5 MOST ASKED DATA STRUCTURES

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

@DISHA MUKHERJEE

1

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A LINKED LIST OVER AN ARRAY?

Consider a scenario where we need to store a large amount of data in an array. But, the memory to store that data is not available contiguously. In this case, we cannot use an array. Hence we go for a linked list. Since each node is connected using a link it is not necessary that memory has to be contiguous.

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2

What is the use of a doubly linked list compared to that of a singly linked list?

In a singly linked list, we have only forward links. Hence, we cannot traverse the linked list in a backward manner. In order to overcome this, we go for a doubly linked list. In a doubly linked list, each node has three fields such as previous data and the next field and has two links such as a forward and a backward link.

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3

Why it is said that searching a node in a binary search tree is more efficient than that of a simple binary tree?

When searching any note in a binary search tree the value of the target node is compared with the parent node and accordingly either the left subtree or the right sub tree is searched. So, one has to compare only particular branches. Thus, searching becomes efficient.

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Can we apply a binary search algorithm to a sorted linked list?

No, we cannot apply the binary search algorithm to a sorted linked list because finding the index of the middle element is difficult.

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Which data structure is ideal to perform recursion operation and why?

Stack is most ideal for recursion operation. This is mainly because of its LIFO property, it remembers the elements and their positions, so it exactly knows which one to return when a function is called.

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@DISHAMUKHERJEE