Introduction to Graphs

- What is a Graph?
- Some Example applications of Graphs.
- Graph Terminologies.
- Representation of Graphs.
 - Adjacency Matrix.
 - Adjacency Lists.
 - Simple Lists
- Review Questions.

What is a Graph?

- Graphs are Generalization of Trees.
- A simple graph G = (V, E) consists of a non-empty set V, whose members are called the vertices of G, and a set E of pairs of distinct vertices from V, called the edges of G.



Some Example Applications of Graph

- Finding the least congested route between two phones, given connections between switching stations.
- Determining if there is a way to get from one page to another, just by following links.
- Finding the shortest path from one city to another.
- As a traveling sales-person, finding the cheapest path that passes through all the cities that the sales person must visit.
- Determining an ordering of courses so that prerequisite courses are always taken first.

Graphs Terminologies

- Adjacent Vertices: there is a connecting edge.
- A Path: A sequence of adjacent vertices.
- A Cycle: A path in which the last and first vertices are adjacent.
- Connected graph: There is a path from any vertex to every other vertex.



More Graph Terminologies

- Path and cycles in a digraph: must move in the direction specified by the arrow.
- Connectedness in a digraph: strong and weak.
- Strongly Connected: If connected as a digraph following the arrows.
- Weakly connected: If the underlying undirected graph is connected (i.e. ignoring the arrows).



Directed Cycle

Strongly Connected



Weakly Connected



Further Graph Terminologies

- Emanate: an edge e = (v, w) is said to emanate from v.
 A(v) denotes the set of all edges emanating from v.
- Incident: an edge e = (v, w) is said to be incident to w.
 I(w) denote the set of all edges incident to w.
- Out-degree: number of edges emanating from v |A(v)|
- In-degree: number of edges incident to w |I(w)|.



Directed Graph

Undirected Graph



Graph Representations

- For vertices:
 - an array or a linked list can be used
- For edges:
 - Adjacency Matrix (Two-dimensional array)
 - Adjacency List (One-dimensional array of linked lists)
 - Linked List (one list only)

Adjacency Matrix Representation

- Adjacency Matrix uses a 2-D array of dimension |V|x|V| for edges. (For vertices, a 1-D array is used)
- The presence or absence of an edge, (v, w) is indicated by the entry in row v, column w of the matrix.
- For an unweighted graph, boolean values could be used.
- For a weighted graph, the actual weights are used.





Notes on Adjacency Matrix

- For undirected graph, the adjacency matrix is always symmetric.
- In a Simple Graph, all diagonal elements are zero (i.e. no edge from a vertex to itself).
- The space requirement of adjacency matrix is O(n²) most of it wasted for a graph with few edges.
- However, entries in the matrix can be accessed directly.



Adjacency List Representation

- This involves representing the set of vertices adjacent to each vertex as a list. Thus, generating a set of lists.
- This can be implemented in different ways.
- Our representation:
 - Vertices as a one dimensional array
 - Edges as an array of linked list (the emanating edges of vertex 1 will be in the list of the first element, and so on, …



Simple List Representation

- Vertices are represented as a 1-D array or a linked list
- Edges are represented as one linked list
 - Each edge contains the information about its two vertices





1

2

3

4





Review Questions





- 1. Consider the undirected graph GA shown above. List the elements of V and E. Then, for each vertex v in V, do the following:
 - 1. Compute the in-degree of v
 - 2. Compute the out-degree of v
 - 3. List the elements of A(v)
 - 4. List the elements of I(v).
- 2. Consider the undirected graph GA shown above.
 - 1. Show how the graph is represented using adjacency matrix.
 - 2. Show how the graph is represented using adjacency lists.
- 3. Repeat Exercises 1 and 2 for the directed graph GB shown above.