

STAT 534  
Lecture 3  
**Data Structure**  
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## 1 Python Object

**non-object**: simple types, such as integer, character, etc.

**object**: belongs to class(type), such as list, string and array.

When we use object, we also need to consider:

- How the data is stored
- What operation are performed on the data
- Independence to the programming language being used

## 2 Theoretical Computer Science

In this part, we will explore ways to organize data that make operations on it more efficiently.

**Example** Read  $n$  strings of length  $k$  and turn it into a long string.

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**Algorithm 1** Long String

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```
1: Initialize long string  $ls$ 
2: for each  $i \in [0, n - 1]$  do
3:   Read string  $s$ ;
4:    $ls \leftarrow ls + s$ 
5: end for
```

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- Runtime of concatenating strings:  $ik/iter$
- Runtime of allocation of string  $s$ :  $1/iter$
- Total runtime:  $O(n^2)$  *write* +  $O(n)$  *allocation*

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**Algorithm 2** Array

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```
1: Initialize array  $la$  with  $nk$  elements
2:  $l \leftarrow 0$ 
3: for each  $i \in [0, n - 1]$  do
4:   Read string  $s$ ;
5:    $la[l : l + k] \leftarrow s$ 
6:    $l \leftarrow l + k$ 
7: end for
```

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- Runtime of assigning  $s$  to  $la$ :  $k/iter$
- Runtime of allocation of string  $s$ : 1 allocation for the array  $la$
- Total runtime:  $O(n)$  write +  $O(1)$  allocation

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**Algorithm 3** Python List - Append

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```
1: Initialize python list  $pl$ 
2: for each  $i \in [0, n - 1]$  do
3:   Read string  $s$ ;
4:   Append  $s$  to  $pl$  (If out of space,allocate more space to  $pl$ )
5: end for
```

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- Runtime of appending  $s$  to  $pl$ :  $k/iter$
- Runtime of allocating space:  $\log_2 n$
- Total runtime:  $O(n)$  write +  $O(\log_2 n)$  allocation

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**Algorithm 4** Python List - Insert

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```
1: Initialize python list  $pl$ 
2: for each  $i \in [0, n - 1]$  do
3:   Read string  $s$ ;
4:   Insert  $s$  at front of  $pl$  (If out of space,allocate more space to  $pl$ )
5: end for
```

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- Runtime of appending  $s$  to  $pl$ :  $k(i + 1)/iter$
- Runtime of allocating space:  $\log_2 n$
- Total runtime:  $O(n^2)$  write +  $O(\log_2 n)$  allocation

### 3 (Abstract) Data Structure

**Array** Static

- Allocate the space at once
- Fixed size of  $n$

**(Double) Linked List** Dynamic

Supposed we define runtime of "Easy" Operation to be  $O(1)$  and "Hard"/"Slow" Operation to be  $O(n)$ . Then the runtime of the following operations are:

- Output elements in order:  $O(n)$
- Append at the end:  $O(1)$
- Prepend(insert at the beginning):  $O(1)$
- Insert at location  $v_i$ :  $O(1)$
- Delete at location  $v_i$ :  $O(1)$
- Access the  $i$ th element when not knowing its location:  $O(n)$  (traverse the linked list)

**Stack** A list or an array

Operations and their corresponding runtime of stack are:

- Push(append at the end):  $O(1)$
- Pop(Output the last element and delete it):  $O(1)$

**Application of stack** : Function calls

```
# main program
x = ...
y = f1(x,3)
# Functions
f1(x1,x2):
    f2(a,b)
f2(a,b):
    f3(...)
```

Main program, **f1**, **f2** and **f3** are pushed into the stack sequentially, then the return values of each function above pop out in reverse order.

### 4 List Algorithm

- Bubble sort ( $O(n^2)$ ): Compare the value with its neighbor and switch them if they are not in order.
- Heap sort ( $O(n \log n)$ ): Efficient algorithm for sorting problems.