

Graph Traversals



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Goal

This lecture aims at presenting graphs visiting techniques.

Prerequisites

- Lectures:
 - 11_7.x Pointers & Dynamic Memory
 - 11_8.4 Graphs: Introduction & definitions

Further readings

• Students interested in a deeper look at the covered topics can refer, for instance, to the books listed at the end of the lecture.

Outline

- Introduction
- Breadth-First Search
- Depth-First Search

Outline

– Introduction

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- Depth-First Search

Graph Searching (or Visiting or Traversing)

- Given: a graph G = (V, E), directed or undirected
- Goal: explore every vertex and every edge from a source vertex.
- Result: build a tree on the graph
 - Pick a vertex as the root
 - Choose certain edges to produce a tree
 - Note: might also build a *forest* if graph is not connected

Approaches

- Two possible visits:
 - Breadth first visit
 - Depth first visit.

Outline

- Introduction
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- Depth-First Search

Breadth-First Search

- "Explore" a graph, turning it into a tree
 - One vertex at a time
 - Expand frontier of explored vertices across the breadth of the frontier
- Builds a tree over the graph
 - Pick a *source vertex* to be the root
 - Find ("discover") its children, then their children, etc.

Breadth-First Search

- We will associate vertex "colors" to guide the algorithm
 - <u>White</u> nodes have not been discovered
 - . All vertices start out white
 - <u>Grey</u> nodes are discovered but not fully explored
 They may be adjacent to white vertices
 - Black nodes are discovered and fully explored
 They are adjacent only to black and gray vertices
- Explore nodes by scanning adjacency list of grey nodes

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Pseudo-code

```
BFS(G, s)
        for ogni vertice u \in V[G] - \{s\}
   1
   2
             do color[u] \leftarrow white
   3
                  d[u] \leftarrow \infty
                  \pi[u] \leftarrow \text{NIL}
  4
   5
        color[s] \leftarrow GRAY
  6 \quad d[s] \leftarrow 0
   7 \pi[s] \leftarrow \text{NIL}
  8 Q \leftarrow \{s\}
9
        while Q \neq \emptyset
 10
             do u \leftarrow head[Q]
                  for ogni v \in Adj[u]
 11
 12
                        do if color[v] = WHITE
 13
                               then color[v] \leftarrow GRAY
 14
                                      d[v] \leftarrow d[u] + 1
                            \pi[v] \leftarrow u
 15
16
            \mathbb{E}
 17
                  DEQUEUE(Q)
 18
          color[u] \leftarrow \text{BLACK}
```

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Pseudo-code



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FIFO

- Breadth-first visit is usually implemented using a FIFO:
 - Each time a vertex is visited is placed in the FIFO
 - At each step we get a vertex from the FIFO and its adjacent nodes are visited.

BFS tree

- The BFS produces a BFS tree, where
 - The root is the source node
 - The vertices are the same ones of the graph
 - The edges are a subset of the graph edges

Breadth-First Search

```
BFS(G, s) {
     initialize vertices;
    Q = \{s\}; // Q is a queue; initialize to s
    while (Q not empty) {
         u = \text{RemoveTop}(Q);
          for each v \in u->adj {
               if (v->color == WHITE)
                   v \rightarrow color = GREY;
                   v - d = u - d + 1;
                   v \rightarrow p = u;
                   Enqueue (Q, v);
          }
         u \rightarrow color = BLACK;
     }
}
```

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Note

- Vertices coloring follows this criteria :
 - All vertices are initially white
 - A vertex becomes gray when is visited for the first time
 - A vertex becomes black when all its adjacent vertices which are not yet visited have been placed in the FIFO.





































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Example: Resulting Tree



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BFS: The Code Again



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Minimum Distance

- Given two vertices s and v on an undirected graph, the minimum number of edges on a path from s to v is the distance on the minimum path.
 - The BFS computes this distance for each vertex of the graph from the source vertex.

BFS: Properties

- BFS calculates the shortest-path distance to the source node
 - Shortest-path distance δ(s,v) = minimum number of edges from s to v, or ∞ if v not reachable from s

BFS: Properties

- BFS builds breadth-first tree, in which paths to root represent shortest paths in G
 - Thus can use BFS to calculate shortest path from one vertex to another in O(V+E) time

Complexity

- •BFS complexity is O(V+E).
- Q:

What will be the storage cost in addition to storing the tree?

• A:

Total space used: O(max(degree(v))) = O(E)

Outline

- Introduction
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- Depth-First Search
Depth First Visit

The Depth-First Search (DFS) follows a different approach.

- At each step the algorithm visits a vertex adjacent to the last visited.
- When this is not possible, the algorithm goes back to the last visited node with adjacent vertex that still have to be visited.

DFS is usually a recursive function.

- Two parameters (time stamps) indicate the time when the node was visited:
 - d[u] first time visit
 - f[u] last time visit

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Pseudo-code (1)

DFS(G)

1 for each vertex $u \in V[G]$ 2 do $color[u] \leftarrow WHITE$ 3 $\pi[u] \leftarrow NIL$ 4 time $\leftarrow 0$ 5 for each vertex $u \in V[G]$ 6 do if color[u] = WHITE7 then DFS-VISIT(u)

Pseudo-code (2)



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Note

- The coloring of the vertices follows this criteria:
 - All vertices are <u>white</u> before beginning the visit.
 - A vertex becomes <u>gray</u> when is visited for the first time
 - A vertex becomes <u>black</u> when all its adjacent vertices have been visited.













































Complexity

• The complexity of the DFS visit is $\Theta(V+E)$.

DFS Forest

- The DFS builds a DFS forest, composed of one or more DFS trees.
- The edges of the forest are called tree edges.

Edge classification

- In a directed graph, edges can fall in one of 4 categories:
 - <u>Tree edges</u> (T)
 - <u>Backward edges</u> (B): they are not T edges, and they connect a vertex with one of its parents
 - <u>Forward edges</u> (F): they are not T or B edges and they connect a vertex with one of its children
 - <u>Cross edges</u> (C): the remaining edges.

Edge classification

- DFS can be easily modified to classify edges.
- Every time the algorithm traverses an edge (u,v) it checks the color of the v vertex:
 - If it is white, the edge is a T edge
 - If it is grey, the edge is a B edge
 - If it is black, the edge is an F edge (if d[u]<d[v]) or a C edge (if d[u]>d[v]), where d is the discovery time stamp.

Visiting time stamps

- Each vertex has two time stamps:
 - The first time stamp (or discovery time stamp) records when a vertex is first discovered
 - The second time stamp records when the search finishes examining adjacency list of vertex.









Edges classification – undirected graphs

 In a not directed graph there are no forward or traversing edges.

Cycles

• A directed graph DOES NOT HAVE CYCLES iff a DFS does not produce backward edges.











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Finding the cut vertices

- A DFS is used to classify each edge.
- A vertex v is a cut vertex IFF v has a child s so that there are no B edges from s or from any of its descendants to a predecessor of v.









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Note

 The source vertex is a cut vertex IFF at least one of its children does not belong to any of the subtrees starting from its other adjacent nodes.

BFS and DFS exercise

- Perform BFS starting from A: ???
- Perform DFS starting from A: ???



BFS and DFS solution

- Perform BFS starting from A:
 - A B F C G E I H
- Perform DFS starting from A:
 A B C H G I E F // D



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