CSE 326: Data Structures

Spring 2008
Brian Curless
Lecture 1

Today’s Outline

• Introductions
• Administrative Info
• What is this course about?
• Review: Queues and stacks

CSE 326 Crew

• Instructor: Brian Curless, CSE 664
• TAs:
  Laura Effinger-Dean
  Ray Smith

Course Information

Web page: http://www.cs.washington.edu/326


Errata: handout.
Communication

Instructors
› cse326-instr@cs.washington.edu
› (or our individual addresses)

Announcements
› cse326a_sp08@u.washington.edu
› (you are automatically subscribed @u)

Discussion
› Discussion board linked off home page

Written homeworks

Written homeworks (8 total)
› Due at the start of class on due date
› Typically assigned/due on Fridays
› Latex encouraged
› No late homeworks accepted

Projects
• Programming projects (3 total, with phases)
  › In Java
  › Eclipse encouraged
  › Turned in electronically
  › Can have one “late day” for extra 24 hours
    Must email TA in advance

• Work in teams only on explicit team projects
  › Appropriate discussions encouraged – see website

Overall grading

Grading
25% - Written Homework Assignments
25% - Programming Assignments
20% - Midterm Exam (in class, fifth week)
25% - Final Exam
5% - Best of Programming or Exams
Project/Homework Guides

On the website - note especially:
› Gilligan’s Island rule applies
› Homeworks: Use pseudocode, not code. A human being is reading your homeworks.
   • See website for pseudocode example.
› Projects: code is only 40% of your grade!
› Spend time commenting your code as you write - it will help you be a better programmer.

Homework for Today!!

Reading in Weiss
Chapter 1 – (Review) Mathematics and Java
Chapter 2 – (Next lecture) Algorithm Analysis
Chapter 3 – (Project #1) Lists, Stacks, & Queues

Section

Run by Laura:
› AA – Thurs 12:30 - 1:20 – EEB 025
› AB – Thurs 1:30 - 2:20 – EEB 025
What happens there?
› Answer questions about current homework
› Previous homeworks returned and discussed
› Discuss the project (getting started, getting through it, answering questions)
› Finer points of Java and environs
› Reinforce lecture material

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Class Overview

• Introduction to many of the basic data structures used in computer software:
  › Understand the data structures.
  › Analyze the algorithms that use them.
  › Know when to apply them.

• Practice design and analysis of data structures.

• Practice using these data structures by writing programs.

• Make the transformation from programmer to computer scientist.
Goals

- You will understand
  - what the tools are for storing and processing common data types
  - which tools are appropriate for which need
- So that you can
  - make good design choices as a developer, project manager, or system customer
- You will be able to
  - Justify your design decisions via formal reasoning
  - Communicate ideas about programs clearly and precisely

Goals

“I will, in fact, claim that the difference between a bad programmer and a good one is whether he considers his code or his data structures more important. Bad programmers worry about the code. Good programmers worry about data structures and their relationships.”

Linus Torvalds, 2006

Data Structures

“Clever” ways to organize information in order to enable efficient computation

- What do we mean by clever?
- What do we mean by efficient?

Picking the best data structure for the job

- The data structure you pick needs to support the operations you need.
- Ideally it supports the operations you will use most often in an efficient manner.
- Examples of operations:
  - A List with operations insert and delete
  - A Stack with operations push and pop
Terminology

• Abstract Data Type (ADT)
  › Mathematical description of an object with set of operations on the object. Useful building block.

• Algorithm
  › A high level, language-independent, description of a step-by-step process.

• Data structure
  › A specific organization of the data to accompany algorithms for an abstract data type.

• Implementation of data structure
  › A specific implementation in a specific language.

Terminology examples

• A stack is an abstract data type supporting push, pop and isEmpty operations
• A stack data structure could use an array, a linked list, or anything that can hold data
• One stack implementation is java.util.Stack; another is java.util.LinkedList

Concepts vs. Mechanisms

- Abstract
- Pseudocode
- Algorithm
  › A sequence of high-level, language independent operations, which may act upon an abstracted view of data.
- Abstract Data Type (ADT)
  › A mathematical description of an object and the set of operations on the object.

- Concrete
- Specific programming language
- Program
  › A sequence of operations in a specific programming language, which may act upon real data in the form of numbers, images, sound, etc.
- Data structure
  › A specific way in which a program’s data is represented, which reflects the programmer’s design choices/goals.

Why So Many Data Structures?

Ideal data structure:
  “fast”, “elegant”, memory efficient
Generates tensions:
  › time vs. space
  › performance vs. elegance
  › generality vs. simplicity
  › one operation’s performance vs. another’s

The study of data structures is the study of tradeoffs. That’s why we have so many of them!
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First Example: Queue ADT

- FIFO: First In First Out
- Queue operations
  - create
  - destroy
  - enqueue
  - dequeue
  - is_empty

Queues in practice

- Print jobs
- File serving
- Phone calls and operators

(Later, we will consider “priority queues.”)

Array Queue Data Structure

```java
@ Q 0 b c d e f size - 1
back

enqueue(Object x) {
    Q[back] = x
    back = (back + 1)
}

dequeue() {
    x = Q[0]
    shiftLeftOne()
    return x
}
```

What’s missing in these functions?
How to find K-th element in the queue?
What is complexity of these operations?
Circular Array Queue Data Structure

```
Circular Array Queue Data Structure

enqueue(Object x) {
    assert(!is_full())
    Q[back] = x
    back = (back + 1)
}

dequeue() {
    assert(!is_empty())
    x = Q[front]
    front = (front + 1)
    return x
}
```

How test for empty/full list?

How to find K-th element in the queue?

What is complexity of these operations?

Limitations of this structure?

Circular Array vs. Linked List

Linked List Queue Data Structure

```
Linked List Queue Data Structure

void enqueue(Object x) {
    if (is_empty())
        front = back = new Node(x)
    else {
        back->next = new Node(x)
        back = back->next
    }
}

bool is_empty() {
    return front == null
}
```

Second Example: Stack ADT

- LIFO: Last In First Out
- Stack operations
  - create
  - destroy
  - push
  - pop
  - top
  - is_empty

A B C D E F

E D C B A F
Stacks in Practice

- Function call stack
- Removing recursion
- Balancing symbols (parentheses)
- Evaluating postfix or “reverse Polish” notation

Reminder: homework

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