

**04-630**

# **Data Structures and Algorithms for Engineers**

Lecture 8: Constrainers and Dictionaries II

# Agenda

## Containers and Dictionaries

- Containers
- Dictionaries
- List ADT
  - Array implementation
  - **Linked list implementation**

# Preliminaries:

## Linked Lists Using Pointers

# Why Pointer-Based Implementation?

- **Linked lists** are used to avoid excessive data movement with insertions and deletions
- Elements are not necessarily stored in contiguous memory locations
- Makes efficient use of memory space
  - **Allocate** space when needed
  - **Deallocate** space when finished & return it to the free store
- Failure to deallocate space will cause **memory leakage**

# Why Pointer-Based Implementation?

Some guidelines when writing programs that dynamically allocate memory

- Use **malloc** or **new** to create data-structures of the appropriate size
- Remember to avoid memory leakage by always using **free** and **delete** to deallocate dynamically-created data-structures
- Check every call to **malloc** or **new** to see if it returned NULL (i.e., check if the allocation was unsuccessful)

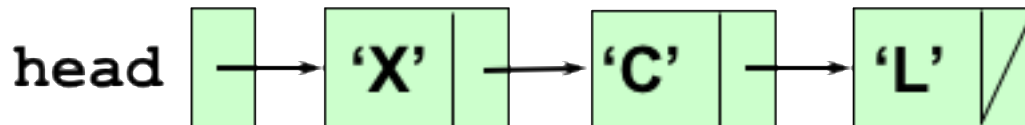
# Why Pointer-Based Implementation?

Some guidelines when writing programs that dynamically allocate memory

- You must expect **free** or **delete** to alter the contents of the memory that was freed or deleted
- **Never access a data structure after it has been freed or deleted**
- If malloc fails in a non-interactive program, make that a fatal error
- In an interactive program, it is better to abort the current command and return to the command reader loop

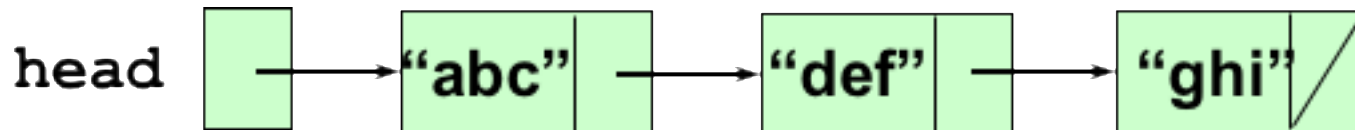
# A Linked List

- A linked list is a list in which the order of the components is determined by an **explicit link member in each node**
- The nodes are **structs**
  - each node contains a **component member** and also a **link member** that gives the location of the next node in the list



# Pointer-Based (Dynamic) Linked List

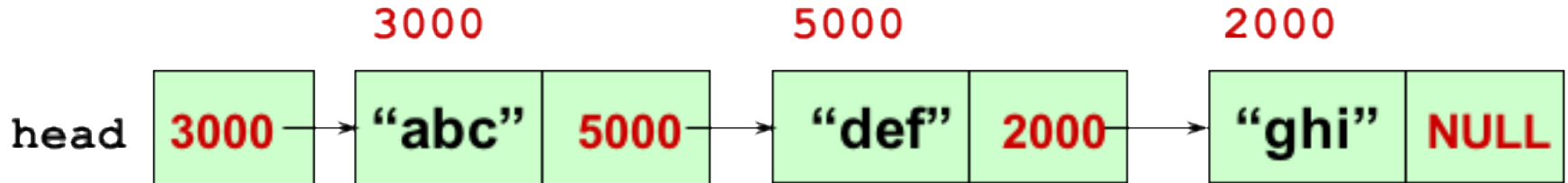
A pointer-based linked list is a dynamic linked list where nodes are linked together by **pointers**, and **an external pointer (or head pointer)** points to the **first node** in the list





# Nodes can be located anywhere in memory

The link member holds the memory address of  
(or a reference to) of the next node in the list



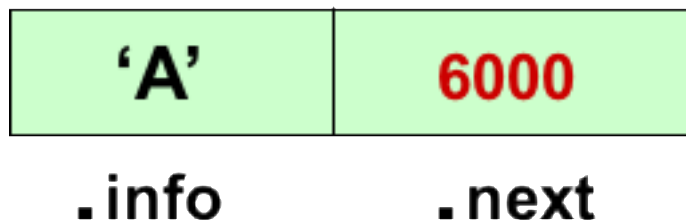
# Declarations for a Dynamic Linked List

```
// Type DECLARATIONS
struct NodeType {
    char      info;
    NodeType* next;
}

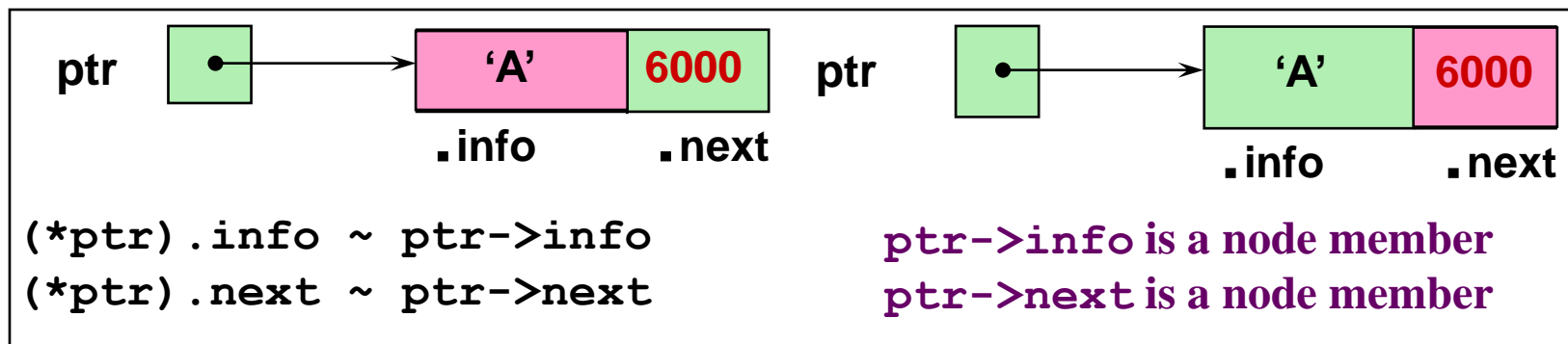
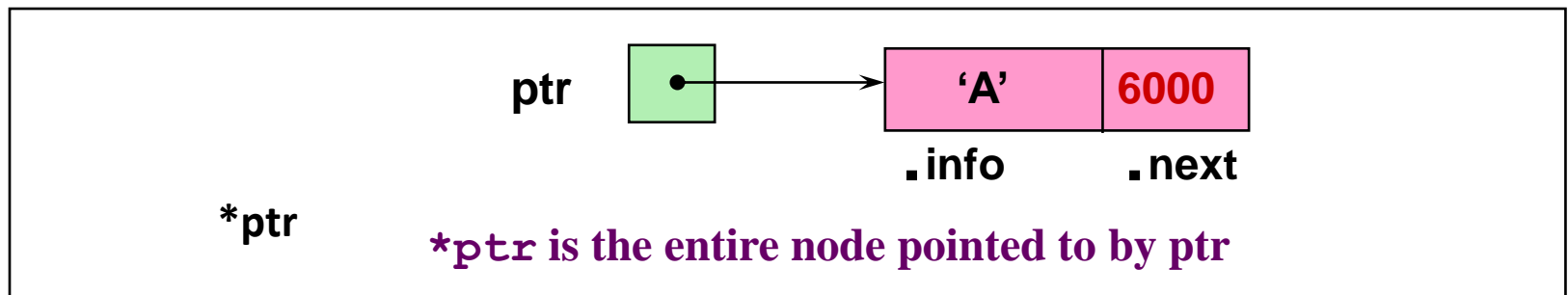
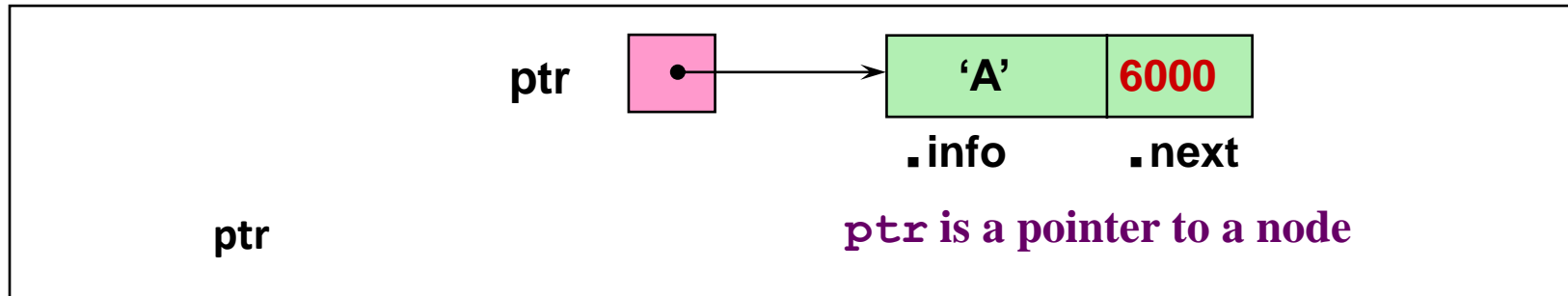
typedef  NodeType*  NodePtr;

// Variable DECLARATIONS

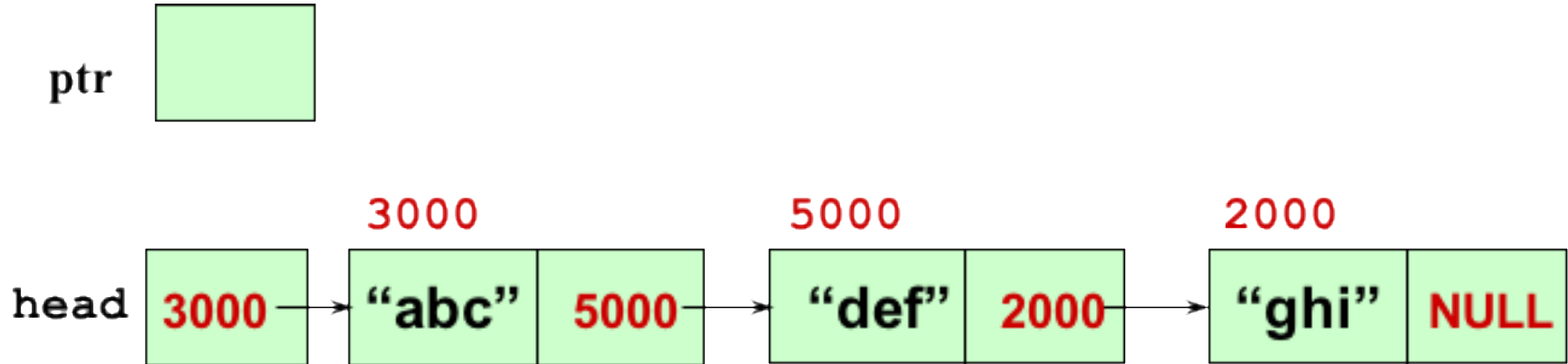
NodePtr  head;
NodePtr  ptr;
```



# Pointer Dereferencing and Member Selection



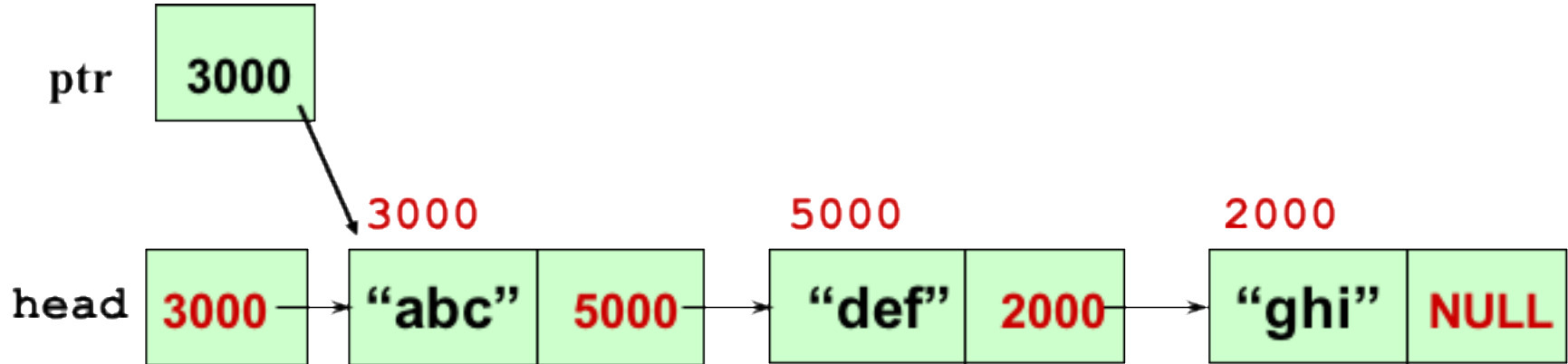
# Traversing a Linked List



**//PRE: head points to a dynamic linked list**

```
ptr = head ;  
while (ptr != NULL) {  
    cout << ptr->info ;  
    // Or, do something else with node *ptr  
    ptr = ptr->next ;  
}
```

# Traversing a Linked List



**//PRE: head points to a dynamic linked list**

**`ptr = head ;`**

**`while (ptr != NULL) {`**

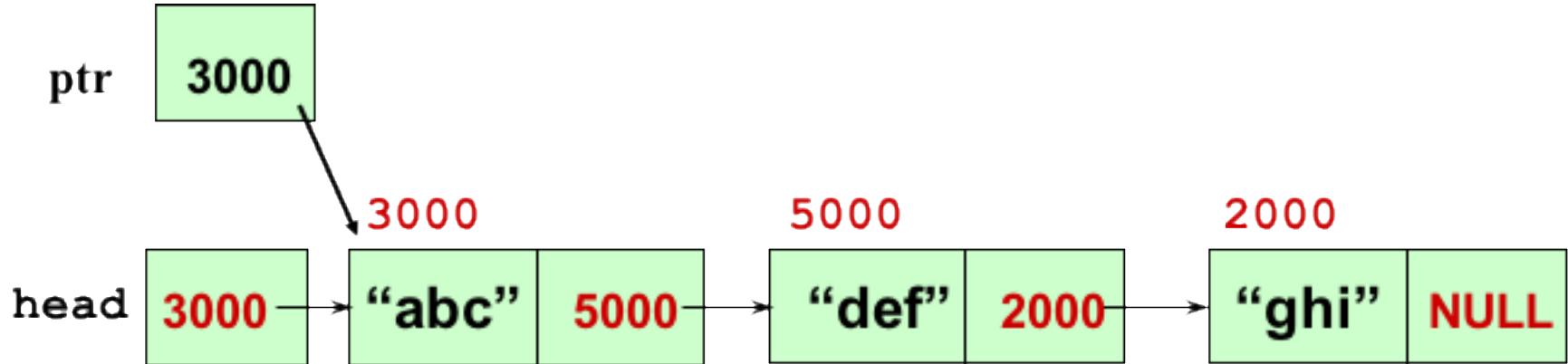
**`cout << ptr->info ;`**

**`// Or, do something else with node *ptr`**

**`ptr = ptr->next ;`**

**`}`**

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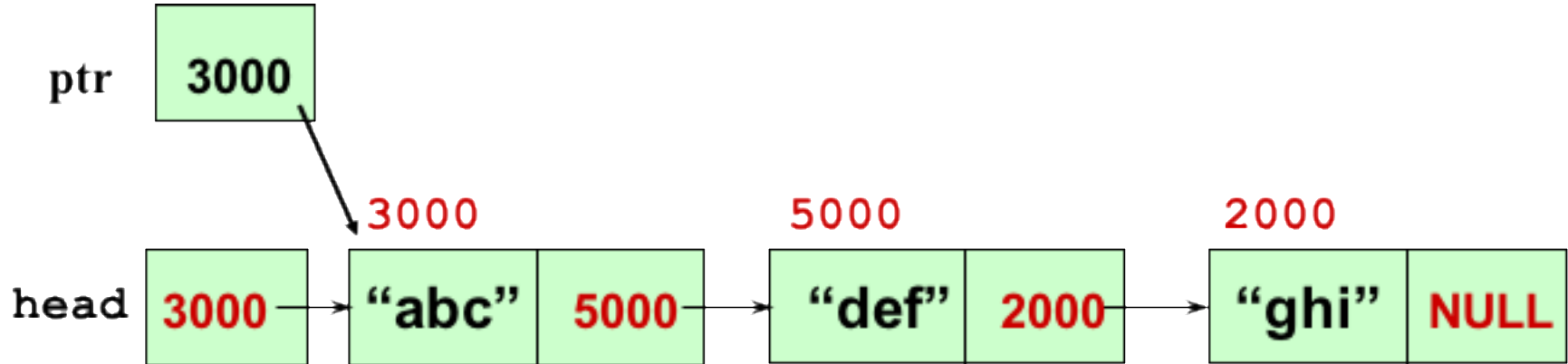
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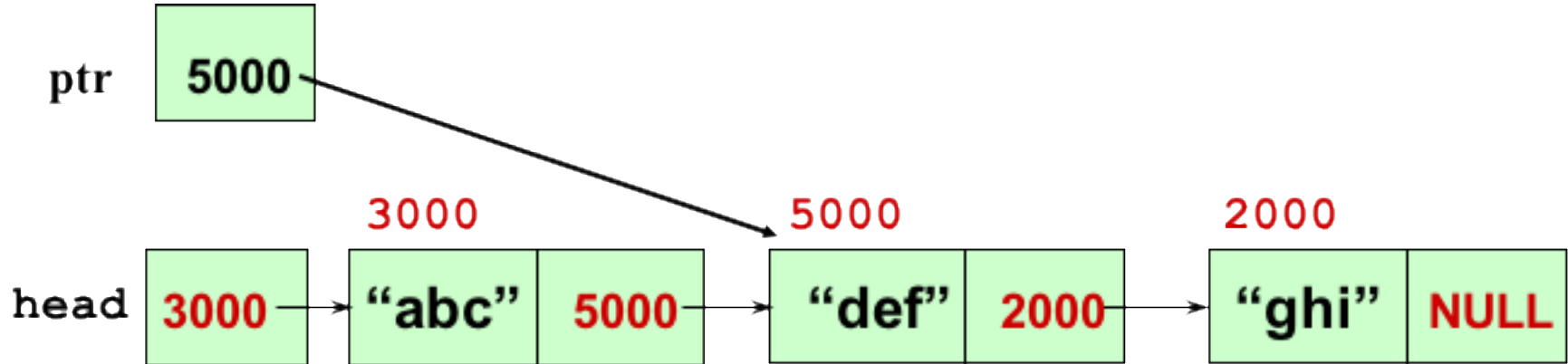
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    ptr = ptr->next ;
```

```
}
```

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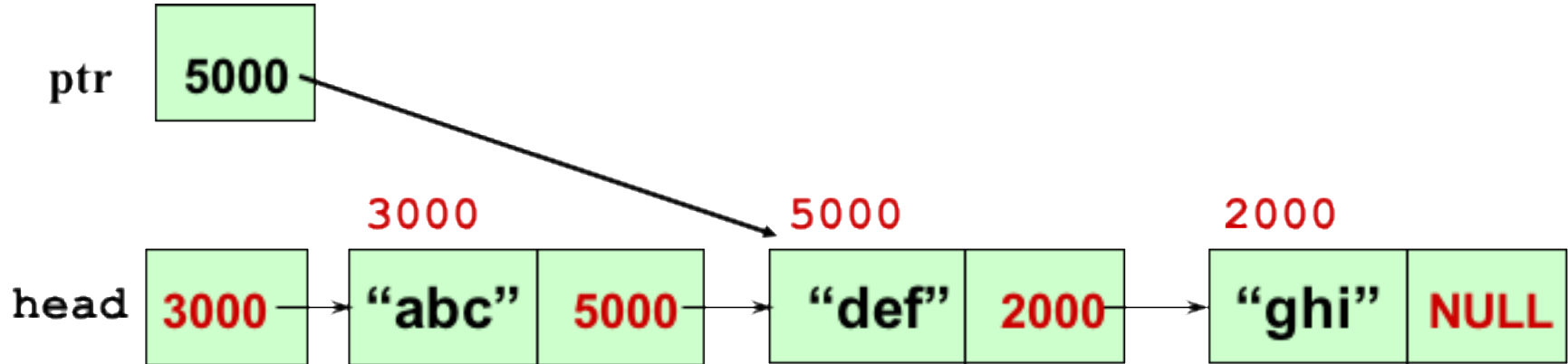
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```

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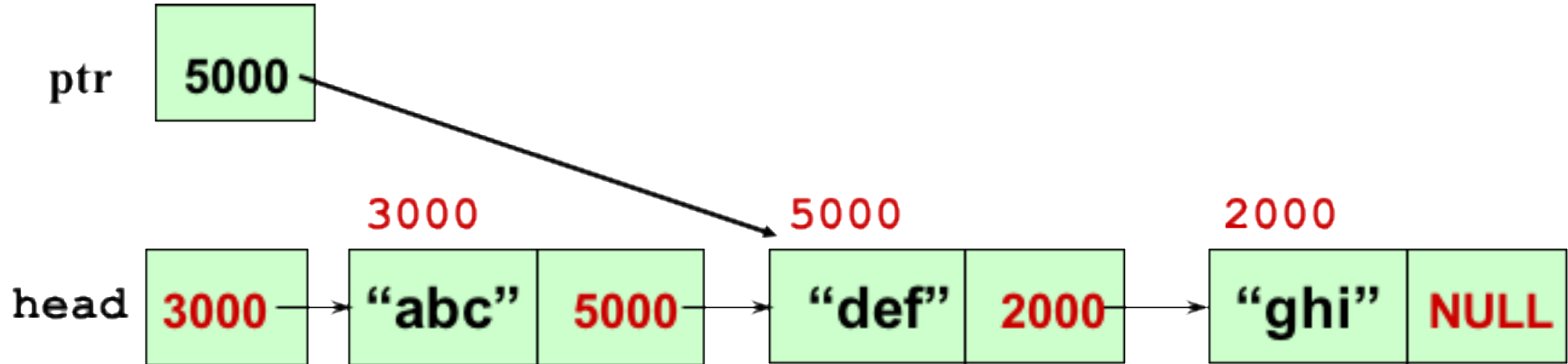
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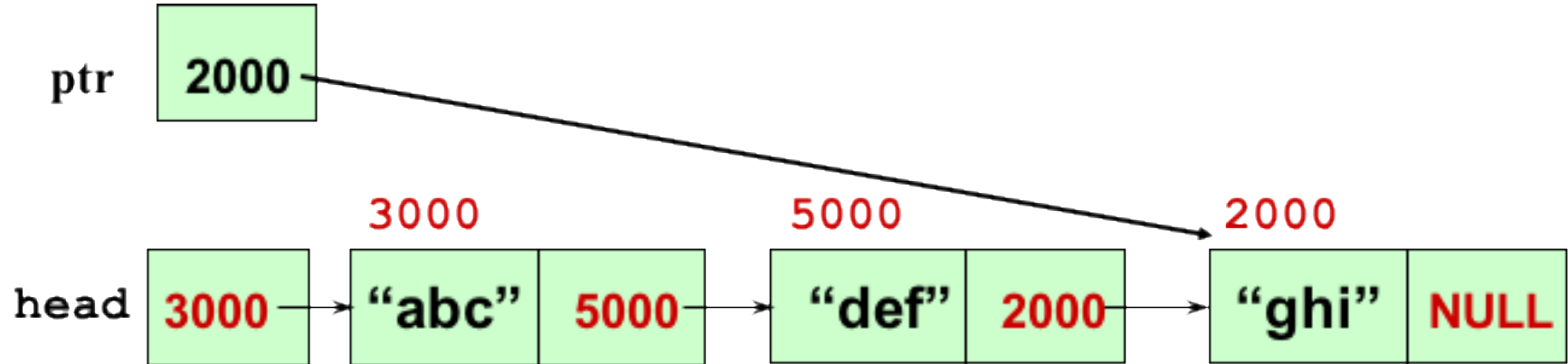
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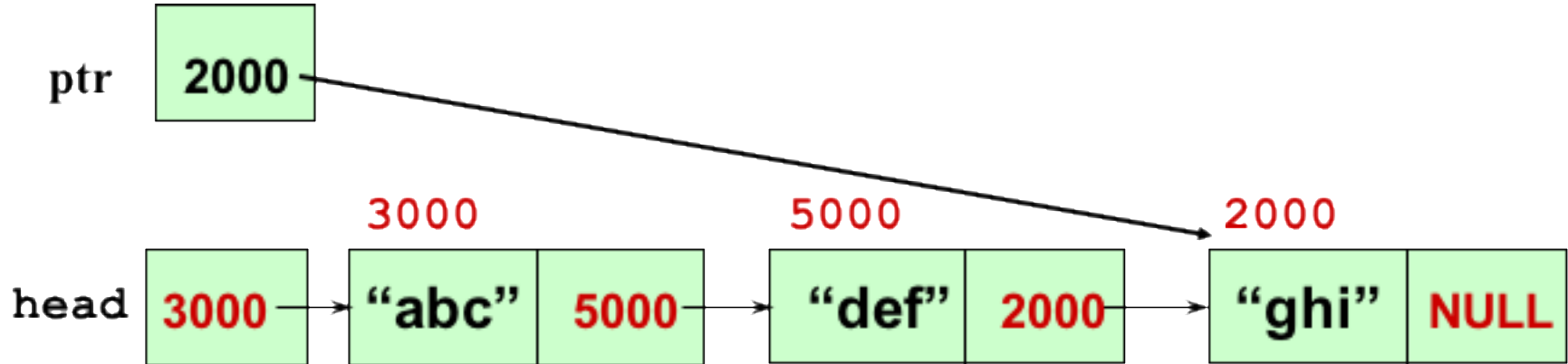
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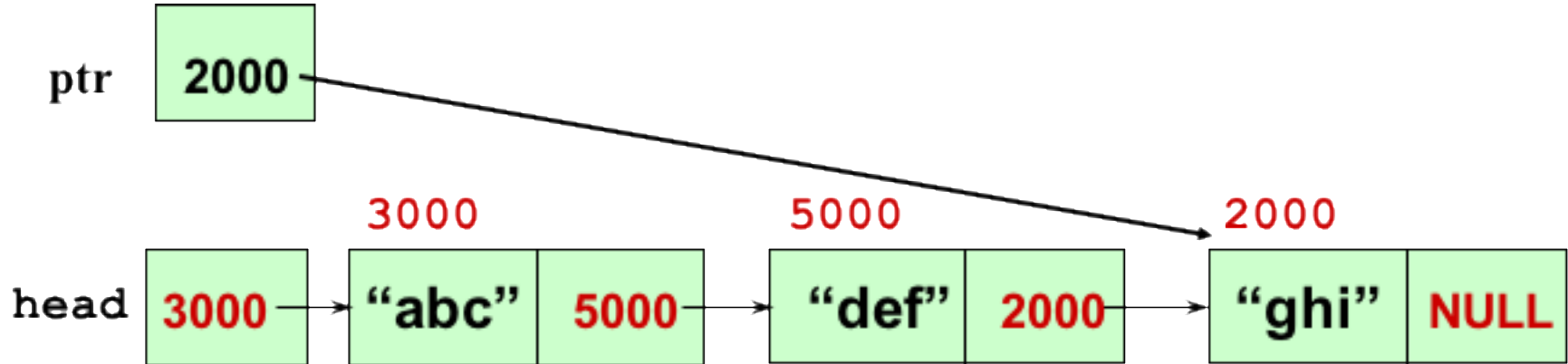
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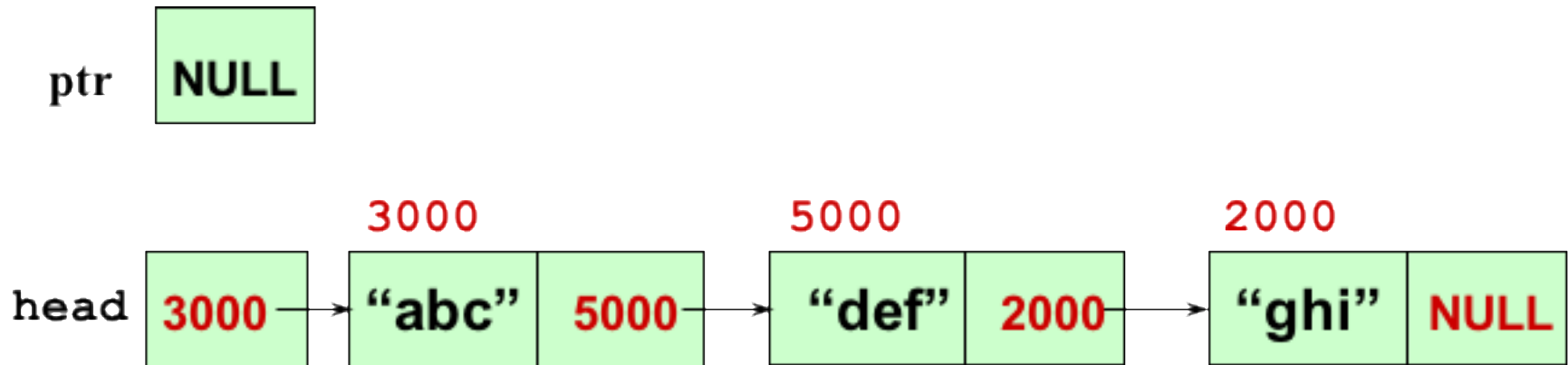
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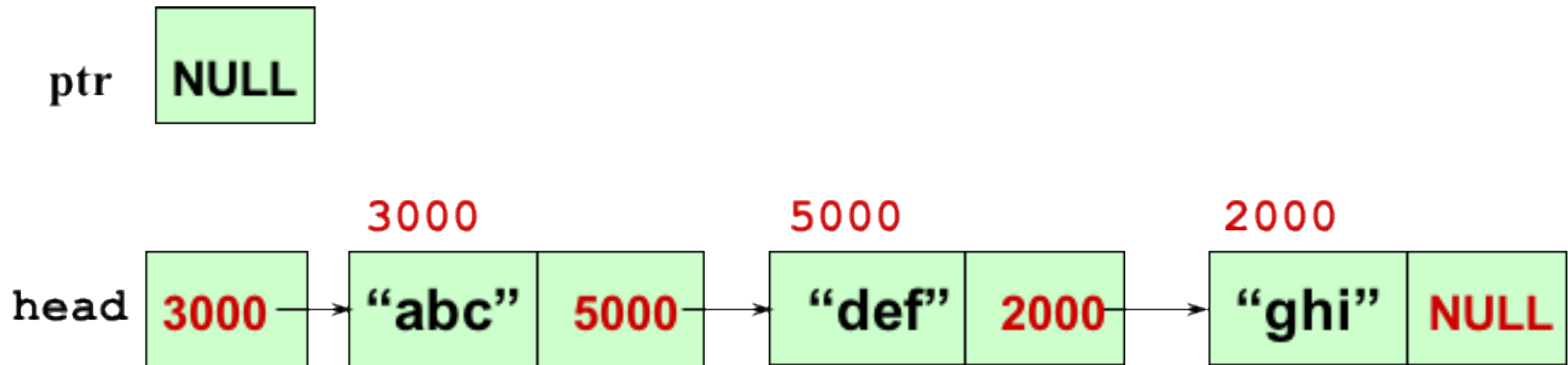
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    ptr = ptr->next ;
```

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}
```

# Using Operator new

- If memory is available in an area called the free store (or heap), operator `new` allocates the requested object, and returns a pointer to the memory allocated.
- The dynamically allocated object exists until the `delete` operator destroys it.

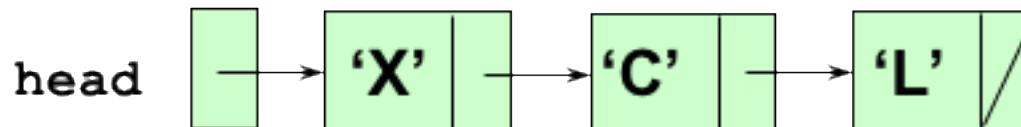


# Inserting a Node at the Front of a List

item

**'B'**

```
char    item = 'B' ;  
NodePtr location;  
location = new  NodeType;  
location->info = item;  
location->next = head;  
head = location;
```

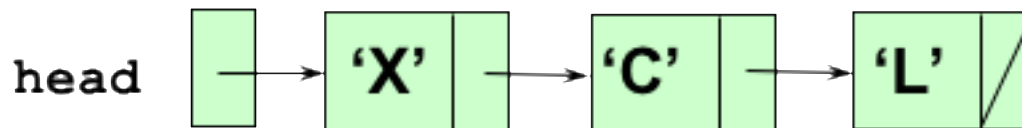


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location

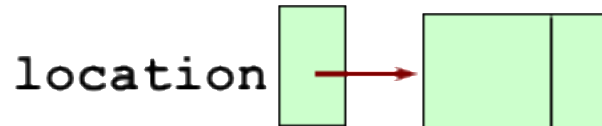
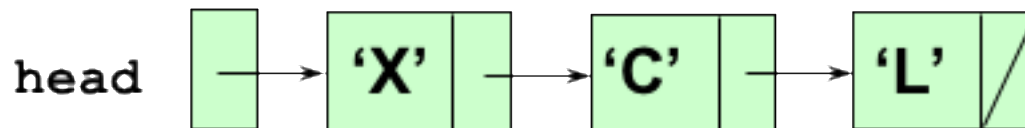


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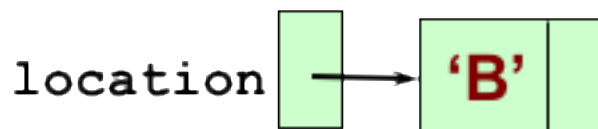
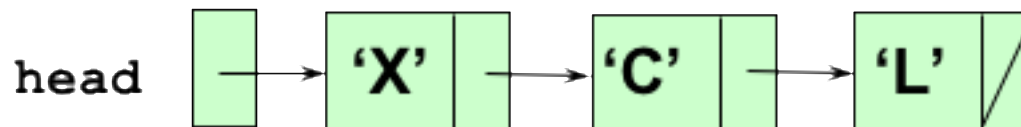


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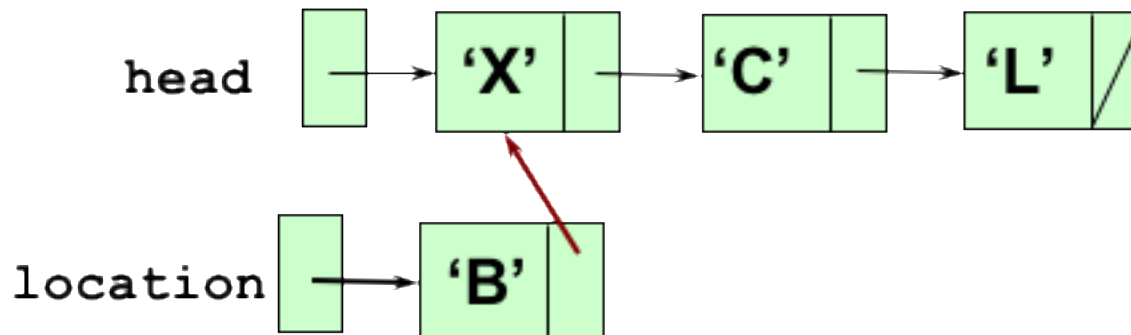


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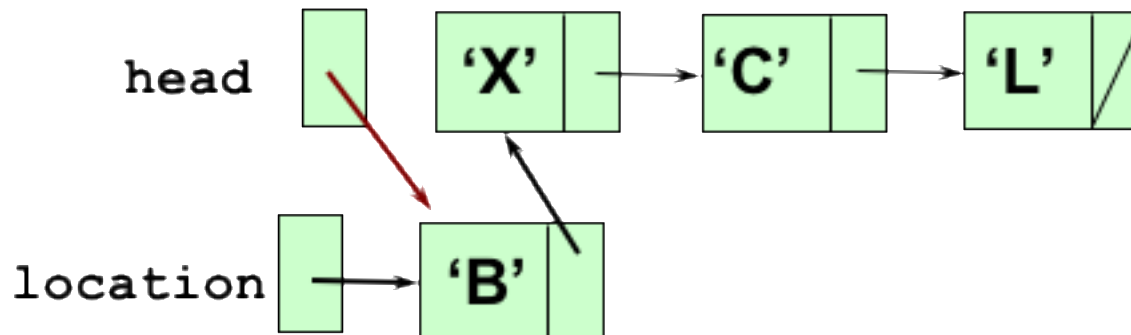


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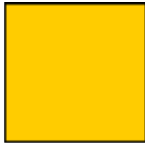
# Using Operator *delete*

The object currently pointed to by the pointer is deallocated, and the pointer is considered undefined.

The object's memory is returned to the free store.

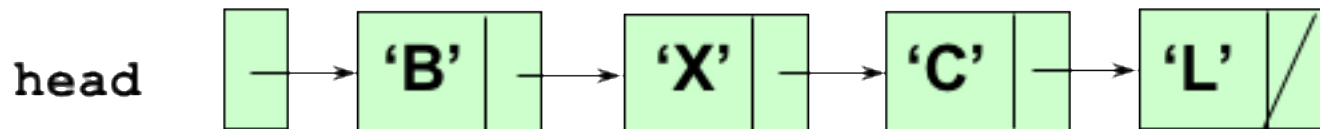
# Deleting the first node from a list

item



```
NodePtr tempPtr;
```

```
item = head->info;  
tempPtr = head;  
head = head->next  
delete tempPtr;
```



tempPtr





# Deleting the first node from a list

item

**'B'**

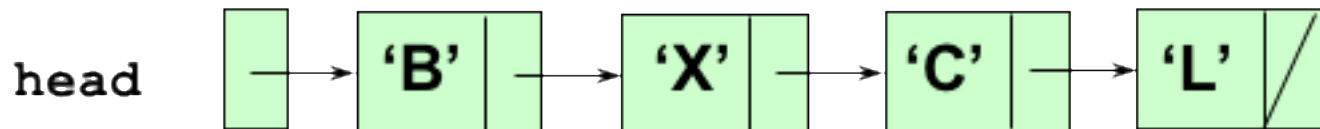
```
NodeType * tempPtr;
```

```
item = head->info;
```

```
tempPtr = head;
```

```
head = head->next
```

```
delete tempPtr;
```



tempPtr



# Deleting the first node from a list

item

**'B'**

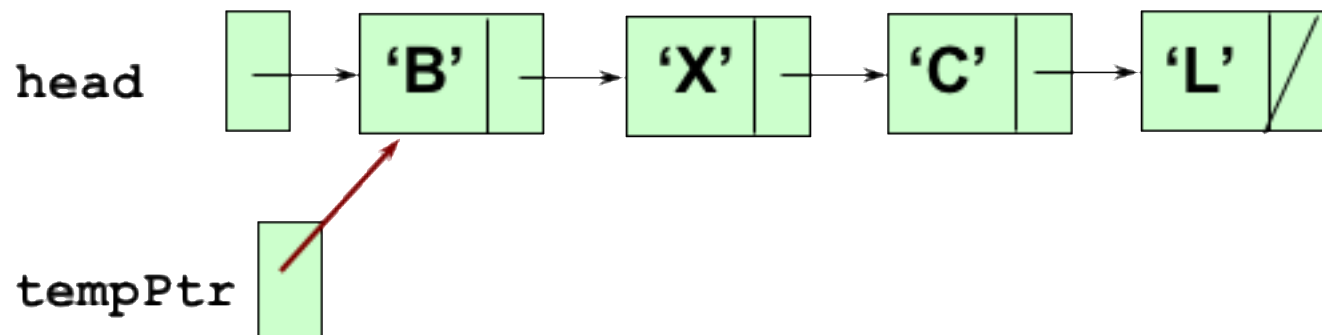
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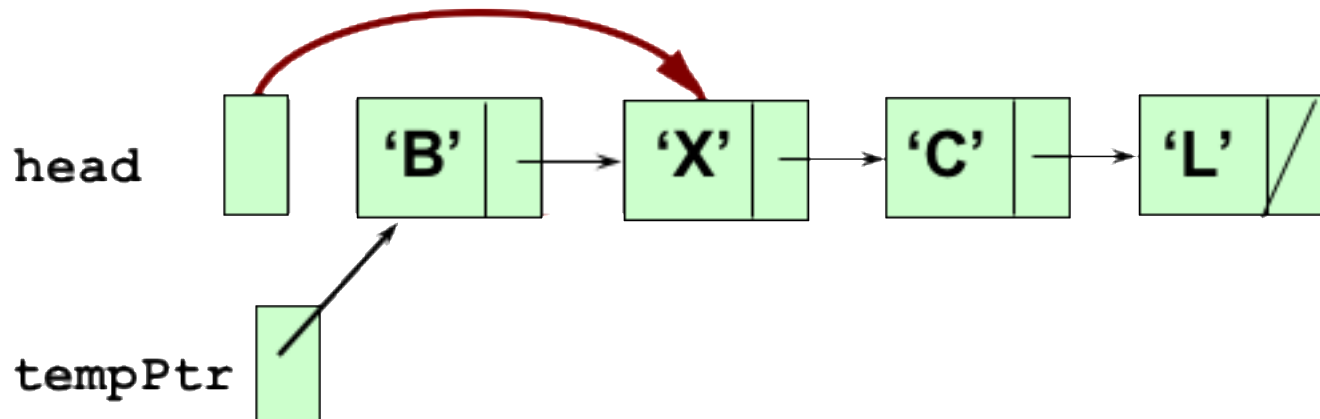
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item = head->info;
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# Deleting the first node from a list

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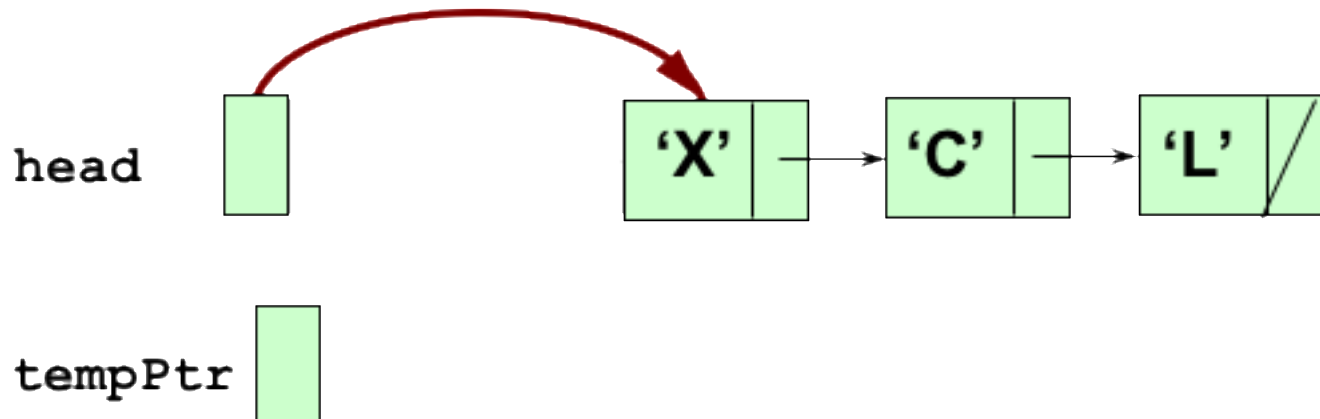
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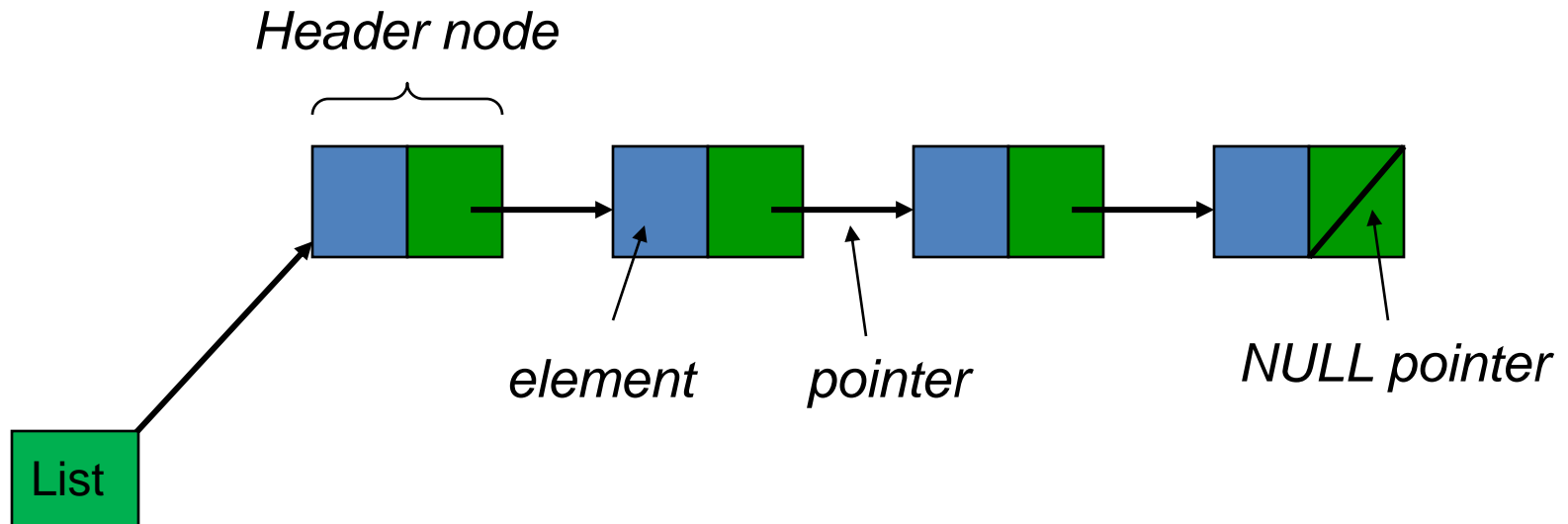
```
delete tempPtr;
```



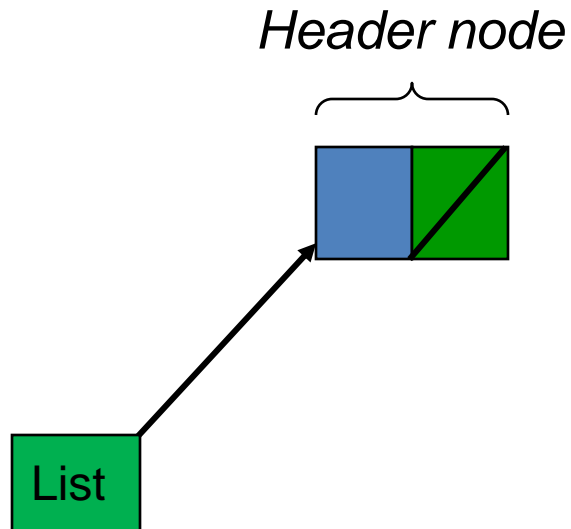
End of Preliminaries:

Linked Lists Using Pointers

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

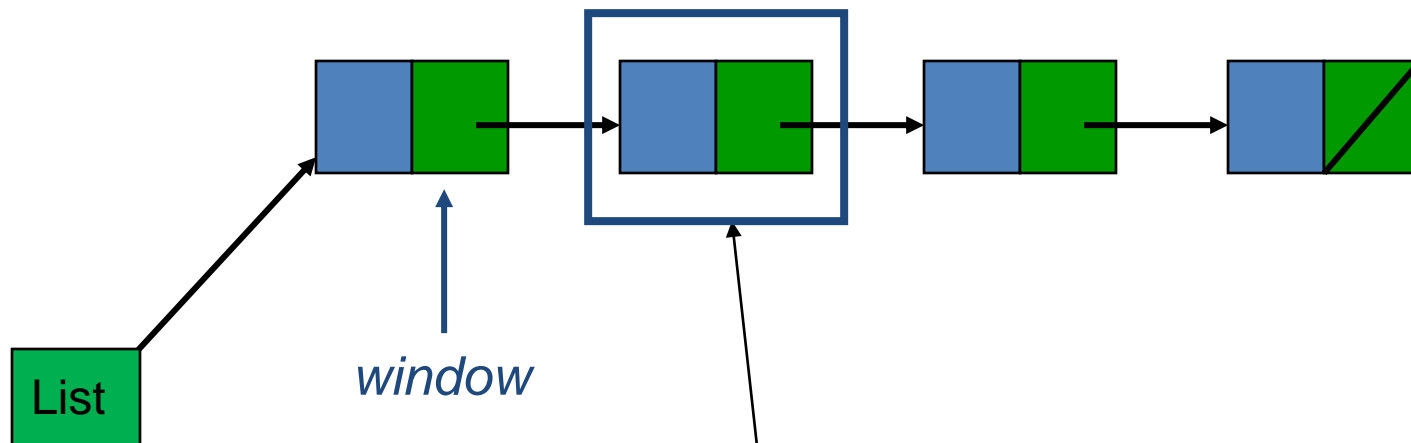


# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



An empty list!!!

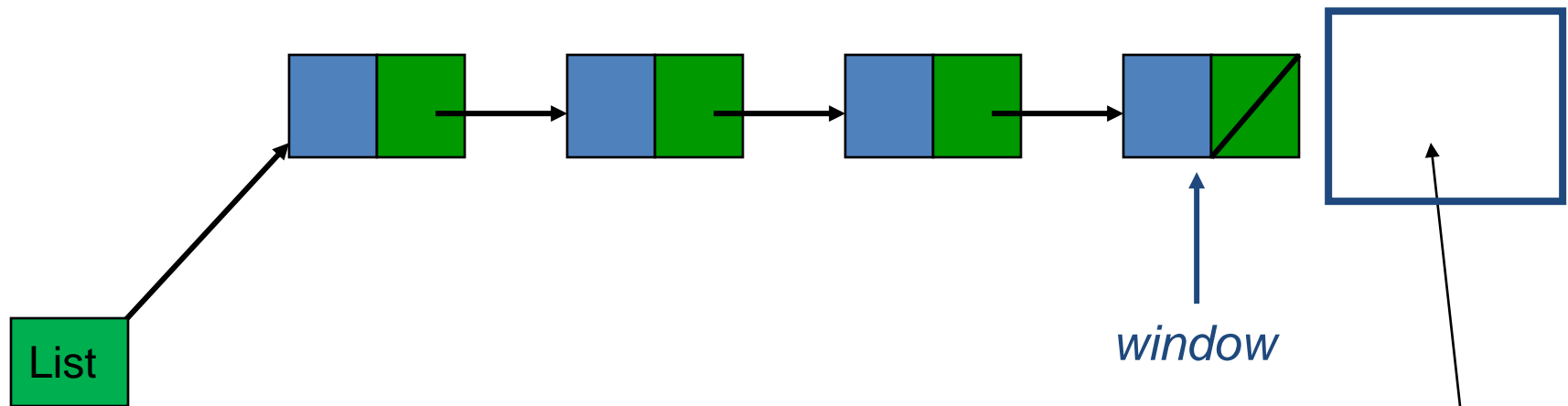
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



To place the window at this position we provide a link to the **previous** node (this is why we need a header node)

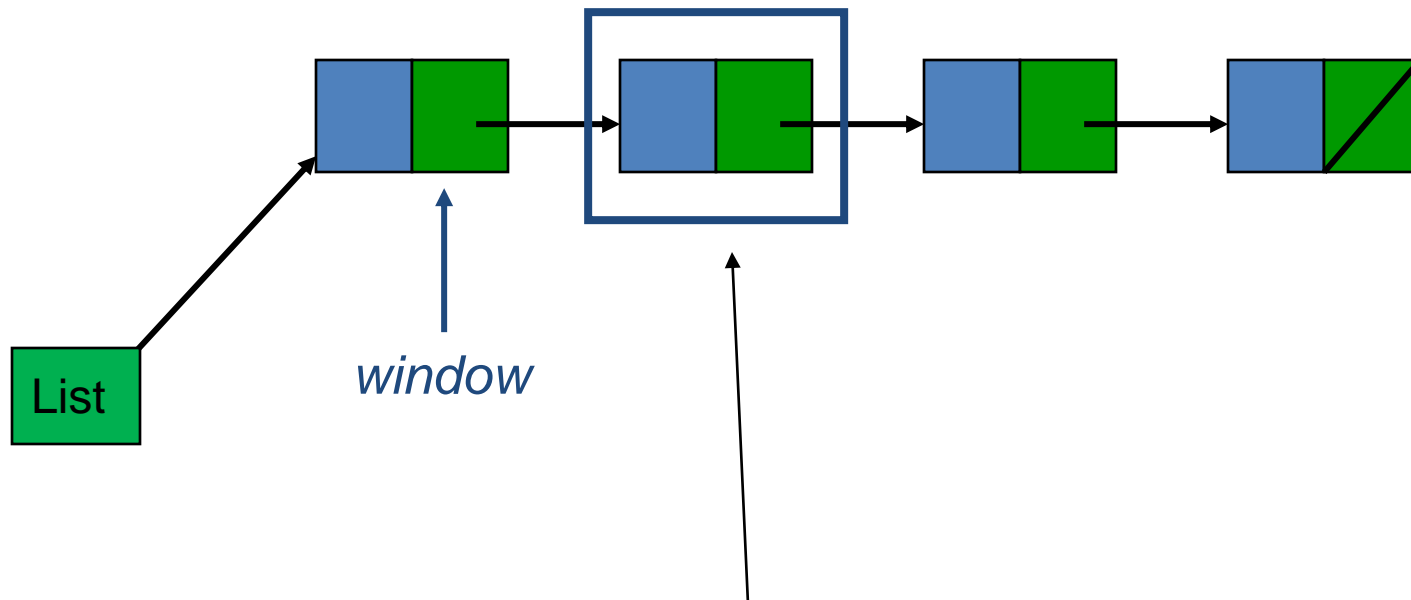


# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



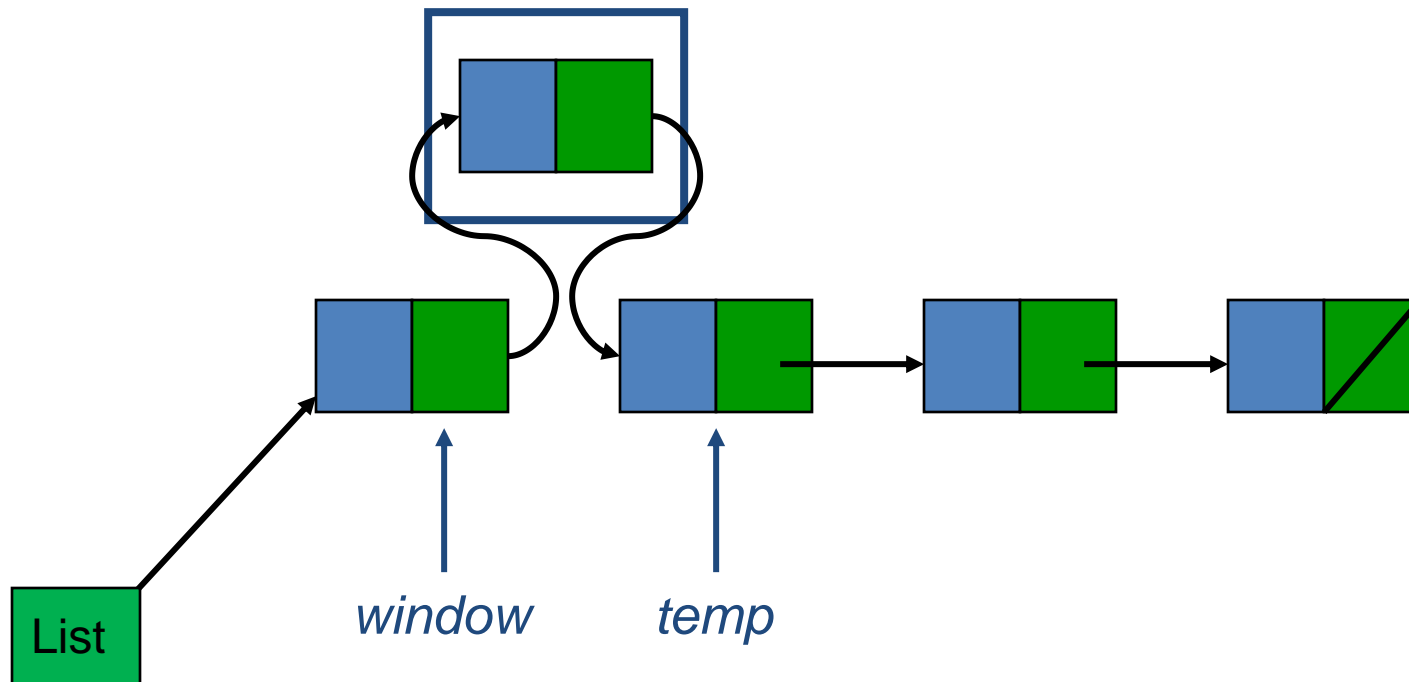
To place the window at end of the list  
we provide a link to the **last node**

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



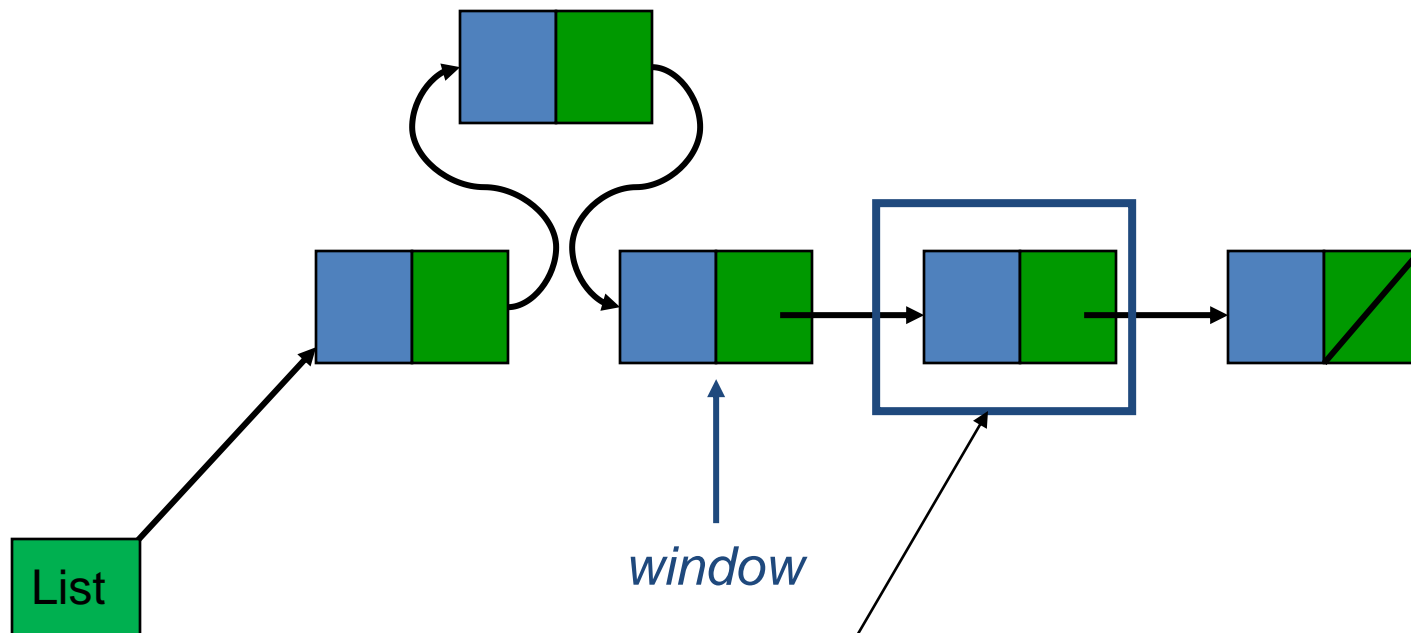
To insert a node at this window position  
we create the node and re-arrange the links

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



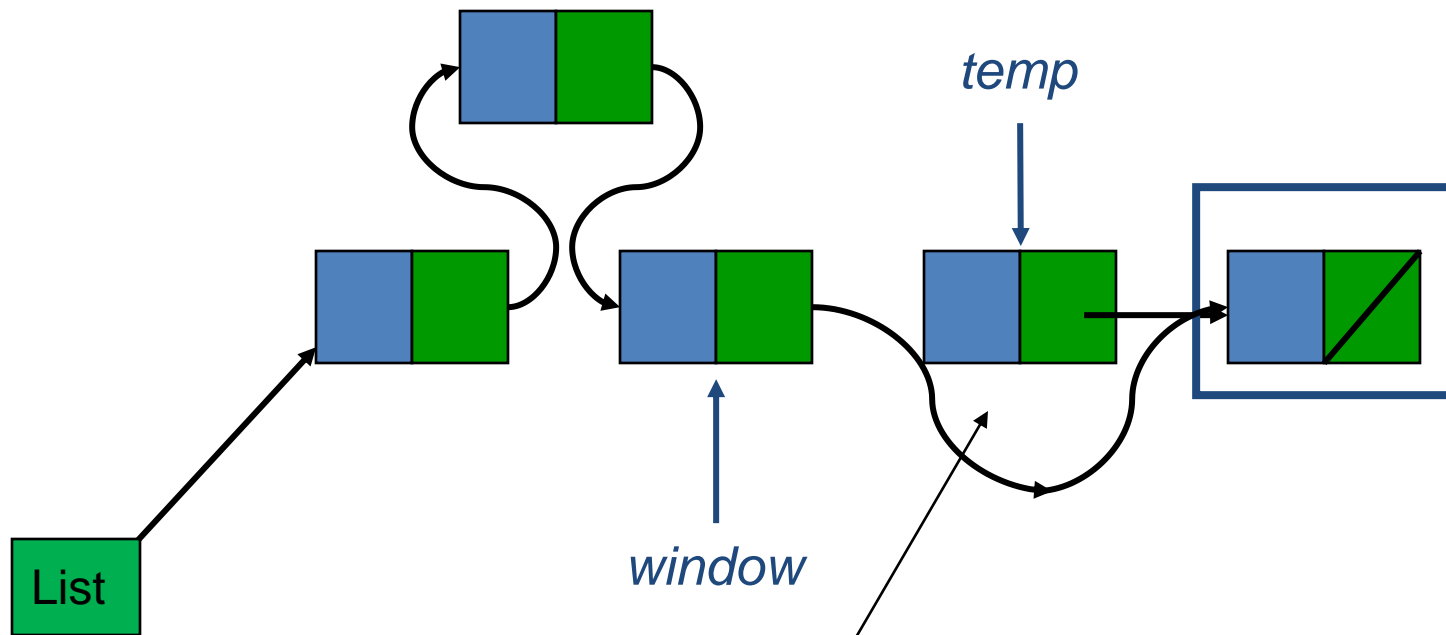
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# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



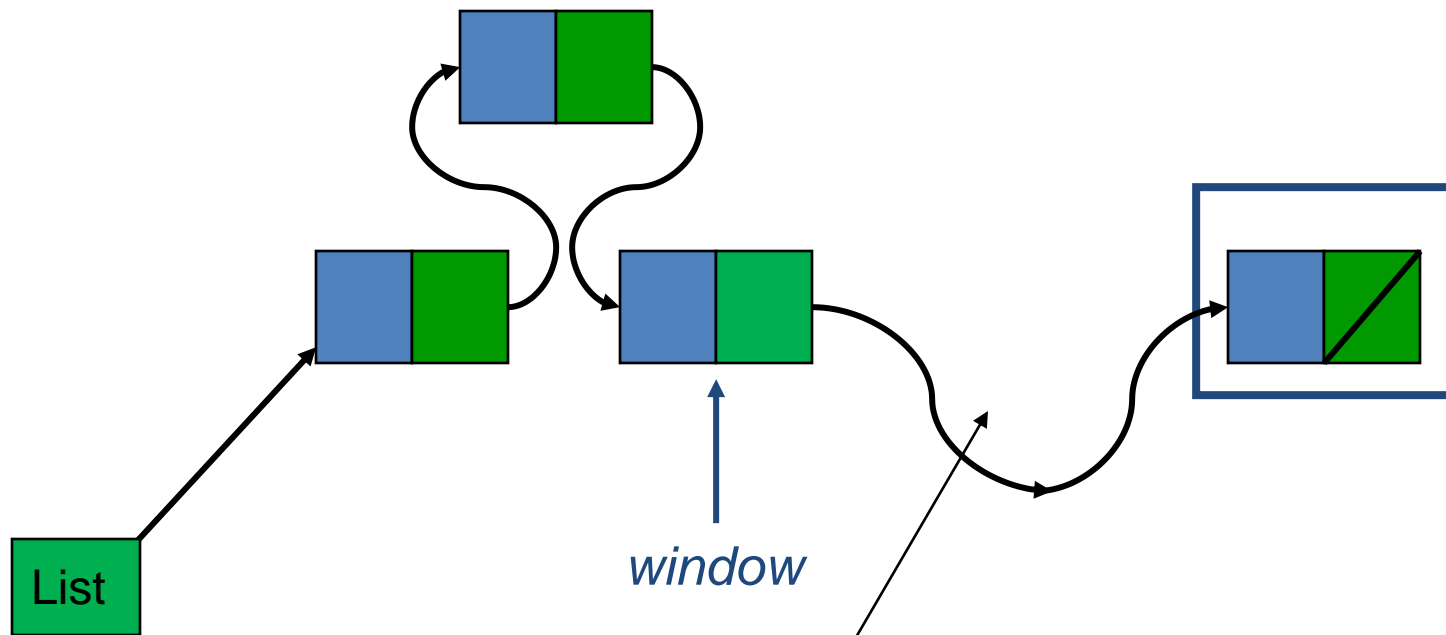
To delete a node at this window position  
we re-arrange the links and free the node

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



To delete a node at this window position  
we re-arrange the links and free the node

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation



To delete a node at this window position  
we re-arrange the links and free the node

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

- type elementtype
- type LIST
- type Boolean
- type windowtype

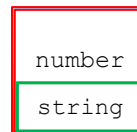
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* linked-list implementation of LIST ADT */

#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <string.h>

#define FALSE 0
#define TRUE 1

typedef struct {
    int number;
    char *string;
} ELEMENT_TYPE;
```



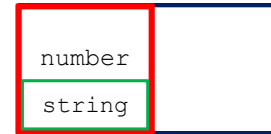


# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
typedef struct node *NODE_TYPE;
```



```
typedef struct node {  
    ELEMENT_TYPE element;  
    NODE_TYPE next;  
} NODE;
```



```
typedef NODE_TYPE LIST_TYPE;  
typedef NODE_TYPE WINDOW_TYPE;
```

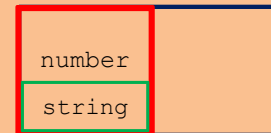
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
typedef struct node *NODE_TYPE;
```



```
/* alternative approach ... */  
/* but need to use sizeof(struct node) in malloc() */
```

```
struct node {  
    ELEMENT_TYPE element;  
    NODE_TYPE next;  
};
```

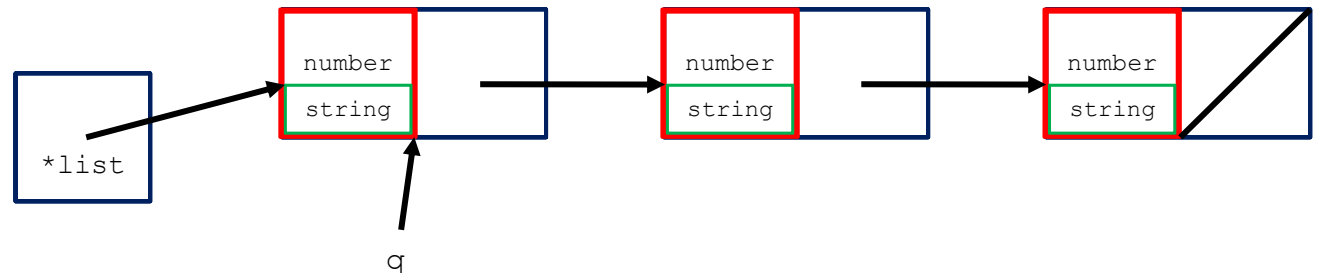


```
typedef NODE_TYPE LIST_TYPE;  
typedef NODE_TYPE WINDOW_TYPE;
```

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position following last element in a list */
```

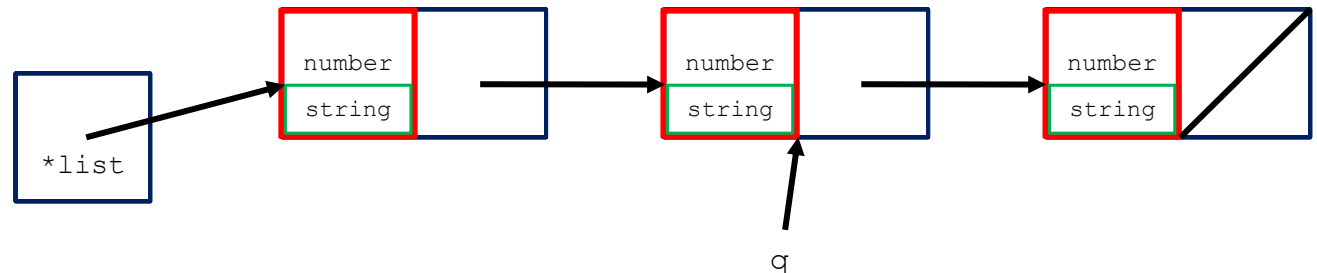
```
WINDOW_TYPE end(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE q;  
    q = *list;  
    if (q == NULL) {  
        error("non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            q = q->next;  
        }  
    }  
    return(q);  
}
```



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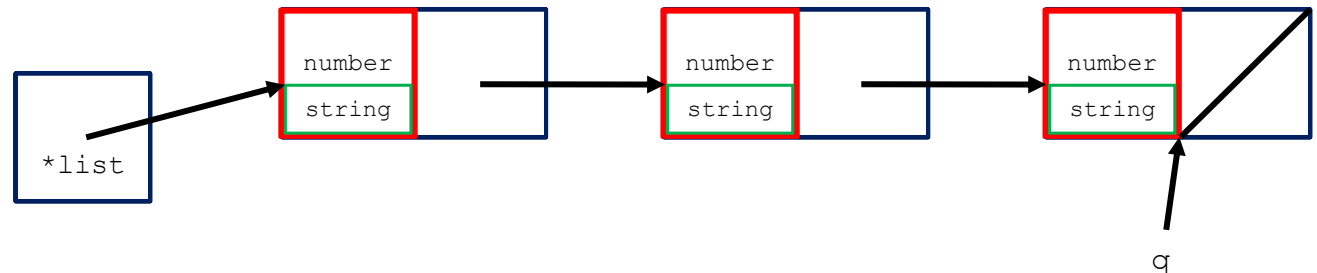
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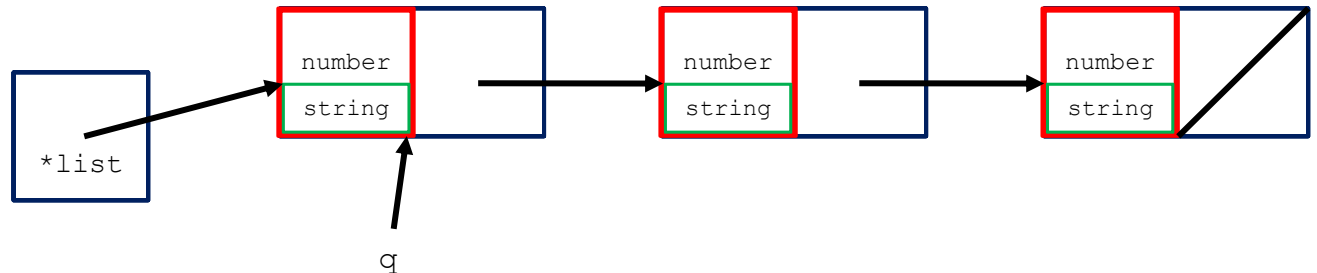
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        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            q = q->next;  
        }  
    }  
    return(q);  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

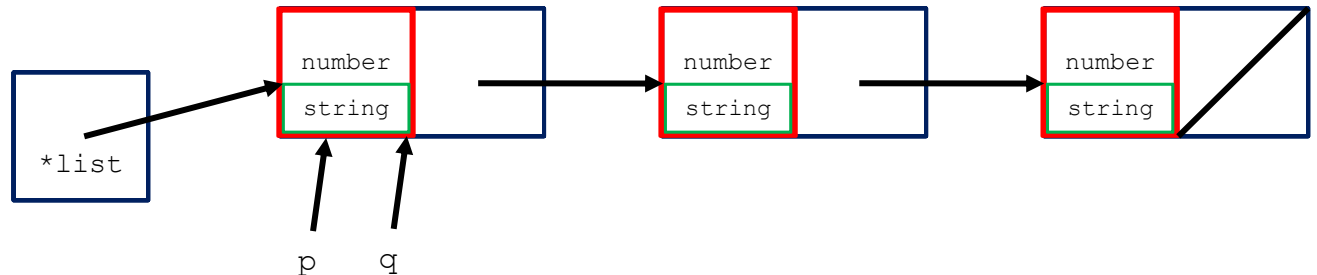
```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

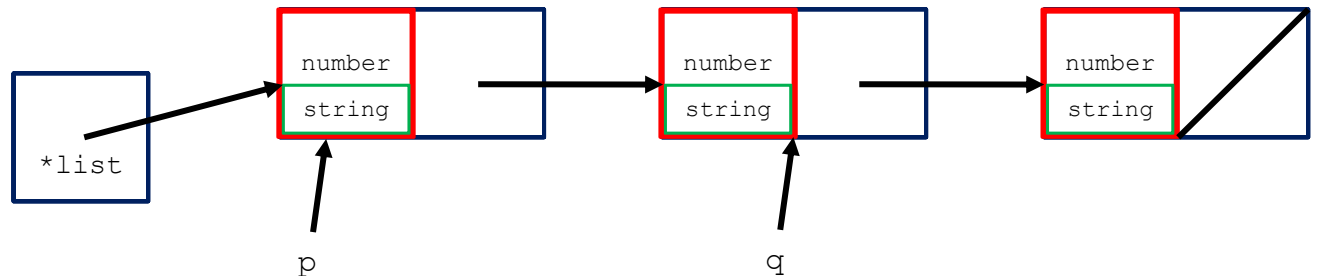
```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q; //temporary hold before deletion  
            q = q->next; //advance to next item before deleting  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q);  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```

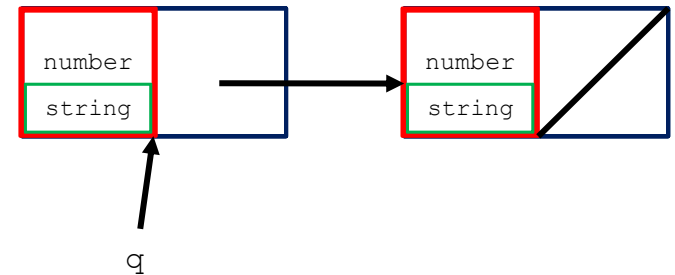
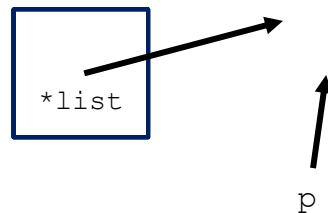




# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

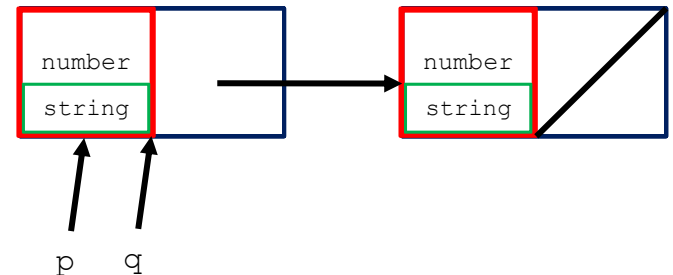
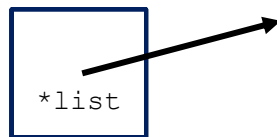
```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

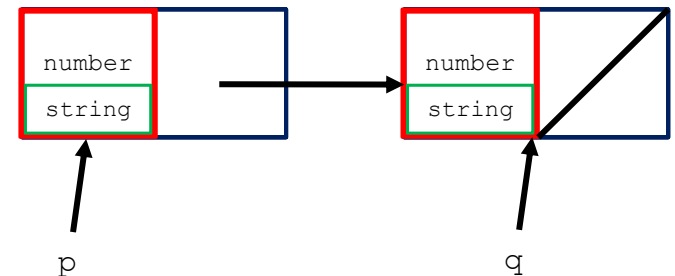
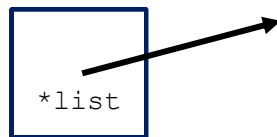
```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */
```

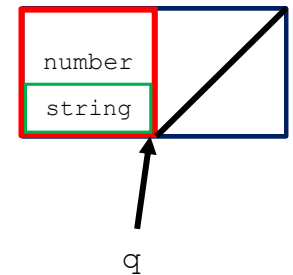
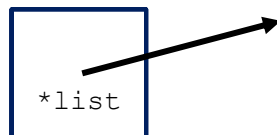
```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

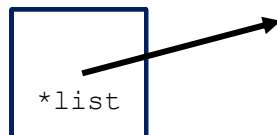
```
/** empty a list */
```

```
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** empty a list */  
  
WINDOW_TYPE empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list != NULL) {  
        /* list exists: delete all nodes including header */  
        q = *list;  
        while (q->next != NULL) {  
            p = q;  
            q = q->next;  
            free(p);  
        }  
        free(q)  
    }  
}
```

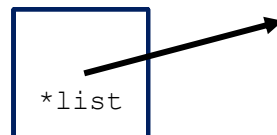


p ↑

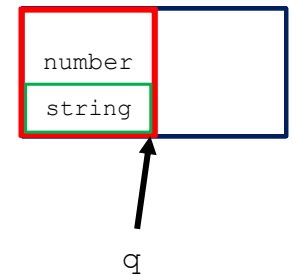
q ↑

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* now, create a new empty one with a header node */  
  
if ((q = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) == NULL)  
    error("function empty: unable to allocate memory");  
else {  
    q->next = NULL;  
    *list = q;  
}  
return(end(list));  
}
```

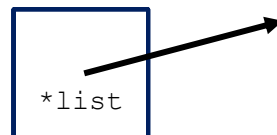


p  
↑

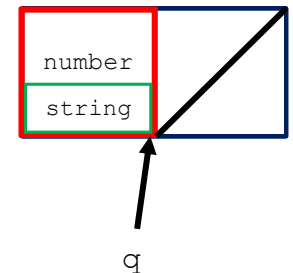


# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* now, create a new empty one with a header node */  
  
if ((q = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) == NULL)  
    error("function empty: unable to allocate memory");  
else {  
    q->next = NULL;  
    *list = q;  
}  
return(end(list));  
}
```

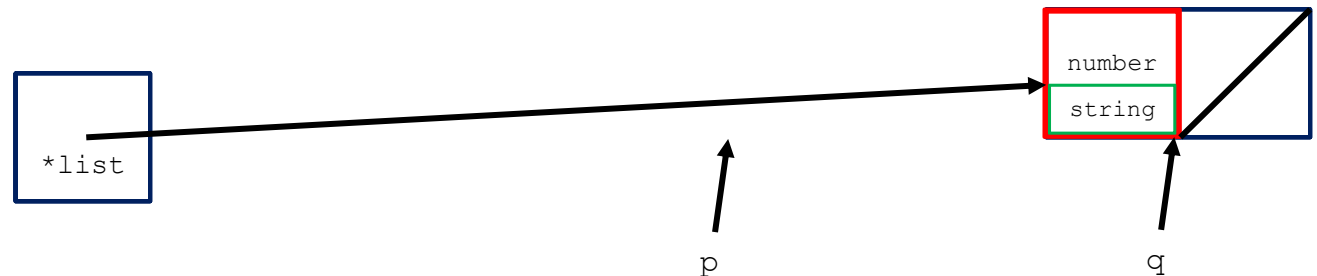


p  
↑



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* now, create a new empty one with a header node */  
  
if ((q = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) == NULL)  
    error("function empty: unable to allocate memory");  
else {  
    q->next = NULL;  
    *list = q;  
}  
return(end(list));  
}
```

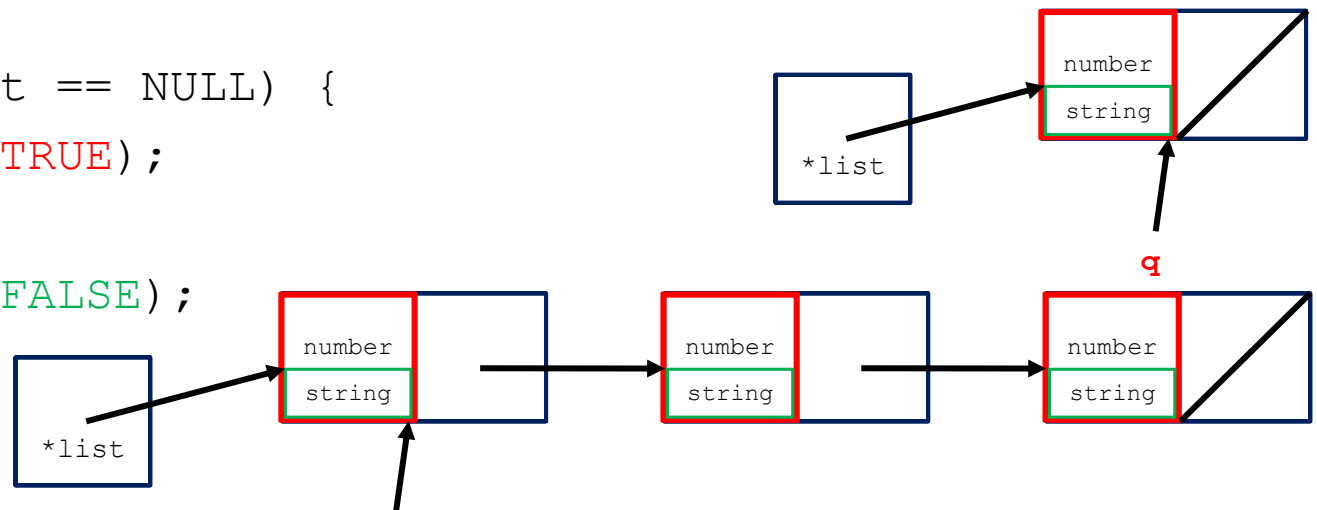




# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** test to see if a list is empty */
```

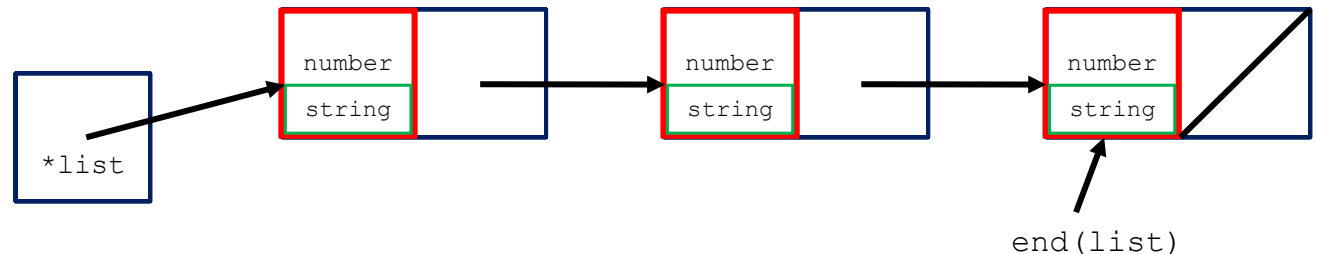
```
int is_empty(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE q;  
    q = *list;  
    if (q == NULL) {  
        error("non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        if (q->next == NULL) {  
            return(TRUE);  
        }  
        else {  
            return(FALSE);  
        }  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position at first element in a list */
```

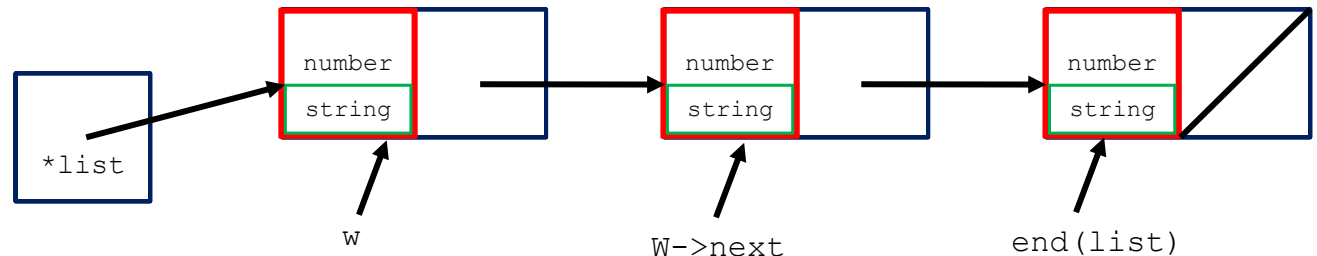
```
WINDOW_TYPE first(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    if (is_empty(list) == FALSE) {  
        return(*list);  
    }  
    else  
        return(end(list));  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position at next element in a list */
```

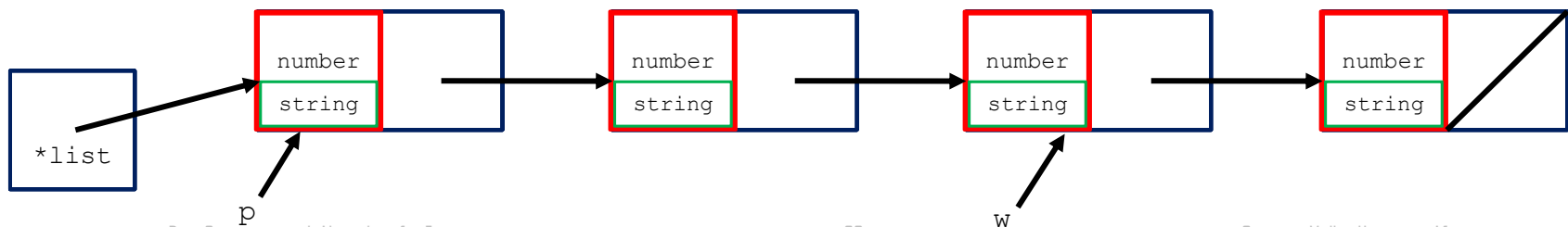
```
WINDOW_TYPE next(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    if (w == last(list)) {  
        return(end(list));  
    }  
    else if (w == end(list)) {  
        error("can't find next after end of list");  
    }  
    else {  
        return(w->next);  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position at previous element in a list */
```

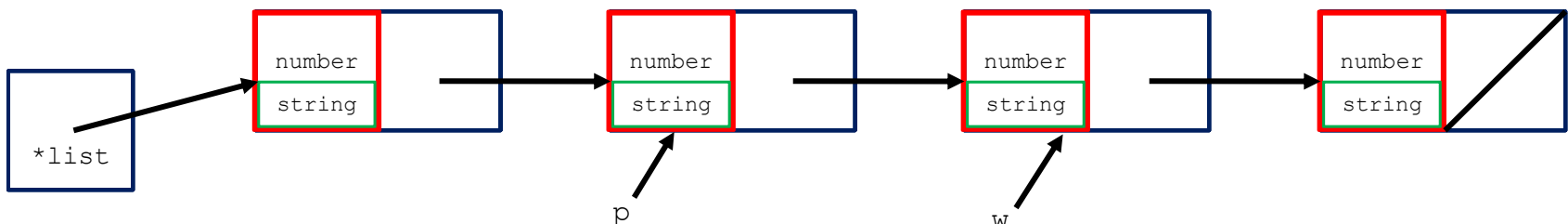
```
WINDOW_TYPE previous(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (w != first(list)) {  
        p = first(list);  
        while (p->next != w) {  
            p = p->next;  
            if (p == NULL) break; /* trap this to ensure */  
        }                       /* we don't dereference */  
        if (p != NULL)           /* a null pointer in the */  
            return(p);          /* while condition */  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position at previous element in a list */
```

```
WINDOW_TYPE previous(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (w != first(list)) {  
        p = first(list);  
        while (p->next != w) {  
            p = p->next;  
            if (p == NULL) break; /* trap this to ensure */  
        }                       /* we don't dereference */  
        if (p != NULL)           /* a null pointer in the */  
            return(p);          /* while condition */  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
    else {  
        error("can't find previous to a non-existent node");  
    }  
}  
else {  
    error("can't find previous before first element of list");  
    return(w);  
}  
}
```

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** position at last element in a list */  
  
WINDOW_TYPE last(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p, q;  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        /* list exists: find last node */
```

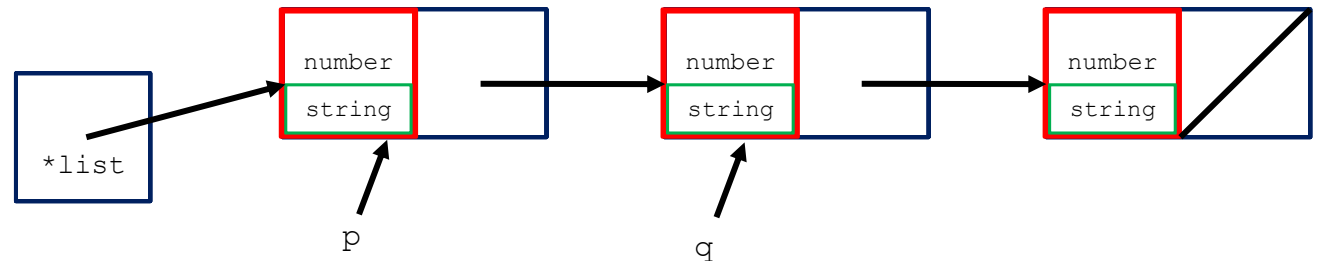
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* list exists: find last node */
```

```
if (is_empty(list)) {  
    p = end(list);  
}
```

```
else {  
    p = *list;  
    q = p->next;  
    while (q->next != NULL) {  
        p = q;  
        q = q->next;  
    }
```

```
}  
return(p);
```





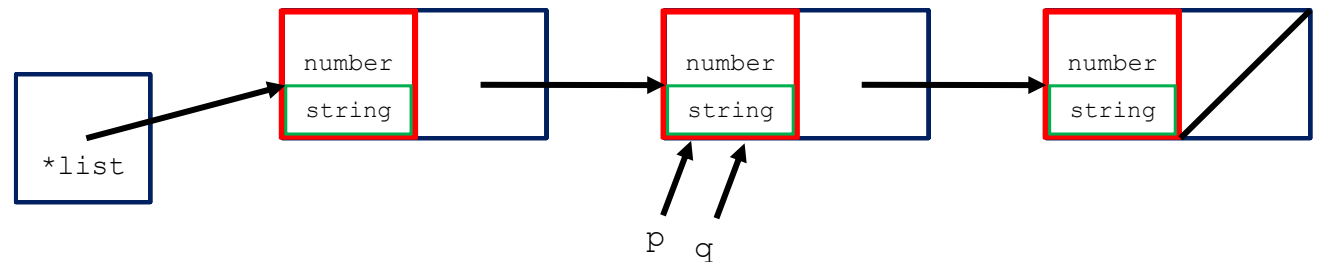
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* list exists: find last node */
```

```
if (is_empty(list)) {  
    p = end(list);  
}
```

```
else {  
    p = *list;  
    q = p->next;  
    while (q->next != NULL) {  
        p = q;  
        q = q->next;  
    }
```

```
}  
return(p);
```



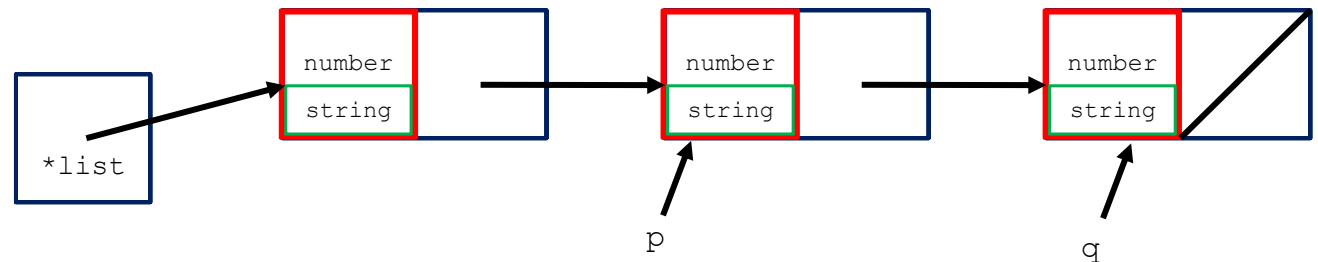
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/* list exists: find last node */
```

```
if (is_empty(list)) {  
    p = end(list);  
}
```

```
else {  
    p = *list;  
    q = p->next;  
    while (q->next != NULL) {  
        p = q;  
        q = q->next;  
    }
```

```
}  
return(p);
```

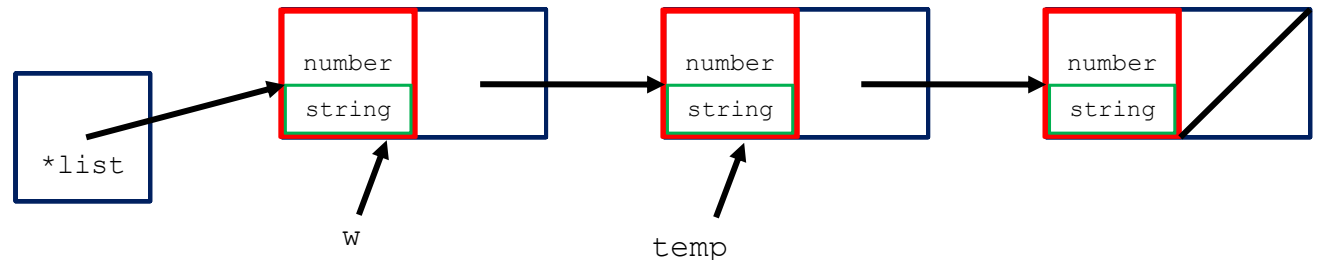


# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** insert an element in a list */  
  
LIST_TYPE *insert(ELEMENT_TYPE e, WINDOW_TYPE w,  
                  LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE temp;  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("cannot insert in a non-existent list");  
    }  
}
```

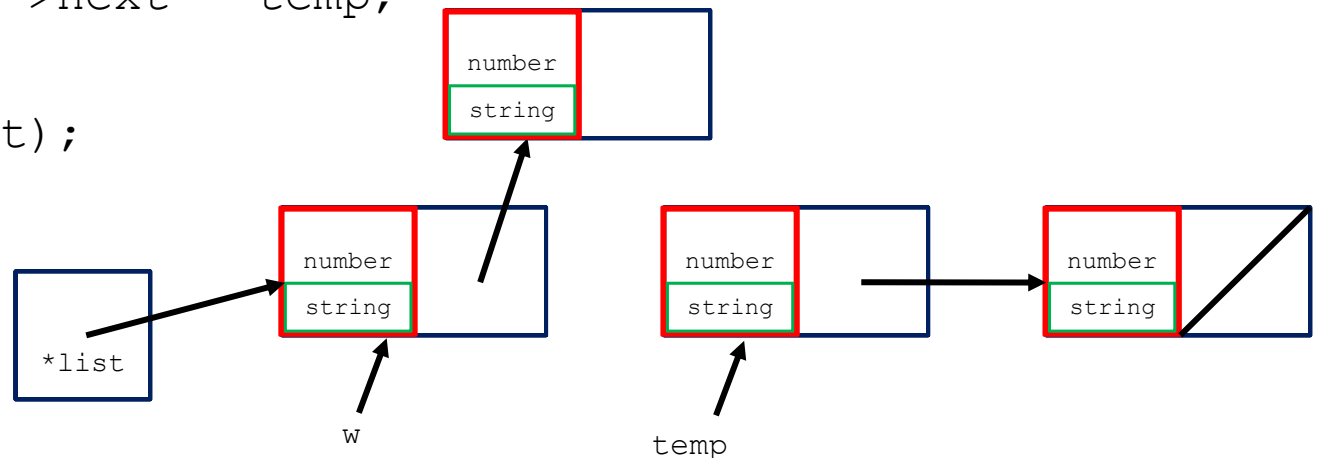
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
else {  
    /* insert it after w */  
    temp = w->next;  
    if ((w->next = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) == NULL)  
        error("function insert: unable to allocate memory");  
    else {  
        w->next->element = e;  
        w->next->next = temp;  
    }  
    return(list);  
}
```



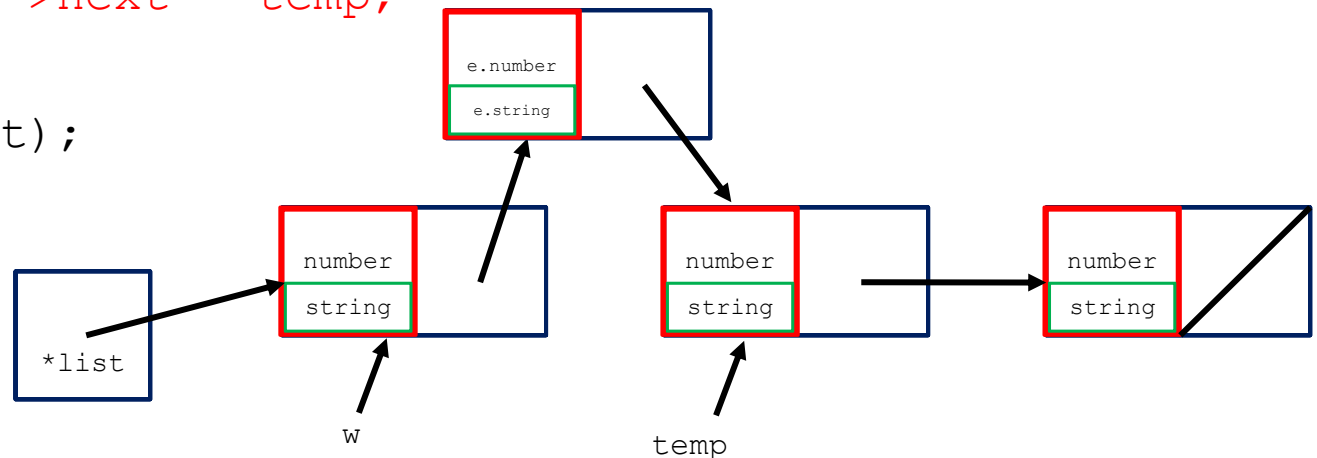
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
else {  
    /* insert it after w */  
    temp = w->next;  
    if ((w->next = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) = NULL)  
        error("function insert: unable to allocate memory");  
    else {  
        w->next->element = e;  
        w->next->next = temp;  
    }  
    return(list);  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

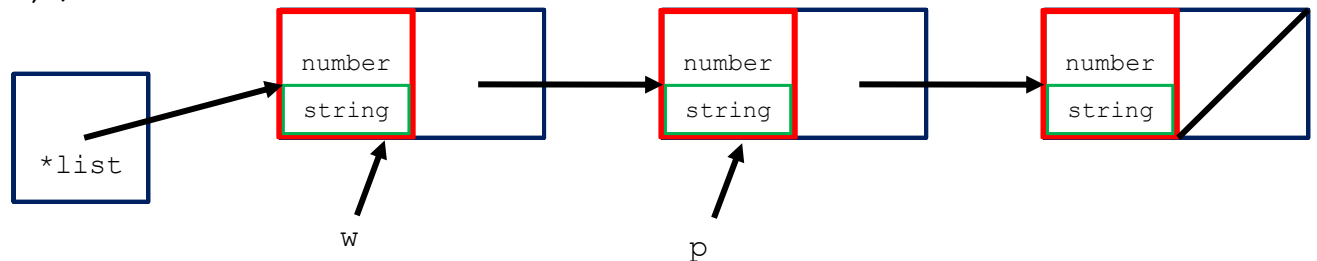
```
else {  
    /* insert it after w */  
    temp = w->next;  
    if ((w->next = (NODE_TYPE) malloc(sizeof(NODE))) = NULL)  
        error("function insert: unable to allocate memory");  
    else {  
        w->next->element = e;  
        w->next->next = temp;  
    }  
    return(list);  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** delete an element from a list */
```

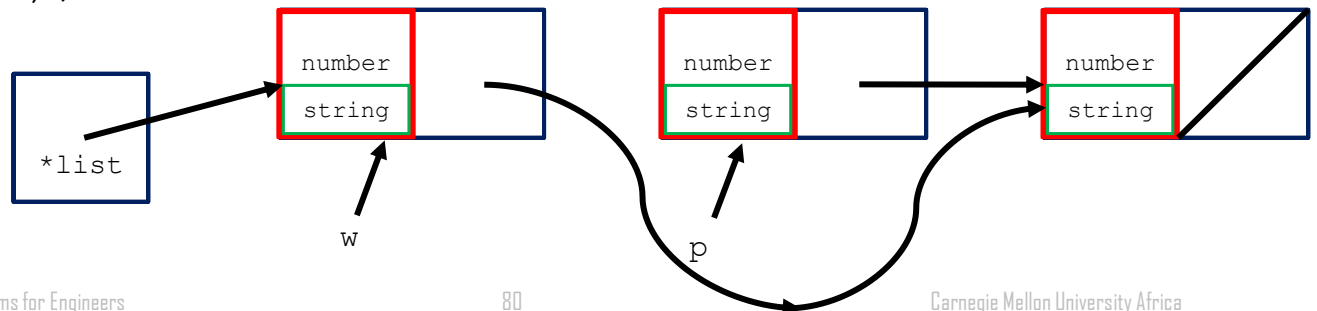
```
LIST_TYPE *delete(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p;  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("cannot delete from a non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        p = w->next; /* node to be deleted */  
        w->next = w->next->next; /* rearrange the links */  
        free(p); /* delete the node */  
        return(list);  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** delete an element from a list */
```

```
LIST_TYPE *delete(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p;  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("cannot delete from a non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        p = w->next; /* node to be deleted */  
        w->next = w->next->next; /* rearrange the links */  
        free(p); /* delete the node */  
        return(list);  
    }  
}
```

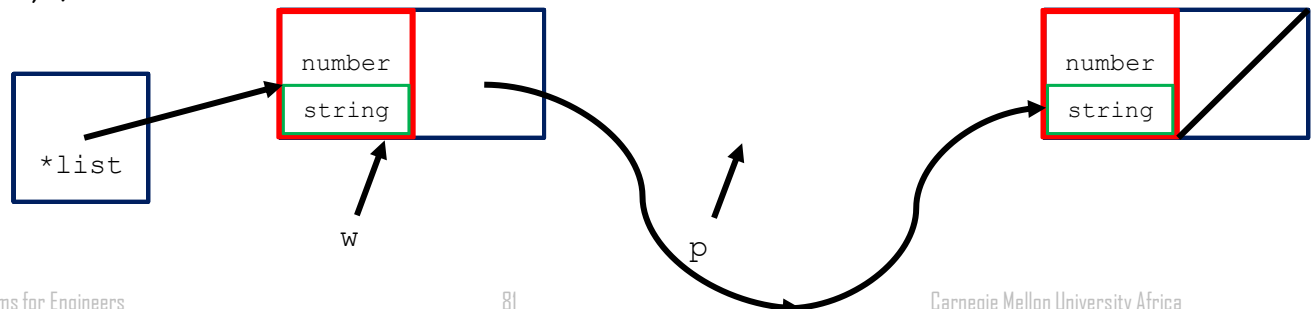




# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** delete an element from a list */
```

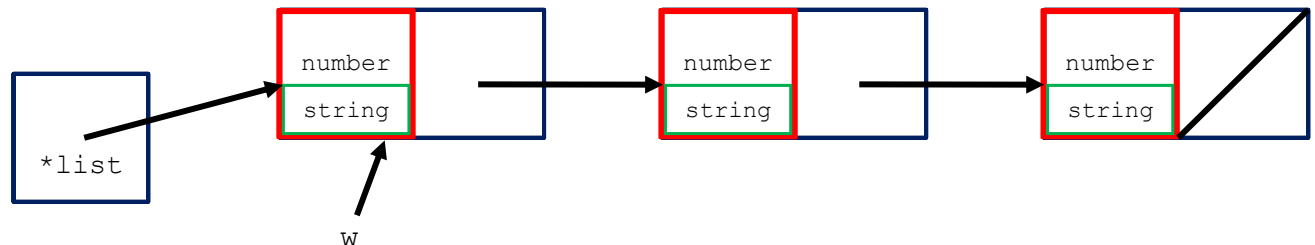
```
LIST_TYPE *delete(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p;  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("cannot delete from a non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        p = w->next; /* node to be deleted */  
        w->next = w->next->next; /* rearrange the links */  
        free(p); /* delete the node */  
        return(list);  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** retrieve an element from a list */
```

```
ELEMENT_TYPE retrieve(WINDOW_TYPE w, LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    WINDOW_TYPE p;  
  
    if (*list == NULL) {  
        error("cannot retrieve from a non-existent list");  
    }  
    else {  
        return(w->next->element);  
    }  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** print all elements in a list */

int print(LIST_TYPE *list) {
    WINDOW_TYPE w;
    ELEMENT_TYPE e;

    printf("Contents of list: \n");
    w = first(list);
    while (w != end(list)) {
        e = retrieve(w, *list);
        printf("%d %s\n", e.number, e.string);
        w = next(w, list);
    }
    printf("---\n");
    return(0);
}
```

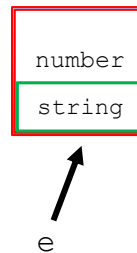
# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** error handler: print message passed as argument and
    take appropriate action                                     */
int error(char *s); {
    printf("Error: %s\n", s);
    exit(0);
}
```

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** assign values to an element */
```

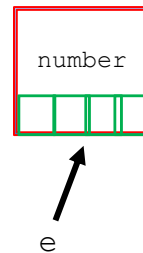
```
int assign_element_values(ELEMENT_TYPE *e, int number, char s[])
{
    e->string = (char *) malloc(sizeof(char) * (strlen(s)+1));
    strcpy(e->string, s);
    e->number = number;
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** assign values to an element */
```

```
int assign_element_values(ELEMENT_TYPE *e, int number, char s[])
{
    e->string = (char *) malloc(sizeof(char) * (strlen(s)+1));
    strcpy(e->string, s);
    e->number = number;
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** initialize the list pointer to make sure      ***/  
/** all subsequent checks on its value are valid ***/  
  
void initialize_list(LIST_TYPE *list) {  
    *list = NULL;  
}
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
/** main driver routine **/
```

```
WINDOW_TYPE w;  
ELEMENT_TYPE e;  
LIST_TYPE list;  
int i;
```

```
initialize_list(&list);  
empty(&list);  
print(&list);
```

```
assign_element_values(&e, 1, "String A");  
w = first(&list);  
insert(e, w, &list);  
print(&list);
```



# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
assign_element_values(&e, 2, "String B");  
insert(e, w, &list);  
print(&list);
```

```
assign_element_values(&e, 3, "String C");  
insert(e, last(&list), &list);  
print(&list);
```

```
assign_element_values(&e, 4, "String D");  
w = next(last(&list), &list);  
insert(e, w, &list);  
print(&list);
```

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

```
w = previous(w, &list);  
delete(w, &list);  
print(&list);
```

```
}
```

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

## Key points:

- All we changed was the implementation of the data-structure and the access routines
- But by keeping the interface to the access routines the same as before, these changes are transparent to the user
- And we didn't have to make any changes in the main function which was actually manipulating the list

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

## Key points:

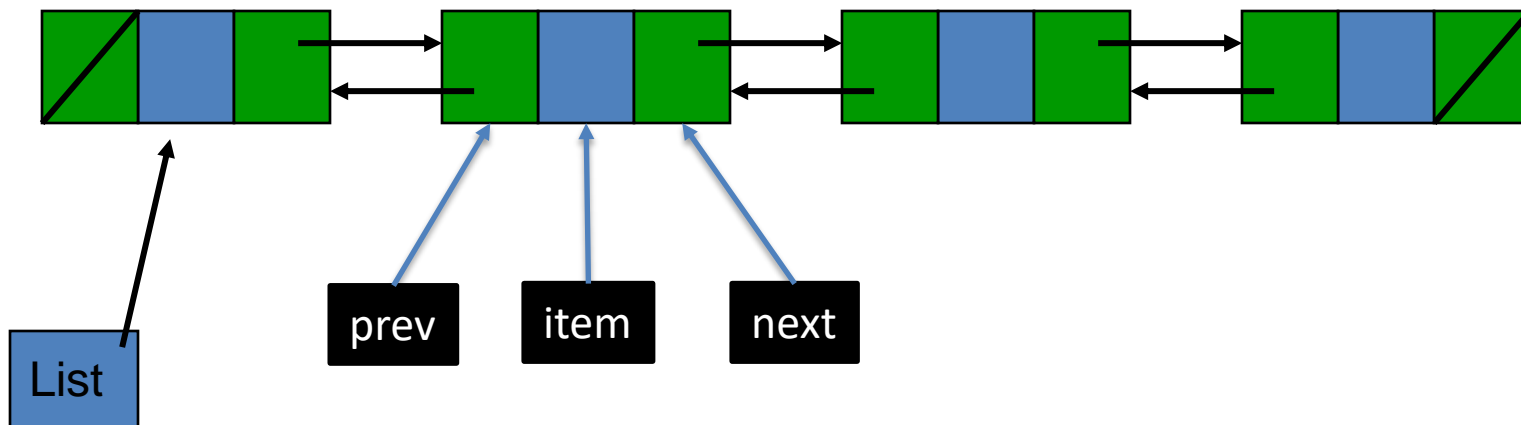
- In a real software system where perhaps hundreds (or thousands) of people are using these list primitives, this transparency is critical
- We couldn't have achieved it if we manipulated the data-structure directly

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

- Possible problems with the implementation:
  - we have to run the length of the list in order to find the end (i.e.  $\text{end}(L)$  is  $O(n)$ )
  - there is a (small) overhead in using the pointers
- On the other hand, the list can now grow as large as necessary, without having to predefine the maximum size

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

Each node contains the list item and two pointers- next and previous.

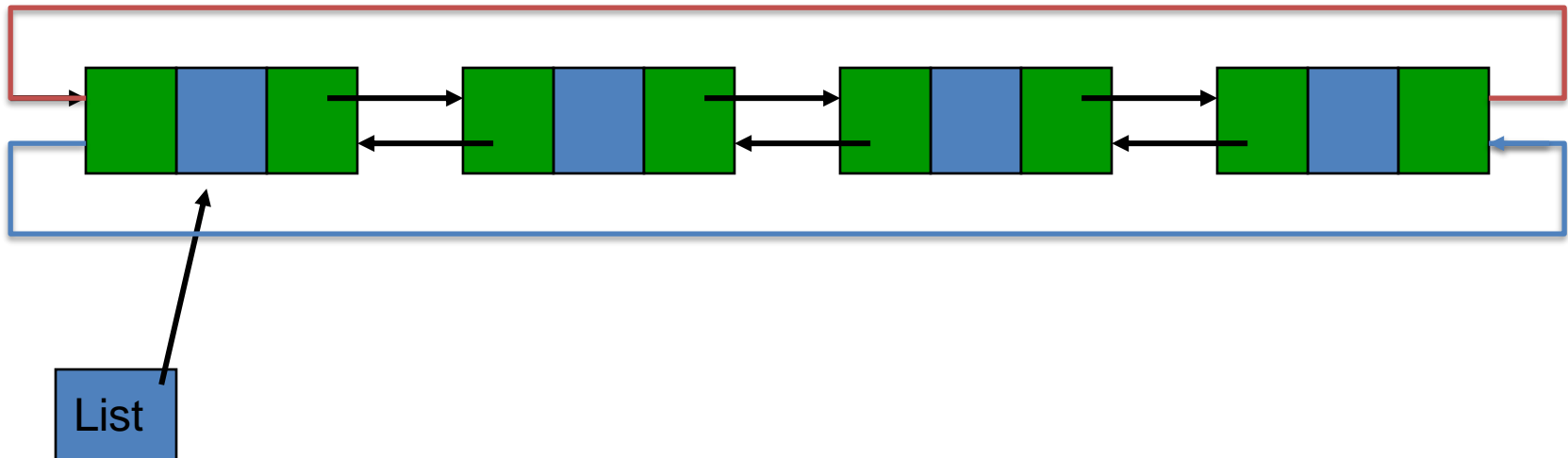


We can also have a doubly-linked list;  
this removes the need to have a header node  
and make finding the previous node more efficient.

However, we could maintain the Head node as a means of list traversal.

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

Lists can also be circular



First element points at last element and last element points at first element.

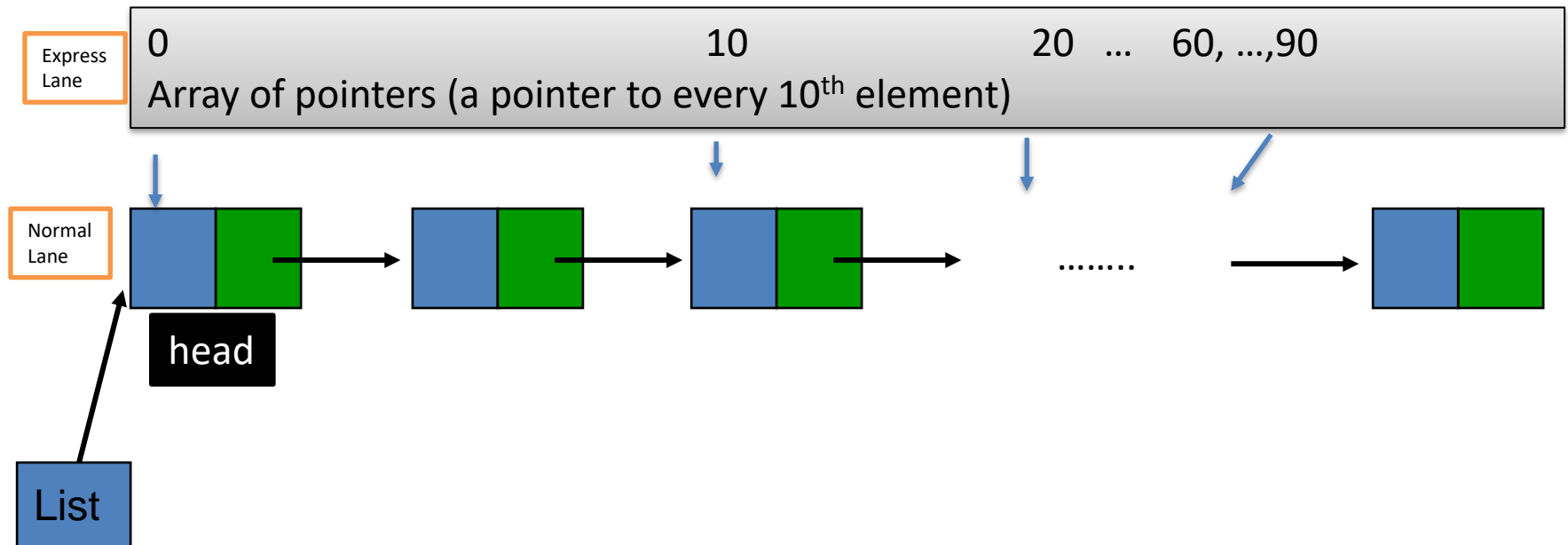
Both **singly-** and **doubly-linked** lists can be made circular lists.

# LIST: Linked-List Implementation

Linked lists can be ***slow for sort or search operations***, because they rely on linear access.

Skip-linked lists maintain pointers to some or all elements.

- Designed to speed up ***sort or search*** operations.
- Consider a list of 100 items



Lists can also be skip-linked lists



# Review Exercises

- Implementation of:
  - Doubly-linked lists
  - Circular linked lists
  - Skip linked lists
- Complexity analysis of:
  - Insert, retrieve, and delete operations under different circumstances, e.g. after some node, before some node, at the head, at the back, etc.

# Comparison:

## Linked Lists vs. Arrays

- Relative advantages of linked lists
  - Overflow on linked structures can never occur unless memory is actually full
  - Insertions and deletions are simpler than for contiguous (array) lists
  - With large records, moving pointers is easier and faster than moving the items themselves

# Comparison:

## Linked Lists vs. Arrays

- Relative advantages of arrays
  - Linked structures require extra space for storing pointer fields
  - Linked lists do not allow efficient random access to items(due to linear access)
  - Arrays allow better memory locality and cache performance than random pointer jumping
- Dynamic memory allocation provides us with flexibility on how and where to use limited storage resources

# Comparison:

## Linked Lists vs. Arrays

- Both lists and arrays can be thought of as recursive objects:
  - Lists: chopping off the first element of a linked list leaves a smaller linked list
  - Lists are recursive objects
  - Splitting the first  $k$  elements off an  $n$  element array gives two smaller arrays, of size  $k$  and  $n-k$ , respectively
  - Arrays are recursive objects
  - This shows us that lists are amenable to efficient (recursive) divide-and-conquer algorithms, such as binary search and quicksort

# Practical Application

- Linked lists are great for implementing queues and stacks.

# Acknowledgement

- Adopted and Adapted from Material by:
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