

# Fundamental Algorithmic Techniques

## VIII

November 14, 2025

# Outline

Cycles Detection

Connected Components

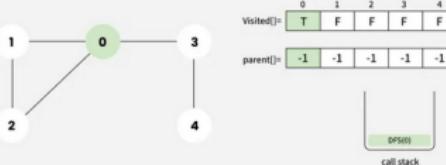
Minimum Spanning Trees

Graph Colouring Algorithms

Shortest Paths

# Cycle Detection: DFS vs BFS — Complexity

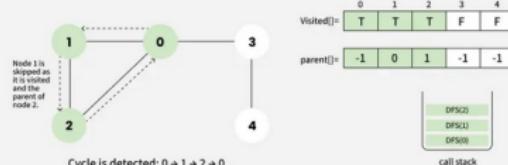
02 Start DFS from node 0: mark it as visited, and add DFS(0) to the call stack.



Detect Cycle in Undirected Graph

Depth-First Search step 0

05 Explore the neighbors of node 2: encounter neighbor 0, which is already visited and not the parent of 2 (as Parent[2] = 1)



Cycle is detected: 0 → 1 → 2 → 0

Detect Cycle in Undirected Graph

Depth-First Search step 3

Both detect the cycle when exploring the back edge (e.g.,  $D \rightarrow A$ ):

since the target node is already visited and not the immediate parent (in undirected) or is on the recursion stack (in directed).

**Complexity:**

**Time:**  $O(V + E)$  for both

Every vertex and edge is processed at most once.

**Space:**  $O(V)$  for both

- **DFS:** Call stack depth  $V$  (worst-case path).

- **BFS:** Queue may hold up to  $O(V)$  nodes (e.g., wide level).

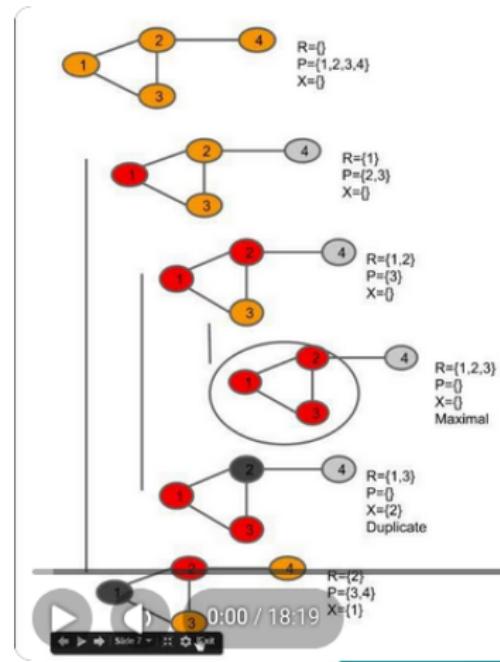
# Bron–Kerbosch Algorithm: Maximal Clique Enumeration

Undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  
 $N(v) = \text{neighbors of } v \text{ in } G$ ,

**Initial call:**  $\text{BronKerbosch1}(\emptyset, V, \emptyset)$

**Pseudocode:**

```
algorithm BronKerbosch1(R, P, X) is
    if P and X are both empty then
        report R as a maximal
        clique
    for each vertex v in P do
        BronKerbosch1(R ∪ {v}, P ∩
        N(v), X ∩ N(v))
        P := P \ {v}
        X := X ∪ {v}
```



# Kosaraju Algorithm

$O(V + E)$

# Kosaraju's Algorithm - Finding Strongly Connected Components

## Kosaraju's Algorithm

### 1 DFS on Original Graph:

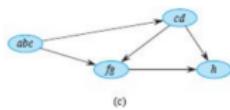
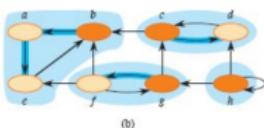
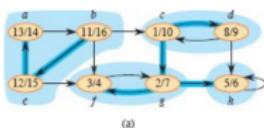
Record finish times

### 2 Transpose the Graph:

Reverse all edges

### 3 DFS on Transposed

Graph: Process nodes in order of decreasing finish times to find SCCs



**Time Complexity:**  $O(V + E)$

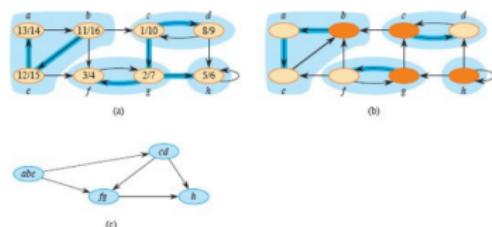
**Space Complexity:**  $O(V)$

**Key Insight:** Transpose

# Kosaraju's Algorithm - Strongly Connected Components

## Kosaraju's Algorithm

- 1 **DFS on Original Graph:** Record finish times
- 2 **Transpose the Graph:** Reverse all edges
- 3 **DFS on Transposed Graph:** Process nodes in order of decreasing finish times to find SCCs



Two-pass DFS to find SCCs

**Time Complexity:** Depth First Search:  $O(V + E)$

**Space Complexity:** Stack:  $O(V)$

# Tarjan Algorithm

$O(V + E)$

# Kruskal's Algorithm - Greedy MST Construction

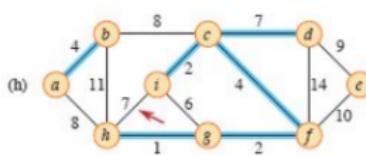
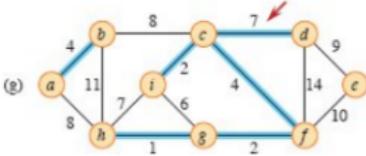
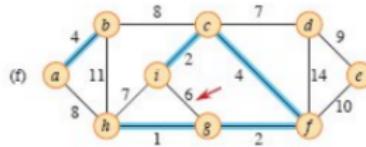
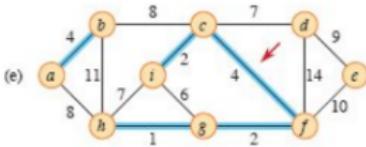
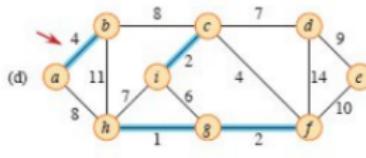
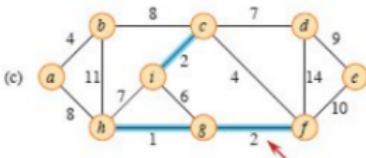
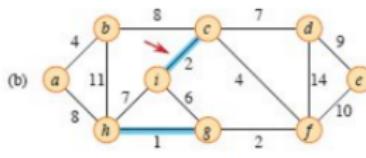
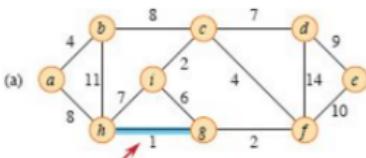
## Kruskal's Algorithm Steps

- 1 **Initialize DSU:** Each vertex in its own component
- 2 **Sort edges:** By weight (ascending order)
- 3 **For each edge**  $(u, v)$  in sorted order:
- 4 **Check for cycle:** If  $\text{find}(u) \neq \text{find}(v)$
- 5 **Add to MST:** Include edge if no cycle
- 6 **Union:** Merge components using  $\text{union}(u, v)$
- 7 **Skip:** If same component (cycle detected)

## Greedy Strategy

Always pick the smallest available edge that doesn't create a cycle

# Kruskal Algorithm: Execution



Stepwise execution of Kruskal Algorithm

# Prim Algorithm

$O(V + E)$

# Graph Coloring – Map and Schedule Applications

**Problem:** Assign as **few colors as possible** to vertices so that no two adjacent vertices share the same color.

## Example:

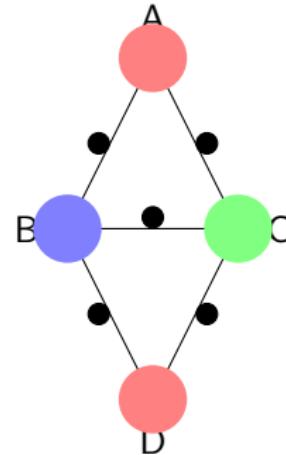
Vertices: Regions on a map or tasks needing resources

Edges: Conflicts

**Chromatic Number:** minimum colors needed:  $\chi(G) = 3$  (NP Hard)

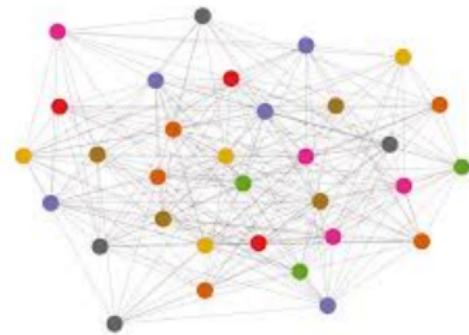
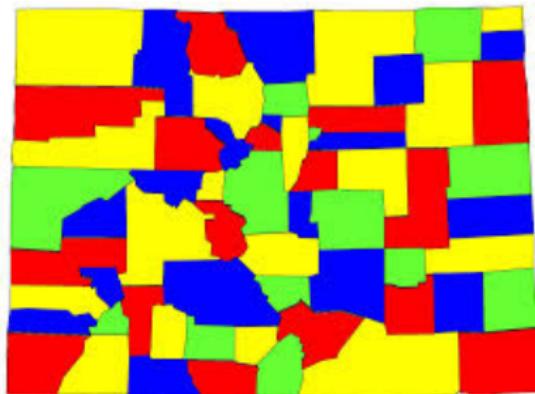
## Real-world use cases:

- Scheduling exams
- Register allocation in compilers
- Frequency assignment in wireless networks



A 3-coloring:  $A,D=\text{red}$ ;  $B=\text{blue}$ ;  $C=\text{green}$

## Nice examples of graph colouring problems



# Bipartite Graphs

Graphs with 2 colours so that no two adjacent colours

**Four Color Theorem:** Any planar map can be colored with 4 colors

# Graph Coloring Algorithm: Greedy Coloring

## Algorithm (Greedy Coloring):

1 Order vertices:  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$

2 For each  $v_i$  in order:

Assign the smallest color not used by its already-colored neighbors.

## Key Properties:

Time complexity:  $O(V + E)$

Not optimal — may use  $> \chi(G)$  colors

Performance depends on vertex ordering

Worst case:  $\chi(G) + 1$  colors

Heuristics: DSATUR, Largest First,  
Smallest Last

Vertex	Neighbors' Colors	Color Assigned
$v_1$	—	1
$v_2$	{1}	2
$v_3$	{1,2}	3
$v_4$	{2,3}	1

*Example run of greedy coloring*

# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

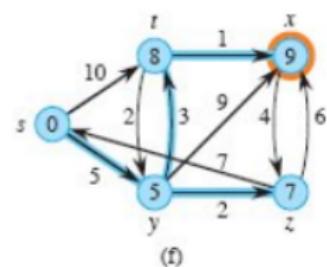
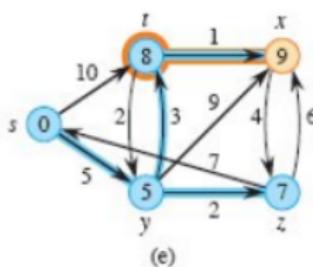
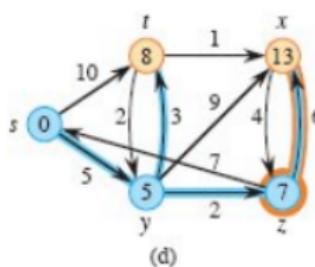
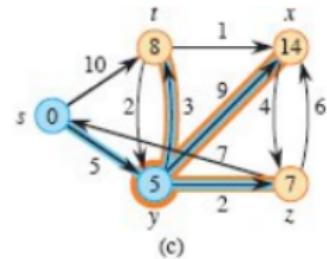
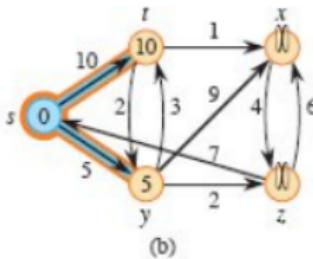
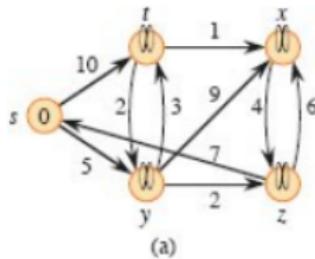
**Goal:** Find shortest paths from a source node to all other nodes in a weighted graph (non-negative weights).

## Simple Steps:

- 1 Set distance to source = 0. Set all other distances to  $\infty$ . Mark all nodes unvisited.
- 2 While there are unvisited nodes:
  - 3 Choose the unvisited node with the smallest known distance.
  - 4 For each neighbor of that node:
    - Add the edge weight to the current node's distance.
    - If this gives a shorter path to the neighbor, update its distance.
    - Mark the current node as visited.

**Key idea:** Greedily expand the closest unvisited node — guarantees optimal paths.

# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Step-by-Step Execution



*Dijkstra's algorithm: shortest path tree built step by step*