

Time and space complexities:

BFS Time and space complexity :

Time complexity :

Formula: $O(v+e)$

v = Number of vertices or nodes

E = Number of edges

Every node is visited once, and every edge is checked once. The total operations are proportional to the sum of nodes and edges. $O(v+E)$.

$$T(v) = c \times v = O(v)$$

Edges denoted as $d(v)$

$$T(E) = \sum [d(v)]$$

$$\text{for all } v \text{ in } V = 2 * |E| = O(|E|)$$

Time complexity :

$$T(n) = T(v) + T(e)$$

$$T(n) = O(|V|) + O(|E|)$$

$$T(n) = O(|V| + |E|)$$

Space complexity :

Formula: $O(v)$

BFS uses a queue to keep track of nodes at the current level. In the worst case the queue may store all nodes at one level.

$$S(n) = O(|V|)$$

for each node, every adjacent edge is checked.
each edge connects two nodes. $O(|E|)$

$$O(|V|) + O(|E|) = O(|V| + |E|)$$

Breadth-First Search: (BFS)

BFS is a fundamental algorithm for traversing, searching graphs, exploring nodes layer by layer from a starting node

- uses a queue to maintain the visiting sequence [FIFO] [First-in, First-out] as data structure.

→ Representation: Time complexity.

Adjacency list : $O(V+E)$

$\therefore V = \text{no. of vertices}$

Adjacency Matrix : $O(V^2)$

$E = \text{no. of edges}$

→ Space complexity

uses queue, it holds all nodes at a particular level of graph - $O(V)$

To track visited nodes and extra space to keep track of which nodes have been visited $O(V)$

→ Sparse Graphs:

Adjacency list is much more space efficient ($O(V+E)$)

It makes BFS faster and less memory-intensive.

→ Dense Graph:

Has a no. of edges close to the maximum (V^2)

Adjacency Matrix may be used but with increased space and cost ($O(V^2)$)

Depth-First Search:

- DFS explores each branch of a graph as deeply as possible before backtracking.
- It uses stack data structure explicitly or recursion to manage nodes during traversal
- It visits all vertices reachable from the source, does not about shortest path.

→ Representation: Time Complexity

Adjacency List $\rightarrow O(V+E)$ ∵ efficient for sparse graph

Adjacency Matrix $\rightarrow O(V^2)$ ∵ inefficient for sparse graph
due to space & time for each edge

→ Space complexity:

Stack stores up to $O(V)$ nodes in the deepest path

Visited set or list tracks visited nodes.

→ Sparse Graph:

Adjacency list recommended. Space & time efficiency is $O(V+E)$

→ Dense Graph

Adjacency Matrix may be used for constant-time edge ups but it consumes $O(V^2)$ space is practical only in small or very dense graph.