Graph Theory and Algorithms

Lecture 11: Graph Representations and Properties

Instructor: Dr. Mudassir Shabbir

ITU

February 26, 2025



Scribe: Safwan Ahmad & Shariq Shoaib



Graph Definition

Definition: A graph is a pair of two sets G(V, E) where:

- *V* is the set of vertices.
- *E* is the set of edges, a subset of $V \times V$.

Graph means:

- Undirected: Edges have no direction.
- Unweighted: Edges have no weights.
- **Simple**: No multiple edges or loops.

Types of Graphs:

- **Directed Graph**: $(u, v) \in E \neq (v, u) \in E$. (e.g., Twitter)
- **Undirected Graph**: $(u, v) \in E = (v, u) \in E$. (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn)
- **Weighted Graph**: Graph with weights on edges, $W: E \to \mathbb{R}$.
- Simple Graph: No multiple edges or loops.



Connectivity of Graph

Example Graph:

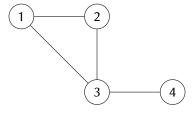


Figure 1

Connectivity of Graph: A graph is connected if every pair of vertices has a path.

- If $(u, v) \in E$, then u and v are **Adjacent** or **Incident**.
- Every consecutive pair in a walk is adjacent.

Walk

Walk: A walk in a graph is a sequence of vertices and edges where both edges and vertices can be repeated.

- Formally, $\langle V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_k \rangle$ where $(V_i, V_{i+1}) \in E$.
- **Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 2, 3, 4 \rangle$ is a walk.
- **Non-Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 4 \rangle$ is not a walk (no direct edge).

Key points to note about a walk:

- Edges can be repeated.
- Vertices can be repeated.

Path and Simple Path

Path: A walk with no repeated edges.

• **Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$ is a path.

Simple Path: a path in a graph which does not have repeating vertices.

• **Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$ is a simple path.

Length of a Path

Definition: For a path $P = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \rangle$, the length is the number of edges involved.

• Length l = k - 1, where k is the total number of vertices.

Examples:

- $\langle 1, 4 \rangle$ has length l = 1 (1 edge).
- $\langle 1 \rangle$ has length l = 0 (no edges).

Shortest Path

Shortest Path:

- For an **unweighted graph**, the shortest path is the path from v_1 to v_k with the minimum number of edges.
- **Example:** In Figure 1, the shortest path from vertex 1 to vertex 4 is $\langle 1, 3, 4 \rangle$ with 2 edges.
- For a **weighted graph**, the shortest path is the path from v_1 to v_k where the sum of edge weights is minimized.
- **Example:** Suppose the weights on the edges in Figure 1 are:
 - (1,2): 3, (1,3): 1, (2,3): 1, (3,4): 2

Then the shortest path from vertex 1 to vertex 4 is $\langle 1, 3, 4 \rangle$ with total weight 1 + 2 = 3.

Cycle, Simple Cycle

Cycle: A path where the first and last vertex are the same.

• **Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 2, 3, 1 \rangle$ is a cycle.

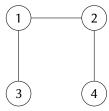
Simple Cycle: A simple path where the first and last vertex are the same.

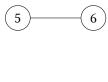
• **Example:** in Figure 1 $\langle 1, 2, 3, 1 \rangle$ is a simple cycle.

Forest

Forest: A forest is a graph with no cycles.

- A forest can consist of multiple disconnected trees.
- **Example:** The graph below is a forest with two trees.

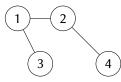




Connected

Connected:

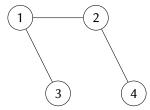
- Two vertices $u, v \in V$ are connected if there is a walk from u to v.
- A graph G is connected if every pair of vertices $u, v \in V$ is connected.
- Key Points:
 - If there is an edge between two vertices, they are connected and adjacent.
 - If a path exists between two vertices, they are connected but not necessarily adjacent.
 - They are adjacent only if there is a direct edge between them.
- **Example:** In the graph below, vertices 2 and 3 are connected but not adjacent.



Tree and Examples

Tree: A tree is a connected forest.

- A tree is a connected graph with no cycles.
- Example: The graph below is a tree.



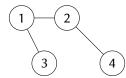
Additional Examples:

- Connected but Not Adjacent: In the tree above, vertices 1 and 4 are connected (path: $\langle 1, 2, 4 \rangle$) but not adjacent.
- Adjacent and Connected: In the tree above, vertices 1 and 2 are both connected and adjacent.

Neighbours and Degrees

Definition: If $(u, v) \in E$, then v is a neighbour of u.

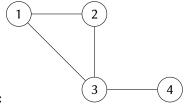
- For directed graphs, $(u, v) \in E$ means v is an out-neighbour of u and u is an in-neighbour of v.
- $N(u) = \{v : (u, v) \in E\}$
- |N(u)| = d(u), where d(u) is the degree of u.



- $N(1) = \{2, 3\}$ and d(1) = 2.
- $N(2) = \{1, 4\}$ and d(2) = 2.
- $N(3) = \{1\}$ and d(3) = 1.
- $N(4) = \{2\}$ and d(4) = 1.



Representation



MST Graph:

• Nodes: 1, 2, 3, 4

Adjacency List

Adjacency List:

Vertex	Adjacent Vertices
1	2, 3
2	1, 3
3	1, 2, 4
4	3

Explanation:

- Each vertex is listed with its adjacent vertices.
- For example, vertex 1 is connected to vertices 2 and 3.

Adjacency Matrix

Adjacency Matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Explanation:

- Rows and columns represent vertices 1, 2, 3, 4.
- A '1' indicates an edge between the corresponding vertices.
- For example, the edge between 1 and 2 is represented by a '1' in the first row, second column.

DFS Algorithm

Depth First Search (DFS):

- DFS is a graph traversal algorithm.
- It explores as far as possible along each branch before backtracking.
- Used in applications like:
 - Pathfinding
 - Cycle detection
 - Topological sorting
 - Solving puzzles and mazes

DFS Algorithm Steps

How DFS Works:

- Start at a source vertex V1.
- Mark V1 as visited.
- For each neighbor $v \in N(V1)$:
 - If *v* is not visited, recursively apply DFS to *v*.

DFS Algorithm: Without Wrapper

Pseudocode for DFS (Connected Graph):

- Use it when the graph is connected and a single start vertex is sufficient.
- Traversal starts from a source node and explores all reachable vertices.

```
    procedure DFS(V)
    V.visited ← True
    for each neighbor u ∈ N(V) do
    if u.visited = False then
    DFS(u)
    end if
    end for
    end procedure
```

DFS Algorithm: Wrapper Concept

Pseudocode for DFS (Disconnected Graph):

- Wrapper function ensures that all graph components are visited.
- Used when the graph may have disconnected parts.

```
    procedure DFS-WRAPPER(Graph G)
    for each vertex V ∈ G do
    if V.visited = False then
    DFS(V)
    end if
    end for
    end procedure
```

DFS Algorithm: Recursive DFS Function

Inner DFS Procedure:

- Recursively visits all vertices reachable from the starting vertex.
- Called by the wrapper for unvisited vertices.

```
    procedure DFS(V)
    V.visited ← True
    for each neighbor u ∈ N(V) do
    if u.visited = False then
    DFS(u)
    end if
    end for
    end procedure
```

DFS Example - Connected Graph

Connected Graph:

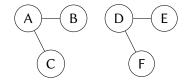


DFS Process:

- Start at A: Visit $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$.
- Traversal order may vary depending on neighbor order.

DFS Example - Disconnected Graph

Disconnected Graph:



DFS Process:

- Start at A: Visit $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$.
- Since the graph is disconnected, apply DFS again from D: Visit D \rightarrow E \rightarrow F.

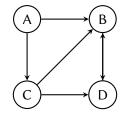
DFS Edge Classifications - Definitions & Explanations

Types of Edges in DFS:

- **Tree Edge**: An edge (u, v) where v is unvisited when (u, v) is explored. These form the DFS tree and represent discovery of new vertices.
- **Back Edge**: An edge (*u*, *v*) that connects *u* to an ancestor *v* in the DFS tree (*v*.visited = True). Indicates a cycle if the graph is directed.
- Forward Edge: An edge (u, v) where v is a descendant of u in the DFS tree and already visited. Traverses deeper parts of the tree, but not new vertices.
- **Cross Edge** (optional): An edge (*u*, *v*) that connects nodes in separate branches or components (not ancestor/descendant). Typically occurs in directed graphs during DFS.

DFS Edge Classifications - Example

Graph:



Edge Classifications:

• Tree Edges: (A, B), (B, D), (A, C)

Back Edge: (D, B)

• **Forward Edge**: (*C*, *D*)

• **Cross Edge**: (*C*, *B*)

BFS Algorithm

BFS Algorithm:

- Start at a vertex U.
- Use a queue *Q* to manage vertices.
- Mark the starting vertex as visited and enqueue it.
- While the queue is not empty, dequeue a vertex and explore its neighbors.
- Mark and enqueue unvisited neighbors.

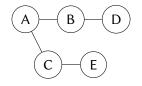
BFS Algorithm: Mathematical Form

Mathematical Form:

```
1: procedure BFS(U, Q)
        for each vertex v in graph: v.visited \leftarrow False
                                                                       ▶ Initialize visited
 2:
        Push(U, Q)
 3:
        U.visited \leftarrow True
 4.
        while Q \neq \emptyset do
 5:
             U \leftarrow \text{Pop}(Q)
 6:
             for each neighbor Y \in \mathcal{N}(U) do
 7:
                 if Y.visited = False then
 8:
                      Y.visited \leftarrow True
 9:
                      Push(Y, Q)
10:
                 end if
11:
             end for
12:
        end while
13:
14: end procedure
```

BFS Example: Connected Graph

Connected Graph:



BFS Process:

• Start at A: Visit $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow E$.

BFS Queue Process

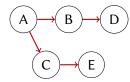
Queue Process:

- Initialize: Q = [A]
- Step 1: Pop A, enqueue B and C. Q = [B, C]
- Step 2: Pop B, enqueue D. Q = [C, D]
- Step 3: Pop C, enqueue E. Q = [D, E]
- Step 4: Pop D. Q = [E]
- Step 5: Pop E. *Q* = []

BFS Tree Edges

Tree Edges:

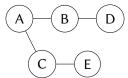
- Tree edges are the edges that connect a vertex to its unvisited neighbors.
- In BFS, tree edges always go from a vertex at level L to a vertex at level L + 1.
- Example: $A \rightarrow B$, $A \rightarrow C$, $B \rightarrow D$, $C \rightarrow E$.



BFS Cross Edges

Cross Edges:

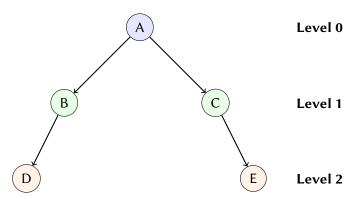
- Cross edges are edges between vertices at the same level.
- In BFS, cross edges do not exist in trees but can exist in general graphs.
- Example: None in this graph (since it is a tree).



BFS Levels

BFS Levels:

- Level 0: A
- Level 1: B, C
- Level 2: D, E



Analysis of DFS and BFS

Time Complexity of DFS and BFS:

- Both DFS and BFS visit each vertex once and each edge once.
- Let *V* be the number of vertices and *E* be the number of edges.
- **DFS Time Complexity:** O(V + E)
 - Each vertex is visited once: O(V)
 - Each edge is traversed once: *O*(*E*)
- BFS Time Complexity: O(V + E)
 - Each vertex is enqueued and dequeued once: O(V)
 - Each edge is traversed once: *O*(*E*)

Next Class

Topics:

- New examples beyond connectivity.
- Applications of DFS and BFS in real-world problems.