

# Tree traversals

- Review from CS 134:
  - We usually describe tree traversal recursively.
    - Preorder (visit node before children)
    - Postorder (visit children before node)
    - Inorder
      - For binary trees only
      - Visit left child, node, right child
  - All take  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  time for an  $n$ -node tree.

# BFS and DFS

- Breadth-first, depth-first search
  - Each search strategy starts at node, and explores the entire connected component.
- General view:
  - Vertices start out coloured white (not visited).
  - A visited vertex is coloured gray (visited, but may still have white neighbors).
  - When all neighbours of a vertex are visited, it is coloured black.

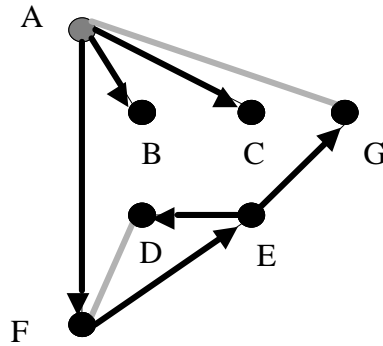
## General View of Searching

- The gray nodes form a “frontier”.
- We choose any non-black neighbour of a gray node to be next visited.
- In general, we want to perform a computation:
  - preprocess when colouring gray
  - postprocess when colouring black
  - analogous to tree traversal uses.

## Depth-First Search

- The DFS strategy:
  - Main idea: We use a stack to store gray nodes.
  - The algorithm visits new (white) vertices before dealing with older gray ones.
  - Hence it tends to explore deeply first.
  - We may add a timestamp of colour changes to indicate when a node turned gray ( $d[u]$ ) and black ( $f[u]$ ).
    - We will look at this later...

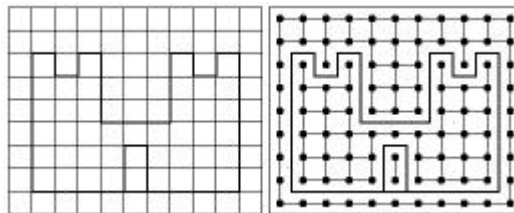
Example of depth-first search:



## Exploring Undirected Graphs

- Problem statement:
  - Given an undirected graph  $G = (V;E)$ , separate the vertices into connected components.
    - In particular, assign each vertex a number so that vertices have the same number iff they are in the same connected component.
    - Eg.: Consider a castle drawn on a grid. There are three areas made up of squares (nodes) that are connected if the squares are adjacent:

The idea is to colour each connected components with the same colour.



## DFS Pseudocode

```
function dfs_visit(v, cnum)
    // Pre-condition: v is WHITE vertex
    // Find all vertices reachable from v via white vertices
    status[v] := gray;
    num[v] := cnum;
    for each w in out(v)
        if status[w] = white
            dfs_visit(w, cnum)
    status[v] := black;

// --- main program ---
// Start off with status of all vertices being white
cnum = 0;
for all vertices v in V
    if status[v] = white
        // all vertices in v's component are white; explore v's component
        dfs_visit(v, cnum);
        cnum := cnum + 1;
```

## DFS Analysis

- **Running time:**
  - We call `dfs_visit` once for each vertex  $v \in V$ .
  - If we ignore recursive calls, then a `dfs_visit` for vertex  $v$  takes  $\Theta(1) + \Theta(\deg(v))$  time.
  - Thus the total running time is:

$$\Theta(n) + \Theta\left(\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)\right) = \Theta(n + m)$$

## Analysis of DFS

- Recall that we mentioned the use of a stack for a DFS implementation.
  - In the last program, the stack was implicit (it stores parameters for recursive calls)
    - “v on stack” means call to `dfs_visit(v)` has not finished.
    - `dfs_visit` is called once on every white node.
  - Each adjacency list is run through once.
  - Running time is  $\mathcal{O}(|V|+|E|)$  or  $\mathcal{O}(n+m)$ .

## DFS Pseudocode

- Let us make the stack explicit:

```
function dfs(start_node, A)
  init_empty_stack(S);
  for each v in A
    status[v] := white;
  Push(start_node, S);
  while S is non_empty
    x = Pop(S);
    if(status[x] = white) then
      process x;
      status[x] = black;
      for all edges (x, y) leaving x
        Push(y, S);
```

## Other DFS Properties

- Discovery time:
  - We assign to every vertex a “timestamp”  $d(v)$  that records when it changes colour from white (unexplored) to gray (discovered).
- Finishing time:
  - We give every vertex a “timestamp”  $f(v)$  that records when it changed its colour from gray (discovered) to black (finished).
- Tree edges:
  - When we discover vertex  $w$  by calling `dfs_visit` from vertex  $v$ , we mark edge  $(v, w)$  as a tree edge.
    - We will call  $v$  the parent of  $w$ .

## Other DFS Properties (cont.)

```
function dfs_visit(v, cnum)
    status[v] := gray;
    time := time + 1;    d[u] := time; // Note
    num[v] := cnum;
    for each w in out(v)
        if status[w] = white
            edge (v,w) is a tree edge; // Note
            dfs_visit(w, cnum)
    status[v] := black;
    time := time + 1;    f[u] := time; // Note
```