# Topological sorting using DFS

#### Depth-First Search

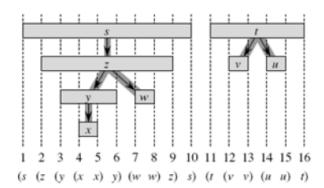
- When one vertex is a descendant of another in the forest that was constructed by DFS?
  - Parenthesis Theorem
  - White-path Theorem

#### Parenthesis Theorem

- Theorem (Parenthesis theorem):
  - For all u, v, exactly one of the following holds:

u.d < u.f < v.d < v.f or v.d < v.f < u.d < u.f and neither of u and v is a descendant of the other.</li>

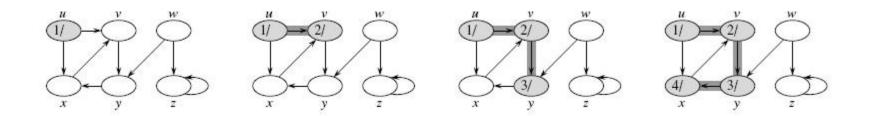
- 2. u.d < v.d < v.f < u.f and v is a descendant of u.
- v.d < u.d < u.f < v.f and u is a descendant of v.</li>
- So u.d < v.d < u.f < v.f cannot happen.</li>
- Like parentheses:
  - OK:()[]([])[()]
  - Not OK: ([)][(])



- Corollary (Nesting of descendants' intervals):
  - v is a proper descendant of u if and only if u.d < v.d < v.f < u.f.</li>

# White-path Theorem

- Theorem (White-path theorem):
  - v is a descendant of u if and only if at time u.d,
    there is a path u ¬¬¬¬ v consisting of only white
    vertices (except for u, which was just colored gray)



#### Classification of edges in directed graph

#### Tree edge:

- In the constructed forest.
- Found by exploring (u, v).

#### • Back edge:

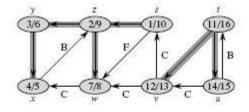
(u, v), where u is a descendant of v.

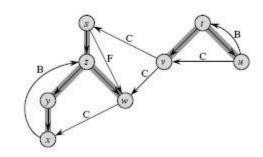
#### Forward edge:

(u, v), where v is a descendant of u, but not a tree edge.

#### Cross edge:

- any other edge.
- Can go between vertices in same tree or in different trees.





# Classification of Edges

- Edge (u, v) can be classified by the color of v when the edge is first explored:
  - WHITE indicates a tree edge
  - GRAY indicates a back edge
  - BLACK indicates a forward or cross edge.
    - (u, v) is a forward edge if u.d < v.d</li>
    - (u, v) is a **cross edge** if u.d > v.d.

# **Detection of Cycles**

#### Lemma:

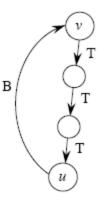
 A directed graph G is acyclic if and only if a DFS of G yields no back edges.

#### Proof:

- Back edge ⇒ Cycle
  - Suppose there is a back edge (u, v)
  - Then v is ancestor of u in the constructed forest
  - Therefore, there is a path v → u, so v → u → v is a cycle

### **Detection of Cycles**

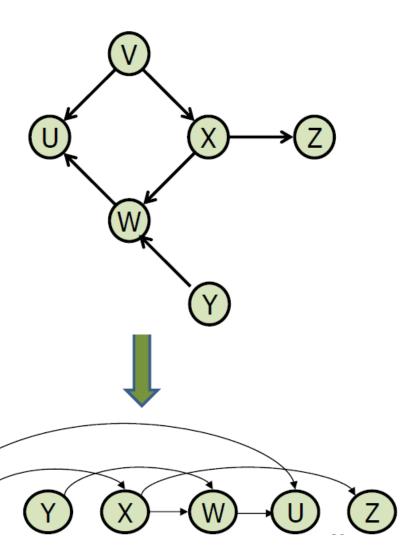
- Cycle => back edge.
  - Suppose G contains cycle C.
  - Let v be the first vertex discovered in C, and let (u, v) be the preceding edge in C.
  - At time v.d, vertices of C form a white path v --> u
    - since v is the first vertex discovered in c.
  - By white-path theorem, u is descendant of v in depth-first forest.
  - Therefore, (u, v) is a back edge.



# **Topological Sort**

 Directed acyclic graph (DAG) is a directed graph with no cycles

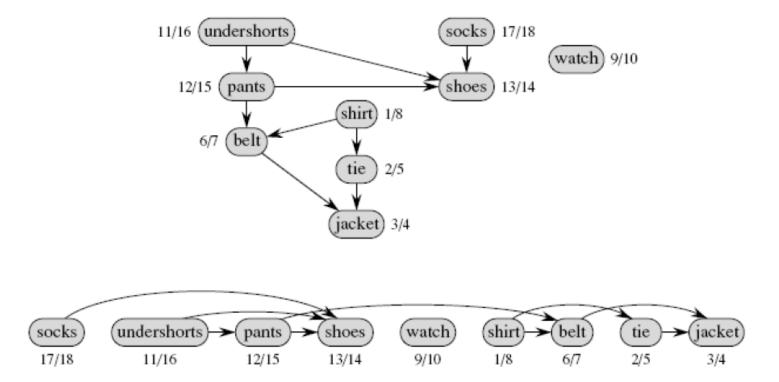
 Topological sort of a DAG: a linear ordering of vertices such that if (u, v) ∈ E, then u appears somewhere before v.



### **Topological Sort**

topologicalSort (G) // Assume G is a DAG Complexity: O(V + E)

**Call DFS**(G) to compute finishing times v.f for all  $v \in V$  as each vertex is finished, insert it onto the front of a linked list **return** the linked list of vertices



### **Topological Sort**

- Correctness:
  - Just need to show if  $(u, v) \in E$ , then v.f < u.f.
- When we explore (u, v), what are the colors of u and v?
  - u is gray.
  - v can't be gray.
    - Because then (u, v) is a back edge, but G is a dag.
  - If v is white.
    - By parenthesis theorem, u.d < v.d < v.f < u.f.</li>
  - If v is black.
    - Then v is already finished, but u doesn't, therefore, v.f < u.f.</li>