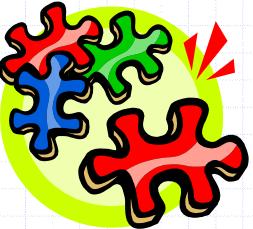


Sets



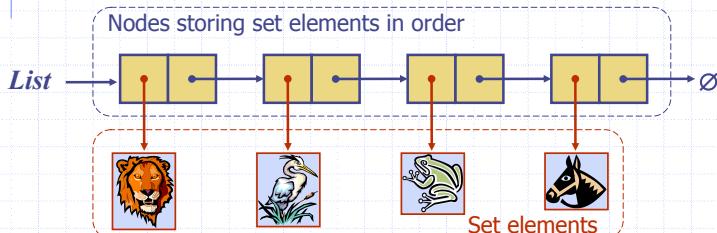
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Sets

1

Storing a Set in a List

- We can implement a set with a list
- Elements are stored sorted according to some canonical ordering
- The space used is $O(n)$



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Sets

3

Set Operations (§ 10.6)

- We represent a set by the sorted sequence of its elements
- By specializing the auxiliary methods the generic merge algorithm can be used to perform basic set operations:
 - union
 - intersection
 - subtraction
- The running time of an operation on sets A and B should be at most $O(n_A + n_B)$



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Sets

2

Generic Merging

- Generalized merge of two sorted lists A and B
- Template method `genericMerge`
- Auxiliary methods
 - `aIsLess`
 - `bIsLess`
 - `bothAreEqual`
- Runs in $O(n_A + n_B)$ time provided the auxiliary methods run in $O(1)$ time

```
Algorithm genericMerge(A, B)
  S  $\leftarrow$  empty sequence
  while  $\neg A.isEmpty() \wedge \neg B.isEmpty()$ 
    a  $\leftarrow A.first().element(); b \leftarrow B.first().element()$ 
    if a < b
      aIsLess(a, S); A.remove(A.first())
    else if b < a
      bIsLess(b, S); B.remove(B.first())
    else { b = a
      bothAreEqual(a, b, S)
      A.remove(A.first()); B.remove(B.first())
    }
  while  $\neg A.isEmpty()$ 
    aIsLess(a, S); A.remove(A.first())
  while  $\neg B.isEmpty()$ 
    bIsLess(b, S); B.remove(B.first())
  return S
```

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Sets

4

Using Generic Merge for Set Operations



- ◆ Any of the set operations can be implemented using a generic merge
- ◆ For example:
 - For **intersection**: only copy elements that are duplicated in both list
 - For **union**: copy every element from both lists except for the duplicates
- ◆ All methods run in linear time.