





## Challenge 10: Detect Loop in a Linked List

Loops in linked lists can be dangerous as they can end up programs iterating linked lists indefinitely. Now, you'll create an algorithm to detect them.

We'll cover the following ^

- Problem Statement
  - Input
  - Output
  - Sample Input
  - Sample Output
- Coding Exercise

#### Problem Statement #

By definition, a loop is formed when a node in your linked list points to a previously traversed node.

You must implement the detect\_loop() function which will take a linked list as input and deduce whether or not a loop is present.

You have already seen this challenge previously in chapter 3 (https://www.educative.io/courses/data-structures-in-python-an-interview-refresher/B88MAk7xX4x) of this course. Here you would use HashTables for a more efficient solution.

#### Input #

A singly linked list.

#### Output #

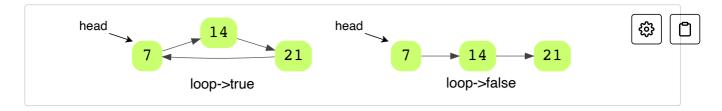
Returns True if the given linked list contains a loop. Otherwise, it returns False

## Sample Input #

LinkedList = 7->14->21->7 # Both '7's are the same node. Not duplicates.

### Sample Output #

True



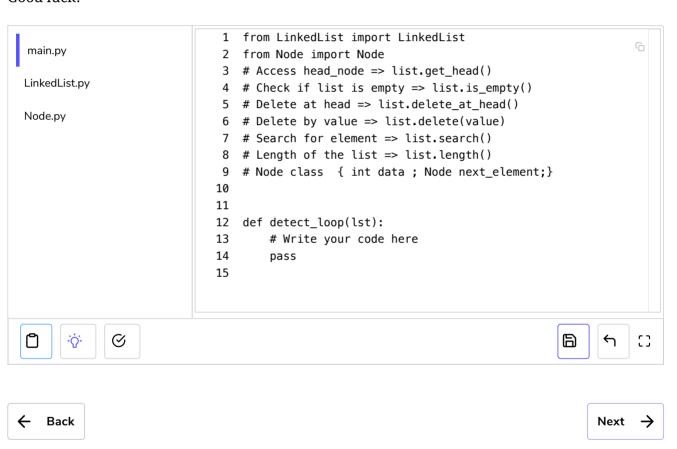
# Coding Exercise #

There are several ways to implement this function. Flesh out your algorithm and see if it works.

We'll be discussing the most efficient solutions which can be a great help in coding interviews.

As always, the Node and LinkedList classes are available to you along with all their member functions. If you get stuck, you can always use a hint.

#### Good luck!



Solution Review: First Non-Repeating  $\dots$ 

Solution Review: Detect Loop in a Link...

✓ Mark as Completed

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? Ask a Question

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