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1 Basic Test Results

```
1 Starting tests...
2 Tue Dec 31 21:16:02 IST 2013
3 6d5c22357c1b8591b03384859a880fbaa93d08c5 -
4
5
6 sllist_utils.py
7 skipi_list.py
8 README
9
10 Testing README...
11 Done testing README...
12
13 Testing sllist_utils.py...
14 result_code    intersect    20    1
15 result_code    slgetitemg   32    1
16 result_code    sliceb      1203   1
17 result_code    cycle       22    1
18 result_code    mergelist    36    1
19 result_code    slgetitemb   25    1
20 result_code    palindrome   20    1
21 result_code    sliceg      722    1
22 result_code    reverse     10    1
23 result_code    mergesort    19    1
24 Done testing sllist_utils.py
25
26 Testing skipi_list.py...
27 result_code    skipremlast   34    1
28 result_code    skgetitemb   272   1
29 result_code    ctor         5    1
30 result_code    skgetitemg   740   1
31 result_code    removelast   336   1
32 result_code    addlast      370   1
33 result_code    skipremfirst  34    1
34 result_code    addfirst      370   1
35 result_code    removenode   370   1
36 result_code    removefirst  336   1
37 Done testing skipi_list.py
38
39 Grading summary
40 -----
41 ***** palindrome:
42 Number of failed tests: 0
43 Total number of tests : 20
44 Penalty: 0.0
45 ***** cycle:
46 Number of failed tests: 0
47 Total number of tests : 22
48 Penalty: 0.0
49 ***** intersect:
50 Number of failed tests: 0
51 Total number of tests : 20
52 Penalty: 0.0
53 ***** reverse:
54 Number of failed tests: 0
55 Total number of tests : 10
56 Penalty: 0.0
57 ***** mergelist:
58 Number of failed tests: 0
59 Total number of tests : 36
```

```

60 Penalty: 0.0
61 ***** mergesort:
62 Number of failed tests: 0
63 Total number of tests : 19
64 Penalty: 0.0
65 ***** slgetitemg:
66 Number of failed tests: 0
67 Total number of tests : 32
68 Penalty: 0.0
69 ***** slgetitemb:
70 Number of failed tests: 0
71 Total number of tests : 25
72 Penalty: 0.0
73 ***** sliceb:
74 Number of failed tests: 0
75 Total number of tests : 1203
76 Penalty: 0.0
77 ***** ctor:
78 Number of failed tests: 0
79 Total number of tests : 5
80 Penalty: 0.0
81 ***** addfirst:
82 Number of failed tests: 0
83 Total number of tests : 370
84 Penalty: 0.0
85 ***** addlast:
86 Number of failed tests: 0
87 Total number of tests : 370
88 Penalty: 0.0
89 ***** removefirst:
90 Number of failed tests: 0
91 Total number of tests : 336
92 Penalty: 0.0
93 ***** removelast:
94 Number of failed tests: 0
95 Total number of tests : 336
96 Penalty: 0.0
97 ***** removenode:
98 Number of failed tests: 0
99 Total number of tests : 370
100 Penalty: 0.0
101 ***** skgetitemg:
102 Number of failed tests: 0
103 Total number of tests : 740
104 Penalty: 0.0
105 ***** skgetitemb:
106 Number of failed tests: 0
107 Total number of tests : 272
108 Penalty: 0.0
109 ***** skipremfirst:
110 Number of failed tests: 0
111 Total number of tests : 34
112 Penalty: 0.0
113 ***** skipremlast:
114 Number of failed tests: 0
115 Total number of tests : 34
116 Penalty: 0.0
117 ***** sliceg:
118 Number of passed tests: 722
119 Total number of tests : 722
120 Bonus: 10.0
121 *****
122 Expected automatic grade: 110.0
123 *****
124 Submission passed!
125 Tests completed

```

2 aaa expected autograde

```
1 Grading summary
2 -----
3 ***** palindrome:
4 Number of failed tests: 0
5 Total number of tests : 20
6 Penalty: 0.0
7 ***** cycle:
8 Number of failed tests: 0
9 Total number of tests : 22
10 Penalty: 0.0
11 ***** intersect:
12 Number of failed tests: 0
13 Total number of tests : 20
14 Penalty: 0.0
15 ***** reverse:
16 Number of failed tests: 0
17 Total number of tests : 10
18 Penalty: 0.0
19 ***** mergelist:
20 Number of failed tests: 0
21 Total number of tests : 36
22 Penalty: 0.0
23 ***** mergesort:
24 Number of failed tests: 0
25 Total number of tests : 19
26 Penalty: 0.0
27 ***** slgetitemg:
28 Number of failed tests: 0
29 Total number of tests : 32
30 Penalty: 0.0
31 ***** slgetitemb:
32 Number of failed tests: 0
33 Total number of tests : 25
34 Penalty: 0.0
35 ***** sliceb:
36 Number of failed tests: 0
37 Total number of tests : 1203
38 Penalty: 0.0
39 ***** ctor:
40 Number of failed tests: 0
41 Total number of tests : 5
42 Penalty: 0.0
43 ***** addfirst:
44 Number of failed tests: 0
45 Total number of tests : 370
46 Penalty: 0.0
47 ***** addlast:
48 Number of failed tests: 0
49 Total number of tests : 370
50 Penalty: 0.0
51 ***** removefirst:
52 Number of failed tests: 0
53 Total number of tests : 336
54 Penalty: 0.0
55 ***** removelast:
56 Number of failed tests: 0
57 Total number of tests : 336
58 Penalty: 0.0
59 ***** removenode:
```

```
60 Number of failed tests: 0
61 Total number of tests : 370
62 Penalty: 0.0
63 ***** skgetitemg:
64 Number of failed tests: 0
65 Total number of tests : 740
66 Penalty: 0.0
67 ***** skgetitemb:
68 Number of failed tests: 0
69 Total number of tests : 272
70 Penalty: 0.0
71 ***** skipremfirst:
72 Number of failed tests: 0
73 Total number of tests : 34
74 Penalty: 0.0
75 ***** skipremlast:
76 Number of failed tests: 0
77 Total number of tests : 34
78 Penalty: 0.0
79 ***** sliceq:
80 Number of passed tests: 722
81 Total number of tests : 722
82 Bonus: 10.0
83 *****
84 Expected automatic grade: 110.0
85 *****
86 Submission passed!
```

3 aaa hint result.png



4 README

```
1 roigreenberg
2 305571234
3 Roi Greenberg
4
5 I discussed the exercise with: Roi Greenberg, Naama Antebi.
6
7
8 =====
9 = README for ex8 =
10 =====
11
12 =====
13 = Description: =
14 =====
15
16
17 Part 1: Hash functions:
18
19 Q1:
20 ===
21 h0- The function maps everything to zero
22 h1- The function transform the first letter of the recieved key into a
23     number by using 'ord' function then divide it (module) by m
24 h2- The function use 'ord' in order to sum the word letters numeric
25     value and divide (module) the sum by m
26 h3- The function use 'ord' in order to sum the word letters numeric
27     value, in each iteration the function multiplies the current
28     sum by 128 and divide (module) the final sum by m
29 h4- The function take a random number in the hashtable size range
30 h5- There are 3 situations in the function in regard to the key:
31     1. string - use "str_to_int" that act on the key's binary code
32         in order to recieve an integer.
33     2. key is a type of collections.Hashable - return the key's
34         "__str__" value
35     3. integer - divide (module) the key by m
36 h6- The function use the key's length. if it 0, the function return zero
37     if it not 0, it use 'ord' in order to get the numeric value of the
38     letter, then change the binary value and divide (module) by m
39 h7- The function using the cryptographic hash function "md5"
40 h8- The function using the cryptographic hash function "sha1"
41 h9- The function using the python built-in hash function
42
43 Q2:
44 ===
45 h9 is the best function. as it seen from the last question it have no drawback.
46 also for string type of data, h5 works good as well
47
48 Q3:
49 ===
50 in case M greater then N the collisions number reduces
51 in case N greater then M it increase (exeppt in h0 which had no difference)
52
53 Q4:
54 ===
55 by using prime number, the collisions will reduce because the division remainder
56 will spread more
57
58 Q5:
59 ===
```

60 h0- the function is not effective at all because it maps everything to 0
 61 h1- advantage- all values ordered in groups by their first letter
 62 drawbacks- the collisions are big, not work on numbers
 63 h2- advantage- less collision then h1 function
 64 drawbacks- same-letters words will get the same value also not work
 65 on numbers
 66 h3- advantage- less collision the h2 function because of noticing to
 67 the order of the latter
 68 drawbacks- not work on numbers
 69 h4- advantage- in the best situation the function will map the keys equally
 70 drawbacks- in the worst situation the function will map the keys to the
 71 same value
 72 h5- advantage- the function is efficient because it divides the cases by
 73 the inputs types
 74 drawbacks- not working well with numbers
 75 h6- advantage- the function is efficient because it change the binary value
 76 will decrease the collision
 77 drawbacks- if many key's with a length of 0 the collision will increase
 78 h7- advantage- the collision is very small
 79 drawbacks- take a long time to get the hash value
 80 h8- advantage- the collision is very small
 81 drawbacks- take a long time to get the hash value
 82 h9- advantage- the function have only advantage, it run fast, take care of
 83 any type of data and have a big range of hash value
 84
 85

-1 you should mention that the method h4 cant be used as a hash function, since the same value can get sent to different cells of the table.

Part 2: sllist_utils.py

Description: implement some function for a linked lists

1. reverse - reverse the list
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run on each node one time
2. merge_lists - merge to lists into one
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run on each node from both list one time
3. contains_cycle - check if list have a cycle
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run in a loop and do one action each time
4. get_item - return the data of the k'th element
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function use list_len which is $O(n)$
5. is_palindrome - check if list s palindrome
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run on each node constant number of times
6. have_intersection - check if 2 lists connect in same point
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function use reverse() which is $O(n)$
7. slice - slice the list according to the given arguments
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run on each node one time
8. merge_sort - sort a list in merge_sort algorithm
complexity - $O(n \cdot \log(n))$ - the recursion split $\log(n)$ times and for each time
sort the list by $O(n)$ actions
9. list_len(help function) - find the length of the list
complexity - $O(n)$ - the function run on each node one time

get the k'th item is $O(k)$, if $k < 0$ then it $O(n)$.

Part 3: skipi_list.py

Description: implement a class for skipilist

the class has the following functions:

0. __init__ - Constructs an empty SkipiList
1. add_first - add new node to the beginning of the list
2. remove_first - remove the first node
3. add_last - add new node to the end of the list
4. remove_last - remove the last node
5. remove_node - remove the given node
6. getitem - return the data of the k'th element

by using skipi list in part 2 the the complexity will be:

1. reverse - $O(n)$ - the function still need to run on each node one time
2. merge_lists - $O(n)$ - the function still need to run on each node from both list one time
3. contains_cycle - in skipi list because of the tail it not supposed be cycle

line 128: its the right
answer.

```
128             (another option -  $O(1)$  to check if tail.next is not None)
129 4. get_item -            $O(n)$  - in worse case function need to run over all the list
130 5. is_palindrome -       $O(n)$  - the function still need to run on each node constant number of times
131 6. have_intersection -   $O(1)$  - the function only need to compare the tails
132 7. slice -              $O(n)$  - the function still need to run on each node one time
133 8. merge_sort -          $O(n \cdot \log(n))$  - the recursion still need to split  $\log(n)$  times
134                        and for each time sort the list by  $O(n)$  actions
135
136
137 =====
138 = List of submitted files: =
139 =====
140
141 README
142 sllist_utils.py
143 skipi_list.py
```

5 skipi list.py

```
1 #####
2 # FILE: skipi_list.py
3 # WRITER: Roi Greenberg + roigreenberg + 305571234
4 # EXERCISE : intro2cs ex8 2013-2014
5 # Description: implement a class for skipilist
6 # the class has the following functions:
7 # 0. __init__ - Constructs an empty SkipiList
8 # 1. add_first - add new node to the begining of the list
9 # 2. remove_first - remove the first node
10 # 3. add_last - add new node to the end of the list
11 # 4. remove_last - remove the last node
12 # 5. remove_node - remove the given node
13 # 6. getitem - return the data of the k'th element
14 #####
15
16 from sllist import SkipiNode as Node
17
18
19 class SkipiList:
20
21     """
22     This class represents a special kind of a doubly-linked list
23     called a SkipiList. A SkipiList is composed of Nodes (SkipiNode from
24     sllist). In addition to the data, each Node has one pointer to the
25     next Node in the list, and another pointer to the prev-prev Node in the
26     list (hence the name "skipi"). The only data members the class contains
27     are the head and the tail of the list.
28     """
29
30     def __init__(self):
31         """Constructs an empty SkipiList."""
32         self.head = None
33         self.tail = None
34
35     def add_first(self, data):
36         """
37         Adds an item to the beginning of a list.
38         data - the item to add
39         """
40         # define the head as the new Node
41         self.head = Node(data, next=self.head)
42         # if list was empty define th tail as the head
43         if self.tail is None:
44             self.tail = self.head
45         # set the skip back pointer if needed
46         if self.head.next is not None:
47             if self.head.next.next is not None:
48                 self.head.next.next.skip_back = self.head
49
50     def remove_first(self):
51         """
52         Removes the first Node from the list and return its data.
53         Returns that data of the removed node
54         """
55         # return None if there are no Nodes
56         if self.head is None:
57             return None
58         # save and disconnect the first Node from the list
59         # and set the head to the next Node
```

```

60     removed = self.head
61     self.head = self.head.next
62     removed.next = None
63     # set the tail as None if list got empty
64     if self.head is None:
65         self.tail = None
66     # remove the skip back pointer from the second Node if needed
67     elif self.head.next is not None:
68         self.head.next.skip_back = None
69
70     return removed.data
71
72 def add_last(self, data):
73     """
74     Adds an item to the end of a list.
75     data - the item to add
76     """
77     # if list empty set head and tail as the new Node
78     if self.head is None:
79         self.tail = Node(data, next=None)
80         self.head = self.tail
81     # else set new tail
82     else:
83         self.tail.next = Node(data, next=None)
84         # set the skip back pointer if needed
85         if self.head != self.tail:
86             if self.tail.skip_back is None:
87                 self.tail.next.skip_back = self.head
88             else:
89                 self.tail.next.skip_back = self.tail.skip_back.next
90         # set the tail to the new one
91         self.tail = self.tail.next
92
93 def remove_last(self):
94     """
95     Removes the last Node from the list and return its data.
96     The data of the removed node
97     """
98     # return None if no Node to remove
99     if self.tail is None:
100         return None
101     # save the tail
102     removed = self.tail
103     # set the new tail
104     if self.tail != self.head:
105         if self.tail.skip_back is None:
106             self.tail = self.head
107         else:
108             self.tail = self.tail.skip_back.next
109         self.tail.next = None
110     else:
111         self.tail = self.head = None
112
113     return removed.data
114
115 def remove_node(self, node):
116     """
117     Removes a given Node from the list, and returns its data.
118     Assumes the given node is in the list. Runs in O(1).
119     """
120     # remove the first Node
121     if node == self.head:
122         return self.remove_first()
123     # remove the last Node
124     elif node == self.tail:
125
126         return self.remove_last()
127     # set the skip back pointers after removing the Node and set the

```

```

128     # preview Node to point on the next one(skip the removing node)
129     if node.next != self.tail:
130         if node.skip_back is not None:
131             node.next.next.skip_back = node.skip_back.next
132         else:
133             node.next.next.skip_back = self.head
134     if node.skip_back is not None:
135         node.next.skip_back = node.skip_back
136         node.skip_back.next.next = node.next
137     else:
138         self.head.next = node.next
139         node.next.skip_back = None
140     # disconnect the Node from the list
141     node.next = None
142     return node.data
143
144 def __getitem__(self, k):
145     """
146     Returns the data of the k'th item of the list.
147     If k is negative return the data of k'th item from the end of the list.
148     If abs(k) > length of list raise IndexError.
149     """
150     # set a pointer
151     # in case k non negative
152     if k >= 0:
153         # set a pointer
154         node = self.head
155         # move the pointer to the right position
156         for i in range(k):
157             if node != self.tail:
158                 node = node.next
159             # raise an error if k > length of list
160             else:
161                 raise IndexError
162         return node.data
163     # in case k negative
164     else:
165         # set a pointer
166         node = self.tail
167         # move the pointer to the right position
168         for i in range(-k // 2):
169             if node is not None and node != self.head:
170                 node = node.skip_back
171             # raise an error if abs(k) > length of list
172             else:
173                 raise IndexError
174         # return the head if one if k is odd and pointer move before head
175         if node is None:
176             if k % 2 == 0:
177                 return self.head.data
178             # raise an error if abs(k) > length of list
179             else:
180                 raise IndexError
181         # move the pointer to the next one if k is odd
182         if k % 2 == 0:
183             node = node.next
184         return node.data

```

6 sllist utils.py

```
1 #####
2 # FILE: sllist_utils.py
3 # WRITER: Roi Greenberg + roigreenberg + 305571234
4 # EXERCISE : intro2cs ex8 2013-2014
5 # Description: implement some function for a linked lists
6 # 1. reverse - reverse the list
7 # 2. merge_lists - merge to lists into one
8 # 3. contains_cycle - check if list have a cycle
9 # 4. get_item - return the data of the k'th element
10 # 5. is_palindrome - check if list s palindrome
11 # 6. have_intersection - check if 2 lists connect in same point
12 # 7. slice - slice the list according to the given arguments
13 # 8. merge_sort - sort a list in merge_sort algorithm
14 #####
15
16 from sllist import List, Node
17
18
19 def list_len(sll):
20     """ function recieve a list and return the number of node in the list
21     """
22     # set pointer to the head
23     node = sll.head
24     # reset a counter
25     counter = 0
26     # run until point to None and count every run
27     while node is not None:
28         counter += 1
29         node = node.next
30     return counter
31
32
33 def reverse(sll):
34     """
35     Reverses the given list (so the head becomes the last element, and every
36     element points to the element that was previously before it). Runs in O(n).
37     No new object is created.
38     """
39     # set first pointer to the head
40     node1 = sll.head
41     # stop the function in no Nodes
42     if node1 is None:
43         return None
44     # set second pointer to the second Node and set thr first Node to point to
45     # None as the end of the list
46     if node1.get_next() is not None:
47         node2 = node1.get_next()
48         node1.next = None
49     # stop the function in only one Node
50     else:
51         return None
52     # run until reach the end of the list
53     while node2.get_next() is not None:
54         # set third pointer to the next Node
55         node3 = node2.get_next()
56         # set the second node to point to the first one
57         node2.next = node1
58         # move the first and second pointers to the next one's
59         node1, node2 = node2, node3
```

```

60     # set the head to the last Node
61     sll.head = node2
62     # set the new head to point to his preview Node
63     sll.head.next = node1
64
65
66 def merge_lists(first_list, second_list):
67     """
68     Merges two sorted (in ascending order) lists into one new sorted list in
69     an ascending order. The resulting new list is created using new nodes
70     (copies of the nodes of the given lists). Assumes both lists are sorted in
71     ascending order. The original lists should not be modified.
72     """
73     # create a new list
74     new_list = List()
75     # set pointers to the head of the lists
76     fnode = first_list.head
77     snode = second_list.head
78     # run until both pointer reach the end of the lists
79     while fnode is not None or snode is not None:
80         # add the new list node with the data from the first list node
81         # and move the pointer forward
82         if fnode is not None and (snode is None or\
83             fnode.get_data() < snode.get_data()):
84             new_list.add_first(fnode.get_data())
85             fnode = fnode.get_next()
86         # add the new list node with the data from the second list node
87         # and move the pointer forward
88         elif snode is not None and (fnode is None or\
89             snode.get_data() < fnode.get_data()):
90             new_list.add_first(snode.get_data())
91             snode = snode.get_next()
92         # add the new list nodes with the data from both lists nodes
93         # and move the pointers forward
94         elif snode.get_data() == fnode.get_data():
95             new_list.add_first(fnode.get_data())
96             new_list.add_first(snode.get_data())
97             fnode = fnode.get_next()
98             snode = snode.get_next()
99     # reverse the list so it be in ascending order
100     reverse(new_list)
101     return new_list
102
103
104 def contains_cycle(sll):
105     """
106     Checks if the given list contains a cycle.
107     A list contains a cycle if at some point a Node in the list points to
108     a Node that already appeared in the list. Note that the cycle does not
109     necessarily contain all the nodes in the list. The original list should
110     not be modified.
111     Returns true iff the list contains a cycle
112     Return False if any Node point to None
113     """
114     # set the slow moving node as the head
115     if sll.head is not None:
116         slow_node = sll.head
117     else:
118         return False
119     # set the fast moving node as the head.next
120     if sll.head.get_next() is not None:
121         fast_node = sll.head.get_next()
122     else:
123         return False
124     # run until the 2 pointers point to the same one or point to None
125     while slow_node != fast_node:
126         # move the slow node in 1 move and the fast in 2
127         slow_node = slow_node.get_next()

```

```

128         if fast_node.get_next() is not None:
129             if fast_node.next.get_next() is not None:
130                 fast_node = fast_node.next.get_next()
131             else:
132                 return False
133         else:
134             return False
135     return True
136
137
138 def get_item(sll, k):
139     """
140     Returns the k'th element from of the list.
141     If k > list_size returns None, if k<0 returns the k element from the end.
142     """
143     # set a variables so the phrase in the range be accurate
144     absolute = 1
145     correction = 0
146     # if k negative reverse the list and change the variables so it be same as
147     # positive k
148     if k < 0:
149         reverse(sll)
150         absolute = -1
151         correction = 1
152     # set pointer to the head of the list
153     node = sll.head
154     # None if list empty
155     if node is None:
156         return None
157     # run until reach the k'th element or return None if reach the end of the
158     # list
159     for node_num in range(absolute*k - correction):
160         if node.get_next() is None:
161             # reverse the list back to original in k negative
162             if k < 0:
163                 reverse(sll)
164             return None
165         node = node.get_next()
166     # reverse the list back to original in k negative
167     if k < 0:
168         reverse(sll)
169     return node.get_data()
170
171
172 def is_palindrome(sll):
173     """
174     Checks if the given list is a palindrome. A list is a palindrome if
175     for j=0...n/2 (where n is the number of elements in the list) the
176     element in location j equals to the element in location n-j.
177     Note that you should compare the data stored in the nodes and
178     not the node objects themselves. The original list should not be modified.
179     Returns true iff the list is a palindrome
180     """
181     # set pointers to head
182     head = node_from_end = node = sll.head
183     # return True if list empty
184     if node is None:
185         return True
186     # find the list length
187     length = list_len(sll)
188     # move node_from_end pointer to the last Node and set the list head to the
189     # middle
190     for node_pos in range(length - 1):
191         if node_pos == (length//2 - 1):
192             sll.head = node_from_end.get_next()
193             node_from_end = node_from_end.get_next()
194     # reverse the second half of the list
195     reverse(sll)

```

-1
in the ex description it says not to change the list nodes.
you can find the k<0 by getting the k+length(list) node.

```

196     # compare the first half and the reversed second half
197     for node_pos in range(length // 2):
198         # in case list isn't palindrome reset the list to the original state
199         if node.get_data() != node_from_end.get_data():
200             reverse(sll)
201             sll.head = head
202             return False
203         # move the pointers forward
204         node, node_from_end = node.get_next(), node_from_end.get_next()
205     # reset the list to the original state
206     reverse(sll)
207     sll.head = head
208     return True
209
210
211 def have_intersection(first_list, second_list):
212     """
213     Checks if the two given lists intersect.
214     Two lists intersect if at some point they start to share nodes.
215     Once two lists intersect they become one list from that point on and
216     can no longer split apart. Assumes that both lists does not contain cycles.
217     Note that two lists might intersect even if their lengths are not equal.
218     No new object is created, and niether list is modified.
219     Returns true iff the lists intersect.
220     """
221     # reverse the first list, set pointer to the last Node and reverse back
222     reverse(first_list)
223     node1 = first_list.head
224     reverse(first_list)
225     # reverse the second list, set pointer to the last node and reverse back
226     reverse(second_list)
227     node2 = second_list.head
228     reverse(second_list)
229     # return True if both pointer are identical and not None
230     if node1 == node2 and node1 is not None and node2 is not None:
231         return True
232     return False
233
234
235 def slice(sll, start, stop=None, step=1):
236     """ Returns a new list after slicing the given list from start to stop
237     with a step.
238     Imitates the behavior of slicing regular sequences in python.
239     slice(sll, [start], stop, [step]):
240     With 4 arguments, behaves the same as using list[start:stop:step],
241     With 3 arguments, behaves the same as using list[start:stop],
242     With 2 arguments, behaves the same as using list[:stop],
243     """
244     # create a new list
245     new_list = List()
246     # set a variable to know if stop is before the head of the list
247     stop_beyond_first = 0
248
249     # if only 2 arguments given, set the start as 0 and stop as the second
250     # argument
251     if stop is None:
252         start, stop = 0, start
253
254     # set the start and stop to a non negative point if needed and return empty
255     # list if start, stop and step giving no range of nodes
256     if stop < 0:
257         stop = list_len(sll) + stop
258         if stop < 0:
259             stop = 0
260         stop_beyond_first = 1
261     if start < 0:
262         start = list_len(sll) + start
263         if start < 0:

```

-1
in the ex description it says not to change the list nodes.
just run on both list to get the last node and compare them.


```

264         start = 0
265         stop_beyond_first = 0
266     if start <= stop and stop <= 0 and step < 0 and stop_beyond_first == 0:
267         return new_list
268     if start >= stop and step > 0:
269         return new_list
270     if stop > list_len(sll):
271         stop = list_len(sll)
272     if start >= list_len(sll) and step < 0:
273         start = list_len(sll)-1
274     if start == 0 and stop == -1:
275         return new_list
276
277     # calculate the number of steps needed to do in the list
278     step_div = (stop-start-stop_beyond_first) / step
279     step_mod = (stop-start-stop_beyond_first) // step
280     if step_div > step_mod:
281         steps = step_mod + 1
282     else:
283         steps = step_mod
284
285     # add new Nodes with the data from the given list in the right places
286     for i in range(steps):
287         data = get_item(sll, start + i*step)
288         if data is not None:
289             new_list.add_first(get_item(sll, start + i*step))
290
291     # reverse the list to be in the right direction
292     reverse(new_list)
293     return new_list
294
295
296 def merge_sort(sll):
297
298     """
299     Sorts the given list using the merge-sort algorithm.
300     Resulting list should be sorted in ascending order. Resulting list should
301     contain the same node objects it did originally, and should be stable,
302     i.e., nodes with equal data should be in the same order they were in in the
303     original list. You may create a constant number of new to help sorting.
304     """
305
306     def length_from_node(head):
307         """the function recieve a Node and return the length of the list
308         from the Node to the end of the list
309         """
310         # set a counter
311         counter = 0
312         # count until reach the end of the list
313         while head is not None:
314             counter += 1
315             head = head.next
316         return counter
317
318     # return None if list length >= 1
319     if sll.head is None:
320         return None
321     if sll.head.next is None:
322         return None
323
324     # create new Node to point on the sorted list
325     new_node = Node(None)
326
327     def splitter(head):
328         """Sorts the given list using the merge-sort algorithm.
329         Resulting list should be sorted in ascending order."""
330
331         # take the length of the list

```

```

332     length = length_from_node(head)
333     # set pointer to the head
334     node = head
335
336     # return the head if list length == 1
337     if length == 1:
338         return head
339     # move the pointer to the middle
340     for i in range(length//2 - 1):
341         node = node.next
342     if length % 2 == 1:
343         node = node.next
344     # set pointers to head and middle of the list and disconnect the halves
345     left = head
346     right = node.next
347     node.next = None
348
349     # continue splitting the halves
350     left = splitter(left)
351     right = splitter(right)
352
353     # set pointer for the sorted list
354     sort_node = new_node
355
356     # merge the nodes in ascending order
357     while left and right:
358         if left.data <= right.data:
359             sort_node.next = left
360             left = left.next
361         else:
362             sort_node.next = right
363             right = right.next
364         sort_node = sort_node.next
365     # if only one head remained, add him to the sorted pointer
366     sort_node.next = right if right else left
367
368     # return the head of the sorted nodes
369     return new_node.next
370 # set the head to point on the sorted list
371 sll.head = splitter(sll.head)
372

```