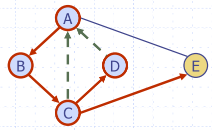
Depth-First Search

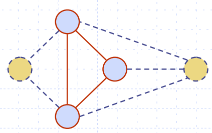


Outline and Reading

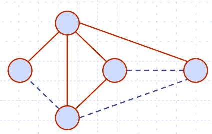
- Definitions (§6.1)
  - Subgraph
  - Connectivity
  - Spanning trees and forests
- Depth-first search (§6.3.1)
  - Algorithm
  - Example
  - Properties
  - Analysis
- Applications of DFS (§6.5)
  - Path finding
  - Cycle finding

Subgraphs

- A subgraph S of a graph G is a graph such that
  - The vertices of S are a subset of the vertices of G
  - The edges of S are a subset of the edges of G
- A spanning subgraph of G is a subgraph that contains all the vertices of G



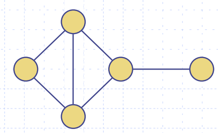
Subgraph



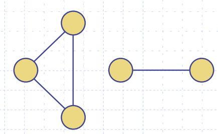
Spanning subgraph

Connectivity

- A graph is connected if there is a path between every pair of vertices
- A connected component of a graph G is a maximal connected subgraph of G



Connected graph

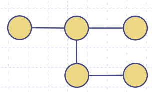


Non connected graph with two connected components

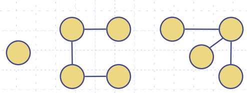
Trees and Forests

- A (free) tree is an undirected graph T such that
  - T is connected
  - T has no cycles

  This definition of tree is different from the one of a rooted tree
- A forest is an undirected graph without cycles
- The connected components of a forest are trees



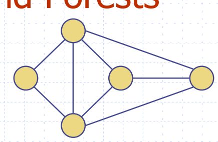
Tree



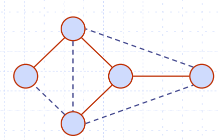
Forest

Spanning Trees and Forests

- A spanning tree of a connected graph is a spanning subgraph that is a tree
- A spanning tree is not unique unless the graph is a tree
- Spanning trees have applications to the design of communication networks
- A spanning forest of a graph is a spanning subgraph that is a forest

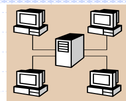


Graph



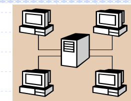
Spanning tree

Depth-First Search



- Depth-first search (DFS) is a general technique for traversing a graph
- A DFS traversal of a graph G
  - Visits all the vertices and edges of G
  - Determines whether G is connected
  - Computes the connected components of G
  - Computes a spanning forest of G
- DFS on a graph with n vertices and m edges takes $O(n + m)$ time
- DFS can be further extended to solve other graph problems
  - Find and report a path between two given vertices
  - Find a cycle in the graph
- Depth-first search is to graphs what Euler tour is to binary trees

DFS Algorithm



- The algorithm uses a mechanism for setting and getting "labels" of vertices and edges

```
Algorithm DFS(G)
   Input graph G
   Output labeling of the edges of G
      as discovery edges and
      back edges
  for all u ∈ G.vertices()
   setLabel(u, UNEXPLORED)
  for all e ∈ G.edges()
   setLabel(e, UNEXPLORED)
  for all v ∈ G.vertices()
   if getLabel(v) = UNEXPLORED
      DFS(G, v)
```

```
Algorithm DFS(G, v)
  Input graph G and a start vertex v of G
  Output labeling of the edges of G
     in the connected component of v
     as discovery edges and back edges
  setLabel(v, VISITED)
  for all e ∈ G.incidentEdges(v)
     if getLabel(e) = UNEXPLORED
        w ← G.opposite(v,e)
        if getLabel(w) = UNEXPLORED
           setLabel(e, DISCOVERY)
           DFS(G, w)
        else
           setLabel(e, BACK)
```


Example

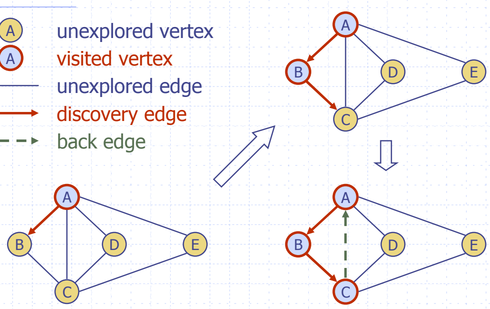
A unexplored vertex

A visited vertex

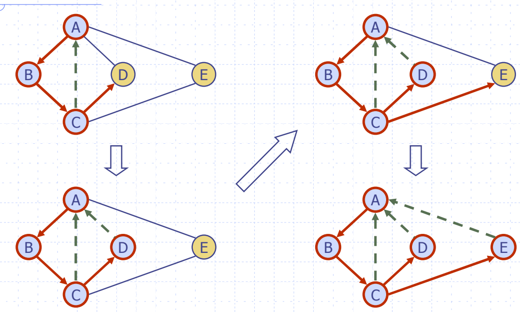
unexplored edge

discovery edge

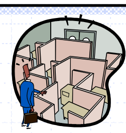
back edge



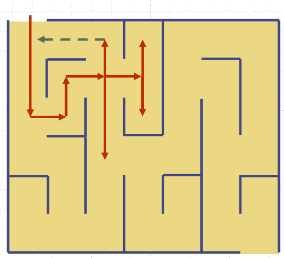
Example (cont.)



DFS and Maze Traversal



- The DFS algorithm is similar to a classic strategy for exploring a maze
  - We mark each intersection, corner and dead end (vertex) visited
  - We mark each corridor (edge) traversed
  - We keep track of the path back to the entrance (start vertex) by means of a rope (recursion stack)



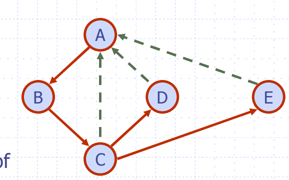
Properties of DFS

Property 1

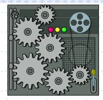
$DFS(G, v)$ visits all the vertices and edges in the connected component of v

Property 2

The discovery edges labeled by $DFS(G, v)$ form a spanning tree of the connected component of v



Analysis of DFS



- Setting/getting a vertex/edge label takes $O(1)$ time
- Each vertex is labeled twice
  - once as UNEXPLORED
  - once as VISITED
- Each edge is labeled twice
  - once as UNEXPLORED
  - once as DISCOVERY or BACK
- Method incidentEdges is called once for each vertex
- DFS runs in $O(n + m)$ time provided the graph is represented by the adjacency list structure
  - Recall that $\Sigma_v \deg(v) = 2m$

Path Finding

- We can specialize the DFS algorithm to find a path between two given vertices u and z using the template method pattern
- We call $DFS(G, u)$ with u as the start vertex
- We use a stack S to keep track of the path between the start vertex and the current vertex
- As soon as destination vertex z is encountered, we return the path as the contents of the stack

```
Algorithm pathDFS(G, v, z)
  setLabel(v, VISITED)
  S.push(v)
  if v = z
    return S.elements()
  for all e ∈ G.incidentEdges(v)
    if getLabel(e) = UNEXPLORED
      w ← opposite(v, e)
      if getLabel(w) = UNEXPLORED
        setLabel(e, DISCOVERY)
        S.push(e)
        pathDFS(G, w, z)
        S.pop()        { e gets popped }
      else
        setLabel(e, BACK)
  S.pop()              { v gets popped }
```


Cycle Finding

- We can specialize the DFS algorithm to find a simple cycle using the template method pattern
- We use a stack S to keep track of the path between the start vertex and the current vertex
- As soon as a back edge (v, w) is encountered, we return the cycle as the portion of the stack from the top to vertex w

```
Algorithm cycleDFS(G, v, z)
  setLabel(v, VISITED)
  S.push(v)
  for all e ∈ G.incidentEdges(v)
    if getLabel(e) = UNEXPLORED
      w ← opposite(v,e)
      S.push(e)
      if getLabel(w) = UNEXPLORED
        setLabel(e, DISCOVERY)
        pathDFS(G, w, z)
        S.pop()
      else
        C ← new empty stack
        repeat
          o ← S.pop()
          C.push(o)
        until o = w
        return C.elements()
  S.pop()
```