

## 6.1 Topological Sort

Thursday, October 17, 2024

11:35 AM

- Application of Decrease and Conquer

- Sorting a digraph.

digraph :- directed graph.

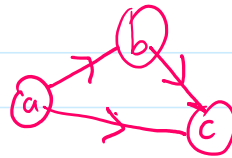
a graph in which edges have direction

eg

$$G = \langle V, E \rangle$$

$$V = \{a, b, c\}$$

$$E = \{ \langle a, b \rangle, \langle b, c \rangle, \langle a, c \rangle \}$$



- DFS and BFS both work in digraphs
- Digraphs can also be stored as
  - adjacency matrices
  - adjacency lists

Example:

Suppose you have courses  $C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5$

-  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  have no prerequisites

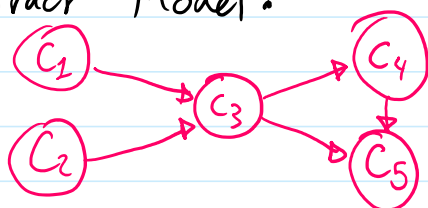
-  $C_3$  requires  $C_1$  &  $C_2$

-  $C_4$  req.  $C_3$

-  $C_5$  req.  $C_3$  and  $C_4$

In which order should you take the classes?

Abstract Model:



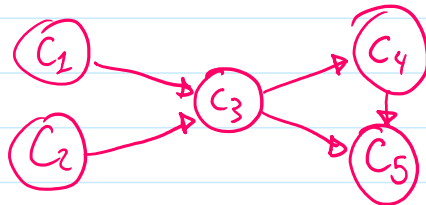
Problem: (re-stated)

order the vertices  $\langle v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k \rangle$   
in such a way that for every edge  $\langle v_a, v_b \rangle$   
 $a < b$  in the order.

Note: not possible if the digraph has a cycle.

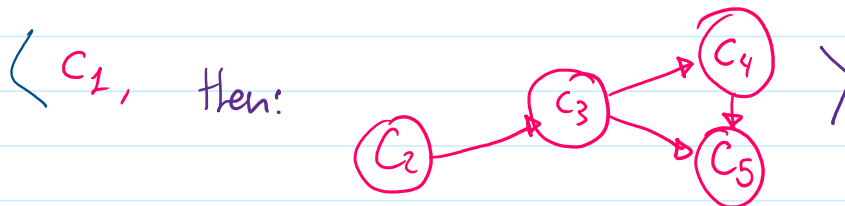
Note: digraphs without cycles are called **DAG's**  
**Directed Acyclic Graphs**

Solution: Decrease and conquer



Size=5, How can I use somebody who can solve size=4

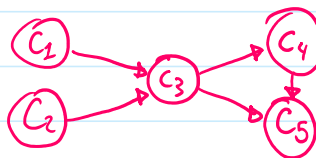
(i) Get rid of one node; one with no incoming edges, "source" node.



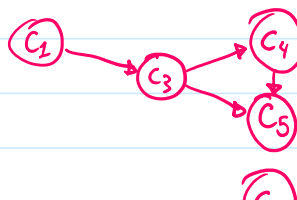
Algorithm:

- Select a source node
- place it next in the order
- Simplify the graph

Trace

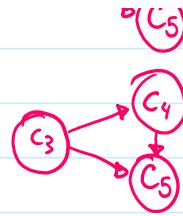


$\langle C_2$



$\langle C_2, C_1$

$\langle C_2, C_1 \rangle$



$\langle C_2, C_1, C_3 \rangle$



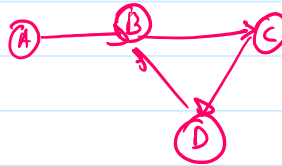
$\langle C_2, C_1, C_3, C_4 \rangle$



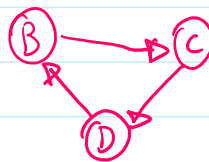
$\langle C_2, C_1, C_3, C_4, C_5 \rangle$

- What if the digraph has cycles?  
the algorithm will fail

e.g



$\langle A, \rangle$



Fail!!

— • — EOF.