

CSE 332 Autumn 2023

Lecture 26: Wisdom and Deadlock

Nathan Brunelle

<http://www.cs.uw.edu/332>

Bank Account Using Synchronize (Final)

```
class BankAccount {  
    private int balance = 0;  
    synchronized int getBalance() { return balance; }  
    synchronized void setBalance(int x) { balance = x; }  
    synchronized void withdraw(int amount) {  
        int b = getBalance();  
        if (amount > b)  
            throw new WithdrawTooLargeException();  
        setBalance(b - amount); }  
    // other operations like deposit (which would use synchronized)  
}
```

How to fix this?

Make a bigger critical section

```
class Stack {  
    private E[] array = (E[])new Object[SIZE];  
    private int index = -1;  
    synchronized boolean isEmpty() { ... }  
    synchronized void push(E val) { ... }  
    synchronized E pop() { ... }  
    E peek(){  
        E ans = pop();  
        push(ans);  
        return ans;  
    }  
}
```

bad sync

How to fix this?

Make a bigger critical section

```
class Stack {  
    private E[] array = (E[])new Object[SIZE];  
    private int index = -1;  
    synchronized boolean isEmpty() { ... }  
    synchronized void push(E val) { ... }  
    synchronized E pop() { ... }  
    synchronized E peek(){  
        E ans = pop();  
        push(ans);  
        return ans;  
    }  
}
```

Parallel Code Conventional Wisdom

Memory Categories

All memory must fit one of three categories:

1. Thread Local: Each thread has its own copy
2. Shared and Immutable: There is just one copy, but nothing will ever write to it
3. Shared and Mutable: There is just one copy, it may change
 - Requires Synchronization!

Thread Local Memory

- **Guidance: Whenever possible, avoid sharing resources**
- Dodges all race conditions, since no other threads can touch it!
 - No synchronization necessary! (Remember Ahmdal's law)
- Use whenever threads do not need to communicate using the resource
 - E.g., each thread should have its own Random object
- In most cases, most objects should be in this category

Immutable Objects

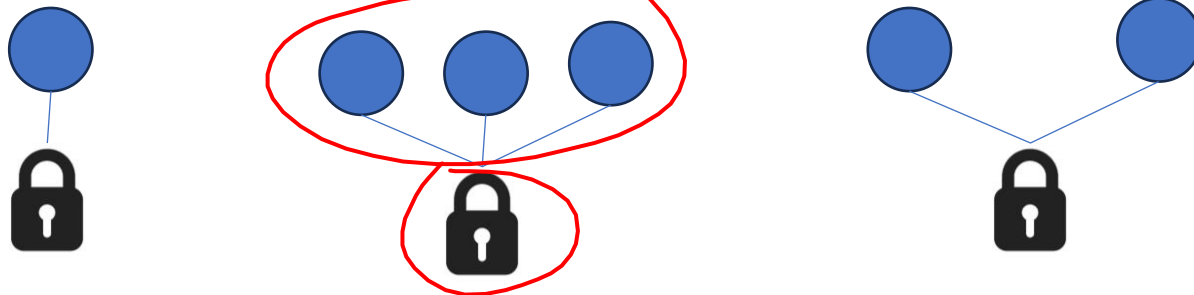
- **Guidance: Whenever possible, avoid changing objects**
 - Make new objects instead
- Parallel reads are not data races
 - If an object is never written to, no synchronization necessary!
- Many programmers over-use mutation, minimize it

Shared and Mutable Objects

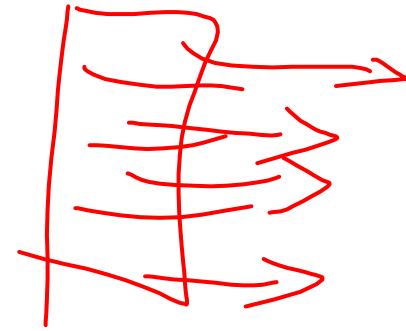
- **Guidance: For everything else, use locks**
- Avoid all data races
 - Every read and write should be projected with a lock, even if it “seems safe”
 - Almost every Java/C program with a data race is wrong
- Even without data races, it still may be incorrect
 - Watch for bad interleavings as well!
 - Use locks whenever there is an incomplete intermediate state!

Consistent Locking

- For each location needing synchronization, have a lock that is always held when reading or writing the location
- The same lock can (and often should) “guard” multiple fields/objects
 - Clearly document what each lock guards!
 - In Java, the lock should usually be the object itself (i.e. “this”)
- **Guidance: Have a mapping between memory locations and lock objects and stick to it!**



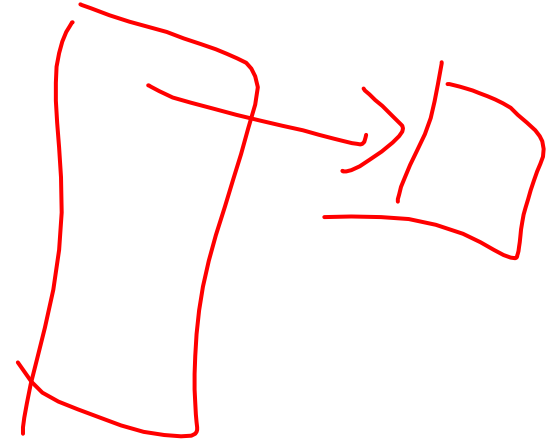
Lock Granularity



- Coarse Grained: Fewer locks guarding more things each
 - One lock for an entire data structure
 - One lock shared by multiple objects (e.g. one lock for all bank accounts)
- Fine Grained: More locks guarding fewer things each
 - One lock per data structure location (e.g. array index)
 - One lock per object or per field in one object (e.g. one lock for each account)
- Note: there's really a continuum between them...

Example: Separate Chaining Hashtable

- Coarse-grained: One lock for the entire hashtable
- Fine-grained: One lock for each bucket
- Which supports more parallelism in insert and find?
- Which makes rehashing easier?
- What happens if you want to have a size field?



Tradeoffs

- Coarse-Grained Locking:
 - Simpler to implement and avoid race conditions
 - Faster/easier to implement operations that access multiple locations (because all guarded by the same lock)
 - Much easier for operations that modify data-structure shape
- Fine-Grained Locking:
 - More simultaneous access (performance when coarse grained would lead to unnecessary blocking)
 - Can make multi-location operations more difficult: say, rotations in an AVL tree
- **Guidance: Start with coarse-grained, make finer only as necessary to improve performance**

Similar But Separate Issue: Critical Section Granularity

- Coarse-grained
 - For every method that needs a lock, put the entire method body in a lock
- Fine-grained
 - Keep the lock only for the sections of code where it's necessary
- **Guidance:**
 - **Try to structure code so that expensive operations (like I/O) can be done outside of your critical section**
 - E.g., if you're trying to print all the values in a tree, maybe copy items into an array inside your critical section, then print the array's contents outside.

Atomicity

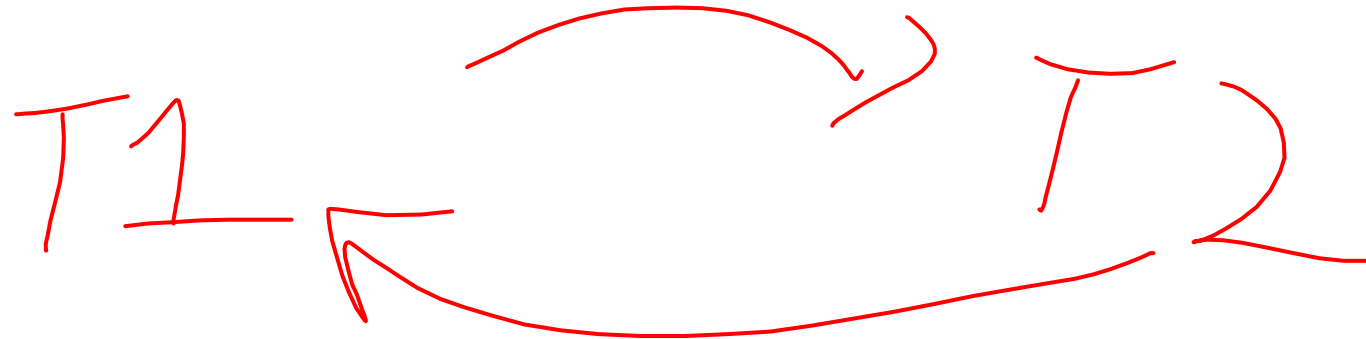
- **Atomic: indivisible**
- **Atomic operation: one that should be thought of as a single step**
- **Some sequences of operations should behave as if they are one unit**
 - Between two operations you may need to avoid **exposing an intermediate state**
 - Usually **ADT operations should be atomic**
 - You don't want another thread trying to do an insert while another thread is rotating the AVL tree
- **Guidance: Think first in terms of what operations need to be atomic**
 - **Design critical sections and locking granularity based on these decisions**

Use Pre-Tested Code

- **Guidance: Whenever possible, use built-in libraries!**
- Other people have already invested tons of effort into making things both efficient and correct, use their work when you can!
 - Especially true for concurrent data structures
 - Use thread-safe data structures when available
 - E.g. Java as ConcurrentHashMap

Deadlock

- Occurs when two or more threads are mutually blocking each other
- T1 is blocked by T2, which is blocked by T3, ..., Tn is blocked by T1
 - A cycle of blocking



Bank Account

```
class BankAccount {  
    ...  
    synchronized void withdraw(int amt) {...}  
    synchronized void deposit(int amt) {...}  
    synchronized void transferTo(int amt, BankAccount a) {  
        this.withdraw(amt);  
        a.deposit(amt);  
    }  
}
```

The Deadlock

Expected Behavior:

Thread 2 items from a stack are popped in LIFO order

Thread 1:

```
x.transferTo(1,y);
```

Thread 2:

```
y.transferTo(1,x);
```

acquire lock for account x b/c transferTo is synchronized
acquire lock for account y b/c deposit is synchronized
release lock for account y after deposit
release lock for account x at end of transferTo

acquire lock for account y b/c transferTo is synchronized
acquire lock for account x b/c deposit is synchronized
release lock for account x after deposit
release lock for account y at end of transferTo

The Deadlock

Expected Behavior:

Thread 2 items from a stack are popped in LIFO order

Thread 1:

```
x.transferTo(1,y);
```

Thread 2:

```
y.transferTo(1,x);
```

acquire lock for account x b/c transferTo is synchronized

acquire lock for account y b/c deposit is synchronized

release lock for account y after deposit

release lock for account x at end of transferTo

acquire lock for account y b/c transferTo is synchronized

acquire lock for account x b/c deposit is synchronized

release lock for account x after deposit

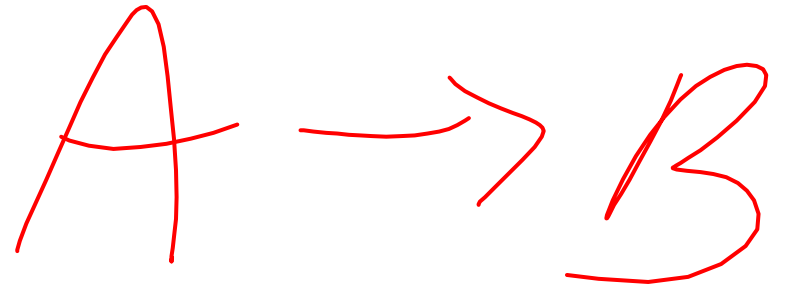
release lock for account y at end of transferTo

Resolving Deadlocks

- Deadlocks occur when there are multiple locks necessary to complete a task and different threads may obtain them in a different order
- Option 1:
 - Have a coarser lock granularity
 - E.g. one lock for ALL bank accounts
- Option 2:
 - Have a finer critical section so that only one lock is needed at a time
 - E.g. instead of a synchronized transferTo, have the withdraw and deposit steps locked separately
- Option 3:
 - Force the threads to always acquire the locks in the same order
 - E.g. make transferTo acquire both locks before doing either the withdraw or deposit, make sure both threads agree on the order to acquire

Option 1: Coarser Locking

```
static final Object BANK = new Object();  
class BankAccount {  
    ...  
    synchronized void withdraw(int amt) {...}  
    synchronized void deposit(int amt) {...}  
    void transferTo(int amt, BankAccount a) {  
        synchronized(BANK) {  
            this.withdraw(amt);  
            a.deposit(amt);  
        }  
    }  
}
```



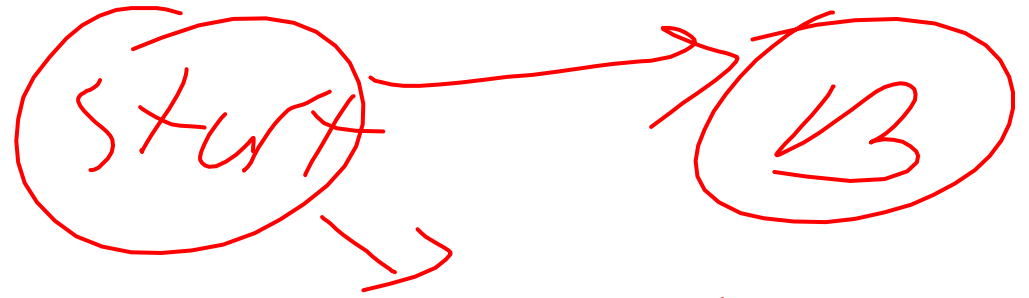
Option 2: Finer Critical Section

```
class BankAccount {  
    ...  
    synchronized void withdraw(int amt) {...}  
    synchronized void deposit(int amt) {...}  
    void transferTo(int amt, BankAccount a) {  
        synchronized(this){  
            this.withdraw(amt);  
        }  
        synchronized(a){  
            a.deposit(amt);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Option 3: First Get All Locks In A Fixed Order

```
class BankAccount {  
    ...  
    synchronized void withdraw(int amt) {...}  
    synchronized void deposit(int amt) {...}  
    void transferTo(int amt, BankAccount a) {  
        if (this.acctNum < a.acctNum){  
            synchronized(this){  
                synchronized(a){  
                    this.withdraw(amt);  
                    a.deposit(amt);  
                }  
            }  
        }  
        else {  
            synchronized(a){  
                synchronized(this){  
                    this.withdraw(amt);  
                    a.deposit(amt);  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

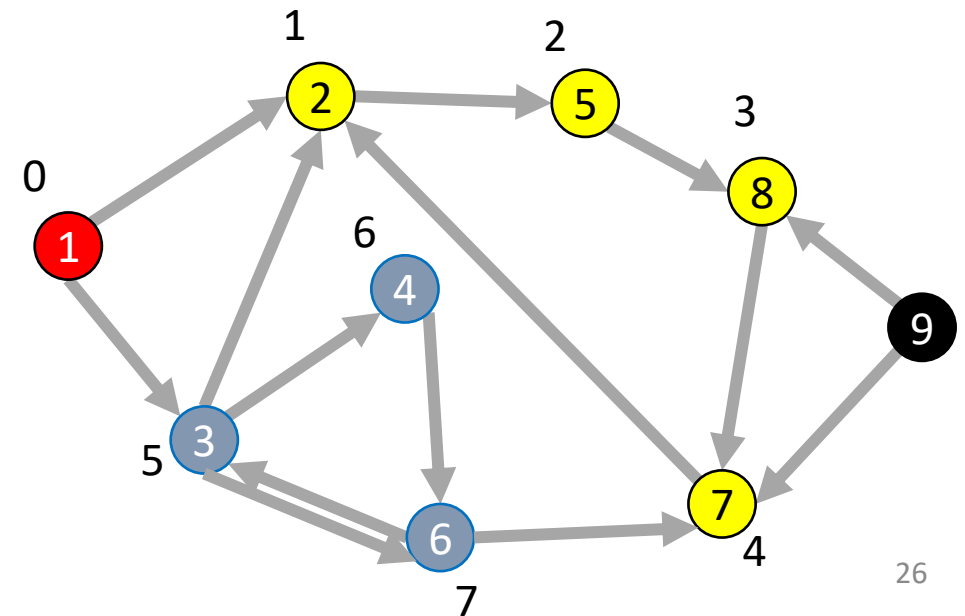

Depth-First Search



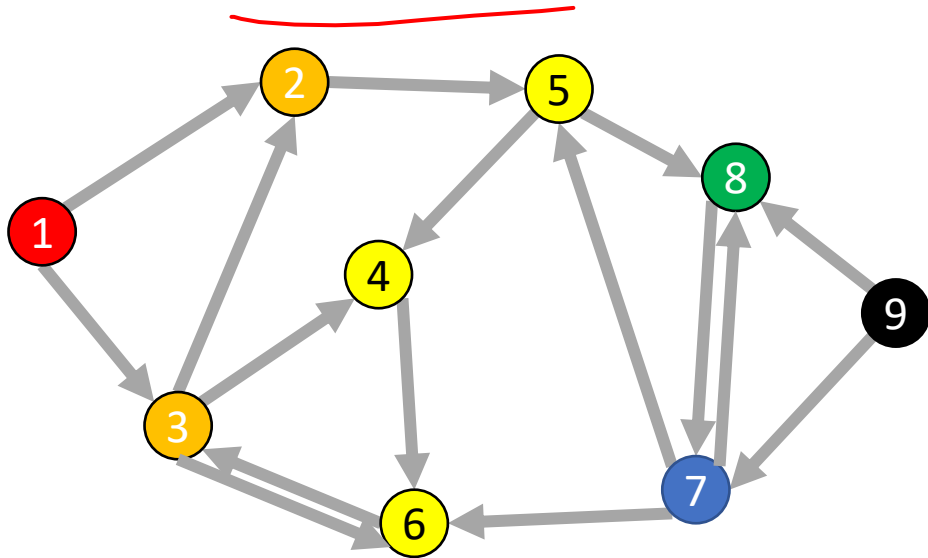
from node A, visit
B, then visit everything
reachable before moving
on to C

Depth-First Search

- Input: a node s
- Behavior: Start with node s , visit one neighbor of s , then all nodes reachable from that neighbor of s , then another neighbor of s ,...
- Output:
 - Does the graph have a cycle?
 - A **topological sort** of the graph.



DFS (non-recursive)

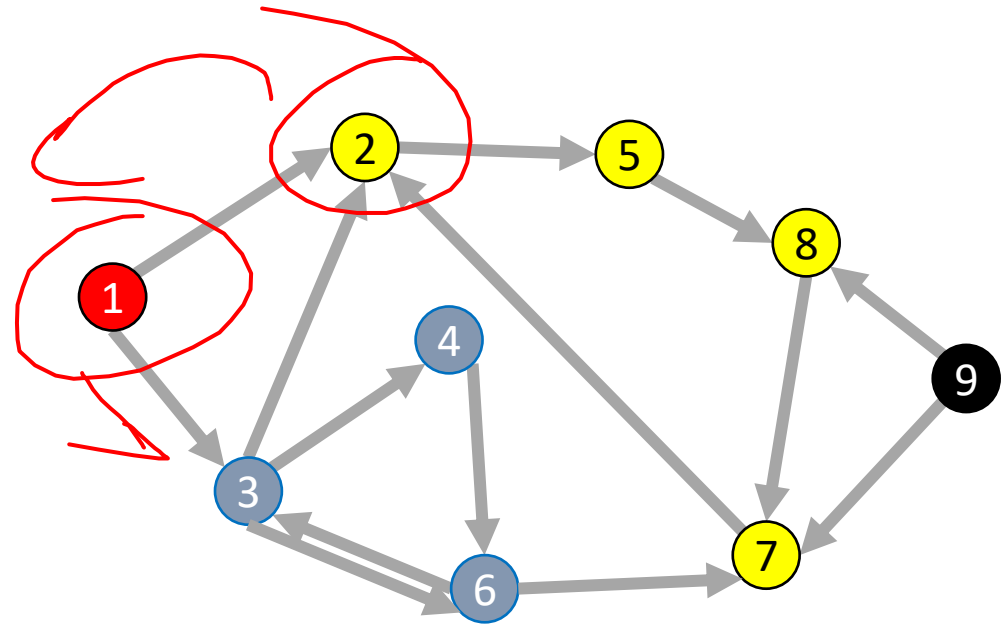


Running time: $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$

```
void dfs(graph, s){
    found = new Stack();
    found.pop(s);
    mark s as "visited";
    While (!found.isEmpty()){
        current = found.pop();
        for (v : neighbors(current)){
            if (!v marked "visited"){
                mark v as "visited";
                found.push(v);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

DFS Recursively (more common)

```
void dfs(graph, curr){  
    mark curr as "visited";  
    for (v : neighbors(current)){  
        if (! v marked "visited"){  
            dfs(graph, v);  
        }  
    }  
    mark curr as "done";  
}
```



Using DFS

- Consider the “visited times” and “done times”

- Edges can be categorized:

- Tree Edge

- (a, b) was followed when pushing
- (a, b) when b was unvisited when we were at a

- Back Edge

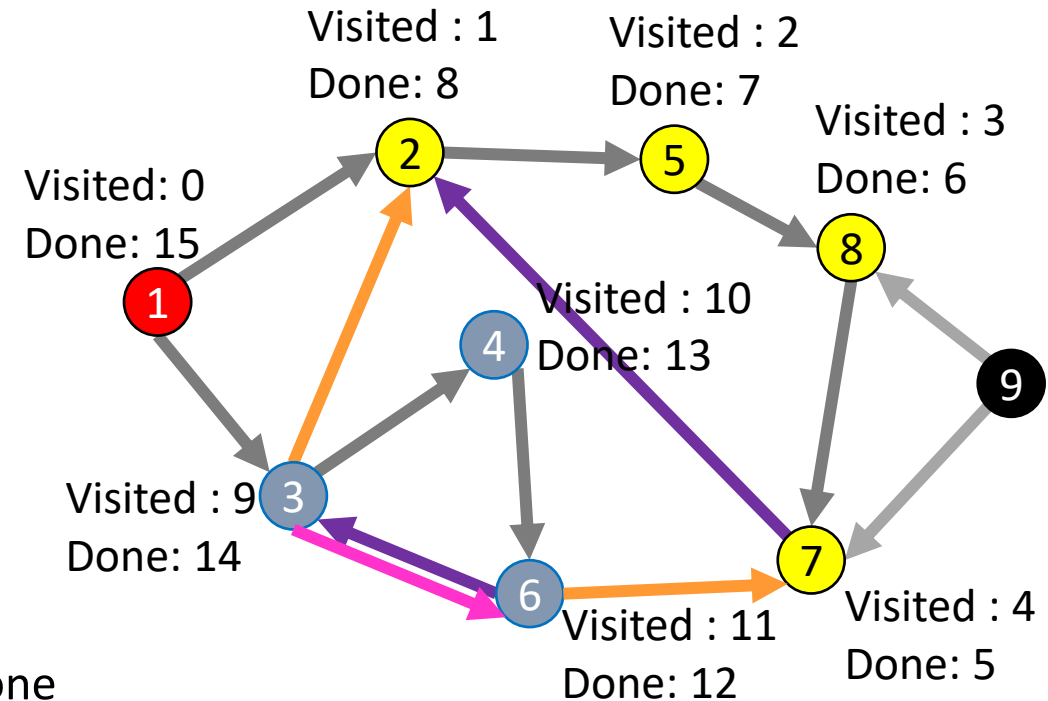
- (a, b) goes to an “ancestor”
- a and b visited but not done when we saw (a, b)
- $t_{visited}(b) < t_{visited}(a) < t_{done}(a) < t_{done}(b)$

- Forward Edge

- (a, b) goes to a “descendent”
- b was visited and done between when a was visited and done
- $t_{visited}(a) < t_{visited}(b) < t_{done}(b) < t_{done}(a)$

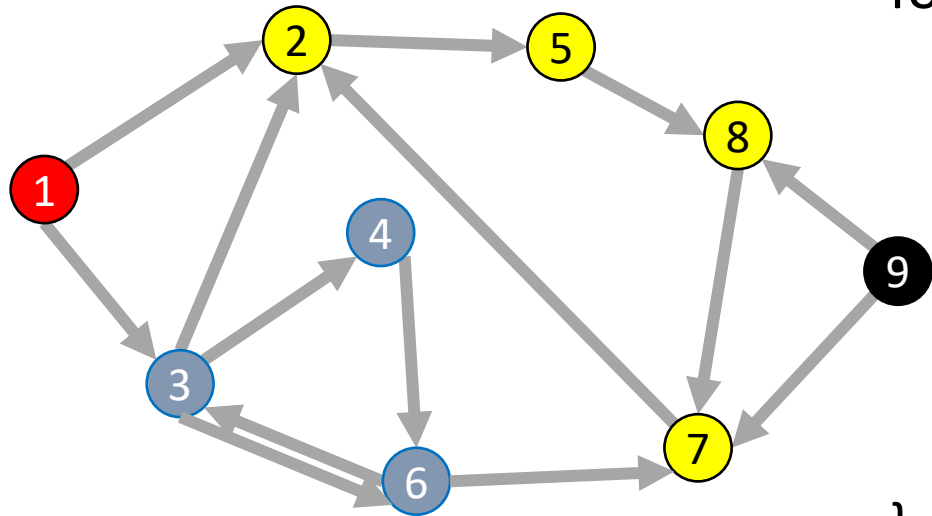
- Cross Edge

- (a, b) goes to a node that doesn't connect to a
- b was seen and done before a was ever visited
- $t_{done}(b) < t_{visited}(a)$



Cycle Detection

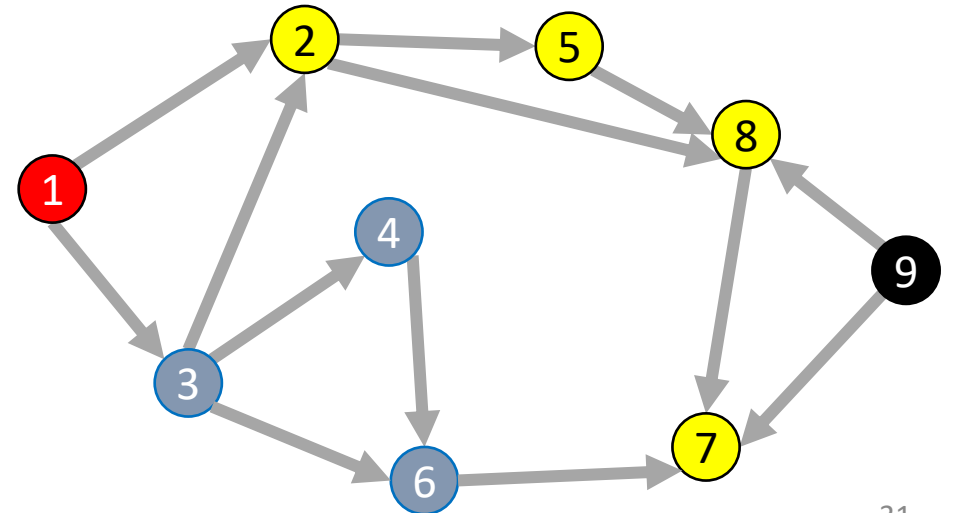
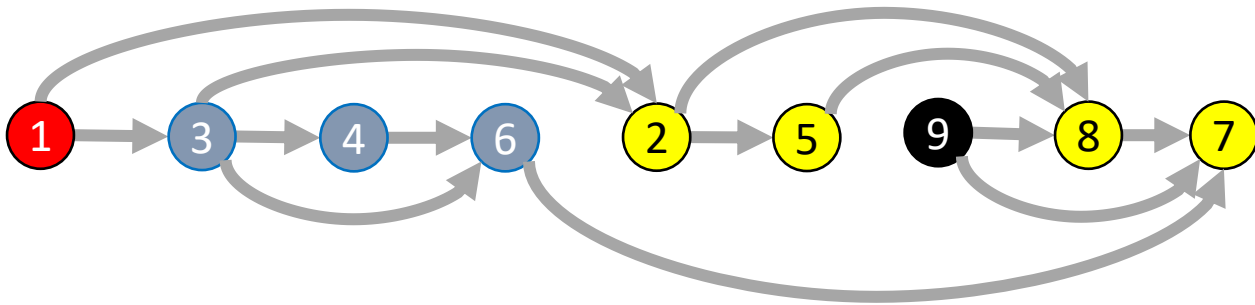
Idea: Look for a back edge!



```
boolean hasCycle(graph, curr){
  mark curr as "visited";
  cycleFound = false;
  for (v : neighbors(current)){
    if (v marked "visited" && ! v marked "done"){
      cycleFound=true;
    }
    if (! v marked "visited" && !cycleFound){
      cycleFound = hasCycle(graph, v);
    }
  }
  mark curr as "done";
  return cycleFound;
}
```

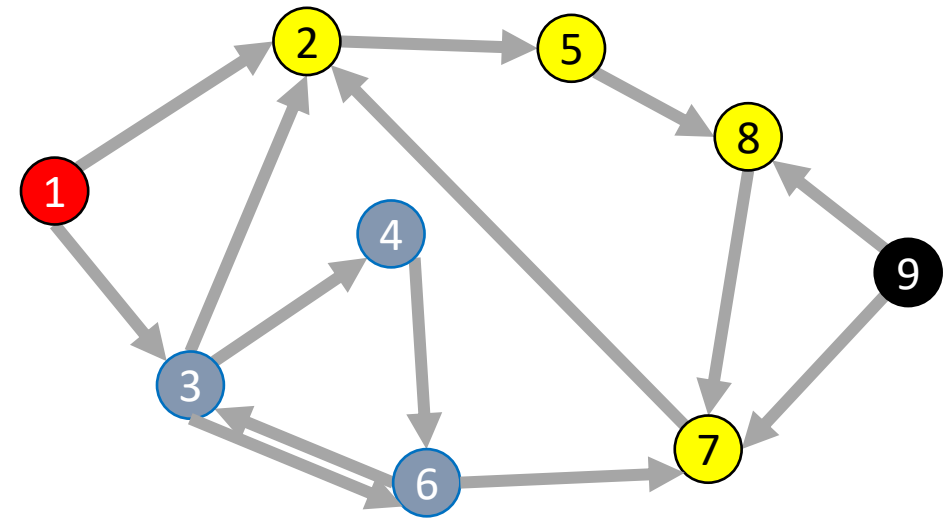
Topological Sort

- A Topological Sort of a **directed acyclic graph** $G = (V, E)$ is a permutation of V such that if $(u, v) \in E$ then u is before v in the permutation



DFS Recursively

```
void dfs(graph, curr){  
    mark curr as "visited";  
    for (v : neighbors(current)){  
        if (! v marked "visited"){  
            dfs(graph, v);  
        }  
    }  
    mark curr as "done";  
}
```

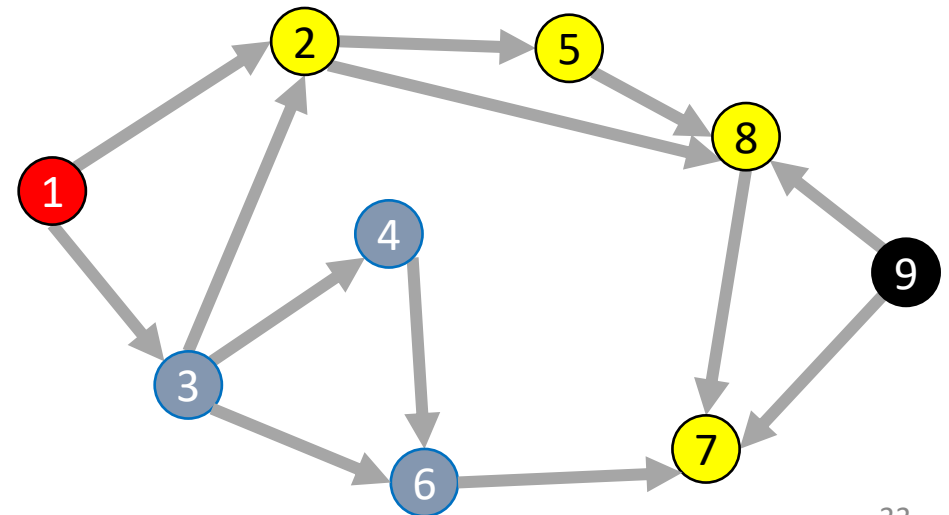


DFS: Topological sort

```
def dfs(graph, s):  
    seen = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    done = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    dfs_rec(graph, s, seen, done)
```

```
def dfs_rec(graph, curr, seen, done):  
    mark curr as seen  
    for v in neighbors(current):  
        if v not seen:  
            dfs_rec(graph, v, seen, done)  
    mark curr as done
```

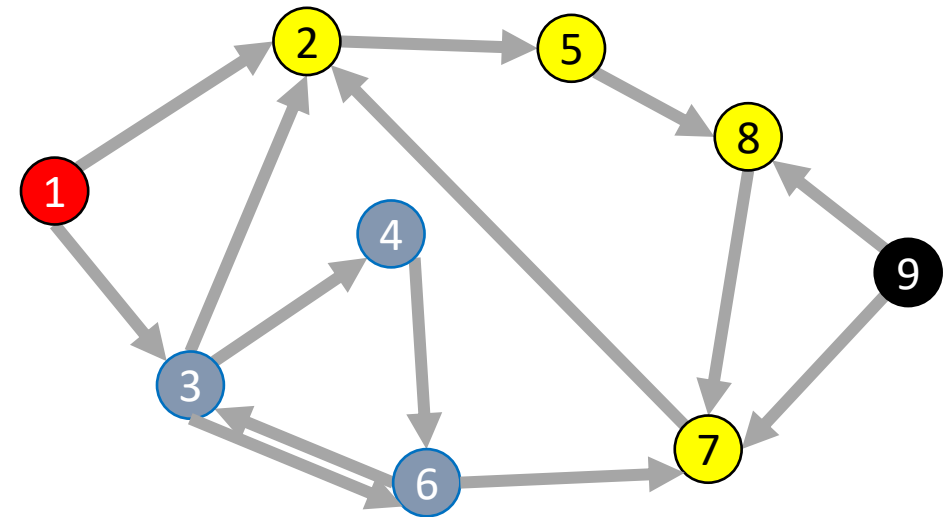
Idea: List in reverse
order by finish time



DFS Recursively

```
void dfs(graph, curr){  
    mark curr as "visited";  
    for (v : neighbors(current)){  
        if (! v marked "visited"){  
            dfs(graph, v);  
        }  
    }  
    mark curr as "done";  
}
```

Idea: List in reverse order by finish time



DFS: Topological sort

```
List topSort(graph){  
    List<Nodes> finished = new List<>();  
    for (Node v : graph.vertices){  
        if (!v.visited){  
            finishTime(graph, v, finished);  
        }  
    }  
    finished.reverse();  
    return finished;  
}
```

Idea: List in reverse order by finish time



```
void finishTime(graph, curr, finished){  
    curr.visited = true;  
    for (Node v : curr.neighbors){  
        if (!v.visited){  
            finishTime(graph, v, finished);  
        }  
    }  
    finished.add(curr)  
}
```

