

Lecture 3

Graph traversal. Depth- and breadth-first search

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Previously on CSE 421 ...

A writeup for breadth-first search

- **Input:** an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ and a starting root s
- **Output:** A tree T such that $d_T(s, v) = d_G(s, v)$ for any vertex $v \in G$. (For any unreachable vertex v , by convention, $d_G(s, v) = \infty$ and v is not included in T .)
- **Algorithm:**
 - **Details:** Initialize a queue Q with s and empty tree T . While Q isn't empty, pop v off and mark as visited. Then add all unvisited neighbors w of v to the queue and add edge (v, w) to T .
 - **Runtime:** Each edge and vertex is visited/referenced at most $O(1)$ times so total complexity is at most $O(|V| + |E|)$.

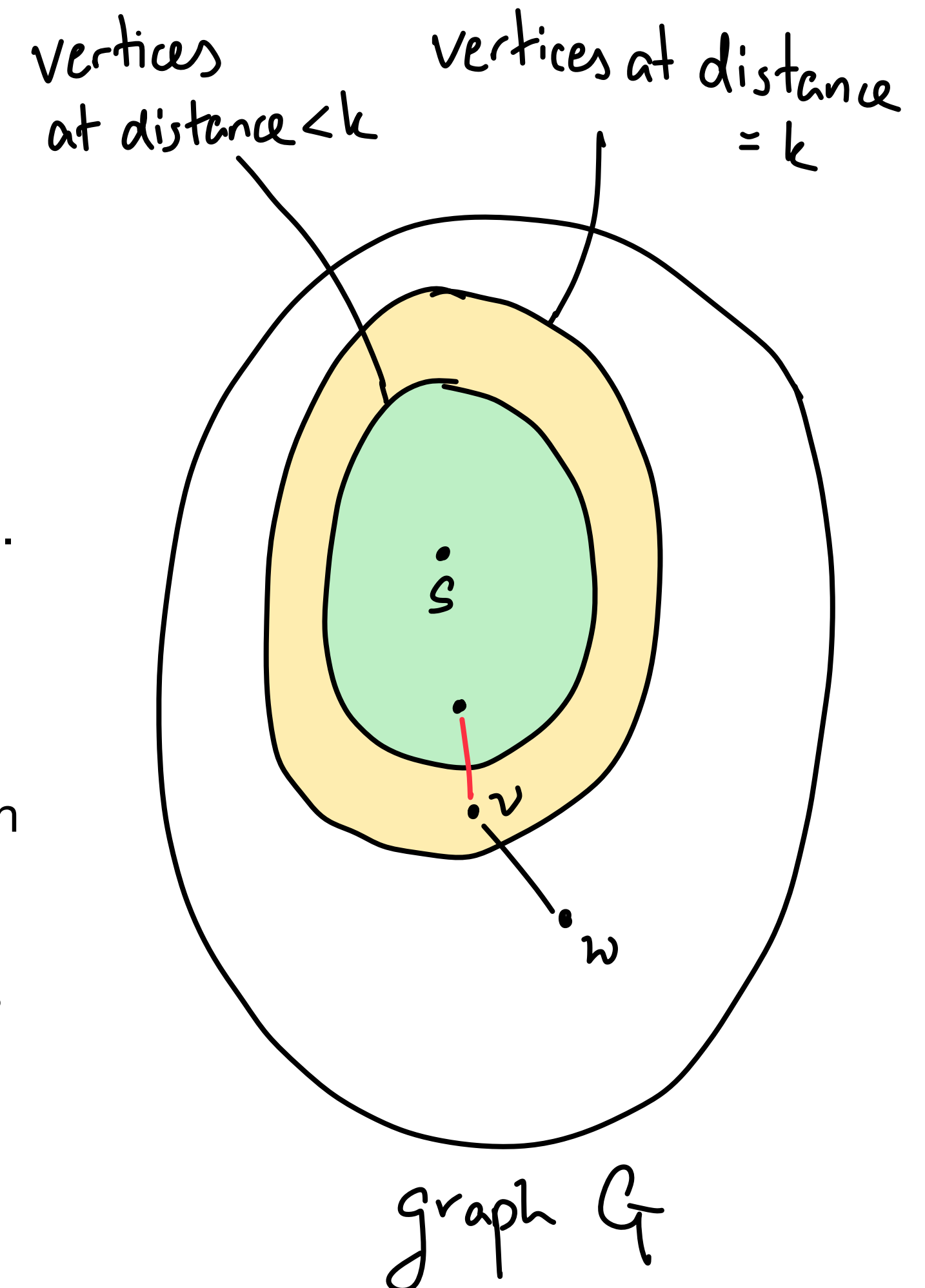
Today

A writeup for breadth-first search

Correctness argument

- **Claim:** A tree T such that $d_T(s, v) = d_G(s, v)$ for any vertex $v \in G$.
- **Stronger claim:** A tree T such that $d_T(s, v) = d_G(s, v)$ for any vertex $v \in G$ **and** BFS dequeues vertices in monotonically increasing order of distance.
- **Proof:** (Induction)
 - Base case: s is the only vertex at distance 0 and it is dequeued first. Also $d_T(s, s) = d_G(s, s)$.
 - Induction: Assume that for all vertices v with $d_G(s, v) = k$, that $d_T(s, v) = d_G(s, v) = k$ and that they are dequeued before vertices at distance $> k$.
 - Let w be a vertex at distance $d_G(s, w) = k + 1$ and v its predecessor on the shortest G -path to s . Then, $d_G(s, v) = k$.
 - When BFS dequeues v , it observes the edge (v, w) with w unvisited (by induction) and adds (v, w) to T . So,

$$d_T(s, w) = d_T(s, v) + 1 = d_G(s, v) + 1 = d_G(s, w).$$



Connected components

- For a undirected graph G , a connected component $C \subseteq V$ is a **maximal set** such that
 - For all pairs $u, v \in C$, there exists a path $u \rightsquigarrow v$
 - There are no edges between C and $V \setminus C$.
- Then, $u \rightsquigarrow v$ iff u, v in the same connected component

Connected components

- Algorithm for computing connected components:

- Idea: Let $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$. Create an array $A(u) =$ smallest numbered vertex connected to u . A canonical name for the connected component.

- Then u and v are connected iff $A(u) = A(v)$.
Better than storing all pairs of paths $p(u, v)$.

Faster when all pairs are
being compared.

Connected components

- **Algorithm for computing connected components:**

- Initialize all vertex as not visited.
- For $s \leftarrow 1$ till n ,
 - If s is not visited, then run subroutine $\text{BFS}(s)$ and set $A(u) \leftarrow s$ for every vertex visited by the BFS and mark each vertex as visited.

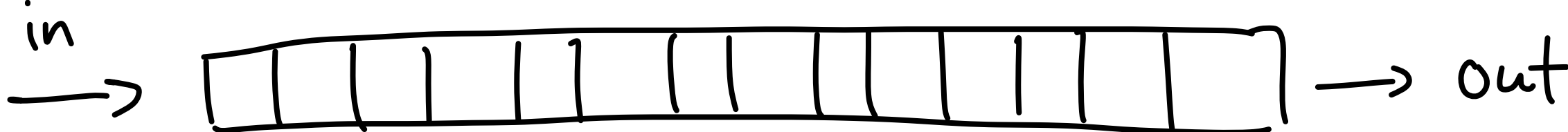
- **Correctness:** (sketch) Prove by induction on vertex number u , that $A(u)$ equals the smallest numbered vertex connected to u .

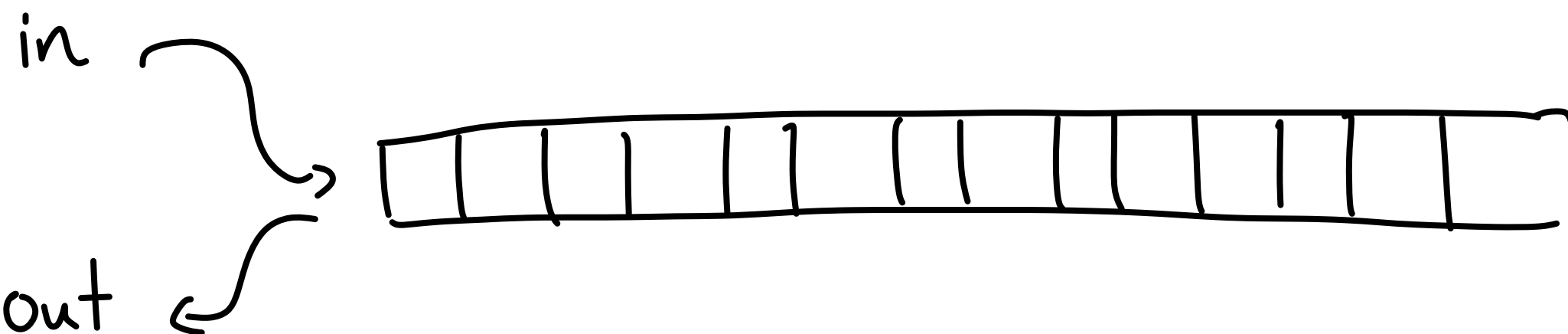
- **Total runtime:** $O(n + m)$ because

- Each vertex is visited once by outer routine and the BFS runs are disjoint and observes each edge a constant number of times.
- Could have run any generic graph traversal actually as long as it is efficient

Depth-first search

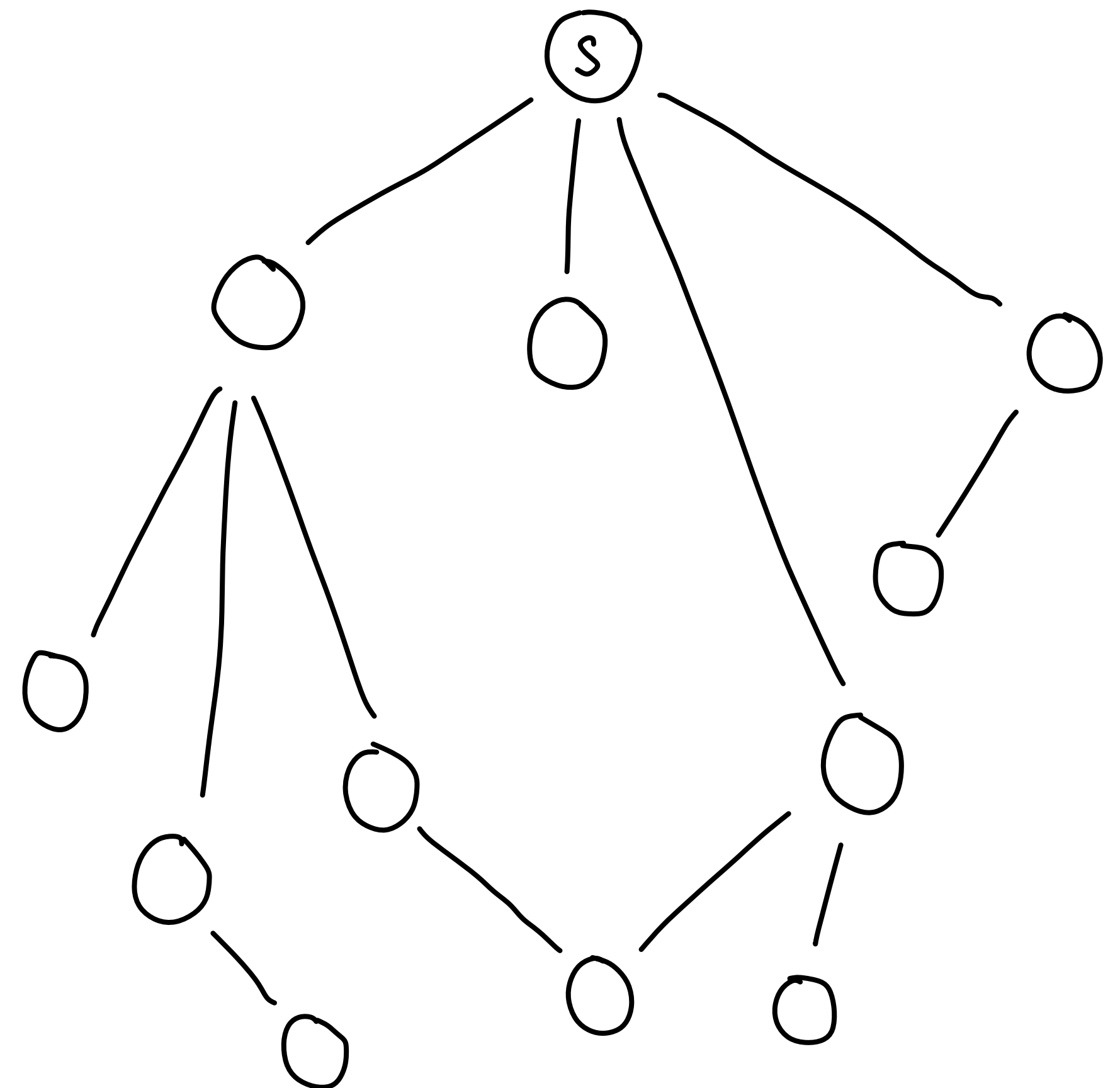
- Breadth-first search visits all the neighbors before diving in deeper
- Depth-first search visits as deep as possible
- The trees formed by the visiting order look quite different!
- Generated by different data structures but similar algorithm!

- BFS: Queue — *first in, first out* 

- DFS: Stack — *first in, last out* 

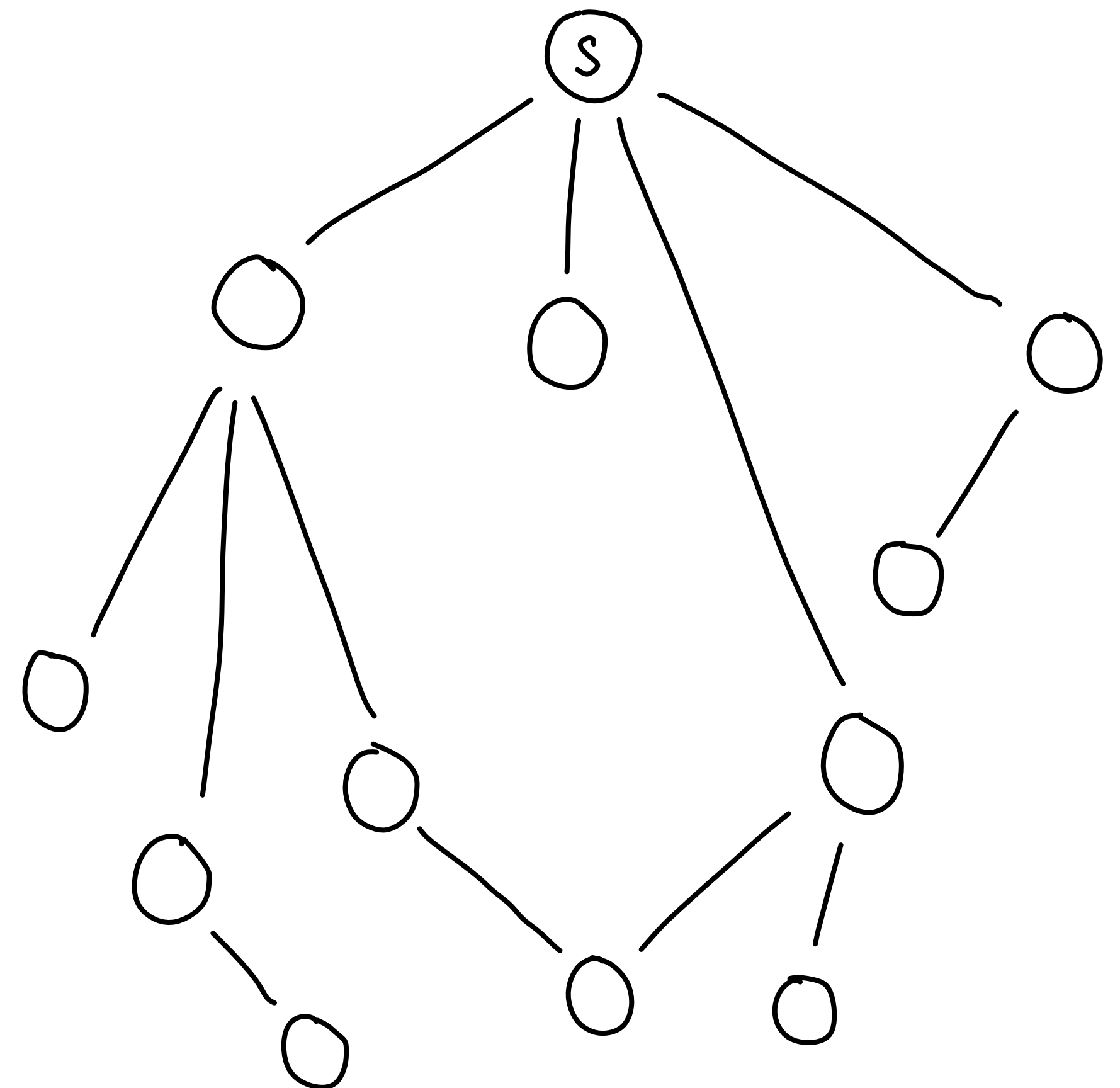
Breadth-first search (BFS)

- Assign a bit to every vertex as visited/not visited.
- **Algorithm:**
 - Initialize set $R \leftarrow \{s\}$ and queue $Q \leftarrow \{s\}$.
 - Set all vertices to not visited. Set s as visited.
 - While Q isn't empty, pop v off the queue.
 - For every neighbor u of v that is not visited,
 - $Q \leftarrow Q \cup \{u\}$ and set u to visited.
 - Set $R \leftarrow R \cup \{u\}$.



Depth-first search (DFS)

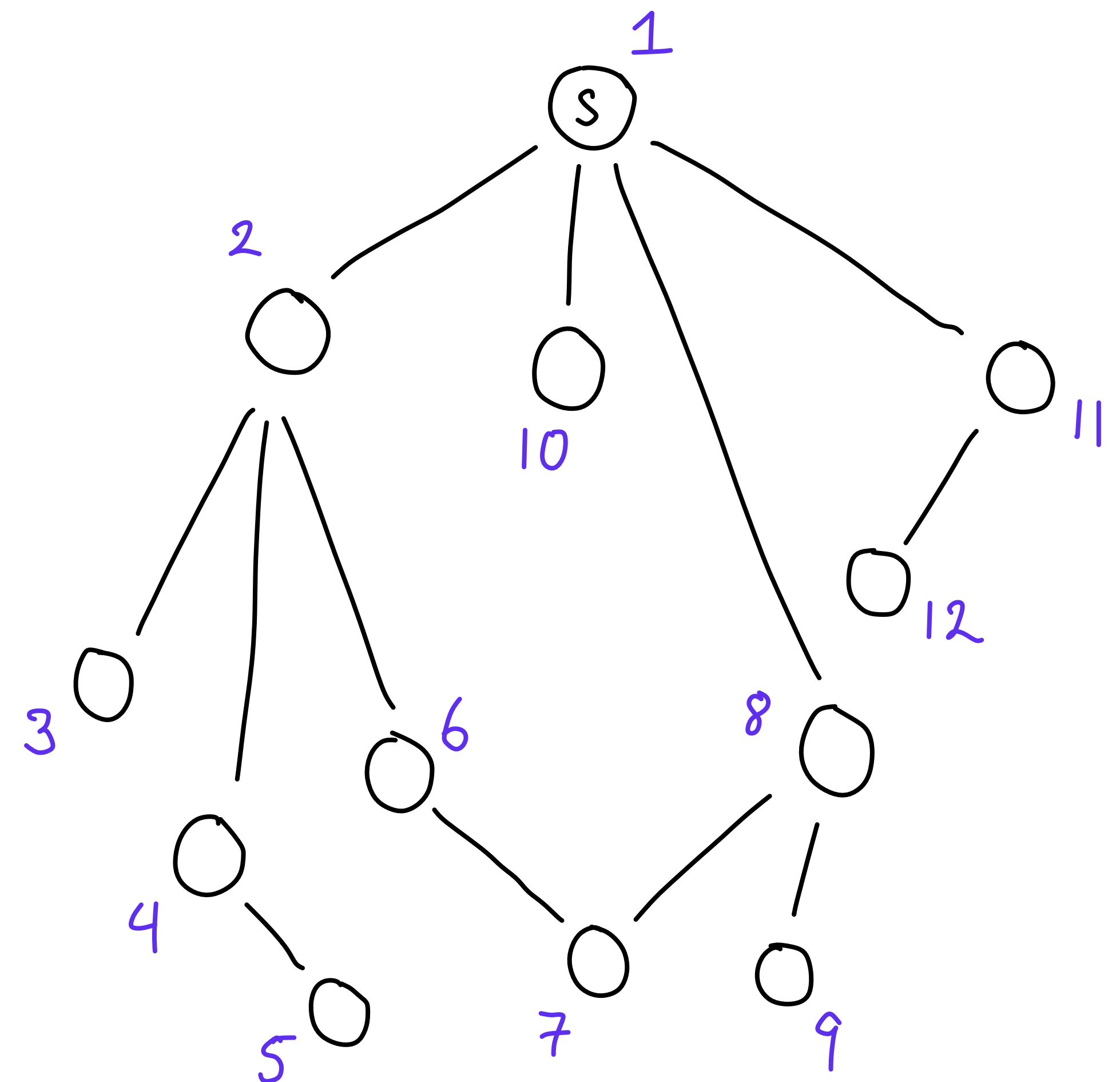
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- **Algorithm:**
 - Initialize set $R \leftarrow \{s\}$ and **stack** $S \leftarrow \{s\}$.
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Depth-first search (BFS)

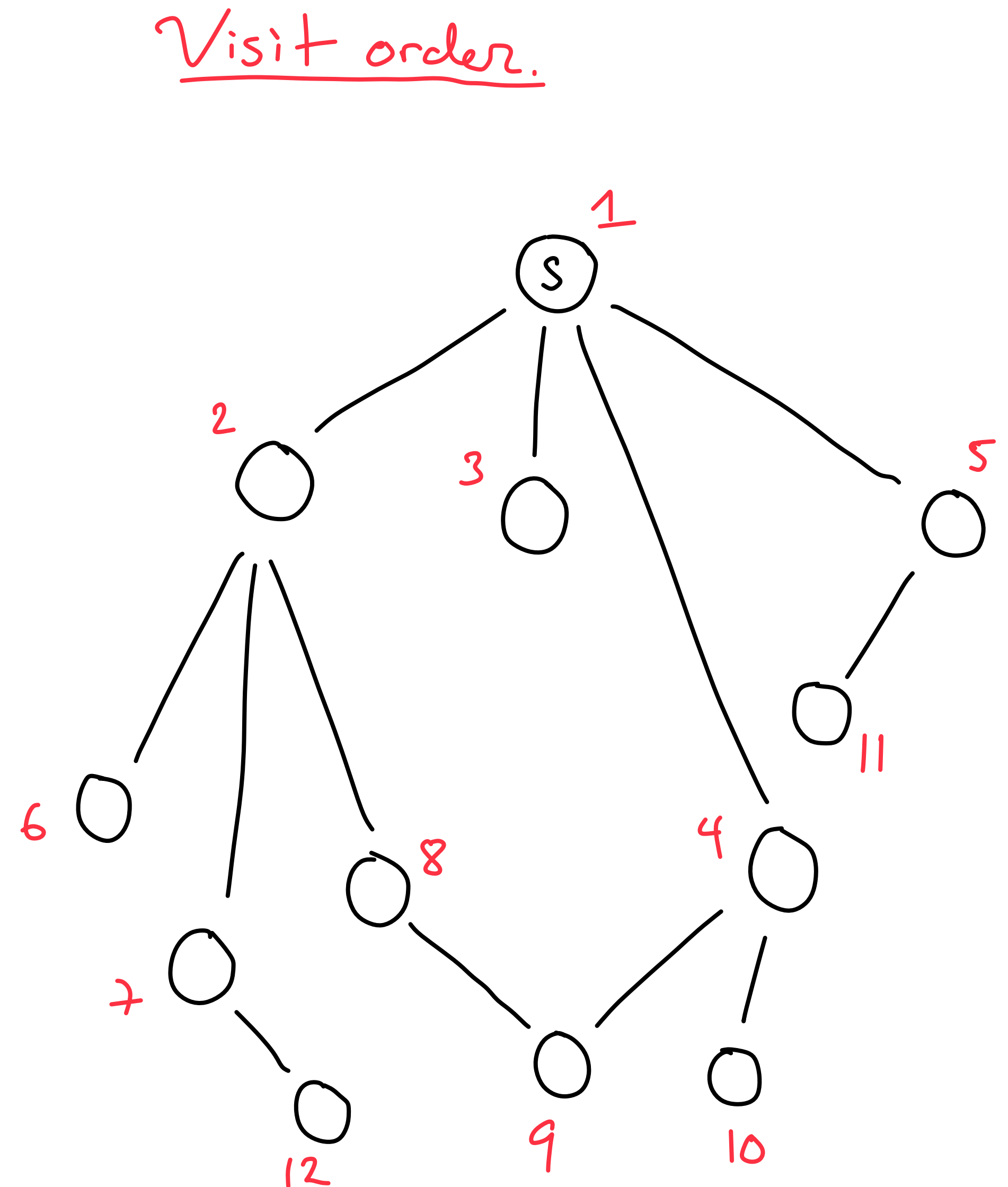
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Visit order



Breadth-first search (BFS)

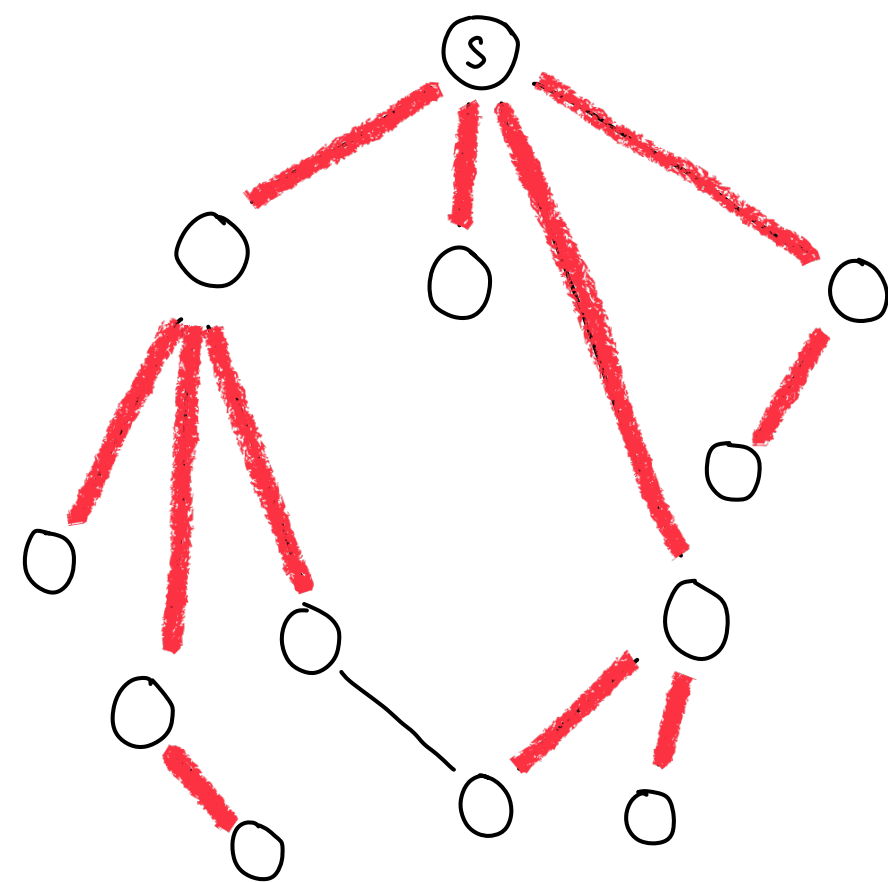
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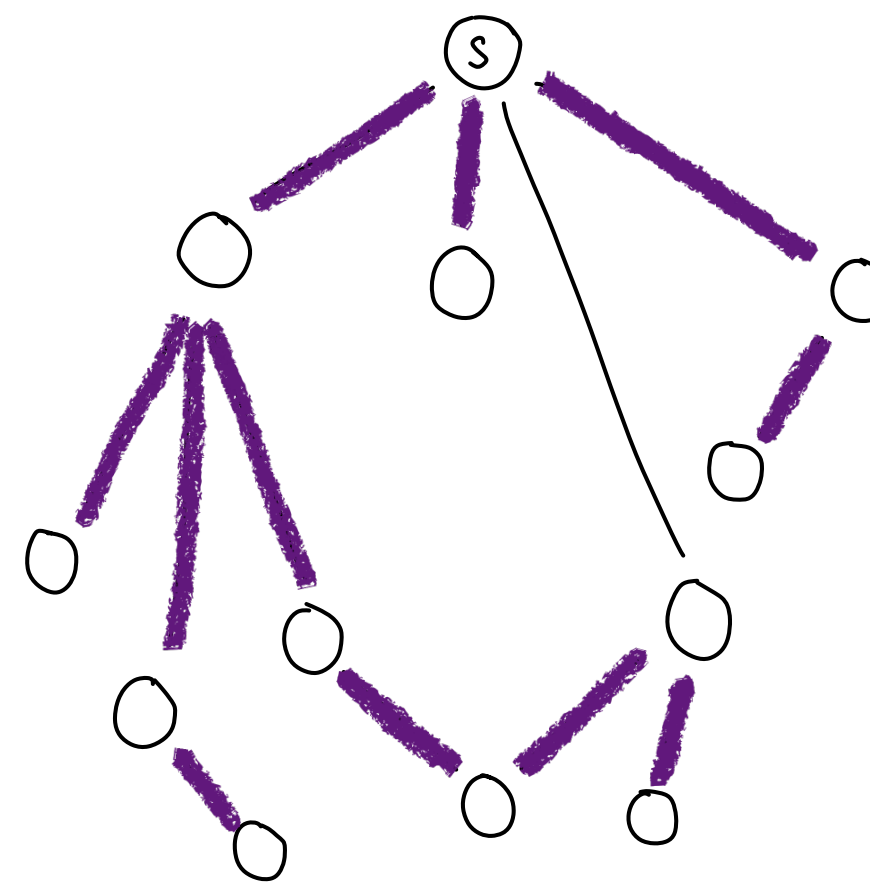
Spanning trees

- A spanning tree $T \subseteq E$ is a tree (no cycles) for a connected component such that every vertex in the component touches T .
- BFS and DFS both generate spanning trees but they are different!

BFS Spanning Tree

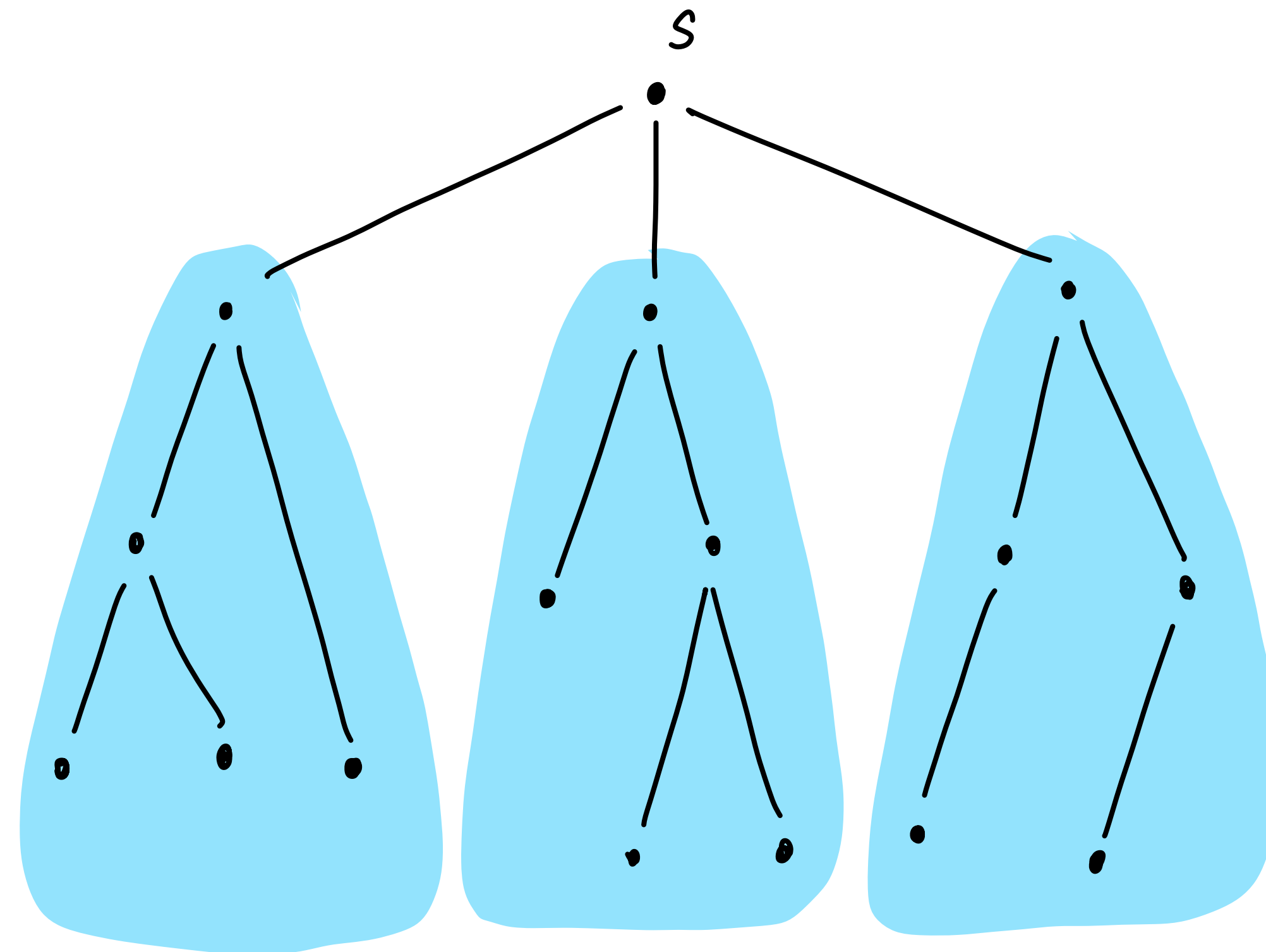


DFS Spanning Tree



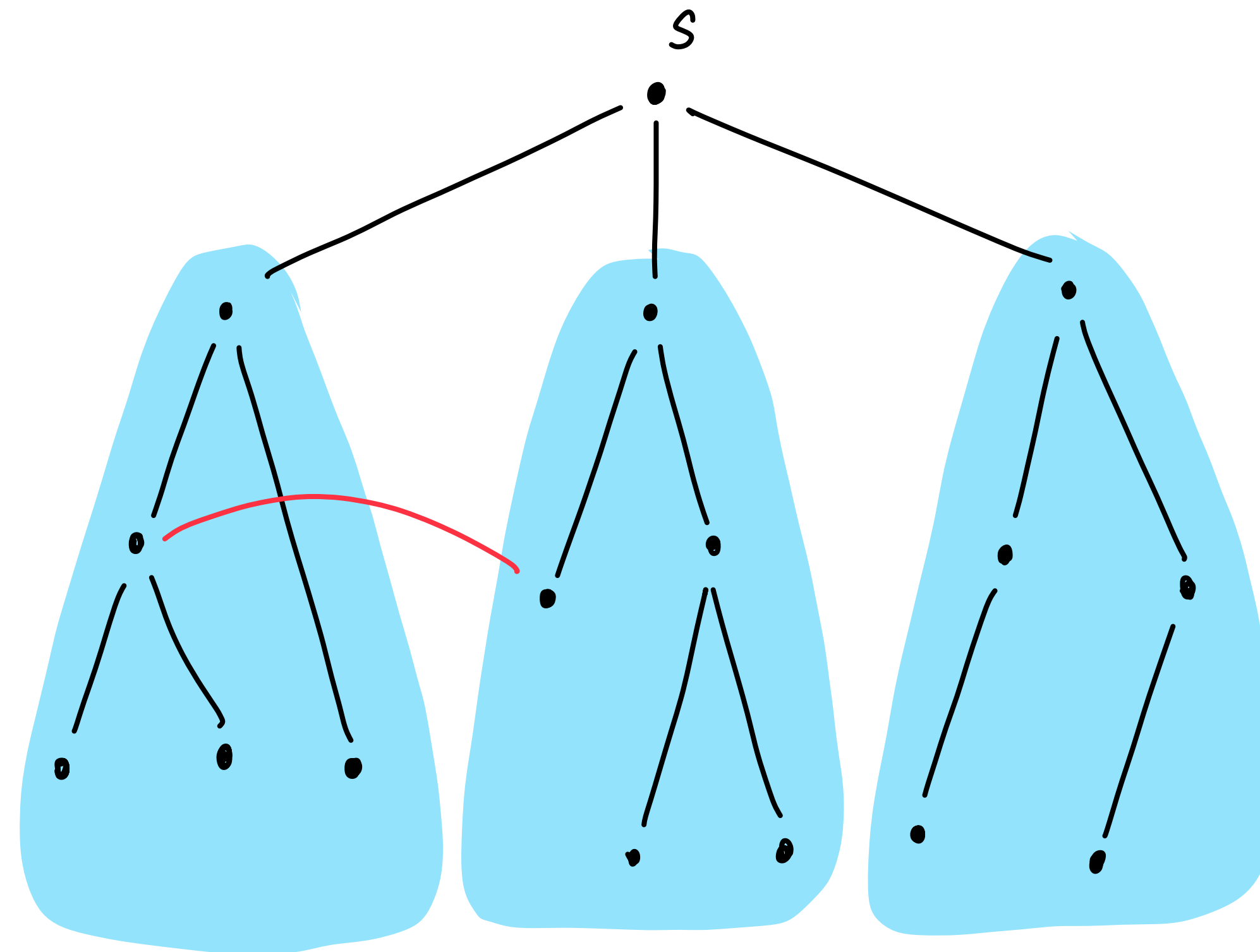
Understanding the DFS spanning tree

- What do the edges not included in the spanning tree look like?



Understanding the DFS spanning tree

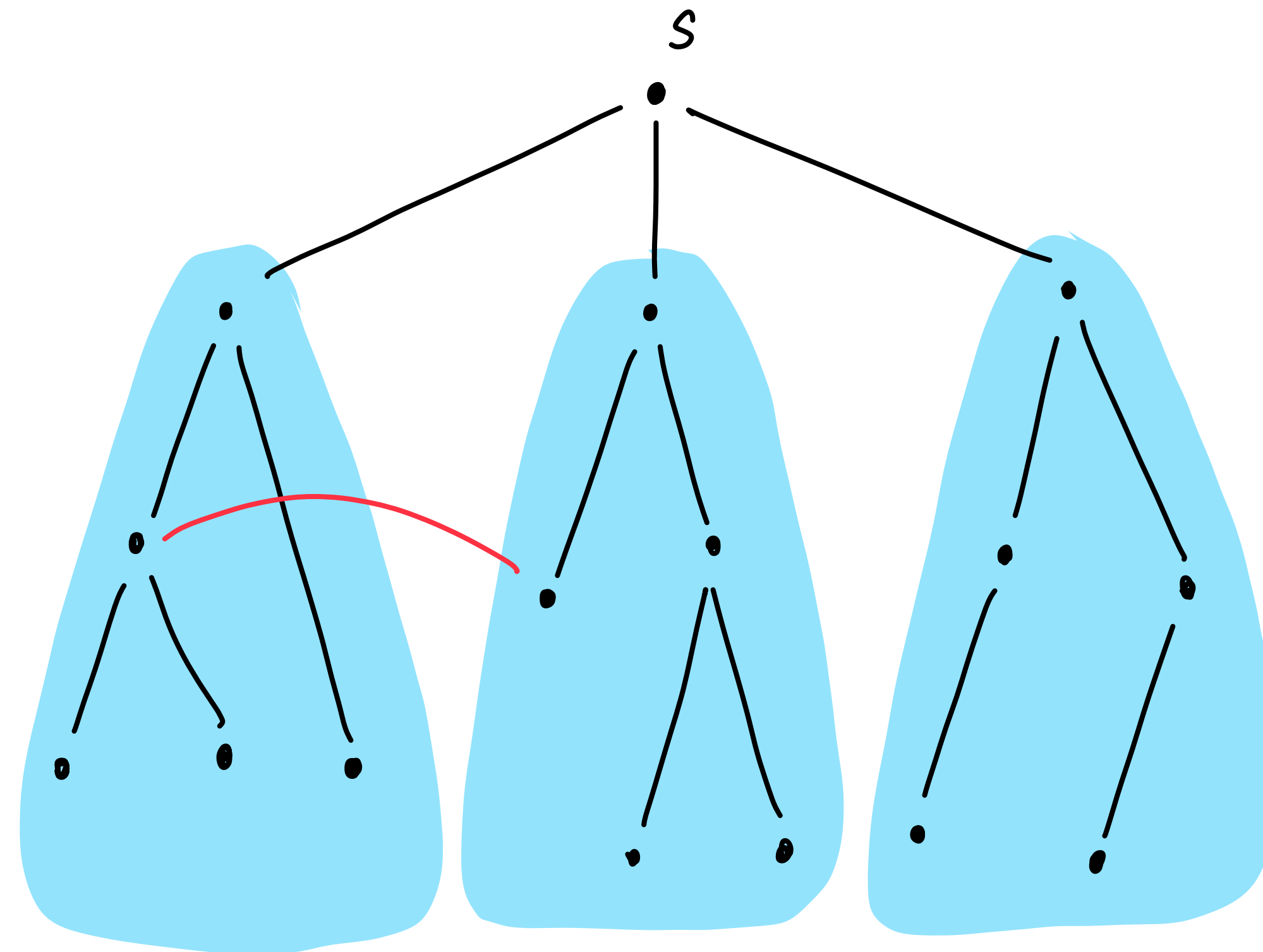
- What do the edges not included in the spanning tree look like?




Could this red edge exist in the graph?

Understanding the DFS spanning tree

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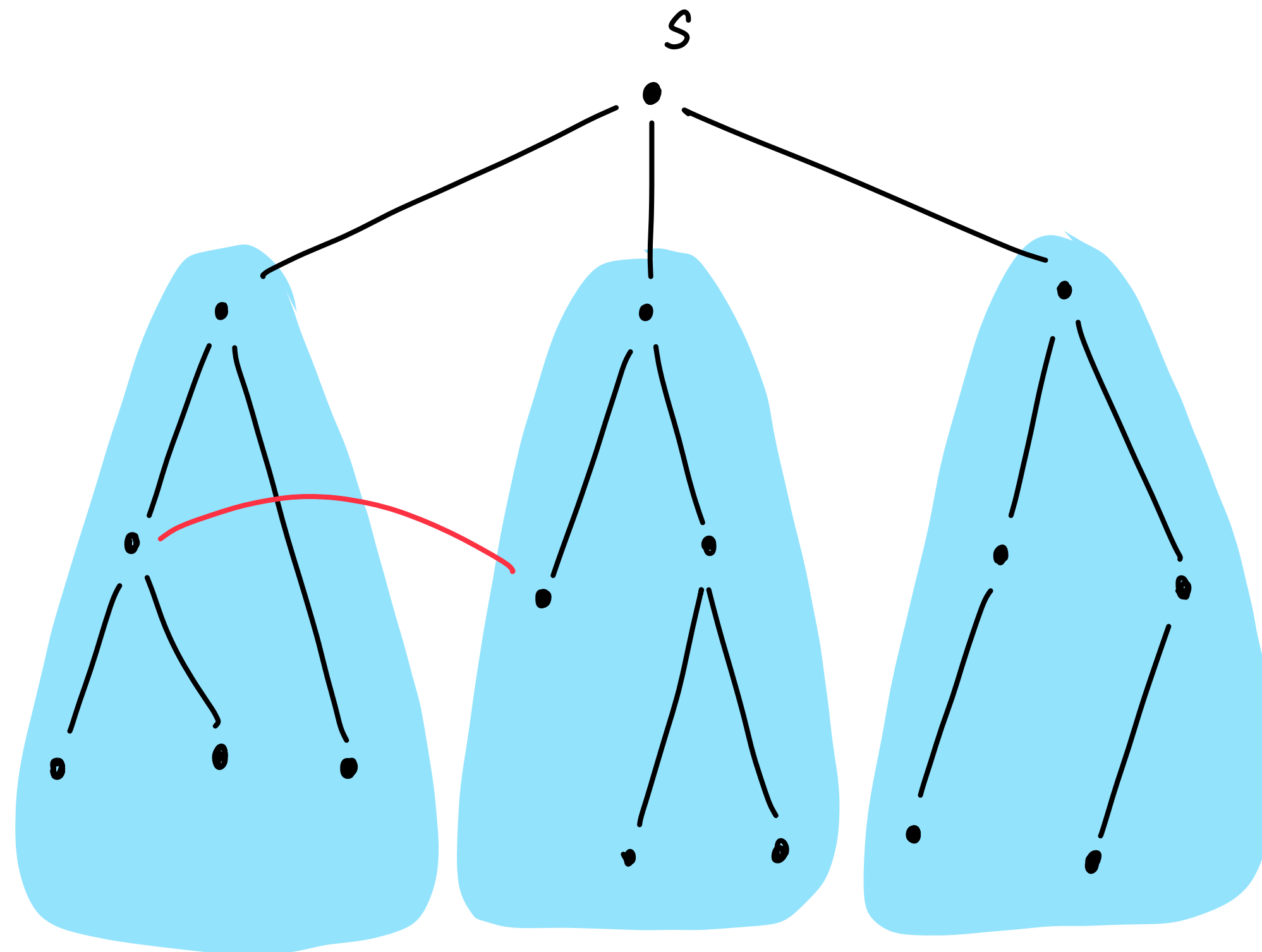
Could this red edge exist in the graph?

No. When adding a , we must have added the red edge.


Understanding the DFS spanning tree

- What do the edges not included in the spanning tree look like?

Such an edge is
called a
cross edge.

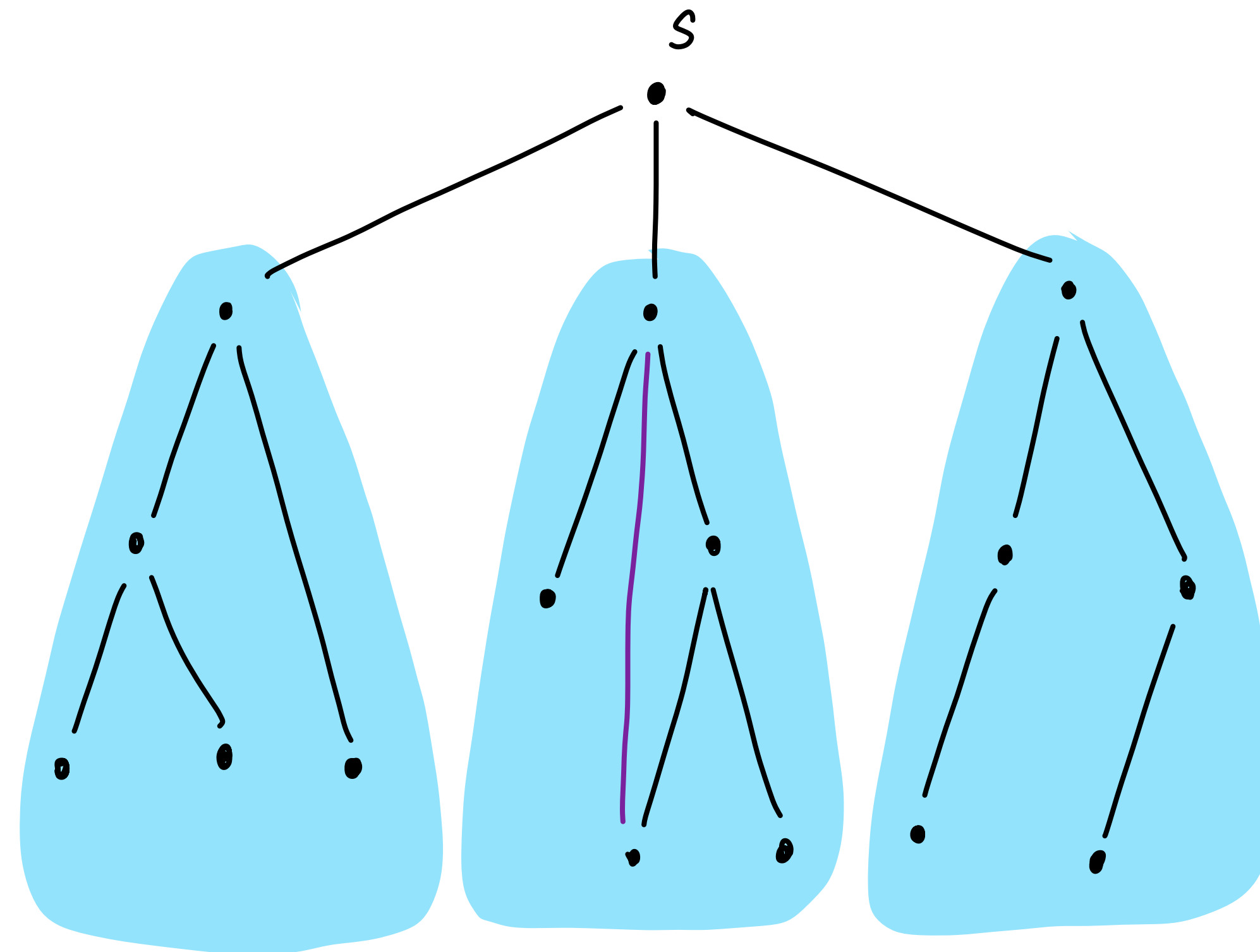


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Understanding the DFS spanning tree

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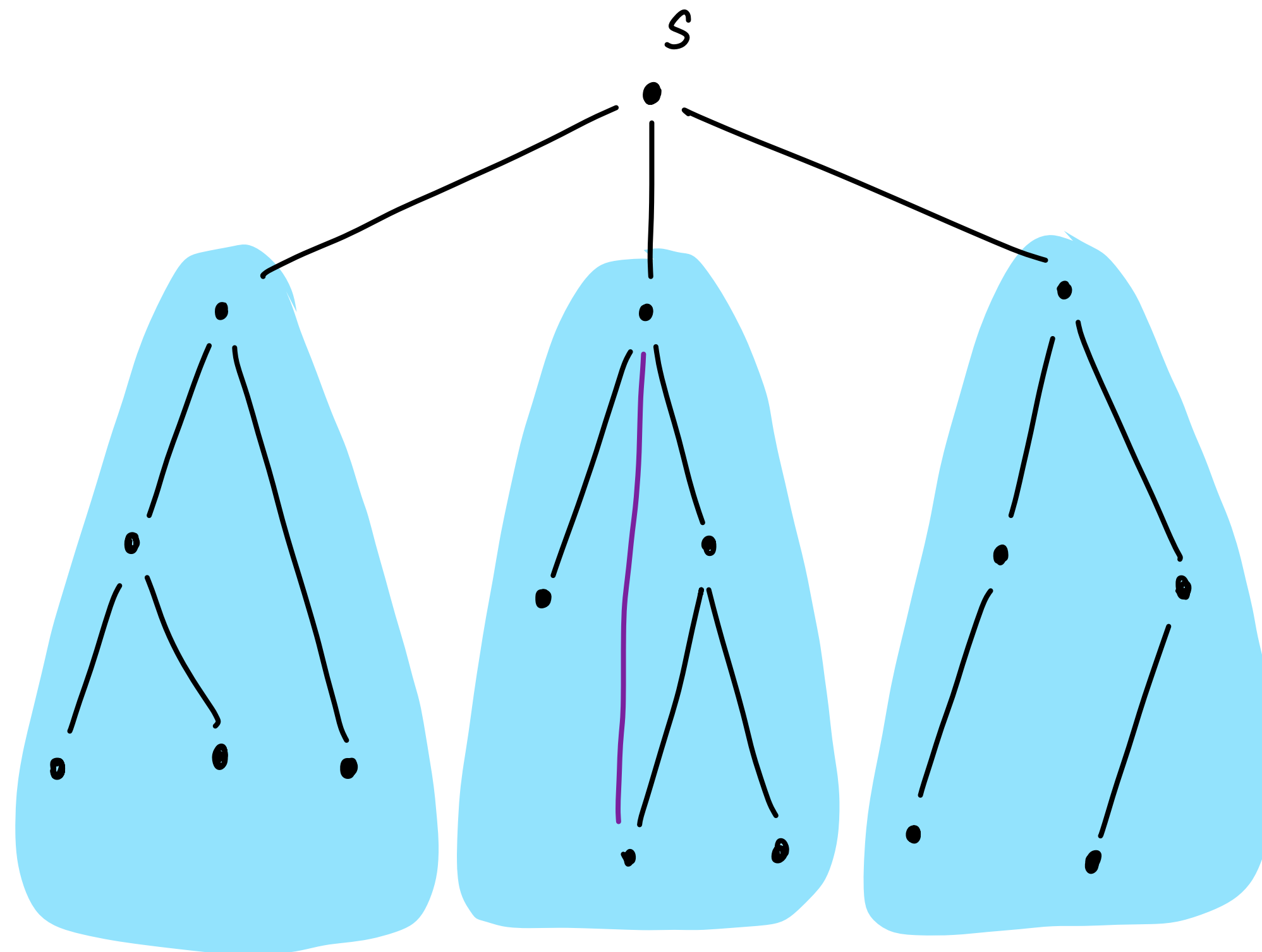


What about this
purple edge?

Understanding the DFS spanning tree

- What do the edges not included in the spanning tree look like?

Def. For undirected graphs, a back edge is an edge that connects a vertex to a (proper) ancestor in the tree.



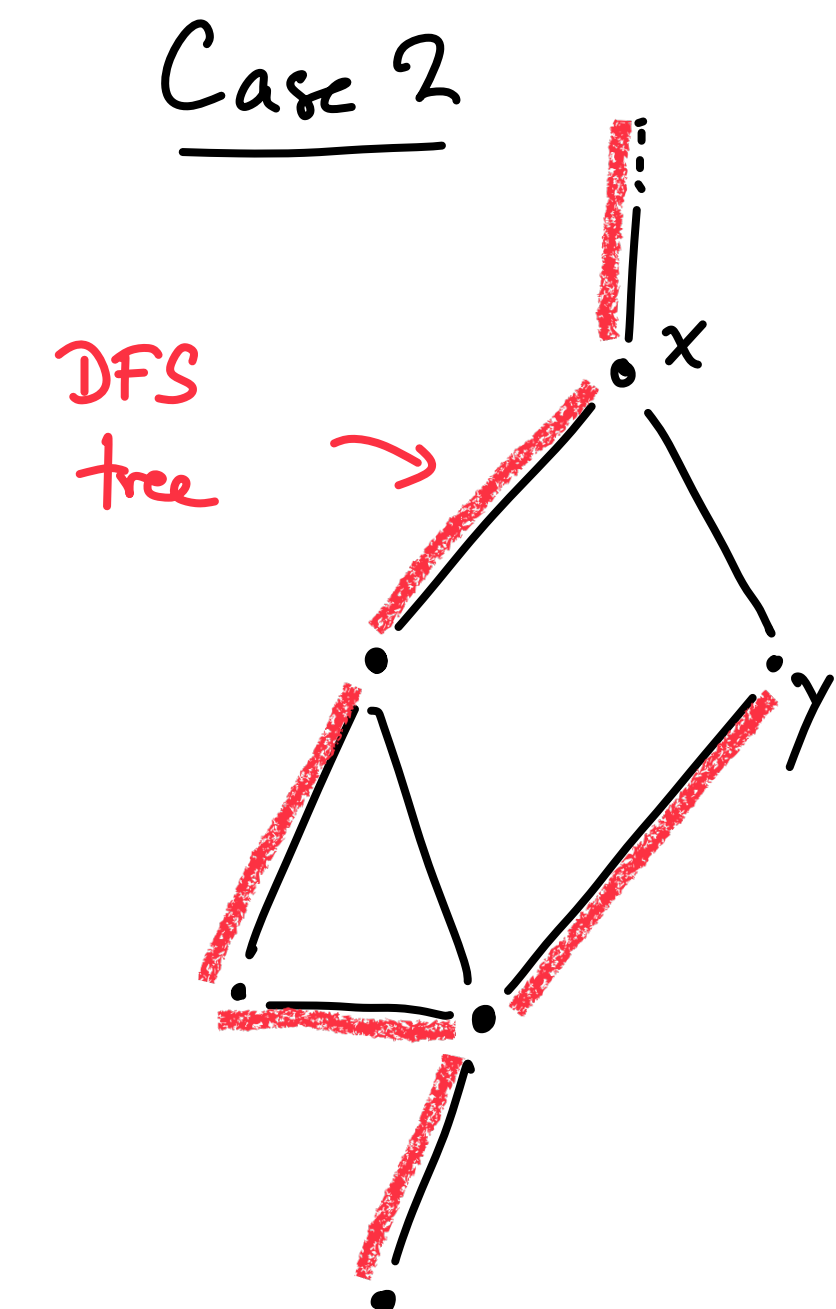
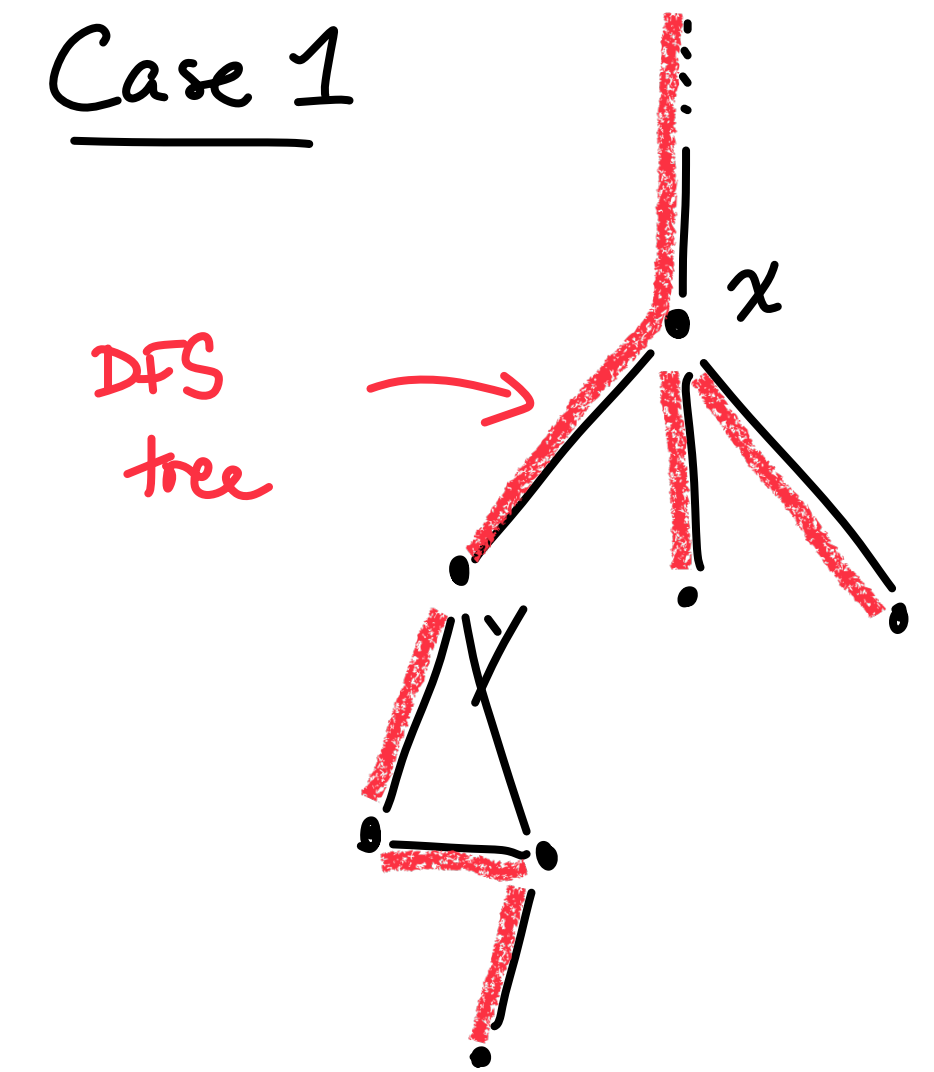
What about this
purple edge?

Yes. Edges can connect
down tree.

No cross edges in DFS

(for undirected graphs)

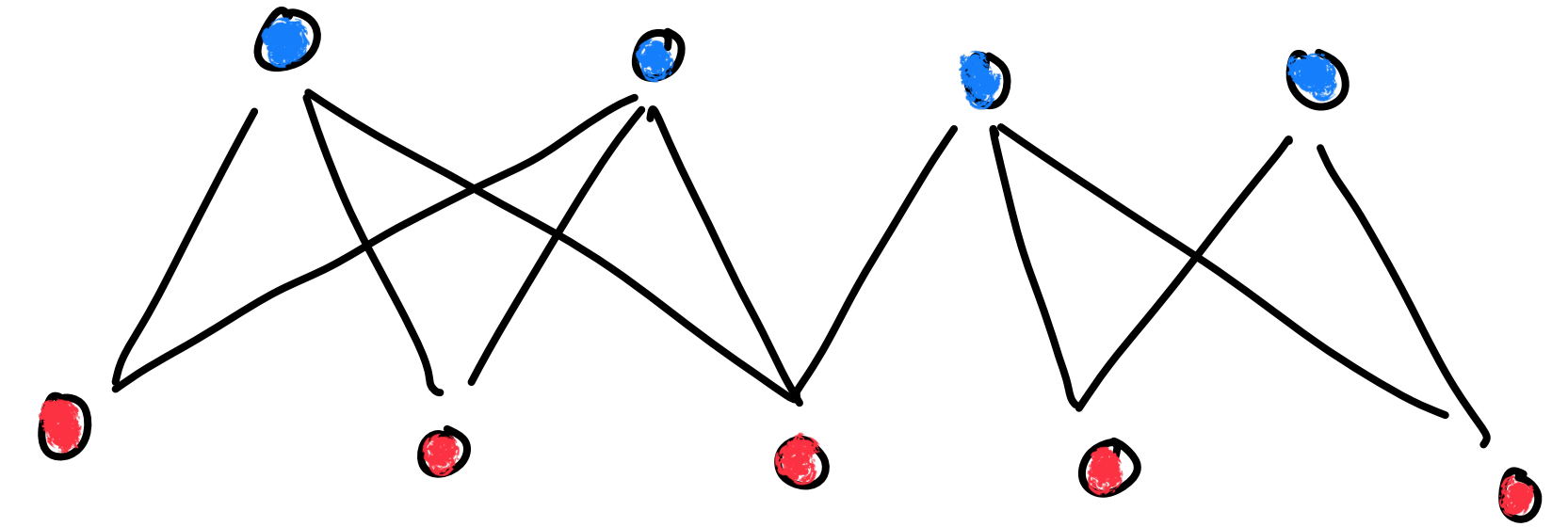
- **Claim:** For every edge $(x, y) \in E$, either (x, y) is an edge in T (tree edge), or else x or y is an ancestor of the other in T (back edge).
- **Proof:**
 - DFS is called recursively as we explore. Wlog, assume $\text{DFS}(x)$ is called before $\text{DFS}(y)$.
 - Case 1: y was marked “not visited” when (x, y) edge is examined. Then $(x, y) \in T$ (see figure).
 - Case 2: y was marked “visited” when (x, y) edge is examined. Was visited in some other branch of the $\text{DFS}(x)$ call. So y is a descendant of x .



Applications of graph traversal

Bipartiteness testing

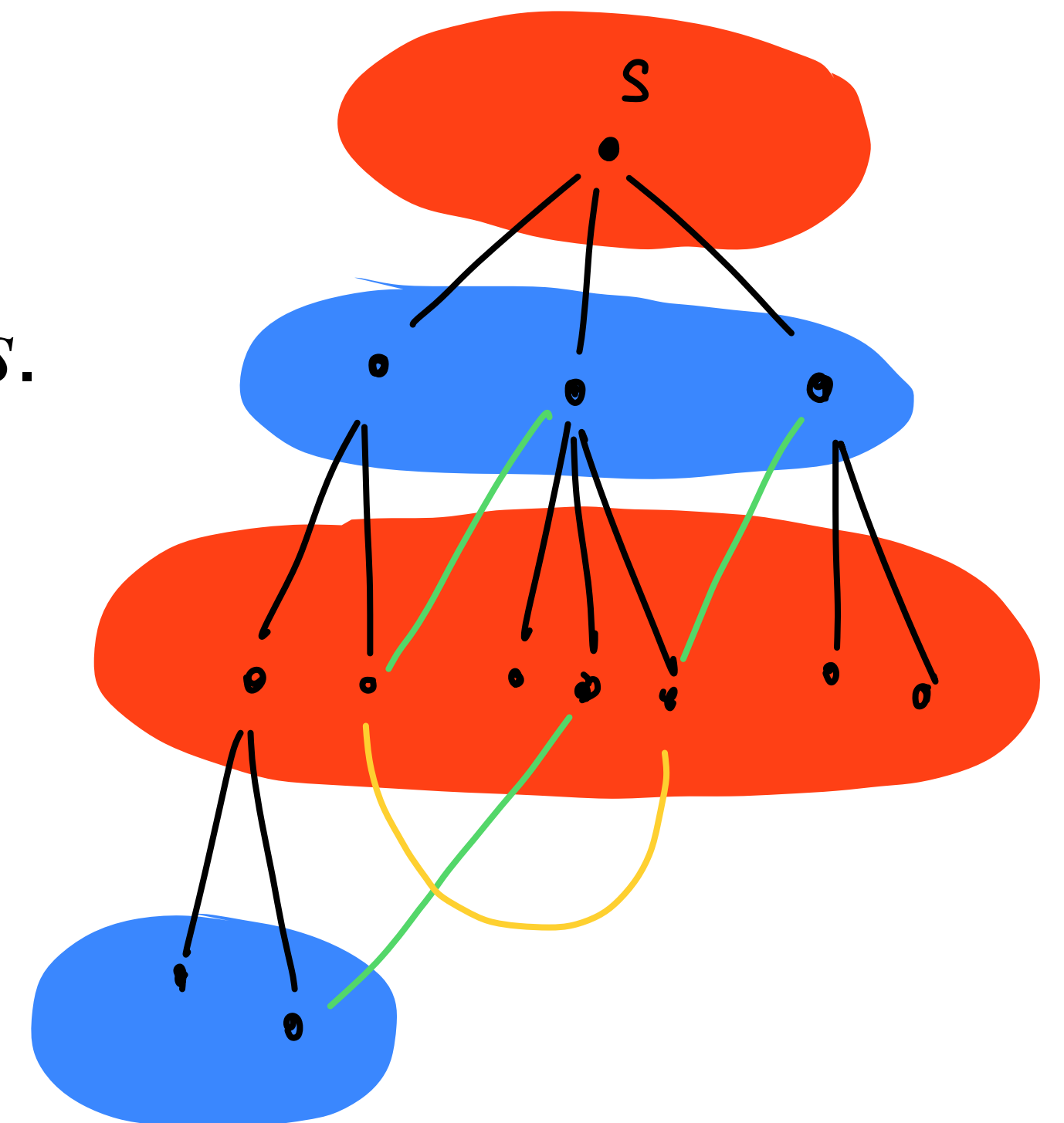
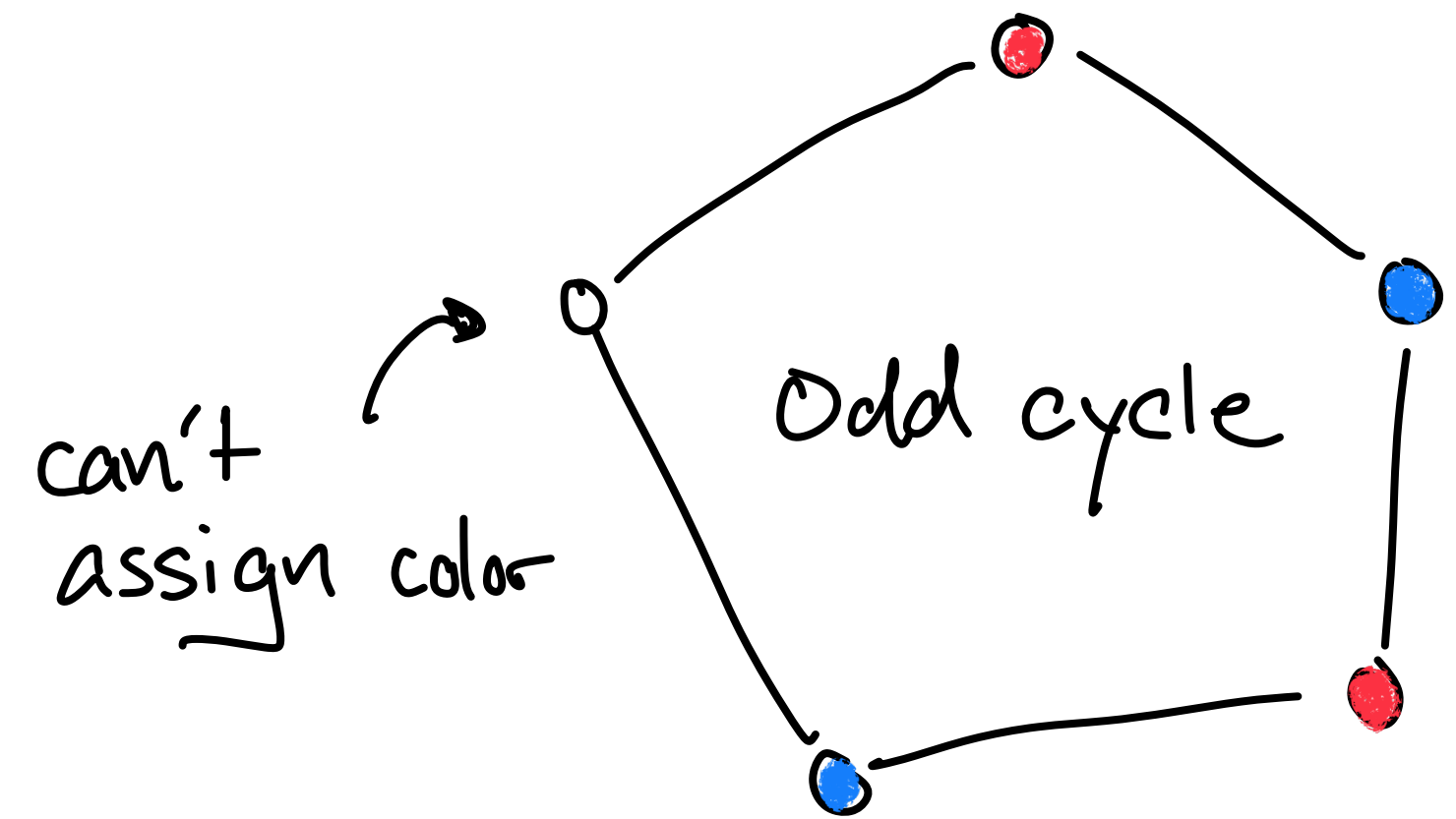
Application of graph traversal



- Recall, a graph is bipartite iff we can split $V = X \sqcup Y$ such that every edge is between $(x, y) \in X \times Y$.
- Equivalently, a graph is bipartite if we can color every vertex either *red* or *blue* such that each edge is between a *red* and a *blue* vertex.
- **Input:** Undirected graph G
- **Output:** A coloring $c : V \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{blue}\}$ if G is bipartite; else “not bipartite”

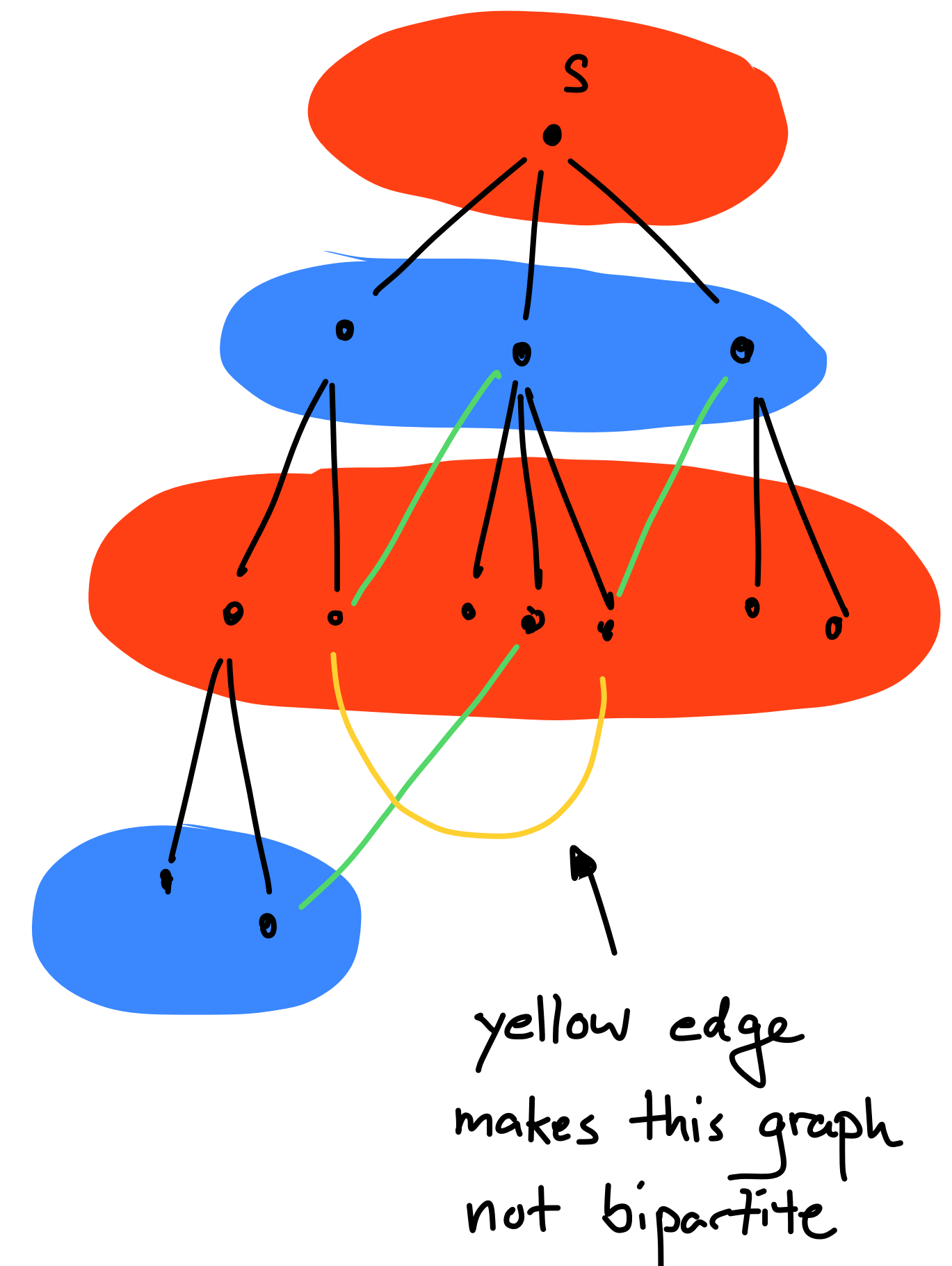
Bipartite graph property

- **Claim:** A graph is bipartite iff it contains no *odd cycles*.
- **Proof:**
 - If it contains an odd cycle, we can't color the cycle let alone the rest of the graph.
 - If it contains no odd cycles, run BFS starting from some vertex s .
 - Color according to length from s in BFS tree with even = **red**, odd = **blue**.
 - If there exists an edge between colors, we found an odd cycle, (a \perp to our assumption).



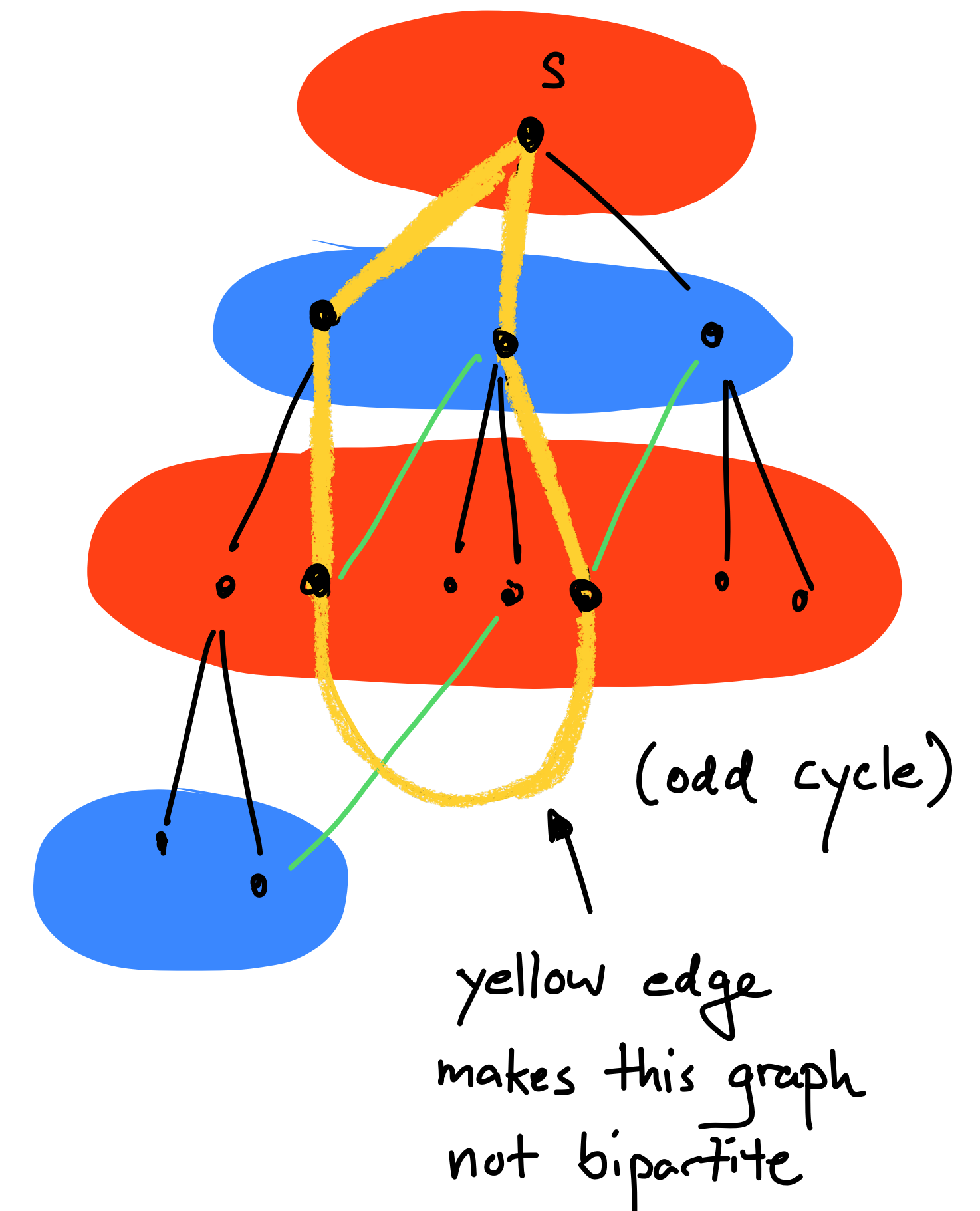
Bipartiteness testing

- **Claim:** A graph is bipartite iff it contains no *odd cycles*.
- **Algorithm:**
 - Start BFS from some vertex s . Instead of marking vertices as visited or not, marked them as “red”, “blue”, or “not visited”. Mark s as red and add s to queue Q .
 - Pop vertex u from queue Q .
 - Check all neighbors v of u and make sure they are either “not visited” or the **opposite color** of u .
 - If not, abort and output “not bipartite”.
 - If so, add the “not visited” neighbors v to the queue Q and color them with **opposite color**.
 - If queue Q is empty, output coloring generated.
- **Runtime:** Same as BFS, $O(n + m)$.



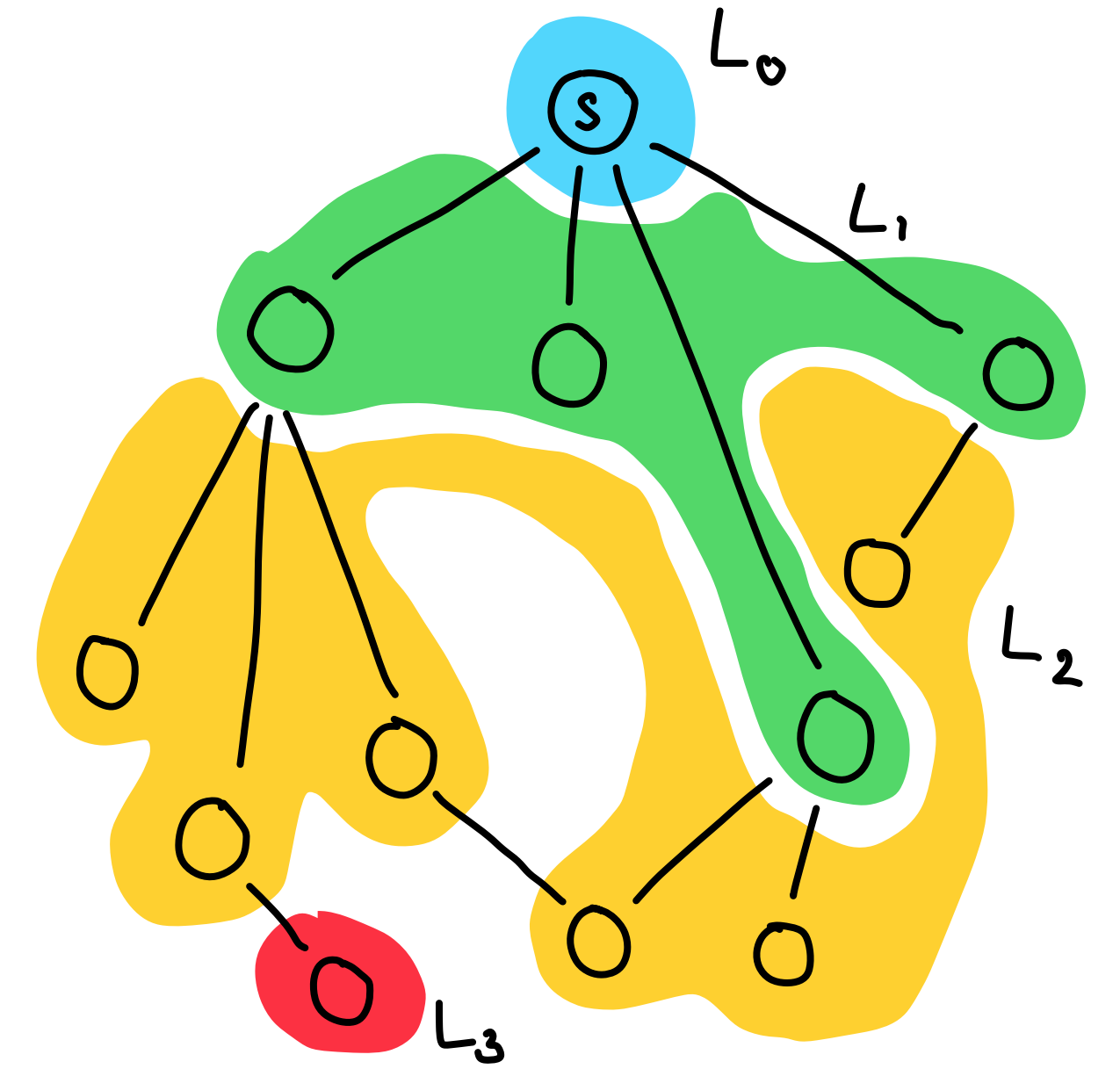
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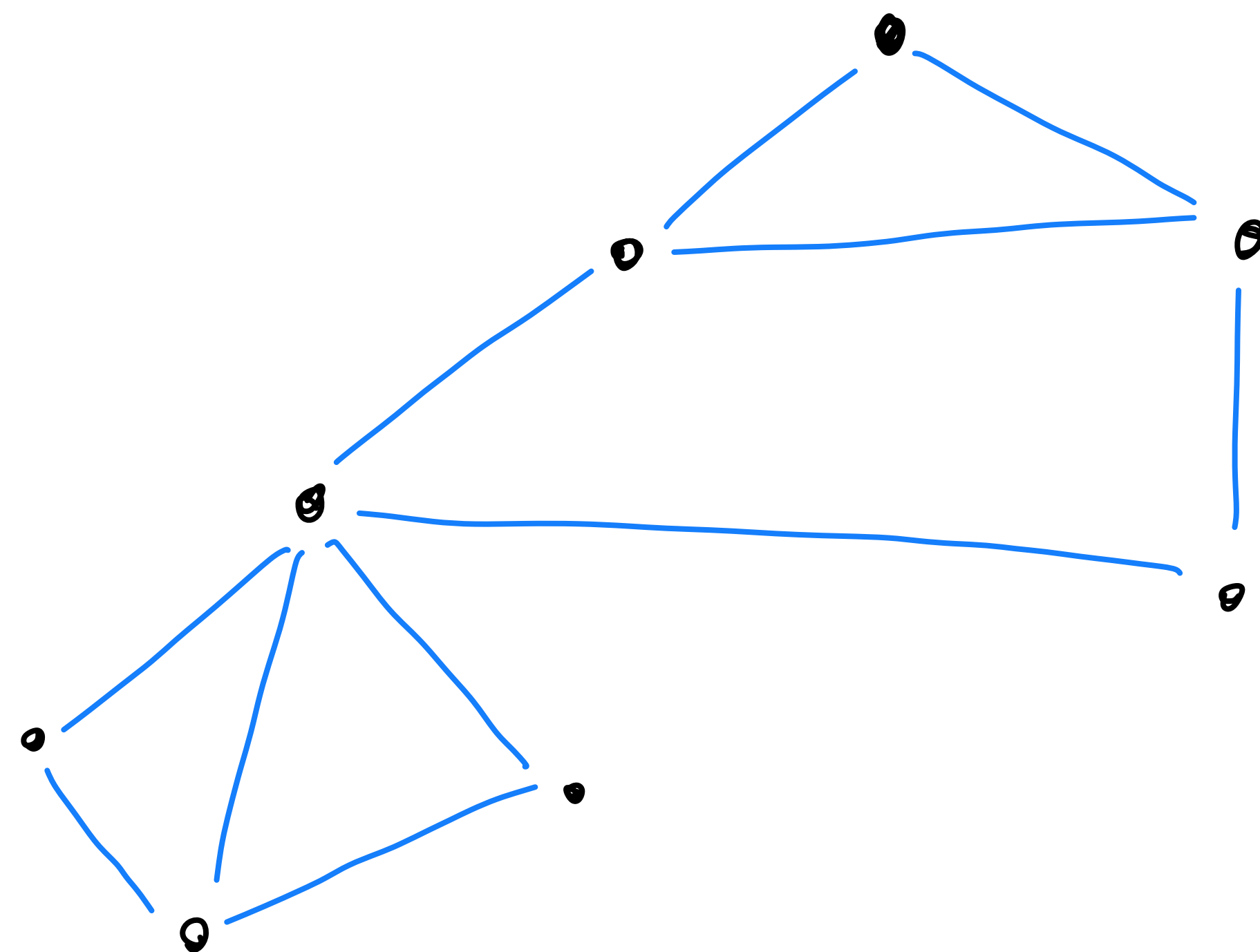
BFS edge property

- The BFS algorithm generates a tree T starting from root s .
- Let layer $L_i \subseteq V$ be the set of vertices distance i from s in T .
- **Claim:** The edges E only occur between adjacent layers or the same layer.
- **Proof:** If there is an edge $(u, v) \in L_i \times L_{\geq i+2}$, then v should have been in L_{i+1} because it was added to the queue after u was analyzed.
- Therefore, “bad edges” for bipartite testing only occur within the same layer. This finds an odd cycle.

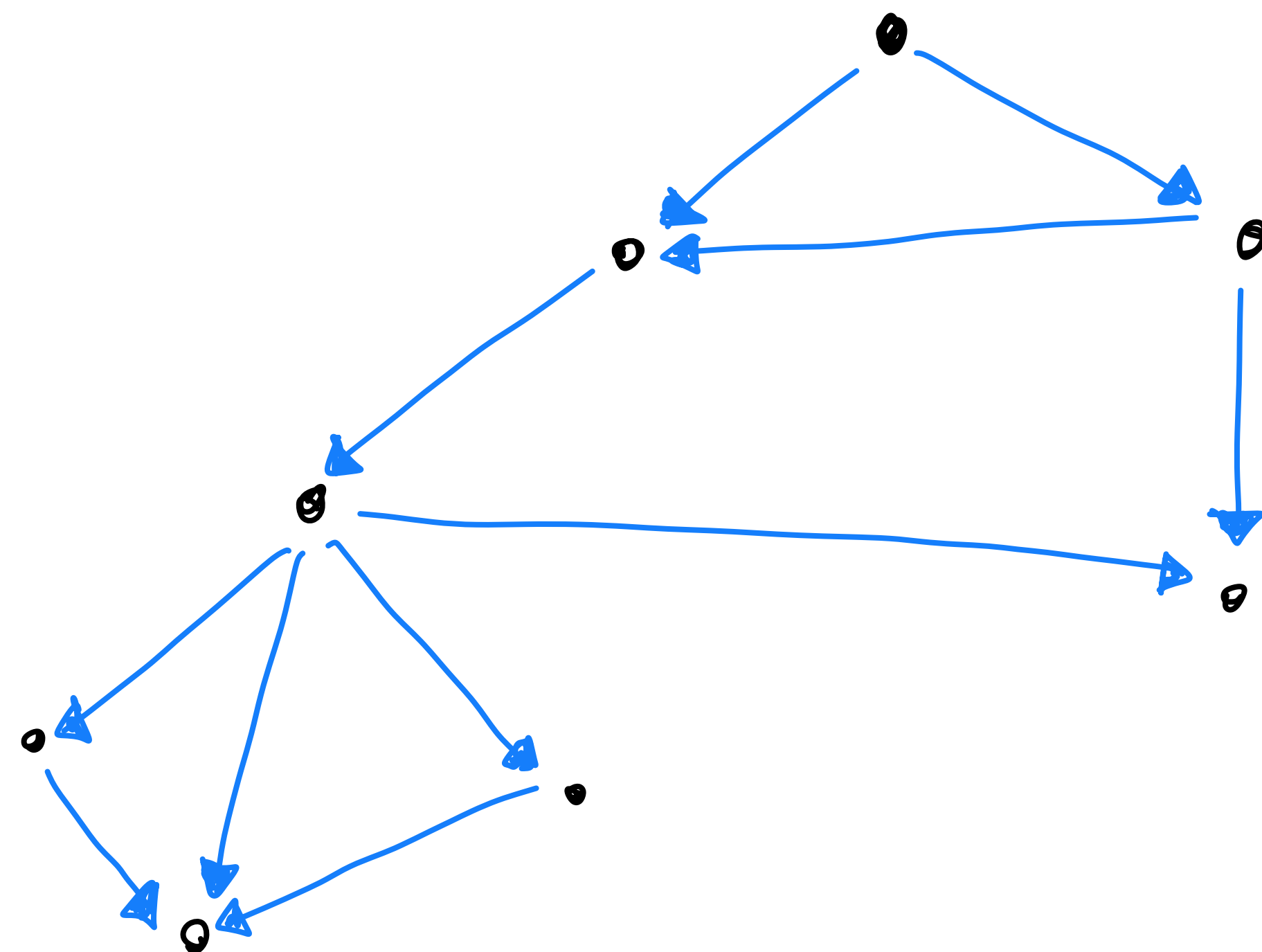


Directed graphs

Undirected

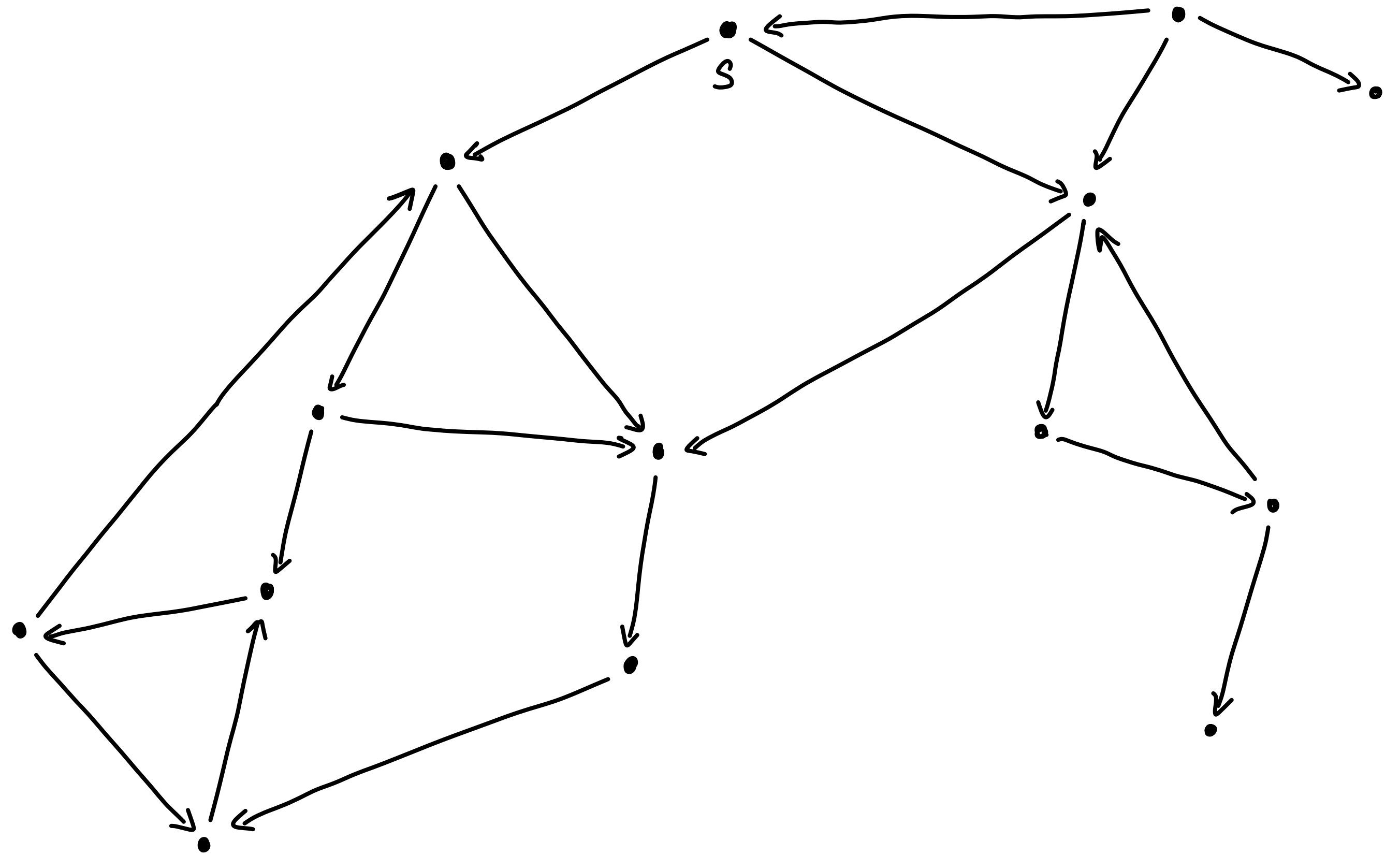


Directed



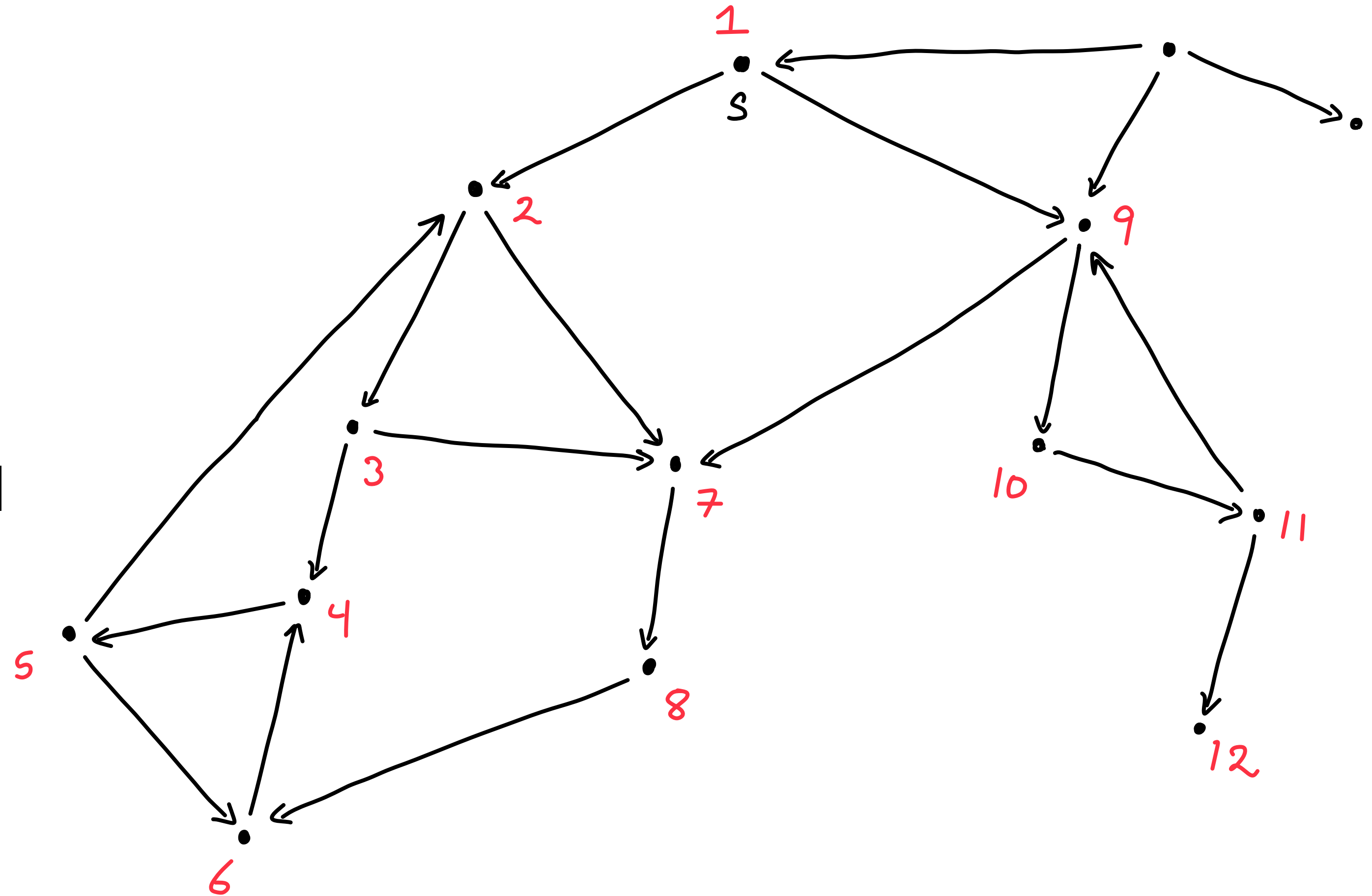
Depth-first search on directed graphs

- Same as DFS on undirected graphs except we only add neighbor v if an edge points from $u \rightarrow v$.
- DFS starting from s will visit all vertices u reachable by a *directed* path $s \rightsquigarrow u$.



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