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Problem

142. Linked List Cycle II (Medium)

Given a linked list, return the node where the cycle begins. If there is no cycle, return null.

To represent a cycle in the given linked list, we use an integer pos which represents the position (0-indexed) in the linked list where tail connects to. If pos is -1, then there is no cycle in the linked list.

Note: Do not modify the linked list.

Example 1:

Input: head = [3,2,0,-4], pos = 1

Output: tail connects to node index 1

Explanation: There is a cycle in the linked list, where tail connects to the second node.

Example 2:

Input: head = [1,2], pos = 0

Output: tail connects to node index 0

Explanation: There is a cycle in the linked list, where tail connects to the first node.

Example 3:

Input: head = [1], pos = -1

Output: no cycle

Explanation: There is no cycle in the linked list.

Solution

Corner Cases:

- 链表为空或仅有一个节点

$O(n)$ time, $O(1)$ space

首先利用**快慢指针**判断是否有环, 有环时: 此时快慢指针为相遇, 设相遇点为A, 慢指针走了N步, 则快指针走了2N步; 此时将快指针步长设为1, 再指向头节点; 两个指针继续前进, 经过N步, 显然会在A处相遇, 由于步长相同, 他们此时第一次相遇的位置就是环的入口 (不一定为A)

详细分析可以看LeetCode 141的题解。

```
class Solution
{
public:
    ListNode *detectCycle(ListNode *head)
    {
        if (head == nullptr || head->next == nullptr)
            return nullptr;
        auto slow = head;
        auto fast = head;
        while (fast != nullptr && fast->next != nullptr)
        {
            slow = slow->next;
            fast = fast->next->next;
            if (slow == fast)
                break;
        }
        if (slow != fast)
            return nullptr;
        fast = head;
        while (fast != slow)
        {
            slow = slow->next;
            fast = fast->next;
        }
        return fast;
    }
};
```

[GitHub传送门](#)