

# Applications of Depth First Search

Thomas Schwarz, SJ

# Topological Sort

- Recall topological sort
  - We are given a directed graph
  - Want to order all vertices such that no edge goes from a higher-numbered vertex to a lower-numbered vertex
  - If this is impossible, then we have a cycle
  - So, our algorithm also detects whether there is a cycle in a directed graph
  - We use DFS for an even better algorithm

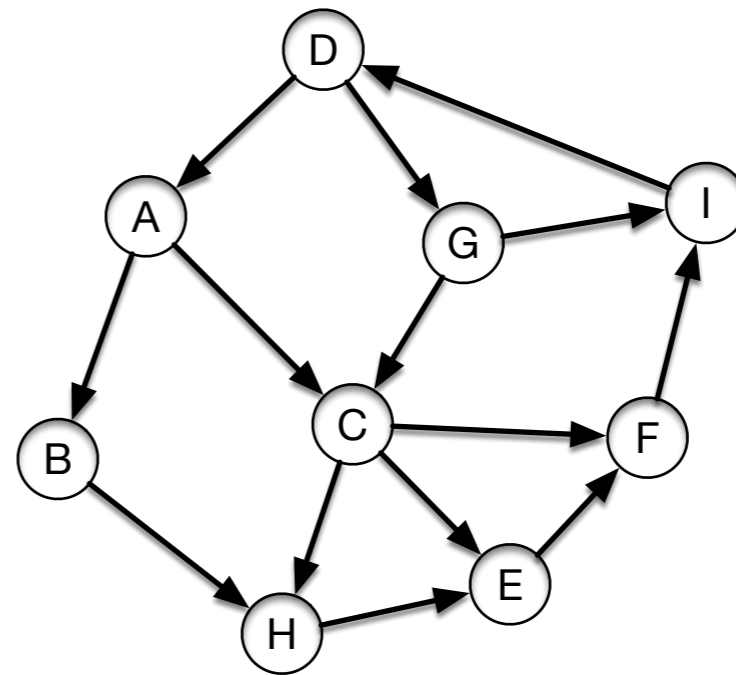
# Topological Sort

- Run DFS on all nodes
  - Order nodes according to finish time in descending order

# Topological Sort

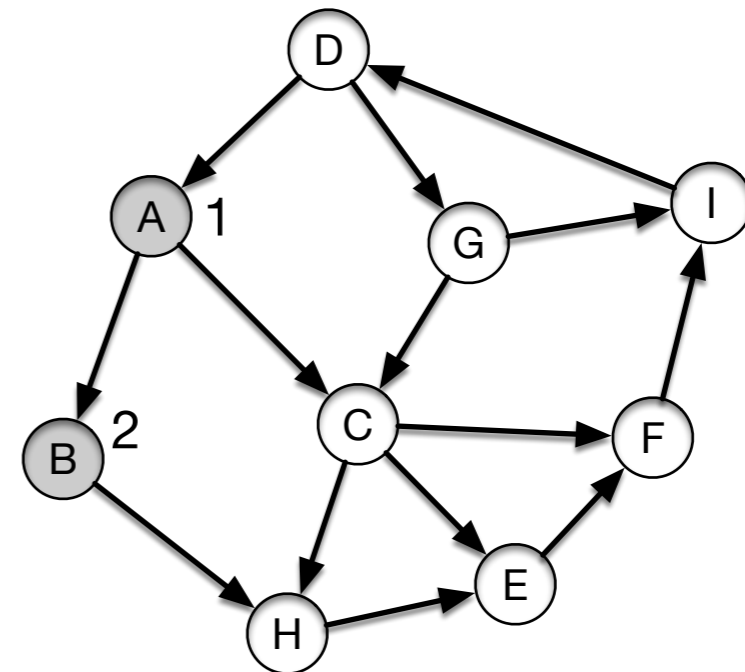
- Start in A
- Order adjacency lists alphabetically

A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D



# Topological Sort

- Visit B

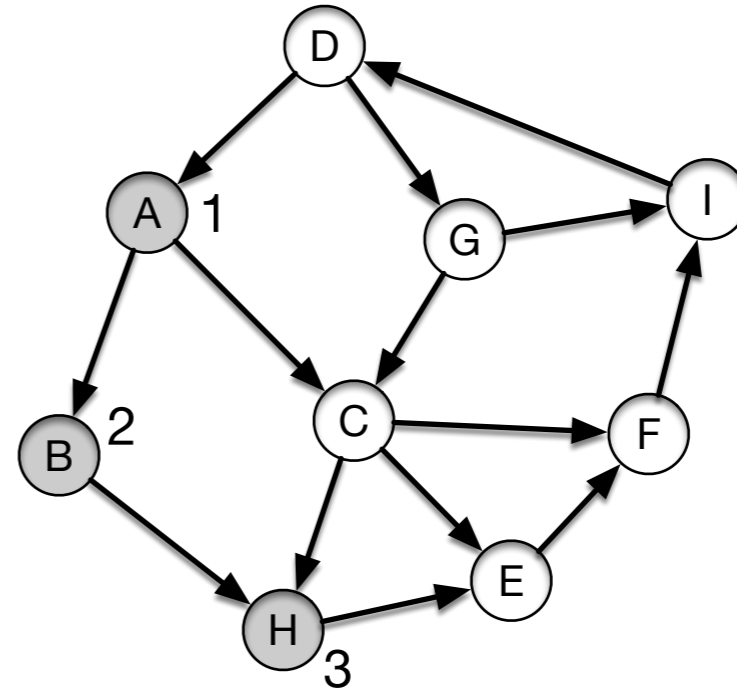


A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit H

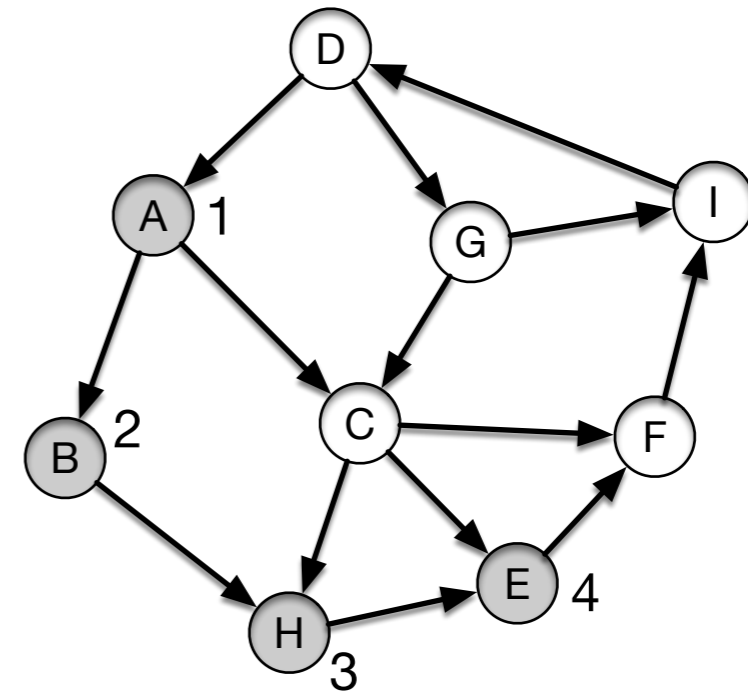


A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit E

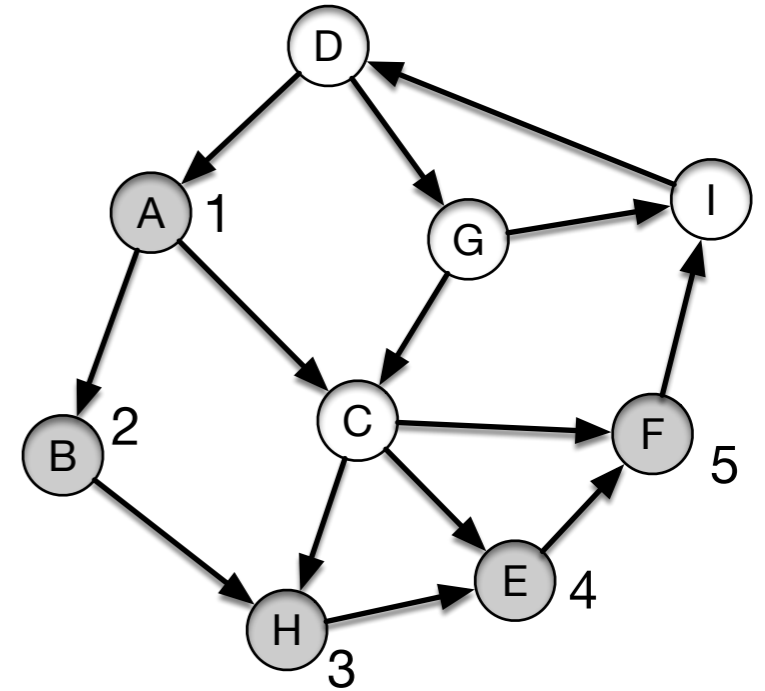


A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

```
visit(E)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)
```

# Topological Sort

- Visit F



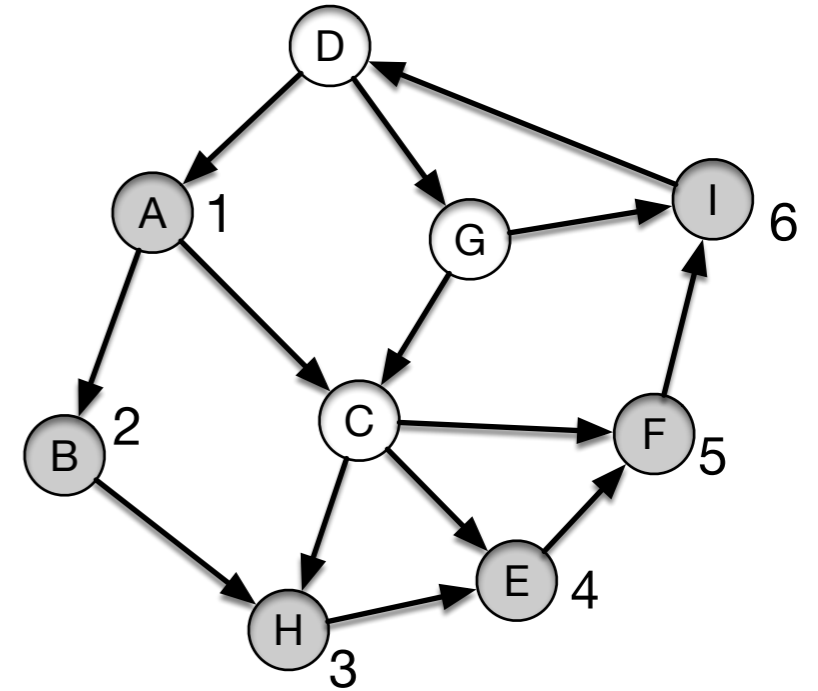
A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

```
visit(F)  
visit(E)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)
```



# Topological Sort

- Visit I

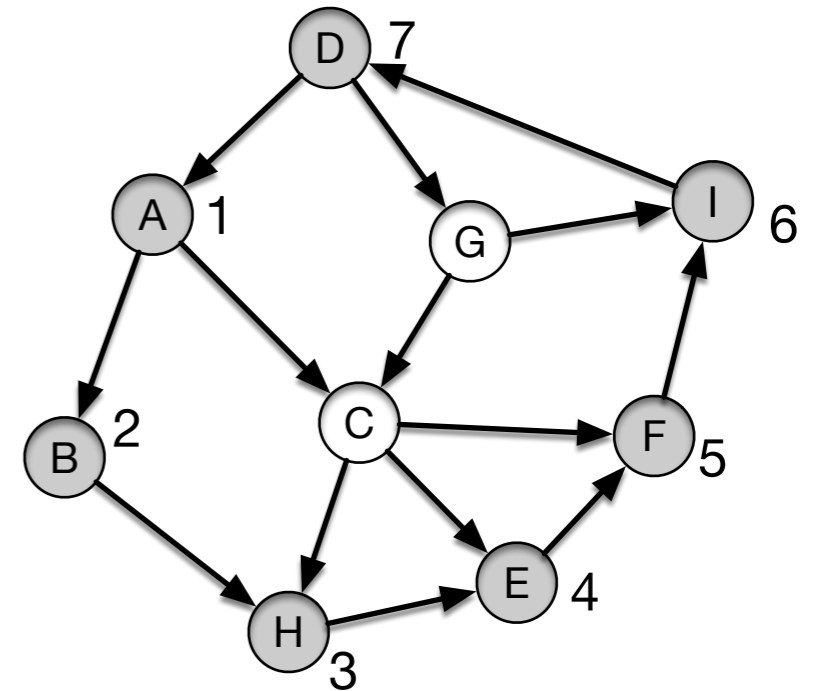


A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

```
visit(I)  
visit(F)  
visit(E)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)
```

# Topological Sort

- Visit D

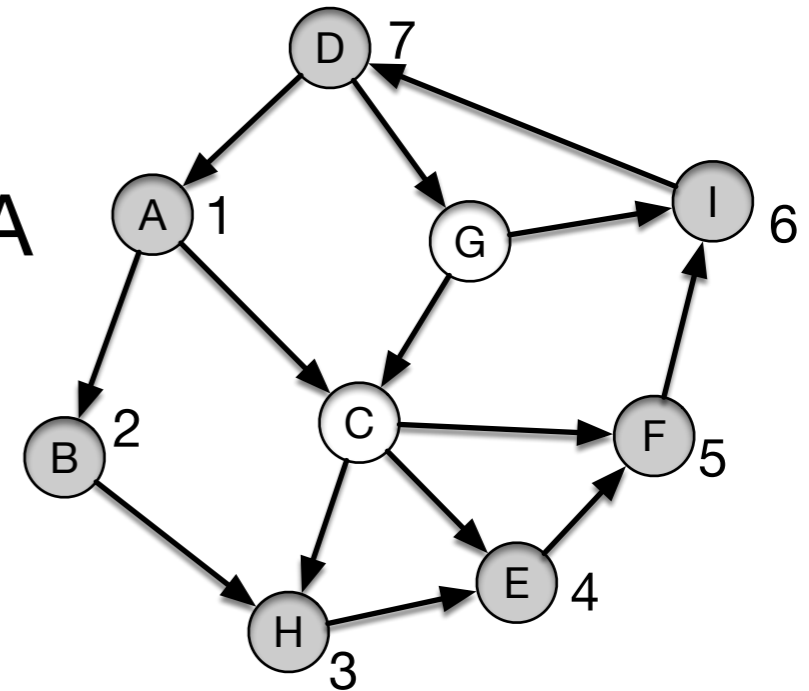


A: B, C  
B: H  
C: E, F, H  
D: A, G  
E: F  
F: I  
G: C  
H:  
I: D

```
visit(D)  
visit(I)  
visit(F)  
visit(E)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)
```

# Topological Sort

- At this point:
  - The adjacency list of D starts with A
  - A is gray
  - This edge becomes a back edge!
  - And shows that there is a cycle

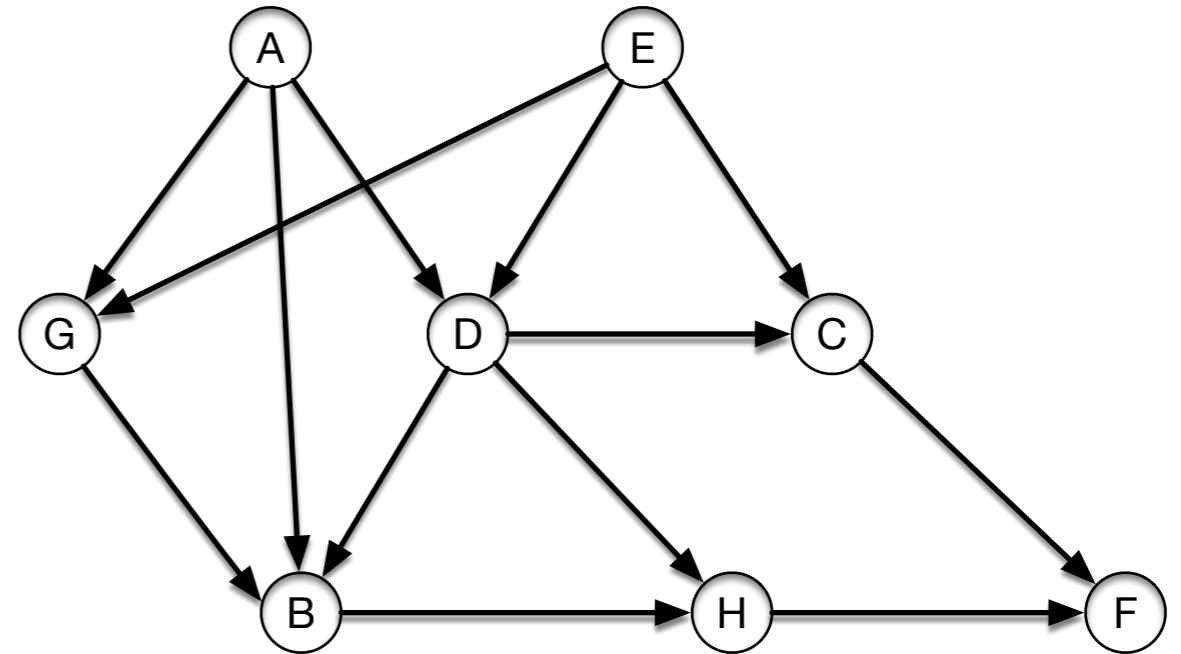


```
A: B, C
B: H
C: E, F, H
D: A, G
E: F
F: I
G: C
H:
I: D
```

```
visit(D)
visit(I)
visit(F)
visit(E)
visit(H)
visit(B)
visit(A)
```

# Topological Sort

- A different example
  - Start in A

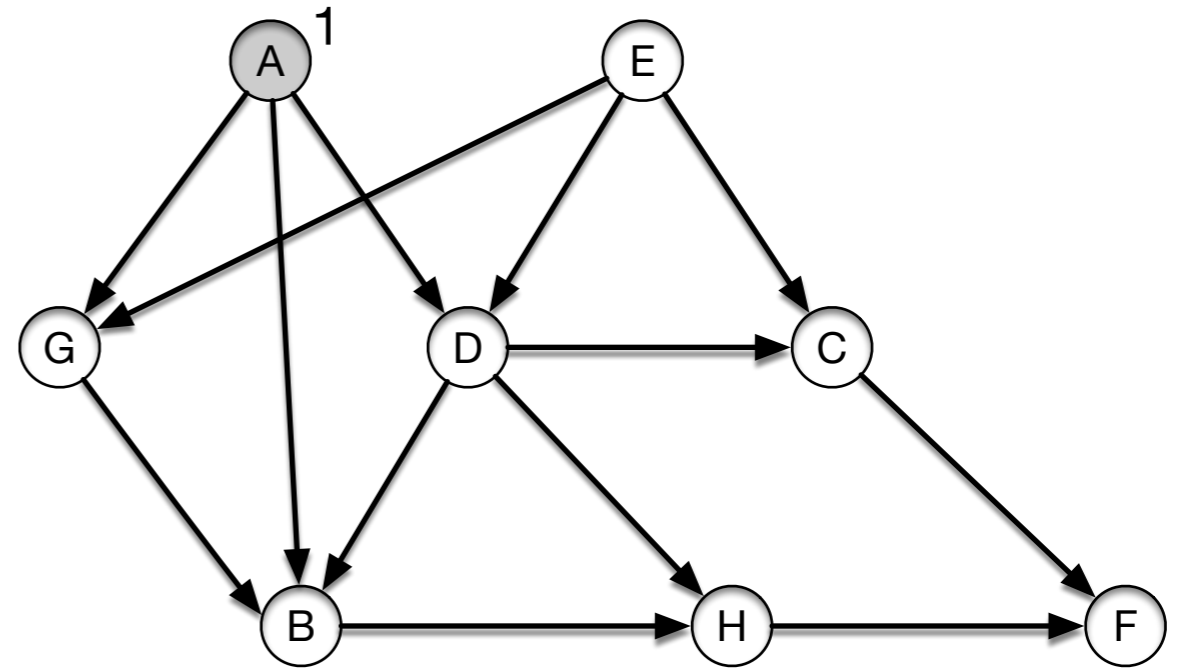


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

# Topological Sort

- A different example
  - Start in A

A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

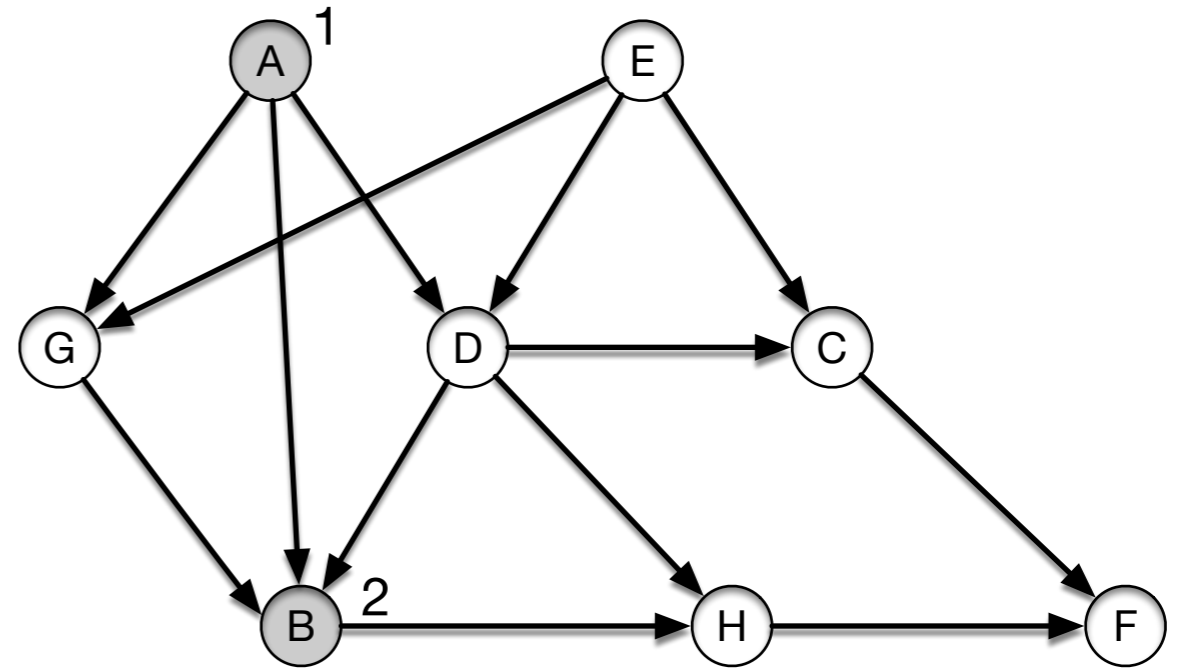


visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit B

A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

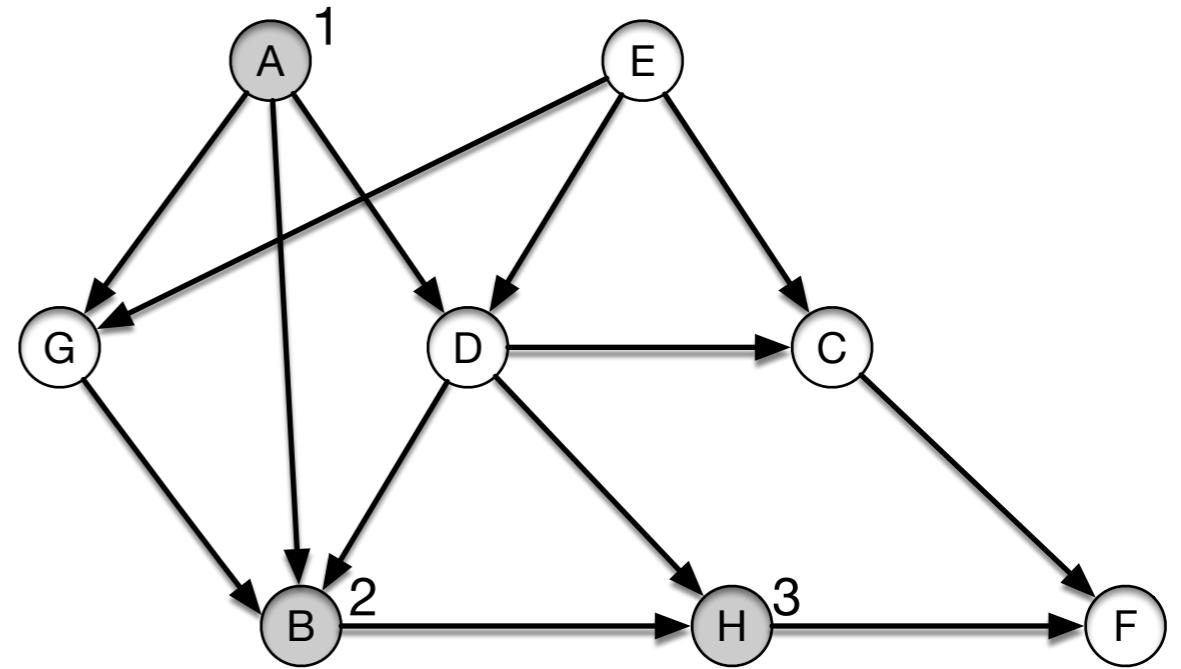


visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit H

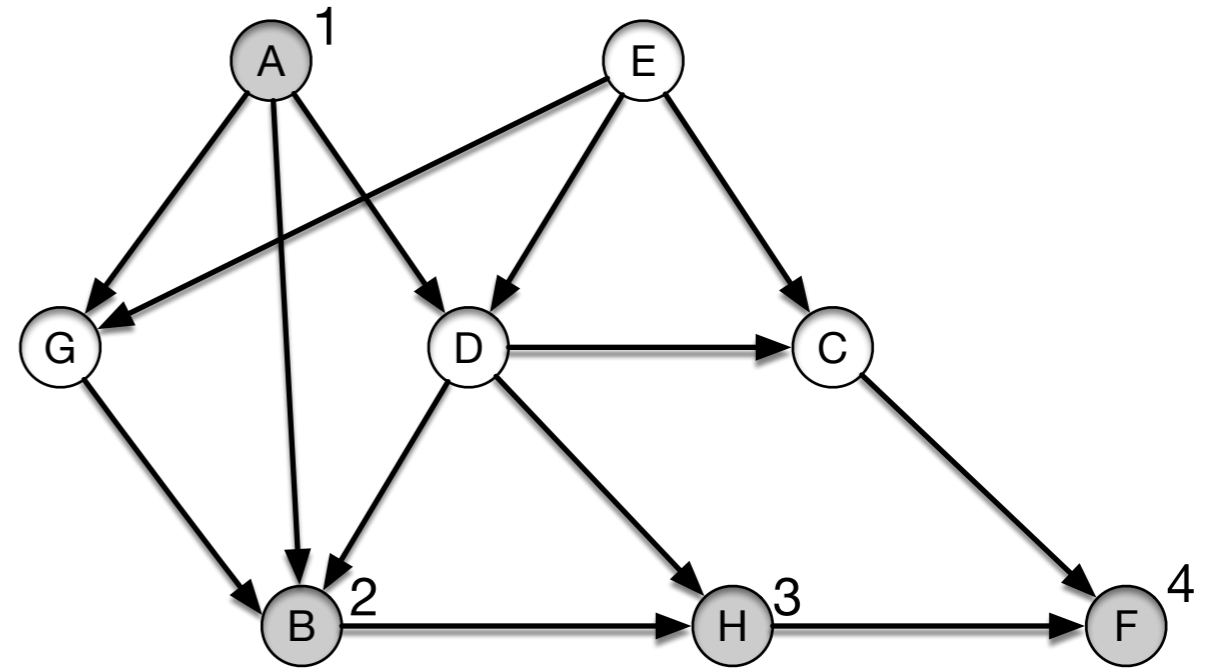
A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F



visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit F



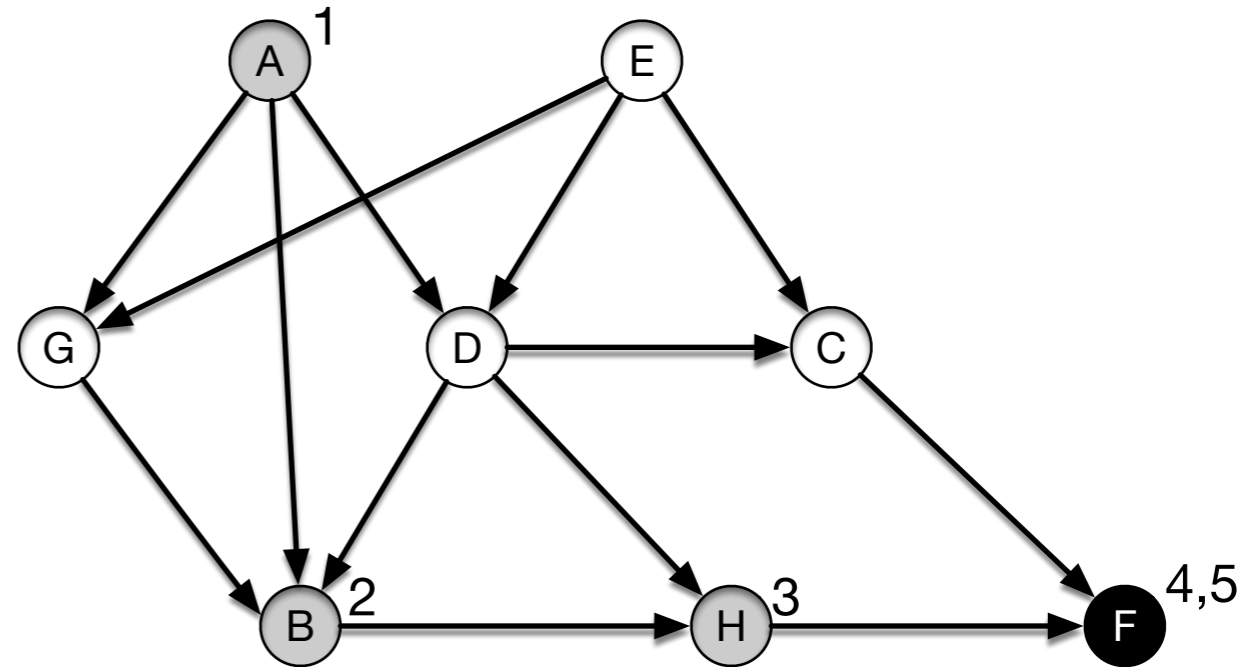
A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(F)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)



# Topological Sort

- Finish F
- Push F at front: [F]

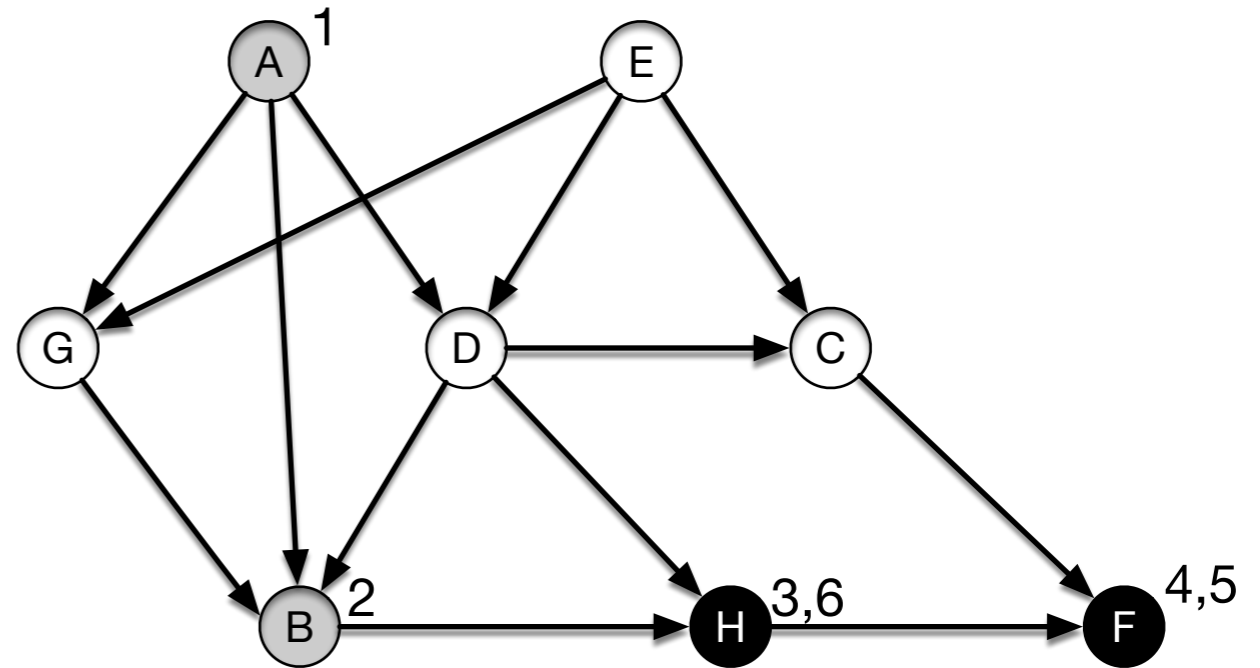


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(F)  
visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Finish H
- Push H at front: [H, F]



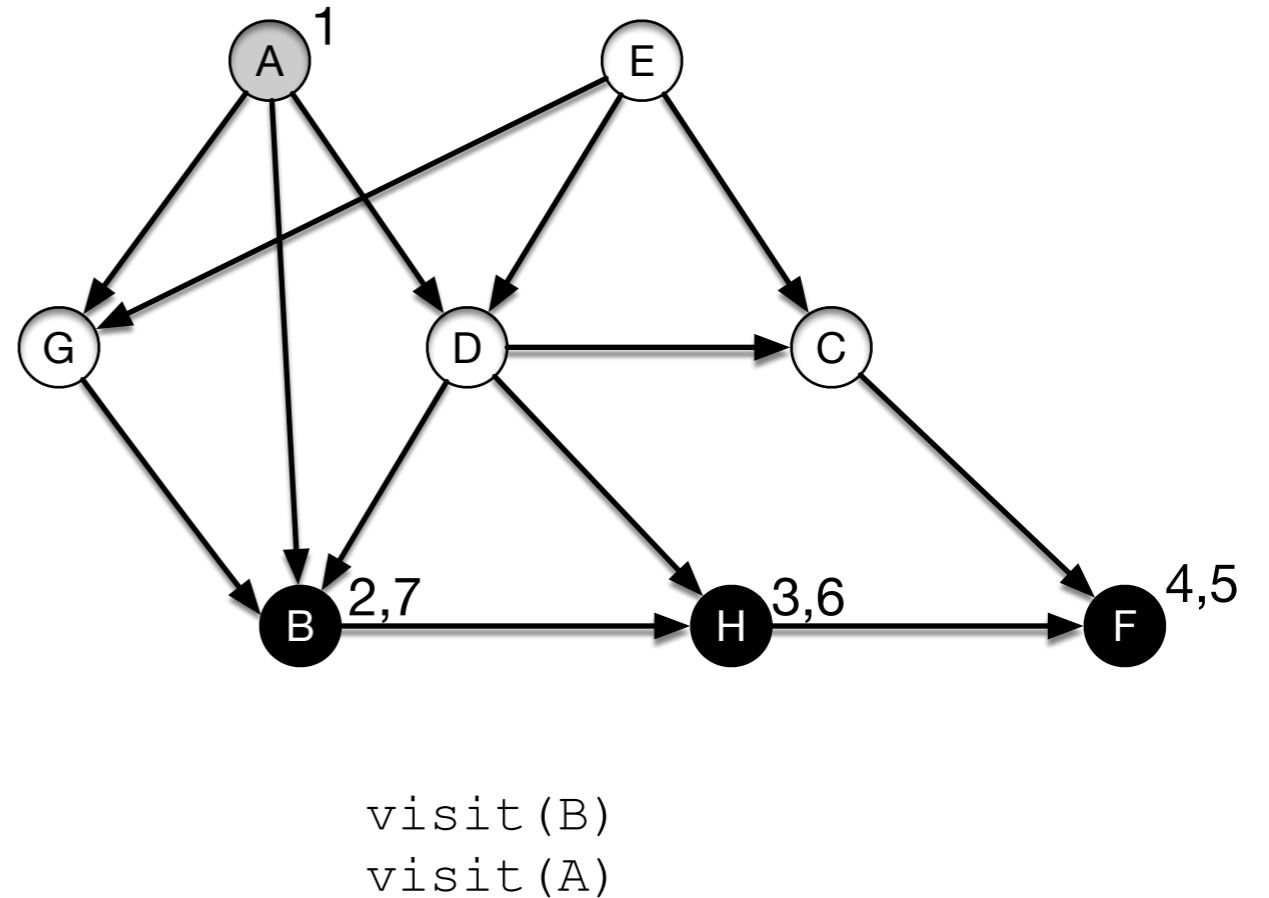
A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(H)  
visit(B)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

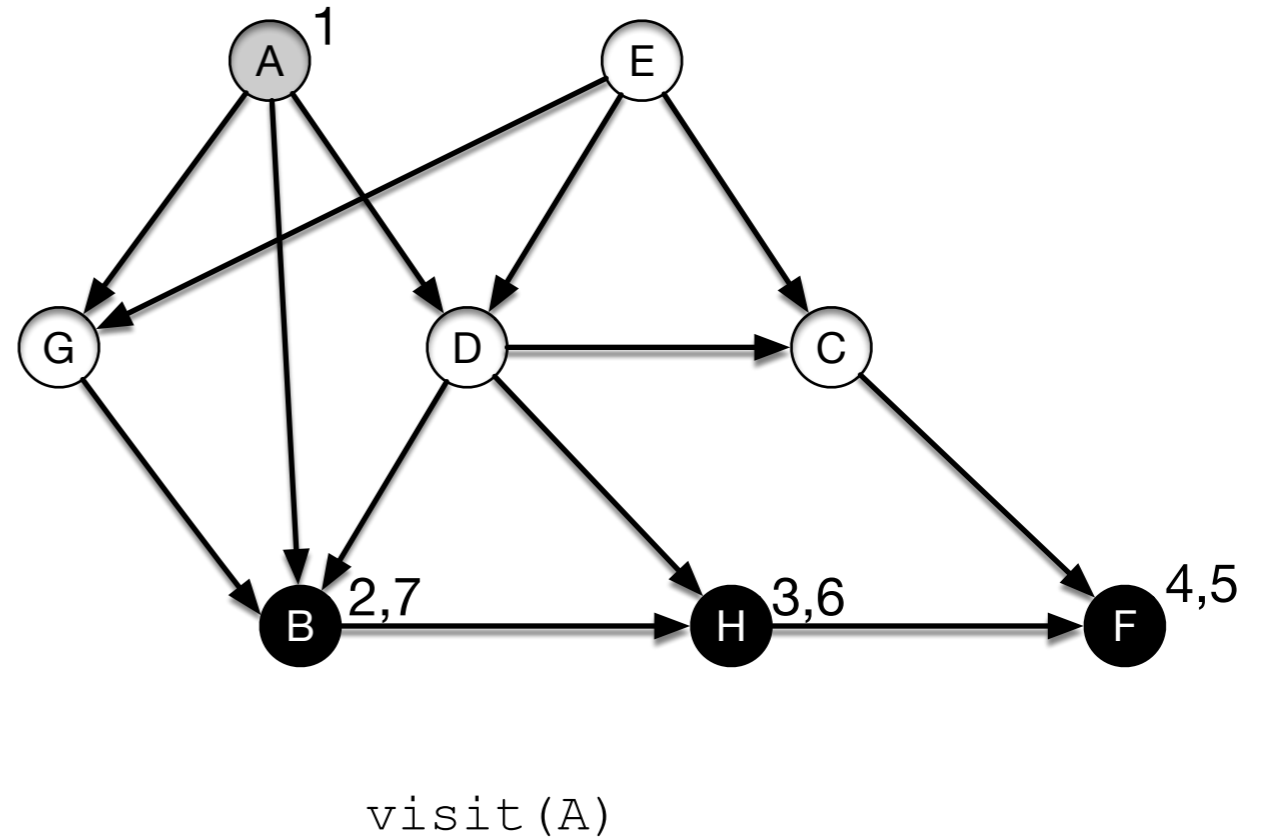
- Finish B
- Push B at front: [B,H, F]

A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F



# Topological Sort

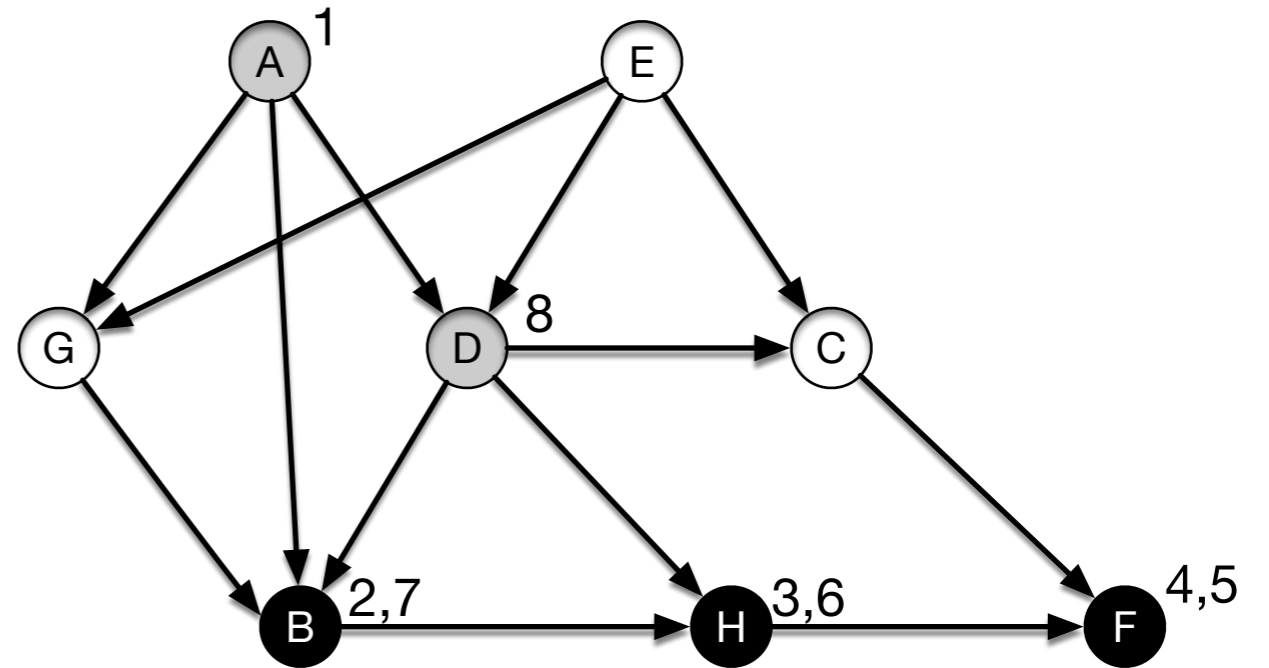
- Go back to visit A
- [B,H, F]



A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

# Topological Sort

- Visit D
- [B,H, F]

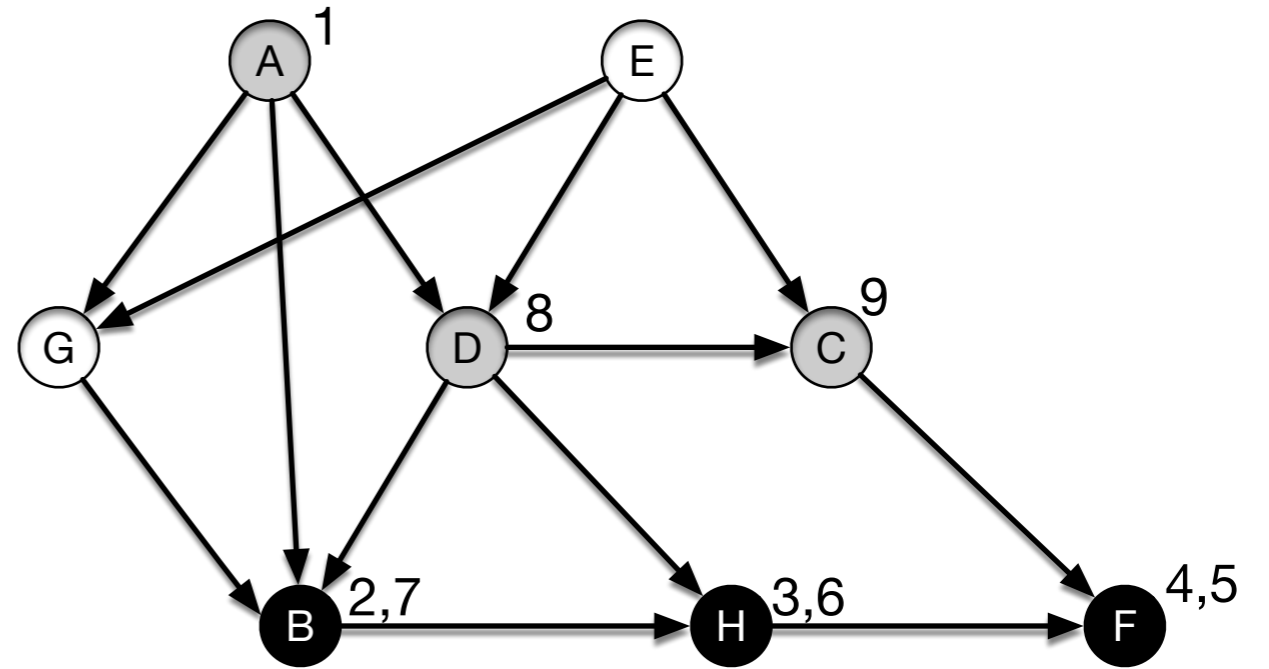


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(D)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Visit C
- [B,H, F]

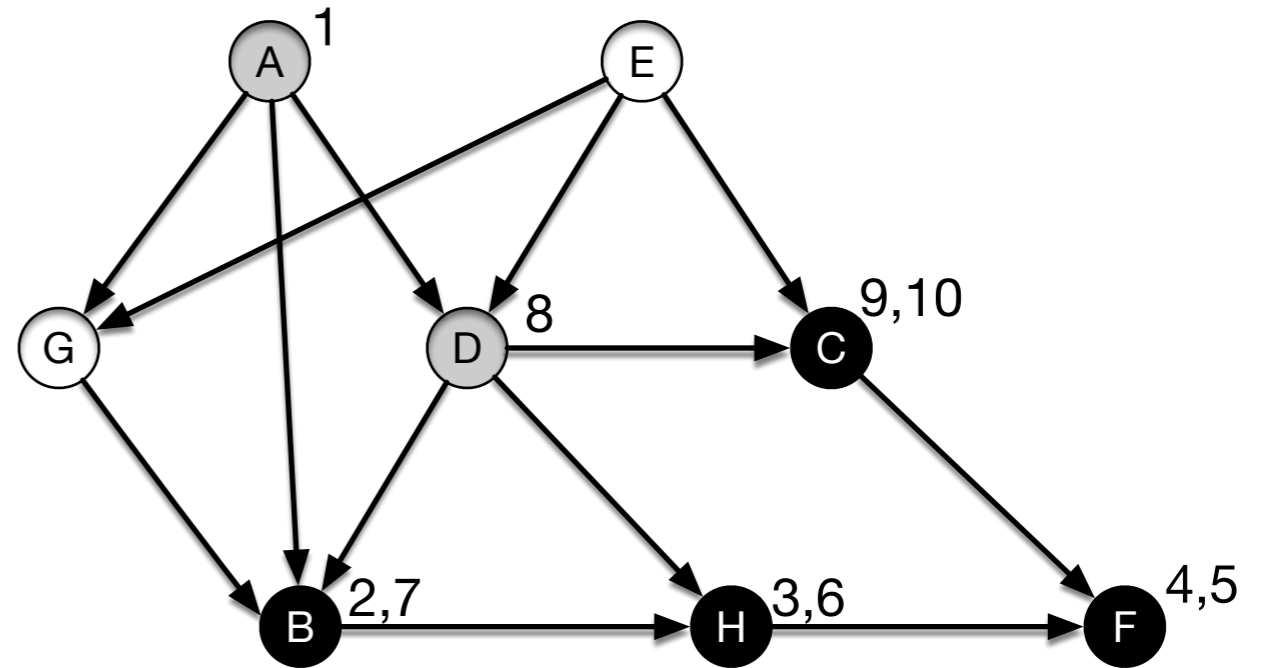


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(C)  
visit(D)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Finish C
- [C, B, H, F]

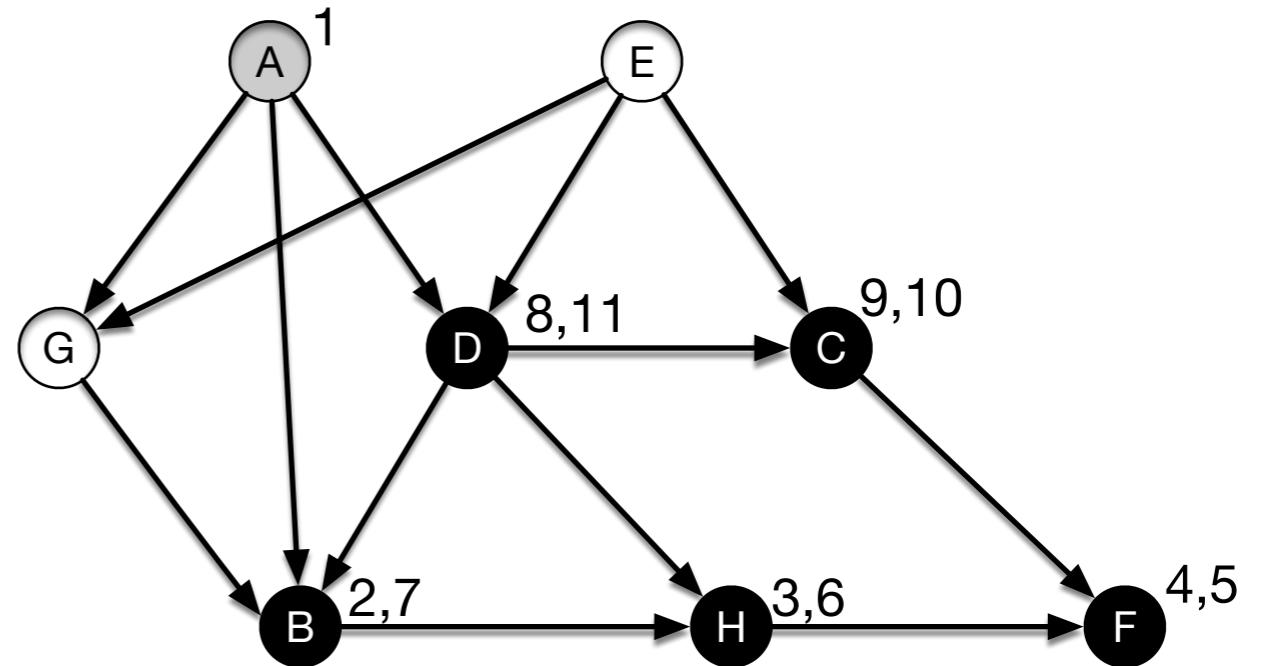


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(C)  
visit(D)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Go back and finish D
- [D, C, B, H, F]



A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

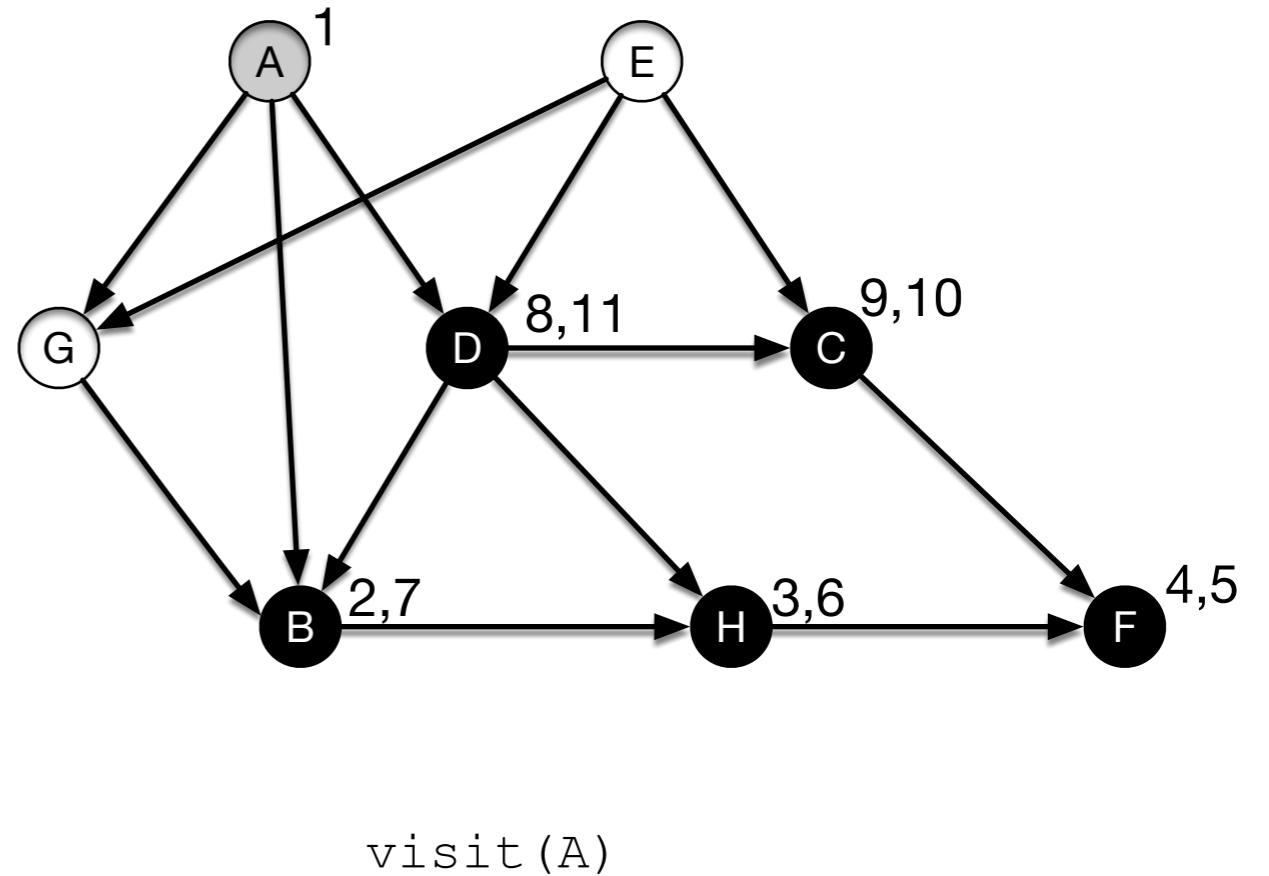
visit(D)  
visit(A)



# Topological Sort

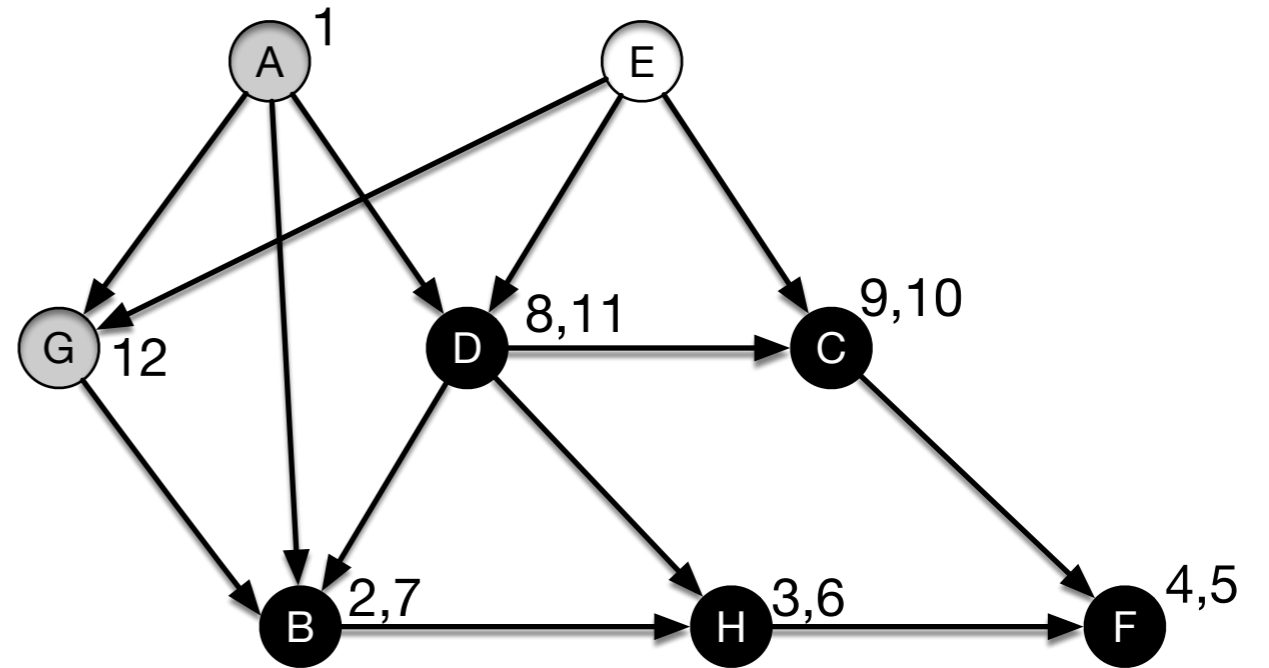
- We are back to visit A
- Next node is G
- [D, C, B, H, F]

A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F



# Topological Sort

- Visit G
- [D, C, B, H, F]

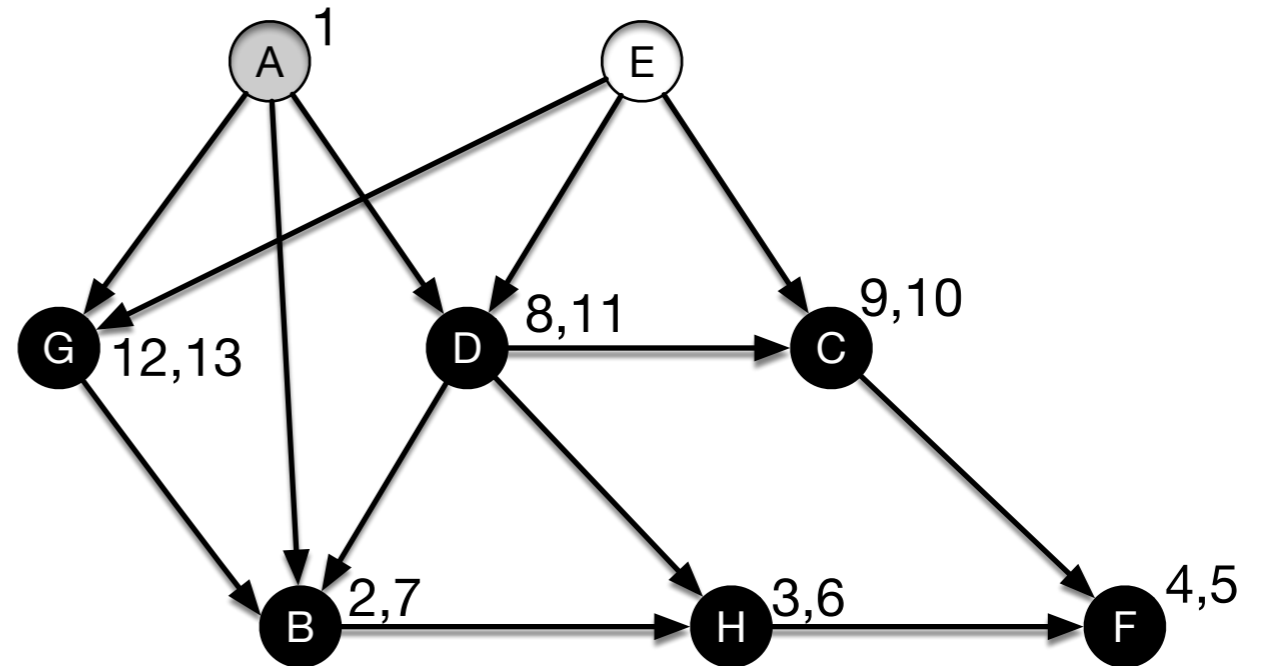


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(G)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Finish G
- [G, D, C, B, H, F]

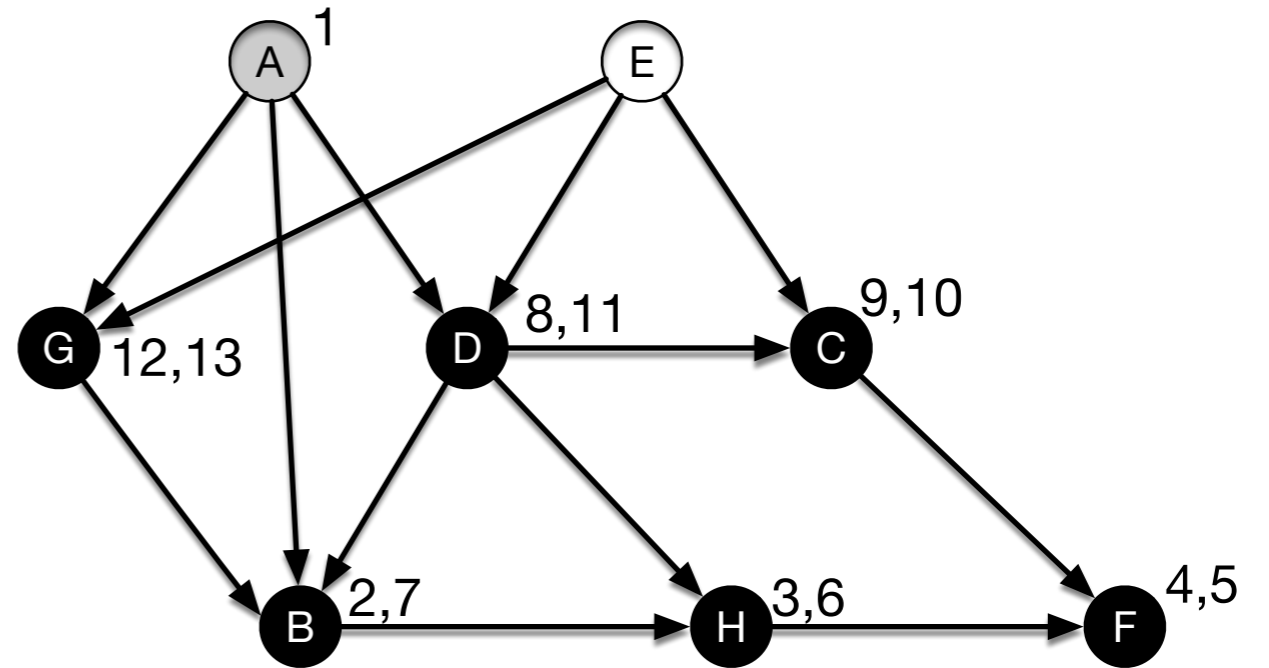


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(G)  
visit(A)

# Topological Sort

- Go back to A
- [G, D, C, B, H, F]

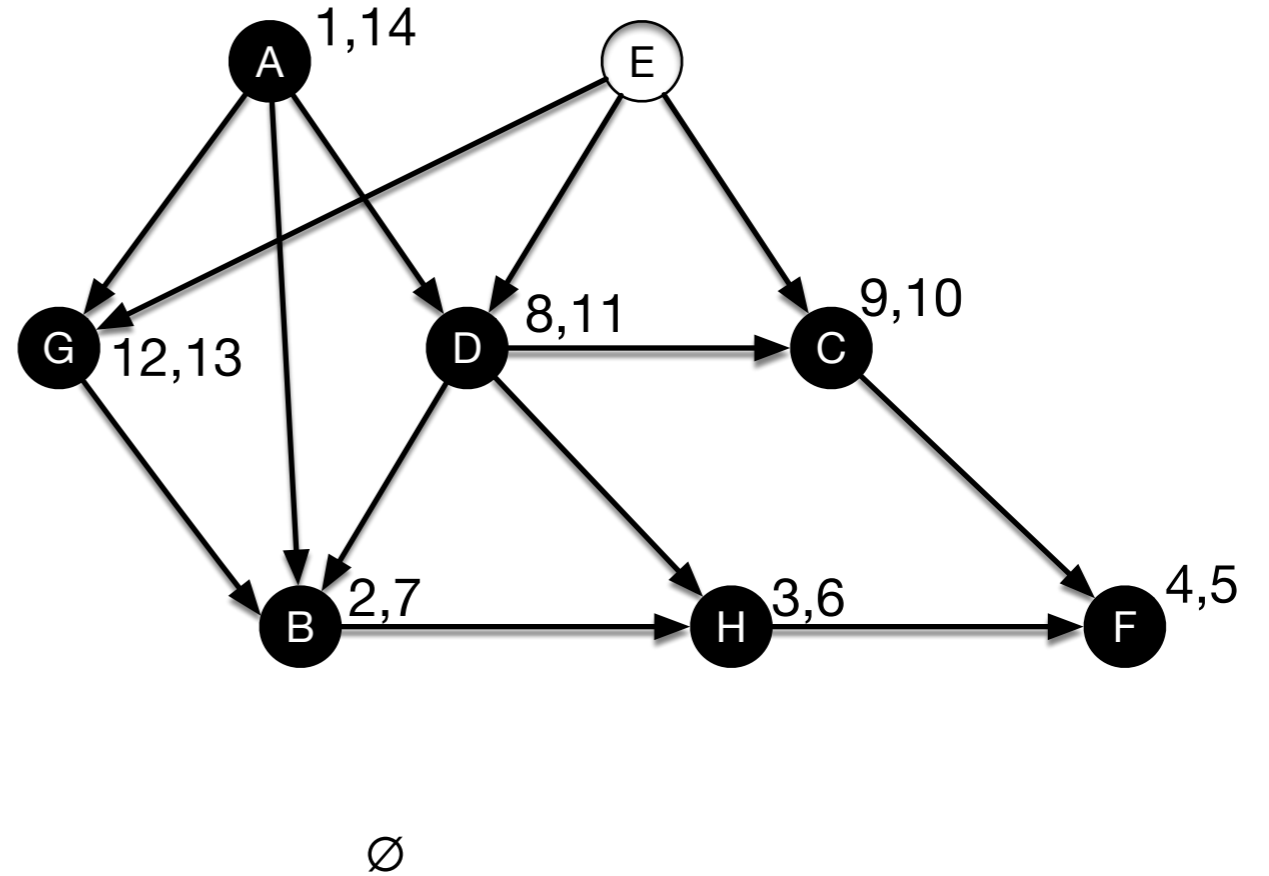


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

visit(A)

# Topological Sort

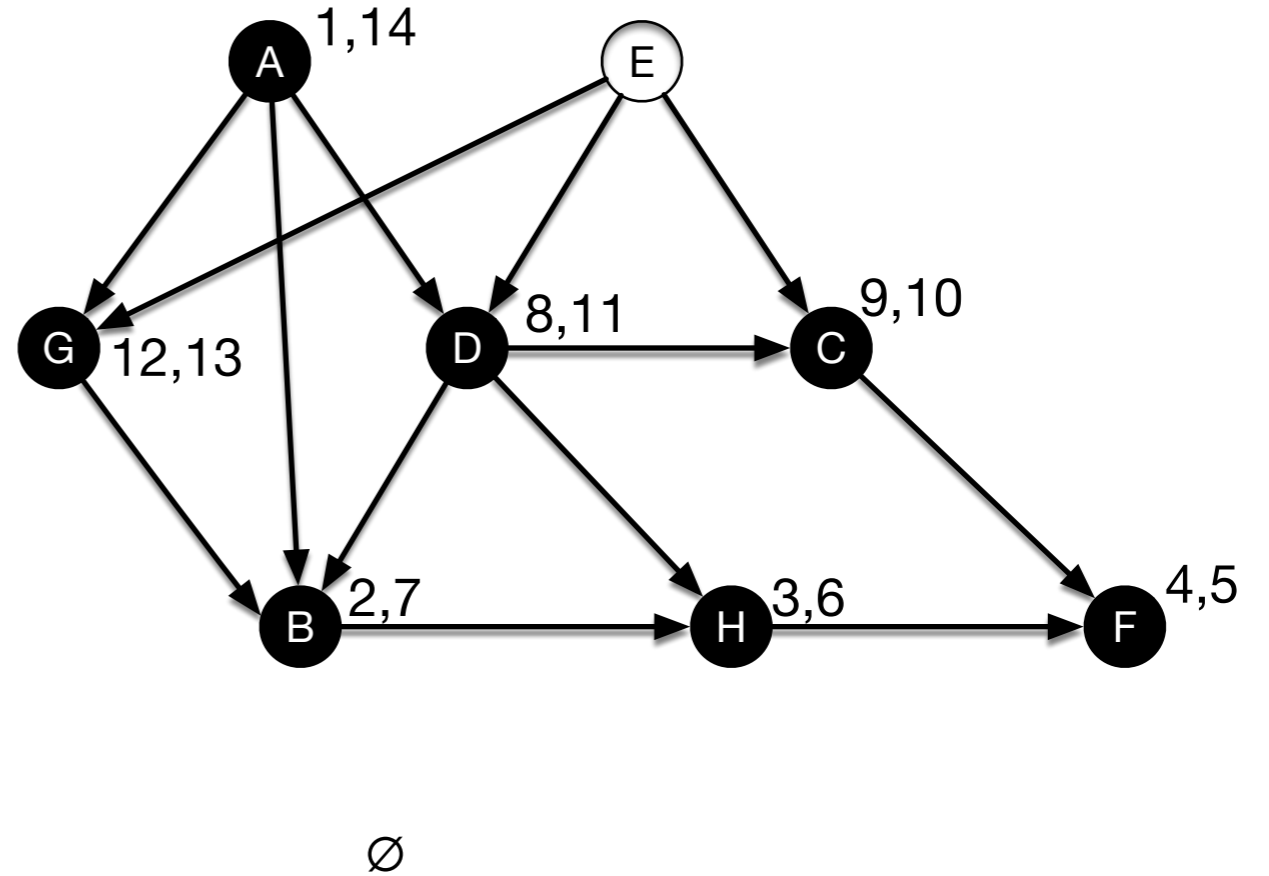
- Finish A
- [A, G, D, C, B, H, F]



A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

# Topological Sort

- Done with visit(A)
- [A, G, D, C, B, H, F]

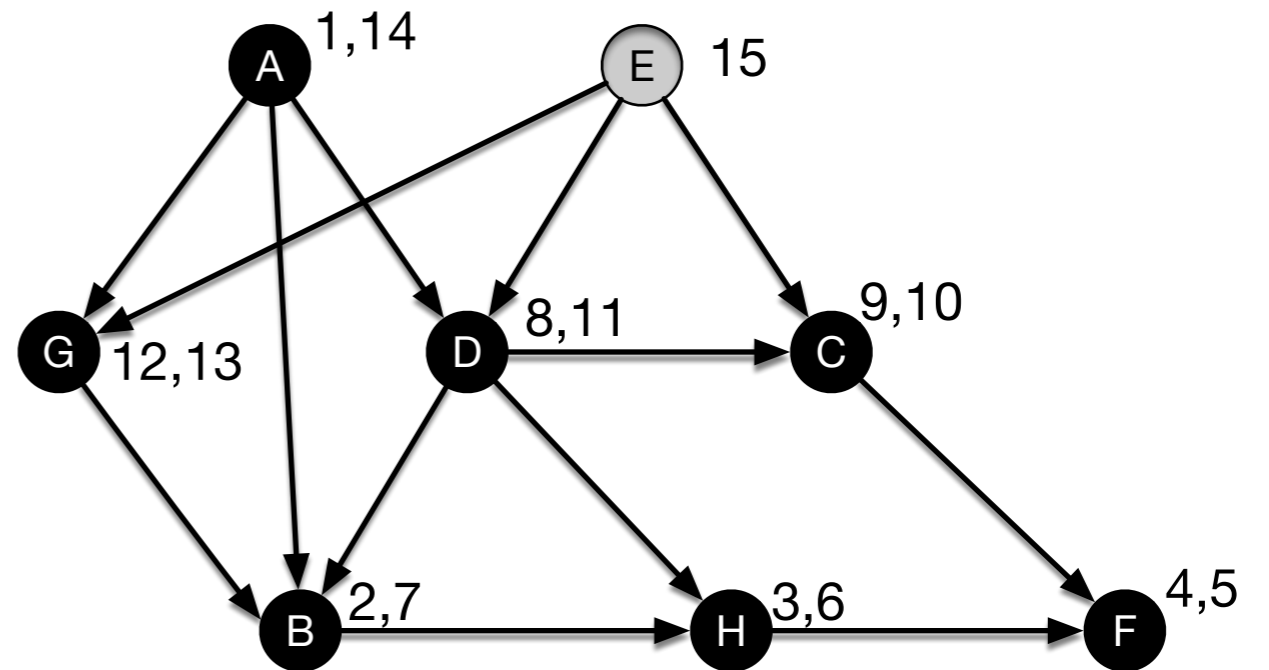


A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F

# Topological Sort

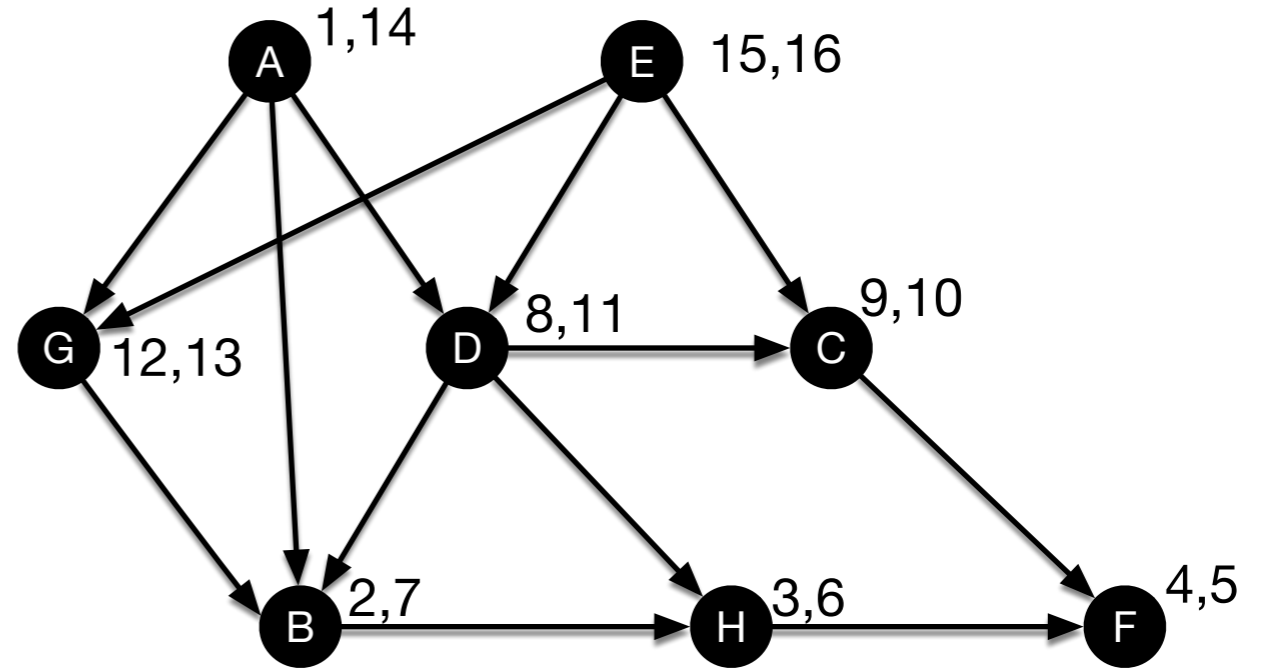
- One white node left: E
- Visit E
- [A, G, D, C, B, H, F]

A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F



# Topological Sort

- Finish E
- [E, A, G, D, C, B, H, F]



A: B, D, G  
B: H  
C: F  
D: B, H  
E: C, D, G  
F:  
G: B  
H: F



# Topological Sort

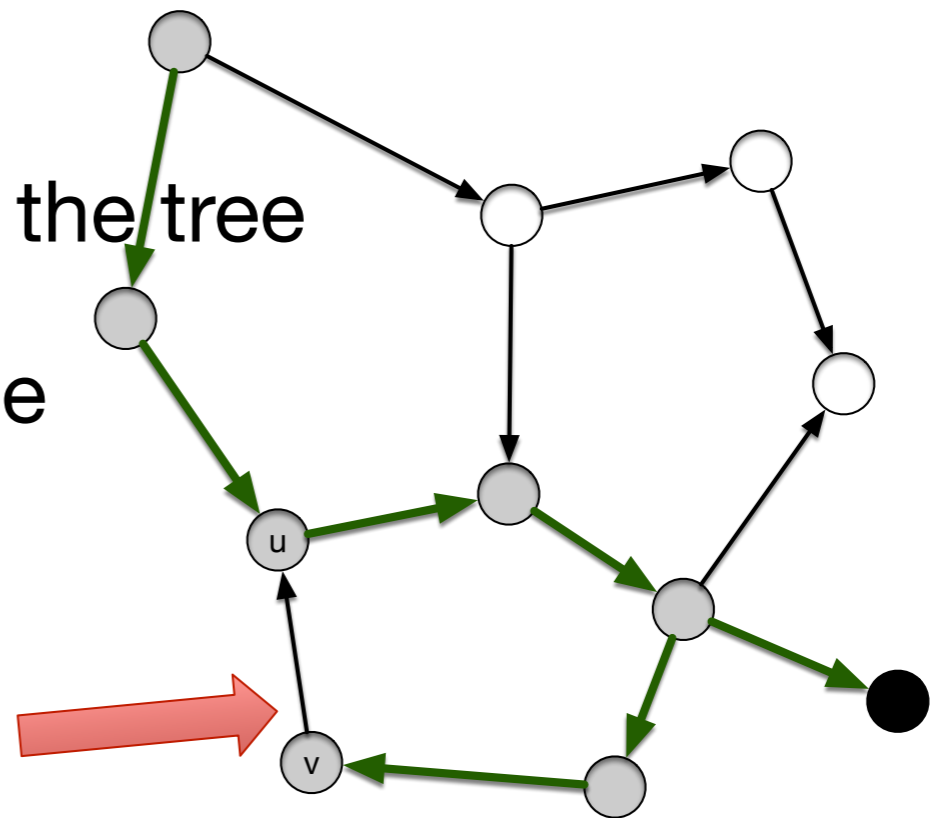
- Key observation from the examples:
  - We have a cycle if we ever try to visit a gray node

# Topological Sort

- Lemma: A directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  is acyclic if and only if a DFS of  $G$  yields no back edges

# Topological Sort

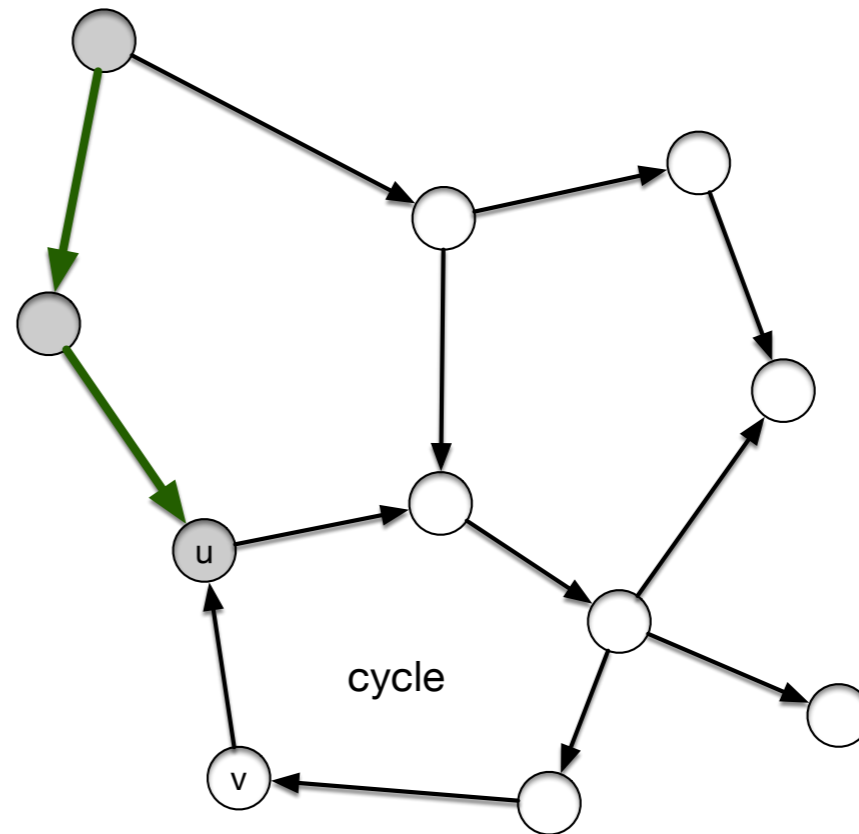
- Proof: " $\Rightarrow$ "
  - If DFS produces a back-edge  $(v, u)$  then  $u$  is an ancestor of  $v$
  - There is a path from  $u$  to  $v$  in the tree
  - The edge  $(v, u)$  closes a cycle
    - from  $u$  to  $v$  back to  $u$



visiting  $v$  and discovering a gray node

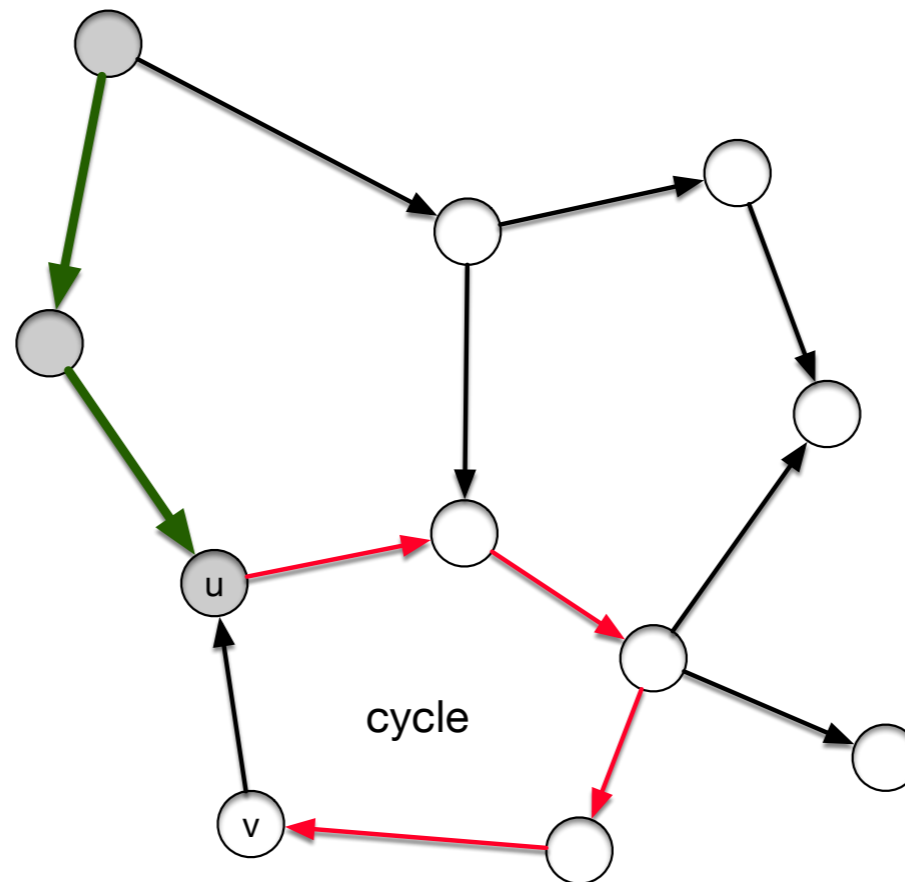
# Topological Sort

- Proof: " $\Leftarrow$ "
  - Suppose  $G$  has a cycle
  - Let  $u$  be the first vertex in the cycle to be discovered



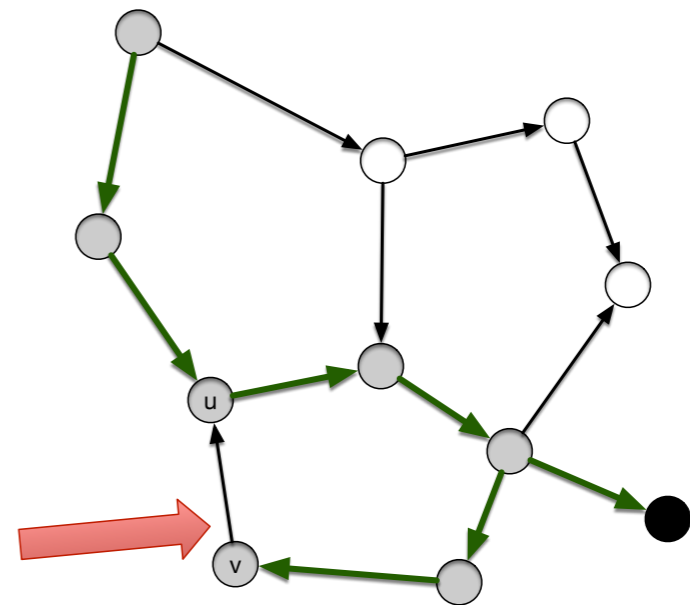
# Topological Sort

- All other vertices in the cycle are white and there is a white-path to the node  $v$  just in front of  $u$



# Topological Sort

- By the white-path theorem:
  - We will discover  $v$  from  $u$ 
    - (Though not necessarily through the cycle since there might be more cycles)
  - Thus,  $(v, u)$  is a back edge



visiting  $v$  and discovering a gray node

# Topological Sort

- Theorem: DFS gives a topological sort or discovers a cycle
- Proof:
  - Need to show:
    - If DFS does not discover a cycle, then for each edge  $(u, v)$ , we have  $u.f > v.f$

# Topological Sort

- Proof:
  - At the time that we are first looking at  $(u, v)$ :
    - $v$  cannot be gray, because then we would have a back-edge



# Topological Sort

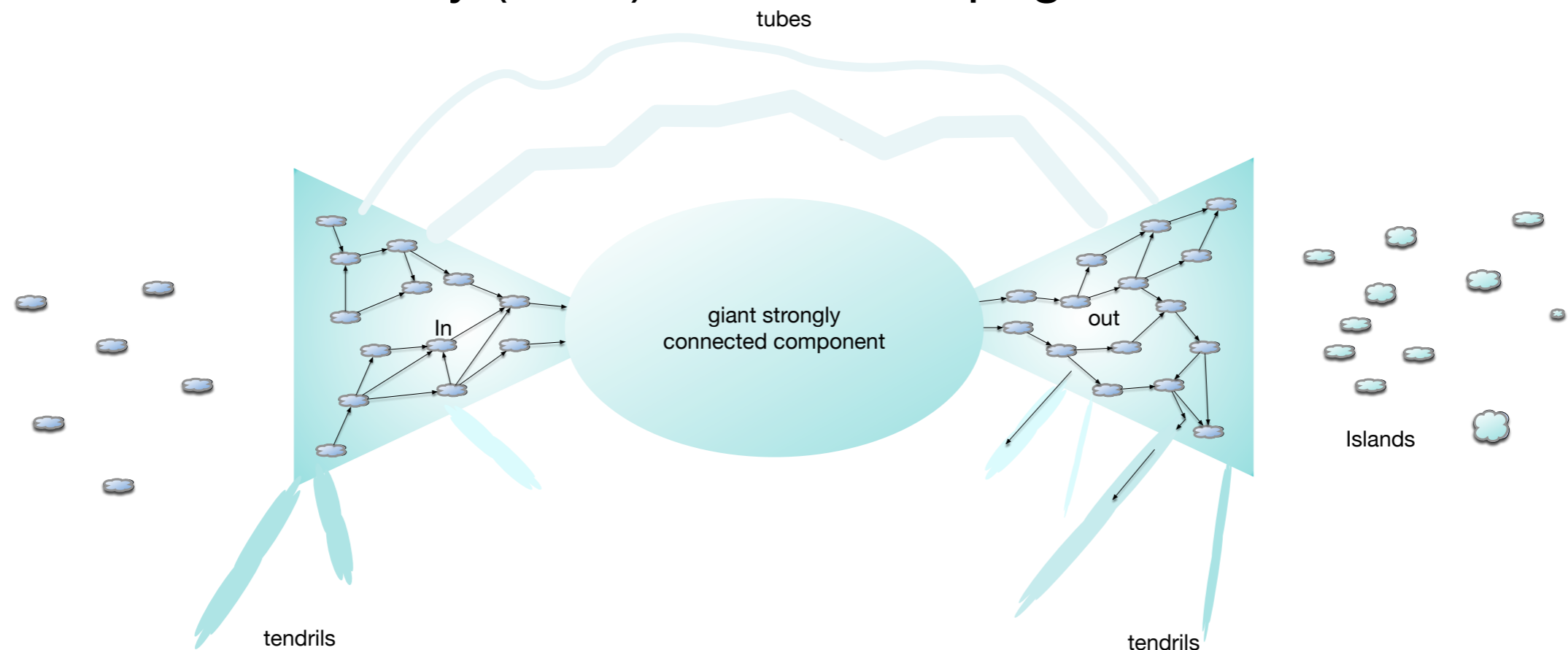
- At the time that we are first looking at  $(u, v)$ :
  - If  $v$  is white:
    - Then by the white path theorem,  $u$  becomes an ancestor of  $v$
    - By the parenthesis theorem  $v.f < u.f$

# Topological Sort

- Proof:
  - At the time that we are first looking at  $(u, v)$ :
    - If  $v$  is black, then  $u$  is still be visited, so
    - $u$  is not yet black
    - so,  $u.f > v.f$
  - qed

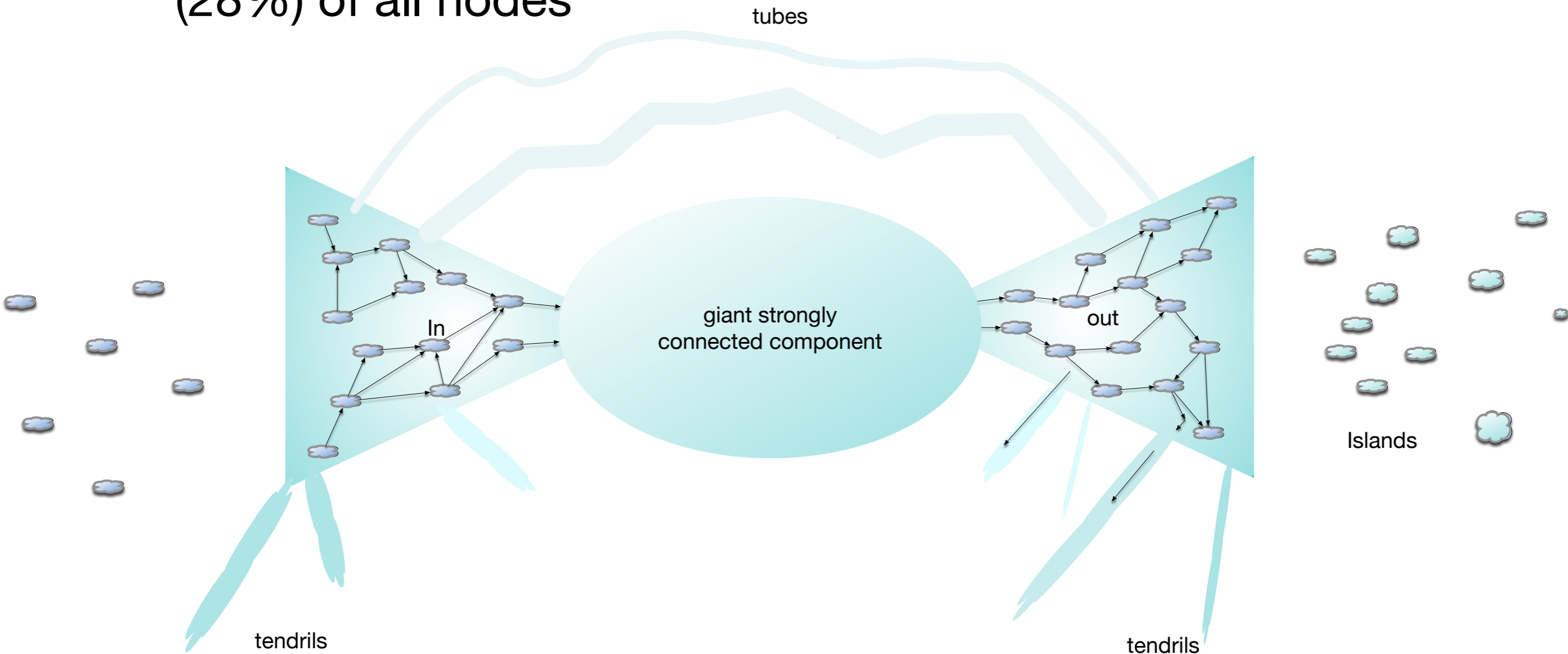
# Strongly Connected Components

- WWW graph:
  - Nodes: pages
  - Edges: links from one page to another page
- Broder et al. study (2000): 200 million pages and 1.5 billion links



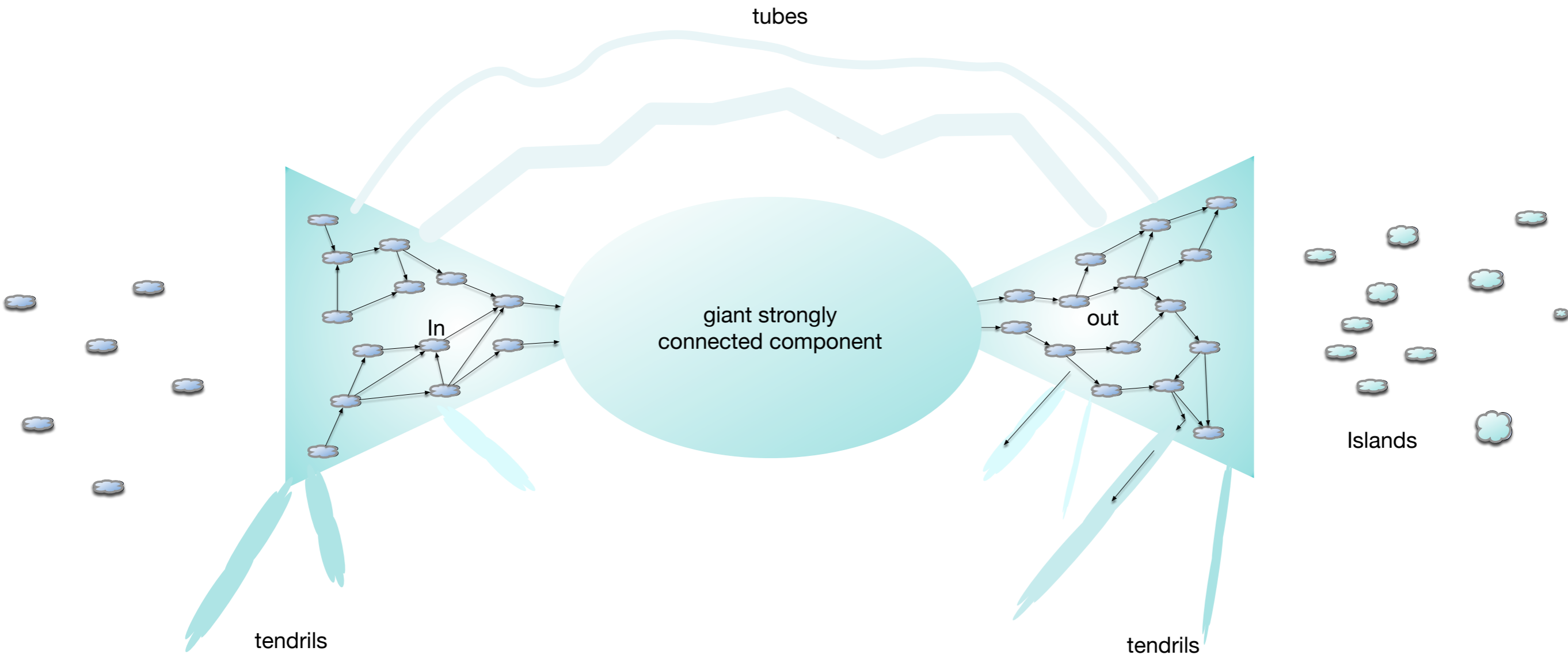
# Strongly Connected Components

- Bowtie:
- Strongly connected component at the center of the WWW (28%) of all nodes



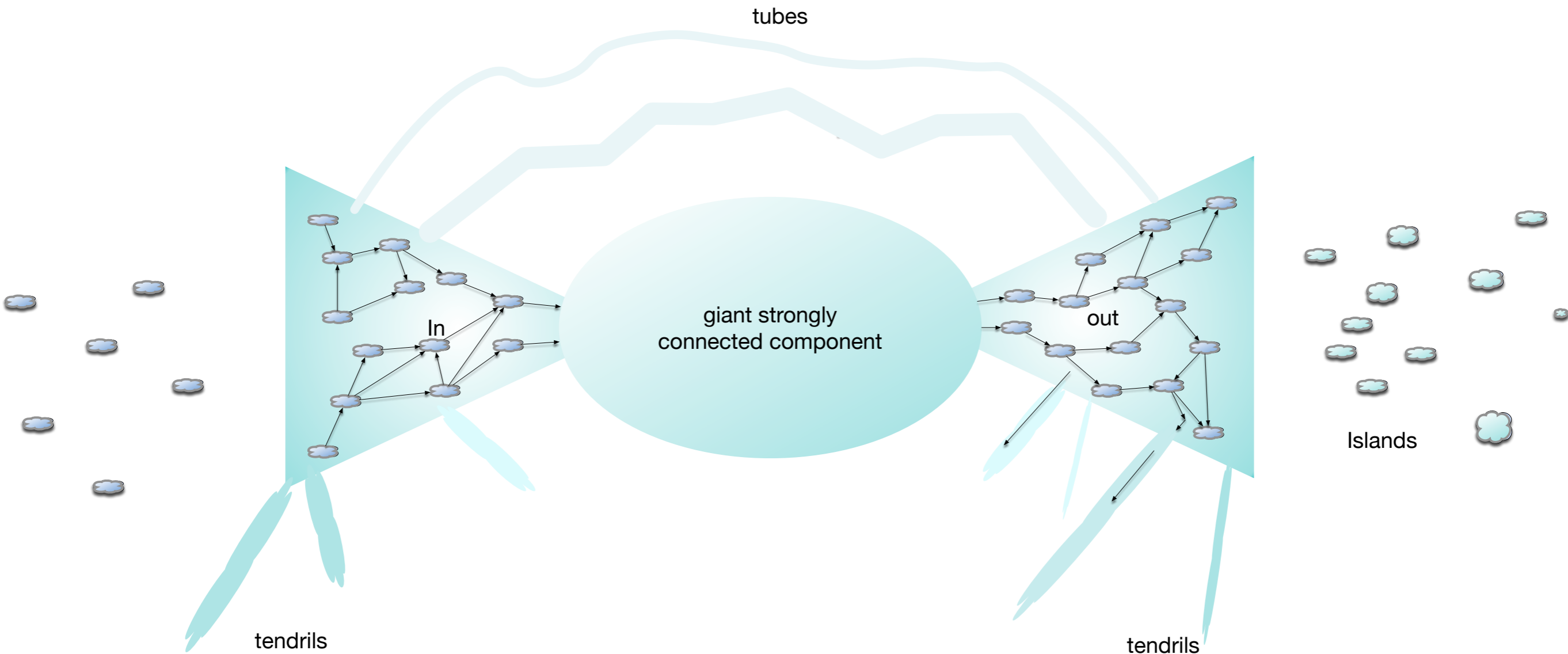
# Strongly Connected Components

- Islands: Isolated areas of the web



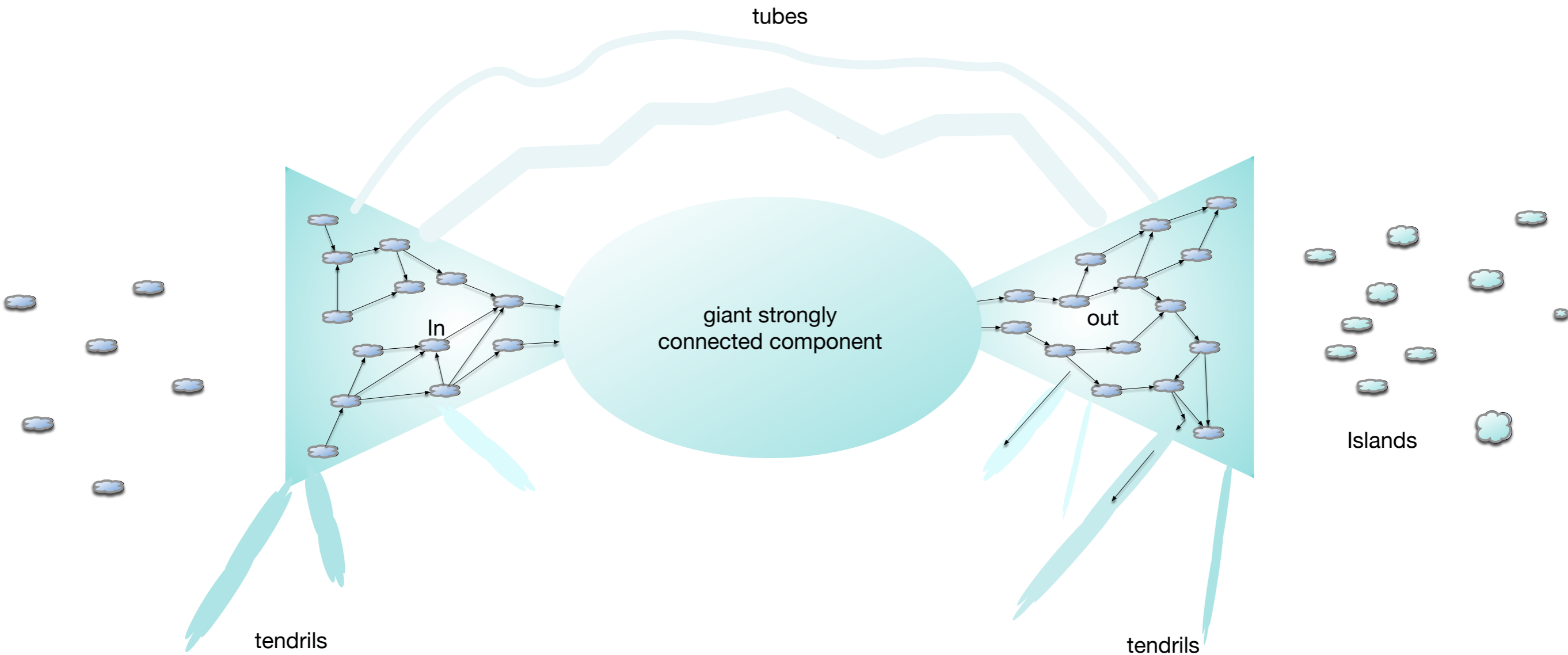
# Strongly Connected Components

- In: Possible to reach the giant
- Out: Reachable from the giant



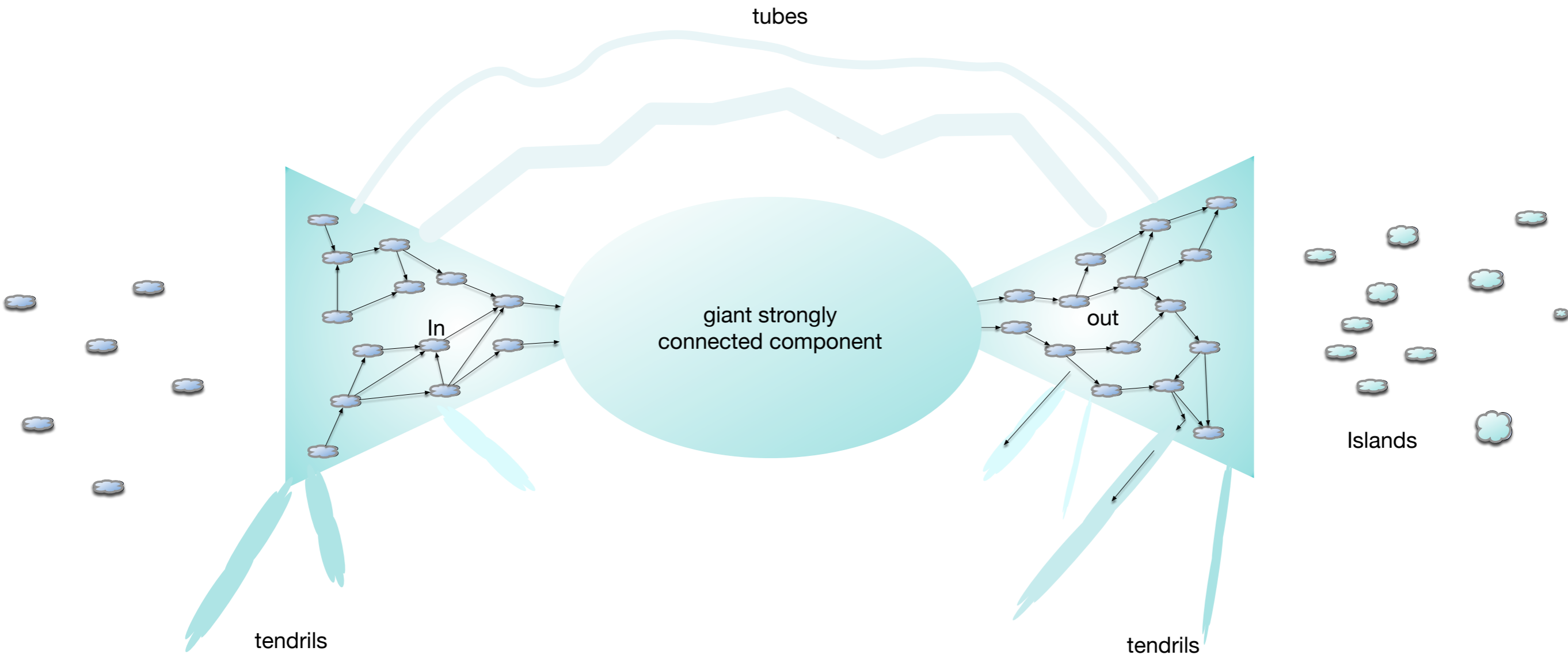
# Strongly Connected Components

- Weird stuff: Tubes that move from In to Out bypassing the giant



# Strongly Connected Components

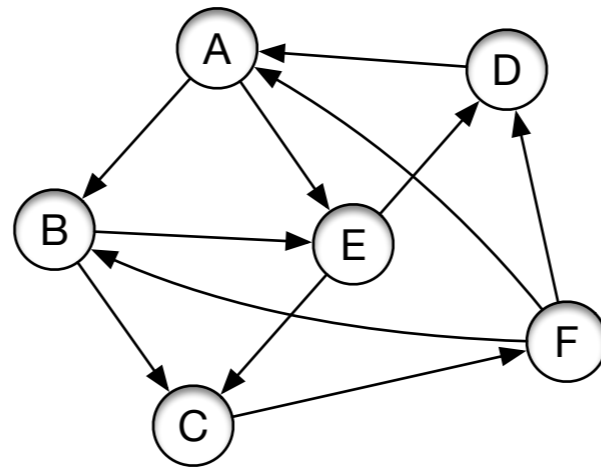
- Weird stuff: Tendrils to In and tendrils to Out





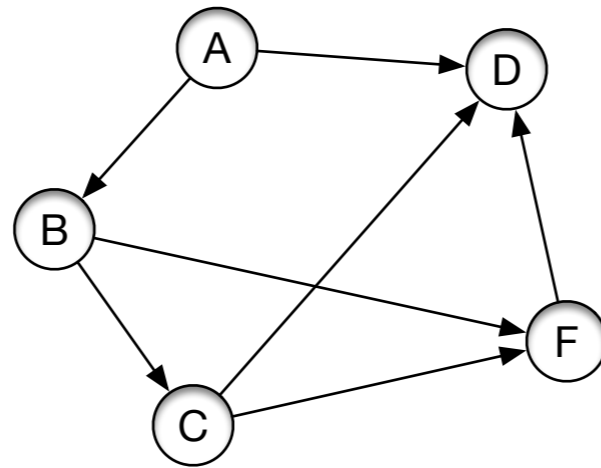
# Strongly Connected Components

- Strongly connected component:
  - Can reach any vertex from any other vertex



# Strongly Connected Components

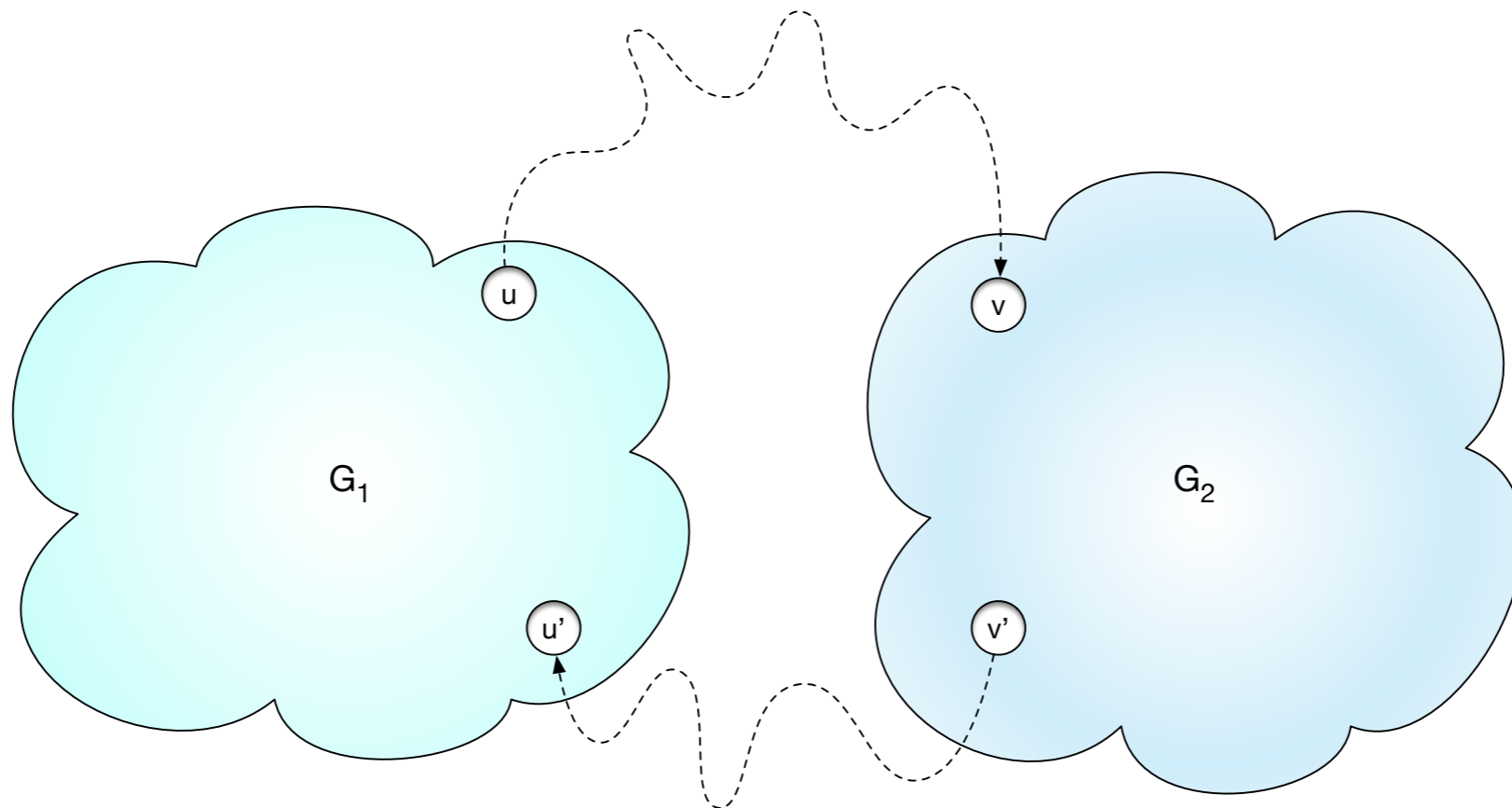
- Strongly connected component
  - This is **NOT** strongly connected



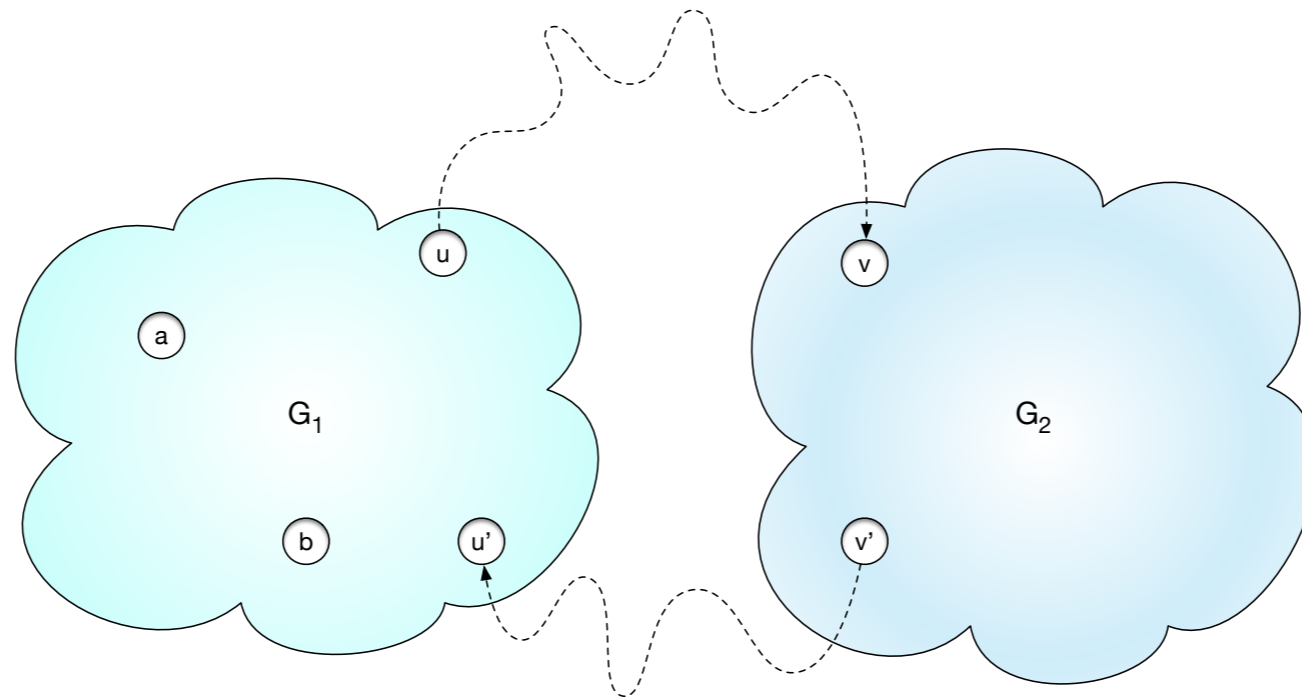
- There is no way to get from D to A

# Strongly Connected Components

- Lemma: Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be two strongly connected subgraphs of a graph  $G$  and assume that there is a path from a vertex in  $G_1$  to a vertex in  $G_2$  and also a path from a vertex of  $G_2$  to  $G_1$ , then  $G_1 \cup G_2$  is strongly connected

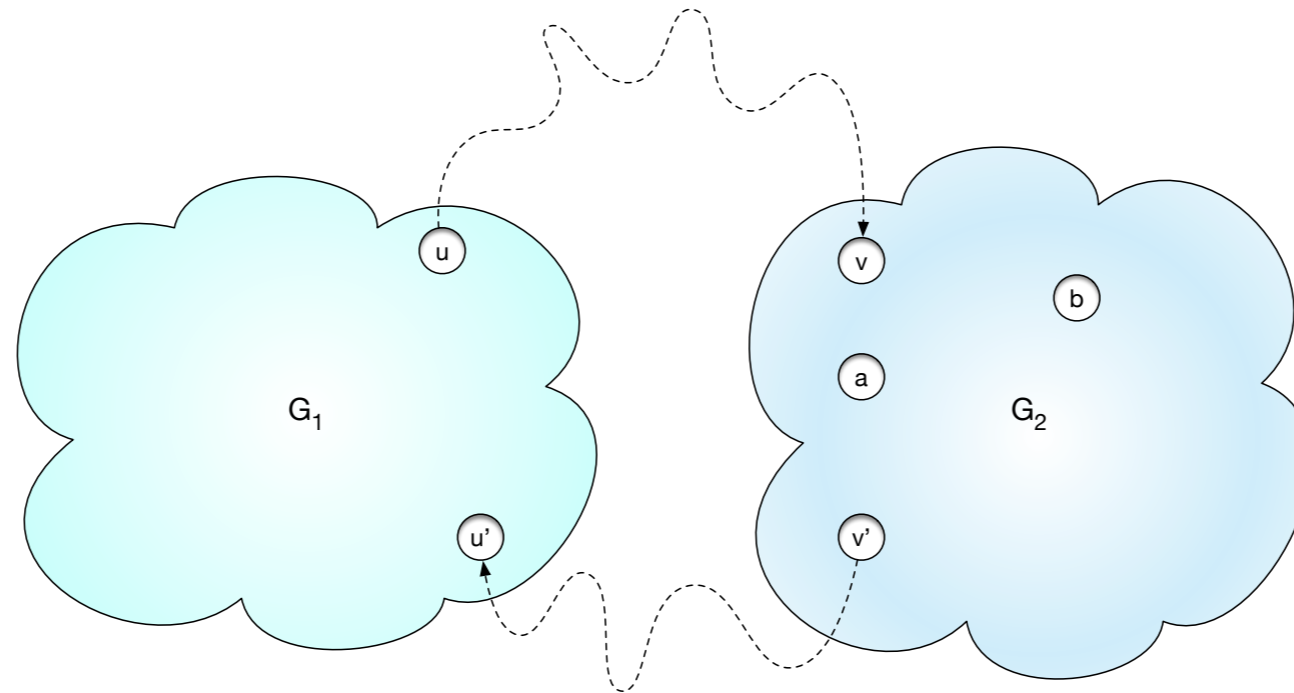


# Strongly Connected Components



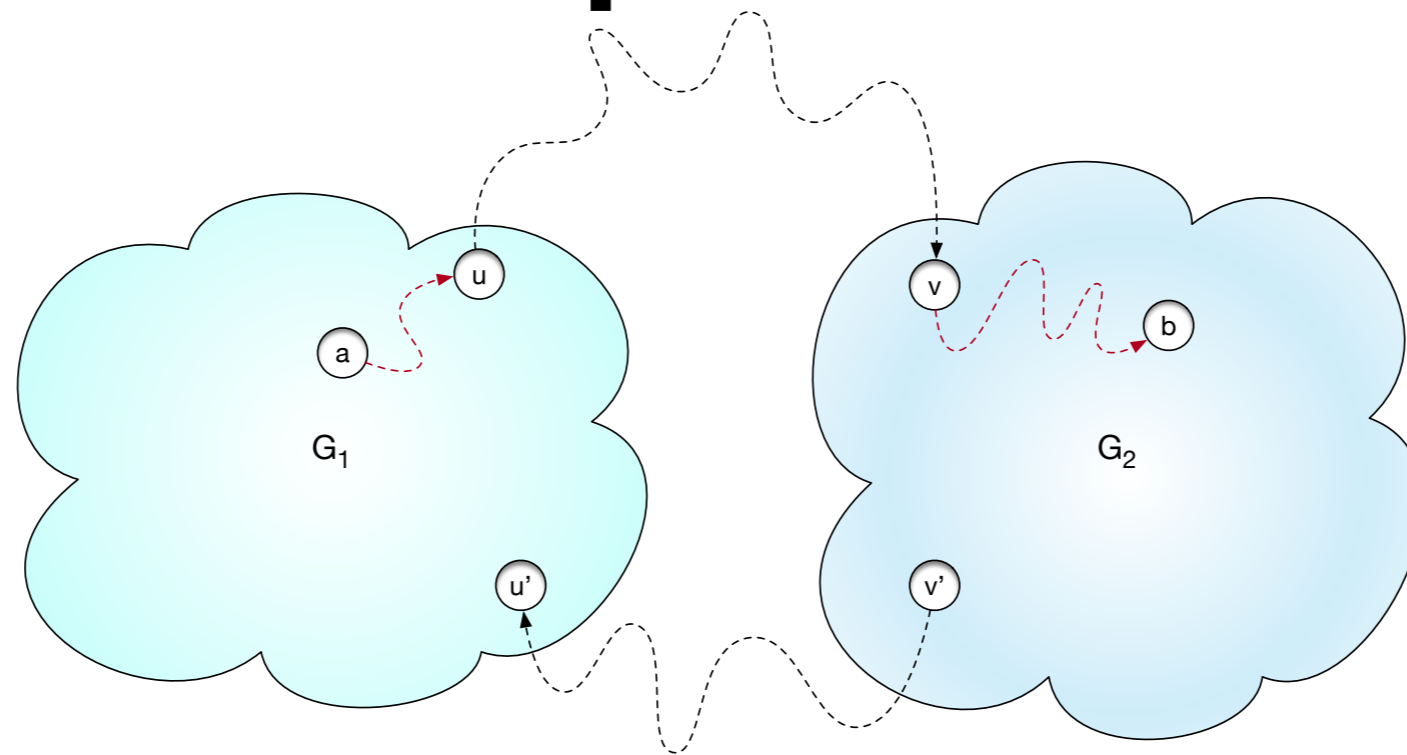
- Proof: Take two nodes  $a$  and  $b$  in  $G_1 \cup G_2$ .
- If both are in  $G_1$  then there is a path between  $a$  and  $b$  because they are in  $G_1$

# Strongly Connected Components



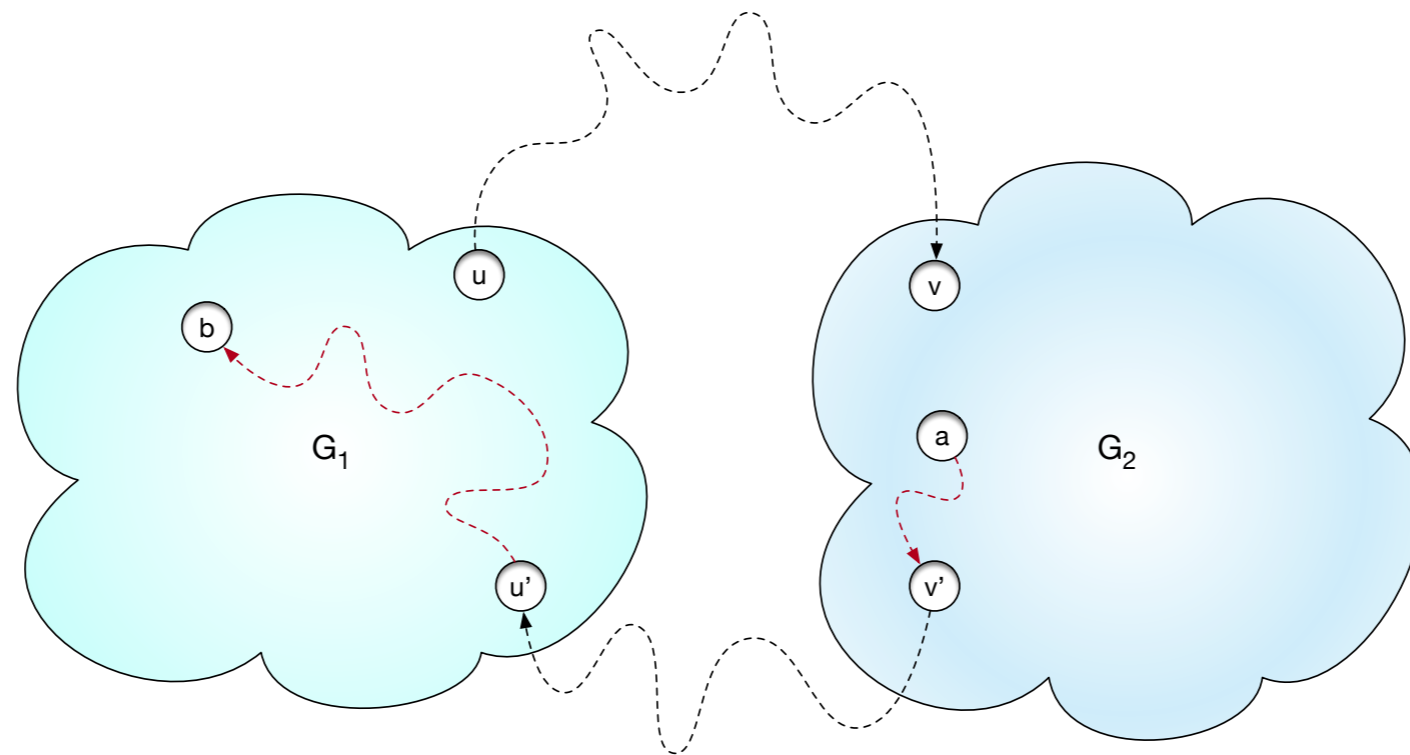
- Proof: Take two nodes  $a$  and  $b$  in  $G_1 \cup G_2$ .
- If both are in  $G_2$  then there is a path between  $a$  and  $b$  because they are in  $G_2$

# Strongly Connected Components



- If  $a \in V(G_1)$  and  $b \in V(G_2)$ , then we can move from  $a$  to  $u$  and from  $u$  to  $v$  and then from  $v$  to  $b$ .
- After removing cycles, this is now a path from  $a$  to  $b$

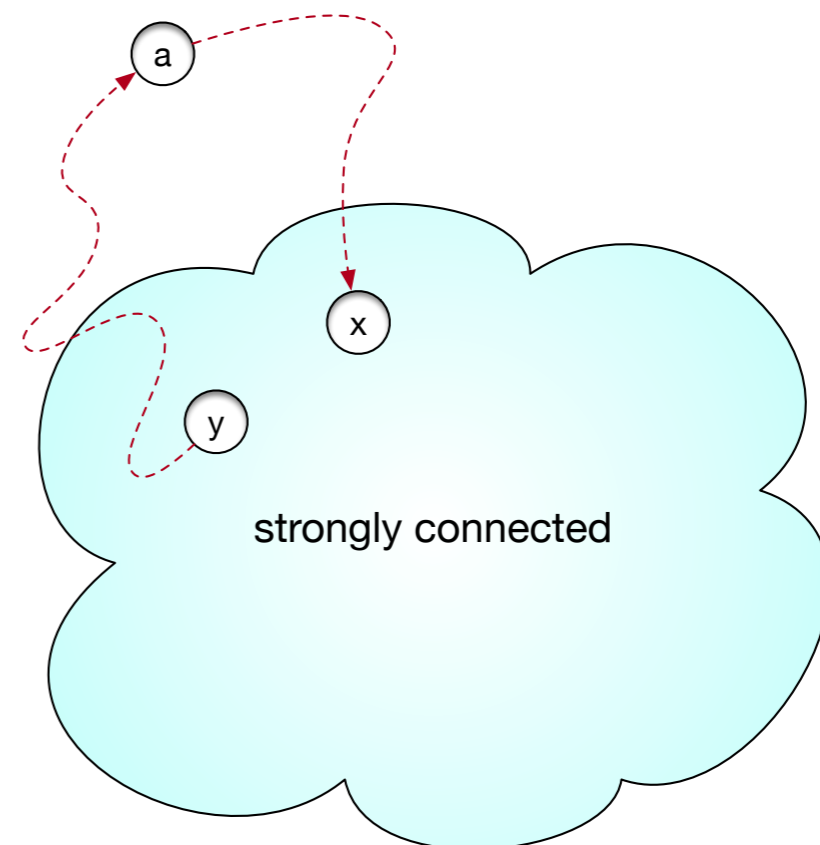
# Strongly Connected Components



- Similarly, if  $a \in V(G_2)$  and  $b \in V(G_1)$ , then we can move from  $a$  to  $v'$  and from  $v'$  to  $u'$  and then from  $u'$  to  $b$ .
- After removing cycles, this is now a path from  $a$  to  $b$

# Strongly Connected Components

- A single node is a strongly connected subgraph
- For each strongly connected subgraph, we can try to grow by adding other nodes
- If a node  $a$  has a path to and from a strongly connected subgraph, then by the lemma, we can add the node and get a bigger strongly connected subgraph



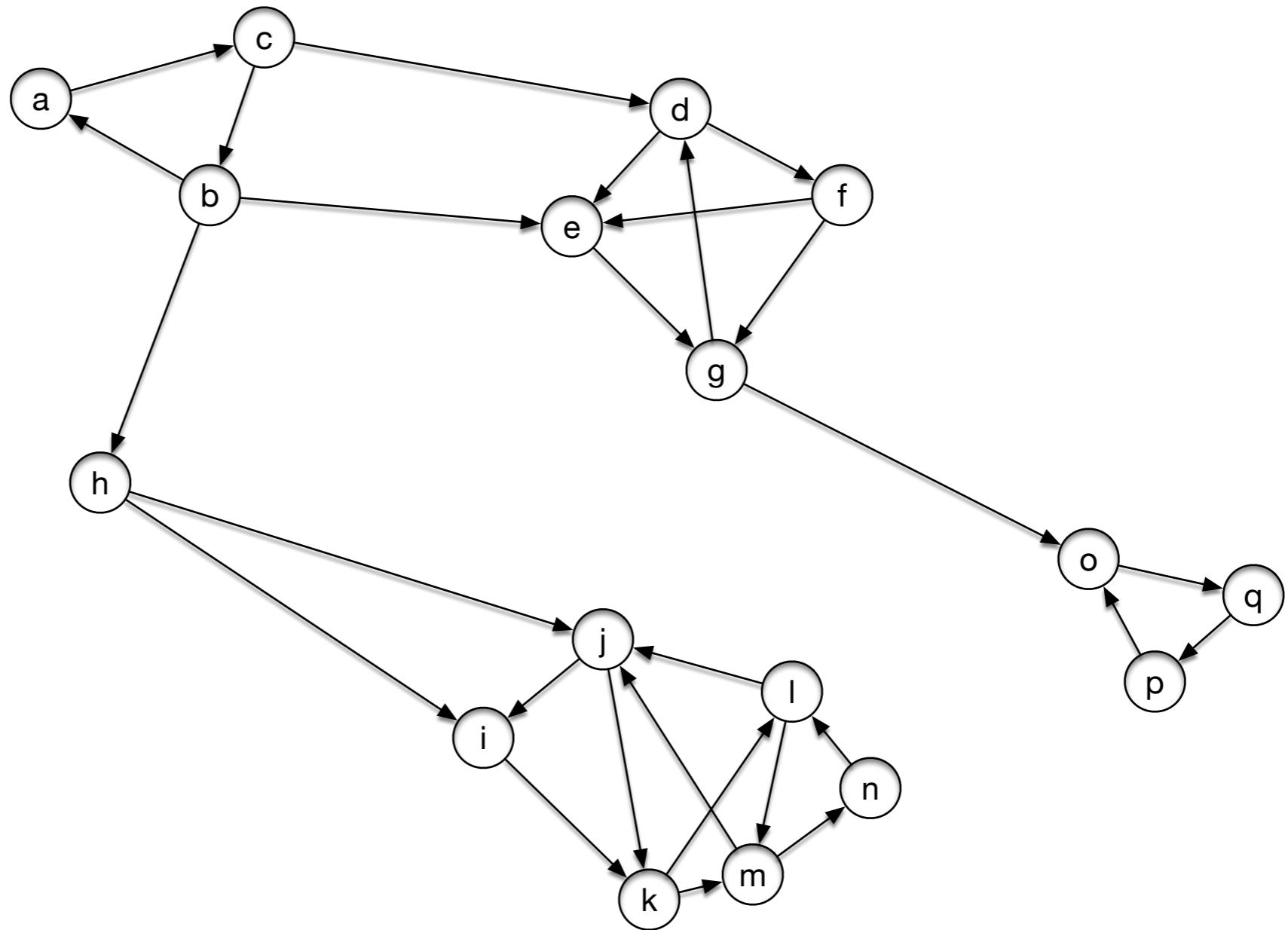


# Strongly Connected Components

- Strongly connected component : A maximal strongly connected subgraph
- The nodes of any directed graph can be divided into strongly connected components

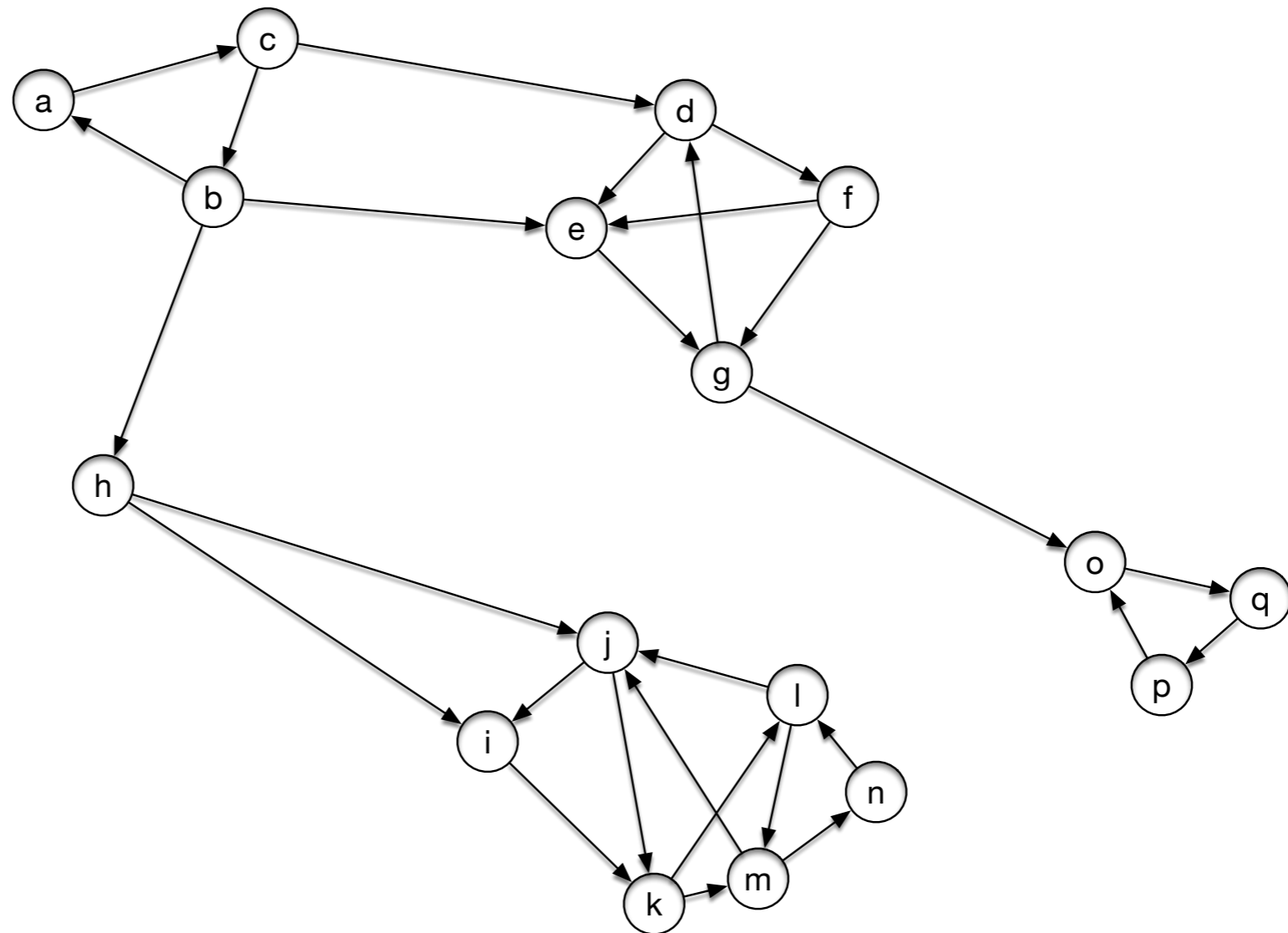
# Strongly Connected Components

- Example:



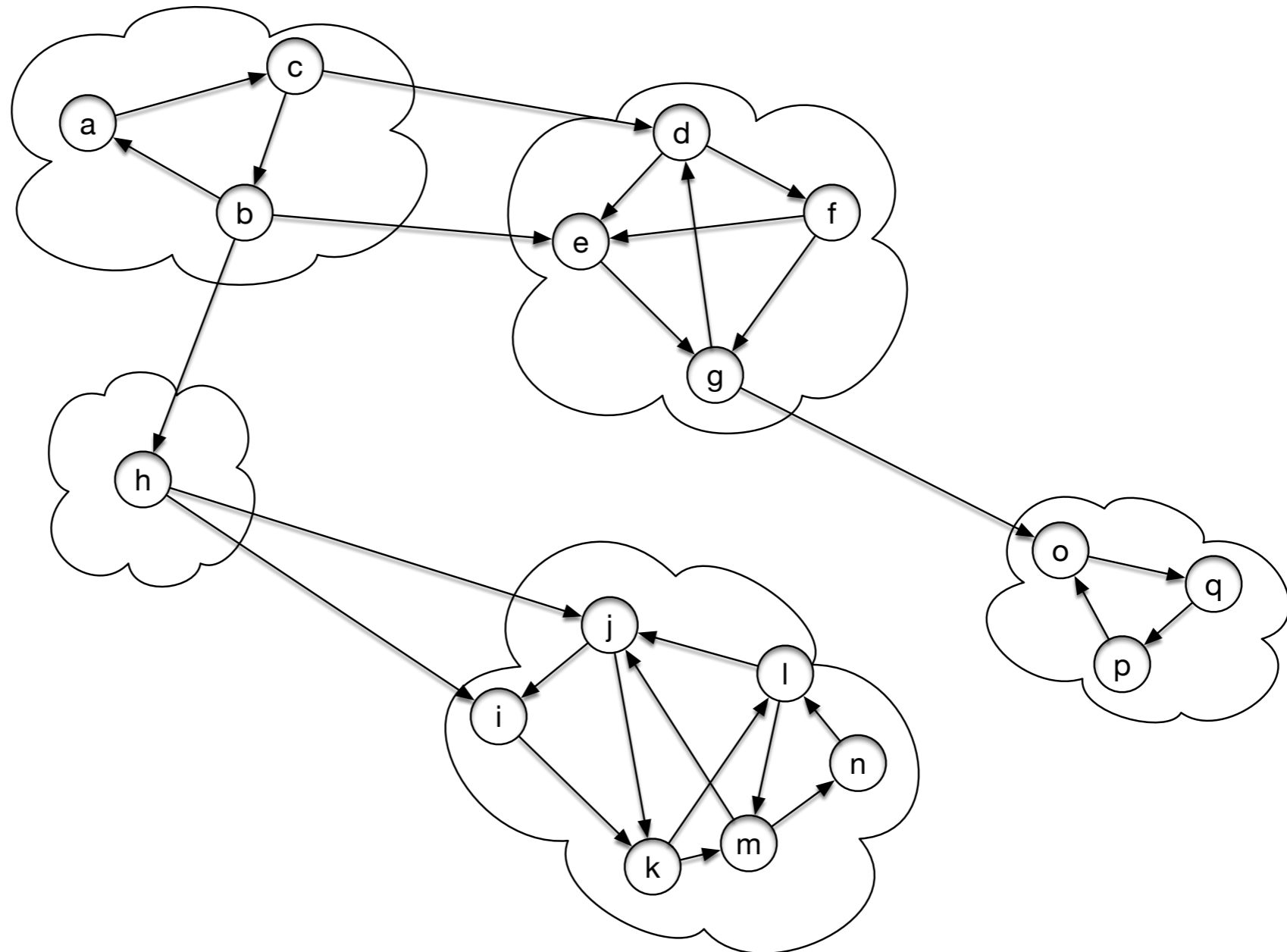
# Strongly Connected Components

- Try it out by growing from individual nodes



# Strongly Connected Components

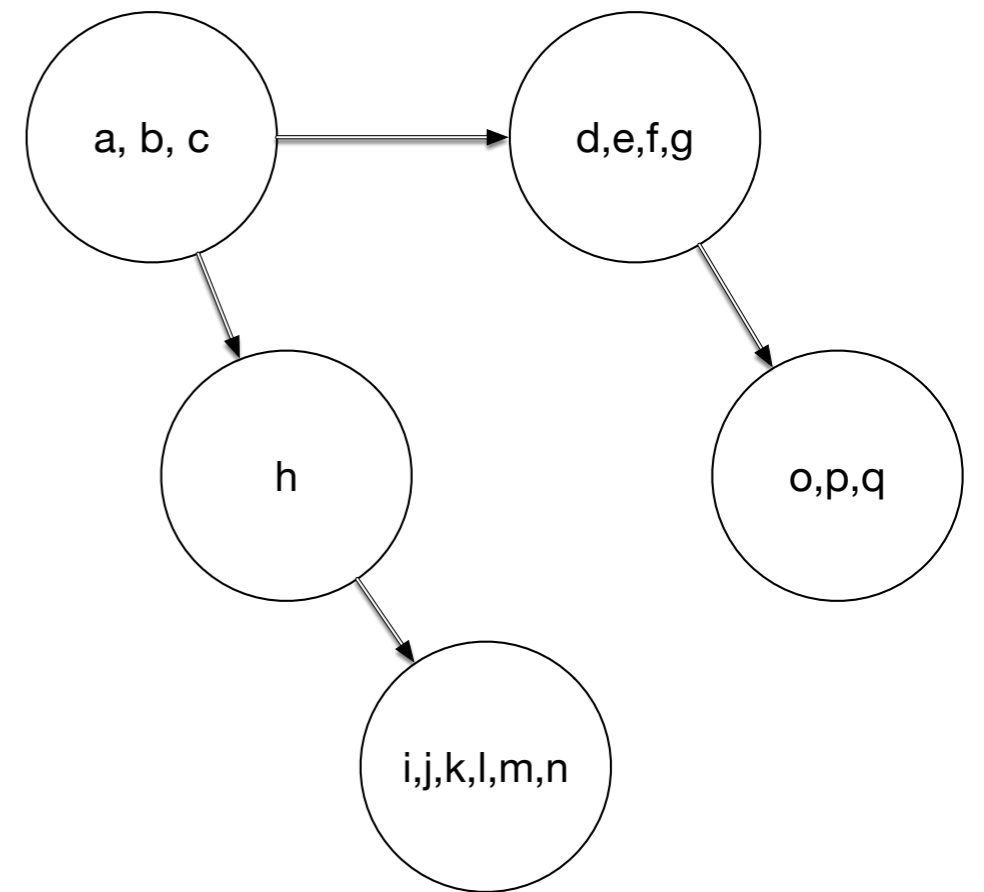
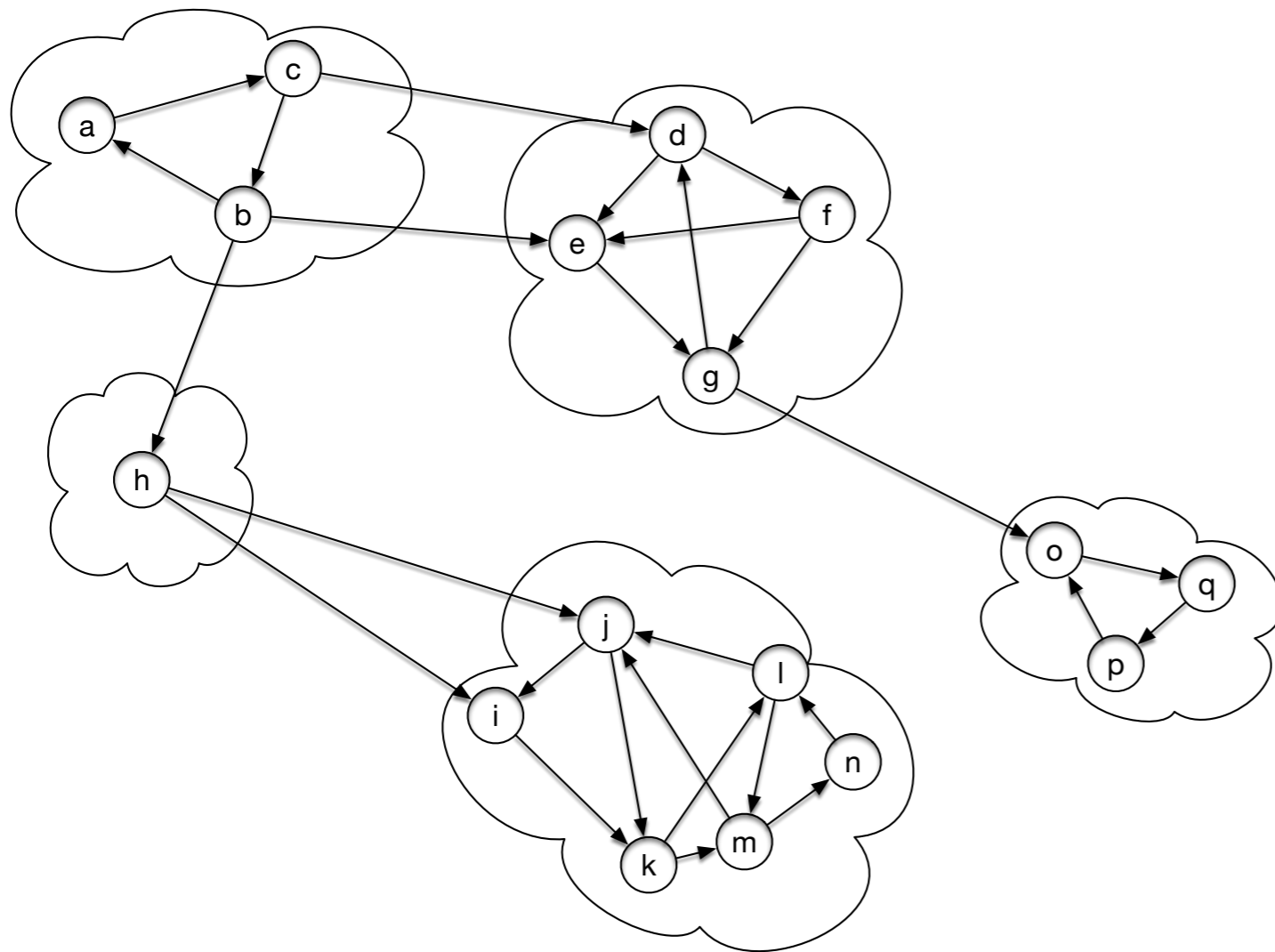
- Result:



# Strongly Connected Components

- If we only look at the connected components we get the SCC metagraph
  - Nodes are the strongly connected components
  - Edges represent the existence of an edge from one component to the next

# Strongly Connected Components

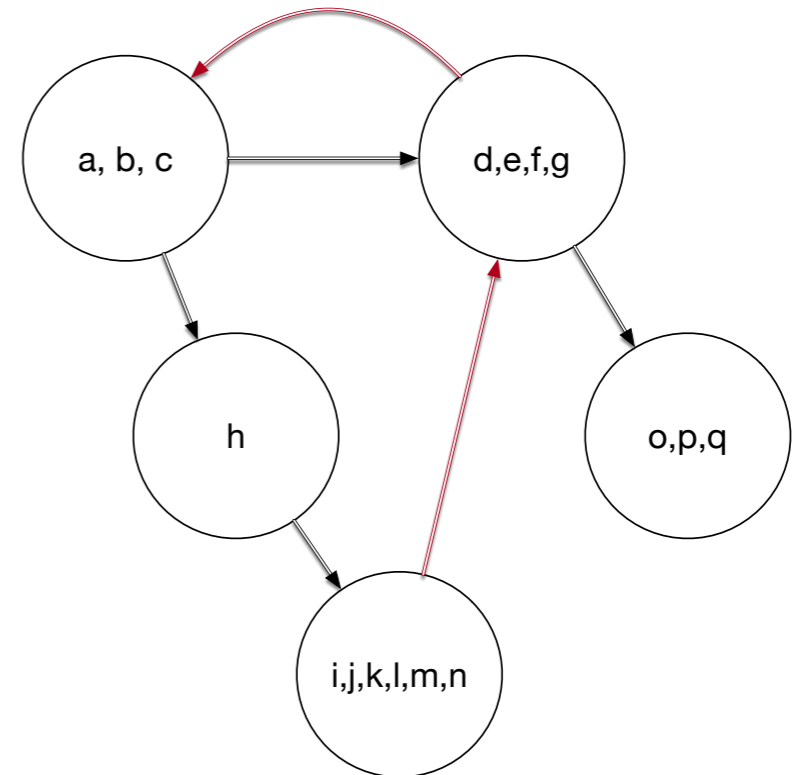
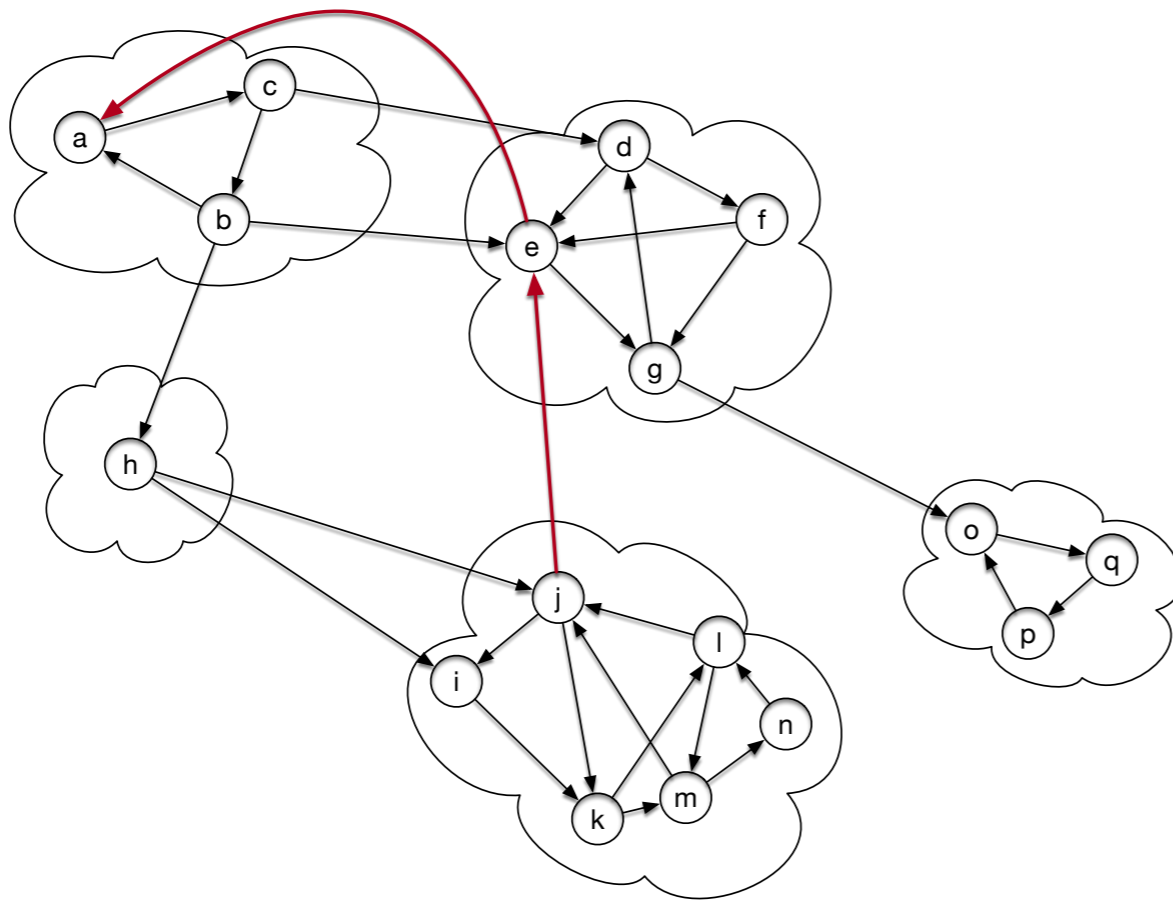


# Strongly Connected Components

- The resulting metagraph has to be acyclic
  - If there is a cycle in the metagraph, then by the lemma, the metanodes can be merged into bigger strongly connected subgraphs

# Strongly Connected Components

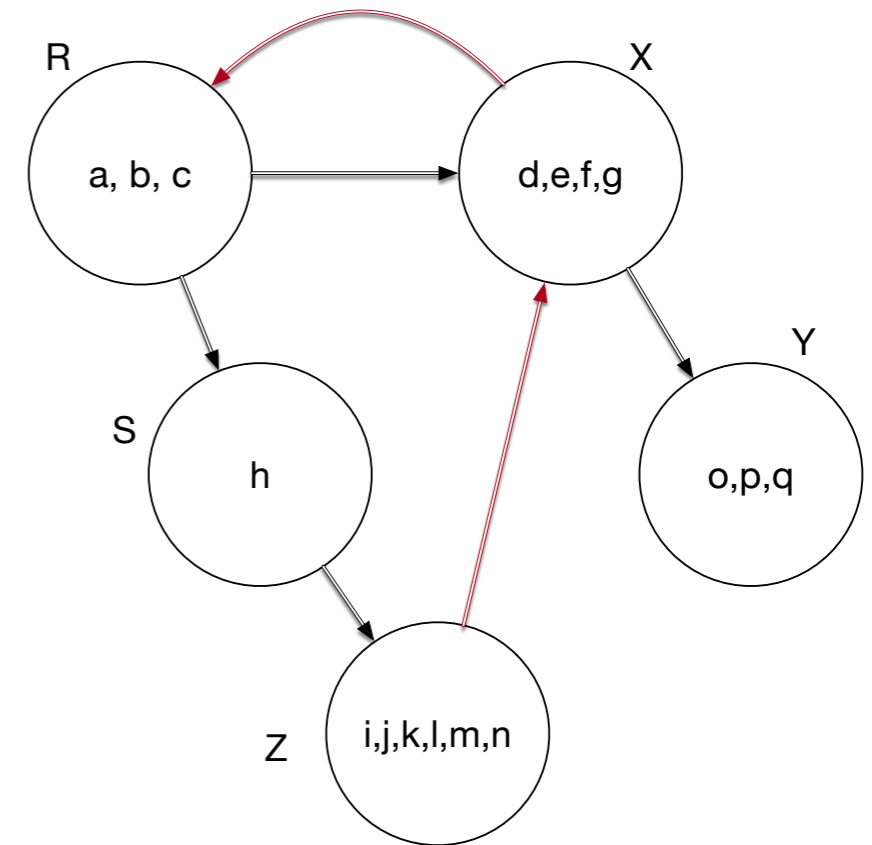
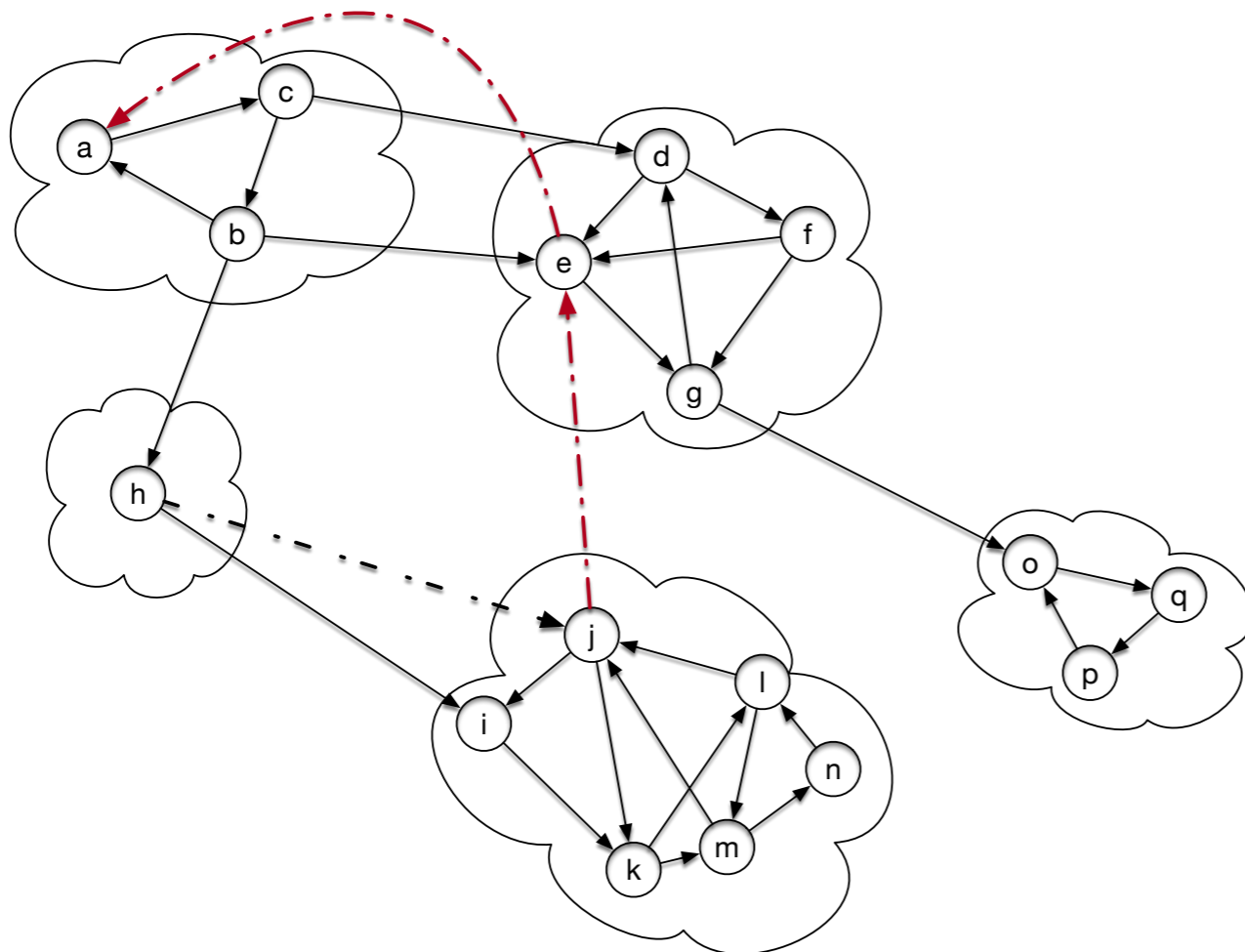
- Example: Add two edges





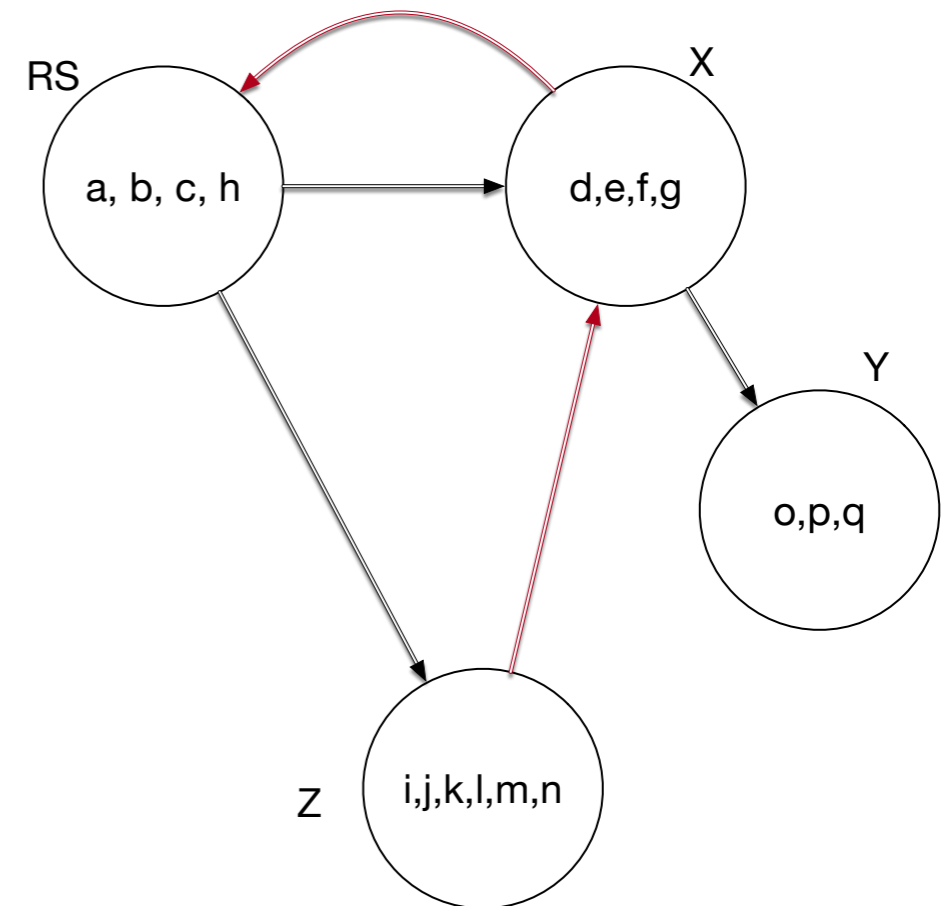
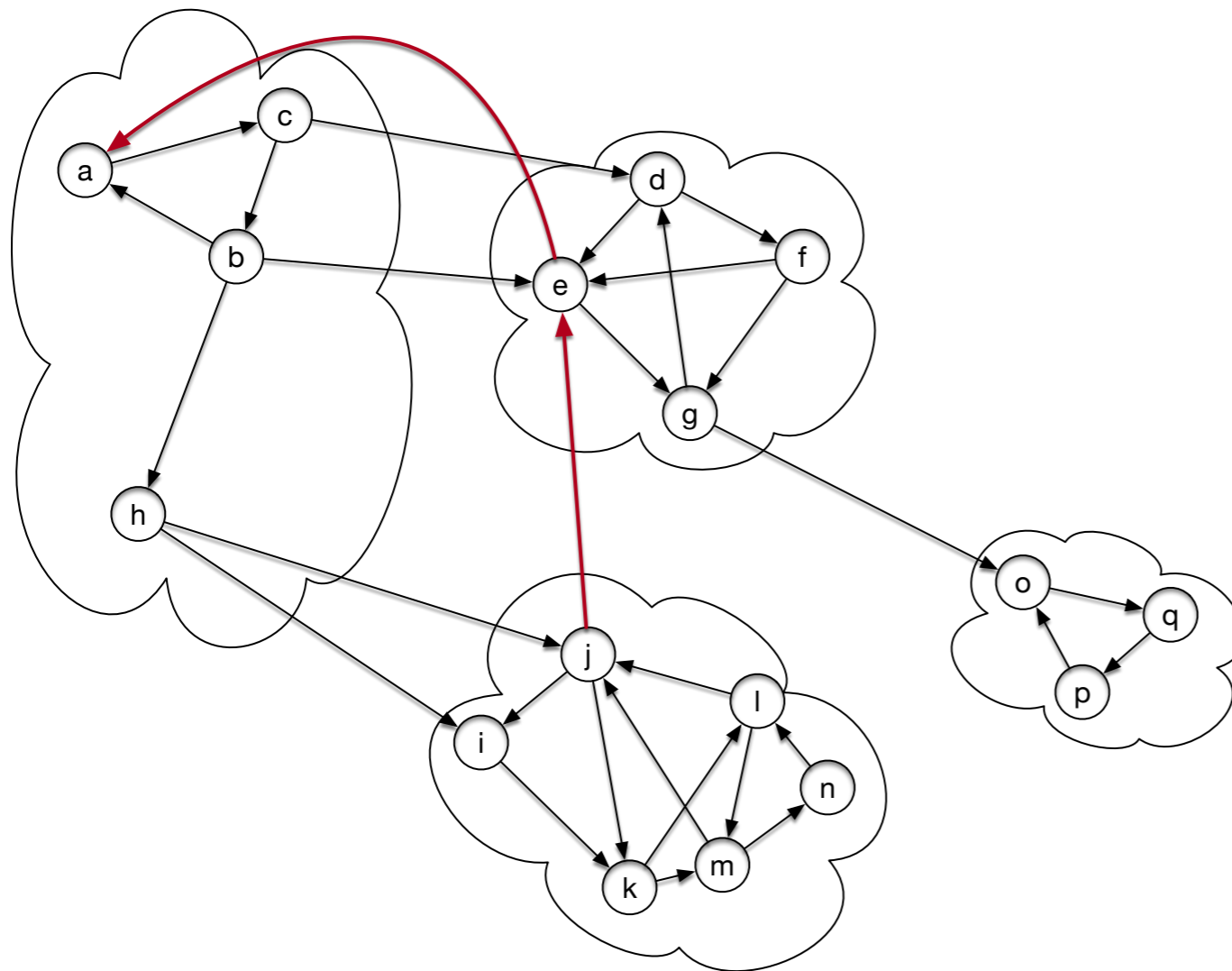
# Strongly Connected Components

- Now we can start merging via the Lemma
- There is a path from components S to R and vice versa



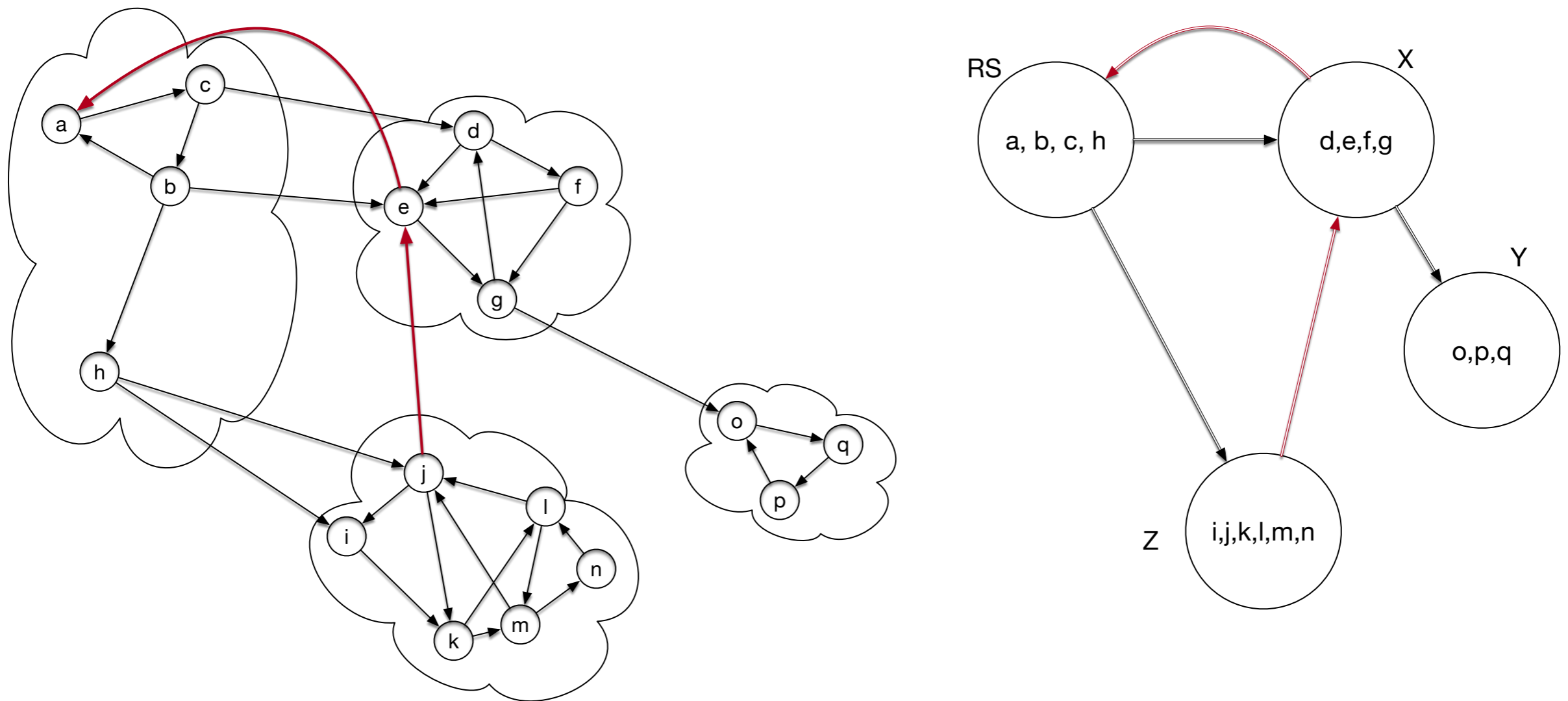
# Strongly Connected Components

- So we merge



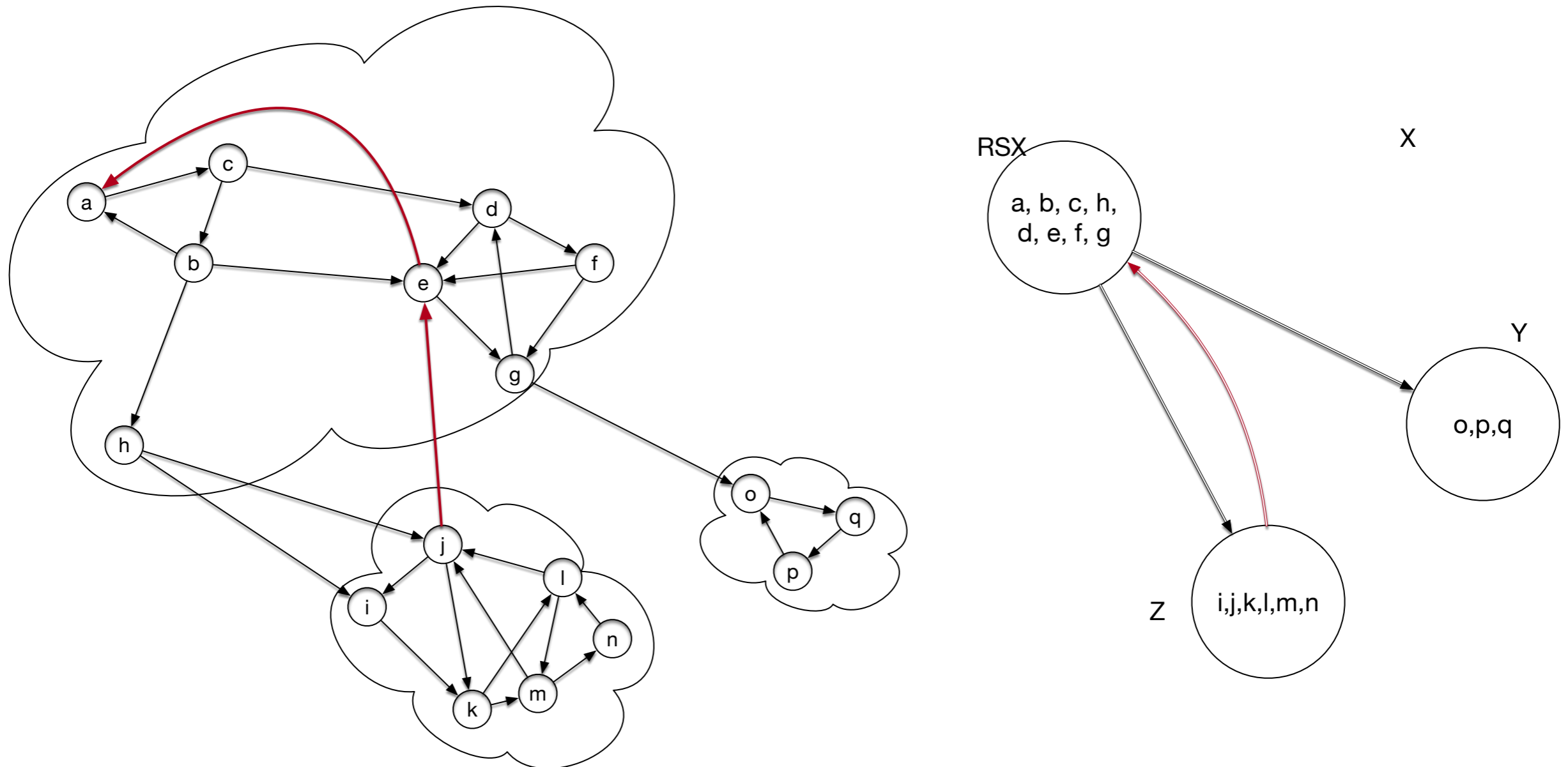
# Strongly Connected Components

- There is a path from RS to X and vice versa:



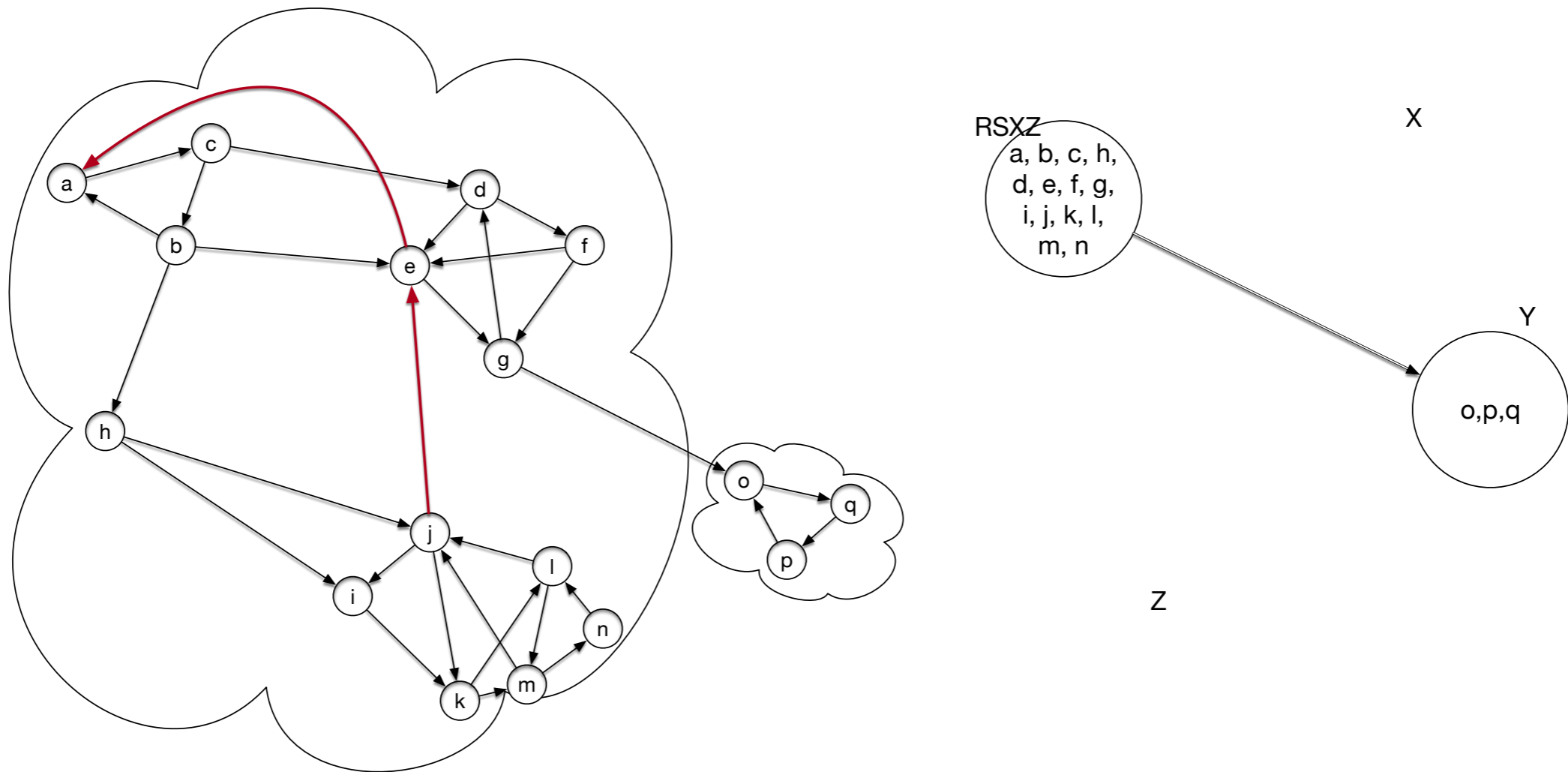
# Strongly Connected Components

- We can merge



# Strongly Connected Components

- Finally, we can merge Z with the new supernode



# Strongly Connected Components

- This can be generalized:
  - Theorem: The metagraph is acyclic

# Strongly Connected Components

- How can we apply DFS to the problem of determining connected components?
- The WWW graph in 2000 would have been too big for anything but linear time algorithms

# Strongly Connected Components

- Answer:
  - Use DFS several times
  - Including indirectly on the metagraph



# Strongly Connected Components

# Strongly Connected Components