

4. Braiding a Linked List (braid.cpp)

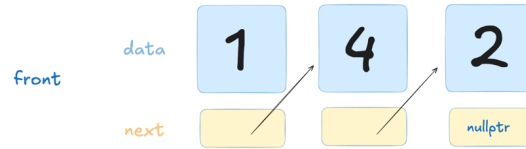
Write a function braid that takes a linked list and weaves the reverse of that list into the original. (You will need to create new nodes.) Here are a few examples:

```
{1, 4, 2} -> {1, 2, 4, 4, 2, 1}
{3} -> {3, 3}
{1, 3, 6, 10, 15} -> {1, 15, 3, 10, 6, 6, 10, 3, 15, 1}
```

You should implement your code to match the following prototype

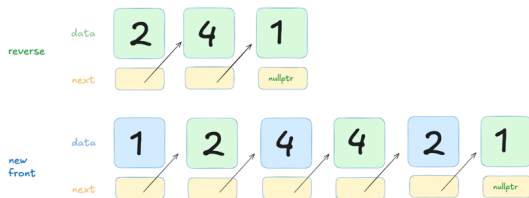
```
void braid(Node*& front)
```

We are passed in a linked list by reference, front.



```
struct Node {
    int data;
    Node *next;
};
```

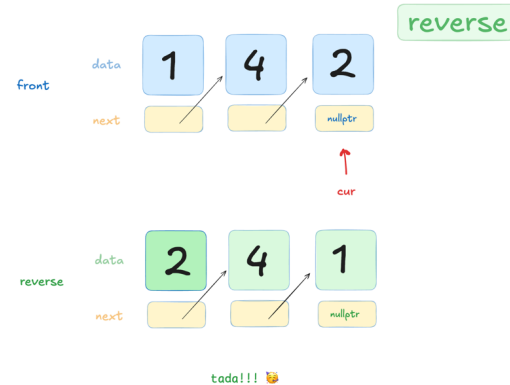
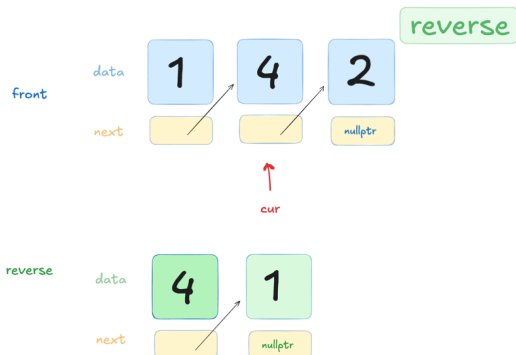
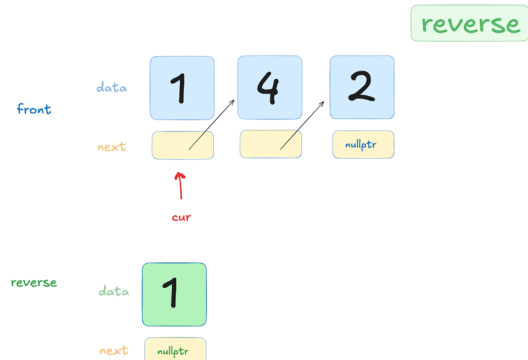
We want to **braid** the linked list by weaving the reverse of that list into the original.



To do this, we break the problem into two steps.

- 1) We reverse the linked list.
- 2) We braid the reversed list back into front.

To reverse a linked list, we can loop through the original list using a pointer cur and headInsert a node containing cur->data into a new list.



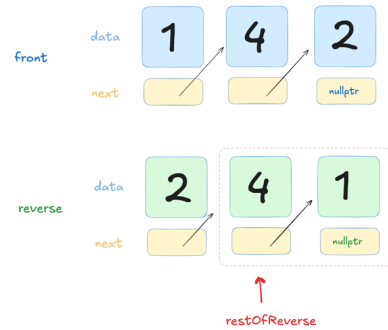
braid

We then want to braid the new reverse list into front.

Note: the code for each line is in blue!

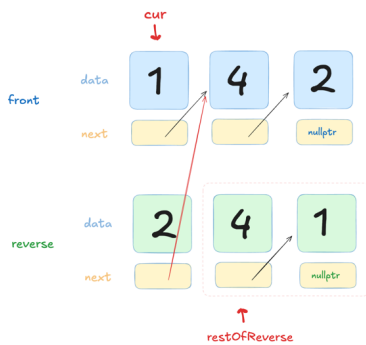
Node *restOfReverse = reverse->next;

braid



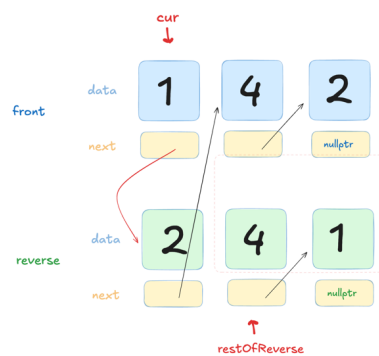
reverse->next = cur->next;

braid



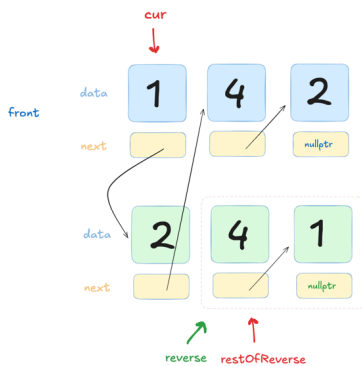
cur->next = reverse;

braid



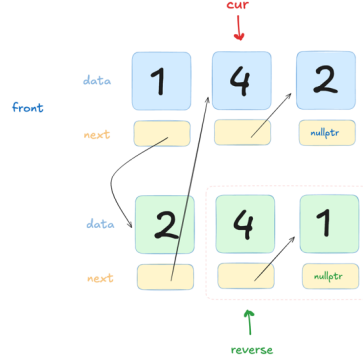
reverse = restOfReverse;

braid



cur = cur->next->next;

braid



*note that we move cur to cur->next->next here, because cur->next would be green element from the reverse list that we just braided in.

All done!!!

```
void braid(Node*& front) {
    Node *reverse = nullptr;
    for (Node *curr = front; curr != nullptr; curr = curr->next) {
        Node *newNode = new Node;
        newNode->data = curr->data;
        newNode->next = reverse;
        reverse = newNode;
    }
    // reverse now addresses a memory-independent copy of the original list,
    // where all of the nodes are in reverse order.
    for (Node *curr = front; curr != nullptr; curr = curr->next->next) {
        Node *next = reverse->next;
        reverse->next = curr->next;
        curr->next = reverse;
        reverse = next;
    }
}
```