

LinkedLists

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1 Linked Lists

- <https://opensa-server.cs.vt.edu/ODSA/Books/CS2/html/ListLinked.html>

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1.1 Introduction

- fundamentally different way of storing a large collection of data as list
- consists of list of nodes connected (“linked”) together via pointers
- uses dynamic memory allocation
 - allocates memory for new list element/node as needed
- commonly two types:
 1. singly linked list ([STL forward_list](#))
 2. [doubly linked list](#) ([STL list](#))

1.2 Singly Linked List

- also called one-way list
- each node is depicted with two boxes (members) each holding:
 1. data (left box)
 2. address/pointer to the next node in the list (right box)
- diagonal slash (see last node) represents NULL pointer meaning it’s not pointing to another node
- head or first is a special pointer pointing to the first (header) node
- tail or last is a special pointer pointing to the last (trailer) node
- use pointer to traverse through the linked list (unlike index in array-based list)
- inserting and deleting node are common operations but need to deal with many cases.
 - see visualization at: <https://opensa-server.cs.vt.edu/ODSA/Books/CS2/html/ListLinked.html>

1.3 Implementation of Node

- since a node is a complex type with data (of various type) and a pointer, we use struct or class to implement it

```
[1]: struct Int_Node {  
    int data; // int data  
    Int_Node * next; // address of the next node  
};
```

```
[2]: // better implementation  
template <class T>  
struct Node {  
    T data; // data of some type T  
    Node<T> * next;  
};
```

```
[3]: // linked list of: 10 -> 20 -> 30  
#include <iostream>  
using namespace std;
```

1.4 Creating a linked list

- add elements 10, 20, 30, etc.

```
[4]: Int_Node *head, *tail, *temp;
```

```
[5]: // empty linked list  
head = tail = NULL;
```

1.5 Push Back Element

- inserting element at the end of the linked list
- algorithm steps:
 1. create a new node with data
 - handle special case where linked list is empty
 - make tail->next point to new node
 - make tail point to the new node

```
[6]: // create and add the first node  
temp = new Int_Node;  
temp->data = 10;  
temp->next = NULL;  
  
// list is empty so far so add the first node  
head = temp; //update head  
tail = temp; // update tail
```

[6]: @0x7ffee81618d0

```
[7]: //push_back more elements
temp = new Int_Node;
temp->data = 20;
temp->next = NULL;

tail->next = temp;
// update tail
tail = temp;
```

```
[8]: //push_back more elements
temp = new Int_Node;
temp->data = 30;
temp->next = NULL;

tail->next = temp;
// update tail
tail = temp;
```

1.6 Traversing Linked List

- visiting every node of the linked list
 - access data, check and or update data

```
[9]: void traverse(Int_Node *head) { // start from head and go through every node
    Int_Node * curr = head;
    cout << "[";
    while (curr != NULL) {
        cout << " " << curr->data;
        curr = curr->next;
    }
    cout << " ]";
}
```

```
[10]: traverse(head);
```

[10 20 30]

1.7 Visualize Push Back using pythontutor.com: <https://goo.gl/iQ8xJH>

1.8 Push Front Element

- inserting element at the beginning of the linked list
- algorithm steps:
 1. create a new node with data
 - make new node->next point to the head
 - update head to point to the new node

```
[11]: // insert a new node at the beginning (push_front)
temp = new Int_Node;
temp->data = 200;
temp->next = head;

head = temp;
```

```
[12]: traverse(head);
```

```
[ 200 10 20 30 ]
```

```
[13]: // insert a new node at the beginning (push_front)
temp = new Int_Node;
temp->data = 100;
temp->next = head;

head = temp;
```

```
[14]: traverse(head);
```

```
[ 100 200 10 20 30 ]
```

1.9 Visualize Push Front using pythontutor.com: <https://goo.gl/Qnq51b>

1.10 Linked List Remove

- remove an element/node from the linked list
- algorithm steps:
 1. use two pointers, previous and current
 - current is the node that needs to be deleted if found
 - previous is the node right before current
 2. if node is found delete it
 - update the linked list
 - if head is deleted, update head
 - if tail is deleted, update tail

```
[15]: Int_Node * curr;
      Int_Node * pre;
```

```
[16]: // delete 2nd node from the list
curr = head->next;
pre = head;
pre->next = curr->next;
delete curr;
```

```
[17]: traverse(head);
```

```
[ 100 10 20 30 ]
```

1.11 Linked List Insert

- insert an element/node after certain node in the linked list
- algorithm steps:
 1. create a new node
 - find the location where the new node needs to be inserted
 - insert the new node at that location
 - if the new node is inserted at the beginning, update head
 - if the new node is inserted at the end, update tail

```
[18]: // insert element as the 2nd node (after the first node) with key value 100
temp = new Int_Node;
temp->data = 200;
temp->next = NULL;
curr = head; // pointing to the first node
temp->next = curr->next;
curr->next = temp; // insert temp after current
```

```
[18]: @0x7ffee81618d0
```

```
[19]: traverse(head);
```

```
[ 100 200 10 20 30 ]
```

1.12 Detect and remove cycle from a linked list

- let's say the next of some node points to some earlier nodes creating a cycle (by error)
- determine if the linked list has a cycle
- return 1 if there's a cycle; 0 otherwise
- use unordered_set to keep track of visited node's addresses

```
[20]: # include <unordered_set>
```

```
[21]: int detectAndRemoveCycle(Int_Node * head) {
    Int_Node * last = nullptr;
    unordered_set< Int_Node* > visited;
    bool cycle = false;
    while (!cycle && head != nullptr) {
        // if the node is not in visited set, add it into the set
        if (visited.find(head) == visited.end()) {
            visited.insert(head);
            last = head;
            head = head->next;
        }
        else {
            cycle = true;
            last->next = nullptr;
        }
    }
}
```

```
    return cycle?1:0;
}
```

```
[22]: // test detectAndRemoveCycle by adding a cycle
      cout << tail->data;
```

30

```
[23]: tail->next = head->next->next;
      // not there's a cycle
      cout << tail->next->data;
```

10

```
[24]: cout << detectAndRemoveCycle(head);
```

1

```
[25]: traverse(head);
```

[100 200 10 20 30]

1.13 A Better Approach to Represent Linked List

- insert and delete algorithms stated above have many special cases to worry about
 - makes it harder to understand, and increases the chance of introducing bugs
- many special cases can be eliminated if **header node** and **trailer node** are used
 - these nodes do not store actual data/value
- the following diagram shows empty linked list with header and trailer nodes
- the following diagram shows linked lists with some nodes with data, header and trailer nodes

1.14 Remove

- algorithm steps to remove a node
 1. find the node to be deleted
 - delete the node

1.15 Insert

- algorithm steps to insert an element after certain node
 1. find the node to insert after
 2. insert new node after the node

1.16 Linked List Implementation as ADT

- following Linked list as ADT works for integer data
- it can be easily converted into template class
 - this is left as an exercise

```
[26]: #include <iostream>
#include <sstream>
#include <cassert>
using namespace std;
```

```
[ ]: struct Int_Node {
    int data; // int data
    Int_Node * next; // address of the next node
};
```

```
[28]: class IntLinkedList {
private:
    Int_Node * head; // pointer to the header node
    Int_Node * tail; // pointer to the trailer node
    size_t nodeCount; // keep track of number of nodes

public:
    IntLinkedList() {
        this->nodeCount = 0;
        Int_Node *temp = new Int_Node;
        temp->data = 0;
        temp->next = nullptr;
        this->head = temp;
        temp = new Int_Node;
        temp->data = 0;
        temp->next = nullptr;
        this->tail = temp;

        // link head with tail
        this->head->next = this->tail;
    }

    bool empty() const {
        return this->nodeCount == 0;
    }

    // adds an element to the end (insert end)
    void push_back(int data) {
        Int_Node * node = new Int_Node;
        node->data = 0;
        node->next = NULL;

        this->tail->data = data; // update trailer node's data
        this->tail->next = node; // link new node at the end
        this->tail = node; // make new node the trailer node

        this->nodeCount++;
    }
};
```

```

}

// inserts an element to the beginning
void push_front(int data) {
    // FIXME
}

// return the size of the list
size_t size() {
    return this->nodeCount;
}

// access the first element
// FIXME - implement method to access the data in first node

// return string representation of linked list
string toString() {
    stringstream ss;
    ss << "[";
    Int_Node * curr = head->next; // ignore header
    while (curr != tail) { // stop before trailer
        ss << " " << curr->data;
        curr = curr->next;
    }
    ss << " ]";
    return ss.str();
}

// remove node with given key
void remove(int key) {
    assert(!empty());
    Int_Node *curr = head; //start from header node
    bool found = false;
    while (curr->next != tail) {
        if (curr->next->data == key) {
            found = true;
            break;
        }
        curr = curr->next;
    }
    if (found) {
        // node found delete it
        Int_Node *node = curr->next; //copy curr->next to properly
        ↪ delete it

        // point around unneeded node
        curr->next = curr->next->next;
    }
}

```



```

        delete node;
        this->nodeCount--;
    }
}

// insert a node with a given data after the node with the after_key_
→value
// if the element with after_key not found, insert data at the end
void insert_after(int after_key, int data) {
    // FIXME
}

};

```

```

[29]: // test IntLinkedList with some data
      IntLinkedList ilist;

```

```

[30]: cout << ilist.toString();

```

```

[ ]

```

```

[31]: ilist.push_back(10);
      cout << ilist.toString();

```

```

[ 10 ]

```

```

[32]: ilist.push_back(20);
      ilist.push_back(30);
      cout << ilist.toString();

```

```

[ 10 20 30 ]

```

```

[33]: cout << "LinkedList has " << ilist.size() << " nodes." << endl;

```

```

LinkedList has 3 nodes.

```

```

[34]: ilist.remove(20);
      cout << ilist.toString();

```

```

[ 10 30 ]

```

1.17 Array-based List Vs Linked List

1.17.1 Disadvantages of array-based lists

- list size must be predetermined before the array can be allocated
- list cannot grow beyond their predetermined size
- memory is potentially wasted if array is not completely filled

- insertion operation requires shifting elements down (at most $O(n)$ operations in the worst case)
- deletion operation requires shifting elements up (at most $O(n)$ operations in the worst case)

1.17.2 Advantages of linked lists

- list size must not be known before hand
- list can grow dynamically as more data need to be stored
- no over allocating space and waste of memory
- if pointer is predetermined, insertion and deletion takes constant time $O(1)$ operation

1.17.3 Advantages of array-based lists

- no extra space is required to store pointer in each node
- better suited if the size of the data is known and array is guaranteed to be filled
- provides random access to data via index

1.17.4 Disadvantages of linked lists

- memory overhead for storing pointer in each node
- no random access to data is possible... must traverse the list to access elements

1.17.5 Exercises

1. In a linked list, the successive elements in the list:
 1. Need not occupy contiguous space in memory
 - Must not occupy contiguous space in memory
 - Must occupy contiguous space in memory
 - None of the above
2. Fix all the FIXMEs of Singly Linked List ADT above and test the fixes
3. Convert Singly Linked List ADT to a template class to store data of any type in the node

[]: