

# Breadth-first and depth-first traversal



**CS1114**

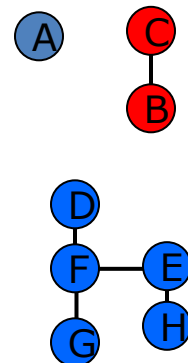
<http://cs1114.cs.cornell.edu>



Cornell University  
Computer Science

## Blobs are components!

A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	B	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	D	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	E	F	G	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	H	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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## Finding blobs

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



## Finding blobs

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Blobs are connected components!



## Finding components

1. Pick a 1 to start with, where you don't know which component it is in
  - When there aren't any, you're done
2. Give it a new component color
3. Assign the same component color to each pixel that is part of the same component
  - Basic strategy: color any neighboring 1's, have them color their neighbors, and so on



## Strategy for finding components

- For each vertex we visit, we color its neighbors and remember that we need to visit them at some point
  - Need to keep track of the vertices we still need to visit in a todo list
  - After we visit a vertex, we'll pick one of the vertices in the todo list to visit next
- This is also called *graph traversal*



## Stacks and queues

- Two ways of representing a “todo list”
- Stack: Last In First Out (LIFO)
  - (Think cafeteria trays)
  - The newest task is the one you’ll do next
- Queue: First In First Out (FIFO)
  - (Think a line of people at the cafeteria)
  - The oldest task is the one you’ll do next



## Stacks

- Two operations:
- Push: add something to the top of the stack
- Pop: remove the thing on top of the stack



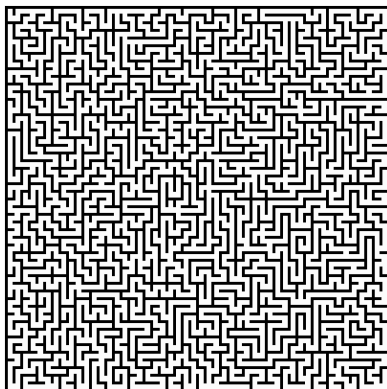
## Queue



- Two operations:
- Enqueue: add something to the end of the queue
- Dequeue: remove something from the front of the queue



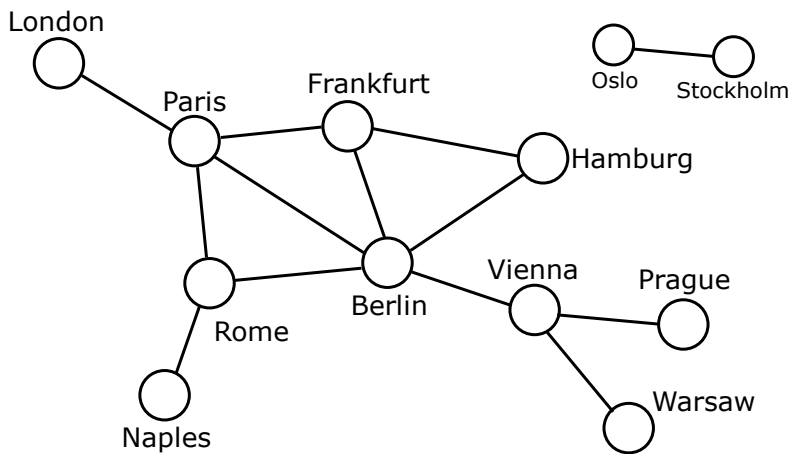
## Graph traversal



- Suppose you're in a maze
- What strategy can you use to find the exit?

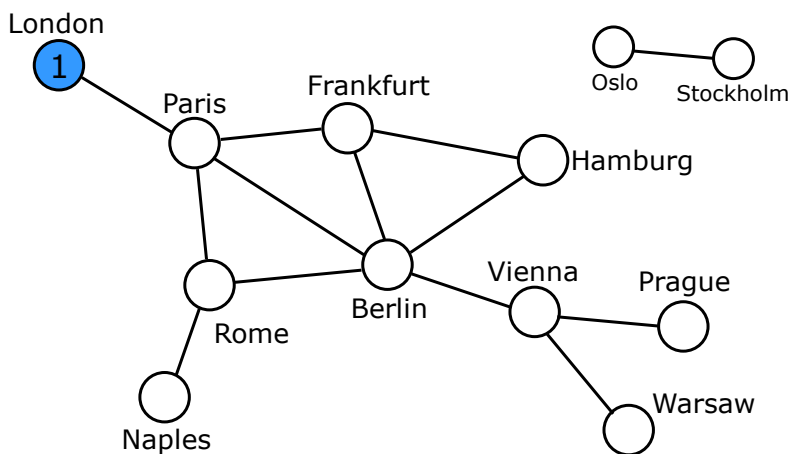


# Graph traversal



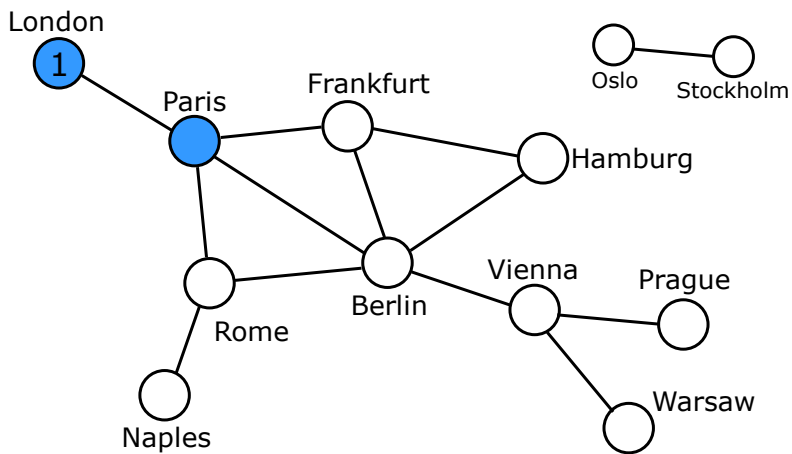
Pick a node to start with

# Graph traversal (stack)



Current node: London  
Todo list: [ ]

## Graph traversal (stack)

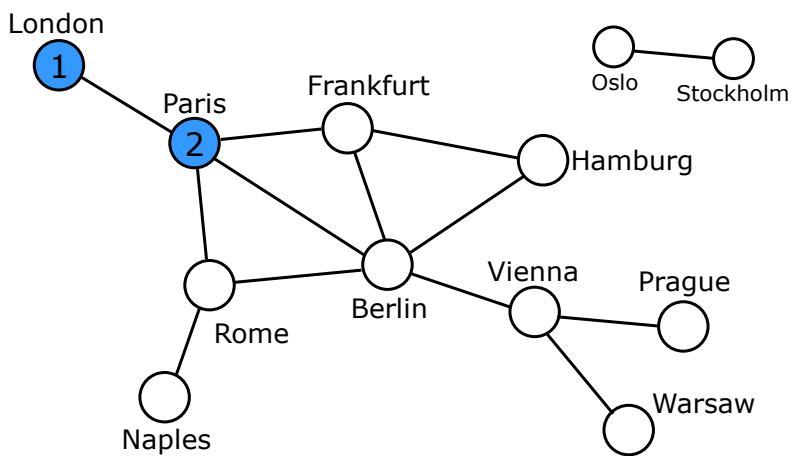


Current node: London

Todo list: [ Paris ]



## Graph traversal (stack)

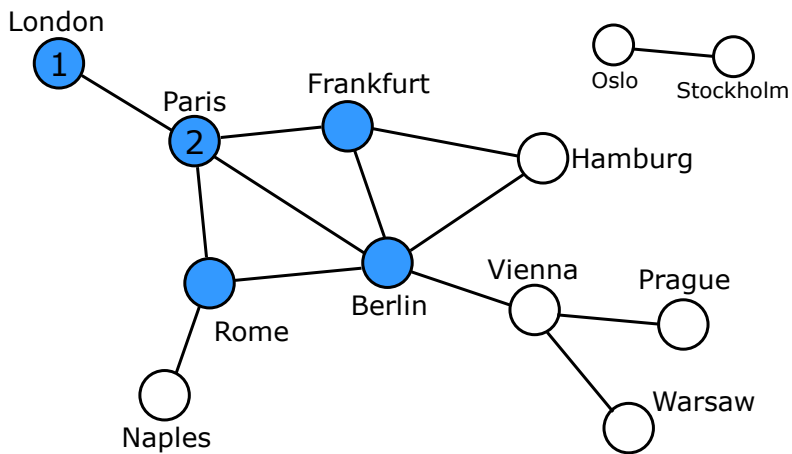


Current node: Paris

Todo list: [ ]



## Graph traversal (stack)

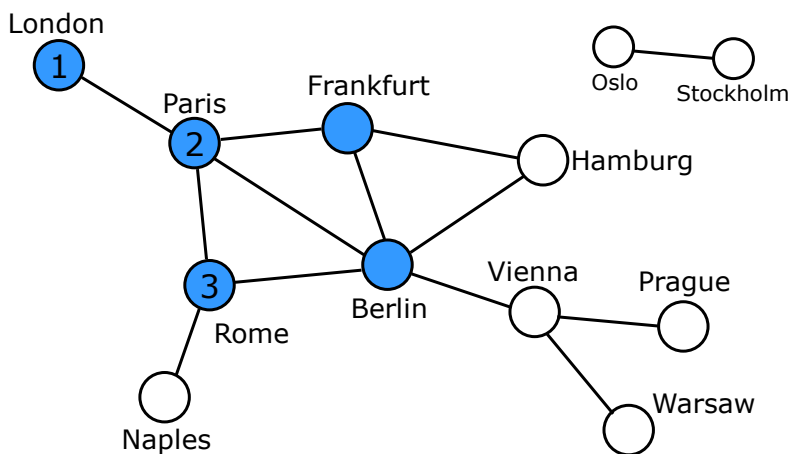


Current node: Paris

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Berlin, Rome ]



## Graph traversal (stack)



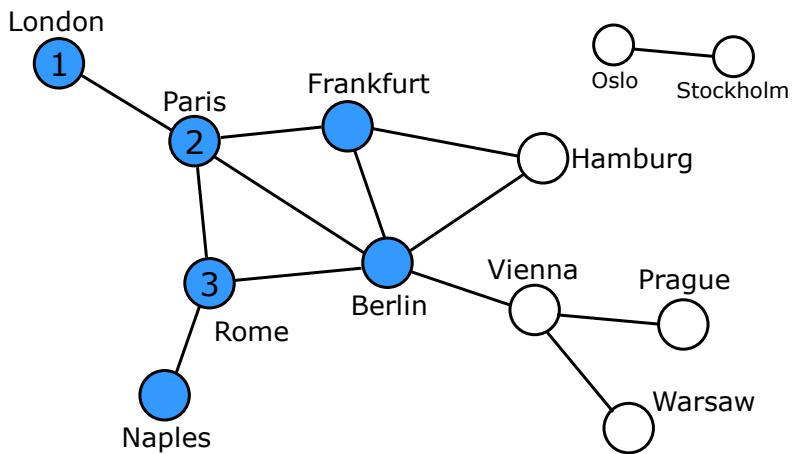
Current node: Rome

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Berlin ]





## Graph traversal (stack)

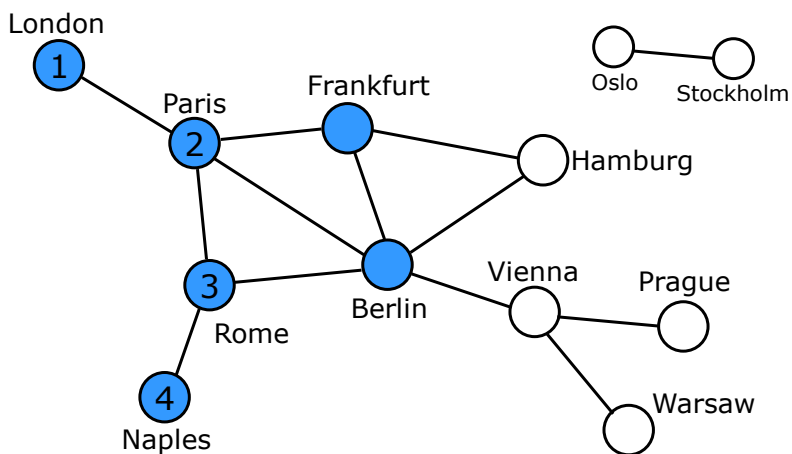


Current node: Rome

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Berlin, Naples ]



## Graph traversal (stack)

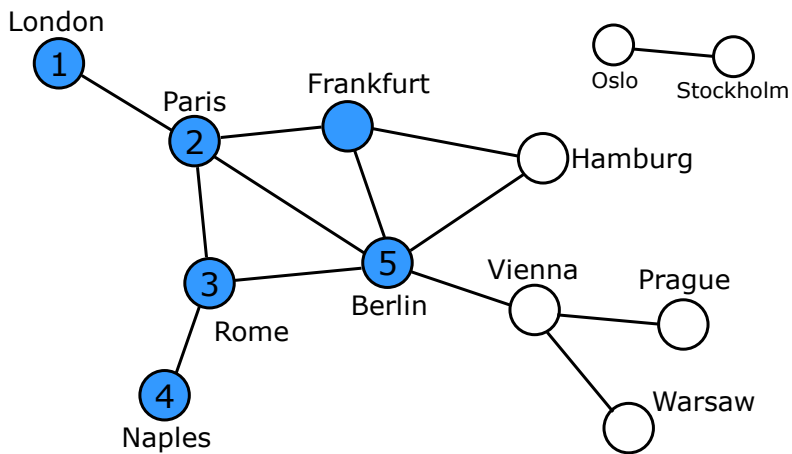


Current node: Naples

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Berlin ]



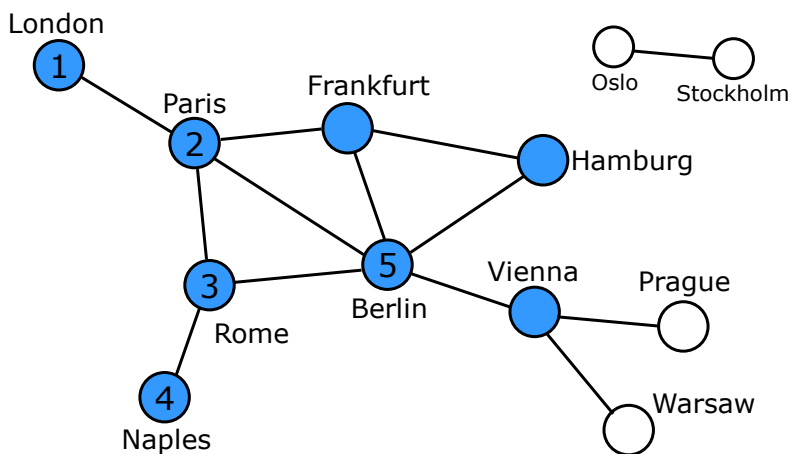
## Graph traversal (stack)



Current node: Berlin  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt ]



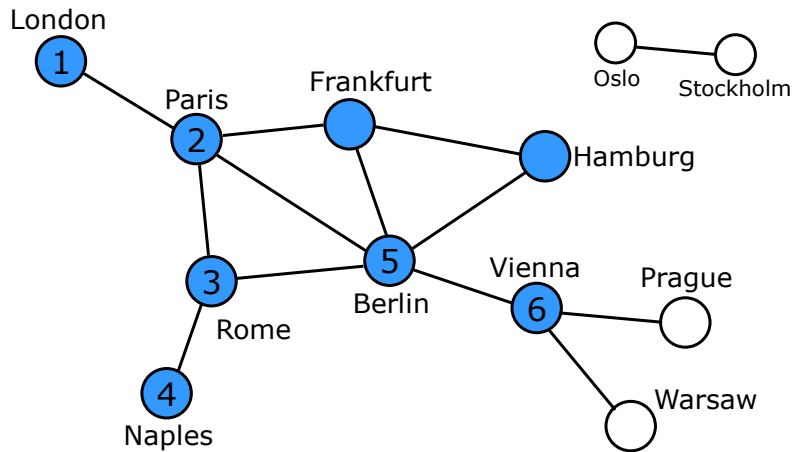
## Graph traversal (stack)



Current node: Berlin  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg, Vienna ]

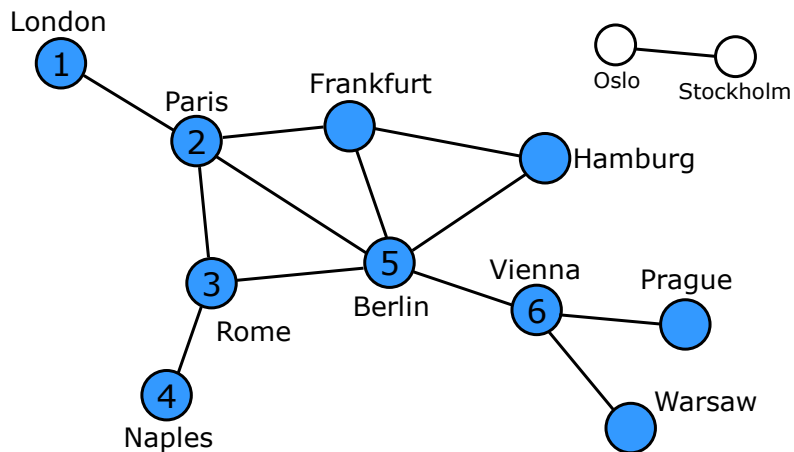


## Graph traversal (stack)



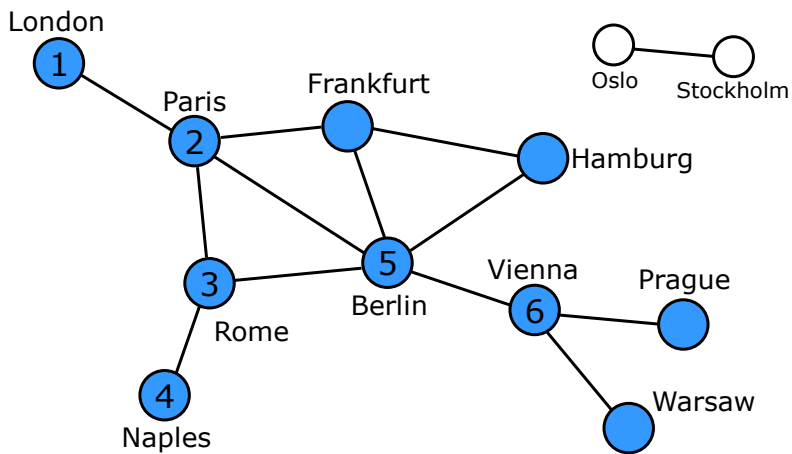
Current node: Vienna  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg ]

## Graph traversal (stack)



Current node: Vienna  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg, Prague, Warsaw ]

## Graph traversal (stack)

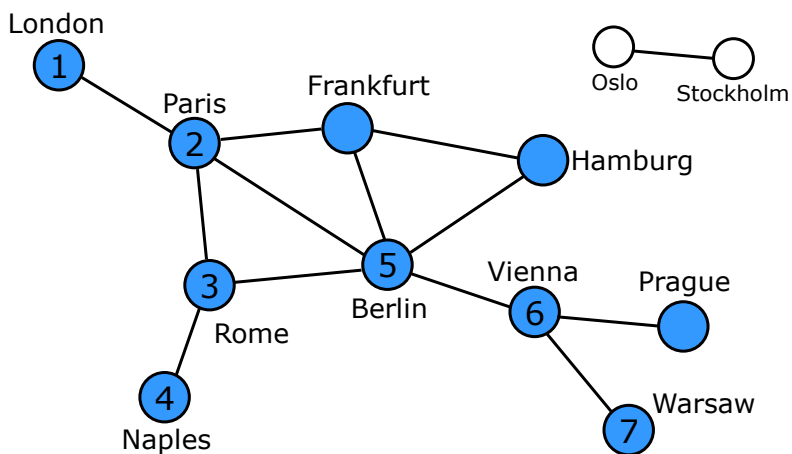


Current node: Vienna

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg, Prague, Warsaw ]



## Graph traversal (stack)

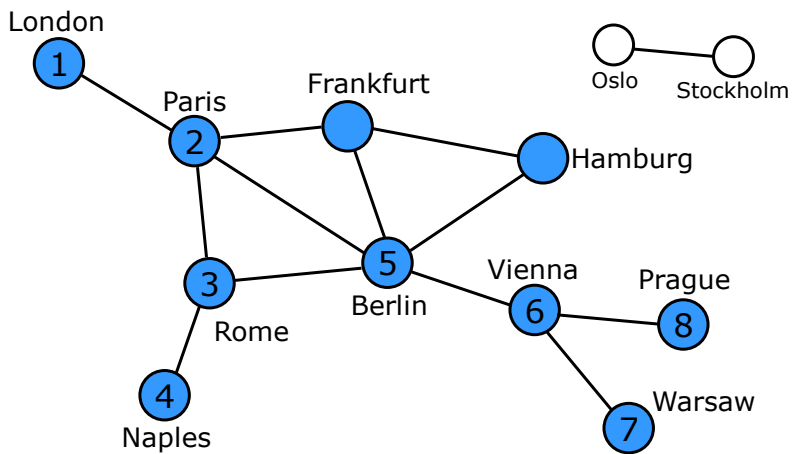


Current node: Warsaw

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg, Prague ]

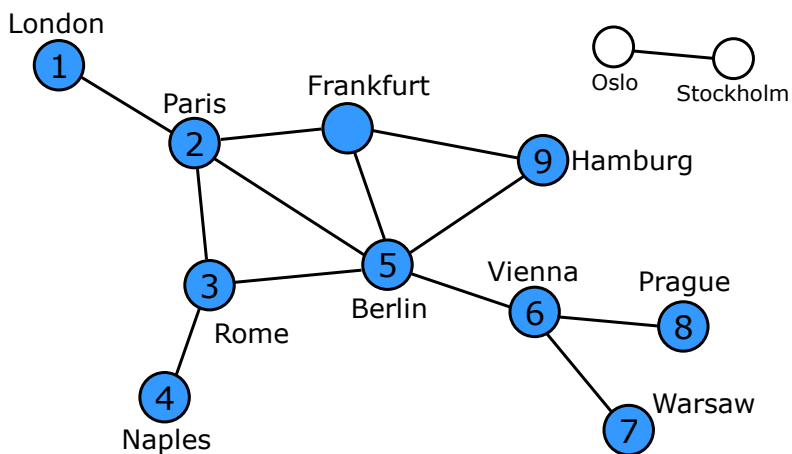


## Graph traversal (stack)



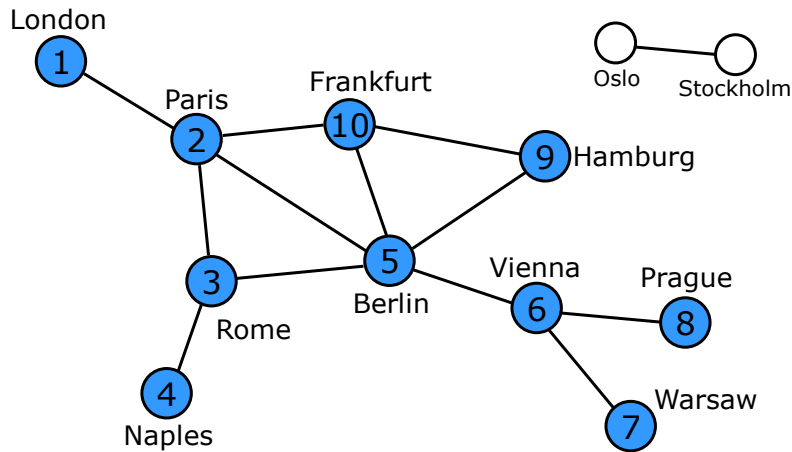
Current node: Prague  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Hamburg ]

## Graph traversal (stack)



Current node: Hamburg  
Todo list: [ Frankfurt ]

## Graph traversal (stack)

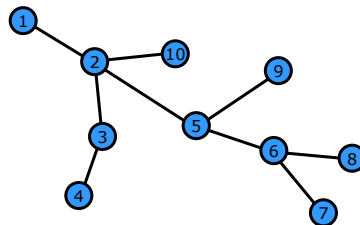


Current node: Frankfurt

Todo list: [ ]



## Depth-first search (DFS)



- Call the starting node the *root*
- We traverse paths all the way until we get to a dead-end, then backtrack (until we find an unexplored path)

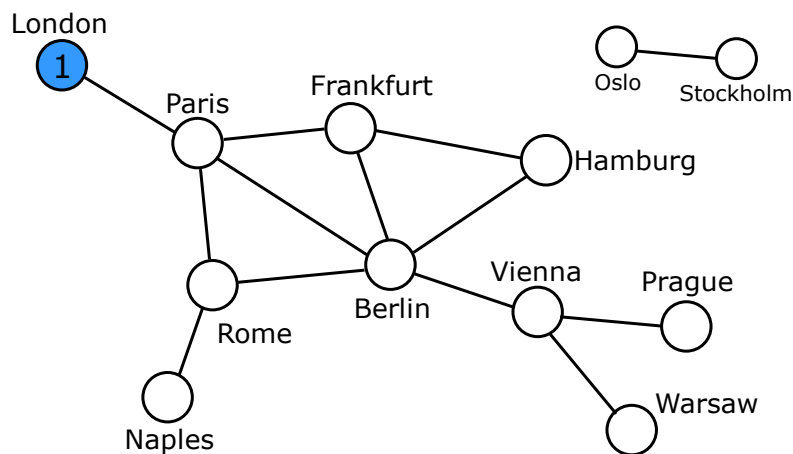


## Another strategy

1. Explore all the cities that are one hop away from the root
  2. Explore all cities that are two hops away from the root
  3. Explore all cities that are three hops away from the root
- ...
- This corresponds to using a *queue*



## Graph traversal (queue)

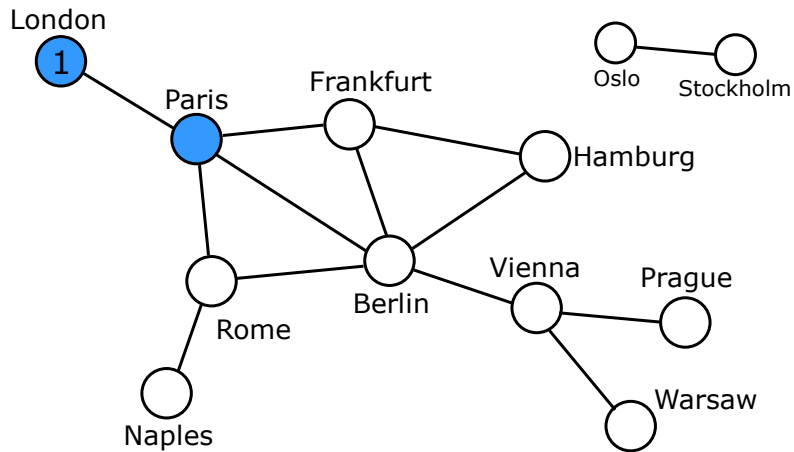


Current node: London

Todo list: [ ]

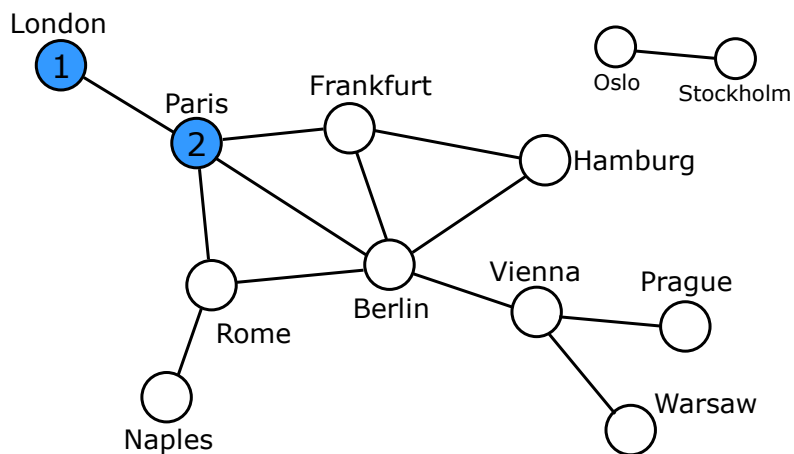


## Graph traversal (queue)



Current node: London  
Todo list: [ Paris ]

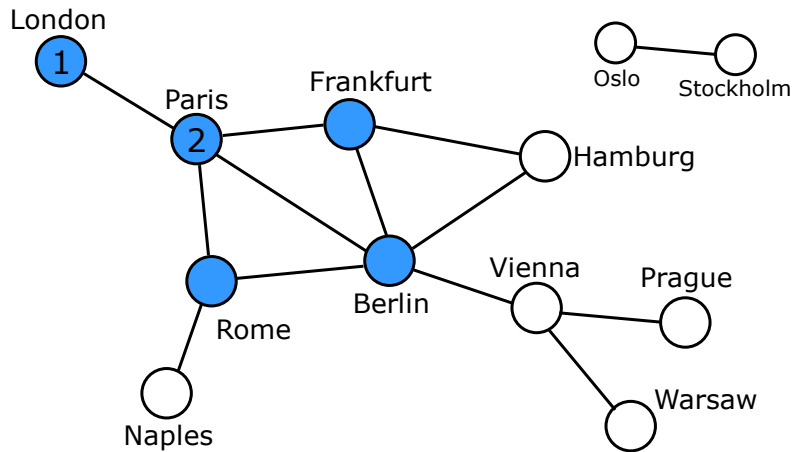
## Graph traversal (queue)



Current node: Paris  
Todo list: [ ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

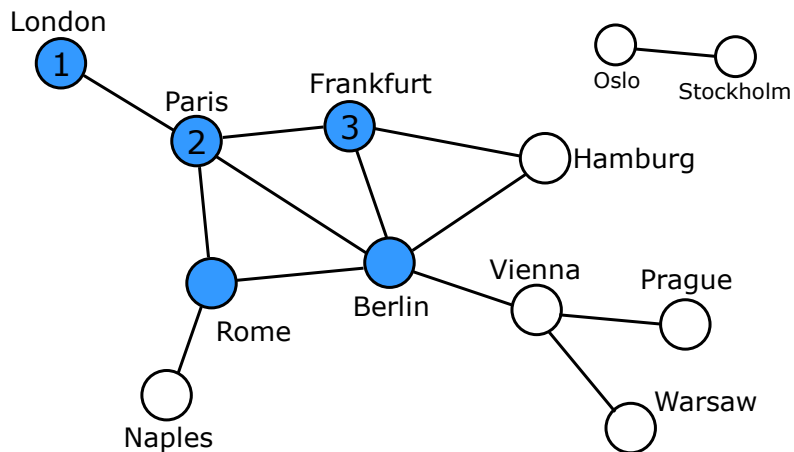


Current node: Paris

Todo list: [ Frankfurt, Berlin, Rome ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

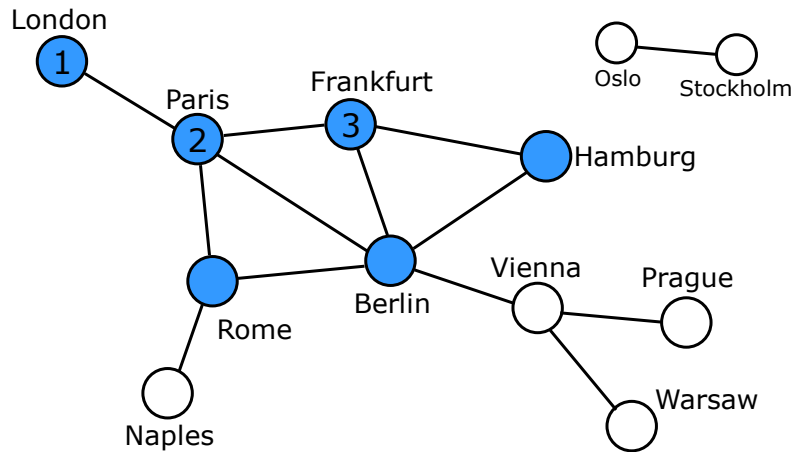


Current node: Frankfurt

Todo list: [ Berlin, Rome ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

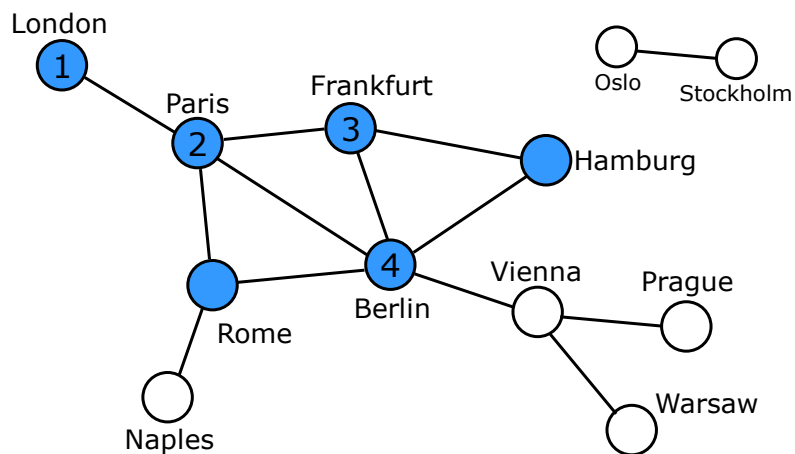


Current node: Frankfurt

Todo list: [ Berlin, Rome, Hamburg ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

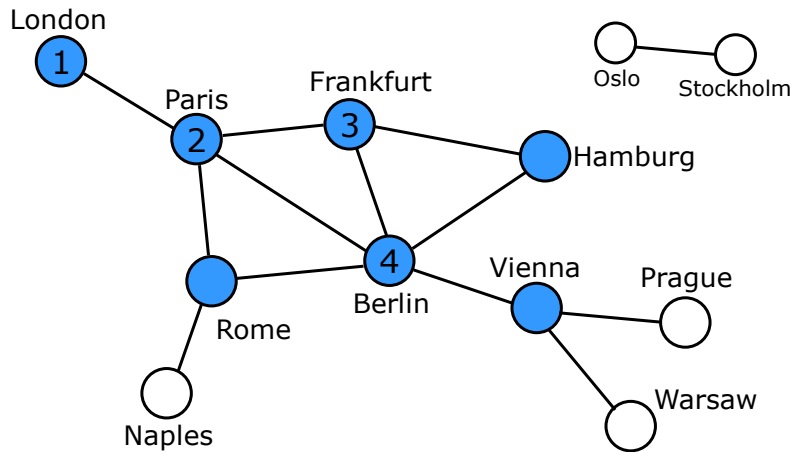


Current node: Berlin

Todo list: [ Rome, Hamburg ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

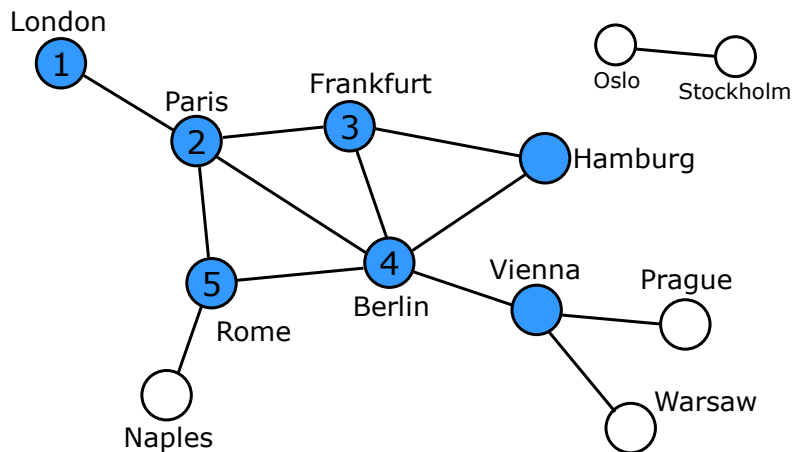


Current node: Berlin

Todo list: [ Rome, Hamburg, Vienna ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

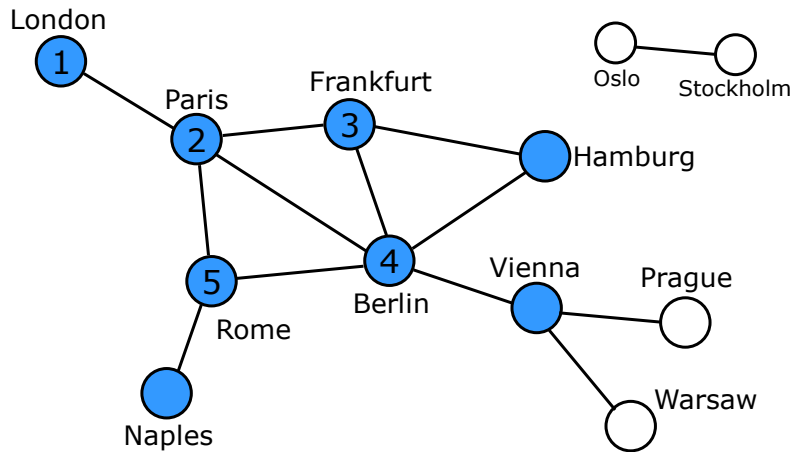


Current node: Rome

Todo list: [ Hamburg, Vienna ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

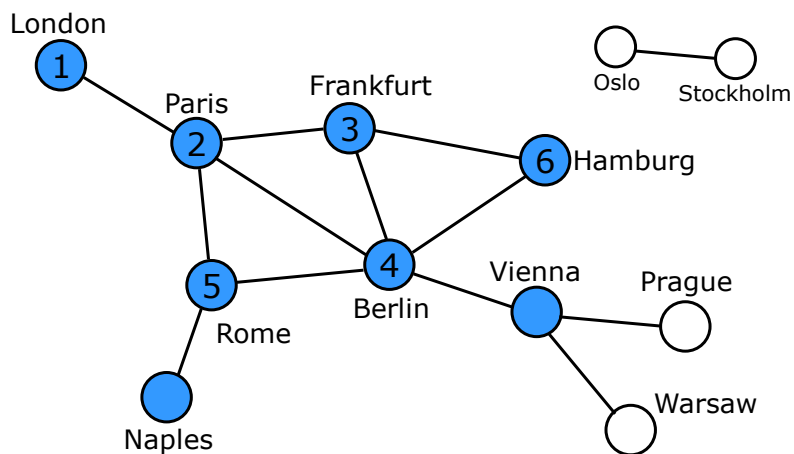


Current node: Rome

Todo list: [ Hamburg, Vienna, Naples ]



## Graph traversal (queue)

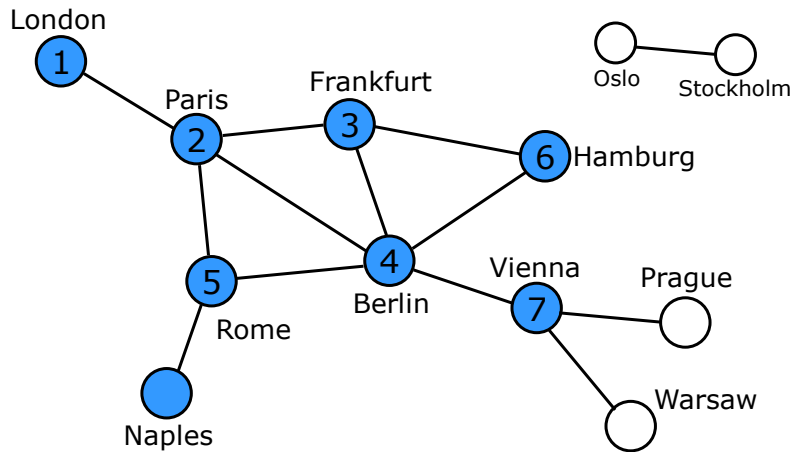


Current node: Hamburg

Todo list: [ Vienna, Naples ]



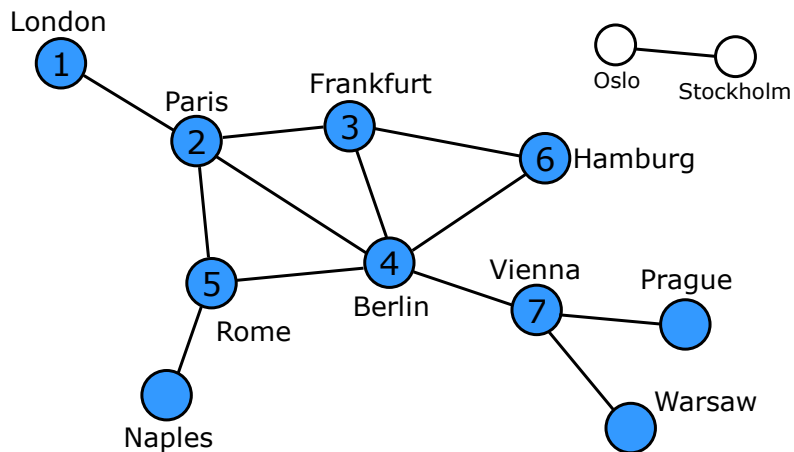
## Graph traversal (queue)



Current node: Vienna  
Todo list: [ Naples ]



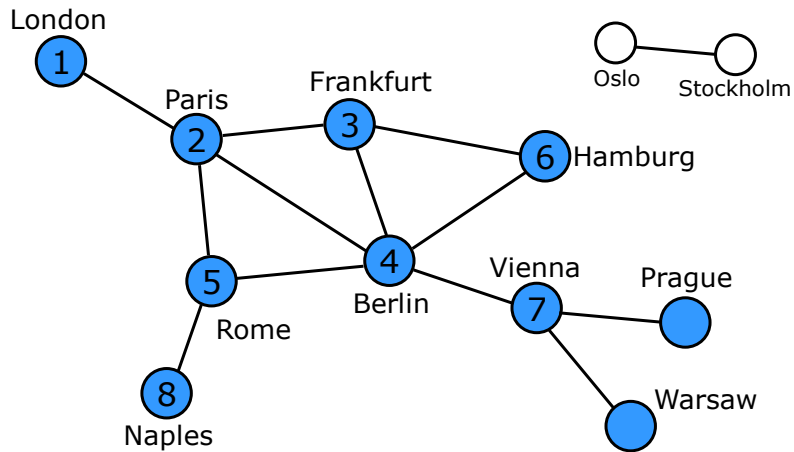
## Graph traversal (queue)



Current node: Vienna  
Todo list: [ Naples, Prague, Warsaw ]

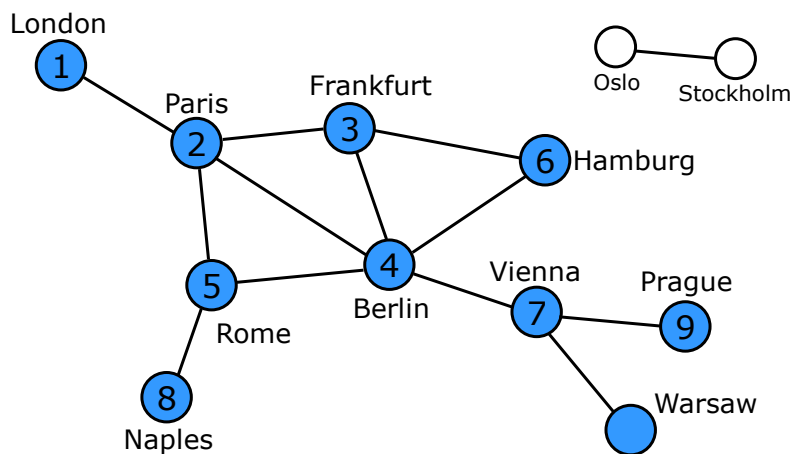


## Graph traversal (queue)



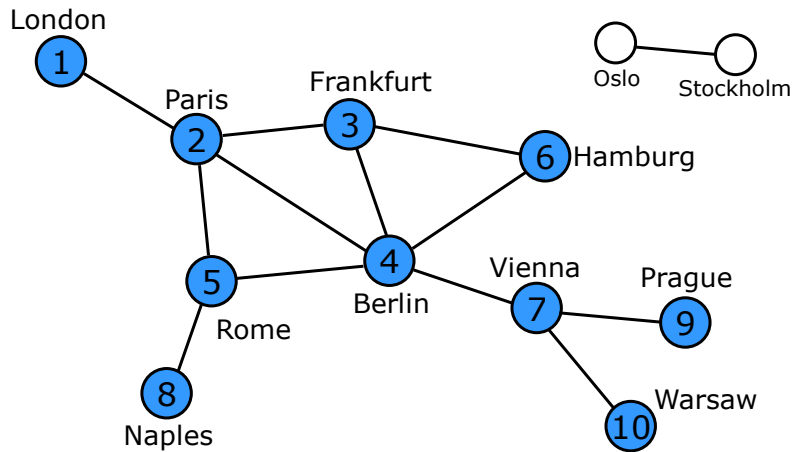
Current node: Naples  
Todo list: [ Prague, Warsaw ]

## Graph traversal (queue)



Current node: Prague  
Todo list: [ Warsaw ]

## Graph traversal (queue)

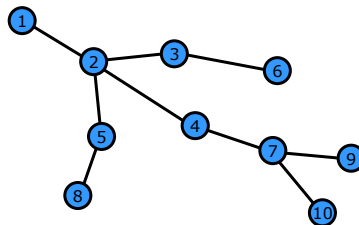


Current node: Warsaw

Todo list: [ ]



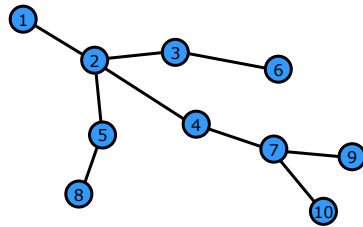
## Breadth-first search (BFS)



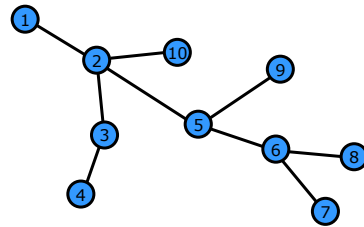
- We visit all the vertices at the same level (same distance to the root) before moving on to the next level



## BFS vs. DFS



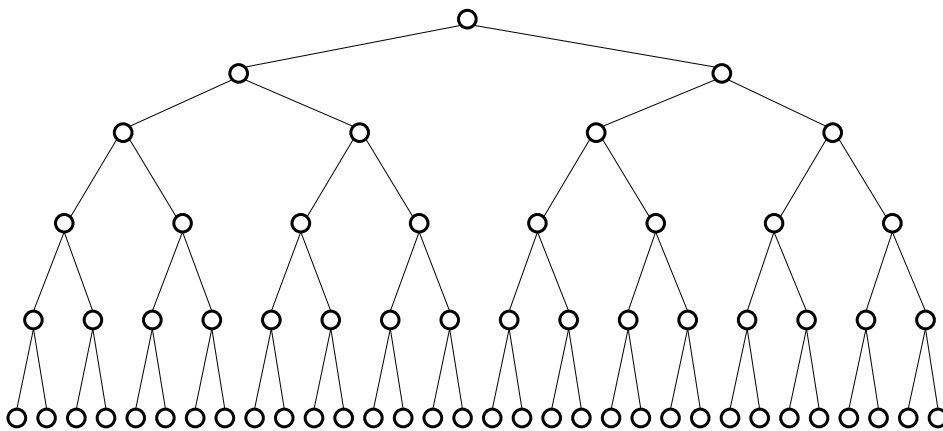
Breadth-first (queue)



Depth-first (stack)



## BFS vs. DFS



(tree = graph with no cycles)





## Basic algorithms

### BREADTH-FIRST SEARCH (Graph $G$ )

- While there is an uncolored node  $r$ 
  - Choose a new color
  - Create an empty queue  $Q$
  - Let  $r$  be the root node, color it, and add it to  $Q$
  - While  $Q$  is not empty
    - Dequeue a node  $v$  from  $Q$
    - For each of  $v$ 's neighbors  $u$ 
      - If  $u$  is not colored, color it and add it to  $Q$



## Basic algorithms

### DEPTH-FIRST SEARCH (Graph $G$ )

- While there is an uncolored node  $r$ 
  - Choose a new color
  - Create an empty stack  $S$
  - Let  $r$  be the root node, color it, and push it on  $S$
  - While  $S$  is not empty
    - Pop a node  $v$  from  $S$
    - For each of  $v$ 's neighbors  $u$ 
      - If  $u$  is not colored, color it and push it onto  $S$



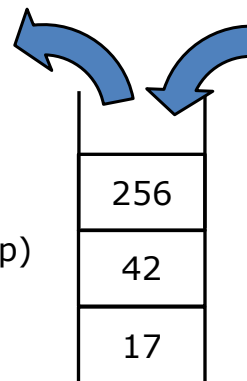
## Queues and Stacks

- Examples of Abstract Data Types (ADTs)
- ADTs fulfill a contract:
  - The contract tells you what the ADT can do, and what the behavior is
  - For instance, with a stack:
    - We can push and pop
    - If we push X onto S and then pop S, we get back X, and S is as before
- Doesn't tell you *how* it fulfills the contract



## Implementing DFS

- How can we implement a stack?
  - Needs to support several operations:
  - Push (add an element to the top)
  - Pop (remove the element from the top)
  - IsEmpty



## Implementing a stack

- **IsEmpty**  
function e = IsEmpty(S)  
e = (length(S) == 0);
- **Push (add an element to the top)**  
function S = push(S, x)  
S = [ S x ]
- **Pop (remove an element from the top)**  
function [S, x] = pop(S)  
n = length(S); x = S(n); S = S(1:n-1);  
% but what happens if n = 0?



## Implementing BFS

- **How can we implement a queue?**
  - Needs to support several operations:
  - Enqueue (add an element to back)
  - Dequeue (remove an element from front)
  - IsEmpty
- **Not quite as easy as a stack...**

