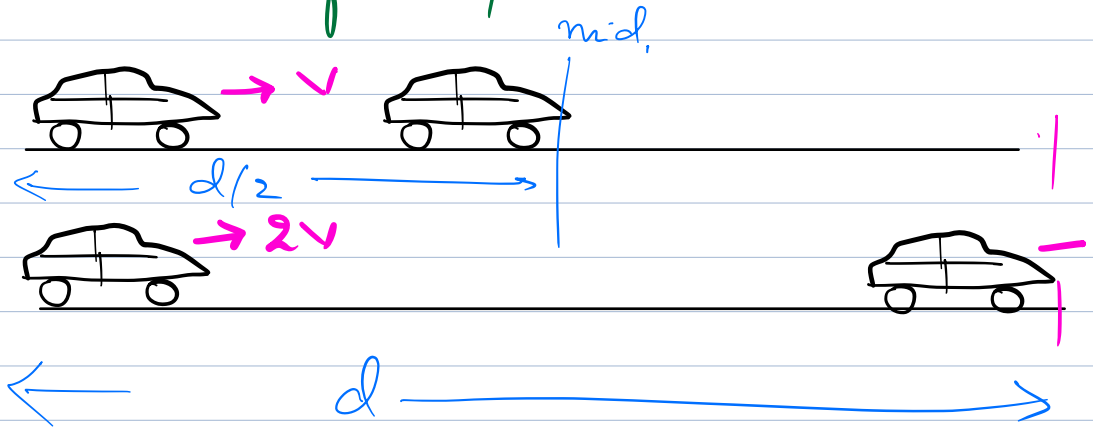
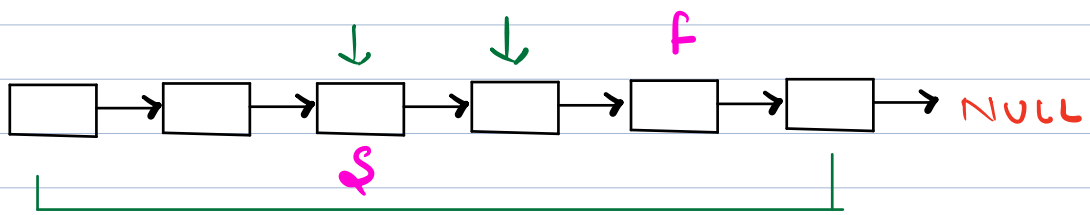
Q Given a LL. find the middle node.

1) Count the total no. of nodes (N)

⇒ find the $N/2^{th}$ node from the beginning.

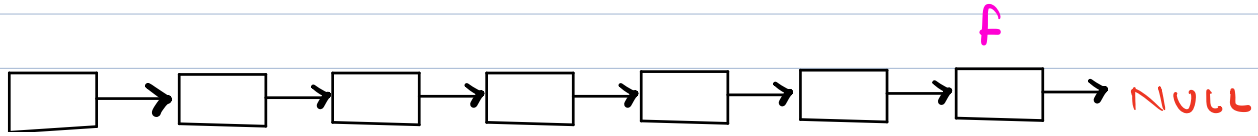
2) Slow & fast pointer.





fast == NULL ⇒ 2nd mid (slow)

fast.next.next == NULL ⇒ 1st mid (slow)



S

fast.next == NULL

Code

```
Node getMid (head) {
    Node slow = head;
    Node fast = head;
    while (fast.next != NULL && fast.next.next
                                != NULL) {
        slow = slow.next;
        fast = fast.next.next;
    }
    return slow;
}
```

T.C. = O(N)

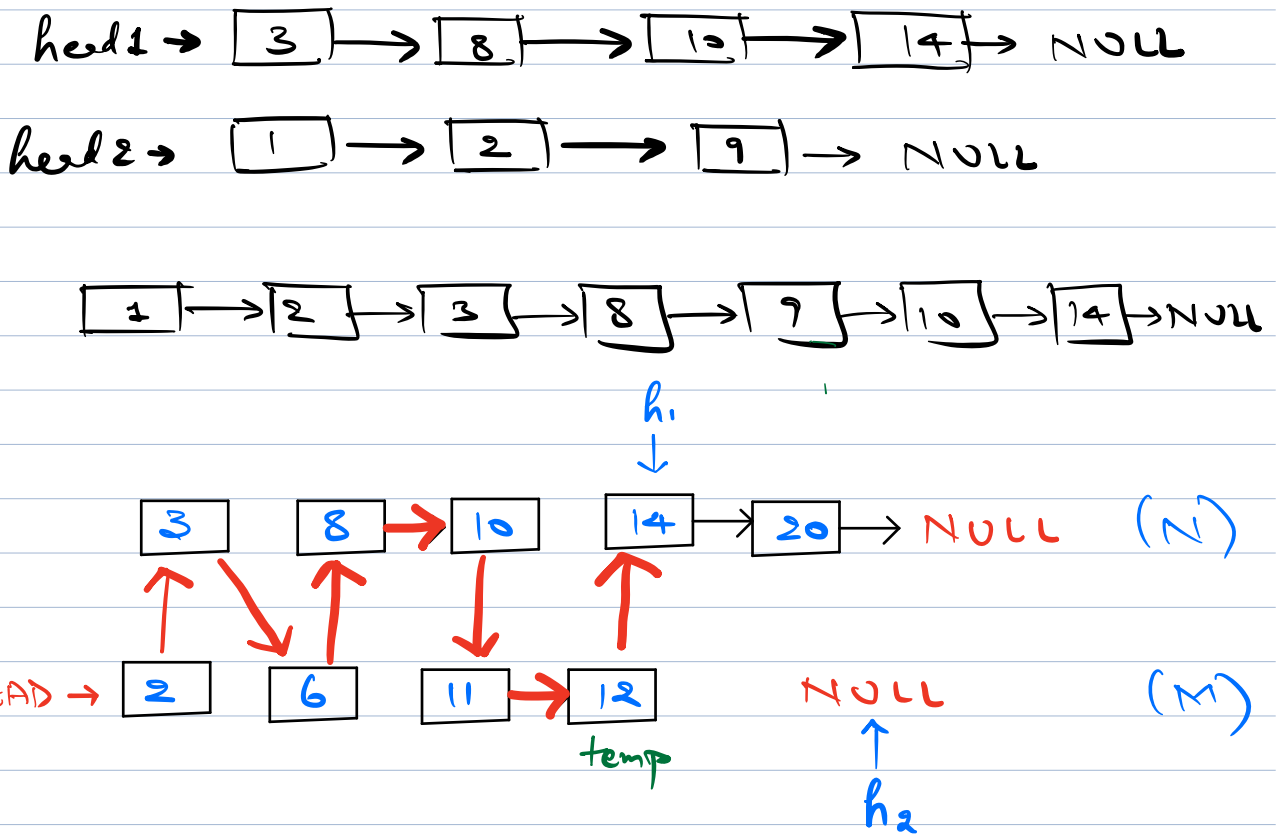
Q Amazon

Given 2 sorted LL

Merge both of them to create a new sorted LL & return the

head of the new LL.

S.C. = O(1)



Code

```
Node merge (h1, h2) {
    if (h1.val < h2.val) {
        Head = h1;
        h1 = h1.next;
    }
    else {
```

```
            Head = h2;
            h2 = h2.next;
        }

        temp = Head;
        while (h1 != NULL && h2 != NULL) {
            if (h1.val < h2.val) {
                temp.next = h1;
                h1 = h1.next
                temp = temp.next;
            }
            else {
                temp.next = h2;
                h2 = h2.next
                temp = temp.next;
            }
        }

        if (h1 == NULL) {
            temp.next = h2;
        }
        else {
            temp.next = h1;
        }

        return Head;
    }
```

T.C. = O(N+M)

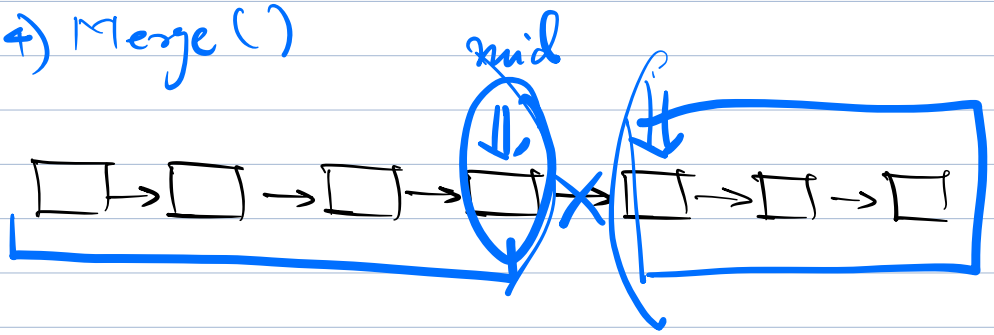
S.C. = O(1)

Q Google MS Amazon LinkedIn Meta

Given a linked list

Sort the linked list using merge Sort.

```
MergeSort ( ) {
    1) Mid
    2) MergeSort (low, mid);
    3) MergeSort (mid+1, high);
    4) Merge ( )
}
```



Code

```
Node mergeSort (head) {
    Base Case: if (head == NULL || head.next == NULL) {
                   return head;
               }

    Node mid = getMid (head);   O(N)

    Node h2 = mid.next;
    mid.next = NULL;

    Node h1 = MergeSort (head);
    h2 = MergeSort (h2);
```

head = Merge (h1, h2); O(N)

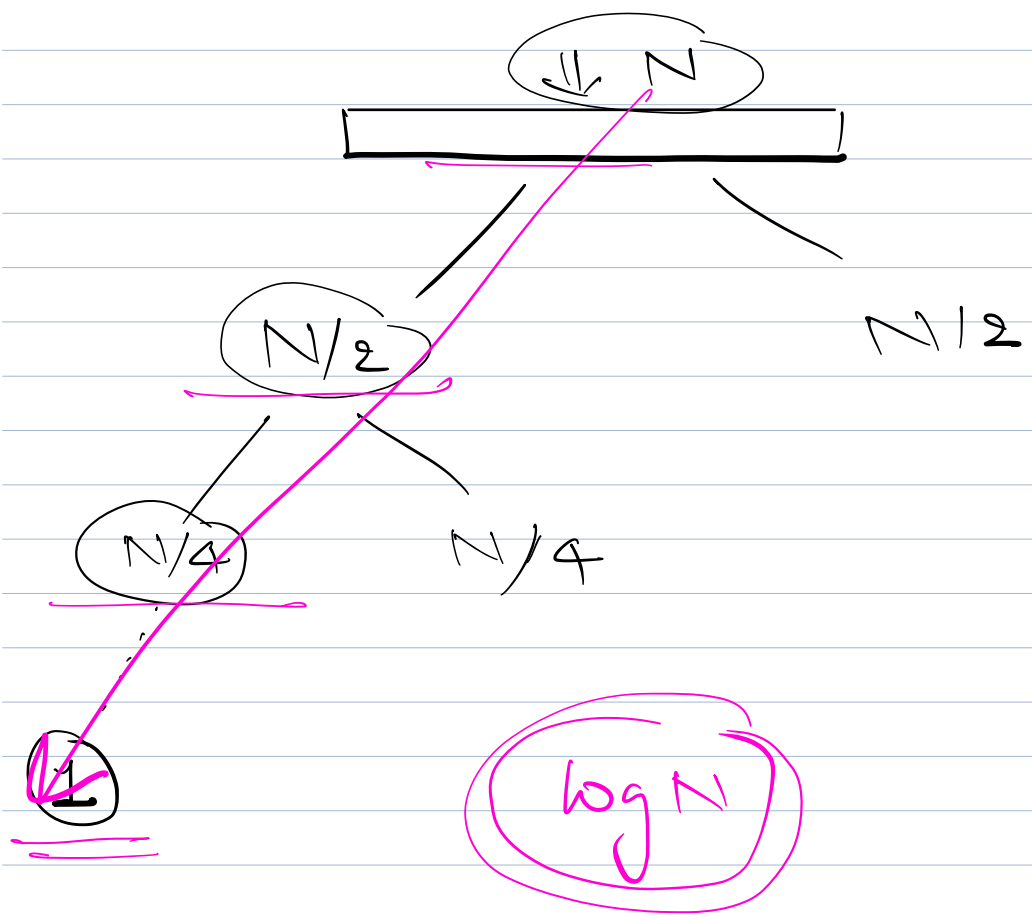
return head;

}

$T(N) = 2T(N/2) + N$

$= O(N \log N)$

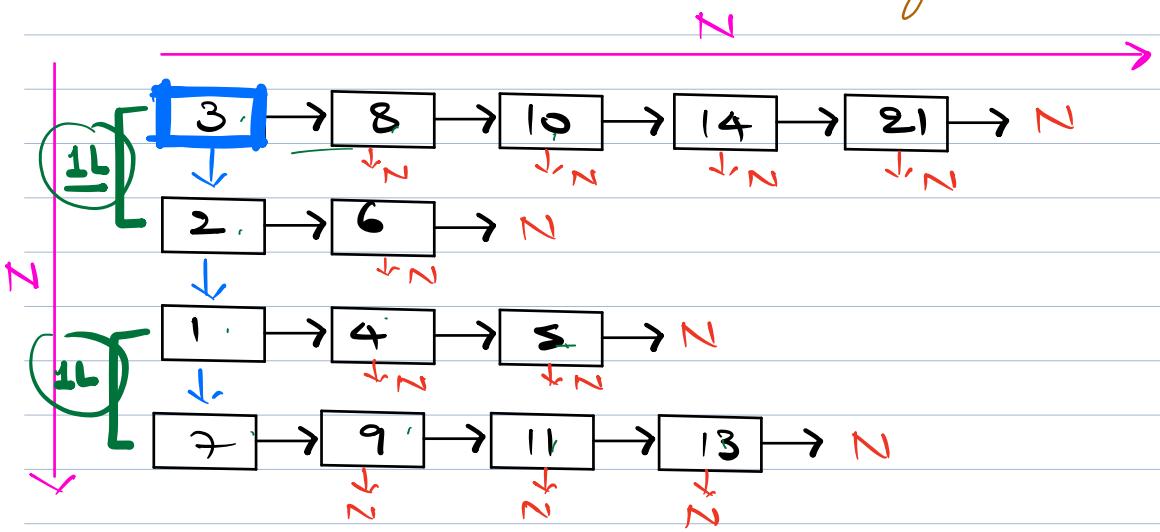
S.C. = O(1) ✗



Google

Given a 2D list. (sorted horizontally)

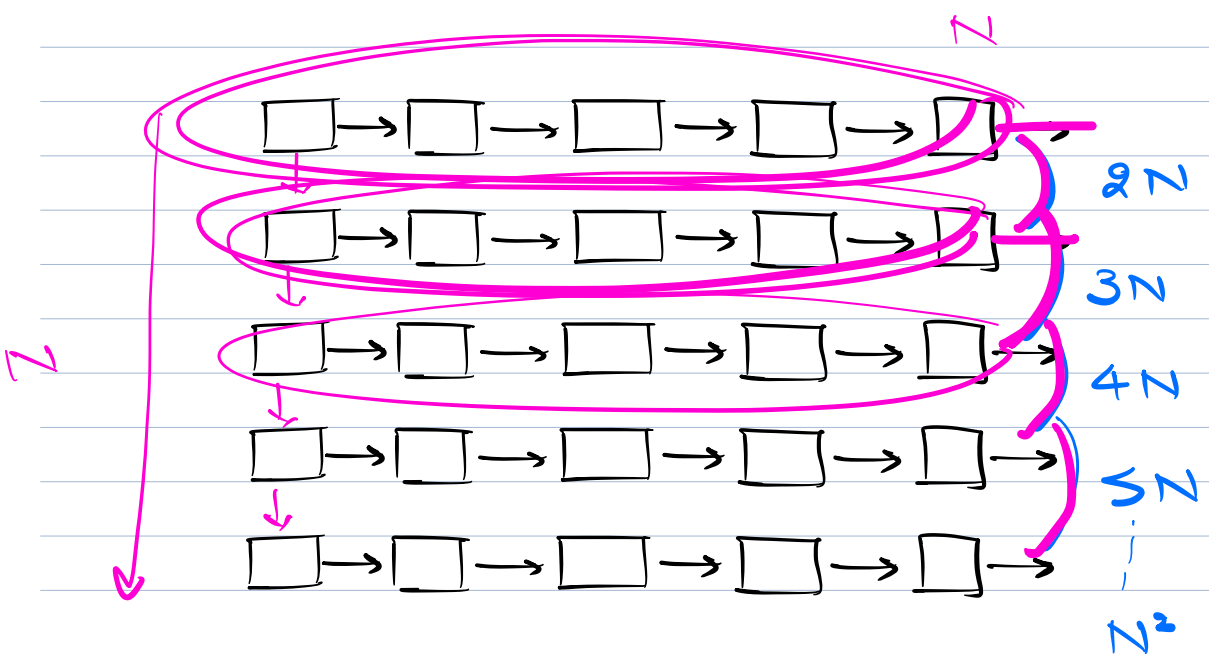
flatten it to a single list (sorted)



1 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5 → 6 → 7 → 8 → 9 → 10

11 → 13 → 14 → 21

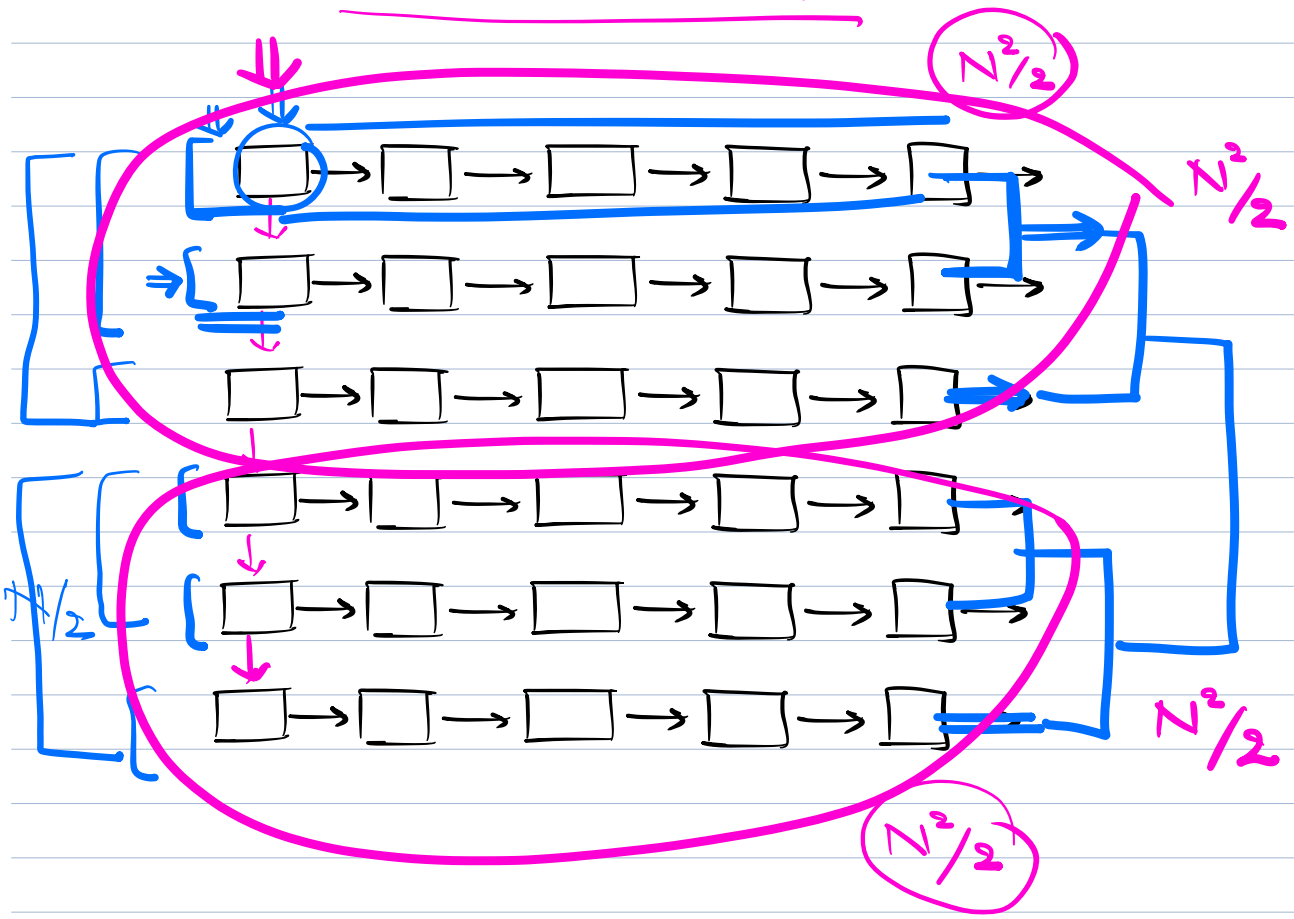
```
Node {
    int data;
    Node next;
    Node down;
}
```



$2N + 3N + 4N \ldots\ldots - N^2$

$N\left(\underbrace{2+3+4 \ldots\ldots N}_{O(N^2)}\right)$

$T.C. = O(N^3)$



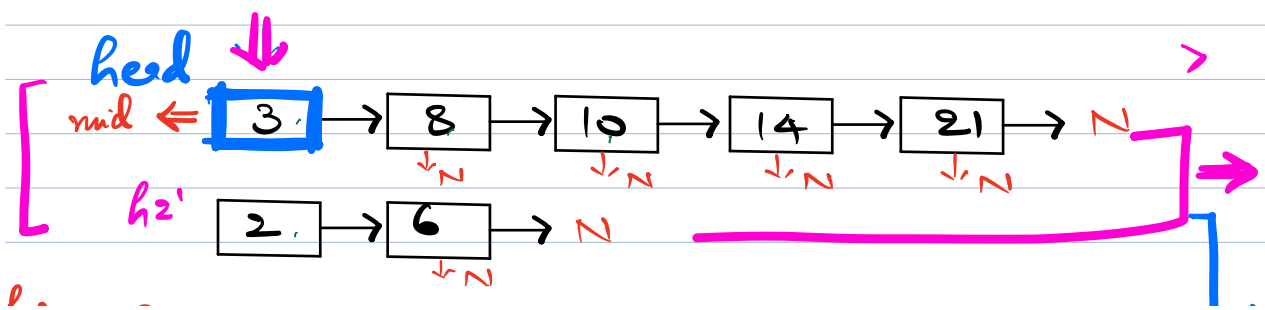
$\frac{N^2}{2} + \frac{N^2}{2} = N^2$

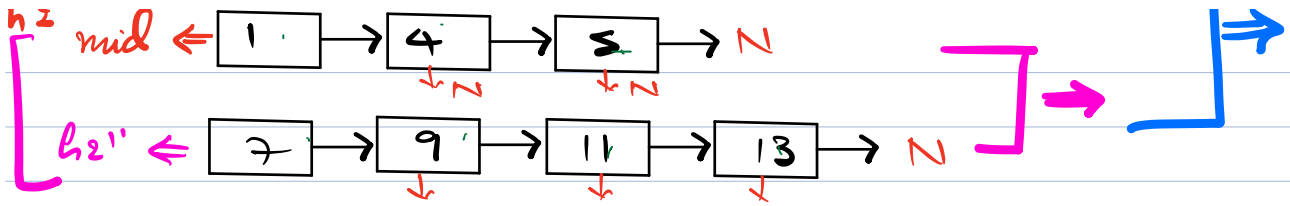
$T(N) = 2T(N/2) + O(N^2)$

↳ H.W.

Code

```
Node mergeList (head) {
    if (head == NULL || head.down == NULL)
        return head;

    Node mid = getMid (head)        // down instead of next

    h2 = mid.down
    mid.down = NULL

    head = mergeLL (head)
    h2 = mergeLL (h2);

    head = merge (head, h2);

    return head;
}
```




h2
mid
1
4
5
N
N
N
h2''
7
9
11
13
N