Weekplan: Lowest Common Ancestors and Range Minimum Queries

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References and Reading

[1] The LCA problem revisited, M. A. Bender, M. Farach-Colton, Latin American Symposium 2000.

[2] Scribe notes from MIT

[3] Fast Algorithms for Finding Nearest Common Ancestors, D. Harel and R. E. Tarjan, SIAM J. Comput., 13(2), 338–355.

We recommend reading [1], [2] in detail before the lecture. [3] provides background on LCA.

Exercises

1 Sparse table Show that we can find the results for all power-of-two intervals in $O(n \log n)$ time.

2 [w] **RMQ** Consider the array $A = [3,4,5,4,5,4,5,4,3,2,1,0,1,0,1,2,3,4,3,4,3,2,1,2,3,2,3,4,5,6,7,6]$.

2.1 Give the arrays A' and B used for the sparse table in the two level ±1RMQ data structure. Use block size 3.

2.2 Construct the sparse table solution for A'.

2.3 How many different tabulation tables do we need to store (how many different describing sequences/normalized blocks are there)?

3 Size of blocks In the ±1RMQ data structure we divided the array into blocks of length $\frac{1}{2}\log n$. What happens if we instead use a block size of

- $\log n$
- $\frac{3}{4}\log n$

4 Two-Level Sparse Table Consider the two-level sparse table solution, where we first divide the array A into $n/\log n$ blocks $A_1, \ldots, A_{\lceil n/\log n \rceil}$. We construct a new table A' containing the minimum element from each block and construct a sparse table for this. For each block A_i we also construct a sparse table.

4.1 Analyse the space usage of the data structure.

4.2 Explain how to perform a query and analyse the running time.

4.3 [$*$] What happens to space and query time if we recursively apply this idea, i.e., instead of storing sparse tables for the A_is we store a two-level sparse table?

5 Reduction between RMQ and LCA In the lecture we saw how to reduce RMQ to LCA via a Cartesian tree and from LCA to RMQ.

5.1 Build the Cartesian tree T for the array $A = [3,5,1,3,8,6,9,2,42,4,7,12]$.

5.2 Reduce LCA on T to ±1RMQ. That is, construct the array for the ±1RMQ instance.

6 Distance Queries in Trees Let T be a unrooted tree in which each edge has an integer weight. The distance between two nodes u and v is the sum of edge weights on the path between u and v. Give a linear-space data structure for T that can report the distance between any pair of nodes in constant time.

7 Range Smallest and Range Uniqueness Let A be an array of length n. Consider the following queries:

- RS(i, j, t): return all integers $\leq t$ in $A[i, j]$.
- RU(i, j): return the unique set of integers in $A[i, j]$. (i.e. only report every occurring integer in the interval once).

Solve the following exercises.

7.1 $[w]$ Compute the result of RS$(4, 10, 3)$, and RU$(4, 10)$ on the array $A = [4, 1, 3, 2, 1, 4, 4, 3, 3, 1, 2, 5]$

7.2 Give a compact data structure that supports *RS* queries. Your query time should be output-sensitive.

7.3 Define the *predecessor array* P of A as the array P such that $P[i] = \max\{0 \leq j < i, A[j] = A[i]\} \cup \{-1\}$. Draw the predecessor array P of example array from exercise **7.1**.

7.4 $[*]$ Give a compact data structure that supports RU queries on A. Your query time should be output-sensitive. *Hint:* find a way to use the predecessor array.