

1. Suppose we are given an *undirected, unrooted* tree  $T$  with  $n$  vertices, represented using an adjacency list data structure. The tree  $T$  necessarily has  $n - 1$  edges.

For any two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $T$ , let  $path_T(u, v)$  denote the unique path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ . For any three vertices  $u, v, w$  of  $T$ , let  $meet_T(u, v, w)$  denote the unique vertex of  $T$  that lies on all three paths  $path_T(u, v)$  and  $path_T(u, w)$  and  $path_T(v, w)$ .

Describe and analyze a data structure that supports the following query:

- $MEET(u, v, w)$ : return the vertex  $meet_T(u, v, w)$ .

For full credit, your solution should have the following components:

- A description of your actual data structure
- An analysis of the space used by your data structure
- A preprocessing algorithm that builds your data structure from an adjacency list for  $T$
- An analysis of the running time of your preprocessing algorithm.
- A query algorithm that implements  $MEET$ .
- A brief argument that your query algorithm is correct.
- An analysis of the running time of  $MEET$ .

For full credit, your algorithm should use  $O(n)$  space, your preprocessing algorithm should run in  $O(n)$  time, and your query algorithm should run in  $O(1)$  time; however, larger and/or slower data structures are worth significant partial credit *if they are correct*.

*[Hint: Make liberal use of results from both the regular lecture and the honors lecture. **Do not reinvent the wheel.** If you use a result from class, just explain how to use it; don't regurgitate the details. Most of the components of your solution should be very short, because we've seen the details elsewhere. In particular, give the tree  $T$  a root and use the LCA data structure described in the honors lecture on Monday. What can you say about the tree lowest common ancestors  $lca_T(u, v)$  and  $lca_T(u, w)$  and  $lca_T(v, w)$ ?]*

**The remaining problems are for you play with on your own.  
Discussion in office hours or on Discord is welcome, but don't submit solutions!**

2. Let  $A[1..n]$  be an array of numbers. Recall that a *Cartesian tree* for  $A$  is a rooted binary tree with  $n$  vertices, each with a numerical value satisfying two properties:
- Listing the vertex values according to an inorder traversal of  $T$  yields the original array  $A$ .
  - Values in  $T$  satisfy the *min-heap property*: If  $v$  is a child of  $p$ , then  $v.value > p.value$ .
- (a) Prove that if the numbers in  $A$  are distinct, then  $A$  has a *unique* Cartesian tree.
- (b) Describe an algorithm that constructs the Cartesian tree of  $A$ , and show that it runs in  $O(n)$  time.
3. Suppose we are given a set  $P$  of  $n$  points in the plane, each specified by an  $x$ -coordinate and a  $y$ -coordinate. A *Cartesian tree* for  $P$  is a rooted binary tree  $T$  with  $n$  vertices, each associated with a unique point of  $P$ , satisfying two properties:
- An inorder traversal of  $T$  lists the points in  $P$  in sorted order by increasing  $x$ -coordinate.
  - The  $y$ -coordinates in  $T$  satisfy the *min-heap property*: If  $v$  is a child of  $p$ , then  $v.y > p.y$ .

Equivalently, after sorting  $P$  by increasing  $x$ -coordinate, the Cartesian tree for  $P$  is precisely the Cartesian tree of the  $y$ -coordinates of  $P$ .

The reduction from RMQ to LCA implies that we can answer the following query in  $O(\log n)$  time:

- **LOWESTBETWEEN**( $l, r$ ): Return the lowest point  $p \in P$  (if any) such that  $l < p.x < r$ .

Specifically, let  $p_l$  be the leftmost point in  $P$  such that  $p_l.x > l$ , and let  $p_r$  be the rightmost point in  $P$  such that  $p_r.x < r$ . To answer **LOWESTBETWEEN**( $l, r$ ), we find  $p_l$  and  $p_r$  in  $O(\log n)$  time using a binary search over the  $x$ -coordinates of  $P$ , after which we find and return  $\text{lca}_T(p_l, p_r)$  in  $O(1)$  time.

Describe how to answer the following *3-sided range query* in  $O(\log n + k)$  time, where  $k$  is the size of the output:

- **LISTALLBELOW**( $l, r, t$ ): Return a list of all points  $p \in P$  such that  $l < p.x < r$  and  $p.y < t$ .

[Hint: Finding  $p_l$  and  $p_r$  still takes  $O(\log n)$  time. The rest of the query algorithm takes  $O(1)$  time, plus  $O(1)$  time per output point.]