# CS 473: Algorithms

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Fall 2009



# Strong Connected Components (SCCs)



#### Algorithmic Problem

Find all SCCs of a given directed graph.

Previous lecture: saw an  $O(n \cdot (n + m))$  time algorithm. This lecture: O(n + m) time algorithm.

# Graph of SCCs





Figure: Graph G

### Meta-graph of SCCs

Let  $S_1, S_2, \ldots S_k$  be the SCCs of G. The graph of SCCs is  $G^{\text{SCC}}$ 

- Vertices are  $S_1, S_2, \ldots S_k$
- There is an edge (S<sub>i</sub>, S<sub>j</sub>) if there is some u ∈ S<sub>i</sub> and v ∈ S<sub>j</sub> such that (u, v) is an edge in G.

For any graph G, the graph of SCCs of  $G^{\rm rev}$  is the same as the reversal of  $G^{\rm SCC}.$ 

### Proof.

Exercise.



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For any graph G, the graph  $G^{\rm SCC}$  has no directed cycle.



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For any graph G, the graph  $G^{SCC}$  has no directed cycle.

### Proof.

If  $G^{SCC}$  has a cycle  $S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_k$  then  $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \cdots \cup S_k$  is an SCC in G. Formal details: exercise.

# Part I

# Directed Acyclic Graphs



A directed graph G is a directed acyclic graph (DAG) if there is no directed cycle in G.





# Sources and Sinks



### Definition

- A vertex *u* is a source if it has no in-coming edges.
- A vertex *u* is a sink if it has no out-going edges.

### • Every DAG G has at least one source and at least one sink.



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- If G is a DAG if and only if  $G^{rev}$  is a DAG.



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- If G is a DAG if and only if  $G^{rev}$  is a DAG.
- *G* is a DAG if and only each node is in its own strong component.

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- If G is a DAG if and only if  $G^{rev}$  is a DAG.
- *G* is a DAG if and only each node is in its own strong component.

Formal proofs: exercise.

# Topological Ordering/Sorting





Figure: Topological Ordering of G

Figure: Graph G

### Definition

A topological ordering/sorting of G = (V, E) is an ordering < on V such that if  $(u, v) \in E$  then u < v.

# DAGs and Topological Sort

#### Lemma

A directed graph G can be topologically ordered iff it is a DAG.



# DAGs and Topological Sort

#### Lemma

A directed graph G can be topologically ordered iff it is a DAG.

#### Proof.

Only if: Suppose G is not a DAG and has a topological ordering <. G has a cycle  $C = u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k, u_1$ . Then  $u_1 < u_2 < \ldots < u_k < u_1$ ! A contradiction.

# DAGs and Topological Sort

#### Lemma

A directed graph G can be topologically ordered iff it is a DAG.

### Proof.

If: Consider the following algorithm:

- Pick a source *u*, output it.
- Remove *u* and all edges out of *u*.
- Repeat until graph is empty.
- Exercise: prove this gives an ordering.

Exercise: show above algorithm can be implemented in O(m + n) time.



Output:





Output: 1





Output: 1 2





Output: 1 2 3





Output: 1 2 3 4





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**Note:** A DAG G may have many different topological sorts.

**Question:** What is a DAG with the most number of distinct topological sorts for a given number *n* of vertices?

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Given G, is it a DAG? If it is, generate a topological sort.



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DFS based algorithm:

- Compute DFS(G)
- If there is a back edge then G is not a DAG.
- Otherwise output nodes in decreasing post-visit order.

# DFS to check for Acylicity and Topological Ordering

#### Question

Given G, is it a DAG? If it is, generate a topological sort.

DFS based algorithm:

- Compute DFS(G)
- If there is a back edge then G is not a DAG.
- Otherwise output nodes in decreasing post-visit order.

Correctness relies on the following:

### Proposition

G is a DAG iff there is no back-edge in DFS(G).

### Proposition

If G is a DAG and post(v) > post(u), then (u, v) is not in G.

# Example





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G has a cycle iff there is a back-edge in DFS(G).

### Proof.

If: (u, v) is a back edge implies there is a cycle C consisting of the path from v to u in DFS search tree and the edge (u, v).



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If: (u, v) is a back edge implies there is a cycle C consisting of the path from v to u in DFS search tree and the edge (u, v).

Only if: Suppose there is a cycle  $C = v_1 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow \ldots \rightarrow v_k \rightarrow v_1$ . Let  $v_i$  be first node in C visited in DFS. All other nodes in C are descendents of  $v_i$  since they are reachable from  $v_i$ .

Therefore,  $(v_{i-1}, v_i)$  (or  $(v_k, v_1)$  if i = 1) is a back edge.

If G is a DAG and post(v) > post(u), then (u, v) is not in G.

#### Proof.

Assume post(v) > post(u) and (u, v) is an edge in *G*. We derive a contradiction. One of two cases holds from DFS property.

- Case 1: [pre(u), post(u)] is contained in [pre(v), post(v)]. Implies that (u, v) is a back edge but a DAG has no back edges!
- Case 2: [pre(u), post(u)] is disjoint from [pre(v), post(v)]. This cannot happen since v would be explored from u.

A partially ordered set is a set S along with a binary relation  $\leq$  such that  $\leq$  is (i) reflexive ( $a \leq a$  for all  $a \in V$ ), (ii) anti-symmetric ( $a \leq b$  implies  $b \not\leq a$ ) and (iii) transitive ( $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$  implies  $a \leq c$ ).



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**Example:** For numbers in the plane define  $(x, y) \preceq (x', y')$  iff  $x \leq x'$  and  $y \leq y'$ .

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Observation: A finite partially ordered set is equivalent to a DAG.

**Observation:** A topological sort of a DAG corresponds to a complete (or total) ordering of the underlying partial order.

## Part II

# Linear time Algorithm for finding all Strong Connected Components


## Finding all SCCs of a Graph

#### Problem

Given a directed graph G = (V, E), output *all* its strong connected components.



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Given a directed graph G = (V, E), output *all* its strong connected components.

Algorithm from previous lecture:

```
For each vertex u \in V do
find SCC(G, u) the strong component containing u as follows:
Obtain rch(G, u) using DFS(G, u)
Obtain rch(G^{rev}, u) using DFS(G^{rev}, u)
Output SCC(G, u) = rch(G, u) \cap rch(G^{rev}, u)
```

Running time: O(n(n+m))

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Running time: O(n(n+m))

Is there an O(n+m) time algorithm?

## Structure of a Directed Graph





Figure: Graph of SCCs  $G^{SCC}$ 

Figure: Graph G

#### Proposition

For a directed graph G, its meta-graph  $G^{SCC}$  is a DAG.

Exploit structure of meta-graph.

#### Algorithm

- Let u be a vertex in a sink SCC of  $G^{\text{SCC}}$
- Do DFS(u) to compute SCC(u)
- Remove SCC(u) and repeat

#### Justification

- DFS(u) only visits vertices (and edges) in SCC(u)
- DFS(u) takes time proportional to size of SCC(u)
- Therefore, total time O(n+m)!



Can we obtain an *implicit* topological sort of  $G^{\text{SCC}}$  without computing  $G^{\text{SCC}}$ ?



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Answer: DFS(G) gives some information!



#### Definition

Given G and a SCC S of G, define  $post(S) = max_{u \in S} post(u)$ where post numbers are with respect to some DFS(G).



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## An Example





Figure: Graph G

Figure: Graph with pre-post times for DFS(A); black edges in tree



## $G^{\mathrm{SCC}}$ and post-visit times

#### Proposition

If S and S' are SCCs in G and (S, S') is an edge in  $G^{SCC}$  then post(S) > post(S').



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If u ∈ S then all of S' will be explored before DFS(u) completes.



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Let *u* be first vertex in  $S \cup S'$  that is visited.

- If u ∈ S then all of S' will be explored before DFS(u) completes.
- If  $u \in S'$  then all of S' will be explored before any of S.

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A False Statement: If S and S' are SCCs in G and (S, S') is an edge in  $G^{SCC}$  then for every  $u \in S$  and  $u' \in S'$ , post(u) > post(u').

# Topological ordering of $G^{\text{SCC}}$

#### Corollary

Ordering SCCs in decreasing order of  $\mathrm{post}(S)$  gives a topological ordering of  $G^{\mathrm{SCC}}$ 



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Recall: for a DAG, ordering nodes in decreasing post-visit order gives a topological sort.

DFS(G) gives some information on topological ordering of  $G^{SCC}$ !

## An Example





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Exploit structure of meta-graph.

#### Algorithm

- Let u be a vertex in a sink SCC of  $G^{\text{SCC}}$
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- DFS(u) only visits vertices (and edges) in SCC(u)
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#### Proof.

- post(SCC(u)) = post(u)
- Thus, post(SCC(*u*)) is highest and will be output first in topological ordering of *G*<sup>SCC</sup>.

The vertex u with highest post visit time in DFS( $G^{rev}$ ) belongs to a sink SCC of G.



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#### Proof.

- u belongs to source SCC of  $G^{rev}$
- Since graph of SCCs of G<sup>rev</sup> is the reverse of G<sup>SCC</sup>, SCC(u) is sink SCC of G.

```
Do DFS(G<sup>rev</sup>) and sort vertices in decreasing post order.
Mark all nodes as unvisited
for each u in the computed order do
    if u is not visited then
        DFS(u)
        Output all nodes reached by u as a strong component
        Remove these nodes from G
```

#### Analysis

Running time is O(n+m).



Figure: Graph G





Figure: Graph G

Figure:  $G^{rev}$ 







Figure: Graph G

Figure:  $G^{rev}$  with pre-post times. Red edges not traversed in DFS





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Order of second DFS:  $DFS(G) = \{G\};$ 





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Figure:  $G^{rev}$  with pre-post times. Red edges not traversed in DFS

Order of second DFS: DFS(G) = {G}; DFS(H) = {H}; DFS(B) = {B, E, F}; DFS(A) = {A, C, D}.

### Correctness: more details

• let  $S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_k$  be strong components in G



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- consider DFG( $G^{rev}$ ) and let  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k$  be such that  $post(u_i) = post(S_i) = max_{v \in S_i} post(v)$ .



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- Assume without loss of generality that *post*(u<sub>k</sub>) > *post*(u<sub>k-1</sub>) ≥ ... ≥ *post*(u<sub>1</sub>) (renumber otherwise). Then S<sub>k</sub>, S<sub>k-1</sub>,..., S<sub>1</sub> is a topological sort of meta-graph of G<sup>rev</sup> and hence S<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>2</sub>,..., S<sub>k</sub> is a topological sort of the meta-graph of G.

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- $u_k$  has highest post number and DFS $(u_k)$  will explore all of  $S_k$  which is a sink component in G.

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- consider DFG( $G^{rev}$ ) and let  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k$  be such that  $post(u_i) = post(S_i) = max_{v \in S_i} post(v)$ .
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- $u_k$  has highest post number and DFS $(u_k)$  will explore all of  $S_k$  which is a sink component in G.
- After  $S_k$  is removed  $u_{k-1}$  has highest post number and DFS $(u_{k-1})$  will explore all of  $S_{k-1}$  which is a sink component in remaining graph  $G S_k$ . Formal proof by induction.



# Part III

## An Application to make



Image: Image:

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# make Utility [Feldman]

• Unix utility for automatically building large software applications



- Unix utility for automatically building large software applications
- A makefile specifies



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  - Object files to be created,

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- A makefile specifies
  - Object files to be created,
  - Source/object files to be used in creation, and
  - How to create them

#### An Example makefile

- main.o: main.c defs.h
   cc -c main.c
  utils.o: utils.c defs.h command.h
   cc -c utils.c
  command.o: command.c defs.h command.h
   cc -c command.c

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### makefile as a Digraph



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#### Computational Problems for make

• Is the makefile reasonable?



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- Is the makefile reasonable?
- If it is reasonable, in what order should the object files be created?



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- Is the makefile reasonable?
- If it is reasonable, in what order should the object files be created?
- If it is not reasonable, provide helpful debugging information.
- If some file is modified, find the fewest compilations needed to make application consistent.

### Algorithms for make

#### • Is the makefile reasonable? Is G a DAG?



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- Is the makefile reasonable? Is G a DAG?
- If it is reasonable, in what order should the object files be created? Find a topological sort of a DAG.



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- If it is reasonable, in what order should the object files be created? Find a topological sort of a DAG.
- If it is not reasonable, provide helpful debugging information. Output a cycle. More generally, output all strong connected components.

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- Is the makefile reasonable? Is G a DAG?
- If it is reasonable, in what order should the object files be created? Find a topological sort of a DAG.
- If it is not reasonable, provide helpful debugging information. Output a cycle. More generally, output all strong connected components.
- If some file is modified, find the fewest compilations needed to make application consistent.
  - Find all vertices reachable (using DFS/BFS) from modified files in directed graph, and recompile them.