

Lecture 16, 9 October 2025

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Programming and Data Structures with Python

Linked Lists

Class List



append

if empty - set value to v

iterate next till end of list
add new node at the end

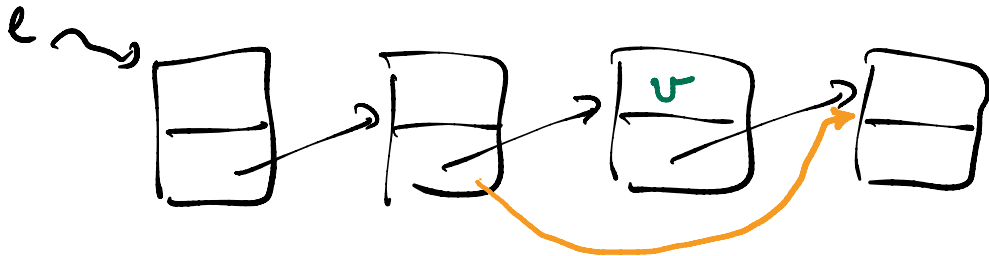
insert



delete(v)

No value v ? — Do nothing

Multiple values v ? — Remove first one



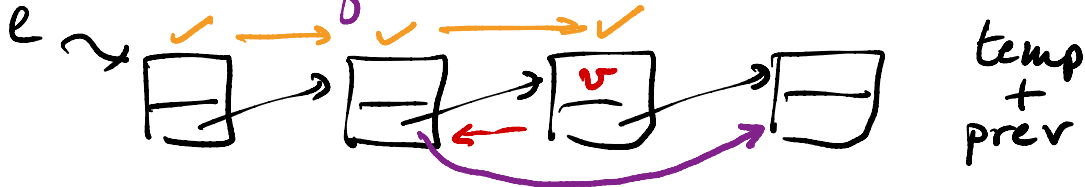
l.delete(v)

1. delete(v)

empty - return

not empty, first value is not v

iteratively follow next till we find v or
reach end of list



Recursion & induction

fn defined inductively

$f(n)$ depends on $f(k)$, $k < n$

compute $f(n)$ recursively

Base case

$l \rightarrow x$
 $x \rightarrow l$

Inductive data
structures

Lists

Base case: Empty
List

Inductive stuff

$\text{build}(v, l)$

$v : l$

$\text{cons}(v, l)$

List: (non empty)

First item - value

Rest - list (could be empty)



v_0 $[v_1, v_2]$

Recursive append(v)

$$(x:l).append(v) = x:(l.append(v))$$

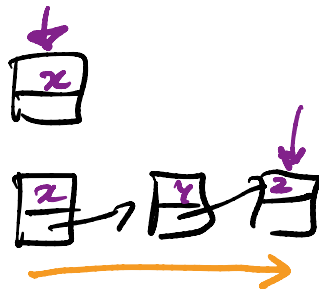
Base Case

value=None $\rightarrow$ value=v

Otherwise (value $\neq$ None)

next=None : create a new node with v,
make next point to it

next $\neq$ None $\rightarrow$ recursively append v to Next



Recursive delete(v)

Base Case

Return

Otherwise

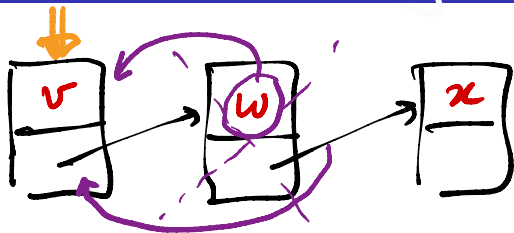
Easy case: current value is not v

Recursively next.delete(v)

(If next == None, return)

What if current value is v ?

l.delete(v) — interesting case



Cannot move ↓
(like insert)

if $next \neq None$

copy next.value
next.next

if no x?

w nodes next = None

⇒ first node next = None

No next nodes?

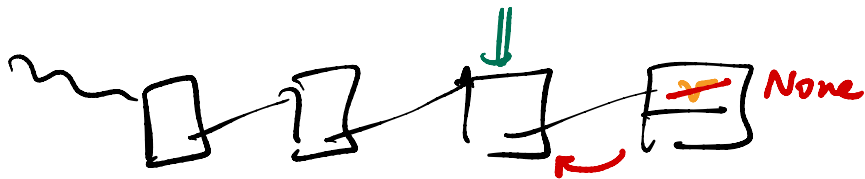


Singleton $\rightarrow$ Empty

v is the
last value
in a list
if length ≥ 2

Should remove the
node

Done at node that made recursive call



`next.delete(v)`

check if `next.value == None`
if so, set `next = None`

Handling errors

Why should we deal with errors?

Interaction

User input → Run something


`x = input()`

`x = input("Message: ")`

Read an integer

`x = input()`

`y = int(x)`

Exception handling

try:
 ≡
error → except:
 ≡ ← non empty
 ← compulsory