

## DFS on graphs

Non-tree edges

Undirected  $G$  : BackDirected  $G$  : Back, Forward, CrossPath :  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  $v_0 - v_1 - v_2 \dots v_l$ s.t.  $(v_k, v_{k+1}) \in E \quad \forall k$ 

but no vertex repeats

Walk = Path with repetitions

Loop or cycle



Graphs without loops = acyclic

Undirected: Acyclic connected graph  $\equiv$  Tree  
 $n$  vertices,  $n-1$  edges

Each pair  $(v_i, v_j)$  connected  
by a unique path

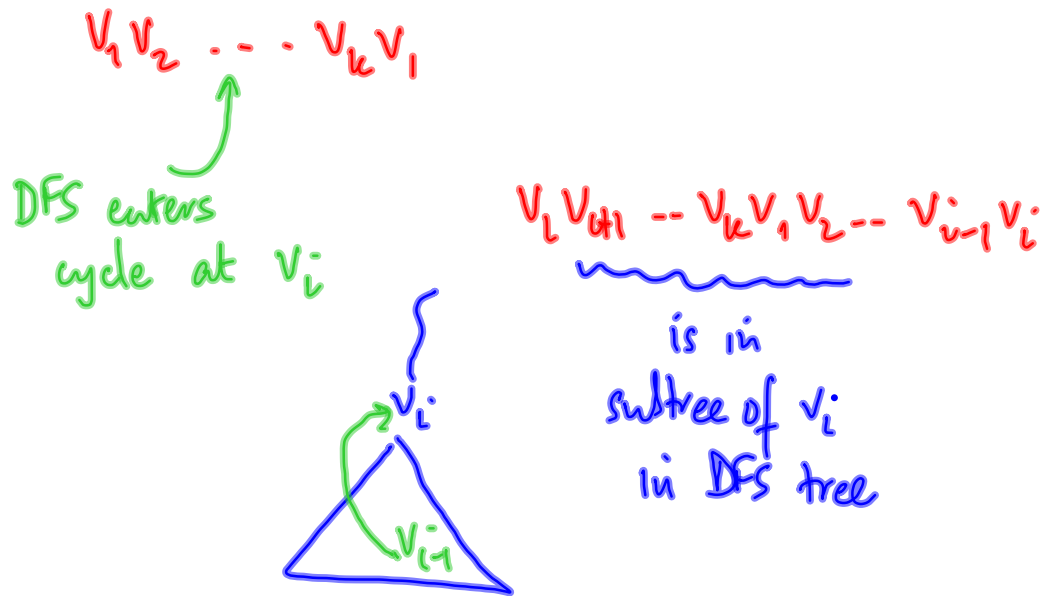
Directed :



directed acyclic graphs  
DAGs

Claim:  $G$  has a cycle iff DFS reveals a back edge

If cycle then back edge



DAGs

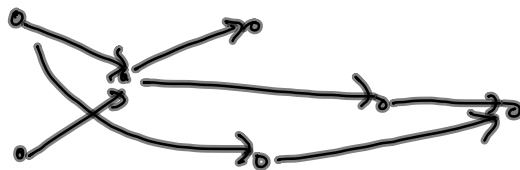
Models for practical problems

e.g. Scheduling

Vertices are tasks

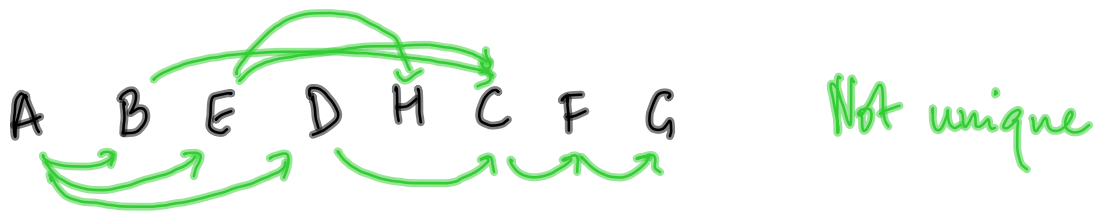
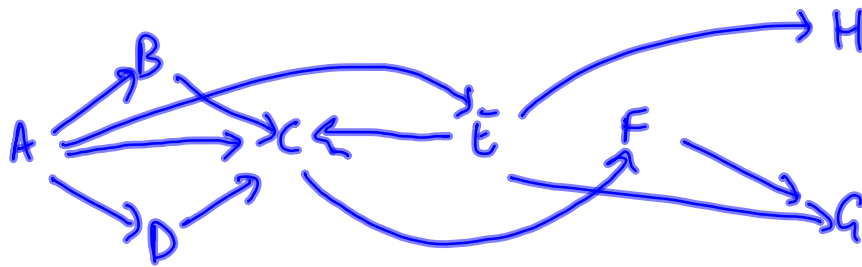
$i \rightarrow j$   $j$  cannot start till  $i$  ends

Must be acyclic to be feasible



Given a DAG, enumerate the vertices respecting the edge relation

edge  $v_i \rightarrow v_j \Rightarrow v_i$  is enumerated before  $v_j$

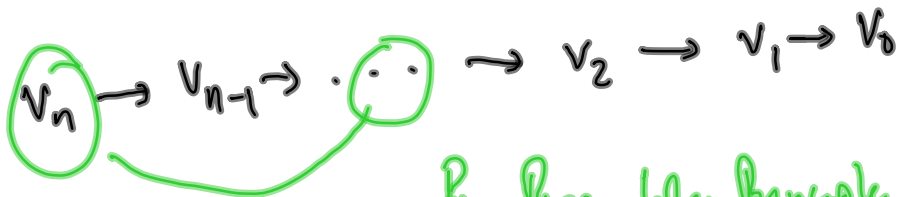


Not unique

TOPOLOGICAL SORT

Does a minimal vertex (no incoming edge) always exist in a DAG?

Suppose not: Pick  $v_0$  - not minimal



By Pigeonhole Principle  $\rightarrow \exists$  cycle!

Symmetrically,  $\exists$  at least one maximal vertex.

Algorithm for topological sort:

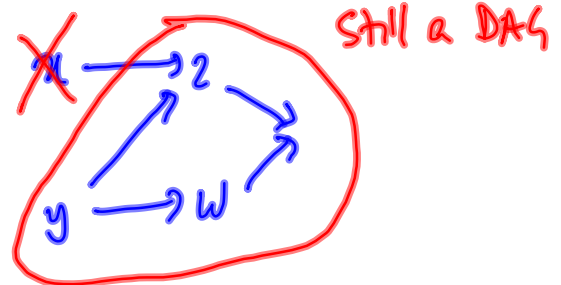
$X = V$

while  $X \neq \emptyset$

choose  $u$  minimal in  $X$  and print  $u$

$X = X \setminus \{u\}$

How to identify minimal  
vertices efficiently?



Precompute  $\text{indegree}(v)$  for each  $v$

- one scan of adj matrix  $\sim$  adj list  
 $O(n^2)$   $O(n)$

Minimal vertex has  $\text{indegree} = 0$   $O(n)$   
 $\parallel$   
 $x$

For all  $(u, v) \in E$ ,  $\text{indegree}[v]$  reduces by 1  $O(\text{outdeg}(x))$

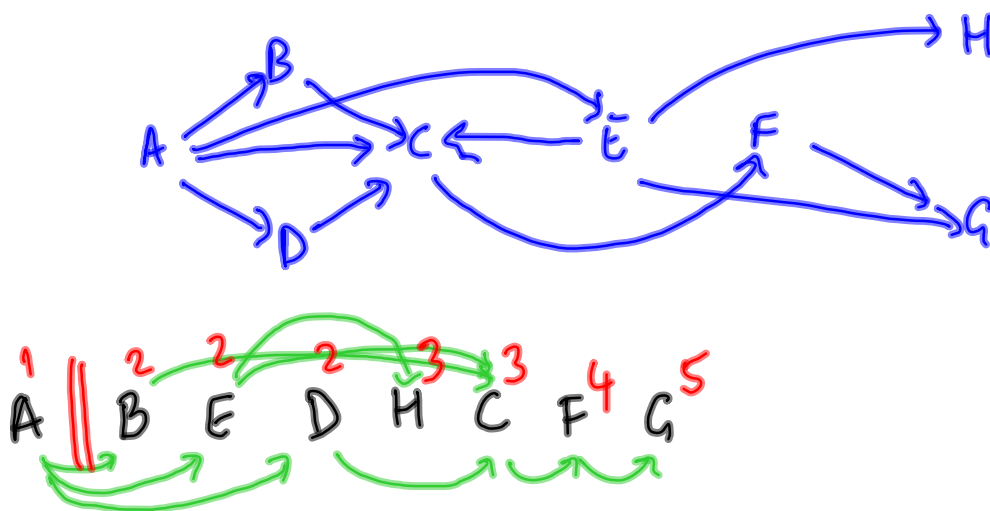
Preprocessing:  $O(n^2) / O(n)$

Loop:  $n$  times - each iteration  $O(n)$   
 $\Rightarrow O(n^2)$

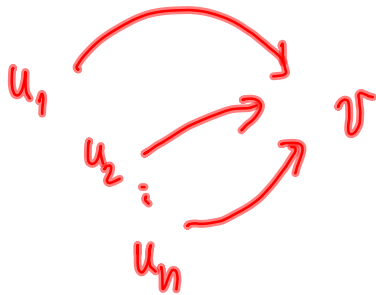


If each task takes exactly 1 day and I can do any number of independent tasks in parallel, find minimum no. of days to complete all tasks

e.g. 5 days for the example below



Want to compute  $\text{earliest}[v]$       earliest day when  
 $v$  can be performed



$$\text{earliest}[v] = 1 + \max_{u \in \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}} \text{earliest}[u]$$

If we enumerate  $V$  in topological order,  
 we can directly compute  $\text{earliest}[v]$  when  
 we enumerate  $v$

Earliest  $[v]$  corresponds to length of longest path  
to  $v$  from a minimal vertex

Computing longest path in a dag is as efficient as  
topological sort

In general directed graphs, longest path is NP complete