

Graph Search

Sides based on material by Kani, Chekuri, Erickson et. al.

All mistakes are my own! - Ivan Abraham (Fall 2024)

Image by ChatGPT (probably collaborated with DALL-E)

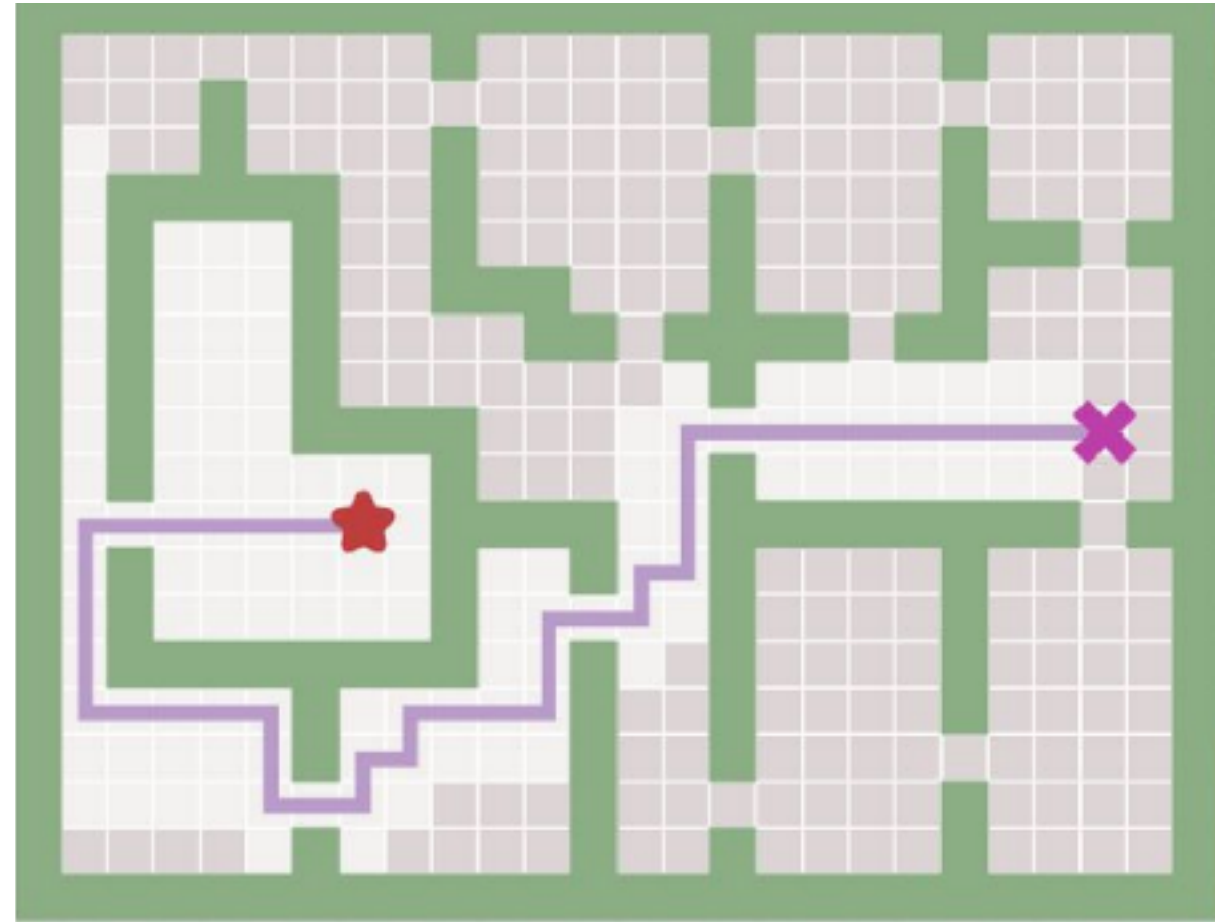
Why graphs?

- Graphs have **many applications!**
 - ▶ Graphs help model *networks* — which are ubiquitous: transportation networks (rail, roads, airways), social networks (interpersonal relationships), information networks (web page links), and many problems that don't even look like graph problems.
- Fundamental objects in CS, optimization, combinatorics
- Many important and useful optimization problems are graph problems
- Graph theory: elegant, fun and deep branch of mathematics

Why graphs?

Real life applications

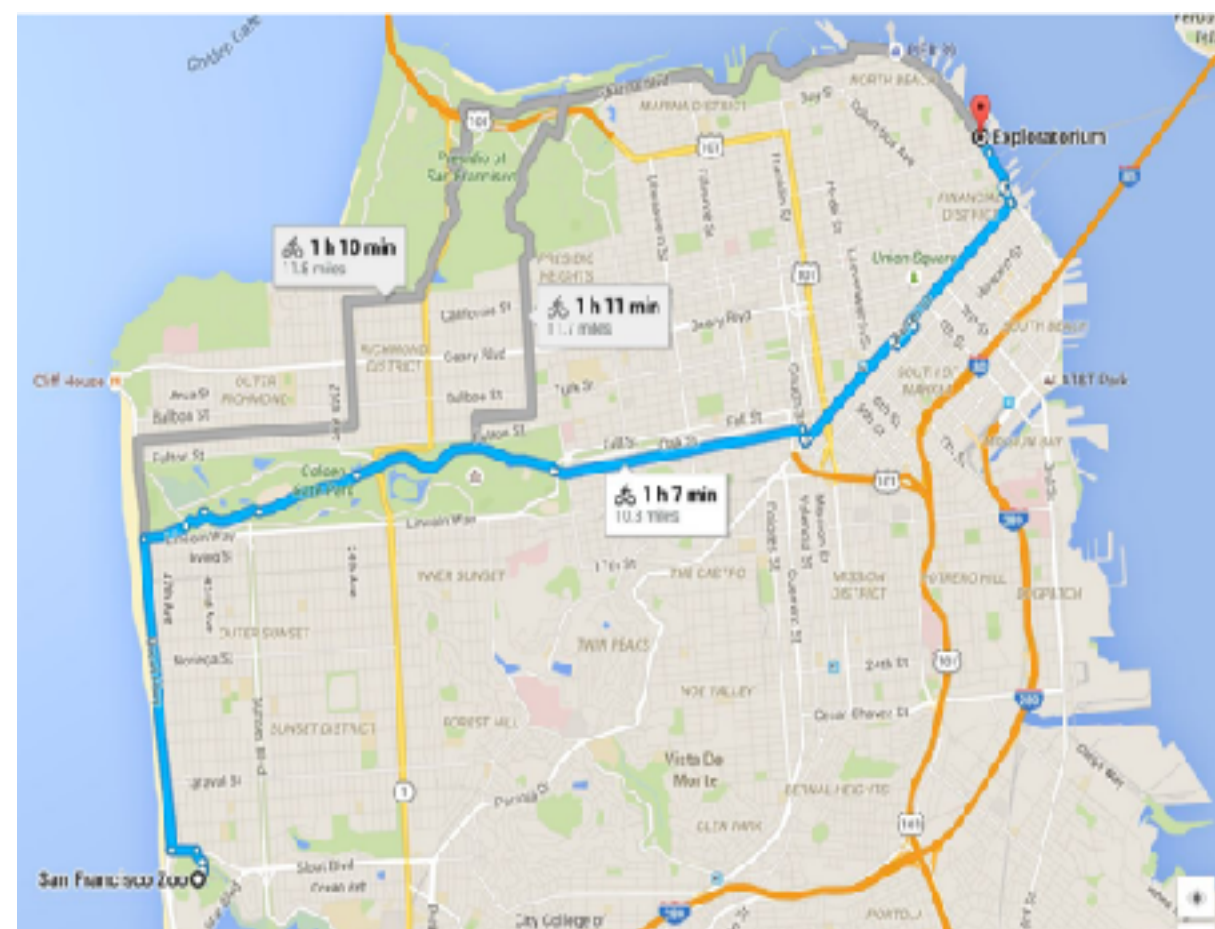
Shortest Path



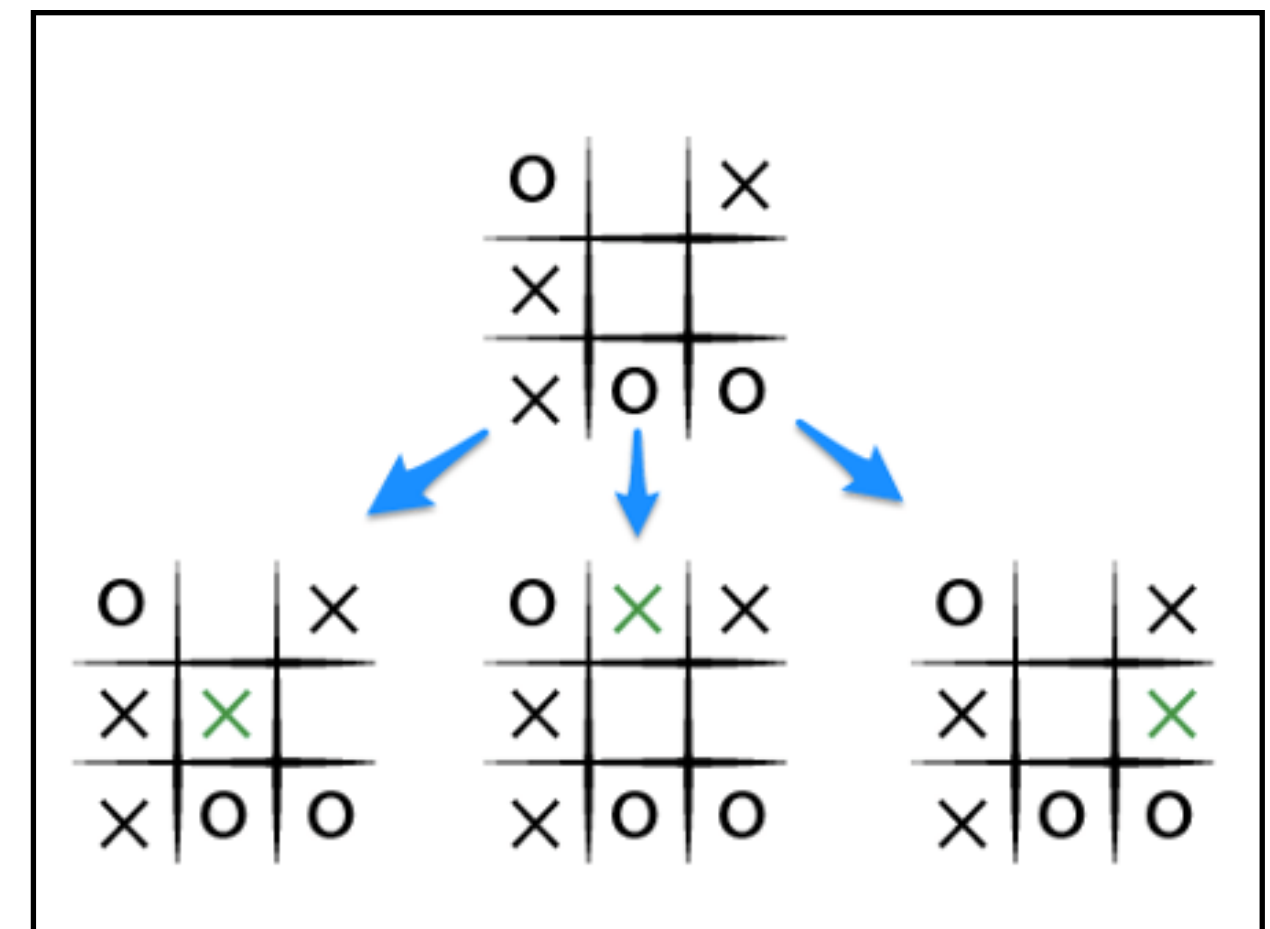
Search & Rescue



Route Planning



Game Playing

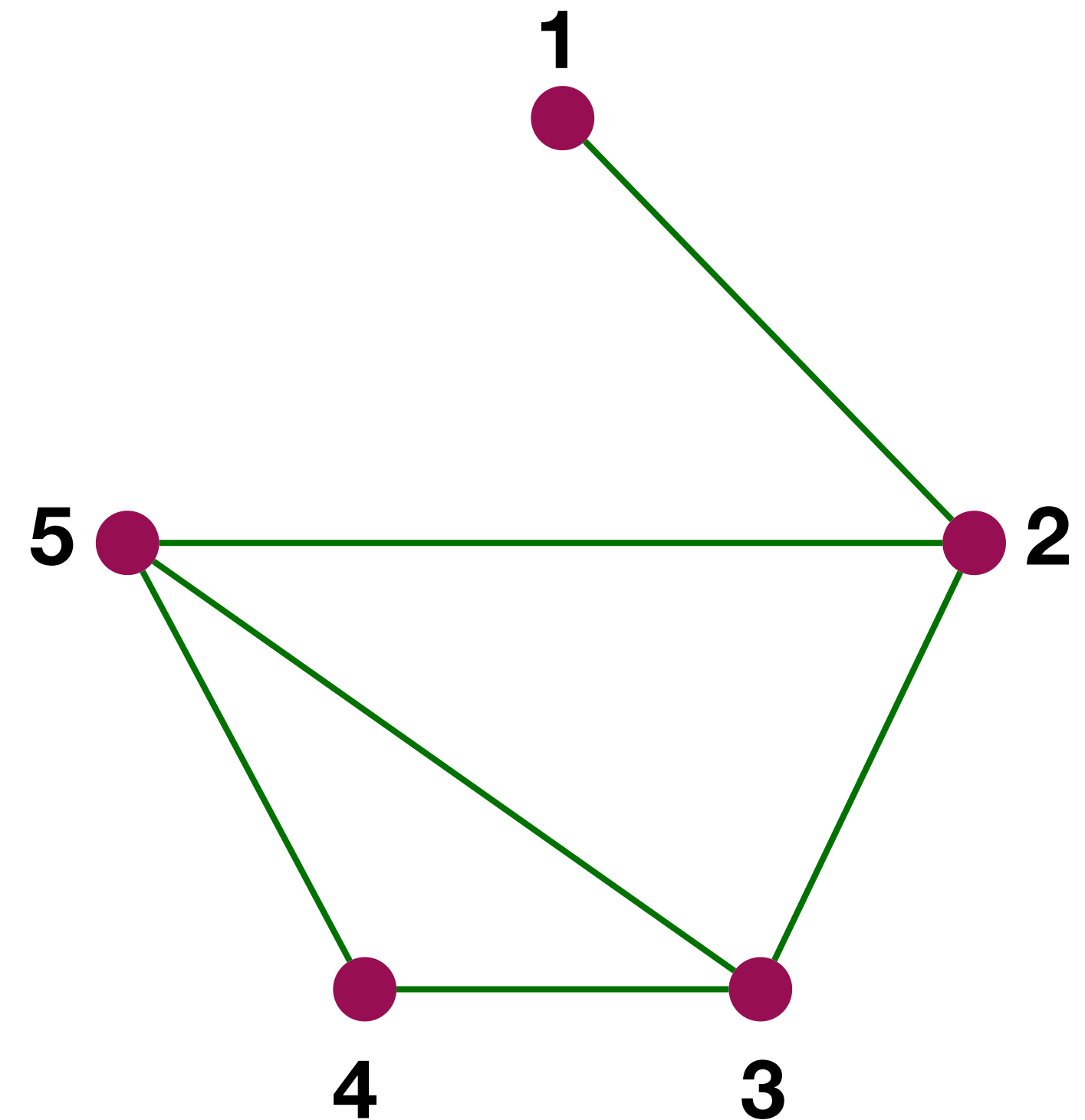


Introduction

What is a Graph?

- A graph is a collection of **nodes** and **edges**.
- The dots are called **vertices** or **nodes**.
- The *connections* between nodes are called **edges**
- An edge typically represented as a set $\{i,j\}$ of two vertices.

Eg: The edge between **2** and **5** is $\{2,5\} = \{5,2\}$

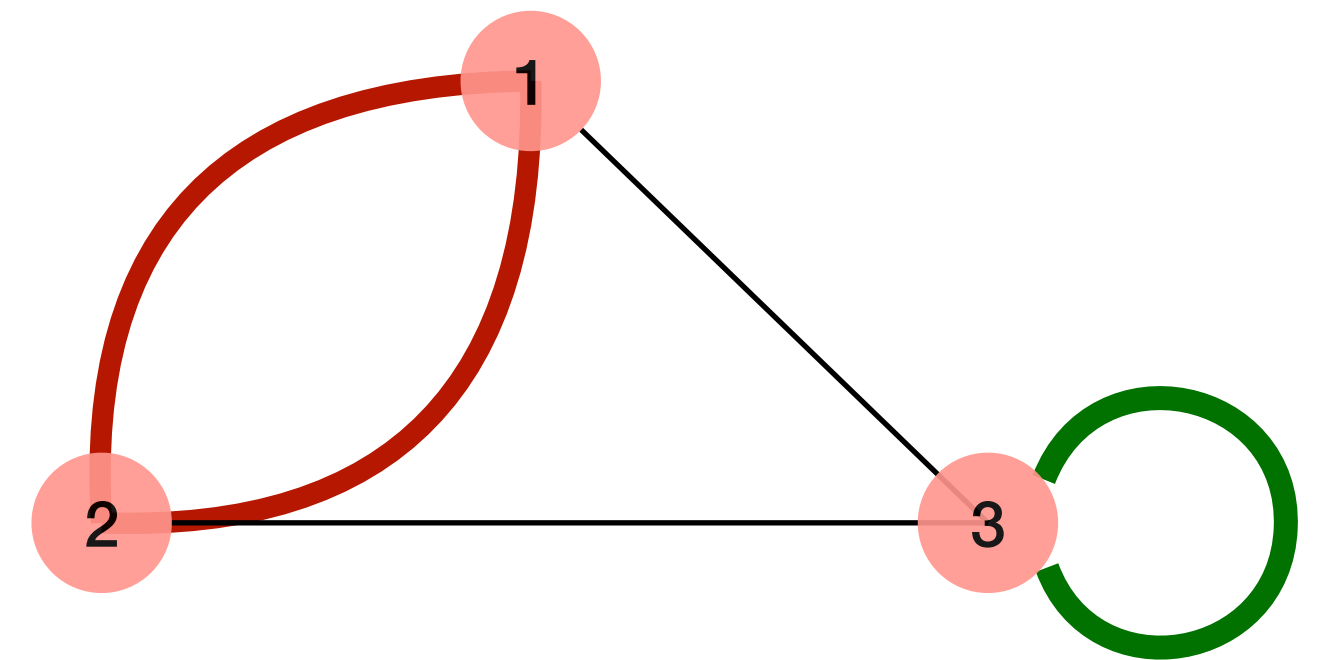


Notational convention

What is a Graph?

An edge in an undirected graph is an *unordered pair* of nodes and hence it is a set. We reserve the use of (u, v) (ordered pair) for the case of *directed* graphs.

- Generalizations
 - *Multi-graphs* allow
 - **loops** which are edges with the same node appearing as both end points
 - **multi-edges**: *different* edges between same pairs of nodes
- In this class we will assume that a graph is a *simple graph* unless explicitly stated otherwise.



Introduction

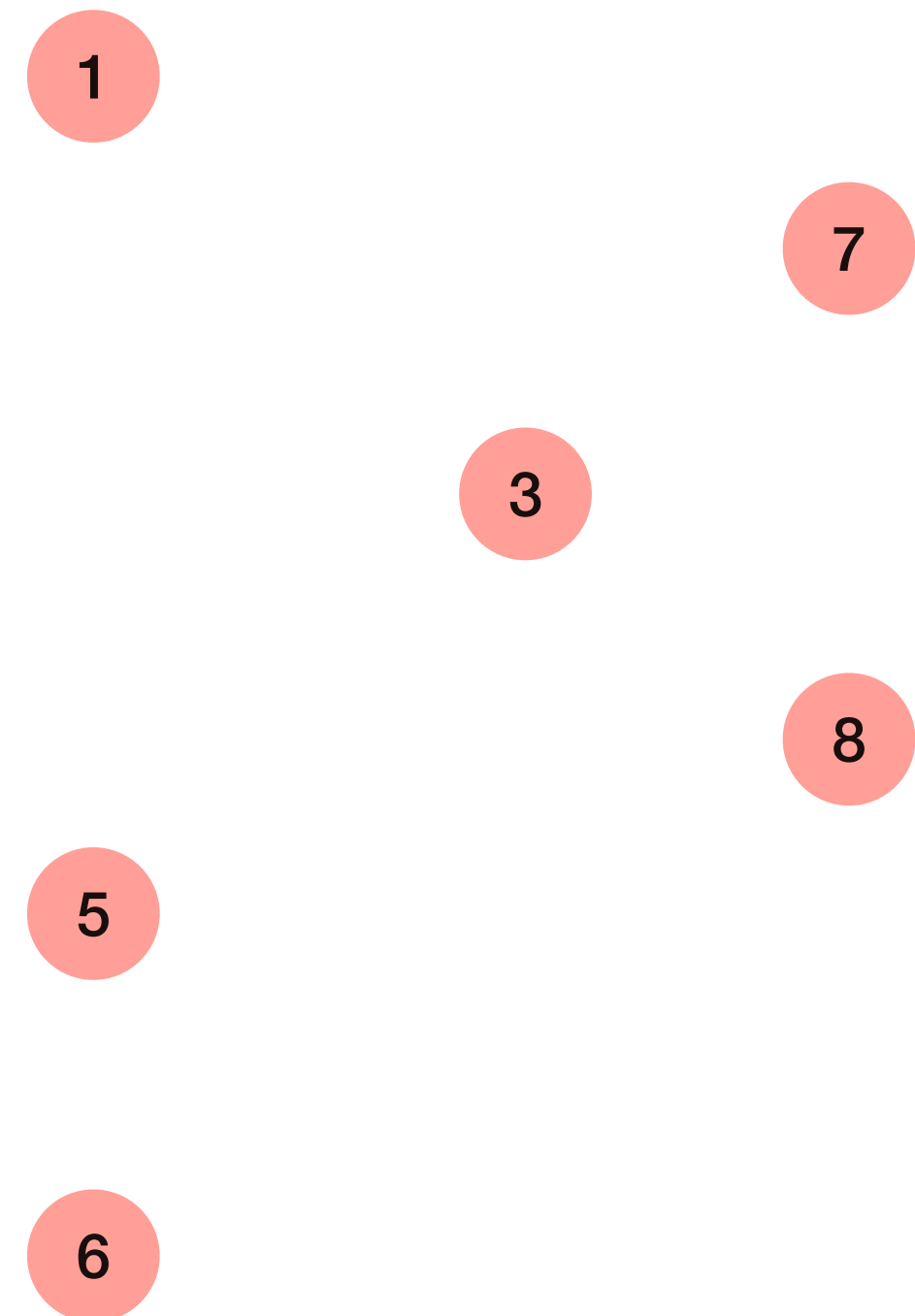
Defintion

An undirected (simple) graph $G = (V, E)$ is a 2-tuple:

- V is a set of vertices (also referred to as nodes/points)
- E is a set of edges where each edge $e \in E$ is a set of the form $\{u, v\}$ with $u, v \in V$ and $u \neq v$.

Example:

Graph $G = (V, E)$ where $V = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ and



Introduction

Defintion

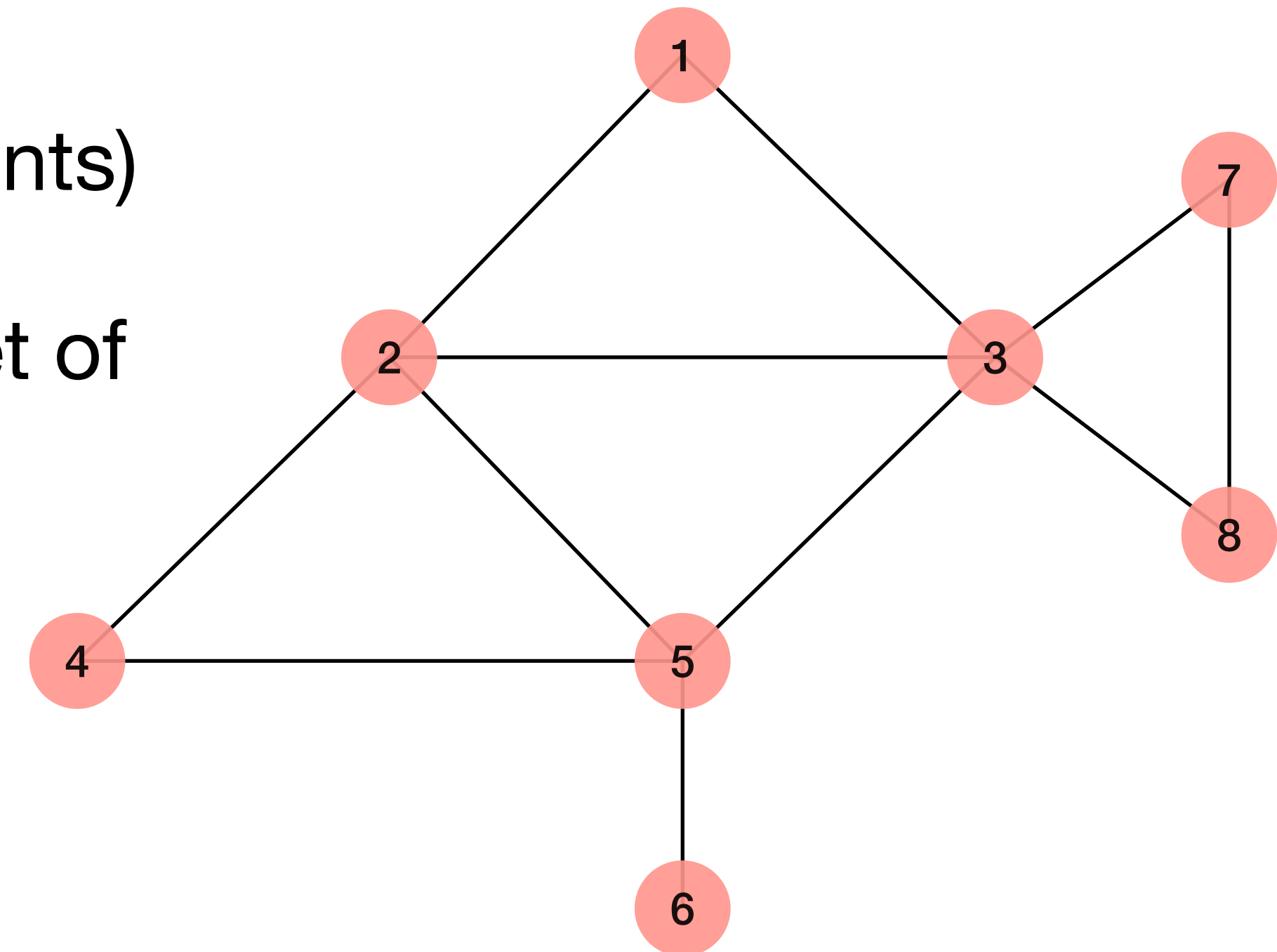
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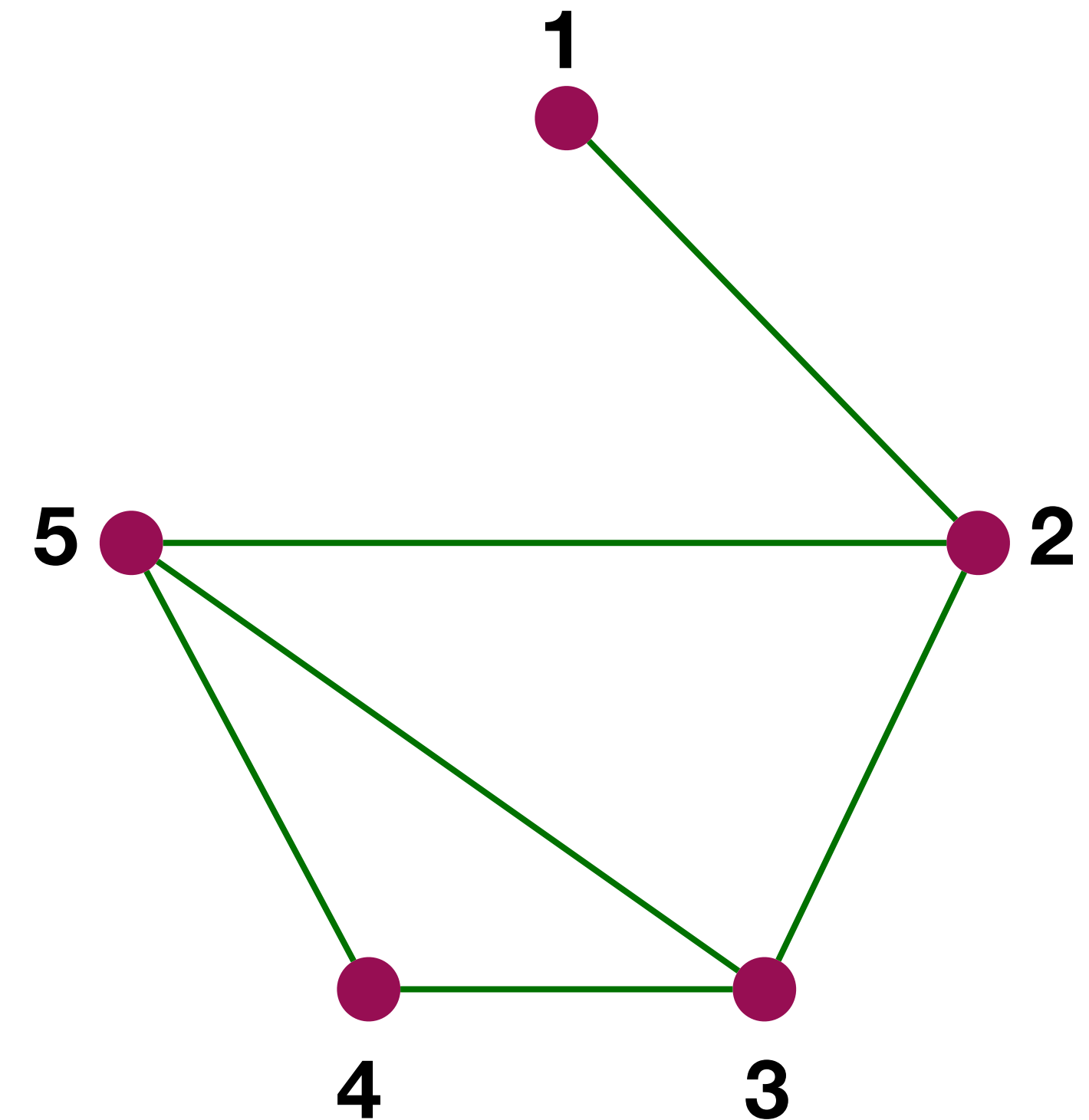
$E = \{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3, 5\}, \{3, 7\}, \{3, 8\},$
 $\{4, 5\}, \{5, 6\}, \{7, 8\}\}$



Basic notions

Degree

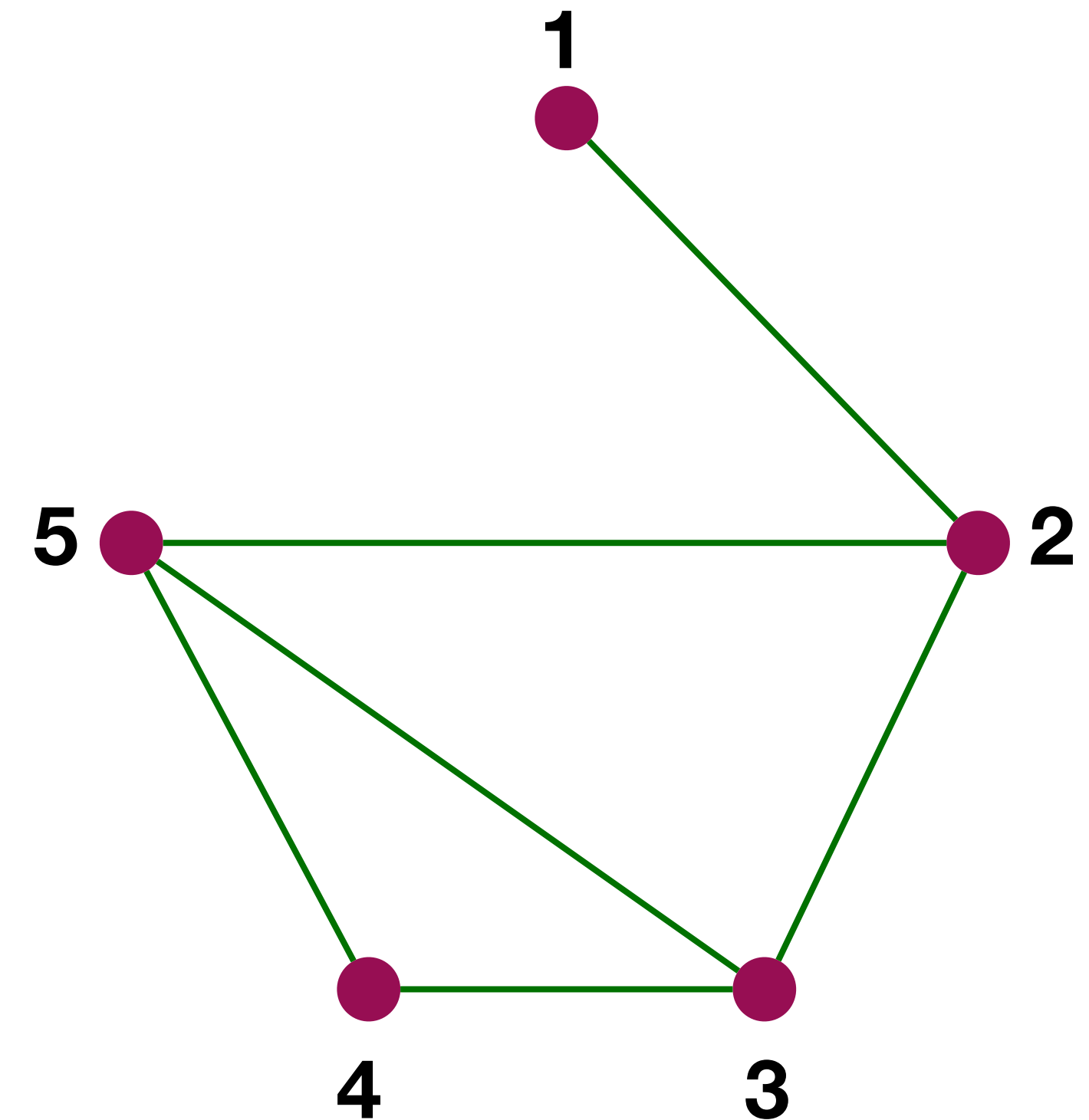
- Vertices connected by an edge are called *adjacent*.
- The *neighborhood* of a node v is the set of all vertices adjacent to v . It's denoted $N_G(v)$.
 - $N_G(2) = \{1,3,5\}$
- A vertex v is *incident* with an edge e when $v \in e$.



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 - Vertex **2** is incident with edges $\{1,2\}$, $\{2,5\}$ and $\{2,3\}$



Basic notions

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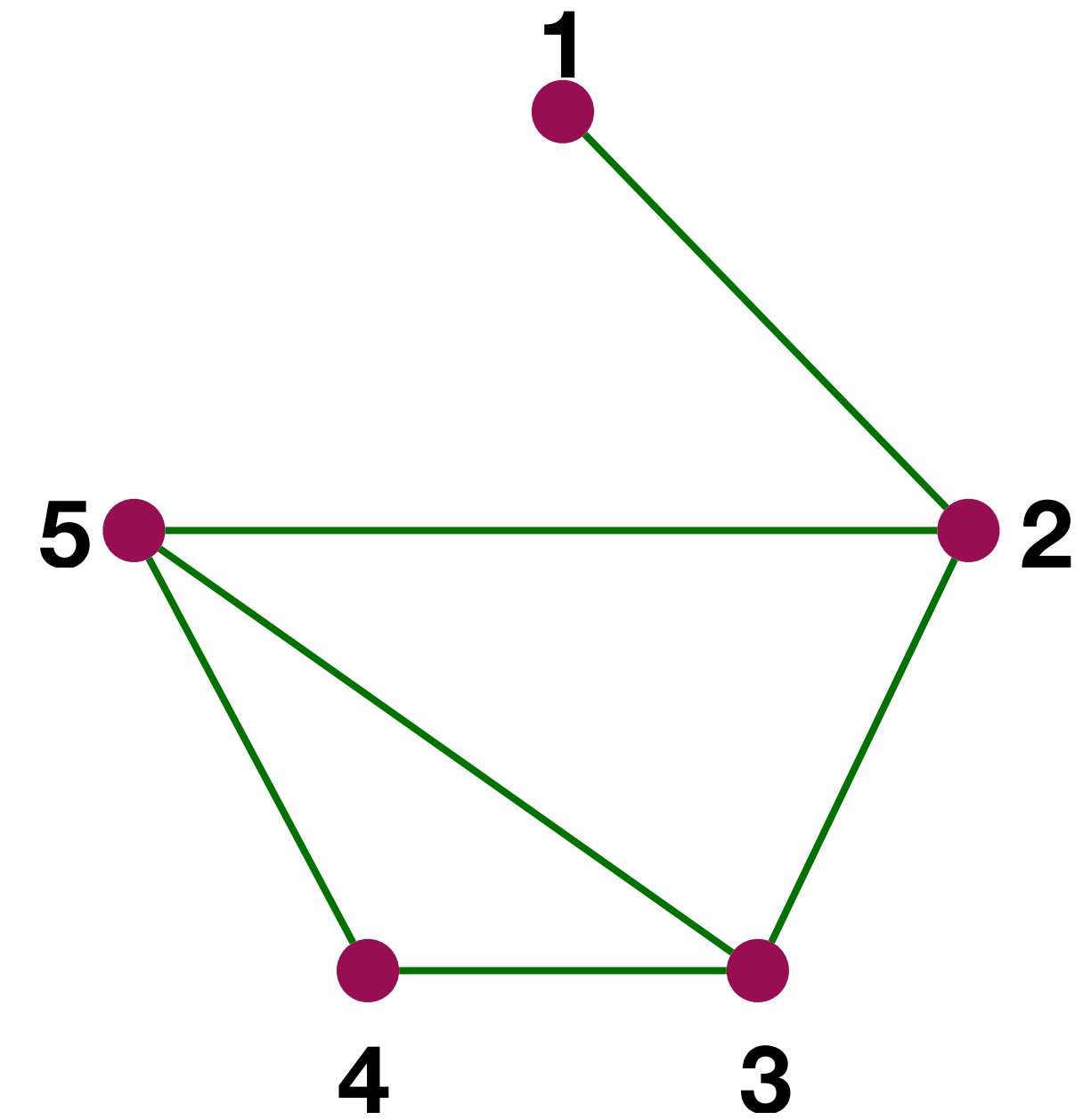
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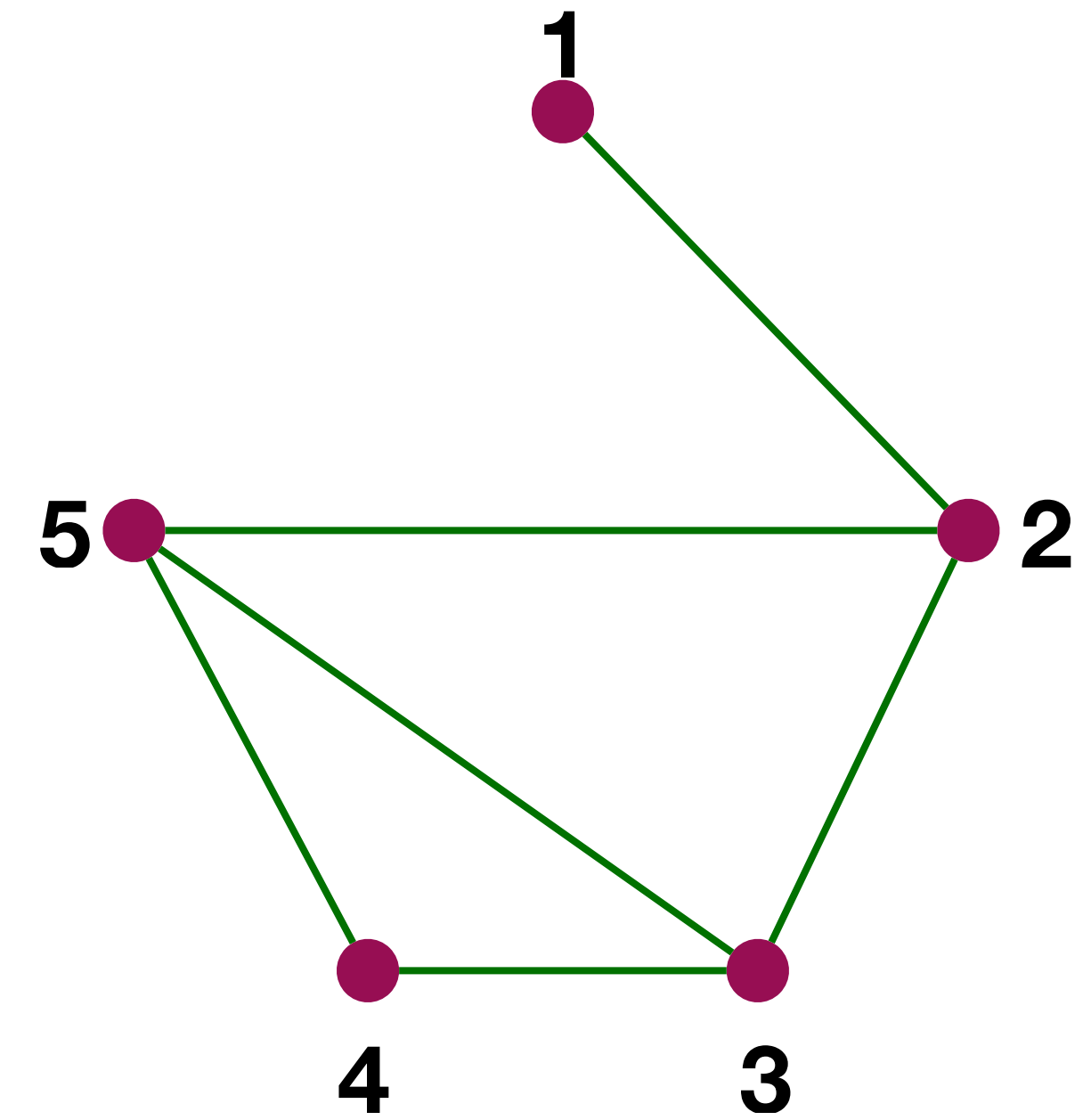
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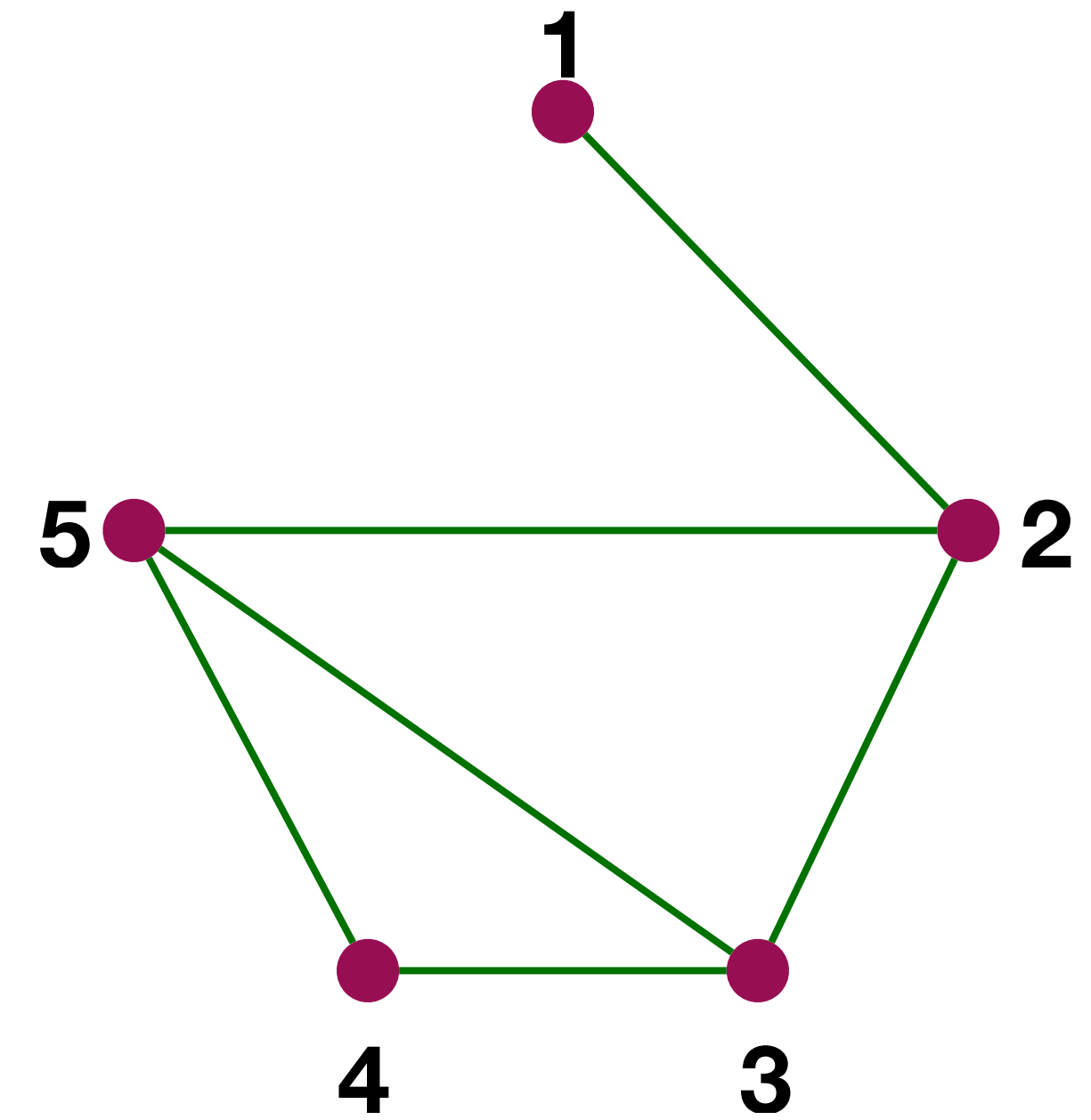
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Basic notions

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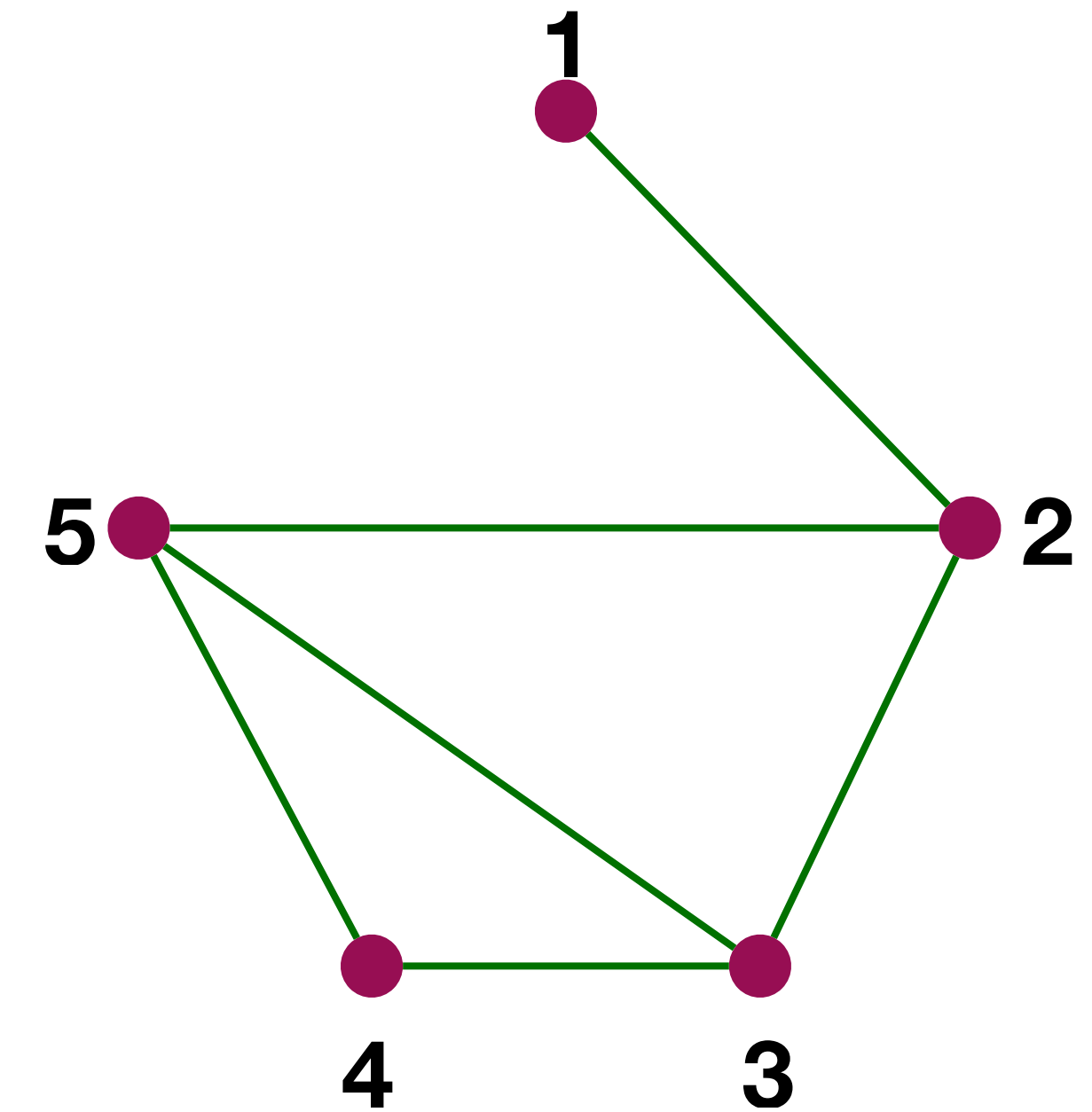
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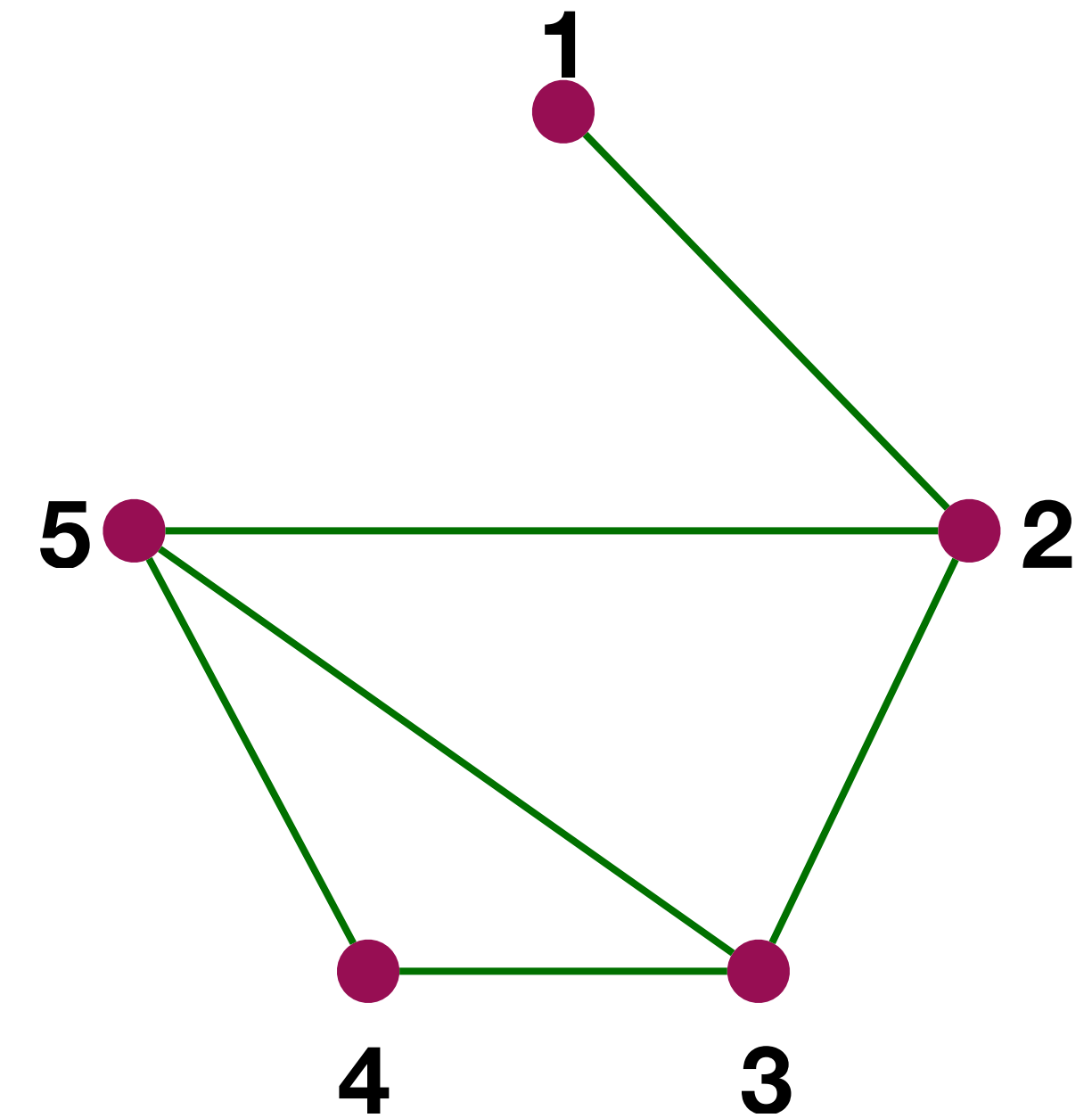
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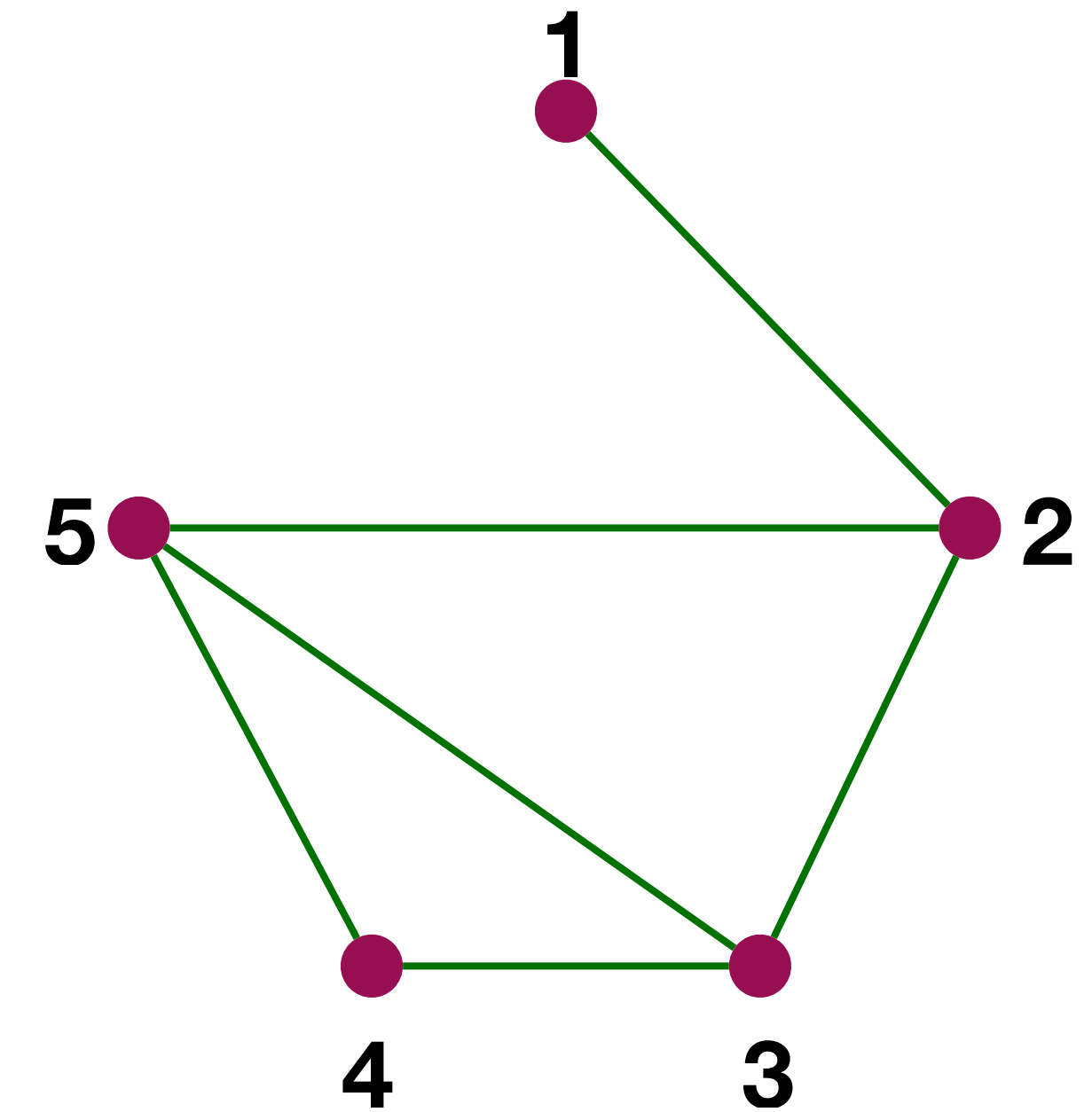
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Handshaking lemma

$$\sum d(v) = 2|E|$$

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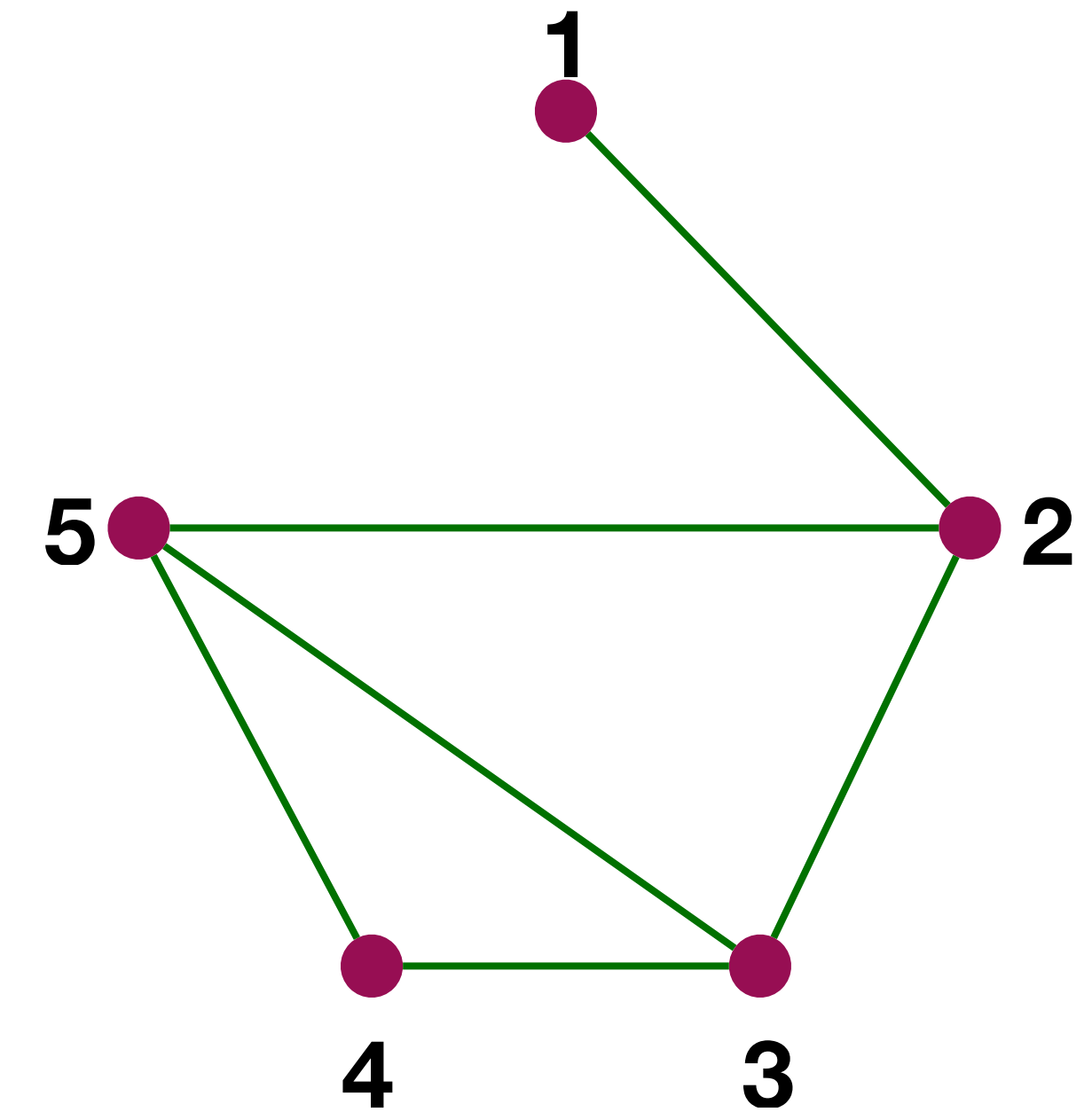
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Handshaking lemma

$$\sum d(v) = 2|E|$$

Sum of Degrees = 12
Number of Edges = 6

Graph representations

Adjacency matrix

Graph representation I

Represent $G = (V, E)$ with n vertices and m edges using a $n \times n$ **adjacency matrix** $A = (a_{ij})$ where

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Adjacency matrix

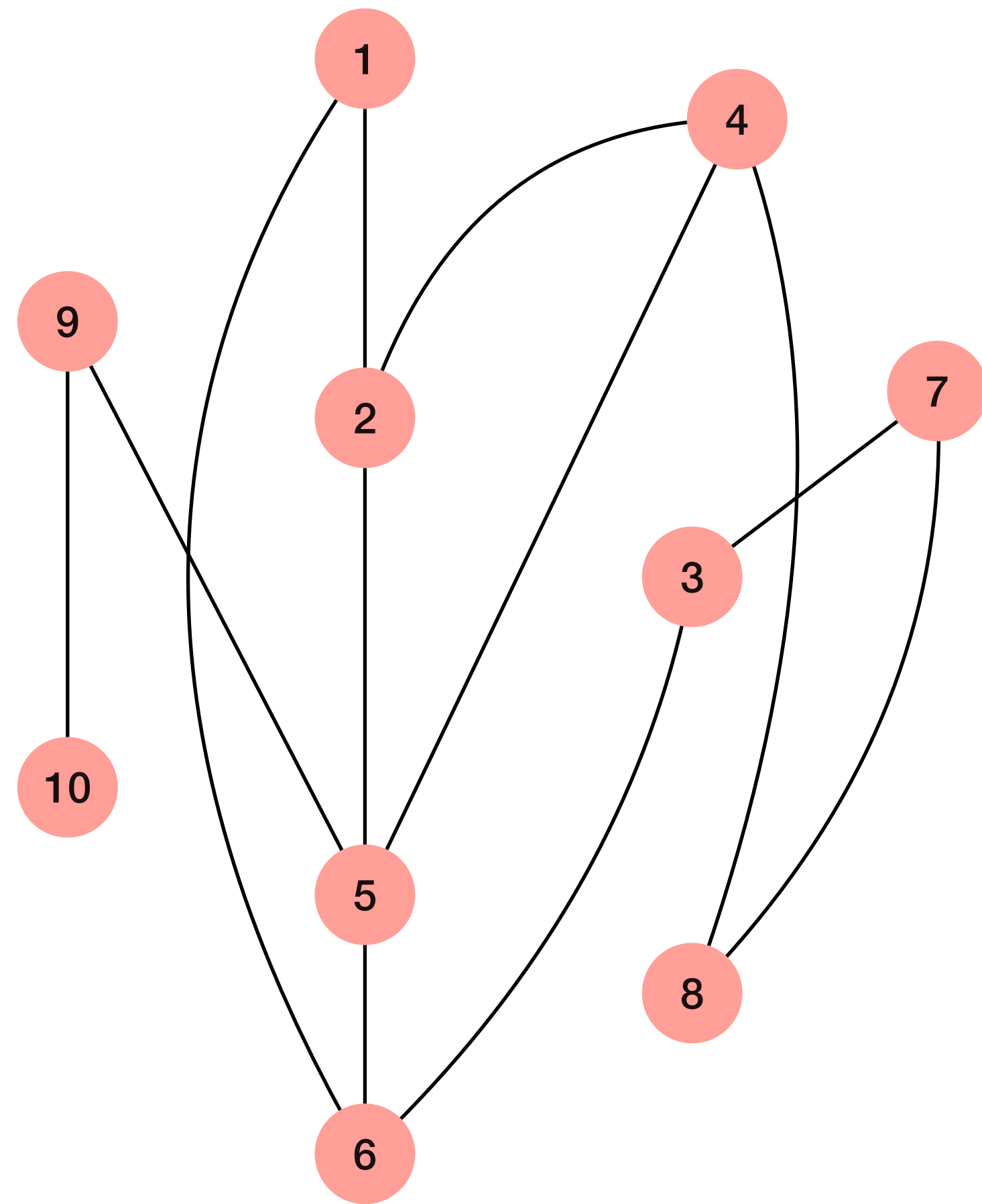
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- Disadvantage: needs $\Omega(n^2)$ space even when $m \ll n^2$

Graph adjacency matrix

Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
5	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
6	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
8	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Adjacency list

Graph representation II

Represent $G = (V, E)$ with n vertices and m edges using ***adjacency lists***:

Adjacency list

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- For each $u \in V$, $\text{adj}(u) := N_G(u)$, that is neighbors of u .

Adjacency list

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Note: In this class we will assume that by default, graphs are represented using plain vanilla (*unsorted*) adjacency lists.

Adjacency matrix vs. list

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
5	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
6	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
8	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Vertex	Adjacency List
1	2, 6
2	1, 4, 5
3	6, 7
4	2, 5, 8
5	2, 4, 6, 9
6	1, 3, 5
7	3, 8
8	4, 7
9	5, 10
10	9

Concrete representations

How might we represent this in a language?

- Python-like (nested lists can be of different sizes)

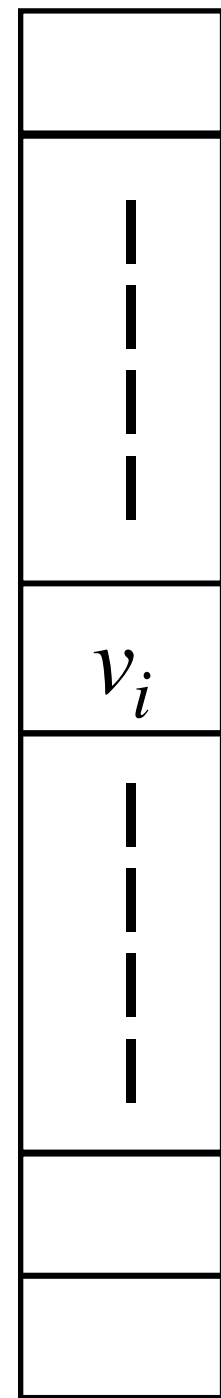
```
alist = [[2, 6],  
         [1, 4, 5],  
         [6, 7],  
         [2, 5, 8],  
         [2, 4, 5, 9],  
         [1, 3, 5],  
         [3, 8],  
         [4, 7],  
         [5, 10],  
         [9]]
```

Vertex	Adjacency List
1	2, 6
2	1, 4, 5
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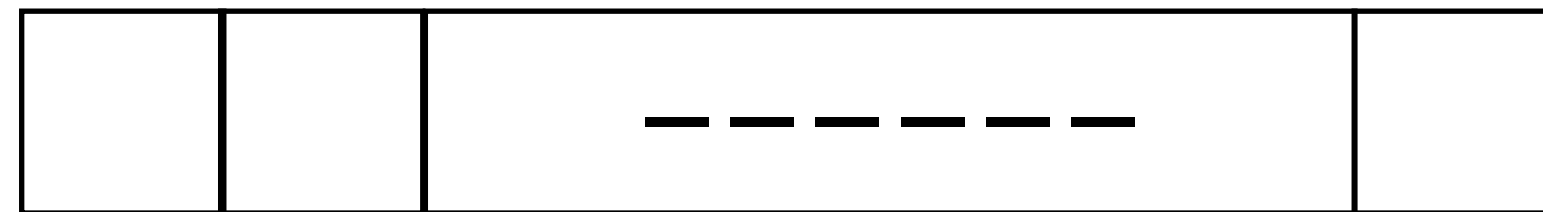
Concrete representations

C-like: Can use pointers

Array of pointers to
adjacency lists



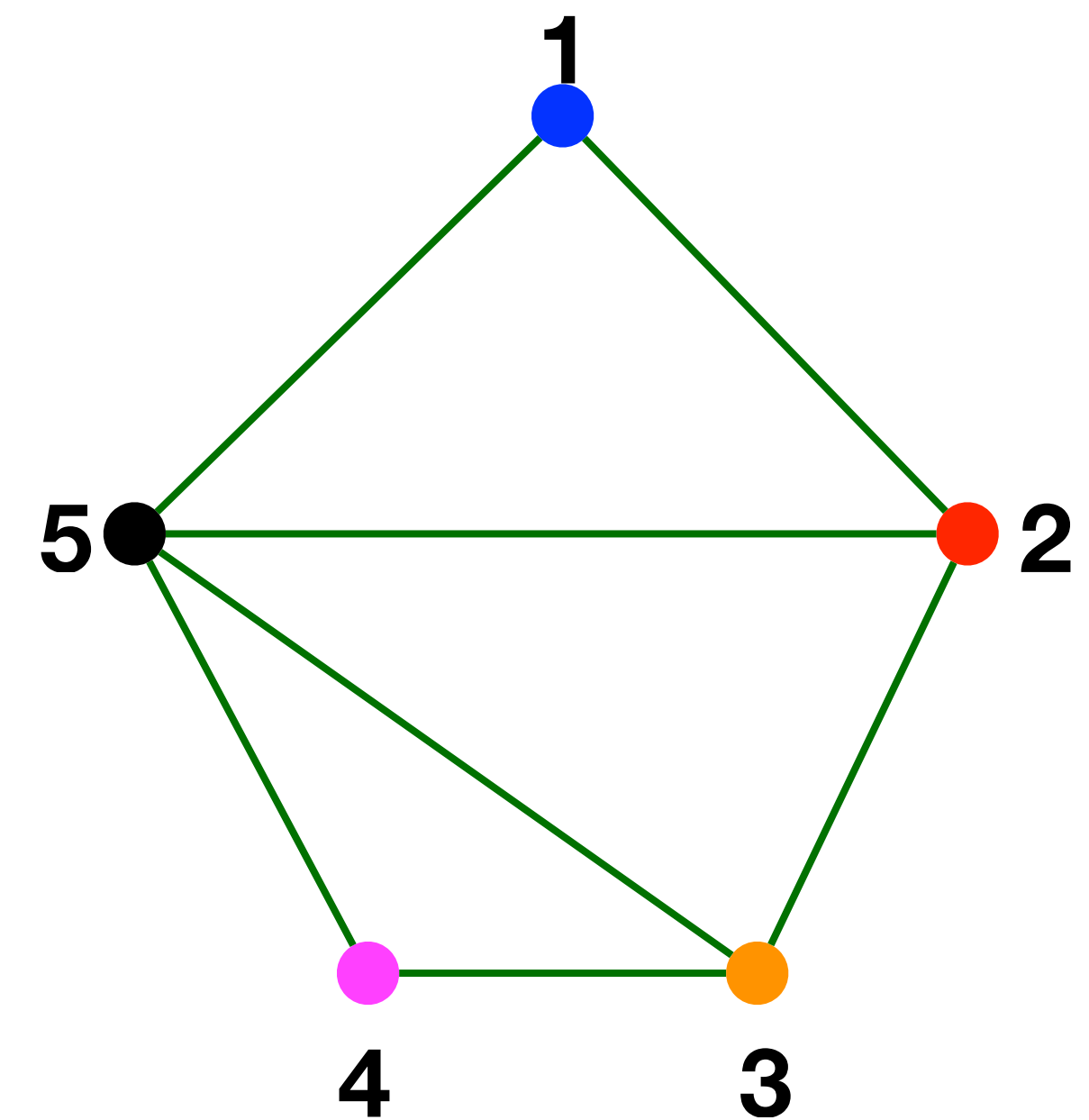
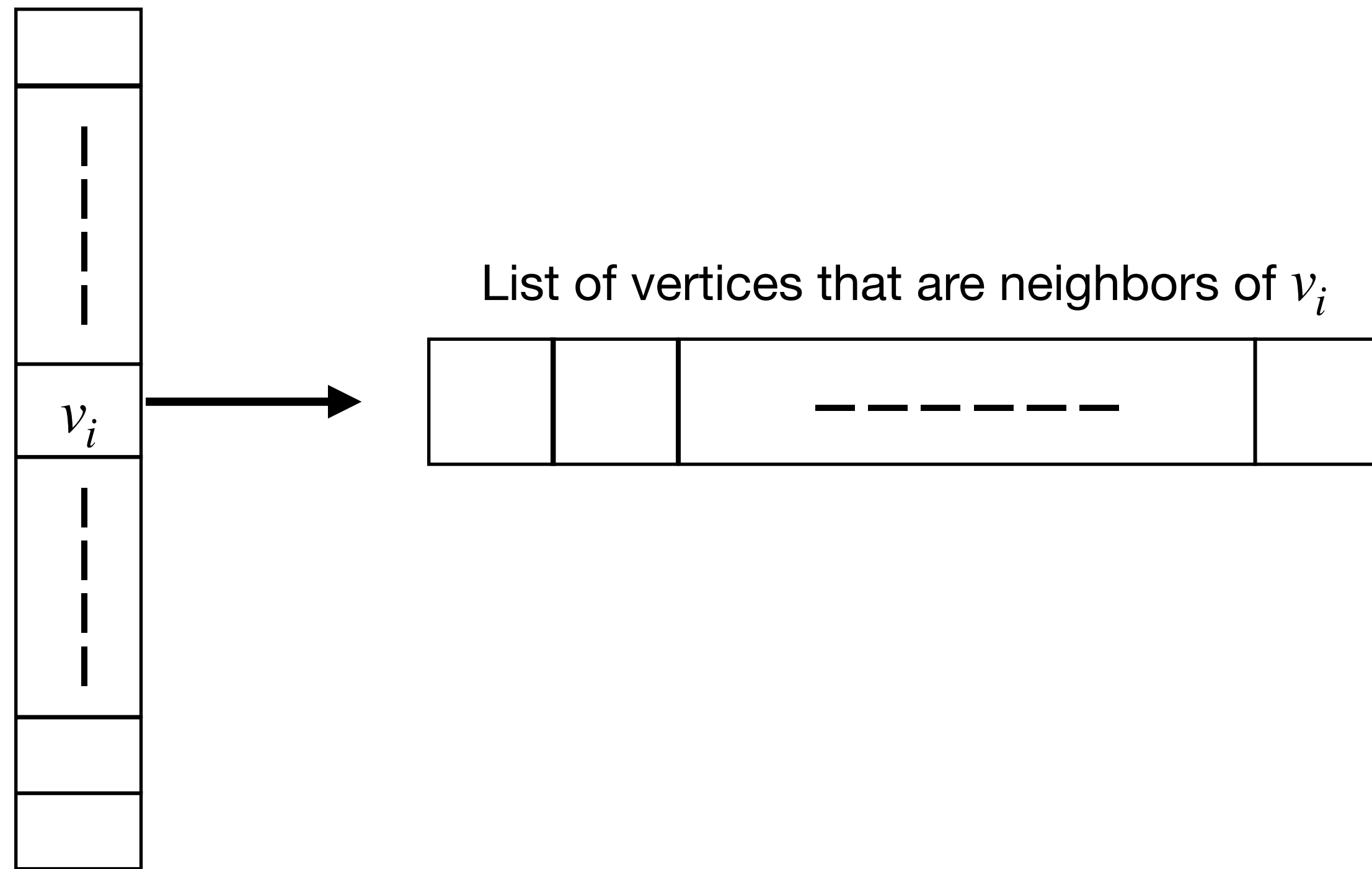
List of vertices that are neighbors of v_i



Concrete representations

C-like: Can use pointers

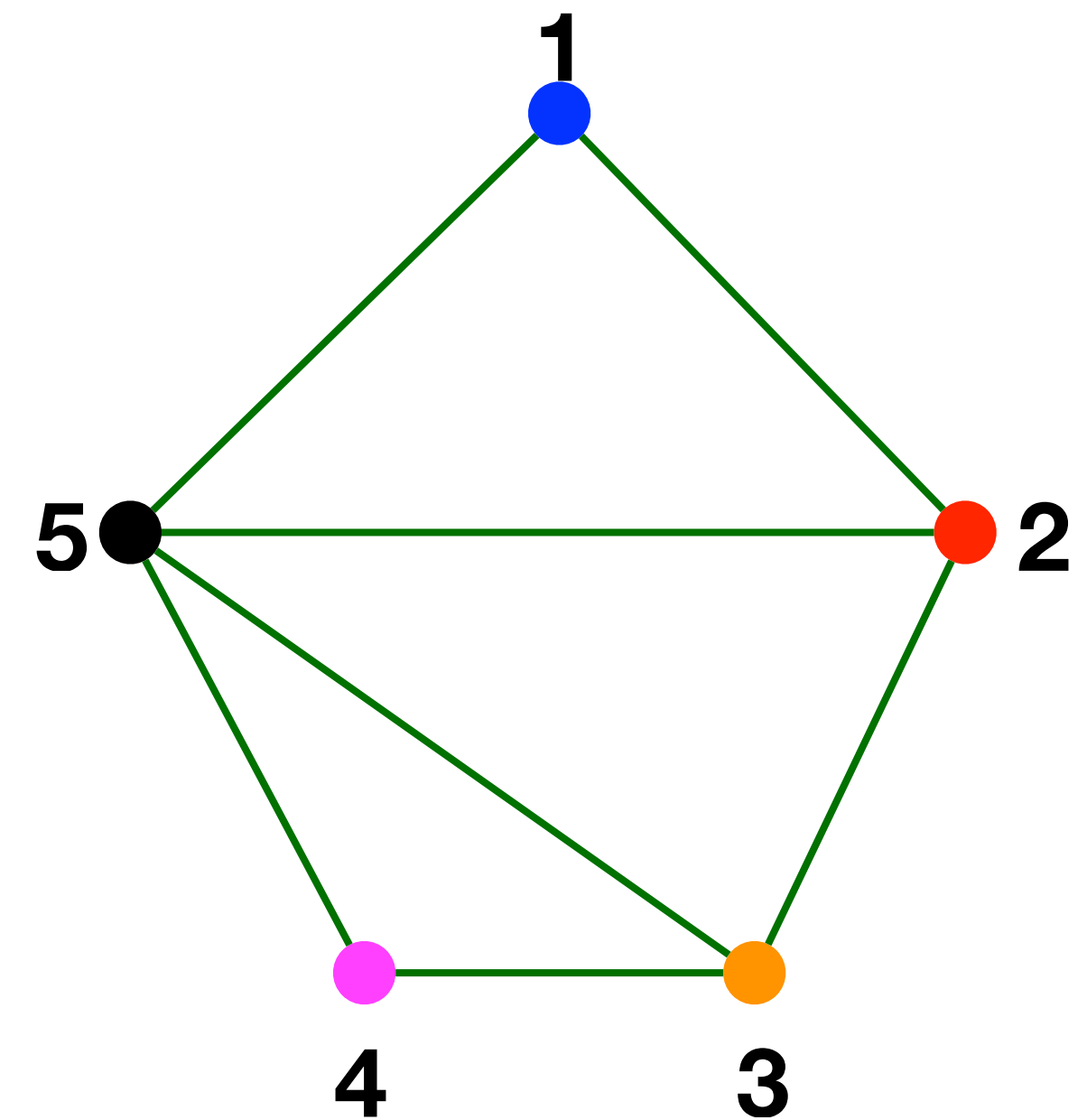
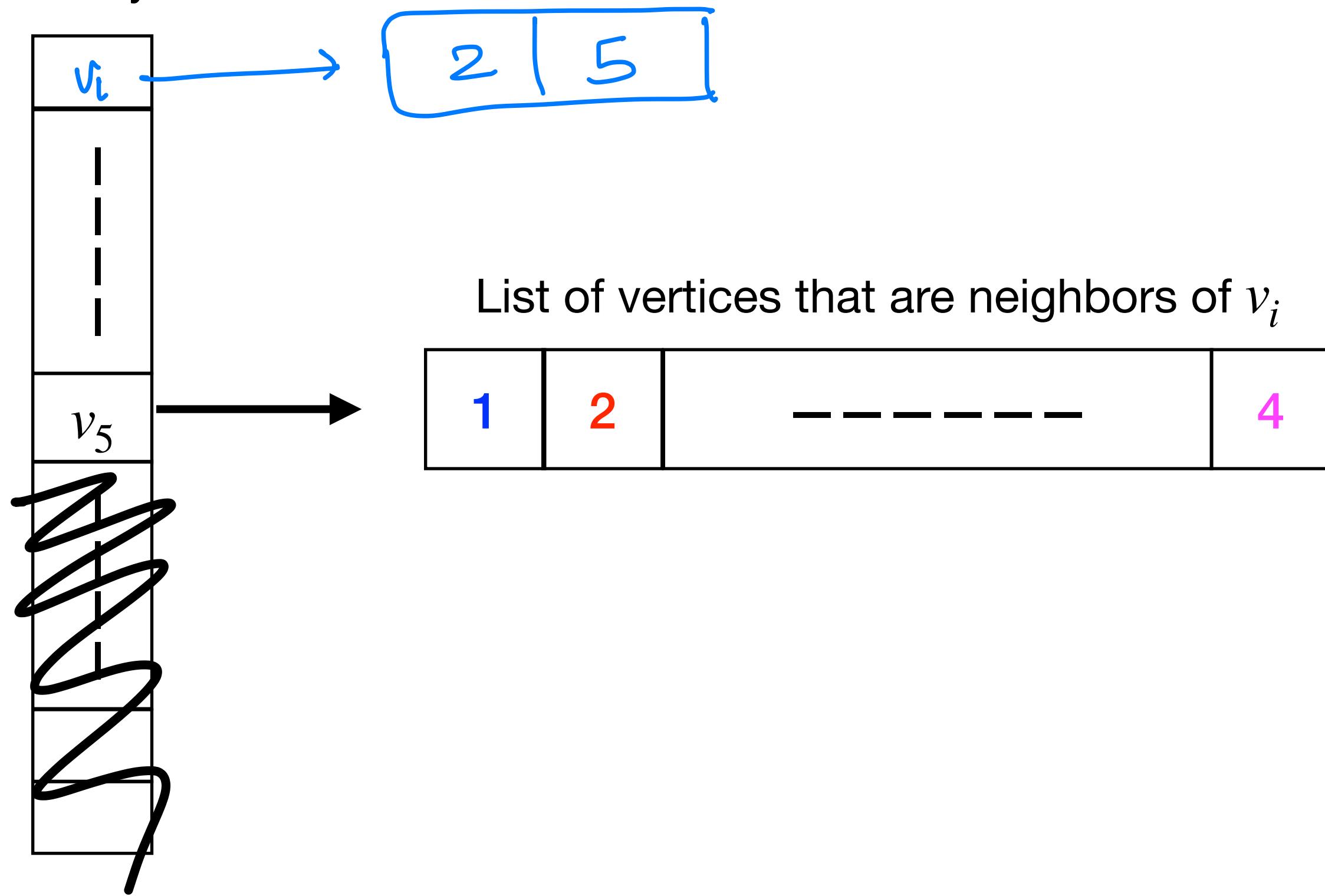
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Concrete representations

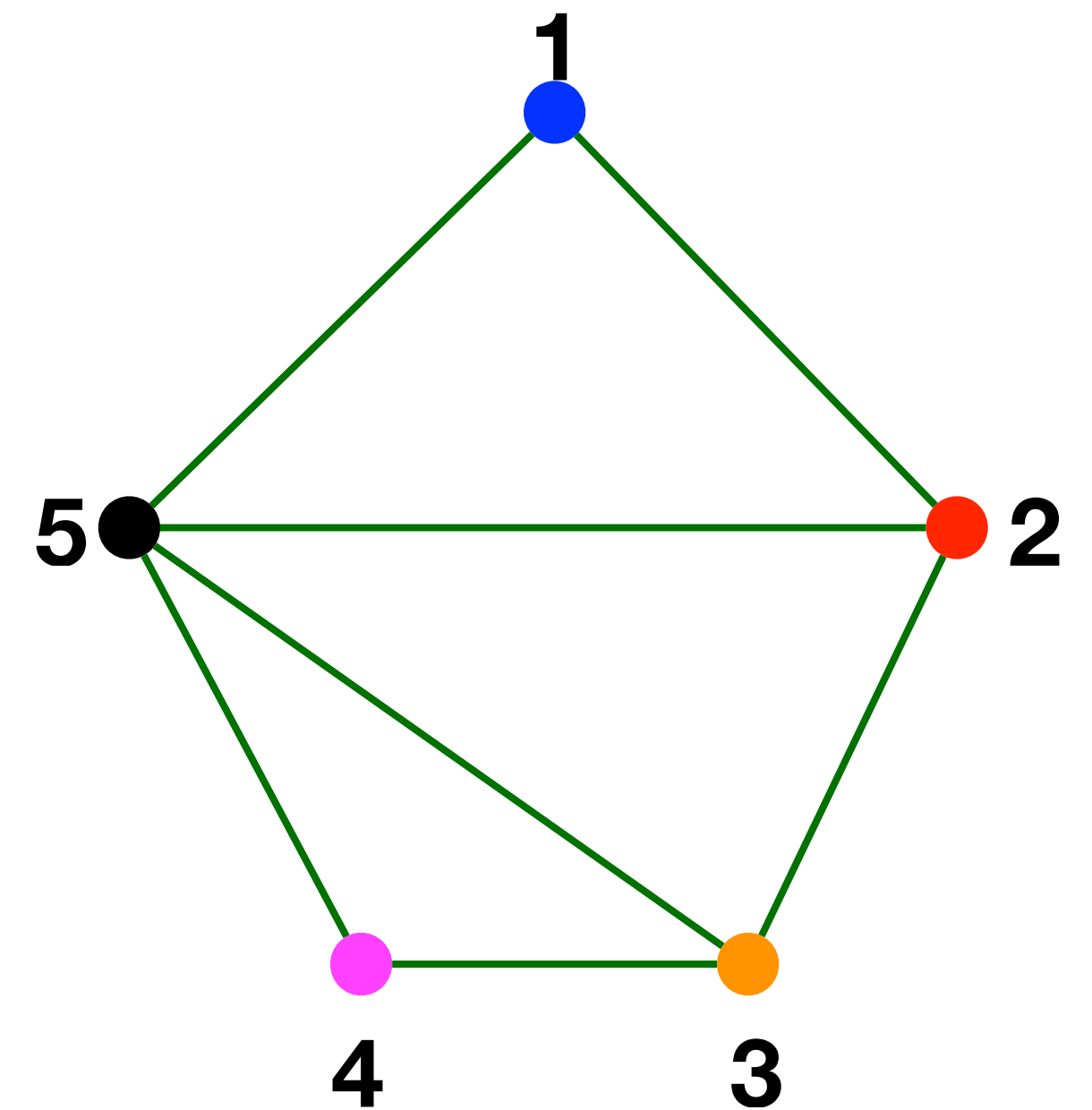
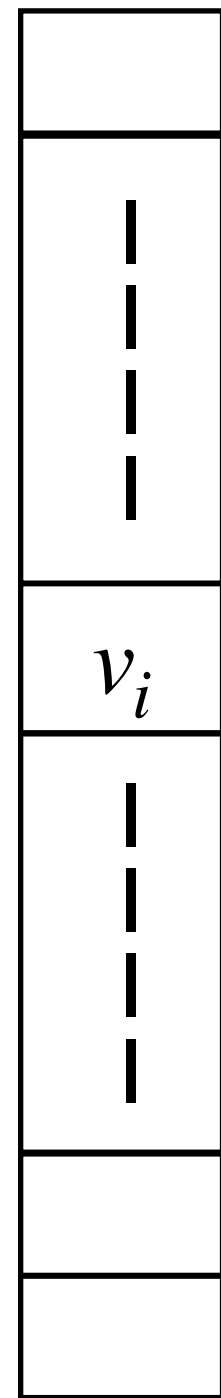
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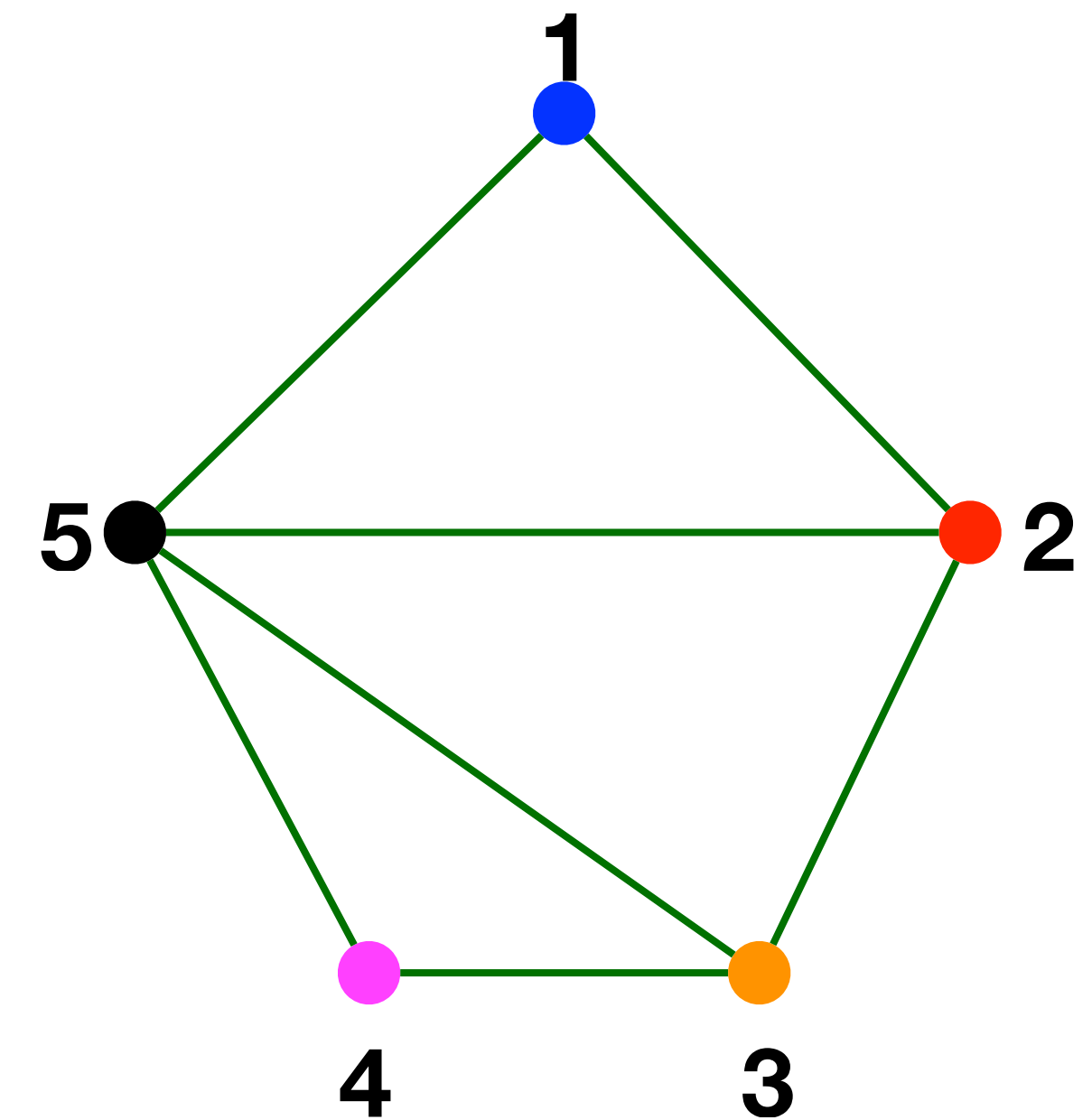
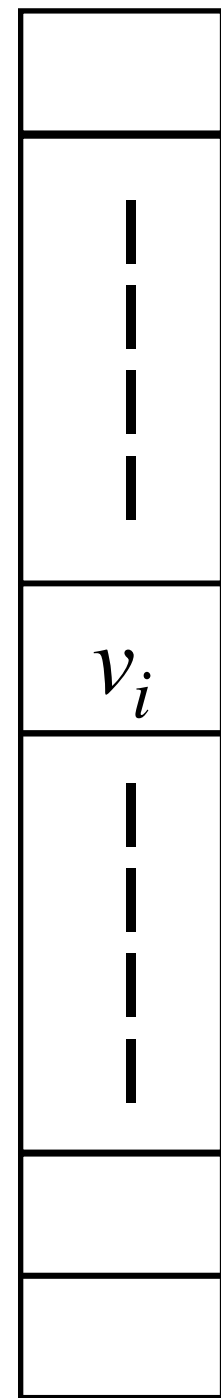
How about using plain arrays?



Concrete representations

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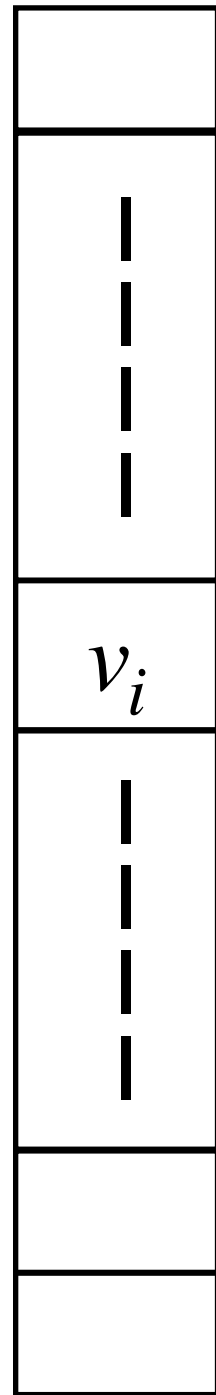
Array of vertices, \mathcal{V}



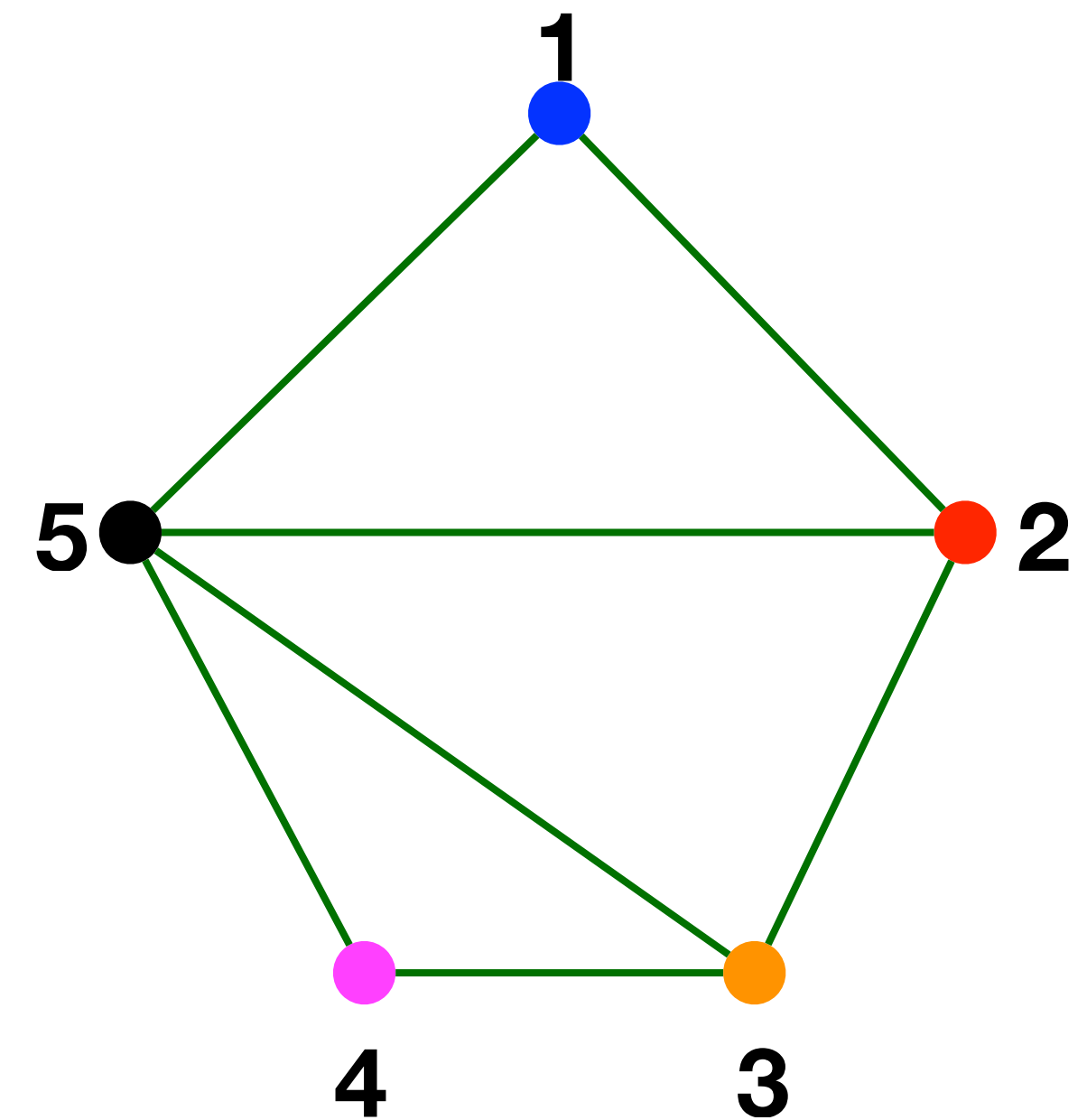
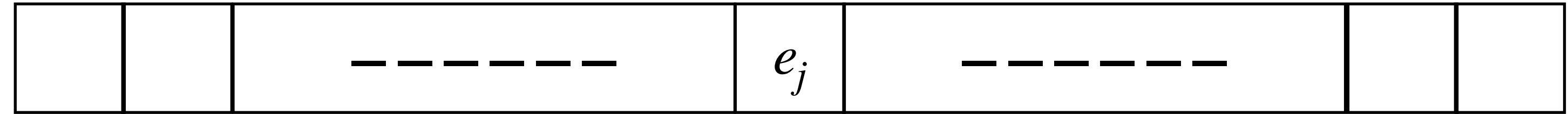
Concrete representations

How about using plain arrays?

Array of vertices, \mathcal{V} *script to differentiate from V*



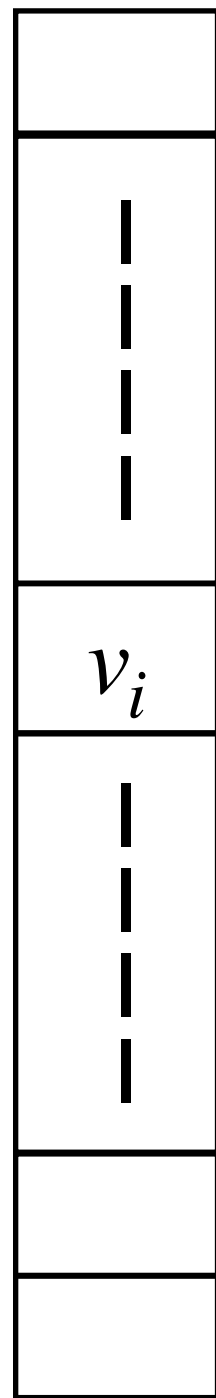
An edge array, \mathcal{E} *script to differentiate from E*



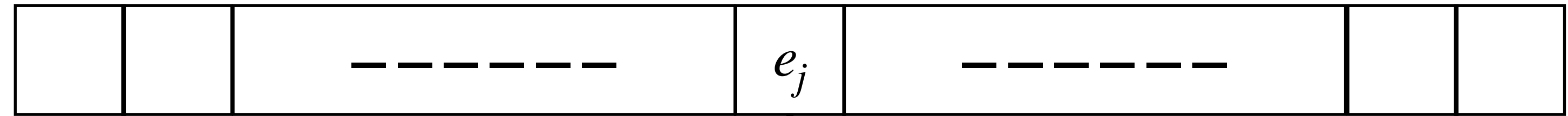
Concrete representations

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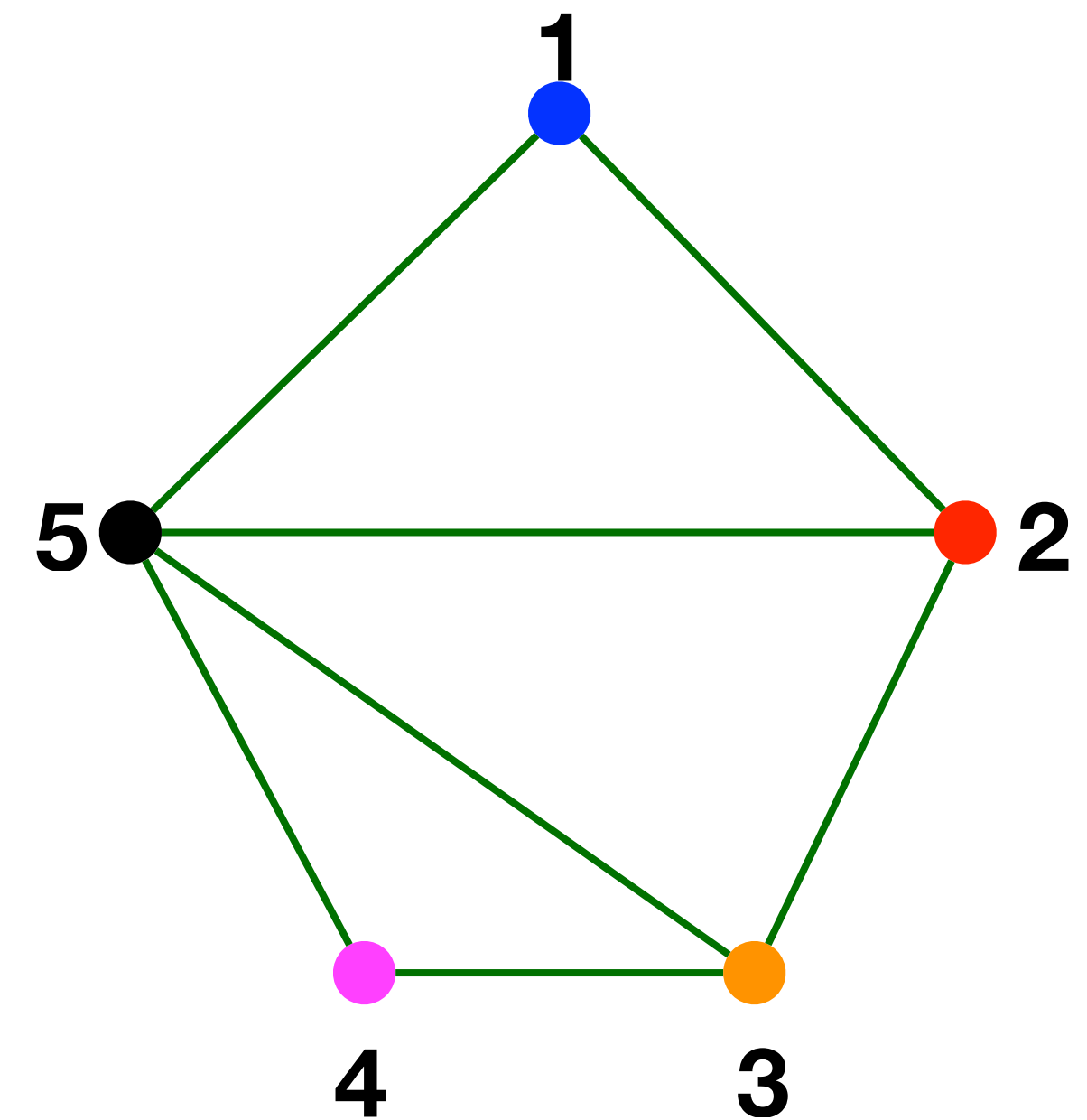
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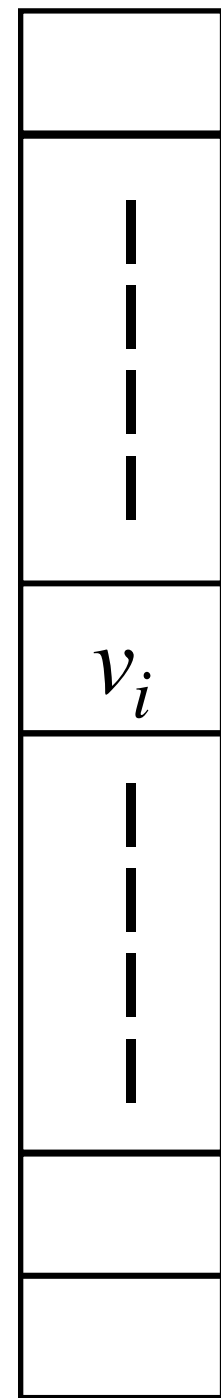
e_j is the *destination* vertex of the j -th edge



Concrete representations

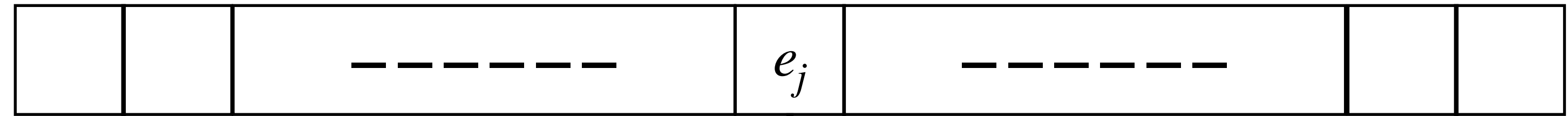
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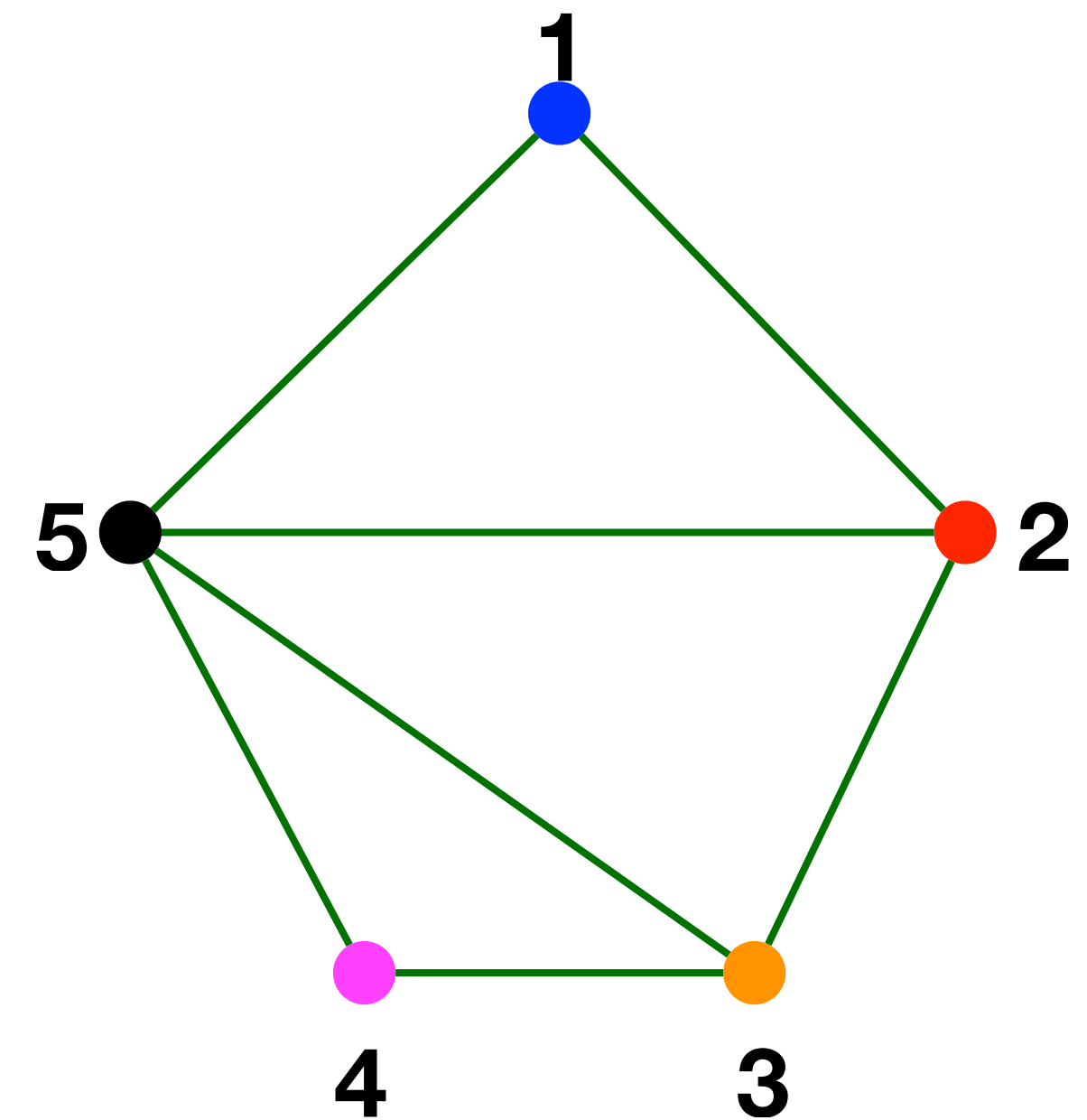


v_i is starting index (in \mathcal{E}) of vertices adjacent to v_i

An edge array, \mathcal{E}



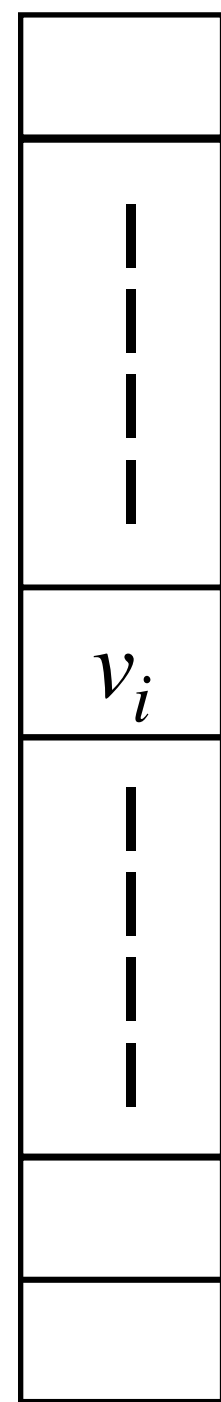
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Concrete representations

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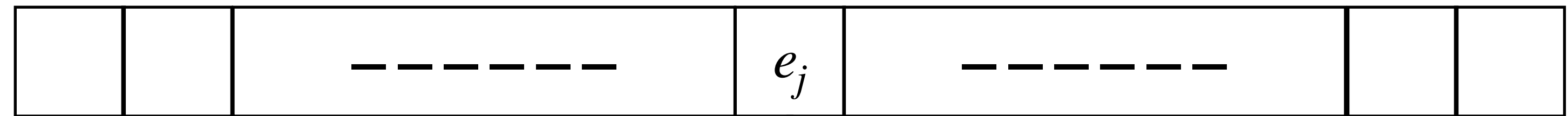
Assuming zero based indexing

$$\mathcal{V} = [0, 2, 5, 8, 10]$$

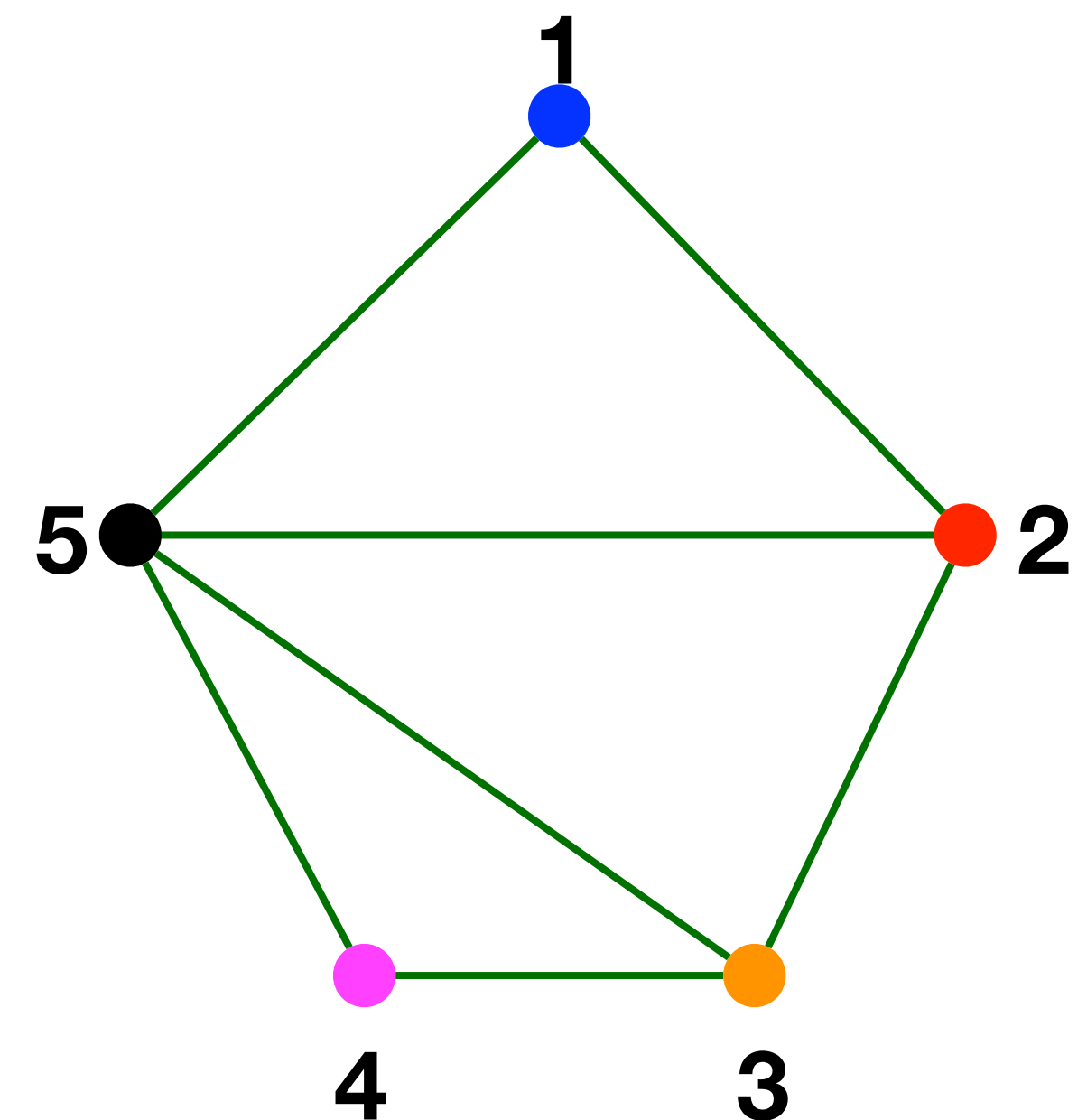
$$\mathcal{E} = [2, 5, 1, 3, 5, 2, 4, 5, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4]$$



An edge array, \mathcal{E}



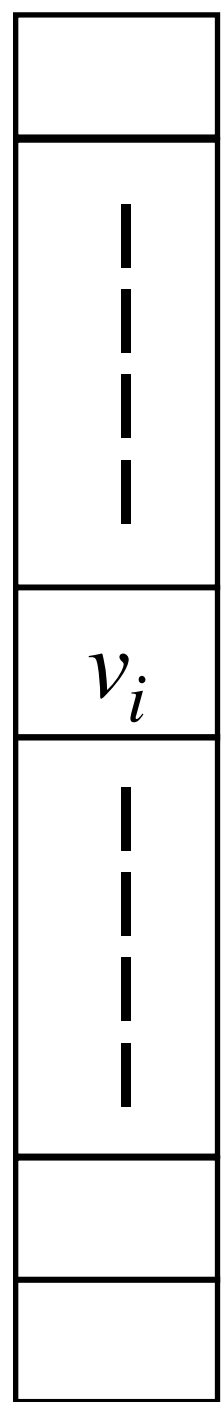
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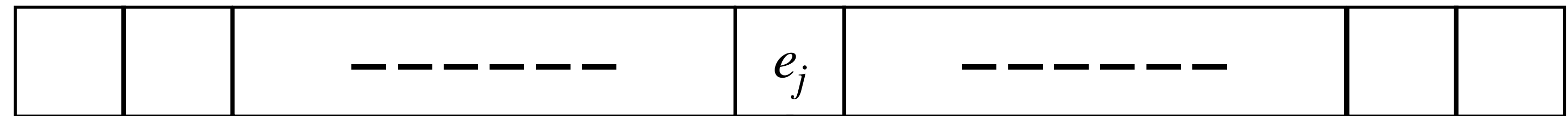
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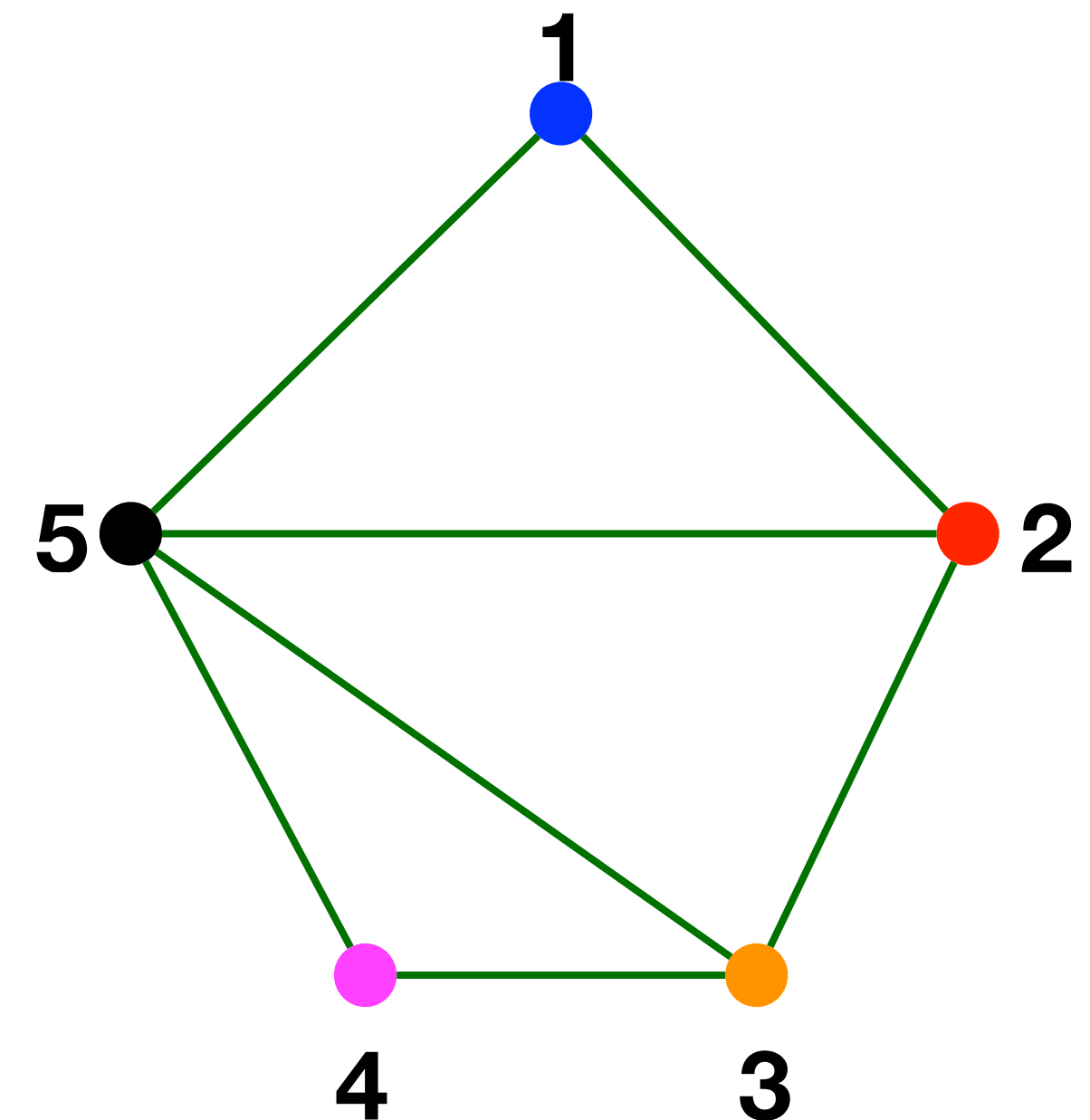
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Can get neighbors of v_i by examining $\mathcal{E}[\mathcal{V}[i]]$ to $\mathcal{E}[\mathcal{V}[i+1]]$

An edge array, \mathcal{E}



e_j is the *destination* vertex of the j -th edge



Concrete representations

Advantages

- Edges are explicitly represented/numbered. Scanning/processing all edges easy to do.
- Representation easily supports multi-graphs including self-loops.
- Explicit numbering of vertices and edges allows use of arrays.
- Can also implement via pointer based lists for certain dynamic graph settings

Connectivity

Paths on a graph

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$:

Connectivity

Paths on a graph

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The length of the path is $k - 1$.

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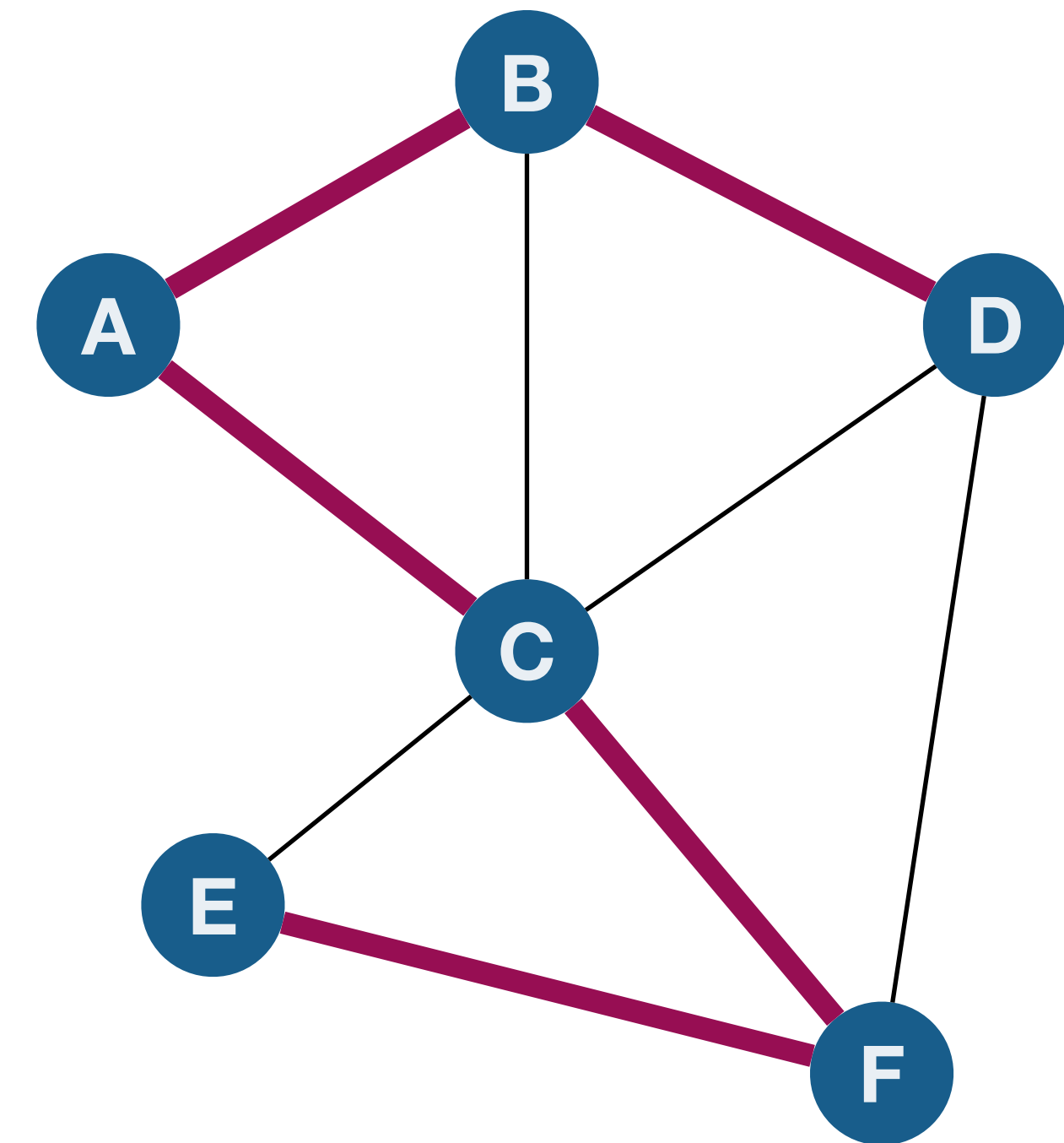
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 - **Note:** A single vertex u is a path of length 0.
- We say a vertex u is connected to a vertex v if there is a path from u to v .

Connectivity

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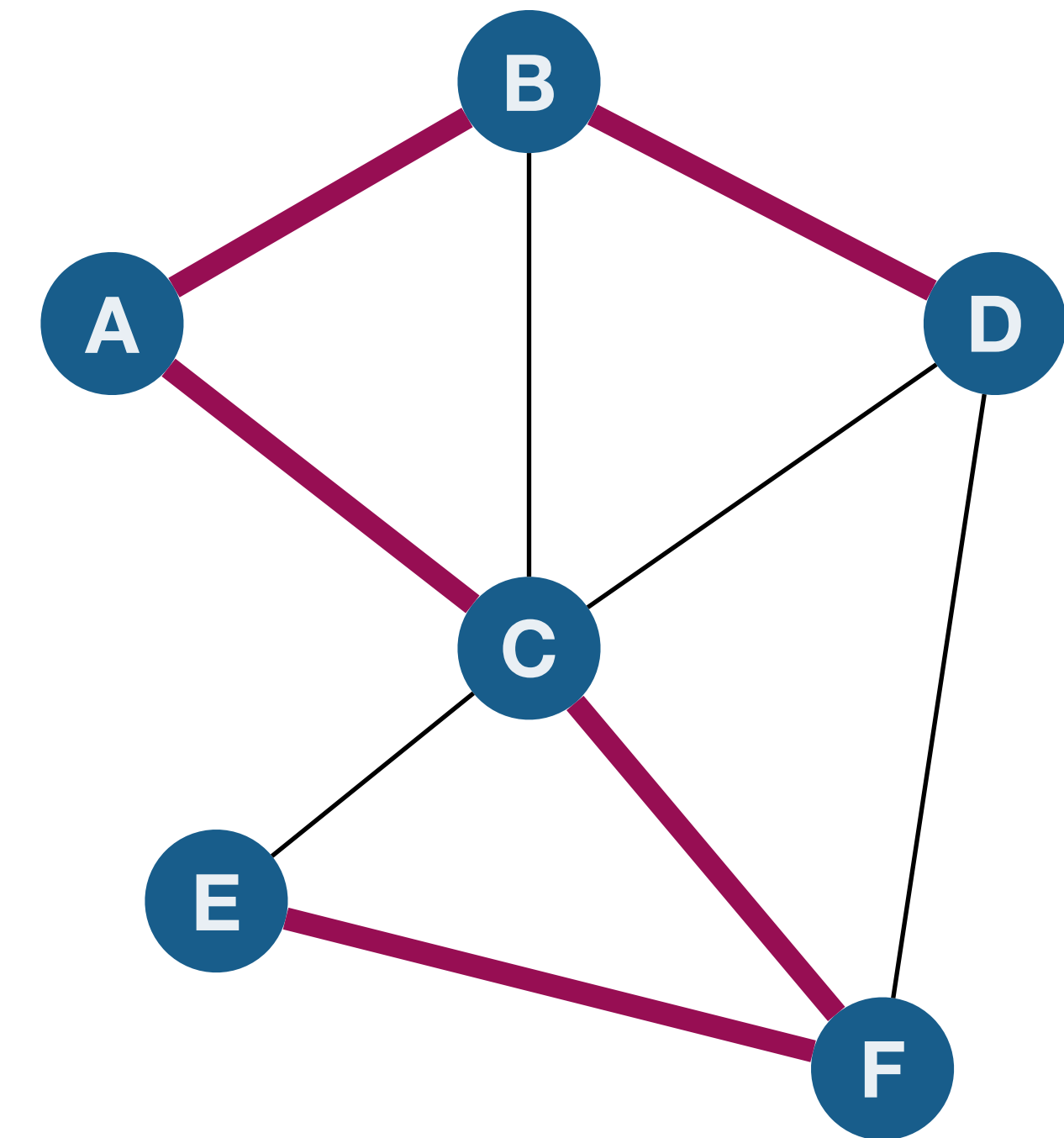


Connectivity

Paths on a graph

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- Example: **D, B, A, C, F, E**



Connectivity

Cycle

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$:

Connectivity

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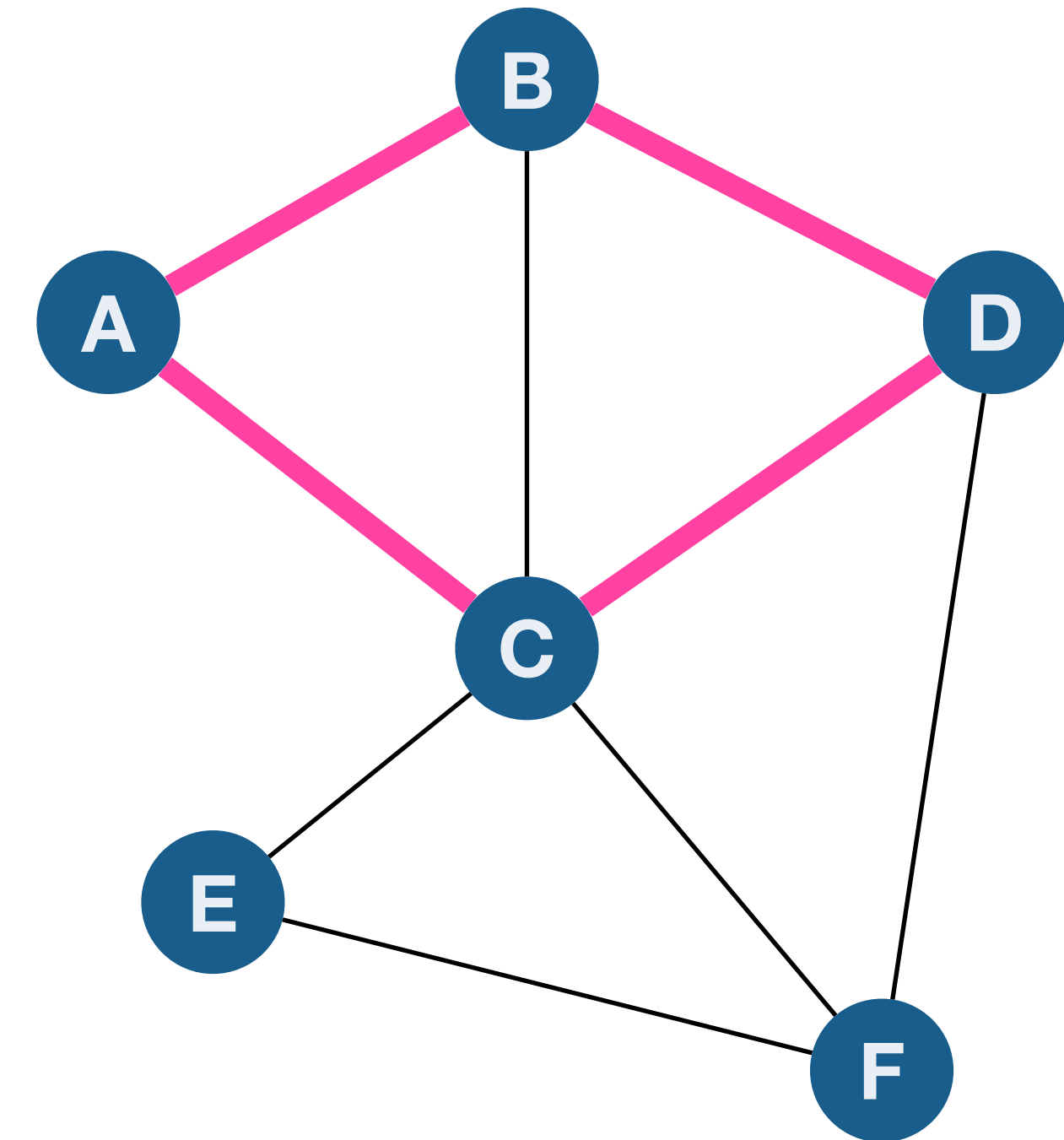
- A *cycle* is a sequence of distinct vertices v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k with $k \geq 3$ such that $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \in E$ for $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ and $\{v_1, v_k\} \in E$.

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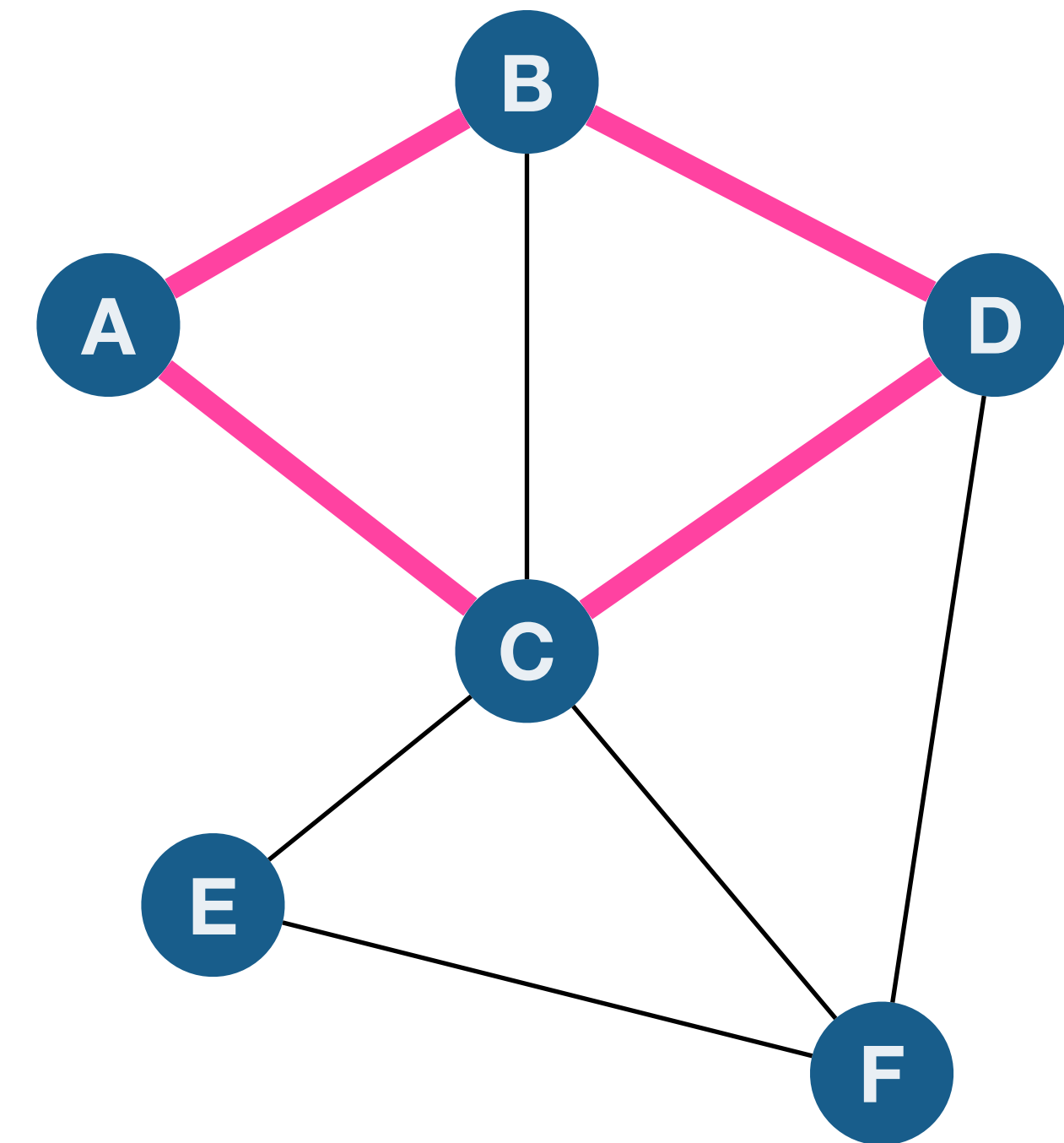


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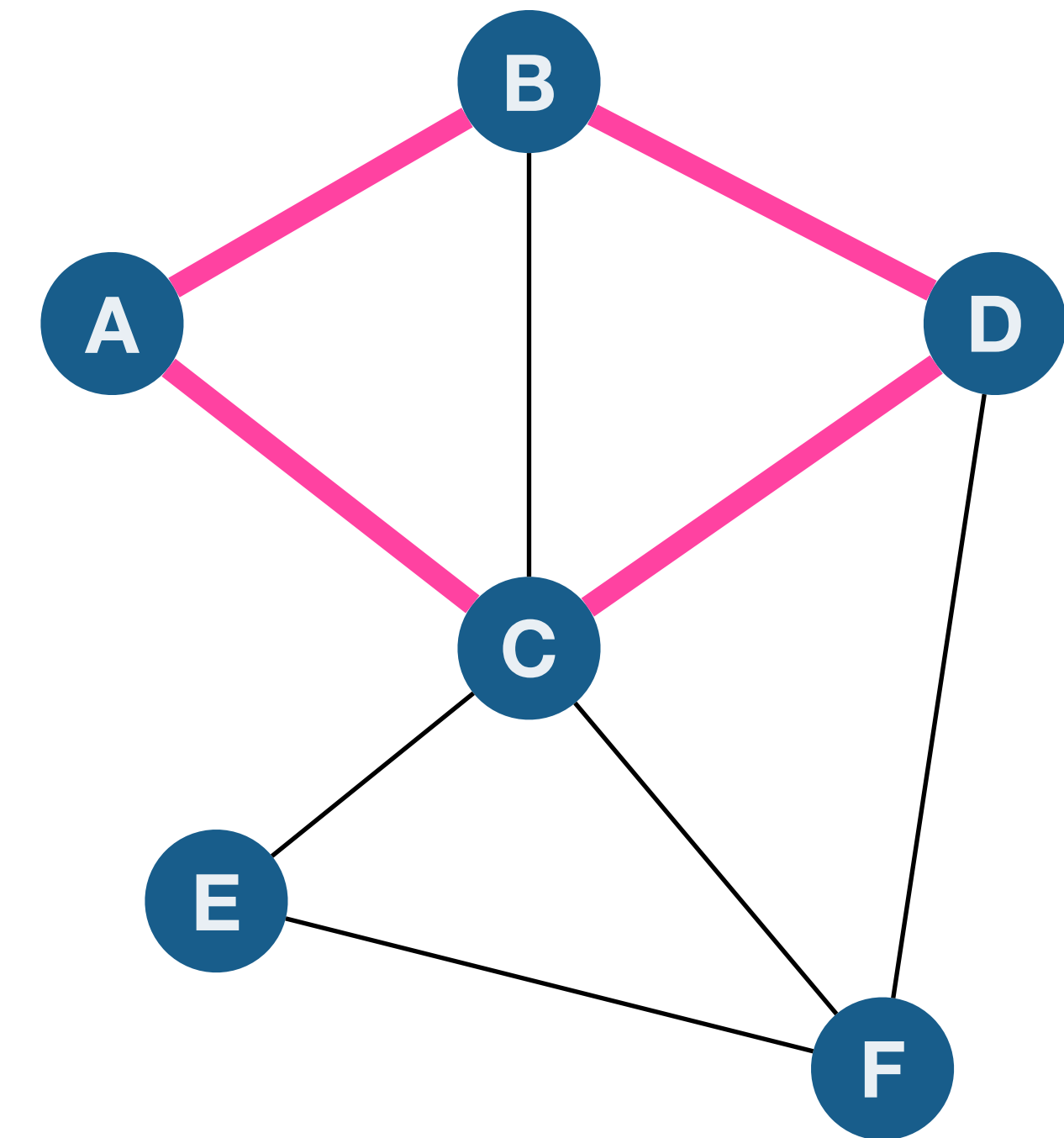
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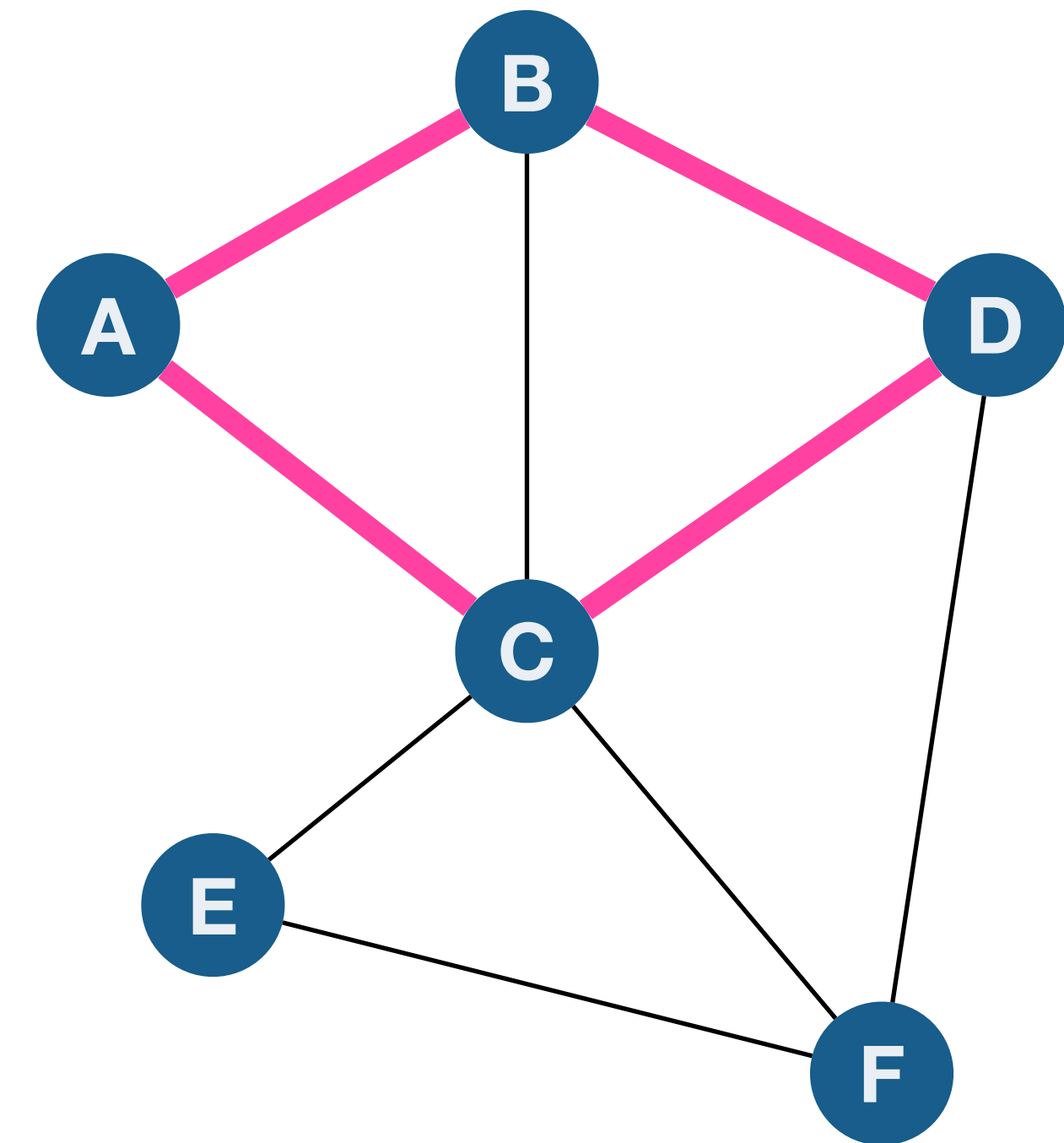
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Caveat: Some times people use the term *cycle* to also allow vertices to be repeated; we will use the term **tour**.

Note: A *single* vertex or *an* edge are **not** cycles according to this definition



Connectivity

Connected components

Define a relation C on $V \times V$ as uCv if u is **connected** to v

vertex is connected to itself

- **Proposition:** In undirected graphs, **connectivity** is a reflexive, symmetric, and transitive relation.

$$a \sim b \text{ and } b \sim c \Rightarrow a \sim c$$

$$a \sim b \Leftrightarrow b \sim a$$

Connectivity

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 - “Analogous to ε -reach” \rightarrow *but that was following ε transitions (NOT necessarily one-hop!!)*
- Graph is said to be connected if there is only **one** connected component.

Connectivity

Connected components

Define a *relation* C on $V \times V$ as uCv if u is **connected** to v

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- We say that the ***connected components*** of a graph are the *equivalence classes* of C .
 - “Analogous to ε -reach”
- Graph is said to be connected if there is only **one** connected component.
 - In English: starting from any node can reach any other node.

Connectivity problems

Algorithmic problems

- Given graph G and nodes u and v , is u connected to v ?
- Given G and node u , find all nodes that are connected to u .
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BFS and **DFS** are flavors of an natural graph exploration algorithm we will call *Basic Search*.

Search on graph

Basic search

Search on graph

Basic search

Not quite list,
Some people call
it a "dispenser".
Jeff E calls it a "bag"

Essentially a data
structure to track
which nodes to explore
next.

Explore(G,u):

Initialize: Set **Visited**[I] ← **FALSE** for $1 \leq i \leq n$

Lists: *ToExplore*, *S*

Add *u* to *ToExplore* and to *S*, → list/array

Visited[*u*] ← **TRUE**

while (*ToExplore* is non-empty) **do**

Remove node *x* from *ToExplore*

for each vertex *y* in *Adj*(*x*) **do**

if (**Visited**[*y*] = **FALSE**)

Visited[*y*] ← **TRUE**

Add *y* to *ToExplore*

Add *y* to *S*

Output *S*

will be
all vertices
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to *u*.

Search on graph

Basic search

- BFS and DFS are special case of the following algorithm.

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Explore(G,u):  
  Initialize: Set  $Visited[i] \leftarrow \text{FALSE}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$   
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   $Visited[u] \leftarrow \text{TRUE}$   
  while ( $ToExplore$  is non-empty) do  
    Remove node  $x$  from  $ToExplore$   
    for each vertex  $y$  in  $Adj(x)$  do  
      if ( $Visited[y] = \text{FALSE}$ )  
         $Visited[y] \leftarrow \text{TRUE}$   
        Add  $y$  to  $ToExplore$   
        Add  $y$  to  $S$   
  
  Output  $S$ 
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- BFS and DFS are special case of the following algorithm.
- BFS maintains *ToExplore* using a **queue** data structure

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        Add y to ToExplore  
        Add y to S
```

Output *S*

Search on graph

Basic search

- BFS and DFS are special case of the following algorithm.
- BFS maintains *ToExplore* using a **queue** data structure
- DFS maintains *ToExplore* using a **stack** data structure

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Search on graph

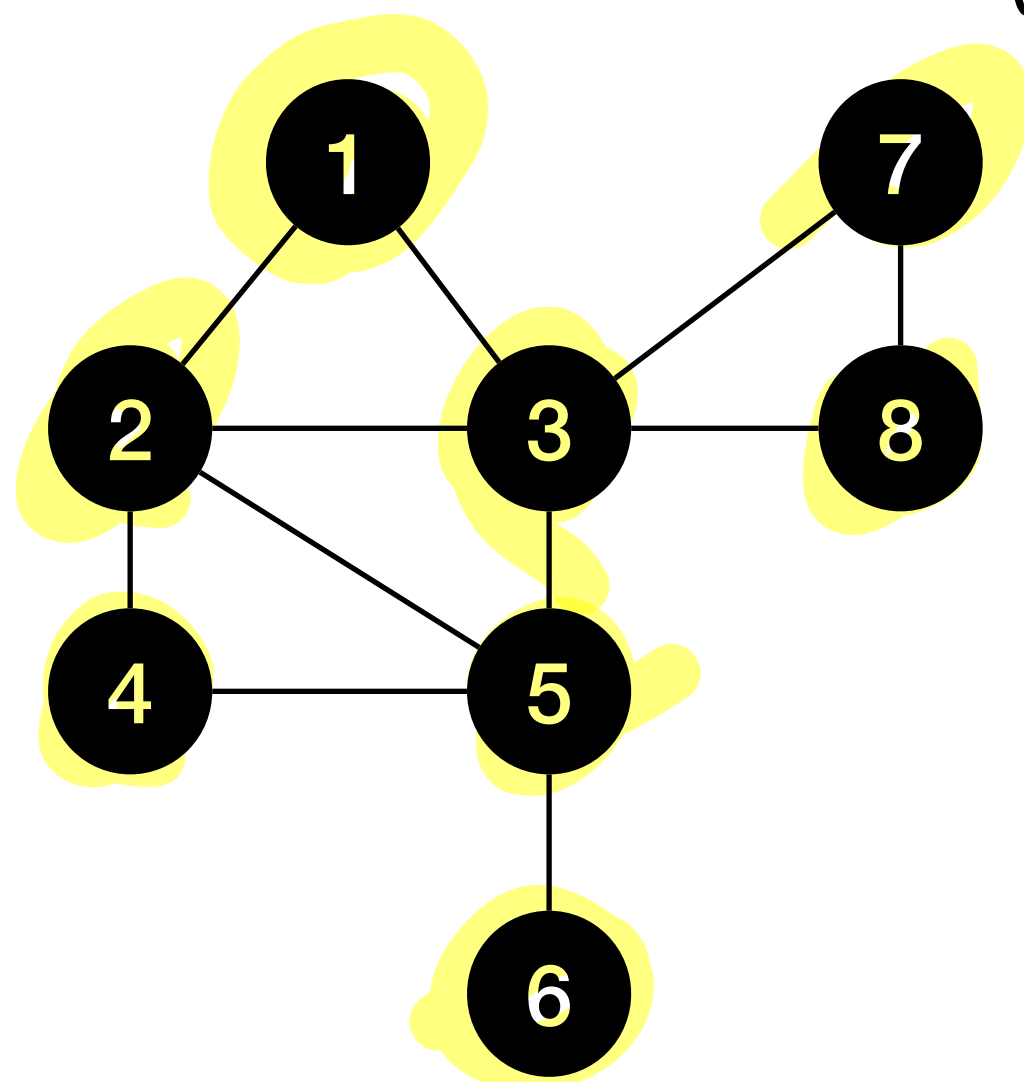
Example - maintain *ToExplore* as a queue

let $u = 1$

```

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```

visited

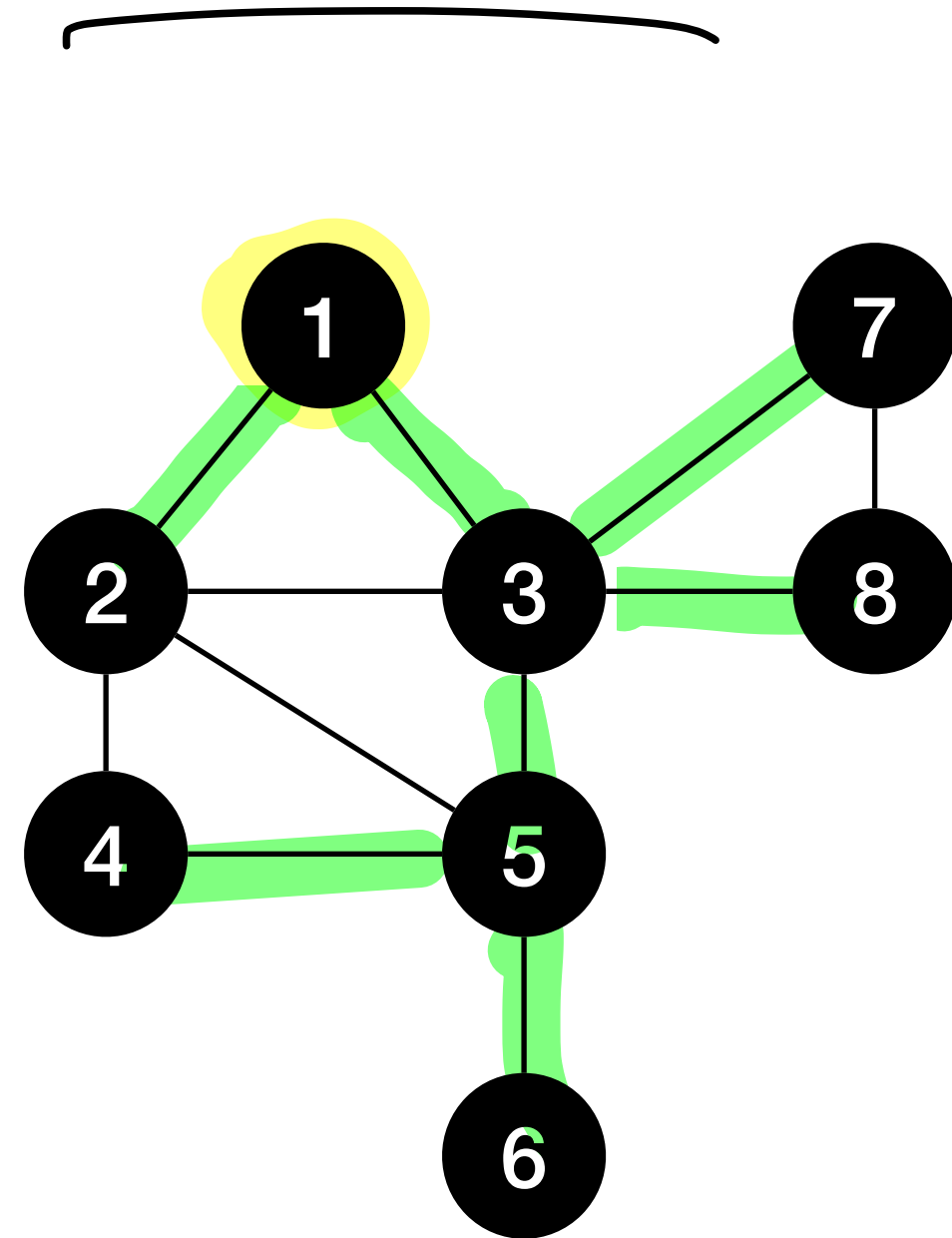


ToExplore

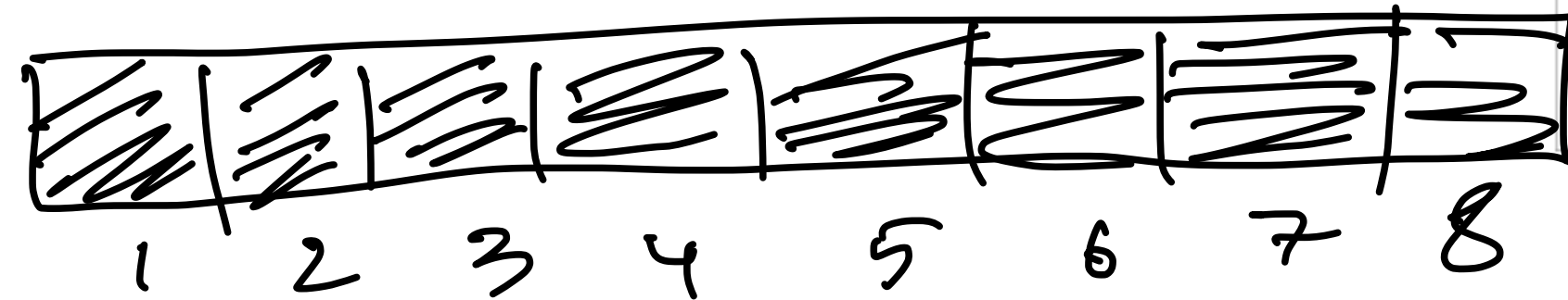
$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 6\}$

Search on graph

Exercise - maintain *ToExplore* as a stack

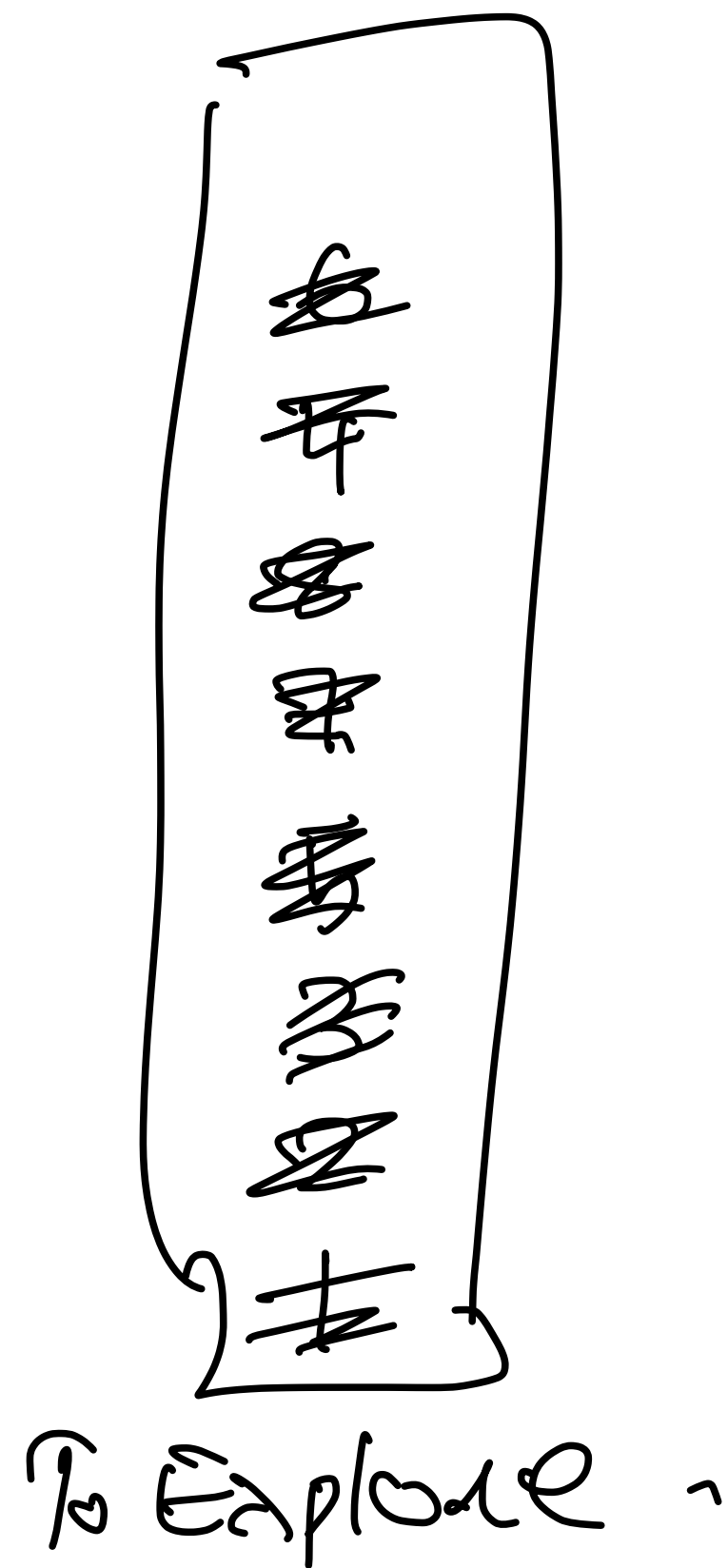


visited



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Search on graph

Basic search - modified to get search tree

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        Add y to ToExplore  
        Add y to S  
        Add y to T with x as parent  
  Output S, T
```

Search on graph

Basic search - modified to get search tree

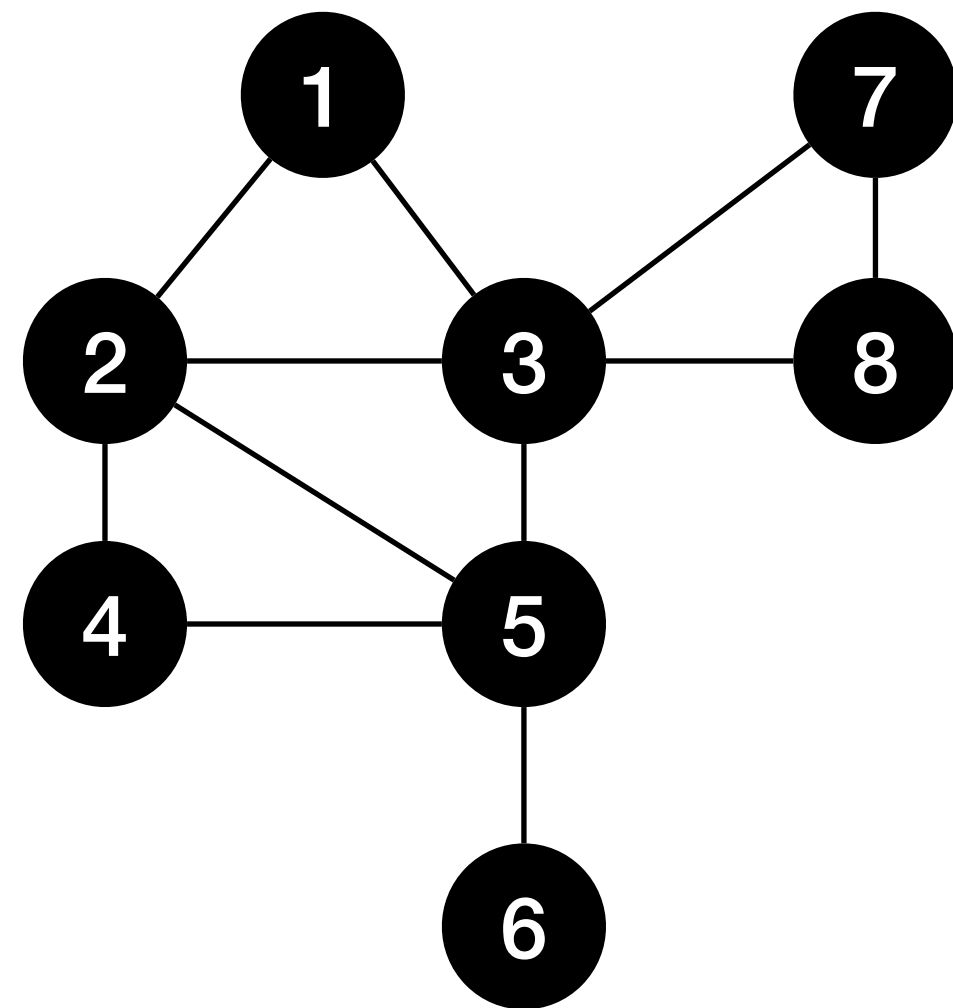
- The *search tree* for **Explore(G, u)** is tree rooted at **u** that spans the connected component of **u**.

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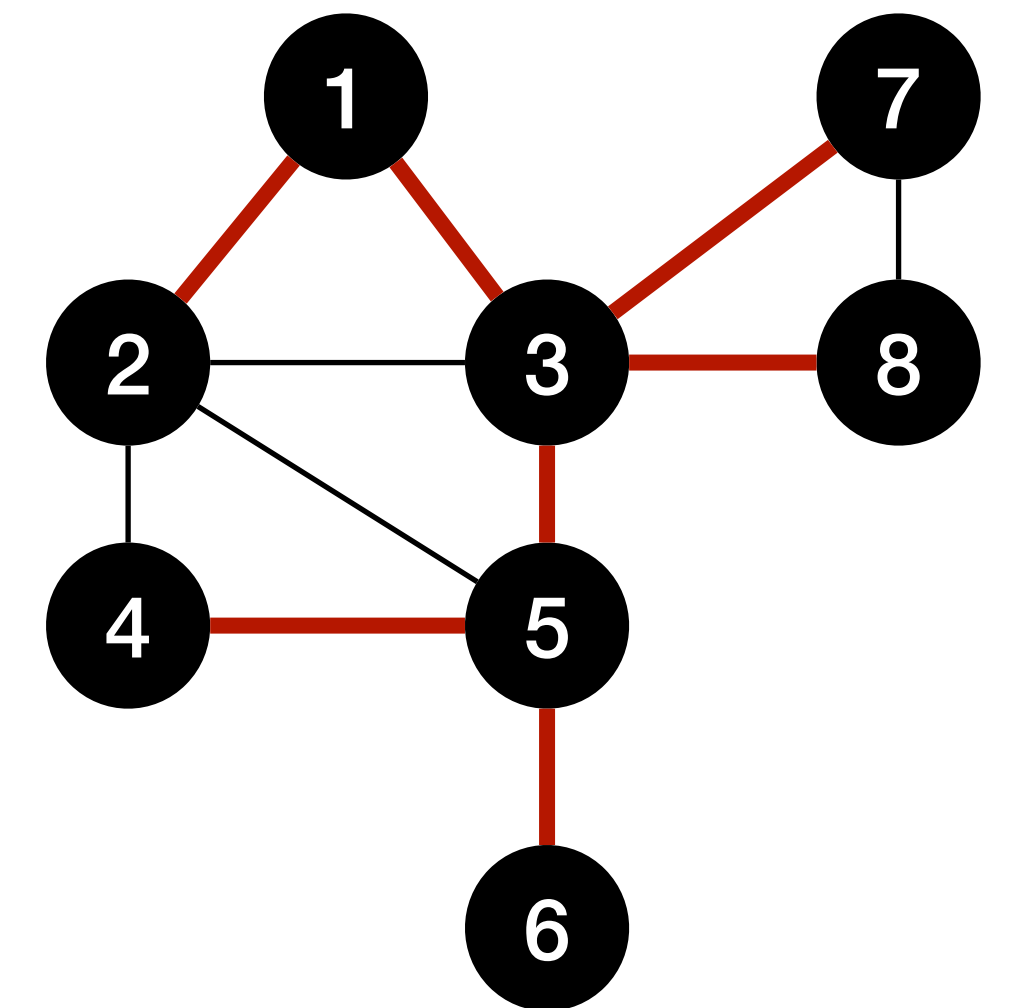
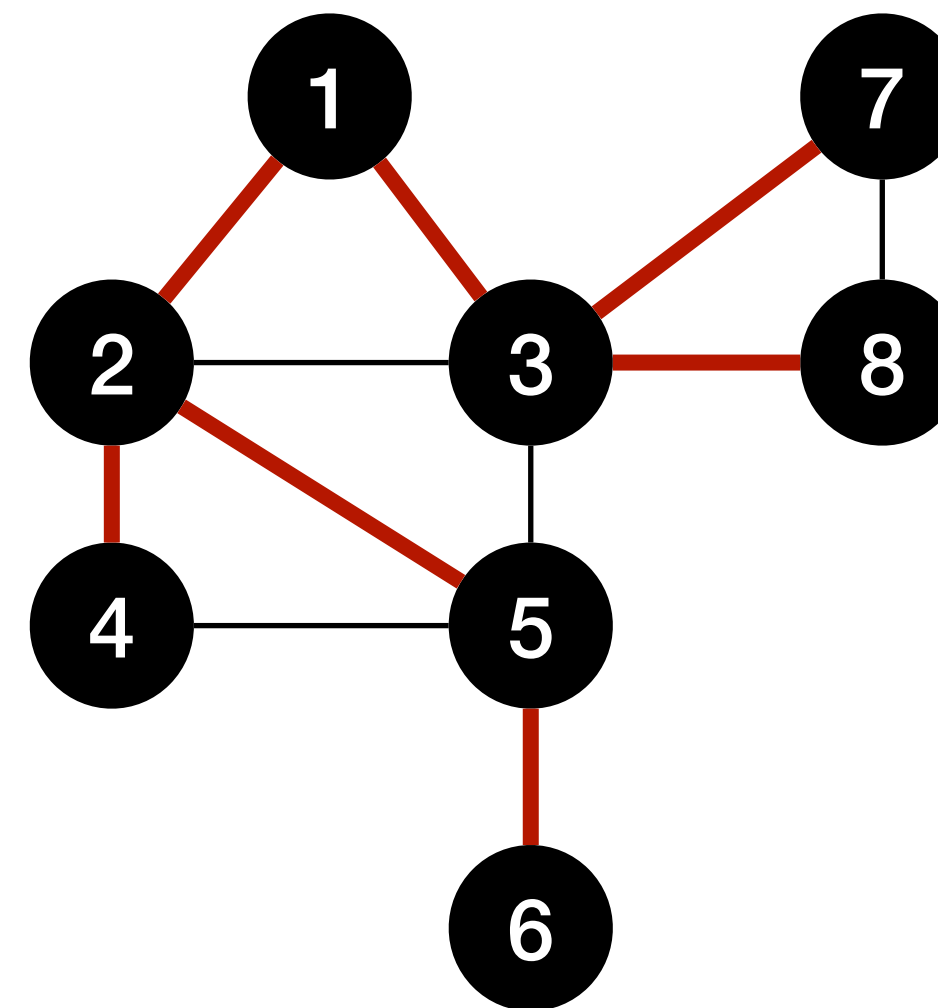

Search on graph

Basic search - modified to get search tree

- BFS and DFS will return different search trees on the following graph



Verify these !! which is BFS?
DFS?



Directed graphs

Directed graphs

Definition

A directed graph $G = (V, E)$ consists of

- A set of vertices/nodes V and
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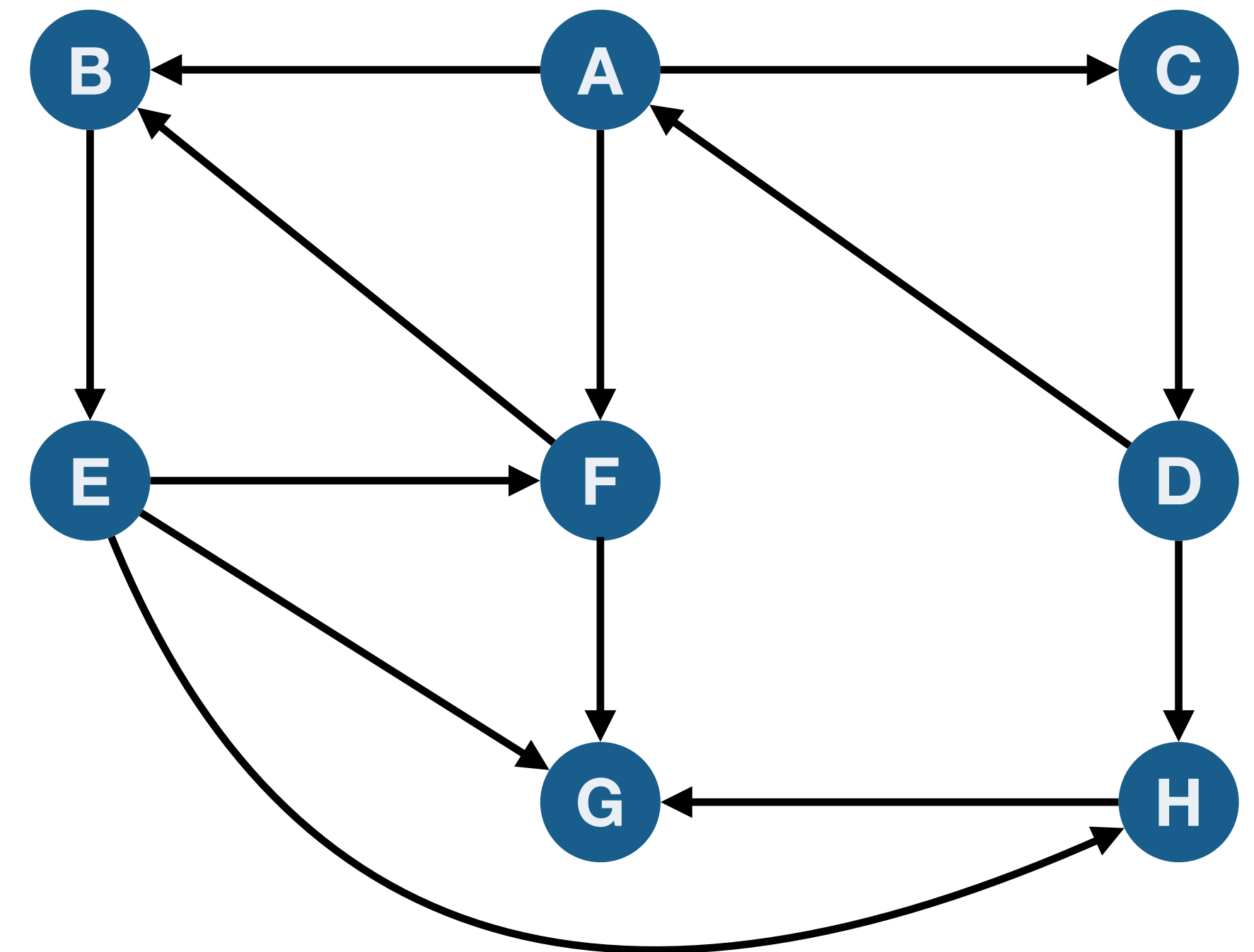
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Directed graphs

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In many situations relationship between vertices is asymmetric:

Directed graphs

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Directed graphs

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- **Dependency graphs** in variety of applications: link from x to y if y depends on x . E.g. Make files for compiling programs.
- **Program analysis:** functions/procedures are vertices and there is an edge from x to y if x calls y .

Directed graphs

Representation

Graph $G = (V, E)$ with n vertices and m edges:

$$A_{u \rightarrow v} = A_{v \rightarrow u}^T \Leftrightarrow a_{ij} = a_{ji}$$

Directed graphs

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Default representation is adjacency lists ($\text{Adj}(u) \sim \text{Out}(u)$).

Directed connectivity

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$:

Directed connectivity

$e \in E$ is an ordered tuple now.

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$:

- A *(directed) path* is a sequence of distinct vertices v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k such that $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$ for $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$. The length of the path is $k - 1$ and the path is from v_1 to v_k . By convention, a single node u is a path of length 0.

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Q: is there such a thing as "undirected" path on a directed graph?

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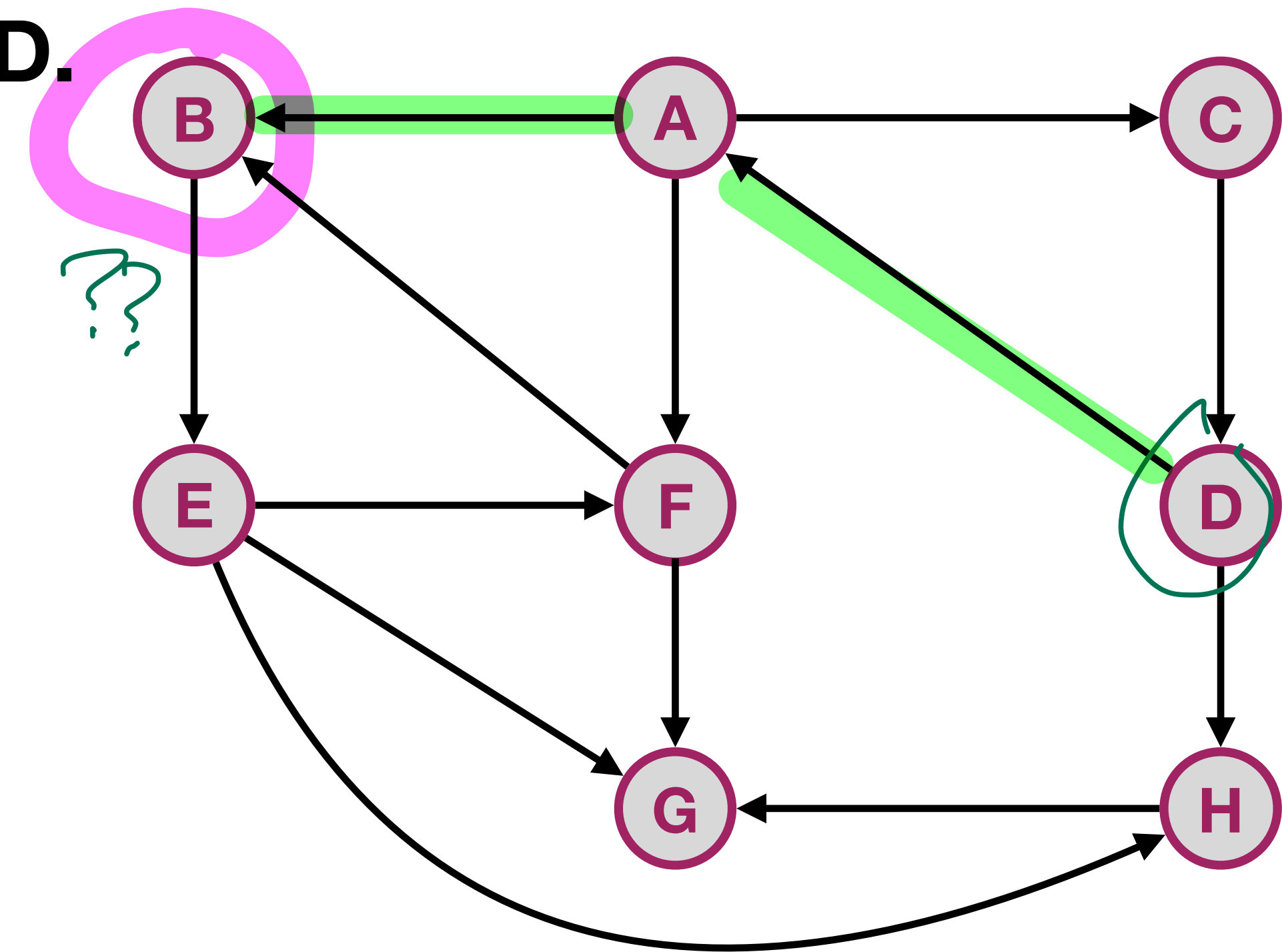
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- A vertex u can reach v if there is a path from u to v . Alternatively, we say v can be reached from u .
- We denote with $\text{rch}(u)$ the set of all vertices *reachable* from u .

Directed connectivity

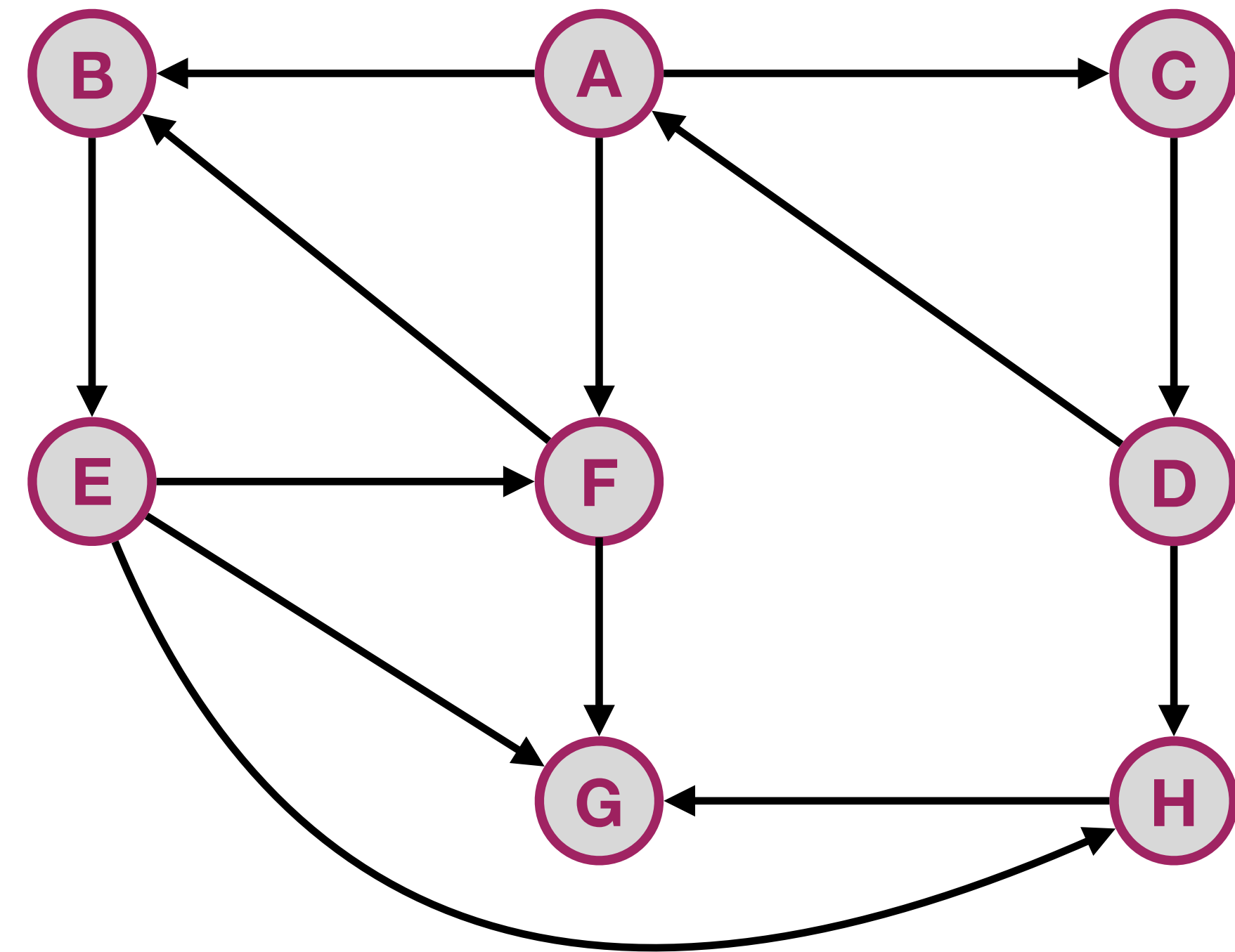
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Directed connectivity

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Questions:

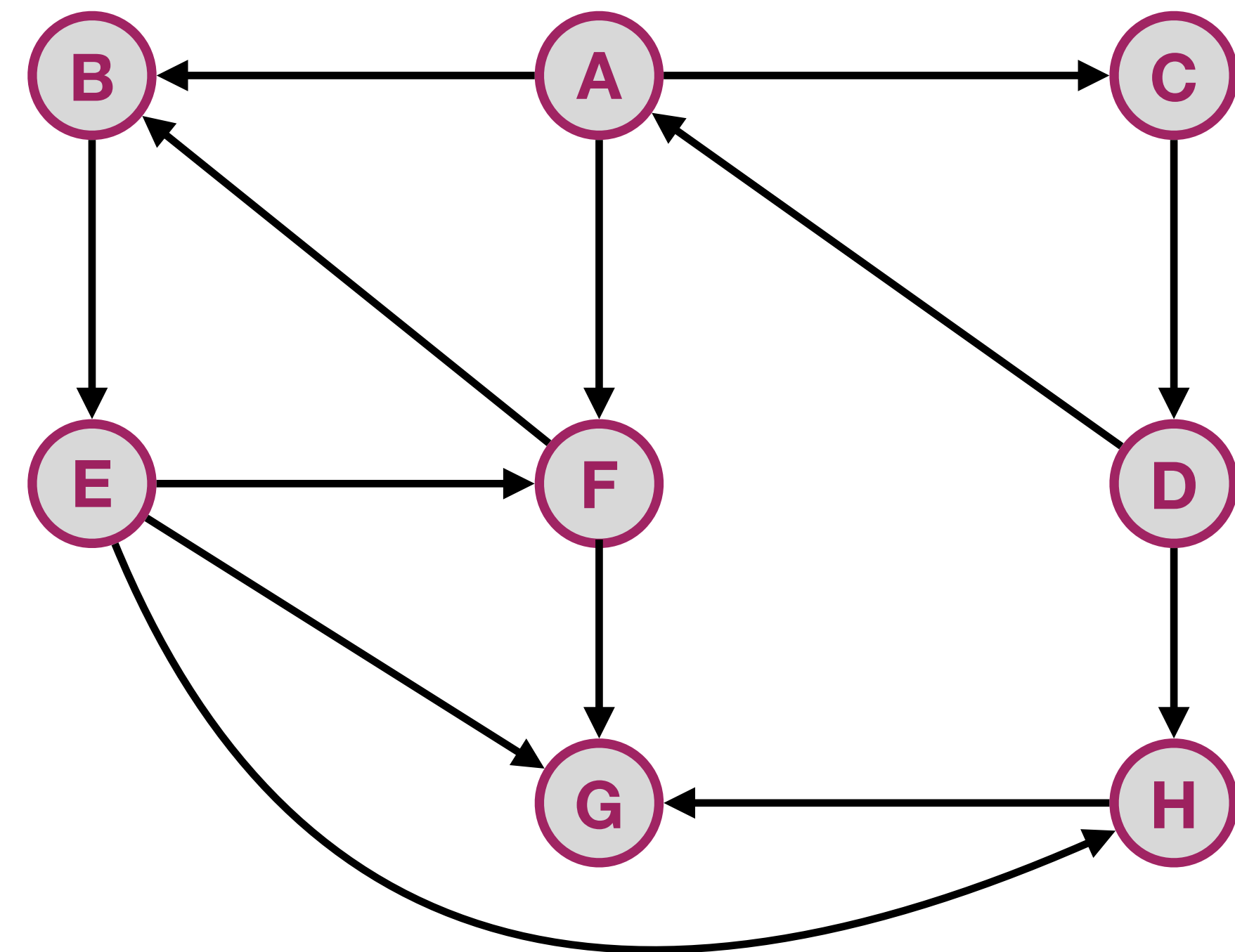


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Is there a notion of connected components?



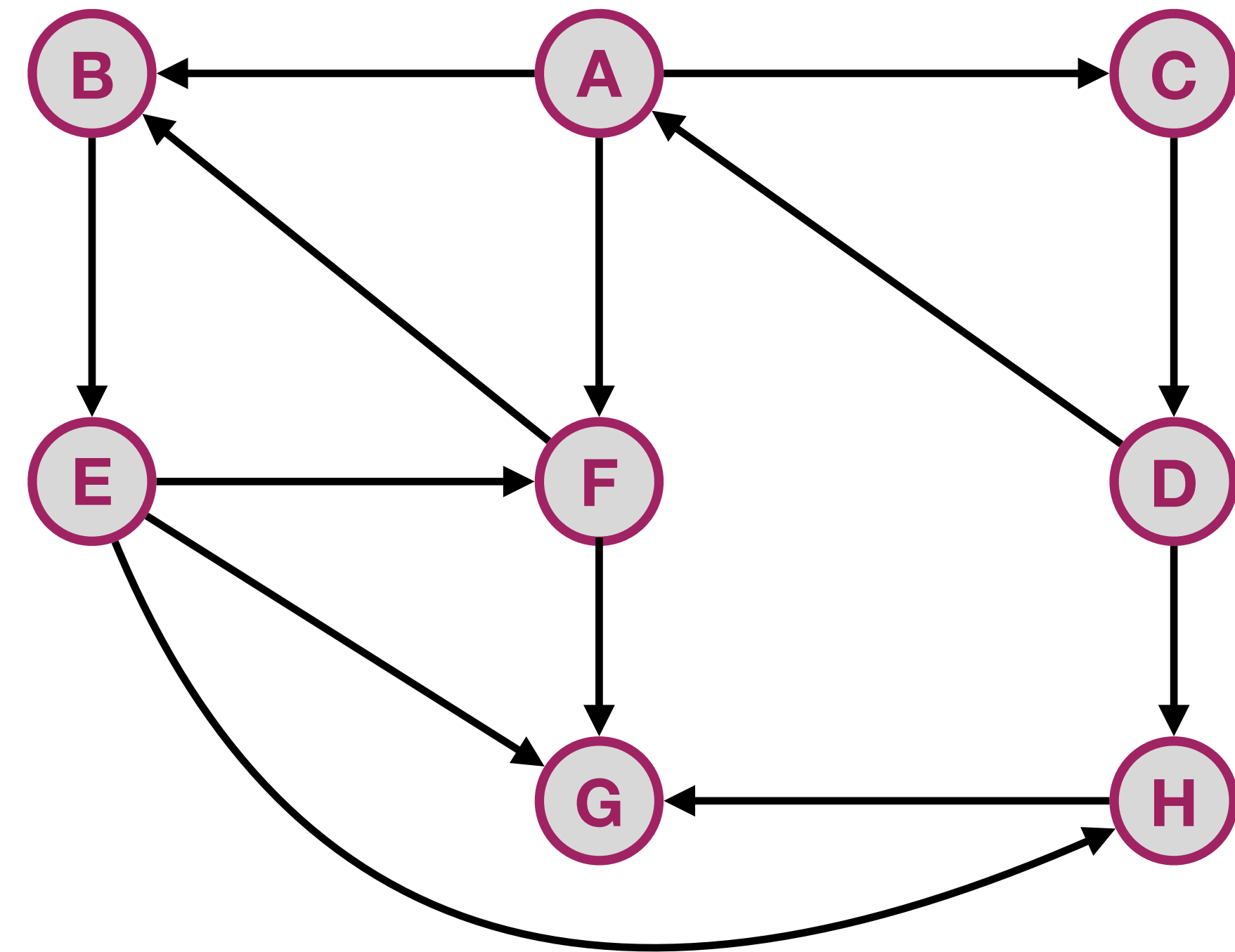
Directed connectivity

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Questions:

Is there a notion of connected components?

How do we understand connectivity in directed graphs?



Connectivity and strongly connected components

Definition: Given a directed graph G , u is *strongly connected* to v if u can reach v and v can reach u . In other words $v \in \text{rch}(u)$ and $u \in \text{rch}(v)$.

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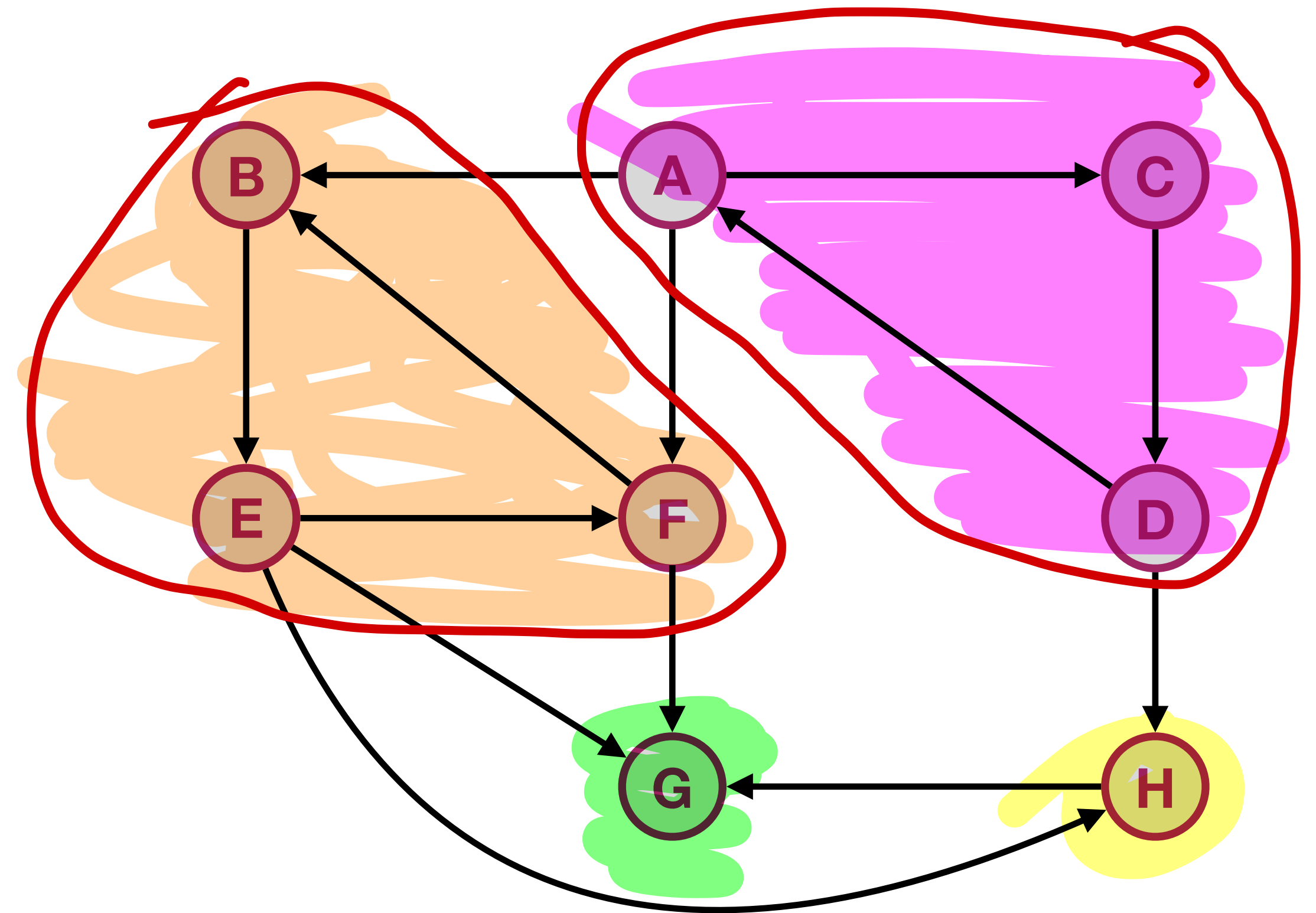
Equivalence classes of C are the strongly connected components of G and they partition the vertices of G .

We denote with $SCC(u)$ the strongly connected component containing u .

Connectivity and strongly connected components

Exercise

- Partition vertices of given graph under strong connectivity.



Directed graph connectivity problems

1. Given G and nodes u and v , can u reach v ?
2. Given G and u , compute $\text{rch}(u)$.
3. Given G and u , compute all v that can reach u , that is all v such that $u \in \text{rch}(v)$.
→ sort of reverse question
4. Find the strongly connected component containing node u , that is $\text{SCC}(u)$.
5. Is G strongly connected (a single strong component)?
6. Compute all strongly connected components of G .

Graph exploration in directed graphs

Directed graph search

Given $G = (V, E)$
a directed graph and
vertex $u \in V$.
Let $n = |V|$.

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```

Directed graph search

Given $G = (V, E)$
a directed graph and
vertex $u \in V$.
Let $n = |V|$.

We seek to find all
nodes that can be
reached from u
(represented as a
spanning tree).

→ previously S was nodes
"connected" to u .
→ now it is nodes
"reachable" from u .

```
Explore(G, u):  
  array Visited[1..n]  
  Initialize: Set Visited[i] ← FALSE for  $1 \leq i \leq n$   
  List: ToExplore, S  
  Add u to ToExplore and to S, Visited[u] ← TRUE  
  Make tree T with root as u  
  while (ToExplore is non-empty) do  
    Remove node x from ToExplore  
    for each vertex y in Adj(x) do  
      if (Visited[y] = FALSE)  
        Visited[y] ← TRUE  
        Add y to ToExplore  
        Add y to S  
        Add y to T with x as parent  
  Output S, T
```


Directed graph search

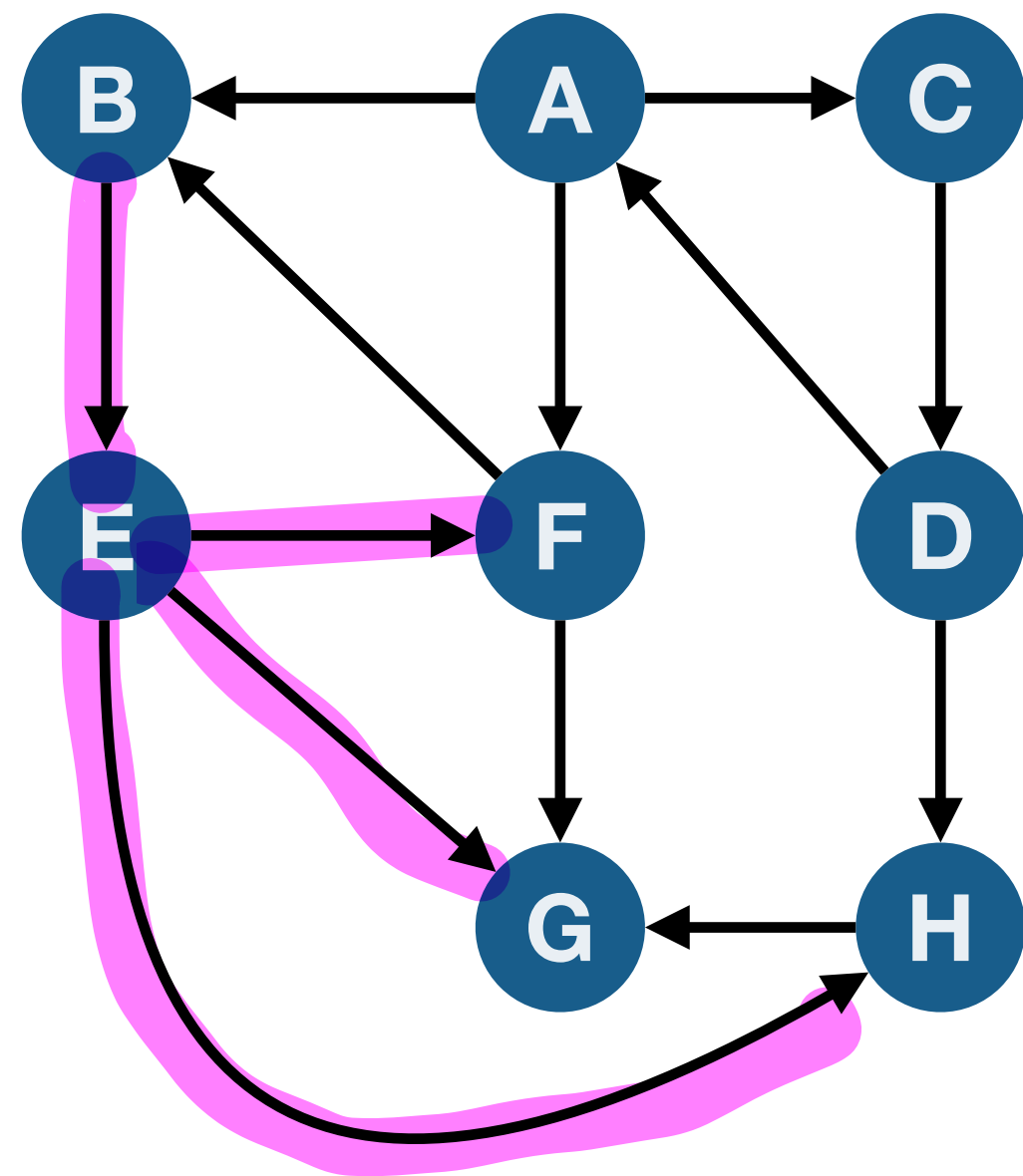
Example

visited



```

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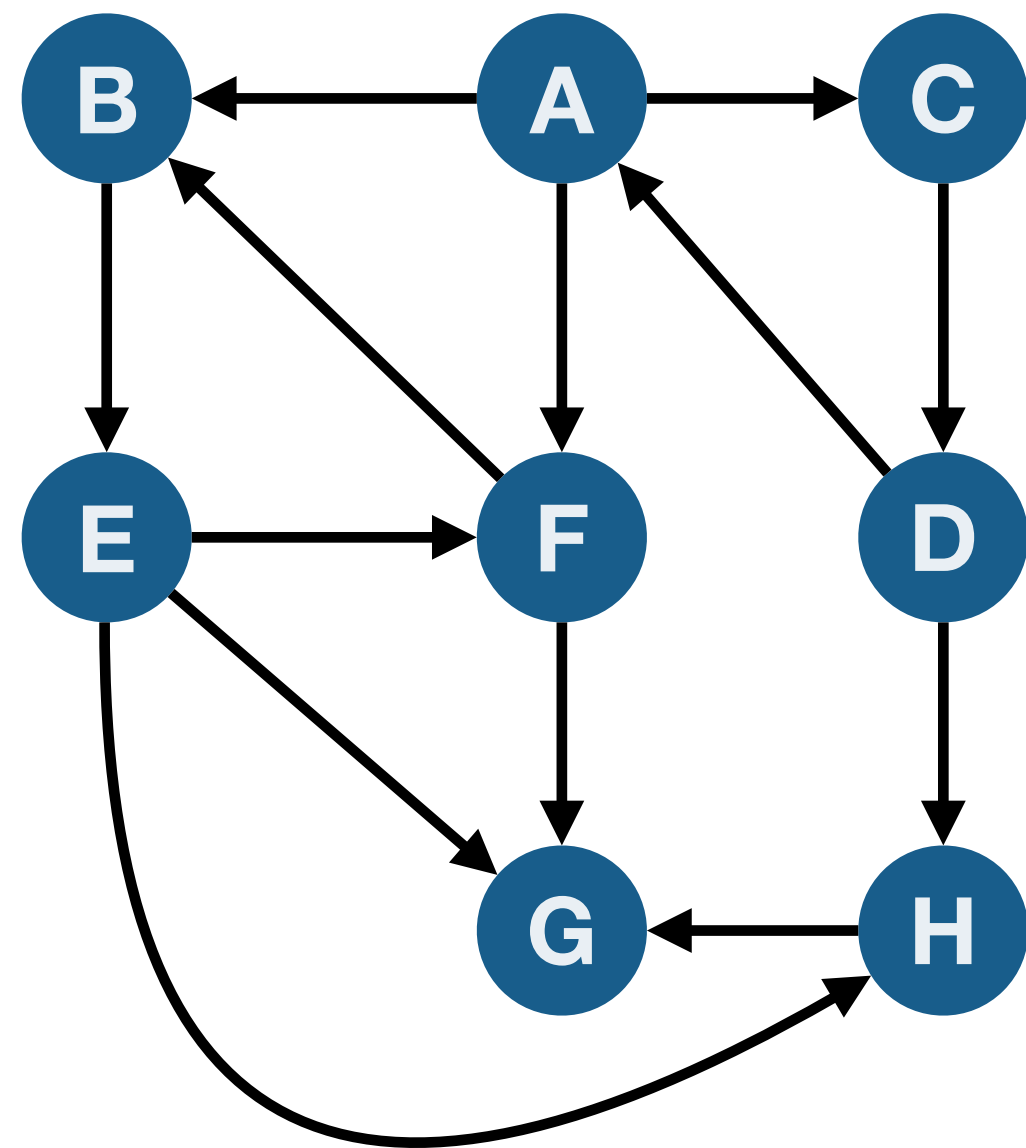
5 4 3 2 1

$S = \{B, E, F, G, H\}$
 ↑
 rek(B)

wrap in
 another
 while
 loop
 to visit
 all nodes

Directed graph search

Example



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proof skipped.
(see Prof. Kan's old
slides for a sketch)

Proposition: $Explore(G,u)$ terminates with S being $rch(u)$.

Directed graph connectivity problems

1. Given G and nodes u and v , can u reach v ?
2. Given G and u , compute $\text{rch}(u)$.
3. Given G and u , compute all v that can reach u , that is all v such that $u \in \text{rch}(v)$.
4. Find the strongly connected component containing node u , that is $\text{SCC}(u)$.
5. Is G strongly connected (a single strong component)?
6. Compute all strongly connected components of G .

Directed graph connectivity problems

already
discussed.

1. Given G and nodes u and v , can u reach v ?

2. Given G and u , compute $\text{rch}(u)$.

Use $\text{Explore}(G, u)$ to compute
 $\text{rch}(u)$ in $O(n + m)$ time.

3. Given G and u , compute all v that can reach u , that is all v such that $u \in \text{rch}(v)$.

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5. Is G strongly connected (a single strong component)? Uses G^{rev}
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Algorithms via Basic Search - 1, 2

- Given G and nodes u and v , can u reach v ?
 - Given G and u , compute $\text{rch}(u)$.
- } already discussed

Use $\text{Explore}(G, u)$ to compute $\text{rch}(u)$ in $O(n + m)$ time.

Algorithms via Basic Search - 3

- Given G and u , compute all v , that can reach u , that is all v such that $u \in \text{rch}(u)$.

Naive: $O(n(n+m))$

↳ run explore from every vertex

Algorithms via Basic Search - 3

- Given G and u , compute all v , that can reach u , that is all v such that $u \in \text{rch}(u)$.
Naive: $O(n(n + m))$

Definition (Reverse graph):

Given $G = (V, E)$, G^{rev} is the graph with edge directions reversed $G^{rev} = (V, E')$ where $E' = \{(y, x) \mid (x, y) \in E\}$

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Compute $\text{rch}(u)$ in G^{rev} .

Algorithms via Basic Search - 3

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Compute $\text{rch}(u)$ in G^{rev} . \rightarrow will be solution to all v that can reach u on original G .

Running time: $O(n + m)$ to obtain G^{rev} from G and $O(n + m)$ time to compute $\text{rch}(u)$ via Basic Search.

Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

$$SCC(G, u) = \{v \mid u \text{ is strongly connected to } v\}$$

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$$SCC(G, u) = \text{rch}(G, u) \cap \text{rch}(G^{rev}, u)$$

we will only "prove by example"

Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

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Find the strongly connected component containing node u . That is, compute $SCC(G, u)$.

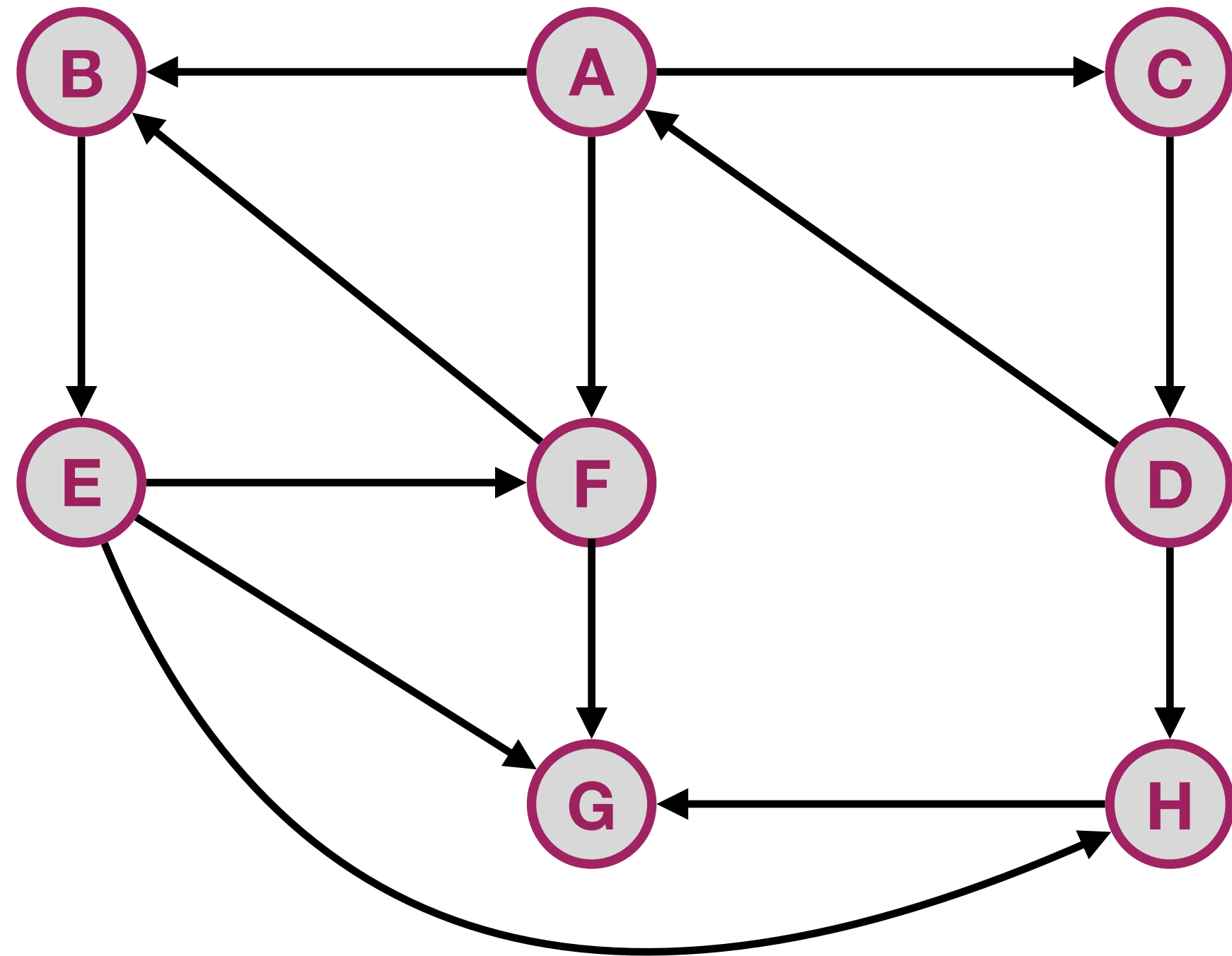
$$SCC(G, u) = \text{rch}(G, u) \cap \text{rch}(G^{rev}, u)$$

Hence, $SCC(G, u)$ can be computed with $\text{Explore}(G, u)$ and $\text{Explore}(G^{rev}, u)$.

Total $O(n + m)$ time

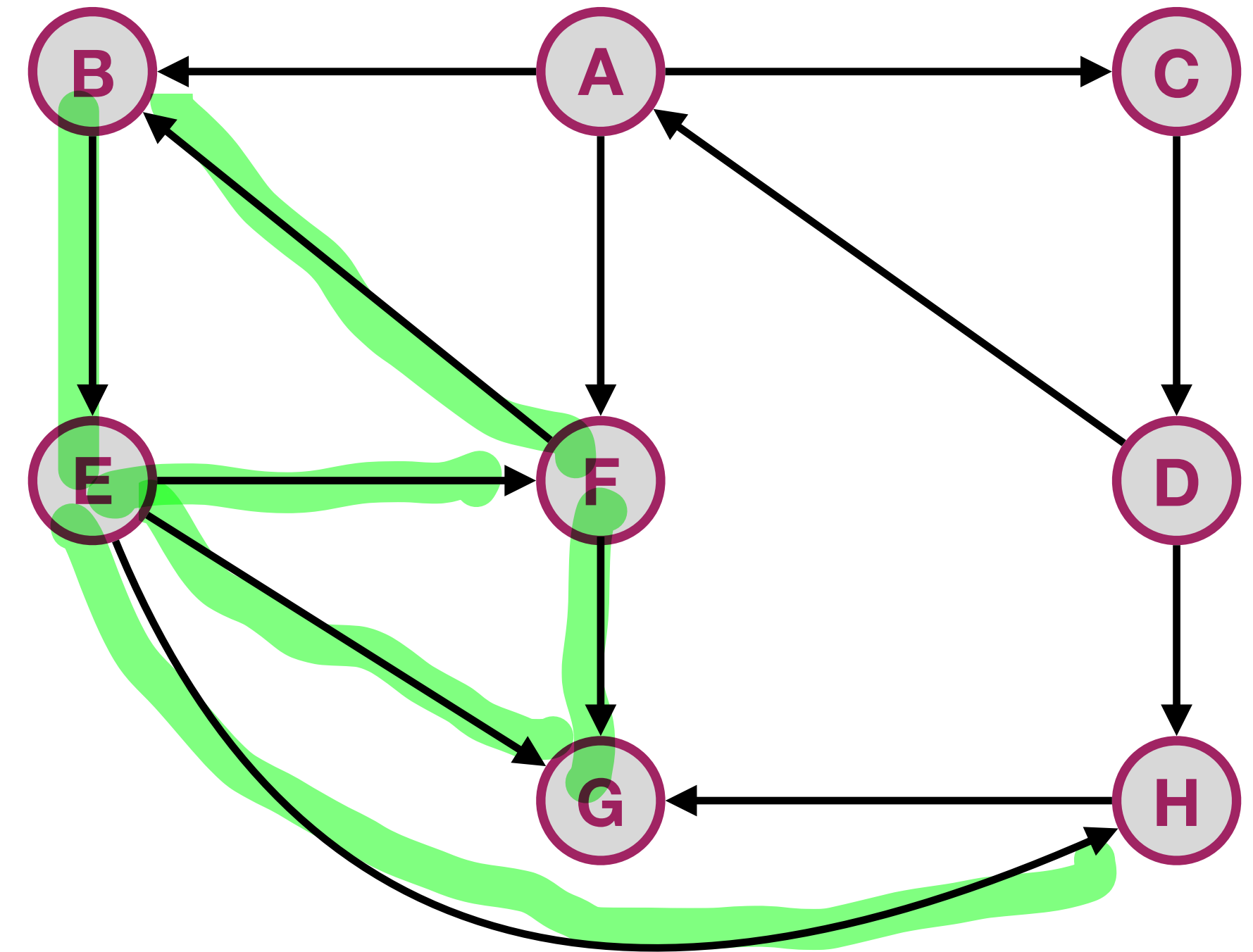
Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G , and a vertex F ...



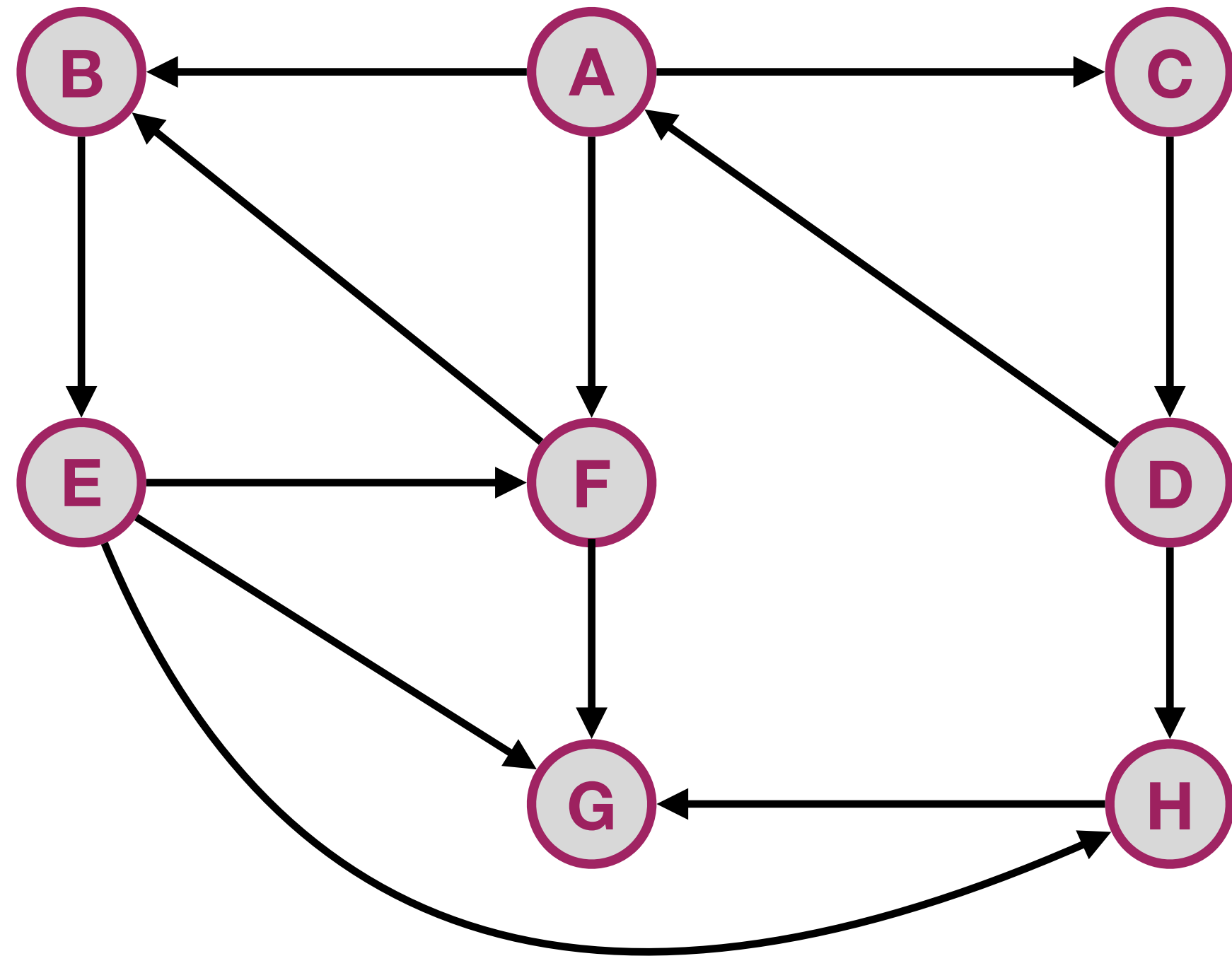
Graph G

... its reachable set $\text{rch}(G, F)$



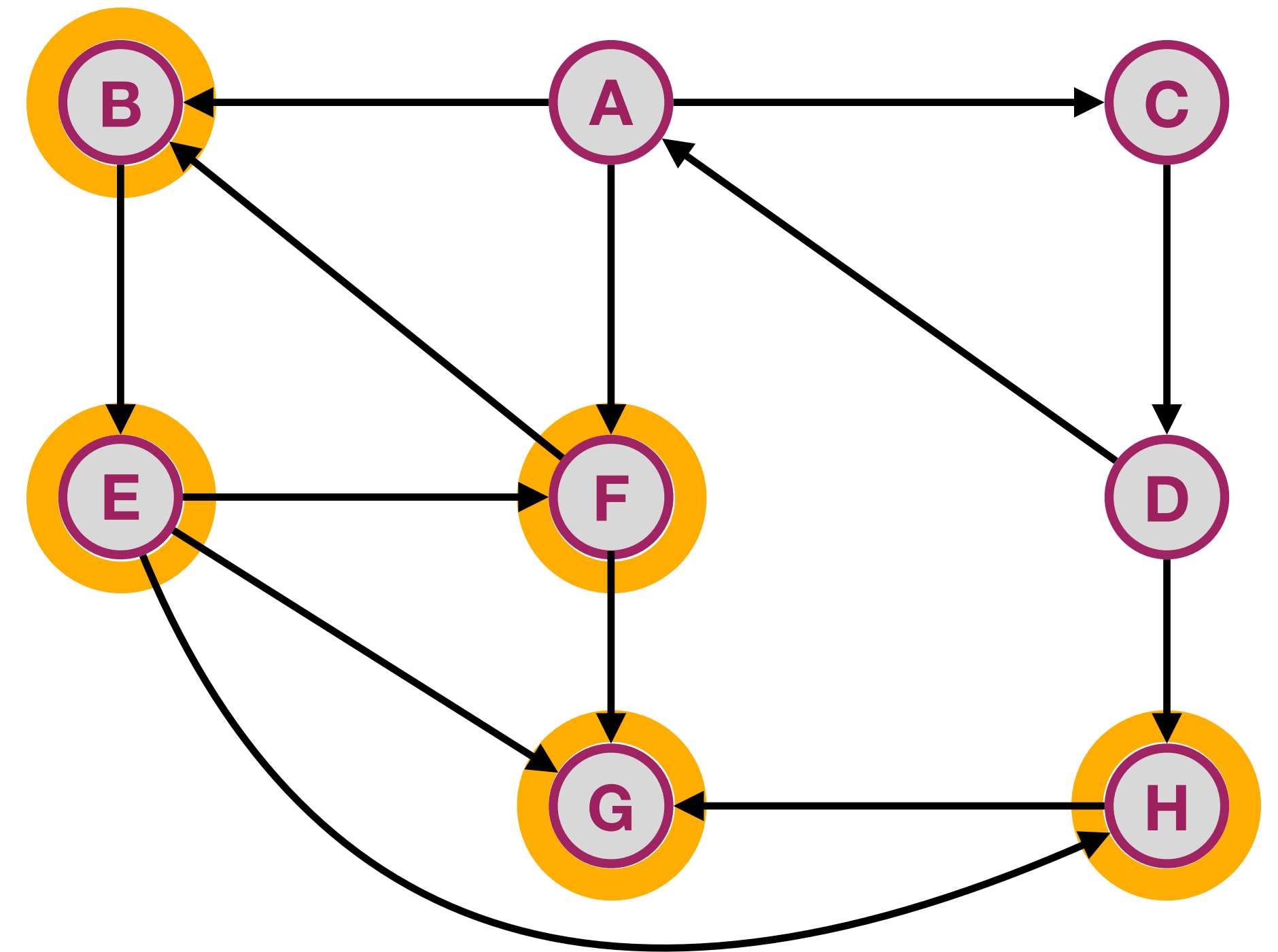
Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G , and a vertex F ...



Graph G

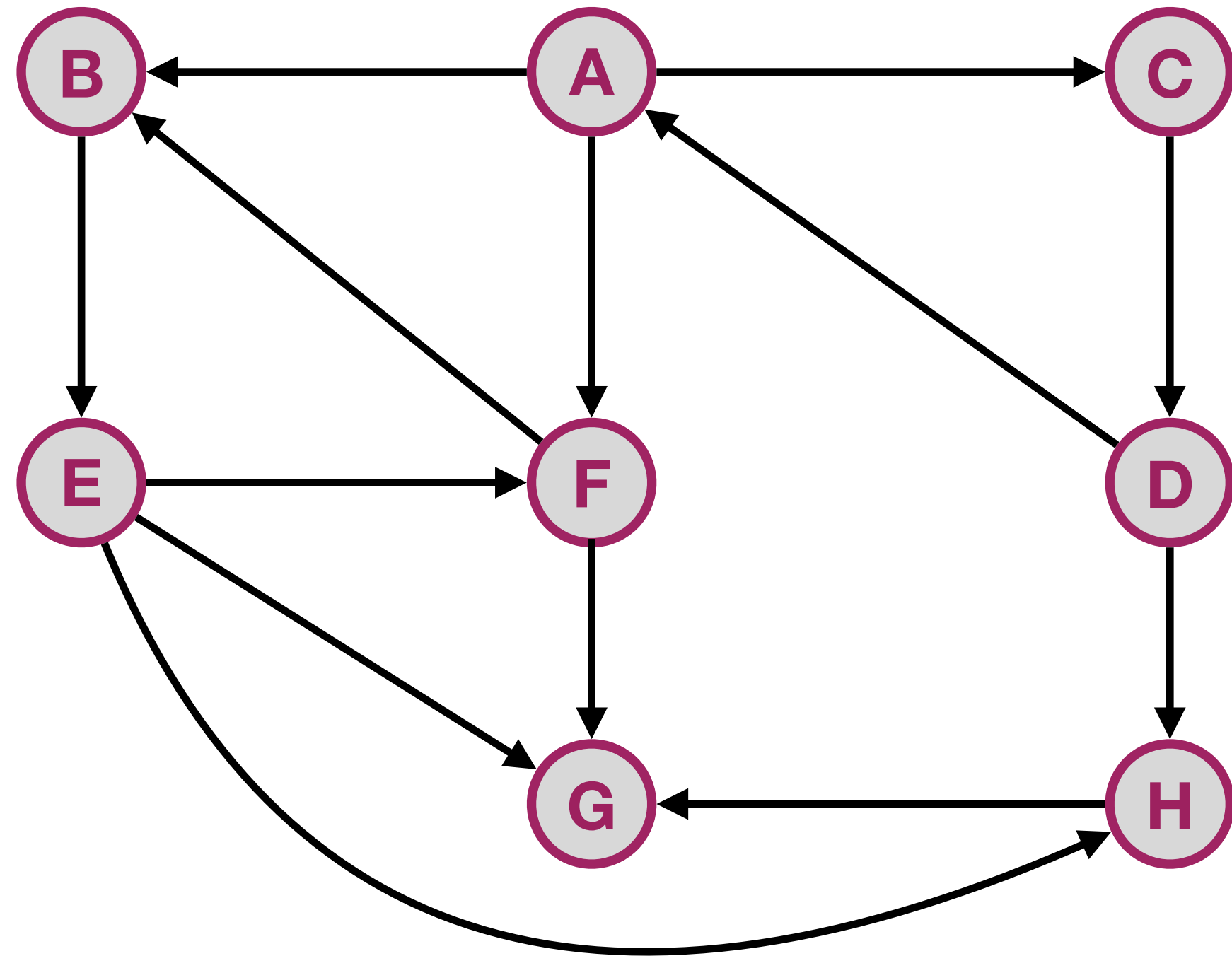
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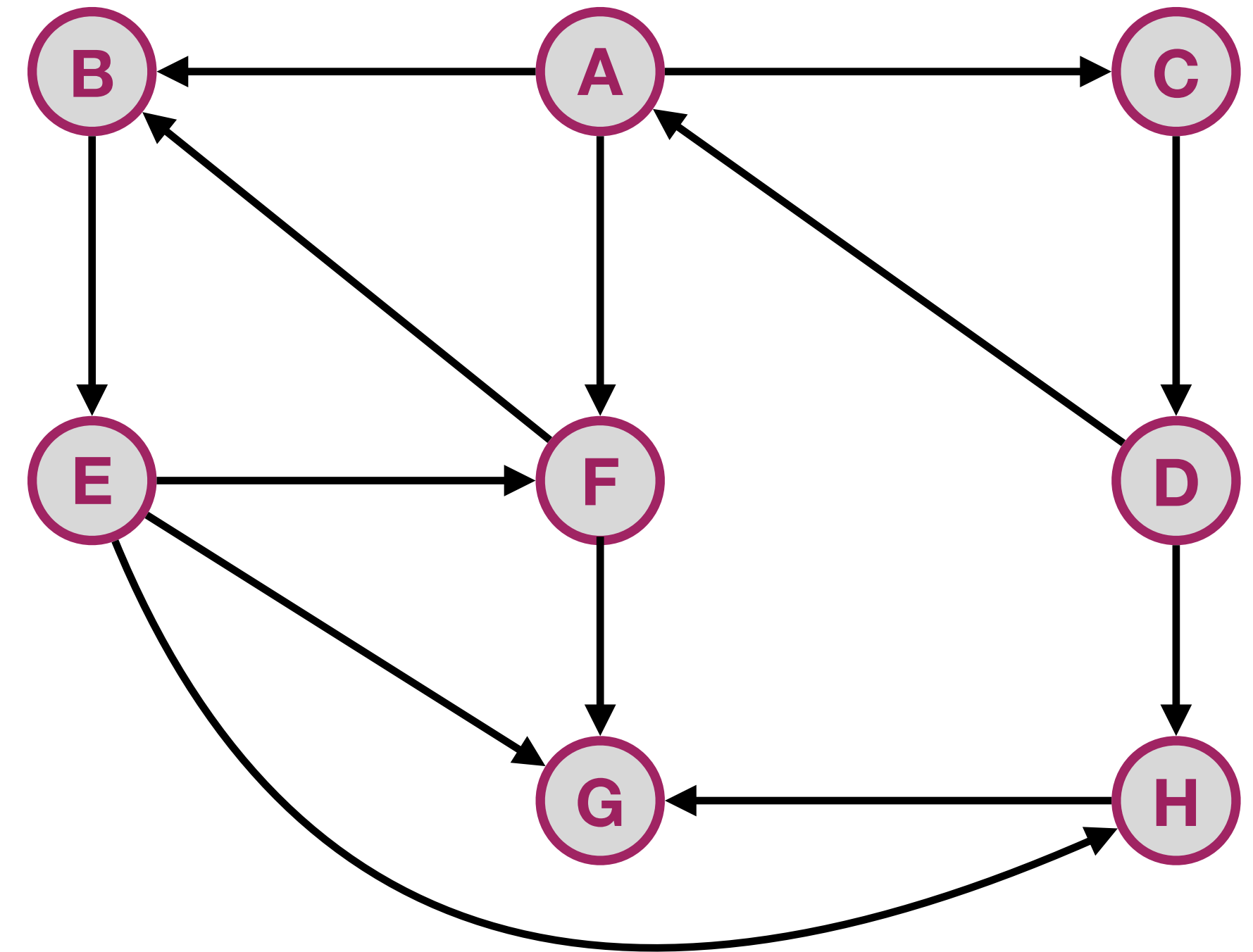
is set of vertices reachable from F .

Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G ...

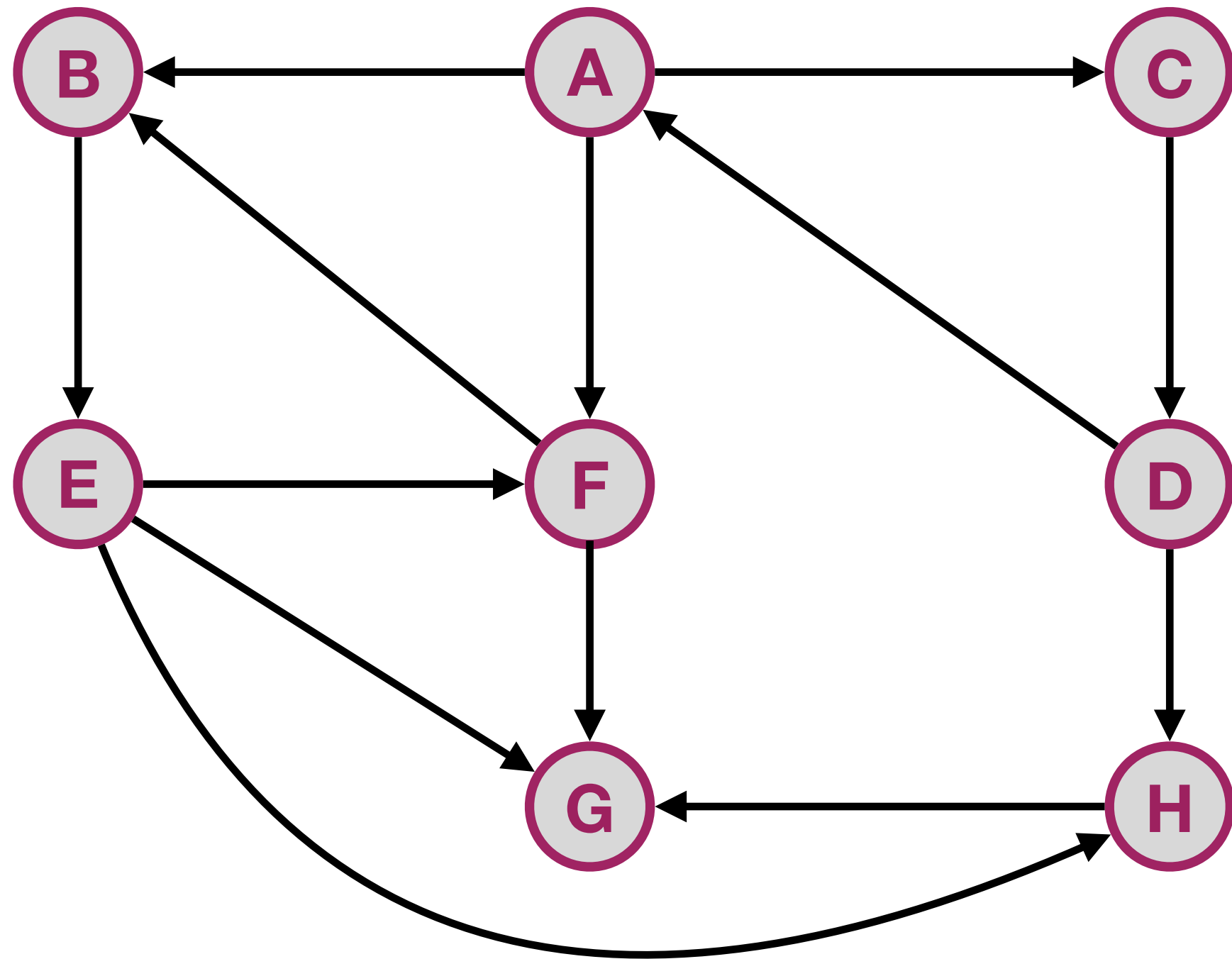


its reverse graph G^{rev} ...

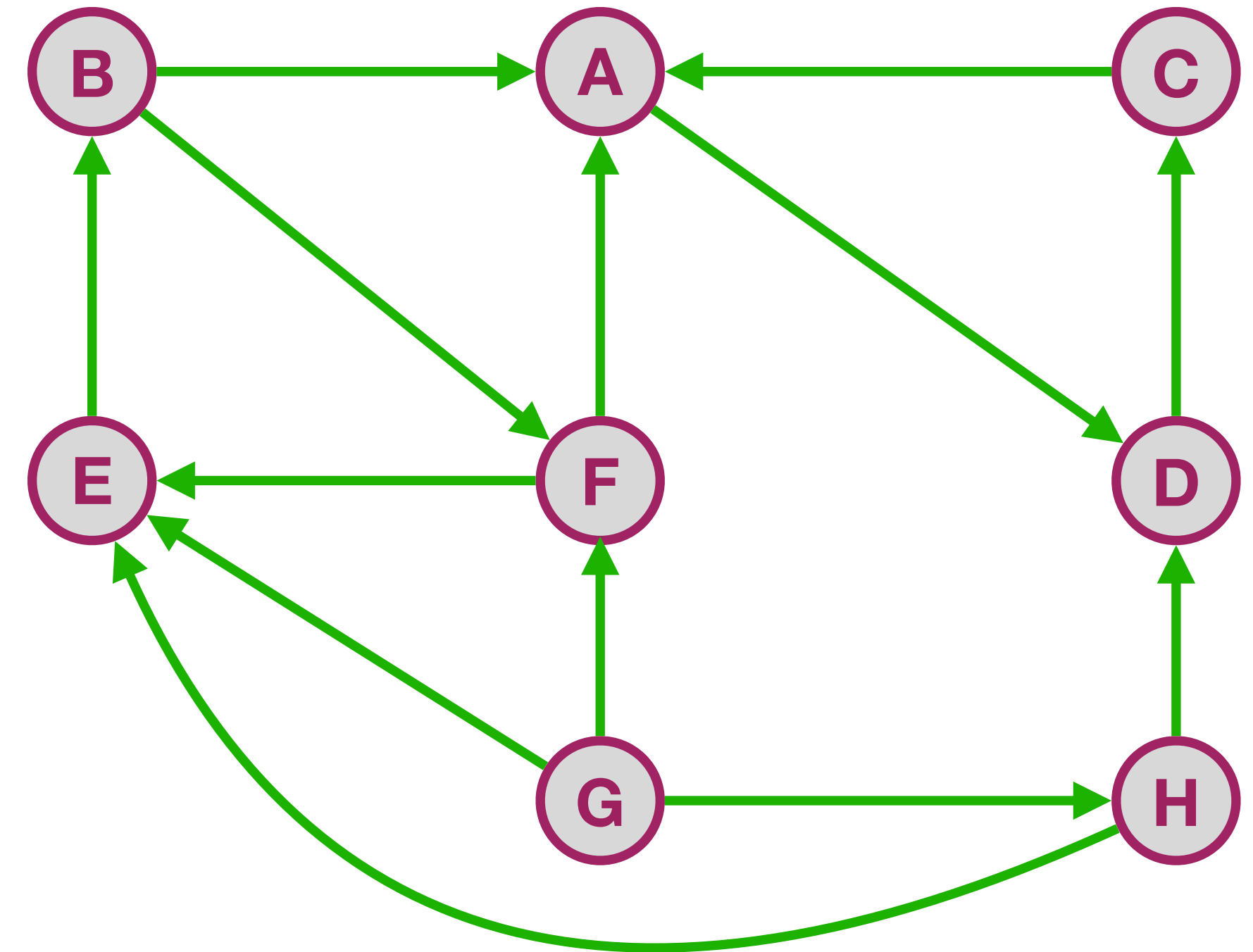


Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G ...



its reverse graph G^{rev} ...

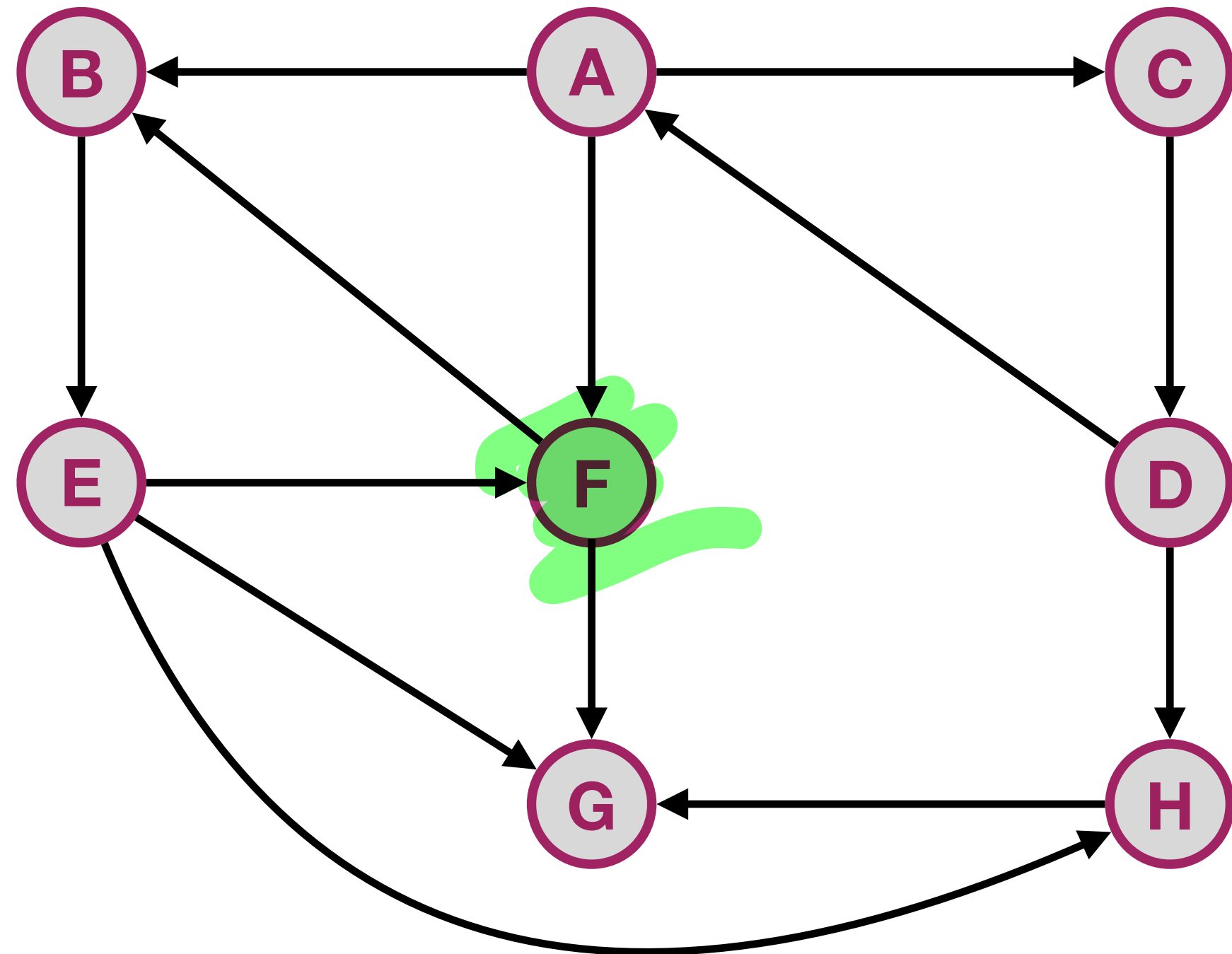


... has all edges reversed.

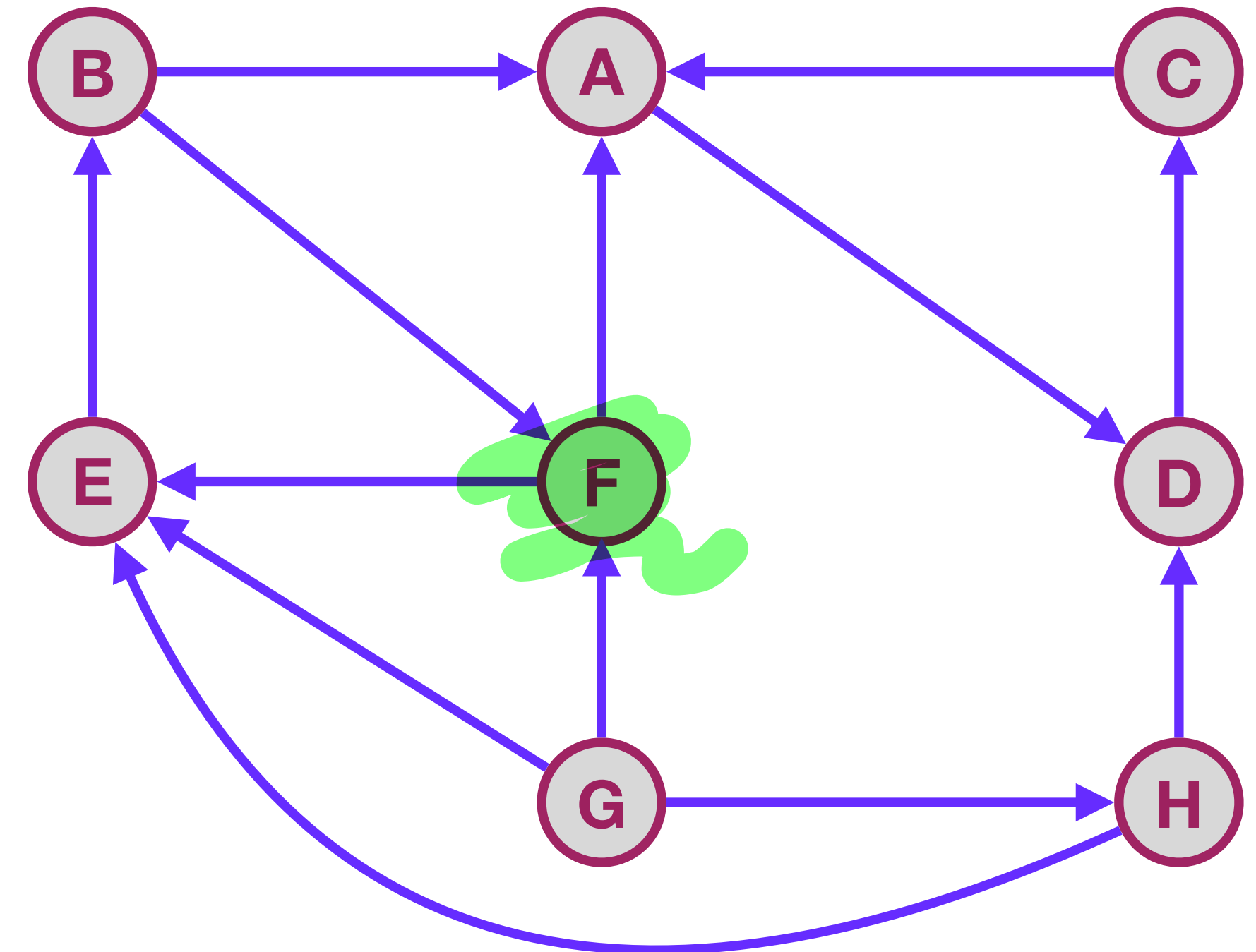
Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G , and a vertex F ...

.. the set of vertices that can reach it in G ...



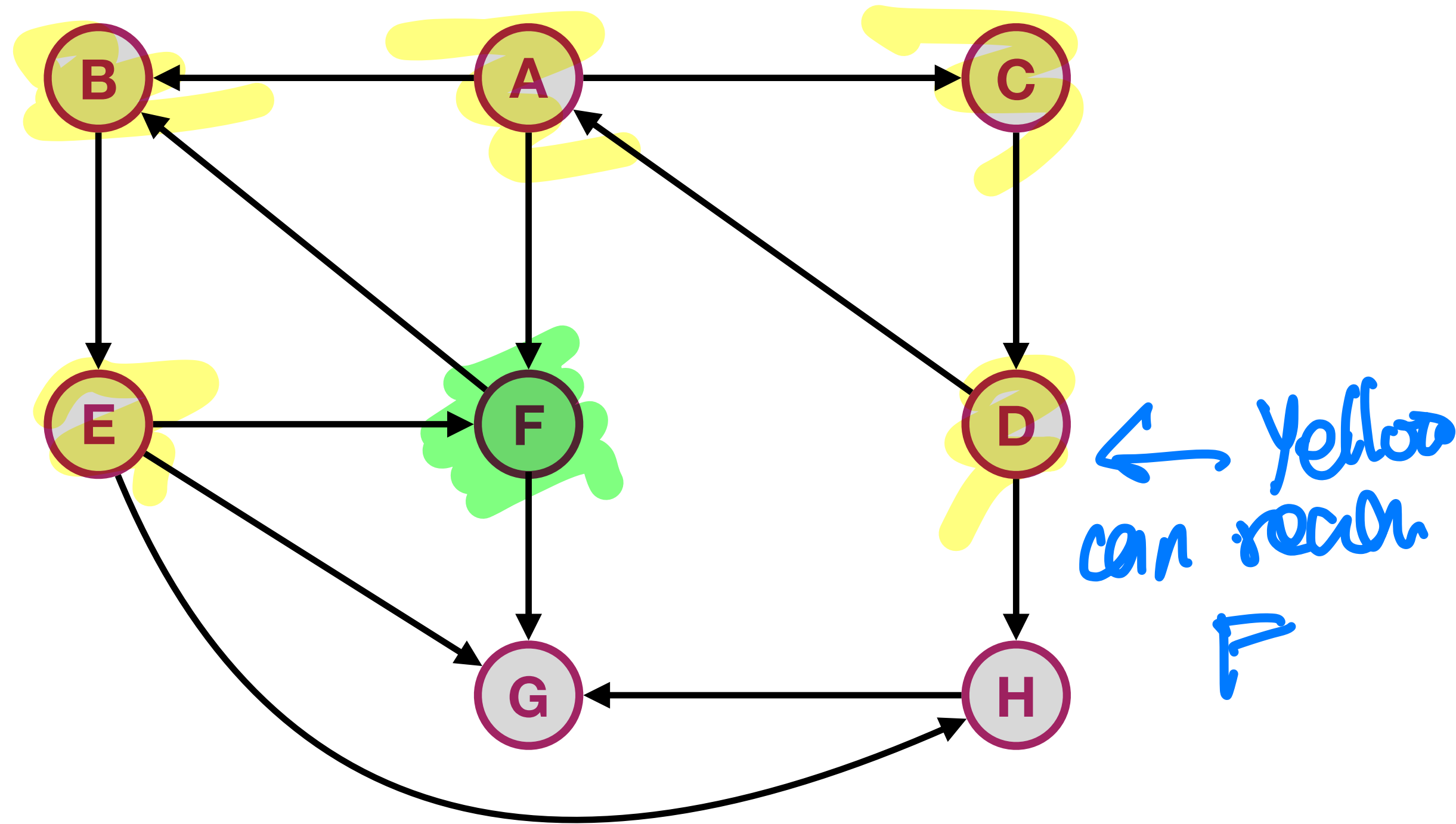
Graph G



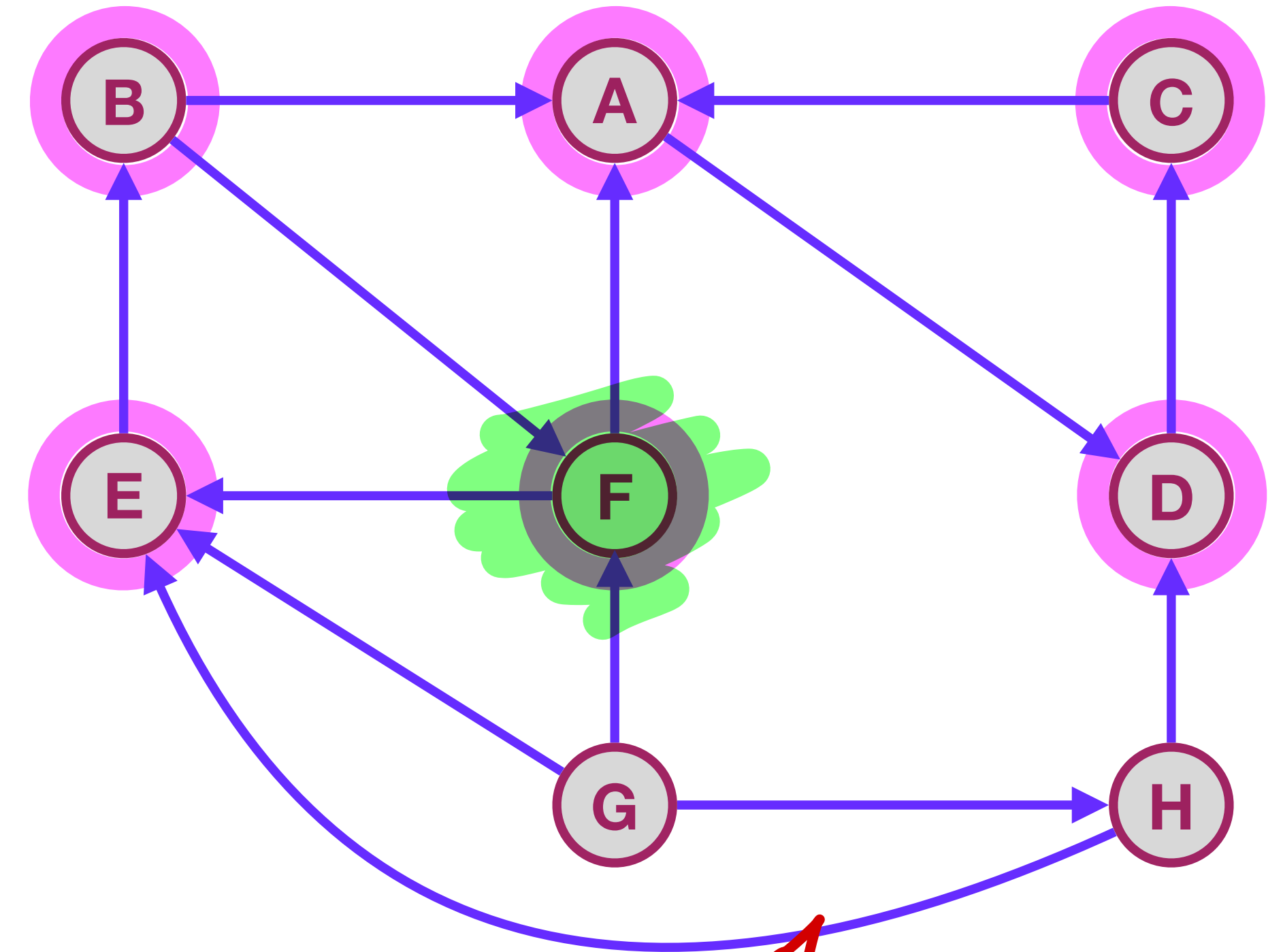
Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G , and a vertex F ...

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Graph G

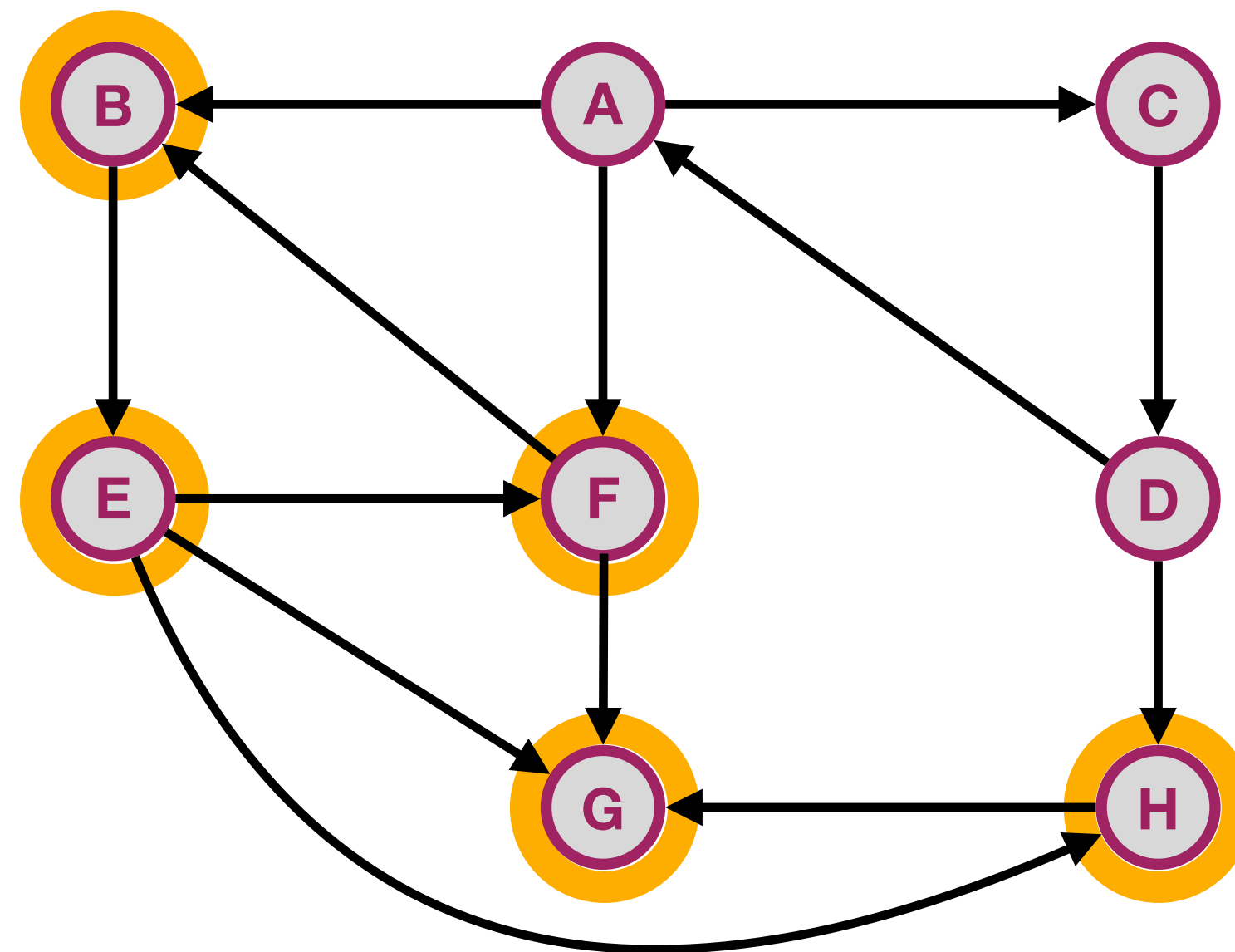


... is $\text{rch}(G^{\text{rev}}, F)$

Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

Given a graph G , and a vertex F ~~and~~, ^{i.e. F 's} its strongly connected component in G is ...

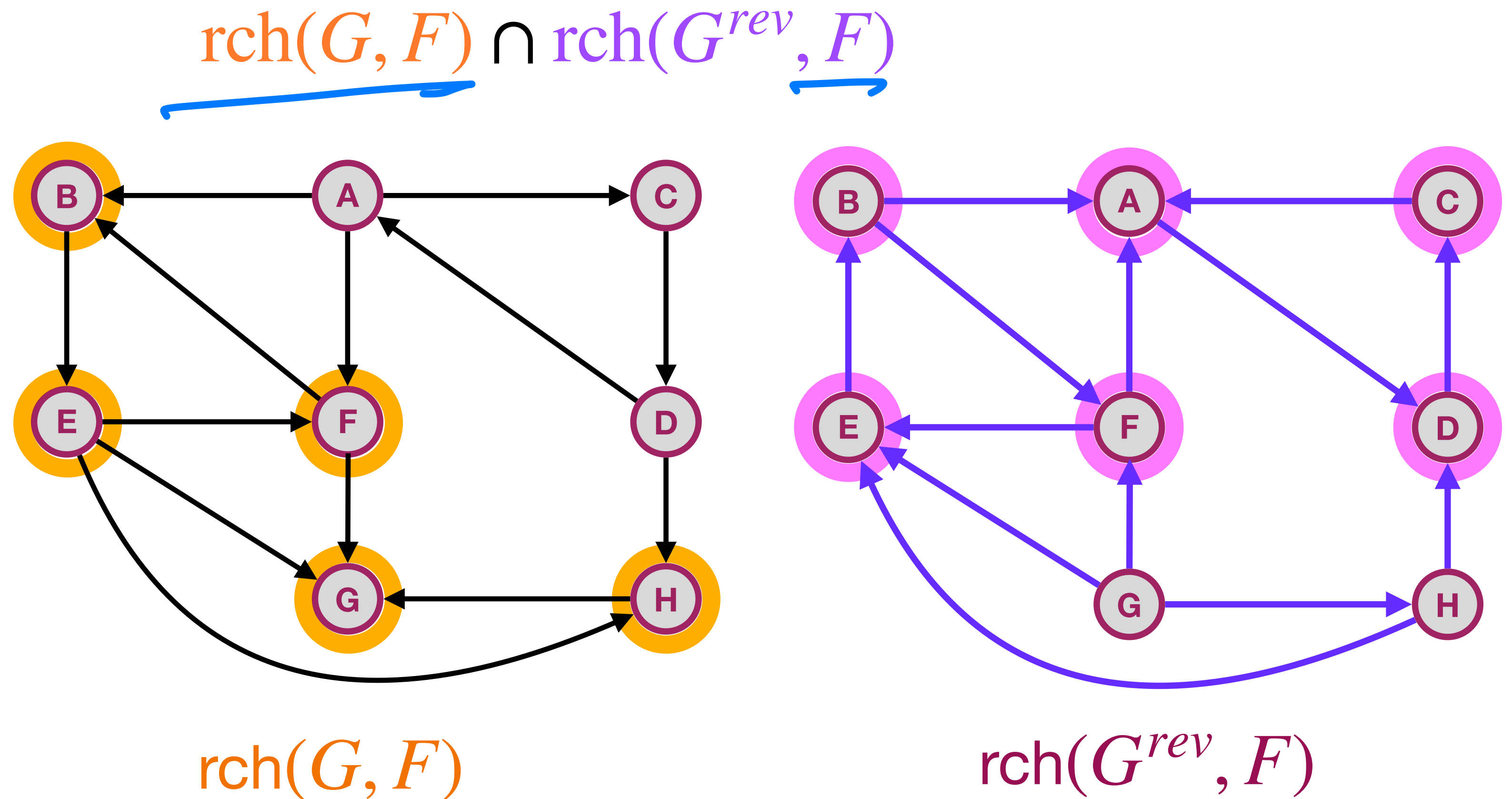
$\text{rch}(G, F)$



$\text{rch}(G, F)$

Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

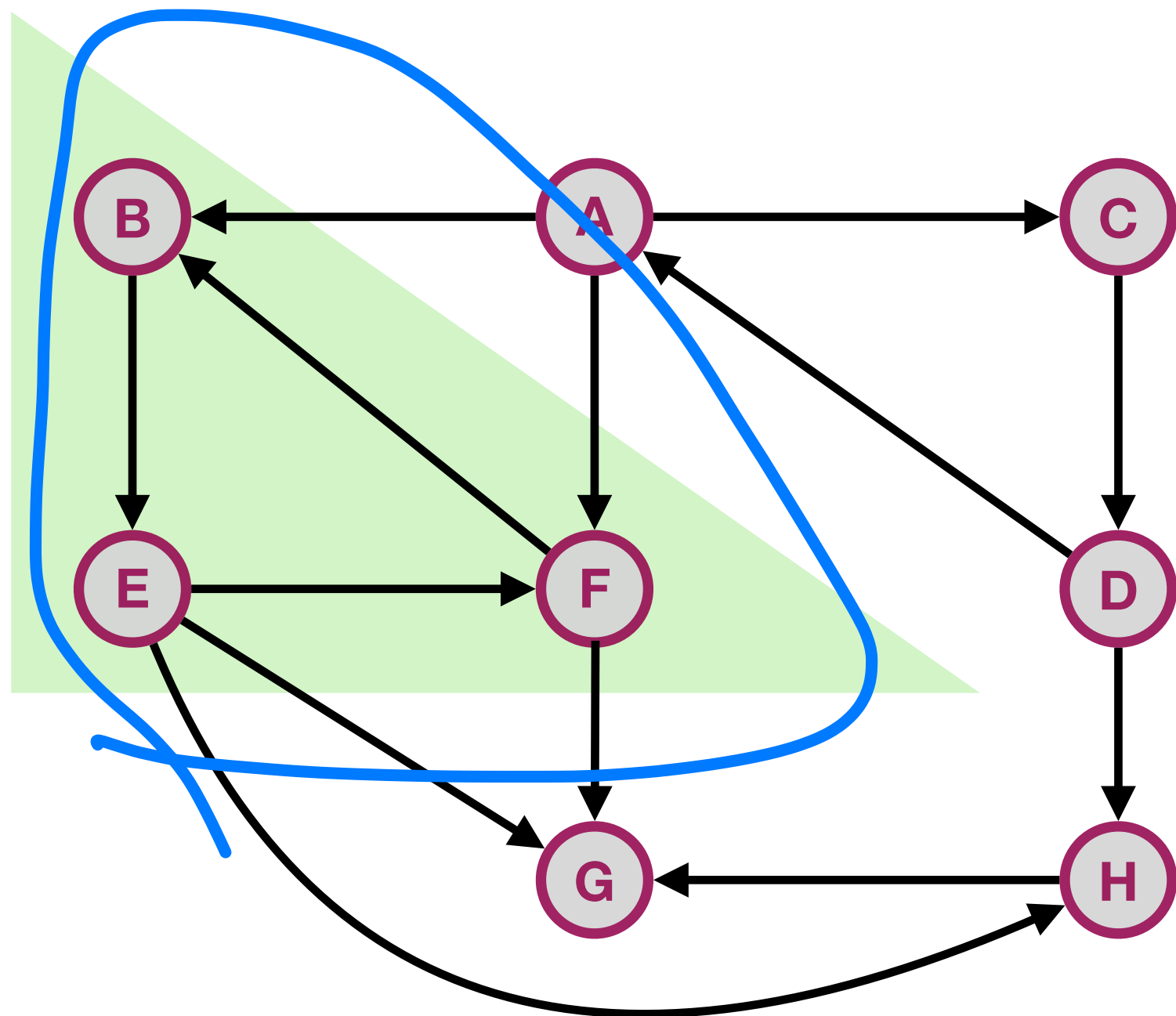
Given a graph G , and a vertex F and its strongly connected component in G is ...



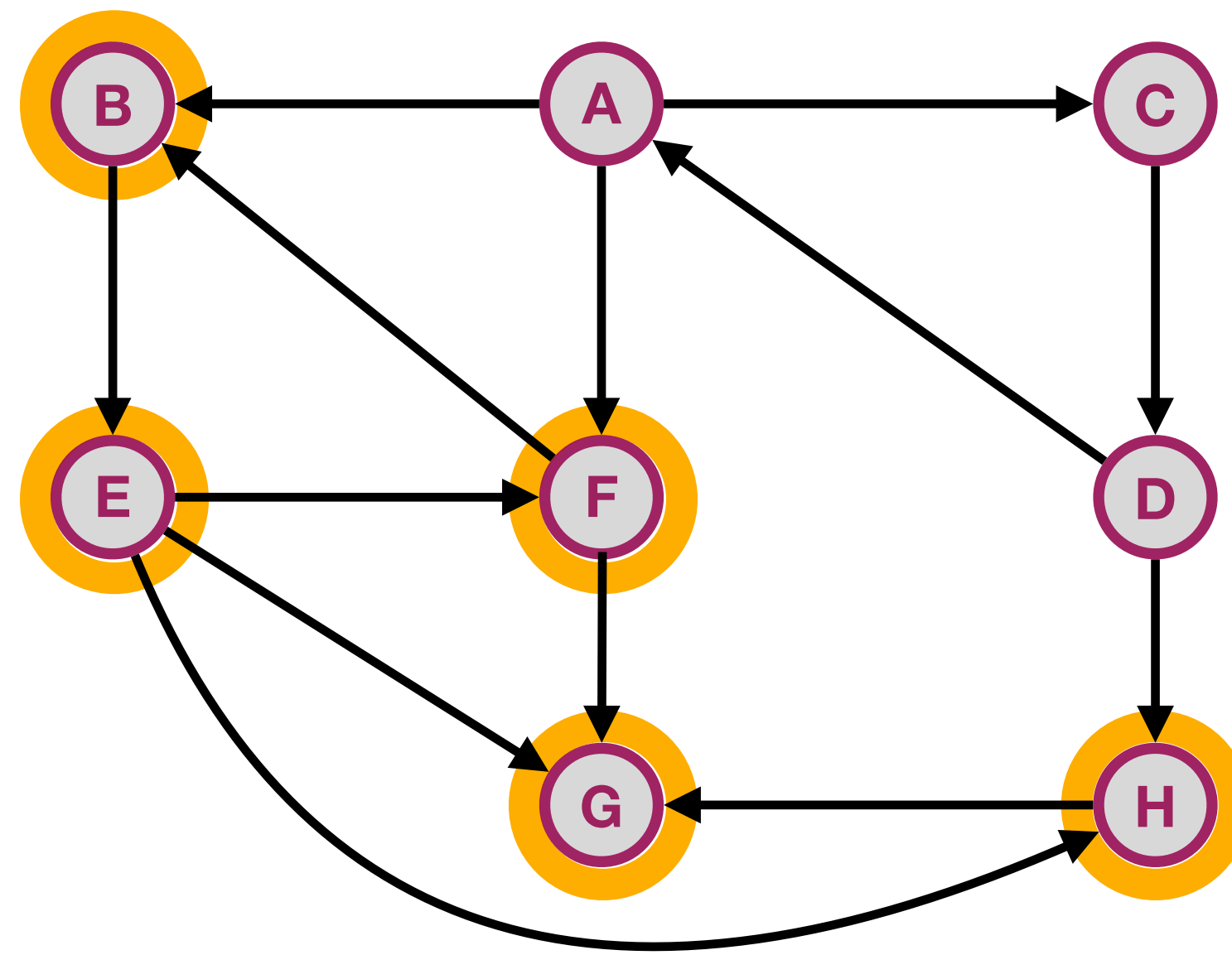
Algorithms via Basic Search - 4

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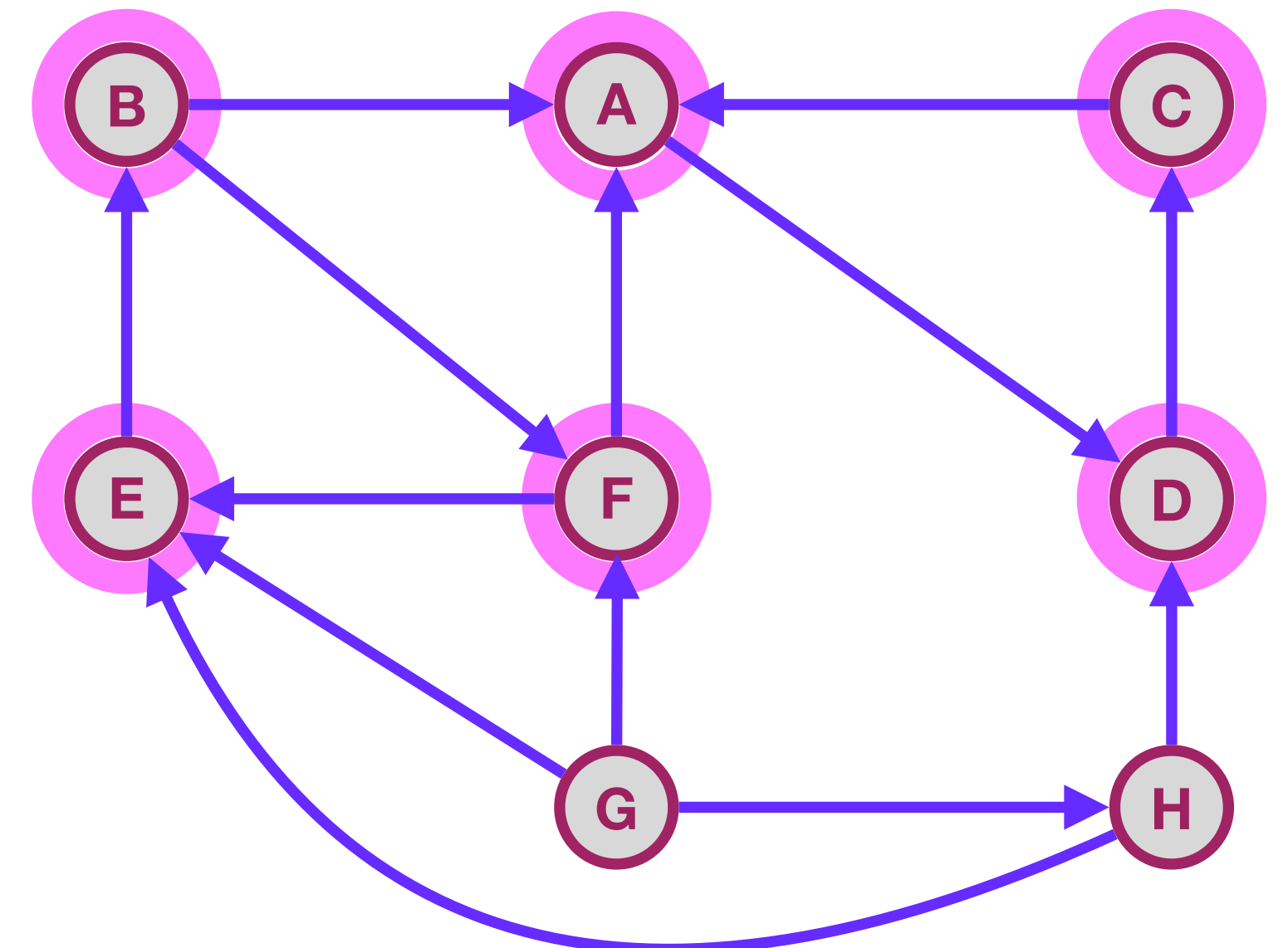
$$SCC(G, F) = \text{rch}(G, F) \cap \text{rch}(G^{rev}, F)$$



Graph G



$\text{rch}(G, F)$



$\text{rch}(G^{rev}, F)$

Algorithms via Basic Search - 5

- Is G strongly connected?
- Pick arbitrary vertex u .
- Check if $SCC(G, u) = V$.