VE280 Programming and Elementary Data Structures

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Dynamic Resizing









#194 - "MEMORY CORRUPTION" - BY SALVATORE IOVENE, AUG. 17TH, 2009

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Learning Objectives

- Learn a basic strategy for managing a dynamic storage using arrays
- Learn some basics of complexity analysis

Modifying Insert()

- We have modified IntSet to allow a client to specify the capacity of an IntSet.
- However, this doesn't really get around the "big instance" problem, since the caller itself might not know how big the set will grow.
- So, what we **really** want to do is to create an IntSet that can **grow** as big as it needs to.
- To do this, we only need to modify the insert () method.

Modifying Insert()

• We will use the unsorted representation. We will focus on the action of **resizing**, not the action of inserting.

```
void IntSet::insert(int v) {
   if (indexOf(v) == sizeElts) {
      if (numElts == sizeElts)

          throw sizeElts;
      elts[numElts++] = v;
   }
}
```

Modifying Insert ()

• Rather than throw an exception if the array is at maximum capacity, we will instead **grow** the array.

```
void IntSet::insert(int v) {
  if (indexOf(v) == sizeElts) {
    if (numElts == sizeElts)
       grow();
    elts[numElts++] = v;
  }
}
```

Modifying Insert()

- The grow method won't take any arguments or return any values.
- It should **never** be called from outside of the class, so add it as a **private** method taking no arguments and returning void.

```
class IntSet {
    // data members ...
    void grow();
    // EFFECTS: enlarge the elts array,
    // preserving current contents
public:
    // ...
};
```

Modifying Insert()

- grow will look like the assignment operator.
- It must perform the following steps:
 - 1. Allocate a bigger array.
 - 2. Copy the smaller array to the bigger one.
 - 3. Destroy the smaller array.
 - 4. Modify elts/sizeElts to reflect the new array.

Note the order of allocation can destroy. Can we switch this order?

Modifying Insert()

```
void IntSet::grow() {
  int *tmp = new int[sizeElts + 1];
  for (int i = 0; i < numElts; i++) {
    tmp[i] = elts[i];
  delete [] elts;
  elts = tmp;
  sizeElts += 1;
```

- 1. Allocate a bigger array.
- 2. Copy the smaller array to the bigger one.
- 3. Destroy the smaller array.
- 4. Modify elts/sizeElts to reflect the new array.

An IntSet is created with a capacity of 1 and N>0 elements are inserted. How many times can grow () be called?

Select all the correct answers.

- A. Zero times.
- **B.** Zero to N times.
- C. One to N times.
- **D.** None of the above.

Group Exercise - Modifying Insert()

- Unfortunately, we might end up doing a lot of copying.
- Suppose a client creates an IntSet of capacity 1, and then inserts N elements into it.
- **Question**: What's the number of integer copies performed by the function grow in the worst case?

```
void grow() {
   int *tmp = new int[sizeElts + 1];
   for (int i = 0; i < numElts; i++) {
      tmp[i] = elts[i];
   }
   delete [] elts;
   elts = tmp;
   sizeElts += 1;
}</pre>
void IntSet::insert(int v) {
   if (indexOf(v) == sizeElts) {
      if (numElts == sizeElts)
        grow();
      elts[numElts++] = v;
   }
}
```

Group Exercise - Modifying Insert()

• Suppose a client creates an IntSet of capacity 1, and then inserts N elements into it. What's the number of integer copies in the worst case?

- The worst case happens when all the elements inserted are different!
- Before each new insertion, numElts == sizeElts.
- We need to call grow each time we insert a new element.
- When we grow an array of size k to one of size k+1, we copied k items.
- We did this for k from 1 to N-1.
- So the total number of copies is:

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (N-2) + (N-1) = N(N-1)/2$$

Group Exercise - Modifying Insert()

• Suppose a client creates an IntSet of capacity 1, and then inserts N elements into it. What's the number of integer copies in the worst case?

- N(N-1)/2
- This is a quadratic function in N.
- This means that as the IntSet grows, the cost to build the IntSet grows much faster.
- How can we make this better?

Optimizing grow ()

- How can we make grow() better?
- The intuition is that we aren't buying enough room each time we copy the array:
 - We copy N things, but only buy room for one more slot.
- Instead, we'd like to buy more slots for each N things we copy.
- The new version is only **slightly** different from the old version.
- However, it has **very** different performance characteristics.

Optimizing grow ()

```
void grow() {
  int *tmp = new int[sizeElts * 2];
  for (int i = 0; i < numElts; i++) {</pre>
    tmp[i] = elts[i];
                              Instead of growing
  delete [] elts;
                              the array by one,
  elts = tmp;
                              we double it.
  sizeElts *= 2;
```

An IntSet is created with a capacity of 1 and N>0 elements are inserted. How many times can grow () be called?

Select all the correct answers.

- **A.** Up to N times.
- **B.** Up to N/2 times.
- C. Up to floor (log2 (N)) times.
- **D.** None of the above.

Group Exercise - Optimizing grow ()

- Suppose a client creates an IntSet of capacity 1, and then inserts N elements into it using the new version of grow ().
- **Question**: What's the number of integer copies performed by the function grow in the worst case?

```
void grow() {
  int *tmp = new int[sizeElts * 2];
  for (int i = 0; i < numElts; i++) {
    tmp[i] = elts[i];
  }
  delete [] elts;
  elts = tmp;
  sizeElts *= 2;
    grow();
}</pre>
```

```
void IntSet::insert(int v) {
  if (indexOf(v) == sizeElts) {
    if (numElts == sizeElts)
       grow();
    elts[numElts++] = v;
  }
}
```

Group Exercise - Optimizing grow ()

- After the first grow, the capacity is 2. We copy 1 item.
- After the second grow, the capacity is 4. We copy 2 items.
- After the k-th grow, the capacity is 2^k . We copy 2^{k-1} items.
- Suppose $2^m < N \le 2^{m+1}$
- How many times we need to call grow?
 - m+1 times
- How many copies we perform?
 - $T = 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^m = 2^{m+1} 1 < 2N$

Group Exercise - Optimizing grow ()

- T (the number of copies) < 2N
- So, instead of copying almost (N-1)N/2 elements, we copy fewer than 2N of them.

Group Exercise - Optimizing grow ()

Answer:

• Here's a little table showing what this means:

<pre># elements</pre>	(N-1) N/2	2N
1	0	2
8	28	16
64	2016	128
512	130816	1024
2048	2096128	4096

• The "double" implementation is **much** better than the "by-one" implementation.

Reference

- **Problem Solving with C++ (8th Edition)**, by *Walter Savitch*, Addison Wesley Publishing (2011)
 - Chapter 11.4 Classes and Dynamic Arrays