CSC 301.02 Homework

For this and future homeworks, you may (and should!) discuss the solutions with others but you must write up your solutions (including coding!) individually. This is to help you get the most practice for take-home exams.

1. In class we proved that there is always a valid topological ordering of nodes in a DAG. What is the time complexity of what was discussed (look for a start node, remove it, recurse)?

2. Improve the algorithm discussed in class to take $O(m+n)$ time where $m$ is the number of edges.

3. When is the second algorithm the largest improvement over the first?

4. You and your friends have collected a lot of specimens of butterflies from your recent spring break trip (what else would you do over spring break after all?). You are pretty sure that each specimen belongs to one of two species, but many species look similar to one another, so it is hard to tell for sure. One friend has decided to compare pairs of specimens and decide if they belong to the same species or different species, or if it isn't possible to tell.

So you have a collection of $n$ specimens and $m$ judgements (“same”, “different”, or “ambiguous”). You’d like to determine if the $m$ labels are consistent with the specimens being from only two species or not. You need to design an algorithm that determines if there is a solution where each pair that is labeled “same” is of the same species and each pair that is labeled “different” is of different species. The complexity of your algorithm should be $O(m+n)$.

5. How long did this homework take you?