

Application of DFS: Topological Sort

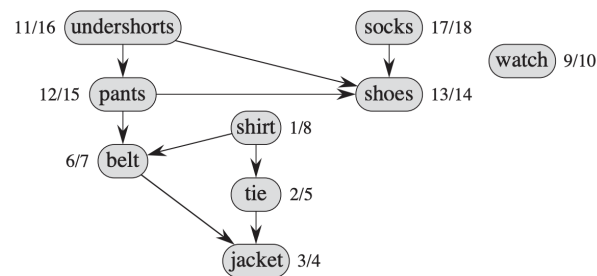


Figure 1: Top sort example graph from CLRS.

Theorem 1. G has a topological order $\iff G$ is a DAG.

Topological Sort Algorithm:

Theorem 2. If the tasks are scheduled by decreasing postorder number, then all precedence constraints are satisfied.

Breadth-First Search

Algorithm 1 BFS(G, s)

Input: Graph $G = (V, E)$ and starting vertex s .

initialize: (1) array $dist$ of length n , (2) queue q , (3) linked list L of sets, (4) tree $T = (\{s\}, \emptyset)$

$dist[s] = 0$

$L[0] = \{s\}$

enqueue s to q

mark s as discovered and all other v as undiscovered

while $size(q) > 0$ **do**

$v = dequeue(q)$

for $(v, w) \in E$ **do**

if w is undiscovered **then**

 enqueue w in q

 mark w as discovered

$dist(w) = dist(v) + 1$

 add w to $L[dist(w)]$

 add (v, w) to T

end if

end for

end while

return T, L

What happens when we run BFS($G, 1$) where G is the graph below?

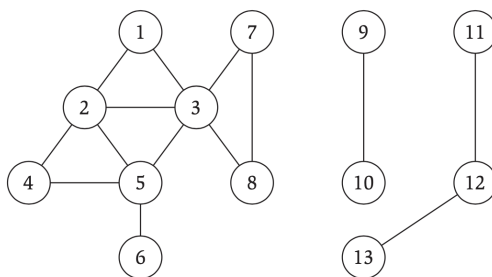


Figure 2: Example graph G . From Kleinberg Tardos.

What is BFS doing? BFS labels each vertex with the distance from s , or the number of edges in the shortest path from s to the vertex. (**Exercise:** Prove this!)

Runtime:

Claim 1. Let T be a breadth-first search tree, let x and y be nodes in T belonging to layers L_i and L_j respectively, and let (x, y) be an edge of G . Then i and j differ by at most 1.

Proof.

Definition 1. We say a graph $G = (V, E)$ is *bipartite* if the vertices can be partitioned into disjoint sets $V = A \sqcup B$ such that for every edge in E , one endpoint is in A and the other endpoint is in B . That is, there are no edges within A or within B .

We use another idea from graph theory: vertex coloring. We try to color the vertices with the *smallest* number of colors possible, but a vertex cannot be colored the same color as any of its neighbors. Then a bipartite graph is a graph that can be colored with two colors—all vertices in A can be colored red and all vertices in B can be colored blue.

Claim 2. If a graph is bipartite, it cannot contain an odd cycle.

Then we can use the algorithm: Perform BFS, coloring s red, all vertices of distance 1 blue, all with distance 2 red, and so on, coloring odd-distanced vertices blue and even-distanced vertices red.

If any edge has both ends receive the same color, then it's not bipartite.

Claim 3. Let G be a connected graph, and let L_1, L_2, \dots be the *layers*, or sets of vertices of distance 1, 2, and so on, produced by BFS starting at node s . Then exactly one of the following two things must hold.

- (i) G has no edges with both endpoints in the same layer. Then G is a bipartite graph.
- (ii) G has an edge with both endpoints in the same layer. In this case, G contains an odd-length cycle, and so it cannot be bipartite.

Proof.