

[In Class] Lesson 7 (4/21)

Extending LinkedList: add(index, value)

Activity

Write a new method inside the `LinkedList` class `add(int index, int value)` that adds a new `ListNode` to the list at the given index. For example, consider "myList" before and after a call to `add(1, 4)`. If passed an invalid index throw an `IllegalArgumentException`.

```
myList = front > 1 > 2 > 3
myList.add(1, 4);
myList = front > 1 > 4 > 2 > 3
```

Meet the `LinkedList` class

In previous lessons we have been directly manipulating objects of the `ListNode` type. Now we are going to construct a new class that holds a reference to the first `ListNode` in a collection of unknown number of `ListNodes` and includes various behavior that manages our "Linked List" functionality.

Consider the `LinkedList` code shown here. You can see it has a field "front" of type `ListNode`. This is a reference to the first `ListNode`, which in turn may link to another `ListNode`, which may link to another `ListNode` and so on. We need to add methods to this class to manipulate a list like there where our only entry point is a reference to the first node.

We have previously been using the `ListNode` class as a separate file, but now we are going to include it as a "static inner class" to the `LinkedList` class. This is a way to make an object definition available to a given class without having to use "import" statements. We typically use this style of syntax for small classes like `ListNode` that are only going to be used by one class like `LinkedList`.

Activity:

We have the same `printList` method from Wednesday's lesson, but have removed the parameter. This implementation is currently broken, can you fix it to make sure our list remains intact?

Extending LinkedList: remove(value)

In the pre-class work and section you explored numerous ways to manipulate a collection of `ListNode`s linked from a single "front" pointer. Some key things to remember:

- When looping over a `LinkedList`, create a temporary pointer that you will use to examine your list "safely" - i.e. without destroying the list. We will call this pointer `curr` for "current", you can think of `curr` as similar to `i` in a `for` loop representing the current iteration of the loop or your "current" place in the list.
- To loop over a list we typically use `while` loops where we test if the loop pointer or "`curr`"

```
while (curr != null) // loop to end of list
```

```
while (curr.next != null) // stop one early to make edits
```

- `LinkedList`s can be tricky because the code to manipulate the first, middle and last nodes can be different, so always be sure to check if your code handles an empty list (`front == null`), a list with just one node (`front.next == null`), manipulating the first node, a node in the middle and the very last node.

Activity

Write a new method inside the `LinkedList` class `remove(int value)` that removes the `ListNode` at the given index. If the value given doesn't exist the list should be unchanged. For example, consider the below list `myList` before and after a call to `remove(-3)`.

Hint: don't forget to update the `size` field.

```
myList = front -> 16 -> -3 -> 27
myList.remove(-3);
myList = front -> 16 -> 27
```