

## Generate informal documentation

### Chained Dynamic Array-based List (CDAL)

The template class CDAL is the main class for this part of the project. All the other classes, functions are under this class.

1. The class contains a private Node, which has a *next* pointer pointing to the next node and a *arr* pointer points to a array. The initial node has the *next* pointer pointing to NULL and *arr* pointer pointing to a array of size 50.
2. The class has head pointer pointing to the first nodes, while a tail pointer pointing to the end of the slot in the arrays.
3. The class has *mySize* variable. *mySize* is used to track the number of the current items.
4. The class has a constructor CDAL() and destructor ~CDAL(). The constructor will initialize the list to an empty list that *mySize* to 0, head to a new empty node and tial to the first slot in the array.
5. The class overload the copy operator= which will copy a list to the current list. If the copied list is empty, it will throw an exception; if they are they copied list and current list is the same, do nothing; otherwise, safely dispose the current list's content, copy the nodes to current list one by one through *push\_back()* function.
6. The class has several member functions.
  - (1) T *replace*( const T& element, int position ) will replace the existing element at the specified position with the specified element and returns the original element. If the list is empty, it will throw an *out\_of\_range* exception; if the replace position is not within the current list range, it will throw a *domain\_error* exception.
  - (2) void *insert*( const T& element, int position ) will add the specified element to the list at the specified position, shifting the element originally at that and those in subsequent positions one position to the "right". If the insertion position is not within the current list range, it will throw a *domain\_error* exception; if the insertion position is 0, it will call the *push\_front*(element) function; if the insertion position is the end of the list, it will call the *push\_back*(element) function.
  - (3) void *push\_front*( const T& element ) will prepend the specified element to the list.

- (4) `void push_back( const T& element )` will append the specified element to the list.
- (5) `T pop_front()` removes and returns the element at the list's head. If current list empty, it throws an `out_of_range` exception.
- (6) `T pop_back()` removes and returns the element at the list's tail. If current list empty, it throws an `out_of_range` exception.
- (7) `T remove( int position )` removes and returns the the element at the specified position, shifting the subsequent elements one position to the "left". If current list empty, it will throw a `out_of_range` exception; if the remove position is not within the current list range, it will throw a `domain_error` exception.
- (8) `T item_at( int position ) const` returns (without removing from the list) the element at the specified position. If the current list is empty, it will throw a `out_of_range` exception; if the item position is not within the current list range, it will throw a `domain_error` exception.
- (9) `bool is_empty() const` returns true IFF the list contains no elements.
- (10) `size_t size() const` returns the number of elements in the list.
- (11) `void clear()` removes all elements from the list safely with the `pop_back()` function.
- (12) `bool contains( const T& element, bool equals( const T& a, const T& b ) ) const` returns true IFF one of the elements of the list matches the specified element. If the current list empty, it will throw an `out_of_range` exception.
- (13) `std::ostream& print( std::ostream& out ) const`. If the list is empty, it will print<empty list>; otherwise, it will print out all the elements in the list.
- (14) `T& operator[](int i)` returns a reference to the indexed element. If the current list empty, it will throw an `out_of_range` exception; if the index `i` is not within the range of current list, it will throw a `domain_error` exception.
- (15) `T const& operator[](int i) const` returns an immutable reference to the indexed element. If the current list empty, it will throw an `out_of_range` exception; if the index `i` is not within the range of current list, it will throw a `domain_error` exception.
- (16) `shrink()` will deallocate half the unused arrays whenever the more than half of the arrays are unused (they would all be at the end of the chain).

7. The class defines several types, `size_t size_t`, `T value_type`, `CDAL_Iter` iterator and `CDAL_Const_Iter` const\_iterator.

8. The class has two sub classes CDAL\_Iter and CDAL\_Const\_Iter. These two classes are for iterators. They have several member functions as following:

- (1) begin() will construct and return an iterator denoting the list's first element.
- (2) end() will construct and return an iterator denoting one past the list's last element.
- (3) reference operator\*() const returns the item value
- (4) pointer operator->() const returns the item value
- (5) self\_reference operator=( const CDAL\_Const\_Iter& src ) copy the the iterator src to the current iterator.
- (6) self\_reference operator++() return the value before increment.
- (7) self\_type operator++(int) return the value after increment.
- (8) bool operator==(const CDAL\_Const\_Iter& rhs) const tests if two iterators equal.
- (9) bool operator!=(const CDAL\_Const\_Iter& rhs) const test if two iterators not equal.