Topological Sort

- 1. Idea: Given a DAG, output all vertices in an order so that no vertex appears before another vertex that points to it.
- 2. Algorithm Idea:

Keep track of the in-degree of each node. Use a queue to ensure the proper ordering of nodes (from least to greatest in-degree) Every time an in-degree is 0, enqueue it. Every time a node is processed, decrement its adjacents in-degree.

3. Example:



4. Running time:

Initialization: O(|V| + |E|) (assuming adjacency list) Sum of all enqueues and dequeues: O(|V|)Sum of all decrements: O(|E|) (assuming adjacency list)

So total is O(|E| + |V|) - much better for sparse graphs

Graph Traversals

1. Depth-First Search:

Recursively explore one part before going back to the other parts not yet explored Typically use a stack to keep track of which nodes to process next (non-recursive)

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2. DFS(Node start) {
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mark and process start; for each node u adjacent to start if u is not marked DFS(u)

}

 Breadth-First Search: explore areas closer to the start node first Typically use a queue to keep track of which nodes to process next

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4. BFS(Node start) {
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initialize queue q and enqueue start; mark start as visited while(q is not empty) { next = q.dequeue() // and process for each node u adjacent to next if(u is not marked) mark u and enqueue onto q } }

5. Comparison:

Breadth-first finds shortest paths Better for what is the shortest path from x to y

But depth-first can use less space in finding a path

A third approach: Iterative deepening (IDFS): Try DFS but disallow 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.