DATA STRUCTURES AND ALGORITHMS LECTURE 5

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In Lecture 4...

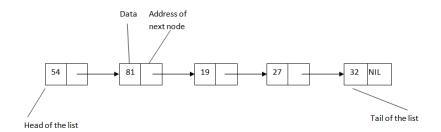
- Containers
 - ADT Stack
 - ADT PriorityQueue
 - ADT List
 - ADT SortedList
- Linked Lists

Today

- Linked Lists
 - Doubly Linked List
 - Sorted Lists
 - Circular Lists
 - XOR Linked List
 - Skip Lists
- 2 Linked Lists on Arrays

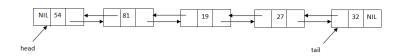
Example of a Singly Linked Lists

• Example of a singly linked list with 5 nodes:



Example of a Doubly Linked List

• Example of a doubly linked list with 5 nodes.



Doubly Linked List - Representation

 For the representation of a DLL we need two structures: one struture for the node and one for the list itself.

DLLNode:

info: TElem

next: ↑ DLLNode

prev: ↑ DLLNode

Doubly Linked List - Representation

 For the representation of a DLL we need two structures: one struture for the node and one for the list itself.

DLLNode:

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next: ↑ DLLNode prev: ↑ DLLNode

DLL:

head: ↑ DLLNode tail: ↑ DLLNode

DLL - Creating an empty list

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 An empty list is one which has no nodes ⇒ the address of the first node (and the address of the last node) is NIL

```
subalgorithm init(dll) is:
//pre: true
//post: dll is a DLL
dll.head ← NIL
dll.tail ← NIL
end-subalgorithm
```

Complexity:

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```
subalgorithm init(dll) is:
//pre: true
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dll.head ← NIL
dll.tail ← NIL
end-subalgorithm
```

- Complexity: $\Theta(1)$
- When we add or remove or search, we know that the list is empty if its head is NIL.

- If we want to delete a node with a given element, we first have to find the node:
 - we need to walk through the elements of the list until we find the node with the element
 - if we find the node, we delete it by modifying some links
 - special cases:

- If we want to delete a node with a given element, we first have to find the node:
 - we need to walk through the elements of the list until we find the node with the element
 - if we find the node, we delete it by modifying some links
 - special cases:
 - element not in list (includes the case with empty list)
 - remove head
 - remove head which is tail as well (one single element)
 - remove tail



```
function deleteElement(dll, elem) is:
//pre: dll is a DLL, elem is a TElem
//post: the node with element elem will be removed and returned
   currentNode ← dll head
   while currentNode \neq NIL and [currentNode].info \neq elem execute
      currentNode \leftarrow [currentNode].next
   end-while
   deletedNode \leftarrow currentNode
  if currentNode \neq NIL then
      if currentNode = dll.head then //remove the first node
         if currentNode = dll.tail then //which is the last one as well
            dll head ← NII
            dll.tail \leftarrow NIL
         else //list has more than 1 element, remove first
            dll.head \leftarrow [dll.head].next
            [dll.head].prev \leftarrow NIL
         end-if
      else if currentNode = dll tail then
//continued on the next slide...
```

```
dll.tail \leftarrow [dll.tail].prev
        [dll.tail].next \leftarrow NIL
     else
        [[currentNode].next].prev \leftarrow [currentNode].prev
        [[currentNode].prev].next ← [currentNode].next
        Oset links of deletedNode to NIL to separate it from the
nodes of the list
     end-if
  end-if
  deleteElement \leftarrow deletedNode
end-function
```

Complexity:

```
dll.tail \leftarrow [dll.tail].prev
        [dll.tail].next \leftarrow NIL
     else
        [[currentNode].next].prev \leftarrow [currentNode].prev
        [[currentNode].prev].next ← [currentNode].next
        Oset links of deletedNode to NIL to separate it from the
nodes of the list
     end-if
  end-if
  deleteElement \leftarrow deletedNode
end-function
```

• Complexity: O(n)

Think about it

- How could we define a bi-directional iterator for a SLL? What would be the complexity of the previous operation?
- How could we define a bi-directional iterator for a SLL if we know that the *previous* operation will never be called twice consecutively (two consecutive calls for the *previous* operation will always be divided by at least one call to the *next* operation)? What would be the complexity of the operations?

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)*	O(n)*
insert first position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	O(n)	O(n)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)*	O(n)*
insert first position	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)	Θ(1)
insert last position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
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insert last position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)**	Θ(1)
insert position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	O(n)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)*	O(n)*
insert first position	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)	Θ(1)
insert last position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)**	Θ(1)
insert position	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
delete first position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)*	O(n)*
insert first position	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)	Θ(1)
insert last position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)**	Θ(1)
insert position	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
delete first position	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
delete last position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	$O(n)^*$	O(n)*
insert first position	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
insert last position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)**	Θ(1)
insert position	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
delete first position	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
delete last position	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)
delete position			

Algorithm	DA	SLL	DLL
search	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
get element from position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)*	O(n)*
insert first position	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)	Θ(1)
insert last position	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)**	Θ(1)
insert position	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)
delete first position	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
delete last position	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	Θ(1)
delete position	<i>O</i> (<i>n</i>)	O(n)	O(n)

- Observations regarding the previous table:
 - * getting the element from a position i for a linked list has complexity $\Theta(i)$ we need exactly i steps to get to the i^{th} node, but since $i \leq n$ we usually use O(n).
 - ** can be done in $\Theta(1)$ if we keep the address of the tail node as well.

- Advantages of Linked Lists
 - No memory used for non-existing elements.
 - Constant time operations at the beginning of the list.
 - Elements are never *moved* (important if copying an element takes a lot of time).
- Disadvantages of Linked Lists
 - We have no direct access to an element from a given position (however, iterating through all elements of the list using an iterator has $\Theta(n)$ time complexity).
 - Extra space is used up by the addresses stored in the nodes.
 - Nodes are not stored at consecutive memory locations (no benefit from modern CPU caching methods).



Doubly Linked List Sorted Lists Circular Lists XOR Linked List Skip Lists

Algorithmic problems using Linked Lists

• Find the n^{th} node from the end of a SLL.

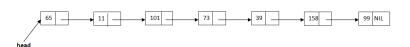
Algorithmic problems using Linked Lists

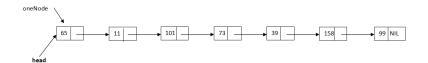
- Find the *n*th node from the end of a SLL.
- Simple approach: go through all elements to count the length of the list. When we know the length, we know at which position the *n*th node from the end is. Start again from the beginning and go to that position.
- Can we do it in one single pass over the list?

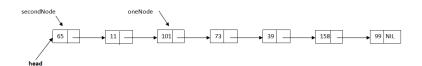
Algorithmic problems using Linked Lists

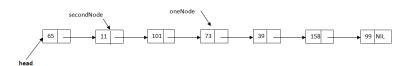
- Find the n^{th} node from the end of a SLL.
- Simple approach: go through all elements to count the length of the list. When we know the length, we know at which position the *n*th node from the end is. Start again from the beginning and go to that position.
- Can we do it in one single pass over the list?
- We need to use two auxiliary variables, two nodes, both set to the first node of the list. At the beginning of the algorithm we will go forward n-1 times with one of the nodes. Once the first node is at the n^{th} position, we move with both nodes in parallel. When the first node gets to the end of the list, the second one is at the n^{th} element from the end of the list.

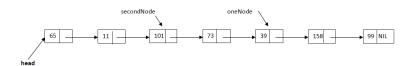
• We want to find the 3rd node from the end (the one with information 39)

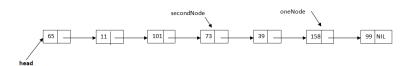


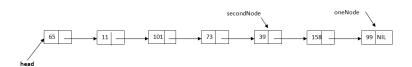












N-th node from the end of the list

```
function findNthFromEnd (sll, n) is:
//pre: sll is a SLL, n is an integer number
//post: the n-th node from the end of the list or NIL
   oneNode \leftarrow sll.head
   secondNode ← sll head
   position \leftarrow 1
   while position < n and oneNode \neq NIL execute
      oneNode \leftarrow [oneNode].next
      position \leftarrow position + 1
   end-while
   if oneNode = NII then
      findNthFromEnd \leftarrow NIL
   else
   //continued on the next slide...
```

N-th node from the end of the list

```
while [oneNode].next ≠ NIL execute
    oneNode ← [oneNode].next
    secondNode ← [secondNode].next
    end-while
    findNthFromEnd ← secondNode
    end-if
end-function
```

 Is this approach really better than the simple one (does it make fewer steps)?

Think about it

- Given the first node of a SLL, determine whether the list ends with a node that has NIL as next or whether it ends with a cycle (the last node contains the address of a previous node as next).
- If the list from the previous problems contains a cycle, find the length of the cycle.
- Find if a SLL has an even or an odd number of elements, without counting the number of nodes in any way.
- Reverse a SLL non-recursively in linear time using $\Theta(1)$ extra storage.

Sorted Lists

- A sorted list (or ordered list) is a list in which the elements from the nodes are in a specific order, given by a relation.
- This *relation* can be <, \le , > or \ge , but we can also work with an abstract relation.
- Using an abstract relation will give us more flexibility: we can
 easily change the relation (without changing the code written
 for the sorted list) and we can have, in the same application,
 lists with elements ordered by different relations.

The relation

 You can imagine the relation as a function with two parameters (two TComp elems):

$$relation(c_1, c_2) = egin{cases} true, & "c_1 \leq c_2" \\ false, & otherwise \end{cases}$$

• " $c_1 \le c_2$ " means that c_1 should be in front of c_2 when ordering the elements.

Sorted List - representation

- When we have a sorted list (or any sorted structure or container) we will keep the relation used for ordering the elements as part of the structure. We will have a field that represents this relation.
- In the following we will talk about a sorted singly linked list (representation and code for a sorted doubly linked list is really similar).

Sorted List - representation

 We need two structures: Node - SSLLNode and Sorted Singly Linked List - SSLL

SSLLNode:

info: TComp

next: ↑ SSLLNode

SSLL:

head: ↑ SSLLNode rel: ↑ Relation

SSLL - Initialization

- The relation is passed as a parameter to the *init* function, the function which initializes a new SSLL.
- In this way, we can create multiple SSLLs with different relations.

```
subalgorithm init (ssll, rel) is:

//pre: rel is a relation

//post: ssll is an empty SSLL

ssll.head ← NIL

ssll.rel ← rel
end-subalgorithm
```

• Complexity: $\Theta(1)$

- Since we have a singly-linked list we need to find the node after which we insert the new element (otherwise we cannot set the links correctly).
- The node we want to insert after is the first node whose successor is greater than the element we want to insert (where greater than is represented by the value false returned by the relation).
- We have two special cases:
 - an empty SSLL list
 - when we insert before the first node



```
subalgorithm insert (ssll, elem) is:
//pre: ssll is a SSLL; elem is a TComp
//post: the element elem was inserted into ssll to where it belongs
   newNode \leftarrow allocate()
   [newNode].info \leftarrow elem
   [newNode].next \leftarrow NIL
   if ssll.head = NIL then
   //the list is empty
      ssll.head \leftarrow newNode
   else if ssll.rel(elem, [ssll.head].info) then
   //elem is "less than" the info from the head
      [newNode].next \leftarrow ssll.head
      ssll head \leftarrow newNode
   else
//continued on the next slide...
```

```
\label{eq:cn} \begin{split} & cn \leftarrow \text{ssll.head } //\textit{cn - current node} \\ & \textbf{while } [cn].\texttt{next} \neq \texttt{NIL and ssll.rel}(\texttt{elem, } [[cn].\texttt{next}].\texttt{info}) = \texttt{false execute} \\ & cn \leftarrow [cn].\texttt{next} \\ & \textbf{end-while} \\ & //\textit{now insert after cn} \\ & [\texttt{newNode}].\texttt{next} \leftarrow [\texttt{cn}].\texttt{next} \\ & [\texttt{cn}].\texttt{next} \leftarrow \texttt{newNode} \\ & \textbf{end-if} \\ & \textbf{end-subalgorithm} \end{split}
```

Complexity:

```
\label{eq:cn} \begin{split} & cn \leftarrow \text{ssll.head } //\textit{cn - current node} \\ & \textbf{while } [cn].\texttt{next} \neq \texttt{NIL and ssll.rel}(\texttt{elem, } [[cn].\texttt{next}].\texttt{info}) = \texttt{false execute} \\ & cn \leftarrow [cn].\texttt{next} \\ & \textbf{end-while} \\ & //\textit{now insert after cn} \\ & [\texttt{newNode}].\texttt{next} \leftarrow [\texttt{cn}].\texttt{next} \\ & [\texttt{cn}].\texttt{next} \leftarrow \texttt{newNode} \\ & \textbf{end-if} \\ & \textbf{end-subalgorithm} \end{split}
```

• Complexity: O(n)

SSLL - Other operations

- The search operation is identical to the search operation for a SLL (except that we can stop looking for the element when we get to the first element that is "greater than" the one we are looking for).
- The delete operations are identical to the same operations for a SLL.
- The return an element from a position operation is identical to the same operation for a SLL.
- The iterator for a SSLL is identical to the iterator to a SLL (discussed in Lecture 4).



 We define a function that receives as parameter two integer numbers and compares them:

```
function compareGreater(e1, e2) is:
//pre: e1, e2 integer numbers
//post: compareGreater returns true if e1 ≤ e2; false otherwise
  if e1 ≤ e2 then
      compareGreater ← true
  else
      compareGreater ← false
    end-if
end-function
```

 We define another function that compares two integer numbers based on the sum of their digits

```
function compareGreaterSum(e1, e2) is:

//pre: e1, e2 integer numbers

//post: compareGreaterSum returns true if the sum of digits of e1 is less than

//or equal to that of e2; false otherwise

sumE1 ← sumOfDigits(e1)

sumE2 ← sumOfDigits(e2)

if sumE1 ≤ sumE2 then

compareGreaterSum ← true

else

compareGreaterSum ← false

end-if

end-function
```

- Suppose that the sumOfDigits function used on the previous slide - is already implemented
- We define a subalgorithm that prints the elements of a SSLL using an iterator:

```
subalgorithm printWithIterator(ssll) is:
//pre: ssll is a SSLL; post: the content of ssll was printed
iterator(ssll, it) //create an iterator for ssll
while valid(it) execute
elem ← getCurrent(it)
write elem
next(it)
end-while
end-subalgorithm
```

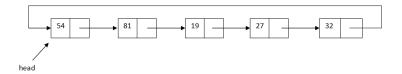
 Now that we have defined everything we need, let's write a short main program, where we create a new SSLL and insert some elements into it and print its content.

```
subalgorithm main() is:
  init(ssll, compareGreater) //use compareGreater as relation
  insert(ssll, 55)
  insert(ssll, 10)
  insert(ssll, 59)
  insert(ssll, 37)
  insert(ssll, 61)
  insert(ssll, 29)
  printWithIterator(ssll)
end-subalgorithm
```

- Executing the *main* function from the previous slide, will print the following: 10, 29, 37, 55, 59, 61.
- Changing only the relation in the main function, passing the name of the function compareGreaterSum, instead of compareGreater as a relation, the order in which the elements are stored, and the output of the function changes to: 10, 61, 37, 55, 29, 59
- Moreover, if we need to, we can have a list with the relation compareGreater and another one with the relation compareGreaterSum. This is the flexibility that we get by using abstract relations for the implementation of a sorted list.

Circular Lists

For a SLL or a DLL the last node has as next the value NIL.
 In a circular list no node has NIL as next, since the last node contains the address of the first node in its next field.



Circular Lists

- We can have singly linked and doubly linked circular lists, in the following we will discuss the singly linked version.
- In a circular list each node has a successor, and we can say that the list does not have an end.
- We have to be careful when we iterate through a circular list, because we might end up with an infinite loop (if we set as stopping criterion the case when currentNode or [currentNode].next is NIL.
- There are problems where using a circular list makes the solution simpler (for example: Josephus circle problem, rotation of a list)

Circular Lists

- Operations for a circular list have to consider the following two important aspects:
 - The last node of the list is the one whose next field is the head of the list.
 - Inserting before the head, or removing the head of the list, is no longer a simple $\Theta(1)$ complexity operation, because we have to change the *next* field of the last node as well (and for this we have to find the last node).

Circular Lists - Representation

 The representation of a circular list is exactly the same as the representation of a simple SLL. We have a structure for a Node and a structure for the Circular Singly Linked Lists -CSLL.

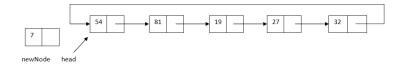
CSLLNode:

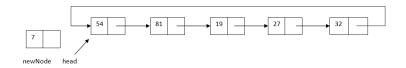
info: TElem

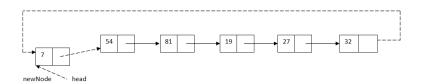
next: ↑ CSLLNode

CSLL:

head: ↑ CSLLNode





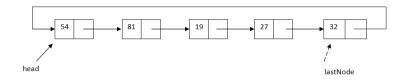


```
subalgorithm insertFirst (csll, elem) is:
//pre: csll is a CSLL, elem is a TElem
//post: the element elem is inserted at the beginning of csll
  newNode \leftarrow allocate()
  [newNode].info \leftarrow elem
  [newNode].next \leftarrow newNode
  if csll.head = NIL then
     csll.head \leftarrow newNode
  else
     lastNode \leftarrow csll.head
     while [lastNode].next ≠ csll.head execute
        lastNode \leftarrow [lastNode].next
     end-while
 //continued on the next slide...
```

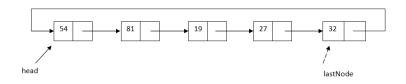
```
[\mathsf{newNode}].\mathsf{next} \leftarrow \mathsf{csll}.\mathsf{head} \\ [\mathsf{lastNode}].\mathsf{next} \leftarrow \mathsf{newNode} \\ \mathsf{csll}.\mathsf{head} \leftarrow \mathsf{newNode} \\ \mathbf{end\text{-}if} \\ \mathbf{end\text{-}subalgorithm} \\
```

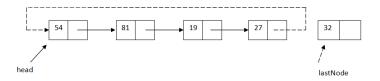
- Complexity: $\Theta(n)$
- Note: inserting a new element at the end of a circular list looks exactly the same, but we do not modify the value of csll.head (so the last instruction is not needed).

CSLL - DeleteLast



CSLL - DeleteLast





CSLL - DeleteLast

```
function deleteLast(csll) is:
//pre: csll is a CSLL
//post: the last element from csll is removed and the node
//containing it is returned
  deletedNode ← NII
  if csll.head \neq NIL then
     if [csll.head].next = csll.head then
        deletedNode \leftarrow csll.head
        csll.head \leftarrow NIL
     else
        prevNode \leftarrow csll.head
        while [[prevNode].next].next ≠ csll.head execute
          prevNode \leftarrow [prevNode].next
        end-while
```

• Complexity: $\Theta(n)$

CSLL - Iterator

- How can we define an iterator for a CSLL?
- The main problem with the standard SLL iterator is its valid method. For a SLL valid returns false, when the value of the currentElement becomes NIL. But in case of a circular list, currentElement will never be NIL.
- We have finished iterating through all elements when the value of currentElement becomes equal to the head of the list.
- However, writing that the iterator is invalid when currentElement equals the head, will produce an iterator which is invalid the moment it was created.



CSLL - Iterator - Possibilities

- We can say that the iterator is invalid, when the next of the currentElement is equal to the head of the list.
- This will stop the iterator when it is set to the last element of the list, so if we want to print all the elements from a list, we have to call the *element* operation one more time when the iterator becomes invalid (or use a do-while loop instead of a while loop - but this causes problems when we iterate through an empty list).

CSLL - Iterator - Possibilities

- We can add a boolean flag to the iterator besides the currentElement, something that shows whether we are at the head for the first time (when the iterator was created), or whether we got back to the head after going through all the elements.
- For this version, standard iteration code remains the same.

CSLL - Iterator - Possibilities

- Depending on the problem we want to solve, we might need a read/write iterator: one that can be used to change the content of the CSLL.
- We can have insertAfter insert a new element after the current node - and delete - delete the current node
- We can say that the iterator is invalid when there are no elements in the circular list (especially if we delete from it).

The Josephus circle problem

- There are n men standing a circle waiting to be executed. Starting from one person we start counting into clockwise direction and execute the m^{th} person. After the execution we restart counting with the person after the executed one and execute again the m^{th} person. The process is continued until only one person remains: this person is freed.
- Given the number of men, *n*, and the number *m*, determine which person will be freed.
- For example, if we have 5 men and m = 3, the 4th man will be freed.

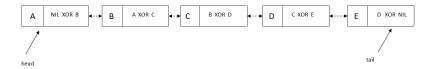
Circular Lists - Variations

- There are different possible variations for a circular list that can be useful, depending on what we use the circular list for.
 - Instead of retaining the *head* of the list, retain its *tail*. In this way, we have access both to the *head* and the *tail*, and can easily insert before the head or after the tail. Deleting the head is simple as well, but deleting the tail still needs $\Theta(n)$ time.
 - Use a header or sentinel node a special node that is considered the head of the list, but which cannot be deleted or changed - it is simply a separation between the head and the tail. For this version, knowing when to stop with the iterator is easier.

XOR Linked List

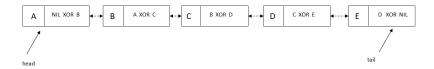
- Doubly linked lists are better than singly linked lists because they offer better complexity for some operations
- Their disadvantage is that they occupy more memory, because you have two links to memorize, instead of just one.
- A memory-efficient solution is to have a XOR Linked List, which is a doubly linked list (we can traverse it in both directions), where every node retains one, single link, which is the XOR of the previous and the next node.

XOR Linked List - Example



• How do you traverse such a list?

XOR Linked List - Example



- How do you traverse such a list?
 - We start from the head (but we can have a backward traversal starting from the tail in a similar manner), the node with A
 - ullet The address from node A is directly the address of node B (NIL XOR B = B)
 - When we have the address of node B, its link is A XOR C. To get the address of node C, we have to XOR B's link with the address of A (it's the previous node we come from): A XOR C XOR A = A XOR A XOR C = NIL XOR C = C

XOR Linked List - Representation

 We need two structures to represent a XOR Linked List: one for a node and one for the list

XORNode:

info: TELem

link: ↑ XORNode

XORList:

head: ↑ XORNode tail: ↑ XORNode

Doubly Linked List Sorted Lists Circular Lists XOR Linked List Skip Lists

XOR Linked List - Traversal

```
subalgorithm printListForward(xorl) is:
//pre: xorl is a XORList
//post: true (the content of the list was printed)
  prevNode \leftarrow NIL
  currentNode \leftarrow xorl.head
  while currentNode ≠ NIL execute
     write [currentNode].info
     nextNode \leftarrow prevNode XOR [currentNode].link
     prevNode \leftarrow currentNode
     currentNode \leftarrow nextNode
  end-while
end-subalgorithm
```

• Complexity: $\Theta(n)$

- Assume that we want to memorize a sequence of sorted elements. The elements can be stored in:
 - dynamic array
 - linked list (let's say doubly linked list)
- We know that the most frequently used operation will be the insertion of a new element, so we want to choose a data structure for which insertion has the best complexity. Which one should we choose?

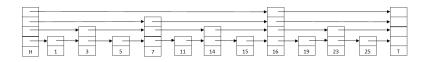
• We can divide the insertion operation into two steps: *finding* where to insert and inserting the elements

- We can divide the insertion operation into two steps: finding where to insert and inserting the elements
 - For a dynamic array finding the position can be optimized (binary search $O(log_2n)$), but the insertion is O(n)
 - For a linked list the insertion is optimal $(\Theta(1))$, but finding where to insert is O(n)

- A skip list is a data structure that allows fast search in an ordered sequence.
- How can we do that?

- A skip list is a data structure that allows fast search in an ordered sequence.
- How can we do that?
 - Starting from an ordered linked list, we add to every second node another pointer that skips over one element.
 - We add to every fourth node another pointer that skips over 3 elements.
 - etc.

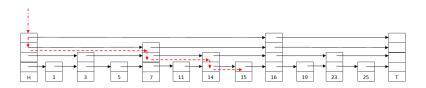




H and T are two special nodes, representing head and tail.
 They cannot be deleted, they exist even in an empty list.

Skip List - Search

Search for element 15.



- Start from head and from highest level.
- If possible, go right.
- If cannot go right (next element is greater), go down a level.



- Lowest level has all n elements.
- Next level has $\frac{n}{2}$ elements.
- Next level has $\frac{n}{4}$ elements.
- etc.
- $\bullet \Rightarrow$ there are approx $log_2 n$ levels.
- From each level, we check at most 2 nodes.
- Complexity of search: $O(log_2 n)$

Skip List - Insert

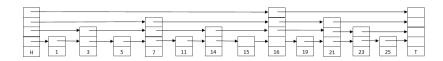
• Insert element 21.



• How *high* should the new node be?

Skip List - Insert

Height of a new node is determined randomly, but in such a
way that approximately half of the nodes will be on level 2, a
quarter of them on level 3, etc.



• Assume we randomly generate the height 3 for the node with 21.



- Skip Lists are *probabilistic* data structures, since we decide randomly the height of a newly inserted node.
- There might be a worst case, where every node has height 1 (so it is just a linked list).
- In practice, they function well.

- What if we need a linked list, but we are working in a programming language that does not offer pointers (or references)?
- We can still implement linked data structures, without the explicit use of pointers or memory addresses, simulating them using arrays and array indexes.

- Usually, when we work with arrays, we store the elements in the array starting from the leftmost position and place them one after the other (no empty spaces in the middle of the list are allowed).
- The order of the elements is given by the order in which they are placed in the array.

	elems	46	78	11	6	59	19					
--	-------	----	----	----	---	----	----	--	--	--	--	--

Order of the elements: 46, 78, 11, 6, 59, 19

 We can define a linked data structure on an array, if we consider that the order of the elements is not given by their relative positions in the array, but by an integer number associated with each element, which shows the index of the next element in the array (thus we have a singly linked list).

elems	46	78	11	6	59	19		
next	5	6	1	-1	2	4		

head = 3

Order of the elements: 11, 46, 59, 78, 19, 6

 Now, if we want to delete the number 46 (which is actually the second element of the list), we do not have to move every other element to the left of the array, we just need to modify the links:

elems	78	11	6	59	19		
next	6	5	-1	2	4		

head = 3

Order of the elements: 11, 59, 78, 19, 6

• If we want to insert a new element, for example 44, at the 3rd position in the list, we can put the element anywhere in the array, the important part is setting the links correctly:

elems	78	11	6	59	19	44	
next	6	5	-1	8	4	2	

head = 3

Order of the elements: 11, 59, 44, 78, 19, 6

• When a new element needs to be inserted, it can be put to any empty position in the array. However, finding an empty position has O(n) complexity, which will make the complexity of any insert operation (anywhere in the list) O(n). In order to avoid this, we will keep a linked list of the empty positions as well.

elems		78	11	6	59	19		44		
next	7	6	5	-1	8	4	9	2	10	-1

head = 3

firstEmpty = 1

- In a more formal way, we can simulate a singly linked list on an array with the following:
 - an array in which we will store the elements.
 - an array in which we will store the links (indexes to the next elements).
 - the capacity of the arrays (the two arrays have the same capacity, so we need only one value).
 - an index to tell where the head of the list is.
 - an index to tell where the first empty position in the array is.



SLL on Array - Representation

 The representation of a singly linked list on an array is the following:

SLLA:

```
elems: TElem[]
next: Integer[]
cap: Integer
head: Integer
```

firstEmpty: Integer

SLLA - Operations

- We can implement for a SLLA any operation that we can implement for a SLL:
 - insert at the beginning, end, at a position, before/after a given value
 - delete from the beginning, end, from a position, a given element
 - search for an element
 - get an element from a position

SLLA - Init

```
subalgorithm init(slla) is:
//pre: true; post: slla is an empty SLLA
slla.cap ← INIT_CAPACITY
```

SLLA - Init

```
subalgorithm init(slla) is:
//pre: true; post: slla is an empty SLLA
  slla.cap \leftarrow INIT\_CAPACITY
  slla.elems ← @an array with slla.cap positions
  slla.next \leftarrow @an array with slla.cap positions
  slla head \leftarrow -1
  for i \leftarrow 1, slla.cap-1 execute
     slla.next[i] \leftarrow i + 1
  end-for
  slla.next[slla.cap] \leftarrow -1
  slla.firstEmpty \leftarrow 1
end-subalgorithm
```

Complexity:

SLLA - Init

```
subalgorithm init(slla) is:
//pre: true; post: slla is an empty SLLA
  slla.cap \leftarrow INIT\_CAPACITY
  slla.elems ← @an array with slla.cap positions
  slla.next \leftarrow @an array with slla.cap positions
  slla head \leftarrow -1
  for i \leftarrow 1, slla.cap-1 execute
     slla.next[i] \leftarrow i + 1
  end-for
  slla.next[slla.cap] \leftarrow -1
  slla.firstEmpty \leftarrow 1
end-subalgorithm
```

• Complexity: $\Theta(n)$

SLLA - Search

```
function search (slla, elem) is:
//pre: slla is a SLLA, elem is a TElem
//post: return True is elem is in slla, False otherwise
  current ← slla.head
  while current \neq -1 and slla.elems[current] \neq elem execute
     current ← slla.next[current]
  end-while
  if current \neq -1 then
     search ← True
  else
     search ← False
  end-if
end-function
```

SLLA - Search

```
function search (slla, elem) is:
//pre: slla is a SLLA, elem is a TElem
//post: return True is elem is in slla, False otherwise
  current ← slla.head
  while current \neq -1 and slla.elems[current] \neq elem execute
     current ← slla.next[current]
  end-while
  if current \neq -1 then
     search ← True
  else
     search ← False
  end-if
end-function
```

SLLA - Search

- From the *search* function we can see how we can go through the elements of a SLLA (and how similar this traversal is to the one done for a SLL):
 - We need a current element used for traversal, which is initialized to the index of the head of the list.
 - We stop the traversal when the value of *current* becomes -1
 - We go to the next element with the instruction: current ← slla.next[current].