

6. Linked Lists :: Implementation :: DList Class :: get() and getNodeAt()

The *get()* method:

```
+get(pIndex: int): Integer <<throws IndexOutOfBoundsException>>
```

returns the element stored in the *DList* at index *pIndex*. The method throws a *java.lang.IndexOutOfBoundsException* if *pIndex* is less than 0 or if *pIndex* is greater than or equal to the size of the list:

```
public Integer get(int pIndex) throws IndexOutOfBoundsException {  
    ...  
}
```

The way we are implementing the *DList* class—by permitting insertion, retrieval, and removal of elements via an index—means that it would be **very convenient** to have a method that will return a reference to the *Node* at a specific index. That is the purpose of:

```
#getNodeAt(pIndex: int): Node <<throws IndexOutOfBoundsException>>
```

which is called by *add()*, *remove()*, and *set()*. *getNodeAt()* throws an *IndexOutOfBoundsException* if *pIndex* is less than 0 or greater than or equal to the size of the list.

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Here is the pseudocode for *getNodeAt()*:

Method *getNodeAt*(In: *pIndex*) Returns *Node* Throws *IndexOutOfBoundsException*

-- Check for *pIndex* out of bounds and throw exception if necessary.

If *pIndex* is out of bounds Then

 Throw *IndexOutOfBoundsException*

End If

-- Since accessing the head and tail nodes is a common operation we check for
-- those cases first.

If *pIndex* = 0 Then

 Return reference to the head node

ElseIf *pIndex* = *getSize()* - 1 Then

 Return reference to the tail node

End If

-- Otherwise, start at the node at index 1 and walk forward until the node at
-- index *pIndex* is reached and then return it.

node ← the node succeeding the head node

For *index* ← 1 to *pIndex* - 1 Do

 Make *node* refer to the node succeeding *node*

End For

Return *node*

End Method *getNodeAt*

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Having implemented *getNodeAt()* which returns the *Node* at index *pIndex*, then implementing *get()* is quite simple:

```
// Returns the element at index pIndex. Throws IndexOutOfBoundsException if
// pIndex < 0 or pIndex >= mSize.
public Integer get(int pIndex) throws IndexOutOfBoundsException {
    return getNodeAt(pIndex).getData();
}
```

where *getNodeAt()* throws the appropriate exception when *pIndex* is out of bounds. If an exception is thrown by *getNodeAt()* then *get()* simply rethrows the exception. Therefore, we are ensured that the reference returned by *getNodeAt(pIndex)* will be nonnull and we will not encounter a *NullPointerException* when we call *getData()* on the *Node*.

6. Linked Lists :: Implementation :: DList Class :: getNodeAt() and set()

The *set()* method:

```
+set(pIndex: int, pData: Integer): Integer <<throws IndexOutOfBoundsException>>
```

changes the element at index *pIndex* to *pData* and returns the element that we replaced. For example,

```
DList list = new DList();  
list.append(1);  
list.append(2);  
list.append(3);  
list.append(4);  
Integer x = list.set(2, 5);  
System.out.println(list + "; x = " + x);
```

would display:

```
1 2 5 4 ; x = 3
```

By making use of *getNodeAt()*, *set()* is straightforward to implement and will be left as an exercise for the student.