

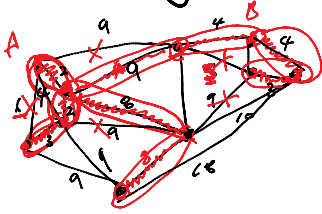
Union-Find Problems

- univers: elements $1 \dots n$.
- initially: each element i is a set by itself. (named i)
- Operation:
 - $FIND(i)$: return the name of set containing i
 - $UNION(A, B, C)$: union elements of set A and B and call the result C (delete $A+B$)
 - $MAKE(x)$: make a set on element x

ex) Application to Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)

MST: let $G(V, E)$ be connected, undirected graph with a cost function mapped to edges.

A Spanning tree is a undirected tree that connects all vertices in V . The cost of a spanning tree is just the sum of the costs of its edges. The goal is to find a spanning tree of min cost in G .



Algorithm ~~search~~ ~~Sketch~~

tree edge $\neq \emptyset$
 vertex set $\neq \emptyset$
 for each vertex v do
 insert $\{v\}$ into vertex set
end for

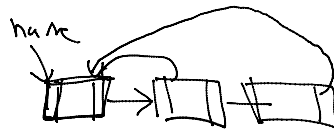
while / vertex set / > 1 do
 extract edge (v, w) of lowest cost in E (edge set)

$a \leftarrow FIND(v)$
 $b \leftarrow FIND(w)$



if $a \neq b$ then
 insert (v, w) into tree edge
 $UNION(a, b, a)$

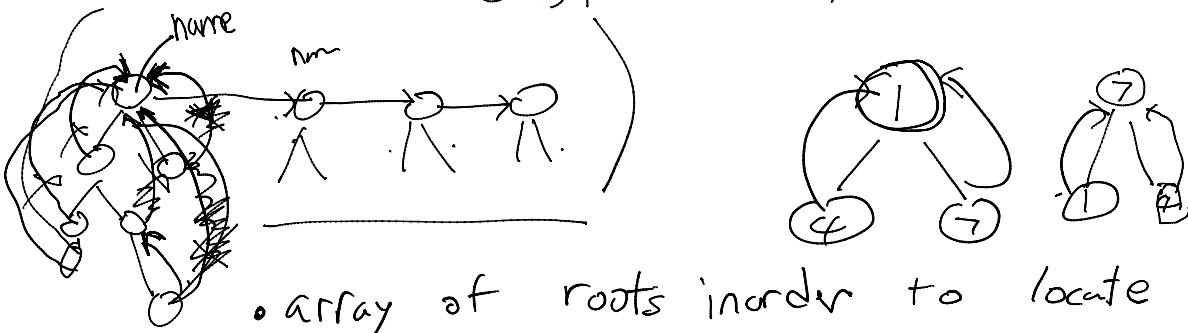
end if
end while



$O(n)$

Disjoint-set forest

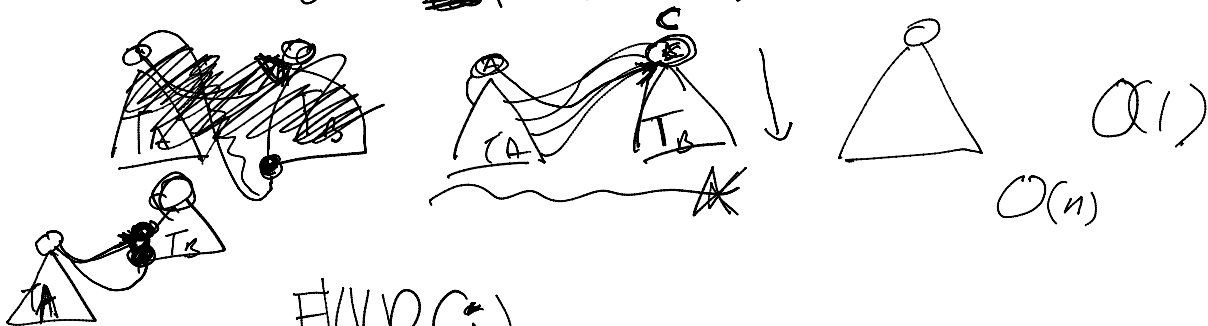
Forest $\{1, 4, 7\}$



• array of roots in order to locate the root of set i

• UNION(A, B, C)

make root of T_A a child of root of T_B and change the name of ~~set~~ ^{parent of T_B} of T_B to C

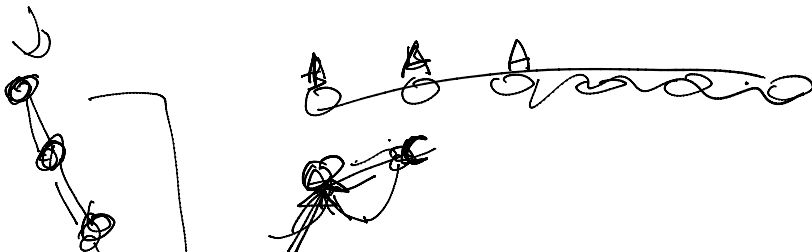


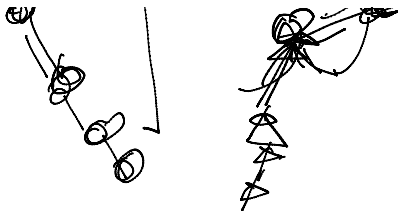
FIND(i)

Following the pointer to the root.

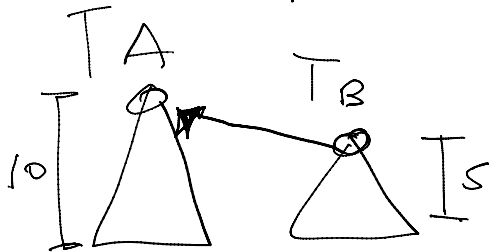
$O(n)$

Heuristics





"Union By Rank"



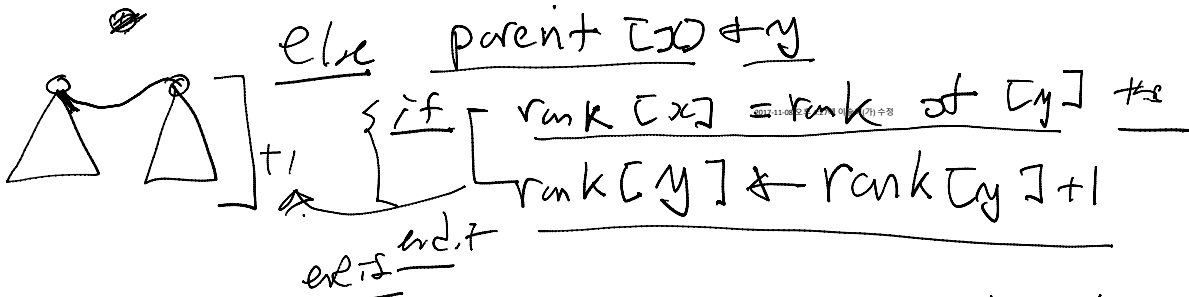
Make the root with Smallest rank point to root of large rank.

LINK(x, y)

if $\text{rank}[x] \geq \text{rank}[y]$ then

$\text{parent}[y] \leftarrow x$

else $\text{parent}[x] \leftarrow y$



No trees in the forest height greater ~~than~~

than $O(\lg n)$