COMP 261 Lecture 12

Disjoint Sets

Victoria
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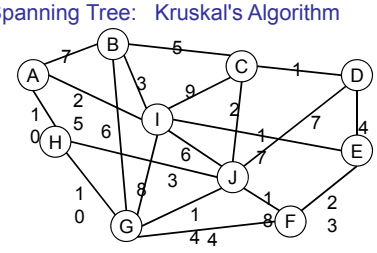
Menu

- Kruskal's minimum spanning tree algorithm
- Disjoint-set data structure and Union-Find algorithm

- Administrivia
  - Marking.
    - PLEASE DON'T MISS YOUR MARKING SESSION!

Graph Algorithms

Minimum Spanning Tree: Kruskal's Algorithm



Refining Kruskal's algorithm

- Given: a graph with *N* nodes and *E* weighted edges
  forest ← a set of *N* sets of nodes, each containing one node of the graph
  edges ← a priority queue of all the edges: ⟨n_1, n_2, length⟩ (priority: short edges first)
  spanningTree ← an empty set of edges
  Repeat until *forest* contains only one tree or edges is empty:
    ⟨n_1, n_2, length⟩ ← dequeue(*edges*)
    If n_1 and n_2 are in different sets in *forest* **then** (What's the cost?)
      merge the two sets in *forest*
      Add *edge* to the *spanningTree*
  return *spanningTree*
- Implementing *forest* :
  - set of sets with two operations:
    - findSet(n_1) =?= findSet(n_2) = "find" the set that *n* is in
    - merge(s_1, s_2) = replace s_1, s_2 by their "union"

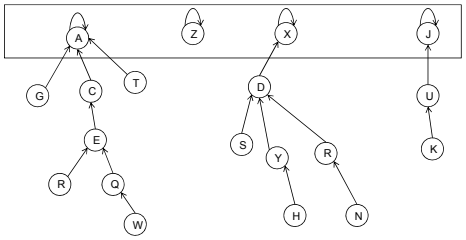
Implementing sets of sets

1: forest = set of sets of nodes:
- findSet(n_1)
  - iterate through all sets, calling s.contains(n_1)
- merge (s_1 , s_2)
  - add each element of s_1 to s_2 and remove s_1
- cost?

2: forest = mark each node with ID of its set
- findSet(n_1):
  - look up n_1.setID
- merge(s_1 , s_2)
  - iterate through all nodes, changing IDs of nodes in s_1
- cost?

Union–Find structure

3: forest: set of inverted trees of nodes:
- Each set represented by a linked tree with links pointing ***towards*** the root (= "shared linked list structure")



- The nodes in these trees *are* the nodes of the graph!

Union–Find structure

MakeSet(x):
```
x.parent ← x
add x to set
```

Find(x)
```
if x.parent = x
  return x
else
  root ← Find(x.p
  return root
```

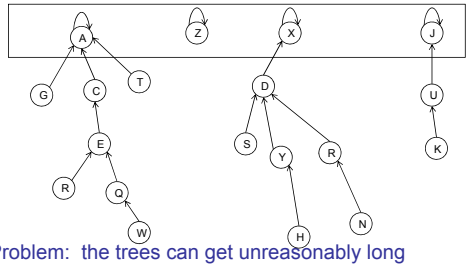
Recurses up the tree

Union(x, y):
```
xroot ← Find(x)
yroot ← Find(y)
If xroot = yroot
  exit
else
  xroot.parent ←
  remove xroot from set.
```

What's the cost?

Union–Find structure

- find(Q), union(E, Z), union(H, K), union(Y, G)



- Problem: the trees can get unreasonably long
- Solutions: shorten the trees; add shorter trees to longer

Union–Find: Better

MakeSet(x):
```
x.parent ←
add x to s
x.rank ← 0
```

keeping track of size lets us add the smaller tree to the larger tree

Find(x)
```
if x.parent
  return x
else
  x.parent ← Find(x.parent)
  return x.parent
```

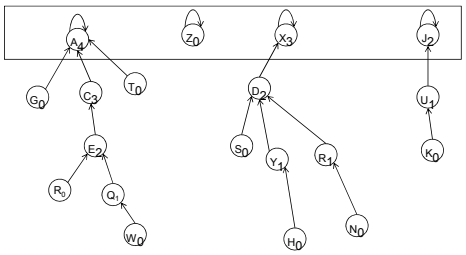
Modify tree to keep paths short

Amortised cost < 5!

Union(x,y)
```
xroot ← Find(x)
yroot ← Find(y)
if xroot = yroot then exit
if xroot.rank < yroot.rank
  xroot.parent ← yroot
  remove xroot from set
else
  yroot.parent ← xroot
  remove yroot from set
  if xroot.rank = yroot.rank
    xroot.rank ++
```

Union–Find structure

- find(Q), union(E, Z), union(H, K), union(Y, G)



Applications

- Union-Find is very efficient for a collection of sets if
  - Have an explicit collection of possible members
  - All sets are disjoint.
  - Only asking for same set membership and merging two sets.
- Inefficient for
  - enumerating the elements of a set
  - removing an element from a set
- Doesn't work
  - if the sets could share elements.

Exercise: