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A3 - CMSC 204 - Prof. Alexander
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Assignment 3 - Linked Lists - Experience

I learned that you can use NClass to create models of what the lists look like after certain operations are applied on them such as remove or some addition. While I didn't do that for the final design, as the assignment was considerably changed the day the design was due, I did learn a way to represent a changing list using computer tools.

A minor issue I encountered several times was seeing Nodes instead of the elements stored in the Node. The issue was fixed by making sure to refer to the element, i.e. firstNode.element, or searchNode.element.

I have not done Java inner classes in a while, so this project was a good refresher on the topic. Due to the nature of the design, I made the inner classes, as well as fields, protected so that they may be accessed easily by the test classes.

I had trouble figuring out how to translate the design to the implementation when it came to how to handle changing the linked list. It took several re-thinkings to get it right. While I did figure it out, the learning that I got out of it is to try to visualize the changes to a data structure in different ways to, eventually, get it right. Making arrow diagrams on paper was effective in terms of time, so I am likely to return to that method in the future when it comes to visualizations.