

# CSCM12: software concepts and efficiency

## Datastructures for ordered collections

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Starting from today we are going to talk about datastructures

- More complicated datatypes
- Designing more abstractions
  - interfaces
  - invariants

# Algorithms and datastructures

Starting from today we are going to talk about datastructures

- More complicated datatypes
- Designing more abstractions
  - interfaces
  - invariants

## We will still discuss algorithms and efficiency

- Introducing datastructures → new tools to
  - program efficiently in any context (small/large scale, interactive/batch)
  - representations for input/outputs for algorithmic problems

## First, a question to you

What is the running time of the following?

```
static public String sq(String s)
{
    String res = "";
    for(int i = 0; i < s.length(); ++i)
        res += s;
    return res;
}
```



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# Today

- Some high-level considerations (not too long)
- Our first example: linked lists
- If time allows: dynamic arrays, amortized complexity

# Wot's a datastructure?

Informal concept, high-level

## Rough reductionist definition

1. A chunk of memory space layed out in a specified way  
(in java, often the attributes an object of a class)
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## Purpose?

Language-independent designation for a useful reusable abstraction

Examples: arrays (`int[]`), dynamic arrays (`ArrayList`), strings (`String`)

# Interface and comparing datastructures

What is a good datastructure?

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- Point of comparison: the operations

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## Issue

Not all datastructures have the same operations!

Solution: compare across **interfaces**

## Interfaces (again, informal)

The type signatures of operation and their **specification**

In Java: can be formalized using **interface**

## Example: a fragment of the Set interface

- Define an interface for datastructure Set
- Represent a *set* of Ts (while not an official java interface, ~ Set/Collection interfaces)

```
Set(); // creates an empty set
void remove(T e); // removes one element
boolean contains(T e); // do I contain the element?
void add(T e); // add one element
Set union(Set s2); // adds all elements of s2
...
```

## Non-OO version of the same

For didactic purposes; usually more idiomatic in other programming languages

```
Set(); // creates an empty set
static Set remove(Set s, T e); // returns s - {e}
static boolean contains(Set s, T e); // returns whether e is in s
static Set add(Set s, T e); // returns s unioned with {e}
static Set union(Set s1, Set s2); // returns s1 unioned with s2
...
```

But also useful in java when designing classes meant to hold **immutable data**  
(benefits and examples of immutable datastructure out of scope of the module)

## Comparing different implementations

Different valid **implementations** for a same interface

- many parameters for comparison:  
time/space complexity, destructive or non-destructive update, ...

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### Complexities for some implementations of Set (we will compute those later)

Op \ Data	Array	List	ArrayList	TreeSet
Set(T)	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$
remove	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(\log(n))$
contains	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(\log(n))$
add	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$ $\mathcal{O}(1)$ amortized	$\mathcal{O}(\log(n))$
union	$\mathcal{O}(n + m)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(n + m)$ $\mathcal{O}(m)$ amortized	$\mathcal{O}(m \log(n))$



For today, we will be looking at datastructures for ordered collections

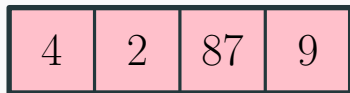
- I won't give a formal definition
- but essentially, we are going to look at array-like interfaces

### Typical operations

- Unique conversion to an array
- adding elements (arbitrarily or at a given indexed)
- removing by name/index.

## Implementation of arrays

Arrays are contiguously represented in memory by an address  
(and an integer for the size in languages like java)



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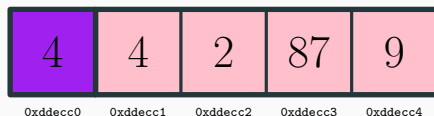


### Some properties

- reading a cell at a given index is constant-time

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(i.e., caching, nested loop parallelization)

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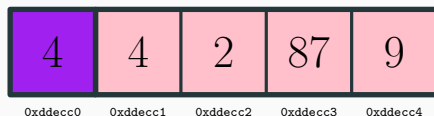
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## Source of the tradeoff for lists

Non-contiguous representation in memory, but still a linear structure

## Simply linked lists: high-level idea

### Recursive definition

A linked list is either

- a flag denoting an empty list
- or a cell containing a value and a reference to a linked list



Useful vocabulary for non-empty values

- **head** = value of the first cell
- **tail** = the remainder of the list



## Example implementation in java

We need to use **recursively defined classes**

```
class MyLinkedList
{
    int head;
    MyLinkedList tail;

    MyLinkedList(int nHead, MyLinkedList nTail) {
        head = nHead; tail = nTail;
    }
}
```

Slight issue: the flag for the empty list

- Can be simulated **null**
- But bad practice here for java

(cascade of design issues wrt encapsuation, ...)

## In practice

Still, let's use that for the lecture

(proper implementation: tedious OO exercise)

```
class MyLinkedList {  
    int head;  
    MyLinkedList tail;  
}
```



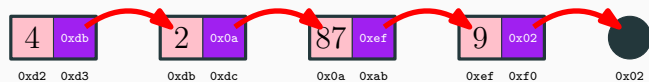
Model our example and get the third element:

```
MyLinkedList empty = null;  
MyLinkedList ttail = new MyLinkedList(9,empty);  
MyLinkedList tail = new MyLinkedList(87,ttail);  
MyLinkedList tail = new MyLinkedList(2,ttail);  
MyLinkedList ex = new MyLinkedList(2,tail);  
int third = ex.tail.tail.head;
```

## Quick comment about the memory layout

Not necessarily contiguous!

- Typically elements that are added in quick succession might be close, but this is up to the implementation of **new**



## Adding an element

The easiest thing is to add an element in front

- Non-OO-style:

```
static MyLinkedList push(MyLinkedList xs, int x){  
    return new MyLinkedList(x, xs);  
}
```

- OO-style:

```
MyLinkedList push(int x){  
    return new MyLinkedList(x, this);  
}
```

Careful: `xs.push(2)` does not modify `xs`

$\mathcal{O}(1)$ !

## Inserting an element (OO-style)

Suppose we want to insert an integer  $x$  at index  $i$ :

- Typically, recursion is nice to operate over recursively defined classes:

```
MyLinkedList insert(int i, int x){  
    if(i == 0) then  
        return push(x);  
    return push(head, tail.insert(i-1, x));  
}
```

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```

Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(i)$

## The same with loops

Lists can also be rather easily handled with loops

```
MyLinkedList insert(int i, int x){
    if(i == 0)
        return push(x);
    MyLinkedList previousNode;
    for(tmp = this; i > 1; --i)
        tmp = tmp.tail;
    tmp.tail = tmp.tail.push(x);
    return this;
}
```

## Exercises!

Setting an element at index  $i$       $\mathcal{O}(i)$

Deleting an element at index  $i$       $\mathcal{O}(i)$

Reversing a list of size  $n$       $\mathcal{O}(n)$

Array conversion      $\mathcal{O}(n)$

Concatenating



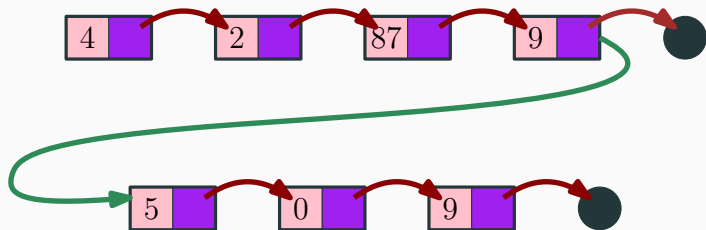
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Concatenating	$\mathcal{O}(n)$

## The issue with concatenation

It seems concatenation should be  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

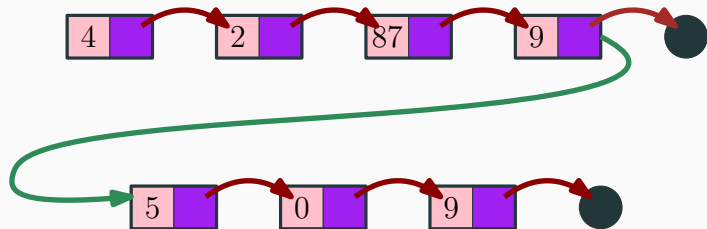
- Just modify the last tail pointer!



## The issue with concatenation

It seems concatenation should be  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

- Just modify the last tail pointer!



Solution: modify the datastructure to include a pointer to the end!

- To check: other operations doable with the same complexity

that happens to be true here

- Similar exercise: adapt the datastructure so that reverse is  $\mathcal{O}(1)$

add a boolean to simulate reversing and adapt

## Representing linked lists in OO properly

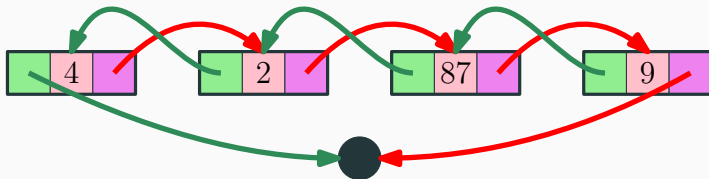
```
class MyCell {  
    int head;  
    MyCell tail;  
}
```

```
class MyLinkedList {  
    protected boolean empty;  
    protected MyCell start;  
    protected MyCell last;  
    ...  
}
```

The recursion is still essential, but not exposed by MyLinkedList.

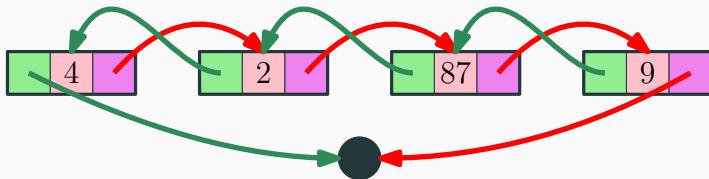
## Further improvement: bidirectional links

Further improvement: doubly-linked lists



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- In practice, that is what Java does for `List<T>`
- easier to navigate around  $\rightarrow$  insertion in  $\mathcal{O}(\min(i, n - i))$
- hard to do doubly-linked lists with *non-destructive* updates  
(straightforward for singly linked-list, hence why they are useful)

```
class MyCell {  
    MyCell prev;  
    int head;  
    MyCell next;  
}
```

```
class MyDoublyLinkedList {  
    protected boolean empty;  
    protected MyCell start;  
    protected MyCell last;  
    ...  
}
```

**Coursework 2 topic: filling in (some of) the rest!**

## Comparison with arrays

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deletion/insertion at $i$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(i)$
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What about batch-processing with unbounded size?

# Dynamic arrays

The answer is the workhorse behind `ArrayList<T>`

## In a nutshell

An overlay on top of an array with a smart memory management policy.

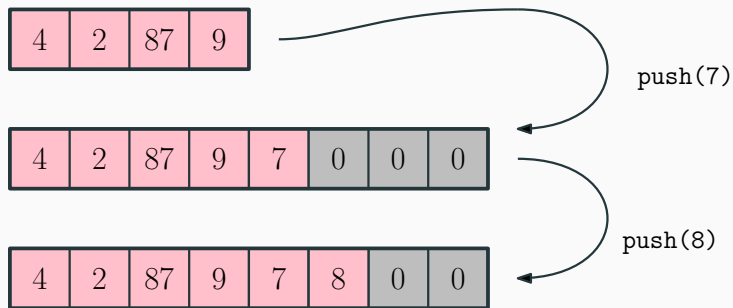
```
public class DynArrayInt {  
    private int[] internalArray;  
    private int size;  
    ... }  
}
```

**Invariant:** the size of `internalArray` is  $= 2^{\lceil \log_2(\text{size}) \rceil}$

- This is more than needed
- Idea: plan ahead and reserve some space for future additions

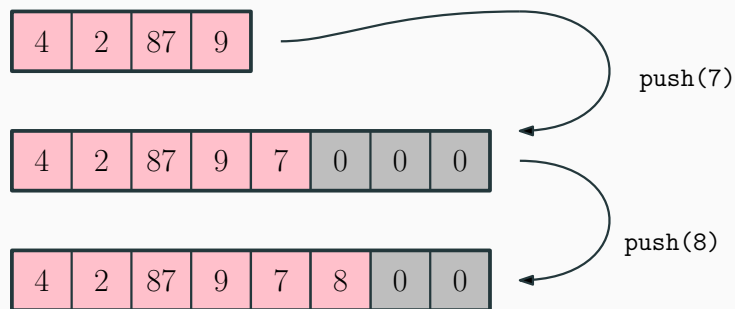
## Adding an element in a dynamic array

Let's picture adding 7 and 8 at the end of our running example:



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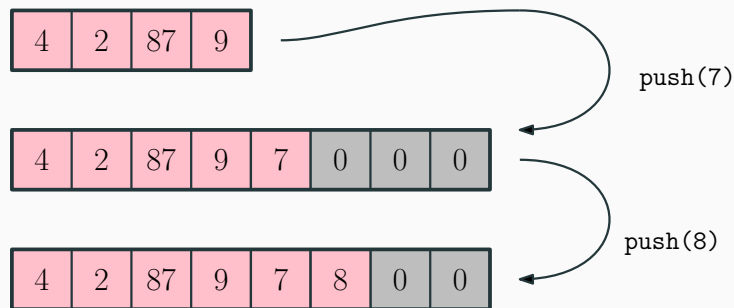
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**Constant amortized complexity!**

Adding  $k$  elements to an array of size  $n$  the empty array is  $\mathcal{O}(n + k)$



## To wrap up

Worth recalling the example comparison with the examples we have seen:

### Complexities for some implementations of Set

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add	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(n)$ $\mathcal{O}(1)$ amortized
union	$\mathcal{O}(n + m)$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$\mathcal{O}(n + m)$ $\mathcal{O}(m)$ amortized

(Table limited to set operations while we have considered more operations in the lecture) (e.g. insertion; dynamic arrays are not better than arrays at this)