

Depth First Search

- Graph $G = (V, E)$ directed or undirected
- Adjacency list representation
- Goal: Explore every vertex and every edge.

DFS(G)

for each $u \in V$

do color $[u] \leftarrow$ white

time $\leftarrow 0$

for each $u \in V$

do if color $[u] =$ white

then DFS-visit(u)

DFS-visit(u) Called once / vertex

color $[u] \leftarrow$ Gray

time \leftarrow time + 1

$d[u] \leftarrow$ time (Discovered)

for each $v \in \text{adj}[u]$

do if color $[v] =$ white

then DFS-visit(v) } edges of u
explored

color $[u] \leftarrow$ Black

time \leftarrow time + 1

$f[u] \leftarrow$ time (Finished)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) + \Theta\left(\sum_u |\text{adj}[u]|\right) = \Theta(V) + \Theta(E) = \Theta(V + E)$$

- Be careful. DFS_vist is called once per vertex.
- The running time of DFS_vist(u) is $O(V)$ since it has to process edges of u .
- But total running time is not $O(V^2)$!

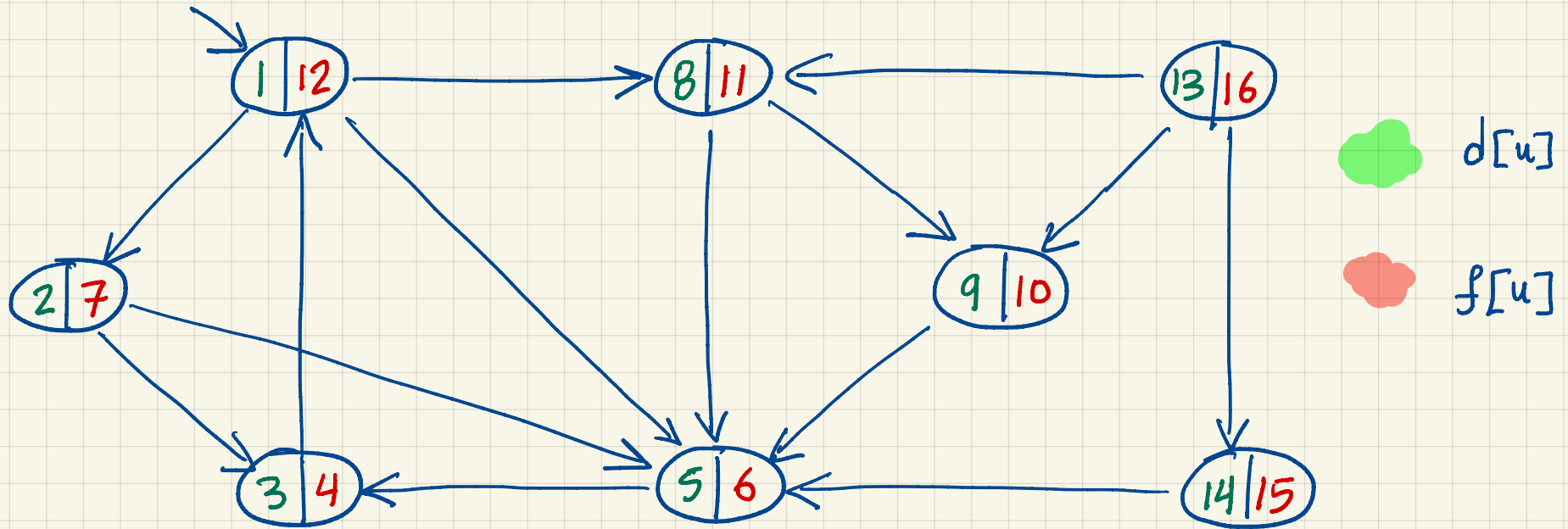
The processing of vertex u can be charged to edges.

Each edge charged once (or twice if undirected)

Rest of code charged to u .

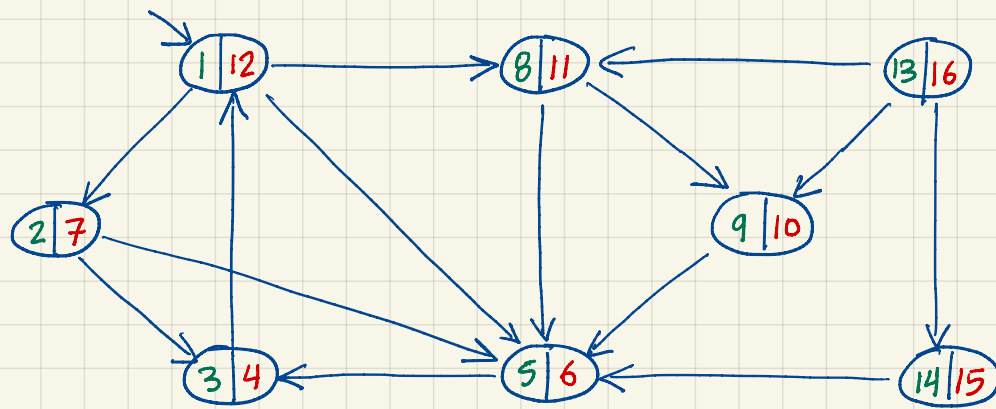
$O(V) + O(E)$ aggregate analysis.

Example:



vertex u is gray from $d[u]$ to $f[u]$
gray vertices \Rightarrow stack of recursive calls
(started but not finished)

4 kinds of edges
(u, v)



Tree edge: v encountered from u for first time. Gray \rightarrow White

$$d[u] < d[v] < f[v] < f[u]$$

Back edge: From descendent to ancestor in the tree. Gray \rightarrow Gray

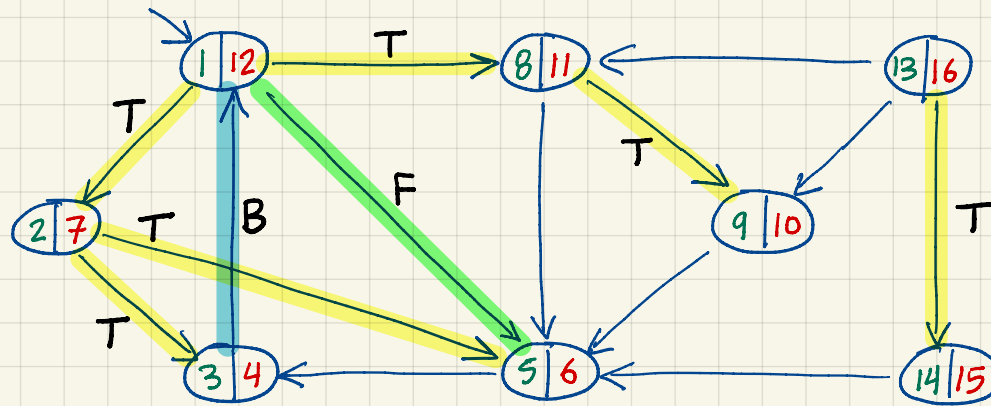
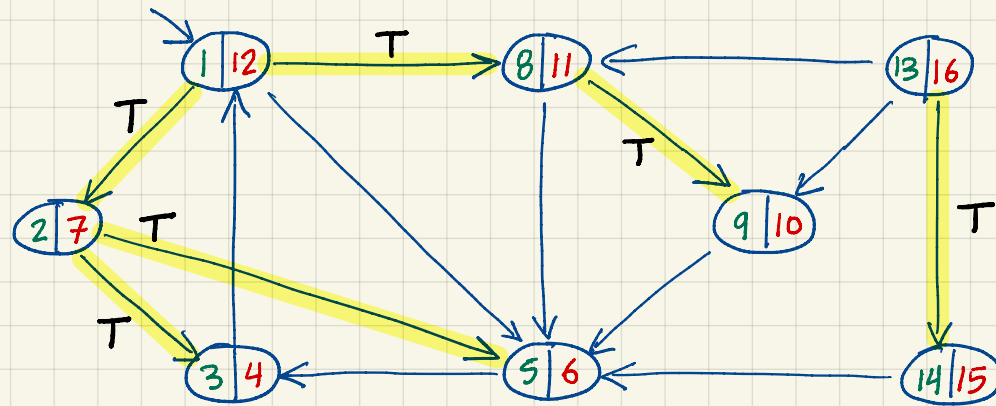
$$d[v] < d[u] < f[u] < f[v]$$

Forward edge: From ancestor to descendent in the tree Gray \rightarrow Black

(same as tree edge)

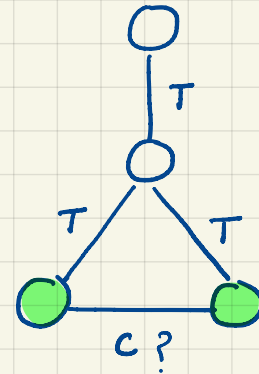
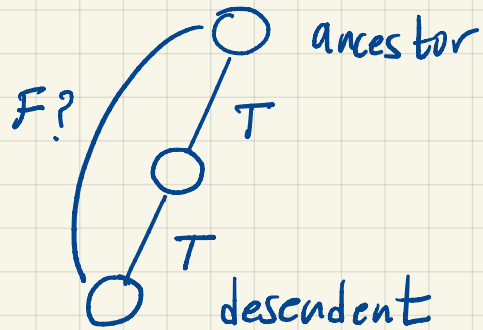
Cross edge: All others. Gray \rightarrow Black

$$d[v] < f[v] < d[u] < f[u]$$



Useful facts :

G is undirected \Rightarrow DFS produces only Tree & Back edges.

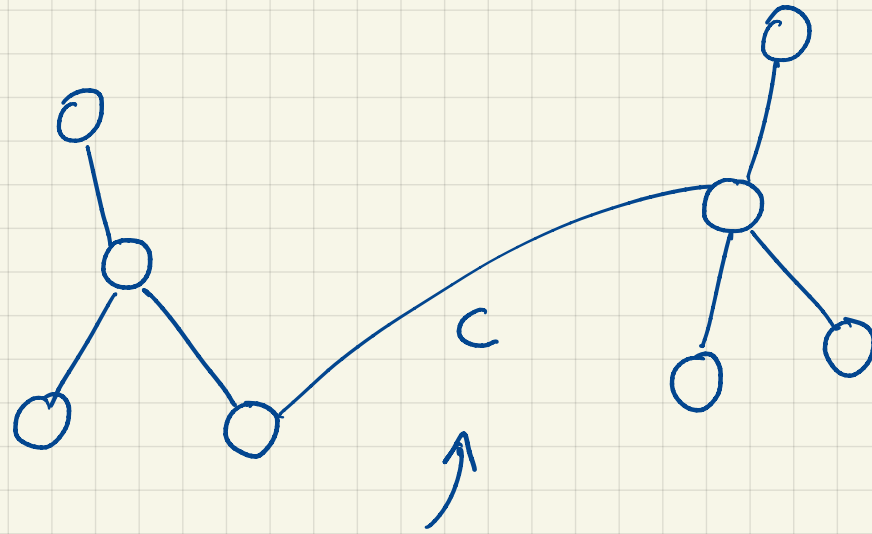


Assume \exists Forward edge

But $F?$ must actually be B

because we must finish processing
bottom vertex before resuming top

One of the two vertices
must have been discovered
first, making $C?$ actually
T. In fact labelling
 $T \setminus T$ can't be right



should be T

Undirected G is acyclic \iff DFS yields no Back edges

Acyclic \implies No Back edge since back edge means cycle

No Back edge \implies only T edges (from before)
so graph is forest.

Check for cycles in undirected graph in $O(V)$ time

Run DFS

- if encounter a B edge $\implies \exists$ cycles
- No need to explore more than $|V|$ edges

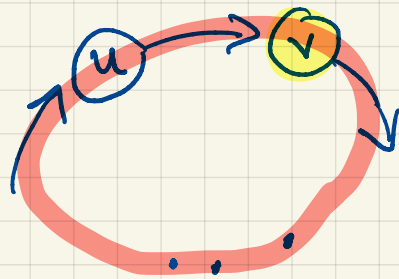
What about directed graphs? We can still claim:

Directed G is acyclic \iff DFS yields no Back edges

- acyclic \implies (as before) No back edges
since Back edge means cycle.

- No Back edge \implies no cycle.

Proof by contradiction: Assume \exists cycle and let v have smallest $d[v]$ on cycle.



all vertices on cycle are white
when v discovered \implies will
visit all before returning from
DFS visit (v). Therefore (u, v)
is Back edge, contradiction.

$O(V+E)$ time to
determine if cyclic or not

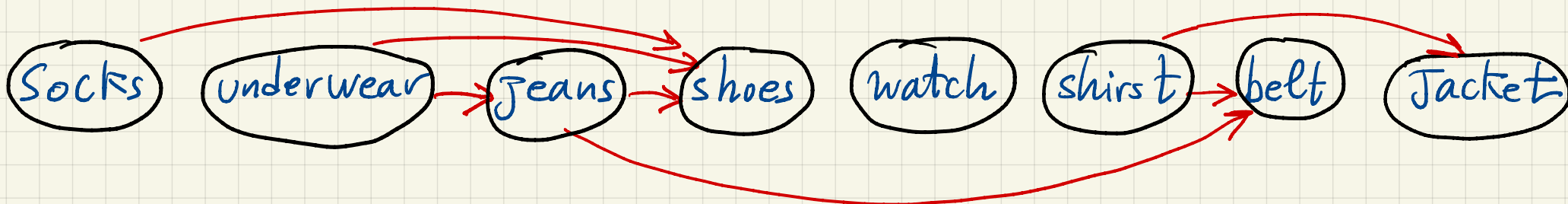
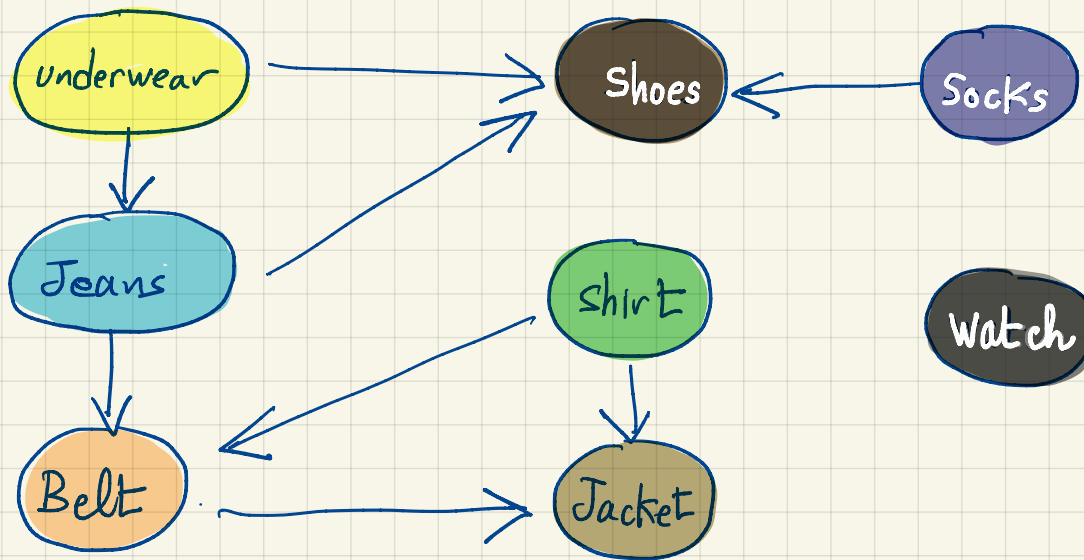
Topological Sorting of DAG

Order vertices of DAG such that

$$(u, v) \in E \implies u < v$$

e.g. order tasks that depend on each others.

Example:



Topological-Sort (G)

run DFS

$O(V+E)$ time

When vertex finished, output it

Claim: Vertices output in reverse topological order

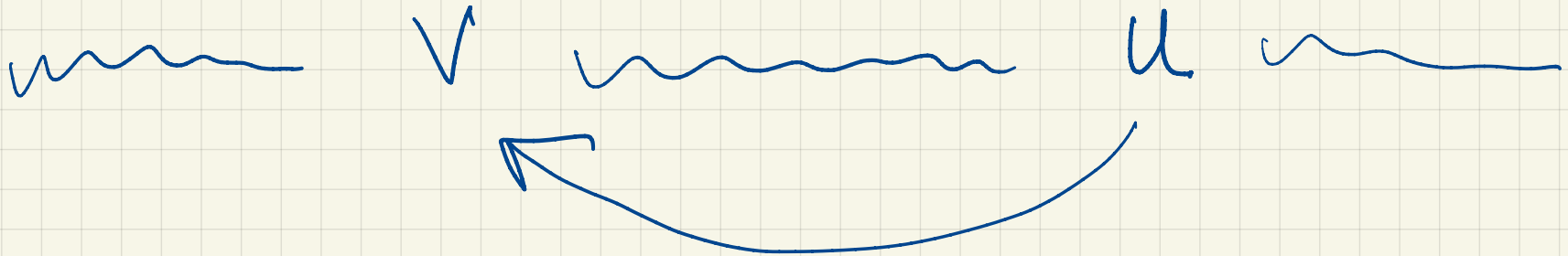
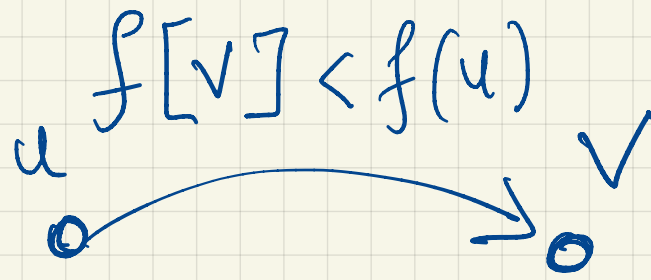
$$(u,v) \in E \Rightarrow f[v] < f[u]$$

Proof: When (u,v) is explored, u is gray

v gray: (u,v) back edge, contradiction

v white: v discovered, v has to finish before coming back to u , so $f[v] < f[u]$

v black: v already finished, so $f[v] < f[u]$



Note: Single source shortest path can be found in linear time in DAGs.

- Topological sort
- Relax edges of vertices in topological order.