

# Depth-First Search

CSE 2011  
Fall 2009

12/1/2009 11:43 AM

1

## Depth-First Search (DFS)

- DFS is another popular graph search strategy
  - Idea is similar to pre-order traversal (visit node, then visit children recursively)
- DFS will continue to visit **neighbors** in a recursive pattern
  - Whenever we visit  $v$  from  $u$ , we recursively visit all unvisited neighbors of  $v$ . Then we backtrack (return) to  $u$ .

2

# DFS Algorithm

## Algorithm $DFS(s)$

1. **for** each vertex  $v$
2.     **do**  $flag[v] := false;$
3.      $RDFS(s);$

Flag all vertices as not visited

## Algorithm $RDFS(v)$

1.  $flag[v] := true;$
2. **for** each neighbor  $w$  of  $v$
3.     **do if**  $flag[w] = false$
4.         **then**  $RDFS(w);$

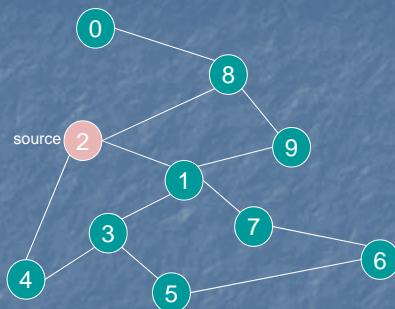
Flag yourself as visited

For unvisited neighbors, call  $RDFS(w)$  recursively

We can also record the paths using  $prev[]$ .  
Where do we insert the code for  $prev[]$ ?

3

## Example



Adjacency List

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

Visited Table (T/F)

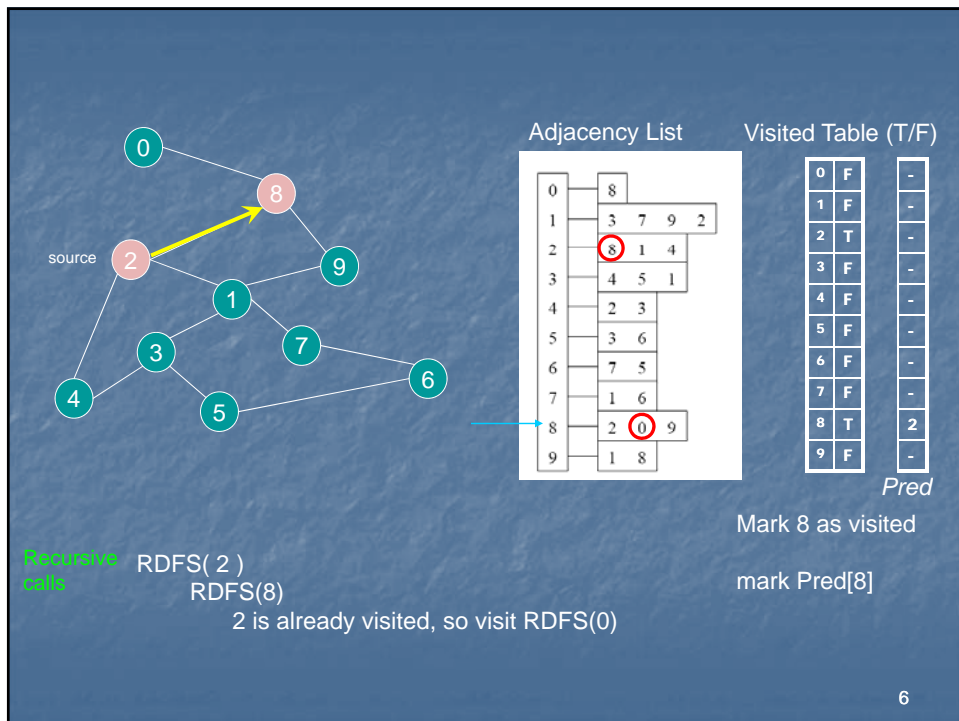
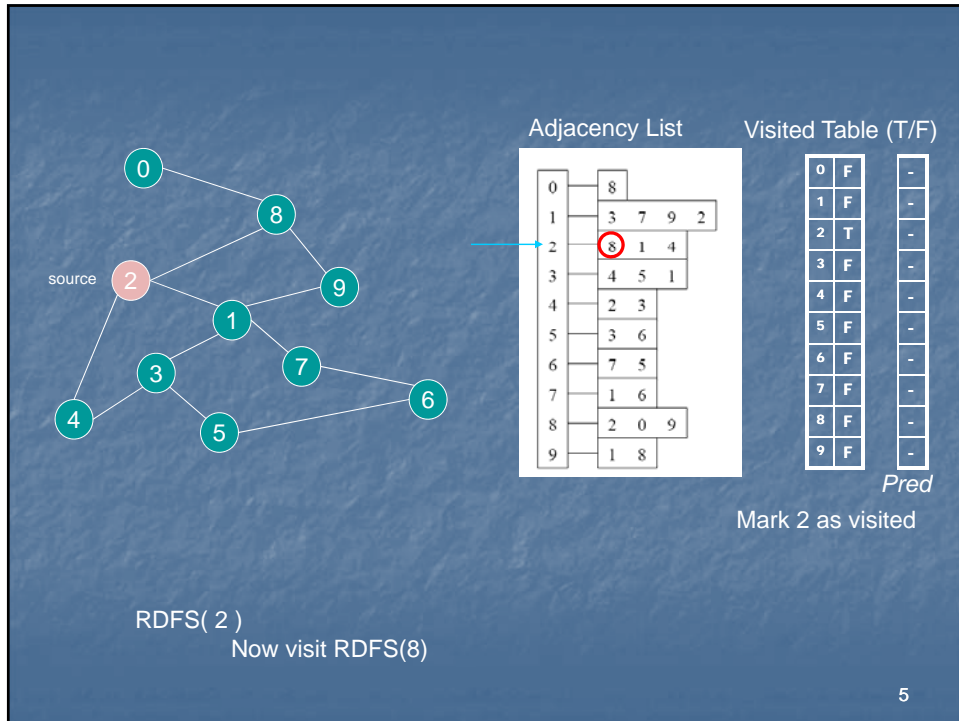
0	F
1	F
2	F
3	F
4	F
5	F
6	F
7	F
8	F
9	F

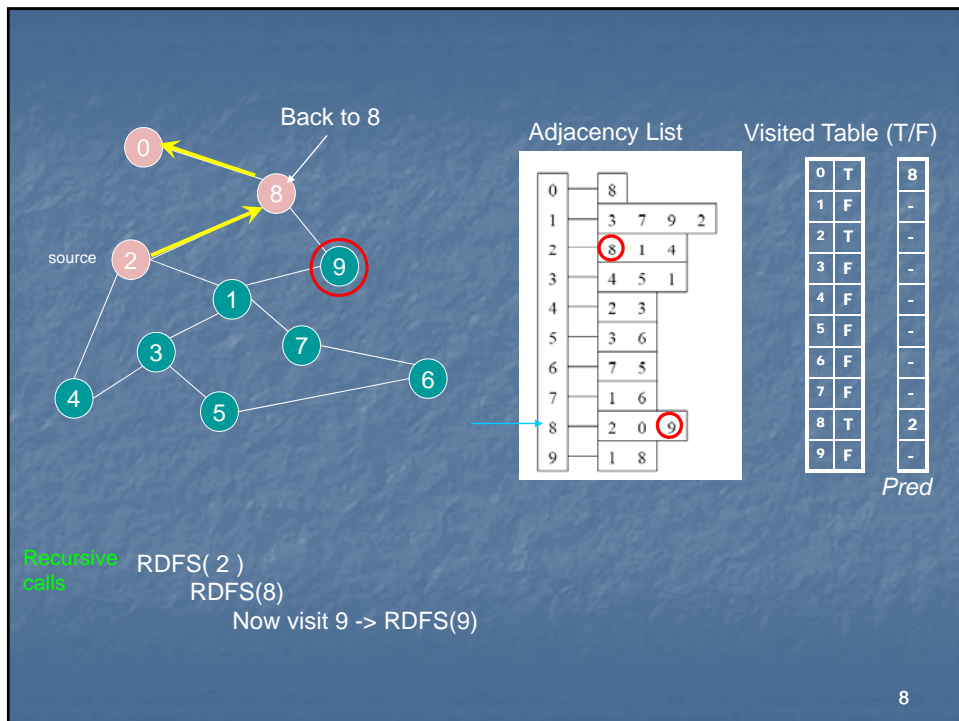
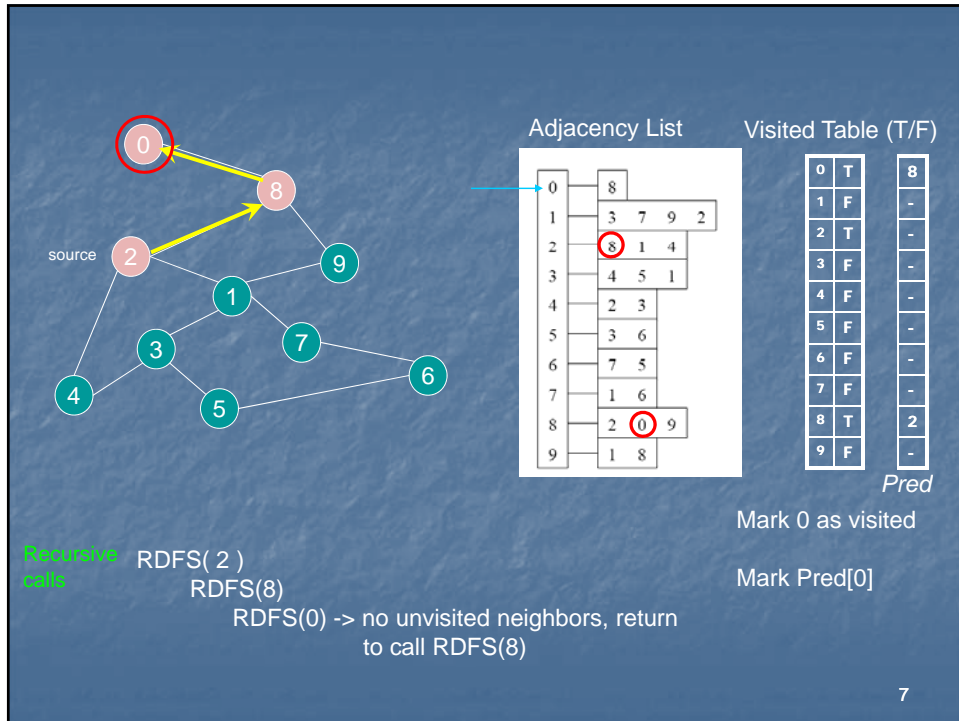
*Pred*

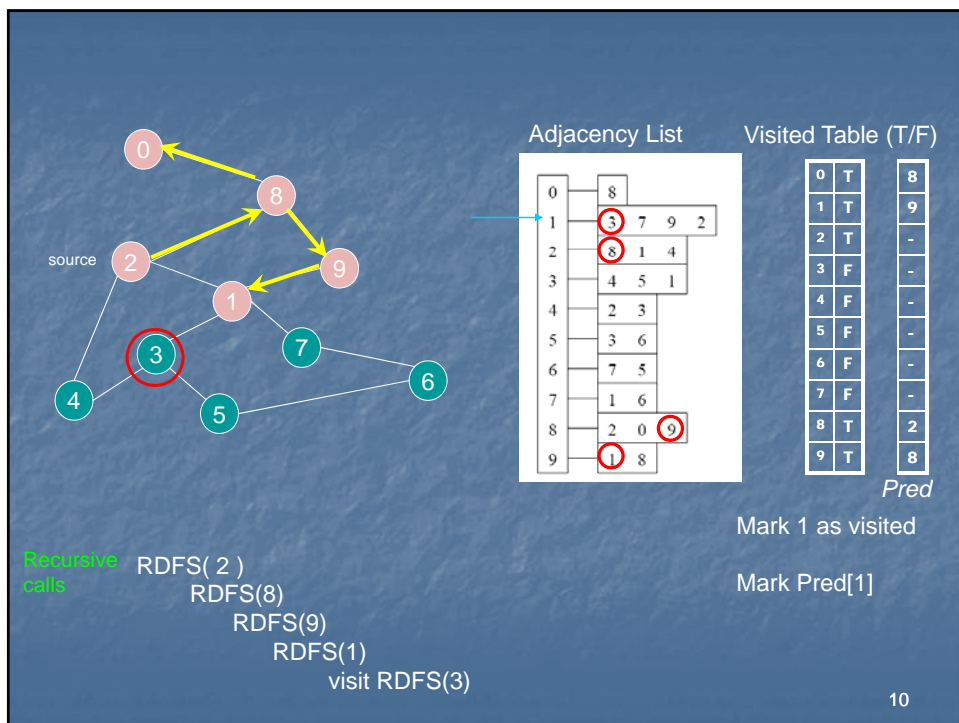
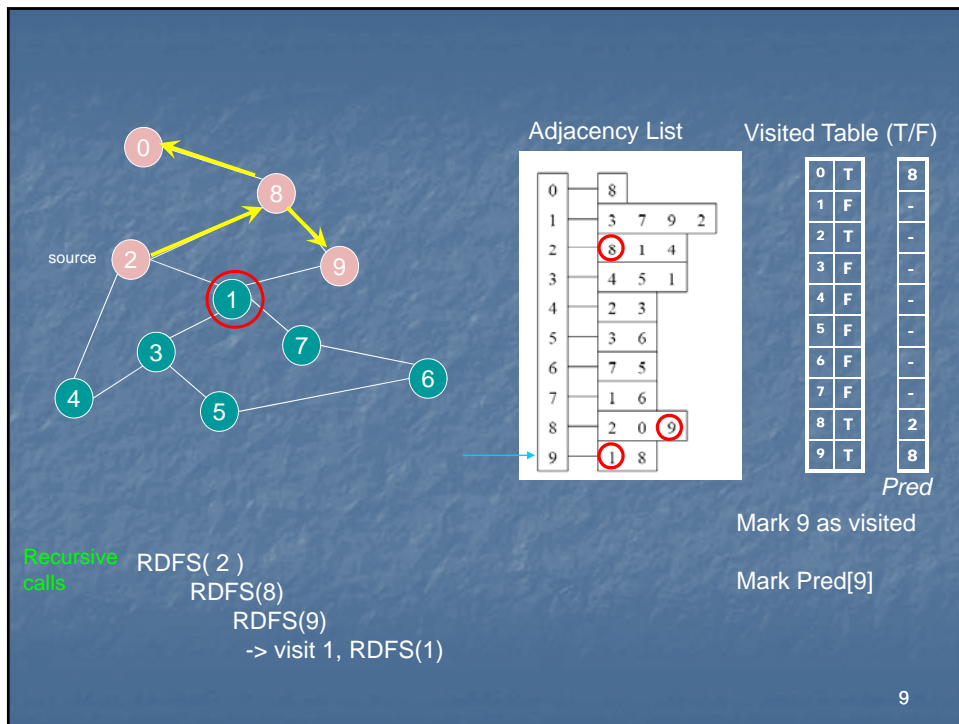
Initialize visited table (all False)

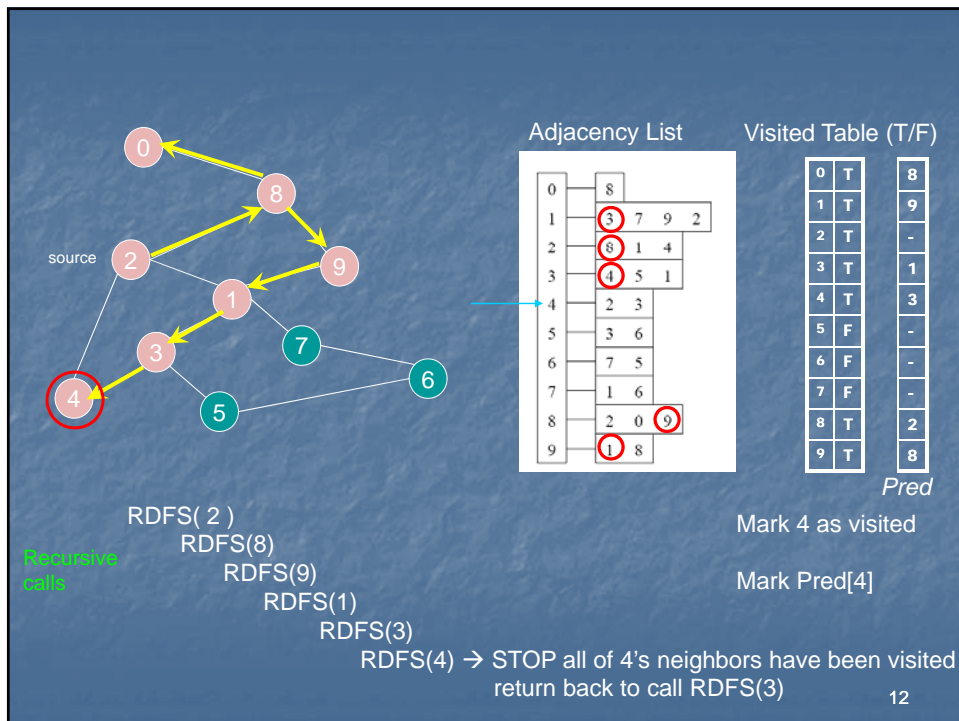
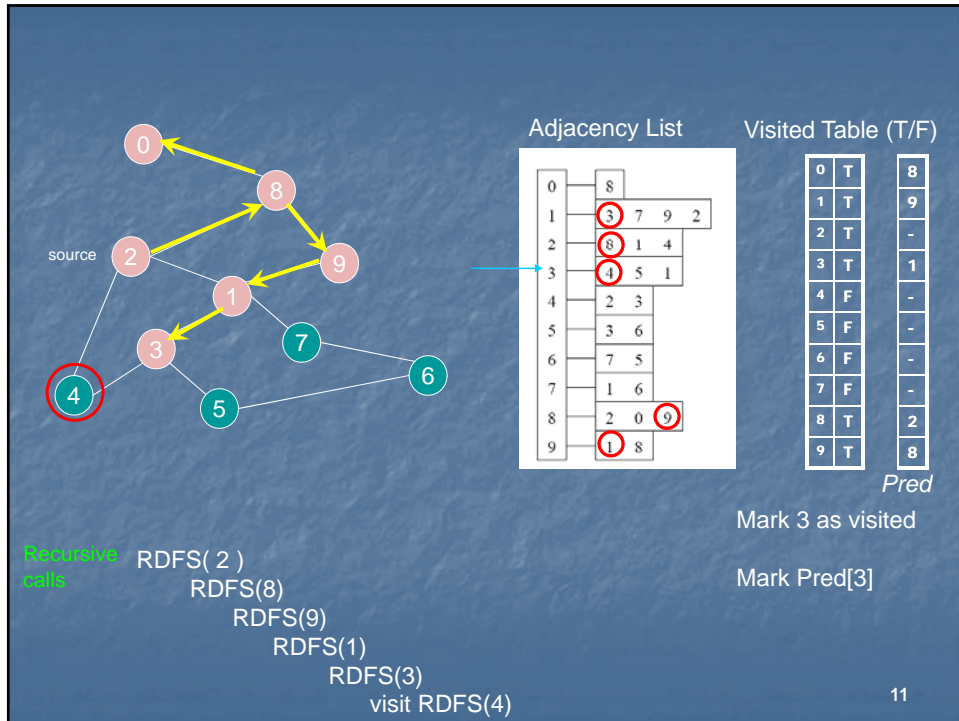
Initialize  $Pred$  to -1

4

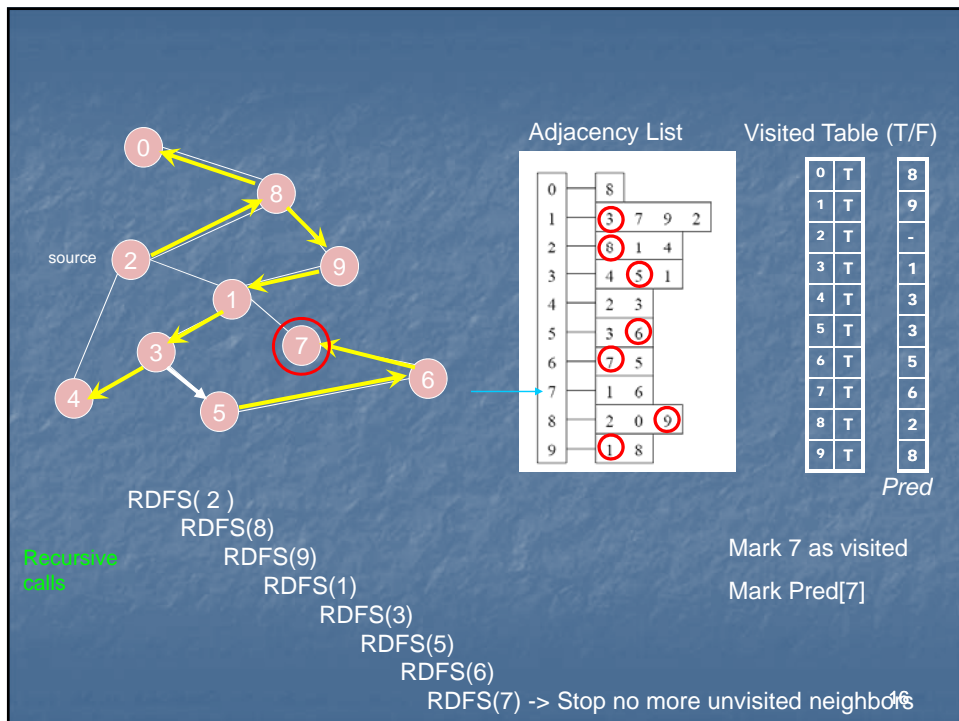
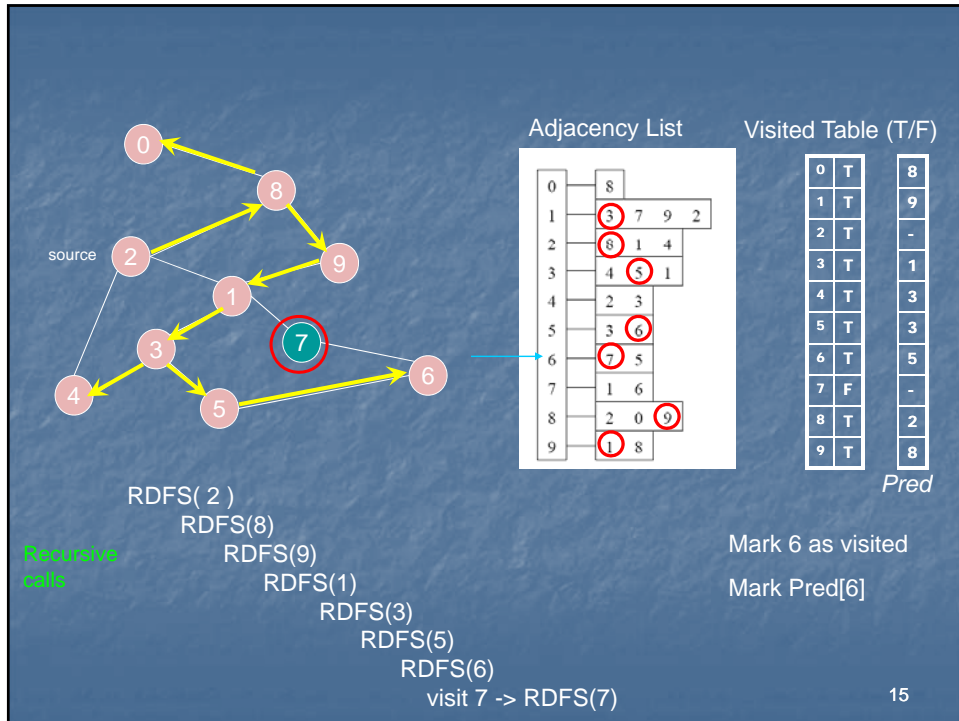


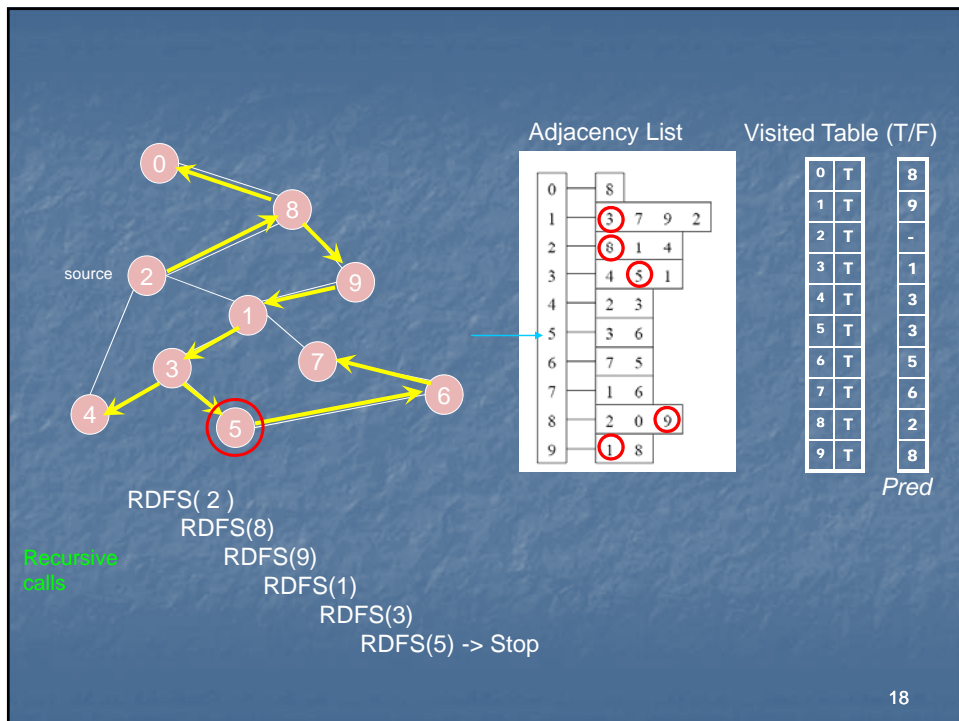
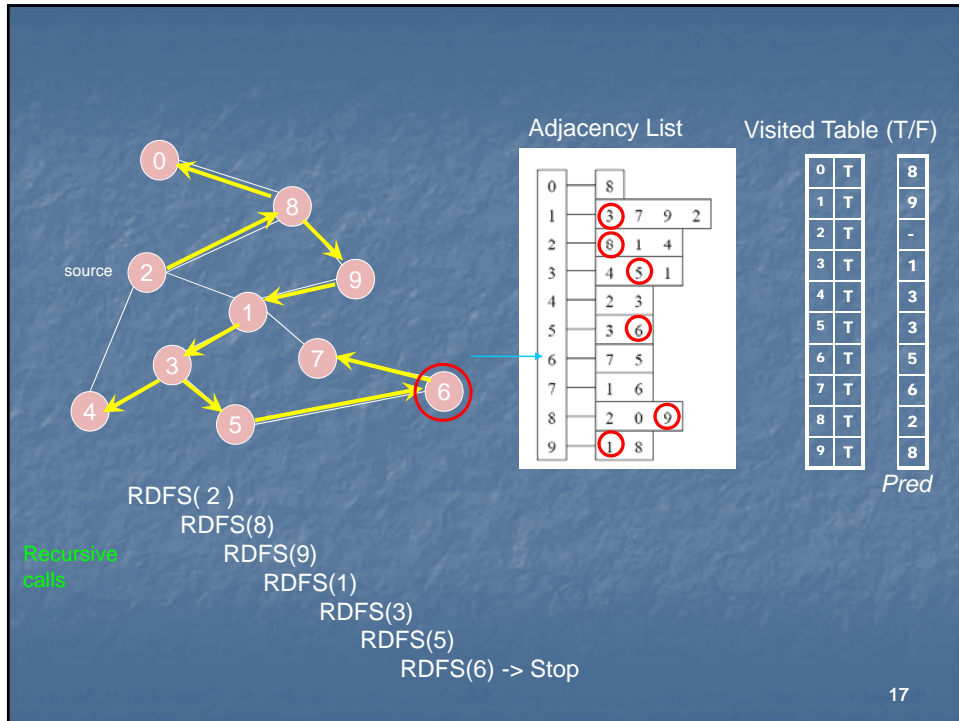


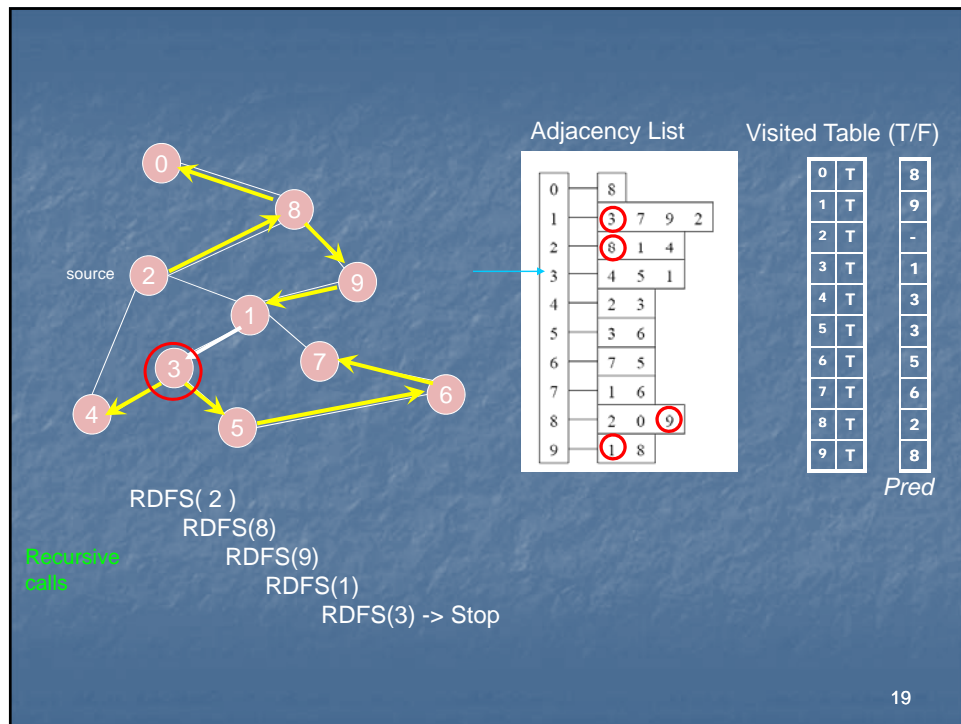




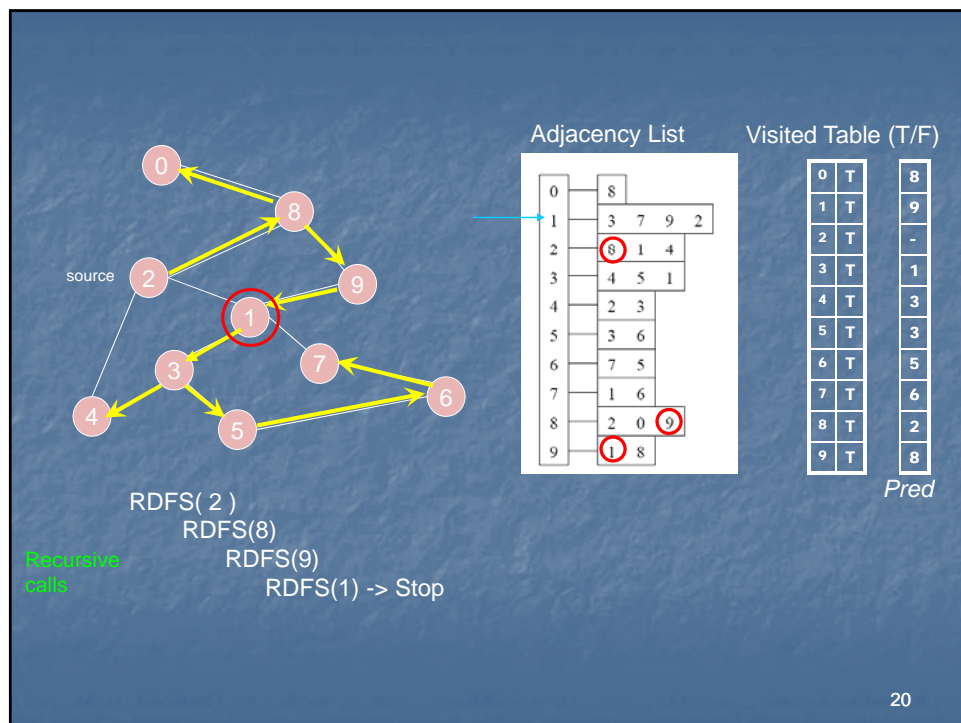




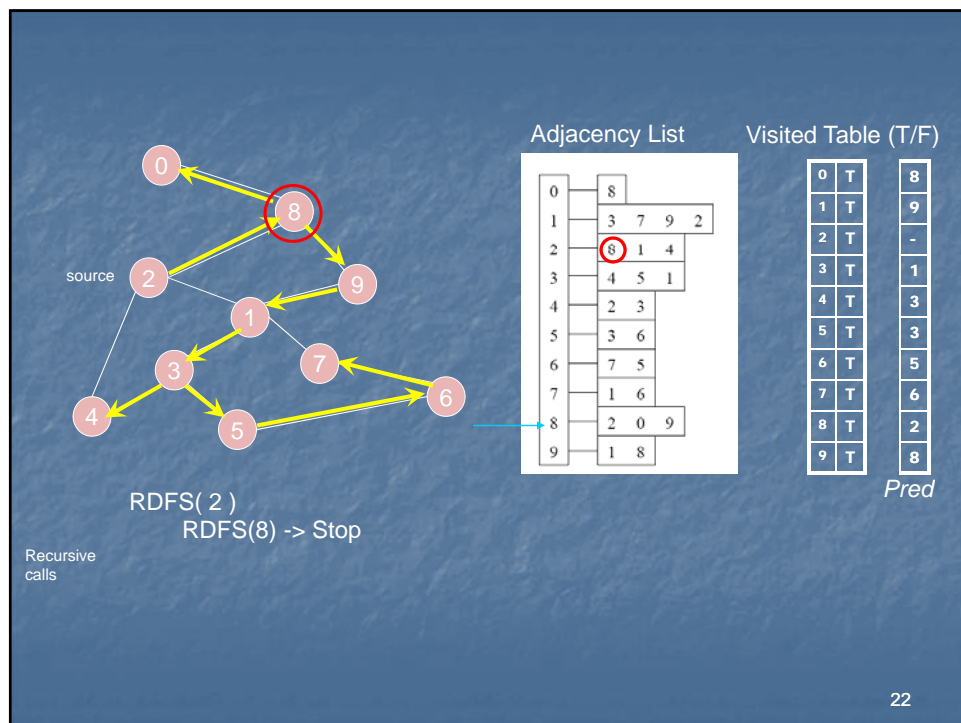
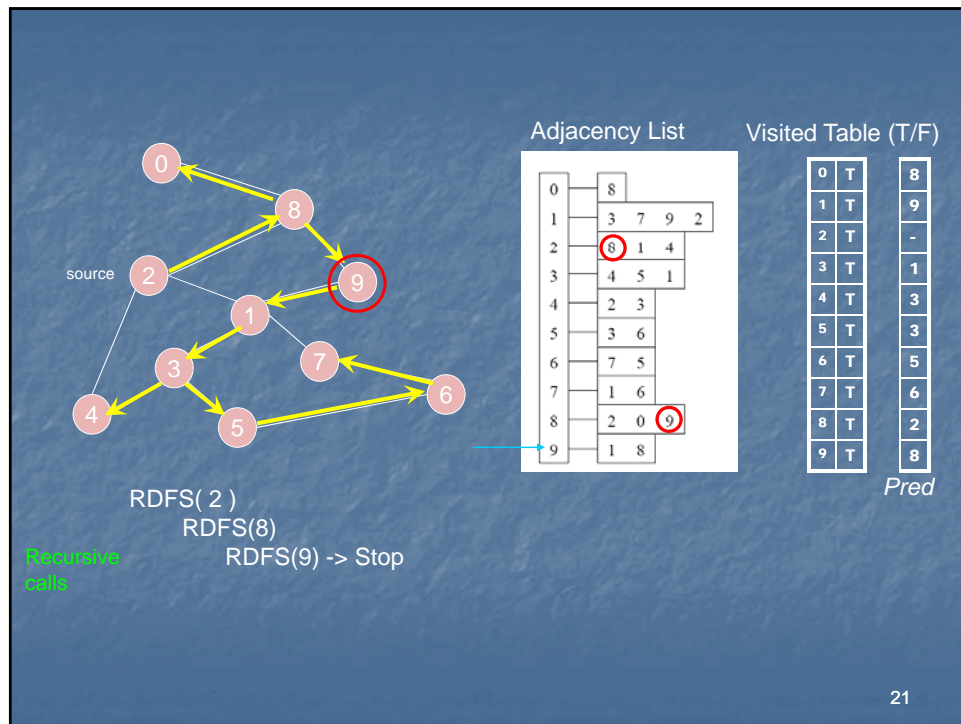




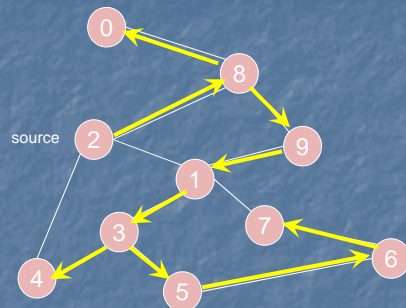
19



20



## Example Finished



RDFS( 2 ) -> Stop

Recursive calls finished

Adjacency List

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

Visited Table (T/F)

0	T	8
1	T	9
2	T	-
3	T	1
4	T	3
5	T	3
6	T	5
7	T	6
8	T	2
9	T	8

*Pred*

23

## Time Complexity of DFS

- We never visited a vertex more than once.
- We had to examine the adjacency lists of all vertices.
  - $\sum_{\text{vertex } v} \text{degree}(v) = 2E$
- So, the running time of DFS is **proportional to the number of edges and number of vertices** (same as BFS)
  - $O(V + E)$

24

## Enhanced DFS Algorithm

- What if a graph is not connected (strongly connected)?
  - Use an enhanced version of DFS, which is similar to the enhanced BFS algorithm

```
BFSearch( G ) {  
  i = 1;    // component number  
  for every vertex v  
    flag[v] = false;  
  for every vertex v  
    if ( flag[v] == false ) {  
      print ( "Component " + i++ );  
      BFSearch( v );  
    }  
}
```

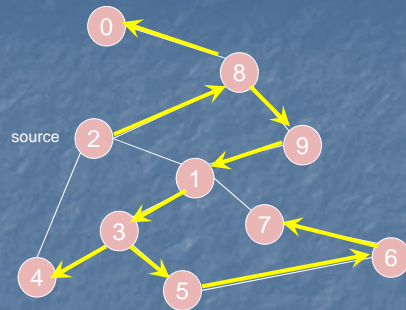
25

## Applications of DFS

- Is there a path from source *s* to a vertex *v*?
- Is an undirected graph connected?
- Is a directed graph strongly connected?
- To output the contents (e.g., the vertices) of a graph
- To find the connected components of a graph
- To find out if a graph contains cycles and report cycles.
- To construct a DFS tree/forest from a graph

26

# DFS Path Tracking



DFS find out path too

**Algorithm**  $Path(w)$

1. **if**  $pred[w] \neq -1$
2.     **then**
3.          $Path(pred[w]);$
4.     output  $w$

Adjacency List

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

Visited Table (T/F)

0	T	8
1	T	9
2	T	-
3	T	1
4	T	3
5	T	3
6	T	5
7	T	6
8	T	2
9	T	8

Pred

Try some examples.

$Path(0) \rightarrow$

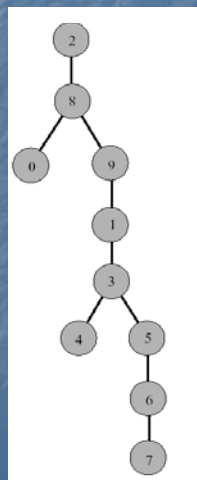
$Path(6) \rightarrow$

$Path(7) \rightarrow$

27

# DFS Tree

Resulting DFS-tree.  
Notice it is much "deeper"  
than the BFS tree.



Captures the structure of the recursive calls

- when we visit a neighbor  $w$  of  $v$ , we add  $w$  as child of  $v$

- whenever DFS returns from a vertex  $v$ , we climb up in the tree from  $v$  to its parent



28

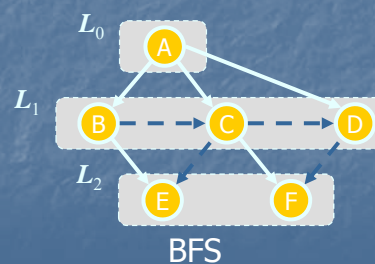
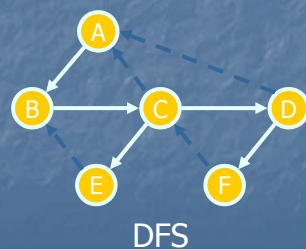
## Applications – DFS vs BFS

- What can BFS do and DFS can't?
  - Finding shortest paths (in unweighted graphs)
- What can DFS do and BFS can't?
  - Finding out if a connected undirected graph is *biconnected*
    - A connected undirected graph is biconnected if there are no vertices whose removal disconnects the rest of the graph

29

## DFS vs. BFS

Applications	DFS	BFS
Spanning forest, connected components, paths, cycles	✓	✓
Shortest paths		✓
Biconnected components	✓	



30

## Next time ...

- Review — Dec. 8
- Final exam — Dec. 11

31