

Breadth-first search¹

Procedure BFS(G, v_0)

INPUT: digraph $G = (V, E)$ in adjacency array representation

root (source) $v_0 \in V$

OUTPUT: parent links, distances from root, accessibility from v_0

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01  Initialization
02  for  $v \in V$  do status( $v$ ) := WHITE,  $p(v)$  := NIL, dist( $v$ ) :=  $\infty$ 
03   $Q := \emptyset$                                      (: empty FIFO queue created :)
04  status( $v_0$ ) := GRAY, enqueue( $Q, v_0$ )           (: root discovered, added to  $Q$  :)
05  dist( $v_0$ ) := 0,  $p(v_0)$  :=  $v_0$ 

06  Main loop
07  while  $Q \neq \emptyset$ 
08       $u := \text{dequeue}(Q)$                              (: remove head of  $Q$ , call it  $u$  :)
09      for  $w \in \text{Adj}[u]$                              (: exploring edge  $u \rightarrow w$  :)
10          if status( $w$ ) = WHITE then                 (:  $w$  discovered :)
11              status( $w$ ) := GRAY,  $p(w)$  :=  $u$ , dist( $w$ ) := dist( $u$ ) + 1
12              enqueue( $Q, w$ )                         (:  $w$  added at the tail of the queue :)
13          end(for)
14      status( $u$ ) := BLACK                             (:  $u$  finished :)
15  end(while)
16  return arrays status,  $p$ , dist

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Exercises.

- (1) Loop invariant: $(\forall v \in V)(v \in Q \Leftrightarrow \text{status}(v) = \text{GRAY})$
- (2) In the OUTPUT, all vertices accessible from v_0 are BLACK and all vertices that are not accessible from v_0 are WHITE
- (3) In the OUTPUT, $(\forall u \in V)(\text{dist}(u)$ is the distance from v_0 to u)
- (4) A shortest path from v_0 to an accessible vertex u found by reversing the sequence $u \rightarrow p(u) \rightarrow p^2(u) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow p^d(u) = v_0$ where $d = \text{dist}(u)$
- (5) Complexity of main loop in the unit cost model: $O(n_0 + m_0)$ where n_0 is the number of vertices accessible from v_0 and m_0 is the number of edges accessible from v_0

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