

Computer Science 62

Bruce/Mawhorter – Fall '16

Midterm Examination

October 5, 2016

Question	Points	Score
1	15	___
2	10	___
3	10	___
4	8	___
5	9	___
TOTAL	52	___

SOLUTIONS

Your name (Please print)

1. Suppose you are given a singly-linked list class that holds strings and that maintains pointers to both the head and the tail of the list. Its fields and constructors are as follows:

```
public class SinglyLinkedList {
    protected ListNode head;
    protected ListNode tail;

    public SinglyLinkedList() {
        this.head = null;
        this.tail = null;
    }

    ...
}
```

The `ListNode` class looks like this:

```
public class ListNode {
    private String value;
    private ListNode next;

    public ListNode(String value, ListNode next) {
        this.value = value;
        this.next = next;
    }

    public String getValue() {
        return this.value;
    }

    public ListNode getNext() {
        return this.next;
    }

    public String setValue(String newValue) {
        this.value = newValue;
    }

    public ListNode setNext(ListNode newNext) {
        this.next = newNext;
    }
}
```

Please add a new method to the class `SinglyLinkedList` with header:

```
public void keep(int howMany) {
```

which should modify the list so it only keeps the first `howMany` elements, dropping the rest of the elements from the list. E.g., if `myList` originally contains 10 elements, then executing `myList.keep(6)` should result in `myList` having only the first 6 elements of the list. You don't need to worry about keeping track of the discarded nodes as long as you cut them off from the rest of the list.

- a. Write the pre- and post- conditions for the `keep` method. Just describe them in English.

Pre: `howMany > 0`

(adding `howMany < size` or `howMany <= size` is okay too)

Post: list has `<= howMany` elements

(`<=` if we accept `howMany > size` and do nothing)

- b. List at least one special case that either violates your preconditions or requires special handling.

`HowMany = 0`

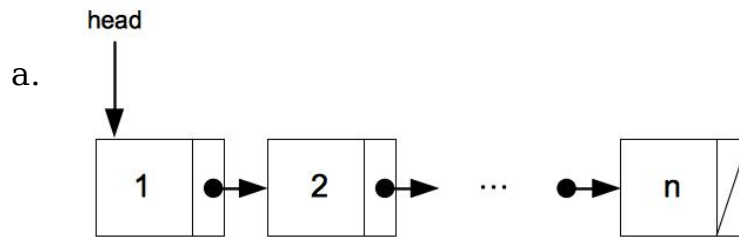
`howMany == size`

`howMany < 0`

- c. Write the code for `keep` on the next page (you don't need to worry about comments). Remember that you should check your preconditions (you can use `"RuntimeError"` if you need to throw any exceptions).

```
public void keep(int howMany) {  
    if (howMany < 0) {  
        throw new RuntimeException("Can't keep a negative number  
of elements.");  
    } else if (howMany == 0) {  
        this.head = null;  
        this.tail = null;  
    }  
    this.tail = this.head; // set tail to head → reduce list to size 1  
    while (howMany > 1 && this.tail != null) {  
        this.tail = this.tail.next; // set tail to next element, adding  
1 to kept size  
        howMany -= 1; // decrement counter  
    }  
    // now we just need to chop off the rest of the list:  
    this.tail.next = null;  
    // that's it. We don't have a size variable to modify or  
anything like that  
}
```

2. You have a singly linked list with only a `head` pointer (see the figure below). The `insert()` method for the list inserts new values into the list so that the elements remain in sorted order using the obvious algorithm. In other words, after each



insertion, the list is in sorted order. Assume you are given a sequence of n values to insert one at a time into

the list. What do you expect the total worst-case running time to be, using big-O notation, for inserting all of the values into the list? Give a brief (one to two sentence) **justification** for your answer.

To insert a sequence of n values will take $O(n^2)$ time. The reason for this is that on average, inserting the n th element will take $n/2$ time (scanning through the list to find the right place which on average is the center of previously inserted elements). So the runtime is the sum from $i = 0$ to n of i , times a constant ($1/2$) which is $O(n^2)$.

- b. Suppose that the sequence of n values to be inserted just happen to be **in reverse sorted order**. E.g., you might be given the elements 47, 23, 19, 13, 7, 6, and finally 2. What do you expect the running time to be, using big-O notation, for inserting all of n values into the list? Give a brief (one to two sentence) **justification** for your answer.

Now the run-time for inserting n elements will be $O(n)$, because each insert will be $O(1)$. This is because each insertion will be smaller than the first element of the list, and so it'll live there without the need to do more than 1 comparison.

Note that for this problem and the one above, the question is asking about the time to insert all n values, not the time to insert a single value.

4. An advantage of using stacks and queues is that their limited number of operations allows more efficient representation than more general data structures. Please answer the following questions about the complexity of operations on queues, expressing all answers in big-O notation.

A queue may be represented by a “circular” implementation on an array (or ArrayList) or by a singly linked list with a reference to both the front and rear. Please give the complexity of the following queue operations on a queue of size n for each representation, including one or two sentences justifying your answer.

i) Enqueueing an element at the rear of the queue with a

circular array:

This is $O(1)$. You just add the element to an empty spot in the array after the current tail and increment your tail index. If the queue is out of space it's $O(n)$, but with a doubling policy this happens infrequently enough that enqueueing is still amortized $O(1)$ per operation.

linked list:

This is $O(1)$. You just add a new node to the end and advance the tail pointer.

ii) Dequeing an element from the front of the queue with a

circular array:

Still $O(1)$. Just advance the head index by 1.

linked list:

Also $O(1)$ (there's a pattern here). Just remove head and set new head to old head.next.