

## BACKGROUND: A Brief Introduction to Graph Theory

- General definitions; Representations;
- Graph Traversals;
- Topological sort;

### Graphs – definitions & representations

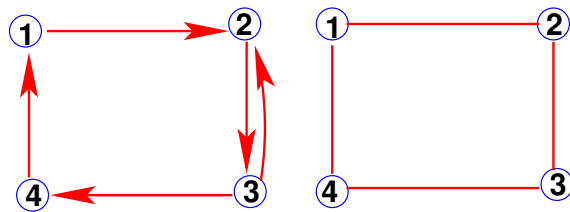
- Graph theory is a fundamental tool in sparse matrix techniques.

**DEFINITION.** A graph  $G$  is defined as a pair of sets  $G = (V, E)$  with  $E \subset V \times V$ . So  $G$  represents a binary relation. The graph is **undirected** if the binary relation is symmetric. It is **directed** otherwise.  $V$  is the vertex set and  $E$  is the edge set.

If  $R$  is a binary relation between elements in  $V$  then, we can represent it by a graph  $G = (V, E)$  as follows:

$$(u, v) \in E \leftrightarrow u R v$$

Undirected graph  $\leftrightarrow$  symmetric relation



$(1 R 2); (4 R 1); (2 R 3); (3 R 4); (3 R 2); (3 R 4)$  |  $(1 R 2); (2 R 3); (3 R 4); (4 R 1)$

**Ex 1** Given the numbers 5, 3, 9, 15, 16, show the two graphs representing the relations

R1: Either  $x < y$  or  $y$  divides  $x$ .

R2:  $x$  and  $y$  are congruent modulo 3. [ $\text{mod}(x,3) = \text{mod}(y,3)$ ]

- $|E| \leq |V|^2$ . For undirected graphs:  $|E| \leq |V|(|V| + 1)/2$ .
- A sparse graph is one for which  $|E| \ll |V|^2$ .

### Graphs – Examples and applications

- Applications of graphs are numerous.

1. Airport connection system: (a) R (b) if there is a non-stop flight from (a) to (b).
2. Highway system;
3. Computer Networks;
4. Electrical circuits;
5. Traffic Flow;
6. Social Networks;
7. Sparse matrices;

...



## More terminology & notation

➤ For a given  $Y \subset X$ , the **section** graph of  $Y$  is the subgraph  $G_Y = (Y, E(Y))$  where

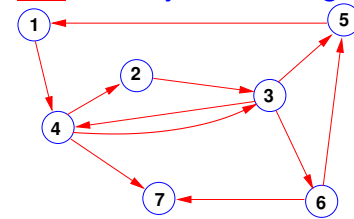
$$E(Y) = \{(x, y) \in E \mid x \in Y, y \text{ in } Y\}$$

- A section graph is a **clique** if all the nodes in the subgraph are pairwise adjacent ( $\rightarrow$  dense block in matrix)
- A **path** is a sequence of vertices  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_k$  such that  $(w_i, w_{i+1}) \in E$  for  $i = 0, \dots, k - 1$ .
- The **length** of the path  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_k$  is  $k$  (# of edges in the path)
- A **cycle** is a closed path, i.e., a path with  $w_k = w_0$ .
- A graph is **acyclic** if it has no cycles.

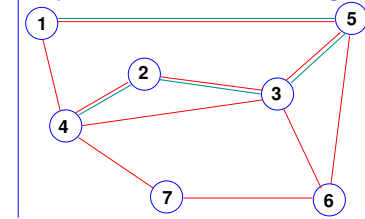
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 Find cycles in this graph:



A path in an indirected graph



- A path  $w_0, \dots, w_k$  is **simple** if the vertices  $w_0, \dots, w_k$  are distinct (except that we may have  $w_0 = w_k$  for cycles).
- An **undirected** graph is **connected** if there is path from every vertex to every other vertex.
- A **digraph** with the same property is said to be **strongly connected**

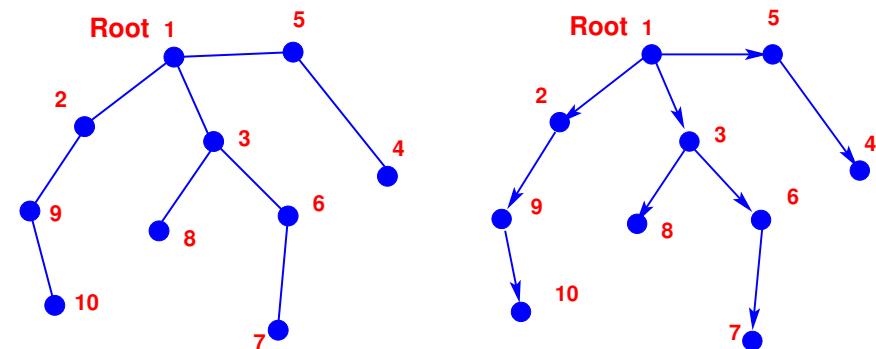
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- The **undirected form** of a directed graph the undirected graph obtained by removing the directions of all the edges.
- Another term used "**symmetrized**" form -
- A **directed** graph whose undirected form is connected is said to be **weakly connected** or **connected**.
- **Tree** = a graph whose undirected form, i.e., symmetrized form, is acyclic & connected
- Forest = a collection of trees
- In a **rooted tree** one specific vertex is designated as a root.
- Root determines orientation of the tree edges in parent-child relation

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- Parent-Child relation: immediate neighbors of root are children. Root is their parent. Recursively define children-parents
- In example:  $v_3$  is parent of  $v_6, v_8$  and  $v_6, v_8$  are children of  $v_3$ .
- Nodes that have no children are **leaves**. In example:  $v_{10}, v_7, v_8, v_4$
- Descendent, ancestors, ...

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## Tree traversals

- Tree traversal is a process of visiting all vertices in a tree. Typically traversal starts at root.
- Want: systematic traversals of all nodes of tree – moving from a node to a child or parent
- **Preorder traversal:** Visit parent before children [recursively]

In example:  $v_1, v_2, v_9, v_{10}, v_3, v_8, v_6, v_7, v_5, v_4$

- **Postorder traversal:** Visit children before parent [recursively]

In example :  $v_{10}, v_9, v_2, v_8, v_7, v_6, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_1$

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## Graphs Traversals – Depth First Search

- Issue: systematic way of visiting all nodes of a **general** graph
- Two basic methods: Breadth First Search (will see later) & ...
- Depth-First Search.

Algorithm  $List = DFS(G, v)$  (DFS from  $v$ )

- Visit and Mark  $v$ ;
- for all edges  $(v, w)$  do
  - if  $w$  is not marked then  $List = DFS(G, w)$
  - Add  $v$  to top of list produced above

- If  $G$  is undirected and connected, all nodes will be visited
- If  $G$  is directed and strongly connected, all nodes will be visited

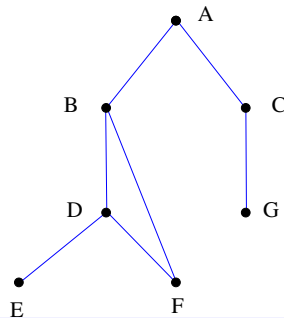
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## Depth First Search – undirected graph example

- Assume adjacent nodes are listed in alphabetical order.

 DFS traversal from A ?



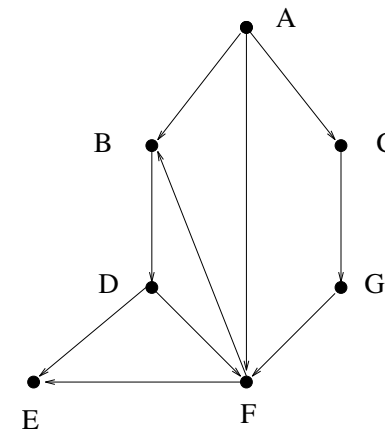
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## Depth First Search – directed graph example

- Assume adjacent nodes are listed in alphabetical order.

 DFS traversal from A?



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```

function [Lst, Mark] = dfs(u, A, Lst, Mark)
%% function [Lst, Mark] = dfs(u, A, Lst, Mark)
%% dfs from node u -- Recursive
%%-----
[ii, jj, rr] = find(A(:,u));
Mark(u) = 1;
for k=1:length(ii)
    v = ii(k);
    if (~Mark(v))
        [Lst, Mark] = dfs(v, A, Lst, Mark);
    end
end
Lst = [u,Lst]

```

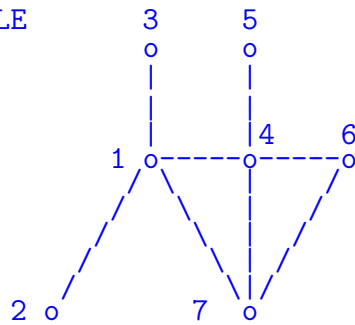
**Depth-First-Search Tree:** Consider the parent-child relation:  $v$  is a parent of  $u$  if  $u$  was visited from  $v$  in the depth first search algorithm. The (directed) graph resulting from this binary relation is a tree called the Depth-First-Search Tree. To describe tree: only need the parents list.

➤ To traverse all the graph we need a DFS( $v,G$ ) from each node  $v$  that has not been visited yet – so add another loop. Refer to this as

DFS(G)

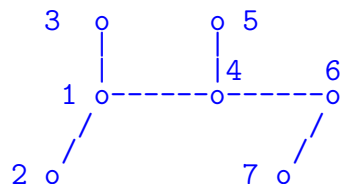
➤ When a new vertex is visited in DFS, some work is done. Example: we can build a stack of nodes visited to show order (reverse order: easier) in which the node is visited.

EXAMPLE



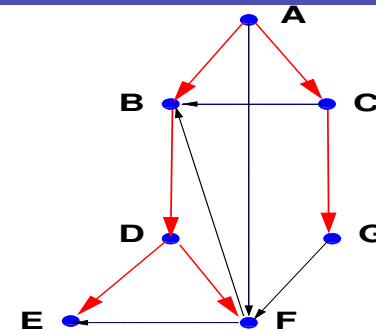
We assume adjacency list is in increasing order. [e.g: Adj(4)=(1,5,6,7)]

DFS traversal: 1 --> 2 --> 3 --> 4 --> 5 --> 6 --> 7  
 Parents list: 1 --> 1 --> 1 --> 4 --> 4 --> 4 --> 6



←----- Depth First Search Tree

*Back edges, forward edges, and cross edges*

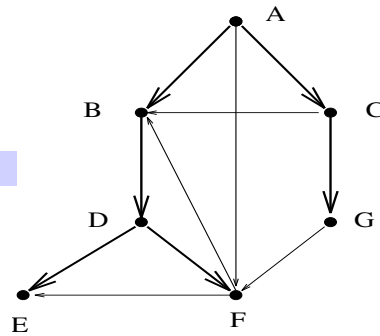


- Thick red lines: DFS traversal tree from A
- $A \rightarrow F$  is a Forward edge
- $F \rightarrow B$  is a Back edge
- $C \rightarrow B$  and  $G \rightarrow F$  are Cross-edges.

- Consider the 'List' produced by DFS.

$Lst = [A, C, G, B, D, F, E]$

- Order in list is important for some algorithms



- Notice: Label nodes in List from 1 to  $n$ . Then:
  - Tree-edges / Forward edges : labels increase in  $\rightarrow$
  - Cross edges : labels in/de-crease in  $\rightarrow$  [depends on labeling]
  - Back-edges : labels decrease in  $\rightarrow$

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## Properties of Depth First Search

- If  $G$  is a connected undirected (or strongly connected) graph, then each vertex will be visited once and each edge will be inspected at least once.
- Therefore, for a connected undirected graph, The cost of DFS is  $O(|V| + |E|)$
- If the graph is undirected, then there are no cross-edges. (all non-tree edges are called 'back-edges')

**Theorem:** A directed graph is acyclic iff a DFS search of  $G$  yields no back-edges.

- Terminology: Directed Acyclic Graph or **DAG**

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## Topological Sort

**The Problem:** Given a **Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)**, order the vertices from 1 to  $n$  such that, if  $(u, v)$  is an edge, then  $u$  appears before  $v$  in the ordering.

- Equivalently, label vertices from 1 to  $n$  so that in any (directed) path from a node labelled  $k$ , all vertices in the path have labels  $> k$ .
- Many Applications
- Prerequisite requirements in a program
- Scheduling of tasks for any project
- Parallel algorithms;
- ...

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## Topological Sorting: A first algorithm

**Property exploited:** An acyclic Digraph must have at least one vertex with indegree = 0.

5 Prove this

### Algorithm:

- First label these vertices as 1, 2, ...,  $k$ ;
- Remove these vertices and all edges incident from them
- Resulting graph is again acyclic ...  $\exists$  nodes with indegree = 0. label these nodes as  $k + 1, k + 2, \dots$ ,
- Repeat..

6 Explore implementation aspects.

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### Alternative methods: Topological sort from DFS

- Depth first search traversal of graph.
- Do a 'post-order traversal' of the DFS tree.

Algorithm  $Lst = Tsort(G)$  (post-order DFS from  $v$ )

```

Mark = zeros(n,1);  Lst = ∅
for v=1:n do:
  if (Mark(v)== 0)
    [Lst, Mark] = dfs(v, G, Lst, Mark);
  end
end
end
    
```

- $dfs(v, G, Lst, Mark)$  is the DFS( $G,v$ ) which adds  $v$  to the top of Lst after finishing the traversal from  $v$

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### Lst = DFS(G,v)

- Visit and Mark  $v$ ;
- for all edges  $(v, w)$  do
  - if  $w$  is not marked then  $Lst = DFS(G, w)$
- $Lst = [v, Lst]$

- Topological order given by the final  $Lst$  array of Tsort

 7 Explore implementation issue

 8 Implement in matlab

 9 Show correctness [i.e.: is this indeed a topol. order? hint: no back-edges in a DAG]

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## GRAPH MODELS FOR SPARSE MATRICES

- See Chap. 3 of text
- Sparse matrices and graphs.
- Bipartite model, hypergraphs
- Application: Paths in graphs, Markov chains

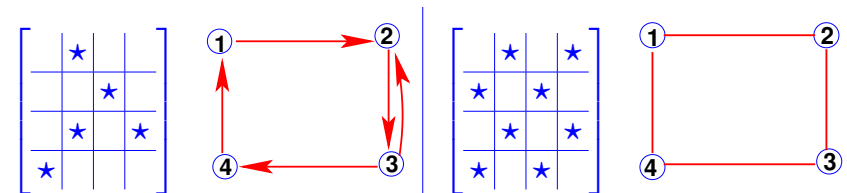
### Graph Representations of Sparse Matrices. Recall:

Adjacency Graph  $G = (V, E)$  of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  :

$$V = \{1, 2, \dots, N\} \quad E = \{(i, j) | a_{ij} \neq 0\}$$

- $G ==$  undirected if  $A$  has a symmetric pattern

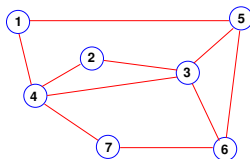
**Example:**



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**Q10** Show the matrix pattern for the graph on the right and give an interpretation of the path  $v_4, v_2, v_3, v_5, v_1$  on the matrix



► A separator is a set  $Y$  of vertices such that the graph  $G_{X-Y}$  is disconnected.

**Example:**  $Y = \{v_3, v_4, v_5\}$  is a separator in the above figure

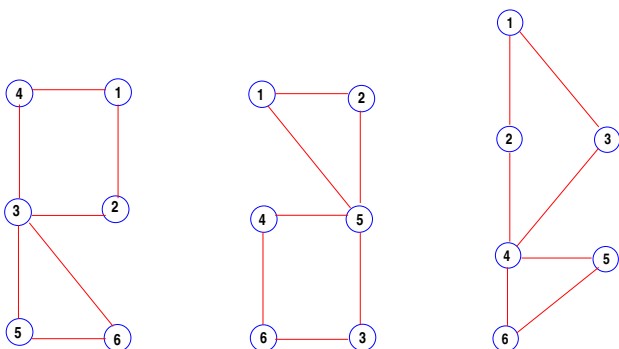
**Example:** Adjacency graph of:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} & * & & * & & & \\ * & & * & & & & \\ & * & & * & * & * & \\ * & & * & & & & \\ & & * & & & * & \\ & & * & & * & & \\ & & & & * & & \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Example:** For any adjacency matrix  $A$ , what is the graph of  $A^2$ ? [interpret in terms of paths in the graph of  $A$ ]

► Two graphs are **isomorphic** if there is a mapping between the vertices of the two graphs that preserves adjacency.

**Q11** Are the following 3 graphs isomorphic? If yes find the mappings between them.



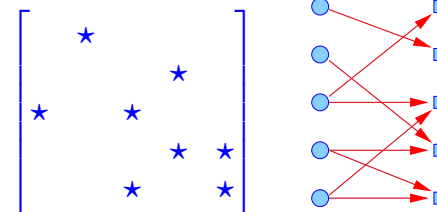
► Graphs are identical – labels are different

### Bipartite graph representation

► Each row is represented by a vertex; Each column is represented by a vertex.

► Relations only between rows and columns: Row  $i$  is connected to column  $j$  if  $a_{ij} \neq 0$

**Example:**



► Bipartite models used only for specific cases [e.g. rectangular matrices, ...] - By default we use the standard definition of graphs.



## Interpretation of graphs of matrices

Q12 In which of the following cases is the underlying physical mesh the same as the graph of  $A$  (in the sense that edges are the same):

- Finite difference mesh [consider the simple case of 5-pt and 7-pt FD problems - then 9-point meshes.]
- Finite element mesh with linear elements (e.g. triangles)?
- Finite element mesh with other types of elements? [to answer this question you would have to know more about higher order elements]

Q13 What is the graph of  $A + B$  (for two  $n \times n$  matrices)?

Q14 What is the graph of  $A^T$ ?

Q15 What is the graph of  $A \cdot B$ ?

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## Paths in graphs

Q16 What is the graph of  $A^k$ ?

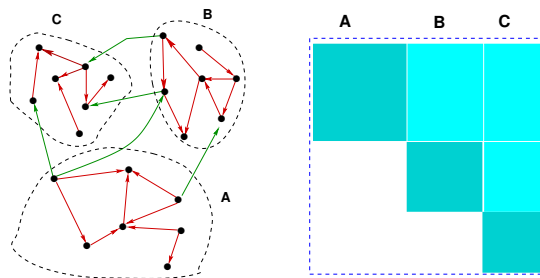
**Theorem** Let  $A$  be the adjacency matrix of a graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Then for  $k \geq 0$  and vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$ , the number of paths of length  $k$  starting at  $u$  and ending at  $v$  is equal to  $(A^k)_{u,v}$ .

*Proof:* Proof is by induction. ■

- Recall (definition): A matrix is *reducible* if it can be permuted into a block upper triangular matrix.
- Note: A matrix is reducible iff its adjacency graph is not (strongly) connected, i.e., iff it has more than one connected component.

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- No edges from  $C$  to  $A$  or  $B$ . No edges from  $B$  to  $A$ .

**Theorem: Perron-Frobenius** An irreducible, nonnegative  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  has a real, positive eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  such that:

- $\lambda_1$  is a simple eigenvalue of  $A$ ;
- $\lambda_1$  admits a positive eigenvector  $u_1$ ; and
- $|\lambda_i| \leq \lambda_1$  for all other eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  where  $i > 1$ .

- The spectral radius is equal to the eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$

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- Definition: a graph is  $d$  regular if each vertex has the same degree  $d$ .

**Proposition:** The spectral radius of a  $d$  regular graph is equal to  $d$ .

**Proof:** The vector  $e$  of all ones is an eigenvector of  $A$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda = d$ . In addition this eigenvalue is the largest possible (consider the infinity norm of  $A$ ). Therefore  $e$  is the Perron-Frobenius vector  $u_1$ . ■

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## Application: Markov Chains

- Read about Markov Chains in Sect. 10.9 of:  
[https://www-users.cs.umn.edu/~saad/eig\\_book\\_2ndEd.pdf](https://www-users.cs.umn.edu/~saad/eig_book_2ndEd.pdf)
- The stationary probability satisfies the equation:

$$\pi P = \pi$$

Where  $\pi$  is a row vector.

- $P$  is the probability transition matrix and it is 'stochastic':


A matrix  $P$  is said to be *stochastic* if :

- (i)  $p_{ij} \geq 0$  for all  $i, j$
- (ii)  $\sum_{j=1}^n p_{ij} = 1$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- (iii) No column of  $P$  is a zero column.

- Spectral radius is  $\leq 1$  [Why?]
- Assume  $P$  is irreducible. Then:
- Perron Frobenius  $\rightarrow \rho(P) = 1$  is an eigenvalue and associated eigenvector has positive entries.
- Probabilities are obtained by scaling  $\pi$  by its sum.
- Example: One of the 2 models used for page rank.

**Example:** A college Fraternity has 50 students at various stages of college (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior). There are 6 potential stages for the following year: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, graduated, or left-without degree. Following table gives probability of transitions from one stage to next

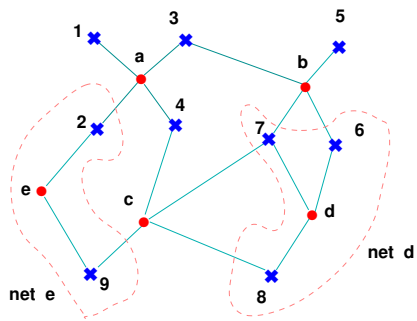
To	From	Fr	So.	Ju.	Sr.	Grad	lwd
Fr.		.2	0	0	0	0	0
So.		.6	.1	0	0	0	0
Ju.		0	.7	.1	0	0	0
Sr.		0	0	.8	.1	0	0
Grad		0	0	0	.75	1	0
lwd		.2	.2	.1	.15	0	1

 What is  $P$ ? Assume initial population is  $x_0 = [10, 16, 12, 12, 0, 0]$  and do a follow the population for a few years. What is the probability that a student will graduate? What is the probability that s/he leaves without a degree?

## A few words about hypergraphs

- Hypergraphs are very general.. Ideas borrowed from VLSI work
- Main motivation: to better represent communication volumes when partitioning a graph. Standard models face many limitations
- Hypergraphs can better express complex graph partitioning problems and provide better solutions.
- Example: completely nonsymmetric patterns ...
- .. Even rectangular matrices. Best illustration: Hypergraphs are ideal for **text data**

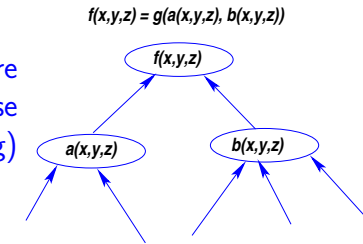
**Example:**  $V = \{1, \dots, 9\}$  and  $E = \{a, \dots, e\}$  with  
 $a = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $b = \{3, 5, 6, 7\}$ ,  $c = \{4, 7, 8, 9\}$ ,  
 $d = \{6, 7, 8\}$ , and  $e = \{2, 9\}$



Boolean matrix:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
a	1	1	1	1						
b			1		1	1	1			
c				1			1	1	1	
d						1	1	1		
e	1								1	

### A few words on computational graphs



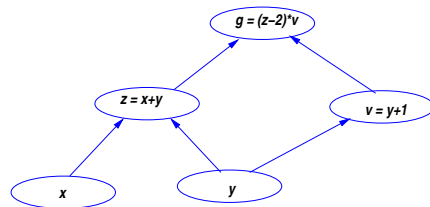
► Computational graphs: graphs where nodes represent computations whose evaluation depend on other (incoming) nodes.

► Consider the following expression:

$$g(x, y) = (x + y - 2) * (y + 1)$$

We can decompose this as  $\begin{cases} z = x + y \\ v = y + 1 \\ g = (z - 2) * v \end{cases}$

► Corresponding computational graph:



► Given values of  $x, y$  we want to (a) Evaluate the nodes and also (b) derivatives of  $g$  w.r.t  $x, y$  at the nodes

(a) is trivial - just follow the graph up - starting from the leaves (that contain  $x$  and  $y$ )

(b): Use the chain rule – here shown for  $x$  only using previous setting

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial b} \frac{\partial b}{\partial x}$$

18 For the above example compute values at nodes and derivatives when  $x = -1, y = 2$ .

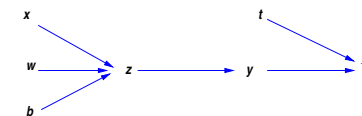
### Back-Propagation

► Often we want to compute the gradient of the function at the root, once the nodes have been evaluated

► The derivatives can be calculated by going backward (or down the tree)

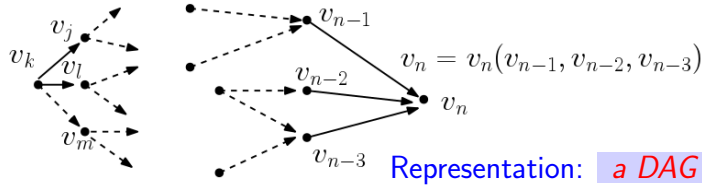
► Here is a very simple example from Neural Networks

$$\begin{cases} L = \frac{1}{2}(y - t)^2 \\ y = \sigma(z) \\ z = wx + b \end{cases}$$



► Note that  $t$  (desired output) and  $x$  (input) are constant.

## Back-Propagation: General computational graphs



Representation: a DAG

- Last node ( $v_n$ ) is the target function. Let us rename it  $f$ .
- Nodes  $v_i, i = 1, \dots, e$  with indegree 0 are the variables
- Want to compute  $\partial f / \partial v_1, \partial f / \partial v_2, \dots, \partial f / \partial v_e$
- Simply use the chain rule. Look for example at node  $v_k$  in figure

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v_k} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_j} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial v_k} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_l} \frac{\partial v_l}{\partial v_k} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_m} \frac{\partial v_m}{\partial v_k}$$

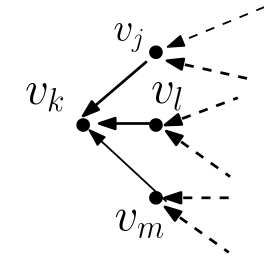
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- Let  $\delta_k = \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_k}$  (called 'errors'). Then

$$\delta_k = \delta_j \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial v_k} + \delta_l \frac{\partial v_l}{\partial v_k} + \delta_m \frac{\partial v_m}{\partial v_k}$$

- To compute the  $\delta_k$ 's once the  $v_j$ 's have been computed (in a 'forward' propagation) – proceed backward.
- $\delta_j, \delta_l, \delta_m$  available and  $\partial v_i / \partial v_k$  computable. Note  $\delta_n \equiv 1$ .

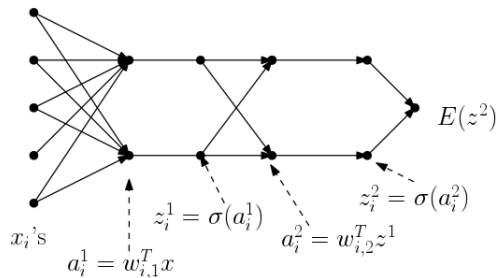


- However: cannot just do this in any order. Must follow a **topological order** in order to obey dependencies.

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### Example:



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