

# BFS & Level Order Traversal

Charles Aunkan Gomes  
Lecturer, Dept. of CSE  
United International University  
charles@cse.uiu.ac.bd



# Graph Search

---

- Given: a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , directed or undirected
- Goal: methodically explore every vertex and every edge
- Ultimately: 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
- There are two standard graph traversal techniques:
  - Breadth-First Search (BFS)
  - Depth-First Search (DFS)

# Breadth-First Search

---

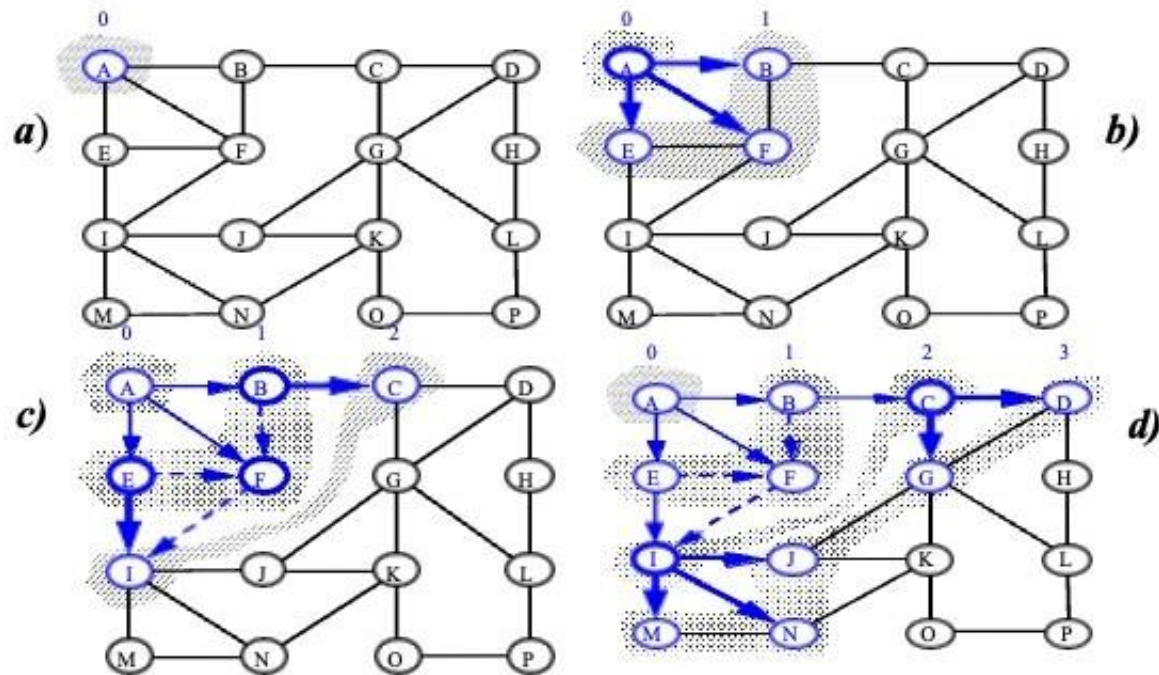
- “Explore” a graph, turning it into a tree
  - One vertex at a time
  - Expand frontier of explored vertices across the *breadth* of the frontier
- Builds a tree over the graph
  - Pick a *source vertex* to be the root
  - Find (“discover”) its children, then their children, etc.

# Breadth-First Search

---

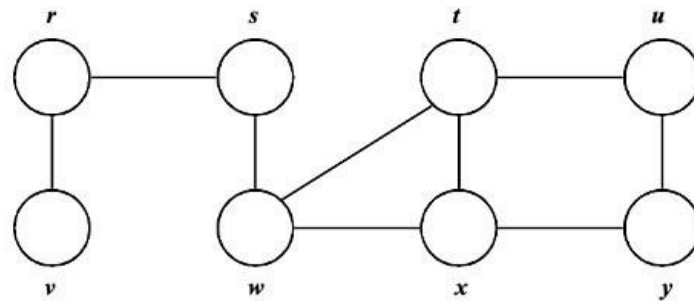
- Again will associate vertex “colors” to guide the algorithm
  - **White vertices** have not been discovered
    - ◆ All vertices start out white
  - **Grey vertices** are discovered but not fully explored
    - ◆ They may be adjacent to white vertices
  - **Black vertices** are discovered and fully explored
    - ◆ They are adjacent only to black and grey vertices
- Explore vertices by scanning **adjacency list** of grey vertices

# BFS – Graphical Representation



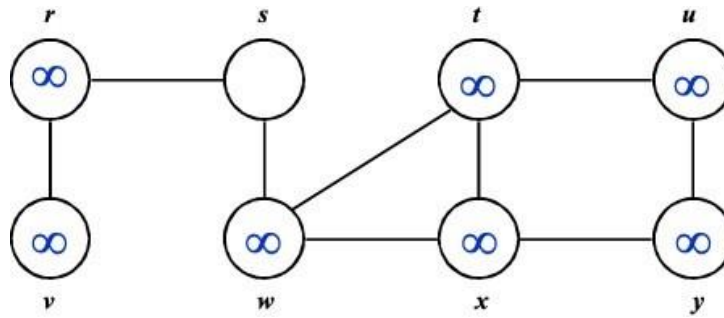
# BFS – Example

---



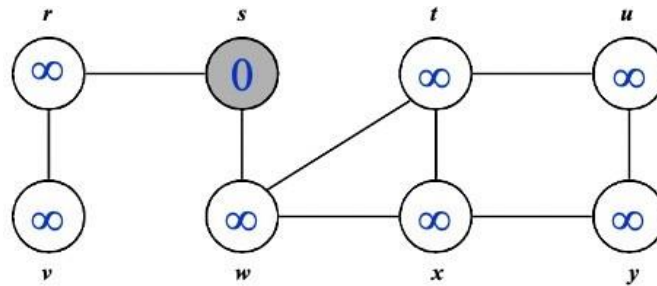
# BFS – Example

---



# BFS – Example

---

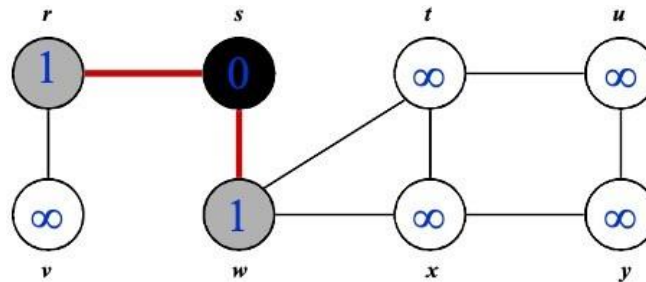


$Q$ :  $s$



# BFS – Example

---

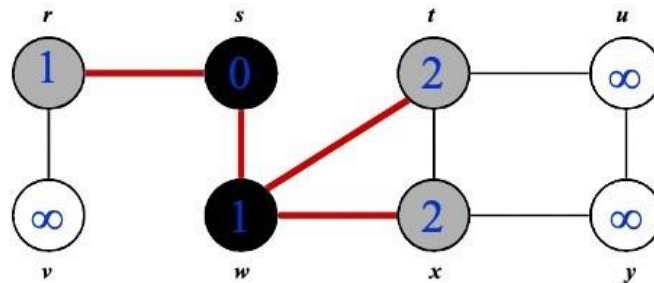


$Q$ : 

$w$	$r$
-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

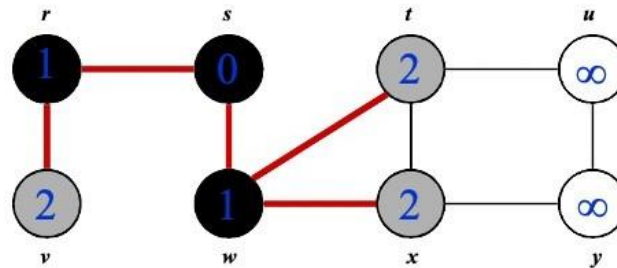


$Q$ : 

$r$	$t$	$x$
-----	-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

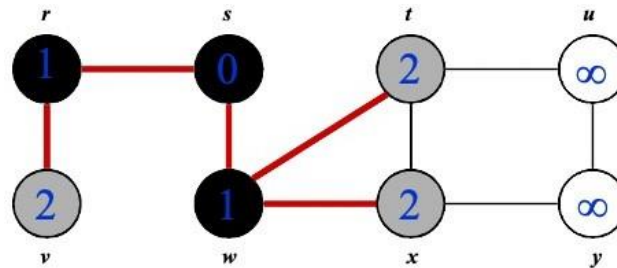


$Q$ : 

$t$	$x$	$v$
-----	-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

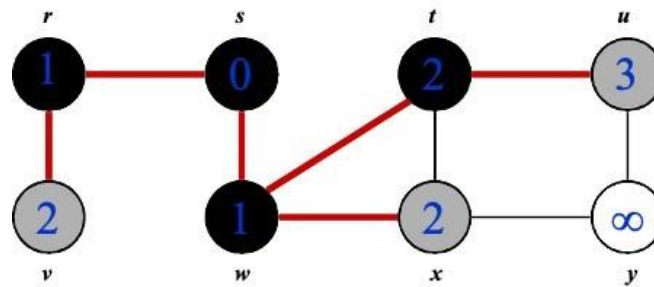


$Q$ : 

$t$	$x$	$v$
-----	-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

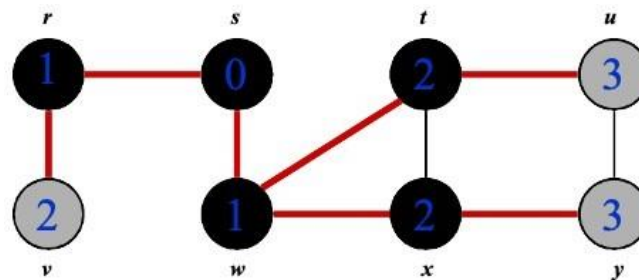


$Q$ : 

$x$	$v$	$u$
-----	-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

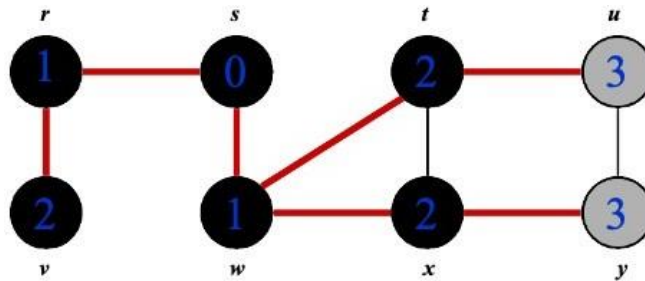


$Q$ : 

$v$	$u$	$y$
-----	-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

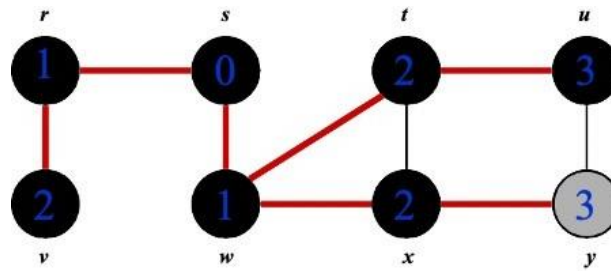


$Q$ : 

$u$	$y$
-----	-----

# BFS – Example

---

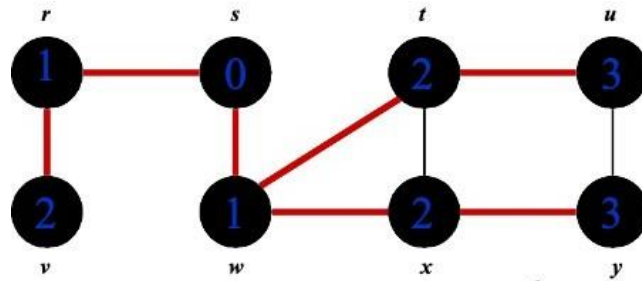


$Q$ :  $y$



# BFS – Example

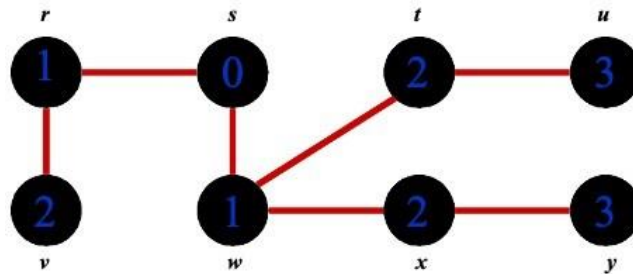
---



$Q: \emptyset$

# BFS – Example

---



Output: BFS Spanning Tree

# BFS – Code

---

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

```
BFS( $G, s$ ) {
    initialize vertices;
     $Q = \{s\}$ ;
    while ( $Q$  not empty) {
         $u = \text{RemoveTop}(Q)$ ;
        for each  $v \in u \rightarrow adj$  {
            if ( $v \rightarrow color == \text{WHITE}$ )
                 $v \rightarrow color = \text{GRAY}$ ;
                 $v \rightarrow d = u \rightarrow d + 1$ ;
                 $v \rightarrow p = u$ ;
                ENQUEUE( $Q, v$ );
        }
         $u \rightarrow color = \text{BLACK}$ ;
    }
}
```

# BFS – Code

---

```
BFS(G, s) {  
    initialize vertices;   
    Q = {s};  
    while (Q not empty) {  
        u = RemoveTop(Q);  
        for each v ∈ u->adj {  
            if (v->color == WHITE)  
                v->color = GREY;  
                v->d = u->d + 1;  
                v->p = u;  
                Enqueue(Q, v);  
        }  
        u->color = BLACK;  
    }  
}
```

← *Touch every vertex:  $O(V)$*

←  *$u$  = every vertex, but only once  
(Why?)*

*So  $v$  = every vertex  
that appears in  
some other vert's  
adjacency list*

*What will be the running time?*

**Total running time:**

$O(V + \sum(\text{degree}(v))) = O(V+E)$

# BFS – Code again

---

```
BFS(G, s) {  
    initialize vertices;   
    Q = {s};  
    while (Q not empty) {  
        u = RemoveTop(Q);  
        for each v ∈ u->adj {  
            if (v->color == WHITE)  
                v->color = GREY;  
                v->d = u->d + 1;  
                v->p = u;  
                Enqueue(Q, v);  
        }  
        u->color = BLACK;  
    }  
}
```

← *Touch every vertex:  $O(V)$*

←  *$u$  = every vertex, but only once  
(Why?)*

*So  $v$  = every vertex  
that appears in  
some other vert's  
adjacency list*

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

**Total space used:**  
 $O(V + \sum(\text{degree}(v))) = O(V + E)$

# BFS – Properties

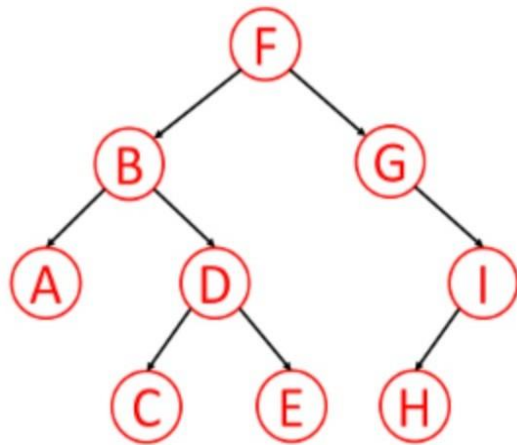
---

- BFS calculates the *shortest-path distance* to the source node
  - Shortest-path distance  $\delta(s, v)$  = minimum number of edges from  $s$  to  $v$ , or  $\infty$  if  $v$  not reachable from  $s$
- BFS builds *breadth-first spanning tree (forest)*, in which paths to root( $s$ ) represent shortest paths in  $G$ 
  - Thus can use BFS to calculate shortest path from one vertex to another in  $O(V + E)$  time in an unweighted graph

# Level Order Traversal – Using Queue

---

- In a level order traversal, every node on a level is visited before going to a lower level



***Solution?***

Start a BFS traversal from the tree root !!

THANK YOU

