

<http://introcs.cs.princeton.edu>

# 14. Stacks and Queues

## 14. Stacks and Queues

- APIs
- Clients
- Strawman implementation
- Linked lists
- Implementations

# Data types and data structures

## Data types

- Set of values.
- Set of operations on those values.
- Some are built in to Java: `int`, `double`, `String`, . . .
- Most are not: `Complex`, `Picture`, `Charge`, . . .

## Data structures

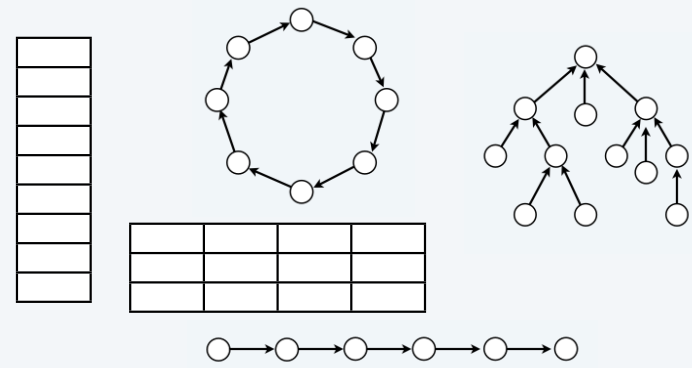
- Represent data.
- Represent relationships among data.
- Some are built in to Java: 1D arrays, 2D arrays, . . .
- Most are not: linked list, circular list, tree, . . .

## Design challenge for every data type: Which data structure to use?

- Resource 1: How much memory is needed?
- Resource 2: How much time do data-type methods use?

```
public class Complex
    Complex(double real, double imag)
    Complex plus(Complex b) sum of this number and b
    Complex times(Complex b) product of this number and b
    double abs() magnitude
    String toString() string representation

public class Charge
    Charge(double x, double y, double q)
    void turnLeft(double delta) rotate delta degrees counterclockwise
    void goForward(double step) move distance step, drawing a line
    String toString() string representation of this color
    boolean equals(Color c) is this color the same as c's?
```



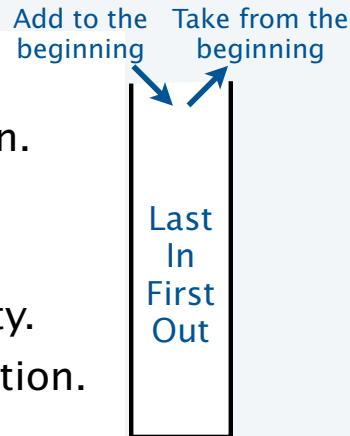
## Stack and Queue APIs

A **collection** is an ADT whose values are a multiset of items, all of the same type.

Two fundamental collection **ADTs** differ in just a detail of the specification of their operations.

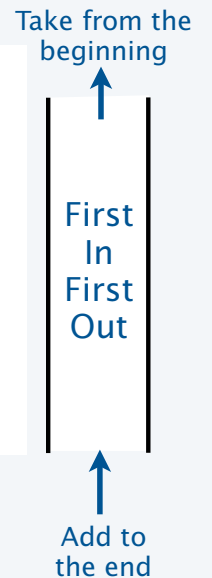
### Stack operations

- Add an item to the collection.
- Remove and return the item *most* recently added (LIFO).
- Test if the collection is empty.
- Return the size of the collection.



### Queue operations

- Add an item to the collection.
- Remove and return the item *least* recently added (FIFO).
- Test if the collection is empty.
- Return the size of the collection.



Stacks and queues both arise naturally in countless applications.

A key characteristic. **No limit** on the size of the collection.

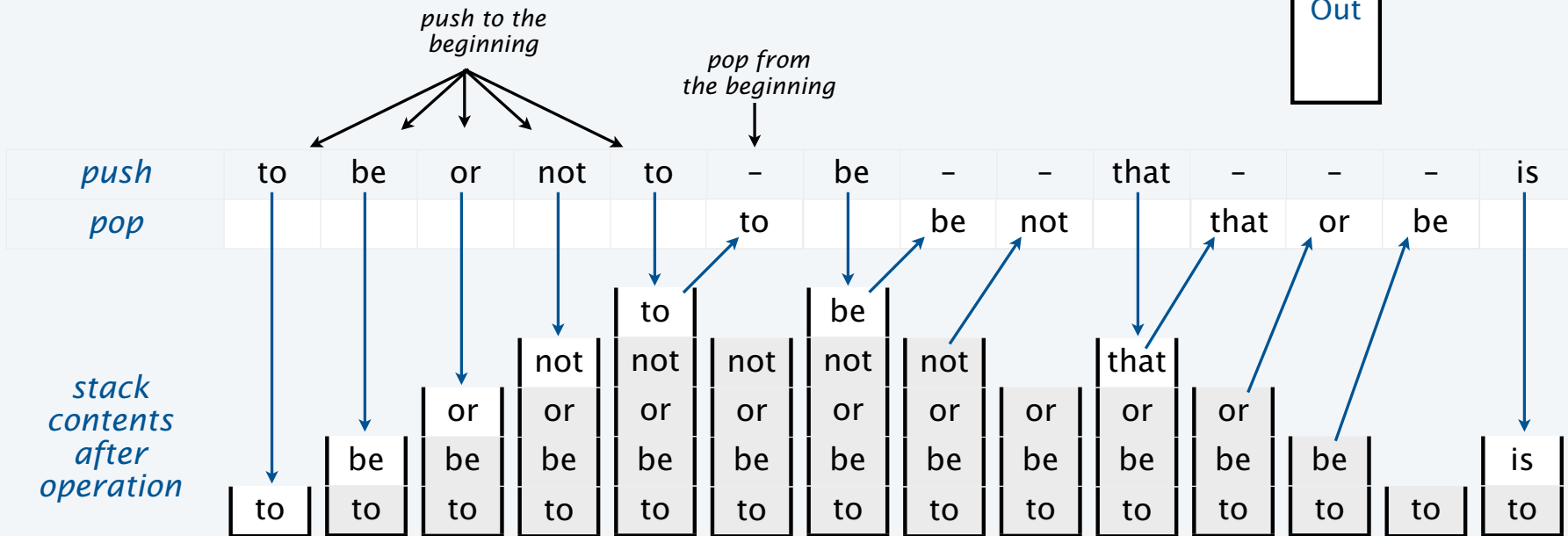
# Example of stack operations

**Push.** Add an item to the collection.

**Pop.** Remove and return the item *most* recently added.

*push to the beginning*    *pop from the beginning*

Last  
In  
First  
Out



## Example of queue operations

**Enqueue.** Add an item to the collection.

**Dequeue.** Remove and return the item *least* recently added.

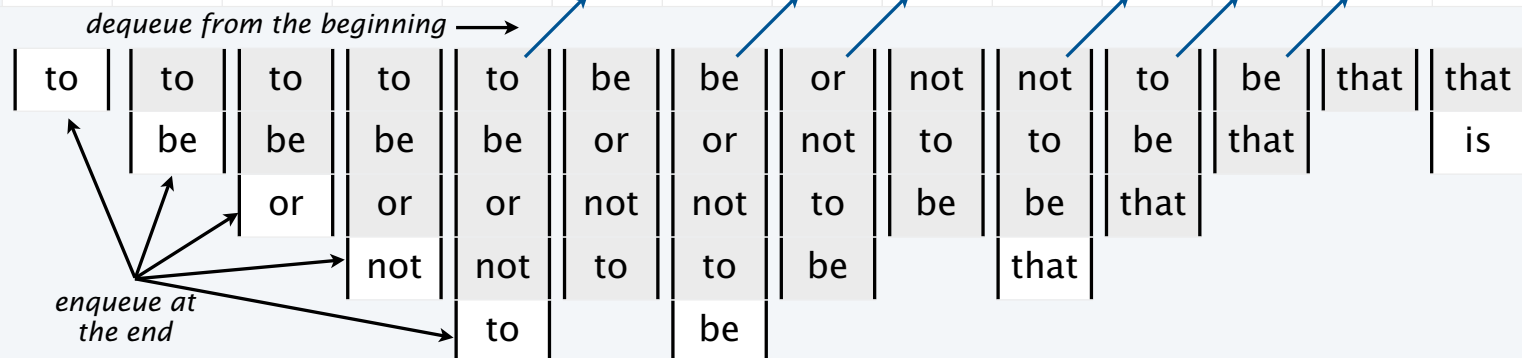
dequeue from  
the beginning



enqueue at  
the end

<i>enqueue</i>	to	be	or	not	to	-	be	-	-	that	-	-	-	is
<i>dequeue</i>						to		be	or		not	to	be	

*queue  
contents  
after  
operation*



## Parameterized data types

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**Goal.** Simple, safe, and clear client code for collections of any type of data.

### Java approach: Parameterized data types (generics)

- Use placeholder type name in definition.
- Substitute concrete type for placeholder in clients. ← stay tuned for examples

#### Stack API

<code>public class Stack&lt;Item&gt;</code>	
<code>Stack&lt;Item&gt;()</code>	<i>create a stack of objects, all of type Item</i>
<code>void push(Item item)</code>	<i>add item to stack</i>
<code>Item pop()</code>	<i>remove and return the item most recently pushed</i>
<code>boolean isEmpty()</code>	<i>is the stack empty?</i>
<code>int size()</code>	<i># of objects on the stack</i>

#### Queue API

<code>public class Queue&lt;Item&gt;</code>	
<code>Queue&lt;Item&gt;()</code>	<i>create a queue of objects, all of type Item</i>
<code>void enqueue(Item item)</code>	<i>add item to queue</i>
<code>Item dequeue()</code>	<i>remove and return the item least recently enqueued</i>
<code>boolean isEmpty()</code>	<i>is the queue empty?</i>
<code>int size()</code>	<i># of objects on the queue</i>



## Performance specifications

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**Challenge.** Provide guarantees on performance.

**Goal.** Simple, safe, clear, and *efficient* client code.

### Performance specifications

- All operations are constant-time.
- Memory use is proportional to the size of the collection, when it is nonempty.
- No limits within the code on the collection size.

Typically required for  
client code to be *scalable*



**Java.** Any implementation of the API implements the stack/queue abstractions.

**RS+KW.** Implementations that do not meet performance specs *do not* implement the abstractions.

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# Stack and queue applications

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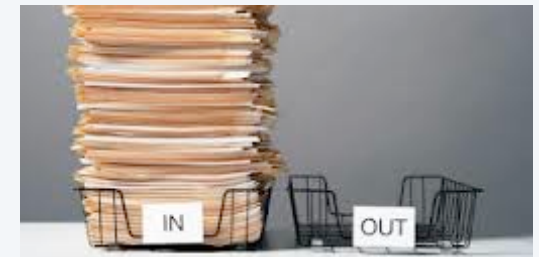
## Queues

- First-come-first-served resource allocation.
- Asynchronous data transfer (StdIn, StdOut).
- Dispensing requests on a shared resource (printer, processor).
- Simulations of the real world (guitar string, traffic analysis, ...)



## Stacks

- Last-come-first-served processes (browser, e-mail).
- Function calls in programming languages.
- Basic mechanism in interpreters, compilers.
- . . .



## Queue client example: Read all strings from StdIn into an array

### Challenge

- Can't store strings in array before creating the array.
- Can't create the array without knowing how many strings are in the input stream.
- Can't know how many strings are in the input stream without reading them all.

**Solution:** Use a `Queue<String>`.

```
public class QEx
{
    public static String[] readAllStrings()
    { // See next slide. }

    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        String[] words = readAllStrings();
        for (int i = 0; i < words.length; i++)
            StdOut.println(words[i]);
    }
}
```

Note: StdIn has this  
functionality

```
% more moby.txt
moby dick
herman melville
call me ishmael some years ago never
mind how long precisely having
little or no money
...
```

```
% java QEx < moby.txt
moby
dick
herman
melville
call
me
ishmael
some
years
...
```

## Queue client example: Read all strings from StdIn into an array

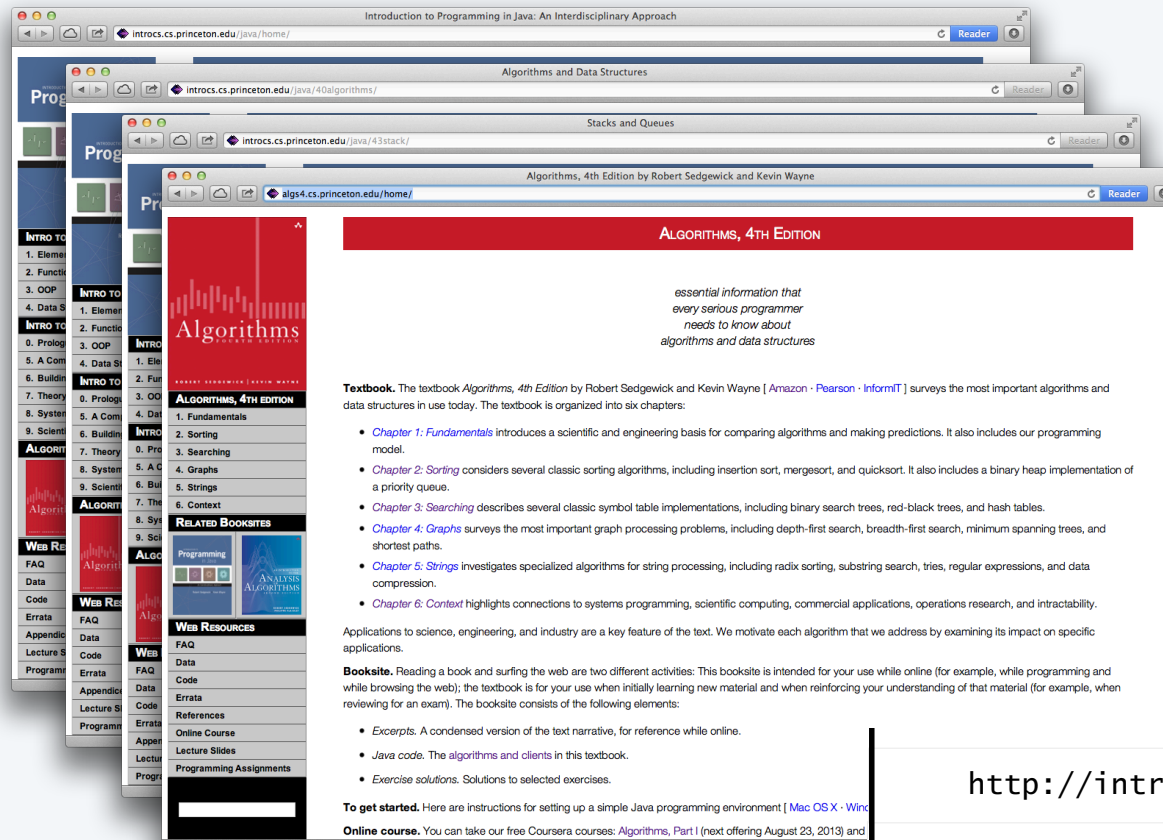
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**Solution:** Use a `Queue<String>`.

- Store strings in the queue.
- Get the size when all have been read from StdIn.
- Create an array of that size.
- Copy the strings into the array.

```
public class QEx
{
    public static String[] readAllStrings()
    {
        Queue<String> q = new Queue<String>();
        while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
            q.enqueue(StdIn.readString());
        int N = q.size();
        String[] words = new String[N];
        for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
            words[i] = q.dequeue();
        return words;
    }
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        String[] words = readAllStrings();
        for (int i = 0; i < words.length; i++)
            StdOut.println(words[i]);
    }
}
```

# Stack example: "Back" button in a browser



## Typical scenario

- Visit a page.
- Click a link to another page.
- Click a link to another page.
- Click a link to another page.
- Click "back" button.
- Click "back" button.
- Click "back" button.

<http://introc.cs.princeton.edu/java/43stack/>

<http://introc.cs.princeton.edu/java/40algorithms/>

<http://introc.cs.princeton.edu/java/home/>

# Autoboxing

**Challenge.** Use a *primitive* type in a parameterized ADT.

## Wrapper types

- Each primitive type has a wrapper reference type.
- Wrapper type has larger set of operations than primitive type.  
Example: `Integer.parseInt()`.
- Values of wrapper types are objects.
- Wrapper type can be used in a parameterized ADT.

<i>primitive type</i>	<i>wrapper type</i>
int	Integer
long	Long
double	Double
boolean	Boolean

**Autoboxing.** Automatic cast from primitive type to wrapper type.

**Auto-unboxing.** Automatic cast from wrapper type to primitive type.

Simple client code  
(no casts) →

```
Stack<Integer> stack = new Stack<Integer>();  
stack.push(17);      // Autobox   (int -> Integer)  
int a = stack.pop(); // Auto-unbox (Integer -> int)
```

## Stack client example: Postfix expression evaluation

**Infix.** Standard way of writing arithmetic expressions, using parentheses for precedence.

**Example.**  $(1 + ((2 + 3) * (4 * 5))) = (1 + (5 * 20)) = 101$

**Postfix.** Write operator *after* operands (instead of in between them).

**Example.** 1 2 3 + 4 5 \* \* + ← also called "reverse Polish" notation (RPN)



Jan Łukasiewicz  
1878–1956

**Remarkable fact.** No parentheses are needed!

There is only one way to parenthesize a postfix expression.

1 2 3 + 4 5 \* \* +

1 (2 + 3) 4 5 \* \* +

1 ((2 + 3) \* (4 \* 5)) +

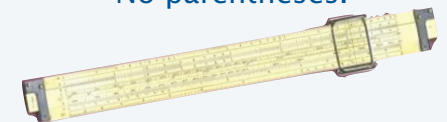
(1 + ((2 + 3) \* (4 \* 5)))

← find first operator, convert to infix, enclose in ()

↘ iterate, treating subexpressions in parentheses as atomic



HP-35 (1972)  
First handheld calculator.  
"Enter" means "push".  
No parentheses.



Made slide rules obsolete (!)

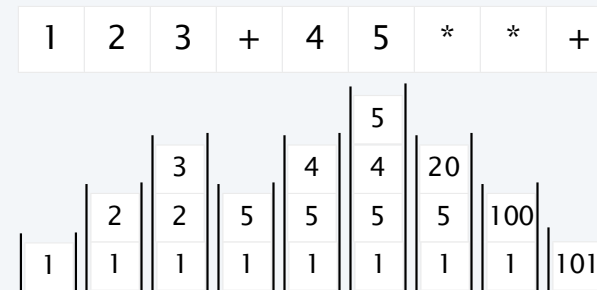
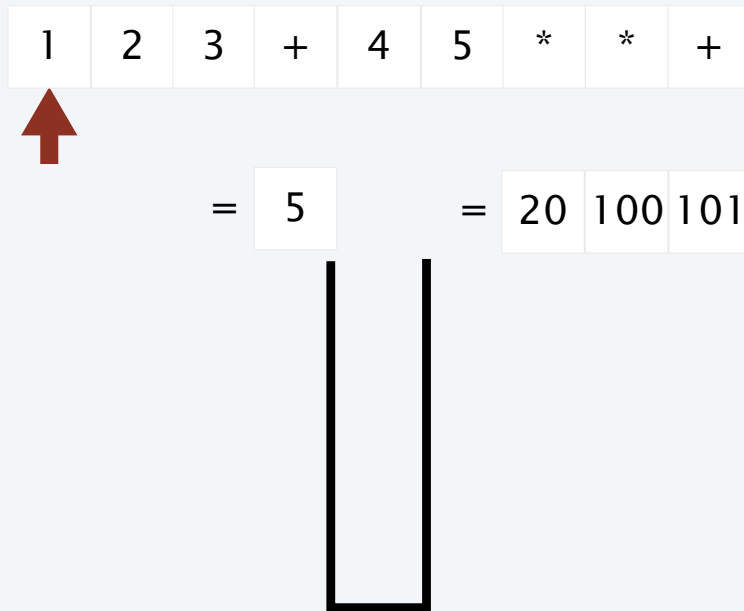
**Next.** With a stack, postfix expressions are easy to evaluate.



## Postfix arithmetic expression evaluation

### Algorithm

- While input stream is nonempty, read a token.
- Value: Push onto the stack.
- Operator: Pop operand(s), apply operator, push the result.



## Stack client example: Postfix expression evaluation

```
public class Postfix
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        Stack<Double> stack = new Stack<Double>();
        while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
        {
            String token = StdIn.readString();
            if (token.equals("*"))
                stack.push(stack.pop() * stack.pop());
            else if (token.equals("+"))
                stack.push(stack.pop() + stack.pop());
            else if (token.equals("-"))
                stack.push(- stack.pop() + stack.pop());
            else if (token.equals("/"))
                stack.push((1.0/stack.pop()) * stack.pop());
            else if (token.equals("sqrt"))
                stack.push(Math.sqrt(stack.pop()));
            else
                stack.push(Double.parseDouble(token));
        }
        StdOut.println(stack.pop());
    }
}
```

```
% java Postfix
1 2 3 + 4 5 * * +
101
```

```
% java Postfix
1 5 sqrt + 2 /
1.618033988749895
```

$$\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

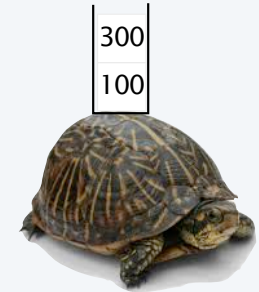
### Perspective

- Easy to add operators of all sorts.
- Can do infix with two stacks (see text).
- Could output TOY program.
- Indicative of how Java compiler works.

## Real-world stack application: PostScript

PostScript (Warnock-Geschke, 1980s): A turtle with a stack.

- Postfix program code (push literals; functions pop arguments).
- Add commands to drive virtual graphics machine.
- Add loops, conditionals, functions, types, fonts, strings....

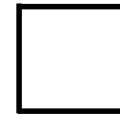


PostScript code

```
100 100 moveto  
100 300 lineto  
300 300 lineto  
300 100 lineto  
stroke
```

Annotations:

- push(100) points to the first 100.
- call "moveto" (takes args from stack) points to the moveto command.
- define a path points to the three lineto commands.
- draw the path points to the stroke command.



A simple virtual machine, but not a toy

- Easy to specify published page.
- Easy to implement on various specific printers.
- Revolutionized world of publishing.



Another stack machine: The JVM (Java Virtual Machine)!

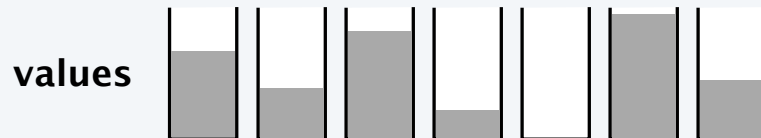
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## Strawman ADT for pushdown stacks

### Warmup: simplify the ADT

- Implement only for items of type String.
- Have client provide a stack *capacity* in the constructor.



### Strawman API

public class StrawStack	
StrawStack(int max)	<i>create a stack of capacity max</i>
void push(String item)	<i>add item to stack</i>
String pop()	<i>return the string most recently pushed</i>
boolean isEmpty()	<i>is the stack empty?</i>
int size()	<i>number of strings on the stack</i>

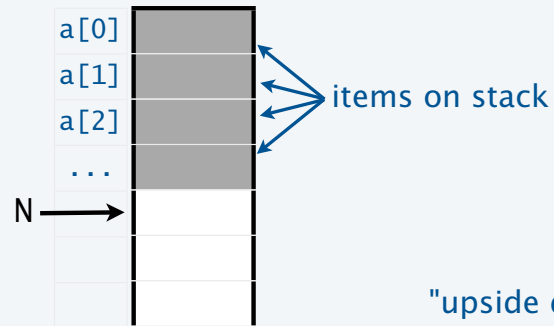
**Rationale.** Allows us to represent the collection with an array of strings.

## Strawman implementation: Instance variables and constructor

Data structure choice. Use an **array** to hold the collection.

```
public class StrawStack
{
    private String[] a;
    private int N = 0;

    public StrawStack(int max)
    { a = new String[max]; }
    ...
}
```



"upside down"  
representation of




## Strawman stack implementation: Test client

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    int max = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
    StrawStack stack = new StrawStack(max);
    while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
    {
        String item = StdIn.readString();
        if (item.equals("-"))
            stack.push(item);
        else
            StdOut.print(stack.pop());
    }
    StdOut.println();
}
```

instance variables
constructors
methods
test client

```
% more tobe.txt
to be or not to - be - - that - - - is

% java StrawStack 20 < tobe.txt
to be not that or be
```

What we *expect*, once the implementation is done. 

## Self-assessment 1 on stacks

Q. Can we always insert `pop()` commands to make items come out in sorted order?

Example 1. 

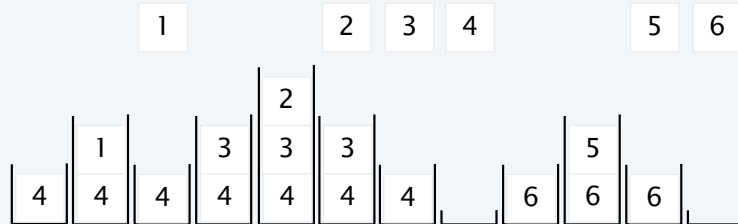
6	5	4	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Example 2. 

1	-	2	-	3	-	4	-	5	-	6	-
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Example 3. 

4	1	-	3	2	-	-	-	6	5	-	-
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---





## Strawman implementation: Methods

Methods define data-type operations (implement APIs).

```
public class StrawStack
{
  ...
  public boolean isEmpty()
  { return (N == 0); }

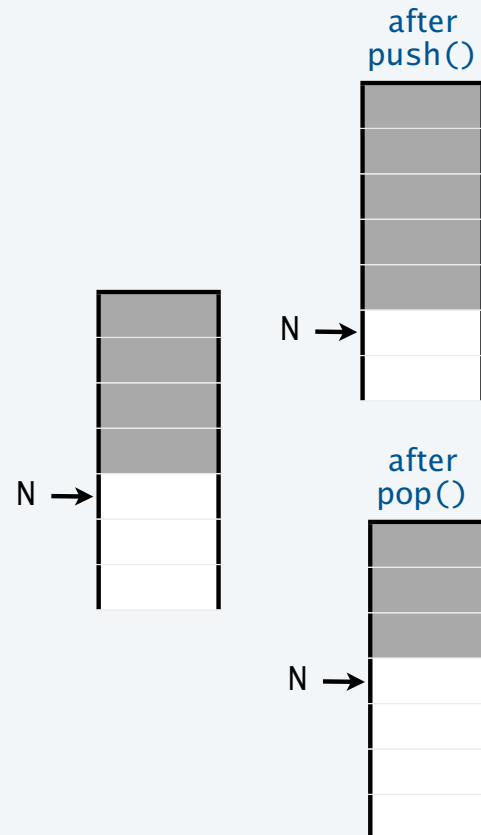
  public void push(Object item)
  { a[N++] = item; }

  public String pop()
  { return a[--N]; }

  public int size()
  { return N; }

  ...
}
```

all constant-time one-liners!



# Strawman pushdown stack implementation

```
public class StrawStack
{
    private String[] a;
    private int N = 0;
    public StrawStack(int max)
    { a = new String[max]; }
    public boolean isEmpty()
    { return (N == 0); }
    public void push(String item)
    { a[N++] = item; }
    public String pop()
    { return a[--N]; }
    public int size()
    { return N; }
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int max = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
        StrawStack stack = new StrawStack(max);
        while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
        {
            String item = StdIn.readString();
            if (item.compareTo("-") != 0)
                stack.push(item);
            else
                StdOut.print(stack.pop());
        }
        StdOut.println();
    }
}
```

← instance variables

← constructor

← methods

← test client

```
% more tobe.txt
to be or not to - be - - that - - - is

% java StrawStack 20 < tobe.txt
to be not that or be
```

# Trace of strawman stack implementation (array representation)

	<i>push</i>	to	be	or	not	to	-	be	-	-	that	-	-	-	is
	<i>pop</i>						to		be	not		that	or	be	
<i>stack contents after operation</i>	a[0]	to													
	a[1]	→ to	to be												
	a[2]	↑	→	to be	or										
	a[3]	N	→	→	to be	or not									
	a[4]			→	to be	or not	to	to	be	be	be	be	be	be	be
	a[5]				→	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to
	a[6]														
	a[7]														
	a[8]														
	a[9]														
	a[10]														
	a[11]														
	a[12]														
	a[13]														
	a[14]														
	a[15]														
a[16]															
a[17]															
a[18]															
a[19]															

Significant wasted space when stack size is not near the capacity (typical).

## Benchmarking the strawman stack implementation

StrawStack implements a *fixed-capacity collection that behaves like a stack* if the data fits.

It does *not* implement the stack API or meet the performance specifications.

Stack API

<code>public class Stack&lt;Item&gt;</code>	
<code>Stack&lt;Item&gt;()</code>	<i>create a stack of objects, all of type Item</i>
<code>void push(Item item)</code>	<i>add item to stack</i>
<code>Item pop()</code>	<i>remove and return the item most recently pushed</i>
<code>boolean isEmpty()</code>	<i>is the stack empty?</i>
<code>int size()</code>	<i># of objects on the stack</i>

StrawStack works only for strings →

StrawStack requires client to provide capacity

### Performance specifications

- All operations are constant-time. ✓
- Memory use is proportional to the size of the collection, when it is nonempty. ✗
- No limits within the code on the collection size. ✗

Nice try, but need a new *data structure*.

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## Data structures: sequential vs. linked

### Sequential data structure

- Put objects next to one another.
- TOY: consecutive memory cells.
- Java: array of objects.
- Fixed size, arbitrary access. ← *i*th element

### Linked data structure

- Associate with each object a **link** to another one.
- TOY: link is memory address of next object.
- Java: link is reference to next object.
- Variable size, sequential access. ← *next element*
- Overlooked by novice programmers.
- Flexible, widely used method for organizing data.

Array at C0

<i>addr</i>	<i>value</i>
→ C0	"Alice"
C1	"Bob"
C2	"Carol"
C3	
C4	
C5	
C6	
C7	
C8	
C9	
CA	
CB	

Linked list at C4

<i>addr</i>	<i>value</i>
C0	"Carol"
C1	null
C2	
C3	
→ C4	"Alice"
C5	CA
C6	
C7	
C8	
C9	
CA	"Bob"
CB	C0

## Simplest singly-linked data structure: linked list

### Linked list

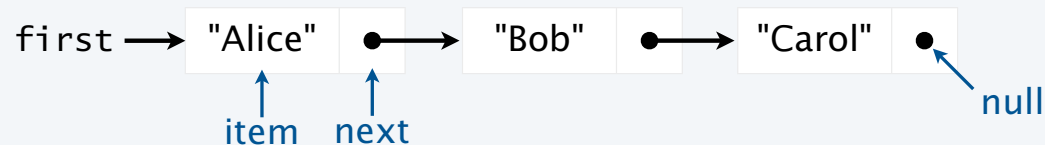
- A recursive data structure.
- **Def.** A *linked list* is null or a reference to a *node*.
- **Def.** A *node* is a data type that contains a reference to a node.
- Unwind recursion: A linked list is a sequence of nodes.

```
private class Node
{
    private String item;
    private Node next;
}
```

### Representation

- Use a private **nested class** Node to implement the node abstraction.
- For simplicity, start with nodes having two values: a String and a Node.

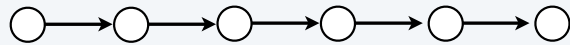
### A linked list



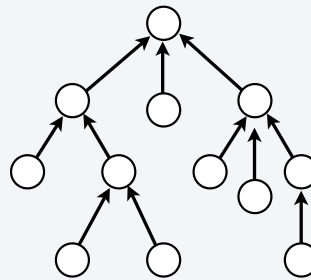
## Singly-linked data structures

Even with just one link (  $\circ \rightarrow$  ) a wide variety of data structures are possible.

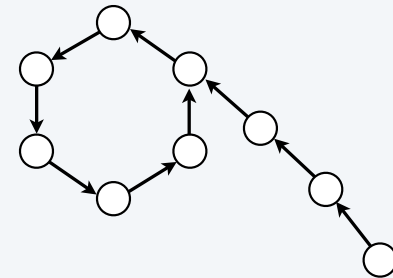
Linked list (this lecture)



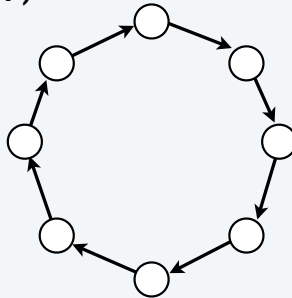
Tree



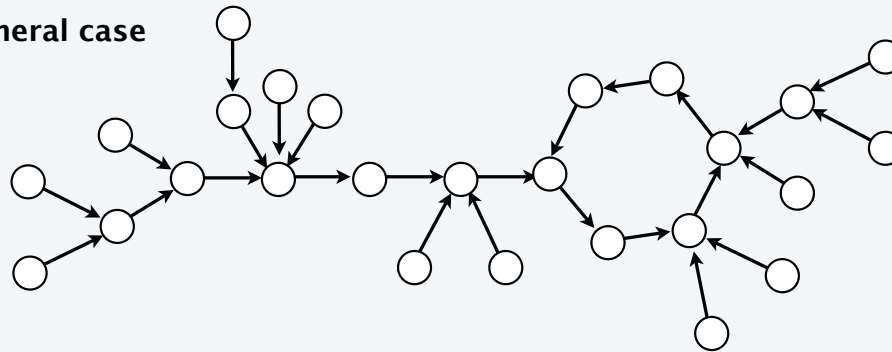
Rho



Circular list (TSP)



General case



Multiply linked structures: many more possibilities!

From the point of view of a particular object, all of these structures look the same.

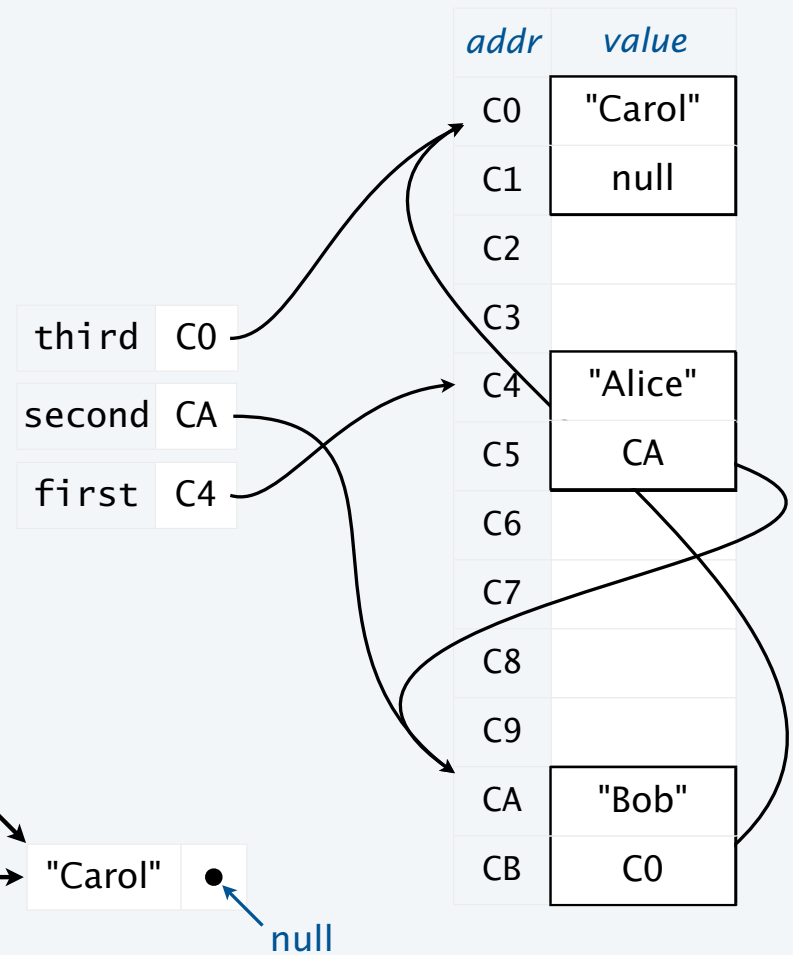
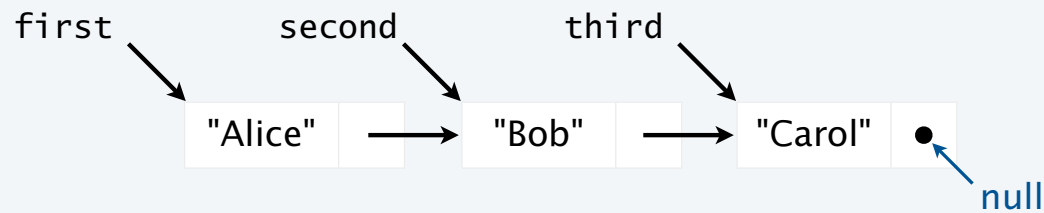


## Building a linked list

```
Node third = new Node();  
third.item = "Carol";  
third.next = null;
```

```
Node second = new Node();  
second.item = "Bob";  
second.next = third;
```

```
Node first = new Node();  
first.item = "Alice";  
first.next = second;
```



## List processing code

---

### Standard operations for processing data structured as a singly-linked list

- Add a node at the beginning.
- Remove and return the node at the beginning.
- Add a node at the end (requires a reference to the last node).
- Traverse the list (visit every node, in sequence).

### An operation that calls for a *doubly*-linked list (slightly beyond our scope)

- Remove and return the node at the end.

## List processing code: Remove and return the first item

**Goal.** Remove and return the first item in a linked list `first`.

```
item = first.item;
```

`item`

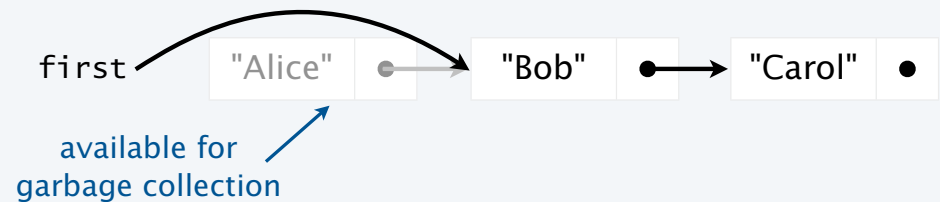
```
"Alice"
```



```
first = first.next;
```

`item`

```
"Alice"
```



```
return item;
```

`item`

```
"Alice"
```



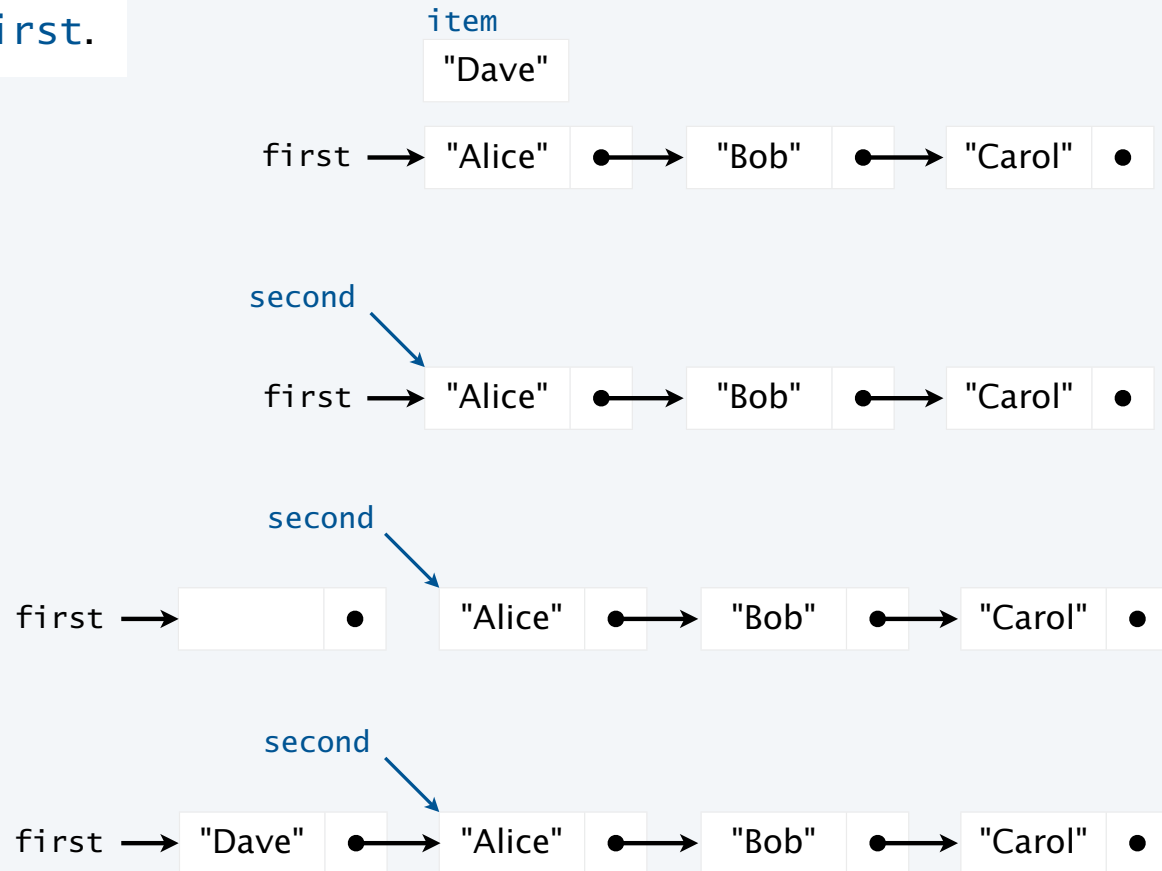
## List processing code: Add a new node at the beginning

Goal. Add `item` to a linked list `first`.

```
Node second = first;
```

```
first = new Node();
```

```
first.item = item;  
first.next = second;
```



## List processing code: Traverse a list

---

Goal. Visit every node on a linked list *first*.

➔

```
Node x = first;
while (x != null)
{
    StdOut.println(x.item);
    x = x.next;
}
```



StdOut

```
Alice
Bob
Carol
```

## Self-assessment 1 on linked lists

---

Q. What is the effect of the following code (not-so-easy question)?

```
...
Node list = null;
while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
{
    Node old = list;
    list = new Node();
    list.item = StdIn.readString();
    list.next = old;
}
for (Node t = list; t != null; t = t.next)
    StdOut.println(t.item);
...
```

## Self-assessment 2 on stacks

---

Q. Give code that uses a stack to print the strings from StdIn on StdOut, in reverse order.

## Self-assessment 2 on linked lists

---

Q. What is the effect of the following code (not-so-easy question)?

```
...
Node list = new Node();
list.item = StdIn.readString();
Node last = list;
while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
{
    last.next = new Node();
    last = last.next;
    last.item = StdIn.readString();
}
...
```



## 14. Stacks and Queues

- APIs
- Clients
- Strawman implementation
- Linked lists
- **Implementations**

## ADT for pushdown stacks: review

---

A **pushdown stack** is an idealized model of a LIFO storage mechanism.

An **ADT** allows us to write Java programs that use and manipulate pushdown stacks.

**API**

public class Stack<Item>	
Stack<Item>()	<i>create a stack of objects, all of type Item</i>
void push(Item item)	<i>add item to stack</i>
Item pop()	<i>remove and return the item most recently pushed</i>
boolean isEmpty()	<i>is the stack empty?</i>
int size()	<i># of objects on the stack</i>

**Performance specifications**

- All operations are constant-time.
- Memory use is proportional to the size of the collection, when it is nonempty.
- No limits within the code on the collection size.

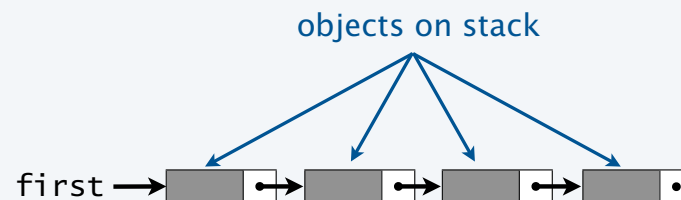
## Pushdown stack implementation: Instance variables and constructor

Data structure choice. Use a **linked list** to hold the collection.

```
public class Stack<Item>
{
    private Node first = null;
    private int N = 0;

    private class Node
    {
        private Item item;
        private Node next;
    }
    ...
}
```

use in place of concrete type



instance variables
constructor
methods
test client

Annoying exception (not a problem here).

Can't declare an array of Item objects (don't ask why).

Need cast: `Item[] a = (Item[]) new Object[N]`

## Stack implementation: Test client

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    Stack<String> stack = new Stack<String>();
    while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
    {
        String item = StdIn.readString();
        if (item.equals("-"))
            System.out.print(stack.pop());
        else
            stack.push(item);
    }
    StdOut.println();
}
```

instance variables

constructors

methods

test client

```
% more tobe.txt
to be or not to - be - - that - - - is

% java Stack < tobe.txt
to be not that or be
```

What we *expect*, once the implementation is done.

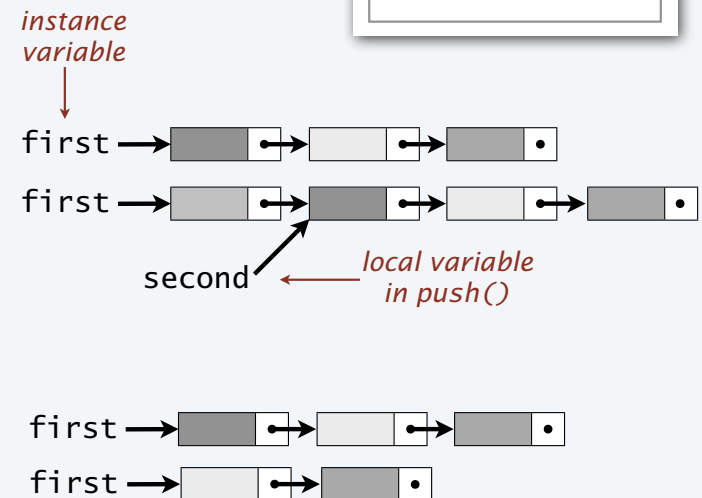
# Stack implementation: Methods

Methods define data-type operations (implement the API).

```
public class Stack<Item>
{
    ...
    public boolean isEmpty()
    { return first == null; }
    public void push(Item item)
    {
        Node second = first;
        first = new Node();
        first.item = item;
        first.next = second;
        N++;
    }
    public Item pop()
    {
        Item item = first.item;
        first = first.next;
        N--;
        return item;
    }
    public int size()
    { return N; }
    ...
}
```

add a new node  
to the beginning of the list

remove and return  
first item on list



# Stack implementation

```
public class Stack<Item>
{
    private Node first = null;
    private int N = 0;
    private class Node
    {
        private Item item;
        private Node next;
    }
    public boolean isEmpty()
    { return first == null; }
    public void push(Item item)
    {
        Node second = first;
        first = new Node();
        first.item = item;
        first.next = second;
        N++;
    }
    public Item pop()
    {
        Item item = first.item;
        first = first.next;
        N--;
        return item;
    }
    public int size()
    { return N; }
    public static void main(String[] args)
    { // See earlier slide }
}
```

instance variables

nested class

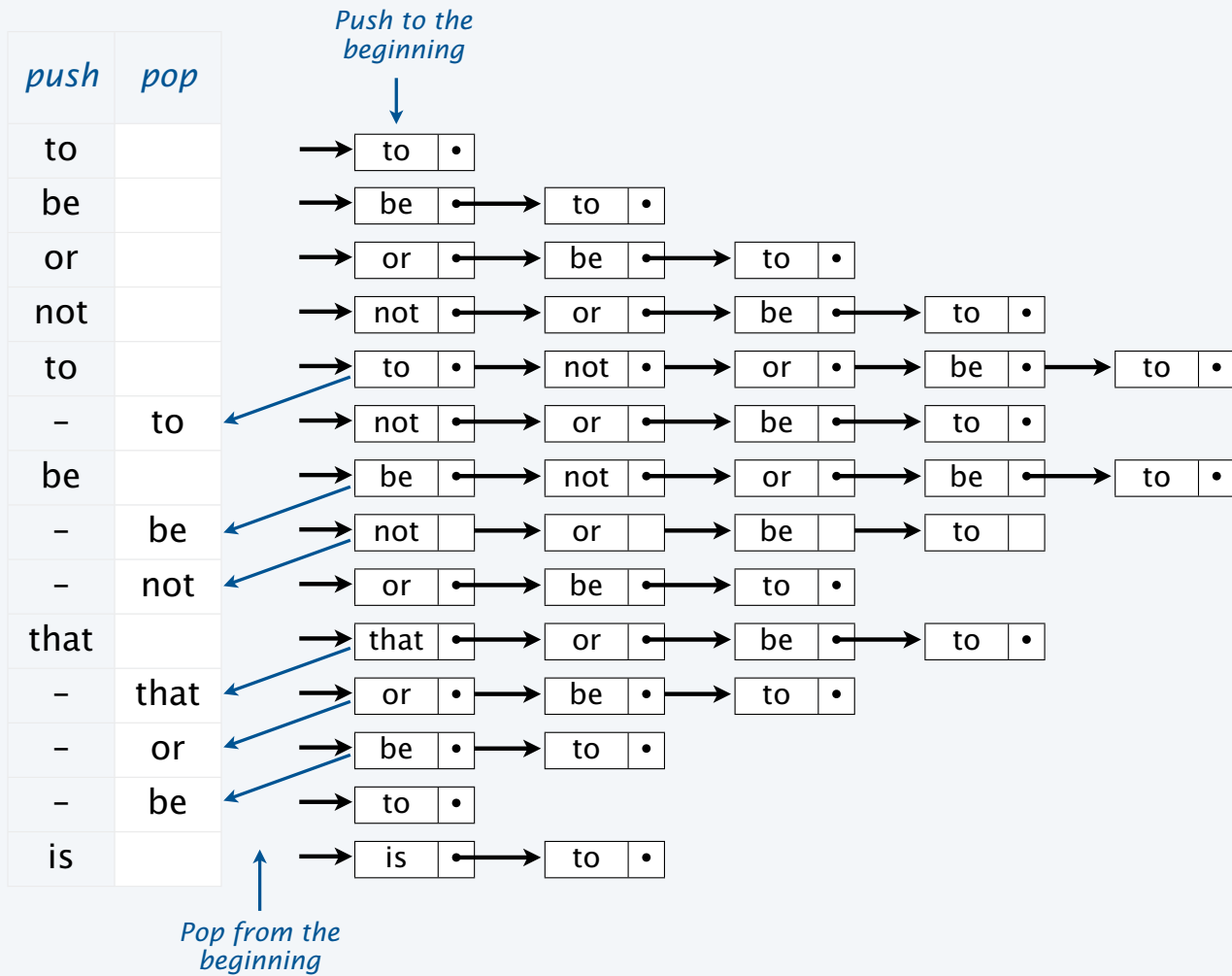
methods

test client

```
% more tobe.txt
to be or not to be - - that - - - is

% java Stack < tobe.txt
to be not that or be
```

# Trace of stack implementation (linked list representation)



## Benchmarking the stack implementation

Stack implements the stack abstraction.

It *does* implement the API and meet the performance specifications.

### Stack API

<code>public class Stack&lt;Item&gt;</code>	
<code>Stack&lt;Item&gt;()</code>	<i>create a stack of objects, all of type Item</i>
<code>void push(Item item)</code>	<i>add item to stack</i>
<code>Item pop()</code>	<i>remove and return the item most recently pushed</i>
<code>boolean isEmpty()</code>	<i>is the stack empty?</i>
<code>int size()</code>	<i># of objects on the stack</i>



### Performance specifications

- All operations are constant-time. ✓
- Memory use is proportional to the size of the collection, when it is nonempty. ✓
- No limits within the code on the collection size. ✓

`dequeue()`: same code as `pop()`  
`enqueue()`: slightly more complicated

Made possible by *linked data structure*.

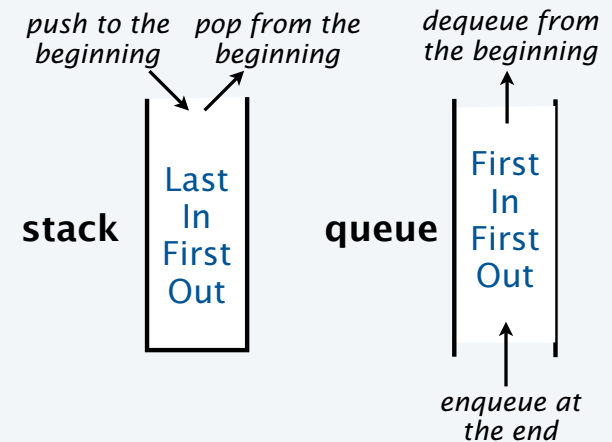
Also possible to implement the *queue* abstraction with a singly-linked list (see text).



## Summary

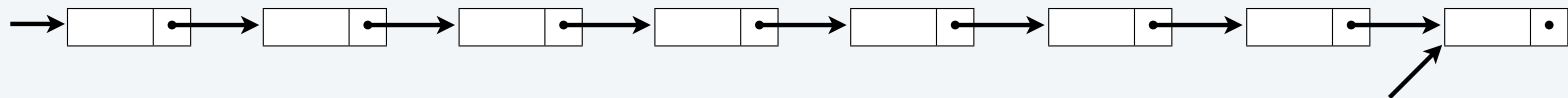
### Stacks and queues

- Fundamental collection abstractions.
- Differ only in order in which items are removed.
- Performance specifications: Constant-time for all operations and space proportional to number of objects.

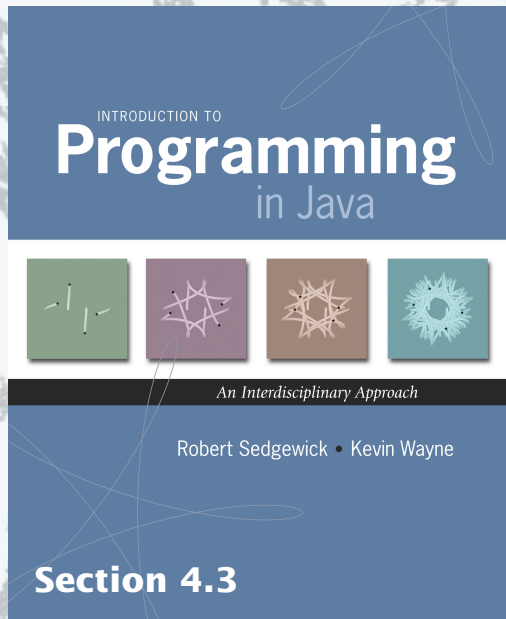


### Linked structures

- Fundamental alternative to sequential structures.
- Enable implementations of the stack/queue abstractions *that meet performance specifications.*



Next: *Symbol tables*



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# 14. Stacks and Queues