

Imagine a rectangular piece of graph paper. We could create a maze by coloring some of the lines to make walls.  
We call that maze well-formed if it has exactly two exterior openings (an entrance and an exit), and exactly one path that connects the two openings.

**1. Design a data structure that can represent a rectangular maze.**

An array of edges from 1 cell to another

**2. Create an algorithm that determines whether the maze is well-formed.**

Recursive algorithm to get all paths:

Start: call recursive function with an entrance edge (edge: (start coords, end coords))

Base cases: edge already seen (cycle encountered) | end found | no unseen neighbors

Recursive Case: recursive function with all outgoing edges from current cell

returns array of solution arrays

return the result, prepending current cell to each solution array

Iterative algorithm to get all paths:

Initialize a stack with an entrance cell coords

initialize a dictionary with traversed edges

while stack not empty:

pop current cell

add unseen accessible neighbors to stack

add seen neighbors, if not current cell's parent, to dictionary entry

each time end found:

use dictionary to reverse the current path

delete edges after saving in solution array

return array of arrays of solution

**3. Report the solution if the maze is well-formed.**

not well formed:

# entrances not 2

no solution

solution path contains cycle

above algorithms will return > 1 solution array if cycle exists

**\*\*\* edge cases:**

$m < 1$  |  $n < 1$ , entrances != 2, cycles in non-solution branches

**\*\*\* if non-solution branches not allowed to have cycles, check for D.A.G. is sufficient:**

DFS algorithm with seen dict:

if cell in seen, return []

### \*\*\*\* Recursive

```
def solutionRec(self, root, parent, end, seen):
    edgeAlreadyTraversed = (root, parent) in seen or (parent, root) in seen
    if not root or edgeAlreadyTraversed :
        return []

    # base case: found exit
    if root == end:
        return [[root]]

    # deep copy of traversal history, for backtracking
    newseen = seen.copy()
    newseen[(parent, root)] = True

    # Visit neighbors of current node
    allNeighbors = self.getNeighbors(root)
    ret = []
    for n in allNeighbors:
        if n == parent:
            continue
        ret += [[root] + x for x in self.solutionRec(n, root, end, newseen)]
    return ret

def allSolutionsDFSRec(self):
    ends = Maze.getEnds(self)
    if len(ends) != 2:
        return []
    seen = {}
    return self.solutionRec(ends[0], None, ends[1], seen)
```

### \*\*\* Iterative

```
def allSolutionsFoundDFS(self):
    """
    Return all map solutions found else [].
    """
    ends = Maze.getEnds(self) # [(row, col), (row, col)]
    if len(ends) != 2:       # Invalid maze: Not 2 entrances
        return []

    # map to preserve path order
    childparentdict = {ends[0]: [None]}

    # Stack of unvisited nodes
    toCheck = [ends[0]]
    solutions = []
    while toCheck:
        curNode = toCheck.pop()
        if curNode == ends[1]:
            solutions.append(self.calculateSolution(curNode, childparentdict))

        # Visit neighbors of current node
        allNeighbors = self.getNeighbors(curNode)
        for n in allNeighbors:
            if n not in childparentdict:      # unvisited node:
                childparentdict[n] = [curNode]
                toCheck.append(n)
            else: # this edge has already been traversed
                if curNode in childparentdict[n] or n in childparentdict[curNode]:
                    continue
                else: # unique edge, visited node
                    childparentdict[n].append(curNode)
                    toCheck.append(n)

    return solutions
```

\*\*\*

```
class Maze:
    def __init__(self, m, n, edges):
        self.m = m
        self.n = n
        self.edges = edges
        self.solution = []

    def solutionRec(self, root, parent, end, seen):
        edgeAlreadyTraversed = (root, parent) in seen or (parent, root) in seen
        if not root or edgeAlreadyTraversed :
            return []

        # base case: found exit
        if root == end:
            return [[root]]

        # deep copy of traversal history, for backtracking
        newseen = seen.copy()
        newseen[(parent, root)] = True

        # Visit neighbors of current node
        allNeighbors = self.getNeighbors(root)
        ret = []
        for n in allNeighbors:
            if n == parent:
                continue
            ret += [[root] + x for x in self.solutionRec(n, root, end, newseen)]
        return ret

    def allSolutionsDFSRec(self):
        ends = Maze.getEnds(self)
        if len(ends) != 2:
            return []
        seen = {}
        return self.solutionRec(ends[0], None, ends[1], seen)

    def calculateSolution(self, node, childparentdict):
        ret = []
        while node:
            ret.append(node)
            tempnode = childparentdict[node][-1]
            del childparentdict[node][-1]
            node = tempnode
        return ret

    def allSolutionsFoundDFS(self):
        """
        Return all map solutions found else [].
        """
        ends = Maze.getEnds(self) # [(row, col), (row, col)]
        if len(ends) != 2:        # Invalid maze: Not 2 entrances
            return []

        # map to preserve path order
        childparentdict = {ends[0]: [None]}

        # Stack of unvisited nodes
        toCheck = [ends[0]]
        solutions = []
```

```

while toCheck:
    curNode = toCheck.pop()
    if curNode == ends[1]:
        solutions.append(self.calculateSolution(curNode, childparentdict))
    # Visit neighbors of current node
    allNeighbors = self.getNeighbors(curNode)
    for n in allNeighbors:
        if n not in childparentdict:      # unvisited node:
            childparentdict[n] = [curNode]
            toCheck.append(n)
        else: # this edge has already been traversed
            if curNode in childparentdict[n] or n in childparentdict[curNode]:
                continue
            else: # unique edge, visited node
                childparentdict[n].append(curNode)
                toCheck.append(n)
    return solutions

@staticmethod
def getEnds(maze):
    endsArr = []
    for i in range(maze.m):
        if (i, 0, i, -1) in maze.edges:
            endsArr.append((i, 0))
        if (i, maze.n, i, maze.n-1) in maze.edges:
            endsArr.append((i, maze.n-1))
    for i in range(maze.n):
        if (0, i, -1, i) in maze.edges:
            endsArr.append((0, i))
        if (maze.m, i, maze.m-1, i) in maze.edges:
            endsArr.append((maze.m-1, i))
    return endsArr

@staticmethod
def reversePathSingle(endNode, childparentdict):
    solution = [endNode]
    parent = childparentdict[endNode]
    while parent:
        solution.append(parent)
        parent = childparentdict[parent]
    return solution

def getNeighbors(self, node):
    neighborsarr = []
    for direction in [Dir.Left, Dir.Right, Dir.Top, Dir.Bottom]:
        neighbor = self.tryGetNeighbor(node, direction)
        if neighbor: # set parent of neighbor to curNode
            neighborsarr.append(neighbor)
    return neighborsarr

def tryGetNeighbor(self, node, dir):
    dirNode = {
        Dir.Left: lambda x: (x[0], x[1], x[0], x[1]-1),
        Dir.Right: lambda x: (x[0], x[1], x[0], x[1]+1),
        Dir.Top: lambda x: (x[0], x[1], x[0]-1, x[1]),
        Dir.Bottom: lambda x: (x[0], x[1], x[0]+1, x[1])
    }[dir](node)
    if dirNode in self.edges:
        return (self.edges[dirNode][0], self.edges[dirNode][1])
    return None

```