For each of the problems below, transform the input into a graph and apply a standard graph algorithm that you've seen in class. Whenever you use a standard graph algorithm, you ***must*** provide the following information. (I recommend actually using a bulleted list.)

- What are the vertices? What does each vertex represent?
- What are the edges? Are they directed or undirected? If it matters to your algorithm, is the graph a dag?
- If the vertices or edges have any associated values, what are they?
- **What is the precise relationship between your graph and the stated problem?**
- What standard graph algorithm are you using to solve the problem? Exactly how are you invoking that algorithm, and exactly how are you using the results?
- What is the running time of your entire algorithm, *including* the time to build the graph, *as a function of the original input parameters*?

Finally, remember that even when you are explicitly given a graph as part of the input, that may not be the graph you actually want to search!

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1. Suppose you decide to organize a Snakes and Ladders competition with n participants. In this competition, each game of Snakes and Ladders involves three players. After the game is finished, they are ranked first, second, and third. Each player may be involved in any (non-negative) number of games, and the number need not be equal among players.

   At the end of the competition, m games have been played. You realize that you forgot to implement a proper rating system, and therefore decide to produce the overall ranking of all n players as you see fit. However, to avoid being too suspicious, if player A ranked better than player B in at least one game, then A must rank better than B in the overall ranking.

   You are given the list of players and their rankings in each of the m games. Describe and analyze an algorithm that produces an overall ranking of the n players that is consistent with the individual game rankings, or correctly reports that no such ranking exists.

2. There are n galaxies connected by m intergalactic teleport-ways. Each teleport-way joins two galaxies and can be traversed in both directions. However, the company that runs the teleport-ways has established an extremely lucrative cost structure: Anyone can teleport *further* from their home galaxy at no cost whatsoever, but teleporting *toward* their home galaxy is prohibitively expensive.

   Judy has decided to take a sabbatical tour of the universe by visiting as many galaxies as possible, starting at her home galaxy. To save on travel expenses, she wants to teleport away from her home galaxy at every step, except for the very last teleport home.

   Describe and analyze an algorithm to compute the maximum number of galaxies that Judy can visit. Your input consists of an undirected graph G with n vertices and m edges describing the teleport-way network, an integer $1 \le s \le n$ identifying Judy's home galaxy, and an array $D[1..n]$ containing the distances of each galaxy from s.

   [Hint: There is a linear time algorithm to compute longest paths in a directed acyclic graph. See Section 6.4 of Jeff's notes.]

Harder problems to think about later:

3. Just before embarking on her universal tour, Judy wins the space lottery, giving her just enough money to afford *two* teleports toward her home galaxy. Describe and analyze a new algorithm to compute the maximum number of galaxies Judy can visit; if she visits the same galaxy twice, that counts as two visits. After all, argues the travel agent, who can see an entire galaxy in just one visit?

*4. Judy replies angrily to the travel agent that *she* can see an entire galaxy in just one visit, because 99% of every galaxy is exactly the same glowing balls of plasma and lifeless chunks of rock and McDonalds and Starbucks and prefab "Irish" pubs and overpriced souvenir shops and boba tea shops as every other galaxy.

   Describe and analyze an algorithm to compute the maximum number of *distinct* galaxies Judy can visit. She is still *allowed* to visit the same galaxy more than once, but only the first visit counts toward her total.