

DSU

Disjoint Set Union

Basic Problem

We have an undirected graph with N nodes and 0 edges. Process Q queries of the following types in order:

- Add an edge between u and v
- Check whether u and v are in the same connected component

$1 \leq N, Q \leq 2 \times 10^5$

Example Input/Output

N = 4, Q = 7

CHECK 1 2 NO

UNION 1 2

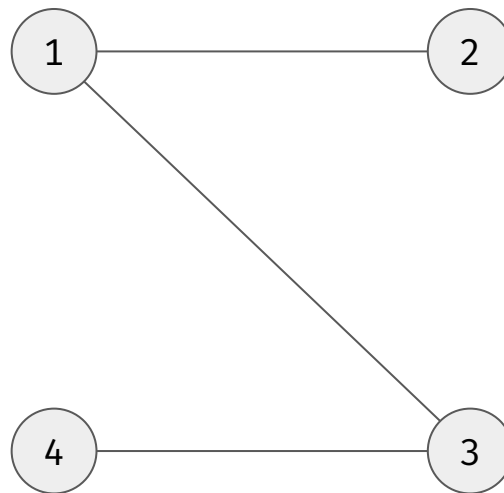
UNION 3 4

CHECK 1 2 YES

CHECK 2 3 NO

UNION 1 3

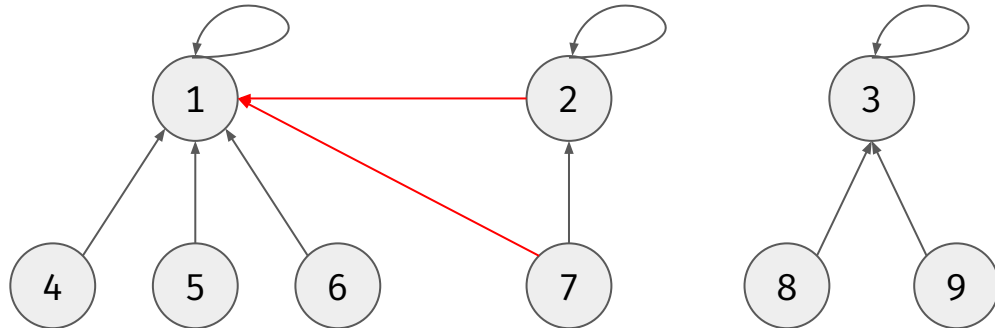
CHECK 2 4 YES



Observations

- We only care about connectivity - the edges in a connected component don't actually matter
 - E.g. (1)--(2)--(3) is effectively the same as (1)--(3)--(2)
- If we assign a “representative” node to each connected component, then we can quickly identify them
 - We can point all nodes in a component to the representative
 - When we join components, point each node in the first to the representative of the second
 - Too slow if we do this naively

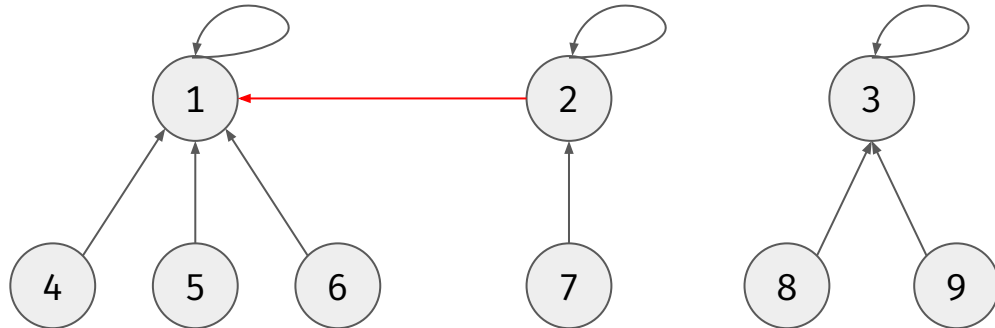
UNION 4 7:



Optimization 1

- When we join components, we point **only the representative** of the first component to the representative of the second
- This way, we can just follow a path to get a representative (call this FIND)
- UNION is now $O(\text{FIND})$
- Still too slow without further optimizations
 - What happens when we have “UNION $x \ x-1$ ” for each x from 2 to N ?
 - “FIND 1” will take $O(N)$ time

UNION 4 7:



Optimization 2 (Union by Rank/Path Balancing)

- Point the representative of the **smaller component** to the bigger component
- FIND complexity is now $O(\log N)$
- See Wikipedia for a proof

Optimization 3 (Path Compression)

- When traversing the graph to find a representative, point each visited node to its parent's parent
- This speeds up future FIND queries
- FIND complexity is now $O(\alpha(N))$, where α is the Inverse-Ackermann function
 - $\alpha(N)$ grows very slowly and is effectively constant

(You don't need union by rank if you use path compression)

Code

```
int cmp[100001];
```

```
int find(int A) {  
    while (A  $\neq$  cmp[A]) cmp[A] = cmp[cmp[A]], A = cmp[A];  
    return A;  
}
```

I use onion because union is a reserved keyword in C++

```
void onion(int A, int B) { cmp[find(A)] = find(B); }
```

```
int main() {  
    iota(cmp + 1, cmp + n + 1, 1);  
}
```

std::iota fills cmp with 1, 2, ..., N because we want each node to point to itself

We can store additional information too!

Size of the component, number of edges in the component, etc.

We can merge this information in UNION

Example Problem - COCI 2020 Sjekira

You should remember this problem: https://oj.uz/problem/view/COCI20_sjekira

Solution sketch:

- It's optimal to “isolate” the hardest node (i.e. chop all of its incident edges)
- Querying the maximum hardness in trees that can be cut is inconvenient, so we process the chopped edges backwards (i.e. join trees by adding edges)
- Use DSU to find the maximum hardness in the trees we join

DSU Code for Sjekira

```
int find(int A) {  
    while (cmp[A]  $\neq$  A) cmp[A] = cmp[cmp[A]], A = cmp[A];  
    return A;  
}
```

```
void union(int A, int B) {  
    A = find(A), B = find(B);  
    if (A == B) return;  
    ans += hardness[A] + hardness[B];  
    hardness[B] = max(hardness[B], hardness[A]);  
    cmp[A] = B;  
}
```

Notice how we can store additional information about components

Other Cool Things You Can Do With DSU

- **Minimum spanning trees**
 - A tree that connects all nodes and has the minimum sum of edge weights
 - E.g. COCI 2020 Odašiljači
- **Checking whether a graph is bipartite**
 - Basically checking whether there exists an odd cycle in the graph
- **DSU with rollback**
 - Undo UNION queries
 - You can't use path compression, so you have to use union by rank
 - E.g. APIO 2019 Bridges
- **DSU tree**
 - Useful for finding all nodes reachable after a certain UNION query
 - E.g. IOI 2018 Werewolf

Practice Problems (Roughly Ordered; No MST)

- USACO 2018 Mootube <http://www.usaco.org/index.php?page=viewproblem2&cpid=789>
- SAPO 2019 Jump <https://saco-evaluator.org.za/cms>
- Croatian OI 2015 Kovanice https://oj.uz/problem/view/COI15_kovanice
- Baltic OI 2016 Park https://oj.uz/problem/view/BOI16_park
- USACO 2020 Favorite Colors <http://www.usaco.org/index.php?page=viewproblem2&cpid=1042>
- APIO 2020 Swapping Cities https://oj.uz/problem/view/APIO20_swap
- IOI 2018 Werewolf http://oj.uz/problem/view/IOI18_werewolf
- USACO 2019 Valleys <http://www.usaco.org/index.php?page=viewproblem2&cpid=950>
- APIO 2019 Bridges https://oj.uz/problem/view/APIO19_bridges
- SAPO 2017 Stargazing <https://saco-evaluator.org.za/cms>
- JOISC 2017 Port Facility https://oj.uz/problem/view/JOI17_port_facility