

Unweighted Graphs

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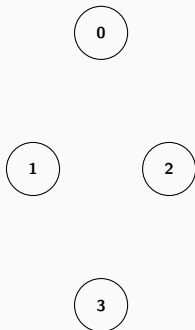
Today we're going to cover

- Graph basics
- Graph representation
- Depth-first search
- Connected components
- Paths in trees
- DFS tree
- Bridges
- Strongly connected components
- Breadth-first search
- Shortest paths in unweighted graphs

What is a graph?

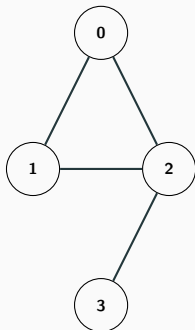
What is a graph?

- Vertices
 - Road intersections
 - Computers
 - Floors in a house
 - Objects



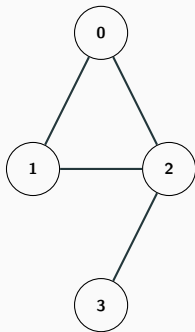
What is a graph?

- Vertices
 - Road intersections
 - Computers
 - Floors in a house
 - Objects
- Edges
 - Roads
 - Ethernet cables
 - Stairs or elevators
 - Relation between objects



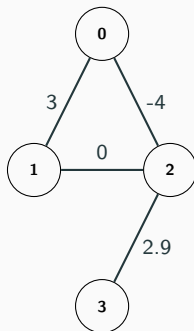
Types of edges

- Unweighted



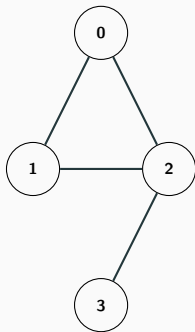
Types of edges

- Unweighted or **Weighted**



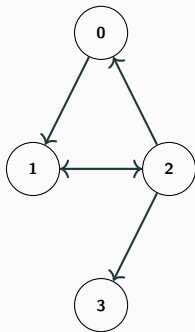
Types of edges

- Unweighted or Weighted
- Undirected



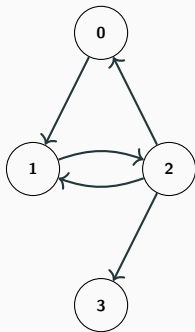
Types of edges

- Unweighted or Weighted
- Undirected or **Directed**

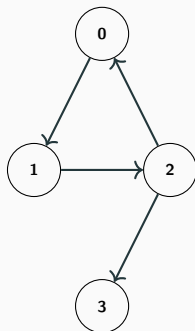


Types of edges

- Unweighted or Weighted
- Undirected or **Directed**

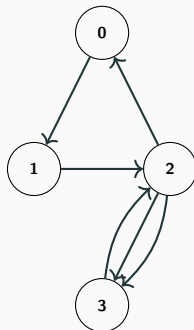


Multigraphs



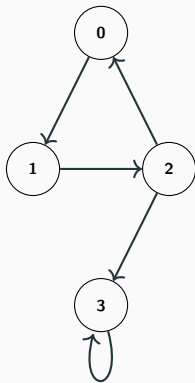
Multigraphs

- Multiple edges



Multigraphs

- Multiple edges
- Self-loops



Adjacency list

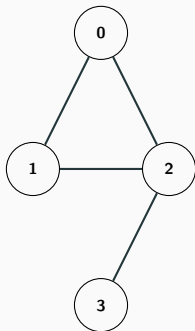
0: 1, 2

1: 0, 2

2: 0, 1, 3

3: 2

```
vector<int> adj[4];  
adj[0].push_back(1);  
adj[0].push_back(2);  
adj[1].push_back(0);  
adj[1].push_back(2);  
adj[2].push_back(0);  
adj[2].push_back(1);  
adj[2].push_back(3);  
adj[3].push_back(2);
```



Adjacency list (directed)

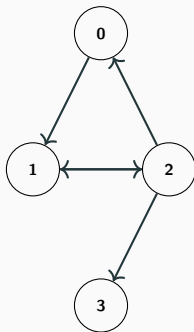
0: 1

1: 2

2: 0, 1, 3

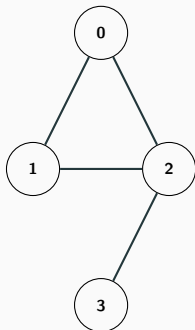
3:

```
vector<int> adj[4];  
adj[0].push_back(1);  
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adj[2].push_back(3);
```



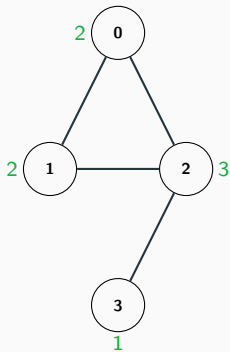
Vertex properties (undirected graph)

- Degree of a vertex
 - Number of adjacent edges
 - Number of adjacent vertices



Vertex properties (undirected graph)

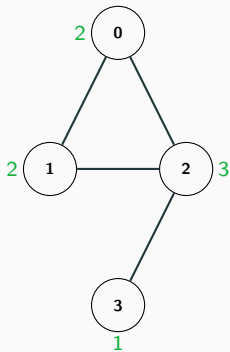
- Degree of a vertex
 - Number of adjacent edges
 - Number of adjacent vertices



Vertex properties (undirected graph)

- Degree of a vertex
 - Number of adjacent edges
 - Number of adjacent vertices
- Handshaking lemma

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2|E|$$

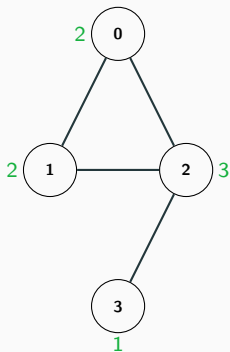


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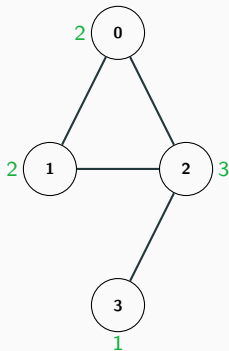
$$2 + 2 + 3 + 1 = 2 \times 4$$



Vertex properties (undirected graph)

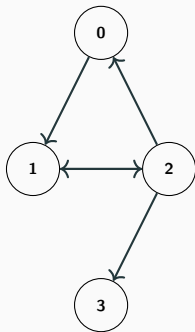
0: 1, 2
1: 0, 2
2: 0, 1, 3
3: 2

```
adj[0].size() // 2  
adj[1].size() // 2  
adj[2].size() // 3  
adj[3].size() // 1
```



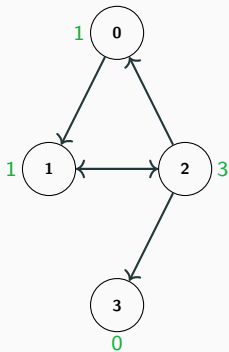
Vertex properties (directed graph)

- Outdegree of a vertex
 - Number of outgoing edges



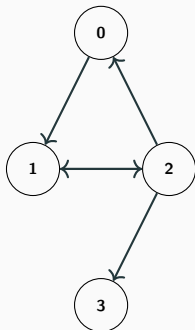
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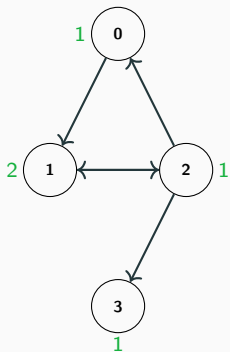
Vertex properties (directed graph)

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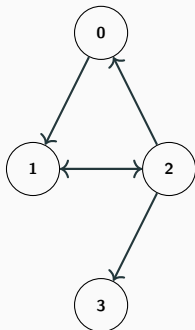
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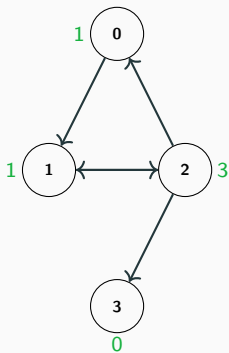
Vertex properties (directed graph)

- Outdegree of a vertex
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Vertex properties (directed graph)

- Outdegree of a vertex
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 - Number of incoming edges



Adjacency list (directed)

0: 1

1: 2

2: 0, 1, 3

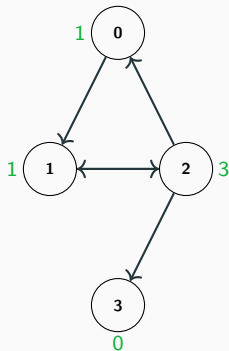
3:

`adj[0].size()` // 1

`adj[1].size()` // 1

`adj[2].size()` // 3

`adj[3].size()` // 0



Paths

- Path / Walk / Trail:

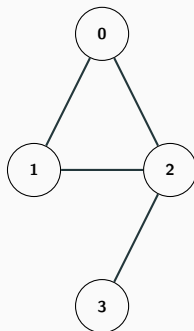
$$e_1 e_2 \dots e_k$$

such that

$$e_i \in E$$

$$e_i = e_j \Rightarrow i = j$$

$$\text{to}(e_i) = \text{from}(e_{i+1})$$



Paths

- Path / Walk / Trail:

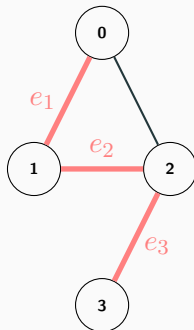
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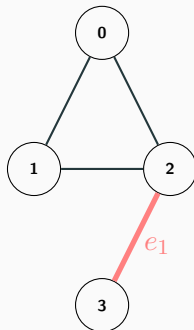
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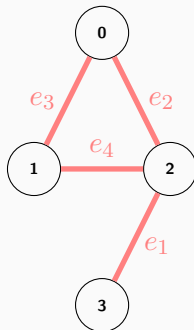
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Cycles

- Cycle / Circuit / Tour:

$$e_1 e_2 \dots e_k$$

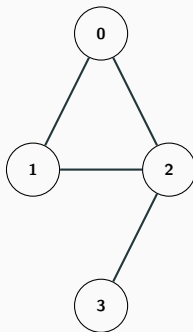
such that

$$e_i \in E$$

$$e_i = e_j \Rightarrow i = j$$

$$\text{to}(e_i) = \text{from}(e_{i+1})$$

$$\text{from}(e_1) = \text{to}(e_k)$$



Cycles

- Cycle / Circuit / Tour:

$$e_1 e_2 \dots e_k$$

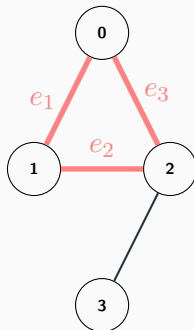
such that

$$e_i \in E$$

$$e_i = e_j \Rightarrow i = j$$

$$\text{to}(e_i) = \text{from}(e_{i+1})$$

$$\text{from}(e_1) = \text{to}(e_k)$$



Cycles

- Cycle / Circuit / Tour:

$$e_1 e_2 \dots e_k$$

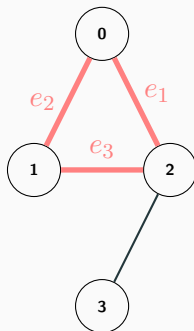
such that

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Cycles

- Cycle / Circuit / Tour:

$$e_1 e_2 \dots e_k$$

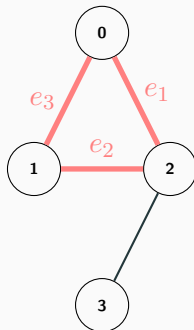
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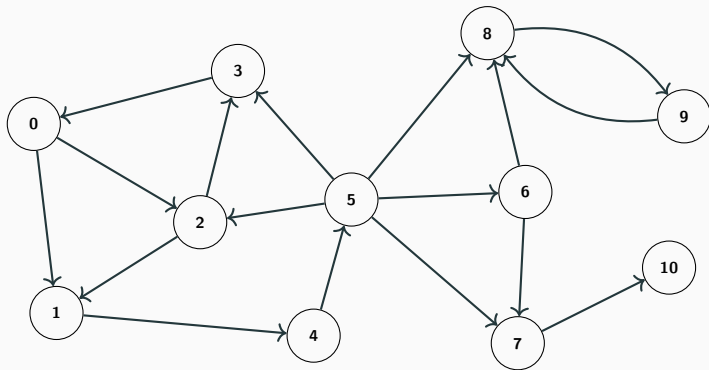
$$\text{from}(e_1) = \text{to}(e_k)$$



Depth-first search

- Given a graph (either directed or undirected) and two vertices u and v , does there exist a path from u to v ?
- Depth-first search is an algorithm for finding such a path, if one exists
- It traverses the graph in depth-first order, starting from the initial vertex u
- We don't actually have to specify a v , since we can just let it visit all reachable vertices from u (and still same time complexity)
- But what is the time complexity?
- Each vertex is visited once, and each edge is traversed once
- $O(n + m)$

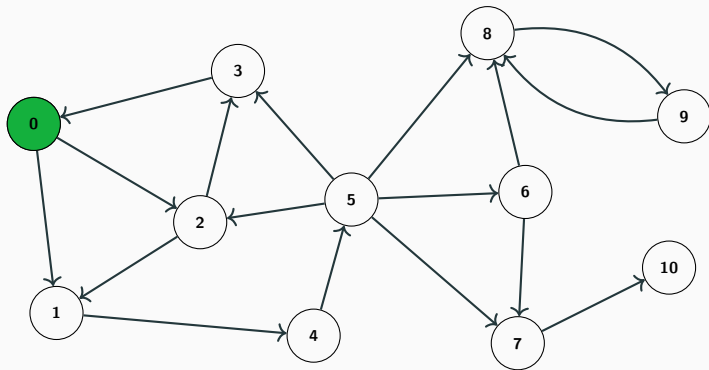
Depth-first search



Stack: |

[illegible]

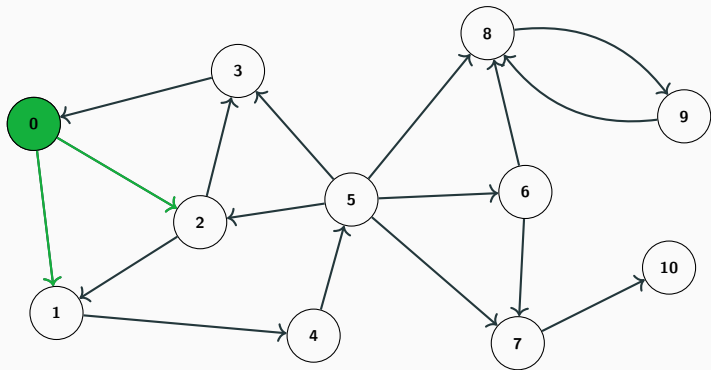
Depth-first search



Stack: 0 |

[illegible]

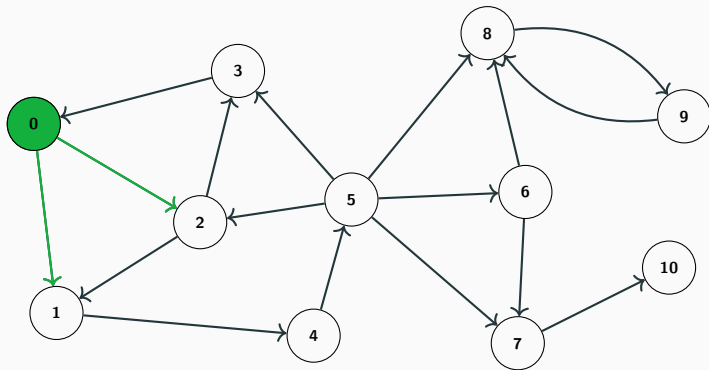
Depth-first search



Stack: 0 |

[illegible]

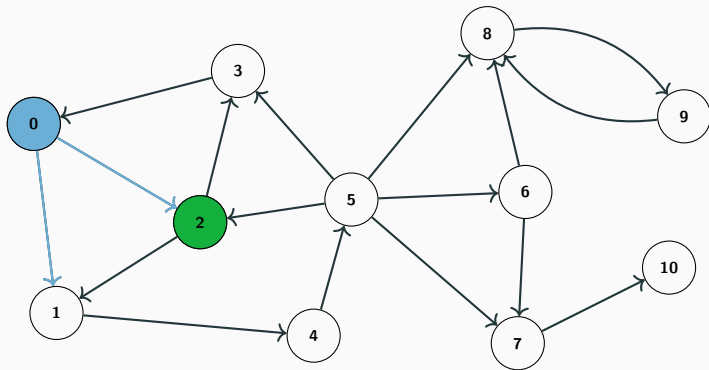
Depth-first search



Stack: 0 | 2 1

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

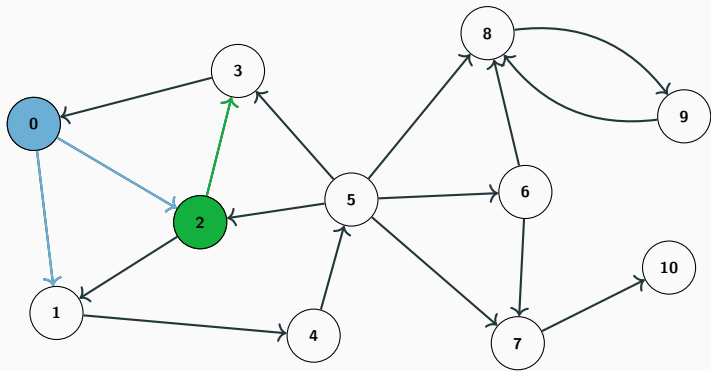
Depth-first search



Stack: 2 | 1

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

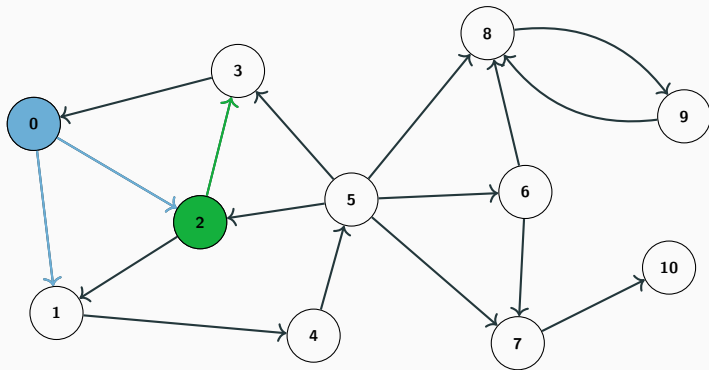
Depth-first search



Stack: 2 | 1

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

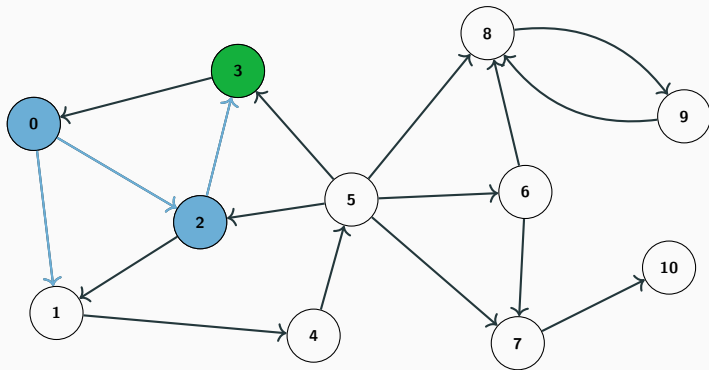
Depth-first search



Stack: 2 | 3 1

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

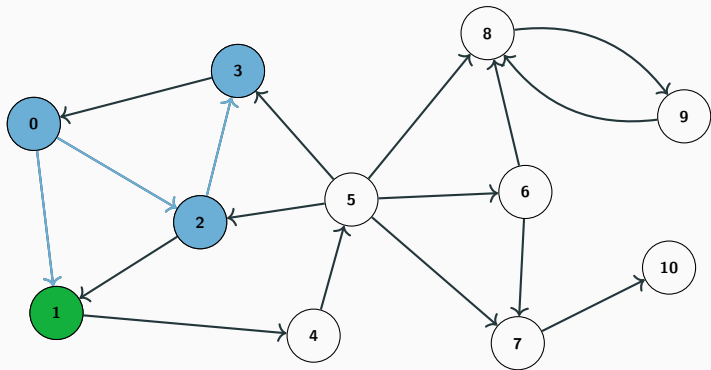
Depth-first search



Stack: 3 | 1

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

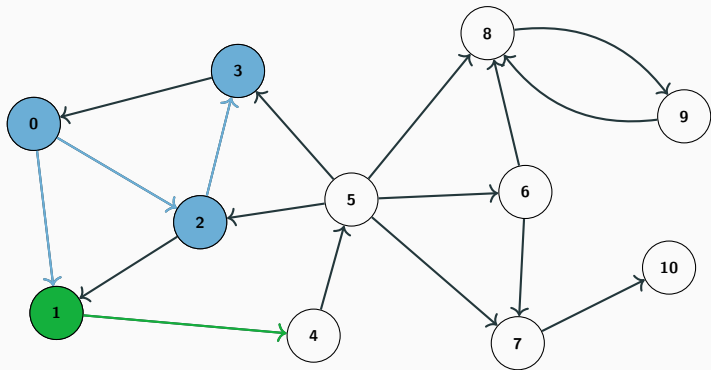
Depth-first search



Stack: 1 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

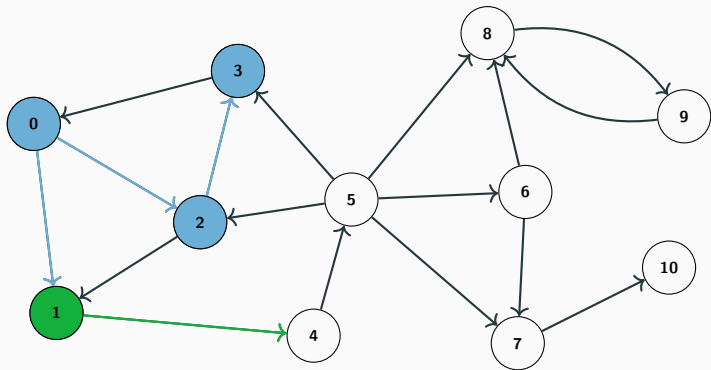
Depth-first search



Stack: 1 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

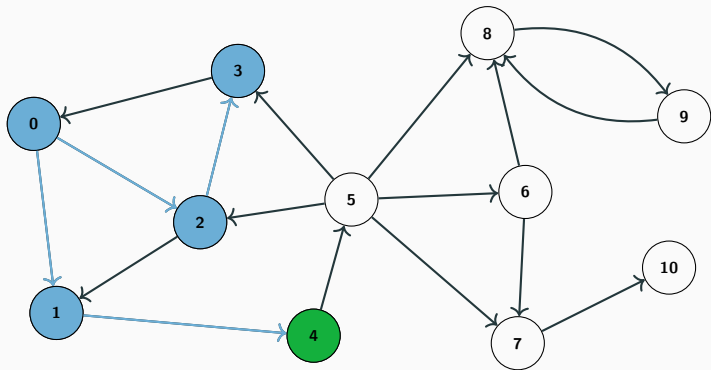
Depth-first search



Stack: 1 | 4

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

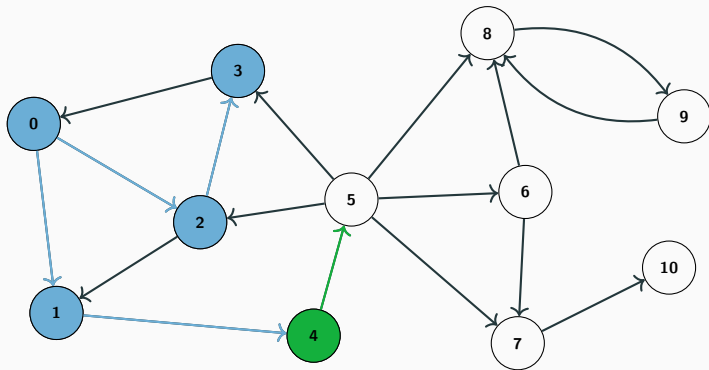
Depth-first search



Stack: 4 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

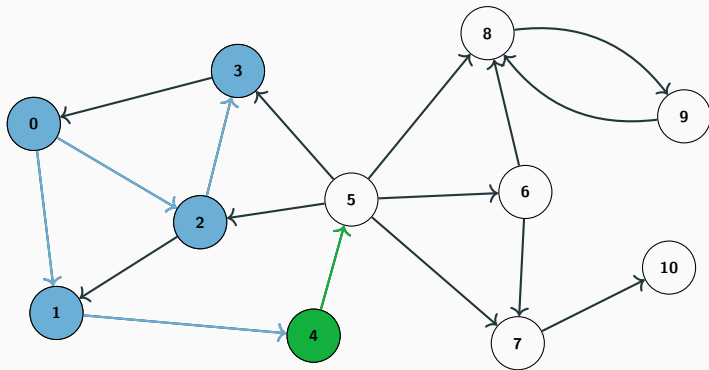
Depth-first search



Stack: 4 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

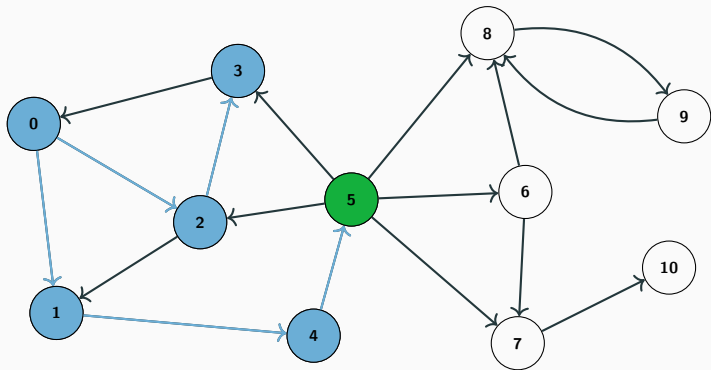
Depth-first search



Stack: 4 | 5

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

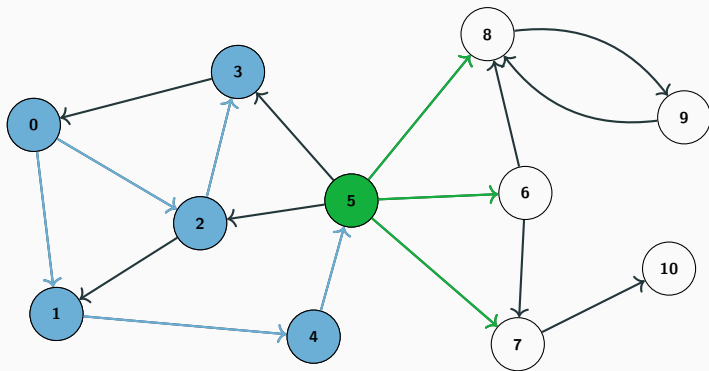
Depth-first search



Stack: 5 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

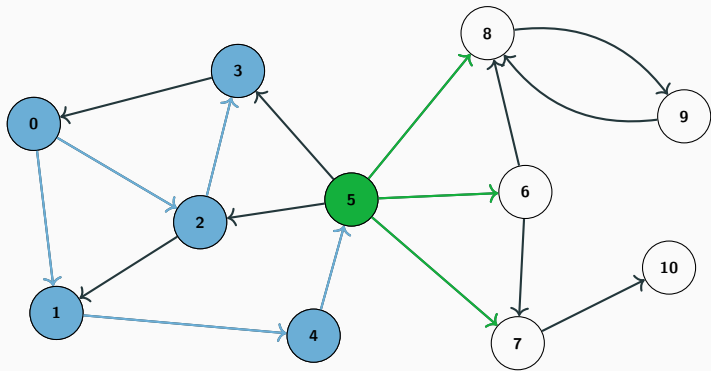
Depth-first search



Stack: 5 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

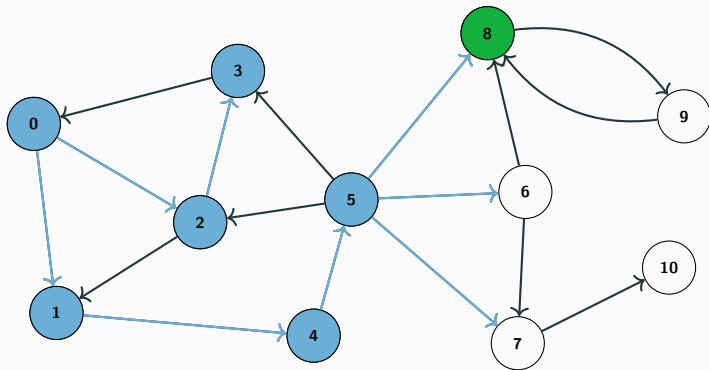
Depth-first search



Stack: 5 | 8 6 7

[illegible]

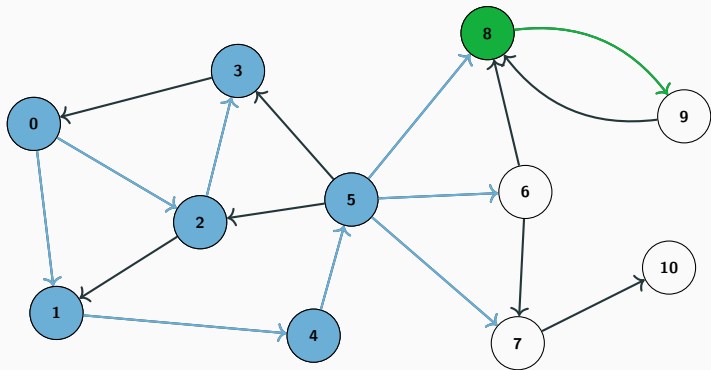
Depth-first search



Stack: 8 | 6 7

[illegible]

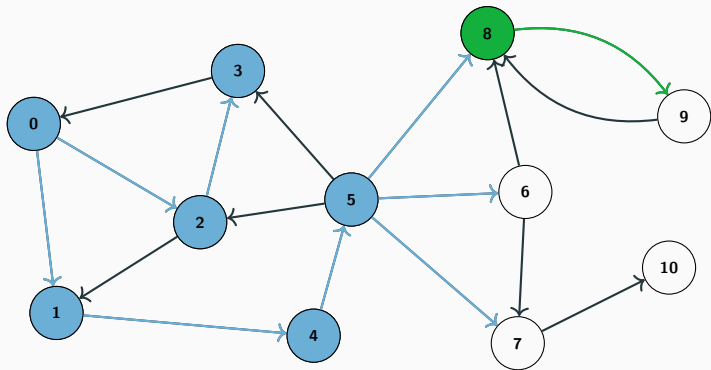
Depth-first search



Stack: 8 | 6 7

[illegible]

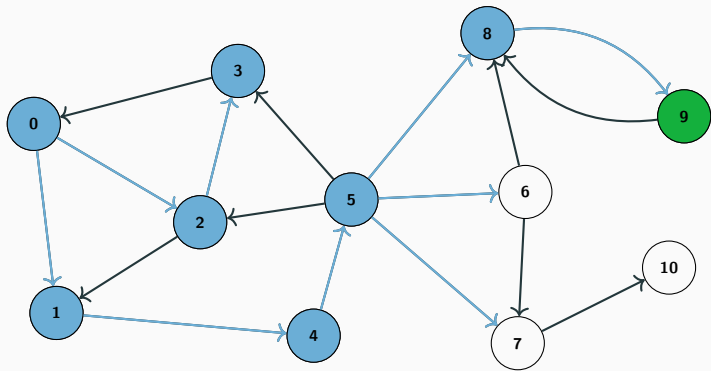
Depth-first search



Stack: 8 | 9 6 7

[illegible]

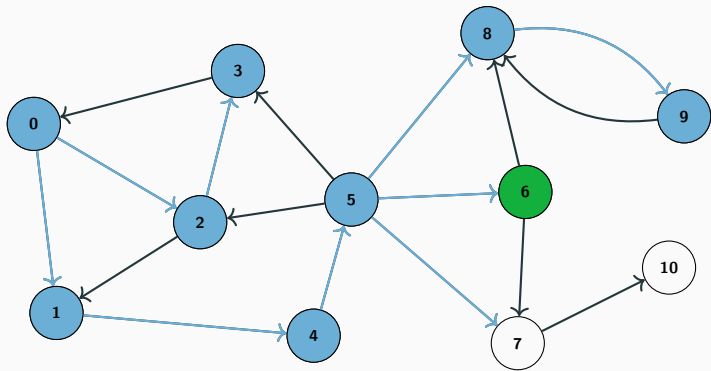
Depth-first search



Stack: 9 | 6 7

[illegible]

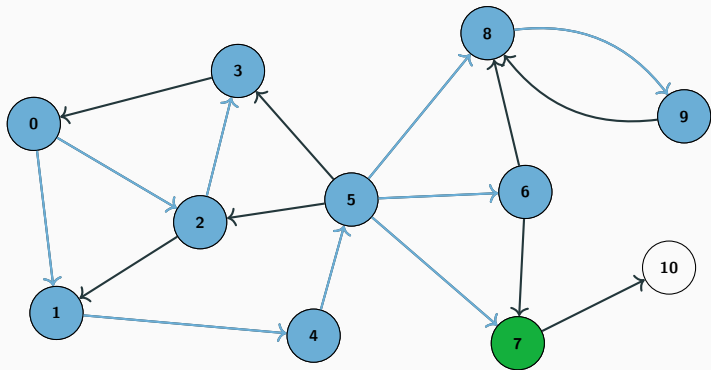
Depth-first search



Stack: 6 | 7

[illegible]

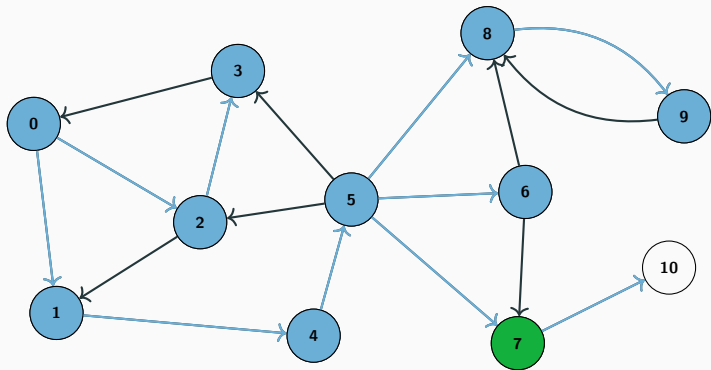
Depth-first search



Stack: 7 |

[illegible]

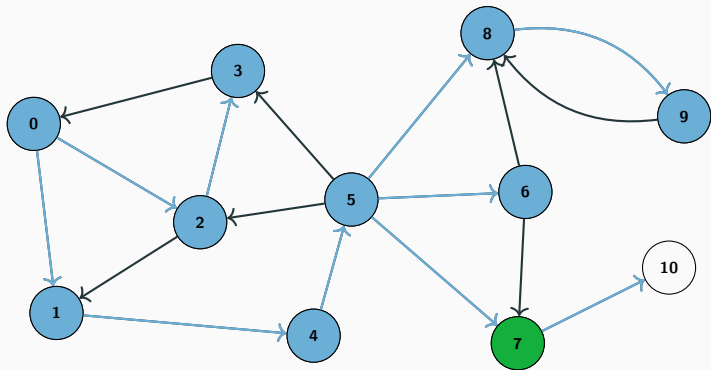
Depth-first search



Stack: 7 |

[illegible]

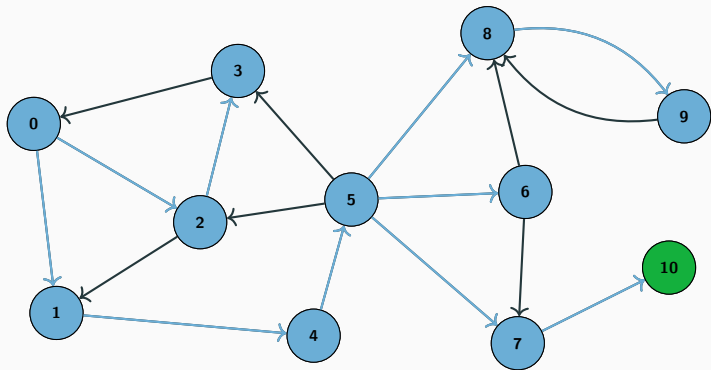
Depth-first search



Stack: 7 | 10

[illegible]

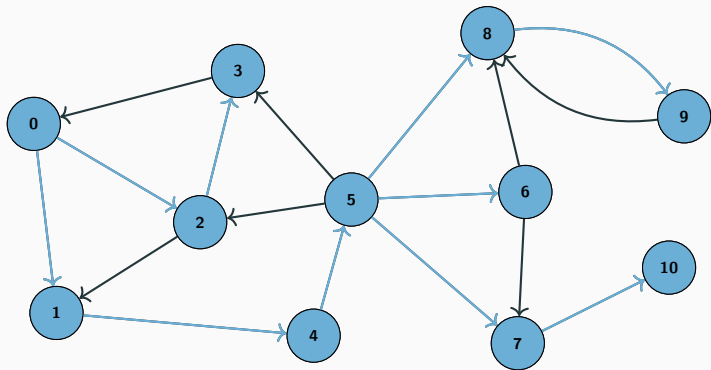
Depth-first search



Stack: 10 |

[illegible]

Depth-first search

[illegible]

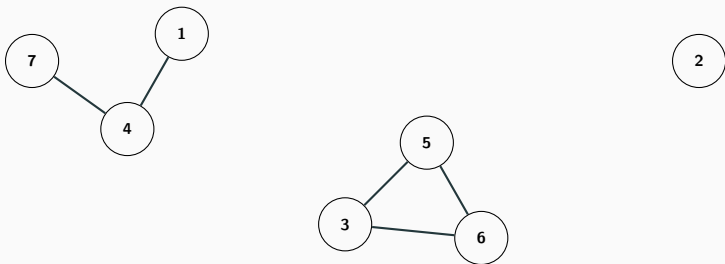
Depth-first search

```
vector<int> adj[1000];  
vector<bool> visited(1000, false);  
  
void dfs(int u) {  
    if (visited[u]) {  
        return;  
    }  
  
    visited[u] = true;  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {  
        int v = adj[u][i];  
        dfs(v);  
    }  
}
```

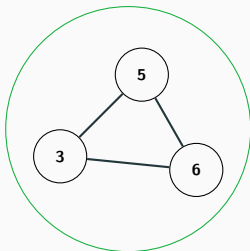
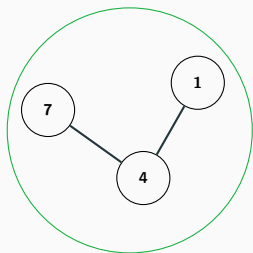

Connected components

- An *undirected graph* can be partitioned into connected components
- A connected component is a maximal subset of the vertices such that each pair of vertices is reachable from each other
- We've already seen this in a couple of problems, but we've been using Union-Find to keep track of the components

Connected components



Connected components



Connected components

- Also possible to find these components using depth-first search
- Pick some vertex we don't know anything about, and do a depth-first search from that vertex
- All vertices reachable from that starting vertex are in the same component
- Repeat this process until you have all the components
- Time complexity is $O(n + m)$

Connected components

```
vector<int> adj[1000];
vector<int> component(1000, -1);
void find_component(int cur_comp, int u) {
    if (component[u] != -1) {
        return;
    }

    component[u] = cur_comp;

    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {
        int v = adj[u][i];
        find_component(cur_comp, v);
    }
}

int components = 0;
for (int u = 0; u < n; u++) {
    if (component[u] == -1) {
        find_component(components, u);
        components++;
    }
}
```

Trees

- Trees (or forests) are connected acyclic undirected graphs.
- Easier to work with than graphs with cycles.
- Paths between pairs of vertices are unique.
- Compute distance from a vertex u to all other vertices with one DFS.
- This can be extended to all pairs.

Diameter of a tree

- Pick a pair of vertices u and v that maximize distance.
- The distance is the diameter of the tree.
- One or two vertices lie at the center of the path.
- These vertices are the center of the tree.
- They minimize the maximum distance to any other vertex.
- They are present in all longest paths.

Finding the diameter

- Pick any vertex u and run a DFS from that vertex.
- Store the distance from u to each vertex.
- Pick the vertex v that is the furthest from u .
- The center of the tree must be between u and v .
- Then v must be as far as possible from the center.
- Repeat DFS for v to find w which is furthest from v .

Finding the center

- Start at w
- Repeatedly move to the neighbor that is closer to v
- Each step moves you further from w by 1 and closer to v by 1
- Eventually the distances will differ by at most 1
- At that point you have reached center(s)

Depth-first search tree

- When we do a depth-first search from a certain vertex, the edges that we go over form a tree
- When we go from a vertex to another vertex that we haven't visited before, the edge that we take is called a *forward edge*
- When we go from a vertex to another vertex that we've already visited before, the edge that we take is called a *backward edge*
- To be more specific: the forward edges form a tree
- *see example*

Depth-first search tree

- This tree of forward edges, along with the backward edges, can be analyzed to get a lot of information about the original graph
- For example: a backward edge represents a cycle in the original graph
- If there are no backward edges, then there are no cycles in the original graph (i.e. the graph is acyclic)

Analyzing the DFS tree

- Let's take a closer look at the depth-first search tree
- First, let's number each of the vertices in the order that we visit them in the depth-first search
- For each vertex, we want to know the smallest number of a vertex that we reached when exploring the subtree rooted at the current vertex
- Why? We'll see in a bit..
- *see example*

Analyzing the DFS tree

```
const int n = 1000;
vector<int> adj[n];
vector<int> low(n), num(n, -1);
int curnum = 0;
void analyze(int u, int p) {
    low[u] = num[u] = curnum++;
    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {
        int v = adj[u][i];
        if (v == p) continue;
        if (num[v] == -1) {
            analyze(v, u);
            low[u] = min(low[u], low[v]);
        } else {
            low[u] = min(low[u], num[v]);
        }
    }
}
for (int u = 0; u < n; u++) {
    if (num[u] == -1) {
        analyze(u, -1);
    }
}
```

Analyzing the DFS tree

- Time complexity of this is just $O(n + m)$, since this is basically just one depth-first search
- Now, as promised, let's see some applications of this

- We have a **connected undirected** graph
- Find an edge, so that if you remove that edge the graph is no longer connected
- Naive algorithm: Try removing edges, one at a time, and find the connected components of the resulting graph
- That's pretty inefficient, $O(m(n + m))$

Bridges

- Let's take a look at the values that we computed in the DFS tree
- We see that a forward edge (u, v) is a bridge if and only if $\text{low}[v] > \text{num}[u]$
- Simple to extend our analyze function to return all bridges
- Again, this is just $O(n + m)$

Bridges

```
const int n = 1000;
vector<int> adj[n];
vector<int> low(n), num(n, -1);
int curnum = 0;

vector<pair<int, int> > bridges;

void find_bridges(int u, int p) {
    low[u] = num[u] = curnum++;
    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {
        int v = adj[u][i];
        if (v == p) continue;
        if (num[v] == -1) {
            find_bridges(v, u);
            low[u] = min(low[u], low[v]);
        } else {
            low[u] = min(low[u], num[v]);
        }

        if (low[v] > num[u]) {
            bridges.push_back(make_pair(u, v));
        }
    }
}

for (int u = 0; u < n; u++) {
    if (num[u] == -1) {
        find_bridges(u, -1);
    }
}
```

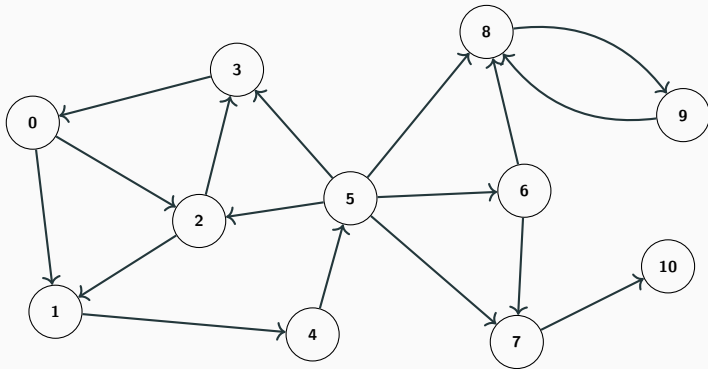
Articulation points

- Similarly, we can find articulation points, or cut-vertices.
- In general, for an edge (u, v) , if $\text{low}[v] \geq \text{num}[u]$, then u is an articulation point.
- An edge case is the root of the DFS tree.
- If the root has more than one subtree in the DFS tree, then it is an articulation point.
- A component with no articulation point is known as a block
- Can be extended to find the block-cut tree of a graph.

Breadth-first search

- There's another search algorithm called Breadth-first search
- Only difference is the order in which it visits the vertices
- It goes in order of increasing distance from the source vertex

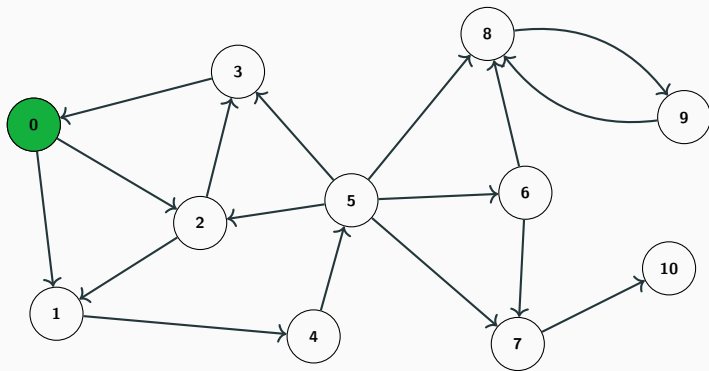
Breadth-first search



Queue:

[illegible]

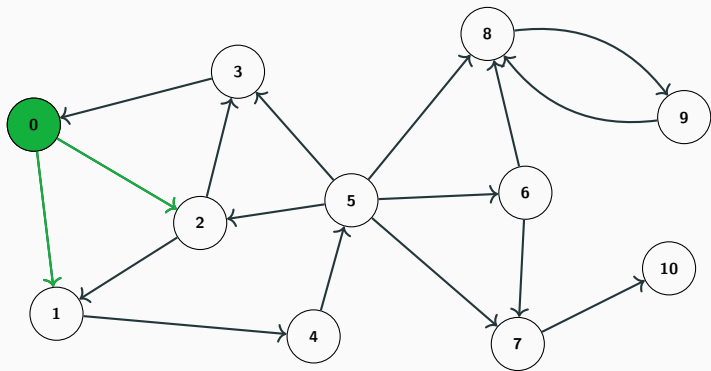
Breadth-first search



Queue: 0

[illegible]

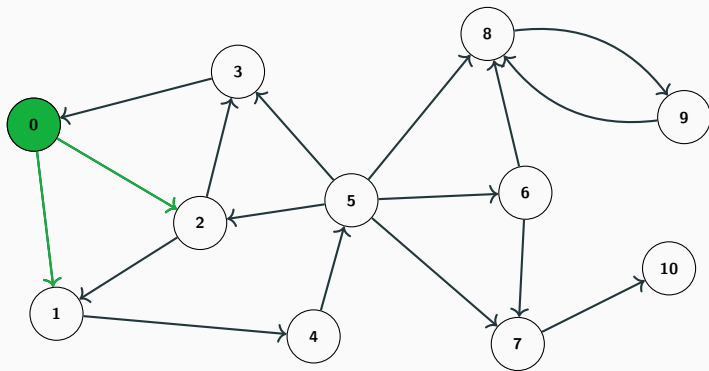
Breadth-first search



Queue: 0

[illegible]

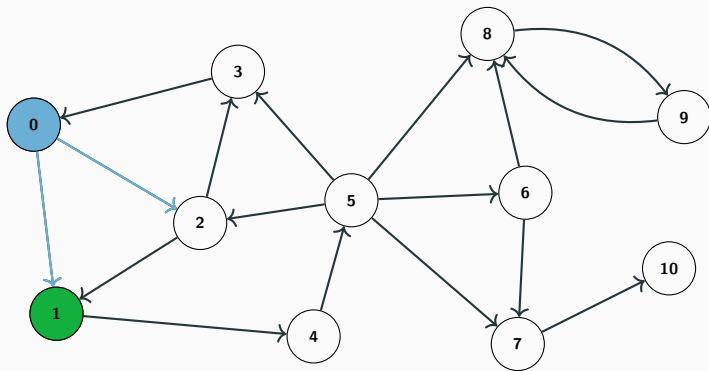
Breadth-first search



Queue: 0 1 2

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

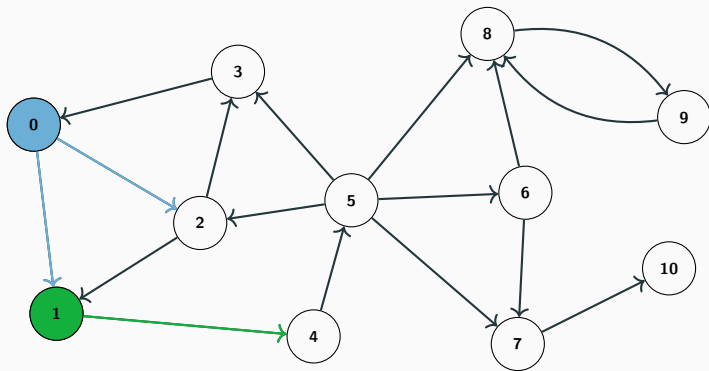
Breadth-first search



Queue: 1 2

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

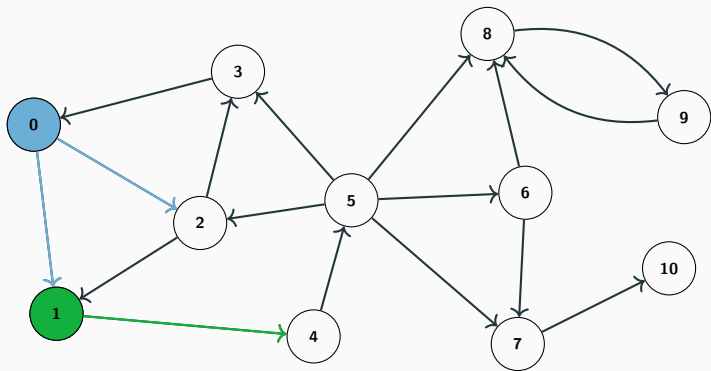
Breadth-first search



Queue: 1 2

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

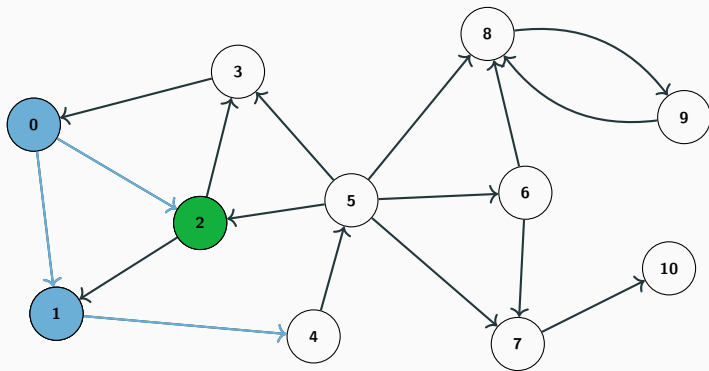
Breadth-first search



Queue: 1 2 4

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

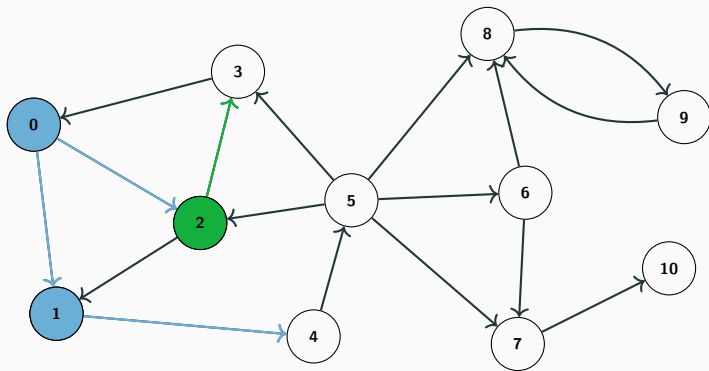
Breadth-first search



Queue: 2 4

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

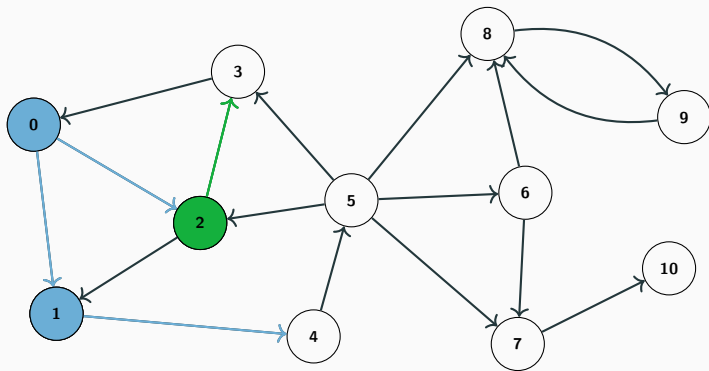
Breadth-first search



Queue: 2 4

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

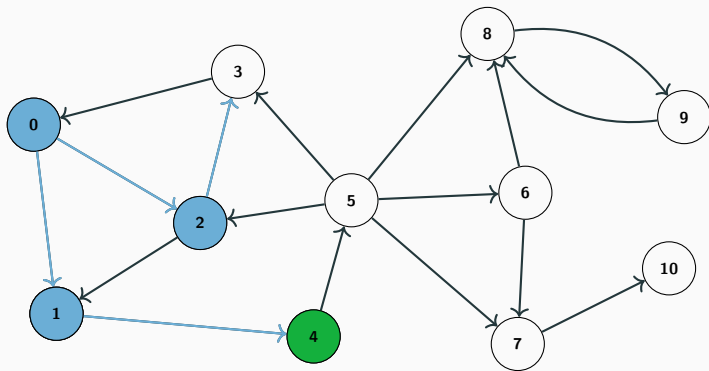
Breadth-first search



Queue: 2 4 3

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

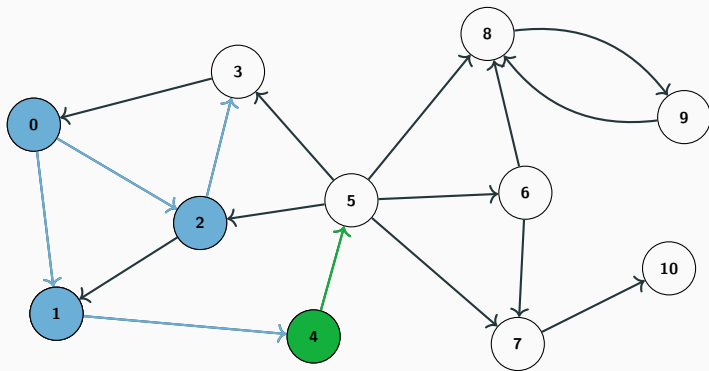
Breadth-first search



Queue: 4 3

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

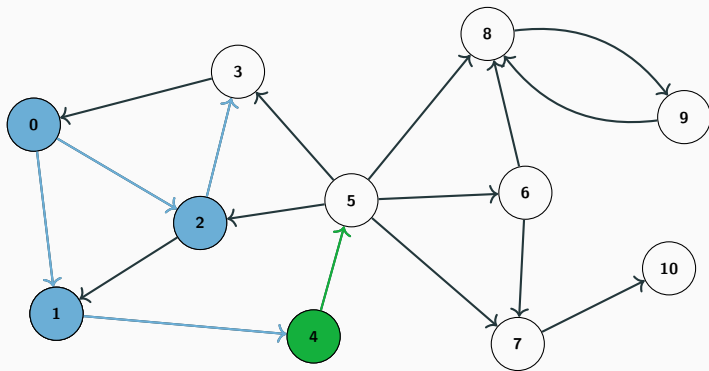
Breadth-first search



Queue: 4 3

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

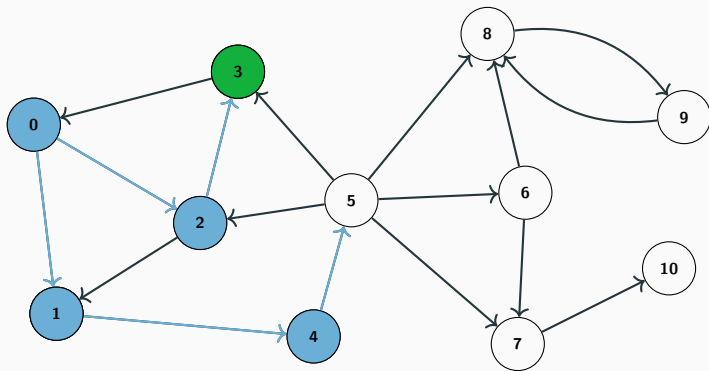
Breadth-first search



Queue: 4 3 5

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

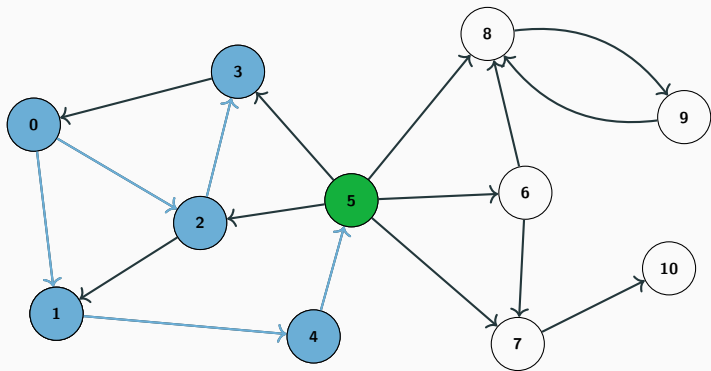
Breadth-first search



Queue: 3 5

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

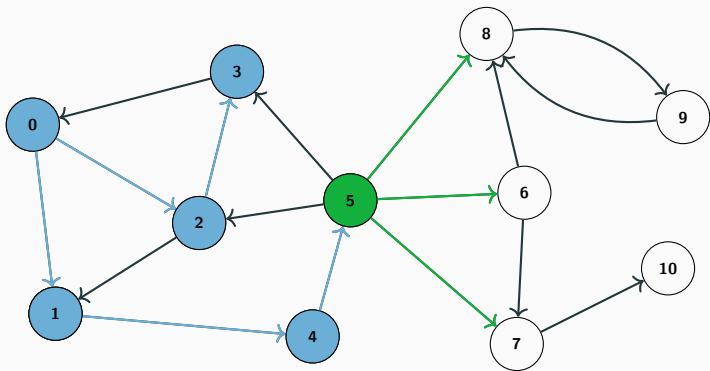
Breadth-first search



Queue: 5

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

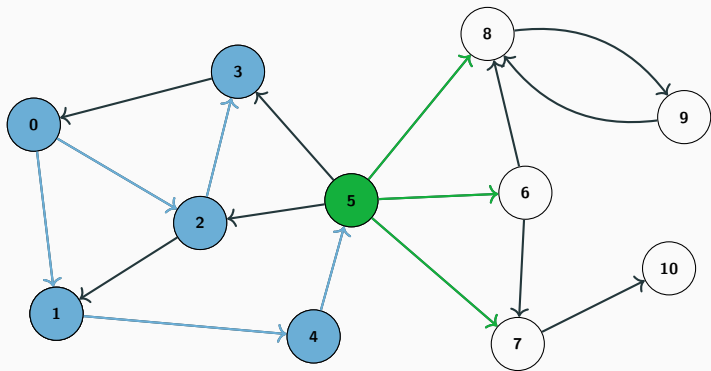
Breadth-first search



Queue: 5

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| marked | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

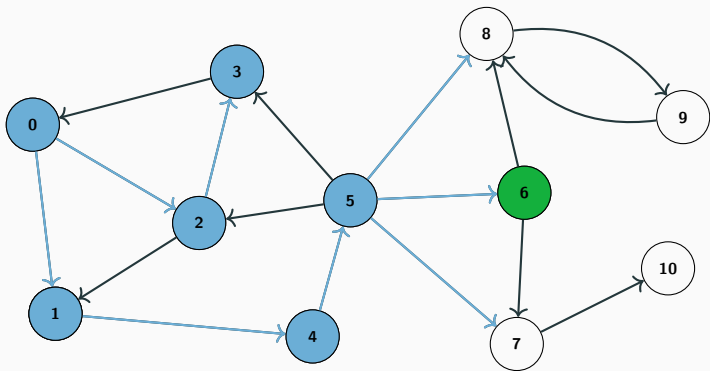
Breadth-first search



Queue: 5 6 7 8

[illegible]

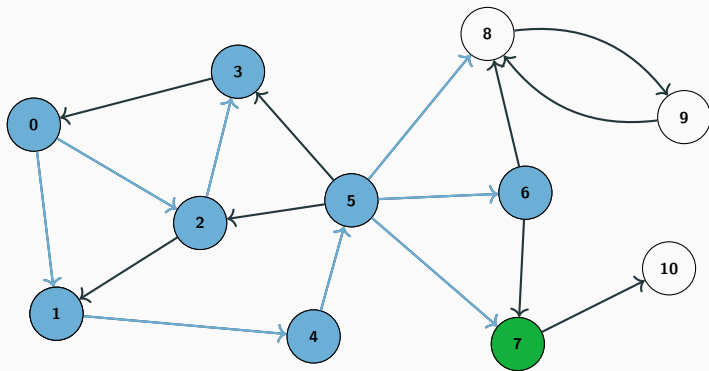
Breadth-first search



Queue: 6 7 8

[illegible]

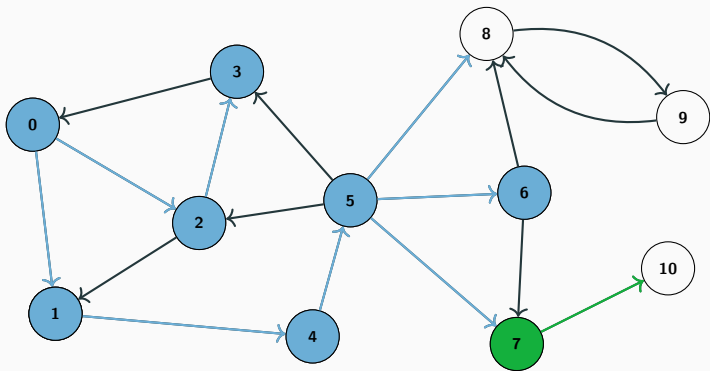
Breadth-first search



Queue: 7 8

[illegible]

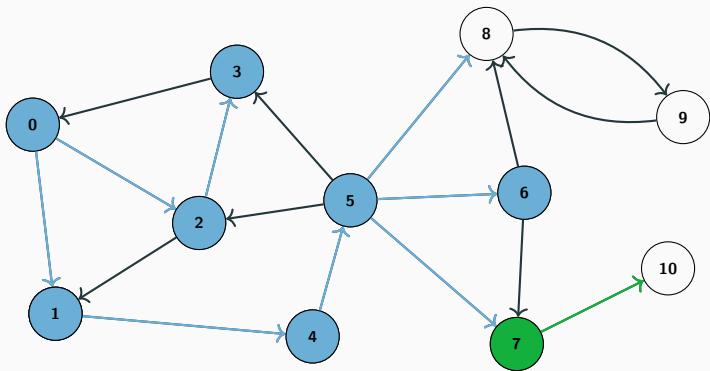
Breadth-first search



Queue: 7 8

[illegible]

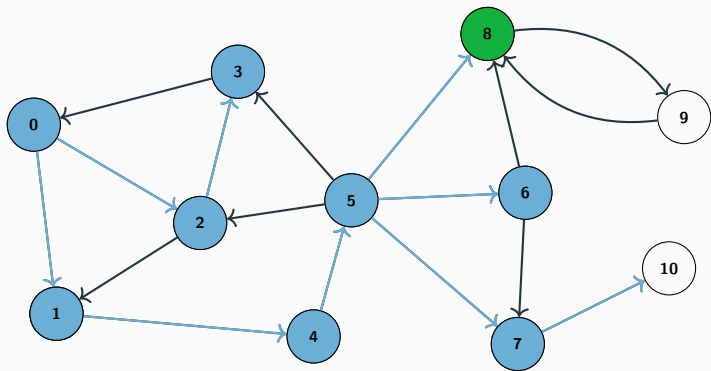
Breadth-first search



Queue: 7 8 10

[illegible]

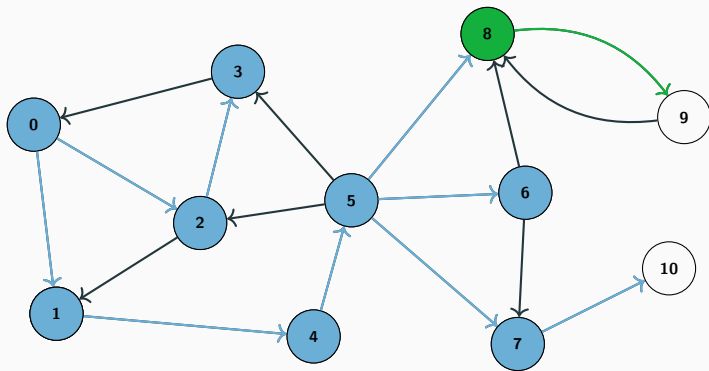
Breadth-first search



Queue: 8 10

[illegible]

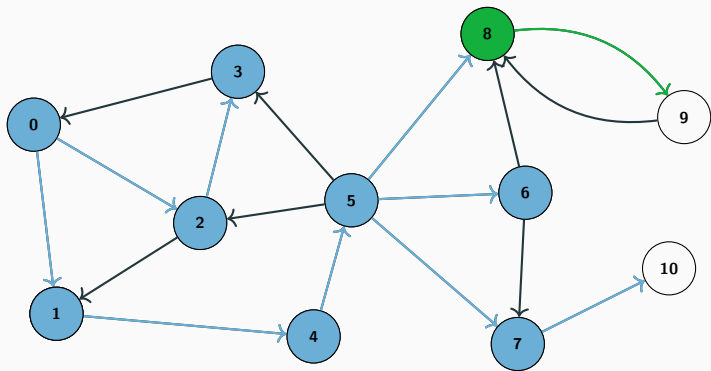
Breadth-first search



Queue: 8 10

[illegible]

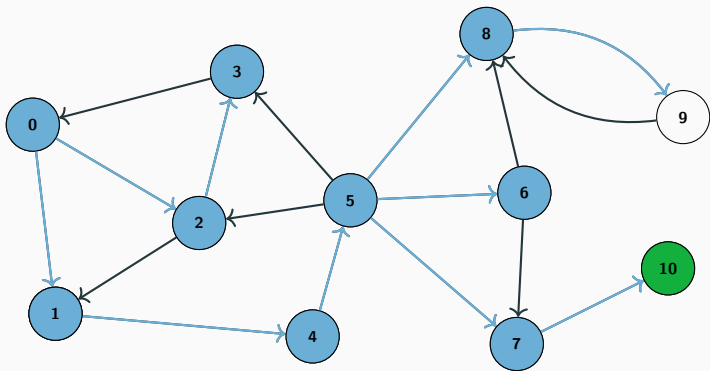
Breadth-first search



Queue: 8 10 9

[illegible]

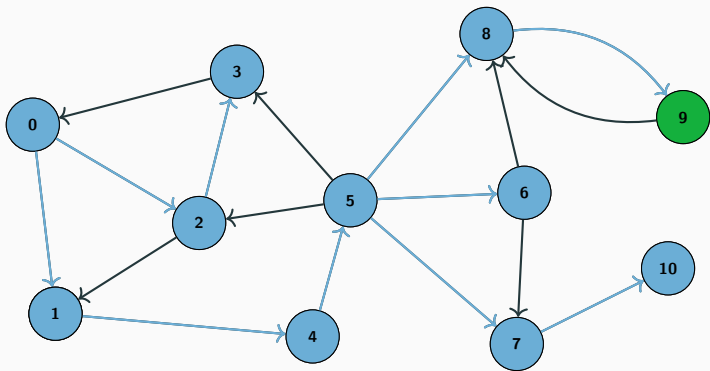
Breadth-first search



Queue: 10 9

[illegible]

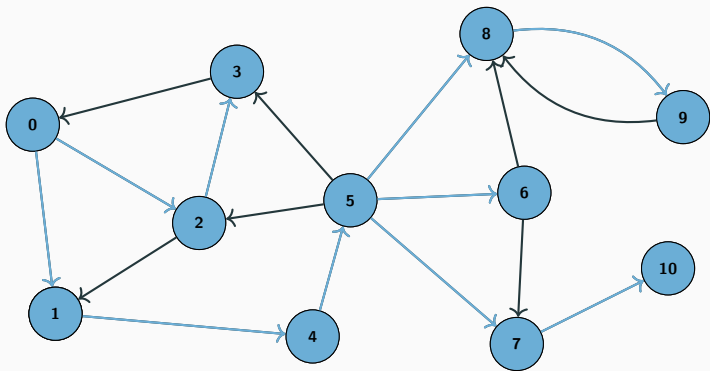
Breadth-first search



Queue: 9

[illegible]

Breadth-first search



Queue:

[illegible]

Breadth-first search

```
vector<int> adj[1000];
vector<bool> visited(1000, false);

queue<int> Q;
Q.push(start);
visited[start] = true;

while (!Q.empty()) {
    int u = Q.front(); Q.pop();

    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {
        int v = adj[u][i];
        if (!visited[v]) {
            Q.push(v);
            visited[v] = true;
        }
    }
}
```

Shortest path in unweighted graphs

- We have an unweighted graph, and want to find the shortest path from A to B
- That is, we want to find a path from A to B with the minimum number of edges
- Breadth-first search goes through the vertices in increasing order of distance from the start vertex
- Just do a single breadth-first search from A , until we find B
- Or let the search continue through the whole graph, and then we have the shortest paths from A to all other vertices
- Shortest path from A to all other vertices: $O(n + m)$

Shortest path in unweighted graphs

```
vector<int> adj[1000];
vector<int> dist(1000, -1);

queue<int> Q;
Q.push(A);
dist[A] = 0;

while (!Q.empty()) {
    int u = Q.front(); Q.pop();

    for (int i = 0; i < adj[u].size(); i++) {
        int v = adj[u][i];
        if (dist[v] == -1) {
            Q.push(v);
            dist[v] = 1 + dist[u];
        }
    }
}

printf("%d\n", dist[B]);
```