Pairwise swap elements of a given linked list

Given a singly linked list, write a function to swap elements pairwise. For example, if the linked list is 1->2->3->4->5 then the function should change it to 2->1->4->3->5, and if the linked list is 1->2->3->4->5->6 then the function should change it to 2->1->4->3->6->5.

METHOD 1 (Iterative)
Start from the head node and traverse the list. While traversing swap data of each node with its next node's data.

```
/* Program to pairwise swap elements in a given linked list */
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
#include<stdlib.h>

/* A linked list node */
struct node
{
  int data;
  struct node *next;
};

/*Function to swap two integers at addresses a and b */
void swap(int *a, int *b);

/* Function to pairwise swap elements of a linked list */
void pairWiseSwap(struct node *head)
{
  struct node *temp = head;

   /* Traverse further only if there are at-least two nodes left */
  while (temp != NULL && temp->next != NULL)
  {
    /* Swap data of node with its next node's data */
    swap(&temp->data, &temp->next->data);

    /* Move temp by 2 for the next pair */
    temp = temp->next->next;
  }
}

/* UTILITY FUNCTIONS */
/* Function to swap two integers */
void swap(int *a, int *b)
{
  int temp;
  temp = *a;
  *a = *b;
  *b = temp;
}

/* Function to add a node at the begining of Linked List */
void push(struct node** head_ref, int new_data)
{
  /* allocate node */
  struct node* new_node =
            (struct node*) malloc(sizeof(struct node));

  /* put in the data  */
  new_node->data  = new_data;

  /* link the old list off the new node */
  new_node->next = (*head_ref);

  /* move the head to point to the new node */
  (*head_ref)    = new_node;
```

```
}

/* Function to print nodes in a given linked list */
void printList(struct node *node)
{
  while (node != NULL)
  {
    printf("%d ", node->data);
    node = node->next;
  }
}

/* Druver program to test above function */
int main()
{
  struct node *start = NULL;

  /* The constructed linked list is:
   1->2->3->4->5 */
  push(&start, 5);
  push(&start, 4);
  push(&start, 3);
  push(&start, 2);
  push(&start, 1);

  printf("\n Linked list before calling  pairWiseSwap() ");
  printList(start);

  pairWiseSwap(start);

  printf("\n Linked list after calling  pairWiseSwap() ");
  printList(start);

  getchar();
  return 0;
}
```

Time complexity: O(n)

METHOD 2 (Recursive)
If there are 2 or more than 2 nodes in Linked List then swap the first two nodes and recursively call for rest of the list.

```
/* Recursive function to pairwise swap elements of a linked list */
void pairWiseSwap(struct node *head)
{
  /* There must be at-least two nodes in the list */
  if(head != NULL && head->next != NULL)
  {
    /* Swap the node's data with data of next node */
    swap(&head->data, &head->next->data);

    /* Call pairWiseSwap() for rest of the list */
```

```
    pairWiseSwap(head->next->next);
  }
}
```

Time complexity: O(n)

The solution provided there swaps data of nodes. If data contains many fields, there will be many swap operations. See this for an implementation that changes links rather than swapping data.

Please write comments if you find any bug in above code/algorithm, or find other ways to solve the same problem.

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