

## Lecture 30

Tuesday, 26 October 2021 10:00 AM

Max-Flow Problem

Given: ① A directed graph  $G=(V,E)$ , and each edge  $e$  has a capacity  $c(e) \geq 0$ .

② A source-destination pair  $(s,t)$ .

③ Capacity of in-edges of  $s$  = capacity of out-edges of  $t$  = 0

Constraints / (Def<sup>n</sup> of flow  $f$ ):

① Capacity:  $\forall e \in E, f(e) \in [0, c(e)]$

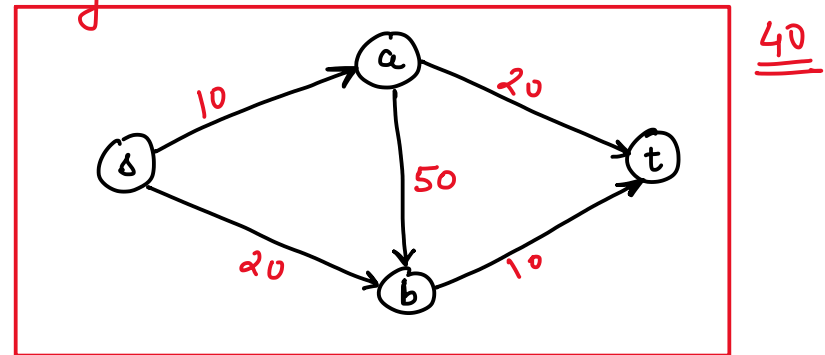
② Conservation of flow:

$\forall x \neq s, t, f_{\text{out}}(x) = f_{\text{in}}(x)$  (out-flow = in-flow)

i.e.,

$$\sum_{(x,y)} f(x,y) = \sum_{(z,x)} f(z,x)$$

Eg:



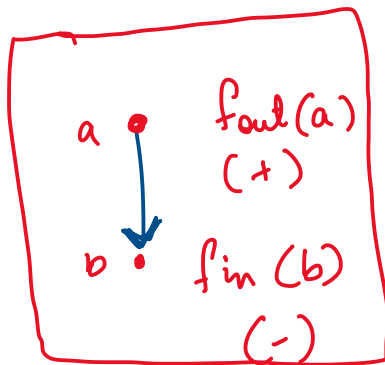
$E \text{ OUT-EDGES}(x)$  $E \text{ IN-EDGES}(x)$ Value of flow  $f$ :

$$\text{val}(f) := \sum_{(s,x) \in E} f(s,x) = \underbrace{f_{\text{out}}(s)}_{\textcircled{1}} \quad \text{OR} \quad \underbrace{f_{\text{in}}(t)}_{\textcircled{2}}$$

Why  $\textcircled{1} = \textcircled{2}$ ?

$$\textcircled{1} \quad f_{\text{out}}(s) = f_{\text{out}}(s) - f_{\text{in}}(s)$$

$$= \sum_{x \neq t} \underline{f_{\text{out}}(x)} - f_{\text{in}}(x)$$



$$= \sum_{x \neq t} \left( \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{out}(x)} f(x,y) - \sum_{(z,x) \in \text{in}(x)} f(z,x) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{x \in V} \left( \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{out}(x)} f(x,y) - \sum_{(z,x) \in \text{in}(x)} f(z,x) \right) - \left( \sum_{(t,y) \in \text{out}(t)} f(t,y) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{e \in E} f(e) - \sum_{e \in E} f(e) - 0 + f_{\text{in}}(t)$$

$$= f_{\text{in}}(t)$$

Eg:  $c(x,y) = 50$

Residual graph  $G_f$  w.r.t. some flow  $f$  in  $G$

$$x \xrightarrow{f(x,y)=20} y$$

For each edge  $(x,y) \in E(G)$ :

(i) Include  $(x,y)$  in  $G_f$  and set  $c_r(x,y) = c(x,y) - f(x,y)$

also mark this edge as FORWARD edge.

$$x \xrightarrow{30} y$$

$$c_r(x,y) = 30$$

(ii) Include  $(y,x)$  in  $G_f$  and set  $c_r(y,x) = f(x,y)$

also mark this edge as BACKWARD edge.

$$y \xrightarrow{20} x$$

Ford-Fulkerson  
for Max-Flow

① Set  $f(e) = 0 \quad \forall e$ . Compute  $\underline{G_f}$ .

② While  $(\exists s \rightsquigarrow t \text{ path in } G_f)$

①  $P \leftarrow s-t \text{ path in } G_f$   $\} \leftarrow O(m+n)$

②  $c \leftarrow \min \{c_r(e) \mid e \in P\}$

$$(i) \quad \delta = \min \{ c_x(e) \mid e \in P \}$$

(ii) For each  $(x, y) \in P$ :

$$\text{If } (x, y) \text{ is FWD} : f(x, y) = f(x, y) + \delta \quad \uparrow$$

$$\text{Else} : f(x, y) = f(x, y) - \delta \quad \downarrow$$

(iv) Update  $G_f$

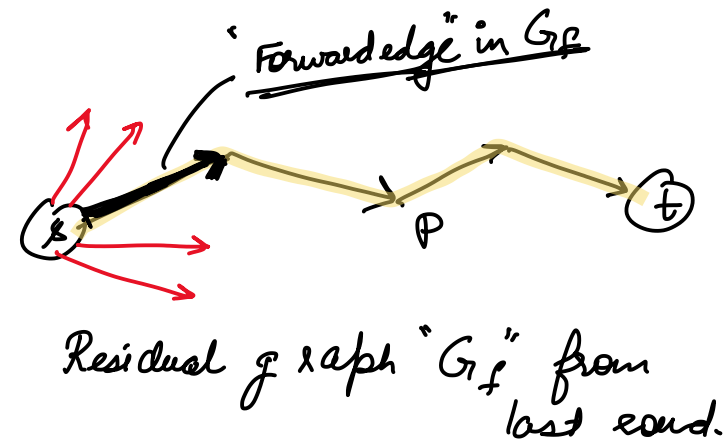
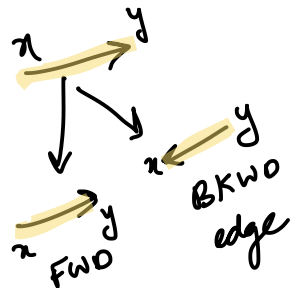
(3) Return " $f$ ".

**Claim 1:** Value of flow  $f$  always increases in each iteration.

Proof:

Backward edges  
going out of  $s$   
in  $G_f$

$\subseteq$  In-edges( $s$ )  
"zero-capacity"



### Corollary Claim 1

- If  $\forall e \in E$ ,  $c(e)$  is an integer  $\geq 1$ .
  - No of iterations of while loop  $\leq$  value of  $(s,t)$ -max-flow
- $\Rightarrow$  Time complexity =  $O((m+n) * \text{value of } (s,t)\text{-max-flow})$

### Correctness

#### Cuts

- If  $A \subseteq V$  s.t.  $s \in A$ ,  $t \in \bar{A}$ , then

$$\text{cut}(A, \bar{A}) = \{ (x,y) \in E \mid x \in A, y \in \bar{A} \}$$

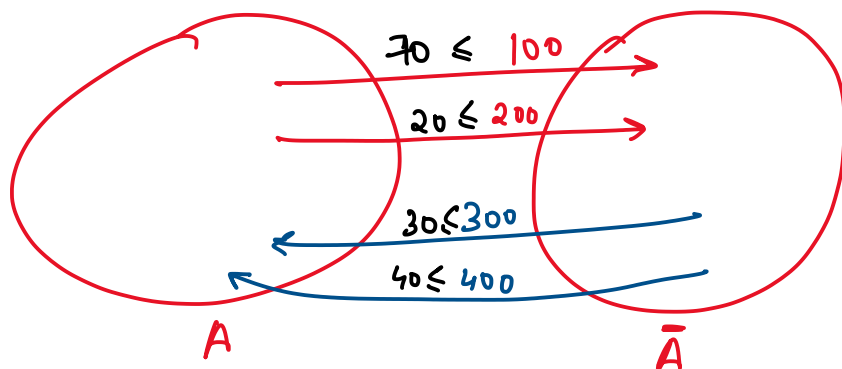
set of edges is called  $(s,t)$ -cut

- Capacity of cut  $C(A, \bar{A}) = \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{cut}(A, \bar{A})} c(x,y)$

$$f_{\text{out}}(A) := \sum_{(x,y) \in \text{cut}(A, \bar{A})} f(x,y)$$

$$f_{\text{in}}(A) = \sum_{\substack{(x,y) \in E \\ x \in \bar{A} \\ y \in A}} f(x,y)$$

Eg.



$$C(A, \bar{A}) = 100 + 200$$

$$f_{\text{out}}(A) = 70 + 20$$

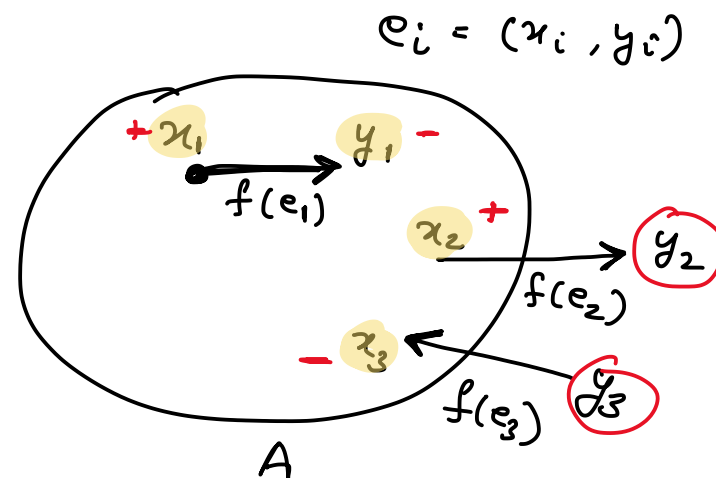
$$f_{\text{in}}(A) = 30 + 40$$

Lemma:  $\sum_{x \in A} (f_{\text{out}}(x) - f_{\text{in}}(x)) = f_{\text{out}}(A) - f_{\text{in}}(A), \quad A \subseteq V$

Proof:

LHS.

$$= \underbrace{\sum_{e \in \text{out from}(A)} f(e)}_{f_{\text{out}}(A)} - \underbrace{\sum_{e \in \text{entering}(A)} f(e)}_{f_{\text{in}}(A)}$$



$$= f_{\text{out}}(A) - f_{\text{in}}(A).$$

Corollary

$$f_{\text{out}}(A) - f_{\text{in}}(A) = \begin{cases} f_{\text{out}}(s) = \text{val}(f) & \text{if } s \in A, t \in \bar{A} \\ -f_{\text{in}}(t) = -\text{val}(f) & \text{if } t \in A, s \in \bar{A} \\ 0 & \text{o/w.} \end{cases}$$

Next class

$f \leftarrow$  flow that is returned by F.F. ALGO.

CLAIM : If " $A :=$  set of vertices reachable from  $s$  in  $G_f$ "

$$\begin{aligned} s &\in A \\ t &\notin \bar{A} \end{aligned}$$

$$f_{\text{out}}(A) - f_{\text{in}}(A) = \text{max. flow possible.}$$