## Lists

### Abstract List

- An **Abstract List (or List ADT)** is linearly ordered data where the programmer explicitly defines the ordering
  - We will look at the most common operations that are usually
  - The most obvious implementation is to use either an array or linked list
  - These are, however, not always the most optimal

### Operations

• Operations at the kth entry of the list include:



Access to the object



Insertion of a new object



Replacement of the object





Erasing an object

- Given access to the kth object, gain access to either the previous or next object



- Given two abstract lists, we may want to
  - Concatenate the two lists
  - Determine if one is a sub-list of the other

### Singly Linked List

- A **linked list** is a data structure consisting of a sequence of object where each object is stored in a **node**
- As well as storing data, the node must also contains a **reference/pointer** to the node containing the **next item** of data



### Node List ADT

- The Node List ADT models a sequence of positions storing arbitrary objects
  - It establishes a before/after relation between positions
- The node are dynamically created in a linked list
- A Node class must store the **data** and a **reference** to the next node (also a pointer)



```
In [3]: class Node {
    public:
        Node( int = 0, Node* = nullptr );
        int value() const;
        Node* next() const;
    private:
        int node_value;
        Node *next_node;
    };
```

#### Accessors

- The two member functions are accessors which simply return the node\_value and the next\_node member variables, respectively
  - Member functions that do not change the object acted upon are variously called accessors, readonly functions, inspectors, and, when it involves simply returning a member variable, getters

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```
In [4]: int Node::value() const {
    return node_value;
}
```

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```
In [6]: Node::Node( int e, Node *n ): node_value( e ), next_node( n ) {
    // empty constructor
}
```

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```
In [6]: Node::Node(int e, Node *n ): node_value( e ), next_node( n ) {
    // empty constructor
}
In [7]: {
    Node n1;
    cout << n1.value() << " " << n1.next() << endl;
    Node n2{12};
    cout << n2.value() << " " << n2.next() << endl;
    Node n3{12, &n2};
    cout << n3.value() << " " << n3.next() << endl;
}</pre>
```

0 0 12 0 12 0x7ffe169e60a8

### Accessors (cont.)

• In C++, a member function cannot have the same name as a member variable

	Member Variables	Member Functions
Vary capitalization	next_node	Next_node() or NextNode()
Prefix with "get"	next_node	get_next_node() / getNextNode()
Use an underscore	next <i>node</i>	next_node()
Different names	next_node	next()

- Always use the naming convention and coding styles used by your employer even if you disagree with them
  - Consistency aids in maintenance

### Linked List Class

- Because each node in a linked lists refers to the next, the linked list class need only link to the first node in the list
- The linked list class requires member variable: a pointer to a node

```
class List {
    public:
        class Node {...};
    private:
        Node *list_head;
    // ...
};
```

### Structure

- To begin, let us look at the internal representation of a linked list
- Suppose we want a linked list to store the values in this order

42 95 70 81

- A linked list uses *linked allocation*, and therefore each node may appear anywhere in memory
- Also the memory required for each node equals the memory required by the member variables
  - 4 bytes for the linked list (a pointer)
  - 8 bytes for each node (an int and a pointer)
    - We are assuming a 32-bit machine

- Such a list could occupy memory as follows:
  - The next\_node pointers store the addresses of the next node in the list



• Because the addresses are arbitrary, we can remove that information:



• We will clean up the representation as follows:



- We do not specify the addresses because they are arbitrary and:
  - The contents of the circle is the value
  - The next\_node pointer is represented by an arrow

### Operations

- First, we want to create a linked list
- We also want to be able to manage the stored values in the linked list
  - insert into,
  - access, and
  - erase from

## Operations (cont.)

- We can do them with the following operations:
  - Adding, retrieving, or removing the value at the front of the linked list

```
void push_front( int );
int front() const;
void pop_front();
```

We may also want to access the head of the linked list

```
Node *begin() const;
```

• Member functions that may change the object acted upon are variously called *mutators*, *modifiers*, and, when it involves changing a single member variable, *setters* 

### Operations (cont.)

- All these operations relate to the first node of the linked list
- We may want to perform operations on an arbitrary node of the linked list, for example:
- Find the number of instances of an integer in the list:

```
int count( int ) const;
```

• Remove all instances of an integer from the list:

int erase( int );

### Capacity

- Additionally, we may wish to check the state:
  - Is the linked list empty?

bool empty() const;

How many objects are in the list?

int size() const;

• The list is empty when the list\_head pointer is set to nullptr

Consider this simple (but **incomplete**) linked list class:

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```
In [8]:
           class List {
           public:
               // we defined it outside of the List class scope
               //class Node {...};
               List();
               ~List(){};
               // Accessors
               bool empty() const;
               int size() const;
               int front() const;
               Node* begin() const;
               Node* end() const;
               // Mutators
               void push_front( int );
               int pop front();
               // Misc
               int count( int ) const;
               int erase( int );
           private:
               Node *list head; // head pointer of the list
           };
```

- The constructor initializes the linked list
  - We do not count how may objects are in this list, thus:
    - we must rely on the last pointer in the linked list to point to a special value
    - in C++, that standard value is nullptr
- Thus, in the constructor, we assign list\_head the value nullptr
- We will always ensure that when a linked list is empty, the list head is assigned nullptr

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In [9]: List::List(): list\_head( nullptr ) { } // empty constructor

### Allocation

The constructor is called whenever an object is created, either:

- Statically
  - The following statement defines ls to be a linked list and the compiler deals with memory allocation

List ls;

- Dynamically
  - The following statement requests sufficient memory from the OS to store an instance of the class

```
List *pls = new List();
```

• In both cases, the memory is allocated and then the constructor is called

Static Allocation

### Static Allocation



Dynamic Allocation

### **Dynamic Allocation**

```
In [11]: List* f( int n ) {
   List *pls = new List(); // pls is allocated memory by the OS
   pls->push_front( n );
   cout << pls->front() << endl;
   // The address of the linked list is the return value
   // After this, the 4 bytes for the pointer 'pls' is deallocated
   // The memory allocated for the linked list is still there
   return pls;
}</pre>
```

# empty()

• Starting with the easier member functions:

```
bool List::empty() const {
    if ( list_head == nullptr ) {
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

• Better yet:

# empty()

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bool List::empty() const {
    if ( list_head == nullptr ) {
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

• Better yet:

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In [12]: bool List::empty() const {
    return ( list_head == nullptr );
}
```
# empty()

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    } else {
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    }
}
```

• Better yet:

```
In [12]: bool List::empty() const {
    return ( list_head == nullptr );
}
In [13]: {
    List ls;
    cout << ls.empty() << endl;
}
true</pre>
```

• The member function Node\* begin() const is easy enough to implement:

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In [14]: Node\* List::begin() const {
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# In [14]: Node\* List::begin() const { return list\_head; }

• This will always work: if the list is empty, it will return nullptr

```
In [15]: {
    List ls;
    cout << ls.empty() << endl;
    cout << ls.begin() << endl;
}</pre>
```

```
true
0
```

# end()

• The member function Node\* end() const equals whatever the last node in the linked list points to

## end()

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In [16]: // In this case, nullptr front
Node\* List::end() const {
 return nullptr;
}

# front()

- To get the first value in the linked list, we must access the node to which the list\_head is pointing
- Because we have a pointer, we must use the -> operator to call the member function:

```
int List::front() const {
   return begin()->value();
}
```

- The member function int front() const requires some additional consideration, however:
  - What if the list is empty?
- If we tried to access a member function of a pointer set to nullptr, we would access restricted memory
  - The operating system would terminate the running program
  - Instead, we can use an exception handling mechanism where we thrown an exception

- The member function int front() const requires some additional consideration, however:
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  - The operating system would terminate the running program
  - Instead, we can use an exception handling mechanism where we thrown an exception

```
In [17]:
int List::front() const {
    if ( empty() ) {
        throw underflow_error("List is empty");
    }
    return begin()->value();
}
```

## Software Engening Tip

• Why is empty() better than

```
int List::front() const {
    if ( list_head == nullptr ) {
        throw underflow();
    }
    return list_head->node_value;
}
```

- Two benefits:
  - More readable
  - If the implementation changes we do nothing

## Inserting at the Head

- Step required for insering a new element at the beginning of the list
  - Allocate a new node
  - Insert new element value
  - Have new node point to old head
  - Update head to point to new node
- Corresponding mutator function is void push\_front(int)

## push\_front

Let us add a value in front of the list

#### list head $\longrightarrow 0$

• If it is empty, we start with:

## push\_front

Let us add a value in front of the list

#### list head $\longrightarrow 0$

- If it is empty, we start with:
- and, if we try to add 81, we should end up with:

list\_head 
$$\longrightarrow 81 \longrightarrow 0$$

- To visualize what we must do:
  - We must create a new node which:
    - stores the value 81, and
    - $\circ$  is pointing to 0
  - We must then assign its address to list\_head
- We can do this as follows:

```
list_head = new Node( 81, nullptr );
```

• We could also use the default value...

• Suppose however, we already have a non-empty list



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• Adding 70, we want:

- To achieve this
  - We must we must create a new node which:
    - $\circ$  stores the value 70, and
    - is pointing to the current list head
  - We must then assign its address to list\_head
- We can do this as follows:

list\_head = new Node( 70, list\_head );

```
In [18]:
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    if ( empty() ) {
        list_head = new Node( n, nullptr );
    } else {
        list_head = new Node( n, begin() );
    }
}
```

 We could, however, note that when the list is empty, list\_head == nullptr, thus we could shorten this to:

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    list_head = new Node( n, list_head );
}
```

 We could, however, note that when the list is empty, list\_head == nullptr, thus we could shorten this to:

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    list_head = new Node( n, list_head );
}
```

• Are we allowed to do this?

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    list_head = new Node( n, begin() );
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```

 We could, however, note that when the list is empty, list\_head == nullptr, thus we could shorten this to:

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    list_head = new Node( n, list_head );
}
```

• Are we allowed to do this?

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    list_head = new Node( n, begin() );
}
```

- Yes: the right-hand side of an assignment is evaluated first
  - The original value of list\_head is accessed first before the function call is made

## Question

• Does this work?

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    Node new_node( n, begin() );
    list_head = &new_node;
}
```

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• Why or why not? What happens to new\_node ?

### Question

• Does this work?

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    Node new_node( n, begin() );
    list_head = &new_node;
}
```

- Why or why not? What happens to new\_node ?
- How does this differ from

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    Node *new_node = new Node( n, begin() );
    list_head = new_node;
}
```

#### Insertion

• We can generalize push\_front, in order to insert a node at any position of the list:

```
void List::insert( Node* p, int n ) {
    p->next_node = new Node( n, p->next() );
}
```

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```
void List::insert( Node* p, int n ) {
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}
```

• General insert method can be used to rewrite push methods

```
void List::push_front( int n ) {
    insert( begin(), n );
}
void List::push_back( int n ) {
    insert( end(), n ) // if we have tail pointer
}
```

## Removing at the Head

- Erasing the element from the front of the list requires:
  - 1. Update head to point to next node in the list
  - 2. Free memory of the former first node

# pop\_front

- Erasing from the front of a linked list is even easier:
  - We assign the list head to the next pointer of the first node
- Graphically, given:



## pop\_front

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• Easy enough:

```
int List::pop_front() {
    int e = front();
    list_head = begin()->next();
    return e;
}
```

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```
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    int e = front();
    list_head = begin()->next();
    return e;
}
```

- Unfortunately, we have some problems:
  - The list may be empty
  - We still have the memory allocated for the node containing 70

• Does this work?

```
int List::pop_front() {
    if ( empty() ) {
        throw underflow_error("List is empty");
    }
    int e = front();
    delete begin(); /// ????
    list_head = begin()->next(); /// ????
    return e;
}
```

int List::pop\_front() { if (empty()) { throw underflow\_error(); } int e = front(); list\_head  $\longrightarrow 70 \longrightarrow 81 \longrightarrow 0$ e = 70

delete begin();

list\_head = begin()->next();

return e; </div> }

```
int List::pop_front() {
```

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); }

int e = front();

delete begin();



list\_head = begin()->next();

return e; </div> }

```
int List::pop_front() {
```

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); }

int e = front();

```
delete begin();
```

```
list_head = begin()->next();
```



return e;

</div> }
#### Problem

- The problem is, we are accessing a node which we have just deleted
- Unfortunately, this will work more than 99% of the time:
  - The running program (process) may still own the memory
- Once in a while it will fail ...
  - ... and it will be almost impossible to debug



## Solution

• The correct implementation assigns a temporary pointer to point to the node being deleted:

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```
In [19]:
int List::pop_front() {
    if ( empty() ) {
        throw underflow_error("List is empty");
    }
    int e = front();
    Node *ptr = list_head;
    list_head = list_head->next();
    delete ptr;
    return e;
}
```

int List::pop\_front() {

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); }
int e = front();



Node \*ptr = begin();

list\_head = begin()->next();

delete ptr;

return e;

</div> }

int List::pop\_front() {

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); } int e = front(); Node \*ptr = begin();



list\_head = begin()->next();

delete ptr;

return e;

</div> }

```
int List::pop_front() {
```

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); } int e = front(); Node \*ptr = begin(); list\_head = begin()->next();



</div> }

```
int List::pop_front() {
```

if ( empty() ) { throw underflow\_error(); } int e = front(); Node \*ptr = begin(); list\_head = begin()->next();



## Inserting at the Tail

- Inserting or removing at the tail of a singly linked list is not efficient!
- There is no constant-time way to update the tail to point to the previous node
  - Unless the list ADT maintains the tail pointer

• For a given the linked list with tail pointer



- Allocate a new node & insert new element into it
- Have new node point to null
- Have old last node point to new node
- Update tail pointer to point to new node

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• Update tail pointer to point to new node

- For a given the linked list with tail pointer
- Allocate a new node & insert new element into it
- Have new node point to null
- Have old last node point to new node
- Update tail pointer to point to new node



# Stepping through a Linked List

• The next step is to look at member functions which potentially require us to step through the entire list:

```
int size() const;
int count( int ) const;
int erase( int );
```

• The second counts the number of instances of an integer, and the last removes the nodes containing that integer

- The process of stepping through a linked list can be thought of as being analogous to a for-loop:
- We initialize a temporary pointer with the list head
- We continue iterating until the pointer equals end() (e.g. nullptr)
- With each step, we set the pointer to point to the next object

- The process of stepping through a linked list can be thought of as being analogous to a for-loop:
- We initialize a temporary pointer with the list head
- We continue iterating until the pointer equals end() (e.g. nullptr)
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Thus, we have:

```
for ( Node *ptr = begin(); ptr != end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
    // do something
    // use ptr->fn() to call member functions
    // use ptr->var to assign/access member variables
}
```

#### Initialization

• With the initialization and first iteration of the loop, we have:



 ptr != nullptr and thus we evaluate the body of the loop and then set ptr to the next pointer of the node it is pointing to

## Stepping

• ptr != nullptr and thus we evaluate the loop and increment the pointer



• In the loop, we can access the value being pointed to by using ptr->value()

## Stepping

• ptr != nullptr and thus we evaluate the loop and increment the



• Also, in the loop, we can access the next node in the list by using ptr->next()

## Stepping

• ptr != nullptr and thus we evaluate the loop and increment the



• This last increment causes ptr == nullptr

#### Reached the End

• Here, we check and find ptr != nullptr is false, and thus we exit the loop



• Because the variable ptr was declared inside the loop, we can no longer access it

## count

- To implement int count(int) const, we simply check if the argument matches the value with each step
  - Each time we find a match, we increment the count
  - When the loop is finished, we return the count
  - The size function is simplification of count

#### count

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  - Each time we find a match, we increment the count
  - When the loop is finished, we return the count
  - The size function is simplification of count

```
In [20]:
int List::count( int n ) const {
    int node_count = 0;
    for ( Node *ptr = begin(); ptr != end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
        if ( ptr->value() == n ) {
            ++node_count;
        }
    }
    return node_count;
}
```

```
In [21]: #include "../src/BasicLinkedList.h"
{
    BasicLinkedList<int> ls;
    ls.push_front(7);
    ls.push_front(6);
    ls.push_front(5);
    ls.push_front(7);
    std::cout << ls << std::endl;
    std::cout << "List size = "<< ls.size() << std::endl;
    std::cout << "# of 7s in the list = "<< ls.count(7) << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

```
]->(7)[0x5563577b6410]->(5)[0x556356f097e0]->(6)[0x556356cc4180]->(7)[0x55
635777bcb0]->0
List size = 4
# of 7s in the list = 2
```

#### erase

- To remove an arbitrary value, i.e., to implement int erase( int ), we must update the previous node
- For example, given



• if we delete **70**, we want to end up with



```
In [22]:
             #include "../src/BasicLinkedList.h"
             {
                 BasicLinkedList<int> ls;
                 ls.push front(6);
                 ls.push front(7);
                 ls.push front(3);
                 ls.push front(7);
                 std::cout << ls << std::endl;</pre>
                 ls.erase(3);
                 std::cout << ls << std::endl;</pre>
             }
```

]->(7)[0x55635722b9c0]->(3)[0x556357925870]->(7)[0x556356575130]->(6)[0x55 635778a250]->0 ]->(7)[0x55635722b9c0]->(7)[0x556356575130]->(6)[0x55635778a250]->0

# Software Engening Tip

- The erase function must modify the member variables of the node prior to the node being removed
- Thus, it must have access to the member variable next\_node
- We could supply the member function

```
void set_next( Node * );
```

however, this would be globally accessible

- Possible solutions:
  - Friends
  - Nested classes

#### Friends

• In C++, you could explicitly break encapsulation by declaring the class List to be a **friend** of the class Node :

```
class A {
    private:
        int class_size;
    // ... declaration ...
    friend class B;
};
```

Now, any member function of class B has access to all private member variables of class A

• For example, if the Node class was one class, and the List class was a **friend** of the Node class, List::erase could modify nodes:

```
int List::erase( int n ) {
    int node_count = 0;
    // ...
    for ( Node *ptr = begin(); ptr != end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
        // ...
        if ( some condition ) {
            // access private `next_node` of the Node class
            ptr->next_node = ptr->next()->next();
            // ...
            ++node_count;
        }
    }
    return node_count;
}
```

#### **Nested Classes**

• In C++, you can nest one class inside another, which is what we do:

```
class Outer {
    private:
        class Nested {
            private:
                int node_value;
                public:
                int get() const;
                void set( int );
        };
        Nested stored;
    public:
            int get() const;
            void set( int );
    };
};
```

The function definitions are as one would expect:

```
int Outer::Nested::get() const {
    return node_value;
}
void Outer::Nested::set( int n ) {
    node_value = n;
}
int Outer::get() const {
    return stored.get();
}
void Outer::set( int n ) {
    // Not allowed, as node_value is private
    // stored.node_value = n;
    stored.set( n );
}
```

#### Destructor

- We dynamically allocated memory each time we added a new **int** into this list
- Suppose we delete a list before we remove everything from it
  - This would leave the memory allocated with no reference to it



- The destructor has to delete any memory which had been allocated but has not yet been deallocated
- This is straight-forward enough:

```
while ( !empty() ) {
   pop_front();
}
```

- The destructor has to delete any memory which had been allocated but has not yet been deallocated
- This is straight-forward enough:

```
while ( !empty() ) {
   pop_front();
}
```

- Is this efficient?
  - It runs in O(n) time, where n is the number of objects in the linked list
  - Given that *delete* is approximately 100× slower than most other instructions (it does call the OS), the extra overhead is negligible...

## Making Copies

- Is the above sufficient for a linked list class?
- Initially, it may appear yes, but we now have to look at how C++ copies objects during:
  - Passing by value (making a copy), and
  - Assignment

# Modifying Arguments

• **Pass by reference** could be used to modify a list
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```
In [23]:
void reverse( BasicLinkedList<int> &list ) {
   BasicLinkedList<int> tmp;
   // pop from the front and push into other list
   while ( !list.empty() ) {
      tmp.push_front( list.pop_front() );
   }
   // All the member variables of 'list' and 'tmp' are swapped
   std::swap( list, tmp );
   // The memory for 'tmp' will be cleaned up
}
```

## Modifying Arguments

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                // The memory for 'tmp' will be cleaned up
             }
In [24]:
            {
                 BasicLinkedList<int> ls;
                 ls.push front(5); ls.push front(2); ls.push front(3);
                 std::cout << ls << std::endl;</pre>
                 reverse(ls);
                 std::cout << ls << std::endl;</pre>
             }
```

] ->(3) [0x556356d67ee0] ->(2) [0x5563579860a0] ->(5) [0x556357783d40] ->0] ->(5) [0x556357783d40] ->(2) [0x5563579860a0] ->(3) [0x556356d67ee0] ->0 If you wanted to prevent the argument from being modified, you could declare it const

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```
In [32]:
double average( const BasicLinkedList<double> &ls ) {
    double sum = 0, count = 0;
    for ( SinglyLinkedNode<double> *ptr = ls.begin(); ptr != ls.end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
        sum += ptr->value();
        ++count;
    }
    return sum/count;
}
```

• If you wanted to prevent the argument from being modified, you could declare it const

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In [32]: double average( const BasicLinkedList<double> &ls ) {
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        sum += ptr->value();
        ++count;
    }
    return sum/count;
}
In [25]: {
    BasicLinkedList<double> ls;
    ls.push_front(10.0); ls.push_front(25.0); ls.push_front(35.0);
    std::cout << "Average: " << average(ls) << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

Average: 23.3333

- What if you want to pass a copy of a linked list to a function where the function can modify the passed argument, but the original is unchanged?
  - By default, all the member variables are simply copied over into the new instance of the class
  - This is the default **copy constructor** behavior
  - Because a copy is made, the destructor must also be called on it

#### **Copy Constructor**

- You can modify how copies are made by defining a copy constructor
  - The default copy constructor simply copies the member variables
  - In this case, this is not what we want
- The signature for the copy constructor is

Class\_name( const Class\_name & );

• For the linked list, we would define the member function

```
List( const List & );
```

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- Additionally, you can use the copy constructor as follows:

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```
In [26]: #include "../src/BasicLinkedList.h"
{
    BasicLinkedList<int> ls1;
    ls1.push_front( 4 );
    ls1.push_front( 2 );
    std::cout << ls1 << std::endl;
    BasicLinkedList<int> ls2( ls1 ); // make a copy of ls1
    std::cout << ls2 << std::endl;
}</pre>
```

]->(2)[0x565505585030]->(4)[0x5655059c7ff0]->0 ]->(2)[0x565503eda680]->(4)[0x565505f2dbe0]->0

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• When an object is **passed/returned by value**, again, the copy constructor is called to make a copy of the passed/returned value

- Thus, we must define a copy constructor:
  - The copy constructor allows us to initialize the member variables
  - Naïvely, we step through list and call push\_front( int ):

```
List::List( List const &list ):list_head( nullptr ) {
  for ( Node *ptr = list.begin();
     ptr != list.end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
     push_front( ptr->value() );
  }
}
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     ptr != list.end(); ptr = ptr->next() ) {
     push_front( ptr->value() );
  }
}
```

- Does this work?
  - How could we make this work?
  - We need a push\_back( int ) member function

- Unfortunately, to make push\_back( int ) more efficient, we need a pointer to the last node in the linked list
- We require a list\_tail member variable
- Otherwise, push\_back( int ) becomes a  $\Theta(n)$  function
  - This would make the copy constructor  $\Theta(n^2)$
- In Assignment 3, you will define and use the member variable list\_tail

```
In []:
           List::List( List const & list ):list head( nullptr ) {
               // if list is empty, we are finished
               if ( list.empty() ) {
                   return;
               }
               // copy the first node
               push front(list.front());
               // modify the next pointer of the node pointed to by copy
               for (
                   Node *original = list.begin()->next(), *copy = begin();
                   original != list.end();
                   original = original->next(), copy = copy->next()
               ) {
                   copy->next_node = new Node( original->value(), nullptr );
               }
           }
```

### Assignment

• Let's have two lists



• Consider an assignment:

lst2 = lst1;

- What do we want? What should this do?
  - The default is to copy the member variables from lst1 to lst2

- Because the only member variable of this class is list\_head, the value it is storing (the address of the first node) is copied over
- It is equivalent to writing:

lst2.list\_head = lst1.list\_head;



# Problem

• What's wrong with this picture?



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• Also, suppose we call the member function: lst1.pop\_front();

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- Also, suppose we call the member function: lst1.pop\_front();
- This only affects the member variable from the object lst1



- Now, the second list lst2 is pointing to memory which has been deallocated...
- What is the behavior if we make this call?

```
lst2.pop_front();
```

• The behavior is undefined, however, soon this will probably lead to an access violation

- Like making copies, we must have a reasonable means of assigning
- Starting with



• We need to erase the content of lst2 and copy over the nodes in lst1



#### Assignment Operator

- First, to overload the assignment operator, we must overload the function named operator=
  - This is a how you indicate to the compiler that you are overloading the assignment (=) operator
- The signature is:

```
List& operator= ( List );
```

- The right-hand side **rhs** is passed by *value* (a copy is made)
- The return value is passed by *reference*

- We will swap all the values of the member variables between the left- and right-hand sides
  - rhs is already a copy, so we swap all member variables of it and \*this

```
List& operator = ( List rhs ) {
    // 'rhs' is passed by value
    // it is a copy of the right-hand side of the assignment
    // copy/move constructor is called to construct `rhs`
    // Swap all the entries of the copy with this
    return *this;
}
```



## Copy Assignment

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  - Passed by value, the copy constructor is called to create rhs
  - Swapping the member variables of \*this and rhs
  - We return and the destructor is called on rhs
  - Back in the calling function, the two lists contain the same values



- Can we do better?
  - This idea of *copy and swap* is highly visible in the literature
  - If the copy constructor is written correctly, it will be fast
  - Is it always the most efficient?
- Consider the calls to new and delete
  - Each of these is very expensive
  - Would it not be better to reuse the nodes if possible?



# Move Assignment

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```
In [ ]: List& List::operator= ( List &&rhs ) {
    while ( !empty() ) {
        pop_front();
    }
    list_head = rhs.begin();
    rhs.list_head = nullptr;
    return *this;
    }
```

# Position ADT

• The Position ADT models the notion of place within a data structure where a single object is stored



- Nodes implement **Position ADT** (element at position) and store:
  - element
  - link to the previous node
  - link to the next node

```
In [31]: class DoubleNode {
    public:
        DoubleNode( int e = 0, DoubleNode* p = nullptr, DoubleNode* n = nullptr );
        int value() const;
        DoubleNode* next() const;
        DoubleNode* previous() const;

    private:
        int node_value;
        DoubleNode *previous_node;
        DoubleNode *next_node;
    };
```

### Doubly Linked List

- A doubly linked list provides a natural implementation of the Node List ADT
  - We have every node maintain a link to its previous node in the list
  - Also, special trailer and header sentinel nodes can be added



Consider this simple (but **incomplete**) doubly linked list class:
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```
In [32]:
            class DoublyList {
            public:
                // we defined it outside of the List class scope
                //class DoubleNode {...};
                DoublyList();
                ~DoublyList();
                // Accessors
                bool empty() const;
                int size() const;
                int front() const;
                int back() const;
                Node* begin() const;
                Node* end() const;
                // Mutators
                void push front( int );
                void push back( int );
                int pop front();
                int pop back();
                // Misc
                int count( int ) const;
                int erase( int );
            private:
                DoubleNode *list head;
                DoubleNode *list tail;
            };
```

#### Insertion

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void DoubleList::insert( DoubleNode &p, const int &x ) {

DoubleNode \*q = new DoubleNode{ x, p->prev, p };



p->prev = p->prev->next = q; </div> }

```
void DoubleList::insert( DoubleNode &p, const int &x ) {
```

```
DoubleNode *q = new DoubleNode{ x, p->prev, p };
```

```
p->prev = p->prev->next = q;
```



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void DoubleList::remove( DoubleNode &p ) {

p->prev->next = p->next; // linking out of p.



p->next->prev = p->prev;

delete p; </div> }

delete p; </div> }



p->next->prev = p->prev;

p->prev->next = p->next;

void DoubleList::remove( DoubleNode &p ) {

void DoubleList::remove( DoubleNode &p ) {

p->prev->next = p->next; p->next->prev = p->prev;



#### Sentinels

- It is convenient to add special nodes at both ends of a doubly linked list:
  - a header node just before the head of the list, and
  - a trailer node just after the tail of the list.



- These "dummy" or sentinel nodes do not store any elements.
- They provide quick access to the first and last nodes of the list.
  - the header's next pointer points to the first node of the list, and
  - the trail pointer of the trailer node points to the last node of the list.

# Circular Linked List

- A circularly linked list has the same kind of nodes as a singly linked list.
- Each node in a circularly linked list has a next pointer and an element value, but no head or tail.



- A special node is marked as the cursor.
  - The cursor node allows us to have a place to starting point in the list.
  - The element that is referenced by the cursor, which is called the **back**, and
  - The element *immediately following* it in the circular order, which is called the front.

```
In [49]:
    class CircularList {
    public:
        CircularList() : cursor{nullptr} {}
        ~CircularList() { while (!empty()) pop(); }
    // Accessors
    bool empty() const { return cursor == nullptr; }
        int front() const { return cursor->next()->value(); }
        int back() const { return cursor->value(); }
        // Mutators
        void push( int );
        void pop();
    private:
        Node *cursor; // head pointer of the list
    };
```

```
In [ ]: void CircularList::push(int e) {
    Node* tmp = new Node(e, nullptr);
    if ( empty() )
        // link node to itself
        cursor = tmp->next_node = tmp;
    else {
        // point new node to the next from the cursor
        tmp->next_node = cursor->next();
        // point cursor to new node
        cursor->next_node = tmp;
    }
}
```

```
In [ ]:
           void CircularList::push(int e) {
               Node* tmp = new Node(e, nullptr);
               if ( empty() )
                   // link node to itself
                   cursor = tmp->next node = tmp;
               else {
                   // point new node to the next from the cursor
                   tmp->next node = cursor->next();
                   // point cursor to new node
                   cursor->next node = tmp;
           }
In []:
           void CircularList::pop() {
               Node* old = cursor->next();
               if (old == cursor)
                   // remove only element from the list, it points to itself
                   cursor = nullptr;
               else
                   // remove next element from cursor
                   cursor->next_node = old->next();
               delete old;
           }
```

## Doubly Circular Linked List

 In a doubly circular linked list has tail->next pointing to the head element and head->prev pointing to the tail element



## Locations and run times

- The most obvious data structures for implementing an abstract list are **arrays** and **linked lists** 
  - We will review the run time operations on these structures
- We will consider the amount of time required to perform actions such as finding, inserting new entries before or after, or erasing entries at
  - the first location (the front)
  - an arbitrary (kth) location
  - the last location (the back or nth)
- The run times will be  $\Theta(1)$ , O(n) or  $\Theta(n)$

# Singly Linked List

# list\_head → → → → → → → → → → → 0 list\_tail → → → → → → → → → → 0

• With asymptotic analysis of linked lists, we can now make the following statements:

	front / 1st node	arbitrary / $k$ th node	back / nth node
find	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)	$\Theta(1)^1$
insert before	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)	$\Theta(n)$
insert after	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^2$	$\Theta(1)^1$
replace	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^2$	$\Theta(1)^1$
erase	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)	$\Theta(n)$
next	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^2$	n/a
previous	n/a	O(n)	$\Theta(n)$

- $^1$  These become  $\Theta(n)$  if we don't have a tail pointer
- $^2$  These assume we have already accessed the kth entry an O(n) operation

Doubly Linked List



• The asymptotic analysis of doubly linked lists shows:

	front / 1st node	arbitrary / $k$ th node	back / nth node
find	$\Theta(1)$	O(n)	$\Theta(1)$
insert before	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^1$	$\Theta(1)$
insert after	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^1$	$\Theta(1)$
replace	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^1$	$\Theta(1)$
erase	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^1$	$\Theta(1)$
next	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^1$	n/a
previous	n/a	$\Theta(1)^1$	$\Theta(1)$

-  $\,^1$  These assume we have already accessed the kth entry - an O(n) operation

# Other operations on linked lists

- Allocation and deallocating the memory requires  $\Theta(n)$  time
- Concatenating two linked lists can be done in  $\Theta(1)$ 
  - This requires a tail pointer

### Arrays

- Consider these operations for arrays, including
  - Standard or one-ended arrays



Two-ended arrays



# Run times

	Accessing the k-th entry	Insert or erase at the		
		Front	k-th entry	Back
Singly linked lists	O(n)	Θ(1)	$\Theta(1)^*$	$\Theta(1)$ or $\Theta(n)$
Doubly linked lists				$\Theta(1)$
Arrays	Θ(1)	$\Theta(n)$	O(n)	Θ(1)
Two-ended arrays		$\Theta(1)$		

• \* Assume we have a pointer to this node

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Singly linked lists	O(n)	Θ(1)	$\Theta(1)^*$	$\Theta(1)$ or $\Theta(n)$
Doubly linked lists				$\Theta(1)$
Arrays	Θ(1)	$\Theta(n)$	O(n)	Θ(1)
Two-ended arrays		Θ(1)		

- \* Assume we have a pointer to this node
- In general, we will only use these basic data structures if we can restrict ourselves to operations that execute in  $\Theta(1)$  time, as the only alternative is O(n) or  $\Theta(n)$

# Memory usage versus run times

- All of list data structures require  $\Theta(n)$  memory
- Using a two-ended array requires one more member variable,  $\Theta(1)$ , in order to significantly speed up certain operations
- Using a doubly linked list, however, required  $\Theta(n)$  additional memory to speed up other operations