CS2351 Data Structures

Lecture 10: Graph and Tree Traversals I

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About this lecture

- We introduce two popular algorithms to traverse a graph
 - 1. Breadth First Search (BFS)
 - 2. Depth First Search (DFS)
 - DFS Tree and DFS Forest
 - Parenthesis theorem

Breadth First Search

Lost in a Desert

- After an unfortunate accident, we survived, but are lost in a desert
- To keep surviving, we need to find water
- How to find the closest water source?



Breadth First Search (BFS)

- A simple algorithm to find all vertices reachable from a particular vertex s
 - s is called source vertex
- Idea: Explore vertices in rounds
 - At Round k, visit all vertices whose shortest distance (#edges) from s is k-1
 - Also, discover all vertices whose shortest distance from s is k

The BFS Algorithm

- 1. Mark s as discovered in Round 0
- 2. For Round k = 1, 2, 3, ...,
 - For (each u discovered in Round k-1)
 - Mark u as visited ;
 - Visit each neighbor v of u ;
 - If (v not visited and not discovered) Mark v as discovered in Round k :

Stop if no vertices were discovered in Round k-1

Example (s = source)



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Example (s = source)



Example (s = source)



Example (s = source)



Done when no new node is discovered

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

Called BFS tree of s

Correctness

• The correctness of BFS follows from the following theorem :

Theorem: A vertex v is discovered in Round k if and only if shortest distance of v from source s is k

Proof: By induction

Performance

- BFS algorithm is easily done if we use
 - an O(|V|)-size array to store discovered/visited information
 - a separate list for each round to store the vertices discovered in that round
- Since no vertex is discovered twice, and each edge is visited at most twice (why?)
 - → Total time: O(|V|+|E|)
 - → Total space: O(|V|+|E|)

Performance (2)

- Instead of using a separate list for each round, we can use a common queue
 - When a vertex is discovered, we put it at the end of the queue
 - To pick a vertex to visit in Step 2, we pick the one at the front of the queue
 - Done when no vertex is in the queue
- → No improvement in time/space ...
- → But algorithm is simplified

Question: Can you prove the correctness of using queue?

Depth First Search

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)

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?)

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)