

CS473-Algorithms I

Lecture 14-A

Graph Searching: Breadth-First Search

Graph Searching: Breadth-First Search

Graph $G = (V, E)$, directed or undirected with adjacency list repres.

GOAL: Systematically explores edges of G to

- discover every vertex reachable from the **source** vertex s
- compute the shortest path distance of every vertex from the **source** vertex s
- produce a **breadth-first tree (BFT)** G_Π with root s
 - **BFT** contains all vertices reachable from s
 - the unique path from any vertex v to s in G_Π constitutes a shortest path from s to v in G

IDEA: Expanding **frontier** across the **breadth** -greedy-

- propagate a wave 1 edge-distance at a time
- using a **FIFO queue**: $O(1)$ time to update pointers to both ends

Breadth-First Search Algorithm

Maintains the following fields for each $u \in V$

- $\text{color}[u]$: color of u
 - **WHITE** : not discovered yet
 - **GRAY** : discovered and to be or being processed
 - **BLACK**: discovered and processed
- $\Pi[u]$: parent of u (**NIL** of $u = s$ or u is not discovered yet)
- $d[u]$: distance of u from s

Processing a vertex = scanning its adjacency list

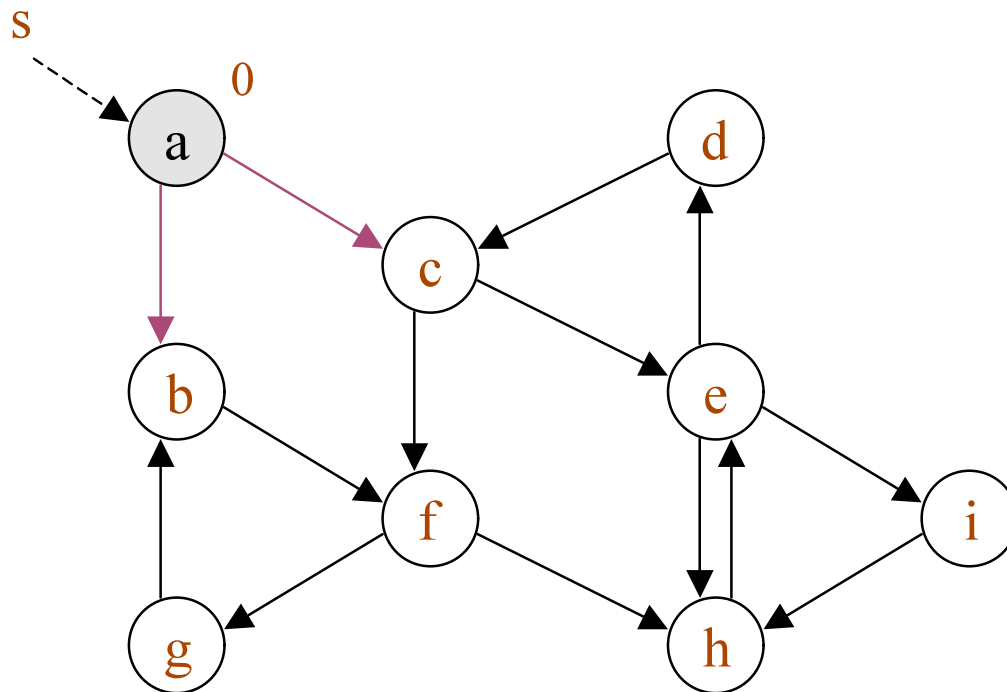
Breadth-First Search Algorithm

BFS(G, s)

```
for each  $u \in V - \{s\}$  do
    color[ $u$ ]  $\leftarrow$  WHITE
     $\Pi[u] \leftarrow$  NIL;  $d[u] \leftarrow \infty$ 
color[ $s$ ]  $\leftarrow$  GRAY
 $\Pi[s] \leftarrow$  NIL;  $d[s] \leftarrow 0$ 
 $Q \leftarrow \{s\}$ 
while  $Q \neq \emptyset$  do
     $u \leftarrow \text{head}[Q]$ 
    for each  $v$  in Adj[ $u$ ] do
        if color[ $v$ ] = WHITE then
            color[ $v$ ]  $\leftarrow$  GRAY
             $\Pi[v] \leftarrow u$ 
             $d[v] \leftarrow d[u] + 1$ 
            ENQUEUE( $Q, v$ )
    DEQUEUE( $Q$ )
    color[ $u$ ]  $\leftarrow$  BLACK
```

Breadth-First Search

Sample Graph:



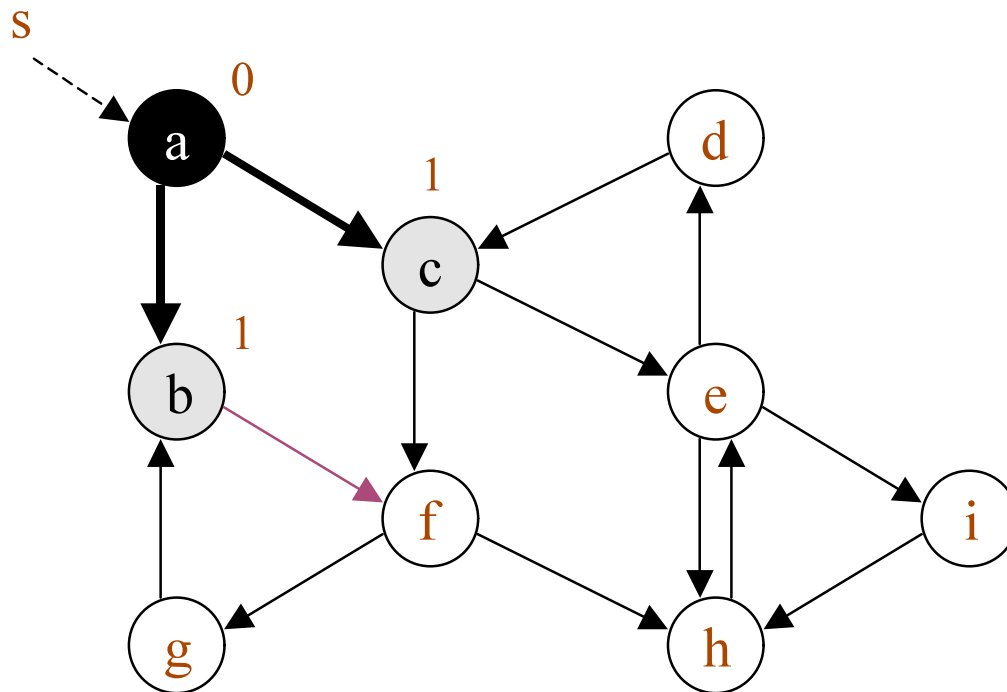
FIFO
queue Q

$\langle a \rangle$
↑

just after
processing vertex

-

Breadth-First Search



FIFO
queue Q

just after
processing vertex

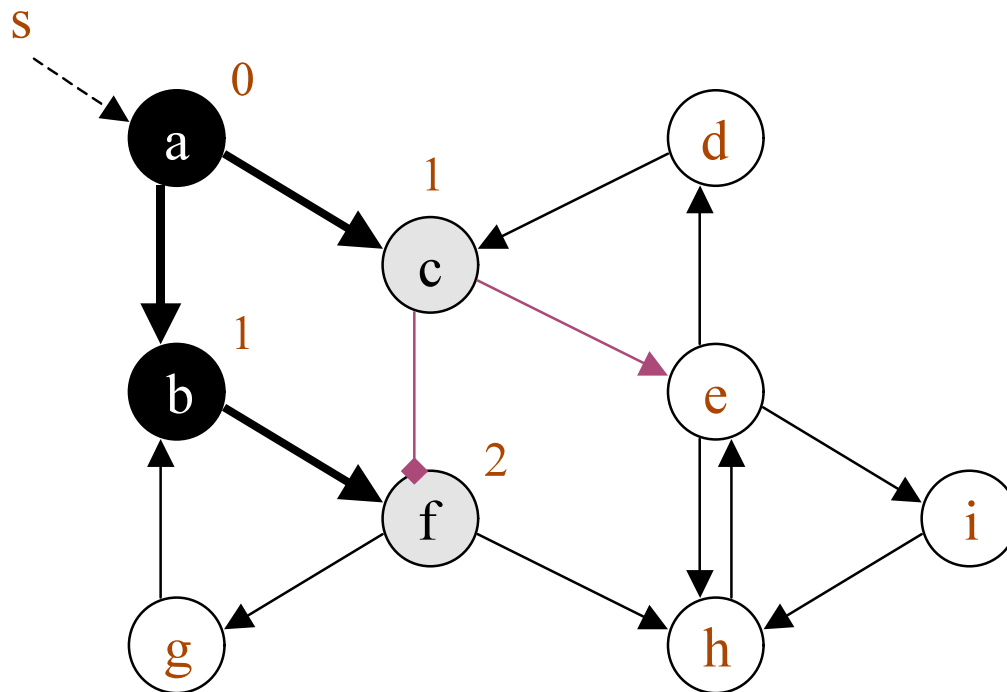
$\langle a \rangle$

-

$\langle a, b, c \rangle$

a

Breadth-First Search



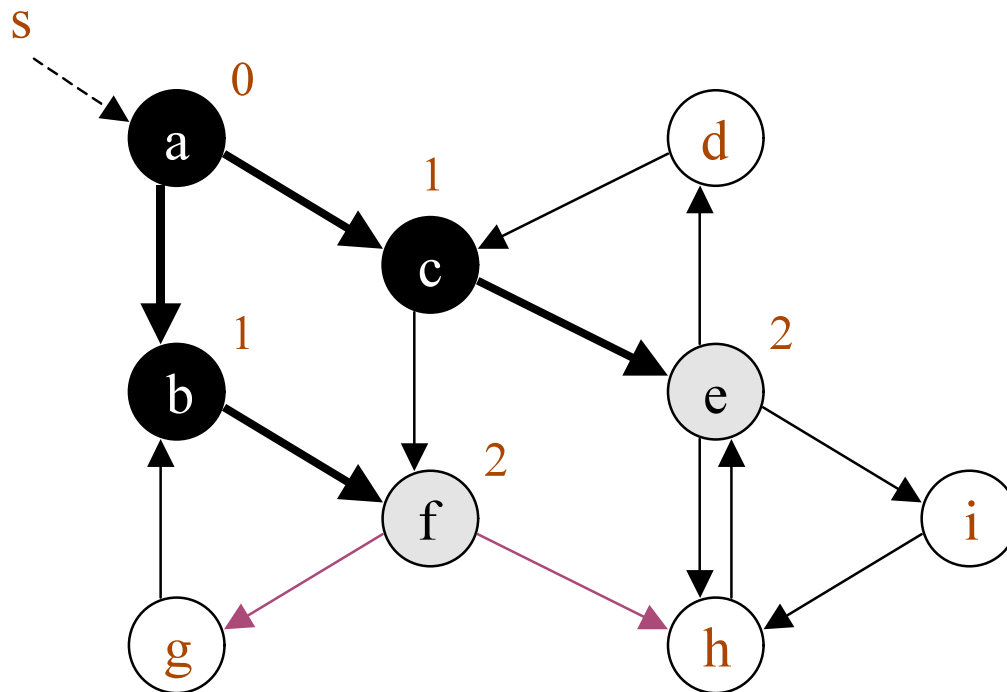
FIFO
queue Q

just after
processing vertex

$\langle a \rangle$
 $\langle a, b, c \rangle$
 $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$

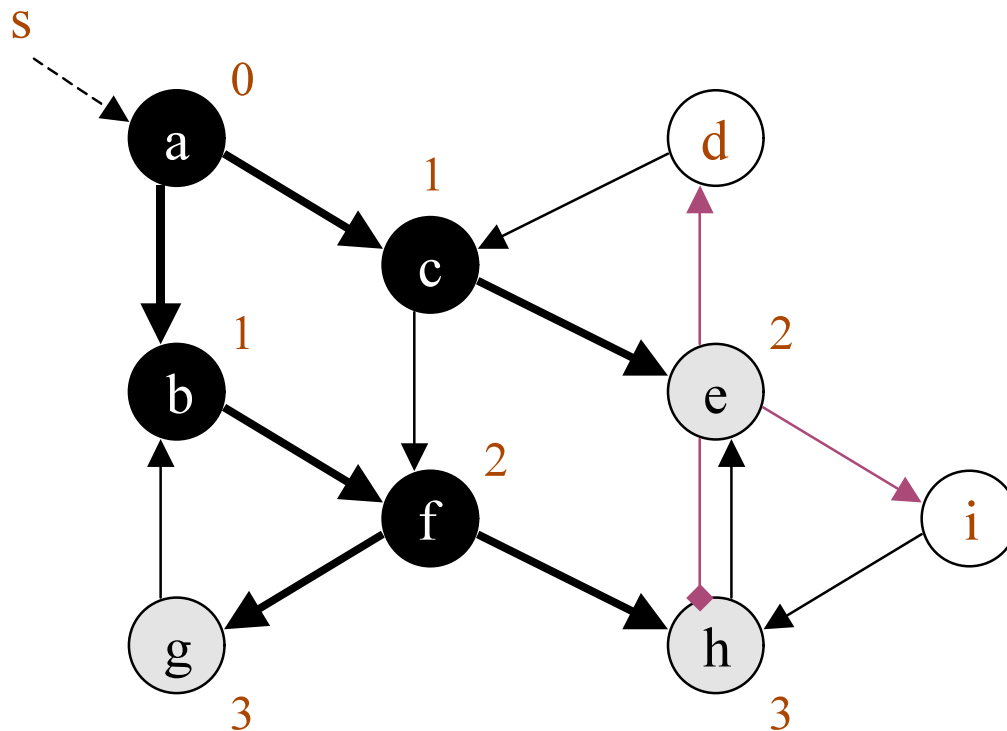
-
a
b

Breadth-First Search



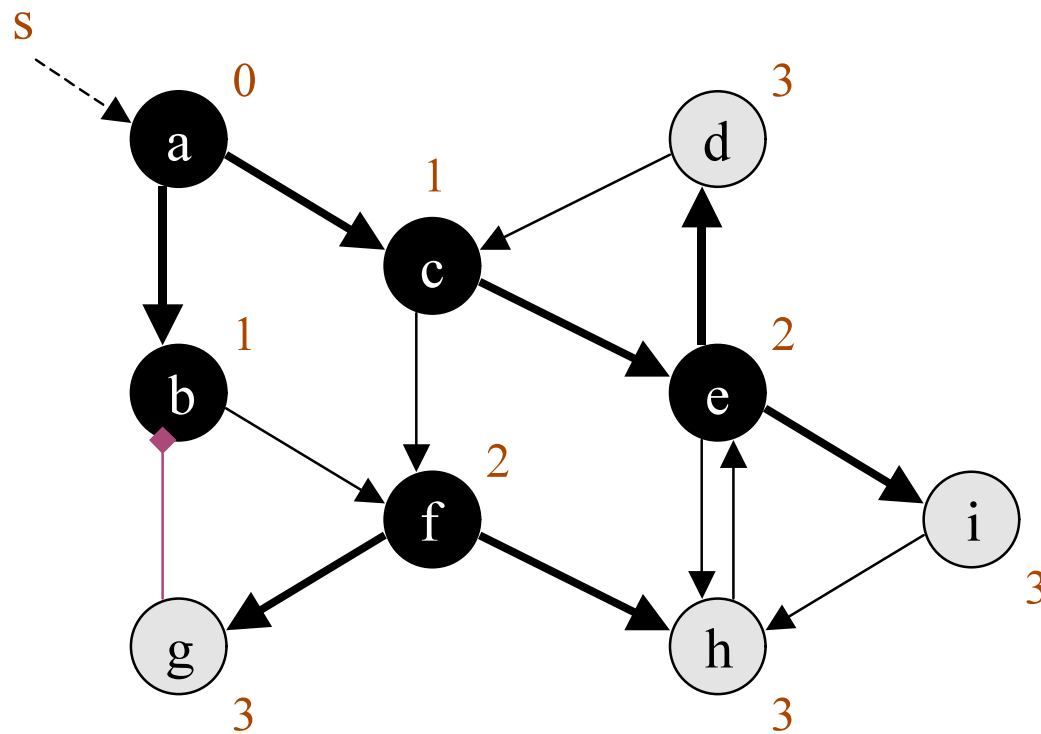
| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |

Breadth-First Search



| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |

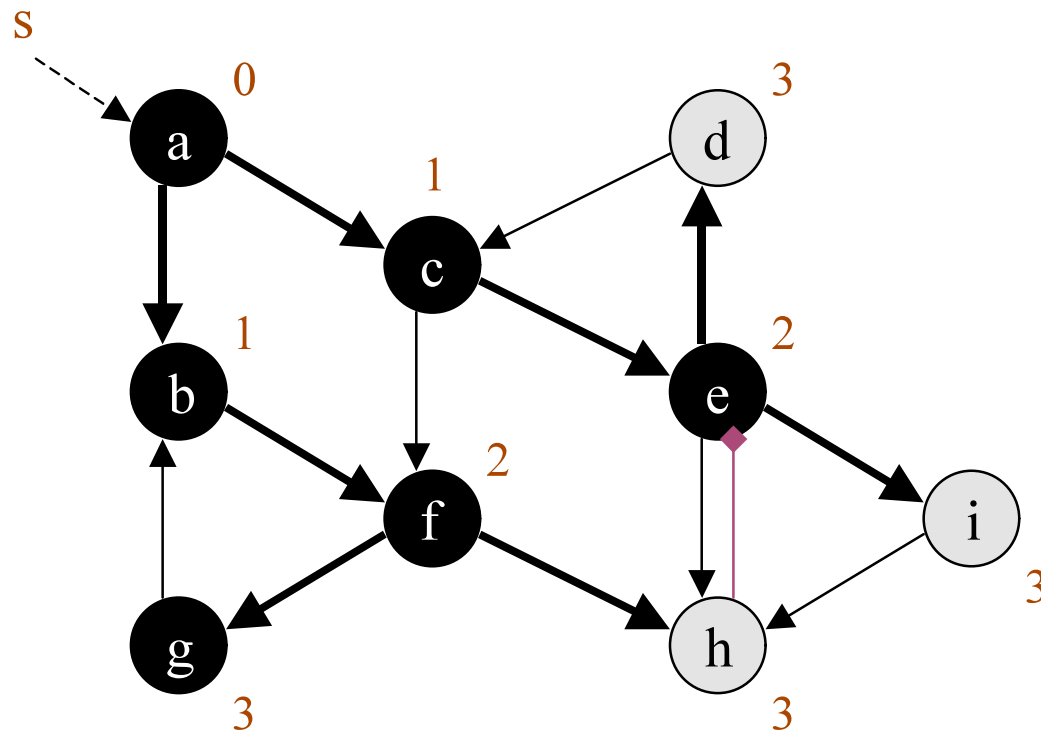
Breadth-First Search



| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h, d, i \rangle$ | e |

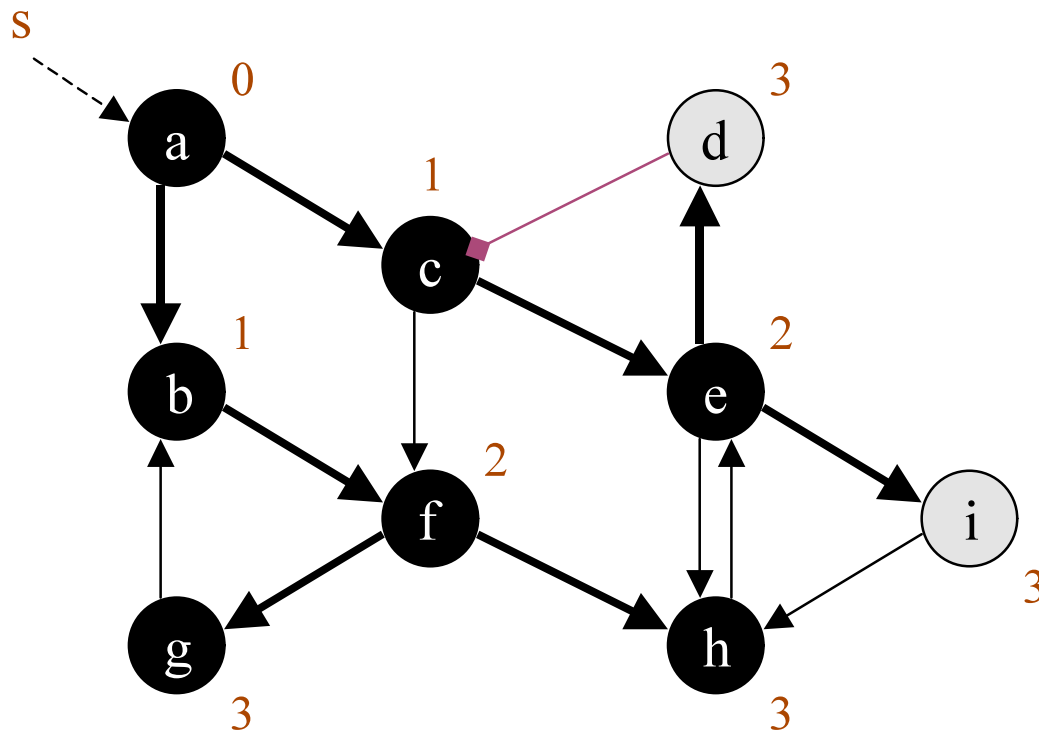
all distances are filled in after processing e

Breadth-First Search



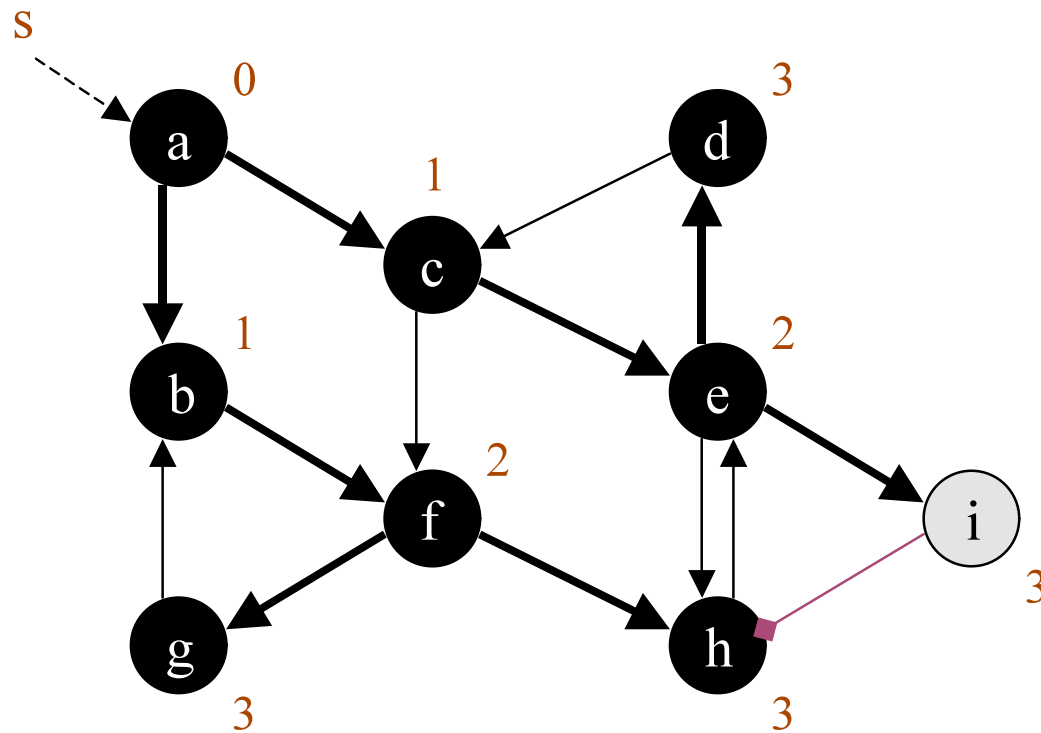
| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h, d, i \rangle$ | g |

Breadth-First Search



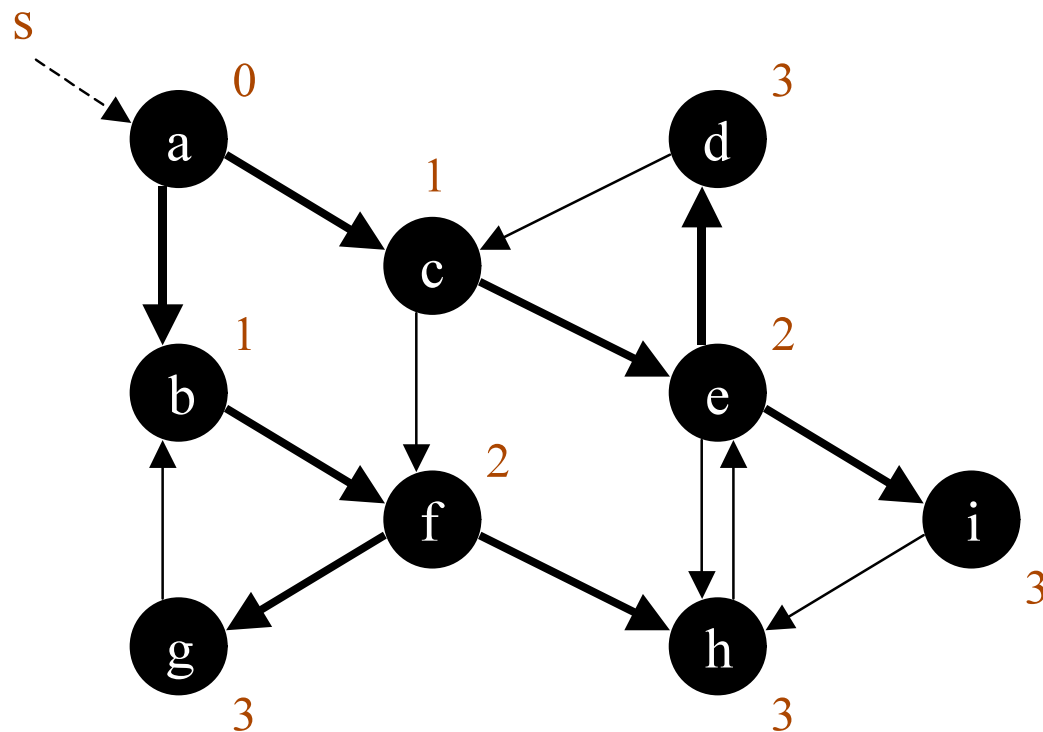
| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h, d, i \rangle$ | h |

Breadth-First Search



| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h, d, i \rangle$ | d |

Breadth-First Search



| FIFO queue Q | just after processing vertex |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\langle a \rangle$ | - |
| $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ | a |
| $\langle a, b, c, f \rangle$ | b |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e \rangle$ | c |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h \rangle$ | f |
| $\langle a, b, c, f, e, g, h, d, i \rangle$ | i |

algorithm terminates: all vertices are processed

Breadth-First Search Algorithm

Running time: $O(V+E)$ = considered linear time in graphs

- initialization: $\Theta(V)$
- queue operations: $O(V)$
 - each vertex **enqueued** and **dequeued** at most once
 - both enqueue and dequeue operations take $O(1)$ time
- processing gray vertices: $O(E)$
 - each vertex is processed at most once and
$$\sum_{u \in V} |Adj[u]| = \Theta(E)$$

Theorems Related to BFS

DEF: $\delta(s, v)$ = shortest path distance from s to v

LEMMA 1: for any $s \in V$ & $(u, v) \in E$; $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$

For any BFS(G, s) run on $G=(V, E)$

LEMMA 2: $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v) \quad \forall v \in V$

LEMMA 3: at any time of BFS, the queue $Q=\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r \rangle$ satisfies

- $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1$
- $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i+1}]$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r - 1$

THM1: BFS(G, s) achieves the following

- discovers every $v \in V$ where $s \rightarrow v$ (i.e., v is reachable from s)
- upon termination, $d[v] = \delta(s, v) \quad \forall v \in V$
- for any $v \neq s$ & $s \rightarrow v$; $\text{sp}(s, \Pi[v]) \sim (\Pi[v], v)$ is a $\text{sp}(s, v)$

Proofs of BFS Theorems

DEF: shortest path distance $\delta(s, v)$ from s to v

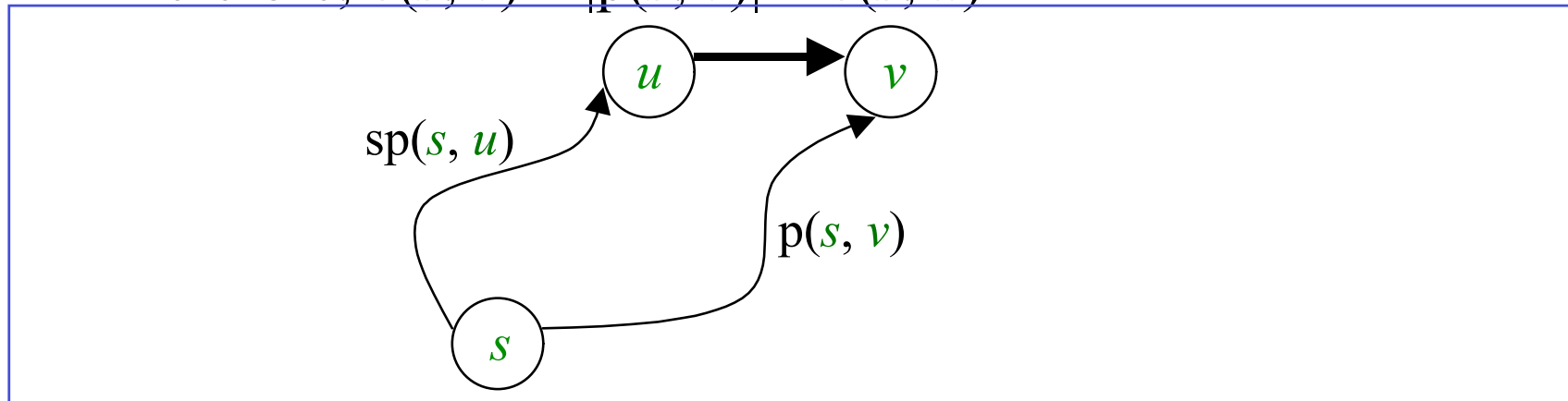
$\delta(s, v)$ = minimum number of edges in any path from s to v
= ∞ if no such path exists (i.e., v is not reachable from s)

L1: for any $s \in V$ & $(u, v) \in E$; $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$

PROOF: $s \rightarrow u \Rightarrow s \rightarrow v$. Then,

consider the path $p(s, v) = \text{sp}(s, u) \sim (u, v)$

- $|p(s, v)| = |\text{sp}(s, u)| + 1 = \delta(s, u) + 1$
- therefore, $\delta(s, v) \leq |p(s, v)| = \delta(s, u) + 1$



Proofs of BFS Theorems

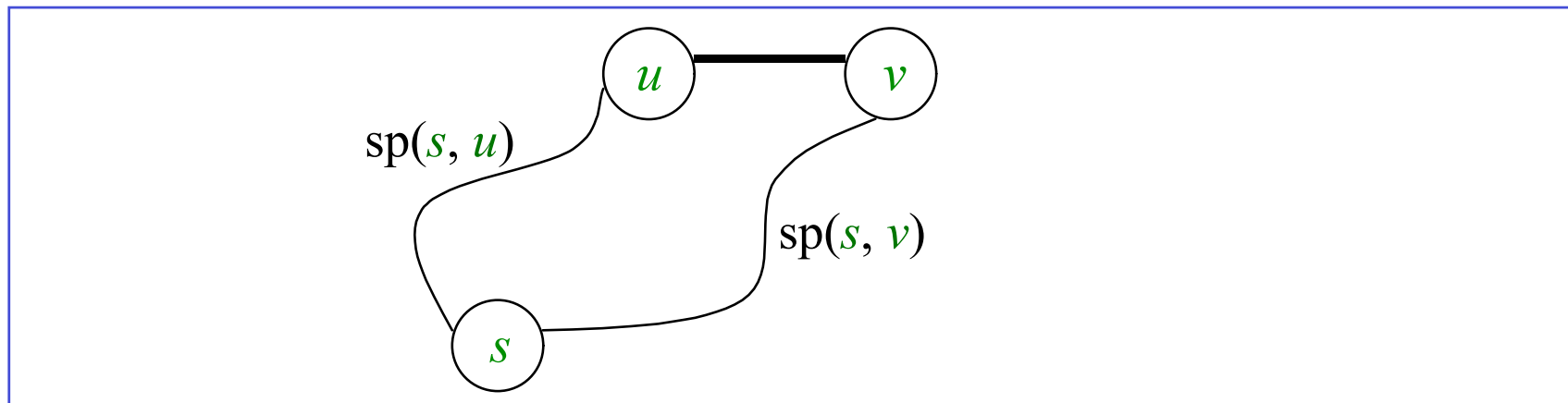
DEF: shortest path distance $\delta(s, v)$ from s to v

$\delta(s, v)$ = minimum number of edges in any path from s to v

L1: for any $s \in V$ & $(u, v) \in E$; $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$

C1 of L1: if $G=(V, E)$ is undirected then $(u, v) \in E \Rightarrow (v, u) \in E$

- $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$ and $\delta(s, u) \leq \delta(s, v) + 1$
- $\Rightarrow \delta(s, u) - 1 \leq \delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + 1$ and
 $\delta(s, v) - 1 \leq \delta(s, u) \leq \delta(s, v) + 1$
- $\Rightarrow \delta(s, u)$ & $\delta(s, v)$ differ by at most 1



Proofs of BFS Theorems

L2: upon termination of **BFS**(G, s) on $G=(V,E)$;

$$d[v] \geq \delta(s, v) \quad \forall v \in V$$

PROOF: by induction on the number of **ENQUEUE** operations

- **basis:** immediately after 1st enqueue operation
ENQ(Q, s): $d[s] = \delta(s, s)$
- **hypothesis:** $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$ for all v inserted into Q
- **induction:** consider a white vertex v discovered during scanning $\text{Adj}[u]$
- $d[v] = d[u] + 1$ due to the assignment statement
 $\geq \delta(s, u) + 1$ due to the **inductive hypothesis** since $u \in Q$
 $\geq \delta(s, v)$ due to **L1**
- vertex v is then enqueued and it is never enqueued again
 $d[v]$ never changes again, maintaining **inductive hypothesis**

Proofs of BFS Theorems

L3: Let $Q = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r \rangle$ during the execution of $\text{BFS}(G, s)$, then,
 $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1$ and $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i+1}]$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$

PROOF: by induction on the number of **QUEUE** operations

- **basis:** lemma holds when $Q \leftarrow \{s\}$
- **hypothesis:** lemma holds for a particular Q (i.e., after a certain # of **QUEUE** operations)
- **induction:** must prove lemma holds after both **DEQUEUE** & **ENQUEUE** operations
- **DEQUEUE(Q):** $Q = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r \rangle \Rightarrow Q' = \langle v_2, v_3, \dots, v_r \rangle$
 - $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1$ & $d[v_1] \leq d[v_2]$ in $Q \Rightarrow$
 $d[v_r] \leq d[v_2] + 1$ in Q'
 - $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i+1}]$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$ in $Q \Rightarrow$
 $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i+1}]$ for $i = 2, \dots, r-1$ in Q'

Proofs of BFS Theorems

- ENQUEUE(Q, v): $Q = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r \rangle \Rightarrow$
 $Q' = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r, v_{r+1} = v \rangle$
 - v was encountered during scanning Adj[u] where $u = v_1$
 - thus, $d[v_{r+1}] = d[v] = d[u] + 1 = d[v_1] + 1 \Rightarrow d[v_{r+1}] = d[v_1] + 1$ in Q'
 - but $d[v_r] \leq d[v_1] + 1 = d[v_{r+1}]$
 - $\Rightarrow d[v_{r+1}] = d[v_1] + 1$ and $d[v_r] \leq d[v_{r+1}]$ in Q'

C3 of L3 (monotonicity property):

if: the vertices are enqueued in the order v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n
then: the sequence of distances is monotonically increasing,
i.e., $d[v_1] \leq d[v_2] \leq \dots \leq d[v_n]$

Proofs of BFS Theorems

THM (correctness of BFS): BFS(G, s) achieves the following on $G=(V,E)$

- discovers every $v \in V$ where $s \rightarrow v$
- upon termination: $d[v] = \delta(s, v) \quad \forall v \in V$
- for any $v \neq s$ & $s \rightarrow v$; $\text{sp}(s, \Pi[v]) \sim (\Pi[v], v) = \text{sp}(s, v)$

PROOF: by induction on k , where $V_k = \{v \in V: \delta(s, v) = k\}$

- hypothesis: for each $v \in V_k$, \exists exactly one point during execution of BFS at which $\text{color}[v] \leftarrow \text{GRAY}$, $d[v] \leftarrow k$, $\Pi[v] \leftarrow u \in V_{k-1}$, and then $\text{ENQUEUE}(Q, v)$
- basis: for $k = 0$ since $V_0 = \{s\}$; $\text{color}[s] \leftarrow \text{GRAY}$, $d[s] \leftarrow 0$ and $\text{ENQUEUE}(Q, s)$
- induction: must prove hypothesis holds for each $v \in V_{k+1}$

Proofs of BFS Theorems

Consider an arbitrary vertex $v \in V_{k+1}$, where $k \geq 0$

- monotonicity (L3) + $d[v] \geq k + 1$ (L2) + inductive hypothesis
 $\Rightarrow v$ must be discovered after all vertices in V_k were enqueued
- since $\delta(s, v) = k + 1$, $\exists u \in V_k$ such that $(u, v) \in E$
- let $u \in V_k$ be the first such vertex grayed (must happen due to hyp.)
- $u \leftarrow \text{head}(Q)$ will be ultimately executed since BFS enqueues every grayed vertex
 - v will be discovered during scanning $\text{Adj}[u]$
 - color[v]=WHITE since v isn't adjacent to any vertex in V_j for $j < k$
 - color[v] \leftarrow GRAY, $d[v] \leftarrow d[u] + 1$, $\Pi[v] \leftarrow u$
 - then, ENQUEUE(Q, v) thus proving the inductive hypothesis

To conclude the proof

- if $v \in V_{k+1}$ then due to above inductive proof $\Pi[v] \in V_k$
 - thus $\text{sp}(s, \Pi[v]) \sim (\Pi[v], v)$ is a shortest path from s to v

Theorems Related to BFS

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THM1: BFS(G, s) achieves the following

- discovers every $v \in V$ where $s \rightarrow v$ (i.e., v is reachable from s)
- upon termination, $d[v] = \delta(s, v) \quad \forall v \in V$
- for any $v \neq s$ & $s \rightarrow v$; $\text{sp}(s, \Pi[v]) \sim (\Pi[v], v)$ is a $\text{sp}(s, v)$

Breadth-First Tree Generated by BFS

LEMMA 4: predecessor subgraph $G_\Pi = (V_\Pi, E_\Pi)$ generated by $\text{BFS}(G, s)$, where $V_\Pi = \{v \in V : \Pi[v] \neq \text{NIL}\} \cup \{s\}$ and $E_\Pi = \{(\Pi[v], v) \in E : v \in V_\Pi - \{s\}\}$

is a **breadth-first tree** such that

- V_Π consists of all vertices in V that are reachable from s
- $\forall v \in V_\Pi$, unique path $p(v, s)$ in G_Π constitutes a $\text{sp}(s, v)$ in G

PRINT-PATH(G, s, v)

if $v = s$ **then** print s

else if $\Pi[v] = \text{NIL}$ **then**

print no “ $s \rightarrow v$ path”

else

PRINT-PATH($G, s, \Pi[v]$)

print v

Prints out vertices on a
 $s \rightarrow v$ shortest path

Breadth-First Tree Generated by BFS

