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Beginner Level - Graph Data Structure Practice Questions

Let's start with **beginner-level** Graph problems with **detailed algorithms and Python solutions**.

Graph Representation (Adjacency List & Matrix)

Problem Statement

Implement a graph using both **Adjacency List** and **Adjacency Matrix** representations.

Algorithm

1. Adjacency List

- Use a dictionary where keys are nodes, and values are lists of adjacent nodes.
- Space-efficient for sparse graphs.

2. Adjacency Matrix

- Use a 2D list (NxN matrix) where graph[i][j] = 1 if there is an edge between i and j, else o.
- Efficient for dense graphs.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphAdjList:
  def __init__(self):
     self.graph = {}
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.graph[v].append(u) # For undirected graph
  def display(self):
    for node in self.graph:
       print(f"{node}: {self.graph[node]}")
class GraphAdjMatrix:
  def __init__(self, size):
     self.size = size
    self.matrix = [[0] * size for _ in range(size)]
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
     self.matrix[u][v] = 1
    self.matrix[v][u] = 1 # For undirected graph
  def display(self):
    for row in self.matrix:
       print(row)
# Usage
g_list = GraphAdjList()
g_list.add_edge(0, 1)
g_list.add_edge(0, 2)
```

```
g_list.add_edge(1, 3)
print("Adjacency List Representation:")
g_list.display()

g_matrix = GraphAdjMatrix(4)
g_matrix.add_edge(0, 1)
g_matrix.add_edge(0, 2)
g_matrix.add_edge(1, 3)
print("\nAdjacency Matrix Representation:")
g_matrix.display()
```

Graph Traversal (BFS & DFS)

Problem Statement

Implement Breadth-First Search (BFS) and Depth-First Search (DFS) for graph traversal.

Algorithm

- 1. Breadth-First Search (BFS)
 - Use a queue (FIFO).
 - Start from a node, visit all neighbors before moving deeper.
- 2. Depth-First Search (DFS)
 - Use recursion or a stack (LIFO).
 - Start from a node, go as deep as possible before backtracking.

Python Code

```
python
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from collections import deque
```

```
class GraphTraversal:
  def __init__(self):
    self.graph = {}
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
     if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.graph[v].append(u)
  def bfs(self, start):
     visited = set()
    queue = deque([start])
     while queue:
       node = queue.popleft()
       if node not in visited:
          print(node, end=" ")
         visited.add(node)
         queue.extend(self.graph[node])
  def dfs(self, start, visited=None):
     if visited is None:
       visited = set()
     if start not in visited:
       print(start, end=" ")
       visited.add(start)
       for neighbor in self.graph[start]:
          self.dfs(neighbor, visited)
# Usage
g = GraphTraversal()
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(0, 2)
g.add_edge(1, 3)
```

```
g.add_edge(2, 4)

print("\nBFS Traversal:")
g.bfs(0) # Expected Output: 0 1 2 3 4

print("\nDFS Traversal:")
g.dfs(0) # Expected Output: 0 1 3 2 4
```

Implementing BFS & DFS using Adjacency Matrix

Here's how we can modify your code to use an **Adjacency Matrix** instead of an adjacency list.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
from collections import deque

class GraphMatrix:
    def __init__(self, size):
        self.size = size # Number of nodes
        self.matrix = [[0] * size for _ in range(size)] # Create size x size matrix

def add_edge(self, u, v):
    self.matrix[u][v] = 1
    self.matrix[v][u] = 1 # Remove this line for directed graphs

def bfs(self, start):
    visited = set()
    queue = deque([start])

while queue:
    node = queue.popleft()
```

```
if node not in visited:
          print(node, end=" ")
         visited.add(node)
         for neighbor in range(self.size):
            if self.matrix[node][neighbor] == 1 and neighbor not in visited:
               queue.append(neighbor)
  def dfs(self, start, visited=None):
    if visited is None:
       visited = set()
    if start not in visited:
       print(start, end=" ")
       visited.add(start)
       for neighbor in range(self.size):
          if self.matrix[start][neighbor] == 1 and neighbor not in visited:
            self.dfs(neighbor, visited)
# Usage
g = GraphMatrix(5)
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(0, 2)
g.add_edge(1, 3)
g.add_edge(2, 4)
print("\nBFS Traversal:")
g.bfs(0) # Expected Output: 0 1 2 3 4
print("\nDFS Traversal:")
g.dfs(0) # Expected Output: 0 1 3 2 4
```

Detect Cycle in an Undirected Graph

Problem Statement

Detect if a **cycle** exists in an **undirected graph** using DFS.

Algorithm

- 1. Use DFS with a parent check.
- 2. If a visited node is reached again (not the parent), a cycle exists.

Python Code

```
python
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class GraphCycleDetection:
  def __init__(self):
     self.graph = {}
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.graph[v].append(u)
  def has_cycle_util(self, node, visited, parent):
     visited.add(node)
    for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
       if neighbor not in visited:
         if self.has_cycle_util(neighbor, visited, node):
            return True
       elif neighbor != parent:
          return True
     return False
  def has_cycle(self):
     visited = set()
     for node in self.graph:
       if node not in visited:
```

```
if self.has_cycle_util(node, visited, -1):
    return True
return False

# Usage
g = GraphCycleDetection()
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(1, 2)
g.add_edge(2, 3)
g.add_edge(2, 3)
g.add_edge(3, 0) # This creates a cycle

print("\nCycle in Graph:", g.has_cycle()) # Output: True
```

Count Connected Components in an Undirected Graph

Problem Statement

Find the number of **connected components** in an undirected graph.

Algorithm

- 1. Use DFS or BFS to traverse the graph.
- 2. **Each DFS/BFS call** represents a new component.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphConnectedComponents:
    def __init__(self):
        self.graph = {}

    def add_edge(self, u, v):
```

```
if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.graph[v].append(u)
  def dfs(self, node, visited):
    visited.add(node)
    for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
       if neighbor not in visited:
         self.dfs(neighbor, visited)
  def count_components(self):
    visited = set()
    count = 0
    for node in self.graph:
       if node not in visited:
         self.dfs(node, visited)
         count += 1
    return count
# Usage
g = GraphConnectedComponents()
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(1, 2)
g.add_edge(3, 4) # Separate component
print("\nNumber of Connected Components:", g.count_components()) # Outp
ut: 2
```

Intermediate Level - Graph Data Structure Practice Questions

Now, let's move on to **intermediate-level** Graph problems with **detailed algorithms and Python solutions**.

Find the Shortest Path in an Unweighted Graph (Using BFS)

Problem Statement

Given an **unweighted graph**, find the **shortest path** from a source node to all other nodes.

Algorithm (BFS-based)

- 1. Use **BFS** because it finds the shortest path in **O(V + E)** time.
- 2. Maintain a distance array initialized to infinity (float('inf')).
- 3. Start from the **source node**, set distance[source] = 0, and use a **queue**.
- For each dequeued node, update its neighbors' distance (dist[neighbor] = dist[node] +
 1).

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
from collections import deque

class GraphShortestPath:
    def __init__(self):
        self.graph = {}

    def add_edge(self, u, v):
        if u not in self.graph:
            self.graph[u] = []
        if v not in self.graph:
            self.graph[v] = []
        self.graph[u].append(v)
```

```
self.graph[v].append(u)
  def shortest_path(self, source):
    distance = {node: float('inf') for node in self.graph}
    distance[source] = 0
    queue = deque([source])
    while queue:
       node = queue.popleft()
       for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
         if distance[neighbor] == float('inf'): # Not visited
            distance[neighbor] = distance[node] + 1
           queue.append(neighbor)
    return distance
# Usage
g = GraphShortestPath()
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(0, 2)
g.add_edge(1, 3)
g.add_edge(2, 4)
print("Shortest Paths from Node 0:", q.shortest_path(0))
# Expected Output: {0: 0, 1: 1, 2: 1, 3: 2, 4: 2}
```

Dijkstra's Algorithm (Shortest Path in Weighted Graph)

Problem Statement

Given a **weighted graph**, find the shortest path from the source node to all other nodes.

Algorithm (Using Min-Heap / Priority Queue)

- 1. Initialize a **distance dictionary** (float('inf') for all nodes except source, which is o).
- 2. Use a **Min-Heap (Priority Queue)** to always expand the node with the smallest known distance.
- 3. For each **neighbor**, update its distance if a **shorter path** is found.
- 4. Continue until all nodes are processed.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
import heapq
class GraphDijkstra:
  def __init__(self):
    self.graph = {}
  def add_edge(self, u, v, weight):
    if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append((v, weight))
    self.graph[v].append((u, weight)) # Undirected graph
  def dijkstra(self, source):
    distance = {node: float('inf') for node in self.graph}
    distance[source] = 0
    min_heap = [(0, source)] # (cost, node)
    while min_heap:
       curr_dist, node = heapq.heappop(min_heap)
```

```
if curr_dist > distance[node]:
         continue
       for neighbor, weight in self.graph[node]:
         new_dist = curr_dist + weight
         if new_dist < distance[neighbor]:</pre>
            distance[neighbor] = new_dist
            heapq.heappush(min_heap, (new_dist, neighbor))
    return distance
# Usage
q = GraphDijkstra()
g.add_edge(0, 1, 4)
g.add_edge(0, 2, 1)
g.add_edge(2, 1, 2)
g.add_edge(1, 3, 1)
g.add_edge(2, 3, 5)
print("Shortest Paths from Node 0:", q.dijkstra(0))
# Expected Output: {0: 0, 2: 1, 1: 3, 3: 4}
```

Detect a Cycle in a Directed Graph (Using DFS)

Problem Statement

Detect if a **cycle** exists in a **directed graph**.

Algorithm

- 1. Use **DFS with recursion stack** to detect back edges.
- 2. Maintain a visited set and a rec_stack (recursive stack).
- 3. If a node is encountered that is already in rec_stack, a cycle exists.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphCycleDirected:
  def __init__(self):
     self.graph = {}
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
  def has_cycle_util(self, node, visited, rec_stack):
     visited.add(node)
    rec_stack.add(node)
    for neighbor in self.graph.get(node, []):
       if neighbor not in visited:
         if self.has_cycle_util(neighbor, visited, rec_stack):
            return True
       elif neighbor in rec_stack:
          return True
     rec_stack.remove(node)
     return False
  def has_cycle(self):
     visited = set()
     rec_stack = set()
     for node in self.graph:
       if node not in visited:
          if self.has_cycle_util(node, visited, rec_stack):
            return True
     return False
```

```
# Usage
g = GraphCycleDirected()
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(1, 2)
g.add_edge(2, 0) # This creates a cycle
print("\nCycle in Directed Graph:", g.has_cycle()) # Output: True
```

Topological Sorting (Kahn's Algorithm - BFS)

Problem Statement

Given a **DAG (Directed Acyclic Graph)**, perform **Topological Sorting**.

Algorithm (Using Kahn's Algorithm - BFS)

- 1. Calculate in-degree of all nodes.
- 2. **Start with nodes** that have in-degree = 0.
- 3. **Process nodes** in a queue, reduce in-degree of neighbors.
- 4. If all nodes are processed, return topological order.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
from collections import deque

class GraphTopologicalSort:
    def __init__(self):
        self.graph = {}
        self.in_degree = {}

    def add_edge(self, u, v):
```

```
if u not in self.graph:
       self.graph[u] = []
    if v not in self.graph:
       self.graph[v] = []
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.in_degree[v] = self.in_degree.get(v, 0) + 1
    self.in_degree.setdefault(u, 0)
  def topological_sort(self):
    queue = deque([node for node in self.in_degree if self.in_degree[node] =
= 0]
    result = []
    while queue:
       node = queue.popleft()
       result.append(node)
       for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
         self.in_degree[neighbor] -= 1
         if self.in_degree[neighbor] == 0:
            queue.append(neighbor)
    return result if len(result) == len(self.graph) else "Cycle Detected (Not a
DAG)"
# Usage
g = GraphTopologicalSort()
g.add_edge(5, 2)
g.add_edge(5, 0)
g.add_edge(4, 0)
g.add_edge(4, 1)
g.add_edge(2, 3)
g.add_edge(3, 1)
```

print("\nTopological Sort Order:", g.topological_sort())
Expected Output: [5, 4, 2, 3, 1, 0] (Order may vary)

Advanced Level - Graph Data Structure Practice Questions

Now, let's tackle **advanced-level** Graph problems with **detailed algorithms and Python solutions**.

Floyd-Warshall Algorithm (All-Pairs Shortest Path)

Problem Statement

Given a **weighted directed graph**, find the **shortest path** between all pairs of nodes.

Algorithm (Dynamic Programming)

- 1. Create a **distance matrix** where dist[i][j] stores the shortest path from node to j.
- 2. Initialize the matrix:
 - dist[i][i] = 0 (Distance to itself is 0).
 - dist[i][j] = weight(i, j) if there is a direct edge.
 - dist[i][j] = ∞ (or large value) if no direct edge exists.
- 3. Use **three nested loops** to iteratively update distances:
 - dist[i][j] = min(dist[i][j], dist[i][k] + dist[k][j])
 - This checks if an **intermediate node** k provides a shorter path.
- 4. Time Complexity: **O(V³)**.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphFloydWarshall:
  def __init__(self, vertices):
     self.V = vertices
     self.INF = float('inf')
     self.graph = [[self.INF] * vertices for _ in range(vertices)]
  def add_edge(self, u, v, weight):
     self.graph[u][v] = weight
  def floyd_warshall(self):
     dist = [row[:] for row in self.graph]
     for k in range(self.V):
       for i in range(self.V):
          for j in range(self.V):
            if dist[i][k] != self.INF and dist[k][j] != self.INF:
               dist[i][j] = min(dist[i][j], dist[i][k] + dist[k][j])
     return dist
# Usage
g = GraphFloydWarshall(4)
g.add_edge(0, 1, 3)
g.add_edge(0, 2, 10)
g.add_edge(1, 2, 2)
g.add_edge(2, 3, 1)
result = g.floyd_warshall()
print("\nAll-Pairs Shortest Paths:")
for row in result:
  print(row)
```

Bellman-Ford Algorithm (Single-Source Shortest Path with Negative Weights)

Problem Statement

Find the **shortest path from a source node to all other nodes**, even if negativeweight edges exist.

Algorithm

- 1. Initialize distance array, where distance[source] = 0 and all others are ∞.
- 2. **Relax all edges** v-1 times (as the longest shortest path has at most v-1 edges).
- 3. After <u>V-1</u> iterations, if any edge can still be relaxed, a **negative-weight cycle** exists.
- 4. Time Complexity: O(VE).

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphBellmanFord:
    def __init__(self, vertices):
        self.V = vertices
        self.edges = []

    def add_edge(self, u, v, weight):
        self.edges.append((u, v, weight))

    def bellman_ford(self, source):
        distance = {i: float('inf') for i in range(self.V)}
        distance[source] = 0

    for _ in range(self.V - 1):
        for u, v, w in self.edges:
```

Find Bridges in a Graph (Tarjan's Algorithm)

Problem Statement

Find all **bridges** in a graph. A **bridge** is an edge whose removal increases the number of connected components.

Algorithm (DFS-Based Tarjan's Algorithm)

- 1. Perform **DFS traversal**.
- 2. Maintain:
 - tin[]: The discovery time of each node.
 - low[]: The earliest reachable ancestor of the node.
- 3. If low[neighbor] > tin[node], the edge (node, neighbor) is a **bridge**.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphBridges:
  def __init__(self, vertices):
    self.V = vertices
    self.graph = {i: [] for i in range(vertices)}
    self.timer = 0
    self.bridges = []
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    self.graph[u].append(v)
    self.graph[v].append(u)
  def dfs(self, node, parent, visited, tin, low):
    visited[node] = True
    tin[node] = low[node] = self.timer
    self.timer += 1
    for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
       if neighbor == parent:
         continue
       if visited[neighbor]:
         low[node] = min(low[node], tin[neighbor])
       else:
         self.dfs(neighbor, node, visited, tin, low)
         low[node] = min(low[node], low[neighbor])
         if low[neighbor] > tin[node]:
            self.bridges.append((node, neighbor))
  def find_bridges(self):
    visited = [False] * self.V
```

```
tin = [-1] * self.V
low = [-1] * self.V

for i in range(self.V):
    if not visited[i]:
        self.dfs(i, -1, visited, tin, low)

return self.bridges

# Usage
g = GraphBridges(5)
g.add_edge(0, 1)
g.add_edge(1, 2)
g.add_edge(2, 3)
g.add_edge(2, 3)
g.add_edge(3, 4)

print("\nBridges in the Graph:", g.find_bridges())
```

Find Strongly Connected Components (Kosaraju's Algorithm)

Problem Statement

Find all strongly connected components (SCCs) in a directed graph.

Algorithm (Kosaraju's Algorithm)

- 1. First DFS: Store nodes in postorder (stack).
- 2. **Reverse Graph**: Reverse all edges.
- 3. **Second DFS**: Pop nodes from stack and perform DFS in **reversed graph** to identify SCCs.
- 4. Time Complexity: **O(V + E)**.

Python Code

```
python
CopyEdit
class GraphSCC:
  def __init__(self, vertices):
     self.V = vertices
     self.graph = {i: [] for i in range(vertices)}
  def add_edge(self, u, v):
    self.graph[u].append(v)
  def dfs(self, node, visited, stack):
     visited[node] = True
     for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
       if not visited[neighbor]:
         self.dfs(neighbor, visited, stack)
     stack.append(node)
  def reverse_graph(self):
     reversed_graph = {i: [] for i in range(self.V)}
     for node in self.graph:
       for neighbor in self.graph[node]:
          reversed_graph[neighbor].append(node)
     return reversed_graph
  def find_sccs(self):
    stack, visited = [], [False] * self.V
     for i in range(self.V):
       if not visited[i]:
         self.dfs(i, visited, stack)
     reversed_graph = self.reverse_graph()
    visited = [False] * self.V
     sccs = []
```

```
while stack:
       node = stack.pop()
       if not visited[node]:
         scc, dfs_stack = [], [node]
         while dfs_stack:
           v = dfs_stack.pop()
           if not visited[v]:
              visited[v] = True
              scc.append(v)
              dfs_stack.extend(reversed_graph[v])
         sccs.append(scc)
    return sccs
# Usage
g = GraphSCC(5)
g.add_edge(0, 2)
g.add_edge(2, 1)
g.add_edge(1, 0)
g.add_edge(1, 3)
g.add_edge(3, 4)
print("\nStrongly Connected Components:", g.find_sccs())
```