

```
% [Version of 27/10 2013]

/* Difference lists

A difference list - representing a list [x1,...,xn] as a pair
[x1,...,xn|Rest] Rest

Often convenient to join them in a term, e.g. [x1,...,xn|Rest]-Rest

Appending difference lists
The concatenation of X Y and Y Z is X Z */

append( X, Y, Y, Z, X, Z ).

/* Eg. ?- append( [a,b,c|A], A, [1,2|B], B, X, Y ).

% For the notation with /2: */ append_dl( X-Y, Y-Z, X-Z ). /*

.....
Straightforward & inefficient list reversal (quadratic)

reverse_n([],[]).
reverse_n([X|Xs],Zs) :- reverse_n(Xs,Ys), append(Ys,[X],Zs).

Let us represent the second argument as a difference list */

reverse_d( Xs, Zs ) :- reverse_d( Xs, Zs, [] ).
reverse_d( [], Ys, Ys ).
/*
reverse_d( [X|Xs], Zs, Ys ) :- reverse_d( Xs, Z1, Y1 ),
    append( Z1, Y1, [X|Y2], Y2, Zs, Ys ).

Now efficient (linear)

From the definition of append/6 we have Zs=Z1, Ys=Y2, Y1=[X|Y2].
In other words, append/6 just unifies these three pairs.
We may _unfold_ the call to append/6, obtaining
*/
reverse_d( [X|Xs], Zs, Ys ) :- reverse_d( Xs, Zs, [X|Ys] ). /*

We obtained the previously discussed linear reverse
.....
DANGER with difference lists: here it may happen that correct
unification (with occur-check) is necessary.
E.g. ?- empty( [a|T]-T ). for empty/2 declared below
.....*/
```

```
% QUEUES as difference lists

empty( Q-Q ).

% deq( El, Q1, Q2 ) - El is the first element of queue Q1,
%                      Dequeueing it from Q1 results in Q2

deq( E, [E|Q]-R, Q-R ).

% enq( El, Q1, Q2 ) - Q2 is a queue Q1 with El added

enq( E, Q-[E|R], Q-R ).

/* Example queries

?- enq( 4, [1,2,3|T]-T, L-R ).
T = [4|R],
L = [1, 2, 3, 4|R].  

  

?- enq( 4, [1,2,3|T]-T, Q ).
T = [4|_G692],
Q = [1, 2, 3, 4|_G692]-_G692.  

  

?- enq( 4, [1,2,3|T]-T, Q ), deq( X, Q, Q1 ).
T = [4|_G762],
Q = [1, 2, 3, 4|_G762]-_G762,
X = 1,
Q1 = [2, 3, 4|_G762]-_G762.
```

Here we construct a "list with negative length"

```
?- deq( X, A-A, Q ).  

A = [X|_G686],  

Q = _G686-[X|_G686].
```

Adding an element to it results in empty list

```
?- deq( X, A-A, Q ), enq( a, Q, Q2 ).  

X = a,  

A = [a|_G744],  

Q = _G744-[a|_G744],  

Q2 = _G744-_G744.  

  

?- deq( X, A-A, Q ), enq( a, Q, Q2 ), enq( b, Q2, Q3 ).  

X = a,  

A = [a, b|_G811],  

Q = [b|_G811]-[a, b|_G811],  

Q2 = [b|_G811]-[b|_G811],  

Q3 = [b|_G811]-_G811.
```

Try a list with length -2

```
?- deq( X, A-A, Q ), deq( Y, Q, Q2 ), enq( a, Q2, Q3 ), enq( b, Q3, Q4 ).
```

Taking an alement from queue Q1 before it is built

```
?- deq( X, Q1, Q2 ).  

Q1 = [X|_G683]-_G680,  

Q2 = _G683-_G680.
```

```
?- deq( X, Q1, Q2 ), enq( a, A-A, Q1 ).  
X = a,  
Q1 = [a|_G744]-_G744,  
Q2 = _G744-_G744,  
A = [a|_G744].
```

Two-directional information flow.

Dequeueer passes a constant b to the enqueueer:

Simpler version

```
?- enq( X, [1|T]-T, Q1 ), deq( 1, Q1, Q2 ), deq( b, Q2, Q3 ).
```

```
?- enq( f(a,X), [1|T]-T, Q1 ), deq( 1, Q1, Q2 ), deq( f(Y,b), Q2, Q3 ).  
X = b,  
T = [f(a, b)|_G406],  
Q1 = [1, f(a, b)|_G406]-_G406,  
Q2 = [f(a, b)|_G406]-_G406,  
Y = a,  
Q3 = _G406-_G406.
```

*/

%%%%%%%%%%%%%

% Some experimentation

% loop/0 runs in a constant size memory, but loop/2 does not
% (with similar queries).

% Why? The term from the query is kept.

```
loop :- empty( Queue ),  
       enq( a, Queue, Queue_a ),  
       enq( b, Queue_a, Queue_b ),  
       enq( c, Queue_b, Queue_c ),  
       loop( Queue_c, 0 ).
```

```
loop( Queue, N ) :-  
    enq( N, Queue, Queue1 ),  
    N1 is N+1,  
    deq( _X, Queue1, Queue2 ),  
    loop( Queue2, N1 ).
```