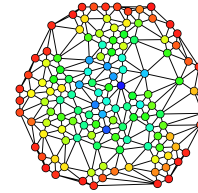


CSE 332

Data Abstractions

Graphs 5: Union Find



Disjoint Sets ADT

1

A **disjoint sets** data structure keeps track of multiple sets which do not share any elements. Here's the ADT:

UnionFind ADT

find(x)	Returns a number representing the set that x is in.
union(x, y)	Updates the sets so whatever sets x and y were in are now considered the same sets.

Example

```

1 list = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6];
2 UF uf = new UF(list); // State: {1}, {2}, {3}, {4}, {5}, {6}
3 uf.find(1);           // Returns 1
4 uf.find(2);           // Returns 2
5 uf.union(1, 2);       // State: {1, 2}, {3}, {4}, {5}, {6}
6 uf.find(1);           // Returns 1
7 uf.find(2);           // Returns 1
8 uf.union(3, 5);       // State: {1, 2}, {3, 5}, {4}, {6}
9 uf.union(1, 3);       // State: {1, 2, 3, 5}, {4}, {6}
10 uf.find(3);          // Returns 1
11 uf.find(6);          // Returns 6
  
```

Data Structure?

2

This lecture is an excuse to walk through the genesis of a data structure. We know what we want to get, and we'd like to **create (and analyze) an efficient data structure** that meets our requirements.

To define a UnionFind data structure, we need three things:

- The idea of the data structure
- An implementation of union
- An implementation of find

For the duration of the lecture, we will assume we can identify each item with a number from 1 to n .

Let's start out easy...

Implementation 1: A List of LinkedLists

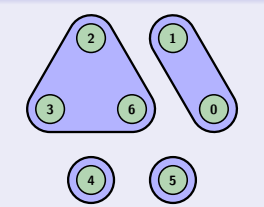
3

Data Structure

Type: List<LinkedList<Integer>>

Idea: A mapping from **id** → a list of **ids** in the same set

Pictorial View

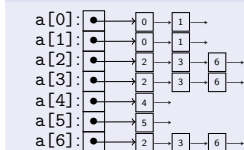


find(x)

```

1 find(x) {
2   return a[x].front();
3 }
  
```

Data Structure



union(x, y)

```

1 union(x, y) {
2   ...
3 }
  
```

Implementation 1.5: A List of LinkedLists

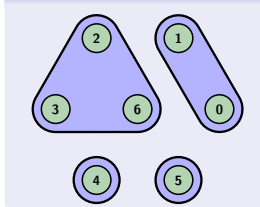
4

Data Structure

Type: List<LinkedList<Integer>>

Idea: A mapping from **id** → a list of **ids** in the same set

Pictorial View

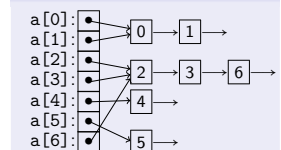


find(x)

```

1 find(x) {
2   return a[x].front();
3 }
  
```

Data Structure



union(x, y)

```

1 union(x, y) {
2   curr = a[x].head;
3   a[y].tail.next = curr;
4   while (curr != null && curr.next != null) {
5     a[curr.data] = a[y].head
6     curr = curr.next;
7   }
8 }
  
```

Implementation 1.5: A List of LinkedLists

5

Data Structure

Type: List<LinkedList<Integer>>

Idea: A mapping from **id** → a list of **ids** in the same set

```

union(x, y)
1 union(x, y) {
2   curr = a[x].head;
3   a[y].tail.next = curr;
4   while (curr != null && curr.next != null) {
5     a[curr.data] = a[y].head
6     curr = curr.next;
7   }
8 }

find(x)
1 find(x) {
2   return a[x].front;
3 }
    
```

Asymptotic Analysis

- find(x) is $\mathcal{O}(1)$
- union(x, y) is $\mathcal{O}(a[x].length)$

Amortized Analysis

Consider any m find/union operations. The **worst** case is going to be that all the operations are all unions, but which unions?

Always union(LARGEST, y), because we have to traverse the first one.

This ends up being $1+2+\dots+n-1 = \frac{(n-1)n}{2}$. This is a total of $n-1$

Implementation 2: A List of LinkedLists Unioned-By-Weight

6

Data Structure

Type: List<LinkedList<Integer>>

Idea: A mapping from **id** → a list of **ids** in the same set

```

OLD union(x, y)
union(x, y) {
  curr = a[x].head;
  a[y].tail.next = curr;
  while (curr != null && curr.next != null) {
    a[curr.data] = a[y].head;
    curr = curr.next;
  }
}

NEW union(x, y)
union(x, y) {
  if (a[x].length > a[y].length) {
    x, y = swap(x, y)
  }
  curr = a[x].head;
  a[y].tail.next = curr;
  while (curr != null && curr.next != null) {
    a[curr.data] = a[y].head;
    curr = curr.next;
  }
}
    
```

Asymptotic Analysis

- find(x) is $\mathcal{O}(1)$
- union(x, y) is $\mathcal{O}(\min(a[x].length, a[y].length))$

Amortized Analysis

Consider any m find/union operations. The **worst** case is going to be that all the operations are all unions, but which unions?

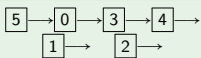
Implementation 3: IMPLICIT Lists Unioned-By-Size

7

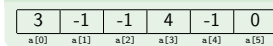
We started with a **list of linked lists**. Then, we realized that we could use **references to the same linked list** to save memory.

We can do even better. The idea is to use an "implicit list".

Example (Explicit List)



Example (Implicit List)



If you've already taken CSE 351, you've seen this idea already! When implementing malloc, you store a **free list**. You can save a lot of memory (which in malloc is important...) by using the unused **data fields** to store the **pointers**.

Using An Implicit List

We need to store:

- pointers to get to the canonical member
- the size of the set

Implementation 3: IMPLICIT Lists Unioned-By-Size

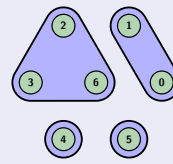
8

Data Structure

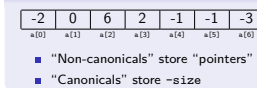
Type: An array

Idea: Each index has either the value of the "next" thing in its set or a negative number representing the size of the set

Pictorial View



Data Structure



- "Non-canonicals" store "pointers"
- "Canonicals" store -size

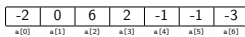
Implementation

```

1 init(x) { a[x] = -1 }
2 find(x) {
3   while(a[x] >= 0) {
4     x = a[x]
5   }
6   return x
7 }
8
9 size(x) { return -a[find(x)] }
10
11 union(x, y) {
12   if (size(x) > size(y)) {
13     x, y = swap(x, y)
14   }
15
16   // Now, we have: size(x) <= size(y)
17   a[find(x)] = find(y)
18
19   // Update the size
20   a[find(y)] = size(x) + size(y)
21 }
    
```

Analyzing Implementation 3

9



Implementation

```

1 init(x) { a[x] = -1 }
2 find(x) {
3   while(a[x] >= 0) {
4     x = a[x]
5   }
6   return x
7 }
8
9 size(x) { return -a[find(x)] }
10
11 union(x, y) {
12   if (size(x) > size(y)) {
13     x, y = swap(x, y)
14   }
15
16   // Now, we have: size(x) <= size(y)
17   a[find(x)] = find(y)
18
19   // Update the size
20   a[find(y)] = size(x) + size(y)
21 }
    
```

- Assume we only call each size/find once.
- Then, union(x, y) ∈ $\mathcal{O}(\text{find}(x) + \text{find}(y))$.
- So, we only need analyze find(x).
- We claim that find(x) ∈ $\mathcal{O}(\lg n)$.
- To prove this, we will show the **height** of the tree resulting from some number of unions is $\mathcal{O}(\lg n)$
- (Sound familiar?)

Analyzing Implementation 3

10

We claim:

- If x, y are different heights, $\text{height}(\text{union}(x, y)) = \max(\text{height}(x), \text{height}(y))$



- If x, y are the same height, $\text{height}(\text{union}(x, y)) = 1 + \max(\text{height}(x), \text{height}(y))$



Let $f(h)$ be the number of (distinct) nodes necessary to make a tree of height h . Then, $f(1) = 1$ and $f(h) = 2f(h-1)$. So, $f(h) = 2^{h-1}$.

Then, what is the largest tree we can make with n nodes?

$$n = 2^{h-1} \rightarrow \lg(n) = h - 1$$

So, $h \in \mathcal{O}(\lg n)$.

(Notice this is nearly identical to the proof for AVL Trees, except with a slightly different recurrence.)

```

OLD find(x)
1 find(x) {
2   while(a[x] >= 0) {
3     x = a[x]
4   }
5   return x
6 }

NEW find(x)
1 find(x) {
2   if (a[x] < 0) {
3     return x
4   }
5   a[x] = find(a[x])
6   return a[x]
7 }
    
```

In Words: Once we've **found** a node... save it.

Amortized Analysis of m find Operations?

Consider what we know:

- We know the worst case height of a tree is $\lg(n)$.
- We know it's difficult to make a tree of large height.
- We know that as soon as we access a path in a tree, it flattens the whole path

This **feels** like it should be better than $\lg(n)$, and it is.

We can use facts to show this, but its outside the scope of this lecture. Instead, we'll just talk about two bounds.

Upper Bound 1: find(x) is amortized $\mathcal{O}(\lg^*(n))$

Let $2\text{STACK}(n) = 2^{\frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}}$

- $2\text{STACK}(0) = 1$
- $2\text{STACK}(1) = 2$
- $2\text{STACK}(2) = 2^2 = 4$
- $2\text{STACK}(3) = 2^{(2^2)} = 16$
- $2\text{STACK}(4) = 2^{(2^{(2^2)})} = 2^{16} = 65536$
- $2\text{STACK}(5) = 2^{65536}$

265536 = 2003529930406846464979072351560255750447825475569751419...
 2650169737108940595563114530895061308809333481010382343429072
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This number has 19729 digits. . .

$\lg^*(n)$ is the **inverse function** of 2STACK.

So, basically:

$$\lg^*(n) \leq 5$$

But it gets better. . .

Upper Bound 2: $\text{find}(x)$ is amortized $\mathcal{O}(\alpha(n))$

The Ackermann function grows even more quickly than 2STACK.

It turns out $\alpha(n)$, the **inverse Ackermann function** is also an upper bound. . .

Interestingly, **it is also a lower bound** for the disjoint data structures problem! We can't do better than the algorithm we came up with! (Just like with sorting!)