Project: "490. The Maze" Breadth-First Traversal

By: Xinye L.

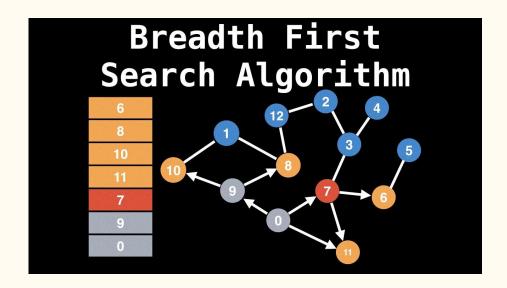
Table of Content

- **□** Introduction
- □ Design
- ☐ Implementation
- ☐ Test
- **→** Enhancement Ideas
- ☐ Conclusion
- ☐ References



Introduction

- ☐ Breadth-First Search algorithm
- ☐ Manually solve the maze
- **□** Python implementation



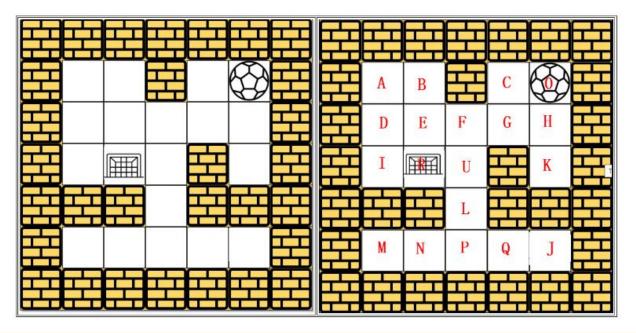
Breadth-First Search Algorithm

- An algorithm for traversing or searching tree or graph data structures
- Start traversing from a selected node, and traverse the graph layerwise thus exploring the neighbour nodes
- You must then move towards the next-level neighbour nodes

Design - Mase Matrix

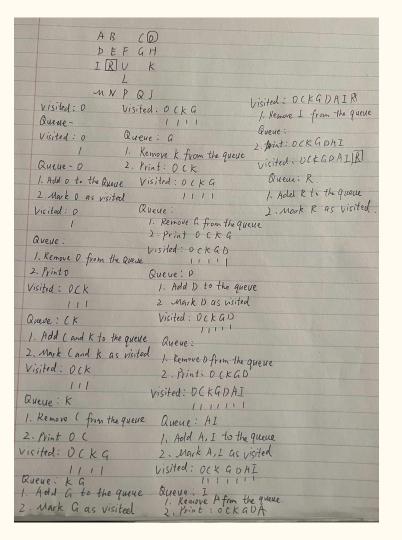
Maze: Breadth-First Traversal

• Using Breadth First Traversal (BFT) to solve this problem



Wheeled robots moves in a hotel: BFS

Solution - Matrix Path



Implementation

- There is only one ball and one destination in the maze
- Both the ball and the destination exist on an empty space, and they will not be at the same position initially
- The given maze does not contain border but the border of the maze are all walls
- The maze contains at least 2 empty spaces, and both the width and height of the maze won't exceed 100

```
class Solution:
    def hasPath(self, maze: List[List[int]], start: List[int], destination: List[int]) ->
bool:
        m = len(maze)
        n = len(maze[0])
        dirs = [0, 1, 0, -1, 0]
        seen = set()
    def isValid(x: int, y: int) -> bool:
        return 0 \le x \le m and 0 \le y \le n and maze[x][y] == 0
    def dfs(i: int, j: int) -> bool:
        if [i, j] == destination:
            return True
        if (i, j) in seen:
            return False
        seen.add((i, j))
        for k in range(4):
            x = i
            y = j
```

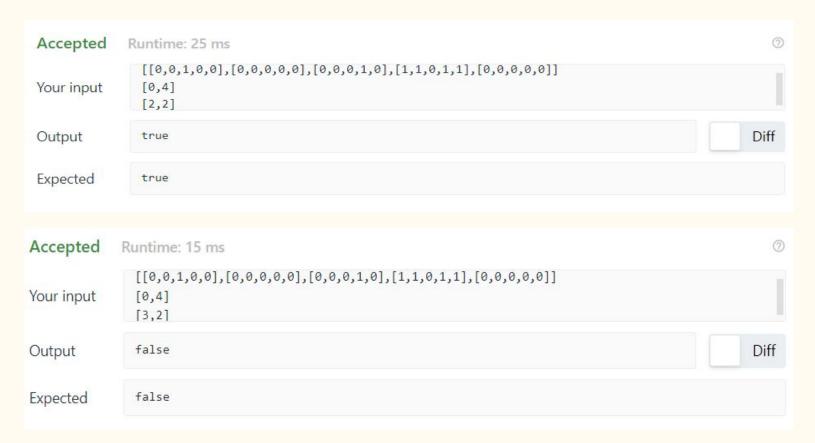
Python implementation continued...

```
while isValid(x + dirs[k], y + dirs[k + 1]):
    x += dirs[k]
    y += dirs[k + 1]
    if dfs(x, y):
        return True

return False

return dfs(start[0], start[1])
```

Test cases



Enhancement ideas

 \Box Time: O(mn)

□ Space: O(mn)



Conclusion

- ☐ We introduced the breadth-first search algorithm
- □ BFT problems can be solved manually
- ☐ We implemented and tested its python implementation



References

□ Garg, P. (2016). *Breadth First Search Tutorials & Notes* | *Algorithms* | *HackerEarth*. HackerEarth.

https://www.hackerearth.com/practice/algorithms/graphs/breadth-first-search/tutorial/

Jeffrey. (2020, March 22). *leetcode 490. The Maze (Python)*. (Jeffrey's Blog).

https://zhenyu0519.github.io/2020/03/22/lc490/