

Breadth First Search

- ▶ One of the simplest algorithm.
- ▶ Dijkstra's single source shortest path algorithm and Prim's Minimum Spanning tree algorithm used similar ideas.
- ▶ Given $G = (V, E)$ and a distinguished source vertex s , bfs systematically explores the edges of G to discover every vertex reachable from s .

- ▶ Assume the graph is stored in an adjacency list $Adj[]$.
- ▶ Each vertex has a color, WHITE, GRAY, BLACK. All vertex starts with WHITE. Once discovered, change to non-white. Need to distinguish non-white to ensure the search is in a breadth first manner. Color of u stored in $Color[u]$
- ▶ BFS construct a BFT (breadth first tree). Initial contains a root s . Whenever a white vertex v is discovered while scanning the neighborhood of u , edge (u, v) is added to the tree. We say u the predecessor of v . Predecessor of u stored in $\pi[u]$.

- ▶ in BFT, the distance between u to the source s is stored in $d[u]$.
- ▶ BFS needs a first-in, first-out queue Q .

run through an example

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

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run through an example.

Run Time

- ▶ Each vertex enqueued and dequeued at most once, the queue operations take $O(V)$ time.
- ▶ List in $Adj[u]$ is scanned when u is colored black. The length of the list is $O(E)$
- ▶ total time is $O(V + E)$

Shortest Path

- ▶ Define the shortest-path distance $\delta(s, v)$ from s to v the minimum number of edges in any path from s to v .
- ▶ A path of length $\delta(s, v)$ from s to v is said to be a shortest path from s to v .

Lemma Let $G = (V, E)$ be a directed or undirected graph, and $s \in V$ be an arbitrary vertex. Then, for any edge $(u, v) \in E$,

$$\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1.$$

Proof If u is reachable from s , then so is v . The shortest path from s to v cannot be longer than the shortest path from s to u followed by the edge (u, v) , i.e., $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$. If u is not reachable from s , then $\delta(s, u) = \infty$, and the inequality holds.

To show that BFS properly computes $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$ for each vertex $v \in V$, we first show that $d[v]$ bounds $\delta(s, v)$.

Lemma Let $G = (V, E)$ be a directed or undirected graph, and suppose that bfs run on G from a given source vertex $s \in V$. Then upon termination, for each vertex $v \in V$, the value $d[v]$ computed by BFS satisfies $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$.

Proof Induction on the number of ENQUEUE operations.

Inductive hypothesis is $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$ for all $v \in V$.

Basis, immediately after s is enqueued. Inductive hypothesis is true since $d[s] = 0 = \delta(s, s)$ and $d[v] = \infty \geq \delta(s, v)$ for all $v \in V - \{s\}$.

For inductive step, consider a white vertex v is discovered during the search from a vertex u . The inductive hypothesis implies that $d[u] \geq \delta(s, u)$. From the assignment performed by line 15 and from previous lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d[v] &= d[u] + 1 \\ &\geq \delta(s, u) + 1 \\ &\geq \delta(s, v) \end{aligned}$$

Vertex v is then enqueued, and it is never enqueued again because it is GRAY. $d[v]$ never changes, inductive hypothesis is maintained.

To show $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$, we first show that at all times, there are at most two distinct d values in the queue.

Lemma During the execution of BFS on a graph $G = (V, E)$, the queue Q contains the vertices $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r \rangle$, where v_1 is the head of Q and v_r is the tail. The $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1$ and $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i+1}]$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1$.

Proof Induction in the number of queue operations. Initially, when the queue contains only s , the lemma holds.

For the inductive step, we must prove that the lemma holds after both dequeuing and enqueueing a vertex.

Dequeue v_1 is dequeued and v_2 becomes the head. By inductive hypothesis, $d[v_1] \leq d[v_2]$ and $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1$, thus $d[v_r] \leq d[v_2] + 1$.

Enqueue v is enqueued in line 17, it becomes v_{r+1} . At this moment, the vertex u has been removed from the queue and we are scanning the adjacency list of u . By inductive hypothesis, the new head v_1 has $d[v_1] \geq d[u]$.

Thus $d[v_{r+1}] = d[v] = d[u] + 1 \leq d[v_1] + 1$.

We also have $d[v_r] \leq d[u] + 1$ and so

$d[v_r] \leq d[u] + 1 = d[v] = d[v_{r+1}]$.

Corollary Suppose that vertices v_i and v_j are enqueued during the execution of BFS, and that v_i is enqueued before v_j . Then $d[v_i] \leq d[v_j]$ at the time that v_j is enqueued.

Theorem: Correctness of breadth-first search

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a directed or undirected graph, and suppose that BFS is run on G from a given source vertex $s \in V$.

The BFS discovers every vertex $v \in V$ that is reachable from the source s , and upon termination, $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$ for all $v \in V$.

Moreover, for any vertex $v \neq s$ that is reachable from s , one of the shortest paths from s to v is a shortest from s to $\pi[v]$ followed by the edge $(\pi[v], v)$.

Proof Suppose that the theorem is not true. Some vertex receives a d value \neq the shortest path distance.

Let v be the vertex with minimum $\delta(s, v)$ that receives such incorrect d value.

1. It is obvious $s \neq v$. 2. By previous lemma, $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$, we must have $d[v] > \delta(s, v)$. v must be reachable from s (otherwise $\delta(s, v) = \infty \geq d[v]$).

Let u be the vertex immediately preceding v on the shortest path from s to v . Then we have

$$\delta(s, v) = \delta(s, u) + 1$$

Now we have $\delta(s, u) < \delta(s, v)$; because how we choose v , we have $d[u] = \delta(s, u)$. Putting all these properties together, we have

$$d[v] > \delta(s, v) = \delta(s, u) + 1 = d[u] + 1.$$

Now look at the pseudo code. At the time BFS chooses to dequeue vertex u from Q in line 11. At this time, vertex v is either white, gray, or black. We show that in each of the cases, we can derive contradiction.

If v is white: Line 15 set $d[v] = d[u] + 1$, contradiction to the inequality.

If v is black, v was already removed from the queue, according to the corollary, $d[v] < d[u]$, contradiction to the inequality.

If v is gray, it was grayed when w was dequeued. w was removed from Q earlier than u and $d[v] = d[w] + 1$. From the corollary, $d[w] < d[u]$, so we have $d[v] \leq d[u] + 1$, contradicting the equation. Thus we conclude $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$ for all $v \in V$. To conclude the proof, observe that $\pi[v] = u$, then $d[v] = d[u] + 1$. Thus we obtain a shortest path from s to v by taking the shortest path from s to $\pi[v]$ then follow the edge $(\pi[v], v)$ to v .

Breadth First Tree

For a graph $G = (V, E)$ with source s , we define the *predecessor subgraph* of G as $G_\pi = (V_\pi, E_\pi)$, where

$$V_\pi = \{v \in V : \pi[v] \neq \text{NIL}\} \cup \{s\}$$

and

$$E_\pi = \{(\pi[v], v) : v \in V_\pi - \{s\}\}.$$

Predecessor subgraph is a breadth-first tree. The path from s to v is unique, and it is the shortest path. Edges in E_π are called the tree edges.

Depth-first search

- ▶ Strategy: to search “deeper” in the graph whenever possible.
- ▶ Edges are explored out of the most recently discovered vertex v that still has unexplored edges leaving it.
- ▶ When there is no way out from v , the search “backtrack” to the vertex from which v was discovered.
- ▶ Process continues until we have discovered all the vertices reachable from source.
- ▶ If any undiscovered vertex remain, then one of them is selected as a new source.

- ▶ Vertex v is discovered while scanning the adjacency list of a discovered vertex u , v 's predecessor field $\pi[v] = u$.
- ▶ DFS produces a predecessor subgraph of G , it is a forest.

$G_\pi = (V, E_\pi)$, where

$E_\pi = \{(\pi[v], v) : v \in V \text{ and } \pi[v] \neq \text{NIL}\}.$

Edges in E_π are called *tree edge*.

Vertices have color to indicate their states.

- ▶ Initially WHITE,
- ▶ Become GRAY when it is discovered,
- ▶ Blackened when it is finished, i.e., adjacency list has been examined completely.

DFS *timestamps* each vertices, each vertex has two timestamps.

- ▶ $d[v]$: the first timestamp, records when v is first discovered.
- ▶ $f[v]$: records when the search finishes examining v 's adj. list.

Timestamps are ranged integers ranged from 1 to $2|V|$.

For every v , $d[v] < f[v]$.

DFS(G)

```
1  for each vertex  $u \in V[G]$ 
2      do  $color[u] \leftarrow \text{WHITE}$ 
3       $\pi[u] \leftarrow \text{NIL}$ 
4   $time \leftarrow 0$ 
5  for each vertex  $u \in V[G]$ 
6      do if  $color[u] = \text{WHITE}$ 
7          then DFS-Visit( $u$ )
```

DFS-Visit(u)

```
1   $color[u] \leftarrow \text{GRAY}$ 
2   $time \leftarrow time + 1$ 
3   $d[u] \leftarrow time$ 
4  for each  $v \in Adj[u]$ 
5      do if  $color[v] = \text{WHITE}$ 
6          then  $\pi[v] \leftarrow u$ 
7              DFS-Visit( $v$ )
8   $color \leftarrow \text{BLACK}$ 
9   $f[u] \leftarrow time \leftarrow time + 1$ 
```

run through an example

- ▶ Results depends on the order of vertices examined
- ▶ depends on what stored in the data structure (the *Adj* list)
- ▶ run time is $\Theta(V + E)$.

Properties of the DFS

- ▶ Predecessor subgraph G_π forms a forest.
- ▶ v is a descendant of u in the DFS forest iff v is discovered during the time in which u is gray.
- ▶ discovery and finishing time have parenthesis structure

Theorem: Parenthesis theorem

In any DFS of a (direct or undirected) graph $G = (V, E)$, for any two vertices u and v , exactly one of the following 3 conditions hold:

- ▶ the intervals $[d[u], f[u]]$ and $[d[v], f[v]]$ are entirely disjoint, and neither u nor v are descendant of the other in DFS tree.
- ▶ the intervals $[d[u], f[u]]$ is contained entirely within interval $[d[v], f[v]]$, and u is a descendant of v in DFS tree,
- ▶ the intervals $[d[v], f[v]]$ is contained entirely within interval $[d[u], f[u]]$, and v is a descendant of u in DFS tree.

Proof if $d[u] < d[v]$, there are two subcases depending on $d[v] < f[u]$ or not.

if $d[v] < f[u]$, v is discovered while u was gray. Thus v is a descendant of u . Furthermore, after all the outgoing edges of v are explored, the search return to u , $f[v] < d[v]$. We conclude $[d[v], f[v]]$ is entirely in the interval of $[d[u], f[u]]$.

The other case $f[u] < d[v]$. By the inequality $d[u] < f[u]$, we have the two intervals are disjoint. Thus neither vertices was discovered while the other was gray, and so neither vertex is a descendant of the other.

The other case that $d[v] < d[u]$ is similar.

Corollary: (Nesting of descendant's intervals)

v is proper descendant of u in DFS forest for a directed of undirected graph G iff

$$d[u] < d[v] < f[v] < f[u].$$

Theorem: (White-path theorem)

In a DFS forest of $G = (V, E)$ v is a descendant of u iff at the time $d[u]$ that the search discovers u , vertex v can be reached from u along a path consisting entirely of white vertices.

Proof

Proof :

\Rightarrow Assume v is a descendant of u . Let w be any vertex on the path between u and v . w is a descendant of u . By the corollary, $d[u] < d[w]$ so w is white at time $d[u]$.

\Rightarrow Suppose that vertex v is reachable from u along a path of white vertex at time $d[u]$, but v does not become a descendant of u in DFT.

Without loss of generality, assume that every vertices along the path become a descendant of u , (otherwise, we can let v be the closest vertex to u along the path that does not become a descendant of u). Let w be the predecessor of v in the path, so that w is a descendant of u .

By Corollary, $f[w] \leq f[u]$.

Note that v must be discovered after u is discovered, but before w is finished. Therefore $d[u] < d[v] < f[w] \leq f[u]$. By previous theorem, $[d[v], f[v]]$ is contained entirely within the interval $[d[u], f[u]]$. By corollary, v must be descendant of u .

We can define four edge types in terms of the depth-first forest G_π produced by a DFS on G

- ▶ *Tree edges*: Edges in the DF forest G_π .
- ▶ *Back edges*: Edge (u, v) connecting u to an ancestor v in DF forest. Self-loop, which may occur in directed graphs, are considered to be back edges.
- ▶ *Forward edges*: (u, v) are nontree edges connecting a vertex u to a descendant v in DF tree.
- ▶ *Cross edges*: All other edges.

- ▶ DFS can be modified to classify edges as it encounters them.
- ▶ Key idea: edge (u, v) can be classified by the color of the vertex v that is reached when the edge is first explored.
 - ▶ WHITE indicates tree edges
 - ▶ GRAY indicates a back edge
 - ▶ BLACK indicate forward or cross edge

Theorem In a DFS of an undirected graph G , every edge of G is either a tree edge or a back edge.

Proof Let (u, v) be an arbitrary edge of G , and suppose without loss of generality that $d[u] < d[v]$. Then v must be discovered and finished before we finish u , since v is in u 's adjacency list. If (u, v) is explored first in the direction from u to v , then v is discovered until that time, otherwise, we could have explored this edge already in the direction from v to u . Thus (u, v) becomes a tree edge. If (u, v) is explored first in the direction from v to u , then (u, v) is a back edge, since u is still gray at the time the edge is first explored.

Topological Sort

- ▶ Apply DFS to perform a topological sort of a *directed acyclic graph*, (acyclic: no cycle) or *dag*.
- ▶ A topological sort of a dag $G = (V, E)$, a linear order of all vertices s.t. if G contains an edge (u, v) , then u appears before v in the ordering.
- ▶ If the graph is not acyclic, no linear order is possible.

TOPOLOGICAL-SORT(G)

1. call DFS(G) to compute finishing time $f[v]$ for each vertex v .
 2. as each vertex is finished, insert it onto the front of the linked list.
 3. return the linked list of vertices.
- run through an example in pp 550