Graph Algorithms

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Lecture Outline

1. Graph Basics

2. Breadth-First Search
   - Breadth-First Search
   - BFS Application: Connected Components

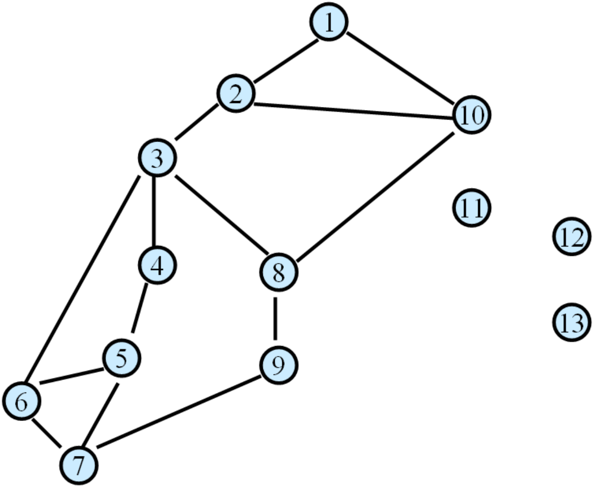
Objects & Relationships

- The Kevin Bacon Game:
  - Actors
  - Two are related if they've been in a movie together
- Exam Scheduling:
  - Classes
  - Two are related if they have students in common
- Traveling Salesperson Problem:
  - Cities
  - Two are related if can travel directly between them

Graphs

- An extremely important formalism for representing (binary) relationships
- Objects: "vertices", aka "nodes"
- Relationships between pairs: "edges", aka "arcs"
- Formally, a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a pair of sets, V the vertices and E the edges

Undirected Graph G = (V,E)



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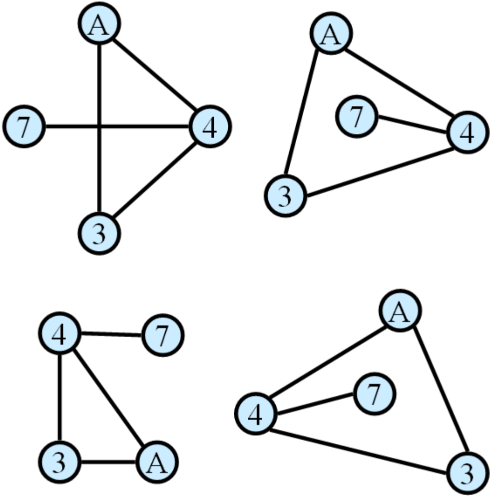
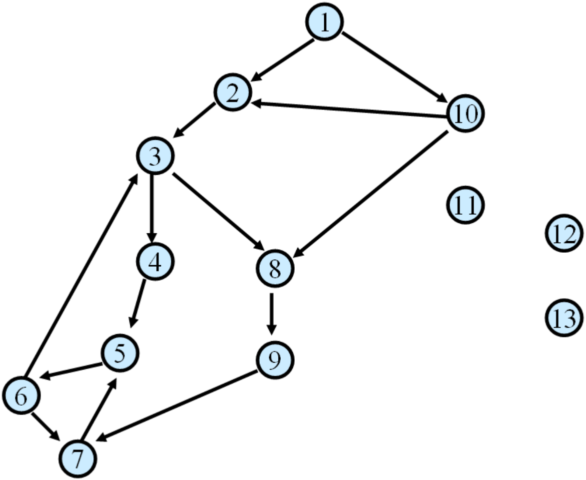
Graphs don't live in Flatland

- Geometrical drawing is mentally convenient...



Directed Graph G = (V,E)



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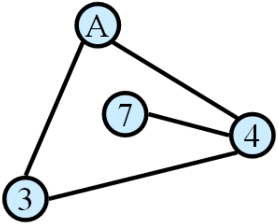
Specifying undirected graphs as input

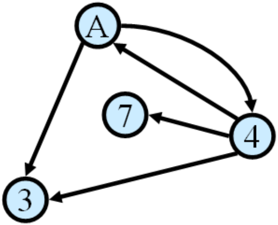
- What are the vertices?
  - Explicitly list them
  - {"A", "7", "3", "4"}
- What are the edges?
  - Either, set of edges
  - {{A,3}, {7,4}, {4,3}, {4,A}}
  - Or, (symmetric) adjacency matrix



	A	7	3	4
A	0	0	1	1
7	0	0	0	1
3	1	0	0	1
4	1	1	1	0

Specifying directed graphs as input

- What are the vertices?
  - Explicitly list them
  - {“A”, “7”, “3”, “4”}
- What are the edges?
  - Either, set of directed edges: {(A,4), (4,7), (4,3), (4,A), (A,3)}
  - Or, (nonsymmetric) adjacency matrix



		to			
		A	7	3	4
	A	0	0	1	1
	7	0	0	0	0
from	3	0	0	0	0
	4	1	1	1	0

Vertices vs # Edges

- Let G be an undirected graph with n vertices and m edges. How are n and m related?
- Since
  - every edge connects two different vertices (no loops), and no two edges connect the same two vertices (no multi-edges),

Sparse, Dense: More Cool Graph Lingo

- A graph is called sparse if $m \ll n^2$, otherwise it is dense

- Q: which is a better run time, $O(n+m)$ or $O(n^2)$?

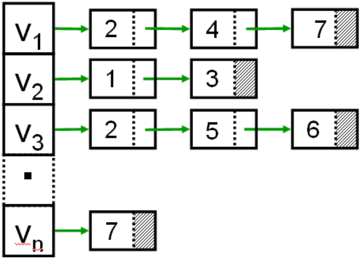
Adjacency Matrix Representation

- Vertex set $V = v_1, \ldots, v_n$
- Adjacency Matrix A
  - $A[i, j] = 1$ iff $(v_i, v_j) \in E$
  - Space is n^2 bits
- Advantages:
- Disadvantages:

	A	7	3	4
A	0	0	1	1
7	0	0	0	1
3	1	0	0	1
4	1	1	1	0

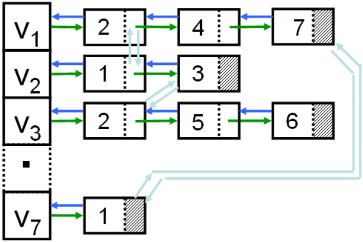
Ajacency List Representation

- Space:
- Advantages:
- Disadvantages



Representing Graph G=(V,E) n vertices, m edges

- Adjacency List:
  - O(n+m) words
- Back- and cross pointers more work to build, but allow easier traversal and deletion of edges, if needed, (don't bother if not)



Graph Traversal

- Learn the basic structure of a graph
- "Walk," via edges, from a fixed starting vertex s to all vertices reachable from s
- Being orderly helps. Two common ways:
  - Breadth-First Search
  - Depth-First Search

Breadth-First Search

- Idea: Explore from start s, layer by layer
- BFS algorithm.
  - $L_0 = \{s\}$.

- Theorem. For each i, L_i consists of all nodes at distance (i.e., min path length) exactly i from s.
- Corollary: There is a path from s to t iff t appears in some layer.

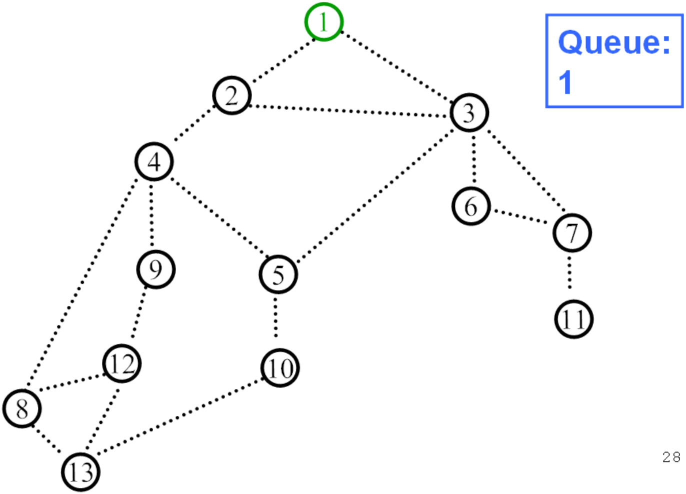
Graph Traversal: Implementation

- Learn the basic structure of a graph
- "Walk," via edges, from a fixed starting vertex s to all vertices reachable from s
- Three states of vertices

Algorithm: $BFS(s)$

```
Initialize: All vertices marked "undiscovered"
Mark s discovered
queue ← {s}
while queue not empty do
    u ← removeFront(queue)
    for all edge (u, x) do
        if x is "undiscovered" then
            Mark x "discovered"
            Append x on queue
        end if
        Mark u "fully explored"
    end for
end while
```

BFS in action



BFS analysis

- Each edge is explored once from each end-point
- Each vertex is discovered by following a different edge
- Total cost $O(m)$, $m = \#$ of edges

Properties of (Undirected) BFS(v)

Why fuss about trees?

- Trees are simpler than graphs
- Ditto for algorithms on trees vs algs on graphs

Graph Search Application: Connected Components

- Want to answer questions of the form:
  - given vertices u and v, is there a path from u to v?
- Idea: create array A such that
  - $A[u] =$ smallest numbered vertex that is connected to u.

Algorithm: Find Connected Components

Iniitalize all nodes "undiscovered"
for $v = 1$ to n **do**
    if $v \neq$ "fully-explored" **then**
        $BFS(v)$, setting $A[u] \leftarrow v$ for each u found
            ▷ (This will mark u "discovered" / "fully-explored")
    end if
end for

- Total cost: O(n+m)
  - each edge is touched a constant number of times (twice)
  - works also with DFS