

# Introduction to Data Structures

BY

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#### About the lecture

- Computers a brief History
- Introduction
- When selecting a data structure
- Logical Vs Physical



## Computers and their history

- Computer is arguably the most important invention.
- Why???
- Any arguments??
- You may argue: Wheels, Electricity, Penicillin etc....
- Wheels: Have you heard the phase "the best invention since the wheel"
- Electricity: Thomas Alva Edison, Nikola Tesla, Michael Faraday.
- Penicillin: in 1928 by Scottish scientist named Alexander Fleming.



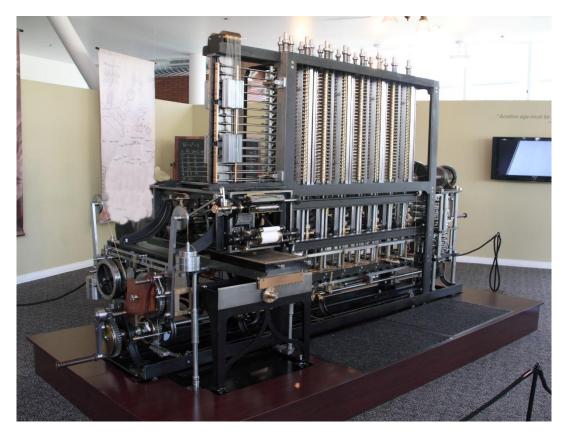
# Charles Babbage, Difference Engine

- In 1823, Charles Babbage received a grant from the British government to build a mechanical device he called the Difference Engine for computing and printing mathematical tables.
- The design utilized rotating wheels and a single crank. [Very Mechanical]
- Technology at the time was not advanced for his design.
- Project abandoned.

How would you know this design worked ????



## Charles Babbage, Difference Engine



Fully operational difference engine at the *Computer History Museum* in Mountain View, California

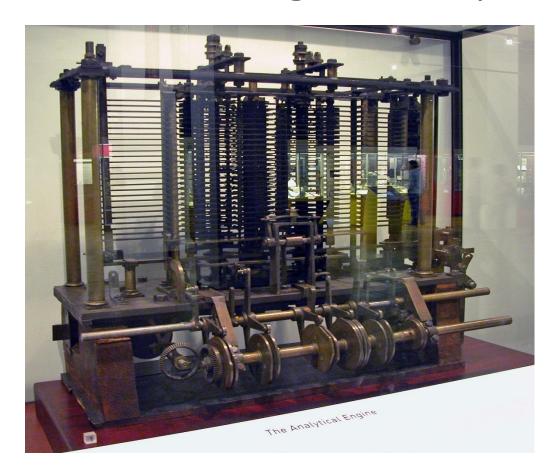


# Charles Babbage, Analytical Engine

- Later, **Charles Babbage** proposed the design of a far better machine, which he called the Analytical Engine.
- Proposed design was way ahead of its time.
- Never built due to Engineering limitations.
- Design was essentially based on the same fundamental principles of modern computer.
- Stand out was its programmability.



# Charles Babbage, Analytical Engine



Model of a part of the Analytical Engine, built by Babbage, as displayed at the Science Museum in London



Punched cards used to program the Analytical Engine



#### So far...

• Made friends...

- Algorithms
- Basic programming.

• Pointers.

• What is the primary purpose of computers??



#### Introduction

We need to store and retrieve information efficiently.

- Does efficiency really matter?
  - Processing power and storage capabilities going up, so...?

- Data structure: Any data representation and its associated operations.
- Have you used any data structures in your program??
- Integers and floating point numbers??



#### Introduction

- Organization or structuring for a collection of data items.
- Sorted list of integers stored in an array is an example of such a structuring.

- We have stored the data, what do we have to consider next?
  - Search for specified items
  - Print or process the data items
  - Modify the value of any particular data item



#### Introduction

Why are DS important?

- Efficiency ??
- Resource constraints.
  - Space available to store the data: primary/secondary storage
  - Time allowed to perform each subtask
- Cost of a solution ??



## When selecting a data structure

- Analyze your problem to determine which are basic operations that must be supported.
- Quantify the resource constraints for each operation.
- Select the data structure that best meets these requirements.

Do you think one DS is better than another?



## When selecting a data structure

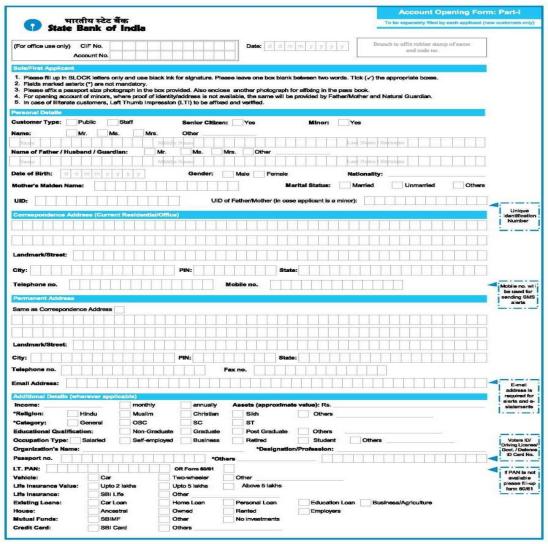
- Your Bank Account Example
  - Database perspective

- System containing information about cities and towns in India.
  - Operations



### Data Structures and Abstract Data Types

- **Type** is a collection of values.
  - Boolean, Integer.
- **Data type** is a type together with a collection of operations to manipulate the type.
- Bank Account?
- Aggregate or composite type.
- A data item is said to be a member of a type.
- Piece of information or a record whose value is drawn from a type



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# Logical Vs Physical

- **Abstract Data Type** (ADT) is the realization of a data type as a software component.
- Defined in terms of a type and a set of operations on that type.
- Does not specify how the data type is implemented.

• Implementation details are hidden from the user and protected from outside

access: Encapsulation

• Consider your car...

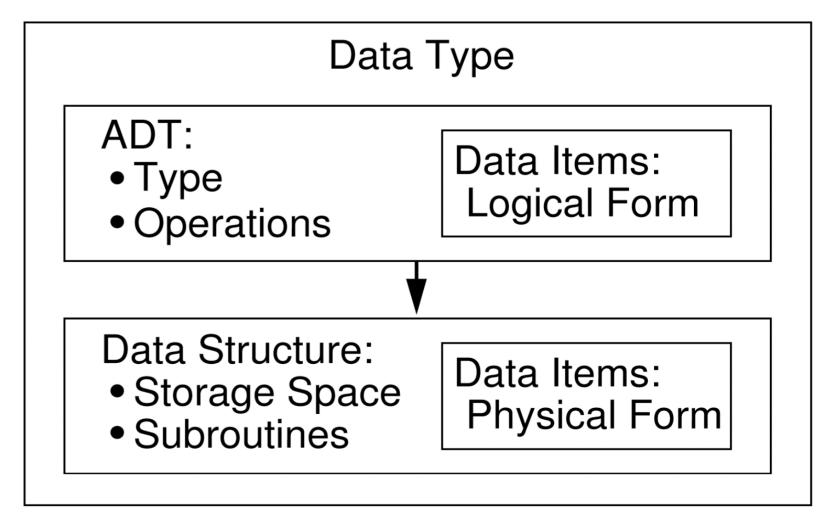


# Logical Vs Physical

- Data structure is the implementation for an ADT.
- Object-oriented language such as C++, JAVA an ADT and its implementation together make up a *class*.
- Operation associated with the ADT is implemented by a *member function* or method.
- Data types have both a logical and a physical form.
- The definition of the data type in terms of an ADT is its logical form.
- The implementation of the data type as a data structure is its physical form.

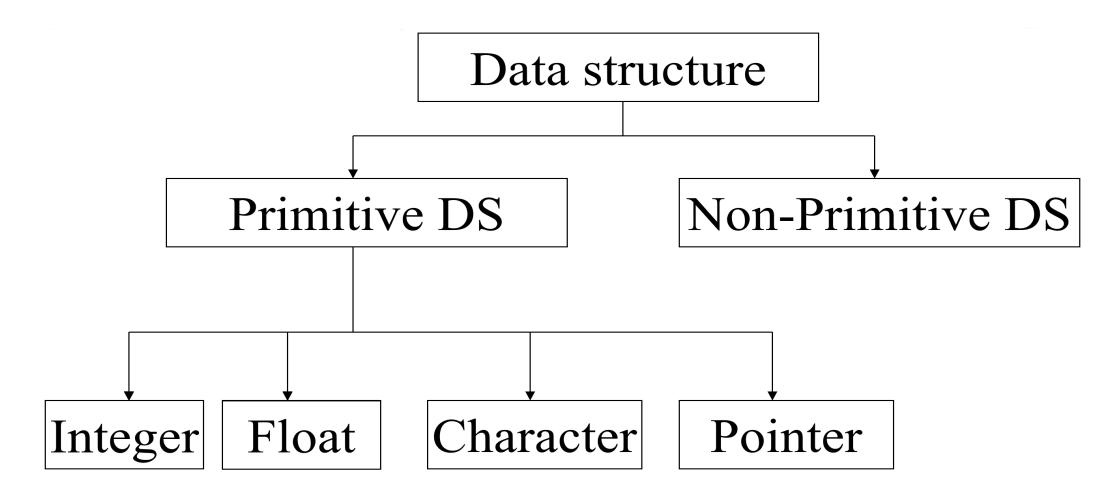


# Logical Vs Physical



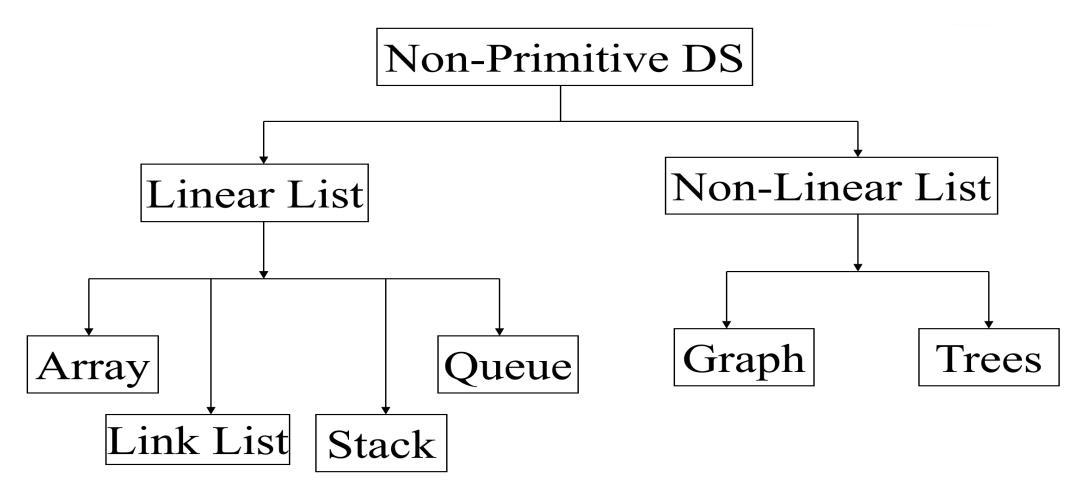


#### Data Structures





#### Data Structures





## Data Structure Operations

- Traversing: Accessing each record exactly once so that certain items in the record may be processed.
- Searching: Finding the location of the record with a given key value.
- Inserting: Adding a new record to the structure.
- Deleting: Removing a record from the structure.
- Sorting: Arranging the records in some logical order.
- Merging: Combing the records in two different sorted files into a single sorted file.