Algorithms and Data Structures 2015-2016 Claudio Sacerdoti Coen

Graph Algorithms

DAGs as Dependency Graphs

Tasks to be completed can be arranged into DAGs (Direct Acyclic Graphs)

 vertices are tasks
 an edge (v,w) means that v must be completed before w (or is required by w or ...)

Question : can we use a general directed graph instead?

Exercise : draw the graph to cook your favourite meal

Given a DAG (V,E), (v1, ..., vn) is a topological sorting of the nodes in V iff

{v1, ..., vn} = V
 for each i < j, there is no path from vj to vi

Tasks can be executed in topological order without violating the dependency graph.

Question : can a DAG be topologically sorted in two different ways?



{ A, B, C, D }, { B, A, D, C }, { A, D, B, C } are all valid topological orders

Question: are there more?



Topological sorting algorith – ideas :

 nodes are added one by one in front of the result list
 a node is to be added only after adding all nodes that are reachable from it

Question: how to know what nodes are reachable from a given one?

TopoSort(G) = L = empty_list() for u in vertices(G) modified_dfs(G,u,L) return L

modified_dfs(G,u,L) =
mark(u)
for v in AdjSet(G,u)
 If not marked(v)
 modified_dfs(G,v,L)
 add(L,v) // v is added to L after all nodes
 // reachable from v

Exercise : run the previous algorithm on the graph of Slide 5 multiple times, changing only the order in which vertices(G) returns the node.