

Def A path in $G = (V, E)$ is a sequence of nodes (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) s.t.

- $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\} : u_i \in V$

- $\forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \underline{k-1}\} : \langle u_i, u_{i+1} \rangle$

$u_1 \rightarrow u_2 \rightarrow u_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u_{k-1} \rightarrow u_k$

Q does this definition allow repeated nodes in a path?



$u_1 = a$
 $u_2 = b$
 $u_3 = c$
 $u_4 = b$
 $u_5 = c$
 $u_6 = d$

Let $U \subseteq V$

ex $\{a, b, c, d\}$

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$

A path is simple if all its nodes are unique.

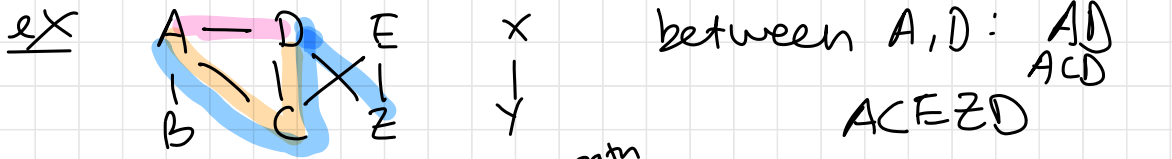
The length of a path is # edges ($k-1$).
we say a path traverses its edges.

The shortest path from node u to node v is the path of min. length.

The distance $\text{dist}(u, v)$ $d(u, v)$ between u, v is the length of the shortest path.

A graph is connected if $\forall u, v \in V \exists$ path

from u to v .



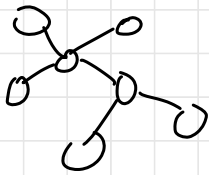
not connected: $\cancel{A} \rightarrow Z$ to X

Def A cycle $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, u_1)$ is a path of length ≥ 2 from u_1 to u_2 that does not traverse the same edge twice.

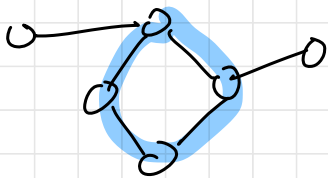
A cycle is simple if its nodes are distinct.

A graph is acyclic if it contains no cycles.

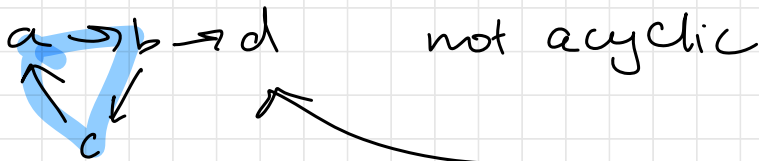
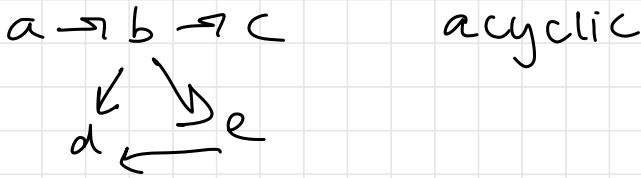
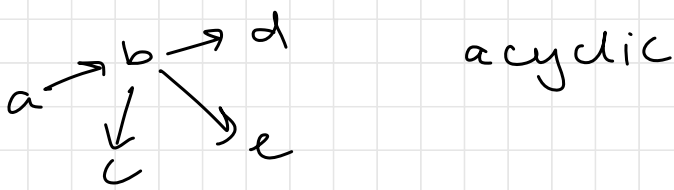
ex acyclic



acyclic



not acyclic



Q How many cycles does it have?

$\boxed{1}$
?
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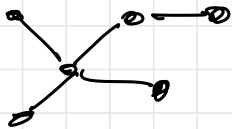
3
?
.

we consider $\langle a, b, c \rangle,$

$\langle b, c, a \rangle,$

$\langle c, a, b \rangle$ equal

Lemma 11.33 If $G = (V, E)$ is an undirected acyclic graph, then $\exists v \in V$ s.t. $\deg(v) = 0$ or $\deg(v) = 1$.



Pf We give a proof by construction via an algorithm that, given an acyclic graph, finds a degree 0 or degree 1 node.

alg:

let u_0 be any node in G

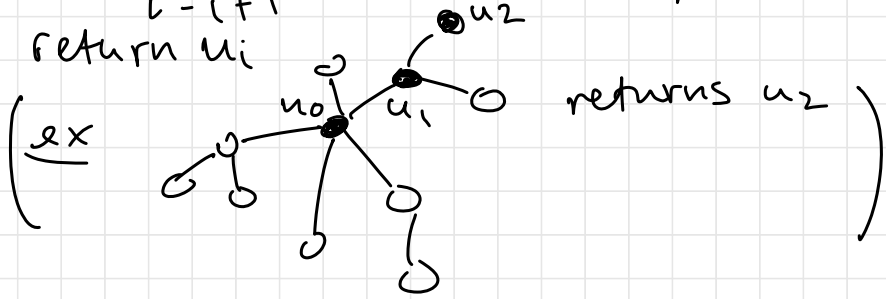
let $i = 0$

while current node u_i has unvisited neighbors:

let $u_{i+1} = \text{such a neighbor}$

$i = i + 1$

return u_i



Given an acyclic graph G , let t be the node returned by the alg.

WTS either $\text{deg}(t) = 0$ or $\text{deg}(t) = 1$.

Case 1: $t = u_0$ u_0 then $\text{deg}(t) = 0$.

Case 2: $t = u_k$, $k \geq 1$. We will show $\text{deg}(t) = 1$.

Since t is last in sequence $\langle u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k \rangle$ there is no edge from t to any unvisited node. If \exists edge from t to any node other than u_{k-1} , it is in $\{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{k-2}\}$.



But then $\langle u_j, \dots, u_k, u_j \rangle$ is a cycle.

So t has only one edge back to u_{k-1} .

$$\deg(t) = 1.$$