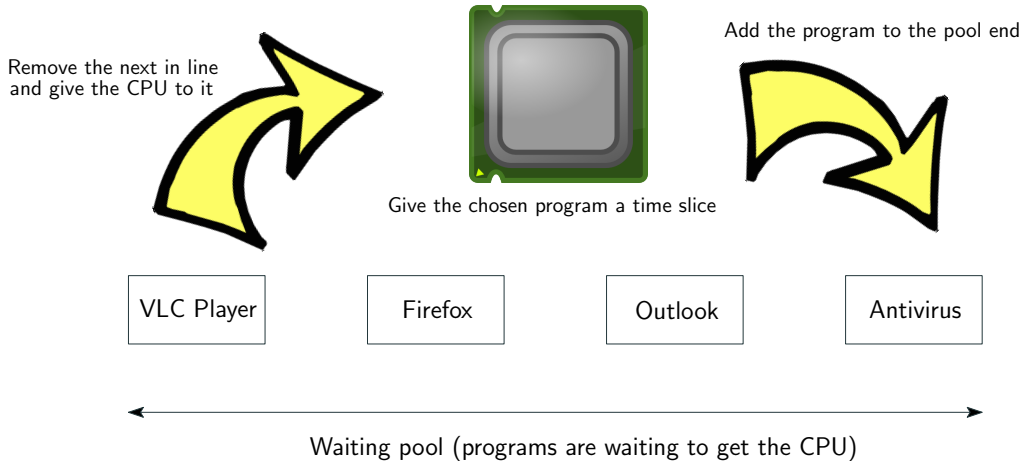
## Maintaining a cyclic order

- In some applications we need the following two features:
  - ① Lists should be **dynamic**
  - ② Lists should have a **cyclic order**: well-defined neighboring relationships but no fixed beginning or end
- Example: maintain a cyclic list of processes (programs in execution) which need CPU access in the cyclic order (this is known as **round-robin scheduling** in the operating system literature)

# Example



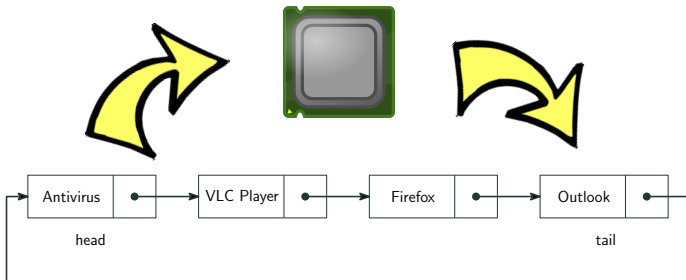
# Example



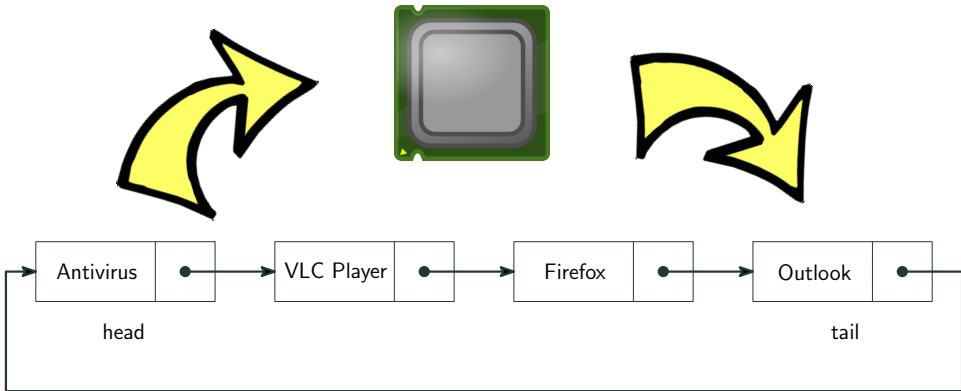


# Circular linked list

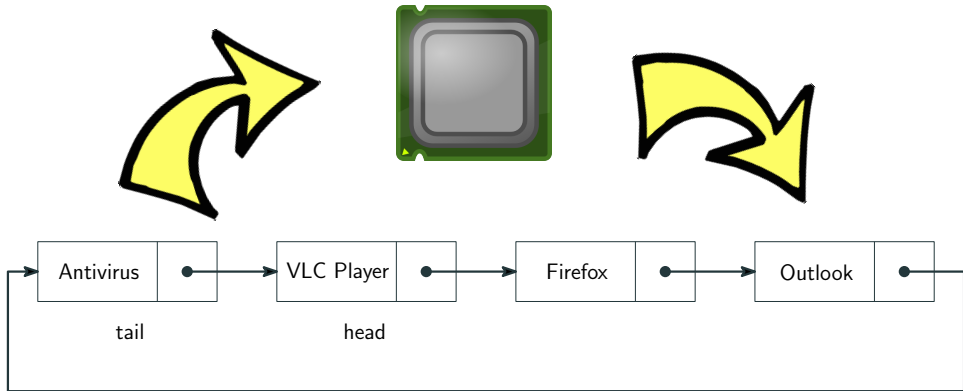
Idea! make the tail point to the head



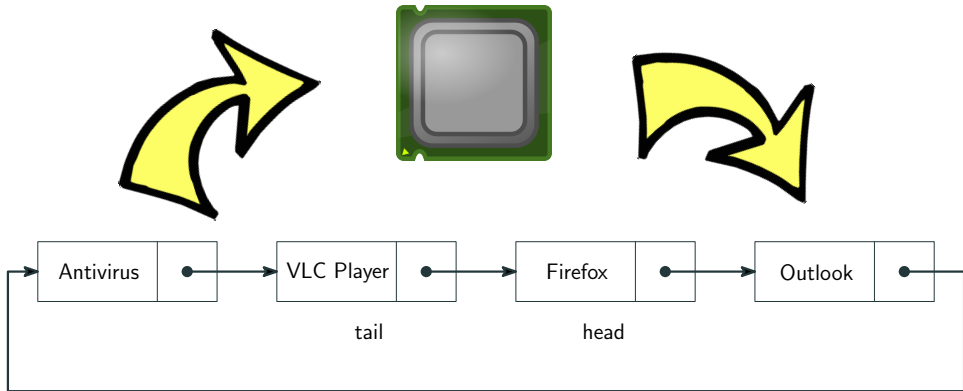
# Circular linked list



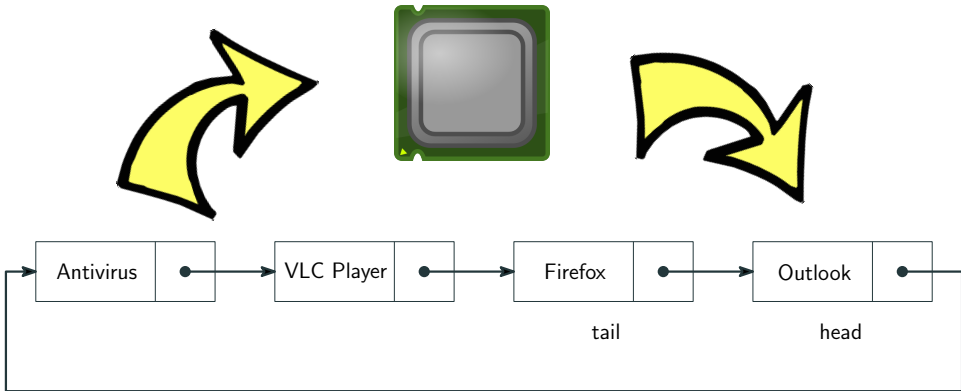
# Circular linked list



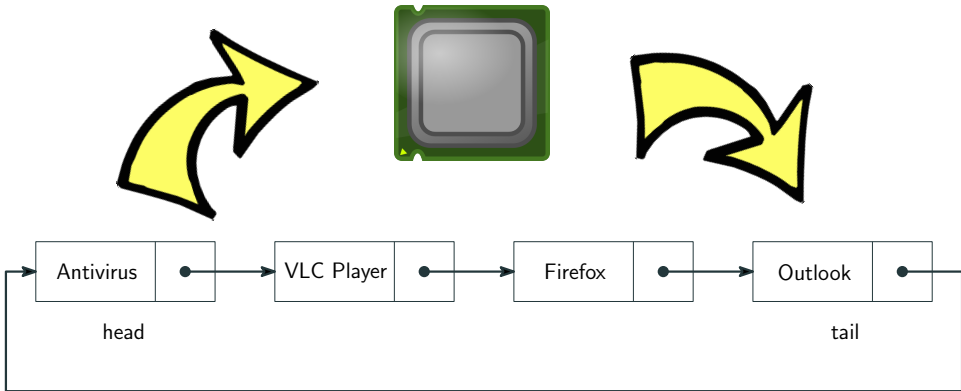
# Circular linked list



# Circular linked list



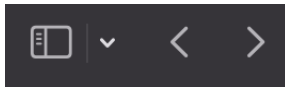
# Circular linked list



**public class CircularLinkedList<E> implements  
Iterable<E>**

- ① **int** size() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ② **boolean** isEmpty() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ③ **E** first() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ④ **E** last() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑤ **void** rotate() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑥ **void** addFirst(E e) {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑦ **void** addLast(E e) {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑧ **E** removeFirst() {...}, **Time complexity:**  $O(1)$
- ⑨ **Iterator<E>** iterator() {...}

## Browser tabs: an application of linked lists



- For every tab, we get to see the *go forward* and *go backward* buttons
- How to implement this button
- Use 2 linked lists: one for the *go backward* button and one for the *go forward* button



# Code

```
public class BrowserTab {
    String currentPage = "";
    private final DoublyLinkedList<String> previousPages = new DoublyLinkedList<>(), nextPages = new DoublyLinkedList<>();

    public static String getTimeStamp(){ return "[" + new Date() + "] "; }

    public BrowserTab() { System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "New tab opened."); }

    public void typeAndGoNewSite(String newPage) {
        if( !currentPage.isEmpty() ) previousPages.addLast(currentPage);
        currentPage = newPage;
        System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "Currently viewing: " + currentlyViewing());
    }

    // contd. on the next slide
}
```

# Code

```
public class BrowserTab {
    public void clickOnGoBackButton() {
        if( previousPages.isEmpty() ) {
            System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "Back button is greyed out (unavailable).");
            return;
        }
        else {
            nextPages.addFirst(currentPage);
            currentPage = previousPages.last();
            previousPages.removeLast();
        }
        System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "Currently viewing: " + currentlyViewing());
    }
    public void clickOnGoForward() {
        if( nextPages.isEmpty() ) {
            System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "Forward button is greyed out (unavailable).");
            return;
        }
        else {
            previousPages.addLast(currentPage);
            currentPage = nextPages.removeFirst();
        }
        System.out.println(getTimeStamp() + "Currently viewing: " + currentlyViewing());
    }
    // contd. on the next slide
}
```

## Code

```
public class BrowserTab {  
  
    public String currentlyViewing() { return currentPage; }  
  
    public String toString() {  
        StringBuilder prettyString = new StringBuilder();  
  
        for (String site : previousPages)  
            prettyString.append(site).append(" ");  
  
        prettyString.append(" ***").append(currentPage).append(" *** ");  
  
        for (String site : nextPages)  
            prettyString.append(site).append(" ");  
  
        return prettyString.toString();  
    }  
}
```

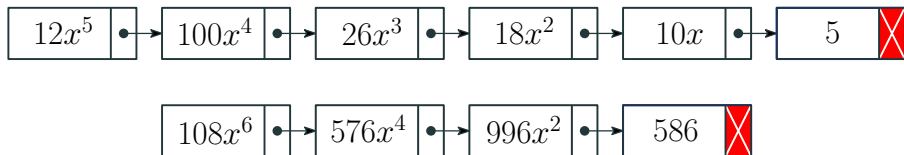
For an usage refer to the class **SimulateGodzillaHigherFox**

## Representing polynomials using linked lists

- Polynomials can be effectively represented using linked lists where every node holds a polynomial term. For example: the polynomial  $p(x) = 12x^5 + 100x^4 + 26x^3 + 18x^2 + 10x + 5$  can be represented as:



- Now, we will see how to add two polynomials represented using two different linked-lists. Example:



# Algorithm

- Let the two input polynomials be denoted by  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$ . The objective is to compute a linked-list representation of  $r(x) = p(x) + q(x)$ , when the two linked-list representations of  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are supplied.
- If  $q(x) = 0$ , return  $p(x)$  since in this case,  $r(x) = p(x) + q(x) = p(x) + 0 = p(x)$ . Similarly, if  $p(x) = 0$ , return  $q(x)$ .

# Algorithm

## Computing $r(x) = p(x) + q(x)$

```
1: nextTermFromP = p.head.term, nextTermFromQ = q.head.term;
2: while( there are un-scanned nodes both in p and q) {
3:     if( nextTermFromP.exponent == nextTermFromQ.exponent ) {
4:         Add nextTermFromP and nextTermFromQ and append a new node with the result term
5:         in the linked-list r. Update nextTermFromP and nextTermFromQ using the next two
6:         terms from the polynomials p and q, respectively;
7:     }
8:     else if( nextTermFromP.exponent > nextTermFromQ.exponent ) {
9:         Append a new node with the term nextTermFromP in the linked-list r
10:        and update nextTermFromP using the next term from p;
11:    }
12:    else {
13:        Append a new node with the term nextTermFromQ in the linked-list r
14:        and update nextTermFromQ using the next term from q;
15:    }
16: }
17: If there are un-scanned nodes from p, send those to r;
18: If there are un-scanned nodes from q, send those to r;
```

## Efficiency

- Assume that there are  $m$  nodes in  $p(x)$ 's linked-list and  $n$  in  $q(x)$ 's linked-list
- Total work done by the algorithm is proportional to the number of nodes in both the linked-lists. To see this observe that we visit every node in both the lists exactly once.
- Every iteration of the while-loop takes  $O(1)$  time. So, total time taken by the while-loop is  $O(m + n)$  since it iterates at most  $n + m$  times.
- Line 17: runs in  $O(m)$  time and line 18: in  $O(n)$  time.
- Therefore, the runtime of the add algorithm is:

$$O(m + n) + O(m) + O(n) = O(2m + 2n) = O(2(m + n)) = O(m + n)$$

See the class **Polynomial** to see how polynomial addition algorithm can be implemented efficiently



# The Cloneable interface

- Cloning an array is not difficult since we can simply use the `clone()` method on it (does deep-copy for **primitives** and shallow-copy for **non-primitives**)
- What if we want to clone an object of an user-defined class  $X$ ? We need to make the class  $X$  cloneable so the `clone()` method can be invoke on it.

// Reference: <https://docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/17/docs/api/java.base/java/lang/Cloneable.html>

```
public class Polynomial implements Cloneable {  
    // other variables and methods  
  
    public Polynomial clone() throws CloneNotSupportedException {  
        var clonePolynomial = (Polynomial) super.clone();  
  
        clonePolynomial.L = new SinglyLinkedList<>();  
        for( var term : L ) // create identical terms in the clone  
            clonePolynomial.L.addLast( new PolynomialTerm(term.coefficient, term.exponent) );  
        return clonePolynomial;  
    }  
}
```

- Inside the `clone()` method, ensure you set up every instance variable of the clone object appropriately; otherwise, the cloned object will not be a replica!

## Recommended

Make the `SinglyLinkedList` and `DoublyLinkedList` classes cloneable

## **Chapter 5** from

<https://opendsa-server.cs.vt.edu/OpenDSA/Books/CS3/html/>