

# Data Structures

## ArrayLists

CS 225  
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February 2, 2026



Department of Computer Science

# Course Policy Reminders

Please use the extension request form

Please email CS 225 admin

# Post your art on #mp-art!



# Learning Objectives

Discuss data variables for implementing array lists

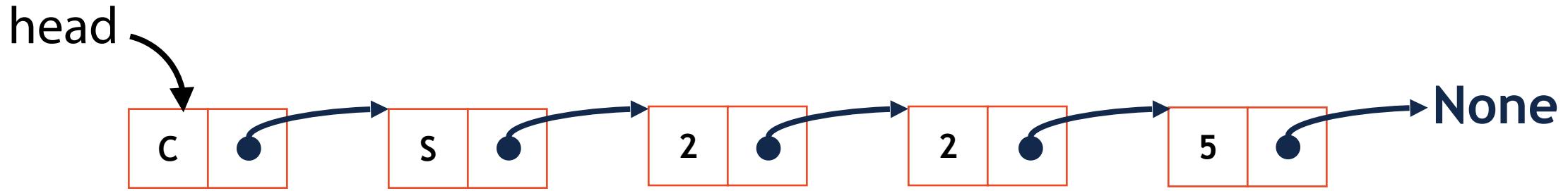
Review array list implementations

Discuss amortized analysis

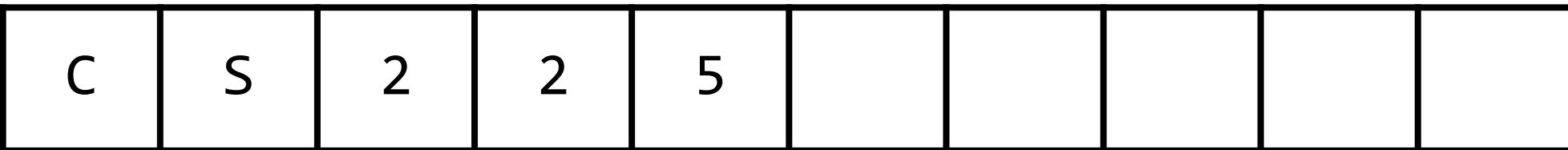
Consider extensions to lists

# List Implementations

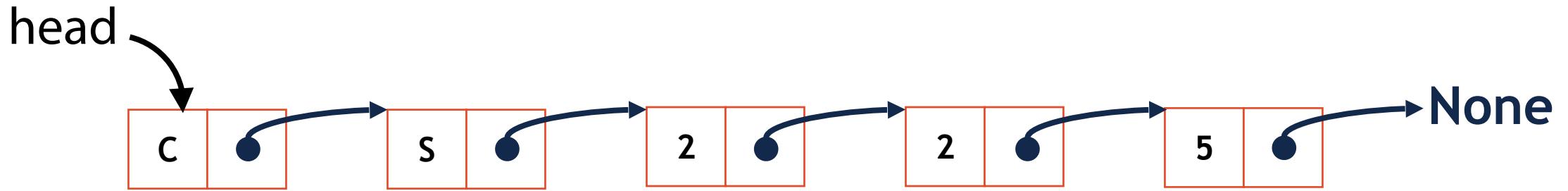
## 1. Linked List



## 2. ArrayList



# Linked List Runtimes



**@Front**

**Insert**

$O(1)$

**@RefPointer**

$O(1)$

**@Index**

$O(n)$

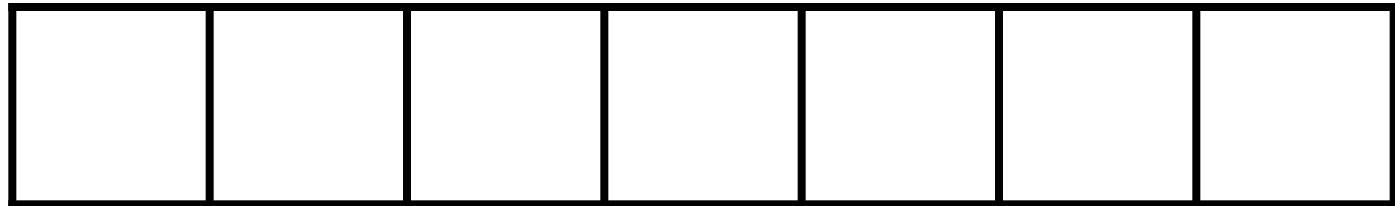
**Delete**

$O(1)$

$O(1)$

$O(n)$

# Array List



**An array is allocated as continuous memory.**

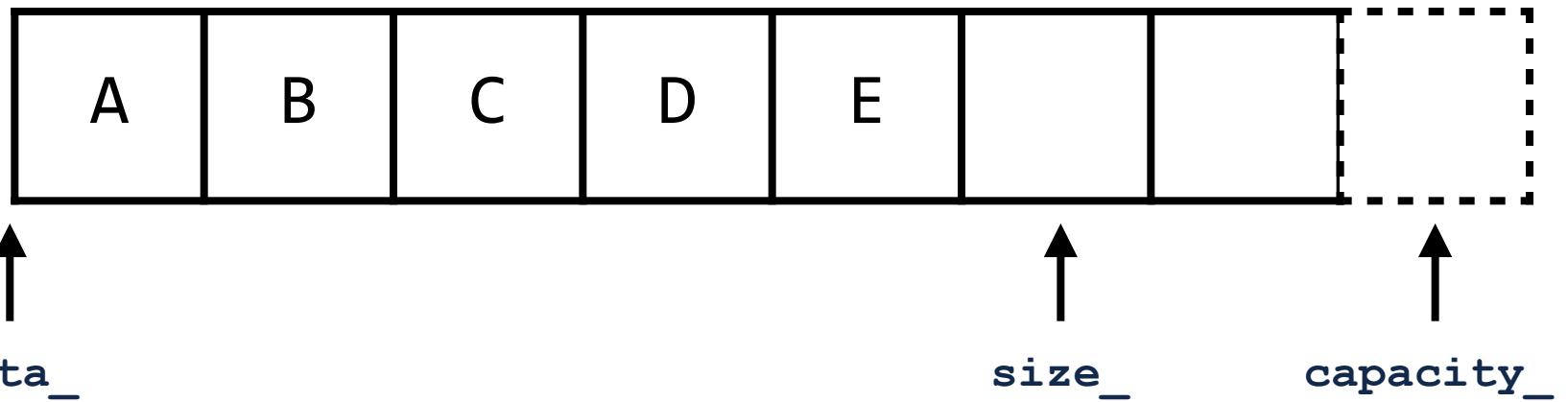
Three values are necessary for efficient array usage:

1)

2)

3)

# ArrayList

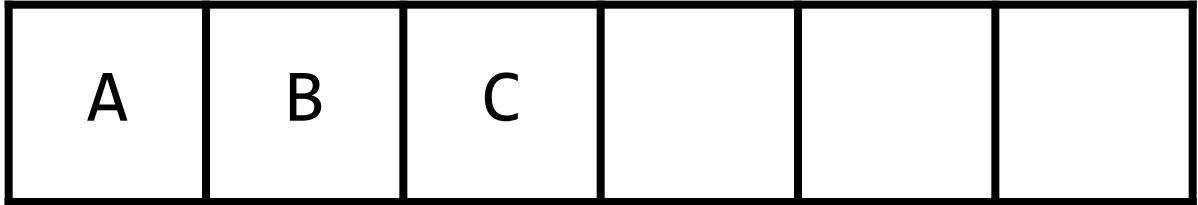


In C++, vector is implemented as:

- 1) **Data:** Stored as a pointer to array start
- 2) **Size:** Stored as a pointer to the next available space
- 3) **Capacity:** Stored as a pointer past the end of the array

# List.h

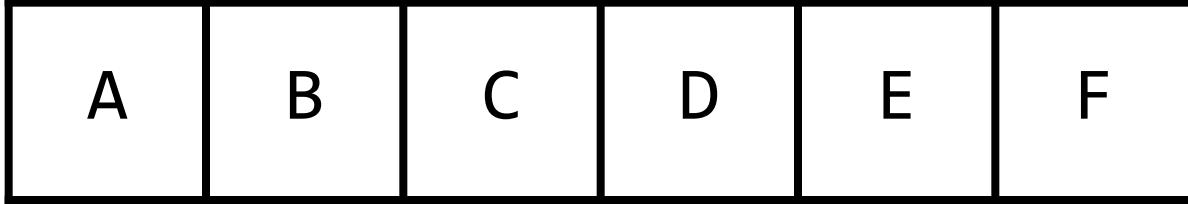
```
1 #pragma once
2
3 template <typename T>
4 class List {
5 public:
6     /* --- */
7 ...
8 private:
9     T *data_;
10
11    T *size_;
12
13    T *capacity_;
14 ...
15    /* --- */
16 };
```



If I want to know the number of items in the array:

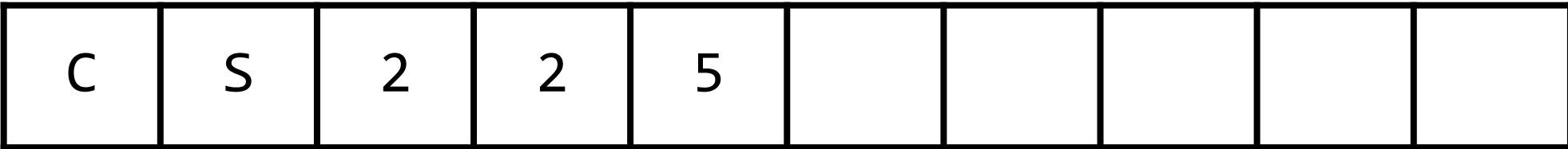
# List.h

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```

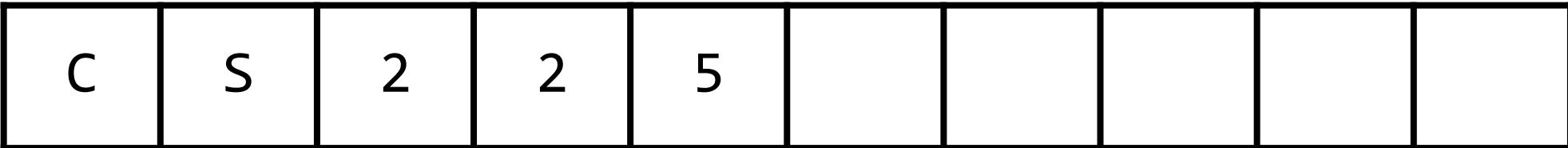


How do I know if I'm at capacity?

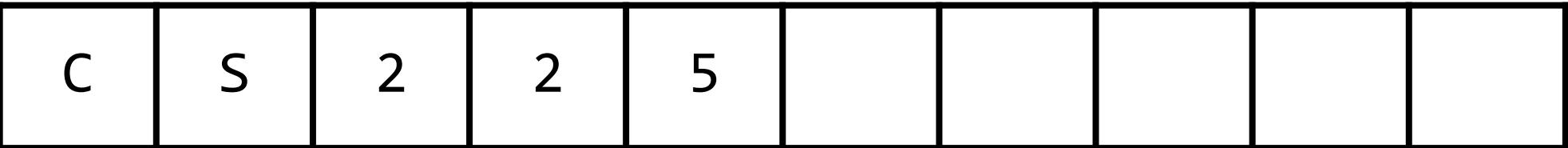
ArrayList: [ ]



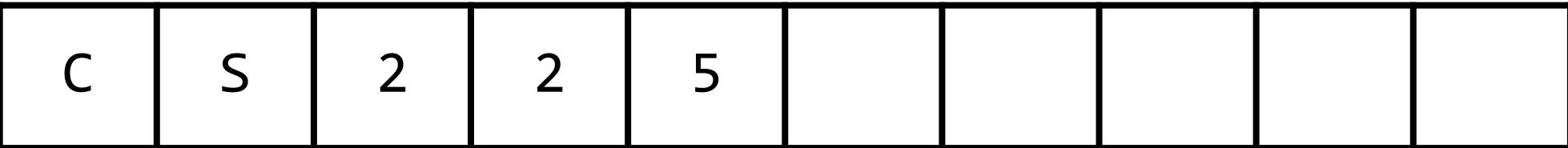
# ArrayList: insertFront(data)



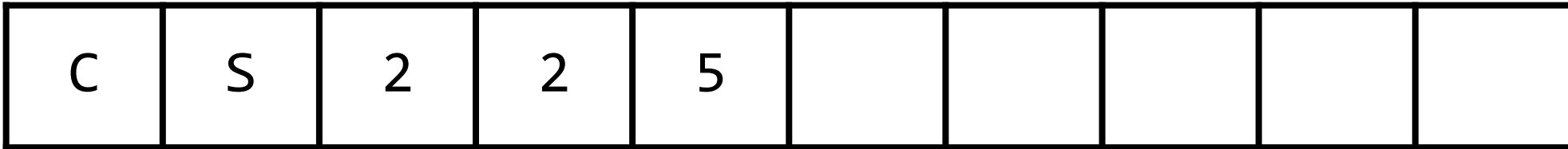
# ArrayList: insertBack(data)



# ArrayList: insert(data, index)



# ArrayList: Not at capacity



**@Front**

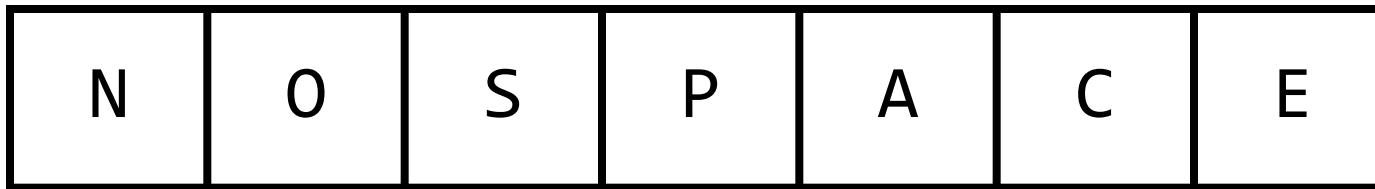
**@Back**

**@Index**

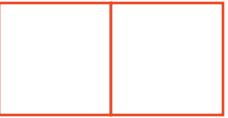
**Insert**

**Delete**

# ArrayList: addspace(data)

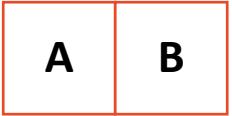


# Resize Strategy: +2 elements every time



# Resize Strategy: +2 elements every time

**1) How many copy calls per reallocation?**

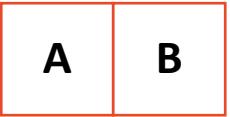


**2) Total reallocations for N objects?**



# Resize Strategy: +2 elements every time

## 1) How many copy calls per reallocation?



For reallocation  $i$ ,  $2i$  copy calls are made

## 2) Total reallocations for $N$ objects?

Let  $k$  be the number of reallocs,  $k = \frac{N}{2}$

**Total number of copy calls:**

# Resize Strategy: +2 elements every time

## 1) How many copy calls per reallocation?



For reallocation  $i$ ,  $2i$  copy calls are made

## 2) Total reallocations for $N$ objects?

Let  $k$  be the number of reallocs,  $k = \frac{N}{2}$

$$\sum_{i=1}^k 2i = k(k + 1) = k^2 + k$$

**Total number of copy calls:**

**... For  $N$  objects:**  $\frac{N^2 + 2N}{4}$

# Resize Strategy: +2 elements every time



Total copies for N inserts: 
$$\frac{N^2 + 2N}{4}$$

**Amortized:**

**Big O:**

# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time



# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time

**1) How many copy calls per reallocation?**



**2) Total reallocations for N objects?**



# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time

## 1) How many copy calls per reallocation?



For reallocation  $i$ ,  $2^i$  copy calls are made

## 2) Total reallocations for N objects?



$k = \text{final realloc needed} = \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$

**Total number of copy calls:**

# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time

## 1) How many copy calls per reallocation?



For reallocation  $i$ ,  $2^i$  copy calls are made

## 2) Total reallocations for N objects?



$k$  = final realloc needed =  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$

$$\sum_{i=0}^k 2^i = 2^{k+1} - 1$$

**Total number of copy calls:**

**... For  $N$  objects:**  $2n - 1$

# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time

Total copies for  $n$  inserts:  $2n - 1$

**Amortized:**

**Big O:**

# Resize Strategy: x2 elements every time

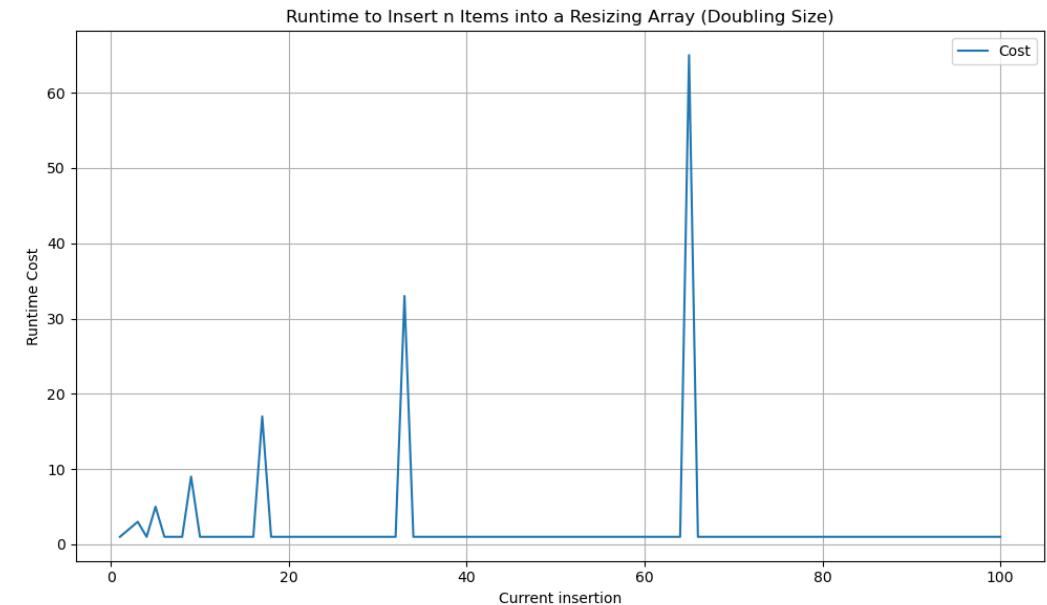
Total copies for  $n$  inserts:  $2n - 1$

**Amortized:**

Precise total work over  $N$  calls

**Big O:**

Upperbound on worst case



# List Implementation



	Singly Linked List	Array
Look up <b>arbitrary</b> location		
Insert after <b>given</b> element		
Remove after <b>given</b> element		
Insert at <b>arbitrary</b> location		
Remove at <b>arbitrary</b> location		
Search for an input <b>value</b>		

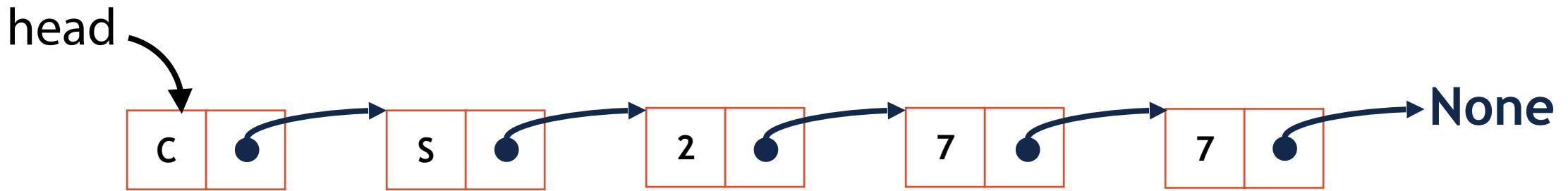
# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs

The implementations shown are foundational (simple).

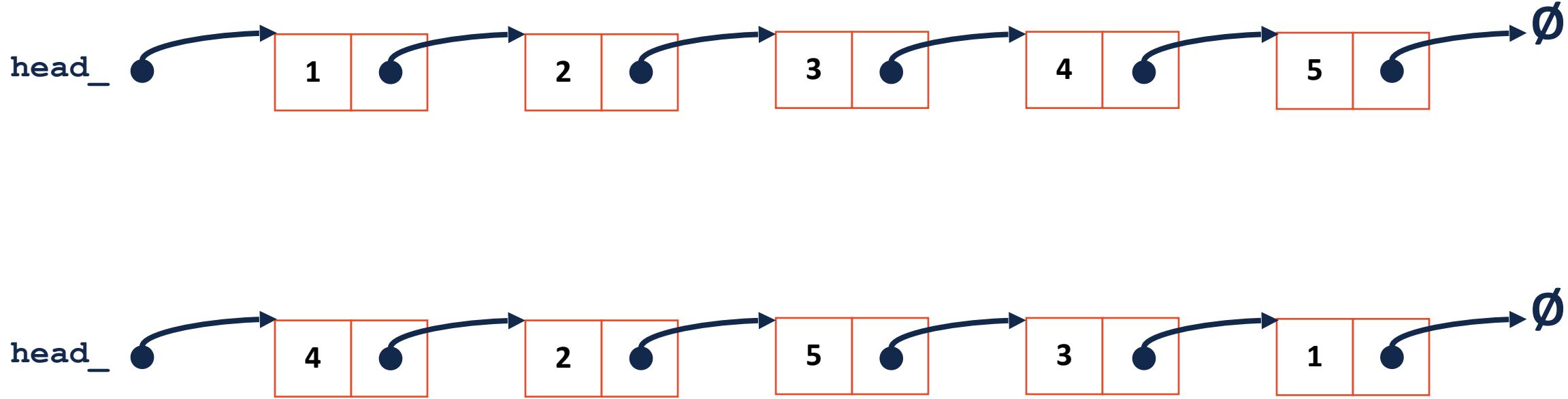
Can we make our lists better at some things? What is the cost?

# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs

Getting the size of a linked list has a Big O of:



# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs

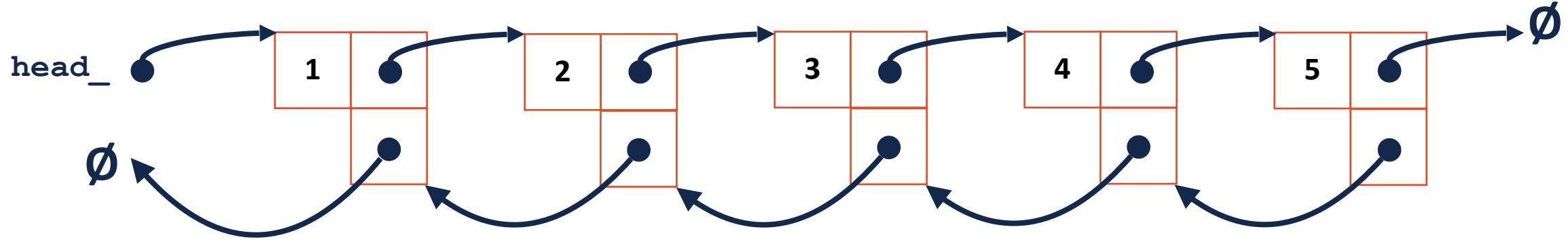


# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs

2	7	5	9	7	14	1	0	8	3
---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	---

0	1	2	3	5	7	7	8	9	14
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs



# Thinking critically about lists: tradeoffs

When we discuss data structures, consider how they can be modified or improved!

**Next time:** Can we make a 'list' that is  $O(1)$  to insert and remove? What is our tradeoff in doing so?