

CS 314 FINAL REVIEW — MERGE TWO SORTED LISTS — Solution

Linked Lists

Write an instance method for the `LinkedList314` class which will add all of the elements of another `LinkedList314` in sorted order. Both lists will already be in ascended order before this method is called. No elements of either list are `null`. Your method **will not** return a list, instead it shall **alter** the calling list.

You may use the `.compareTo()` method. If two objects are equal, the one in **this** list comes first. The `E extends Comparable<...>` syntax ensures that all the elements in the `LinkedList` implement the `Comparable` interface. This ensures that `compareTo()` can be safely called on the elements of the list.

```
/* Pre: other != null
 * Post: This list will contain all of the elements in this list and other.
 *       This list will be in sorted order.
 */
public void merge(LinkedList314<E> other);
```

Examples of calls to `merge()` (the values shown are `Integer` objects). The result shown is the new state of **this**.

- `[1].merge([2]) => [1, 2]`
- `[0, 2, 4].merge([1, 3, 5]) => [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]`
- `[1, 2, 7, 9, 10].merge([3, 5, 8, 12]) => [1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12]`
- `[] .merge([1, 2, 3]) => [1, 2, 3]`

Recall the `LinkedList314` implementation from Lecture.

```
public class LinkedList314<E extends Comparable<? super E>> {
    private Node<E> first;
    private Node<E> last;
    private int size;

    private static class Node<E> {
        // The nested Nodeclass.
        private E data;
        private Node<E> next;
        public Node(E d) { data = d; }
    }
}
```

You may not create any new Nodes or other data structures.

You may not use any other methods in the `LinkedList` class unless you implement them yourself. Do not use any other Java classes or methods.

```

/* Pre: other != null; this, other are sorted; no elements are null
 * Post: This list will contain all of the elements in this list and other.
 *      This list will be in sorted order.
 */
public void merge(LinkedList314<E> other) {
    //Update size instance variable
    size += other.size;

    Node<E> thisNode = first;
    Node<E> otherNode = other.first;
    while(thisNode != null && otherNode != null){
        int comp = thisNode.data.compareTo(otherNode.data);
        if(comp <= 0){
            thisNode = thisNode.next;
        } else{
            Node<E> temp = thisNode.next;
            thisNode.next = otherNode;
            otherNode.next = temp;
            otherNode = otherNode.next;
        }
    }

    Node<E> restOfList;
    if(thisNode == null && otherNode != null)
        restOfList = otherNode;
    else
        return;

    //Advance last reference
    last.next = otherNode;
    while(last.next != null)
        last = last.next;
}

```