CSE 332: Data Structures \& Parallelism
Lecture 20: Topological Sort / Graph Traversals

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## Today

- Graphs
- Representations
- Topological Sort
- Graph Traversals


## Topological Sort

Problem: Given a DAG G=(V,E), output all the vertices in order such that if no vertex appears before any other vertex that has an edge to it

Example input:


Example output:
$142,126,143,311,331,332,312,341,351,333,440,352$


## Valid Topological Sorts:

## Questions and comments

- Why do we perform topological sorts only on DAGs?
- Is there always a unique answer?
- What DAGs have exactly 1 answer?
- Terminology: A DAG represents a partial order and a topological sort produces a total order that is consistent with it


## Topological Sort Uses

- Figuring out how to finish your degree
- Computing the order in which to recompute cells in a spreadsheet
- Determining the order to compile files using a Makefile
- In general, taking a dependency graph and coming up with an order of execution


## A First Algorithm for Topological Sort

1. Label ("mark") each vertex with its in-degree

- Think "write in a field in the vertex"
- Could also do this via a data structure (e.g., array) on the side

2. While there are vertices not yet output:
a) Choose a vertex $\mathbf{v}$ with labeled with in-degree of 0
b) Output $\mathbf{v}$ and conceptually remove it from the graph
c) For each vertex $\mathbf{w}$ adjacent to $\mathbf{v}$ (i.e. $\mathbf{w}$ such that ( $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w})$ in $\mathbf{E}$ ), decrement the in-degree of $\mathbf{w}$

## Example

Output:


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? In-degree: $00 \begin{array}{llllllllllll} & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1\end{array}$

## Example



Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440
Removed? x
In-degree: $\begin{array}{lllllllllllll} & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1\end{array}$
1

## Example



Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x In-degree: $00 \begin{array}{llllllllllll} & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1\end{array}$
1
0

## Example



Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x x

| In-degree: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 |  | 0 |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  |
|  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x $x$ x $x$

| In-degree: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 0 |  |  |

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x x x x $\begin{array}{lllllllllllll}\text { In-degree: } & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & & 0 & 0 & & \end{array}$

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x x x x x

| In-degree: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x x x x x x

| In-degree: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  | 0 |

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x x x x x x x x $\begin{array}{lllllllllllll}\text { In-degree: } & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & & 0\end{array}$

## Example

Output: 126


Node: 126142143311312331332333341351352440 Removed? x $\mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x} \quad \mathrm{x}$ $\begin{array}{lllllllllllll}\text { In-degree: } & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & 0 & & & 0 & & & & \end{array}$

## Example

Node: $\quad 126142143311312331332333341351352440$

| In-degree: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 |  | 0 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## A couple of things to note

- Needed a vertex with in-degree of 0 to start
- No cycles
- Ties between vertices with in-degrees of 0 can be broken arbitrarily
- Potentially many different correct orders


## Topological Sort: Running time?

```
labelEachVertexWithItsInDegree();
for(ctr=0; ctr < numVertices; ctr++) {
    v = findNewVertexOfDegreeZero();
    put v next in output
    for each w adjacent to v
    w.indegree--;
}
```


## Doing better

The trick is to avoid searching for a zero-degree node every time!

- Keep the "pending" zero-degree nodes in a list, stack, queue, box, table, or something
- Order we process them affects output but not correctness or efficiency provided add/remove are both $O(1)$

Using a queue:

1. Label each vertex with its in-degree, enqueue 0 -degree nodes
2. While queue is not empty
a) $\mathbf{v}=$ dequeue()
b) Output $\mathbf{v}$ and remove it from the graph
c) For each vertex $\mathbf{w}$ adjacent to $\mathbf{v}$ (i.e. w such that ( $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w})$ in $\mathbf{E}$ ), decrement the in-degree of $\mathbf{w}$, if new degree is 0 , enqueue it

## Topological Sort(optimized): Running time?

```
labelAllAndEnqueueZeros();
for(ctr=0; ctr < numVertices; ctr++) {
    v = dequeue();
    put v next in output
    for each w adjacent to v {
    w.indegree--;
            if(w.indegree==0)
                enqueue(w) ;
    }
}
```


## Graph Traversals

Next problem: For an arbitrary graph and a starting node v, find all nodes reachable (i.e., there exists a path) from $\mathbf{v}$

- Possibly "do something" for each node (an iterator!)
- E.g. Print to output, set some field, etc.

Related:

- Is an undirected graph connected?
- Is a directed graph weakly / strongly connected?
- For strongly, need a cycle back to starting node

Basic idea:

- Keep following nodes
- But "mark" nodes after visiting them, so the traversal terminates and processes each reachable node exactly once


## Graph Traversal: Abstract Idea

```
traverseGraph(Node start) {
    Set pending = emptySet();
    pending.add(start)
    mark start as visited
    while(pending is not empty) {
        next = pending.remove()
        for each node u adjacent to next
        if(u is not marked) {
        mark u
        pending.add(u)
        }
    }
}
```


## Running time and options

- Assuming add and remove are $O(1)$, entire traversal is $O(|\mathrm{E}|)$
- Use an adjacency list representation
- The order we traverse depends entirely on how add and remove work/are implemented
- Depth-first graph search (DFS): a stack
- Breadth-first graph search (BFS): a queue
- DFS and BFS are "big ideas" in computer science
- Depth: recursively explore one part before going back to the other parts not yet explored
- Breadth: Explore areas closer to the start node first


## Recursive DFS, Example : trees

- A tree is a graph and DFS and BFS are particularly easy to "see"


```
DFS (Node start) {
    mark and "process"(e.g. print) start
    for each node u adjacent to start
    if u is not marked
        DFS (u)
}
```

Order processed: A, B, D, E, C, F, G, H

- Exactly what we called a "pre-order traversal" for trees
- The marking is not needed here, but we need it to support arbitrary graphs, we need a way to process each node exactly once


## DFS with a stack, Example: trees



Order processed:

- A different but perfectly fine traversal


## BFS with a queue, Example: trees



Order processed:

- A "level-order" traversal


## DFS/BFS Comparison

## Breadth-first search:

- Always finds shortest paths, i.e., "optimal solutions
- Better for "what is the shortest path from $\mathbf{x}$ to $\mathbf{y}$ "
- Queue may hold $O(|\mathrm{~V}|)$ nodes (e.g. at the bottom level of binary tree of height $h, 2^{h}$ nodes in queue)

Depth-first search:

- Can use less space in finding a path
- If longest path in the graph is pand highest out-degree is d then DFS stack never has more than $\mathrm{d} *$ p elements

A third approach: Iterative deepening (IDDFS):

- Try DFS but don't allow recursion more than K levels deep.
- If that fails, increment K and start the entire search over
- Like BFS, finds shortest paths. Like DFS, less space.


## Saving the path

- Our graph traversals can answer the "reachability question":
- "Is there a path from node $x$ to node $y$ ?"
- Q: But what if we want to output the actual path?
- Like getting driving directions rather than just knowing it's possible to get there!
- A: Like this:
- Instead of just "marking" a node, store the previous node along the path (when processing $\mathbf{u}$ causes us to add $\mathbf{v}$ to the search, set $\mathbf{v}$. path field to be $\mathbf{u}$ )
- When you reach the goal, follow path fields backwards to where you started (and then reverse the answer)
- If just wanted path length, could put the integer distance at each node instead


## Example using BFS

## What is a path from Seattle to Austin

- Remember marked nodes are not re-enqueued
- Note shortest paths may not be unique



## Example using BFS

## What is a path from Seattle to Austin

- Remember marked nodes are not re-enqueued
- Note shortest paths may not be unique


