Advanced Algorithm Design and Analysis (Lecture 12)

SW5 fall 2004

Simonas Šaltenis

E1-215b

simas@cs.aau.dk

Amortized analysis

- Main goals of the lecture:
  - *to understand what is **amortized analysis**, when is it used, and how it differs from the average-case analysis;*
  - *to be able to apply the techniques of the **aggregate analysis**, the **accounting method**, and the **potential method** to analyze operations on simple data structures.*

Sequence of operations

- *The problem*:
  - We have a data structure
  - We perform a sequence of operations
    - Operations may be of different types (e.g., *insert, delete*)
    - Depending on the state of the structure the actual cost of an operation may differ (e.g., *inserting into a sorted array*)
  - Just analyzing the worst-case time of a single operation may not say too much
  - We want the average running time of an operation (*but from the worst-case sequence of operations*!).

Binary counter example

- *Example data structure: a binary counter*
  - Operation: *Increment*
  - Implementation: An array of bits $A[0..k-1]$

```
Increment(A)
i ← 0
while i < k and A[i] = 1 do
   A[i] ← 0
   i ← i + 1
if i < k then A[i] ← 1
```

- *How many bit assignments do we have to do in the **worst-case** to perform Increment(A)*?
  - But usually we do much less bit assignments!

Analysis of binary counter

- *How many bit-assignments do we do on average*?
  - Let's consider a sequence of *n Increment's*
  - Let's compute the sum of bit assignments:
    - *A*[0] assigned on each operation: *n* assignments
    - *A*[1] assigned every two operations: *n*/2 assignments
    - *A*[2] assigned every four ops: n/4 assignments
    - *A*[*i*] assigned every 2^i ops: $n/2^i$ assignments

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor \lg n \rfloor} \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2^i} \right\rfloor < 2n$$

- Thus, a single operation takes 2n/n = 2 = O(1) time **amortized** time

Aggregate analysis

- ***Aggregate** analysis – a simple way to do amortized analysis*
  - Treat all operations equally
  - Compute the *worst-case* running time of a sequence of *n* operations.
  - Divide by *n* to get an amortized running time

Another look at binary counter

- *Another way of looking at it (proving the amortized time)*:
  - To assign a bit, I have to use one dollar
  - When I assign "1", I use one dollar, plus I put one dollar in my "savings account" associated with that bit.
  - When I assign "0", I can do it using a dollar from the savings account on that bit
  - *How much do I have to pay for the* Increment(*A*) *for this scheme to work*?
    - Only one assignment of "1" in the algorithm. Obviously, two dollars will always pay for the operation

Accounting method

- Principles of the **accounting method**
  - 1. Associate credit accounts with different parts of the structure
  - 2. Associate amortized costs with operations and show how they credit or debit accounts
    - Different costs may be assigned to different operations
  - Requirement (c – real cost, c' – amortized cost):

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} c'_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i$$

  - This is equivalent to requiring that the sum of all credits in the data structure is *non-negative*
    - *What would it mean not satisfy this requirement?*
  - 3. Show that this requirement is satisfied

Stack example

- Start with an empty stack and consider a sequence of *n* operations: *Push, Pop,* and *Multipop*(*k*).
  - *What is the worst-case running time of an operation from this sequence?*
  - 1. Let's associate an account with each element in the stack
  - 2. After pushing an element, put a dollar into the account associated with it,
    - then *Pop* and *Multipop* can work only using money in the accounts (amortized cost 0)
    - *Push* has amortized cost 2
  - 3. The total credit in the structure is always ≥ 0
  - Thus, the amortized cost of an operation is *O*(1)

Potential method

- *We can have one account associated with the whole structure*:
  - We call it a **potential**
  - It's a function that maps a state of the data structure after operation *i* to a number: $\Phi(D_i)$

$$c_i' = c_i + \Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1})$$

  - The main step of this method is defining the potential function
    - Requirement: $\Phi(D_n) - \Phi(D_0) \geq 0$
  - Once we have Φ, we can compute the amortized costs of operations

Binary counter example

- *How do we define the potential function for the binary counter?*
  - Potential of A: b_i – a number of "1"s
  - *What is $\Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1})$, if the number of bits set to 0 in operation i is t_i?*
  - *What is the amortized cost of* Increment(A)?
    - We showed that $\Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1}) \leq 1 - t_i$
    - Real cost $c_i = t_i + 1$
    - Thus,

$$c_i' = c_i + \Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1}) \leq (t_i + 1) + (1 - t_i) = 2$$

Potential method

- *We can analyze the counter even if it does not start at 0 using potential method*:
  - Let's say we start with b_0 and end with b_n "1"s
  - Observe that:
    $$\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i' - \Phi(D_n) + \Phi(D_0)$$
  - We have that: $c_i' \leq 2$
  - This means that: $\sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \leq 2n - b_n + b_0$
  - Note that $b_0 \leq k$. This means that, if $k = O(n)$ then the total actual cost is $O(n)$.

Dynamic table

- *It is often useful to have a dynamic table:*
  - The table that expands and contracts as necessary when new elements are added or deleted.
    - **Expands** when insertion is done and the table is already full
    - **Contracts** when deletion is done and there is “too much” free space
  - Contracting or expanding involves **relocating**
    - Allocate new memory space of the new size
    - Copy all elements from the table into the new space
    - Free the old space
  - Worst-case time for insertions and deltions:
    - Without relocation: $O(1)$
    - With relocation: $O(m)$, where m – the number of elements in the table

Requirements

- Load factor
  - *num* – current number of elements in the table
  - *size* – the total number of elements that can be stored in the allocated memory
  - *Load factor* α = *num/size*
- It would be nice to have these two properties:
  - Amortized cost of insert and delete is constant
  - The load factor is always above some constant
    - That is the table is not too empty

Naïve insertions

- *Let's look only at insertions*: *Why not expand the table by some constant when it overflows?*
  - *What is the amortized cost of an insertion?*
  - *Does it satisfy the second requirement?*

Aggregate analysis

- *The "right" way to expand – double the size of the table*
  - Let's do an aggregate analysis
  - The cost of i-th insertion is:
    - i, if $i-1$ is an exact power of 2
    - 1, otherwise
  - Let's sum up…
  - The total cost of n insertions is then $< 3n$
  - Accounting method gives the intuition:
    - Pay $1 for inserting the element
    - Put $1 into element's account for reallocating it later
    - Put $1 into the account of another element to pay for a later relocation of that element

Potential function

- *What potential function do we want to have?*
  - $\Phi_i = 2num_i - size_i$
  - It is always non-negative
  - Amortized cost of insertion:
    - Insertion triggers an expansion
    - Insertion does not trigger an expansion
  - Both cases: 3

Deletions

- *Deletions*: *What if we contract whenever the table is about to get less than half full*?
  - *Would the amortized running times of a sequence of insertions and deletions be constant*?
  - Problem: we want to avoid doing reallocations often without having accumulated “the money” to pay for that!

Deletions

- *Idea: delay contraction!*
  - Contract only when *num* = *size*/4
  - Second requirement still satisfied: $\alpha \geq 1/4$
- *How do we define the potential function?*

$$\Phi = \begin{cases} 2 \cdot num - size & \text{if } \alpha \geq 1/2 \\ size/2 - num & \text{if } \alpha < 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- It is always non-negative
- Let's compute the amortized running time of deletions:
  - $\alpha < 1/2$ (with contraction, without contraction)