Building Java Programs

Chapter 16
Lecture 16-2: Linked List Basics

reading: 16.2
**Computer Scientist**

This alien computer has an architecture entirely foreign to ours. We have much to learn from it. And we may have much... to fear.

**Computer Engineer**

Bam! I got “Doom” to run on this thing!
Linked node question

- Suppose we have a long chain of list nodes:

list → | data | next |
| 10  |

- We don't know exactly how long the chain is.

- How would we print the data values in all the nodes?
Algorithm pseudocode

- Start at the **front** of the list.
- While (there are more nodes to print):
  - Print the current node's **data**.
  - Go to the **next** node.

- How do we walk through the nodes of the list?

```
list = list.next;  // is this a good idea?
```
Traversing a list?

- One (bad) way to print every value in the list:

```java
while (list != null) {
    System.out.println(list.data);
    list = list.next;    // move to next node
}
```

- What's wrong with this approach?
  - (It loses the linked list as it prints it!)
A current reference

- Don't change list. Make another variable, and change it.
  - A ListNode variable is NOT a ListNode object

```java
ListNode current = list;
```

- What happens to the picture above when we write:
  ```java
current = current.next;
```
Traversing a list correctly

- The correct way to print every value in the list:

```java
ListNode current = list;
while (current != null) {
    System.out.println(current.data);
    current = current.next; // move to next node
}
```

- Changing `current` does not damage the list.
Linked List vs. Array

- Print list values:

```java
ListNode list = ...;

ListNode current = list;
while (current != null) {
    System.out.println(current.data);
    current = current.next;
}
```

- Similar to array code:

```java
int[] a = ...;

int i = 0;
while (i < a.length) {
    System.out.println(a[i]);
    i++;
}
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Array Code</th>
<th>Linked List Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Go to front of list</td>
<td>int i = 0;</td>
<td>ListNode current = list;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test for more elements</td>
<td>i &lt; size</td>
<td>current != null</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current value</td>
<td>elementData[i]</td>
<td>current.data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go to next element</td>
<td>i++;</td>
<td>current = current.next;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abstract data types (ADTs)

- **abstract data type (ADT):** A specification of a collection of data and the operations that can be performed on it.
  - Describes *what* a collection does, not *how* it does it

- Java's collection framework describes several ADTs:
  - Queue, List, Collection, Deque, List, Map, Set

- An ADT can be implemented in multiple ways:
  - `ArrayList` and `LinkedList` implement `List`
  - `HashSet` and `TreeSet` implement `Set`
  - `LinkedList`, `ArrayDeque`, etc. implement `Queue`

- The **same** external behavior can be implemented in many different ways, each with pros and cons.
A **LinkedIntList** class

- Let's write a collection class named `LinkedIntList`.
  - Has the same methods as `ArrayIntList`:
    - `add`, `add`, `get`, `indexOf`, `remove`, `size`, `toString`

- The list is internally implemented as a chain of linked nodes
  - The `LinkedIntList` keeps a reference to its **front** as a field
  - `null` is the end of the list; a **null** front signifies an empty list
public class LinkedIntList {
    private ListNode front;

    public LinkedIntList() {
        front = null;
    }

    // methods go here
}
Implementing `add`

// Adds the given value to the end of the list.
public void add(int value) {
    ...
}

- How do we add a new node to the end of a list?
- Does it matter what the list's contents are before the add?
Adding to an empty list

- Before adding 20:
  - We must create a new node and attach it to the list.

- After:

```plaintext
front = data
next = 20
```

- element 0
The `add` method, 1st try

```
// Adds the given value to the end of the list.
public void add(int value) {
    if (front == null) {
        // adding to an empty list
        front = new ListNode(value);
    } else {
        // adding to the end of an existing list

        ...

    }
}
```
Adding to non-empty list

- Before adding value 20 to end of list:

  - Front = element 0
  - After:

- After:
Don't fall off the edge!

1. To add/remove from a list, you must modify the `next` reference of the node before the place you want to change.

   - Where should `current` be pointing, to add 20 at the end?
   - What loop test will stop us at this place in the list?
The add method

// Adds the given value to the end of the list.
public void add(int value) {
    if (front == null) {
        // adding to an empty list
        front = new ListNode(value);
    } else {
        // Adding to the end of an existing list
        ListNode current = front;
        while (current.next != null) {
            current = current.next;
        }
        current.next = new ListNode(value);
    }
}
Implementing `get`

// Returns value in list at given index.
public int get(int index) {
    ...
}

• Exercise: Implement the `get` method.
The `get` method

// Returns value in list at given index.  
// Precondition: 0 <= index < size()

public int get(int index) {
    ListNode current = front;
    for (int i = 0; i < index; i++) {
        current = current.next;
    }
    return current.data;
}
Implementing `add (2)`

// Inserts the given value at the given index.
public void add(int index, int value) {
    ...
}

- Exercise: Implement the two-parameter `add` method.

```java
front = data
next
42

data
next
-3

data
next
17

element 0
element 1
element 2
```
The `add` method (2)

// Inserts the given value at the given index.
// Precondition: 0 <= index <= size()
public void add(int index, int value) {
    if (index == 0) {
        // adding to an empty list
        front = new ListNode(value, front);
    } else {
        // inserting into an existing list
        ListNode current = front;
        for (int i = 0; i < index - 1; i++) {
            current = current.next;
        }
        current.next = new ListNode(value, current.next);
    }
}