

# Lecture 22

## Queues

### (Array Implementation)

FIT 1008  
Introduction to Computer Science



# Container ADTs

- **Stores** and removes items **independent of contents**.
- **Examples** include:
  - List ADT ☒
  - Stack ADT ☒
  - Queue ADT. ☐ ← **Today**
- **Core operations:**
  - add item
  - remove item



# Queue

Like a list...

but...

**the order in which items arrive is important**



[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-01/09/content\\_19282920.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-01/09/content_19282920.htm)

# FIFO

FIFO  $\neq$  FIFA



- **FIFO** (First In First Out): The first element to arrive, is the first to be processed
- **Data**: The first element to be added, is the first to be deleted (or served)
- Access to any other element is unnecessary (and thus not allowed)

# Queue Data Type

- Follows the **FIFO** model
- Its operations (interface) are:
  - **Create** the queue (Queue)
  - Add an item to the back (**append**)
  - Take an item off the front (**serve**)
  - Is the queue **empty**?
  - Is the queue **full**?
  - Empty the queue (**reset**)

**Remember:** you can only access the element at the front of the queue (first item inserted that is still in)

# Possible implementation: linear queue

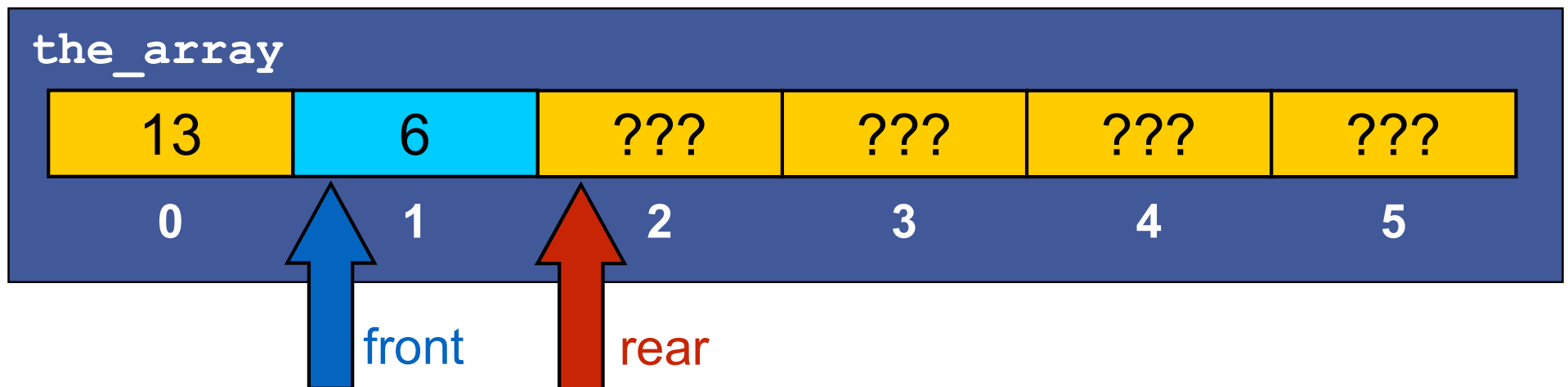
- We need to: **add items** at the rear. **take** items from the front.

A single marker is not going to be enough.

- Lets try implementing queues using:
  - An **array** to store the items in the order they arrive.
  - An **integer** marking the front of the queue. Refers to the first element to be served.
  - An **integer** marking the rear of the queue. Refers to the first empty slot at the rear.
  - An integer **count** keeping track of the number of items.
- **Invariant:** valid data appears in `front .. rear-1` positions

- Create a new queue: no items
- Append item 13
- Append item 6
- Serve item 13

front: 1    rear: 2    count: 1





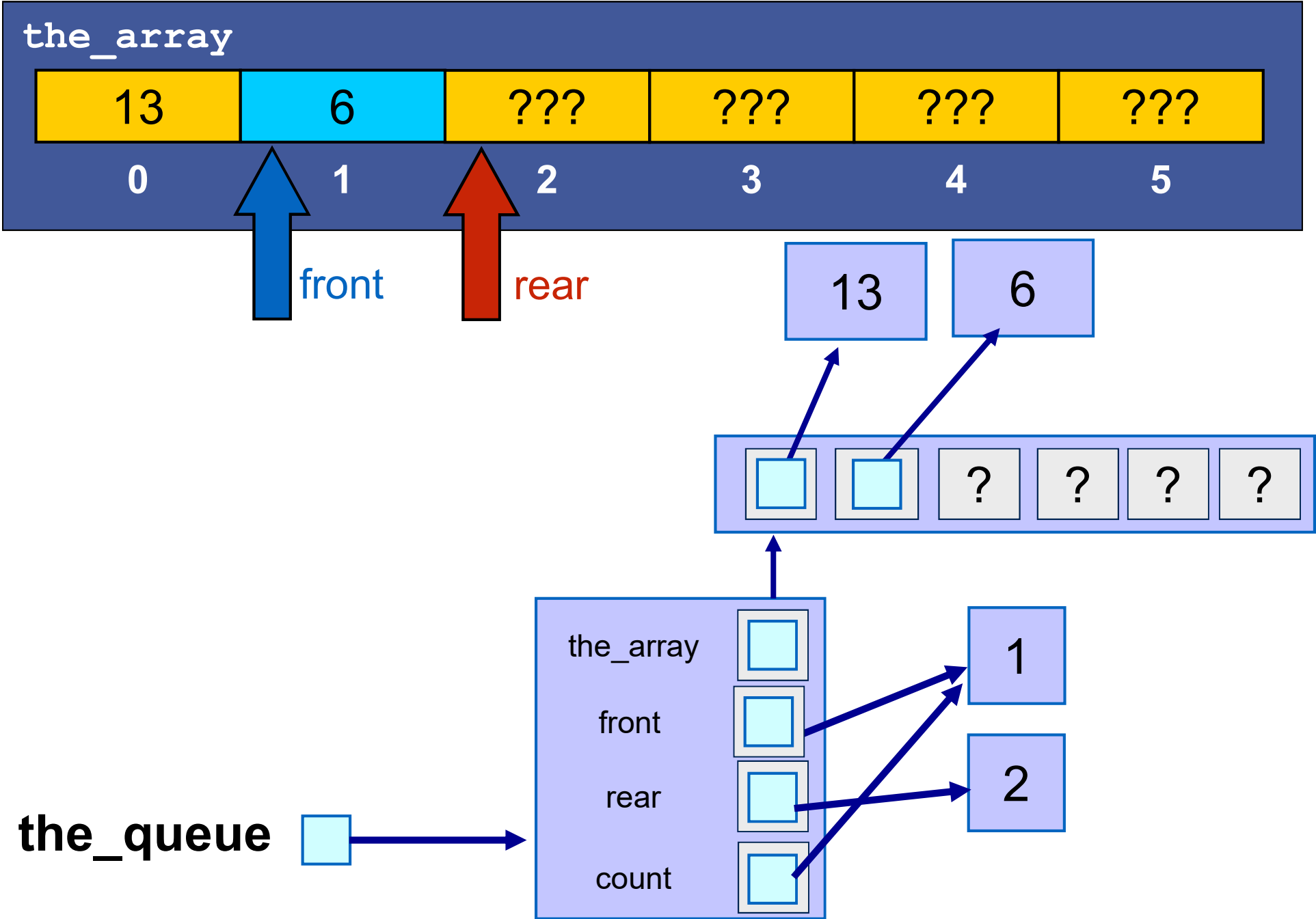
# Creating a Linear Queue

```
class Queue:
    def __init__(self, size):
        assert size > 0, "Size should be positive"
        self.the_array = size*[None]
        self.count = 0
        self.rear = 0
        self.front = 0
```

Instance variables

Complexity is  $O(\text{size})$

front: 1      rear: 2      count: 1



# Simple methods

```
def is_full(self):  
    return self.rear >= len(self.the_array)
```

```
def is_empty(self):  
    return self.count == 0
```

```
def reset(self):  
    self.front = 0  
    self.rear = 0  
    self.count = 0
```

Complexity is  $O(1)$   
for all of these methods.

# Implementing Append

```
def append(self, new_item):  
    assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"  
    self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item  
    self.rear += 1  
    self.count += 1
```

Complexity is  $O(1)$

# Implementing Serve

```
def serve(self):  
    assert not self.is_empty(), "Queue is empty"  
    item = self.the_array[self.front]  
    self.front += 1  
    self.count -= 1  
    return item
```

Complexity is  $O(1)$

```

class Queue:
    def __init__(self, size):
        assert size > 0, "Size should be positive"
        self.the_array = size*[None]
        self.count = 0
        self.rear = 0
        self.front = 0

    def is_full(self):
        return self.rear >= len(self.the_array)

    def is_empty(self):
        return self.count == 0

    def reset(self):
        self.front = 0
        self.rear = 0
        self.count = 0

    def append(self, new_item):
        assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"
        self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item
        self.rear += 1
        self.count += 1

    def serve(self):
        assert not self.is_empty(), "Queue is empty"
        item = self.the_array[self.front]
        self.front += 1
        self.count -= 1
        return item

class Queue:
    def __init__(self, size):
        assert size > 0, "Size should be positive"
        self.the_array = size*[None]
        self.count = 0
        self.rear = 0
        self.front = 0

    def is_full(self):
        return self.rear >= len(self.the_array)

    def is_empty(self):
        return self.count == 0

    def reset(self):
        self.front = 0
        self.rear = 0
        self.count = 0

    def append(self, new_item):
        assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"
        self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item
        self.rear += 1
        self.count += 1

    def serve(self):
        assert not self.is_empty(), "Queue is empty"
        item = self.the_array[self.front]
        self.front += 1
        self.count -= 1
        return item

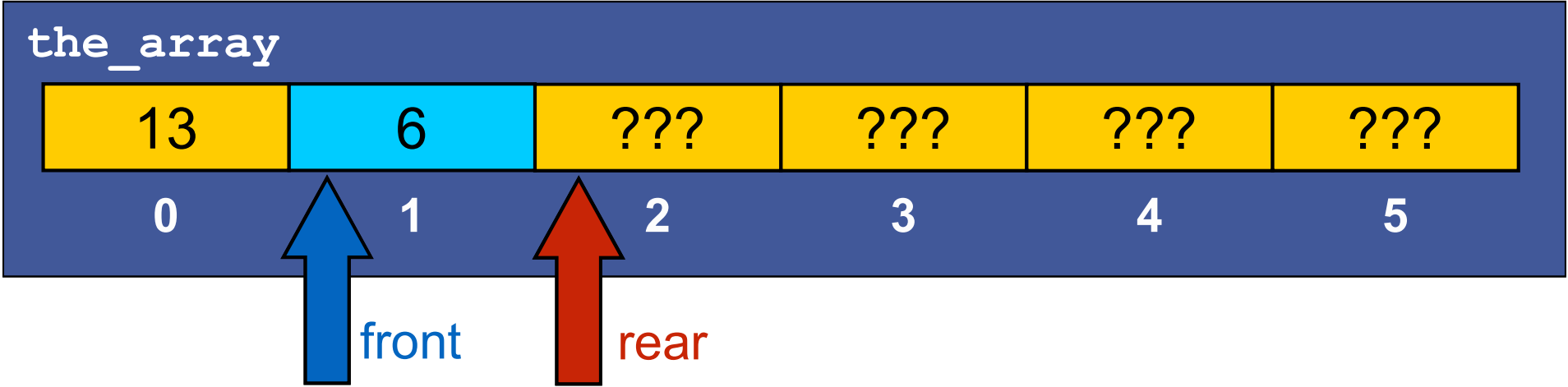
```



Linear Queue, shifting both pointers

... so much space... just wasted

front: 1      rear: 2      count: 1





# Implementation problem

Wasteful!

front: 3

rear: 6

count: 3

the\_array

13

6

3

24

36

7

0

1

2

3

4

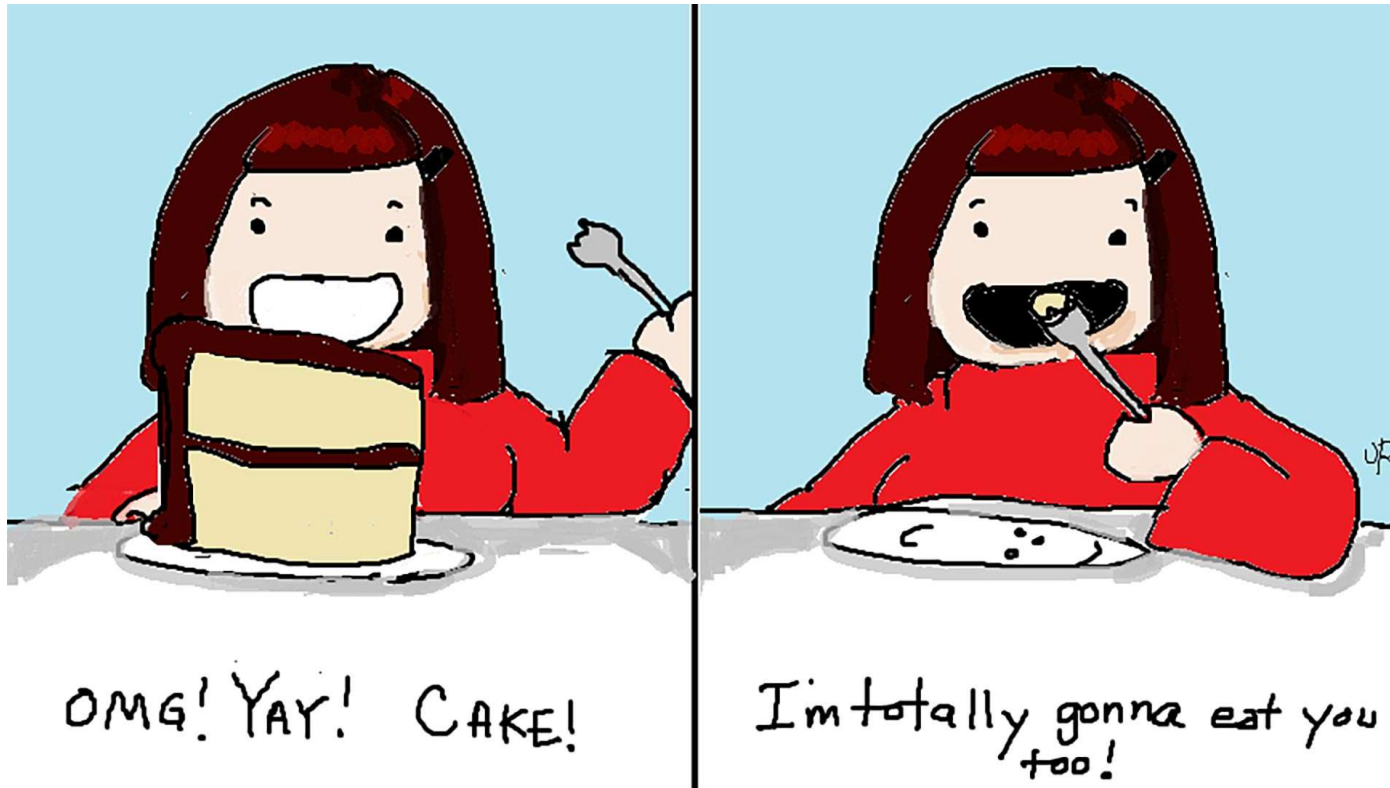
5

front

rear

```
def is_full(self):  
    return self.rear >= len(self.the_array)
```

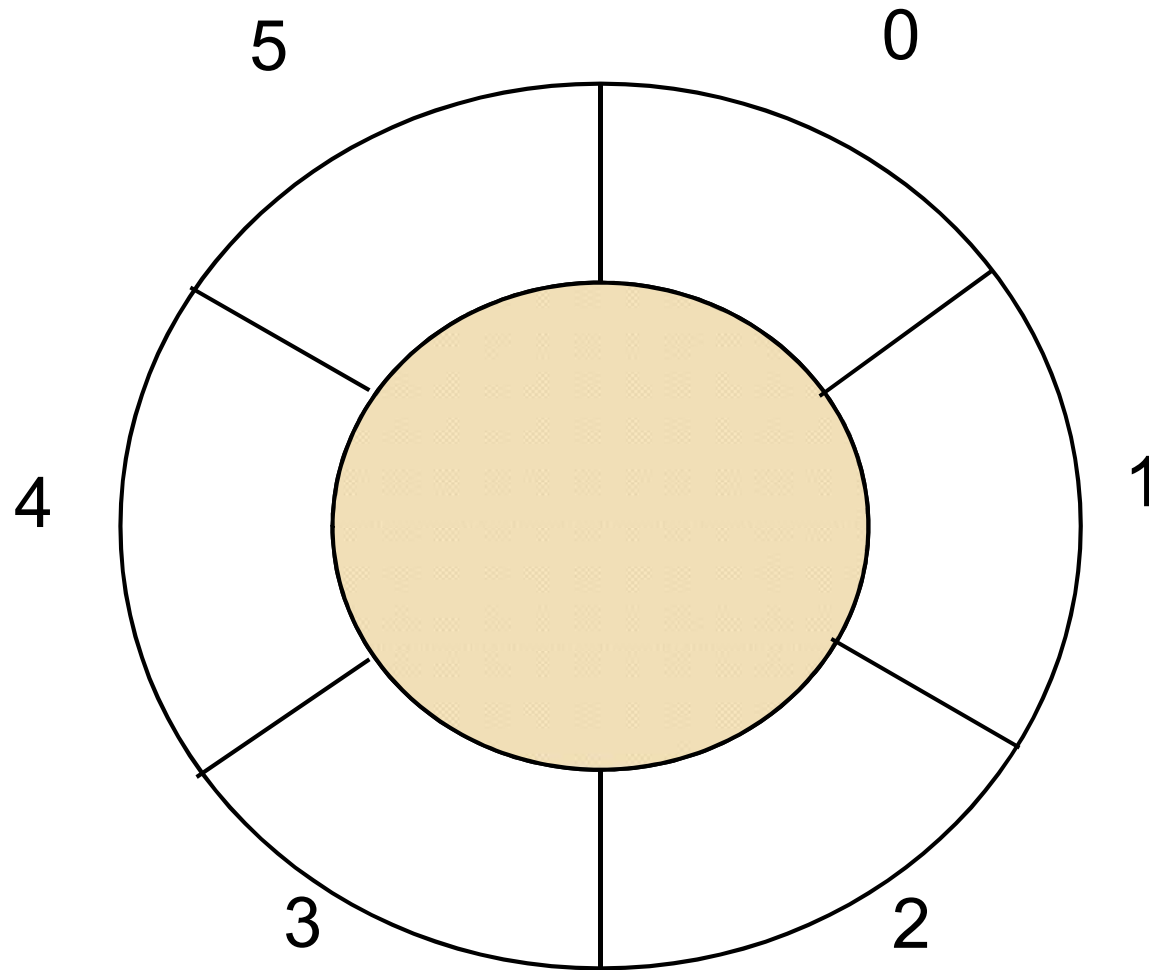
# But my constant time!



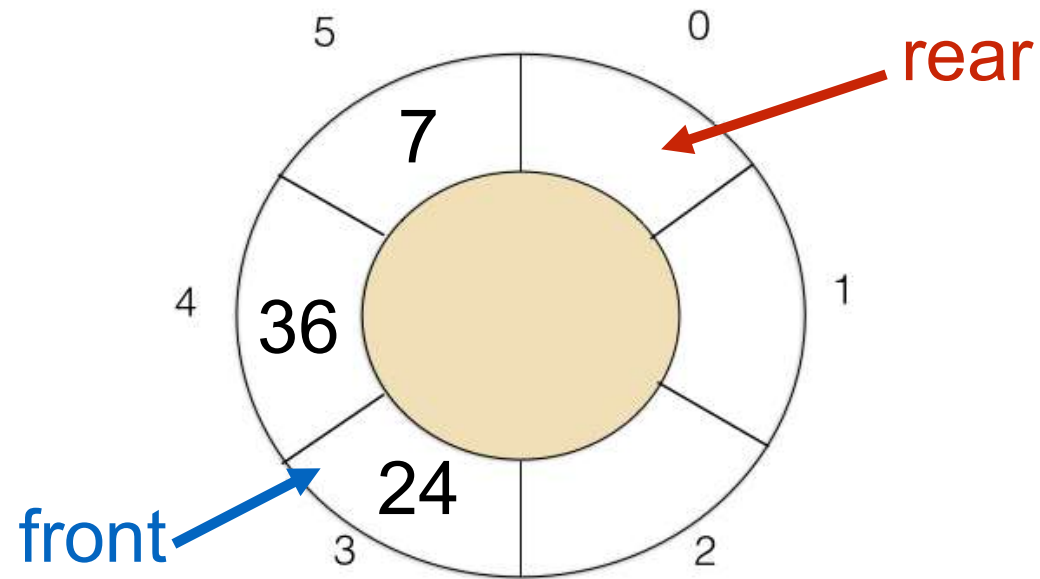
Can we have an Array Queue without wasting space and STILL have constant time push and pop?

- A) Yes
- B) No

# Solution: Circular Queues



Simulated by  
allowing **rear**  
and **front** to  
wrap around  
each other



front: 3

rear: 6

count: 3

the\_array

13

6

3

24

36

7

0

1

2

3

4

5

front

rear

- After appending 7
- Append 29
- Append 35
- Append 41

**Important:** Instead of using rear, to determine if the queue is full, we now need to use count.

front: 3

rear: 3

count: 6

the\_array

29

35

41

24

36

7

0

1

2

3

4

5

front

rear

# Creating a circular Queue

```
def __init__(self, size):  
    assert size > 0, "Size should be positive"  
    self.the_array = size*[None]  
    self.count = 0  
    self.rear = 0  
    self.front = 0
```

Complexity is  $O(\text{size})$

# Methods for Circular Queue

```
def is_empty(self):  
    return self.count == 0
```

```
def is_full(self):  
    return self.count >= len(self.the_array)
```

```
def reset(self):  
    self.front = 0  
    self.rear = 0  
    self.count = 0
```

Use **count**, not rear

Complexity is  $O(1)$

# Implementation of Append for a Circular Queue

```
def append(self, new_item):
```



# Implementation of Append for a Circular Queue

```
def append(self, new_item):  
    assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"  
    self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item  
    self.rear += 1  
    if self.rear == len(self.the_array):  
        self.rear = 0  
    self.count += 1
```

If rear points outside of the the\_array  
but I know **the queue is not full**

You know that  $\text{len}(\text{self.the\_array}) = 6$  and  $\text{self.rear} = 5$   
 $(\text{self.rear} + 1) \% \text{len}(\text{self.the\_array})$  is equal to...

$$(\text{self.rear} + 1) \% \text{len}(\text{self.the\_array})$$

$$(5 + 1) \% 6$$

$$6 \% 6 = 0$$

You know that  $\text{len}(\text{self.the\_array}) = 6$  and  $\text{self.rear} = 4$   
 $(\text{self.rear} + 1) \% \text{len}(\text{self.the\_array})$  is equal to...

$$(\text{self.rear} + 1) \% \text{len}(\text{self.the\_array})$$

$$(4 + 1) \% 6$$

$$5 \% 6 = 5$$

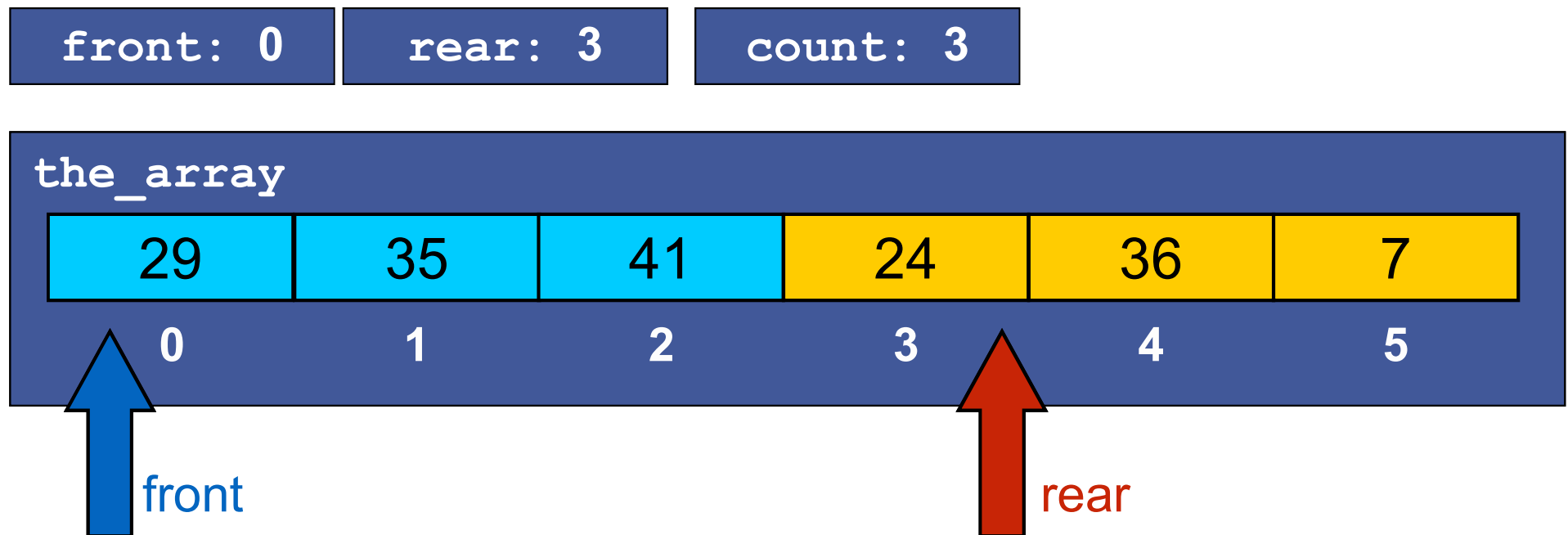
```
def append(self, new_item):  
    assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"  
    self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item  
    self.rear = (self.rear+1)% len(self.the_array)  
    self.count += 1
```

```
def append(self, new_item):  
    assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"  
    self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item  
    self.rear += 1  
    if self.rear == len(self.the_array):  
        self.rear = 0  
    self.count += 1
```

```
def append(self, new_item):  
    assert not self.is_full(), "Queue is full"  
    self.the_array[self.rear] = new_item  
    self.rear = (self.rear+1)% len(self.the_array)  
    self.count += 1
```

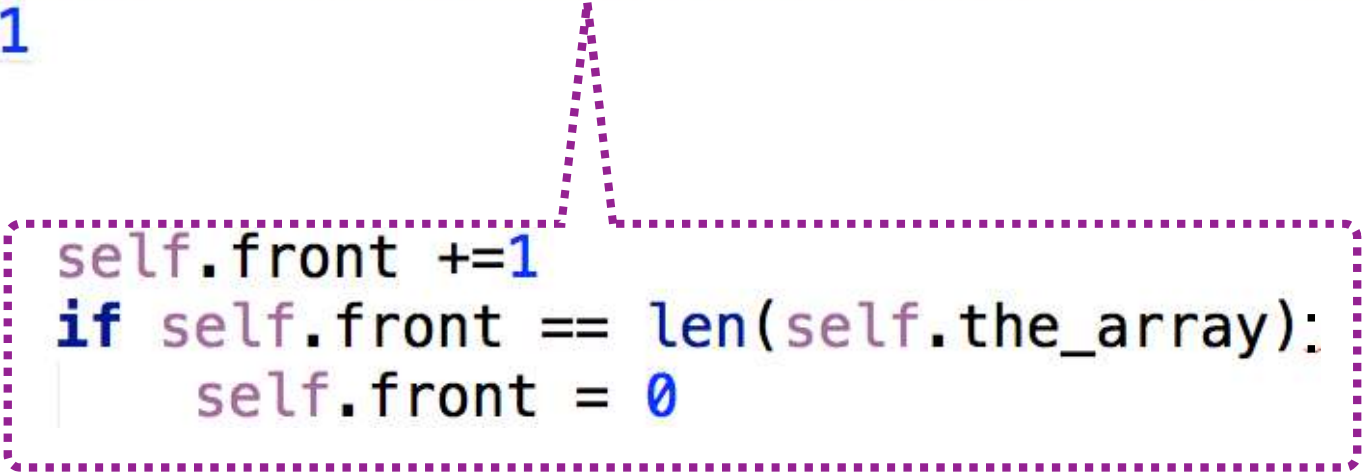
# Circular queue: both front and rear wrap

- Serve item (returns 24)
- Serve item (returns 36)
- Serve item (returns 7)



# Implementation of Serve for a Circular Queue

```
def serve(self):  
    assert not self.is_empty(), "Queue is empty"  
    item = self.the_array[self.front]  
    self.front = (self.front+1) % len(self.the_array)  
    self.count -=1  
    return item
```



```
self.front +=1  
if self.front == len(self.the_array):  
    self.front = 0
```

# Print Queue

- Lets implement it as a function within the Queue ADT. So, it has access to the implementation.
- Do not modify the queue, just **print** its elements

# Print Queue

```
def print_items(self):  
    index = self.front  
    for _ in range(self.count):  
        print(str(self.the_array[index]))  
        index = (index+1) % len(self.the_array)
```

Anonymous variable

print as many items as  
available in the queue

Convert to string whatever is  
stored

Increase index or make it zero if it  
points to outside of the\_array



# Some Queue Applications

- Scheduling and buffering
  - Printers
  - Keyboards
  - Executing asynchronous procedure calls

# Summary

- Queues
  - Array implementation
    - Linear
    - Circular
  - Basic operations
  - Their complexity