# Graph Algorithms

Graph Traversals and Connectivity III

Michael Lampis

September 25, 2025

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### **Graph Traversal**

#### **Problem**

Given (di)graph G, determine connectivity properties:

- Is *G* (strongly) connected?
- What are the (strongly) connected components of *G*?
- Which vertices can be reached from a given source s?
- What is the shortest path distance from (given vertex) s to (given vertex) t?

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- BFS (two lectures ago)
- DFS (last lecture)

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- DFS (last lecture)
- Today: Applications

# Topological Sort



## Definition of Topological Sort

#### Definition

A topological sort of a digraph G = (V, A) is an ordering (numbering) of the vertices with the following property: if we have an arc from a vertex numbered i to a vertex numbered j, then i < j.

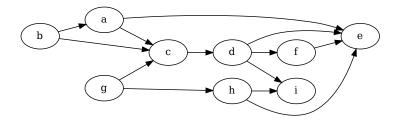
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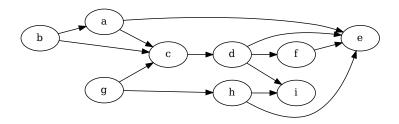
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- In other words, arcs go from lower to higher numbers.
- Vertices are numbered 1, ..., n.

# Topological Sort – Example



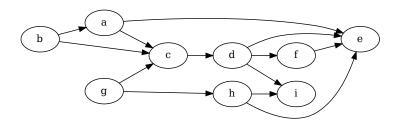
# Topological Sort – Example



Ranking:

ranking.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
b	а	g	С	d	h	i	f	е	

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A digraph G is a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) if G contains no directed cycles.

**NB:** We also count cycles of length 2 (digons).

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#### Lemma

A digraph G admits a topological ordering if and only if G is a DAG.

#### Proof.

- ⇒: A cycle C cannot be topo-sorted, because all vertices have positive in- and out-degree.
- $\Leftarrow$ : A DAG always contains a sink v (why?), number it n, order the rest inductively.

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#### Lemma

If G = (V, A) is a DAG, then G contains at least one source and at least one sink.

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- If there exists an arc  $x_k y$  with  $y \notin \{x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}\}$ , then P is not longest, contradiction.
- $\Rightarrow x_k$  is a sink (out-degree 0)
- Symmetric reasoning shows that  $x_1$  is a source.



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```
1: procedure TOPO-SORT(G)
2: for i = 1 to n do
3: Find a source in G \rightarrow v
4: Number of v \leftarrow i
5: G \leftarrow G - v
6: end for
7: Output Numbers of v \in V
8: end procedure
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6: end for
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```
1: Active[v] \leftarrow 1 for all v \in V
 2: procedure Topo-Sort(G)
       for i = 1 to n do
3:
            v \leftarrow \text{Find-source}(G, \text{Active})
 4:
            Num[v] \leftarrow i
 5:
           Active[v] \leftarrow 0
6:
    end for
        Output Numbers of v \in V
8:
 9: end procedure
10: procedure FIND-SOURCE(G,Active)
       for v \in V do
11:
            if Active[v] == 1 and d^-(v) == 0 then
12:
13:
                Return v
            end if
14:
       end for
15:
16: end procedure
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```
    procedure CHECK-IF-SOURCE(G,Active,v)
    for u ∈ V do
    if A[u, v] == 1 and Active[u] then
    Return No
    end if
    end for
    Return Yes
    end procedure
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                                                                            \triangleright O(n^3) time
                                                                       \triangleright O(n) iterations
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 4:
 5:
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 6:
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## Optimality for Find-Source

#### Lemma

Find-Source cannot be solved in  $o(n^2)$  time (for adjacency matrices).

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- Intuition: If an algorithm takes  $<\binom{n}{2}-1$  steps, there exists pair i,jfor which neither A[i, j] nor A[j, i] was consulted, therefore impossible to know which of i, j are sources.
- Adversary argument: as long as possible, reply to an algorithm's queries by saying that a vertex has no incoming arcs, until the last step.



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#### Caution!

This does not imply that our topological sorting algorithm is optimal!

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## Topological sort in linear time

```
1. Initialize

    ▷ DFS Initialization as before

2: i \leftarrow n
                                            Next vertex to be added to list
3: for v \in V do
   if v is White then
           DFS-Visit(G,v)
    end if
6.
 7: end for
 8: procedure DFS-Visit(G, u)
                                                              DFS as before
9.
   u.f = t. Color u Black
                                              \triangleright When u turns black, append.
10:
11:
       Num[u] \leftarrow i, i - -
```

12: end procedure

### Correctness Analysis

#### Lemma

*G* is a DAG  $\Leftrightarrow$  DFS produces no backward arcs.



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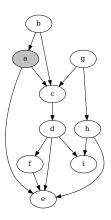
#### **Theorem**

Previous algorithm is correct.

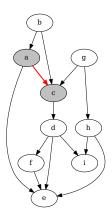
#### Proof.

- Consider arc *uv* at time when *u* became Gray:
  - If v was White  $\Rightarrow v$  will be descendant of  $u \Rightarrow v$  will become Black first  $\Rightarrow v$  will be assigned higher number.
  - If v was Black  $\Rightarrow v$  will be assigned higher number.
  - If v was Gray  $\Rightarrow uv$  is a backward arc, contradiction!

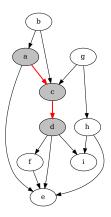




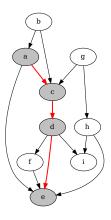
		d	f
	а	1	
	b		
	a b c d		
Times:	d		
i iiiies.	е		
	e f		
	g h		
	h		
	i		



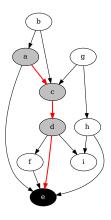
		d	f
<b>T'</b>	a	1	
	b		
	С	2	
	c d		
Times:	е		
	f		
	g		
	g h		
	i		



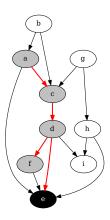
		d	f
Times:	a	1	
	b		
	С	2	
	c d	2 3	
	е		
	f		
	g		
	g h		
	i		



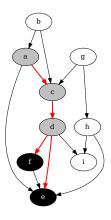
		d	f
Times:	а	1	
	a b		
	c d	2	
	d	2 3 4	
	е	4	
	f		
	g		
	g h		
	i		



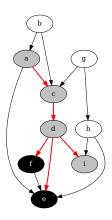
		d	f
	а	1	
	a b		
	c d	2	
Times:	d	2 3 4	
i imes.	е	4	5
	e f		
	g		
	g h		
	i		



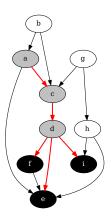
		d	f
	а	1	
	a b		
	c d	2	
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i imes.	е	4	5
	e f	6	
	g		
	g h		
	i		



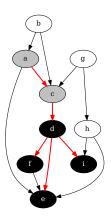
		d	f
	а	1	
	a b		
		2	
Times:	c d	2 3 4 6	
Times:	е	4	5 7
	f	6	7
	g		
	g h		
	i		



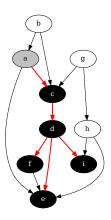
		d	f
	a	1	
	b		
		2	
Times:	c d	2 3 4 6	
Times:	е	4	5 7
	e f	6	7
	g h		
	i	8	



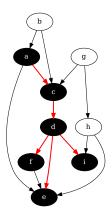
		d	f
	а	1	
	b		
	С	2	
Times:	c d	2 3 4 6	
i imes:	е	4	5 7
	e f	6	7
	g		
	g h		
	i	8	9



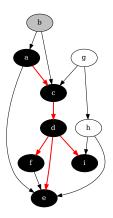
		d	f
	а	1	
	b		
	С	2	
Times:	c d	2 3 4 6	10
Times:	е	4	10 5
	f	6	7
	g h		
	i	8	9



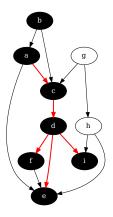
		d	f
	а	1	
	b		
	С	2	11
T:	c d	2 3 4 6	10
Times:	е	4	5
	f	6	7
	g		
	g h		
	i	8	9



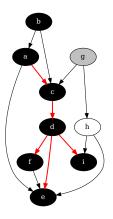
		d	f
	a	1	12
	a b		
	c d	2	11
Times:	d	3	10
i imes.	е	2 3 4 6	5
	f	6	7
	g		
	h		
	i	8	9



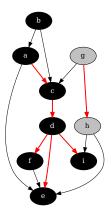
		d	f
	а	1	12
	b	13	
	С	2	11
Times:	c d	3	10
Times:	е	4	5 7
	e f	4 6	7
	g h		
	i	8	9



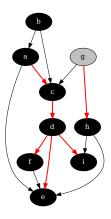
		d	f
	a	1	12
	b	13	14
	С	2	11
T:	c d	3	10
Times:	е	4 6	5
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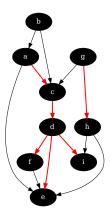
		d	f
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	f	4 6	7
	g	15	
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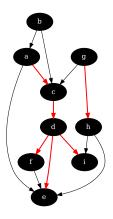
		d	f
•	a	1	12
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Times:	е	4 6	5
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	g h	16	17
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		d	f
Times:	a	1	12
	b	13	14
	С	2	11
	c d	3	10
	е	4	5
	f	6	7
	g	15	18
	h	16	17
	i	8	9



		d	f
	а	1	12
	b	13	14
	С	2	11
Times:	d	2	10
	е	4 6	5
	f	6	7
	g	15	18
	h	16	17
	i	8	9

Ordering:

g, h, b, a, c, d, i, f, e

## Strongly Connected Components

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#### Strongly Connected Components

#### Definition

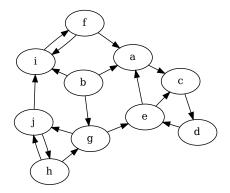
In a digraph G, a strongly connected component C is a maximal set of vertices such that for all  $u, v \in C$ . G contains a  $u \to v$  and a  $v \to u$  path.

#### **Problem**

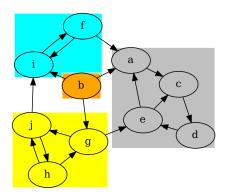
Given a digraph G = (V, A), output a partition of V into strongly connected components.

**NB:** For example, compute an integer cc(v) for each  $v \in V$  such that cc(v) = cc(u) if and only if v, u are in the same SCC.

## SCC Example



## SCC Example



#### Straightforward Algorithm

```
1: procedure SCC(G)
        cc(v) \leftarrow -1 for all v \in V
2:
3:
       cur \leftarrow 1
      for v \in V do
4:
            if cc(v) == -1 then
 5:
                cc(v) \leftarrow cur
6:
                for u \in V do
7:
                    if Reach(G, u, v) \wedge \text{Reach}(G, v, u) then
8:
                        cc(u) = cc(v)
9:
                    end if
10:
                end for
11:
12:
                cur + +
13:
            end if
        end for
14:
15:
        Return cc
16: end procedure
```

### Straightforward Algorithm

```
\triangleright O(n^3 + n^2m) time
 1: procedure SCC(G)
         cc(v) \leftarrow -1 for all v \in V
 2:
 3:
        cur \leftarrow 1
 4:
        for v \in V do
                                                                        \triangleright O(n) iterations
             if cc(v) == -1 then
 5:
                  cc(v) \leftarrow cur
 6:
                  for u \in V do
                                                                        \triangleright O(n) iterations
 7:
                      if Reach(G, u, v) \wedge \text{Reach}(G, v, u) then \triangleright O(n + m)
 8:
                           cc(u) = cc(v)
 9:
                      end if
10:
                  end for
11:
12:
                  cur + +
             end if
13:
         end for
14:
15:
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## SCC by 2-DFS algorithm

#### Algorithm idea:

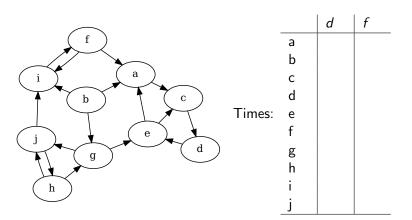
- Run DFS, compute a finish time for each vertex.
- **2** Compute  $G^T$ .
  - Reminder:  $G^T$  is G where arcs are reversed.
- $\odot$  Run DFS on  $G^T$ .
  - Important: Consider vertices not in alphabetical order, but in decreasing order of finish time from first DFS.
  - (Topological sort order, if G was a DAG).
- Each DFS tree from the previous step is a SCC of G.

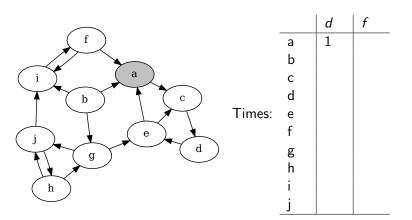
### SCC by 2-DFS algorithm

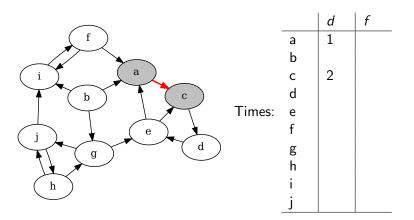
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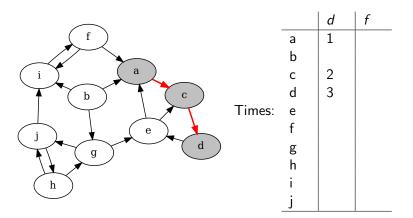
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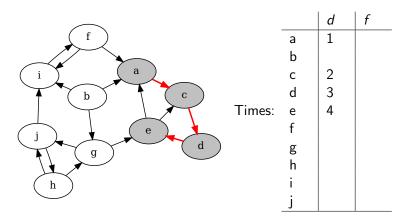
Sanity check: is this algorithm correct on DAGs?

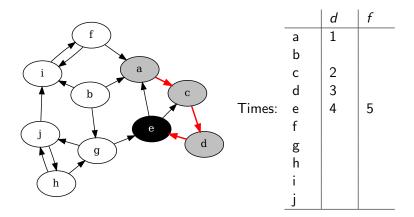


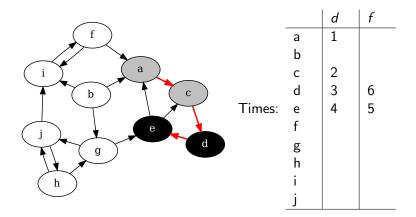


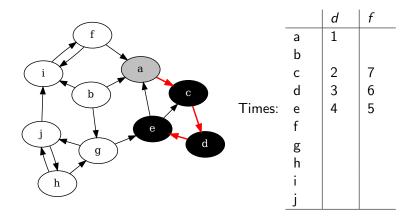


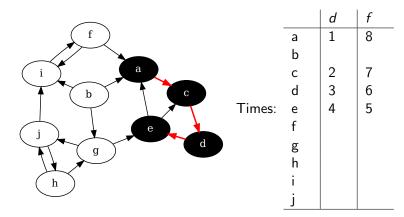


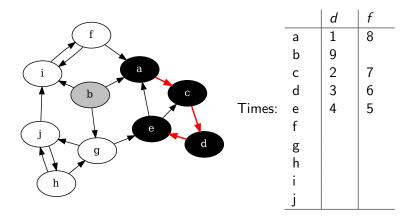


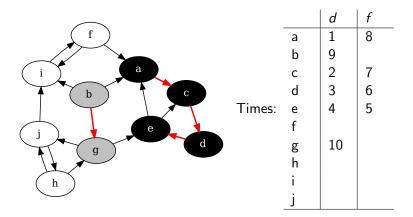


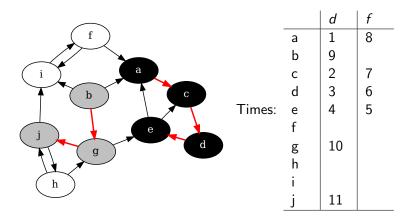


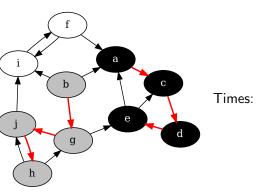




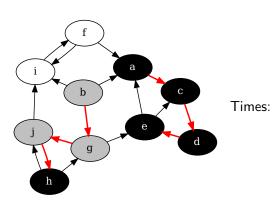




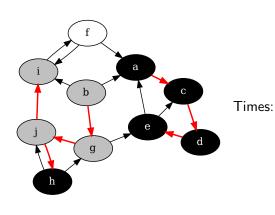




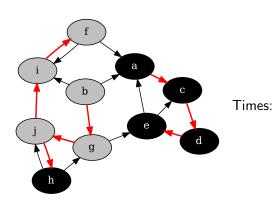
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а	1	8
a b	9	
c d	2	7
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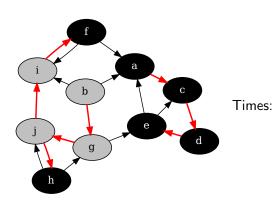
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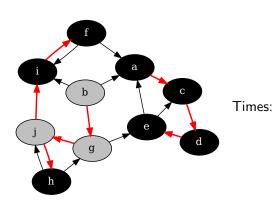
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g	10	
h	12	13
i	14	
j	11	



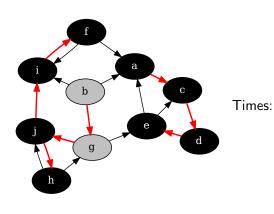
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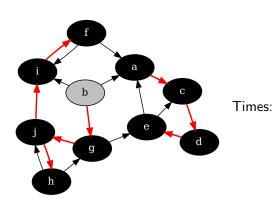
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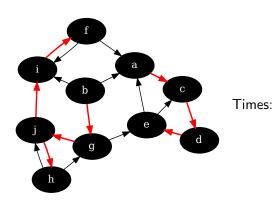
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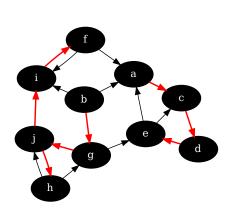
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i	14	17
j	11	18



	d	f
а	1	8
b	9	
С	2	7
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g	10	19
h	12	13
i	14	17
j	11	18



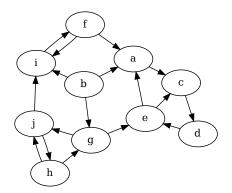
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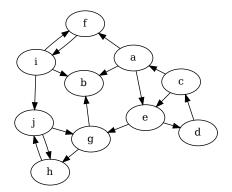


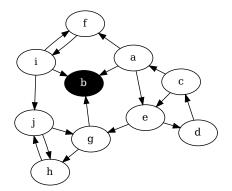
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	h	12	13
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	j	11	18

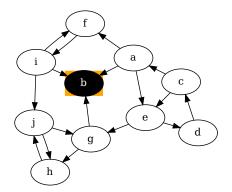
Ordering in decreasing finish time:

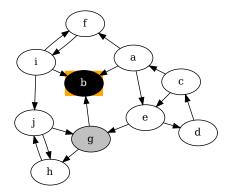
b, g, j, i, f, h, a, c, d, e

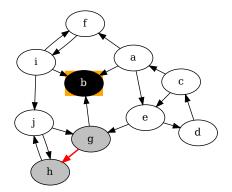


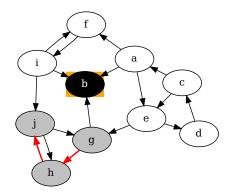


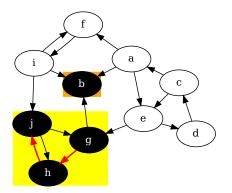


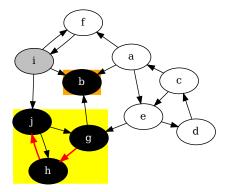


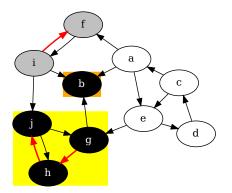


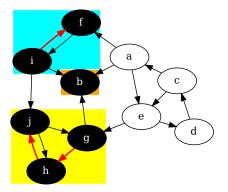


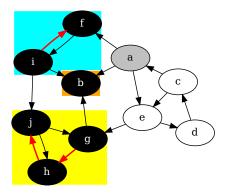


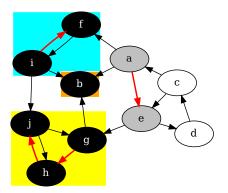


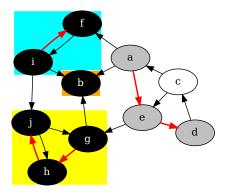


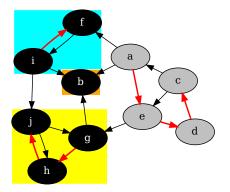


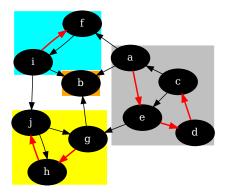












### Intuition - Component digraph

#### Definition

If G = (V, A) is a digraph,  $G^{SCC}$  is the digraph that has:

- A vertex for each SCC of G.
- An arc  $C_1C_2$  if there exist  $x_1 \in C_1, x_2 \in C_2$  with  $x_1x_2 \in A$ .

#### Lemma

G<sup>SCC</sup> is always a DAG.

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#### Proof.

If there exist arcs  $C_1 \to C_2$  and  $C_2 \to C_1$ ,  $C_1 \cup C_2$  is strongly connected, contradicting maximality.

#### Key ideas:

• If x finished last in first DFS of G

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- $\Rightarrow$  the SCC of x is a source in  $G^{SCC}$
- $\Rightarrow$  the SCC of x is a sink in  $(G^T)^{SCC}$
- $\Rightarrow$  a DFS in  $G^T$  from x will visit exactly the SCC of x

### Sources SCC finishes last

#### Lemma

Let G = (V, A) be a digraph,  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  two SCCs, with  $x_1 \in C_1$ ,  $x_2 \in C_2$  and  $x_1x_2 \in A$ . Then, there exists a vertex of  $C_1$  which finishes **after** all vertices of  $C_2$ .

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First vertex of C<sub>1</sub> ∪ C<sub>2</sub> to be discovered is y ∈ C<sub>1</sub>:
 By White-Path theorem, all of C<sub>1</sub> ∪ C<sub>2</sub> are y's descendants, so finish before y.

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- First vertex of  $C_1 \cup C_2$  to be discovered is  $y \in C_1$ : By White-Path theorem, all of  $C_1 \cup C_2$  are y's descendants, so finish before y.
- First vertex of  $C_1 \cup C_2$  to be discovered is  $y \in C_2$ : By White-Path theorem, all vertices of  $C_2$  are discovered after y and finish before y. There is no path from  $C_2$  to  $C_1$  (o/w  $G^{SCC}$  not a DAG), so at  $f_v$  all of  $C_1$  still White  $\Rightarrow$  finishes later than y.

Graph Algorithms

### **Proof of Correctness**

#### Proof.

Induction on number of SCCs.

- Suppose first *k* SCCs are correct.
- DFS for (k + 1)-th SCC starts at x which has largest **finish** time of all White vertices.
  - All vertices of the SCC of x (C) are currently White (I.H.)
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## **Proof of Correctness**

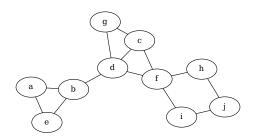
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  - Then,  $\exists C' \to C$  path in G
  - $\Rightarrow$  some vertex of C' finishes after x, contradiction!!

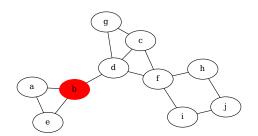


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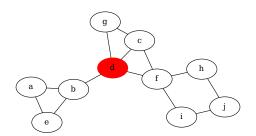




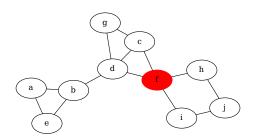
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### Obvious algorithm:

- 1:  $C \leftarrow \text{number of components of } G \text{ (DFS)}$
- 2: for  $v \in V$  do
- 3: **if** comps(G v)> C **then**
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Complexity  $O(mn + n^2)$  for lists,  $O(n^3)$  for matrices. Better?

## Articulation Points - DFS

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  - At time 2 only  $r, c_1$  Gray, so if  $c_1 \rightarrow c_2$  path exists, by White-Path theorem,  $c_2$  would be descendant of  $c_1$ .

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- $\Rightarrow$ : if r has one child, there is a path between any two vertices of G r (using tree edges only).



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#### Proof.

- $\Leftarrow$ : c and its descendants form a component of G v which does not contain the proper ancestors of v. (also: no cross edges)
- $\Rightarrow$ : Let  $C_1$  be the component of G v where DFS started.
  - v has earler discovery than all vertices of  $G \setminus (C_1 \cup \{v\})$
  - $\Rightarrow$  all other vertices of  $G \setminus (C_1 \cup \{v\})$  are descendants of v by White-Path theorem
  - All proper ancestors of v are in  $C_1$
  - No edges between  $C_1$  and other components of G-v

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## Towards an algorithm

- Execute DFS
- Decide if root is an articulation point (easy!)
- Decide if each internal vertex is an articulation point

## Towards an algorithm

- Execute DFS
- Decide if root is an articulation point (easy!)
- Decide if each internal vertex is an articulation point
  - Problem: obvious algorithm is O(m) per vertex...
  - Need to store some information so we don't repeat work...

## Going MADD

#### Definition

Given G and DFS tree, we define  $\operatorname{madd}(v)$  to be the **minimum** ancestor-descendant discovery time among the neighbors of v. Formally,

$$\mathrm{madd}(v) = \min_{u \in \mathrm{desc}(v), w \in N[u]} d_w$$

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- In other words: for each v, we check all the sub-trees rooted at v, and find who has the **highest** neighbor in the tree.
- Claim: For internal vertex v with child x, v is an articulation point if and only if

$$madd(x) = d_v$$

• Claim: madd(v) can be computed for all vertices in linear time.

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## MADD in linear time

#### Lemma

We can compute all minimum ancestor-descendant discovery times in linear time.



## MADD in linear time

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We can compute all minimum ancestor-descendant discovery times in linear time.

Proof.

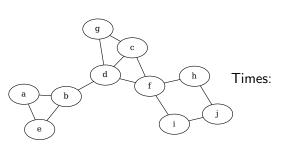
$$\mathrm{madd}(v) = \min_{u \in \mathrm{desc}(v), w \in N[u]} d_w$$

is equivalent to:

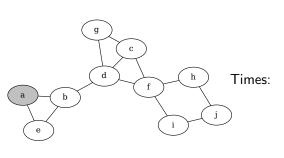
$$\operatorname{madd}(v) = \min\{(\min_{u \in \operatorname{child}(v)} \operatorname{madd}(u)), (\min_{u \in N(v)} d_u\})$$

which can be computed bottom-up by checking computed values for the children of each node, when a vertex becomes Black.

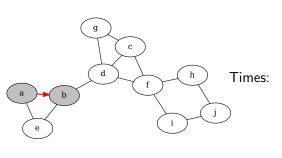




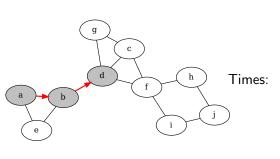
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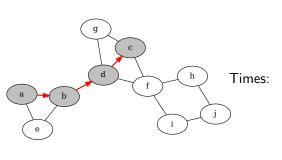
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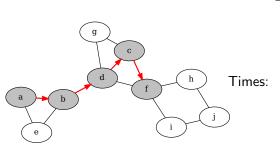
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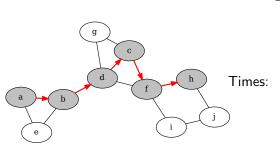
d	f	madd
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	1 2	1 2



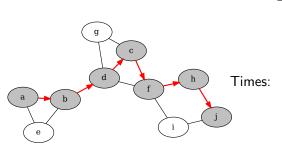
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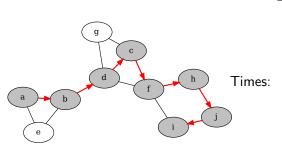
	d	f	madd
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h			
i			
j			



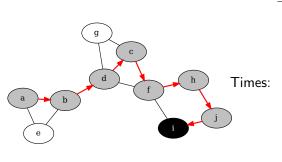
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а	1		*
b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
c d e f	3		
е			
f	5		
g h			
h	6		
i			
j			



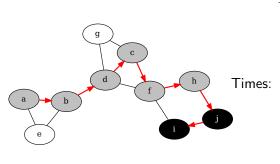
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а	1		*
a b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
c d e f	3		
е			
f	5		
g h			
h	6		
i			
j	7		



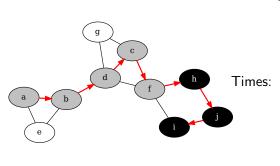
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а	1		*
a b c d	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
d	3		
e f			
f	5		
g h			
h	6		
i	6 8 7		
j	7		



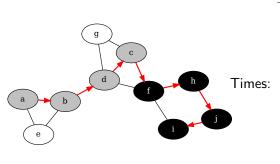
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а	1		*
a b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
c d e f	3		
е			
f	5		
g h			
h	6		
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7		



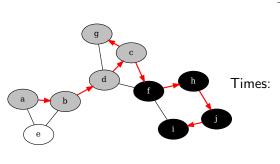
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а	1		*
b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
b c d e f	3		
e			
f	5		
g			
h	6		
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7	10	



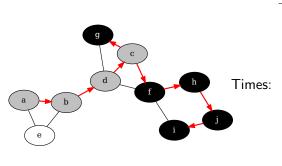
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а	1		*
b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
a b c d e f	3		
е			
f	5		
g			
h	6	11	
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7	10	



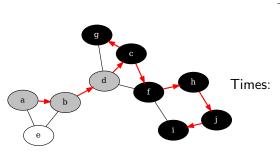
	d	f	mado
а	1		*
b	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
c d	3		
e f			
f	5	12	
g			
g h	6	11	
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7	10	



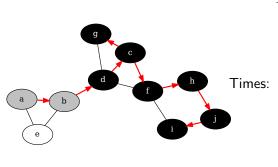
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а	1		*
a b c d	1 2 4 3		
С	4		
d	3		
e f			
f	5	12	
g	5 13		
h	6 8	11	
i	8	9	
j	7	10	



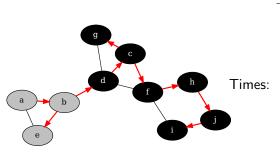
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b	2		
С	1 2 4 3		
c d	3		
e f	5	12	
g	5 13 6 8 7	14	
g h	6	11	
i	8	9	
j	7	10	



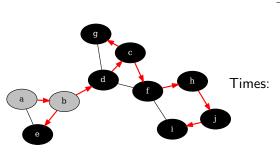
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c d	4	15	
d	3		
e f			
f	5	12	
g	5 13	14	
g h	6	11	
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7	10	



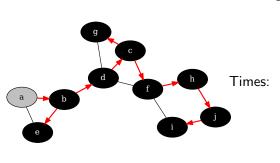
	d	f	mado
а	1		*
b	2		
С	1 2 4 3	15	
c d	3	16	
е			
e f	5	12	
g	13	14	
g h	6	11	
i	6 8 7	9	
j	7	10	



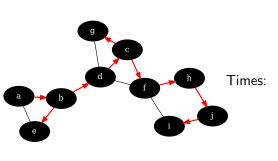
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а	1		*
b	1 2 4 3		
С	4	15	
c d	3	16	
e f	17		
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g	13	14	
h	6 8	11	
i		9	
j	7	10	



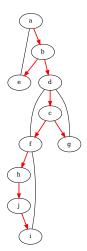
d	f	mado
1		*
2		
4	15	
3	16	
17	18	
5	12	
13	14	
6	11	
8	9	
7	10	
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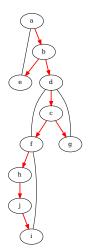
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С	4 3	15	
c d	3	16	
е	17	18	
f	5	12	
g	13	14	
h	6	11	
i	8	9	
j	7	10	



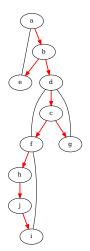
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а	1	20	*
b	1 2	19	
С	4 3	15	
c d	3	16	
е	17	18	
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g	13	14	
h	6	11	
i	8	9	
j	7	10	



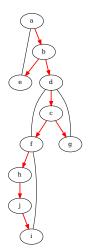
		d	f	madd
	а	1	20	*
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	С	2 4	15	
	c d	3	16	
imes:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	
	g	13	14	
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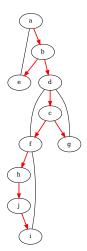
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	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	
	c d	3	16	
Times:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	
	g	13	14	
	g h	6	11	
	i	8	9	5
	i	7	10	



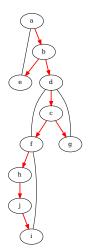
		d	f	madd
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	
	c d	3	16	
Γimes:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	
	g	13	14	
	h	6	11	
	i	8	9	5
	i	7	10	5 5



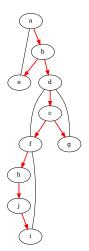
		d	f	madd
	а	1	20	*
	b	1 2 4	19	
	С	4	15	
	c d	3	16	
imes:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	
	g	13	14	
	g h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5 5
	j	7	10	5



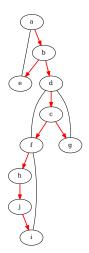
		d	f	mado
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	
	d	3	16	
Times:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	
	g h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



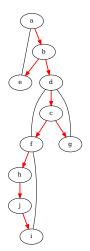
		d	f	mado
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	
	c d	3	16	
Times:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



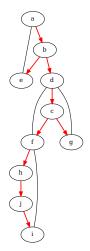
		d	f	made
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	3
	d	3	16	
Times:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	g h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



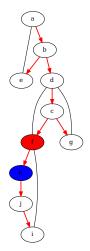
		d	f	mado
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	3
	c d	3	16	3 2
Times:	е	17	18	
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



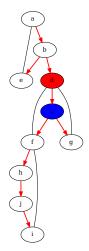
		d	f	made
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	
	С	4	15	3
	c d	3	16	3 2
Times:	е	17	18	1
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5 5



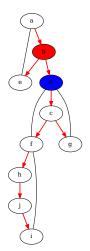
		d	f	made
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	1
	С	4	15	3
	d	3	16	2
Times:	е	17	18	1
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



		d	f	mado
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	1
	С	4	15	3
	c d	3	16	2
Times:	е	17	18	1
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5



		d	f	mad
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	1
	С	4	15	3
	c d	3	16	3 2
Times:	е	17	18	1
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5 5



		d	f	made
	а	1	20	*
	b	2	19	1
	С	4	15	3
	d	3	16	3 2
Times:	е	17	18	1
	f	5	12	3
	g	13	14	3
	h	6	11	5
	i	8	9	5
	j	7	10	5 5