

VE280 Programming and Elementary Data Structures

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Queue



Learning Objectives

- Understand what is a queue
- Know how to implement it
- Discover some applications of queue
- Understand what is a deque

Outline

- Queue
 - Definition
 - Implementation
 - Applications
- Relative: Deque

Queue

- A “line” of items in which the **first** item inserted into the queue is the **first** one out.
 - Restricted form of a linear list: insert at **one end** and remove from **the other**.
 - FIFO access: first in, first out.

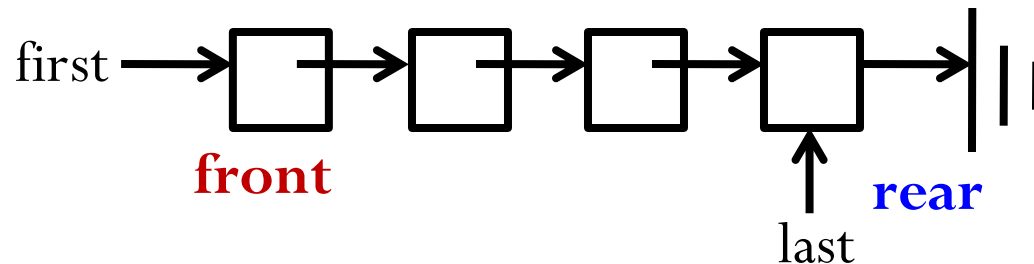


Methods of Queue

- **size()** : number of elements in the queue.
- **isEmpty()** : check if queue has no elements.
- **enqueue(Object o)** : add object **o** to the **rear** of the queue.
- **dequeue()** : remove the **front** object of the queue if not empty; otherwise, throw **queueEmpty**.
- **Object &front()** : return a reference to the front element of the queue.
- **Object &rear()** : return a reference to the rear element of the queue.

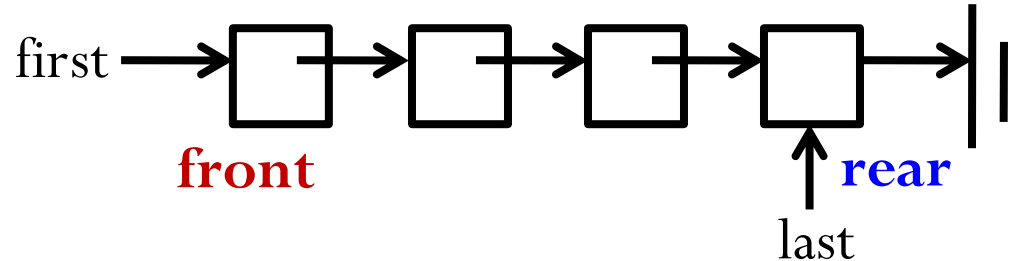
Queues Using Linked Lists

- Which type of linked list should we choose?
 - We need fast **enqueue** and **dequeue** operations.
- Double-ended singly-linked list is sufficient!



- **enqueue**(Object o) : append object at the end
`LinkedList::insertLast(Object o) ;`
- **dequeue**() : remove the first node
`LinkedList::removeFirst() ;`

Queues Using Linked Lists



- **size() : LinkedList :: size() ;**
- **isEmpty() : LinkedList :: isEmpty() ;**
- **Object &front() :** return a reference to the object stored in the first node.
- **Object &rear() :** return a reference to the object stored in the last node.

Queues Using Arrays

Array [MAXSIZE] :

2	3	1	4			
---	---	---	---	--	--	--

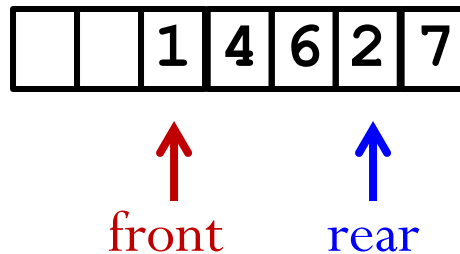
front rear

- If we stick to the requirement that the n elements of a queue are the beginning n elements of the array,
 - How many operations for **enqueue**?
 - I.e., independent of n (number of elements) or proportional to n?
 - How many operations for **dequeue**?
- A better way is to let the elements “**drift**” within the array.

enqueue(6);
dequeue();
dequeue();

2	3	1	4	6		
---	---	---	---	---	--	--

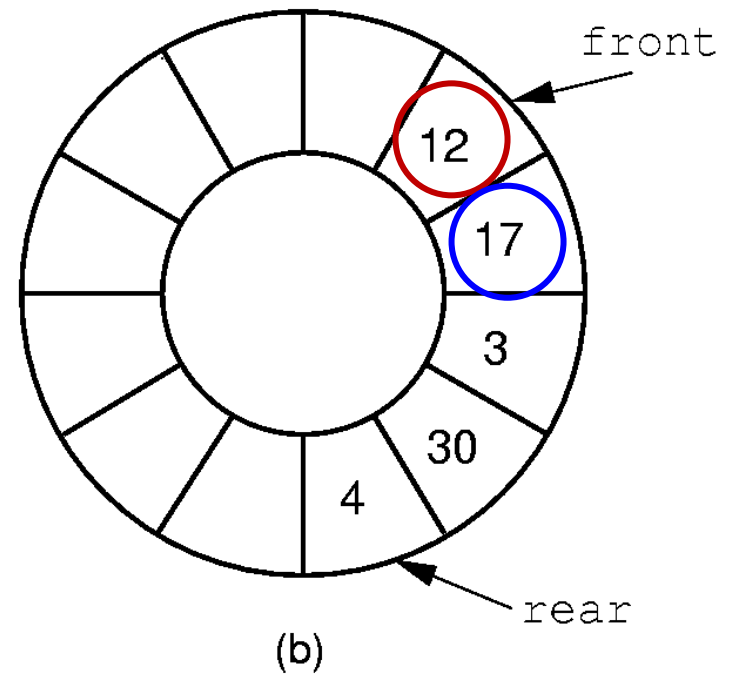
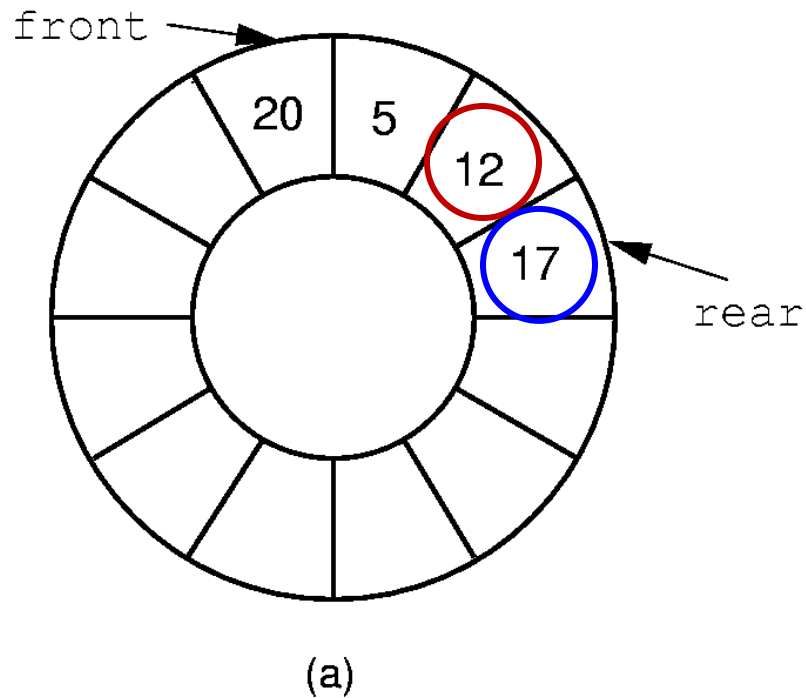
Queues Using Arrays



- We maintain two integers to indicate the front and the rear of the queue.
- However, as items are added and removed, the queue “drifts” toward the end.
 - Eventually, there will be no space to the right of the queue, even though there is space in the array.

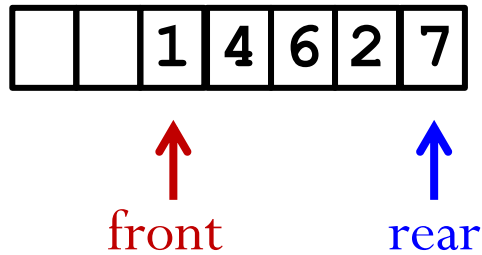
Queues Using Arrays

- To solve the problem of memory waste, we use a **circular array**.

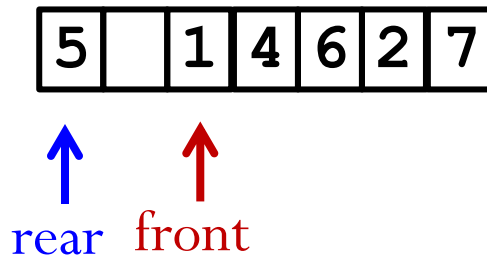


Circular Arrays

- We can implement a circular array using a plain linear array:
 - When front/rear equals the **last** index (i.e., MAXSIZE-1), increment of front/rear gives the **first** index (i.e., 0).



enqueue (5)



Circular Arrays

- To realize the “circular” increment, we can use modulo operation:

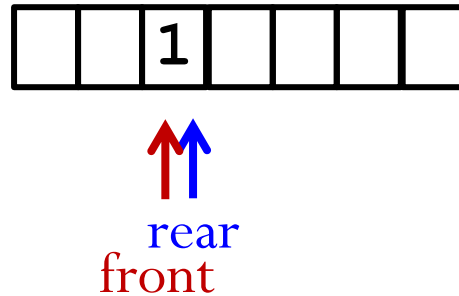
```
front = (front+1) % MAXSIZE;
```

```
rear = (rear+1) % MAXSIZE;
```

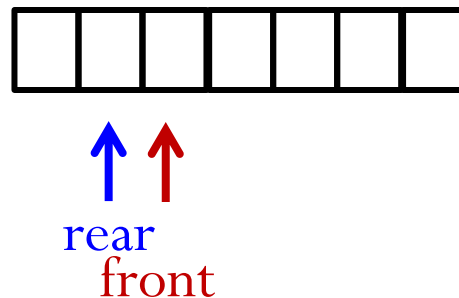
If **front (or rear) == MAXSIZE-1**, the statement sets **front (or rear)** to 0.

Boundary Conditions

- Suppose that **front** points to the **first** element in the queue and that **rear** points to the **last** element in the queue.
- What will a queue with one element look like?

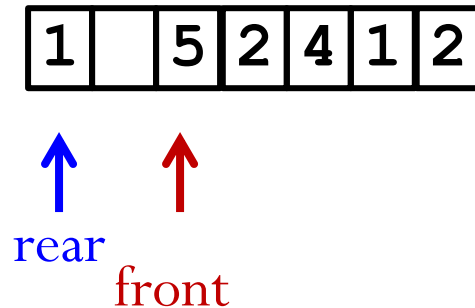


- What will an empty queue look like?

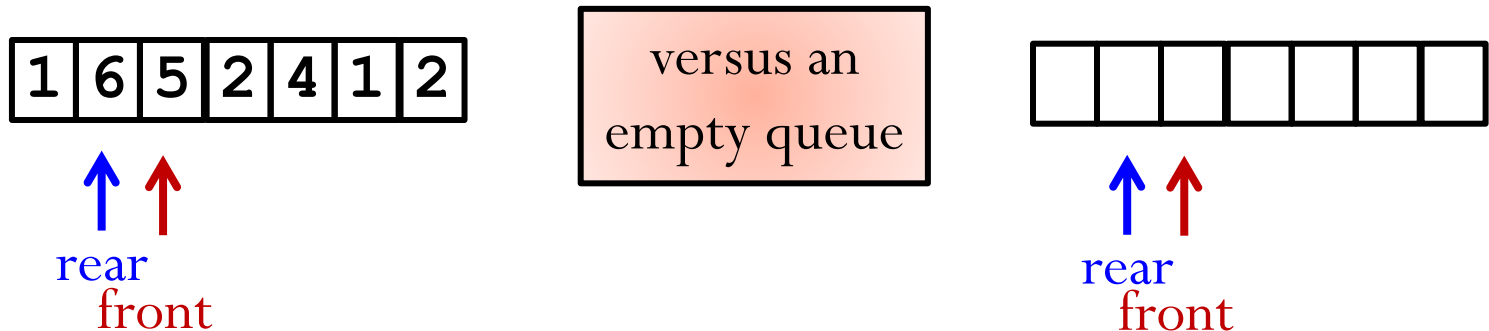


Boundary Conditions

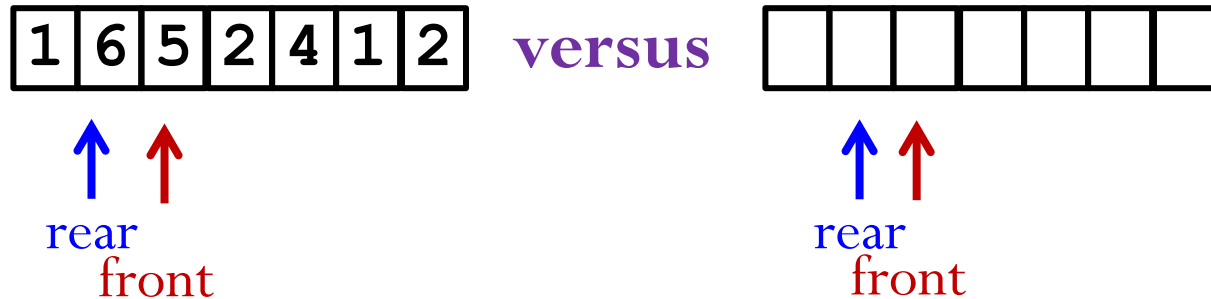
- What will a queue with one empty slot look like?



- What will a full queue look like?



Boundary Conditions



- To distinguish between the full array and the empty array, we need a flag indicating **empty** or **full**, or a **count** on the number of elements in the queue.

Queues Using Arrays

- **enqueue(Object o)** : increment **rear**, wrapping to the beginning of the array if the end of the array is reached; if **rear** becomes **front**, reallocate arrays. Insert **o** at the position of **rear**
- **dequeue()** : if empty, throw **queueEmpty**; increment **front**, wrapping to the beginning of the array if the end of the array is reached.
- **isEmpty()** : **return (count == 0) ;**
- **size()** : **return count;**



Which statements are true?

Select all the correct answers.

- **A.** A linked list requires less memory than a circular array when $\text{size} = \text{capacity}$.
- **B.** A linked list requires more memory than a circular array when $\text{size} = \text{capacity}$.
- **C.** An implementation with a linked list is computationally more efficient.
- **D.** An implementation with a circular array is computationally more efficient.



Outline

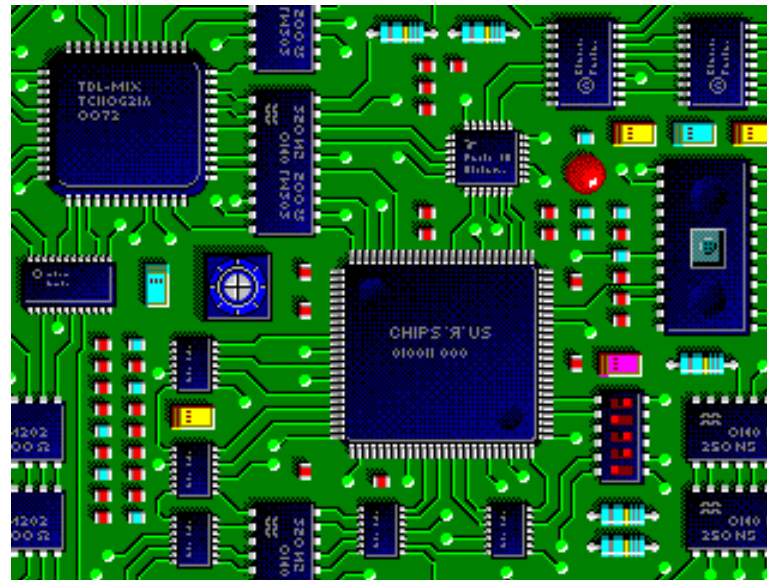
- Queue
 - Implementation
 - Applications
 - Relative: Deque

Application of Queues

- Request queue of a web server
 - Each user can send a request.
 - The arriving requests are stored in a **queue** and processed by the computer in a **first-come-first-serve** way.

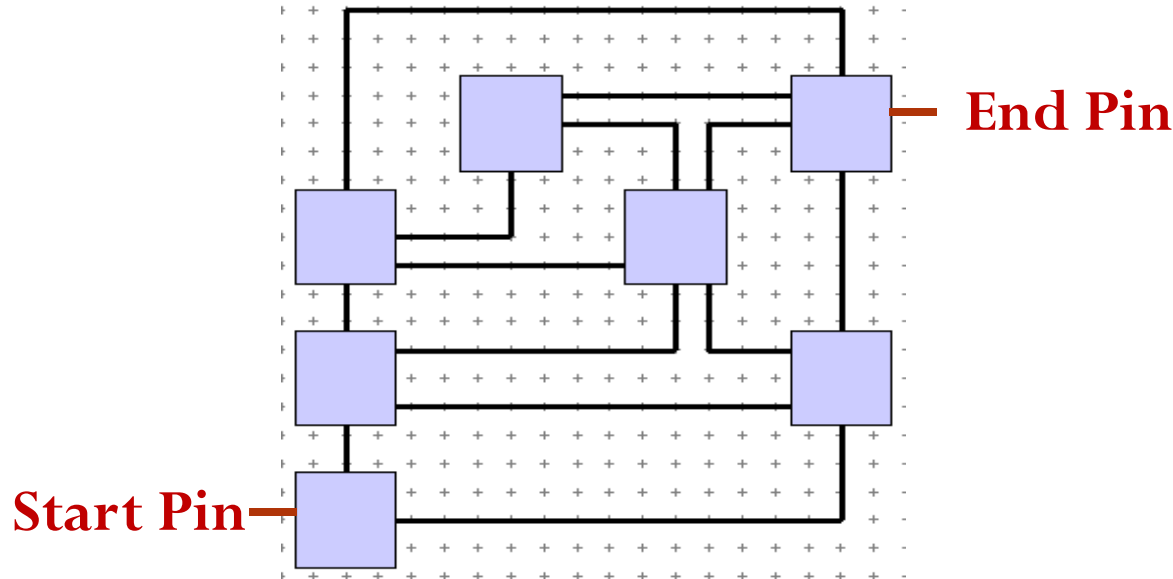
Application of Queue: Wire Routing

- Select paths to connect all pairs of pins that need to be connected together.
- An important problem in **electronic design automation**.



A Simplified Problem

- Condition: We have all blocks laid on the chip. We also have some of the wires routed.
- Problem: We want to connect the next pair of pins.
- Constraint: we can only draw wires **horizontally** or **vertically**.



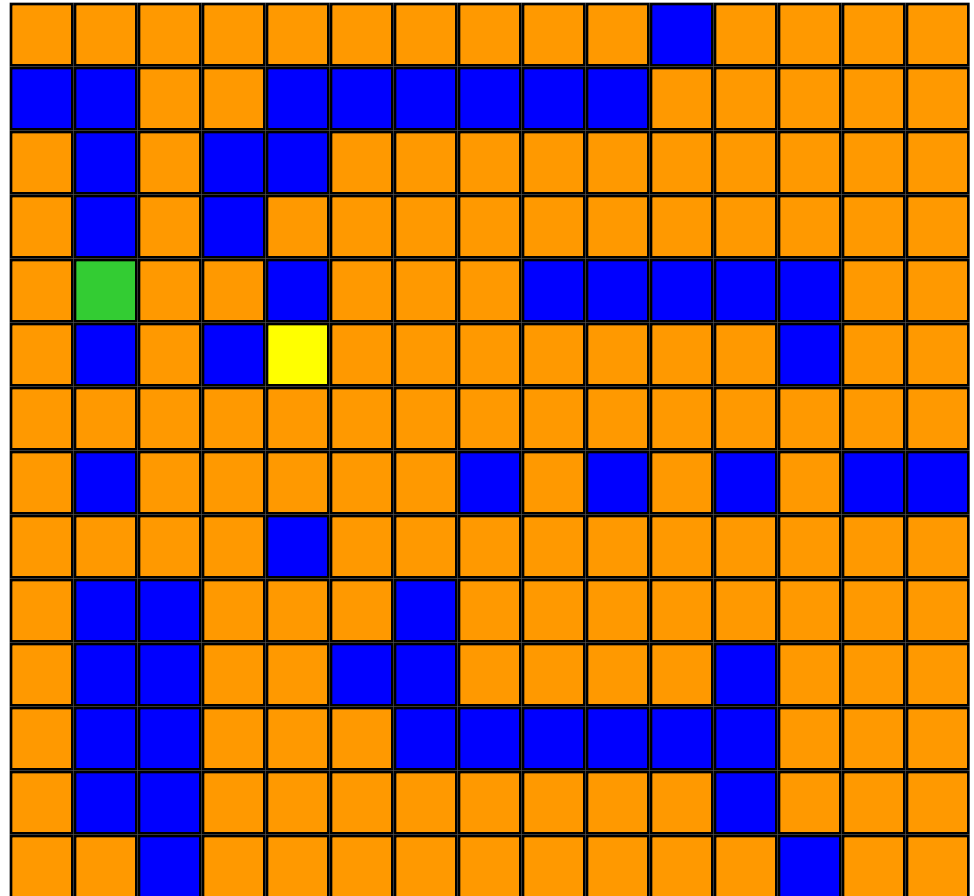
Modeling as a Grid

 Start Pin

 End Pin

- Blue squares are **blocked** squares.
- Orange squares are **available** to route a wire.

How to find a path from the start pin to the end pin?




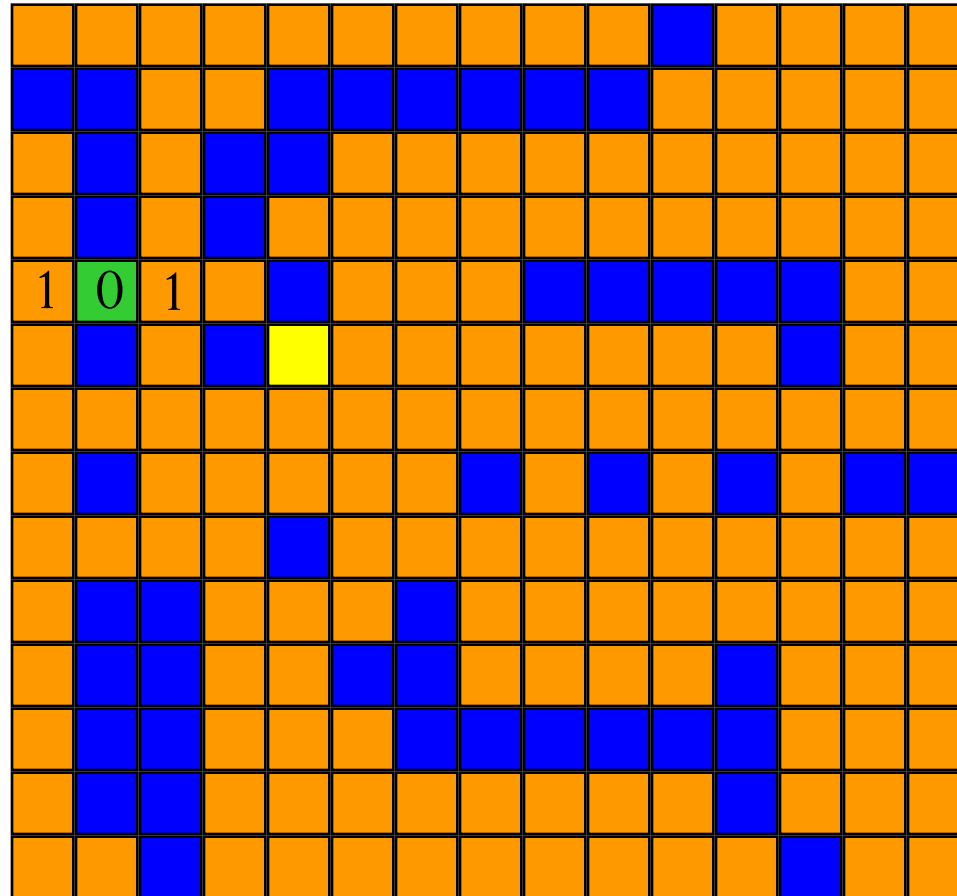
Wire Routing: Lee's Algorithm

- A **queue** of reachable squares from the start pin is used.
- The cell of the start pin is set with a distance value of 0.
- It is enqueued into an initial empty queue.
- **While** the queue is not empty.
 - A cell is **dequeued** from the queue and made the **examine cell**.
 - Is the examine cell the end pin? If yes, path found and return.
 - Otherwise, all **unreached unblocked** squares adjacent to the **examine cell** are marked with their distance (this is 1 more than the distance value of the **examine cell**) and **enqueued**.
- When queue becomes empty but end pin has not been reached yet, this means no path found.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin

 end pin




Expand "0"

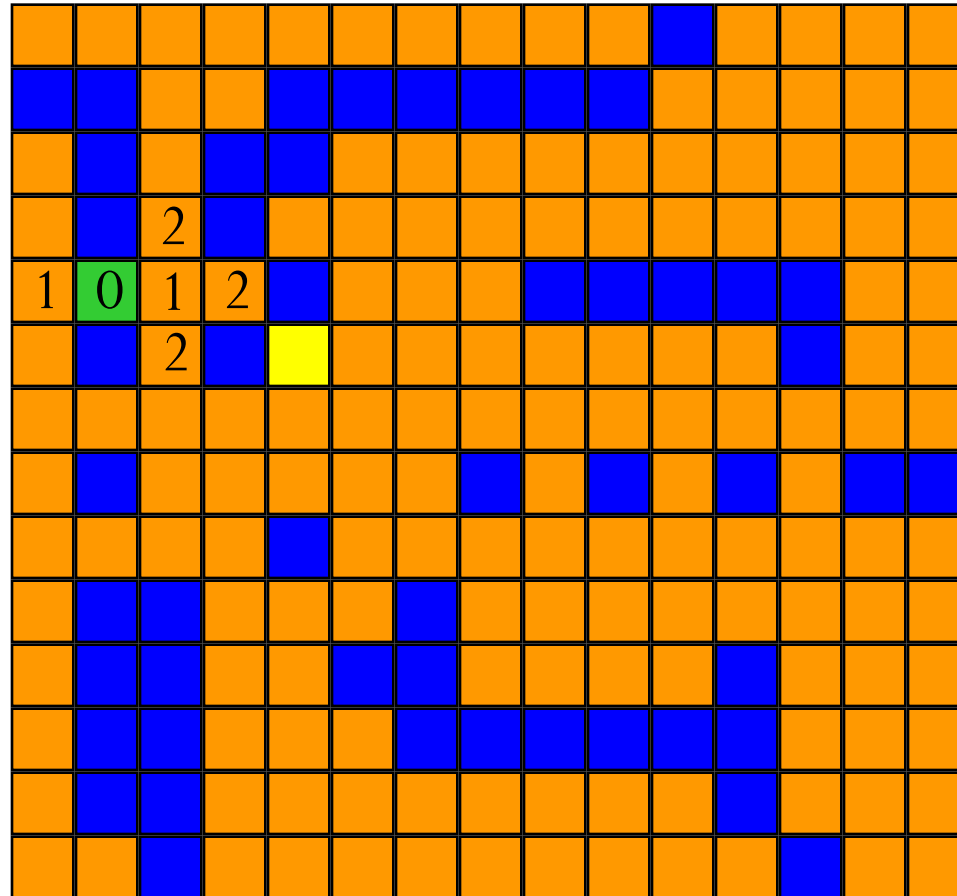
queue: 0

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin

 end pin


Expand right
“1”



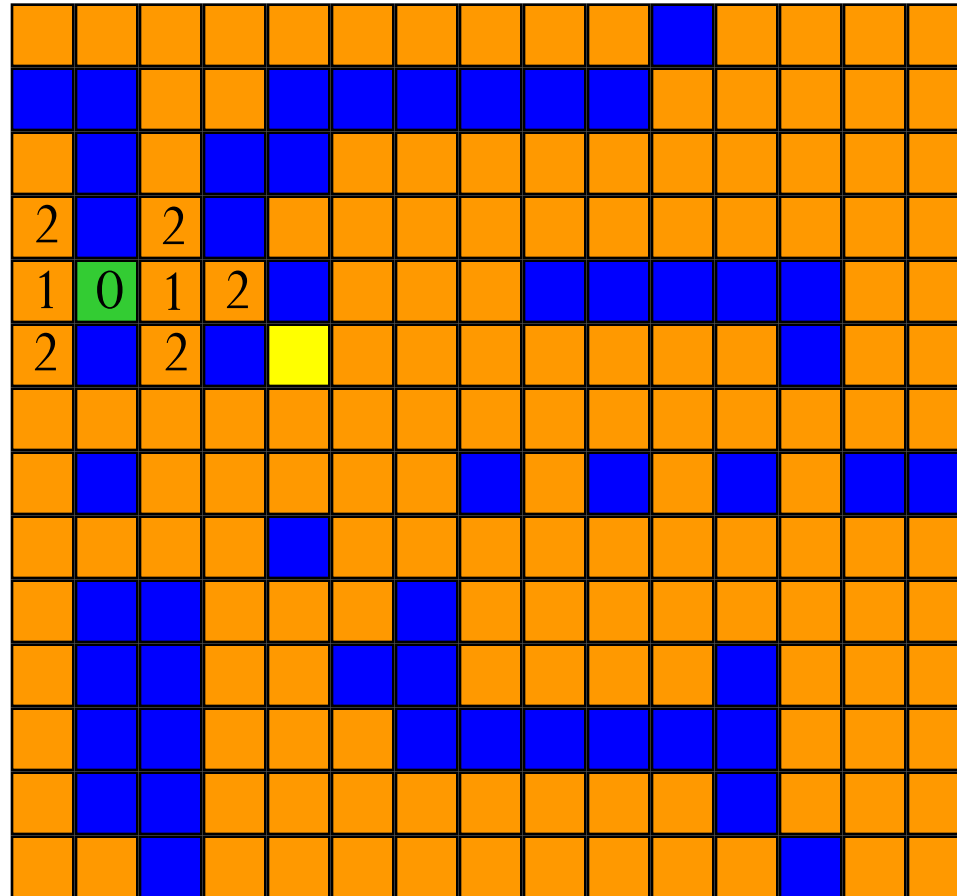
queue: 1, 1

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin

 end pin


Expand left
“1”

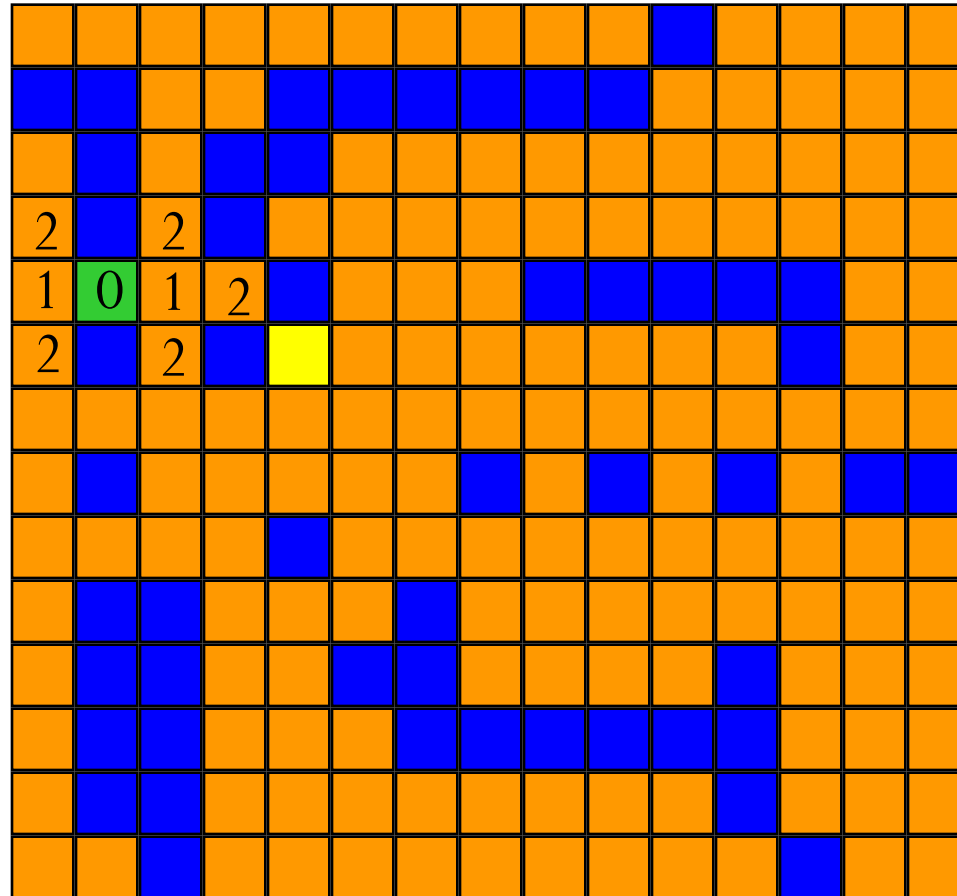


queue: 1,2,2,2

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin


 end pin

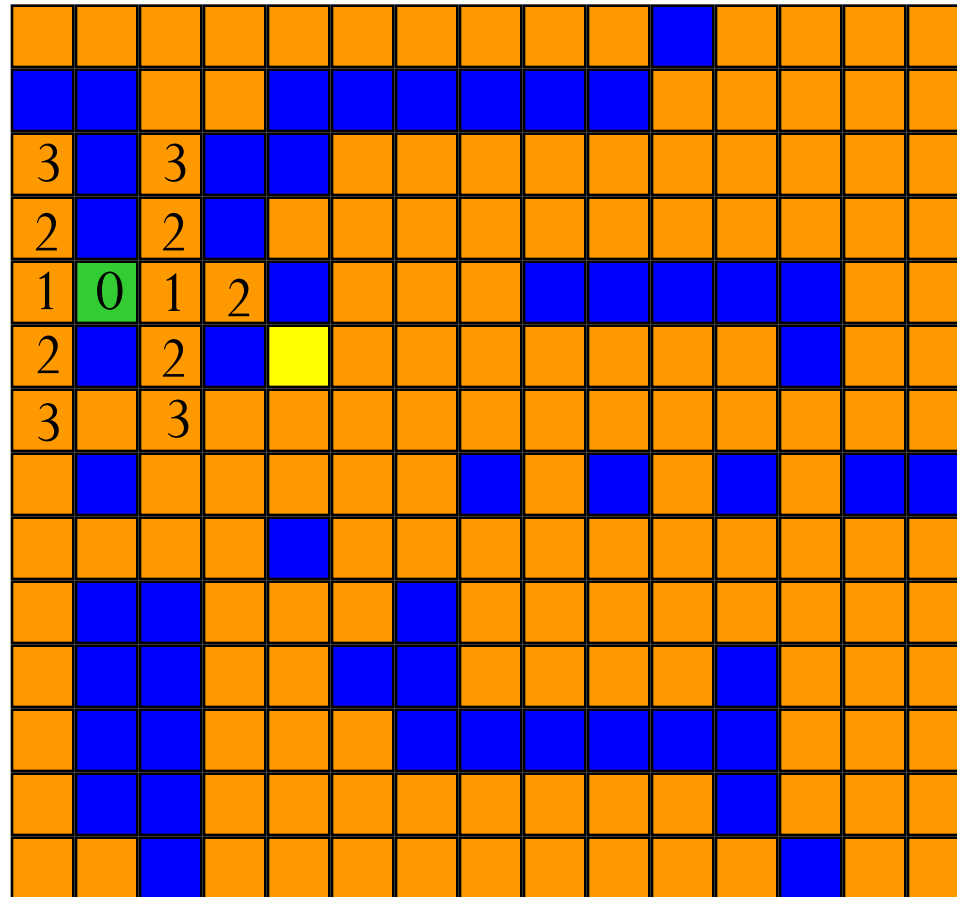


Expand and reach all squares 3 units from start.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin


 end pin

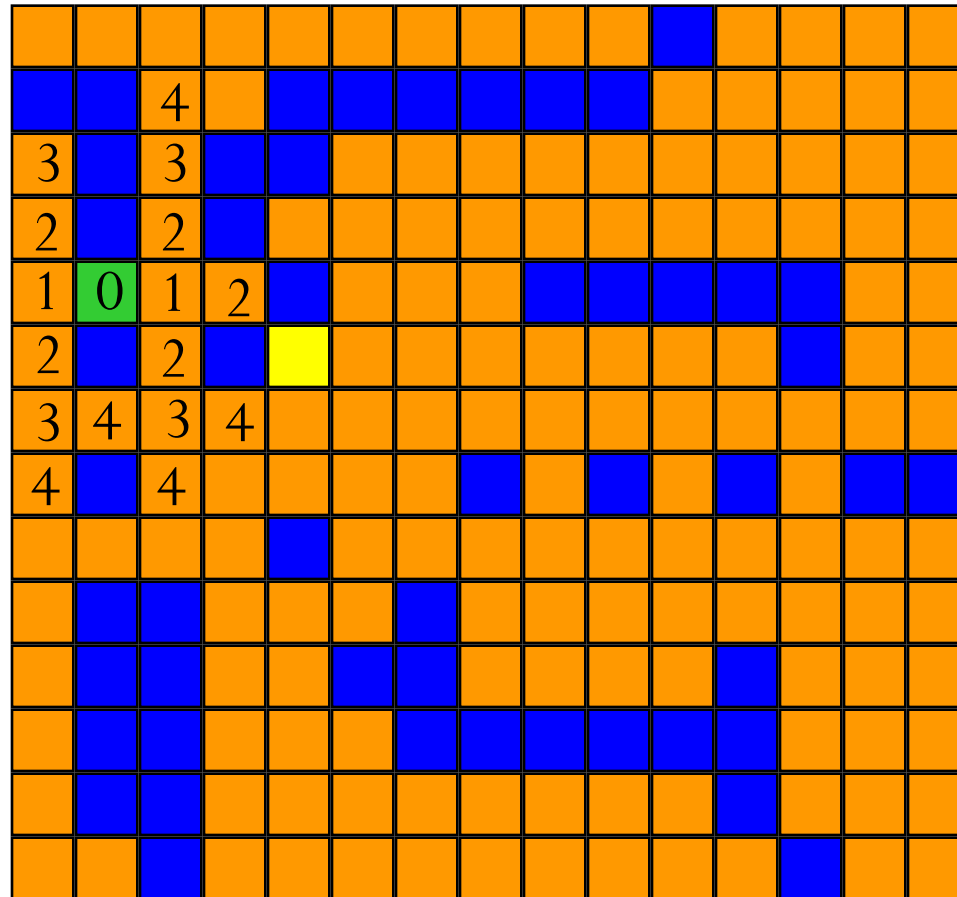


Expand and reach all squares 4 units from start.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin


 end pin

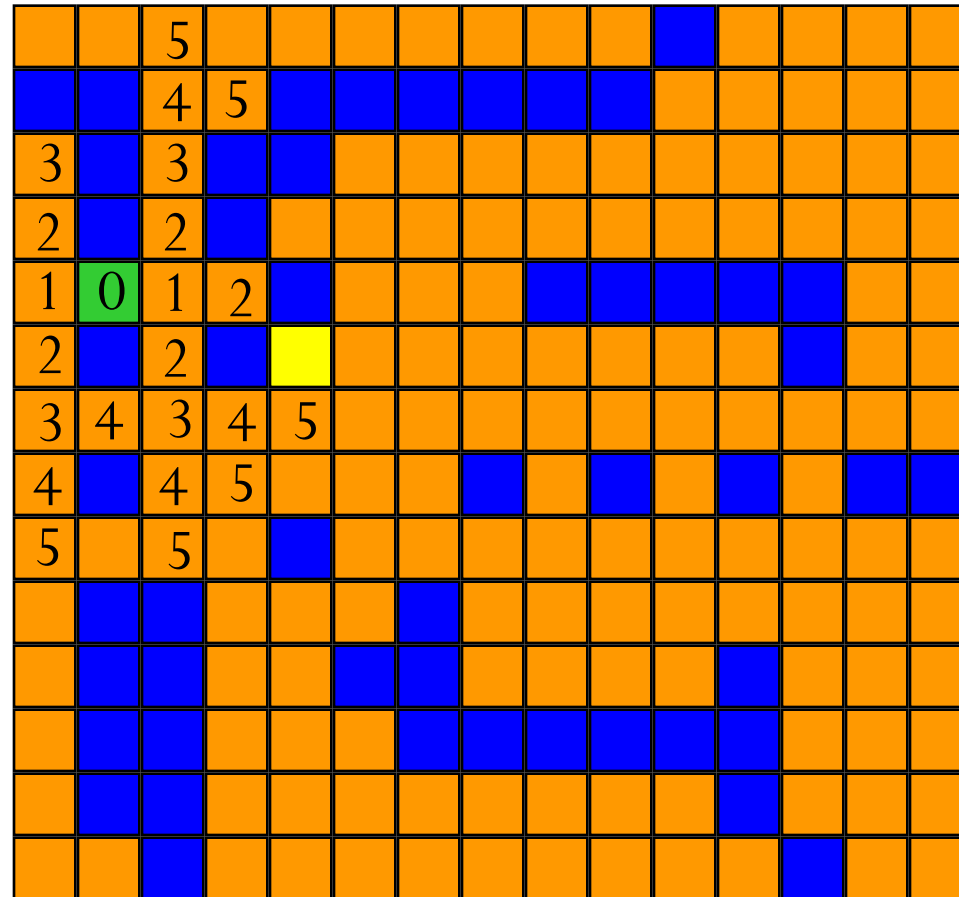


Expand and reach all squares 5 units from start.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin


 end pin

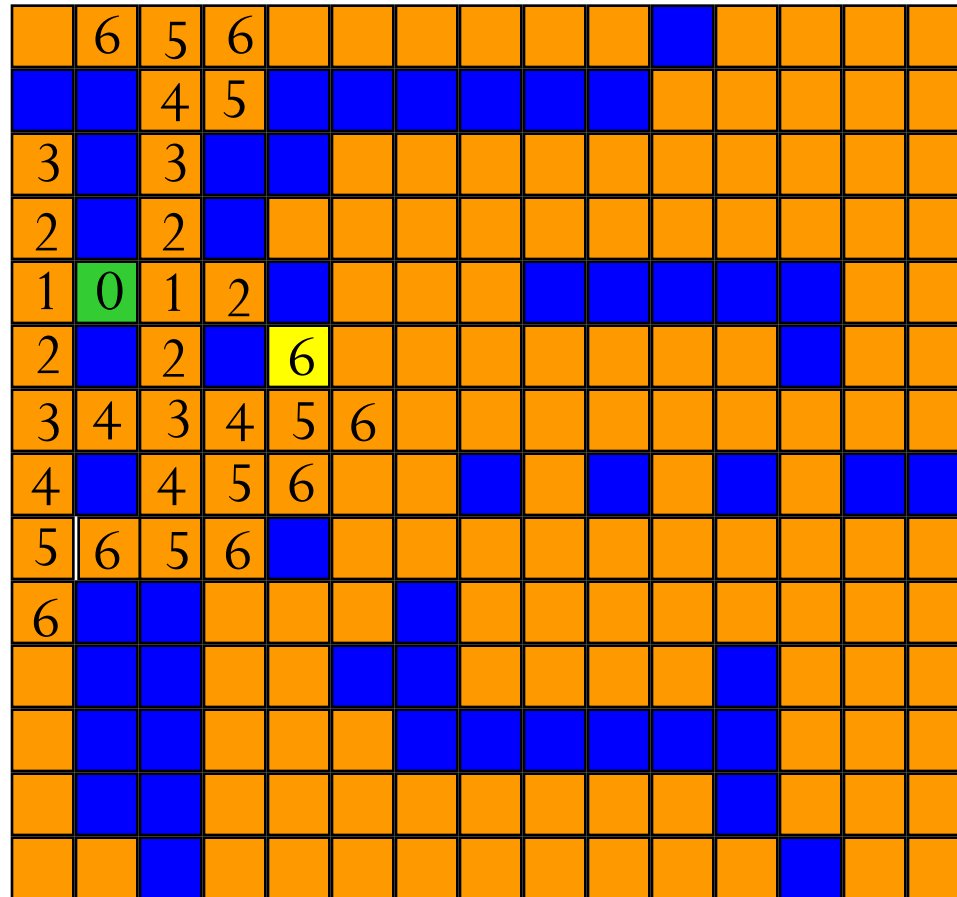


Expand and reach all squares 6 units from start.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm



 start pin

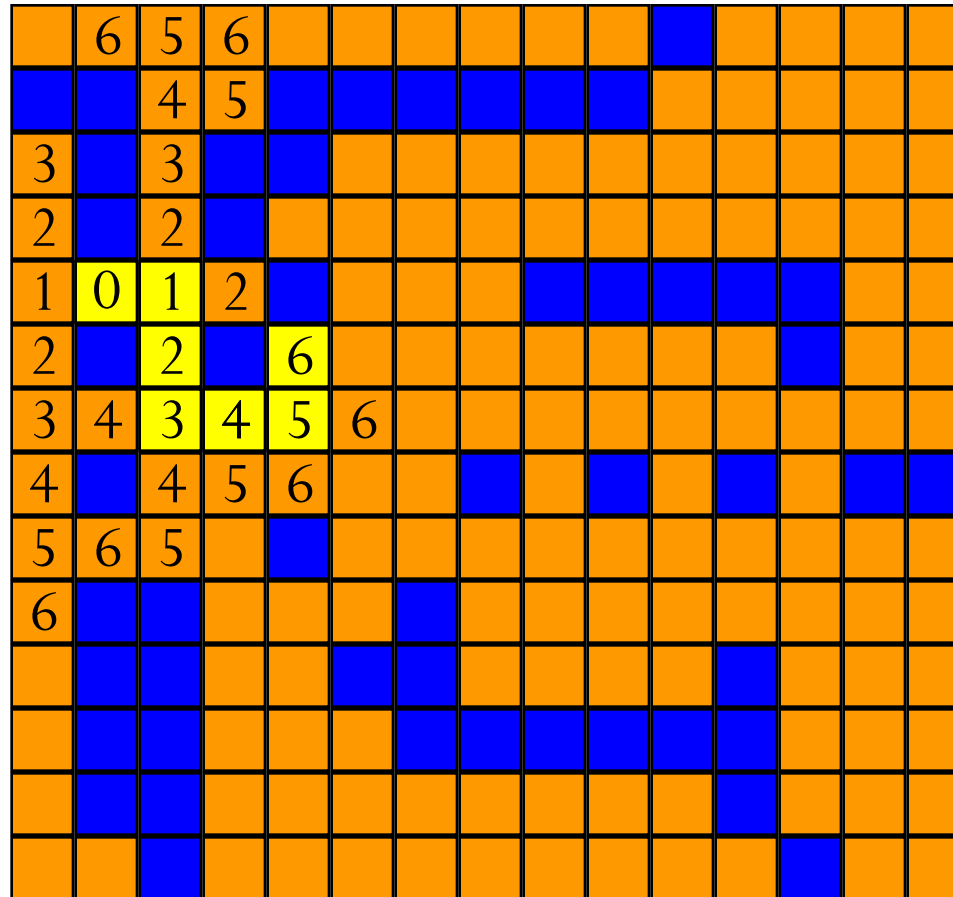
 end pin



End pin reached. Trace back.

Illustration of Lee's Algorithm

 start pin
 end pin





A queue can be used:

Select all the correct answers.

- **A.** to handle printing jobs on a printer.
- **B.** to implement a buffer.
- **C.** to implement a waiting list.
- **D.** to share a CPU among different processes.



Outline

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 - Applications
- Relative: Deque

Deque

- Not a proper English word, pronounced as “deck”.
 - Means double-ended queue
- A combination of stack and queue.
 - Items can be inserted and removed from **both ends** of the list.
- Methods supported:
 - `push_front(Object o)`
 - `push_back(Object o)`
 - `pop_front()`
 - `pop_back()`

Deque Implementation

- Linked list
 - Which type of linked list will you choose to support fast insertion and removal?
 - Double-ended doubly-linked list
- Circular array
 - front and rear not only need to be incremented (**push_back**, **pop_front**), but also need to be decremented (**push_front**, **pop_back**).

Reference

- **Problem Solving with C++ (8th Edition)**, by *Walter Savitch*, Addison Wesley Publishing (2011)
 - Chapter 13.2 **Queue**