Decomposition of Graphs: Previsit and Postvisit Orders

Daniel Kane

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
University of California, San Diego

Graph Algorithms
Data Structures and Algorithms

Learning Objectives

- Compute the preorder and postorder numbers for a DFS.
- Understand why these numbers might be important.

Outline

Need to Record Data

- Plain DFS just marks all vertices as visited.
- Need to keep track of other data to be useful.
- Augment functions to store additional information.

Previsit and Postvisit Functions

Explore(*v*)

```
visited(v) ← true
previsit(v)
for (v, w) ∈ E:
    if not visited(w):
        explore(w)
postvisit(v)
```
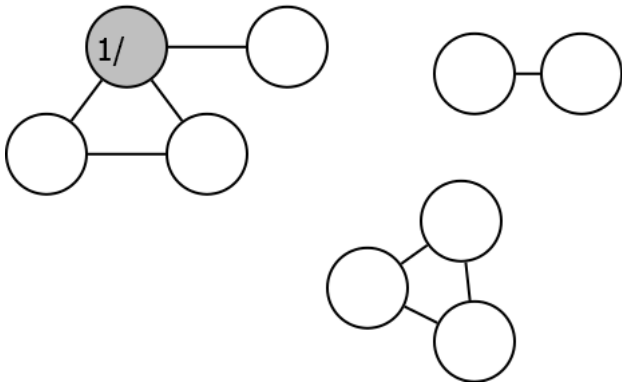
Clock

- Keep track of order of visits.
- Clock ticks at each pre-/post- visit.
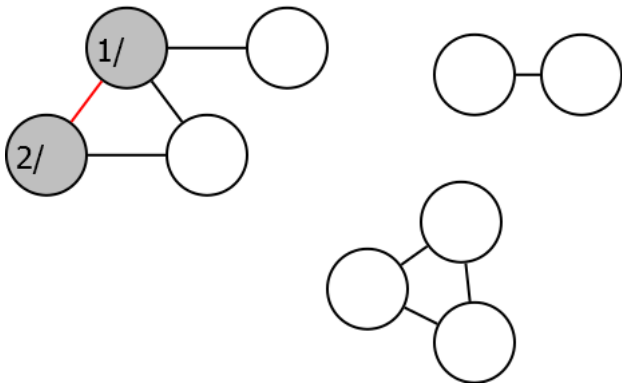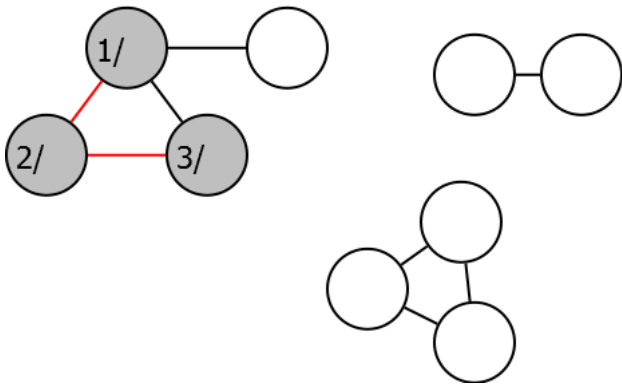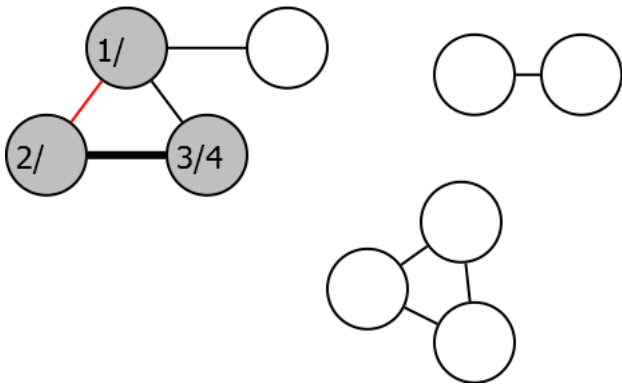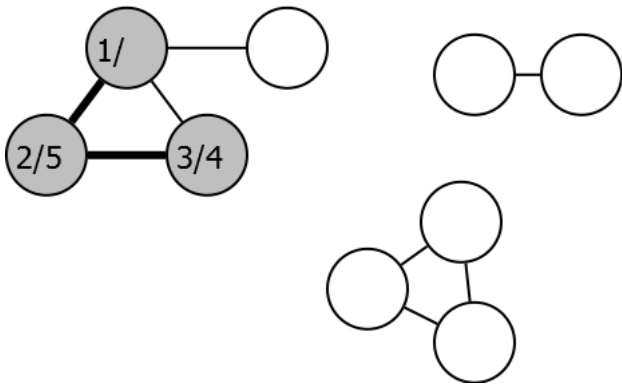- Records previsit and postvisit times for each v.
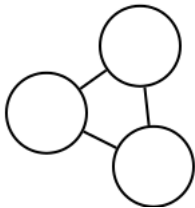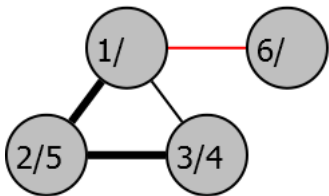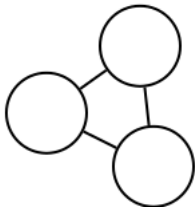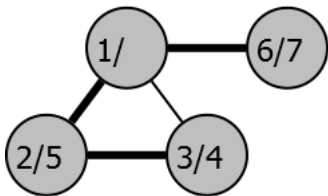
Example

Example

Example

Clock: 3

Example

Clock: 4

Example

Clock: 5

Example

Clock: 6

Example

Clock: 7

Example
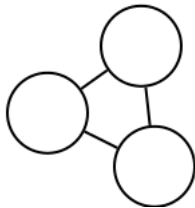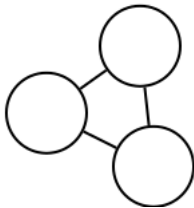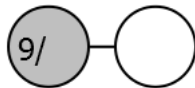
Example
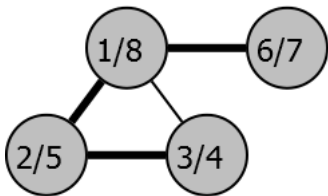
Example
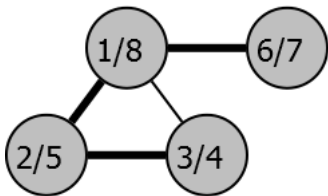

Clock:10

Example

Clock:11
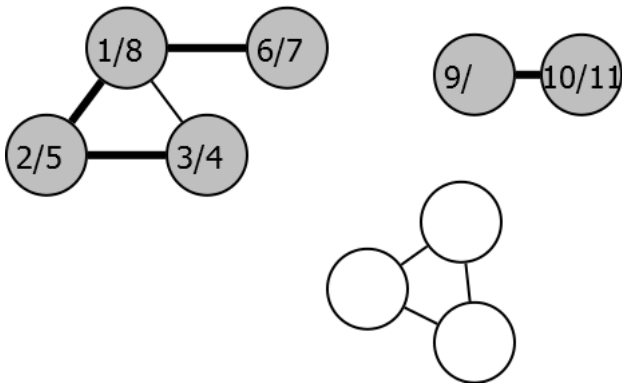
Example

Clock:12
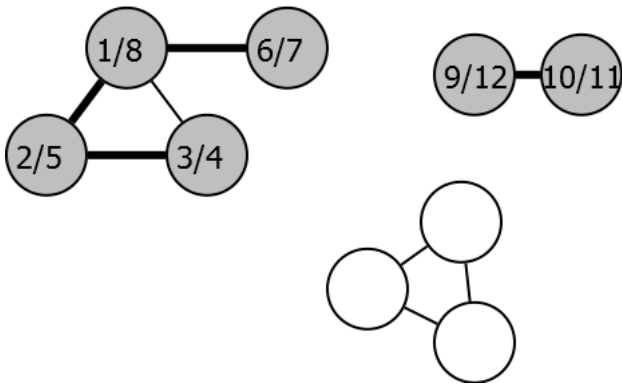
Example

Clock:13
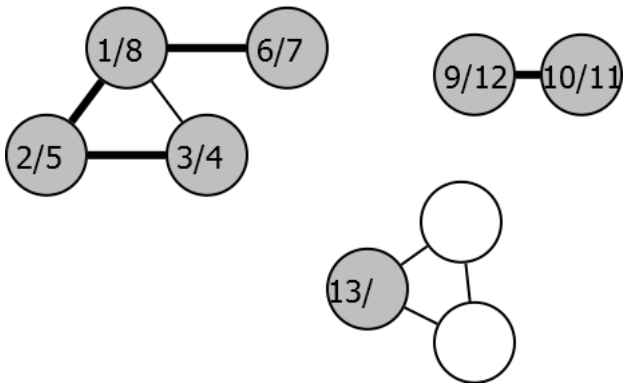
Example

Clock:14
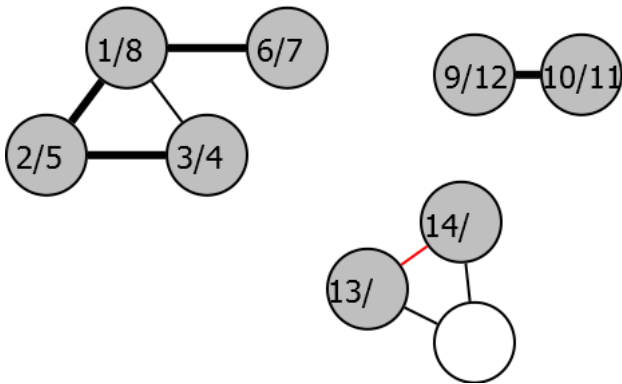
Example

Clock:15
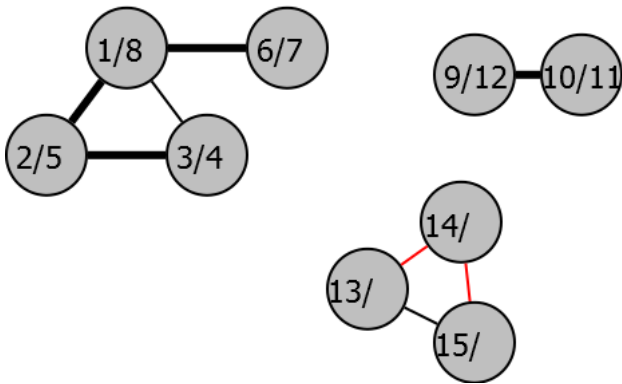
Example
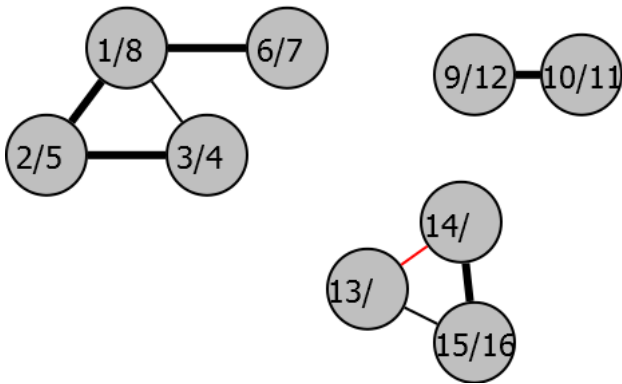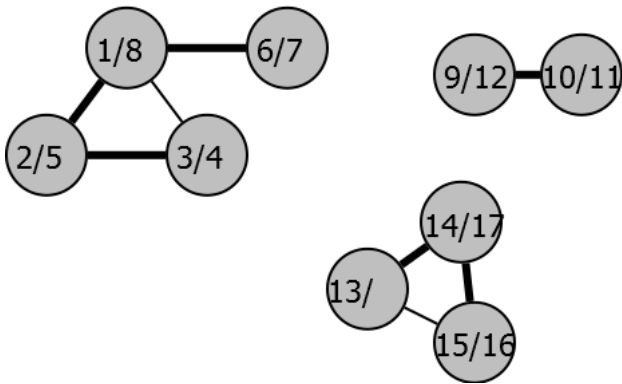
Example

Example
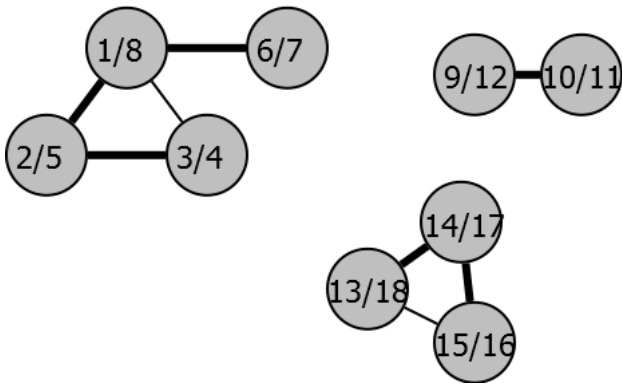
Clock:18

Computing Pre- and Post- Numbers
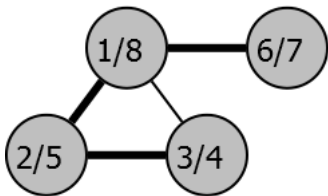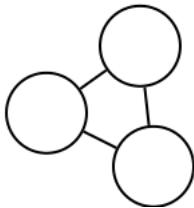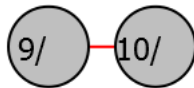
Initialize `clock` to 1.

previsit(v)

$\texttt{pre}(v) \leftarrow \texttt{clock}$
$\texttt{clock} \leftarrow \texttt{clock} + 1$

postvisit(v)

$\texttt{post}(v) \leftarrow \texttt{clock}$
$\texttt{clock} \leftarrow \texttt{clock} + 1$

Outline

Result

Previsit and Postvisit numbers tell us about the execution of DFS.

Lemma

For any vertices u, v the intervals $[\text{pre}(u), \text{post}(u)]$ and $[\text{pre}(v), \text{post}(v)]$ are either nested or disjoint.

Explanation

Nested
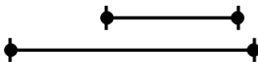
Disjoint

Explanation

Interleaved (not possible)
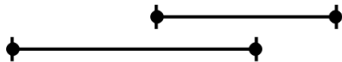
Proof

Assume that u visited before v. Two cases

- Find v while exploring u (u an ancestor of v)
- Find v after exploring u (u a cousin of v)

Case I

If you explore *v* while exploring *u*, cannot finish exploring *u* until done exploring *v*. Therefore nested.

Case II

If explore *v* after finish exploring *u*, $\texttt{post}(u) < \texttt{pre}(v)$, therefore disjoint.
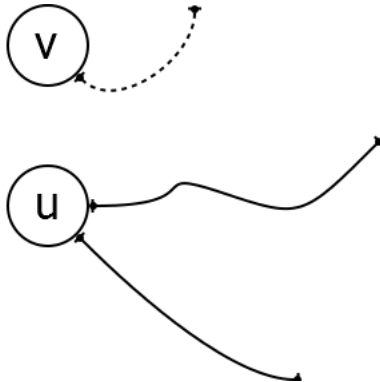
Problem

Which of the following tables is not a valid set of pre- and post- orders?

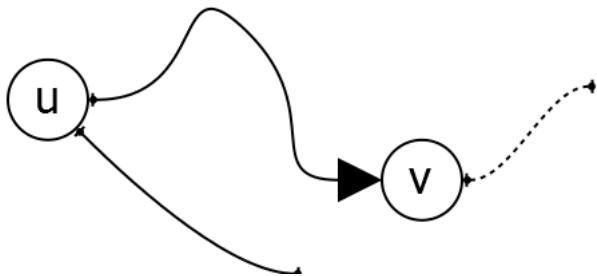| Vert.	Pre	Post
A	1	8
B	9	10
C	3	4
D	2	7
E	5	6

Vert.	Pre	Post
A	1	9
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E	4	5

Solution

Which of the following tables is not a valid
set of pre- and post- orders?

Vert.	Pre	Post
A	1	8
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Vert.	Pre	Post
A	1	9
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E	4	5

Next Time

Directed graphs.