
Competitive Training Camp

Lecture 10

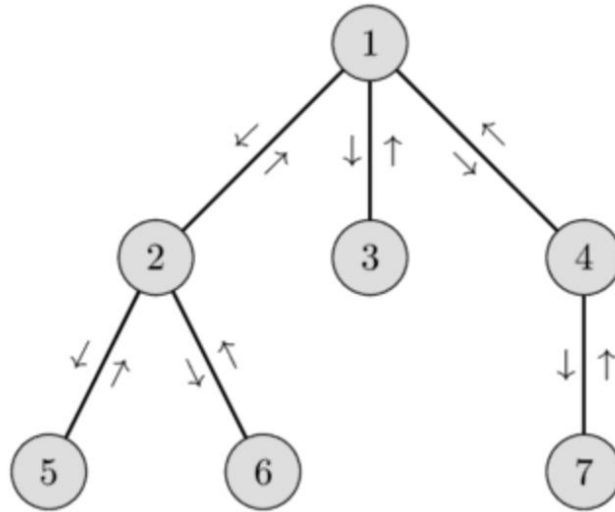
— **Christian Yongwhan Lim** —

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Overview: Graphs, Revisited!

- **Lowest Common Ancestor**
- **Centroid Decomposition**
- **Heavy-Light Decomposition**

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Euler Tour first!



Vertices:	1	2	5	2	6	2	1	3	1	4	7	4	1
Heights:	1	2	3	2	3	2	1	2	1	2	3	2	1

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Example

- The tour starting at vertex 6 and ending at 4 we visit the vertices [6, 2, 1, 3, 1, 4].
- Among those vertices the vertex 1 has the **lowest height**.
- Therefore, $\text{LCA}(6, 4) = 1$!

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Example

- In general, once we pre-process the nodes using Euler tour, you can do a **range minimum query**.
- We know this can be solved using **segment tree** (or, **sparse table**, if the tree is fixed!)

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
struct LCA {  
    vector<int> height, euler, first, segtree;  
    vector<bool> visited;  
    int n;
```

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
LCA(vector<vector<int>> &adj, int root = 0) {  
    n = adj.size();  
    height.resize(n);  
    first.resize(n);  
    euler.reserve(n * 2);  
    visited.assign(n, false);  
    dfs(adj, root);  
    int m = euler.size();  
    segtree.resize(m * 4);  
    build(1, 0, m - 1);  
}
```

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
void dfs(vector<vector<int>> &adj, int node, int h=0) {  
    visited[node] = true;  
    height[node] = h;  
    first[node] = euler.size();  
    euler.push_back(node);  
    for (auto to : adj[node])  
        if (!visited[to]) {  
            dfs(adj, to, h + 1);  
            euler.push_back(node);  
        }  
}
```


Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
void build(int node, int b, int e) {  
    if (b == e) {  
        segtree[node] = euler[b];  
    } else {  
        int mid = (b + e) / 2;  
        build(node << 1, b, mid);  
        build(node << 1 | 1, mid + 1, e);  
        int l = segtree[node<<1], r = segtree[node<<1|1];  
        segtree[node] = (height[l] < height[r]) ? l : r;  
    }  
}
```

Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
int query(int node, int b, int e, int L, int R) {  
    if (b > R || e < L) return -1;  
    if (b >= L && e <= R) return segtree[node];  
    int mid = (b + e) >> 1;  
    int left = query(node << 1, b, mid, L, R);  
    int right = query(node << 1 | 1, mid + 1, e, L, R);  
    if (left == -1) return right;  
    if (right == -1) return left;  
    return height[left] < height[right] ? left : right;  
}
```

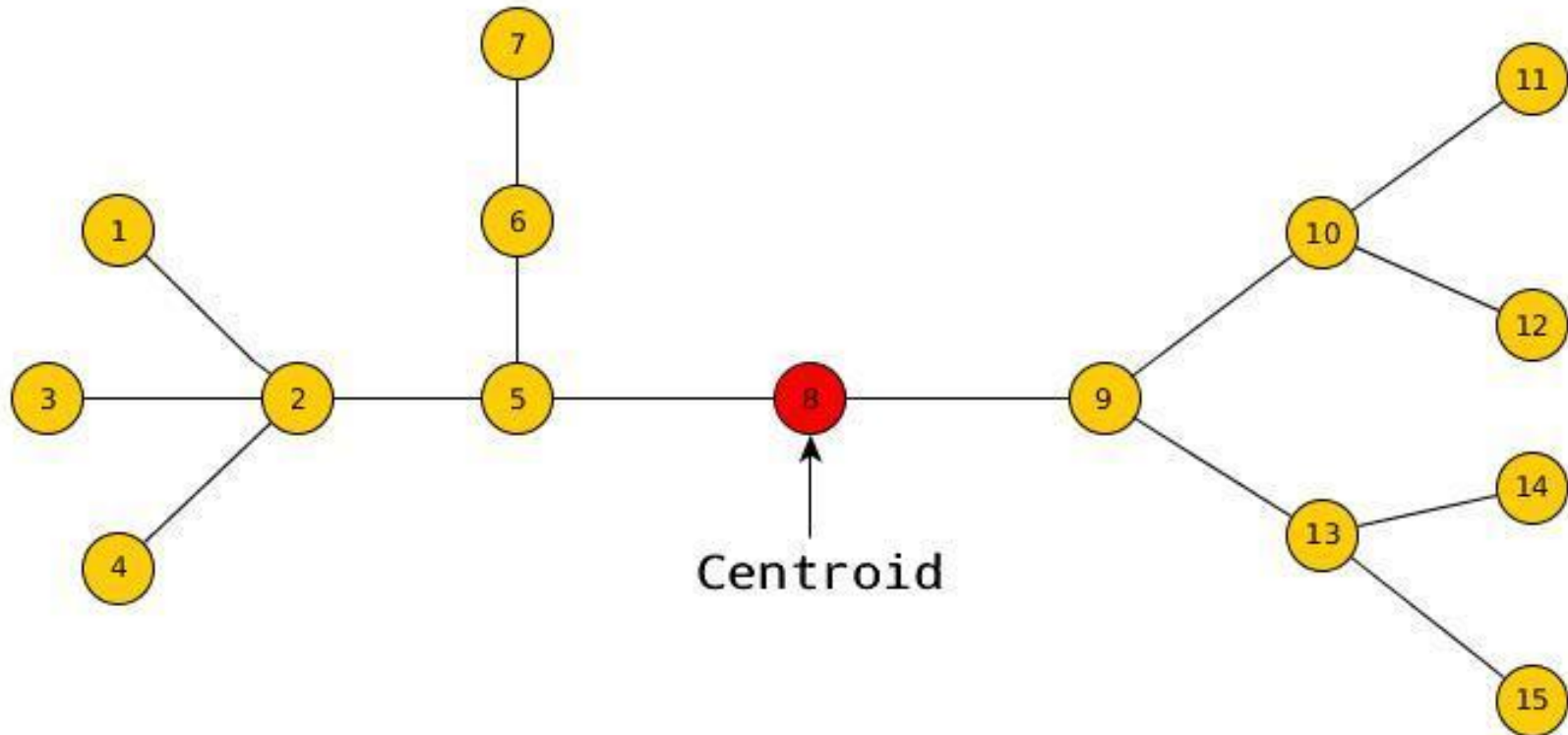
Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA): Implementation

```
int lca(int u, int v) {  
    int left = first[u], right = first[v];  
    if (left > right)  
        swap(left, right);  
    return query(1, 0, euler.size() - 1, left, right);  
};
```

Centroid

- **Centroid:** a node such that when the tree is rooted at it, no other nodes have a subtree of size greater than $n/2$.
- We can find a centroid in a tree by starting at the root.
- Each step, loop through all of its children.
- If all of its children have subtree size less than or equal to $n/2$, then it is a centroid.
- Otherwise, move to the child with a subtree size that is more than $n/2$ and repeat until you find a centroid.

Centroid Illustration



Centroid

```
const int maxn = 200010;  
int n;  
vector<int> adj[maxn];  
int subtree_size[maxn];
```

Centroid

```
int get_subtree_size(int node, int par = -1) {  
    int &res = subtree_size[node];  
    res = 1;  
    for (int i : adj[node]) {  
        if (i == par) continue;  
        res += get_subtree_size(i, node);  
    }  
    return res;  
}
```

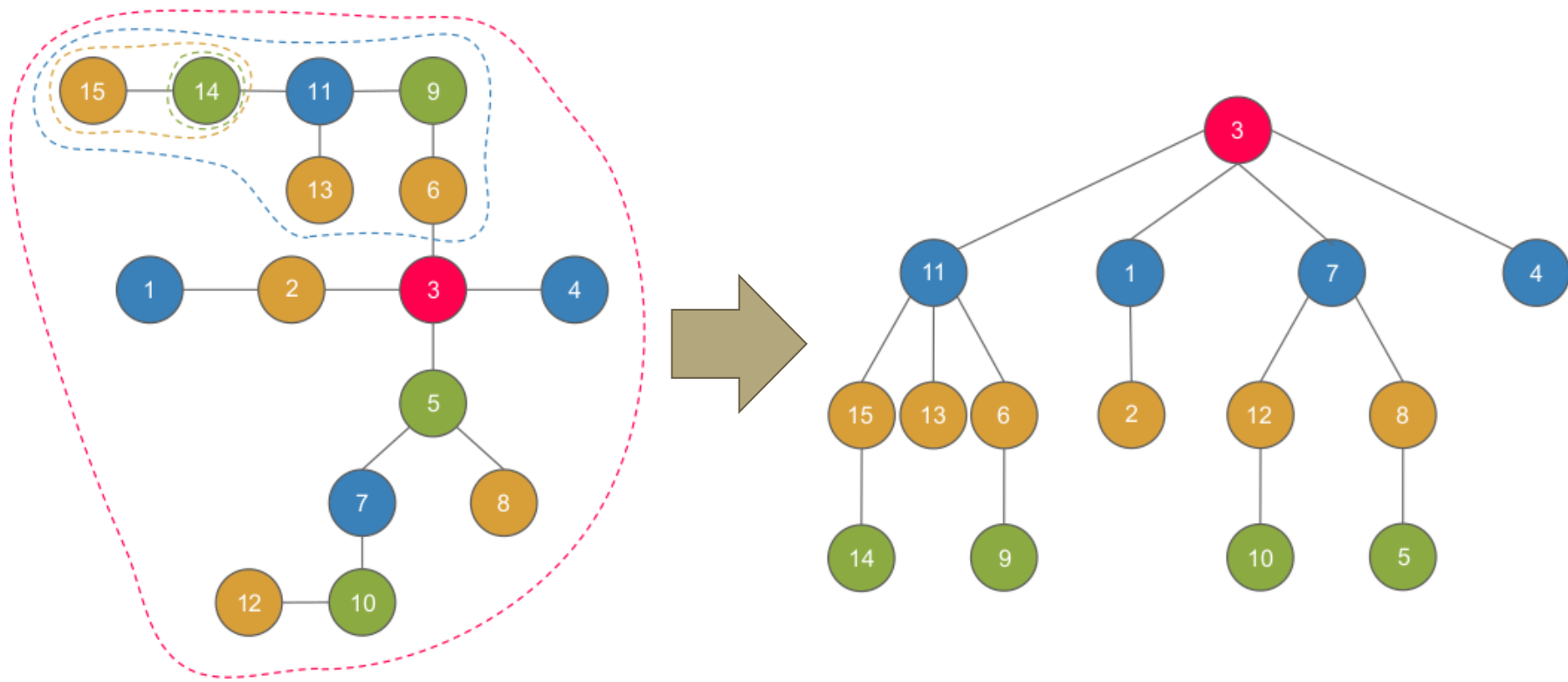
Centroid

```
int get_centroid(int node, int par = -1) {  
    for (int i : adj[node]) {  
        if (i == par) continue;  
        if (subtree_size[i] * 2 > n)  
            return get_centroid(i, node);  
    }  
    return node;  
}
```


Centroid Decomposition

- **Centroid Decomposition** works by repeated splitting the tree and each of the resulting subgraphs at the centroid, producing $O(\log n)$ layers of subgraphs.

Centroid Decomposition Illustration



Centroid Decomposition

```
bool r[MN]; // removed
int s[MN]; // subtree size
int dfs(int n, int p = 0) {
    s[n] = 1;
    for (int x : a[n])
        if (x != p && !r[x]) s[n] += dfs(x, n);
    return s[n];
}
```

Centroid Decomposition

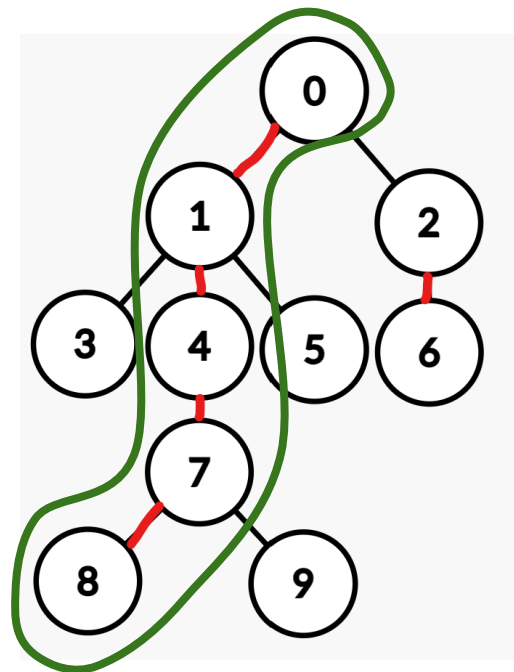
```
int get_centroid(int n, int ms, int p = 0) {  
    // n = node, ms = size of tree, p = parent  
    for (int x : a[n])  
        if (x != p && !r[x])  
            if (s[x] * 2 > ms)  
                return get_centroid(x, ms, n);  
    return n;  
}
```

Centroid Decomposition

```
void centroid(int n = 1) {  
    int C = get_centroid(n, dfs(n));  
  
    // do something  
  
    r[C] = 1;  
    for (int x : a[C])  
        if (!r[x]) centroid(x);  
}
```

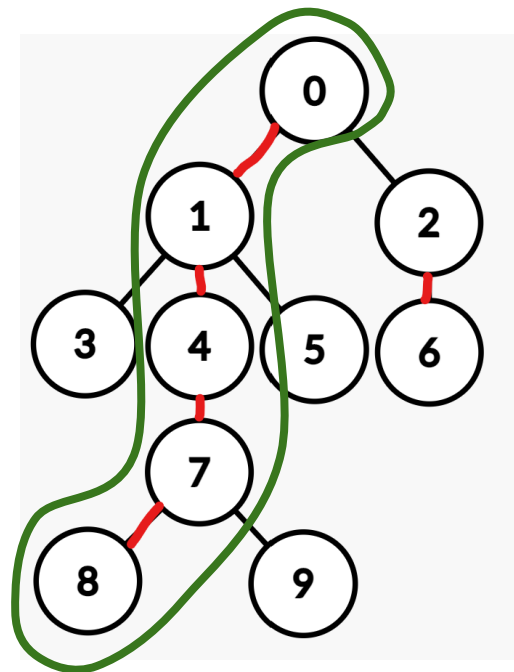
Heavy edge vs Light edge

- **Heavy edge:** the edge that connects a node to its maximum size subtree (break ties arbitrarily)
- **Light edge:** an edge that's not heavy



Heavy edge vs Light edge

- **Heavy edge:** the edge that connects a node to its maximum size subtree (break ties arbitrarily)
- **Light edge:** an edge that's not heavy
- Considering only heavy edges (highlighted in **red**), we obtain our heavy chains (circled in **green**)
- This gives us “groupings” of nodes on a tree but can we prove that this makes updates and queries efficient?



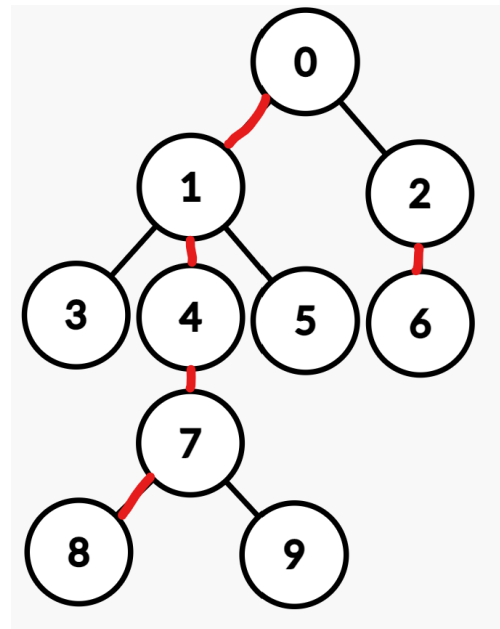
Heavy edge

- Let G be a rooted tree of n vertices, with an arbitrary root.
- Let's calculate for each vertex v , the size of its subtree $s(v)$, the number of vertices in the subtree of the vertex v including itself.
- Formally, we can an edge **heavy** if it leads to a vertex c such that:

$$s(c) \geq \frac{s(v)}{2} \iff \text{edge } (v, c) \text{ is heavy}$$

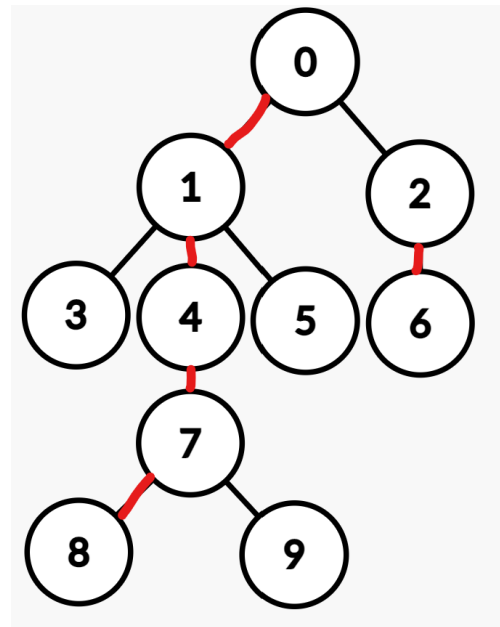
Heavy-Light Decomposition

- Suppose we want to process some query for vertices u and v .
- Without loss of generality, consider the path $(u, \text{lca}(u, v))$.
- Suppose we travel down the tree along the path, every new heavy chain means if we go through a light edge then subtree size is at least halved.
- Then there are $O(\log n)$ heavy chains on any path (u, v) .



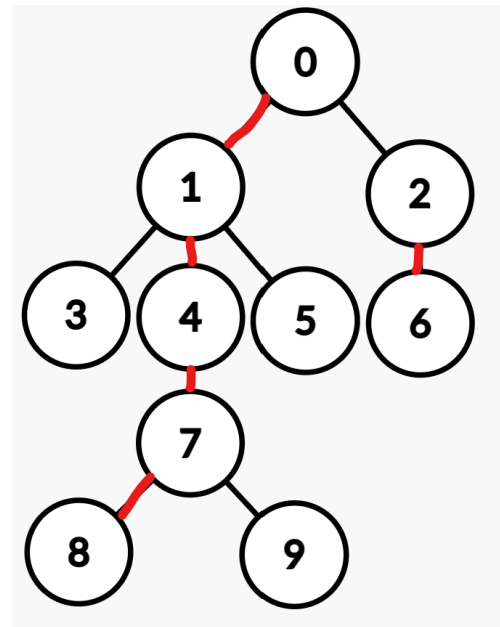
Heavy-Light Decomposition (con't)

- Heavy-light decomposition decomposes the tree into disjoint heavy chains so that every path consists of $O(\log n)$ chains.
- Each heavy chain is maintained by a segment tree for efficient range queries.
- Since the chains are disjoint, point updates take $O(\log n)$ time.
- Path queries take $O(\log^2 n)$ time.



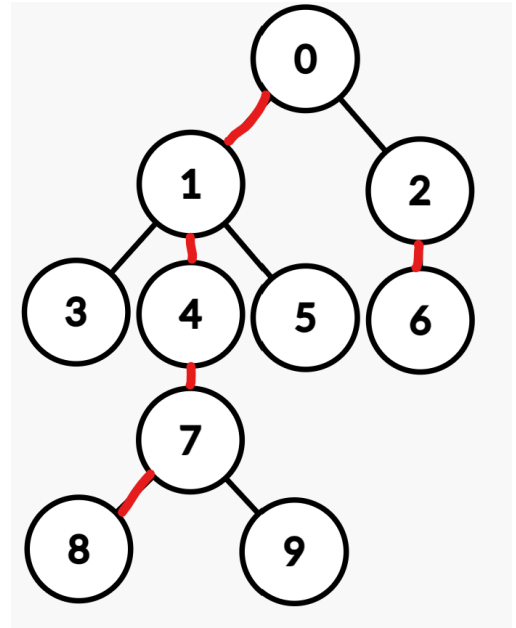
Update

- Suppose we want to update a node's value in the tree:
 - Straightforward **segment tree update**!
- Note that path updating would follow the same approach.



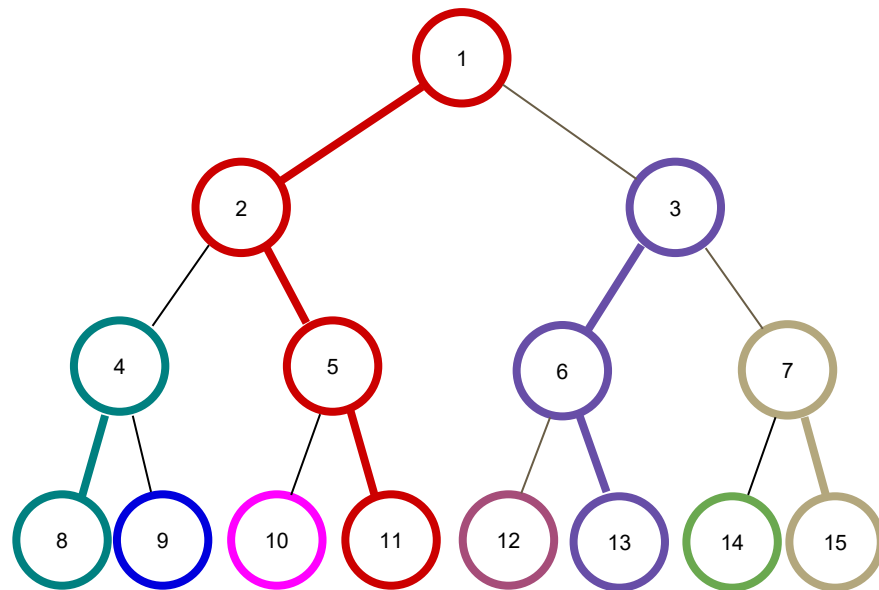
Query

- Suppose we want to compute the sum of a path (u, v) .
- Similar to efficient LCA-finding, we start with the respective chains that nodes u and v are in.
- We repeatedly query for range sum in the lower of the two chains until we arrive at the chain containing the LCA, where we query a final time.



Step by Step Example

- Calculate sum along path between two nodes using HLD (values are same as node)
- Query: **Node 10** to **Node 14**
 - Current sum: 10
- Query: **Node 5** to **Node 14**
 - Current sum: 10 + 14
- Query: **Node 5** to **Node 7**
 - Current sum: 10 + 14 + 7
- Query: **Node 5** to **Node 3**
 - Current sum: 10 + 14 + 7 + 3
- Query: **Node 5** to **Node 1**
 - Current sum: 10 + 14 + 7 + 3 + (1 + 2 + 5)



Implementation Details

```
vector<int> parent, depth, heavy, head, pos;  
int cur_pos;
```

Implementation Details

```
int dfs(int v, vector<vector<int>> const& adj) {  
    int size = 1, max_c_size = 0;  
    for (int c : adj[v]) {  
        if (c != parent[v]) {  
            parent[c] = v, depth[c] = depth[v] + 1;  
            int c_size = dfs(c, adj);  
            size += c_size;  
            if (c_size > max_c_size)  
                max_c_size = c_size, heavy[v] = c;  
        }  
    }  
    return size;  
}
```

Implementation Details

```
void decompose(int v, int h,
               vector<vector<int>> const& adj) {
    head[v] = h, pos[v] = cur_pos++;
    if (heavy[v] != -1)
        decompose(heavy[v], h, adj);
    for (int c : adj[v]) {
        if (c != parent[v] && c != heavy[v])
            decompose(c, c, adj);
    }
}
```


Implementation Details

```
void init(vector<vector<int>> const& adj) {  
    int n = adj.size();  
    parent = vector<int>(n);  
    depth = vector<int>(n);  
    heavy = vector<int>(n, -1);  
    head = vector<int>(n);  
    pos = vector<int>(n);  
    cur_pos = 0;  
  
    dfs(0, adj);  
    decompose(0, 0, adj);  
}
```

Maximum Query Example

```
int query(int a, int b) {
    int res = 0;
    for (; head[a] != head[b]; b = parent[head[b]]) {
        if (depth[head[a]] > depth[head[b]]) swap(a, b);
        int cur_heavy_path_max = segment_tree_query(pos[head[b]],
                                                    pos[b]);

        res = max(res, cur_heavy_path_max);
    }
    if (depth[a] > depth[b]) swap(a, b);
    int last_heavy_path_max = segment_tree_query(pos[a], pos[b]);
    res = max(res, last_heavy_path_max);
    return res;
}
```

Example Uses

- Maximum value on the path between two vertices.
- Sum of the numbers on the path between two vertices.
- Repainting the edges of the path between two vertices.