

# Understanding the Inverse Ackermann Function

Raimund Seidel

Universität des Saarlandes

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A two-parameter variation of the inverse Ackermann function can be defined as follows:

$$\alpha(m, n) = \min\{i \geq 1 : A(i, \lfloor m/n \rfloor) \geq \log_2 n\}.$$

This function arises in more precise analyses of the algorithms mentioned above, and gives a more refined time bound. In the [disjoint-set data structure](#),  $m$  represents the number of operations while  $n$  represents the number of elements; in the [minimum spanning tree](#) algorithm,  $m$  represents the number of edges while  $n$  represents the number of vertices. Several slightly different definitions of  $\alpha(m, n)$  exist; for example,  $\log_2 n$  is sometimes replaced by  $n$ , and the [floor function](#) is sometimes replaced by a [ceiling](#).

Fertig

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## Definition and properties [\[edit\]](#)

The Ackermann function is defined **recursively** for non-negative integers  $m$  and  $n$  as follows:

$$A(m, n) = \begin{cases} n + 1 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ A(m - 1, 1) & \text{if } m > 0 \text{ and } n = 0 \\ A(m - 1, A(m, n - 1)) & \text{if } m > 0 \text{ and } n > 0. \end{cases}$$

The Ackermann function can be calculated by a simple function based directly on the definition:

Fertig

I am not smart enough to understand this easily.

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I am not smart enough to come up with proofs  
(or even reproduce proofs) involving the inverse  
Ackermann function

based on this definition.

What do I tell my students ?

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$A(m,n)$  grows veeeeery quickly ....

$\alpha(m,n)$  grows veeeeery slowly ....

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Let's move on to the next subject !

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Union Find with  
Path Compression

# Divide-and-Conquer Recurrences, Baby Version

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Typical Divide-and-Conquer:

If problem set  $S$  has size  $n=1$ , then nothing to be done.

Otherwise:

- \* partition  $S$  into subproblems of size  $< f(n)$
- \* solve each of the  $n/f(n)$  subproblems recursively
- \* combine subsolutions.

## Divide-and-Conquer Recurrences, Baby Version

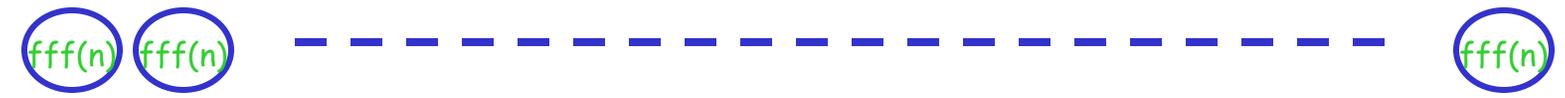
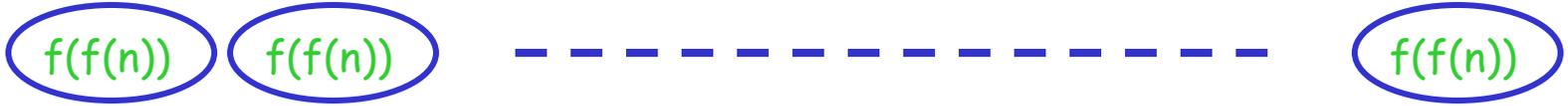
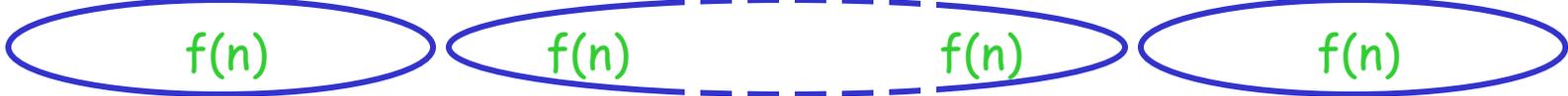
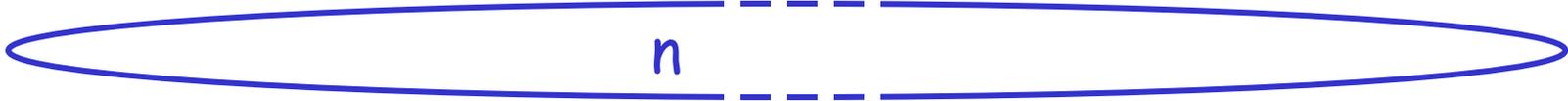
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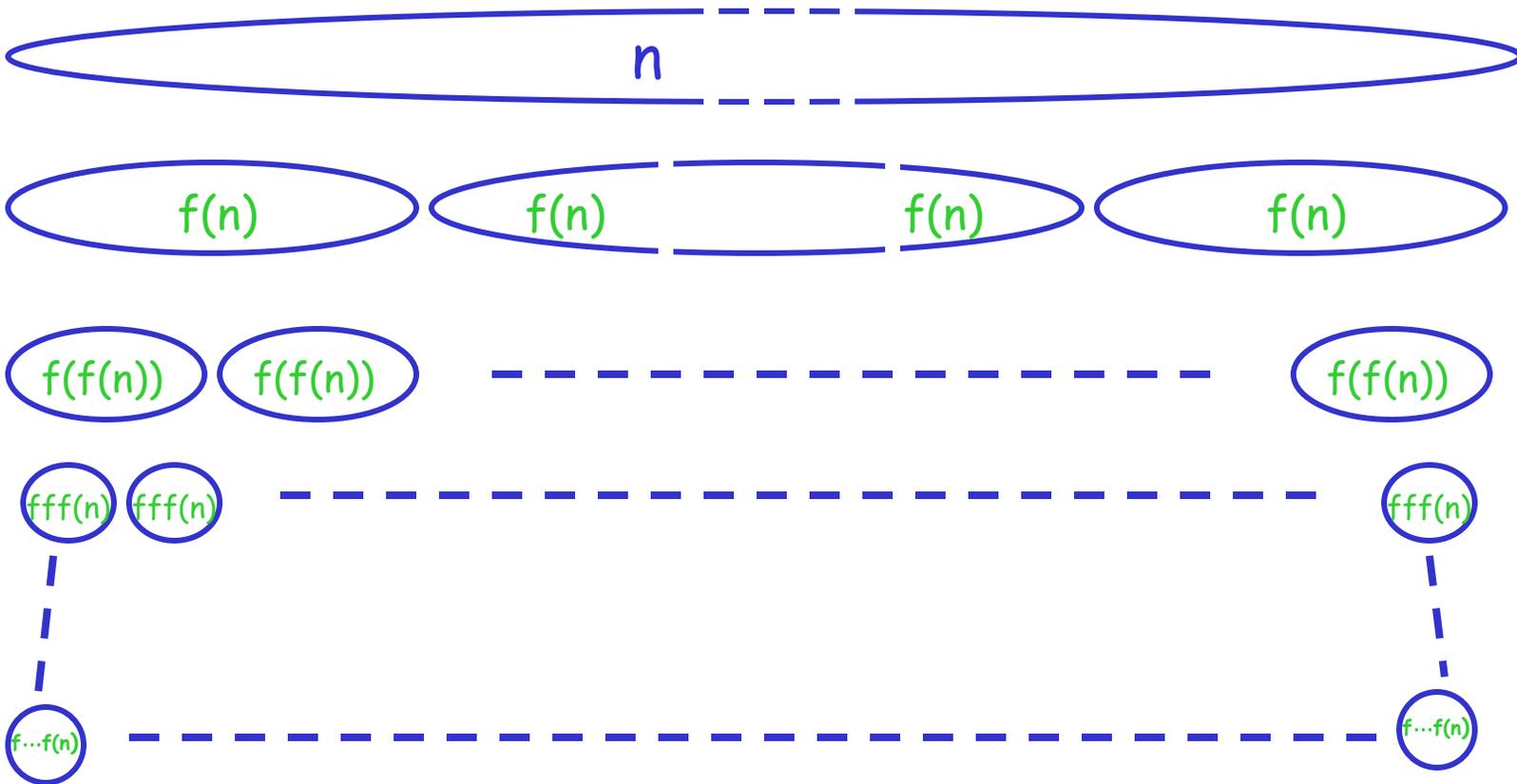
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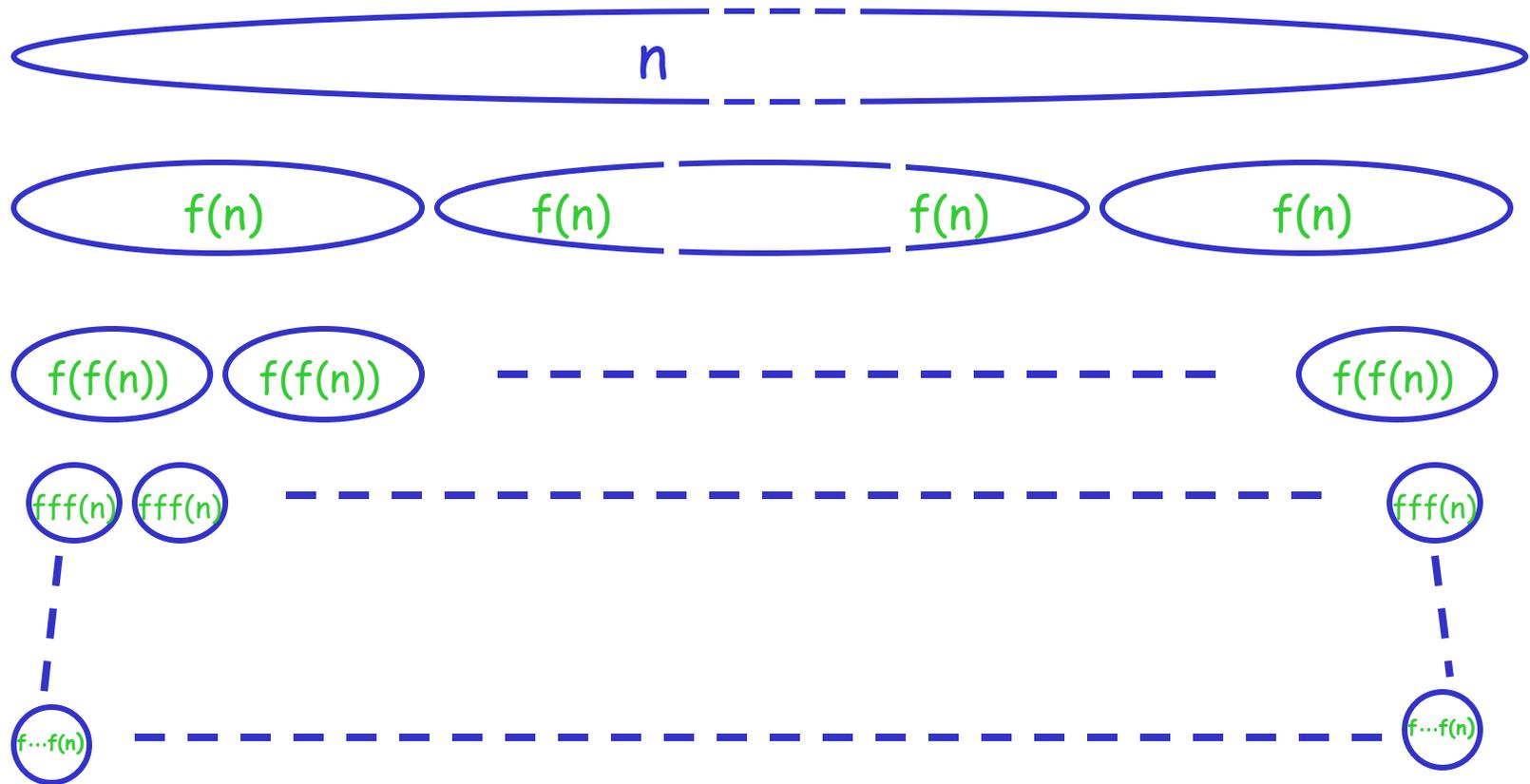
(  $f$  needs to satisfy contraction condition  $f(n) < n$  for  $n > 1$ .)





Recurrence:

$$X(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ a \cdot n + \frac{n}{f(n)} \cdot X(f(n)) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$



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Solution:  $X(n) \leq a \cdot n \cdot f^*(n)$

$$f^*(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ 1 + f^*(f(n)) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

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- Properties:
- 1)  $f^*(f(n)) = f^*(n) - 1$
  - 2)  $f$  a "nice" compaction  
 $\Rightarrow f^*$  a "nice" compaction and  
 $f^*$  "much smaller" than  $f$

## Examples for $f^*$ :

$f(n)$	$f^*(n)$
$n-1$	$n-1$
$n-2$	$n/2$
$n-c$	$n/c$
$n/2$	$\log_2 n$
$n/c$	$\log_c n$
$\sqrt{n}$	$\log \log n$
$\log n$	$\log^* n$

## Partial sum problem in the semi-group setting

Data:  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \in \text{"Semigroup"} (G, +)$

Query:  $i, j$       Answer:  $A_i + A_{i+1} + \dots + A_j$   
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$$S_0(n) = \binom{n+1}{2}$$

Example semi-groups  $(G,+)$  :

$(\mathbb{R}, \max)$

$(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{componentwise-max})$

$(d \times d \text{ matrices, mult})$

Claim:  $S_1(n) =$

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"1-op-structure"

case  $n=1$  : trivial

case  $n \geq 2$  : use recursive construction

A

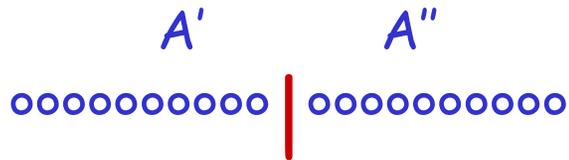
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A  
oooooooooooooooooooooooo

partition A-sequence into  
2 subsequences A' and A''  
of length  $n/2$  each

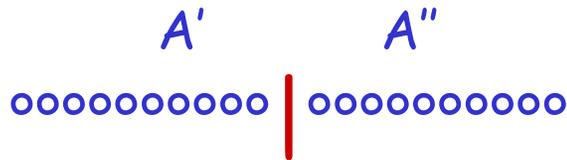


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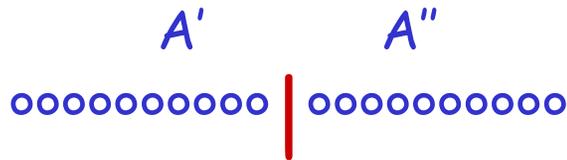
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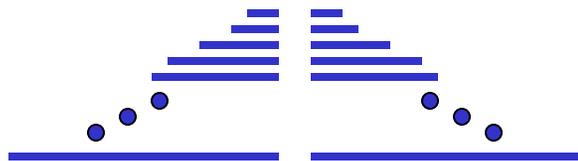
store each suffix-sum of  $A'$   
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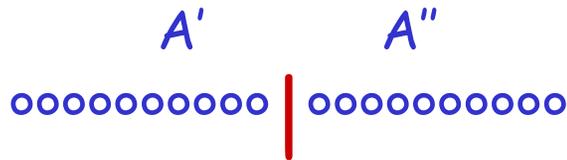


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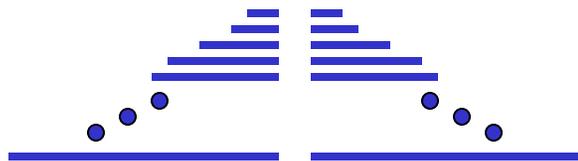




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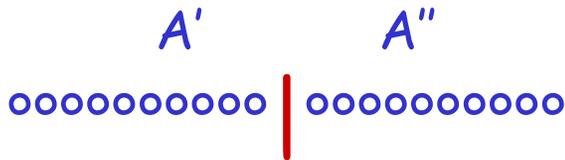
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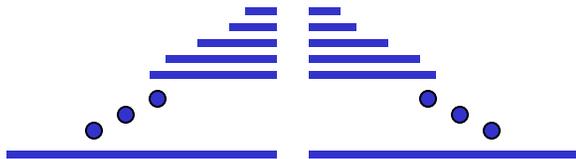
recursively store a  
1-op-structure for  $A'$  and a  
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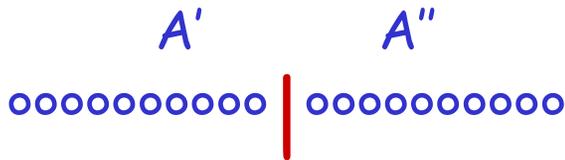
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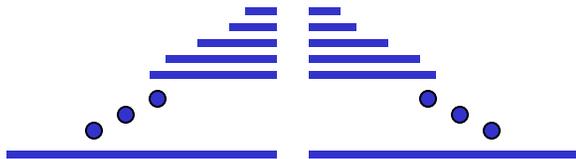
either return (suffix-sum)+(prefix-sum)  
or use one of the recursive structures



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store each suffix-sum of  $A'$   
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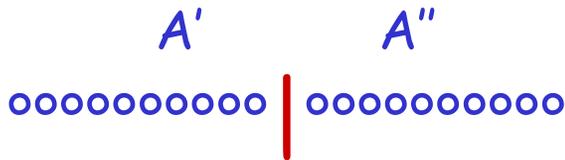


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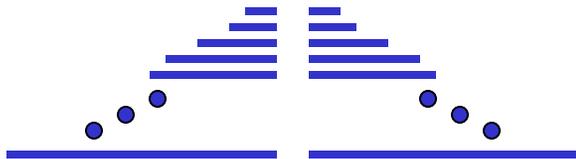
$$S_1(n) \leq n + \frac{n}{(n/2)} S_1(n/2)$$



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$$S_1(n) \leq n + \frac{n}{(n/2)} S_1(n/2)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_1(n) \leq n \cdot (n/2)^* = n \log_2 n$$

$$S_3(n) = ?$$

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"3-op-structure"

case  $n \leq 4$  : trivial

case  $n \geq 5$  : use recursive construction

A



A

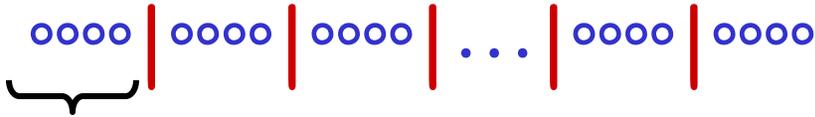


partition A-sequence into  
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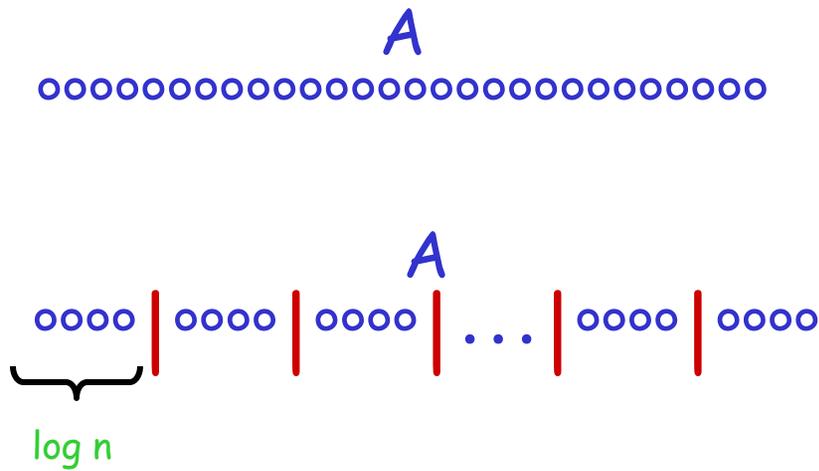


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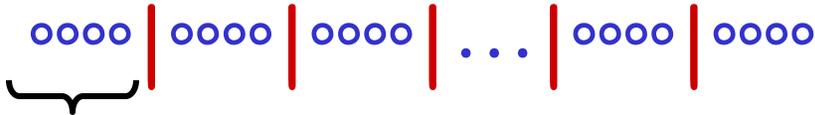
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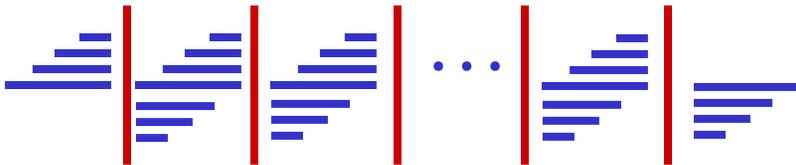
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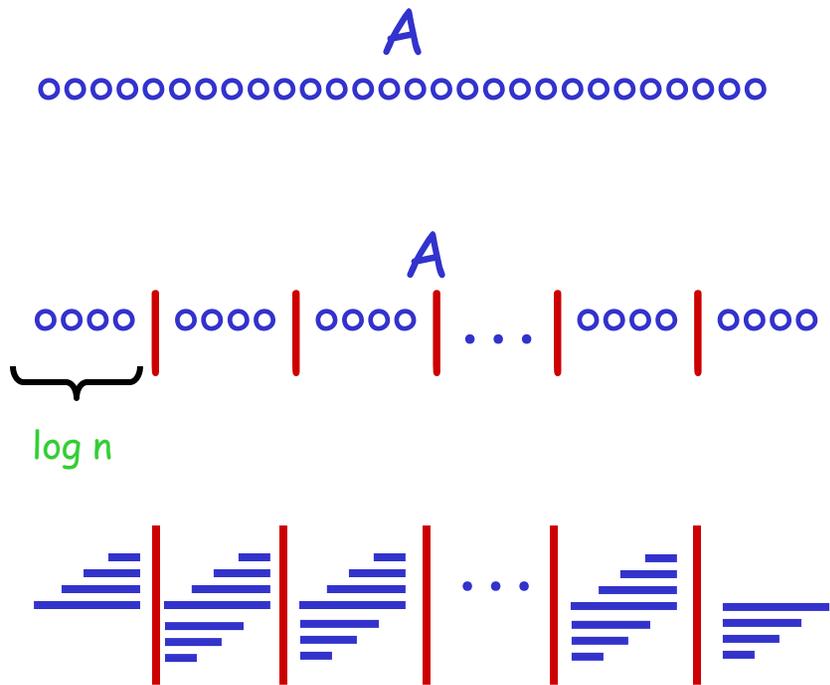
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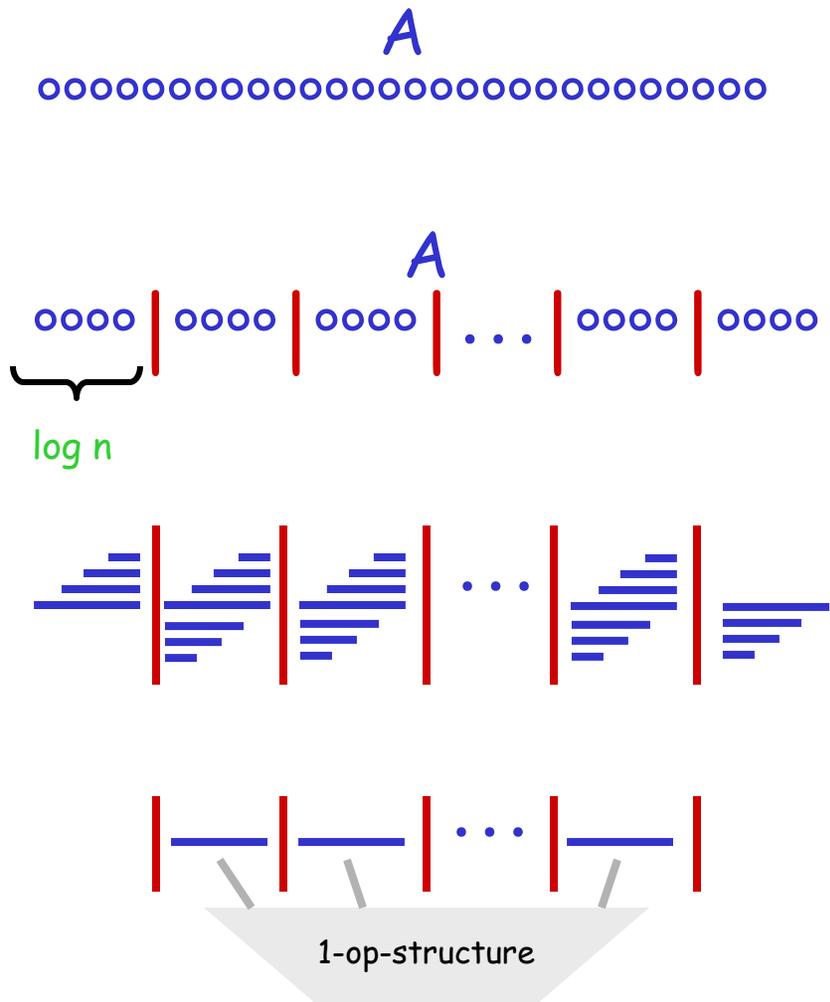




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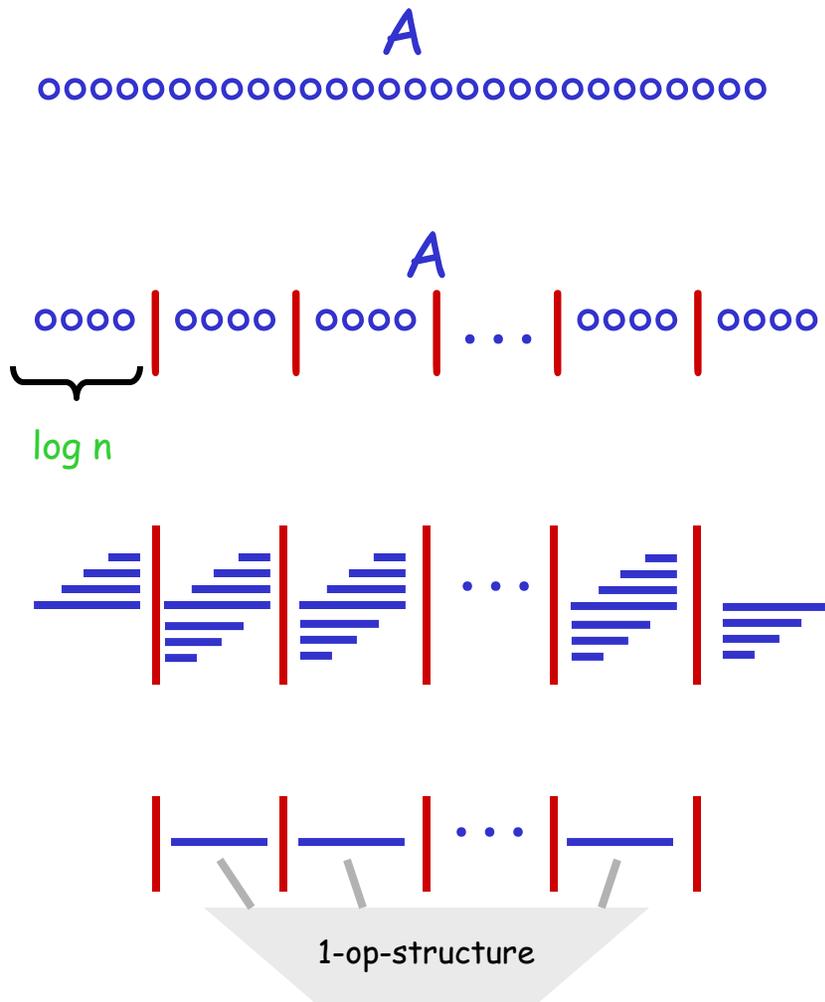
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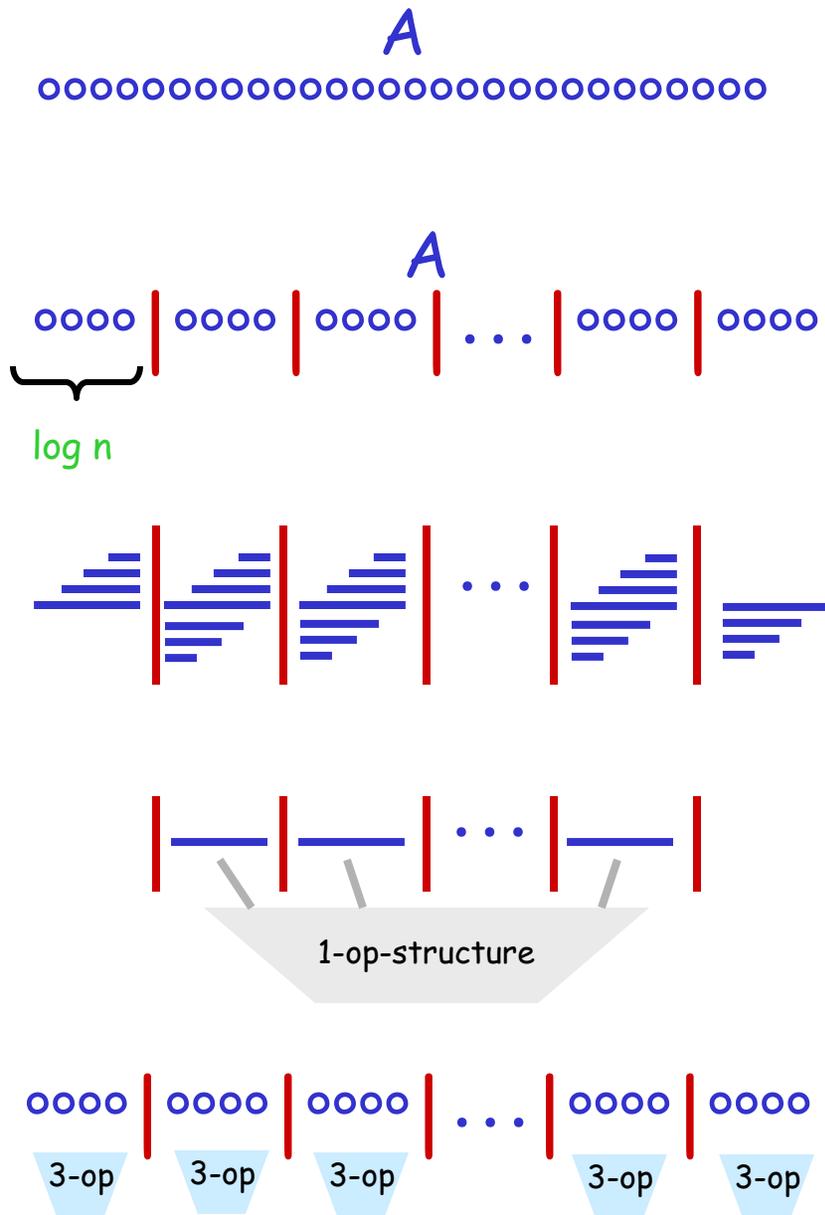


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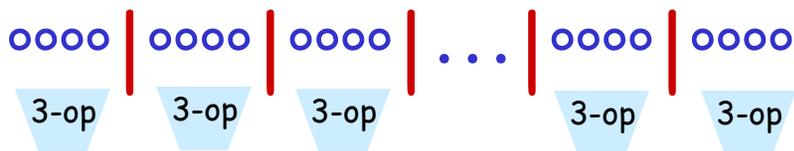
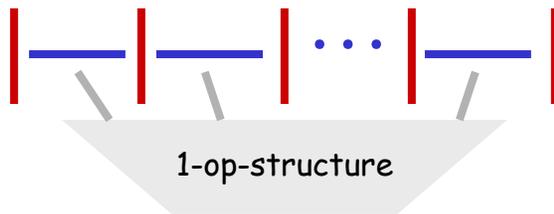
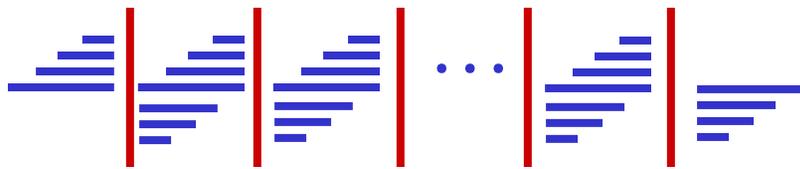
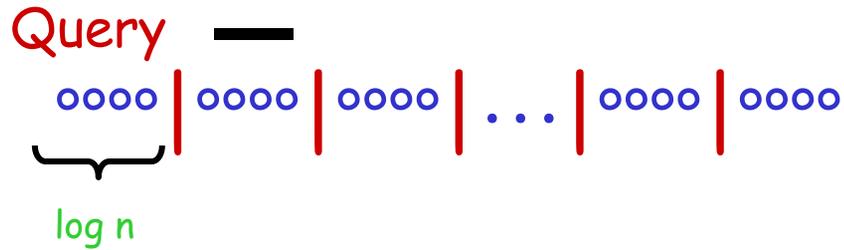


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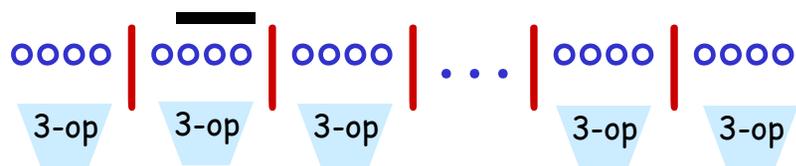
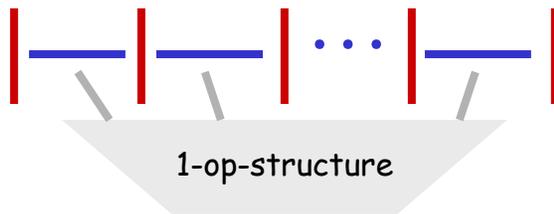
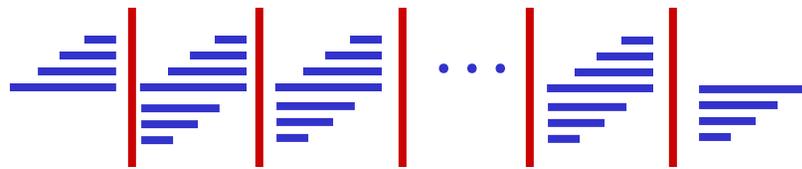
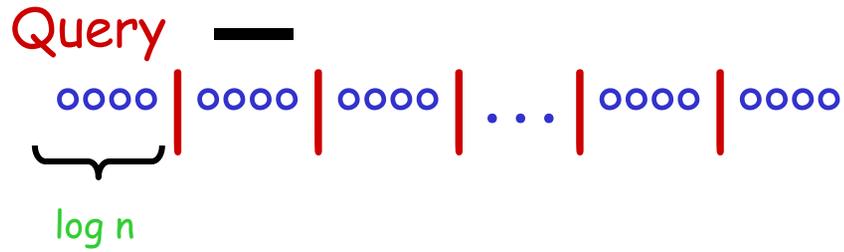
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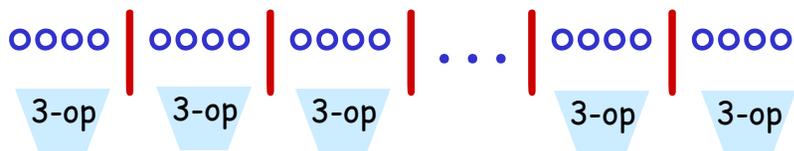
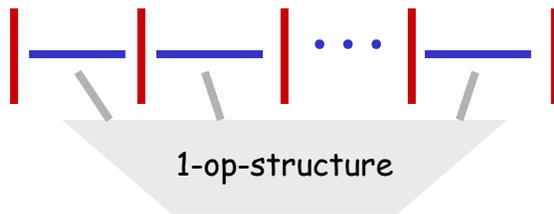
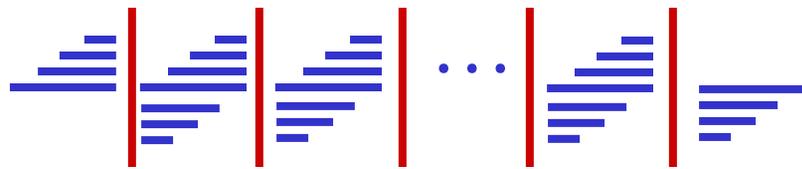
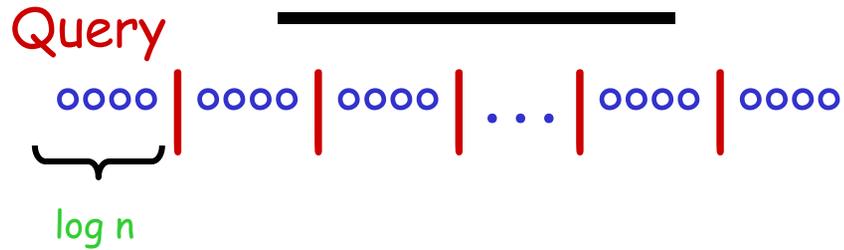
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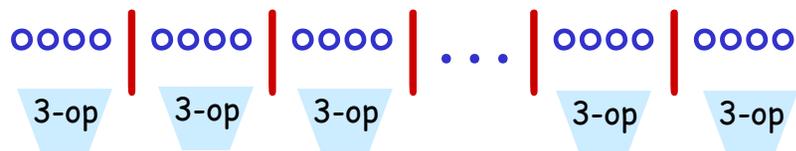
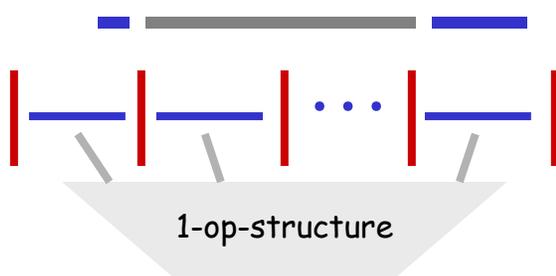
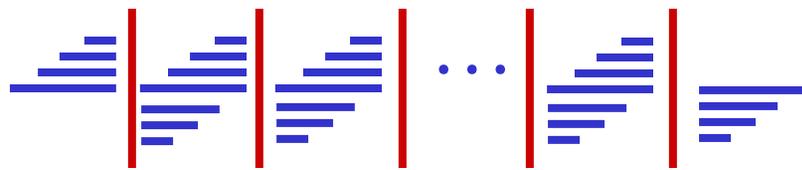
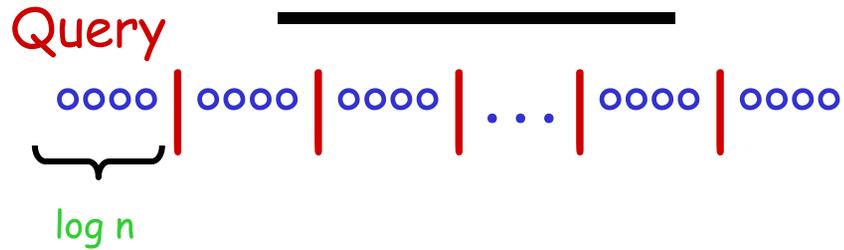
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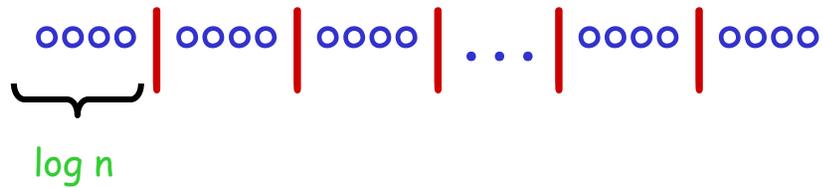
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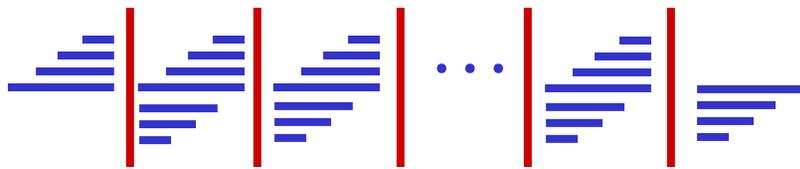
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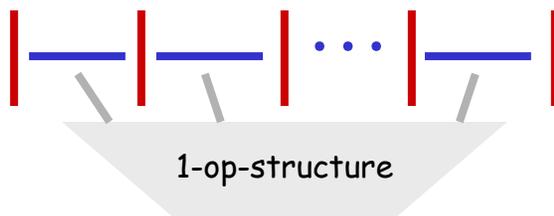
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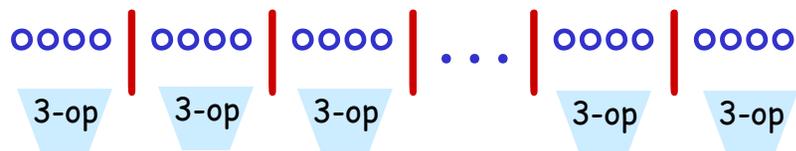
store all prefix- and all suffix-sums within each subsequence



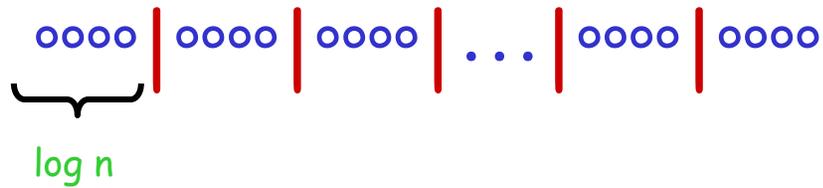
build a 1-op-structure for the  $n/\log n$  subsequence-sums



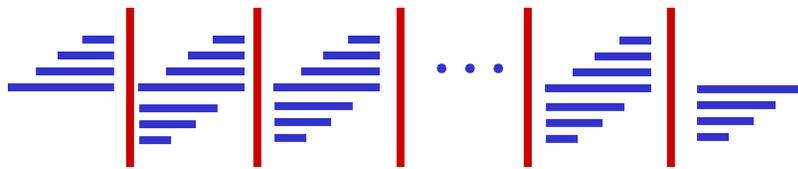
recursively build a 3-op-structure for each of the  $n/\log n$  subsequences



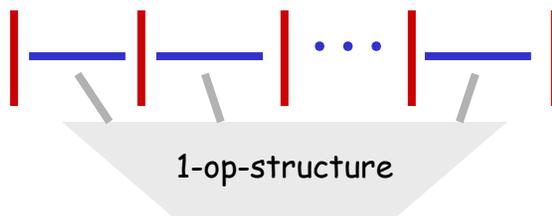
$$S_3(n) \leq 2n + S_1\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right) + \frac{n}{\log n} \cdot S_3(\log n)$$



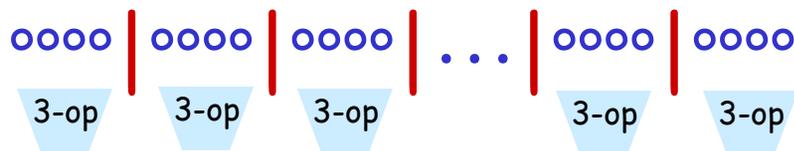
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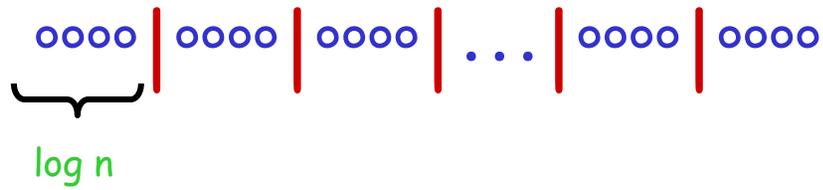
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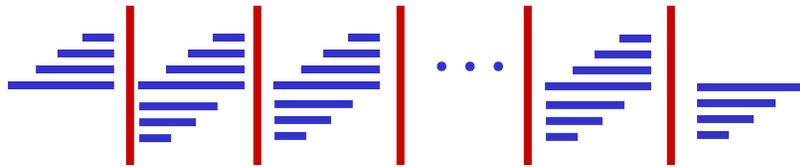
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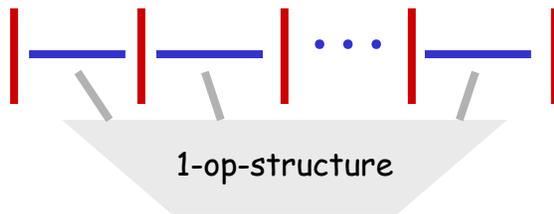
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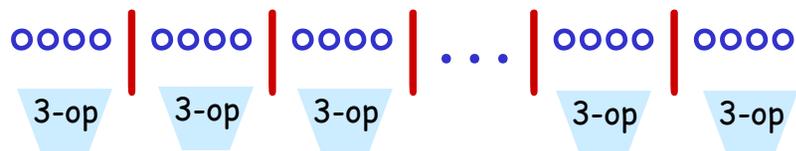
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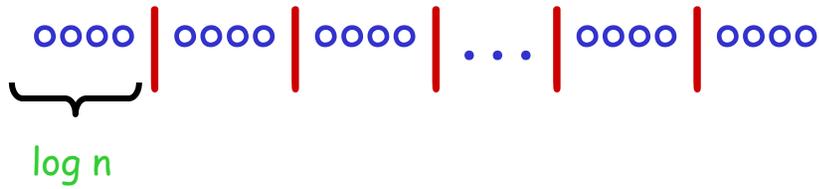
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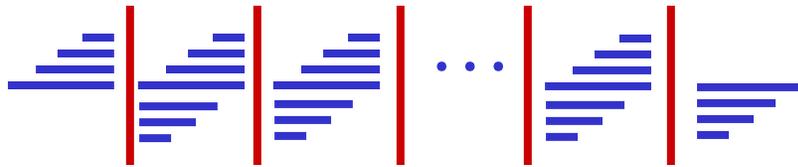
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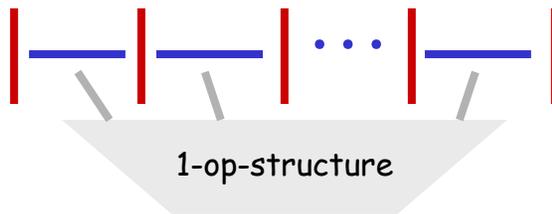
$$S_3(n) \leq 2n + \underbrace{S_1\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right)}_{\leq n} + \frac{n}{\log n} \cdot S_3(\log n) \leq 3n + \frac{n}{\log n} \cdot S_3(\log n)$$



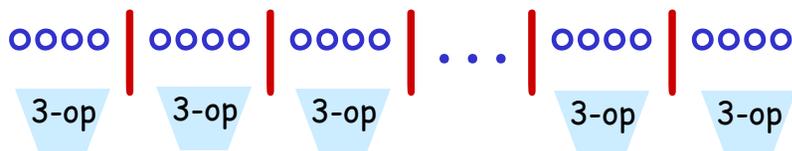
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build a 1-op-structure for the  $n/\log n$  subsequence-sums



recursively build a 3-op-structure for each of the  $n/\log n$  subsequences



$$S_3(n) \leq 2n + \underbrace{S_1\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right)}_{\leq n} + \frac{n}{\log n} \cdot S_3(\log n) \leq 3n + \frac{n}{\log n} \cdot S_3(\log n)$$

$\Rightarrow S_3(n) \leq 3n \log^* n$

$$S_5(n) = ? \quad S_7(n) = ? \quad S_9(n) = ?$$

$$S_{2k+1}(n) = ?$$

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**Assume:**  $S_{2k-1}(n) \leq (2k-1) \cdot n \cdot f(n)$

realized by  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure

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**Assume:**  $S_{2k-1}(n) \leq (2k-1) \cdot n \cdot f(n)$

realized by  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure

**Show:**  $S_{2k+1}(n) \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot f^*(n)$

"(2k+1)-op-structure"

case  $n \leq 2k+2$  : trivial

case  $n \geq 2k+3$  : use recursive construction

A



A



partition A-sequence into  
 $n/f(n)$  subsequences of length  
 $\leq f(n)$  each

A

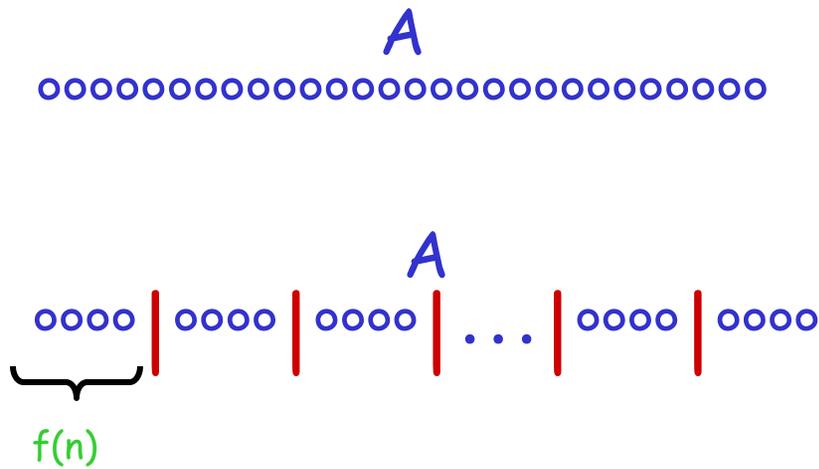
oo

A

oooo | oooo | oooo | ... | oooo | oooo

f(n)

partition A-sequence into  $n/f(n)$  subsequences of length  $\leq f(n)$  each



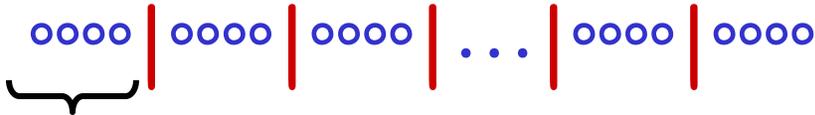
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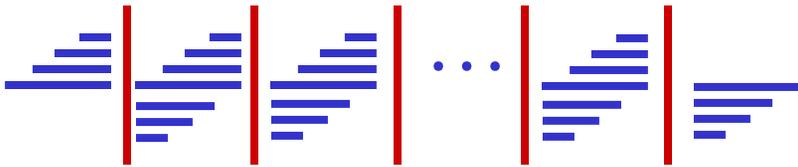
A



A

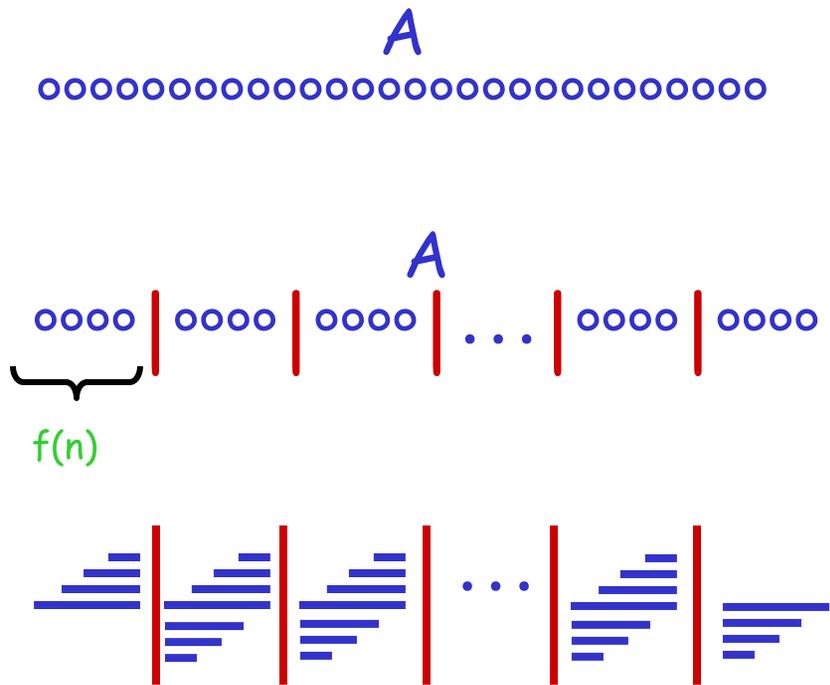


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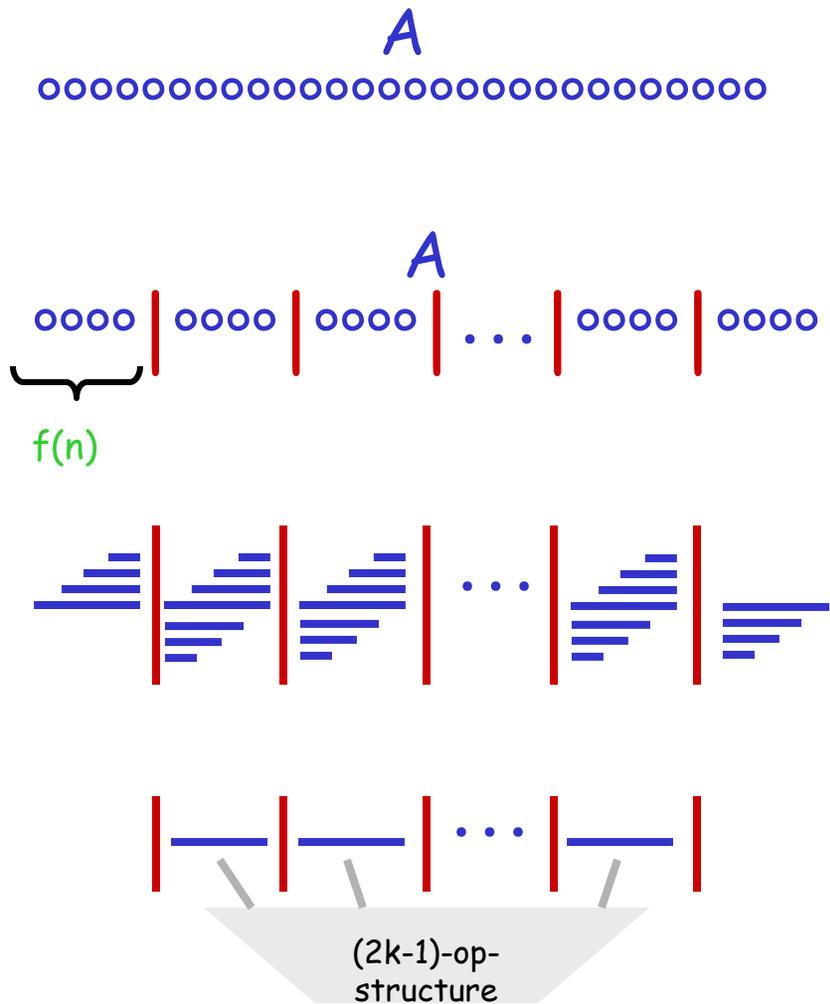
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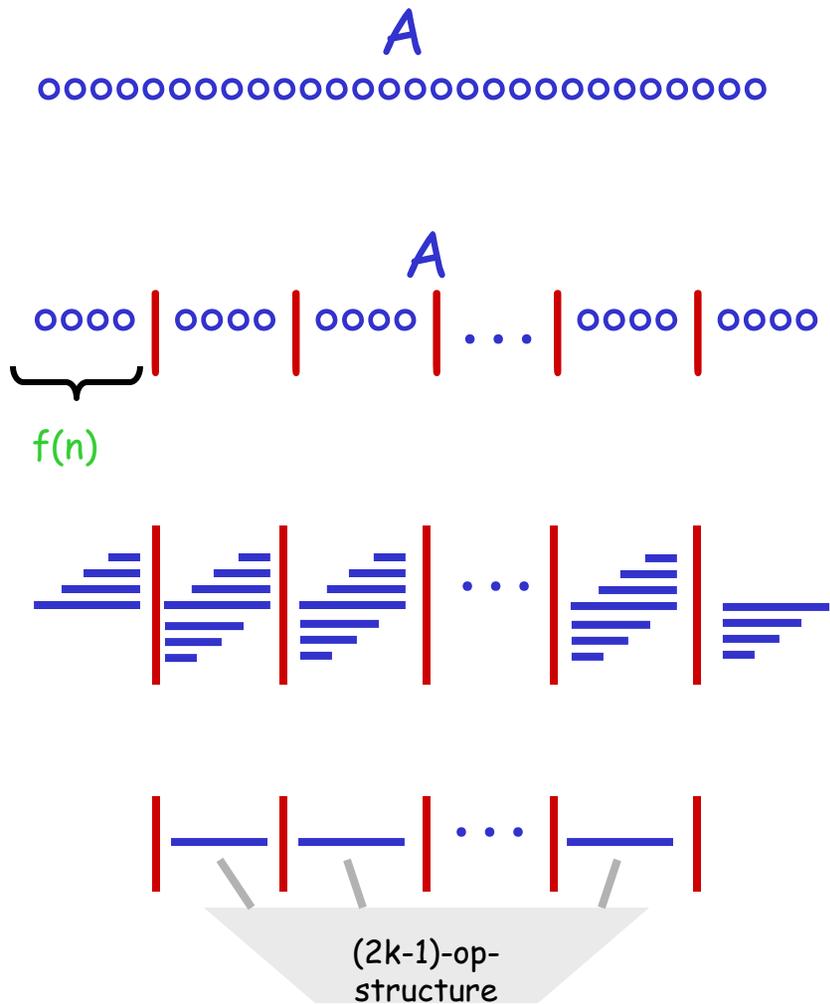
build a  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure for the  $n/f(n)$  subsequence-sums



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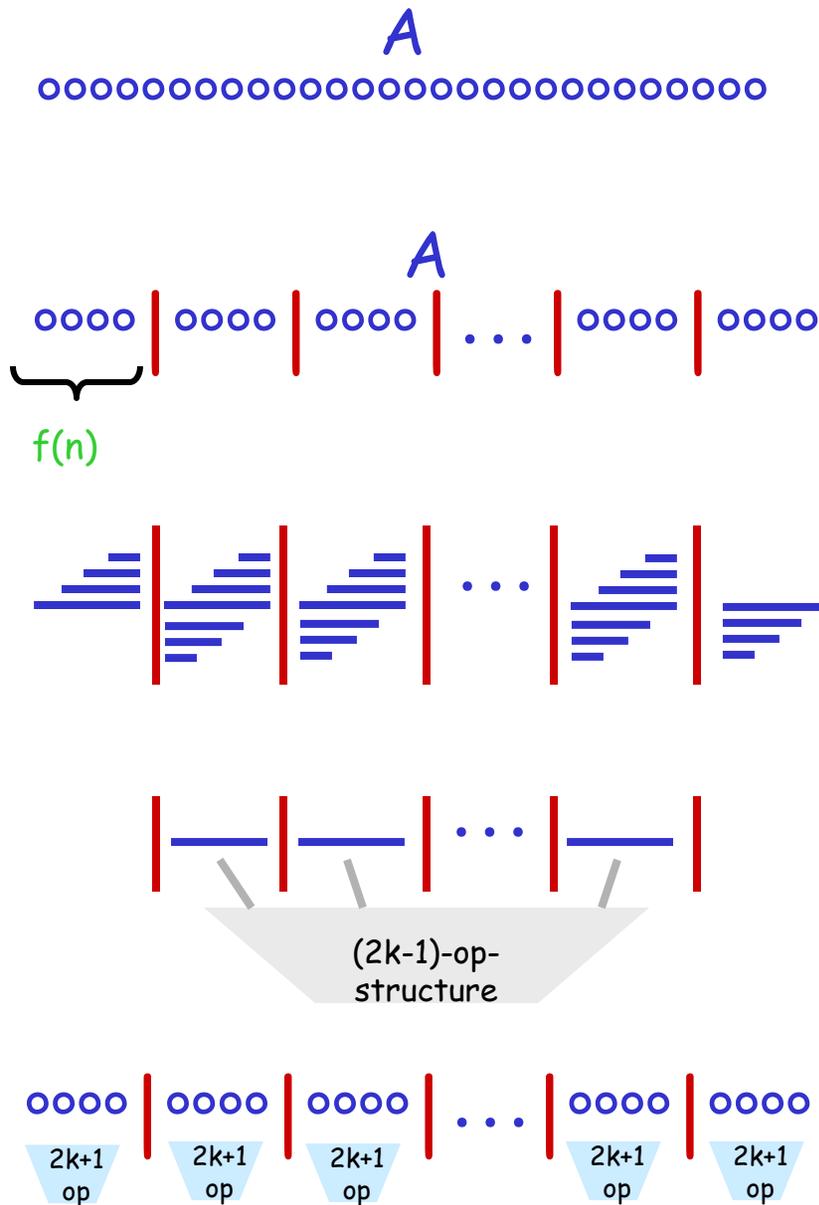


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recursively build a  $(2k+1)$ -op-structure for each of the  $n/f(n)$  subsequences

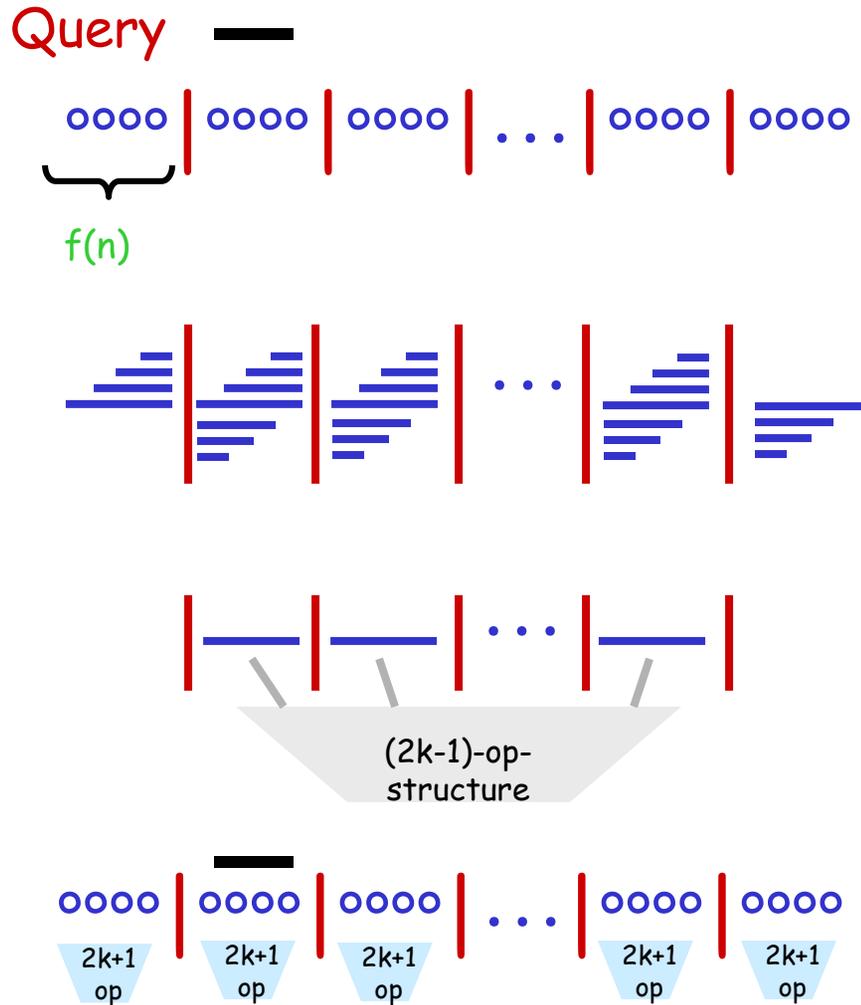


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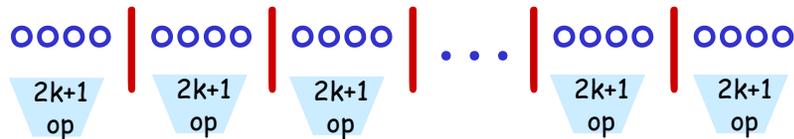
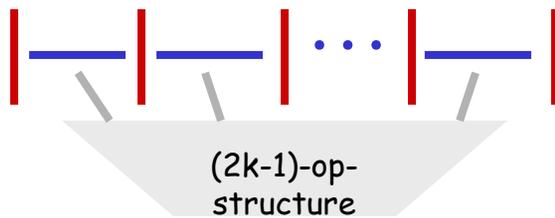
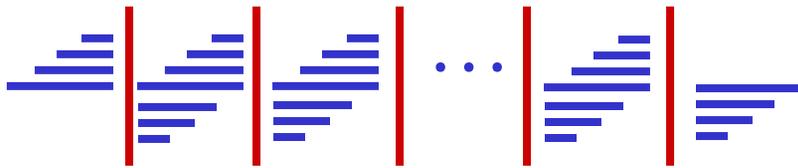
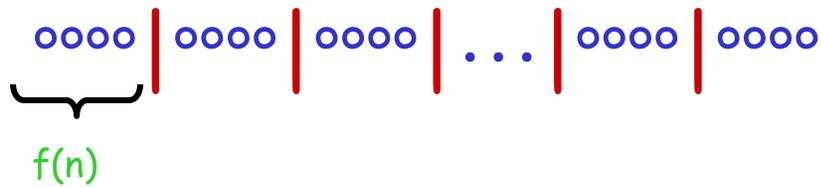
recursively build a  $(2k+1)$ -op-structure for each of the  $n/f(n)$  subsequences

Query answering:

either use one of the recursive  $(2k+1)$ -op-structures

or return (suffix-sum)+(answer from  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure)+(prefix-sum)

## Query



store all prefix- and all suffix-sums within each subsequence

build a  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure for the  $n/f(n)$  subsequence-sums

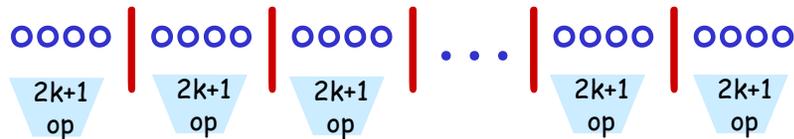
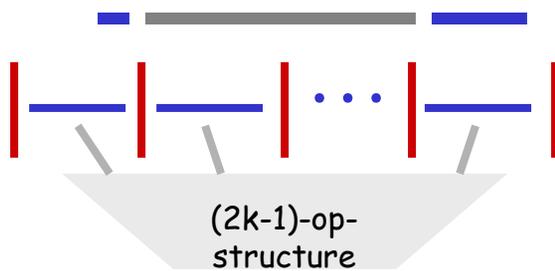
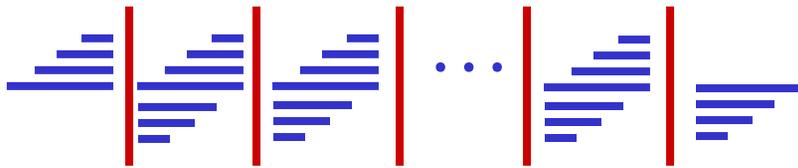
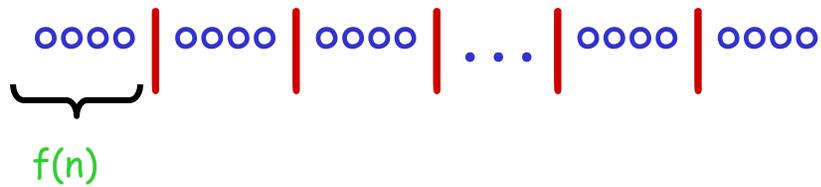
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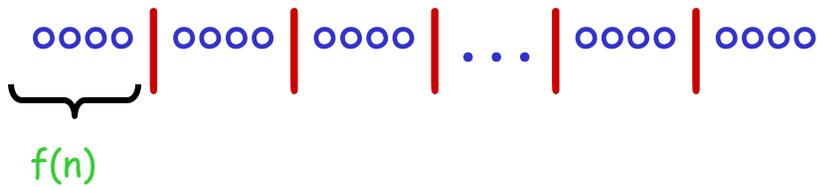
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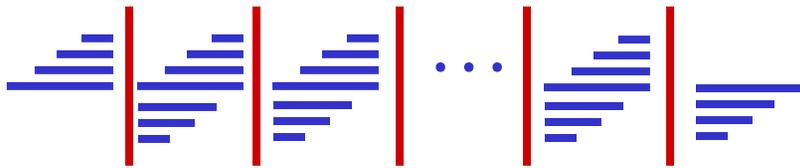
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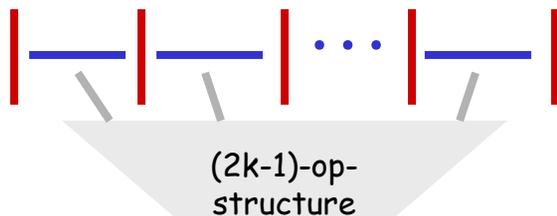
or return  $(\text{suffix-sum}) + (\text{answer from } (2k-1)\text{-op-structure}) + (\text{prefix-sum})$



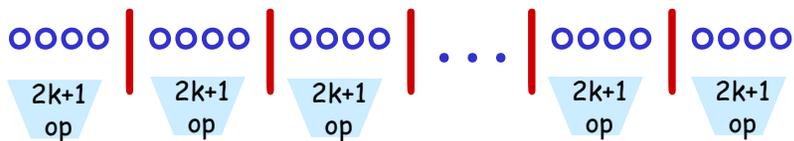
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build a  $(2k-1)$ -op-structure for the  $n/f(n)$  subsequence-sums



recursively build a  $(2k+1)$ -op-structure for each of the  $n/f(n)$  subsequences



$$S_{2k+1}(n) \leq 2n + S_{2k-1}\left(\frac{n}{f(n)}\right) + \frac{n}{f(n)} \cdot S_{2k+1}(f(n))$$

$$S_{2k+1}(n) \leq 2n + \underbrace{S_{2k-1}\left(\frac{n}{f(n)}\right)} + \frac{n}{f(n)} \cdot S_{2k+1}(f(n))$$

$$\leq (2k-1) \frac{n}{f(n)} \cdot f\left(\frac{n}{f(n)}\right)$$

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$$S_{2k+1}(n) \leq (2k+1) \cdot n + \frac{n}{f(n)} \cdot S_{2k+1}(f(n))$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{2k+1}(n) \leq (2k+1)n f^*(n)$$

$$k=1 : S_1(n) \leq n \log n$$

$$\text{For all } k > 1 : S_{2k-1}(n) \leq (2k-1) \cdot n \cdot f(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{2k+1}(n) \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot f^*(n)$$

$$k=1 : S_1(n) \leq n \log n$$

$$\text{For all } k > 1 : S_{2^{k-1}}(n) \leq (2k-1) \cdot n \cdot f(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{2^{k+1}}(n) \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot f^*(n)$$

$$\text{For all } k \geq 1 : S_{2^{k+1}} \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot \log^{\overbrace{** \dots *}}^{k \text{ times}}(n)$$

For all  $k \geq 1$  :  $S_{2k+1} \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot \log^{\overbrace{**\dots*}^{k \text{ times}}}(n)$

$$\text{For all } k \geq 1 : \quad S_{2k+1} \leq (2k+1) \cdot n \cdot \log^{\overbrace{** \dots *}}^{k \text{ times}}(n)$$

$$\text{Define } \alpha(n) = \min\{ k \mid \log^{\overbrace{** \dots *}}^{k \text{ times}}(n) \leq 2 \}$$

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$$\text{For } k = \alpha(n) : \quad S_{2\alpha(n)+1} \leq (2\alpha(n)+1) \cdot n \cdot 2 \\ = O(\alpha(n) \cdot n)$$

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For  $O(\alpha(n))$  query cost, space  $O(\alpha(n) \cdot n)$  suffices.

**Exercise:**

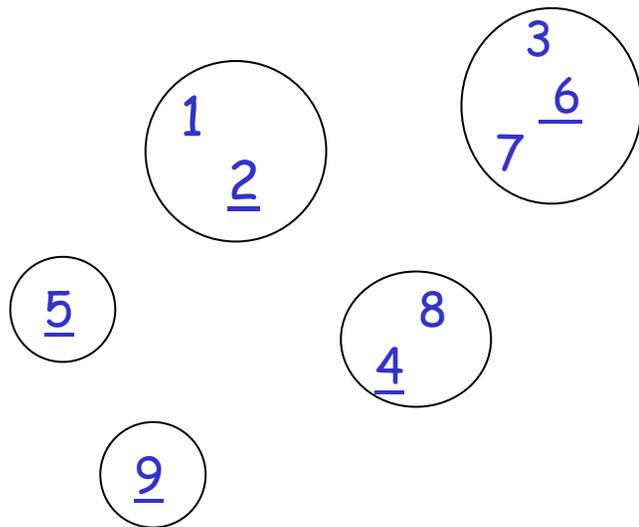
For  $O(\alpha(n))$  query cost, space  $O(n)$  suffices.

Yao; Chazelle, Rosenberg

# Union Find with Path Compressions

# Union Find with Path Compressions

Maintain partition of  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$   
under operations

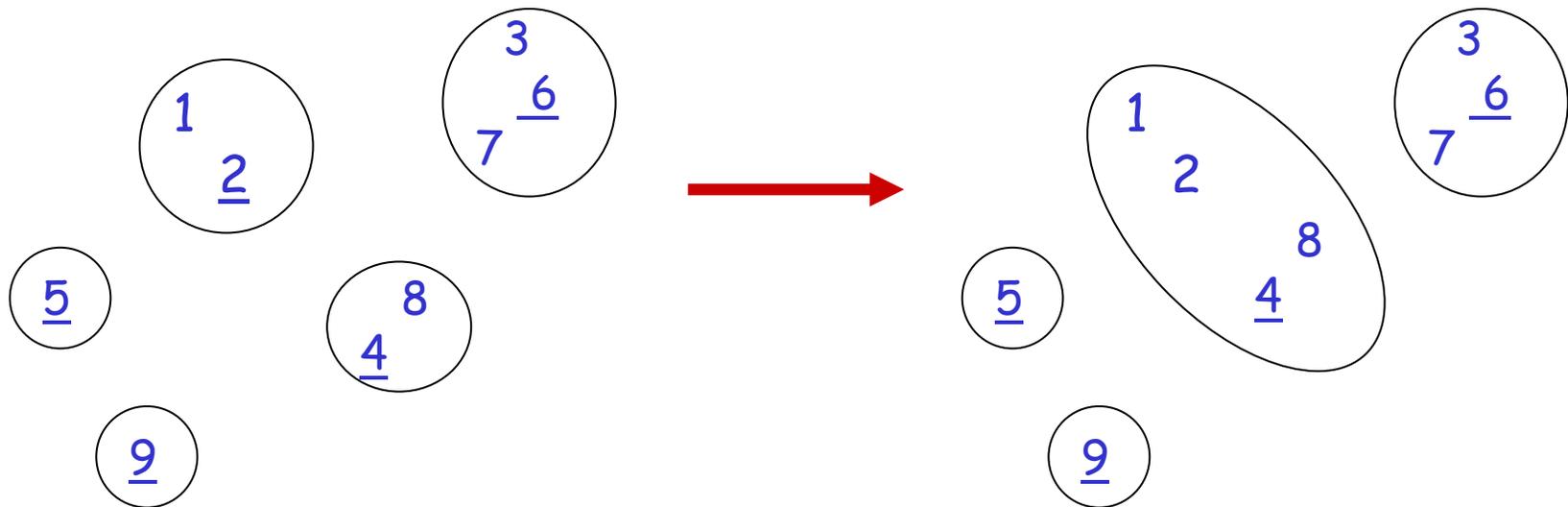


# Union Find with Path Compressions

Maintain partition of  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

under operations

Union(2, 4)

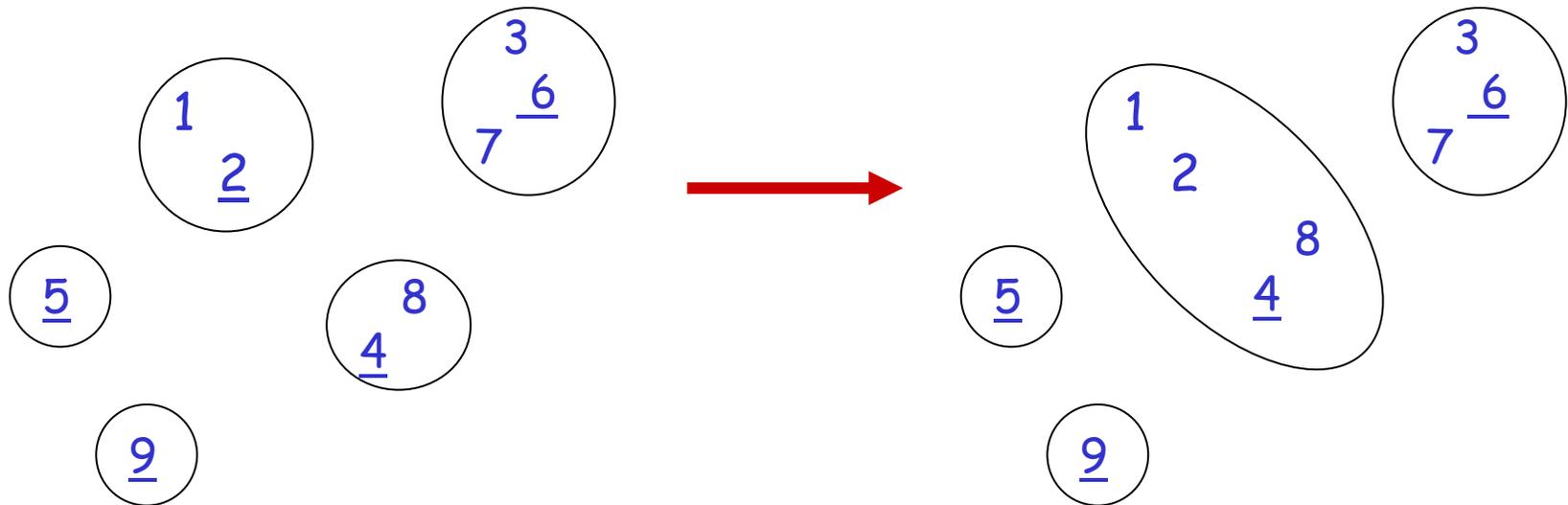


# Union Find with Path Compressions

Maintain partition of  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

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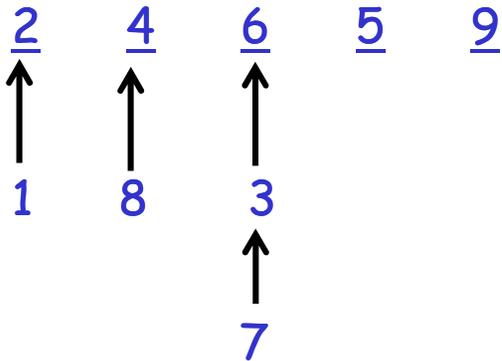
Union(2, 4)



Find(3) = 6 (representative element)

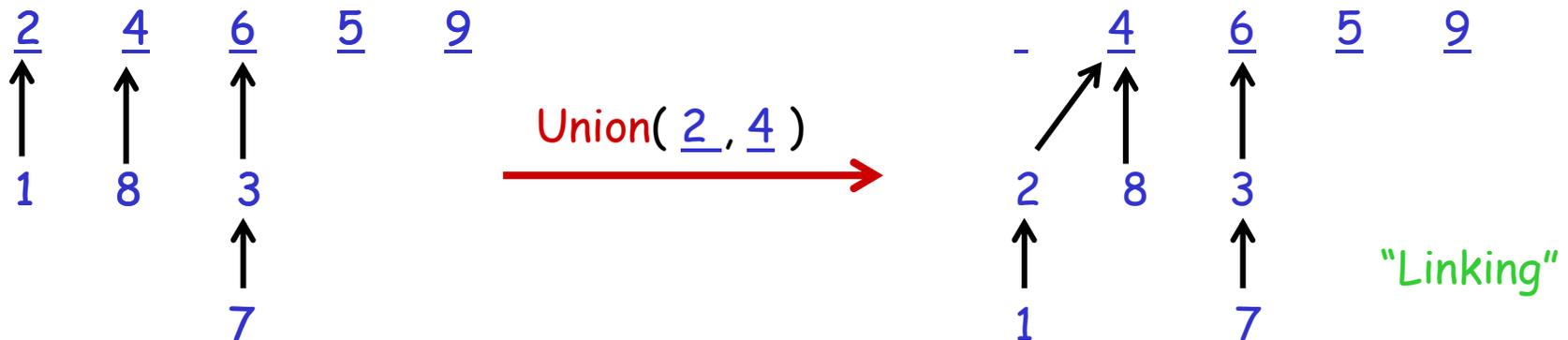
## Implementation

- \* forest  $\mathcal{F}$  of rooted trees with node set  $S$
- \* one tree for each group in current partition
- \* root of tree is representative of the group



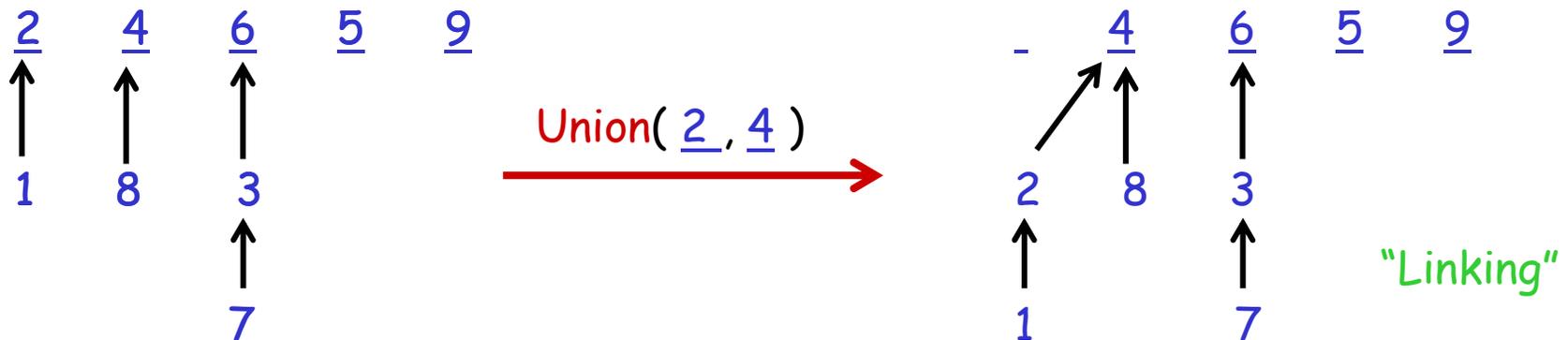
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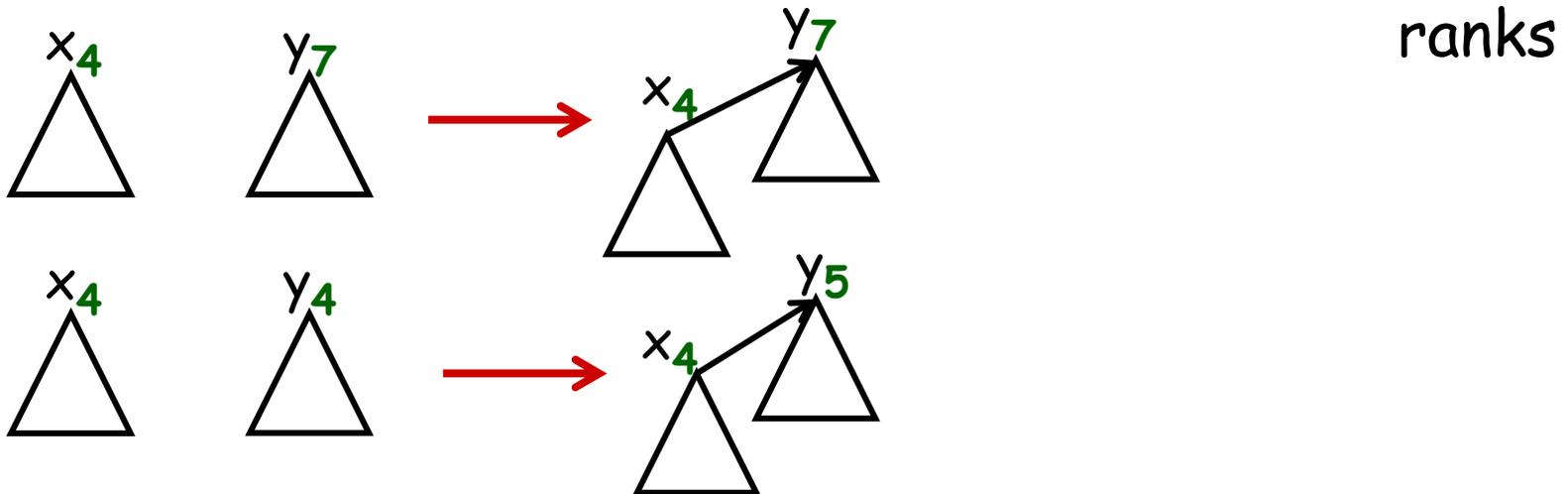


**Find**(  $x$  )      follow path from  $x$  to root

"path following"

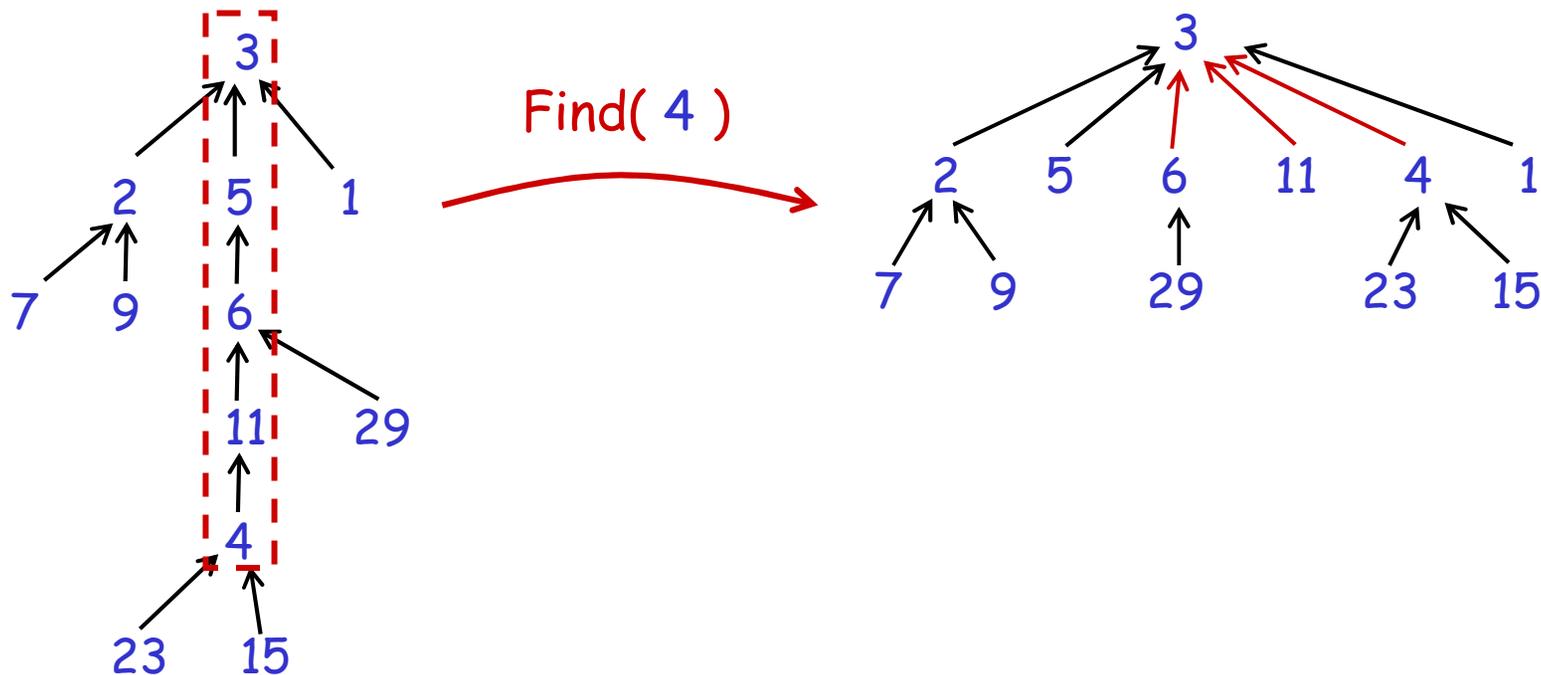
# Heuristic 1: "linking by rank"

- each node  $x$  carries integer  $rk(x)$
- initially  $rk(x) = 0$
- as soon as  $x$  is NOT a root,  $rk(x)$  stays unchanged
- for  $\text{Union}(x, y)$  make node with smaller rank child of the other  
in case of tie, increment one of the ranks



## Heuristic 2: Path compression

when performin a Find( x ) operation make all nodes in the "findpath" children of the root



sequence of **Union** and **Find** operation

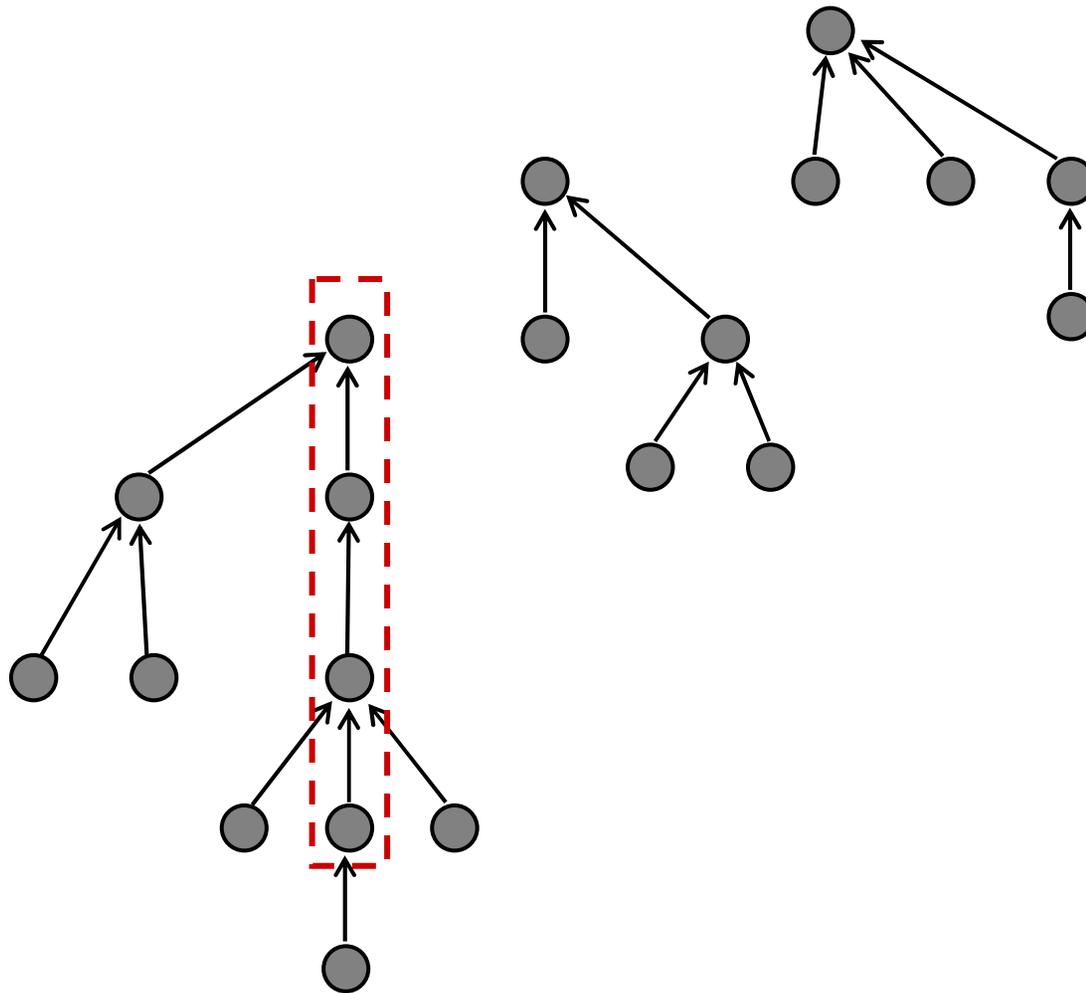
Explicit cost model:

$\text{cost}(op) = \# \text{ times some node gets a new parent}$

Time for **Union**( $x, y$ ) =  $O(1) = O(\text{cost}(\text{Union}(x,y)))$

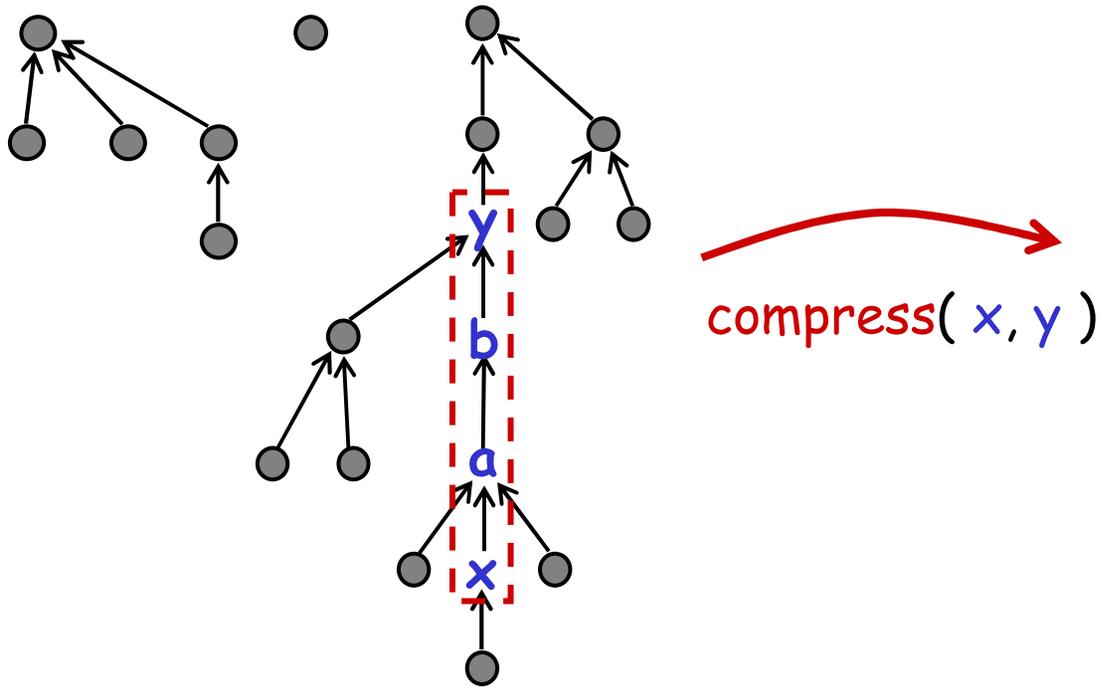
Time for **Find**( $x$ ) =  $O(\# \text{ of nodes on findpath})$   
=  $O(2 + \text{cost}(\text{Find}(x)))$

For analysis assume all **Unions** are performed first, but **Find**-paths are only followed (and compressed) to correct node.

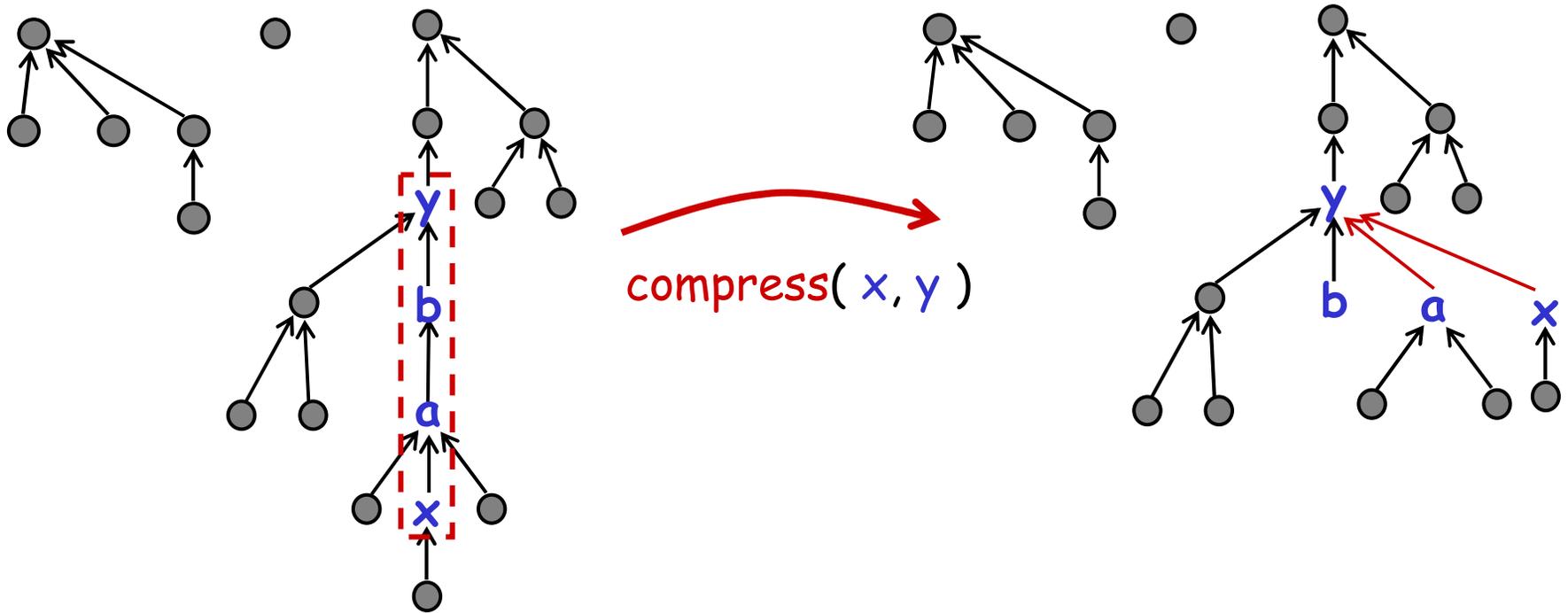




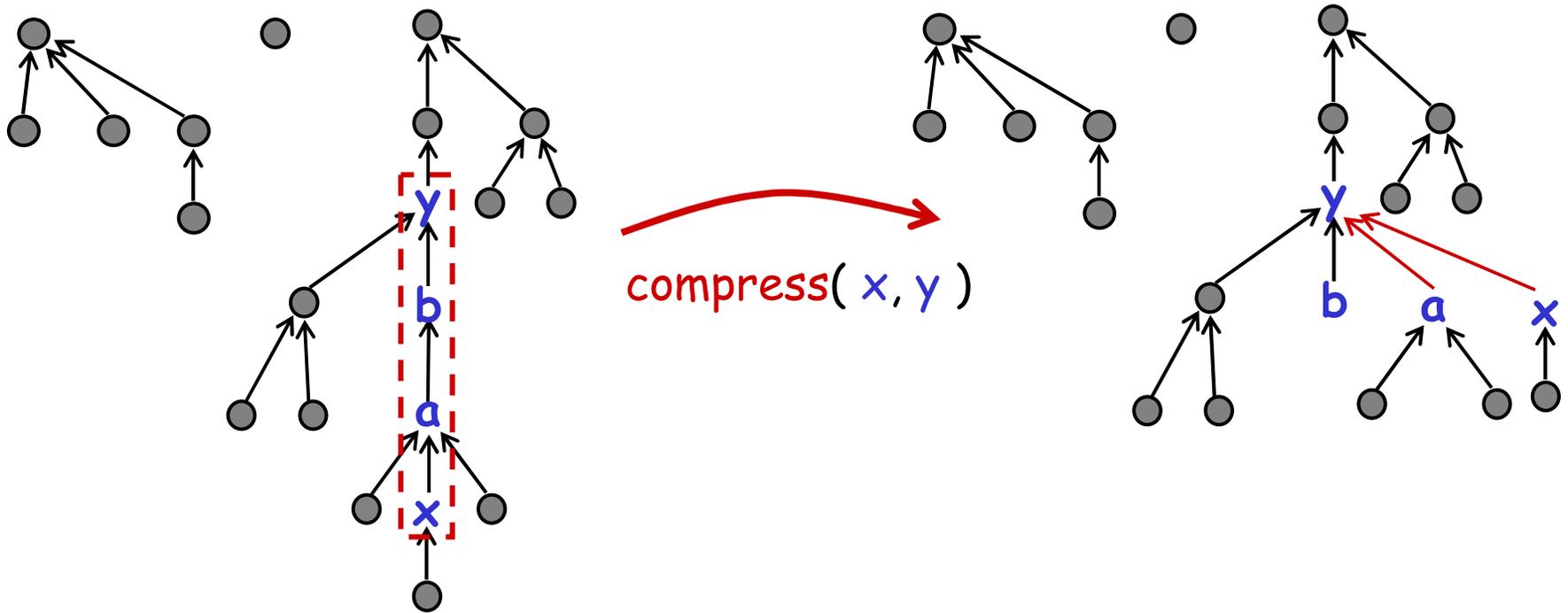
# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$



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# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$



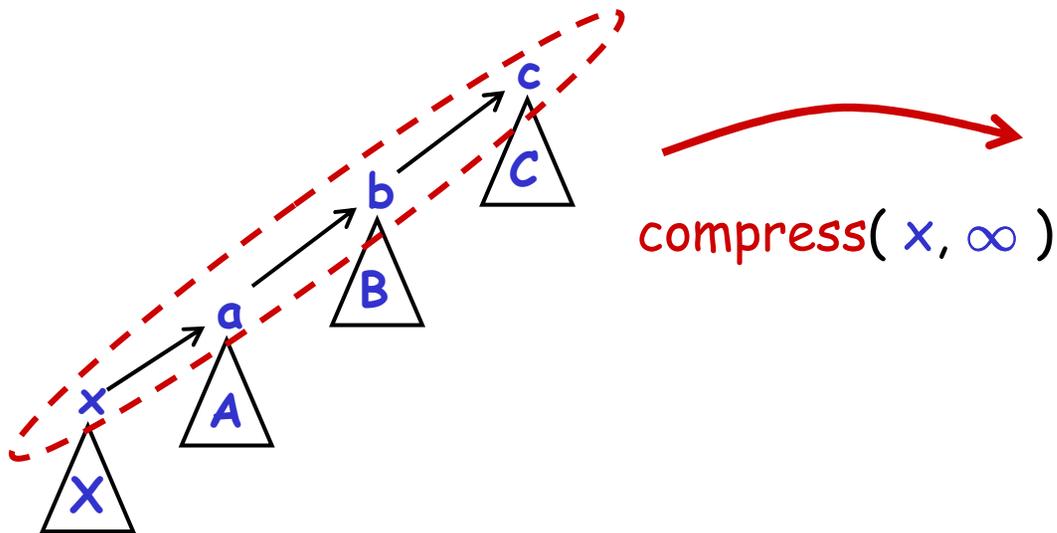
$\text{cost}(\text{compress}(x, y)) = \# \text{ of nodes that get a new parent}$

# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$

"rootpath compress"

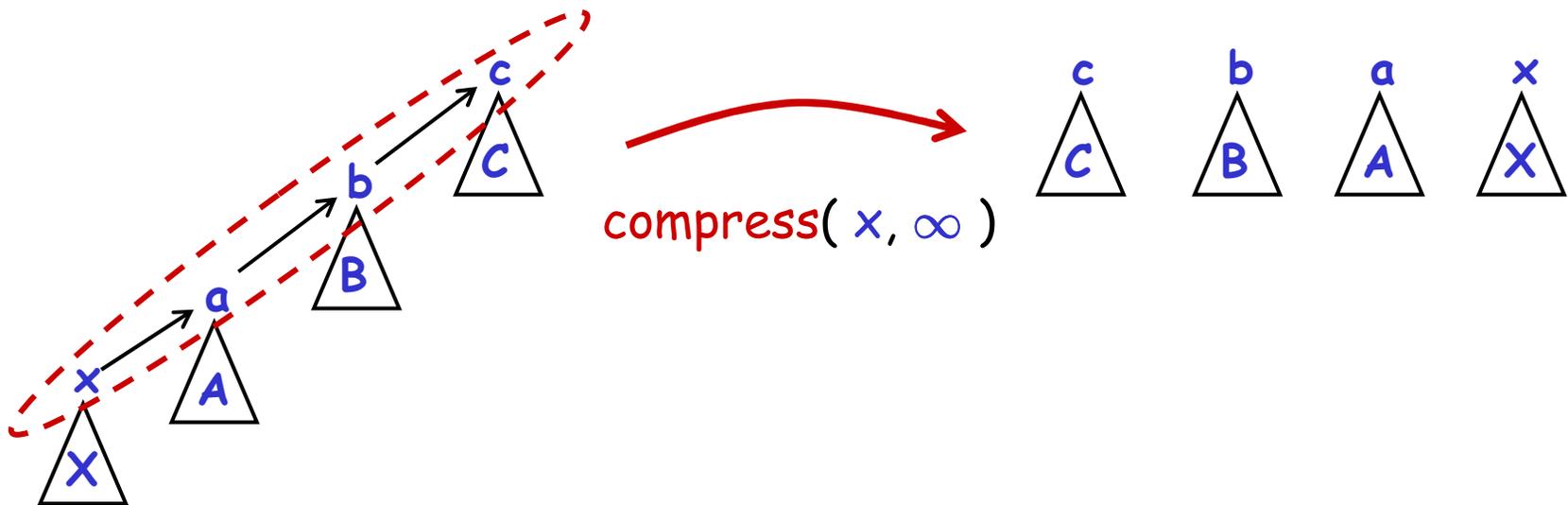
# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$

"rootpath compress"



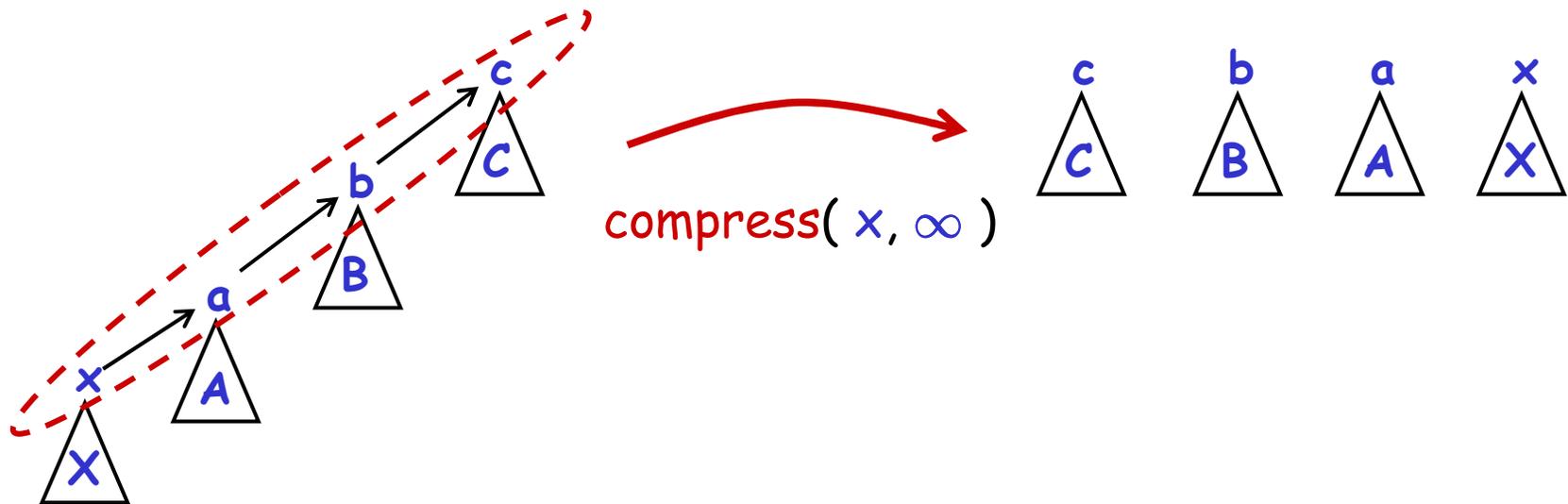
# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$

"rootpath compress"



# General path compression in forest $\mathcal{F}$

"rootpath compress"



$$\begin{aligned} \text{cost}(\text{compress}(x, \infty)) &= \# \text{ of nodes that get a} \\ &\quad \text{new parent} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Problem formulation

$\mathcal{F}$  forest on node set  $X$

$\mathcal{C}$  sequence of compress operations on  $\mathcal{F}$

$|\mathcal{C}|$  = # of true compress operations in  $\mathcal{C}$

(rootpath compresses excluded)

$\text{cost}(\mathcal{C}) = \sum(\text{cost of individual operations})$

## Problem formulation

$\mathcal{F}$  forest on node set  $X$

$\mathcal{C}$  sequence of compress operations on  $\mathcal{F}$

$|\mathcal{C}| = \#$  of true compress operations in  $\mathcal{C}$

(rootpath compresses excluded)

$\text{cost}(\mathcal{C}) = \sum(\text{cost of individual operations})$

How large can  $\text{cost}(\mathcal{C})$  be at most,  
in terms of  $|X|$  and  $|\mathcal{C}|$  ?

**Dissection** of a forest  $\mathcal{F}$  with node set  $X$  :

partition of  $X$  into "top part"  $X_+$   
and "bottom part"  $X_b$

so that top part  $X_+$  is "upwards closed",

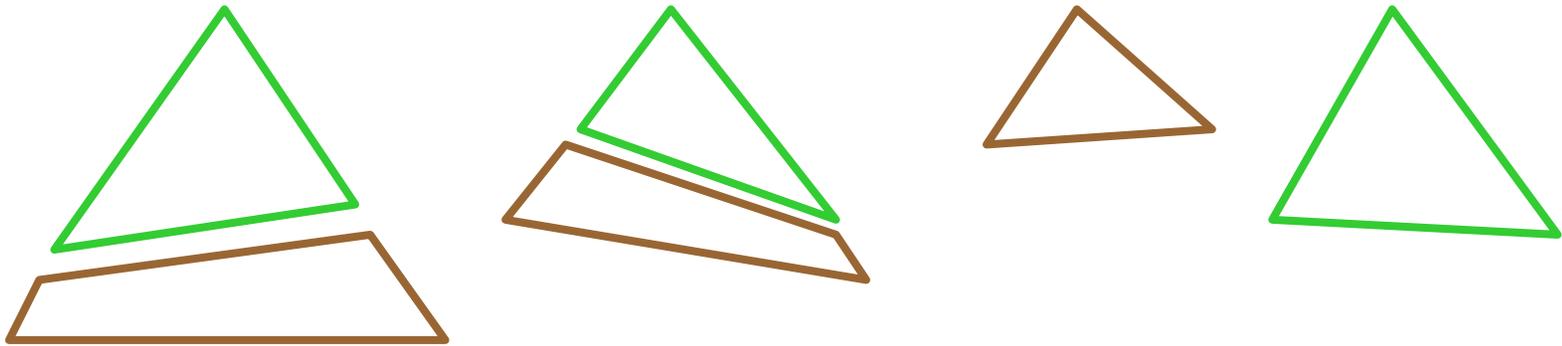
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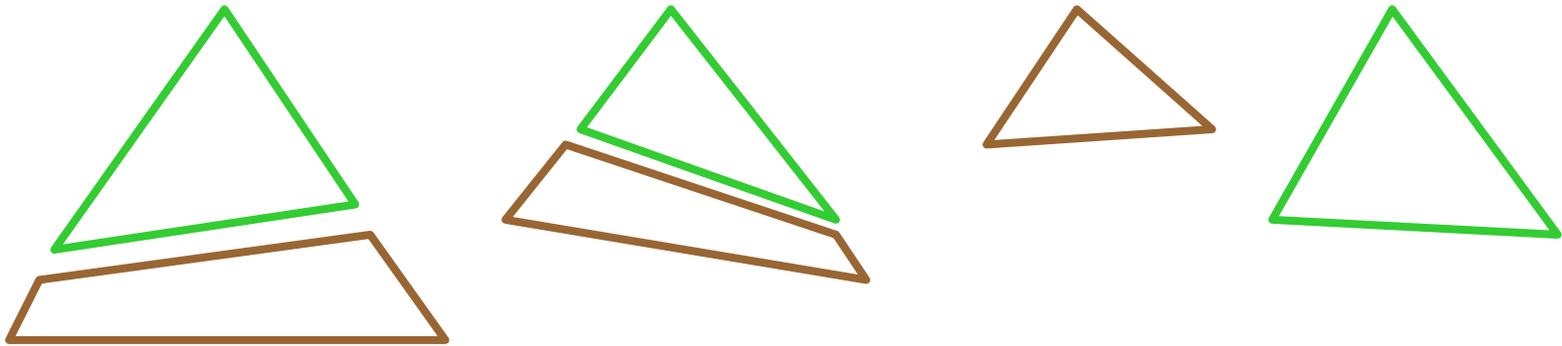


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**Note:**  $X_+, X_b$  dissection for  $\mathcal{F}$   
 $\mathcal{F}'$  obtained from  $\mathcal{F}$  by  
sequence of path compressions }  $\Rightarrow$   $X_+, X_b$  is  
dissection for  $\mathcal{F}'$

## Main Lemma:

$C$  ... sequence of operations on  $\mathcal{F}$  with node set  $X$   
 $X_+$ ,  $X_b$  dissection for  $\mathcal{F}$  inducing subforests  $\mathcal{F}_+$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_b$

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$\Rightarrow \exists$  compression sequences  
 $C_b$  for  $\mathcal{F}_b$  and  $C_+$  for  $\mathcal{F}_+$   
with and

$$|C_b| + |C_+| \leq |C|$$

and

$$\text{cost}(C) \leq \text{cost}(C_b) + \text{cost}(C_+) + |X_b| + |C_+|$$

**Proof:** 1) How to get  $C_b$  and  $C_+$  from  $C$ :

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**Proof:** 1) How to get  $C_b$  and  $C_+$  from  $C$ :

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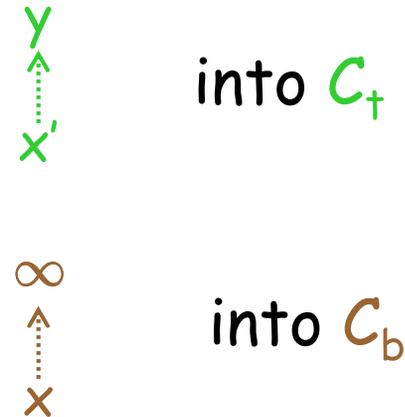
case 3:  $\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \uparrow \\ \dots \\ X' \\ \uparrow \\ \dots \\ X \end{array}$  into  $C_+$

$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \uparrow \\ \dots \\ X' \\ \uparrow \\ \dots \\ \infty \\ \uparrow \\ \dots \\ X \end{array}$  into  $C_b$

**Proof:**

$$|C_b| + |C_+| \leq |C|$$

compression paths from  $C$



$$\text{cost}(C) \leq \text{cost}(C_b) + \text{cost}(C_+) + |X_b| + |C_+|$$

$\text{cost}(C)$

green node gets new green parent:

accounted by  $\text{cost}(C_+)$

brown node gets new brown parent:

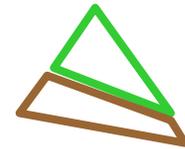
accounted by  $\text{cost}(C_b)$

brown node gets new green parent:  
for the first time

accounted by  $|X_b|$

brown node gets new green parent:  
again

accounted by  $|C_+|$



$f(m,n)$  ... maximum cost of any compression sequence  $C$  with  $|C|=m$  in an arbitrary forest with  $n$  nodes.

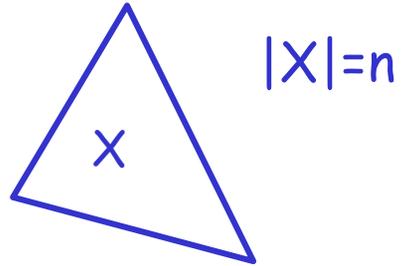
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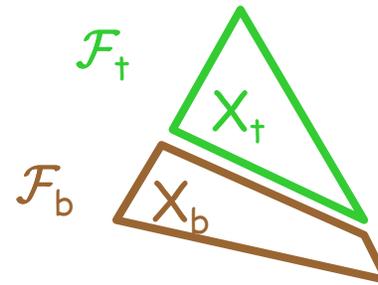
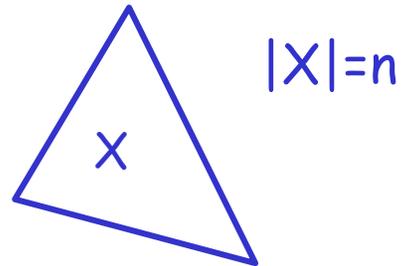


$C$  compression sequence  $|C|=m$

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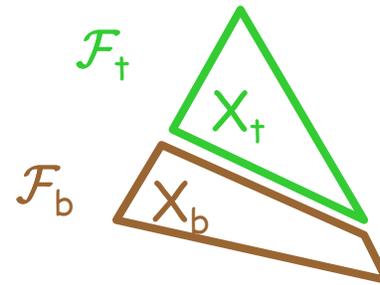
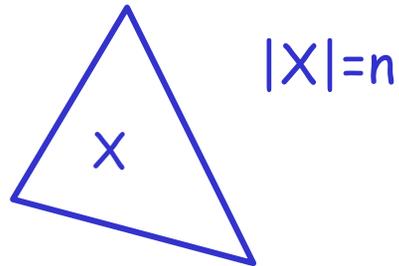
$$|X_+| = |X_b| = n/2$$

$\mathcal{C}$  compression sequence  $|\mathcal{C}|=m$

Claim:  $f(m,n) \leq (m+n) \cdot \log_2 n$

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forest  $\mathcal{F}$



$$|X_+|=|X_b|=n/2$$

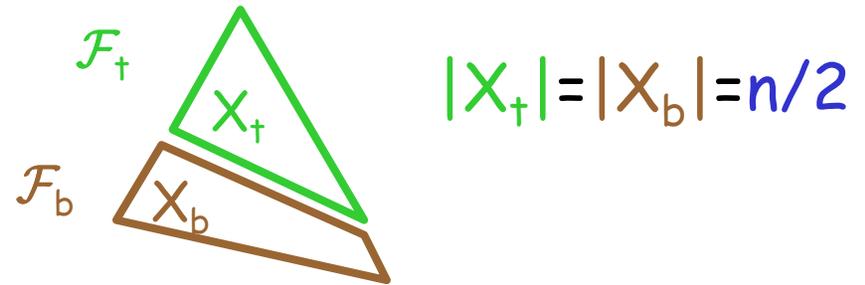
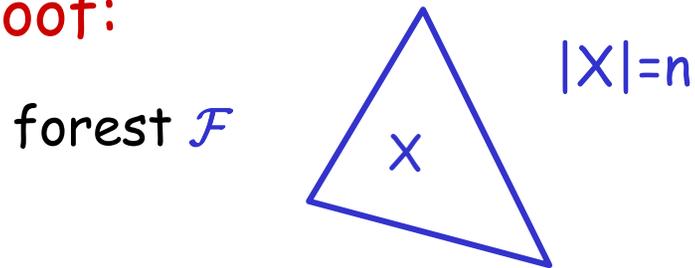
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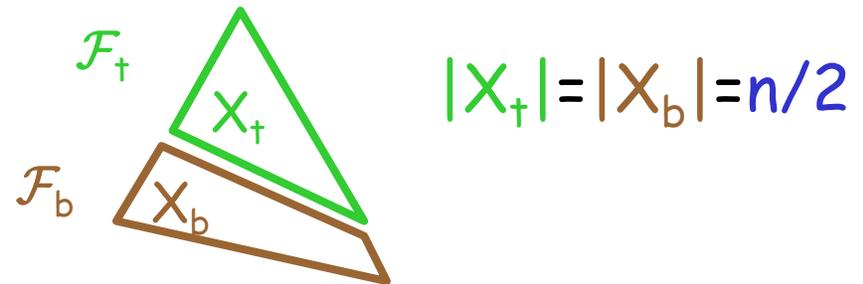
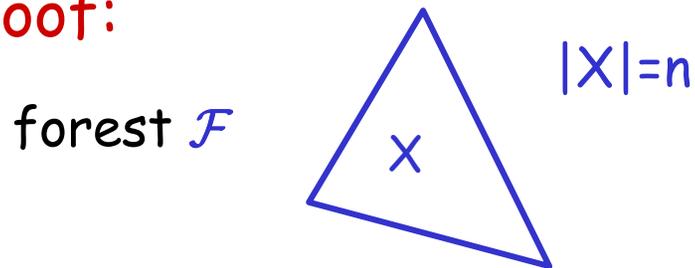
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Induction:  $\leq (m_b + n/2) \log n/2 + (m_+ + n/2) \log n/2 + n/2 + m_+$

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$$\leq (m+n) \cdot \log_2 n$$

## Corollary:

Any sequence of  $m$  Union, Find operations in a universe of  $n$  elements that uses arbitrary linking and path compression takes time at most

$$O((m+n) \cdot \log n)$$

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By choosing a dissection that is "unbalanced" in relation to  $m/n$  one can prove a better bound of

$$O((m+n) \cdot \log_{\lceil m/n \rceil + 1} n)$$

# Path compression and union by rank

## Path compression and union by rank

Def:  $\mathcal{F}$  forest,  $x$  node in  $\mathcal{F}$

$r(x)$  = height of subtree rooted at  $x$   
(  $r(\text{leaf}) = 0$  )

$\mathcal{F}$  is a **rank forest**, if

for every node  $x$

for every  $i$  with  $0 \leq i < r(x)$ ,  
there is a child  $y_i$  of  $x$  with  $r(y_i) = i$ .

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Note: Union by rank produces rank forests !

Lemma:  $r(x) = r \Rightarrow x$  is root of subtree with at least  $2^r$  nodes.

## Inheritance Lemma:

$\mathcal{F}$  rank forest with maximum rank  $r$  and node set  $X$

$$\begin{array}{ll} s \in \mathbb{N}: & X_{>s} = \{ x \in X \mid r(x) > s \} & \mathcal{F}_{>s} \\ & X_{\leq s} = \{ x \in X \mid r(x) \leq s \} & \mathcal{F}_{\leq s} \end{array} \quad \text{induced forests}$$

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- i)  $X_{\leq s}, X_{>s}$  is a dissection for  $\mathcal{F}$
- ii)  $\mathcal{F}_{\leq s}$  is a rank forest with maximum rank  $\leq s$
- iii)  $\mathcal{F}_{>s}$  is a rank forest with maximum rank  $\leq r-s-1$
- iv)  $|X_{>s}| \leq |X| / 2^{s+1}$

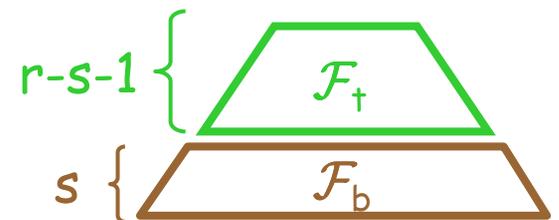
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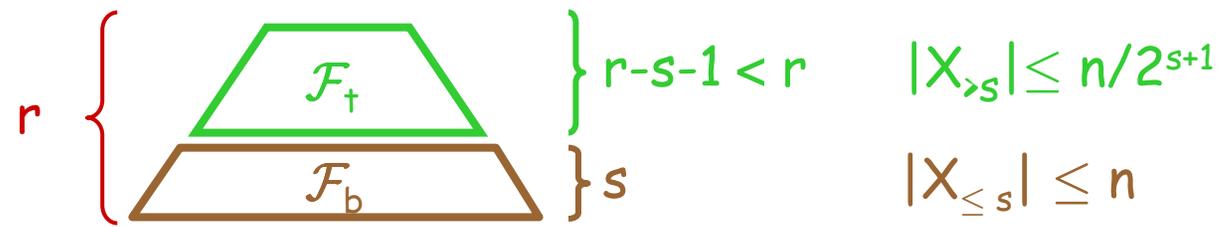
$f(m,n,r)$  = maximum cost of any compression sequence  $C$ , with  $|C|=m$ , in rank forest  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $n$  nodes and maximum rank  $r$ .

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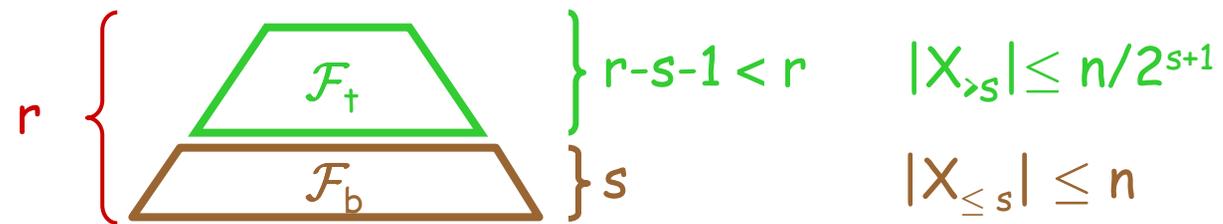
Trivial bounds:

$$f(m,n,r) \leq (r-1) \cdot n$$

$$f(m,n,r) \leq (r-1) \cdot m$$

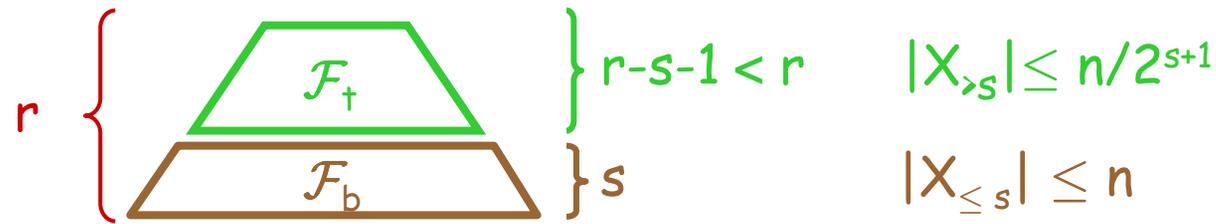


$$f(M, N, R) \leq N \cdot R$$



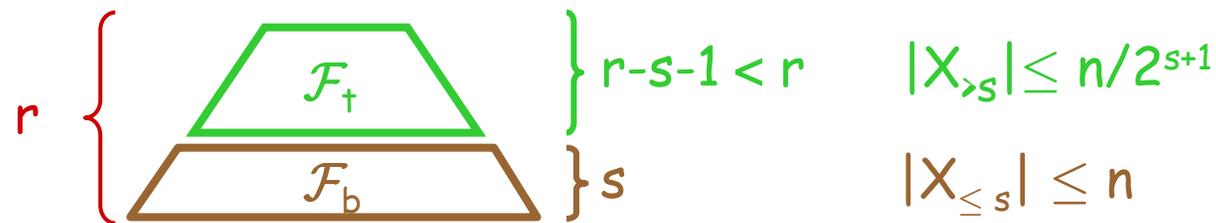
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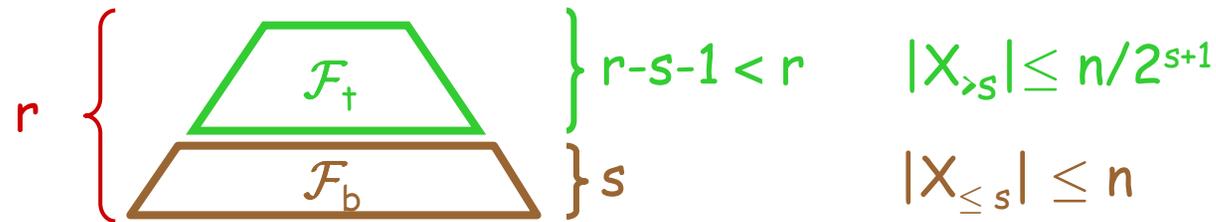
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cost}(C) &\leq \underbrace{\text{cost}(C_+)} + \text{cost}(C_b) + \underbrace{|X_b|} + |C_+| \\
 &\leq (n/2^{s+1}) \cdot r \qquad \qquad \qquad \leq n
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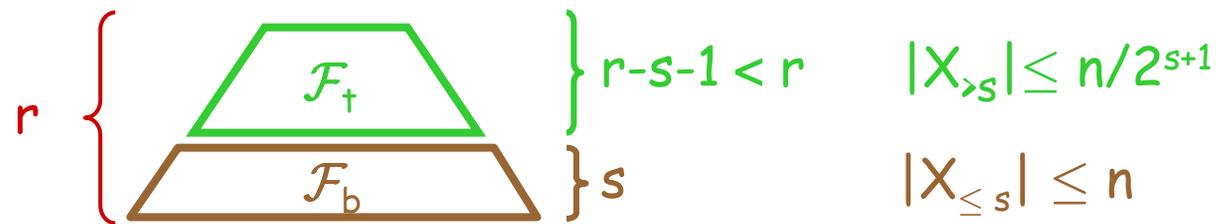


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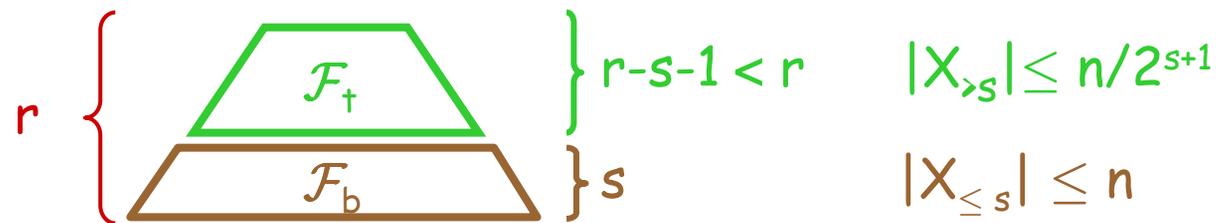


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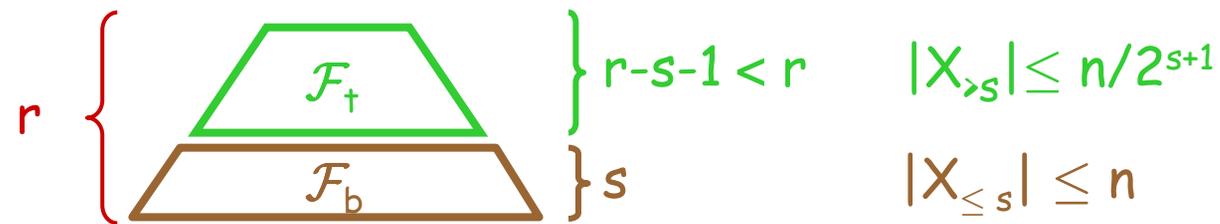
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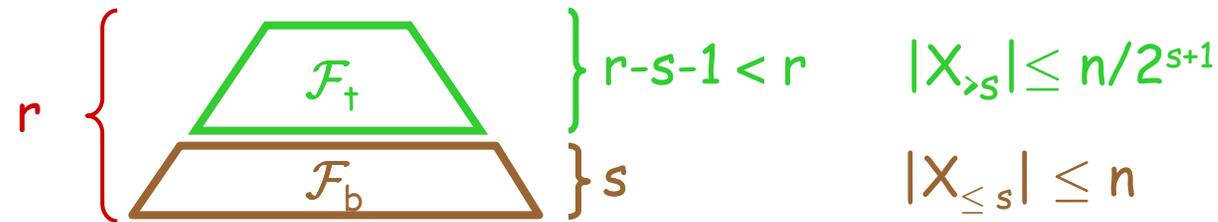
$$\text{cost}(C) - |C| \leq 2n + (\text{cost}(C_b) - |C_b|)$$



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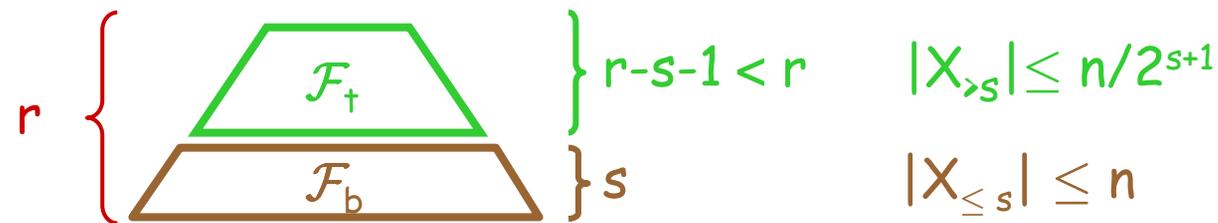


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$$\text{cost}(C) - |C| \leq 2n + (\text{cost}(C_b) - |C_b|)$$

$$(f(m, n, r) - m) \leq 2n + (f(m_b, n, \log r) - m_b)$$



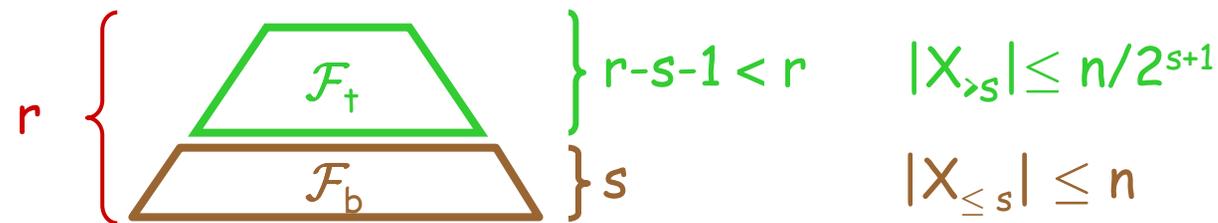
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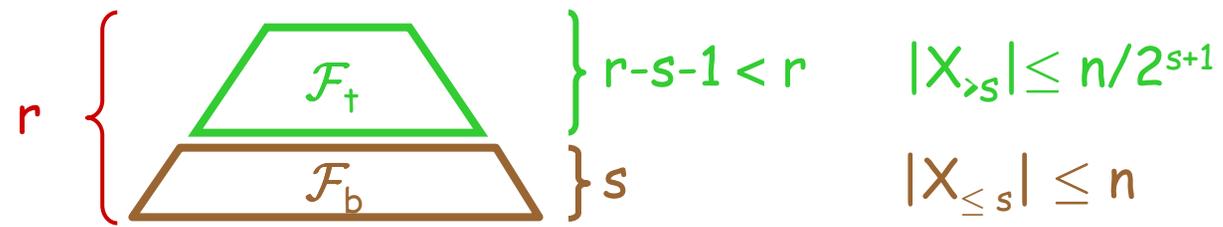
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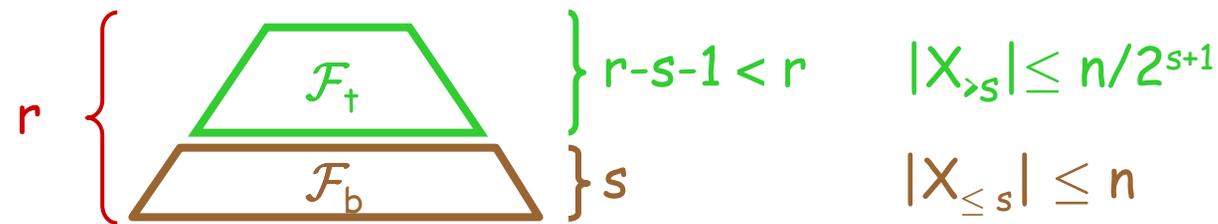
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$$f(m, n, r) \leq m + 2n \cdot \log^* r$$

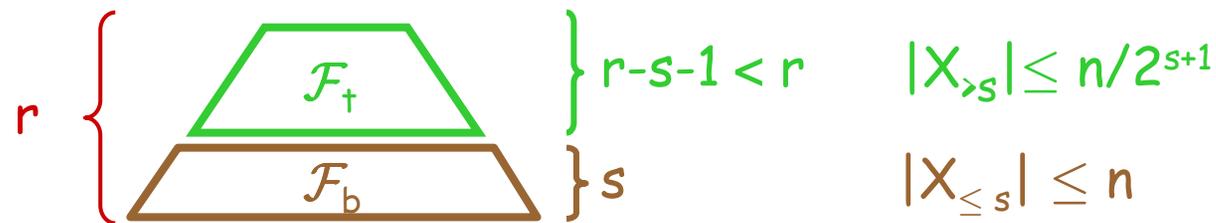


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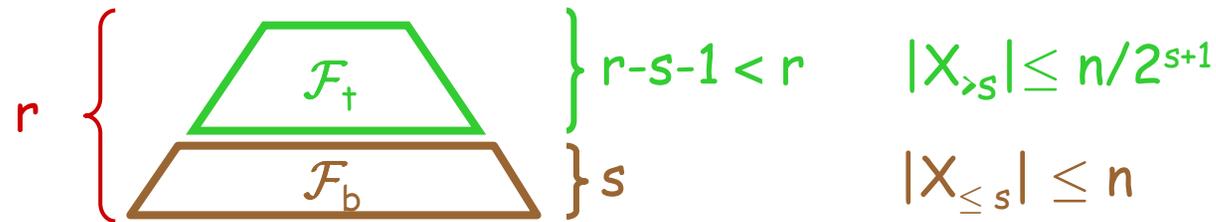
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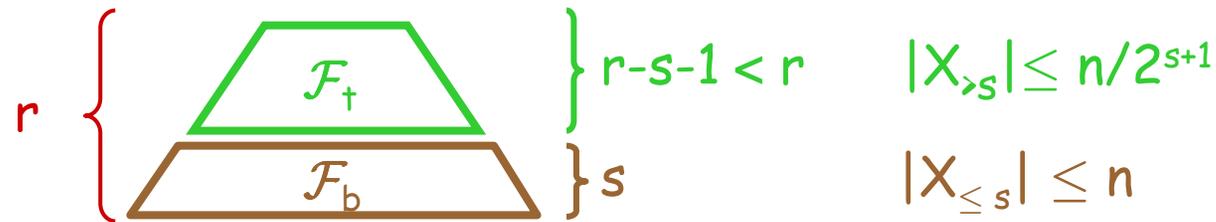
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cost}(C) &\leq \underbrace{\text{cost}(C_+)} + \text{cost}(C_b) + \underbrace{|X_b|} + |C_+| \\
 &\leq |C_+| + 2(n/2^{s+1}) \cdot \log^* r \qquad \leq n
 \end{aligned}$$



$$f(M, N, R) \leq M + 2N \cdot \log^* R$$

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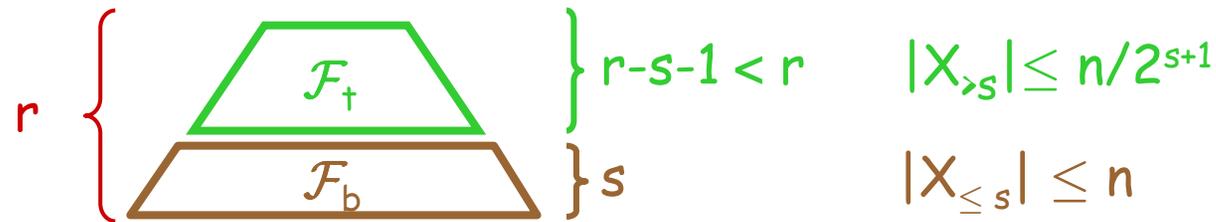


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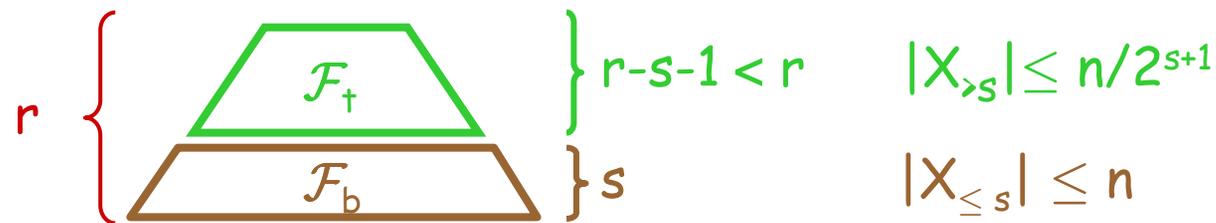
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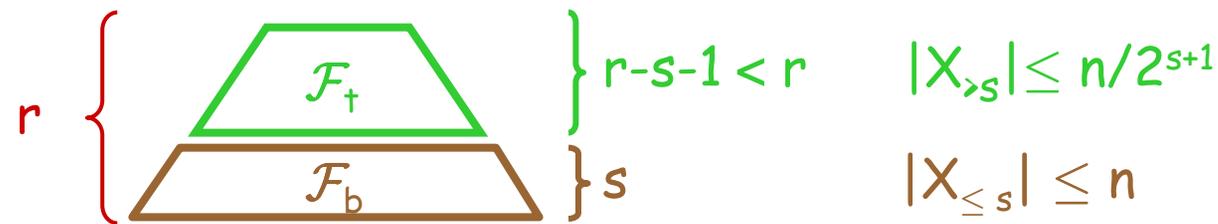
$$f(M, N, R) \leq M + 2N \cdot \log^* R$$

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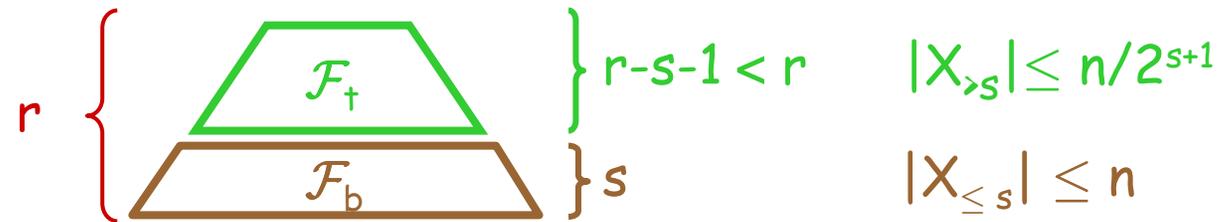
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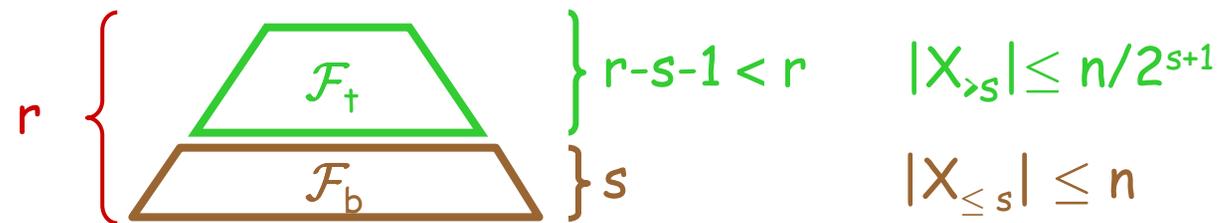


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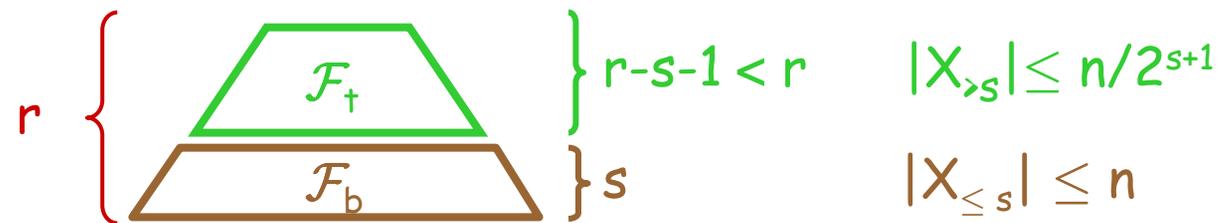
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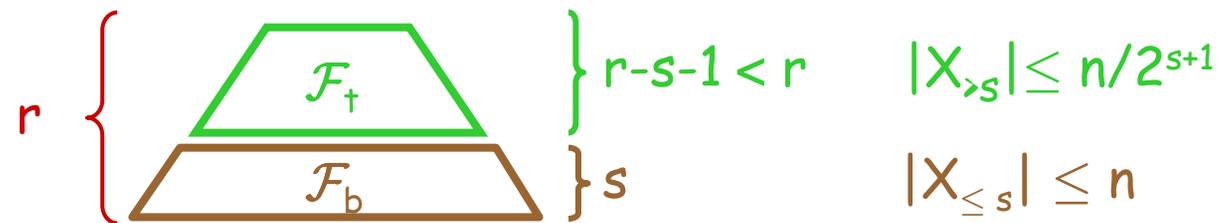
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$$f(m, n, r) \leq 2m + 2n \cdot (\log \log^*)^*(r)$$



$$f(M, N, R) \leq k \cdot M + 2N \cdot g(R)$$

$$s = \log g(r)$$

$$\text{cost}(C) - (k+1) \cdot |C| \leq 2n + (\text{cost}(C_b) - (k+1) \cdot |C_b|)$$

$$(f(m, n, r) - (k+1) \cdot m) \leq 2n + (f(m_b, n, \log g(r)) - (k+1) \cdot m_b)$$

$$(f(m, n, r) - (k+1) \cdot m) \leq 2n \cdot (\log \circ g)^*(r)$$

$$f(m, n, r) \leq (k+1) \cdot m + 2n \cdot (\log \circ g)^*(r)$$

Def.:  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  "nice"

$$g^\diamond(r) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r \leq 1 \\ 1 + g^\diamond(\lceil \log_2 g(r) \rceil) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Note:  $g^\diamond = (\lceil \log_2 \rceil \circ g)^*$

## Shifting Lemma:

Assume  $k \geq 0$ ,  $g: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , "nice", non-decreasing,  $g(r) < r$   
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$$f(m, n, r) \leq k \cdot m + 2 \cdot n \cdot g(r) \quad \text{for all } m, n, r$$

then also

$$f(m, n, r) \leq (k+1) \cdot m + 2 \cdot n \cdot g^\diamond(r) \quad \text{for all } m, n, r$$

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Note:  $r \leq \lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor$  always

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Corollary:  $f(m,n,r) \leq (\alpha(m,n) + 2)m + 2n$

## Corollary:

Any sequence of  $m$  Union, Find operations in a universe of  $n$  elements that uses linking by rank and path compression takes time at most

$$O(m \cdot \alpha(m, n) + n)$$

Hopcroft - Ullman, Tarjan, van Leeuwen, Kozen,  
Harfst-Reingold;

Sharir

For  $r \leq 65$ :  $J_1(r) \leq 2$   
 $J_2(r) \leq 1$

$$f(m,n,r) \leq \min\{ m+4n, 2m+2n \} \text{ for } n < 2^{66}$$

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Actually:

$$f(m,n,r) \leq m+2.1n \quad \text{for } n < 2^{66}$$

$$f(m,n,r) \leq 2m+n \quad \text{for } n < 2^{2^{24615}}$$

Similar proof for  $O(m \cdot \alpha(m, n) + n)$  bound  
also works for

linking by weight and path compression

linking by rank and generalized path  
compaction

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when performin a **Find**(  $x$  ) operation make  
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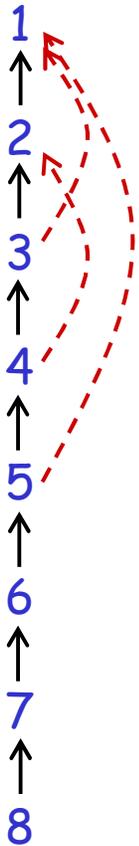
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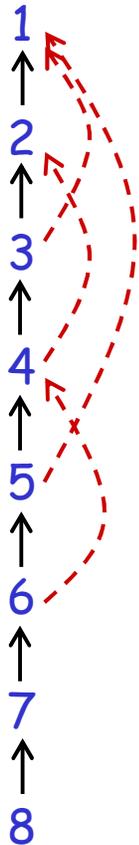
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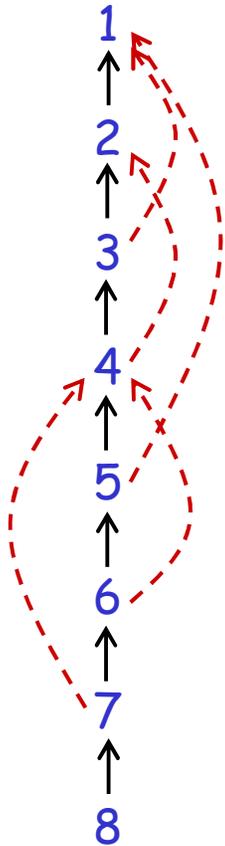
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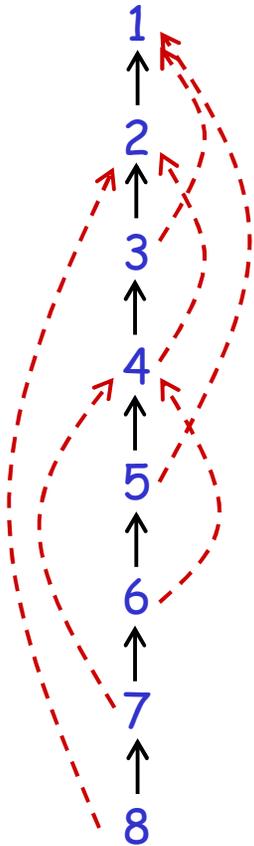
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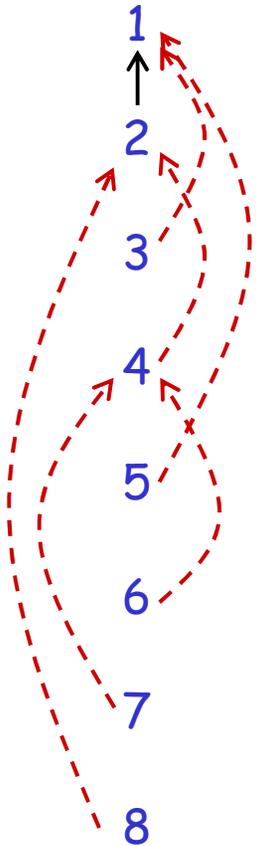
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