



CSE 332: Data Structures & Parallelism

Lecture 23: Disjoint Sets

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Chapter 8

Aside: Union-Find aka Disjoint Set ADT

- **Union(x,y)** – take the union of two sets named x and y
 - Given sets: $\{3, \underline{5}, 7\}$, $\{4, 2, \underline{8}\}$, $\{\underline{9}\}$, $\{\underline{1}, 6\}$ ←
 - **Union(5,1)**
 - Result: $\{3, \underline{5}, 7, 1, 6\}$, $\{4, 2, \underline{8}\}$, $\{\underline{9}\}$,
 - To perform the union operation, we replace sets x and y by $(x \cup y)$
- **Find(x)** – return the name of the set containing x.
 - Given sets: $\{3, \underline{5}, 7, 1, 6\}$, $\{4, 2, \underline{8}\}$, $\{\underline{9}\}$,
 - **Find(1)** returns 5
 - **Find(4)** returns 8
- We can do Union in constant time.
- We can get Find to be amortized constant time (worst case $O(\log n)$ for an individual Find operation).

Implementing the DS ADT

- n elements,
Total Cost of: m finds, $\leq n-1$ unions

*can there be
more unions?*

- Target complexity: $O(m+n)$
i.e. $O(1)$ amortized
- $O(1)$ worst-case for find as well as union would be great, but...
Known result: both find and union *cannot* be done in worst-case $O(1)$ time

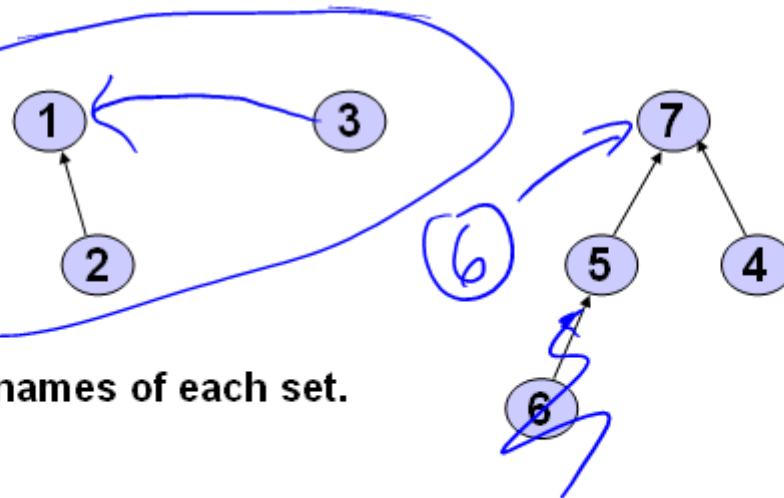
Data Structure for the DS ADT

- **Observation:** trees let us find many elements given one root...
- **Idea:** if we reverse the pointers (make them point up from child to parent), we can find a single root from many elements...
- **Idea:** Use one tree for each equivalence class. The name of the class is the tree root.

Up-Tree for Disjoint Union/Find

Initial state: ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦

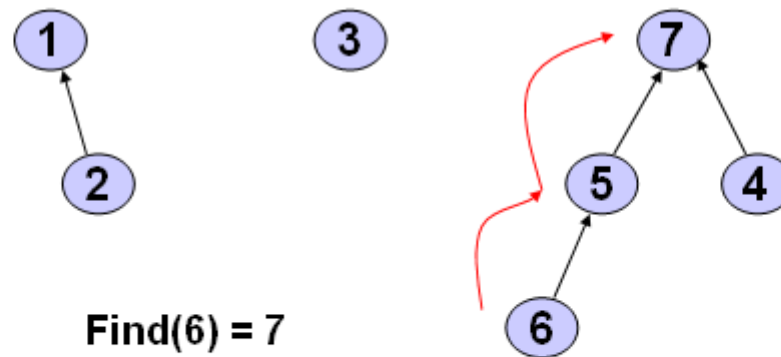
After several
Unions:



Roots are the names of each set.

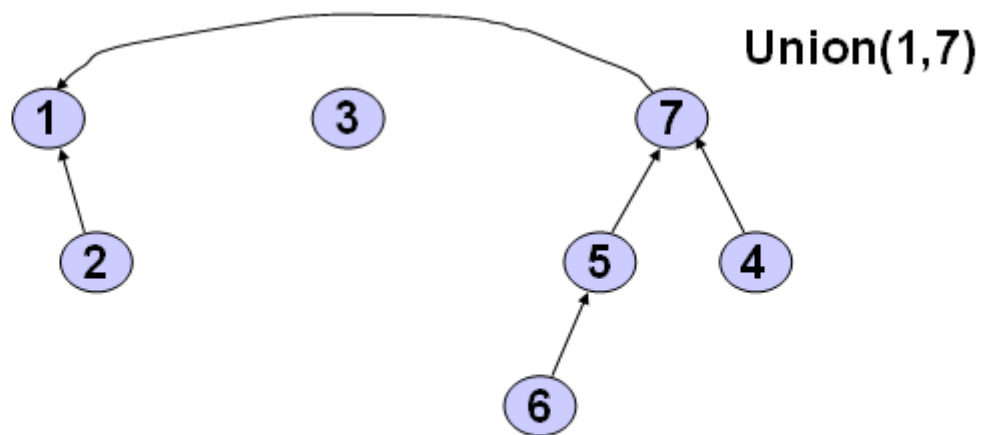
Find Operation

Find(x) - follow x to the root and return the root



Union Operation

Union(x,y) - assuming x and y are roots, point y to x.

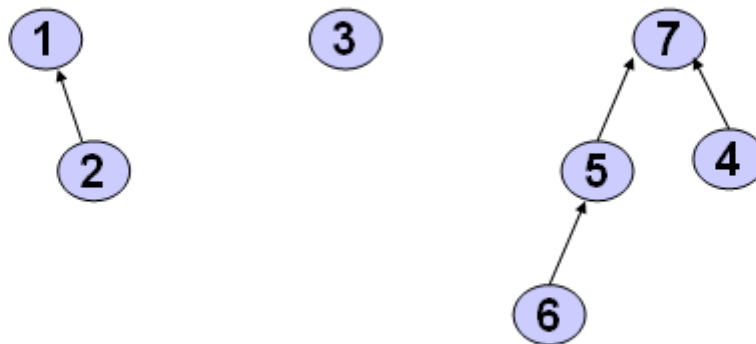


Simple Implementation

- Array of indices

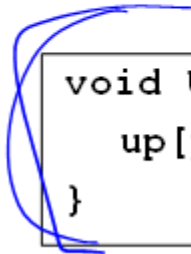
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
up	0	1	0	7	7	5	0

**Up[x] = 0 means
x is a root.**



Implementation

```
int Find(int x) {  
  
    while(up[x] != 0) {  
        x = up[x];  
    }  
  
    return x;  
}
```



```
void Union(int x, int y) {  
    up[y] = x;  
}
```

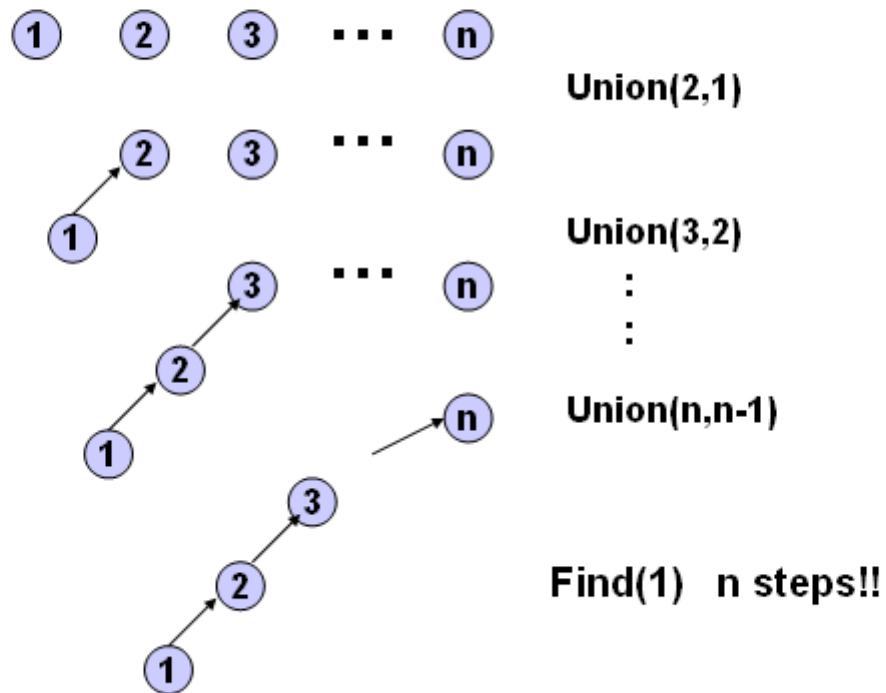
runtime for Union(): $O(1)$

runtime for Find(): $O(n)$

runtime for m Finds and n-1 Unions:

A Bad Case

Union(x,y) – “point y to x”



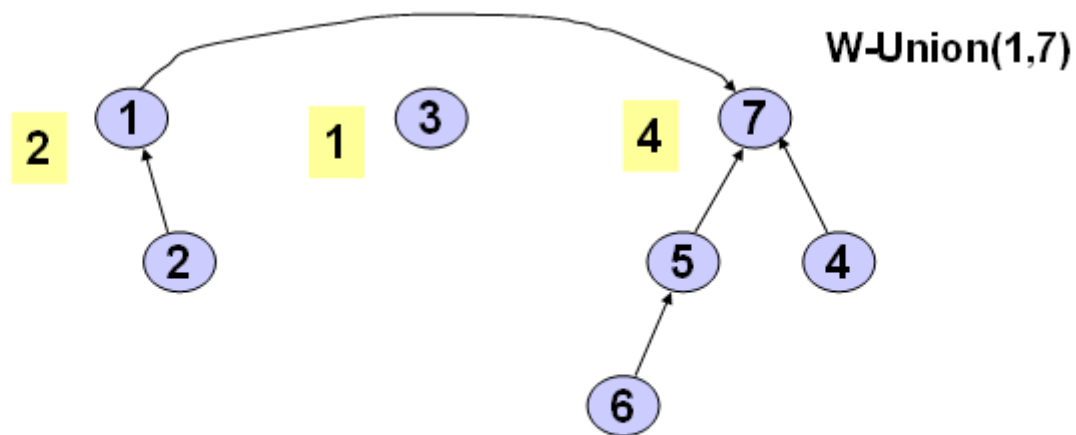
Now this doesn't look good ☹

Can we do better? Yes!

1. Improve union so that *find* only takes $\Theta(\log n)$
 - Union-by-size
 - Reduces complexity to $\Theta(m \log n + n)$
2. Improve *find* so that it becomes even better!
 - Path compression
 - ~~Reduces complexity to $\Theta(m + n)$~~ almost $\Theta(m + n)$

Weighted Union/Union by Size

- Weighted Union
 - Always point the *smaller* (total # of nodes) tree to the root of the larger tree



Example Again



W-Union(2,1)



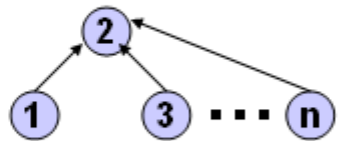
W-Union(3,2)



⋮



W-Union(n,2)

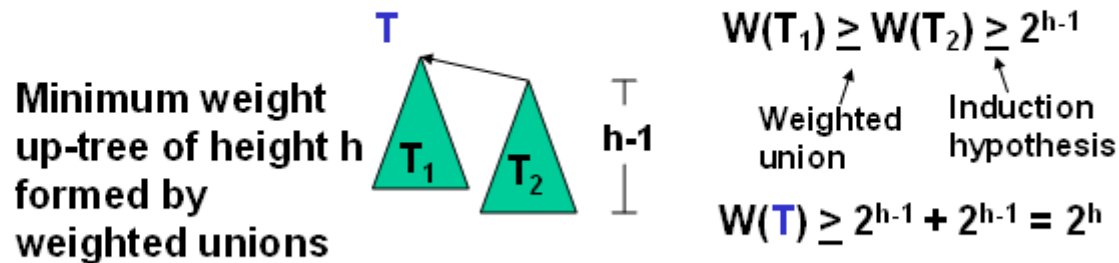


Find(1) constant time

Analysis of Weighted Union

With weighted union an up-tree of height h has weight *at least* 2^h .

- Proof by induction
 - **Basis**: $h = 0$. The up-tree has one node, $2^0 = 1$
 - **Inductive step**: Assume true for all $h' < h$.



Analysis of Weighted Union (cont)

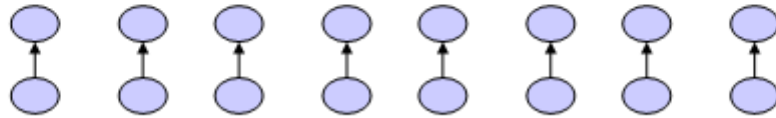
Let T be an up-tree of weight n formed by weighted union. Let h be its height.

$$n \geq 2^h$$
$$\log_2 n \geq h$$

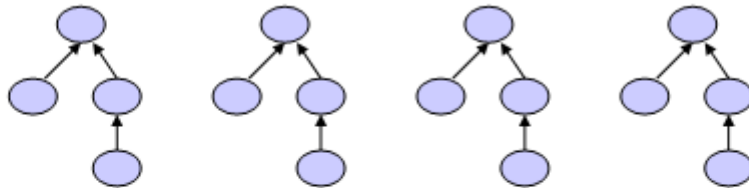
- Find(x) in tree T takes $O(\log n)$ time.
 - Can we do better?

Worst Case for Weighted Union

$n/2$ Weighted Unions

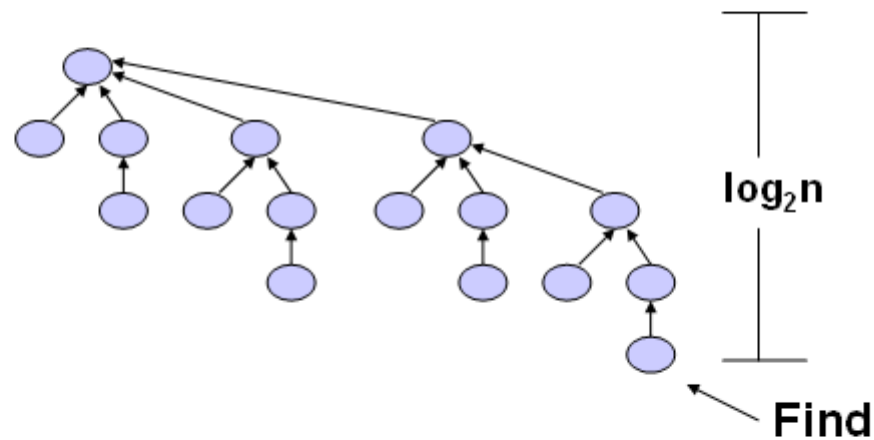


$n/4$ Weighted Unions



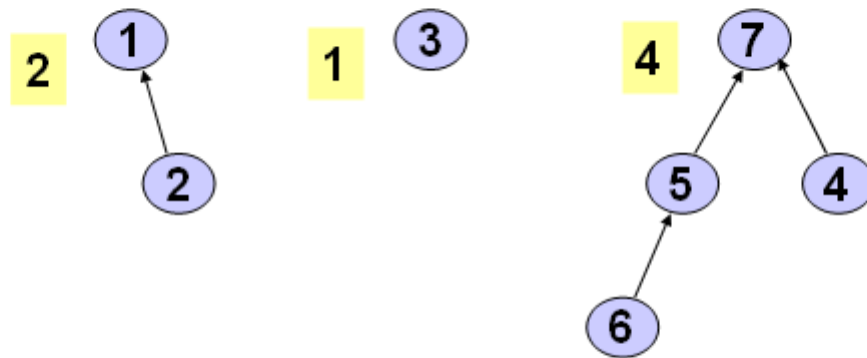
Example of Worst Cast (cont')

After $n/2 + n/4 + \dots + 1$ Weighted Unions:



If there are $n = 2^k$ nodes then the longest path from leaf to root has length k .

Array Implementation



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
up	-1	1	-1	7	7	5	-1
weight	2		1				4

Weighted Union

```
W-Union(i, j : index) {  
    //i and j are roots  
    wi := weight[i];  
    wj := weight[j];  
    if wi < wj then  
        up[i] := j;  
        weight[j] := wi + wj;  
    else  
        up[j] := i;  
        weight[i] := wi + wj;  
}
```

new runtime for Union():

new runtime for Find():

runtime for m finds and n-1 unions =

Nifty Storage Trick

- Use the same array representation as before
- Instead of storing **-1** for the root,
simply store **-size**

[Read section 8.4]

How about Union-by-height?

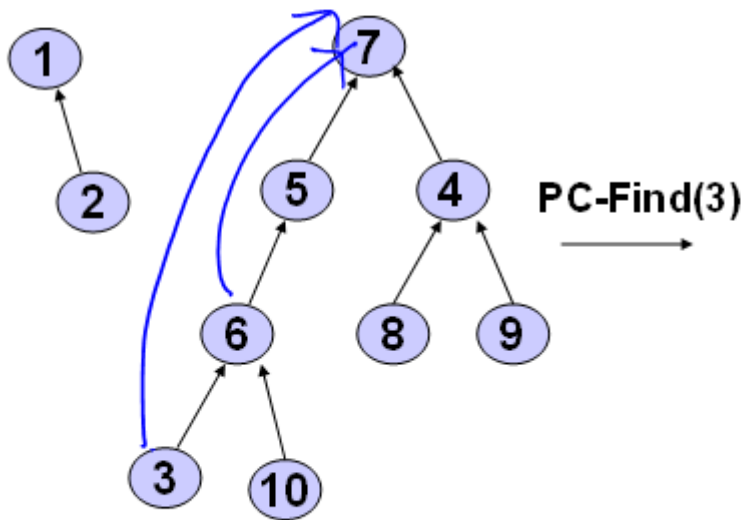
- Can still guarantee $O(\log n)$ worst case depth

Left as an exercise!

- Problem: Union-by-height doesn't combine very well with the new find optimization technique we'll see next

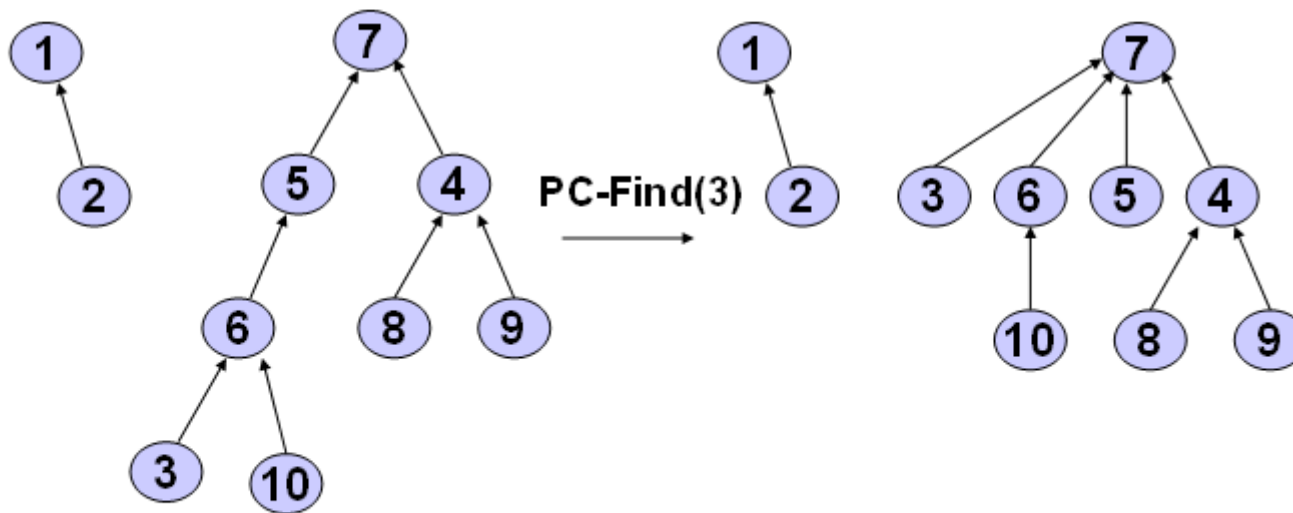
Path Compression

- On a Find operation point all the nodes on the search path directly to the root.



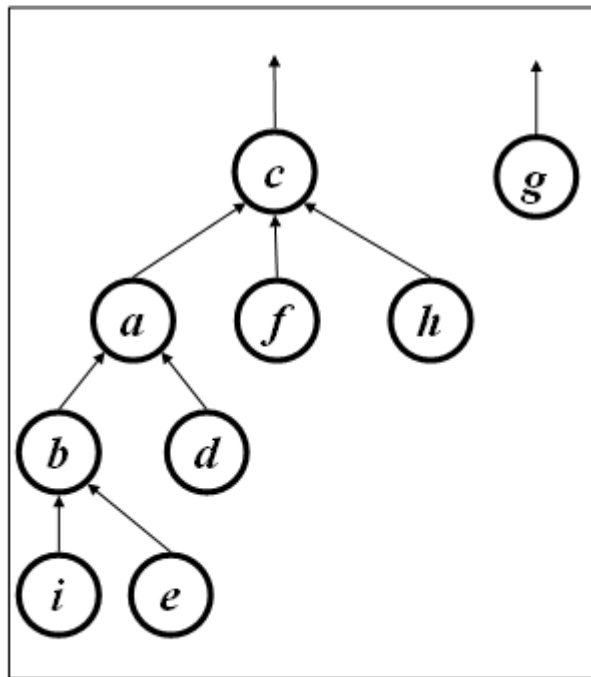
Path Compression

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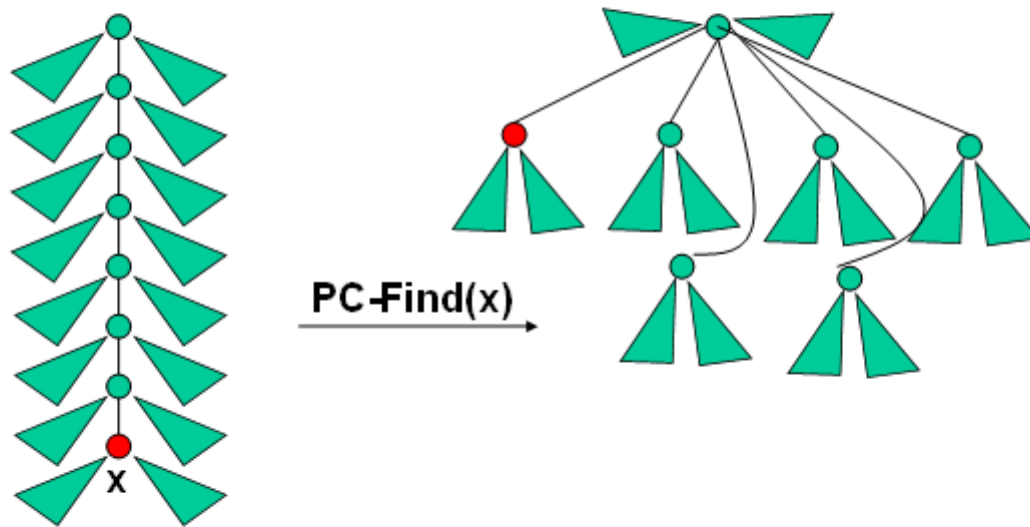


Student Activity

Draw the result of Find(e):



Self-Adjustment Works



Path Compression Find

```
PC-Find(i : index) {  
  r := i;  
  while up[r]  $\neq$  -1 do //find root//  
    r := up[r];  
  if i  $\neq$  r then //compress path//  
    k := up[i];  
    while k  $\neq$  r do  
      up[i] := r;  
      i := k;  
      k := up[k]  
  return(r)  
}
```

Path Compression: Code

```
int Find(Object x) {  
    // x had better be in  
    // the set!  
    int xID = hTable[x];  
    int i = xID;  
  
    // Get the root for  
    // this set  
    while (up[xID] != -1)  
    {  
        xID = up[xID];  
    }
```

```
    // Change the parent for  
    // all nodes along the path  
    while (up[i] != -1) {  
        temp = up[i];  
        up[i] = xID;  
        i = temp;  
    }  
    return xID;  
}
```

(New?) runtime for Find:

Interlude: A Really Slow Function

Ackermann's function is a really big function
 $A(x, y)$ with inverse $\alpha(x, y)$ which is really small

How fast does $\alpha(x, y)$ grow?

$\alpha(x, y) = 4$ for x **far** larger than the number of
atoms in the universe (2^{300})

α shows up in:

- Computation Geometry (surface complexity)
- Combinatorics of sequences

A More Comprehensible Slow Function

**$\log^* x$ = number of times you need to compute
log to bring value down to at most 1**

E.g. $\log^* 2 = 1$

$$\log^* 4 = \log^* 2^2 = 2$$

$$\log^* 16 = \log^* 2^{2^2} = 3 \quad (\log \log \log 16 = 1)$$

$$\log^* 65536 = \log^* 2^{2^{2^2}} = 4 \quad (\log \log \log \log 65536 =$$

1)

$$\log^* 2^{65536} = \dots\dots\dots = 5$$

Take this: $\alpha(m, n)$ grows even slower than $\log^* n$!!

Complex Complexity of Union-by-Size + Path Compression

Tarjan proved that, with these optimizations, p union and find operations on a set of n elements have worst case complexity of $O(p \cdot \alpha(p, n))$

For *all practical purposes* this is amortized constant time:

$O(p \cdot 4)$ for p operations!

- Very complex analysis

Disjoint Union / Find with Weighted Union and PC

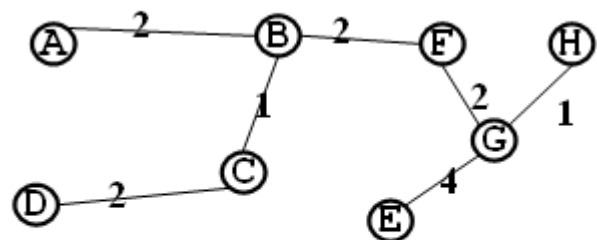
- Worst case time complexity for a W-Union is $O(1)$ and for a PC-Find is $O(\log n)$.
- Time complexity for $m \geq n$ operations on n elements is $O(m \log^* n)$ where $\log^* n$ is a very slow growing function.
 - $\log^* n < 7$ for all reasonable n . Essentially constant time per operation!
- Using “ranked union” gives an even better bound theoretically.

Amortized Complexity

- For disjoint union / find with weighted union and path compression.
 - average time per operation is essentially a constant.
 - worst case time for a PC-Find is $O(\log n)$.
- An individual operation can be costly, but over time the average cost per operation is not.

Draw the UpTree

Nodes	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parent								
Size								



Draw the UpTree

Nodes	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Parent								
Size								