

Monday: 1st Midterm Exam

REMINDER FROM LAST WEEK:

The linked list data types in Standish chapter 2:

```
typedef char AirportCode[4];

typedef struct NodeTag {
    AirportCode airport;
    struct NodeTag *link;
} NodeType, *NodePointer;
```

Inserting a new second node

- e.g., have (DUS→ORD→SAN),
 want (DUS→BRU→ORD→SAN)
 or have (DUS), want (DUS→BRU)
 or have (), want (BRU)
 – Any other special cases?
- A strategy:
 create new node to hold BRU – call it n;
 if empty list – point "list" at n; return;
 else set n.link to "list".link;
 set "list".link to &n; return;

Code to insert new 2nd node

- Assume external variable for list:
 NodePointer list;
- And assume list already initialized *and has at least one node* (i.e., no special case of empty list), then:
 void insertNewSecondNode(void) {
 NodePointer n;
 n = (NodePointer)malloc(sizeof(NodeType));
 strcpy(n->airport, "BRU");
 n->link = list->link;
 list->link = n;
 }

Searching a list for some info

- Idea is to *return a pointer to the node that contains the info* we are searching for, or return NULL if the info is not in the list
- Strategy:
 declare local node pointer – call it n;
 point n at first node in list;
 while (n points to non-null node) {
 if (n's referent has the info)
 return n;
 else advance n to n->link;
 }
 return NULL if get this far;

List traversal & other notes

- Search strategy typifies list traversal:
 start by pointing to first node;
 process that node;
 change pointer to that node's link;
 keep going until success (e.g., found info), or
 until end (i.e., pointing at NULL);
 – Same idea works for lots of list operations
 - e.g., print list – immediately applicable
 - To append, first must get to last node
 - To remove a node, must get to it first
- But also usually consider potential special cases
 – e.g., first node, last node, empty list, just one node, ...

Strategy to delete last node

```
declare 2 local node pointers: current, previous;
/* then handle special cases first */
just return (i.e., do nothing) if list is empty;
free(list) and return if just one node in list;
/* otherwise traverse list to find second-to-last node */
point previous at first node;
point current at previous->link;
while (current->link does not point to null)
    advance both pointers;
/* finally, set link of second-to-last, and destroy last */
set previous->link = NULL;
free (current); /* Done. */
```

Code to delete last node (pt. 1)

```
void deleteLastNode(NodePointer *l) {
    /* note: pointer to pointer – allows changing original pointer */
    NodePointer previous, current;
    if (*l != NULL) { /* case of empty list – do nothing */
        if ((*l)->link == NULL) { /* list with 1 node */
            free(*l);
            *l = NULL;
        } else { /* general case (i.e., all other cases) */
            previous = *l;
            current = (*l)->link;

            /* continued next slide */
        }
    }
}
```

Code to delete last node (pt. 2)

```
while (current->link != NULL) {
    /* i.e., not at last node yet */
    previous = current;
    current = current->link;
}
/* now previous points to next-to-last, so make it last */
previous->link = NULL;

/* current points to old last, so recycle the storage */
free(current);

} /* end general case */
} /* end case of non-empty list */
} /* end function */
```

btw: other linked structures

- More elaborate linked lists are often useful
 - e.g., nodes with 2 links: previous and next
 - Easy *reverse* traversal, insertion *before* a node, ...
 - But 2 links to worry about for insert, remove, ...
 - e.g., circular lists – last points to first (and first points to last for 2-way circular list)
 - Choice depends on problem and efficiency (more to come in later chapters; maybe upcoming project too)
- Trees – see figure 2.23 (p. 56) – more later
- Graphs – chapter 10 – not part of CS 12 though