COS 226, SPRING 2016

ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURES

ARVIND NARAYANAN



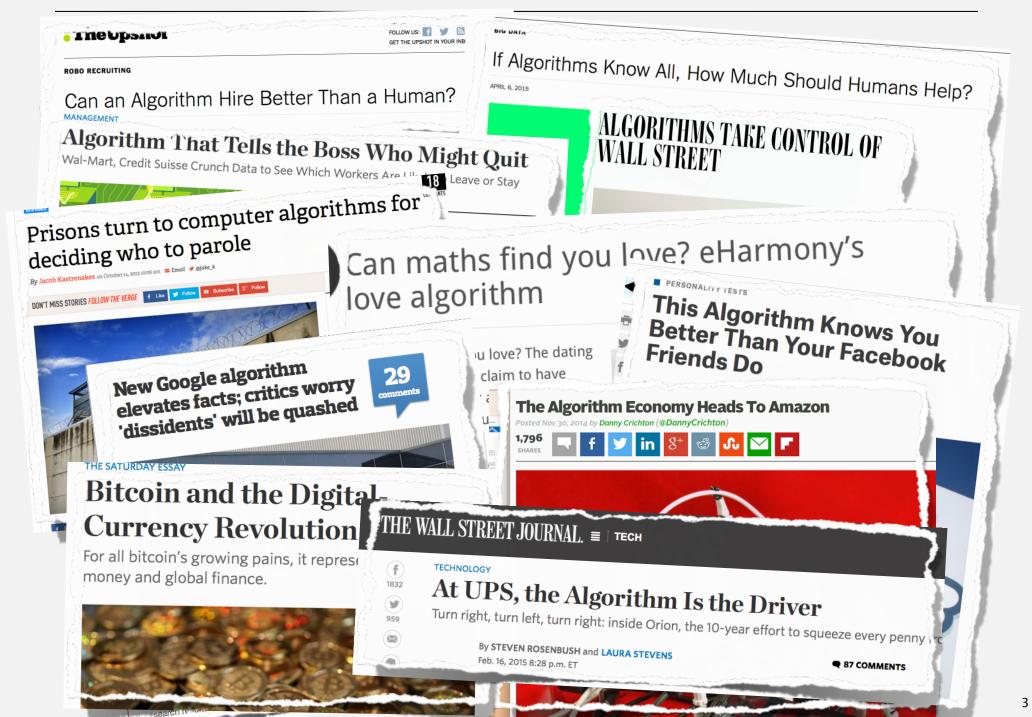
http://www.princeton.edu/~cos226

COS 226 course overview

What is COS 226?

- Intermediate-level survey course.
- Programming and problem solving, with applications.
- Algorithm: method for solving a problem.
- Data structure: method to store information.

topic	data structures and algorithms			
data types	stack, queue, bag, union-find, priority queue			
sorting	quicksort, mergesort, heapsort, radix sorts			
searching	BST, red-black BST, hash table			
graphs	BFS, DFS, Prim, Kruskal, Dijkstra			
strings	KMP, regular expressions, tries, data compression			
advanced	B-tree, kd-tree, suffix array, maxflow			



They may unlock the secrets of life and of the universe.

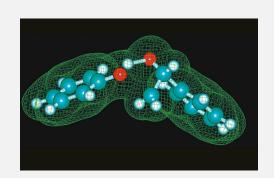
- "Computer models mirroring real life have become crucial for most advances made in chemistry today.... Today the computer is just as important a tool for chemists as the test tube."
 - Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences(Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013)



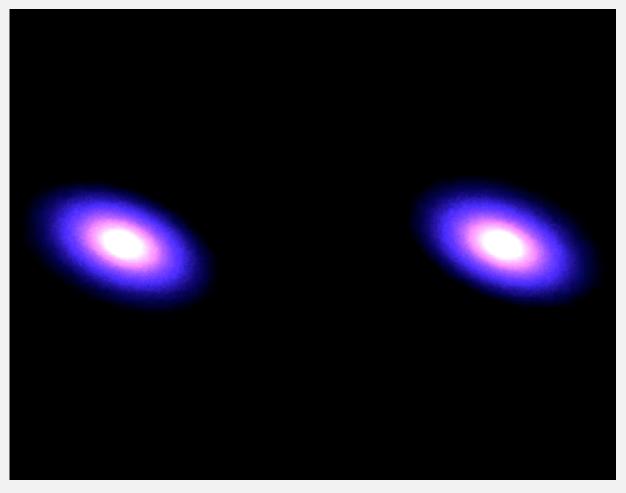




Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt, and Arieh Warshel



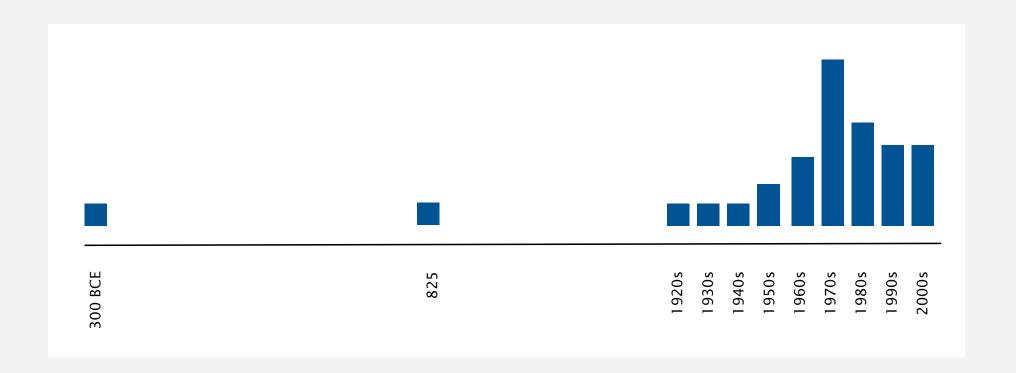
To solve problems that could not otherwise be addressed.



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ua7YIN4eL_w

Old roots, new opportunities.

- Study of algorithms dates at least to Euclid.
- Named after Muḥammad ibn Mūsā al-Khwārizmī.
- Formalized by Church and Turing in 1930s.
- Some important algorithms were discovered by undergraduates in a course like this!



For intellectual stimulation.

"For me, great algorithms are the poetry of computation. Just like verse, they can be terse, allusive, dense, and even mysterious. But once unlocked, they cast a brilliant new light on some aspect of computing." — Francis Sullivan



DEAR MYSTERY ALGORITHM THAT HOGGED GLOBAL FINANCIAL TRADING LAST WEEK: WHAT DO YOU WANT?

ON FRIDAY, A SINGLE MYSTERIOUS PROGRAM WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR 4 PERCENT OF ALL STOCK QUOTE TRAFFIC AND SUCKED UP 10 PERCENT OF THE NASDAQ'S TRADING BANDWIDTH. THEN IT DISAPPEARED.

By Clay Dillow Posted October 10, 2012













For fun and profit.































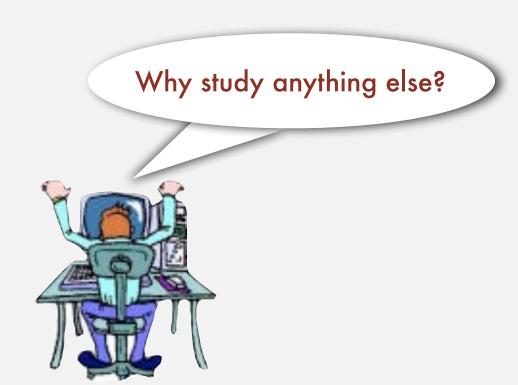




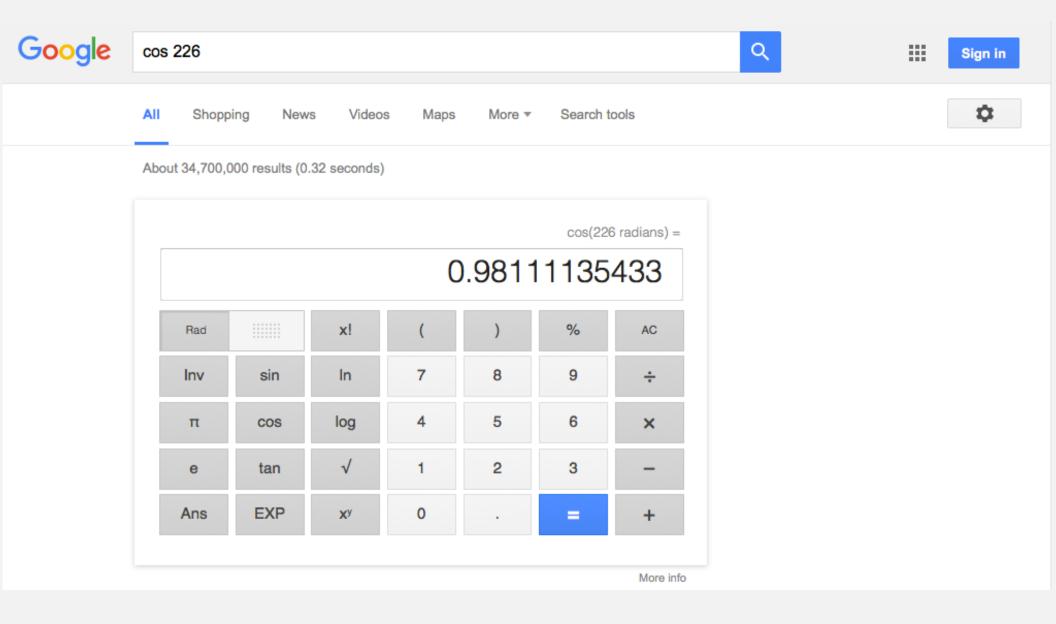




- Their impact is broad and far-reaching.
- They may unlock the secrets of life and of the universe.
- To solve problems that could not otherwise be addressed.
- Old roots, new opportunities.
- To become a proficient programmer.
- For intellectual stimulation.
- For fun and profit.

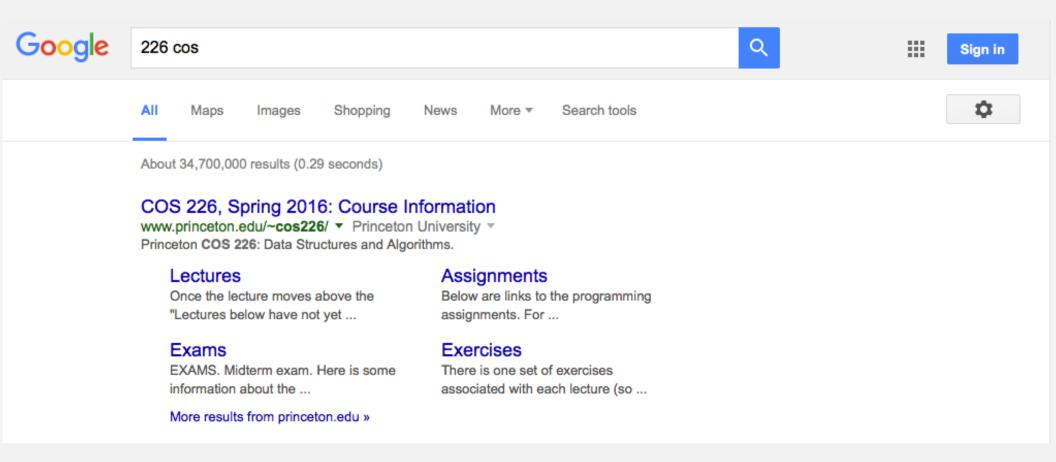


Resources (web)



http://www.princeton.edu/~cos226

Resources (web)



Precepts

Discussion, problem-solving, background for assignments.

	TIME	ROOM	PERSON	OFFICE	HOURS
L01	M W	McCosh	Arvind	Sherrerd	Wed
	11-12:20pm	10	Narayan	308	2–4pm
L02	M W	Jadwin	Andy	221 Nassau St.	Mon
	11-12:20pm	A10	Guna	Room 103	1:00–3:00pm
P01	Th	Friend	Maia	CS	Tue
	9–9:50am	108	Ginsburg †	Room 205	12:30–2:30pm
P02	Th	Friend	Shivam	Sherrerd 3rd Floor	Tue
	10–10:50am	108	Agarwal	Common Area	5–7pm
P02A	Th	Friend	Marc	CS	Mon
	10–10:50am	109	Leef	001B	6-8pm
P03	Th	Friend	Maia	CS	Tue
	11–11:50am	108	Ginsburg †	Room 205	12:30-2:30pm
P03A	Th	Friend	Ming-Yee	TBA	Mon
	11-11:50am	109	Tsang	TBA	8–10pm
P04	Th	Friend	Miles	Sherrerd 3rd Floor	Mon
	12:30pm-1:20pm	108	Carlsten	Common Area	4–6pm
P05	Th	Friend	Sergiy	CS	Sun
	1:30pm-2:20pm	112	Popovych	241 (front)	4:30–6:30pm
P06	F	Friend	Andy	221 Nassau St.	Mon
	10–10:50am	108	Guna †	Room 103	1:00–3:00pm
P07	F	Friend	Andy	221 Nassau St.	Mon
	11–11:50am	108	Guna †	Room 103	1:00–3:00pm
P07A	F	Friend	Harry	CS	Tues
	11–11:50am	109	Kalodner	241 (front)	3–5pm
P99	M	221 Nassau St.	Andy	221 Nassau St.	Mon
	11:00–11:50pm	Conference room	Guna	Room 103	1:00–3:00pm
					† co-lead preceptors

Coursework and grading

Programming assignments. 45%

- Due at 11pm on Tuesdays via electronic submission.
- Collaboration/lateness policies: see web.

Exercises, 10%

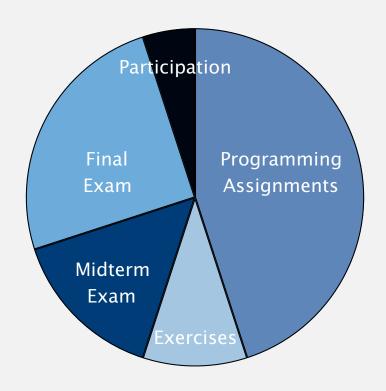
- Due at 11pm on Sundays via Blackboard.
- Collaboration/lateness policies: see web.

Exams. 15% + 25%

- Midterm (in class on Wednesday, March 11).
- Final (to be scheduled by Registrar).

Participation. 5%

- Attend and participate in precept/lecture.
- Answer questions on Piazza.



iclicker

Required device for lecture.

- Any hardware version of i>clicker.
- Use default frequency AA.
- Available at Labyrinth Books (\$25).
- You must register your i>clicker in Blackboard.
 (sorry, insufficient WiFi in this room to support i>clicker GO)

We'll start using them on Wednesday.





save serial number

to maintain resale value



Electronic devices: Permitted, but only to enhance lecture.



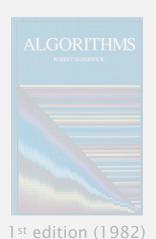




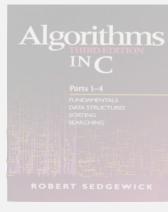
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Resources (textbook)

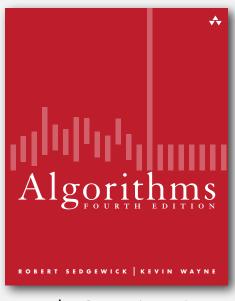
Required reading. Algorithms 4th edition by R. Sedgewick and K. Wayne, Addison-Wesley Professional, 2011, ISBN 0-321-57351-X.











4th edition (2011)

Available in hardcover and Kindle.

- Online: Amazon (\$60 hardcover, \$50 Kindle, \$20 rent), ...
- Brick-and-mortar: Labyrinth Books (122 Nassau St.).
- On reserve: Engineering library.

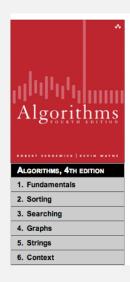
Resources (web)

Course content.

- Course info.
- Lecture slides.
- Flipped lectures.
- Programming assignments.
- Exercises.
- Exam archive.

Booksite.

- Brief summary of content.
- Download code from book.
- APIs and Javadoc.



ALGORITHMS, 4TH EDITION

essential information that every serious programmer needs to know about algorithms and data structures

Textbook. The textbook *Algorithms, 4th Edition* by Robert Sedgewick and Kevin Wayne [Amazon · Addison-Wesley] surveys the most important algorithms and data structures in use today. The textbook is organized into six chapters:

- Chapter 1: Fundamentals introduces a scientific and engineering basis for comparing algorithms and making predictions. It also includes our programming model.
- Chapter 2: Sorting considers several classic sorting algorithms, including insertion sort, mergesort, and quicksort. It also includes a binary heap implementation of a priority queue.
- Chapter 3: Searching describes several classic symbol table implementations, including binary search trees, red-black trees, and hash tables.

http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu

Resources (people)

Piazza discussion forum.

- Low latency, low bandwidth.
- Mark solution-revealing questions as private.

plazza

http://piazza.com/princeton/spring2015/cos226

Office hours.

- High bandwidth, high latency.
- See web for schedule.



http://www.princeton.edu/~cos226

Computing laboratory.

- Undergrad lab TAs.
- For help with debugging.
- See web for schedule.



http://labta.cs.princeton.edu

What's ahead?

Today. Attend traditional lecture (everyone).

Wednesday. Attend traditional/flipped lecture.

Thursday/Friday. Attend precept (everyone).



FOR i = 1 to N

Sunday: two sets of exercises due.

Monday: traditional/flipped lecture.

Tuesday: programming assignment due.

Wednesday: traditional/flipped lecture.

Thursday/Friday: precept.

protip: start early

Q+A

Not registered? Go to any precept this week.

Change precept? Use TigerHub.

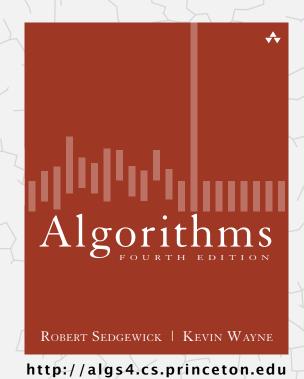
All possible precepts closed? See Colleen Kenny-McGinley in CS 210.

Haven't taken COS 126? See COS placement officer.

Placed out of COS 126? Review Sections 1.1–1.2 of Algorithms 4/e.





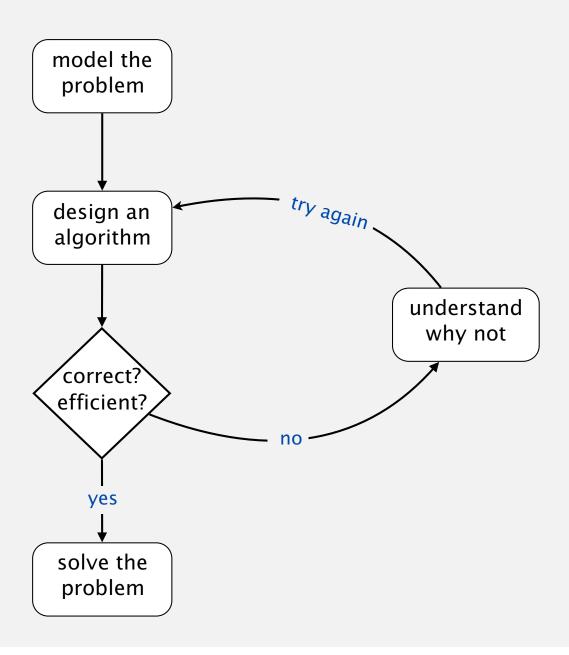


1.5 UNION-FIND

- dynamic-connectivity problem
- quick find
- quick union
- improvements
- applications

Subtext of today's lecture (and this course)

Steps to developing a usable algorithm to solve a computational problem.



1.5 UNION-FIND

- dynamic-connectivity problem
- quick find
- quick union
- **improvements**
 - applications



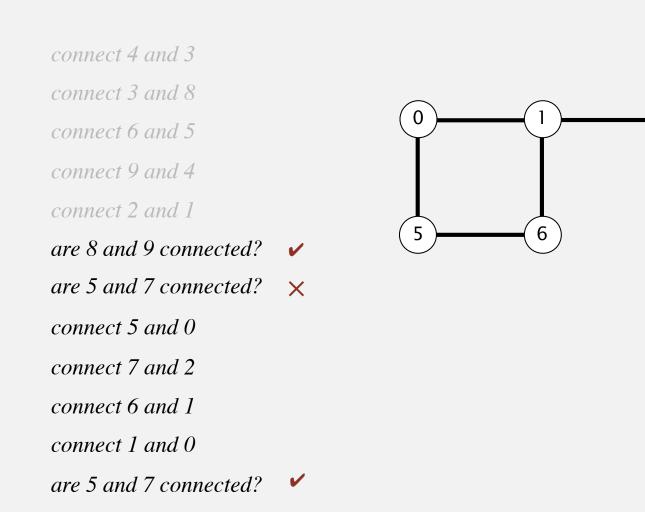
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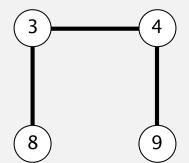
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Dynamic-connectivity problem

Given a set of N elements, support two operations:

- Connection command: directly connect two elements with an edge.
- Connection query: is there a path connecting two elements?

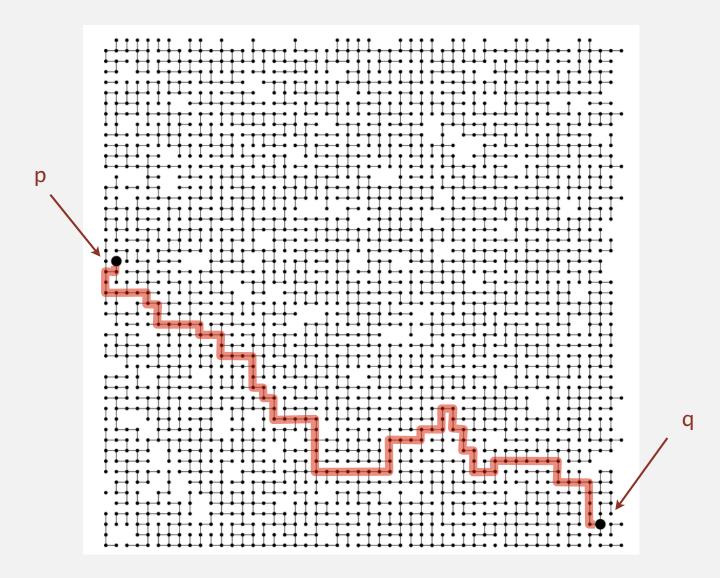




A larger connectivity example

Q. Is there a path connecting elements p and q?

finding the path explicitly is a harder problem (second half of the course)



A. Yes.

Modeling the elements

Applications involve manipulating elements of all types.

- Pixels in a digital photo.
- Computers in a network.
- Friends in a social network.
- Transistors in a computer chip.
- Elements in a mathematical set.
- Variable names in a Fortran program.
- Metallic sites in a composite system.

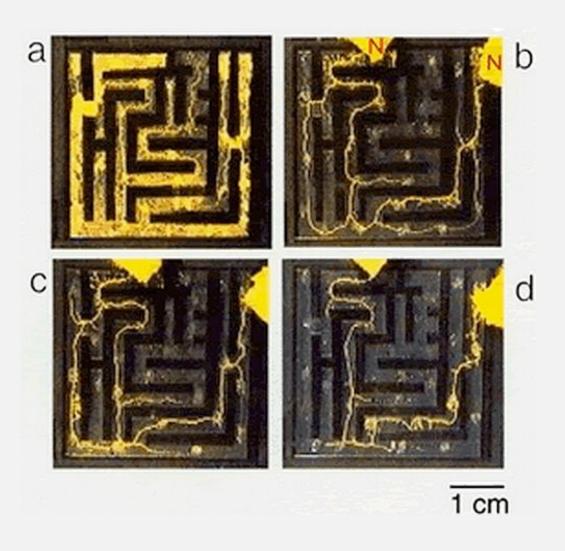
When programming, convenient to name elements 0 to n - 1.

- Use integers as array index.
- Suppress details not relevant to union-find.



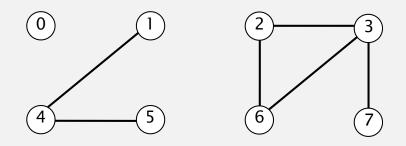
Algorithms in nature

Slime mold in a maze, with food placed at the start and end points



Modeling the connections

Connected component. Maximal set of elements that are mutually connected.



Two core operations on disjoint sets

Union. Replace set *p* and *q* with their union.

Find. In which set is element *p*?

Modeling the dynamic-connectivity problem using union-find

- Q. How to model the dynamic-connectivity problem using union-find?
- A. Maintain disjoint sets that correspond to connected components.
 - Connect elements p and q.
 - Are elements p and q connected?

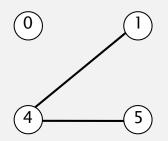
union(2, 5)

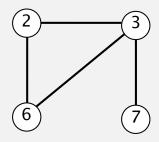
find(5) == find(6)

{ 0 } { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 }

2 disjoint sets

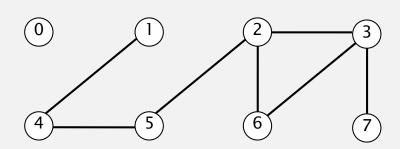
connect 2 and 5







are 5 and 6 connected?



3 connected components 2 connected components

Union-find data type (API)

```
public class UF

UF(int n)

initialize union—find data structure with n singleton sets (0 \text{ to } n-1)

void union(int p, int q)

int find(int p)

int find(int p)

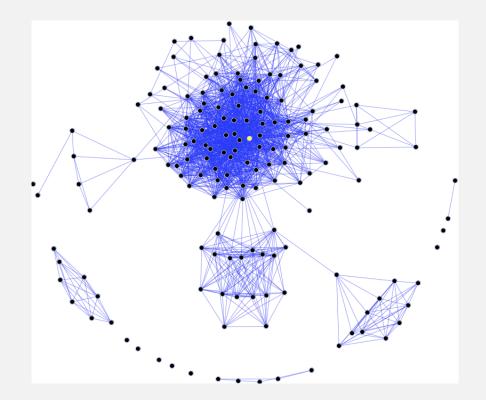
int didentifier for set containing element p (0 to n-1)
```

Relatively straightforward expression of problem statement in Java

Up next: two simple union-find algorithms

Difficulty:

- Number of elements *n* can be huge.
- Number of operations *m* can be huge.
- Union and find operations can be intermixed.



Data could come from large social network with billions of nodes

Dynamic-connectivity client

- Read in number of elements *n* from standard input.
- Repeat:
 - read in pair of integers from standard input
 - if they are not yet connected, connect them and print pair

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
   int n = StdIn.readInt();
   UF uf = new UF(n);
   while (!StdIn.isEmpty())
      int p = StdIn.readInt();
      int q = StdIn.readInt();
      if (uf.find(p) != uf.find(q))
      {
         uf.union(p, q);
         StdOut.println(p + " " + q);
}
```

```
% more tinyUF.txt
10
4 3
3 8
9 4
8
5 0
7 2
            already connected
            (don't print these)
6 1
6
```

1.5 UNION—FIND Adynamic-connectivity problem

- quick find
- quick union
- **improvements**
- applications

Algorithms

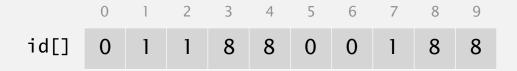
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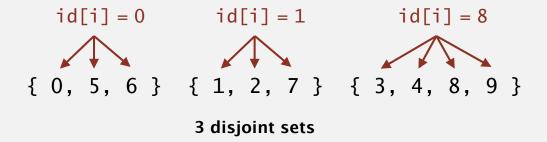
http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu

Quick-find [eager approach]

Data structure.

- Integer array id[] of length n.
- Interpretation: id[p] identifies the set containing element p.



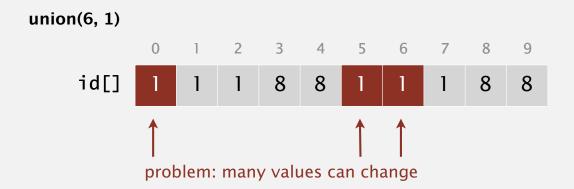


- Q. How to implement find(p)?
- A. Easy, just return id[p].

Quick-find [eager approach]

Data structure.

- Integer array id[] of length n.
- Interpretation: id[p] identifies the set containing element p.



- Q. How to implement union(p, q)?
- A. Change all entries whose identifier equals id[p] to id[q].

union(4, 3)



 $\left(1\right)$

(2)



$$\left(5\right)$$

 $\left(\mathsf{6} \right)$

7

8

9



union(3, 8)





union(6, 5)



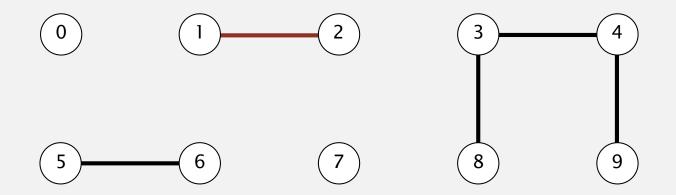


union(9, 4)



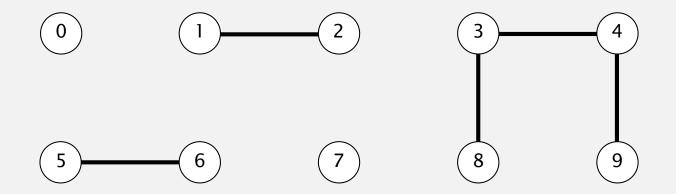


union(2, 1)

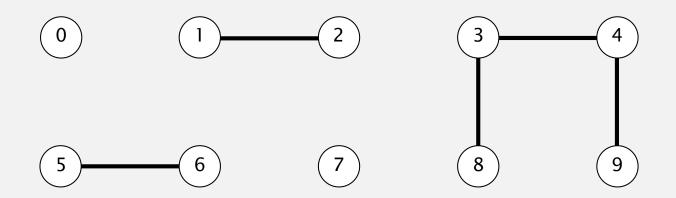




connected(8, 9)

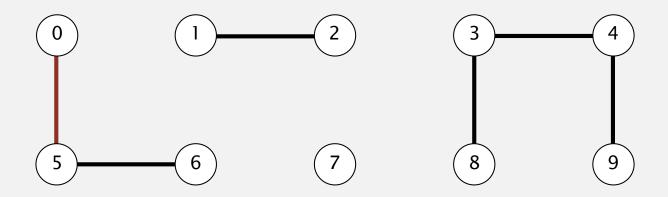


connected(5, 0)



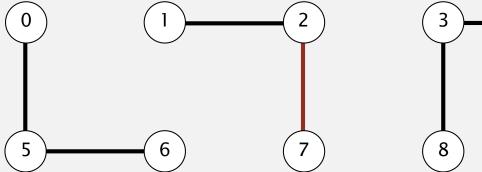


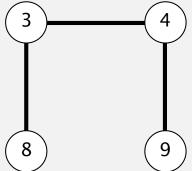
union(5, 0)





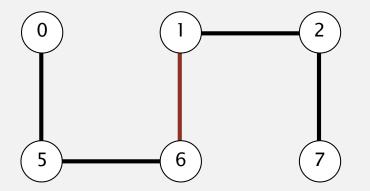
union(7, 2)

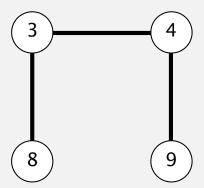




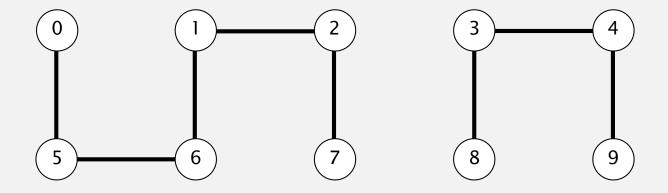


union(6, 1)









									8	
id[]	1	1	1	8	8	1	1	1	8	8

Quick-find: Java implementation

```
public class QuickFindUF
   private int[] id;
   public QuickFindUF(int n)
      id = new int[n];
                                                             set id of each element to itself
      for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
                                                                  (n array accesses)
          id[i] = i;
                                                             return the id of p
   public int find(int p)
                                                              (1 array access)
   { return id[p]; }
   public void union(int p, int q)
      int pid = id[p];
       int qid = id[q];
                                                             change all entries with id[p] to id[q]
       for (int i = 0; i < id.length; i++)
                                                                (n+2 to 2n+2 array accesses)
          if (id[i] == pid) id[i] = qid;
```

Quick-find: Java implementation

```
public void union(int p, int q)
{
   int pid = id[p];
   int qid = id[q];
   for (int i = 0; i < id.length; i++)
      if (id[i] == pid) id[i] = qid;
}</pre>
```

Q. What's wrong with this instead?

```
public void union(int p, int q)
{
   for (int i = 0; i < id.length; i++)
    if (id[i] == id[p]) id[i] = id[q];
}</pre>
```

A. id[p] may change part-way through the loop!

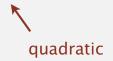
Quick-find is too slow

Cost model. Number of array accesses (for read or write).

algorithm	initialize	union	find
quick-find	n	n	1

number of array accesses (ignoring leading constant)

Union is too expensive. Processing a sequence of n union operations on n elements takes more than n^2 array accesses.



Quadratic algorithms do not scale

Rough standard (for now).

- 109 operations per second.
- 109 words of main memory.
- Touch all words in approximately 1 second.
- a truism (roughly) since 1950!

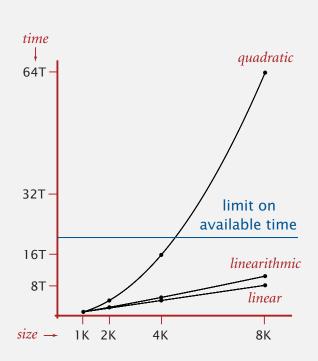


Ex. Huge problem for quick-find.

- 109 union commands on 109 elements.
- Quick-find takes more than 10¹⁸ operations.
- 30+ years of computer time!

Quadratic algorithms don't scale with technology.

- New computer may be 10x as fast.
- But, has 10x as much memory ⇒
 want to solve a problem that is 10x as big.
- With quadratic algorithm, takes 10x as long!



Algorithms

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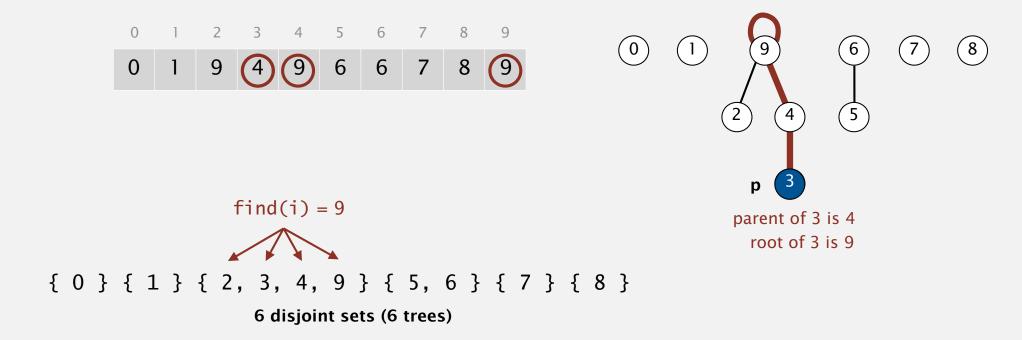
1.5 UNION-FIND

- dynamic-connectivity problem
- yuick find
- quick union
- improvements
 - applications

Quick-union [lazy approach]

Data structure.

- Integer array parent[] of length n, where parent[i] is parent of i in tree.
- Interpretation: elements in a tree corresponding to a set.

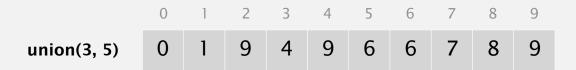


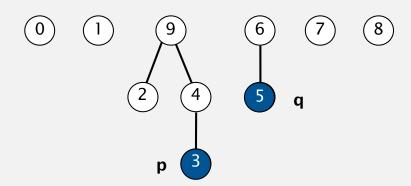
- Q. How to implement find(p) operation?
- A. Return root of tree containing p.

Quick-union [lazy approach]

Data structure.

- Integer array parent[] of length n, where parent[i] is parent of i in tree.
- Interpretation: elements in a tree corresponding to a set.



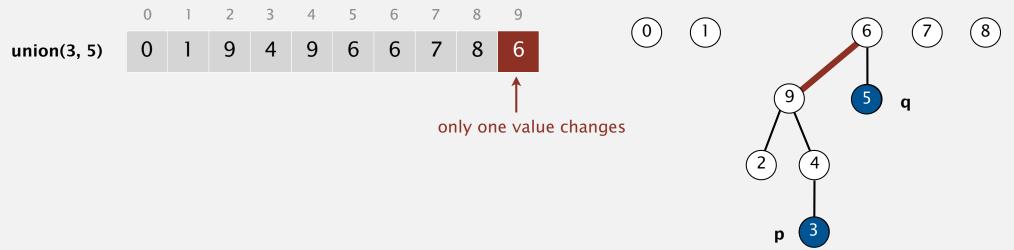


- Q. How to implement union(p, q)?
- A. Set parent of p's root to q's root.

Quick-union [lazy approach]

Data structure.

- Integer array parent[] of length n, where parent[i] is parent of i in tree.
- Interpretation: elements in a tree corresponding to a set.



- Q. How to implement union(p, q)?
- A. Set parent of p's root to q's root.



 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

union(4, 3)

9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

union(4, 3)

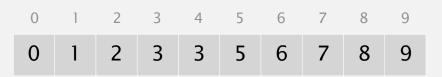




 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
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 8
 9

 0
 1
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 3
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 8
 9





union(3, 8)



 0
 1
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 0
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 9

union(3, 8)



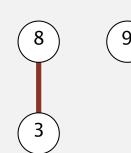


(2)



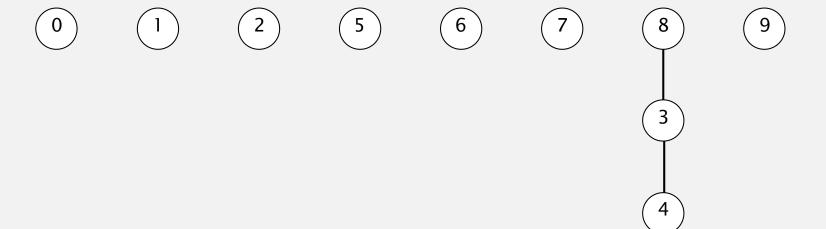






0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

0 1 2 8 3 5 6 7 8 9



9

3 5 6 7 8 9

union(6, 5)

 \bigcirc

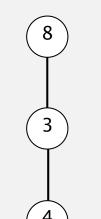
 $\left(1\right)$

(2)

5

 $\left(6\right)$

 $\left(7\right)$

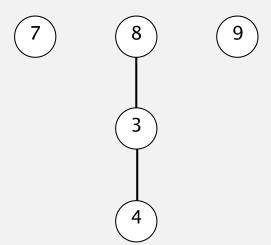


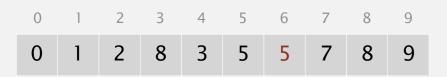
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

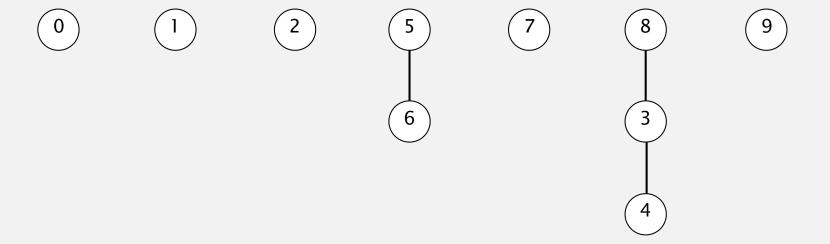
0 1 2 8 3 5 6 7 8 9

union(6, 5)









9

5 7 8 9

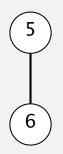
5

union(9, 4)

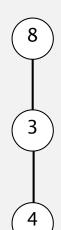




 $\left(2\right)$



7



9

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 8 3 5 5 7 8 9

union(9, 4)

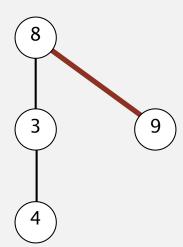


 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \end{pmatrix}$

 $\left(2\right)$

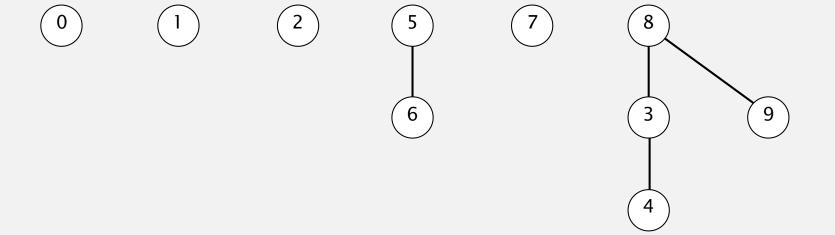


7



 0
 1
 2
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 6
 7
 8
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0 1 2 8 3 5

9

5 7 8 8

union(2, 1)

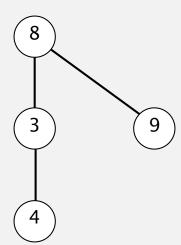
0

 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \end{pmatrix}$

2



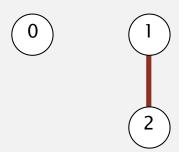
(7)

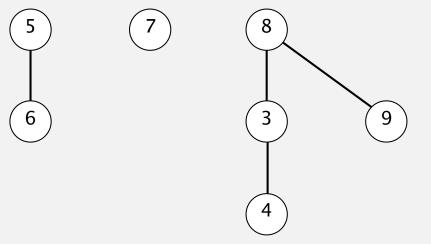


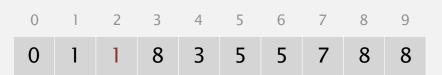
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

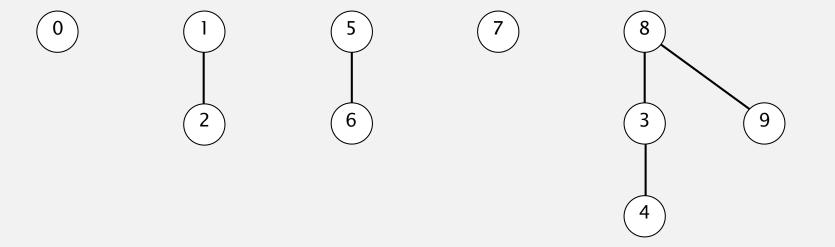
0 1 2 8 3 5 5 7 8 8

union(2, 1)









7

5 7 8 8

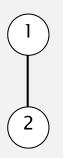
8 3 5

9

find(8) == find(9)

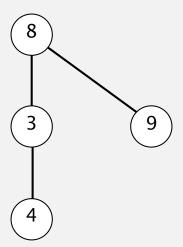


0



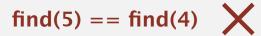






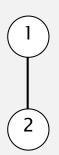
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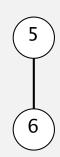
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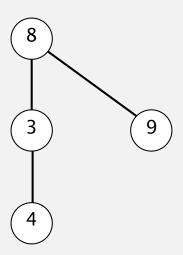


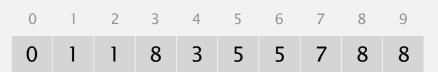




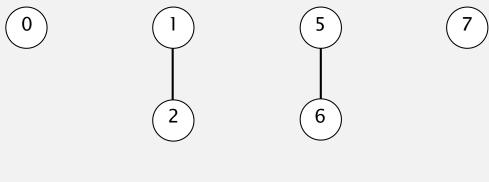


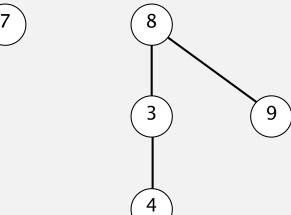


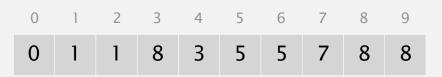




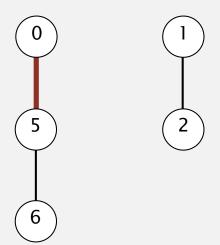
union(5, 0)

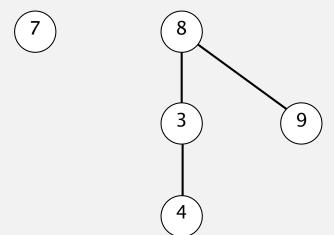


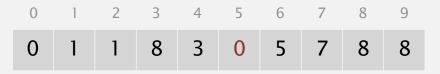


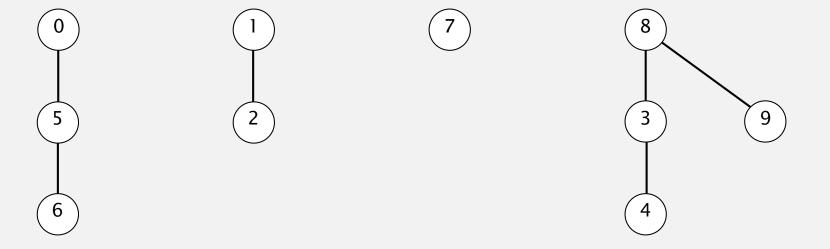


union(5, 0)





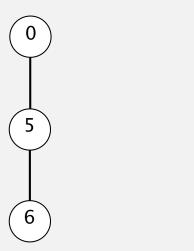




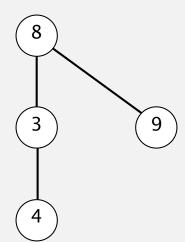
9

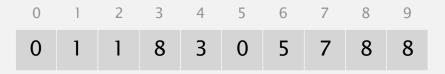
8 3 0 5 7 8 8

union(7, 2)

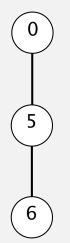


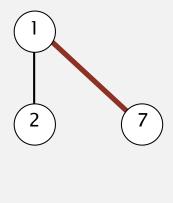


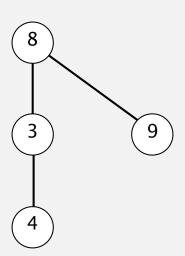




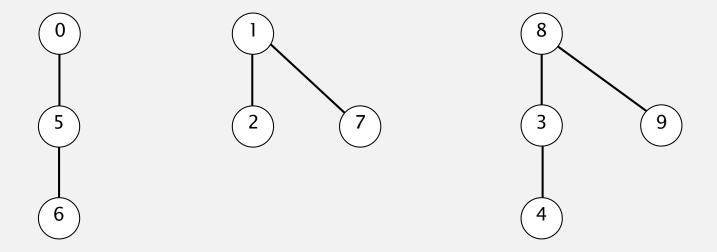
union(7, 2)







								8	
0	1	1	8	3	0	5	1	8	8



4 5

3 0

6

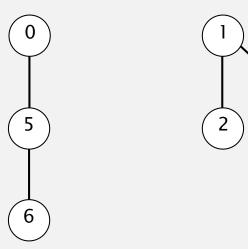
5 1

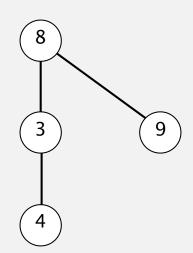
8

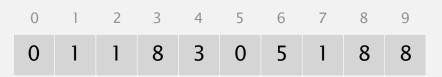
8 8

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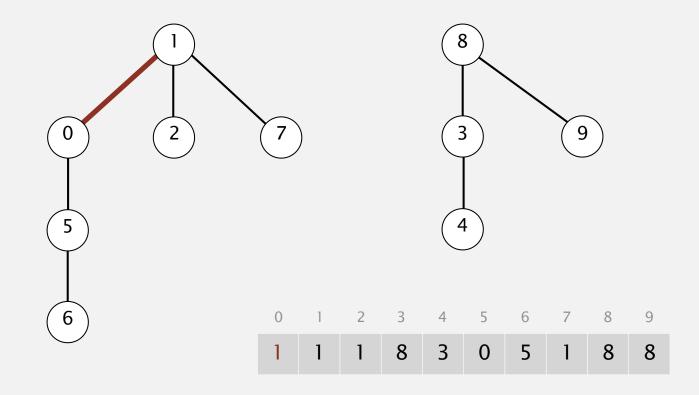
union(6, 1)

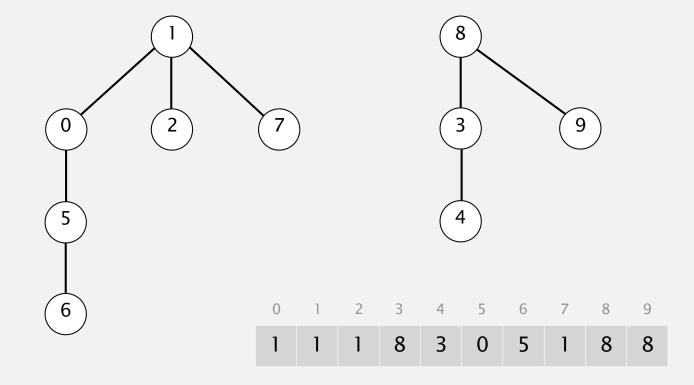




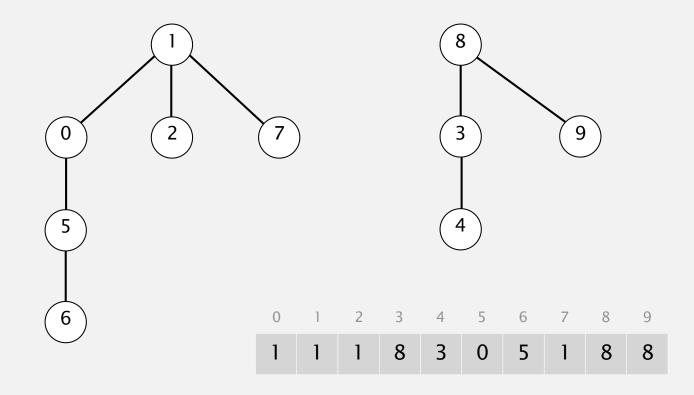


union(6, 1)

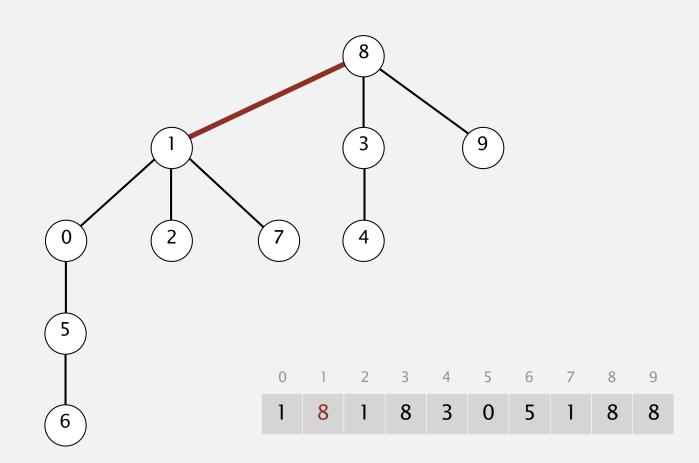


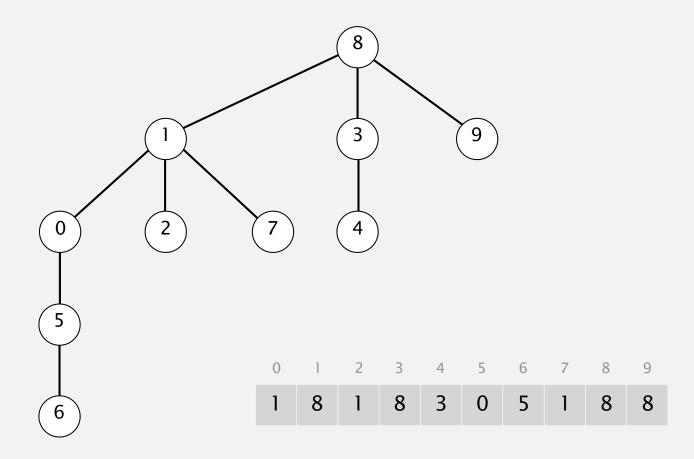


union(7, 3)



union(7, 3)





Quick-union: Java implementation

```
public class QuickUnionUF
   private int[] parent;
   public QuickUnionUF(int N)
      parent = new int[N];
                                                          set parent of each element to itself
      for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
                                                                 (N array accesses)
           parent[i] = i;
   public int find(int p)
      while (p != parent[p])
                                                          chase parent pointers until reach root
           p = parent[p];
                                                              (depth of p array accesses)
       return p;
   public void union(int p, int q)
      int i = find(p);
                                                          change root of p to point to root of q
      int j = find(q);
                                                            (depth of p and q array accesses)
      parent[i] = j;
```

Quick-union is also too slow

Cost model. Number of array accesses (for read or write).

algorithm	initialize	union	find	
quick-find	n	n	1	
quick-union	n	n †	n	←



† includes cost of finding two roots

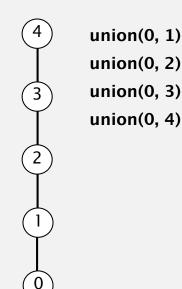
Quick-find defect.

- Union too expensive (more than n array accesses).
- Trees are flat, but too expensive to keep them flat.

Quick-union defect.

- Trees can get tall.
- Find too expensive (could be more than *n* array accesses).

worst-case input



Algorithms

ROBERT SEDGEWICK | KEVIN WAYNE

http://algs4.cs.princeton.edu

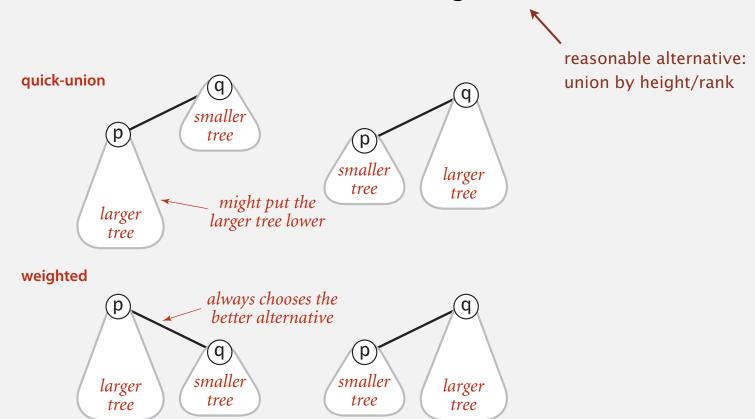
1.5 UNION-FIND

- dynamic-connectivity problem
- quick find
- quick union
- improvements
- applications

Improvement 1: weighting

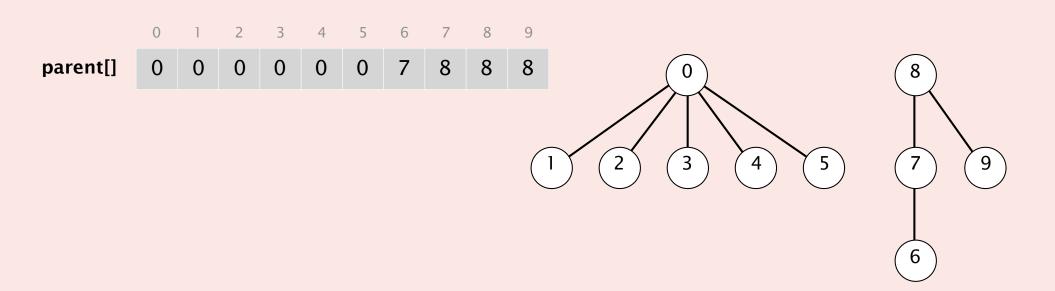
Weighted quick-union.

- Modify quick-union to avoid tall trees.
- Keep track of size of each tree (number of elements).
- Always link root of smaller tree to root of larger tree.



Weighted quick-union quiz

Suppose that the parent[] array during weighted quick union is:

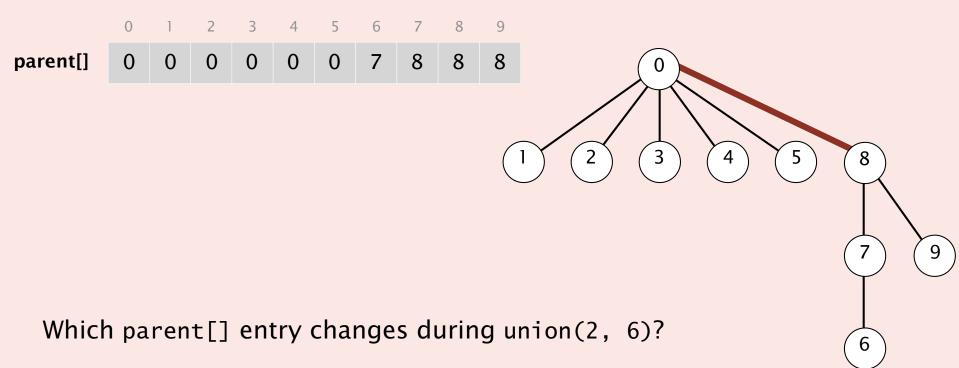


Which parent[] entry changes during union(2, 6)?

- A. parent[0]
- B. parent[2]
- C. parent[6]
- D. parent[8]

Weighted quick-union quiz

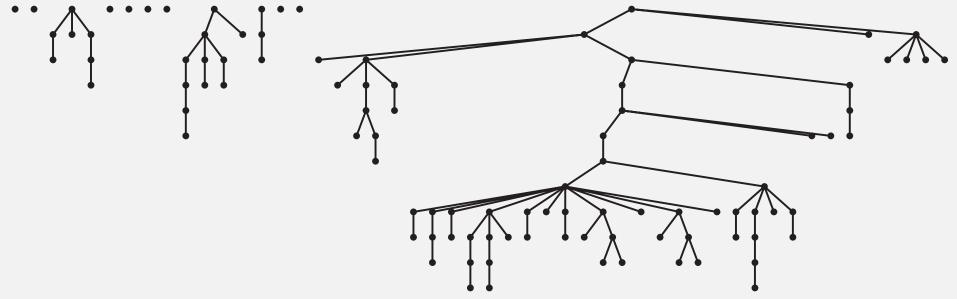
Suppose that the parent[] array during weighted quick union is:



- A. parent[0]
- B. parent[2]
- C. parent[6]
- D. parent[8]

Quick-union vs. weighted quick-union

quick-union



average distance to root: 5.11

weighted



average distance to root: 1.52

Quick-union and weighted quick-union (100 sites, 88 union() operations)

Weighted quick-union: Java implementation

Data structure. Same as quick-union, but maintain extra array size[i] to count number of elements in the tree rooted at i, initially 1.

Find. Identical to quick-union.

Union. Modify quick-union to:

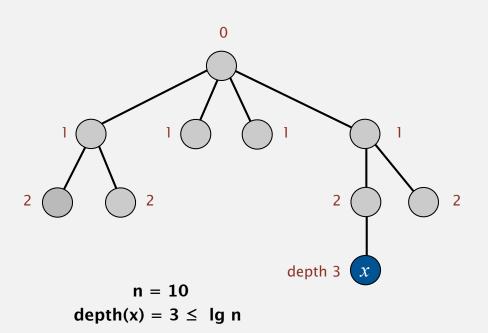
- Link root of smaller tree to root of larger tree.
- Update the size[] array.

Weighted quick-union analysis

Running time.

- Find: takes time proportional to depth of p.
- Union: takes constant time, given two roots.

Proposition. Depth of any node x is at most $\lg n$. \longleftarrow in computer science, \lg means base-2 logarithm



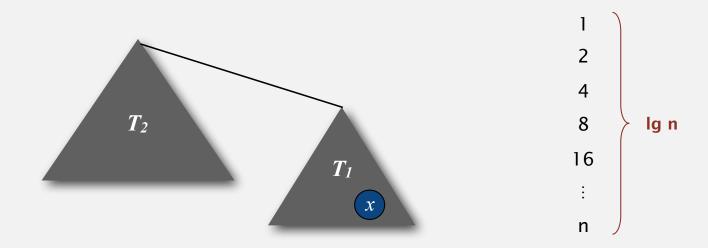
Weighted quick-union analysis

Running time.

- Find: takes time proportional to depth of p.
- Union: takes constant time, given two roots.

Proposition. Depth of any node x is at most $\lg n$. \longleftarrow $\frac{\text{in computer science,}}{\lg \text{ means base-2 logarithm}}$ Pf. What causes the depth of element x to increase? Increases by 1 when root of tree T_1 containing x is linked to root of tree T_2 .

- The size of the tree containing x at least doubles since $|T_2| \ge |T_1|$.
- Size of tree containing x can double at most lg n times. Why?



Weighted quick-union analysis

Running time.

• Find: takes time proportional to depth of p.

• Union: takes constant time, given two roots.

Proposition. Depth of any node x is at most $\lg n$.

algorithm	initialize	union	find
quick-find	n	n	1
quick-union	n	n †	n
weighted QU	n	$\log n^{\dagger}$	$\log n$

log mean logarithm, for some constant base

† includes cost of finding two roots

Summary

Key point. Weighted quick union makes it possible to solve problems that could not otherwise be addressed.

algorithm	worst-case time		
quick-find	m n		
quick-union	m n		
weighted QU	$n + m \log n$		
QU + path compression	$n + m \log n$		
weighted QU + path compression	$n + m \log^* n$		

order of growth for m union-find operations on a set of n elements

Ex. [109 unions and finds with 109 elements]

- WQUPC reduces time from 30 years to 6 seconds.
- Supercomputer won't help much; good algorithm enables solution.

Algorithms

ROBERT SEDGEWICK | KEVIN WAYNE

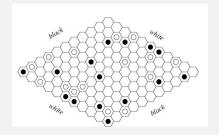
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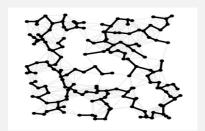
1.5 UNION-FIND

- dynamic-connectivity problem
- p quick find
- quick union
- improvements
- applications

Union-find applications

- Percolation.
- Games (Go, Hex).
- Least common ancestor.
- ✓ Dynamic-connectivity problem.
 - Equivalence of finite state automata.
 - Hoshen–Kopelman algorithm in physics.
 - Hindley–Milner polymorphic type inference.
 - Kruskal's minimum spanning tree algorithm.
 - Compiling equivalence statements in Fortran.
 - Morphological attribute openings and closings.
 - Matlab's bwlabel() function in image processing.





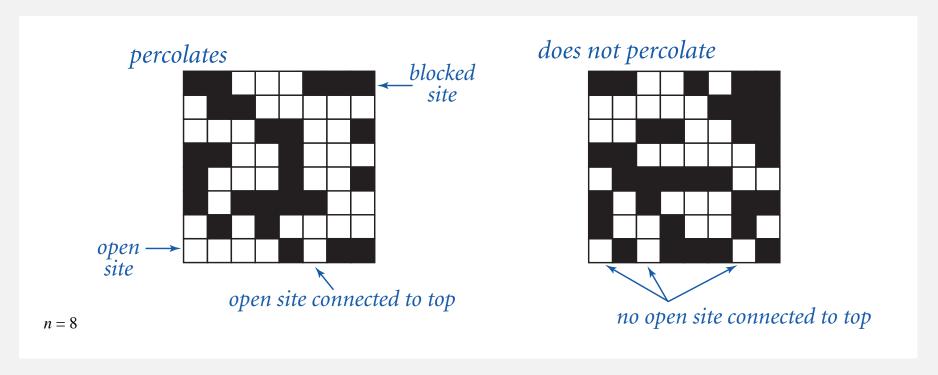


Percolation

An abstract model for many physical systems:

- *n*-by-*n* grid of sites.
- Each site is open with probability p (and blocked with probability 1-p).
- System percolates iff top and bottom are connected by open sites.

if and only if



Percolation

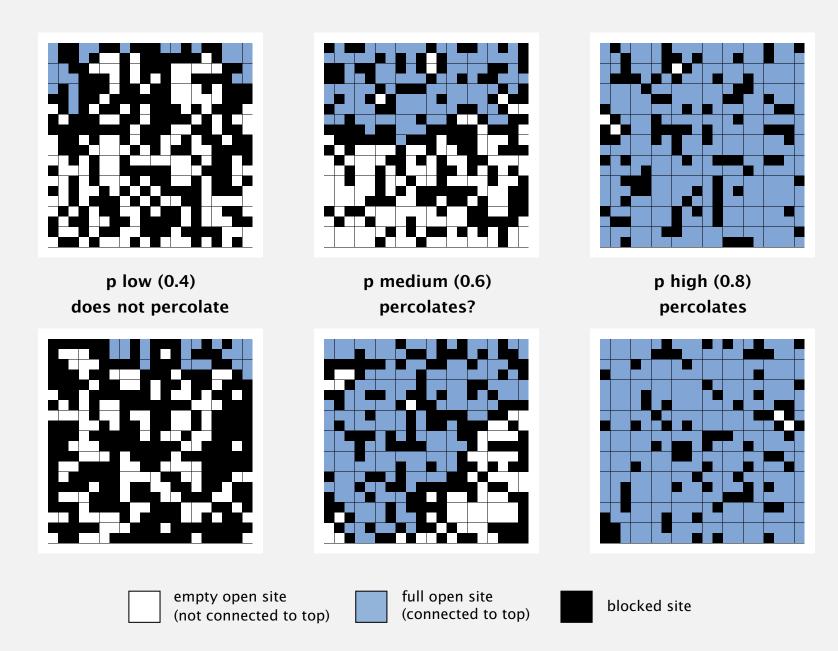
An abstract model for many physical systems:

- *n*-by-*n* grid of sites.
- Each site is open with probability p (and blocked with probability 1-p).
- System percolates iff top and bottom are connected by open sites.

model	system	vacant site	occupied site	percolates
electricity	material	conductor	insulated	conducts
fluid flow	material	empty	blocked	porous
social interaction	population	person	empty	communicates

Likelihood of percolation

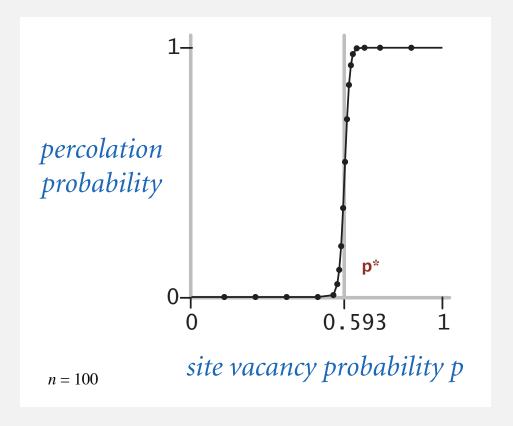
Depends on grid size n and site vacancy probability p.



Percolation phase transition

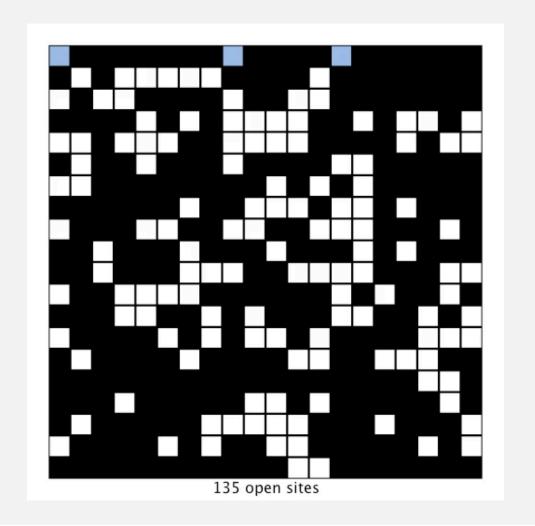
When n is large, theory guarantees a sharp threshold p^* .

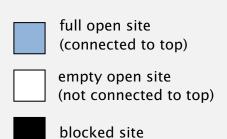
- *p* > *p**: almost certainly percolates.
- $p < p^*$: almost certainly does not percolate.
- Q. What is the value of p^* ?



Monte Carlo simulation

- Initialize all sites in an *n*-by-*n* grid to be blocked.
- Declare random sites open until top connected to bottom.
- Vacancy percentage estimates p^* .
- Repeat many times to get more accurate estimate.

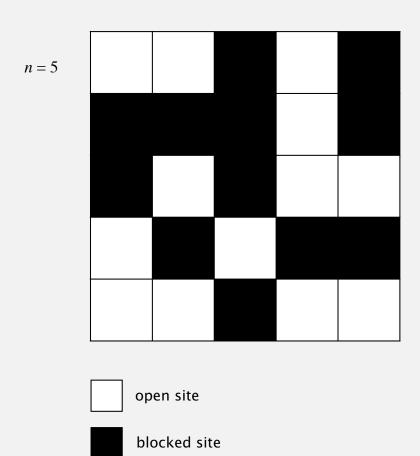




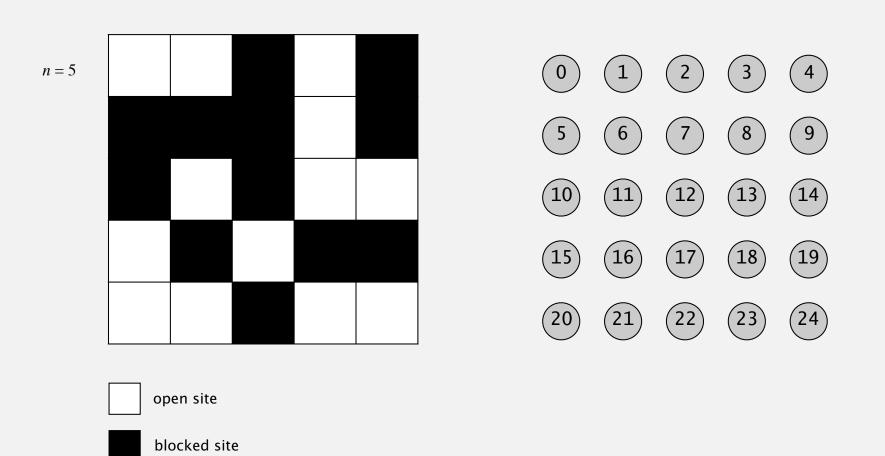
$$\hat{p} = \frac{204}{400} = 0.5$$

$$n = 20$$

- Q. How to check whether an n-by-n system percolates?
- A. Model as a dynamic-connectivity problem problem and use union-find.

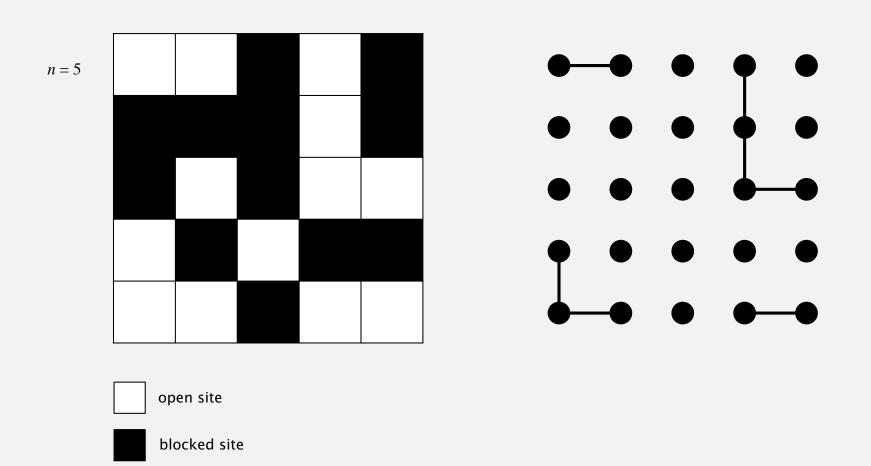


- Q. How to check whether an n-by-n system percolates?
 - Create an element for each site, named 0 to $n^2 1$.



- Q. How to check whether an n-by-n system percolates?
 - Create an element for each site, named 0 to $n^2 1$.
 - Add edge between two adjacent sites if they're both open.

4 possible neighbors: left, right, top, bottom



- Q. How to check whether an n-by-n system percolates?
 - Create an element for each site, named 0 to $n^2 1$.
 - Add edge between two adjacent sites if they both open.
 - Percolates iff any site on bottom row is connected to any site on top row.

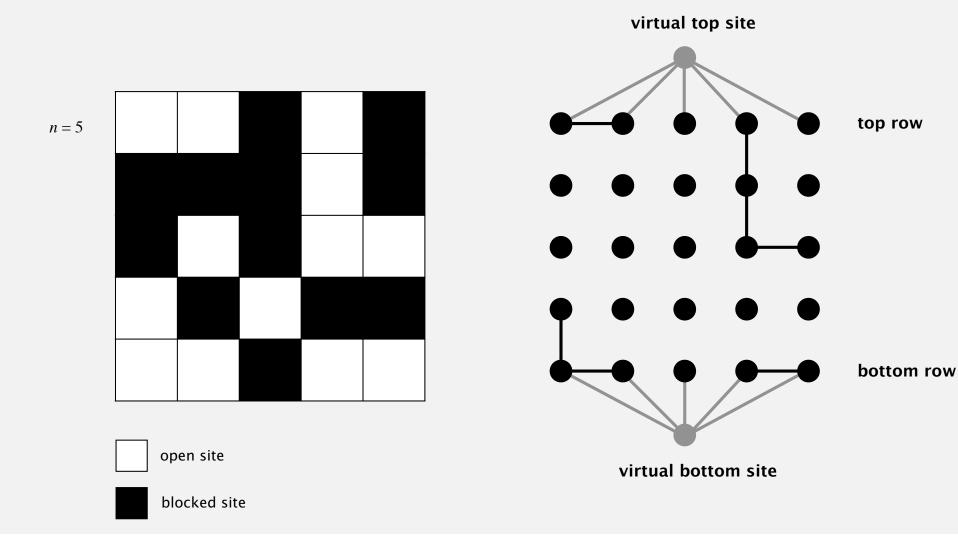
brute-force algorithm: 2n find queries

top row n = 5bottom row open site blocked site

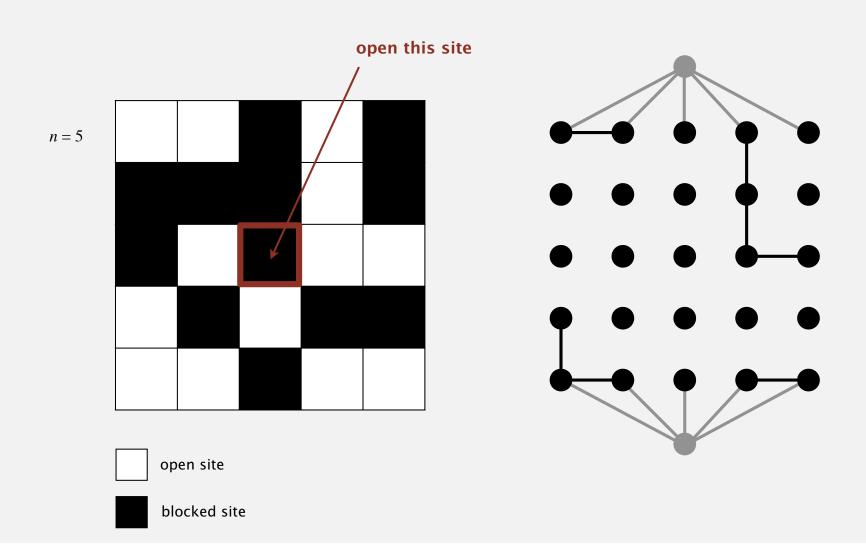
Clever trick. Introduce 2 virtual sites (and edges to top and bottom).

Percolates iff virtual top site is connected to virtual bottom site.

more efficient algorithm: only 1 connected query

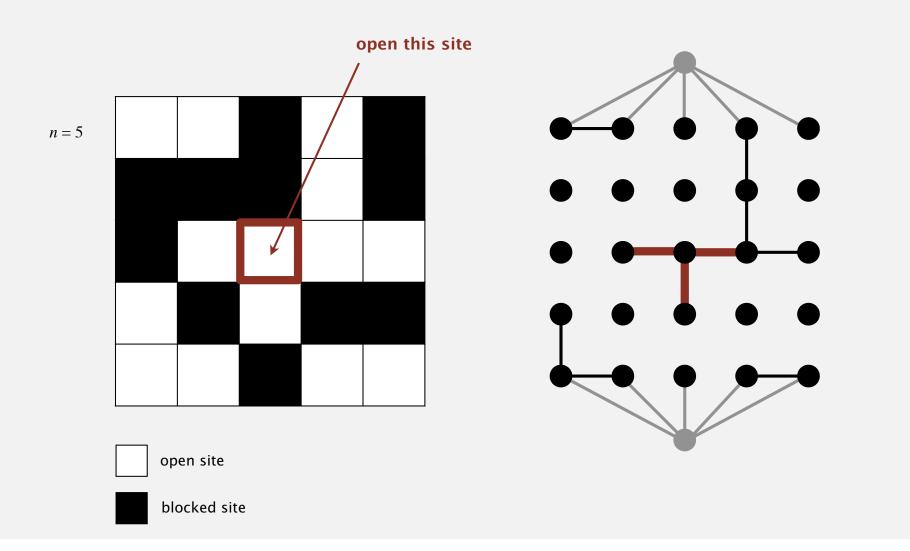


Q. How to model opening a new site?



- Q. How to model opening a new site?
- A. Mark new site as open; add edge to any adjacent site that is open.

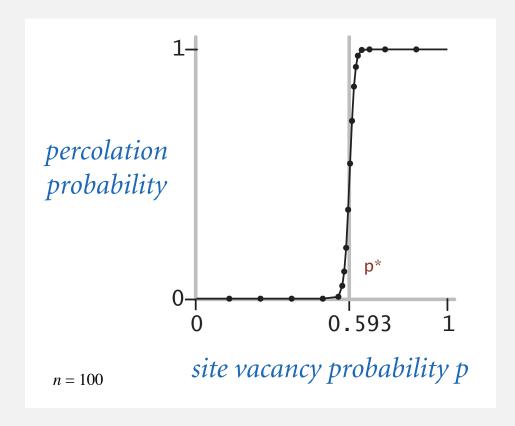
adds up to 4 edges



Percolation threshold

- Q. What is percolation threshold p^* ?
- A. About 0.592746 for large square lattices.

constant known only via simulation



Fast algorithm enables accurate answer to scientific question.

Subtext of today's lecture (and this course)

Steps to developing a usable algorithm.

- Model the problem.
- Find an algorithm to solve it.
- Correct? Fast enough? Fits in memory?
- If not, figure out why.
- Find a way to address the problem.
- Iterate until satisfied.

The scientific method.

Mathematical analysis.