GRAPH TRAVERSALS

- Depth-First Search
- Breadth-First Search
- Template Method Pattern



Exploring a Labyrinth Without Getting Lost

- A **depth-first search (DFS)** in an undirected graph G is like wandering in a labyrinth with a string and a can of red paint without getting lost.
- We start at vertex *s*, tying the end of our string to the point and painting *s* "visited". Next we label *s* as our current vertex called *u*.
- Now we travel along an arbitrary edge (u,v).
- If edge (*u*,*v*) leads us to an already visited vertex *v* we return to *u*.
- If vertex *v* is unvisited, we unroll our string and move to *v*, paint *v* "visited", set *v* as our current vertex, and repeat the previous steps.
- Eventually, we will get to a point where all incident edges on *u* lead to visited vertices. We then backtrack by unrolling our string to a previously visited vertex *v*. Then *v* becomes our current vertex and we repeat the previous steps.

Exploring a Labyrinth Without Getting Lost (cont.)

- Then, if we all incident edges on v lead to visited vertices, we backtrack as we did before. We continue to backtrack along the path we have traveled, finding and exploring unexplored edges, and repeating the procedure.
- When we backtrack to vertex *s* and there are no more unexplored edges incident on *s*, we have finished our DFS search.

Depth-First Search



Determining Incident Edges

- DFS depends on how you obtain the incident edges.
- If we start at A and we examine the edge to F, then to B, then E, C, and finally G



The resulting graph is: discoveryEdge backEdge return from dead end



If we instead examine the tree starting at A and looking at F, the C, then E, B, and finally F,



the resulting set of backEdges, discoveryEdges and recursion points is different.

• Now an example of a DFS.

















And we're done!

DFS Properties

- Proposition 9.12 : Let G be an undirected graph on which a DFS traversal starting at a vertex *s* has been preformed. Then:
 - 1) The traversal visits all vertices in the connected component of s
 - 2) The discovery edges form a spanning tree of the connected component of *s*
- Justification of 1):
 - Let's use a contradiction argument: suppose there is at least on vertex *v* not visited and let *w* be the first unvisited vertex on some path from *s* to *v*.
 - Because *w* was the first unvisited vertex on the path, there is a neighbor *u* that has been visited.
 - But when we visited *u* we must have looked at edge(*u*, *w*). Therefore *w* must have been visited.
 - and justification
- Justification of 2):
 - We only mark edges from when we go to unvisited vertices. So we never form a cycle of discovery edges, i.e. discovery edges form a tree.
 - This is a spanning tree because DFS visits each vertex in the connected component of *s*

Running Time Analysis

- Remember:
 - **DFS** is called on each vertex exactly once.
 - Every edge is examined exactly twice, once from each of its vertices
- For n_s vertices and m_s edges in the connected component of the vertex s, a DFS starting at s runs in O(n_s +m_s) time if:
 - The graph is represented in a data structure, like the adjacency list, where vertex and edge methods take constant time
 - Marking a vertex as explored and testing to see if a vertex has been explored takes O(degree)
 - By marking visited nodes, we can systematically consider the edges incident on the current vertex so we do not examine the same edge more than once.

Marking Vertices

- Let's look at ways to mark vertices in a way that satisfies the above condition.
- Extend vertex positions to store a variable for marking

• Use a hash table mechanism which satisfies the above condition is the probabilistic sense, because is supports the mark and test operations in O(1) expected time

The Template Method Pattern

- the template method pattern provides a *generic* computation mechanism that can be specialized by redefining certain steps
- to apply this pattern, we design a class that
 - implements the *skeleton* of an algorithm
 - invokes auxiliary methods that can be redefined by its subclasses to perform useful computations

• Benefits

- makes the correctness of the specialized computations rely on that of the skeleton algorithm
- demonstrates the power of class inheritance
- provides code reuse
- encourages the development of generic code

• Examples

- *generic traversal of a binary tree* (which includes preorder, inorder, and postorder) and its applications
- *generic depth-first search of an undirected graph* and its applications

Generic Depth First Search

```
public abstract class DFS {
protected Object dfsVisit(Vertex v) {
  protected InspectableGraph graph;
  protected Object visitResult;
  initResult();
  startVisit(v);
  mark(v);
  for (Enumeration inEdges = graph.incidentEdges(v);
      inEdges.hasMoreElements();) {
   Edge nextEdge = (Edge) inEdges.nextElement();
   if (!isMarked(nextEdge)) { // found an unexplored edge
    mark(nextEdge);
    Vertex w = graph.opposite(v, nextEdge);
    if (!isMarked(w)) { // discovery edge
      mark(nextEdge);
      traverseDiscovery(nextEdge, v);
      if (!isDone())
       visitResult = dfsVisit(w); }
    else // back edge
     traverseBack(nextEdge, v);
   }
  finishVisit(v);
  return result();
 }
```

Auxiliary Methods of the Generic DFS

```
graph = g;
```

return null;

```
}
```

protected void initResult() {}

```
protected void startVisit(Vertex v) {}
```

protected void traverseDiscovery(Edge e, Vertex from) {}

protected void traverseBack(Edge e, Vertex from) {}

protected boolean isDone() { return false; }

protected void finishVisit(Vertex v) {}

protected Object result() { return new Object(); }

Now let's look at 4 way to specialize the generic DFS!

• class FindPath specializes DFS to return a path from vertex start to vertex target. public class FindPathDFS extends DFS { protected Sequence path; protected boolean done; protected Vertex target; public Object execute(InspectableGraph g, Vertex start, Object info) { super.execute(g, start, info); path = new NodeSequence(); done = false: target = (Vertex) info; dfsVisit(start); return path.elements(); protected void startVisit(Vertex v) { path.insertFirst(v); if (v == target) { done = true; } } protected void finishVisit(Vertex v) { if (!done) path.remove(path.first()); } protected boolean isDone() { return done; }

Other Specializations of the Generic DFS

• FindAllVertices specializes DFS to return an enumeration of the vertices in the connecteed component containing the start vertex.

More Specializations of the Generic DFS

• ConnectivityTest uses a specialized DFS to test if a graph is connected.

```
public class ConnectivityTest {
  protected static DFS tester = new
FindAllVerticesDFS();
  public static boolean isConnected(InspectableGraph g)
  ł
    if (g.numVertices() == 0) return true; //empty is
                                       //connected
    Vertex start = (Vertex)g.vertices().nextElement();
    Enumeration compVerts =
              (Enumeration)tester.execute(g, start, null);
    // count how many elements are in the enumeration
    int count = 0;
    while (compVerts.hasMoreElements()) {
      compVerts.nextElement();
      count++;
    if (count == g.numVertices()) return true;
    return false;
  }
```

Another Specialization of the Generic DFS

• FindCycle specializes DFS to determine if the connected component of the start vertex contains a cycle, and if so return it.

public class FindCycleDFS extends DFS { protected Sequence path; protected boolean done; protected Vertex cycleStart; public Object execute(InspectableGraph g, Vertex start, Object info) { super.execute(g, start, info); path = new NodeSequence(); done = false; dfsVisit(start); //copy the vertices up to cycleStart from the path to //the cycle sequence. Sequence theCycle = new NodeSequence(); Enumeration pathVerts = path.elements();

```
while (pathVerts.hasMoreElements()) {
    Vertex v = (Vertex)pathVerts.nextElement();
    theCycle.insertFirst(v);
    if (v == cycleStart) {
      break;
  return theCycle.elements();
}
protected void startVisit(Vertex v) {path.insertFirst(v);}
protected void finishVisit(Vertex v) {
  if (done) {path.remove(path.first());}
}
//When a back edge is found, the graph has a cycle
protected void traverseBack(Edge e, Vertex from) {
  Enumeration pathVerts = path.elements();
  cycleStart = graph.opposite(from, e);
  done = true;
}
protected boolean isDone() {return done;}
```

}

Breadth-First Search

- Like DFS, a Breadth-First Search (BFS) traverses a connected component of a graph, and in doing so defines a spanning tree with several useful properties
 - The starting vertex *s* has level 0, and, as in DFS, defines that point as an "anchor."
 - In the first round, the string is unrolled the length of one edge, and all of the edges that are only one edge away from the anchor are visited.
 - These edges are placed into level 1
 - In the second round, all the new edges that can be reached by unrolling the string 2 edges are visited and placed in level 2.
 - This continues until every vertex has been assigned a level.
 - The label of any vertex *v* corresponds to the length of the shortest path from *s* to *v*.

Graph Traversals

BFS Pseudo-Code

```
Algorithm BFS(s):
  Input: A vertex s in a graph
  Output: A labeling of the edges as "discovery" edges
    and "cross edges"
 initialize container L_0 to contain vertex s
  i \leftarrow 0
  while L_i is not empty do
    create container L_{i+1} to initially be empty
    for each vertex v in L_i do
      if edge e incident on v do
        let w be the other endpoint of e
        if vertex w is unexplored then
           label e as a discovery edge
          insert w into L_{i+1}
        else
          label e as a cross edge
```

```
i \leftarrow i + 1
```

Properties of BFS

- Proposition: Let *G* be an undirected graph on which a a BFS traversal starting at vertex *s* has been performed. Then
 - The traversal visits all vertices in the connected component of *s*.
 - The discovery-edges form a spanning tree *T*, which we call the BFS tree, of the connected component of *s*
 - For each vertex v at level i, the path of the BFS tree
 T between s and v has i edges, and any other path
 of G between s and v has at least i edges.
 - If (*u*, *v*) is an edge that is not in the BFS tree, then the level numbers of *u* and *v* differ by at most one.
- Proposition: Let G be a graph with n vertices and m edges. A BFS traversal of G takes time O(n + m). Also, there exist O(n + m) time algorithms based on BFS for the following problems:
 - Testing whether G is connected.
 - Computing a spanning tree of G
 - Computing the connected components of G
 - Computing, for every vertex *v* of *G*, the minimum number of edges of any path between *s* and *v*.