QUEUES

OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW

• What is a queue?



Queue at bus stop



Queue data structure

OVERVIEW

- With a queue data structure we insert data at the "back" of the queue and remove from the "front" of the queue
- Think of a line of people waiting for a bus
 - People get in line based on their arrival time
 - New arrivals go to back of line and wait their turn
 - People at front of the line enter bus first
- This pattern of data usage has two names:
 - FIFO first in, first out
 - LILO last in, last out

OVERVIEW

- A wide range of programming problems can be solved using a queue data structure
 - Queues can be used to simulate human behavior (bus stops, gas stations, banks, ticket sales, etc.)
 - Queues can also be used to provide fair service (print queues, process queues, communication buffers, etc.)
 - Finally, queues can be used in string processing, polygon filling, and breadth first search applications
- Queues can be implemented using fixed length arrays or using linked lists
 - Arrays are faster, but linked lists can never become full

QUEUES

QUEUE INTERFACE

QUEUE INTERFACE

The queue ADT has the following operations:

- Create Initialize queue data structure
- Destroy Delete queue data structure
- Insert Insert data at the end of queue
- Remove Remove data at the front of queue
- IsFull Check if the queue is at max capacity
- IsEmpty Check if the queue is has no data

The type of data stored in the queue varies by application

- Character string processing
- Integer polygon flood fill
- Object simulation or scheduling information

QUEUE INTERFACE

```
class Queue
{
public:
   // Constructors
   Queue();
   Queue (const Queue& queue);
   ~Queue();
   // Basic methods
   void Insert(const int number);
   void Remove(int & number);
```

QUEUE INTERFACE

// Other methods

int GetCount();

int GetFront();

bool IsFull();

bool IsEmpty();

void Print();

private:

. . .

// To be added
};

QUEUES

QUEUE IMPLEMENTATION

We create an empty queue using an array with size = 10 and a variable count = 0 to store the number of items



 When we insert a value 3 on the queue, store the data at array[count] and we increment count



 As we insert more data into the queue, the array fills in from left to right and count increases



 When we remove a value from the front of the queue, we shift data left in the array and decrement count by one



A queue is full when count = size



A queue is empty when count = 0



```
class Queue
{
public:
   // Constructors
   Queue();
   Queue (const Queue& queue);
   ~Queue();
   // Basic methods
   void Insert(const int number);
   void Remove(int & number);
```

```
ARRAY BASED
```

. . .

```
// Other methods
   int GetCount();
   int GetFront();
   bool IsFull();
   bool IsEmpty();
   void Print();
private:
   static const int MAX SIZE = 100;
   int data[MAX_SIZE];
   int count;
};
```

```
// Constructor function
Queue::Queue ()
{
   for (int index=0; index<MAX_SIZE; index++)
      data[index] = 0;
   count = 0;
}</pre>
```

```
ARRAY BASED
```

```
// Copy constructor
Queue::Queue (const Queue & queue)
{
   for (int index=0; index<MAX_SIZE; index++)
      data[index] = queue.data[index];
   count = queue.count;</pre>
```

}

```
// Destructor function
Queue::~Queue()
{
    // Empty
```

}

```
ARRAY BASED
```

```
// Insert method
void Queue::Insert(const int number)
{
   // Check for full queue
                                      This method ignores insert if
   if (IsFull())
                                      the queue is already full
       return;
   // Save data in queue
   data[count++] = number;
}
                                      This increments count after
                                      using its value to access array
```

```
ARRAY BASED
```

```
// Insert method
void Queue::Insert(const int number)
{
   // Check for full queue
   if (IsFull())
                                      This method ignores insert if
                                      the queue is already full
       return;
   // Save data in queue
   data[count] = number;
   count++;
                                      This increments count after
}
                                      using its value to access array
```

```
// Remove method
void Queue::Remove(int & number)
{
   // Check for empty queue
                                      This method returns if
   if (IsEmpty()) return;
                                      the queue is empty
   // Remove front value from queue
   number = data[0];
   count--;
   for (int i = 0; i < count; i++)
                                             Shifting data in array is
      data[i] = data[i + 1];
                                             simple but very slow
}
```

```
// GetLength method
int Queue::GetCount()
{
   return count;
}
// GetFront method
int Queue::GetFront()
{
   return data[0];
}
```

```
// True if queue is full
bool Queue::IsFull()
{
    return (count == MAX_SIZE);
}
```

```
// True if queue is empty
bool Queue::IsEmpty()
{
    return (count == 0);
}
```

```
// Print method
void Queue::Print()
{
    cout << "queue: ";
    for (int index=0; index<count; index++)
        cout << data[index] << ' ';
    cout << endl;</pre>
```

}

- Moving data in the array after every remove operation is too slow for practical applications
 - The solution is to create a circular queue by "bending" an array back onto itself



- Use two integer variables keep track of the locations of front and end of the queue
 - After inserting 6 values we would have the following



- Update values of front and end as we insert and remove
 - Insert: end = (end + 1) % SIZE
 - Remove: front = (front + 1) % SIZE



- Array front and end locations will wrap around when they reach the end of the array
 - Queue is full if ((end + 1) % SIZE == front)



• Example:



Initial queue front=0, end=5, count=6

After 2 removes front=2, end=5, count=4

After 2 inserts front=2, end=7, count=6

• Example:



After 2 inserts front=2, end=9, count=8

After 1 insert front=2, end=0, count=9

After 3 removes front=5, end=0, count=6

```
// Insert method
void Queue::Insert(const int number)
{
   // Check for full queue
                                     This method ignores insert if
   if (IsFull()) return;
                                     the queue is already full
   // Save data in queue
   end = (end + 1) % SIZE;
                                      This updates the end location
   data[end] = number;
                                      and then stores the data
   count++;
```

}

```
// Remove method
void Queue::Remove(int & number)
{
   // Check for empty queue
                                         This method returns if
   if (IsEmpty()) return;
                                         the queue is empty
   // Remove front value from queue
   number = data[front];
                                            This removes the data and
   front = (front + 1) % SIZE;
                                           then updates front location
   count--;
}
```

We create an empty queue by creating an empty linked list





head

 When we remove values from the queue we delete nodes from the head of the linked list



 To get the front of the queue, we return the first value in the linked list, without removing it from the list



- A linked list queue can not become full unless our program runs out of memory on the heap
- A linked list queue is empty when the head pointer is null

```
class Queue
{
public:
   // Constructors
   Queue();
   Queue (const Queue& queue);
   ~Queue();
   // Basic methods
   void Insert(const int number);
   void Remove(int & number);
```

// Other methods

int GetCount();

int GetFront();

bool IsFull();

bool IsEmpty();

void Print();

private:

QueueNode *head;

QueueNode *tail;

};

. . .

Class QueueNode

{

public:

int Number;

QueueNode *Next;

};

This class "breaks" the information hiding principle of OOP, but we are only going to use it in the Queue class

```
Queue::Queue ()
{
    head = NULL;
    tail = NULL;
}
```

```
Queue::Queue(const Queue & queue)
{
    // Create first node
    QueueNode *copy = new QueueNode();
    Head = copy;
```

```
// Walk list to copy nodes
QueueNode *ptr = queue.Head;
```

```
while (ptr != NULL)
{
   copy->Next = new QueueNode();
   copy = copy->Next;
   copy->Number = ptr->Number;
   copy->Next = NULL;
   Tail = copy;
   ptr = ptr->Next;
}
// Tidy first node
copy = Head;
Head = copy->Next;
delete copy;
```

}

```
Queue::~Queue()
{
   // Delete nodes from queue
   while (Head != NULL)
   {
      QueueNode *Temp = Head;
      Head = Head->Next;
      delete Temp;
   }
   Head = NULL;
   Tail = NULL;
```

}

```
void Queue::Insert(const int Number)
{
   // Allocate space for data
   QueueNode *Temp = new QueueNode;
                                                  This ignores insert
   if (Temp == NULL) return;
                                                  operation if we run
   Temp->Number = Number;
                                                  out of memory
   Temp->Next = NULL;
   // Insert data at tail of list
   if (IsEmpty()) Head = Temp;
                                           We insert node at the
   else Tail->Next = Temp;
                                           tail of linked list
   Tail = Temp;
```

```
void Queue::Remove(int & Number)
{
   // Extract information from node
                                                  This returns 0 is
   if (IsEmpty()) return;
                                                  queue is empty
   int Number = Head->Number;
   // Delete first node from linked list
   QueueNode *Temp = Head;
   Head = Head->Next;
   if (IsEmpty())
                                       We delete node after
      Tail = NULL;
                                       updating pointers
   delete Temp;
}
```

```
// Return front value
```

```
return Number;
```

}

```
// True if queue is full
bool Queue::IsFull()
{
   return false;
}
// True if queue is empty
bool Queue::IsEmpty()
{
   return (Head == NULL);
}
```

```
void Queue::Print()
{
   cout << "queue: ";</pre>
   QueueNode *Temp = Head;
   while (Temp != NULL)
   {
       cout << Temp->Number << " ";</pre>
       Temp = Temp->Next;
   }
   cout << endl;</pre>
}
```

QUEUES

APPLICATION: POLYGON FLOOD FILL

- Flood fill is an algorithm used in most paint packages to fill in the interior of a line drawing
 - User draws the object outline
 - User selects a seed point inside the object
 - User selects the desired color
 - Algorithm simulates "flooding" to fill region



Queue based flood fill demo from Wikipedia

Flood fill can be implemented recursively as follows:

- We start at seed location (x,y) in picture
- If pixel(x,y) is not already colored, we color this pixel and make four recursive calls to fill in adjacent locations

floodfill(x+1, y);
floodfill(x-1, y);
floodfill(x, y+1);

floodfill(x, y-1);

- Recursion terminates if the pixel is already colored (or if the location is outside the boundary of the image)
- If the flood fill region is large, this could result in millions of recursive calls and crash the program

```
void floodfill(int picture[SIZE][SIZE],
   int x, int y, int value)
{
   // Check terminating condition
   if ((x \ge 0) \&\& (x < SIZE) \&\&
        (y \ge 0) \&\& (y < SIZE)
                                 88
                                            Checking we are
        (picture[y][x] != value))
                                            inside array bounds
                                            before checking pixel
   {
      // Paint this pixel
      picture[y][x] = value;
```

```
// Visit four neighbors
floodfill(picture, x+1, y, value);
floodfill(picture, x-1, y, value);
floodfill(picture, x, y+1, value);
floodfill(picture, x, y-1, value);
```

Four recursive calls to visit the four adjacent locations

}

}

• Flood fill can also be implemented using a queue:

- We start by inserting the seed location (x,y) on queue
- We loop until the queue is empty
- We remove(x,y) location of current point
- If pixel(x,y) is not already colored, we color this pixel and save adjacent locations on queue
 - insert(x+1, y);
 - insert(x-1, y);
 - insert(x, y+1);
 - insert(x, y-1);
- We stop filling when the queue is empty
- This method is faster and safer than recursive flood fill

```
POLYGON FLOOD FILL
```

```
void floodfill(int picture[SIZE][SIZE],
   int startx, int starty, int value)
{
   // Push start point on queue
                                             We insert two values
                                             for (x,y) location
   Queue q;
   q.Insert(startx); q.Insert(starty);
   // Loop while queue not empty
   while (!q.IsEmpty())
   {
```

// Remove next point from queue int x = 0;We remove two values to int y = 0;get next (x,y) location q.Remove(x); q.Remove(y); // Check if pixel is painted if $((x \ge 0) \&\& (x < SIZE) \&\&$ Checking we are $(y \ge 0)$ && (y < SIZE) && inside array bounds (picture[y][x] != value)) before checking pixel {

```
// Paint this pixel
picture[y][x] = value;
```

```
// Insert four neighbors
q.Insert(x+1); q.Insert(y);
q.Insert(x-1); q.Insert(y);
q.Insert(x); q.Insert(y+1);
q.Insert(x); q.Insert(y-1);
```

}

}

}

- We showed how flood fill can be implemented using recursion or using a queue to store pixel locations
 - In the recursive floodfill code we visited the four adjacent (x,y) locations in RLTB order
 - In the queue based floodfill code we remove the points in FIFO order so the fill looks more like paint spreading out
- We could reduce the queue size by checking if each (x,y) location is in bounds and colored before pushing
 - This is a classic space-time tradeoff
 - See full solution on class website

QUEUES

APPLICATION: DISCRETE EVENT SIMULATION

- Queues can be used to model activities where a customer waits in line for service
 - Bank teller windows
 - Supermarket checkouts
 - Gas station pumps
 - Amusement park rides
- We store customer information in a queue when they arrive and remove them when they get service
 - We can modify simulation to maximize throughput or minimize the number of customers who "give up"

Simulation setup

Decide how many queues and servers to use

multiple queues:



Simulation setup

- Create models for customer arrivals and service time
- Use a uniform or normal distribution of times between customer arrivals and times to serve each customer

uniform distribution



- Specify the min and max delay time between customers in seconds
- delay = min+random() % (max-min+1)
- Specify the mean and standard deviation of delay time distribution
- Use methods in <random> to generate delay values

Simulation algorithm

- Create N empty queues
- Start virtual clock at zero
- Loop for C customers (or until time T is reached)
 - Calculate arrival time for next customer
 - Calculate service time for this customer
 - Update the virtual clock
 - Check all queues and remove serviced customers
 - Add new customer to the shortest queue
- We can calculate min/max/ave customer waiting time
- We can simulate customers "giving up" if queue is too long
- We can test several models to improve customer service

QUEUES

APPLICATION: FAIR SCHEDULING

- Queues are used in a number of software applications to provide fair service
 - Queues store information in first in first out (FIFO) order so they are ideal for "first come first served" applications

Printer queues:

- Network printer provides shared service to many users
- Print requests are added to the end of printer queue
- Printer removes documents from the printer queue and prints them in FIFO order

Communication buffers:

- Hub or switch stores incoming data packets in a queue
- Packets are processed and transmitted in FIFO order
- Queue prevents data loss if there is temporary congestion
- Process scheduling on CPU:
 - Scheduling queue keeps track of all running tasks on OS
 - Scheduler will remove task at front of scheduling queue
 - This task gets a small "time slice" of the CPU
 - When time slice is up, the task is "paused" and added to the end of the schedule queue
 - Tasks are removed from queue when they terminate





QUEUES

SUMMARY

SUMMARY

- Queues are a very simple abstract data type that store data in a first in first out (FIFO) order
 - We can only store data using insert
 - We can only access data using remove
- Queues can be implemented using arrays or linked lists
 - Array implementation is much faster but can get full
 - Linked list implementation can never get full but is slower
- Queues can be used to solve wide range of problems
 - Polygon flood fill, discrete event simulation, fair scheduling