

## 0.1 1333203 DSA Winter 2023

### 0.1.1 Q1a: Define linked list. List different types of linked list. (03 marks)

**Ans 1a:** A linked list is a dynamic data structure consisting of a sequence of elements, where each element (called a node) contains data and a reference (or link) to the next element in the sequence. Unlike arrays, linked lists do not store elements in contiguous memory locations, allowing for efficient insertion and deletion operations.

Key characteristics of linked lists: - Dynamic size: Can grow or shrink during program execution - Non-contiguous memory allocation: Elements can be stored anywhere in memory - Efficient insertion and deletion:  $O(1)$  time complexity for operations at the beginning or end

Different types of linked lists:

#### 1. Singly Linked List:

- Each node contains data and a single reference to the next node
- Last node points to NULL, indicating the end of the list

#### 2. Doubly Linked List:

- Each node contains data and two references: one to the next node and one to the previous node
- Allows traversal in both directions

#### 3. Circular Linked List:

- Similar to singly linked list, but the last node points back to the first node
- Forms a closed loop

#### 4. Circular Doubly Linked List:

- Combines features of doubly linked and circular linked lists
- Last node's next pointer points to the first node, and first node's previous pointer points to the last node

#### 5. Header Linked List:

- Contains a special header node at the beginning
- Header node may store metadata about the list (e.g., size, pointers to first and last elements)

### 0.1.2 Q1b: Define linked list. List different types of linked list. (03 marks)

**Ans 1b:** linked list is a dynamic data structure consisting of a sequence of elements, where each element (called a node) contains data and a reference (or link) to the next element in the sequence. Unlike arrays, linked lists do not store elements in contiguous memory locations, allowing for efficient insertion and deletion operations.

linked lists operations are more efficient than arrays for insertion and deletion operations.

linked lists are of three types: - singly linked list: each node contains data and a pointer to the next node. - doubly linked list: each node contains data and pointers to both the previous and next nodes. - circular linked list: the last node points back to the first node. insertion and deletion: singly linked list: insertion is  $O(1)$  if the position is known, otherwise it is  $O(n)$ . deletion is  $O(1)$  if the position is known, otherwise it is  $O(n)$ .

### 1. Singly Linked List:

- Each node contains data and a pointer to the next node.
- The last node points to NULL.

### 2. Doubly Linked List:

- Each node contains data and pointers to both the previous and next nodes.
- The first node points to NULL for the previous pointer, and the last node points to NULL for the next pointer.

### 3. Circular Linked List:

- Singly Linked List where the last node points back to the first node.
- Used for applications where the sequence is circular.

### 4. Circular Doubly Linked List:

- Doubly Linked List where the last node points back to the first node.
- Used for applications where the sequence is circular and requires bidirectional traversal.

### 5. Header Linked List:

- Each list has a header node that points to the first data node.
- Header node is used to store meta-information about the list (e.g., length, pointers).