

## Module 4 Lab: Linked List

Write a linked list that supports  $O(1)$  `add_first`, `add_last`, and `remove_first` operations.

Your starter code includes `Lab4.py` which has a complete `Node` class and a few methods in a `LinkedList` class (`iter`, `len`, and `repr`). It also includes `TestLab4.py` which has the full suite of test cases being run in Gradescope - feel free to run that locally to monitor your progress and to consult it to help clarify expected behavior for methods.

### Part 1 - Constructor method with optional starting items

In python, default arguments for functions are only initialized once. This means we should not use a mutable argument as a default, since it can change over time:

```
>>> class Foo:
...     def __init__(self, L=[]): # Empty list is a BAD default
...         self.L = L
...
>>> x = Foo() # x.L is the default empty list
>>> y = Foo() # y.L is the SAME default list
>>> x.L.append(3)
>>> x.L
[3]
>>> y.L
[3]
>>>
```

If we want to make a custom collection with an optional collection of arguments, we should use an immutable like `None` for our default list, and create an empty list on the fly *inside* of our constructor method `init`:

```
>>> class Bar:
...     def __init__(self, L=None):
...         if L is None:
...             self.L = [] # new empty list created for every object
...         else:
...             self.L = L # whatever the user passed in
...
>>> x = Bar()
>>> y = Bar()
>>> x.L.append(3)
>>> x.L
[3]
>>> y.L
[]
```

Complete the constructor method for your `LinkedList` class such that it takes an optional parameter `items`. Use `None` as the default value. If the value of `items` is `None`, then create an empty `LinkedList`. Otherwise, the user has passed in some collection of items, and you should add them to your `LinkedList` one at a time using either `add_first` or `add_last`. Choose the method that lets you maintain order when possible:

```

>>> ll1 = LinkedList([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])
>>> print(ll1) # note the order is preserved below
LinkedList:
    Head: Node(0)
    Tail: Node(4)
    0-->1-->2-->3-->4-->None

```

You will also need to add parameters for tracking the head (`_head`), tail (`_tail`), and length (`_len`). You should name the parameters as given here, so the provided methods `len`, `iter`, and `repr` will work.

## Part 2 - Adding and removing

Next, implement `add_first(item)`, `add_last(item)`, and `remove_first()`. All 3 methods should run in  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ .

## Part 3 - Exceptions

`remove_first()` should raise a `RuntimeError` if called on an empty `LinkedList`.

## Submitting

At a minimum, submit the following files:

- `Lab4.py`

Students must submit **individually** by the due date (typically, Sunday at 11:59 pm EST) to receive credit.