

# CS 0445 Spring 2025

## Assignment of Recursion

### Introduction:

We have discussed recursion in lecture (see Lectures 11 and 12) and you will be using recursion in your next programming project. To help to understand recursion, in this exercise you will implement a very simple linked list class utilizing exclusively recursive methods.

### Details:

You should be familiar with linked lists and in particular with a circular, doubly-linked list (you are using this type of list in Midterm Exam Projections). In this assignment you will complete a very simple doubly linked list class, called `DoubleRecList`, in which **all the methods are implemented recursively**. This class has only 3 public methods: 1) a constructor to initialize the list from an array of `String`, 2) the `toString()` method and 3) a `reverse()` method. The first two methods have been provided for you. Look at these methods and the comments carefully. Run the main program (`Recursion.java`) as it is given to trace the output.

Once you are comfortable with the `DoubleRecList` class and the methods provided, you will add one additional method – the `reverse()` method. This method will do as it states – reverse the data in the list. It should do this by reversing the `Nodes` in the list and **without creating any new `Nodes`** and without using any auxiliary data structures (ex: like an array or `ArrayList`). This method may be a bit challenging to conceive at first but after a bit of pencil and paperwork yourselves you should be able to figure this out. Figuring out this method will go a long way toward your understanding recursive programming in general and will also help you in the future.

Once you have completed the `reverse()` method remove the comments from the `Recursion.java` program and compile and run it again. Verify that your data is in fact being reversed.

Note: To run the program, you will need the following files:

[Recursion.java](#) (main program)

[DoubleRecList.java](#) (file that you must modify)

[Node.java](#) (external `Node` class – make sure to use the latest version)

### Hints:

As with the other recursive methods in the `DoubleRecList` class, you should write a private recursive method to do the actual work.

Since the list is doubly-linked, one way to approach this is to move **BACKWARD** through the original list, extracting each node and adding it to the **END** of a new list. You can do this using two reference variables in your recursive calls. Be careful about detecting the end of the list.