CS4311 Design and Analysis of Algorithms

Lecture 23: Elementary Graph Algorithms II

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About this lecture

- Depth First Search
 - DFS Tree and DFS Forest
- Properties of DFS
 - Parenthesis theorem (very important)
 - White-path theorem (very useful)

Depth First Search (DFS)

- An alternative algorithm to find all vertices reachable from a particular source vertex s
- Idea:

Explore a branch as far as possible before exploring another branch

• Easily done by recursion or stack

The DFS Algorithm

DFS(u) { Mark u as discovered ; while (u has unvisited neighbor v) DFS(v); Mark u as finished ; }

The while-loop explores a branch as far as possible before the next branch

Example (s = source)



Example (s = source)



Example (s = source)



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Example (s = source)



Example (s = source)







Done when s is discovered



The directed edges form a tree that contains all nodes reachable from s

Called DFS tree of s

Generalization

- Just like BFS, DFS may not visit all the vertices of the input graph G, because :
 - G may be disconnected
 - G may be directed, and there is no directed path from s to some vertex
- In most application of DFS (as a subroutine), once DFS tree of s is obtained, we will continue to apply DFS algorithm on any unvisited vertices ...

Suppose the input graph is directed



1. After applying DFS on s



2. Then, after applying DFS on t



3. Then, after applying DFS on y



4. Then, after applying DFS on r



5. Then, after applying DFS on v



Result : a collection of rooted trees called DFS forest



Performance

- Since no vertex is discovered twice, and each edge is visited at most twice (why?)
 → Total time: O(|V|+|E|)
- As mentioned, apart from recursion, we can also perform DFS using a LIFO stack (Do you know how?)

Who will be in the same tree?

- Because we can only explore branches in an unvisited node
 - → DFS(u) may not contain all nodes reachable by u in its DFS tree

E.g, in the previous run, v can reach r, s, w, x but v's tree does not contain any of them



Can we determine who will be in the same tree?

Who will be in the same tree?

- Yes, we will soon show that by white-path theorem, we can determine who will be in the same tree as v at the time when DFS is performed on v
- Before that, we will define the discovery time and finishing time for each node, and show interesting properties of them

Discovery and Finishing Times

- When the DFS algorithm is run, let us consider a global time such that the time increases one unit :
 - when a node is discovered, or
 - when a node is finished

(i.e., finished exploring all unvisited neighbors)

Each node u records :
 d(u) = the time when u is discovered, and
 f(u) = the time when u is finished

Discovery and Finishing Times



Discovery and Finishing Times



Nice Properties

Lemma: For any node u, d(u) < f(u)

Lemma: For nodes u and v, d(u), d(v), f(u), f(v) are all distinct

Theorem (Parenthesis Theorem): Let u and v be two nodes with d(u) < d(v). Then, either

- 1. d(u) < d(v) < f(v) < f(u) [contain], or
- 2. d(u) < f(u) < d(v) < f(v) [disjoint]

Proof of Parenthesis Theorem

- Consider the time when v is discovered
- Since u is discovered before v, there are two cases concerning the status of u:
 - Case 1: (u is not finished)
 This implies v is a descendant of u
 → f(v) < f(u) (why?)
 - Case 2: (u is finished)
 → f(u) < d(v)

Corollary

Corollary: v is a (proper) descendant of u if and only if d(u) < d(v) < f(v) < f(u)

White-Path Theorem

Theorem: By the time when DFS is performed on u, for any way DFS is done, the descendants of u are the same, and they are exactly those nodes reachable by u with unvisited (white) nodes only



If we perform DFS(w) now, will the descendant of w always be the same set of nodes?

- Suppose that v is a descendant of u Let P = (u, w_1 , w_2 , ..., w_k , v) be the directed path from u to v in DFS tree of u
 - Then, apart from u, each node on P must be discovered after u
 - They are all unvisited by the time we perform DFS on u
 - Thus, at this time, there exists a path from u to v with unvisited nodes only

- So, every descendant of u is reachable from u with unvisited nodes only
- To complete the proof, it remains to show the converse :

Any node reachable from u with unvisited nodes only becomes u 's descendant

is also true (We shall prove this by contradiction)

- Suppose on contrary the converse is false
- Then, there exists some v, reachable from u with unvisited nodes only, does not become u's descendant
 - If more than one choice of v, let v be one such vertex closest to u
 - → d(u) < f(u) < d(v) < f(v) ... EQ.1

- Let $P = (u, w_1, w_2, ..., w_k, v)$ be any path from u to v using unvisited nodes only
- By our choice of v (closest one), all w₁, w₂, ...,
 w_k become u's descendants
 Handle special case

Handle special case: when u = w_k

- This implies: $d(u) \leq d(w_k) < f(w_k) \leq f(u)$
- Combining with EQ.1, we have $d(w_k) < f(w_k) < d(v) < f(v)$

- However, since there is an edge (no matter undirected or directed) from w_k to v, if $d(w_k) < d(v)$, then we must have $d(v) < f(w_k)$... (why??)
- Consequently, it contradicts with : $d(w_k) < f(w_k) < d(v) < f(v)$

