

Amortized Analysis

We saw best/worst/expected/average case analysis.

- We analyze a data structure over a sequence of operations
- We do not analyze a single operation
- It provides a guarantee of the average performance in worst case
- Deterministic (no probability involved)

Two methods to analyze

- Aggregate
- Accounting
- Potential

Examples:

1. Stack: we have a stack with push, pop, multipop

2. Binary Counter:

Increment (CTR)

$i = 0$

while $i < \text{length}(\text{CTR})$ and $\text{CTR}[i] = 1$ do

$\text{CTR}[i] = 0$ // turn off 1-bits

$i = i + 1$

if $i < \text{length}(\text{CTR})$ then

$\text{CTR}[i] = 1$ // turn on highest bit

0 0 0 1
↓
0 0 1 0
↓
0 0 1 1
↓↓↓
0 1 0 0

1. Aggregate: Stack

Naive way: Pop $O(1)$
Push $O(1)$
Multipop $O(n)$

$\Rightarrow n$ operations can cost up to $n \cdot O(n) = O(n^2)$

Aggregate: you cannot pop more than what you pushed. And you can push at most n items.

Total amount of cost is $O(n)$ or $\frac{O(n)}{n} = O(1)$ /operation

2. Aggregate: Binary counter

Naive: cost comes from flipping a bit. If we call increment $O(n)$ times on a counter that has n -bits,

this may cost:

$O(n) \cdot n = O(n^2)$ in total or $\frac{O(n^2)}{n} = O(n)$ /Increment

Aggregate:

0 0 0 0 flips all the time (n -times) $\rightarrow \frac{n}{2^0}$

0 0 0 1
0 0 1 0 flips every other time ($\frac{n}{2}$ -times) $\rightarrow \frac{n}{2^1}$

0 0 1 1
0 1 0 0 flips every $\frac{n}{4}$ times $\rightarrow \frac{n}{2^2}$

0 1 0 1

0 1 1 0

0 1 1 1

1 0 0 0 flips every $\frac{n}{8}$ times $\rightarrow \frac{n}{2^3}$

\Rightarrow For n -increments, the total # flips: $\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{n}{2^i} \leq n \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^i} = 2 \cdot n = O(n)$
or $\frac{O(n)}{n} = O(1)$ amortized time

Accounting Method

- In accounting method the data structure behaves like a bank
- We charge \$ for each op. This is the amortized cost of the op
- when:

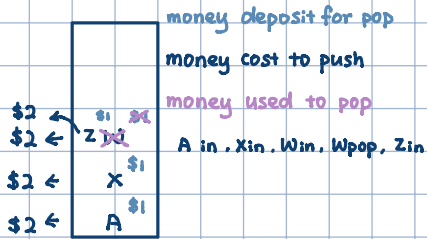
amortized cost < actual cost \Rightarrow deposit leftover as credit on the data structure

amortized cost > actual cost \Rightarrow use the credit saved in the data structure

• Your data structure cannot run on negative credit! If you end up with negative balance then your analysis is wrong

1. Accounting: Stack

	Actual	Amortized
PUSH:	$O(1)$	\$2 → \$1 for push, \$1 deposit for pop later
POP:	$O(1)$	\$0
Multipop:	$O(n)$	\$0



⇒ For n operations, use $\$2n = O(n)$ is used in total or $\frac{O(n)}{n} = O(1)$ amortized time

2. Accounting: Binary counter

charge \$2 for every $0 \rightarrow 1$ flip:

\$1 pays flip, and

\$1 stays as credit to pay for the subsequent $1 \rightarrow 0$ flip

