

# Trees and Graphs

CSE 2320 – Algorithms and Data Structures  
Vassilis Athitsos  
University of Texas at Arlington

# Graphs

- A graph is formally defined as:
  - A set  $V$  of vertices (also called nodes).
  - A set  $E$  of edges. Each edge is a pair of two vertices in  $V$ .
- Graphs can be directed or undirected.
- In a directed graph, edge  $(A, B)$  means that we can go (using that edge) from  $A$  to  $B$ , but **not** from  $B$  to  $A$ .
  - We can have both edge  $(A, B)$  and edge  $(B, A)$  if we want to show that  $A$  and  $B$  are linked in both directions.
- In an undirected graph, edge  $(A, B)$  means that we can go (using that edge) from both  $A$  to  $B$  and  $B$  to  $A$ .

# Example: of an Undirected Graph

- A graph is formally defined as:

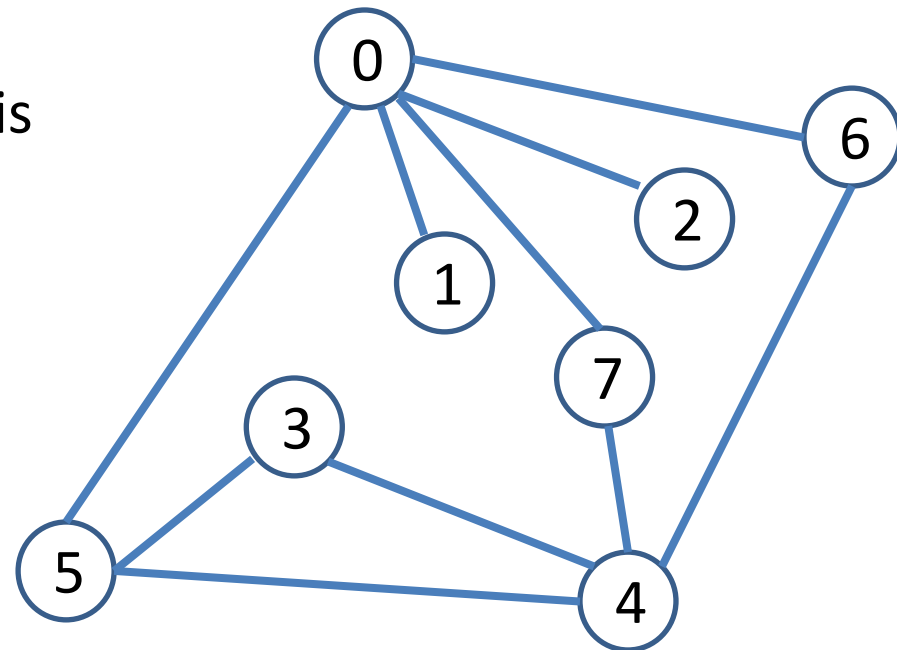
- A set  $V$  of vertices.
- A set  $E$  of edges. Each edge is a pair of two vertices in  $V$ .

- What is the set of vertices on the graph shown here?

- $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$

- What is the set of edges?

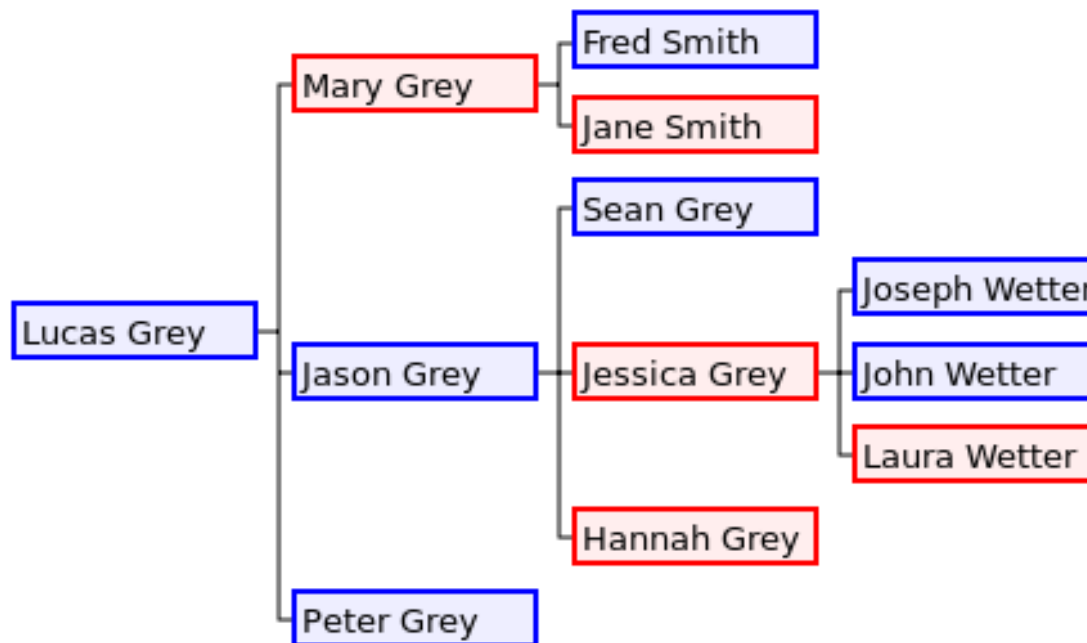
- $\{(0,1), (0,2), (0,5), (0,6), (0,7), (3,4), (3,5), (4,5), (4,6), (4,7)\}$ .



# Trees

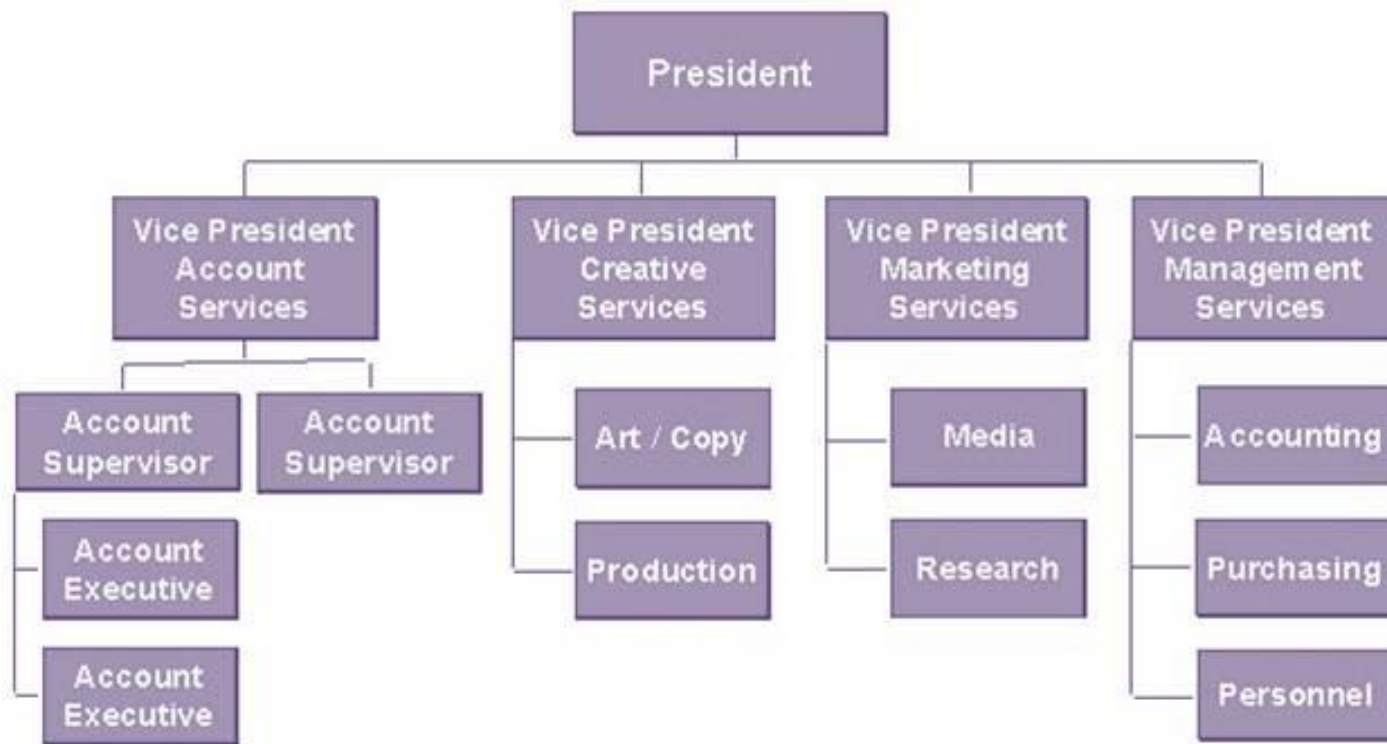
- Trees are a natural data structure for representing several types of data.
  - Family trees.
  - Organizational chart of a corporation, showing who supervises who.
  - Folder (directory) structure on a hard drive.
  - Parsing an English sentence into its parts.

# A Family Tree (from Wikipedia)

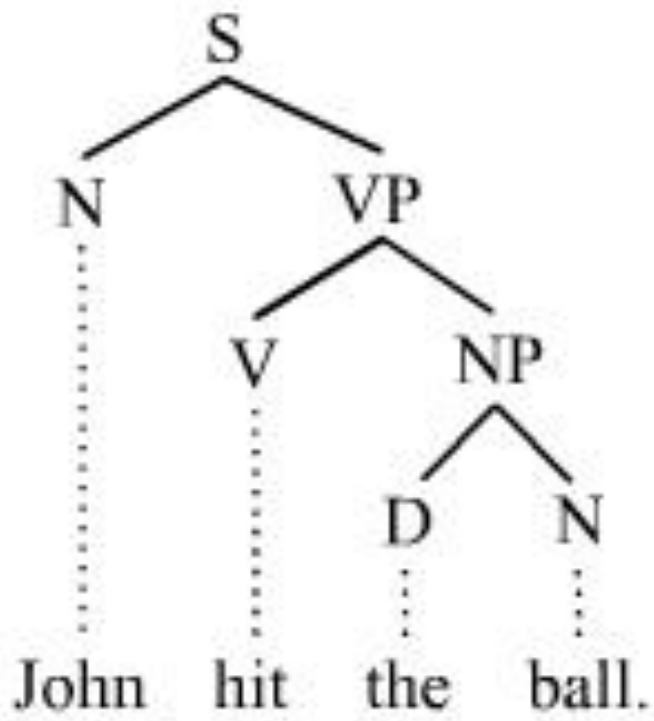


# An Organizational Chart (from Wikipedia)

## Agency Department System



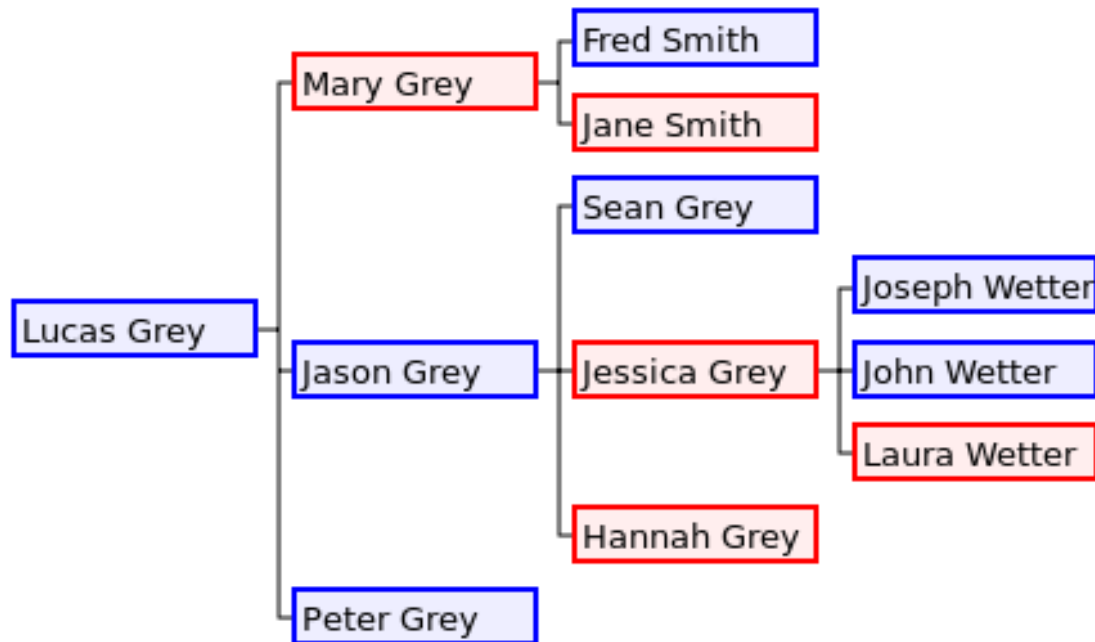
# A Parse Tree (from Wikipedia)



**Constituency-based parse tree**

# Paths

- A path in a tree is a list of distinct vertices, in which successive vertices are connected by edges.
  - No vertex is allowed to appear twice in a path.
- Example: ("Joseph Wetter", "Jessica Grey", "Jason Grey", "Hanna Grey")





# Trees and Graphs

- Are trees graphs?
  - Always?
  - Sometimes?
  - Never?
- Are graphs trees?
  - Always?
  - Sometimes?
  - Never?

# Trees and Graphs

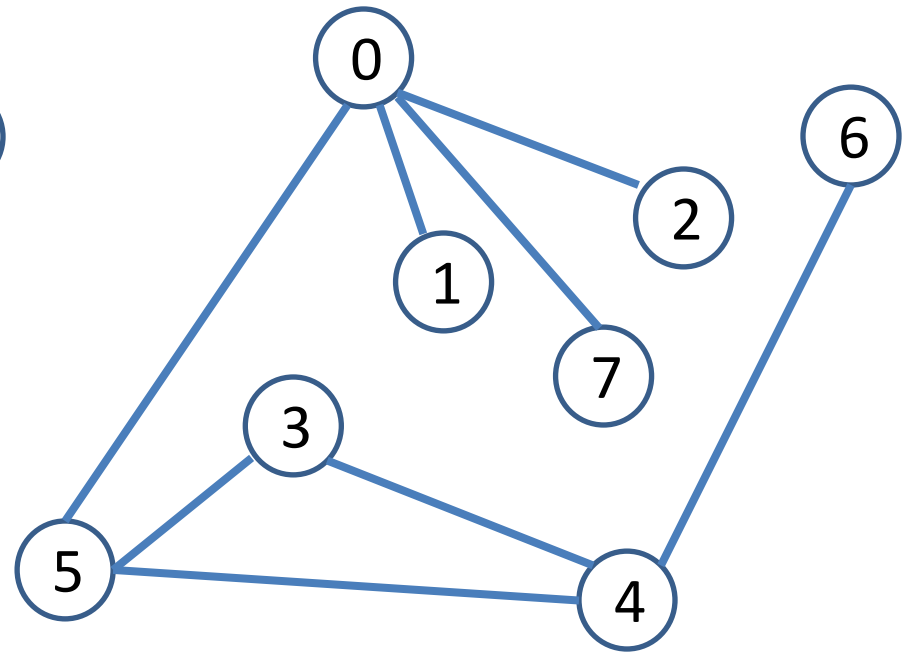
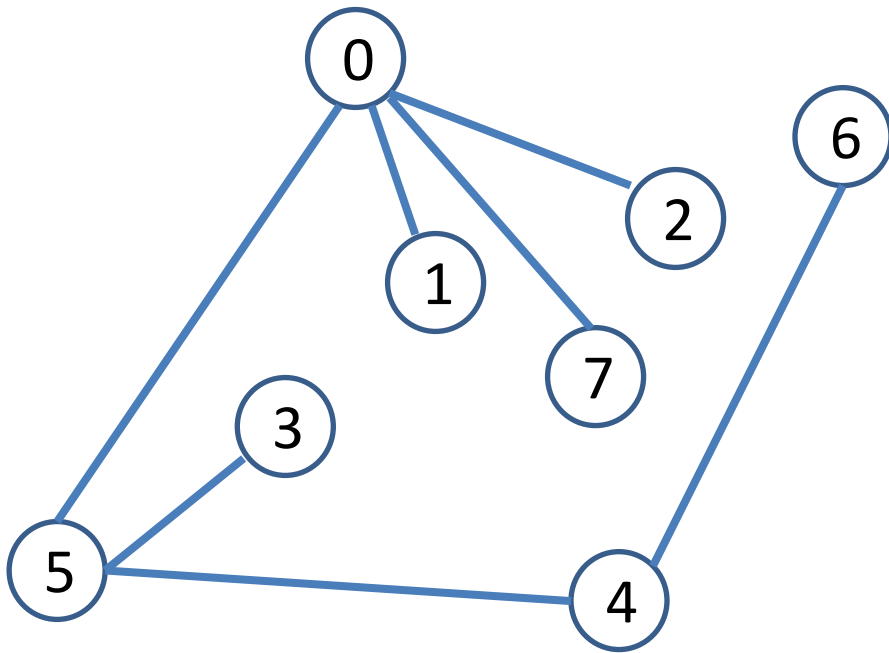
- All trees are graphs.
- Some graphs are trees, some graphs are not trees.
- What is the distinguishing characteristic of trees?
- What makes a graph a tree?

# Trees and Graphs

- All trees are graphs.
- Some graphs are trees, some graphs are not trees.
- What is the distinguishing characteristic of trees?
  - What makes a graph a tree?
- A tree is a graph such that any two nodes (vertices) are connected by precisely one path.
  - If you can find two nodes that are **not** connected by any path, then the graph is not a tree.
  - If you can find two nodes that are connected to each other by more than one path, then the graph is **not** a tree.

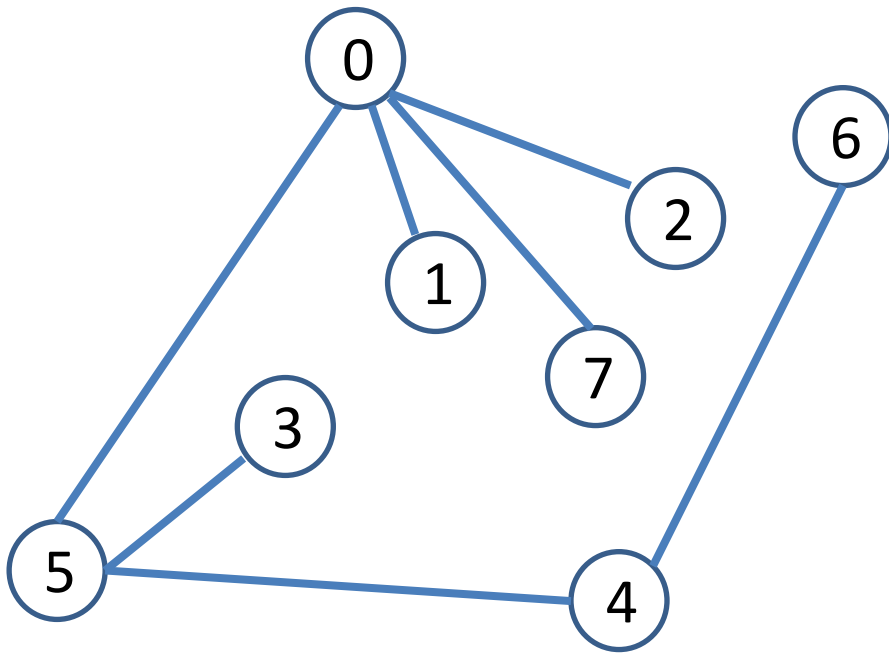
# Example

- Are these graphs trees?

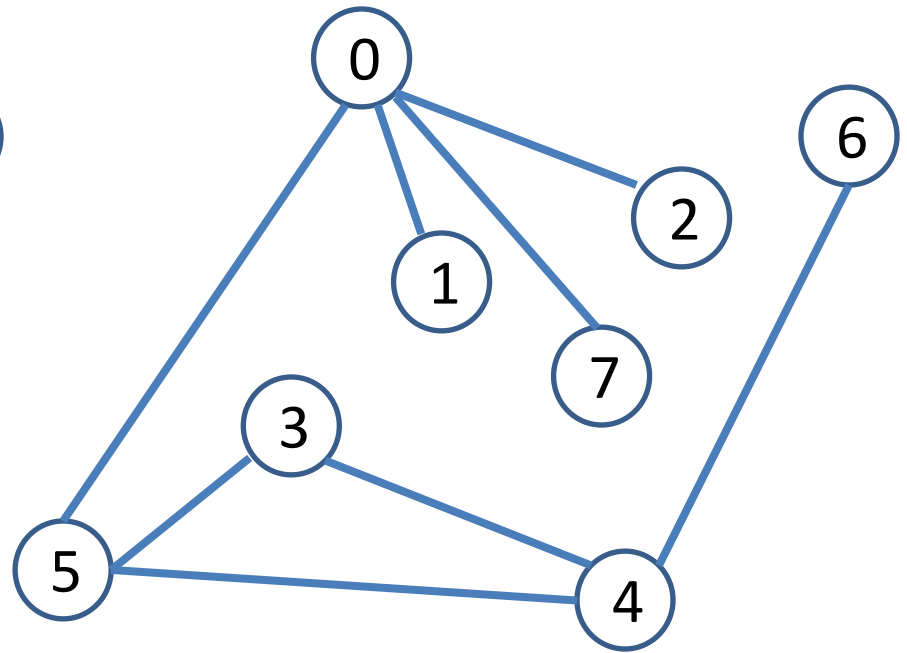


# Example

- Are these graphs trees?



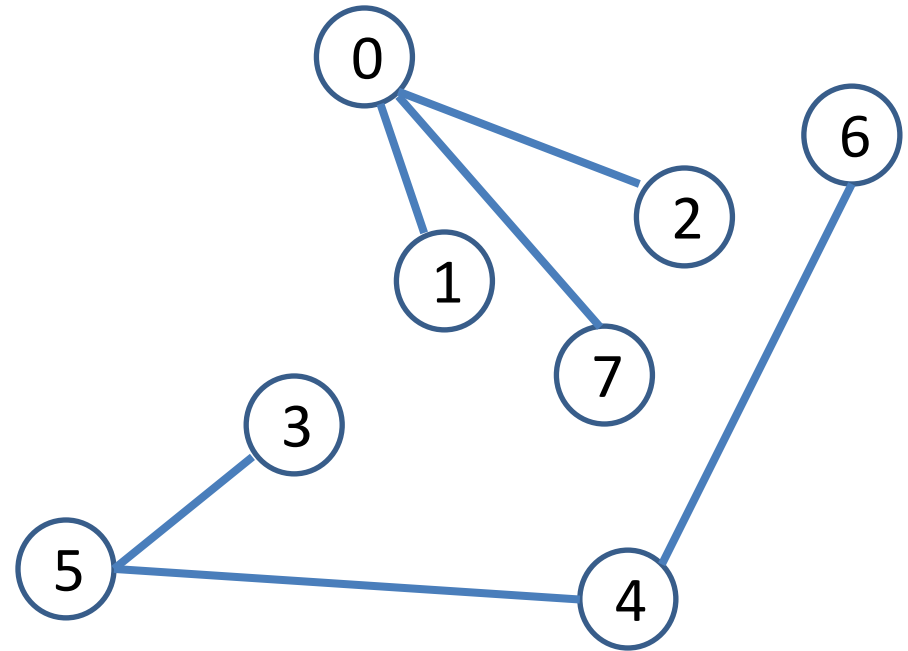
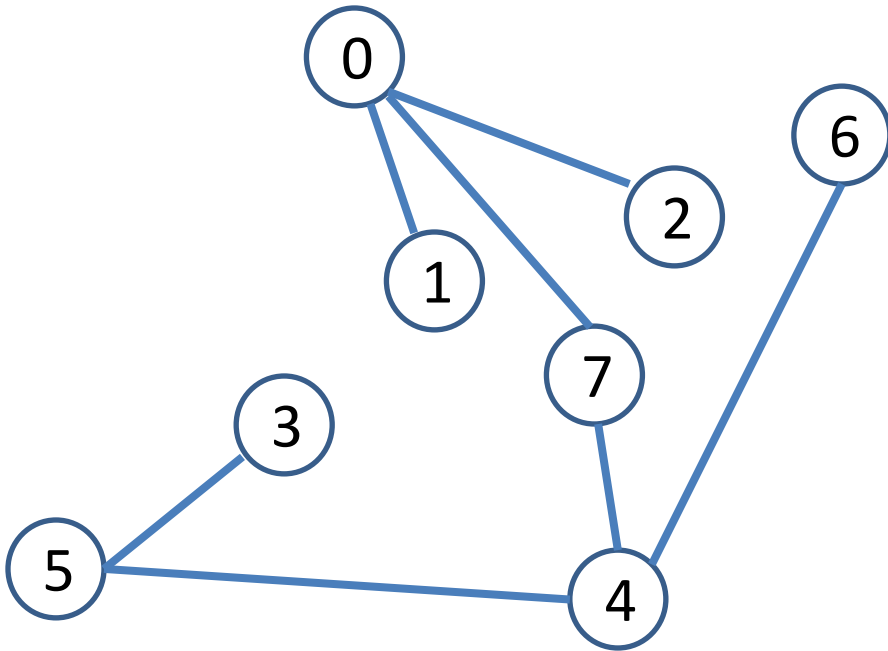
Yes, this is a tree. Any two vertices are connected by exactly one path.



No, this is not a tree. For example, there are two paths connecting node 5 to node 4.

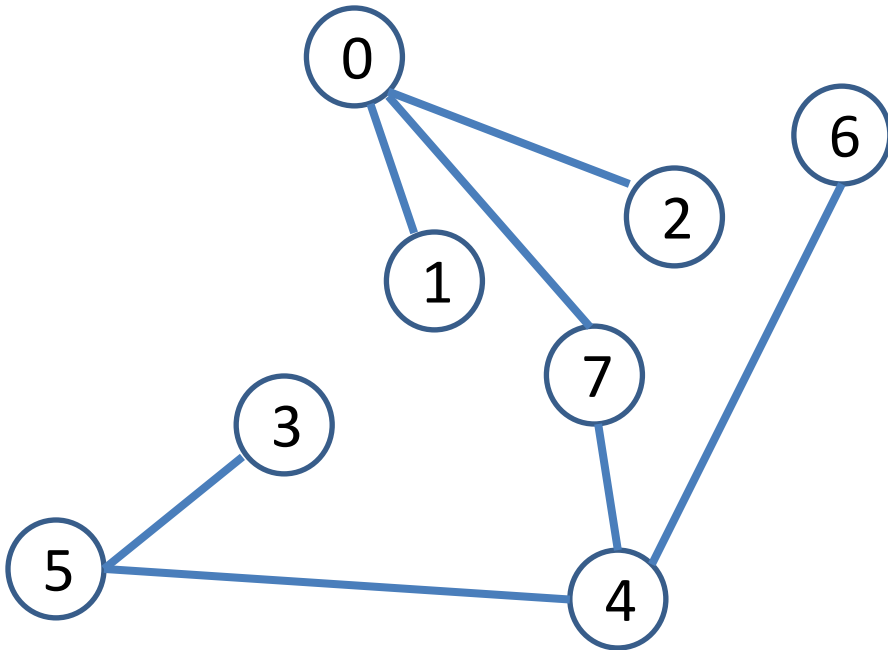
# Example

- Are these graphs trees?

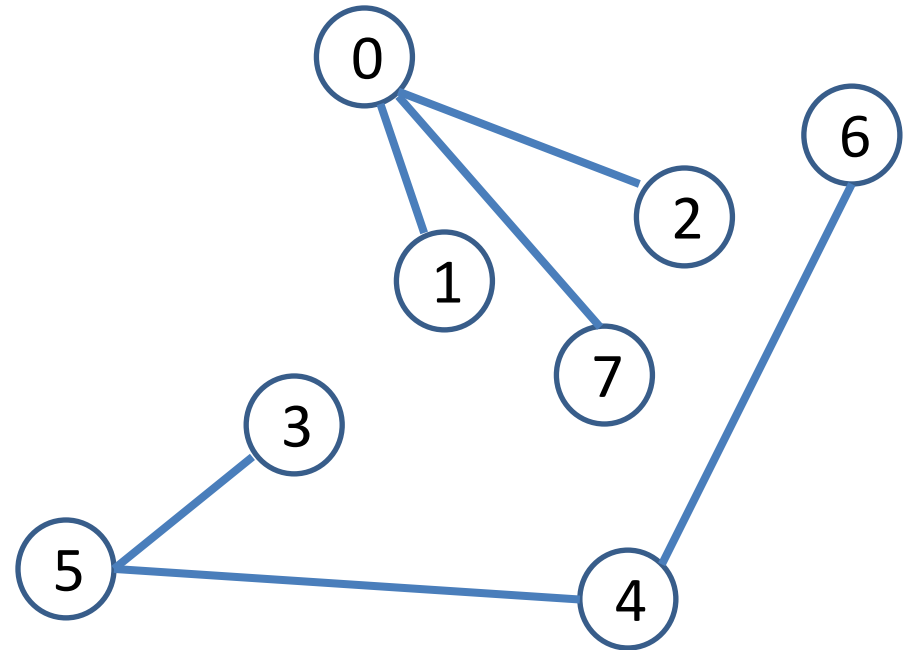


# Example

- Are these graphs trees?



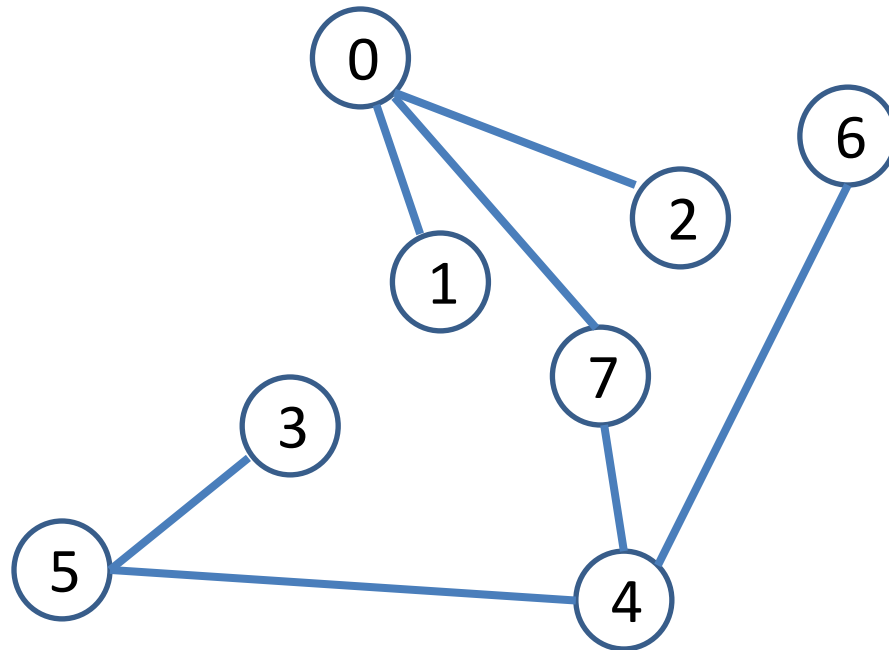
Yes, this is a tree. Any two vertices are connected by exactly one path.



No, this is not a tree. For example, there is no path connecting node 7 to node 4.

# Root of the Tree

- A rooted tree is a tree where one node is designated as the root.
- Given a tree, ANY node can be the root.





# Terminology

- A rooted tree is a tree where one node is explicitly designated as the root.
  - From now on, as is typical in computer science, all trees will be rooted trees
  - We will typically draw trees with the root placed at the top.
- Each node has exactly one node directly above it, which is called a **parent**.
- If  $Y$  is the parent of  $X$ , then  $Y$  is the node right after  $X$  on the path from  $X$  to the root.

# Terminology

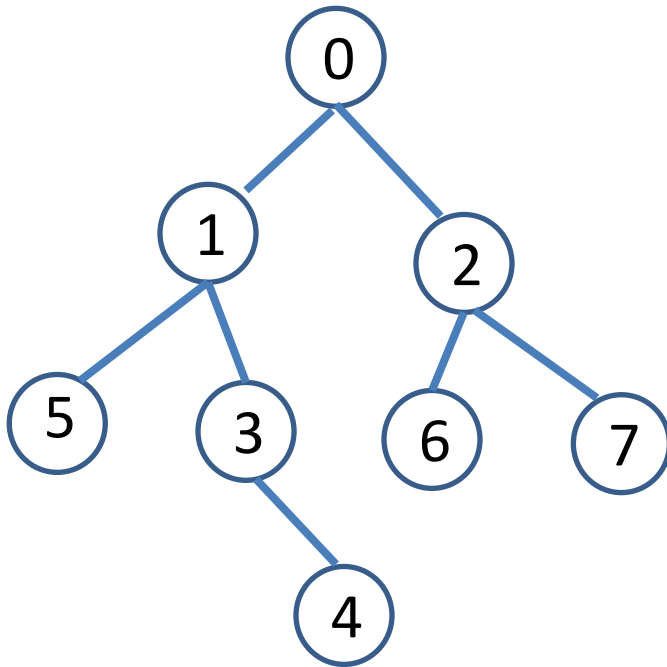
- If Y is the parent of X, then X is called a **child** of Y.
  - The root has no parents.
  - Every other node, except for the root, has exactly one parent.
- A node can have 0, 1, or more children.
- Nodes that have children are called **internal nodes** or **non-terminal nodes**.
- Nodes that have no children are called **leaves** or **terminal nodes**, or **external nodes**.

# Terminology

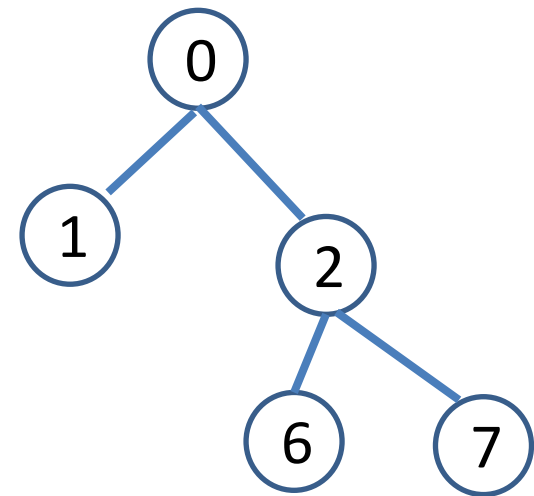
- The **level** of the root is defined to be 0.
- The **level** of each node is defined to be 1+ the level of its parent.
- The **height** of a tree is the maximum of the levels of all nodes in the tree.

# M-ary Trees

- An **M-ary tree** is a tree where every node is either a leaf or it has **exactly** M children.
- Example: **binary** trees, **ternary** trees, ...



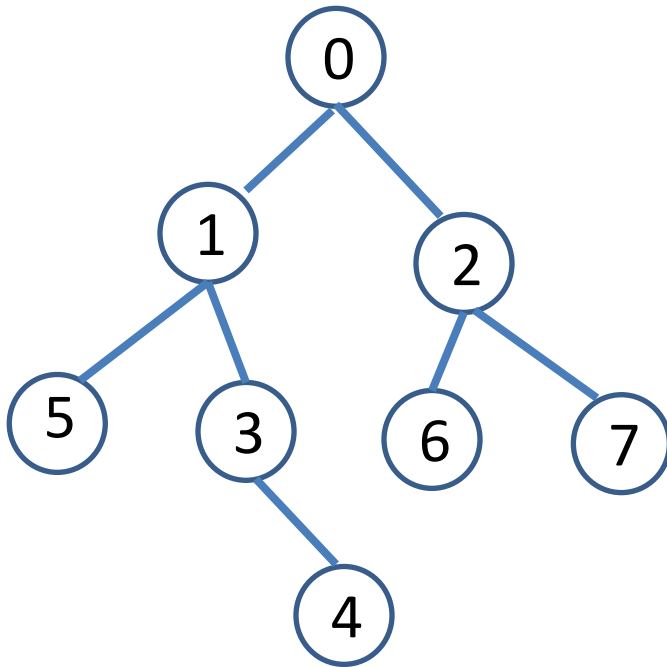
Is this a binary tree?



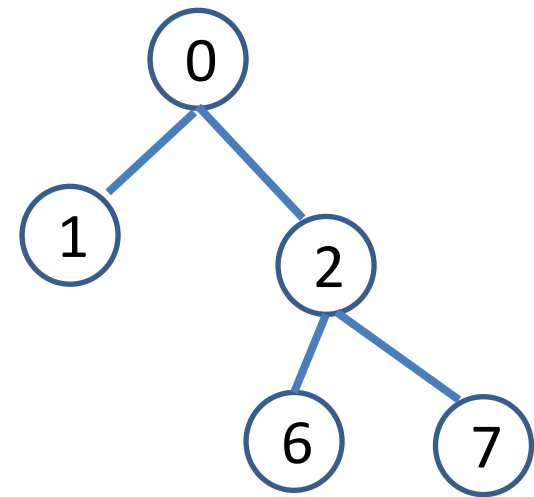
Is this a binary tree?

# M-ary Trees

- An **M-ary tree** is a tree where every node is either a leaf or it has **exactly** M children.
- Example: **binary** trees, **ternary** trees, ...



This is **not** a binary tree, node 3 has 1 child.



This is a binary tree.

# Ordered Trees

- A rooted tree is called **ordered** if the order in which we list the children of each node is significant.
- For example, if we have a binary ordered tree, we will refer to the left child and the right child of each node.
- If the tree is not ordered, then it does not make sense to talk of a left child and a right child.

# Properties of Binary Trees

- A binary tree with  $N$  internal nodes has  $N+1$  external nodes.
- A binary tree with  $N$  internal nodes has  $2N$  edges (links).
- The height of a binary tree with  $N$  internal nodes is at least  $\lg N$  and at most  $N$ .
  - Height =  $\lg N$  if all leaves are at the same level.
  - Height =  $N$  if each internal node has one leaf child.

# Defining Nodes for Binary Trees

```
typedef struct node *link;  
struct node  
{  
    Item item;  
    link left;  
    link right;  
};
```

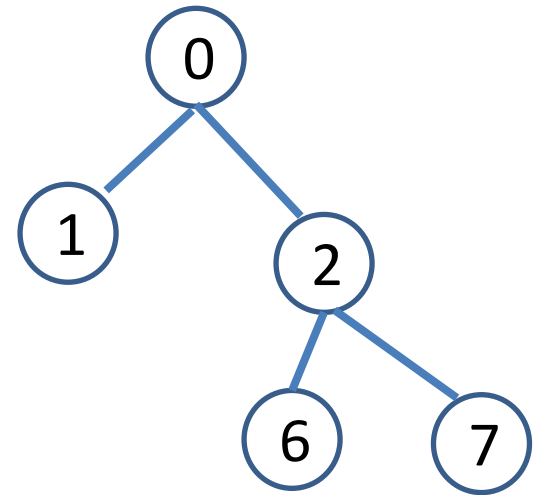


# Traversing a Binary Tree

- **Traversing** is the process of going through each node of a tree, and doing something with that node. Examples:
  - We can print the contents of the node.
  - We can change the contents of the node.
  - We can otherwise use the contents of the node in computing something.
- We have three choices about the order in which we visit nodes when we traverse a binary tree.
  - **Preorder**: we visit the node, then its left subtree, then its right subtree.
  - **Inorder**: we visit the left subtree, then the node, then the right subtree.
  - **Postorder**: we visit the left subtree, then the right subtree, then the node.

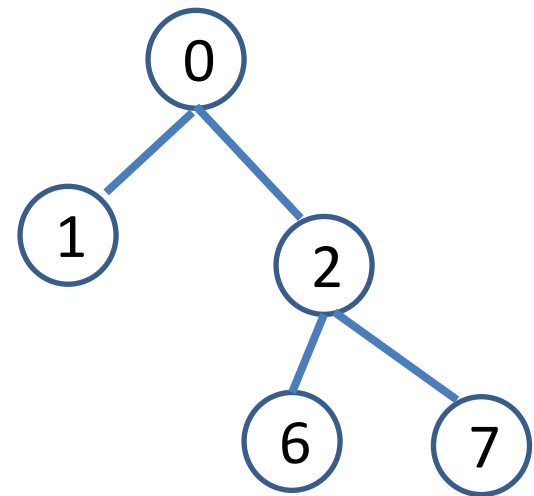
# Examples

- In what order will the values of the nodes be printed if we print the tree by traversing it:
  - Preorder?
  - Inorder?
  - Postorder?



# Examples

- In what order will the values of the nodes be printed if we print the tree by traversing it:
  - Preorder? 0, 1, 2, 6, 7 .
  - Inorder? 1, 0, 6, 2, 7.
  - Postorder? 1, 6, 7, 2, 0.



# Recursive Tree Traversal

```
void traverse_preorder(link h)
{
    if (h == NULL) return;
    do_something_with(h);
    traverse(h->l);
    traverse(h->r);
}
```

```
void traverse_inorder(link h)
{
    if (h == NULL) return;
    traverse(h->l);
    do_something_with(h);
    traverse(h->r);
}
```

```
void traverse_postorder(link h)
{
    if (h == NULL) return;
    traverse(h->l);
    traverse(h->r);
    do_something_with(h);
}
```

# Recursive Examples

Counting the number of nodes in the tree:

```
int count(link h)
{
    if (h == NULL) return 0;
    int c1 = count(h->left);
    int c2 = count(h->right);
    return c1 + c2 + 1;
}
```

Computing the height of the tree:

```
int height(link h)
{
    if (h == NULL) return -1;
    int u = height(h->left);
    int v = height(h->right);
    if (u > v) return u+1;
    else return v+1;
}
```

# Recursive Examples

Printing the contents of each node:

(assuming that the items in the nodes are characters)

```
void printnode(char c, int h)
{
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < h; i++) printf(" ");
    printf("%c\n", c);
}

void show(link x, int h)
{
    if (x == NULL) { printnode("*", h); return; }
    printnode(x->item, h);
    show(x->l, h+1);
    show(x->r, h+1);
}
```

# Recursive Graph Traversal

- Recursive functions are also frequently used to traverse graphs.
- When traversing a tree, it is natural to start at the root.
- When traversing a graph, we must specify the node with start from.
- In the following examples we will assume that we represent graphs using adjacency lists.

# Reminder: Defining a Graph Using Adjacency Lists

```
typedef struct struct_graph * graph;  
  
struct struct_graph  
{  
    int number_of_vertices;  
    list * adjacencies;  
};
```



# Graph Traversal - Graph Search

- Overall, we will use the terms "**graph traversal**" and "**graph search**" almost interchangeably.
- However, there is a small difference:
  - "Traversal" implies we visit every node in the graph.
  - "Search" implies we visit nodes until we find something we are looking for.
- For example:
  - A node labeled "New York".
  - A node containing integer 2014.

# Graph Search in General

- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- The pseudocode is really a template.
- It does not specify what we really want to do.
- To fully specify an algorithm, we need to better define what each of the red lines.

# Graph Search in General

- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- Depending on what we specify in those lines, this template can produce a wide variety of applications:
  - Printing each node of the graph.
  - Driving directions.
  - The best move for a board game like chess.
  - A solution to a mathematical problem...

# Specifying Graph Search Behavior

- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- What do we do when visiting a node?
- Whatever we want. For example:
  - Print the contents of the node.
  - Use the contents in some computation (min, max, sum, ...).
  - See if the node has a value we care about ("New York", 2014, ...).
  - These are all reasonable topics for assignments/exams.

# Specifying Graph Search Behavior

- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- Inserting children of a node to the to\_visit list:
- We have a choice: insert a child even if it already is included in that list, or not?
  - In some cases we should not. Example: ???
  - In some cases we should, but we may not see such cases in this course.

# Specifying Graph Search Behavior

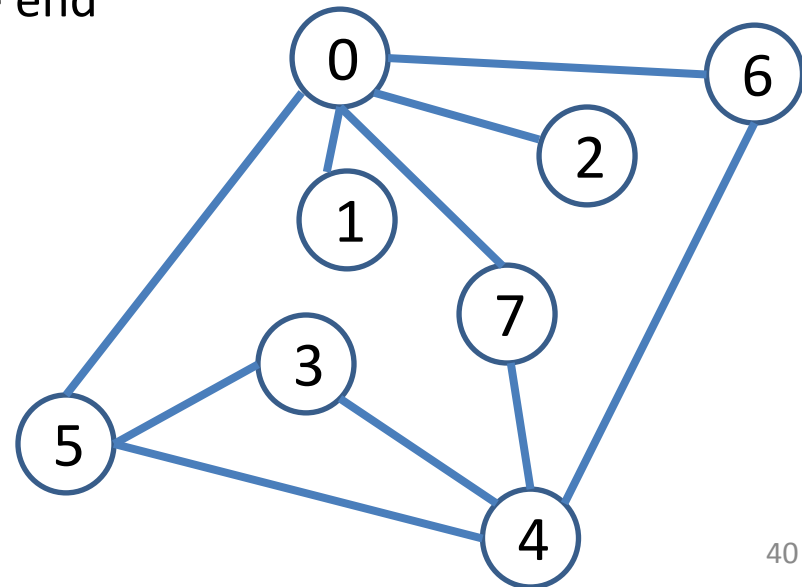
- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- Inserting children of a node to the to\_visit list:
- We have a choice: insert a child even if it already is included in that list, or not?
  - In some cases we should not. Example: printing each node.
  - In some cases we should, but we may not see such cases in this course.

# Specifying Graph Search Behavior

- GraphSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove a node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- **Most important question** (for the purposes of this course):
  - Removing a node from list to\_visit: **Which node**? The first, the last, some other one?
- The answer has **profound** implications for time complexity, space complexity, other issues you may see later or in other courses...

# Depth-First Search

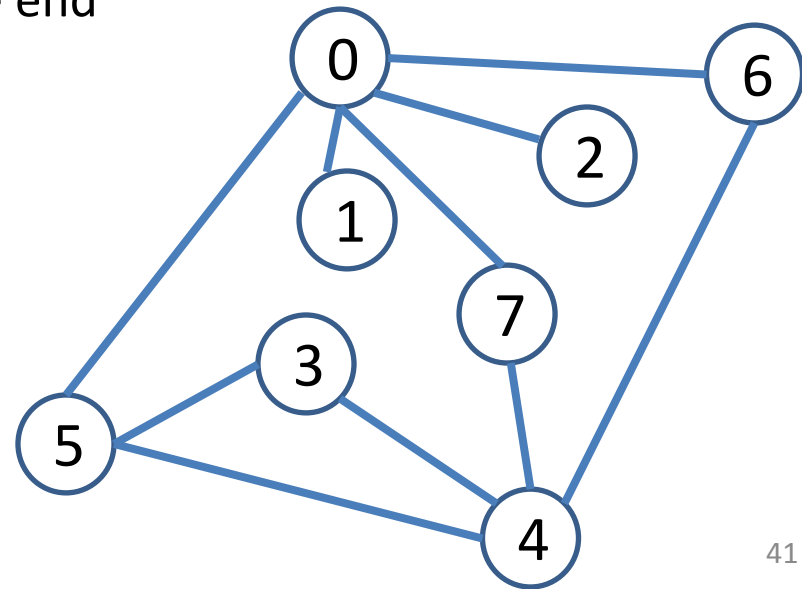
- DepthFirstSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove the last node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- In depth-first search, the list of nodes to visit is treated as a LIFO (last-in, first-out) queue.
- DepthFirstSearch(graph, 5):
- In what order does it visit nodes?





# Depth-First Search

- DepthFirstSearch(graph, starting\_node)
  - Initialize list to\_visit to a list with starting\_node as its only element.
  - While(to\_visit is not empty):
    - Remove the last node N from list to\_visit.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list to\_visit.
- DepthFirstSearch(graph, 5):
- In what order does it visit nodes?
- The answer is not unique.
  - One possibility: 5, 4, 3, 7, 0, 1, 2, 6.
  - Another possibility: 5, 3, 4, 7, 0, 6, 1, 2.
  - Another possibility: 5, 0, 6, 4, 3, 7, 1, 2.



# Depth-First Search

```
void depth_first(Graph g, int start)
{
    int * visited = malloc(sizeof(int) * g->number_of_vertices);
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < g->number_of_vertices; i++) visited[i] = 0;
    depth_first_helper(g, start, visited);
}
```

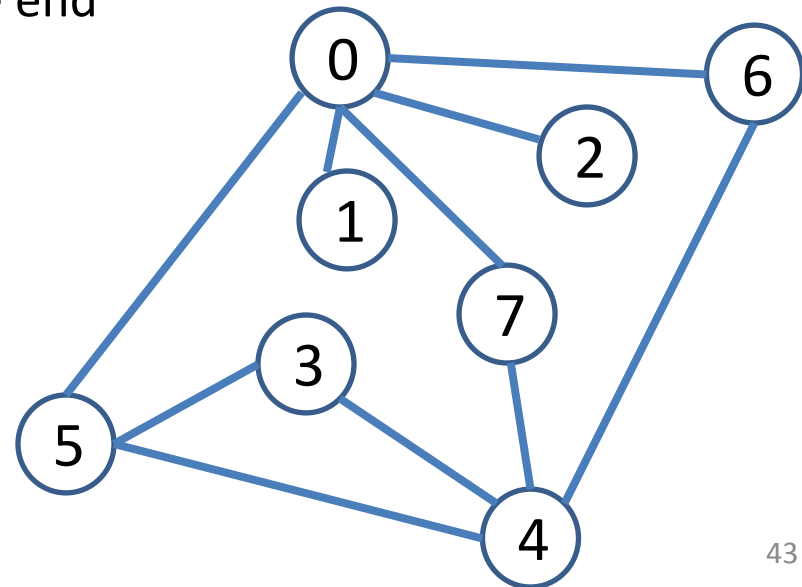
This code assumes that each link item is an int.

```
void depth_first_helper (Graph g, int k, int * visited)
{ link t;
  do_something_with(k); // This is just a placeholder.
  visited[k] = 1;
  for (t = listFirst(g->adjacencies[k]); t != NULL; t = t->next)
    if (!visited[linkItem(t)]) depth_first_helper(g, linkItem(t), visited);
}
```

Note: no need to explicitly maintain a list of nodes to visit.

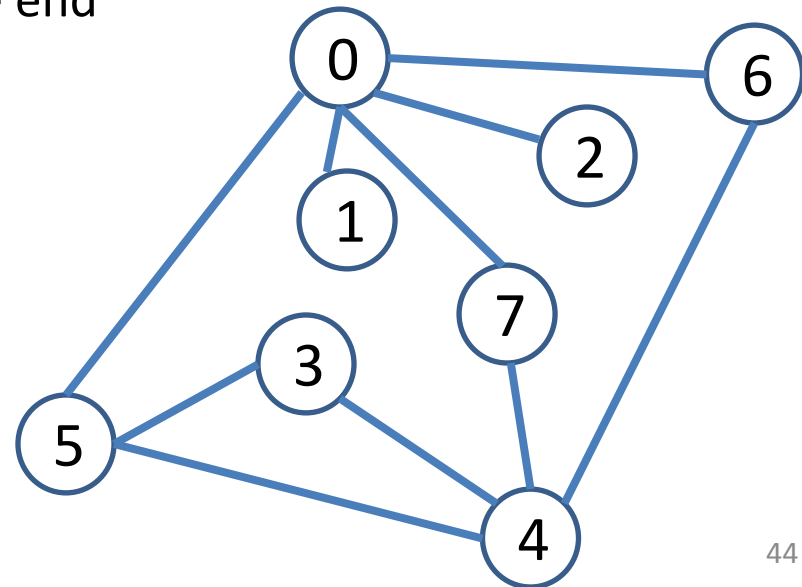
# Breadth-First Search

- `BreadthFirstSearch(graph, starting_node)`
  - Initialize list `to_visit` to a list with `starting_node` as its only element.
  - While(`to_visit` is not empty):
    - Remove the first node `N` from list `to_visit`.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list `to_visit`.
- In breadth-first search, the list of nodes to visit is treated as a LIFO (last-in, first-out) queue.
- `BreadthFirstSearch(graph, 5):`
- In what order does it visit nodes?



# Breadth-First Search

- `BreadthFirstSearch(graph, starting_node)`
  - Initialize list `to_visit` to a list with `starting_node` as its only element.
  - While(`to_visit` is not empty):
    - Remove the first node `N` from list `to_visit`.
    - "Visit" that node.
    - If that node was what we were looking for, break.
    - Add the children of that node to the end of list `to_visit`.
- `BreadthFirstSearch(graph, 5):`
- In what order does it visit nodes?
- The answer is not unique.
  - One possibility: 5, 4, 3, 0, 7, 1, 2, 6.
  - Another possibility: 5, 3, 4, 0, 7, 6, 1, 2.
  - Another possibility: 5, 0, 4, 3, 6, 1, 2, 7.



# Breadth-First Search

```
void breadth_first(Graph g, int k)
{
    int i; link t;
    int * visited = malloc(sizeof(int) * g->number_of_vertices);
    for (i = 0; i < g->number_of_vertices; i++) visited[i] = 0;
    QUEUEinit(V); QUEUEput(k);
    while (!QUEUEempty())
        if (visited[k = QUEUEget()] == 0)
            {
                do_something_with(k); // This is just a placeholder.
                visited[k] = 1;
                for (t = g->adjacencies[k]; t != NULL; t = t->next)
                    if (visited[linkItem(t)] == 0) QUEUEput(linkItem(t));
            }
}
```

This pseudocode uses the textbook's implementation of queues.

# Note

- The previous examples should be treated as very detailed C-like pseudocode, not as ready-to-run code.
- We have seen several different implementations of graphs, lists, queues.
- To make the code actually work, you will need to make sure it complies with specific implementations.