

## List ADT: Linked lists vs. Arrays

CS 2308  
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## Abstract Data Type

- A data type for which:
  - only the properties of the data and the operations to be performed on the data are specific,
  - how the data will be represented or how the operations will be implemented is unspecified.
- An ADT may be implemented using various specific data types or data structures, in many ways and in many programming languages.
- Examples:
  - Stacks and Queues (implemented using arrays+LL)
  - string class (not sure how it's implemented) <sup>2</sup>

## The Abstract List Data Type

- A List is an ordered collection of items of some type T:
  - each element has a position in the list
  - duplicate elements are allowed
- List is not a C++ data type. It is conceptual. It can be implemented in various ways
- We have implemented it using a linked list (NumberList).
- Now we are going to use an array to implement the list.

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## Common List operations

- Basic operations over a list:
  - **create** a new, empty list
  - **append** a value to the end of the list
  - **insert** a value within the list
  - **delete** a value (remove it from the list)
  - **display** the values in the list
  - **delete/destroy** the list (if it was dynamically allocated)

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## Declaring the List data type

- We will be defining a class called NumberList to represent a List data type.
  - ours will store values of type double, using an array.
- The class will implement the basic operations over lists on the previous slide.
- In the private section of the class we will:
  - define an array of double to store the elements in the list.
  - define a count variable that keeps track of how many elements are currently in the list.

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## NumberList class declaration

```
class NumberList NumberList.h
{
    private:
        static const int SIZE = 100;
        double array[SIZE];
        int count;

    public:
        NumberList(); // creates an empty list
        ~NumberList(); // not needed, no dynamic allocation

        void appendNode(double);
        void insertNode(double);
        void deleteNode(double);
        void displayList();
};
```

- This has the same public interface as it does when using linked lists.

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## Operation: Create the empty list

- Constructor: sets up empty list

```
#include "NumberList.h" NumberList.cpp

NumberList::NumberList()
{
    count = 0;
}
```

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## Operation: append value to end of list

- appendNode: adds new value to end of list
- Algorithm: Make sure the list isn't full.  
Put new element in array at position count.  
Increment count.

```
void NumberList::appendNode(double num) { in NumberList.cpp
    if (count < SIZE) {
        array[count] = num;
        count++;
    } else
        cout << "Error: cannot append value, list is full"
              << endl;
    //maybe we should add isFull/isEmpty?
}
```

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## Operation: **display** the list

- Use a for loop
- Stop at count, not SIZE

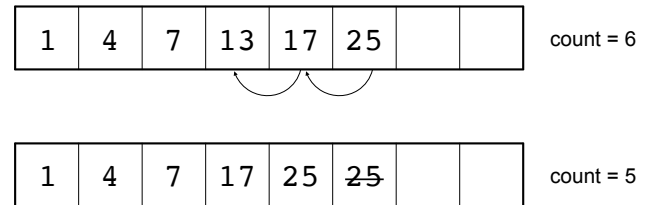
```
void NumberList::displayList() { in NumberList.cpp  
    for (int i=0; i<count; i++) {  
        cout << array[i] << " ";  
    }  
    cout << endl;  
}
```

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## Operation: **delete** a node from the list

- deleteNode: removes a given value from list
- We need to shift elements over to fill the gap.

Deleting 13 from the list



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## deleteNode code

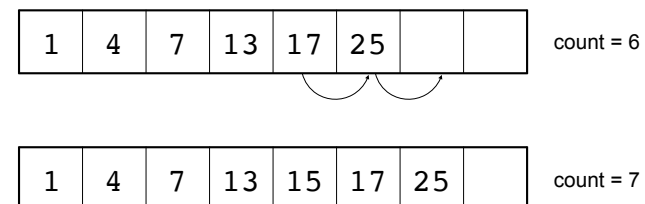
```
void NumberList::deleteNode(double num) { in NumberList.cpp  
    int i=0;  
    while (i<count && array[i]!=num) {  
        i++;  
    }  
    if (i<count) { //found at i  
        count--;  
        //shift left to close gap  
        while (i<count) {  
            array[i] = array[i+1];  
            i++;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

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## Operation: **insert** a value into a list

- Inserts a new value into the middle of a list.
- We'll assume the list is sorted, and insert before first number greater than this value.
- We need to shift elements over to produce a gap.

Inserting 15 into the list



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## insertNode code

```
void NumberList::insertNode(double num) { in NumberList.cpp  
    //keep the list sorted  
    int i=0;  
    while (i<count && array[i]<num) {  
        i++;  
    }  
  
    count++;  
  
    //shift right to open up a spot in the array  
    int j= count-1;  
    while (j>i) {  
        array[j]=array[j-1];  
        j--;  
    }  
    array[i] = num;  
}
```

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## Driver to demo NumberList

```
int main() { in ListDriver.cpp  
  
    // set up the list  
    NumberList list;  
    list.appendNode(2.5);  
    list.appendNode(7.9);  
    list.appendNode(12.6);  
    list.displayList();  
  
    list.insertNode (8.5);  
    list.displayList();  
  
    list.insertNode (1.5);  
    list.displayList();  
  
    list.insertNode (21.5);  
    list.displayList();  
  
    //continued on next slide
```

This is the same Driver we used for the Linked List-based NumberList. We should confirm that we get the same exact output for this array-based implementation.

```
Output:  
2.5 7.9 12.6  
2.5 7.9 8.5 12.6  
1.5 2.5 7.9 8.5 12.6  
1.5 2.5 7.9 8.5 12.6 21.5
```

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## Driver to demo NumberList

```
in ListDriver.cpp  
cout << "remove 7.9:" << endl;  
list.deleteNode(7.9);  
list.displayList();  
  
cout << "remove 8.9: " << endl;  
list.deleteNode(8.9);  
list.displayList();  
  
cout << "remove 2.5: " << endl;  
list.deleteNode(2.5);  
list.displayList();  
  
cout <<"remove 12.6: " << endl;  
list.deleteNode(12.6);  
list.displayList();  
}
```

```
remove 7.9:  
1.5 2.5 8.5 12.6 21.5  
  
remove 8.9:  
1.5 2.5 8.5 12.6 21.5  
  
remove 2.5:  
1.5 8.5 12.6 21.5  
  
remove 12.6:  
1.5 8.5 21.5
```

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## linked lists vs arrays: space issues

- Linked list is never full (if there's more memory)
  - For arrays we need to predict the largest possible size.
- The amount of memory used to store the linked list version is always proportional to the number of elements in the list (it grows+shrinks)
  - For arrays, the amount of memory used is often much more than is required by the actual elements in the list.
- Arrays do not require extra storage for links
  - linked lists are impractical for lists of characters or booleans (pointer value is bigger than data value).

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## linked lists vs arrays: time issues

- When a value is inserted into or deleted from a linked list, none of the other nodes have to be moved.
  - Array elements must be shifted to make room or close a gap.
- Arrays allow random access to elements: `array[i]`
  - for arrays this is pointer arithmetic
  - linked lists must be traversed to get to *i*'th element.