Data Structures and Algorithms (CS210A)

Lecture 25

- A data structure problem for graphs.
- Depth First Search (DFS) Traversal
- Novel application: computing biconnected components of a graph

BFS Traversal in Undirected Graphs



Theorem:

BFS Traversal from *x* visits all vertices reachable from *x* in the given graph.



Problem:

Build an O(n) size data structure for a given undirected graph s.t.

the following query can be answered in O(1) time.



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Analysis of the algorithm

Output of the algorithm:

```
Array Label[] of size O(n) such that
Label[x]=Label[y] if and only if x and y belong to same connected component.
```

Running time of the algorithm :

O(n + m)

Theorem:

An undirected graph can be processed in O(n + m) time to build an O(n) size data structure which can answer any connectivity query in O(1) time.

Is there alternate way to traverse a graph?





A recursive way to traverse a graph



We need a mechanism to

Avoid visiting a vertex <u>multiple times</u>

We can solve it by keeping a label "Visited" for each vertex like in BFS traversal.

• **Trace back** in case we reach a dead end.

Recursion takes care of it 🙂

DFS traversal of *G*



DFS-traversal(G)

DFS traversal

a milestone in the area of graph algorithms



Invented by Robert Endre Tarjan in 1972

- One of the **pioneers** in the field of data structures and algorithms.
- Got the Turing award (equivalent to Nobel prize)
 - for his fundamental contribution to data structures and algorithms.
- **DFS traversal** has proved to be a very powerful tool for graph algorithms.



a milestone in the area of graph algorithms

Applications:

- Connected components of a graph.
- Biconnected components of a graph.
 (Is the connectivity of a graph robust to failure of any node ?)
- Finding **bridges** in a graph.

(Is the connectivity of a graph robust to failure of any edge)

• Planarity testing of a graph

(Can a given graph be embedded on a plane so that no two edges intersect ?)

• **Strongly connected** components of a directed graph.

(the extension of connectivity in case of directed graphs)



DFS(v) begins **v** visits **y DFS(y)** begins **y** visits **f DFS(f)** begins f visits b **DFS(b)** begins all neighbors of **b** are already visited **DFS(***b***)** ends control returns to **DFS(f)** f visits h **DFS(***h***)** begins and so on After visiting z, control returns to $r \rightarrow c \rightarrow s \rightarrow u \rightarrow h \rightarrow f \rightarrow y \rightarrow v$

v visits **w**

DFS(w) begins

.... and so on



Observation1: (Recursive nature of DFS)
If DFS(v) invokes DFS(w), then
DFS(w) finishes before DFS(v).





Observation 2:

Let **X** be the set of vertices visited before **DFS** traversal reaches vertex **u** for the first time.

The **DFS(u)** pursued now is like

fresh **DFS**(**u**) executed in graph $G \setminus X$.

NOTE:

 $G \setminus X$ is the graph G after <u>removal</u> of all vertices X along with their edges.

Proving that DFS(v) visits all vertices reachable from v

By induction on the <u>size of connected component of v</u> Can you figure out the inductive assertion now? Think over it. It is given on the following slide...

Inductive assertion

A(*i*):

If a connected component has **size** = *i*, then **DFS** from any of its vertices **will visit** all its vertices. **PROOF:**

Base case: *i* =1.

The component is $\{v\}$ and the first statement of **DFS**(v) marks it visited. So A(1) holds.

Induction hypothesis:

If a connected component has size < *i*, then DFS from any of its vertices will visit all its vertices.

Induction step:

We have to prove that **A**(*i*) holds.

Consider any connected component of size *i*.

Let V^* be the set of its vertices. $|V^*| = i$.

Let **v** be any vertex in the connected component.



DFS(v)



Let y be the first neighbor visited by v.
B= the set of vertices such that every path from y to them passes through v.
C= V*\B.



Answer: DFS(y) in $G \setminus \{v\}$.

Question: What is the connected component of **y** in **G**\{**v**} ?

DFS(v)



Let y be the first neighbor visited by v.
B= the set of vertices such that every path from y to them passes through v.
C= V*\B.

B= {
$$v, g, w, d$$
}
C= { $y, b, f, h, u, s, c, r, z$ }
C| < i since $v \notin C$
Ouestion: What is DES(v) like ?

Answer: DFS(y) in G\{v}.

Question: What is the connected component of **y** in **G**\{v} ? **Answer: C**.

|C|< i, so by I.H., DFS(y) visits entire set C & we return to v.
 Question: What is DFS(v) like when DFS(y) finishes ?
 Answer: DFS(v) in G\C.

Question: What is the connected component of v in G\C?

DFS(v)



Let y be the first neighbor visited by v.
B= the set of vertices such that every path from y to them passes through v.
C= V*\B.

B= {v, g, w, d} C= {y, b, f, h, u, s, c, r, z} Question: What is DFS(y) like ?

Answer: DFS(y) in G\{v}.

Question: What is the connected component of *y* in G\{v}? Answer: C.

|C|< i, so by I.H., DFS(y) visits entire set C & we return to v.
Question: What is DFS(v) like when DFS(y) finishes ?
Answer: DFS(v) in G\C.</pre>

Question: What is the connected component of v in G\C? Answer: B.

|B|< i, so by I.H., DFS(v) pursued after finishing DFS(y) visits entire set B.

Theorem: DFS(v) visits all vertices of the connected component of v.

Homework:

Use **DFS** traversal to compute all connected components of a given **G** in time O(m + n).