

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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# 61. ROTATE LIST

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- ◆ Problem Statement:

Given the head of a linked list, rotate the list to the right by  $k$  places.

- ◆ Explanation:

If we are to rotate the list to the right by  $k$  steps, that means:

- The last  $k$  nodes of the list become the first  $k$  nodes.
- The list is treated circularly, then "cut" at the right point.



# ◆ PYTHON CODE (WITH **DEF** AND COMMENTS):



```
# Definition for singly-linked list.
class ListNode:
    def __init__(self, val=0, next=None):
        self.val = val
        self.next = next

class Solution:
    def rotateRight(self, head: ListNode, k: int) -> ListNode:
        if not head or not head.next or k == 0:
            return head

        # Step 1: Count length
        length = 1
        current = head
        while current.next:
            current = current.next
            length += 1

        # Step 2: Make the list circular
        current.next = head

        # Step 3: Find the new tail: (length - k % length - 1)
        k = k % length
        steps_to_new_tail = length - k
        new_tail = head
        for _ in range(steps_to_new_tail - 1):
            new_tail = new_tail.next

        # Step 4: Break the circle
        new_head = new_tail.next
        new_tail.next = None

        return new_head
```

◆ EXAMPLE:

INPUT:

PYTHON

COPYEDIT

HEAD = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

K = 2

OUTPUT:

PYTHON

COPYEDIT

[4, 5, 1, 2, 3]

VISUAL FLOW:

ORIGINAL  $\rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$

ROTATE 2  $\rightarrow$  RESULT  $\rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$





# CONCLUSION

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- The problem is about **circular rotation** of linked lists.
- Requires basic knowledge of **linked list traversal**.
- Key logic is making it circular and then **breaking at the correct point**.
- Edge cases: empty list, single node, or  $k = 0$ .