

Algorithms - I

Princeton University

① Union Find Algorithm

Here, the problem is, to find connections between nodes and also to make connection between nodes.

First we will initialize the array with their index value.

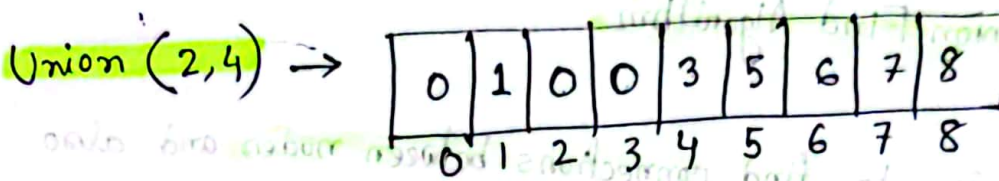
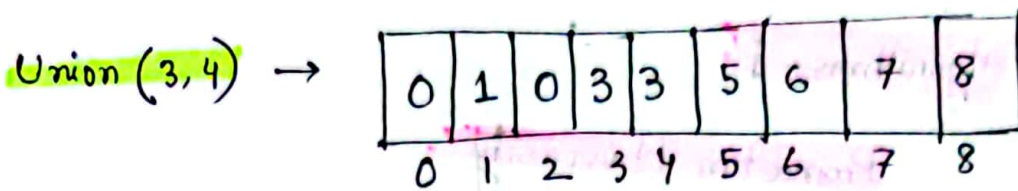
arr =

0	1	0	3	3	5	6	7	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Union (0,2) → Means we have to connect the nodes.

So what we will do is, we will make changes in the values where index 0 and 2 both will be represented by 0 as their root

0 1 0 3 4 5 6 7 8
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



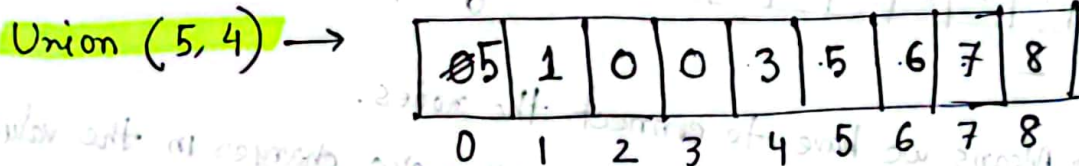
Here we can see that, the (2,4) already has their parent.

$2 \rightarrow 0$, $4 \rightarrow 3$

We will keep 2's parent to 0.

We will keep 4's parent to 3.

But we will change 3's parent to 0.



Here, For, 5 parent is 5 ($5 \rightarrow 5$)

For, 4 parent is 0 ($4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 0$)

We will keep 4's parent to 3

But we will change 0's parent to 5

Now, check if (2,5) are connected?

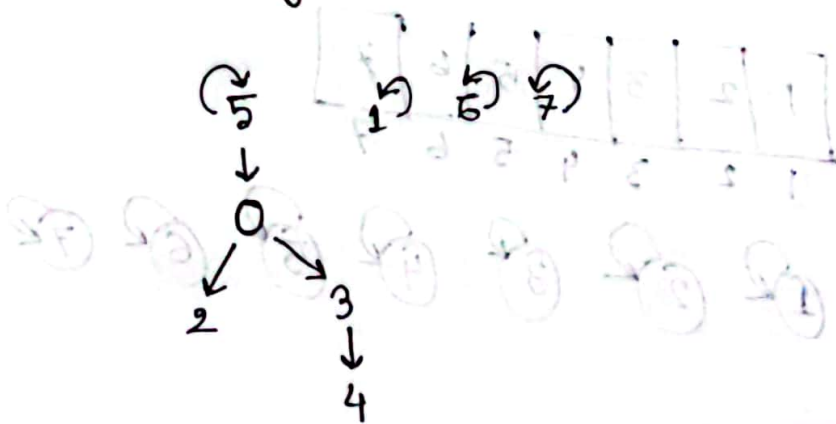
For that we will check both of their root parent. if that is same means they are connected.

For 2 \rightarrow (2 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow 5) = 5 is root parent

For, 5 \rightarrow (5 \rightarrow 5) = 5 is root parent

So, they are connected.

So, After connecting some nodes. Our tree will look like this



But for large number of input, the time complexity of this method will increase. So we have to think for an efficient approach because the larger the height of tree goes, it will take more time to find the root parent.

For optimizing the previous Union find Algorithm, we will use Disjoint sets.

Let's rethink the algorithm again →

Disjoint set

Rank →

0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Parent list →

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Pseudocode of Union (a,b)

- 1) find ultimate parent of a,b ; p_a, p_b
↳ Ultimate parent a
↳ Ultimate parent b
- 2) find rank of p_a and p_b
- 3) Connect smaller rank to Larger Rank

In case of equal rank, connect anyone to anyone.

Union (1,2)

→ Check $P(1) \rightarrow 1$, Check $P(2) \rightarrow 2$

→ Now check $R(1) \rightarrow 0$ and check $R(2) = 0$

As they have same rank, so you can connect anyone to anyone.

Disjoint set

Rank

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Rank

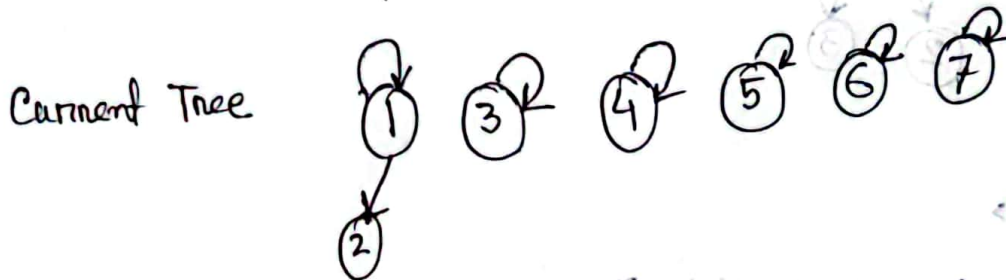
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Parent

1	1	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1 2 3 4 5 6 7



Union (2,3) →

check $P(2) = 1$, check $P(3) = 3$

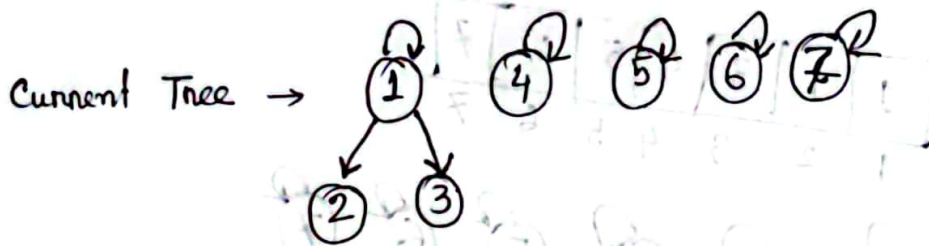
check $R(1) = 1$, check $R(3) = 0$

connect 3 to 1 (smaller rank to larger rank)

Disjoint SET:

Rank	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

parent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Union (4,5) →

check $P(4) = 4$, check $P(5) = 5$

check $R(4) = 0$, check $R(5) = 0$

So connect anyone to anyone

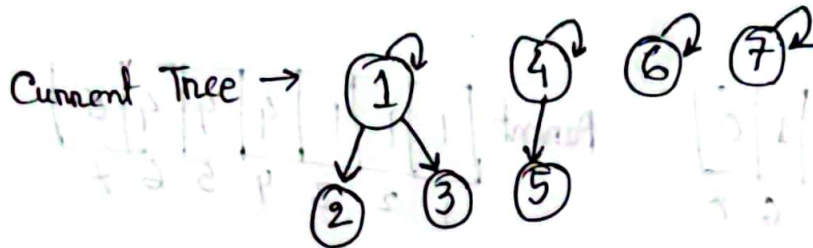
Disjoint set

Rank

1	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Parent

1	1	1	4	4	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Union (6,7) :

Same like previous method,

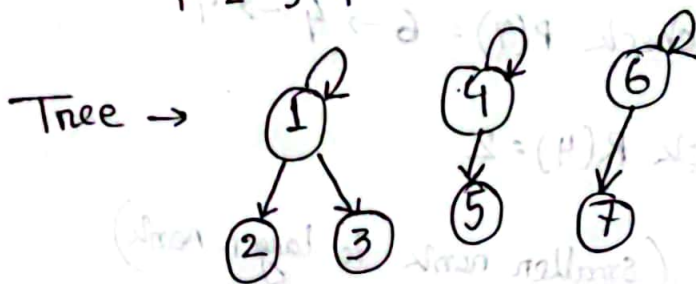
Disjoint set

Rank

1	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Parent

1	1	1	4	4	6	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Union (5, 6)

check $P(5) = 4 \rightarrow 4$, check $P(6) = 6$

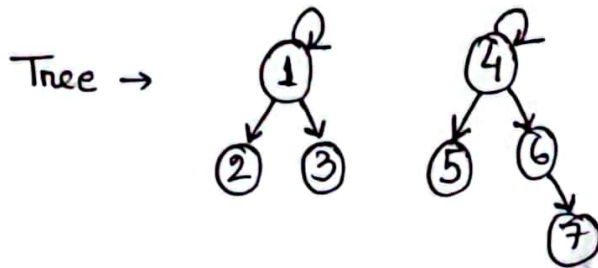
check $R(4) = 1$, check $R(6) = 1$

Connect anyone to anyone

Disjoint SET

Rank	1	0	0	2	0	1	0
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Parent	1	1	1	4	4	4	6
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Union (3, 7)

check $P(3) = 1 \rightarrow 1$, check $P(7) = 6 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 4$

check $R(1) = 1$, check $R(4) = 2$

Connect 1 to 4 (smaller rank to larger rank)

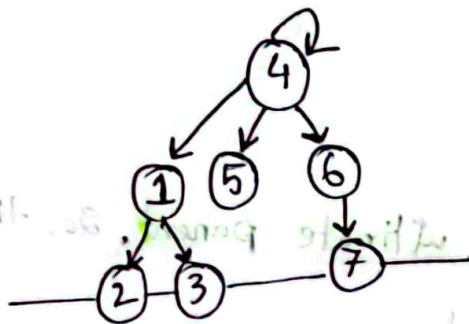
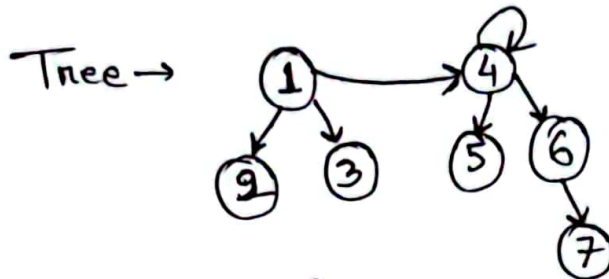
Disjoint SET

Rank

1	0	0	2	0	1	0
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Parent

4	1	1	4	4	4	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Find (2,7) →

check $P(2) = 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 4$

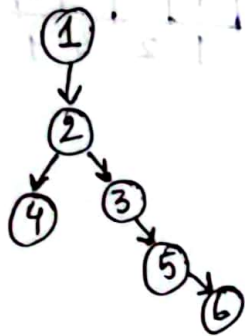
check $P(7) = 6 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 4$

As both of their ultimate parent is same, they are connected

if ultimate parent is not same, then they won't be connected.

For finding any connected node, searching will take $\log(n)$ time when we will use Rank. If we want to achieve the find operation in Constant time, we have to use path compression approach.

Let us see a scenario,



if we see find (1,6) →

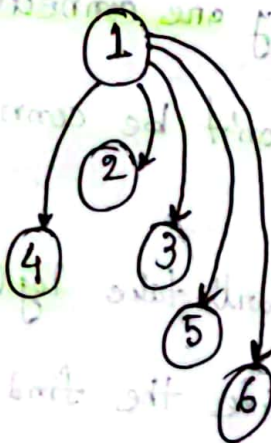
$$P(1) = 1 \rightarrow 1$$

$$P(6) = 5 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$$

At the end we are comparing the ultimate parent. So, the other parents are not that important.

If we can store the parent value with ultimate parent, then we can see the connection in constant time. $O(4\alpha)$

Time complexity



Remember that we have keep track of rank instead of height of a tree

Because after performing path compression tree height would shrink.

But for rank the values tracked, will be same.