

Lecture 10.1

Stack data structure

Dynamic memory allocation in C

- Just like in C++ we allocate memory dynamically with the **new** operator, in C there is a function called **malloc** used to allocate memory.
- Its prototype is:
`void* malloc (size_t nbytes);`

Dynamic memory allocation in C

- **malloc** returns a void pointer to the allocated buffer.
- This pointer must be *cast* (converted) into the proper type to access the data to be stored in the buffer.
- On failure, malloc returns a null pointer. The return from malloc should be tested for error as shown below.

```
char *cpt;
```

```
...
```

```
if ( ( cpt = (char *) malloc ( 25 ) ) == NULL )
```

```
{
```

```
    printf ( "Error on malloc\n" );
```

```
}
```

Remember sizeof ()?

```
cout<< "The size of an int is " << sizeof ( int )<<endl;  
cout<< "The size of a float is " << sizeof ( float ) <<endl;  
cout<< "The size of a char is " << sizeof ( char ) <<endl;  
cout<< "The size of a double is " << sizeof ( double ) <<endl;
```

```
The size of an int    is 4  
The size of a float   is 4  
The size of a char    is 1  
The size of a double  is 8
```

Dynamic memory allocation in C

- To free the memory, just like using **delete** in C++, in C you call the **free** function
void **free** (void *pt);
- It is not necessary to cast the pointer argument back to void. The compiler handles this conversion.
- Example of use:
free cpt;

Another Example

C++ code
Node * pNode = new Node;

pNode = pHead ...
.
.
.
delete pNode

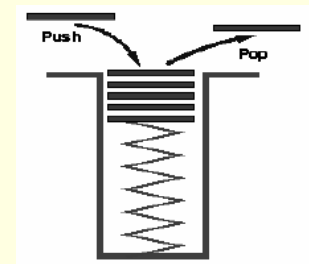
C code
if (**Node * pNode =
(Node*) malloc (sizeof (Node))**)
== NULL)
printf ("Error on malloc");
pNode = pHead ...
.
.
.
free (pNode);

What is a Stack?

- A stack is another way to store data.
- It is generally implemented with only two principle operations.
push // put in
pop // take out

How does a stack work?

- A common model of a stack is a plate or coin stacker. Plates are "pushed" onto the top and "popped" off the top.
- Stacks form Last- In- First- Out (LIFO) queues and have many applications.



LIFO?

- LIFO = Last In, First Out.
The last element in is the first element out.
- With lists we can implement different orders:
FIFO = First In, First Out.
FILO = First In, Last Out
- Stacks have many applications from the parsing of algebraic expressions to keeping track of variables and return address values for function calls

About the stack implementation

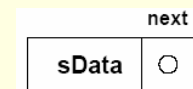
- A linked list implementation of a stack is possible
(adding and deleting from the head of a linked list produces exactly the LIFO semantics of a stack)
- However the most common applications for stacks have a space restraint so that using an array implementation is a natural and efficient one

About dynamic allocation

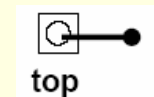
- In most operating systems, allocation and de-allocation of memory is a relatively expensive operation, there is a penalty for the flexibility of linked list implementations.

Stack Implementation with linked lists

```
typedef struct stack_node{  
    int sData;  
    stack_node* next;  
}sNode;
```

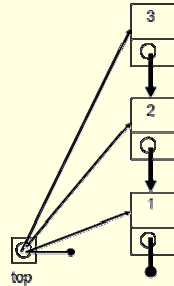


- sNode* top = NULL;



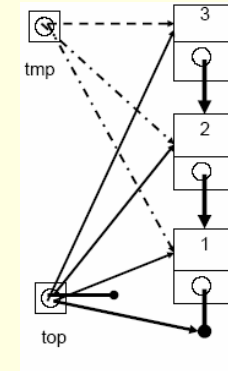
Push

```
void push ( int data ) {  
    sNode* nNode = ( sNode * ) malloc ( sizeof ( sNode ) );  
    nNode->sData = data;  
    if ( top == NULL )  
    {  
        top = nNode;  
        nNode->next = NULL;  
    }  
    else  
    {  
        nNode->next = top;  
        top = nNode;  
    }  
}
```



Pop

```
bool pop ( int &data )  
{  
    if ( top == NULL )  
        return false;  
    else  
    {  
        sNode* tmp = top;  
        data = top->sData;  
        top = top->next;  
        free (tmp);  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```



Printing the Stack

```
void printStack ( ) {  
    sNode* tmp = top;  
    while ( tmp != NULL )  
    {  
        cout << "\t" << tmp->sData << endl;  
        tmp = tmp->next;  
    }  
}
```

The output

- The output will **always** be in inverse order as the input.
- If we push the numbers:
 - 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
- In that order, we will pop:
 - 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Calling the methods

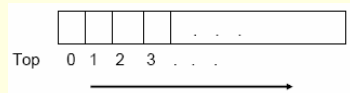
```
int main ( )
{
    int dData;
    for ( int i = 0; i <= 5; i++ )
        push ( i );
    cout << "Printing Stack \n";
    printStack ( ) ;
    for ( int i = 5; i >= 0; i-- ){
        if ( pop ( dData ) ){
            cout << "popping : "<<dData<<endl; .....
```

Stack implementation with arrays and template classes

```
template <class Type> class Stack {
private:
    int size;
    Type* sPtr;
    int top;
public:
    Stack (int s ) { size = s;
                    top = -1;
                    sPtr = new Type [ size ] ; //allocate the array for the stack.
    }
    bool push( Type val );
    bool pop ( Type &data );
    bool isEmpty() { return top == -1;}
    bool isFull () { return top == ( size -1 );}
    int getIndex () { return top; }
};
```

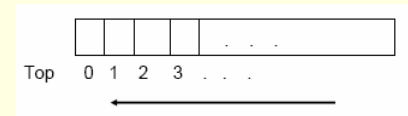
Method implementation

```
template <class Type> bool Stack<Type>::push(Type val)
{
    // Check stack is not full, increment index, then store
    if ( !isFull ( ) ){
        sPtr [ ++top ] = val;
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}
```



Method implementation (cont)

```
template <class Type> bool Stack<Type>::pop(Type &data )
{
    // Retrieve, then decrement index
    if ( ! isEmpty ( ) )
    {
        data= sPtr [ top-- ];
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}
```



Calling the methods

```
int main ( ) {  
    int size;  
    cout << "Please enter a size for your stack "<<endl;  
    cin >> size;  
    Stack <int> stack(5);  
    int num;  
    int val;  
    for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {  
        cout << "Enter num: ";  
        cin >> num;  
        stack.push ( num );  
    }  
}
```

Calling the methods (cont)

```
while ( stack. pop ( val ) ) {  
    cout << "popped " << val << endl;  
    cout << "index " << stack.getIndex( )<<endl;  
}  
  
system("PAUSE");  
return 0;  
}
```