

Lecture 5: Graph Algorithms (2)

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Scribe: -

- ** Any questions from Quiz 1?
- ** Issues with Quiz 1. Example solutions to Problem 1 & 2.
- ** Review the proof of bipartite checker from last lecture.

1 Directed Graph

A directed graph is commonly used to model directional relationships. For example, a web graph represents a network of web pages. An edge $u \rightarrow v$ represents a page u contains link to another page v .

Definition 1.1. A directed graph $G = (V, E)$ consists of a nonempty set of nodes V and a set of directed edges E . Each edge $e \in E$ is specified by an ordered pair of vertices $u, v \in V$. A directed graph is *simple* if it has no loops (that is, edges of the form $u \rightarrow u$) and no multiple edges.

2 BFS and DFS revisited

Given a starting node s , what is the running time of BFS and DFS algorithms on a *directed* graph?

BFS: $O(m + n)$

DFS: $O(m + n)$

3 Reachability Problem in Directed Graph

Problem: Given a directed graph G and a node s , find all nodes reachable from s .

Recall that we discussed the reachability problem in undirected graph last time. Does the algorithm for undirected graphs work when G is directed? Yes, the BFS based algorithm still works.

An important application is web page crawling to identify a set of pages reachable from a starting page s .

4 Strong Connectivity

Another interesting thing about directed graphs is that, when v is reachable from u , it is not necessary that u is reachable from v .

[Draw an example]

Definition 4.1. Nodes u and v are *mutually reachable* if there is both a path from u to v and also a path from v to u .

Definition 4.2. A graph is *strongly connected* if every pair of nodes is *mutually reachable*.

Lemma 4.3. *Let s be any node. G is strongly connected if and only if every node is reachable from s , and s is reachable from every node.*

Proof:

(\Rightarrow) Assume G is strongly connected. By definition, every node is reachable from s and s is reachable from every node.

(\Leftarrow) Given s , we assume that every node is reachable from s and s is reachable from every node. Consider any pair of nodes (u, v) . There is a path from u to v because we have $u \rightarrow s$, and $s \rightarrow v$. Similarly, we have a path from v to u . Thus, G is strongly connected. Note it doesn't matter if the path overlaps. ■

Now let's consider a problem where a directed graph G is given and we want to check whether G is strongly connected.

`IsStronglyConnected(G):`

1. Pick ANY node s in graph G
2. Run BFS from s in the graph G
3. Run BFS from s in the graph $G^{reversed}$
4. Return True iff all nodes reached in both BFS

Question: What's the running time? $O(m + n)$

The correctness of `IsStronglyConnected` follows directly from the previous lemma.

Another interesting fact of a directed graph G is that G can be always decomposed into one or more strongly connected components.

[Draw a graph with multiple strongly connected components]

Definition 4.4. A strong component, or strongly connected component, is a maximal subset of mutually reachable nodes

Identifying all strong components in a directed graph can be done in $O(m + n)$. The algorithm was proposed by Robert Tarjan in 1972.

5 Directed Acyclic Graph

A DAG, directed acyclic graph, is a directed graph that contains no directed cycle.

Basically, DAG is a special case of directed graphs that has a wide range of applications e.g. course prerequisite graphs, task graphs, etc.

[Draw a DAG and a non-DAG]

A common question about DAG is to find what we call a *topological order*.

Definition 5.1. A topological order of a directed graph $G = (V, E)$ is an ordering of its nodes as v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n so that for every edge (v_i, v_j) we have $i < j$

Here's an interesting fact about a topological order and DAG.

Lemma 5.2. *If G has a topological order, then G is a DAG.*

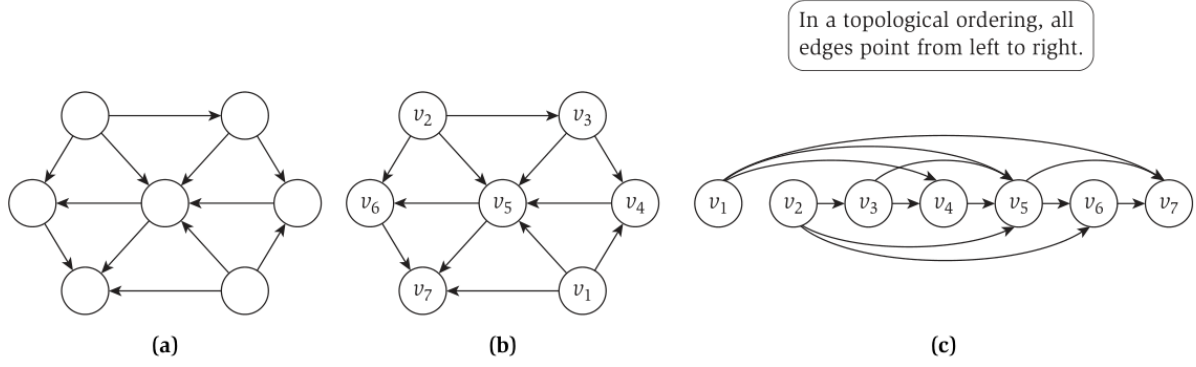


Figure 3.7 (a) A directed acyclic graph. (b) The same DAG with a topological ordering, specified by the labels on each node. (c) A different drawing of the same DAG, arranged so as to emphasize the topological ordering.

Figure 1: Reproduced from KT's Algorithm Design

Proof: Let's prove this by contradiction. Let's assume for the sake of contradiction that G has a directed cycle, call it C . Suppose G has a topological order v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n . Let v_i be the lowest-indexed node in C and v_j be any node before v_i . That means (v_j, v_i) is an edge. By our choice of v_i , $i < j$. On the other hand, since (v_j, v_i) is an edge and v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n is a topological order, it should be that $j < i$. Hence, a contradiction. ■

Question: Does every DAG have a topological order? If so, how do we find one?

Lemma 5.3. *If G is a DAG, then G has a node with no entering edges.*

Proof: Again, let's prove this by contradiction. Suppose G is a DAG and every node has at least one entering edges. Pick a node v and follow edges backwards from v . We can do this since v has at least one entering edge (u, v) . So we can walk backward to u . Again, we can repeat the same argument about u and follow the edge (x, u) back to x . We keep doing this until we visit the same node twice, say w . We know that this will happen because we only have n nodes in total. Let C be the sequence of nodes from $w \rightarrow w$. We have that C is a cycle. Thus, G is not a DAG. Hence, a contradiction. ■

Lemma 5.4. *If G is a DAG, then G has a topological order.*

Proof: Let's do this by induction. For the base case, it's trivially true when $n = 1$. Given a DAG with $n > 1$ nodes. First, we find a node v without any entering edges. We know that v must exist from the previous lemma. Now consider $G - \{v\}$. We know that $G - \{v\}$ is still a DAG, since removing a node cannot create cycles. By induction hypothesis, $G - \{v\}$ has a topological order, say v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1} . So, since v has no entering edges, we have that $v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}$ is a valid topological order of G . ■

TopologicalSort(G):

1. Find a node v with no entering edges
2. $A = \text{TopologicalSort}(G - \{v\})$
3. Return $[v] + A$

Correctness: Follows directly from the lemma.

Running time: Maintain $\text{count}(w)$ the number of entering edges and S a set of node with no incoming edges. Initialization: $O(m + n)$ for scanning the graph. To delete v , we remove v from S , decrease $\text{count}(w)$ for all (v, w) , add w to S if $\text{count}(w)$ becomes 0. An edge is removed only once so $O(m + n)$ total time.