Greedy Graph Algorithms

T. M. Murali

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Graphs

Model pairwise relationships (edges) between objects (nodes).

- **Undirected graph** $G = (V, E)$: set $V$ of nodes and set $E$ of edges, where $E \subseteq V \times V$. Elements of $E$ are unordered pairs.

- **Directed graph** $G = (V, E)$: set $V$ of nodes and set $E$ of edges, where $E \subseteq V \times V$. Elements of $E$ are ordered pairs.
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- *Directed graph* $G = (V, E)$: set $V$ of nodes and set $E$ of edges, where $E \subseteq V \times V$. Elements of $E$ are ordered pairs.
Applications of Graphs

- Useful in a large number of applications:
Applications of Graphs

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▶ Problems involving graphs have a rich history dating back to Euler.
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- Problems involving graphs have a rich history dating back to Euler.
Shortest Path Problem

- \( G(V, E) \) is a connected directed graph. Each edge \( e \) has a length \( l_e \geq 0 \).
- \( V \) has \( n \) nodes and \( E \) has \( m \) edges.
- **Length of a path** \( P \) is the sum of lengths of the edges in \( P \).
- Goal is to determine the shortest path from some start node \( s \) to each node in \( V \).
- Aside: If \( G \) is undirected, convert to a directed graph by replacing each edge in \( G \) by two directed edges.
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- Goal is to determine the shortest path from some start node $s$ to each node in $V$.
- Aside: If $G$ is undirected, convert to a directed graph by replacing each edge in $G$ by two directed edges.

**Shortest Paths**

**INSTANCE:** A directed graph $G(V, E)$, a function $l : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$, and a node $s \in V$

**SOLUTION:** A set $\{P_u, u \in V\}$, where $P_u$ is the shortest path in $G$ from $s$ to $u$. 
Dijkstra’s Algorithm

- Maintain a set $S$ of explored nodes: for each node $u \in S$, we have determined the length $d(u)$ of the shortest path from $s$ to $u$.
- “Greedily” add a node $v$ to $S$ that is closest to $s$. 
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Dijkstra's Algorithm $(G, \ell)$

Let $S$ be the set of explored nodes

For each $u \in S$, we store a distance $d(u)$

Initially $S = \{s\}$ and $d(s) = 0$

While $S \neq V$

Select a node $v \notin S$ with at least one edge from $S$ for which

$$d'(v) = \min_{e=(u,v), u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e$$

is as small as possible

Add $v$ to $S$ and define $d(v) = d'(v)$

EndWhile
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EndWhile

- Can modify algorithm to compute the shortest paths themselves: record the predecessor $u$ that minimises $d'(v)$.
Example of Dijkstra’s Algorithm

Figure 4.7 A snapshot of the execution of Dijkstra’s Algorithm. The next node that will be added to the set $S$ is $x$, due to the path through $u$. 
Proof of Correctness

- Let $P_u$ be the shortest path computed for a node $u$.
- Claim: $P_u$ is the shortest path from $s$ to $u$.
- Prove by induction on the size of $S$. 
Proof of Correctness

- Let $P_u$ be the shortest path computed for a node $u$.
- Claim: $P_u$ is the shortest path from $s$ to $u$.
- Prove by induction on the size of $S$.
  - Base case: $|S| = 1$. The only node in $S$ is $s$.
  - Inductive step: we add the node $v$ to $S$. Let $u$ be the $v$’s predecessor on the path $P_v$. Could there be a shorter path $P$ from $s$ to $v$?
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![Diagram](image)

**Figure 4.8** The shortest path $P_v$ and an alternate $s$-$v$ path $P$ through the node $y$. 
Comments about Dijkstra’s Algorithm

- Algorithm cannot handle negative edge lengths. We will discuss the Bellman-Ford algorithm in a few weeks.
- Union of shortest paths output form a tree. Why?
Implementing Dijkstra’s Algorithm

Dijkstra's Algorithm $(G, \ell)\n$
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Initially $S = \{s\}$ and $d(s) = 0$

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Select a node $v \notin S$ with at least one edge from $S$ for which

$d'(v) = \min_{e = (u,v), u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e$ is as small as possible

Add $v$ to $S$ and define $d(v) = d'(v)$

EndWhile

How many iterations are there of the while loop?
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   For each \(u \in S\), we store a distance \(d(u)\)
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    Select a node \(v \notin S\) with at least one edge from \(S\) for which
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    d'(v) = \min_{e=(u,v),u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e \text{ is as small as possible}
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EndWhile

▶ How many iterations are there of the while loop? \(n - 1\).
▶ In each iteration, for each node \(v \notin S\), compute

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\min_{e=(u,v),u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e
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- Running time per iteration is
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▶ In each iteration, for each node \(v \notin S\), compute

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\min_{e = (u, v), u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e
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Running time per iteration is \(O(m)\), yielding an overall running time of \(O(nm)\).
A Faster implementation of Dijkstra’s Algorithm

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- Observation: If we add \(v\) to \(S\), \(d'(w)\) changes only for \(v\)'s neighbours.
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EndWhile

- Observation: If we add \(v\) to \(S\), \(d'(w)\) changes only for \(v\)'s neighbours.
- Store the minima \(d'(v)\) for each node \(v \in V - S\) in a priority queue.
- Determine the next node \(v\) to add to \(S\) using \texttt{ExtractMin}.
- After adding \(v\), for each neighbour \(w\) of \(v\), compute \(d(v) + l_{(v,w)}\).
- If \(d(v) + l_{(v,w)} < d'(w)\), update \(w\)'s key using \texttt{ChangeKey}.
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- How many times are \texttt{ExtractMin} and \texttt{ChangeKey} invoked?
A Faster implementation of Dijkstra’s Algorithm

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- How many times are \texttt{ExtractMin} and \texttt{ChangeKey} invoked?
  \(n - 1\) and \(m\) times, respectively. Total running time is \(O(m \log n)\).
Network Design

- Connect a set of nodes using a set of edges with certain properties.
- Input is usually a graph and the desired network (the output) should use subset of edges in the graph.
- Example: connect all nodes using a cycle of shortest total length.
Network Design

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- Input is usually a graph and the desired network (the output) should use subset of edges in the graph.
- Example: connect all nodes using a cycle of shortest total length. This problem is the NP-complete traveling salesman problem.
Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)

- Given an undirected graph $G(V, E)$ with a cost $c_e > 0$ associated with each edge $e \in E$.
- Find a subset $T$ of edges such that the graph $(V, T)$ is connected and the cost $\sum_{e \in T} c_e$ is as small as possible.
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**Minimum Spanning Tree**

**INSTANCE:** An undirected graph $G(V, E)$ and a function $c : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

**SOLUTION:** A set $T \subseteq E$ of edges such that $(V, T)$ is connected and the $\sum_{e \in T} c_e$ is as small as possible.
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**Minimum Spanning Tree**

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**SOLUTION:** A set $T \subseteq E$ of edges such that $(V, T)$ is connected and the $\sum_{e \in T} c_e$ is as small as possible.

- Claim: If $T$ is a minimum-cost solution to this network design problem then $(V, T)$ is a tree.
- A subset $T$ of $E$ is a **spanning tree** of $G$ if $(V, T)$ is a tree.
Greedy Algorithm for the MST Problem

- Template: process edges in some order. Add an edge to $T$ if tree property is not violated.
Graphs  Shortest Paths  Minimum Spanning Trees  Implementation  Union-Find

Greedy Algorithm for the MST Problem

- Template: process edges in some order. Add an edge to $T$ if tree property is not violated.
  - Increasing cost order Process edges in increasing order of cost. Discard an edge if it creates a cycle.
  - Dijkstra-like Start from a node $s$ and grow $T$ outward from $s$: add the node that can be attached most cheaply to current tree.
  - Decreasing cost order Delete edges in order of decreasing cost as long as graph remains connected.
Greedy Algorithm for the MST Problem

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**Increasing cost order**  Process edges in increasing order of cost. Discard an edge if it creates a cycle.

**Dijkstra-like**  Start from a node $s$ and grow $T$ outward from $s$: add the node that can be attached most cheaply to current tree.

**Decreasing cost order**  Delete edges in order of decreasing cost as long as graph remains connected.

- Which of these algorithms works?
Greedy Algorithm for the MST Problem

- Template: process edges in some order. Add an edge to $T$ if tree property is not violated.

**Increasing cost order** Process edges in increasing order of cost. Discard an edge if it creates a cycle. Kruskal’s algorithm

**Dijkstra-like** Start from a node $s$ and grow $T$ outward from $s$: add the node that can be attached most cheaply to current tree. Prim’s algorithm

**Decreasing cost order** Delete edges in order of decreasing cost as long as graph remains connected. Reverse-Delete algorithm

- Which of these algorithms works? All of them!
Example of Prim’s and Kruskal’s Algorithms

![Graph diagram](image)

**Figure 4.9** Sample run of the Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms of (a) Prim and (b) Kruskal, on the same input. The first 4 edges added to the spanning tree are indicated by solid lines; the next edge to be added is a dashed line.
A **cut** in a graph $G(V,E)$ is a set of edges whose removal disconnects the graph (into two or more connected components).

Every set $S \subseteq V$ ($S$ cannot be empty or the entire set $V$) has a corresponding cut: $\text{cut}(S)$ is the set of edges $(v, w)$ such that $v \in S$ and $w \in V - S$. 
Graph Cuts

- A cut in a graph $G(V, E)$ is a set of edges whose removal disconnects the graph (into two or more connected components).
- Every set $S \subset V$ ($S$ cannot be empty or the entire set $V$) has a corresponding cut: $\text{cut}(S)$ is the set of edges $(v, w)$ such that $v \in S$ and $w \in V - S$.
- $\text{cut}(S)$ is a cut because deleting the edges in $\text{cut}(S)$ disconnects $S$ from $V - S$. 
Cut Property

- When is it safe to include an edge in an MST?

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Assume all edge costs are distinct.

Let $S \subset V$, $S$ is not empty or equal to $V$.

Let $e$ be the cheapest edge in cut($S$).

Claim: every MST contains $e$.

Proof: exchange argument. If a supposed MST $T$ does not contain $e$, show that there is a tree with smaller cost than $T$ that contains $e$. 
Cut Property

- When is it safe to include an edge in an MST?
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- Claim: every MST contains $e$.
- Proof: exchange argument. If a supposed MST $T$ does not contain $e$, show that there is a tree with smaller cost than $T$ that contains $e$. 

\begin{itemize}
  \item $e$ can be swapped for $e'$.
\end{itemize}
Using the Cut Property

- Let $F$ be the set of all edges that satisfy the cut property.
- Is the graph induced by $F$ connected?
- Can the graph induced by $F$ contain a cycle?
- How many edges can $F$ contain?
Using the Cut Property

- Let $F$ be the set of all edges that satisfy the cut property.
- Is the graph induced by $F$ connected? Yes.
- Can the graph induced by $F$ contain a cycle? No.
- How many edges can $F$ contain? $n - 1$
Using the Cut Property

- Let $F$ be the set of all edges that satisfy the cut property.
- Is the graph induced by $F$ connected? Yes.
- Can the graph induced by $F$ contain a cycle? No.
- How many edges can $F$ contain? $n - 1$
- $F$ is the unique MST (problem 8, Chapter 4 of textbook).
- Kruskal’s and Prim’s algorithms compute $F$ efficiently.
Optimality of Kruskal’s Algorithm

- **Kruskal’s algorithm:**
  - Start with an empty set $T$ of edges.
  - Process edges in $E$ in increasing order of cost.
  - Add the next edge $e$ to $T$ only if adding $e$ does not create a cycle. Discard $e$ if it creates a cycle.

- **Claim:** Kruskal’s algorithm outputs an MST.
Optimality of Kruskal’s Algorithm

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- Claim: Kruskal’s algorithm outputs an MST.
  1. For every edge \( e \) added, demonstrate the existence of \( S \) and \( V - S \) such that \( e \) and \( S \) satisfy the cut property.
  2. Prove that the algorithm computes a spanning tree.
Optimality of Prim’s Algorithm

- Prim’s algorithm: Maintain a tree \((S, U)\)
  - Start with an arbitrary node \(s \in S\) and \(U = \emptyset\).
  - Add the node \(v\) to \(S\) and the edge \(e\) to \(U\) that minimise
    \[
    \min_{e=(u,v), u \in S, v \notin S} c_e \equiv \min_{e \in \text{cut}(S)} c_e.
    \]
  - Stop when \(S = V\).
- Claim: Prim’s algorithm outputs an MST.
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    \[
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    \]
- Stop when \(S = V\).
- Claim: Prim’s algorithm outputs an MST.
  1. Prove that every edge inserted satisfies the cut property.
  2. Prove that the graph constructed is a spanning tree.
Cycle Property

- When can we be sure that an edge cannot be in any MST?

\[ C \text{ be any cycle in } G \]
\[ e = (v, w) \text{ be the most expensive edge in } C \]

**Claim:** \( e \) does not belong to any MST of \( G \).

**Proof:** exchange argument. If a supposed MST \( T \) contains \( e \), show that there is a tree with smaller cost than \( T \) that does not contain \( e \).
Cycle Property

- When can we be sure that an edge cannot be in any MST?
- Let $C$ be any cycle in $G$ and let $e = (v, w)$ be the most expensive edge in $C$.
- Claim: $e$ does not belong to any MST of $G$. 
Cycle Property

- When can we be sure that an edge cannot be in any MST?
- Let $C$ be any cycle in $G$ and let $e = (v, w)$ be the most expensive edge in $C$.
- Claim: $e$ does not belong to any MST of $G$.
- Proof: exchange argument. If a supposed MST $T$ contains $e$, show that there is a tree with smaller cost than $T$ that does not contain $e$.

![Diagram of a cycle with an edge labeled $e$ and another edge labeled $e'$](image)

**Figure 4.11** Swapping the edge $e'$ for the edge $e$ in the spanning tree $T$, as described in the proof of (4.20).
Optimality of the Reverse-Delete Algorithm

- Reverse-Delete algorithm: Maintain a set $E'$ of edges.
  - Start with $E' = E$.
  - Process edges in decreasing order of cost.
  - Delete the next edge $e$ from $E'$ only if $(V, E')$ is connected after deletion.
  - Stop after processing all the edges.

- Claim: the Reverse-Delete algorithm outputs an MST.
Optimality of the Reverse-Delete Algorithm

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- Start with $E' = E$.
- Process edges in decreasing order of cost.
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- Stop after processing all the edges.

Claim: the Reverse-Delete algorithm outputs an MST.
1. Show that every edge deleted belongs to no MST.
2. Prove that the graph remaining at the end is a spanning tree.
Comments on MST Algorithms

- To handle multiple edges with the same length, perturb each length by a random infinitesimal amount. Read the textbook.

- Any algorithm that constructs a spanning tree by including edges that satisfy the cut property and deleting edges that satisfy the cycle property will yield an MST!
Implementing Prim’s Algorithm

- Maintain a tree $(S, U)$.
  - Start with an arbitrary node $s \in V$ and $U = \emptyset$.
  - Add the node $v$ to $S$ and the edge $e$ to $U$ that minimise
    \[ \min_{e \in \text{cut}(S)} c_e. \]
  - Stop when $S = V$.

- Sorting edges takes $O(m \log n)$ time.
- Implementation is very similar to Dijkstra’s algorithm.
- Maintain $S$ and store attachment costs $a(v) = \min_{e \in \text{cut}(S)} c_e$ for every node $v \in V - S$ in a priority queue.
- At each step, extract minimum $v$ from priority queue and update the attachment costs of the neighbours of $v$.
- Total of $n - 1$ ExtractMin and $m$ ChangeKey operations, yielding a running time of $O(m \log n)$. 
Implementing Prim’s Algorithm

- Maintain a tree \((S, U)\).
  
  - Start with an arbitrary node \(s \in V\) and \(U = \emptyset\).
  
  - Add the node \(v\) to \(S\) and the edge \(e\) to \(U\) that minimise
    \[
    \min_{e \in \text{cut}(S)} c_e.
    \]

- Stop when \(S = V\).

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- Total of \(n - 1\) \texttt{ExtractMin} and \(m\) \texttt{ChangeKey} operations, yielding a running time of \(O(m \log n)\).
Implementing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- Start with an empty set $T$ of edges.
- Process edges in $E$ in increasing order of cost.
- Add the next edge $e$ to $T$ only if adding $e$ does not create a cycle.
Implementing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- Start with an empty set $T$ of edges.
- Process edges in $E$ in increasing order of cost.
- Add the next edge $e$ to $T$ only if adding $e$ does not create a cycle.

- Sorting edges takes $O(m \log n)$ time.
- Key question: “Does adding $e = (u, v)$ to $T$ create a cycle?”
  - Maintain set of connected components of $T$.
  - $\text{FIND}(u)$: return the name of the connected component of $T$ that $u$ belongs to.
  - $\text{UNION}(A, B)$: merge connected components $A$ and $B$.

- Answering the question: Adding $e$ creates a cycle if and only if $\text{FIND}(u) = \text{FIND}(v)$. If not, execute $\text{UNION}(\text{FIND}(u), \text{FIND}(v))$. 
How many \texttt{FIND} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need?
Analysing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- How many \texttt{Find} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? $2m$.
- How many \texttt{Union} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need?
Analysing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- How many FIND invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? $2m$.
- How many UNION invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? $n - 1$. 

Total running time of Kruskal’s algorithm is $O(m \log n)$. 

Greedy Graph Algorithms
Analysing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- How many \textsc{Find} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? 2m.
- How many \textsc{Union} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? n – 1.
- We will show two implementations of \textsc{Union-Find}:
  - Each \textsc{Find} takes $O(1)$ time, $k$ invocations of \textsc{Union} take $O(k \log k)$ time in total.
  - Each \textsc{Find} takes $O(\log n)$ time and each invocation of \textsc{Union} takes $O(1)$ time.
Analysing Kruskal’s Algorithm

- How many \texttt{Find} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? \(2m\).
- How many \texttt{Union} invocations does Kruskal’s algorithm need? \(n - 1\).
- We will show two implementations of \texttt{Union-Find}:
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  - Each \texttt{Find} takes \(O(\log n)\) time and each invocation of \texttt{Union} takes \(O(1)\) time.
- Total running time of Kruskal’s algorithm is \(O(m \log n)\).
Union-Find Data Structure

- Abstraction of the data structure needed by Kruskal’s algorithm.
- Maintain disjoint subsets of elements from a universe \( U \) of \( n \) elements.
- Each subset has an name. We will set a set’s name to be the identity of some element in it.
- Support three operations:
  1. \texttt{MakeUnionFind}(U): initialise the data structure with elements in \( U \).
  2. \texttt{Find}(u): return the identity of the subset that contains \( u \).
  3. \texttt{Union}(A, B): merge the sets named \( A \) and \( B \) into one set.
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 1

- Store all the elements of $U$ in an array $\text{COMPONENT}$.
  - Assume identities of elements are integers from 1 to $n$.
  - $\text{COMPONENT}[s]$ is the name of the set containing $s$.
- Implementing the operations:
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 1

- Store all the elements of $U$ in an array $\text{COMPONENT}$.
  - Assume identities of elements are integers from 1 to $n$.
  - $\text{COMPONENT}[s]$ is the name of the set containing $s$.

- Implementing the operations:
  1. \text{MAKEUNIONFIND}($U$): For each $s \in U$, set $\text{COMPONENT}[s] = s$ in $O(n)$ time.
  2. \text{FIND}($s$): return $\text{COMPONENT}[s]$ in $O(1)$ time.
  3. \text{UNION}($A, B$): merge $B$ into $A$ by scanning $\text{COMPONENT}$ and updating each index whose value is $B$ to the value $A$. Takes $O(n)$ time.
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 1

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  1. $\text{MAKEUNIONFIND}(U)$: For each $s \in U$, set $\text{COMPONENT}[s] = s$ in $O(n)$ time.
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- $\text{UNION}$ is very slow because
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 1

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- Implementing the operations:
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  3. $\text{UNION}(A, B)$: merge $B$ into $A$ by scanning $\text{COMPONENT}$ and updating each index whose value is $B$ to the value $A$. Takes $O(n)$ time.

- $\text{UNION}$ is very slow because we cannot efficiently find the elements that belong to a set.
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 2

- **Optimisation 1:** Use an array `Elements`
  - Indices of `Elements` range from 1 to $n$.
  - `Elements[s]` stores the elements in the subset named $s$ in a list.

- **Execute `Union(A, B)`** by merging $B$ into $A$ in two steps:
  1. Updating `Component` for elements of $B$ in $O(|B|)$ time.

- **`Union` takes $\Omega(n)$ in the worst-case.**
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 2

- Optimisation 1: Use an array \texttt{Elements}
  - Indices of \texttt{Elements} range from 1 to \( n \).
  - \texttt{Elements}[s] stores the elements in the subset named \( s \) in a list.

- Execute \texttt{Union}(A, B) by merging \( B \) into \( A \) in two steps:
  1. Updating \texttt{Component} for elements of \( B \) in \( O(|B|) \) time.
  2. Append \texttt{Elements}[B] to \texttt{Elements}[A] in \( O(1) \) time.

- \texttt{Union} takes \( \Omega(n) \) in the worst-case.

- Optimisation 2: Store size of each set in an array (say, \texttt{Size}). If \( \texttt{Size}[B] \leq \texttt{Size}[A] \), merge \( B \) into \( A \). Otherwise merge \( A \) into \( B \). Update \texttt{Size}.
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 2

- **Optimisation 1:** Use an array `Elements`
  - Indices of `Elements` range from 1 to `n`.
  - `Elements[s]` stores the elements in the subset named `s` in a list.
- **Execute `Union(A, B)` by merging `B` into `A` in two steps:**
  1. Updating `Component` for elements of `B` in $O(|B|)$ time.
- `Union` takes $\Omega(n)$ in the worst-case.
- **Optimisation 2:** Store size of each set in an array (say, `Size`). If `Size[B] \leq Size[A]`, merge `B` into `A`. Otherwise merge `A` into `B`. Update `Size`. 
Union-Find Data Structure: Analysis of Implementation 2

- \text{MAKEUNIONFIND}(S) \text{ and } \text{FIND}(u) \text{ are as before.}
Union-Find Data Structure:
Analysis of Implementation 2

- **MAKEUNIONFIND**($S$) and **FIND**($u$) are as before.
- **UNION**($A, B$): Running time is proportional to the size of the smaller set, which may be $\Omega(n)$. 
Union-Find Data Structure: Analysis of Implementation 2

- MakeUnionFind(S) and Find(u) are as before.
- Union(A, B): Running time is proportional to the size of the smaller set, which may be \( \Omega(n) \).
- Any sequence of \( k \) Union operations takes \( O(k \log k) \) time.
Union-Find Data Structure: Analysis of Implementation 2

- **MakeUnionFind**($S$) and **Find**($u$) are as before.
- **Union**($A, B$): Running time is proportional to the size of the smaller set, which may be $\Omega(n)$.
- Any sequence of $k$ **Union** operations takes $O(k \log k)$ time.
  - $k$ **Union** operations touch at most $2k$ elements.
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  - $k$ **UNION** operations touch at most $2k$ elements.
  - Intuition: running time of **UNION** is dominated by updates to **COMPONENT**. Charge each update to the element being updated and bound number of charges per element.
Union-Find Data Structure:
Analysis of Implementation 2

- MakeUnionFind(S) and Find(u) are as before.
- Union(A, B): Running time is proportional to the size of the smaller set, which may be \(\Omega(n)\).
- Any sequence of \(k\) Union operations takes \(O(k \log k)\) time.
  - \(k\) Union operations touch at most \(2k\) elements.
  - Intuition: running time of Union is dominated by updates to Component. Charge each update to the element being updated and bound number of charges per element.
  - Consider any element \(s\). Every time \(s\)'s set identity is updated, the size of the set containing \(s\) at least doubles \(\Rightarrow\) \(s\)'s set can change at most \(\log(2k)\) times \(\Rightarrow\) the total work done in \(k\) Union operations is \(O(k \log k)\).
Union-Find Data Structure: Analysis of Implementation 2

- **MAKEUNIONFIND(S)** and **FIND(u)** are as before.
- **UNION(A, B):** Running time is proportional to the size of the smaller set, which may be $\Omega(n)$.
- Any sequence of $k$ **UNION** operations takes $O(k \log k)$ time.
  - $k$ **UNION** operations touch at most $2k$ elements.
  - Intuition: running time of **UNION** is dominated by updates to **COMPONENT**. Charge each update to the element being updated and bound number of charges per element.
  - Consider any element $s$. Every time $s$’s set identity is updated, the size of the set containing $s$ at least doubles $\Rightarrow$ $s$’s set can change at most $\log(2k)$ times $\Rightarrow$ the total work done in $k$ **UNION** operations is $O(k \log k)$.
- **FIND** is fast in the worst case, **UNION** is fast in an amortised sense.
  Can we make both operations worst-case efficient?
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 3

- Goal: Implement \texttt{FIND} in $O(\log n)$ and \texttt{UNION} in $O(1)$ worst-case time.

- Represent each subset in a tree using pointers:
  - Each tree node contains an element and a pointer to a parent.
  - The identity of the set is the identity of the element at the root.

- Implementing \texttt{FIND}(u):
  - Follow pointers from $u$ to the root of $u$'s tree.

- Implementing \texttt{UNION}(A, B):
  - Make the smaller tree's root a child of the larger tree's root. Takes $O(1)$ time.
Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 3

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- Represent each subset in a tree using pointers:
  - Each tree node contains an element and a pointer to a parent.
  - The identity of the set is the identity of the element at the root.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{union-find-tree}
\caption{A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes $v$ and $j$. The dashed arrow from $u$ to $v$ is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \texttt{Find}(i) would involve following the arrows $i$ to $x$, and then $x$ to $j$.}
\end{figure}
Goal: Implement \texttt{FIND} in $O(\log n)$ and \texttt{UNION} in $O(1)$ worst-case time.

Represent each subset in a tree using pointers:
- Each tree node contains an element and a pointer to a parent.
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\textbf{Figure 4.12} A Union–Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes $v$ and $j$. The dashed arrow from $u$ to $v$ is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \texttt{Find}(i) would involve following the arrows $i$ to $x$, and then $x$ to $j$. 
**Union-Find Data Structure: Implementation 3**

- **Goal:** Implement \textsc{Find} in $O(\log n)$ and \textsc{Union} in $O(1)$ worst-case time.

- **Represent each subset in a tree using pointers:**
  - Each tree node contains an element and a pointer to a parent.
  - The identity of the set is the identity of the element at the root.

- **Implementing \textsc{Find}(u):** follow pointers from $u$ to the root of $u$’s tree.

- **Implementing \textsc{Union}(A, B):** make smaller tree’s root a child of the larger tree’s root. Takes $O(1)$ time.

---

The set \{s, u, w\} was merged into \{t, v, z\}.

**Figure 4.12** A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes $v$ and $j$. The dashed arrow from $u$ to $v$ is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \text{Find}(i) would involve following the arrows $i$ to $x$, and then $x$ to $j$. 

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Graphs  Shortest Paths  Minimum Spanning Trees  Implementation  Union-Find
Why does \texttt{Find}(u) take $O(\log n)$ time?

\textbf{Figure 4.12} A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes $v$ and $j$. The dashed arrow from $u$ to $v$ is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \texttt{Find}(i) would involve following the arrows $i$ to $x$, and then $x$ to $j$. 
**Union-Find Data Structure:**

Find in Implementation 3

The set \{s, u, w\} was merged into \{t, v, z\}.

![Diagram of Union-Find structure](image)

**Figure 4.12** A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes \(\nu\) and \(\nu\). The dashed arrow from \(u\) to \(v\) is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \text{Find}(i)\) would involve following the arrows \(i\) to \(x\), and then \(x\) to \(j\).

- Why does \text{Find}(u)\) take \(O(\log n)\) time?
- Number of pointers followed equals the number of times the identity of the set containing \(u\) changed.
- Every time \(u\)'s set's identity changes, the set at least doubles in size ⇒ there are \(O(\log n)\) pointers followed.
Union-Find Data Structure: Improving Implementation 3

The set \( \{s, u, w\} \) was merged into \( \{t, v, z\} \).

Figure 4.12 A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes \( v \) and \( j \). The dashed arrow from \( u \) to \( v \) is the result of the last Union operation. To answer a Find query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \( \text{Find}(i) \) would involve following the arrows \( i \) to \( x \), and then \( x \) to \( j \).

- Every time we invoke \( \text{FIND}(u) \), we follow the same set of pointers.
Union-Find Data Structure: Improving Implementation 3

Every time we invoke \texttt{FIND}(u), we follow the same set of pointers.
Path compression: make all nodes visited by \texttt{FIND}(u) children of the root.

\begin{figure}
\centering
\begin{tikzpicture}
  \node (u) at (0,0) {$u$};
  \node (v) at (1,0) {$v$};
  \node (w) at (-1,-1) {$w$};
  \node (s) at (0,-1) {$s$};
  \node (t) at (1,-1) {$t$};
  \node (z) at (2,-1) {$z$};
  \node (j) at (3,0) {$j$};
  \node (x) at (2,-2) {$x$};
  \node (y) at (3,-2) {$y$};
  \node (i) at (1.5,-3) {$i$};

  \draw[->] (u) -- (s);
  \draw[->] (u) -- (v);
  \draw[->] (v) -- (t);
  \draw[->] (v) -- (z);
  \draw[->] (j) -- (x);
  \draw[->] (j) -- (y);
  \draw[dashed,->] (u) -- (v);

  \node[align=center, above] at (1.5,-0.5) {The set \{s, u, w\} was merged into \{t, v, z\}.}
\end{tikzpicture}
\caption{A Union-Find data structure using pointers. The data structure has only two sets at the moment, named after nodes \(v\) and \(j\). The dashed arrow from \(u\) to \(v\) is the result of the last \texttt{Union} operation. To answer a \texttt{Find} query, we follow the arrows until we get to a node that has no outgoing arrow. For example, answering the query \texttt{Find}(i) would involve following the arrows \(i\) to \(x\), and then \(x\) to \(j\).}
\end{figure}
Every time we invoke $\text{FIND}(u)$, we follow the same set of pointers.

Path compression: make all nodes visited by $\text{FIND}(u)$ children of the root.
Every time we invoke \texttt{FIND}(u), we follow the same set of pointers.

Path compression: make all nodes visited by \texttt{FIND}(u) children of the root.

Can prove that total time taken by \( n \) \texttt{FIND} operations is \( O(n\alpha(n)) \), where \( \alpha(n) \) is the inverse of the Ackermann function, and grows extremely slowly with \( n \).
The **Union-Find** data structure is useful to maintain the connected components of a graph as edges are added to the graph.

The data structure does not support edge deletion efficiently.

Current best algorithm for MST runs in $O(m\alpha(m, n))$ time (Chazelle 2000) and $O(m)$ randomised time (Karger, Klein, and Tarjan, 1995).

Holy grail: $O(m)$ deterministic algorithm for MST.