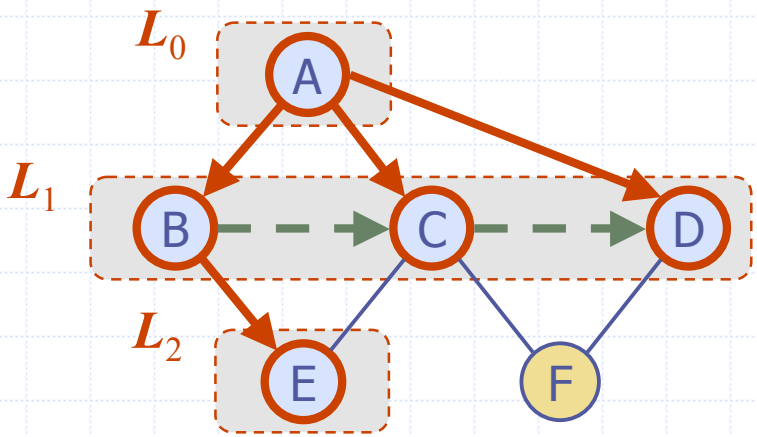
Breadth-First Search



Breadth-First Search (§ 12.3.3)

- Breadth-first search (BFS) is a general technique for traversing a graph
- A BFS traversal of a graph G
  - Visits all the vertices and edges of G
  - Determines whether G is connected
  - Computes the connected components of G
  - Computes a spanning forest of G
- BFS on a graph with n vertices and m edges takes $O(n + m)$ time
- BFS can be further extended to solve other graph problems
  - Find and report a path with the minimum number of edges between two given vertices
  - Find a simple cycle, if there is one

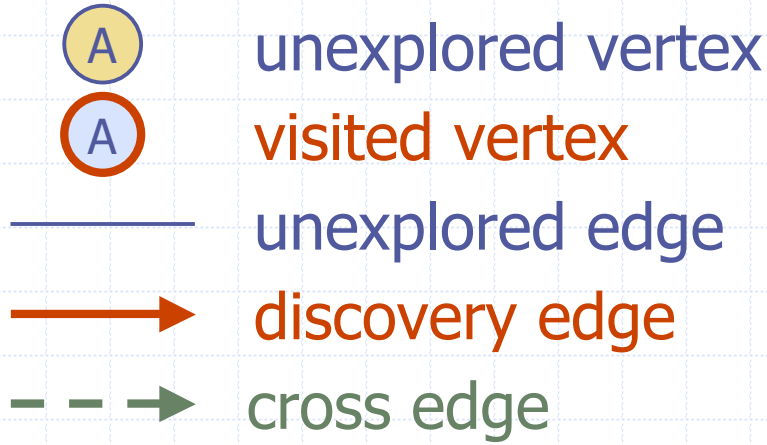
BFS Algorithm

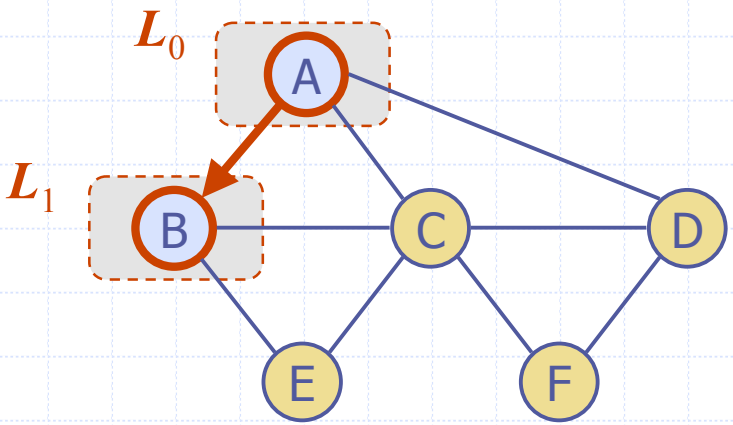
- The algorithm uses a mechanism for setting and getting "labels" of vertices and edges

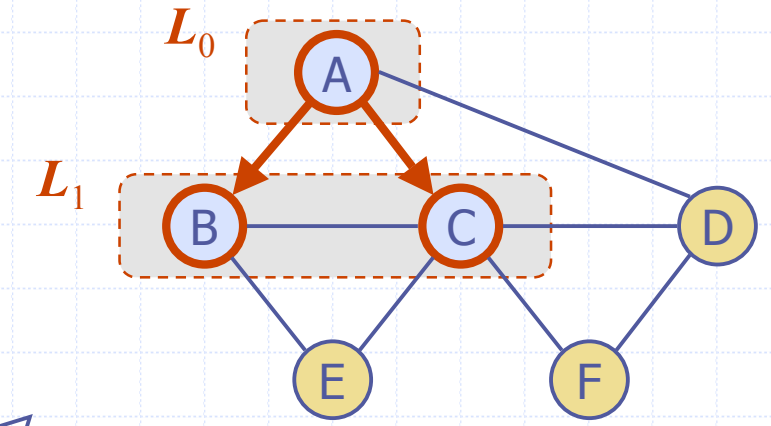
```
Algorithm BFS(G)
    Input graph G
    Output labeling of the edges
        and partition of the
        vertices of G
  for all u ∈ G.vertices()
    setLabel(u, UNEXPLORED)
  for all e ∈ G.edges()
    setLabel(e, UNEXPLORED)
  for all v ∈ G.vertices()
    if getLabel(v) = UNEXPLORED
      BFS(G, v)
```

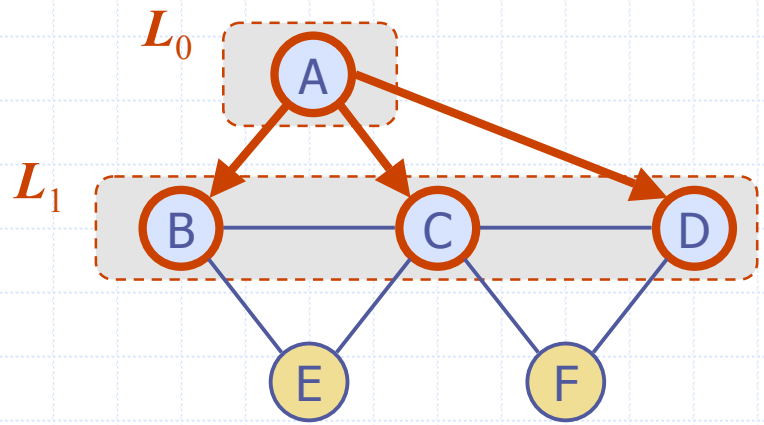
```
Algorithm BFS(G, s)
  L_0 ← new empty sequence
  L_0.insertLast(s)
  setLabel(s, VISITED)
  i ← 0
  while ¬L_i.isEmpty()
    L_{i+1} ← new empty sequence
    for all v ∈ L_i.elements()
      for all e ∈ G.incidentEdges(v)
        if getLabel(e) = UNEXPLORED
          w ← opposite(v,e)
          if getLabel(w) = UNEXPLORED
            setLabel(e, DISCOVERY)
            setLabel(w, VISITED)
            L_{i+1}.insertLast(w)
          else
            setLabel(e, CROSS)
    i ← i +1
```

Example

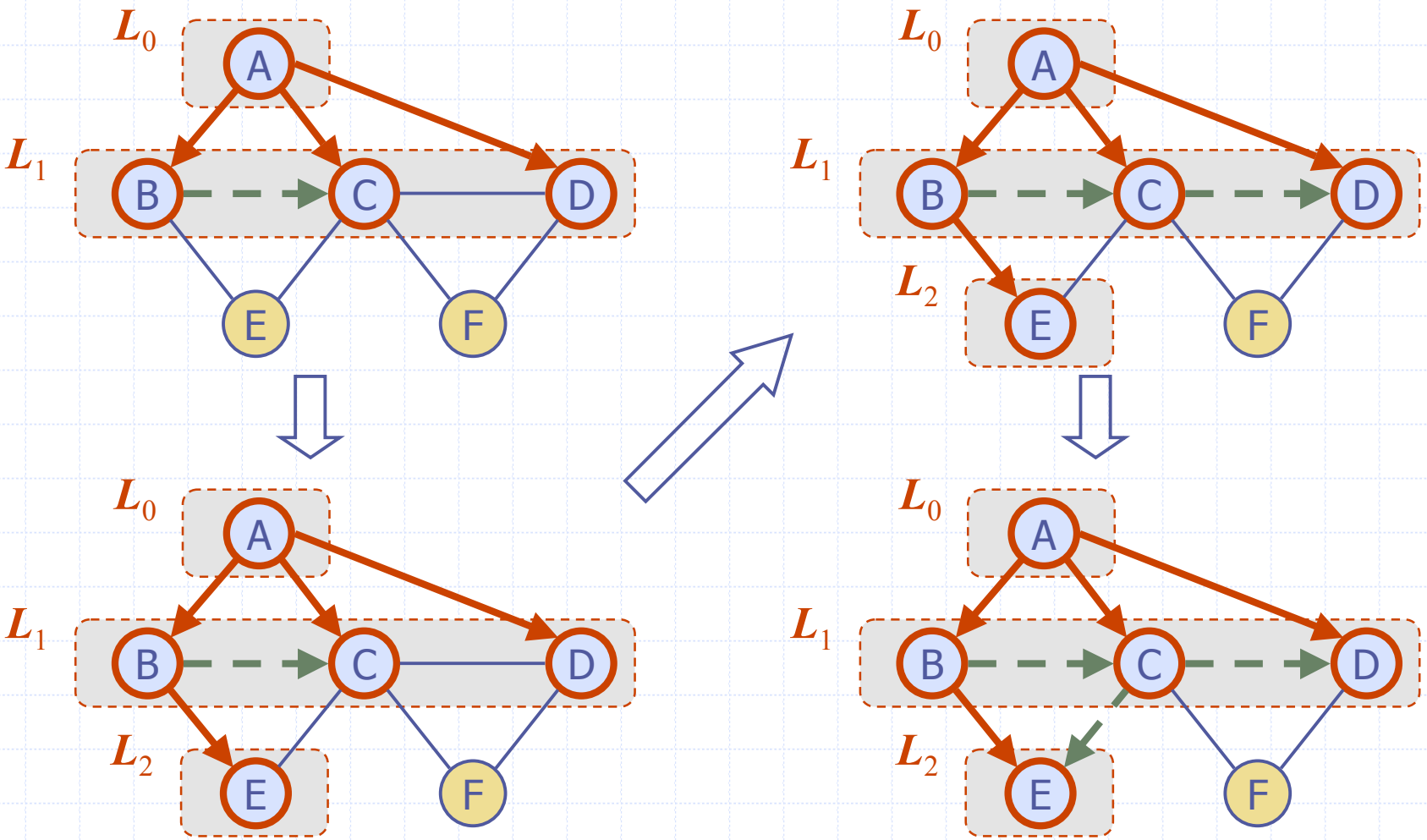

A
unexplored vertex
A
visited vertex
unexplored edge
discovery edge
cross edge


L_0
A
L_1
B
C
D
E
F


L_0
A
L_1
B
C
D
E
F


L_0
A
L_1
B
C
D
E
F

Example (cont.)



Example (cont.)