



中国科学技术大学 计算机科学与技术系  
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# 算法设计与分析

## Design and Analysis of Algorithms

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Part 1 Foundation

Part 2 Sorting and Order Statistics

Part 3 Data Structure

Part 4 Advanced Design and Analysis Techniques

chap 15 Dynamic Programming

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# Chapter 17 Amortized Analysis

## 17.1 Background and Methods

## 17.2 Aggregate Analysis

## 17.3 Accounting Method

## 17.4 Potential Method

# 17.1 Background and Methods

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- Background
- Amortized analysis
- Three methods

# Incrementing a Binary Counter

- $k$ -bit Binary Counter:  $A[0..k-1]$

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} A[i] \cdot 2^i$$

## INCREMENT( $A$ )

1.  $i \leftarrow 0$
2. **while**  $i < \text{length}[A]$  **and**  $A[i] = 1$
3.     **do**  $A[i] \leftarrow 0$      ▶ *reset a bit*
4.      $i \leftarrow i + 1$
5. **if**  $i < \text{length}[A]$
6.     **then**  $A[i] \leftarrow 1$      ▶ *set a bit*



# k-bit Binary Counter

Value	A[4]	A[3]	A[2]	A[1]	A[0]	<i>Cost</i>
0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>0</i>
1	0	0	0	0	1	<i>1</i>
2	0	0	0	1	0	<i>3</i>
3	0	0	0	1	1	<i>4</i>
4	0	0	1	0	0	<i>7</i>
5	0	0	1	0	1	<i>8</i>
6	0	0	1	1	0	<i>10</i>
7	0	0	1	1	1	<i>11</i>
8	0	1	0	0	0	<i>15</i>
9	0	1	0	0	1	<i>16</i>
10	0	1	0	1	0	<i>18</i>
11	0	1	0	1	1	<i>19</i>

# Worst-case analysis

Consider a sequence of  $n$  insertions. The worst-case time to execute one insertion is  $\Theta(k)$ . Therefore, the worst-case time for  $n$  insertions is  $n \cdot \Theta(k) = \Theta(n \cdot k)$ .

**WRONG!** In fact, the worst-case cost for  $n$  insertions is only  $\Theta(n) \ll \Theta(n \cdot k)$ .

Let's see why.

**Note:** You'll be correct  
If you'd said  $O(n \cdot k)$ .  
But, it's an overestimate.

# Tighter analysis

value	A[4]	A[3]	A[2]	A[1]	A[0]	Cost
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	0	0	0	1	0	3
3	0	0	0	1	1	4
4	0	0	1	0	0	7
5	0	0	1	0	1	8
6	0	0	1	1	0	10
7	0	0	1	1	1	11
8	0	1	0	0	0	15
9	0	1	0	0	1	16
10	0	1	0	1	0	18
11	0	1	0	1	1	19

Total cost of  $n$  operations

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A[0] flipped every op  $n$

A[1] flipped every 2 ops  $n/2$

A[2] flipped every 4 ops  $n/2^2$

A[3] flipped every 8 ops  $n/2^3$

... ..

A[i] flipped every  $2^i$  ops  $n/2^i$

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# Tighter analysis (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cost of } n \text{ increments} &= \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \lg n \rfloor} \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2^i} \right\rfloor \\ &< n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^i} = 2n \\ &= \Theta(n).\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the average cost of each increment operation is  $\Theta(n)/n = \Theta(1)$ .

# Amortized Analysis (平摊分析)

- *Amortized analysis* is a cost analysis technique, which computes *the average cost* required to perform *a sequence of  $n$  operations on a data structure*.
- *Background*: Show that although some individual operations may be expensive, on average the cost per operation is small. Often *worst case analysis* is *not tight*.
- *Goal*: The amortized cost of an operation is less than its worst case, so that *average cost in the worst case* for a sequence of  $n$  operations is more *tighter*.
- *This average cost* is not based on averaging over a distribution of inputs. Here, *no probability is involved*.

# Three Methods

- *Aggregate analysis* (聚集分析) – in worst case, the total amount of time needed for the  $n$  operations is computed and divided by  $n$ .
- *Accounting* (记账方法) – different operations are assigned different charges. Some operations charged more or less than their actual cost.
- *Potential* (势能方法) – the prepaid work is represented as “potential” energy that can be released to pay for future operations.



# Chapter 17 Amortized Analysis

## 17.1 Background and Methods

## 17.2 Aggregate Analysis

## 17.3 Accounting Method

## 17.4 Potential Method



## 17.2 Aggregate Analysis (聚集分析)

- Basic idea
- Stack example
- Binary counter example



# Basic Idea of Aggregate Analysis

- Assume that  *$n$  operations together* take worst-case time  $T(n)$ .
- The *amortized cost* (or average cost) of an operation is  $T(n)/n$ .
- Remark
  - *Amortized cost is the same* for any operations, even for several types of operations.
  - Amortized cost *may be more or less than the actual cost* for an operations.

# Example 1: A Stack

- Three operations:
  - ▣  $\text{push}(S, x)$
  - ▣  $\text{pop}(S)$
  - ▣  $\text{multipop}(S, k)$  : Pop the stack  $k$  times
- Multipop operation

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**MULTIPOP**( $S, k$ )

```
1  while not STACK-EMPTY( $S$ ) and  $k \neq 0$ 
2      do POP( $S$ )
3       $k \leftarrow k - 1$ 
```

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The total cost of **MULTIPOP**( $S, k$ ) is  $\min(s, k)$ .  
The worst-case cost of a **MULTIPOP** is  $O(n)$ .

# Stack: Regular Cost Analysis

- Consider a sequence of  $n$   $\text{push}(S, x)$ ,  $\text{pop}(S)$  and  $\text{multi-pop}(S, k)$  operations on a stack having as many as  $n$  items (元素).
- Regular analysis:
  - Note that worst-case cost of  $\text{multi-pop}()$  is  $O(n)$ .
  - So, **the worst-case cost for  $n$ -ops is  $O(n^2)$ .**
  - This is ***not tight***.

# Stack: Aggregate Analysis

- For a stack is initially empty, Consider a  $n$ -sequence of  $\text{push}()$ ,  $\text{pop}()$  and  $\text{multipop}()$ .
- Aggregate analysis:
  - Each item (元素) can be popped only once for each time it is pushed.
  - So the **total number of times  $\text{pop}()$  can be called, either directly or from  $\text{multipop}$ , is bounded by the number of pushes.**
  - **The number of pushes in a sequence of  $n$  ops is  $\leq n$ , then the number of all pops (including those from  $\text{multipop}$ ) is  $O(n)$ .**
  - So the **total cost of the sequence of  $n$  ops is  $O(n)$ . Therefore, we have  $O(1)$  per op on average.**



# Example 2: A Binary Counter

- A k-bit binary counter  $A[0..k-1]$  of bits, where  $A[0]$  is the least bit and  $A[k-1]$  is the most bit.

- ▣ Value of the counter is  $\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} A[i] \cdot 2^i$

- ▣ Initially, counter value is 0. Then, Counts upward from 0.

- Increment operation, add 1:

- Flip all 1's from right to 0 until encountering the first 0.
  - Change this 0 to 1 and stop.

INCREMENT( $A, k$ )

$i = 0$

**while**  $i < k$  and  $A[i] == 1$

$A[i] = 0$

$i = i + 1$

**if**  $i < k$

$A[i] = 1$



# Actual Cost and Regular analysis

- It shows a 8-bit binary counter as its value goes from 0 to 16 by a sequence of **16 Increment** operations.
- The **average cost per operation** is  $31/16 < 2$ .
- However, **regular analysis gets  $O(nk)$**  in the worst case (see 17.1)

Counter value	A[7]	A[6]	A[5]	A[4]	A[3]	A[2]	A[1]	A[0]	Total cost
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	8
6	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	10
7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	11
8	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	15
9	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	16
10	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	18
11	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	19
12	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	22
13	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	23
14	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	25
15	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	26
16	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	31

# Binary Counter: Aggregate Analysis

- Observations about Increment():
  - No all bits are flipped for each call.
  - In general,  $A[i]$  flips only every  $2^i$ th time.
- Thus,  $A[i]$  flips only  $\lfloor n/2^i \rfloor$  times in a sequence of  $n$  Increment ops on an initially 0 counter.
- So the **total number of flips** is:

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2^i} \right\rfloor < n \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^i} = 2n.$$

- We have  $T(n) = O(n)$ . And the **amortized cost per operation** is  $O(n)/n = O(1)$ .



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## 17.3 Accounting Method

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# Basic Idea of Accounting Method

- Assign different charges to different operations.
  - Some are charged more than actual cost.
  - Some are charged less than actual cost.
- *Amortized cost = amount we charge.*
- Remark:
  - When amortized cost > actual cost, store the difference on *specific items* in the data structure as *credit* (存款).
  - *Use credit later to pay* for operations whose actual cost > amortized cost.



# Credit Rules

- Need credit to *never go negative*.
- Let  $c_i$  = actual cost of i-th operation,  
 $\hat{c}_i$  = amortized cost of i-th operation.
- For all sequences of n operations, *require*:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{c}_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^n c_i$$

- *Total credit stored* =  $\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{c}_i - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i$

# Example 1: A Stack

Operation	Actual Cost	Amortized Cost
push	1	2
pop	1	0
multipop	$\min\{n, k\}$	0

- When pushing an item, pay \$2:
  - \$1 pays for the push.
  - \$1 is prepayment for it being popped by either pop or multipop.
  - Since each item on the stack has \$1 credit, the credit can never go negative.
  - The **total amortized cost in the worst case** is:  $2n \in O(n)$
  - It is an upper bound on total actual cost.

# Example 2: A Binary Counter

- Charge \$2 to set a bit to 1.
  - \$1 pays for setting a bit to 1.
  - \$1 is prepayment for flipping it back to 0.
  - Have \$1 of credit for every 1 in the counter.
  - Therefore, credit  $\geq 0$ .
- Amortized cost of Increment:
  - Cost of resetting bits to 0 is paid by credit.
  - At most 1 bit is set to 1 in each increment operation.
  - Therefore, amortized cost  $\leq \$2$ .
  - For  $n$  operations, the total amortized cost in the worst case is  $2n \in O(n)$ . So, amortized cost for an op is  $O(1)$ .



# Chapter 17 Amortized Analysis

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## 17.4 Potential Method



## 17.4 Potential Method

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# Basic Idea of Potential Method

- **Idea:** like the accounting method, but think of the credit as *potential stored with the entire data structure*.
  - Accounting method stores credit with specific items.
  - Can release potential to pay for future operations.
- It is the most flexible among the amortized analysis methods.

# Understanding Potential (1)

- **Framework:**

- Start with an initial data structure  $D_0$ .
- Operation  $i$  transforms  $D_{i-1}$  to  $D_i$ .
- The cost of operation  $i$  is  $c_i$ .
- Define a *potential function*  $\Phi: \{D_i\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $\Phi(D_0) = 0$  and  $\Phi(D_i) \geq 0$  for all  $i$
- The *amortized cost*  $\hat{c}_i$  with respect to  $\Phi$  is defined to be  $\hat{c}_i = c_i + \underbrace{\Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1})}_{\text{potential difference } \Delta\Phi_i}$

- In practice,  $\Phi(D_0) = 0$ ,  $\Phi(D_i) \geq 0$  for all  $i$ . So,
  - the *amortized cost* is always *an upper bound on actual cost*.
  - work is stored *in the entire data structure* for later use.

# Understanding Potential (2)

- The total amortized cost of  $n$  operations is

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^n \hat{c}_i &= \sum_{i=1}^n (c_i + \Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1})) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n c_i + \Phi(D_n) - \Phi(D_0) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \quad \text{since } \Phi(D_n) \geq 0 \text{ and } \Phi(D_0) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

# Example 1: A Stack

- Define potential function  $\Phi$  on a stack = number of items on the stack.
- Let  $D_0$  = empty, then  $\Phi(D_0) = 0$ .
- Since the number of items on a stack is always  $\geq 0$ ,  $\Phi(D_i) \geq \Phi(D_0) = 0$ .

operation	actual cost	$\Delta\Phi$	amortized cost
PUSH	1	$(s + 1) - s = 1$ where $s = \#$ of objects initially	$1 + 1 = 2$
POP	1	$(s - 1) - s = -1$	$1 - 1 = 0$
MULTIPOP	$k' = \min(k, s)$	$(s - k') - s = -k'$	$k' - k' = 0$

- So, the total amortized cost of a sequence of  $n$  operations in the worst case is  $2n = O(n)$ .



# Example 1: A Stack (cont.)

operation	actual cost	$\Delta\Phi$	amortized cost
PUSH	1	$(s + 1) - s = 1$ where $s = \#$ of objects initially	$1 + 1 = 2$
POP	1	$(s - 1) - s = -1$	$1 - 1 = 0$
MULTIPOP	$k' = \min(k, s)$	$(s - k') - s = -k'$	$k' - k' = 0$

**Push:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{c}_i &= c_i + \phi(D_i) - \phi(D_{i-1}) \\ &= 1 + j - (j-1) \\ &= 2\end{aligned}$$

**Pop:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{c}_i &= c_i + \phi(D_i) - \phi(D_{i-1}) \\ &= 1 + (j-1) - j \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

**Multi-pop:**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{c}_i &= c_i + \phi(D_i) - \phi(D_{i-1}) \\ &= k' + (j-k') - j \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$k' = \min(|S|, k)$

# Example 2: A Binary Counter

$\Phi = b_i = \# \text{ of } 1\text{'s after } i\text{th INCREMENT}$

Suppose  $i$ th operation resets  $t_i$  bits to 0.

$c_i \leq t_i + 1$  (resets  $t_i$  bits, sets  $\leq 1$  bit to 1)

- If  $b_i = 0$ , the  $i$ th operation reset all  $k$  bits and didn't set one, so  $b_{i-1} = t_i = k \Rightarrow b_i = b_{i-1} - t_i$ .
- If  $b_i > 0$ , the  $i$ th operation reset  $t_i$  bits, set one, so  $b_i = b_{i-1} - t_i + 1$ .
- Either way,  $b_i \leq b_{i-1} - t_i + 1$ .
- Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\Phi(D_i) &\leq (b_{i-1} - t_i + 1) - b_{i-1} \\ &= 1 - t_i .\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{c}_i &= c_i + \Delta\Phi(D_i) \\ &\leq (t_i + 1) + (1 - t_i) \\ &= 2 .\end{aligned}$$

If counter starts at 0,  $\Phi(D_0) = 0$ .

Therefore, amortized cost of  $n$  operations  $= O(n)$ .

# Example 2: A Binary Counter (cont.)

## General Case

The potential method gives us an easy way to analyze the counter even when it does not start at 0. There are initially  $b_0$  1's and after  $n$  **INCREMENT** operations there are  $b_n$  1's.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^n c_i &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n 2 - b_n + b_0 \\ &= 2n - b_n + b_0\end{aligned}$$

No matter what initial value the counter contains, the actual cost has an upper bound of  $O(n)$ .



End of Chap17

