





Disjoint Set Definition

- Suppose we have a collection of n distinct items/elements set.
- We want to make the **partition** of the set into a **collection** of sets such that:
 - □ Each item is in a set
 - □ No item is in more than one set
- The resulting sets are said to be disjoint sets
- Examples:
 - {1, 2, 3} and {4, 5, 6} are disjoint sets.
 - {x, y, z} and {t, u, x} are **not** disjoint sets.

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Disjoint Set Terms

- We can identify a set by selecting a representative element of the set.
- It doesn't matter which element we choose, but once chosen, it can't change.
- Example:
 - \Box Let $S = \{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$
 - □ Let initial partition be (will highlight/underline representative elements)

$$\{1\}$$
, $\{2\}$, $\{3\}$, $\{4\}$, $\{5\}$, $\{6\}$, $\{7\}$, $\{8\}$, $\{9\}$

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Disjoint Set Terms

- Three operations of interest:
 - make-set(x) create a new set with only x. Assume x is not already in some other set.
 - find(x) return the representative of the set containing x.
 - union(x,y) combine the two sets containing x and y into one new set. A new representative is selected.

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Disjoint Set. Example #1



- Let $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$
 - \Box Let **initial partition** be (**make-set**(x), for each x in S):

$$\{\underline{1}\}, \{\underline{2}\}, \{\underline{3}\}, \{\underline{4}\}, \{\underline{5}\}, \{\underline{6}\}, \{\underline{7}\}, \{\underline{8}\}, \{\underline{9}\}$$

□ **union**(2,5):

$$\{\underline{1}\}, \{\underline{2}, 5\}, \{\underline{3}\}, \{\underline{4}\}, \{\underline{6}\}, \{\underline{7}\}, \{\underline{8}\}, \{\underline{9}\}$$

- \Box find(4) = 4, find(2) = 2, find(5) = 2
- □ **union**(4,6), **union**(2,7)

$$\{\underline{1}\}, \{\underline{2}, 5, 7\}, \{\underline{3}\}, \{4, \underline{6}\}, \{\underline{8}\}, \{\underline{9}\}$$

- \Box find(4) = 6, find(2) = 2, find(5) = 2
- □ **union**(2,6)

$$\{\underline{1}\}, \{\underline{2}, 4, 5, 6, 7\}, \{\underline{3}\}, \{\underline{8}\}, \{\underline{9}\}$$



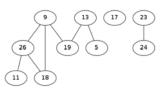


Disjoint Set. Example #2

■ Find the **connected components** of the undirected graph G=(V,E) (maximal **subgraphs** that are **connected**).

CONNECTED-COMPONENTS

for (each vertex v in V)
 make-set(v)
for (each edge (u,v) in E)
 if (find(u) != find(v))
 union(u,v)



By using the find operation we can verify if two vertices, u and v, are in the same connected component by testing:

SAME-COMPONENT(u,v) if find(u) = find(v) return TRUE else return FALSE

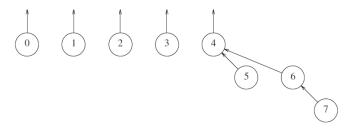
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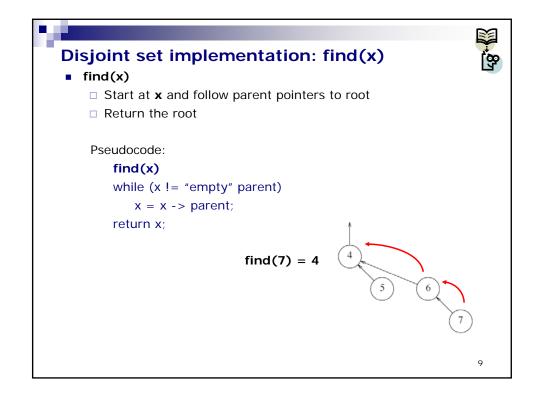


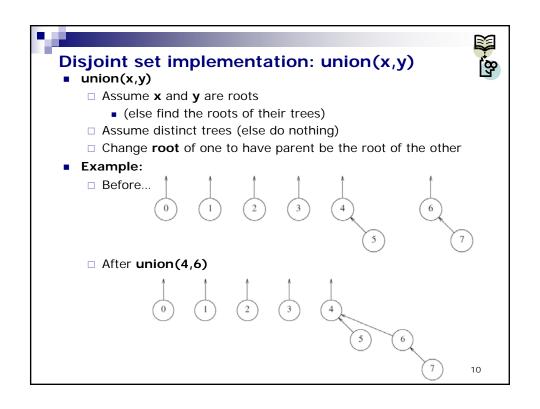


Disjoint set implementation. Basic ideas

- Up-tree implementation
 - ☐ Basic idea is to use a **tree** to represent each **set**.
 - □ Every item/element is in a **tree**
 - □ The **root** of the **tree** is the **representative element** of all items in that tree i.e., the root can be use to name the set.
 - □ In this **up-tree implementation**, every node (except the root) has a **pointer** pointing to its **parent**.
 - □ The **root** element has a **pointer** pointing to "empty" parent (or pointing to itself).





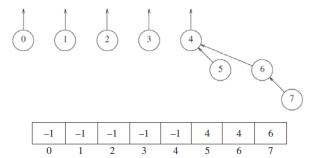






Disjoint set. Simple implementation

- If elements are **contiguous** numbers (e.g., 0,1, 2,..., *n*-1), use an array of length *n* called **up**
 - □ Put in array index of parent, with -1 (or 0) for a root
- Example:



 If set elements are not contiguous numbers, could have a separate dictionary to map elements (keys) to numbers (values)

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Disjoint set class.



The skeleton:

```
public class DisjSets
{
   public DisjSets( int numElements )
      { /* Figure 8.7 */ }
   public void union( int root1, int root2 )
      { /* Figures 8.8 and 8.14 */ }
   public int find( int x )
      { /* Figures 8.9 and 8.16 */ }

   private int [] s;
}
```





Disjoint set class.

Initialization routine:

```
* Construct the disjoint sets object.
* @param numElements the initial number of disjoint sets.
*/
public DisjSets( int numElements )
{
    s = new int [ numElements ];
    for( int i = 0; i < s.length; i++ )
        s[ i ] = -1;
}</pre>
```

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Disjoint set class.

■ Worst-case run-time for **find**? *O(n)*





```
/**
 * Perform a find.
 * Error checks omitted again for simplicity.
 * @param x the element being searched for.
 * @return the set containing x.
 */
public int find( int x )
{
   if( s[ x ] < 0 )
      return x;
   else
      return find( s[ x ] );
}</pre>
```

```
Disjoint set class.

Union Algorithm (not the best):

/**

* Union two disjoint sets.

* For simplicity, we assume root1 and root2 are distinct

* and represent set names.

* @param root1 the root of set 1.

* @param root2 the root of set 2.

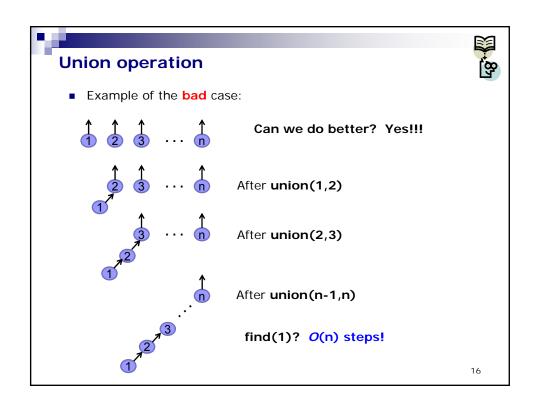
*/

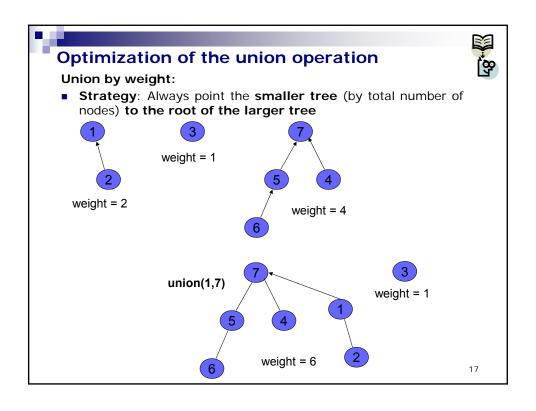
public void union( int root1, int root2 )

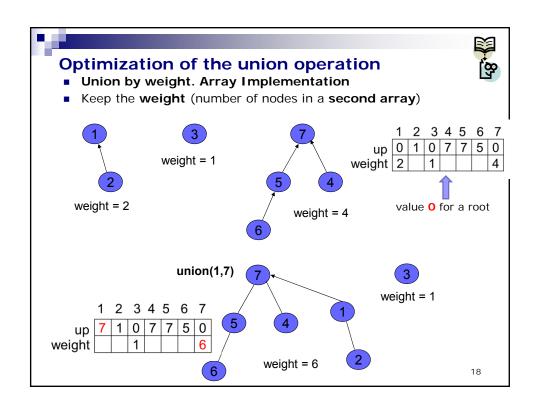
{

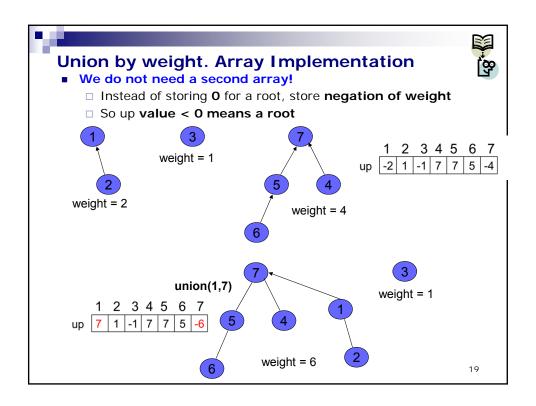
s[ root2 ] = root1;
}

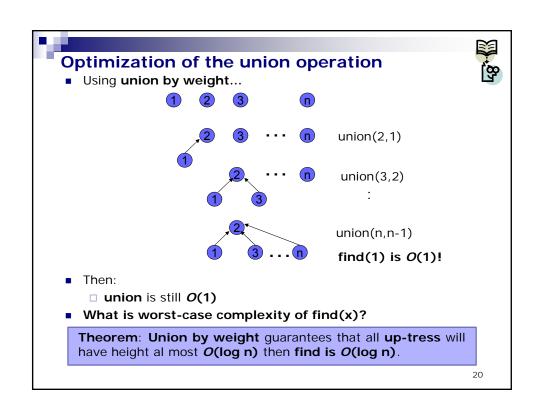
Worst-case run-time for union? O(1)
```











Java implementation



• For a full version of the Disjoint set class implementation please consult:

https://users.cs.fiu.edu/~weiss/dsaajava2/code/DisjSets.java

(Authors: Mark Weiss)

