

5.10

Representation of Disjoint Sets

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Disjoint Sets

- Assume a set S of n elements indexed by the numbers in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ is divided into k subsets S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k and $S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset$ for any $i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ and $i \neq j$
- Operations:
 - Disjoint set union: **Union**(S_i, S_j)
 - Let $S_i = S_i \cup S_j$ or $S_j = S_i \cup S_j$
 - Find the set containing element x : **Find**(x)

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Disjoint Sets: Example

- Set
 - $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
- Disjoint subsets
 - $S_1 = \{0, 2, 3\}$
 - $S_2 = \{1\}$
 - $S_3 = \{4, 5\}$
- $\text{Union}(S_1, S_2) = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$
- $\text{Find}(5) = 3$

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DS: Array Representation

- $S = \{ 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \}$ with subsets
 - $S_1 = \{ 0, 2, 3 \}$, $S_2 = \{ 1 \}$ and $S_3 = \{ 4, 5 \}$
- Using a **sequential mapping array** where index represents set members and array value indicates **set name**

Set name →

1	2	1	1	3	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Set member → $S[0]$ $S[1]$ $S[2]$ $S[3]$ $S[4]$ $S[5]$

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DS Operation: Find(x)

Set name →

1	2	1	1	3	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Set member → $S[0]$ $S[1]$ $S[2]$ $S[3]$ $S[4]$ $S[5]$

- Find the set which contains element x is easy
 - $\text{Find}(5) = S[5] = \text{set } 3$
 - $\text{Find}(3) = S[3] = \text{set } 1$
 - Complexity = $O(1)$

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DS Operation: Union(S_i, S_j)

Set name →

1	2	1	1	3	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Set member → $S[0]$ $S[1]$ $S[2]$ $S[3]$ $S[4]$ $S[5]$

- Assume we always merge the 2nd set to 1st set, i.e. $S_i = S_i \cup S_j$
- Scan the array and set $S[k]$ to i if $S[k] == j$
 - $S_2 = \text{Union}(S_2, S_3)$

Set name →

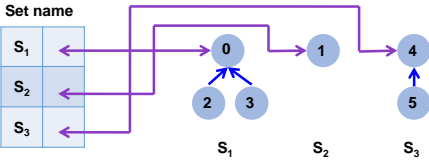
1	2	1	1	2	2
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Set member → $S[0]$ $S[1]$ $S[2]$ $S[3]$ $S[4]$ $S[5]$

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DS: Tree Representation

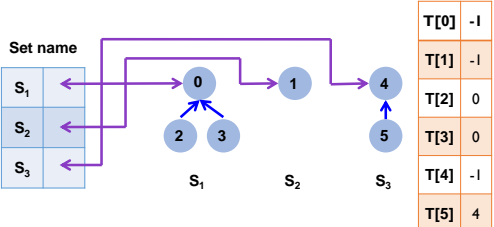
- Link elements of a subset to form a tree
 - Link children to root
 - Link root to set name



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DS: Tree Representation

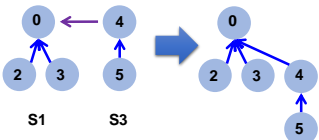
- Use an array to store the tree
- Identify the set by the root of the tree



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DS Operation: Union(S_i, S_j)

- Set the parent field of one of the root to the other root
 - S₁ = Union(S₁, S₃)
 - Time complexity : O(1)



T[0]	-1
T[1]	-1
T[2]	0
T[3]	0
T[4]	0
T[5]	4

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DS Operation: Find(x)

- Follow the index starting at x and trace the tree structure until reaching a node with parent value = -1
- Use the root to identify the set name

Set name

S_1
S_2
S_3

$T[0]$	-1
$T[1]$	-1
$T[2]$	0
$T[3]$	0
$T[4]$	-1
$T[5]$	4

Find(3)= S_1

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Time Complexity for n Finds

- $S = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$
 - $S_i = \{i\}, 0 \leq i < n$
- Perform a sequence Union
 - $\text{Union}(S_0, S_1), \text{Union}(S_1, S_2), \dots, \text{Union}(S_{n-2}, S_{n-1})$
- Followed by a sequence of Find
 - $\text{Find}(0), \text{Find}(1), \dots, \text{Find}(n-1)$
 - Time Complexity = $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} i = O(n^2)$

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Improved Union (S_i, S_j)

- Do not always merge two sets into the first set
- Adopt a **Weighting rule** to union operation
 - $S_i = S_i \cup S_j$, if $|S_i| \geq |S_j|$
 - $S_j = S_i \cup S_j$, if $|S_i| < |S_j|$
- $S = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$
 - $S_i = \{i\}, 0 \leq i < n$
 - $\text{Union}(S_0, S_1) \rightarrow \text{Union}(S_0, S_2) \rightarrow \text{Union}(S_0, S_3)$

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Maximum Tree Height

- Lemma 5.5
 - Let T be a tree with m nodes created by a sequence of weighting unions. The height of $T \leq \lfloor \log_2 m \rfloor + 1$
- Proof
 - The longest length is the path that is increased by 1 in every union operation
 - Please check the proof in the textbook by yourself!

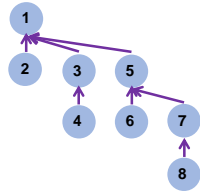
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Time Complexity

- The following sequence of unions produces the height of $\log n$



- Union(1, 2)
- Union(3, 4)
- Union(5, 6)
- Union(7, 8)
- Union(1, 3)
- Union(5, 7)
- Union(1, 5)

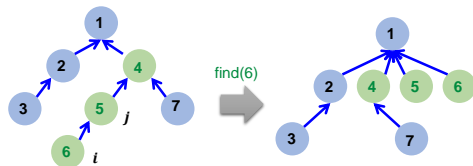


For $(n - 1)$ unions and n find $\Rightarrow O(n \log n)$

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Improved Find(x)

- Adopt a **Collapsing rule** for find(x)
 - If j is a node on the path from i to the root, set $\text{parent}[j]$ to $\text{root}(i)$



- For $(n - 1)$ unions and n find $\Rightarrow O(n \cdot a(n))$
- In average $a(n) \leq \log n$

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Self-Study Topics

- 5.4 Additional Binary Tree Operations
- 5.5 Threaded Binary Trees
- 5.8 Selection Trees
- 5.11 Counting Binary Trees



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