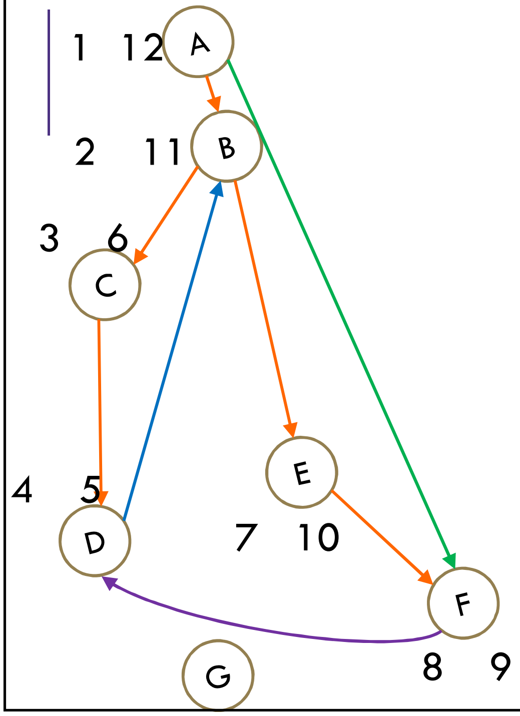

The orange edges (the ones where we discovered a new vertex) form a tree!*
We call them **tree edges.**

That blue edge went from a descendent to an ancestor
B was still on the stack when we found (B,D).
We call them **back edges.**

The green edge went from an ancestor to a descendant
F was put on and come off the stack between putting A on the stack and finding (A,F)
We call them **forward edges.**

The purple edge went…some other way.
D had been on and come off the stack before we found F or (F,D)
We call those **cross edges.**

*Conditions apply. Sometimes the graph is a forest. But we call them tree edges no matter what.

The Backward Direction

We might not just walk along the cycle in order. Are we going to visit v_k "in time" or might (v_k, v_0) be a cross edge?

DFS discovery

`DFS(v)` finds exactly the (unseen) vertices reachable from v.

Scenario #1

You've made a new social networking app, Convrs. Users on Convrs can have "asymmetric" following (I can follow you, without you following me). You decide to allow people to form multi-user direct messages, but only if people are probably in similar social circles (to avoid spamming).

You'll allow a messaging channel to form only if for every pair of users a,b in the channel: a must follow b or follow someone who follows b or follow someone who follows someone who follows b, or …
And the same for b to a.

You'd like to be able to quickly check for any new proposed channel whether it meets this condition.

What are the vertices?

What are the edges?

What are we looking for?

What do we run?

Scenario #2

Sports fans often use the "transitive law" to predict sports outcomes -- In general, if you think A is better than B, and B is also better than C, then you expect that A is better than C.

Teams don't all play each other – from data of games that have been played, determine if the "transitive law" is realistic, or misleading about at least one outcome.

What are the vertices?

What are the edges?

What are we looking for?

What do we run?