### Union Find

Version of October 31, 2014





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  - Create a set containing a single item x.

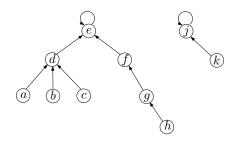
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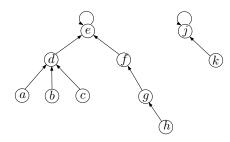
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- $\bullet$  Union(x, y)
  - Merge the set containing x, and another set containing y to a single set.
  - After this operation, we have Find-Set(x) = Find-Set(y).

### Outline

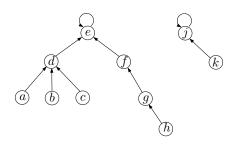
- The Disjoint Set Union-Find data structure
  - The basic implementation
  - An improvement



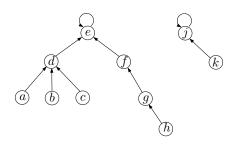
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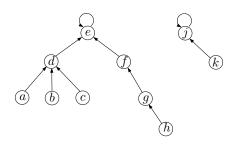
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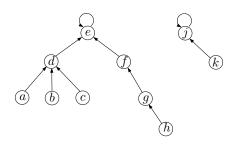
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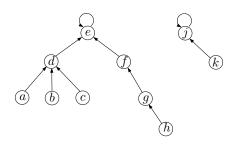
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  - The root element has a pointer pointing to itself.

4 / 14

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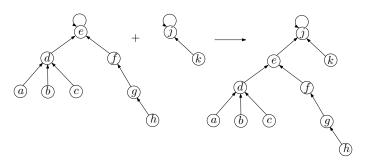
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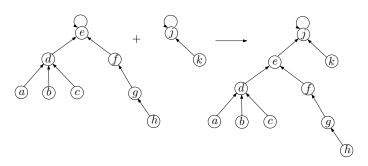
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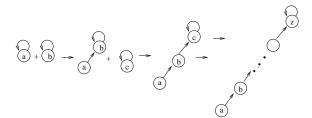
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#### Question

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Simple trick (Union by height):

• when we union two trees together, we always make the root of the taller tree the parent of shorter tree.

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 \begin{aligned} & \mathsf{Union}(\mathsf{x}, \ \mathsf{y}) \\ & \mathsf{a} = \mathsf{Find-Set}(\mathsf{x}); \\ & \mathsf{b} = \mathsf{Find-Set}(\mathsf{y}); \end{aligned}
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a=Find-Set(x);
b=Find-Set(y);
if a.height ≤ b.height then

if a.height == b.height then

| b.height++;
end
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$$size(x') = size(x) + size(y) \ge 2^{h(x)} + 2^{h(y)} \ge 2^{h(y)} =$$

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Hence we have  $Find-Set(x) = O(\log n)$ .

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  - The basic implementation
  - An improvement

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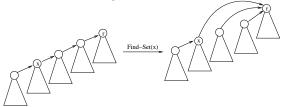
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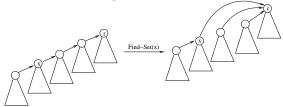
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• This idea is called path compression.

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- a very slow growing function.
- e.g.,  $\lg^* 2 = 1$ ,  $\lg^* 4 = 2$ ,  $\lg^* 16 = 3$ ,  $\lg^* 65536 = 4$ ,  $\lg^* 2^{65536} = 5$ .

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A sequence of m Create-Set, Find-Set and Union operations, n of which are Create-Set operations, can be performed on a disjointed-set forest with union by height and path compression in worst-case time  $O(m \lg^* n)$ .

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A sequence of m Create-Set, Find-Set and Union operations, n of which are Create-Set operations, can be performed on a disjointed-set forest with union by height and path compression in worst-case time  $O(m \lg^* n)$ .

## Question

What is the running time of Kruskal's algorithm if we employ this implementation of disjoint set Union-Find?