

# Cache List

## 2008 AP<sup>®</sup> COMPUTER SCIENCE AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

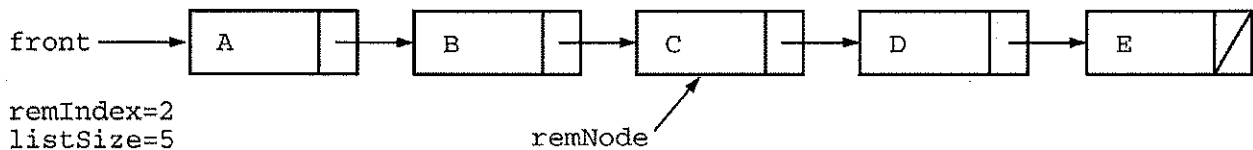
2. Suppose `myList` is a linked list. A loop such as

```
for (int k = 0; k < myList.size(); k++)  
    Object a = myList.get(k);
```

can be inefficient if the `get` method always starts at the front of the list to locate each element.

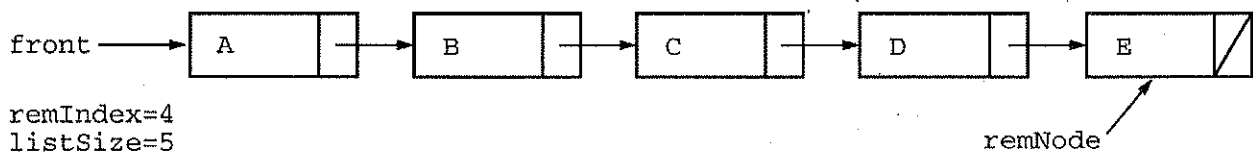
This question describes a variant of a linked list data structure that can improve the efficiency of the loop. The `ListNode` class is used as part of the implementation of a class `APList` that remembers the node and index of the most recently visited element of the list. If the index for the next `get` is greater than or equal to the remembered index, the traversal starts at the remembered node instead of the front of the list.

For example, consider the following `APList` `myList` that contains five elements. The call `myList.get(2)` returns the value C. The remembered node and remembered index will refer to the node at index 2 as shown in the diagram.

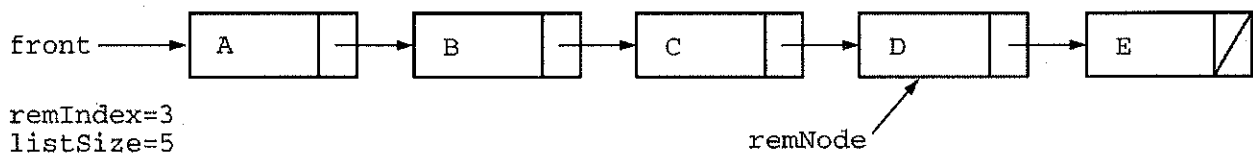


If the call `myList.get(2)` is executed again, the value C is returned again, but the traversal begins at the `remNode` position, instead of `front`, because the remembered index is 2. No other nodes are traversed because `remNode` is already at the correct position.

A subsequent call `myList.get(4)` will start the traversal at the `remNode` position instead of `front` because the remembered index is 2. It will then move forward two nodes to retrieve the node at index 4 (the value E), set `remNode` to the new position, and update `remIndex` as shown in the following diagram.



Finally, a subsequent call `myList.get(3)` will start the traversal at `front` because the remembered index is greater than the desired index. Starting at `front`, it will move forward three nodes to retrieve the node at index 3 (the value D), set `remNode` to the new position, and update `remIndex` as shown in the following diagram.



## 2008 AP<sup>®</sup> COMPUTER SCIENCE AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

The partial declaration of the `APList` class is shown below.

```
public class APList
{
    private ListNode front; // first node of this list (null if empty)

    private int listSize; // the number of elements in this list

    private int remIndex; // the index of the remembered node

    private ListNode remNode; // a reference to the node accessed by most recent call to get

    /** Constructs an empty APList.
     */
    public APList()
    {
        front = null;
        remIndex = -1;
        remNode = null;
        listSize = 0;
    }

    /** Gets a value at a given index in this list.
     * @param n the index at which to get a value
     * Precondition:  $0 \leq n < \text{size}()$ 
     * @return the object at the given index
     * Postcondition: The remembered node and index refer to the node at index n
     */
    public Object get(int n)
    { /* to be implemented in part (a) */ }

    /** Adds a new node containing obj to the front of this list.
     * @param obj the value to add to the list
     */
    public void addFirst(Object obj)
    { /* to be implemented in part (b) */ }

    /** @return the size of this list
     */
    public int size()
    { return listSize; }

    // There may be methods that are not shown.
}
```

© 2008 The College Board. All rights reserved.

Visit [apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com) (for AP professionals) and [www.collegeboard.com/apstudents](http://www.collegeboard.com/apstudents) (for students and parents).

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.**

- (a) Write the `APList` method `get`. This method returns the value contained in the list node at index `n`. If the index `n` is greater than or equal to the remembered index, the method should start its traversal at the remembered node; otherwise, the method should start at the front of the list. The remembered node and index should be updated to refer to the node at the given index.

Complete method `get` below.

```
/** Gets a value at a given index in this list.
 * @param n the index at which to get a value
 *      Precondition:  $0 \leq n < \text{size}()$ 
 * @return the object at the given index
 *      Postcondition: The remembered node and index refer to the node at index n
 */
public Object get(int n)
```

- (b) Write the `APList` method `addFirst`. Instance variables should be updated as necessary. This method should not change the value of `remNode` since there is no advantage to remembering a node at the front of the list.

Complete method `addFirst` below.

```
/** Adds a new node containing obj to the front of this list.
 * @param obj the value to add to the list
 */
public void addFirst(Object obj)
```

**2008 AP® COMPUTER SCIENCE AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

(c) Consider the following methods.

```
public static void printForward(SomeListType myList)
{
    int n = myList.size();
    for (int k = 0; k < n; k++)
    {
        Object obj = myList.get(k);
        System.out.println(obj);
    }
}
```

```
public static void printReverse(SomeListType myList)
{
    int n = myList.size();
    for (int k = n - 1; k >= 0; k--)
    {
        Object obj = myList.get(k);
        System.out.println(obj);
    }
}
```

Give the big-Oh running time (in terms of  $n$ ) of these methods for the following list types, where  $n$  is the number of elements in the list.

<i>SomeListType</i>	printForward	printReverse
LinkedList<Object>		
APList		