CSE 332: Data Abstractions

Ruth Anderson

Winter 2015

Lecture 1

Welcome!

We have 10 weeks to learn *fundamental data structures and algorithms for organizing and processing information*

- "Classic" data structures / algorithms and how to analyze rigorously their efficiency and when to use them
- Queues, dictionaries, graphs, sorting, etc.
- Parallelism and concurrency (!)

Today's Outline

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

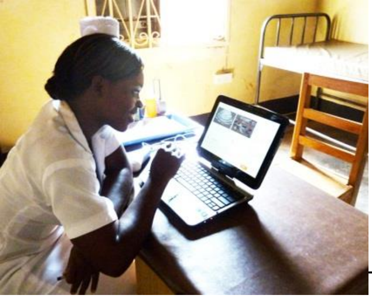
CSE 332 Course Staff!!

Instructor:

Ruth Anderson

Teaching Assistants:

- Matthew Gillette
- Daphna Khen
- Conrad Nied
- Nicholas Shahan
- Ian Turner
- Jack Warren



Me (Ruth Anderson)

- Grad Student at UW in Programming Languages, Compilers, Parallel Computing
- Taught Computer Science at the University of Virginia for 5 years
- Grad Student at UW: PhD in Educational Technology, Pen Computing
- Current Research: Computing and the Developing World, Computer Science Education
- Recently Taught: data structures, architecture, compilers, programming languages, 142 & 143, data programming in Python, Unix Tools, Designing Technology for Resource-Constrained Environments

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Course Information

- **Instructor**: Ruth Anderson, CSE 460

  Office Hours: TBA, and by appointment, (rea@cs.washington.edu)
- **Text**: *Data Structures & Algorithm Analysis in Java*, (Mark Allen Weiss), 3rd edition, 2012
- **Course Web page**: **`http://www.cs.washington.edu/332`**

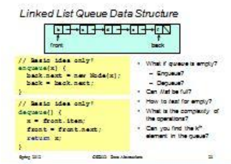
Communication

- Course email list: **`cse332a_wi15@u` & `cse332b_wi15@u`**
  - You are already subscribed
  - You must get and read announcements sent there
- Discussion board
  - Your first stop for questions about course content & assignments
  - Optional, won't use for important announcements
- Course staff: **`cse332-staff@cs`**
- Anonymous feedback link
  - For good and bad: if you don't tell me, I won't know!

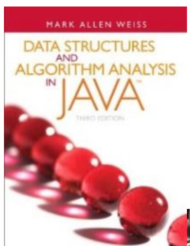
Course meetings

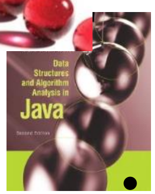
- Lecture (Ruth)
  - Materials posted (sometimes afterwards), but take notes
  - Ask questions, focus on key ideas (rarely coding details)
- Section (Staff)
  - Often focus on software (Java features, tools, project issues)
  - Reinforce key issues from lecture
  - Occasionally introduce new material
  - Answer homework questions, etc.
  - An important part of the course (not optional)
- Office hours
  - Use them: *please visit me*

Course materials

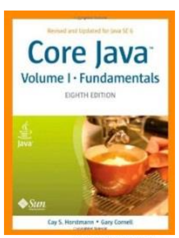


- All lecture and section materials will be posted
  - › But they are visual aids, not always a complete description!
  - › If you have to miss, find out what you missed





- Textbook: Weiss 3rd Edition in Java
  - › Good read, but only responsible for lecture/section/hw topics
  - › Will assign homework problems from it
  - › 3rd edition improves on 2nd, but we'll support the 2nd



- Core Java book: A good Java reference (there may be others)
  - › Don't struggle Googling for features you don't understand
  - › Same/similar book recommended for CSE331

- Parallelism / concurrency units in separate free resources designed for 332

Course Work

- 8 written/typed homeworks (25%)
- 3 programming projects (with phases) (25%)
  - First project due next week
  - Use Java and Eclipse (see this week's section)
  - Projects 2 and 3 will allow partners
- Midterm - (20%)
- Final Exam - (30%)

Collaboration & Academic Integrity

- Read the course policy very carefully
  - Explains quite clearly how you can and cannot get/provide help on homework and projects
  - Gilligan’s Island rule applies.

- Always proactively explain any unconventional action on your part
  - When it happens, (not when asked)

- I offer great trust but with little sympathy for violations
- Honest work is the most important feature of a university

Unsolicited advice

- Get to class on time
- Start HW and projects as soon as they are posted!
- Make use of office hours/GoPost/email
- Learn this stuff
  - › You need it for so many later classes/jobs anyway
  - › Falling behind only makes more work for you
- Have fun
  - › So much easier to be motivated and learn

Homework for Today!!

0) **Review Java & install Eclipse**
1) **Project #1:** (released tonight) bring questions to section on Thursday
2) **Preliminary Survey**: fill out by evening of Tues Jan 6th
3) **Reading** in Weiss (see handout)

Reading

- Reading in *Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis in Java*, 3rd Ed., 2012 by Weiss
- For this week:
  - (Topic for Project #1) Weiss 3.1-3.7 –Lists, Stacks, & Queues
  - (Wed) Weiss 1.1-1.6 –Mathematics and Java
  - (Fri) Weiss 2.1-2.4 –Algorithm Analysis

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Data Structures + Threads

- About 70% of the course is a “classic data-structures course”
  - Timeless, essential stuff
  - Core data structures and algorithms that underlie most software
  - How to analyze algorithms

- Plus a serious first treatment of programming with *multiple threads*
  - For *parallelism*: Use multiple processors to finish sooner
  - For *concurrency*: Correct access to shared resources
  - Will make many connections to the classic material

What 332 is about

- Deeply understand the basic structures used in all software
  - Understand the data structures and their trade-offs
  - Rigorously analyze the algorithms that use them (math!)
  - Learn how to pick "the right thing for the job"

- Experience the purposes and headaches of multithreading

- Practice design, analysis, and implementation
  - The elegant interplay of "theory" and "engineering" at the core of computer science

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 will be able to:
  - make good design choices as a developer, project manager, or system customer
  - justify and communicate your design decisions

Views on this course

- Prof. Steve Seitz (graphics):
  - › 100-level and some 300-level courses teach how to do stuff
  - › 332 teaches **really cool** ways to do stuff
  - › 400 level courses teach how to do **really cool** stuff
- Prof. James Fogarty (HCI):
  - › Computers are fricking insane
    - Raw power can enable bad solutions to many problems
  - › This course is about how to attack non-trivial problems
    - Problems where it actually matters how you do it

Views on this course

- Prof. Dan Grossman (prog. langs.):
  Three years from now this course will seem like it was a waste of your time because you can't imagine not "just knowing" every main concept in it
  - Key abstractions computer scientists and engineers use almost every day
  - A big piece of what separates us from others

Views on this course

- This is the class where you begin to think like a computer scientist
  - You stop thinking in Java or C++ code
  - You start thinking that this is a hashtable problem, a stack problem, etc.

Data structures?

"Clever" ways to organize information in order to enable *efficient* computation over that information.

Data structures!

A data structure supports certain *operations*, each with a:

- **Meaning**: what does the operation do/return?
- **Performance**: how efficient is the operation?

Examples:

- ***List*** with operations **`insert`** and **`delete`**
- ***Stack*** with operations **`push`** and **`pop`**

Trade-offs

A data structure strives to provide many useful, efficient operations

But there are unavoidable trade-offs:

- Time vs. space
- One operation more efficient if another less efficient
- Generality vs. simplicity vs. performance

That is why there are many data structures and educated CSEers internalize their main trade-offs and techniques

- And recognize logarithmic < linear < quadratic < exponential

Terminology

- Abstract Data Type (ADT)
  - › Mathematical description of a “thing” with set of operations on that “thing”
- Algorithm
  - › A high level, language-independent description of a step-by-step process
- Data structure
  - › A specific *organization of data* and family of algorithms for implementing an ADT
- Implementation of a data structure
  - › A specific implementation in a specific language

The Stack ADT

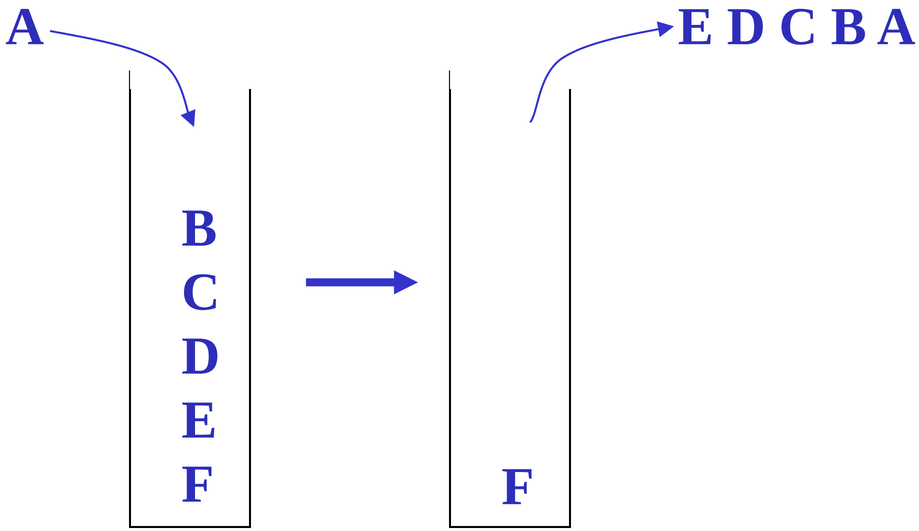
- Stack Operations:

  `push`

  `pop`

  `top/peek`

  `is_empty`



Example: Stacks

- The ***Stack*** ADT supports operations:
  - **`push`**: adds an item
  - **`pop`**: raises an error if isEmpty, else returns *most-recently pushed item* not yet returned by a pop
  - **`isEmpty`**: initially true, later true if there have been same number of pops as pushes
  - … (Often some more operations)
- A Stack data structure could use a linked-list or an array or something else, and associated algorithms for the operations
- One implementation is in the library **`java.util.Stack`**

Why useful

The ***Stack*** ADT is a useful abstraction because:

- It arises all the time in programming (see text for more)
  - Recursive function calls
  - Balancing symbols (parentheses)
  - Evaluating postfix notation: 3 4 + 5 *
  - Clever: Infix ((3+4) * 5) to postfix conversion (see text)
- We can code up a reusable library
- We can communicate in high-level terms
  - "Use a stack and push numbers, popping for operators…"
  - Rather than, "create a linked list and add a node when…"

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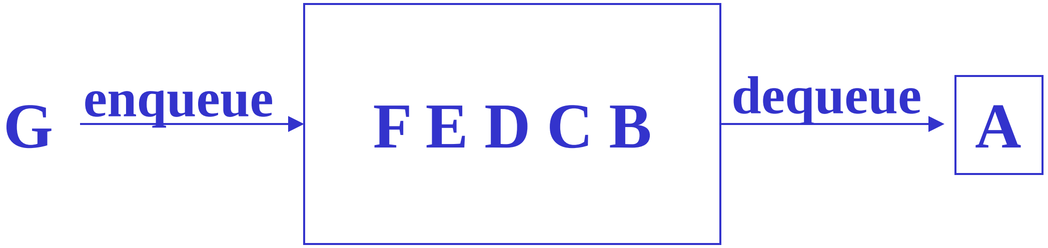
The Queue ADT

Queue Operations:

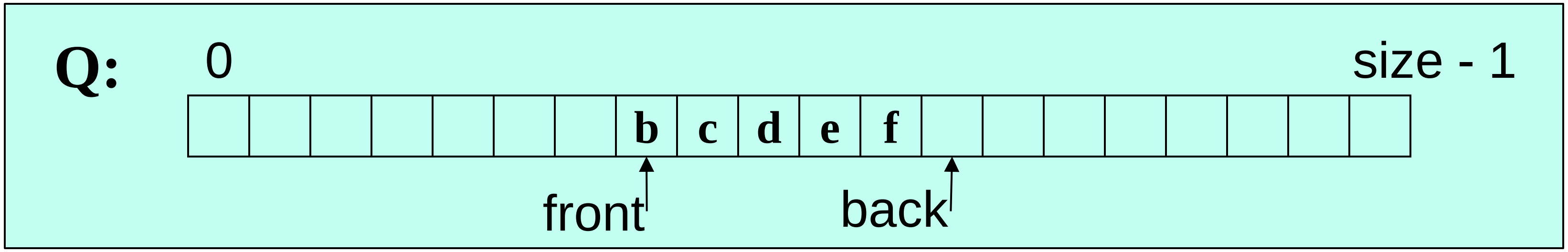
`enqueue`

`dequeue`

`is_empty`



Circular Array Queue Data Structure

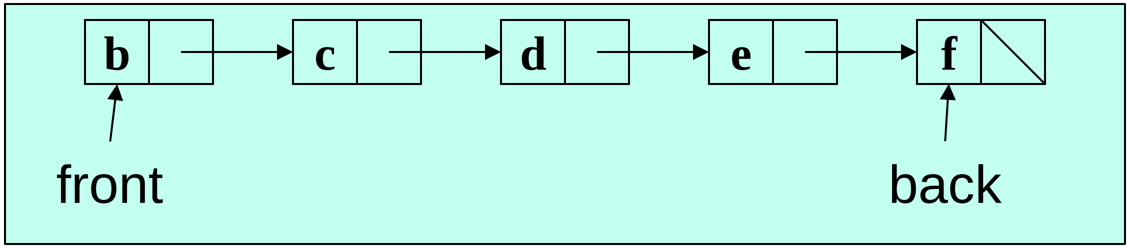



```
// Basic idea only!
enqueue(x) {
  Q[back] = x;
  back = (back + 1) % size
}
```

```
// Basic idea only!
dequeue() {
  x = Q[front];
  front = (front + 1) % size;
  return x;
}
```

- What if ***queue*** is empty?
  - Enqueue?
  - Dequeue?
- What if ***array*** is full?
- How to *test* for empty?
- What is the *complexity* of the operations?

Linked List Queue Data Structure




```
// Basic idea only!
enqueue(x) {
  back.next = new Node(x);
  back = back.next;
}
```

```
// Basic idea only!
dequeue() {
  x = front.item;
  front = front.next;
  return x;
}
```

- What if ***queue*** is empty?
  - Enqueue?
  - Dequeue?
- Can ***list*** be full?
- How to *test* for empty?
- What is the *complexity* of the operations?

Circular Array vs. Linked List

Circular Array vs. Linked List

Array:

- May waste unneeded space or run out of space
- Space per element excellent
- Operations very simple / fast

Not in Queue ADT, but also:

- Constant-time access to k^{th} element
- For operation insertAtPosition, must shift all later elements

List:

- Always just enough space
- But more space per element
- Operations very simple / fast

Not in Queue ADT, but also:

- No constant-time access to k^{th} element
- For operation insertAtPosition must traverse all earlier elements

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