



UMassAmherst

Manning College of Information
& Computer Sciences

Programming Methodology
Lab 3: Lists

Wednesday September 17, 2025

Weekly Lab Agenda

- Go over reminders/goals
- Review past material
- Work in groups of 2-3 to solve a few exercises
 - Please sit with your group from last week.
- Discussion leaders will walk around and answer questions
- Solutions to exercises will be reviewed as a class
- Attendance taken at the end

Reminders

- Homework 3 is due Sunday (9/21) at 11:59pm
 - Come to office hours for help!
- If you need to miss lab and have a valid reason according to the syllabus (medical, other personal) please fill out the questionnaire on Canvas before the start time of your lab.
 - Waking up late, bus was late are NOT valid reasons to miss lab.

Today's Goals

- Lists
- Reduce

Lists - review

Lists are **recursive**

Lists are either

- empty
- or an **element** followed by a **list**

Lists are an **abstract data type** with the following methods:

- **list.isEmpty()**
 - returns **True** if the list is empty()
 - returns **False** if the list is **node(data,next)** [an element followed by a list]
- **list.head()**
- **list.tail()**

Exercise 1

Given two ordered lists, merge them such that the resulting list is an ordered list (ascending).

```
// merges two ordered lists
```

```
function merge(list1: List<number>, list2: List<number>): List<number>
```

Exercise 1 - Solution

```
// merges two ordered lists
```

```
function merge(l1: List<number>, l2: List<number>) {  
  if (l1.isEmpty()) return l2;  
  if (l2.isEmpty()) return l1;  
  const h1 = l1.head();  
  const h2 = l2.head();  
  return h1 < h2  
    ? node(h1, merge(l1.tail(), l2))  
    : node(h2, merge(l1, l2.tail()));  
}
```

```
// How would you write  
// this with if/else?
```

Review of Reduce

```
function reduce<T, U>(
  a: T[],
  f: (acc: U, e: T) => U,
  init: U
): U {
  let result = init;
  for (let i = 0; i < a.length; ++i) {
    result = f(result, a[i]);
  }
  return result;
}
```

Reduce is used to combine array elements with the same function.

Example: Find the product of all elements of an array `a = [3, 2, 6, 2, 2, 0]`

```
a.reduce((prod, e) => prod * e, 1);
```


Array Destructuring

JavaScript lets us destructure arrays:

```
let [a, b] = [1, 2]; // a = 1 and b = 2
```

What does ... (spread syntax) do?

```
const c = [1, 2, 3];
```

```
const d = [4, 5, 6];
```

```
const e = [...c, ...d]; // e = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

```
[a, b, ...rest] = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e'];
```

```
// a = 'a', b = 'b', rest = ['c', 'd', 'e'];
```

Exercise 2

Return the sum of all positive and the sum of all negative numbers from an array.

```
function sumPositivesAndNegatives(arr: number[]): [number, number]
```

Exercise 2 - Solution

```
function sumPositivesAndNegatives(arr: number[]): [number, number] {  
  return arr.reduce(  
    ([positive, negative], curr) =>           // no effect if curr is 0  
      (curr > 0) ? [positive + curr, negative] : [positive, negative + curr],  
    [0, 0]  
  );  
}
```

Alternative with conditionals:

```
function sumPositivesAndNegatives(arr: number[]): [number, number] {  
  return arr.reduce(function ([positives, negatives], curr) {  
    if (curr > 0) {  
      return [positive + curr, negative];  
    } else { return [positive, negative + curr]; }  
  }, [0, 0]);  
}
```

Bonus Exercise 3

Write a function **reverseFilter** that filters a list based on a predicate and returns the filtered elements in reverse order.

```
function reverseFilter<T>(list: List<T>, filterF: (x: T) => boolean): List<T>
```

Example:

Input List: -2, -1, 0, 1, 2

filterF: (e: number) => e >= 0

Output List: 2, 1, 0

Bonus Exercise 3 - Solution

// using reduce

```
function reverseFilter<T>(list: List<T>, filterF: (x: T) => boolean): List<T> {  
    return list.reduce((acc, e) => (filterF(e) ? node(e, acc) : acc), empty());  
}
```

Or

// using filter and reduce

```
function reverseFilter<T>(list: List<T>, filterF: (x: T) => boolean): List<T> {  
    return list.filter(filterF).reduce((acc, e) => node(e, acc), empty())  
}
```