Data Structures and Algorithms

- Set -

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Equivalence Relations

- A relation **R** is defined on a set *S* if for every pair of elements (a, b) where $a, b \in S$, $\underline{a \ R \ b}$ is either true or false.
- If $a \in b$ is true, then a is related to b.
- An equivalence relation is a relation R that satisfies three properties:
 - 1. (Reflexive) $a \mathbf{R} a$, for all $a \in S$.
 - 2. (Symmetric) $a \mathbf{R} b$ if and only if $b \mathbf{R} a$.
 - 3. (Transitive) $a \ \mathbf{R} \ b$ and $b \ \mathbf{R} \ c$ implies that $a \ \mathbf{R} \ c$

Equivalence Relations

- Example
 - ≤ relationship: reflexive, transitive, but not symmetric
 - Electrical connectivity: reflexive, transitive, symmetric
 - Membership relationship if two cities are in the same country

Example

- Given an equivalence relation ~, it is easy to decide if a ~ b when the relation is stored as a two-dimensional array of Booleans.
- What if the relation is implicit?
 - \rightarrow want to be able to infer this quickly

(Ex) Suppose an equivalence relation '~' over the set { a_1 , a_2 , a_3 , a_4 , a_5 } with the following relation instances: $a_1 \sim a_2$, $a_3 \sim a_4$, $a_5 \sim a_1$, $a_4 \sim a_2$

then
$$a_1 \sim a_4$$
 ?

Equivalence class

- The equivalence class of an element $a \in S$ is the subset of S that contains all the elements that are related to a
- The equivalence classes form a partition of S: every member of S appears in exactly one equivalence class
- a ~ b can be checked by checking whether a and b are in the same equivalence class

Equivalence problem

- The input is initially a set of *N* sets, each with one element.
- Each set has a different element, so that $S_i \cap S_i = \emptyset$; Disjoint
- Two permissible operations:
 - Find returns the name of the set containing a given element (namely, equivalence class)
 - Union merges the two equivalence classes containing *a* and *b*

Equivalence Problem

- Do not perform any operations comparing the relative values of elements, but merely require knowledge of their location
 - -> all the elements have been numbered sequentially from 1 to N
- The name of the set returned by *Find* is actually fairly arbitrary. What matters is that *Find* (*a*) = *Find* (*b*) if and only if *a* and *b* are in the same set

Equivalence Problem

- These operations are important in many graph theory problems
- Two strategies
 - The Find instruction can be executed in constant worst-case time
 - The Union instruction can be executed in constant worst-case time
 - Both cannot be done simultaneously in constant worst-case time

Data Structure

- It is not required that a Find operation return any specific name.
- Rather, Finds on two elements return the same answer if and only if they are in the same set
- One idea is to use tree since each element in the tree has the same root
- Represent a set by a tree, a set of sets by a forest.

Tree representation

- The name of a set is given by the node at the root.
- A parent pointer is used
- Since only the name of the parent is required, this tree is stored implicitly in an array.
- The tree is stored implicitly in an array
 - each entry *P*[*i*] in the array represents the parent of element *i*
 - If *i* is a root, then P[i] = 0





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Disjoint set type declaration

typedef int DisjSet[NumSets + 1]
typedef int SetType;
typedef int ElementType;

void Initialize(DisjSet S); void SetUnion(DisjSet S, SetType R1, SetType R2); SetType Find(ElementType X, DisjSet S);

Initialization routine

```
void
Initialize (DisjSet S)
  int i;
  for (i = NumSets; i > 0; i--)
      S[ i ] = 0;
```



```
Find routine
SetType
 Find (ElementType X, DisjSet S)
   if (S[X] <= 0)
       return X;
    else
       return Find(S[X], S)
```

Tree representation: Example

• For 10 elements numbered 1 through 10,





















Performance

- All the n-1 unions take O(n): each one takes a constant time.
- The total time needed to process n-2 finds is $O(\sum_{i}^{n-2} i) = O(n^2)$
- How to avoid the worst case behavior
 → Use weighting rule

Weighting Rule for UNION (*i*, *j*):

If the number of nodes in (the height of) tree *i* is less than the number in (the height of) tree *j*, then make *j* the parent of *i*, otherwise make *i* the parent of *j*.



Weighting rules

- Using tree height
 - Make the shallow tree a subtree of the deeper tree
- Using tree size
 - Depending on the number of nodes in the tree
- How to store the number of nodes or height in a tree?
 - \rightarrow Use count field in the root of every tree





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Union by Height Algorithm

```
void SetUnion (DisjSet S, SetType R1, SetType R2)
  if (S[R2] < S[R1]) /* R2 is deeper set */
      S[R1] = R2;
                        /* Make R2 new root */
  else
      if (S[R1] == S[R2]) /* Same height, */
           S[R1]--; /* so update
                                     */
      S[R2] = R1;
```

Path Expression

 When we put all set sets on a queue and repeatedly dequeue the first two sets and enqueue their union



Path Compression

- If there are many more *Finds* than *Unions*, the running time is worse than that of the quick-find algorithm.
- The only way to speed up the algorithm without reworking the data structure entirely is to do something clever on the *Find* operation
- Useful when more *Finds* are required
- Performed during the *Find* operation
- Every node on the path from X to the root has its parent changed to the root for *Find*(X)



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Revised FIND algorithm

```
SetType Find (ElementType X, DisjSet S)
 if (S[X] \le 0)
     return X;
  else
     return S[X] = Find (S[X], S);
     return Find(S[X], S) // Original version
}
```

Lemma

(Lemma 1) Let T be a tree with n nodes created as a result of algorithm UNION. No node in T has level greater $|\log_2 n| + 1$

- As a result of lemma 1, the maximum time to process a find is at most O(log n) if there are n elements in a tree.
- Further improvement is possible using the *Collapsing Rule*.
- Collapsing Rule: If *j* is a node on the path from *i* to its root and PARENT(*j*) ≠ root(*i*), then set PARENT(*j*) ← root(*i*)

