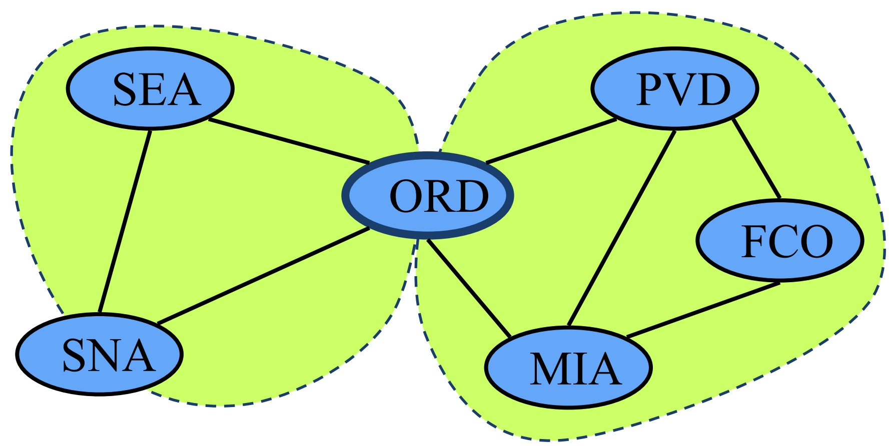
Biconnectivity



Outline and Reading

Definitions (6.3.2)

- Separation vertices and edges
- Biconnected graph
- Biconnected components
- Equivalence classes
- Linked edges and link components

Algorithms (6.3.2)

- Auxiliary graph
- Proxy graph

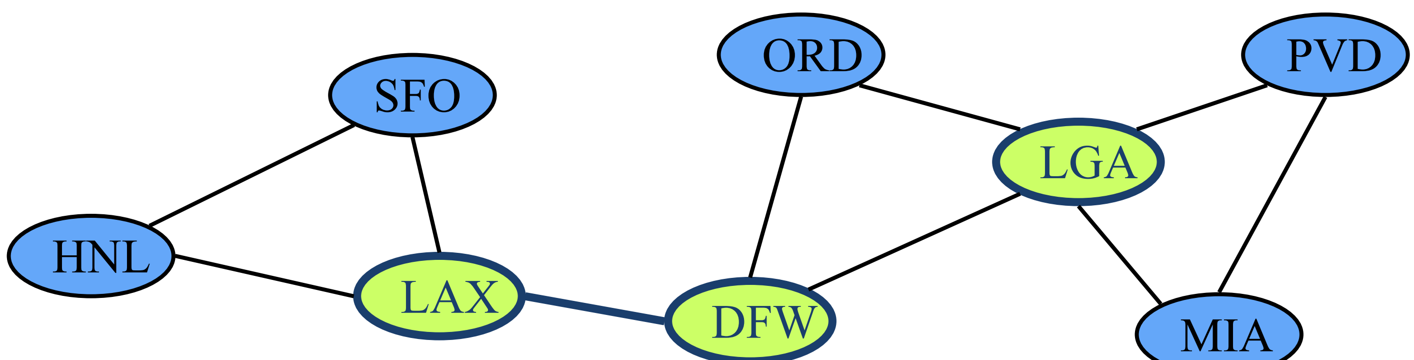
Separation Edges and Vertices

Let ***G*** be a connected graph

- A separation edge of ***G*** is an edge whose removal disconnects ***G.***
  Ex: (DFW,LAX) is a separation edge
- A separation vertex of ***G*** is a vertex whose removal disconnects ***G.***
  Ex: DFW, LGA and LAX are separation vertices

Applications:

- Separation edges and vertices represent single points of failure in a network and are critical to the operation of the network.

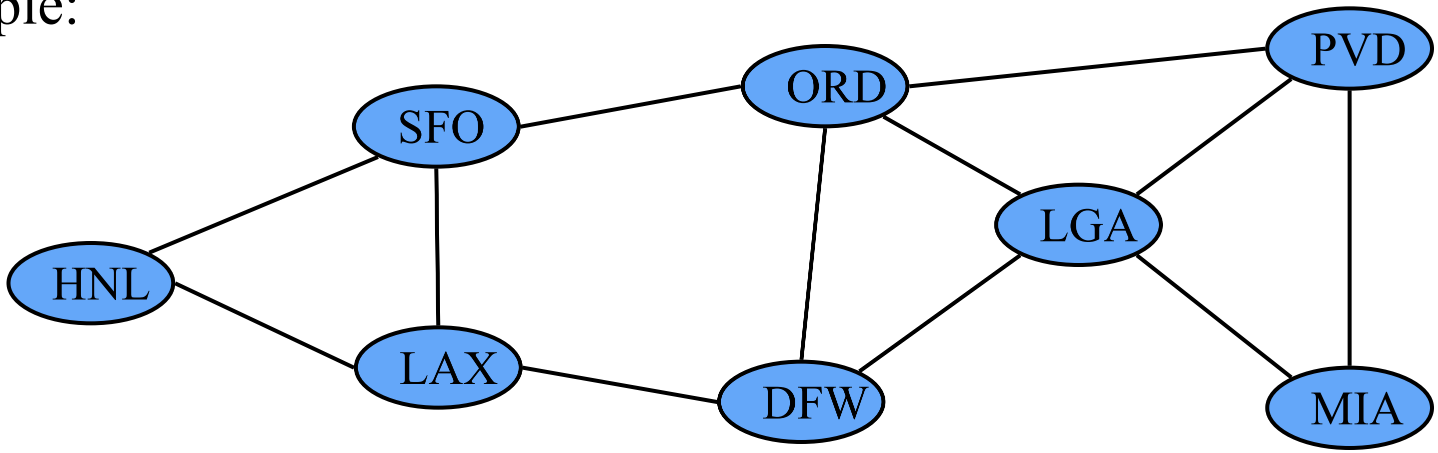


Biconnected Graph

Equivalent definitions of a biconnected graph ***G*:**

- Graph ***G*** has no separation edges and no separation vertices.
- For any two vertices ***u*** and ***v*** of ***G***, there are two disjoint simple paths between ***u*** and ***v*** (i.e., two simple paths between ***u*** and ***v*** that share no other vertices or edges).
- For any two vertices ***u*** and ***v*** of ***G***, there is a simple cycle containing ***u*** and ***v*.**

Example:

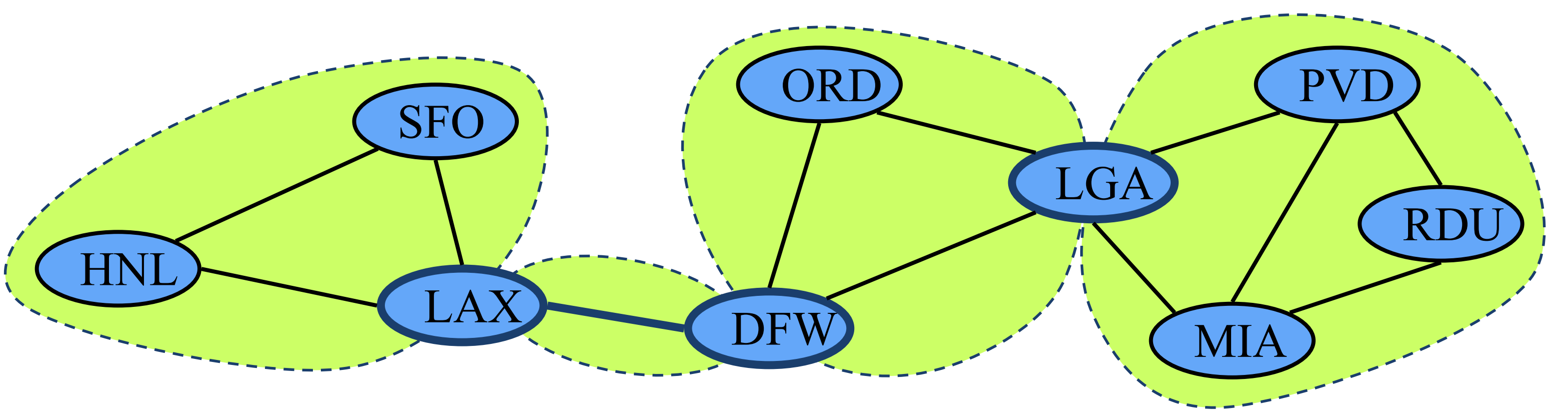


Biconnected Components

- Biconnected component of a graph ***G***
  - A maximal biconnected subgraph of ***G***, or
  - A subgraph consisting of a separation edge of ***G*** and its end vertices

- Interaction of biconnected components
  - An edge belongs to exactly one biconnected component
  - A nonseparation vertex belongs to exactly one biconnected component
  - A separation vertex belongs to two or more biconnected components

- Example of a graph with four biconnected components:



Equivalence Classes

Given a set S, a relation R on S is a set of ordered pairs of elements of S, i.e., R is a subset of $S \times S$

- An equivalence relation R on S satisfies the following properties

  Reflexive: $R(x,x)$ is true for each x

  Symmetric: $R(x,y) = R(y,x)$ for each x,y

  Transitive: $R(x,y) \wedge R(y,z) \longrightarrow R(x,z)$ for each x,y,z

- An equivalence relation R on S induces a partition of the elements of S into equivalence classes

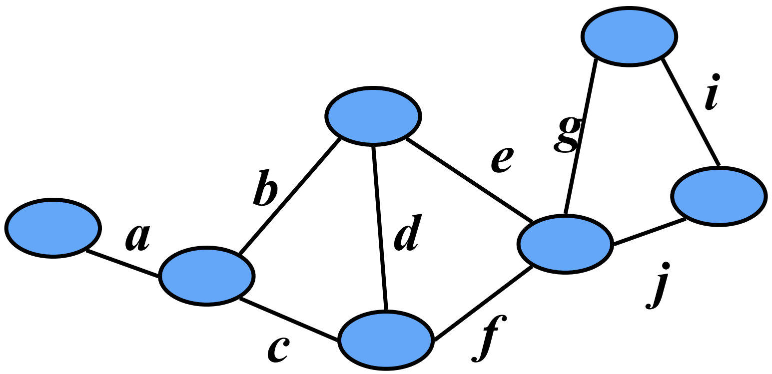
Example (connectivity relation among the vertices of a graph):

- Let V be the set of vertices of a graph G
- Define the relation
  $C = \{(v,w) \in V \times V$ such that G has a path from v to $w\}$
- Relation C is an equivalence relation
- The equivalence classes of relation C are the vertices in each connected component of graph G

Link Relation

Edges ***e*** and ***f*** of connected graph ***G*** are **linked** if

- ***e*** = ***f***, or
- ***G*** has a simple cycle containing ***e*** and ***f***



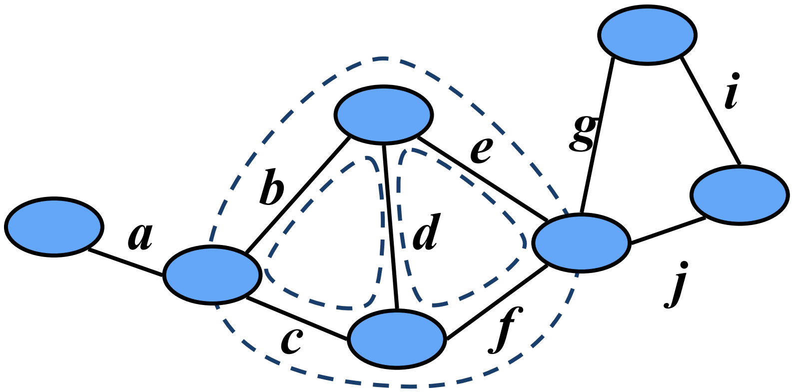
Equivalence classes of linked edges:

{***a***} {***b***, ***c***, ***d***, ***e***, ***f***} {***g***, ***i***, ***j***}

Theorem: The link relation on the edges of a graph is an equivalence relation.

Proof Sketch:

- The reflexive and symmetric properties follow from the definition
- For the transitive property, consider two simple cycles sharing an edge

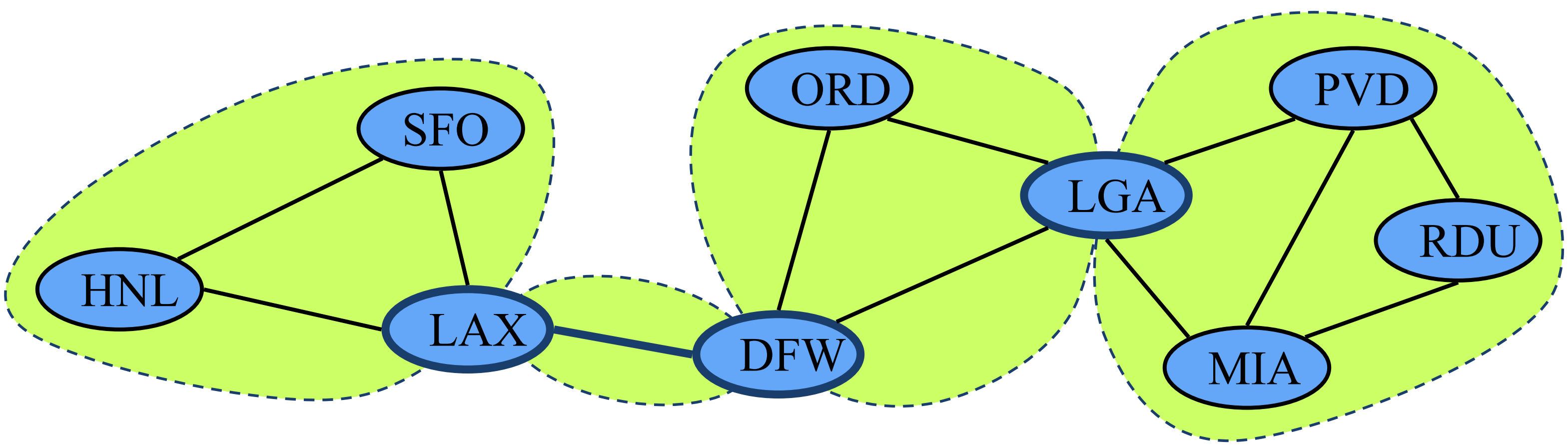


Link Components

The link components of a connected graph ***G*** are the equivalence classes of edges with respect to the link relation

A biconnected component of ***G*** is the subgraph of ***G*** induced by an equivalence class of linked edges

- A separation edge is a single-element equivalence class of linked edges
- A separation vertex has incident edges in at least two distinct equivalence classes of linked edge

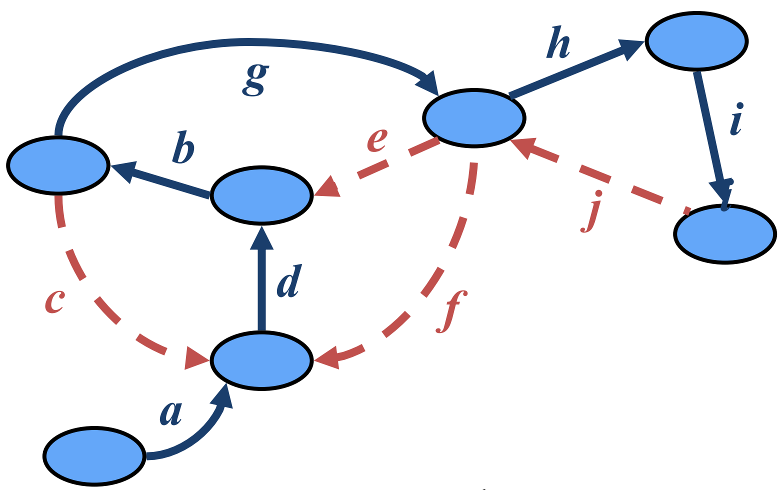


Auxiliary Graph

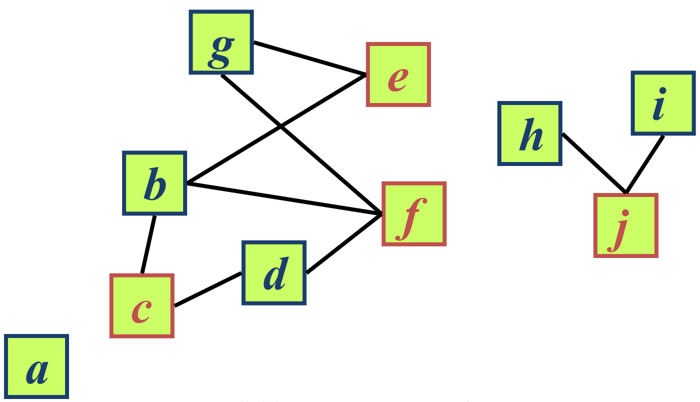
Auxiliary graph $\boldsymbol{B}$ for a connected graph $\boldsymbol{G}$

- Associated with a DFS traversal of $\boldsymbol{G}$
- The vertices of $\boldsymbol{B}$ are the edges of $\boldsymbol{G}$
- For each back edge $\boldsymbol{e}$ of $\boldsymbol{G}$, $\boldsymbol{B}$ has edges $(\boldsymbol{e}, \boldsymbol{f}_1)$, $(\boldsymbol{e}, \boldsymbol{f}_2)$, …, $(\boldsymbol{e}, \boldsymbol{f}_k)$, where $\boldsymbol{f}_1, \boldsymbol{f}_2, \ldots, \boldsymbol{f}_k$ are the discovery edges of $\boldsymbol{G}$ that form a simple cycle with $\boldsymbol{e}$

The connected components of B correspond to the link components of $\boldsymbol{G}$



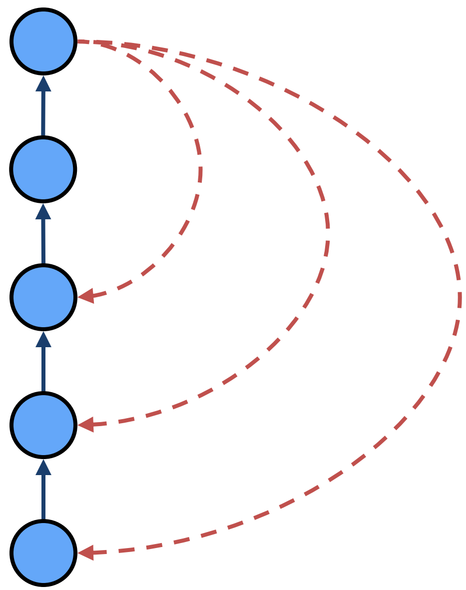
DFS on graph $\boldsymbol{G}$



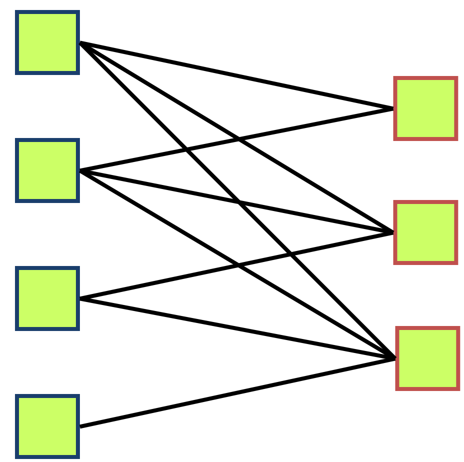
Auxiliary graph $\boldsymbol{B}$

Auxiliary Graph (cont.)

In the worst case, the number of edges of the auxiliary graph is proportional to ***nm*.**



DFS on graph ***G***



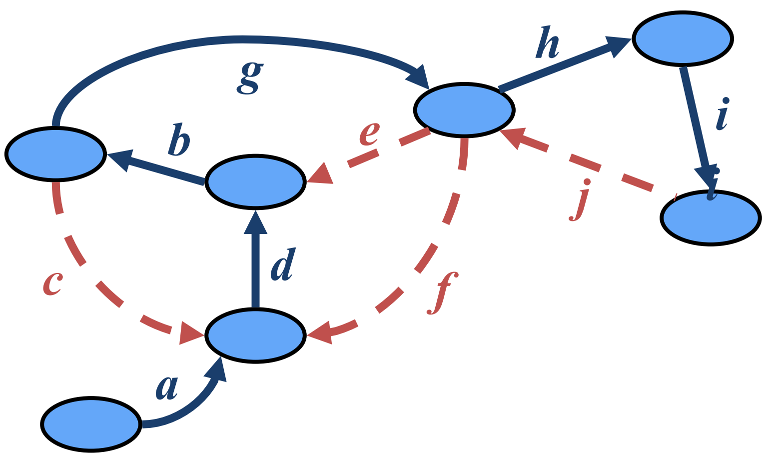
Auxiliary graph ***B***

An Algorithm to Compute Biconnected Components

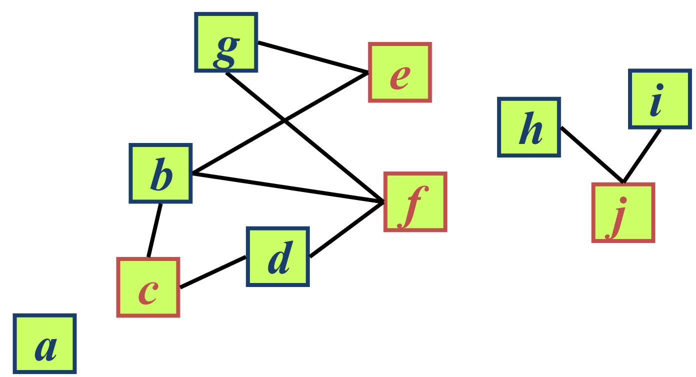
1. Perform DFS traversal on G
2. Compute auxiliary graph B
3. Compute connected components of B
4. For each connected component of B, output vertices of B (edges of G) as a link component of G

Running time is $O(nm)$. Why?

Can we do better?



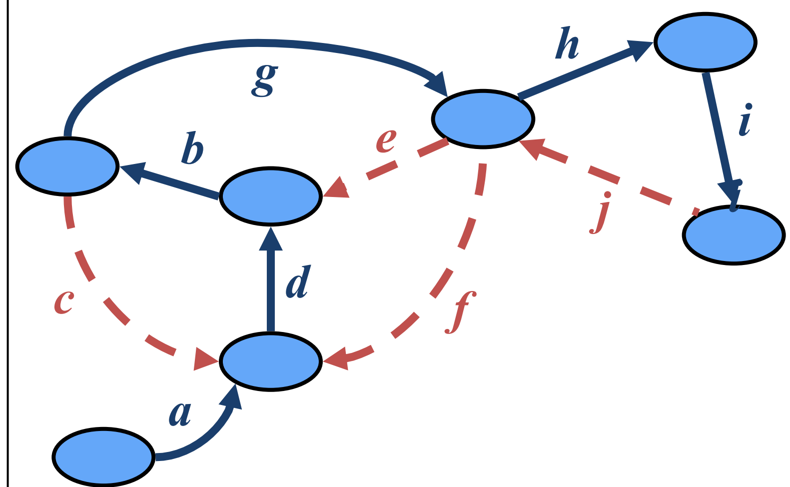
DFS on graph ***G***



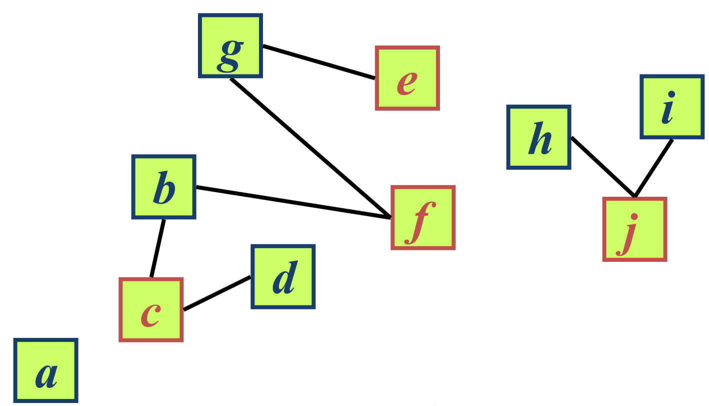
Auxiliary graph ***B***

Proxy Graph

```
Algorithm proxyGraph(G)
   Input connected graph G
   Output proxy graph F for G
   F ← empty graph
   DFS(G, s) { s is any vertex of G}
   for all discovery edges e of G
      F.insertVertex(e)
      setLabel(e, UNLINKED)
   for all vertices v of G in DFS visit order
      for all back edges e = (u,v)
         F.insertVertex(e)
         repeat  {add edges to F only as necessary}
            f ← discovery edge with dest. u
            F.insertEdge(e,f,∅)
            if getLabel(f) = UNLINKED
               setLabel(f, LINKED)
               u ← origin of edge f
            else
               u ← v { ends the loop }
         until u = v
   return F
```



DFS on graph ***G***



Proxy graph ***F***

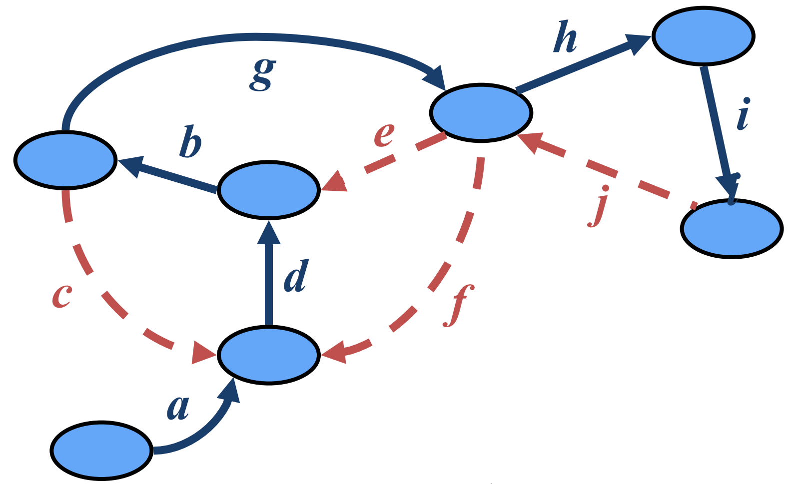
Proxy Graph (cont.)

Proxy graph ***F*** for a connected graph ***G***

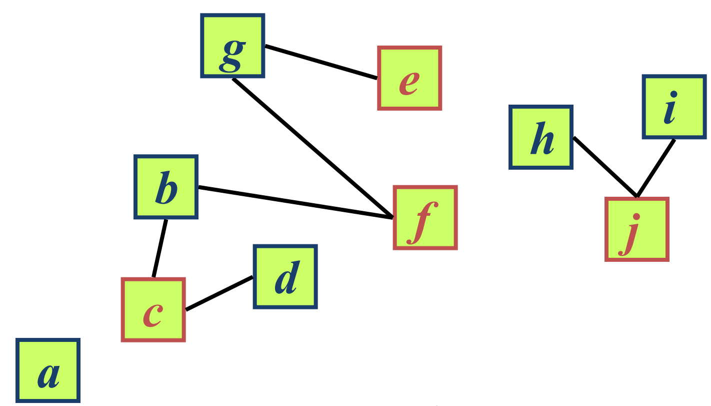
- Spanning forest of the auxiliary graph ***B***
- Has ***m*** vertices and ***O***(***m***) edges
- Can be constructed in ***O***(***n*** + ***m***) time
- Its connected components (trees) correspond to the link components of ***G***

Given a graph ***G*** with ***n*** vertices and ***m*** edges, we can compute the following in ***O***(***n***+***m***) time

- The biconnected components of ***G***
- The separation vertices of ***G***
- The separation edges of ***G***



DFS on graph ***G***



Proxy graph ***F***