Decompositions of Graphs

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John Hopcroft



Robert Tarjan



John Hopcroft



Robert Tarjan

"For fundamental achievements in the design and analysis of algorithms and data structures."

— Turing Award, 1986

SIAM J. COMPUT. Vol. 1, No. 2, June 1972

DEPTH-FIRST SEARCH AND LINEAR GRAPH ALGORITHMS*

ROBERT TARJAN†

Abstract. The value of depth-first search or "backtracking" as a technique for solving problems is illustrated by two examples. An improved version of an algorithm for finding the strongly connected components of a directed graph and an algorithm for finding the biconnected components of an undirect graph are presented. The space and time requirements of both algorithms are bounded by $k_1V + k_2E + k_3$ for some constants k_1, k_2 , and k_3 , where V is the number of vertices and E is the number of edges of the graph being examined.

Key words. Algorithm, backtracking, biconnectivity, connectivity, depth-first, graph, search, spanning tree, strong-connectivity.

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"DFS is a powerful technique with many applications."

▶ "Depth-First Search And Linear Graph Algorithms" by Robert Tarjan.

Power of DFS:

Graph Traversal ⇒ Graph Decomposition

Power of DFS:

Graph Traversal ⇒ Graph Decomposition

Structure! Structure! Structure!



Graph *structure* induced by DFS:

states of v

types of u v

Graph structure induced by DFS:



types of \underbrace{u} \underbrace{v}

life time of v:

 ${\color{red}v:} \mathsf{d}[v], \mathsf{f}[v]$

d[v]: BICOMP

f[v]: Toposort, SCC

Definition (Classifying edges)

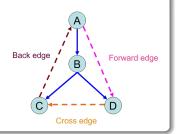
Given a DFS traversal \implies DFS tree:

Tree edge: \rightarrow child

Back edge: \rightarrow ancestor

Forward edge: → *nonchild* descendant

Cross edge: \rightarrow (\neg ancestor) \land (\neg descendant)



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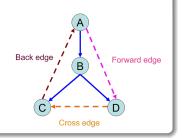
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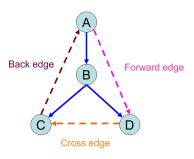
Back edge: \rightarrow ancestor

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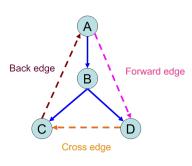
Cross edge: \rightarrow (\neg ancestor) \land (\neg descendant)



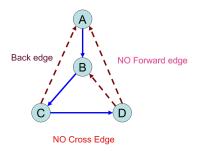
- Also applicable to BFS
- w.r.t. DFS/BFS trees



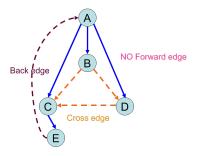
DFS on directed graph



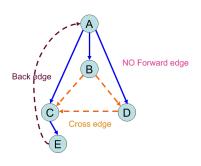
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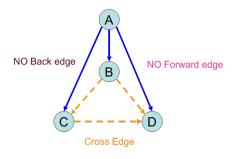
DFS on undirected graph



BFS on directed graph



BFS on directed graph



BFS on undirected graph (Problem 5.1)

Undirected connected graph $G = (V, E), v \in V$

DFS tree T from $v \equiv$ BFS tree T' from v

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$$G\equiv T$$

Undirected connected graph $G=(V,E),v\in V$

DFS tree T from $v \equiv$ BFS tree T' from v

$$G \equiv T$$

Proof.

$$G_{\mathsf{DFS}}$$
: tree + back vs. G_{BFS} : tree + cross



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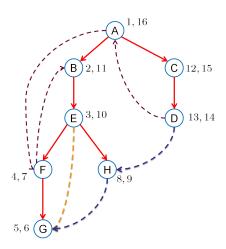
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Q: What if G is a digraph?



Lift time of vertices in DFS



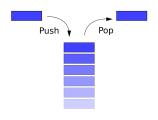
Theorem (Disjoint or Contained (Problem 4.2:(1)&(2)))

$$\forall u,v: [_u\]_u\cap [_v\]_v=\emptyset\bigvee \Big([_u\]_u\subset [_v\]_v\vee [_v\]_v\subset [_u\]_u\Big)$$

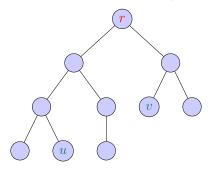
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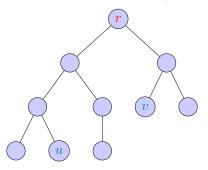


Preprocessing for ancestor/descendant relation (Problem 5.6)



Q: Is u an ancestor of v? O(1)

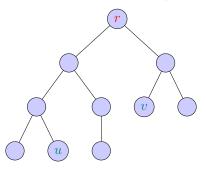
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Q: # of descendants of any v?

$$\forall u \rightarrow v$$
:

- ▶ tree/forward edge: $\begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix}_v$
- ▶ back edge: $\begin{bmatrix} v & u \end{bmatrix} u \end{bmatrix} v$
- ightharpoonup cross edge: $\begin{bmatrix} v \end{bmatrix}_v \begin{bmatrix} u \end{bmatrix}_u$

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$$\mathsf{f}[v] < \mathsf{d}[u] \iff \qquad \mathsf{edge}$$

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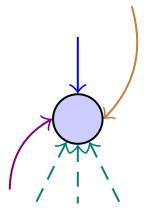
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DFS from the perspective of a single node:

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Height and diameter of tree (Problem 5.4)

Binary tree T = (V, E) with |V| = n and the root r:

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Binary tree T=(V,E) with |V|=n and the root r

Binary tree T = (V, E) with |V| = n and the root r

Q: Diameter of a $\it tree \ without$ a designated root

Binary tree T = (V, E) with |V| = n and the root r

${\it Q}$: Diameter of a $\it tree\ without$ a designated root



A beautiful algorithm:

- ightharpoonup Pick any u
- ightharpoonup Run BFS from u, obtain the farthest v
- Run BFS from v, obtain the farthest w (v, w)

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Your Job: Prove it!

A beautiful algorithm:

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Back to our original problem with $u \leftarrow r$.

	Digraph	Undirected graph
DFS		
BFS		

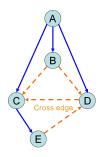
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	cycle → back edge	cross edge \longleftrightarrow cycle

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$$\mathsf{Evasiveness} \ \triangleq \ \mathsf{check} \ \binom{n}{2} \ \mathsf{edges} \ (\mathsf{adjacency} \ \mathsf{matrix})$$

Evasiveness
$$\triangleq$$
 check $\binom{n}{2}$ edges (adjacency matrix)

 ${\it Q}:$ Is acyclicity evasive?

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By Adversary Argument.



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Algorithm \mathbb{A} :

CHECKEDGE(u, v)

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 check $\binom{n}{2}$ edges (adjacency matrix)

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Algorithm A:

CHECKEDGE(u, v)

Hint: Kruskal





$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CheckEdge}(u,v) \leftarrow \overbrace{u} \\ \Longleftrightarrow \\ \\ & \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{cycle} \ \in G + \overbrace{u} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbf{CHECKEDGE}(u,v) \leftarrow & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ &$$

 $Q: \mathsf{Why} \ \mathsf{adjacency} \ \mathsf{matrix}?$

After-class Exercise: Evasiveness of connectivity of undirected graphs

Evasiveness
$$\triangleq$$
 check $\binom{n}{2}$ edges (adjacency matrix)

Q: Is connectivity evasive?

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Hint: Anti-Kruskal

- ightharpoonup undirected (connected) graph G
- ▶ edges oriented *s.t.*

$$\forall v, \mathsf{in}[v] \geq 1$$

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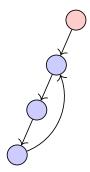
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DFS from $v \in C$



Shortest cycle of undirected graph (Problem 4.12)

A WRONG DFS-based algorithm:

$$\forall v : \mathsf{level}[v]$$

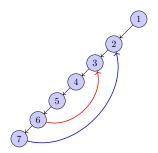
Back edge
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Shortest cycle of digraph (Problem 4.12)

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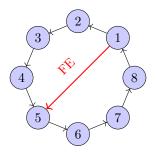
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Shortest cycle of digraph (Problem 4.12)

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Back edge $u \to v$: level[u] - level[v] + 1



 $\frac{1}{2} \text{ back edge} \iff \text{DAG} \iff \exists \text{ topo. ordering}$

$$\nexists$$
 back edge \iff DAG \iff \exists topo. ordering

TOPOSORT by Tarjan (probably), 1976

$$\sharp \text{ cycle } \Longrightarrow \boxed{u \to v \iff \mathsf{f}[v] < \mathsf{f}[u]}$$

$$\nexists$$
 back edge \iff DAG \iff \exists topo. ordering

TOPOSORT by Tarjan (probably), 1976

Sort vertices in *decreasing* order of their *finish* times.

Kahn's TOPOSORT algorithm (1962; Problem 4.16)

- ▶ Queue Q for source vertices (in[v] = 0)
- ▶ Repeat: DEQUEUE $(u \in Q)$, delete u and $u \to v$ from Q, output u, ENQUEUE(v) if $\ln[v] = 0$

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Every DAG has at least one source (and at least one sink vertex).

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Lemma (Correctness of Kahn's TOPOSORT)

Every DAG has at least one source (and at least one sink vertex).

Q: What if G is not a DAG?

Taking courses in few semesters (Problem 5.14)

- ightharpoonup n courses
- ▶ m of $c_1 \rightarrow c_2$: prerequisite
- ► Goal: taking courses in few semesters

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Critical path *OR* Longest path using DFS in O(n+m)

For general digraph, LONGEST-PATH is NP-hard.

Line up (Problem 4.22)

- 1. i hates j: $i \succ j$
- 2. i hates j: #i < #j

Toposort

Critical path

HP: path visiting each vertex once

 $Q: \exists \ \mathsf{HP} \ \mathsf{in} \ \mathsf{a} \ \mathsf{DAG} \ \mathsf{in} \ O(n+m)$

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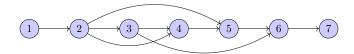
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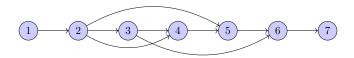
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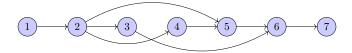
DAG: \exists HP \iff \exists ! topo. ordering

Tarjan's TOPOSORT + Check edges (v_i, v_{i+1})

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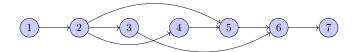


Tarjan's TOPOSORT + Check edges (v_i, v_{i+1})



Kahn's TOPOSORT (Problem 4.16)

Tarjan's TOPOSORT + Check edges (v_i, v_{i+1})



Kahn's TOPOSORT (Problem 4.16)

$$|Q| \leq 1$$

Theorem (Digraph as DAG (Problem 4.6))

Every digraph is a dag of its SCCs.

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Every digraph is a dag of its SCCs.

Two tiered structure of digraphs:

 $digraph \equiv a dag of SCCs$

SCC: equivalence class over reachability

 $digraph \equiv a dag of SCCs$

Kosaraju SCC algorithm, 1978

"SCCs can be topo-sorted in decreasing order of their highest finish time."

$digraph \equiv a dag of SCCs$

Kosaraju SCC algorithm, 1978

"SCCs can be topo-sorted in decreasing order of their highest finish time."

- (I) DFS on G; DFS/BFS on G^T
- (II) DFS on G^T ; DFS/BFS on G

Kosaraju SCC algorithm, 1978 (Problem 4.7)

1st DFS $\stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow}$ BFS

 $2 nd DFS \stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow} BFS$

Kosaraju SCC algorithm, 1978 (Problem 4.7)

1st DFS
$$\stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow}$$
 BFS

2nd DFS
$$\stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow}$$
 BFS

1st DFS: toposort between SCCs

2nd DFS: reachability within an SCC

Kosaraju SCC algorithm, 1978 (Problem 4.7)

1st DFS
$$\stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow}$$
 BFS

2nd DFS $\stackrel{?}{\Longrightarrow}$ BFS

1st DFS: toposort between SCCs

2nd DFS: reachability within an SCC

 $\mathsf{digraph} \equiv \mathsf{a} \; \mathsf{dag} \; \mathsf{of} \; \mathsf{SCCs}$

$$v:v \leadsto^? \forall u$$

$$\exists ? \ v : v \leadsto \forall u$$

$$v:v \leadsto^? \forall u$$

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SCC

 $\exists !$ source vertex $v \iff v \leadsto \forall u$

$$v:v \leadsto^? \forall u$$

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SCC

$$\exists !$$
 source vertex $v \iff v \leadsto \forall u$

$$v:v \leadsto^? \forall u$$

$$\exists ? \ v : v \leadsto \forall u$$

SCC

 $\exists ! \text{ source vertex } v \iff v \leadsto \forall u$

 \iff : \exists ! source

 \Longrightarrow : By contradiction.

 $\exists u: v \not \rightsquigarrow u \land \mathsf{in}[u] > 0 \implies \exists \mathsf{ cycle}$

$$\mathsf{impact}(v) = |\{w \neq v : v \leadsto w\}|$$

- $\operatorname{arg\,min}_v\operatorname{impact}(v)$
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 $\underset{v}{\arg\min}\,\mathsf{impact}(v) \in \mathsf{source}\;\mathsf{SCC}$

 $Q: \forall v: \mathsf{computing} \ \mathsf{impact}(v)$

$$I: (x_1 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\overline{x_3} \vee x_4) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee x_4)$$

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$$\alpha \vee \beta \equiv \overline{\alpha} \to \beta \equiv \overline{\beta} \to \alpha$$

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Implication graph G_I .

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Theorem (2SAT)

 $\exists \ \mathit{SCC} \ \exists x : v_x \in \mathit{SCC} \land v_{\overline{x}} \in \mathit{SCC} \iff I \ \textit{is not satisfiable}.$

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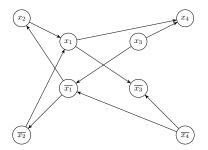
Implication graph G_I .

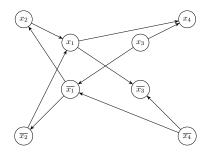
Theorem (2SAT)

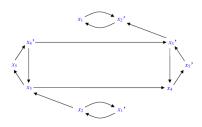
 $\exists \ \mathit{SCC} \ \exists x : v_x \in \mathit{SCC} \land v_{\overline{x}} \in \mathit{SCC} \iff I \ \textit{is not satisfiable}.$

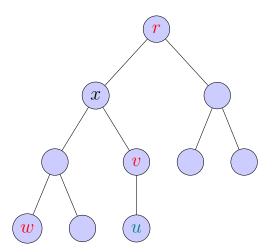
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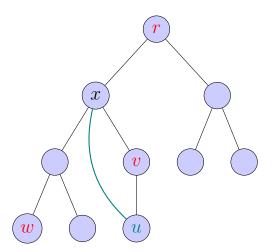
▶ "A Linear-time Algorithm for Testing the Truth of Certain Quantified Boolean Formulas" by Bengt Aspvall, Michael Plass, and Robert Tarjan, 1979.

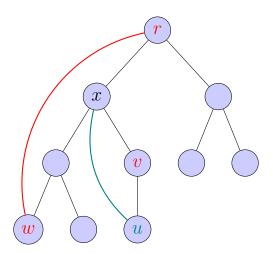


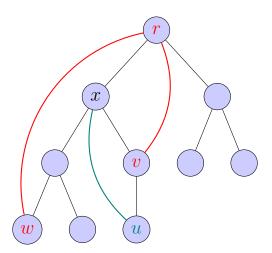






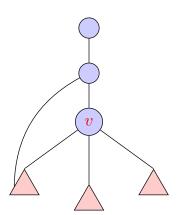






- (I) When and how to update back[v]?
- (II) When and how to identify a bicomponent?

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$$\mathsf{back}[v] = d[v] \text{ \textit{vs.}} \ \mathsf{back}[v] = \infty \vee 2(n+1)$$

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```
\label{eq:continuous_problem} \begin{split} & \text{tree edge } (\to v) \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = d[v] \\ & \operatorname{back edge } (v \to w) \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = \min\{\operatorname{back}[v], d[w]\} \\ & \operatorname{backtracking from } w \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = \min\{\operatorname{back}[v], \operatorname{back}[w] = \operatorname{wBack}\} \end{split}
```

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tree edge (\to v): back[v] = d[v] back edge (v \to w): back[v] = \min\{\text{back}[v], d[w]\} backtracking from w: back[v] = \min\{\text{back}[v], \text{back}[w] = \text{wBack}\}
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Proof.

if ever updated

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$$\begin{array}{l} \text{tree edge } (\rightarrow v) \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = \textcolor{red}{d[v]} \\ \operatorname{back edge } (v \rightarrow w) \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = \min\{\operatorname{back}[v], \textcolor{blue}{d[w]}\} \\ \operatorname{backtracking from } w \colon \operatorname{back}[v] = \min\{\operatorname{back}[v], \operatorname{back}[w] = \operatorname{wBack}\} \\ \end{array}$$

Proof.

if never updated:

if ever updated
$${\rm wBack} = \infty > d[v] \ \textit{vs.}$$

$$\mathsf{back}[v] = d[v] \textit{ vs. } \mathsf{back}[v] = \infty \vee 2(n+1)$$

back[v]: the earliest reachable ancestor of v

tree edge
$$(\to v)$$
: back $[v] = d[v]$ back edge $(v \to w)$: back $[v] = \min\{\text{back}[v], d[w]\}$ backtracking from w : back $[v] = \min\{\text{back}[v], \text{back}[w] = \text{wBack}\}$

Proof.

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Root cutnode v (Problem 4.8)

v is a cutnode \iff out $[v] \geq 2$

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