

Union Find

- Union Find
- Quick Find
- Quick Union
- Weighted Quick Union
- Path Compression
- Dynamic Connectivity

Philip Bille

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Union Find

- **Union find.** Maintain a **dynamic** family of sets supporting the following operations:
 - **INIT**(n): construct sets $\{0\}, \{1\}, \dots, \{n-1\}$
 - **UNION**(i,j): forms the union of the two sets that contain i and j. If i and j are in the same set nothing happens.
 - **FIND**(i): return a **representative** for the set that contains i.

INIT(9)
{0} {1} {2} {3} {4} {5} {6} {7} {8}

{1, 0, 6} {8, 3, 2, 7} {4, 5} → UNION(5,0) {1, 0, 6, 4, 5} {8, 3, 2, 7}

Union Find

- **Applications.**
 - Dynamic connectivity.
 - Minimum spanning tree.
 - Unification in logic and compilers.
 - Nearest common ancestors in trees.
 - Hoshen-Kopelman algorithm in physics.
 - Games (Hex and Go)
 - Illustration of clever techniques in data structure design.

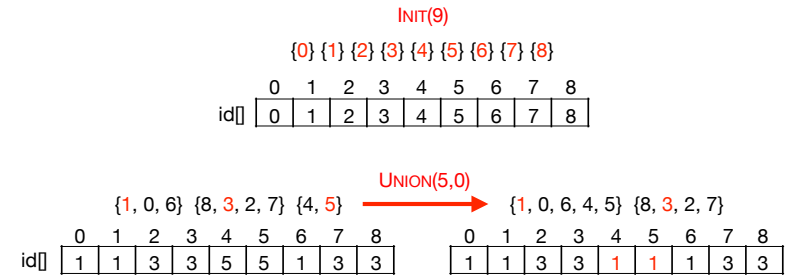
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Quick Find

- **Quick find.** Maintain array $id[0..n-1]$ such that $id[i]$ = representative for i .
 - **INIT(n):** set elements to be their own representative.
 - **UNION(i,j):** if $FIND(i) \neq FIND(j)$, update representative for **all** elements in one of the sets.
 - **FIND(i):** return representative.

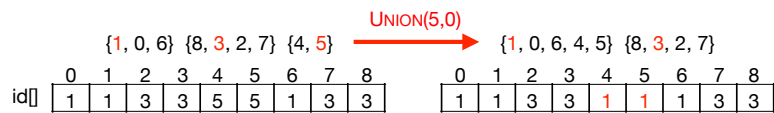


Quick Find

```
INIT(n):
  for k = 0 to n-1
    id[k] = k
```

```
FIND(i):
  return id[i]
```

```
UNION(i, j):
  iID = FIND(i)
  jID = FIND(j)
  if (iID != jID)
    for k = 0 to n-1
      if (id[k] == iID)
        id[k] = jID
```



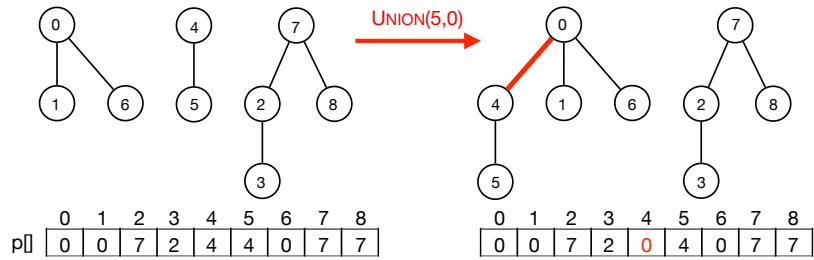
- **Time.**
 - $O(n)$ time for INIT, $O(n)$ time for UNION, and $O(1)$ tid for FIND.

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Quick Union

- **Quick union.** Maintain each sets as a rooted tree.
- Store trees as array $p[0..n-1]$ such that $p[i]$ is the parent of i and $p[\text{root}] = \text{root}$. Representative is the root of tree.
 - $\text{INIT}(n)$: create n trees with one element each.
 - $\text{UNION}(i,j)$: if $\text{FIND}(i) \neq \text{FIND}(j)$, make the root of one tree the child of the root of the other tree.
 - $\text{FIND}(i)$: follow path to root and return root.



INIT(9)



UNION(3,2)



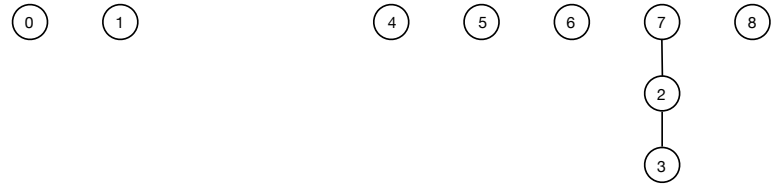
UNION(3,2)



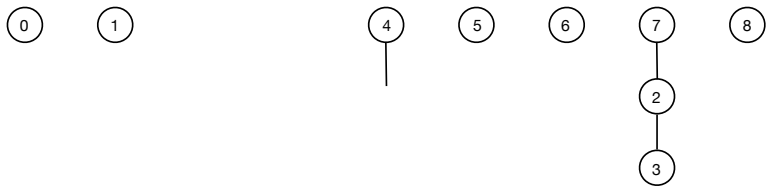
UNION(2,7)



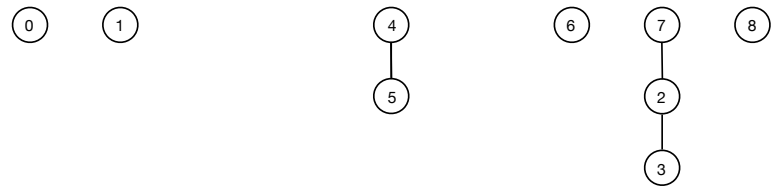
UNION(2,7)



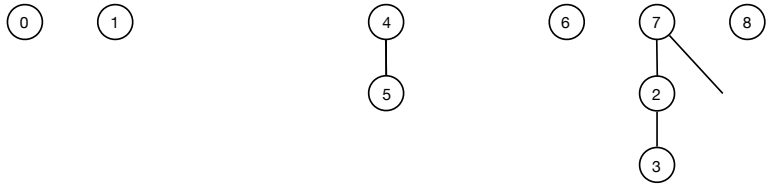
UNION(5,4)



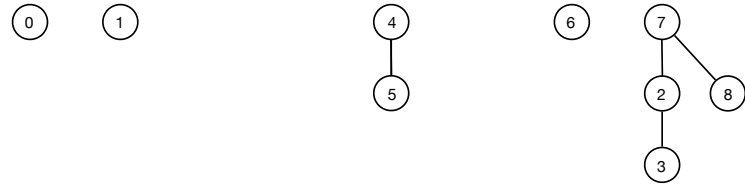
UNION(5,4)



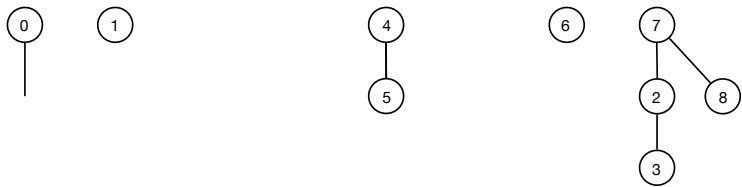
UNION(8,3)



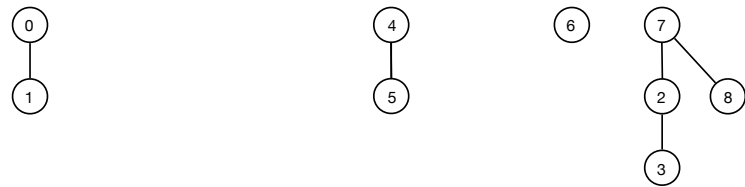
UNION(8,3)



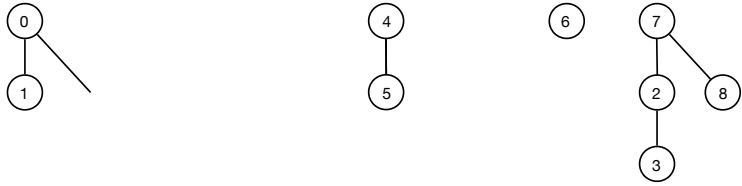
UNION(1,0)



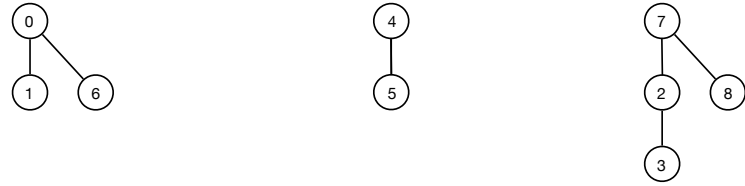
UNION(1,0)



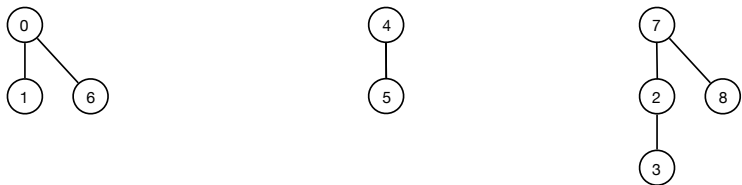
UNION(6,1)



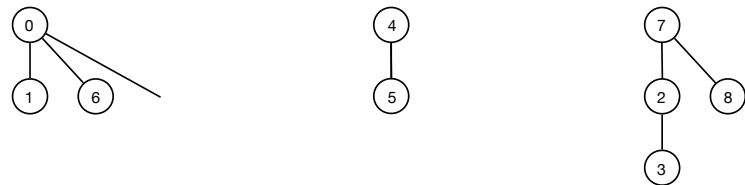
UNION(6,1)



UNION(7,3)



UNION(5,0)



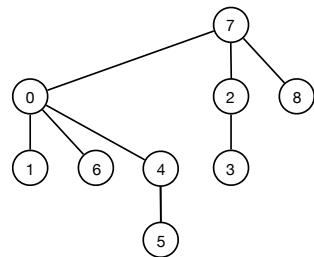
UNION(5,0)



UNION(6,2)



UNION(6,2)



Quick Union

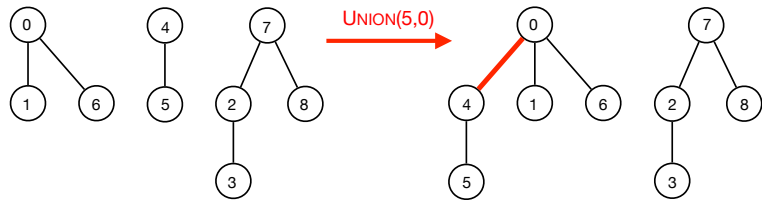
- INIT(n): create n trees with one element each.
- UNION(i,j): if FIND(i) \neq FIND(j), make the root of one tree the child of the root of the other tree.
- FIND(i): follow path to root and return root.
- **Exercise.** Show data structure after each operation in the following sequence.
 - INIT(7), UNION(0,1), UNION(2,3), UNION(5,1), UNION(5,0), UNION(0,3), UNION(5,2), UNION(4,3), UNION(4,6).

Quick Union

```
INIT(n):
  for k = 0 to n-1
    p[k] = k
```

```
FIND(i):
  while (i != p[i])
    i = p[i]
  return i
```

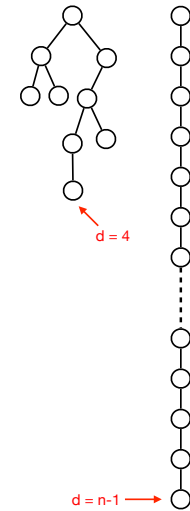
```
UNION(i, j):
  ri = FIND(i)
  rj = FIND(j)
  if (ri ≠ rj)
    p[ri] = rj
```



- Time.
 - $O(n)$ time for INIT, $O(d)$ for UNION and FIND, where d is the depth of the tree.

Quick Union

- UNION and FIND depend on the depth of the tree.
- **Bad news.** Depth can be $n-1$.
- **Challenge.** Can combine trees to limit the depth?

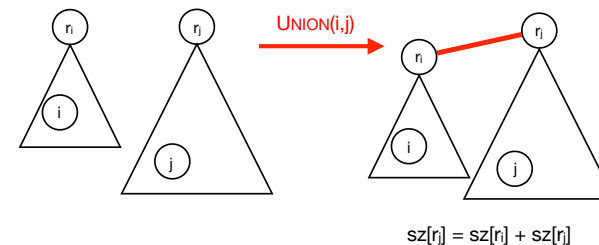


Union Find

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- Quick Union
- **Weighted Quick Union**
- Path Compression
- Dynamic Connectivity

Weighted Quick Union

- **Weighted quick union.** Extension of quick union.
- Maintain extra array $sz[0..n-1]$ such $sz[i]$ = the **size** of the subtree rooted at i .
 - INIT: as before + initialize $sz[0..n-1]$.
 - FIND: as before.
 - UNION(i, j): if $FIND(i) \neq FIND(j)$, make the root of the **smaller** tree the child of the root of the **larger** tree.
- **Intuition.** UNION balances the trees.



INIT(9)



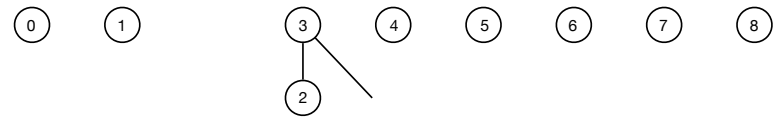
UNION(3,2)



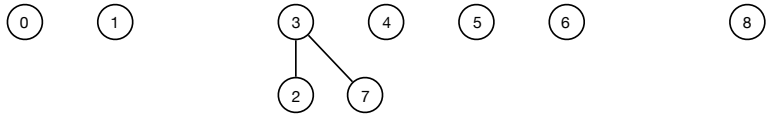
UNION(3,2)



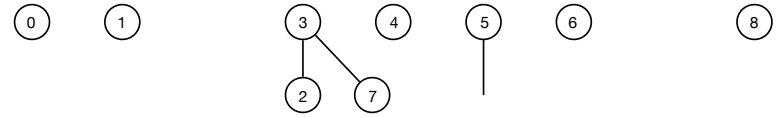
UNION(2,7)



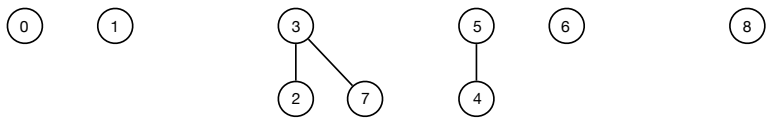
UNION(2,7)



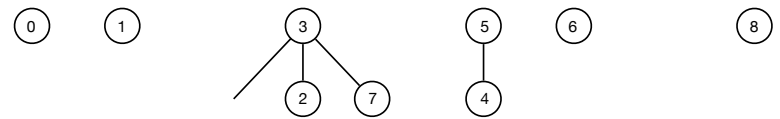
UNION(5,4)



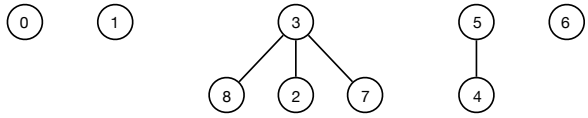
UNION(5,4)



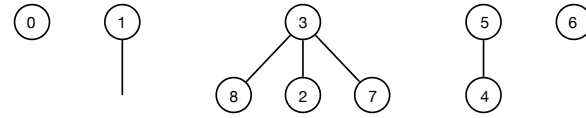
UNION(8,3)



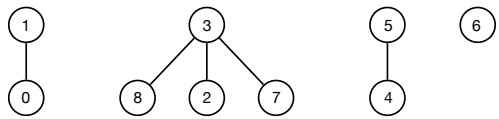
UNION(8,3)



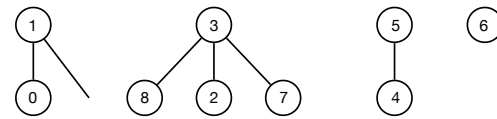
UNION(1,0)



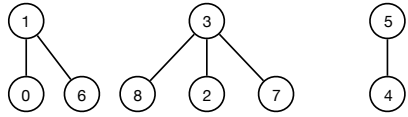
UNION(1,0)



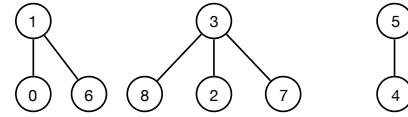
UNION(6,1)



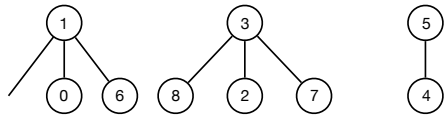
UNION(6,1)



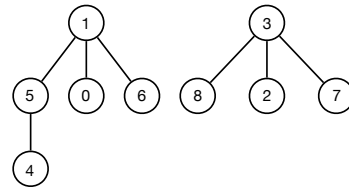
UNION(7,3)



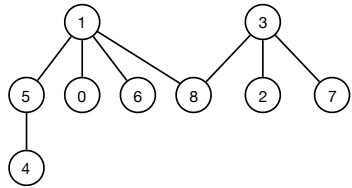
UNION(5,1)



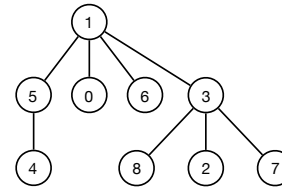
UNION(5,1)



UNION(6,3)

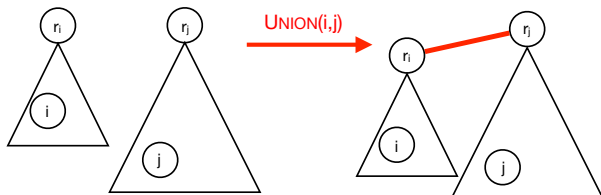


UNION(6,3)



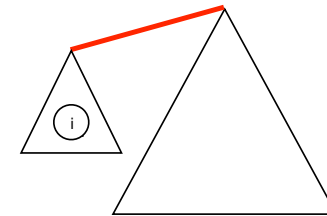
Weighted Quick Union

```
UNION(i, j):  
  ri = FIND(i)  
  rj = FIND(j)  
  if (ri ≠ rj)  
    if (sz[ri] < sz[rj])  
      p[ri] = rj  
      sz[rj] = sz[ri] + sz[rj]  
    else  
      p[rj] = ri  
      sz[ri] = sz[ri] + sz[rj]
```



Weighted Quick Union

- **Lemma.** With weighted quick union the depth of a node is at most $\log_2 n$.
- **Proof.**
 - Consider node i with depth d_i .
 - Initially $d_i = 0$.
 - d_i increases with 1 when the tree is combined with a larger tree.
 - The combined tree is at least **twice** the size.
 - We can double the size of trees at most $\log_2 n$ times.
 - $\implies d_i \leq \log_2 n$.



Union Find

Data structure	UNION	FIND
quick find	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
quick union	$O(n)$	$O(n)$
weighted quick union	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$

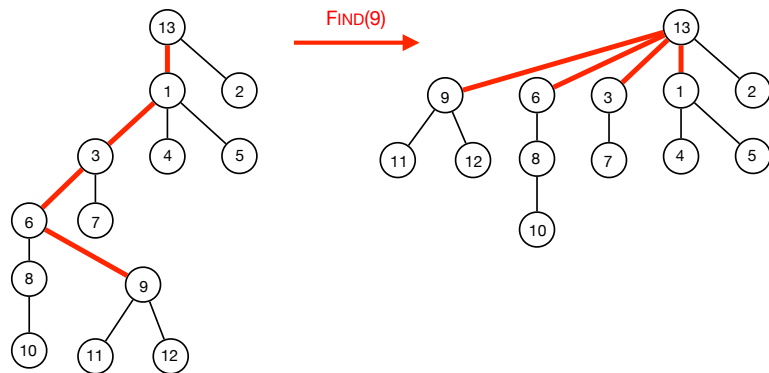
- **Challenge.** Can we do even better?

Union Find

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- Weighted Quick Union
- **Path Compression**
- Dynamic Connectivity

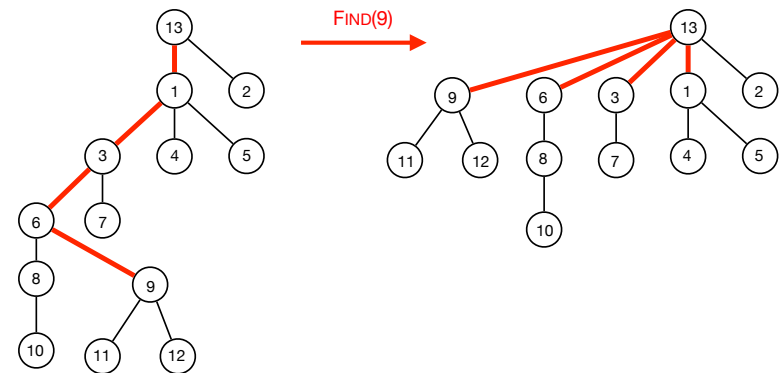
Path Compression

- **Path compression.** **Compress** path on FIND. Make all nodes on the path children of the root.
- No change in running time for a single FIND. Subsequent FIND become faster.
- Works with both quick union and weighted quick union.



Path Compression

- **Theorem [Tarjan 1975].** With path compression any sequence of m FIND and UNION operations on n elements take $O(n + m \alpha(m,n))$ time.
- $\alpha(m,n)$ is the inverse of **Ackermanns** function. $\alpha(m,n) \leq 5$ for any practical input.
- **Theorem [Fredman-Saks 1985].** It is not possible to support m FIND and UNION operations $O(n + m)$ time.



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Dynamic Connectivity

- **Dynamic connectivity.** Maintain a dynamic graph supporting the following operations:
 - **INIT(n):** create a graph G with n vertices and no edges.
 - **CONNECTED(u,v):** determine if u og v are connected.
 - **INSERT(u, v):** add edge (u,v). We assume (u,v) does not already exist.



Dynamic Connectivity

- **Implementation with union find.**
 - **INIT(n):** initialize a union find data structure with n elements.
 - **CONNECTED(u,v):** $FIND(u) == FIND(v)$.
 - **INSERT(u, v):** $UNION(u,v)$



- **Time**
 - $O(n)$ time for INIT, $O(\log n)$ time for CONNECTED, and $O(\log n)$ time for INSERT

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