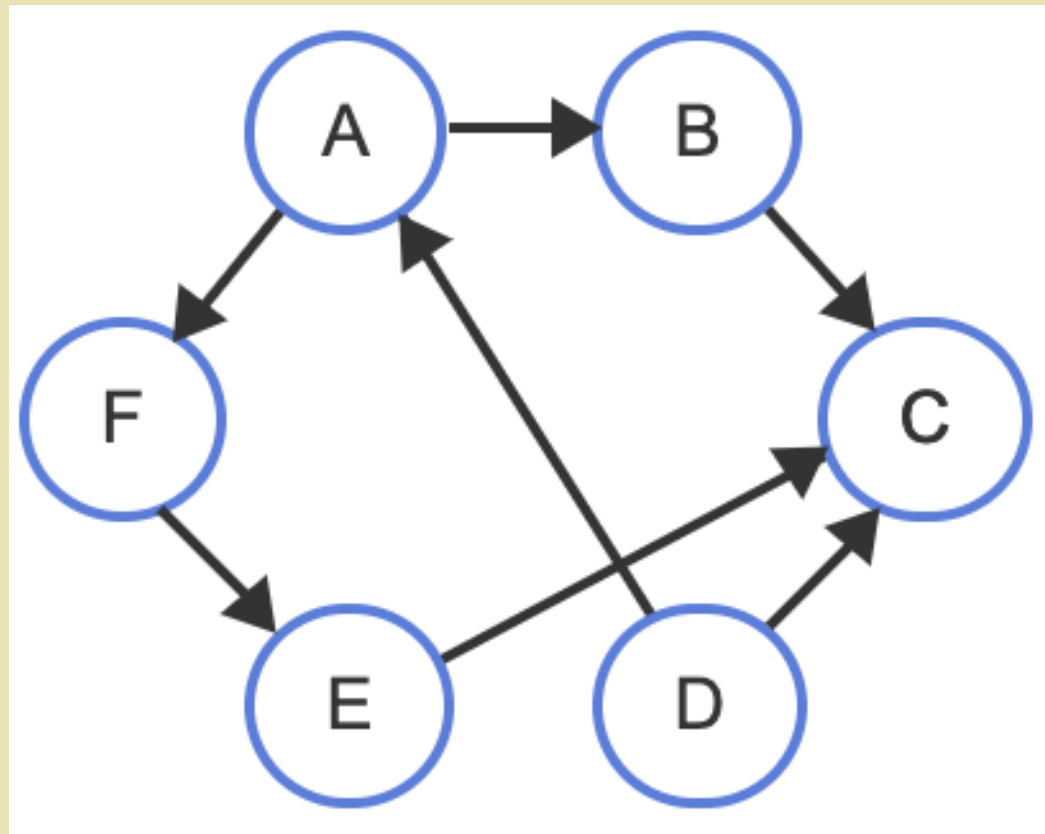# Graph Topological sort

Notes by Yan Yan

Topological Sort

◆ Topological ordering is an operation on directed acyclic graphs (DAGs).

◆ A **topological ordering** is a list of the DAG's vertices such that for every edge from a vertex X to a vertex Y, X comes before Y in the list.

– May not be unique

◆ A **topological sort** produces a list of topological ordering

◆ Applications: scheduling of tasks from the given dependencies among tasks.

2 – a student can have an ordered list of courses to take.

Topological Sort -- Example

- Is it a topological sort?
- C, D, A, F, B, E

Topological Sort -- Example

♦ Analysis of each edge in the graph determines if an ordering of vertices is a valid topological sort.
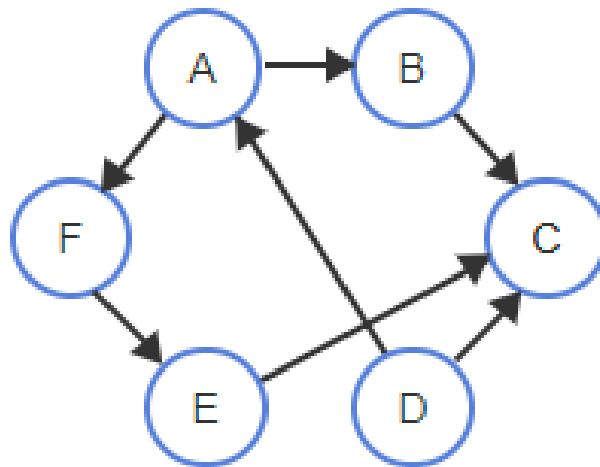
Proposed ordering: C, D, A, F, B, E

Edge (X to Y)	X before Y in ordering?
A to B	Yes
A to F	Yes
B to C	No
D to A	Yes
D to C	No
E to C	No
F to E	Yes

Topological Sort -- Example

- Is it a topological sort?
- D, A, F, E, B, C
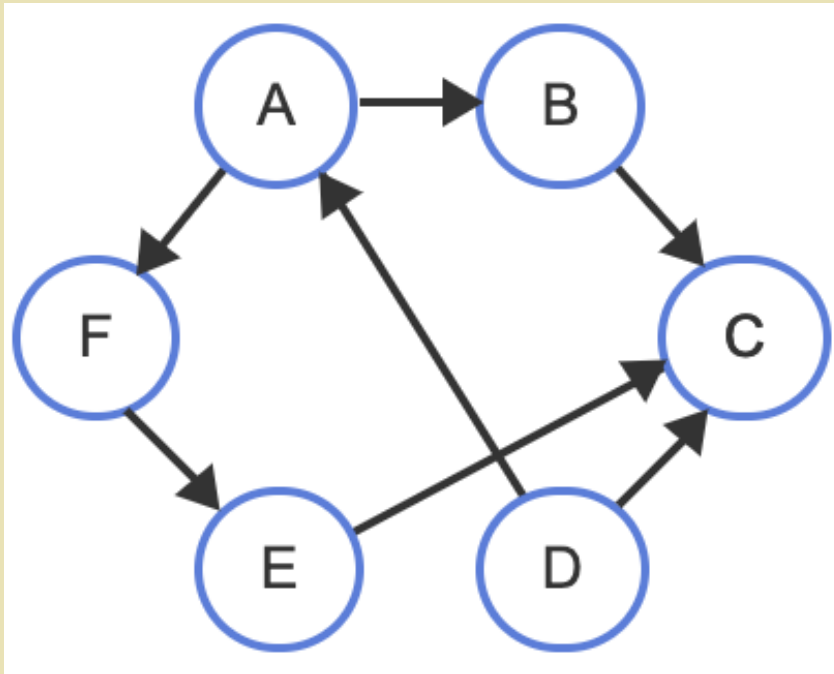
If you check the edges of D and C, what can you find?

Topological Sort -- Example

◆ Will cyclic graph have topological ordering?
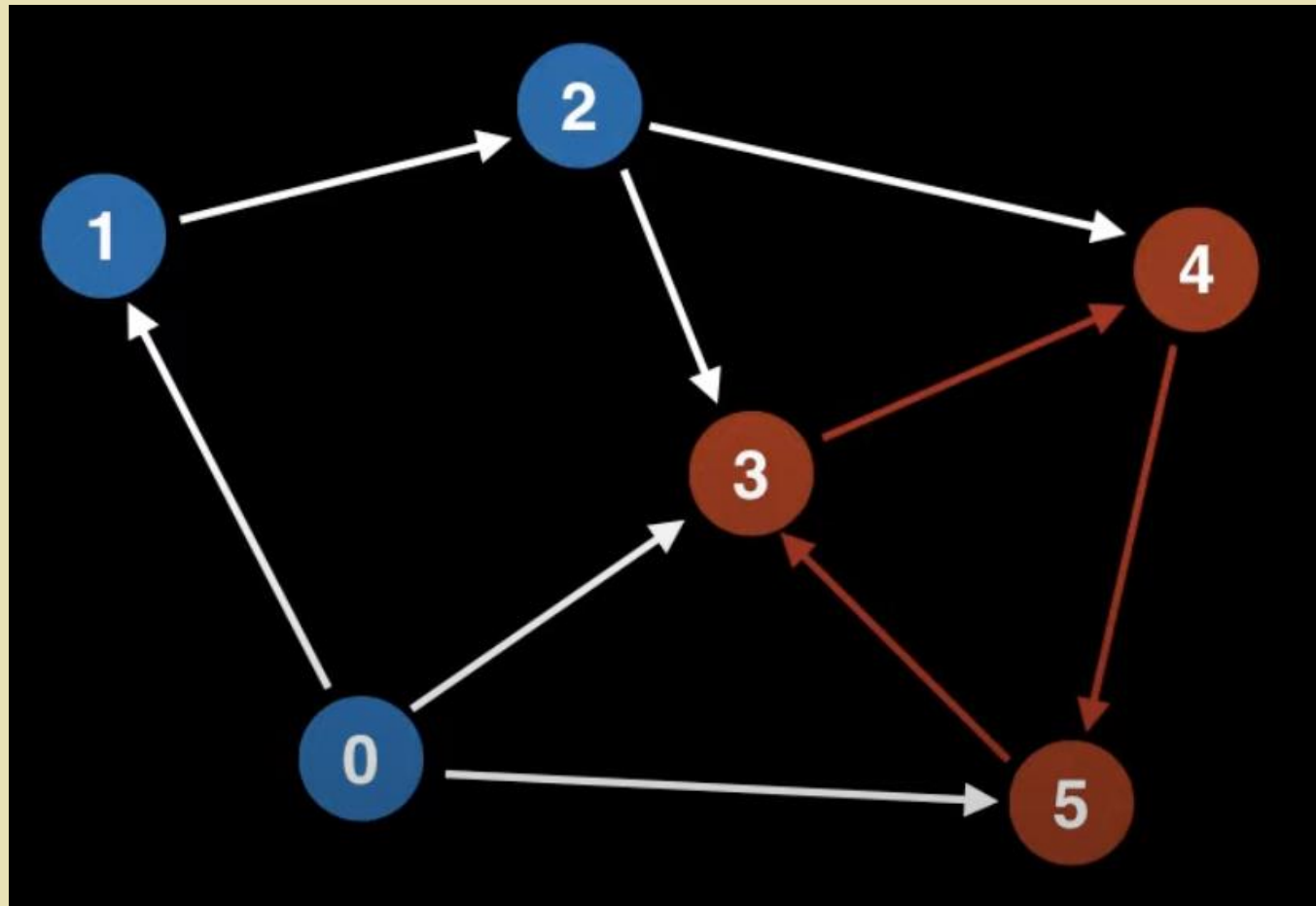
Topological Sort -- Example

◆ Will a (directed) tree have topological ordering?
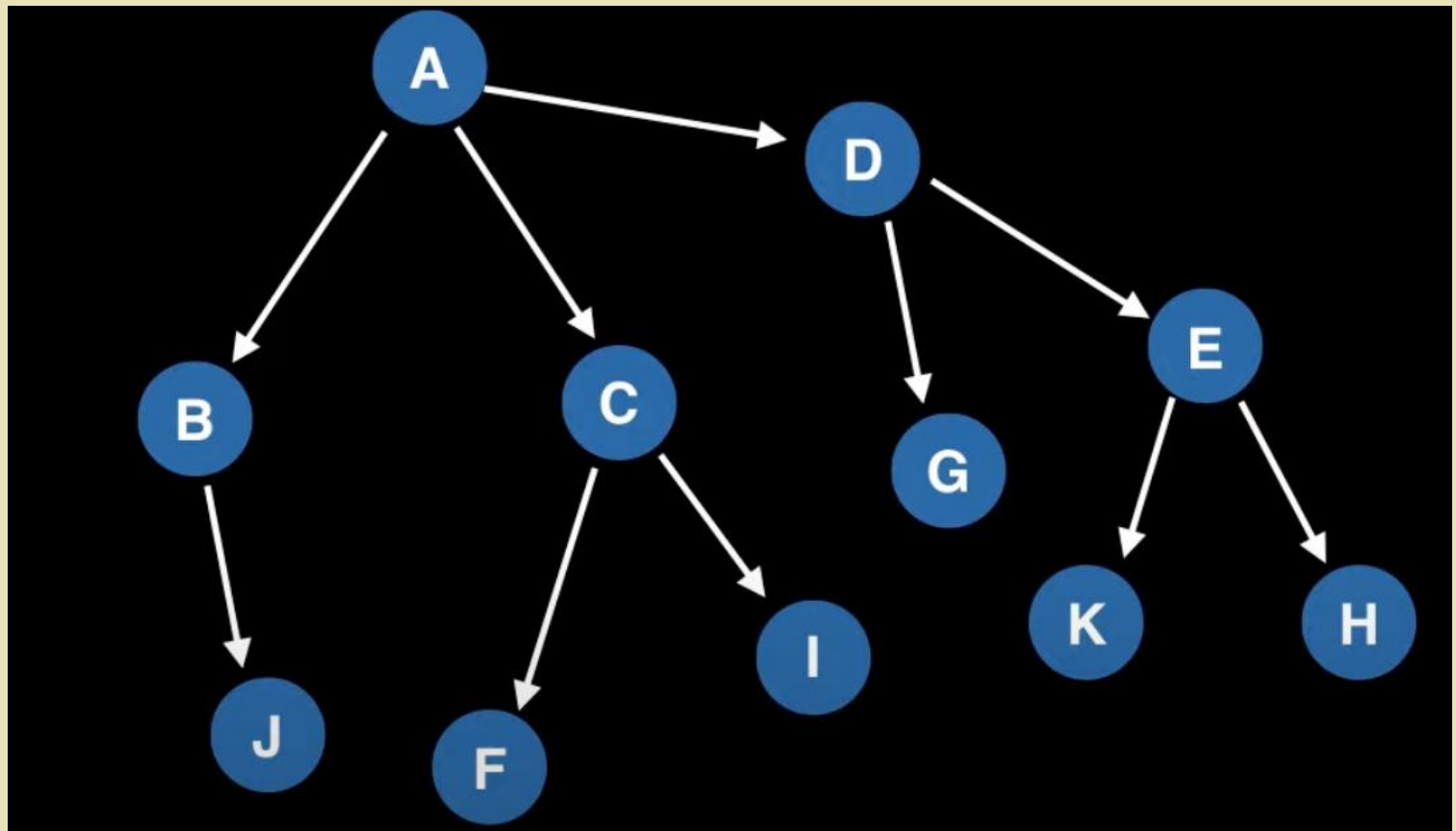
Topological Sort -- Exercise

♦ Determine if each of the following is a topological sort for the given graph

1. A, B, C, D, E
2. E, D, C, B, A
3. D, E, A, B, C
4. B, A, C, D, E

♦ Check each edge!
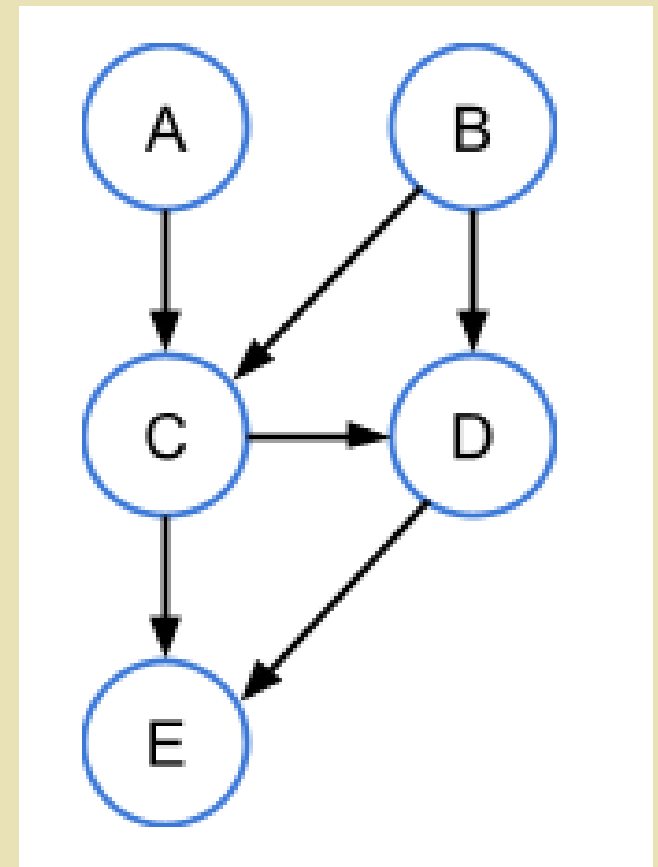
Topological Sort Algorithm

- Can be done using **source removal**.

- A source is a vertex with no incoming edges.

- Each step, a source is identified. The source is removed from the graph along with all its outgoing edges. The vertex is then added at the end of the list.

- The process continues until all vertices are removed from the graph.

Topological Sort Algorithm

- The topological sort algorithm uses three lists:
  - a **results** list that will contain a topological sort of vertices: start as empty
  - a **no-incoming-edges** list of vertices with no incoming edges (source)
  - a remaining-edges list: start as all edges

Topological Sort Algorithm

- while the no-incoming-edges vertex list is not empty
  - a vertex is removed from the no-incoming-edges list and added to the result list.
  - a temporary list is built by removing all edges in the remaining-edges list that are outgoing from the removed vertex.
  - For each edge currentE in the temporary list, the number of edges in the remaining-edges list that are incoming to currentE's terminating vertex are counted.
  - If the incoming edge count is 0, then currentE's terminating vertex is added to the no-incoming-edges vertex list.

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
        currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
        Add currentV to resultList
        outgoingEdges = remove currentV's outgoing edges from remainingEdges
        for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming

        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```
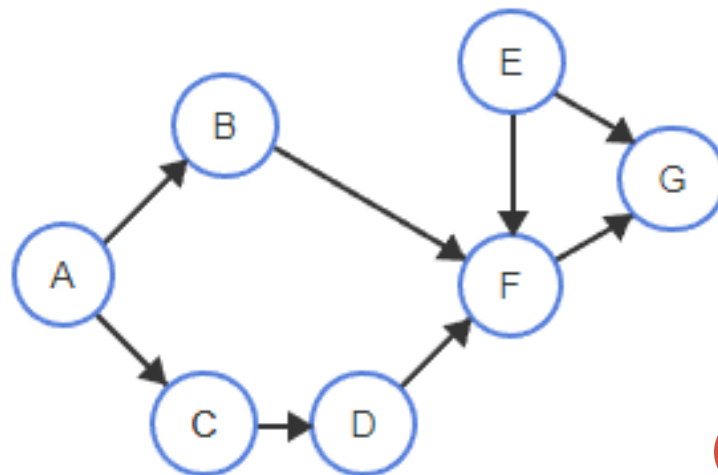
resultList:

noIncoming:

A E

remainingEdges:

AB AC BF CD DF EF EG FG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
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        for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E

noIncoming:

A

remainingEdges:

AB AC BF CD DF EF EG FG

currentV: E

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
        currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
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        for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE⇢toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE⇢toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```
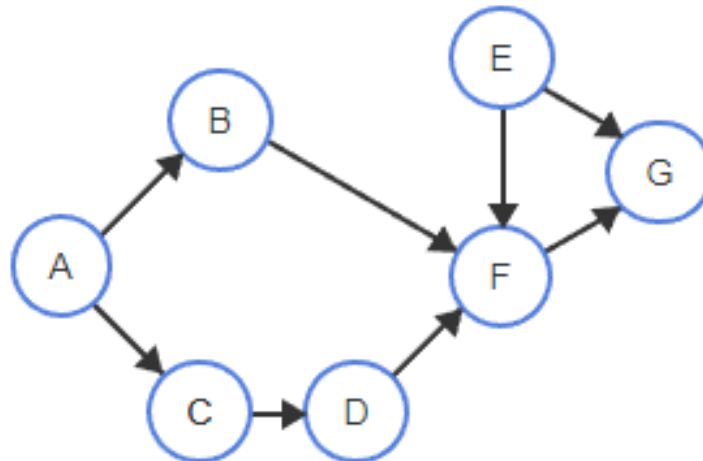
resultList:

E

noIncoming:

A

remainingEdges:

AB AC BF CD DF FG

currentV: E

outgoingEdges:

EF EG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
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        for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

| E |

noIncoming:

| A |

remainingEdges:

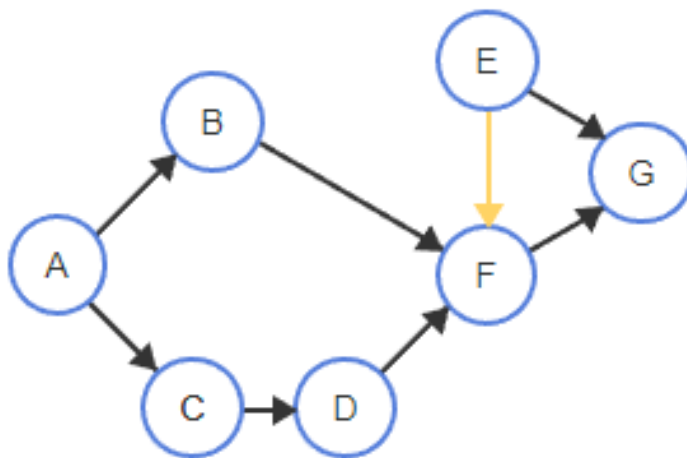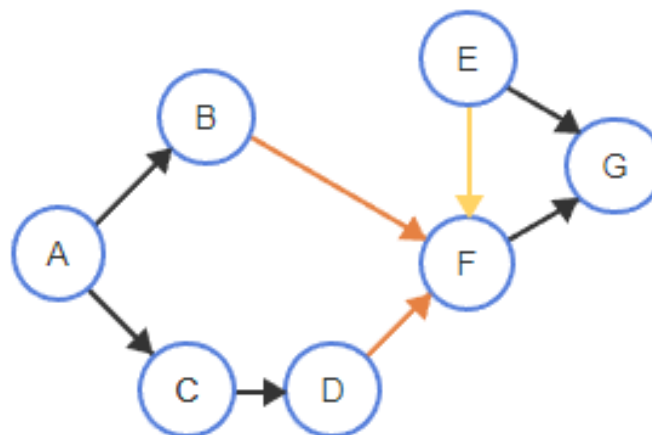| AB AC BF CD DF FG |

currentV: E

outgoingEdges:

| EF EG |

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

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        currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
        Add currentV to resultList
        outgoingEdges = remove currentV's outgoing edges from remainingEdges
        for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE⟶toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE⟶toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E

noIncoming:

A

remainingEdges:

AB AC BF CD DF FG

currentV: E   inCount: 2

outgoingEdges:

EF EG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
   resultList = empty list of vertices
   noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
   remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

   while (noIncoming is not empty) {
      currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
      Add currentV to resultList
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      for each edge currentE in outgoingEdges {
         inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE⇢toVertex)
         if (inCount == 0)
            Add currentE⇢toVertex to noIncoming
      }
   }
   return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E

noIncoming:

A

remainingEdges:

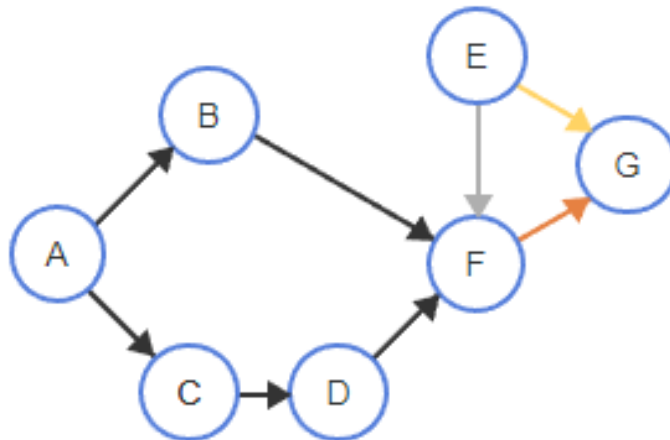| AB AC BF CD DF FG |
|---|

currentV: E   inCount: 1

outgoingEdges:

EF EG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

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            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A

noIncoming:

remainingEdges:
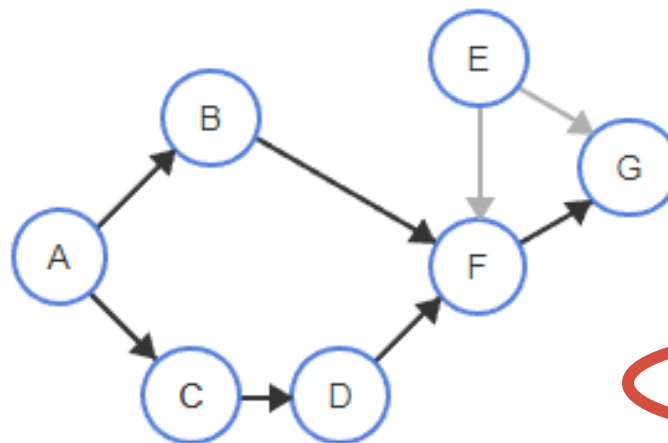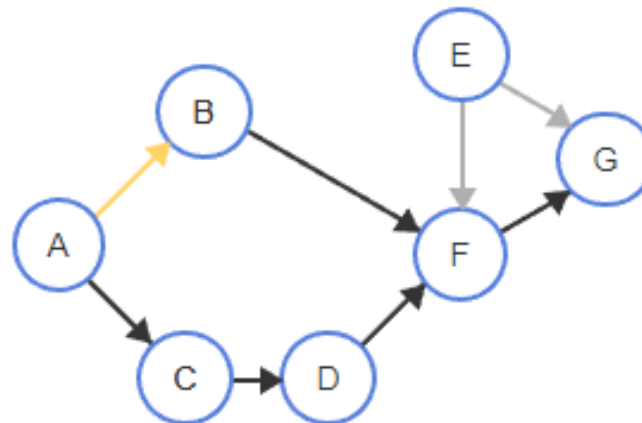
BF CD DF FG

currentV: A

outgoingEdges:

AB AC

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

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            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A

noIncoming:

remainingEdges:

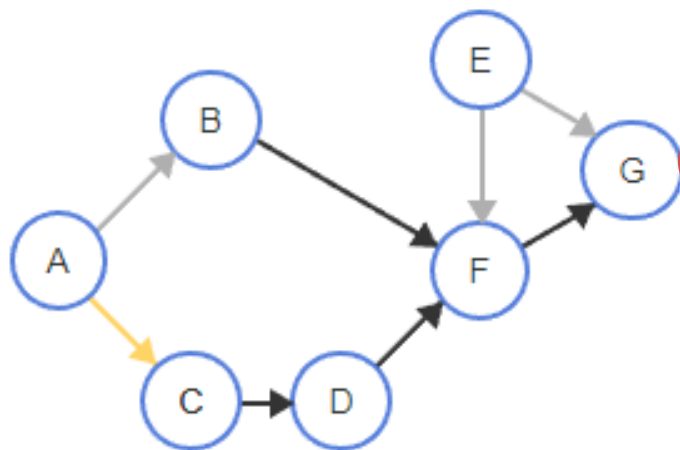| BF CD DF FG |
| --- |

currentV: A   inCount: 0 == 0

outgoingEdges:

AB AC

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
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            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A

noIncoming:

B

remainingEdges:

BF CD DF FG

currentV: A   inCount: 0 == 0

outgoingEdges:

AB AC

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
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        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

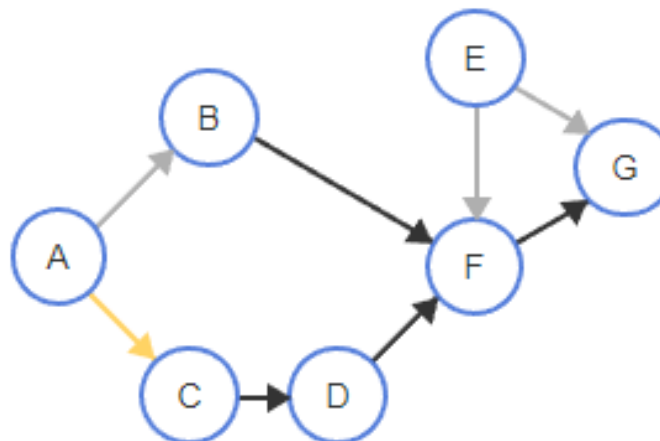resultList:
E A

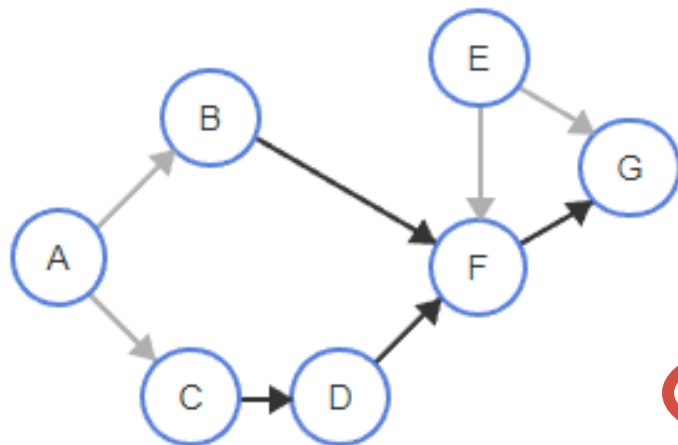noIncoming:
B C

remainingEdges:
BF CD DF FG

currentV: A   inCount: 0

outgoingEdges:
AB AC

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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    }
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}
```

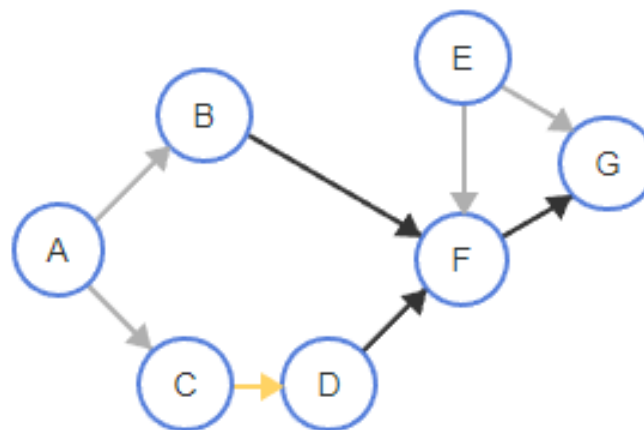resultList:
E A C

noIncoming:
B

remainingEdges:
BF DF FG

currentV: C

outgoingEdges:
CD

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
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}
```

resultList:

E A C

noIncoming:

B D

remainingEdges:

BF DF FG

currentV:

outgoingEdges:

Topological Sort Algorithm

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GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
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    }
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}
```

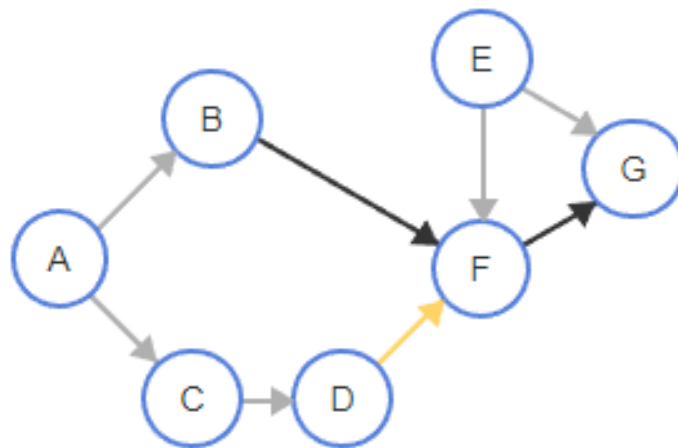resultList:

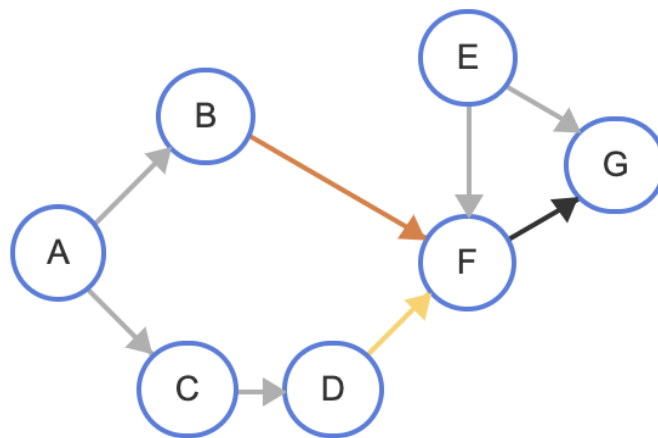   E A C D

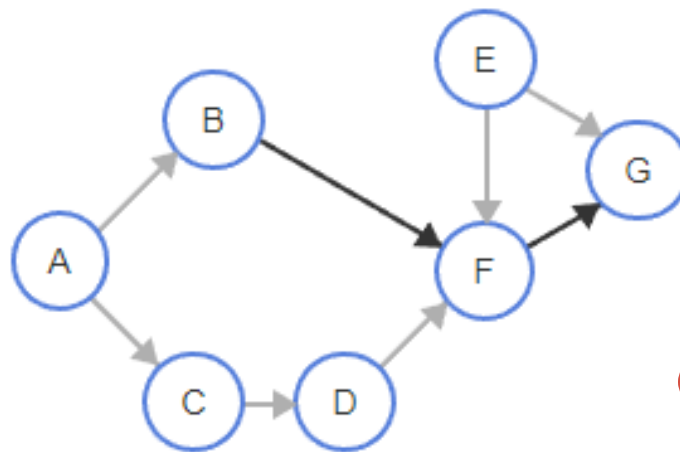noIncoming:

    B

remainingEdges:

    BF FG

currentV: D

outgoingEdges:

    DF

Topological Sort Algorithm

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            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A C D

noIncoming:

B

remainingEdges:

BF FG

currentV: D   inCount: 1 != 0

outgoingEdges:

DF

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```


resultList:

E A C D B

noIncoming:

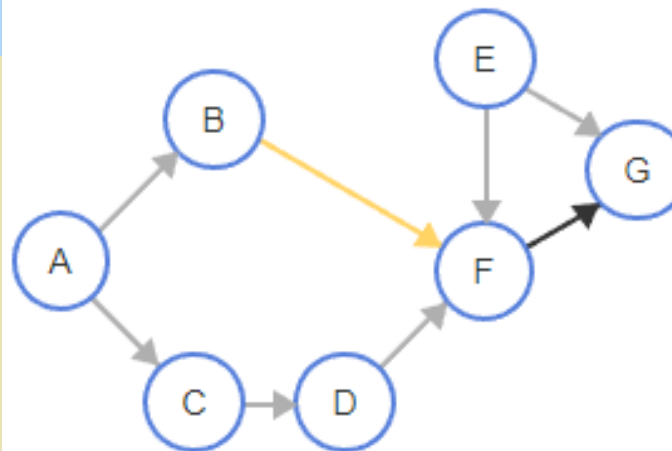| |
| --- |

remainingEdges:

BF FG

currentV: B

outgoingEdges:

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
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            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A C D B

noIncoming:
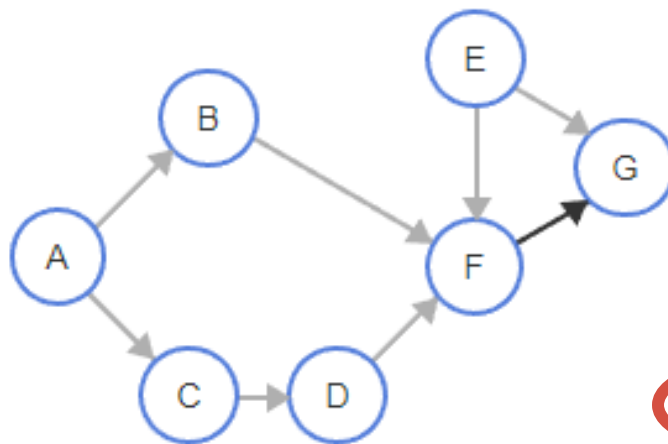
F

remainingEdges:

FG

currentV: B   inCount: 0

outgoingEdges:

BF

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

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}
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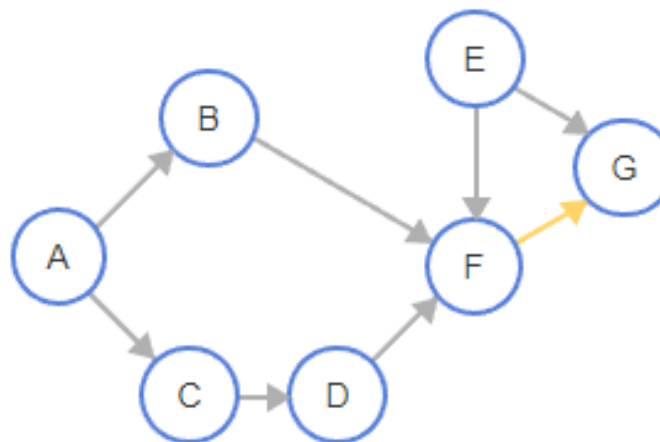resultList:

E A C D B F

noIncoming:

remainingEdges:

currentV: F

outgoingEdges:

FG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
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    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
        currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
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            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```

resultList:

E A C D B F
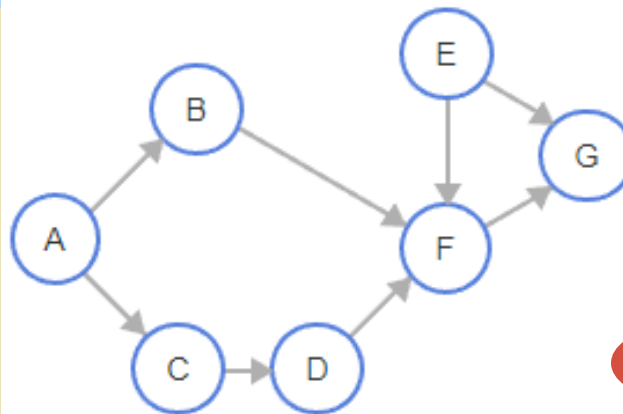
noIncoming:

G

remainingEdges:

currentV: F   inCount: 0

outgoingEdges:

FG

Topological Sort Algorithm

```
GraphTopologicalSort(graph) {
    resultList = empty list of vertices
    noIncoming = list of all vertices with no incoming edges
    remainingEdges = list of all edges in the graph

    while (noIncoming is not empty) {
        currentV = remove any vertex from noIncoming
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            inCount = GraphGetIncomingEdgeCount(remainingEdges, currentE→toVertex)
            if (inCount == 0)
                Add currentE→toVertex to noIncoming
        }
    }
    return resultList
}
```
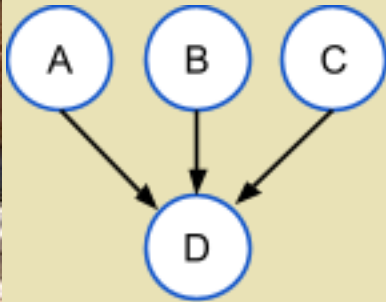
resultList:
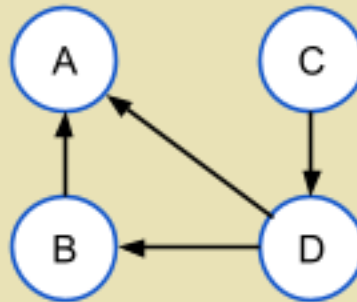
E A C D B F G

noIncoming:

remainingEdges:

currentV: G

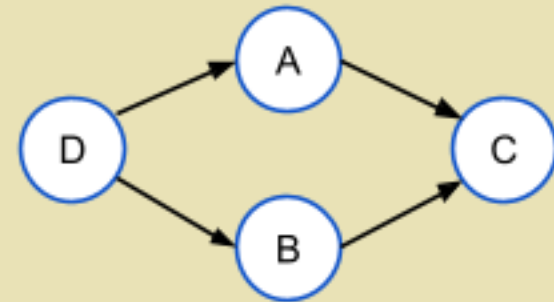outgoingEdges:

Topological Sort -- Example

◆ Write down a valid topological sort for each of the given graph.

1

2

3

Algorithm efficiency

♦ The two vertex lists used in the topological sort algorithm will at most contain all the vertices in the graph. The remaining-edge list will at most contain all edges in the graph.

♦ For a graph with a set of vertices V and a set of edges E, the space complexity of topological sorting is $O(|V|+|E|)$.

♦ If a graph implementation allows for retrieval of a vertex's incoming and outgoing edges in constant time, then the time complexity of topological sorting is also $O(|V|+|E|)$.

That's about this lecture!