#### **DFS** Parenthesis Theorem (2)



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### **DFS Edge Classification**

- Tree edge (gray to white)
  encounter new vertices (white)
- Back edge (gray to gray)
  - from descendant to ancestor



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**DFS Edge Classification (2)** 

- Forward edge (gray to black)
  from ancestor to descendant
- Cross edge (gray to black)
  - remainder between trees or subtrees



**DFS Edge Classification (3)** 

- Tree and back edges are important
- Most algorithms do not distinguish between forward and cross edges



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### Next:

Application of DFS: Topological Sort

## **Directed Acyclic Graphs**

• A DAG is a directed graph with no cycles



- Often used to indicate precedences among events, i.e., event *a* must happen before *b*
- An example would be a parallel code execution
- Total order can be introduced using **Topological Sorting**

## **DAG Theorem**

- A directed graph *G* is acyclic if and only if a DFS of *G* yields no back edges. Proof:
  - suppose there is a back edge (u,v); v is an ancestor of u in DFS forest. Thus, there is a path from v to u in G and (u,v) completes the cycle
  - suppose there is a cycle c; let v be the first vertex in c to be discovered and u is a predecessor of v in c.
    - Upon discovering v the whole cycle from v to u is white
    - We must visit all nodes reachable on this white path before return DFS-Visit(v), i.e., vertex u becomes a descendant of v
    - Thus, (*u*,*v*) is a back edge
- Thus, we can verify a DAG using DFS!

### **Topological Sort Example**

- Precedence relations: an edge from *x* to *y* means one must be done with *x* before one can do *y*
- Intuition: can schedule task only when all of its subtasks have been scheduled



## **Topological Sort**

- Sorting of a directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- A topological sort of a DAG is a linear ordering of all its vertices such that for any edge (*u*,*v*) in the DAG, *u* appears before *v* in the ordering
- The following algorithm topologically sorts a DAG

#### Topological-Sort(G)

call DFS(G) to compute finishing times *f*[*v*] for each vertex *v* as each vertex is finished, insert it onto the front of a linked list
return the linked list of vertices

# • The linked lists comprises a total ordering

## **Topological Sort**

- Running time
  - depth-first search: O(V+E) time
  - insert each of the |V| vertices to the front of the linked list: O(1) per insertion
- Thus the total running time is O(V+E)

## **Topological Sort Correctness**

- Claim: for a DAG, an edge  $(u, v) \in E \Rightarrow f[u] > f[v]$
- When (*u*,*v*) explored, *u* is gray. We can distinguish three cases
  - v = gray⇒ (*u*,*v*) = back edge (cycle, contradiction)
  - -v = white
    - $\Rightarrow$  *v* becomes descendant of *u*
    - $\Rightarrow$  *v* will be finished before *u*
    - $\Rightarrow \mathbf{f}[v] < \mathbf{f}[u]$
  - -v = black
    - $\Rightarrow$  *v* is already finished
    - $\Rightarrow$  f[v] < f[u]
- The definition of topological sort is satisfied