

Program Structures and Algorithms
Fall 2023

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Task:

Step 1:

(a) **Implement height-weighted Quick Union with Path Compression.** For this, you will flesh out the class `UF_HWQUPC`. All you have to do is to fill in the sections marked with `// TO BE IMPLEMENTED ... // ...END IMPLEMENTATION`.

(b) **Check that the unit tests for this class all work.** You must show "green" test results in your submission (screenshot is OK).

Step 2:

Using your implementation of `UF_HWQUPC`, develop a `UF ("union-find")` client that takes an integer value `n` from the command line to determine the number of "sites." Then generates random pairs of integers between 0 and `n-1`, calling `connected()` to determine if they are connected and `union()` if not. Loop until all sites are connected then print the number of connections generated. Package your program as a static method `count()` that takes `n` as the argument and returns the number of connections; and a `main()` that takes `n` from the command line, calls `count()` and prints the returned value. If you prefer, you can create a main program that doesn't require any input and runs the experiment for a fixed set of `n` values. Show evidence of your run(s).

Step 3:

Determine the relationship between the number of objects (n) and the number of pairs (m) generated to accomplish this (i.e. to reduce the number of components from n to 1). Justify your conclusion in terms of your observations and what you think might be going on.

Relationship Conclusion:

The number of pairs (m) needed to reduce the number of components from n to 1 is initially estimated to be proportional to $n \log n$. This estimation arises from the notion that the union operation needs to be executed $\log n$ times for each of the n objects to achieve this reduction.

However, in practical implementation, the actual number of pairs generated may turn out to be less than $n \log n$. This is because the height-weighted Quick Union Find algorithm, coupled with path compression, effectively reduces the height of the trees, resulting in fewer nodes within the trees. As a consequence, this reduction in tree size minimizes the number of union operations required to reach a single component.

In summary, while the theoretical relationship between the number of objects (n) and the number of pairs (m) generated to accomplish the reduction of components from n to 1 is proportional to $n \log n$, in practice, the actual number of pairs generated may be lower due to the beneficial impact of path compression.

Evidence to support that conclusion:

```
n = 1, Number of connections(m) : 0
n = 10, Number of connections(m) : 11
n = 100, Number of connections(m) : 290
n = 1000, Number of connections(m) : 3430
n = 10000, Number of connections(m) : 49935
```

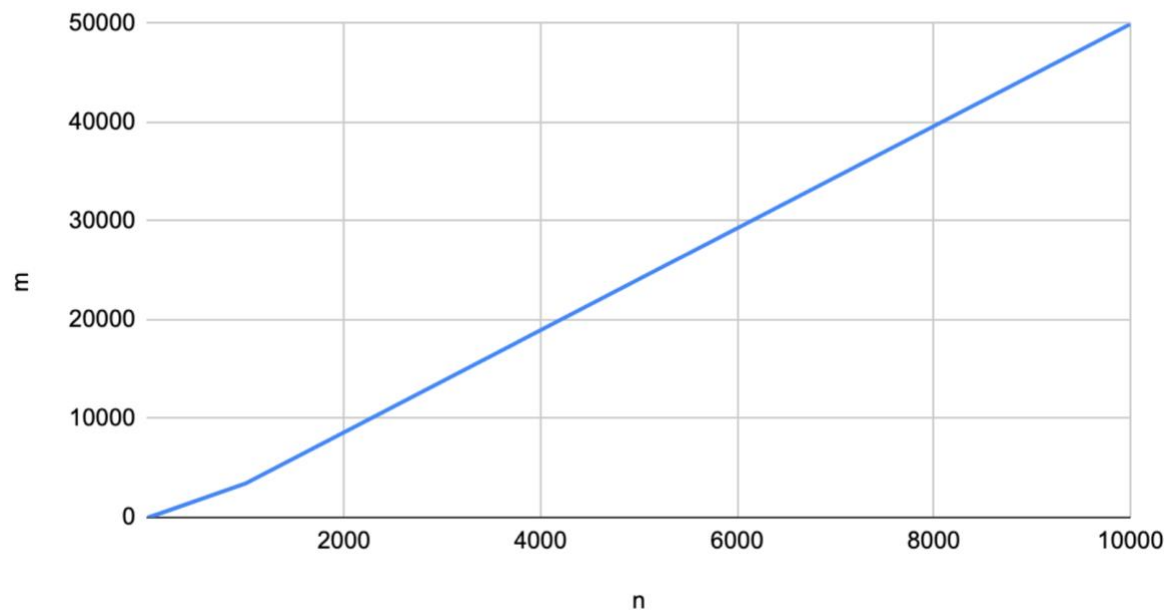
```
Process finished with exit code 0
```

n	m
1	0
10	11
100	290
1000	3430
10000	49935

These observations highlight the efficiency of the height-weighted Quick Union Find with path compression algorithm in reducing the number of components from n to 1. However, as the number of objects increases, the algorithm's time complexity also grows. Path compression mitigates this growth to some extent, but the overall time complexity still exhibits a logarithmic increase with the number of objects.

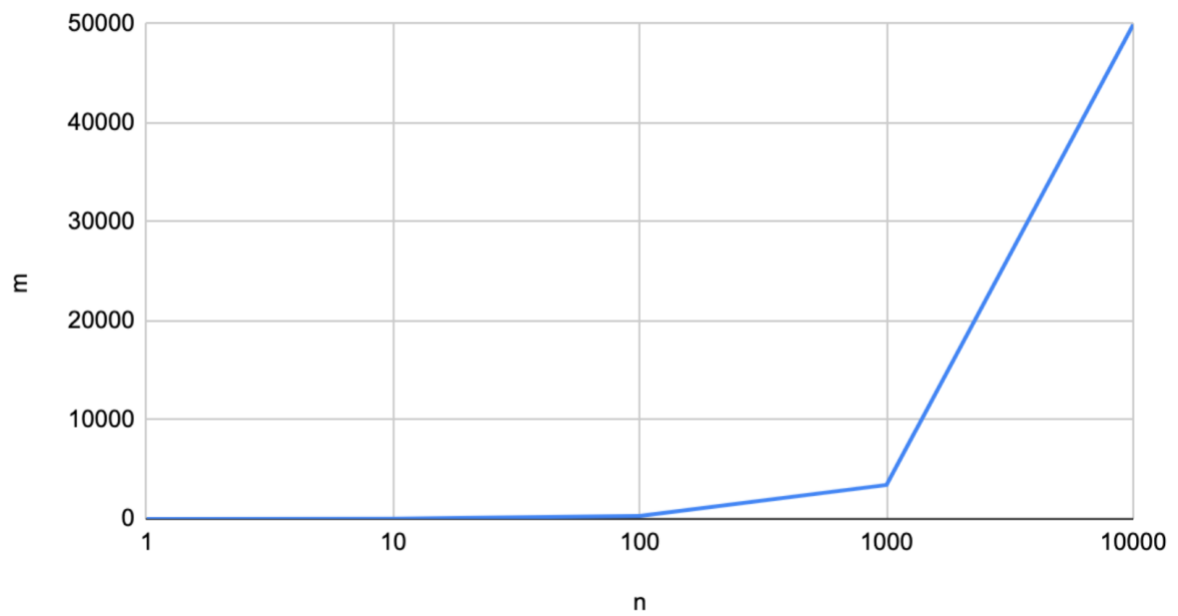
Graphical Representation:

m vs n



Logarithmic Scale

m vs n



Screenshots of run and/or Unit Test:

