

Breadth first search

Start at a vertex s

Mark s

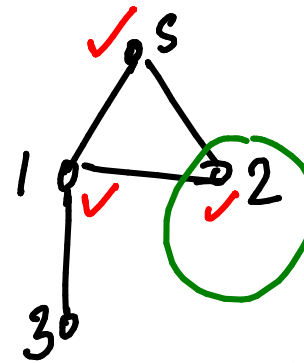
Mark neighbours of s

Mark nbrs of nbrs of s

⋮

Till nothing more can be marked

$$G = (V, E)$$



Already marked by s , don't mark again from 1

Keep track of whether a marked node's neighbours have been explored

Want to ensure that each marked node is
"explored" only once — termination

Suggestion: Keep a queue of marked but unexplored nodes
Each node enters queue when it is marked
for the first time

Mark s , put it in queue

While queue is not empty

Extract head of queue as v

Explore nbrs of v , mark & add newly marked to
queue

def bfs(A, s):

$s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

for j in 1 to n:

Mark[j] = 0

Q = []

Mark[s] = 1

Q.append(s)

while Q ≠ []:

v = Q.extract-head()

for j in 1 to n:

if A[v][j] == 1 and Mark[j] == 0:

Mark[j] = 1; Q.append(j)

Assume $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

Edges represented as adjacency

matrix A: $n \times n$

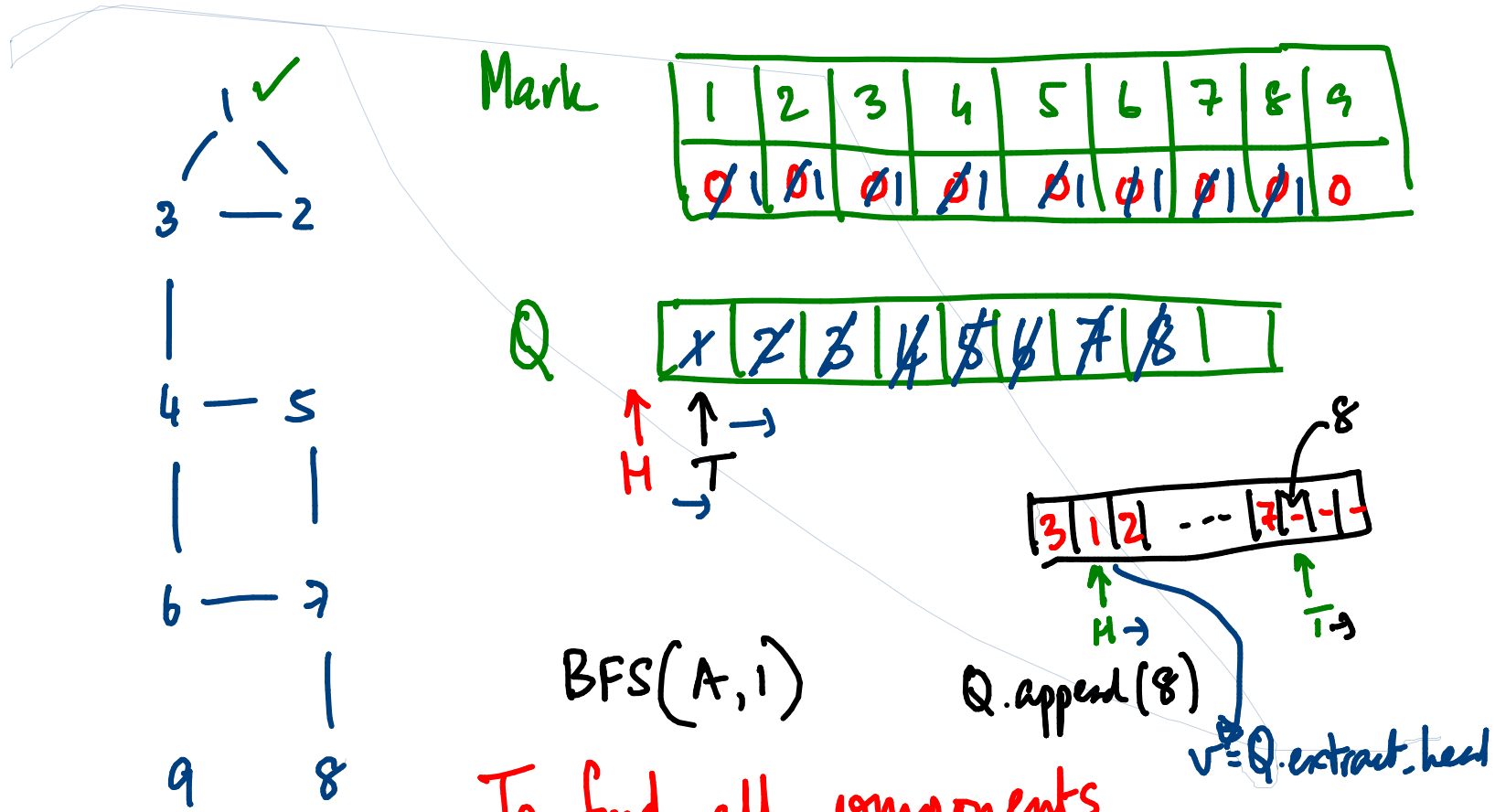
$A[i][j] = 1 \iff (i, j) \in E$

(symmetric if undirected)



↑
head

↑
tail



To find all components

Initially Mark with 1
 Find first unmarked node, restart BFS
 with mark 2, ...

Complexity?

$$|V| = n \quad |E| = m$$

$$\text{Und: } m \leq \binom{n}{2}$$

Outer loop (for v in V)

for each neighbour of v

$$\text{Dir: } m \leq n(n-1)$$

$O(n^2)$ Why is this n^2 , even if $|E| = O(n)$?

No way to find neighbours except to scan a row of A

A is very sparse - most entries are 0

Instead, keep only useful information

Alternative representation of G

$i \rightarrow [\text{neighbours of } i]$

$1 \rightarrow [2,3]$

$2 \rightarrow [1,3]$

$3 \rightarrow [1,2,4]$

.

.

$8 \rightarrow [7]$

$9 \rightarrow []$

ADJACENCY LIST

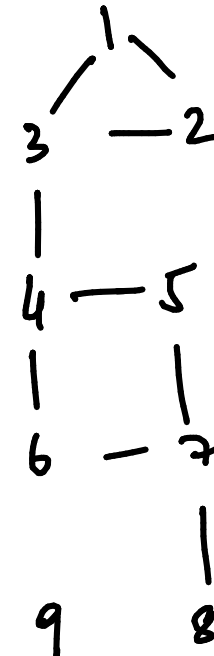
$O(m)$ representation

Actually $O(m+n)$

to take into

account disconnected

portions



If we use adjacency list [List of lists]

Now, analyze BFS

while $Q \neq []$

⋮

for each neighbour of v

...

$\deg(v)$

Total work is

$$2m = \deg(1) + \deg(2) + \dots + \deg(n)$$

Overall : $O(m+n)$

LINEAR

	Process all neighbours	Is $(i,j) \in E$?
Adj Matrix	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Adj list	$O(\deg(v))$	$O(\deg(v))$

BFS explores a graph "level by level"

Each node has a level - distance from start vertex

Shortest paths to vertices, in terms of no. of edges

Include this calculation within BFS

distance(v) for each $v = \min.$ no of edges from s to v

distance [s] = 0

while $Q \neq []$

:

for each neighbour j of v

if Mark [j] == 0

Mark [j] = 1

$Q.append(j)$

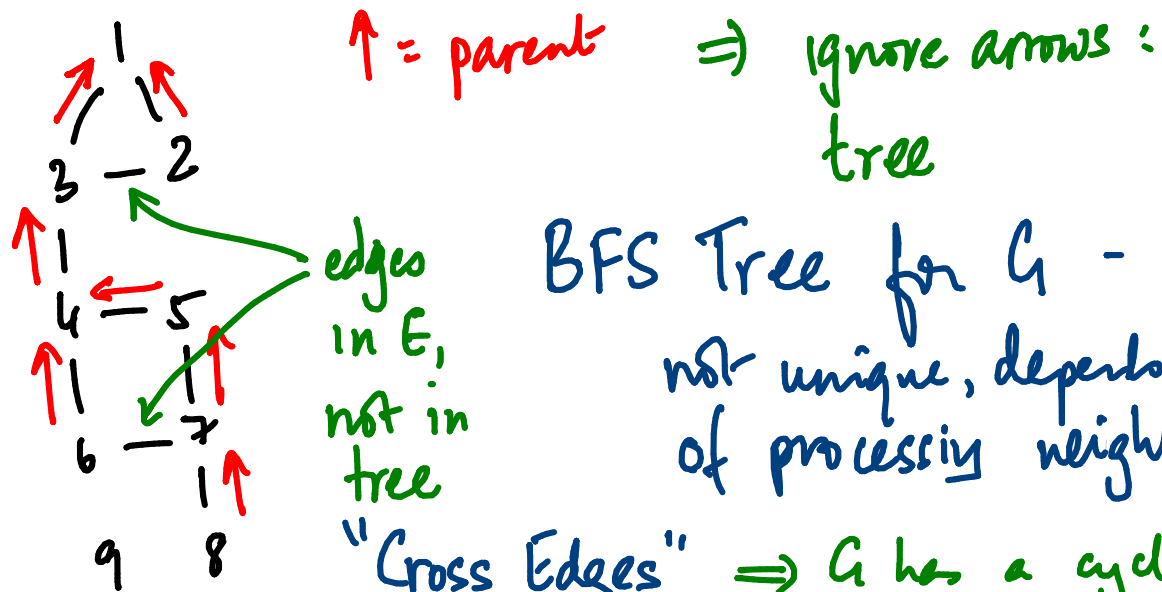
distance [j] = distance [v] + 1

Mark[j] == 1 \Rightarrow j is reachable from s

But how?

Associate parent[j] for each j

If j is marked via v, set parent[j] = v



BFS Tree for G -
not unique, depends on order of processing neighbours