


# SCC0602 - Algoritmos e Estruturas de Dados I

## Strong Connected Components



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


## Today

- Strongly connected components
- Transpose of directed graphs
- Algorithm to find strongly connected components

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## Introduction

- Complete graph:** undirected graph in which every pair of vertices is adjacent
  - There is an edge between each pair of nodes
- An undirected graph is **connected** if every pair of vertices is connected by a path
  - It has exactly one connected component
    - Every vertex is reachable from every other vertex
- A directed graph is **strongly connected** if every two vertices are reachable from each other
  - It has only one strongly connected component

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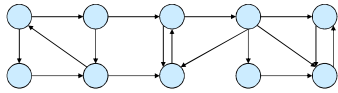
## Strongly connected components

- Classical application of DFS:
  - Decomposition of a directed graph into its strongly connected components
  - Performed by two DFS
  - Many algorithms that work with directed graphs begin with a decomposition
    - After, the algorithm is run separately in each strongly connected component
    - Final solution = combination of the separately created solutions

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## Strongly connected components

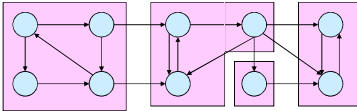
- Strongly connected component (SCC) of a directed graph  $G=(V,E)$ 
  - Maximal set of vertices  $C \subseteq V$  such that for all  $u, v \in C$ , there is both  $u \rightsquigarrow v$  and  $v \rightsquigarrow u$
  - Vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are reachable from each other



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## Strongly connected components

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## Component

- $G^{SCC} = (V^{SCC}, E^{SCC})$
- $V^{SCC}$  has one vertex representing each SCC in  $G$
- $E^{SCC}$  has the existing edges between the corresponding SCCs in  $G$
- $G^{SCC}$  for the previous example:

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## $G^{SCC}$ is a DAG

**Lemma 22.13**  
 Let  $C$  and  $C'$  be distinct SCCs in  $G$ , let  $u, v \in C$  and  $u', v' \in C'$ , and suppose there is a path  $u \rightsquigarrow u'$  in  $G$ . Then there cannot also be a path  $v' \rightsquigarrow v$  in  $G$ .

**Proof:**

- Suppose there is a path  $v' \rightsquigarrow v$  in  $G$
- Then there are paths  $u \rightsquigarrow u' \rightsquigarrow v'$  and  $v' \rightsquigarrow v \rightsquigarrow u$  in  $G$
- Therefore,  $u$  and  $v'$  are reachable from each other, being not in separate SCCs

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## Transpose of a Directed Graph

- $G^T = \text{transpose}$  of directed  $G$ 
  - $G^T = (V, E^T), E^T = \{(u, v) : (v, u) \in E\}$
  - $G^T$  is  $G$  with all edges reversed
- Can create  $G^T$  in  $\Theta(V + E)$  time if using adjacency lists
- $G$  and  $G^T$  have exactly the *same* SCCs
  - $u$  and  $v$  are reachable from each other in  $G$  if and only if reachable from each other in  $G^T$

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## Algorithm to find SCC

SCC(G)

- Call  $DFS(G)$  to compute finishing times  $f[u]$  for all  $u$
- Compute  $G^T$
- Call  $DFS(G^T)$ , but in the main loop, consider vertices in  $f[u]$  decreasing order (as computed in the first DFS)
- Output the vertices in each tree of the depth-first forest formed in the second DFS as a separate SCC

Running time:  $\Theta(V + E)$

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## Example

(Courtesy of Prof. Jim Anderson)

$G$

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## Example

$G^T$

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## Example

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## How does it work?

- **Idea:**
  - By considering vertices in the second DFS in decreasing order of finishing times from the first DFS, vertices of the component graph are visited in topologically sorted order
  - Because DFS is running on  $G^T$ , there will be no visit to  $v$  from a  $u$ , where  $v$  and  $u$  are in different components
- **Notation:**
  - $d[u]$  and  $f[u]$  always refer to the *first* DFS
  - Extend notation for  $d$  and  $f$  to sets of vertices  $U \subseteq V$ :
    - $d(U) = \min_{u \in U} \{d[u]\}$  (earliest discovery time)
    - $f(U) = \max_{u \in U} \{f[u]\}$  (latest finishing time)
    - $U$  can be vertices from a SCC

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## Applications

- Usually, SCC is part of an application
- Social Networks
  - Look for a group of people that are generally strongly connected (similar tastes)
- Software Engineering
  - Look for classes that are SCC in large software
- Web
  - Look for related pages in the internet

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## Next Lecture

- Weighted Graphs
- Minimum Spanning Trees
  - Greedy Choice Theorem
  - Kruskal's Algorithm
  - Prim's Algorithm

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## Acknowledgement

- A large part of this material were adapted from
  - Simonas Šaltenis, Algorithms and Data Structures, Aalborg University, Denmark
  - Mary Wootters, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Stanford University, USA
  - George Bebis, Analysis of Algorithms CS 477/677, University of Nevada, Reno
  - David A. Plaisted, Information Comp 550-001, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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## Questions

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