

DATA STRUCTURE AND ALGORITHM ASSIGNMENT

REG No. BSCCS/2025/40317

NAME: Quentin Omwenga Maoncha

Using a programming language of your choice, in groups, write code to represent each of the data structures classification and types.

Research where the data structure types are applied and give reasons why.

Give examples of applications that are using the data structure types and algorithm. Give reasons why.

Research how data structures and algorithms work within systems.

1. Linear Data Structures

Linear structures organize data elements in a sequence, where each item has a logical predecessor and a successor except for the very first and last items.

Because the data is arranged linearly, it is easy for a computer to traverse the items one by one.

A) Stacks

A stack is a linear data structure- that follows the **Last-In, First-Out (LIFO)** principle.

This means the last element added to the stack is the first one to be removed.

key Operations

Push : Adding an item to the top of the stack +

Pop : Removing the item from the top of the stack -

Peek(or Top) : Looking at the top item without removing it

isEmpty : Checking if the stack item has any items.

Implementation in Python

In python, the simplest way to implement a stack is by using the built-in *list*.

We use `.append()` to push and `.pop()` to remove the last item.

```
# Initializing an empty stack
```

```
stack = []
```

```
# Pushing elements
```

```
stack.append("A")
```

```
stack.append("B")
```

```
stack.append("C")
```

```
# Popping an element (removes "C")
```

```
top_element = stack.pop()
```

In real world scenarios, the Stacks are used in:

1. Browser History; when you navigate websites, each new page is pushed onto a stack.

When you hit a back button, the browser “pops” the current page to reveal the previous ones.

2. Undo.Redo Mechanisms; In software like Word or Photoshop, every edit you make is pushed onto an “undo stack”

3. Function Calls(The Call Stack); This is how programming languages work. When one function calls another, the computer pushes the current location onto a stack so it knows exactly where to return when one function finishes.

B)Queue

Queue follows the **First-In,First-Out(FIFO)**

The first element will be the first element out.

Ket Operations

Enqueue: Adding an element to the back(tail) of the queue +

Dequeue : Removing an element from the front (head) of the queue -

Peek: Looking at the front element without removing it

isEmpty: Checking if the queue is empty

Implementation in Python

The `.pop(0)` method can be used to remove the first item but is slow for large datasets because every other items has to shift one position to the left.

Collections.deque, which is used because it is lightning-fast for adding or removing items from either end.
`from collections import deque`

```
# Initializing the queue
queue = deque()
```

```
# Enqueue: Adding to the back
queue.append("Alice")
queue.append("Bob")
queue.append("Charlie")
```

```
# Dequeue: Removing from the front
first_served = queue.popleft() # Removes "Alice"
```

IN real world,

- 1.Operationg System Scheduling: Your computer's CPU can only do so many things at once.It uses a queue to manage tasks(playing music while you work) handling them in order as they arrived
- 2.Message Buffering:In video streaming(like YouTube),data is downloaded into a "buffer"(a queue). The player takes data from the front of the queue to show you the video,while new data is added to the back.
- 3.Print Jobs:If five people send documents to one printer,the printer uses a queue to ensure the first person who clicked "Print" gets their pages first.

C)Array

Python lists are actually **Dynamic Arrays**.

A basic array is a collection of items stores in **contiguous memeory locations**.

This means all the items are sitting right next to each other in your computer's RAM.

Because the computer knows exactly where the first itekm is and how big each item is,it can jump to any index eg.(`my_list[500]`)

Python's dynamic arrays handle this;

11.Allocation ;Python sets aside a bit more space than you currently need.

2.Appending ;When you use `.append()`,Python puts the item in that extra space.

Resizing ;If the extra space runs out, Python automatically allocates a new,;arge chunk of memory,copies everything over,and deletes the old one.

Python Code Examples

Creating a dynamic array (List)

```
fruits = ["Apple", "Banana", "Cherry"]
```

Accessing by index ($O(1)$ - Instant)

```
print(fruits[1]) # Banana
```

Adding to the end (Amortized $O(1)$ - Usually instant)

```
fruits.append("Date")
```

Inserting/Deleting at the start ($O(n)$ - Slow!)

Because every other item has to shift over one spot.

```
fruits.insert(0, "Elderberry")
```

C)Linked Lists

Unlike an array, which stores data in one continuous block of memory, a linked list stores data in scattered “Nodes.”

Each node has two things;

1. **The Data**

2. **A Pointer**